

L07 Faster Constraint Satisfaction

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January 05 2015

1 n – queens problem

1. placing as many queens on a $n \times n$ board
2. Problem too big to solve exactly
3. Let's define a neighbourhood
work with complete assignments
neighbourhood: possible assignments nearby
all configs where only 1 queen is at a different location
4. initially you can be random
random row but separate columns

1.1 algorithm – Local search AKA(Hill climbing)

1. Either exhaustively (if possible)
2. or randomly (when not)
3. Choose a config that is better (less broken constraints)
4. update current config
5. Repeat.

n queen

operations \rightarrow move queens along column

1.2 problems with Local search

1. can't find better
2. still have unsatisfied constraints
3. this is possible because our initial setup is one that cannot result in the best solution
4. the solution? run k times and keep the best solution

1.3 Simulated Annealing

1. look around neighbourhood
 - if better solution found, take it
 - if not accept with probability $p \propto e^{\Delta T/T}$
2. ΔT – always $(-)$ for worse solutions
 - cost_current - cost_proposed
 - if worse makes cost increase
 - or** cost_proposed-cost_current
 - if cost decreases for worst solution
3. T is a parameter called "Temperature"
 - starts large – decreases over time

1.4 Tabu Search

Always move towards best solution found in neighbourhood
keep list of recently visited config. Keep them out of neighbourhood