

Tutorial Exact Algorithms

Exercise T25 An $n \times n$ matrix is *stochastic* if all its entries are nonnegative and every row sums up to 1. An $n \times n$ matrix is *doubly stochastic* if its entries are nonnegative and each row and each column sums up to 1.

1. Let M be the incidence matrix of a regular bipartite graph of degree $r \geq 1$. Show that $\frac{1}{r}M$ is doubly stochastic.
2. The Permanent Inequality states that for any doubly stochastic matrix A

$$\text{perm}(A) \geq \text{perm}\left(\frac{1}{n}J_n\right) \geq \frac{n!}{n^n},$$

where J_n is the all-ones $n \times n$ matrix. This inequality was conjectured by van der Waerden in 1926 and proved independently by Egorichev and Falikman in 1980. Use this inequality to show that a regular bipartite graph of degree r has at least $(r/e)^n$ perfect matchings.

Exercise T26 THE HAMILTONIAN CYCLE PROBLEM. Given a graph $G = (V, E)$ decide whether G has a simple cycle $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{|V|}, u_1)$ containing all vertices. Formulate this problem as an Inclusion-Exclusion formula and show that it can be solved in time $O^*(2^n)$ and polynomial space.

Solution Fix a vertex $s \in V(G)$ and assume that $V = \{s, u_1, \dots, u_n\}$. In order to formulate this problem as an IE-formula, we need to decide what the objects are and what properties they must satisfy. An object in this context is a closed walk that starts and ends at s and is of length $n + 1$. An object satisfies property A_v for $v \in \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ if it contains vertex v . Clearly an object that satisfies all properties A_{u_1}, \dots, A_{u_n} is a Hamiltonian cycle of G . Now

$$|A_{u_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{u_n}| = \sum_{X \subseteq V \setminus s} (-1)^{|X|} \left| \bigcap_{i \in X} \bar{A}_{u_i} \right|.$$

The term $\left| \bigcap_{i \in X} \bar{A}_{u_i} \right|$ represents the number of closed walks of length $n + 1$ that start and end at s and avoid the vertices in X . This can be easily computed by finding the (s, s) th entry in the $(n + 1)$ st power of the adjacency matrix of $G \setminus X$. The time taken to compute this for a fixed subset X is $O(n^{\omega+1})$ and the space required is $O(n^2)$. An alternative way of computing the terms $\left| \bigcap_{i \in X} \bar{A}_{u_i} \right|$ is by dynamic programming. For $X \subseteq \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ and $u \in V \setminus X$ define $P_X(u, k)$ to be the number of walks from s to u of length k that avoid all the vertices in X . Then

$$\left| \bigcap_{i \in X} \bar{A}_{u_i} \right| = \sum_{u \in N(s) \setminus X} P_X(u, n).$$

Also $P_X(u, 0) = 1$ if $u = s$ and 0 otherwise. For $k \geq 1$,

$$P_X(u, k) = \sum_{v \in N(u) \setminus X} P_X(v, k - 1).$$

For a fixed $X \subseteq \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$, the time taken to compute $|\bigcap_{i \in X} \bar{A}_{u_i}|$ is $O(mn)$ and the space required is $O(n^2)$. Thus the total time taken to evaluate $|A_{u_1} \cap \dots \cap A_{u_n}|$ is $O^*(2^n)$ and the space required is polynomial.

Homework Assignment H26 (10 Points) Given an $n \times n$ matrix $A = [a_{ij}]$ show that

$$\text{perm}(A) = \sum_{S \subseteq [n]} (-1)^{|S|} \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \notin S} A[i, j].$$

Hint. One can view the elements of A as variables and the permanent of A as a multinomial polynomial. One way of proving the above is by determining the coefficient of these terms on either side of the purported identity. For example, for a fixed permutation $\pi: [n] \rightarrow [n]$, the coefficient of the term $a_{1,\pi(1)}, \dots, a_{n,\pi(n)}$ is a 1 on either side. Now determine the coefficient of terms that involve variables from k columns. The coefficient of such a term is 0 on the left-hand side. What is the coefficient on the right-hand side? Conclude that the permanent of an $n \times n$ matrix can be computed in time $O^*(2^n)$ and space polynomial in n .

Homework Assignment H27 (10 Points) THE TRAVELLING SALESPERSON PROBLEM (TSP). Given a graph $G = (V, E)$ where $V = \{s, u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ and a weight function $w: E \rightarrow \{1, \dots, c\}$, determine the weight of the smallest tour that starts and ends at s . Use Inclusion-Exclusion to solve TSP in time $O^*(2^{nc})$. What is the space requirement of your algorithm? Comment on whether it is a polynomial space algorithm.