Discrete Structures for Computer Science

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Textbook

*Discrete Mathematics and Its Applications*
By Kenneth H. Rosen, McGraw Hill (7th ed.)

Use lecture notes as study guide.
Course Requirements

- Attendance 5%
- Homework 25%
- Midterm Exam 30%
- Extra Credit Problem 2-5%
- Final Exam 40%
Why Discrete Math?

Design efficient computer systems.

• How did Google manage to build a fast search engine?
• What is the foundation of internet security?

algorithms, data structures, database, parallel computing, distributed systems, cryptography, computer networks...

Logic, sets/functions, counting, graph theory...
What is discrete mathematics?

Logic: artificial intelligence (AI), database, circuit design

Counting: probability, analysis of algorithm

Graph theory: computer network, data structures

Number theory: cryptography, coding theory

logic, sets, functions, relations, etc
Topic 1: Logic and Proofs

How do computers think?

Logic: propositional logic, first order logic

Proof: induction, contradiction

Artificial intelligence, database, circuit, algorithms
Topic 2: Counting

- Sets
- Combinations, Permutations, Binomial theorem
- Functions
- Counting by mapping, pigeonhole principle
- Recursions, generating functions

Probability, algorithms, data structures
Topic 2: Counting

How many steps are needed to sort \( n \) numbers?
Topic 3: Graph Theory

- Relations, graphs
- Degree sequence, isomorphism, Eulerian graphs
- Trees

Computer networks, circuit design, data structures
Topic 4: Number Theory

- Number sequence
- Euclidean algorithm
- Prime number
- Modular arithmetic

Cryptography, coding theory, data structures
Pythagorean theorem

\[ a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \]

Familiar?
Obvious?
Rearrange into: (i) a $c \times c$ square, and then
(ii) an $a \times a$ & $b \times b$ square
Good Proof

Acknowledgement

• Next slides are adapted from ones created by Professor Bart Selman at Cornell University.
Many problems can be represented by a graphical network representation.

Examples:
- Distribution problems
- Routing problems
- Maximum flow problems
- Designing computer / phone / road networks
- Equipment replacement
- And of course the Internet

Aside: finding the right problem representation is one of the key issues.
New Science of Networks

Sub-Category Graph
No Threshold

Utility Patent network
1972-1999
(3 Million patents)
Gomes, Hopcroft, Lesser, Selman

Networks are pervasive

NYS Electric Power Grid
(Thorp, Strogatz, Watts)

Network of computer scientists
ReferralWeb System
(Kautz and Selman)

Neural network of the
nematode worm C. elegans
(Strogatz, Watts)

Cybercommunities
(Automatically discovered)
Kleinberg et al
Example: Coloring a Map

How to color this map so that no two adjacent regions have the same color?
Graph representation

Abstract the essential info:

Coloring the nodes of the graph:
What’s the minimum number of colors such that any two nodes connected by an edge have different colors?
The chromatic number of a graph is the least number of colors that are required to color a graph.

The Four Color Theorem – the chromatic number of a planar graph is no greater than four. (quite surprising!)

Proof by Appel and Haken 1976;
• careful case analysis performed by computer;
• Proof reduced the infinitude of possible maps to 1,936 reducible configurations (later reduced to 1,476) which had to be checked one by one by computer.
• The computer program ran for hundreds of hours. The first significant computer-assisted mathematical proof. Write-up was hundreds of pages including code!
Examples of Applications of Graph Coloring
How can the final exams at Kent State be scheduled so that no student has two exams at the same time? *(Note not obvious this has anything to do with graphs or graph coloring!)*

**Graph:**
A vertex correspond to a course.
An edge between two vertices denotes that there is at least one common student in the courses they represent.
Each time slot for a final exam is represented by a different color.

A coloring of the graph corresponds to a valid schedule of the exams.
Scheduling of Final Exams

What are the constraints between courses? Find a valid coloring

Why is minimum number of colors useful?
Example 2: Traveling Salesman

Find a closed tour of minimum length visiting all the cities.

TSP → lots of applications:
Transportation related: scheduling deliveries
Many others: e.g., Scheduling of a machine to drill holes in a circuit board; Genome sequencing; etc
13,509 cities in the US

13508! = 1.4759774188460148199751342753208e+49936
13509 cities in the USA

(Applegate, Bixby, Chvatal and Cook, 1998)

The optimal tour!