

[Problem] Max weight independent set problem

given a matroid  $(S, \mathcal{I})$  and a weight function  $c: S \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$   
find an independent set  $I$  that maximizes  $\sum_{x \in I} c(x)$

$\Rightarrow$  LP Relaxation)

[P] Maximize  $\sum_{i \in S} c(i)x_i$

subject to  $\sum_{i \in U} x_i \leq 1$  for  $\emptyset \neq U \subseteq S$  : independent set constraint.

$$\underline{x_i \geq 0} \quad \forall i \in S.$$

$$\text{Note } x_i \in [0, 1]$$

[D] Minimize  $\sum_{U \subseteq S} h(U)y_U$

subject to  $\sum_{i \in U} y_U \geq c(i) \quad \forall i \in S$

$y_U \geq 0 \quad \text{for } \emptyset \neq U \subseteq S \quad y_\emptyset \in \text{same set as } x_i$

WLOG, assume that  $S = \{1, \dots, n\}$

with  $c(1) \geq \dots \geq c(n)$  : sorted. Let  $n' := \max \{i \in S \mid c(i) \geq 0\}$

"greedy"  
Kruskal's

①  $I \leftarrow \emptyset$

②  $y \leftarrow \vec{0}$  ~~dual feasible~~  
for  $i \in \{1, \dots, n'\}$

③ simultaneously decrease  $y_{\{1, \dots, i-1\}}$

and increase  $y_{\{1, \dots, i\}}$  at the same rate Dual feasible

until the correspond dual constraint of  $i$  becomes tight.  $(*)$

$\cancel{\text{if } (I+i) \in \mathcal{I}, \text{ then } I \leftarrow I+i}$

output  $I$ .

④ independence check.

if primal  $\neq$  dual feasible

Then Alg returns a maximum weight independence set

[proof] It is clear that the alg returns an independent set  $\oplus$

Let  $x^* \in \{0, 1\}^{|S|}$  be a vector satisfying  $x_i^* = 1 \iff i \in I$

Let  $y^*$  denote the value of  $y$  upon termination.

Claim 1: For  $i = 0, \dots, n'$  at the beginning of the  $(i+1)^{\text{st}}$  iteration

~~(= at the end of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  iteration)~~

①  $I$  is a base for  $\{1, \dots, i\}$

②  $y_{\{1, \dots, i\}} = C(i)$  if  $i \geq 1$ .

③ the dual constraint corresponding to  $1 \sim i$  are tight.

④ for  $\emptyset \neq U$  s.t.  $U \cap \{i+1, \dots, n\} \neq \emptyset$ ,  $y_U = 0$

⑤  $y$  is nonnegative.

Moreover, for  $i \geq 0$ , step ② at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  iteration is well-defined.

i.e. there exist some finite  $\delta \geq 0$  by which  $y_{\{1, \dots, i\}}$  decrease  
and  $y_{\{1, \dots, i\}}$  increase.

[proof of claim ②] by induction on  $i$

When  $i=0$ , ① ~ ⑤ trivially hold.

Suppose that  $i \geq 0$ , (Let  $I_0$  denote the value of  $I$  at the beginning of  $i^{\text{th}}$  iteration  
and  $I_1$  denote the value of  $I$  at the end of  $i^{\text{th}}$  iteration)

• If  $r(\{1, \dots, i-1\}) \neq r(\{1, \dots, i\})$  :  $I_0$  not a base (but why?)

$\Rightarrow$  then  $\{I_0 + i\}$  is a base for  $\{1, \dots, i\}$

If  $r(\{1, \dots, i-1\}) = r(\{1, \dots, i\})$

$\Rightarrow$  then  $I_0$  is a base for  $\{1, \dots, i\}$

$\Rightarrow I_1$  is a base for  $\{1, \dots, i\}$  : ① proven.

• At the beginning of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  iter, the LHS of the dual constraint  
corresponding to  $i$  is 0 (by IH)

$\Rightarrow y_{\{1, \dots, i\}}$  needs to increase from 0 to  $C(i) \geq 0$ .

in order to be tight ...  $y_{\{1, \dots, i\}} = C(i)$  : ② proven

- in addition, to show that step ④<sup>2</sup> is well-defined.

Also note that  $y_{\{1, \dots, i\}}$  does not go below 0 (from IH)

since  $c(C(i)) \geq c(C_i) \Rightarrow$  decrease  $\leq$  total 0  $\leq 0$ .

- again at the beginning of the  $i$ th iter, the dual constraint correspond to  $\{1 \dots i-1\}$  are tight. by IH,

$$\sum_{u: k \in U} y_u \geq c(k) \text{ for } \theta \cup S$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tight} \quad \sum_{u: k \in U} y_u = c(k) \text{ when } k = i-1$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{l} y_{\{1, \dots, i-3\}} \rightarrow \text{decrease by } \delta \\ y_{\{1, \dots, i-1, i\}} \rightarrow \text{increase by } \delta \end{array} \right) \vdash 0. \quad \text{--- } \underline{\text{H2 tight.}}$$

$$k=i \quad \sum_{u: k \in U} y_u = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{u: k \in U} y_u = c(k) \quad \text{--- } \underline{\text{tight}}$$

... ④ proven

$$\Rightarrow y \geq 0 \quad \text{--- } \underline{\text{④ proven}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{④ is trivial.}$$

$\therefore$  claim 1 is proven.

Claim 2: For  $i = 0, \dots, n'$  at the beginning of the  $(i+1)^{\text{th}}$  iteration,

$$\sum_{i \in I} c(C_i) = \sum_{U \subseteq S} r(U) y_u \quad \text{holds.}$$

④ strong duality.

$\underbrace{\phantom{\sum_{i \in I} c(C_i)}_{\text{value } x^*}}$        $\underbrace{\phantom{\sum_{U \subseteq S} r(U) y_u}_{\text{value of } y^*}}$

proof] by induction on  $i$ , the base case is trivial.

Let  $\delta$  denote the amount of decrease & increase in step ④<sup>2</sup> of  $i$ th iter.

The LHS,  $\sum_{i \in I} c(C_i)$  [either remains the same if  $(I+i) \notin \Sigma$   
or increases by  $\delta = c(C_i)$  if  $(I+i) \in \Sigma$

The RHS,  $\sum_{U \subseteq S} r(U) y_u$  [either remains the same if  $(I+i) \notin \Sigma$

[since  $r(\{1, \dots, i-1\}) = r(\{1, \dots, i\})$   
or increase by  $\delta = c(C_i)$  if  $(I+i) \in \Sigma$   
since  $r(\{1, \dots, i\}) = r(\{1, \dots, i-1\}) + 1$

by Claim 1 and Claim 2.]

$x^*$  and  $y^*$  are respectively feasible & LHS = RHS.

by Strong duality thus  $\Rightarrow x^*$  is optimal.

Claim 2 > CUS

Note that all dual constraints corresponding to  $1 \dots n'$  are tight in  $y^*$  and  $x_i^* \neq 0$  implies  $i \in \{1, \dots, n'\}$ :

Moreover, if  $y_u^* > 0$  for some  $u \in S$ ,

we have,  $U = \{1 \dots i\}$  for some  $i \leq n'$  and hence  $|U \cap I| = r(U)$

thus,  $x^*$  and  $y^*$  are feasible that satisfy the complementary slackness.

Cor The feasible region of  $(P)$  is an integral polyhedron.

OBS An integral solution  $x^*$  of  $(P)$  is (the incidence vector of) an independent set

→ (Integral Polyhedron &  $x^*$  is independent set.)

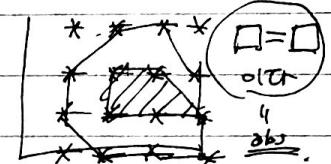
[proof of obs] Note that  $x^* \in \{0, 1\}^{|S|}$ .

since for each  $i \in S$ ,  $r(\{i\}) \in \{0, 1\}$

Suppose to contradiction that  $I^* := \{i | x_i^* = 1\}$  is dependent.

Then  $I^*$  has a circuit  $C^*$  s.t.  $\sum_{i \in C^*} x_i^* = |C^*|$   
 $> r(C^*)$

$\sum_{i \in C^*} x_i^* > r(C^*) \dots$  constraint violation = contradiction.



Def Given  $U \subseteq S$ ,

[an independence oracle  $\Rightarrow$  returns whether  $U \subseteq I$  or not.]

[a rank oracle  $\Rightarrow$  returns  $r(U)$ ]

(f basic open  
bordered)

Lemma Given an indep oracle we can simulate a rank oracle using at most  $\text{poly}(S)$

& ("rank", "indep oracle")  $\sim$

[proof] given indep.  $\Rightarrow$  greedily construct a base  $B$  for  $U$   
 $\Rightarrow r(U) = |B|$

given rank  $\Rightarrow$  if  $r(U) = |U| \dots$  indep. O/W not.

[Problem] Max weight base (maximal independent set) problem.

given a matroid  $(S, \mathcal{I})$  and a weight function  $c: S \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$   
find an independent set  $B$  that maximizes  $\sum_{x \in B} c(x)$ .

Maximal (or Base)

<Algorithmic result>

(Thm) The convex combination of (the incidence vector of) bases of a matroid  $(S, \mathcal{I})$  with rank function  $r(\cdot)$  is

given by  $\textcircled{R} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{e \in U} x_e \leq r(U), \quad \forall U \subseteq S \text{ but } U \neq S \\ \sum_{e \in S} x_e = r(S) \end{array} \right.$

$$x_e \geq 0 \quad \forall e \in S.$$

~~(P)~~ (Prf) It is clear that  $\textcircled{R}$  is a relaxation.

Note that  $\{\alpha | \sum_{e \in S} x_e = r(S)\}$  is a supporting hyperplane  
at the feasible region of  $(P)$ .

Since a face of a face is a face,  $\textcircled{R}$  is an integral polyhedron.  
since  $(P)$  is an integral polyhedron.

Observe that any integral solution to  $(\textcircled{R})$  is an integral solution to  $(P)$   
and thus, (the incidence vector of) a base

<Algorithmic result>

(Alg) WLOG, assume  $c(1) \geq \dots \geq c(n)$

$I \leftarrow \emptyset$   
for  $i \in \{1 \dots n\}$   
if  $(I+i) \in \mathcal{I}$  then  $I \leftarrow (I+i)$

(Obs) given an independent oracle, (Alg) performs poly# of basic operations  
and oracle queries.

(Obs) (Alg) is Kruskal's Algorithm when applied to a graphic matroid.

(thus)  $\text{Alg}$  returns a max-weight base.

for some const A

(proof) Let  $c': S \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  be a weight function defined by  $c'(i) := c(i) + A$  by choosing  $A$  sufficiently large, we can have  $\forall i \in S, c'(i) \geq 0$ . Since  $c'(1) \geq \dots \geq c'(n) \geq 0$ , we can interpret the transcript of  $\text{Alg}$ 's execution as that of  $\text{Alg: max ind set problem}$  with  $c'$  in lieu of  $c$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Therefore •  $I$ : <sup>max weight</sup> independent set under  $c'$   
•  $|I| = r(S)$  by Claim 1 - ① of <sup>(MW)</sup>  $\text{IS}$  problem.

Note that, for any two bases  $B$  and  $B'$

$c(B) \geq c(B')$  implies  $c'(B) \geq c'(B')$   
and vice-versa.

[Problem] Max weight under given rank  $k$  independent set problem.  
given a matroid  $(S, \mathcal{I})$  and a weight function  $c: S \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ .  
find an independent set  $I$  with  $|I| = k$  that maximizes  $\sum_{x \in I} c(x)$   
(where  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k \leq r(S)$ )

(Lemma) Let  $r$  be the rank function of  $(S, \mathcal{I})$ , and  $\mathcal{I}' = \{I | I \in \mathcal{I}$   
 $\text{and } |I| \leq k\}$

Then  $(S, \mathcal{I}')$  is a matroid whose rank function is given by

$$\Rightarrow r'(U) := \min(r(U), k)$$

proof)

(polyhedral result)

(Thm) The convex combination of (the incidence vector of) the independent sets of cardinality  $k$  is given by

$$\textcircled{A} \quad \left\{ \sum_{e \in U} x_e \leq \underline{t}(U) \text{ for } U \subseteq S \right.$$

$$\left. \sum_{e \in S} x_e = k \right.$$

$$x_e \geq 0, \quad e \in S$$

(proof) [by (Thm) of polyhedral result & MWB problem]

$\{x \mid \sum_{e \in S} x_e = k\}$  is a supporting hyperplane of  $\{\sum_{e \in U} x_e \leq \underline{t}'(U)\}$  ( $\leq k$ )

$\Rightarrow \textcircled{A}$  is an integral polyhedron (face of face = face).

$\Rightarrow$  independent integral solution with  $r(\mathcal{I}) = k$ .

where  $\textcircled{A} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{e \in U} x_e \leq \underline{t}'(U) \text{ for } U \subseteq S \\ \sum_{e \in S} x_e = k \quad (= \underline{t}'(S)) \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \textcircled{B} \quad \sum_{e \in U} x_e \leq \underline{t}(U) \text{ for } U \subseteq S$

$$x_e \geq 0 \quad \text{for } e \in S$$

otherwise.

B  $\textcircled{A}$  is equivalent to  $\textcircled{B}$

(Algorithmic result)

(Alg) WLOG, assume  $c(i) \geq \dots \geq c(u)$

$I \leftarrow \emptyset$   
for  $i \leftarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$   
if  $(I+i) \in \mathcal{I}$  then  $I \leftarrow (I+i)$   
if  $|I| = k$  then return  $I$

(Thm) Alg returns a maxweight independent set of cardinality  $k$

(proof) Note that the transcript of Alg's

execution can be interpreted as that of MWBAlg for  $(S, \mathcal{I}')$