

Discrete Optimization - ADM2

Lecturer

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Abstract

The following lecture notes are my personal (and therefore unofficial) write-up for 'Discrete Optimization' aka 'ADM II', which took place in summer semester 2022 at Technische Universität Berlin. I do not guarantee correctness, completeness, or anything else.

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Summary of lectures

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Definitions for ILP. Binary LP. Disaggregation.	
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Intuition why IP is hard. Big- \mathcal{O} notation	
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Hardness. Decision problems.	
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NP-complete. Problems in NPC . Reductions. Weakly vs. strongly.	

Part I

Lecture notes

Lecture 1
Di 19 Apr 2022

1 Test

I didn't make any notes.

Lecture 2
Di 19 Apr 2022

2 Modelling using IP

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \lambda_1 \leq y_1 \\
 & \lambda_i \leq y_{i-1} + y_i, & i > 1 \\
 & \lambda_k \leq y_{k-1} \\
 & \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} y_i = 1 \\
 & y_i \in \mathbb{B}
 \end{aligned}$$

This allows λ_{i-1}, λ_i to be positive and rest negative. ¹.

Now, given an IP Q could be formulated by *many* P 's.

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q &: \{0000, 1000, 0100, 0010, 0110, 0101, 0011\} \\
 P_1 &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid 93x_1 + 49x_2 + 37x_3 + 29x_4 \leq 111\} \\
 P_2 &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid 2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \leq 2\} \\
 P_3 &= \{x \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid 2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \leq 2, \\
 & \quad x_1 + x_2 \leq 1, \\
 & \quad x_1 + x_3 \leq 1, \\
 & \quad x_1 + x_4 \leq 1\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Then, $P_3 \subsetneq P_2 \subsetneq P_1$.

Facility location

Consider following boolean variables:

$$\begin{aligned}
 m : \quad & y_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{open warehouse } i, \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases} \\
 n : \quad & x_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if serve store } j \text{ from warehouse } i, \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

¹Ch 1: Nemhauser Wolsey

Complexity

Question: Easy vs. hard?

(some recap of big- \mathcal{O} -notation and \mathcal{P} vs. \mathcal{NP})

Lecture 3
Di 26 Apr 2022

3 Hardness

We cheat and restrict hardness to *decision problems*, that is, problems that can be answered by "Yes" or "No" only.

Example 3.1. Possible decision problems could be:

1. Does there exist a Hamiltonian cycle?
2. Is the LP feasible?

Question 3.2. How do we model an optimization problem as an decision problem?

Answer. We can simply introduce a parameter z which we use as a bound for the value we want to optimize.

Example 3.3. Possible reformulations of optimization problems are therefore:

1. Does there exist a feasible x with $c^T x \leq z$?
2. Does there exist a spanning tree with cost less than z ?
3. Is there a clique with size less than z ?

Definition 3.4. A **clique** C is a subset of nodes V of a graph $G = (V, E)$ s.t. for all $i, j \in C$ it must hold true that $(i, j) \in E$.

Theorem 3.5. When we model an optimization problem as a decision problem, then there exist a oracle-polynomial way to solve the optimization problem using the decision problem as an oracle.

Algorithm 1: Oracle-polynomial algorithm for max-clique

Use binary search to find z^* in $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$
 $G' \leftarrow G = (V, E)$
for $i = 1, \dots, n$ **do**
 $G'' \leftarrow G'$, but remove all edges incident to node i
 if Call of decision oracle on G'', z^* is true **then**
 $G' \leftarrow G''$
 end
end

Theorem 3.6. Final $\overline{G} := G'$ is a max-clique.

Proof. The size of a max clique in G' never goes below z^* . Therefore, there exists a clique $C \subseteq \overline{G}$ with $|C| = z^*$. Suppose \overline{G} has more than z^* nodes. Then $i \in \overline{G} \setminus C$. But then the algorithm would have deleted this node! \square

Corollary 3.7. If we have an optimal oracle, then one can solve decision version in oracle-polynomial time using the optimal oracle.

Conclusion 3.8. Optimization and decision version differ only by a polynomial factor of complexity. Therefore, either both are easy or both are hard.

Definition 3.9 (Certificate). Given an instance of any problem with size n , a **certificate** is a binary-encoded string that is generated by some algorithm specific to the problem, taking the instance as input. We say the certificate is a **succinct certificate**, if its *length* is polynomial in the input size n .

Definition 3.10 (NP). We say a (decision) problem P lies in **NP**, if for all Yes-instances I there exists a succinct certificate C and a certificate checking algorithm A that confirms $A(I, C)$ in polynomial time.

Theorem 3.11. Max-clique lies in **NP**

Proof. We use our clique C directly as the certificate.

Algorithm 2: Certificate checking for max-clique

```

if  $|C| < z$  then
  | return NO
end
else
  | for  $i, j \in C$  do
    | | if  $(i, j) \notin E$  then
      | | | return NO
    | | end
  | end
end
return YES

```

□

Remark 3.12. Note that we don't care for No-instances! In order to verify them we would need to list all $\binom{n}{z}$ subsets (for max-clique), which is *not* polynomial.

Theorem 3.13. $P \subseteq NP$

Proof. Let $P \in P$. Then there exists a polynomial algorithm A . Record the steps of A on an instance I and use this as a polynomial certificate. □

Theorem 3.14. $LP \in NP$, using decision variant if there is any feasible x .

Proof. If feasible, there exists a basic feasible solution x^* . We verify by checking $Bx^* = b$. One can show that x^* has polynomial bits. □

Let's also have a look at the canonical **NP** problem:

Definition 3.15 (Satisfiability problem, SAT). Consider n logical variables v_1, \dots, v_n , allowing also the negated literals \bar{v}_i . Additionally, we have m clauses C_1, \dots, C_m , which are subsets of the literals. Determining if there is an assignment such that the overall clause is true (i.e. each subclause has at least one true literal) is known as the **satisfiability problem**, for short SAT.

Example 3.16. A few examples:

1. $(v_1 \vee v_2 \vee v_3) \wedge (\bar{v}_1 \vee \bar{v}_2 \vee \bar{v}_3)$
This instance is true for $v = (110)$.
2. $(v_1 \vee v_2) \wedge (\bar{v}_1 \vee v_2) \wedge (\bar{v}_2 \vee v_3) \wedge (\bar{v}_3 \vee \bar{v}_4)$
One can check that this instance is always false.

Theorem 3.17. $\text{SAT} \in \text{NP}$

Proof. The satisfiability truth assignment is a succinct certificate. \square

Theorem 3.18 (Cook). If $P \in \text{NP}$, then P has an oracle-polynomial algorithm with SAT as an oracle.

Proof. Suppose $P \in \text{NP}$, then P has a non-deterministic Turing Machine with polynomial size. \square

Lecture 4
Do 28 Apr 2022

This means SAT is the hardest problem in NP.

We remind ourselves that IP can formulate logic, and therefore can encode SAT formulas.

Example 3.19. Translating from Example 3.16:

1.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &\geq 1 \\ (1 - x_1) + (1 - x_2) + (1 - x_3) &\geq 1 \\ x &\in \mathbb{B}^3 \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &\geq 1 \\ (1 - x_1) + x_2 &\geq 1 \\ (1 - x_2) + x_3 &\geq 1 \\ (1 - x_2) + (1 - x_3) &\geq 1 \\ x &\in \mathbb{B}^3 \end{aligned}$$

Definition 3.20 (Reduction). We say $P \propto Q$ (" P reduces to Q ") if there exists a polynomial algorithm A such that

1. for all instances $I \in P$, $A(I)$ is element of Q ,
2. I is **Yes-preserving**, e.g. I is Yes-instance of P iff $A(I)$ is Yes-instance of Q .

Definition 3.21 (NP-complete). A problem P is **NP-complete**, if

1. $P \in \text{NP}$, and
2. for all $Q \in \text{NP}$ it holds that $Q \propto P$.

We call the set of all **NP**-complete problems **NPC**.

Proof Strategy. In order to show a problem P is **NP**-complete we first describe a way to construct a succinct certificate, and state an algorithm that describes how we use the certificate to verify a Yes-instance is indeed a Yes-instance.

After that, we find a suitable problem Q , which is known to be **NP**-complete, and try to prove $Q \propto P$. We do this by converting each instance of Q into an instance of P in polynomial time, and verify that the conversion is Yes-preserving.

Theorem 3.22. SAT is as hard as 0-1-IP

Proof. We know $0\text{-}1\text{-IP} \in \mathbf{NP}$, and therefore $0\text{-}1\text{-IP} \propto \text{SAT}$. It remains to show $\text{SAT} \propto 0\text{-}1\text{-IP}$: Let $I \in \text{SAT}$ with clauses $c_j = l_1, \dots, l_k$. We convert each clause to the inequality $l_1 + \dots + l_k \geq 1$ for binary l . It was previously shown this encodes exactly the logic formula. \square

insert reference lec01

Definition 3.23 (3SAT). We define **3SAT** as a variant of SAT where we only allow clauses with exactly 3 literals, e.g. $|C_j| = 3$.

Theorem 3.24. 3SAT \in NPC

Proof. 3SAT \in **NP** follows directly from SAT \in **NP**. It remains to show SAT \propto 3SAT. Consider clause $C_j = (l_1 \vee \dots \vee l_k)$ for $k > 3$. Add $k - 3$ new variables $y_{2,j}, \dots, y_{k-2,j}$ and replace C_j with

$$(l_1 \vee l_2 \vee y_{2,j}) \wedge (\bar{y}_{2,j} \vee l_3 \vee y_{3,j}) \wedge \dots \wedge (\bar{y}_{k-2,j} \vee l_{k-1} \vee l_k)$$

One can figure out via proof tables and induction that this is indeed Yes-preserving. \square

Definition 3.25 (Node cover, NC). Given graph $G = (N, E)$, we say $C \subseteq N$ is a **node cover** if for every edge in E at least one of the nodes is in N . We define NC as the decision problem if there is a node cover of at most size z .

Theorem 3.26. NC \in NPC

Proof. We can easily check if for a given C , it is indeed a node cover in polynomial time. Therefore NC \in **NPC**. We want to reduce from 3SAT:

Consider an instance of 3SAT and construct a graph as shown in **Figure 1**, e.g. for each variable v_i construct an edge between nodes v_i and \bar{v}_i , and for each clause C_j construct a triangle l_{1j}, l_{2j}, l_{3j} . Now, connect each node of the triangle with the corresponding literal in the clause (the **orange edges**). Using this construction, we want to prove that there is a node cover of size $n + 2m$ iff the 3SAT instance is valid.

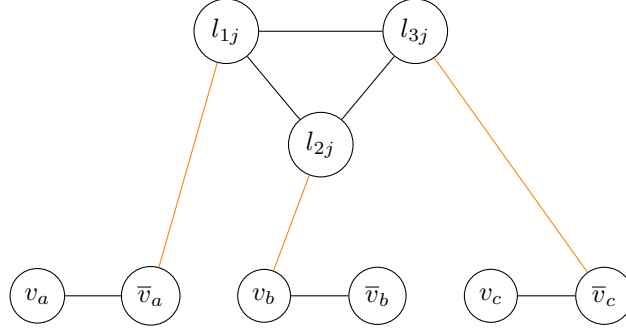


Figure 1: Schema of how to use triangle "gadgets" for a single clause C_j

Suppose the 3SAT instance is feasible. We use the n nodes of the feasible labeling corresponding to the literals. Now, because the labelling is valid, at least one orange edge per triangle must be covered, by construction. Therefore, we can choose 2 additional nodes per triangle that cover the triangle and the remaining orange edges.

On the other side, suppose there is a node cover of size (at most) $n + 2m$. Analogous, each triangle must have at least 2 chosen nodes to cover each edge, and each literal-pair at least 1 node, meaning our bounds must actually be exact to not overshoot $n + 2m$. Therefore, the node cover represents a valid truth assignment, which is also a valid labelling, because each clause has a remaining orange edge, which is covered by one of the literals.

Therefore, our reduction is Yes-preserving. \square

Remark 3.27. NC in bipartite graphs is in **P**.

Definition 3.28 (Independent set, IS). For a graph $G = (N, E)$ we call $S \subseteq N$ a **independent set** (or **stable set**) if no edge has both nodes in S . The decision problem, called IS, is if there is a independent set of size at least z .

Theorem 3.29. IS \in NPC

Proof. IS \in NP trivial. We can also easily show that C is a node cover iff $N \setminus C$ is stable. \square

Theorem 3.30. CLIQUE \in NPC

Proof. CLIQUE \in NP trivial. We can also easily show that C is a clique in $G = (N, E)$ iff C is stable in (N, \bar{E}) . \square

Definition 3.31 (Partition, PART). Given $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. The decision problem if there is a set $S \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that

$$\sum_{i \in S} a_i = \sum_{i \notin S} a_i$$

is called **partition problem**, PART.

Theorem 3.32. PART \in NPC

Proof Sketch. We can show [Ber18, Ch. 15.5]:

$$\text{SAT} \propto \text{3-dim match} \propto \text{subset sum} \propto \text{PART}$$

Remark 3.33. Still, PART has a pseudopolynomial algorithm using dynamic programming.

Definition 3.34. If a (numerical) problem is only **NP**-complete if it is dependent on the size of the numbers (e.g. exponentially in count of numbers), we call it **weakly NP-complete**. Otherwise, we call it **strongly NP-complete**.

Definition 3.35 (3-partition, 3PART). Given the numbers $a_1, \dots, a_{3k} \in \mathbb{Z}$. The problem, if we can partition these numbers in sets of 3 such that every set has the same value, is called **3-Partition**, or 3PART.

Theorem 3.36. 3SAT is strongly **NP**-complete.

Proof. _____ □

proof 3part
NPC

Remark 3.37. Only weakly **NP**-complete problems could have pseudopolynomial algorithms (except **P** = **NP**).

Part II

Appendix

A Exercise sheets

1. exercise sheet

Exercise 1.1. Did on paper.

2. exercise sheet

Exercise 2.1. An correct ordering is given by:

$$O(\varepsilon^n) \subseteq O(n^{\varepsilon-1}) \subseteq O(n^{-\varepsilon}) \subseteq O\left(\frac{\log n}{n^\varepsilon}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$\subseteq O\left(\frac{1}{\log n}\right) \subseteq O\left(\frac{\log^2 n}{\log n}\right) \subseteq O\left(\frac{1}{\log^2 n}\right) \quad (2)$$

$$\subseteq O\left(e^{\frac{1}{n}}\right) = O(1) = O\left(\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n\right) \quad (3)$$

$$\subseteq O(\log n) \subseteq O\left(\frac{n^\varepsilon}{\log n}\right) \subseteq O(n^\varepsilon) \subseteq O(n^\varepsilon \log n) \subseteq O(n^{1-\varepsilon}) \quad (4)$$

$$\subseteq O\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right) \subseteq O(n \log n) \subseteq O(n^2) \subseteq O(n^2 \log n) \subseteq O(n^e) \quad (5)$$

$$\subseteq O(n^{\log n}) \subseteq O(e^n) \subseteq O((\log n)^n) \subseteq O(n!) \quad (6)$$

These can mostly achieved by the fact that $n^x \in O(n^y)$ if $x \leq y$, and $(\log n) \cdot n^x \in O(n^y)$ if $y > x$, otherwise the other way around. Additionally, it is often useful to consider the logarithm of the functions we compare, because it maintains monotonicity.

Exercise 2.2. Analoguous to the lecture we can introduce constraints, such that $y_{ij} = x_i \wedge x_j$:

$$\begin{aligned} y_{ij} &\leq x_i \\ y_{ij} &\leq x_j \\ y_{ij} &\geq x_i + x_j - 1 \\ y_{ij} &\in [0, 1] \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.3. We can show that $f(x_1) = \max(c_1x_1, c_1p + c_2x_1 - c_2p)$ using a case distinction.

- $x_1 = p$: Trivial.
- $x_1 > p$: Consider $c_1 < c_2$. Multiplying by $x_1 - p$ (which is positive) and rearranging yields $c_1x_1 < c_1p + c_2x_1 - c_2p$.
- $x_1 < p$: Analogous, but now $x_1 - p$ is negative, which reverses the inequality.

As shown in ADM1, the maximum of linear functions can be written as an LP by introducing a helper variable as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \min & z + \sum_{i=2}^n c_i x_i \\
 \text{s.t.} & Ax = b \\
 & l \leq x_1 \leq u \\
 & x_2, \dots, x_n \leq 0 \\
 & z \geq c_1 x_1 \\
 & z \geq c_1 p + c_2 x_1 - c_2 p
 \end{array}$$

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