

3-11 Matchings and Factors

(Part II: Perfect Matchings)

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5.10 5.34 5.22 5.26

Chinese Postman Problem (CPP)

(Postman Tour Problem, Route Inspection Problem)





管梅谷(1934-)

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奇 偶 点 图 上 作 业 法*

管 梅 谷

(山东师范学院)

§ 1. 问题的提出

在邮局搞线性规划时,发现了下述问题:“一个投递员每次上班,要走遍他负责送信的段^①,然后回到邮局,问应该怎样走才能使所走的路程最短.”

《奇偶点图上作业法》, 1960

Translated into English in 1962



Jack Edmonds (1934-)

MATCHING, EULER TOURS AND THE CHINESE POSTMAN

Jack EDMONDS

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

and

Ellis L. JOHNSON

IBM Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York, U.S.A.

Received 20 May 1972

Revised manuscript received 3 April 1973

The solution of the Chinese postman problem using matching theory is given. The convex hull of integer solutions is described as a linear programming polyhedron. This polyhedron is used to show that a good algorithm gives an optimum solution. The algorithm is a specialization of the more general b -matching blossom algorithm. Algorithms for finding Euler tours and related problems are also discussed.

“Matching, Euler Tours and
the Chinese Postman”, 1973

Definition (Chinese Postman Problem)

Given an undirected weighted graph G with $w(e) > 0$,
to find the shortest **tour** such that **each edge is traversed at least once**.

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Q : What is the relation between Postman Tour and Eulerian Tour?



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Let $1 + x_e$ be the number of times edge e is in P .

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Definition (Chinese Postman Problem)

Given an undirected weighted graph with $w(e) > 0$,
to find the subset of edges

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- 1: $V_o \leftarrow \{v : \deg(v) \text{ is odd}\}$ ▷ Collect all odd vertices
 - 2: Construct a complete weighted graph G_p with vertices V_o :
 - 3: $\forall u, v \in V_o : w(u, v) \leftarrow$ the shortest path between u and v
 - 4: Find a minimum-weighted perfect matching M of G_p
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