

VE477 Lab5 Report

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3. Compare the time complexity and running time of Bellman-Ford and Dijkstra

3.1 Time Complexity

In this lab, we use the Fibonacci Heap to implement the Dijkstra algorithm, which gives a time complexity of

$$\mathcal{O}(|E| + |V| \log |V|)$$

The Bellman-Ford will go through $|V|$ iterations and each iteration will visit all the $|E|$ edges. Then the time complexity is

$$\mathcal{O}(|E||V|)$$

In terms of time complexity, the Dijkstra algorithm is better than Bellman-Ford algorithm.

3.2 Real Running time

A small input set is given to both algorithms and the result is shown in the following figurea:

```
haoquan@haoquan-ThinkPad-X1-Carbon-7th:~/VE477/Lab5$ time python3 Dijkstra.py < testDj.txt
['s', 'c', 'b', 'd', 'e', 't']
real    0m0.041s
user    0m0.024s
sys     0m0.008s

haoquan@haoquan-ThinkPad-X1-Carbon-7th:~/VE477/Lab5$ time python3 BellmanFord.py < testDj.txt
['s', 'c', 'b', 'd', 'e', 't']
real    0m0.029s
user    0m0.021s
sys     0m0.008s
```

We can see that the total running time of Dijkstra algorithm is larger than the Bellman-Ford algorithm. This is because the Fibonacci Heap even performs worse than a min-heap in a small scale input. Also, the Bellman-Ford algorithm does not require additional data structures other than a adjacency list. So this may save it some time as well.

When it comes to larger input, the Fibonacci Heap will make Dijkstra performs better than Bellman-Ford.