

4/20  
Another shortest path (Bellman-Ford).

single-source  
Dijkstra's algorithm is good if there is no edge of negative length (exercise?), but Bellman-Ford works as long as there is no "negative cycle", i.e., a cycle whose edges sum to a negative value and it can detect such cycles.

```
Algorithm Bellman-Ford( $G, v$ );  
begin  $SP[v] = 0$ ;  $SP[w] = \infty$  for  $w \neq v$ ;  
  for  $i = 1$  to  $|V| - 1$   
    for each  $(u, w) \in E$  // relaxing edge  $(u, w)$   
      if  $SP[u] + \text{length}(u, w) < SP[w]$  then  
         $SP[w] = SP[u] + \text{length}(u, w)$   
  end;
```

Time complexity: clearly it is  $O(|V||E|)$  which is worse than Dijkstra's  $O((|V|+|E|)\log|V|)$

Proof is by Induction:

IH: If there is a path from  $v$  to  $u$  with at most  $i$  edges, then  $SP[u]$  is at most the length of the shortest path from  $v$  to  $u$  with at most  $i$  edges, where  $i$  is the repetitions.

Pf: Consider the shortest path  $P$  from  $v$  to  $u$  with at most  $i$  edges. Let  $w$  be the last vertex before  $u$  on this path. Then the part of  $P$  from  $v$  to  $w$  is a shortest path from  $v$  to  $w$  with at most  $i-1$  edges and by induction  $SP[w]$  after  $i$  iterations is at most the length of this path. Thus  $SP[w] + \text{length}(w, u)$  is at most the length of  $P$  and we find it in the  $i$ th iteration. ■

Now if there is no negative cycle, the length of any shortest path in terms of edges is at most  $|V|-1$  and thus we find it by IH for  $i = |V|-1$ .

IH itself is a good property of this algorithm, which has applications in routing protocols as well.

All-pairs shortest paths problem (Floyd-Warshall algorithm) ②

The problem: Given a weighted graph  $G=(V,E)$  with non-negative edge lengths, find the minimum-length paths between all pairs of vertices.

of course we can run  $|V|$  times Dijkstra with total time  $O(|V|(|V|+|E|)\log|V|) = O(|V||E|\log|V|)$  which is good for sparse graphs but not the best for dense graphs.

Algorithm Floyd-Warshall( $G$ );

begin

for  $m=1$  to  $n$  do // induction sequence: loop

for  $x=1$  to  $n$  do

for  $y=1$  to  $n$  do

if  $\text{weight}[x,m] + \text{weight}[m,y] < \text{weight}[x,y]$  then

$\text{weight}[x,y] = \text{weight}[x,m] + \text{weight}[m,y]$ ;

Proof by Induction:

IH: We know the lengths of the shortest paths between all pairs of vertices such that only  $k$ -paths, i.e., except end-points, the highest-labeled vertex on the path is labeled  $k$ , for some  $k \leq m$ , are considered. In  $i$ th iteration of loop, we computed all these.

PF: for  $m=1$ , the basis is correct since we have only direct edges as paths.

for  $m$ , the shortest path between any pair can have  $v_m$  at most one and then the paths to and from  $v_m$  are  $k$ -paths, for  $k \leq m-1$ . since we sum the paths to and from  $v_m$  and compare it with the best path found so far, we are done.

As you saw in both Bellman-Ford and Floyd-Warshall, the whole idea is to get IH correct and the rest is trivial. in the algorithm