Shortest Path Problem

Given a directed graph with non-negative edge lengths, find shortest paths from a start vertex $s$ to all other vertices (or to a single goal vertex $t$).

$n = \#\text{ vertices} = 7$

$m = \#\text{ edges} = 12$
Dijkstra's Algorithm

Maintain a set $F$ of frontier vertices $v$, each labeled with a tentative distance $d(v)$.

Initially $F = \{s\}$, $d(s) = 0$, $d(v) = \infty$ for $v \neq s$.

General Step. Select $v \in F$, with $d(v)$ minimum (Now $d(v)$ is actual shortest distance from $s$.) For each edge $v \rightarrow w$ such that $d(v) + l(v,w) < d(w)$, replace $d(w)$ by $d(v) + l(v,w)$ and if $w \notin F$, add $w$ to $F$.

Repeat general step until $t$ selected.

Can be augmented to compute shortest paths as well as shortest distances.
distance

frontier set

distance

S a b c d e t
Operations on the Frontier Set

Initialize to empty (make)

Remove a vertex of smallest distance (delete min)

Insert a vertex with a predefined distance (insert)

Reduce the distance of a vertex (decrease)

A data structure with these four operations is a heap (priority queue).

The shortest path problem needs 1 make, n delete min, n insert, m decrease operations. Heap size = n.
Known Heap Implementations

Pointed-based
- leftist trees (Crane)
- binomial queues (Vuillemin)
  \( O(\log n) \) per operation

Implicit (array-based)
- 2-heaps (Floyd) \( O(\log n) \) per operation
- \( \frac{m}{n} \)-heaps (E. Johnson, D.B. Johnson)
  \( O(\log m/n) \) per insert or decrease
  \( O(\frac{m}{n} \log m/n) \) per delete min

Shortest path time:
- Dijkstra: \( O(n^2) \)
- \( \frac{m}{n} \)-heaps: \( O(m \log m/n) \)
- Others: \( O(m \log n) \)
2-heap

\[ p(x) = \lceil x/2 \rceil \]

children \( (x) = 2x, 2x+1 \)
(Lazy) Binomial Heaps

Heap-ordered tree: rooted tree, one item per node, arranged in heap order: item in parent no larger than smallest item in children (root has minimum item).

Rank of a node: number of children
Linking of trees: compare items in roots, make node with smaller item the parent of the node with the larger.

**Linking rule:** Only link trees with roots of equal rank.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Linking takes } O(1) \text{ time.}
\end{align*}
\]
Represent a heap by a forest of heap-ordered trees.

**make** create a new, empty forest.

**insert** create a one-node tree out of new item and add it to the forest.

**delete min**:

1. Find root with minimum item.
2. Remove this root and save item.
3. Repeatedly link trees with roots of equal rank, until no two roots have equal rank.
To do linking, use an array of trees with one position per rank.
Facts Needed for Analysis

1. All trees are binomial:
   \[ B_0 \quad B_k = \begin{array}{c}
   B_{k-1} \\
   B_{k-1}
   \end{array} \]
   
   \( B_k \) has \( 2^k \) nodes, root of rank \( k \).

2. Each link reduces number of trees by one.

insert creates one new tree.

delete min creates at most \( \log n \)

new trees, ends with at most \( \log n \)

trees.

\( \Phi = \# \text{ trees} \)
Amortization

Amortized time of an operation = actual time plus net increase in number of trees.

Sum of amortized times of operations = sum of actual times + final number of trees

⇒ Total actual time ≤ total amortized time.

Amortized time of make, insert is \( O(1) \).
Amortized time of delete min is \( O(\log n) \): k initial trees, at most \( \log n \) new trees, \( k + \log n \) actual time, at most \( \log n \) final tree

\[ A \leq k + \log n + (\log n - k) \leq 2\log n \]
Implementation Details

Children are ordered from largest rank to smallest.

Each node stores rank, first child, next sibling.

Eager (worst-case) version:

Maintain at most one tree per rank.

Insert becomes $O(hyn)$ worst-case.
Our Goal

Implement a heap with the following time bounds:

$O(\log n)$ for delete min
$O(1)$ for other operations

To give $O(n \log n + m)$ for shortest paths.

Our structure achieves these bounds in an amortized (time-averaged) sense.
Extension to decrease (Fibonacci heaps)

decrease: cut edge joining decreased item's node to its parent (creates a new tree).

Problem: Trees are no longer binomial $\Rightarrow$
rank of root is no longer logarithmic in size $\Rightarrow$
$O(\log n)$ bound for delete min is no longer valid.
Solution: Cascading Cuts

When a node loses a second child (via a cut), cut it from its parent. Count of lost children restarted when a node becomes a non-root via a link.
Amortized Analysis

$\Upsilon = \#\text{trees} + 2\times\#\text{marked nodes}$

$\Rightarrow$ a non-terminating cut

decreases $\Upsilon$ by 1: +1 tree, -1 marked node

$\Rightarrow$ decrease has $O(1)$ amortized time

insert, delete min analysis as before:

amortized time of delete min = $O(\text{maximum rank})$
Facts for Analysis

Marked node: has lost a child.

1. Number of cuts is at most twice the number of decrease operations.

Each cut in a decrease except the first unmarks a node. The last cut can mark a node.

2. A node of rank $k$ has at least $f_{k+2} \geq \varphi^k$ descendants.

$f_0 = 0, f_1 = 1, f_k = f_{k-2} + f_{k-1}$ are the Fibonacci numbers $0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ...$

$\varphi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$
Worst-Case Trees

(Highest rank for smallest size)

\[ F_0 \quad F_1 \quad F_2 \quad F_3 \quad F_4 \]

\[ \begin{array}{cc}
\vdots & \\
\end{array} \quad \begin{array}{cc}
\vdots & \\
\end{array} \quad \begin{array}{cc}
\vdots & \\
\end{array} \quad \begin{array}{cc}
\vdots & \\
\end{array} \]

\[ F_k = \]

\[ \begin{array}{cc}
\vdots & \\
\end{array} \]

\[ F_{k-2} \]

\[ F_{k-1} \]

Lemma. The youngest child of a node of rank \( k \) has rank at least \( k-2 \).

Analysis of delete min is as before with \( \log \phi n \) in place of \( \log_2 n \).
Rank Bound

Order the children of a node by time of linking

When $k$\textsuperscript{th} child linked, parent must have rank $\geq k-1 \Rightarrow$ child has rank $\geq k-1$

Child must remain of rank $\geq k-2$, or cut

Let $F_k = \min \# \text{ of nodes in a subtree whose root has rank } k$

$$F_0 = 1, F_1 = 2, F_k \geq \sum_{i=0}^{k-2} F_i + 2$$

The Fibonacci numbers obey this recurrence with equality (why?), hence $F_k \geq f_k$ (actually $=$), hence max rank $= O(\log n)$
Implementation Details

Each node stores its rank, whether it is marked, first child, parent, next sibling, previous sibling.

Too many pointers! Bad time, space constants.
Extensions of Fibonacci Heaps

meld: combine two disjoint heaps
  $O(1)$ time

delete or increase any item
  $O(\log n)$ time

add a constant to all items in a heap
  $O(1)$ time
Thin heaps: Alternative to Fibonacci heaps

1) Each node has a rank = degree (thick node) or 1+ degree (thin node)

2) Children of a node of degree k have ranks $k-1, k-2, \ldots, 0$

Decrease: removes subtree at decreased node, creates new tree.

May also create a sibling violation (of 2) or a parent violation (of 1)
Sibling violation

Parent violation

Every non-terminating case consumes a thin node: \( T = 2 \# \text{thin nodes} + \# \text{roots} \)
Repairs after a decrease proceed right-to-left through siblings and up through leftmost children.

Need parent pointer only for leftmost child:

three pointers per node, instead of four
Size of thin heaps

\[ S_k \geq S_{k-1} + S_{k-2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_k \geq F_k \]