

# Lab04-Matroid

CS214-Algorithm and Complexity, Xiaofeng Gao, Spring 2021.

\* If there is any problem, please contact TA Haolin Zhou.

\* Name: Zirui Liu    Student ID: 519021910343    Email: L.prime@sjtu.edu.cn

## 1. Property of Matroid.

- (a) Consider an arbitrary undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ . Let us define  $M_G = (S, C)$  where  $S = E$  and  $C = \{I \subseteq E \mid (V, E \setminus I) \text{ is connected}\}$ . Prove that  $M_G$  is a **matroid**.

**Proof.** To prove that  $M_G$  is a matroid, it has to satisfy those three conditions. For the first,  $S = E$ , and obviously  $S$  is not empty. For the second, since  $(V, E \setminus I)$  is connected, so  $(V, E)$  must be connected too. Since adding more edges to a graph that is already connected would not make it disconnected, for any  $B \in C$ , and  $A \subseteq B$ , we have  $A \in C$ . For the third, for any  $A \in C, B \in C, |A| < |B|$ , similar to the way we prove the second condition, since  $C$  can be defined as "the power set featuring all the edges as elements, for  $X \in B - A$ , we can always have  $A \cup \{X\} \in C$ . So in conclusion,  $M_G$  is a **matroid**.  $\square$

- (b) Given a set  $A$  containing  $n$  real numbers, and you are allowed to choose  $k$  numbers from  $A$ . The bigger the sum of the chosen numbers is, the better. What is your algorithm to choose? Prove its correctness using **matroid**.

**Remark:** Denote  $\mathbf{C}$  be the collection of all subsets of  $A$  that contains no more than  $k$  elements. Try to prove  $(A, \mathbf{C})$  is a matroid.

**Solution.** The solution is as following: We sorted the  $n$  numbers, then we choose from them from the biggest to the smallest until we have chosen  $k$  numbers. These  $k$  numbers are those we wish to find. Next I will prove the correctness of the greedy algorithm.

We suppose that  $M = (U, F)$  is a weighted matroid and that  $U$  is sorted into monotonically decreasing order. We also assume that  $\omega(x)$  represents the weight of element  $x$ . Then we let  $x$  to be the biggest element of  $U$  such that  $\{x\} \in F$ . If any such  $x$  exists, then there exists an optimal subset  $A$  of  $U$  containing  $x$ , thus the optimizism of the greedy algorithm can be proved. The proof is as following.

If no such  $x$  exists, then the only independent subset is the empty set like  $(F = \{\emptyset\})$  then the question is meaningless. We assume that  $F$  contains another non-empty optimal subset  $B$ , then there exists two possibilities:  $x \in B$  or  $x \notin B$ . In the first case, we can simply make  $A = B$  to prove the correctness. In the second case, we assume that  $x \notin B$ . Then we assume there exists  $y \in B$  so that  $\omega(y) > \omega(x)$ . Since  $y \in B$  and  $B \in F$  so we can get  $\{y\} \in F$ . If  $\omega(y) > \omega(x)$ , then  $y$  would be the first element of  $U$ , making a contradiction with our original assumption.

So,  $\forall y \in B, \omega(x) \geq \omega(y)$ . We can now construct a set  $A \in F$  such that  $x \in A, |A| = |B|$ , and  $\omega(A) \geq \omega(B)$ . We then use the second characteristic of **Matroid**, we can always find an element of  $B$  to add to  $A$  without destructing the independence. We can repeat this process until we get  $|A| = |B|$ . Then by construction we have  $A = B - \{y\} \cup \{x\}$  for  $y \in B$ . Then since  $\omega(A) \geq \omega(B)$ , we have  $\omega(A) = \omega(B) - \omega(y) + \omega(x) \geq \omega(B)$ . Since  $B$  is optimal, then  $A$  containing  $x$  is also optimal. So the correctness of our algorithm is proved.  $\square$

2. *Unit-time Task Scheduling Problem.* Consider the instance of the **Unit-time Task Scheduling Problem** given in class.

- (a) Each penalty  $\omega_i$  is replaced by  $80 - \omega_i$ . The modified instance is given in Tab. ?? . Give the final schedule and the optimal penalty of the new instance using Greedy-MAX.

Table 1: Task

|            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| $a_i$      | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| $d_i$      | 4  | 2  | 4  | 3  | 1  | 4  | 6  |
| $\omega_i$ | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 |

**Solution.** The optimal penalty is 30 for the following schedule:  $a_5 \Rightarrow a_6 \Rightarrow a_4 \Rightarrow a_3 \Rightarrow a_7 \Rightarrow a_2 \Rightarrow a_1$   $\square$

- (b) Show how to determine in time  $O(|A|)$  whether or not a given set  $A$  of tasks is independent. (**Hint:** You can use the lemma of equivalence given in class)

**Solution.** To determine in time  $O(|A|)$  whether or not a given set  $A$  of tasks is independent, we can use the lemma of equivalence. That is to say, we need to prove that the tasks in  $A$  are scheduled in order of monotonically increasing deadlines. So what we have to do is to check if all the tasks in  $A$  whether their deadline time is in monotonically increasing order or not. On the other hand, we can solve the problem by using the lemma: set  $A$  is independent if and only if for any  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $N_t(A) \leq t$ . The pseudo code is as fol-

---

**Algorithm 1:**

---

**Input:** An array  $a[1, \dots, n]$

**Output:** a bool value, indicating  $A$  is independent or not.

```

1 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
2    $a[i] \leftarrow a[i] + 1$ ;
3  $Nt \leftarrow 0$ 
4 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
5    $N \leftarrow Nt + a[i]$ ;
6   if  $Nt > i$  then
7     return false;
8 return true;
```

---

$\square$

3. *MAX-3DM.* Let  $X, Y, Z$  be three sets. We say two triples  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  in  $X \times Y \times Z$  are *disjoint* if  $x_1 \neq x_2$ ,  $y_1 \neq y_2$ , and  $z_1 \neq z_2$ . Consider the following problem:

**Definition 1** (MAX-3DM). *Given three disjoint sets  $X, Y, Z$  and a non-negative weight function  $c(\cdot)$  on all triples in  $X \times Y \times Z$ , **Maximum 3-Dimensional Matching** (MAX-3DM) is to find a collection  $\mathcal{F}$  of disjoint triples with maximum total weight.*

- (a) Let  $D = X \times Y \times Z$ . Define independent sets for MAX-3DM.
- (b) Write a greedy algorithm based on Greedy-MAX in the form of *pseudo code*.
- (c) Give a counter-example to show that your Greedy-MAX algorithm in Q. ?? is not optimal.
- (d) Show that:  $\max_{F \subseteq D} \frac{v(F)}{u(F)} \leq 3$ . (**Hint:** you may need Theorem ?? for this subquestion.)

**Solution.** (1):

We define that:  $\forall (x_i, y_i, z_i) \text{ and } (x_j, y_j, z_j) \in \mathcal{F}, (x_i, y_i, z_i) \text{ and } (x_j, y_j, z_j) \text{ are disjoint.}$   
Then we have this  $\mathcal{F}$  to be independent.

(2):

We define  $(x_i, y_i, z_i)$  as  $a_i$

---

**Algorithm 2:**

---

**Input:** An array  $a[1, \dots, n]$

**Output:** An array  $A$ , indicating the result we want.

```

1 sort  $\mathcal{F}$  by  $c$  in non-increasing order;
2  $A \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;
3 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do
4   if  $A \cup \{a_i\} \in \mathcal{F}$  then
5      $A \leftarrow A \cup \{a_i\}$ ;
6 return  $A$ 

```

---

(3):

We give that:  $a_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1) = (a, b, c)$ , having the weight of 10.  $a_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (a, e, f)$ , having the weight of 9.  $a_3 = (x_3, y_3, z_3) = (g, b, k)$ , having the weight of 8. for any other  $a_i$ , their total weight combined is less than 5. By the greedy algorithm we should choose  $a_1$  since it has the largest weight, but the best solution is choosing  $a_1$ , (whether we consider other elements does not matter), but the best choice is choosing  $a_2$  and  $a_3$ .

(4):

According to *Theorem 1*, we can transform the question to proving that  $(E, \mathcal{I}_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$  are **matroids**. We start by constructing three sets for  $\mathcal{I}_i$ .

$\mathcal{I}_1: \forall (x_i, y_i, z_i) \text{ and } (x_j, y_j, z_j) \in E, x_i \neq x_j.$

$\mathcal{I}_2: \forall (x_i, y_i, z_i) \text{ and } (x_j, y_j, z_j) \in E, y_i \neq y_j.$

$\mathcal{I}_3: \forall (x_i, y_i, z_i) \text{ and } (x_j, y_j, z_j) \in E, z_i \neq z_j.$

And  $\mathbf{I} = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \mathcal{I}_i$ .

**Heredity:**

It is easy to understand that the heredity can always be satisfied.

**Exchange Property:**

For  $A, B \subseteq \mathcal{I}_1$ ,  $|A| < |B|$ , there exist  $a_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \in B - A$ , considering that  $\mathcal{I}_1: \forall (x_i, y_i, z_i) \text{ and } (x_j, y_j, z_j) \in E, x_i \neq x_j$ , so  $\forall (x_j, y_j, z_j) \in A, x_i \neq x_j$ , so  $A \cup \{a_i\} \in \mathcal{I}_1$ . Thus the exchange property for  $(E, \mathcal{I}_1)$  is proved. The same as  $(E, \mathcal{I}_2)$  and  $(E, \mathcal{I}_3)$  by using  $y_i$  and  $z_i$ . So in conclusion,  $(E, \mathcal{I}_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3$  are **matroids**, so  $\max_{F \subseteq E} \frac{v(F)}{u(F)} \leq 3$ . □

**Theorem 1.** Suppose an independent system  $(E, \mathcal{I})$  is the intersection of  $k$  matroids  $(E, \mathcal{I}_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ; that is,  $\mathcal{I} = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \mathcal{I}_i$ . Then  $\max_{F \subseteq E} \frac{v(F)}{u(F)} \leq k$ , where  $v(F)$  is the maximum size of independent subset in  $F$  and  $u(F)$  is the minimum size of maximal independent subset in  $F$ .

**Remark:** You need to include your .pdf and .tex files in your uploaded .rar or .zip file.