Chapter 35 Approximation Algorithm

Introduction to Data Structures Kyuseok Shim ECE, SNU.





 In this chapter, we present some examples of polynomial-time approximation algorithms for several NP-complete problems.

Coping with NP-Complete Problems

- We have at least three ways to get around NPcompleteness.
 - If the actual inputs are small, an algorithm with exponential running time may be perfectly satisfactory.
 - We may be able to isolate important special cases that we can solve in polynomial time.
 - We might come up with approaches to find near-optimal solutions in polynomial time (either in the worst case or the expected case).
- We call an algorithm that returns near-optimal solutions an approximation algorithm.

- Suppose that we are working on an optimization problem in which each potential solution has a positive cost, and we wish to find a near-optimal solution.
- Depending on the problem, we may define an optimal solution as one with maximum possible cost or one with minimum possible cost.
- Note that we assume that all solutions have positive cost, these ratios are always well defined.

We say that an algorithm for a problem has an approximation ratio ρ(n) if, for any input of size n, the cost C of the solution produced by the algorithm is within a factor of ρ(n) of the cost C* of an optimal solution:

•
$$\max\left(\frac{c}{c^*}, \frac{c^*}{c}\right) \le \rho(n)$$

- For maximization problem, $1 \le \frac{c^*}{c} \le \rho(n)$
- For minimization problem, $1 \le \frac{c}{c^*} \le \rho(n)$
- If an algorithm achieves an approximation ratio of $\rho(n)$, we call it a $\rho(n)$ -approximation algorithm.



- Because we assume that all solutions have positive cost, the approximation ratios are always well defined.
- The approximation ratio of an approximation algorithm is never less than 1, since C/C* ≤1 implies C*/C ≥ 1.
- Therefore, a 1-approximation algorithm produces an optimal solution, and an approximation algorithm with a large approximation ratio may return a solution that is much worse than optimal.

 Some NP-complete problems allow polynomial-time approximation algorithms that can achieve increasingly better approximation ratios by using more and more computation time.

Approximation Scheme

- An approximation scheme for an optimization problem is an approximation algorithm
 - that takes as input not only an instance of the problem,
 - but also a value $\epsilon > 0$
 - such that for any fixed ε, the scheme is an (1+ ε)approximation algorithm.

Approximation Scheme

- Polynomial-time approximation scheme
 - For any fixed ∈ > 0, the scheme runs in time polynomial in the size n of its input instance.
 - The running time can increase very rapidly as ϵ decreases.
 - e.g.) a scheme with $O(n^{2/\epsilon})$ time
- Ideally, if ∈ decreases by a constant factor, the running time to achieve the desired approximation should not increase by more than a constant factor.

Approximation Scheme

- Fully polynomial-time approximation scheme
 - Running time is polynomial both in 1/∈ and in the size n of the input instance.
 - With such a scheme, any constant-factor decrease in ϵ comes with a corresponding constant-factor increase in the running time.
 - e.g.) a scheme with O($(1/\epsilon)^2 n^3$) time

Thomas T. Cormen, Charles E. Leiserson, Ronald L. Rivest, Clifford Stein, Introduction to Algorithms, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 2009

VERTEX-COVER Problem



VERTEX-COVER Problem

- Vertex cover of an undirected graph G = (V, E) is a subset V' ⊆ V such that if (u, v) is an edge of G, then either u ∈ V' or v ∈ V'.
- Vertex cover problem is to find an optimal vertex cover, or a vertex cover of minimum size in a given undirected graph.
- This problem is the optimization version of an NPcomplete decision problem.
- Even though we don't know how to find an optimal vertex cover in a graph G in polynomial time, we can efficiently find a vertex cover that is near-optimal.

- The following algorithm returns a vertex cover whose size is guaranteed to be no more than twice the size of an optimal vertex cover.
- Its running time is O (|V| + |E|) time using adjacency lists to represent E'.

APPROX-VERTEX-COVER(G)

- 1. $C = \emptyset$
- 2. E' = G.E
- 3. while $E' \neq Ø$
- 4. let (u, v) be an arbitrary edge of E'
- 5. $C = C \cup \{u, v\}$
- 6. remove from E' every edge incident on either u or v
- 7. return C

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- 7. **return** C C=∅



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- 6. remove from E' every edge incident on either u or v
- 7. **return** C C=Ø

E'={(a,b), (b,c), (c,d), (c,e), (d,e), (d,f), (e,f), (d,g)}



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 $\mathsf{E'}{=}\{(\mathsf{d}{,}\mathsf{g})\}$



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An optimal solution



- Theorem 35.1
 - APPROX-VERTEX-COVER is a polynomial-time 2approximation algorithm.
- Proof
 - We have already shown that APPROX-VERTEX-COVER runs in polynomial time.
 - The set C of vertices that is returned by APPROX-VERTEX-COVER is a vertex cover, since the algorithm loops until every edge in G.E has been covered by some vertex in C.
 - Let A represent the set of edges (and their endpoints) that are included in C.

- Theorem 35.1
 - APPROX-VERTEX-COVER is a polynomial-time 2approximation algorithm.
- Proof
 - In order to cover the edges in A, an optimal vertex cover C* must include at least one endpoint of each edge that is included in C.
 - Since once an edge is picked, all other edges that are incident on its endpoints are deleted from E' and thus no two edges in A share an endpoint.
 - Thus, no two edges in A are covered by the same vertex in C* and we have |C* |≥ |A |.
 - Each iteration of APPROX-VERTEX-COVER picks an edge for which neither endpoint is in C
 - → |C| = 2 |A| and $|C| \le 2 |C^*|$

TRAVELING-SALESMAN Problem



TRAVELING-SALESMAN Problem

- In the Traveling Salesman problem, we are given an undirected complete graph G = (V, E) that has a nonnegative integer cost c(u, v) associated with each edge (u, v).
- Traveling Salesman problem is to find a hamiltonian cycle, or a tour of G with minimum cost.
- This problem is the optimization version of an NPcomplete decision problem.
- Even though we don't know how to find a tour in a graph G in polynomial time, we can efficiently find a tour that is near-optimal.

Thomas T. Cormen, Charles E. Leiserson, Ronald L. Rivest, Clifford Stein, Introduction to Algorithms, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 2009

- Triangle inequality
 - In many practical situations, the least costly way to go from a place u to a place w is to go directly
 - For all vertices $u, v, w \in V$, we have $c(u, w) \le c(u, v) + c(v, w)$



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The following algorithm returns tour whose cost is guaranteed to be no more than twice the cost of an optimal tour.

APPROX-TSP-TOUR(G, c)

- 1. select a vertex $r \in G.V$ to be a "root" vertex
- 2. compute a minimum spanning tree *T* for *G* from root *r* using MST-PRIM(G, c, r)



- 4. **return** the hamiltonian cycle *H*
- Its running time is $O(|V|^2)$ time.



O(|V|)

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- 2. compute a minimum spanning tree *T* for *G* from root *r* using MST-PRIM(G, c, r)
- 3. let *H* be a list of vertices, ordered according to when they are first visited in a preorder tree walk of *T*
- 4. **return** the hamiltonian cycle *H*



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- Theorem 35.2
 - APPROX-TSP-TOUR is a polynomial-time 2-approximation algorithm for the TRAVELING-SALESMAN problem with the triangle inequality.
- Proof
 - We have already shown that APPROX-TSP-TOUR runs in polynomial time.
 - Let *H*^{*} denote an optimal tour.
 - We obtain a spanning tree T' by deleting any edge from the tour H*, and each edge is nonnegative.
 - Let *T* be a minimum spanning tree of *G*.
 - Thus, the we have $c(T) \le c(T') \le c(H^*)$ (35.4)

- Proof (contd.)
 - Let W be a full walk of the minimum spanning tree T.
 - A full walk lists the vertices when they are first visited and also whenever they are returned to after a visit to a subtree.



Full walk *a, b, c, b, h, b, a, d, e, f, e, g, e, d, a*

Proof (cont.)

Since the full walk traverses every edge of T exactly twice, we have

• c(W) = 2c(T) (35.5)

• Since we have $c(T) \le c(H^*)$ (35.4), we obtain $c(W) \le 2c(H^*)$ (35.6)



Full walk *a, b, c, b, h, b, a, d, e, f, e, g, e, d, a*

Proof (cont.)

- By the triangle inequality, we can delete a visit to any vertex from W and the cost does not increase.
 - If we delete a vertex v from W between visits to u and w, the resulting ordering specifies going directly from u to w.



Proof (cont.)

- By repeatedly applying this operation, we can remove from W all but the first visit to each vertex.
- This ordering is the same as that obtained by a preorder walk of the tree T.





Preorder walk a, b, c, h, d, e, f, g



Proof (cont.)

- Let *H* be the cycle corresponding to this preorder walk.
 - It is a hamiltonian cycle, since every vertex is visited exactly once.
 - It is the cycle computed by APPROX-TSP-TOUR.
- Since H is obtained by deleting vertices from the full walk W and
 - $c(T) \le c(T') \le c(H^*)$ (35.4)
 - $c(W) = 2c(T) \le 2c(H^*)$ (35.5) and (35.6)
- Thus, we have
 - $c(H) \le c(W) = 2c(T) \le 2c(H^*)$

- If we drop the assumption that the cost function c satisfies the triangle inequality, then we cannot find good approximate tours in polynomial time unless P = NP.
- Theorem 35.3
 - If $P \neq NP$, then for any constant $\rho \ge 1$, there is no polynomial-time approximation algorithm with approximation ratio ρ for the general traveling-salesman problem.

- Proof sketch (by contradiction)
 - Suppose to the contrary that for some number $\rho \ge 1$, there is a polynomial-time approximation algorithm A with approximation ratio ρ .
 - Without loss of generality, we assume that ρ is an integer, by rounding it up if necessary.
 - We shall then show how to use *A* to solve instances of the HAMILTONIAN-CYCLE problem in polynomial time.
 - Since the HAMILTONIAN-CYCLE problem is NP-complete, if we can solve it in polynomial time, then P = NP.

- Proof
 - Let G = (V, E) be an instance of the HAMILTONIAN-CYCLE problem.
 - We wish to determine efficiently whether G contains a hamiltonian cycle by making use of the hypothesized approximation algorithm A.

Proof (cont.)

- We turn *G* into an instance of the TRAVELING-SALESMAN problem in $O(|V|^2)$ time as follows.
 - Let G' = (V, E') be the complete graph on V.
 - Assign an integer cost to each edge in E' as follows

•
$$c(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (u, v) \in E, \\ \rho |V| + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Proof (cont.)

- Consider the TRAVELING-SALESMAN problem with G' and the cost function c.
- If the original graph G has a hamiltonian cycle H, the cost function c assigns to each edge of H a cost of 1, and so G' contains a tour of cost |V|.
- On the other hand, if G does not contain a hamiltonian cycle, then any tour of G' must use some edge not in E.
- But any tour that uses an edge not in E has a cost of at least
 - $(\rho|V|+1) + (|V|-1) = \rho|V| + |V| > \rho|V|$

Proof (cont.)

- Because edges not in *G* are so costly, there is a gap of at least ρ|V| between the cost of a tour that is a hamiltonian cycle in *G* (cost |V|) and the cost of any other tour (cost at least ρ|V| + |V|).
- Thus, the cost of a tour that is not a hamiltonian cycle in G is at least a factor of ρ + 1 greater than the cost of a tour that is a hamiltonian cycle in G.

Proof (cont.)

- Suppose that we apply a ρ -approximation algorithm A to the TRAVELING-SALESMAN problem with G' and c.
- If G contains a hamiltonian cycle, then A must return a tour of cost less than $\rho|V|$.
 - *G'* has an optimal tour with cost |*V*| only.
- If G has no hamiltonian cycle, then A returns a tour of cost more than $\rho|V|$.
 - G' has an optimal tour with cost at least $(\rho + 1)|V|$.
- Thus, we can use A to solve the HAMILTONIAN-CYCLE problem in polynomial time.

SET-COVERING Problem



SET-COVERING Problem

- An optimization problem that models many problems that require resources to be allocated.
- Its corresponding decision problem generalizes the NP-complete vertex cover problem and is therefore also NP-hard.
- The approximation algorithm developed to handle the vertexcover problem doesn't apply here, however, and so we need to try other approaches.
- We shall examine a simple greedy heuristic with a logarithmic approximation ratio.

An Example of the Set-Covering Problem





An instance (X, \mathcal{F}) of the set-covering problem, where X consists of the 12 points and $\mathcal{F} = \{S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4, S_5, S_6\}$

A minimum size set cover is $\{S_3, S_4, S_5\}$ with size 3.

Problem Formulation

- Given an instance (X, F) of the set-covering problem where
 - a finite set X
 - a family *F* of subsets of *X*
 - $X = \bigcup_{S \in \mathcal{F}} S$
 - We say a subset $S \in \mathcal{F}$ covers its elements.
- Find a minimum-size subset C ⊂ F whose members cover all of X (C: set-cover)

- Given a directed graph G=(V,E) and integer k, define X=E and *F*=V.
 - The reduction is done in polynomial time.



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- The set-covering problem is NP-hard.
 - The graph G has a vertex cover of size k if and only if the set X has a set-cover of size k.
- The set-covering problem is in NP.
 - Given a set-cover C, that |C|=k and C covers X can be verified in polynomial time.
- Thus, the set-covering problem is NP-complete.

An optimal solution





An instance of the set covering problem

The greedy solution





An instance of the set covering problem

The greedy solution

 S_1



the set covering problem

The greedy solution







A Greedy Approximation Algorithm

GREEDY-SET-COVER(X, \mathcal{F})

- 1. U = X2. $C = \emptyset$
- 3. while $U \neq \emptyset$
- 4. select an $S \in \mathcal{F}$ that maximizes $|S \cap U|$

$$5. U = U - S$$

$$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C} \cup \{S\}$$

7. return C

A Greedy Approximation Algorithm

GREEDY-SET-COVER(X, \mathcal{F})

1_ U = X2. $\mathcal{C} = \emptyset$ $\min(|X|, |\mathcal{F}|)$ 3. while $U \neq \emptyset$ 4. select an $S \in \mathcal{F}$ that maximizes $|S \cap U|$ 5. U = U - S6. $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C} \cup \{S\}$ $O(|X||\mathcal{F}|)$ 7. return C

 $O(|X||\mathcal{F}|\min(|X|, |\mathcal{F}|))$: time complexity

Proof of $\sum_{x \in S} c_x \le H(|S|)$

- Consider any set $S \in \mathcal{F}$,
- Let $u_i = |S (S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_i)|$ with $i = 1, \dots, |C|$.
 - Note that u_i is the number of elements in S that remain uncovered after the algorithm has selected the sets S₁, S₂,..., S_i.
 - We define u₀ = |S| to be the number of elements of S, which are all initially uncovered.
- Let k be the least index such that $u_k = 0$
 - Each element of S is covered by at least one of the sets $S_1, S_2, \dots S_k$.
 - Some elements in S is uncovered by $S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \cdots \cup S_{k-1}$.
An Example of u_i

- $u_i = |S (S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \cdots \cup S_i)|$ where S can be the largest when S=X
- The greedy solution: S₁, S₄, S₅, S₃
 - |S₁|=6
 - |S₄-S₁|=3
 - $|S_5 (S_1 \cup S_4)| = 2$
 - $|S_3 (S_1 \cup S_4 \cup S_5)| = 1$
- Let S=S₂
 - u₀=|S₂|=4
 - u₁=|S₂- S₁|=2
 - $u_2 = |S_2 (S_1 \cup S_4)| = 1$
 - $u_3 = |S_2 (S_1 \cup S_4 \cup S_5)| = 0$
 - $\Sigma c_x = 2*1/6 + 1*1/3 + 1*1/2 = 4/3$



Proof of $\sum c_x \leq H(|S|)$ $x \in S$

• Consider any set $S \in \mathcal{F}$.

• Let
$$u_i = |S - (S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_i)|$$
 for $i = 1, \dots, |C|$.

- Let k be the least index such that $u_k = 0$
- Then, $u_{i-1} \ge u_i$, and $u_{i-1} u_i$ elements of *S* are covered for the first time by S_i for i = 1, ..., k.

• Thus,
$$\sum_{x \in S} c_x = \sum_{i=1}^k (u_{i-1} - u_i) \cdot \frac{1}{|S_i - (S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_{i-1})|}$$

Since the greedy choice of S_i guarantees that S cannot cover more new elements than S_i does, observe that

$$|S_i - (S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_{i-1})| \ge |S - (S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots \cup S_{i-1})|$$

 $= u_{i-1}$

• We obtain
$$\sum_{x \in S} c_x \le \sum_{i=1}^k (u_{i-1} - u_i) \cdot \frac{1}{u_{i-1}}$$

Proof of
$$\sum_{x \in S} c_x \leq H(|S|)$$

• $\sum_{x \in S} c_x \leq \sum_{i=1}^k (u_{i-1} - u_i) \cdot \frac{1}{u_{i-1}} = \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=u_i+1}^{u_{i-1}} \frac{1}{u_{i-1}}$
 $\leq \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=u_i+1}^{u_{i-1}} \frac{1}{j}$ (because $j \leq u_{i-1}$)
 $= \sum_{i=1}^k (\sum_{j=1}^{u_{i-1}} \frac{1}{j} - \sum_{j=1}^{u_i} \frac{1}{j}) = \sum_{i=1}^k (H(u_{i-1}) - H(u_i))$
 $= H(u_0) - H(u_k)$ (because the sum telescopes)
 $= H(u_0) - H(0)$
 $= H(u_0)$ (because $H(0) = 0$)
 $= H(|S|)$

A Greedy Approximation Algorithm

- Corollary 35.5
 - Greedy-Set-Cover is a polynomial-time (ln|X|+1)-approximation algorithm.
- Proof
 - Use inequality $\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k} \leq \ln(n) + 1$ (A.14) and Theorem 35.4.





- Recall that an instance of the subset-sum problem is a pair (S, t), where
 - S is a positive integer set {x₁, x₂, ... x_n}
 - t is a positive integer
- This decision problem asks whether there exists a subset of S that adds up exactly to the target value t.
 - NP-Complete (see Section 34.5.5)
- e.g.)
 - S = {1, 2, 7, 14, 49, 54}, t = 58
 - The subset $S' = \{2, 7, 49\}$ is a solution.



- The optimization problem associated with this decision problem arises in practical applications.
- We wish to find a subset of {x₁, x₂, ... x_n} whose sum is as large as possible but not larger than t.
- For example, we may have a truck that can carry no more than t pounds, and n different boxes to ship, the i-th of which weighs x_i pounds.
- We wish to fill the truck with as heavy a load as possible without exceeding the weight limit.

- We first present an exponential-time algorithm that computes the optimal value for this optimization problem.
- We next show how to modify the algorithm so that it becomes a fully polynomial-time approximation scheme.
- Recall that a fully polynomial-time approximation scheme has a running time that is polynomial in 1/ε as well as in the size of the input.

- Preliminary
 - Given a integer set(list) S and a integer x
 - $S + x = {s+x : s \in S}$
 - e.g.) S={ 0, 1, 5, 9 }, S+2={ 2, 3, 7, 11 }
 - Let P_i denote the set of all possible summation values that can be obtained by selecting a subset of { x₁, x₂, …, x_i }
 - e.g.) S={1,4,5}, P₁={0,1}, P₂={0,1,4,5}, P₃={0,1,4,5,6,9,10}

•
$$P_i = P_{i-1} \cup (P_{i-1} + x_i)$$

 Let L_i be a sorted list containing every element of P_i whose value is not more than t

Preliminary

- We also use an auxiliary procedure MERGE-LISTS(L, L'), which returns the sorted list that is the merge of its two sorted input lists L and L' with duplicate values removed.
- Like the MERGE procedure we used in merge sort, MERGE-LISTS runs in time O(|L|+|L'|).
- We omit the pseudocode for MERGE-LISTS.

EXACT-SUBSET-SUM(S, t)

- 1. n = |S|
- 2. L₀ = <0>
- 3. **for** i = 1 to n
- 4. $L_i = MERGE-LISTS(L_{i-1}, L_{i-1}+x_i)$
- 5. remove form L_i every element that is greater than t
- 6. **return** the largest element is L_n
- MERGE-LISTS(L, L')
 - Returns the sorted list like merge sort
 - O(|L|+|L'|)
 - Duplicate values are removed

- EXACT-SUBSET-SUM is an exponential-time algorithm in general
 - Because $|L_i|$ can be as much as 2^i
- What is a special case where it becomes a polynomial-time algorithm?
 - When t is polynomial in |S| or
 - When all the numbers in S are bounded by a polynomial in |S|

Fully Polynomial-Time Approximation Scheme

- It is a $(1+\varepsilon)$ -approximation algorithm.
- Running time is polynomial in 1/ε as well as in the size of the input.
 - e.g.) O((1/ε)²n³)

- Idea
 - If two values in L are close, since we want just an approximate solution, then there is no reason to maintain both explicitly.
- To trim a list L by δ (0< δ <1) means
 - To remove as many elements as possible, in a such way that, for every removed element y, there is an element z still in trimming result L' satisfying ^y/_{1+δ} ≤ z ≤ y.

 For every removed element y, there is an element z still in trimming result L' satisfying

$$\frac{y}{1+\delta} \le z \le y$$

• e.g.)

- δ = 0.1, L=<10,11,12,15,20,21,22,23,24,29>
- L'=<10,12,15,20,23,29>
 - 11 is represented by 10 (11/1.1 \le 10 \le 11)
 - 21 and 22 are represented by 20
 - 24 is represented by 23

- The following procedure trims list L=<y₁,y₂,...,y_m> in time Θ(m), given L and δ, and assuming that L is sorted into monotonically increasing order.
- The output of the procedure is a trimmed, sorted list.

 $\mathsf{TRIM}(\mathsf{L},\delta)$

- 1. let m be the length of L
- 2. $L' = \langle y_1 \rangle$
- 3. last = y_1
- 4. **for** i =2 to m
- 5. **if** $y_i > last(1+\delta)$
- 6. append y_i onto the end of L'
- 7. $|ast = y_i|$ 8. **return** L' $\frac{y}{1+\delta} \le z \le y$



- The procedure scans the elements of L in monotonically increasing order.
- A number is appended onto the returned list L' only if it is the first element of L or if it cannot be represented by the most recent number placed into L'.
 TRIM(L, δ)
- 1. let m be the length of L
- 2. L' = <y₁>
- 3. last = y_1
- 4. **for** i =2 to m
- 5. **if** $y_i > last(1+\delta)$
- 6. append y_i onto the end of L'
- 7. $last = y_i$
- 8. return L' $\frac{y}{1+\delta} \le z \le y$



$\mathsf{TRIM}(\mathsf{L},\delta)$

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 - last = y_i
- 8. return L'

7.

$$\delta = 0.1$$
 L 10 11 12 15 20 21 22 23 24 29

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$$\delta = 0.1$$
 L 10 11 12 15 20 21 22 23 24 29

m = 10

7.

$\mathsf{TRIM}(\mathsf{L},\delta)$

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$\mathsf{TRIM}(\mathsf{L},\delta)$

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$\mathsf{TRIM}(\mathsf{L},\delta)$

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$\mathsf{TRIM}(\mathsf{L},\delta)$

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- 2. L' = <y₁>
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- 5. **if** $y_i > last(1+\delta)$
- 6. append y_i onto the end of L'
 - last = y_i
- 8. return L'

7.



APPROX-SUBSET-SUM

- Given input S, a target integer t, and an approximation parameter ε (0< ε <1),
- It returns a value z whose value is within a 1+ɛ factor of the optimal solution.

APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

- 1. n = |S|
- 2. L₀=<0>
- 3. for i = 1 to n
- 4. $L_i = MERGE-LISTS(L_{i-1}, L_{i-1} + x_i)$
- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$
- 6. remove from L_i every element that is greater than t
- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
- 8. return z*

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- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$

t = 308, ε =0.4 , δ = ε /2n=0.05

S	104	102	201	101
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

- 6. remove from L_i every element that is greater than t
- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
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t = 308, ε =0.4 , δ = ε /2n=0.05

S	104	102	201	101
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- 8. return z*

n = 4

APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

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- 3. for i = 1 to n
- 4. $L_i = MERGE-LISTS(L_{i-1}, L_{i-1} + x_i)$
- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$

$t = 308, \epsilon = 0.4$,	$\delta = \epsilon/2n = 0.05$
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S	104	102	201	101
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

- 6. remove from L_i every element that is greater than t
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n = 4

L₀ 0
APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

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n = 4

L₁ 0 104



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- 8. return z*



t = 308, ε=0.4, $\delta = ε/2n=0.05$

L ₃ 0	102	201	303	407
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APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

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- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
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t = 308, ε=0.4, $\delta = ε/2n=0.05$

L ₃	0	102	201	303
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t = 308, ε=0.4, $\delta = ε/2n=0.05$

102

201

101

n = 4

S

104

APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

- 1. n = |S|
- 2. L₀=<0>
- 3. for i = 1 to n
- 4. $L_i = MERGE-LISTS(L_{i-1}, L_{i-1} + x_i)$
- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$
- 6. remove from L_i every element that is greater than t
- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
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- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$
- 6. remove from L_i every element that is greater than t
- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
- 8. return z*



L ₄ 0 1	101 201	302	404
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APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

- 1. n = |S|
- 2. L₀=<0>
- 3. for i = 1 to n
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- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$

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- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
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APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

- 1. n = |S|
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- 4. $L_i = MERGE-LISTS(L_{i-1}, L_{i-1} + x_i)$
- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$

t = 308, ε =0.4 , δ = ε /2n=0.05

S 1	04 10	2 20	1 101
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- 6. remove from L_i every element that is greater than t
- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
- 8. return z*

n = 4



APPROX-SUBSET-SUM(S, t, ϵ)

- 1. n = |S|
- 2. L₀=<0>
- 3. for i = 1 to n
- 4. $L_i = MERGE-LISTS(L_{i-1}, L_{i-1} + x_i)$
- 5. $L_i = TRIM(L_i, \epsilon/2n)$

t = 308, ε =0.4 , δ = ε /2n=0.05

S 104 102 201 10 ⁻	
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- 6. remove from L_i every element that is greater than t
- 7. let z^* be the largest value in L_n
- 8. return z*

n = 4



- The algorithm returns $z^* = 302$ as its answer, which is well within $\varepsilon = 40\%$ of the optimal answer 307 = 104 + 102 + 101.
- In fact, it is within 2%.

t = 308, ε =0.4 , δ = ε /2n=0.05

S 10	04 102	201	101
------	--------	-----	-----

Z*

L ₄	0	101	201	302

APPROX-SUBSET-SUM

- Theorem 35.8
 - APPROX-SUBSET-SUM is a fully polynomial-time approximation scheme for the subset-sum problem.
- Proof
 - The operations of trimming L_i in line 5 and removing from L_i every element that is greater than t maintain the property that every element of L_i is also a member of P_i.
 - Therefore, the value z*returned in line 8 is indeed the sum of some subset of S.

APPROX-SUBSET-SUM

- Proof continued
 - Let $y^* \in P_n$ denote an optimal solution to the subset-sum problem.
 - Then, from line 6, we know that $z^* \le y^*$.
 - We need to show that

$$\max\left(\frac{y^*}{z^*},\frac{z^*}{y^*}\right) = \frac{y^*}{z^*} \le 1 + \epsilon.$$

• We must also show that the running time of this algorithm is polynomial in both $1/\epsilon$ and the size of the input (# of bits log t needed to represent t + # of bits needed to represent the set S).

Proof of $\frac{y^*}{z^*} \le 1 + \epsilon$

- Since $z^* \le y^*$, we will show that $\frac{y^*}{z^*} \le 1 + \epsilon$
 - z*: approximate solution
 - y*: optimal solution
- $\forall y \in P_i$, where $y \le t$, $\exists z \in L_i$ s.t. $\frac{y}{\left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^i} \le z \le y$ (Exercise 35.5-2)
 - *P_i* : the *i*-th set of all possible summation values
 - *L_i* : the *i*-th trimmed set
- Thus, for $y^* \in P_n$, we have $z \in L_n$ s.t.

$$\frac{y^*}{\left(1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^n} \le z \le y^*.$$

Since there exists an element $z \in L_n$ fulfilling the above inequality, the inequality must hold for z^* , which is the largest value in L_n . That is,

$$\frac{y^*}{z^*} \le \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^n$$

Proof of $\frac{y^*}{z^*} \le 1 + \epsilon$

• Since
$$\frac{y^*}{z^*} \le \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^n$$
, to show that $\frac{y^*}{z^*} \le 1 + \epsilon$, we prove that $\left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^n \le 1 + \epsilon$.

- The function $(1 + \epsilon/2n)^n$ increases with n as it approaches its limit of $e^{\epsilon/2}$ since
 - $\left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^n$ monotonically increases $\left(\frac{d}{dn}\left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^n > 0\right)$

•
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n} \right)^n = e^{\epsilon/2}$$
 (By equation (3.14)).

Now, we have
$$\left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^n \le e^{\epsilon/2}$$

 $\le 1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \left(\frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)^2$ (by in

(by inequality 3.13)

$$\leq 1 + \epsilon$$

• Thus, $y^*/z^* \le 1 + \epsilon$.

$$1 + x \le e^x \le 1 + x + x^2$$

Proof of Time Complexity

- We will show that a bound of $|L_i|$ is polynomial in the size of input and $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$.
- After trimming, successive element z and z' must have the relationship $\frac{z'}{z} > 1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2n}$.
- Therefore, L_i contains 0, possibly the value 1, and up to additional $\lfloor \log_{1+\epsilon/2n} t \rfloor$ values because
 - $|L_i| < |\{0,1,1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n}, \left(1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^2, \dots, \left(1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^k\}| \text{ where } k \text{ is the smallest integer s.t. } t < \left(1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n}\right)^{k+1}.$
 - Thus, $\log_{1+\epsilon/2n} t < k+1$.
 - That is, $\lfloor \log_{1+\epsilon/2n} t \rfloor \leq k$.

Proof of Time Complexity

From the previous observation, $|L_i|$ is at most

$$\left(\log_{1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n}}t\right) + 2 = \frac{\ln(t)}{\ln(1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n})} + 2$$

$$\leq \frac{\ln(t)}{\frac{\epsilon}{2n}} + 2 \qquad \text{(By inequality 3.17)}$$

$$\frac{x}{1+x} \leq \ln(1+x) \leq x$$

$$= \frac{2n(1+\frac{\epsilon}{2n})\ln(t)}{\epsilon} + 2$$

$$= \frac{(2n+\epsilon)\ln(t)}{\epsilon} + 2$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{\epsilon}(3n * \ln(t)) + 2.$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{t} \leq \ln t \text{ for } t > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow t \leftarrow 1 + x \text{ then}$$

$$\therefore \frac{x}{1+x} \leq \ln(1+x)$$

Proof of Time Complexity

- With $|L_i| = O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \cdot n \cdot \ln t)$, the bound is polynomial in the size of the input $\ln t$, $\frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ and n.
- Since the running time of APPROX-SUBSET-SUM is polynomial in |L_i|, we can conclude that APPROX-SUBSET-SUM is a fully polynomial-time approximation scheme.

