Router Placement

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Problem Specification

Task: Given a building plan, decide where to put wireless router sand how to connect them to the fiber backbone to maximize coverage and minimize cost. More Info at: https://storage.googleapis.com/coding-competitions.appspot.com/HC/2017/hashcode2017_final_task.pdf

Building:

- . H rows and W columns
- . Coords [r, c], starting at 0
- . [0, 0] is the upper left corner of the grid
- . wall is '#'
- . target is '.' these cells need wireless coverage
- . void is '-' these cells **don't** need wireless coverage

Routers:

- . Each router covers at most (2 * R + 1)^2 cells around itself, where R is the router's range.
- . Signals are stopped by walls
- . Signals are stopped by walls
 - $|a x| \le R$
 - $|b y| \le R$
- there is no wall [w, v] where $min(a, x) \le w$ $max(a, x) & min(b, y) \le v \le max(b, y)$
- . described as: there are no walls in the smallest enclosing rectangle of [a, b] and [x, y]

Backbone:

- . Routers can only be placed in cells connected to the backbone.
- . In the beginning only 1 cell is connected to the backbone.
- . Cells of any type can be connected to the backbone (one of its eight neighboring cells must already be connected to the backbone).

Budget:

- . Placing a router costs Pr
- . Connecting a cell to the backbone costs Pb
- . The maximum budget is B

Input:

- .1st line H W R .2nd line - Pb Pr B .3rd Line - br bc .Rest of lines - Cells
- $(1 \le H \le 1000)$ number of rows on the grid $(1 \le W \le 1000)$ number of columns on the grid

```
(1 \le Pb \le 5) - price of connecting one cell to the backbone
```

(5 <= Pr <= 100) - price of one wireless router

(1 <= B <= 10^9) - maximum budget

 $(0 \le br \le H)$ - row of the initial cell connected to the backbone

(0 <= bc < W) - column of the initial cell connected to the backbone

```
12 22 3
    1 100 220
    4 6
    -####################
    -#....#.....#.#....#-
    -#....#.#######....#-
    -#....#-
    -###### .....#-
    -#.....######-
10
    -#....###.....#-
    -#....#.#....#-
12
13
    -#....#.#.....#
    -########################
```



Router placement with genetic algorithm:

https://github.com/tasosxak/Router-Placement/blob/master/routers.py

Steiner tree problem:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steiner_tree_problem http://www.cs.ucr.edu/~michalis/COURSES/240-08/steiner.html

Simulated annealing:

https://machinelearningmastery.com/simulated-annealing-from-scratch-in-python/

Kruskals minimum spanning tree:

https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/kruskals-minimum-spanning-tree-algorithm-greedy-algo-2/

Chebyshev distance:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chebyshev_distance

Genetic Algorithm:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_algorithm



Formulation of the problem as a search problem

Solution Representation

PNG:



- Orange: Covered Cell
- Blue: Uncovered cell
- Pink: Backbone
- Yellow: Wall - Black: Void

Neighborhood/Mutation: Add router.

Crossover Function: Merge all odd routers of one parent and all even routers of the other parent into a new child node.

Rigid Constraints:

- We can't go over the max budget.
- Routers have to be placed next to a backbone.
- Routers can't be placed on top of walls, other routers, or void cells.

Evaluation Function: The **cost** is given by **(R * Pr + Bb * Pb)**, where:

- **R** is the number of placed routers,
- **Pr** is the price of a router,
- **Bb** is the numbers of placed backbones (besides the initial one),
- Pb is the price of each backbone.

If this cost is higher than the budget, $\bf B$, the value of the solution is 0. Otherwise, the value of a node follows the formula $\bf C$ * 1000 + ($\bf B$ - $\bf C$ ost), where $\bf C$ is the numbered of cells covered by at least one router.



Current work status

Programming Language: Python

Development Environment: NeoVim and VSCode

File structure:

- input/ contains the input files.
- src/ contains the source code files.
- static/ contains images used in README.md file
- **main.py** is the menu interface.
- **README.md** is the problem and project description

```
code]$ tree

README.md

input

charleston_road.in

lets_go_higher.in

opera.in

rue_de_londres.in

simple.in

main.py

src

MinimumSpanningTree.py

board.py
```

```
node.py
png.py
read_cprofile.py
solver.py
utils.py
static
example_output.png
example_run1.png
example_run2.png
example_run3.png
```

Data Structures:

Classes

- **Board** Holds a problem representation
- Node Represents a possible solution (routers' and backbones' placement in the board)
- **Graph** Tree representation of the router's placement which is used to calculate the best backbone path
- **png** Used to export the solution to png
- **Solver** Finds a solution to a problem using different algorithms

- Sets

- CoveredCells Keep track of the cells covered by a router(s)
- Walls Store the coordinates of all the walls of a given board
- **Backbones** Store the coordinates of all the backbones placed for a solution

- List

- Routers Contains the positions of all placed routers
- AvailablePositions is a shuffled list of all positions where a router can be placed



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