

L11: Algebraic Path Problems with applications to Internet Routing

Lecture 8

Two versions of distributed Bellman-Ford: Distance Vector and Path Vector

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Our basic iterative algorithm for solving equation

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{A} \triangleright \mathbf{L} \oplus \mathbf{B}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A} \triangleright^{\langle 0 \rangle} \mathbf{B} &= \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{A} \triangleright^{\langle k+1 \rangle} \mathbf{B} &= \mathbf{A} \triangleright (\mathbf{A} \triangleright^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}) \oplus \mathbf{B}\end{aligned}$$

A closer look ...

$$(\mathbf{A} \triangleright^{\langle k+1 \rangle} \mathbf{B})(i, d) = \mathbf{B}(i, d) \oplus \bigoplus_{(j,u) \in E} \mathbf{A}(i, u) \triangleright (\mathbf{A} \triangleright^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B})(u, d)$$

This is the basis of **distributed Bellman-Ford** algorithms (as in RIP and BGP) — a node i computes routes to a destination d by applying its “policies” $\mathbf{A}(i, _)$ to the routes learned from its immediate neighbors.

What if we start iteration in an arbitrary state?

Suppose that we have solved (via iteration) the equation

$$\mathbf{L}_{\text{old}} = \mathbf{A}_{\text{old}} \triangleright \mathbf{L}_{\text{old}} \oplus \mathbf{B}_{\text{old}}$$

and then there is a change in the topology from \mathbf{A}_{old} , \mathbf{B}_{old} to \mathbf{A}_{new} , \mathbf{B}_{new} and then the iteration continues starting at the “stale” state \mathbf{L}_{old} .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle 0 \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}} &= \mathbf{L}_{\text{old}} \\ \mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k+1 \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}} &= \mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} (\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}}) \oplus \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}} \end{aligned}$$

This represents a simplified (synchronous) model of what happens in the (asynchronous) real-world of routing — routing protocols “iterate forever” while the topology changes.

What if we start iteration in an arbitrary state?

Theorem

For $1 \leq k$,

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}} = (\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}}) \oplus (\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k-1 \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}})$$

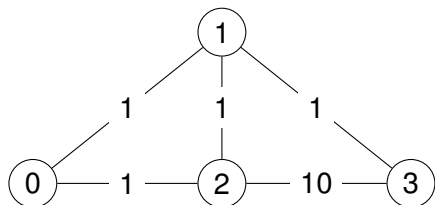
If the new system is q -stable and $q < k$, then

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}} = (\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}}) \oplus (\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^* \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}})$$

Big problem

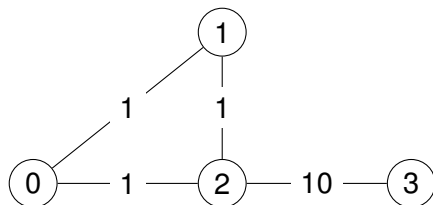
Why should $\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^* \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}}$ win?

RIP-like (“distance vector”) example (see RFC 1058)



Adjacency matrix \mathbf{A}_{old}

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
 0 & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}
 \infty & 1 & 1 & \infty \\
 1 & \infty & 1 & 1 \\
 1 & 1 & \infty & 10 \\
 \infty & 1 & 10 & \infty
 \end{array} \right] \\
 1 \\
 2 \\
 3
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

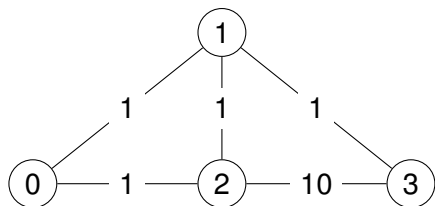


Adjacency matrix \mathbf{A}_{new}

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
 0 & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}
 \infty & 1 & 1 & \infty \\
 1 & \infty & 1 & \infty \\
 1 & 1 & \infty & 10 \\
 \infty & \infty & 10 & \infty
 \end{array} \right] \\
 1 \\
 2 \\
 3
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

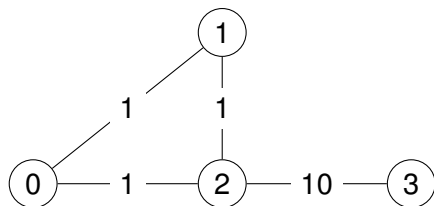
Using $\text{AddZero}(\infty, (\mathbb{N}, \min, +))$ but ignoring in1 and inr

RIP-like example — counting to convergence (2)



The solution \mathbf{A}_{old}^*

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
 0 & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}
 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\
 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\
 2 & 1 & 2 & 0
 \end{array} \right] \\
 1 \\
 2 \\
 3
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$



The solution \mathbf{A}_{new}^*

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
 0 & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}
 0 & 1 & 1 & 11 \\
 1 & 0 & 1 & 11 \\
 2 & 1 & 0 & 10 \\
 3 & 11 & 11 & 0
 \end{array} \right] \\
 1 \\
 2 \\
 3
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

RIP-like example — counting to convergence (3)

The scenario: we arrived at state $\mathbf{A}_{\text{old}}^*$, but then links $\{(1, 3), (3, 1)\}$ fail. So we start iterating using the new matrix \mathbf{A}_{new} .

Let \mathbf{N}_K represent $\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{I}$ starting in state $\mathbf{A}_{\text{old}}^*$.

RIP-like example — counting to convergence (4)

$$\mathbf{N}_0 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_1 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{B}_2 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_3 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_4 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_5 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 6 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

RIP-like example — counting to convergence (5)

$$\mathbf{N}_6 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 7 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 7 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

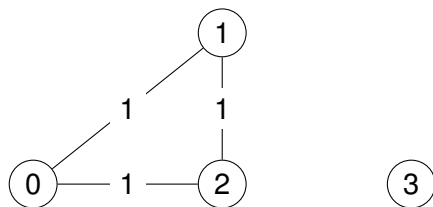
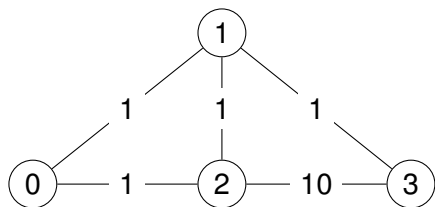
$$\mathbf{N}_7 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 8 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 8 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_8 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 9 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 9 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 9 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_9 = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 10 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 10 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 10 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_{10} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 11 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 11 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 10 \\ 3 & 11 & 11 & 10 & 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

RIP-like example — counting to infinity (1)



The solution $\mathbf{A}_{\text{old}}^*$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
 0 & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}
 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\
 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\
 2 & 1 & 2 & 0
 \end{array} \right]
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

The solution $\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}}^*$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{cccc}
 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
 0 & \left[\begin{array}{cccc}
 0 & 1 & 1 & \infty \\
 1 & 0 & 1 & \infty \\
 1 & 1 & 0 & \infty \\
 2 & \infty & \infty & \infty \\
 3 & \infty & \infty & \infty & 0
 \end{array} \right]
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Now let \mathbf{N}_K represent $\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{I}$ starting in state $\mathbf{A}_{\text{old}}^*$.

RIP-like example — counting to infinity (2)

$$\mathbf{N}_0 = \begin{array}{c} \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_1 = \begin{array}{c} \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ \infty & \infty & \infty & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_2 = \begin{array}{c} \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ \infty & \infty & \infty & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 1 & 377 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 377 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 377 \\ \infty & \infty & \infty & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \\ \left[\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 1 & 999 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 999 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 999 \\ \infty & \infty & \infty & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{array}$$

RIP-like example — What's going on?

Recall

$$\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}} = (\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}}) \oplus (\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright^* \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}})$$

For some i and d it may be that ...

- $(\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright^* \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}})(i, d)$ is arrived at very quickly
- but $(\mathbf{A}_{\text{new}} \triangleright_{\text{new}}^{\langle k \rangle} \mathbf{B}_{\text{new}})(i, d)$ may be better until a very large value of k is reached (counting to convergence)
- or it may always be better (counting to infinity).

Distance vector solution : define a very small ∞

- RIP: $\infty = 16$

The path vector solution

The Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)

BGP exchanges metrics **and** paths. It avoids counting to infinity by throwing away routes that have a loop in the path.

The plan ...

Starting from $(\mathbb{N}, \min, +)$ we will attempt to construct a semiring or IAME (using our lexicographic operators) that has elements of the form (d, X) , where d is a shortest-path metric and X is a set of paths. Then, by successive refinements, we will arrive at a BGP-like solution.