

CS4423-W05-1

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Week 5, Lecture 2: Trees and Algorithms

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This Jupyter notebook, and PDF and HTML versions, can be found at
<https://www.niallmadden.ie/2425-CS4423/#Week05>

This notebook was written by Niall Madden, adapted from notebooks by Angela Carnevale.

0.1 Modules for this notebook

Today, we'll default to light rose-coloured nodes, with has an RGB code of `#ffc5cb`. For more options, see <https://matplotlib.org/stable/users/explain/colors/colors.html>

```
[ ]: import networkx as nx
import numpy as np
opts = { "with_labels": True, "node_color": '#ffc5cb' } # show labels; rose
↪noodes
```

0.2 Example

Short discussion (again) of paths and cycles, and connected componets

```
[ ]: nodes = 'ABCDEFGHIJ'
edges = ['AB', 'CD', 'DE', 'CE', 'FG', 'FH', 'FI', 'GH', 'HI']
G2 = nx.Graph()
G2.add_nodes_from(nodes)
G2.add_edges_from(edges)
nx.draw_kamada_kawai(G2, **opts)
```

- A cycle in a simple graph provides, for any two nodes on that cycle, (at least) two different paths from one to the other.
- It can be useful to provide alternative routes for connectivity in case one of the edges should fail (e.g. in a electricity networks).
- (C, D, E, C) is a 3-cycle; there are others too.
- The graph is not connected: there are 4 connected components.

0.3 Trees

- A graph is called **acyclic** if it does not contain any cycles.
- A tree is a (simple) graph that is connected and acyclic.

In other words, between any two vertices in a tree there is **exactly one simple path**.

Trees can be characterized in many different ways.

Theorem. Let $G = (X, E)$ be a (simple) graph of order $n = |X|$ and size $m = |E|$. Then the following are equivalent:

- G is a tree (i.e. acyclic and connected);
- G is connected and $m = n - 1$;
- G is a minimally connected graph (i.e., removing any edge will disconnect G);
- G is acyclic and $m = n - 1$;
- G is a maximally acyclic graph (i.e., adding any edge will introduce a cycle in G).
- There is a unique path between each pair of nodes in G .

0.3.1 Another fact about trees

All trees are bipartite. There are a few ways of thinking about this. One is the a graph is bipartite if has no cycles of odd-length. Since a tree has no cycles - it must be bipartite!

```
[ ]: G3 = nx.Graph(["ac","bc","cd","de", "df", "dg","gh", "hi", "hj", "hk"])
top,bottom = nx.bipartite.sets(G3)
G3_colours = ['c' if node in top else 'm' for node in G3.nodes()]
nx.draw(G3, node_color=G3_colours, with_labels=True)
```

0.4 How many trees are there?

1. There is one tree with a single node.
2. There is also just one tree with two nodes.
3. We can easily see that there are 3 trees with 3 nodes (see notes on the board).
4. After that, it gets a little harder to count!

0.4.1 Cayley's Formula

Theorem (Cayley's Formula). There are exactly n^{n-2} distinct (labelled) trees on the n -element vertex set $X = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$, if $n > 1$.

We'll later see why this is true. But let's see what the numbers look like:

```
[ ]: domain = range(2, 10)
print(np.array([domain, [n**(n-2) for n in domain]]))
```

To see why this is true, we'll learn about **Prüfer Codes**.

Let's look at an example: a tree of order $n = 7$

```
[ ]: T4 = nx.Graph()
T4.add_nodes_from(range(0,7))
T4.add_edges_from([(0,1),(1,2),(2,3),(2,4),(2,5),(1,6)])
nx.draw(T4, **opts)
```

0.4.2 Computing the Prüfer code

How to determine the Prüfer code of a tree T (destructively):

- Start with a tree, T with nodes labeled $0, 1, \dots, n-1$, and empty list \mathbf{a} .
1. Find the **leaf** x with the smallest label (a “leaf” is a node of degree 1. Every tree must have at least 2).
 2. Append the label of its unique neighbour, y to the list \mathbf{a}
 3. Remove x (and the edge $x - y$) from T .
 4. Repeat Steps 1-3 until T has only 2 nodes left. We now have the code as a list of length $n-2$.

So the graph above has Prüfer code $\{1, 2, 2, 2, 1\}$

We'll write some code to compute the Prüfer code of a tree.

Since the algorithm is recursive, we first write a function that does Steps 1-3: * Find the **leaf** x with the smallest label * Set y to be its neighbour. * Delete x from T * Return y

One of the steps involves finding the neighbour of x . A minor technical issue is that the method `T.neighbours(x)` returns a iterable. To get its one and only item, we'll use the `next()` function (there are a few other ways to do this, including converting it to a list):

```
[ ]: # Does Steps 1-3 of the Algorithm
def pruefer_node(tree):
    for x in tree: # go through nodes in order
        if tree.degree(x) == 1: # first one of degree 1 (is a leaf)
            y = next(tree.neighbors(x)) # y is its only neighbour
            tree.remove_node(x)
            return(y)
```

Since our function destroys the list, we'll make a copy before we start. Also, since we know the list has length $n - 2$, we just call this function $n - 2$ times, adding the value returned to the list:

```
[ ]: n = T4.order()
T = T4.copy()
a = [] # empty list
for k in range(n-2):
    y = pruefer_node(T)
    a+= [y]
print(a)
```

If you prefer list comprehension:

```
[ ]: T = T4.copy()
a = [pruefer_node(T) for k in range(n-2)]
print(a)
```

Let's wrap this up as a python function

```
[ ]: def pruefer_code(tree):
    return [pruefer_node(tree) for k in range(tree.order() - 2)]
```

Test it:

```
[ ]: T = T4.copy()
code = pruefer_code(T)
code
```

0.4.3 Making a tree from a Prüfer code

Maybe surprisingly, the tree can be reconstructed from its Prüfer code. This is based on the following fact and shows that the map from trees to codes is a bijection!

Fact: The degree of node x is 1 plus the number of entries x in the Prüfer code of T .

Example

```
[ ]: d = n*[1] # list of n 1's/
for k in code:
    d[k] += 1
print(f"degree list: {d}")

[ ]: print(f'Check: {[T4.degree[x] for x in T4]}')
```

How to compute a tree from a Prüfer code \mathbf{a} (Note that \mathbf{a} is a list of length $n - 2$, with all entries numbers 0 to $n - 1$).

1. Set G to be a graph with node list $[0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1]$ (and no edges yet).
2. Compute the list of node degrees \mathbf{d} from the code.
3. For $k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 2$
 - Set $y = \mathbf{a}[k]$
 - Set x to be the node with smallest degree in \mathbf{d}
 - Add the edge (x, y) to G
 - Set $\mathbf{d}[x] = \mathbf{d}[x] - 1$ and $\mathbf{d}[y] = \mathbf{d}[y] - 1$ (i.e., decrease the degrees of both x and y by 1).
4. Finally, connect the remaining 2 nodes of degrees 1 by an edge.

Tip: if \mathbf{d} is a list, $\mathbf{d}.\text{index}(1)$ returns the index of the first entry of \mathbf{d} that has the value 1.

```
[ ]: T4a = nx.empty_graph( T4.order() )
      nx.draw(T4a, **opts)
```

```
[ ]: code
```

```
[ ]: d = n*[1] # list of n 1's/
      for k in code:
          d[k] += 1
      # repeat n-2 times:
      for k in range(n-2):
          y = a[k]
          x = d.index(1) # firstly
          T4a.add_edge(x, y)
          d[x] -= 1; d[y] -= 1
      print(f'Degrees = {d} : adding edge {x}-{y}')
```

Add the final edge, by find the index to the remaining two 1's. We can find the first with $x = \mathbf{d}.\text{index}(1)$, and the second with $y = \mathbf{d}.\text{index}(1, x+1)$ (could also use list comprehension, of course: see below).

```
[ ]: x = d.index(1)
      y = d.index(1, x+1)
      T4a.add_edge(x, y)
```

```
[ ]: nx.draw(T4a, **opts)
```

Finished here Wednesday

Turn the entire procedure into a python function:

```
[ ]: def pruefer_to_tree(code):
      # initialize graph and defects
      n = len(code) + 2
      tree = nx.empty_graph(n)
      d = n*[1]
      for y in code:
```

```

        d[y] += 1

    # add edges
    for y in code:
        x = d.index(1)
        tree.add_edge(x, y)
        d[x]-=1; d[y]-=1;
    # final edge
    e = [x for x in tree if d[x] == 1]
    tree.add_edge(*e)
    return tree

```

Let's check it works:

```
[ ]: T4b = pruefer_to_tree([1,2,2])
      nx.draw(T4b, **opts)
```

Since we have now shown that there is a bijection between labeled trees and Prüfer codes, we can prove Cayley's Theorem easily: * A tree with n nodes has a Prüfer code of length $n - 2$. * There are n choices for each entry in the code. * So there are n^{n-2} possible codes for a tree with n nodes. * So there are n^{n-2} possible trees with n nodes.

0.5 Random Trees

We can ask `networkx` to produce a **random tree** with a given number of nodes:

```
[ ]: n = 8
      T5 = nx.random_tree(9)
      nx.draw(T5, **opts)
```

However, we can also construct a random tree on n nodes from a random Prüfer code of length $n - 2$.

```
[ ]: code = np.random.randint(n, size=n-2)
      print(f"code={code}")
```

```
[ ]: T5a = pruefer_to_tree(code)
      nx.draw(T5a, **opts)
```

0.6 Graph and Tree Traversal

Often one has to search through a network to check properties of nodes (e.g., finding the node with largest degree). For large unstructured networks, this could be challenging. Fortunately, there are simple and efficient algorithms: * [DFS](#) * [BFS](#)

0.6.1 Depth First Search (DFS)

DFS works by starting at a root node, and travelling as far along one of its branches as it can, then returning to the last unexplored branch.

The main data structure we'll need is a **stack**, also called a “*Last In First Out (LIFO) queue*”. It has two operations: * `S.push(x)`: pushes `x` onto the top of the stack (We'll use the `extend()` method) * `y=S.pop()`: pops/removes the item from the top of the stack and stores it in 'y'

DFS: Given a rooted tree T with root x , visit all nodes in the tree. Start with an empty stack, `S`:
 * `S.push(x)` * while $S \neq \emptyset$: * `y = S.pop()` * `visit(y)` * `S.push(y.children)`

Let's create a tree to try this:

```
[ ]: T6 = nx.Graph()
T6.add_nodes_from(range(10))
T6.add_edges_from([(0,1), (0,2), (2,3), (3,4), (1,5), (0,6), (0,7), (7,8), (7,9)])
nx.draw(T6, **opts)
print(f"Edges of T6 are {T6.edges()}")
```

Now try the algorithm

```
[ ]: T = T6.copy()
x = 0
S = [x]
while len(S) > 0:
    y = S.pop()
    S.extend(T[y])
    T.remove_node(y)
    print(y, S)
```

0.6.2 Breadth First Search (BFS)

BFS works by starting at a root node, and explores all the neighbouring nodes (“Level 1”) first. Next it searches their neighbours (“Level 2”), etc.

The main data structure we'll need is a **queue**([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queue_\(abstract_data_type\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queue_(abstract_data_type))), also called a “*First In First Out (FIFO) queue*”. It has two operations: * `Q.extend(l)`: adds the items in the list `l` to the end of `Q` * `y=Q.pop(0)`: pops/removes the *first* item from queue, and stores it in 'y'

BFS: Given a rooted tree T with root x , visit all nodes in the tree. Start with an empty list/queue, `Q`:
 * `Q.push(x)` * while $Q \neq \emptyset$: * `y = Q.pop(0)` * `visit(y)` * `Q.push(y.children)`

Let's test it:

```
[ ]: T = T6.copy()
x = 0
Q = [x]
while len(Q) > 0:
    y = Q.pop(0)
    Q.extend(T[y])
    T.remove_node(y)
    print(y, Q)
```

Many questions on networks concerning distance and connectivity can be answered by a versatile strategy involving a subgraph which is a tree, and then searching that. Such a tree is called a

spanning tree of the underlying graph.

0.6.3 Alternative Implementations (Extra: won't do in class)

Both DFS and BFS are more like strategies, rather than specific algorithms. Different problems might require different implementations. Sometimes, the stack, or the queue don't have to be made explicit:

- In a recursive implementation, DFS can make use of the (python) interpreter's **function call stack**.
- BFS can take advantage of the fact that some types of lists in a (python) for loops are largely organized as **queues**.

In order to keep track of which nodes have already been visited, we maintain for each node an attribute "seen" that is initially **False**, and becomes **True** when the DFS/BFS visits the node.

In `networkx`, the attributes of a node `x` in a graph `G` are kept in a dictionary `G.nodes[x]`.

```
[ ]: n = 10
      T6a = nx.random_tree(n)
      nx.draw(T6a, **opts)
```

```
[ ]: TT = T6a.copy()
      for x in TT:
          TT.nodes[x]['seen'] = False
      TT.nodes['seen']
```

- DFS on a tree:

```
[ ]: def dfs(tree, x):
      print(x, end=', ')
      tree.nodes[x]['seen'] = True
      for z in tree[x]:
          if not tree.nodes[z]['seen']:
              dfs(tree, z)
```

```
[ ]: dfs(TT, 3)
```

- BFS on a tree:

```
[ ]: TT = T6a.copy()
      for x in TT:
          TT.nodes[x]['seen'] = False
```

```
[ ]: Q = [3]
      TT.nodes[3]['seen'] = True
      for y in Q:
          print(y, end=', ')
          for z in TT[y]:
              if not TT.nodes[z]['seen']:
```



```
Q.append(z)
TT.nodes[z]['seen'] = True
```

```
[ ]: nx.draw(TT, **opts)
```

0.7 Exercises

1. A tree T uniquely determines its Prüfer code, and hence the two nodes that remain after (destructively) computing the code. What are those two nodes, in terms of properties of T , or its Prüfer code?
2.
 1. What tree has Prüfer code $[0, 1, 2, \dots, n-3]$?
 2. What tree has Prüfer code $[0, 0, 0, \dots, 0]$?
 $\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{n-2 \text{ zeros}}$
 3. What tree has Prüfer code $[0, 1, 2, \dots, n-3]$?
3. Give the Prüfer for the tree with nodes $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ and edges $0-1, 0-2, 1-3, 1-4, 2-5$