

SYNOPSIS REPORT

on

Percolation

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Project Proposal Approval Form (2020)

Minor

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PROJECT TITLE: Percolation

ABSTRACT

The theory of percolation was first introduced some time ago to describe polymerization and penetration of fluids in porous media, and the subject has since been intensively studied, primarily in the field of physics. However, little direct use of percolation theory results has been made to date in the field of hydrology. The theory has been extensively developed as a branch of statistical physics and has found successful applications in a diverse range of problems including the design of electronic and magnetic materials, conceptualization of geometrical and topological characteristics of porous media, and understanding of miscible and immiscible displacements in discarded media. The principal advantage of percolation theory is that it provides universal laws which determine the geometrical and physical properties of a system. These laws are independent of the local geometry or configuration of the system. In particular, many transport processes can be successfully understood by considering an idealized transport of an abstract fluid through an abstract medium which is itself in some sense disordered(or random), the flow through the system may be described by a so-called percolation process.

KEYWORDS: porous media; percolation; hydrology; statistical physics; universal laws

INTRODUCTION

Percolation is the process of a liquid moving slowly through a substance that has very small holes in it, or in other words, the process of something spreading slowly [1]. The theory of Percolation was originally proposed over 30 years ago to describe flow phenomena in porous media. In this project, prime goal would be on the percolation of water. Because when there will be a procedure to know whether water will percolate or not, then all the geological activities can be done accordingly. Like Drainage Systems can be built according to the results obtained from percolation theory, sewer systems can be maintained according to Percolation results. Similarly in other fields also, Conductors and Insulators can be made according to the answers coming from our percolation model.

As all these problems are dependent on this Percolation model, so main focus has been on building this model and how to calculate the probability of percolation of water from top to bottom, like what are the chances of water started pouring from the top and end up coming out from the bottom of the surface. That model is being created by creating an N-by-N grid of squares that is known as sites. Classical percolation theory studies site and bond percolations. In a graph model, the site is represented as the vertex while the bond is represented as the edge. In a grid structure, each cell is a site and the bond is an edge between cells. By assigning each site/bond with a probability p of being occupied/open, the major interest is in whether it is possible to find a path from the leftmost to the rightmost or from the top to the bottom [2].

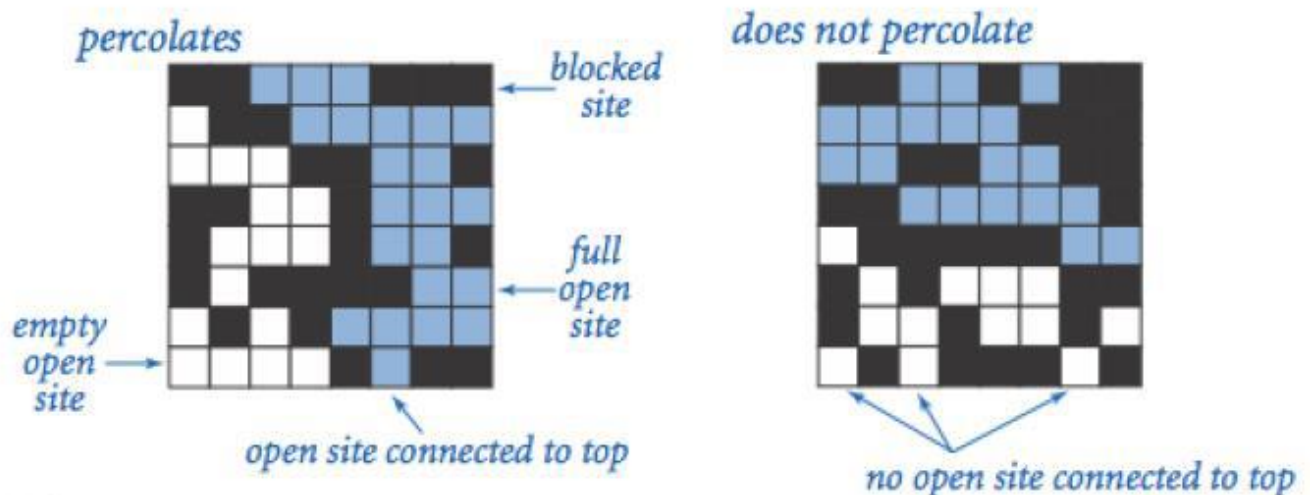


Fig 1 Percolation in 8-by-8 grid system [3]

If the sites are independently set to be open with probability p (and therefore blocked with probability $1 - p$), what is the probability that the system percolates? When p equals 0, the system does not percolate; when p equals 1, the system percolates. The plots below show the site vacancy probability p versus the percolation probability for a 20-by-20 random grid (left) and 100-by-100 random grid (right).

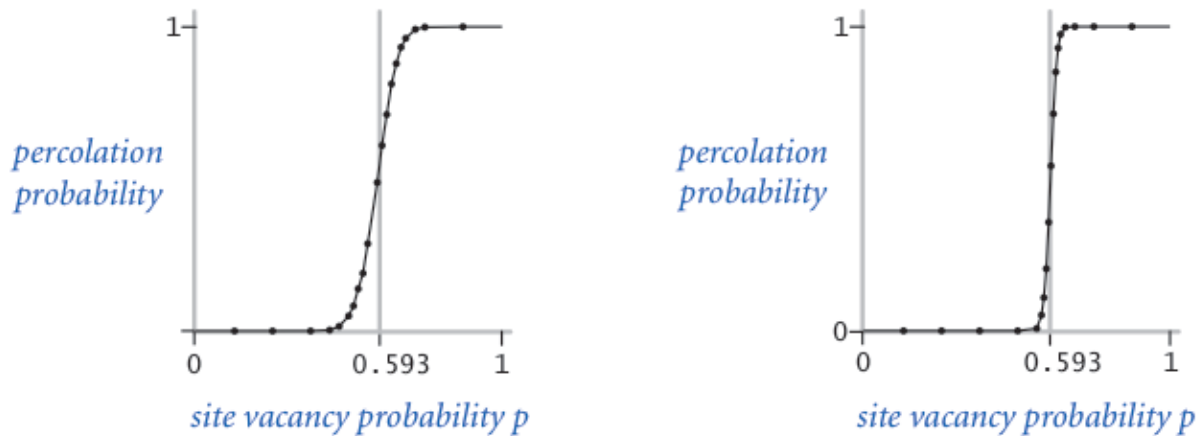


Fig 2 Probability distribution graph [4]

When N is sufficiently large, there is a threshold value p^* such that when $p < p^*$ a random N -by- N grid almost never percolates, and when $p > p^*$, a random N -by- N grid almost always percolates. No mathematical solution for determining the percolation threshold p^* has yet been derived. So, our task is to write a computer program to estimate p^* [5].

PROBLEM STATEMENT

What fraction of the material need to be metallic so that the composite system is an electrical conductor. What fraction of the ground should be used to lay the pipes to ensure the water supply with the minimum effort? In the social network where it's people connected and either there's a connection between two people or not.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Title	Link	Author	Remarks
Percolation Theory and Its Application to Groundwater Hydrology	[6]	Brian Berkovitz	The methods of percolation theory are discussed, previous applications of the theory to hydrological problems are reviewed, and future directions of study are suggested.
The Union-Find problem is Linear	[7]	Hantao Zhang	This paper work has presented a new proof which shows that the complexity of the union-find problem is linear.
Data Structures and Algorithms for Disjoint Set Union Problems	[8]	Galil, Zvi & Italiano, Giuseppe	Explained the DSA for disjoint set union find problem
Comprehensive-study-of-the-percolation-of-water	[9]	Martina Zelenáková, Petr Hlušík & Hany F. Abd-Elhamid	Article on Comprehensive-study-of-the-percolation-of-water

OBJECTIVES

To create a GUI based application that recognizes whether the system will percolate or not.

Sub Objectives:

- To detect the connected components of water inflow.
- To calculate the threshold and probability of percolation.
- To create a visualizer for communicating with grid.

METHODOLOGY

For this project, we will use the applications of **Union & Find** data structures to achieve the goal. In this model, we would have to create a grid, which we'll build by using graphs. We'll use vertices of graphs to represent sites and edges to represent the connection between sites. So, Union & Find data structures also known as Disjoint-set-data-structure is a data structure that keeps track of a set of elements partitioned into a number of disjoint (non-overlapping) subsets. A union-find algorithm is an algorithm that performs two useful operations on such a data structure [10]:

Find: Determine which subset a particular element is in. This can be used for determining if two elements are in the same subset.

Union: Join two subsets into a single subset.

There are many applications of a union-find algorithm like whether a graph forms a cycle or not, whether a system will percolate or not, etc. So here we'll use union-find API to obtain the connected components of a graph and hence the connected open sites.

The entire implementation of this project can be summarized in the following steps:

1. **Create an API for the union-find algorithm:** Firstly we have to write the `unionSet()` and `findSet()` functions in a different .cpp file to ensure their usage afterward.
2. **Optimize the Algorithm:** Then we will optimize our Union-Find Algorithm by using mainly two optimizations i.e. Path Compression and Optimization by Rank. Without any optimization union-find works in $O(n)$ time, but after path compression, its complexity will get reduced to $O(\log n)$ and after the second optimization, its complexity will further get reduced to nearly a constant time or we can say nearly $O(1)$.
3. **Analyze the Grid:** Then we have to create an N-by-N matrix by the use of undirected graphs. We will connect its vertices as per the requirement of input.

4. **Virtual Top Site:** We have to create two extra sites(vertices), one above the matrix, which will act as the start, and one below the matrix, which will act as a sink. Then we'll connect all the cells of the top row with the start site and all the cells of the most bottom row with the sink site.
5. **Avoid backflow:** After all these preparations, we have to avoid the backflow problem. Because it might also happen that when water will reach the sink, it might also flow back inside the grid again through other open sites at the bottom row. Therefore avoidance of that problem is also necessary to maintain the correctness in the probability and threshold of the system.
6. **Check the connection:** For checking the connection, We have to check whether findSet(start) is equal to findSet(sink). If return value of both these function calls is same, then it means that the start is connected with sink through open sites and hence the system will percolate.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Hardware:

- RAM: 4GB
- Disk Space: 500 MB

Software:

- Sublime Text(or any other C++ IDE)
- Gcc Compiler should be installed.

Operating System:

- Windows or Linux.

SCHEDULE

(pert chart)

SCHEDULE

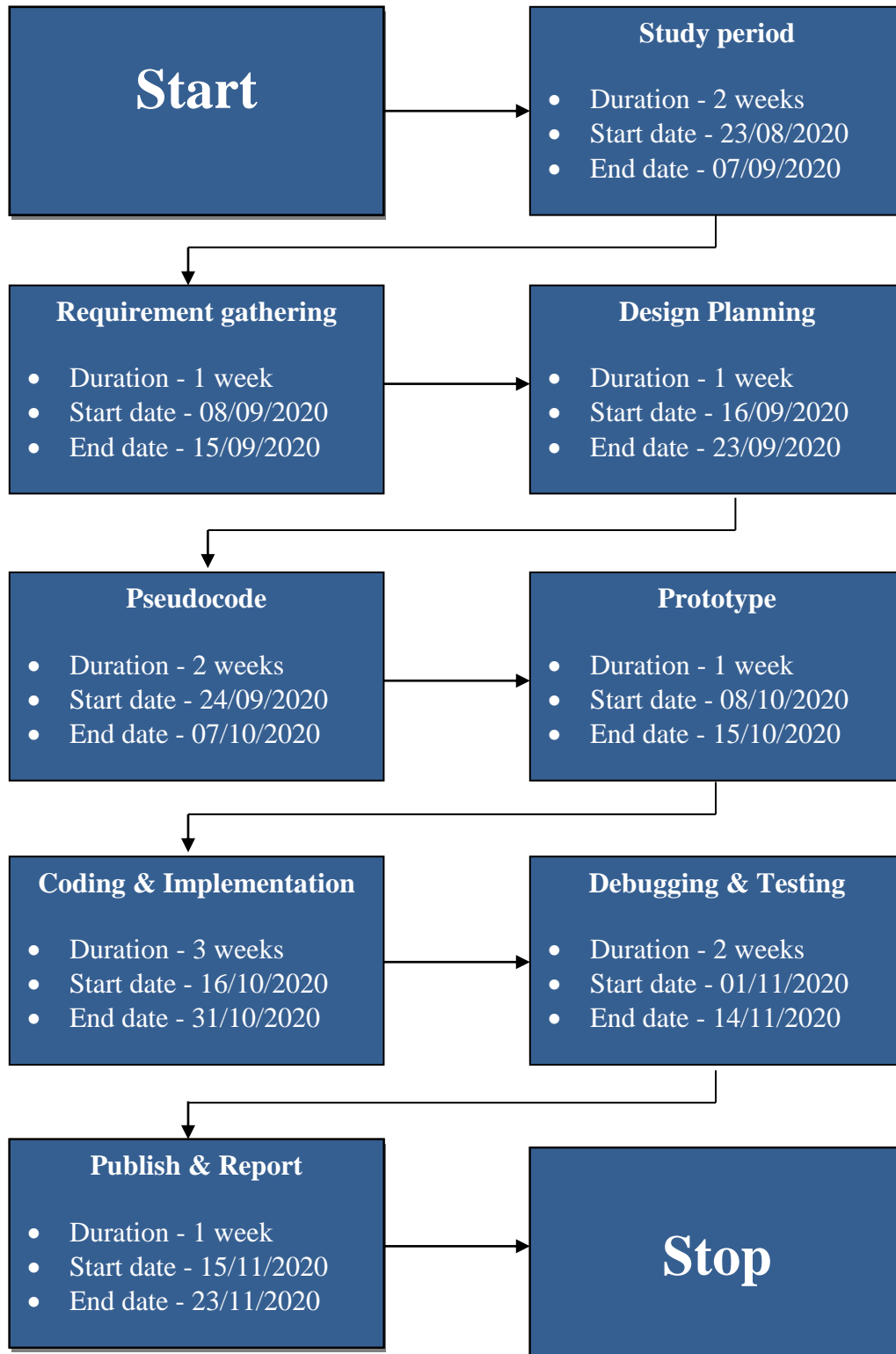


Fig 3 Pert chart

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