Undirected Chinese postman Problem

The CPP is defined on an undirected graph G = (V, E), where $V = \{1, ..., n\}$ is the set of vertices, $E = \{(i, j) : i, j \in V, i < j, i \neq j\}$ is the set of undirected edges. The traversal cost c_{ij} of an edge (i, j) in E is supposed to be non-negative and is also called cost or distance of (i, j).

In case of an edge (i, j) in E, it is usually assumed that $c_{ij} = c_{ji}$.

It is generally assumed that G is strongly connected that always possible to reach any vertex from any other vertex.

Sets

- V set including all nodes in the network;
- E set including all edges in the network;
- G = (V, E) a connected undirected graph;

Parameters

- n total number of nodes in network;
- c_{ij} distance from $i \in V$ to $j \in V$;

Variables

- x_{ij} decision variable which represents the number of times arc (i, j) is traversed in each cycle using vehicle starting from node $i \in V$ ending at node $j \in V$.

$$\min \sum_{(i,j)\in E} c_{ij} \cdot x_{ij} \tag{1}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{ij} - \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{ji} = 0 \quad \forall i \in V$$
 (2)

$$x_{ij} + x_{ji} \ge 1 \quad \forall (i,j) \in E$$
 (3)

$$x_{ij} \ge 0$$
 and integer $\forall (i,j) \in E$ (4)

The objective function (1) minimizes the total length of route R that is covered by track inspection vehicle.

- Eq. (2) is flow conservation at each node constraint which guarantees the creation of a tour of the network for the vehicle.
- Eq. (3) ensures that each arc that exists is covered at least once during each cycle regardless of its direction using the vehicle.
- Eq. (4) is restriction on the variables.