

TSP-Competition Lab Report-Group 8

Simulated Annealing:

Simulated annealing (SA) is a probabilistic technique for approximating the global optimum of a given function. This notion of slow cooling implemented in the simulated annealing algorithm is interpreted as a slow decrease in the probability of accepting worse solutions as the solution space is explored.

c-current path, n-next path

$$\Delta E = \text{eval}(n) - \text{eval}(c)$$

In our TSP code for implementing Simulated Annealing $\text{eval}(a) = -\text{distance}(a)$ where a is a path. We are obtaining the next node by 2 city swapping to generate a neighbour. Probability of choosing the next path is $P(c,n) = 1/(1 + e^{-\Delta E/T})$ where T is temperature. In our program we took $\text{initial_temperature} = 50000$, $\text{cooling_rate} = 0.0000002$.

Simulated Annealing only tracks one solution in the space of possible solutions, and at each iteration considers whether to move to a neighboring solution or stay in the current one according to some probabilities (which decays over time). This is different from a heuristic search (say greedy search) in that it doesn't suffer from the problems of local