

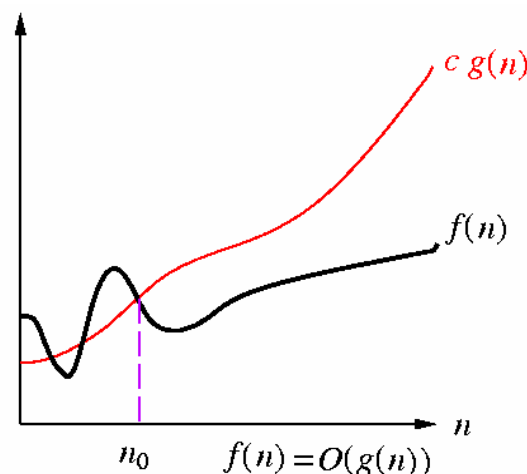
Unit 3: Computational Complexity

- Course contents:
 - Computational complexity
 - NP-completeness
 - General Purpose Combinational Optimizations
- Readings
 - Chapters 3, 4, and 5

Time	Big-Oh	$n = 10$	$n = 100$	$n = 10^3$	$n = 10^6$
500	$O(1)$	5×10^{-7} sec	5×10^{-7} sec	5×10^{-7} sec	5×10^{-7} sec
$3n$	$O(n)$	3×10^{-8} sec	3×10^{-7} sec	3×10^{-6} sec	0.003 sec
$n \log n$	$O(n \log n)$	3×10^{-8} sec	2×10^{-7} sec	3×10^{-6} sec	0.006 sec
n^2	$O(n^2)$	1×10^{-7} sec	1×10^{-5} sec	0.001 sec	16.7 min
n^3	$O(n^3)$	1×10^{-6} sec	0.001 sec	1 sec	3×10^5 cent.
2^n	$O(2^n)$	1×10^{-6} sec	3×10^{17} cent.	∞	∞
$n!$	$O(n!)$	0.003 sec	∞	∞	∞

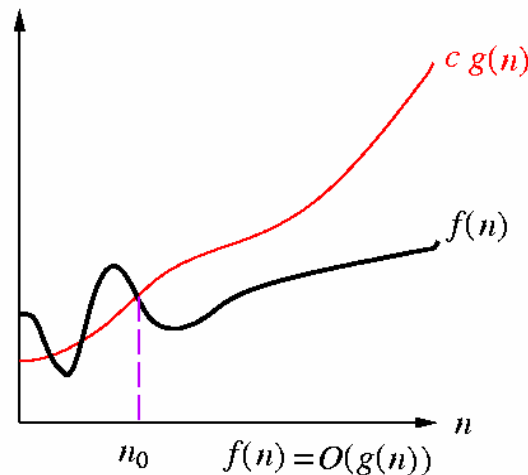
O: Upper Bounding Function

- **Def:** $f(n) = O(g(n))$ if $\exists c > 0$ and $n_0 > 0$ such that $0 \leq \textcolor{red}{f(n)} \leq \textcolor{red}{c g(n)}$ for all $n \geq n_0$.
 - Examples: $2n^2 + 3n = O(n^2)$, $2n^2 = O(n^3)$, $3n \lg n = O(n^2)$
- Intuition: $f(n) \leq g(n)$ when we ignore constant multiples and small values of n .



Big-O Notation

- How to show O (Big-Oh) relationships?
 - $f(n) = O(g(n))$ iff $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = c$ for some $c \geq 0$.
- “An algorithm has worst-case running time $O(f(n))$ ”: there is a constant c s.t. for every n big enough, **every execution** on an input of size n takes **at most** $cf(n)$ time.



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Big-Theta Notation

- **Def:** $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$ if $\exists c_1 > 0, c_2 > 0$ and $n_0 > 0$ such that $0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$.
 - Examples: $2n^2 + 3n = \Theta(n^2)$, $2n^2 = O(n^2)$, $3n \lg n = O(n \lg n)$
 - $g(n)$ is asymptotically tight bound of $f(n)$

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Computational Complexity

- **Computational complexity**: an abstract measure of the time and space necessary to execute an algorithm as functions of its “**input size**”.
- Input size examples:
 - sort n words of bounded length $\Rightarrow n$
 - **the input is the integer $n \Rightarrow \lg n$**
 - the input is the graph $G(V, E) \Rightarrow |V|$ and $|E|$
- **Time complexity** is expressed in *elementary computational steps* (e.g., an addition, multiplication, pointer indirection).
- **Space Complexity** is expressed in *memory locations* (e.g. bits, bytes, words).

Asymptotic Functions

- Polynomial-time complexity: $O(n^k)$, where n is the **input size** and k is a constant ($k = O(1)$).
- Example polynomial functions:
 - 999: constant
 - $\lg n$: logarithmic
 - \sqrt{n} : sublinear
 - n : linear
 - $n \lg n$: loglinear
 - n^2 : quadratic
 - n^3 : cubic
- Example non-polynomial functions
 - $2^n, 3^n$: exponential
 - $n!$: factorial

Running-time Comparison

- Assume 1000 MIPS (Yr: 200x), 1 instruction /operation

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Ch4. Tractable and Intractable Problems

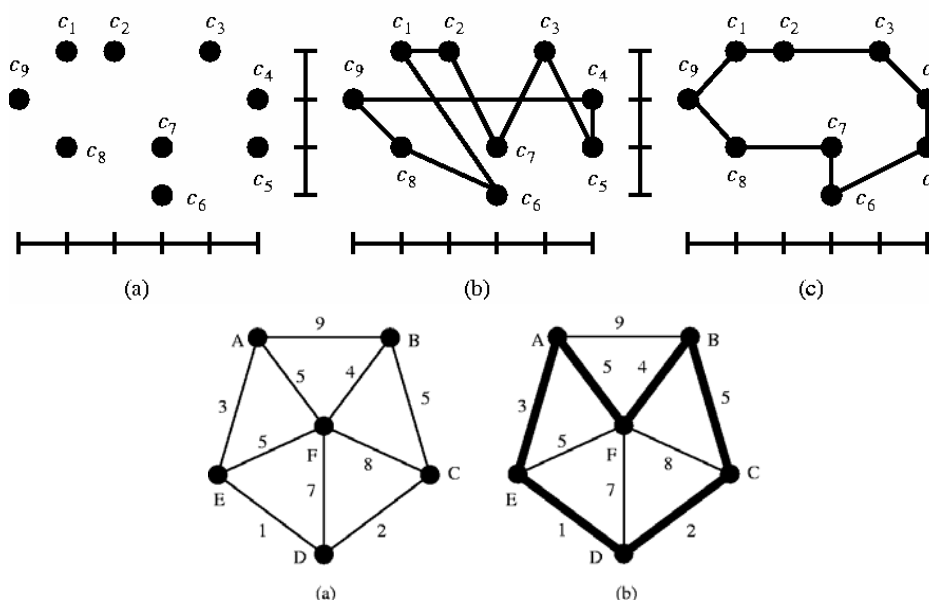
- Tractable problems
 - Can be solved within polynomial time
- Intractable problems
 - Cannot be solved within polynomial time
- NP-complete problems
 - Likely to be intractable
 - Still under research ...

Optimization Problems

- **Problem:** a general class, e.g., “the shortest-path problem for directed acyclic graphs.”
- **Instance:** a specific case of a problem, e.g., “the shortest-path problem in a specific graph, between two given vertices.”
- **Optimization problems:** those finding a legal configuration such that its cost is minimum (or maximum).
 - MST: Given a graph $G=(V, E)$, find the cost of a minimum spanning tree of G .
- An optimization problem Π has instance $I = (F, c)$ where
 - F is the set of *feasible solutions*, and
 - c is a *cost function*, assigning a cost value to each feasible solution $c : F \rightarrow R$
 - The solution of the optimization problem is the feasible solution with optimal (minimal/maximal) cost
- cf., **Optimal** solutions/costs, optimal (**exact**) algorithms (Attn: optimal \neq exact in the theoretic computer science community).

The Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP)

- TSP: Given a set of cities and that distance between each pair of cities, find the distance of a “**minimum tour**” starts and ends at a given city and visits every city exactly once.

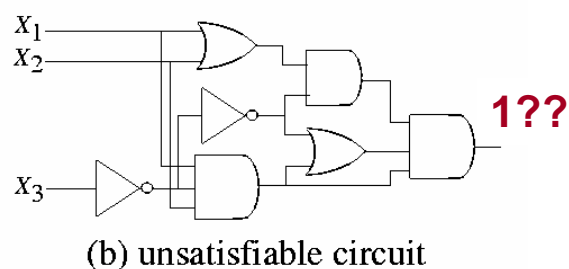
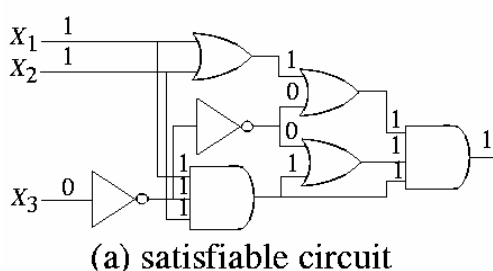


Decision Problem

- **Decision problems:** problem that can only be answered with “yes” or “no”
 - MST: Given a graph $G=(V, E)$ and a bound K , is there a spanning tree with a cost at most K ?
 - TSP: Given a set of cities, distance between each pair of cities, and a bound B , is there a route that starts and ends at a given city, visits every city exactly once, and has total distance at most B ?
- A decision problem D_{Π} has instances: $I = (F, c, k)$
 - The set of instances for which the answer is “yes” is given by Y_{Π} .
 - A subtask of a decision problem is *solution checking*: given $f \in F$, checking whether the cost is less than k .
- Could apply binary search on decision problems to obtain solutions to optimization problems.
- NP-completeness is associated with decision problems.

A Decision Problem

- **The Circuit-Satisfiability Problem (Circuit-SAT):**
 - **Instance:** A combinational circuit C composed of AND, OR, and NOT gates.
 - **Question:** Is there an assignment of Boolean values to the inputs that makes the output of C to be 1?
- A circuit is satisfiable if there exists a set of Boolean input values that makes the output of the circuit to be 1.
 - Circuit (a) is satisfiable since $\langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 0 \rangle$ makes the output to be 1.



Complexity Class P

- **Complexity class P** contains those problems that can be **solved** in polynomial time in the **size of input**.
 - **Input size**: size of encoded “binary” strings.
 - Edmonds: Problems in P are considered **tractable**.
- The computer concerned is a **deterministic Turing machine**
 - **Deterministic** means that each step in a computation is predictable.
 - A **Turing machine** is a mathematical model of a universal computer (any computation that needs polynomial time on a Turing machine can also be performed in polynomial time on any other machine).
- MST is in P.

Complexity Class NP

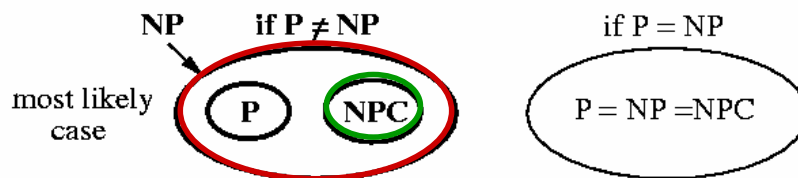
- **Class NP (Nondeterministic Polynomial)**: class of problems that can be **verified** in polynomial time in the size of input.
 - NP: class of problems that can be solved in polynomial time on a nondeterministic machine.
- **Solution checking** can be done in polynomial time on a deterministic machine \Rightarrow the problem can be solved in polynomial time on a **nondeterministic Turing machine**.
 - **Nondeterministic**: the machine makes a guess, e.g., the right one (or the machine evaluates all possibilities in parallel).
- Is TSP \in NP?
 - Need to **verify** a solution in polynomial time.
 - Guess a tour.
 - Check if the tour visits every city exactly once.
 - Check if the tour returns to the start.
 - Check if total distance $\leq B$.
 - All can be done in $O(n)$ time, so TSP \in NP.

Complexity Class NP-Complete

- Still unsettled issue:

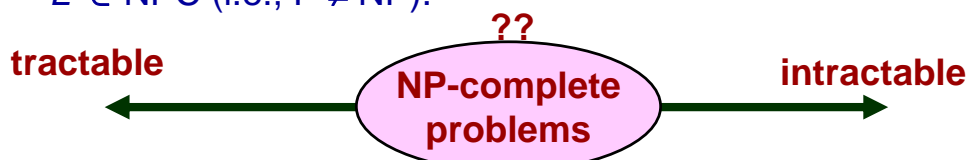
$$P \subset NP \text{ or } P = NP?$$

- There is a strong belief that $P \neq NP$, due to the existence of NP-complete problems.
- **The class NP-complete (NPC):**
 - Developed by S. Cook and R. Karp in early 1970.
 - All problems in NPC have the same degree of difficulty:
Any NPC problem can be solved in polynomial time \Rightarrow **all** problems in NP can be solved in polynomial time.



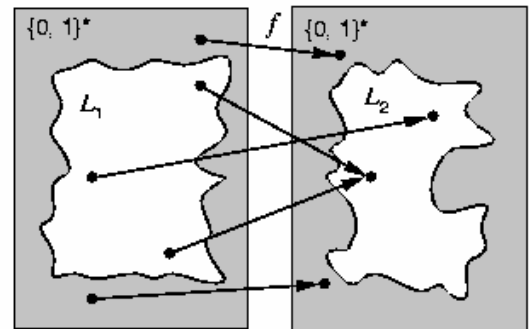
NP-Complete and NP-hard

- **NP-completeness:** **worst-case** analyses for **decision** problems.
- A **decision** problem L is **NP-complete (NPC)** if
 1. $L \in NP$, and
 2. $L' \leq_p L$ for every $L' \in NP$.
- **NP-hard:** If L satisfies property 2, but not necessarily property 1, we say that L is **NP-hard**.
- Suppose $L \in NPC$.
 - If $L \in P$, then there exists a polynomial-time algorithm for every $L' \in NP$ (i.e., $P = NP$).
 - If $L \notin P$, then there exists no polynomial-time algorithm for any $L' \in NPC$ (i.e., $P \neq NP$).



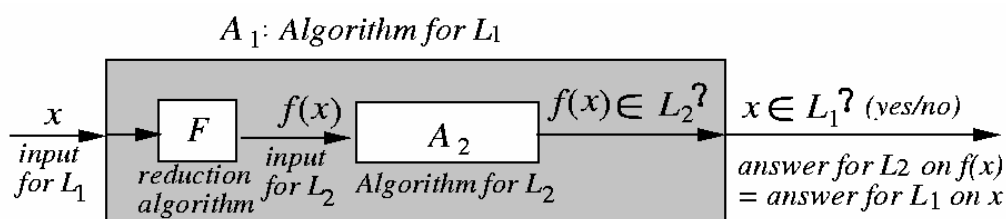
Polynomial-time Reduction

- **Motivation:** Let L_1 and L_2 be two decision problems. Suppose algorithm A_2 can solve L_2 . Can we use A_2 to solve L_1 ?
- **Polynomial-time reduction f from L_1 to L_2 :** $L_1 \leq_P L_2$
 - f reduces input for L_1 into an input for L_2 s.t. the reduced input is a “yes” input for L_2 iff the original input is a “yes” input for L_1 .
 - $L_1 \leq_P L_2$ if \exists polynomial-time computable function $f: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^*$ s.t. $x \in L_1$ iff $f(x) \in L_2, \forall x \in \{0, 1\}^*$.
 - L_2 is at least as hard as L_1 .
 - f is computable in polynomial time.



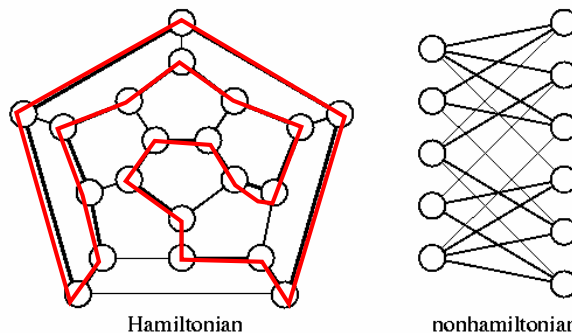
Significance of Reduction

- Significance of $L_1 \leq_P L_2$:
 - \exists polynomial-time algorithm for $L_2 \Rightarrow \exists$ polynomial-time algorithm for L_1 ($L_2 \in P \Rightarrow L_1 \in P$).
 - \nexists polynomial-time algorithm for $L_1 \Rightarrow \nexists$ polynomial-time algorithm for L_2 ($L_1 \notin P \Rightarrow L_2 \notin P$).
- \leq_P is transitive, i.e., $L_1 \leq_P L_2$ and $L_2 \leq_P L_3 \Rightarrow L_1 \leq_P L_3$.



Example: $HC \leq_p TSP$

- The Hamiltonian Circuit Problem (HC)
 - **Instance:** an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$.
 - **Question:** is there a cycle in G that includes every vertex exactly once?
- TSP (The Traveling Salesman Problem)
- How to show $HC \leq_p TSP$?
 1. Define a function f mapping **any** HC instance into a TSP instance, and show that f can be computed in polynomial time.
 2. Prove that G has an HC iff the reduced instance has a TSP tour with distance $\leq B$ ($x \in HC \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in TSP$).



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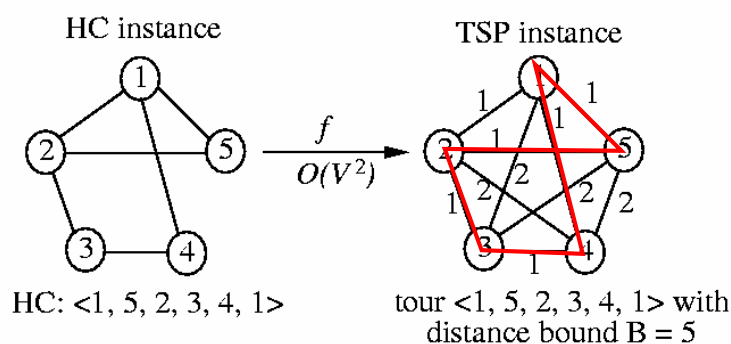
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$HC \leq_p TSP$: Step 1

1. Define a reduction function f for $HC \leq_p TSP$.
 - Given an arbitrary HC instance $G = (V, E)$ with n vertices
 - Create a set of n cities labeled with names in V .
 - Assign distance between u and v

$$d(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (u, v) \in E, \\ 2, & \text{if } (u, v) \notin E. \end{cases}$$

- Set bound $B = n$.
- f can be computed in $O(V^2)$ time.



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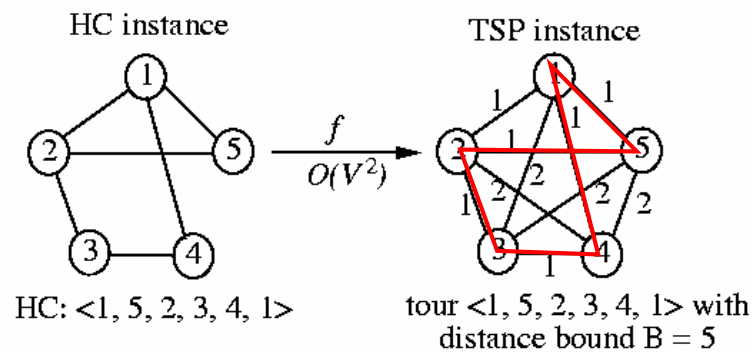
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HC \leq_p TSP: Step 2

2. G has an HC iff the reduced instance has a TSP with distance $\leq B$.

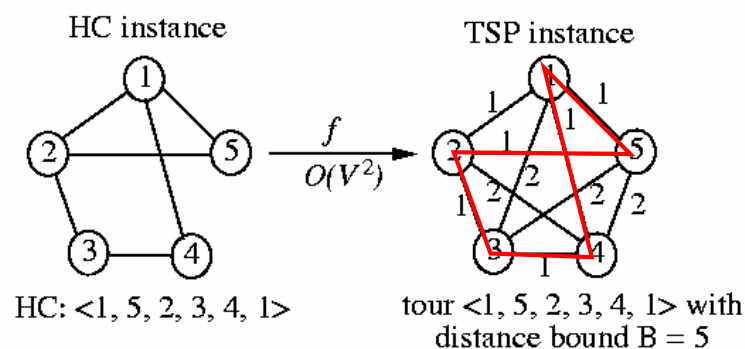
- $x \in \text{HC} \Rightarrow f(x) \in \text{TSP}$.
 - Suppose the HC is $h = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1 \rangle$. Then, h is also a tour in the transformed TSP instance.
 - The distance of the tour h is $n = B$ since there are n consecutive edges in E , and so has distance 1 in $f(x)$.
 - Thus, $f(x) \in \text{TSP}$ ($f(x)$ has a TSP tour with distance $\leq B$).



HC \leq_p TSP: Step 2 (cont'd)

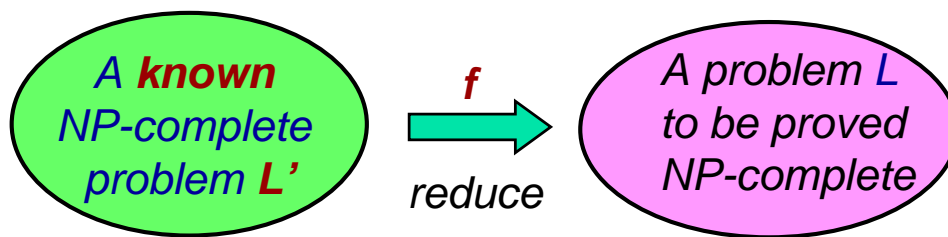
2. G has an HC iff the reduced instance has a TSP with distance $\leq B$.

- $f(x) \in \text{TSP} \Rightarrow x \in \text{HC}$.
 - Suppose there is a TSP tour with distance $\leq n = B$. Let it be $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1 \rangle$.
 - Since distance of the tour $\leq n$ and there are n edges in the TSP tour, the tour contains only edges in E .
 - Thus, $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_1 \rangle$ is a Hamiltonian cycle ($x \in \text{HC}$).



Summary: Proving NP-Completeness

- **Five steps for proving that L is NP-complete:**
 1. Prove $L \in \text{NP}$.
 2. Select a known NP-complete problem L' .
 3. Construct a reduction f transforming **every** instance of L' to an instance of L .
 4. Prove that $x \in L'$ iff $f(x) \in L$ for all $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$.
 5. Prove that f is a polynomial-time transformation.
- We have shown that TSP is NP-complete (reducing from HC).



Ch 5. Optimization Algorithms

- Continuous optimization problems
 - Variables are real numbers
- Combinatorial optimization problems
 - Variables are discrete values
 - Useful in EDA

Coping with Optimization Problems

- **Exact solution (may not applicable to big problems)**
 - **Exhaustive search**
 - Feasible only when the problem size is small.
 - **Visit only part of search space**
 - E.g. Branch and bound, dynamic programming, integer linear programming.
- **Approximation algorithms**
 - Guarantee to be a fixed percentage away from the optimum.
 - No general purpose approx. algorithms
 - E.g., MST for the minimum Steiner tree problem.
- **Heuristics**
 - No guarantee of performance
 - E.g. Greedy algorithm, Local search, Tabu search, Simulated annealing (hill climbing), Genetic algorithms, etc.

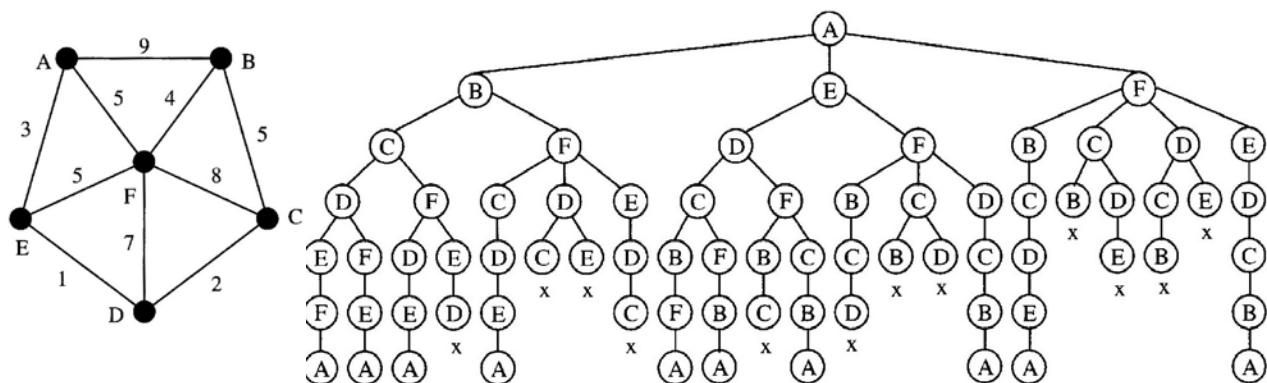
Algorithmic Paradigms

- **Branch and bound:** A search technique with pruning.
- **Mathematical programming:** A system of solving an objective function under constraints.
- **Dynamic programming:** Partition a problem into a collection of sub-problems, the sub-problems are solved, and then the original problem is solved by combining the solutions. (sub-problems are NOT independent)
- **Divide and Conquer:** Partition problems into independent sub-problems.

- **Greedy :** Pick a locally optimal solution at each step.
- **Simulated annealing:** An adaptive, iterative, non-deterministic algorithm that allows “uphill” moves to escape from local optima.
- **Tabu search:** Similar to simulated annealing, but does not decrease the chance of “uphill” moves throughout the search.
- **Genetic algorithm:** A population of solutions is stored and allowed to evolve through successive generations via mutation, crossover, etc.

Exhaustive search

- General principle
 - Systematically assign values to unspecified variables
 - Until a single point in search space is identified , or
 - An implicit constraints makes it impossible to continue
 - backtracking
- Example: TSP
 - X means backtracking



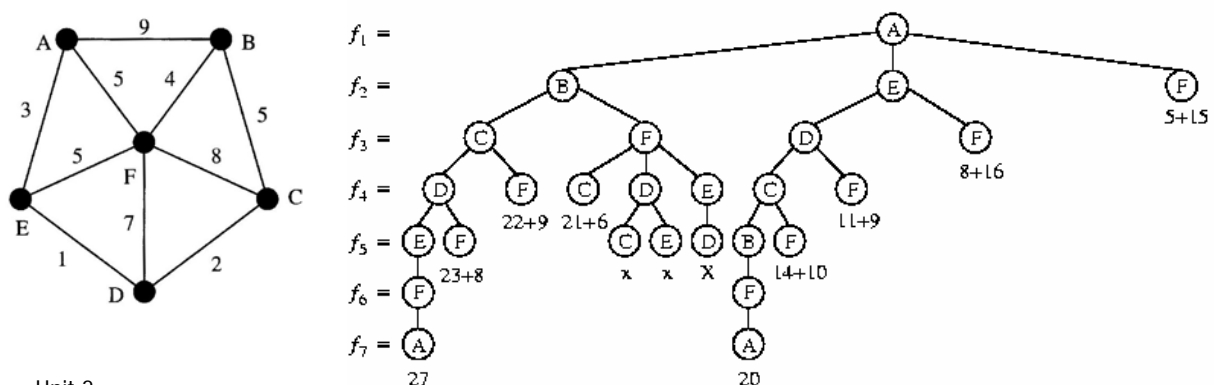
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Branch and Bound

- General principle
 - Estimate the cost lower bound
 - Kill partial solutions higher than the lowest cost
- Example: TSP
 - Use MST as cost lower bound
 - E.g. $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow F = 22$; MST of $\{CDEA\} = 6$
 - $22+8 > 27 \rightarrow$ Killed



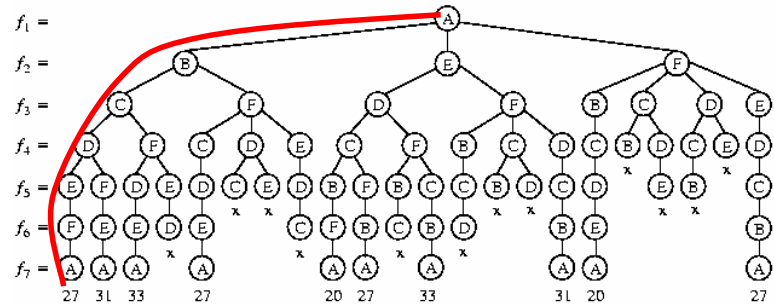
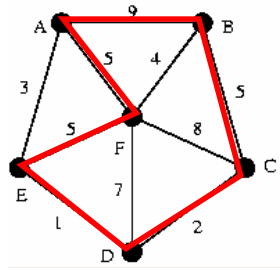
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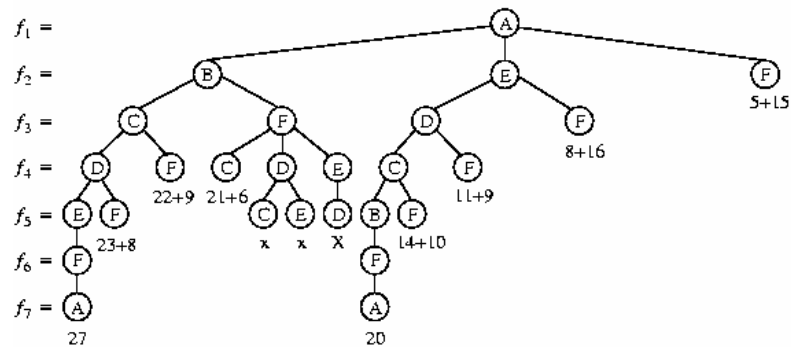
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Exhaustive Search vs. Branch and Bound

- TSP example



Backtracking/exhaustive search 72 nodes!



Branch and bound only 27 nodes

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Pseudo Code of B&B

```

float best_cost;
solution_element val[n], best_solution[n];

b_and_b(int k)
{
    float new_cost;
    if (k == n) {
        new_cost := cost(val);
        if (new_cost < best_cost) {
            best_cost := new_cost;
            best_solution := copy(val);
        }
    }
    else if (lower_bound_cost(val,k) ≥ best_cost)
        /* No action, node is killed. */
    else
        for each (el ∈ allowed(val, k)) {
            val[k] := el;
            b_and_b(k + 1);
        }
}

main ()
{
    best_cost := ∞;
    b_and_b(0);
    report(best_solution);
}

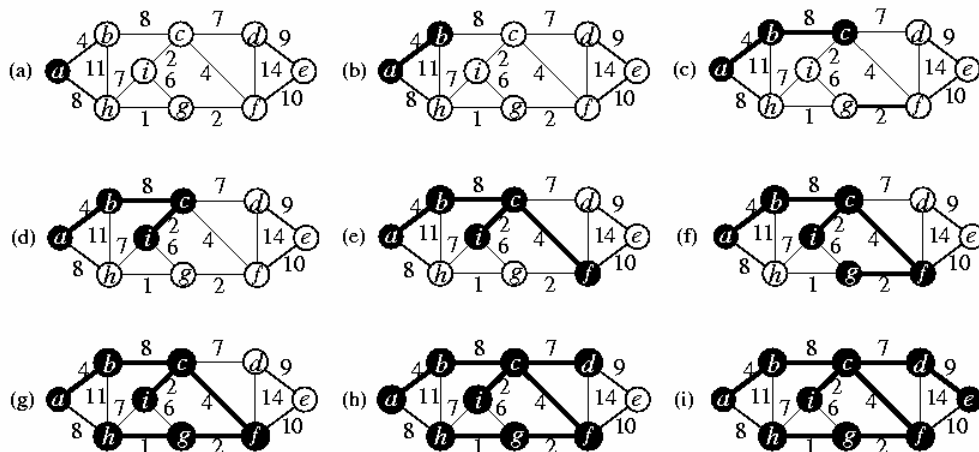
```

- Disadvantage:
 - Finding lower bound is not easy all the time

Figure 5.5 The pseudo-code of the branch-and-bound algorithm.

Greedy Algorithms

- General principle:
 - Pick a locally optimal solution at each step
- Greedy method does not guarantee performance
 - sometimes is correct: e.g. Prim's algorithm for MST
 - sometimes is not correct : e.g. Nearest neighbor for TSP



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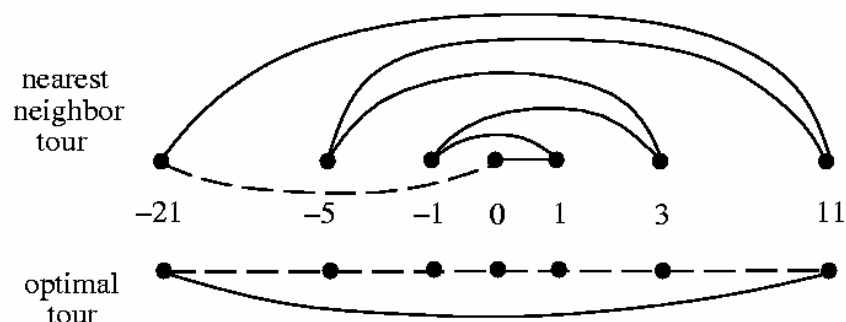
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Nearest Neighbor for TSP

1. pick and visit an initial point p_0 ;
2. $P \leftarrow p_0$;
3. $i \leftarrow 0$;
4. **while** there are unvisited points **do**
5. visit p_i 's closet unvisited point p_{i+1} ;
6. $i \leftarrow i + 1$;
7. return to p_0 from p_i .

- Simple to implement and very efficient, but **not optimal!**



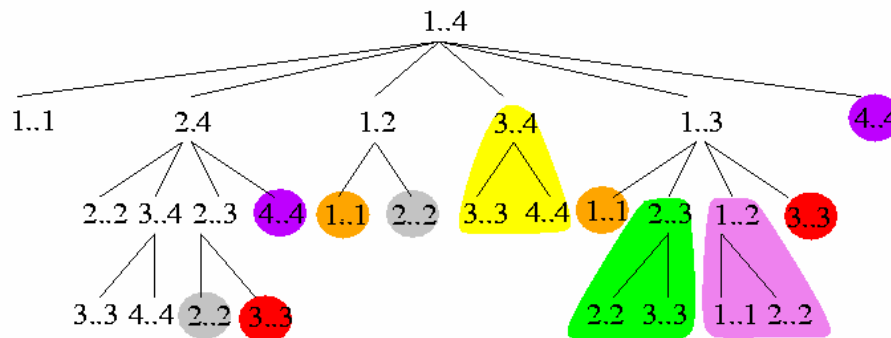
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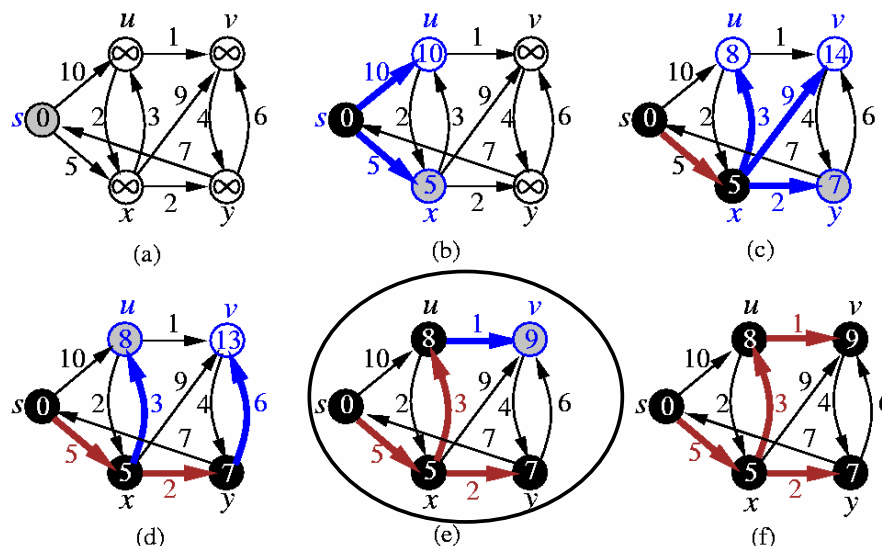
Dynamic Programming (DP) vs. Divide-and-Conquer

- Both solve problems by combining the solutions to subproblems.
- Divide-and-conquer algorithms
 - Partition a problem into **independent** subproblems, solve the subproblems recursively, and then combine their solutions to solve the original problem.
 - Inefficient if they solve the same subproblem more than once.
- Dynamic programming (DP)
 - Applicable when the subproblems are **not independent**.
 - DP solves each subproblem just once.



Dijkstra's Shortest Path

- Reduce search space by dynamic programming
 - Shortest path from $s \rightarrow v = s \rightarrow u$ plus $u \rightarrow v$
 - Since shortest path $s \rightarrow u$ is already known (8), calculation is eliminated
 - Shortest path from $s \rightarrow v$ is $8+1$



Linear Programming

- General principle
 - Convert problems into the mathematic format
 - Canonical form of LP
 - $AX \leq b$
 - $X \geq 0$
- Integer Linear Programming (ILP)
 - Variables are restricted to integers
- 0-1 ILP problems
 - Solutions are restricted to 0,1
- Why ILP useful for EDA?
 - ILP solvers are widely available
 - Problem independent

Example 1: TSP

- Variables $x_1 \dots x_{12}$
 - $x_i = 1$ means the edge is traveled
 - $x_i = 0$ means the edge is not traveled
- Minimize cost of travel $\sum_{i=1}^{12} w(e_i)x_i$
- Subject to constraints
 - Every vertex has exactly two edges traveled

$$v_1 : x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 2$$

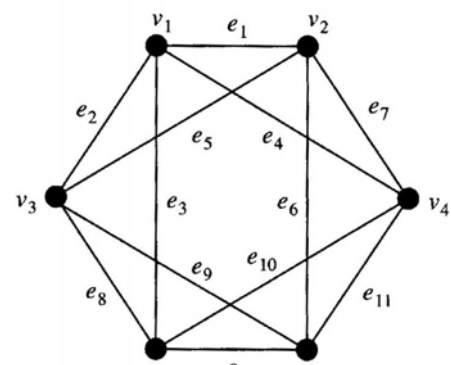
$$v_2 : x_1 + x_5 + x_6 + x_7 = 2$$

$$v_3 : x_2 + x_5 + x_8 + x_9 = 2$$

$$v_4 : x_4 + x_7 + x_{10} + x_{11} = 2$$

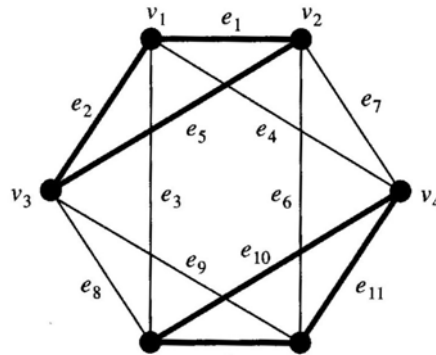
$$v_5 : x_3 + x_8 + x_{10} + x_{12} = 2$$

$$v_6 : x_6 + x_9 + x_{11} + x_{12} = 2$$



Example 1: TSP (cont'd)

- However, not enough constraints
 - Multiple disjoint tour



- Add more constraints to avoid multiple disjoint tour

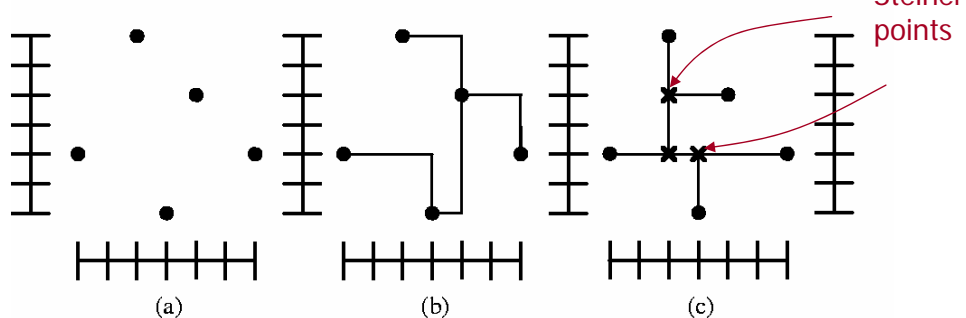
$$\{v_1, v_2, v_3\} \{v_4, v_5, v_6\} : x_3 + x_4 + x_6 + x_7 + x_8 + x_9 \geq 2$$

$$\{v_1, v_3, v_5\} \{v_2, v_4, v_6\} : x_1 + x_4 + x_5 + x_9 + x_{10} + x_{12} \geq 2$$

$$\{v_1, v_2, v_4\} \{v_3, v_5, v_6\} : x_2 + x_3 + x_5 + x_6 + x_{10} + x_{11} \geq 2$$

Approximation Algorithm Spanning Tree vs. Steiner Tree

- **Manhattan distance:** If two points (nodes) are located at coordinates (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) , the Manhattan distance between them is given by $d_{12} = |x_1 - x_2| + |y_1 - y_2|$.
- **Rectilinear spanning tree:** a spanning tree that connects its nodes using Manhattan paths (Fig. (b) below).
- **Steiner tree:** a tree that connects its nodes, and additional points (Steiner points) are permitted to be used for the connections.
- The minimum rectilinear spanning tree problem is in P, while the minimum rectilinear Steiner tree (Fig. (c)) problem is NP-complete.
 - The spanning tree algorithm can be an *approximation* for the Steiner tree problem (at most 50% away from the optimum).



Local Search

- General principle
 - Search only the neighbors of the current solution
 - Move to the neighbor with lower cost than the current solution
- Problem
 - Can be trapped in local minimum

```
local_search()
{
  struct feasible_solution f;
  set of struct feasible_solution G;

  f ← initial_solution();
  do {
    G ← {g | g ∈ N(f), c(g) < c(f)};
    if (G ≠ ∅)
      f ← "any element of G";
  } while (G ≠ ∅);
  "report f";
}
```

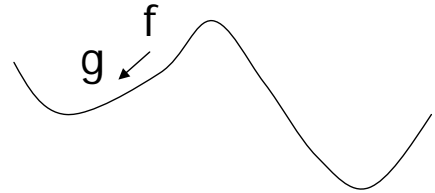
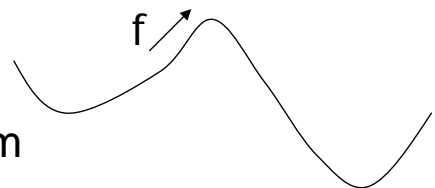


Figure 5.8 The pseudo-code description of local search.

Simulated Annealing (SA)

- General Principle: mimic material cooling process
 - Search the neighbors of current solution
 - A good move means the cost decreases
 - always accepted
 - A bad move means the cost increases
 - Accepted with probability $\exp(-\Delta\text{cost}/T)$
- Analogy
 - Energy = cost function
 - Temperature = controlling parameter T
- Advantage: can escape local minimum
 - ‘Uphill climbing’ is possible



Pseudo Code of SA

```
int accept(struct feasible_solution f, g)
{
    float Δc;

    Δc ← c(g) − c(f);
    if (Δc ≤ 0)
        return 1;
    else return ( $e^{\frac{-\Delta c}{T}}$  > random(1));
}

simulated_annealing()
{
    struct feasible_solution f, g;
    float T;

    f ← initial_solution();
    do {
        do {
            g ← “some element of N(f)”;
            if (accept(f, g))
                f ← g
            while (!thermal_equilibrium());
            T ← new_temperature(T);
        } while (!stop());
        “report f”;
    }
```

Unit 2

NTUEE / Intro. EDA

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Tabu Search

- General Principle: avoid staying in the ‘taboo’ solutions
 - Keep a list of visited solutions : Taboo list
 - Always move to a new solution other than the taboo list
 - even the new solution is poor than the current solution

```
tabu_search()
{
    struct feasible_solution f, g, b;
    set of struct feasible_solution G;
    “k-element FIFO queue of” feasible_solution Q;

    Q ← “empty”;
    b ← initial_solution();
    f ← initial_solution();
    do {
        G ← “some subset of N(f) such that  $\forall s \in Q, s \notin G$ ”;
        if (G ≠ ∅) {
            g ← “cheapest element of G”;
            “shift g into Q”;
            f ← g;
            if (c(f) < c(b))
                b ← f;
        }
    }
    while (G ≠ ∅ or stop());
}
```

Unit 2

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Genetic Algorithms (GA)

- General Principle
 - Survival of the fittest
 - Keep a group of feasible solutions
 - 'population'
 - 'Parent' population generates the 'child' population
 - Keep only the best children

Important steps in GA

- Cross over: Two feasible solutions generate their child by switching chromosomes

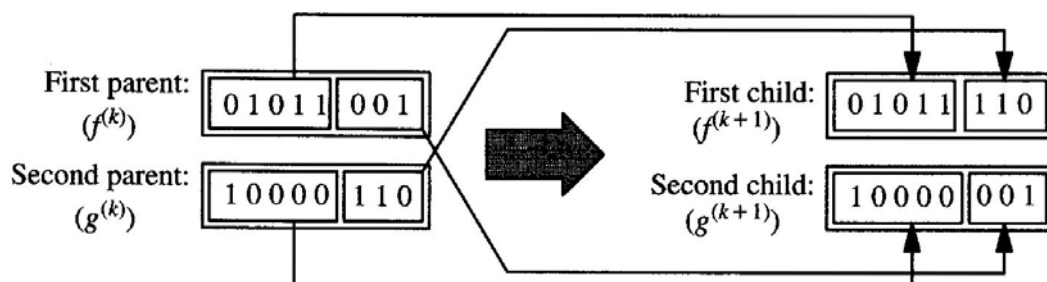


Figure 5.11 The generation of a pair of children by crossover.

- Mutation: some chromosomes can change by probability

Pseudo Code of GA

```

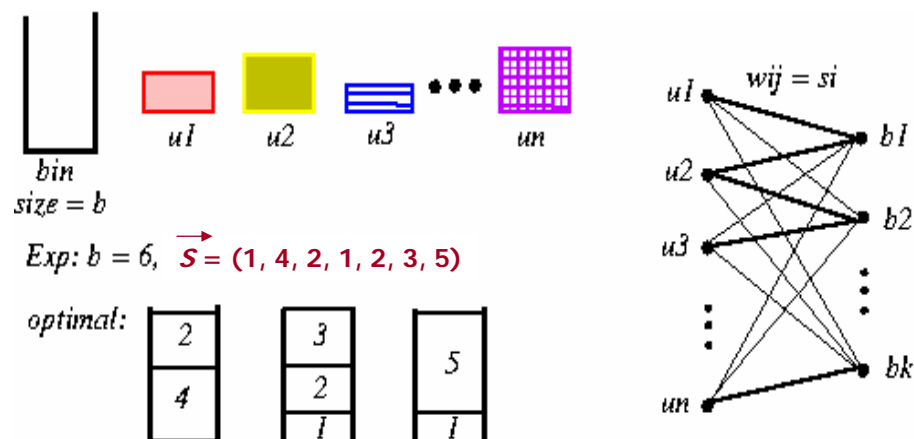
genetic()
{
    int pop_size;
    set of struct chromosome pop, newpop;
    struct chromosome parent1, parent2, child;

    pop ← ∅;
    for (i ← 1; i ≤ pop_size; i ← i + 1)
        pop ← pop ∪ {"chromosome of random feasible solution"};
    do {
        newpop ← ∅;
        for (i ← 1; i ≤ pop_size; i ← i + 1) {
            parent1 ← select(pop);
            parent2 ← select(pop);
            child ← crossover(parent1, parent2);
            newpop ← newpop ∪ {child};
        }
        pop ← newpop;
    } while (!stop());
    "report best solution";
}
    
```

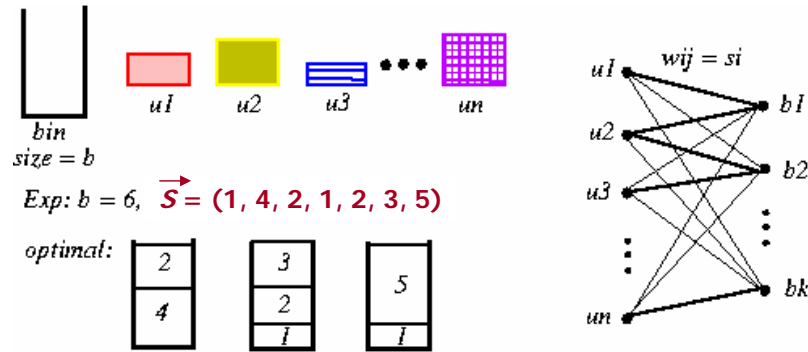
Figure 5.12 The pseudo-code description of a genetic algorithm.

Example 2: Bin Packing

- **The Bin-Packing Problem Π** : Items $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$, where u_i is of an integer size s_i ; set B of bins, each with capacity b .
- **Goal**: Pack all items, minimizing # of bins used. (**NP-hard!**)



Example 2: Bin Packing (cont'd)



- Greedy approximation alg.: First-Fit Decreasing (FFD)
 - $FFD(\Pi) \leq 11OPT(\Pi)/9 + 4$
- Use **integer linear programming (ILP)** to find a solution using $|B|$ bins, then search for the smallest feasible $|B|$.

Example 2: Bin Packing (cont'd)

- 0-1 variable: $x_{ij}=1$ if item u_i is placed in bin b_j , 0 otherwise.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\max \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} x_{ij} \\
 &\text{subject to} \\
 &\sum_{i \in U} w_{ij} x_{ij} \leq b_j, \forall j \in B \quad /* \text{capacity constraint} */ \quad (1) \\
 &\sum_{j \in B} x_{ij} = 1, \forall i \in U \quad /* \text{assignment constraint} */ \quad (2) \\
 &\sum_{ij} x_{ij} = n \quad /* \text{completeness constraint} */ \quad (3) \\
 &x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \quad /* 0, 1 \text{ constraint} */ \quad (4)
 \end{aligned}$$

- **Step 1:** Set $|B|$ to the lower bound of the # of bins.
- **Step 2:** Use the ILP to find a feasible solution.
- **Step 3:** If the solution exists, the # of bins required is $|B|$. Then exit.
- **Step 4:** Otherwise, set $|B| \leftarrow |B| + 1$. Goto Step 2.