

## Homework 6

Shayan Oveis Gharan

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Please see <https://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse421/18wi/grading.html> for general guidelines about Homework problems.

Most of the problems only require one or two key ideas for their solution. It will help you a lot to spell out these main ideas so that you can get most of the credit for a problem even if you err on the finer details. Please justify all answers.

- P1) Here we shall show how to use MSTs to get an approximation algorithm to the famous traveling salesman problem. You are given an undirected graph, where every edge  $\{u, v\}$  has a non-negative weight  $c_{u,v}$ . The goal is to find the lowest weight tour of the graph. A tour is a sequence of vertices  $v_1, \dots, v_r$  such that  $v_1 = v_r$ , every vertex of the graph is visited *at least* once, and for every  $i$ ,  $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\}$  is an edge of the graph. The cost of the tour is

$$\sum_{i=1}^{r-1} c_{v_i, v_{i+1}}.$$

Give a polynomial time algorithm to find a tour that is at most twice the optimum tour, i.e., you want to design a polynomial time algorithm with approximation ratio 2.

- Prove that the weight of the optimum tour is at least the weight of the MST.
  - Perform depth-first search on an MST of the graph to obtain a tour. Write down the code and show that it outputs a tour.
  - Show that the cost of the tour that you find in the previous part is twice the cost of the MST.
- P2) Draw the dynamic programming table of the following instance of the knapsack problem: You are 5 items with weight 1, 3, 6, 7, 9 and value 1, 5, 12, 18, 25 respectively and the size of your knapsack is 13..
- P3) A sequence of numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  is called *mirrored* if  $m$  is even and for all  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $a_i = -a_{m-i+1}$ . For example, 3, -4, 4, -3 is a mirrored sequence. Given a sequence of numbers  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  design an  $O(n^2)$  time algorithm that outputs the length of the longest mirrored subsequence. For example, on input 1, 5, -1, 3 the longest mirrored subsequence is 1, -1 and its length is 2.

**HINT:** For  $i < j$ , let  $p(i, j)$  denote the length of the longest mirrored subsequence in  $x_i, \dots, x_j$ . Express  $p(i, j)$  in terms of  $p(i+1, j), p(i, j-1), p(i+1, j-1)$ . Evaluate the values  $p(i, j)$  in order of increasing  $|i - j|$ .

- P4) Suppose we have a path with  $n + 1$  vertices numbered  $0, \dots, n$ . We want to take a package from vertex 0 to vertex  $n$ . There are  $m$  mailmen on this line, where the  $i$ -th mailman is located at  $p[i]$ , i.e., array  $p$  has the location of all mailmen. For each mailman,  $i$ , let  $v[i]$  be the speed of  $i$ , e.g., if  $v[i] = 3$  it means that mailman  $i$  goes from vertex  $a$  to  $a + 1$  or  $a - 1$  in  $1/3$  of a

second. To move the package, a mailman should pick it up at point 0 and move to a vertex  $a_1$ , at that point another mailman can move the package to a vertex  $a_2$  and so on until the package reaches point  $n$ . The goal is to minimize the time that it takes to take the package to vertex  $n$ . You can assume all entries of  $p, v$  are integers. We want to design a polynomial time algorithm that outputs the minimum number of seconds needed to do this job.

Here is an example: Suppose  $n = 10, m = 2, p[1] = 2, p[2] = 6, v[1] = 1, v[2] = 2$ . One strategy is that the second mailman goes to 0 (in 3 seconds) picks up the package and goes to  $n$  (in 5 seconds). This would take 8 seconds. But, the optimum strategy is that mailman 1 goes to 0 (in 2 seconds) picks up the package and goes to 1 (in 1 second) meanwhile mailman 2 goes to 1 (because it takes him only 2.5 seconds to go to 1. He grabs the package and takes it to  $n$  in 4.5 seconds. So by this strategy the package will reach  $n$  in  $2 + 1 + 4.5 = 7.5$  seconds.

- a) Prove that if in the optimum solution, the package is handed from mailman  $i$  to mailman  $j$  at some point, we must have  $v[j] > v[i]$ .
- b) Design a polynomial time algorithm that outputs the minimum number of seconds needed to do the job.

**Hint:** Sort the mailmen based on their speed and assume  $v[1] \leq v[2] \leq \dots v[m]$ . For all  $i, j$  let  $p(i, j)$  be the minimum number of seconds needed to pick up the package from 0 and move it to vertex  $j$  using only mailmen  $1, \dots, i$ .

- P5) **Extra Credit:** Given a sequence of positive numbers  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and an integer  $k$ , design a polynomial time algorithm that outputs

$$\sum_{S \in \binom{[n]}{k}} \prod_{i \in S} x_i,$$

where the sum is over all subsets of size  $k$ .