A Randomized $O(\log n)$ -Competitive Algorithm for the Online Connected Facility Location Problem



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First we show some problems that are useful to understand the Online Connected Facility Location problem.

Starting with the Steiner Tree problem.

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Steiner Tree Problem (ex.)



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A rented resource can be used only once.

A bought resource can be used several times, but its cost is greater than the renting cost.

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The algorithm can decide between renting or buying edges.

A rented edge can only be used by one terminal.

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Single Source Rent-or-Buy Problem (ex.)



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Also, no decision made to serve a part may be changed in the future.

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Worst case technique used to analyse online algorithms.

We say that an online algorithm ALG is *c*-competitive if, for every input I and some α constant, we have that:

 $\operatorname{ALG}(I) \leq \operatorname{cOPT}(I) + \alpha.$

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This problem is defined similarly to the Steiner Tree problem, except that the terminal nodes arrive one at a time.

Also, at all times the terminals must be connected by a tree and no edge used may be removed in the future. This problem is defined similarly to the Steiner Tree problem, except that the terminal nodes arrive one at a time.

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There are $O(\log n)$ -competitive algorithms for the Online Steiner Tree problem.

In particular, there is an algorithm due to Imase and Waxman that has this competitivity and is used in our result.

Also, it is known a $\Omega(\log n)$ lower bound to the competitive ratio of any algorithm for this problem.

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In this problem the algorithm have to serve clients in a metric space by connecting them to facilities.

The goal is to minimize the sum of the distances between clients and facilities (connection cost) plus the sum of the facilities costs (opening cost). In this problem the algorithm have to serve clients in a metric space by connecting them to facilities.

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The Facility Location Problem (ex.)



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Also, no opened facility can be closed in the future, nor the connection between a client and a facility can be changed.

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There are $O(\log n)$ -competitive algorithms known for this problem.

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This problem is a combination of the Facility Location problem with the Steiner Tree problem.

There is a set of clients that needs to be connected to facilities. Also, the opened facilities need to be connected to each other by a tree T. Each edge of T costs M times the regular cost of it.

The goal is to minimize the total cost of connecting clients, opening facilities and building the tree.

$$\sum_{j\in D} d(j, F^a) + \sum_{i\in F^a} f(i) + M \sum_{e\in T} d(e)$$

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No opened facility can be closed in the future.

The connection between a client and a facility cannot be changed.

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The Online Steiner Tree problem can be reduced to the Online Connected Facility Location problem, by choosing all facility costs to be equal zero and M = 1.

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Algorithm 1: The Online CFL algorithm.

```
Input: G = (V, E), d, f, F, root r and M
send r to compFL as its first client;
while a new client i arrives do
    send i to compFL;
    include j in D^m with probability \frac{1}{M};
    if i \in D^m then
         T \leftarrow T \cup \{path(i, V(T))\}; /* \text{ Core Tree }*/
        if v(i) is not opened then
           F^a \leftarrow F^a \cup \{v(j)\}; /* \text{ Open Facility }*/
            T \leftarrow T \cup \{(v(i), j)\}; /* Extension Tree */
         end
    end
    choose i \in F^a that is closest to j;
    D \leftarrow D \cup \{i\}; a(i) \leftarrow i; /* Client Connection */
end
return (F^a \setminus \{r\}, T, a);
```

We divide the algorithm cost between facilities opening cost (O), clients connection cost (C) and Steiner tree cost (S):

$ALG_{OCFL}(D) = O + C + S.$

We also divide the cost of the offline optimal solution in this way:

$$OPT_{CFL}(D) = O^* + C^* + S^*.$$

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The compFL algorithm uses a nonnegative dual variable α_j associated with each client *j*.



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Lemma (α properties)

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{ ext{compFL}}(D) &\leq \sum_{j \in D} lpha_j \ , \ &\mathcal{C}_{ ext{compFL}}(D) &\leq \sum_{j \in D} lpha_j \ , \ &2\sum_{j \in D} lpha_j &\leq c_{ ext{OFL}} ext{OPT}_{ ext{FL}}(D) \ , \ &lpha_i &\geq d(i,i) \end{aligned}$$

Remember that

$$\mathrm{compFL}(r+D) = O_{\mathrm{compFL}}(r+D) + C_{\mathrm{compFL}}(r+D)$$
 .

Lemma (compFL bound)

$$O_{
m compFL}(r+D) \le rac{1}{2} c_{
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Let $S_{\text{core}}(D)$ be the cost of the core tree.

Lemma (Core tree bound

$E[S_{\text{core}}(D)] \leq c_{\text{OST}}(S^*(D) + C^*(D))$.

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Lemma (Core tree bound)

$$E[S_{\rm core}(D)] \le c_{\rm OST}(S^*(D) + C^*(D))$$

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Let $S_{\text{ext}}(D)$ be the cost of the tree extensions.

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Using the two previous lemmas we bound the expected Steiner tree cost S(D) of the Online CFL algorithm.

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Using the two previous lemmas we bound the expected Steiner tree cost S(D) of the Online CFL algorithm.

Now we bound the expected client connection cost C(D).

For each marked client j', we keep a set N(j') of clients called the *neighborhood* of j'.

A client j is added to N(j') if j' is the marked client that is closest to j, and if j satisfies

$$d(j,j') + lpha_j < rac{1}{3}d(j,F^a_{n(j)})$$
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$$d(j,j') + \alpha_j < \frac{1}{3}d(j,F^a_{n(j)})$$
 .

We call the clients that are in some neighborhood by neighbors and denote them by D^N .

The other clients we call non-neighbors and denote by D^N .

Lemma (Non-neighbors connection bound)
$$E[C(\overline{D^{N}})] \leq \frac{3}{2}c_{\text{OFL}}(O^{*}(D) + C^{*}(D)) + 3E\left[\sum_{j \in \overline{D^{N}}} d(j, D_{n(j)}^{m})\right] .$$

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We may split the neighborhood N(j') of a marked client j' into phases.

A phase *k* ends when the algorithm opens a facility *i*, that satisfies

$$d(j',i) < \frac{1}{2}d(j',p_k(j'))$$
 (0.1)

Lemma (Neighbors' facility closeness)

For any $j' \in D^m$, $k \in \text{phase}(j')$, and $j \in N_k(j')$ we have that $d(j', v(j)) < \frac{1}{2}d(j', p_k(j')) \quad .$

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A geometric distribution is a random variable that performs a sequence of independent trials until the first success.

We bound the expected number of clients in a phase neighborhood using a geometric distribution.

Lemma (Phase length bound)

For any $j' \in D^m$ and $k \in \text{phase}(j')$, we have $E[|N_k(j')|] \leq M$.

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Lemma (Phase length bound)

For any $j' \in D^m$ and $k \in \text{phase}(j')$, we have $E[|N_k(j')|] < M$. Using the previous lemma we bound the expected connection cost of the clients in D^N .



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Lemma (Neighbors connection bound)

$$E[C(D^N)] \le E\left[\sum_{j \in D^N} d(j, D_{n(j)}^m)\right] + 2C_{\text{compFL}}(r+D) .$$

Now we prove an auxiliary lemma.

Lemma (Auxiliary connection bound)

$$E\left[\sum_{j\in D} d(j, D_{n(j)}^{m})\right] \leq c_{\text{OST}}(S^{*}(D) + C^{*}(D)) .$$

Using the previous lemmas and that the competitive ratio of compFL and compST is $O(\log n)$, we prove our main result in the next theorem.

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Using the previous lemmas and that the competitive ratio of compFL and compST is $O(\log n)$, we prove our main result in the next theorem.

Theorem

$$E[ALG_{OCFL}(D)] = O(\log n)OPT_{CFL}(D).$$

Demonstração.

$$E[ALG_{OCFL}(D)] = E[O(D) + S(D) + C(D)]$$

$$\leq E\left[O_{compFL}(r + D) + (S_{core}(D) + S_{ext}(D)) + (C(\overline{D^N}) + C(D^N))\right]$$

$$= O(\log n)OPT_{CFL}(D) ,$$

Theorem

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Demonstração.

$$\begin{split} E[\mathrm{ALG}_{\mathrm{OCFL}}(D)] &= E[O(D) + S(D) + C(D)] \\ &\leq E\left[O_{\mathrm{compFL}}(r+D) + (S_{\mathrm{core}}(D) + S_{\mathrm{ext}}(D)) + \left(C(\overline{D^N}) + C(D^N)\right)\right] \\ &= O(\log n) \mathrm{OPT}_{\mathrm{CFL}}(D) \ , \end{split}$$

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Questions?

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