Ant Colony Optimization for the Travelling Salesman Problem

Application:

Implementing the ACO algorithm using Python to solve the TSP, where the objective is to find the shortest possible route that visits a list of cities and returns to the origin city.

Code:

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
def distance(point1, point2):
    return np.sqrt(np.sum((point1 - point2)**2))
def ant colony optimization (points, n ants, n iterations, alpha, beta, evaporation rate,
Q):
   n_points = len(points)
   pheromone = np.ones((n points, n points))
   best path = None
   best path length = np.inf
    for iteration in range(n_iterations):
       paths = []
       path lengths = []
        for ant in range(n ants):
            visited = [False]*n points
            current point = np.random.randint(n_points)
            visited[current point] = True
            path = [current point]
            path length = 0
            while False in visited:
                unvisited = np.where(np.logical_not(visited))[0]
                probabilities = np.zeros(len(unvisited))
                for i, unvisited_point in enumerate(unvisited):
                    probabilities[i] = pheromone[current_point, unvisited_point]**alpha /
distance (points [current point], points [unvisited point]) **beta
                probabilities /= np.sum(probabilities)
                next point = np.random.choice(unvisited, p=probabilities)
                path.append(next point)
                path_length += distance(points[current_point], points[next_point])
                visited[next point] = True
                current point = next point
            paths.append(path)
            path lengths.append(path length)
```

```
if path length < best path length:</pre>
                best path = path
                best_path_length = path_length
        pheromone *= evaporation rate
        for path, path_length in zip(paths, path_lengths):
            for i in range(n_points-1):
                pheromone[path[i], path[i+1]] += Q/path length
            pheromone[path[-1], path[0]] += Q/path length
    # Print the best path and its distance
    print("Best Path:", best path)
    print("Best Path Length (Distance):", best path length)
    # Visualizing the best path
    fig = plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
    ax = fig.add subplot(111, projection='3d')
    ax.scatter(points[:,0], points[:,1], points[:,2], c='r', marker='o')
    for i in range(n_points-1):
        ax.plot([points[best_path[i],0], points[best_path[i+1],0]],
                [points[best path[i],1], points[best path[i+1],1]],
                [points[best_path[i],2], points[best_path[i+1],2]],
                c='g', linestyle='-', linewidth=2, marker='o')
    ax.plot([points[best path[0],0], points[best path[-1],0]],
            [points[best_path[0],1], points[best_path[-1],1]],
            [points[best_path[0],2], points[best_path[-1],2]],
            c='g', linestyle='-', linewidth=2, marker='o')
    ax.set_xlabel('X Label')
    ax.set ylabel('Y Label')
    ax.set zlabel('Z Label')
    plt.show()
# Get user input for the ACO parameters
n points = int(input("Enter the number of points (e.g., 10): "))
points = np.random.rand(n_points, 3) # Generate random 3D points
n ants = int(input("Enter the number of ants (e.g., 10): "))
n iterations = int(input("Enter the number of iterations (e.g., 100): "))
alpha = float(input("Enter the alpha value (e.g., 1): "))
beta = float(input("Enter the beta value (e.g., 1): "))
evaporation rate = float(input("Enter the evaporation rate (e.g., 0.5): "))
Q = float(input("Enter the Q value (e.g., 1): "))
# Call the Ant Colony Optimization function
ant_colony_optimization(points, n_ants, n_iterations, alpha, beta, evaporation_rate, Q)
```

Output:

```
Enter the number of points (e.g., 10): 6
Enter the number of ants (e.g., 10): 10
Enter the number of iterations (e.g., 100): 50
Enter the alpha value (e.g., 1): 1
Enter the beta value (e.g., 1): 1
Enter the evaporation rate (e.g., 0.5): 0.4
Enter the Q value (e.g., 1): 1
Best Path: [5, 4, 2, 3, 1, 0]
Best Path Length (Distance): 2.255953705288719
```

