

# Shortest Path II: Bellman-Ford

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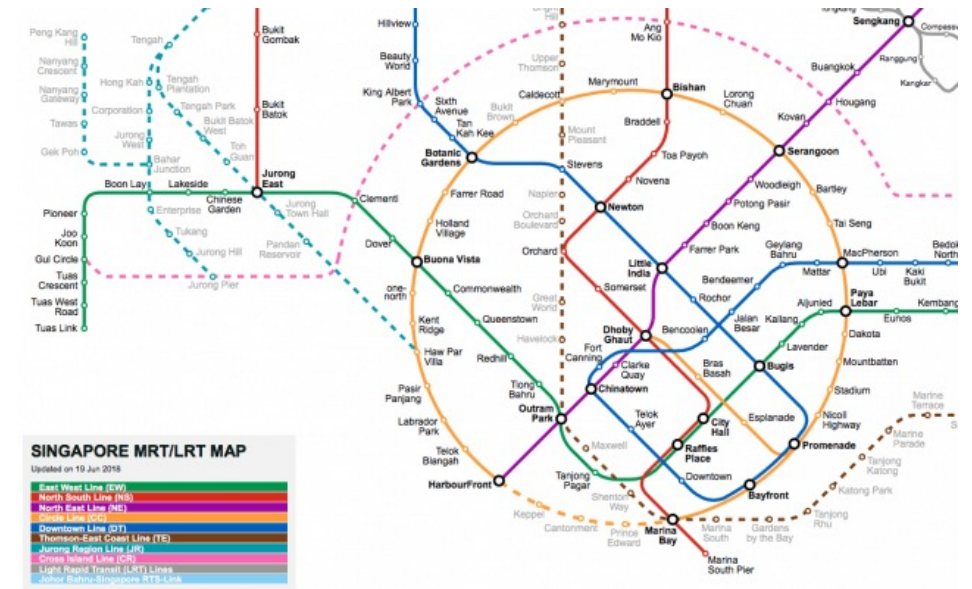
Instructor: Meng-Fen Chiang

COMPSCI: WEEK 11.4



# OUTLINE

- Algorithms on Weighted Graphs
  - Dijkstra
  - **Bellman-Ford**
  - Floyd-Warshall
- Time Complexity Analysis



# Bellman-Ford Algorithm

- Bellman-Ford can solve SSSP as well
- Slower than Dijkstra but can handle negative weights
- Bellman-ford performs at **most**  $n$  iterations, where  $n$  is the number of nodes/vertices

# Bellman-Ford Algorithm

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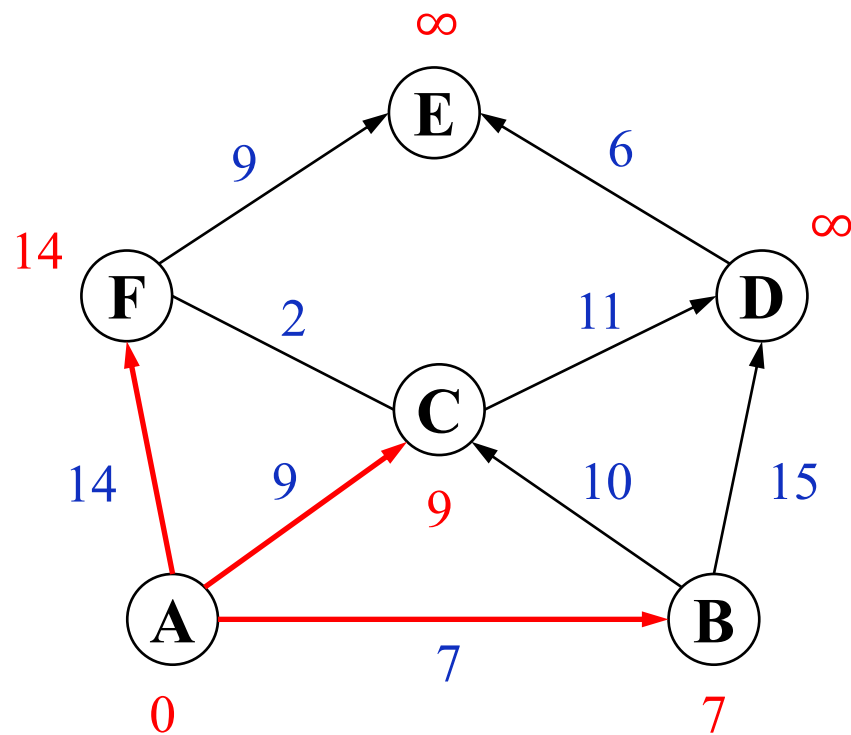
**Algorithm 1** Bellman-Ford algorithm.

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```
1: function BELLMANFORD(weighted digraph( $G, c$ ); node  $s \in V(G)$ )
2:   array  $dist[0..n - 1]$ 
3:   for  $u \in V(G)$  do
4:      $dist[u] \leftarrow \infty$ 
5:    $dist[s] \leftarrow 0$ 
6:   for  $i$  from 0 to  $n - 1$  do
7:     for  $x \in V(G)$  do
8:       for  $v \in V(G)$  do
9:          $dist[v] \leftarrow \min\{dist[v], dist[x] + c[x, v]\}$ 
10:  return  $dist$ 
```

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# Bellman-Ford algorithm

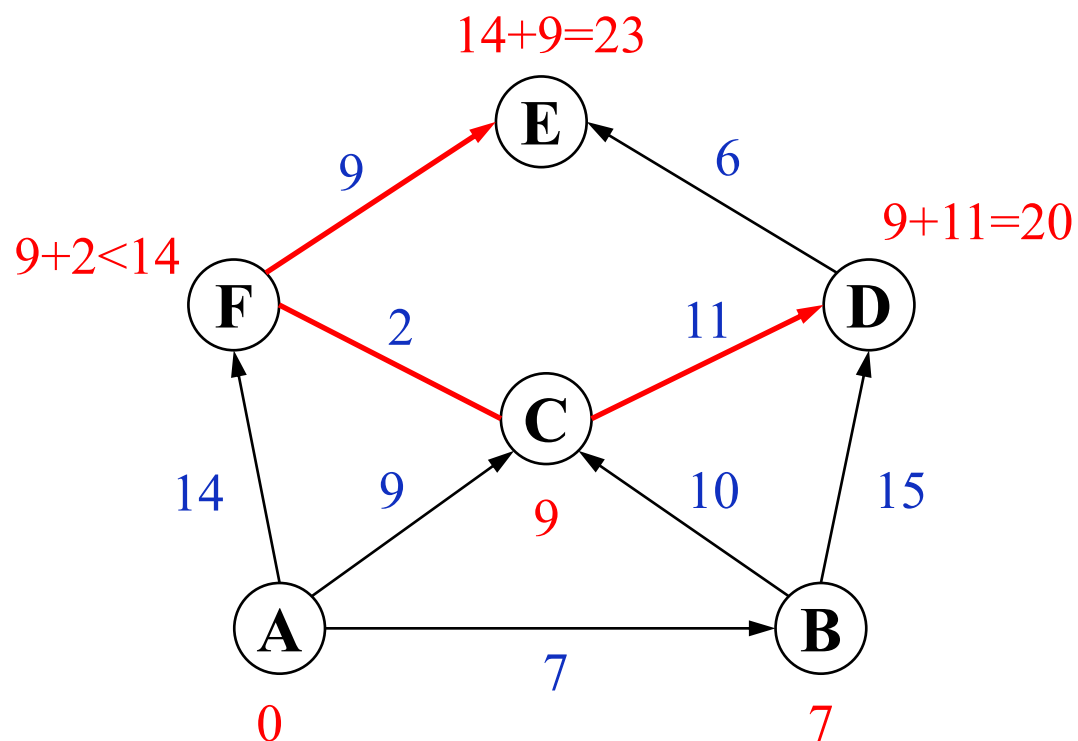


Start at **A**

$i = 0$

$i = 1$

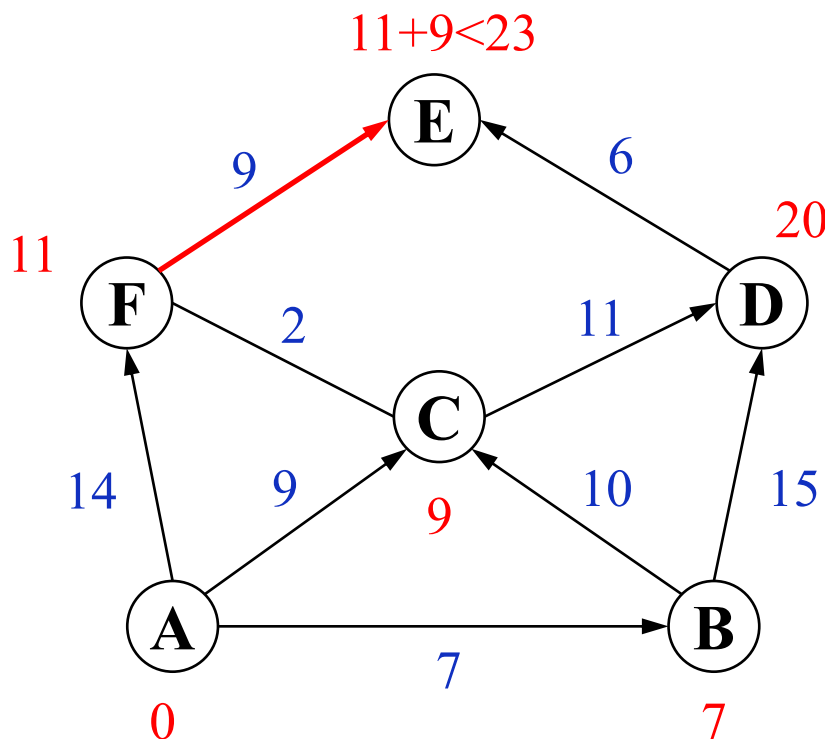
# Bellman-Ford algorithm



Start at **(A)**

$i = 2$

# Bellman-Ford algorithm



Start at **A**

$$i = 3$$

$$i = 4$$

:

$$i = n - 1$$

# Bellman-Ford Algorithm

- Slower than Dijkstra's algorithm when all arcs are nonnegative.
- Similar idea as in Dijkstra's: to find the single-source shortest paths (SSSP) under progressively relaxing restrictions.
  - Dijkstra's: one node at a time based on their current distance estimate.
  - Bellman-Ford: all nodes at "level"  $0, 1, \dots, n-1$  in turn.
    - Level of a node  $v$  – the minimum possible number of arcs in a minimum weight path to that node from the source  $s$ .



# Bellman-Ford Algorithm

- **Theorem.** If a graph  $G$  contains no **negative weight cycles**, then after the  $i$ th iteration of the outer for-loop, the element  $dist[v]$  contains the minimum weight of a path to  $v$  for all nodes  $v$  with level **at most**  $i$ .

# Why Bellman-Ford algorithm Works

Just as for Dijkstra's, the update ensures  $dist[v]$  never increases.

Induction by the level  $i$  of the nodes:

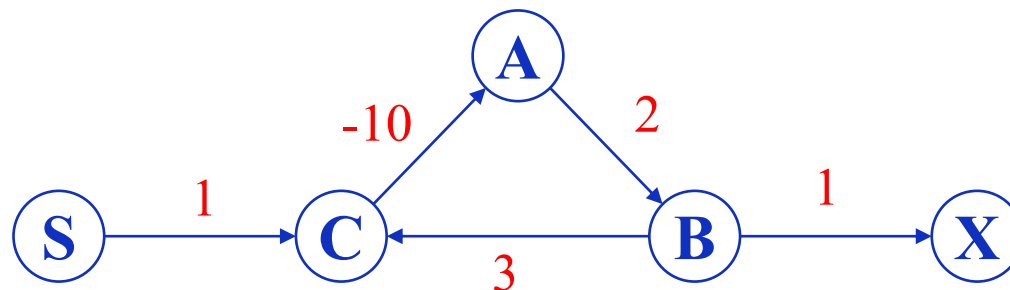
- **Base case:**  $i=0$ ; the result is true due to initialization:  $dist[s] = 0$ ;  $dist[v] = \infty$ ;  $v \in V \setminus s$ .
- **Induction hypothesis:**  $dist[v]$ ;  $v \in V$ , are true for  $i-1$ .
- **Induction step** for a node  $v$  at level  $i$ :
  - Due to no negative weight cycles, a min-weight  $s$ -to- $v$  path,  $\gamma$ , has  $i$  arcs.
  - If  $y$  is the last node before  $v$  and  $\gamma_1$  the subpath to  $y$ , then  $dist[y] \leq |\gamma_1|$  by the induction hypothesis.
  - Thus by the update rule:  $dist[v] \leq dist[y] + c(y, v) \leq |\gamma_1| + c(y, v) \leq |\gamma|$   
as required at level  $i$ .      **update formula**      **IH**

# Bellman-Ford Algorithm

- **Fact.** This (non-greedy) algorithm handles negative weight arcs but not **negative weight cycles**.
- Runs in time  $O(nm)$  since the two inner-most for loops can be replaced with:  $\text{for}(x, v) \in E(V)$ .
- Can be modified to detect negative weight cycle.

# Cycles of Negative Weights

- SSSP problem makes no sense if we allow digraphs with cycles of negative total weight.



Path from **S** to **X**

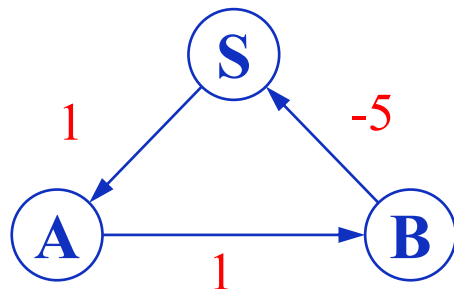
$$\text{S-C-A-B-X} : 1 + (-10) + 2 + 1 = -6$$

$$\text{S-C-A-B-C-A-B-X} : 1 + (-10) + 2 + 3 + (-10) + 2 + 1 = -11$$

## Cycles of Negative Weights (Contd.)

- Suppose the input to the Bellman–Ford algorithm is a digraph with a negative weight cycle. How could the algorithm detect this, so it can exit gracefully with an error message?

Run outer *for* loop for one more iteration. If  $dist[v]$  changes for some vertex  $v$  in the last iteration, then the graph has a negative weight cycle.

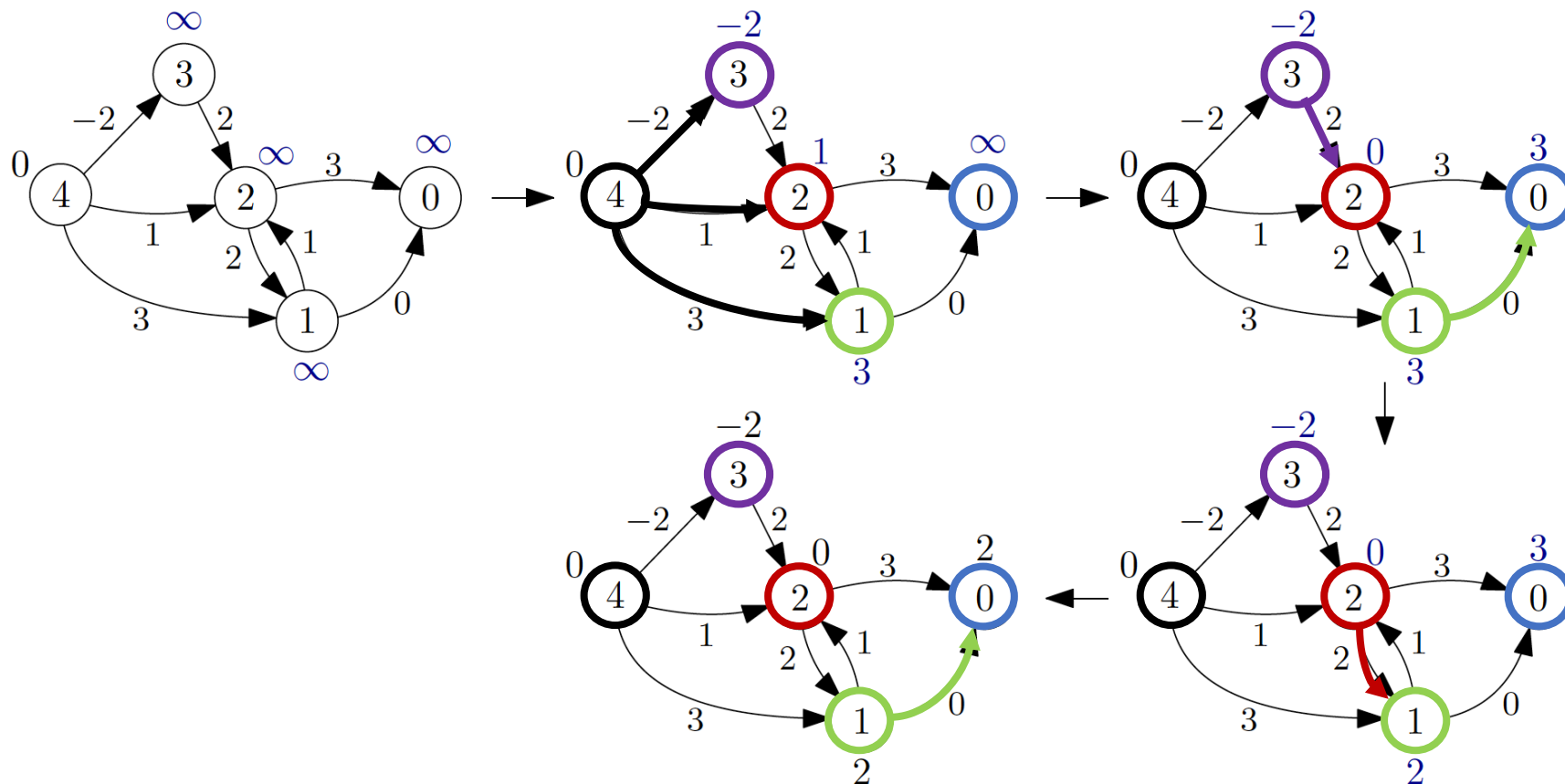


**1<sup>st</sup> iteration :**  $dist[s] = -3$

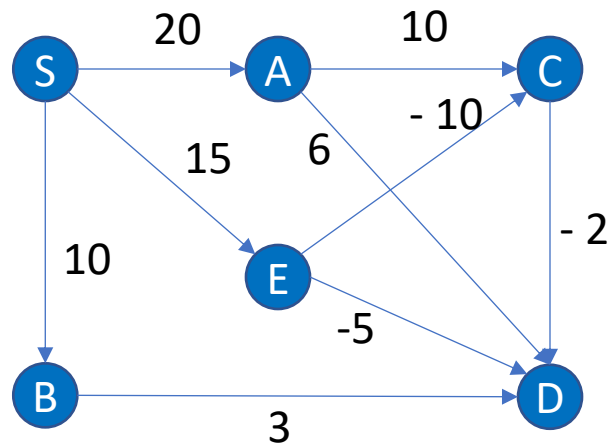
**2<sup>nd</sup> iteration :**  $dist[s] = -6$

**3<sup>rd</sup> iteration :**  $dist[s] = -9$

**Example.** An application of Bellman–Ford algorithm with starting node 4 when the nodes are processed in the order from 0 to 4.

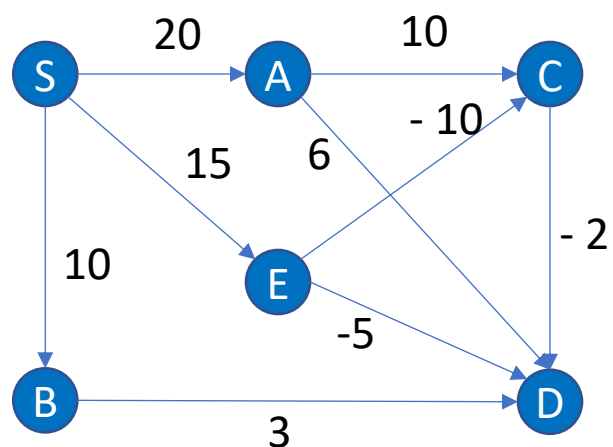


# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



We have 6 vertices which means that at most we will do 5 iterations

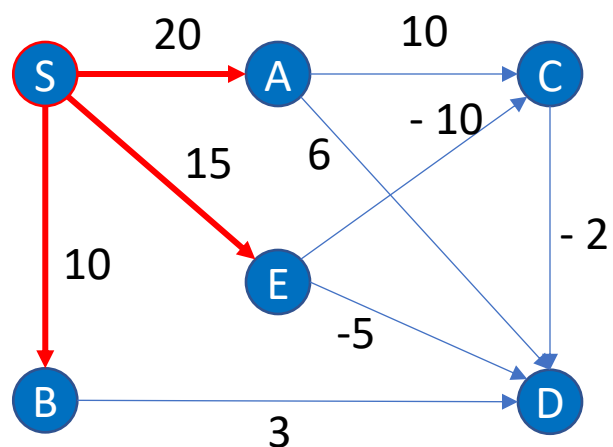
# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



S	0, S
A	$\infty$
B	$\infty$
C	$\infty$
D	$\infty$
E	$\infty$



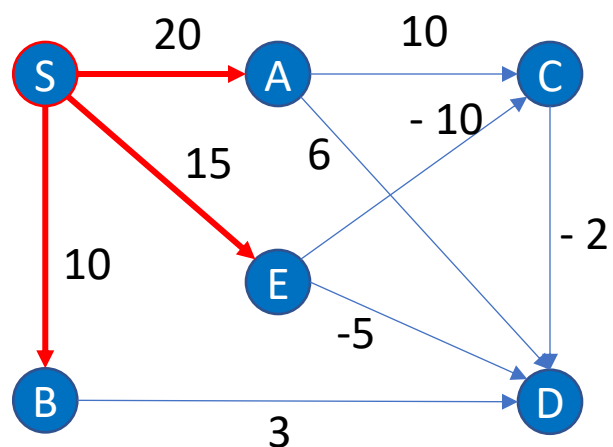
# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



<b>S</b>	0, S
A	$\infty$
B	$\infty$
C	$\infty$
D	$\infty$
E	$\infty$

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

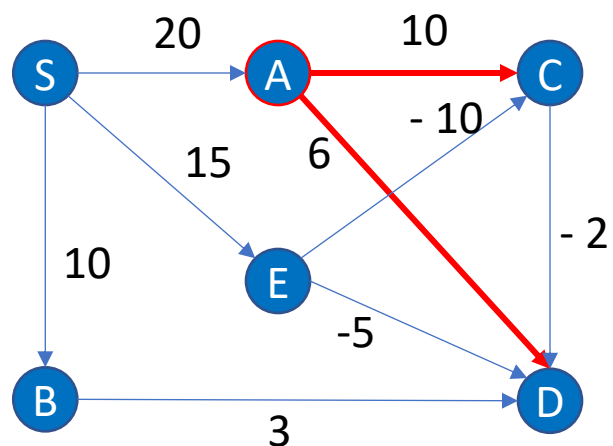
# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	$\infty$
D	$\infty$
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

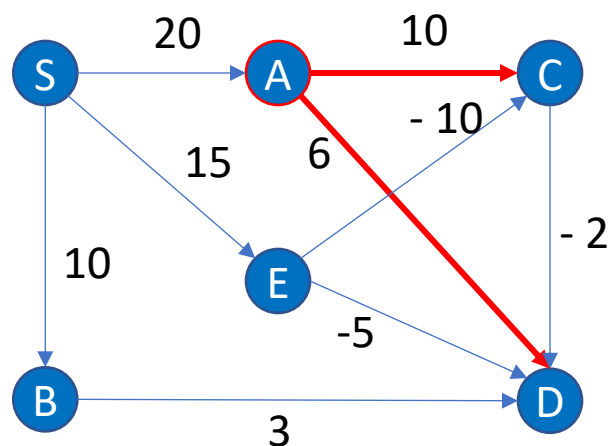


S	0, S
<b>A</b>	20, S
B	10, S
C	$\infty$
D	$\infty$
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

From S we can get to A with a cost of 20  
 From A we can get to C with a cost of 10  
 So we can get from A to C with a total cost of 30

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

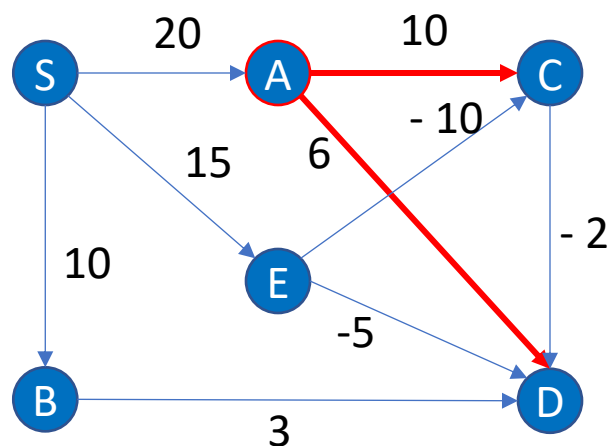


S	0, S
<b>A</b>	20, S
B	10, S
C	30, A
D	$\infty$
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

From S we can get to A with a cost of 20  
 From A we can get to C with a cost of 10  
 So we can get from A to C with a total cost of 30

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

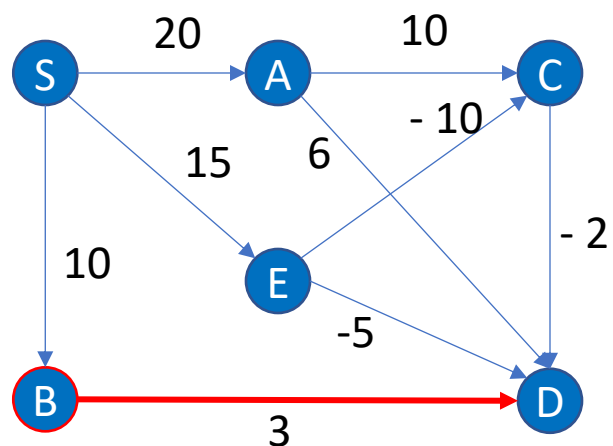


S	0, S
<b>A</b>	20, S
B	10, S
C	30, A
D	26, A
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

Similarly, we can reach D from S through A with a total cost of 26

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



S	0, S
A	20, S
<b>B</b>	10, S
C	30, A
D	26, A
E	15, S

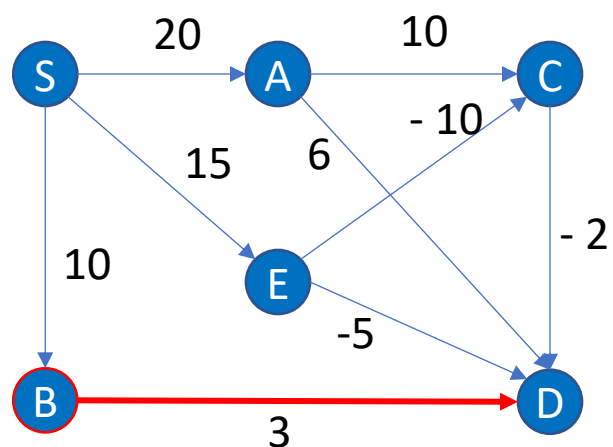
1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

We know that we can reach B from S with a cost of 10.

From B we can reach D with a cost 3.

So via B, the total cost is 13 which is less than the current total cost from S to D via A

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

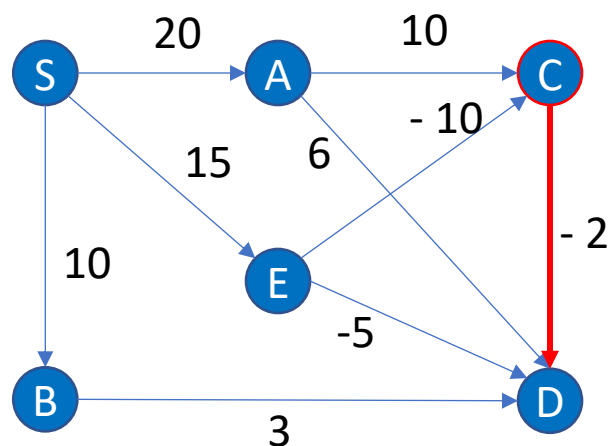


S	0, S
A	20, S
<b>B</b>	10, S
C	30, A
D	<b>13, B</b>
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

We update D entry with the new total cost

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
<b>C</b>	30, A
D	13, B
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

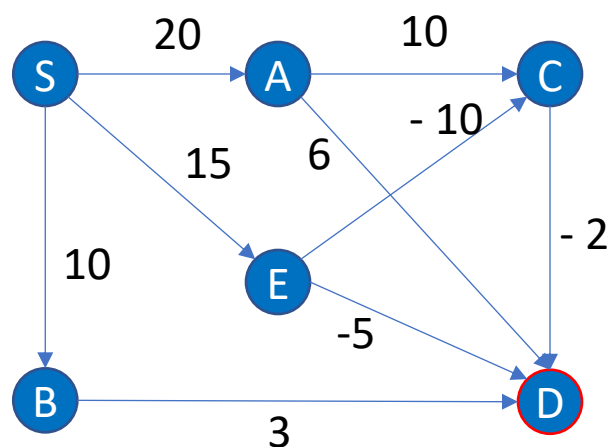
From S we can reach C with cost 30

Via C, we can reach D from S with a total cost of 28 (30 – 2)

But because the current total cost to D (13) is less than this new value via C we do not update it



# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

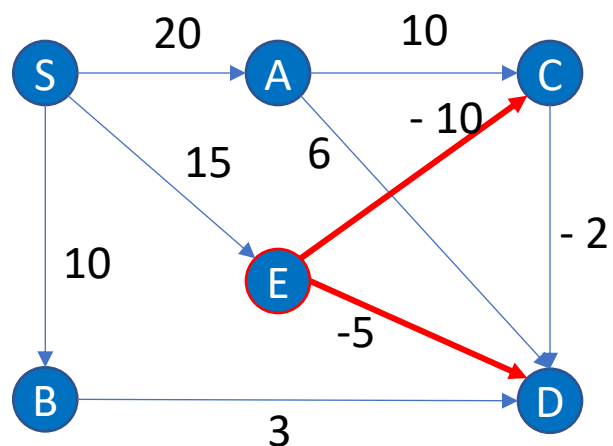


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	30, A
<span style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">D</span>	13, B
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

D is a sink so we just skip it

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

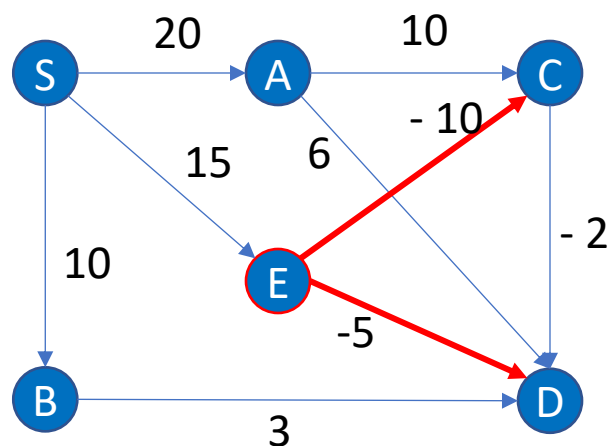


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	30, A
D	13, B
<span style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">E</span>	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

From E we can reach C with cost -10 and D with cost -5

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

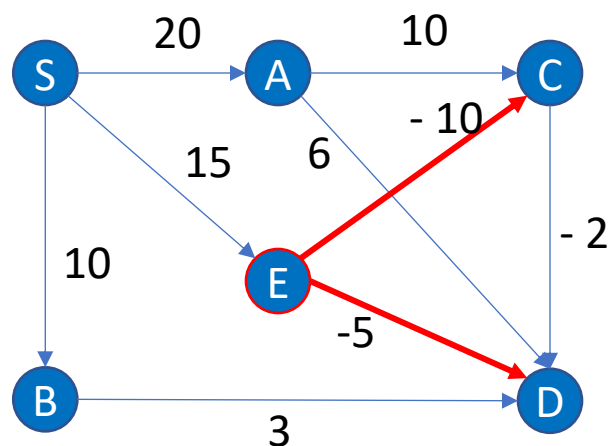


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	30, A
D	13, B
<span style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">E</span>	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

This means that the total cost from S to C via E is 5 so we can update the value for C in the table

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

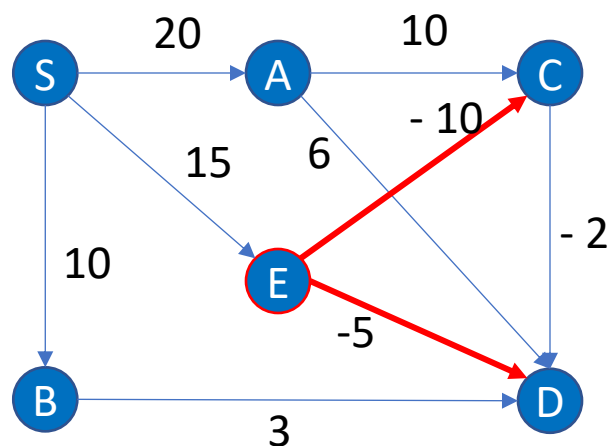


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	13, B
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

This means that the total cost from S to C via E is 5 so we can update the value in the table

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

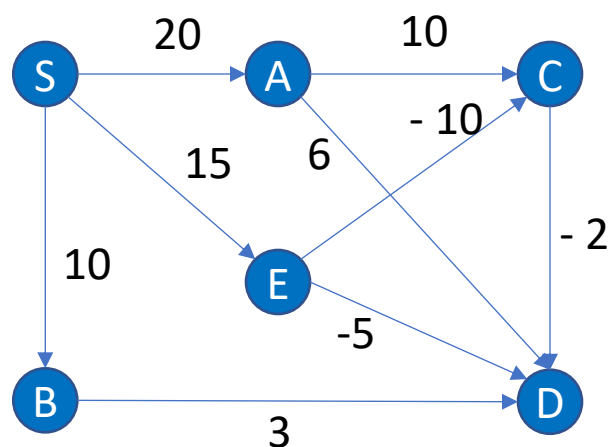


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	10, E
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

The total cost from S to D via E is 10 so we can also update D.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

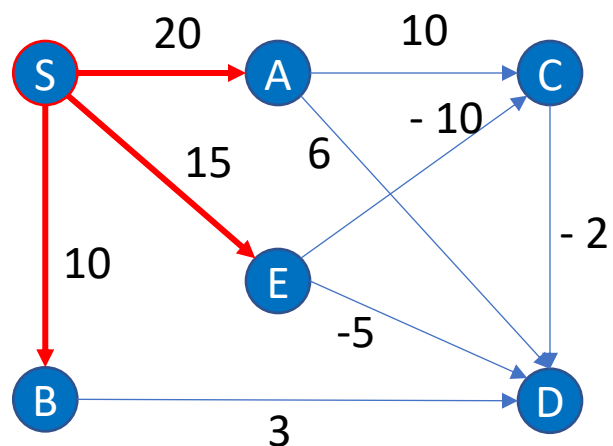


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	10, E
E	15, S

1<sup>st</sup> Iteration

Our first iteration is now concluded. We can move to our second iteration.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

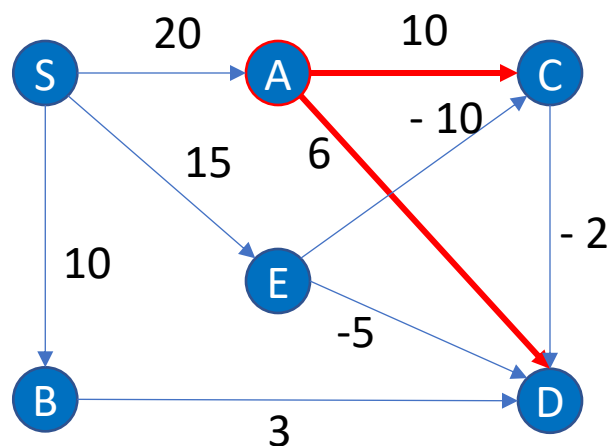


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	10, E
E	15, S

2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

We start again from S and we see that we cannot improve the costs for A, B and E.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



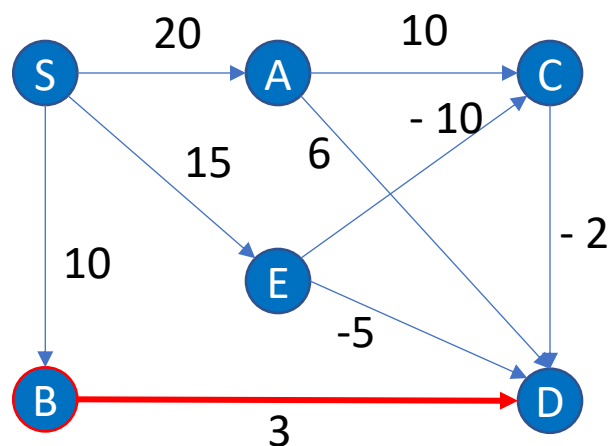
S	0, S
<b>A</b>	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	10, E
E	15, S

2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

We select A and we can see that we can reach C and D. But again we cannot do better than what we have already in the table



# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

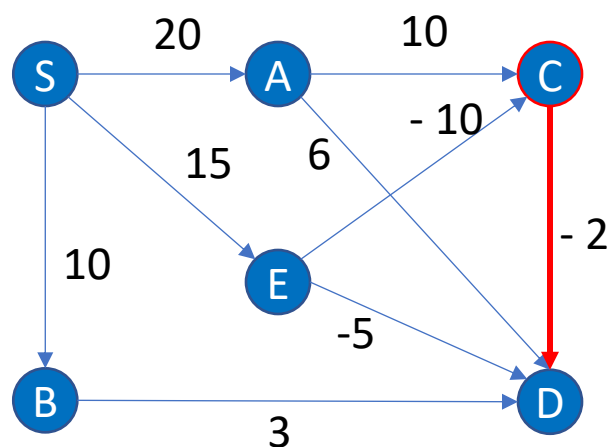


S	0, S
A	20, S
<b>B</b>	10, S
C	5, E
D	10, E
E	15, S

2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

We select B and from B we can reach D. But again we cannot do better than what is in the table.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
<b>C</b>	5, E
D	10, E
E	15, S

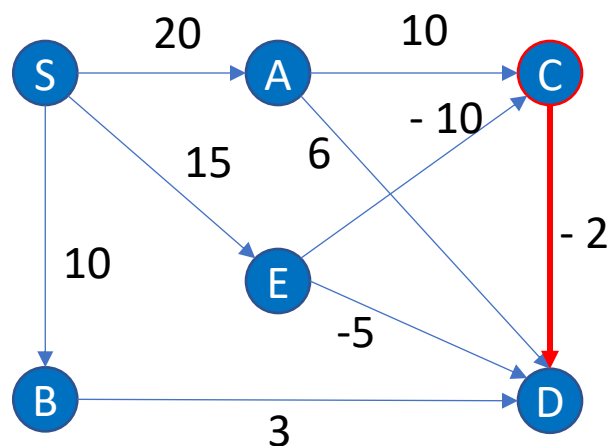
2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

From C we can reach D with a cost -2.

The cost from S to C is 5. So the total cost from S to D through C is 3.

This is better than what we have in the table so we update D cost .

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
<b>C</b>	5, E
D	<b>3, C</b>
E	15, S

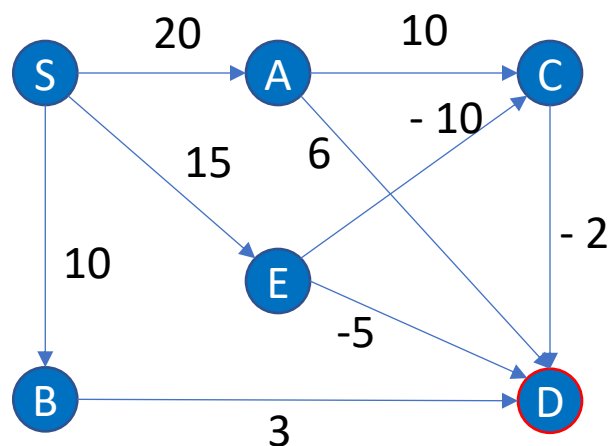
2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

From C we can reach D with a cost -2.

The cost from S to C is 5. So the total cost from S to D through C is 3.

This is better than what we have in the table so we update the cost of D.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

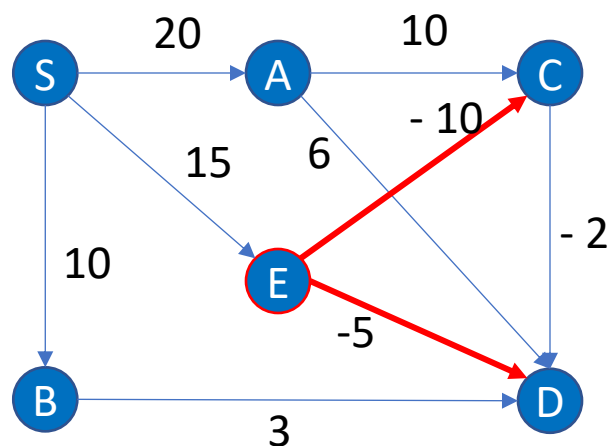


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
<b>D</b>	3, C
E	15, S

2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

We move on to D. But again we cannot reach other nodes from D.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



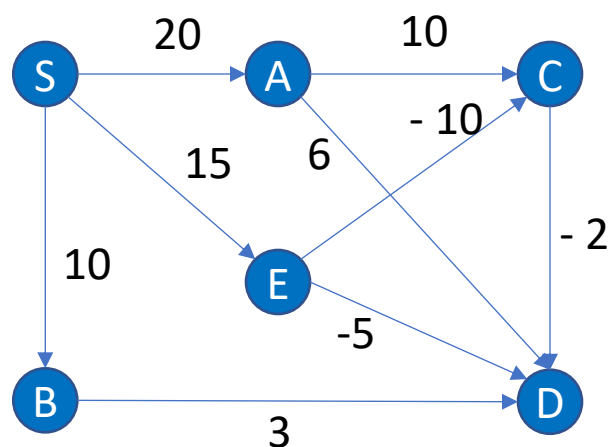
S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	3, C
<b>E</b>	15, S

2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

We move on to E. From E we can reach C and D.

But again we cannot do better than what in the table so no update needed

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

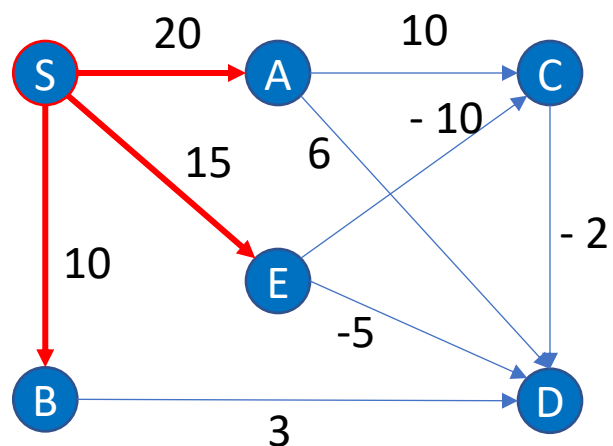


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	3, C
E	15, S

2<sup>nd</sup> Iteration

This concludes our second iteration. We move on to the third.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

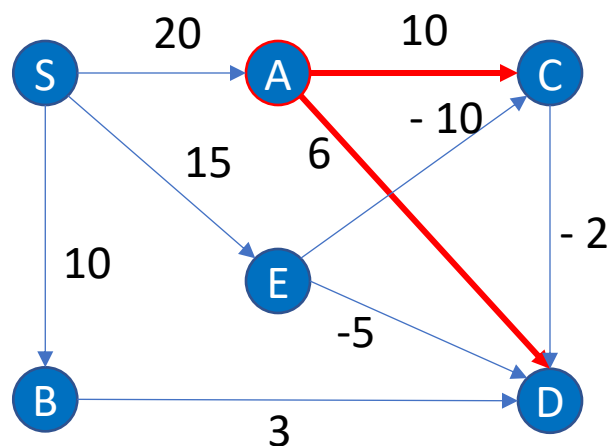


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	3, C
E	15, S

3<sup>rd</sup> Iteration

We start the iteration again from S. And again we cannot do better than what in the table.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



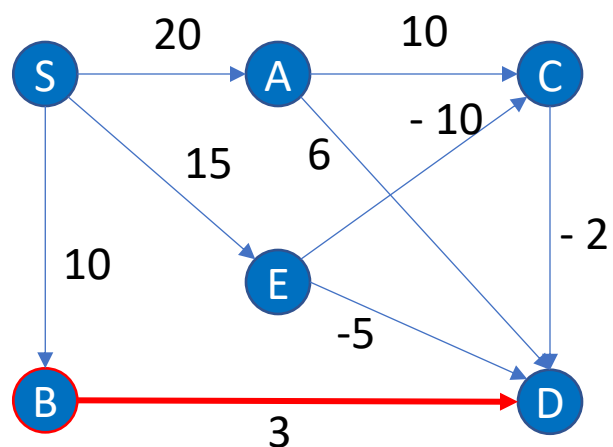
S	0, S
<b>A</b>	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	3, C
E	15, S

3<sup>rd</sup> Iteration

We move on to A and also in this case we cannot do better so we move on



# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

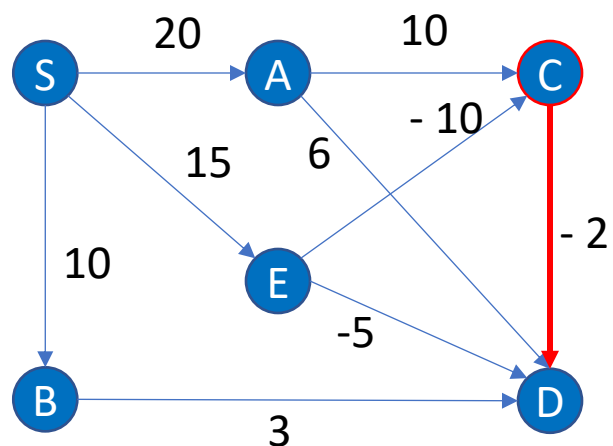


S	0, S
A	20, S
<b>B</b>	10, S
C	5, E
D	3, C
E	15, S

3<sup>rd</sup> Iteration

We select B and also here we cannot do better.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

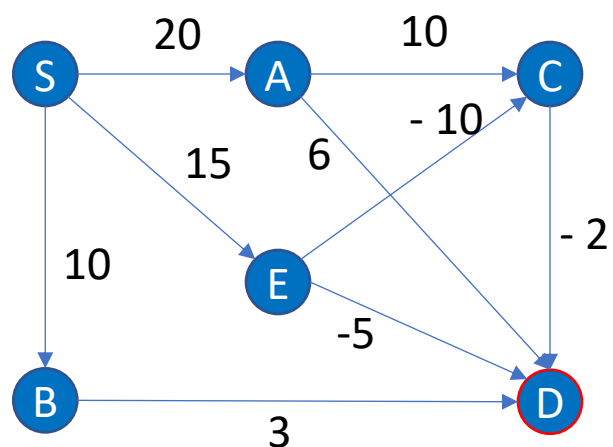


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
<b>C</b>	5, E
D	3, C
E	15, S

3<sup>rd</sup> Iteration

We select C and also in this case we cannot improve so we move on

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

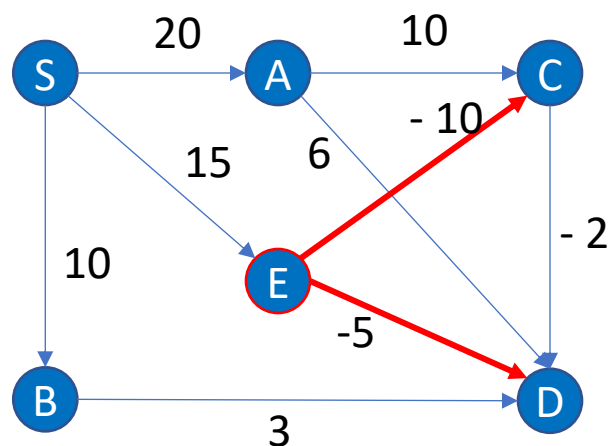


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
<b>D</b>	3, C
E	15, S

3<sup>rd</sup> Iteration

We select D but we cannot reach other nodes. So we move on

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work

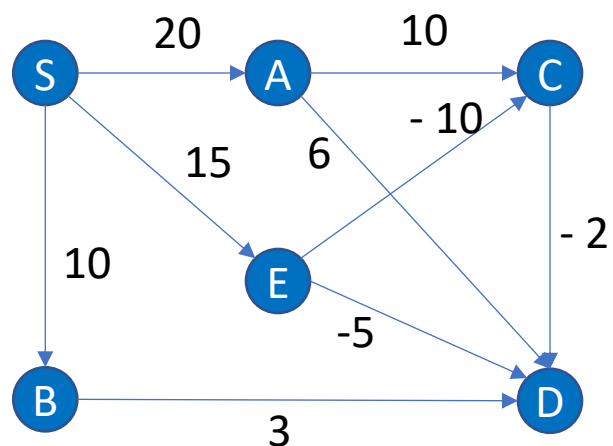


S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	3, C
<b>E</b>	15, S

3<sup>rd</sup> Iteration

Finally we select E. Again we cannot improve.  
Because during this last iteration, our table has not changed, so we can **stop** here.

# Example: Bellman-Ford at Work



S	0, S
A	20, S
B	10, S
C	5, E
D	3, C
E	15, S

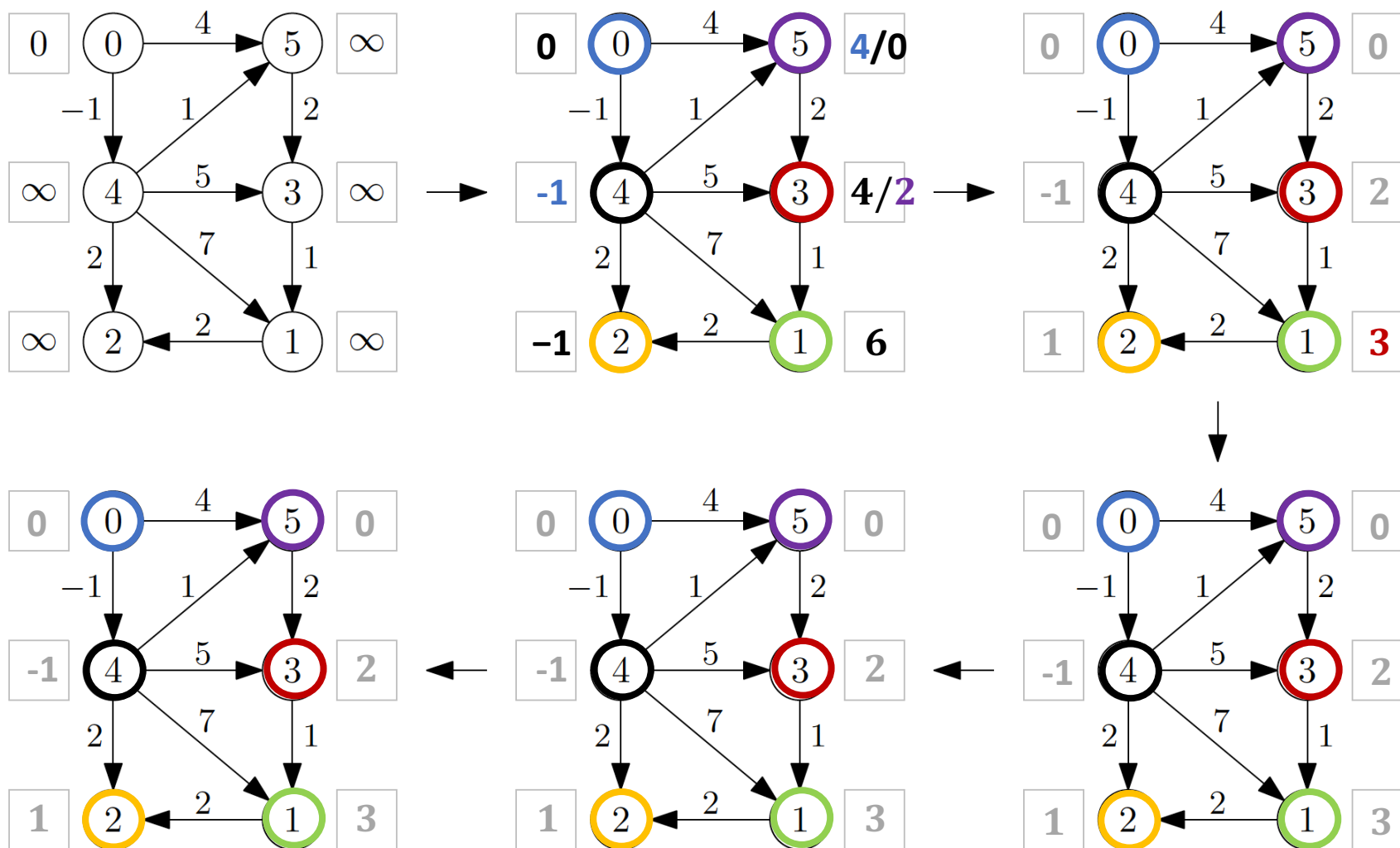
3<sup>rd</sup> Iteration

The costs in the table represent the best total costs from S to any other nodes in the digraph

# Time Complexity: Bellman-Ford (Contd.)

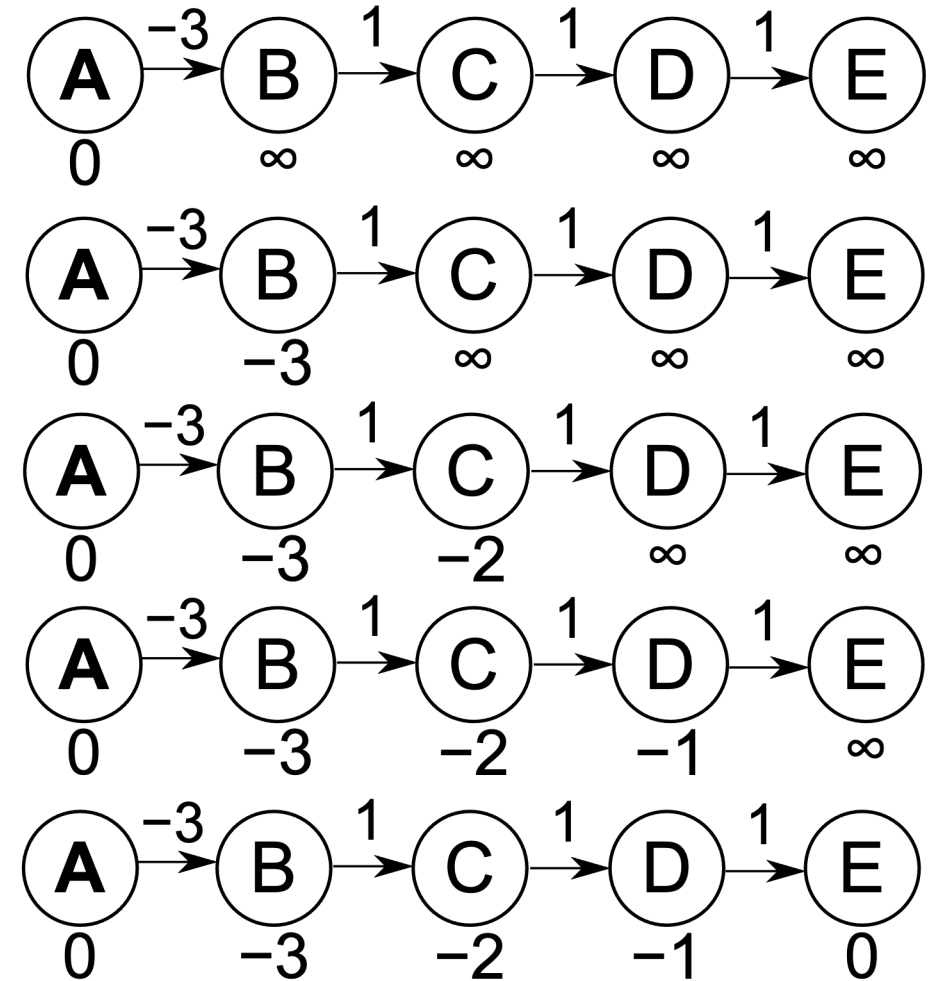
- For sparse graphs and adjacency lists:  $\Theta(n)\Theta(m) = \Theta(nm)$
- For dense graphs we have  $\Theta(m) = O(n^2)$ , so Bellman-Ford is  $\Theta(n)O(n^2) = O(n^3)$
- With an adjacency matrix:  $\Theta(n^3)$ .
- Conclusion: Dijkstra is faster but doesn't give the right answers when we have negative weight edges/arcs

**Example.** Execute the Bellman–Ford algorithm on the graph below with starting vertex 0. Process nodes in the order from 0 to 5.



- In this example graph, assuming that **A** is the source and edges are processed in the worst order, from right to left, it requires the full  $|V|-1$  or 4 iterations for the distance estimates to converge.

- Conversely, if the edges are processed in the best order, from left to right, the algorithm converges in a single iteration.  
*Source – Wikipedia*





# SUMMARY

- Algorithms on Weighted Graphs
  - Dijkstra
  - **Bellman-Ford**
  - Floyd-Warshall
- Time Complexity Analysis

