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



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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 $G=\{E,V\}$ and source vertex $s\in V$, such that all edge weights are nonnegative

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



- 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, D[u] stores an approximation of the distance between s and u. The algorithm will update a D[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: v's distance := infinity. v's previous := none. s's distance := 0. List := {all vertices}. // Initialization

while List is not empty: v := remove List vertex with minimum distance. mark v as 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' distance



Example: Remove vertex with minimum distance



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

Example: Update neighbors



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



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



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



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



Example (end)



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





 $S: \{A\}$















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] = δ(s,u), i.e., that d[u] is minimum, and that equality is maintained thereafter
- Proof
 - Note that for all v not in S, $d[v] \ge \delta(s,v)$
 - 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 $d[u] = \delta(s,u)$ 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

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 O(|V|)
- While loop O(|V|)
 - Find and remove min distance vertices O(|V|)
- Potentially |E| updates
 - Update costs O(1)

Total time $O(|V^2| + |E|) = O(|V^2|)$

Time Complexity: Priority Queue

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

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

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

• |V| = O(|E|) assuming a connected graph