

# CSc 3102: Shortest Path Algorithms

## Dijkstra's Single-source & Floyd's All-pairs Algorithms

### Dijkstra Algorithm

```
ALGORITHM: Dijkstra(G,src,dst)
{  Input: G – a weighted graph with n vertices
      src – a vertex of G, the source
      dst – a vertex of G, the destination
  Output: dist[] – the shortest distance from s to other vertices
         pred[] – the parent of the specified vertex}
{Q is a min-priority-queue with -key-id comparator}
Let dist[]  $\leftarrow \infty$ 
Let pred[]  $\leftarrow -1$ 
for v  $\in V(G)$  AND v  $\neq$  src do
    Let v.key  $\leftarrow \infty$ 
endfor
Let src.key  $\leftarrow 0$ 
Let Q  $\leftarrow V(G)$ 
while Q.empty()=false AND top  $\neq$  dst
    Let top  $\leftarrow$  Extract-Min(Q)
    Let dist[top]  $\leftarrow$  top.key;
    for v  $\in$  Adj[top]
        if v in Q and top.key + weight(top,v) < v.key
            Decrease-Key(Q,v,top.key + weight(top,v))
            Let pred[v]  $\leftarrow$  top
            Let dist[v]  $\leftarrow$  v.key
        endif
    endwhile
    return dist[], pred[]
end Dijkstra
```

### Analysis:

The worst-case performance of *Dijkstra* belongs to  $O(n^2)$  or  $O(m + n \log n)$  if a priority queue is used, where  $n = |G| = |V|$  and  $m = \|G\| = |E|$ . It is a greedy algorithm.

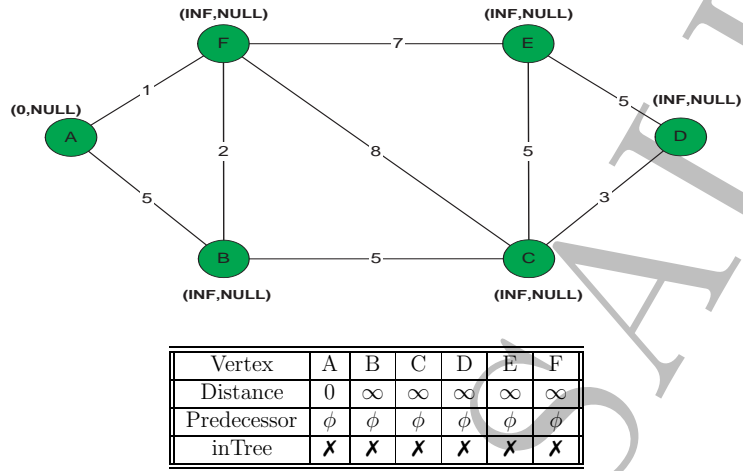


Figure 1: Original Weighted Graph and Distance and Predecessor Arrays

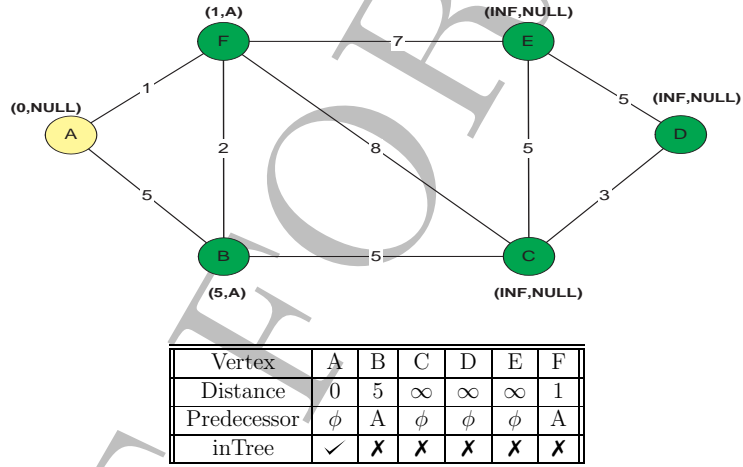


Figure 2: Stage 1 after Selecting Vertex A

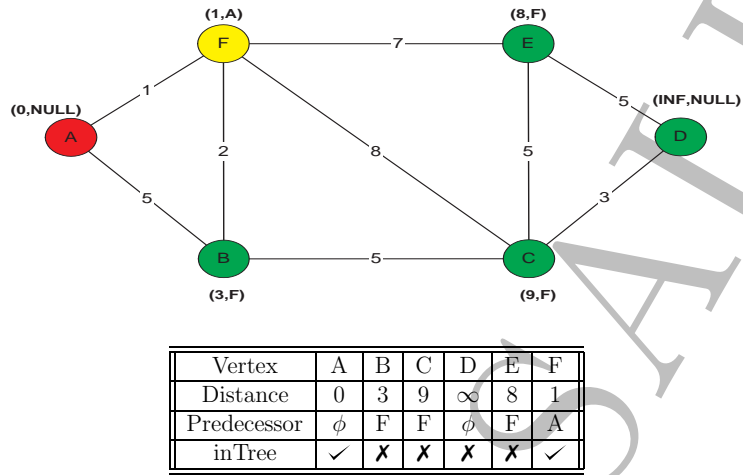


Figure 3: Stage 2 after Selecting Vertex F

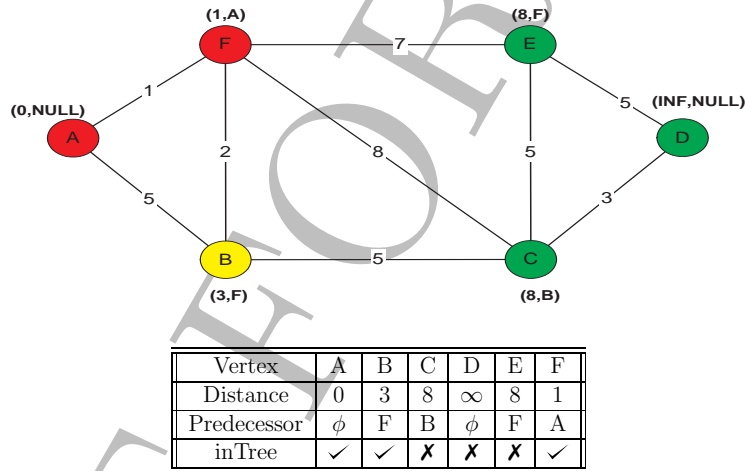
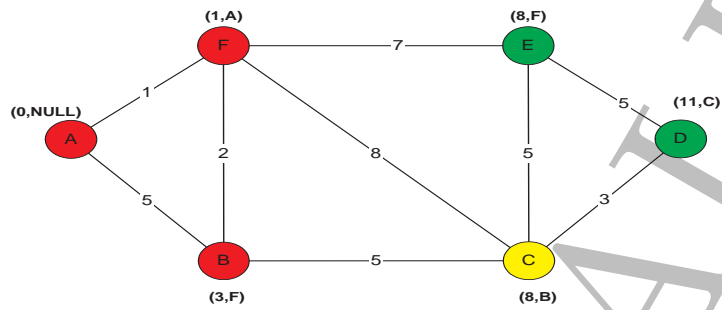


Figure 4: Stage 3 after Selecting Vertex B



Vertex	A	B	C	D	E	F
Distance	0	3	8	11	8	1
Predecessor	$\phi$	F	B	C	F	A
inTree	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓

Figure 5: Stage 4 after Selecting Vertex C

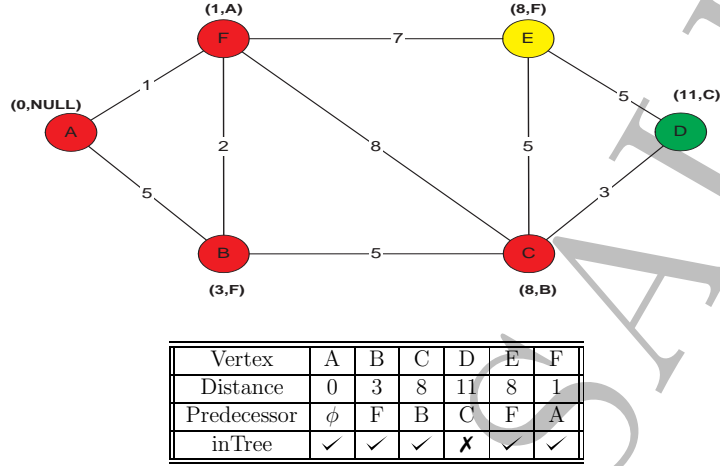


Figure 6: Stage 5 after Selecting Vertex E

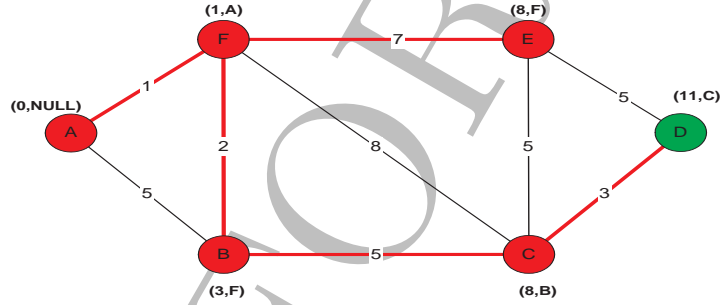


Figure 7: Single-Source Shortest Path Tree Rooted at Vertex A

Observe that given a graph with  $n$  vertices, when  $n - 1$  vertices have been chosen the generation of the single-source shortest paths rooted at the starting vertex is complete since selecting the  $n^{th}$  vertex cannot lead to any update in the distance and predecessor arrays. We can then use the final arrays or graph to generate a shortest path from vertex  $A$ . For example, the shortest distance from  $A$  to  $D$  is  $\delta(A, D) = 11$  and the shortest path from  $A$  to  $D$  is  $\pi[A, D] = A \rightarrow F \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D$ .

We now present another hand-trace of the action of Dijkstra's single-source shortest paths algorithm from Vertex  $A$ , this time using a digraph.

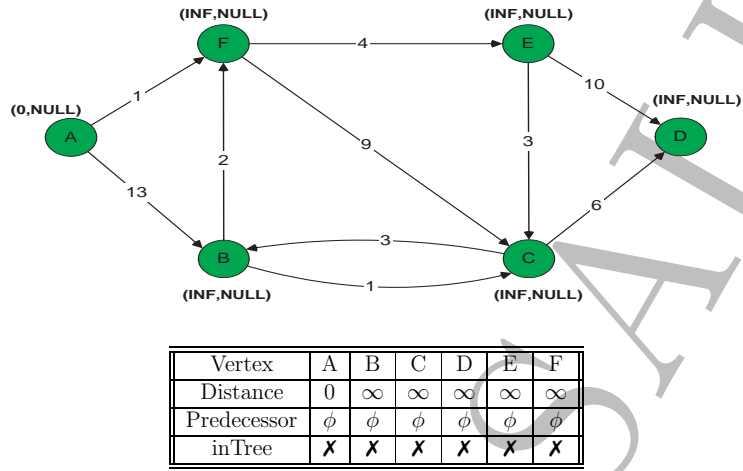


Figure 8: Original Weighted Digraph and Distance and Predecessor Arrays

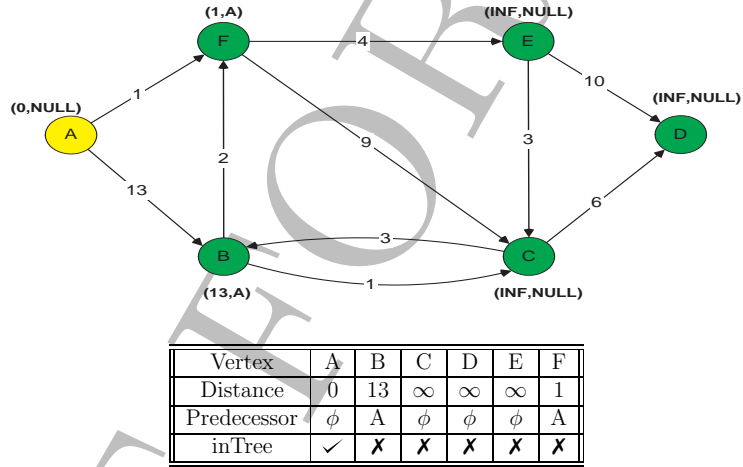


Figure 9: Stage 1 after Selecting Vertex A

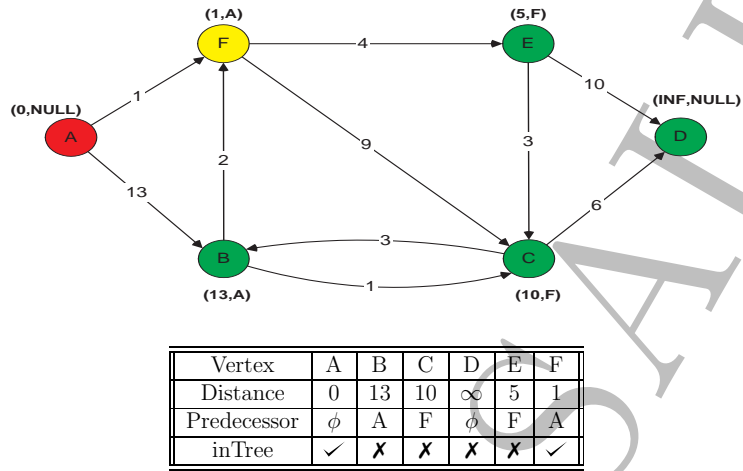


Figure 10: Stage 2 after Selecting Vertex F

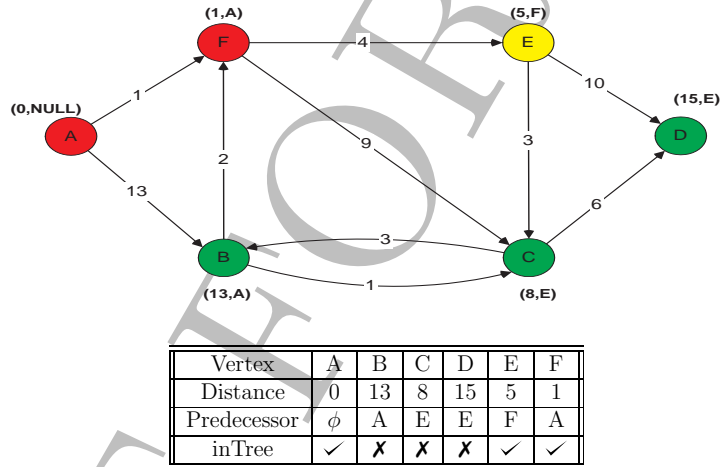


Figure 11: Stage 3 after Selecting Vertex E

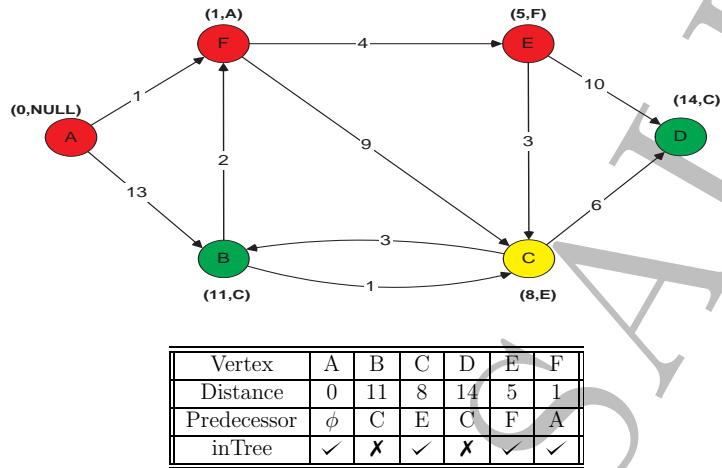


Figure 12: Stage 4 after Selecting Vertex C

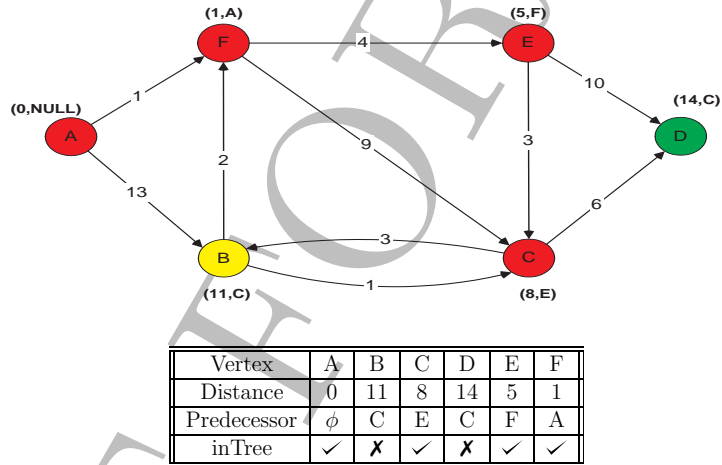


Figure 13: No Updates of Arrays after Selecting Vertex B



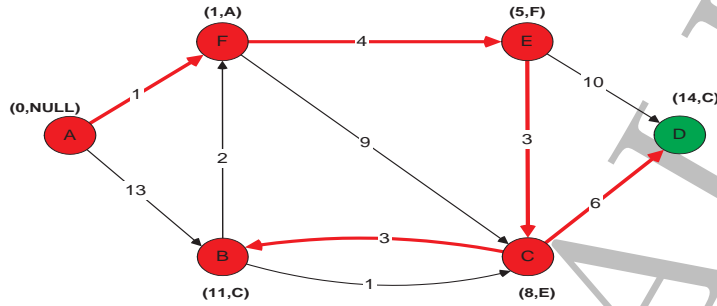


Figure 14: Single-Source Shortest Path Tree Rooted at Vertex A

Again, observe that after  $n - 1$  vertices have been selected in a graph with  $n$  vertices the generation of the single-source shortest paths rooted at the starting vertex is complete since selecting the  $n^{\text{th}}$  vertex leads to no updates of the distance and predecessor arrays.

As was done with the undirected graph in the previous hand-trace of the algorithm, we can use the final arrays or digraph to generate a shortest path from vertex A. For example, the shortest distance from A to B is  $\delta(A, B) = 11$  and the shortest path from A to B is  $\pi[A, B] = A \rightarrow F \rightarrow E \rightarrow C \rightarrow B$ .

## Floyd-Warshall Algorithm

Unlike the previous algorithm, the Floyd's algorithm finds all-pairs shortest paths in a graph. It is a dynamic-programming-based algorithm.

ALGORITHM: Floyd( $G, P, S$ )

{Input:  $G$  – a weighted digraph with  $n$  vertices.

Output:  $P$  –  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix implementing shortest paths.

$S$  –  $n$ -by- $n$  distance matrix where  $S[u, v]$  is the length of a shortest path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $G$ }

```
–
  for i ← 1:n do
    for j ← 1:n do
      if i = j
        P[i, j] ← j
        S[i, j] ← 0
      else if (i, j) ∈ E(G)
        P[i, j] ← j
        S[i, j] ← weight(i, j)
      else
        P[i, j] ←  $\phi$ 
        S[i, j] ←  $\infty$ 
      endif
    endfor
  endfor
  for i ← 1:n do
    S[i, i] ← 0
    P[i, i] ← i
  endfor
  for k ← 1:n do
    for i ← 1:n do
      for j ← 1:n do
        if S[i, j] > S[i, k] + S[k, j] then
          P[i, j] ← P[i, k]
          S[i, j] ← S[i, k] + S[k, j]
        endif
      endfor
    endfor
  endfor
end Floyd
```

### Analysis:

Convince yourself that Floyd has a best-case, average-case and worst-case belonging to  $O(n^3)$ .

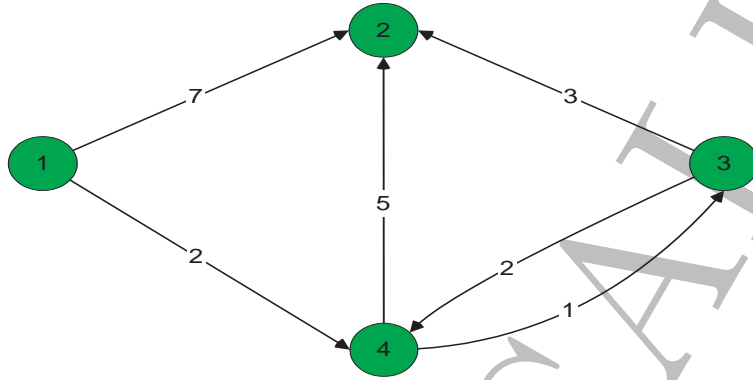


Figure 15: A Weighted Diraph

The matrices below are the distance and path (successor) matrices at various stages during the execution of the Floyd-Warshall all-pairs shortest path algorithm on the graph in Figure 15.

$$\Delta_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \infty & \infty & \infty \\ \infty & 0 & \infty & \infty \\ \infty & 3 & 0 & \infty \\ \infty & 5 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Pi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\Delta_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \infty & \infty & 2 \\ \infty & 0 & \infty & 2 \\ \infty & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ \infty & 5 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Pi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \phi & \phi & \phi & 4 \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & 4 \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & 4 \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$\Delta_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 7 & \infty & 2 \\ \infty & 0 & \infty & \infty \\ \infty & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ \infty & 5 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Pi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \phi & \phi & \phi & 4 \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$\Delta_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 7 & \infty & 2 \\ \infty & 0 & \infty & \infty \\ \infty & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ \infty & 5 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Pi_3 = \begin{pmatrix} \phi & \phi & \phi & 4 \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & \phi & \phi & \phi \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$\Delta_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 3 & 2 \\ \infty & 0 & \infty & \infty \\ \infty & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ \infty & 4 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Pi_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ \phi & 2 & \phi & \phi \\ \phi & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \phi & 3 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

We can use the final  $\Delta$  and  $\Pi$  matrices of the digraph to determine the shortest distance and generate a shortest path between any pair of vertices in the graph. For example, the shortest distance from **1** to **2** is  $\Delta(1, 2) = 6$  and the shortest path from **1** to **2** is  $\Pi[1, 2] = 1 \rightarrow \Pi[1, 2] = 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow \Pi[4, 2] = 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow \Pi[3, 2] = 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 2$  since  $\Pi[3, 2] = 2$  and **2** is the destination vertex. Therefore, we get  $\Pi[1, 2] = 1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 2$

**Problem 1.**

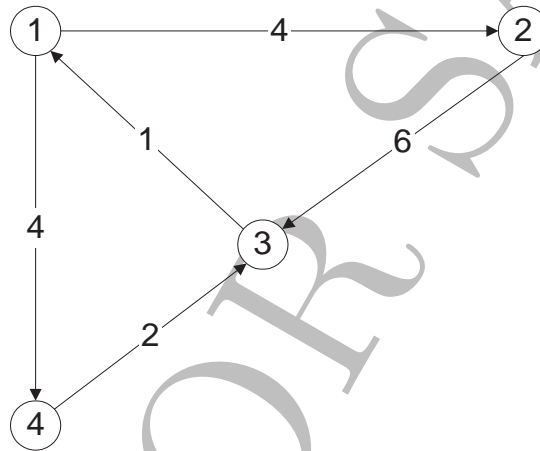


Figure 16: A Weighted Digraph

1. Trace the action of Dijkstra algorithm in finding the shortest paths from vertex 2 to every other vertex in the digraph in Figure 16 by giving the initial contents of the *dist* and *pred* arrays and their contents after each vertex is selected.
2. Using the final contents of those arrays, give the shortest path and distance from vertex 2 to 4. Explain how you obtained them from the arrays.
3. Trace the action of Dijkstra algorithm in finding the shortest paths from vertex 1 to every other vertex in the digraph in Figure 16 by giving the initial contents of the *dist* and *pred* arrays and their contents after each vertex is selected.

4. Using the final contents of those arrays, give the shortest path and distance from vertex 1 to 3. Explain how you obtained them from the arrays.
5. Draw the shortest path tree rooted at vertex **E** for the graph shown in Figure 1 and give its corresponding parent/predecessor-array representation.
6. Trace the action of Floyd-Warshall algorithm in finding the shortest paths between every pair of vertices in the digraph in Figure 16 by giving the initial contents of the distance matrix  $\Delta$  and the path matrix  $\Pi$  and their contents at every stage of the algorithm ( $k = 1, \dots, 4$ ).
7. Using the final contents of the path and distance matrices, give the shortest path and distance from vertex 2 to 4. Explain how you obtained them from the matrices.
8. Again, using the final contents of those matrices, give the shortest path and distance from vertex 1 to 3. Explain how you obtained them from the matrices.
9. Explain why a depth-first-search or breadth-first-search based strategy is generally more efficient in determining whether or not there is a path between two vertices than the use of Dijkstra or Floyd-Warshall algorithm. List the strategies in non-increasing order of efficiency.
10. Draw the shortest path tree rooted at vertex 1 that is induced by the Dijkstra's algorithm on the graph in Figure 16.
11. Explain how the *Dijkstra* can be used to determine the shortest paths between each pair of vertices in a graph.
12. Suppose a min-priority-queue based implementation of *Dijkstra* is used to determine the shortest paths between pairs of vertices in a graph. How does the asymptotic upper bound of this approach compare to *Floyd* on sparse graphs and on dense graphs?
13. Is the approach in problem 1.11 always a feasible alternative to *Floyd*? If yes, why? If not, when is it infeasible?