

DM865 – Spring 2020  
Heuristics and Approximation Algorithms

## Local Search for Traveling Salesman Problem

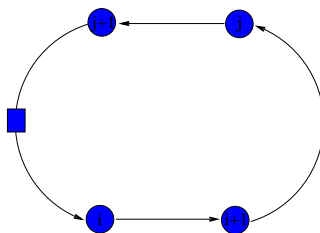
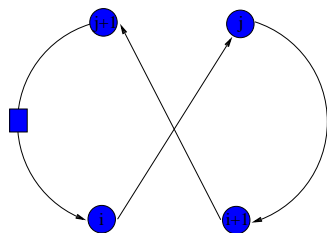
Marco Chiarandini

Department of Mathematics & Computer Science  
University of Southern Denmark

# Intra-route Neighborhoods

2-opt

$$\{i, i+1\}\{j, j+1\} \longrightarrow \{i, j\}\{i+1, j+1\}$$

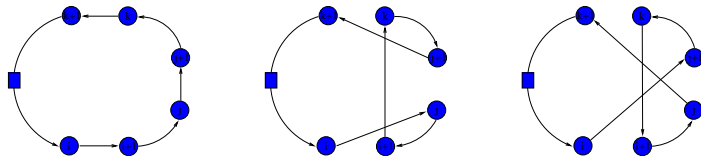


$O(n^2)$  possible exchanges  
One path is reversed

# Intra-route Neighborhoods

3-opt

$$\{i, i + 1\} \{j, j + 1\} \{k, k + 1\} \longrightarrow \dots$$



$O(n^3)$  possible exchanges  
Paths can be reversed

# Possible 3-Exchanges

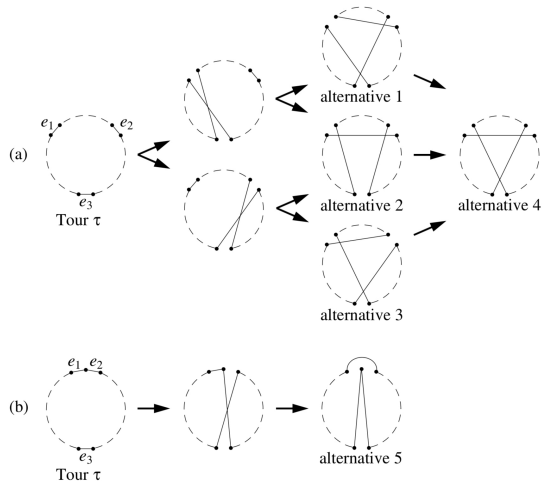
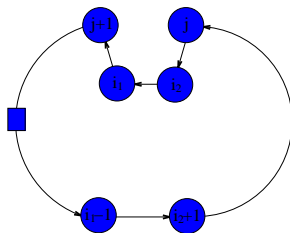
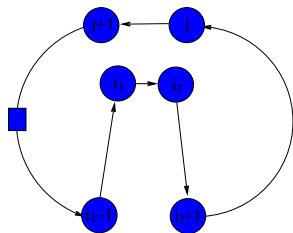


Figure from [MAK]

# Intra-route Neighborhoods

Or-opt [Or (1976)]

$$\{i_1 - 1, i_1\} \{i_2, i_2 + 1\} \{j, j + 1\} \longrightarrow \{i_1 - 1, i_2 + 1\} \{j, i_1\} \{i_2, j + 1\}$$



sequences of one, two, three consecutive vertices relocated

$O(n^2)$  possible exchanges — No paths reversed

Table 17.1 Cases for  $k$ -opt moves.

$k$	No. of Cases
2	1
3	4
4	20
5	148
6	1,358
7	15,104
8	198,144
9	2,998,656
10	51,290,496

[Appelgate Bixby, Chvátal, Cook, 2006]

# Local Search Example

## Random-order first improvement for the TSP

- **Given:** TSP instance  $G$  with vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ .
- **Search space:** Hamiltonian cycles in  $G$ ;
- **Neighborhood relation  $N$ :** standard 2-exchange neighborhood
- **Initialization:**
  - search position  $:=$  fixed canonical tour  $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1 \rangle$
  - "mask"  $P :=$  random permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- **Search steps:** examine neighbors in order of  $P$  (does not change throughout search)
  - evaluate neighbors w.r.t. cost of tour  $f(s)$
  - accept the first improvement
- **Termination:** when no improving search step possible  
(local minimum)

# Local Search Example

## Iterative Improvement for TSP

*TSP-2opt-first*( $s$ )

**input:** an initial candidate tour  $s \in S(\epsilon)$

**output:** a local optimum  $s \in S_\pi$

**for**  $i = 1$  **to**  $n - 1$  **do**

**for**  $j = i + 1$  **to**  $n$  **do**

**if**  $P[i] + 1 \geq n$  **or**  $P[j] + 1 \geq n$  **then** *continue* ;

**if**  $P[i] + 1 = P[j]$  **or**  $P[j] + 1 = P[i]$  **then** *continue* ;

$$\Delta_{ij} = d(\pi_{P[i]}, \pi_{P[j]}) + d(\pi_{P[i]+1}, \pi_{P[j]+1}) + \\ - d(\pi_{P[i]}, \pi_{P[i]+1}) - d(\pi_{P[j]}, \pi_{P[j]+1})$$

**if**  $\Delta_{ij} < 0$  **then**

            UpdateTour( $s, P[i], P[j]$ )

is it really?



# Local Search Example

## Iterative Improvement for TSP

*TSP-2opt-first*( $s$ )

**input:** an initial candidate tour  $s \in S(\epsilon)$

**output:** a local optimum  $s \in S_\pi$

*FoundImprovement* := *TRUE*;

**while** *FoundImprovement* **do**

*FoundImprovement* := *FALSE*;

**for**  $i = 1$  to  $n - 1$  **do**

**for**  $j = i + 1$  to  $n$  **do**

**if**  $P[i] + 1 \geq n$  or  $P[j] + 1 \geq n$  **then** *continue* ;

**if**  $P[i] + 1 = P[j]$  or  $P[j] + 1 = P[i]$  **then** *continue* ;

$$\Delta_{ij} = d(\pi_{P[i]}, \pi_{P[j]}) + d(\pi_{P[i]+1}, \pi_{P[j]+1}) + \\ - d(\pi_{P[i]}, \pi_{P[i]+1}) - d(\pi_{P[j]}, \pi_{P[j]+1})$$

**if**  $\Delta_{ij} < 0$  **then**

                UpdateTour( $s, P[i], P[j]$ )

*FoundImprovement* := *TRUE*

# Local Search Example

Efficient implementations of 2-opt, 2H-opt and 3-opt local search.

- A. Neighborhood pruning (exact or heuristic)  
Fixed radius search + Candidate lists + DLB
- B. Delta evaluation (already in  $O(1)$ )
- C. Data structures

Details at black board and references [Bentley 92, Johnson McGeoch 2002, Appelgate Bixby, Chvátal, Cook, 2006]

# Local Search for TSP

- $k$ -exchange heuristics
  - 2-opt
  - 2.5-opt
  - Or-opt
  - 3-opt
- complex neighborhoods
  - Lin-Kernighan
  - Helsgaun's Lin-Kernighan
  - Dynasearch
  - ejection chains approach

Implementations exploit speed-up techniques

A. neighborhood pruning:

- fixed radius nearest neighborhood search
- neighborhood lists: restrict exchanges to most interesting candidates
- don't look bits: focus local search to "interesting" part

B. delta evaluation

C. sophisticated data structures

Implementation examples by Stützle: <http://www.sls-book.net/implementations.html>

## TSP data structures

Tour representation:

- determine pos of  $v$  in  $\pi$
- determine succ and prec
- check whether  $u_k$  is visited between  $u_i$  and  $u_j$
- execute a k-exchange (reversal)

Possible choices:

- $|V| < 1.000$  array for  $\pi$  and  $\pi^{-1}$
- $|V| < 1.000.000$  two level tree
- $|V| > 1.000.000$  splay tree

Moreover static data structure:

- priority lists
- k-d trees

Look at implementation of local search for TSP by T. Stützle:

File: <http://www.imada.sdu.dk/~marco/DM811/Resources/ls.c>

```
two_opt_b(tour); % best improvement, no speedup
two_opt_f(tour); % first improvement, no speedup
two_opt_best(tour); % first improvement with dlbs,
                    % fixed radius near neighbour searches, neighbourhood lists
two_opt_first(tour); % best improvement with dlbs,
                    % fixed radius near neighbour searches, neighbourhood lists
three_opt_first(tour); % first improvement
```

Table 17.2 Computer-generated source code for  $k$ -opt moves.

$k$	No. of Lines
6	120,228
7	1,259,863
8	17,919,296

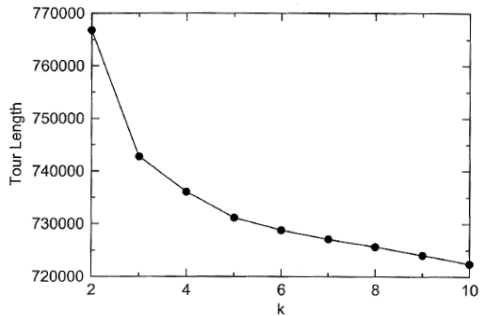


Figure 17.1  $k$ -opt on a 10,000-city Euclidean TSP.