# Djikstra's Algorithm 

## Slide Courtesy: Uwash, UT

## Single-Source Shortest Path Problem

Single-Source Shortest Path Problem - The problem of finding shortest paths from a source vertex $s$ to all other vertices in the graph.


## Applications

- Maps (Map Quest, Google Maps)
- Routing Systems

From Computer Desktop Enoyclopedia - 1998 The Computer Language Co. Inc


Router A
Routing Table


## Dijkstra's algorithm

Dijkstra's algorithm - is a solution to the single-source shortest path problem in graph theory.

Works on both directed and undirected graphs. However, all edges must have nonnegative weights.

Input: Weighted graph $\mathrm{G}=\{\mathrm{E}, \mathrm{V}\}$ and source vertex $s \in \mathrm{~V}$, such that all edge weights are nonnegative

Output: Lengths of shortest paths (or the shortest paths themselves) from a given source vertex $s \in \mathrm{~V}$ to all other vertices

## Approach

- The algorithm computes for each vertex $u$ the distance to $u$ from the start vertex $s$, that is, the weight of a shortest path between $s$ and $u$.
- the algorithm keeps track of the set of vertices for which the distance has been computed, called the cloud C
- Every vertex has a label $D$ associated with it. For any vertex $u$, $\mathrm{D}[\mathrm{u}]$ stores an approximation of the distance between $s$ and $u$. The algorithm will update a $\mathrm{D}[\mathrm{u}]$ value when it finds a shorter path from $s$ to $u$.
- When a vertex $u$ is added to the cloud, its label $D[u]$ is equal to the actual (final) distance between the starting vertex $s$ and vertex u.


## Dijkstra pseudocode

Dijkstra(s, t):
for each vertex $v$ :
// Initialization
$v$ 's distance := infinity.
v's previous := none.
s's distance := 0 .
List := \{all vertices\}.
while List is not empty:
$v:=$ remove List vertex with minimum distance.
mark vas known.
for each unknown neighbor $n$ of $v$ :
dist $:=v$ 's distance + edge ( $v, n$ )'s weight.
if dist is smaller than $n$ 's distance:
n's distance := dist.
$n$ 's previous := v.
reconstruct path from t back to s, following previous pointers.

## Example: Initialization



Pick vertex in List with minimum distance.

## Example: Update neighbors'

 distanceDistance(B) $=2$
Distance(D) $=1$


## Example: Remove vertex with minimum distance



Pick vertex in List with minimum distance, i.e., D

## Example: Update neighbors

Distance $(\mathrm{C})=1+2=3$
Distance $(\mathrm{E})=1+2=3$
Distance $(F)=1+8=9$
Distance $(\mathrm{G})=1+4=5$


## Example: Continued...

Pick vertex in List with minimum distance (B) and update neighbors


## Example: Continued...

Pick vertex List with minimum distance (E) and update neighbors


## Example: Continued...

Pick vertex List with minimum distance (C) and update neighbors


## Example: Continued...

Pick vertex List with minimum distance $(G)$ and update neighbors


## Example (end)



Pick vertex not in $S$ with lowest cost ( F ) and update neighbors

## Another Example

$$
Q: \begin{array}{llllll}
A & B & C & D & E \\
\hline 0 & \infty & \infty & \infty & \infty
\end{array}
$$



## Another Example



## Another Example



## Another Example



## Another Example



## Another Example



## Another Example



## Another Example



## Another Example



## Correctness :"Cloudy" Proof

When a vertex is added to the cloud, it has shortest distance to source.


- If the path to $v$ is the next shortest path, the path to $v$ ' must be at least as long. Therefore, any path through v' to v cannot be shorter!


## Dijkstra's Correctness

- We will prove that whenever $u$ is added to $S, d[u]=$ $\delta(s, u)$, i.e., that $d[u]$ is minimum, and that equality is maintained thereafter
- Proof
- Note that for all $v$ not in $S, d[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$
- Let $u$ be the first vertex picked such that there is a shorter path than $d[u]$, i.e., that $d[u]>\delta(s, u)$
- We will show that this assumption leads to a contradiction



## Dijkstra Correctness (2)

- Let $y$ be the first vertex in $V-S$ on the actual shortest path from $s$ to $u$, then it must be that $d[y]=\delta(s, y)$ because
$-d[x]$ is set correctly for $y$ 's predecessor $x$ in $S$ on the shortest path (by choice of $u$ as the first vertex for which $d$ is set incorrectly)
- when the algorithm inserted $x$ into $S$, it relaxed the edge $(x, y)$, assigning $d[y]$ the correct value



## Dijkstra Correctness (3)



- But if $d[u]>d[y]$, the algorithm would have chosen $y$ (from the $Q$ ) to process next, not $u$-- Contradiction
- Thus $\mathrm{d}[u]=\delta(s, u)$ at time of insertion of $u$ into $S$, and Dijkstra's algorithm is correct


## Dijkstra's Pseudo Code

- Graph $G$, weight function $w$, root $s$

relaxing edges


## Time Complexity: Using List

The simplest implementation of the Dijkstra's algorithm stores vertices in an ordinary linked list or array

- Good for dense graphs (many edges)
- $|V|$ vertices and $|E|$ edges
- Initialization $\mathrm{O}(|\mathrm{V}|)$
- While loop O(|V|)
- Find and remove min distance vertices $\mathrm{O}(|\mathrm{V}|)$
- Potentially |E| updates
- Update costs O(1)

Total time $\mathrm{O}\left(\left|\mathrm{V}^{2}\right|+|\mathrm{E}|\right)=\mathrm{O}\left(\left|\mathrm{V}^{2}\right|\right)$

## Time Complexity: Priority Queue

For sparse graphs, (i.e. graphs with much less than $\left|\mathrm{V}^{2}\right|$ edges) Dijkstra's implemented more efficiently by priority queue

- Initialization $\mathrm{O}(|\mathrm{V}|)$ using $\mathrm{O}(|\mathrm{V}|)$ buildHeap
- While loop O(|V|)
- Find and remove min distance vertices $\mathrm{O}(\log |\mathrm{V}|)$ using $\mathrm{O}(\log |\mathrm{V}|)$ deleteMin
- Potentially |E| updates
- Update costs $\mathrm{O}(\log |\mathrm{V}|)$ using decreaseKey

Total time $\mathrm{O}(|\mathrm{V}| \log |\mathrm{V}|+|\mathrm{E}| \log |\mathrm{V}|)=\mathrm{O}(|\mathrm{E}| \log |\mathrm{V}|)$

- $|\mathrm{V}|=\mathrm{O}(|\mathrm{E}|)$ assuming a connected graph

