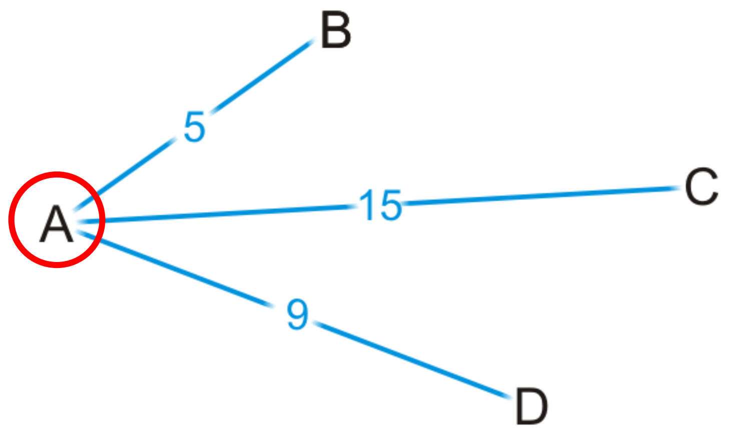
Dijkstra’s algorithm

Strategy

Suppose you are at vertex A

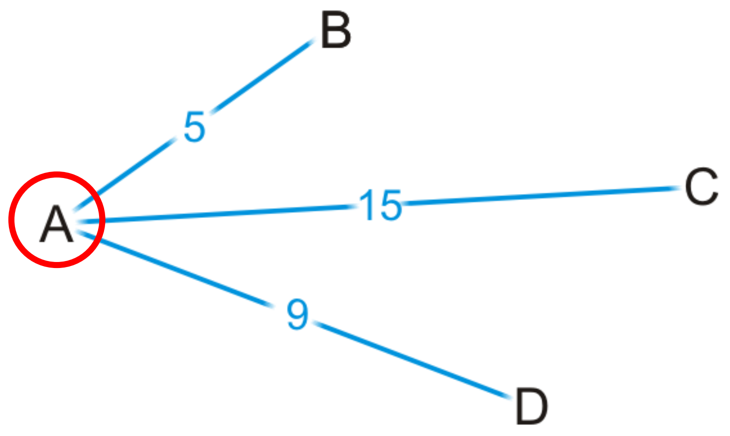
- You are aware of all vertices adjacent to it
- This information is either in an adjacency list or adjacency matrix



Strategy

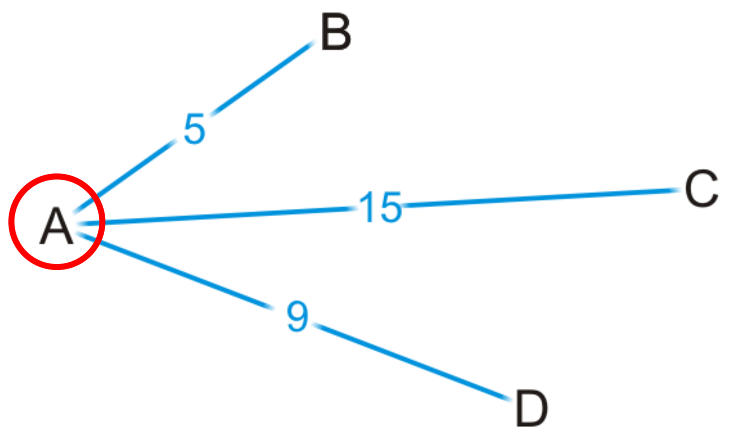
Is 5 the shortest distance to B via the edge (A, B)?

- Why or why not?



Strategy

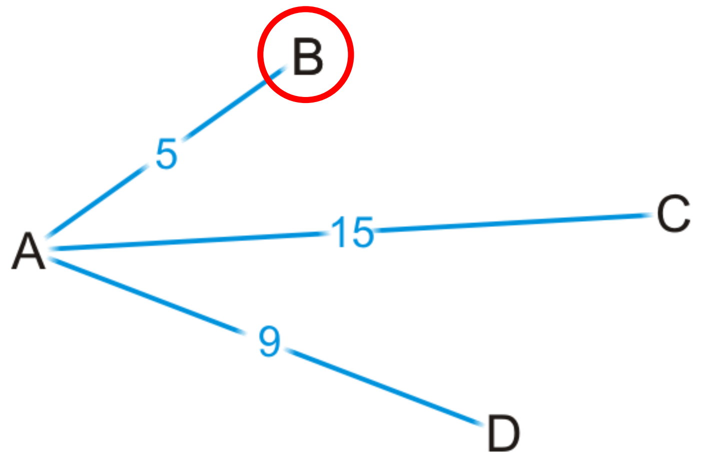
Are you guaranteed that the shortest path to C is (A, C), or that (A, D) is the shortest path to vertex D?



Strategy

We accept that (A, B) is the shortest path to vertex B from A

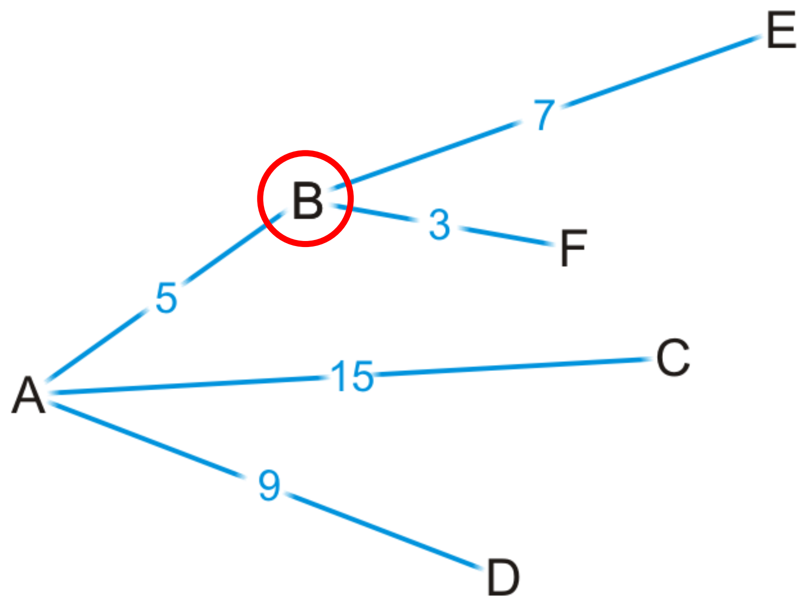
- Let’s see where we can go from B



Strategy

By some simple arithmetic, we can determine that

- There is a path (A, B, E) of length 5 + 7 = 12
- There is a path (A, B, F) of length 5 + 3 = 8

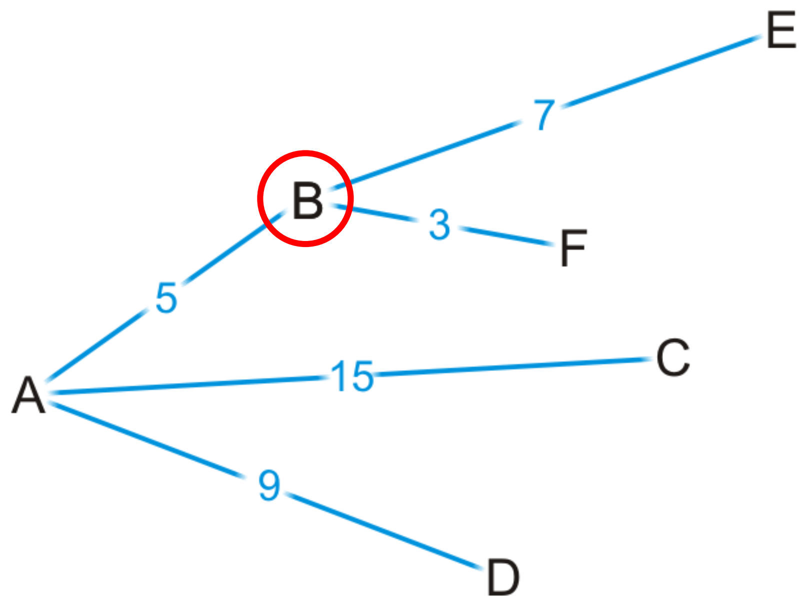


Strategy

Is (A, B, F) is the shortest path from vertex A to F?

- Why or why not?

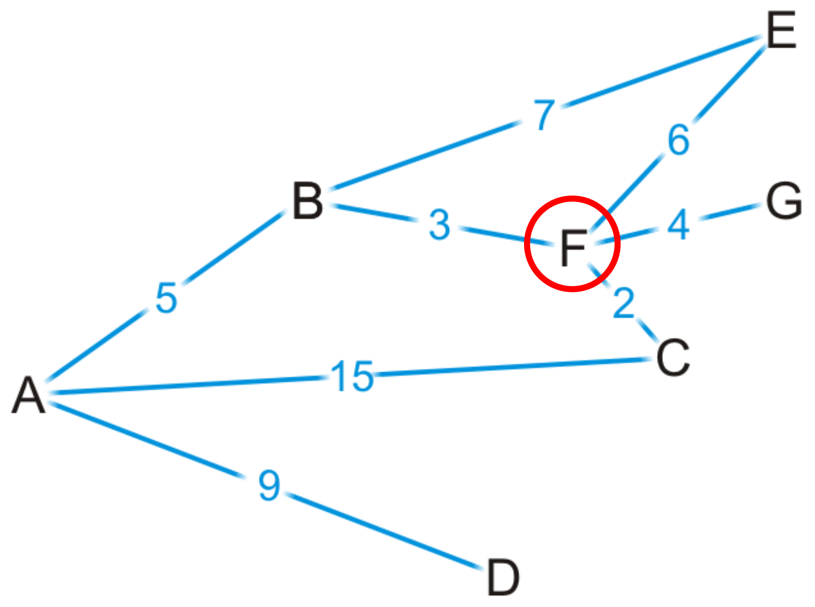
Are we guaranteed that any other path we are currently aware of is also going to be the shortest path?



Strategy

Okay, let’s visit vertex F

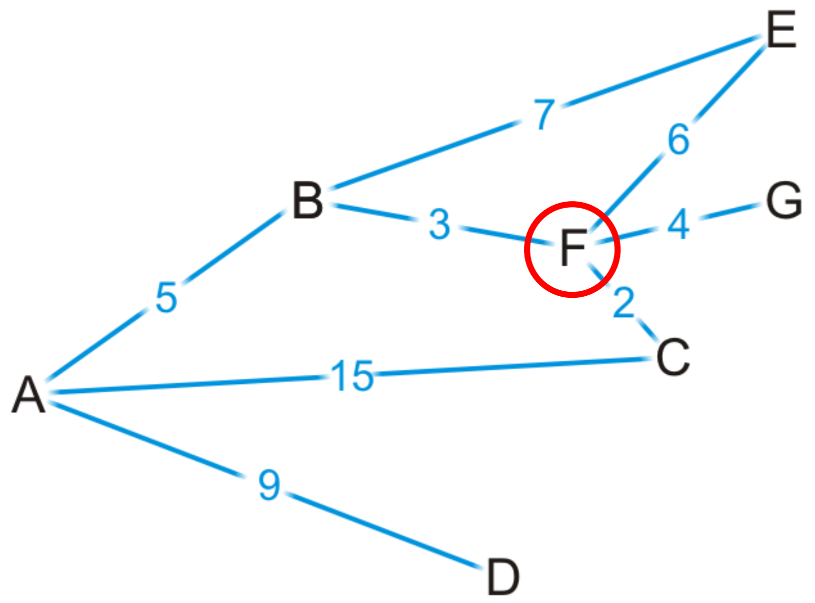
- We know the shortest path is (A, B, F) and it’s of length 8



Strategy

There are three edges exiting vertex F, so we have paths:

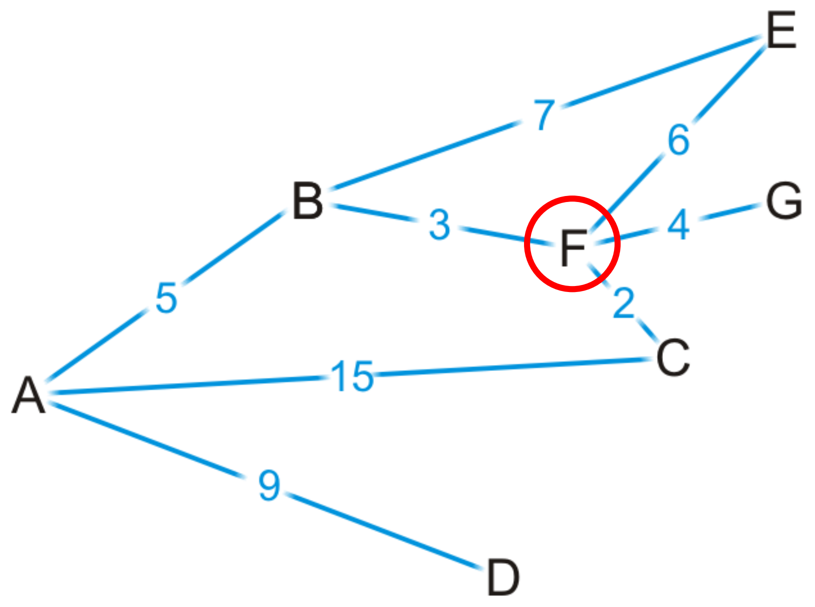
- (A, B, F, E) of length 8 + 6 = 14
- (A, B, F, G) of length 8 + 4 = 12
- (A, B, F, C) of length 8 + 2 = 10



Strategy

By observation:

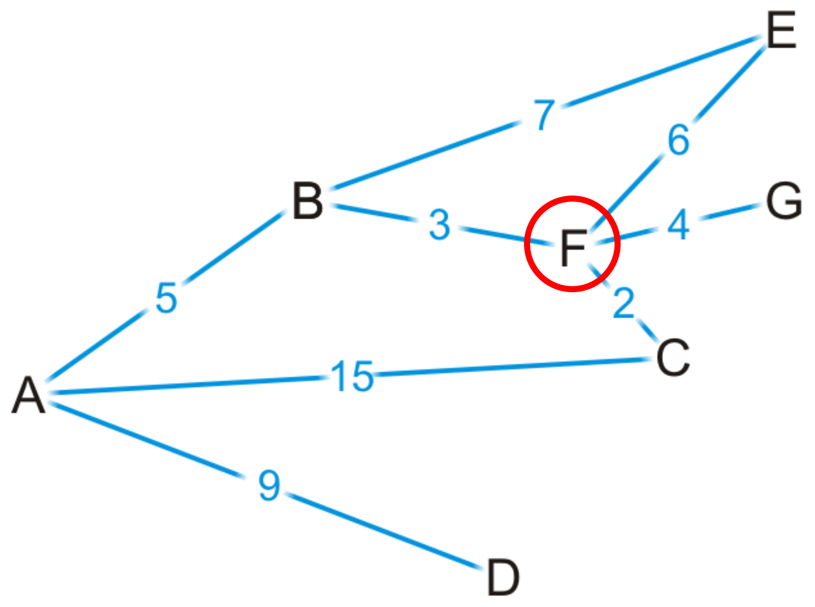
- The path (A, B, F, E) is longer than (A, B, E)
- The path (A, B, F, C) is shorter than the path (A, C)



Strategy

At this point, we've discovered the shortest paths to:

- Vertex B: (A, B) of length 5
- Vertex F: (A, B, F) of length 8



Dijkstra's algorithm

Dijkstra's algorithm solves the single-source shortest path problem

- It is very similar to Prim's algorithm
- Assumption: all the weights are positive

Like Prim's algorithm,

- We initially don't know the distance to any vertex except the initial vertex
- We require an array of distances, all initialized to infinity except for the source vertex, which is initialized to 0
- Each time we visit a vertex, we will examine all adjacent vertices
  - We need to track visited vertices—a Boolean table of size $|V|$
  - We need an array of previous vertices, all initialized to null

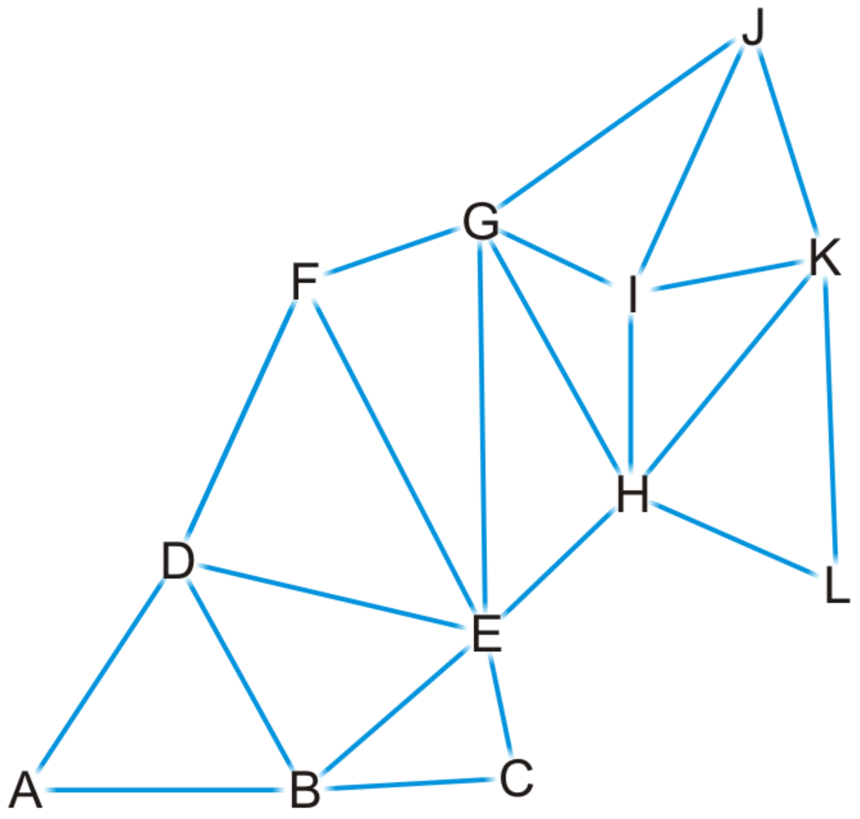
Dijkstra's algorithm

Thus, we will iterate $|V|$ times:

- Find that unvisited vertex $\boldsymbol{v}$ that has a minimum distance to it
- Mark it as having been visited
- Consider every adjacent vertex $\boldsymbol{w}$ that is unvisited:
  - Is the distance to $\boldsymbol{v}$ plus the weight of the edge $(\boldsymbol{v}, \boldsymbol{w})$ less than our currently known shortest distance to $\boldsymbol{w}$
  - If so, update the shortest distance to $\boldsymbol{w}$ and record $\boldsymbol{v}$ as the previous pointer
- Continue iterating until all vertices are visited or all remaining vertices have a distance to them of infinity

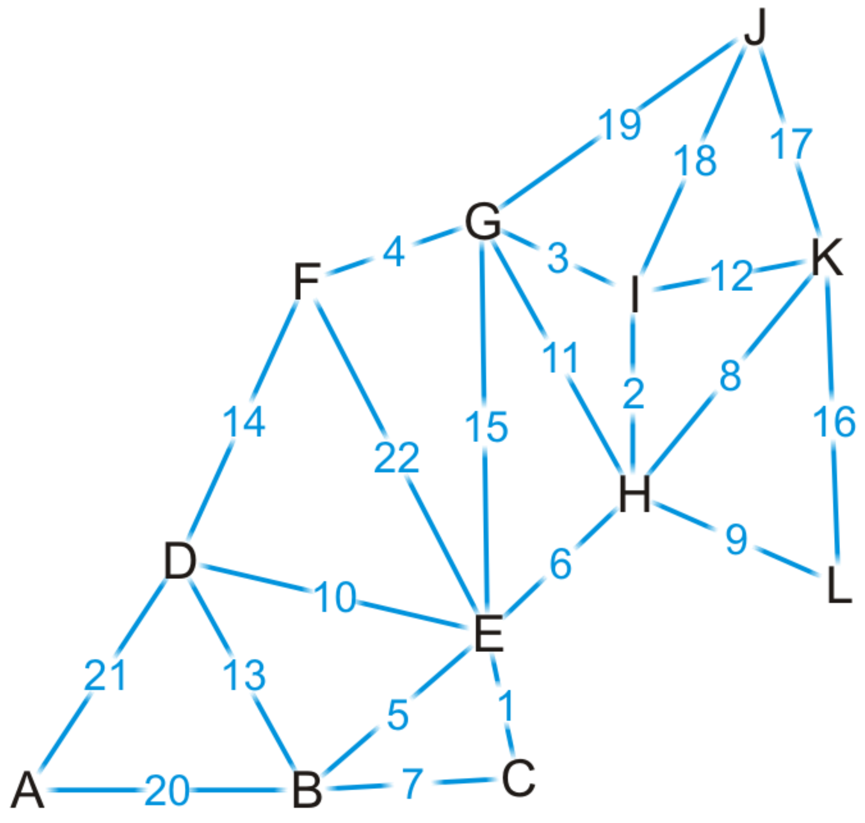
Example

Here is our abstract representation



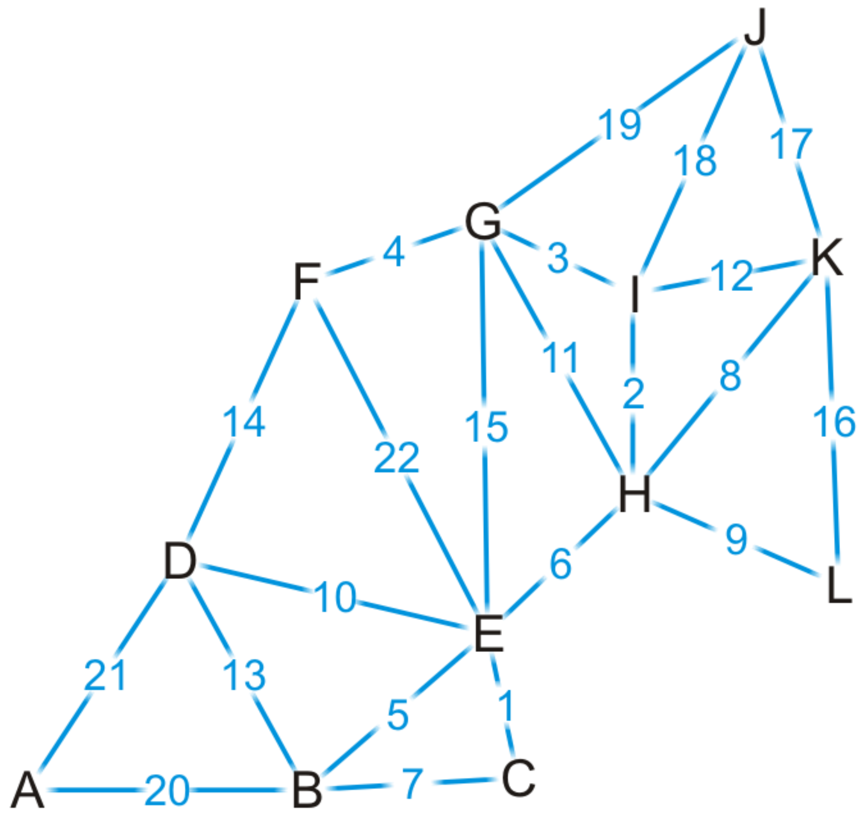
Example

Let us give a weight to each of the edges



Example

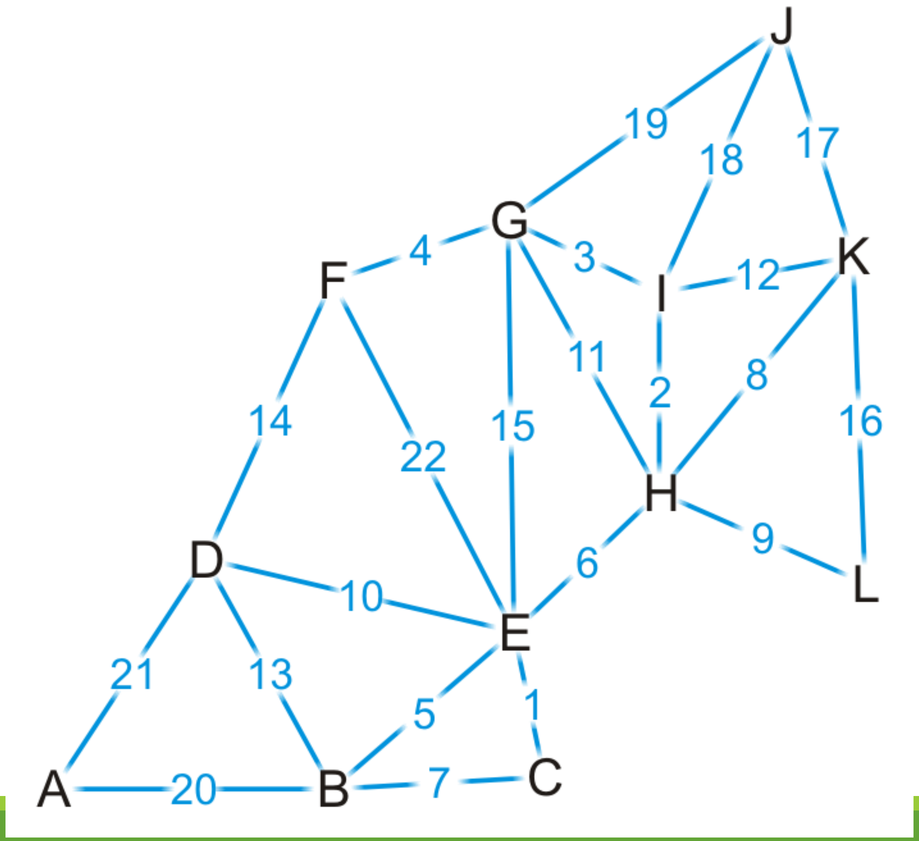
Find the shortest distance from Kamchatka (K) to every other region



Example

We set up our table

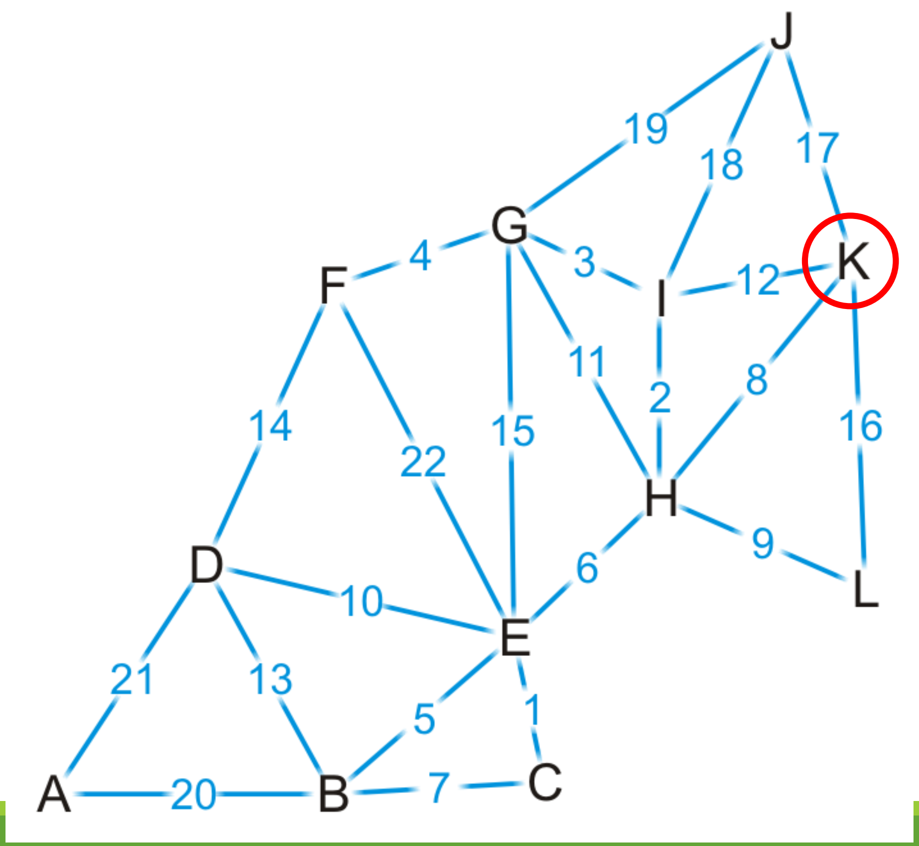
- Which unvisited vertex has the minimum distance to it?



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	∞	Ø
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	∞	Ø
H	F	∞	Ø
I	F	∞	Ø
J	F	∞	Ø
K	F	0	Ø
L	F	∞	Ø

Example

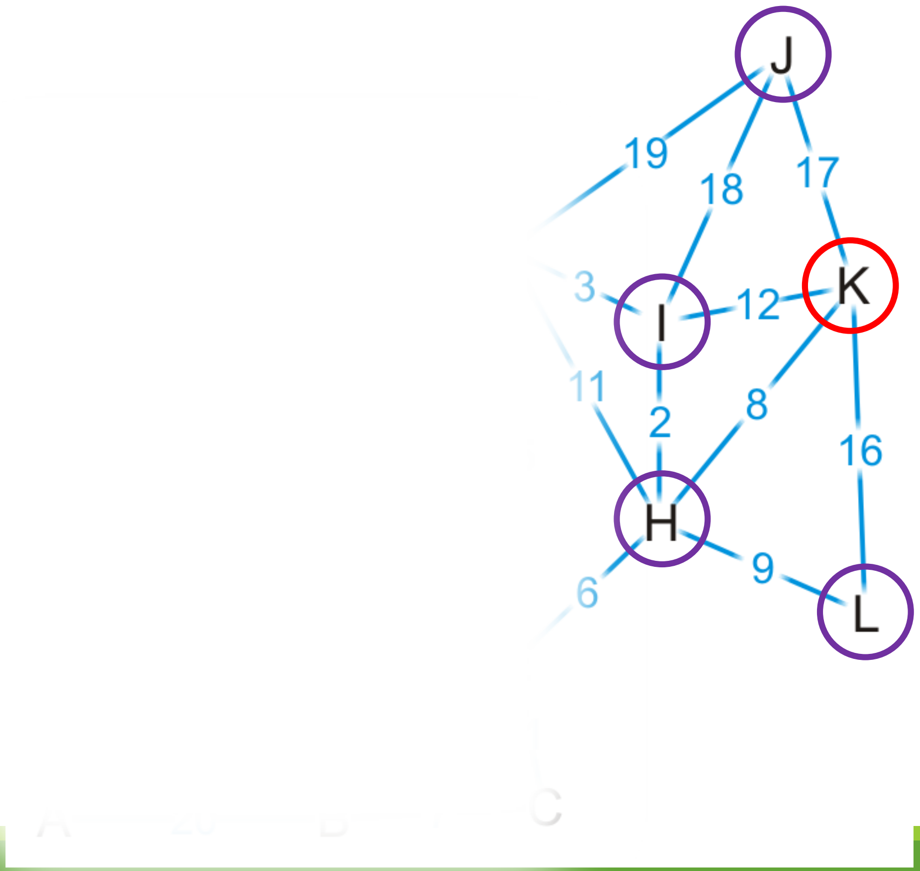
We visit vertex K



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	∞	Ø
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	∞	Ø
H	F	∞	Ø
I	F	∞	Ø
J	F	∞	Ø
K	**T**	**0**	**Ø**
L	F	∞	Ø

Example

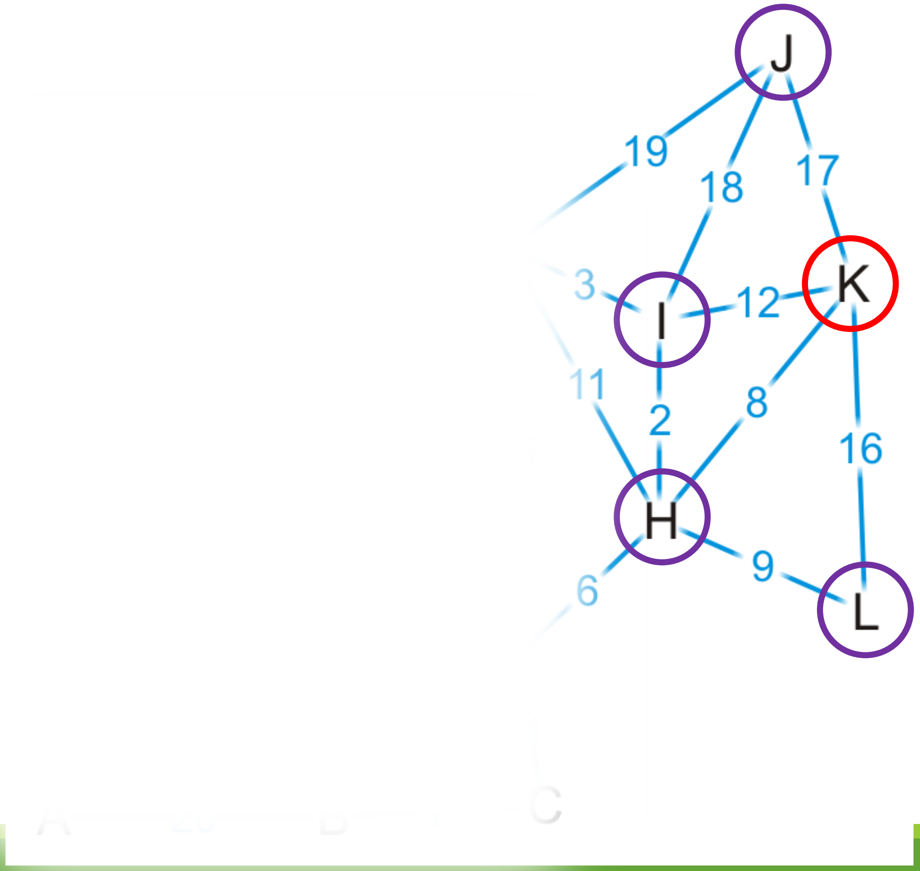
Vertex K has four neighbors: H, I, J and L



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	∞	Ø
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	∞	Ø
H	F	∞	Ø
I	F	∞	Ø
J	F	∞	Ø
K	**T**	**0**	**Ø**
L	F	∞	Ø

Example

We have now found at least one path to each of these vertices

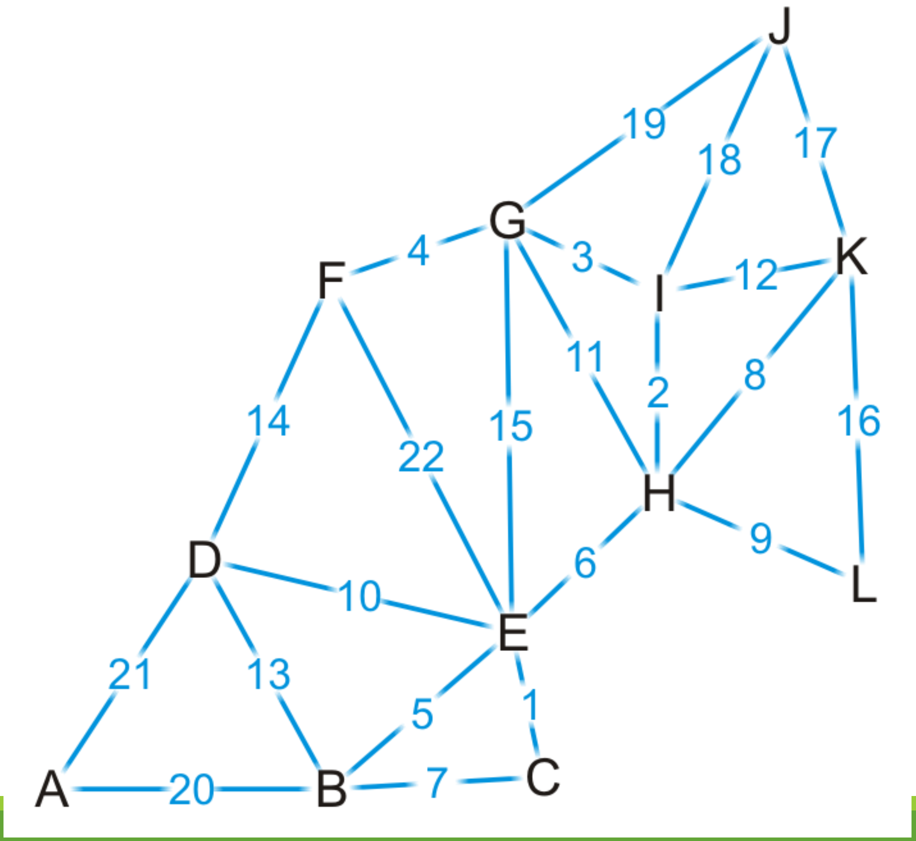


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	∞	Ø
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	∞	Ø
H	F	**8**	**K**
I	F	**12**	**K**
J	F	**17**	**K**
K	**T**	**0**	**Ø**
L	F	**16**	**K**

Example

We’re finished with vertex K

- To which vertex are we now guaranteed we have the shortest path?

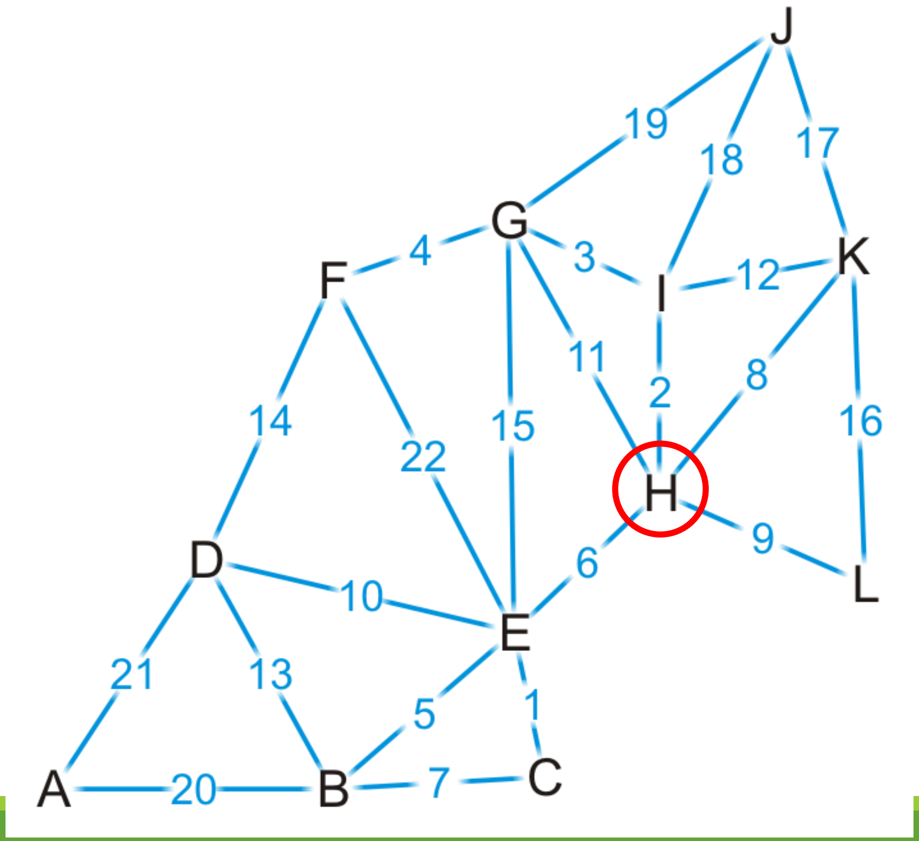


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	∞	Ø
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	∞	Ø
H	F	8	K
I	F	12	K
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

We visit vertex H: the shortest path is (K, H) of length 8

- Vertex H has four unvisited neighbors: E, G, I, L



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	∞	Ø
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	∞	Ø
H	**T**	**8**	**K**
I	F	12	K
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

Consider these paths:

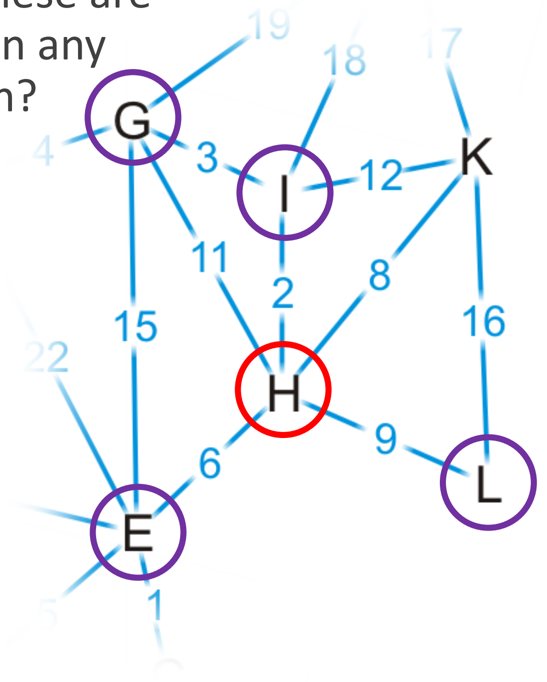
(K, H, E) of length 8 + 6 = 14

(K, H, I) of length 8 + 2 = 10

(K, H, G) of length 8 + 11 = 19

(K, H, L) of length 8 + 9 = 17

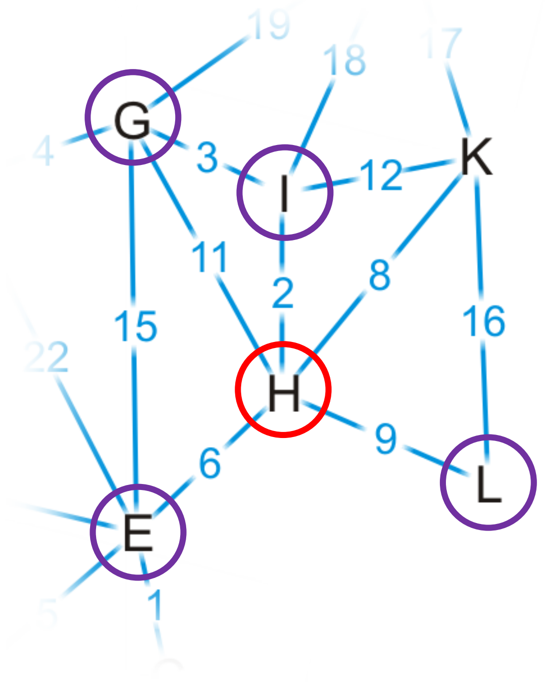
- Which of these are shorter than any known path?



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	∞	Ø
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	∞	Ø
H	**T**	**8**	**K**
I	F	12	K
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

We already have a shorter path (K, L), but we update the other three

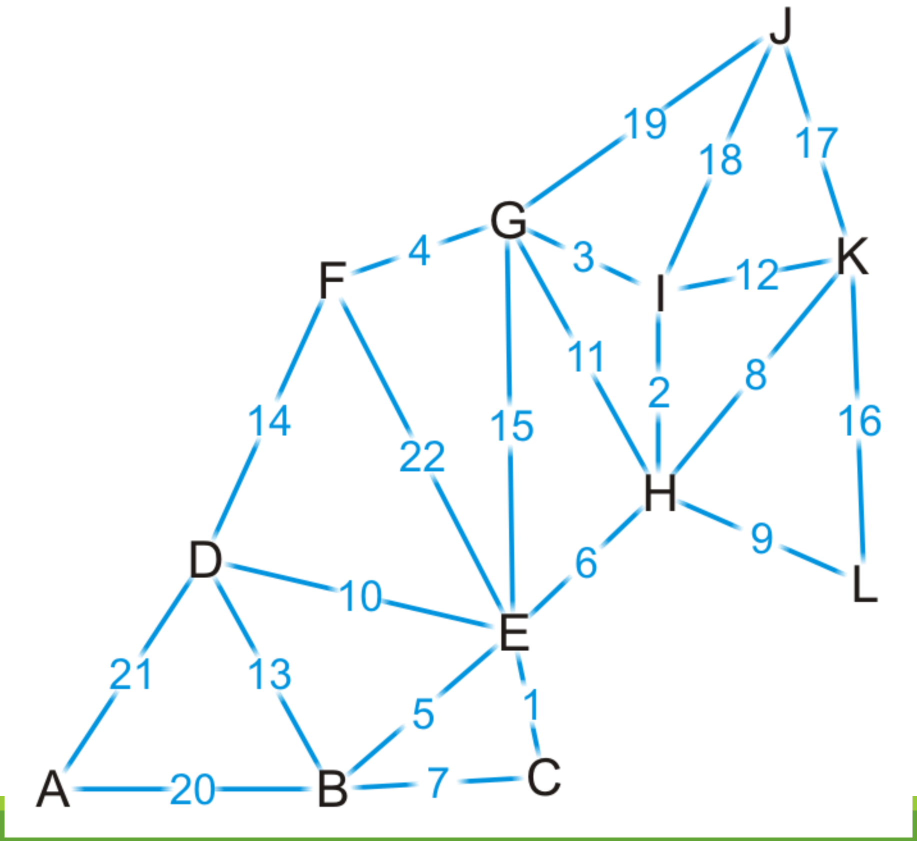


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	**14**	**H**
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	**19**	**H**
H	**T**	**8**	**K**
I	F	**10**	**H**
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

We are finished with vertex H

- Which vertex do we visit next?

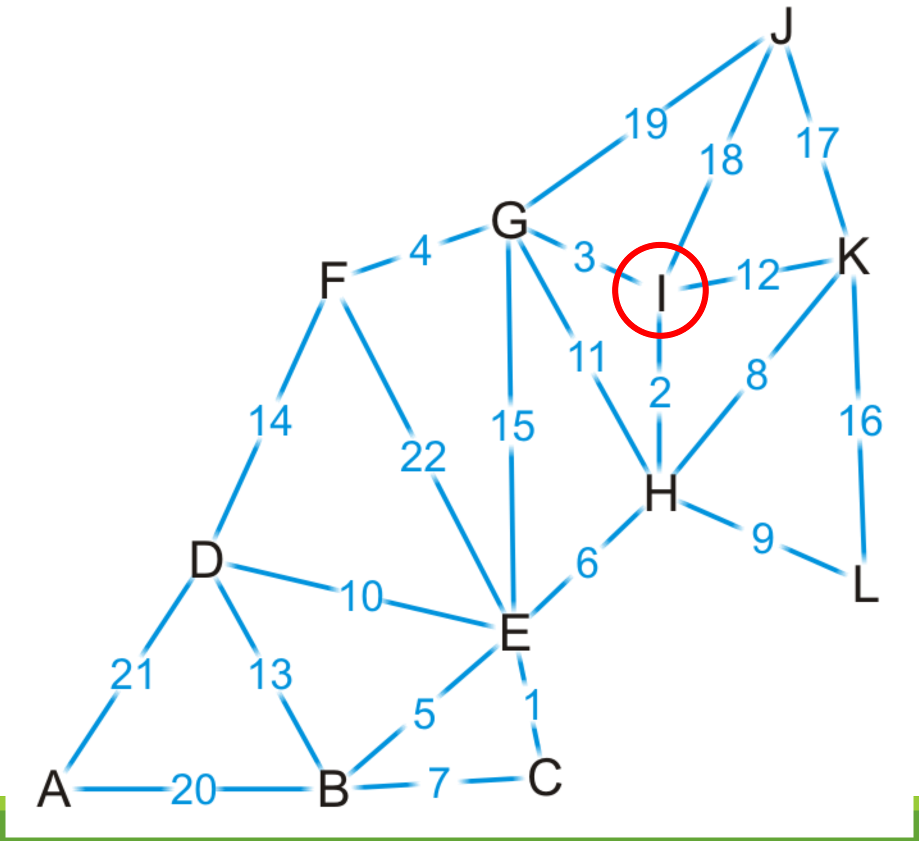


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	19	H
H	T	8	K
I	F	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

The path (K, H, I) is the shortest path from K to I of length 10

- Vertex I has two unvisited neighbors: G and J

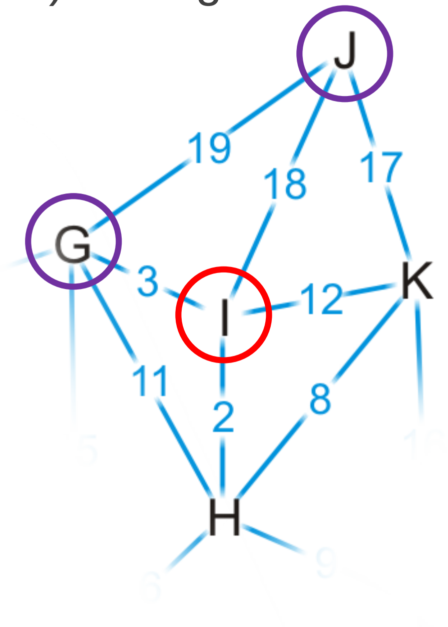


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	19	H
H	T	8	K
I	**T**	**10**	**H**
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

Consider these paths:

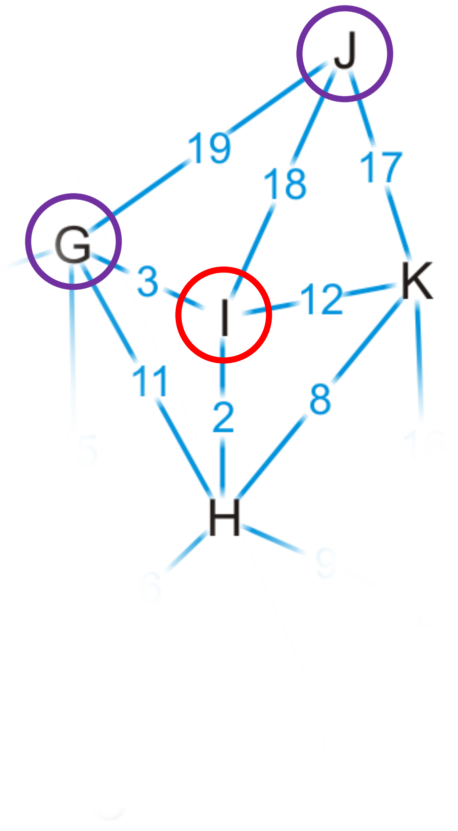
(K, H, I, G) of length 10 + 3 = 13 (K, H, I, J) of length 10 + 18 = 28



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	19	H
H	T	8	K
I	**T**	**10**	**H**
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

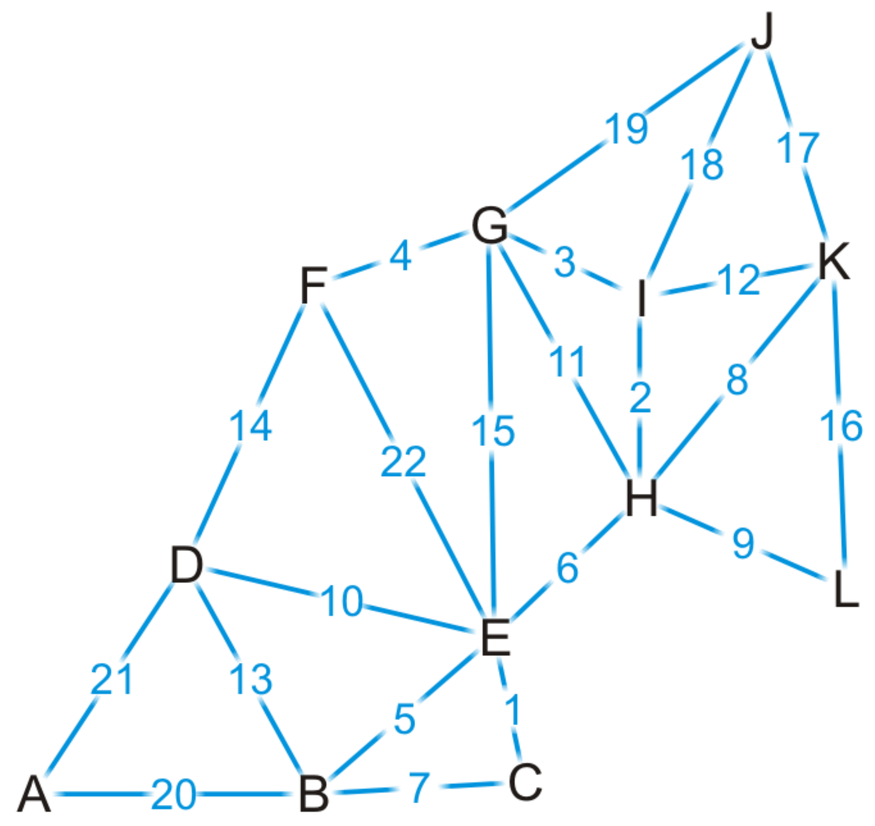
We have discovered a shorter path to vertex G, but (K, J) is still the shortest known path to vertex J



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	**13**	**I**
H	T	8	K
I	**T**	**10**	**H**
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

Which vertex can we visit next?

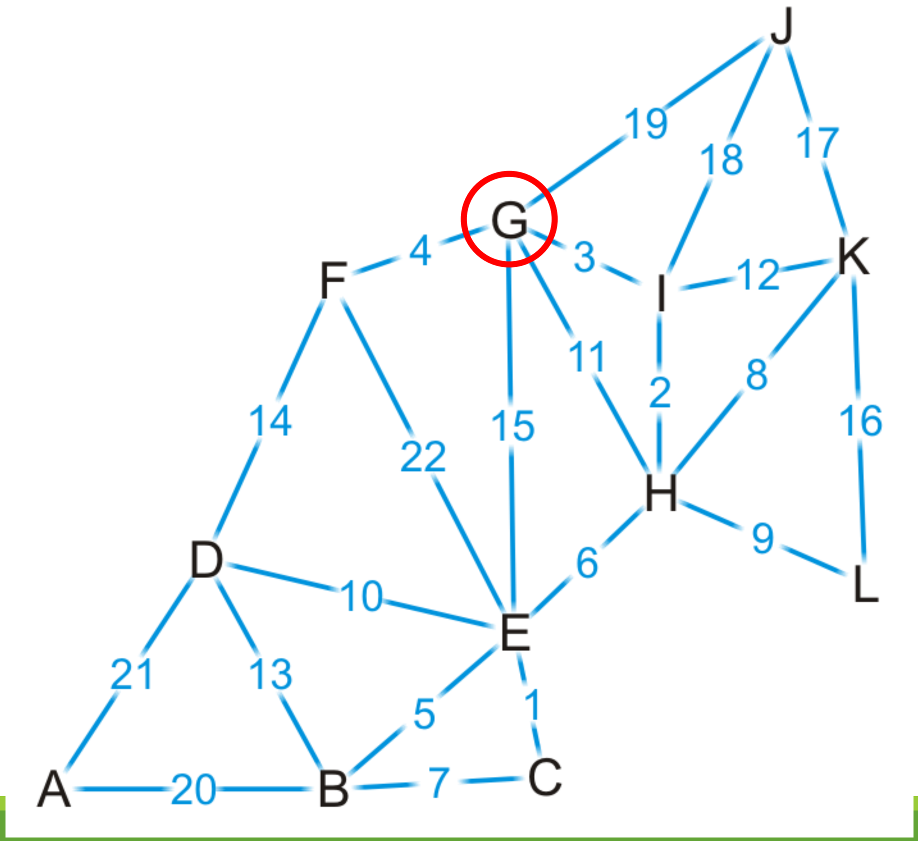


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	∞	Ø
G	F	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

The path (K, H, I, G) is the shortest path from K to G of length 13

- Vertex G has three unvisited neighbors: E, F and J



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	∞	Ø
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

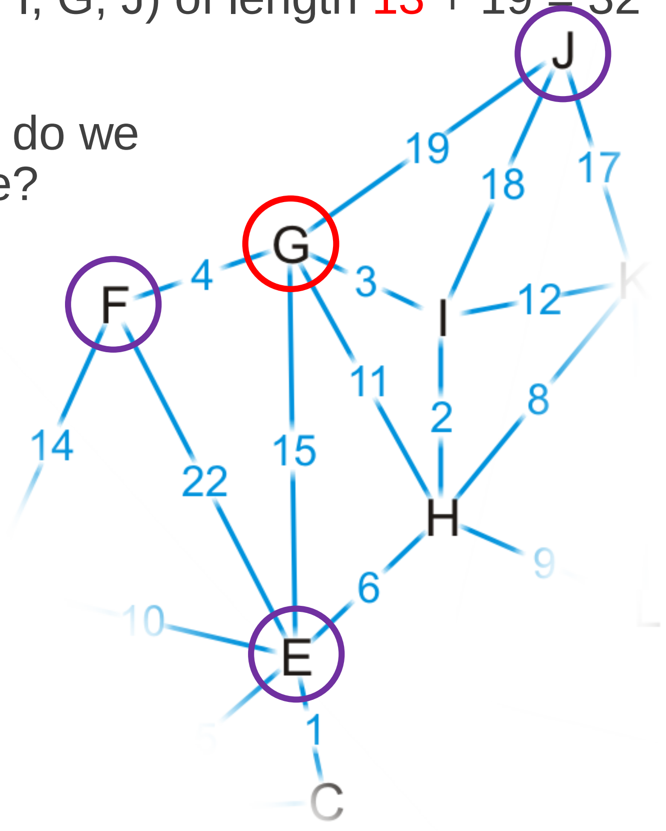
Example

Consider these paths:

(K, H, I, G, E) of length 13 + 15 = 28 (K, H, I, G, F) of length 13 + 4 = 17

(K, H, I, G, J) of length 13 + 19 = 32

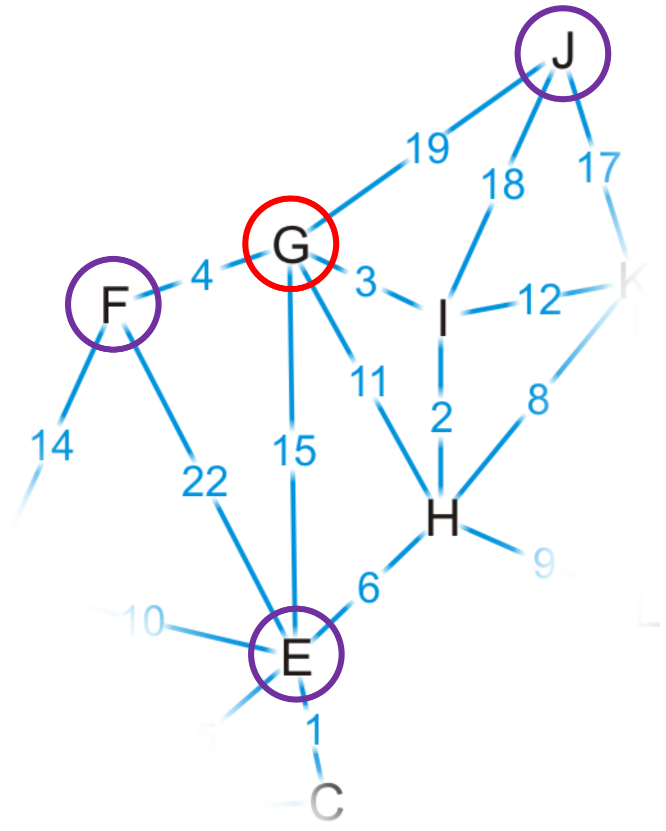
- Which do we update?



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	∞	Ø
G	**T**	**13**	**I**
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

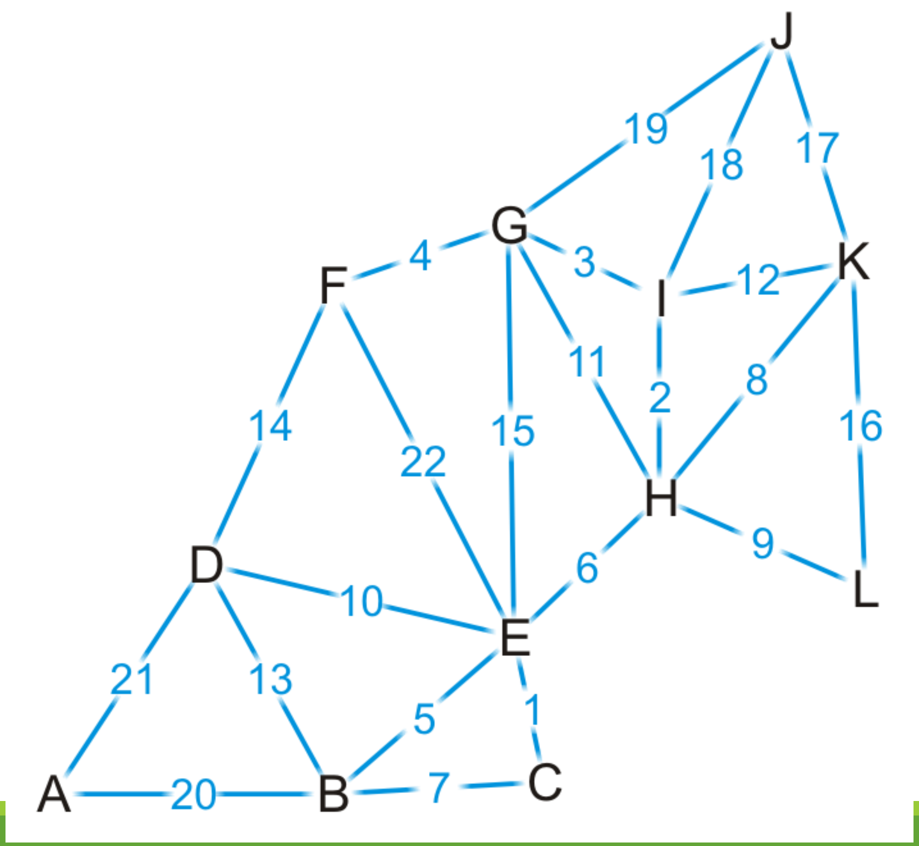
We have now found a path to vertex F



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	**17**	**G**
G	**T**	**13**	**I**
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

Where do we visit next?

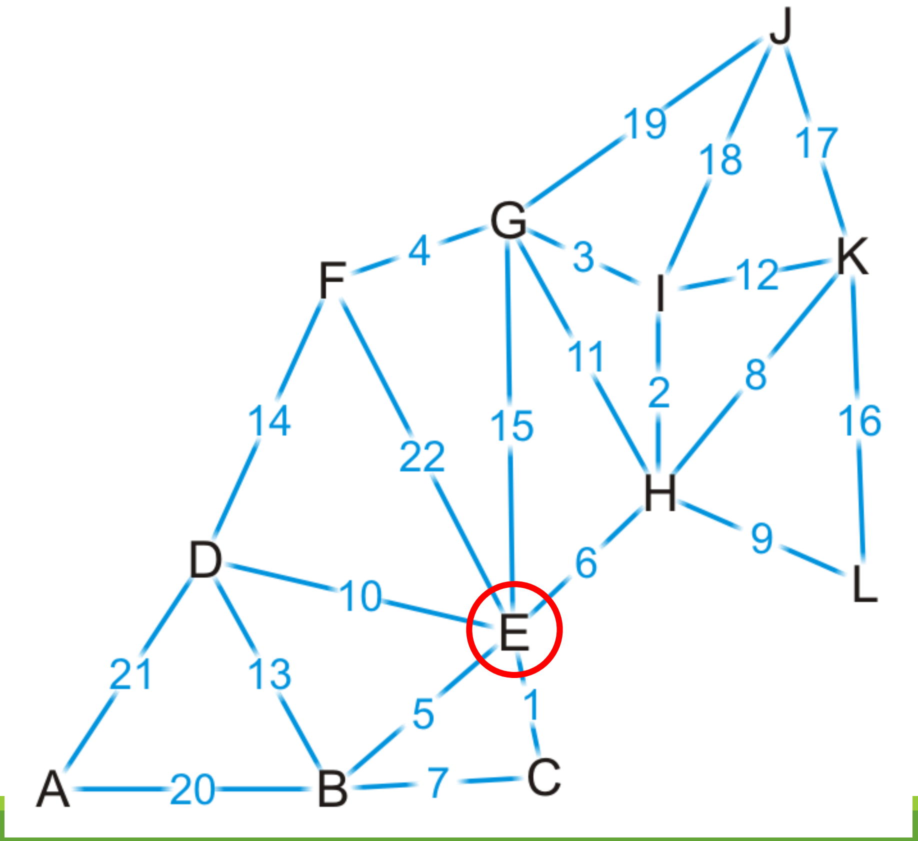


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	F	14	H
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

The path (K, H, E) is the shortest path from K to E of length 14

- Vertex G has four unvisited neighbors: B, C, D and F

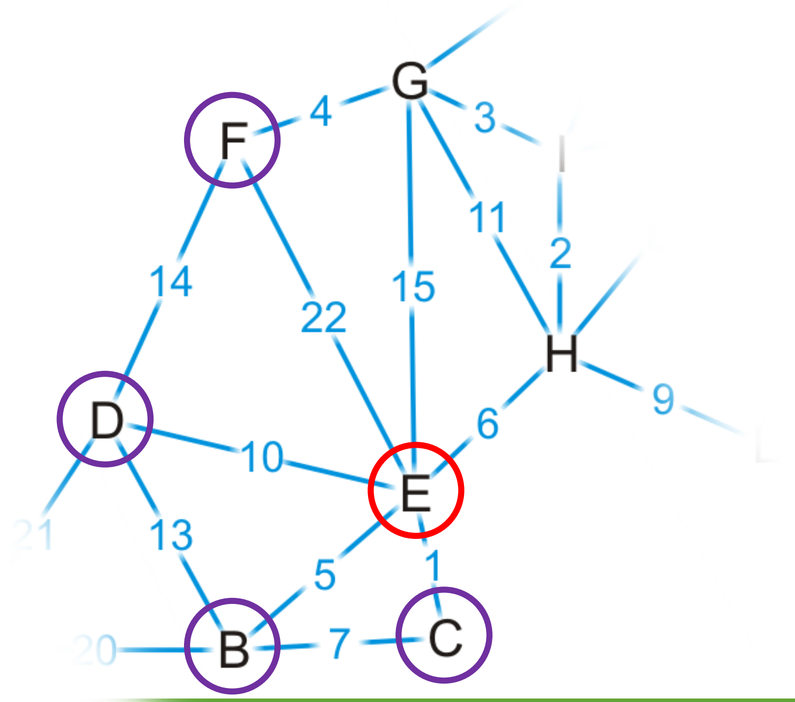


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	**T**	**14**	**H**
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

The path (K, H, E) is the shortest path from K to E of length 14

- Vertex G has four unvisited neighbors: B, C, D and F



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	**T**	**14**	**H**
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

Consider these paths:

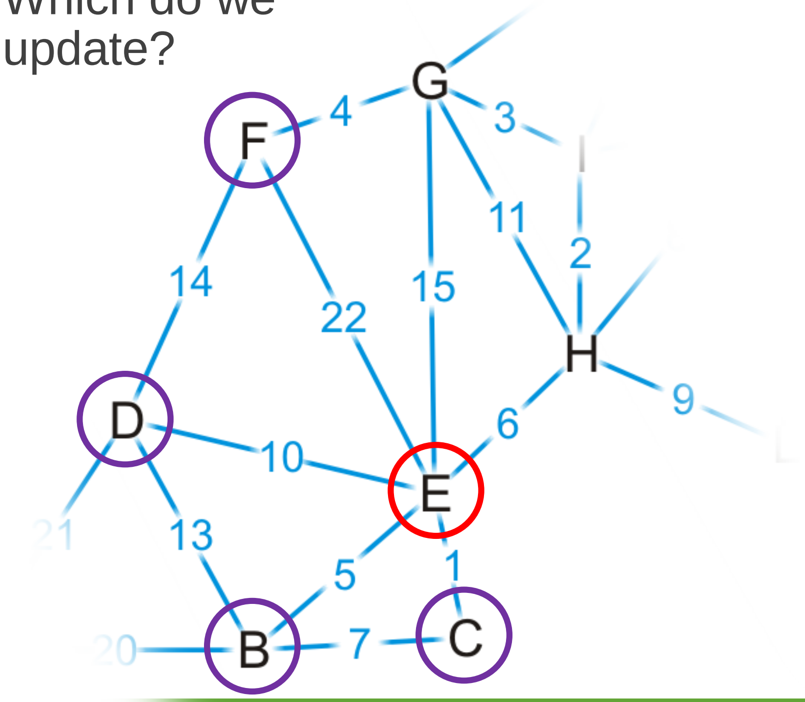
(K, H, E, B) of length 14 + 5 = 19

(K, H, E, D) of length 14 + 10 = 24

(K, H, E, C) of length 14 + 1 = 15

(K, H, E, F) of length 14 + 22 = 36

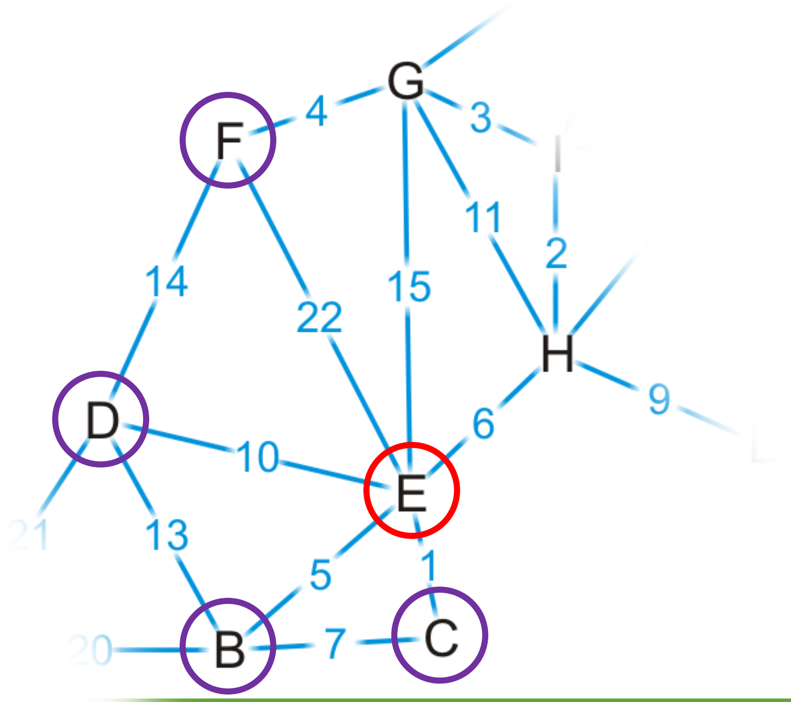
- Which do we update?



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	∞	Ø
C	F	∞	Ø
D	F	∞	Ø
E	**T**	**14**	**H**
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

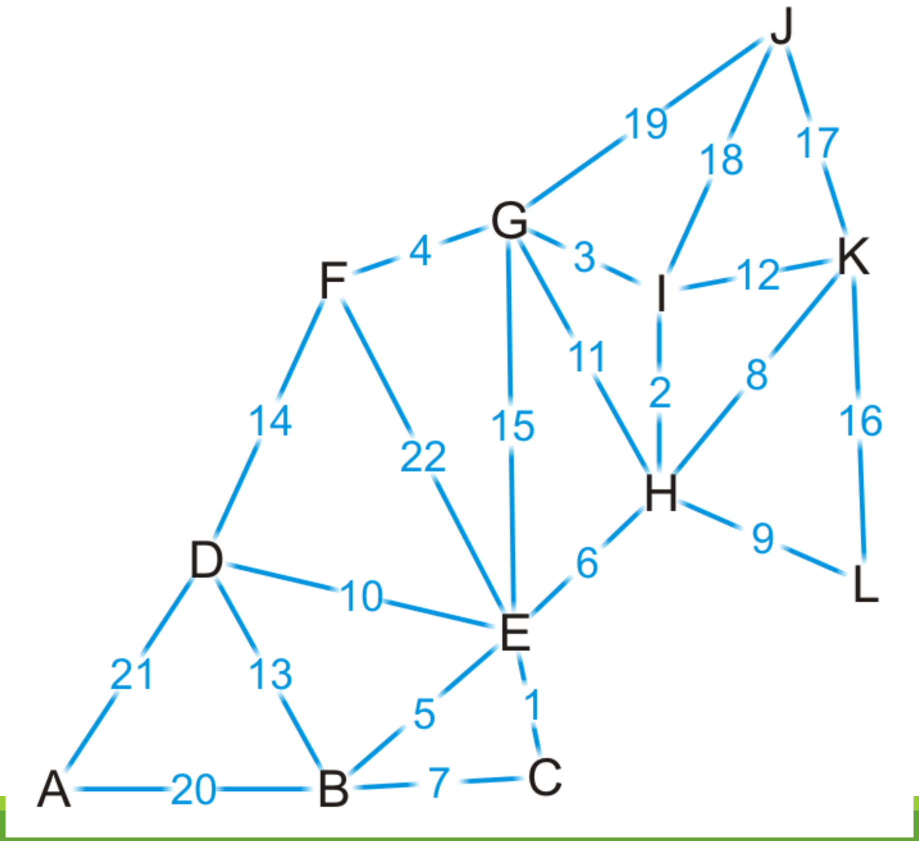
We've discovered paths to vertices B, C, D



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	**19**	**E**
C	F	**15**	**E**
D	F	**24**	**E**
E	**T**	**14**	**H**
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

Which vertex is next?

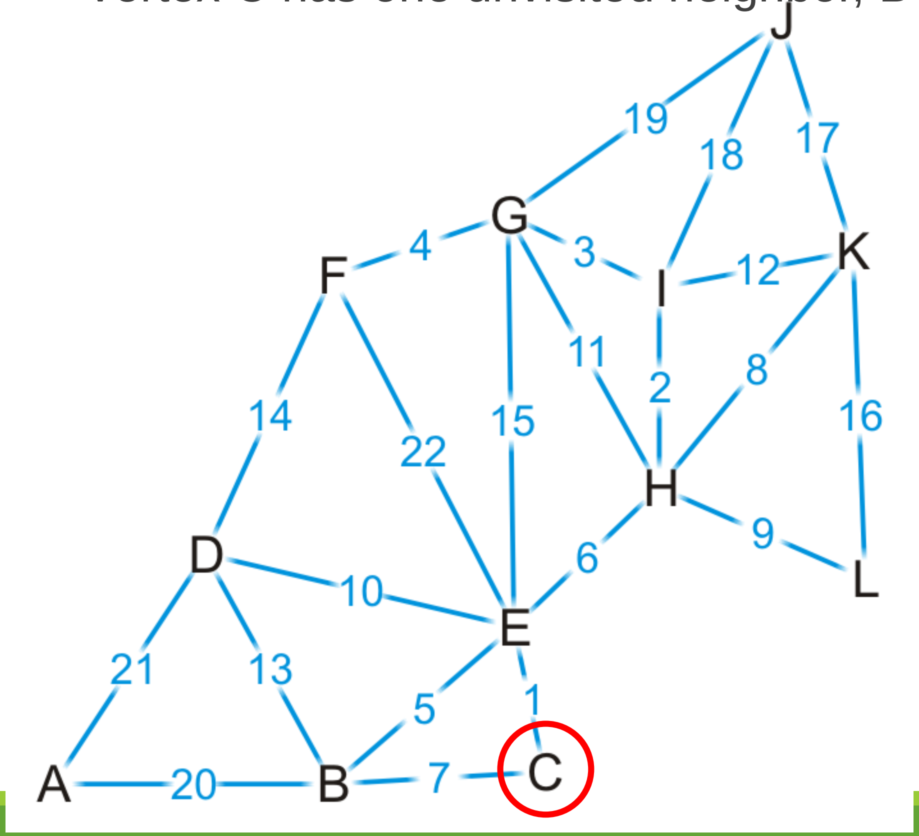


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	F	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

We’ve found that the path (K, H, E, C) of length 15 is the shortest path from K to C

- Vertex C has one unvisited neighbor, B

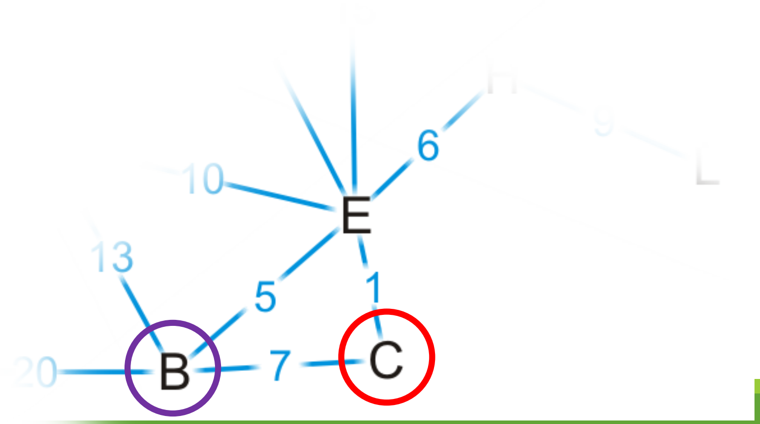


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

The path (K, H, E, C, B) is of length 15 + 7 = 22

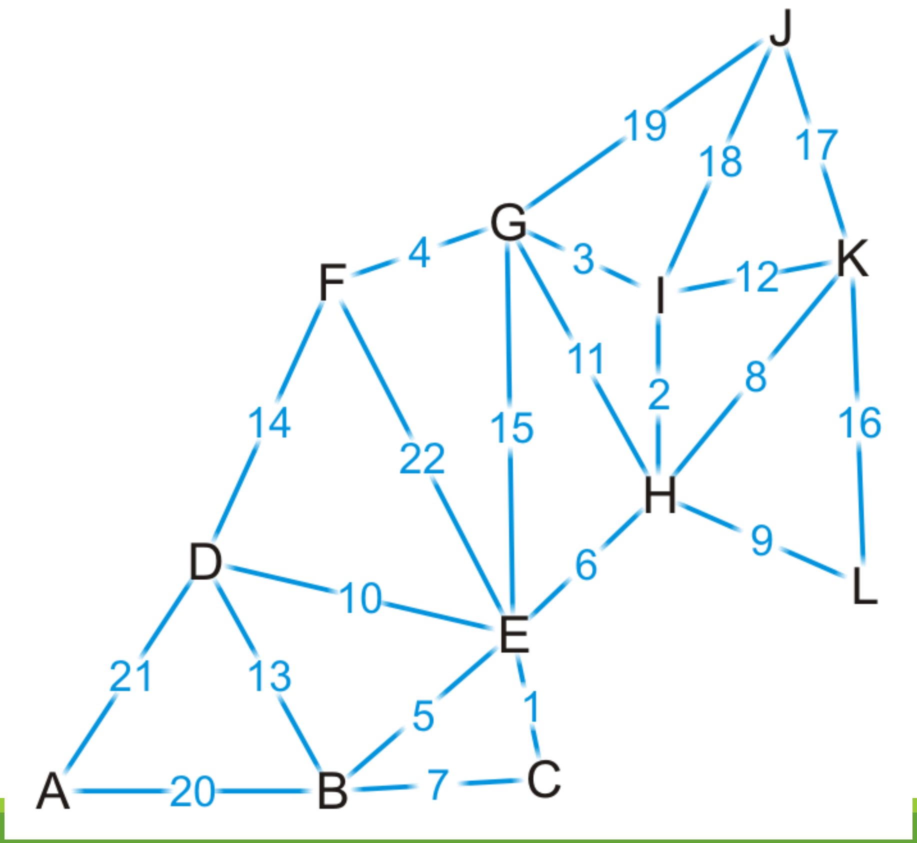
- We have already discovered a shorter path through vertex E



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	**T**	**15**	**E**
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

Where to next?

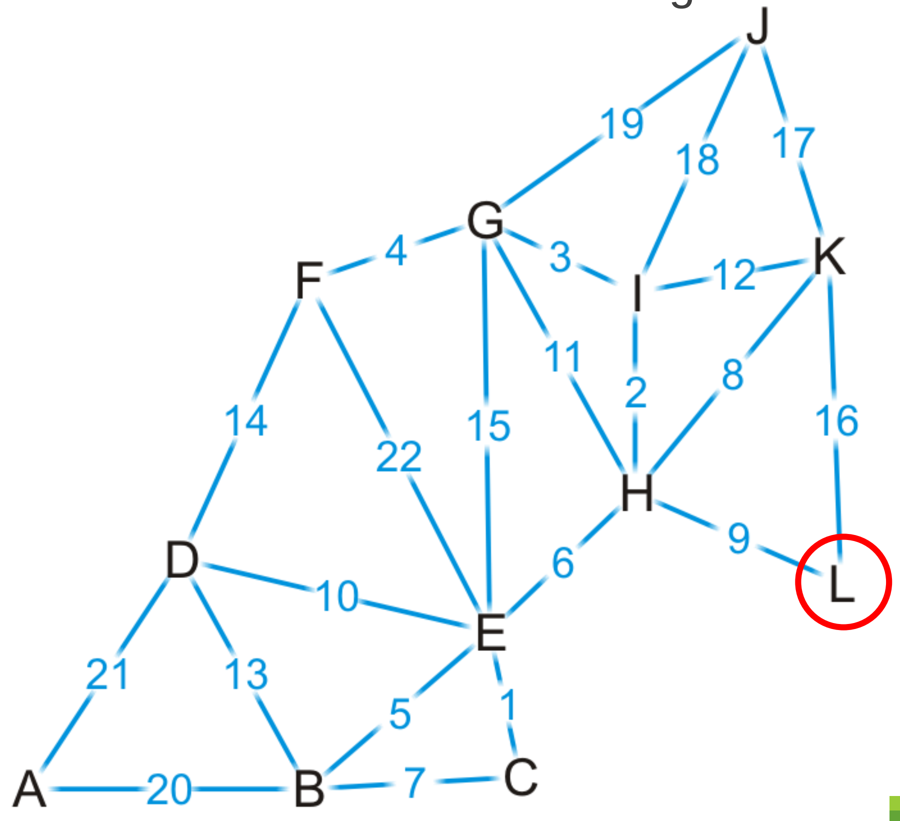


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	F	16	K

Example

We now know that (K, L) is the shortest path between these two points

- Vertex L has no unvisited neighbors

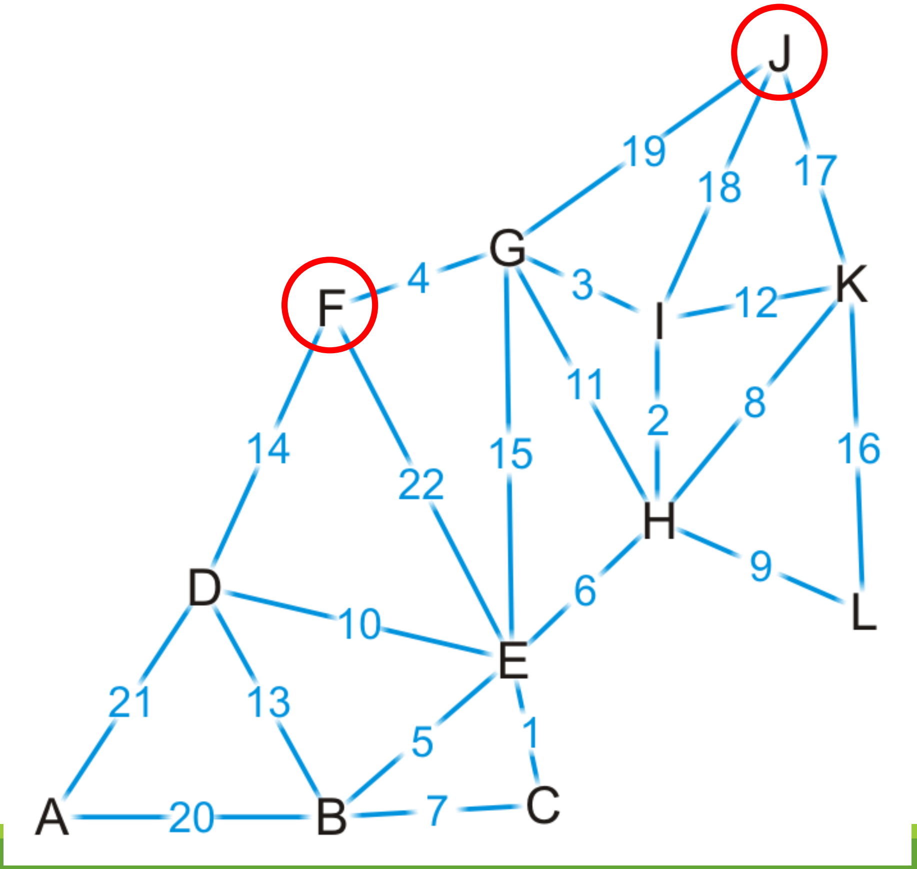


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	**T**	**16**	**K**

Example

Where to next?

- Does it matter if we visit vertex F first or vertex J first?

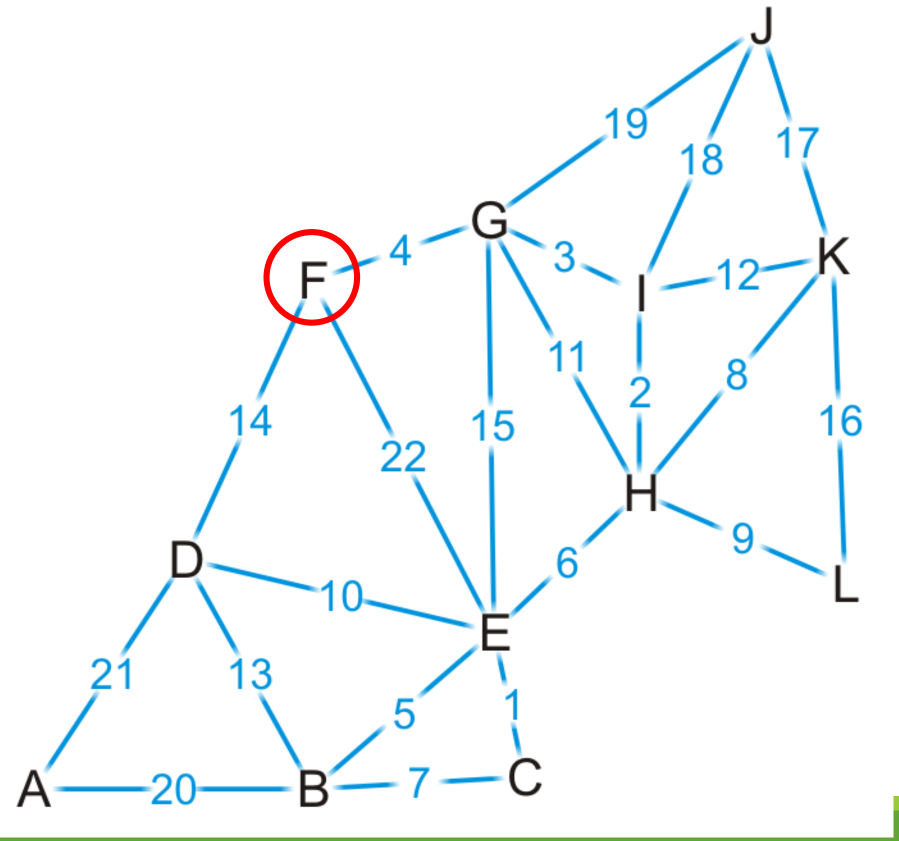


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	F	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

Let's visit vertex F first

- It has one unvisited neighbor, vertex D

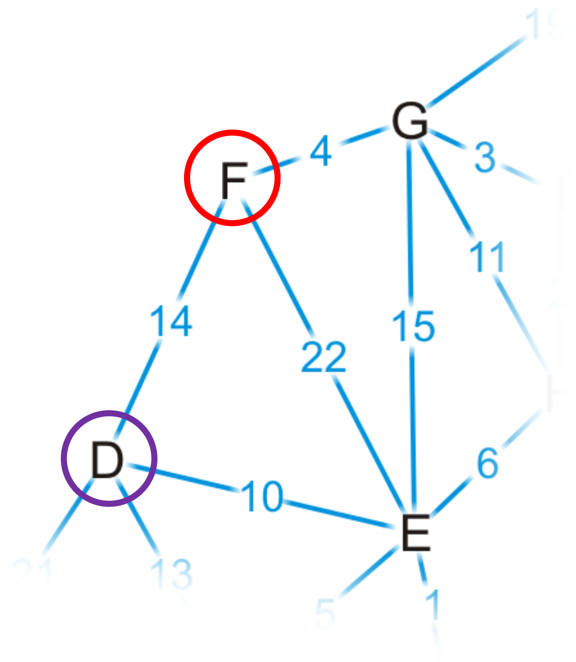


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	**T**	**17**	**G**
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

The path (K, H, I, G, F, D) is of length 17 + 14 = 31

- This is longer than the path we've already discovered

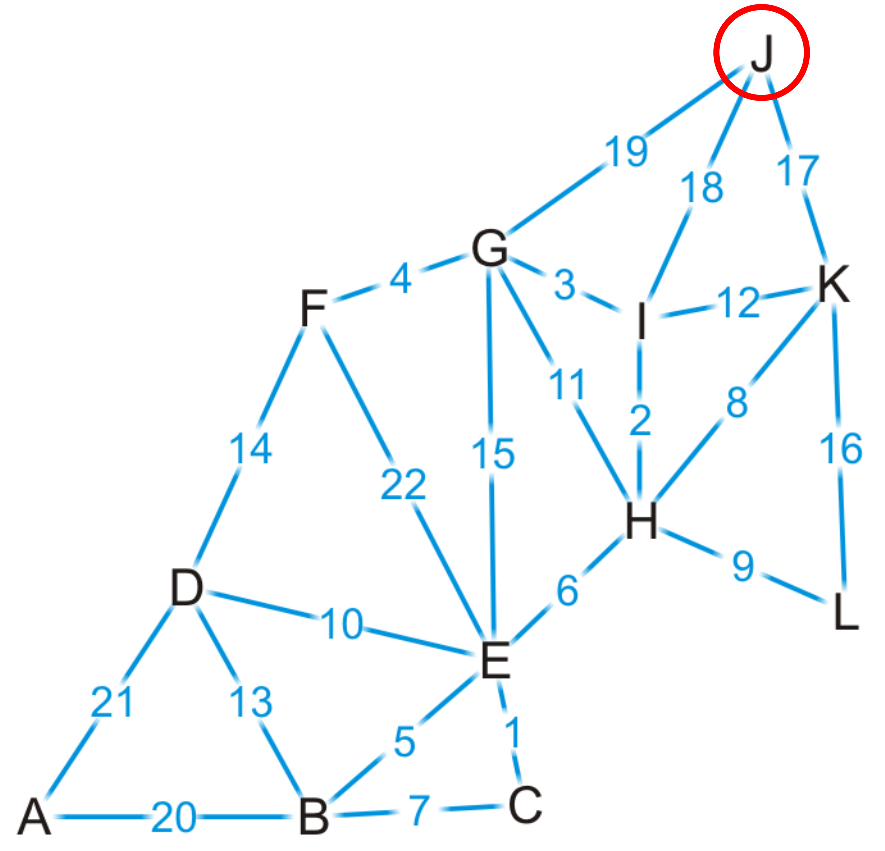


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	**T**	**17**	**G**
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	F	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

Now we visit vertex J

- It has no unvisited neighbors



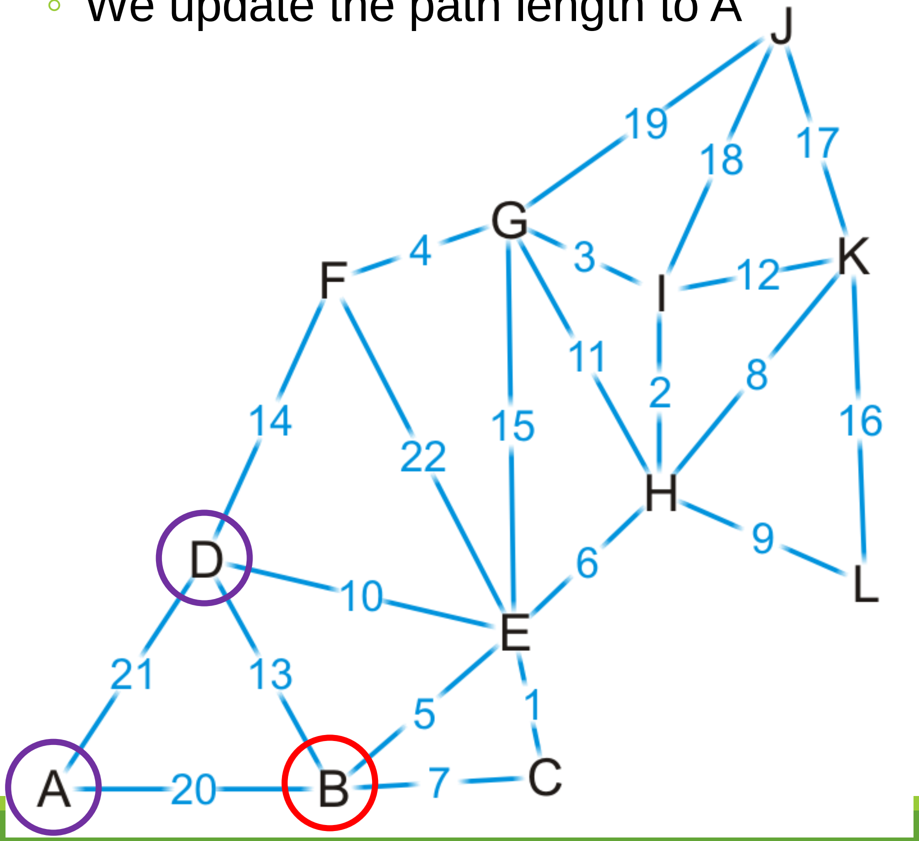
Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	∞	Ø
B	F	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	T	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	**T**	**17**	**K**
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

Next we visit vertex B, which has two unvisited neighbors:

(K, H, E, B, A) of length 19 + 20 = 39 (K, H, E, B, D) of length 19 + 13 = 32

- We update the path length to A

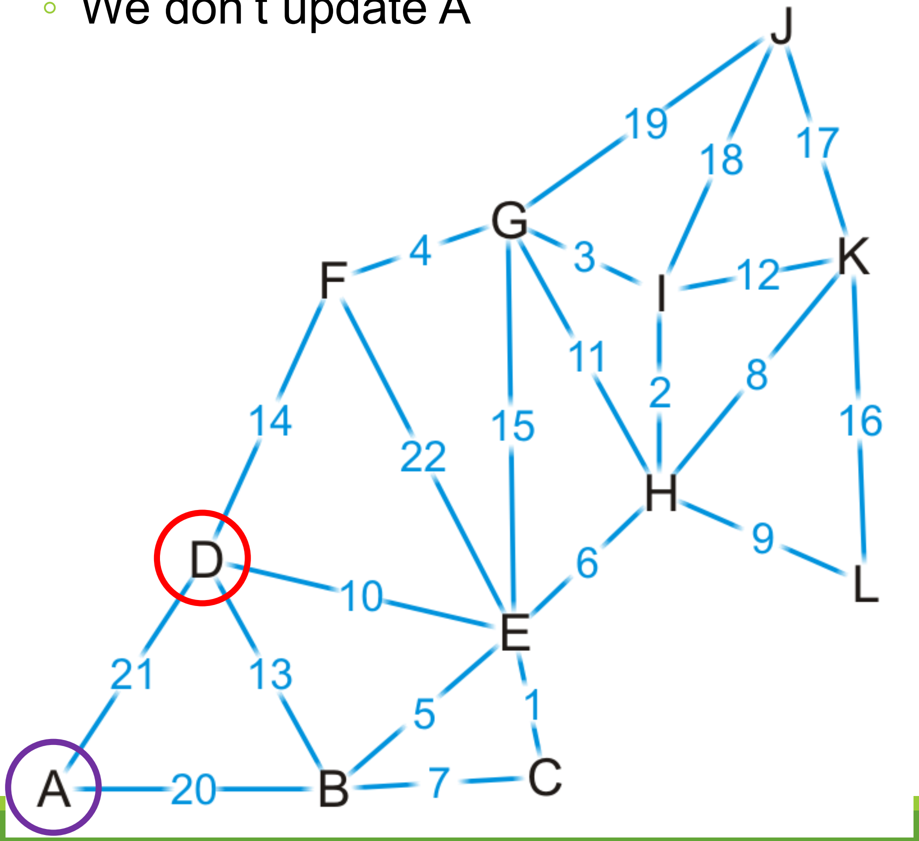


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	**39**	**B**
B	**T**	**19**	**E**
C	T	15	E
D	F	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	T	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	T	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

Next we visit vertex D

- The path (K, H, E, D, A) is of length 24 + 21 = 45
- We don't update A

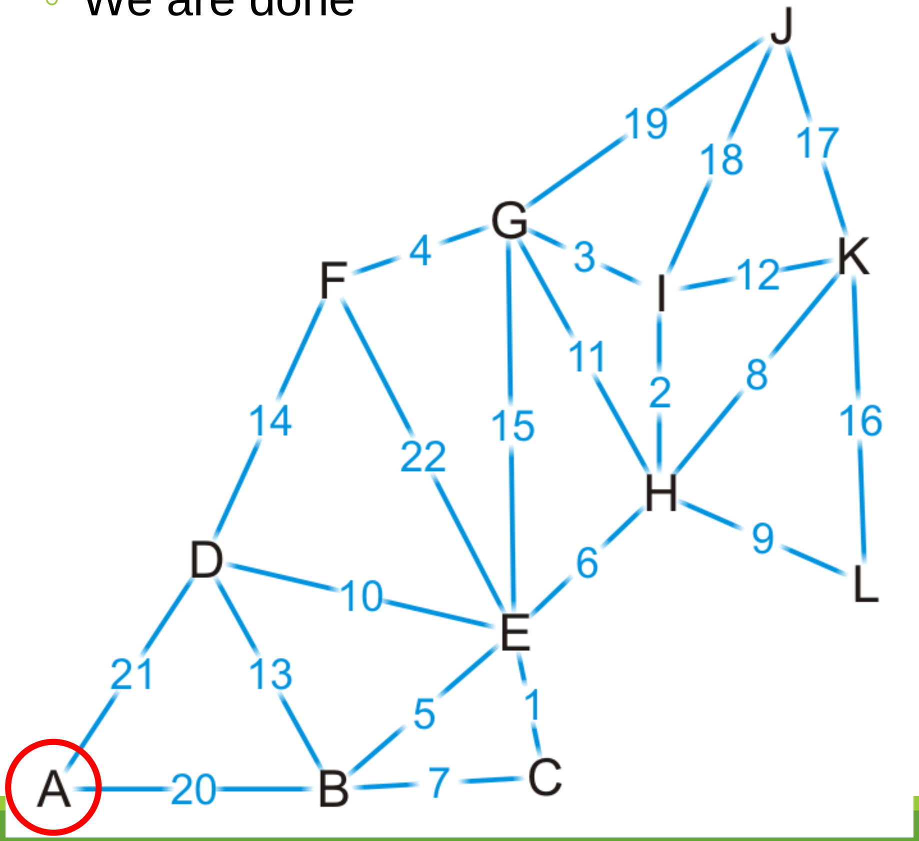


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	F	39	B
B	T	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	**T**	**24**	**E**
E	T	14	H
F	T	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	T	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

Finally, we visit vertex A

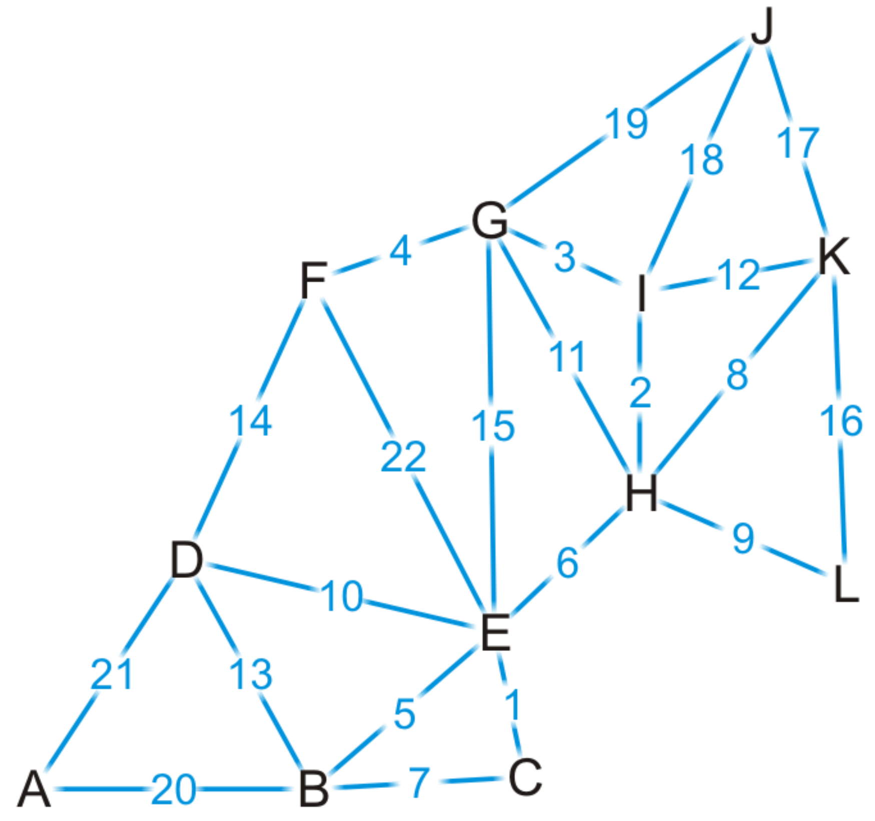
- It has no unvisited neighbors and there are no unvisited vertices left
- We are done



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	**T**	**39**	**B**
B	T	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	T	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	T	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	T	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

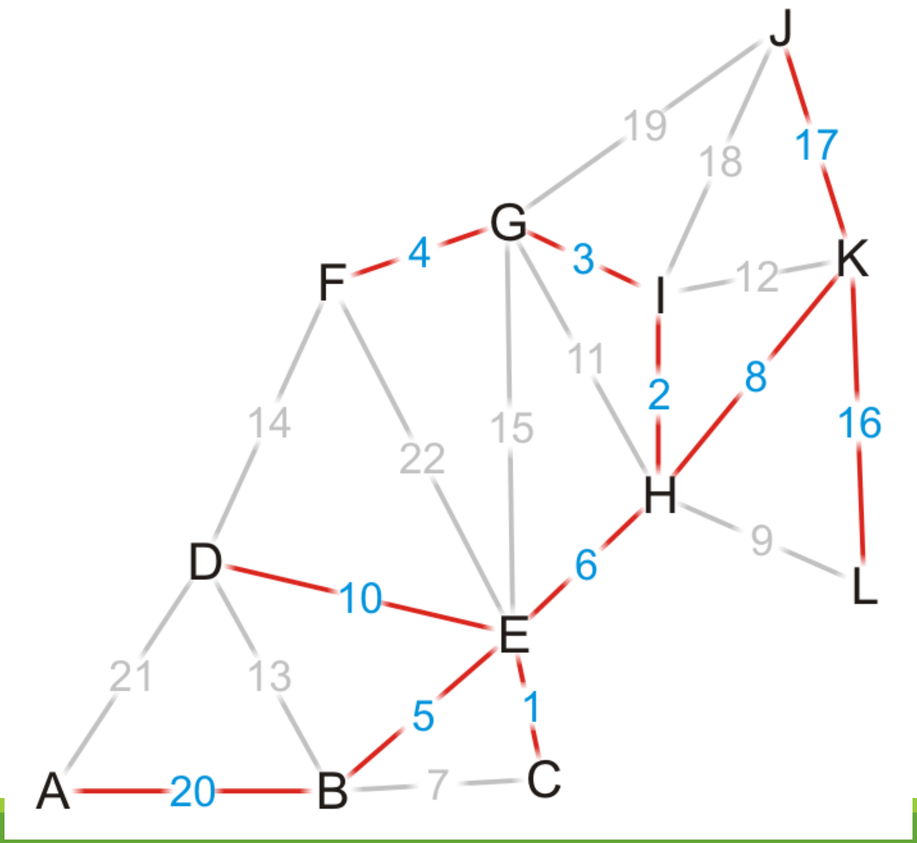
Thus, we have found the shortest path from vertex K to each of the other vertices



Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	T	39	B
B	T	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	T	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	T	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	T	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

Using the *previous* pointers, we can reconstruct the paths

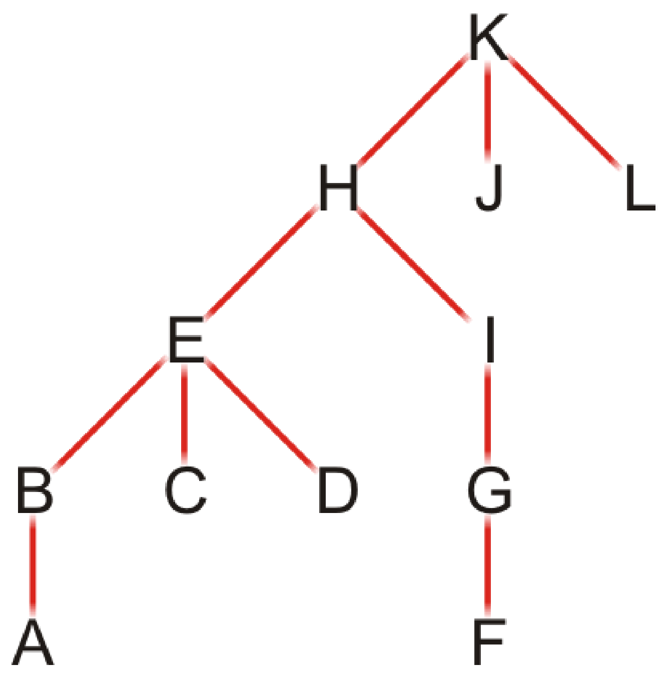


Vertex	Visited	Distance	Previous
A	T	39	B
B	T	19	E
C	T	15	E
D	T	24	E
E	T	14	H
F	T	17	G
G	T	13	I
H	T	8	K
I	T	10	H
J	T	17	K
K	T	0	Ø
L	T	16	K

Example

Note that this table defines a rooted parental tree

- The source vertex K is at the root
- The previous pointer is the *parent* of the vertex in the tree



Vertex	Previous
A	B
B	E
C	E
D	E
E	H
F	G
G	I
H	K
I	H
J	K
K	Ø
L	K

Comments on Dijkstra’s algorithm

Questions:

- What if at some point, all unvisited vertices have a distance ∞?
- What if we just want to find the shortest path between vertices v_j and v_k?
- Does the algorithm change if we have a directed graph?

Implementation and analysis

The initialization requires $\Theta(|V|)$ memory and run time

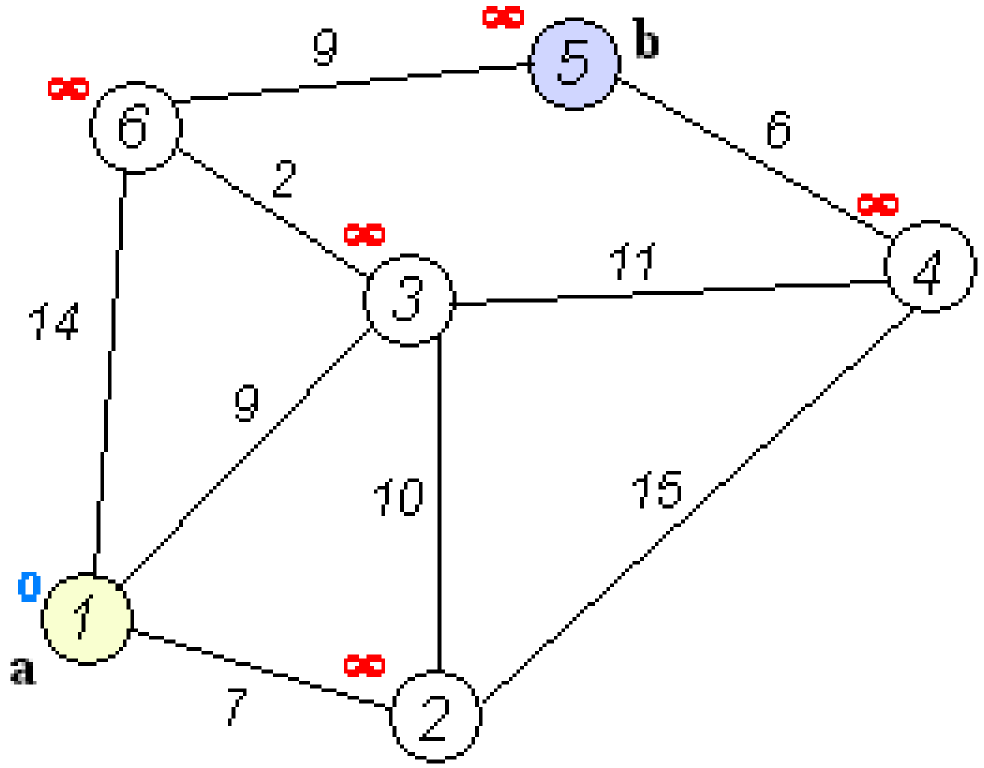
We iterate $|V| - 1$ times, each time finding next closest vertex to the source

- Iterating through the table requires is $\Theta(|V|)$ time
- Each time we find a vertex, we must check all of its neighbors
- With an adjacency matrix, the run time is $\Theta(|V|(|V| + |V|)) = \Theta(|V|^2)$
- With an adjacency list, the run time is $\Theta(|V|^2 + |E|) = \Theta(|V|^2)$ as $|E| = O(|V|^2)$

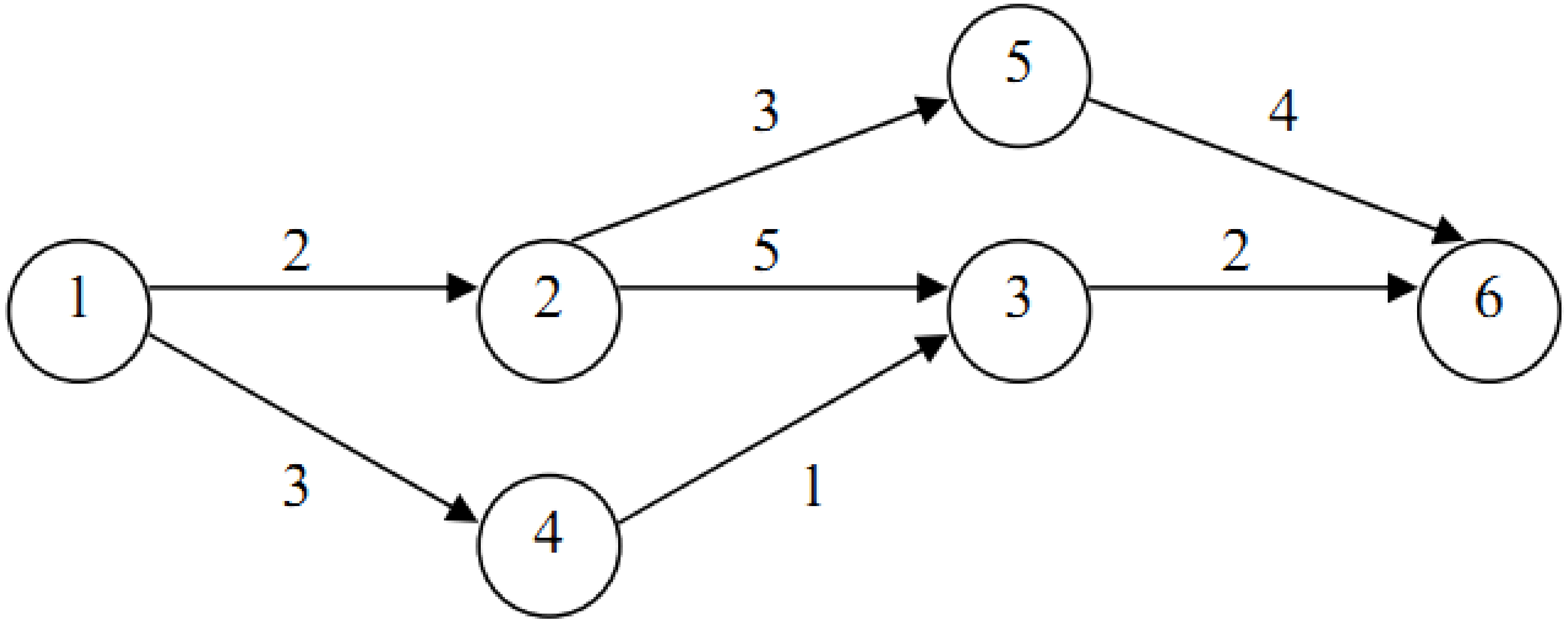
Can we do better?

- Recall, we only need the closest vertex
- How about a priority queue?
  - Assume we are using a binary heap
  - We will have to update the heap structure—this requires additional work
- the total run time is $O(|V| \ln(|V|) + |E| \ln(|V|)) = O(|E| \ln(|V|))$

Another Example



Practice Example


1
2
3
4
5
6
2
3
5
3
4
2
1