Competitive Analysis of Multi-Objective Online Algorithms

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Who gets your antique car?







Online Optimization

In online optimization, an algorithm has to make decisions based on a sequence of incoming bits of information without knowledge of future inputs.

Competitive Analysis

▶ An algorithm $_{\rm ALG}$ is called *c-competitive*, if for all sequences σ

$$\operatorname{ALG}(\sigma) \geq \frac{1}{c} \cdot \operatorname{OPT}(\sigma) + \alpha.$$

- ► The infimum over all values *c* such that ALG is *c*-competitive is called *the competitive ratio* of ALG.
- An algorithm is called *competitive* if it attains a "constant" competitive ratio.



Online Optimization (contd.)





Multi-Objective Optimization

Consider a multi-objective optimization problem \mathcal{P} for a given feasible set $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, and objective vector $f : \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^k$:

 $\mathcal{P} \max f(x)$ s.t. $x \in \mathcal{X}$



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Efficient Solutions

A feasible solution x̂ ∈ X is called *efficient* if there is no other x ∈ X such that f(x) ≤ f(x̂), where ≤ denotes a componentwise order, i.e., for x, y ∈ ℝⁿ, x ≤ y ⇔ x_i ≤ y_i, for i = 1,..., n, and x ≠ y.



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- If \hat{x} is an efficient solution, $f(\hat{x})$ is called non-dominated point.



Multi-Objective Optimization (contd.)









Multi-objective (online) optimization problem ${\cal P}$

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- optimal algorithm OPT
 - $OPT[I] = {\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}(I) | \mathbf{x} \text{ is an efficient solution to } \mathcal{P}}$
 - ▶ objective associated with $x \in OPT[I]$ is denoted by OPT(x)



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 $\rho\text{-approximation of a solution } x$

 $f_i(x') \leq \rho \cdot f_i(x)$ for $i = 1, \ldots, n$



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 ρ -approximation of a solution x

$$f_i(x') \leq \rho \cdot f_i(x)$$
 for $i = 1, \dots, n$

ρ -approximation of a set of efficient solutions

for every feasible solution $x,\,X'$ contains a feasible solution x' that is a $\rho\text{-approximation of }x$



Multi-Objective Online Algorithms

c-competitive

A multi-objective online algorithm ALG is *c*-competitive if for all finite input sequences *I* there exists an efficient solution $\mathbf{x} \in \text{OPT}[I]$ such that $ALG(I) \leq c \cdot \text{OPT}(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha$, where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a constant vector independent of *I*.



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strongly c-competitive

A multi-objective online algorithm ALG is strongly c-competitive if for all finite input sequences I and all efficient solutions $\mathbf{x} \in \text{OPT}[I]$, $\text{ALG}(I) \leq c \cdot \text{OPT}(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha$, where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a constant vector independent of I.





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Randomization





Conclusion & Further Research





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- application to multi-objective versions of classical online problems
- relations between single- and multi-objective online optimization
- alternative concepts



The Multi-Objective k-Canadian Traveller Problem



