# The Online Connected Facility Location Problem<sup>2</sup>

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# **Combinatorial Optimization Problems**

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Problems in which there is some resource that the algorithm can rent or buy. 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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## Single Source Rent-or-Buy Problem

A rent-or-buy version of the Steiner Tree problem in which all terminals must be connected to a source. The algorithm can decide between renting and buying edges. A rented edge can only be used by one terminal. A bought edge can be used by all terminals, but its cost is multiplied by M.



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A randomized technique to design algorithms for rent-or-buy problems. The central idea is to decide between renting or buying a resource using a coin toss. The buying probability is greater the least is the ratio between buying and renting costs.

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As an example, lets take a sample-and-augment algorithm for the Single Source Rent-or-Buy problem.

**Algorithm 1:** The Sample-and-Augment SSRoB Algorithm Mark each terminal with probability  $\frac{1}{M}$ .

Find a tree T for the marked terminals using an approximation algorithm for the Steiner Tree problem and buy this tree. Connect the remaining terminals to T using rented shortest paths.

This algorithm has a constant approximation ratio to the Single Source Rent-or-Buy problem.

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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  $\alpha$  constant, we have that:

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

There are  $O(\log n)$ -competitive algorithms for the Online Steiner Tree problem. Also, it is known a  $\Omega(\log n)$  lower bound to the competitive ratio of any algorithm to this problem. Worst case technique used to analyse online algorithms.

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As an example, in the Online Single Source Rent-or-Buy problem the terminals arrive one at a time and, for each one that arrives the algorithm has to connect it to the source by renting or buying edges.

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# The Facility Location Problem

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).



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## The Online Facility Location Problem

In the online version of the Facility Location problem the clients arrive one at a time and no opened facility can be closed in the future, nor the connection between a client and a facility can be changed.



# The Online Facility Location Problem (cont.)

There are  $O(\log n)$ -competitive algorithms known for this problem. In particular, there is a primal-dual algorithm due to Fotakis that has this competitivity and is used in our result.

Also, it is known a  $\Omega(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n})$  lower bound to the competitive ratio of any algorithm to 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 need 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.

$$\sum_{j\in D} d(j,F') + \sum_{i\in F'} f(i) + M \sum_{e\in T} d(e)$$

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Following we present a sample-and-augment algorithm for the Online Connected Facility Location problem. This algorithm is based in the algorithm for the CFL due to Eisenbrand et al.

Notice that, while the Online Connected Facility Location problem is not a rent-or-buy problem, it has some characteristics that allow us to use the sample-and-augment technique to design an algorithm for it. Following we present a sample-and-augment algorithm for the Online Connected Facility Location problem. This algorithm is based in the algorithm for the CFL due to Eisenbrand et al.

Notice that, while the Online Connected Facility Location problem is not a rent-or-buy problem, it has some characteristics that allow us to use the sample-and-augment technique to design an algorithm for it. Algorithm 2: The Online CFL algorithm.

```
Data: G = (V, E), d, f, F, root r and M
D \leftarrow \emptyset: F' \leftarrow \emptyset: T \leftarrow \emptyset:
f(r) \leftarrow 0;
send r to compFL;
F' \leftarrow F' \cup \{r\}; V(T) \leftarrow V(T) \cup \{r\};
while a new client j arrives do
    send i to compFL;
    sample j with probability p = \frac{1}{M};
    if j was sampled and connected to a facility i that wasn't
    open then
         F' \leftarrow F' \cup \{i\};
         T \leftarrow T \cup \{(i, j)\} \cup \{path(i, V(T))\};
    end
    let i be the closest open facility to j;
    D \leftarrow D \cup \{i\}; a(i) \leftarrow i;
end
return (F' \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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## Lemma (Opening Cost)

$$O \leq c_{\mathrm{OFL}}(O^* + C^*).$$

### Demonstração.

Let  $O_{\text{compFL}}$  be the facility opening cost paid by compFL to serve  $\{r\} \cup D$ . Once our algorithm opens a subset of the facilities opened by compFL to serve  $\{r\} \cup D$  we have that:

## $O \leq O_{\text{compFL}} \leq c_{\text{OFL}} \text{OPT}_{\text{FL}}(\{r\} \cup D) \leq c_{\text{OFL}}(O^* + C^*)$ ,

where the last inequality follows since the optimal solution for CFL is a feasible solution for the OFL.

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## Lemma (Steiner Cost)

$$E[S] \leq c_{\text{OST}}(S^* + C^*) + c_{\text{OFL}}(O^* + C^*).$$

*Idea:* The Online CFL algorithm builds a tree connecting the root r to each client in D''. Then it augments T connecting each client  $j \in D''$  to the facility i that was opened by it. So:

$$S \leq M \operatorname{compST}(\{r\} \cup D'') + M \sum_{j \in \{r\} \cup D''} d(j, a(j))$$
  
$$\leq M c_{OST} \operatorname{OPT}_{ST}(\{r\} \cup D') + M \sum_{j \in D'} d(j, a(j)) .$$

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$$\leq M c_{\text{OST}} \text{OPT}_{\text{ST}}(\{r\} \cup D') + M \sum d(j, a(j)) .$$

 $i \in D'$ 

$$\begin{split} E[\operatorname{OPT}_{\mathrm{ST}}(\{r\} \cup D')] &\leq E\left[\frac{S^*}{M}\right] + E\left[\sum_{j \in D'} d(j, a^*(j))\right] \\ &\leq \frac{S^*}{M} + \sum_{j \in D} \frac{1}{M} d(j, a^*(j)) \leq \frac{S^*}{M} + \frac{C^*}{M} \end{split}$$

Lemma (Connection Cost

 $E[C] \leq c_{\mathrm{OFL}}(O^* + C^*) + c_{\mathrm{OST}}(S^* + C^* + c_{\mathrm{OFL}}(O^* + C^*)).$ 

$$\begin{split} E[\operatorname{OPT}_{\mathrm{ST}}(\{r\} \cup D')] &\leq E\left[\frac{S^*}{M}\right] + E\left[\sum_{j \in D'} d(j, a^*(j))\right] \\ &\leq \frac{S^*}{M} + \sum_{j \in D} \frac{1}{M} d(j, a^*(j)) \leq \frac{S^*}{M} + \frac{C^*}{M} \end{split}$$

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## Theorem

## $E[ALG_{OCFL}(D)] \in O(\log n^2 OPT_{CFL}(D)).$

#### Demonstração.

# $$\begin{split} E[\text{ALG}_{\text{OCFL}}(D)] &= E[O + S + C] \\ &\leq c_{\text{OFL}}(O^* + C^*) + (c_{\text{OST}}(S^* + C^*) \\ &+ c_{\text{OFL}}(O^* + C^*)) + (c_{\text{OFL}}(O^* + C^*) \\ &+ c_{\text{OST}}(S^* + C^* + c_{\text{OFL}}(O^* + C^*))) \\ &= O(\log^2 n) \text{OPT}_{\text{CFL}}(D) \ . \end{split}$$

where the last inequality follows because  $c_{\text{OFL}} \leq 4 \log n$  and  $c_{\text{OST}} \leq \log n$ .

## Theorem

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#### Demonstração.

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where the last inequality follows because  $c_{\rm OFL} \leq 4 \log n$  and  $c_{\rm OST} \leq \log n$ .

It is possible to reduce the Online Steiner Tree problem to the Online Connected Facility Location problem by choosing all facility costs to be equal zero and M = 1.

So, the  $\Omega(\log n)$  lower bound to the competitive ratio of any algorithm to the Online Steiner problem also applies to algorithms to the Online Connected Facility Location problem.

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## Thank you!

Questions?

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