

## Branch and Bound Examples

Katta G. Murty Lecture slides

TSP:  $c$  = cost matrix. Problem said to be:

**Symmetric TSP:** if  $c_{ij} = c_{ji} \quad \forall i, j$ .

**Assymmetric TSP:** if  $c$  not symmetric.

**Euclidean TSP:** If  $c$  satisfies triangle inequality. Here cities can be represented by points in the  $2 - d$  plane.

**Lower bounding based on assignment relaxation:**

The first LB strategy proposed for the TSP in our paper in the early 1960's. Can solve problems with upto 50 cities within reasonable computer time.

**Fathoming strategy:** Check whether the *Relaxed optimum assignment (ROA)* is a tour.

EXAMPLE:  $n = 6$ ,  $c =$

To	1	2	3	4	5	6
From 1	×	27	43	16	30	26
2	7	×	16	1	30	25
3	20	13	×	35	5	0
4	21	16	25	×	18	18
5	12	46	27	48	×	5
6	23	5	5	9	5	×

Original problem ROA  $\{(1, 4), (2, 1), (3, 5), (4, 2), (5, 6), (6, 3)\}$ ,

LB = 54

Final reduced cost matrix  $c_0$

To	1	2	3	4	5	6
From 1	×	7	23	0	10	11
2	0	×	11	0	25	25
3	13	8	×	34	0	0
4	3	0	9	×	2	7
5	0	36	17	42	×	0
6	16	0	0	8	0	×

For all assignments  $x$ , we have  $z_c(x) = 54 + z_{c_0}(x)$ .

Using this, we never use the cost matrix  $c$  again. For children of the original problem, we use the cost matrix  $c_0$ .

Other details of this B & B for TSP will be discussed in class.

General MIP: Use LP relaxation for lower bounding. Let RO (relaxed optimum) denote an optimum sol. obtained for LP relaxation.

Select an integer variable with a fractional value in the RO as the BV. Usually, penalties computed from opt. simplex tableau are used for the selection.

EXAMPLE: RO for following MIP is:  $(y = (3/2, 5/2)^T, x = (4, 0, 0, 0)^T)$ . Original problem not fathomed. We select  $y_2$  with a value of  $5/2$  in RO as the BV.

$y_1$	$y_2$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$-z$	
1	0	0	1	-2	1	0	$3/2$
0	1	0	2	1	-1	0	$5/2$
0	0	1	-1	1	1	0	4
0	0	0	3	4	5	1	-20

$y_1, y_2 \geq 0$  & integer;  $x_1$  to  $x_4 \geq 0$ ; min  $z$  .

0-1 Knapsack problem: Use LP relaxation as LB strategy.

In any CP here, for that CP delete all objects with weight  $>$  remaining knapsack's weight capacity from consideration (i.e., set corresponding variable = 0).

Here LP relaxation can be solved by a simple special rule. It consists of loading knapsack with objects in decreasing order of density (= value/weight) until at some stage one of the following two events occurs.

*knapsack capacity fully used up exactly:* In this case, the set of objects loaded into knapsack at this stage, is the optimum set of objects to be loaded. This CP is fathomed.

*Knapsack has positive capacity remaining, but it is  $<$  weight of next object to be loaded:* Make value of corresponding variable = (remaining knapsack's weight capacity)/(weight of that object); and make variables corresponding to all remaining objects = 0. This gives an RO.

If a CP is not fathomed, exactly one variable has a fractional value in the RO, that variable could be selected as the BV for

branching this CP.

$j$	Weight $w_j$	Value $v_j$	Density $v_j/w_j$
1	3	21	7
2	4	24	6
3	3	12	4
4	21	168	8
5	15	135	9
6	13	26	2
7	16	192	12
8	20	200	10
9	40	800	20

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capacity  $w_0 = 35$

The asymmetric assignment problem:  $c_{n \times n} = (c_{ij})$  is cost matrix . Need a min cost asymmetric assignment, i.e., one in which  $\forall i, j \quad x_{ij} = 1 \Rightarrow x_{ji} = 0$  (this automatically  $\Rightarrow x_{ii} = 0 \forall i$ ).

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	4	15	10	14	13	20
2	15	×	16	18	18	8
3	10	16	34	28	25	24
4	14	18	28	×	3	17
5	13	18	25	3	×	13
6	20	8	24	17	13	30

The symmetric assignment problem:  $n = 2p$  objects.

Need to form these objects into  $p$  couples each with 2 objects.

For  $j > i$   $d_{ij}$  = cost of forming objects  $i, j$  into a couple.

$j =$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$i = 1$	×	4	6	110	116	126	118	120	116	114
2		×	8	118	114	124	106	102	118	106
3			×	112	116	112	110	122	116	124
4				×	2	4	218	216	226	230
5					×	6	212	212	234	232
6						×	338	306	316	308
7							×	4	2	16
8								×	6	8
9									×	10
10										×

This is a min cost perfect matching problem.



B & B for pure 0-1 IP

Called **Implicit enumeration methods**.

Consider  $\min z = cx$ , s. to  $Ax \leq b$   $x_j$  binary  $\forall j$ .

**0-variable:** One fixed at 0 in a CP

**1-variable:** One fixed at 1 in a CP

**Free variable:** One not fixed in a CP

**Partial sol.:**  $(U_0, U_1, U_f)$  – in this all  $x_j \in U_0$  are fixed at 0, all  $x_j \in U_1$  are fixed at 1; while all  $x_j \in U_f$  are free. Each CP in algo. corresponds to a partial sol.

A **completion** of a partial sol. is obtained by giving 0-1 values to free variables.

If  $c_j < 0$  substitute  $x_j = 1 - y_j$ .  $y_j$  is also 0-1. With this we can assume  $c \geq 0$ .

Simple fathoming criterion for CP  $(U_0, U_1, U_f)$

Remaining problem is:  $\min c_f x_f + (\sum_{j \in U_1} c_j)$  s. to  $A_f x_f \leq b' = b - \sum_{j \in U_1} A_{.j}$   $x_f$  is 0-1.

If  $b' \geq 0$ ,  $x_f = 0$  is an opt. sol. for this problem. This is fathoming criterion. If satisfied, complete by making all free vars. into 0-vars, gives opt. sol. for CP.

Computations to be carried out on the CP  $(U_0, U_1, U_f)$  if it's not fathomed

Let  $\bar{z}$  = incumbent obj. value at this stage. To avoid solving the LP relaxation, they apply several 0-1 feasibility tests to see if this CP can have a 0-1 sol. with obj. val.  $< \bar{z}$ , i.e. check feasibility of:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \in U_f} A_{.j} x_j &\leq b' = b - \sum_{j \in U_1} A_{.j} \\ \sum_{j \in U_f} a_{m+1,j} x_j &\leq b'_{m+1} = \bar{z} - \sum_{j \in U_1} a_{m+1,j} \\ x_j &= 0 \text{ or } 1 \quad \forall j \in U_f \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_{m+1,j} = c_j \quad \forall j$ .

An example test: If  $\sum_{j \in U_f} \min\{a_{ij}, 0\} > b'_i$  for any  $i$  above system infeasible, prune this CP. Try  $3x_1 + 4x_2 - 4x_3 - 6x_4 \leq -11$ .

Other tests: determine that a free var. is a 0-var. or 1-var. at all feasible sols. of system. For example, if  $k \in U_f$  &  $\sum_{j \in U_f} \min\{a_{ij}, 0\} + |a_{ik}| > b'_i$  for any  $i$  and  $a_{ik} < 0$  [ $a_{ik} > 0$ ] then  $x_k$  is a 1-var. [0-var.]. Try  $3x_1 + 4x_2 - 4x_3 - 6x_4 \leq -9$ . Both  $x_3, x_4$  are 1-vars. in every feasible sol. Alter sets of CP accordingly.

Using Surrogate constraints: For above system, it is a nonnegative comb. of constraints, i.e.,  $\sum_{j \in U_f} (\sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \mu_i a_{ij}) x_j \leq \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \mu_i b'_i$ , where  $\mu_i \geq 0 \quad \forall i$ . For example:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - x_2 &\leq -1 \\ -x_1 + 2x_2 &\leq -1 \end{aligned}$$

Taking  $\mu = (1, 1)$  leads to the surrogate constraint  $x_2 \leq -2$ . From each of the 2 constraints in above system, we cannot

conclude that system has no 0-1 sol., but from surrogate constraint we can. Apply all tests on surrogate constraint.

Best  $\mu$  comes from dual opt. sol. of LP relaxation.

Using surrogate based 0-1 Knapsack model: One relaxation is:  $\min \sum_{j \in U_f} c_j x_j$  s. to  $\sum_{j \in U_f} (\sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i a_{ij}) x_j \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i b'_i$   
 $x_{U_f}$  binary.

$\sum_{j \in U_1} c_j + \min$  obj. val. in this 0-1 knapsack problem is an LB for this CP. Best  $\mu$  is negative opt. dual sol. of LP relaxation. Prune if LB can be shown to be  $\geq$  cost of incumbent.

After all tests etc. if CP not pruned, and is:  $(U'_0, U'_1, U'_f)$ , then can take  $\sum_{j \in U'_1} c_j$  as a LB for it.

Normally use backtrack search. CP to explore next is selected from LIST (maintained as an ordered list) by LIFO. It can be branched using a free var. in it as BV.