Theory of Computing

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Seven Bridges of Königsberg



Can one take a walk that crosses each bridge exactly once?

Seven Bridges of Königsberg

• Model as a graph



- Is there a path that traverses each edge exactly once?
 - Original problem allows different start and end vertex
 - Answer is no.

Euler Tours

- For an undirected graph G=(V,E) an *Euler* circuit is a path that traverses every edge exactly once, and ends at the same vertex as it starts
- Same definition for directed graphs
- Graph G is Eulerian if it has an Euler circuit

Euler Circuits

- **Theorem:** an undirected graph is Eulerian, iff all vertices have even degree and all vertices of nonzero degree are in the same connected component.
- Proof: Clearly the condition is necessary. To see that it is sufficient we will give an algorithm that will find an Euler tour in linear time.
- Note: vertices of degree 0 do not need to be visited

Finding an Euler circuit

- Start at some vertex v₁, follow any edge {v_i, v_{i+1}} until v₁ is reached again (initial tour)
 - On the way mark edges as *used* and vertices as *visited*
- At this time some edges may be unused
- Find any vertex on the tour with unused edges and start a path from it until a cycle is formed
- Join the new cycle with the tour
- Continue until no vertex on the tour has any unused edges
- By assumption there are no unvisited vertices with degree>0
- Why don't we get stuck?

Why it works

- There are two ways to get stuck:
 - Not possible to return to the starting vertex
 - Cycle constructed so far as no outgoing edges to look for a new cycle that can be joined with the current one
- But all vertices have even degree
 - We can continue on the current path until it eventually come back to starting vertex
- And graph is connected
 - If there are no edges left from current cycle we are already done
- Furthermore:
 - Removing a cycle leaves the Euler condition intact

Implementation

- Store the circuit as a (doubly) linked list T
 - initially empty, linked forward and backward
- Augment the adjacency list A to store also pointers from the vertices to an occurrence in T and their degree (if nonzero)
 - For visited vertices
 - Delete a vertex if degree is 0
- Create the initial tour while traversing the graph from some vertex
 - Delete used edges from the adjacency list and update degrees
- Continue with a vertex v with nonzero degree and find a cycle, and insert the cycle from v to v into T

Time

- An Euler circuit can be found in time O(n+m)
- Note that we can decide the Euler condition very easily from the degree sequence if we know the graph is connected

Euler Paths

 A graph has an Euler path if there is a path that traverses all edges exactly once

Start and end of the path need not be the same

 Theorem: A graph has an Euler path if all vertices except two have even degree and the two vertices have odd degree

– And all vertices with degree>0 connected

Proof

- Again, the condition is necessary
- Sufficient too:
 - Add an extra edge connecting the two vertices
 - Might have a multigraph now
 - Everything here works for multigraphs
 - New graph has an Euler circuit
 - Remove extra edge from circuit to get path

Hamilton Paths

- A Hamilton path in an undirected graph is a path that visits every vertex exactly once
- A Hamilton circuit is a circuit/cycle that visits every vertex exactly once
- Note: No efficient algorithms are known that decide if there is a Hamiltonian path in a graph
 - And likely none exist

Minimum spanning trees

Definition

- A spanning tree of an undirected connected graph is a set of edges $E' \subseteq E$:
 - E' forms a tree
 - every vertex is in at least one edge in E'
- When the edges of G have weights, then a minimum spanning tree is a spanning tree with the smallest sum of edge weights

MST

- Motivation: measure costs to establish connections between vertices
- Basic procedure in many graph algorithms
- Problem first studied by Boruvka in 1926
- Other algorithms: Kruskal, Prim
- Inputs: adjacency list with weights

Application Example

- Traveling Salesman Problem [TSP]
- Input: matrix of edge weights and number K
- Decision: is there a path through the graph that visits each vertex once and has cost at most K?

• Problem is believed to be hard

- i.e., not solvable in polynomial time

Application Example

- Metric TSP (Traveling Salesman Problem)
 - weights form a metric (symmetric, triangle inequality)
 - Still believed to be hard
- Approximation algorithm:
 - Find an MST T
 - Replace each edge of T by two edges
 - Traverse T in an Euler tour of these 2(n-1) edges
 - Make shortcuts to generate a cycle that goes through all vertices once
- Euler tour cost is twice the MST cost, hence at most twice the TSP cost, shortcuts cannot increase cost

MST

- Generic algorithm:
 - Start with an empty set of edges
 - Add edges, such that current edge set is always subset of a minimum spanning tree
 - Edges that can be added are called *safe*

Generic Algorithm

- Set A=∅
- As long as A is not (yet) a spanning tree add a safe edge e
- Output A

Safe Edges

- How can we find safe edges?
- Definition:
 - A cut C=(S, V-S) is a partition of V
 - A set of edges *repects* the cut, if no edge crosses
 - An edge is *light* for a cut, if it is the edge with smallest weight that crosses the cut
- Example: red edges respect the cut



Safe Edges

• Theorem:

Let G be an undirected, connected, weighted graph. A a subset of a minimum spanning tree. C=(S, V-S) a cut that A respects. Then the lightest edge of C is safe.

- Proof:
 - T is an MST containing A
 - Suppose e is not in T (otherwise we are done)
 - Construct another MST that contains e

Safe Edges

- Inserting e={u,v} into T creates a cycle p in T∪{e}
- u and v are on different sides of the cut
- Another edge e' in T crosses the cut
- e' is not in A (A respects the cut)
- Remove e' from T (T is now disconnected into 2 trees)
- Add e to T (the two trees reconnect into one)
- W(e)=W(e'), so T' is also minimal
- Hence A∪{e} subset of T '
- e is safe for A.

Which edges are not in a min. ST?

• Theorem:

- G a graph with weights W.
 - All edge weights distinct.
 - C a cycle in G and $e=\{u,v\}$ the largest edge in C.
- Then e is in no minimum spanning tree.
- Proof:
 - Assume e is in a min. ST T
 - Remove e from T
 - Result is two trees (containing all vertices)
 - The vertices of the two trees form a cut
 - Follow C-{e} from u to v
 - Some edge e' crosses the cut
 - T-{e} \cup {e'} is a spanning tree with smaller weight T

Algorithms

- We complete the algorithm "skeleton" in two ways
 - Prim: A is always a tree
 - Kruskal: A starts as a forest that joins into a single tree
 - initially every vertex its own tree
 - join trees until all are joined up

Data structures: Union-Find

- We need to store a set of disjoint sets with the following operations:
 - Make-Set(v):
 generate a set {v}. Name of the set is v
 - Find-Set(v):
 Find the name of the set that contains v
 - Union(u,v):

Join the sets named u and v. Name of the new set is either u or v

 As with Dijkstra/priority queues the running time will depend on the implementation of the data structure

Kruskal

- 1. Input: graph G, weights $W: E \mapsto R$
- 2. A=∅
- 3. For each vertex v:
 - a) Make-Set(v)
- 4. Sort edges in E (increasing) by weight
- 5. For all edges {u,v} (order increasing by weight):
 - a) a=FindSet(u), b=FindSet(v)
 - b) If a≠b then A:=A∪ {{u,v}} Union(a,b)
- 6. Output A

Running time Kruskal

- We will have:
 - until 3: O(n) times Time for Make-Set
 - 4: O(m log n)
 - 5: O(m) time Time for Find/Union

Total will be O(n+m log n)

Correctness

- We only have to show that all edges inserted are safe
 - Choose a cut respected by A, which is crossed by the new edge e
 - e has minimum weight under all edges forming no cycle, hence e has minimum weight among all edges crossing the cut
 - Hence e must be safe for A