

### POSTLAB QUESTIONS EXP3

1. What is the time complexity of the Water Jug problem?
  - The time complexity of solving the Water Jug problem using a basic depth-first search (DFS) or breadth-first search (BFS) algorithm is generally exponential. Specifically, it can be represented as  $O(b^d)$ , where:
    - $b$  is the branching factor (the number of possible actions or choices at each state),
    - $d$  is the depth of the solution in the search tree.
  - In the context of the Water Jug problem, the branching factor refers to the number of possible actions at each state, such as pouring water from one jug to another or filling a jug. The depth is the length of the path from the initial state to the goal state.
  - Due to the combinatorial nature of the problem and the need to explore various states, the search space grows exponentially, resulting in high time complexity.
2. Why is DFS not used for solving a water jug problem?
  - DFS is not commonly used for solving the Water Jug problem because it can be inefficient in terms of both time and space complexity. The problem involves searching through a large state space, where each state represents a different combination of water levels in the jugs. DFS may explore deep into the state space before finding a solution, potentially leading to a high time complexity.
  - The space complexity of DFS or BFS for the Water Jug problem is also influenced by the size of the state space and the search strategy.
  - In DFS, the space complexity is generally  $O(bd)$ , where  $b$  is the branching factor and  $d$  is the maximum depth of the search stack. DFS uses a depth-first exploration strategy, which means it traverses as deep as possible before backtracking. This can lead to a large stack, especially in cases with deep search paths.
  - In BFS, the space complexity is typically higher due to the need to maintain a queue of states to explore level by level. The space complexity for BFS is  $O(b^d)$ , where  $b$  is the branching factor and  $d$  is the maximum depth of the search queue. BFS explores all states at a given depth before moving to the next level.