

**1.** Consider an instance of the single-source shortest path problem with  $n$  vertices,  $m$  edges, a source vertex  $s$ , and no negative cycles. Which of the following is true?

1. For every vertex  $v$  reachable from source  $s$ , there is a shortest  $s - v$  path with at most  $n - 1$  edges.
2. For every vertex  $v$  reachable from the source  $s$ , there is a shortest  $s - v$  path with at most  $n$  edges.
3. For every vertex  $v$  reachable from the source  $s$ , there is a shortest  $s - v$  path with at most  $m$  edges.
4. There is no finite upper bound on the fewest number of edges in a shortest  $s - v$  path.

(1) is the correct answer. If we had a shortest  $s - v$  path with more than  $n - 1$  edges then we have a non-negative cycle, removing this cycle would produce a  $s - v$  path of at most  $n - 1$  edges that is better than the previous solution.

**2** How many candidates are there for an optimal solution to a sub-problem with the destination  $v$ ?

1. 2
2.  $1 + \text{the in-degree of } v$
3.  $1 + \text{the out-degree of } v$
4.  $n$

(2) is the correct answer. The first case of the recurrence relation gives us a one candidate and the second case gives uses all neighbors of  $v$  that have  $v$  as a head node, which is the *in-degree of  $v$* . Hence we have  $1 + \text{the in-degree of } v$ .

**3** What's the running time of the Bellman-Ford algorithm, as a function of  $m$  and  $n$ ?

1.  $O(n^2)$
2.  $O(m \cdot n)$
3.  $O(n^3)$
4.  $O(m \cdot n^2)$

(2) is the correct answer. Given an adjacency list representation we have  $V - 1$  iterations which is the number of sub-problems, then we choose all  $E$  edges to determine if we could relax it. Thus we have  $O(V \cdot E)$ . Note that when  $E = O(V^2)$  this becomes  $O(V^3)$  showing that  $O(V \cdot E)$  is the tightest correct bound.