

1. A string is a sequence of symbols; for example, $X = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle$ is a string of m symbols x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m . When we delete 0 or more symbols (not necessarily consecutive) from X , we get a subsequence of X . (a) (14%) Write a dynamic programming algorithm $LCSS(X, Y)$ to calculate the length of the longest common subsequence of $X = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \rangle$ and $Y = \langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \rangle$. (b) (8%) Analyze the time complexity of the $LCSS$ algorithm. (c) (8%) Let every symbol in X be distinct. Write an algorithm to derive the longest increasing subsequence of X based on the $LCSS$ algorithm.

2. Let $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ be a non-empty set of n elements. Write an algorithm to select the median of S with the linear time complexity in the worst case. (20%)

3. Given a set S of n real numbers, and another real number M , we want to determine whether or not there exist 3 numbers in S whose sum is exactly M . The algorithm of testing all possible 3 numbers in S will take $O(n^3)$ time and it is unacceptable.
 - a) (10%) Design a more efficient algorithm to solve this problem. Analyze the time complexity of your algorithm.
 - b) (5%) Consider the following similar problem: Given a set S of n real numbers, another real number M , and an integer k , we want to determine whether or not there exist k numbers in S whose sum is exactly M . Show that this problem is NP-Complete.
 - c) (10%) If M is small enough, then it is possible to solve the above problem efficiently in $O(nkM)$ time. Design such an algorithm.

4. Consider the problem of finding minimum spanning tree (MST): Given a weighted undirected graph, find a spanning tree with the best (minimum) cost, where the cost of a spanning tree is the sum of the weights of its edges.
 - a) (15%) Describe an efficient algorithm for solving this problem. You should also analyze the time complexity of this algorithm and describe the data structure used by the algorithm.
 - b) (10%) Now assume that we also want to know a spanning tree with the second best cost (if there is any which may be same as the best cost). For example, consider the graph with vertex set $\{1, 2, 3\}$ and edge set $\{(1, 2, 1), (1, 3, 1), (2, 3, 1)\}$ where each triple (x, y, w) represents there is an edge with end vertices x, y , and weight w . Then the best and second best costs of spanning trees of this graph are both 2. For another graph with the same vertex set and edge set $\{(1, 2, 1), (1, 3, 2), (2, 3, 3)\}$, the best and second best costs of spanning trees of this graph are 3 and 4 respectively. Design an algorithm to solve this problem.