

HQ 15

// given 3 beakers b_1, b_2, b_3 with integral capacity of A, B, C respectively.

We will construct the graph $G(V, E)$ as follows —

Defining vertices, V

each vertex have 3 values representing the capacity of each beaker denoted by $b_1.c, b_2.c, b_3.c$.

Number of vertices

The capacity of one beaker can be minimum 0 to maximum its given max-capacity, thus in the worst case we must consider all such little values from 0 to max-capacity. So number of vertices = $A \times B \times C$.

Defining edges, E

Here edges will represent one of the three actions: fill, empty and pour-to. The edges will be unweighted and directed.

The following if conditions will represent when to add an edge from u vertex to v vertex in graph G for the three actions: fill, empty, pour-to

From each vertex u we will have an edge to a new vertex v if the conditions below are satisfied.

Every if condition satisfied will result in a new vertex v from u .

conditions for fill action:

// b1: if $u \cdot b1 \cdot c < A$

$u \xrightarrow{G} v$ [denoting an edge in graph G from vertex u to v]

such that,

if $u \cdot b1 \cdot c = x$

then $v \cdot b1 \cdot c = x + (A - u \cdot b1 \cdot c)$

// filling ^{remaining capacity of} beaker $b1$ to its maximum capacity.

// rest of the values in v remain same as in u

// b2: if $u \cdot b2 \cdot c < B$

$u \xrightarrow{G} v$

such that,

if $u \cdot b2 \cdot c = x$

then $v \cdot b2 \cdot c = x + (B - u \cdot b2 \cdot c)$

// filling remaining capacity of beaker $b2$ to its maximum capacity.

// rest of the values ^{in v} are same as in u

// b3: if $u \cdot b3 \cdot c < C$

$u \xrightarrow{G} v$

such that,

if $u \cdot b3 \cdot c = x$

then $v \cdot b3 \cdot c = x + (C - u \cdot b3 \cdot c)$

// filling remaining capacity of beaker $b3$ with its maximum capacity.

// rest of the values in v are same as in u

conditions for empty action :

// for b1: if ($u.b1.c \neq 0$)

$$u \xrightarrow{q} v$$

such that $v.b1.c = 0$

// emptying contents of beaker b1

// rest values remain same as in u

// for b2: if ($u.b2.c \neq 0$)

$$u \xrightarrow{q} v$$

such that $v.b2.c = 0$

// emptying contents of beaker b2

// rest values remain same as in u

// for b3: if ($u.b3.c \neq 0$)

$$u \xrightarrow{q} v$$

such that $v.b3.c = 0$

// emptying contents of beaker b3

// rest values remain same as in u

conditions for pour-to action :

// b1 poured -to b2

if ($u.b1.c \neq 0$ \wedge $u.b2.c < B$)

$$u \xrightarrow{q} v$$

such that,

~~$$v.b1.c = 0$$~~

~~$$v.b2.c = u.b2.c +$$~~

// b1 can pour to
b2 if b1 is
not empty and
b2 has
capacity to
be filled

such that, $l = B - u \cdot b_2 \cdot c$ // remaining capacity of b_2
 $cap = \min(l, u \cdot b_1 \cdot c)$ // quantity

// either entire b_1 is poured to b_2 , handled by if condition
 if ($u \cdot b_1 \cdot c < l$)
 $u \cdot b_1 \cdot c = 0$
 $u \cdot b_2 \cdot c = cap$

or ~~part~~ of b_2 is completely filled, handled by else
 else
 $u \cdot b_1 \cdot c = u \cdot b_1 \cdot c - l$
 $u \cdot b_2 \cdot c = cap$

condition. In any of the above cases we stop pouring.

// b_1 poured to b_3 .

if ($u \cdot b_1 \cdot c \neq 0$ & $u \cdot b_3 \cdot c < c$) // pouring
 $u \xrightarrow{c} v$

such that,

$l = c - u \cdot b_3 \cdot c$ // remaining contents of b_3

$cap = \min(l, u \cdot b_1 \cdot c)$

if ($u \cdot b_1 \cdot c < l$) // entire quantity of b_1 filled to b_3
 $u \cdot b_1 \cdot c = 0$
 $u \cdot b_3 \cdot c = cap$

else // here b_3 is full so filling up till b_3 's capacity only

$u \cdot b_1 \cdot c = u \cdot b_1 \cdot c - l$
 $u \cdot b_3 \cdot c = cap$

contents of b_1 to b_3 if ~~either~~ b_1 is ~~not~~ empty and b_3 has capacity to be filled

now similarly, b_2 pour-to b_1 , b_2 - pour-to b_3 ,
 b_3 - pour-to b_1 and b_3 - pour-to b_2 can be
filled.

Number of edges

In the worst case each vertex can have 12 outgoing
edges from it. For each beaker we have one
full state. For each beaker we have one empty
state. For each beaker we have 2 pour-to
states. Thus 12 outgoing edges; and we have
 $A \times B \times C$ vertices, so in worst case we will
have $12 \times A \times B \times C$ edges.

Graph Problem to solve on $G(V, E)$

We need to solve shortest path from source vertex
 $(0, 0, 0)$ to either ~~or~~ any one of the 3 target
vertices: $(-, t, -)$ or $(-, -, t)$ or $(t, -, -)$
where $(0, 0, 0)$ represents all beakers in the initial
empty state & the target source represents any
one beaker ~~for~~ reaching a capacity of t . $-$, value
can be anything.

Algorithm

we can use BFS to solve the problem mentioned above.
Also BFS will ensure that one vertex / state of the
contents of the beakers visited once will not be visited
again. This way we can avoid duplicate / multiple same computation

We can construct the graph ~~at~~ at runtime only.
Because from each state, the possible ~~number of~~ actions can be determined using the conditions.

Time complexity

BFS for an undirected graph from source to target takes $O(V+E)$.

mapping the above complexity with our solution —

$$|V| = A \times B \times C$$

$$|E| = 12 \times A \times B \times C$$

so time complexity of above problem = $O(A \times B \times C)$