

EECS 3101: DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

Tutorial 7 – Solutions

1. Given lists of positive integers $A = a_1 \dots a_n, B = b_1, \dots, b_n$, describe a greedy algorithm to rearrange A, B so as to maximize $\prod_{i=1}^n a_i^{b_i}$.

Solution:

Algorithm: sort both A, B in non-increasing order.

Correctness proof: Suppose there is a optimal solution different from that produced by the greedy algorithm above. Look at the greedy solution and consider the first place j it differs from the optimal solution. Since the quantity being maximized always contains $\sum_{i=1}^n b_i$ factors, the greedy solution uses b_j factors of a_j while the optimal solution uses fewer a_j factors. So the optimal solutions uses a smaller number to make up the same number of factors implying that it must be of lower magnitude than the greedy solution, which contradicts its optimality.

2. Clickomania: <https://icpcarchive.ecs.baylor.edu/external/45/4564.pdf>

Solution: This is a problem where there is no maximization – instead the solution is TRUE or FALSE.

The key to this problem is given in the decription

Some facts are known about solvable puzzles:

1. The empty string is solvable.
2. If x and y are solvable puzzles, so are xy , AxA , and $AxAyA$ for any uppercase letter A .
3. All other puzzles not covered by the rules above are unsolvable.

This suggests we can construct a dynamic programming solution. Suppose we denote by $S[i, j]$ the solvability of the string $A[i \dots j]$ of the input. Then we can write the following recurrence for $S[i, j]$:

$$\begin{aligned} S[i, j] &= T \text{ if } i > j \\ &= F \text{ if } i = j \\ &= [(A[i] = A[j]) \wedge S[i + 1, j - 1]] \\ &\quad \vee_{k=i+1}^{j-1} [(A[i] = A[k] = A[j]) \wedge S[i + 1, k - 1] \wedge S[k + 1, j - 1]] \end{aligned}$$

Much like the problem on optimal matrix multiplication this problem fills the table of $S[i, j]$ values starting from the main NW-SE diagonal (corresponding to $i = j$) and filling in similar diagonals (corresponding to $j - i = \text{constant}$) to the top right corner (corresponding to $i = 1, j = n$).

The proof of correctness is trivial and is omitted. The running time is $O(n^3)$, since we fill in a table of n^2 entries and each entry is computed in $O(n)$ time. It can be shown that the algorithm takes $\Theta(n^3)$ time, but the proof is omitted.

3. Given binary strings x, y, z , design a dynamic programming algorithm that checks if z is an interleaving of x, y .

Not solved in class.