

Algorithms Design and Analysis [ETCS-301]

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Bellman-Ford algorithm

- ▶ A graph with $|V|$ vertices can have maximum $|V| - 1$ edges and $|V|$ vertices in any simple path.
- ▶ If number of edges in the path is greater than $|V| - 1$ or vertices on the path is greater than $|V|$ including source and destination then there is cycle in path.
- ▶ Bellman works upon this fundamental and relaxes all edges $|V| - 1$ times to find the shortest path from single source.
- ▶ After $|V| - 1$ passes, there will be shortest path among nodes from source s , if exists.
- ▶ One more cycle of relax, if decrease the shortest path from source then it means there will be $|V|$ edges and $|V| + 1$ vertices and hence a negative weight cycle.
- ▶ The algorithm returns either TRUE if there is no negative weight cycle or FALSE if negative weight cycle



BELLMAN-FORD(G, w, s)

1. INITIALIZE-SINGLE-SOURCE(G, s)
2. for $i = 1$ to $|V| - 1$
3. for each edge $(u, v) \in E$
4. RELAX(u, v, w)
5. for each edge $(u, v) \in E$
6. if $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$
7. return FALSE
8. return TRUE

Time complexity of the algorithm is $O(VE)$



Correctness of the Bellman-Ford algorithm I

Statement: If G contains no negative-weight cycles that are reachable from s , then the algorithm returns TRUE, we have $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$ for all vertices $v \in V$, and the predecessor subgraph G_π is a shortest-paths tree rooted at s . If G does contain a negative-weight cycle reachable from s , then the algorithm returns FALSE.

- ▶ Suppose that graph G contains no negative-weight cycles that are reachable from the source s .
- ▶ Now we have to prove that the algorithms will return TRUE.
- ▶ If vertex v is reachable from s , then at termination after $|V| - 1$ iterations $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$
- ▶ If vertex v is unreachable from s , then at termination after $|V| - 1$ iterations $d[v] = \delta(s, v) = \infty$



Correctness of the Bellman-Ford algorithm II

- ▶ After termination of $|V| - 1$ iterations, for all edge $(u, v) \in E$, $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$

$$d[v] = \delta(s, v)$$

$$d[u] = \delta(s, u)$$

$$d[v] = \delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + w(u, v) \text{--by the triangle inequality}$$

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

- ▶ So $d[v] \leq d[u] + w(u, v)$ for all edge $(u, v) \in E$ in the predecessor subgraph G_π is a shortest path from source s
- ▶ So $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$ of line no ?? of the algorithm will never TRUE and hence algorithm will return TRUE.
- ▶ Suppose that graph G contains negative-weight cycles that are reachable from the source s .



Correctness of the Bellman-Ford algorithm III

- ▶ Now we have to prove that the algorithms will return FALSE.
- ▶ Let $c = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$ is a negative weight cycle in the path p reachable from source s in graph G where $v_0 = v_k$
- ▶ $\sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i) < 0 \leftarrow$ because of negative weight cycle
- ▶ Now let contradiction that there is a negative weight cycle but still algorithm returns TRUE.
- ▶ So $d[v_i] \leq d[v_{i-1}] + w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$.
- ▶ Taking summation over all the k values

$$\sum_{i=1}^k d[v_i] \leq \sum_{i=1}^k d[v_{i-1}] + \sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$$



Correctness of the Bellman-Ford algorithm IV

- ▶ $d[v_1] + d[v_2] + \cdots + d[v_{k-1}] + d[v_k]$
$$\leq d[v_0] + d[v_1] + \cdots + d[v_{k-1}] + \sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$$
- ▶ $0 \leq \sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i), \because v_0 = v_k$
- ▶ But $\sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i) < 0$ because of negative weight cycle
- ▶ So our assumption of contradiction is wrong and the algorithm will return FALSE.



Thank you

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