

Floyd's Algorithm: Shortest Path Problem

Project 1

Daniel Romero - 2023059668

Adrián Zamora - 2023083307

Escuela de Ingeniería en Computación
Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica
Semester II 2025

September 12, 2025

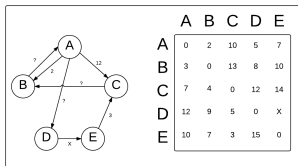
Robert W. Floyd

- American computer scientist (1936 - 2001)
- Studied physics at the University of Chicago, B.A. at age **19**
- No formal CS degree → self-taught programming and algorithms
- Worked as a math teacher, then in computing → professor at Stanford
- Published foundational papers in computational theory
- Collaborated with **Donald Knuth** on "The Art of Computer Programming"
- Created cycle detection and **shortest paths** algorithms
- Received the **Turing Award (1978)**



Floyd Algorithm (Floyd–Warshall Algorithm)

- The Floyd Algorithm computes the **shortest paths between all pairs of nodes** in a graph with edge weights
- Works for both directed and undirected graphs
- **Time Complexity:** $O(n^3)$
 - For each new node considered as an intermediate step, an entire $n \times n$ table is updated
- **Space Complexity:** $O(n^2)$
 - All calculations are performed within the same distance table
- Based on the principle of **dynamic programming**
- It has applications in network routing and navigation systems



Floyd Algorithm Overview

- There are two tables: **D** and **P**.
- **D table:** stores distances between any two nodes.
 - $D[i][i] = 0$ (distance from a node to itself).
 - If edge (i, j) exists, then $D[i][j] = \text{weight of that edge}$, otherwise $D[i][j] = \infty$.
- **P table:** stores path reconstruction information.
 - P table is initialized with **0** on every cell (This means that there is a direct path between the two nodes)
- **Algorithm process:**
 - For each node $k = 1$ to n (considered as an intermediate node):
 - For each pair of nodes (i, j) , check if going through k is shorter:

$$D(k)[i][j] = \min\{D(k-1)[i][j], D(k-1)[i][k] + D(k-1)[k][j]\}$$

- Update $P[i][j]$ with the value k if there was a change in $D[i][j]$.
(meaning we go through k to get from i to j)
- After all iterations:
 - D contains shortest distances.
 - P contains the information to reconstruct the shortest paths.

Graph

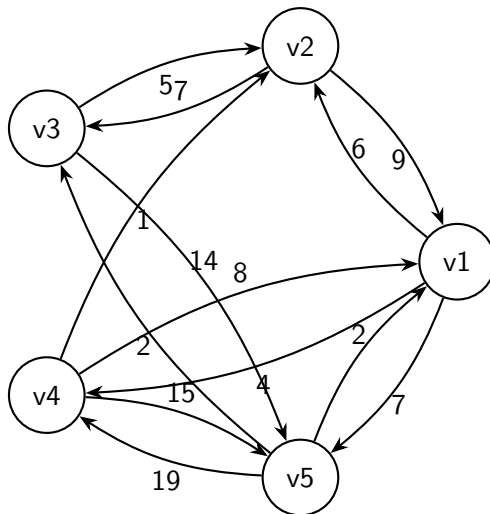


Table D(0)

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	6	∞	4	7
v2	9	0	7	∞	∞
v3	∞	5	0	∞	14
v4	8	1	∞	0	15
v5	2	∞	2	19	0

Table D(1)

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	6	∞	4	7
v2	9	0	7	13	16
v3	∞	5	0	∞	14
v4	8	1	∞	0	15
v5	2	8	2	6	0

Table P

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	0	0	0	0
v2	0	0	0	1	1
v3	0	0	0	0	0
v4	0	0	0	0	0
v5	0	1	0	1	0

Table D(2)

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	6	13	4	7
v2	9	0	7	13	16
v3	14	5	0	18	14
v4	8	1	8	0	15
v5	2	8	2	6	0

Table P

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	0	2	0	0
v2	0	0	0	1	1
v3	2	0	0	2	0
v4	0	0	2	0	0
v5	0	1	0	1	0

Table D(3)

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	6	13	4	7
v2	9	0	7	13	16
v3	14	5	0	18	14
v4	8	1	8	0	15
v5	2	7	2	6	0

Table P

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	0	2	0	0
v2	0	0	0	1	1
v3	2	0	0	2	0
v4	0	0	2	0	0
v5	0	3	0	1	0

Table D(4)

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	5	12	4	7
v2	9	0	7	13	16
v3	14	5	0	18	14
v4	8	1	8	0	15
v5	2	7	2	6	0

Table P

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	4	4	0	0
v2	0	0	0	1	1
v3	2	0	0	2	0
v4	0	0	2	0	0
v5	0	3	0	1	0

Table D(5)

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	5	9	4	7
v2	9	0	7	13	16
v3	14	5	0	18	14
v4	8	1	8	0	15
v5	2	7	2	6	0

Table P

	v1	v2	v3	v4	v5
v1	0	4	5	0	0
v2	0	0	0	1	1
v3	2	0	0	2	0
v4	0	0	2	0	0
v5	0	3	0	1	0

Shortest Paths from v1

- to v2 (5): $v1 \rightarrow v4 \rightarrow v2$
- to v3 (9): $v1 \rightarrow v5 \rightarrow v3$
- to v4 (4): $v1 \rightarrow v4$
- to v5 (7): $v1 \rightarrow v5$

Shortest Paths from v2

- to v1 (9): $v2 \rightarrow v1$
- to v3 (7): $v2 \rightarrow v3$
- to v4 (13): $v2 \rightarrow v1 \rightarrow v4$
- to v5 (16): $v2 \rightarrow v1 \rightarrow v5$

Shortest Paths from v3

- to v1 (14): $v3 \rightarrow v2 \rightarrow v1$
- to v2 (5): $v3 \rightarrow v2$
- to v4 (18): $v3 \rightarrow v2 \rightarrow v1 \rightarrow v4$
- to v5 (14): $v3 \rightarrow v5$

Shortest Paths from v4

- to v1 (8): $v4 \rightarrow v1$
- to v2 (1): $v4 \rightarrow v2$
- to v3 (8): $v4 \rightarrow v2 \rightarrow v3$
- to v5 (15): $v4 \rightarrow v5$

Shortest Paths from v5

- to v1 (2): $v5 \rightarrow v1$
- to v2 (7): $v5 \rightarrow v3 \rightarrow v2$
- to v3 (2): $v5 \rightarrow v3$
- to v4 (6): $v5 \rightarrow v1 \rightarrow v4$