

Fastest Route

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1 Fastest Route

sometimes the fastest route is not the direct route. Perhaps taking route $A \rightarrow C \rightarrow B$, which as an additional stop is the fastest route

If we have undiscovered weights, we cannot be sure that $A \rightarrow C \rightarrow B$ is the shortest path. Maybe $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$ is the shortest

Notice however, that $A \rightarrow B$ is the fastest route, even though we don't know route from $C \rightarrow B$

2 Naive Algorithm

2.1 Optimal Substructure

Observation: Any subpath of an optimal path is also optimal

Proof: - proof by contradiction - Consider an optimal path from A to B and two vertices u and v on this path. If there were a shorter path from u to v we would get a shorter path from A to B

Corollary: - if $A \rightarrow \dots u \rightarrow B$ is a shortest path from A to B , then:

$$d(A, B) = d(A, u) + w(u, B)$$

Edge Relaxation: - $\text{dist}[v]$ will be an upper bound on the actual distance from A to v - thus the shortest path will be at most $\text{dist}[v]$ - The edge relaxation procedure for an edge (u, v) just checks whether going from A to v through u improves the current value of $\text{dist}[v]$

2.2 Naive Approach

Correct Distance: After the call to Naive Algorithm all the distances are set correctly

Proof: - Assume, for the sake of contradiction, that no edge can be relaxed and there is a vertex v such that $\text{dist}[v] > d(A, v)$ - Consider a shortest path from A to v and let u be the first vertex on this path with the same property. Let p be the vertex right before u - Then $d(A, p) = \text{dist}[p]$ and hence $d(A, u) = d(A, p) + w(p, u) = \text{dist}[p] + w(p, u)$ - $\text{dist}[u] > d(A, u) = \text{dist}[p] + w(p, u) \Rightarrow \text{edge}(p, u)$ can be relaxed - a contradiction

3 Dijkstra's Algorithm

3.0.1 Intuition

- Start at A
- we relax all the edges from A , meaning we know that its connected to B and C
- we can be sure distance between A to B is 5
- we don't know to C because B to C might be less than A to C
- we know distance for B so we mark it with a color
- now we relax all the edges from B and we find B to C
- We see that that A to C is now 8
- We then discover more outgoing edges
- The next vertex is E because it's the vertex with the min known distance
- while C and D it is possible that their $dist$ values are larger than actual distances

3.1 Main idea of Dijkstra's Algo

Dijkstra: - We maintain a set R of vertices for which $dist$ is already set correctly ("Known Region") - The first vertex added to R is A - On each iteration we take a vertex outside of R with the minimal $dist$ -value, add it to R , and relax all its outgoing edges

4 Example of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Process: - Start with 0

- we check the edges and relax them from infinity to their value
- Now we need to select the next node to process
- we select the node with a value of 3 because it's the closest
- we process the second selected node
- We cannot relax the edge going to 10 because $3 + 8 = 11$ and the node value is 10 .
- next edge has value 3 . $3 + 3 = 6$ which is less than infinity.
- So we can update this value
- next edge $3 + 5$ is less than infinity, so we relax that edge
- we make the 6 node our next node because it's the lowest node
- update our nodes from 6 . Note that the node which was 10 now becomes 9 because of an edge going from node 6 to it
- move on to the next node which is 7
- finally we select the last node and select it
- Finally we have to go through all of the nodes and update their values

5 Dijkstra's Algorithm: Implementation

Overview: - We're going to be using a priority queue - `dist[u] <- inf, prev[u] <- NaN`: this line initializes $dist[u]$ to infinity and $prev[u]$ to None - `prev[u]`: basically keeps track of shortest path - `dist[A] = 0`: first node has zero distance from itself - `H <- MakeQueue(V)`: creates priority queue - Our priority queue will allow us to select the known min value - `u <- ExtractMin(H)`: remove min value from the queue and assign it to u - **for all** (u, v) in E : we look at all the outgoing edges from u - **if** `dist[v] > dist[u] + w(u, v)`: check if it is

possible to relax u - $\text{dist}[v] \leftarrow \text{dist}[u] + w(u, v)$: relax the edge - $\text{prev}[u] \leftarrow u$: if we relaxed the edge u is the previous to last vertex on the best known path from A to v - $\text{ChangePriority}(H, v, \text{dist}[v])$: change the key of known v because the key of the node must always be equal to its dist value

6 Dijkstra's Algorithm: Proof of Correctness

Critical line is $u \leftarrow \text{ExtractMin}(H)$

Correct Distance Lemma: > When a node u is selected via ExtractMin , $\text{dist}[u] = d(A, u)$

This means that in the end, this dist-value will also be equal to the distance because dist-values are always the upper bound on the correct distance because they are substantiated by a specific path

Proof: - if node D has the min dist-value out of all the nodes in the unknown region, then we cannot come to it shorter because at some point we need to get from known region to unknown region, via some node which has dist-value at least the same or bigger than the dist-value of D - And we'll have to add at least one or more edges which are non-negative and so there's no way to come to the node D shorter than by the current best path we can know. - So this is a contradiction with the assumption that the dist-value of the node D is not equal to the actual distance

7 Analysis

Core parts: - Initialization which runs proportional to the number of nodes - next is the make queue operation, which depends on implementation - next is the min extract, which is V nodes - then there is the changePriority operation for every relaxed edge

Running Time: - $O(V) + T(\text{MakeQueue}) + |V| * T(\text{ExtractMin}) + |E| * T(\text{ChangePriority})$
 - Priority Queue implemented as array: - $O(|V| + |V| + |V|^2 + |E|) = O(|V|^2)$ - Priority Queue implemented as binary heap: - $O(|V| + |V| + V \log |V| + E \log |V|) = O((|V| + |E|) \log |V|)$
 - Binary Heap is worse on a full graph