

# Fundamental Algorithms

## Chapter 9: Weighted Graphs

Michael Bader

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# Weighted Graphs

## Definition (Weighted Graph)

A **weighted graph**  $G = (V, E)$  is attributed by a function  $w$  that assigns a weight  $w(e)$  to each edge  $e \in E$ .

## Comments

- typically:  $w(e) > 0$  or  $w(e) \geq 0$  (but negative weights possible)
- we will consider weighted graphs with  $w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$
- notation: we will also write  $w(V, W)$ , instead of  $w((V, W))$ , for the weight  $w(e)$  of the edge  $e = (V, W)$
- examples: traffic networks, costs for routing, etc.

# Shortest Path

## Definition (Length of a Path)

The length of a path  $p = (V_0, V_1), (V_1, V_2), \dots, (V_{n-1}, V_n)$  in a weighted graph is defined as

$$\bar{w}(p) := \sum_{j=1}^n w(V_{j-1}, V_j).$$

## Definition (Distance between Vertices)

The **distance**  $d(V, W)$  between two vertices  $V$  and  $W$  is defined as the length of the shortest path  $p = (V_0, V_1), (V_1, V_2), \dots, (V_{n-1}, V_n)$  that connects  $V$  and  $W$ :

$$d(V, W) = \min \{ \bar{w}(p) : p = (V_0, V_1), (V_1, V_2), \dots, (V_{n-1}, V_n), \\ \forall j: (V_{j-1}, V_j) \in E, V = V_0, W = V_n \}$$

# All-Pairs Shortest Path

**For non-weighted graphs:** (try this at home!)

BF-traversal finds the shortest path from a starting node to all connected nodes.

- is there an efficient algorithm to find the shortest path from all nodes to all other nodes? (“all-pairs shortest path”)
- is there an efficient algorithm to find which nodes are connected by a path of length  $l$ ?
- is there an efficient algorithm to find which nodes are connected by only the first  $k$  nodes? (assuming an ordering of the nodes)

**For weighted graphs:**

Generalize the last idea for weighted graphs

- Incrementally construct shortest paths from nodes connected by only the first  $k$  nodes
- We will implement the algorithm for **directed graphs** (modifying it for undirected graphs is straightforward)

# Floyd's Algorithm

```
Floyd_basic(W: Array[1..n,1..n]) {  
  ! Input: weight/adjacency matrix W  
  ! assume:  $W[i,j] = \text{inf}$ , if i not connected to j  
  ! Output:  $W[i,j]$  shortest part from i to j  
  
  for k from 1 to n do  
    ! check for all (i,j) whether a shorter path exists  
    ! that runs through vertex k  
    for i from 1 to n do  
      for j from 1 to n do  
         $W[i,j] = \min( W[i,k]+W[k,j], W[i,j] )$   
      end do  
    end do  
  end do  
}
```

## Floyd's Algorithm (2)

Disadvantages of Floyd\_basic:

- input array  $W$  is overwritten
- we get the length of the shortest path, but not the path itself!

```
Floyd( $W$ : Array [1..n, 1..n],  
       $S$ : Array [1..n, 1..n],  $P$ : Array [1..n, 1..n]) {  
  ! Output:  $S$  will contain lengths  
  !  $P$  allows to reconstruct shortest path  
  for  $i$  from 1 to  $n$  do  
    for  $j$  from 1 to  $n$  do  
       $S[i, j] = W[i, j]$   
       $P[i, j] = 0$   
    end do  
  end do
```

## Floyd's Algorithm (3)

```
! main loop of Floyd():  
for k from 1 to n do  
  for i from 1 to n do  
    for j from 1 to n do  
      if  $S[i,k] + S[k,j] < S[i,j]$  then  
         $S[i,j] = S[i,k] + S[k,j]$ ;  
        ! memorize connection via k  
         $P[i,j] = k$ ;  
      end if  
    end do  
  end do  
}
```

Use array P to reconstruct shortest path:

- $P[i,j]$  indicates that shortest path runs through vertex k
- check  $P[i,k]$  and  $P[k,j]$  for further info

# Floyd's Algorithm – Correctness

## Ingredients:

- **Optimality Principle:**  
If the shortest path between nodes  $A$  and  $B$  visits a node  $C$ , then this path consists of the shortest paths between  $A$  and  $C$ , and between  $C$  and  $B$ .
- **No cycles:**  
The shortest path between any two nodes does not contain a cycle, i.e., contains any node at most once.
  - while edges are allowed to have negative weights, cycles must not lead to negative weight
- **Loop Invariant** for the  $k$ -loop:  
*At entry of the  $k$ -loop,  $S[i, j]$  contains (for every pair  $i, j$ ) the length of the shortest path between  $i$  and  $j$  that only visits nodes with index smaller than  $k$ .*



# Floyd's Algorithm on the PRAM

```

FloydPRAM(W: Array [1..n, 1..n]) {
  for k from 1 to n do
    for i from 1 to n do in parallel
      for j from 1 to n do in parallel
        if  $W[i, k] + W[k, j] < W[i, j]$ 
          then  $W[i, j] = W[i, k] + W[k, j]$ 
        end do
      end do
    end do
  end do
}

```

Classify concurrent/exclusive read/write?

- **concurrent read** to row  $W[*,k]$  and column  $W[k,*]$
- also **concurrent write** to row  $W[*,k]$  and column  $W[k,*]$ ?
  - $\min(W[k,k] + W[k,j], W[k,j])$  is  $W[k,j] \Rightarrow$  no write on  $W[k,j]$
  - $\min(W[i,k] + W[k,k], W[i,k])$  is  $W[i,k] \Rightarrow$  no write on  $W[i,k]$
- formally CRCW, but **effectively CREW** on  $n^2$  processors

# Dijkstra's Algorithm for Shortest Paths

## Problem setting: “single-source shortest path”

- given is a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  and a start vertex  $r \in V$
- we want to compute the shortest path from  $r$  to each vertex in  $G$  that is reachable from  $r$ 
  - this is a **spanning tree** of shortest paths

## Idea: “Greedy Algorithm”

- maintain a spanning tree  $S$  of vertices and “explored” shortest paths
- maintain a set  $Q = V \setminus S$  of unexplored vertices
- for each  $v \in Q$ , determine the shortest path to  $v$  that can be obtained by adding a single edge to the spanning tree  $S$
- add  $v_{\min}$  (with shortest path) to  $S$  and update  $Q$
- repeat until all vertices are in the explored path

# Dijkstra's Algorithm – Implementation

## Spanning Tree $S$ of Shortest Paths

- use an array  $\text{Parent}[1..n]$  for the  $n$  vertices
- $\text{Parent}[i]$  contains the parent of vertex  $i$  in the spanning tree

## Set $Q$ of Unexplored Vertices

- accompanied by an array  $\text{Dist}[1..n]$
- $\text{Dist}[i]$  contains the shortest path to vertex  $i$  that adds only one edge to  $S$
- we will need to update  $\text{Dist}[1..n]$  after each change of  $Q$
- for vertices  $i \in Q$ ,  $\text{Dist}[1..n]$  is the length of the shortest path

## Dijkstra's Algorithm – Implementation (2)

```
Dijkstra(W: Array [1..n, 1..n], r: Node) {  
  ! initialise data structures  
  Array Parent[1..n];  
  Array Dist[1..n];  
  for i from 1 to n do  
    Dist[i] = inf;  
  end do;  
  ! init Parent and Dist for root r:  
  Parent[r] = 0;  
  Dist[r] = 0;  
  ! init sets of explored and unexplored vertices  
  Set S = {};  
  Set Q = {1, .., n};  
  ! ... to be continued ...
```

## Dijkstra's Algorithm – Implementation (3)

```
! main loop of Dijkstra (...)  
while Q  $\diamond$  {} do  
    ! remove node with smallest Dist[] from Q  
    X = removeSmallest(Q, Dist);  
    S = union(S,X);  
    ! X is added to S, thus update Dist:  
    forall (X,V) in X.edges do  
        if V in S then continue;  
        ! update neighbours of X that are not in S:  
        d := Dist[X.key] + W[X.key, V.key);  
        if d < Dist[V.key] then  
            Dist[V.key] := d;  
            Parent[V.key] := X.key ;  
        end if  
    end do;  
end while;
```

# Dijkstra's Algorithm – Comments

- Why do we not update `Dist[X.key]` and `Parent[X.key]`?  
→ this was already set in the previous iteration of the while-loop
- how do we obtain the shortest path?  
→ via the `Parent[]` array:

```
shortestPath(key: Int) : List {  
  if Parent[key] = 0  
  then return [key]  
  else return append(shortestPath(Parent[key]), key);  
  end if;  
}
```

# Dijkstra – Single Source, Single Destination

## Question:

Can Dijkstra's Algorithm be improved, if the shortest path to only one specific destination is wanted?

- terminate algorithm after destination node has been removed:

```
X = removeSmallest(Q, Dist );  
if X = destination then return X;
```

- is there a better algorithm to solve the single-source-single-destination problem?  
→ there is no algorithm known that is asymptotically faster

# Dijkstra's Algorithm – Complexity

## Priority Queues:

- How is the function `removeSmallest` implemented?
- Idea: sort elements of  $Q$  according to array `Dist`
- `ToDo`: Update sorting of  $Q$  after changes to `Dist`

```
if d < Dist[V.key] then
    Parent[V.key] := X.key ;
    Dist[V.key] := d;
    updateSorting(Q, Dist, V);
end if
```

- integrated data structure for such purposes: **priority queue**

## Complexity of Dijkstra's Algorithm:

- a complexity of  $\Theta(|E| + |V| \log |V|)$  is possible
- for dense graphs,  $|E| \in \Theta(|V|^2)$ , the complexity is thus  $\Theta(|V|^2)$



# Minimum Spanning Tree

## Definition (Minimum Spanning Tree)

A spanning tree  $T = (V, E)$  is called a **minimum spanning tree** for the graph  $G = (V, E')$ , if the sum of the weights of all edges of  $T$  is minimal (among all possible spanning trees).

## Towards an Algorithm:

- Dijkstra's Algorithm computes a spanning tree of shortest paths
- Idea: modify Dijkstra's "greedy approach"  
→ successively add edges to a subtree
- minimise total weight of edges instead of path lengths  
→ add node that is closest to the current subtree

⇒ **Prim's Algorithm**

# Prim's Algorithm

```
Prim(W: Array[1..n,1..n], r:Node) {  
  ! initialise data structures  
  Array Parent[1..n];  
  Array Nearest[1..n]; ! replaces Dist  
  for i from 1 to n do  
    Nearest[i] = inf;  
  end do;  
  ! init Parent and Dist for root r:  
  Parent[r] = 0;  
  Nearest[r] = 0;  
  ! init sets of explored and unexplored vertices  
  Set S = {};  
  Set Q = {1, .., n};  
  ! ... to be continued ...
```

## Prim's Algorithm (2)

```
! main loop of Prim (...)
while Q  $\diamond$  {} do
  ! remove nearest node from Q
  X = removeNearest(Q, Nearest);
  S = union(S,X);
  ! X is added to S, thus update Nearest:
  forall (X,V) in X.edges do
    if V in S then continue;
    ! update neighbours of X that are not in S:
    if W[X.key, V.key] < Nearest[V.key] then
      Nearest[V.key] := W[X.key, V.key];
      Parent[V.key] := X.key ;
    end if
  end do;
end while;
}
```