

MaxCut. In MAXCUT, the task is to find an edge cut in an undirected graph of maximum size, i.e., a partition of vertices of G into two sets A, B such that the number of edges between A, B is as large as possible. Find a $1/2$ -approximation algorithm for MAXCUT.

MaxSAT. We are given a logical formula in CNF which may not be satisfiable. We want to satisfy as many clauses as possible. Design a $1/2$ -approximation algorithm.

IndSet in Interval Graph. An interval graph G of a set of intervals $\{[x_1, y_1], \dots, [x_n, y_n]\}$ has vertices v_1, \dots, v_n and has an edge $v_i v_j$ iff $|[x_i, y_i] \cap [x_j, y_j]| > 0$, that is, intervals i and j overlap non-trivially. Design a polynomial time algorithm which finds the maximum independent set in an interval graph.

TSP in 2^n instead of $n!$. Solving TSP by brute-force would enumerate all hamiltonian cycles, which would take roughly $\mathcal{O}(n!)$ time. Try to find a faster algorithm. Using dynamic programming, one can design an $\mathcal{O}(2^n \cdot n^k)$ algorithm for some constant k , which is still exponential, but much better than $\mathcal{O}(n!)$.