

Shortest Path with Multiples of k

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1 Problem Statement

This is a modification of Q15 of the problem set. Given a graph $G = (V, E)$, with vertices V , edges E , a source vertex s , a target vertex t , and edge weights $c(uv)$, where each weight $c(uv) > 0$ represents the cost associated with traveling from vertex u to v or from v to u , the objective is to find the shortest path from s to t such that the total cost of the path is a multiple of a given positive integer k . Shortest path from u to v is defined as the path that contains the minimum number of vertices and has nothing to do with edge weights.

2 Algorithm

The proposed algorithm is based on modifying the graph and applying the Breadth-First-Search algorithm. Here's the pseudocode:

Algorithm 1 ShortestPathWithMultiplesOfK(G, s, t, k)

- 1: Let R be the set $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, k-1\}$
 - 2: Define a new graph $G' = (V', E')$
 - 3: where $V' = V \times R$
 - 4: $E' := \{(u, r) \rightarrow (v, (r + c(uv)) \bmod k) \mid (u, v) \in E, r \in R\}$
 - 5: Weight of each edge $(u, r) \rightarrow (v, r')$ is 1
 - 6: Compute shortest path from source vertex $(s, 0)$ via BFS
 - 7: **return** shortest distance from $(s, 0)$ to $(t, 0)$
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3 Implementation

Below is the C++ implementation of the algorithm:

// Code snippet: <https://pastebin.com/3hFWucVG>

4 Time Complexity

The time complexity of the algorithm is $O(E' + V') = O(mk + nk) = O(m + n)$, since k is treated as a constant factor.