COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part IA – 2014 – Paper 1

10 Algorithms (TMS)

- (a) Given any directed graph G = (V, E) with non-negative edge weights, consider the problem of *all-pairs shortest path* (APSP). Give the asymptotic runtimes of the following four algorithms when applied (directly or iterated) to the APSP problem as a function of |V| and |E|, and provide a brief justification for your answer: Bellman-Ford, Dijkstra, matrix multiplication and Johnson. [8 marks]
- (b) Consider the problem of converting currencies modelled by a directed graph G = (V, E) with |V| vertices representing currencies and |E| directed edges (u, v) each of which has a strictly positive weight w(u, v) > 0 representing the exchange rate. For instance, for any real number x, we have x USD = $w(\text{dollars, pounds}) \cdot x$ GBP. Our goal is, given a pair of currencies $s, t \in V$, to find the least expensive way of exchanging from s to t, possibly by using more than one exchange.
 - (i) How could you transform the graph by reweighting the edges so that the problem could be solved with a shortest path algorithm? Indicate which shortest path algorithm is used. [8 marks]
 - (ii) How would you deal with negative-weight cycles if they occurred in the transformed graph? Give the perspective of the currency trader as well as that of a computer scientist. [4 marks]