# Java Graph Libraries

During the course of this assignment, I have tried my hands on with the following Java libraries and glad that I learnt a lot of new things in these few days.

Here goes my list –

1. JGraph library

Pros :

* Available in both versions – Free as well as Jgraph commercial license for advanced features and commercial purposes.
* I found it to be relatively easy to understand the API and could find my way through the docs.
* Comprehensive set of libraries to implement all the much needed graph functionalities.

1. JUNG

Though this was an option for me to use and provided quite a comprehensive set of libraries for development of the task at hand, I chose not to go with JUNG purely because of the support and documentation which was a little not-so-straight forward.

Pros :

* Open Source
* JUNG xe2x80x94 the Java Universal Network/Graph Framework–is a software library that provides a common and extendible language for the modeling, analysis, and visualization of data that can be represented as a graph or network.
* The JUNG architecture is designed to support a variety of representations of entities and their relations, such as directed and undirected graphs, multi-modal graphs, graphs with parallel edges, and hypergraphs. It provides a mechanism for annotating graphs, entities, and relations with metadata.

1. JGraph Ed

Though JGraph Ed had implementations of various Graph Data structures and algorithms, I felt it lacked the much needed support for making a programmers job easy. Inspite of this, it had commendable features like –

* + Interactive graph creation (nodes, edges [directed, curved])
  + File loading abilities
  + Multiple graphs can be edited or drawn simultaneously in their own windows
  + Unlimited level undo & redo

1. yFiles

I have tried my hands-on with installing yFiles Graph complete evaluation for 30 days and observed that it included quite a comprehensive solution to all the graphing needs.

It also has a rich collection of Java libraries for various functionalities with quite a commendable Documentation as well.

Cons:

It is not open source and comes under a commercial license which is worth the buck if one requires to implement Graph applications and rich Visualizations.

1. GINY

This is open source graph library for Java and provides a number of layout algorithms, and is designed to be a very intuitive API.

GINY is definitely a graph library to look out for if one wants to develop rich graph visualizations is what I felt after going through their Examples and Demos.