

## Chapter -3 Greedy Method

- ✓ **General Method**
- ✓ **Knapsack Problem**
- ✓ **Minimum Cost Spanning Tree –Kruskal and primal Algo**
- ✓ **Single Source Shorted Path**

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### General Method :

- An algorithm which always takes the best immediate, or local, solution while finding an answer. Greedy algorithms will always find the overall, or globally, [\*optimal solution\*](#) for some [\*optimization problems\*](#), but may find less-than-optimal solutions for some instances of other problems.

### **Example of Greedy Method**

- [\*Prim's algorithm\*](#) and [\*Kruskal's algorithm\*](#) are greedy algorithms which find the globally optimal solution, a [\*minimum spanning tree\*](#). In contrast, any known greedy algorithm to find an [\*Euler cycle\*](#) might not find the shortest path, that is, a solution to the [\*traveling salesman\*](#) problem.
- [\*Dijkstra's algorithm\*](#) for finding [\*shortest paths\*](#) is another example of a greedy algorithm which finds an optimal solution.

### **Features**

- Start with a solution to a small sub problem
- Build up to a solution to the whole problem
- Make choices that look good in the short term
- Disadvantage: Greedy algorithms don't always work ( Short term solutions can be disastrous in the long term). Hard to prove correct
- Advantage: Greedy algorithm work fast when they work. Simple algorithm, easy to implement

### **Greedy Algorithm**

Procedure GREEDY(A,n)

// A(1:n) contains the n inputs//

    solution  $\leftarrow \phi$  //initialize the solution to empty//

for i  $\leftarrow$  1 to n do

    x  $\leftarrow$  SELECT(A)

    if FEASIBLE(solution,x)

        then solution  $\leftarrow$  UNION(solution,x)

    end if

repeat

    return(solution)

end GREEDY

### **Knapsack Problem**

Greedy method is best suited to solve more complex problems such as a knapsack problem. In a knapsack problem there is a knapsack or a container of capacity  $M$   $n$  items where, each item  $i$  is of weight  $w_i$  and is associated with a profit  $p_i$ . The problem of knapsack is to fill the available items into the knapsack so that the knapsack gets filled up and yields a maximum profit. If a fraction  $x_i$  of object  $i$  is placed into the knapsack, then a profit  $p_i * x_i$  is earned. The constrain is that all chosen objects should sum up to  $M$ .

OR

- **Problem definition**
    - Given  $n$  objects and a knapsack where object  $i$  has a weight  $w_i$  and the knapsack has a capacity  $m$
    - If a fraction  $x_i$  of object  $i$  placed into knapsack, a profit  $p_i x_i$  is earned
- The objective is to obtain a filling of knapsack maximizing the total profit

- **Problem formulation (Formula 4.1-4.3)**

$$\text{maximize } \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} p_i x_i \quad (4.1)$$

$$\text{subject to } \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} w_i x_i \leq m \quad (4.2)$$

$$\text{and } 0 \leq x_i \leq 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n \quad (4.3)$$

- 
- **A feasible solution is any set satisfying (4.2) and (4.3)**
- **An optimal solution is a feasible solution for which (4.1) is maximized**
- Greedy selection policy: three natural possibilities
- Policy 1: Choose the lightest remaining item, and take as much of it as can fit.
- Policy 2: Choose the most profitable remaining item, and take as much of it as can fit.
- Policy 3: Choose the item with the highest price per unit weight ( $P[i]/W[i]$ ), and take as much of it as can fit.  $\Rightarrow$  Policy 3 always gives an optimal solution.

### Illustration

Consider a knapsack problem of finding the optimal solution where,  $M=15$ ,  $(p_1, p_2, p_3 \dots p_7) = (10, 5, 15, 7, 6, 18, 3)$  and  $(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_7) = (2, 3, 5, 7, 1, 4, 1)$ . In order to find the solution, one can follow three different strategies.

**Strategy 1:** non-increasing profit values (Largest Profit)

Let  $(a, b, c, d, e, f, g)$  represent the items with profit  $(10, 5, 15, 7, 6, 18, 3)$  then the sequence of objects with non increasing profit is  $(f, c, a, d, e, b, g)$ .

Item chosen for inclusion	Quantity of item included	Remaining space in $M$	$P_i X_i$
f	1 full unit	$15-4=11$	$18*1=18$
C	1 full unit	$11-5=6$	$15*1=15$
A	1 full unit	$6-2=4$	$10*1=10$
d	$4/7$ unit	$4-4=0$	$4/7*7=04$

Profit= 47 units The solution set is  $(1, 0, 1, 4/7, 0, 1, 0)$ .

**Strategy 2:** non-decreasing weights (Smallest Wight)

The sequence of objects with non-decreasing weights is  $(e, g, a, b, f, c, d)$ .

Item chosen for inclusion	Quantity of item included	Remaining space in M	$P_i X_i$
E	1 full unit	$15-1=14$	$6*1=6$
G	1 full unit	$14-1=13$	$3*1=3$
A	1 full unit	$13-2=11$	$10*1=10$
b	1 full unit	$11-3=8$	$5*1=5$
f	1 full unit	$8-4=4$	$18*1=18$
c	4/5 unit	$4-4=0$	$4/5*15=12$

**Profit= 54 units    The solution set is (1,1,4/5,0,1,1,1).**

**Strategy 3:** maximum profit per unit of capacity used (This means that the objects are considered in decreasing order of the ratio  $P_i/w_i$ )

a:  $P_1/w_1 = 10/2 = 5$  b:  $P_2/w_2 = 5/3 = 1.66$  c:  $P_3/w_3 = 15/5 = 3$  d:  $P_4/w_4 = 7/7 = 1$  e:  $P_5/w_5 = 6/1 = 6$  f:  $P_6/w_6 = 18/4 = 4.5$  g:  $P_7/w_7 = 3/1 = 3$

Hence, the sequence is (e, a, f, c, g, b, d)

Item chosen for inclusion	Quantity of item included	Remaining space in M	$P_i X_i$
E	1 full unit	$15-1=14$	$6*1=6$
A	1 full unit	$14-2=12$	$10*1=10$
F	1 full unit	$12-4=8$	$18*1=18$
C	1 full unit	$8-5=3$	$15*1=15$
g	1 full unit	$3-1=2$	$3*1=3$
b	2/3 unit	$2-2=0$	$2/3*5=3.33$

**Profit= 55.33 units    The solution set is (1,2/3,1,0,1,1,1).**

**Example2.**  $n = 3$ ,  $M = 20$ ,  $(p_1, p_2, p_3) = (25, 24, 15)$   $(w_1, w_2, w_3) = (18, 15, 10)$

Sol:  $p_1/w_1 = 25/18 = 1.32$

$$p_2/w_2 = 24/15 = 1.6$$

$$p_3/w_3 = 15/10 = 1.5$$

Optimal solution:  $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 1/2$

total profit =  $24 + 7.5 = 31.5$

### **Algorithm GREEDY\_KNAPSACK (P,W,M,X,n)**

//P(1:n) and W(1:n) contain the profit and weights respectively of the n objects ordered so that  $P(i)/W(i) \geq P(i+1)/W(i+1)$ . M is the knapsack size and X(1:n) is the solution vector

```
Real P(1:n),W(1:n),X(1:n) ,M, cu;  
Integer I,n;  
X ← 0           //initialize solution to Zero  
Cu ← M          // cu is remaining knapsack capacity  
for i ← 1 to n do  
    if(W(i) > cu ) then exit endif  
    X(i) ← 1  
    Cu ← cu - W(i)  
Repeat  
  
If (i ≤ n ) then X(i) ← cu/W(i) endif  
  
End
```

### **Time complexity**

- Sorting:  $O(n \log n)$  using fast sorting algorithm like merge sort
- GreedyKnapsack:  $O(n)$
- So, total time is  $O(n \log n)$

### **Minimum Cost Spanning Tree –Kruskal and Prim's Algo**

#### **Tree:**

- A tree is a graph with the following properties:
- The graph is connected (can go from anywhere to anywhere)
- There are no cycle

#### **Spanning Tree**

- A spanning tree is a tree that spans all the nodes. Thus, if there are n nodes in the network, a tree spanning this network will have n-1 arcs that go through all the nodes.

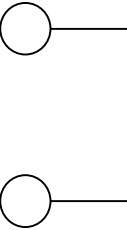
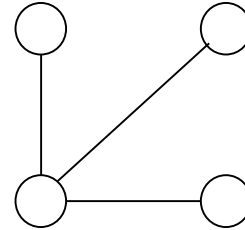
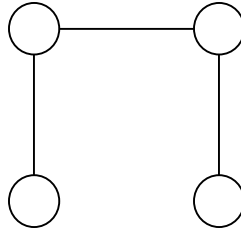
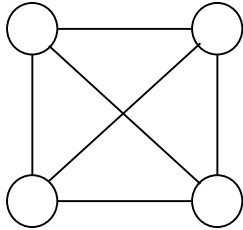
#### **Minimum Spanning tree**

- It is the shortest spanning tree (length of a tree is equal to the sum of the length of the arcs on the tree).
- Very important
  - Practice (eg. communication)
  - Theory (eg. basis)
  - Algorithms (as a sub problem)

A **minimum spanning tree (MST)** or **minimum weight spanning tree** is then a spanning tree with weight less than or equal to the weight of every other spanning tree.

- **Definition** Let  $G=(V, E)$  be an undirected connected graph. A subgraph  $t=(V, E')$  of  $G$  is a *spanning tree* of  $G$  iff  $t$  is a tree.

**Example**



### Algorithm for a Spanning Tree

- Two basic algorithms exist – Kruskal (by arc) – Prim (by sub-tree)
- Both are greedy
- May have different complexity (efficiency) depending on the topology (eg. density) of the network

### Kruskal Algorithm

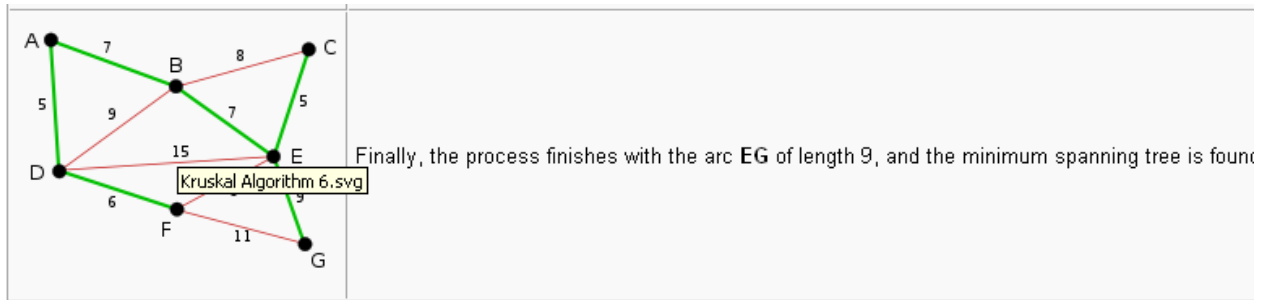
- Append new arcs to the tree in increasing order of the arc length (making sure cycles are not created)

Kruskal's algorithm is an [algorithm](#) in [graph theory](#) that finds a [minimum spanning tree](#) for a connected weighted graph. This means it finds a subset of the [edges](#) that forms a tree that includes every [vertex](#), where the total weight of all the edges in the tree is minimized. If the graph is not connected, then it finds a minimum spanning forest (a minimum spanning tree for each [connected component](#)). Kruskal's algorithm is an example of a [greedy algorithm](#).

### Example

Image	Description
	<p>This is our original graph. The numbers near the arcs indicate their weight. None of the arcs are highlighted.</p>
	<p><b>AD</b> and <b>CE</b> are the shortest arcs, with length 5, and <b>AD</b> has been <b>arbitrarily</b> chosen, so it is highlighted.</p>
	<p><b>CE</b> is now the shortest arc that does not form a cycle, with length 5, so it is highlighted as the second arc.</p>

	<p>The next arc, <b>DF</b> with length 6, is highlighted using much the same method.</p>
	<p>The next-shortest arcs are <b>AB</b> and <b>BE</b>, both with length 7. <b>AB</b> is chosen arbitrarily, and is highlighted. The arc <b>BD</b> has been highlighted in red, because there already exists a path (in green) between <b>B</b> and <b>D</b>, so it would form a cycle (<b>ABD</b>) if it were chosen.</p>
	<p>The process continues to highlight the next-smallest arc, <b>BE</b> with length 7. Many more arcs are highlighted in red at this stage: <b>BC</b> because it would form the loop <b>BCE</b>, <b>DE</b> because it would form the loop <b>DEBA</b>, and <b>FE</b> because it would form <b>FEBAD</b>.</p>



### Algorithm :

KRUSKAL ( E, Cost, n, T, mincost)

//E is the set of edges in G.

//G has n vertices.

//Cost(U,v) is the cost of edge (u,v).

//T is the set of edges in the minimum spanning tree and mincost is its cost

1. Real min cost, cost(1:n,1:n)
2. Integer PARENT(1:n) ,T(1:n-1,2) ,n construct a heap out of the edge costs using HEAPIFY
3. Parent  $\leftarrow$  1 // each vertex is in a different set
4. I  $\leftarrow$  mincost  $\leftarrow$  0
5. While i  $\leftarrow$  n-1 and heap not empty do
6.     Delete a minimum cost edge (u,v) from the heap and reheapify using ADJUST
7. J  $\leftarrow$  FIND (u) ;K  $\leftarrow$  FIND(V)
8. If j  $\neq$  k then i  $\leftarrow$  i+1
9.     T(I,1)  $\leftarrow$  u ;T(I,2)  $\leftarrow$  v
10.    Mincost  $\leftarrow$  mincost +cost (u,v)
11. Endif
12. Repeat
13. If i  $<$  n-2 then print ("no spanning tree) end if
14. Return
15. End Kruskal

### **How to implement -**

**Two functions should be considered**

- **Determining an edge with minimum cost**
- **Deleting this edge**

### Analysis of Algorithm

Where  $E$  is the number of edges in the graph and  $V$  is the number of vertices, Kruskal's algorithm can be shown to run in  $O(E \log E)$  time, or equivalently,  $O(E \log V)$  time, all with simple data structures. These running times are equivalent because:

- $E$  is at most  $V^2$  and  $\log V^2 = 2\log V$  is  $O(\log V)$ .
- If we ignore isolated vertices, which will each be their own component of the minimum spanning forest,  $V \leq E+1$ , so  $\log V$  is  $O(\log E)$ .

We can achieve this bound as follows: first sort the edges by weight using a [comparison sort](#) in  $O(E \log E)$  time; this allows the step "remove an edge with minimum weight from  $S$ " to operate in constant time. Next, we use a [disjoint-set data structure](#) to keep track of which vertices are in which components. We need to perform  $O(E)$  operations, two 'find' operations and possibly one union for each edge. Even a simple disjoint-set data structure such as disjoint-set forests with union by rank can perform  $O(E)$  operations in  $O(E \log V)$  time. Thus the total time is  $O(E \log E) = O(E \log V)$ .

## **Or**

Edge set  $E$ .

Operations are:

- Is  $E$  empty?
- Select and remove a least-cost edge.

Use a min heap of edges.

- Initialize.  $O(e)$  time.
- Remove and return least-cost edge.  $O(\log e)$  time.

Set of selected edges  $T$ .

Operations are:

- Does  $T$  have  $n - 1$  edges?
- Does the addition of an edge  $(u, v)$  to  $T$  result in a cycle?

Add an edge to  $T$ .

Use an array linear list for the edges of  $T$ .

- Does  $T$  have  $n - 1$  edges?
  - Check size of linear list.  $O(1)$  time.
- Does the addition of an edge  $(u, v)$  to  $T$  result in a cycle?
  - Not easy.
- Add an edge to  $T$ .
  - Add at right end of linear list.  $O(1)$  time.

Just use an array rather than ArrayLinearList

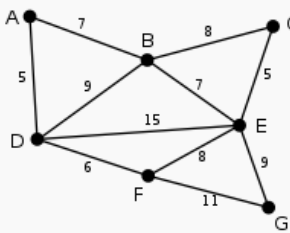
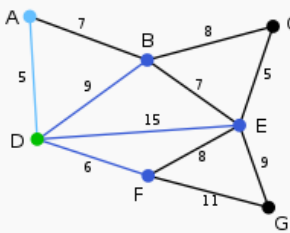
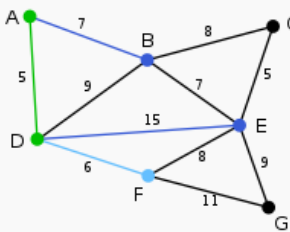
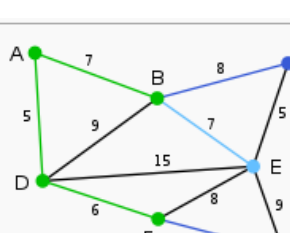
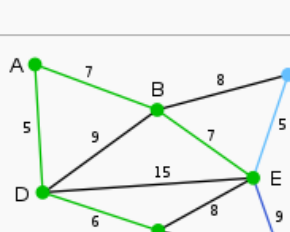
- Use FastUnionFind.
- Initialize.
  - $O(n)$  time.
- At most  $2e$  finds and  $n-1$  unions.
  - Very close to  $O(n + e)$ .
- Min heap operations to get edges in increasing order of cost take  $O(e \log e)$ .
- Overall complexity of Kruskal's method is  $O(n + e \log e)$ .

## **Prim's Algorithm**

• Similar, except that we always have a sub-tree as a partial solution: the new arc we add connects a node in the existing sub-tree to a node not yet in the sub-tree.

Example



Image	Description
	<p>This is our original weighted graph. The numbers near the arcs indicate their weight.</p>
	<p>Vertex <b>D</b> has been arbitrarily chosen as a starting point. Vertices <b>A</b>, <b>B</b>, <b>E</b> and <b>F</b> are connected to <b>D</b> through a single edge. <b>A</b> is the vertex nearest to <b>D</b> and will be chosen as the second vertex along with the edge <b>AD</b>.</p>
	<p>The next vertex chosen is the vertex nearest to <i>either</i> <b>D</b> or <b>A</b>. <b>B</b> is 9 away from <b>D</b> and 7 away from <b>A</b>, <b>E</b> is 15, and <b>F</b> is 6. <b>F</b> is the smallest distance away, so we highlight the vertex <b>F</b> and the arc <b>DF</b>.</p>
	<p>In this case, we can choose between <b>C</b>, <b>E</b>, and <b>G</b>. <b>C</b> is 8 away from <b>B</b>, <b>E</b> is 7 away from <b>B</b>, and <b>G</b> 11 away from <b>F</b>. <b>E</b> is nearest, so we highlight the vertex <b>E</b> and the arc <b>BE</b>.</p>
	<p>Here, the only vertices available are <b>C</b> and <b>G</b>. <b>C</b> is 5 away from <b>E</b>, and <b>G</b> is 9 away from <b>E</b>. <b>C</b> is chosen, so it is highlighted along with the arc <b>EC</b>.</p>

	<p>Here, the only vertices available are <b>C</b> and <b>G</b>. <b>C</b> is 5 away from <b>E</b>, and <b>G</b> is 9 away from <b>E</b>. <b>C</b> is chosen, so it is highlighted along with the arc <b>EC</b>.</p>
	<p>Vertex <b>G</b> is the only remaining vertex. It is 11 away from <b>F</b>, and 9 away from <b>E</b>. <b>E</b> is nearer, so we highlight it and the arc <b>EG</b>.</p>
	<p>Now all the vertices have been selected and the <b>minimum spanning tree</b> is shown in green. In this case, it has weight 39.</p>

## Algorithm

### PRIME(E,COST,nT,mincost)

//E is the set of edges in G

//COST (n,n) is the cost adjacency matrix of an n vertex graph such that COST(I,j) is either a positive real number + infinity. If no edge exists. A minimum spanning tree is computed and stored as set of edges in the array T(1:n-1,2). T(1,1)T(I,2) is an edge in the min-cost spanning tree .The final cost is assigned to mincost

1. real COST( n,n ),mincost ;
2. integer NEAR(n) ,n,I,j,k,l ,T(1:n-1,2);
3. (K,l)  $\leftarrow$  edge with minimum cost
4. mincost = cost(k,l);
5. T(1,1),T(1,2)  $\leftarrow$  (k,l)
6. for I  $\leftarrow$  1 to n do // Initialize near.
7.     If COST(i ,l)< COST (i, k) then NEAR (i)  $\leftarrow$  l
8.                                 Else NEAR(i)  $\leftarrow$  k         endif
9. Repeat
10. NEAR (k)  $\leftarrow$  NEAR (l)  $\leftarrow$  0
11. for I  $\leftarrow$  2 to n-1 do //find n-2 additional edges for T.
12. // Let j be an index such that NEAR (J)!= 0 and COST (j ,NEAR(j)) is minimum
13. (T(i,1) ,T(i,2))  $\leftarrow$  (J ,NEAR (j))
14. mincost  $\leftarrow$  mincost +COST (j,NEAR(j))
15. NEAR (j)  $\leftarrow$  0
16. for K  $\leftarrow$  1 to n do //update NEAR
17.     if NEAR(K) != 0 and COST (K ,NEAR (k)) > COST(K,j) then

18.  $NEAR(K) \leftarrow j$
19. End if
20. Repeat
21. Repeat
22. If mincost  $\geq$  infinity then print ("no spanning tree")
23. End PRIM

### Time complexity

Minimum edge weight data structure	Time complexity (total)
<a href="#">adjacency matrix</a> , searching	$O(VE)$

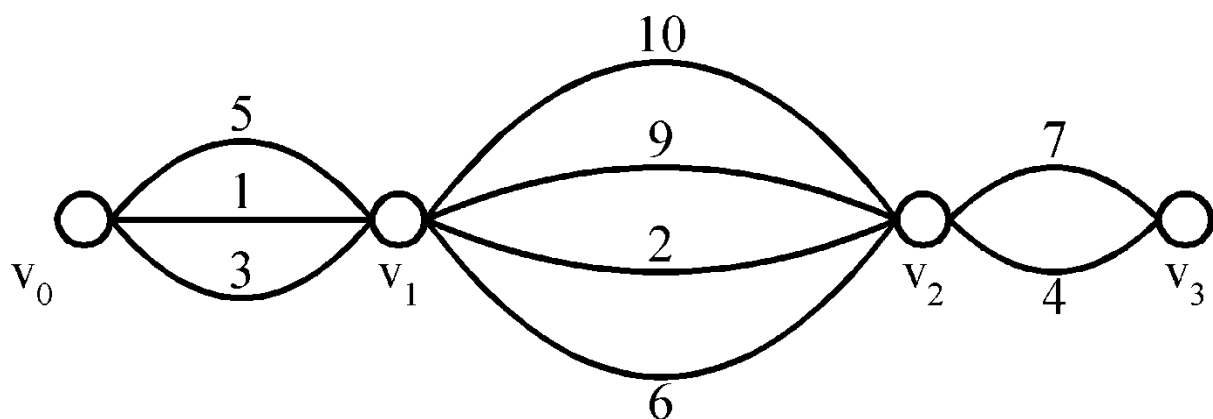
### Shortest Path :

In [graph theory](#), the **shortest path problem** is the problem of finding a [path](#) between two [vertices](#) (or nodes) such that the sum of the [weights](#) of its constituent edges is minimized

- Directed weighted graph.
- Path length is sum of weights of edges on path.
- The vertex at which the path begins is the source vertex.
- The vertex at which the path ends is the destination vertex.

### Example

Finding the quickest way to get from one location to another on a road map; in this case, the vertices represent locations and the edges represent segments of road and are weighted by the time needed to travel that segment.



- Problem: Find a shortest path from  $v_0$  to  $v_3$ .
- The greedy method can solve this problem.
- The shortest path:  $1 + 2 + 4 = 7$ .

The problem is also sometimes called the **single-pair shortest path problem**, to distinguish it from the following generalizations:

- The **single-source shortest path problem**, in which we have to find shortest paths from a source vertex  $v$  to all other vertices in the graph.
- The **single-destination shortest path problem**, in which we have to find shortest paths from all vertices in the graph to a single destination vertex  $v$ . This can be reduced to the single-source shortest path problem by reversing the edges in the graph.
- The **all-pairs shortest path problem**, in which we have to find shortest paths between every pair of vertices  $v, v'$  in the graph.

### Single Source Shortest Path :

- Design of greedy algorithm

Building the shortest paths one by one, in non decreasing order of path lengths  
e.g., in Figure 4.15

$1 \rightarrow 4$ : 10

$1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$ : 25

...

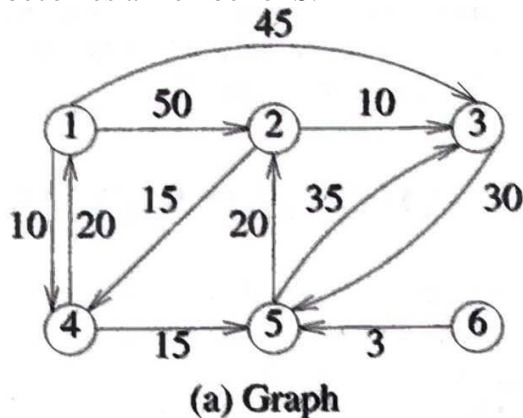
We need to determine 1) the next vertex to which a shortest path must be generated and 2) a shortest path to this vertex

#### **Three observations**

If the next shortest path is to vertex  $u$ , then the path begins at  $v_0$ , ends at  $u$ , and goes through only those vertices that are in  $S$ .

The destination of the next path generated must be that of vertex  $u$  which has the minimum distance,  $dist(u)$ , among all vertices not in  $S$ .

Having selected a vertex  $u$  as in observation 2 and generated the shortest  $v_0$  to  $u$  path, vertex  $u$  becomes a member of  $S$ .



<i>Path</i>	<i>Length</i>
1) 1, 4	10
2) 1, 4, 5	25
3) 1, 4, 5, 2	45
4) 1, 3	45

(b) Shortest paths from 1

### Algorithm : Greedy algorithm ( Dijkstra's algorithm)

ShortestPaths(v, cost, dist, n)

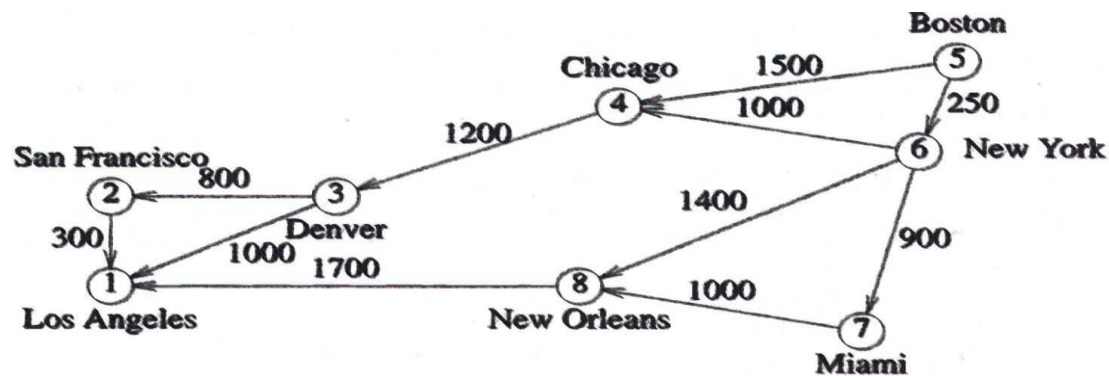
//DIST(j) ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$  is set to the length of the shortest path from vertex v to vertex j in a diagraph G with n vertices. DIST(v) is set to zero. G is represented by its cost adjacency matrix , COST(n,n)

```

Boolean S(1:n); real COST(1:n,1:n) DIST(1:n)
Integer u,v, n,num ,I,w
For I  $\leftarrow$  1 to n do //initialize set S to empty
    S(i) $\leftarrow$ 0 ; DIST(i)  $\leftarrow$  COST(V,i)
Repeat
    S(V)  $\leftarrow$ 1 ;DIST(v)  $\leftarrow$  0 //put vertex v in set S
    For num  $\leftarrow$  2 to n-1 do //determine n-1 paths from vertex v //
        Choose u such that DIST (u) =min {DIST(w)}
        S(w)=0
        S(u) $\leftarrow$ 1 //put vertex u in set s
        For all W with S(w) =0 do
            DIST(w)  $\leftarrow$  min(DIST(w) ,DIST( u) +COST(u,w))
        Repeat
    Repeat
End SHORTEST-PATHS.

```

Time Complexity :-  $O(n^2)$



(a) Digraph

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	0							
2	300	0						
3	100	800	0					
4			1200	0				
5				1500	0	250		
6				1000		0	900	1400
7							0	1000
8	1700							0

(b) Length-adjacency matrix

Iteration	$S$	Vertex selected	Distance							
			LA	SF	DEN	CHI	BOST	NY	MIA	NO
			[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]
Initial	--	----	+∞	+∞	+∞	1500	0	250	+∞	+∞
1	{5}	6	+∞	+∞	+∞	1250	0	250	1150	1650
2	{5,6}	7	+∞	+∞	+∞	1250	0	250	1150	1650
3	{5,6,7}	4	+∞	+∞	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650
4	{5,6,7,4}	8	3350	+∞	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650
5	{5,6,7,4,8}	3	3350	3250	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650
6	{5,6,7,4,8,3} {5,6,7,4,8,3,2}	2	3350	3250	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650