
ADVANCED ALGORITHMS 2021-2022

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Assignment 1 - Minimum Spanning Trees

Aperto: lunedì, 14 marzo 2022, 10:26

Data limite: lunedì, 25 aprile 2022, 23:59

Algorithms

In the first assignment you will compare three algorithms for the Minimum Spanning Tree problem:

1. **Prim's Algorithm** implemented with a Heap
2. **Naive Kruskal's Algorithm** with $O(mn)$ complexity
3. **Efficient Kruskal's Algorithm** based on **Union-Find**

Dataset

The dataset contains 68 example graphs, ranging in size from 10 to 100,000 vertices, generated by the [TestCaseGenerator](#). Each file describes an undirected graph with integer weights using the following format:

```
[number_of_nodes] [number_of_edges]
[one_node_edge_1] [other_node_edge_1] [weight_edge_1]
[one_node_edge_2] [other_node_edge_2] [weight_edge_2]
[one_node_edge_3] [other_node_edge_3] [weight_edge_3]
...
```

For example, a row "2 3 -8874" indicates that there is an edge connecting vertex 2 to vertex 3 with weight -8874. Weights can be negative and are not assumed to be positive nor distinct.

Question 1

Run the three algorithms you have implemented (Prim, Kruskal naive and Kruskal efficient) on the same graph and compare the execution times of the three algorithms and create a graph showing the increase of execution time as the number of nodes of the graph increases. Compare the measured times with the asymptotic complexity of the algorithms. Finally, print the weight of the minimum spanning tree obtained by your code.

Question 2

Comment on the results you have obtained: how do the algorithms behave with respect to the number of nodes? Which algorithm is that is always better than the others? Which of the three algorithms you have implemented is the most efficient?

What to deliver

- A brief report on your project. The report must contain:
 - an introductory section with a description of the algorithms and implementation choices;
 - explanatory graphs of the results with the answers to the two questions;
 - any originality you introduced in the implementation;
 - a concluding section with your comments and your conclusions on results.
- The source code of the implementation in a single archive file (.zip, .tar.gz, etc.).

How to submit the assignment

- You can do the assignment either on your own or in a group of up to three people.
- Create the group before submitting the assignment using the ["Assignments: Groups self-selection"](#) link.
- You have to create a group even if you do the assignment on your own.
- The first assignment must be delivered by **Monday 25 April, 11:55 pm**. Late submissions get 0 points.

Final remarks

- You can implement the algorithms with any programming language you like. Basic data structures like arrays, lists, dictionaries or maps, provided by the standard libraries of the language, can be used with any language. There are also libraries that directly provide data structures and algorithms to represent and manipulate graphs. You can choose the one you like most.
- Comment the essential parts of the code so that the reader can grasp the ideas that led you to the solution. This will help to clarify whether a bug is a conceptual error or just a small mistake.

 [mst_dataset.zip](#)

22 marzo 2021, 16:13

◀ [Forum: group creation](#)

Vai a...

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