

A* Search

Dijkstra: SSSP in $O(E \log V)$ ← regular heap
if no negative edges $O(E + V \log V)$ ← fancy heap

Dijkstra (G, s, t):

parent = {}, dist = {}

Q = Priority Queue ([0, s, None])

while Q:

l, u, p = Q.pop()

if u in parent: | $d = d - h(u)$
continue | $d \geq \text{dist}[u]$

parent[u] = p, dist[u] = l

if u == t: break

for v in u.adj:

Q.append((dist[u] + w(u,v), v, u))

return dist, parent

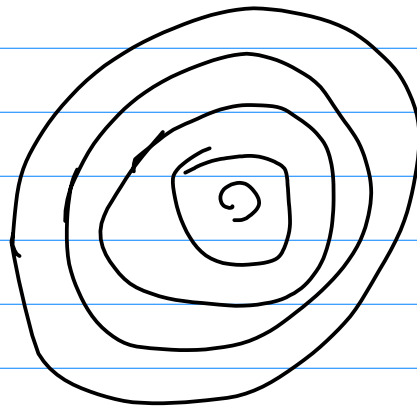
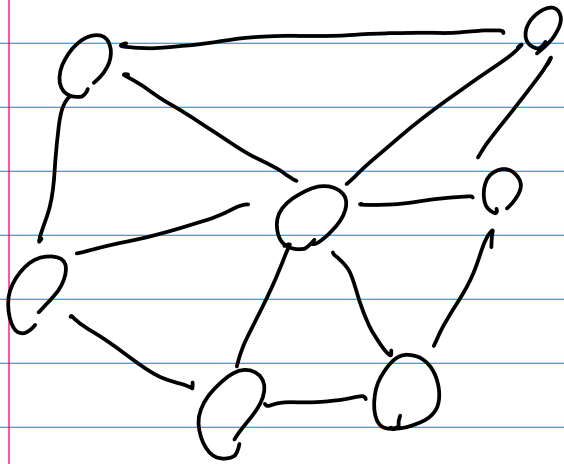
! : correct but slow w/ negative edges

what about shortest $s \rightarrow t$ path?

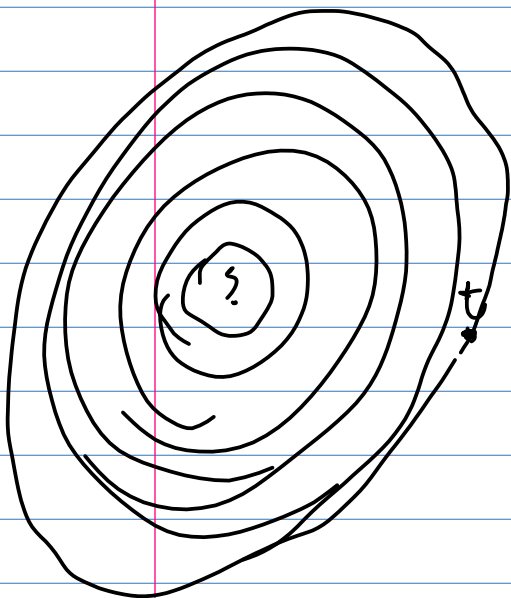
! : stop once visit t

I imagine road network

Shortest (or fastest) $s-t$ path



Visit vertices in order of distance from s
ends when reaches t



Austin - SF: 1760 miles
Austin - NYC: 1740 miles

Husto: maybe \exists partial NY - SF

Heuristic h , for "potential"

visit in order of increasing
 $\text{dist}(s, u) + h(u)$

Equivalent to adjusting lengths

$$w_h(u \rightarrow v) = w(u \rightarrow v) + h(v) - h(u)$$

$$\text{length}_h(u_1 \rightarrow u_2 \rightarrow u_3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow u_n) = \text{length}(u_1 \rightarrow u_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow u_n) + h(u_n) - h(u_1)$$

adjustment depends on

endpoints (u_1, u_n) but not path
 \Rightarrow shortest paths same for w & w_h .

$$\text{dist}_h(s, u) = \text{dist}(s, u) + h(u) - h(s)$$

\Rightarrow Dijkstra w/ w_h visits vertices
in order of $\text{dist}(s, u) + h(u)$

What $h()$ are good?

h "admissible": $h(u) \leq \text{dist}(u, t)$, $h(t) = 0$

when visit t , all unvisited u have
 $\text{dist}(s, u) + h(u) \geq \text{dist}(s, t) + h(t)$

admissible $\Rightarrow \text{dist}(s, u) + \text{dist}(u, t) \geq \text{dist}(s, t)$

$\Rightarrow \text{dist}(s, t)$ we found is optimal

$\Rightarrow A^*$ is correct,

But can still be slow (exponentially slow!)

h "consistent": $h(t) = 0$ & $w_h(u \rightarrow v) \geq 0 \quad \forall u, v$

$$\begin{aligned}w(u \rightarrow v) + h(v) - h(u) &\geq 0 \\h(u) - h(v) &\leq w(u \rightarrow v)\end{aligned}$$

consistent \Rightarrow admissible:

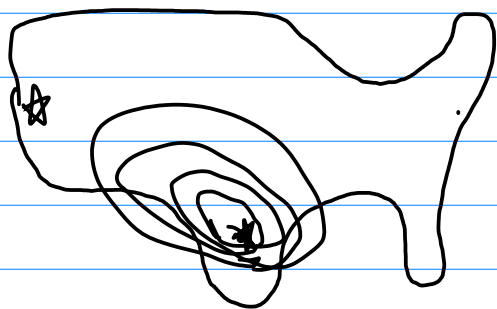
$$\begin{aligned}0 &\leq \text{dist}_h(u, t) = \text{dist}(u \rightarrow t) + h(t) - h(u) \\&= \text{dist}(u \rightarrow t) - h(u)\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow h(u) \leq \text{dist}(u \rightarrow t)$$

consistent $\Rightarrow A^*$ correct & $O(E + V \log V)$

example Euclidean, $w(u \rightarrow v) = \|u - v\|$
 $h(u) = \|u - t\|$

$$\|u - t\| - \|v - t\| \leq \|u - v\| \quad \text{by } \Delta \text{ inequality}$$



Johnson's Algorithm

pick arbitrary v^*

$$h(u) = -\text{dist}(v^*, u)$$

$$-\text{dist}(v^*, u) + \text{dist}(v^*, v) \leq w(u \rightarrow v)$$

$$\Rightarrow w_h(u \rightarrow v) \geq 0 \quad \forall u, v$$

\Rightarrow Dijkstra on w_h is fast, even if G has $-ve$ edges

\Rightarrow APSP in $O(VE) + O(V \cdot (E + V \log V))$

\uparrow Bellman Ford \uparrow V Dijkstra

even w/ negative edges