NETWORKS AND COMPLEXITY

Solution 2-2

This is an example solution from the forthcoming book Networks and Complexity.

Find more exercises at https://github.com/NC-Book/NCB

Ex 2.2: Through the mines? [2]

After leaving Rivendell and finding the Caradhras pass blocked, Frodo has to decide for an alternative route. Find the shortest pass from Rivendell to the Orodruin in a network that is described by the distance matrix

where the nodes are 1: Hobbiton, 2: Bree, 3: Osgiliath, 4: Rivendell, 5: Weathertop, 6: Lorien, 7: Isengard, 8: Moria, 9: Erebor, 10: Cirith Ungol, 11: Morannon, 12: Orodruin, 13: Barad-Dur.

Solution

Using Dijkstra's algorithm leads to the table

| HOB | BRE | OSG | RIV | WEA | LOR | ISE | MRA | ERE | CIR | MRN | ORO | BAR |
|----------|----------|----------|-----|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | 0 | ∞ |
| ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | | 18 | ∞ | ∞ | 20 | 30 | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| ∞ | 24 | ∞ | | | ∞ | ∞ | 20 | 30 | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| ∞ | 24 | ∞ | | | 24 | ∞ | | 30 | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| 30 | | ∞ | | | 24 | 72 | | 30 | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| 30 | | 42 | | | | 43 | | 30 | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| 30 | | 42 | | | | 43 | | 30 | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| | | 42 | | | | 43 | | 30 | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| | | 42 | | | | 43 | | | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ | ∞ |
| | | | | | | 43 | | | 43 | 48 | ∞ | ∞ |
| | | | | | | | | | 43 | 48 | ∞ | ∞ |
| | | | | | | | | | | 48 | 50 | ∞ |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 50 | 54 |

We can now quickly find the route. In reverse order:

Orodruin, Cirith Ungol, Osgiliath, Lorien, Moria, Rivendell which is indeed the path Frodo takes.