

**Problem 1 (10 points).** Prove or give a counter-example for each of the following statements.

1. Let  $p$  be a shortest path from vertex  $s$  to vertex  $t$  in a directed graph. If the length of each edge in the graph is increased by 1,  $p$  will still be a shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$ .

**Solution.** False. Consider a graph where  $l(s, v_1) = 3, l(v_1, v_2) = 3, l(v_2, t) = 3, l(s, t) = 10$ . The shortest path changed from  $(s, v_1, v_2, t)$  to  $(s, t)$  if we add 1 to every edge length.

2. Let  $p$  be a shortest path from vertex  $s$  to vertex  $t$  in a directed graph. If the length of each edge in the graph is decreased by 1,  $p$  will still be a shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$ .

**Solution.** False. Consider a graph where  $l(s, v_1) = 3, l(v_1, v_2) = 3, l(v_2, t) = 3, l(s, t) = 8$ . The shortest path changed from  $(s, t)$  to  $(s, v_1, v_2, t)$  if we decrease every edge length by 1.

**Problem 2 (10 points).** Consider the following implementation of priority queue  $PQ$  with an array  $S$ . *insert* ( $PQ, x$ ): add  $x$  to the end of  $S$ ; *decrease-key* ( $PQ, x, key$ ): set the key of element  $x$  as  $key$ ; *empty* ( $PQ$ ): check whether the size of  $S$  is 0; *find-min* ( $PQ$ ): traverse  $S$  and return the element with smallest key; *delete-min* ( $PQ$ ): first traverse  $S$  to locate element with smallest key, then remove this element by shifting all elements on its rightside.

1. Analyze the running time of each above operation.

**Solution:**

*insert* ( $PQ, x$ ):  $O(1)$

*decrease-key* ( $PQ, x, key$ ):  $O(1)$

*empty* ( $PQ$ ):  $O(1)$

*find-min* ( $PQ$ ):  $O(n)$

*delete-min* ( $PQ$ ):  $O(n)$

2. What is the running time of Dijkstra's algorithm if this implementation of priority queue is used?

**Solution:** The running time of Dijkstra's algorithm is the sum of the following components (where  $n = |V|$ ):

*insert* ( $PQ, x$ ):  $|V| \cdot O(1) = O(|V|)$

*decrease-key* ( $PQ, x, key$ ):  $|E| \cdot O(1) = O(|E|)$

*empty* ( $PQ$ ):  $|V| \cdot O(1) = O(|V|)$

*find-min* ( $PQ$ ):  $|V| \cdot O(n) = O(|V|^2)$

*delete-min* ( $PQ$ ):  $|V| \cdot O(n) = O(|V|^2)$ .

Therefore, when using this implementation of priority queue, the running time of the Dijkstra's algorithm is  $O(|V|^2)$ .

**Problem 3 (20 points).** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with positive edge length. Let  $t \in V$ . Give an algorithm runs in  $O(|V|^2)$  time for finding shortest paths between all pairs of nodes, such that these paths pass through  $t$ . (Hint: use the results in Problem 2.)

**Solution.** Denote by  $d_t(u, v)$  the length of the shortest path from  $u$  to  $v$  passing through  $t$ . We must have that  $d_t(u, v) = d(u, t) + d(t, v)$ , where  $d(u, t)$  represents the distance from  $u$  to  $t$  and  $d(t, v)$  represents the distance from  $t$  to  $v$ . Therefore, to determine  $d_t(u, v)$  for all pairs of vertices, we only need to determine  $d(u, t)$  for all  $u \in V$  and  $d(t, v)$  for all  $v \in V$ .

We can determine  $d(t, v)$  for all  $v \in V$  by running Dijkstra's algorithm with  $t$  as the source vertex. To compute  $d(u, t)$  for all  $u \in V$ , consider the reverse graph  $G_R$  of  $G$ . Clearly, a shortest path from  $u$  to  $t$  in  $G$  will have a corresponding shortest path from  $t$  to  $u$  in  $G_R$ . Thus, we can run Dijkstra's algorithm in  $G_R$  with  $t$  as the source vertex, which will give us  $d(u, t)$  for all  $u \in V$ . After having  $d(u, t)$  for all  $u \in V$  and  $d(t, v)$  for all  $v \in V$ , we can then compute  $d_t(u, v)$  for all  $u, v \in V$  simply by adding  $d(u, t)$  and  $d(t, v)$ .

In addition to the distance, to determine the shortest path from  $u$  to  $v$  passing through  $t$ , we can concatenate the shortest path from  $u$  to  $t$  and the shortest path from  $t$  to  $v$ , both of which can be obtained within the Dijkstra's algorithm through backtracing pointers.

The running time of the above algorithm is  $O(|V|^2)$ . In fact, we run the Dijkstra's algorithm twice to determine  $d(u, t)$  for all  $u \in V$  and  $d(t, v)$  for all  $v \in V$ , which takes  $O(|V|^2)$  time (see Problem 2). The next step of computing  $d(u, v)$  for all  $u, v \in V$  also takes  $O(|V|^2)$  time, as it takes  $O(1)$  time to compute  $d_t(u, v)$  for each particular  $u$  and  $v$ .

**Problem 4 (20 points).** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with positive edge length. Design an algorithm runs in  $O(|V|^3)$  to find the length of the shortest cycle in  $G$ .

**Solution.** We can run Dijkstra's algorithm  $|V|$  times with each  $v \in V$  as the starting source vertex. Then to find the length of the shortest cycle in the graph we calculate minimum of  $d(u, v) + d(v, u)$  for all pairs of vertices  $u, v \in V$ .

Following Problem 2, the Dijkstra's algorithm can be implemented as having running time of  $O(|V|^2)$ . Therefore, the above algorithm runs in  $O(|V|^3)$  time as we run Dijkstra's algorithm  $|V|$  times and the last step of determining the minimum between all pairs of vertices takes  $O(|V|^2)$  time.

**Problem 5 (20 points).** Given directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  with positive edge length, vertex  $s \in V$ , describe how to modify Dijkstra's algorithm so that the algorithm also sets a binary array  $unique[1 \dots |V|]$ , where  $unique[u] = 1$  if there exists a unique shortest path from  $s$  to  $u$ , and  $unique[u] = 0$  if there are more than one shortest paths from  $s$  to  $u$ . (If  $v$  cannot be reached from  $s$ , define  $unique[v] = 1$ .)

**Solution.** To find if there is a unique shortest path by modifying Dijkstra's algorithm, we do an additional checking when examining edge  $(v, w)$ . If the new distance of  $d[v] + l(v, w)$  is equal to  $d[w]$  so far, then we have multiple possible paths from  $s$  to  $w$  with same shortest distance. So, we set  $unique[w] = 0$ . When we find a better shortest distance for vertex  $w$ , i.e., the case where  $d[w] > d[v] + l(v, w)$ , then we set  $unique[w]$  to  $unique[v]$ . The highlighted lines indicate modification in original Dijkstra's algorithm.

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**Algorithm 1** ModifiedDijkstra ( $G = (V, E)$ ,  $s \in V$ ):

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for each vertex  $v \in V$  do
     $d[v] = \infty$ 
    insert ( $PQ, v, \infty$ )
     $unique[v] = 1$ 
end for
 $d[s] = 0$ 
decrease-key ( $PQ, s, 0$ )
while  $PQ$  is not empty do
     $v = \text{find-min}(PQ)$ 
    delete-min ( $PQ$ )
    for each  $(v, w) \in E$  do
        if  $d[v] + l(v, w) < d[w]$  then
             $d[w] = d[v] + l(v, w)$ 
             $unique[w] = unique[v]$ 
            decrease-key ( $PQ, w, d[v] + l(v, w)$ )
        else if  $d[v] + l(v, w) == d[w]$  then
             $unique[w] = 0$ 
        end if
    end for
end while

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**Problem 6 (20 points).** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph with positive edge length  $l(e) > 0$  for any  $e \in E$ . For vertex  $v \in V$  there is also an associated positive *vertex weight*  $w(v) > 0$ . For any path we define its *length* as the sum of the length of its all edges plus the sum of the weights of its all vertices. Given  $s \in V$ , design an algorithm runs in  $O((|V| + |E|) \cdot \log |V|)$  for computing the shortest paths (in terms of this new definition of length) from  $s$  to all vertices.

**Solution.** For each edge  $e = (u, v)$  in  $G$ , we add the weight of node  $v$  to edge  $e$ . The weight of  $e$  would be  $l'(e) = l(e) + w(v)$ . Then we can run Dijkstra's algorithm on  $G$  starting from  $s$  with these updated edge length. After that for every vertex  $v \in V$ , its eventual distance from  $s$  needs to be augmented by  $w(s)$ . If we use binary heap within the Dijkstra's algorithm, the running time of the above algorithm is  $O((|V| + |E|) \cdot \log |V|)$ .

There is an alternative method by creating a new graph  $G' = (V', E')$ . For each (weighted) vertex  $v \in V$  in  $G$ , we split it into two unweighted vertices  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  and add them to  $V'$ . Then we add an edge  $(v_1, v_2)$  to  $E'$ , which is assigned to have weight  $w(v)$ . For each edge  $e = (u, v) \in E$  in the original graph  $G$ , we replace it with edge  $(u_2, v_1)$  in the new graph  $G'$ . Therefore in the new graph  $G'$  we has  $|V'| = 2 \cdot |V|$  and  $|E'| = |V| + |E|$ . Now we can run Dijkstra algorithm on  $G'$  to find the shortest paths from  $s_1$ , and it takes time  $O((|V'| + |E'|) \cdot \log |V'|) = O((2 \cdot |V| + |V| + |E|) \cdot \log(2 \cdot |V|)) = O((|V| + |E|) \cdot \log |V|)$ .