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6.006 Introduction to Algorithms
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Lecture 22: Dynamic Programming IV: Piano Fingering, Structural DP (Trees), Vertex Cover, Dominating Set, Beyond

Lecture Overview

- Piano Fingering
- Structural DP (trees)
- Vertex Cover & Dominating Set
- Beyond: treewidth, planar graphs, folding

Readings

CLRS 15

Review:

5 easy steps for DP

1. subproblems (define & count)
2. guessing (what & count)
3. relation (the true test)
4. DP (put pieces together)
5. original problem

* 2 kinds of guessing:

- A. in 3, guess which other subproblems to use (used by every DP except Fibonacci)
- B. in 1, create more subproblems to guess more structure of solution (used by knapsack DP)
 - effectively report many solutions to **subproblems**.
 - lets parent subproblem know features of **solution**.

Piano fingering:

[Parncutt, Sloboda, Clarke, Raekallio, Desain, 1997]

[Hart, Bosch, Tsai 2000]

[Al Kasimi, Nichols, Raphael 2007] etc.

- given musical piece to play, say sequence of (single) notes with right hand
- metric $d(f, p, g, q)$ of difficulty going from note p with finger f to note q with finger g

e.g., $1 < f < g \ \& \ p > q \implies$ uncomfortable
 stretch rule: $p \ll q \implies$ uncomfortable
 legato (smooth) $\implies \infty$ if $f = g$
 weak-finger rule: prefer to avoid $g \in \{4, 5\}$
 $3 \rightarrow 4 \ \& \ 4 \rightarrow 3$ annoying \sim etc.

First Attempt:

1. subproblem = min. difficulty for suffix notes $[i :]$
2. guessing = finger f for first note $[i]$
3. $DP[i] = \min(DP[i+1] + d(\text{note}[i], f, \text{note}[i+1], ?) \text{ for } f \dots)$
 \rightarrow not enough information
1. subproblem = min difficulty for suffix notes $[i:]$ given finger f on first note $[i]$
2. guessing = finger g for next note $[i+1]$
3. $DP[\text{inf}] = \min(DP[i+1, g] + d(\text{note}[i], f, \text{note}[i+1], g) \text{ for } g \in \text{range}(F))$
 $\leftarrow \ddagger$ fingers = 5 for humans
 $DP[n, f] = \phi$
4. Fn subproblems, F choices per subproblem $\implies O(F^2n)$ time
5. $\min(DP[\phi, f] \text{ for } f \text{ in range}(F))$

Structural DP:

Follow combinatorial structure other than a (few)sequence(s) (by analogy to structural vs. regular induction)

* for DP on trees, useful subproblem is subtree rooted at vertex v , for all v

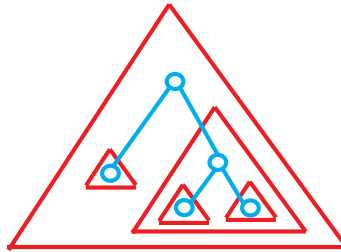


Figure 1: DP on Trees

Vertex Cover:

Find minimum set of vertices (cover) such that every edge is covered on ≥ 1 end

- NP-complete in general graphs
- polynomial for trees:
 1. subproblem = min. cover for subtree rooted at v
 $\implies n$ subproblems
 2. guessing = is v in cover?

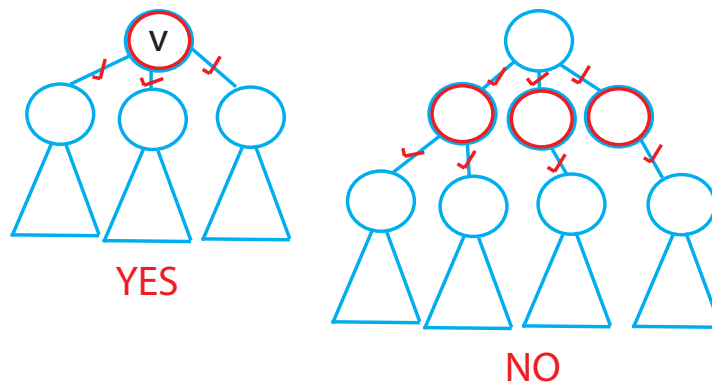


Figure 2: Vertex Cover

- \implies 2 choices
 - YES \implies cover children edges
 \implies left with children subtrees
 - NO \implies all children must be in cover
 \implies left with grandchildren subtrees
3. $DP[v] = \min(1 + \sum(DP[c] \text{ for } c \text{ in children}[v]) \quad \text{YES}$
 $\quad \text{len(children)} + \sum(DP[g] \text{ for } g \text{ in grandchildren}(v))) \quad \text{NO}$
4. time = $O(n)$
5. DP[root]

Dominating set:

Find minimum set of vertices such that every vertex is in or adjacent to set
 - again NP-complete in graphs, polynomial on trees.

[material below covered in recitation]

1. subproblem = min. dom. for subtree rooted at v
2. guessing = is v in dom. set?
 - YES \implies dominate children
 - NO \implies must put some child in dom. set
 \implies dominate that child's children
3. $DP[v] = \min(1 + \underbrace{\sum(DP'[c] \text{ for } c \text{ in children}[v])}_{\text{but } c \text{ is already dominated } \dots \text{ diff. subprob}} \quad \text{YES}$
 $\quad 1 + \sum(DP(c) \text{ for } c \neq d \text{ in children}[v]) \quad \text{NO}$
 $\quad + \sum(DP'[g] \text{ for } g \text{ in children}[d]) \quad \text{NO}$
 $\quad \text{again already dominated } \sim \text{different subprob}$
 $\quad \text{- guessing of the second type (B)}$
 $\quad \text{for } d \text{ in children}[c] \leftarrow \text{guess child } \epsilon \text{ set A}$

1'. subproblem ' = min. dom. for subtree rooted at v given that v dominated already
 (by parent subproblem)

$\implies 2n$ subproblems total

- 3'. $DP'[v] = \min(1 + \sum(DP'[c] \text{ for } c \text{ in children}[v]) \quad \text{YES}$
 $\quad \sum(DP[c] \text{ for } c \text{ in children}[v]) \quad \text{NO}$

4. time = $O(\sum \text{deg}(v)) = O(E) = O(n)$

5. DP[root]

Beyond:**Treewidth:**

Many graphs are “thick trees” with reasonable “thickness” (~ 7 e.g.).

- Most problems that are NP-complete in general can be solved in such graphs via DP

Planar Graphs:

Graphs often noncrossing in plane

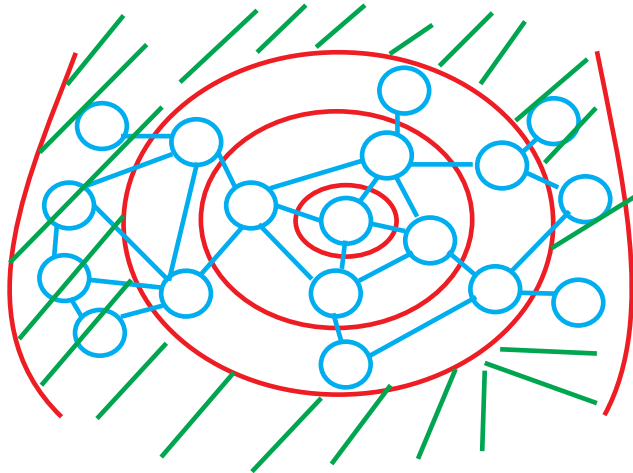


Figure 3: Planar Graphs

- divide planar graph into BFS levels: see Figure 3
- throw away every k th level (e.g., $k = 3$)
starting from levels $\phi, 1, \dots, k - 1$ (guess)
- in all cases, remaining graph is a “thick tree” of thickness $O(k)$
 \implies can solve this subproblem in poly-time
- can combine these solutions to solve original problem not optimally, but within $1 + 1/k$ factor of optimal $\dots \forall$ constants k

Folding polygons into polyhedra:

[[Metamorphosis of the Cube video](#)]

- DP on substrings of cyclic sequence (polygon)