

School of Computing and Information Systems
COMP90038 Algorithms and Complexity Tutorial Week 11

Sample answers

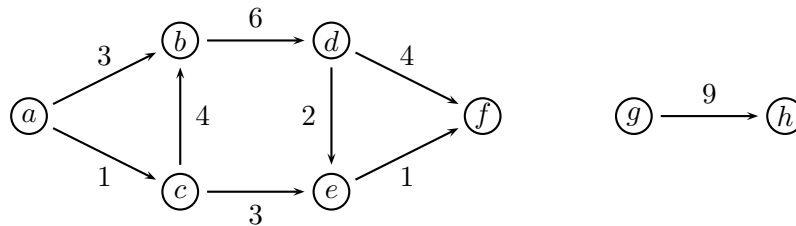
1. Use the dynamic-programming algorithm developed in the lectures to solve this instance of the coin-row problem: 20, 50, 20, 5, 10, 20, 5.

Answer: We build the table S of optimal values as follows:

$i :$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$C[i] :$	—	20	50	20	5	10	20	5
$S[i] :$	0	20	50	50	55	60	75	75

The optimal selection uses the coins at indices 2, 4, and 6.

2. Consider the problem of finding the length of a “longest” path in a *weighted*, not necessarily connected, dag. We assume that all weights are positive, and that a “longest” path is a path whose edge weights add up to the maximal possible value. For example, for the following graph, the longest path is of length 15:



Use a dynamic programming approach to the problem of finding longest path in a weighted dag.

Answer:

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T ← TOPSORT( $\langle V, E \rangle$ ) — List of nodes sorted topologically
for  $t \in T$  (in topological order) do
     $L[t] \leftarrow \max(\{0\} \cup \{L[u] + \text{weight}[u, t] \mid (u, t) \in E\})$ 
return  $\max\{L[v] \mid v \in V\}$ 
  
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For the sample graph, topsort yields the sequence A, C, B, D, E, F, G, H (or, alternatively, G, H, A, C, B, D, E, F). The “longest path” table L gets filled as follows:

$t :$	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
$L[t] :$	0							
	0		1					
	0	5	1					
	0	5	1	11				
	0	5	1	11	13			
	0	5	1	11	13	15		
	0	5	1	11	13	15	0	
	0	5	1	11	13	15	0	9

3. Design a dynamic programming algorithm for the version of the knapsack problem in which there are unlimited numbers of copies of each item. That is, we are given items I_1, \dots, I_n have values v_1, \dots, v_n and weights w_1, \dots, w_n as usual, but each item I_i can be selected several

times. Hint: This actually makes the knapsack problem a bit easier, as there is only one parameter (namely the remaining capacity w) in the recurrence relation.

Answer: Assume the items I_1, \dots, I_n have values v_1, \dots, v_n and weights w_1, \dots, w_n . Let $V(w)$ denote the optimal value we can achieve given capacity w . With capacity w we are in a position to select any item I_i which weighs no more than w . And if we pick item I_i then the best value we can achieve is $v_i + V(w - w_i)$. As we want to maximise the value for capacity w , we have the recurrence

$$V(w) = \max\{v_i + V(w - w_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n \wedge w_i \leq w\}$$

That leads to this table-filling approach:

for $w \leftarrow 1$ to W **do**

$V[w] \leftarrow \max(\{0\} \cup \{v_i + V(w - w_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n \wedge w_i \leq w\})$

return $V[W]$

As an example, consider the case $W = 10$, and three items I_1, I_2 , and I_3 , with weights 4, 5 and 3, respectively, and values 11, 12, and 7, respectively. The table V is filled from left to right, as follows:

$w :$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$V[w] :$	0	0	7	11	12	14	18	22	23	25

Hence the optimal bag is $[I_1, I_3, I_3]$ for a total value of 25.

4. Work through Warshall's algorithm to find the transitive closure of the binary relation given by this table (or directed graph):

	a	b	c	d
a	0	0	1	1
b	0	0	1	0
c	1	0	0	0
d	0	0	0	0



Answer: We run down the columns from left to right, stopping when we meet a 1. This first happens when we are in row 3, column 1. At that point, 'or' row 1 onto row 3 (and so on):

	a	b	c	d
a	0	0	1	1
b	0	0	1	0
c	1	0	1	1
d	0	0	0	0

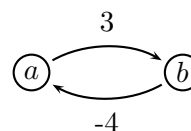
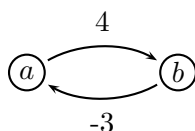
 \Rightarrow

	a	b	c	d
a	1	0	1	1
b	0	0	1	0
c	1	0	1	1
d	0	0	0	0

 \Rightarrow

	a	b	c	d
a	1	0	1	1
b	1	0	1	1
c	1	0	1	1
d	0	0	0	0

5. Floyd's algorithm sometimes works even if we allow negative weights.



For example, for the left graph above, it will produce these successive distance matrices:

$$D^0 = D^1 = D^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 \\ -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

What happens for the right graph above? What do D^0 , D^1 and D_2 look like? Explain why D^2 ends up giving an incorrect result in this case (but not in the previous case).

Answer: We get the following distance matrices:

$$D^0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad D^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ -4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad D^2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -5 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is where the algorithm stops, and the distances seem all wrong. The problem is that there is a *negative-weight cycle* in the graph. If we kept going round that cycle, we would get smaller and smaller negative “distances”—it does not make sense to ask for the path that has the smallest accumulated sum of weights.

If negative weights are possible, we really should add this test to Floyd’s algorithm: If, at any point a negative element is created in the diagonal of the matrix, halt with some error message.