

CS 456/656 Computer Networks Lecture 10: Network Layer – Part 2

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A note on the slides

Adapted from the slides that accompany this book.

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Computer Networking: A Top-Down Approach

8th edition Jim Kurose, Keith Ross Pearson, 2020

Thanks for filling out the survey!

- If you have not, there is still time
- We'll discuss the results and potential upcoming changes soon

Network layer: roadmap

- Network layer overview
- Routing algorithms
 - Link state
 - Distance vector
- Network layer in the Internet

Distance vector routing algorithms

- Suppose node node x has n neighbors, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n
- The least-cost path from node x to node y will pass one of x's neighbors.



Distance vector routing algorithms

- To find its least-cost path to y, x doesn't necessarily need to build the entire network graph.
- It only need to know
 - $D_{v_i}(y)$: the distance from v_i to y
 - c_{x,v_i} : the cost of the direct link from x to v_i



Distance vector algorithm

Based on *Bellman-Ford* (BF) equation (dynamic programming):

Bellman-Ford equation Let $D_x(y)$: cost of least-cost path from x to y. Then: $D_{x}(y) = \min_{v} \{ c_{x,v} + D_{v}(y) \}$ v's estimated least-cost-path cost to y *min* taken over all neighbors v of x^{\dagger} direct cost of link from x to y

Bellman-Ford example

Suppose that *u*'s neighboring nodes, *x*,*v*,*w*, know that for destination *c*:



Bellman-Ford equation says: $\begin{array}{l}
D_u(c) = \min \left\{ \begin{array}{c} c_{u,v} + D_v(c), \\ c_{u,x} + D_x(c), \\ c_{u,w} + D_w(c) \end{array} \right\} \\
= \min \left\{ 2 + 6, \\ 1 + 4, \\ 5 + 4 \right\} = 5
\end{array}$

node achieving minimum (node x) is next hop on estimated leastcost path to destination (node c)

Distance vector algorithm

key idea:

- from time-to-time, each node sends its own distance vector estimate to neighbors
- when x receives new DV estimate from any neighbor, it updates its own DV using B-F equation:

 $D_x(y) \leftarrow \min_v \{c_{x,v} + D_v(y)\}$ for each node $y \in N$

under minor, natural conditions, the estimate D_x(y) converge to the actual least cost d_x(y)

Distance vector algorithm:

each node:



recompute DV estimates using DV received from neighbor

if DV to any destination has changed, *notify* neighbors **iterative, asynchronous:** each local iteration caused by:

- Iocal link cost change
- DV update message from neighbor

distributed, self-stopping: each node notifies neighbors *only* when its DV changes

- neighbors then notify their neighbors – only if necessary
- no notification received, no actions taken!

- We will walk through an example of distance vector routing
- For simplicity, we are not adding the end-host (orange) nodes to the example
- They do not participate in routing
- But, the routers will include the distance to them in their advertised distance vectors.



- All nodes have distance estimates to nearest neighbors (only)
- All nodes send their local distance vector to their neighbors





- receive distance vectors from neighbors
- compute their new local distance vector
- send their new local distance vector to neighbors



() t=1

- receive distance vectors from neighbors
- compute their new local distance vector
- send their new local distance vector to neighbors





- receive distance vectors from neighbors
- compute their new local distance vector
- send their new local distance vector to neighbors





- receive distance vectors from neighbors
- compute their new local distance vector
- send their new local distance vector to neighbors



() t=2

- receive distance vectors from neighbors
- compute their new local distance vector
- send their new local distance vector to neighbors





- receive distance vectors from neighbors
- compute their new local distance vector
- send their new local distance vector to neighbors



.... and so on

Let's next take a look at the iterative *computations* at nodes

.... and so on

Let's next take a look at the iterative *computations* at nodes

Let's look at the computation at node b at t = 1 Remember, b's neighbors have sent b their DV record version at t = 0





Now, let's look at the computation at node c at t = 1 Remember, c's neighbors have sent c their DV record version at t = 0



Distance vector example:





c receives DVs from b computes:

$$\begin{split} D_{c}(a) &= \min\{c_{c,b} + D_{b}(a)\} = 1 + 8 = 9 \\ D_{c}(b) &= \min\{c_{c,b} + D_{b}(b)\} = 1 + 0 = 1 \\ D_{c}(d) &= \min\{c_{c,b} + D_{b}(d)\} = 1 + \infty = \infty \\ D_{c}(e) &= \min\{c_{c,b} + D_{b}(e)\} = 1 + 1 = 2 \\ D_{c}(f) &= \min\{c_{c,b} + D_{b}(f)\} = 1 + \infty = \infty \\ D_{c}(g) &= \min\{c_{c,b} + D_{b}(g)\} = 1 + \infty = \infty \\ D_{c}(h) &= \min\{c_{bc,b} + D_{b}(h)\} = 1 + \infty = \infty \\ D_{c}(i) &= \min\{c_{c,b} + D_{b}(i)\} = 1 + \infty = \infty \end{split}$$

| DV in c: |
|------------------------|
| D _c (a) = 9 |
| $D_{c}(b) = 1$ |
| $D_{c}(c) = 0$ |
| $D_{c}(d) = 2$ |
| $D_c(e) = \infty$ |
| $D_c(f) = \infty$ |
| $D_c(g) = \infty$ |
| $D_{c}(h) = \infty$ |
| $D_c(i) = \infty$ |

Now, let's look at the computation at node e at t = 1 Remember, e's neighbors have sent e their DV record version at t = 0



Distance vector: state information diffusion

Iterative communication, computation steps diffuses information through network:

t=0 c's state at t=0 is at c only

🕐 t=1

c's state at t=0 has propagated to b, and may influence distance vector computations up to **1** hop away, i.e., at b

() t=2

c's state at t=0 may now influence distance vector computations up to **2** hops away, i.e., at b and now at a, e as well

t=3

c's state at t=0 may influence distance vector computations up to **3** hops away, i.e., at d, f, h

c's state at t=0 may influence distance vector computations up to **4** hops away, i.e., at g, i



Distance vector is asynchronous

- The example we discussed was simplified...
- We assumed there is a synchronized clock between all routers
 - Syncing the message transfers and computation.
- In reality, the routers are not all synchronized with each other

Distance vector: link cost changes

link cost changes:

- node detects local link cost change
- updates routing info, recalculates local DV
- if DV changes, notify neighbors



 t_o : y detects link-cost change, updates its DV, informs its neighbors.

"good news travels fast"

t₁: z receives update from y, updates its DV, computes new least cost
 to x, sends its neighbors its DV.

t₂: y receives z's update, updates its DV. y's least costs do not change, so y does not send a message to z.

Distance vector: link cost changes

link cost changes:

- node detects local link cost change
- "bad news travels slow" count-to-infinity problem:



- y sees direct link to x has new cost 60, but z has said it has a path at cost of 5. So y computes "my new cost to x will be 6, via z); notifies z of new cost of 6 to x.
- z learns that path to x via y has new cost 6, so z computes "my new cost to x will be 7 via y), notifies y of new cost of 7 to x.
- y learns that path to x via z has new cost 7, so y computes "my new cost to x will be 8 via y), notifies z of new cost of 8 to x.
- z learns that path to x via y has new cost 8, so z computes "my new cost to x will be 9 via y), notifies y of new cost of 9 to x.

Distance vector : count-to-infinity problem

link cost changes:

- node detects local link cost change
- "bad news travels slow" count-to-infinity problem
- In this specific example, the problem happens because:
 - originally *z's* shortest path to *x* is through *y*.
 - But, y doesn't know that! It only knows z has a path of length 5 to x.



Distance vector : count-to-infinity problem

link cost changes:

- node detects local link cost change
- "bad news travels slow" count-to-infinity problem
- This problem does not only happen between two neighboring nodes
 - See textbook for a solution for the two-node case
- It can happen with loops involving three or more nodes.
- Distributed algorithms are tricky!



What you need to know about distance vector routing algorithms

- How they work, i.e.,
 - How routers disseminate information
 - How each router builds its table of distance to different destinations
- E.g., given DV tables and messages from neighboring routers, you should be able to continue executing the algorithm and update DV tables for subsequent timesteps.
- The count-to-infinity problem
 - What it is
 - Why it happens
 - Be able to demonstrate it with an example.

Possible ways to practice more with DV

- Continue the example in the slide for t = 2.
 - Be careful to keep track of which node has received which messages at which time and what is DV looks like.
- Variation: Add an end-host node to the topology and re-do the first two timesteps for a few routers.
- What does the forwarding table look like at each stage?

Comparison of LS and DV algorithms

Messages

- LS: Each router's "Advertisement", i.e., link state, will have to be propagated to all the other routers.
- DV: Several messages exchanged between neighbors until we converge to the least cost paths; convergence time varies

speed of convergence:

If you change the costs, how long until routes are stable again?

LS :

- Converges when
 - Messages about the change propagate
 - Dijkstra's algorithm for least-cost path computation has to run

DV:

- may have routing loops
- count-to-infinity problem

Comparison of LS and DV algorithms

robustness: what happens if router malfunctions, or is compromised? LS:

- router can advertise incorrect *link* cost
- each router computes only its own table based on the topology

DV:

- DV router can advertise incorrect *path* cost ("I have a *really* low-cost path to everywhere"): *black-holing*
- each router's DV is based on DV of other routers
 - No full picture of the network
 - Harder to detect such problems locally
 - Errors propagate (easier) through the network.

What you need to know about routing algorithms so far

- Link State (LS) algorithms and how they work
- Distance Vector (DV) algorithms and how they work
- How LS and DV are different from each other.