

For shortest path problem, we are given a weight function  $W: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where each edge is assigned a weight. We also assign a weight of infinity for edges that don't exist.

our goal is to find a path from source  $s$  to all other vertices s.t. the sum of the weights of edges along the path is minimal.

## 1. Bellman - Ford.

Relax  $(u, v)$

if  $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$

$d[v] \leftarrow d[u] + w(u, v)$

$\pi[v] \leftarrow u$ .

$d[v]$  = current calculated shortest distance from  $s$  to  $v$ .

$w(u, v)$  = edge weights of  $(u, v)$

$\pi[v]$  = the current parent of  $v$  that lead to the shortest path.

Initialize  $(V, E, s)$

for  $v \in V$

$d[v] \leftarrow \infty$

$\pi[v] = \text{null}$ .

$d[s] = 0$

$\pi[s] = s$ .

Bellman - Ford  $(V, E, s)$

initialize  $(V, E, s)$

for  $i = 1: |V| - 1$

for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$

Relax  $(u, v)$ .

for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$   
if  $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$   
return False

} this returns that  $\exists$  a negative weight cycle.

Because the graph can only contain positive weight cycle, we would not have a cycle in our shortest path, so the shortest path have at most  $|V|-1$  edges, so after  $|V|-1$  iterations of relaxation, we would have the shortest path.

Running time:  $O(VE)$ ,  $(V-1)$  iterations, each iteration we relax  $|E|$  edges.

Dijkstra:

In fact we can be more selective on the edges that we relax on each iteration.

2 Dijkstra:

Dijkstra  $(V, E, s)$

initialize  $(V, E, s)$

push all  $v \in V \rightarrow Q$

while  $Q$  not empty

$u = Q.pop$ ;

for every  $v$  s.t.  $(u, v) \in E$ .

relax  $(u, v)$ .

$Q$  is a min priority queue.

so each time we only relax edges whose starting point currently have the smallest  $d[u]$  value.

Runtime:  $O(V \cdot (\text{extract-min}) + E \cdot (\text{decrease-key}))$ .

we only look through each vertex once and relax each edge once

problem 1: if we increase each edge weights by 1, we still find the shortest path.

Ans. False,

problem 2: if all edges in graph have distinct weights, shortest paths are distinct.

Ans. False,

problem 3: Given graph  $G = (V, E, w)$ . given  $\delta(s, u)$  for all  $u \in V$  but we are not given  $\pi(u)$  for any  $u$ , how to find the shortest path from  $s$  to a given  $t$ .

ans: start with  $t$ , one of  $v \in V$  s.t.  
 $\delta(v) + w(v, t) = \delta(t)$ , then recursively work on  $v$ ,  
the running time is  $O(V+E)$  since we hit each edge and vertex at most once.

Note: A shortest path should not contain a cycle, for ex. if there exist a zero-weight cycle, the shortest path should ignore it.

problem 4: modified shortest path, if all we care is to minimize the maximum edge weight along a path, how to find shortest path.

answer: change relax function.

if  $d[u] > w(v, u)$  and  $d(v)$ ,

$$d(u) = \max \{w(v, u), d(v)\}$$