PRACTICE Exam 2

CS161, Spring 2023

Instructions

• **DO NOT OPEN THE EXAM UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO. Note: since this is a practice exam, go ahead and open it! :)**

• Answer all of the questions as well as you can. You have three hours.

• The exam is **non-collaborative**; you must complete it on your own. If you have any clarification questions, please ask the course staff (we are outside the exam room). We cannot provide any hints or help.

• This exam is **closed-book**, except for **up to two double-sided sheets of paper** that you have prepared ahead of time. You can have anything you want written on these sheets of paper.

• **Please DO NOT separate pages of your exam.** The course staff is not responsible for finding lost pages, and you may not get credit for a problem if it goes missing.

• There are a few pages of extra paper at the back of the exam in case you run out of room on any problem. If you use them, please clearly indicate on the relevant problem page that you have used them, and please clearly label any work on the extra pages.

• **Please do not discuss the exam until after solutions are posted! Note: of course it’s fine to discuss this practice exam, but those will be the instructions on the main exam.**

General Advice

• If you get stuck on a question or a part, move on and come back to it later. The questions on this exam have a wide range of difficulty, and you can do well on the exam even if you don’t get a few questions.

• Pay attention to the point values. Don’t spend too much time on questions that are not worth a lot of points.

• There are **105 + 3** (bonus) total points on this practice exam. There are **five problems** across **17 pages**.

Name and SUNet ID (please print clearly):
Honor Code

The following is a statement of the Stanford University Honor Code:

1. The Honor Code is an undertaking of the students, individually and collectively:
   
   (1) that they will not give or receive aid in examinations; that they will not give or receive unpermitted aid in class work, in the preparation of reports, or in any other work that is to be used by the instructor as the basis of grading;
   
   (2) that they will do their share and take an active part in seeing to it that others as well as themselves uphold the spirit and letter of the Honor Code.

2. The faculty on its part manifests its confidence in the honor of its students by refraining from proctoring examinations and from taking unusual and unreasonable precautions to prevent the forms of dishonesty mentioned above. The faculty will also avoid, as far as practicable, academic procedures that create temptations to violate the Honor Code.

3. While the faculty alone has the right and obligation to set academic requirements, the students and faculty will work together to establish optimal conditions for honorable academic work.

For my part, I believe that we have upheld our end of the agreement in Item 2. I don’t think we are taking unusual or unreasonable precautions that would indicate a lack of confidence in the honor of students, and I believe that the in-person setting avoids temptations to violate the honor code to the extent practicable.

[signed, Mary Wootters]

Please acknowledge that you have held up your end of the agreement in Item 1:

I have abided by the Honor Code, and in particular the policies listed above, both in letter and in spirit, while taking this exam.

signed, ____________________________________

Good Luck!
This page intentionally blank. Please do not write anything you want graded here.
1. (20 pt.) [Multiple Choice!] For each of the parts below, clearly shade in all of the answers that are correct:

- Filled in means: “This is a true statement”
- Empty means: “This is not true statement”
- Anything else may be marked as incorrect!

Unless stated otherwise, we are always referring to worst-case analysis guarantees. Do not make any assumptions that are not stated in the problem.

**Grading note:** Each of the “main” answers is worth one point. The “None of the above” option on its own is not worth any points, it’s just there so that you can register that you intentionally didn’t select anything. If you select “None of the above” and any other answer, we will ignore your “None of the above”. Ambiguously filled in answers will be marked as incorrect.

[We are expecting: For each part, clearly filled-in answers. No justification is required or will be considered when grading. Ambiguously filled-in answers will be marked as incorrect.]

(a) (4 pt.) Which of the following quantities are \( O(n^2) \)? Fill in all that apply.

- \( g(n) = 2^{\log_4 n} \)
- \( T(n) \), where \( T(n) = 2T(n-1) + 1 \) for \( n \geq 1 \), and \( T(0) = 1 \).
- The worst-case running time of QuickSort
- The maximum number of items that can be inserted into a Red-Black tree before its height might (in the worst-case) exceed \( 100 \log n \)
- None of the above.

(b) (4 pt.) Recall the 0/1 Knapsack problem from lecture, where the objective is to maximize the value of the knapsack, given that we have a single copy of each of \( n \) items. Which of the following are true? Fill in all that apply.

- The optimal solution can always be obtained using a greedy algorithm that greedily takes the items with the best value-to-weight ratio.
- Let \( K[k] \) denote the maximum value you can fit into a knapsack of capacity \( k \). Then there is an \( O(n) \)-time DP solution to 0/1 Knapsack that uses the subproblems \( K[k] \).
- Any correct DP solution to this problem must be implemented in a top-down way.
- Any correct DP solution to this problem must be implemented in a bottom-up way.
- None of the above.
(c) (4 pt.) Let \( G = (V, E) \) be a weighted directed graph. The shortest path from a node \( s \in V \) to a node \( t \in V \) will remain unchanged if:

- Each edge weight \( w(v, u) \) is replaced by \( C \cdot w(v, u) \) for a constant \( C > 0 \).
- Each edge weight \( w(v, u) \) is replaced by \( w(v, u) + C \) for a constant \( C > 0 \).
- Each edge weight \( w(v, u) \) is replaced by \( w(v, u) - C \) for a constant \( C > 0 \).
- Each edge weight \( w(v, u) \) is replaced by \( w(v, u)/C \) for a constant \( C > 0 \).
- None of the above

(d) (4 pt.) Which of the following algorithms runs in \( O(n^2) \) time? (Note: A fully-connected graph is a graph in which there is an edge between every pair of nodes.)

- Bellman-Ford on a fully-connected directed graph with \( n \) nodes.
- Kosaraju’s algorithm on a fully-connected graph with \( n \) nodes.
- Floyd-Warshall on a connected graph with \( n \) nodes, so that each node has degree exactly 3.
- Dijkstra’s algorithm (implemented with a Red-Black tree) on a directed acyclic graph with \( n \) nodes and positive edge weights, so that each node has up to 7 outgoing edges.
- None of the above.

(e) (4 pt.) Consider the graph \( G \) given below, where the labels without boxes are capacities and the labels with boxes are flows in a flow from \( s \) to \( t \). Which of the following are true?

- \( s \to a \to c \to t \) is an augmenting path from \( s \) to \( t \).
- \( s \to b \to a \to c \to t \) is an augmenting path from \( s \) to \( t \).
- The flow shown here is a maximum flow.
- The minimum cut in this graph has value 4.
- None of the above.
2. (20 pt.) [True or False?] For each of the parts below, answer either True or False, and give a few sentences of explanation.

[We are expecting: Your answer (True or False) clearly stated, as well as a few sentences of justification. Ambiguous answers (e.g., where both True and False appear on the page) will be marked as incorrect.]

(a) (4 pt.) True or False (and explain): It is possible to detect whether or not a graph is bipartite in time \( O(n + m) \).

(b) (4 pt.) True or False (and explain): The SCCs returned by Kosaraju’s algorithm can be different based on which node the algorithm starts at.

(c) (4 pt.) Suppose that you are working on a “Maps” app for the Stanford campus. You are tasked with developing an algorithm to find the fastest route from any point A on campus to any other point B. To model the problem, you make a graph that represents all of the locations on campus, and an estimate of the time it takes to get between any points that are directly connected by a road. To get the estimates, you ride your bike between all the pairs of vertices on a sunny Saturday afternoon and time yourself. After you’ve generated this weighted graph, you run Dijkstra’s algorithm to find shortest paths.

True or false (and explain): the scenario above involves idealization, as we defined it in the Embedded EthiCS lectures.
Consider the following algorithm, which purports to find a minimum spanning tree in an unweighted, undirected graph $G$:

- Maintain a set $C$ of “components”, initialized to $C = \{\{v\} : v \in V\}$.
- Maintain a set of edges $S$, which we initialize to the empty set $\emptyset$.
- Until $C$ consists of just one big component:
  - Choose an arbitrary component $C \in C$.
  - Let $e = \{u, v\}$ be a minimum-weight edge in $E$ so that $u \in C$, $v \not\in C$.
    - Let $C''$ be the component in $C$ that contains $v$.
    - Add $e$ to $S$, and merge $C$ and $C''$ in $C$.
- Return $S$.

Note that this algorithm is similar to Kruskal’s algorithm, except that instead of picking a minimum weight edge crossing any two components to add to $S$, we pick a minimum weight edge coming out of an arbitrary component.

True or False (and explain): this algorithm correctly returns a minimum spanning tree.
(e) (4 pt.) Suppose that \( a_1, \ldots, a_k \) are positive integers. For a positive integer \( x \) and \( j \leq k \), let \( D(x, j) \) denote the number of ways to write \( x \) as the sum of numbers in \( \{a_1, \ldots, a_j\} \), where each number is used at most once and order doesn’t matter.

For example, if \( a_1 = 1, a_2 = 2, a_3 = 3 \) and \( a_4 = 4 \), then there are two ways to make \( x = 5 \) out of \( \{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\} \), namely \( 5 = 2 + 3 = 1 + 4 \). Thus, \( D(5, 4) = 2 \).

You want to use the subproblems \( D(x, j) \) to design a dynamic programming algorithm to compute \( D(x, k) \), the number of ways to write \( x \) as a sum of the numbers \( a_1, \ldots, a_k \).

True or False (and explain): The following relationship is correct.

\[
D(x, j) = D(x - a_j, j - 1) + D(x, j - 1)
\]

If your answer is True, explain why; if it is False, explain what’s wrong and how to fix it. (Don’t worry about base cases).
3. (20 + 3 BONUS pt.) [How to do it?] For each of the following, describe how to accomplish it. You may use any result/algorithm from class as a black box, but you must state clearly how you are using it (e.g., what are the inputs). If you modify a result/algorithm from class, clearly state how you would modify it.

We have done the first one for you to give you an idea of what we are expecting.

[We are expecting: For each, a clear paragraph explaining how you would do it, following the guidelines above. You may use pseudocode if it helps you be clear, but it is not required. An explanation about why your approach is correct may be considered for partial credit, but is not required.]

(-) (0 pt.) (Example) Given a directed, weighted graph $G$ with $n$ vertices and $m$ edges, possibly with negative edge weights, detect whether or not there is a negative cycle in $G$ in time $O(n^3)$.

**Answer:** Run the Floyd-Warshall algorithm for $n$ steps, and suppose that $D^{(n)}$ is our final array. For each vertex $v$, check to see if $D^{(n)}[v, v] < 0$. If you find such a $v$, output “negative cycle!” If there is no such $v$, output “No negative cycle!”

**Explanation for partial credit**, just in case: This works because we showed in class that $D^{(n)}[v, v]$ is the length of the shortest path between $v$ and $v$, using the vertices from 1, . . . , $n$. So $D^{(n)}[v, v]$ is negative if and only if there is a negative cycle containing $v$.

(a) (5 pt.) Suppose that there are $n$ cities, some of which are connected by roads. Each road (say from city $A$ to city $B$) takes one hour to traverse, and costs $w(A, B)$ dollars in tolls. Find the cost of the cheapest path from city $S$ to city $T$ that takes at most four hours to traverse, or return None if no such path exists.

More parts on next page!
(b) (5 pt.) Recall the Baaahhter problem from HW5: there is a social media platform for sheep, with “following” relationships represented by a graph $G = (V, E)$ with $n$ nodes. If there is an edge $(a, b) \in E$ from $a$ to $b$, it means that sheep $b$ follows sheep $a$, and will re-post anything that $a$ posts. (And then $b$’s followers will repost it again, and so on).

You create a new Baaahhter account and haven’t followed anyone yet. Given $G$, give an algorithm that will find the smallest set of sheep you can follow to make sure that you hear all of the messages posted by anyone on the platform.

Your algorithm should run in $O(m + n)$ time.

(c) (5 pt.) Let $G = (V, E)$ be a directed weighted graph, possibly with negative weights, and vertex set $V = [v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n]$. The all-pairs shortest path matrix (APSPM) of $G$ is an $n \times n$ matrix $A$ where $A[i, j]$ is the shortest path distance in $G$ between $v_i$ and $v_j$.

Given $G$, its APSPM $A$, and a new edge $e = (v_a, v_b) \notin E$ with weight $w$, find the APSPM of $G$ after adding $e$ to $E$. Assume that there no negative cycles before or after $e$ is added. Your algorithm should run in $O(n^2)$ time.

More parts on next page!
(d) (5 pt.) Suppose there are $N$ students and $N$ classes. Each student $i$ has a set $S_i$ of classes that they are interested in taking. Suppose that each student can take at most 4 classes, and each class can seat at most 30 students. Given the lists $S_i$, in time at most $O(N^5)$, find a way to match students to classes, so that:

- No student is in more than 4 classes and no class has more than 30 students.
- No student is in a class they aren’t interested in.
- The assignment has as many student-class matches as possible.

(e) (3 BONUS pt.) Let $G = (V,E)$ be a directed unweighted graph. We say that $G$ is “kind-of-connected” if for every $u,v \in G$, either there is a path from $u$ to $v$, or there is a path from $v$ to $u$ (or possibly both). Given an algorithm that determines whether or not $G$ is kind-of-connected, in time $O(n + m)$.
4. (25 pt.) [Greedy Algorithms!]

**Note:** On the real exam, we aren’t going to expect you to have “aha!” moments like coming up with the “correct” greedy strategy in an algorithm design problem (as in part (a)), except maybe on bonus questions, although we may recycle “aha!” moments that are very similar to ones you already had on HW. However, part (a) in this problem is still great practice; and proving that a greedy algorithm is correct (as in part (b)) is fair game for the exam.

There are $n$ final exams today at Stanford; exam $i$ is scheduled to begin at time $a_i$ and end at time $b_i$. Two exams which overlap cannot be administered in the same classroom; two exams $i$ and $j$ are defined to be overlapping if $[a_i, b_i] \cap [a_j, b_j] \neq \emptyset$ (including if $b_i = a_j$, so one starts exactly at the time that the other ends). Consider the following problem.

**Input:** Arrays $A$ and $B$ of length $n$ so that $A[i] = a_i$ and $B[i] = b_i$.

**Output:** The smallest number of classrooms necessary to schedule all of the exams, and an optimal assignment of exams to classrooms.

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**For example:** Suppose there are three exams, with start and finish times as given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$a_i$</td>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>4pm</td>
<td>2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$b_i$</td>
<td>3pm</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>5pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Then the exams can be scheduled in two rooms; Exam 1 and Exam 2 can be scheduled in Room 1 and Exam 3 can be scheduled in Room 2.

(a) (10 pt.) Design a greedy algorithm that solves the following problem. Your algorithm should run in time $O(n \log(n) + nk)$, where $k$ is the minimum number of classrooms needed.

**[We are expecting:** Pseudocode AND a short English description, as well as a short justification of the running time. You do not need to prove that your algorithm is correct (yet).]**

More space on next page!
More space for your greedy algorithm!

Another part on next page!
(b) (15 pt.) Prove formally that your greedy algorithm from part (a) is correct.  

[We are expecting: A formal proof. If you do a proof by induction, be sure to clearly state your inductive hypothesis, base case, inductive step, and conclusion.]
5. (20 pt.) [Dynamic Programming!] Suppose you have $n$ coins with distinct integer values $c_0, c_1, \ldots, c_{n-1}$, so that $c_i > 0$ for all $i$. In this problem you will design a dynamic programming algorithm which takes as input the values $c_0, \ldots, c_{n-1}$, and an integer $k \geq 0$, and outputs the number of ways to divide the coins into two piles so that both piles have total value at least $k$. Your algorithm should run in time $O(nk^2)$.

For example, if $n = 4$ and $k = 4$, and the four coins have values $c_0 = 1, c_1 = 2, c_3 = 4, c_4 = 5$, then the algorithm should output 8, since there are eight ways to split up the coins in to two piles, where each pile has total value at least 4: \{1, 2, 4\} and \{5\}; \{1, 2, 5\} and \{4\}; \{1, 4\} and \{2, 5\}; \{1, 5\} and \{2, 4\}; and then the same things again but swapping the piles.

(a) (10 pt.) What are the sub-problems you will use? What is the recursive relationship between the sub-problems, and what base cases do they satisfy?

[We are expecting: A clear definition of your sub-problems, the recursive relationship that they satisfy, and a complete set of base cases. You should also give a clear explanation of why your recursive relationship and base cases hold.]

Another part on next page.
(b) (5 pt.) Write pseudocode for your algorithm.

[We are expecting: Just pseudocode. You do not need to explain what it is doing or why it works, but it should use the sub-problems you defined in the previous part.]

(c) (5 pt.) Now suppose that the coin values and the value $k$ are not necessarily integers (but are still positive). Would your algorithm from part (b) still return the correct answer? If not, how would you fix it so that it would return the correct answer? Would the running time still be $O(nk^2)$?

[We are expecting: The following things:

- Whether your algorithm from (b) would still work and an explanation.
- Pseudocode OR a high-level description of how to fix it if not.
- Whether or not the running time would still be $O(nk^2)$, and why or why not.]

This is the end of the exam!
This is the end of the exam! You can use this page for extra work on any problem. Keep this page attached to the exam packet (whether or not you use it), and if you want extra work on this page to be graded, clearly label which question your extra work is for.
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