
Subject: Re: 2005 IDL Christmas Card
Posted by [b_gom](#) on Thu, 22 Dec 2005 01:38:25 GMT
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Nice work on the genetic algorithm, but at the risk of being labeled a grinch there seems to be a flaw with the boundary conditions- the algorithm generates the shortest route, but unfortunately it seems to require Santa to deliver some presents in the middle of the day. Shouldn't the optimal route be the shortest distance that allows all the presents to be delivered in the middle of the night, local time?

Brad

Subject: Re: 2005 IDL Christmas Card
Posted by [ronn](#) on Thu, 22 Dec 2005 12:23:01 GMT
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Yes, that is true. But I have spent way too much time on this so I decided to leave that extension as "an exercise for the student".

The way I was planning to do it was to add another weight to the distance calculation. In addition to the distance it needs to calculate the elevation of the sun and if it is daylight then the distance needs to be increased by some large factor (4 or 5?). This should force the path to stay in the dark.

Another advantage of releasing it this way is that the GA is very generic and should be a good starting point for people wanting to use GA's with IDL.

-Ronn

Subject: Re: 2005 IDL Christmas Card
Posted by [news.qwest.net](#) on Thu, 22 Dec 2005 18:30:07 GMT
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A very nice Christmas Card!

Thanks Ronn, and Merry Christmas!

Cheers,
bob
