

Homework 4

Assigned: March 14

Due: April 2

Problem 1 Give an algorithm that determines whether or not a given undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ contains a cycle. Your algorithm should run in $O(|V|)$ time, independent of $|E|$.

Argue correctness, running time.

Problem 2 Let $G = (V, E)$ be an undirected multigraph (parallel edges are allowed). A **bridge** is an edge whose removal disconnects G . Prove that an edge e is a bridge if and only if there is no simple cycle C of G which contains e .

Use this together with the DFS tree $G_\pi = (V, E_\pi)$ and the classification of edges in a DFS tree to give a $O(V + |E|)$ algorithm to determine all the bridges of G . Give pseudocode and prove correctness. Analyze the running time. If you desire, use a data structure to hold G_π ; in this case describe what this data structure is (i.e, parent pointers only, etc.).

Hint: for an undirected multigraph, only “back” edges exist. Also use this, the discovery times as computed by DFS, and a post-order traversal of the DFS tree to store at each node information that can determine if the edge from v to its parent is a bridge edge (this can also be done by modifying the DFS pseudocode).

Problem 3 Present a polynomial-time algorithm for the following problem: Given directed graph $G = (V, E)$, construct another directed graph $G' = (V, E')$ such that $|E'|$ is minimized, and for any $u, v \in V$, there exists a $u - v$ directed path in G if and only if there exists a $u - v$ directed path in G' . Note: E' is not required to be a subset of E .

Analyze the running time and argue that your algorithm is correct. See the discussion in the textbook in Chapter 22.5 on the *component graph* of a directed graph.

Problem 4 Suppose we are given a weighted directed graph $G = (V, E, c)$ with (possibly negative) costs on the edges, and where every cycle of G has strictly positive cost, and two nodes $u, v \in V$. Give an efficient (polynomial) algorithm for computing the number of shortest $u - v$ paths in G . Do not attempt to list all these paths!

Present pseudocode, analyze the running time, and prove correctness. (I’ve seen a variant given during an interview). Hint: Chapter 24.2 may also supply the right idea.