Lecture 12

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

Announcements

- The midterm is over!
 - Congrats to everyone!
 - We are working on grading the midterm.
- HW 6 out today

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] ← 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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 where we are also taking the min over all u in v.inNeighbors

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] ← 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⁽ⁱ⁾[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.

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

Why does it work?

- Inductive hypothesis:
 - d⁽ⁱ⁾[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.

- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], \min_{u \text{ in } v.\text{ in } Nbrs} \{d^{(i)}[u] + w(u,v)\})$
- 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:
 - $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], \min_{u \text{ in } v.\text{ in Neighbors}} \{d^{(i)}[u] + w(u,v)\})$
- If d⁽ⁿ⁻¹⁾ != d⁽ⁿ⁾ :
 - Return NEGATIVE CYCLE ⊗
- 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)
- $T(n) \ge T(n-1) + T(n-2)$ for $n \ge 2$
- So T(n) grows at least as fast as the Fibonacci numbers themselves...
- This is **EXPONENTIALLY QUICKLY**! $T(n) \ge 2T(n-2)$ implies $T(n) \ge \Omega(2^{n/2}).$





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 $i \leq n$
 - 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.

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
 - fill in F[0],F[1]
- Then bigger problems
 - fill in F[2]
- .
- Then bigger problems
 - fill in F[n-1]
- Then finally solve the real problem.
 - fill in F[n]

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Bottom up approach what we just saw.

- For Bellman-Ford:
- Solve the small problems first
 - fill in d⁽⁰⁾
- Then bigger problems
 - fill in d⁽¹⁾
- .
- Then bigger problems
 - 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,None, 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

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

But otherwise treat it like the same old recursive algorithm.

• define a global list F = [0,1,None, None, ..., None]

```
• def Fibonacci(n):
```

```
• if F[n] != None:
```

```
• return F[n]
```

```
• else:
```

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

```
• return F[n]
```



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 mevie?

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.





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 n⁴ if m=n²



Label the vertices 1,2,...,n

Optimal substructure







How can we find $D^{(k)}[u,v]$ using $D^{(k-1)}$?

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



How can we find D^(k)[u,v] using D^(k-1)?

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



How can we find $D^{(k)}[u,v]$ using $D^{(k-1)}$?

 $D^{(k)}[u,v]$ 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 <u>that path</u> passes through k, it must look like this:
- <u>This path</u> is the shortest path from u to k through {1,...,k-1}.
 - sub-paths of shortest paths are shortest paths
- Similarly for <u>this path</u>.

 $D^{(k)}[u,v] = D^{(k-1)}[u,k] + D^{(k-1)}[k,v]_{56}$

Case 2: we need vertex k.



How can we find D^(k)[u,v] using D^(k-1)?

Case 1: we don't need vertex k.

Case 2: we need vertex k.



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

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

How can we find D^(k)[u,v] using D^(k-1)?

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

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.

How can we find $D^{(k)}[u,v]$ using $D^{(k-1)}$?

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

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.
- 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⁽ⁿ⁾

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(n³)
 - Better than running Bellman-Ford n times!

Work out the details of a proof!

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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 < 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(n³).

Can we do better than O(n³)?

Nothing on this slide is required knowledge for this class

- There is an algorithm that runs in time O(n³/log¹⁰⁰(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