

An introduction to graph theory, and its applications

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# Agenda

- **What is Graph theory**
- **Graph theory “problem”**
- **Mathematical Applications**
- **Popular Algorithms**
- **Graph Theory Made Easy**
- **Graph Theory in Our World**



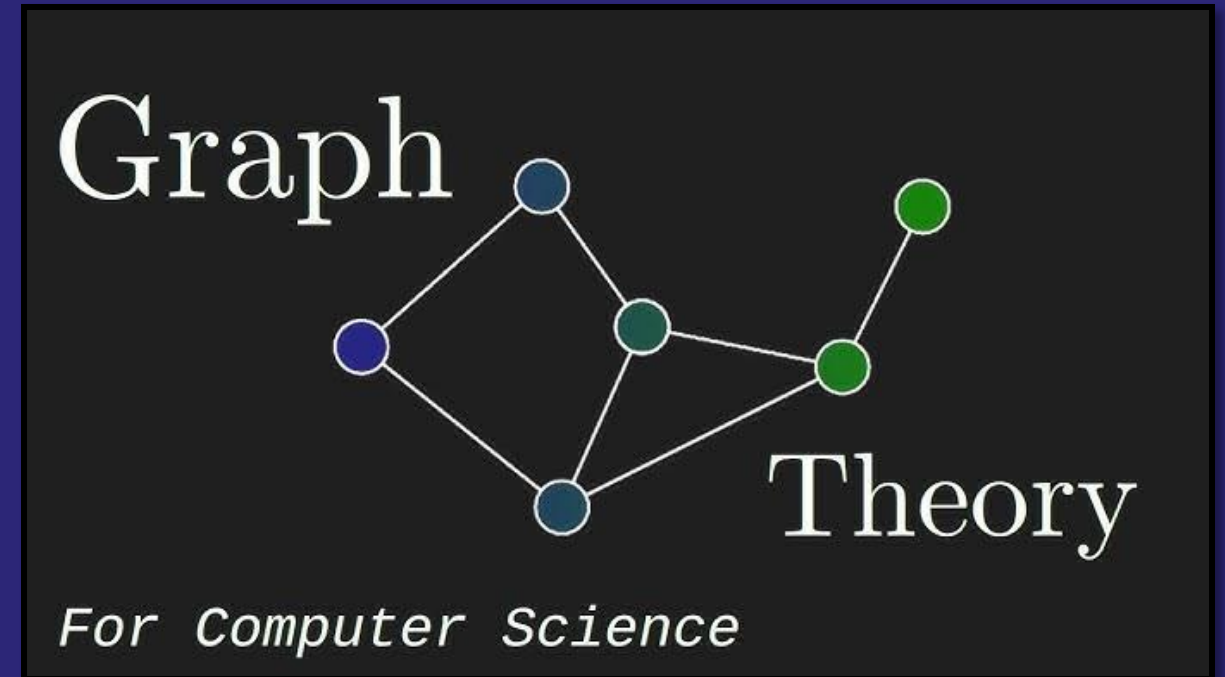
# What is graph theory



# Graph Theory

The study of graphs, which are mathematical structures used to model pairwise relations between objects. A graph in this context is made up of vertices (also called nodes or points) which are connected by edges (also called arcs, links or lines).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graph\\_theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graph_theory)  
(my favorite definition)





Why would I use a graph?



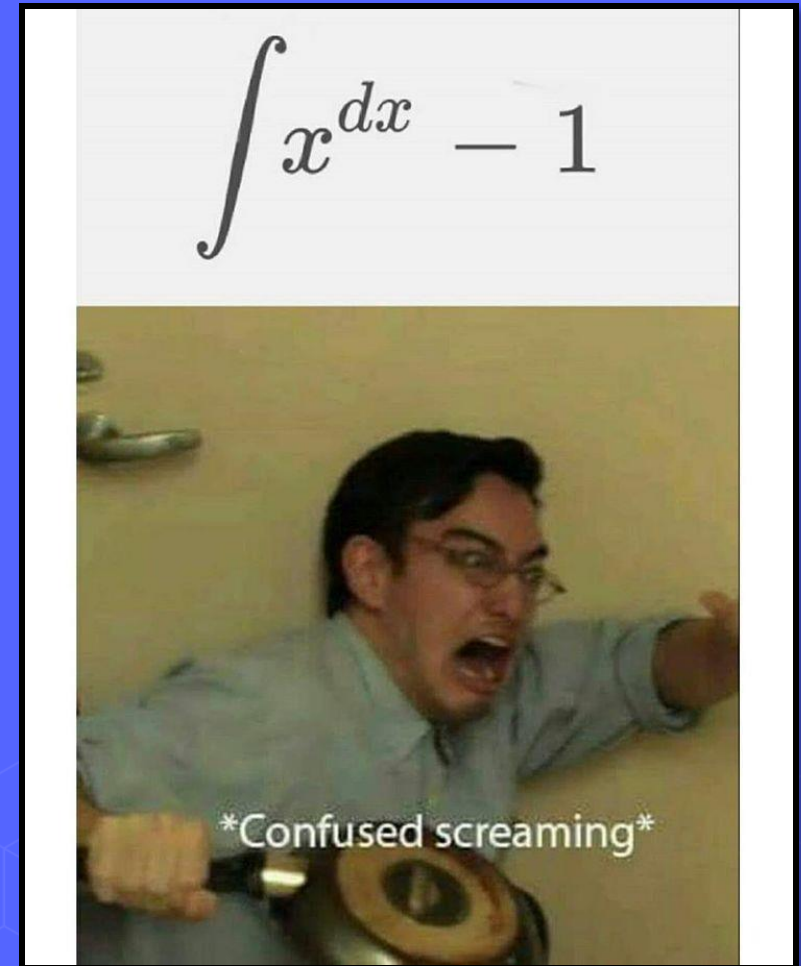
# Uses for graphs

A way to visualize and analyze data, from business reports and weather forecasts to personal finance and social networks, aiding in understanding trends, making informed decisions, and communicating information effectively

This is represented by nodes as points, and edges as the connections. Nodes and edges can be translated to anything but can be thought of nouns and verbs.



# Mathematical Applications





# Definitions

## Shared Terminology

**Vertices or Nodes:** Instance or unique value

**Edges:** The connection between two nodes

**Graph:** non-linear data structure consisting of vertices and edges

**Tree:** A connected Graph that has no cycles (linear)

**Directed Graph:** Graph where each edge has a one-way relationship

**Weighted Graph:** A graph where each edge is assigned a value



# Definitions cont..

Breadth-first traversal: is when we visit the starting node and then on the first pass visit all the nodes directly connected to it. In the second pass, we visit the nodes that are two edges away from the starting node.

Depth-first traversal is when we visit the starting node and then proceed to follow links through the graph until we reach a dead end. When we reach a dead end, we back up along the path until we find an unvisited adjacent edge.



# What does this look like

G - Graph

V - Vertices

E - Edge

$G = (V, E)$  where  $V = \{ V1, V2, V3 \}$  &  $E = \{ (V1, V2), (V1, V3), (V2, V3) \}$



# Graph Theory Questions

## Seven Bridges of Königsberg

The city of Königsberg (now Kaliningrad, Russia) was situated on both sides of the Pregel River and included two islands connected to the mainland by seven bridges. It asked whether it was possible to walk through the city of Königsberg and cross each of its seven bridges exactly once.

## Traveling Salesman

In this problem, a salesperson must visit several cities or towns. The goal is to determine a path to take between the cities such that you return to the starting city after visiting each city exactly once in the fastest way possible.

(Think of mail drivers)



# Graphing Algorithms



## algorithm

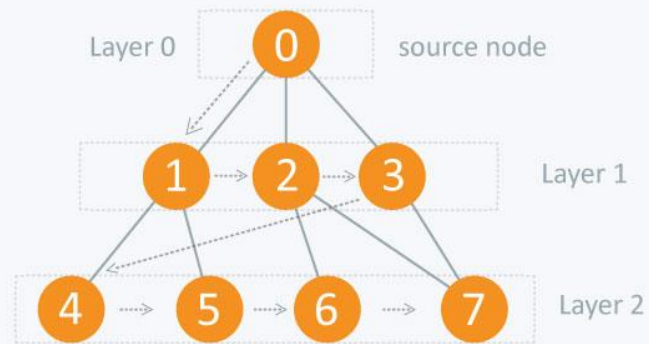
*noun*

Word used by programmers when they do not want to explain what they did.

THE BEST FUN SITE = 9GAG.COM

# Breadth First Search

Starting from a selected node (source or starting node), traverse the graph one level at a time, Exploring the neighbor nodes (nodes which are directly connected to source node).



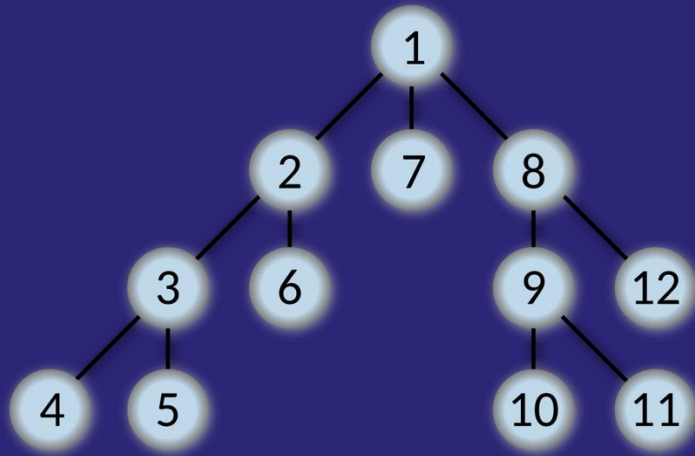
```
BFS (G, s)
//Where G is the graph and s is the source node
    let Q be queue.
    Q.enqueue( s )
//Inserting s in queue until all its neighbor vertices are
marked.

    mark s as visited.
    while ( Q is not empty)
//Removing that vertex from queue, whose neighbor will be
visited now
        v = Q.dequeue( )

        //processing all the neighbors of v
        for all neighbors w of v in Graph G
            if w is not visited
                Q.enqueue( w )
//Stores w in Q to further visit its neighbor
                mark w as visited.
```

# Depth First Search

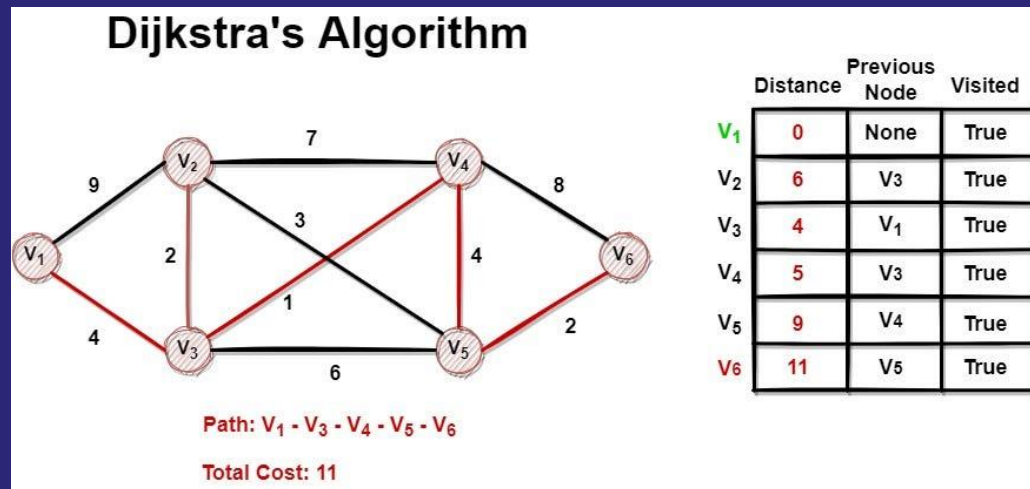
Explore as far as possible along each branch before backtracking, using a stack-like approach to manage the traversal



```
DFS(G,v)  //v is the vertex where the search starts
Stack S := {};  //start with an empty stack
for each vertex u, set visited[u] := false;
push S, v;
while (S is not empty) do
    u := pop S;
    if (not visited[u]) then
        visited[u] := true;
        for each unvisited neighbor w of u
            push S, w;
        end if
    end while
```

# Dijkstras Shortest Path

Used to find the shortest path, having non-negative edge weight in the graphs, between two vertices on a graph.



```
Dijkstra(Graph, source):
```

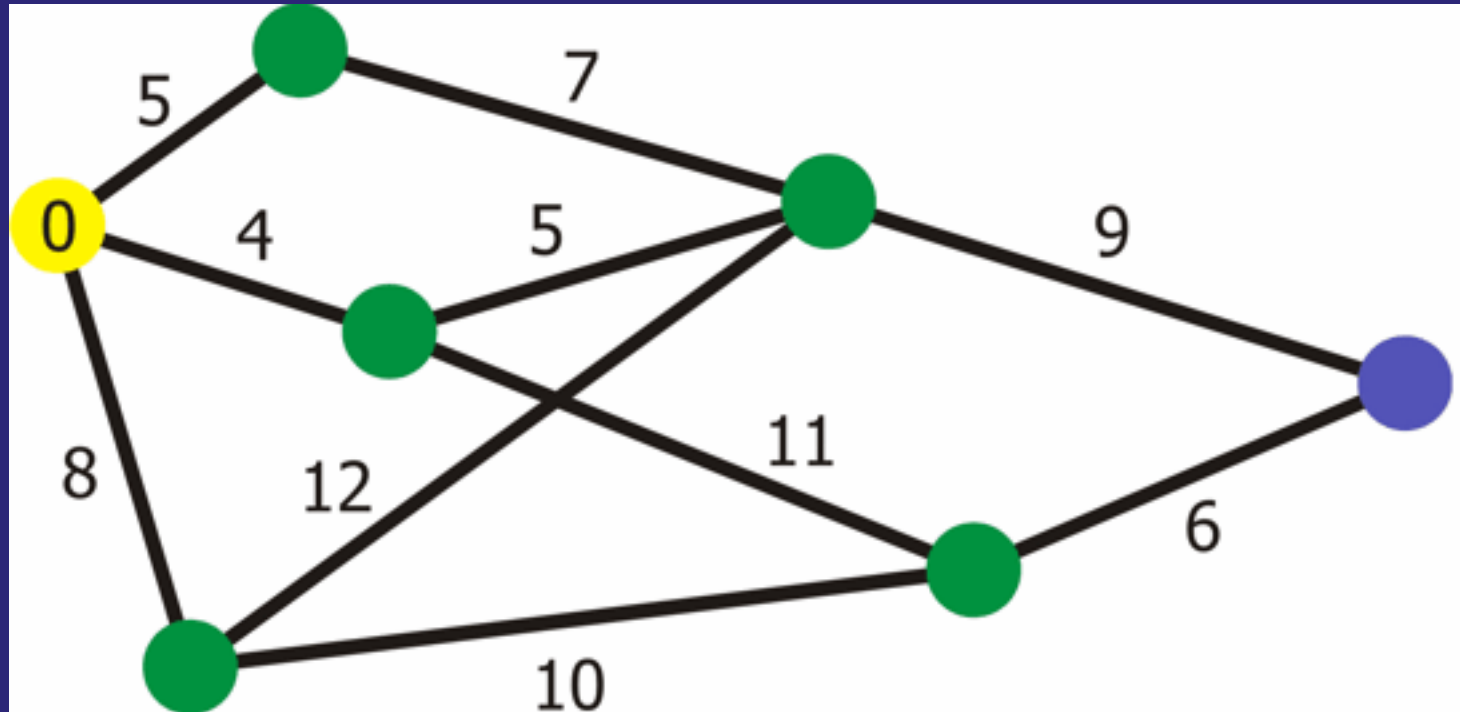
```
    for each vertex v in Graph.Vertices:
        dist[v] ← INFINITY //infinity means dist is
        unknown and acts as an arbitrary large num
        prev[v] ← UNDEFINED
        add v to Q
    dist[source] ← 0

    while Q is not empty:
        u ← vertex in Q with min dist[u]
        remove u from Q

        for each neighbor v of u still in Q:
            alt ← dist[u] + Graph.Edges(u, v)
            if alt < dist[v]:
                dist[v] ← alt
                prev[v] ← u

    return dist[], prev[]
```

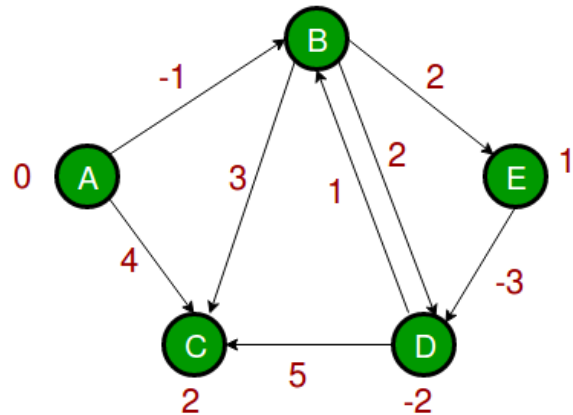




# Bellman Ford Algorithm

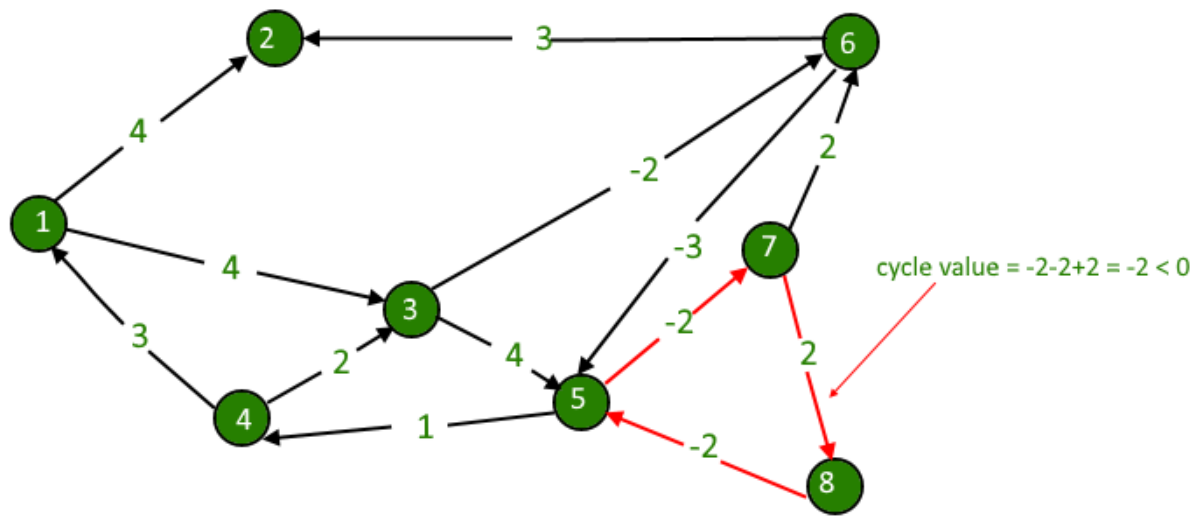
Dijkstra is not suitable when the graph consists of negative edges, so this algorithm takes that into account. The reason is, it doesn't revisit those nodes which have already been marked as visited. It also checks for a negative cycle, which is an instance where the distance becomes a negative value

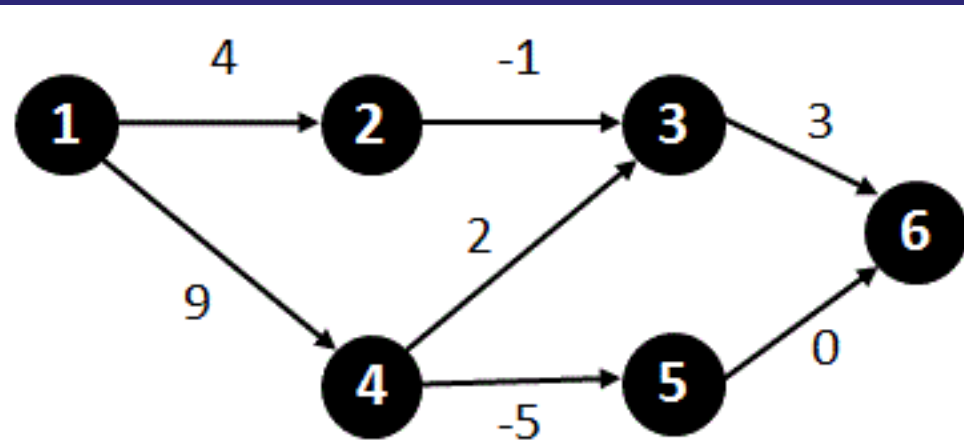
	A	B	C	D	E
A	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
B	0	-1	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
C	0	-1	4	$\infty$	$\infty$
D	0	-1	2	$\infty$	$\infty$
E	0	-1	2	$\infty$	1
	0	-1	2	1	1
	0	-1	2	-2	1



```

bellmanFordAlgorithm(G, s) //G is the graph and s is the source
vertex
for each vertex V in G
    dist[V] <- infinite // dist is distance
    prev[V] <- NULL // prev is previous
dist[s] <- 0
for each vertex V in G
    for each edge (u,v) in G
        temporaryDist <- dist[u] + edgeweight(u, v)
        if temporaryDist < dist[v]
            dist[v] <- temporaryDist
            prev[v] <- u
for each edge (U,V) in G
    If dist[U] + edgeweight(U, V) < dist[V]
        Error: Negative Cycle Exist]
return dist[], prev[]
e
    
```





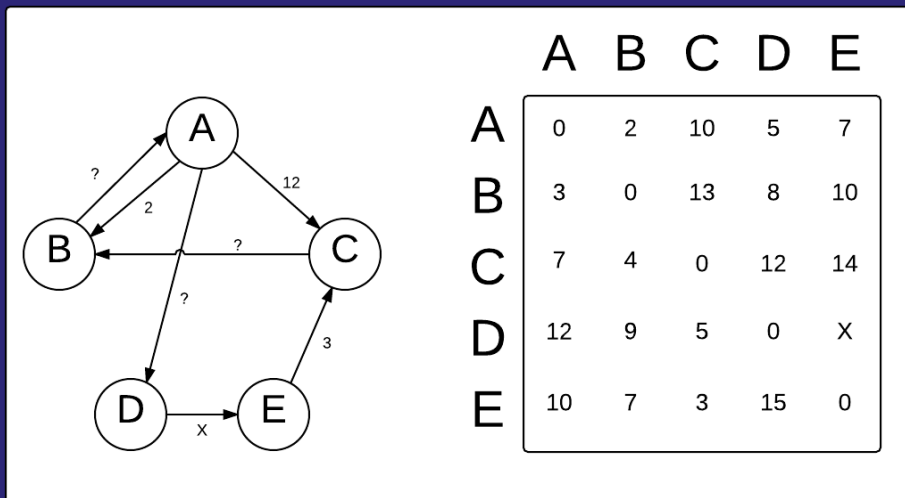
What is shortest path from 1 to 6 ?

*Diserve* ©



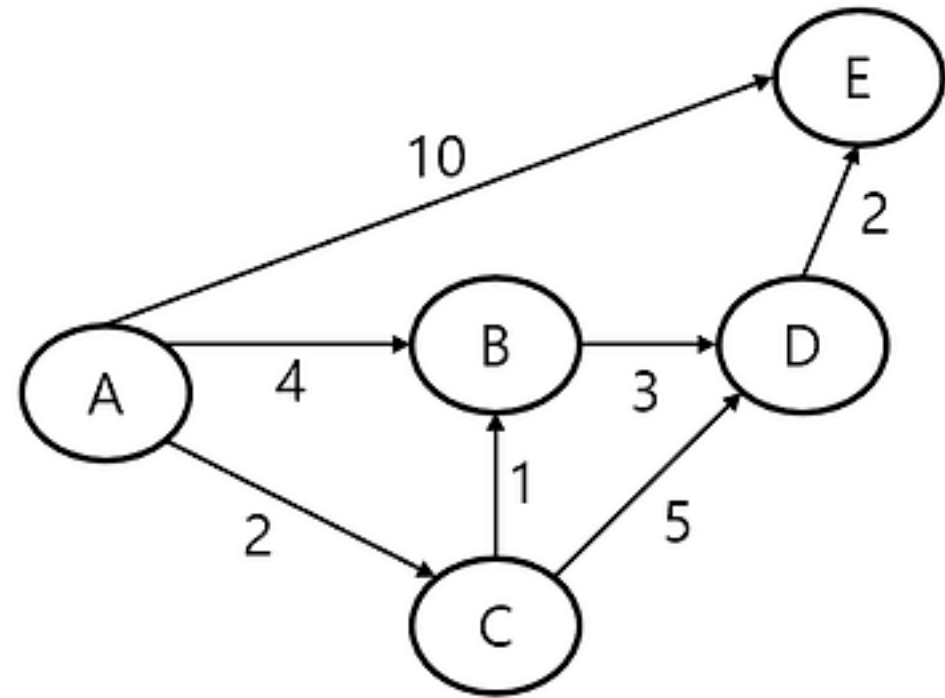
# Floyd-Warshall Algorithm

Floyd-Warshall is used to find the shortest path of all pairs. The idea is to iterate over all nodes, and for each node, iterate over all other nodes in a positive or negative weighted graph.



```
Floyd-Warshall(w, n){ // w: weights, n: number of vertices
  for i = 1 to n do // initialize, D (0) = [wij]
    for j = 1 to n do{
      d[i, j] = w[i, j];
    }
  for k = 1 to n do // Compute D (k) from D (k-1)
    for i = 1 to n do
      for j = 1 to n do
        if (d[i, k] + d[k, j] < d[i, j]){
          d[i, j] = d[i, k] + d[k, j];
        }
      }
    }
  return d[1..n, 1..n];
}
```

DP	A	B	C	D	E
A	0	4	2		10
B		0		3	
C		1	0	5	
D				0	2
E					0



# Many more

- Johnson's algorithm for All-pairs shortest paths
- Shortest Path in Directed Acyclic Graph
- Dial's Algorithm
- Multistage Graph (Shortest Path)
- Shortest path in an unweighted graph
- Karp's minimum mean (or average) weight cycle algorithm
- Etc...



# Graph Theory made easy





# Tools available

## Programming

- Python Networkx
- C++ Boost Graph Library
- JavaScript D3.js
- Graph-Theoretic Programming language (type of FORTRAN)

## Databases

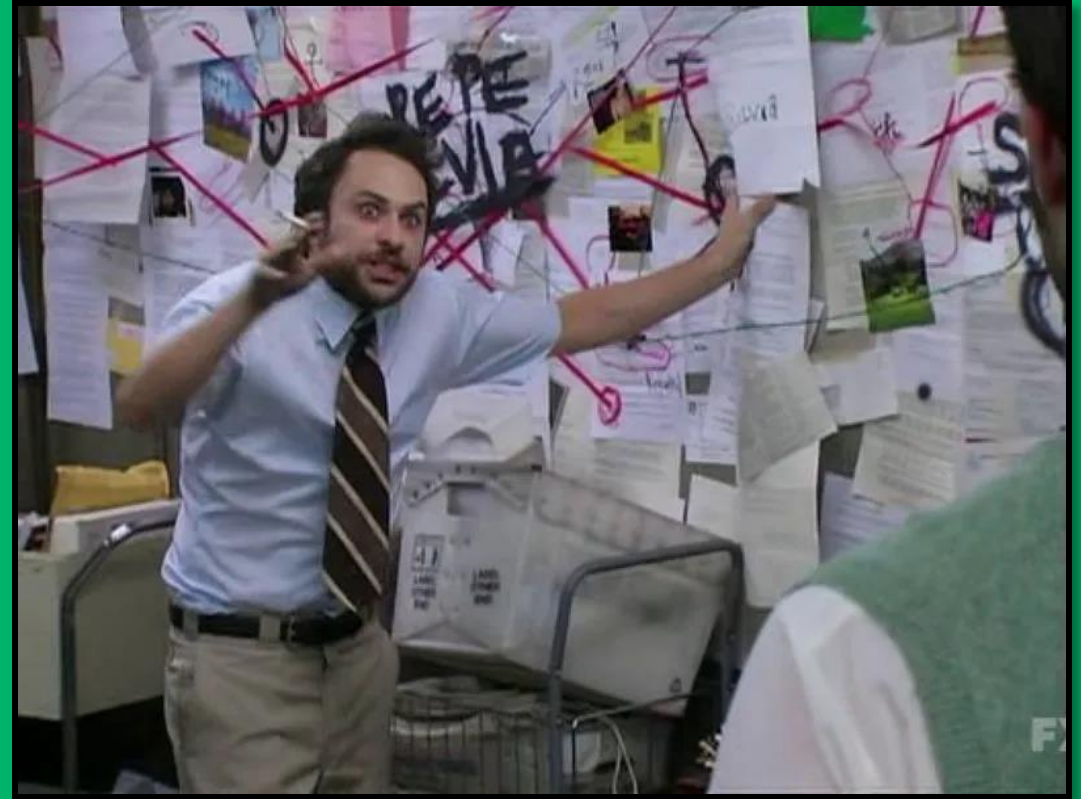
- Neo4j
- ArangoDB
- Cayley
- TerminusDB
- Nebula

## Query Languages

- Cypher Query
- Gremlin
- SparQL
- Graph Query Language



# How its Actually Used



I just like this meme

# How its used in the world

## Ontology: Nouns and verbs of a business to inform decisions

Formally defined as a “representation of knowledge that sets out the concepts and relationships within a particular domain”

Ontologies are typically represented using a graph model, where the nodes represent concepts or classes, and the edges represent relationships between them.

For example, in a medical ontology, the nodes might represent diseases, symptoms, and treatments, while the edges represent the relationships between them, such as "causes," "treats," or "diagnoses."

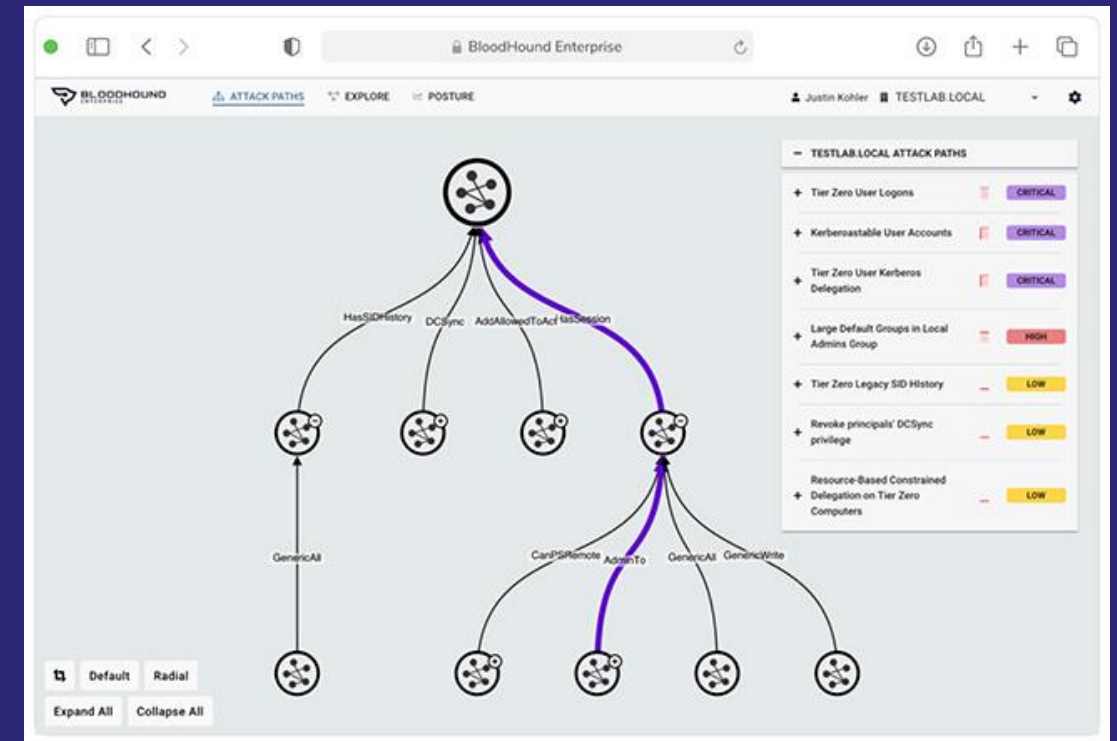


# How its used in Cyber security

## Attack Paths

Visualize the sequence of steps or vulnerabilities an attacker could exploit to gain access to a system or network, ultimately reaching a target

This can be used to calculate where you can accept risk within the organization

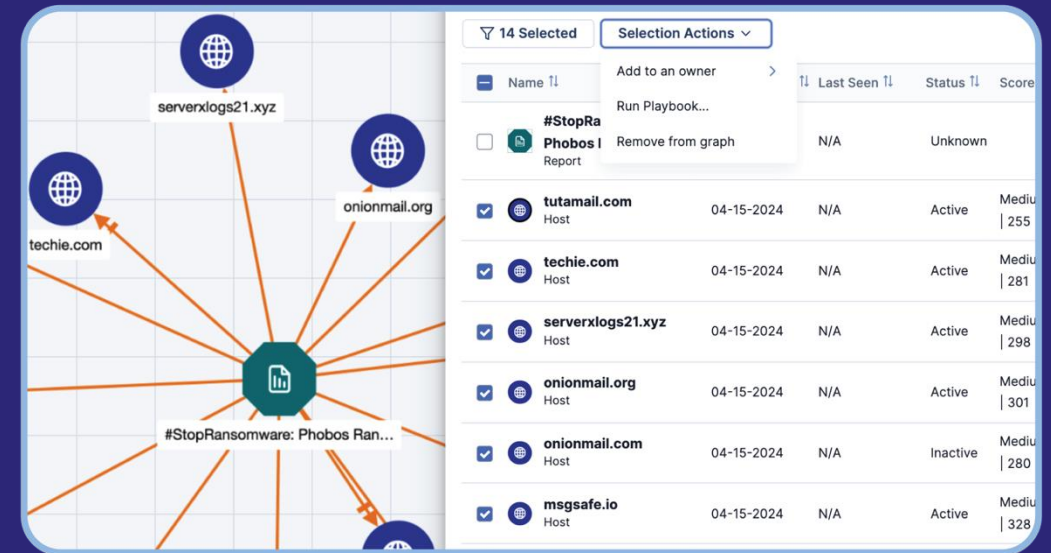


# How its used in Cyber security

## Threat Intelligence

Used to visualize vulnerabilities, assets, or other information that all stem from a single source

- APT actions
- Vulnerabilities by systems
- Malicious websites with their assets



# How its used in Cyber security

## Detecting Malicious Activity

**Anomaly detection** is the identification of data that diverges significantly from established norms





# In Closing

Graphs are a fantastic way to assist in shrinking “complex” problems to “complicated” problems. It’s a way to condense data, identify relationships, and inject parameters to enhance a decision-making process.





Thank you



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