

Recursive Optimization

4/8/2009

Opening Discussion

- Minute Essay comments
 - Do you have to label each path?
 - What is the reason why having a method call itself is more efficient than using other methods?
 - Our method for cheapest route will return the cost. Returning a route takes a little more work and isn't always unique.
 - Code from last time for factorial.

Recap

- We are trying to solve the “shortest path” problem in a program using recursion.
- Recursive methods are methods that call themselves.
- With recursion we have the ability to find all paths and only return the cost of the minimum.

Writing the Code

- Read in the graph from a file to make life simpler.
- Add arguments as needed.
- Remember the base case.
- Make sure we don't “run in circles”.

Minute Essay

- What questions do you have about what we have done this week? Would you like to spend another day on this before doing interclass problems?
- Remember that there is no class on Friday.