

In order to explain the solution, we define w_i to be the weight of a random edge i . We aim to solve the following subproblem: What is the maximum total weight possible for a path of length k if the last edge in the path is edge i ? The recursion is:

$$opt(k, i) = \max \{opt(k - 1, j) + w_i : \text{over edge } j \text{ pointing to node } v_i \text{ that edge } i \text{ points from} \}.$$

The final solution of the problem is $\max \{opt(K, i) : i \text{ can be any edge in graph } G\}$.