

# Lab04-Matroid

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

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## 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. Hereditary** If  $A \subset B$ ,  $B \in C$ , then because  $(V, E \setminus B)$  is connected, cut less edges will also lead to a connected graph,  $(V, E \setminus A)$  is connected.

**Exchange Property** If  $A, B \in C$ ,  $|A| < |B|$ , it is to be proved that  $\exists e \in B \setminus A, A \cup \{e\} \in C$ .

**Proposition 1** (Least Edges). *To connect  $n$  vertices, there should be at least  $n - 1$  edges. And at the least scenario, edges form a tree without a loop.*

So,  $|E \setminus A| > |E \setminus B| \geq |V| - 1$ , i.e.,  $|E \setminus A| \geq |V|$ . This means that  $E \setminus A$  has at least one loop. Because every edges exceed the original minimum spanning tree could add one more loop in the graph, so  $E \setminus A$  has more loops than  $E \setminus B$ . There must be an edge  $e$  on one of the loops that  $E \setminus B$  doesn't contain.

$$e \in E \setminus A \text{ and } e \notin E \setminus B \Rightarrow e \notin A \text{ and } e \in B \Rightarrow e \in B \setminus A$$

Because  $e$  is on the loop of  $E \setminus A$ , remove the edge won't affect the connectivity on all the vertices. So  $A \cup \{e\} \in C$ .

□

- (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. Prove to the Remark.**

**Hereditary** If  $B \subset D$ ,  $D \in \mathbf{C}$ , then  $|B| \leq |D| \leq k$ ,  $B \in \mathbf{C}$ .

**Exchange Property** If  $B, D \in \mathbf{C}$ ,  $|B| < |D| \leq k$ , insert  $x \in D \setminus B$  to  $B$  denoted as  $B'$ ,  $|B'| = |B| + 1 \leq k$ ,  $B' \in \mathbf{C}$ .

So  $(A, \mathbf{C})$  is a matroid. Greedy-MAX algorithm is used on the cost function of the value of the element  $a_i$ . The corollary about the weighted matroid confirms the correctness of this algorithm.

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### Algorithm 1: Greedy-MAX on Number Choosing for Maximum Sum

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**Input:** set  $A$  with  $n$  real numbers

**Output:** set  $B$  with size  $k$  chosen in  $A$  to be the maximum sum

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1 Sort  $A$  in decreasing order  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n$ ;  
2  $B \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  
3 for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do  
4   if  $|B \cup \{a_i\}| \leq k$  then  
5      $B \leftarrow B \cup \{a_i\}$ ;  
6 return  $B$ ;
```

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□

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. 1. 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.** Sort the weight in an decreasing order first, then apply the algorithm.

Check the number of tasks  $N_t(A)$  whose deadline is earlier or equal to  $t$  in the task set  $A$ , shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Checking Table

$A$	$N_0(A)$	$N_1(A)$	$N_2(A)$	$N_3(A)$	$N_4(A)$	$N_5(A)$
$\{a_1\}$	0	0				
$\{a_1, a_2\}$	0	0	1			
$\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$	0	0	1	1		
$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$	0	0	1	2	4	
$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5\}$	0	1	2	3	5	
$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_6\}$	0	0	1	2	5	
$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_7\}$	0	0	1	2	4	4

Choose the set  $A$  satisfying  $N_t(A) \leq t$  for all  $0 \leq t \leq |A|$ . The chosen  $A$  is  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_7\}$ . Convert  $A$  into an canonical form, which is the final schedule:

$a_2$	$a_4$	$a_1$	$a_3$	$a_7$	$a_5$	$a_6$
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And the penalty comes to

$$50 + 60 = 110$$

□

- (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.** By the lemma of equivalence, to determine whether or not a given set  $A$  of tasks is independent, just to calculate whether:

$$\text{For } t = 0, 1, \dots, n, N_t(A) \leq t$$

Count the type of deadline time to traverse  $A$  once, then validate each  $N_t(A)$  by the type could cut the time complexity down to  $O(|A|)$ . The algorithm is shown in Alg. 2.

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**Algorithm 2:** Determine the Independence

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**Input:** task set  $A$

**Output:** whether  $A$  is independent

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1  $D \leftarrow [0, 0, \dots, 0]$  with size  $\max\{d_i\}_{i=1}^{|A|}$ ;  
2 foreach  $d_i$  in  $A$  do  
3    $D[d_i] \leftarrow D[d_i] + 1$ ;  
4  $N \leftarrow 0$ ;  
5 for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $|D|$  do  
6    $N \leftarrow N + D[j]$ ;  
7   if  $N > j$  then return false;  
8 return true;
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□

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. 3b is not optimal.
- (d) Show that:  $\max_{F \subseteq D} \frac{v(F)}{u(F)} \leq 3$ . (Hint: you may need Theorem 2 for this subquestion.)

**Theorem 2.** *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  $F$ .*

**Solution.** (a)

**Definition 2** (Function Tripple Set). *Let function tripple set on  $X$ :  $\mathcal{I}_X$  be the family of subsets  $A$  of  $E$  such that no two triples in any subset share an element in  $X$ . The same definition for  $\mathcal{I}_Y$  and  $\mathcal{I}_Z$ .*

**Remark of Definition 2:** It is called *function tripple set* because the following function could be constructed:

$$x \in X' \mapsto (x, y, z) \in A$$

where  $A \in \mathcal{I}_X$  and  $X'$  is the domain of this function (a bijection), which is a subset of  $X$ :  $X' \subset X$ .

**Then  $\mathcal{I}_X, \mathcal{I}_Y$ , and  $\mathcal{I}_Z$  are independent sets for MAX-3DM.** Prove the hereditary. Suppose  $B \subset A, A \in \mathcal{I}_X$ , then  $B$  won't have two tripples share the same element in  $X$ . Otherwise, one of such two tripples won't appear in  $A$ . So,  $B \in \mathcal{I}_X$ . The same for  $\mathcal{I}_Y$  and  $\mathcal{I}_Z$ .

**$\mathcal{I}_X, \mathcal{I}_Y$ , and  $\mathcal{I}_Z$  are in fact the matroids for MAX-3DM.** The extra proof is the exchange property. Suppose  $A, B \in \mathcal{I}_X, |A| < |B|$ . According to the remark, the domain of such a function is smaller for  $A$ :  $X'_A \subset X'_B$ . Thus, there must exist  $x_0 \in X'_B \setminus X'_A$ . And the corresponding tripple  $(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  in  $B$  will not share the element in  $X$  with the tripples in  $A$ , because  $x_0 \notin X'_A$ . Thus,  $A \cup \{(x_0, y_0, z_0)\} \in \mathcal{I}_X$ . The same for  $\mathcal{I}_Y$  and  $\mathcal{I}_Z$ .

- (b) The Greedy-MAX algorithm requires us to find the intersection of  $\mathcal{I}_X$ ,  $\mathcal{I}_Y$ , and  $\mathcal{I}_Z$ .

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**Algorithm 3:** Greedy-MAX on MAX-3DM

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**Input:**  $D = X \times Y \times Z$ , non-negative weight function  $c(\cdot)$  on all tripples in  $D$

**Output:** collection  $\mathcal{F}$  of disjoint tripples in  $D$  with maximum total weight

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1 Sort all tripples  $(x_i, y_i, z_i)$  in  $D$  such that their weight is ordered decreasingly;
2  $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;
3 foreach  $(x_i, y_i, z_i)$  in  $D$  do
4   if  $\mathcal{F} \cup \{(x_i, y_i, z_i)\} \in \mathcal{I}_X \cap \mathcal{I}_Y \cap \mathcal{I}_Z$  then
5      $\mathcal{F} \leftarrow \mathcal{F} \cup \{(x_i, y_i, z_i)\}$ ;
6 return  $\mathcal{F}$ ;

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- (c) The counter example could be constructed as follows for  $X = Y = Z = \{0, 1, 2\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 c(0, 0, 0) &= 10 & c(2, 2, 0) &= 7 \\
 c(1, 1, 1) &= 7 \\
 c(0, 0, 2) &= 7 & c(2, 2, 2) &= 1
 \end{aligned}$$

The unidentified tripple weighs 0.

The Greedy-MAX will get  $\mathcal{F} = \{(0, 0, 0), (1, 1, 1), (2, 2, 2)\}$ , which has the weight summation of  $10 + 7 + 1 = 18$ . However, the optimal solution  $\mathcal{F}^* = \{(0, 0, 2), (1, 1, 1), (2, 2, 0)\}$ , which has the weight summation of  $7 + 7 + 7 = 21$ . So the greedy solution is not the optimal solution.

- (d) It is proved that  $\mathcal{I}_X$ ,  $\mathcal{I}_Y$ , and  $\mathcal{I}_Z$  are matroids for MAX-3DM in Q. 3a. And the algorithm gets the intersection of the three matroids, which satisfying the condition. So the original problem could be easily followed by Theorem 2.

**Simplified Proof of Theorem 2.** (is referenced\*) Consider two maximal independent subsets  $I$  (minimum size) and  $J$  (maximum size) of  $F$  with respect to  $(E, \mathcal{I})$ . For each  $1 < i < k$ , let  $I_i$  be a maximal independent subset of  $I \cup J$  with respect to  $(E, \mathcal{I}_i)$  that contains  $I$ . For any  $e \in J \setminus I$ , it occurs in at most  $k - 1$  different subsets  $I_i \setminus I$  otherwise contradicting the maximality of  $I$ .

$$\sum_{i=1}^k |I_i| - k|I| = \sum_{i=1}^k |I_i \setminus I| \leq (k - 1)|J \setminus I| \leq (k - 1)|J|$$

Now, for each  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , let  $J_i$  be a maximal independent subset of  $I \cup J$  with respect to  $(E, \mathcal{I}_i)$  that contains  $J$ . Since, for each  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $(E, \mathcal{I}_i)$  is a matroid, we must have  $|I_i| = |J_i|$ . In addition, for every  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $|J| \leq |J_i|$ . Therefore,

$$k|J| \leq \sum_{i=1}^k |J_i| = \sum_{i=1}^k |I_i| \leq k|I| + (k - 1)|J|$$

which follows  $|J| \leq k|I|$ .

□

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

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\*Chapter 2.1-2.2 in "Design and Analysis of Approximation Algorithms" by D.-Z. Du, K.-I. Ko, and X. D. Hu, Springer, 2012.