

## Nearest-neighbor heuristic

Starting from some point  $p_0$ , we walk first to its nearest neighbor  $p_1$ . From  $p_1$ , we walk to its nearest unvisited neighbor thus excluding only  $p_0$  as a candidate. We now repeat this process until we run out of unlisted points after which we return to  $p_0$  to close off the tour

### NearestNeighbor( $P$ )

Pick and visit an initial point  $p_0$  from  $P$

$p = p_0$

$i = 0$

While there are still unvisited points

$i = i + 1$

Select  $p_i$  to be the closest unvisited point to  $p_{i-1}$

Visit  $p_i$

Return to  $p_0$  from  $p_{n-1}$

### ClosestPair( $P$ )

Let  $n$  be the number of points in set  $P$ .

For  $i = 1$  to  $n - 1$  do

$d = \infty$

For each pair of endpoints  $(s, t)$  from distinct vertex chains

if  $\text{dist}(s, t) \leq d$  then  $s_m = s$ ,  $t_m = t$ , and  $d = \text{dist}(s, t)$

Connect  $(s_m, t_m)$  by an edge

Connect the two endpoints by an edge

Travel sales man problem

### OptimalTSP( $P$ )

$d = \infty$

For each of the  $n!$  permutations  $P_i$  of point set  $P$

If  $(\text{cost}(P_i) \leq d)$  then  $d = \text{cost}(P_i)$  and  $P_{min} = P_i$

Return  $P_{min}$

There is a fundamental difference between algorithms which always proceed a correct result and heuristics which may usually do a good job but without

providing any guarantee