## Traveling Salesman Problem

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## Sample programs

 $\bullet \ \, \texttt{https://github.com/modeling-and-simulation-mc-saga/TSP} \\$ 

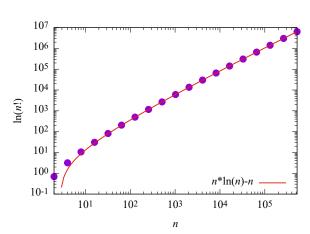
## Traveling Salesman Problem

- ullet Given a set of distances  $d(c_i,c_j)$  between pairs of N cities
  - Assume the network is complete (any pairs of cities are connected)
  - Set very large values for disconnected pairs
- Find the shortest path, which visits all cities once and comes back to the start.
- Hamiltonian paths
  - Exact method requires to study all possible paths

- The number of possible paths: (N-1)!/2
  - ullet Explodes faster than exponential functions for large N
  - Impossible to solve realistic problems in realistic time
- Stirling's formula approximating factorials

$$\ln n! = n \ln n - n + O(\ln n) \tag{1}$$

n	n!
1	1
2	2
3	6
4	24
5	120
6	720
7	5040
8	40320
9	362880
10	3628800



## Approximate Optimum Solutions

- Do realistic problems require the exact solutions?
  - Obtain good solutions within adequate time available
  - Need methods for obtaining good approximate solutions.

## The Nature Can Optimize?

- Crystal growth processes through annealing (徐冷) clean crystals through slow cooling down processes
- Structure of proteins functional structure through in vivo (生体内) synthesis
- Behavior of ants searching shorter paths to feed
- Heredity (遺伝)
   species with higher fitness survive
- Learn approximate optimization from the nature

## Optimization in the Nature?

- Search solution space randomly
- Search subspace with good features closely
- very simple
  - how to construct appropriate methods
  - algorithms with random numbers

## Simulated Annealing

#### Simulate slow cooling processes

- ullet finite temperature T
  - $\bullet$  Search states (Hamiltonian paths) randomly with transition probabilities specified by T
  - Wide search for high temperature
  - Narrow search for low temperature
  - Monte Carlo Simulation (methods for statistical physics)
- Cooling down gradually
  - Narrow the searching area

## Hamilton path and its update

ullet A close path  $\mu$  for visiting N cities

$$\mu = \left[c_0^{\mu}, c_1^{\mu}, \cdots, c_{N-1}^{\mu}, c_N^{\mu} = c_0^{\mu}\right] \tag{2}$$

path length

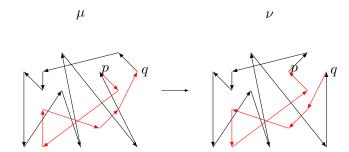
$$D^{\mu} = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} d\left(c_k^{\mu}, c_{k+1}^{\mu}\right) \tag{3}$$

• Select two points (p,q) in  $\mu$  randomly

$$\mu = \left[c_0^{\mu}, c_1^{\mu}, \cdots, c_{p-1}^{\mu}, c_p^{\mu}, c_{p+1}^{\mu}, \cdots, c_{q-1}^{\mu}, c_q^{\mu}, c_{q+1}^{\mu}, \cdots, c_{N-1}^{\mu}, c_N^{\mu} = c_0^{\mu}\right]$$
(4)

 $\bullet$  Construct the new close path  $\nu$  by inverting the path between p and q in  $\mu$ 

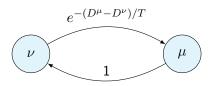
$$\nu = \left[c_0^{\mu}, c_1^{\mu}, \cdots, c_{p-1}^{\mu}, c_q^{\mu}, c_{q-1}^{\mu}, \cdots, c_{p+1}^{\mu}, c_p^{\mu}, c_{q+1}^{\mu}, \cdots, c_{N-1}^{\mu}, c_N^{\mu} = c_0^{\mu}\right]$$
(5)



- if  $D^{\nu} < D^{\mu}$ 
  - ullet Employ the new path u
  - Obtain shorter path
- if  $D^{\nu} \geq D^{\mu}$ 
  - Employ the new path  $\nu$  with probability  $\exp\left(-\left(D^{\nu}-D^{\mu}\right)/T\right)$
  - Employ longer path with probabilities specified by the temperature

### Image of transition between states

• Case  $D^{\nu} < D^{\mu}$ 



• For equilibrium

$$e^{-(D^{\mu}-D^{\nu})/T}p(\nu) = p(\mu)$$
 (6)

probabilities for each close loop

$$p(\mu) \propto e^{-D^{\mu}/T}, \quad p(\nu) \propto e^{-D^{\nu}/T}$$
 (7)

- Repeat trials enough times
- probabilities for each close loop

$$P(\mu) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left(-\frac{D^{\mu}}{T}\right) \tag{8}$$

$$Z = \sum_{\mu} \exp\left(-\frac{D^{\mu}}{T}\right) \tag{9}$$

- Z is the normalization constant.
- ullet Z is called partition function, because various statistical quantities can be derived through Z.
- longer paths appear with exponentially low probabilities

## Statistical Physics at Finite Temperature

- General frameworks for statistical physics
- System with energy levels  $\{E_i\}$
- finite temperature T
- ullet Boltzmann constant  $k_B$ , converting temperature to energy

$$P_i = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left(-\frac{E_i}{k_B T}\right) \tag{10}$$

$$Z = \sum_{i} \exp\left(-\frac{E_i}{k_B T}\right) \tag{11}$$

### Outline of Monte Carlo Simulations

- ullet The current state  $\mu$
- Select randomly one of neighboring states  $\rightarrow \nu$
- Transit to  $\nu$  if  $E_{\nu} < E_{\mu}$
- Otherwise
  - $\bullet$  Transit to  $\nu$  with probability  $\exp\left(-\left(E_{\nu}-E_{\mu}\right)/T\right)$

# Annealing (徐冷)

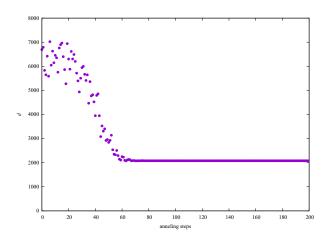
- High temperature
  - Try wide variety of routes
- Lowering temperature slowly
  - Narrow the variety
- Finally the shortest paths can survive

#### Class Plan: Route class

- List<Point> path: sequence of nodes
- double pathLength: length of the route
- Initialize with some sequence of nodes
- calcPathLength(): calculate path length
- nextRoute(): generate new path

### Class Plan: Simulation class

- Change route stochastically
  - ullet oneMonteCarloStep(): N trials
  - oneFlip(): trial to change route
- Lowering temperature
  - cooling()

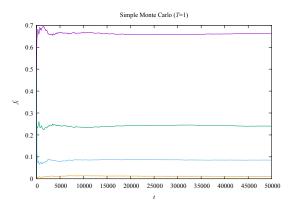


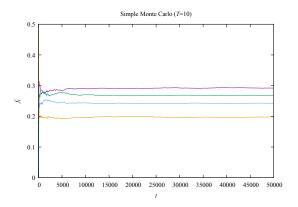
## Simple MC Simulation

- ullet Consider n states with energy levels  $E_i$
- Assume any pairs of states connected (transition is possible)
- ullet Set some value of temperature T
- ullet Start from randomly selected state k
- ullet For each step, select randomly one of other state  $\ell$ . And perform state transition.
- Count visits for each state.
- Compute relative frequency of visits.

## Example

- $E_i = [0, 1, 2, 4]$
- $\bullet$  T=1 and T=10





Equilibrium distributions expected theoretically realise.