# Lecture 12

Bellman-Ford, Floyd-Warshall, and Dynamic Programming!

#### Announcements

- HW5 due Wednesday
	- Some problems worth 0pts. These are ungraded, and just for extra practice.

# **Today**

- Bellman-Ford Algorithm
- Bellman-Ford is a special case of *Dynamic Programming!*
- What is dynamic programming?
	- Warm-up example: Fibonacci numbers
- Another example:
	- Floyd-Warshall Algorithm

# Recall

• A weighted directed graph:



- Weights on edges represent costs.
- The cost of a path is the sum of the weights along that path.
- A shortest path from s to t is a directed path from s to t with the smallest cost.
- The single-source shortest path problem is to find the shortest path from s to v for all v in the graph.

#### Last time

- Dijkstra's algorithm!
	- Solves the single-source shortest path problem in weighted graphs.



## Dijkstra Drawbacks

- Needs non-negative edge weights.
- If the weights change, we need to re-run the whole thing.

## Bellman-Ford algorithm

- (-) Slower than Dijkstra's algorithm
- (+) Can handle negative edge weights.
	- Can be useful if you want to say that some edges are actively good to take, rather than costly.
	- Can be useful as a building block in other algorithms.
- (+) Allows for some flexibility if the weights change.
	- We'll see what this means later

### Aside: Negative Cycles

- A **negative cycle** is a cycle whose edge weights sum to a negative number.
- Shortest paths aren't defined when there are negative cycles!



# Bellman-Ford algorithm

- (-) Slower than Dijkstra's algorithm
- (+) Can handle negative edge weights.
	- Can **detect** negative cycles!
	- Can be useful if you want to say that some edges are actively good to take, rather than costly.
	- Can be useful as a building block in other algorithms.
- (+) Allows for some flexibility if the weights change.
	- We'll see what this means later

# Bellman-Ford vs. Dijkstra

- Dijkstra:
	- Find the u with the smallest d[u]
	- Update u's neighbors:  $d[v] = min(d[v], d[u] + w(u,v))$
- Bellman-Ford:
	- Don't bother finding the u with the smallest d[u]
	- Everyone updates!



#### **How far is a node from Gates?**





- **For** i=0,…,n-2:
	- **For** v in V:
		- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow min(d^{(i)}[v]$  ,  $d^{(i)}[u] + w(u,v)$  ) where we are also taking the min over all u in v.inNeighbors

#### **How far is a node from Gates?**





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	- **For** v in V:
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#### **How far is a node from Gates?**



These are the final distances!

- **For** i=0,…,n-2:
	- **For** v in V:
		- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow min(d^{(i)}[v]$  ,  $d^{(i)}[u] + w(u,v)$  ) where we are also taking the min over all u in v.inNeighbors



### Interpretation of  $d^{(i)}$

 $d^{(i)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest path between s and v **with at most i edges**.





# Why does Bellman-Ford work?

- Inductive hypothesis:
	- d<sup>(i)</sup>[v] is equal to the cost of the shortest path between s and v **with at most i edges**.
- Conclusion:
	- $d^{(n-1)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest path between s and v **with at most n-1 edges**.

Do the base case and inductive step!



#### Aside: simple paths Assume there is no negative cycle.

• Then there is a shortest path from s to t, and moreover there is a simple shortest path.



This cycle isn't helping. Just get rid of it.

• A simple path in a graph with n vertices has at most n-1 edges in it.

Can't add another edge without making a cycle!



"Simple" means that the path has no cycles in it.

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• So there is a shortest path with at most n-1 edges

# Why does it work?

- Inductive hypothesis:
	- d<sup>(i)</sup>[v] is equal to the cost of the shortest path between s and v **with at most i edges**.
- Conclusion:
	- $d^{(n-1)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest path between s and v **with at most n-1 edges**.
	- If there are no negative cycles,  $d^{(n-1)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest path.

Notice that negative edge weights are fine. Just not negative cycles.  $19$ 

# Bellman-Ford\* algorithm

#### **Bellman-Ford\*(G,s):**

- Initialize arrays  $d^{(0)},...,d^{(n-1)}$  of length n
- $d^{(0)}[v] = \infty$  for all v in V
- $d^{(0)}[s] = 0$
- **For** i=0,…,n-2:
	- **For** v in V:

Here, Dijkstra picked a special vertex u and updated u's neighbors – Bellman-Ford will update all the vertices.

 $G = (V,E)$  is a graph with n

vertices and m edges.

- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow min(d^{(i)}[v]$  ,  $min_{u \text{ in } v \text{.}inNbrs} {d^{(i)}[u] + w(u,v)}$
- Now, dist(s,v) =  $d^{(n-1)}[v]$  for all v in V.
	- (Assuming no negative cycles)

\*Slightly different than some versions of Bellman-Ford…but this way is pedagogically convenient for today's lecture.

# Note on implementation

- Don't actually keep all n arrays around.
- Just keep two at a time: "last round" and "this round"

We don't even need

two, just one array is

fine. Why?



#### Bellman-Ford take-aways

- Running time is O(mn)
	- For each of n rounds, update m edges.
- Works fine with negative edges.
- Does not work with negative cycles.
	- No algorithm can shortest paths aren't defined if there are negative cycles.
- B-F can detect negative cycles!
	- See skipped slides to see how, or think about it on your own!

# Bellman-Ford algorithm

SLIDE SKIPPED IN CLASS

#### **Bellman-Ford\*(G,s):**

- $d^{(0)}[v] = U$  for all v, where U is a very large number
- $d^{(0)}[s] = 0$
- **For** i=0,…,n-1:
	- **For** v in V:
		- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow min(d^{(i)}[v]$  ,  $min_{u \text{ in } v \text{.} in Neghbox} \{d^{(i)}[u] + w(u,v)\}$
- If  $d^{(n-1)} = d^{(n)}$ :
	- **Return NEGATIVE CYCLE**  $\odot$
- Otherwise, dist(s,v) =  $d^{(n-1)}[v]$

#### **Running time: O(mn)**

#### Important thing about B-F for the rest of this lecture

 $d^{(i)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest path between s and v **with at most i edges**.





Bellman-Ford is an example of… *Dynamic Programming!*

Today:

- Example of Dynamic programming:
	- Fibonacci numbers.
	- (And Bellman-Ford)
- What is dynamic programming, exactly?
	- And why is it called "dynamic programming"?
- Another example: Floyd-Warshall algorithm
	- An "all-pairs" shortest path algorithm

#### Pre-Lecture exercise: How not to compute Fibonacci Numbers

- Definition:
	- $F(n) = F(n-1) + F(n-2)$ , with  $F(1) = F(2) = 1$ .
	- The first several are:
		- 1
		- 1
		- 2
		- 3
		- 5
		- 8
		- 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144,…
- Question:
	- Given n, what is F(n)?

#### Candidate algorithm

- **def** Fibonacci(n):
	- **if** n == 0, **return** 0
	- **if** n == 1, **return** 1
	- **return** Fibonacci(n-1) + Fibonacci(n-2)

#### Running time?

- $T(n) = T(n-1) + T(n-2) + O(1)$
- $\mathsf{T}(n) \geq \mathsf{T}(n-1) + \mathsf{T}(n-2)$  for  $n \geq 2$
- So T(n) grows *at least* as fast as the Fibonacci numbers themselves…
- This is **EXPONENTIALLY QUICKLY**!  $T(n) \geq 2T(n-2)$  implies  $T(n) \geq \Omega(2^{n/2}).$





#### Maybe this would be better:



#### This was an example of…



# What is *dynamic programming*?

- It is an algorithm design paradigm
	- like divide-and-conquer is an algorithm design paradigm.
- Usually, it is for solving **optimization problems**
	- E.g., *shortest* path
	- (Fibonacci numbers aren't an optimization problem, but they are a good example of DP anyway…)

# Elements of dynamic programming

- 1. Optimal sub-structure:
	- Big problems break up into sub-problems.
		- Fibonacci: F(i) for  $i \le n$
		- Bellman-Ford: Shortest paths with at most i edges for  $i \leq n$
	- The solution to a problem can be expressed in terms of solutions to smaller sub-problems.
		- Fibonacci:

 $F(i+1) = F(i) + F(i-1)$ 

• Bellman-Ford:

 $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow min\{ d^{(i)}[v], min_u \{ d^{(i)}[u] + weight(u,v) \} \}$ 

Shortest path with at most i edges from s to v

Shortest path with at most i edges from s to u.  $35$ 

# Elements of dynamic programming

- 2. Overlapping sub-problems:
	- The sub-problems overlap.
		- Fibonacci:
			- Both  $F[i+1]$  and  $F[i+2]$  directly use  $F[i]$ .
			- And lots of different  $F[i+x]$  indirectly use  $F[i]$ .
		- Bellman-Ford:
			- Many different entries of  $d^{(i+1)}$  will directly use  $d^{(i)}[v]$ .
			- And lots of different entries of  $d^{(i+x)}$  will indirectly use  $d^{(i)}[v]$ .
		- This means that we can save time by solving a sub-problem just once and storing the answer.

# Elements of dynamic programming

- Optimal substructure.
	- Optimal solutions to sub-problems can be used to find the optimal solution of the original problem.
- Overlapping subproblems.
	- The subproblems show up again and again
- Using these properties, we can design a *dynamic programming* algorithm:
	- Keep a table of solutions to the smaller problems.
	- Use the solutions in the table to solve bigger problems.
	- At the end we can use information we collected along the way to find the solution to the whole thing.

### Two ways to think about and/or implement DP algorithms

• Top down

• Bottom up





# Bottom up approach

what we just saw.

- For Fibonacci:
- Solve the small problems first
	- $\bullet$  fill in  $F[0], F[1]$
- Then bigger problems
	- fill in F[2]
- …
- Then bigger problems
	- $\cdot$  fill in F[n-1]
- Then finally solve the real problem.
	- fill in F[n]



#### Bottom up approach what we just saw.

• For Bellman-Ford:

- Solve the small problems first
	- $\cdot$  fill in  $d^{(0)}$
- Then bigger problems
	- fill in  $d^{(1)}$
- …
- Then bigger problems
	- $\bullet$  fill in  $d^{(n-2)}$
- Then finally solve the real problem.
	- fill in  $d^{(n-1)}$



# Top down approach

- Think of it like a recursive algorithm.
- To solve the big problem:
	- Recurse to solve smaller problems
		- Those recurse to solve smaller problems
			- etc..
- The difference from divide and conquer:
	- Keep track of what small problems you've already solved to prevent re-solving the same problem twice.
	- Aka, "**memo-ization"**





#### Example of top-down Fibonacci

- define a global list  $F = [0,1, N$ one, None, ..., None]
- **def** Fibonacci(n):
	- **if** F[n] != None:
		- **return** F[n]
	- **else:**
		- $F[n] = Fibonacci(n-1) + Fibonacci(n-2)$
	- **return** F[n]



#### Memo-ization visualization

Collapse repeated nodes and don't do the same work twice!



#### Memo-ization Visualization ctd



But otherwise treat it like the same old recursive algorithm.

• define a global list  $F = \{0, 1, N$ one, None, ..., None]

```
• def Fibonacci(n):
```

```
• if F[n] != None:
```

```
• return F[n]
```

```
• else:
```

```
• F[n] = Fibonacci(n-1) + Fibonacci(n-2)
```

```
• return F[n] 44
```


### What have we learned?

- · Dynamic programming:
	- Paradigm in algorithm design.
	- Uses **optimal substructure**
	- Uses **overlapping subproblems**
	- Can be implemented **bottom-up** or **top-down**.
	- It's a fancy name for a pretty common-sense idea:

Don't duplicate work if you don't have to!

# Why "*dynamic programming*" ?

- Programming refers to finding the optimal "program."
	- as in, a shortest route is a *plan* aka a *program*.
- Dynamic refers to the fact that it's multi-stage.
- But also it's just a fancy-sounding name.



Manipulating computer code in an action movie?

# Why "*dynamic programming*" ?

- Richard Bellman invented the name in the 1950's.
- At the time, he was working for the RAND Corporation, which was basically working for the Air Force, and government projects needed flashy names to get funded.
- From Bellman's autobiography:
	- "It's impossible to use the word, dynamic, in the pejorative sense…I thought dynamic programming was a good name. It was something not even a Congressman could object to."

#### Floyd-Warshall Algorithm Another example of DP

#### • This is an algorithm for **All-Pairs Shortest Paths** (APSP)

- That is, I want to know the shortest path from u to v for **ALL pairs** u,v of vertices in the graph.
- Not just from a special single source s.





Source

#### Floyd-Warshall Algorithm Another example of DP

- This is an algorithm for **All-Pairs Shortest Paths (**APSP)
	- That is, I want to know the shortest path from u to v for **ALL pairs** u,v of vertices in the graph.
	- Not just from a special single source s.
- Naïve solution (if we want to handle negative edge weights):
	- For all s in G:
		- Run Bellman-Ford on G starting at s.
	- Time  $O(n \cdot nm) = O(n^2m)$ ,
		- may be as bad as  $n^4$  if m= $n^2$



Label the vertices 1,2,…,n

#### Optimal substructure







 $D^{(k)}[u,v]$  is the cost of the shortest path from u to v so that all internal vertices on that path are in  $\{1, ..., k\}$ .



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 $D^{(k)}[u,v]$  is the cost of the shortest path from u to v so that all internal vertices on that path are in  $\{1, ..., k\}$ .



#### Case 2 continued

- Suppose there are no negative cycles.
	- Then WLOG the shortest path from u to v through {1,…,k} is **simple**.
- If **that path** passes through k, it must look like this:
- **This path** is the shortest path from u to k through  $\{1,...,k-1\}$ .
	- sub-paths of shortest paths are shortest paths
- Similarly for **this path**.

 $D^{(k)}[u,v] = D^{(k-1)}[u,k] + D^{(k-1)}[k,v]$ 

**Case 2:** we need vertex k.



**Case 1:** we don't need vertex k.

**Case 2:** we need vertex k.



 $D^{(k)}[u,v] = D^{(k-1)}[u,v]$ 

 $D^{(k)}[u,v] = D^{(k-1)}[u,k] + D^{(k-1)}[k,v]$ 

•  $D^{(k)}[u,v] = min\{ D^{(k-1)}[u,v], D^{(k-1)}[u,k] + D^{(k-1)}[k,v] \}$ 

**Case 1**: Cost of shortest path through  $\{1,...,k-1\}$ 

**Case 2**: Cost of shortest path from **u to k** and then from **k to v** through  $\{1,...,k-1\}$ 

- Optimal substructure:
	- We can solve the big problem using solutions to smaller problems.
- Overlapping sub-problems:
	- $D^{(k-1)}[k,v]$  can be used to help compute  $D^{(k)}[u,v]$  for lots of different u's.

•  $D^{(k)}[u,v] = min\{ D^{(k-1)}[u,v], D^{(k-1)}[u,k] + D^{(k-1)}[k,v] \}$ 

**Case 1**: Cost of shortest path through  $\{1,...,k-1\}$ 

**Case 2**: Cost of shortest path from **u to k** and then from **k to v** through  $\{1,...,k-1\}$ 

• Using our *Dynamic programming* paradigm, this immediately gives us an algorithm!



### Floyd-Warshall algorithm

- Initialize n-by-n arrays  $D^{(k)}$  for  $k = 0,...,n$ 
	- $D^{(k)}[u,u] = 0$  for all u, for all k
	- $D^{(k)}[u,v] = \infty$  for all  $u \neq v$ , for all k
	- $D^{(0)}[u,v]$  = weight(u,v) for all (u,v) in E.  $\triangleleft$
- **For** k = 1, …, n:
	- **For** pairs u,v in V2:
		- $D^{(k)}[u,v] = min\{ D^{(k-1)}[u,v], D^{(k-1)}[u,k] + D^{(k-1)}[k,v] \}$
- **Return** D<sup>(n)</sup>

This is a bottom-up *Dynamic programming* algorithm.

The base case checks out: the only path through zero other vertices are edges directly from u to v.

# We've basically just shown

#### • Theorem:

If there are no negative cycles in a weighted directed graph G, then the Floyd-Warshall algorithm, running on G, returns a matrix  $D^{(n)}$  so that:

 $D^{(n)}[u,v]$  = distance between u and v in G.

- Running time:  $O(n^3)$ 
	- Better than running Bellman-Ford n times!

Work out the details of a proof!

We don't even need two, just one array is fine. Why?

- Storage:
	- Need to store **two** n-by-n arrays, and the original graph.

As with Bellman-Ford, we don't really need to store all n of the  $D^{(k)}$ .

# What if there *are* negative cycles?

- Just like Bellman-Ford, Floyd-Warshall can detect negative cycles:
	- "Negative cycle" means that there's some v so that there is a path from  $v$  to  $v$  that has cost  $\leq 0$ .
	- Aka,  $D^{(n)}[v, v] < 0$ .
- Algorithm:
	- Run Floyd-Warshall as before.
	- If there is some v so that  $D^{(n)}[v,v] < 0$ :
		- **return** negative cycle.

### What have we learned?

- The Floyd-Warshall algorithm is another example of *dynamic programming*.
- It computes All Pairs Shortest Paths in a directed weighted graph in time  $O(n^3)$ .

#### Can we do better than  $O(n^3)$ ?

Nothing on this slide is required knowledge for this class

- There is an algorithm that runs in time  $O(n^3/log^{100}(n))$ .
	- *[Williams, "Faster APSP via Circuit Complexity", STOC 2014]*
- If you can come up with an algorithm for All-Pairs-Shortest-Path that runs in time  $O(n^{2.99})$ , that would be a really big deal.
	- Let me know if you can!
	- See *[Abboud, Vassilevska-Williams, "Popular conjectures imply strong lower bounds for dynamic problems", FOCS 2014]* for some evidence that this is a very difficult problem!

### Recap

- Two shortest-path algorithms:
	- Bellman-Ford for single-source shortest path
	- Floyd-Warshall for all-pairs shortest path
- *Dynamic programming!*
	- This is a fancy name for:
		- Break up an optimization problem into smaller problems
			- The optimal solutions to the sub-problems should be subsolutions to the original problem.
		- Build the optimal solution iteratively by filling in a table of sub-solutions.
			- Take advantage of overlapping sub-problems!

#### Next time

• More examples of *dynamic programming*!

We will stop bullets with our action-packed coding skills, and also maybe find longest common subsequences.



• No pre-lecture exercise for next time