

# ECE 457A - Tutorial 5 - TSP

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# Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP)

- A widely studied combinatorial optimization problem
- **Problem:**
  - **Given a set of cities and a cost to travel from one city to another, identify the tour that will allow a salesman to visit each city only once, starting and ending in the same city, at the minimum cost!**
- NP-Complete
  - Nondeterministic Polynomial-time Complete
  - No known polynomial-time algorithm can solve them
- Polynomial Time:  
<https://mathworld.wolfram.com/PolynomialTime.html>



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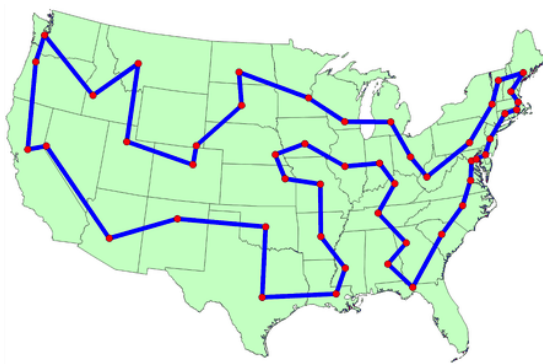


Figure: Solution to 48 States Traveling Salesman Problem



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# References



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Junger, M., Liebling, T., Naddef, D., Nemhauser, G., Pulleyblank, W., Reinelt, G., Rinaldi, G., & Wolsey, L. (Eds.). (2009). *50 years of integer programming, 1958-2008: The early years and state-of-the-art surveys*. Heidelberg: Springer.



Yu, J. (2014). Traveling salesman problem. Available:  
[https://optimization.cbe.cornell.edu/index.php?title=Traveling\\_salesman\\_problem](https://optimization.cbe.cornell.edu/index.php?title=Traveling_salesman_problem)



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