

Lecture 16: Shortest Paths II - Dijkstra

Lecture Overview

- Review
- Shortest paths in DAGs
- Shortest paths in graphs without negative edges
- Dijkstra's Algorithm

Readings

CLRS, Sections 24.2-24.3

Review

$d[v]$ is the length of the current shortest path from starting vertex s . Through a process of relaxation, $d[v]$ should eventually become $\delta(s, v)$, which is the length of the shortest path from s to v . $\Pi[v]$ is the predecessor of v in the shortest path from s to v .

Basic operation in shortest path computation is the *relaxation operation*

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{RELAX}(u, v, w) \\ &\quad \text{if } d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v) \\ &\quad \quad \text{then } d[v] \leftarrow d[u] + w(u, v) \\ &\quad \quad \quad \Pi[v] \leftarrow u \end{aligned}$$

Relaxation is Safe

Lemma: The relaxation algorithm maintains the invariant that $d[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$ for all $v \in V$.

Proof: By induction on the number of steps.

Consider $\text{RELAX}(u, v, w)$. By induction $d[u] \geq \delta(s, u)$. By the triangle inequality, $\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + \delta(u, v)$. This means that $\delta(s, v) \leq d[u] + w(u, v)$, since $d[u] \geq \delta(s, u)$ and $w(u, v) \geq \delta(u, v)$. So setting $d[v] = d[u] + w(u, v)$ is safe. \square

DAGs:

Can't have negative cycles because there are no cycles!

1. **Topologically sort** the DAG. Path from u to v implies that u is before v in the linear ordering.
2. One pass over vertices **in topologically sorted order** relaxing each edge that leaves each vertex.
 $\Theta(V + E)$ time

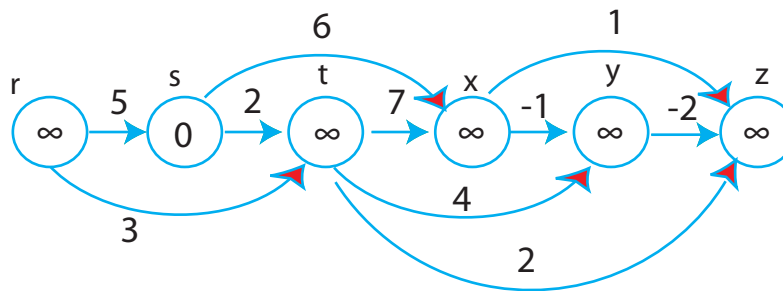
Example:

Figure 1: Shortest Path using Topological Sort.

Vertices sorted left to right in topological order

Process r : stays ∞ . All vertices to the left of s will be ∞ by definition

Process s : $t : \infty \rightarrow 2$ $x : \infty \rightarrow 6$ (see top of [Figure 2](#))

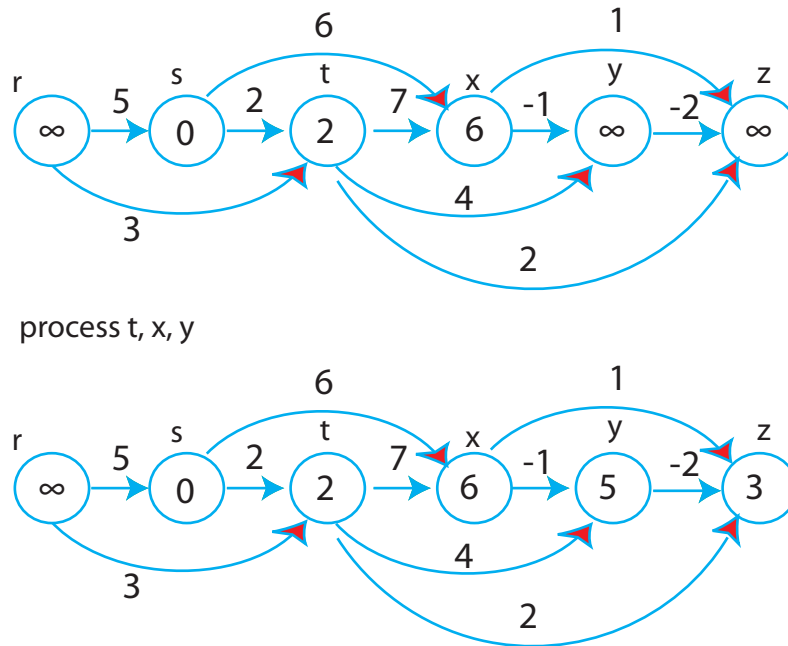


Figure 2: Preview of Dynamic Programming

DIJKSTRA Demo

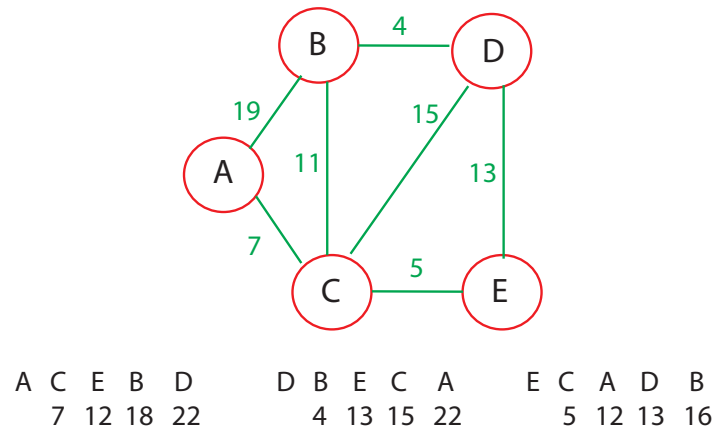


Figure 3: Dijkstra Demonstration with Balls and String.

Dijkstra's Algorithm

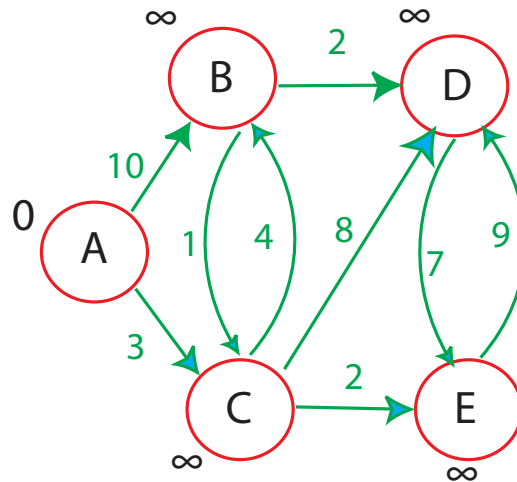
For each edge $(u, v) \in E$, assume $w(u, v) \geq 0$, maintain a set S of vertices whose final shortest path weights have been determined. Repeatedly select $u \in V - S$ with minimum shortest path estimate, add u to S , relax all edges out of u .

Pseudo-code

```

Dijkstra ( $G, W, s$ )    //uses priority queue Q
  Initialize ( $G, s$ )
   $S \leftarrow \phi$ 
   $Q \leftarrow V[G]$     //Insert into Q
  while  $Q \neq \phi$ 
    do  $u \leftarrow \text{EXTRACT-MIN}(Q)$     //deletes  $u$  from  $Q$ 
     $S = S \cup \{u\}$ 
    for each vertex  $v \in \text{Adj}[u]$ 
      do RELAX ( $u, v, w$ )    ← this is an implicit DECREASE_KEY operation

```

Example

$S = \{ \}$	{ A B C D E } =	Q	
$S = \{ A \}$	0 ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞		
$S = \{ A, C \}$	0 10 3 ∞ ∞	←	after relaxing edges from A
$S = \{ A, C \}$	0 7 3 11 5	←	after relaxing edges from C
$S = \{ A, C, E \}$	0 7 3 11 5		
$S = \{ A, C, E, B \}$	0 7 3 9 5	←	after relaxing edges from B

Figure 4: Dijkstra Execution

Strategy: Dijkstra is a greedy algorithm: choose closest vertex in $V - S$ to add to set S .

Correctness: We know relaxation is safe. The key observation is that each time a vertex u is added to set S , we have $d[u] = \delta(s, u)$.

Dijkstra Complexity

$\Theta(v)$ inserts into priority queue
 $\Theta(v)$ EXTRACT_MIN operations
 $\Theta(E)$ DECREASE_KEY operations

Array impl:

$\Theta(v)$ time for extra min
 $\Theta(1)$ for decrease key
Total: $\Theta(V.V + E.1) = \Theta(V^2 + E) = \Theta(V^2)$

Binary min-heap:

$\Theta(\lg V)$ for extract min
 $\Theta(\lg V)$ for decrease key
Total: $\Theta(V \lg V + E \lg V)$

Fibonacci heap (not covered in 6.006):

$\Theta(\lg V)$ for extract min
 $\Theta(1)$ for decrease key
amortized cost
Total: $\Theta(V \lg V + E)$

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