

# Project of Algorithms on Node Labeling

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## 1 Introduction

In this project we discuss the “Node Labeling Problem”, in which we attempt to label the nodes of a graph with unique labels from a set of labels. We have the following definitions:

- Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph.
- Let  $d(u, v)$  be the distance between nodes  $u$  and  $v$ .
- For all nodes  $v \in V$ , let  $N(v, h) \subseteq V$  be the set of nodes that are at most  $h$  hops away from  $v$ .
- Let  $K = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$  be the set of  $k$  integers, where  $k \leq |V|$ .
- For all  $v \in V$ , let  $c(v) \in K$  be the label of node  $v$ , where different nodes may have the same label.
- Let  $C(v, h)$  be the set of labels of nodes in  $N(v, h)$ .
- A labeling of the nodes is *valid* if every label in  $K$  is used at least once.
- Let  $r(v)$  be the smallest integer such that the node  $v$  has all the labels in  $K$  in  $N(v, r(v))$ .
- Let  $m(v)$  be the smallest integer such that the node  $v$  has at least  $k$  nodes in  $N(v, m(v))$ .

Formally, our relevant sets and values can be defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} N(v, h) &\triangleq \{u \in V \mid d(u, v) \leq h\} \\ C(v, h) &\triangleq \{c(u) \mid u \in N(v, h)\} \\ r(v) &\triangleq \min\{h \mid |C(v, h)| = k\} \\ m(v) &\triangleq \min\{h \mid |N(v, h)| \geq k\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that in general, we have  $|C(v, h)| \leq |N(v, h)|$ , since the labels of nodes in  $N(v, h)$  are not necessarily distinct, and  $r(v) \geq m(v)$ , since there must be at least one node per label but not necessarily one label per node.

The Node-Labeling Decision Problem is defined as follows:

Given:

- An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$
- A set of  $k \leq |V|$  labels  $K = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$
- A nonnegative integer  $R$ ,

does there exist a labeling  $c(v)$  for all  $v \in V$  such that  $|C(v, R)| = k$  for all  $v \in V$ ?

Now consider this as an optimization problem. The Node-Labeling Optimization Problem is defined as follows:

Given:

- An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$
- A set of  $k \leq |V|$  labels  $K = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$ ,

find a valid labeling for all the nodes such that  $\max_{v \in V} \frac{r(v)}{m(v)}$  is minimized.

In the case of the optimization problem, if an algorithm that solves it has  $\max_{v \in V} \frac{r(v)}{m(v)} \leq \rho$  for all possible instances, then we say that the algorithm has a *proximity ratio* of  $\rho$ , and the algorithm is a  $\rho$ -proximity algorithm.

First, we will prove that the Node-Labeling Decision Problem is NP-Complete. Then, we will present a polynomial-time algorithm for the Node-Labeling Optimization Problem where the graph is a tree, analyze the proximity ratio of the algorithm, and finally analyze the runtime complexity of the algorithm.

## 2 NP-Completeness Proof

**Theorem 1.** *The Node-Labeling Decision Problem is NP-Complete.*

*Proof.* A problem is NP-Complete if it is in NP and every problem in NP can be reduced to it in polynomial time. We will show the former by presenting a polynomial time algorithm to verify a solution to the Node-Labeling Decision Problem, and the latter by reducing k-coloring to the Node-Labeling Decision Problem.

First, consider the following algorithm to verify a solution to the Node-Labeling Decision Problem:

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**Algorithm 1:** Verify a Solution to the Node-Labeling Decision Problem

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**Input:** An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a set of  $k \leq |V|$  labels  $K = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$ , a nonnegative integer  $R$ , and a labeling  $c : V \rightarrow K$

**Output:** True if the labeling is valid and  $|C(v, R)| = k$  for all  $v \in V$ , False otherwise

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for  $v \in V$  do
     $l = \emptyset$ 
    if  $\neg \text{BFS}(v, 0, l)$  then
        return False
    end
end
return True

```

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**Algorithm 2:** BFS

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**Input:** A node  $v$ , current depth  $d$ , set of labels seen  $l$

**Output:** True if all  $k$  labels are seen within depth  $R$ , False otherwise

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if  $d > R$  then
    return False
end
 $l = l \cup \{c(v)\}$  if  $|l| = k$  then
    return True
end
for each neighbor  $u$  of  $v$  do
    if  $\text{BFS}(u, d+1, l)$  then
        return True
    end
end
return False

```

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This algorithm works by performing a breadth-first search from each node  $v$  in the graph, and checking if all  $k$  labels are seen within depth  $R$ . If a depth of  $R$  is reached without seeing all  $k$  labels, the algorithm returns False. Otherwise, the algorithm returns True. The algorithm runs in  $O(|V| \cdot (|V| + |E|))$  time, which is polynomial in the size of the input. Thus, the Node-Labeling Decision Problem is in NP.

Now we perform a reduction from the 3-coloring problem to the Node-Labeling Decision Problem. Let  $G' = (V', E')$  be an instance of the 3-coloring problem. We can construct an instance of the node labeling problem ( $G = (V, E), K, R$ ) as follows:

- $V = V'$
- $E = E'$
- $K = \{0, 1, 2\}$

- $R = 2$

This transformation can be done in polynomial time, since we only copy the graph and set  $K$  and  $R$  to constant values. We claim that  $G'$  is 3-colorable if and only if  $G$  has a valid labeling such that  $|C(v, R)| = 3$  for all  $v \in V$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Assume that  $G'$  is 3-colorable. Then there exists some valid 3-coloring  $c' : V' \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  of  $G'$ . Let  $c : V \rightarrow K$  be the labeling of  $G$  such that  $c(v) = c'(v)$  for all  $v \in V'$ . Since  $c'$  is a valid 3-coloring, it uses all the colors, so  $c$  will also be a valid labeling of  $G$ . Then, for all  $v \in V$ ,  $N(v, 2)$  must contain at least 3 nodes, so in order for the labeling to be valid, at least 3 distinct labels must be used. Thus,  $|C(v, 2)| = 3$  for all  $v \in V$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Assume that there exists a valid labeling  $c : V \rightarrow K$  of  $G$  such that  $|C(v, 2)| = 3$  for all  $v \in V$ . We can use the same coloring  $c'$  of  $G'$  such that  $c'(v) = c(v)$  for all  $v \in V'$ . For all edges  $(u, v) \in E'$ , we have that  $u \in N(v, 2)$  and  $v \in N(u, 2)$ . Since  $|C(u, 2)| = 3$  and  $|C(v, 2)| = 3$ , we have that  $c'(u) \neq c'(v)$ , or else one of them would only see 2 distinct labels in 2 hops. Thus,  $c'$  is a valid 3-coloring of  $G'$ .

Now we have shown that the Node-Labeling Decision Problem is in NP and that the 3-coloring problem can be reduced to it in polynomial time. Therefore, the Node-Labeling Decision Problem is also NP-hard, and thus NP-Complete.  $\square$

### 3 Approximation Algorithm

Here we discuss an algorithm to solve the Node-Labeling *Optimization* Problem when the input graph is a tree.

## 4 Pseudocode

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Input: Adjacency list of a tree adj_list, number of labels k
Output: A labeling of the nodes
LabelNodes(adj_list, k, max_attempts) best_labeling  $\leftarrow$  null;
best_max_ratio  $\leftarrow \infty$ ;
for i  $\leftarrow$  1 to max_attempts do
    initial_labels  $\leftarrow$  InitialLabeling(adj_list, k);
    final_labeling  $\leftarrow$  ImproveLabeling(adj_list, k, initial_labels);
    ratios  $\leftarrow$  CalculateProximityRatios(adj_list, k, final_labeling);
    max_ratio  $\leftarrow$  max(ratios);
    if max_ratio < best_max_ratio then
        | best_labeling  $\leftarrow$  final_labeling;
        | best_max_ratio  $\leftarrow$  max_ratio;
    end
    if max_ratio = 1.0 then
        | return final_labeling;
    end
end
return best_labeling;
InitialLabeling(adj_list, k) n  $\leftarrow$  |adj_list|;
labeling  $\leftarrow$  [-1, ..., -1]; // Length n
for i  $\leftarrow$  0 to n - 1 do
    if labeling[i] = -1 then
        | available_labels  $\leftarrow$  {0, ..., k - 1} \ {labeling[j] : j  $\in$ 
        |   adj_list[i], labeling[j]  $\neq$  -1};
        | labeling[i]  $\leftarrow$  random choice from available_labels (or from
        |   {0, ..., k - 1} if available_labels is empty);
    end
end
return labeling;
ImproveLabeling(adj_list, k, labeling) n  $\leftarrow$  |adj_list|;
for i  $\leftarrow$  1 to n · k do
    ratios  $\leftarrow$  CalculateProximityRatios(adj_list, k, labeling);
    max_ratio  $\leftarrow$  max(ratios);
    if max_ratio = 1.0 then
        | break;
    end
    worst_nodes  $\leftarrow$  {v : ratios[v] = max_ratio};
    worst_node  $\leftarrow$  random choice from worst_nodes;
    distances  $\leftarrow$  BFS(adj_list, worst_node);
    if max_ratio =  $\infty$  then
        | neighborhood  $\leftarrow$  keys of distances;
    else
        | neighborhood  $\leftarrow$  {node : distances[node]  $\leq$   $\lceil$ max_ratio $\rceil$ };
    end
    label_counts  $\leftarrow$  count occurrences of each label in neighborhood;
    most_common_label  $\leftarrow$   $\underset{l}{\text{argmax}}$  label_counts[l];
    least_common_label  $\leftarrow$   $\underset{l}{\text{argmin}}$  label_counts[l];
    nodes_with_most_common  $\leftarrow$  {v  $\in$  neighborhood : labeling[v] =
    |   most_common_label};
    node_to_swap  $\leftarrow$   $\underset{v \in \text{nodes\_with\_most\_common}}{\text{argmin}}$  ratios[v];
    labeling[node_to_swap]  $\leftarrow$  least_common_label;
end
return labeling;
BFS(adj_list, start) distances  $\leftarrow$  {start : 0};
queue  $\leftarrow$  [(start, 0)];
while queue is not empty do
    | node, dist  $\leftarrow$  dequeue from queue;

```

**5 Proximity Ratio Analysis**

**6 Runtime Complexity Analysis**