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**Subject :** Artificial Intelligence Lab

**Subject Code :** BTCOL707

**Class:** Final Year Comp. Engg.

**Expt. No. :** 07

**Title :** Solve traveling salesman problem.

Problem  
Staement  
:

Solve traveling salesman problem.

Software  
Required  
:

Prolog

Theory :

A salesman is given a list of locations in the Traveling Salesman issue (TSP), a classic optimization issue. His task is to determine the shortest route that visits each city exactly once and returns to the beginning city. The optimal solution of TSP for a large number of cities can be computationally costly. In this example, I'll give you a Prolog code that uses a brute-force method to solve a simple TSP instance. Remember that large instances of the problem are inefficient using this code.

% Define the cities and distances between them

distance(city1, city2, 10).

distance(city1, city3, 15).

distance(city1, city4, 20).

distance(city2, city3, 35).

distance(city2, city4, 25).

distance(city3, city4, 30).

% Create a list of cities

```
cities([city1, city2, city3, city4]).
```

```
% Predicate to calculate the total distance of a tour
```

```
tour_distance([], 0).
```

```
tour_distance([_], 0).
```

```
tour_distance([City1, City2 | Rest], TotalDistance) :-
```

```
    distance(City1, City2, Dist),
```

```
    tour_distance([City2 | Rest], RestDistance),
```

```
    TotalDistance is Dist + RestDistance.
```

```
% Predicate to find the shortest tour
```

```
shortest_tour(ShortestTour, ShortestDistance) :-
```

```
    cities(CityList),
```

```
    permutation(CityList, Tour),
```

```
    append(Tour, [Tour], ClosedTour),
```

```
    tour_distance(ClosedTour, Distance),
```

```
    (ShortestDistance =< 0; Distance < ShortestDistance),
```

```
    ShortestTour = Tour,
```

```
    ShortestDistance = Distance.
```

```
% Entry point to solve the TSP
```

```
solve_tsp :-
```

```
    shortest_tour(Tour, Distance),
```

```
    write('Shortest tour: '), write(Tour), nl,
```

```
    write('Shortest distance: '), write(Distance), nl.
```

```
% Start the solver
```

```
:- solve_tsp.
```

Using the distance/3 predicate, we define the cities and their respective distances from one another.

A list of cities to visit is defined by the cities/1 predicate.

The tour\_distance/2 predicate is used to determine a tour's total distance.

<b>Conclusion:</b>	<p>The shortest_tour/2 predicate determines the distance for each tour, creates all feasible combinations of the cities, and maintains track of the shortest tour's length.</p> <p>The shortest tour and its distance are found and printed by the solve_tsp predicate.</p> <p>This code illustrates how to solve the TSP for a limited number of cities using a simple brute-force method. Near-optimal solutions are usually found for bigger instances using heuristics like the Christofides algorithm or the closest neighbor technique, or more efficient algorithms like dynamic programming and branch and bound.</p>
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