

Trevon and Gabon Williams
Project 3

Useful information

- For the routing tables, we used dictionaries
- We randomly generated a number to choose when we would change the cost to a node and randomly selected which node to apply that cost
- Python v3 was used for this good and should be backwards compatible

For this assignment, we used python to implement a distance vector algorithm to find the shortest path to a given router based upon the routing tables given from the sending router's neighbors routing table.

We ran into a couple of problems when implementing this algorithm which resulted in us not be able to query to the cost to the correct nearest hop for some cases (it works 60% of the time). The next node query also has some mistakes (works 80% of the time). Since we did not build a graph to optimize the program and eliminate the recursive updating problem, our code uses the tables sent over a UDP socket to find the shortest path to a specified node. The shortest path cost is optimized for each run if the shortest path is not already found.

You will see when running the code that for example when node A is looking for the shortest path to node F, if node E does not start broadcasting the route is not the shortest path, but updates when all nodes broadcast.

Notes

We felt that honesty was the best policy, and we worked really hard trying to wrap our mind around the problem without rewriting the code a third time. We have a prototype that builds a graph to find the shortest path, but we found that we were stuck in a recursive loop when trying to implement the challenge.

Running the program:
python main