Coping With NP-Completeness

Special Cases

Average Case

Approximation Algorithms

Intelligent Brute Force

Heuristics

Special Cases

2-CNF Sat:

Use resolution:

$(x \vee y \vee z) \wedge (\bar{z} \vee w \vee \bar{v})$

resolve to

$(x \vee y \vee w \vee \bar{v})$

Sat iff $\square$ (the empty clause)

<u>cannot</u> be obtained by resolution

Eliminate one variable at a time by

resolving it in all possible ways

For 3-Sat, or general sat, clauses can

get arbitrarily long: 2^n

2-sat

$(x \vee \bar{z}) \wedge (z \vee y)$ gives $x \vee y$

Resolution preserves 2-sat

$O(n^2)$ possible clauses

$O(n^3)$ time

Like transitive closure,

all-pairs shortest paths

Faster: Formula → Graph

$(x \vee y) \Rightarrow \bar{x} \to y$ (edges)

$x \leftarrow \bar{y}$

Literals are vertices

Satisfiable iff no literal and its negation are in the same strong component. (Why?)

$O(m+n)$ where $m =$ # clauses

$n =$ # literals

(Can propagate single-literal clauses first, or use $x \equiv x \vee x \Rightarrow \bar{x} \to x$)

Special cases

Min vertex cover for a bipartite graph

Find a maximum matching.

Search for augmenting paths from free vertices on A side. Let reached vertices be S, others $\bar{S}$.

Let $C = (B \cap S) \cup (A \cap \bar{S})$

This is a minimum vertex cover.

$B \cap S$: all matched in S $\qquad\qquad$ $\bar{S}$

B

A

S $\qquad\qquad$ $A \cap \bar{S}$:

all matched in $\bar{S}$

No matched $B \cap S$ to $A \cap \bar{S}$ edges

No unmatched $A \cap S$ to $B \cap \bar{S}$ edges

$\Rightarrow (B \cap S) \cup (A \cap \bar{S})$ is a vertex cover

of size = maximum matching

$\Rightarrow$ minimum (every edge of a matching

must be covered)

Approximation

General vertex cover

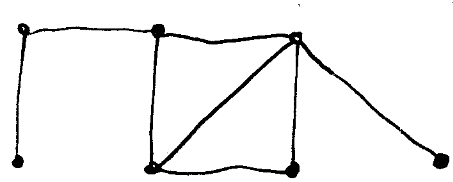
Find a maximal matching (no new edges can be added)

C = both ends of all matched edges

covers since maximal matching

2-approximation

O(m)-time



Approximation

Minimum tour (TSP) with Δ inequality:

$$d(x,y) + d(y,z) \geq d(x,z)$$

$\Rightarrow$ given any tour with repeats, can find a tour no longer by dropping repeats

Find a minimum spanning tree, build a tour as a depth-first traversal (each edge used twice), delete repeated vertices.

2-approximation

1.5 approximation

Find an MST T

odd-degree vertices is even

Find a min-cost perfect matching on odd degree vertices P

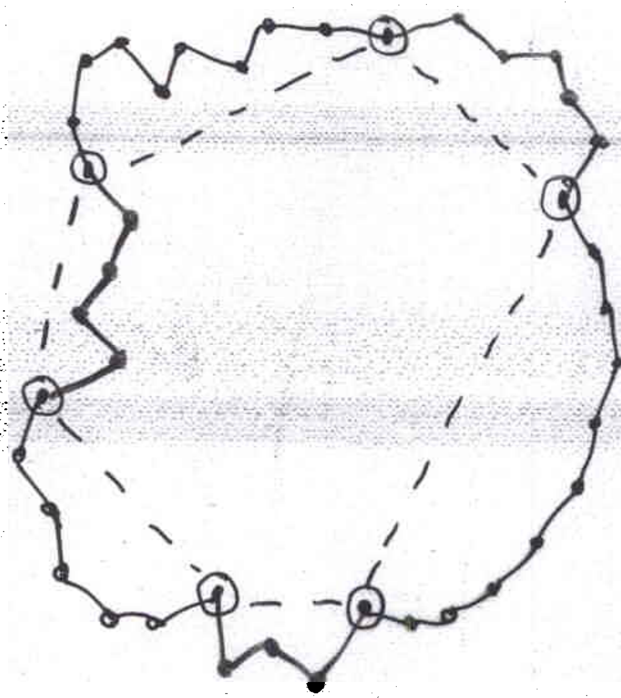
$T \cup P$ has all vertices of even degree:

Find an Eulerian tour, delete repeated vertices.

If R is a min-cost tour $|T| \leq |R|$,

$|P| \leq |R|/2 \Rightarrow |T+P| \leq 1.5\,|R|$

($|\ |$ denotes cost)



R decomposes into two ways of pairing odd-degree vertices, gives to matchings of odd-degree vertices.