

Final

Out: June 3

Due: June 10

This is a final. You may consult only the course notes and the optional text (CLRS). *You may not collaborate.* The full honor code guidelines can be found in the course syllabus.

There are 4 problems on 2 pages. Please attempt all problems. **To facilitate grading, please turn in each problem on a separate sheet of paper and put your name on each sheet. Do not staple the separate sheets.** Good luck!

Instructions for turning in the exam: Please turn in your exams to Diane Goodfellow in Annenberg 246 before noon on Tuesday June 10.

1. Given subsets S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n of a universe U , and an integer k , a *maximum k -cover* is a collection of k of the subsets that covers the maximum number of elements of U . Finding a maximum k -cover is NP-hard. Give a greedy approximation algorithm that achieves approximation ratio $e/(e-1)$. You may want to use the inequality $(1 - 1/x)^x \leq 1/e$.
2. Show how to find a maximum matching in a tree $G = (V, E)$ in time $O(|E|)$ operations (where here an “operation” includes arithmetic operations on integers of magnitude $O(|E|)$). Hint: use dynamic programming.
3. Given a list of integers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n we are interested in finding a subsequence having maximum sum; i.e., if for $i \leq j$ we define $A_{i,j} = \sum_{i \leq k \leq j} a_k$, we want i, j such that $A_{i,j}$ is maximum. Give a divide-and-conquer algorithm for this problem that uses $O(n \log n)$ operations, where here an “operation” includes arithmetic operations on integers of magnitude $O(n \max_i |a_i|)$.
4. Consider a directed graph $G = (V, E)$ with positive, integer capacities c_e for each edge e . Here is an LP with variables x_e for each edge $e \in E$ and y_v for each $v \in V$ defined in terms of graph G and two distinguished vertices s and t , which represents the dual of the max-flow LP:

minimize $\sum_{e \in E} c_e x_e$ subject to

- $y_v - y_u + x_e \geq 0$ for all $e = (u, v) \in E$, and
- $y_s = 1$, and
- $y_t = 0$, and
- $x_e \geq 0$ for all $e \in E$.

You may assume that every vertex is reachable from s , and that every vertex can reach t .

- (a) Prove that the constraint matrix for this LP is totally unimodular. Hint: for one case in the proof, consider adding the rows of a submatrix.

- (b) Prove that the optimum value of this LP equals the value of the minimum $s - t$ cut in graph G .