

Goals:

- Understand Dijkstra's algorithm in the context of a real world problem.
- Implement a priority queue with worst-case logarithmic operations.
- Compare two different priority queue data structures for implementing Dijkstra's and empirically verify their differences.
- Understand the importance of proper data structures/implementations to gain the full efficiency potential of algorithms.

1. Implementation of Dijkstra's algorithm: The source code for the project is submitted in the zip file.

We can find the shortest path between nodes in a graph using Dijkstra's Algorithm. In Particular, we can find the shortest path from a source node to all other nodes in the graph, producing a shortest-path tree. Once a node is visited, it is added as a visited node.

Since, the algorithm keeps track of the currently known shortest distance from each node to the source node and it updates these values if it finds a shorter path.

The algorithm continues until all the nodes have been added to the path.

This algorithm cannot be used when there are one or more negative edges.

Complexity:

Time: $O((|V| + |E|) \log V)$

Space: $O(|V| + |E|)$

2. Implementation of two version of priority Queue:

The source code for both the implementations is provided in zip file.

- I. Using Python list
- II. Using Heap

3. The time complexity of both implementations of the algorithms:

I. Using Python list:

Time complexity: The time complexity to insert to a list is $O(1)$. Similarly, time complexity of $O(|V|)$ as it has to iterate over all of the indexes of the list in the `del_min` function.

Similarly, the `decrease_Key` takes $O(1)$ time complexity.

- II. Using Heap: The time complexity to insert to a list is $O(\log|V|)$. Similarly, the `decrease_Key` and `del_min` both take $O(\log|V|)$ time complexity.

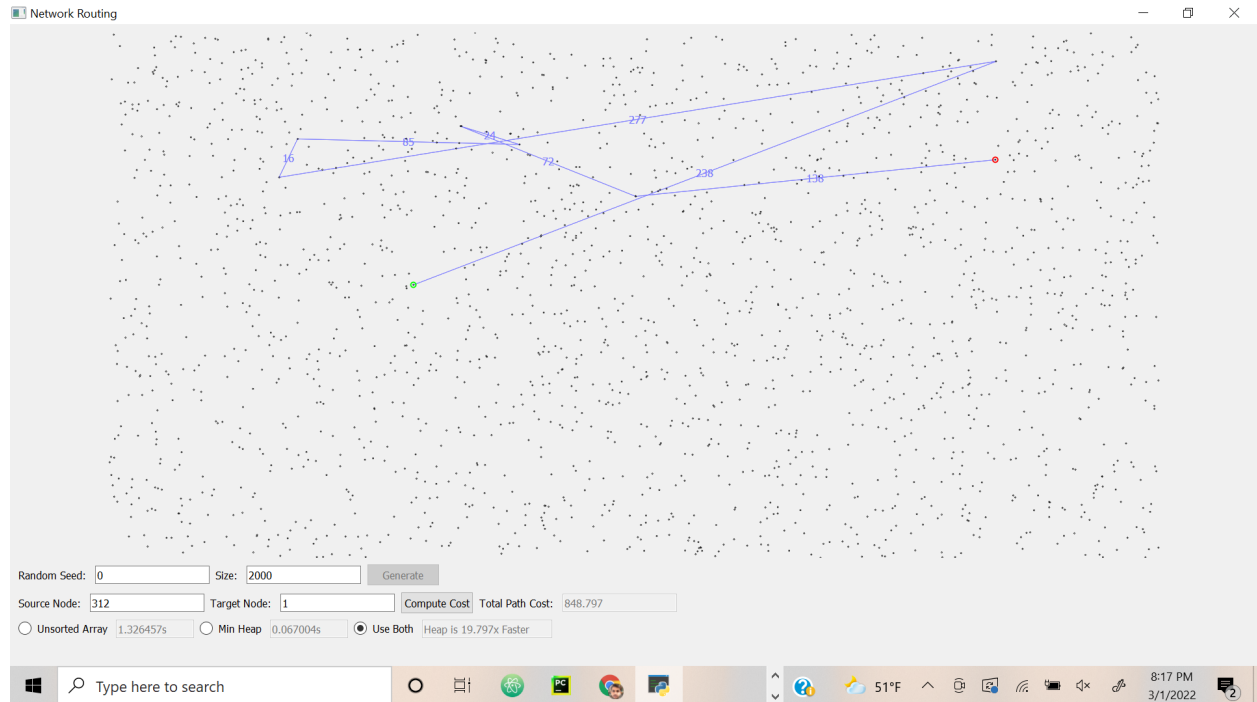
Total Complexity of the Dijkstra's Algorithm:

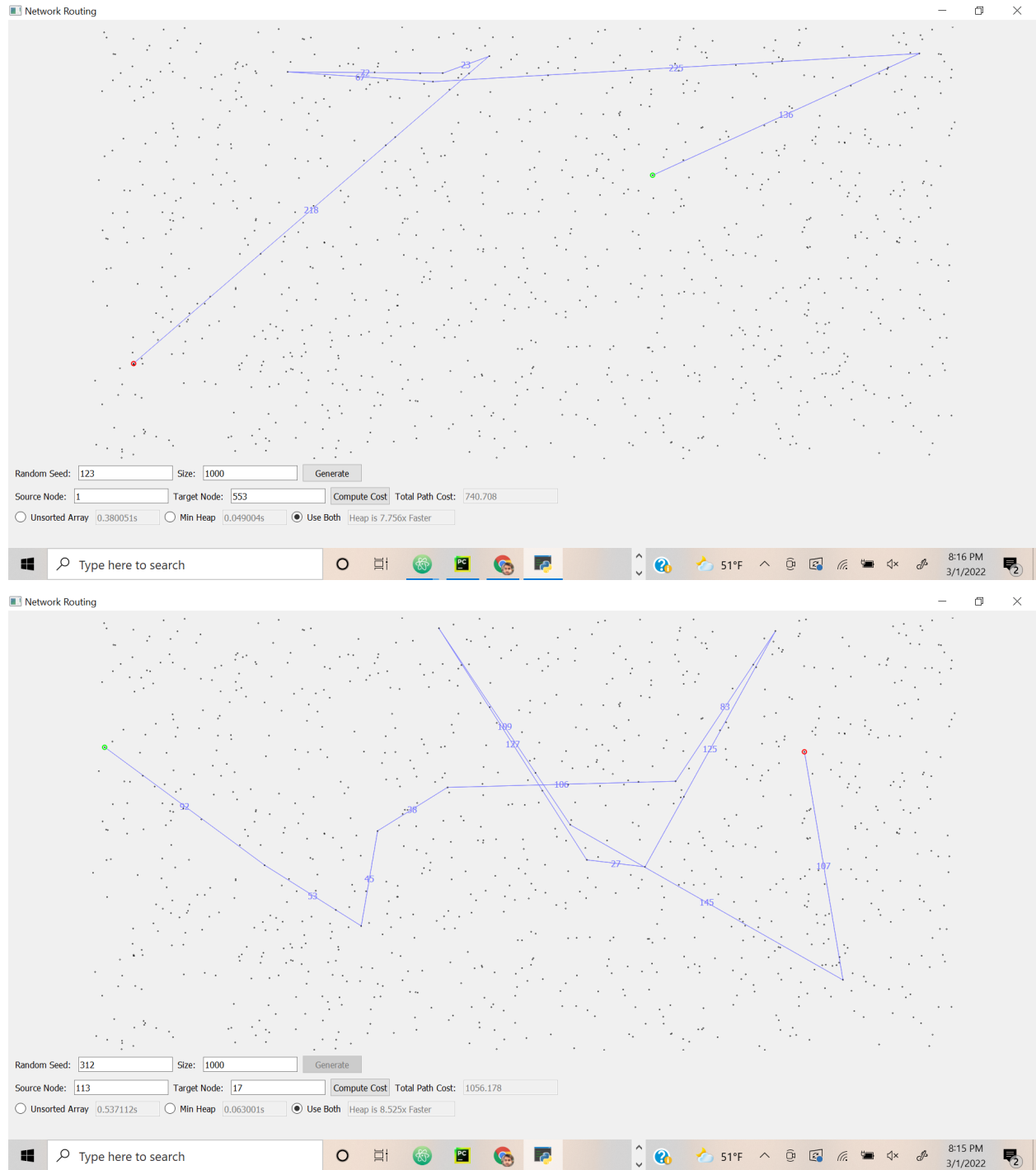
Complexity:

Time: $O((|V| + |E|) \log V)$

Space: $O(|V| + |E|)$

4. Results(Screenshots):

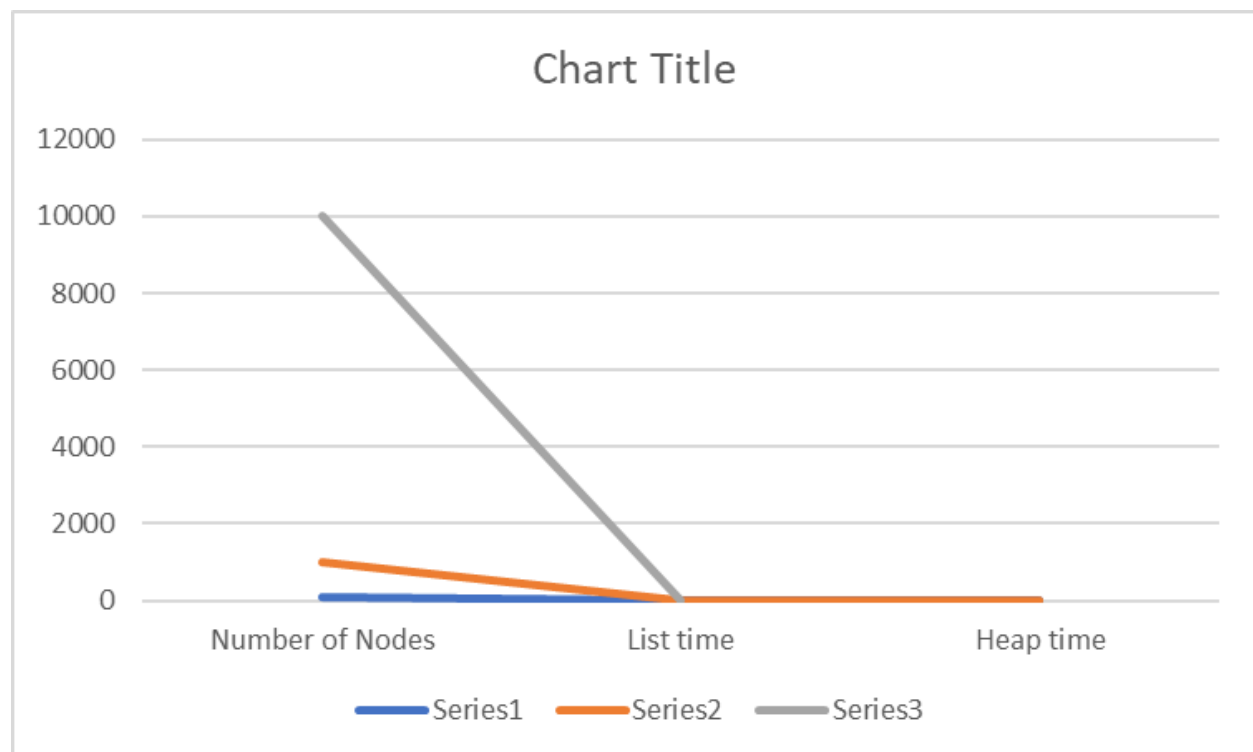




5. Comparison of the empirical time complexity for Array vs. Heap:

For very large values of nodes, my program didn't work, meaning it didn't responded.

Number of Nodes	List time	Heap time	Approximated
100	0.007999	0.002999	0.003
1000	0.442106	0.038999	0.05
10000	44.084056	0.551007	10
Program didn't run			



Analysis of this comparison:

The graphing of average time complexity for array and heap implementations revealed that the array implementation has an $O[V^2]$ runtime, whereas the binary heap implementation has a $n \log n$ runtime as depicted in the diagram above. The run time for sizes 10 to 1000 did not differ significantly, but as soon as the size is increased, the run time increases dramatically.

REFERENCES: Project Assignment Description,

<https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/dijkstras-shortest-path-algorithm-visual-introduction/>