

1. Let G be a directed graph with (possibly negative!) edge weights, and let s be an arbitrary vertex of G . Suppose every vertex $v \neq s$ stores a pointer $pred(v)$ to another vertex in G .

Describe and analyze an algorithm to determine whether these predecessor pointers define a single-source shortest path tree rooted at s . Do **not** assume that the graph G has no negative cycles.

[Hint: There is a similar problem in head-banging, where you're given distances instead of predecessor pointers.]

2. Let G be a directed graph with positive edge weights, and let s and t be an arbitrary vertices of G . Describe an algorithm to determine the *number* of different shortest paths in G from s to t . Assume that you can perform arbitrary arithmetic operations in $O(1)$ time. *[Hint: Which edges of G belong to shortest paths from s to t ?]*

3. Describe and analyze an algorithm to find the second smallest spanning tree of a given undirected graph G with weighted edges, that is, the spanning tree of G with smallest total weight except for the minimum spanning tree.