

University of Toronto  
Scarborough Campus  
October 28, 2022

**CSC C73 Midterm Test**  
**Instructor:** Vassos Hadzilacos

**Aids allowed:** One  $8.5 \times 11$  'cheat sheet' (may be written on both sides)

**Duration:** Two hours

**READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY**

- There should be 9 pages in this exam booklet, including this cover page.
- Answer all questions.
- Put all answers in this booklet, in the spaces provided.
- For rough work, use the backs of the pages; *these will not be graded*.
- The last two pages are blank and can be used for rough work or for overflow. *Do not detach them* from the booklet. If you use them for overflow, you must *clearly indicate this* on the page(s) containing the question(s) whose answer(s) you are providing in the overflow pages.
- In your answers you may use any result discussed in this course or its prerequisites merely by naming or describing it.
- Good luck!

**QUESTION 1.** (30 marks)

For each of the statements below, indicate whether it is true or false by circling the appropriate response. Do **not** justify your answers. No penalty for wrong answers, but don't rush to guess.

- a. If all symbols have the same frequency, then Huffman's algorithm necessarily produces codewords whose lengths differ by at most one. .... **True** / **False** *T*
- b. Regardless of the frequencies of the symbols, Huffman's algorithm will necessarily produce some codeword of length **at most**  $\lceil \log_2 n \rceil$ , where  $n$  is the number of symbols. .... **True** / **False** *T*
- c. Depending on the frequencies of the symbols, Huffman's algorithm can produce some codeword of length  $\Omega(n)$ , where  $n$  is the number of symbols. .... **True** / **False** *T*
- d. If  $P$  is a shortest path from node  $u$  to node  $v$  in a directed graph with non-negative edge weights, then  $P$  is also a shortest path from  $u$  to  $v$  if we increase the weight of each edge by one. .... **True** / **False** *F*
- e. Dijkstra's algorithm can be implemented to run in  $O(n^2)$  time, where  $n$  is the number of the graph's nodes. .... **True** / **False** *T*
- f. If Dijkstra's algorithm adds node  $u$  before node  $v$  to the set  $R$  (of nodes to which it has found shortest paths from the source node  $s$ ), then the weight of a shortest path from  $s$  to  $u$  is at most the weight of a shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ . .... **True** / **False** *T*
- g. If  $T(n) = 4T(n/2) + n^2$  then  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$ . .... **True** / **False** *F*
- h. Karatsuba's algorithm to multiply two  $n$ -bit integers runs in  $O(n \log n)$  time. .... **True** / **False** *F*
- i. The randomized order-statistics algorithm R-SELECT runs in  $O(n \log n)$  time in the worst case. .... **True** / **False** *F*
- j. The 0-1 knapsack problem can be solved in polynomial time if every item has weight at most 1000. .... **True** / **False** *T*

**QUESTION 2.** (30 marks)

Describe a **divide-and-conquer** algorithm that takes as input an array  $A[1..n]$  of **positive integers** in arbitrary order, where  $n \geq 2$ , and returns a pair  $(i, j)$  such that  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  and the quantity  $A[j] - A[i]$  has maximum value; note that this could be negative. Analyze the running time of your algorithm using the Master Theorem making clear the value of the relevant parameters  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $d$ . You may assume that  $n \geq 2$  is a **power of 2**. Do **not** justify the correctness of your algorithm.

Full marks for a correct and clearly described  $\Theta(n)$  algorithm; significant partial marks for a correct and clearly described  $\Theta(n \log n)$  algorithm. No credit for  $\Omega(n^2)$  algorithms, even if correct. Note that we are looking specifically for a divide-and-conquer algorithm.

**ANSWER:** We give a divide-and-conquer algorithm  $\text{FindMaxDiff}(A, \ell, r)$ , where  $1 \leq \ell \leq r \leq n$ , that solve  $A[\ell..r]$ , where  $\ell < r$  and  $r - \ell + 1$  is a power of 2. More precisely, if  $\ell < r$ ,  $\text{FindMaxDiff}(A, \ell, r)$  returns a four-tuple  $(i, j, \min, \max)$  such that  $i < j$  and the quantity  $A[j] - A[i]$  is maximized,  $\min$  is the index of the minimum element on the first half of  $A[\ell..r]$ , and  $\max$  is the index of the maximum element on the second half of  $A[\ell..r]$ ; if  $\ell = r$ , it returns  $(\ell, \ell, \ell, \ell)$ . Thus, to solve the given problem, we simply call  $\text{FindMaxDiff}(A, 1, n)$ , and return the pair consisting of the first two value (The version below does

that the length of  $A[\ell..r]$  is a power of 2. With that assumption the base case is when  $\ell = r - 1$ , in which case we return  $(\ell, r)$ ; and the conditions in line case that  $i \neq j$  and  $i_R \neq j_R$ .)

```
FINDMAXDIFF( $A, \ell, r$ )
1  if  $\ell = r$  then return  $(\ell, \ell, \ell, \ell)$ 
2  else
3       $m := \lfloor (\ell + r) / 2 \rfloor$ 
4       $(i_L, j_L, \min_L, \max_L) := \text{FINDMAXDIFF}(A, \ell, m)$ 
5       $(i_R, j_R, \min_R, \max_R) := \text{FINDMAXDIFF}(A, m + 1, r)$ 
6       $\min := \min_L$ 
7       $\max := \max_R$ 
8       $(i, j) := (i_L, j_L)$ 
9      if  $i = j$  or  $(i_R \neq j_R$  and  $A[j_R] - A[i_R] > A[j] - A[i])$  then  $(i, j) := (i_R, j_R)$ 
10     if  $i = j$  or  $A[\max] - A[\min] > A[j] - A[i]$  then  $(i, j) := (\min, \max)$ 
11     return  $(i, j, \min, \max)$ 
```

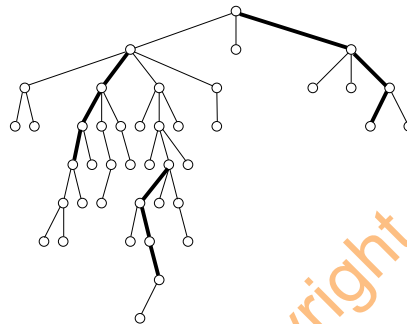
The running time  $T(n)$  of this algorithm, where  $n = r - \ell + 1$  (the length of  $A[\ell..r]$ ), is defined by the recurrence  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + c$ , so in terms of the Master Theorem parameters we have  $a = b = 2$  and  $d = 0$ . Since  $a > b^d$ , the third case of the theorem applies.  $T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_2 2}) = \Theta(n)$ .

(A  $\Theta(n \log n)$  version of this algorithm returns just the pair  $(i, j)$  and spends linear time finding the min of the first half and the max of the second half to make no Then the recurrence for the running time is  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + cn$ .)

### QUESTION 3. (30 marks)

Let  $T$  be a rooted tree, not necessarily binary. Recall that a path in a rooted tree consists of a sequence of nodes such that each node other than the first is a child of the previous node in the sequence; the length of a path is the number of edges on it (i.e., one less than the number of nodes on it). Two paths in  $T$  *intersect* if they have a node in common. Given  $T$  and an integer  $k \geq 0$  we want to find a maximum cardinality set of paths of  $T$ , each of length  $k$ , so that no two paths in the set intersect.

For example, the figure below shows a rooted tree and highlights three non-intersecting paths of length 3 (those shown with heavy edges). The set of these three paths is **not** a maximum cardinality set of non-intersecting paths of length 3: there are sets with more non-intersecting paths of length 3.



a. Describe an efficient **greedy** algorithm that, given a rooted tree  $T$  and an integer  $k \geq 0$ , finds a maximum cardinality set of non-intersecting paths of  $T$ , each of length  $k$ . You may assume that the tree's nodes are labeled by the positive integers 1 through  $n$ , the root is the node labeled 1, and the tree is specified by giving, for each node  $i$ , (a) the list of its children  $children(i)$  (empty, if  $i$  is a leaf), and (b) its parent  $parent(i)$  (0, if  $i$  is the root). Describe your algorithm in clear, high-level pseudocode; do not write detailed code. Do **not** justify the correctness of your algorithm.

**Hint:** In the above example, every path of length 3 intersects one of the three paths shown. What can be done to allow more non-intersecting paths of length 3?

**ANSWER:** The basic idea is to consider paths in decreasing depth (any) dee  $k$ . We keep this manner, unless

NONINTERSECTINGPATHS( $T, k$ )

- 1 find the depth of each node (using a BFS or preorder traversal, based on the children pointers)
- 2  $L :=$  list of nodes of depth  $\geq k$  (these are the only possible last nodes of paths of length  $k$ )
- 3 sort  $L$  in decreasing depth
- 4  $P := \emptyset$
- 5 **for** each node  $u$  in  $L$  (in sorted order) **do**
- 6     starting at  $u$  trace a path  $p$  of length  $k$  going up the tree, based on the parent pointers
- 7     **if** all nodes on  $p$  are not on any path in  $P$  **then**  $P := P \cup \{p\}$
- 8 **return**  $P$

[part (b), and more space for part (a), if needed, on the next page]

[more space for part (a), if needed]

b. Analyze the running time of your algorithm in part (a) as a function of the number of nodes  $n$  of the tree  $T$  and the integer  $k$ .

**ANSWER:** Each of line 1-2 takes  $O(n)$  time. Line 3 can be done in  $O(n \log n)$  time using, say, heapsort. (Actually it can be done in  $O(n)$  time since the degree is at most  $k$ . Line 4 takes  $O(n)$  time since the degree is at most  $k$ . Line 5 takes  $O(n)$  time since the degree is at most  $k$ . Line 6 takes  $O(n)$  time since the degree is at most  $k$ . Line 7 we can maintain a Boolean array of length  $n$  that keeps track of whether a node is on one of the  $k$  paths, so we can check in constant time if a node is on one of the  $k$  paths. Line 8 takes  $O(nk)$  time, and the overall running time of the algorithm is  $O(n(\log n + k))$  (or, using the above observation,  $O(nk)$ ).

**QUESTION 4.** (30 marks)

Let  $x[1..m]$ ,  $y[1..n]$ , and  $z[1..m+n]$  be strings over some alphabet, where  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . (Note that the length of  $z$  is the sum of the lengths of  $x$  and  $y$ .) Informally speaking,  $z$  is a “shuffle” of  $x$  and  $y$  if  $x$  and  $y$  can be broken into segments so that  $z$  is constructed as the interleaving of these segments. More precisely, the string  $z$  is a *shuffle* of  $x$  and  $y$  if, for some  $k$ , there are (*possibly empty*) strings  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  and  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k$  so that  $x = x_1x_2\dots x_k$ ,  $y = y_1y_2\dots y_k$ , and  $z = x_1y_1x_2y_2\dots x_ky_k$ . For example,  $z = \text{paleolithic}$  is a shuffle of  $x = \text{leoith}$  and  $y = \text{palic}$ : take  $x_1 = \epsilon$  (the empty string),  $x_2 = \text{leo}$ ,  $x_3 = \text{ith}$ ,  $y_1 = \text{pa}$ ,  $y_2 = \text{l}$ , and  $y_3 = \text{ic}$ .

For this question you are asked to develop a polynomial-time *dynamic programming* algorithm that, given strings  $x[1..m]$ ,  $y[1..n]$ , and  $z[1..m+n]$ , returns true if  $z$  is a shuffle of  $x$  and  $y$ , and returns false otherwise.

a. Define clearly the subproblems that your dynamic programming algorithm will solve.

**ANSWER:** The sub

$S(i, j)$  defined below for every  $i$  and  $j$

such that  $0 \leq i \leq m$  and  $0 \leq j \leq n$ . Note that for any string  $w$ ,  $w[1..0]$  is the empty string.

$$S(i, j) = \begin{cases} \text{true,} & \text{if } z[1..i+j] \text{ is a shuffle of } x[1..i] \text{ and } y[1..j] \\ \text{fal} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

b. Give a recursive formula to compute the solution to the subproblems in part (a). Do *not* explain why your formula is correct.

**ANSWER:**

$$S(i, j) = \begin{cases} \text{true,} & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ and } j = 0 \\ S(i, j-1) \wedge (z[j] = y[j]), & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \\ S(i-1, j) \wedge (z[i] = x[i]), & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j = 0 \\ (S(i, j-1) \wedge (z[i+j] = y[j])) \vee (S(i-1, j) \wedge (z[i+j] = x[i])), & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \end{cases} \quad (\dagger)$$

- c. Describe your dynamic programming algorithm in pseudocode. Do not explain why your algorithm is correct.

**ANSWER:**

```
SHUFFLE( $x[1..m]$ ,  $y[1..n]$ ,  $z[1..m+n]$ )
1   $S(0,0) := \text{true}$ 
2  for  $j := 1$  to  $n$  do  $S(0,j) := (S(0,j-1) \text{ and } (z[j] = y[j]))$ 
3  for  $i := 1$  to  $m$  do  $S(i,0) := (S(i-1,0) \text{ and } (z[i] = x[i]))$ 
4  for  $i := 1$  to  $m$  do
5      for  $j := 1$  to  $n$  do
6           $S(i,j) := ((S(i-1,j) \text{ and } z[i+j] = x[i]) \text{ or } (S(i,j-1) \text{ and } z[i+j] = y[j]))$ 
7  return  $S(m,n)$ 
```

- d. Analyze the running time of your algorithm as a function of  $m$  and  $n$  (the lengths of  $x$  and  $y$ ).

**ANSWER:** The running time of this algorithm is dominated by the doubly-nested loops which take  $O(mn)$  time.

**THE END**

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