

Constructive heuristics

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Overview of talk

- Solution construction
 - ▶ Greedy algorithms
 - ▶ Adaptive greedy algorithms
 - ▶ Semi-greedy algorithms
 - ▶ Random multistart
 - ▶ Semi-greedy multistart
 - ▶ Semi-greedy construction
- Concluding remarks

Solution construction – Greedy algorithms

- Feasible solution S of a combinatorial optimization problem is subset of ground set $E = \{1, \dots, n\}$.
- Since certain subsets of ground set elements cause infeasibilities, then a feasible solution cannot contain any such subset.

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- If c_i is the contribution of ground set element $i \in E$ to the objective function, we assume that $f(S) = \sum_{i \in S} c_i$.
- We build a solution incrementally from scratch.
 - ▶ At each step, a single ground set element is added to the partial solution under construction.

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- We build a solution incrementally from scratch.
 - ▶ At each step, a single ground set element is added to the partial solution under construction.
 - ▶ A ground set element to be added at each step cannot be such that its combination with one or more previously added elements leads to an infeasibility.
 - ▶ We call such an element *feasible* and denote by \mathcal{F} the set of all feasible elements at the time a given step is performed.

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- We build a solution incrementally from scratch.
 - ▶ At each step, a single ground set element is added to the partial solution under construction.
 - ▶ We call such an element *feasible* and denote by \mathcal{F} the set of all feasible elements at the time a given step is performed.

Since the set of candidate elements \mathcal{F} may contain more than one element, an algorithm designed to build a feasible solution for some problem must have a mechanism to select the next feasible ground set element from \mathcal{F} to be added to the partially built solution under construction.

- ▶ From among all yet unselected feasible elements, a *greedy algorithm* chooses one of least cost.

Solution construction – Greedy algorithms

- The pseudo-code shows a **greedy algorithm for a minimization problem**.

```
begin GREEDY;  
1   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
2   $f(S) \leftarrow 0$ ;  
3   $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in E : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
4  while  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  do  
5     $i^* \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}\{c_i : i \in \mathcal{F}\}$ ;  
6     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{i^*\}$ ;  
7     $f(S) \leftarrow f(S) + c_{i^*}$ ;  
8     $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in \mathcal{F} \setminus \{i^*\} : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
9  end-while;  
10 return  $S, f(S)$ ;  
end GREEDY.
```

Solution construction – Greedy algorithms

- The pseudo-code shows a **greedy algorithm for a minimization problem**.
- Feasible solution S is constructed, **one** ground set element at a time.
- \mathcal{F} is set of **feasible** ground set elements.
- Greedy algorithm selects feasible ground set element of **smallest cost**.
- Note that **costs can be sorted** in a preprocessing step.

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- \mathcal{F} is set of **feasible** ground set elements.
- Greedy algorithm selects feasible ground set element of **smallest cost**.
- Note that **costs can be sorted** in a preprocessing step.
- **Example:** Greedy algorithm for minimum weight spanning tree (Kruskal, 1957).

```
begin GREEDY;  
1   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
2   $f(S) \leftarrow 0$ ;  
3   $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in E : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
4  while  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  do  
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9  end-while;  
10 return  $S, f(S)$ ;  
end GREEDY.
```

Solution construction – Adaptive greedy algorithms

- The greedy algorithm in the previous slide selects an element i^* of the set of feasible candidate elements \mathcal{F} as $i^* \leftarrow \text{argmin}\{c_i : i \in \mathcal{F}\}$, where c_i is the cost associated with the inclusion of element $i \in \mathcal{F}$ in the solution.
- In that algorithm, only this **constant cost** is used to guide the algorithm, and therefore the elements can be sorted in the increasing order of their costs in a preprocessing step.

Solution construction – Adaptive greedy algorithms

- The greedy algorithm in the previous slide selects an element i^* of the set of feasible candidate elements \mathcal{F} as $i^* \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}\{c_i : i \in \mathcal{F}\}$, where c_i is the cost associated with the inclusion of element $i \in \mathcal{F}$ in the solution.
- In that algorithm, only this **constant cost** is used to guide the algorithm, and therefore the elements can be sorted in the increasing order of their costs in a preprocessing step.
- Although that greedy algorithm is applicable in many situations, such as to the minimum spanning tree problem, there are other situations where a **different measure of the contribution of an element guides the algorithm and it is affected by the previous choices of elements** made by the algorithm.
- We call these **adaptive greedy algorithms**.

Solution construction – Adaptive greedy algorithms

- The pseudo-code shows a **generic adaptive greedy algorithm** for a minimization problem.

```
begin ADAPTIVE-GREEDY;  
1   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
2   $f(S) \leftarrow 0$ ;  
3   $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in E : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
4  Compute the greedy choice function  $g(i)$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{F}$ ;  
5  while  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  do  
6     $i^* \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}\{g(i) : i \in \mathcal{F}\}$ ;  
7     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{i^*\}$ ;  
8     $f(S) \leftarrow f(S) + c_{i^*}$ ;  
9     $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in \mathcal{F} \setminus \{i^*\} : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
10   Update the greedy choice function  $g(i)$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{F}$ ;  
11 end-while;  
12 return  $S, f(S)$ ;  
end ADAPTIVE-GREEDY.
```

Solution construction – Adaptive greedy algorithms

- The pseudo-code shows a **generic adaptive greedy algorithm** for a **minimization problem**.
- Feasible solution S is constructed, **one** ground set element at a time.
- \mathcal{F} is set of **feasible** ground set elements.
- **Greedy choice function** $g(i)$ is the “contribution” of ground set element $i \in \mathcal{F}$.
- Adaptive greedy algorithm selects feasible ground set element of **smallest greedy choice function**.

```
begin ADAPTIVE-GREEDY;  
1   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
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end ADAPTIVE-GREEDY.
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Solution construction – Adaptive greedy algorithms

- The pseudo-code shows a **generic adaptive greedy algorithm for a minimization problem**.
- Feasible solution S is constructed, **one** ground set element at a time.
- \mathcal{F} is set of **feasible** ground set elements.
- **Greedy choice function** $g(i)$ is the “contribution” of ground set element $i \in \mathcal{F}$.
- Adaptive greedy algorithm selects feasible ground set element of **smallest greedy choice function**.
- **Example:** Adaptive greedy algorithm for set covering (Johnson, 1974).

```
begin ADAPTIVE-GREEDY;  
1   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
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3   $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in E : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
4  Compute the greedy choice function  $g(i)$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{F}$ ;  
5  while  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  do  
6       $i^* \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}\{g(i) : i \in \mathcal{F}\}$ ;  
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10     Update the greedy choice function  $g(i)$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{F}$ ;  
11 end-while;  
12 return  $S, f(S)$ ;  
end ADAPTIVE-GREEDY.
```

TSP – Adaptive greedy algorithm

- The algorithm on the right is a **nearest neighbor adaptive greedy algorithm** for the TSP.

```
begin ADAPTIVE-GREEDY-TSP;  
1   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
2   $f(S) \leftarrow 0$ ;  
3  Let  $i$  be any node in  $V$  and set  $i_0 \leftarrow i$ ;  
4   $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow V \setminus \{i_0\}$ ;  
5  while  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  do  
6     $\mathcal{H} \leftarrow \{j \in \mathcal{F} : (i, j) \in U\}$ ;  
7     $g(j) \leftarrow d_{ij}$  for all  $j \in \mathcal{H}$ ;  
8     $j' \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}\{g(j) : j \in \mathcal{H}\}$ ;  
9     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{(i, j')\}$ ;  
10    $f(S) \leftarrow f(S) + d_{i,j'}$ ;  
11    $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \mathcal{F} \setminus \{j'\}$ ;  
12    $i \leftarrow j'$ ;  
13 end-while;  
14  $S \leftarrow S \cup \{(i, i_0)\}$ ;  
15  $f(S) \leftarrow f(S) + d_{i,i_0}$ ;  
16 return  $S, f(S)$ ;  
end ADAPTIVE-GREEDY-TSP.
```

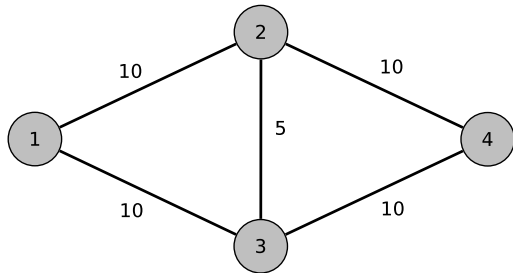
TSP – Adaptive greedy algorithm

- The algorithm on the right is a **nearest neighbor adaptive greedy algorithm** for the TSP.
- Given a graph $G = (V, U)$, where V is the set of nodes and U is the set of weighted edges, let d_{ij} be the length (or weight) of edge $(i, j) \in U$.
- An **adaptive greedy approach** for this problem is to grow the set of visited nodes of the tour, starting from any initial node i_0 .
- Denote by v the last visited node of the partial tour under construction. At each step we use the **greedy choice function** to select a **nearest unvisited node adjacent to v** . This node is added to the tour.
- This is repeated until the tour visits all nodes.

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Solution construction – Semi-greedy algorithms

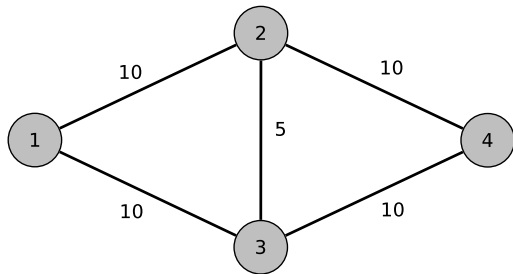
Suppose we wish to find a **shortest Hamiltonian cycle** in this graph applying the **nearest neighbor adaptive greedy algorithm**.



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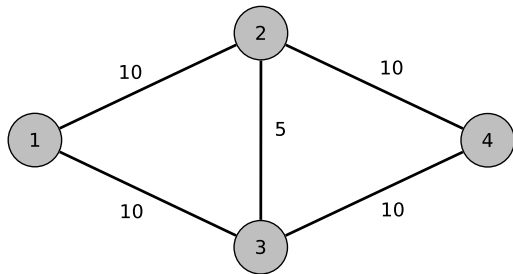
- The algorithm starts from any node and repeatedly moves from the current node **to its nearest unvisited node**.



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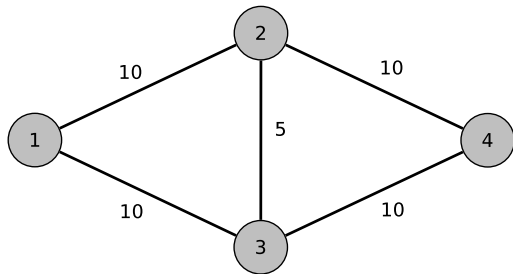
- The algorithm starts from any node and repeatedly moves from the current node **to its nearest unvisited node**.
- Suppose the algorithm were to start from **node 1**, in which case it should move next to either **node 2** or **3**.



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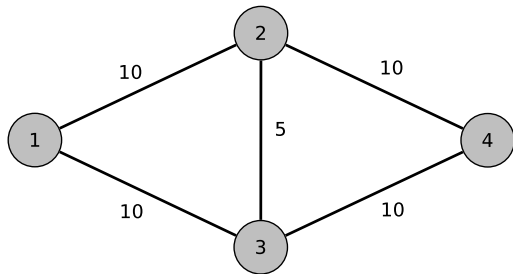
- The algorithm starts from any node and repeatedly moves from the current node **to its nearest unvisited node**.
- Suppose the algorithm were to start from **node 1**, in which case it should move next to either **node 2** or **3**.
- If it moves to **node 2**, then it must necessarily move next to **node 3** and then to **node 4**. Since there is no edge connecting **node 4** to **node 1**, the algorithm will **fail to find a tour**.



Solution construction – Semi-greedy algorithms

Suppose we wish to find a **shortest Hamiltonian cycle** in this graph applying the **nearest neighbor adaptive greedy algorithm**.

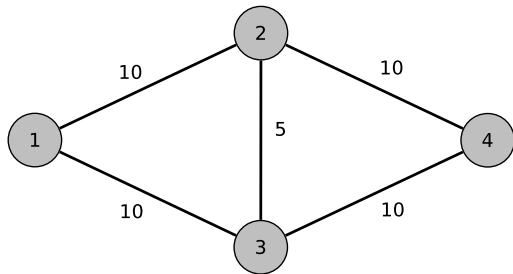
- By symmetry, the **same situation occurs** if it were to start from **node 4**.



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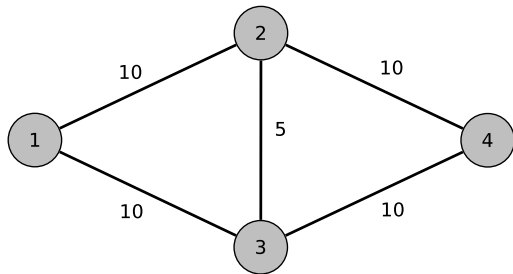
- By symmetry, the **same situation occurs** if it were to start from **node 4**.
- Now suppose the algorithm starts from **node 2**. **Node 3** is the nearest to **node 2** and from **node 3** it can move either to **node 1** or **node 4**, **failing in either case to find a tour**.
- Again, by symmetry, the **same situation occurs** if one were to start from **node 3**.



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Suppose we wish to find a **shortest Hamiltonian cycle** in this graph applying the **nearest neighbor adaptive greedy algorithm**.

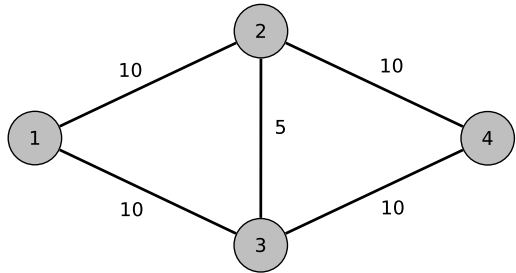
- By symmetry, the **same situation occurs** if it were to start from **node 4**.
- Now suppose the algorithm starts from **node 2**. **Node 3** is the nearest to **node 2** and from **node 3** it can move either to **node 1** or **node 4**, **failing in either case to find a tour**.
- Again, by symmetry, the **same situation occurs** if one were to start from **node 3**.
- Therefore, this adaptive greedy **algorithm fails to find a tour**, no matter which node it starts from.



Solution construction – Semi-greedy algorithms

Consider the following **randomized version** of the same adaptive greedy algorithm: Start from any node and repeatedly move, with equal probability, to one of its two nearest unvisited nodes.

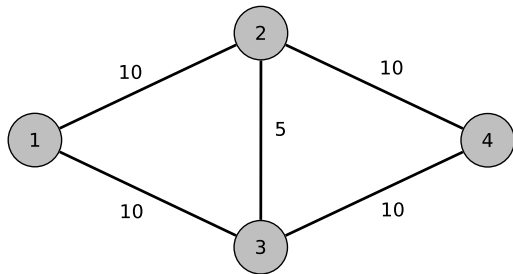
- Starting from node 1, it then moves to either node 2 or node 3 with equal probability.



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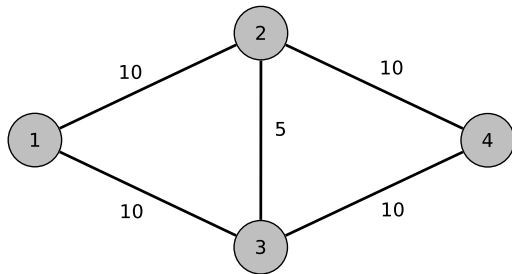
- Starting from node 1, it then moves to either node 2 or node 3 with equal probability.
- Suppose it were to move to node 2. Now, again with equal probability, it moves to either node 3 or node 4.
 - ▶ On the one hand, if it were to move to node 3, it would fail to find a tour.
 - ▶ On the other hand, by moving to node 4, it would then go to node 3, and then back to node 1, thus finding a tour of length 40.



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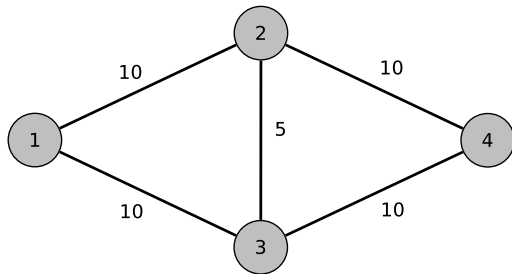
- Starting from node 1, it then moves to either node 2 or node 3 with equal probability.
- Suppose it were to move to node 2. Now, again with equal probability, it moves to either node 3 or node 4.
 - ▶ On the one hand, if it were to move to node 3, it would fail to find a tour.
 - ▶ On the other hand, by moving to node 4, it would then go to node 3, and then back to node 1, thus finding a tour of length 40.
- Therefore, there is a 50% probability that the algorithm will find a tour if it starts from node 1.



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Consider the following **randomized version** of the same adaptive greedy algorithm: Start from any node and repeatedly move, with equal probability, to one of its two nearest unvisited nodes.

- Starting from node 1, it then moves to either node 2 or node 3 with equal probability.
- Suppose it were to move to node 2. Now, again with equal probability, it moves to either node 3 or node 4.
 - ▶ On the one hand, if it were to move to node 3, it would fail to find a tour.
 - ▶ On the other hand, by moving to node 4, it would then go to node 3, and then back to node 1, thus finding a tour of length 40.
- Therefore, there is a 50% probability that the algorithm will find a tour if it starts from node 1.
- With repeated applications, the probability of finding the optimal cycle quickly approaches one.



After ten attempts, the probability of finding the optimal solution is over 99.9%.

Semi-greedy algorithms

Algorithms like the one in the previous slide, which add randomization to a greedy or adaptive greedy algorithm, are called **semi-greedy** or **randomized-greedy** algorithms.

- The pseudo-code on the right shows a **semi-greedy algorithm** for a minimization problem.

```
begin SEMI-GREEDY;  
1   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
2   $f(S) \leftarrow 0$ ;  
3   $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in E : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
4  while  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  do  
5    Let RCL be a subset of low-cost elements of  $\mathcal{F}$ ;  
6    Let  $i^*$  be a randomly chosen element from RCL;  
7     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{i^*\}$ ;  
8     $f(S) \leftarrow f(S) + c_{i^*}$ ;  
9     $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in \mathcal{F} \setminus \{i^*\} : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\}$ ;  
10 end-while;  
11 return  $S, f(S)$ ;  
end SEMI-GREEDY.
```

Semi-greedy algorithms

Algorithms like the one in the previous slide, which add randomization to a greedy or adaptive greedy algorithm, are called **semi-greedy** or **randomized-greedy** algorithms.

- The pseudo-code on the right shows a **semi-greedy algorithm** for a minimization problem.
- It is **similar to a greedy algorithm**, differing only in how the ground set element is chosen from the set \mathcal{F} of feasible candidate ground set elements (lines 5 and 6).
- In line 5, a subset of low-cost elements of set \mathcal{F} is placed in a **restricted candidate list (RCL)**.
- In line 6, a ground set element is **selected at random** from the RCL to be incorporated into the solution in line 7.

begin SEMI-GREEDY;

1 $S \leftarrow \emptyset;$

2 $f(S) \leftarrow 0;$

3 $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in E : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\};$

4 **while** $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$ **do**

5 Let RCL be a subset of low-cost elements of $\mathcal{F};$

6 Let i^* be a randomly chosen element from RCL;

7 $S \leftarrow S \cup \{i^*\};$

8 $f(S) \leftarrow f(S) + c_{i^*};$

9 $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \{i \in \mathcal{F} \setminus \{i^*\} : S \cup \{i\} \text{ is not infeasible}\};$

10 **end-while;**

11 **return** $S, f(S);$

end SEMI-GREEDY.

Semi-greedy algorithms: Building the RCL

Two simple schemes to define a restricted candidate list are:

- **Cardinality-based RCL:** The k least-costly feasible candidate ground set elements of set \mathcal{F} are placed in the RCL.

Semi-greedy algorithms: Building the RCL

Two simple schemes to define a restricted candidate list are:

- **Cardinality-based RCL:** The k least-costly feasible candidate ground set elements of set \mathcal{F} are placed in the RCL.
- **Quality-based RCL:** RCL is formed by all ground-set elements $i \in \mathcal{F}$ satisfying

$$c_{\min} \leq c_i \leq c_{\min} + \alpha(c_{\max} - c_{\min}),$$

where

$$c_{\min} = \min\{c_i : i \in \mathcal{F}\}, c_{\max} = \max\{c_i : i \in \mathcal{F}\}, \text{ and } 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1.$$

Note that setting

- ▶ $\alpha = 0$ corresponds to a pure greedy algorithm, since a lowest cost element will always be selected.
- ▶ $\alpha = 1$ leads to a random algorithm, since any new element may be added with equal probability.

Random multi-start

A **multistart procedure** is an algorithm which repeatedly applies a solution construction procedure and outputs the best solution found over all trials. Each trial, or iteration, of a multistart procedure is applied under different conditions.

- The pseudo-code on the right is of a **random multistart** procedure for a minimization problem.

```
begin RANDOM-MULTISTART;  
1   $f^* \leftarrow \infty$ ;  
2  while stopping criterion not satisfied do  
3     $S \leftarrow \text{RandomSolution}$ ;  
4    if  $f(S) < f^*$  then  
5       $S^* \leftarrow S$ ;  
6       $f^* \leftarrow f(S)$ ;  
7    end-if;  
8  end-while;  
9  return  $S^*$ ;  
end RANDOM-MULTISTART.
```


Random multi-start

A **multistart procedure** is an algorithm which repeatedly applies a solution construction procedure and outputs the best solution found over all trials. Each trial, or iteration, of a multistart procedure is applied under different conditions.

- The pseudo-code on the right is of a **random multistart** procedure for a minimization problem.
- Like the **GREEDY algorithm**, a new random solution is generated in line 3 by adding to the partial solution (initially empty) a new feasible ground set element, one element at a time.
- Unlike **GREEDY**, each ground set element is chosen at random from the set of candidate ground set elements.

```
begin RANDOM-MULTISTART;  
1   $f^* \leftarrow \infty$ ;  
2  while stopping criterion not satisfied do  
3     $S \leftarrow \text{RandomSolution}$ ;  
4    if  $f(S) < f^*$  then  
5       $S^* \leftarrow S$ ;  
6       $f^* \leftarrow f(S)$ ;  
7    end-if;  
8  end-while;  
9  return  $S^*$ ;  
end RANDOM-MULTISTART.
```

Semi-greedy multi-start

The semi-greedy algorithm can be embedded in a multistart framework.

- The pseudo-code on the right is of a **semi-greedy multistart** procedure for a minimization problem.

```
begin SEMI-GREEDY-MULTISTART;  
1   $f^* \leftarrow \infty$ ;  
2  while stopping criterion not satisfied do  
3     $S \leftarrow$  SEMI-GREEDY;  
4    if  $f(S) < f^*$  then  
5       $S^* \leftarrow S$ ;  
6       $f^* \leftarrow f(S)$ ;  
7    end-if;  
8  end-while;  
9  return  $S^*$ ;  
end SEMI-GREEDY-MULTISTART.
```

Semi-greedy multi-start

The semi-greedy algorithm can be embedded in a multistart framework.

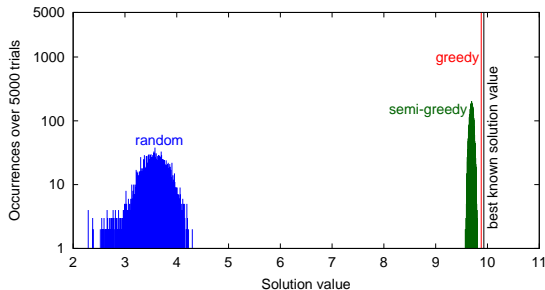
- The pseudo-code on the right is of a **semi-greedy multistart** procedure for a minimization problem.
- This algorithm is almost identical to the random multistart method, except that solutions are **generated with a semi-greedy procedure** instead of at random.
- Note that **each invocation** of the semi-greedy procedure in line 3 is **independent of the others**, therefore producing independent solutions.

```
begin SEMI-GREEDY-MULTISTART;  
1   $f^* \leftarrow \infty$ ;  
2  while stopping criterion not satisfied do  
3     $S \leftarrow$  SEMI-GREEDY;  
4    if  $f(S) < f^*$  then  
5       $S^* \leftarrow S$ ;  
6       $f^* \leftarrow f(S)$ ;  
7    end-if;  
8  end-while;  
9  return  $S^*$ ;  
end SEMI-GREEDY-MULTISTART.
```

Semi-greedy multistart

Recall that parameter α in a semi-greedy construction procedure controls the mix of greediness and randomness in the constructed solution.

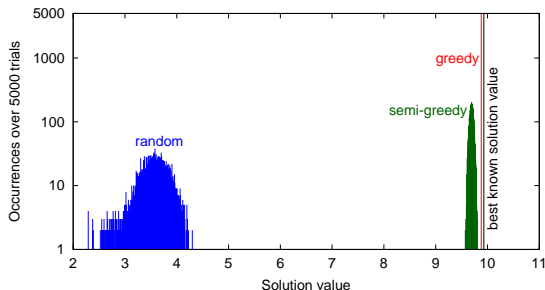
- In the case of a maximization problem:
 - ▶ $\alpha = 1$ leads to a greedy construction.
 - ▶ $\alpha = 0$ leads to a random construction.



Semi-greedy multistart

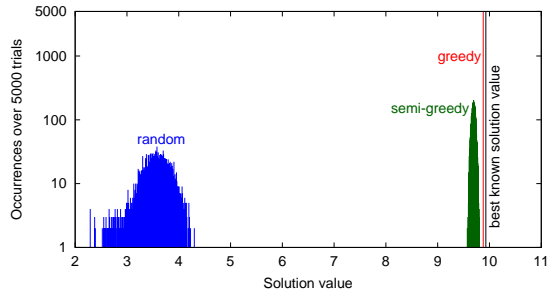
Recall that parameter α in a semi-greedy construction procedure controls the mix of greediness and randomness in the constructed solution.

- In the case of a maximization problem:
 - ▶ $\alpha = 1$ leads to a greedy construction.
 - ▶ $\alpha = 0$ leads to a random construction.
- The figure shows the distribution of solution values on an instance of the *maximum covering problem* produced by
 - ▶ a random multistart procedure,
 - ▶ a semi-greedy multistart algorithm with the RCL parameter $\alpha = 0.85$,
 - ▶ a greedy algorithm,
 - ▶ along with the best known solution value.



Semi-greedy multistart

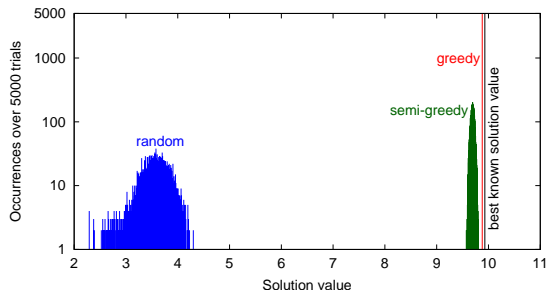
The figure compares the two distributions with the **greedy solution** value and the **best-known solution** value for this maximization problem. It illustrates four important points:



Semi-greedy multistart

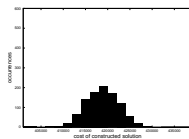
The figure compares the two distributions with the **greedy solution** value and the **best-known solution** value for this maximization problem. It illustrates four important points:

- 1 Semi-greedy solutions are on average much better than random solutions.
- 2 There is more variance in the solution values produced by a random multistart method than by a semi-greedy multistart algorithm.
- 3 The greedy solution is on average better than both the random and the semi-greedy solutions but, even if ties are broken at random, it has less variance than the random or semi-greedy solutions.
- 4 Random, semi-greedy, and greedy solutions are usually sub-optimal.

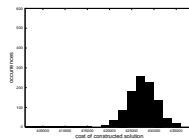


Semi-greedy algorithm

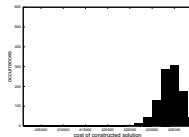
Distribution of semi-greedy solution values as a function of the quality-based RCL parameter α (1000 repetitions were recorded for each value of α) on an instance of the maximum weighted satisfiability problem.



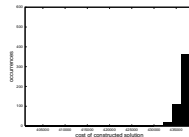
$\alpha = 0$ (random)



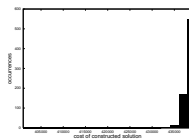
$\alpha = 0.2$



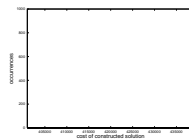
$\alpha = 0.4$



$\alpha = 0.6$



$\alpha = 0.8$

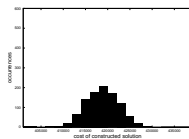


$\alpha = 1$ (greedy)

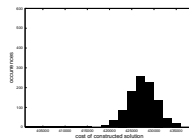
Semi-greedy algorithm

Distribution of semi-greedy solution values as a function of the quality-based RCL parameter α (1000 repetitions were recorded for each value of α) on an instance of the maximum weighted satisfiability problem.

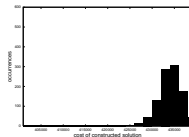
- As α increases from 0 (random construction) to 1 (greedy construction):



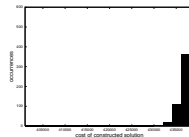
$\alpha = 0$ (random)



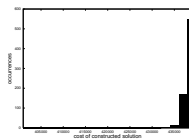
$\alpha = 0.2$



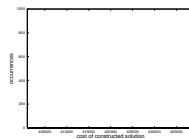
$\alpha = 0.4$



$\alpha = 0.6$



$\alpha = 0.8$

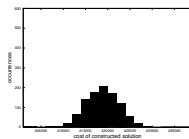


$\alpha = 1$ (greedy)

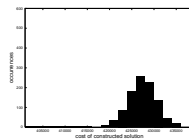
Semi-greedy algorithm

Distribution of semi-greedy solution values as a function of the quality-based RCL parameter α (1000 repetitions were recorded for each value of α) on an instance of the maximum weighted satisfiability problem.

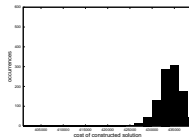
- As α increases from 0 (random construction) to 1 (greedy construction):
 - Average solution value increases.



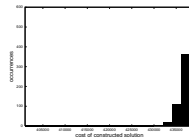
$\alpha = 0$ (random)



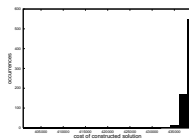
$\alpha = 0.2$



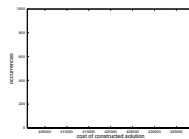
$\alpha = 0.4$



$\alpha = 0.6$



$\alpha = 0.8$



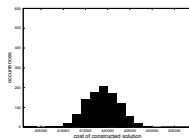
$\alpha = 1$ (greedy)

Semi-greedy algorithm

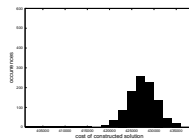
Distribution of semi-greedy solution values as a function of the quality-based RCL parameter α (1000 repetitions were recorded for each value of α) on an instance of the maximum weighted satisfiability problem.

- As α increases from 0 (random construction) to 1 (greedy construction):

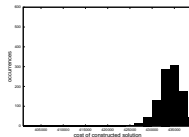
- ▶ Average solution value increases.
- ▶ Spread of solution values decreases.



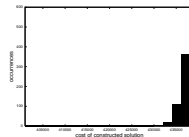
$\alpha = 0$ (random)



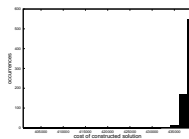
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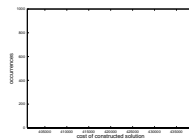
$\alpha = 0.4$



$\alpha = 0.6$



$\alpha = 0.8$



$\alpha = 1$ (greedy)

Concluding remarks

The material in this talk is taken from

- Chapter 3 – Solution construction and greedy algorithms

of our book, *Optimization by GRASP: Greedy Randomized Adaptive Search Procedures* (Resende & Ribeiro, Springer, 2016).

