

Brief journey in the big world of Integer Programming with the Knapsack

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Presentation for the oral exam of
INFO-F424 *Combinatorial optimization*

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Last version: [https://bitbucket.org/OPiMedia/
brief-journey-in-the-big-world-of-integer-programming-with-the/](https://bitbucket.org/OPiMedia/brief-journey-in-the-big-world-of-integer-programming-with-the/)



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0 – 1 Knapsack Problem formulation



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Let

- a set of n items, for each $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
 - a weight a_i
 - a value c_i
- a knapsack of capacity b

Find the subset of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

that it may be contained in the knapsack *and* maximizes the value.

The canonical Binary Integer Program formulation:

Variables: $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$, $x_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if item } i \text{ is selected} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Constraint: $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i \leq b$

Objective function: $\max \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i$



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Greedy heuristic algorithm – primal/lower bound

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Sort variables by decreasing order of density $\frac{\text{value}}{\text{weight}} : \frac{c_j}{a_j}$

In this order, pick each possible item.

That fill the knapsack with the best *independent* choice.

For example:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & 45x_1 + 48x_2 + 9x_3 \\ \text{subject to} & 5x_1 + 12x_2 + 3x_3 \leq 16 \\ \hline & \text{density} \quad \quad 9 \quad \quad 4 \quad \quad 3 \end{array}$$

Give the solution: $(1, 0, 1)$ with value $45 + 9 = 54$.

54 is a lower bound of the problem.

Indeed $(0, 1, 1)$ is a better solution (in fact the optimal solution ¹) of value $48 + 9 = 57$.

¹In simple example like this
it is very easy to perform an exhaustive search.

Linear relaxation – dual/upper bound

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The idea is to permit piece of item, and then fill completely the knapsack. Of course the relaxed problem is an other problem and its solution is not a solution of the initial problem.

But this solution is an upper bound for the initial problem.

With the same example:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & 45x_1 + 48x_2 + 9x_3 \\ \text{subject to} \quad & 5x_1 + 12x_2 + 3x_3 \leq 16 \\ \text{and now } x_i \in & [0, 1] \text{ instead } \in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

$$5 + \alpha 12 = 16 \implies \alpha = \frac{11}{12}$$

$$\text{Give } (1, \frac{11}{12}, 0) \text{ with value } 45 + \frac{11}{12} 48 = 89.$$

We known now that the optimal solution x^* of the initial problem is such that: $54 \leq x^* \leq 89$

We obtained theses two bound in $O(n)$.



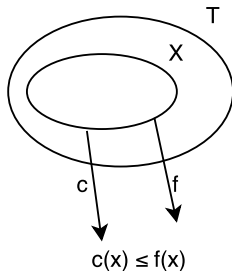
General principle of relaxation

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For the Integer Programming
 $z = \max\{c(x) \mid x \in X \subseteq R^n\}$

$z^R = \max\{f(x) \mid x \in T \subseteq R^n\}$
is a relaxation if

- $X \subseteq T$
- $c(x) \leq f(x) \quad \forall x \in X$



So z^R is an upper bound for the initial problem.

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Exhaustive search

We can break the problem into two subproblems, and so forth. That give this kind of binary tree representation:

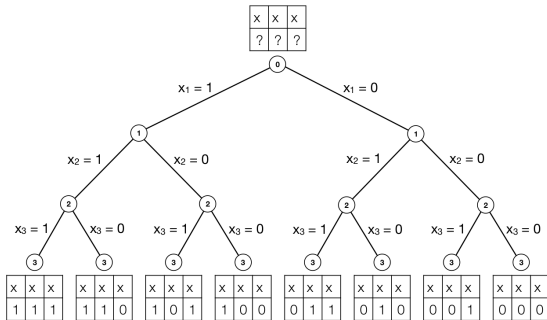


Figure: Discrete Optimization

Contain the Exponential Explosion

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There is 2^n possibilities, so an exhaustive search is quickly impossible.

In fact, it is a NP-hard problem.
(The decision problem is already NP-complete.)

The goal is to push as far as possible the exponential curve.

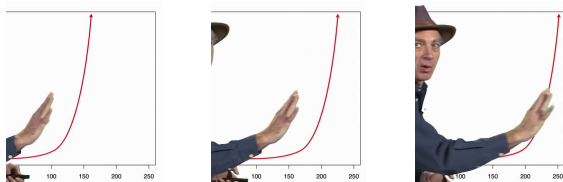


Figure: *Discrete Optimization*

How avoid the impossible (in practice) exhaustive search?

Depth-First Branch and Bound

Pruning...

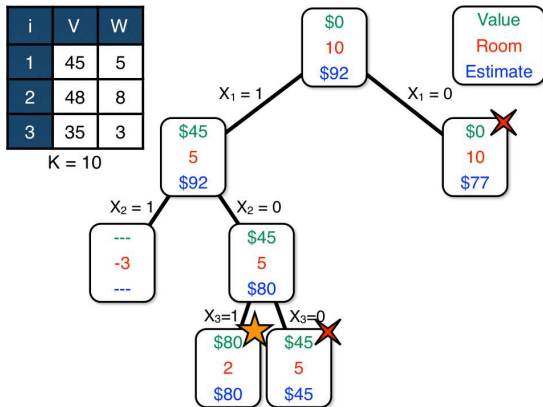


Figure: Discrete Optimization

We have the optimal solution 80 with only 7 nodes visited, instead $2^4 - 1 = 15$.



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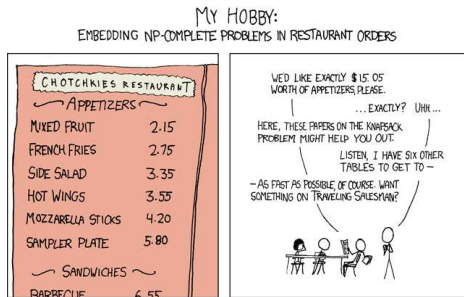
2 Primal and dual bounds

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NP-Complete, xkcd