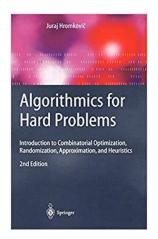
4-12 Approximation Algorithms

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Following the notion of approximability we divide the class NPO of optimization problems into the following five subclasses:

NPO(I): Contains every optimization problem from NPO for which there exists a FPTAS.

{In Section 4.3 we show that the knapsack problem belongs to this class.}

NPO(II): Contains every optimization problem from NPO that has a PTAS.

{In Section 4.3.4 we show that the makespan scheduling problem belongs to this class.}

NPO(III): Contains every optimization problem $U \in NPO$ such that

- (i) there is a polynomial-time δ-approximation algorithm for some δ > 1, and
- (ii) there is no polynomial-time d-approximation algorithm for U
 for some d < δ (possibly under some reasonable assumption
 like P ≠ NP), i.e., there is no PTAS for U.

{The minimum vertex cover problem, Max-Sat, and \triangle -TSP are examples of members of this class.}

NPO(IV): Contains every $U \in NPO$ such that

- (i) there is a polynomial-time f(n)-approximation algorithm for U for some f: N → R⁺, where f is bounded by a polylogarithmic function, and
- (ii) under some reasonable assumption like P ≠ NP, there does not exist any polynomial-time δ-approximation algorithm for U for any δ ∈ ℝ⁺.

{The set cover problem belongs to this class.}

NPO(V): Contains every $U \in \text{NPO}$ such that if there exists a polynomial-time f(n)-approximation algorithm for U, then (under some reasonable assumption like $P \neq NP$) f(n) is not bounded by any polylogarithmic function.

 $\{TSP\ and\ the\ maximum\ clique\ problem\ are\ well-known\ members\ of\ this\ class.\}$

Definition (NPO: NP Optimization)

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 $L: l \in L$ is an instance

 $sol: x \in sol(l)$ is a feasible solution of l

cost: cost(x) is the cost of x

 $goal: goal \in \{\min, \max\}$



Definition (NPO: NP Optimization)

$$\Pi = (L, sol, cost, goal)$$

 $L: l \in L$ is an instance decidable in poly. time

 $sol: x \in sol(l)$ is a feasible solution of l verifiable in poly. time

cost: cost(x) is the cost of x computable in poly. time

 $goal: goal \in \{\min, \max\}$



$$f(n)$$
-APX: $f(n)$ -approximation

Exp-APX:
$$f(n) = O(2^{n^c})$$

Poly-APX:
$$f(n) = O(n^c)$$

Log-APX:
$$f(n) = O(\log n)$$

APX:
$$f(n) = c \ (c > 1)$$

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PTAS: Poly. time approximation scheme

- $\triangleright \forall \epsilon > 0 : (1 + \epsilon)$ -approximation
- $ightharpoonup P: Poly(n) \qquad O((1/\epsilon) \cdot n^2) \quad O(n^{2/\epsilon})$

FPTAS: Fully poly. time approximation scheme

- $\blacktriangleright \forall \epsilon > 0 : (1 + \epsilon)$ -approximation
- $ightharpoonup \operatorname{FP}: \operatorname{Poly}(n, 1/\epsilon) \qquad O((1/\epsilon)^2 \cdot n^3)$



(if $P \neq NP$)

 $PO \subsetneq FPTAS \subsetneq PTAS$ $\subset APX \subset Log_APX \subset$

 $\subsetneq \mathsf{APX} \subsetneq \mathsf{Log\text{-}APX} \subsetneq \mathsf{Poly\text{-}APX} \subsetneq \mathsf{Exp\text{-}APX}$

 $\subsetneq \mathrm{NPO}$

(if $P \neq NP$)

$$\begin{split} \operatorname{PO} &\subsetneq \operatorname{FPTAS} \subsetneq \operatorname{PTAS} \\ &\subsetneq \operatorname{APX} \subsetneq \operatorname{Log-APX} \subsetneq \operatorname{Poly-APX} \subsetneq \operatorname{Exp-APX} \\ &\subsetneq \operatorname{NPO} \end{split}$$

- ▶ Knapsack \in FPTAS \ PO
- ▶ Makespan \in PTAS \ FPTAS (TODAY)
- ▶ Vertex Cover \in APX \ PTAS
- ▶ Set Cover \in Log-APX \ APX (CLRS 35.3)
- ▶ Clique \in Poly-APX \ Log-APX
- ▶ $TSP \in Exp-APX \setminus Poly-APX$

Makespan Scheduling Problem (MS)

- $ightharpoonup n ext{ jobs: } J_1, \ldots, J_n$
- processing time: p_1, \ldots, p_n
- ▶ $m \ge 2$ machines: M_1, \ldots, M_m
- ▶ goal: minimize the makespan

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$$T \le \triangle$$

$$T^* \ge \bigtriangledown$$

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 $T^* \ge \nabla$

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$$T^* \ge \frac{1}{m} \sum_j p_j$$

$$T^* \ge \max_j p_j$$

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$$T^* \ge \nabla$$

$$T^* \ge \frac{1}{m} \sum_j p_j$$

$$T^* \ge \max_j p_j$$

 J_i : the last job to complete

$$T = s_i + p_i$$
$$\leq ?+?$$

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- ► Assign job to the least heavily loaded

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 $= 2T^*$

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$$ms_i \le \sum_{j \ne i} p_j$$

$$s_i \le \frac{1}{m} \sum_j p_j - \frac{1}{m} p_i$$

 $=2T^*$

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- ► Assign job to the least heavily loaded

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$$s_i \le \frac{1}{m} \sum_j p_j \le T^*$$

$$T = s_i + p_i$$

$$\le T^* + T^*$$

$$= 2T^*$$

$$s_i \le \frac{1}{m} \sum_j p_j - \frac{1}{m} p_i$$

$$T = s_i + p_i$$

$$\le \frac{1}{m} \sum_i p_j + (1 - \frac{1}{m}) p_i$$

 $\leq T^* + (1 - \frac{1}{m})T^*$

 $=(2-\frac{1}{-})T^*$

 $ms_i \leq \sum p_j$

$$(2-\frac{1}{m})$$
 is tight

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$$\frac{T}{T^*} = 2 - \frac{1}{m} = \frac{2m - 1}{m}$$

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$$n \text{ jobs } = \left\{ \underbrace{p_i = 1}_{\#=m(m-1)}, \underbrace{p_i = m}_{\#=1} \right\}$$

- ► Sorting non-increasingly
- ► Applying LS

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$$s_i \le T^*$$

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$$|M_i| \ge 2 \implies p_i \le \frac{1}{2}T^* \qquad (J_i \text{ is on } M_i)$$



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$$\left| M_i \right| \ge 2 \implies p_i \le \frac{1}{2} T^* \qquad (J_i \text{ is on } M_i)$$

$$T = s_i + p_i \le \frac{1}{m} \sum_j p_j + (1 - \frac{1}{m}) p_i \le (\frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2m}) T^*$$

$$T = s_i + p_i \le \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j} p_j + (1 - \frac{1}{m}) p_i \le \frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3m}$$

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$$p_1 \ge \cdots \ge p_i \ge \cdots \ge p_n$$

$$T \le \left(\frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3m}\right)T^*$$

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CASE
$$p_i \leq \frac{1}{3}T^*$$
:

$$T \le \left(\frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3m}\right)T^*$$

CASE
$$p_i > \frac{1}{3}T^*$$
:

Consider
$$p_1 \ge \dots \ge p_i > \frac{1}{3}T^*$$

$$T = s_i + p_i \le \frac{1}{m} \sum_j p_j + (1 - \frac{1}{m}) p_i \le \frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3m}$$

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$$\forall i: |M_i| \leq 2$$

$$n = 2m - h$$

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$$n = 2m - h$$

$$T = T^*$$

$$J_1, J_2, \cdots, J_h, \quad J_{h+1}, J_{h+2}, \cdots, J_{n-1}, J_n$$

$$(\frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3m})$$
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$$\left(\frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3m}\right)$$
 is tight
$$\frac{4}{3} - \frac{1}{3m} = \frac{4m - 1}{3m}$$
$$n = 2m + 1$$

$$J = \{2m - 1, 2m - 1, \dots, m + 1, m + 1, m, m, m\}$$

Definition (3-Partition)

Instance:

$$A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+, \quad |A| = 3m$$

$$B \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

 $\forall a \in A : B/4 < a < B/2$

Question: Can A be partitioned into m disjoint sets S_1, \ldots, S_m :

$$\forall 1 \le i \le m : \sum_{a \in S_i} a = B$$

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$$A = \{1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8\}, \quad m = 3, \quad B = 12$$

$$\{1, 3, 8; \quad 2, 4, 6; \quad 2, 3, 7\}$$



 $\mathrm{MS}:(J,m,\textcolor{red}{t})$

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MS is strongly NP-complete

3-Partition
$$\leq_p MS$$

$$\mathrm{MS}:(J,m,\textcolor{red}{t})$$

$$t = B$$

MS is strongly NP-complete

MS with $(\max_{j} p_{j}) \leq q(n)$ is still NP-complete



No FPTAS for MS.

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$$\exists FPTAS \text{ for } MS \implies MS \in P$$

$$A_{\epsilon}: \epsilon = \frac{1}{\lceil 2nq(n) \rceil}$$

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Time:
$$\operatorname{Poly}(\frac{1}{\epsilon}, n) = \operatorname{Poly}(\lceil 2nq(n) \rceil, n) = \operatorname{Poly}(n)$$

Theorem (MS \in PTAS \ FPTAS)

No FPTAS for MS.

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$$T \le (1+\epsilon)T^* = T^* + \epsilon \cdot T^*$$

$$\le T^* + \frac{1}{\lceil 2nq(n) \rceil} \cdot \frac{nq(n)}{\rceil}$$

$$\le T^* + \frac{1}{2}$$



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No FPTAS for MS.

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TSP: worst-case complexity vs. inapproximability according to instances

- ▶ $TSP \in Exp-APX \setminus Poly-APX$
- ▶ Δ -TSP \in APX
- ightharpoonup Euclidean TSP \in PTAS

Reference

▶ "Stability of Approximation Algorithms for Hard Optimization Problems" by Juraj Hromkovič, 1999.

Distance function (JH 4.2.3.3)

$$\operatorname{dist}_k(G,c) = \max\left\{0, \max\left\{\frac{c(\{u,v\})}{\sum_{i=1}^m c(\{p_i,p_{i+1}\})} - 1\big| |u=p_1 \leadsto v = p_m| \le k\right\}\right\}$$

enumerate: $k = n^{\frac{1}{3}}$

shortest paths of length $\leq k$ (Bellman-Ford)

 h_{index} (JH 4.2.3.4)

h_{index} : using canonical order

$$|\mathrm{Ball}_{r,h_{\mathrm{index}}}(L_I)| < \infty$$

$$\delta_{r,\epsilon} = \max \{ R_A(x) : x \in \text{Ball}_{r,h_{\text{index}}}(L_I) \}$$

h (JH 4.2.3.5)

- \blacktriangleright h: infinite jumps
- \blacktriangleright δ -approx. algorithm A for U is stable according to h

TSP
$$U:(G,1)$$

Multi-TSP
$$\overline{U}:(G,k)$$

$$h(G,k) = k - 1$$

A is δ -approx. for $(G,1) \implies A$ is $r\delta$ -approx. for $(G,r \in \mathbb{N})$