

Question 4

An arbitrary point i belong to graph $G(V, E)$. $opt(i, k)$ is the **optimal solution** for i with the length k . That is, the maximum weight path of length k which ends at i . Obviously, $opt(i, 0) = 0$ because this path does not go through any edge in G .

In general, for every vertex $i_1 \dots i_n$ in G , we need to find $opt(i, K)$ where K is the required length in this question and then the maximum total weight would be:

$$\max (opt(i_1, K) \dots opt(i_n, K))$$

First, go through graph G and record the adjacent vertex (the vertex that can reach i) for any vertex i . The adjacent vertex for any vertex i could be in set $(v_1, \dots v_n)$.

For obtaining the $opt(i, K)$, we can follow the method of dynamic programming.

- Known that the Base case $opt(i, 0) = 0$
- $opt(i, 1) = \max (E(v_1, i), E(v_2, i) \dots E(v_n, i))$ where $E(v, i)$ is the weight of edge which has vertex v, i on its end.
- Therefore, $opt(i, K) = \max [(E(v_1, i) + opt(v_1, K - 1), \dots, (E(v_n, i) + opt(v_n, K - 1))]$ we can recursively solve this equation until $k = 1$ and $opt(i, k - 1) = 0$
- During the recursion, for every optimal solution for the subproblem, we record its path information to an array or a linked list structure.

Overall, we obtain the optimal solution (path that maximum the weight) for every vertex in G by applying the dynamic programming. Choosing the vertex with the maximum $opt()$ and then check our linked list structure to obtain the target path.