Fundamental Graph Algorithms Part II

Outline for Today

• Dijkstra's Algorithm

- An algorithm for finding shortest paths in more realistic settings
- Depth-First Search
 - A different graph search algorithm.
- Directed Acyclic Graphs
 - Graphs for representing prerequisites.
- (ITA) Topological Sorting
 - Algorithms for ordering dependencies.

Recap from Last Time

- Given an arbitrary graph G = (V, E) and a starting node $s \in V$, **breadth-first search** finds shortest paths from s to each reachable node v.
- When implemented using an adjacency list, runs in O(m + n) time, which we defined to be linear time on a graph.
- One correctness proof worked in terms of "layers:" the algorithm finds all nodes at distance 0, 1, 2, ... in order.

A Second Intuition for BFS































A Second Intuition

- At each point in the execution of BFS, a node v is either
 - green, and we have the shortest path to v;
 - yellow, and it is connected to some green node; or
 - gray, and v is undiscovered.
- Each iteration, we pick a yellow node with minimal distance from the start node and color it green. So what is the cost of the lowest-cost yellow node?
- If *v* is yellow, it is connected to a green node *u* by an edge.
- The cost of getting from *s* to *v* is then d(s, u) + 1.
- BFS works by picking the yellow node *v* minimizing

d(*s*, *u***)** + 1

where (u, v) is an edge and u is green.























Pick node $v \notin S$ minimizing d(s, u) + 1, where (u, v) is an edge and $u \in S$



- *Lemma:* Suppose we have shortest paths computed for nodes $S \subseteq V$, where $s \in S$. Consider a node v where $(u, v) \in E$, $u \in S$, and the quantity d(s, u) + 1 is minimized. Then d(s, v) = d(s, u) + 1.
- *Proof:* There is a path to v of cost d(s, u) + 1: follow the shortest path to u (which has cost d(s, u)), then follow one more edge to v for total cost d(s, u) + 1.

Now suppose for the sake of contradiction that there is a shorter path P to v. This path must start in S (since $s \in S$) and leave S (since $v \notin S$). So consider when P leaves S. When this happens, P must go from s to some node $x \in S$, cross an edge (x, y) to some node y, then continue from y to v. This means that |P| is at least d(s, x) + 1, since the path goes from s to x and then follows at least one more edge.

Since v was picked to minimize d(s, u) + 1 for any choice of $u \in S$ adjacent to an edge (u, v), we know

$$d(s, u) + 1 \le d(s, x) + 1 \le |P|$$

contradicting the fact that |P| < d(s, u) + 1. We have reached a contradiction, so our assumption was wrong and no shorter path exists.

Since there is a path of length d(s, u) + 1 from *s* to *v* and no shorter path, this means that d(s, v) = d(s, u) + 1.

Why These Two Proofs Matter

- The first proof of correctness (based on layers) is based on our first observation: the nodes visited in BFS radiate outward from the start node in ascending order of distance.
- The second proof of correctness (based on picking the lowest yellow node) is based on our second observation: picking the lowest-cost yellow node correctly computes a shortest path.
- Interestingly, this second correctness proof can be generalized to a larger setting...


Edges with Costs

- In many applications, edges have an associated length (or cost, weight, etc.), denoted *l(u, v)*.
- **Assumption**: Lengths are nonnegative. (We'll revisit this later in the quarter.)
- Let's say that the length of a path P (denoted *I(P)*) is the sum of all the edge lengths in the path P.
- Goal: find the shortest path from *s* to every node in *V*, taking costs into account.




















































































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procedure dijkstrasAlgorithm(s, G):
let q be a new queue
 for each v in V:
    dist[v] = \infty
dist[s] = 0
 enqueue(s, q)
 while q is not empty:
    let v be a node in q minimizing dist[v]
    remove(v, q)
    for each node u connected to v:
       if dist[u] > dist[v] + l(u, v):
          dist[u] = dist[v] + l(u, v)
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Dijkstra's Algorithm

- Assuming nonnegative edge lengths, finds the shortest path from s to each node in G.
- Correctness proof sketch is based on the second argument for breadth-first search:
 - Always picks the node v minimizing d(s, u) + l(u, v)for yellow v and green u.
 - If a shorter path *P* exists to *v*, it must leave the set of green nodes through some edge (*x*, *y*).
 - But then l(P) is at least d(s, x) + l(x, y), which is at least d(s, u) + l(u, v).
 - So the "shorter" path costs at least as much as the path we found.

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Dijkstra Runtime

- Using a standard implementation of a queue, Dijkstra's algorithm runs in time $O(n^2)$.
 - O(n + m) time processing nodes and edges, plus $O(n^2)$ time finding the lowest-cost node.
 - Since $m = O(n^2)$, $O(n + m + n^2) = O(n^2)$.
- Using a slightly fancier data structure (a binary heap), can be made to run in time O(m log n).
 - Is this necessarily more efficient?
 - More on how to do this later this quarter.
- Using a *much* fancier data structure (the *Fibonacci heap*), can be made to run in time
 O(m + n log n).
 - Take CS166 for details!

Shortest Path Algorithms

- If all edges have the same weight, can use breadth-first search to find shortest paths.
 - Takes time O(m + n).
- If edges have nonnegative weight, can use Dijkstra's algorithm.
 - Takes time $O(n^2)$, or less using more complex data structures.
- What about the case where edges can have negative weight?
 - More on that later in the quarter...

BFS and DFS

- Last time, we saw the breadth-first search (BFS) algorithm, which explored a graph and found shortest paths.
- The algorithm explored outward in all directions uniformly.
- We will now see **depth-first search** (**DFS**), an algorithm that explores out in one direction, backing up when necessary.











































































































Depth-First Search



Depth-First Search

































































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What DFS Visits

- Taken together, the two theorems we have proven show the following:
 - When DFS(*s*) terminates, every node reachable from *s* will have had DFS called on it, though the call to DFS(*s*) might not have initiated those other calls.
 - When DFS(s) terminates, it will never have called DFS on a node not reachable from s.
- Thus when DFS(*s*) terminates, the only nodes DFS will have been called on are nodes on which DFS had already been called, plus the nodes reachable from *s*.

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Analyzing Recursive Functions

- In general, it can be very difficult to analyze the runtime of a recursive function.
 - We'll see some techniques for special cases later in the quarter.
- One general technique is to look at the total number of calls made and the work done at each call.

Analyzing DFS

- The maximum number of function calls made is O(n), since we can't call DFS on a node twice.
- Each call to DFS on node v does $\Theta(\deg^+(v))$ work, since it visits each outgoing edge from v exactly once.
- Summing across all recursive calls:
 - O(*n*) work done initially coloring nodes.
 - O(n) work done coloring nodes yellow / green.
 - O(*m*) work visiting edges.
 - Total work done: O(m + n).
- When might this not do $\Theta(m + n)$ work?

BFS and DFS

- BFS and DFS always visit the same set of nodes.
- However, BFS always finds the shortest path from the source node to each other node in the graph, while DFS might not.
- That said: the order in which DFS visits nodes is pretty important and has lots of applications. We'll see some of them soon...

Ordering Prerequisites








Modeling Prerequisites

- We can model prerequisites as a graph with the following properties:
 - The graph has to be directed, since we have to be able to distinguish "A depends on B" from "B depends on A."
 - The graph has to be **acyclic** (containing no cycles), since otherwise there is no way to accomplish all the tasks.
- A graph with this property is called a directed acyclic graph, or DAG.

Some DAG Terminology

- A **source** node in a DAG is a node with no incoming edges.
- A **sink** node in a DAG is a node with no outgoing edges.
- DAGs can have many sources and sinks.



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Since there are only finitely many nodes in the DAG, this process eventually must revisit a node v_i . But then we have that v_i , v_{i+1} , v_{i+2} , ..., v_i is a cycle in G traced in reverse order, contradicting the fact that G is a DAG.

Proof: Suppose for the sake of contradiction that there is a nonempty DAG *G* where each node has at least one incoming edge. Start at any node $v_1 \in G$ and repeatedly follow an edge entering v_1 in reverse. This gives a sequence of nodes $v_1, v_2, v_3, ...$

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Ordering Prerequisites

- When ordering prerequisites, we want to order the tasks such that no task is placed before tasks it depends on.
- In graph-theoretic terms: given a DAG G = (V, E), we want to order the nodes so that if $(u, v) \in E$, then v appears after u.
- Such an ordering is called a topological ordering. An algorithm for finding a topological ordering is called a topological sort.









Feel Like P Diddy



Feel Like P Diddy



Feel Like P Diddy

Brush Teeth With Bottle of Jack



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```
procedure topologicalSort(DAG G):
let result be an empty list.
while G is not empty:
    let v be a node in G with indegree 0
    add v to result
    remove v from G
return result
```

Correctness Proof Sketch

- Whenever a node v is added to the **result**, it has no incoming edges.
- Therefore, either
 - v never had any incoming edges, in which case adding v to result cannot place v out of order, or
 - All of v's predecessors have already been placed into result, and v comes after all of them.
- Can't get stuck, since every nonempty DAG has at least one source.

Next Time

- Topological Sorting, Part II
- Connected Components
- Strongly-Connected Components
- Kosaraju's Algorithm I