CS 580: Algorithm Design and Analysis

Jeremiah Blocki Purdue University Spring 2019 Upcoming Workshops at Purdue

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https://datafoundations.cs.purdue.edu/index.html



https://sites.google.com/view/midwesttheoryday2019/home

Midterm Exam 2

Minimum Value 54.5 Maximum Value 133.5 Average 90.5 Median 91.33 Standard Deviation 18.83

Re-grade Requests: You can submit re-grade requests directly on GradeScope (Standard Caveat: Your grade may go up or down) Competitive Facility Location

Input. Graph with positive node weights, and target B.

Game. Two competing players alternate in selecting nodes. Not allowed to select a node if any of its neighbors has been selected.

Competitive facility location. Can second player guarantee at least B units of profit? (Player one might play vindictively to minimize B's profit)

Yes if B = 20; no if B = 25.

Competitive Facility Location

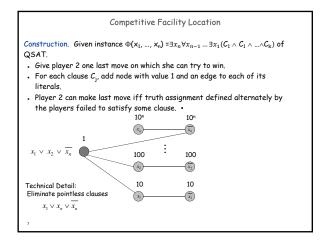
Claim. COMPETITIVE-FACILITY is PSPACE-complete.

Pf.

Known PSPACE Complete Problem

- To solve in poly-space, use recursion like QSAT, but at each step there are up to n choices instead of 2.
- To show that it's complete, we show that QSAT polynomial reduces to it. Given an instance of QSAT, we construct an instance of COMPETITIVE-FACILITY such that player 2 can force a win iff QSAT formula is false.

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Approximation Algorithms

Q. Suppose I need to solve an NP-hard problem. What should I do?

A. Theory says you're unlikely to find a poly-time algorithm.

Must sacrifice one of three desired features.

Solve problem to optimality.

Solve problem in poly-time.

Solve arbitrary instances of the problem.

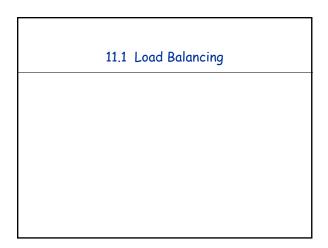
p-approximation algorithm.

Guaranteed to run in poly-time.

Guaranteed to solve arbitrary instance of the problem

Guaranteed to find solution within ratio p of true optimum.

Challenge. Need to prove a solution's value is close to optimum, without even knowing what optimum value is!



Load Balancing
 Input. m identical machines; n jobs, job j has processing time t_j.

 Job j must run contiguously on one machine.
 A machine can process at most one job at a time.

 Def. Let J(i) be the subset of jobs assigned to machine i. The load of machine i is L_i = Σ_{j ∈ J(i)} t_j.
 Def. The makespan is the maximum load on any machine L = max_i L_i.
 Load balancing. Assign each job to a machine to minimize makespan.
 M=2 Machines. Subset Sum problem in disguise!

 Search problem is NP-Hard

List-scheduling algorithm.

Consider n jobs in some fixed order.

Assign job j to machine whose load is smallest so far.

List-Scheduling (m, n, t₁, t₂,...,t_n) {
for i = 1 to m {
 L_i ← 0 ← load on machine i
 J(i) ← ∅ ← jobs assigned to machine i
 }

for j = 1 to n {
 i = argmin, I_k ← machine i has smallest load
 J(i) ← J(i) ∪ (j) ← assign job j to machine i
 L_i ← L_i + t_j ← update load of machine i
 j return J(1), ..., J(m)
}

Implementation. O(n log m) using a priority queue.

Load Balancing: List Scheduling Analysis

Theorem. [Graham, 1966] Greedy algorithm is a 2-approximation.

First worst-case analysis of an approximation algorithm.

Need to compare resulting solution with optimal makespan L*.

Lawren 2. The optimal makespan L* ≥ max, 2.

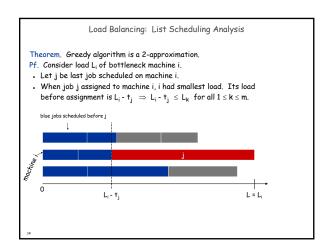
Pf. Some machine must proceed the mast time-considering job.

Leigne 2. The optimal makespan L* ≥ ½ ∑ € €

Pf.

The total processing time is ∑ 1.

One of in machine must do at least a 1/m fraction of total work.



Load Balancing: List Scheduling Analysis

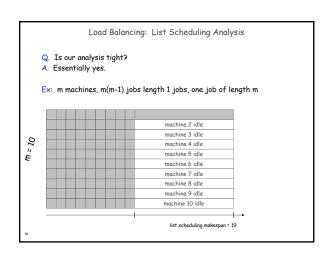
Theorem. Gready algorithm is a 2-approximation.

Pf. Consider load L, of bothlamack tracking i.

Let j be lost job scheduled on machine i.

When job j assigned to machine i, i had smallest load. Its lead before assignment is $L_1 - t_1 = \lambda_1 - t_1 \leq L_1$ for all $1 \leq k \leq m$.

Sum inequalities over all k and divide by m: $L_1 - L_2 \leq \frac{1}{28} \sum_{k=1}^{m} L_k \qquad \text{Lemma 1}$ $= \frac{1}{28} \sum_{k=1}^{m} L_k \leq L^*$ Now $L_2 = (L_1 - L_2) + L_2 \leq L^*$ $\leq L^*$ Lemma 2



Load Balancing: List Scheduling Analysis

Q. Is our analysis tight?
A. Essentially yes.

Ex: m machines, m(m-1) jobs length 1 jobs, one job of length m

Load Balancing: LPT Rule
Longest processing time (LPT). Sort n jobs in descending order of processing time, and then run list scheduling algorithm. $LPT-List-Scheduling (m, n, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) \; \{$ Sort jobs so that $t_1 \geq t_2 \geq \dots \geq t_n$ $for \; i = 1 \; to \; m \; \{$ $L_1 \leftarrow 0 \qquad \longmapsto load \; on \; machine i$ $J(i) \leftarrow \phi \qquad \longmapsto jobs \; assigned \; to \; machine i$ $\}$ $for \; j = 1 \; to \; n \; \{$ $i = argmin_k \; L_k \qquad \longmapsto machine \; i \; has \; smallest \; load$ $J(i) \leftarrow J(i) \cup \{j\} \qquad \longmapsto ossign \; job \; j \; to \; machine i$ $L_1 \leftarrow L_1 + t_3 \qquad \longmapsto update \; load \; of \; machine i$ $\}$ $return \; J(1) \; , \; \dots \; J(m)$ $\}$

Load Balancing: LPT Rule

Observation. If at most m jobs, then list-scheduling is optimal. Pf. Each job put on its own machine. •

Lemma 3. If there are more than m jobs, $L^* \ge 2 t_{m+1}$.

- . Consider first m+1 jobs $t_1,...,t_{m+1}$. Since the t_i 's are in descending order, each takes at least t_{m+1} time.
- There are m+1 jobs and m machines, so by pigeonhole principle, at least one machine gets two jobs. •

Theorem. LPT rule is a 3/2 approximation algorithm.

Pf. Same basic approach as for list scheduling.

$$L_i = \underbrace{(L_i - t_j)}_{\leq L^*} + \underbrace{t_j}_{\leq \frac{1}{2}L^*} \leq \tfrac{3}{2}L^*.$$

Lemma 3 (by observation, can assume number of jobs > m)

Load Balancing: LPT Rule

Q. Is our 3/2 analysis tight?

Theorem. [Graham, 1969] LPT rule is a 4/3-approximation.

Pf. More sophisticated analysis of same algorithm.

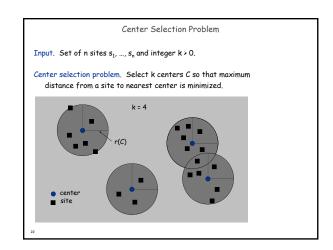
Q. Is Graham's 4/3 analysis tight?

A. Essentially yes.

Ex: m machines, n = 2m+1 jobs, 2 jobs of length m+1, m+2, ..., 2m and one job of length m.

One processor gets 3 jobs by pigeonhole principle Optimal makespan: m+(m+1)+(m+1) = 3m+2LPT makespan: m + (3m/2+1)+(3m/2) = 4m+1

11.2 Center Selection



Center Selection Problem

Input. Set of n sites $s_1, ..., s_n$ and integer k > 0.

Center selection problem. Select k centers C so that maximum distance from a site to nearest center is minimized.

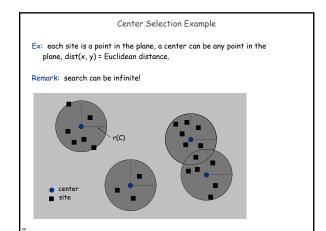
Notation.

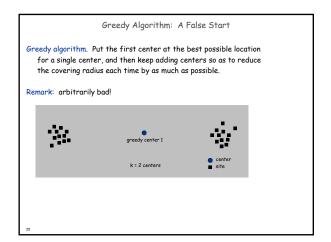
- dist(x, y) = distance between x and y.
- dist (s_i, C) = min $c \in C$ dist (s_i, c) = distance from s_i to closest
- $r(C) = \max_{i} dist(s_i, C) = smallest covering radius.$

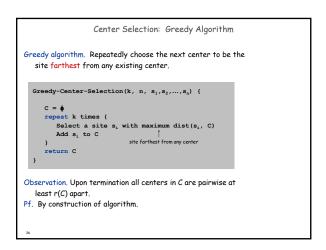
Goal. Find set of centers C that minimizes r(C), subject to |C| = k.

Distance function properties.

dist(x, x) = 0 (identity) dist(x, y) = dist(y, x) (symmetry) • $dist(x, y) \le dist(x, z) + dist(z, y)$ (triangle inequality)







Theorem. Let C^* be an optimal set of centers. Then $\mathbf{r}(C) \leq 2\mathbf{r}(C^*)$. Pf. (by contradiction) Assume $\mathbf{r}(C^*) \cdot \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{r}(C)$.

• For each site \mathbf{c}_i in C, consider ball of radius $\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{r}(C)$ around it.

• Exactly one \mathbf{c}_i^* (strictly) inside each ball: let \mathbf{c}_i be the site paired with \mathbf{c}_i^* .

• At least one \mathbf{c}_i^* site since $\mathbf{r}(C^*) \cdot \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{r}(C)$ • If \mathbf{c}_i^* is in balls for both \mathbf{c}_i and \mathbf{c}_i then by the triangle inequality dist $(\mathbf{c}_i, \mathbf{c}_j) \leq \text{dist}(\mathbf{c}_i, \mathbf{c}_j^*) + \text{dist}(\mathbf{c}_i^*, \mathbf{c}_i) \leq \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{r}(C) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{r}(C)$ • Contradiction! Prior Observation $\Rightarrow \mathbf{r}(C) \leq \text{dist}(\mathbf{c}_i, \mathbf{c}_j)$

Theorem. Let C^* be an optimal set of centers. Then $r(C) \le 2r(C^*)$. Pf. (by contradiction) Assume $r(C^*) < \frac{1}{2} r(C)$.

For each site c_i in C_i consider ball of radius $\frac{1}{2} r(C)$ around it.

Exactly one c_i^* in each ball; let c_i be the site paired with c_i^* .

Consider any site s and its closest center c_i^* in C^* .

dist $(s, C) \le dist(s, c_i) \le dist(s, c_i^*) + dist(c_i^*, c_i) \le 2r(C^*)$.

Thus $r(C) \le 2r(C^*)$.

A-inequality s_i^* rice since c_i^* is closest center

Center Selection

Theorem. Let C^* be an optimal set of centers. Then $\mathbf{r}(C) \leq 2\mathbf{r}(C^*)$.

Theorem. Greedy algorithm is a 2-approximation for center selection problem.

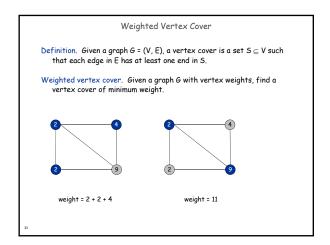
Remark. Greedy algorithm always places centers at sites, but is still within a factor of 2 of best solution that is allowed to place centers anywhere.

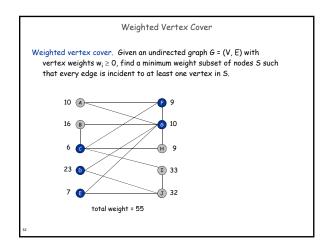
• g., points in the plane

Question. Is there hope of a 3/2-approximation? 4/3?

Theorem. Unless P = NP, there no ρ -approximation for center-selection problem for any $\rho < 2$.

11.6 LP Rounding: Vertex Cover





Weighted Vertex Cover: IP Formulation

Weighted vertex cover. Given an undirected graph G = (V, E) with vertex weights $w_i \ge 0$, find a minimum weight subset of nodes S such that every edge is incident to at least one vertex in S.

${\bf Integer\ programming\ formulation}.$

. Model inclusion of each vertex i using a 0/1 variable $\mathbf{x}_{i\cdot}$

$$x_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if vertex } i \text{ is not in vertex cover} \\ 1 & \text{if vertex } i \text{ is in vertex cover} \end{cases}$$

Vertex covers in 1-1 correspondence with 0/1 assignments: S = {i \in V : x_i = 1}

- . Objective function: minimize $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{i}\,\boldsymbol{w}_{i}\,\boldsymbol{x}_{i}.$
- . Must take either i or j: $x_i + x_j \ge 1$.

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Weighted Vertex Cover: IP Formulation

Weighted vertex cover. Integer programming formulation.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \textit{(ILP)} & \min & \sum\limits_{i \ \in \ V} w_i \, x_i \\ & \text{s. t.} & x_i + x_j & \geq & 1 & (i,j) \in E \\ & x_i & \in & \{0,1\} & i \in V \end{array}$$

Observation. If x^* is optimal solution to (ILP), then $S = \{i \in V : x^*_i = 1\}$ is a min weight vertex cover.

. .

 $\label{eq:integer} Integer Programming$ $\label{eq:integers} Integer Programming a_{ij} \ and \ b_i, \ find \ integers \ x_j \ that satisfy:$

Observation. Vertex cover formulation proves that integer programming is NP-hard search problem.

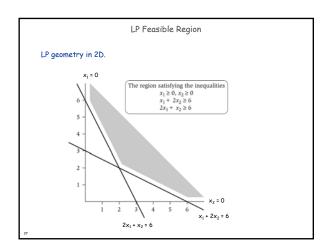
even if all coefficients are 0/1 and at most two variables per inequality Linear Programming

Linear programming. Max/min linear objective function subject to linear inequalities.

Input: integers c_j , b_i , a_{ij} .

Output: real numbers x_j .

(P) $\max_{x \in Ax} \sum_{x \in Ax} \sum_{x \in Ax} \sum_{y \in Ax} \sum_{j \in Ax} \sum_{x \in Ax} \sum_{x$



Weighted Vertex Cover: LP Relaxation

Weighted vertex cover. Linear programming formulation.

$$\begin{array}{lll} (\mathit{LP}) \ \min & \sum_{i \ \in \ V} w_i \ x_i \\ & \text{s. t.} & x_i + x_j & \geq \ 1 & (i,j) \in E \\ & x_i & \geq \ 0 & i \in V \end{array}$$

Observation. Optimal value of (LP) is \leq optimal value of (ILP). Pf. LP has fewer constraints.

Note. LP is not equivalent to vertex cover.

- Q. How can solving LP help us find a small vertex cover?
- A. Solve LP and round fractional values.

Weighted Vertex Cover

Theorem. If x^* is optimal solution to (LP), then $S=\{i\in V: x^*_i\geq \frac{1}{2}\}$ is a vertex cover whose weight is at most twice the min possible weight.

Pf. [S is a vertex cover]

- Consider an edge (i, j) ∈ E.
- . Since $x^{\star}_i + x^{\star}_j \geq 1$, either $x^{\star}_i \geq \frac{1}{2}$ or $x^{\star}_j \geq \frac{1}{2} \implies (i, j)$ covered.

Pf. [S has desired cost]

. Let S* be optimal vertex cover. Then

Weighted Vertex Cover

Theorem. 2-approximation algorithm for weighted vertex cover.

Theorem. [Dinur-Safra 2001] If P \neq NP, then no ρ -approximation for ρ < 1.3607, even with unit weights.

Open research problem. Close the gap.

Theorem. [Khot-Regev 2003] No polynomial time $\rho\text{-approximation}$ for any constant ρ < 2 under a stronger conjecture called the ``Unique Games Conjecture."

11.8 Knapsack Problem

Polynomial Time Approximation Scheme

PTAS. (1 + ϵ)-approximation algorithm for any constant ϵ > 0.

- Load balancing. [Hochbaum-Shmoys 1987]
- Euclidean TSP. [Arora 1996]

 ${\it Consequence.} \ {\it PTAS} \ produces \ arbitrarily \ high \ quality \ solution, \ but \ trades \ off \ accuracy \ for \ time.$

This section. PTAS for knapsack problem via rounding and scaling.

Knapsack Problem

Knapsack problem.

- Given n objects and a "knapsack."
- . Item i has value v_i > 0 and weighs w_i > 0. — we'll assume $w_i \le W$
- Knapsack can carry weight up to W.
- . Goal: fill knapsack so as to maximize total value.

Ex: { 3, 4 } has value 40.



Knapsack is NP-Complete

KNAPSACK: Given a finite set X, nonnegative weights w_i , nonnegative values v_i , a weight limit W, and a target value V, is there a subset $S \subseteq X$ such that:

$$\sum_{i \in S} w_i \leq W$$

$$\sum_{i \in S} v_i \geq V$$

SUBSET-SUM: Given a finite set X, nonnegative values u_i , and an integer U, is there a subset $S \subseteq X$ whose elements sum to exactly U?

Claim. SUBSET-SUM ≤ , KNAPSACK.

Pf. Given instance $(u_1, ..., u_n, U)$ of SUBSET-SUM, create KNAPSACK instance:

$$\begin{aligned} v_i &= w_i = u_i & \sum_{i \in S} u_i & \leq & U \\ V &= W &= U & \sum_{i \in S} u_i & \geq & U \end{aligned}$$

Knapsack Problem: Dynamic Programming 1

Def. OPT(i, w) = max value subset of items 1,..., i with weight limit w.

- Case 1: OPT does not select item i.
- OPT selects best of 1, ..., i-1 using up to weight limit w
- Case 2: OPT selects item i.
 - new weight limit = $w w_i$
 - OPT selects best of 1, ..., i-1 using up to weight limit w w_{i}

$$OPT(i, w) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \\ OPT(i-1, w) & \text{if } w_i > w \\ \max \left\{ OPT(i-1, w), \quad v_i + OPT(i-1, w - w_i) \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Running time. O(n W).

- W = weight limit.
- . Not polynomial in input size!

Knapsack Problem: Dynamic Programming II

Def. OPT(i, v) = min weight subset of items 1, ..., i that yields value exactly v.

- . Case 1: OPT does not select item i.
- OPT selects best of 1, ..., i-1 that achieves exactly value v
- . Case 2: OPT selects item i.
- consumes weight w_i , new value needed = v v_i
- OPT selects best of 1, ..., i-1 that achieves exactly value v

$$OPT(i,v) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v = 0 \\ \infty & \text{if } i = 0, \text{ } v > 0 \\ OPT(i-1,v) & \text{if } v_i > v \\ \min \left\{ OPT(i-1,v), \ \ w_i + OPT(i-1,v-v_i) \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

V^{*} ≤ n v_{max}

Running time. $O(n V^*) = O(n^2 v_{max})$.

- . V* = optimal value = maximum v such that OPT(n, v) \leq W.
- Not polynomial in input size!

Knapsack: FPTAS

Intuition for approximation algorithm.

- Round all values up to lie in smaller range.
- Run dynamic programming algorithm on rounded instance.
- Return optimal items in rounded instance.

Item	Value	Weight		Item	Value	Weight
1	934,221	1		1	1	1
2	5,956,342	2		2	6	2
3	17,810,013	5	\rightarrow	3	18	5
4	21,217,800	6		4	22	6
5	27,343,199	7		5	28	7
		W = 11				W = 11
original instance				rounded instance		

Knapsack: FPTAS

Knapsack FPTAS. Round up all values: $\overline{v}_i = \begin{bmatrix} v_i \\ \overline{\theta} \end{bmatrix} \theta$, $\hat{v}_i = \begin{bmatrix} v_i \\ \overline{\theta} \end{bmatrix}$

- v_{max} = largest value in original instance
- ε = precision parameter
- $-\theta$ = scaling factor = $\epsilon v_{max} / n$

Observation. Optimal solution to problems with $\,\overline{\!\nu}$ or $\,\hat{\!\nu}$ are equivalent.

Intuition. \overline{v} close to v so optimal solution using \overline{v} is nearly optimal; \hat{v} small and integral so dynamic programming algorithm is fast.

Running time. $O(n^3 / \epsilon)$.

. Dynamic program II running time is $O(n^2\,\hat{v}_{
m max})$, where

$$\hat{v}_{\text{max}} = \left[\frac{v_{\text{max}}}{\theta} \right] = \left[\frac{n}{\epsilon} \right]$$

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Knapsack: FPTAS

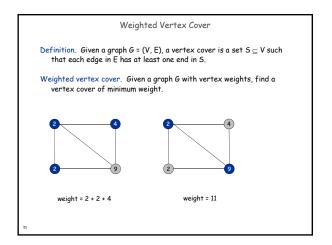
Knapsack FPTAS. Round up all values: \overline{v}_i = \left\lceil \frac{v_i}{\theta} \right\rceil \theta

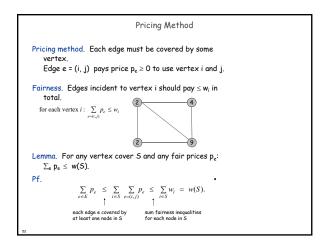
Theorem. If S is solution found by our algorithm and S* is any other feasible solution them 1+\varepsilon) \sum_{i \in S} v_i \geq \sum_{i \in S^*} v_i

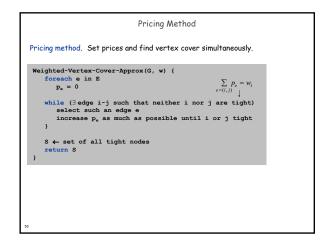
Pf. Let S* be any feasible solution satisfying weight constraint.

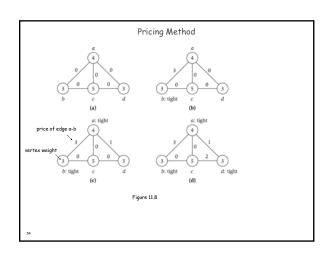
\sum_{i \in S^*} v_i \leq \sum_{i \in S^*} \overline{v}_i
always round up
\leq \sum_{i \in S} \overline{v}_i
solve rounded instance optimally
\leq \sum_{i \in S} \overline{v}_i
solve rounded instance optimally
\leq \sum_{i \in S} v_i + n\theta
```

11.4 The Pricing Method: Vertex Cover









Pricing Method: Analysis

Theorem. Pricing method is a 2-approximation.

- Algorithm terminates since at least one new node becomes tight after each iteration of while loop.
- Let S = set of all tight nodes upon termination of algorithm. S is a vertex cover: if some edge i-j is uncovered, then neither i nor j is tight. But then while loop would not terminate.
- . Let S^{\star} be optimal vertex cover. We show w(S) $\leq 2w(S^{\star}).$

$$w(S) = \sum_{i \in S} w_i = \sum_{i \in S} \sum_{e = (i,j)} p_e \leq \sum_{i \in V} \sum_{e = (i,j)} p_e = 2 \sum_{e \in E} p_e \leq 2w(S^*). \quad \blacksquare$$
 all nodes in S are tight
$$\sum_{S \subseteq V} \sqrt{\sum_{e = (i,j)} p_e \leq 2 \log e}$$
 coch edge counted twice prices ≥ 0

* 11.7 Load Balancing Reloaded

Generalized Load Balancing

Input. Set of m machines M; set of n jobs J.

- . Job j must run contiguously on an authorized machine in $M_i \subseteq M.$
- Job j has processing time t_j.
- Each machine can process at most one job at a time.

Def. Let J(i) be the subset of jobs assigned to machine i.

load of machine i is L = $\Sigma_{j \in J(i)} t_{j}$.

Def. The makespan is the maximum load on any machine = $\text{max}_i \: L_i.$

Generalized load balancing. Assign each job to an authorized machine to minimize makespan.

Generalized Load Balancing: Integer Linear Program and Relaxation

ILP formulation. x_{ij} = time machine i spends processing job j.

$$\begin{aligned} & (IP) \text{ min } & L \\ & \text{ s. t. } \sum_{i} x_{ij} &= t_{j} & \text{ for all } j \in J \\ & \sum_{i} x_{ij} &\leq L & \text{ for all } i \in M \\ & x_{ij} &\in \{0, t_{j}\} & \text{ for all } j \in J \text{ and } i \in M_{j} \\ & x_{ij} &= 0 & \text{ for all } j \in J \text{ and } i \notin M_{j} \end{aligned}$$

LP relaxation.

$$\begin{array}{lll} (LP) \mbox{ min } & L \\ & \mbox{ s. t. } \sum_i x_{ij} &= t_j & \mbox{ for all } j \in J \\ & \sum_j x_{ij} &\leq L & \mbox{ for all } i \in M \\ & x_{ij} &\geq 0 & \mbox{ for all } j \in J \mbox{ and } i \in M_j \\ & x_{ij} &= 0 & \mbox{ for all } j \in J \mbox{ and } i \not\in M_j \end{array}$$

 ${\it Generalized Load Balancing: Lower Bounds}$

Lemma 1. Let L be the optimal value to the LP. Then, the optimal makespan $\,\,L^{\bigstar} \geq L.$

Pf. LP has fewer constraints than IP formulation.

Lemma 2. The optimal makespan $L^* \ge \max_j t_j$.

Pf. Some machine must process the most time-consuming job. $\mbox{ }^{\bullet}$ Generalized Load Balancing: Structure of LP Solution

Lemma 3. Let x be solution to LP. Let G(x) be the graph with an edge from machine i to job j if x_{ij} > 0. Then G(x) is acyclic.

Pf. (deferred)

Can transform x into another LP solution where G(x) is acyclic if LP solver doesn't return such an x

x_{ij} > 0

x_{ij} > 0

G(x) acyclic

job

G(x) cyclic

machine

Rounded solution. Find LP solution x where G(x) is a forest. Root forest G(x) at some arbitrary machine node r.

If job j is a leaf node, assign j to its parent machine i.

If job j is not a leaf node, assign j to one of its children.

Lemma 4. Rounded solution only assigns jobs to authorized machines.

Pf. If job j is assigned to machine i, then x_{ij} > 0. LP solution can only assign positive value to authorized machines.

job

job

job

machine

Generalized Load Balancing: Analysis

Lemma 5. If job j is a leaf node and machine i = parent(j), then x_{ij} = t_j .

Pf. Since i is a leaf, x_{ij} = 0 for all j \neq parent(i). LP constraint guarantees Σ_i x_{ij} = t_j .

Lemma 6. At most one non-leaf job is assigned to a machine.

Pf. The only possible non-leaf job assigned to machine i is parent(i).

Analysis

Lemma 5. If job j is a leaf node and machine i is parent(i).

Job

Job

Machinera an analysis

Generalized Load Balancing: Flow Formulation Flow formulation of LP. $\sum x_{ij} = t_j \quad \text{for all } j \in J$ $\sum x_{ij} \leq L \quad \text{for all } i \in M$ $\int_{I}^{J} x_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } j \in J \text{ and } i \in M_j$ $x_{ij} = 0 \quad \text{for all } j \in J \text{ and } i \notin M_j$ Observation. Solution to feasible flow problem with value L are in one-to-one correspondence with LP solutions of value L.

Generalized Load Balancing: Structure of Solution

Lemma 3. Let (x, L) be solution to LP. Let G(x) be the graph with an edge from machine i to job j if $x_{ij} > 0$. We can find another solution (x', L) such that G(x') is acyclic.

Pf. Let C be a cycle in G(x).

Augment flow along the cycle C. — flow conservation maintained

At least one edge from C is removed (and none are added).

Repeat until G(x') is acyclic.

Conclusions

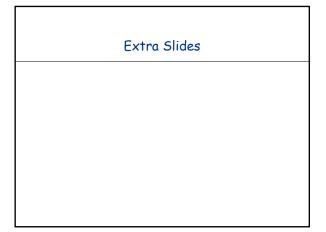
Running time. The bottleneck operation in our 2-approximation is solving one LP with mn + 1 variables.

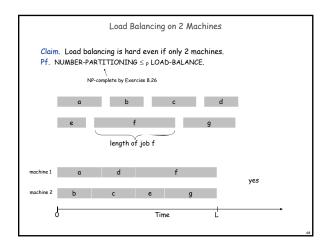
Remark. Can solve LP using flow techniques on a graph with m+n+1 nodes: given L, find feasible flow if it exists. Binary search to find L*.

Extensions: unrelated parallel machines. [Lenstra-Shmoys-Tardos 1990]

Job j takes t_{ij} time if processed on machine i.
2-approximation algorithm via LP rounding.

No 3/2-approximation algorithm unless P = NP.





Center Selection: Hardness of Approximation

Theorem. Unless P = NP, there is no $\rho\text{-approximation}$ algorithm for metric k-center problem for any ρ < 2.

- Pf. We show how we could use a (2 $\epsilon)$ approximation algorithm for k-center to solve DOMINATING-SET in poly-time.
- . Let G = (V, E), k be an instance of DOMINATING-SET. \leftarrow see Exercise 8.29
- . Construct instance $\ensuremath{\mbox{G}}\xspace^{\mbox{\tiny '}}$ of k-center with sites V and distances
 - $d(u, v) = 2 \text{ if } (u, v) \in E$
 - d(u, v) = 1 if (u, v) ∉ E
- . Note that G' satisfies the triangle inequality.
- Claim: G has dominating set of size k iff there exists k centers C* with r(C*) = 1.
- . Thus, if \hat{G} has a dominating set of size k, a (2 ϵ)-approximation algorithm on G' must find a solution C^* with $r(C^*)$ = 1 since it cannot use any edge of distance 2.

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