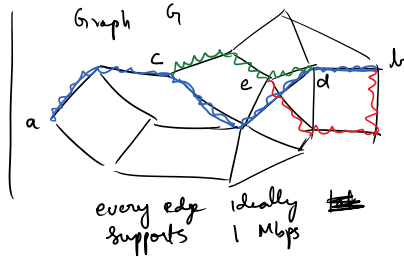


Today:-

- Online Virtual Circuit Routing
- Secretary Problem (Online Stochastic)

Problem:-

requests arrive over time
(source, destination, 1 Mbps)



(eg) ① (a, b, 1)

algo decides which virtual circuit to route request on path

② (c, d, 1)

algo goal: find a virtual circuit routing to minimize max load on any edge.

③ (e, b, 1)

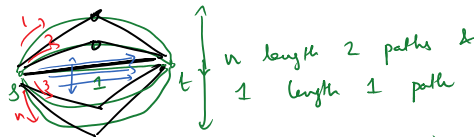
Can we find a good path selection algorithm (works online) such that no edge is overused too often.

Competitive Ratio

$$\frac{\max_e \text{load}(e) \text{ due to Algo}}{\max_e \text{load}(e) \text{ of optimal soln}}$$

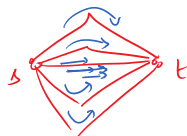
Toy Solution

- for each request, send 1 unit blw on shortest path
- Q) How good is it wrt Competitive ratio?



$\sigma = \text{request sequence} \equiv (s, t, 1), (s, t, 1), (s, t, 1) \dots$
← n times →

$$CR = \frac{\max \text{load of online Alg}}{\max \text{load of OPT}} = \frac{n}{1} = n \quad \text{too high !!}$$

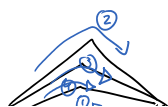


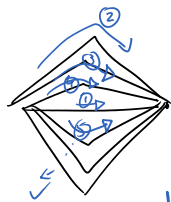
Algo 2 :- Make shortest path weighted

at time t , let $\text{load}(e, t)$ denote the # of past paths using edge e .

Then for new request, find shortest path in the weighted graph $w(e) = \text{load}(e, t) + 1$

final load if we are to route along that edge

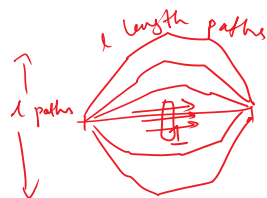




Final ...
route along that edge

For request 2,
 $w(\text{direct edge}) = 2$
 $w(\text{indirect edge}) = 1$ each.
doing great!

Worst Case
 $CR(\text{Algo 2}) = \frac{l}{1} = \sqrt{n}$



1st request: uses direct path
 sees cost 1 on direct path
 on indirect path
 2nd request: uses direct path
 sees cost 2 on direct path
 on indirect path
 ...
 lth request: uses direct path

Need a different balance b/w length & congestion incurred.
 shd. be dictated by the obj. function we care about.
 ↑
 max load on any edge

Attempt ③: $w(e,t) = (\text{load}(e,t) + 1)^2$ & find
 wld. shortest path.
 Similar bad example, $CR = n^{1/3}$.

↓
Good Algo :- use $w(e,t) = \text{exponential}(\text{load}(e,t))$
 ↓
 finds shortest path!

↓
 a) avoids highly congested edges
 b) if all edges are equally congested, prefers
 short paths w/ few hops.

Algo :-

PROMISE :- Assume that we know max load of optimal solution
 for the requests which are going to arrive
 (λ^*)

- ① At time t , let $\text{load}(e,t)$ be # past paths
 using edge e .
- ② Set $w(e,t) = (1+\epsilon)^{\frac{\text{load}(e,t)+1}{\lambda^*}} - (1+\epsilon)^{\frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*}}$
- ③ For new request $(s_t, d_t, 1)$, route along shortest
 path w.r.t weights $w(e,t)$.
- ④ update loads.

Theorem :-

For above algo, $CR \leq O(\log m)$, m is # edges
 in graph

to show

Proof:- Suffices to show
 $\max \text{load on any edge in Alg} \leq O(\log m) \cdot \lambda^*$
 (since denominator in CR definition = λ^* due to promise)

Potential Function based proof:-

$$\phi(t) = \sum_e (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*}$$

$$\phi(0) = m$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(t+1) - \phi(t) &= \sum_{e \in P_{t+1}} \left[(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)+1}{\lambda^*} - (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*} \right] \\ &\quad \uparrow \text{ algo chose } \quad \uparrow \text{ in fact, this was weight that algo set on edge } e \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \sum_{e \in P_{t+1}^*} \left[(1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)+1}{\lambda^*} - (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\quad \uparrow \text{ path chosen by hindsight OPT solution} \\ &= \sum_{e \in P_{t+1}^*} (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*} \left[(1+\varepsilon)^{\frac{1}{\lambda^*}} - 1 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\approx \sum_{e \in P_{t+1}^*} (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*} \left[1 + \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda^*} - 1 \right]$$

$$\approx \sum_{e \in P_{t+1}^*} (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda^*}$$

$$\phi(t+1) - \phi(t) \leq \sum_{e \in P_{t+1}^*} (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda^*}$$

recall: P_{t+1}^* is OPT path to route $(s_{t+1}, d_{t+1}, 1)$ request

Sum over all $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T-1$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(T) - \phi(0) &\leq \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} \sum_{e \in P_{t+1}^*} (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,t)}{\lambda^*} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda^*} \\ &\leq \sum_e \lambda^* \cdot \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda^*} \cdot (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,T)}{\lambda^*} \end{aligned}$$

$$\phi(T) - \phi(0) \leq \varepsilon \sum_e (1+\varepsilon) \frac{\text{load}(e,T)}{\lambda^*}$$

$$\phi(T) - \phi(0) \leq \varepsilon \phi(T)$$

$$(1-\varepsilon) \phi(T) \leq \phi(0) = m$$

$$\phi(T) \leq \frac{m}{1-\varepsilon}$$

$$\phi(T) \leq \frac{1}{1-\varepsilon}$$

Set $\varepsilon = 1/2$

$$\sum_e \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{\frac{\text{load}(e,T)}{\lambda^*}} \leq 2m$$

In particular, for every edge,

$$\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{\frac{\text{load}(e,T)}{\lambda^*}} \leq 2m$$

$$\frac{\text{load}(e,T)}{\lambda^*} \cdot \log \frac{3}{2} \leq \log(2m)$$

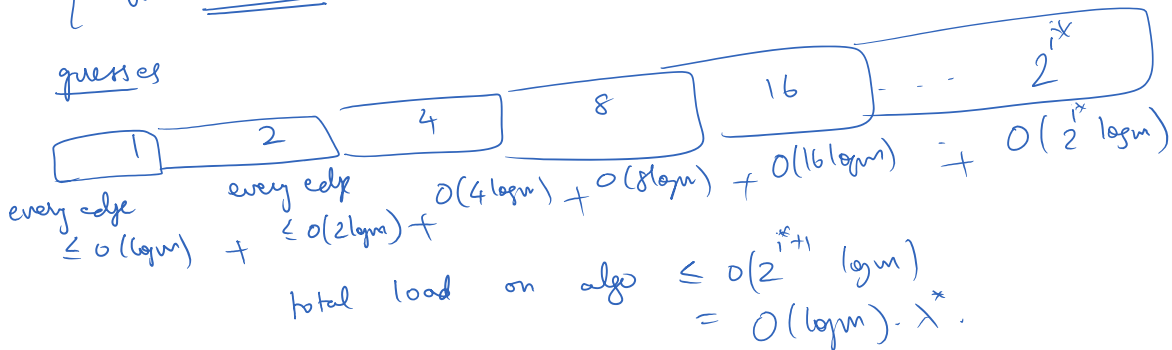
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{load}(e,T) \leq O(\log m) \cdot \lambda^*}$$

Potential ϕ acts like a "soft-max" function

How to avoid knowing λ^*

use algo performance to guess/estimate λ^*

whenever we violate our Thm's performance guarantee,
we double our guess for future requests



Idea: use Algo + Thm statement to infer OPT value.


Online Stochastic Optimization

(toy example) \leftarrow general application: admission control.

\rightarrow There are n people, each has inherent utility $\in [0,1]$
 \rightarrow they arrive online

→ Algo has to decide who to give resource ~
(instantaneous)

Goal :- max utility,
⇒ max Pr [Algo giving resource to highest utility person]

→ Fully online setting, no meaningful algo can find best utility with non-trivial prob.
→ ϵ $\sqrt{\epsilon}$ $\epsilon^{1/3}$ 

Observation :- nature is not - worst - case

↙
nature is random somehow

↓
typically a mix of random + adversarial.

How to come up with model.

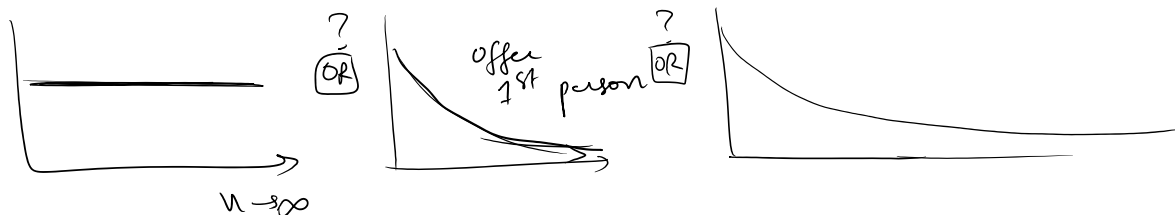
OUR MODEL | Adversary chooses the n utility values
They are revealed in a random order (random permutation)
Goal :- Max Pr [we select the highest utility item]

Toy Algo :- offer the k^{th} person the resource.

→ Pr [selecting highest utility] = $\frac{1}{n}$

Possibilities

P_n = optimal Algo's probability



Intuition


→ Learn about the values by looking at a small sample.

→ Algo :- Just Observe the first $k-1$ utilities,
... in $\{k, k+1, \dots, n\}$

\rightarrow Algo :- Just Observe the first $k-1$ utilities,
 offer to the first person in $\{k, k+1, \dots, n\}$
 better than the best in $\{1, 2, \dots, k-1\}$

What value of k to choose?

Toy analysis ($k = \frac{n}{2}$).

$\frac{n}{2}$ | 
 choose 1st person better than best seen so far

Snapshot success :-
 2nd best appears in $\{1, \dots, n/2\}$ \rightarrow 2nd is in training
 & best does not. 1st is in testing

$$P[\text{Success}] \geq \frac{1}{4} ;$$

\uparrow
we should also count

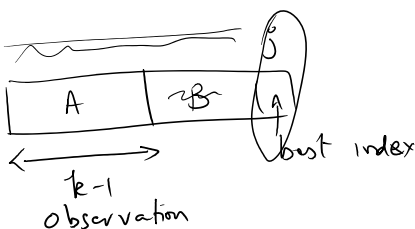
$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \leftarrow$
 3rd best is in training,
 1st & 2nd are both testing, but 1 comes before 2.

Why is $k = \frac{n}{2}$ optimal?

What is optimal value of k ?

let X_n = random variable for index of best utility person

$$P\left(\text{Success of } \underbrace{\text{Algo}(k)}_{\substack{\text{learn } k-1 \\ \text{best in test}}} \mid X_n = j\right) = \begin{cases} 0 & j < k \\ \frac{k-1}{j-1} & j \geq k \end{cases}$$



Algo is successful if local 2nd best within the 1st j people
 appears in training phase

Overall Success

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(\text{Success of Alg}(k)) &= \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \Pr(X_n=j) \cdot 0 + \sum_{j=k}^n \Pr(X_n=j) \frac{k-1}{j-1} \\ &= \frac{k-1}{n} \sum_{j=k}^n \frac{1}{j-1} \\ &\approx \frac{k-1}{n} \ln \frac{n}{k} \quad (\text{cheat, but ok, not bad})\end{aligned}$$

Optimize over k :-

$$f(x) \approx x \ln \frac{n}{x}$$

$$f'(x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \frac{n}{x} + \frac{x \cdot x}{n} \cdot \left(-\frac{n}{x^2}\right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \frac{n}{x} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{x} = e$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{n}{e} \quad \left[k = \frac{n}{e} \right]$$

$$\boxed{\Pr(\text{Algo}(k) \text{ succeeds}) = \frac{1}{e} \gg \frac{1}{4}}$$

→ Algo learns/estimates input parameters on the fly.

→ Rich history

→ Introduces semi online, semi stochastic model

→ No algo can beat $(1/e)$. Best algorithm!

↙ One of the proofs of optimality is via LP + duality