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Dynamic Programming with Bitmask

Apr 20th, 2014 | [Comments](#)

DP is a technique to avoid repetitive computing by using a memo to track the result of each subproblem. In some scenarios, the state of a subproblem can be represented as a bitmask, and then the memo becomes an array. For the properties of bitmask, it fits the problem whose subproblems are defined on the subsets of variables. This post shows some scenarios using DP on bitmask I have ever met.

1. Baseline Models

1.1 Set Cover Problem

A classic NP-Complete problem in combinatorics and OR. According to [SCP WIKI](#), the problem is defined as: Given a set of elements $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$, the “universe”, and a set S of n set whose union equals to the universe, the problem is to identify the smallest subset of S whose union equals to the universe.

Here’s a formulation,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min \sum_{s \in S} cost_s x_s \\
 & s. t. \\
 & \sum_{s: e \in s} x_s \geq 1 \quad \text{for all } e \in U \\
 & x_s \in \{0, 1\} \quad \text{for all } s \in S
 \end{aligned}$$

Enumerating and checking all subsets of S needs 2^n operations, while DP method costs $n2^m$. Thus, DP is efficient when the universe is relatively small.

1.2 TSP

Problem Definition: given a weighted graph with n nodes, find the shortest path that visits every node exactly once.

TSP is also a classic NP-Complete problem. Brute force method has the complexity of $O(n!)$, while DP method can reduce it to $O(n^2 2^n)$. The optimal substructure of the problem is,

$$D_{S,v} = \min_{u \in S - \{v\}} (D_{S - \{v\},u} + \text{cost}(u, v))$$

where the $D_{S,v}$ denotes the length of the optimal path that visits every node in S exactly once and ends at v .

Thus, there're $n2^n$ subproblems. The answer to the problem is $\min_{v \in V} (D_{V,v})$, where V is the complete set of nodes.

Reference: slides from [Stanford CS97SI](#).

2. Varieties and Examples

2.1 Set Covering

Codeforces 417D. A basic set covering problem, where the objective function brings a little difficulty.

417D.cc

```

1  /*
2   * Codeforces 417D Cunning Gena.
3   * Tags: dp bitmask sortings greedy
4   * Date: April 21 2014
5   * Author: mzhang
6   */
7
8  #include <iostream>
9  #include <algorithm>
10
11 using namespace std;
12
13 #define N 100    // max friends number
14 #define M 20     // max problems number
15 #define INF -1
16
17 typedef long long ll;
18
19 struct Friend {
20     int id;      // friend id.
21     ll cost;     // the cost of solving problems.
22     ll monitor;  // the necessary num of monitors.
23     int solves;  // the bitmask of solvable problems.
24 };
25
26 bool cmp(Friend a, Friend b) {
27     return a.monitor < b.monitor;
28 }
29
30 Friend friends[N];
31 ll dp[1<<M];
32
33 int main() {
34     int n, m;    // number of friends and problems.
35     ll b;        // cost of monitor.
36     cin >> n >> m >> b;
```

```

37
38     for(int i = 0; i < (1<<m); i++) {
39         dp[i] = INF; // initially marked as impossible.
40     }
41     dp[0] = 0;
42
43     /* input processing. */
44     for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
45         ll cost, monitor, num;
46         int solves = 0;
47         cin >> cost >> monitor >> num;
48         for(int j = 0; j < num; j++) {
49             int qid;
50             cin >> qid;
51             solves |= (1 << (qid-1));
52         }
53         friends[i] = (Friend){i+1, cost, monitor, solves};
54     }
55
56     // start with the friend with minimum monitor number.
57     sort(friends, friends+n, cmp);
58
59     ll min_cost = INF;
60     for(int fid = 0; fid < n; fid++) {
61         Friend f = friends[fid];
62         for(int i = 0; i < (1<<m); i++) {
63             if(dp[i] == INF) {
64                 continue;
65             }
66             if(dp[i | f.solves] == INF) {
67                 dp[i | f.solves] = dp[i] + f.cost;
68             }
69             else {
70                 dp[i | f.solves] = min(dp[i | f.solves], dp[i] + f.cost);
71             }
72         }
73         if(dp[(1<<m) - 1] != INF) {
74             if(min_cost == INF) {
75                 min_cost = (dp[(1<<m) - 1] + f.monitor * b);
76             }
77             else {
78                 min_cost = min(min_cost, dp[(1<<m) - 1] + f.monitor * b);
79             }
80         }
81     }
82
83     cout << min_cost << endl;
84 }

```

2.2 TSP

POJ 3311. A basic TSP problem, however it requires the path start and end with the central point. In addition, floyd algorithm is needed to preprocess the distance matrix.

poj_3311.cc

```

1  /*
2   * POJ 3311 Hie with the Pie.
3   * Date: April 22 2014
4   * Author: mzhang
5   * Tag: dp bitmask TSP
6   */

```

```

7
8 #include <iostream>
9
10 using namespace std;
11
12 #define N 11          // max nodes number
13 #define INF -1        //
14 #define S -1          // id of the starting and ending node
15
16 int dp[1<<N][N];
17 int d[N][N];          // distance matrix
18
19 void input(int d[N][N], int n) {
20     for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
21         for(int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
22             cin >> d[i][j];
23         }
24     }
25 }
26
27 bool is_element(int bitmask, int index) {
28     return bitmask == (bitmask | (1<<index));
29 }
30
31 int dist(int i, int j) {
32     return d[i+1][j+1];
33 }
34
35 void floyd(int d[N][N], int n) {
36     for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
37         for(int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
38             for(int k = 0; k < n; k++) {
39                 d[i][j] = min(d[i][j], d[i][k] + d[k][j]);
40             }
41         }
42     }
43 }
44
45 int main() {
46     int n;
47     while(cin >> n) {
48         if(n == 0) {
49             break;
50         }
51
52         /* get distance matrix. */
53         input(d, n+1);
54
55         /* distance matrix preprocess. */
56         floyd(d, n+1);
57
58         /* dp init.
59          * All the path should start with the S. */
60         for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
61             for(int k = 0; k < (1<<n); k++) {
62                 dp[k][i] = INF;
63             }
64             dp[1<<i][i] = dist(S, i);
65         }
66
67         /* dp stage. */
68         for(int i = 1; i < (1<<n); i++) {
69             for(int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
70                 if(dp[i][j] != INF) {
71                     continue;

```

```

72     }
73     if(is_element(i, j)) {
74         int min_dist = INF;
75         for(int k = 0; k < n; k++) {
76             if(is_element(i, k) && k != j) {
77                 if(min_dist == INF ||
78                    min_dist > dp[i-(1<<j)][k] + dist(k, j)) {
79                     min_dist = dp[i-(1<<j)][k] + dist(k, j);
80                 }
81             }
82         }
83         dp[i][j] = min_dist;
84     }
85 }
86 }
87
88 /* Choosing final result.
89  * The complete path need to end with S */
90 int min_dist = INF;
91 for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
92     if(min_dist == INF || min_dist > dp[(1<<n)-1][i] + dist(i, S)) {
93         min_dist = dp[(1<<n)-1][i] + dist(i, S);
94     }
95 }
96 cout << min_dist << endl;
97 } // testcase loop
98 }

```

Codeforces 8C. The model and algorithm in TSP is applicable here if time and space complexity issue is not considered. This problem requires the “salesman” able to visit only 2 customers at most in a single trip from the start point. Thus, the trace of the optimal solution does not need to be “strongly sorted”. Based on this property, the model and algorithm can be simplify.

8C.cc

```

1  /*
2   * Codeforces 8C Looking for Order.
3   * Date: April 26 2014
4   * Author: mzhang
5   * Tag: dp bitmask
6   */
7
8  #include <iostream>
9  #include <cmath>
10 #include <cstdio>
11
12 #define N 24
13 #define INF -1
14 #define S -1
15
16 using namespace std;
17
18 struct Point {
19     int x, y;
20 };
21
22 Point points[N+1];
23 int d[N+1][N+1];
24 int dp[1<<N];
25 int pre[1<<N];
26 int n;
27

```

```

28 int dist(int i, int j) {
29     return d[i+1][j+1];
30 }
31
32 void get_dist_mat(int d[N+1][N+1], Point points[N+1], int n) {
33     for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
34         for(int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
35             d[i][j] = pow(points[j].x - points[i].x, 2) +
36                 pow(points[j].y - points[i].y, 2);
37         }
38     }
39 }
40
41 int count(int bitmask) {
42     int cnt = 0;
43     for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
44         if(bitmask & (1<<i)) {
45             cnt++;
46         }
47     }
48     return cnt;
49 }
50
51 bool is_element(int bitmask, int i) {
52     return (bitmask == (bitmask | (1<<i)));
53 }
54
55 void get_pre_nodes(int cur_state, int p_state, int pnodes[2], int& pcnt) {
56     int diff = cur_state ^ p_state;
57     pcnt = 0;
58     for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
59         if(diff & (1<<i)) {
60             pnodes[pcnt] = i;
61             pcnt++;
62         }
63     }
64     return;
65 }
66
67 /* compare and update first arg.
68 */
69 int get_min(int& x, int y) {
70     if(x == INF) {
71         x = y;
72         return true;
73     }
74     if(y == INF) {
75         return false;
76     }
77     if(x < y) {
78         return false;
79     }
80     x = y;
81     return true;
82 }
83
84 int main() {
85     cin >> points[0].x >> points[0].y;
86     cin >> n;
87     for(int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
88         cin >> points[i].x >> points[i].y;
89     }
90     get_dist_mat(d, points, n+1);
91
92     for(int i = 0; i < (1<<n); i++) {

```

```

93     dp[i]= INF;
94 }
95 dp[0]= 0;
96
97 for(int i = 1; i < (1<<n); i++) {
98     int min_dist = INF;
99     // pick one.
100    for(int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
101        if(!is_element(i, j)) {
102            continue;
103        }
104        bool modified = get_min(min_dist, dp[i-(1<<j)] + dist(S, j)*2);
105        if(modified) {
106            pre[i] = i - (1<<j);
107        }
108    }
109    // pick two, if possible.
110    if(count(i) <= 1) {
111        dp[i] = min_dist;
112        continue;
113    }
114    for(int j = 0; j < n-1; j++) {
115        if(is_element(i, j)) {
116            for(int k = j+1; k < n; k++) {
117                if((!is_element(i, j)) || (!is_element(i, k))) {
118                    continue;
119                }
120                bool modified = get_min(min_dist, dp[i-(1<<j)-(1<<k)] +
121                    dist(S, j) + dist(j, k) + dist(k, S));
122                if(modified) {
123                    pre[i] = i - (1<<j) - (1<<k);
124                }
125            }
126            break;
127        }
128    }
129    dp[i] = min_dist;
130 }
131 printf("%d\n", dp[(1<<n)-1]);
132
133 printf("0");
134 int cur = (1<<n)-1;
135 while(cur) {
136     int p = pre[cur];
137     int pnodes[2];
138     int pcnt = -1;
139     get_pre_nodes(cur, p, pnodes, pcnt);
140     if(pcnt == 1) {
141         printf(" %d 0", pnodes[0]+1);
142     }
143     else {
144         printf(" %d %d 0", pnodes[0]+1, pnodes[1]+1);
145     }
146     cur = p;
147 }
148 printf("\n");
149 }

```

2.3 Others

poj_3254.cc

```

1  /* POJ 3254 Corn Fields
2  * Date: April 27 2014
3  * Author: mzhang
4  * Tags: dp bitmask
5  */
6
7  #include <iostream>
8
9  using namespace std;
10
11 #define N 12
12 #define M 12
13 #define INVALID -1
14
15 #define MOD 1000000000
16
17 int n, m;
18 int map[N];
19 int dp[N][1<<M];
20
21 /* judge the validity of a row pattern,
22 * not considering the pre and post lines.
23 */
24 bool valid(int r, int bitmask) {
25     return (bitmask == (bitmask & map[r])) && !(bitmask & (bitmask << 1));
26 }
27
28 /* judge the validity of a row pattern in the presence of a previous line.
29 */
30 bool conflict(int pre, int cur) {
31     return pre & cur;
32 }
33
34 int main() {
35     scanf("%d%d", &n, &m);
36
37     /* input preprocessing */
38     for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
39         map[i] = 0;
40         for(int j = 0; j < m; j++) {
41             int valid;
42             scanf("%d", &valid);
43             if(valid) {
44                 map[i] |= (1<<j);
45             }
46         }
47     }
48
49     /* init first row. */
50     for(int i = 0; i < (1<<m); i++) {
51         if(valid(0, i)) {
52             dp[0][i] = 1;
53         }
54         else {
55             dp[0][i] = INVALID;
56         }
57     }
58
59     /* DP phase */
60     for(int i = 1; i < n; i++) {
61         for(int j = 0; j < (1<<m); j++) {
62             dp[i][j] = INVALID;
63             if(!valid(i, j)) {
64                 continue;
65             }

```



```
66         for(int pre = 0; pre < (1<<m); pre++) {
67             if(dp[i-1][pre] == INVALID) {
68                 continue;
69             }
70             if(conflict(pre, j)) {
71                 continue;
72             }
73             if(dp[i][j] == INVALID) {
74                 dp[i][j] = 0;
75             }
76             dp[i][j] += dp[i-1][pre];
77             if(dp[i][j] > MOD) {
78                 dp[i][j] -= MOD;
79             }
80         }
81     }
82 }
83
84 /* count */
85 int cnt = 0;
86 for(int i = 0; i < (1<<m); i++) {
87     if(dp[n-1][i] != INVALID) {
88         cnt += dp[n-1][i];
89         if(cnt > MOD) {
90             cnt -= MOD;
91         }
92     }
93 }
94 printf("%d\n", cnt);
95 }
```

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