

Homework 5

Shayan Oveis Gharan

Due: May 16, 2019 at 5:00 PM

- P1) Suppose you are working in the quality control of a factory. The factory produces quarters for the US government and your job is to make sure that all quarters have exactly the same weight. You are given 2^k quarters for $k \geq 2$ and you know that at most one of them can be defective. A defective quarter will weight *higher* or *lower* than normal. You are given a scale



with two trays: Each time you can put a set S of quarters in the left and a set T in the right (for disjoint sets S, T). The scale will show if S is heavier than T , or T is heavier than S , or they have exactly the same weight. Design an algorithm to find the defective quarter (if it exists) by using the scale only $O(k)$ many times. (Note that your algorithm will run by a human not a compute.)

- P2) Let G be a graph with maximum degree k . Recall that a set S of vertices of G form an independent set if there is no edges between vertices of S . Design a polynomial time $O(k)$ approximation algorithm for the maximum independent set problem, i.e., the size of the independent set that your algorithm outputs must be at least $1/O(k)$ fraction of the optimum.
- P3) Consider an array a_1, \dots, a_n of n integers, that is hidden from us. We have access to this array through an oracle $\text{knapsack}(\cdot, \cdot)$. For a set $S \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ and an integer k , $\text{knapsack}(S, k)$ will output “yes” if there is a subset $T \subseteq S$ such that the numbers indexed in T add up to k , i.e., $\sum_{i \in T} a_i = k$ and it will output “no” otherwise. Design an algorithm that calls knapsack only $O(n)$ times and outputs a set $S \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that the numbers indexed in S add up to k , if such a set exists.

For example, suppose $a_1 = 2, a_2 = 4, a_3 = 3, a_4 = 1$, and $k = 7$. Then, $\text{knapsack}(\{1, 2, 3, 4\}, 7)$ returns “yes” and $\text{knapsack}(\{1, 3, 4\}, 7)$ returns “no”. In this case your algorithm can output either of the sets $\{1, 2, 4\}$ or $\{2, 3\}$.

- P4) Draw the dynamic programming table of the following instance of the knapsack problem: You are 6 items with weight 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 and value 1, 3, 5, 12, 18, 25 respectively and the size of your knapsack is 13.
- P5) Suppose you are given n coins with value v_1, \dots, v_n dollars, and you want to change S dollars. You can assume $v_i \neq v_j$ for all $i \neq j$. Design a polynomial time algorithm that outputs the number of ways to change S dollars with the given n coins. For example, if for values 1, 2, 3, 4 we can change 6 with in 2 ways as follows:

$$2 + 4, 1 + 2 + 3$$