

Problem Set 1

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General instructions: Type your answers using LaTeX and make sure to upload the answer file on Gradescope by the deadline. Recall that for any problem or part of a problem, you can use the “I’ll take 20%” option. For each algorithmic problem, you are required to provide a description of your algorithm, a proof of correctness, and a run time analysis. Pseudocode is not necessary and you should only provide it if it helps to describe your algorithm; in particular, solutions that provide only pseudocode will not be graded. For more details and the instructions read the syllabus.

Problem 1. One-way Streets

State College Police Department has decided to make all the streets one-way. The mayor of State College Borough claims that there is still a way to drive legally from any intersection in the city to any other intersection, but the opposition is not convinced. You have been asked to write a computer program to determine whether the mayor is right. However, the mayor’s term is about to end and he has said that he will not run for another term, and there is just enough time to run a *linear time* algorithm.

(a.) Formulate this problem graph-theoretically, and explain how it can indeed be solved in linear time (on the number of roads and intersection).

(b.) Suppose it now turns out that the mayor’s original claim is false. He then claims something weaker: if you start driving from Westgate building, navigating one-way streets, then no matter where you reach, there is always a way to drive legally back to Westgate Building. Formulate this weaker property as a graph-theoretic problem, and carefully show how it too can be checked in linear time.

Problem 2. Make It Strongly Connected

Imagine you are given a directed graph $G = (V, E)$ and you have been asked to find the minimum number of (directed) edges that are needed to be added to G such that the resulting graph is strongly connected. Give an algorithm that solves this problem in $O(|V| + |E|)$ time.

Problem 3. 2SAT

In the 2SAT problem, you are given a set of clauses, where each clause is the disjunction (OR) of two literals (a literal is a Boolean variable or the negation of a Boolean variable). You are looking for a way to assign a value **true** or **false** to each of the variables so that all clauses are satisfied – that is, there is at least one true literal in each clause. For example, here’s an instance of 2SAT:

$$(x_1 \vee \hat{x}_2) \wedge (\hat{x}_1 \vee \hat{x}_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\hat{x}_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (\hat{x}_1 \vee x_4).$$

This instance has a satisfying assignment: set x_1, x_2, x_3 , and x_4 to **true**, **false**, **false**, and **true**, respectively.

Given an instance \mathcal{I} of 2SAT with n variables and m clauses, construct a directed graph $G_{\mathcal{I}} = (V, E)$ as follows:

- $G_{\mathcal{I}}$ has $2n$ nodes, one for each variable and its negation.
- $G_{\mathcal{I}}$ has $2m$ edges: for each clause $(\alpha \vee \beta)$ of \mathcal{I} (where α and β are literals), $G_{\mathcal{I}}$ has an edge from the negation of α to β , and one from the negation of β to α .

- (a.) Show that if $G_{\mathcal{I}}$ has a strongly connected component containing both x and its negation \hat{x} for some variable x , then \mathcal{I} has no satisfying assignment.
- (b.) Now show the converse of (a): namely, that if none of $G_{\mathcal{I}}$'s strongly connected components contain both a literal and its negation, then the instance \mathcal{I} must be satisfiable.
- (c.) Conclude that there is a linear-time algorithm for solving 2SAT.

Problem 4. Ford Fulkerson

Assume you are given the following flow network (Figure 1) with source s , sink t and capacities on the edges.

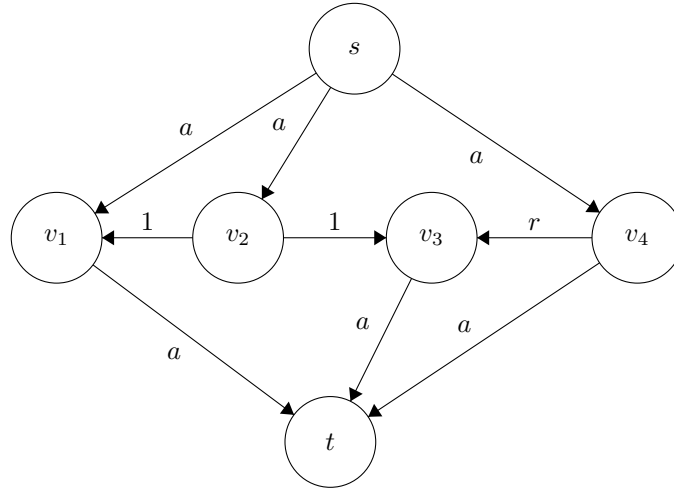


Figure 1: Flow network

where $r = \frac{(\sqrt{5} - 1)}{2}$ and $a \geq 2$ is an integer.

- (a.) Show that maximum flow of the network is $2a + 1$.
- (b.) Let $p_0 = \{s, v_2, v_3, t\}$, $p_1 = \{s, v_4, v_3, v_2, v_1, t\}$, $p_2 = \{s, v_2, v_3, v_4, t\}$ and $p_3 = \{s, v_1, v_2, v_3, t\}$ be $s - t$ paths in the residual graph. Suppose that the Ford-Fulkerson algorithm chooses to augment along the paths $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_1, p_3, p_1, p_2, p_1, p_3, p_1, p_2, p_1, p_3, \dots$ in this order. Show that after augmenting along p_3 each time the residual capacities of edges (v_2, v_1) , (v_4, v_3) and (v_2, v_3) are of the form r^k , r^{k+1} and 0 respectively for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$.
- (c.) Prove that if we use the augmenting paths in the sequence above an infinite number of times, the total flow converges to $3 + 2r$. Note that since the max flow is $2a + 1$, this show that the Ford-Fulkerson algorithm never terminates and the flow doesn't even converge to the maximum flow.

Problem 5. Updating an edge

Suppose you are given an s - t flow network $G = (V, E)$. You are also given an integer maximum s - t flow in G , defined by a flow value $f(e)$ on each edge e . Now suppose we pick a specific edge $e \in E$ and increase its capacity by one unit. Show how to find a maximum flow in the resulting capacitated graph in time $O(|V| + |E|)$.

Problem 6. Reducing maximum flow

Imagine you are given a flow network with all edge capacities equal to 1. In other words, you have directed

graph $G = (V, E)$, a source $s \in V$, and a sink $t \in V$; and $c_e = 1$ for every $e \in E$. You are also given a parameter k . Your goal is to delete k edges so as to reduce the maximum $s - t$ flow in G by as much as possible. In other words, you should find a set of edges $F \subseteq E$ so that $|F| = k$ and the maximum $s - t$ flow in $G' = (V, E \setminus F)$ is as small as possible subject to this. Give an efficient algorithm to solve this problem.

Problem 7. Moving Branches

A company has n branches in one city, and it plans to move some of them to another city. The expenses for operating the i -th branch is a_i per year if it stays in the original city, and is b_i per year if it is moved to the new city. The company also needs to pay c_{ij} per year for traveling if the i -th and j -th branches are not in the same city. Design a polynomial time algorithm to decide which branches should be moved to the new city such that the total expenses (including operating and traveling expenses) per year is minimized.

Problem 8. Another augmenting path strategy

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a flow network with integer capacities, source s and sink t . Consider the variant of the FF algorithm in which in each iteration we choose the augmenting path with the largest bottleneck value.

(a.) Provide an algorithm that given a flow network G and flow f of G finds the augmenting path with the largest bottleneck value. Your algorithm should have a $O((|V| + |E|) \log |V|)$ time or better.

(b.) Let f be a flow of G and let f' be the maximum flow in G_f . Argue that $v(f) + v(f') = v(f^*)$ where f^* is a maximum flow of G and the *value* of a flow f is defined as: $v(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e)$.

(c.) Let f be a flow of G and let f' be the maximum flow in G_f . Let e be the bottleneck edge; that is, $c(e)$ is the bottleneck value of the augmenting path with largest bottleneck value in G_f . Show that $c(e) \geq v(f')/|E|$.

(d.) Show that this variant of the FF algorithms only requires $O(|E| \log C)$ iterations, where recall that we use C to denote the total capacity out of s .

Hint: Use parts (b) and (c) to argue that $v(f')$ contracts in each step and so $v(f)$ increases until it matches $v(f^)$.*

Coding problems.

Instruction for coding problems: This problem set includes coding problems from <https://codeforces.com>. If you don't have account, create one. You are asked to implement a solution to each of the assigned problems that passes systems tests. For each question, you will submit a screenshot showing that your solution has been accepted by the system as correct. You will also include your codeforces handle so that we can check it. The same collaboration policy and guidelines for the homeworks apply to coding problems: while you can discuss and/or consult sources, you are required to write your own code and cite every reference. Instructors may ask students to explain their solution and code.

Problem 9. Checkposts

<https://codeforces.com/problemset/problem/427/C>

Problem 10. Soldier and Traveling

<https://codeforces.com/problemset/problem/546/E>