

In preparing your solutions to the exam, you are **allowed to use any sources** including textbooks, other students and professors, previous homeworks and solutions, or any sources on the Internet. The only source you may *not* use is me. Of course, I am happy to answer general questions, go over homework problems, or answer clarifying questions about exam problems.

The exam will take place in class on Friday, October 4 (MC Reynolds 317, 1:10–2:00pm). You are **not** allowed to bring any notes, textbooks, calculators, or any other resources with you to the exam. Bring only something to write with; I will provide a fresh copy of the exam, paper for writing your solutions, and scratch paper.

**Question 1** (24 points (4 points each)). Characterize the asymptotic behavior of each of the following in terms of  $\Theta$ , as a function of  $n$  and/or  $m$ . Give a short proof/justification for each answer. Full credit will only be given for the best (fastest) possible algorithms.

- (a)  $1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n/2$
- (b)  $4 + 8 + 16 + 32 + \cdots + 2^n$
- (c) Time to find the shortest path between two given vertices in an unweighted, undirected graph with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges.
- (d) Time to find the shortest path between two given vertices in a weighted, undirected graph (assuming all weights are nonnegative) with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges.
- (e) Given an array  $A$  of size  $n$ , the time to fill in a matrix  $M$  such that  $M[i, j] = A[i] + A[j]$ .
- (f) Given an array  $A$  containing  $n$  positive integers, the time to compute the smallest positive integer which is not contained in the array.

**Question 2** (20 points). Prove, or disprove with a counterexample: for all  $k \geq 1$ , if a tree  $T$  has a vertex of degree  $k$ , then  $T$  has at least  $k$  leaves.

**Question 3** (20 points). Consider the following algorithm to determine whether an undirected, unweighted graph  $G$  has any cycles: pick an arbitrary vertex  $v$  and run a breadth-first search (BFS), generating a sequence of layers  $L_0, L_1, L_2, \dots$ . If there is any edge between two vertices in the same layer, then  $G$  has a cycle; otherwise,  $G$  has no cycles.

Prove or disprove the correctness of this algorithm.

Remember that by *tree* we mean a tree in the graph-theory sense, not a tree data structure with a root and children and so on.

**Question 4** (25 points). Recall *Dijkstra's algorithm* for finding shortest paths in a directed, weighted graph.

- (a) (10 points) Why doesn't Dijkstra's algorithm work if edges in the graph can have negative weights (even if there are no cycles)? Give an example of a directed acyclic graph where Dijkstra's algorithm fails to find the minimum-weight path between a pair of vertices. Be sure to demonstrate that you understand *why* your graph is a counterexample; that is, show what Dijkstra's algorithm does on your example graph, and explain why the path it finds is not the minimum-weight path.
- (b) (15 points) What happens if we replace the word "smallest" in Dijkstra's algorithm with the word "biggest"—that is, we use a max priority queue so we pull out the vertex  $u$  with the *maximum* distance on each iteration, and for each edge  $(u, v)$  we update  $d[v]$  to be the *maximum* of  $d[v]$  and the sum  $d[u] + w_{uv}$ . Can we use this modified Dijkstra's algorithm to find *longest* paths between nodes in a graph? Prove that this works, or give a counterexample (with explanation) where it doesn't.

**Question 5** (36 points). **Describe** (13 points) a  $\Theta(V + E)$  algorithm which, given a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  as input, will either find a directed cycle in  $G$ , or report that  $G$  is acyclic. You should describe your algorithm using appropriate pseudocode, at a level of detail that would enable someone else to turn your algorithm into working code (similar to what we have done in class). **Prove** (13 points) your algorithm is correct, and **analyze** (10 points) its asymptotic running time.