

18.2.3.1

Correctness of the Bellman-Ford Algorithm

Bellman-Ford Algorithm: Modified for analysis

```
for each  $u \in V$  do
     $d(u, 0) \leftarrow \infty$ 
 $d(s, 0) \leftarrow 0$ 

for  $k = 1$  to  $n$  do
    for each  $v \in V$  do
         $d(v, k) \leftarrow d(v, k - 1)$ 
        for each edge  $(u, v) \in in(v)$  do
             $d(v, k) = \min\{d(v, k), d(u, k - 1) + \ell(u, v)\}$ 

for each  $v \in V$  do
     $dist(s, v) \leftarrow d(v, n - 1)$ 
```

Walks computed correctly

Lemma 18.3.

For each v , $d(v, k)$ is the length of a shortest walk from s to v with at most k hops.

Proof.

Standard induction (left as exercise). □

Bellman-Ford computes the shortest paths correctly

Lemma 18.4.

If G does not have a negative length cycle reachable from $s \implies \forall v$:
 $d(v, n) = d(v, n - 1)$.

Also, $d(v, n - 1)$ is the length of the shortest path between s and v .

Proof.

Shortest walk from s to reachable vertex is a path [not repeated vertex] (otherwise \exists neg cycle).

A path has at most $n - 1$ edges.

\implies Len shortest walk from s to v with at most $n - 1$ edges

= Len shortest walk from s to v

= Len shortest **path** from s to v .

By **Lemma 18.3** : $d(v, n) = d(v, n - 1) = \text{dist}(s, v)$, for all v . □

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THE END

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(for now)