CS 341: ALGORITHMS

Lecture 19: intractability I

Readings: see website

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THIS TIME

- Intractability (hardness of problems)
 - Decision problems
 - Complexity class P
 - Polynomial-time <u>Turing</u> reductions
 - Introductory reductions
 - Three flavours of the **traveling salesman** problem



INTRACTABILITY

Studying the **hardness** of problems

Decision Problems

Decision Problem: Given a problem instance *I*, answer a certain question "yes" or "no".

Problem Instance: Input for the specified problem.

Problem Solution: Correct answer ("yes" or "no") for the specified problem instance. I is a **yes-instance** if the correct answer for the instance I is "yes". I is a **no-instance** if the correct answer for the instance I is "no".

Size of a problem instance: Size(I) is the number of bits required to specify (or encode) the instance I.

The Complexity Class P

Algorithm Solving a Decision Problem: An algorithm A is said to solve a decision problem Π provided that A finds the correct answer ("yes" or "no") for every instance I of Π in finite time.

Polynomial-time Algorithm: An algorithm A for a decision problem Π is said to be a **polynomial-time algorithm** provided that the complexity of A is $O(n^k)$, where k is a positive integer and n = Size(I).

The Complexity Class P denotes the set of all decision problems that have polynomial-time algorithms solving them. We write $\Pi \in \mathbf{P}$ if the decision problem Π is in the complexity class **P**.

Knapsack Problems

Relative problem hardness?

Problem 7.3

0-1 Knapsack-Dec Instance: a list of profits, $P = [p_1, \ldots, p_n]$; a list of weights, $W = [w_1, \ldots, w_n]$; a capacity, M; and a target profit, T. **Question:** Is there an *n*-tuple $[x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n] \in \{0, 1\}^n$ such that $\sum w_i x_i \leq M$ and $\sum p_i x_i \geq T$?



Problem 7.4

Rational Knapsack-Dec Instance: a list of profits, $P = [p_1, \ldots, p_n]$; a list of weights, $W = [w_1, \ldots, w_n]$; a capacity, M; and a target profit, T. Question: Is there an n-tuple $[x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n] \in [0, 1]^n$ such that $\sum w_i x_i \leq M$ and $\sum p_i x_i \geq T$?





A **hamiltonian cycle** is a cycle that passes through every vertex in \boldsymbol{V} exactly once.

Polynomial-time Turing Reductions

Suppose Π_1 and Π_2 are problems (not necessarily decision problems). A (hypothetical) algorithm *B* to solve Π_2 is called an **oracle** for Π_2 .

Suppose that A is an algorithm that solves Π_1 , assuming the existence of an oracle B for Π_2 . (B is used as a subroutine within the algorithm A.)

Then we say that A is a **Turing reduction** from Π_1 to Π_2 , denoted $\Pi_1 \leq^T \Pi_2$.

A Turing reduction A is a **polynomial-time Turing reduction** if the running time of A is polynomial, under the assumption that the oracle B has **unit cost** running time.

If there is a polynomial-time Turing reduction from Π_1 to Π_2 , we write $\Pi_1 \leq_P^T \Pi_2$.

Informally: Existence of a polynomial-time Turing reduction means that if we can solve Π_2 in polynomial time, then we can solve Π_1 in polynomial time.

Example: all-pairs-shortest-paths easily reduces to single-source-shortest-path

A reduction typically: 1. transforms the larger problem's input so it can be fed to the oracle, and 2. transforms the oracle's output into a solution to the larger problem.



We will use polynomial-time Turing reductions to show that different versions of the **TSP** are polynomially equivalent: if one of them can be solved in polynomial time, then all of them can be solved in polynomial time. (However, it is believed that none of them can be solved in polynomial time.)

- We already know
 - TSP-Dec \leq_P^T TSP-Optimal Value
 - TSP-Dec \leq_P^T TSP-Optimization
- We show
 - TSP-Optimal Value \leq_P^T TSP-Dec
 - TSP-Optimization \leq_P^T TSP-Dec

TSP-Optimal Value \leq_P^T **TSP-Dec**



TSP-Dec() **also** needs a **target T** What if we try **TSP-Dec(G, w, 100)**? It returns true. But we don't learn optimal value... just that it's ≤100

Problem 7.6

TSP-Optimal Value

Instance: A graph G and edge weights $w : E \to \mathbb{Z}^+$. **Find:** The minimum T such that there exists a hamiltonian cycle H in G with w(H) = T.

Problem 7.7

TSP-Decision Instance: A graph G, edge weights $w : E \to \mathbb{Z}^+$, and a target T. **Question:** Does there exist a hamiltonian cycle H in G with $w(H) \le T$?

How can we learn the **exact** optimal value by making such calls?

Algorithm: TSP-OptimalValue-Solver(G, w) **external** TSP-Dec-Solver $hi \leftarrow \sum_{e \in E} w(e) \checkmark$ Largest possible cycle could include every edge $lo \leftarrow 0$ ______ 0 is smallest possible weight for any cycle if not TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, hi) then return (∞) Maybe there is no while hi > loHamiltonian cycle, at all $\textbf{do} \begin{cases} mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{hi+lo}{2} \rfloor \\ \textbf{if } TSP\text{-}Dec\text{-}Solver(G,w,mid) \\ \textbf{then } hi \leftarrow mid \\ \textbf{else } lo \leftarrow mid + 1 \end{cases}$ Is this a "poly-time reduction?" I.e., if we assume TSP-Dec-Solver runs in O(1) time, return (*hi*) is the runtime a **polynomial in the input size**?

This is a standard binary search technique.

Questions: (1) What's the input size? (2) What's the runtime?

What's the size of the input I = (G, w)?

Size(I) = Size(G) + Size(w)

<u>But wait...</u> G and w could be represented in many different ways. Could the <u>choice of representation</u> affect our complexity result?

Only for very inefficient representations (that are **exponentially** larger than optimal).

For example if we store weights in **unary**

We <u>rule out</u> such inefficient representations for the purpose of proving polynomial runtime

Polynomial differences in size do not matter. Exercise: if $T \in poly(Size(I)^{40})$ then $T \in poly(Size(I))$

What's the size of the input I = (G, w)?

Size(I) = Size(G) + Size(w)

So, suppose *G* is represented as an **array of adjacency lists** (one list for each vertex), with each list containing **edges** to neighbouring vertices, and an edge is represented by a **weight** and the **name** of the target vertex



Let's relate this to runtime... what's the runtime?



Runtime $T(I) \in O(|E| + \log \sum_{e \in E} w(e))$

COMPARING T(I) AND Size(I)

- $T(I) \in O(|E| + \log \sum_{e \in E} w(e))$
- $Size(I) = |V| + \sum_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1 + \log |V| + 1)$
 - $= |V| + \Sigma_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1) + \Sigma_{e \in E} (\log |V| + 1)$
 - $= |V| + \Sigma_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1) + \Sigma_{e \in E} (\log |V|) + |E|$
- Want to show $T(I) \in O(Size(I)^c)$ for some constant c (we show c=1) $O(|E| + \log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)) \subseteq^? O(|V| + \sum_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1) + \sum_{e \in E} \log|V| + |E|)$ $\Leftrightarrow O(\log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)) \subseteq^? O(|V| + \sum_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1) + \sum_{e \in E} \log|V|)$ How to compare $\log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$ and $\sum_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1)$?

COMPARING T(I) AND Size(I)

- How to compare $\log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$ and $\sum_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1)$?
- $\Sigma_{e \in E}(\log w(e) + 1) = (\log w(e_1) + 1) + (\log w(e_2) + 1) + \dots + (\log (w(e_{|E|})) + 1))$
- Can we combine these terms into one log using $\log x + \log y = \log xy$?
- $\Sigma_{e \in E}(\log w(e) + 1) = (\log w(e_1) + \log 2) + + \dots + (\log (w(e_{|E|})) + \log 2))$
- $\Sigma_{e \in E}(\log w(e) + 1) = \log 2w(e_1) 2w(e_2) \dots 2w(e_{|E|}) = \log \prod_{e \in E} 2w(e)$
- So how to compare $\log \prod_{e \in E} 2w(e)$ and $\log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$?
 - All w(e) are positive integers, so $\prod_{e \in E} 2w(e) \ge \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$
 - Since log is increasing on \mathbb{Z}^+ , $\log \prod_{e \in E} 2w(e) \ge \log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$

COMPARING T(I) AND Size(I)

• We in fact show $T(I) \in O(Size(I))$ $O(\log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)) \subseteq^{?} O(|V| + \sum_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1) + \sum_{e \in E} \log|V|)$ How to compare $\log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$ and $\sum_{e \in E} (\log w(e) + 1)$?

We just saw $\Sigma_{e \in E}(\log w(e) + 1) = \log \prod_{e \in E} 2w(e) \ge \log \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$

So $T(I) \in O(Size(I)^c)$ where c = 1

So this reduction has runtime that is polynomial in the input size!

TSP-Optimal Value \leq_P^T **TSP-Dec**

```
Algorithm: TSP-OptimalValue-Solver(G, w)
 external TSP-Dec-Solver
 hi \leftarrow \sum_{e \in E} w(e)
 lo \leftarrow 0
 if not TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, hi) then return (\infty)
 while hi > lo
   do \begin{cases} mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{hi+lo}{2} \rfloor \\ if \ TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, mid) \\ then \ hi \leftarrow mid \\ else \ lo \leftarrow mid + 1 \end{cases}
 return (hi)
```

Exercise: show the variant of this reduction where **linear search** is used instead of binary search is <u>not</u> *poly(Size(I))*

REACHED THIS POINT

(but will recap the comparison of T(I) and Size(I) next time)

TSP-Optimal Value \leq_P^T TSP-Dec	So TSP-OptimalValue-Solver is polytime But is it a correct reduction from TSP-Optimal Value to TSP-Dec?		
Algorithm: TSP-OptimalValue-Solver(G, w) external TSP-Dec-Solver $hi \leftarrow \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$ $lo \leftarrow 0$ if not TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, hi) then return (∞) while $hi > lo$ do $\begin{cases} mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{hi+lo}{2} \rfloor \\ \text{if TSP-Dec-Solver}(G, w, mid) \\ \text{then } hi \leftarrow mid \\ else \ lo \leftarrow mid + 1 \end{cases}$	Need to prove:TSP-OptimalValue-Solver(G,w)returns the weight W of the shortest Hamiltonian Cycle (HC) in GSketch: We return ∞ iff there is no HC.Loop invariant: $W \in [lo, hi]$.So, at termination when $hi = lo$,we return exactly $hi = W$.		
return (hi)			

TSP-Optimal Value \leq_P^T **TSP-Dec**

```
Algorithm: TSP-OptimalValue-Solver(G, w)

external TSP-Dec-Solver

hi \leftarrow \sum_{e \in E} w(e)

lo \leftarrow 0

if not TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, hi) then return (\infty)

while hi > lo

do \begin{cases} mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{hi+lo}{2} \rfloor \\ \text{if TSP-Dec-Solver}(G, w, mid) \\ \text{then } hi \leftarrow mid \\ \text{else } lo \leftarrow mid + 1 \end{cases}

return (hi)
```

So, TSP-OptimalValue-Solver is **polytime**, and is a **correct** reduction.

We have therefore shown: TSP-Optimal Value is polytime reducible to TSP-Dec

So, if an **0**(1) implementation of TSP-Dec-Solver exists, then we have a **polytime** implementation of TSP-Optimal-Value-Solver!

In fact, TSP-OptimalValue-Solver remains **polytime** even if the implementation of the **oracle runs in polytime** instead of O(1)!

TSP-Optimal Value \leq_P^T TSP-Dec	TSP-OptimalValue-Solver remains polytime even if the oracle runs in polytime instead of O(1)!		
Algorithm: TSP - $OptimalValue$ - $Solver(G, w)$ external TSP - Dec - $Solver$ $hi \leftarrow \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$ $lo \leftarrow 0$ if not TSP - Dec - $Solver(G, w, hi)$ then return (∞) while $hi > lo$	The key idea is: Consider polynomials $P_R(s)$ and $P_O(s)$ representing the runtime of a reduction and its oracle, respectively, on an input of size s . Worst possible runtime happens if every step in the reduction is a call to the oracle. This is $P_R(s)P_O(s)$ multiplication of polynomials.		
$do \begin{cases} mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{hi+lo}{2} \rfloor \\ if \ TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, mid) \\ then \ hi \leftarrow mid \\ else \ lo \leftarrow mid + 1 \end{cases}$ $return \ (hi)$	But multiplying polynomials of degrees d_1 , d_2 results in a polynomial of degree $\leq d_1 + d_2$. Example: $P_1(x) = 5x^2 + 10x + 100$ $P_2(x) = 20x^3 + 20$ $P_1(x)P_2(x) = (5x^2 + 10x + 100)(20x^3 + 20)$ $= 100x^5 + 200x^4 + 2000x^3 + 100x^2 + 200x + 2000$		

PROVING REDUCTIONS CORRECT

- In more complex reductions where we transform the input before calling the oracle, we will need a more complex proof:
- (A) If there is a (n optimal) solution in the input, our transformation will preserve that solution so the oracle can find it, and
- (B) Our transformation doesn't introduce new solutions that are not present in the original input
 - (i.e., if we find a solution in the transformed input, there was a corresponding solution in the original input)

More on this later...

INPUT SIZE CHEAT SHEET

Exponentially larger than optimal representation!

Input I	Perfectly finechoices of Size(I)To write	down x=1,	Input /	Examples choices o	of <mark>BAD</mark> f <i>Size(I)</i>
int x	1 or $\lfloor \log(x) \rfloor + 1$ need log For x=2 t $\log(x) + 1$ or $\log x$	(1)+1=1 bit. his is 2 bits. 4, 3 bits.	int x Graph (V,E)	x $2^{ V }$ or $ V ^{ E }$ or	
Graph (V,E)	V or E or $ V ^2$ or V or V or V or V or V or V or $ V ^2$ o	ssion that alysis easy	<i>A</i> [1 <i>n</i>] of int	$\sum_{e \in E} w(e)$ 2^{n} or $\sum_{i} A[i]$	
with weights W:	V + E or $\sum_{e \in E} (\log(w(e)) + 1)$ or $\sum_{u,v \in V} (\log(w(u,v)) + 1)$ or any sum of terms above	P	seudo-polynomial of non-co	~= no expo nstant term	onentiation Is
<i>A</i> [1 <i>n</i>] of int	n or $\sum_{i} (\log(A[i]) + 1)$	Technically any pseudo-polynomial combination of these terms is fine. For example, the following is fine: $(E ^{100} + V ^2) \cdot \sum_{e \in E} (\log(w(e)) + 1)$			
$n \ge n$ matrix m	n^2 or $\sum_{i,j} (\log(m_{ij}) + 1)$				

BONUS SLIDES

efficient vs inefficient input representations

What's the size of the input *I*?

Size(I) = Size(G) + Size(w)

<u>But wait...</u> G and w could be represented in many different ways. **Could the choice of representation affect our complexity result?**

Representation 1: What if the entire graph is simply represented as a **weight matrix** W which contains a weight w_{uv} for each $u, v \in V$ (∞ if an edge does not exist)

Consider weight w_{uv} . It takes $\Theta(\log w_{uv})$ bits $(\log(w_{uv}) + 1)$ to store this weight.

We would then have:
$$Size(R_1) = \sum_{u \in V} \sum_{v \in V} \log(w_{uv}) + 1$$

What would it mean to have a runtime T that is polynomial in $Size(R_1)$?

We say *T* is polynomial in $Size(R_1)$ (denoted $T \in poly(Size(R_1))$) iff:

 \exists <u>constant</u> c s.t. for all I, we have $T \in O(Size(R_1)^c)$

Representation 2: What if the graph were represented as an **array of adjacency lists** (one list for each vertex), with each list containing **edges** to neighbouring vertices, where an edge is represented by a **weight** and the **name** of the target vertex?





LOWER BOUNDING Size(I)

- To prove that a reduction's runtime *T*(*I*) on **input** *I* is **polynomial in the size of** *I*:
 - Define a lower bound *L*(*I*) on the size of *I*
 - For every possible representation I_R of I, $L(I) \leq Size(I_R)$ should hold
 - Can be proved with information theory, or ad-hoc; outside the scope of the course
 - In this course, we can be a bit sloppy, and just use the table of valid choices here to obtain a term for each variable in I
 - Then, if we can show $T(I) \leq poly(L(I))$,we have actually shown $T(I) \leq poly(size(I))$

The following are **valid** choices of L(I) for various input types:

Input I	<i>L</i> (<i>I</i>)	
int x	1 or $\log(x) + 1$	
Graph (V, E) possibly with weights W	1 or V or $ E $ or V + E or $\sum_{e \in E} (\log(w(e)) + 1)$	
<i>A</i> [1 <i>n</i>] of int	$n \text{ or} \\ \sum_{i} (\log(A[i]) + 1)$	
$n \ge n$ matrix m	n^2 or $\sum_{i,j} (\log(m_{ij}) + 1)$	
Justifying sloppy analysis:		

Polynomial differences in choices of L(I), such as |V| vs $|V|^2$ vs $(|E| + |V|)^{40}$ **don't matter**.

Such differences **cannot change** whether a runtime T(I)is in poly(L(I)) or not

Exercise: $T(I) \in poly(L(I)^{40})$ iff $T(I) \in poly(L(I))$

TSP-Optimal Value \leq_P^T **TSP-Dec** So what's a valid L(I) for an input I to TSP-OptimalValue-Solver? Input is a graph G with weight matrix w. **Algorithm:** TSP-OptimalValue-Solver(G, w)From the table of valid L(I) choices, we let $L(I) = |E| + \sum_{e \in E} (\log(w(e)) + 1).$ **external** TSP-Dec-Solver O(|E|) $hi \leftarrow \sum_{e \in E} w(e)$ What's the relationship between the $lo \leftarrow 0$ 0(1) 0(1) for the oracle reduction's runtime T(I) and L(I)? if not TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, hi) then return (∞) while hi > lo # iterations: O(log(hi - lo)) $T(I) = O(|E| + \log \sum_{e \in E} w(e))$ do $\begin{cases} mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{hi+lo}{2} \rfloor \\ \text{if } TSP-Dec-Solver(G, w, mid) \\ \text{then } hi \leftarrow mid \\ \text{else } lo \leftarrow mid + 1 \end{cases} \begin{bmatrix} u & u & u & u \\ log u$ $=\log\sum_{e\in E}w(e)$ and $L(I) = O(|E| + \sum_{e \in E} (\log(w(e)) + 1))$ Loop body: As we argued earlier, 0(1) $T(I) \in poly(L(I))$ return (*hi*) And thus $T(I) \in poly(Size(I))$ This is a standard binary search technique. So this reduction has runtime that is polynomial in the input size! 31