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Complexity Theory SS 2016 Homework 1

Exercise 1 (8 points):

Consider the language $L = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid \exists z \in \{0,1\}^* : w = zz^R\}$, where z^R is the reverse of z (i.e. if $z = z_1 \dots z_n$, then $z^R = z_n \dots z_1$).

- a) Describe a 2-tape DTM that decides L in time $\mathcal{O}(n)$.
- b) Describe a 1-tape DTM that decides L. What is its runtime?

It is not necessary to describe the DTM formally as a 7-tuple, but be precise in your description.

(*Note* that, as briefly mentioned in the lecture, L can be used to show $\mathbf{DTIME}_1(n) \neq \mathbf{DTIME}_2(n)$.)

Exercise 2 (4 points):

Consider Dijkstra's algorithm for finding shortest paths. Its input is a directed graph G = (V, E) with edge costs $c : E \to \mathbb{N}_0$ and $s, t \in V$. It outputs the length $\delta(s, t)$ of a shortest path from s to t.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \delta(v) \leftarrow \infty \ \forall v \in V \\ \delta(s) \leftarrow 0 \\ Q \leftarrow V \\ \text{while } Q \neq \emptyset \ \text{do} \\ u \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{v \in Q}(\delta(v)) \\ Q \leftarrow Q \setminus \{u\} \\ \text{for all Neighbors } v \ \text{of } u \ \text{do} \\ \delta(v) \leftarrow \min\{\delta(u) + c(u, v), \delta(v)\} \\ \text{end for} \\ \text{end while} \\ \text{return } \delta(t) \end{array} \qquad \triangleright \text{ all nodes initially unreachable} \\ \triangleright \text{ s has distance } 0 \ \text{from itself} \\ \triangleright \text{ remove closest node remaining} \\ \triangleright \text{ update all neighbors' distances} \\ \end{array}$$

- a) How much space does Dijkstra's algorithm use asymptotically?
- b) Suppose the input V, E, c, s, t is supplied to the algorithm on a special read-only tape. How much (additional) writable memory does Dijkstra's algorithm require?

Advice: the answers to a) and b) should not the same (be more precise!)

Exercise 3 (4 points):

In the lecture, we have seen an algorithm to decide TQBF. It requires polynomial space. What is its runtime in Θ notation?

Exercise 4 (8 points):

Prove that if $L \in \mathbf{P}$, then $L^* \in \mathbf{P}$.

Hint: On input $x_1 \ldots x_n$, use dynamic programming to build a table A, where A[i, j] indicates whether or not $x_i \ldots x_j \in L^*$.