Exploring Betweenness Centrality

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Basic Terminology

- σ_{st} is the number of shortest paths from **s** to **t**
- σ_{st}(v) is the number of shortest paths from s to t containing v





Basic Terminology (Part 3)

 $C_B(v) = \sum_{s \neq v \neq t \in V} \delta_{st}(v).$



 $C_{R}(3) = ?$ $\delta_{14}(3) = 0.5$ $\delta_{12}(3) = 0$ $\delta_{24}(3) = 0$ $C_{p}(3) = 0.5$

Problem

- Calculate betweenness centrality for each vertex
- Assumptions: Graph is undirected and connected
- Previous algorithm: $O(n^3)$ time and $O(n^2)$ space
- New algorithm: O(nm) time for unweighted graphs and O(nm + n²log(n)) time on weighted graphs
- New algorithm: O(n + m) space

Step 1

- Need to calculate σ_{st}
- Run Djikstra's shortest path algorithm starting from s.
 Let dist[i] be the shortest path distance from s to i.
- Create the "Djikstra DAG"
 - Connect two vertices u and v with a directed edge if
 dist[u] + W[u, v] = dist[v]





Djikstra DAG

- Any path along the Djikstra DAG is a shortest path
- All shortest paths are paths on the Djikstra DAG
- We can use dynamic programming along the DAG to determine number of shortest paths to any node from the source

Djikstra DAG Dynamic Programming

- Let dp[v] represent the number of shortest paths to v from the source
- Let P be the set of all nodes that have a directed edge in the Djikstra DAG to a node v
- Base case is **dp**[source] = 1

• dp[v] =
$$\sum_{u \in P} dp[u]$$

• Calculate **dp** values in topological order



Step 1 Recap

- We can now compute σ_{st} for all pairs (s, t) through starting Djikstra's algorithm from all vertices
- Running Djikstra once takes O(Vlog(V) + E) time
- Running Djikstra V times takes O(V²log(V) + VE) time
- Complexity of our algorithm so far is O(V²log(V) + VE) for weighted graphs and O(VE) for unweighted graphs (since we can just use BFS instead of Djikstra)

Next steps

- From here, if we store our σ_{st} values in an array and then naively compute all $\delta_{st}(v)$ values, our algorithm still takes $O(V^3)$ time and $O(V^2)$ space
- Smarter method: Another DP along the Djikstra DAG
- In order to compute C_B(V) for each vertex, let's first solve the simple case where the Djikstra DAG is a tree

Step 2

- $\delta_{s\bullet}(v) = \sum_{t \in V} \delta_{st}(v).$
- If we can compute these values quickly then we'd be set, since these lead directly to betweenness centrality
- Let's see how to quickly compute these values if the Djikstra DAG is a tree

Case where Djikstra DAG is tree

- We can use DAG dynamic programming again, given a fixed source **s** as well as the Djikstra DAG
- Let $dp[v] = \delta_{s^*}(v)$
- If R is the set of vertices that v has an outgoing edge to, then:

$$dp[v] = \sum_{t \in R} 1 + dp[t]$$

• Calculate dp values in reverse topological order



dp[4] = 0**dp**[5] = 0 **dp**[6] = 0 dp[2] = (1 + dp[4]) +(1 + dp[5])= 2 dp[3] = (1 + dp[6])= 1 dp[1] = (1 + dp[2]) +(1 + dp[3])= 5

General case for Djikstra DAG

- Let $dp[v] = \delta_{s^*}(v)$
- If **R** is the set of vertices that **v** has an outgoing edge to, then:

$$dp[v] = \sum_{t \in R} (1 + dp[t]) \times \frac{\sigma_{sv}}{\sigma_{st}}$$

• Calculate dp values in reverse topological order









 $dp[v] = \sum_{t \in R} (1 + dp[t]) \times \frac{\sigma_{sv}}{\sigma_{st}}$







Wrapping up

- Can easily compute betweenness centrality for each vertex v now by adding up dp[v] over all sources (except when v is the source).
- Should divide all betweenness centrality values by 2 at the end
- Space required is O(V + E) and time required is O(V²log(V) + VE) for weighted graphs and O(VE) for unweighted graphs.

Wrapping up

 $\delta[v] \leftarrow 0, v \in V;$ // S returns vertices in order of non-increasing distance from s while S not empty do

 $\begin{array}{c|c} & \operatorname{pop} w \leftarrow S; \\ & \mathbf{for} \ v \in P[w] \ \mathbf{do} \ \delta[v] \leftarrow \delta[v] + \frac{\sigma[v]}{\sigma[w]} \cdot (1 + \delta[w]); \\ & \mathbf{if} \ w \neq s \ \mathbf{then} \ C_B[w] \leftarrow C_B[w] + \delta[w]; \\ & \mathbf{end} \end{array}$

Experimental Results

Groundbreaking algorithm -- Led to significant speedups

Experimental Results



Importance

- Betweenness centrality is a very important metric for a network
- This algorithm significantly improved existing methods, which had to go through all triples (s, t, v) to compute $\delta_{st}(v)$

Discussion

- Combining the results of this paper and "Direction-Optimizing Breadth First Search" on social networks
- Thinking about time complexities more
 - \circ Previous: O(n²) space and O(n³) time
 - Now: O(n + m) space and O(nm) time