

Randomized Algorithms
SS 2018
Homework Assignment 6

Problem 17:

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph with vertex set $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$. A *vertex cover* of G is a set $C \subseteq V$ with the property that for every edge $\{v_i, v_j\} \in E$, either v_i or v_j is in C . In the VERTEXCOVER problem the task is to find the smallest possible vertex cover.

- (a) Show that the following IP is an arithmetization of VC (i.e., there are transformations that transform a feasible solution of one problem formulation into a feasible solution of the other while maintaining the objective value):

Integer program for VC:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \\ \text{subject to} & x_i + x_j \geq 1 \quad \text{for all } \{v_i, v_j\} \in E \\ & x_i \in \{0, 1\} \quad \text{for all } v_i \in V \end{array}$$

- (b) Show that a deterministic rounding of the optimal solution of the linear relaxation of this IP according to the rule “if $x_i \geq 1/2$, then add v_i to C ” results in a feasible solution.

Problem 18:

MAX2SAT is the restriction of the MAXSAT problem to Boolean formulas in CNF that have clauses with at most 2 literals. The decision variant of the MAX2SAT problem is known to be NP-hard. Consider the following arithmetization of MAX2SAT.

For each Boolean variable x_i we define a variable y_i that can take the value -1 or $+1$. In addition to that we have a variable $y_0 \in \{-1, +1\}$ with the meaning that x_i is TRUE if and only if y_i and y_0 have the same value.

For the arithmetization of a clause C with one literal, we distinguish between two cases:

- $C = x_i$: use $(1 + y_i \cdot y_0)/2$
- $C = \bar{x}_i$: use $(1 - y_i \cdot y_0)/2$

For clauses with two literals we can specify similar formulas.

1. Propose an arithmetization for all 4 possibilities for a clause with 2 literals.

2. Formulate a quadratic program for MAX2SAT with the help of these arithmetizations.
3. Formulate a semidefinite program as a relaxation of the quadratic program.
4. Propose an approximation algorithm for MAX2SAT. Do you have an idea how to show that its approximation ratio is at most 1.139?