

Assignment 1

Deadline: 23:55pm, November 5 (Sunday), 2023

1. We will consider the routing problem shown in Figure 1. We aim at finding a route **from S to G**, where S is the starting point and G is the goal point. The number on every edge refers to the cost (e.g., time/distance). An example path is $S \rightarrow A \rightarrow D \rightarrow G$ and the cost of this path is $7 + 8 + 30 = 45$.

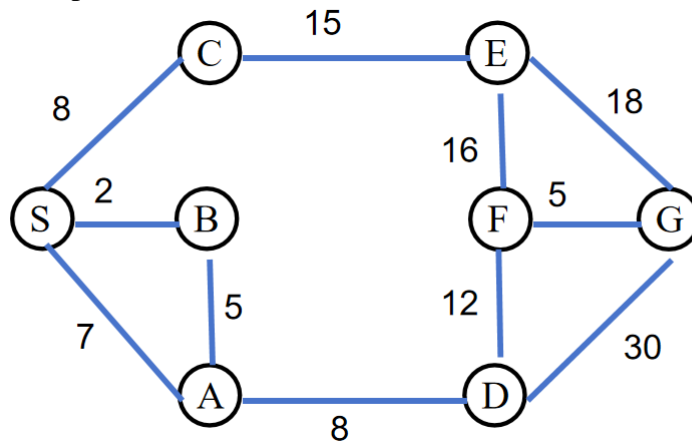


Figure 1

- 1.1 Write down the points to be visited in order using Breath-First Search (BFS), and then calculate the cost of the solution. (12 marks)
- 1.2 Write down the points to be visited in order using Depth-First Search (DFS), and then calculate the cost of the solution. (12 marks)
- 1.3 Write down the points to be visited in order using Uniform-Cost Search (UCS), and then calculate the cost of the solution. (12 marks)

2. Consider the Travelling Salesman Problem (TSP). Given a set of cities and the distances between each pair of cities, we aim at finding the shortest route that visits each city once and only once and returns to the origin city. Figure 2 is an example solution to a TSP problem, the solution is $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D \rightarrow A$, which has the shortest distance 89.

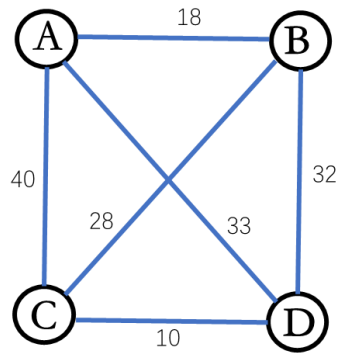


Figure 2

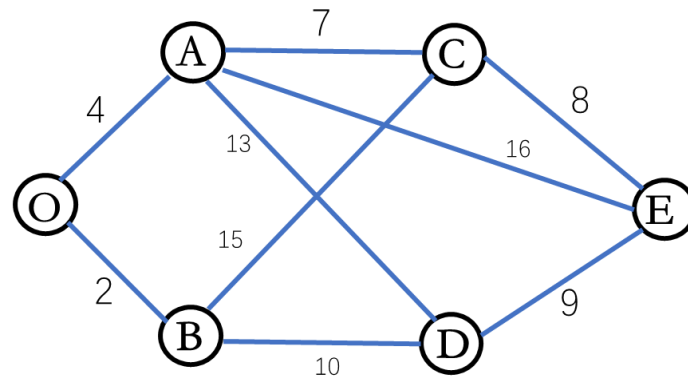


Figure 3

Consider a TSP problem illustrated in Figure 3.

2.1 How will you represent solutions to TSP in an evolutionary algorithm? (5 marks)

2.2 What would be an appropriate fitness function for measuring the quality of solutions? (5 marks)

2.3 Design an appropriate crossover operator. Justify your design. (10 marks)

2.4 Design an appropriate mutation operator. Justify your design. (10 marks)

3. We have two tours 123456789 and 173528496 (path representation) as parents.

3.1 Here, we consider the Edge recombination crossover (ER) in the adjacency representation. What is the final tour if city 1 is selected as the starting city? Write down the derivation process and justify your conclusion.

Hint: In some cases, you will encounter a situation where you need to randomly select a city, and the city with the smallest value will be selected by default. (16 marks)

3.2 Here, we consider the alternate edges crossover in the adjacency representation. What is the final tour if city 1 is selected as the starting city and alternate starting from the second path.? Write down the derivation process and justify your conclusion.

Hint: In some cases, you will encounter a situation where you need to randomly select a city, and the city with the smallest value will be selected by default. (10 marks)

3.3 Based on this question, please analyze why use edge recombination crossover rather than alternate edges crossover. (8 marks)