15.082J and 6.855J and ESD.78J

Successive Shortest Path Algorithm

The Original Costs and Node Potentials



The Original Capacities and Supplies/Demands



Select a supply node and find the shortest paths



Update the Node Potentials and the Reduced Costs



Send Flow From a Supply Node to a Demand Node Along Shortest Paths (along arcs with reduced costs of 0)



Arc numbers are residual capacities. Red arcs have a reduced cost of 0

send 7 units from node 1 to node 3



If an arc is added to G(x), then it has a reduced cost of 0, and it is red. Arcs in the residual network will always have a non-negative reduced cost

A comment

At this point, one would choose a source node, and then find the shortest path from the source node to all other nodes, and then update the residual network.

However, there are still paths of 0 reduced cost in the residual network, and it makes sense to use them. This heuristic is quite useful in practice.

Send Flow From a Supply Node to a Demand Node Along Shortest Paths





2 units of flow were sent from node 1 to node 4 on 1-3-4

Send Flow From a Supply Node to a Demand Node Along Shortest Paths





Select a supply node and find the shortest paths



The shortest path tree is marked in bold and blue.

The values on the nodes are the current node potentials

Update the node potentials and the reduced costs



To obtain new node potentials, subtract the shortest path distances from the old potentials.

Send Flow From a Supply Node to a Demand Node Along Shortest Paths





Select a supply node and find the shortest paths



The shortest path tree is marked in bold and blue.

Update the Node Potentials and the Reduced Costs



To obtain the new node potential, subtract the shortest path distance from the old potential.

Send Flow From a Supply Node to a Demand Node Along Shortest Paths





5 units of flow were sent from node 2 to node 6.

Send Flow From a Supply Node to a Demand Node



Send flow from node 1 to node 5



The Final Optimal Flow



The Final Optimal Node Potentials and the Reduced Costs



15.082J / 6.855J / ESD.78J Network Optimization Fall 2010

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.