

ICCS481: Final Exam
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1: Random Walks:

In class, the cover time of an undirected, simple graph $G = (V, E)$ was shown to be at most $2|E|(|V| - 1)$. To test whether u and v are connected, the following algorithm is a weird one: Start a random walk at u .

Perform a random walk for T steps. If we visit v during this time, return "yes"; otherwise, "no".

Find a setting of T that ensures the algorithm will succeed with probability at least $1/2$. Prove that your choice of T provides the desired guarantee.

SOLUTION

Claim 0.1. *There exists a setting that performs a random walk of length $2n^3$, which is T in the question, which allows for the connectivity test of nodes u and v on $G = (V, E)$ w.p. at least $1/2$ it returns the correct answer*

A simple pseudo codes is the following:

- Pick vertex $v = s \in_R G(V, E)$
- Perform a random walk of $T = 2n^3$ steps
- If $v = t$, break and return "yes"
- Else, let draw $v \in_R \{w : (v, w) \in E\}$
- If after T steps performed, t has not been visited, then return "no"

Proof. To prove this, we need to find that the probability that the algorithm returns the incorrect answer: i.e., returns "no" when it is a "yes". From what is proven in class, the cover time of an undirected graph is at most $2|E|(|V| - 1)$. we will new a bit more tools to prove this claim. In general, proved are available online, a simple, undirected graph, has at most $O(n^2)$ edges.

Proof. An edge is uniquely determined by its set of endpoints, which is a subset of the set of vertices of size 2, that is $\binom{n}{2}$ or $O(n^2)$. □

We will need also this lemma

Lemma 0.2. *The effective resistance between any two nodes u and v is at most the length of the shortest path between them in G .*

Proof. The effective resistance between any two nodes u and v is the voltage difference between u and v when one ampere is injected into u and removed from v . Let p_1 be the shortest path between u and v . If p_1 is the only path between u and v , then, since $V = IR$ and $R = \sum_{i \in p_1} R_i$ we have that H_u, v equals to the length of the shortest path. If there exists a second path p_2 . Then the length of $p_2 \geq$ the length of p_1 . Therefore the resistance of p_2 is greater than the resistance of p_1 . Since $\frac{1}{R} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$, we know the resistance is less than the resistance on the shortest path. Therefore the effective resistance between u and v is less the one when there exists only one path between u and v . Hence the effective resistance between any two nodes is at most the length of the shortest path between them. □

and the following definition,

Definition 0.3. Diameter of G : the maximum of all of lengths of the shortest path between any 2 vertices in G .

we can now find the upper bound of the commute time, $C_{u,v}$ in a connected graph which we proved in the lecture that, for any connected graph,

$$\begin{aligned} C_{u,v} &= 2mR_{eff}(u \sim v) \\ &= 2 \times n^2 \times (n-1) && \text{since the diameter of } G \text{ is } n-1 \\ &\leq 2n^3 \end{aligned}$$

Note that $H_{u,v} \leq n^3$

we are now ready to prove our claim: we want to find with what probability that the algorithm returns an incorrect answer given the algorithm performs a random walk of length $2n^3$. By Markov's Inequality, we have that:

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[X > T = 2n^3] &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X] = H_{u,v}}{2n^3} \\ &\leq \frac{n^3}{2n^3} \\ &\leq 1/2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, given $T = 2n^3$, the probability that the algorithm returns the correct answer is at least $1/2$. \square

2: Triangle Count Estimation:

(i) Prove that if

$$\mathbb{E}[\alpha] = \frac{3\tau}{m(n-2)}$$

Proof. where τ is the total number of triangles in G . Notice that since α is an indicator random variable, it follows that

$$\mathbb{E}[\alpha] = P(w \sim \{u, v\}) \quad \forall w \in_R G \setminus \{u, v\}$$

Claim 0.4. Let w^* be a triangle in a graph G . The probability that $w = w^*$ (i.e., w is incident on u and v , is given by

$$Pr[w = w^*] = \frac{1}{m(n-2)}$$

Proof. Please allow me to refer (copy) your proof in the paper.

Lemma 3.1 *Let t^* be a triangle in the graph. The probability that $t = t^*$ in the state maintained by Algorithm 1 after observing all edges (note t may be empty) is*

$$\Pr[t = t^*] = \frac{1}{m \cdot C(t^*)}$$

where we recall that $C(t^*) = c(f)$ if f is t^* 's first edge in the stream.

PROOF. Let $t^* = \{f_1, f_2, f_3\}$ be a triangle in the graph, whose edges arrived in the order f_1, f_2, f_3 in the stream, so $C(t^*) = c(f_1)$ by definition. Let \mathcal{E}_1 be the event that f_1 is stored in r_1 , and \mathcal{E}_2 be the event that f_2 is stored in r_2 . We can easily check that neighborhood sampling produces t^* if and only if both \mathcal{E}_1 and \mathcal{E}_2 hold.

Now we know from reservoir sampling that $\Pr[\mathcal{E}_1] = \frac{1}{m}$. Furthermore, we claim that $\Pr[\mathcal{E}_2 | \mathcal{E}_1] = \frac{1}{c(f_1)}$. This holds because given the event \mathcal{E}_1 , the edge r_2 is randomly chosen from $N(f_1)$, so the probability that $r_2 = f_2$ is exactly $1/|N(f_1)|$, which is $1/c(f_1)$, since c tracks the size of $N(r_1)$. Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[t = t^*] &= \Pr[\mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2] = \Pr[\mathcal{E}_1] \cdot \Pr[\mathcal{E}_2 | \mathcal{E}_1] \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \cdot \frac{1}{c(f_1)} = \frac{1}{m \cdot C(t^*)} \end{aligned}$$

□

in this case, I assume we treat $c(f_1)$ to be $n - 2$ so it gives the probability $\Pr[w = w^*] = \frac{1}{m(n-2)}$ □

Finally, we know that there can be 3 permutations of edges for each of the triangle. This then yields the expectation of α -estimator for a graph with τ triangles as follows:

$$\mathbb{E}[\alpha] = \frac{3\tau}{m(n-2)}$$

□

(ii) Show that if $\hat{\alpha} = \frac{1}{T}(\sum_{i=1}^T \alpha_i)$ and $\hat{\tau} = \frac{m(n-2)}{3}\hat{\alpha}$ then, $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\tau}] = \tau$

Proof. The expectation of $\hat{\tau}$ can be computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[\hat{\tau}] &= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{m(n-2)}{3} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^T \alpha_i\right] \\
&= \frac{m(n-2)}{3} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^T \mathbb{E}[\alpha_i] && \text{by linearity of expectation} \\
&= \frac{m(n-2)}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{T} \cdot T \cdot \frac{3\tau}{m(n-2)} && \text{by (i)} \\
&= \tau
\end{aligned}$$

□

- (iii) Let $\varepsilon \geq 0$ and $0 \leq \delta \leq 1/2$. Using is scheme, how large does T have to be in order for $\hat{\tau}$ to satisfy $\Pr[|\hat{\tau} - \tau| < \varepsilon] \geq 1 - \delta$?

From our scheme, notice that our α -estimators do not necessarily fall in the range $[0,1]$. Therefore, a rescaling is needed for Chernoff's bounds to apply.

FROM CALGO IMPORT A1.5, HEHE :P: RESCALING TRICKS.

With $\hat{\tau} = \tau$ from (ii), Assume $\tau_i \in [a, b]$ for $a \leq b \in \mathbb{R}$. Rescaling this random variable to be in $[0,1]$ will allows Chernoff-Hoffding bounds to apply. Here is how we do it,

$$\begin{aligned}
a &\leq \tau_i \leq b \\
0 &\leq \tau_i - a \leq b - a \\
0 &\leq \frac{\tau_i - a}{b - a} \leq 1
\end{aligned}$$

Let Y_i denote $\frac{\tau_i - a}{b - a}$ now that $Y_i \in [0, 1]$, we can find the expectation of Y_i

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\tau - a}{b - a}\right] = \frac{\mathbb{E}[\tau] - na}{b - a}$$

Apply Chernoff-Hoffding bounds,

We need to show,

- For all $t > 0$,

$$\Pr[\tau > \mu + t] \text{ and } \Pr[\tau < \mu - t] \leq \exp\{-2t^2n\}$$

With Out Loss Of Generality, we can rewrite the probability to be,

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pr\left[\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\tau_i - a}{b - a}}_Y > \underbrace{\frac{\mathbb{E}[\tau_i] - a}{b - a}}_{\mathbb{E}[Y]} + t\right] \\
\Pr\left[\sum_{i=1}^n \tau_i > \mathbb{E}[\tau] + \underbrace{(b - a)t}_{t'}\right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } t = t'/(b - a)$$

$$\therefore \Pr\left[\sum_{i=1}^n \tau_i > \mathbb{E}[\tau] + t\right] \leq \exp\left\{-2\left(\frac{t'^2}{n(b - a)^2}\right)\right\}$$

Next, FROM CALGO IMPORT A1.7 : SIMPLE SAMPLERS we now need to show that

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pr[|\hat{\tau} - \tau| < \varepsilon] &\geq 1 - \delta \\
&\leq 1 - (Pr[\hat{\tau} < \tau - \varepsilon] + Pr[\hat{\tau} > \tau + \varepsilon]) \\
&\leq 1 - 2 \underbrace{(Pr[\hat{\tau} < \tau - \varepsilon])}_* \qquad \text{by symmetry}
\end{aligned}$$

However, in *, $\hat{\tau}$ is given to be an empirical mean, with $1/T$ multiplied to the summation, we need to do a bit of manipulation in order for Chernoff-Hoffding bounds to apply. We rewrite the equation * to be,

$$\begin{aligned}
Pr[T\hat{\tau} < \underbrace{T\tau}_{**} - T\varepsilon] &\leq \exp\{-2(\frac{T^2\varepsilon'^2}{T(b-a)^2})\} \qquad \text{by rescaling trick} \\
&\leq \exp\{-2(\frac{T\varepsilon'^2}{(b-a)^2})\}
\end{aligned}$$

** is $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\tau}]$ by linearity of expectation, which actually ready when we multiply the equation by N
Now we have the value of stars, plug it back into the equation, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
Pr[|\hat{\tau} - \tau| \leq \varepsilon] &\leq 1 - \delta \\
&\leq 1 - 2 \underbrace{(\exp\{-2(\frac{T\varepsilon'^2}{(b-a)^2})\})}_{\delta}
\end{aligned}$$

we can then derive T as a function of δ and ε

$$\delta = 2(\exp\{-2(\frac{T\varepsilon'^2}{(b-a)^2})\}) \Leftrightarrow T = \frac{(b-a)^2}{-2\varepsilon'^2} \ln(\delta/2)$$

I know it smells like something is wrong in (hopefully only) the last part... But MY brain is already dead. :(