

# Traversing New York City's Subway System

MATH 358 TSP Project

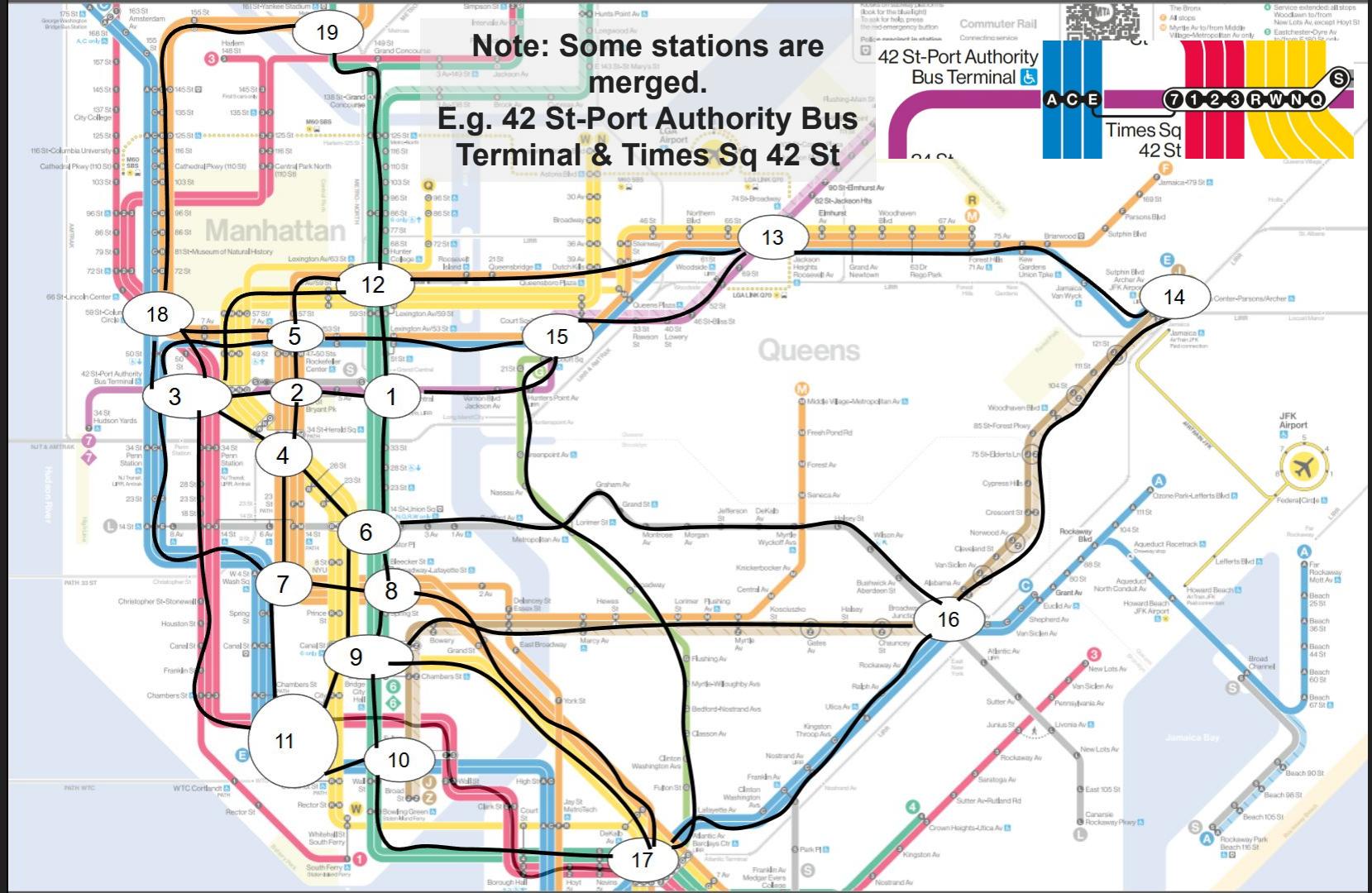
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# Selecting a Traveling Salesman Problem



# Selected Stations

1. Grand Central 42st
2. 42st Bryant Park
3. Times Sq 42 St
4. 34St Herald Sq
5. 47-50 Rockefeller Center
6. 14st Union Sq
7. W4 St Wash Sq
8. Broadway-Lafayette
9. Canal Street
10. Fulton Street
11. Park Place
12. Lexington Av/59 St
13. Jackson Heights Roosevelt Av
14. JFK Airport
15. Court Sq-23 St
16. Broadway Junction
17. Atlantic Avenue
18. 59 St Columbus Circle
19. 161 St Yankee Stadium



# Finding the distance between stations

A screenshot of a map application interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with various transport modes and travel times: Best (46 min), Car (2h 9m), Train (47 min), and Bike (47 min). Below these are two destination entries: "Jackson Hts-Roosevelt Av, Roosevelt Ave" and "Jamaica, 93-43 Sutphin Blvd, Jamaica, N". There is also a button to "Add destination". A blue "Options" button is located below the sidebar. At the bottom of the sidebar, there are buttons for "Send directions to iPhone" and "Copy link". The main area shows a map of the New York City area, specifically Queens and parts of Brooklyn. A blue line with dots indicates the route taken via Queens Blvd. The route starts at Jackson Heights and ends at Jamaica. The map includes labels for neighborhoods like ASTORIA, WOODSIDE, MASPETH, RIDGEWOOD, BUSHWICK, FRESH MEADOWS, and OAKLAND GARDENS. It also shows major highways like Grand Central Pkwy, Jackie Robinson Pkwy, and FDR Drive. Various landmarks are marked with icons, such as Shake Shack locations and grocery stores like Lidl. A red dot marks the final destination at 93-43 Sutphin Blvd.

# Keeping track of the distances

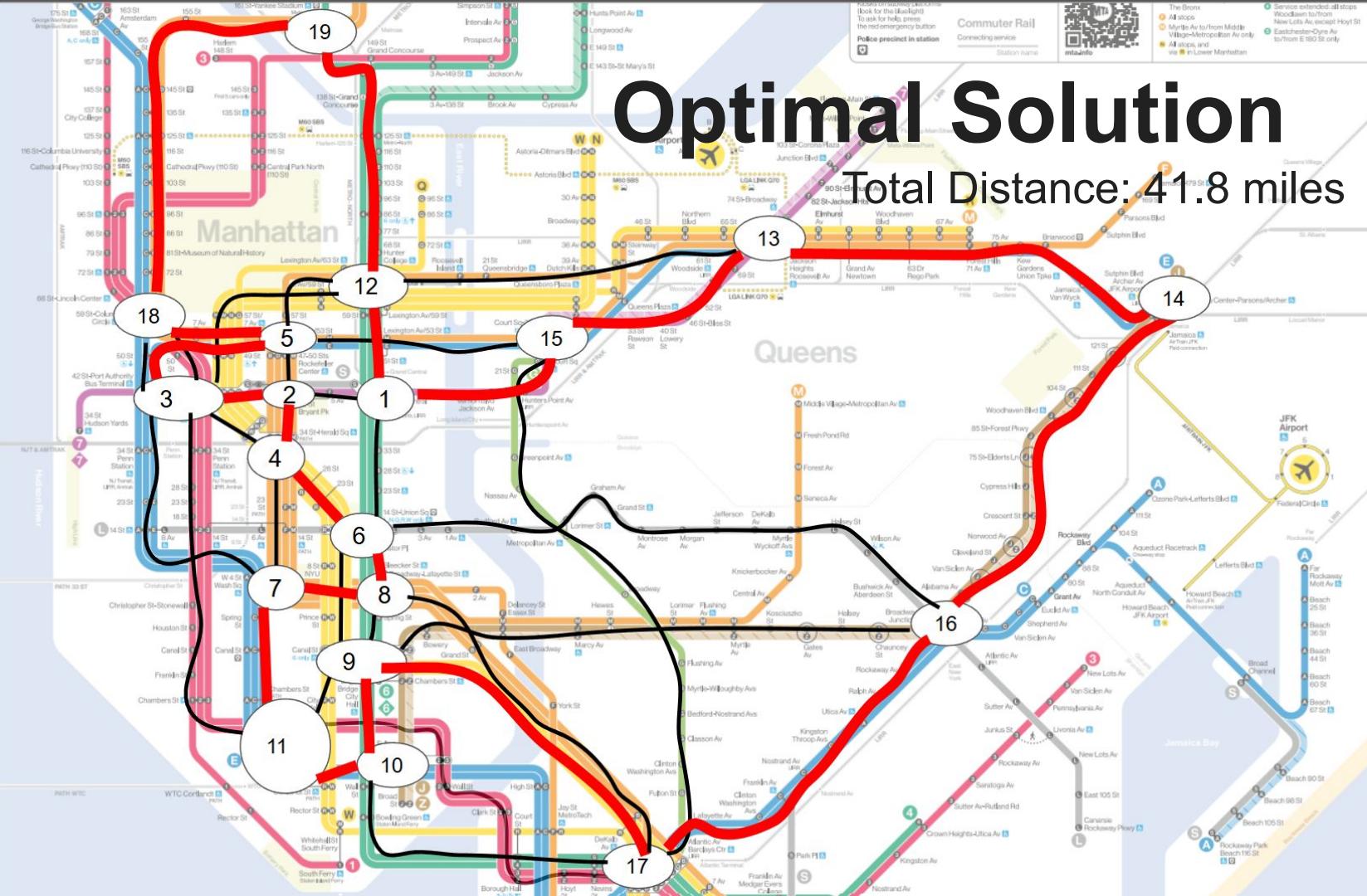
# Recording 50 answers

E55		fx	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
1	User	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
2	1	13	14	16	17	10	11	7	8	9	6	4	3	18	19	12	5	2	1	15			
3	2	19	18	3	2	4	6	8	7	11	9	10	17	16	14	13	15	5	12	19			
4	3	14	13	12	19	18	3	5	2	4	7	11	10	9	8	6	1	15	17	16			
5	4	14	13	15	5	12	19	18	3	2	4	7	11	10	9	6	16	17	0	0			
6	5	19	18	3	7	11	10	9	8	6	4	2	5	12	1	15	13	14	16	17			
7	6	17	16	14	13	12	19	18	3	11	10	9	8	7	4	6	1	2	5	15			
8	7	19	18	5	15	1	2	3	4	7	8	6	9	11	10	17	16	14	13	12			
9	8	1	12	19	18	5	2	3	4	7	8	6	9	11	10	17	16	14	13	15			
10	9	11	10	17	16	14	13	15	1	12	5	18	3	2	4	6	8	7	11	0			
11	10	19	18	3	7	11	10	17	9	8	6	16	14	13	15	1	2	5	12	19			
12	11	11	9	8	6	4	7	3	18	19	12	5	2	1	15	13	14	16	17	10			
13	12	18	19	12	13	14	16	17	11	10	7	8	9	6	1	15	5	2	4	3			
14	13	14	16	17	10	11	9	8	6	4	7	3	18	19	12	5	2	1	15	13			
15	14	19	12	13	14	16	17	10	9	8	6	1	15	5	18	3	2	4	7	11			
16	15	14	13	15	1	2	5	12	19	18	3	4	7	11	10	9	6	8	17	16			
17	16	3	18	19	12	5	2	1	15	13	14	16	17	10	11	9	8	6	4	7			
18	17	14	16	17	10	11	9	8	7	3	18	19	12	5	2	4	6	1	15	13			
19	18	9	10	17	16	14	13	12	19	18	5	15	1	2	3	4	6	8	7	11			
20	19	19	12	5	2	1	15	13	14	16	17	10	11	9	8	6	4	7	3	18			
21	20	17	10	11	9	8	6	7	3	4	2	1	5	18	19	12	15	13	14	16			

# Computing distances using Google Colab Notebook

[25] solution\_records

User	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	...	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Distance	Notes	
0	1	13	14	16	17	10	11	7	8	9	...	3	18	19	12	5	2	1	15	43.7	
1	2	19	18	3	2	4	6	8	7	11	...	17	16	14	13	15	5	12	19	NaN	Missing stations: [1]
2	3	14	13	12	19	18	3	5	2	4	...	10	9	8	6	1	15	17	16	48.4	
3	4	14	13	15	5	12	19	18	3	2	...	11	10	9	6	16	17	0	0	NaN	Missing stations: [1, 8]
4	5	19	18	3	7	11	10	9	8	6	...	5	12	1	15	13	14	16	17	NaN	Invalid cycle: Station 17 to Station 19 is not...
5	6	17	16	14	13	12	19	18	3	11	...	8	7	4	6	1	2	5	15	51.0	
6	7	19	18	5	15	1	2	3	4	7	...	9	11	10	17	16	14	13	12	46.0	
7	8	1	12	19	18	5	2	3	4	7	...	9	11	10	17	16	14	13	15	43.4	
8	9	11	10	17	16	14	13	15	1	12	...	3	2	4	6	8	7	11	0	NaN	Missing stations: [9, 19]
9	10	19	18	3	7	11	10	17	9	8	...	14	13	15	1	2	5	12	19	NaN	Missing stations: [4]
10	11	11	9	8	6	4	7	3	18	19	...	2	1	15	13	14	16	17	10	44.4	
11	12	18	19	12	13	14	16	17	11	10	...	9	6	1	15	5	2	4	3	NaN	Invalid cycle: Station 10 to Station 7 is not ...



# Findings

- 35 volunteers found a valid route while 15 volunteers returned invalid routes
- A person who successfully completed the TSP took a path that was 3.703 miles longer than the optimal route on average.
- The longest route was 9.8 miles longer than the optimal route, and the shortest route was 1.4 miles longer than the optimal route
  - Hence, none of the volunteers found the optimal route

