

Reductions

$$A \leq_p B$$

NPC problems: solve one, you can solve them all (in poly time)

Solving NPC:

① approximation

② randomized algorithms

randomized polynomial time (+ coin flip)

$$RP \stackrel{?}{=} NP$$

③ Restrict the input

ex: 2SAT, Horn Formulae

④ Small instances?

⑤ Heuristics

possible approximation algorithms we cannot prove anything about

Local search

space of possible solutions

each solution has "neighbors"

some sort of cost function

Minimize:

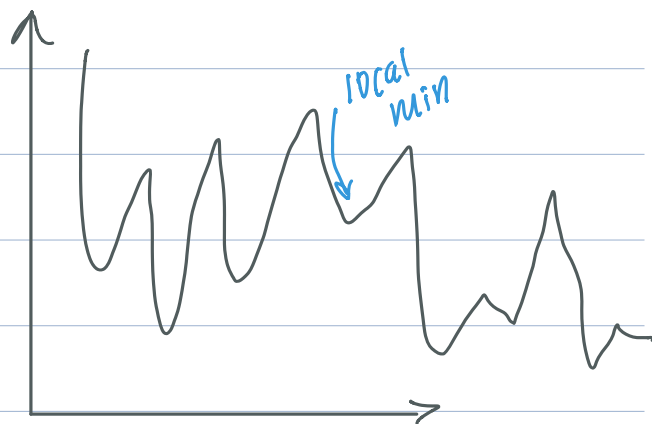
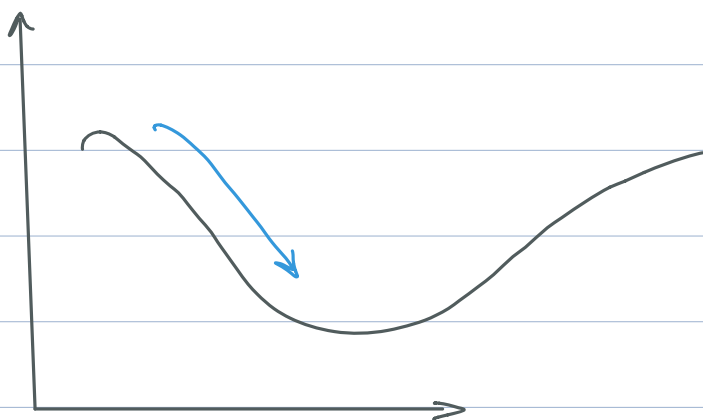
1. pick starting point x

2. while \rightarrow a better neighbor y

s.t. $f(y) < f(x)$, go to y

3. return final solution

can use \leq in practice but check for cycling



example: max 3SAT

satisfy as many clauses as possible

solution: any truth assignment (2^n vertices)

neighbor: 1 change of variable

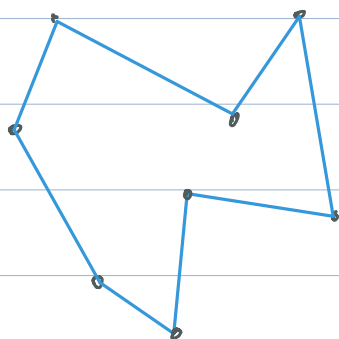
↳ or satisfy a given clause

example: traveling salesperson problem

solution: ordering of cities

neighbor: swap two cities

more generally, change k edges



Simplex minimize

1. Pick a starting point x

2. While \rightarrow a better neighbor y s.t. $f(y) < f(x)$,
go to y

3. return final solution

Programming Assignment

collection of #s

★ NP-complete

split into two sets A, B

DP-solution: $O(nB)$

$$\min |\sum_{x \in A} x - \sum_{y \in B} y|$$

of numbers \uparrow
biggest \uparrow

Solution: two sets of numbers

Neighbors: swap between two sets

local search

random moves

- probability p pick 1 and move from A to B
- prob $1-p$ pick 1 move from B to A

Karmarkar-Karp

10 8 7 6 5
2 1 2 \rightarrow residue

10 and 8 in different sets \equiv element of size 2

Solution: pre-partitioning

5 8 7 6 5
groups 1 2 2 3 4 } \rightarrow Karmarkar-Karp \rightarrow residue

Hill Climbing

- Pick random neighbor
- move there if better

Metropolis's Alg

- Pick different neighbor
- if better \rightarrow go there
- if worse \rightarrow go there w/ prob of how worse it is

Simulated Annealing

Temperature \rightarrow make more worse spots at the beginning

As time that goes on \rightarrow "reduce temperature"
and become like hill climbing

Tabu Search

Penalty to prevent cycling (solutions that look like other solutions)

Parallel Search (Go w/ the winners)

Synchronize - check current solutions

Remove poor performers

Clone good ones

Genetic Algorithms

"Population" of solutions

Bad solutions "die off"

Good solutions "procreate"

Repeated Greedy (Bubblesearch)

Set Cover

- normally: pick set w/ greatest uncovered coverings
- introduce randomness: best w/ prob p
2nd best set w/ prob 2
...

Approximations

provable guarantees

multiplicative guarantee (approximation ratio)

- within a factor of x from optimal
- $(1+\epsilon)$ of optimal

Vertex Cover

- special case of set cover
- $O(\log n)$ approx (for set cover)
Greedy is $O(\log n)$ approx for VC
- 2-approx for VC

→ pick an edge
put both in VC
remove all adjacent edges
until done