

# CS170 Fall 2013 Solutions to Homework 12

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December 5, 2013

## 1 [10 pts.] Making DAGs is hard

Consider the search problem Max-Acyclic-Induced-Subgraph:

INPUT: A *directed* graph  $G = (V, E)$ , and a positive integer  $k$ .

OUTPUT: A subset  $S \subseteq V$  of size  $k$  such that the graph  $G_S$  obtained from  $G$  by keeping exactly those edges whose endpoints are in  $S$  is a DAG.

Show that Max-Acyclic-Induced-Subgraph is NP-complete.

- Show that the Max-Acyclic-Induced-Subgraph (MAIS) problem is in NP.

Given an output subset  $S \subseteq V$  we can run a DFS on  $G_S$  and determine if there are any cycles. If there are no cycles, then a DAG of proper size ( $k$ ), was constructed. If there is a cycle then  $G_S$  is not a DAG. The graph  $G_S$  can be constructed from  $G$  in polynomial time by iterating through the vertices in  $S$  and including only edges whose endpoints  $u$  and  $v$  are both in  $S$ . The cycle check on  $G_S$  can be done by DFS, which runs in linear time. Therefore, a solution to a MAIS problem can be checked in polynomial time, which implies that MAIS is in NP.

- Reduction: **Independent Set**  $\rightarrow$  **MAIS**, to show NP-completeness.

Let  $T = (G, k)$  be some instance of an independent set problem, where  $G = (V, E)$  is the undirected input graph, and  $k$  is the size of the desired independent subset of vertices  $V$ . If there is no independent subset of size  $k$ , then the algorithm should output that none exists. If a subset does exist, then it should output that subset. We first define a function  $f(T)$  that takes as input an undirected graph  $G$  and desired set-size  $k$ , and turns  $G$  into a directed graph  $G'$ . This directed graph, and its associated  $k$  value, form the inputs of a MAIS problem.

Construction of  $G = (V, E) \rightarrow G' = (V, E')$ :

For each of the undirected edges  $e = \{u - v\}, \forall e \in E$ , replace that edge with two directed edges  $\{u \rightarrow v\}$ , and  $\{v \rightarrow u\}$ .

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## 2 [10 pts.] Reductions redux

Show that you can not hope to do much better than insertion or deletion worst case complexity  $\Omega(\log n)$ , where  $n$  is the number of elements in queue. Prove that in the "comparison model", there cannot exist a priority queue implementation in which both Insert and Delete-Min operations have worst case complexity  $O(1)$ . Hint: Do an appropriate reduction from sorting in the comparison mode.

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### 3 [10 pts.] Finding Zero(s)

Consider the problem Integer-Zeros.

INPUT: A multivariate polynomial  $P(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)$  with integer coefficients, specified as a sum of monomials.

OUTPUT: Integers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  such that  $P(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) = 0$ .

Show that 3-SAT reduces in polynomial time to Integer-Zeros. (INTEGER ZEROS IS NOT IN NP)

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## 4 [10 pts] Approximately independent

Consider the following algorithm for finding an independent set in an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

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**Algorithm 1** Finding a large independent set

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1: Input A graph  $G = (V, E)$ 
2: Output A subset  $I \subseteq V$ 
3: while  $V \neq \emptyset$  do
4:   Let  $v$  be the vertex with the smallest degree in  $G' = (V, E)$ 
5:    $I \leftarrow I \cup \{v\}$ 
6:   Let  $S$  be the set of neighbors of  $v$  in  $G'$ 
7:    $V \leftarrow V - (S \cup \{v\})$ 
8:    $E \leftarrow E - \{e \mid e \text{ is incident on a vertex in } S\}$ 
9: end while
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## 5 [10 pts.] Coin Tosses vs Local Search

We are given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and our goal is to produce a partition  $(A, V - A)$  of  $V$  such that the number of edges crossing the cut  $(A, V - A)$  is as large as possible. Let  $C$  be the *maximum* size of such a cut. We consider two approaches for solving this problem:

**Devil-May-Care** For each vertex  $v \in V$ , we toss a fair coin. If the coin comes up heads, we put  $v$  in  $A$ , else we don't put it in  $A$ .

**Prudence-Is-Us** Given a subset  $S \subseteq V$  and a vertex  $v \in V$ , let  $N(v, S)$  denote the number of neighbors of  $v$  in  $S$  (not including  $v$ , in case  $v \in S$ ). We then use algorithm 2.

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**Algorithm 2** Finding the large cuts

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**Input** A graph  $G = (V, E)$

**Output** A subset  $A \subseteq V$

$A \leftarrow \emptyset$ ; flag  $\leftarrow$  **true**

**repeat**

    flag  $\leftarrow$  **false**

**if**  $\exists v \in V - A$  such that  $N(v, A) < N(v, V - A)$  **then**

$A \leftarrow A \cup \{v\}$

        flag  $\leftarrow$  **true**

**else if**  $\exists v \in A$  such that  $N(v, A) > N(v, V - A)$  **then**

$A \leftarrow A - v$

        flag  $\leftarrow$  **true**

**end if**

**until** flag  $\neq$  **true**;

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- (a) Let  $(A, V - A)$  be the partition produced by the first approach. Show that the expected number of edges crossing the cut is at least  $C/2$ .
- (b) Show that there are at most  $|E| + 1$  iterations of the loop at line 4 in algorithm 2.
- (c) Show that if  $A$  is the set output by algorithm 2, then the number of edges crossing  $(A, V - A)$  is at least  $C/2$ .

## Extra space for Problem 1

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The MAIS problem  $(G', k)$  will output either a subset of vertices  $S$  that constitute a DAG, or it will output that no subset of size  $k$  exists. This solution subset requires no post-processing function  $h(S)$ . Any output of the MAIS problem, with the pre-processing function  $f(T)$ , will output an independent set.

Proof:

Note that one cannot choose two adjacent vertices,  $\{u, v\}$ , to be placed in the DAG subset  $S$  of any MAIS problem. This is because the particular construction chosen for the directed graph input forms a cycle between any two adjacent vertices.

Remember that a DAG is defined as having no cycles, so for this problem there has to be some equivalence between the cycles in graph  $G'$  and the non-independence of the vertices in these cycles. In other words, a subset of vertices of  $G'$  (and their component edges) is acyclic if and only if the subset is also an independent set on  $G$ .

The trivial portion of this equivalence is; Any independent set is acyclic. In the graph  $G'$ , if no two vertices are pairwise adjacent in the subset (independent), then there is no cycle that can be created, because none of the vertices are connected. (As the problem states, an edge is only considered if *both* of its endpoints are in the subset)

The reverse is also true; Any acyclic subset of vertices of  $G'$  is independent on  $G$ . Let  $R$  be some acyclic subset of vertices. Assume for the sake of contradiction that  $R$  is not independent. Then there exists two vertices  $u$ , and  $v$  that are adjacent. But by construction, these two vertices create a cycle because both  $\{u \rightarrow v\}$ , and  $\{v \rightarrow u\}$  exist, a contradiction. Therefore, any acyclic subset of  $G'$  is also an independent set on  $G$ . This shows that the output to the MAIS problem on  $\{G', k\}$  will output an independent subset of size  $k$ , if and only if one exists.

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