UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI FAKULTETA ZA MATEMATIKO IN FIZIKO

Finančna matematika – 1. stopnja

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Projekt v povezavi z OR

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1. Navodilo

Define the Minimum vertex cover problem as an ILP and solve it for some examples. Also, solve the LP relaxation of this problem for the same cases. Note that its LP relaxation gives a solution that is at most twice bigger than the optimal one. Compare the sizes of both solutions on various graphs to verify this and determine experimentally by how much, in average, the LP relaxation solution is larger than the optimal one. Finally, present and implement a greedy algorithm and the one using the maximal matching described in the book below. Test the sizes of these three solutions. Try to determine for how large graphs each of these algorithms is tractable.

2. Uvod

Najina naloga je, da problem najmanjšega vozliščnega pokritja predstaviva kot problem ILP, LP relaksacije ter požrešnega algoritma. Pri tem bova algoritme preverila za 1000 različnih primerov grafov, ki imajo naključno med 5 in 100 vozlišč in naključnih povezav. Primerjala bova rezultate različnih algoritmov, kjer naju bo še posebej zanimala velikost rešitve oz. v najinem primeru velikost vrnjene množice. Najine algoritme bova testirala na podatkih, ki jih bova generirala sama.

Problem *najmanjšega vozliščnega pokritja* je eden izmed osnovnih problemov pokrivanja. Kot pove že ime samo, je problem definiran s pomočjo teorije grafov. Gre za pokrivanje povezav grafa z vozlišči, t.j. za iskanje najmanjše podmnožice vozlišč grafa, ki vsebuje vsaj eno krajišče vsake povezave grafa.

Pri programiranju in pisanju algoritma sva se odločila za program Sage, saj je le-ta za najino nalogo najbolj primeren.

3.3 Minimum Vertex Cover

The Internet had been expanding rapidly in the Free Republic of West Mordor, and the government issued a regulation, purely in the interest of improved security of the citizens, that every data link connecting two computers must be equipped with a special device for gathering statistical data about the traffic. An operator of a part of the network has to attach the government's monitoring boxes to some of his computers so that each link has a monitored computer on at least one end. Which computers should get boxes so that the total price is minimum? Let us assume that there is a flat rate per box.

It is again convenient to use graph-theoretic terminology. The computers in the network are vertices and the links are edges. So we have a graph G = (V, E) and we want to find a subset $S \subseteq V$ of the vertices such that each edge has at least one end-vertex in S (such an S is called a **vertex cover**), and S is as small as possible.

This problem can be written as an integer program:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Minimize} & \sum_{v \in V} x_v \\ \text{subject to} & x_u + x_v \geq 1 \quad \text{for every edge } \{u, v\} \in E \\ & x_v \in \{0, 1\} \quad \text{ for all } v \in V. \end{array} \tag{3.2}$$

For every vertex v we have a variable x_v , which can attain values 0 or 1. The meaning of $x_v = 1$ is $v \in S$, and $x_v = 0$ means $v \notin S$. The constraint $x_u + x_v \ge 1$ guarantees that the edge $\{u, v\}$ has at least one vertex in S. The objective function is the size of S.

It is known that finding a minimum vertex cover is a computationally difficult (NP-hard) problem. We will describe an approximation algorithm based on linear programming that always finds a vertex cover with at most twice as many vertices as in the smallest possible vertex cover.

An LP relaxation of the above integer program is

minimize
$$\sum_{v \in V} x_v$$

subject to $x_u + x_v \ge 1$ for every edge $\{u, v\} \in E$ (3.3)
 $0 \le x_v \le 1$ for all $v \in V$.

The first step of the approximation algorithm for vertex cover consists in computing an optimal solution \mathbf{x}^* of this LP relaxation (by some standard algorithm for linear programming). The components of \mathbf{x}^* are real numbers in the interval [0, 1]. In the second step we define the set

$$S_{LP} = \{ v \in V : x_v^* \ge \frac{1}{2} \}.$$

This is a vertex cover, since for every edge $\{u, v\}$ we have $x_u^* + x_v^* \ge 1$, and so $x_u^* \ge \frac{1}{2}$ or $x_v^* \ge \frac{1}{2}$.

Let S_{OPT} be some vertex cover of the minimum possible size (we don't have it but we can theorize about it). We claim that

$$|S_{LP}| \leq 2 \cdot |S_{OPT}|$$
.

To see this, let $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ be an optimal solution of the integer program (3.2), which corresponds to the set S_{OPT} , i.e., $\tilde{x}_v = 1$ for $v \in S_{\text{OPT}}$ and $\tilde{x}_v = 0$ otherwise. This $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ is definitely a feasible solution of the LP relaxation (3.3), and so it cannot have a smaller value of the objective function than an optimal solution \mathbf{x}^* of (3.3):

$$\sum_{v \in V} x_v^* \le \sum_{v \in V} \tilde{x}_v.$$

On the other hand, $|S_{LP}| = \sum_{v \in S_{LP}} 1 \le \sum_{v \in V} 2x_v^*$, since $x_v^* \ge \frac{1}{2}$ for each $v \in S_{LP}$. Therefore

$$|S_{\text{LP}}| \le 2 \cdot \sum_{v \in V} x_v^* \le 2 \cdot \sum_{v \in V} \tilde{x}_v = 2 \cdot |S_{\text{OPT}}|.$$

This proof illustrates an important aspect of approximation algorithms: In order to assess the quality of the computed solution, we always need a bound on the quality of the optimal solution, although we don't know it. The LP relaxation provides such a bound, which can sometimes be useful, as in the example of this section. In other problems it may be useless, though, as we will see in the next section.

Remarks. A natural attempt at an approximate solution of the considered problem is again a *greedy algorithm*: Select vertices one by one and always take a vertex that covers the maximum possible number of yet uncovered edges. Although this algorithm may not be bad in most cases, examples can be constructed in which it yields a solution at least ten times worse, say, than an optimal solution (and 10 can be replaced by any other constant). Discovering such a construction is a lovely exercise.

There is another, combinatorial, approximation algorithm for the minimum vertex cover: First we find a maximal matching M, that is, a matching that cannot be extended by adding any other edge (we note

that such a matching need not have the maximum possible number of edges). Then we use the vertices covered by M as a vertex cover. This always gives a vertex cover at most twice as big as the optimum, similar to the algorithm explained above.

The algorithm based on linear programming has the advantage of being easy to generalize for a **weighted vertex cover** (the government boxes may have different prices for different computers). In the same way as we did for unit prices one can show that the cost of the computed solution is never larger than twice the optimum cost. As in the unweighted case, this result can also be achieved with combinatorial algorithms, but these are more difficult to understand than the linear programming approach.

3. Opis dela

3.1. Generiranje grafov.

Najprej sva definirala funkcijo testiranje, ki vzame argumente a (število različnih velikosti grafov), b (število grafov iste velikosti), c (največje možno število vozlišč), kar bomo uporabili pri generaciji grafov. Funkcija si na začetku shrani tudi 3 števce in sicer: koliko grafov smo že pregledali, seštevek koeficientov razlik - razlika velikosti rešitev ILP in LP ter razlika velikosti rešitev greedy in max matching.

```
def testiranje (a,b,c): #a-število različnih velikosti grafov,b-število grafov iste velikosti,c-na
jvečje možno število vozlišč
    count = 0 #Števec pregledanih grafov
    koeficient_razlike=0 #Koeficient ki meri za koliko je v povprečju rešitev ILP večja od rešitve
LP
    koeficient_razlike_greedymax=0 #Koeficient ki meri za koliko je v povprečju rešitev "greedy" m
anjša od rešitve max matching
```

Ko izžrebamo število vozlišč moramo še 10x žrebati število povezav. Generirala sva naključno število vozlišč in povezav, kjer sva število povezav morala omejiti (da ne presegajo števila povezav polnega grafa na c vozliščih), od tu izraz c*(c - 1)/2. Ko se vozlišča in povezave naključno izberejo, na vsakem izmed 1000 korakov dobimo graf na katerem uporabljamo algoritme.

3.2. Požrešni algoritem.

Definirala sva požrešni algoritem, ki sledi reševanju problemov heuristiki izbire lokalno optimalne izbire na vsaki stopnji z namenom poiskati globalni optimum. Le-ta vsakič vzame vozlišče z največ povezavami in ta vozlišča shranjuje v seznam.

Torej, ko imamo vozlišče z največ povezavami, te povezave odstranimo in to ponavljamo tako dolgo, dokler v grafu ni več nobenih povezav. Ta izbrana vozlišča so vertex cover. Hkrati sva uporabila implementiran algoritem za maximum matching, ki nam vrne povezave, zato na koncu pomnožimo z 2, saj nas zanima število vozlišč. Kot lahko opazimo je naša rešitev seznam, dolžina seznama pa predstavlja velikost rešitve.

3.3. Celoštevilski linearni program.

Ko imamo generiran graf, le-tega špustimo"čez vse 4 algoritme. ILP integer linear program uporablja samo ničle in enke (cela števila na zaprtem intervalu od 0 do 1), zato nastavimo binary = True. Z set objective določimo kaj želimo maksimizirati pri linearnih programih. Nato omejitve (constraints) nastavimo tako, da je vsaka povezava v grafu všteta vsaj enkrat. Kot lahko opazimo v zadnji vrstici, nam vozlišča dajo value.

3.4. Relaksacija celoštevilskega na linearni program.

Tukaj se ne ukvarjamo več z celimi števili, zato nastavimo real = True. Realna števila sva omejila na interval od 0 od 1, nastavila sva iste pogoje in enak objective.

Ker uporabimo pogoj da mora biti vsota vozlišč večja ali enaka ena, vemo da mora biti posamezno vozlišče večje ali enako eni polovici.

3.5. Rezultati.

Na tej točki upoštevamo *greedy*, ki sva ga definirala zgoraj. Print sprinta obe rešitvi (greedy in maxmatch) hkrati, zato potem pogledamo koeficient razlike pri vsaki posebej in ga prištejemo k števcu za ta koeficient. Na koncu zdelimo velikosti, da vidimo koliko so se razlikovali v povprečju.

```
testiranje(100,10,100)

[92, 97]
[93, 96]
Do konca je še 999 grafov
[92, 97]
[93, 96]

Do konca je še 1 grafov
[21, 22]
[21, 22]
Do konca je še 0 grafov

Out[3]: [1.09907523261151, 0.930618743581213]
```

4. Zaključek

V najini analizi sva se, kot omenjeno že prej, osredotočila na 1000 primerov, ki sva jih generirala sama. Najprej sva definiranim grafom naključno izbrala med 5 in 100 vozlišč, nato pa dodala še naključne povezave.

Tekom analize sva uporabljala sledeče algoritme:

- ILP
- LP
- Požrešni algoritem
- Maximal matching

V najini analizi sva imela težave pri omejevanju števila povezav, saj le-teh najprej nisva omejila, kjer se je pri večjih grafih posledično zatikalo oz. trajalo dlje.

Po koncu najinega eksperimenta na 1000 grafih, lahko povzameva, da so rezultati kot pričakovani. Ta problem je NP-težek, kar pomeni, da zanj domnevno ne obstaja polinomsko časovno omejen algoritem.

Pri algoritmu ILP smo vedno dobili manjše rešitve kot pri drugih algoritmih, za kar lahko rečemo, da je ta algoritem bolj učinkovitejši od drugih.

LITERATURA

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