Zach Forster

CS 335

Shortest Path

This assignment was very short, so I probably don’t have much to say about it. I finished the assignment in about 3 hours, and the most difficult part was by far the process of backtracking and finding all of the nodes along the shortest path. At first, I assumed that I could easily perform the backtracking step without the use of a second table, as I did in the DNA alignment assignment. This did not turn out to be the case. Discovering the necessary pattern to populate the second table was a little bit tricky for me, but I sat back for a good twenty minutes and figured it out. Towards the beginning of the assignment, I ran into one short issue with integer overflow, where some value was added to Integer.MAX\_VALUE, producing a negative number which would be smaller than any of the other path weights. This was an easy fix, once I figured out what was going on. Overall, the assignment was exactly as easy as you had told us it would be, but it probably helped to cement some of these dynamic programming techniques in my mind.