C950 Ta	isk-2	<b>WGUPS</b>	Write-	Иp
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(Task-2: The implementation phase of the WGUPS Routing Program).

5/18/2025

C950 Data Structures and Algorithms II

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#### A. Hash Table

The self-adjusting hash table is defined in the file: WGUPS-Delivery-Route-Planning/utils/custom\_hash\_table.py. The hash table consists of a constructor for initializing the hash table to a size that is relative to the input size (i.e., number of packages). The hash table constructor makes use of another function from within the PackageHashTable file that is not a method of the class. This function, \_increment\_for\_prime, takes the number of packages, multiplies by two, and increments this value to the next greater prime. This self-adjusting approach for determining the size of the hash table ensures that the table is large enough to contain all of the package data without encountering collisions upon insertion into the table.

```
# defining static method to generate the next prime that is
# greater than argument 'num'
def _increment_for_prime(num): 1usage new*
    def is_prime(x): new *
           return False
       for i in range(2, x):
           if x \% i == 0:
               return False
    while not is_prime(num):
       num += 1
    return num
class PackageHashTable: 6 usages & Dayton
    # The constructor for hash table to determine size and create table
    self.size = _increment_for_prime(num_packages * 2)
       self.table = [[] for _ in range(self.size)]
       self.count = 0
```

The PackageHashTable includes an insert method for inserting packages into the hash table. This method includes input parameters for the package ID as a key and the other package data as the corresponding value. In order to calculate the bucket placement for a particular package in the table, the built-in Python hash() function is called on the package key (package\_id). The corresponding bucket for the insertion is then computed by taking the remainder of the hashed key value from dividing the hash value by the size of the hash table. The insert method itself also has a conditional block to check if there is a collision on insert, however, the hash table does not implement a collision resolution strategy. The conditional block here merely updates the package to the new insert value if there is a collision and appends a note to the package *notes*, which states that the package ID is a duplicate.

```
class PackageHashTable: 6 usages ≜ Dayton
.venv library root
 entities
> 🗀 resources
 services
                                       return hash(key) % self.size
 UI_components
🗸 🖻 utils
    __init__.py
 calc_travel_time_minut
    custom_hash_table.py 33
    instantiate_delivery_int 34
  .gitignore
  nain.py
  M↓ README.md
1 External Libraries
                                   def insert(self, key, value): 5 usages (1 dynamic) & Dayton
Scratches and Consoles
                                       index = self._hash(key)
                                       bucket = self.table[index]
                                       for i, (k, existing_value) in enumerate(bucket):
                                               existing_value.append_note("DUPLICATE PACKAGE ID")
                                               bucket[i] = (key, existing_value)
                                               return
                                       bucket.append((key, value))
```

# B. Look-Up Functions

The custom hash table includes two lookup methods that return package objects and all associated data for the package. The first of these methods takes a package ID as an argument, and the second takes an address as an argument. The <code>get\_by\_id</code> method takes the provided package ID, hashes it in the same way as the insertion method, and searches the hash table for this index. The method <code>get\_by\_id</code> then returns the value corresponding to that key if it is found, otherwise it returns <code>None</code> type if it is not found.

```
# get method for retrieving hash table elements' values by their key

def get_by_id(self, key): 18 usages (18 dynamic) & Dayton

index = self._hash(key)

for k, v in self.table[index]:

    if k == key:
        return v

return None
```

The *get\_by\_address* method takes an *address* string as the input, initializes an empty list for packages, and searches all packages in the hash table for any packages with an address that contains the string value provided as the argument. For all packages that match this provided address, they are appended to the package\_match list, which is returned by this method after it searches all buckets in the hash table. I created this additional look-up method to simplify the process of grouping packages that have same delivery address into the same delivery batch, so long as there are no other package constraints that prevent this.

#### C1. Identification Information

```
Project ~
                               nain.py ×
                                     # Dayton Abbott

∨ □ WGUPS-Delivery-Route-Planni

                                     # 011125353
                                     line_format = ""
  > 🖻 entities
  > 🗀 resources

∨ □ services

                                         instantiate_delivery_infra()
       batch_truck_load_service
                                         routes = start_delivery_service(package_keys, package_hash_table)
       delivery_service.py
       distance_matrix_builder.
       nearest_neighbor_path_ 18
       package_data_parser.py
                                         exit_delivery_monitor = False
       package_priority_parsing 20
  > 🗀 Ul_components
                                         while not exit_delivery_monitor:
  > 🗈 utils
    .gitignore
                                              main_menu()
     nain.py
                                              routes = get_fresh_routes()
    M↓ README.md
> file External Libraries
                                              user_input = input()
> 
Scratches and Consoles
                                              if user_input == '1':
                                              elif user_input == '2':
                                                  prompt_for_package_id()
                                              elif user_input == '3':
                                                  user_time = input("Enter time in format: HH:MM AM/PM\n (space between time and AM/PM)\n")
                                                  query_delivery_service(user_time, routes, condition_code: 3)
                                              elif user_input == '4':
                                                  user_time = input("Enter time in format: HH:MM:AM/PM\n (space between time and AM/PM)\n")
                                                  query_delivery_service(user_time, routes, condition_code: 4)
                                              elif user_input == '5':
                                                 route_number = int(input("Enter route number (1-3)\n"))
                                                  print(Truck.trucks_dict[route_number])
```

# C2. Original Code with Process and Flow

For my implementation of the WGUPS route planning project, I modularized the architecture for clean organization and scalability. The core components of the application are divided into five modules: *entities*, *resources*, *services*, *UI\_components*, and *utils*.

The entities package contains class definitions for *Driver*, *Package*, *Route*, and *Truck*. I will not go into detail on the *Driver* class here because it is not very important.

#### C2. Entities Module: Package

The *Package* class provides a means of instantiating package objects composed of the data extracted from the excel documents provided, as well as an additional field for the package status to indicate delivery status. The *Package* class also includes an *update* method that I created for correcting package number 9's address while the delivery service is running, a \_\_str\_\_ method for formatting package print calls, and a method for appending to the notes attribute. The calls to *append\_note* could have been modified to use the *update* method; I created them at different points and did not realize I was going to need a general update method while I was creating the append\_note method. It did not seem worthwhile to refactor this since it works and *append\_note* does serve a distinct purpose in its own right, which is to provide a notice when hash table inserts collide.

```
# Package class to instantiate package objects with attributes corresponding

∨ □ WGUPS-Delivery-F

1

                      class Package: 3 usages & Dayton
  def __init__(self, package_id, address, city, state, zip_code, ≗Dayton
     deadline, weight, notes):
     driver.py
                          self.package_id = package_id
self.address = address
      퀒 package.py
     route.py 8
     ruck.py
                             self.state = state
                             self.zip_code = zip_code
  > 🗀 services
                            self.deadline = deadline
                            self.weight = weight
  > 🗀 test
  > 🗀 UI_components
                             self.status = "At Hub"
 > 🗈 utils
   .gitignore
                          nain.py
                             for key, value in kwargs.items():
   M↓ README.md
```

#### Package class continued:

#### C2. Entities Module: Route

The Route class contains all major route data for finalized routes, including: the package\_keys for all packages in a given route, the package hash table of all packages in the route, total number of destinations in the route, dynamically generated distance matrices based on the route's hash table, the optimized sequence of delivery destinations and corresponding distances, total route distance, and route duration. I

```
driver.py
                                def __init__(self, label=None, package_keys=None, package_table=None, num_destinations=None, &Daytor
  package.py
                                             distance_matrix=None, metadata=None, total_distance=None, duration=None):
  🗬 route.py
  truck.py
                                    self.package_keys = package_keys
resources 🗀
                                    self.package_table = package_table
n services
                                    self.num_destinations = num_destinations
                                    self.distance matrix = distance matrix
test 🗀
                                    self.metadata = metadata
UL_components
                                    self.total_distance = total_distance
utils 🗈
                                    self.duration = duration
.gitignore
nain.py
M↓ README.md
                                    package_table = print_all_packages(self.package_keys, self.package_table, self.label)
External Libraries
                                    num_destinations = len(self.distance_matrix[0])
Scratches and Consoles
                                    return (f"{line_format:_<400}\n \n{package_table}\n"
                                            f"{print_dist_matrix(self.distance_matrix, num_destinations)}"
                                            f"{line_format:_<400}"
                                            f"NEAREST NEIGHBOR OPTIMIZED ROUTE DESTINATION DETAILS"
                                            f"{print_route_metadata(self.metadata, self.num_destinations)}\n"
                                            f"Route Distance Total: {self.total_distance} miles\n"
                                            f"Route Duration: {self.duration} minutesn")
```

created the *Route* class to simplify the access of data for a particular route given that different data elements are requested for different queries made in the UI.

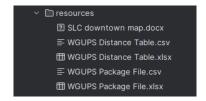
#### C2. Entities Module: Truck

The *Truck* class includes relevant status data with respect to queries that a user can make in the UI, data such as: *driver\_id*, *packages*, *route\_start\_time*, *en\_route\_time*, *distance\_traveled*, and *status*. Each of these attributes was created for extracting status data for presentation through the UI. For example, *route\_start\_time*, *en\_route\_time*, and *distance\_traveled* are all used in determining the status of the truck itself when a user provides a time for the service to be queried, as well as the status of the packages contained on the truck. The *Truck* class also includes a *load* method for loading packages onto a given truck.

```
□ WGUPS-Delivery-R
   def __init__(self, truck_id, driver_id, route_start_time, &Dayton*
> In .venv library roc
                                   en_route_time, status, distance_traveled):
 entities
                           self.distance_traveled = distance_traveled
                           Truck.trucks_dict[truck_id] = self
  ☐ UI_components 20
  Ø .gitignore
                      truck_info = f"Truck #{self.truck_id}"
driver_info = f"Driver ID: {self.driver_id}"
  襣 main.py
  M↓ README.md
                         packages_str = "\n".join(str(p) for p in self.packages) \
                      Scratches and Con
                              start_time = datetime.strftime(self.route_start_time, TIME_FORMAT)
                              start_time = self.route_start_time
                                  f"Batch #{self.truck_id} Loaded onto Truck for Optimized Route:"
                                  f"{driver_info:<4}\n"
                                   f"Departure Time: {start_time}\n"
                                  f"Time on Route: {self.en_route_time} minutes\n"
                                  f"Truck Route Distance Traveled: {self.distance_traveled} miles\n"
                                   f"\n{line_format:_<400}\n")</pre>
```

#### C2. Resources module

The *resources* module within the root folder for my project contains the materials provided for the project, as well as the .csv versions of these files.



The *service* module contains distinct services for: extracting the provided data and inserting into operable data structures, determining package priorities, building distances matrices for individual routes, generating nearest neighbor paths for the delivery trucks, loading the packages onto the trucks, and executing the delivery service.

#### C2. Data import and organization

This process begins with the *package\_data\_parser.py* file, which takes the .csv files for package data and distance table, extracts the data, and inserts it into data structures that are used for access throughout the program. The package data is inserted into the package\_hash\_table, and the distance table data is used to construct a distance matrix for comparing path weights between destinations. The code here is explained within the comments.

#### C2. Hash table and distance table imports

```
🗀 WGUPS-Delivery-Route-Plannii
                                   from utils.custom_hash_table import PackageHashTable
 .venv library root
                                   from entities.package import Package
 entities
 resources
                                   # Reading package data from csv into lists
✓ □ services
                                   with open ('./resources/WGUPS Package File.csv') as csvfile:
    batch_truck_load_service
                                       package_data = list(csv.reader(csvfile, delimiter=','))
    delivery_service.py
    distance_matrix_builder.p
                                   # Reading package distance table into lists
   nearest_neighbor_path_c 10
                                   with open ('./resources/WGUPS Distance Table.csv') as csvfile:
                                       distance_table = list(csv.reader(csvfile, delimiter=','))
    package_data_parser.py
    package_priority_parsing
12
                                   # Creating a list comprising the individual rows (i.e., packages) from csv.
> 🗀 Ul_components
 utils
  .gitignore
                                   package_rows = [row for row in package_data[0:] if row[0].strip().isdigit()]
  🗬 main.py
```

#### C2. Building the hash table and distance matrix

```
# Extracting only the rows that represent recipients from the distance table
distance_table_rows = []
for row in distance_table[0:]:
    try:
       float(row[2])
       # recipient table, but with only the rows representing recipients
       distance_table_rows.append(row)
   except(ValueError, TypeError):
        continue
num_destinations = len(distance_table_rows) + 1
# to create a table that is of size (num packages in csv * 2) ++ to next prime)).
package_hash_table = PackageHashTable(len(package_rows))
distance_matrix = [[0 for _ in range(num_destinations)] for _ in range(num_destinations)]
```

#### C2. Populating hash table

# C2. Building distance matrix continued

```
# Constructing a two-dimensional array/matrix from the distance table csv.

index = 1

distance_matrix[0][0] = 'RECIPIENT'

for row in distance_table_rows:

# Parsing address/recipient/zipcode identifiers from csv rows and extracting the recipient name recipient = row[0].split('\n')

recipient = recipient[1].strip()

recipient = recipient.strip(',')

# Extracting initial letters of recipient info to generate a string abbreviation for the recipient # name to make the top row of the matrix readable and allow column values to line up visually with # their corresponding distance values

recipient_abrev = recipient[0:24]

# Inserting abbreviated recipient names in corresponding top row index positions distance_matrix[0][index] = recipient_abrev

# Inserting non-abbreviated recipient names along the corresponding rows in index 0 distance_matrix[index][0] = recipient_abrev
```

#### C2. Populating the distance matrix

```
# Mapping distance values from the csv to the correct location within the matrix

for col in range(1, num_destinations):

# If the value cannot be converted to a float, then it is not a distance value.

# So, I use a try/catch block to try to convert each value to a float.

try:

distance_matrix[index][col] = 'X'

# If this throws an error, then the value is not a distance value and retains

# a placeholder "X" for improved readability.

dist = float(row[col + 1])

# if the value can be converted to a float, then it is added to the matrix in the position

# that corresponds to its distance between two locations

distance_matrix[index][col] = dist

distance_matrix[col][index] = dist

# Catching errors from the attempt to convert to float from above and continuing i.e., skipping

# that element if float conversion throws an error.

# The try block sets every index value to X before attempting the float conversion, so

# if the value fails the float conversion it retains the placeholder X

except(ValueError, TypeError):

continue

index += 1
```

# C2. Prioritization, Batching, Optimization, and Loading

With the package and distance data now accessible in the program, the delivery service execution flow moves onto the <code>package\_priority\_parsing\_service</code>. This service begins with creating a copy of the package data hash table. A copy of the package data hash table is used in order to allow <code>status</code> update operations to be performed within individual queries made from the UI without modifying the core data structure, which in turn enables the main() loop to loop repeatedly and the user to perform multiple subsequent queries without <code>status</code> updates carrying over from previous queries. Moving through the <code>package\_priority\_parsing\_service</code>, this service utilizes many of the other services from within this module to perform each of the steps involved in the optimization and routing process, beginning with identifying package priorities based on package deadlines and other constraints.

#### C2. Prioritization

At a high level, my approach to this part of the problem was to identify three categories of packages, which I initially tracked using lists of the package IDs. The first category I labeled as the *constrained\_packages* and included any package that has a *notes* value. These packages were assigned to truck number two, since many of the *notes* state that it is required for the package in question to be delivered by truck two. Also, these packages were all able to be delivered by their respective delivery times, despite delaying the start time of this route until the late packages arrived at 9:05am.

```
def package_priority_parsing_service(some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table): 2 usages & Dayton
MGUPS-Delivery-Route-P
 ibrary root
                                   instanced_package_hash_table = copy.deepcopy(some_package_hash_table)

    entities

                                   not_corrected = True
 resources
 ☐ services
    batch_truck_load_se
                                   priority_package_keys = []
    delivery_service.py 17
                                  constrained_package_keys = []
    distance_matrix_bui 18
                                   standard_package_keys = []
    nearest_neighbor_p 19
    package_data_parse 20 ×
    package_priority_pa 21
                                  for package_id in some_package_keys:
 □ UI_components
                                     temp_package = instanced_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_id)
 utils
 .gitignore
                                      if temp_package.notes and not "Wrong address" in temp_package.notes:
 nain.py
                                           constrained_package_keys.append(package_id)
 M↓ README.md
Th External Libraries
Scratches and Consoles
                                      elif not temp_package.notes and not temp_package.deadline[0].isalpha():
                                           if package_id not in constrained_package_keys and package_id not in standard_package_keys:
                                               association_check = instanced_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_id)
                                               associated_packages = instanced_package_hash_table.get_by_address(association_check.address)
                                               if len(priority_package_keys) + len(associated_packages) <= 16:</pre>
                                                   for package in associated_packages:
                                                       if package.notes:
                                                       if (package.package_id not in priority_package_keys
                                                               and package.package_id not in standard_package_keys):
                                                           priority_package_keys.append(package.package_id)
```

The second category of packages are the *priority\_packages*, these are the packages that have a specific delivery deadline, but <u>do not</u> have a *notes* value. These packages are able to be loaded at the start of the delivery service window and immediately sent out for delivery because the limitation of not having a *notes* value excludes any packages that are late or have incorrect addresses. Together, the lists of keys for these two categories are built as follows:

The third category of packages is *standard\_packages*, which are the packages that have no deadline, no notes, <u>or</u> a note that states that the address is wrong. Because this batch of packages is larger than the others and cannot fit onto a single delivery truck when the truck capacity is 16 packages, these packages are dispersed between the other two trucks when the *standard\_package\_keys* list reaches a length of 16.

The package with the incorrect address is included with this batch because it would otherwise delay priority packages and cause missed delivery deadlines. After this prioritization process is run, package number 9 is updated to reflect the correct address. The project instructions state that we can "assume the address will be updated at

```
# If a package is neither assigned to constrained packages nor priority packages,
        if package_id not in constrained_package_keys and package_id not in priority_package_keys:
            # so standard packages are assigned to standard package array, so long as the
            if ((len(standard_package_keys) < 16) and (package_id not in priority_package_keys)</pre>
                    and (package_id not in constrained_package_keys)):
                standard_package_keys.append(package_id)
            elif ((len(priority_package_keys) < 16) and (package_id not in priority_package_keys)</pre>
                  and (package_id not in constrained_package_keys)):
                priority_package_keys.append(package_id)
            elif ((len(constrained_package_keys) < 16) and (package_id not in priority_package_keys)
                  and (package_id not in constrained_package_keys)):
                constrained_package_keys.append(package_id)
if not_corrected:
    package_to_correct = instanced_package_hash_table.get_by_id(9)
    package_to_correct.update(
       zip_code="84111",
       notes="Address corrected at 10:20 AM"
    not_corrected = False
```

10:20", which seems to suggest that this address can be corrected before 10:20. Correcting the address later would have just resulted in a less optimal delivery route for this batch of packages. The *standard\_package* batch population and correction of package 9 were accomplished like so:

#### C2. Populating batch hash tables

Once the packages have been separated into their respective categories, hash tables for each batch can be generated based on the length of the list of keys for the batch, and then the tables can be populated:

```
def package_priority_parsing_service(some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table): 2 usages & Dayton*
.venv library root
> 🖻 entities
                                  constrained_delivery_package_table = PackageHashTable(len(constrained_package_keys))
> 🗀 resources
                                  priority_delivery_package_table = PackageHashTable(len(priority_package_keys))
                                  standard_delivery_package_table = PackageHashTable(len(standard_package_keys))
    natch_truck_load_se
    delivery_service.py
    🗬 distance_matrix_bui
                                  for package_id in priority_package_keys:
    nearest_neighbor_p 79
                                      priority_delivery_package_table.insert(package_id, instanced_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_id))
                                  for package_id in constrained_package_keys:
    package_data_parse 80
                                     constrained_delivery_package_table.insert(package_id, instanced_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_id))
    package_priority_pa 81
                                  for package_id in standard_package_keys:
 UL_components
                                      standard_delivery_package_table.insert(package_id, instanced_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_id))
 utils
```

#### C2. Generate batch distance matrix

The next step in this process is to dynamically generate distance matrices for each package batch, extracting only data elements that correspond to destinations in this batch from the original distance table. Here I will briefly redirect attention to the distance\_matrix\_builder.py file where the function for performing these operations is defined. The first steps of generating a distance matrix for each batch involve determining the size of the matrix, and extracting the row/column identifiers (addresses) from the original distance table for use in the new matrix:

```
def distance_matrix_builder(some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table): 4 usages &Dayton
□ WGUPS-Delivery-Route-Plan
                                    hub = distance_matrix[0][1]
> in .venv library root
> 🖻 entities
                                    batch_destinations = [hub]
> 🗀 resources

∨ □ services

                                    # Add unique addresses to array of addresses for matrix population.
    batch_truck_load_serv
                                    for package_id in some_package_keys:
    delivery_service.py
                                        temp_package = some_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_id)
    distance_matrix_builde___
                                        for column in distance_matrix[0]:
    nearest_neighbor_pat 19
                                            if column in temp_package.address and not column in batch_destinations:
    package_data_parser. 13
                                                batch_destinations.append(column)
    package_priority_pars 14
> 🗀 Ul_components
                                    n = len(batch_destinations) + 1
> 🗈 utils
                                    temp_dist_matrix = [[0 for _ in range(n)] for _ in range(n)]
  .gitignore
  nain.py
                                    # Populate first row and first column with addresses for distance associations.
  M↓ README.md
                                    for i, destination in enumerate(batch_destinations, start=1):
temp_dist_matrix[0][i] = destination
Scratches and Consoles
                                        temp_dist_matrix[i][0] = destination
```

With the distance matrix defined at an adequate size and the row/column address labels inserted, the matrix can be populated with distance values corresponding only to addresses in this batch.

```
# Get distances from full distance matrix that correspond only to distances between
# addresses in this distance matrix.

# Insert the distances in to the matrix at the coordinates that correspond to the associated
# addresses.

for address in distance_matrix[0]:

try:

primary_index = batch_destinations.index(address) + 1

parent_matrix_index = distance_matrix[0].index(address)

for i, row_values in enumerate(distance_matrix[parent_matrix_index]):

if distance_matrix[0][i] in batch_destinations:

secondary_index = batch_destinations.index(distance_matrix[0][i]) + 1

temp_dist_matrix[primary_index][secondary_index] = row_values

except ValueError:
continue

# Return this distance matrix for assignment where called.

return temp_dist_matrix
```

Switching focus back to the *package\_priority\_parsing\_service.py*, the *distance\_matrix\_builder* function can now be called on the categorized package keys lists:

```
# Take classification distinct package hash tables and generate distance matrices for packages
# in that classification group

priority_package_distance_matrix = distance_matrix_builder(priority_package_keys,

priority_delivery_package_table)

constrained_package_distance_matrix = distance_matrix_builder(constrained_package_keys,

constrained_delivery_package_table)

standard_package_distance_matrix = distance_matrix_builder(standard_package_keys,

standard_delivery_package_table)
```

#### C2. Nearest Neighbor Heuristic and Package Deadline Prioritization

Now that the hash tables and distance matrices for each batch have been constructed, the next step is to optimize the delivery routes for each batch. I created a separate file for <code>nearest\_neighbor\_path\_generator</code> to implement the nearest neighbor heuristic algorithm.

The process for generating optimized routes begins by comparing the priority of packages within a batch to see if any packages have greater priority than others. The implementation of these in-batch priority comparisons only compares deadlines to see if there are any packages with an earlier deadline than others, it does not prioritize packages with deadlines over other packages that do not have a specific deadline. I chose not to prioritize all packages with deadlines over non-deadline packages because otherwise doing so would essentially eliminate a large portion of the optimization achieved through the nearest neighbor algorithm by defining the route based on deadlines rather than nearest neighbors. This approach of only prioritizing packages with lesser/earlier deadlines enables more distance optimization while ensuring that packages that truly have priority over the other packages can have their delivery deadlines met. The code for this portion is on the next page.

Before adding the priority packages to the delivery sequence, the nearest\_neighbor\_path\_generator identifies the position of the Hub in the distance list to use as the starting point of the path traversal. It adds the hub address as a dictionary to the visited\_nodes list at index position 0. I chose to implement the visited\_nodes list as a list of dictionaries in order to store the address and associated packages together for referencing.

```
# Find the starting node i.e., the hub.

for i, row in enumerate(some_distance_matrix[1:], start=1):

if row[1] == 0.0:

current_node_address = row[0]

visited_nodes.append({

    "address": current_node_address,
    "associated_packages": None

})

current_node_index = i

destination_count = i
```

With the starting point for the route set to the *Hub* address, the algorithm moves on to adding the priority packages for the batch to the *visited\_nodes\_array*, ordering the destinations by nearest neighbor comparisons starting from the *Hub*.

```
if high_priority_packages:
   for package_key in high_priority_package_keys:
       this_address = some_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_key).address
       associated_packages = some_package_hash_table.get_by_address(
            some_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package_key).address)
       visited_nodes.append({
            "address": this_address,
            "associated_packages": associated_packages
       for i, address in enumerate(some_distance_matrix[0][1:], start=1):
           if this_address in address:
               this_address_index = i
       distance_traveled_array.append(some_distance_matrix[this_address_index][current_node_index])
       current_node_index = this_address_index
       current_node_address = this_address
       num_packages_delivered += len(associated_packages)
   high_priority_packages.clear()
```

Once the *high\_priority\_packages* in a batch have been assigned priority positions in the delivery sequence, the *nearest\_neighbor\_path\_generator* function moves onto the remaining packages in the batch. The delivery sequence is determined using a nearest neighbor algorithm that searches the batch specific distance table for the shortest distance from the current node to another node that has not yet been visited on this route. This portion of the algorithm also optimizes the route by searching the hash table for other packages in the batch that share an address with the current package.

```
def nearest_neighbor_path_generator(some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table, 4 usages & Dayton
    if not high_priority_packages:
       neighbor_distances_array = {}
        for delivery_stop in range(len(high_priority_package_keys), destination_count + 1):
            for row in some_distance_matrix[1:]:
                if not any(row[0] in node['address'] for node in visited_nodes):
                   neighbor_distances_array[row[0]] = row[current_node_index]
            nearest_neighbor = min(neighbor_distances_array.items(), key=lambda item: item[1])
            for i, row in enumerate(some_distance_matrix[1:], start=1):
                if row[0] == nearest_neighbor[0]:
                    current_node_index = i
            associated_packages = some_package_hash_table.get_by_address(nearest_neighbor[0])
            # this address.
            current_node_address = nearest_neighbor[0]
            visited_nodes.append({
                "address": current_node_address,
                "associated_packages": associated_packages
            path_time = calc_travel_time_minutes(nearest_neighbor[1])
            aggregate_time += path_time
            distance_traveled_array.append(nearest_neighbor[1])
            neighbor_distances_array.clear()
            num_packages_delivered += len(associated_packages)
            if num_packages_delivered >= len(some_package_keys):
                break
```

The last step for the <code>nearest\_neighbor\_path\_generator</code> function is to initialize a dictionary of dictionaries, with the primary dictionary's key being an integer representation of the destination's number/position in the delivery sequence. This integer key is then paired with the corresponding destination information such as, <code>address</code>, <code>associated\_packages</code>, and the sum of the combined distances traveled from the <code>Hub</code> to arrive at this destination. Once these dictionaries for each destination have been inserted into the <code>nearest\_neighbor\_route</code> dictionary, <code>nearest\_neighbor\_path\_generator</code> returns this dictionary of routes.

```
def nearest_neighbor_path_generator(some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table, 4usages &Dayton
    nearest_neighbor_route = {}
    for d, destination in enumerate(visited_nodes):
           route_info = {
                "destination_number": d,
               "address": HUB_ADDRESS,
                "associated_packages": None,
       elif 0 < d < len(visited_nodes):</pre>
           route_info = {
                "address": destination["address"],
                "associated_packages": destination["associated_packages"],
                "distance": sum(distance_traveled_array[0:d])
       if d == len(visited_nodes) - 1:
           final_delivery_matrix_index = some_distance_matrix[0].index(route_info["address"])
           return_to_hub_distance = some_distance_matrix[final_delivery_matrix_index][1]
           route_termination_info = {
                "address": HUB_ADDRESS,
                "associated_packages": None,
                "distance": sum(distance_traveled_array[0:d]) + return_to_hub_distance
           nearest_neighbor_route[d + 1] = route_termination_info
       nearest_neighbor_route[d] = route_info
    return nearest_neighbor_route
```

### C2. Load Trucks

The nearest\_neighbor\_path\_generator is called from the package\_priority\_parsing\_service.py, which allows for the route returned from the path generator to be assigned to a variable in package\_priority\_parsing\_service.py. This routes are then passed to the batch\_load\_truck\_service function, along with the package keys, hash table, and a route label associated with each route.

```
def package_priority_parsing_service(some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table): 2 usages & Dayton*
   priority_package_distance_matrix = distance_matrix_builder(priority_package_keys,
                                                             priority_delivery_package_table)
   constrained_package_distance_matrix = distance_matrix_builder(constrained_package_keys,
                                                                constrained_delivery_package_table)
   standard_package_distance_matrix = distance_matrix_builder(standard_package_keys,
                                                             standard_delivery_package_table)
   priority_delivery_route = nearest_neighbor_path_generator(priority_package_keys, priority_delivery_package_table,
                                                              priority_package_distance_matrix)
   constrained_delivery_route = nearest_neighbor_path_generator(constrained_package_keys,
                                                                 constrained_delivery_package_table,
                                                                 constrained_package_distance_matrix)
   standard_delivery_route = nearest_neighbor_path_generator(standard_package_keys, standard_delivery_package_table,
                                                              standard_package_distance_matrix)
   batch_truck_load_service(priority_delivery_route, priority_package_keys,
                             priority_delivery_package_table, label: "priority batch")
   batch_truck_load_service(constrained_delivery_route, constrained_package_keys, constrained_delivery_package_table,
   batch_truck_load_service(standard_delivery_route, standard_package_keys, standard_delivery_package_table,
                           label: "standard batch")
```

The *batch\_truck\_load\_service* uses the *label* value passed as an argument in its function call to determine which truck the passed route needs to be loaded onto.

```
def batch_truck_load_service(route_path, some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table, label): 4 usages & Dayton
total_package_count = 0
batch = deque()

batch_package_count = 0
package_match_count = 0
carryover_packages = []

if "priority batch" in label:
    truck_number = 1
elif "constrained batch" in label:
    truck_number = 2
elif "standard batch" in label:
    truck_number = 3
else:
    truck_number = 4
```

Next, the batch\_truck\_load\_service function loops through all of the destinations in the route path, or until the truck capacity is maxed out, to select all of the associated packages in this batch that can be loaded onto the designated truck. The loop starts with a condition check for carryover\_packages, which only evaluates to true if the loop has already been executed. The carryover\_packages list was necessary because of how the function checks if there is room on the truck for all of the packages associated with the current route destination. A truck may be able to accept more packages (i.e., it could have 15 or fewer packages), but if the destination has multiple associated packages, loading all of these packages onto the truck would result in overloading the truck. Which means that this destination that would require overloading the truck should not be visited by this truck. So, the packages must be carried over to the next truck operating on this route.

```
def batch_truck_load_service(route_path, some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table, label): 4 usages & Dayton '
    for delivery_stop in route_path.values():
        if carryover_packages:
            for carryover_package in carryover_packages:
                batch.append(carryover_package)
                batch_package_count += 1
                total_package_count += 1
           carryover_packages = []
       # Check hash table for other packages associated with this address so that they can be
       address_associated_packages = some_package_hash_table.get_by_address(delivery_stop["address"])
       package_match_count += len(address_associated_packages)
        if len(address_associated_packages) == 0:
        # Compare what the size of the batch would be if associated_packages were added to the batch.
        if ((batch_package_count + len(address_associated_packages) <= 16) and total_package_count
                < len(some_package_keys)):
            for package in address_associated_packages:
                    batch.append(some_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package.package_id))
                   batch_package_count += 1
                    total_package_count += 1
           can_load_more = True
           can_load_more = False
           # If this point is reached, then the number of associated_packages is too large to fit in
            for package in address_associated_packages:
                carryover_packages.append(some_package_hash_table.get_by_id(package.package_id))
```

Once the number of packages loaded from this batch has reached the maximum value that will fit on the current truck, the deque container for the packages is passed to the *load\_truck* method of the *Truck* class.

```
def batch_truck_load_service(route_path, some_package_keys, some_package_hash_table, label): 4 usages &Dayton*

# Once the number of packages in a batch reaches the maximum possible per constraints,

# load the packages onto corresponding truck and clear batch to start new.

if ((batch_package_count == 16) or (package_match_count == len(some_package_keys))

or can_load_more == False):

# print("\nTruck number: ", truck_number)

# print("Batch", truck_number, "package count: ", batch_package_count)

# if package_match_count == len(some_package_keys):

# print("\nTotal package count: ", total_package_count)

# 
Truck.trucks_dict.get(truck_number).load_truck(batch)

# 
batch.clear()

address_associated_packages.clear()

batch_package_count = 0

can_load_more = True
```

### C2. Instantiating Route objects

The final process carried out in the <code>package\_priority\_parsing\_service</code> involves instantiating route objects which contain all of the route metadata necessary to return the desired information to the UI. This requires initializing variables to hold values for the max key (last destination), total distance, and duration of each route, and then assigning the appropriate values to all of the attributes for each route object. The <code>package\_priority\_parsing\_service</code> returns a list of these route objects for use elsewhere.

```
# Retrieve the max (last) key for each route to use for distance calculation
priority_route_max_key = max(priority_delivery_route.keys())

constrained_route_max_key = max(constrained_delivery_route.keys())

standard_route_max_key = max(standard_delivery_route.keys())

# Calculate total distances for routes
priority_route_total_distance = priority_delivery_route[priority_route_max_key]["distance"]

constrained_route_total_distance = constrained_delivery_route[constrained_route_max_key]["distance"]

standard_route_total_distance = standard_delivery_route[standard_route_max_key]["distance"]

# Calculate total route duration
priority_route_duration = calc_travel_time_minutes(priority_route_total_distance)
constrained_route_duration = calc_travel_time_minutes(constrained_route_total_distance)
standard_route_duration = calc_travel_time_minutes(standard_route_total_distance)

standard_route_duration = calc_travel_time_minutes(standard_route_total_distance)
```

#### C2. Run the Delivery Service

Main.py contains a function <code>get\_fresh\_routes</code>, which calls the <code>instantiate\_delivery\_infra</code> function from the <code>utils</code> module as well as the <code>start\_delivery\_service</code> function from the <code>delivery\_service</code> file in the <code>services</code> module. <code>Instantiate\_delivery\_infra</code> instantiates Truck and Driver objects to be utilized in the <code>Truck</code> loading process. <code>Start\_delivery\_service</code> calls the <code>package\_priority\_parsing\_service</code>, passing all of the package data from the imported csv file as well as the list of all package keys and returning a list of route\_objects to be passed to the <code>query\_delivery\_service</code> function. The <code>main()</code> method is discussed in the next section.

```
today = date.today()
TIME_FORMAT = "%I:%M %p"
fmt = "%H:%M"
TRUCK_SPEED = 18
temp_truck1_time = datetime.strptime( date_string: "8:00 AM", TIME_FORMAT).time()
TRUCK1_START_TIME = datetime.combine(today, temp_truck1_time)
temp_truck2_time = datetime.strptime( date_string: "09:05 AM", TIME_FORMAT).time()
TRUCK2_START_TIME = datetime.combine(today, temp_truck2_time)

TRUCK2_START_TIME = datetime.combine(today, temp_truck2_time)

### Generate route data for delivery service
def start_delivery_service(all_package_keys, all_package_hash_table): 2 usages & Dayton

route_objects = package_priority_parsing_service(all_package_keys, all_package_hash_table)
return route_objects
```

#### C2. Query the Delivery Service

The query\_delivery\_service function takes a time string, the route\_objects list, and a condition\_code as arguments. The main() function in main.py consists of various branches with execution that is conditional upon the user input. For the branches that call query\_delivery\_service, a time string will be provided either via user input or hardcoded into the branch logic. The route\_objects passed to query\_delivery\_service reference a hash table that is a copy of the main hash table structure in order to allow repeated queries without changes made to package data to carry over between queries.

The *condition\_code* parameter of this function is used to direct the output of the function to the output that corresponds to the user's request.

```
delivery_service.py ×
       # Function for running a simulation of delivery process and returning values depending on user input time
       def query_delivery_service(time, route_objects, condition_code): 4 usages & Dayton
           try:
               temp_parsed_time = datetime.strptime(time, TIME_FORMAT).time()
               parsed_input_time = datetime.combine(today, temp_parsed_time)
           except ValueError:
               print(f"Time must be in format HH:MM AM/PM, e.g. '02:30 PM'.")
               return
           all_trucks = Truck.trucks_dict
           truck1 = all_trucks[1]
           truck2 = all_trucks[2]
           truck3 = all_trucks[3]
           all_trucks_elapsed_time = 0
           # CREATE COPIES OF ROUTE SPECIFIC HASH TABLES FOR STATUS ALTERATIONS
           this_temp_routes = route_objects.copy()
           constrained_route_complete_time = TRUCK2_START_TIME + timedelta(minutes=this_temp_routes[1].duration)
           priority_route_complete_time = TRUCK1_START_TIME + timedelta(minutes=this_temp_routes[0].duration)
           constrained_route_complete_time = (constrained_route_complete_time.replace(second=0, microsecond=0)
                                               + timedelta(minutes=1))
           priority_route_complete_time = (priority_route_complete_time.replace(second=0, microsecond=0) +
                                            timedelta(minutes=1))
           temp_truck3_time = min(constrained_route_complete_time, priority_route_complete_time) + timedelta(minutes=1)
           truck3_start_time = datetime.combine(today, (temp_truck3_time.time()))
           truck1.route_start_time = TRUCK1_START_TIME
           truck2.route_start_time = TRUCK2_START_TIME
           truck3.route_start_time = truck3_start_time
           standard_route_complete_time = truck3_start_time + timedelta(minutes=this_temp_routes[2].duration)
           standard_route_complete_time = (standard_route_complete_time.replace(second=0, microsecond=0)
                                             + timedelta(minutes=1))
           route_completion_times = [priority_route_complete_time, constrained_route_complete_time,
                                    standard_route_complete_time]
```

Prior to using the condition code to determine the output of the query, the *query\_delivery\_service* function takes the user input *time* and determines the statuses of all *Packages* and *Trucks* at the given time, beginning with setting truck statuses and calculating *truck.en\_route\_time* and *distance\_traveled*.

```
ndelivery_service.py ×
       def query_delivery_service(time, route_objects, condition_code): 4 usages & Dayton*
           for i, truck in enumerate(all_trucks.values(), start=0):
               time_dif = parsed_input_time - truck.route_start_time
               truck.en_route_time = time_dif.total_seconds() / 60.0
               if 0 < truck.en_route_time:</pre>
                   truck.status = "en route"
                   if i == 0 or i == 2:
                       truck.driver_id = 1
                   elif i == 1:
                       truck.driver_id = 2
                   # If the duration of the route is greater than zero but
                   if this_temp_routes[i].duration <= truck.en_route_time:</pre>
                        truck.distance_traveled = this_temp_routes[i].total_distance
                        truck.en_route_time = this_temp_routes[i].duration
                        truck.distance_traveled = (truck.en_route_time / 60) * TRUCK_SPEED
               if parsed_input_time > route_completion_times[i]:
                   truck.status = "Returned to Hub"
                   all_trucks_elapsed_time = all_trucks_elapsed_time + truck.en_route_time
                   truck.driver_id = None
               elif time_dif <= timedelta(0):</pre>
                   truck.distance_traveled = 0
                   truck.en_route_time = 0
```

With these values calculated for each truck at the given time, the next step is to calculate the status of each package on each truck at this time.

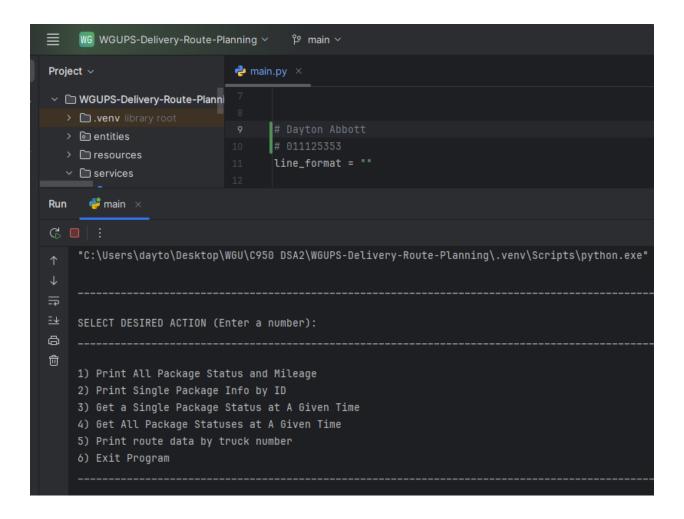
```
🥏 delivery_service.py 🗵
       def query_delivery_service(time, route_objects, condition_code): 4 usages & Dayton*
           for i, truck in enumerate(all_trucks.values(), start=0):
               if truck.en_route_time > 0:
                   for destination in this_temp_routes[i].metadata.values():
                       if destination["distance"] <= truck.distance_traveled:</pre>
                           for package in truck.packages:
                               # package of this loop iteration, then the package has been delivered.
                               if destination["address"] in package.address:
                                   en_route_time_to_delivery = calc_travel_time_minutes(destination["distance"])
                                   package_delivery_time = (truck.route_start_time + timedelta(minutes=en_route_time_to_delivery))
                                   package.status = "Delivered: " + datetime.strftime(package_delivery_time, TIME_FORMAT)
                       # Set the status of the packages associated with this destination to en route
                       elif destination["distance"] > truck.distance_traveled:
                           for package in truck.packages:
                               if destination["address"] in package.address:
                                   package.status = "Package en route: Truck #" + str(truck.truck_id)
```

Once the statuses for *Trucks* and *Packages* have all been modified to reflect the statuses at the user's input time, the condition code is evaluated to determine which data has been requested and then output the corresponding data.

```
delivery_service.py ×
       def query_delivery_service(time, route_objects, condition_code): 4 usages & Dayton*
           if condition_code == 1:
               all_truck_hours = int(all_trucks_elapsed_time / 60)
               all_truck_mins = int(all_trucks_elapsed_time % 60)
               for truck in all_trucks.values():
                   print(truck)
               print("TOTAL DELIVERY MILEAGE: ", truck1.distance_traveled + truck2.distance_traveled
                     + truck3.distance_traveled, "miles\n")
               print("TOTAL DRIVER TIME (CONCURRENT): ", all_truck_hours, "hours and", all_truck_mins, "minutes\n")
           if condition_code == 2:
               return
           if condition_code == 3:
               requested_package = int(input("Input package number (1-40):\n"))
               for truck in all_trucks.values():
                   for package in truck.packages:
                       if requested_package == package.package_id:
                           print("Package requested: \n", package)
           if condition_code == 4:
               for truck in all_trucks.values():
                   print(truck)
           if condition_code == 5:
               return
           if condition_code == 6:
               exit(1)
```

# D. Interface

Delivery service running in PyCharm with user interface in the terminal.



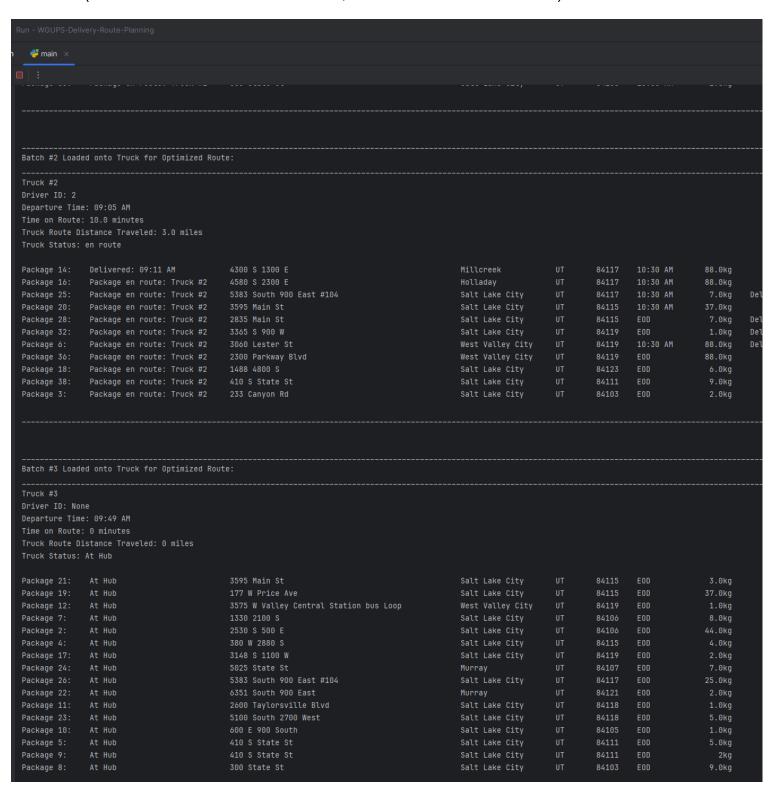
#### D1. First Status Check

Trucks 1 and 2 loaded and en route at 9:15 AM

```
🥰 main 🛛 🔻
Enter time in format: HH:MM:AM/PM
(space between time and AM/PM)
09:15 AM
Batch #1 Loaded onto Truck for Optimized Route:
Driver ID: 1
Departure Time: 08:00 AM
Time on Route: 75.0 minutes
Truck Route Distance Traveled: 22.5 miles
Truck Status: en route
Package 34: Delivered: 08:11 AM
                                          4580 S 2300 E
                                                                                                                                               2.0ka
Package 15:
             Delivered: 08:11 AM
                                          4580 S 2300 E
                                                                                                                                9:00 AM
Package 29:
             Delivered: 08:28 AM
                                          1330 2100 S
                                                                                                                                10:30 AM
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
Package 33:
            Delivered: 08:33 AM
                                         2530 S 500 E
                                                                                                                                               1.0ka
Package 1:
             Delivered: 08:38 AM
                                         195 W Oakland Ave
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
                                                                                                                                              21.0kg
                                                                                                                       84115 10:30 AM
             Delivered: 08:42 AM
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
Package 31:
             Delivered: 08:47 AM
                                          3365 S 900 W
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
                                                                                                                                10:30 AM
                                         1060 Dalton Ave S
             Delivered: 09:02 AM
                                                                                                                                              88.0kg
                                         1060 Dalton Ave S
                                        2010 W 500 S
                                                                                                                                               9.0kg
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
                                                                                                                                10:30 AM
Package 13:
             Delivered: 09:08 AM
                                           2010 W 500 S
                                          410 S State St
Package 30:
             Package en route: Truck #1 300 State St
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
                                                                                                                        84103 10:30 AM
Batch #2 Loaded onto Truck for Optimized Route:
Truck #2
Departure Time: 09:05 AM
Time on Route: 10.0 minutes
Truck Route Distance Traveled: 3.0 miles
Package 14:
             Delivered: 09:11 AM
                                          4300 S 1300 E
                                                                                                                                              88.0kg
                                                                                                                        84117 10:30 AM
                                          4580 S 2300 E
                                                                                           Holladay
                                                                                                                                              88.0kg
Package 25:
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                        5383 South 900 East #104
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
                                                                                                                       84117 10:30 AM
                                        3595 Main St
Package 20:
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
                                                                                                                                              37.0kg
Package 28:
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                          2835 Main St
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
Package 32:
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                          3365 S 900 W
Package 6:
                                        3060 Lester St
                                                                                           West Valley City
                                                                                                                              10:30 AM
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                                                                                                                              88.0ka
Package 36:
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                        2300 Parkway Blvd
                                                                                           West Valley City
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
                                          1488 4800 S
Package 18:
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                                                                                                                               6.0kg
Package 38:
              Package en route: Truck #2
                                           410 S State St
                                                                                            Salt Lake City
                                           233 Canyon Rd
             Package en route: Truck #2
                                                                                           Salt Lake City
```

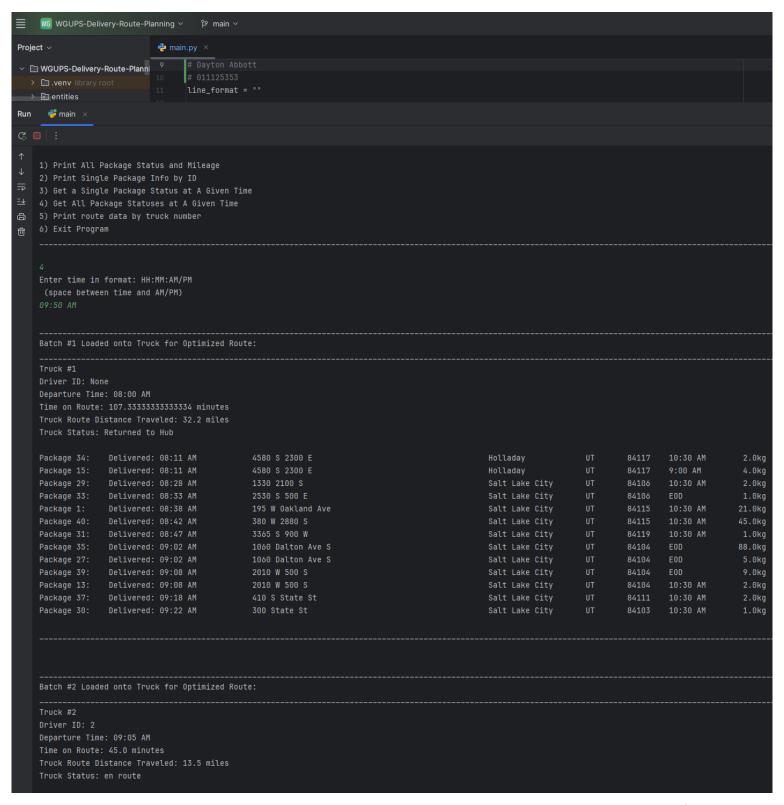
#### Truck 3 loaded and at Hub at 09:15 AM

(Can't fit all trucks in one screenshot, truck 2 stats show same time)

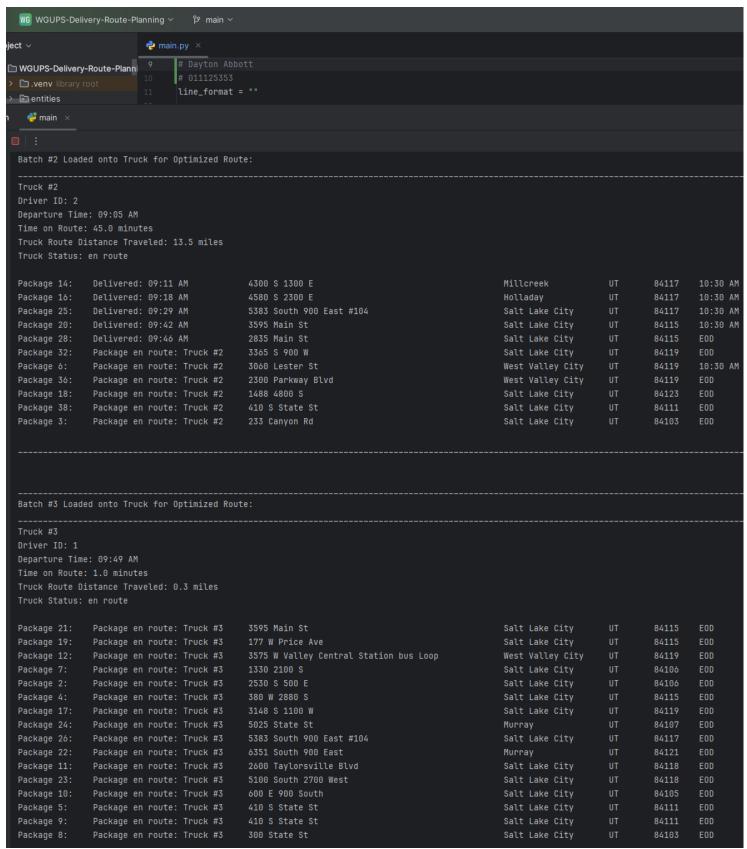


#### D2. Second Status Check

#### Truck 1 status shot at 9:50 AM

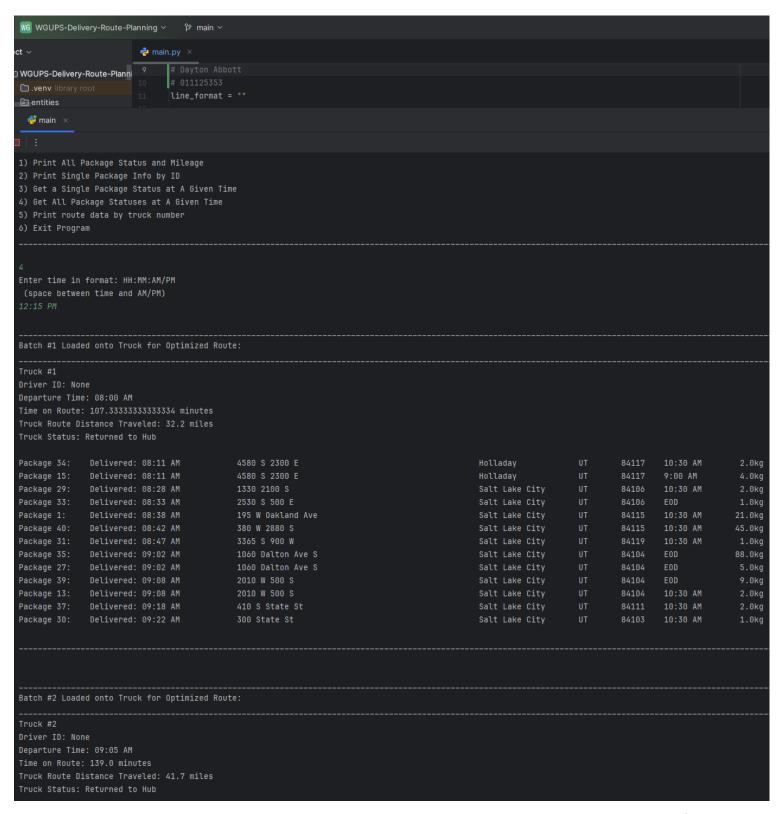


Trucks 2 and 3 status shot at 9:50 AM

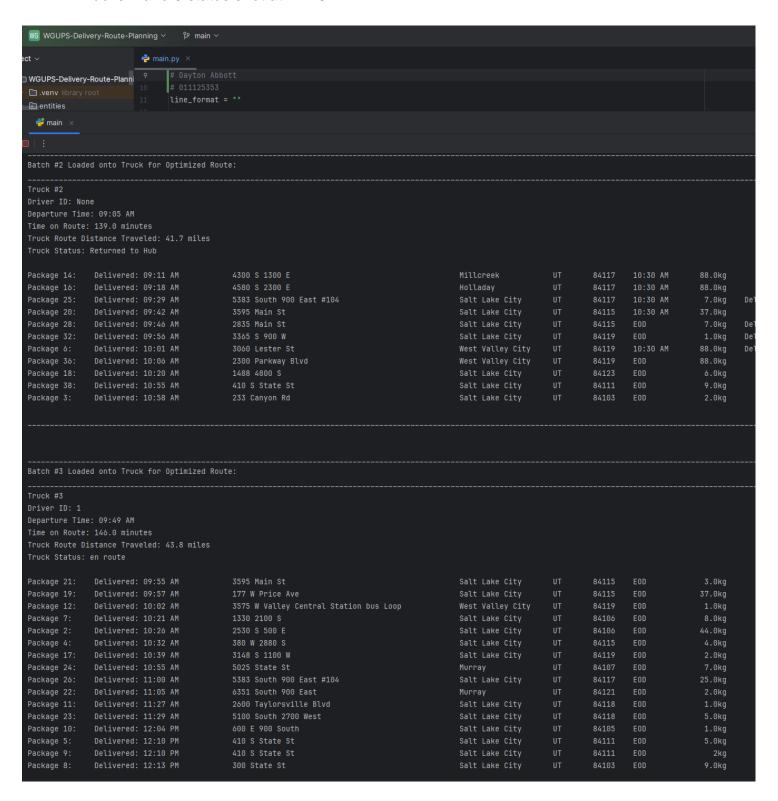


### D3. Third Status Check

#### Truck 1 status shot at 12:15 PM

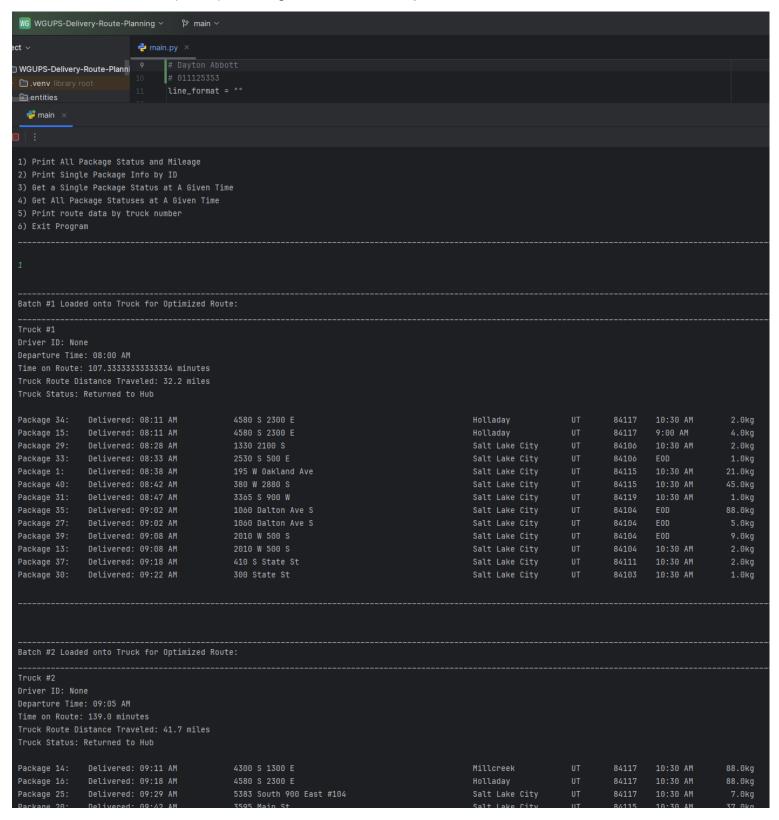


#### Trucks 2 and 3 status shot at 12:15 PM

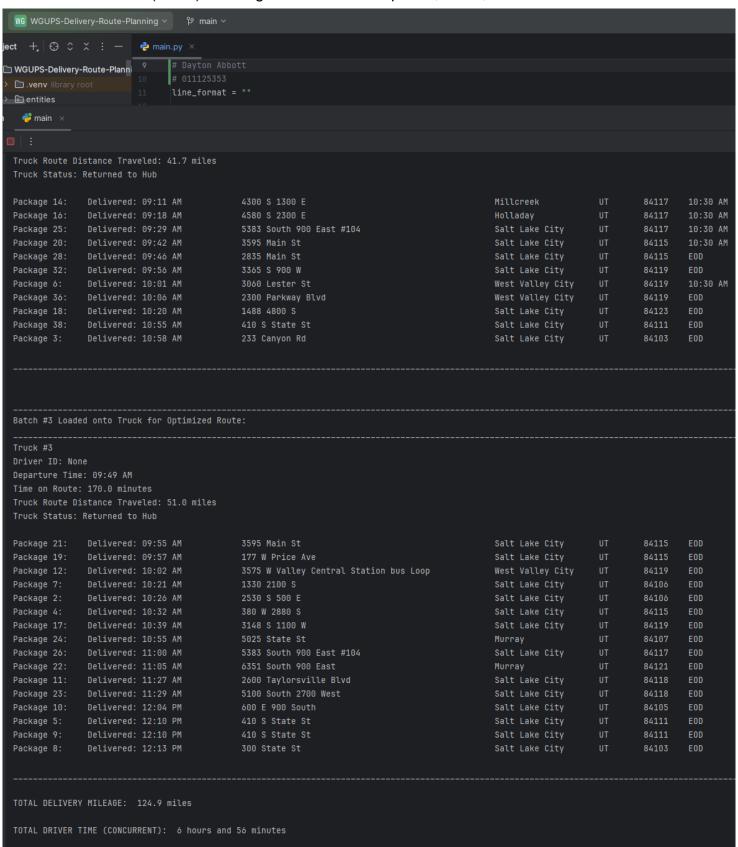


#### E. Screenshot of Code Execution

Screenshots (1 of 2) showing all deliveries completed, times, and distances traveled.



Screenshots (2 of 2) showing all deliveries completed, times, and distances traveled.



# F1. Strengths of the Chosen Algorithm

There are two main benefits to the nearest neighbor greedy algorithm that I used for this program: the simplicity of the implementation and the speed of the algorithm compared to alternatives.

With regards to both the speed and the simplicity of this algorithm, a more complex algorithm that iterates through all possible destinations in different sequences in order to find the shortest route would require more logical complexity to implement, and it would have a higher time complexity. The scan of a distance matrix for the nearest neighbor algorithm has a worst case time complexity of O(N²). An alternative like a brute force algorithm that checks all possible permutations would require O(N!) time (Salonen).

# F2. Verification of Algorithm

As is evident in the section E screenshots, the algorithm is able to generate routes that meet the delivery deadline criteria for all packages. The deadline constraints are met while using the constant truck speed of 18mph, which is assigned in *delivery\_service.py* for the travel time calculations, and by assigning priority packages to earlier truck routes or by prioritizing the higher priority packages within a batch for earlier delivery.

The maximum mileage constraint is met by applying nearest neighbor the heuristic to the delivery routes to achieve an ideal aggregate travel distance. The total distance traveled by all trucks for all deliveries is 124.9 miles, including the mileage to return to the Hub after deliveries are complete.

The constraints for truck capacities are also met by this algorithm, as a truck reaches capacity while packages are being assigned to it, loading can be paused and then resumed on the next available truck. My algorithm implementation ensures that no truck is loaded with more than 16 packages.

Truck 1 leaves the Hub at exactly 8:00 AM. Truck 2 contains all of the packages that can only be delivered by truck 2 as well as all of the packages that must be

delivered with other packages. Truck two leaves the Hub at 9:05 AM carrying the delayed packages that do not arrive at the depot until 9:05 AM.

The address for package 9 is corrected and the delivery to the correct address is not made until 12:10PM, after the correct address becomes available at 10:20AM. Truck 3 does not leave the hub until 9:49, after driver 1 returns from the delivery route for truck 1. This means that only two drivers are operating the three trucks throughout the delivery simulation and at most two trucks are on route at a given time.

All packages are loaded onto trucks at the hub prior to departure.

# F3. Other Possible Algorithms

Two other possible algorithms for solving the delivery routing problem are the Clarke and Wright Savings algorithm and the Nearest Insertion Heuristic. While implementation of these algorithms differs, they are all greedy algorithms.

# F3a. Algorithm Differences

The Clarke and Wright Savings algorithm differs from the Nearest Neighbor algorithm that I used in a few ways. A Clarke and Wright algorithm begins by creating individual routes for every delivery (Tunnisaki and Sutarman). These routes start at the Hub, go to the destination, and return to the Hub. In order to create an optimized combination of these "mini-routes", the algorithm combines nodes based on the maximum "distance savings" value of traveling from one node to another node rather than returning to the hub, as long as combining nodes would not violate delivery constraints (Tunnisaki and Sutarman).

The Nearest Insertion Heuristic differs in the following ways. It initially selects two nodes from the destination nodes ("Some Important Heuristics for the TSP"). In the case of the delivery routing problem, the two start nodes would both be the delivery Hub. Next, the algorithm would search for the nearest neighbor to the Hub and insert that between the start/end nodes. From this point, the algorithm selects the nearest unvisited destination node whose distance to any node in the route is the smallest. The route then checks for the optimal position to insert this node based on which position

would increase the total distance of the route by the least amount ("Some Important Heuristics for the TSP").

# G. Different Approach

I think that if I were to do this project again, the implementation could be refined by combining various components and/or steps to reduce the complexity of the program. While the batch-specific hash tables and distance matrices provide a level of separation that initially seemed valuable for preventing errors in route data and distances, in hindsight, it does not seem necessary to have generated these separate data structures. The primary distance tables and routes could have been used with condition checks to exclude addresses or packages that are not included in a given batch. Eliminating the functions for creating these data structures would have greatly reduced the overhead in developing the program and would have reduced the memory required for the program as well as the execution time. That being said, I think it was a valuable experience for me to learn about data processing through dynamically generating these structures.

I also would have liked to implement a collision resolution strategy for the hash table or just use a built-in hash table structure from Python that includes collision resolution to ensure that package data are not being overwritten due to some error in the program logic.

The other main thing that I would change would be to persist the package and route data in a database. For a theoretical approach for a course project, the data structures used for containing the data are sufficient. However, if I were creating this program as an actual delivery service, I think that the architecture and access of data would be much cleaner if these data were managed by a relational database rather than just being contained in data structures that are passed around between functions.

#### H. Verification of Data Structure

The data structure meets the project requirement for a self-adjusting data structure because the size of the package hash table is dynamic in that the size of the table changes in relation to the input size, i.e. the number of packages.

The hash table also includes an insertion function for inserting packages into the structure, as well as look-up functions that use either the package ID or an address as inputs in order to return the corresponding packages' information. These insertion and look-up functions retrieve all of the specified information including package ID, delivery address, delivery deadline, delivery city, delivery zip code, package weight, and delivery status. They also retrieve the package notes.

#### H1. Other Data Structures

Two alternative data structures are a list of lists, and a balanced binary tree like an AVL tree.

#### H1a. Data Structure Differences

Since the package IDs are numbered sequentially, a list of lists would have worked as an alternative data structure. The package ID could be inserted into the corresponding index position by subtracting 1 from all IDs in order to insert them into the list. Then the attributes of each package could be identified by their index position within each list. This would result in a constant time complexity for access by index, similar to the hash table, although not as well suited to the purpose as this would involve multiple abstractions of keys for accessing data, which could get confusing to try to write the code for.

Another alternative would be a balanced binary search tree, such as an AVL tree. Each node in the tree could be a package ID/key with a pointer to the package data. An AVL or other balanced binary tree would have slower search times for packages though, because searching a binary search tree takes an amount of time that is proportional to its height and balanced trees are kept at a height of O(logn) (Lysecky et

al., 6.1). Meaning that the search time of a BST is also O(logn), which is greater than constant time O(1) for hash tables or searching lists by index (Lysecky et al., 6.1).

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