



JOINT INSTITUTE
交大密西根学院

UM-SJTU Joint Institute
VE477 Intro to Algorithms

Homework 6

Wang, Tianze
515370910202

Question 1 Perfect matching in bipartite graph

(1) Identical Zero

- If G has no perfect matching, which means that for at least one vertex, it is not connected to any other vertex in the bipartite. In this case, the column/ row of this vertex will be all 0. Since the matrix has a row/ column to be all 0, obviously the determinant will be 0.
- If the determinant of G is 0, then G can be transferred into a form that one row/ column is 0. In this case, G will have a vertex do not have any neighbor, which means it is not a perfect matching.

(2) Algorithm

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Input : A bipartite graph  $G = L \cup R$ 
Output: bool: whether the graph can be perfectly matched
1 Function PerfectMatching( $G$ ):
2   for All  $a_{i,j}$  corresponds to the  $i$  - th element in  $L$  and  $j$  - th element in  $R$  do
3     if the  $i$  - th element in  $L$  and  $j$  - th element in  $R$  are connected then
4        $a_{i,j} = X_{i,j}$ ;
5     else
6        $a_{i,j} = 0$ ;
7     end if
8   end for
9   if  $\det(a) = 0$  then
10    return Can not be perfectly matched.
11  else
12    return Can be perfectly matched.
13  end if
14 end
```

(3) Complexity and Error Probability

The complexity is $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$, where N is the size of each bipartite. The error will occur when the determinate is 0 however actually each can be paired in the bipartite graph. A simple case is the matrix are all 1's and the determinant is 0, however we can definitely find the perfect matching. So the error probability is $\frac{1}{2}$ according to the proof done at this website. (<https://cmurandomized.wordpress.com/2011/02/09/lecture-10-polynomial-identity-testing-and-parallel-matchings/>)

(4) Usefulness of this algorithm

This algorithm is useful considering that it uses the adjacent matrix, which will be helpful when it's a dense graph.

Question 2 Critical Thinking

(1) Middle node

Store each element while visiting, and when reaching the end, return the $\lfloor \text{element_num}/2 \rfloor$ element from the list.

(2) Loop decision

Let there be two simultaneous visiting. Each time the first one visit two nodes, and after that, the second one visit one nodes. If the first one reaches the end without meeting the second one, there is no cycle. If it meets with the first one, it will definitely be a cycle.

Question 3 Coupon collector disillusion

(1) At least how many box?

At least the collector should use n boxes to hold the coupons.

(2) Not done

(3) Expectation

$$E[X] = E[X_1] + E[X_2] + \dots + E[X_n] \quad (1)$$

$$= n/n + n/(n-1) + n/(n-2) + \dots + n/1 \quad (2)$$

$$\cong n(\log n) + O(1) \quad (3)$$

So we could conclude that

$$E[X] = \Theta(n \log n)$$

(4) Explain coupon collector

The previous formula means the expected number of boxes that the collector should use to hold the coupons.