

3.1 Polynomial Time Approximation Scheme (PTAS)

Definition 3.1.1 *PTAS*: An algorithm that for any given constant $\epsilon > 0$, produce a $(1 + \epsilon)$ approximation with running time polynomial in size of the instant.

Definition 3.1.2 *Fully PTAS (FPTAS)*: An algorithm that for any constant $\epsilon > 0$, returns a $(1 + \epsilon)$ approximation with running time polynomial in both the instance size n and $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$.

3.2 Knapsack

Definition 3.2.1 *Knapsack*: Given n items with size s_i and value v_i , and a knapsack of size B , find subset $S \subseteq [n]$ with $\sum_{i \in S} s_i \leq B$ that maximizes $\sum_{i \in S} v_i$.

Assumption $V = \max v_i$. All v_i 's are integers in $\{1, \dots, V\}$

Claim 3.2.2 There is a DP that solves knapsack exactly in pseudo polynomial time $O(n^2V)$

Algorithm 1 DP for Knapsack

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A(1) ← {(0, 0), (s1, w1)}
for j = 2..n do
  A(j) ← A(j - 1)
  for each (t, w) ∈ A(j - 1) do
    if t + sj ≤ B then
      Add (t + sj, w + vj) to A(j)
    end if
  end for
  Remove dominated pairs from A(j)
end for
return max(t,w) ∈ A(n) w

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Claim 3.2.3 We can design a FPTAS that solves Knapsack in time $O(\frac{n^3}{\epsilon})$.

Algorithm 2 Discretization DP method for Knapsack

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Define  $V = \max v_i$ ,  $R = (1 + \frac{1}{\epsilon})n$ 
Round value down to integers in  $\{1, \dots, R\}$ ,  $v'_i = \lfloor v_i \frac{R}{V} \rfloor$ 
Run Algorithm 1 to solve instance exactly over  $v'_i$ 
return Solution

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Running Time = $O(n^2R) = O(\frac{n^3}{\epsilon}) \rightarrow$ FPTAS

Proof: At first, we define some notations:

$$\begin{aligned} OPT &= \text{optimal value over } v_i\text{'s} \\ OPT' &= \text{optimal value over } v_i'\text{'s} \\ ALG &= \text{algorithm's value over } v_i\text{'s} \end{aligned}$$

Then we want to define R such that:

$$\frac{R}{V}OPT - \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \frac{R}{V}OPT \geq n \quad (3.2.1)$$

$$\frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} \frac{R}{V}OPT \geq n$$

$$R \geq \frac{1+\epsilon}{\epsilon} \frac{Vn}{OPT}$$

Since one possible solution is to put the most valuable item in a knapsack by itself, $OPT \geq V$. Then we can pick:

$$R = \left(1 + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)n \quad (3.2.2)$$

By (3.2.1) and (3.2.2), we can infer this statements:

$$\begin{aligned} OPT' &\geq \sum_{i \in OPT} v_i' \\ &\geq \sum_{i \in OPT} \lfloor v_i \frac{R}{V} \rfloor \\ &\geq \sum_{i \in OPT} \left(v_i \frac{R}{V} - 1\right) \\ &= \frac{R}{V}OPT - n \\ &\stackrel{(3.2.1)}{\geq} \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \frac{R}{V}OPT \end{aligned}$$

Since we round down values to get the OPT' and the algorithm's solution is the same subset which is still feasible, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} ALG &\geq OPT' \frac{V}{R} \\ &\geq \frac{V}{R} \frac{1}{1+\epsilon} \frac{R}{V} OPT \\ &= \frac{OPT}{1+\epsilon} \end{aligned} \quad (3.2.3)$$

Based on (3.2.2) and (3.2.3), this algorithm is FPTAS. ■

3.3 2D Euclidean TSP

Definition 3.3.1 *Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP):* Given n nodes and for each pair $\{i, j\}$ of distinct nodes, a distance $d_{i,j}$, we desire a closed path that visits each node exactly once (i.e., is a salesman tour) and incurs the least cost, which is the sum of the distances along the path.

Definition 3.3.2 *2D TSP:* the nodes lie in \mathbb{R}^2 (or more generally, in \mathbb{R}^d for some d) and distance is defined using the ℓ_2 norm. i.e. figure 3.3.1, given n points on a plane, find a tour of the shortest Euclidean length.

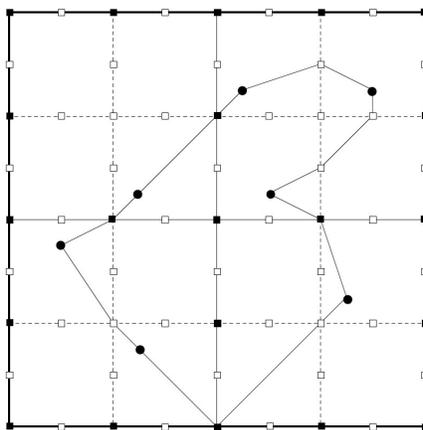


Figure 3.3.1: 2D Euclidean TSP

Definition 3.3.3 *Dissection:* We will take a square of side length L around the points of the instance and divide it into four equally-sized squares, then recursively divide each of these squares into four equally-sized squares, and so on. e.g. Figure 3.3.2 left.

Definition 3.3.4 *Portal:* Tours that enter and exit the squares of the dissection happen at one of a small set of prespecified equidistant points (portals).

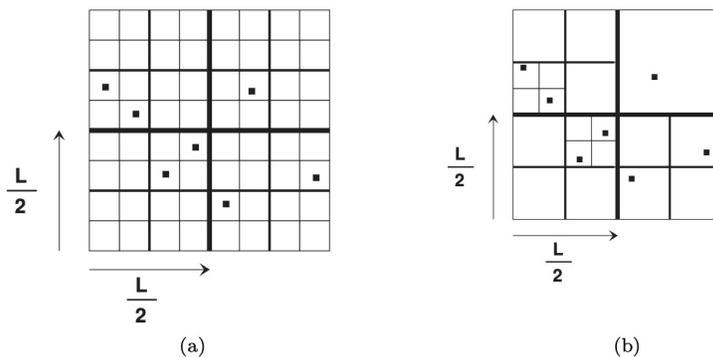


Figure 3.3.2: Left: The dissection. Right: The corresponding quadtree.

Assumption 1: Points lie on an integer grid. Points $\in [n^2]^2$.

Claim 3.3.5 *Discretization cost us at most $O(1 + \frac{1}{n})$ factor in the approximation ratio.*

Proof: There are points on the boundary, so the length of the tour is at least n^2 .

$$OPT \geq n^2$$

On the other hand, the cost of all detours $\leq \sqrt{n^2 + n^2} = \sqrt{2}n$ ■

Assumption 2: Tour must enter/exit a square at a portal.

Assumption 3: Optimal tour does not cross itself.

We create limits of enter/exit by assumption 3 without any loss of approximation factor. As we can see from Figure 3.3.3, if the tour cross itself, we can connect p1-p2 and p3-p4 to remove the crossing.

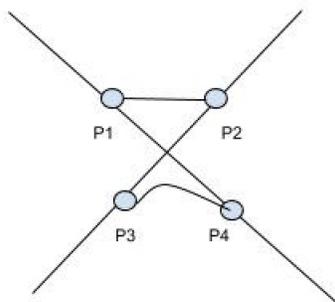


Figure 3.3.3: Illustration of Assumption 3

Assumption 4: Number of entries/exits at each portal is at most 1 each.

As we can see from Figure 3.3.4, if the tour cross three or more times at a portal, it can be shortcut to cross at most twice.

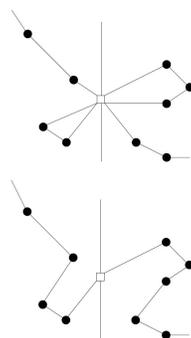


Figure 3.3.4: Illustration of Assumption 4

Algorithm 3 High Level Algorithm

Divide $n^2 \times n^2$ grid into four sub grids.

Divide the boundary of square into m equidistant portals on each side.

Within each subgrid recursively solve for collection of segments that capture all points.

Subproblem - box; for each portal number of entries and number of exits; matching of entries and exits.

For each portal number of entries and number of exits, we have 0/1 enter and 0/1 exit, so it's $O(4^{4m})$.

Matching of entries and exits is $O(2^{O(m)})$.

Number of different boxes in quadtree (Figure 3.3.2 right) is dominated by: $O(n^4)$.

Number of subproblems: $O(n^4 4^{4m} 2^{O(m)}) = O(n^4 2^{O(m)})$

So we can find the optimal solution satisfying assumptions 1-4 in time $poly(n)2^{O(m)}$.

References

- [1] David P. Williamson, David B. Shmoys. The Design of Approximation Algorithms. 2010.
- [2] Sanjeev Arora. Polynomial Time Approximation Schemes for Euclidean Traveling Salesman and other Geometric Problems. 1998.