The Online Connected Facility Location Problem²

Mário César San Felice* David P. Williamson[†] Orlando Lee*



* UNICAMP Institute of Computing Laboratory of Optimization and Combinatorics [†]Cornell University School of Operations Research and Information Engineering



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Combinatorial Optimization Problems

- Maximization or minimization problems,
- Algorithm receives an input,
- Returns a solution with a cost.

Some minimization problems in which we are interested are:

- Facility Location problem,
- Steiner Tree problem,
- Connected Facility Location problem.

These problems are NP-hard with constant factor approximation algorithms known.

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- Defined in a metric space with distance and facility costs,
- Algorithm receives a set of clients and connects each client to an opened facility,
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- Defined in a graph with costs on the edges,
- Algorithm receives a set of terminal nodes and builds a tree that connects all terminals,
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- Combination of Facility Location and Steiner Tree.
- Motivation is to build a two level network.
- Algorithm receives a set of clients and connects each client to an opened facility,
- Also, builds an expensive tree that connects all facilities,
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- Parts of the input are revealed one at a time,
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Competitive Analysis

- Technique used to analyse online algorithms,
- An online algorithm ALG is *c*-competitive if:

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

for every input I and some α constant.

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The Online Facility Location Problem

- Defined similarly to the Facility Location problem,
- Clients arrive one at a time and each one must be immediately connected to some facility,
- Opened facilities and clients connections may not change.


















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- There are O(log n)-competitive algorithms known,
- In particular, a primal-dual algorithm due to Fotakis that is used in our result,
- Also, it is known a Ω(log n lower bound to the competitive ratio.

The Online Steiner Tree Problem

- Defined similarly to the Steiner Tree problem,
- Terminal nodes arrive one at a time,
- At all times terminals must be connected by a tree,
- No edge used may be removed in the future.















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- In particular, a greedy algorithm due to Imase and Waxman that is used in our result,
- Also, it is known a Ω(log *n*) lower bound to the competitive ratio.

- Combination of Online Facility Location and Online Steiner Tree, is similar to the Connected Facility Location,
- Clients arrive one at a time and each one must be immediately connected to some facility,
- Also, there is a special facility always opened called root,
- At all times opened facilities must be connected by a tree,
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- Sample-and-Augment is a randomized technique, due to Gupta et al., to design algorithms for rent-or-buy problems.
- Online Connected Facility Location problem is not a rent-or-buy problem,
- However, has cost scaling characteristics that allow to use this technique on algorithms for it.

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Algorithm 1: The Online CFL algorithm.

```
Data: G = (V, E), d, f, F, root r and M
Initializing auxiliar sets and compFL;
while a new client j arrives do
    send j to compFL; /* Update virtual OFL solution */
    mark j with probability p = \frac{1}{M};
    if i is marked and connected to a facility i that is not open
    then
        F' \leftarrow F' \cup \{i\}; /* Open new facility */
        T \leftarrow T \cup \{(i, j)\} \cup \{path(j, V(T))\};
        /* Connect new facility to the tree */
    end
    let i be the closest open facility to j;
    D \leftarrow D \cup \{j\}; a(j) \leftarrow i; /* Connect the client */
end
```

return $(F' \setminus \{r\}, T, a)$;

Algorithm cost is divided between facilities opening cost (O), clients connection cost (C) and Steiner tree cost (S):

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

The cost of the offline optimal solution is also divided in this way:

$$OPT_{CFL}(D) = O^* + C^* + S^*.$$
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The cost of the offline optimal solution is also divided in this way:

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

Lemma (Opening Cost)

- $O \leq c_{\mathrm{OFL}}(O^* + C^*).$
 - Let $O_{\rm compFL}$ be the facility opening cost of compFL,
 - Our algorithm opens a subset of the facilities opened by compFL,
 - An optimal solution for CFL is a feasible solution for FL,
 - So we have that:

$\mathcal{O} ~\leq~ \mathcal{O}_{ ext{compFL}} \leq c_{ ext{OFL}} ext{OPT}_{ ext{FL}}(\mathcal{D}) \leq c_{ ext{OFL}}(\mathcal{O}^* + \mathcal{C}^*)$.

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

- Our algorithm builds a tree connecting only marked clients (*D*'),
- And augments it connecting each client j to facility a(j),
- The idea is to bound these costs by OPT_{ST} and OPT_{FL}.

$$\begin{split} E[S] &\leq E[M \text{compST}(D')] + E \left[M \sum_{j \in D'} d(j, a(j)) \right] \\ &\leq E[M c_{\text{OST}} \text{OPT}_{\text{ST}}(D')] + c_{\text{OFL}} \text{OPT}_{\text{FL}}(D) \\ &\leq c_{\text{OST}}(S^* + C^*) + c_{\text{OFL}}(O^* + C^*) \end{split}$$

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- This proof uses similar ideas to the previous one,
- Together with a conditional probability argument,
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Theorem

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

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

knowing that $c_{\text{OFL}} \leq 4 \log n$ and $c_{\text{OST}} \leq \log n$.

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