CSE373: Data Structures & Algorithms

Lecture 19: Dijkstra’s algorithm and Spanning Trees

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Announcements

- Homework 4 due tonight at 11pm!!
  - David’s office hours right after class in CSE 220

- Homework 5 out today
  - Due May 28th
  - As with HW4 you’re allowed to work with a partner
    - New partner selection method?

- Midterm back at the end of class
**Dijkstra’s algorithm**

- Dijkstra’s algorithm: Compute shortest paths in a weighted graph with no negative weights

- Initially, start node has cost 0 and all other nodes have cost $\infty$

- At each step:
  - Pick an unknown vertex $v$ with the lowest “cost”
  - Add it to the “cloud” of known vertices
  - Update distances for nodes with edges from $v$
Correctness and Efficiency

• What should we do after learning an algorithm?
  – Prove it is correct
    • Not obvious!
    • We will sketch the key ideas
  – Analyze its efficiency
    • Will do better by using a data structure we learned earlier!
Correctness: Intuition

Rough intuition:

All the “known” vertices have the correct shortest path
- True initially: shortest path to start node has cost 0
- If it stays true every time we mark a node “known”, then by induction this holds and eventually everything is “known”

Key fact we need: When we mark a vertex “known” we won’t discover a shorter path later!
- This holds only because Dijkstra’s algorithm picks the node with the next shortest path-so-far
- The proof is by contradiction…
Correctness: The Cloud (Rough Sketch)

Suppose \( v \) is the next node to be marked known ("added to the cloud")

- The best-known path to \( v \) must have only nodes "in the cloud"
  - Else we would have picked a node closer to the cloud than \( v \)
- Suppose the actual shortest path to \( v \) is different
  - It won’t use only cloud nodes, or we would know about it
  - So it must use non-cloud nodes.
  - Let \( w \) be the first non-cloud node on this path.
  - The part of the path up to \( w \) is already known and must be shorter than the best-known path to \( v \). So \( v \) would not have been picked.
  - Contradiction.
Efficiency, first approach

Use pseudocode to determine asymptotic run-time
  – Notice each edge is processed only once

```python
dijkstra(Graph G, Node start) {
    for each node: x.cost=Infinity, x.known=false
    start.cost = 0
    while(not all nodes are known) {
        b = find unknown node with smallest cost
        b.known = true
        for each edge (b,a) in G
            if(!a.known)
                if(b.cost + weight((b,a)) < a.cost){
                    a.cost = b.cost + weight((b,a))
                    a.path = b
                }
    }
}
```
**Efficiency, first approach**

Use pseudocode to determine asymptotic run-time

- Notice each edge is processed only once

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                if(b.cost + weight((b,a)) < a.cost){
                    a.cost = b.cost + weight((b,a))
                    a.path = b
                }
    }
}
```

- \( O(|V|) \)
- \( O(|V|^2) \)
- \( O(|E|) \)
- \( O(|V|^2) \)
Improving asymptotic running time

• So far: \( O(|V|^2) \)

• We had a similar “problem” with topological sort being \( O(|V|^2) \) due to each iteration looking for the node to process next
  – We solved it with a queue of zero-degree nodes
  – But here we need the lowest-cost node and costs can change as we process edges

• Solution?
  – A priority queue holding all unknown nodes, sorted by cost
  – But must support \textit{decreaseKey} operation
    • Must maintain a reference from each node to its current position in the priority queue
    • Conceptually simple, but can be a pain to code up
Efficiency, second approach

Use pseudocode to determine asymptotic run-time

dijkstra(Graph G, Node start) {
    for each node: x.cost=\infty, x.known=false
    start.cost = 0
    build-heap with all nodes
    while(heap is not empty) {
        b = deleteMin()
        b.known = true
        for each edge (b,a) in G
            if(!a.known)
                if(b.cost + weight((b,a)) < a.cost) {
                    decreaseKey(a,"new cost – old cost")
                    a.path = b
                }
    }
}
Efficiency, second approach

Use pseudocode to determine asymptotic run-time

dijkstra(Graph G, Node start) {
    for each node: x.cost=\infty, x.known=false
    start.cost = 0
    build-heap with all nodes
    while(heap is not empty) {
        b = deleteMin()
        b.known = true
        for each edge (b,a) in G
            if(!a.known)
                if(b.cost + weight((b,a)) < a.cost){
                    decreaseKey(a, “new cost – old cost”)
                    a.path = b
                }
    }
}

\(O(|V|)\)
\(O(|V|\log|V|)\)
\(O(|E|\log|V|)\)
\(O(|V|\log|V| + |E|\log|V|)\)
Dense vs. sparse again

- First approach: $O(|V|^2)$
- Second approach: $O(|V| \log |V| + |E| \log |V|)$
- So which is better?
  - Sparse: $O(|V| \log |V| + |E| \log |V|)$ (if $|E| > |V|$, then $O(|E| \log |V|)$)
  - Dense: $O(|V|^2)$
- But, remember these are worst-case and asymptotic
  - Priority queue might have slightly worse constant factors
  - On the other hand, for “normal graphs”, we might call decreaseKey rarely (or not percolate far), making $|E| \log |V|$ more like $|E|$
Done with Dijkstra’s

• You will implement Dijkstra’s algorithm in homework 5 😊

• Onward….. Spanning trees!
Spanning Trees

- A simple problem: Given a connected undirected graph $G=(V,E)$, find a minimal subset of edges such that $G$ is still connected
  - A graph $G_2=(V,E_2)$ such that $G_2$ is connected and removing any edge from $E_2$ makes $G_2$ disconnected
Observations

1. Any solution to this problem is a tree
   - Recall a tree does not need a root; just means acyclic
   - For any cycle, could remove an edge and still be connected

2. Solution not unique unless original graph was already a tree

3. Problem ill-defined if original graph not connected
   - So $|E| \geq |V| - 1$

4. A tree with $|V|$ nodes has $|V| - 1$ edges
   - So every solution to the spanning tree problem has $|V| - 1$ edges
Motivation

A spanning tree connects all the nodes with as few edges as possible

- Example: A “phone tree” so everybody gets the message and no unnecessary calls get made

In most compelling uses, we have a weighted undirected graph and we want a tree of least total cost

- Example: Electrical wiring for a house or clock wires on a chip
- Example: A road network if you cared about asphalt cost rather than travel time

This is the minimum spanning tree problem
  - Will do that next, after intuition from the simpler case
Two Approaches

Different algorithmic approaches to the spanning-tree problem:

1. Do a graph traversal (e.g., depth-first search, but any traversal will do), keeping track of edges that form a tree

2. Iterate through edges; add to output any edge that does not create a cycle
Spanning tree via DFS

spanning_tree(Graph G) {
    for each node i
        i.marked = false
    for some node i: f(i)
}

f(Node i) {
    i.marked = true
    for each j adjacent to i:
        if(!j.marked) {
            add(i,j) to output
            f(j) // DFS
        }
}

Correctness: DFS reaches each node. We add one edge to connect it to the already visited nodes. Order affects result, not correctness.

Time: $O(|E|)$
Example

Stack
f(1)

Output:
Example

Stack
f(1)
f(2)

Output: (1,2)
Example

Stack
f(1)
f(2)
f(7)

Output: (1,2), (2,7)
Example

Stack
f(1)
f(2)
f(7)
f(5)

Output: (1,2), (2,7), (7,5)
Example

Stack
f(1)
f(2)
f(7)
f(5)
f(4)

Output: (1,2), (2,7), (7,5), (5,4)
Example

Stack
f(1)
f(2)
f(7)
f(5)
f(4)
f(3)

Output: (1,2), (2,7), (7,5), (5,4),(4,3)
Example

Stack
f(1)
f(2)
f(7)
f(5)
f(4)  f(6)
f(3)

Output:  (1,2), (2,7), (7,5), (5,4), (4,3), (5,6)
Example

Stack
f(1)  f(2)  f(7)  f(5)  f(4)  f(6)  f(3)

Output:  (1,2), (2,7), (7,5), (5,4), (4,3), (5,6)
Second Approach

Iterate through edges; output any edge that does not create a cycle

Correctness (hand-wavy):
- Goal is to build an acyclic connected graph
- When we add an edge, it adds a vertex to the tree
  - Else it would have created a cycle
- The graph is connected, so we reach all vertices

Efficiency:
- Depends on how quickly you can detect cycles
- Reconsider after the example
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output:
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2)
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:

(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2), (3,4)
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2), (3,4), (5,6),
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7)
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5)
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5)
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5)
Example

Edges in some arbitrary order:
(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (1,6), (2,7), (2,3), (4,5), (4,7)

Output: (1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (5,7), (1,5), (2,3)

Can stop once we have $|V| - 1$ edges
Cycle Detection

• To decide if an edge could form a cycle is $O(|V|)$ because we may need to traverse all edges already in the output

• So overall algorithm would be $O(|V||E|)$

• But there is a faster way we know

• Use union-find!
  – Initially, each item is in its own 1-element set
  – Union sets when we add an edge that connects them
  – Stop when we have one set
**Using Disjoint-Set**

Can use a disjoint-set implementation in our spanning-tree algorithm to detect cycles:

**Invariant:** $u$ and $v$ are connected in output-so-far

iff

$u$ and $v$ in the same set

- Initially, each node is in its own set
- When processing edge $(u,v)$:
  - If $\text{find}(u)$ equals $\text{find}(v)$, then do not add the edge
  - Else add the edge and $\text{union}(\text{find}(u),\text{find}(v))$
  - $O(|E|)$ operations that are almost $O(1)$ amortized
Summary So Far

The spanning-tree problem
- Add nodes to partial tree approach is $O(|E|)$
- Add acyclic edges approach is *almost* $O(|E|)$
  - Using union-find “as a black box”

But really want to solve the minimum-spanning-tree problem
- Given a weighted undirected graph, give a spanning tree of minimum weight
- Same two approaches will work with minor modifications
- Both will be $O(|E| \log |V|)$
Minimum Spanning Tree Algorithms

Algorithm #1

Shortest-path is to Dijkstra’s Algorithm
as
Minimum Spanning Tree is to Prim’s Algorithm
(Both based on expanding cloud of known vertices, basically using
a priority queue instead of a DFS stack)

Algorithm #2

Kruskal’s Algorithm for Minimum Spanning Tree
is
Exactly our 2\textsuperscript{nd} approach to spanning tree
but process edges in cost order