

Red Scare! Report

by Alice Cooper.

Results

The following table gives my results for all graphs of at least 500 vertices.

Instance name	n	A	F	M	N	S
rusty-5762	5,762	true	16	–	?	5
wall-p-10000	10,000					
⋮						

The columns are for the problems Alternate, Few, Many, None, and Some. The table entries either give the answer, or contain ‘?’ for those cases where I was unable to find a solution within reasonable time. For those questions where there is a reason for my inability to find a good algorithm (because the problem is hard), I wrote ‘?!’.

For the complete table of all results, see the tab-separated text file `results.txt`.

Methods

For problem A, I solved each instance G by removing all edges that go between vertices of same color, unless it is $s - t$. This new graph is then run on a shortest-path algorithm. In this case Breadth-First Search (BFS). The running time of this algorithm is $O(V + E)$, and my implementation spends \dots seconds on the instance \dots with $n = \dots$.

For problem F, I solved each instance G by adding edge weights. Weight of 1 for edges into red vertices, and weight of 0 for all other edges. Then we run Dijkstra to get the minimum path. The running time of this algorithm is \dots , and my implementation spends \dots seconds on the instance \dots with $n = \dots$.

For problem N, I solved each instance G by removing all red vertices from the graph, and then feeding it to a shortest-path algorithm. The running time of this algorithm is $O(V + E)$, and my implementation spends \dots seconds on the instance \dots with $n = \dots$.

We solved problem S for all undirected graphs by creating a flow, and using Ford-Fulkerson. The flow graph is created by adding a new source vertex, and attaching it to both s and t , each with capacity 1. A new target is also created, and attached to a red vertex with capacity 2. This is then done for every red vertex until a flow of size 2 is found.

I was unable to solve problem M except for the acyclic instances.

This is because, in generality, this problem is NP-hard. To see this, consider the following reduction from Hamiltonian paths to Many. Let g be a graph that we must find a Hamiltonian path for, with vertices V and edges E . To reduce it so a many problem, we set $R = V$. If the result of many problem is n , then the graph has a Hamiltonian path if $n = |V|$.

References

1. *APLgraphlib—A library for Basic Graph Algorithms in APL*, version 2.11, 2016, Iverson Project, github.com/iverson/APLgraphlib.¹
2. A. Lovelace, *Algorithms and Data Structures in Pascal*, Addison-Wesley 1981.

¹ If you use references to code, books, or papers, be professional about it. Use whatever style you want, but be consistent.