

RDARP is a variation of offline Dial-a-Ride, where each request has not only a source and destination but also a revenue that is earned for serving the request. The input to RDARP is a uniform metric space, a set of requests, a time limit  $T$ . Each request has a source point and a destination point in the metric space, and a revenue, where the revenues are nonuniform. A server starts at a designated point in the metric space, which is the origin. The goal is to move the server through the metric space, serving requests one at a time so as to maximize the revenue earned in  $T$  time units, with nonuniform revenues.

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**Algorithm 1** quickOPT2
 

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- 1: Find the highest revenue set of requests  $S$  that can be completed in the next 2 time units
  - 2: move to it
  - 3: serve it
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$HRF'$  is a version of the Highest Revenue First algorithm, that operates only at even time units starting at  $t = 0$ . Thus it serves the highest revenue request available at the time units  $t = 0, 2, 4, \dots, T - 1$ .

OPT is an algorithm that yields an optimal result.

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**Algorithm 2** HRF'
 

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- 1: **if**  $T$  is even **then**
  - 2:   At every even time, determine which request earns the greatest revenue and move to location
  - 3:   of this request. Denote this request as  $r$ . If no unserved requests exist, do nothing until next
  - 4:   even time.
  - 5: **else if**  $T$  is odd **then**
  - 6:   At time 0, do nothing.
  - 7:   At every odd time, determine which request earns the greatest revenue and move to the
  - 8:   source location of this request. Denote this request as  $r$ . If no unserved requests exist, do
  - 9:   nothing until the next even time.
  - 10:   At every even time, complete request  $r$  from the previous step
  - 11: **end if**
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sortedOPT is a version of the OPT algorithm, that sorts all requests that OPT can serve by revenue in decreasing order:  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_i$ , where  $r_1 \geq r_2 \geq \dots \geq r_i$

Define  $rev(A)$  to be the revenue earned by the algorithm A.

The goal of this document is to prove the following theorems.

**Theorem 1.** *quickOPT2 is a 2-approximation for offline RDARP on the uniform metric.*

$$rev(\text{quickOPT2}) \geq rev(HRF') \geq \frac{1}{2} rev(\text{sortedOPT}) = \frac{1}{2} rev(OPT)$$

We will prove this theorem using the following lemmas.

Define what a window is. Let a window denote a pair of time units.

Let  $rev(quickOPT2(w_1, \dots, w_k))$  refer to the revenue earned by quickOPT2 in windows  $w_1$  to  $w_k$  inclusive. Note  $rev(HRF'(w_1, \dots, w_k))$  is equal to the revenue of the top  $k$  highest-revenue requests.

**Lemma 1.** For  $k = 1 \dots \frac{T}{2}$ ,  $rev(quickOPT2(w_1, \dots, w_k)) \geq rev(HRF'(w_1, \dots, w_k))$

*Proof. Base step:*  $k = 1$ . In  $w_1$ ,  $HRF'$  will serve the request with  $r_{\max}$ . By definition,  $quickOPT2$  will serve the highest revenue set of requests  $S$  that can be completed in the next 2 time unites. Therefore,  $quickOPT2$  will either serve the request with the highest revenue  $r_{\max}$  or the highest revenue set of request  $S$  such that  $rev(S) \geq r_{\max}$ . Hence,  $rev(quickOPT2(w_1)) \geq rev(HRF'(w_1))$  holds for  $k = 1$ .

**Inductive step:** Assume  $rev(quickOPT2(w_1, \dots, w_k)) \geq rev(HRF'(w_1, \dots, w_k))$  (ind. hyp.). We show that  $rev(quickOPT2(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1})) \geq rev(HRF'(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1}))$ . There are two cases.

**Case 1:**  $rev(quickOPT2(w_{k+1})) \geq rev(HRF'(w_{k+1}))$ . Combining this inequality with the ind. hyp. implies  $rev(quickOPT2(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1})) \geq rev(HRF'(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1}))$

**Case 2:**  $rev(quickOPT2(w_{k+1})) < rev(HRF'(w_{k+1}))$ . Let  $v$  be the last request served by  $HRF'$  at  $w_{k+1}$ . By definition of  $quickOPT2$ , this must mean that  $quickOPT2$  has already served  $v$ . (otherwise  $quickOPT2$  would be doing  $v$  or better in  $w_{k+1}$ ). Notice revenues earned by both algorithms per time window does not increase as the time window number increases. Formally, if  $h_i$  (and  $q_i$ , respectively) for  $i = 1 \dots T/2$  denotes the revenue earned by  $HRF'$  (and quickOPT2, respectively) in window  $i$ , then

$$h_i \geq h_j, \text{ for all } i, j \text{ where } i < j \text{ and } q_i \geq q_j, \text{ for all } i, j, \text{ where } i < j \quad (1)$$

Let  $w_j$ , for some  $j < k + 1$ , be the time window where  $quickOPT2$  served  $v$ . Let  $Q_j$  be the set of served requests that  $quickOPT2$  served up to and including those serve in  $w_j$ . Let  $H_{k+1}$  be the set of requests served by  $HRF'$  up to and including  $w_{k+1}$ . It follows that  $H_{k+1} \subseteq Q_j$  by  $(\Delta)$ . Thus,  $rev(H_{k+1}) \leq rev(Q_j)$ .

$\Delta$ : Suppose for contradiction that there is some request  $v'$  in  $H_{k+1}$  not in  $Q_j$ . Note  $v' > v$  since it is served before  $v$  in the  $HRF'$  schedule (since  $v$  was served in  $w_{k+1}$ ). But  $quickOPT2$  served  $v$  in  $w_j$  instead of  $v'$ , while  $v'$  was still available to be served by quickOPT2. This contradicts the definition of  $quickOPT2$ .

Hence,

$$rev(HRF'(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1})) \leq rev(quickOPT2(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_j)) \leq rev(quickOPT2(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1}))$$

Therefore, the addition of the revenue earned by  $HRF'$  from  $v$  in  $w_{k+1}$  will not be enough to make  $HRF'(w_1 \dots w_{k+1}) > quickOPT2(w_1 \dots w_{k+1})$  by (4).  $\square$

**Lemma 2.**  $rev(HRF') \geq \frac{1}{2} rev(sortedOPT) = \frac{1}{2} rev(OPT)$ .

*Proof.* Let the sequence of  $sortedOPT$  requests be denoted as  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$ , where  $n \leq T$ . Then,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{T/2} r_i \geq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n r_i = \frac{1}{2} rev(sortedOPT) = \frac{1}{2} rev(OPT) \quad (2)$$

because  $r_i \geq r_j$  for  $i < j$ , and  $n \leq T$ .

Denote the sequence of  $HRF'$  requests as  $h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{T/2}$ . By greediness of  $HRF'$ ,  $h_i \geq r_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq T/2$ . Hence,

$$rev(HRF') = \sum_{i=1}^{T/2} h_i \geq \sum_{i=1}^{T/2} r_i \quad (3)$$

By equations (2) and (3), we have shown  $rev(HRF') \geq \frac{1}{2}rev(sortedOPT) = \frac{1}{2}rev(OPT)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** *quickOPT3 is a  $\frac{2}{3}$ -approximation for offline RDARP on the uniform metric.*

$$rev(quickOPT3) \geq rev(HR2F) \geq \frac{2}{3}OPT$$

We will prove this theorem using the following lemmas.

Define what a window is. Let a window denote 3 time units. Assume for now that  $T = 3k$ .

Let  $rev(quickOPT3(w_1, \dots, w_k))$  refer to the revenue earned by quickOPT3 in windows  $w_1$  to  $w_k$  inclusive.  $HR2F$  is the revenue version of two-chain algorithm.

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**Algorithm 3** HR2f

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- 1: Input: Set  $S$  of requests, time limit  $T$ , origin
  - 2: Initialize server to origin
  - 3: **while** available requests remain and time has not run out **do**
  - 4:     **if** any 2-chains remain **then**
  - 5:         find the highest-revenue 2-chain with revenue  $max(rev((u, v)))$
  - 6:     **else**
  - 7:         Find the highest revenue 1-chain (singleton) with revenue  $max(rev(w))$
  - 8:     **end if**
  - 9:     Serve either  $(u, v)$  or  $w$ , the one with higher-revenue.
  - 10: **end while**
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**Lemma 3.** *For  $k = 1 \dots \frac{T}{3}$ ,  $rev(quickOPT3(w_1, \dots, w_k)) \geq rev(HR2F(w_1, \dots, w_k))$ .*

*Proof. Base step:*  $k = 1$ . In  $w_1$ ,  $HR2F$  will serve a chain of 2 requests with the total revenue  $r_{\max}$ . By definition,  $quickOPT3$  will serve the highest revenue set of requests  $S$  that can be completed in the next 3 time units. Therefore,  $quickOPT3$  will either serve the two-chain with the highest total revenue  $r_{\max}$  or the highest revenue set of request  $S$  such that  $rev(S) \geq r_{\max}$ . Hence,  $rev(quickOPT3(w_1)) \geq rev(HRF'(w_1))$  holds for  $k = 1$ .

**Inductive step:** Assume  $rev(quickOPT3(w_1, \dots, w_k)) \geq rev(HR2F(w_1, \dots, w_k))$  (ind. hyp.). We show that  $rev(quickOPT3(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1})) \geq rev(HR2F(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1}))$ . There are two cases.

**Case 1:**  $rev(quickOPT3(w_{k+1})) \geq rev(HR2F(w_{k+1}))$ . Combining this inequality with the ind. hyp. implies  $rev(quickOPT3(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1})) \geq rev(HR2F(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1}))$

**Case 2:**  $rev(quickOPT3(w_{k+1})) < rev(HR2F(w_{k+1}))$ . Let  $u, v$  be the last two-chain served by  $HR2F$  at  $w_{k+1}$ . By definition of  $quickOPT3$ , this must mean that  $quickOPT3$  has already served at

least one of  $u$  or  $v$  (or both). (Otherwise *quickOPT3* would be serving  $u, v$  or some higher-revenue set in  $w_{k+1}$ ). Notice revenues earned by both algorithms per time window decreases as the time window number increases. Formally, if  $h_i$  (and  $q_i$ , respectively) for  $i = 1 \dots T/2$  denotes the revenue earned by HR2F (and quickOPT3, respectively) in window  $i$ , then

$$h_i \geq h_j, \text{ for all } i, j \text{ where } i < j \text{ and } q_i \geq q_j, \text{ for all } i, j, \text{ where } i < j \quad (4)$$

Let  $w_j$ , for some  $j < k + 1$ , be the time window where *quickOPT3* served  $v$ . Let  $Q_j$  be the set of served requests that *quickOPT3* served up to and including those serve in  $w_j$ . Let  $H_{k+1}$  be the set of requests served by *HR2F* up to and including  $w_{k+1}$ . It follows that  $H_{k+1} \subseteq Q_j$  by  $(\Delta)$ . Thus,  $rev(H_{k+1}) \leq rev(Q_j)$ .

$\Delta$ : Suppose for contradiction that there is some request  $v'$  in  $H_{k+1}$  not in  $Q_j$ . Note  $v' > v$  since it is served before  $v$  in the *HR2F* schedule (since  $v$  was served in  $w_{k+1}$ ). But *quickOPT3* served  $v$  in  $w_j$  instead of  $v'$ , while  $v'$  was still available to be served by quickOPT3. This contradicts the definition of *quickOPT3*.

Hence,

$$rev(HRF'(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1})) \leq rev(quickOPT3(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_j)) \leq rev(quickOPT3(w_1, \dots, w_{k+1}))$$

Therefore, the addition of the revenue earned by *HRF'* from  $v$  in  $w_{k+1}$  will not be enough to make  $HRF'(w_1 \dots w_{k+1}) > quickOPT3(w_1 \dots w_{k+1})$  by (4).  $\square$