



香港中文大學 (深圳)  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

# CSC3100 Data Structures

## Lecture 23: Graph shortest path

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# Outline

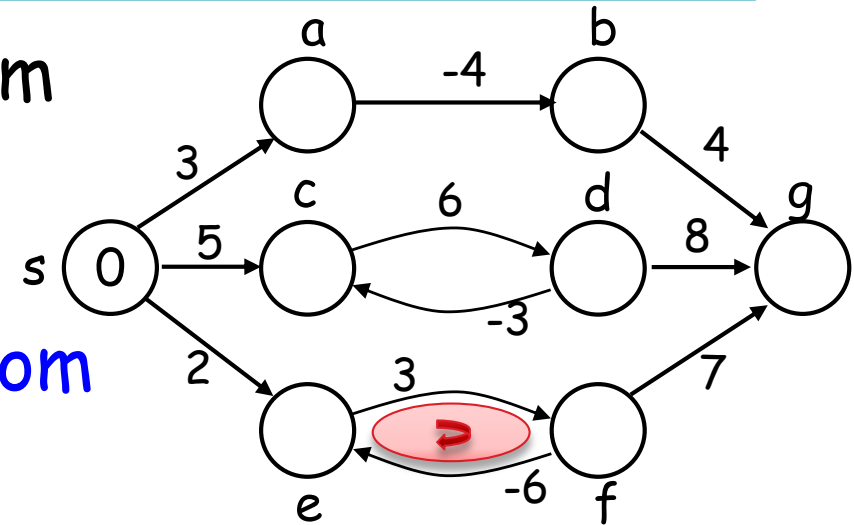
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- ▶ Shortest path problem
  - Graphs with non-negative weights
    - Single-Source Shortest Path: Dijkstra's algorithm
  - All-Pair Shortest Path: Floyd's algorithm
  - Graphs with negative weights
    - Bellman-Ford algorithm



# Negative-weight edges

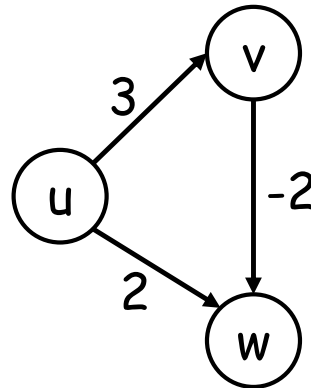
- ▶ Negative-weight edges may form negative-weight cycles
- ▶ If such cycles are reachable from the source, then  $\delta(s, v)$  is not properly defined!
  - Keep going around the cycle, and get  $w(s, v) = -\infty$  for all  $v$  on the cycle





# Is Dijkstra's algorithm still applicable for graphs with negative weights?

- ▶ Dijkstra's algorithm cannot handle a graph that has negative weights but no negative cycles



- ▶ How to handle a graph that has negative weights but no negative cycles?



# Bellman-Ford algorithm

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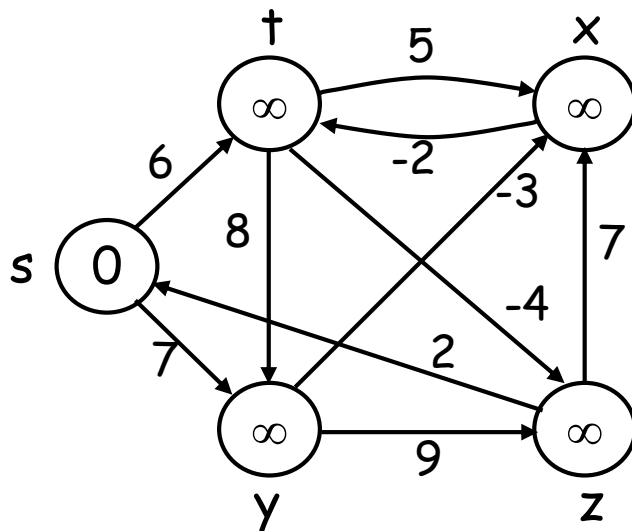
- ▶ Single-source shortest path problem
  - Computes  $\delta(s, v)$  and  $p[v]$  for all  $v \in V$
- ▶ Allows **negative** edge weights - can detect negative cycles
  - Returns **TRUE** if no negative-weight cycles are reachable from the source  $s$
  - Returns **FALSE** otherwise  $\Rightarrow$  no solution exists



# Bellman-Ford algorithm (cont'd)

## ► Idea:

- Each edge is relaxed  $|V| - 1$  times by making  $|V| - 1$  passes over the whole edge set
- Any path will contain at most  $|V| - 1$  edges

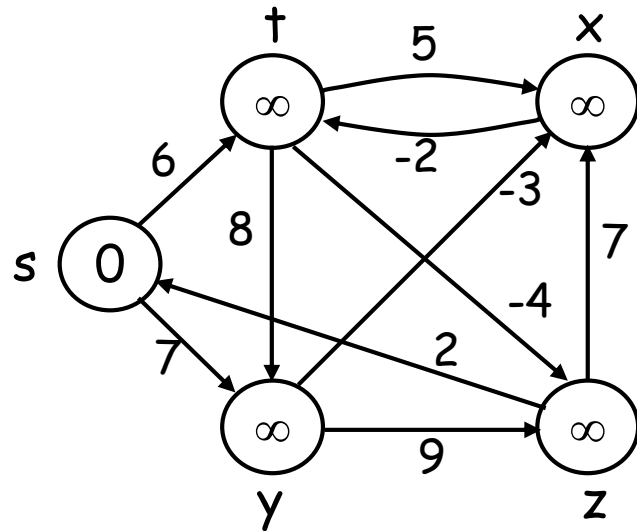


For each edge  $(u, v)$ , do relaxation:  
If  $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$   
 $\Rightarrow d[v] = d[u] + w(u, v)$

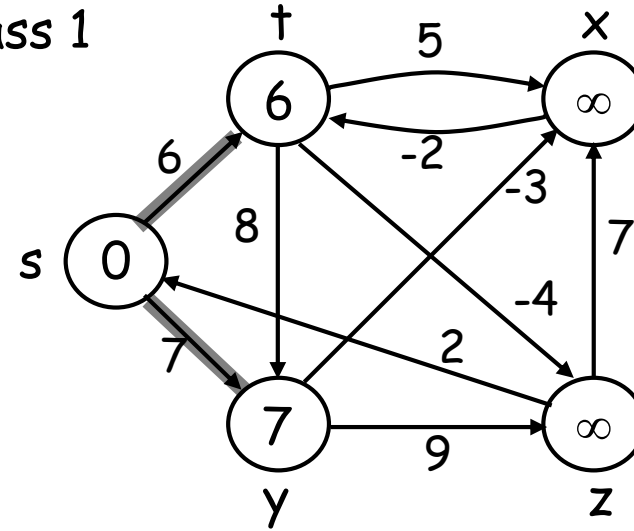
Edge order:  $(t, x), (t, y), (t, z), (x, t), (y, x), (y, z), (z, x), (z, s), (s, t), (s, y)$



# Bellman-Ford( $V, E, w, s$ )



Pass 1

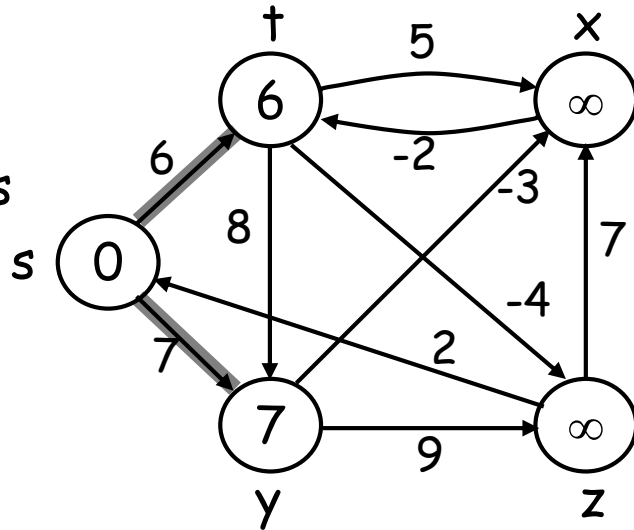


Edge order:  $(t, x), (t, y), (t, z), (x, t), (y, x), (y, z), (z, x), (z, s), (s, t), (s, y)$

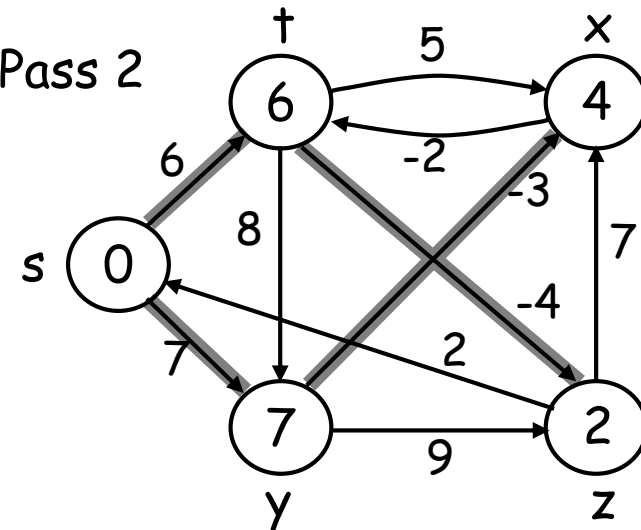


# Example

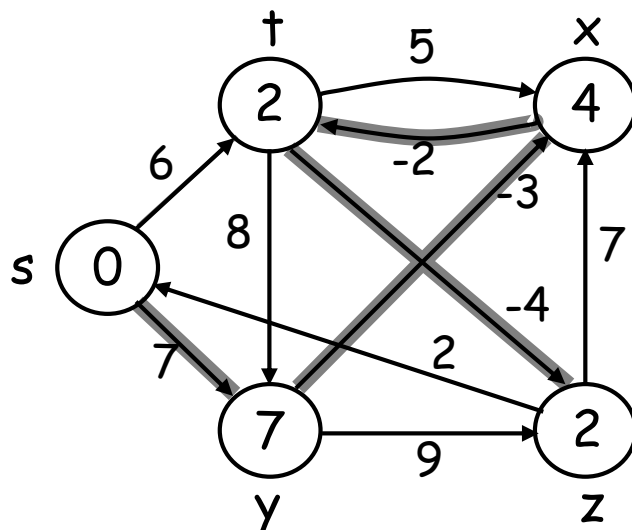
Pass 1  
(from  
previous  
slide)



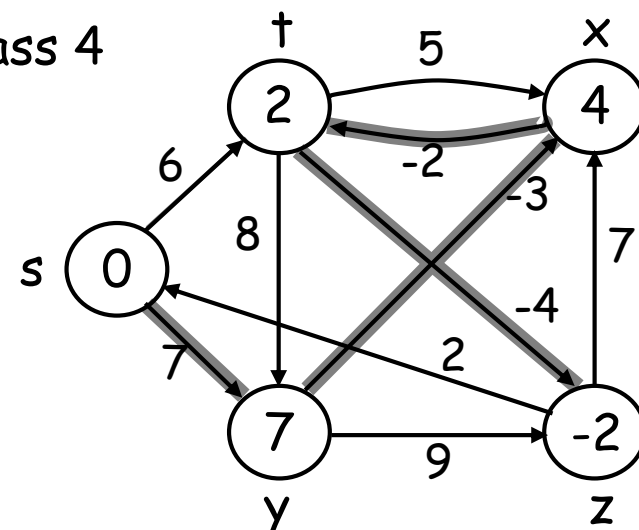
Pass 2



Pass 3



Pass 4



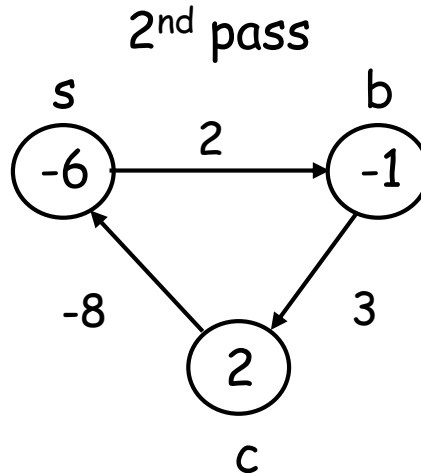
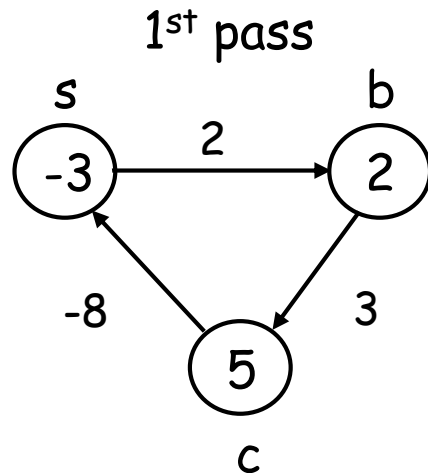
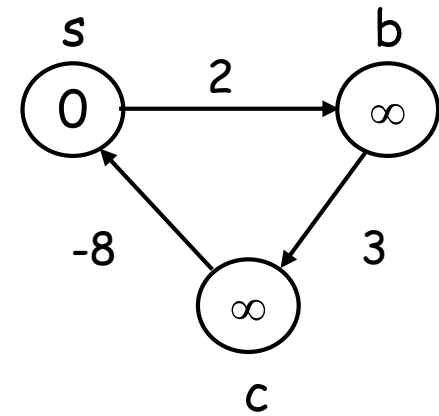
Edge order: (t, x), (t, y), (t, z), (x, t), (y, x), (y, z), (z, x), (z, s), (s, t), (s, y)





# Detecting negative cycles (perform extra test after $|V|-1$ iterations)

- ▶ for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$
- ▶     do if  $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$
- ▶     then return FALSE
- ▶ return TRUE



$(s, b), (b, c), (c, s)$

Look at edge  $(s, b)$ :

$$d[b] = -1$$

$$d[s] + w(s, b) = -4$$

$$\Rightarrow d[b] > d[s] + w(s, b)$$



# Bellman-Ford( $V, E, w, s$ )

1. INITIALIZE-SINGLE-SOURCE( $V, s$ )  $\leftarrow \Theta(|V|)$
  2. for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $|V| - 1$   $\leftarrow O(|V|)$
  3.     do for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$   $\leftarrow O(|E|)$
  4.         do RELAX( $u, v, w$ )
  5. for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$   $\leftarrow O(|E|)$
  6.     do if  $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$
  7.         then return FALSE
  8. return TRUE
- $\left. \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow O(|V|) \\ \leftarrow O(|E|) \end{array} \right\} O(|V||E|)$

Running time:  $O(|V||E|)$



# Key points of Bellman-Ford

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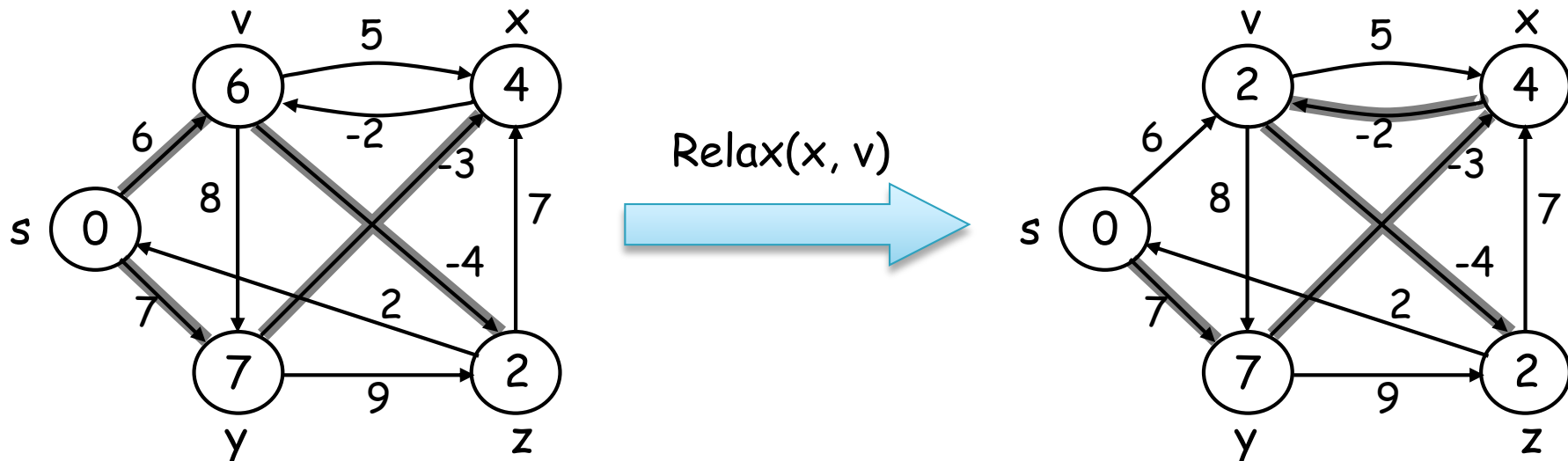
- ▶ If there is no negative cycle, after  $|V|-1$  iterations,  $d$  values will not be updated or can't be lower any more, and  $d$  values store the measure of the shortest path
  - Why? How to prove its correctness?



# Shortest path properties

## ► Upper-bound property

- We always have  $d[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$  for all  $v$
- The estimate never goes up - relaxation only lowers the estimate

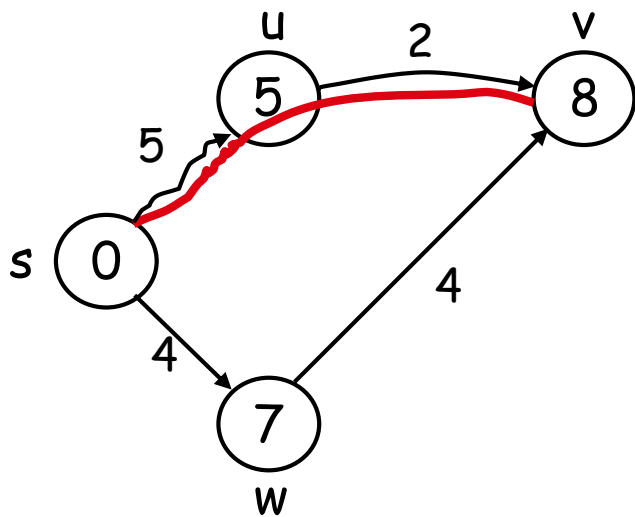




# Shortest path properties

## ► Convergence property

If  $s \rightsquigarrow u \rightarrow v$  is a shortest path, and if  $d[u] = \delta(s, u)$  at any time prior to relaxing edge  $(u, v)$ , then  $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$  at all times after relaxing  $(u, v)$



- If  $d[v] > \delta(s, v) \Rightarrow$  after relaxation:  
 $d[v] = d[u] + w(u, v)$   
 $d[v] = 5 + 2 = 7$
- Otherwise, the value remains unchanged, because it must have been the shortest path value

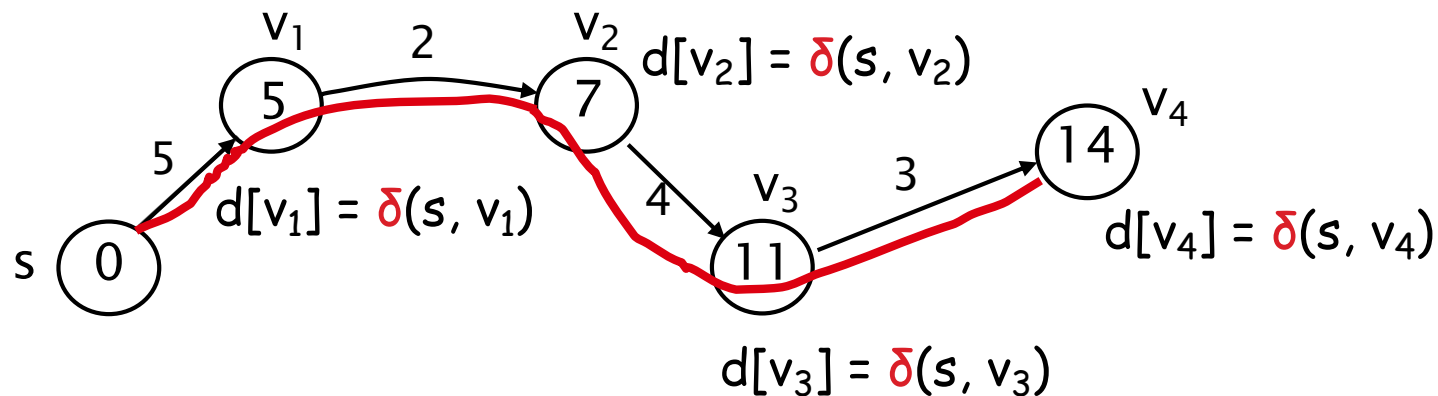


# Shortest path properties

## ► Path relaxation property

Let  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$  be a shortest path from  $s = v_0$  to  $v_k$

If we relax, in order,  $(v_0, v_1), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ , even intermixed with other relaxations, then  $d[v_k] = \delta(s, v_k)$





# Correctness of Bellman-Ford algorithm

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- ▶ **Theorem:** Show that  $d[v] = \delta(s, v)$ , for every  $v$ , after  $|V| - 1$  passes
- ▶ Case 1:  $G$  does not contain negative cycles which are reachable from  $s$ 
  - Assume that the shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  is  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$ , where  $s = v_0$  and  $v = v_k$ ,  $k \leq |V| - 1$
  - Use mathematical induction on the number of passes  $i$  to show that:
$$d[v_i] = \delta(s, v_i) , i=0,1,\dots,k$$

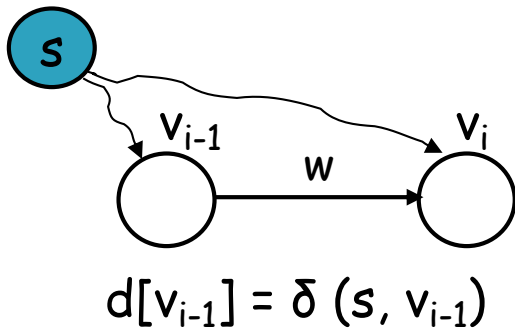


# Correctness of Bellman-Ford algorithm

**Base case:**  $i=0$ ,  $d[v_0] = \delta(s, v_0) = \delta(s, s) = 0$

**Inductive hypothesis:**  $d[v_{i-1}] = \delta(s, v_{i-1})$

**Inductive step:**  $d[v_i] = \delta(s, v_i)$



After relaxing  $(v_{i-1}, v_i)$  (convergence property) :  
 $d[v_i] \leq d[v_{i-1}] + w = \delta(s, v_{i-1}) + w = \delta(s, v_i)$

From the upper bound property:  $d[v_i] \geq \delta(s, v_i)$

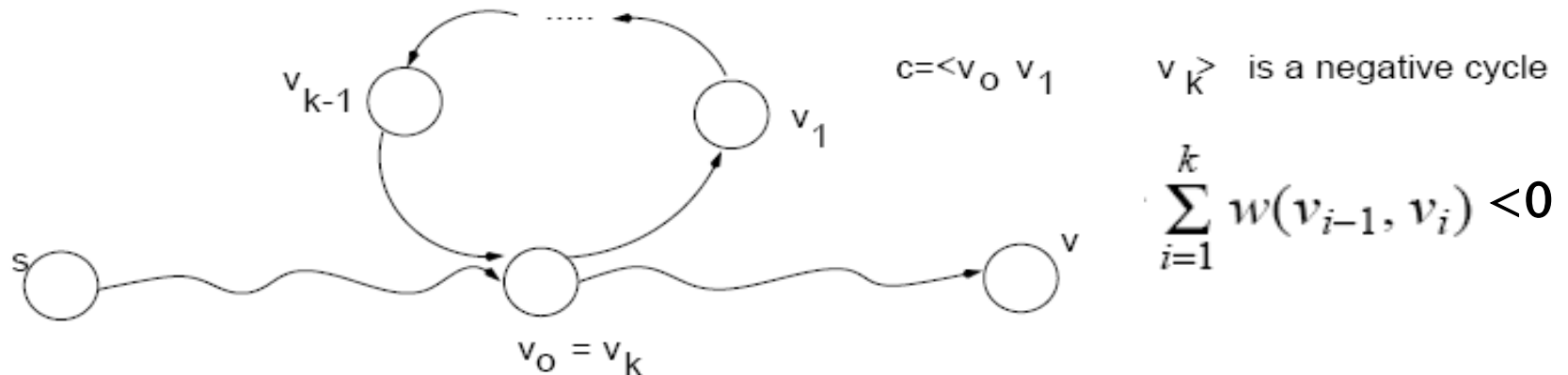
Therefore,  $d[v_i] = \delta(s, v_i)$





# Correctness of Bellman-Ford algorithm

- ▶ Case 2:  $G$  contains a negative cycle which is reachable from  $s$



**Proof by Contradiction:**  
suppose the algorithm returns a solution

After relaxing  $(v_{i-1}, v_i)$ :  $dist[v_i] \leq dist[v_{i-1}] + w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$

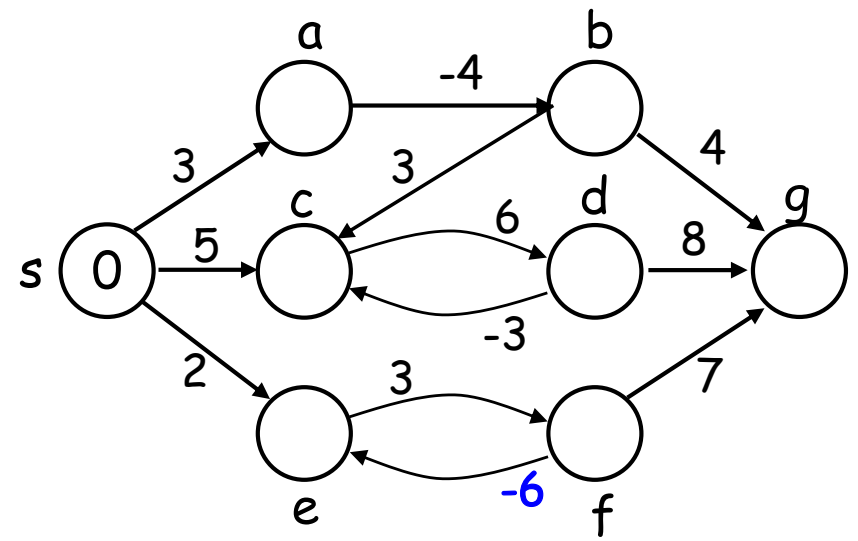
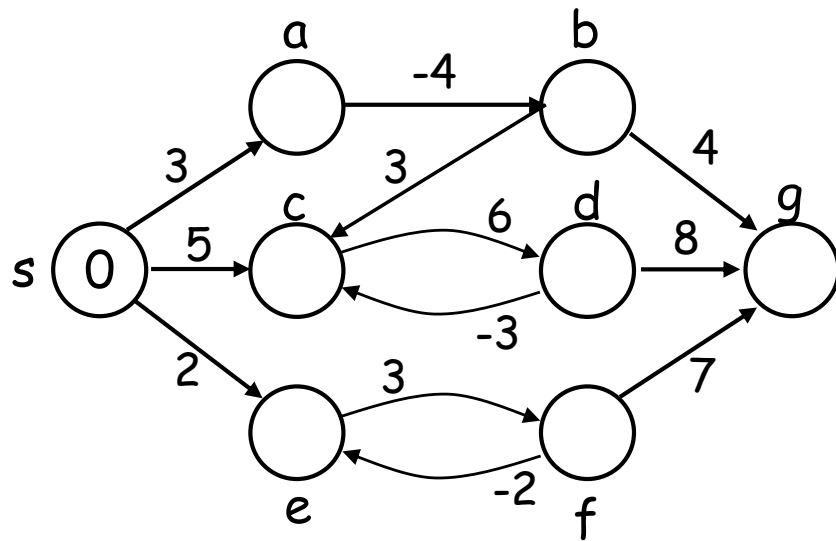
$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^k dist[v_i] \leq \sum_{i=1}^k dist[v_{i-1}] + \sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i) \geq 0 \quad \left( \sum_{i=1}^k dist[v_i] = \sum_{i=1}^k dist[v_{i-1}] \right)$$

**Contradiction!**



# Exercise 1





# Recommended reading

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- ▶ Reading this week
  - Textbook Chapters 24-25
- ▶ Next lecture
  - Some data structures in Java JDK