

Store Router

Introduction

My application routes the smallest distance to travel in a store using a grocery list created by the user, thus taking the shortest amount of time in the store. I created this program since other applications utilize list creation and shared lists to help with shopping, but there are currently no applications that look at a grid of the store and route shopping. As a 'list shopper' I want to be able to get in and out of a store as fast as possible and this application would help in achieving that goal. I used basic python programming with the inclusion of the Tkinter package to create an application that routes, but also is easy to use with a simple GUI.

History

The start of my project was to create a sample store to use as an example. I learned that a working grid of the store was not publicly accessible which led to me create a store with a grid in python. I did this by combining three lists into a dictionary with the key being the item and the call being a tuple with the coordinates. The next task was to create a traveling salesman algorithm, which would prove to be the greater of the challenges. First was to figure out how to calculate distance, which I learned, in a store containing shelves, that Manhattan distance or block distance was the way to find the true walking distance from point A to point B. Before I had this worked out, I was using the standard distance formula as a place holder until I had time to add Manhattan distance instead.

The rest of the traveling salesman algorithm was figuring out how to make it find the shortest distance going through the store. This meant taking the items and making sure that all items were routed to once and only once. I then decided to move forward with the simplest traveling salesman solution, which would be the greedy algorithm. While not always the best at finding the shortest, it was still faster than routing by hand. This meant that after arriving at a point the algorithm I would check to see what the next closest item was. I used a series of loops and if statements to create the logic that would create my greedy traveling salesman algorithm. The last problem to solve for the traveling salesman algorithm was to create a result list which I used Python's lists to create a list of items in order and a list of grid coordinates.

The last thing to make was the GUI, which I started in Kivy, but ended up doing in Tkinter packages. I liked the look of the dropdown boxes in Kivy but after some play I found it too time consuming to create a GUI that would allow you to pick up to 33 items using drop boxes. That is when I moved to Tkinter checkboxes. After setting the checkboxes up, one for each of my 33 items, I created a button to route the items and open a new screen with the results. I also created a quit button for easy escape from the application. On my result window I used Tkinter's formatting to create a table with the name of items in order from top to bottom and the coordinates next to the names. This created a clean and easy to use application. I finished the process by adding some labels to add instructions to explain how to use the application.

I tested the code by creating a matrix with all of the distances using this code:

```
def grid_name():  
    """() -> 2d array  
    Create a store array to use in the store router program. This creates the item name.  
    """  
    store_item = ['entrance', 'cheese', 'milk', 'yogurt', 'chicken', 'beef', 'pork', 'tv dinners', 'ice cream', 'waffles',  
                  'cereal', 'coffee', 'tea', 'bread', 'cake', 'crackers', 'cookies', 'water', 'soda', 'juice',  
                  'vegetables', 'fruit', 'salads', 'nuts', 'jam', 'peanut butter', 'paper towels', 'tooth paste']
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        'laundry detergent']
    return store_item

def grid_measurements():
    """() -> 2d array
    Create a store array to use in store router program. This creates a list of measurements.
    """
    store_measurements = [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6]
    return store_measurements

def grid_id(grid_measurements):
    """(array) -> 2d array
    Create a store array to use in store router program. This creates a list of ids.
    """
    store_id = [0]
    count = 1
    for measurement in grid_measurements:
        if count <= 9:
            store_id.append(count)
            count += 1
        else:
            count = 1
            store_id.append(count)
    return store_id

def grid_create(grid_name, grid_measurements, grid_id):
    """(arrays) -> dict
    Create the grid for the store router app.
    """
    grid_zip = zip(grid_measurements, grid_id)
    grid_list = tuple(grid_zip)
    grid_zip = zip(grid_name, grid_list)
    grid_dict = dict(grid_zip)
    return grid_dict

def grid():
    """() -> dict
    Create an easy to get grid function.
    """
    return grid_create(grid_name(), grid_measurements(), grid_id(grid_measurements()))

if __name__ == '__main__':
    grid = grid()
    print(grid)

```

This will create a matrix with the distance to every other item on the list. This way I can create and reference the matrix and find out if the traveling salesman algorithm is working. The rest of the debugging was mainly with the GUI which was mainly writing code, running it, and seeing what the problems were. With more time, I would like to improve the traveling salesman algorithm and change to a different solution. I would also like to improve the example store or add a real store as the example.

Code

```
from tkinter import *

class StoreRouter:

    def __init__(self):
        pass

    def main_frame(self, master):
        # Set up title of the window
        master.title('Store Router')
        # Add a photo to the top of a shopping cart
        photo = PhotoImage(file="ShoppingCart.png")
        # Add a frame to be the top frame on the window
        frame_top = Frame(master)
        frame_top.pack()
        photo_label = Label(frame_top, image=photo)
        photo_label.photo = photo
        photo_label.pack()
        # Add three lines of text as an introduction and instructions
        Label(frame_top, text="Welcome to Store Router, the app for your routing needs.").pack()
        Label(frame_top, text="This is an example store to show how Store Router works and what it does.").pack()
        Label(frame_top, text="Check the boxes of the items you would like to buy then hit Route.").pack()
        # Create frames to make the lists more organized
        frame = Frame(master)
        frame.pack()
        frame2 = Frame(master)
        frame2.pack()
        frame3 = Frame(master)
        frame3.pack()
        frame4 = Frame(master)
        frame4.pack()
        frame5 = Frame(master)
        frame5.pack()
        frame6 = Frame(master)
        frame6.pack()
        # Create the check boxes and the variable that goes along with them for 1 on and 0 off
        self.var1 = IntVar()
        Checkbutton(frame, text="cheese", variable=self.var1).pack(side=LEFT)
        self.var2 = IntVar()
        Checkbutton(frame, text="yogurt", variable=self.var2).pack(side=LEFT)
        self.var3 = IntVar()
        Checkbutton(frame, text="milk", variable=self.var3).pack(side=LEFT)
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self.var4 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame, text="chicken", variable=self.var4).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var5 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame, text="beef", variable=self.var5).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var6 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame2, text="pork", variable=self.var6).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var7 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame2, text="tv dinners", variable=self.var7).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var8 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame2, text="ice cream", variable=self.var8).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var9 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame2, text="waffles", variable=self.var9).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var10 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame2, text="cereal", variable=self.var10).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var11 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame3, text="coffee", variable=self.var11).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var12 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame3, text="tea", variable=self.var12).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var13 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame3, text="bread", variable=self.var13).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var14 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame3, text="cake", variable=self.var14).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var15 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame3, text="crackers", variable=self.var15).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var16 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame4, text="cookies", variable=self.var16).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var17 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame4, text="water", variable=self.var17).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var18 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame4, text="soda", variable=self.var18).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var19 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame4, text="juice", variable=self.var19).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var20 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame4, text="vegetables", variable=self.var20).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var21 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame5, text="fruit", variable=self.var21).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var22 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame5, text="salads", variable=self.var22).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var23 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame5, text="nuts", variable=self.var23).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var24 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame5, text="jam", variable=self.var24).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var25 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame5, text="peanut butter", variable=self.var25).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var26 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame6, text="paper towels", variable=self.var26).pack(side=LEFT)
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self.var27 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame6, text="tooth paste", variable=self.var27).pack(side=LEFT)
self.var28 = IntVar()
Checkbutton(frame6, text="laundry detergent", variable=self.var28)
# Create our quit button and our button that creates the results
Button(master, text="Route", command=self.result_frame).pack()
Button(master, text="Quit", command=quit).pack()

def result_frame(self):
    # Create a new window with displaying the results
    result = Toplevel()
    # Create the window title
    result.title('Shopping list')
    # Create a list that takes the variables from the last window
    v_list = []
    # Was having problems with the for statement so set up an x to go through the list
    x = 0
    while x < 28:
        query = [self.var1, self.var2, self.var3, self.var4, self.var5, self.var6, self.var7, self.var8,
self.var9,
                self.var10, self.var11, self.var12, self.var13, self.var14, self.var15, self.var16, self.var17,
                self.var18, self.var19, self.var20, self.var21, self.var22, self.var23, self.var24, self.var25,
                self.var26, self.var27, self.var28]
        # Get all of the 1 or 0's from last window
        v_list.append(query[x].get())
        x += 1
    # Create a list based off of our v_list
    grocery_list = []
    # The grid of our grocery store
    grid = {'cheese': (0, 1), 'milk': (0, 2), 'yogurt': (0, 3), 'chicken': (0, 4), 'beef': (0, 5), 'pork': (0,
6),
            'tv dinners': (0, 7), 'ice cream': (0, 8), 'waffles': (0, 9), 'cereal': (0, 1), 'coffee': (3, 1),
            'tea': (3, 2), 'bread': (3, 3), 'cake': (3, 4), 'crackers': (3, 5), 'cookies': (3, 6), 'water': (3, 7),
            'soda': (3, 8), 'juice': (3, 9), 'vegetables': (6, 1), 'fruit': (6, 1), 'salads': (6, 2),
            'nuts': (6, 3), 'jam': (6, 4), 'peanut butter': (6, 5), 'paper towels': (6, 6), 'tooth paste': (6,
7),
            'laundry detergent': (6, 8)}
    # List of only the food in order
    food_list = ['cheese', 'milk', 'yogurt', 'chicken', 'beef', 'pork', 'tv dinners', 'ice cream', 'waffles',
                'cereal', 'coffee', 'tea', 'bread', 'cake', 'crackers', 'cookies', 'water', 'soda', 'juice',
                'vegetables', 'fruit', 'salads', 'nuts', 'jam', 'peanut butter', 'paper towels', 'tooth paste',
                'laundry detergent']
    index = 0
    # Create a list to get the coordinates from our grocery list in order
    shopping_coord = []
    # Get a list of the food we are looking for as strings

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g_food_list = []
# Create a list we will use in our tsp
shopping_matrix = []
while index < 28:
    if v_list[index] == 1:
        # Populate our three lists
        grocery_list.append(grid[food_lst[index]])
        shopping_matrix.append(grid[food_lst[index]])
        g_food_list.append(food_lst[index])
    index += 1
# Start at the entrance or (0, 0)
start_coord = (0, 0)
# Create a large number to go back to each run of the tsp
smallest_distance = 100000
# Our first run of our greedy tsp for just the entrance
for item in shopping_matrix:
    if item == start_coord:
        continue
    else:
        # Our Manhattan distance alg
        index = 0
        # Starting coordinate
        coord1 = (0, 0)
        # Break it into x and y
        coord_x1 = coord1[0]
        coord_y1 = coord1[1]
        # Ending coordinate
        coord2 = shopping_matrix[index]
        # Break it into x and y
        coord_x2 = coord2[0]
        coord_y2 = coord2[1]
        # See if x of end is equal to x of start
        if coord_x2 == coord_x1:
            # If it is distance is a straight line use normal distance formula
            distance = ((coord_x1 - coord_x2) ** 2 + (coord_y1 - coord_y2) ** 2) ** 0.5
        else:
            # If start of y is greater than 4 then you should go to the top of the isle
            if coord_y1 > 4:
                # Manhattan distance
                distance = (10 - coord_y1) + abs(coord_x2 - coord_x1) + (10 - coord_y2)
            # If start of y is less than or equal to 4 the go to the bottom of the isle
            elif coord_y1 <= 4:
                # Manhattan distance
                distance = coord_y1 + abs(coord_x2 - coord_x1) + coord_y2
        if distance < smallest_distance:
            # Change smallest distance to the smallest then make that item the next item

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        smallest_distance = distance
        next_item = shopping_matrix[index]
        index += 1
# Go through the list and run it through greedy tsp
while len(shopping_matrix) > 0:
    # Add what we went to into our final list
    shopping_coord.append(next_item)
    # Remove it from our list so that it no longer runs in the tsp
    shopping_matrix.remove(next_item)
    # reset smallest distance
    smallest_distance = 100000
    index = 0
    for coord in shopping_matrix:
        if coord == next_item:
            continue
        else:
            # Distance alg
            coord1 = shopping_matrix[0]
            coord_x1 = coord1[0]
            coord_y1 = coord1[1]
            coord2 = shopping_matrix[index]
            coord_x2 = coord2[0]
            coord_y2 = coord2[1]
            if coord_x2 == coord_x1:
                distance = ((coord_x1 - coord_x2) ** 2 + (coord_y1 - coord_y2) ** 2) ** 0.5
            else:
                if coord_y1 > 4:
                    distance = (10 - coord_y1) + abs(coord_x2 - coord_x1) + (10 - coord_y2)
                elif coord_y1 <= 4:
                    distance = coord_y1 + abs(coord_x2 - coord_x1) + coord_y2
            if distance < smallest_distance:
                # Change smallest distance to the smallest then make that item the next item
                smallest_distance = distance
                next_item = shopping_matrix[index]
# Make an ending list of groceries as Strings
shopping_list = []
index = 0
for numbers in shopping_coord:
    if grocery_list[index] == shopping_coord[index]:
        # Populate our list of groceries
        shopping_list.append(g_food_list[index])
    index += 1
# Create our string to add as a label
shopping_list_string = '\n'.join(shopping_list)
# Start out string of coordinates, start it with a new line ot format with the
shopping_list_string

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shopping_coord_list = '\n'
for coord_pair in shopping_coord:
    # Populate the string
    shopping_coord_string = str(coord_pair) + '\n'
    shopping_coord_list += shopping_coord_string
# Create Frames for formatting
frame_top = Frame(result)
frame_top.pack()
frame_middle = Frame(result)
frame_middle.pack()
frame_bottom = Frame(result)
frame_bottom.pack()
# Create our text explaining the list
Label(frame_top, text='Here is your list with the top being the first item and the bottom
being your '
        'last.').pack()
Label(frame_top, text='Each item has a coordinate the first number being isle the second
being the '
        'section.').pack()
# Create our list
Label(frame_middle, text=shopping_list_string).pack(side=LEFT)
Label(frame_middle, text=shopping_coord_list).pack(side=RIGHT)
# Create an exit
Button(frame_bottom, text="OK", command=quit).pack(side=BOTTOM)

# Run the program
master = Tk()
app = StoreRouter()
app.main_frame(master)
master.mainloop()

```