

0. **Recursive structure.** Consider all possible shortest paths from  $u$  to  $v$ . Each path contains a last edge  $(t, v)$  for some  $t \in V - \{v\}$ , such that the part of the path from  $u$  to  $t$  is a shortest path (including the degenerate case when  $t = u$ ). This means that the number of distinct shortest paths from  $u$  to  $v$  is equal to the number of distinct shortest paths from  $u$  to  $t$ , summed over all of the last vertices  $t$  on a shortest  $u$ - $v$  path.

1. **Array definition.** We use two separate, parallel arrays.

- $L[k, u, v]$  = minimum weight of any path from  $u$  to  $v$  with length at most  $k$  (where “length” = number of edges), for  $k, u, v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . (This is the same as the array used to solve the problem in week 4’s tutorial.)
- $N[k, u, v]$  = number of distinct paths from  $u$  to  $v$  with length at most  $k$  and total weight equal to  $L[k, u, v]$ , for  $k, u, v \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

2. **Recurrence relation.** Based on the recursive structure of the problem, as we saw in week 4’s tutorial,

$$L[1, u, v] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u = v, \\ w(u, v) & \text{if } u \neq v \wedge (u, v) \in E, \\ \infty & \text{if } u \neq v \wedge (u, v) \notin E. \end{cases}$$

$$L[k, u, v] = \min \{L[k-1, u, v], L[k-1, u, t] + w(t, v) : (t, v) \in E\}, \quad \text{for } k = 2, \dots, n.$$

$$N[1, u, v] = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u = v, \\ 1 & \text{if } u \neq v \wedge (u, v) \in E, \\ 0 & \text{if } u \neq v \wedge (u, v) \notin E. \end{cases}$$

$$N[k, u, v] = \sum_{\substack{(t, v) \in E \text{ such that} \\ L[k-1, u, t] + w(t, v) = L[k, u, v]}} N[k-1, u, t], \quad \text{for } k = 2, \dots, n.$$

$N[k, u, v]$  is the sum of  $N[k-1, u, t]$  over every  $t$  such that  $L[k, u, v] = L[k-1, u, t] + w(t, v)$ . This is the case whether or not  $L[k, u, v] = L[k-1, u, v]$  because paths of length strictly less than  $k-1$  are already counted in  $N[k-1, u, t]$  (over the possible values of  $t$ ).

3. **Iterative algorithm.**

<pre># Initialization. for u = 1, ..., n:     for v = 1, ..., n:         if u = v:             L[1, u, v] ← 0             N[1, u, v] ← 1         elif (u, v) ∈ E:             L[1, u, v] ← w(u, v)             N[1, u, v] ← 1         else:             L[1, u, v] ← ∞             N[1, u, v] ← 0</pre>	<pre># Main loop. for k = 2, ..., n:     for u = 1, ..., n:         for v = 1, ..., n:             L[k, u, v] ← L[k-1, u, v]             N[k, u, v] ← 0             for (t, v) ∈ E:                 if L[k-1, u, t] + w(t, v) &lt; L[k, u, v]:                     L[k, u, v] ← L[k-1, u, t] + w(t, v)                     N[k, u, v] ← N[k-1, u, t]                 elif L[k-1, u, t] + w(t, v) = L[k, u, v]:                     N[k, u, v] ← N[k, u, v] + N[k-1, u, t]</pre>
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4. **Optimum solution.**  $N[n, u, v]$  contains the total number of shortest paths from  $u$  to  $v$ , for every  $u, v \in V$ —there is no additional information to compute. Worst-case runtime is  $\Theta(n^4)$ .