

Qdy

# Shortest Path Problem

Input: Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$   
 $s \in V$

"length"  $\rightarrow l_e \geq 0 \quad \forall e \in E$   
 $\uparrow$  integer

Output:  $\forall t \in V$ , output a shortest  $s-t$  path

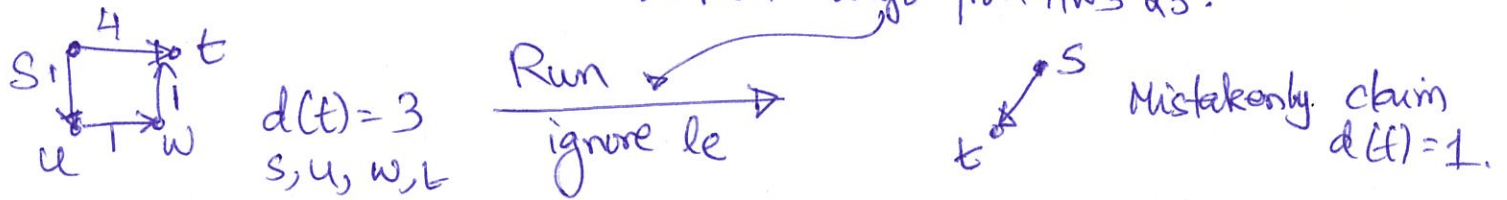
$L(P) = \sum_{e \in P} l_e$   $\uparrow$  with respect to length of  $s-t$  path

Simpler version: only output  $d(t) \quad \forall t \in V$   
 $\uparrow$  length of shortest  $s-t$  path.

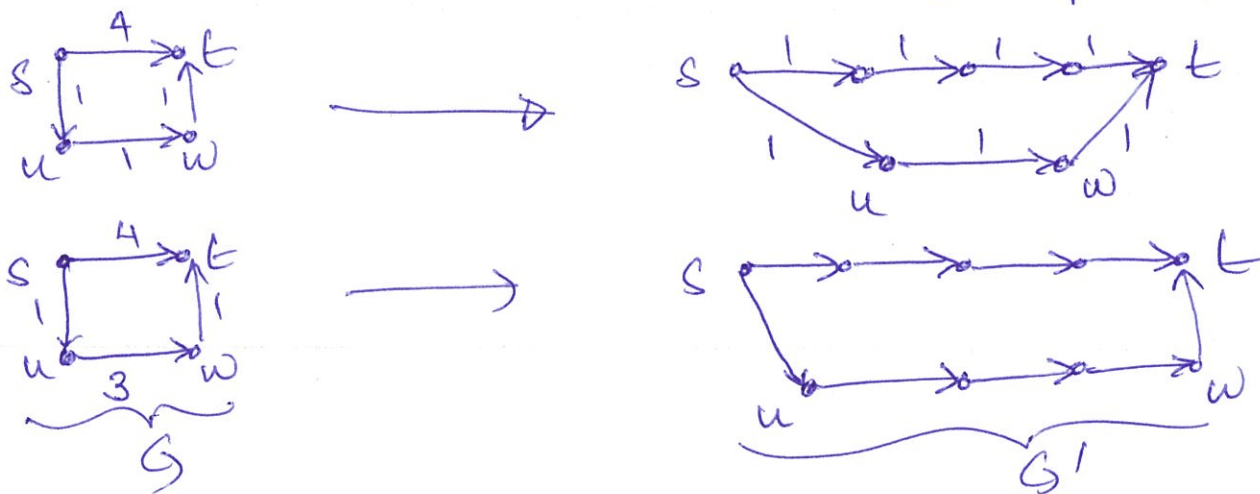
Special case:  $l_e = 1 \quad \forall e \in E \equiv$  same problem HW3 Q3  
[Run BFS on  $s$  & layer # of  $t = d(t)$ ]  
(also if  $l_e = L \quad \forall e \quad (L \geq 1)$ )

General case:  $l_e > 0 \quad \forall e \in E$  | Idea: Reduce this to the case of  $l_e = 1 \quad \forall e$

Idea: Ignore  $l_e$  (i.e. just assume  $l_e = 1 \quad \forall e$ ) & run algo from HW3 Q3.



Idea 2: Replace each edge  $e \in E$  by a path of length  $l_e$



Claim: a shortest s-t path in  $G \Leftrightarrow$  equivalent shortest path in  $G'$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Run HW3 Q3 algo on  $G'$ .

Correctness: Claim + correctness of HW3 Q3 algo.

Runtime analysis:  $l_{\max} = \max_{e \in E} l_e$  let  $n'$  &  $m'$  be the #nodes & #edges in  $G'$ .

$$O(n' + m')$$

$$\Rightarrow O(l_{\max}(n+m))$$

$$\begin{aligned} m' &\leq l_{\max}(n+m) \\ n' &\leq l_{\max}(n+m) \end{aligned}$$

Recap/Aside: RAM model: unit of space is a register  
If you have  $n$  items each register has  $O(\log n)$  bits.  
 $\rightarrow$  All basic ops on  $O(1)$  registers is  $O(1)$  time.

$\rightarrow$  let  $l_{\max} = n^{100} \Rightarrow 100 \log n$  bits or  $O(1)$  many registers

$\rightarrow$  Input size (#registers) =  $O(m+n)$

runtime  $O(n^{100}(n+m))$

Assume:  $l_{\max} = n^{O(1)} \Rightarrow O(1)$  registers for each  $l_e$   
 $\Rightarrow$  length =  $O(n+m)$

WANT: Ideally runtime  $O(m+n)$