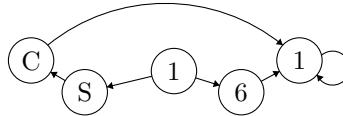


## Exercises

Exercises should be completed **on your own**.

**Drawing graphs:** You might try <http://madebyevan.com/fsm/> which allows you to draw graphs with your mouse and convert it into  $\text{\LaTeX}$  code:



### 1. (Fun with Dijkstra) (8 pt.)

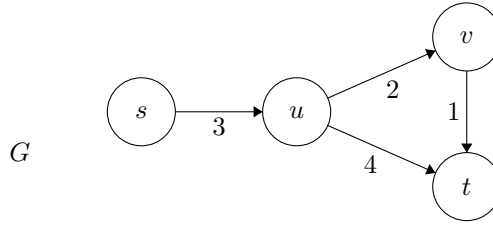
Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a weighted directed graph. For the rest of this problem, assume that  $s, t \in V$  and that **there exists a directed path from  $s$  to  $t$** . The weights on  $G$  could be anything: **negative, zero, or positive**.

For the rest of this problem, refer to the implementation of Dijkstra's algorithm given by the pseudocode below.

```
1  def dijkstra_st_path(G, s, t):
2      for all v in V: set d[v] = Infinity
3      for all v in V: set p[v] = None
4
5      # we will use p to reconstruct the shortest s-t path at the end
6      d[s] = 0
7      F = V
8      D = []
9      while F is not empty:
10         x = vertex v in F such that d[v] is minimized
11         for y in x.outgoing_neighbors:
12             d[y] = min(d[y], d[x] + weight(x,y))
13             if d[y] was changed in the previous line: set p[y] = x
14         F.remove(x)
15         D.add(x)
16
17     // use p to reconstruct the shortest s-t path
18     path = [t]
19     current = t
20     while current != s:
21         current = p[current]
22         add current to the front of the path
23     return path, d[t]
```

Notice that the pseudocode above differs from the pseudocode in the notes. The variable  $p$  maintains the “parents” of the vertices in the shortest  $s$ - $t$  path, so it can be reconstructed at the end.

- (a) (1 pt.) Step through `dijkstra_st_path( $G, s, t$ )` on the graph  $G$  shown below. Complete the table below to show what the arrays  $\mathbf{d}$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  are at each step of the algorithm, and indicate what path is returned and what its cost is.



[We are expecting the table below filled out, as well as the final shortest path and its cost. No further justification is required.]

	$\mathbf{d}[s]$	$\mathbf{d}[u]$	$\mathbf{d}[v]$	$\mathbf{d}[t]$	$\mathbf{p}[s]$	$\mathbf{p}[u]$	$\mathbf{p}[v]$	$\mathbf{p}[t]$
When entering the first while loop for the first time, the state is:	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	None	None	None	None
Immediately after the first element of $D$ is added, the state is:	0	3	$\infty$	$\infty$	None	s	None	None
Immediately after the second element of $D$ is added, the state is:								
Immediately after the third element of $D$ is added, the state is:								
Immediately after the fourth element of $D$ is added, the state is:								

- (b) (1 pt.) **Prove or disprove:** In every such graph  $G$ , the shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$  exists. Here, a *path* from  $s$  to  $t$  is formally defined as a sequence of edges

$$(u_0, u_1), (u_1, u_2), (u_2, u_3), \dots, (u_{M-1}, u_M)$$

such that  $u_0 = s$ ,  $u_M = t$ , and  $(u_i, u_{i+1}) \in E$  for all  $i = 0, \dots, M-1$ . A *shortest path* is a path  $((u_0, u_1), \dots, (u_{M-1}, u_M))$  such that

$$\sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \text{weight}(u_i, u_{i+1}) \leq \sum_{i=0}^{M'-1} \text{weight}(u'_i, u'_{i+1})$$

for all paths  $((u'_0, u'_1), \dots, (u'_{M'-1}, u'_{M'}))$ .

- (c) (2 pt.) **Prove or disprove:** In every such graph  $G$  in which the shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$  exists, `dijkstra_st_path( $G, s, t$ )` returns a shortest path between  $s$  and  $t$  in  $G$ .
- (d) (2 pt.) **Prove or disprove:** In every such graph  $G$  in which there is a negative-weight edge, and for all  $s$  and  $t$ , `dijkstra_st_path( $G, s, t$ )` does not return a shortest path between  $s$  and  $t$  in  $G$ .

- (e) **(2 pt.)** Your friend offers the following way to patch up Dijkstra's algorithm to deal with negative edge weights. Let  $G$  be a weighted graph, and let  $w^*$  be the smallest weight that appears in  $G$ . (Notice that  $w^*$  may be negative). Consider a graph  $G' = (V, E')$  with the same vertices, and such that  $E'$  is as follows: for every edge  $e \in E$  with weight  $w$ , there is an edge  $e' \in E'$  with weight  $w - w^*$ . Now all of the weights in  $G'$  are non-negative, so we can apply Dijkstra's algorithm to that:

```
modified_dijkstra(G,s,t):  
    Construct G' from G as above.  
    return dijkstra_st_path(G',s,t)
```

**Prove or disprove:** Your friend's approach will always correctly return a shortest path between  $s$  and  $t$  if it exists.

# Problems

You can collaborate with your classmates about the problems. However:

- Try the problems on your own *before* collaborating.
- Write up your solutions yourself, in your own words. You should never share your typed-up solutions with your collaborators.
- If you collaborated, list the names of the students you collaborated with at the beginning of each problem.

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## 1. (Currency Exchange) (9 pt.)

- (a) **(3 pt.)** Suppose the economies of the world use a set of currencies  $C_1, \dots, C_n$ ; think of these as dollars, pounds, Bitcoin, etc. Your bank allows you to trade each currency  $C_i$  for any other currency  $C_j$ , and finds some way to charge you for this service. Suppose that for each ordered pair of currencies  $(C_i, C_j)$ , the bank charges a flat fee of  $f_{ij} > 0$  dollars to exchange  $C_i$  for  $C_j$  (regardless of the quantity of currency being exchanged).

Devise an efficient algorithm which, given a starting currency  $C_s$ , a target currency  $C_t$ , and a list of fees  $f_{ij}$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , computes the cheapest way (that is, incurring the least in fees) to exchange all of our currency in  $C_s$  into currency  $C_t$ . Also, justify the correctness of your algorithm and its runtime.

**[We are expecting a description or pseudocode of your algorithm as well as a brief justification of its correctness and runtime.]**

- (b) **(3 pt.)** Consider the more realistic setting where the bank does not charge flat fees, but instead uses exchange *rates*. In particular, for each ordered pair  $(C_i, C_j)$ , the bank lets you trade one unit of  $C_i$  for  $r_{ij} > 0$  units of  $C_j$ . Devise an efficient algorithm which, given starting currency  $C_s$ , target currency  $C_t$ , and a list of rates  $r_{ij}$ , computes a sequence of exchanges that results in the greatest amount of  $C_t$ . Justify the correctness of your algorithm and its runtime. [Hint: How can you turn a product of terms into a sum? Take logarithms.]
- (c) **(3 pt.)** Due to fluctuations in the markets, it is occasionally possible to find a sequence of exchanges that lets you start with currency A, change into currencies, B, C, D, etc., and then end up changing back to currency A in such a way that you end up with more money than you started with—that is, there are currencies  $C_{i_1}, \dots, C_{i_k}$  such that

$$r_{i_1 i_2} \times r_{i_2 i_3} \times \cdots \times r_{i_{k-1} i_k} \times r_{i_k i_1} > 1.$$

Devise an efficient algorithm that finds such an anomaly if one exists. Justify the correctness of your algorithm and its runtime.

## 2. (Allocating Surfboards) (8 pt.)

A group of  $n$  friends have respective heights  $h_1 < h_2 < \dots < h_n$  (where  $h_i$  is the height of friend  $i$ ). They decide to go surfing and need to rent surfboards. The surf shop has a rack with  $m > n$  surfboards ordered by lengths  $s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_m$ . In small/clean waves, the ideal surfboard has the same length as your height. Help us figure out a good allocation of the boards.

Formally, an allocation of surfboards is a function  $f : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, m\}$  that maps each surfer to a surfboard. More precisely,  $f(2) = 3$  means that surfer 2 (with height  $h_2$ ) receives surfboard 3 (with length  $s_3$ ). An allocation  $f$  is optimal if it minimizes the quantity  $\sum_{k=1}^n |h_k - s_{f(k)}|$ . That is, an allocation is optimal if it minimizes the sum of the discrepancies of height between the surfers and their surfboards.

Let  $A[n, m]$  denote this minimal difference.

- (a) **(2 pt.)** Let  $A[i, j]$  denote the sum of discrepancies of an optimal allocation of the first  $j$  surfboards to the first  $i$  surfers ( $j \geq i$ ). Prove that, if surfboard  $j$  is used in an optimal allocation, then there is an optimal allocation in which it is allocated to surfer  $i$ .

Note: There might be multiple optimal allocations. This part asks you to show that if the longest board is used, then it might as well go to the tallest surfer.

**[We are expecting: A formal proof of your answer]**

- (b) **(2 pt.)** Deduce a recurrence relation between  $A[i, j]$ ,  $A[i, j - 1]$  and  $A[i - 1, j - 1]$ .

Hint: Consider two cases, according to whether surfboard  $j$  is used or not.

**[We are expecting: A statement of the recurrence as well as a short explanation of it.]**

- (c) **(3 pt.)** Design a dynamic programming algorithm that computes  $A[n, m]$  and also outputs the optimal allocation.

**[We are expecting: A description of a procedure or pseudocode of an algorithm.]**

- (d) **(1 pt.)** What is the runtime of your algorithm? Prove your answer.

**[We are expecting: An informal analysis of the runtime.]**