

6.101 Recitation 8: Week 4 Bacon Number Wrap-up

3/4/24

This sheet is yours to keep!

Question 1: Discuss with someone near you: what are some examples of each of the following terms?

- **graph** - consists of a set of vertices and a set of edges
- **vertices (also known as nodes, states)** - a single unique point or state in the graph
- **(undirected and directed) edges** - a pair of vertices that are neighbors (connected together.) Edges can either be directed (you can go from $A \rightarrow B$ but NOT from $B \rightarrow A$) or undirected (you can go from $A \rightarrow B$ and from $B \rightarrow A$)
- **path** - sequence of connected vertices.
- **graph search** - finding a path from some starting vertex to a goal vertex
- **breadth-first search** - searches all length n paths before length $n + 1$ paths, guaranteed to find shortest path in terms of number of nodes. Add /remove nodes from opposite sides of the agenda.
- **depth-first search** – travels down one particular path as far as possible until it reaches the end, then backtracks up the path to find the closest unexplored neighbor. Add/remove nodes from the same side of the agenda. Shortest path not guaranteed, but can be more memory efficient depending on the type of graph being explored.

Question 5: Given the following outlines of different path finding functions below, discuss:

- What is good about these functions?
- What could be improved?
- Is there anything potentially buggy in these solutions?

```
def bacon_path(transformed_data, actor_id):
    """
    bacon path
    """
    agenda = [(4724,)]
    visited = [(4724,)]
    # 20 lines of path-finding code from reading, using actor_id as the goal

def actor_to_actor_path(transformed_data, actor_id_1, actor_id_2):
    """
    Given a database from transform_data(),
    return a shortest path of actors from actor 1 to actor 2 as a list.
    """
    agenda = [(actor_id_1,)]
    visited = [(actor_id_1,)]
    # same 20 lines of code from reading, using actor_id_2 as the goal

def actor_path(transformed_data, actor_id_1, goal_test_function):
    """
    Given a database from transform_data(),
    return a shortest path of actors starting from actor 1 until reaching an actor who
    satisfies goal_test_function (which takes an actor and returns a truthy value).
    """
    # path-finding code using actor_id_1 as start and
    # goal_test_function(actor) as the stopping criterion
```

Question 6: How can we rewrite `bacon_path` in terms of `actor_to_actor_path`?

```
def bacon_path(transformed_data, actor_id):
```

Question 7: How can we rewrite `actor_to_actor_path` in terms of `actor_path`?

```
def actor_to_actor_path(transformed_data, actor_id_1, actor_id_2):
```

R8 Participation Credit**Kerberos :** _____@mit.edu*Hand this sheet in at the end of recitation to get participation credit for today.*

Question 2: Assuming that `transformed_data` was a list of (`actor_id_1`, `actor_id_2`, `film_id`) tuples, write the body of the `get_neighbors` function below.

```
def get_neighbors(transformed_data, actor):  
    """  
    Gets a set of all of the actors that the provided actor id  
    has acted with (not including the given actor).  
    """
```

Question 3: Assuming that `transformed_data` was a dictionary where the keys were `actor_ids` and the values were sets of co-star `actor_ids`, write the body of the `get_neighbors` function below.

```
def get_neighbors(transformed_data, actor):  
    """  
    Gets a set of all of the actors that the provided actor id  
    has acted with (not including the given actor).  
    """
```

Question 4: How might such a `get_neighbors` function be useful in the bacon lab?

Question 8: How would you initialize the visited set and agenda for the function below?

```
def general_actor_path(transformed_data, start_actors, goal_test_function):  
    # start_actors is a set of actor ids representing valid start of path  
    actor_map, _ = transformed_data  
    visited =  
    agenda =
```

Question 9: How would you initialize the visited set and agenda for the function below?

```
def super_general_actor_path(transformed_data, start_test_function,  
                             goal_test_function):  
    '''  
    start_test_function(actor_id) returns true if actor_id  
    is a valid actor to start path from, false otherwise  
    '''  
    actor_map, _ = transformed_data  
    visited =  
    agenda =
```