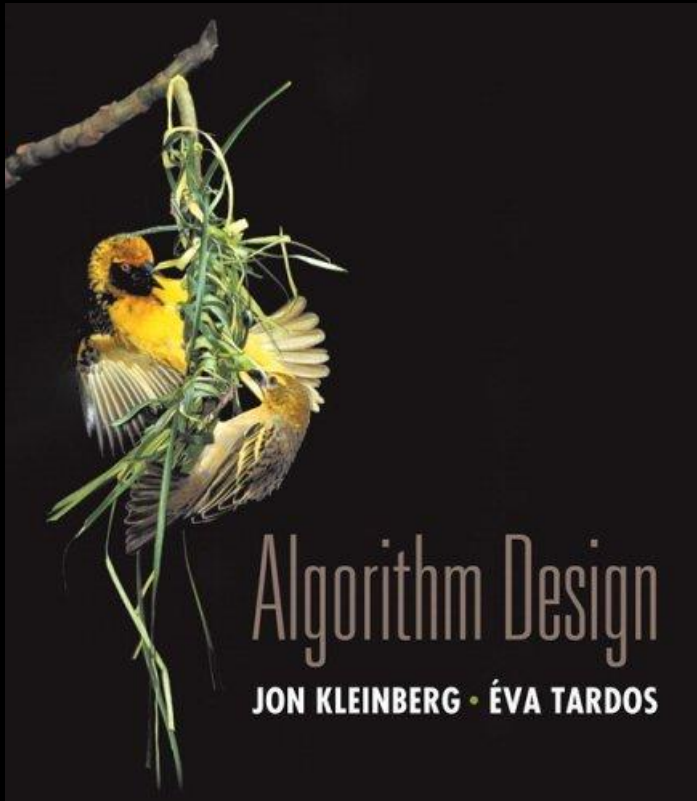


# Chapter 4

## Greedy Algorithms



Slides by Kevin Wayne.  
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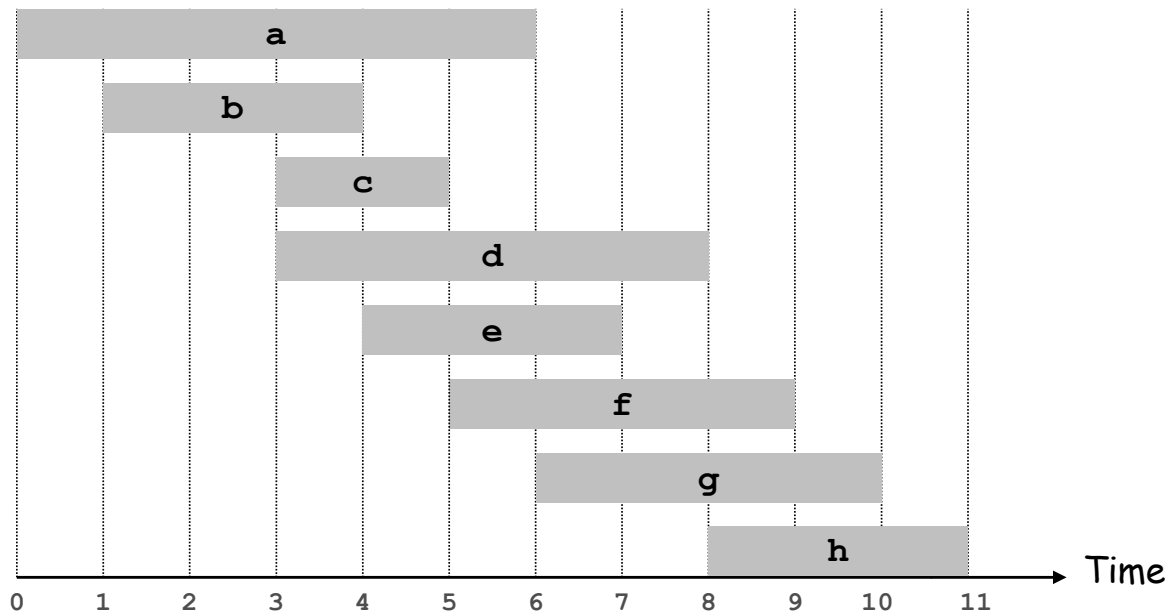
## 4.1 Interval Scheduling

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# Interval Scheduling

## Interval scheduling.

- Job  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
- Two jobs **compatible** if they don't overlap.
- Goal: find maximum subset of mutually compatible jobs.



# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

**Greedy template.** Consider jobs in some natural order.

Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.

- [Earliest start time] Consider jobs in ascending order of  $s_j$ .
- [Earliest finish time] Consider jobs in ascending order of  $f_j$ .
- [Shortest interval] Consider jobs in ascending order of  $f_j - s_j$ .
- [Fewest conflicts] For each job  $j$ , count the number of conflicting jobs  $c_j$ . Schedule in ascending order of  $c_j$ .

四种贪心策略 { 开始时间 asc.  
结束时间 asc.  
时间间隔 asc.  
冲突事件数 asc.

# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

**Greedy template.** Consider jobs in some natural order.

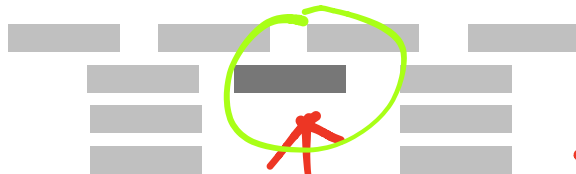
Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.



counterexample for earliest start time



counterexample for shortest interval



counterexample for fewest conflicts

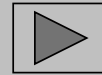
First be taken  
then all wrong

# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithm

**Greedy algorithm.** Consider jobs in increasing order of finish time. Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.

```
Sort jobs by finish times so that  $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots \leq f_n$ .
```

```
    ↙ set of jobs selected  
A ←  $\phi$   
for j = 1 to n {  
    if (job j compatible with A)  
        A ← A  $\cup$  {j}  
}  
return A
```



**Implementation.**  $O(n \log n)$ .

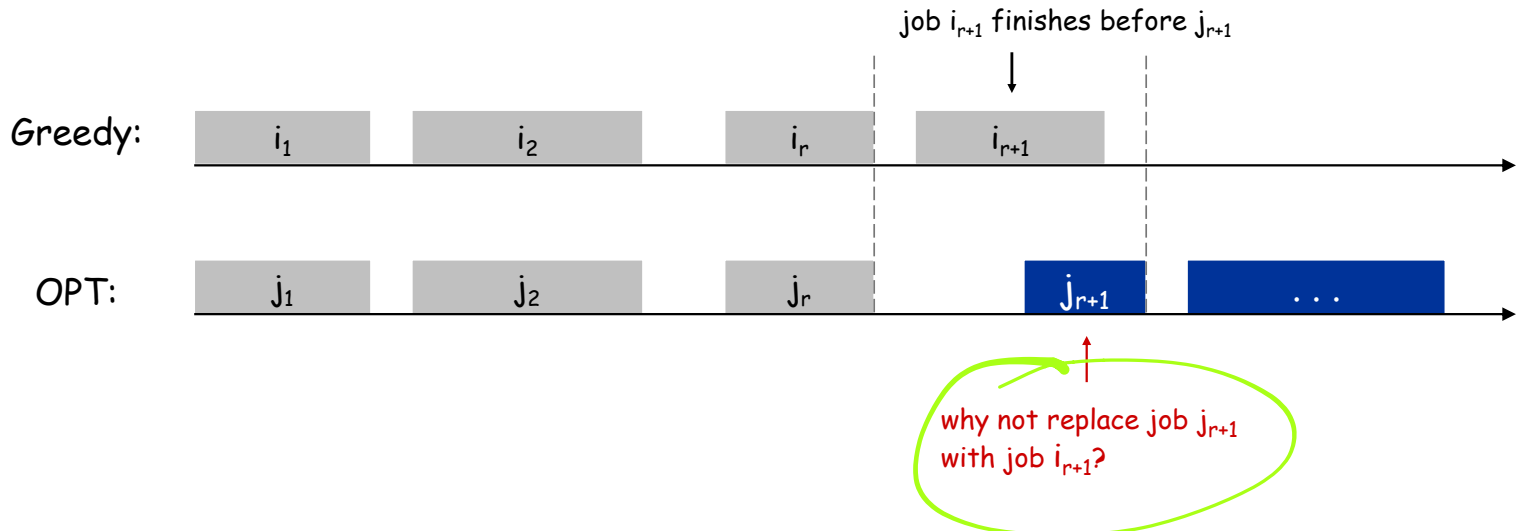
- Remember job  $j^*$  that was added last to A.
- Job j is compatible with A if  $s_j \geq f_{j^*}$ .

# Interval Scheduling: Analysis

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal. 最优解

**Pf.** (by contradiction)

- Assume greedy is not optimal, and let's see what happens.
- Let  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k$  denote set of jobs selected by greedy.
- Let  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m$  denote set of jobs in the optimal solution with  $i_1 = j_1, i_2 = j_2, \dots, i_r = j_r$  for the largest possible value of  $r$ .

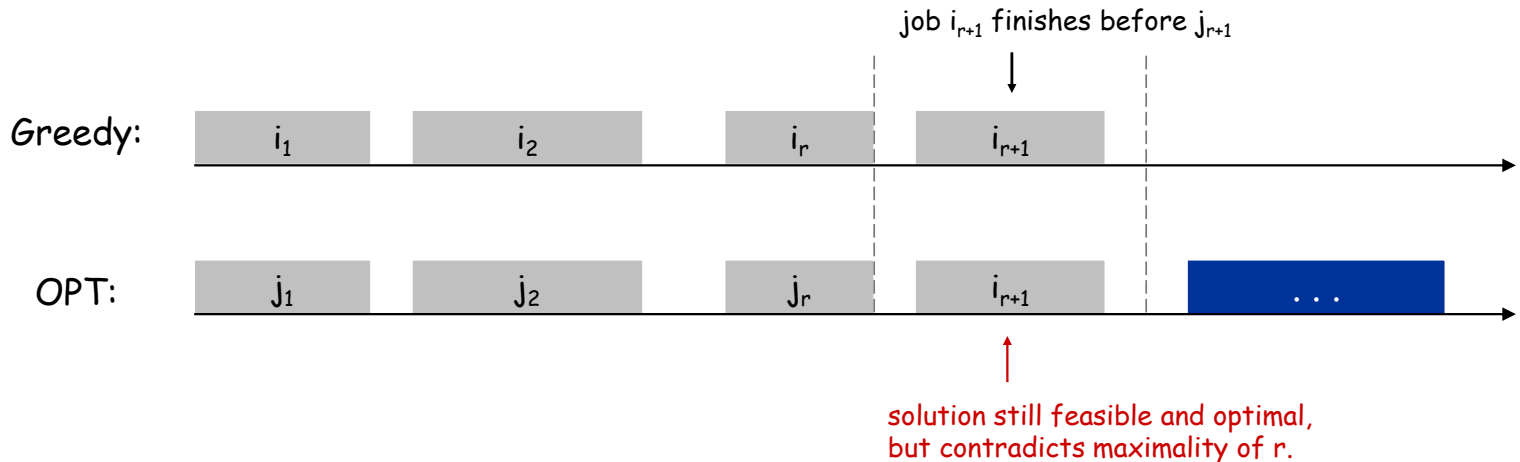


# Interval Scheduling: Analysis

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal.

**Pf.** (by contradiction)

- Assume greedy is not optimal, and let's see what happens.
- Let  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k$  denote set of jobs selected by greedy.
- Let  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m$  denote set of jobs in the optimal solution with  $i_1 = j_1, i_2 = j_2, \dots, i_r = j_r$  for the largest possible value of  $r$ .





## 4.1 Interval Partitioning

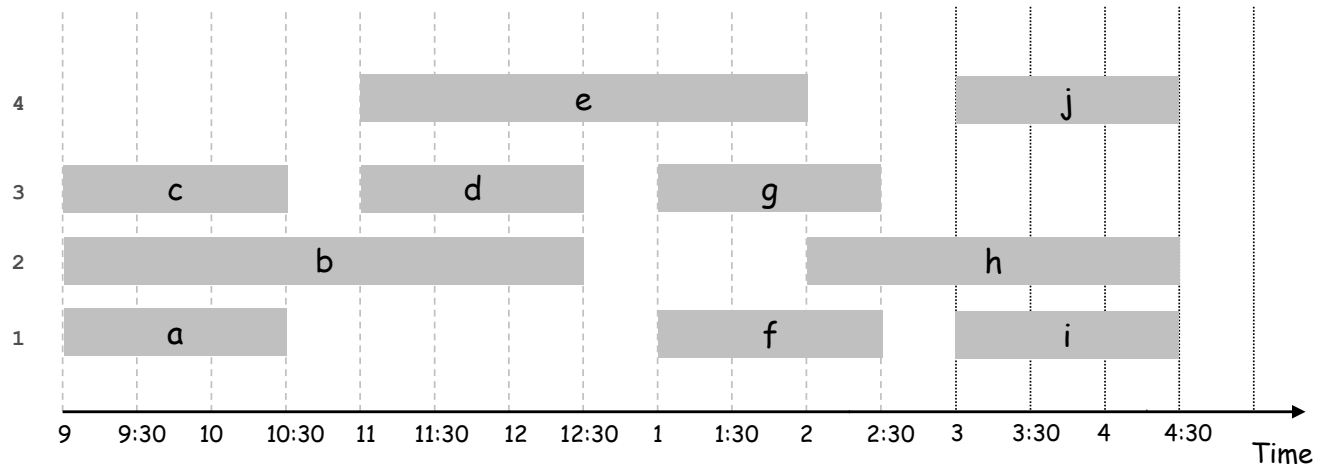
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# Interval Partitioning

## Interval partitioning.

- Lecture  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
- Goal: find minimum number of classrooms to schedule all lectures so that no two occur at the same time in the same room.

Ex: This schedule uses 4 classrooms to schedule 10 lectures.

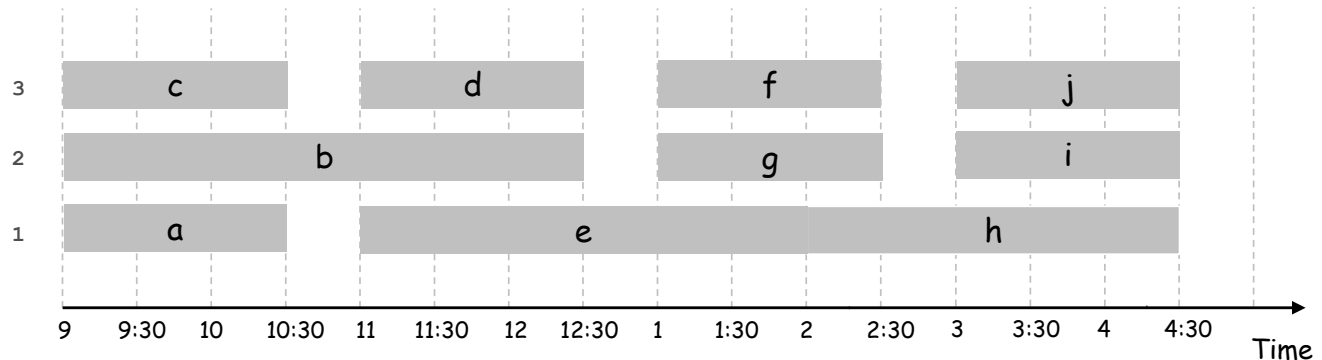


# Interval Partitioning

## Interval partitioning.

- Lecture  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
- Goal: find minimum number of classrooms to schedule all lectures so that no two occur at the same time in the same room.

Ex: This schedule uses only 3.



# Interval Partitioning: Lower Bound on Optimal Solution

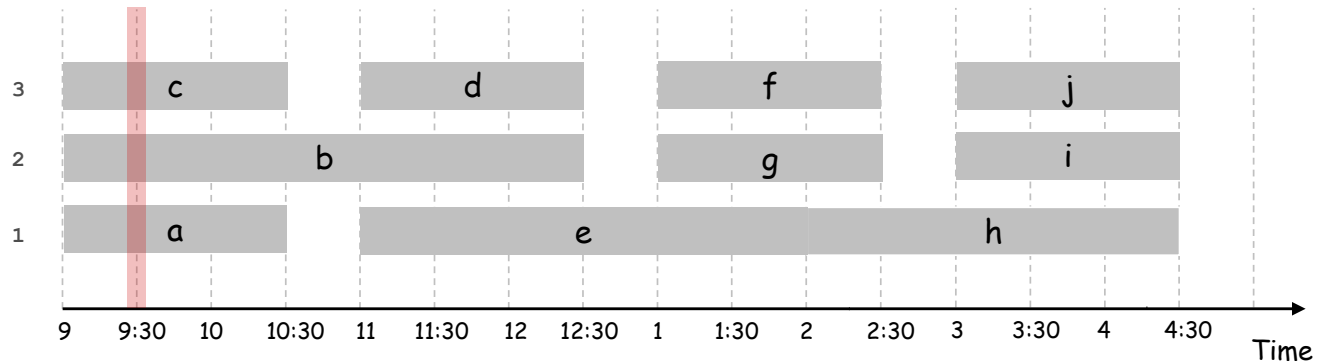
**Def.** The **depth** of a set of open intervals is the maximum number that contain any given time.

**Key observation.** Number of classrooms needed  $\geq$  depth.

**Ex:** Depth of schedule below = 3  $\Rightarrow$  schedule below is optimal.

*a, b, c all contain 9:30*

**Q.** Does there always exist a schedule equal to depth of intervals?



# Interval Partitioning: Greedy Algorithm

Greedy algorithm. Consider lectures in increasing order of start time:  
assign lecture to any compatible classroom.

升序开始时间

Sort intervals by starting time so that  $s_1 \leq s_2 \leq \dots \leq s_n$ .

$d \leftarrow 0$  ← number of allocated classrooms

```
for j = 1 to n {  
    if (lecture j is compatible with some classroom k)  
        schedule lecture j in classroom k  
    else  
        allocate a new classroom d + 1  
        schedule lecture j in classroom d + 1  
        d ← d + 1  
}
```

Implementation.  $O(n \log n)$ .

- For each classroom k, maintain the finish time of the last job added.
- Keep the classrooms in a priority queue.

查看堆顶元素是否满足条件，满足则在堆顶元素后追加该事件，否则开新的教室。

# Interval Partitioning: Greedy Analysis

**Observation.** Greedy algorithm never schedules two incompatible lectures in the same classroom.

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal.

**Pf.**

- Let  $d$  = number of classrooms that the greedy algorithm allocates.
- Classroom  $d$  is opened because we needed to schedule a job, say  $j$ , that is incompatible with all  $d-1$  other classrooms.
- These  $d$  jobs each end after  $s_j$ .
- Since we sorted by start time, all these incompatibilities are caused by lectures that start no later than  $s_j$ .
- Thus, we have  $d$  lectures overlapping at time  $s_j + \varepsilon$ . 证明有 $d$ 个工作重叠
- Key observation  $\Rightarrow$  all schedules use  $\geq d$  classrooms. ▪

## 4.2 Scheduling to Minimize Lateness

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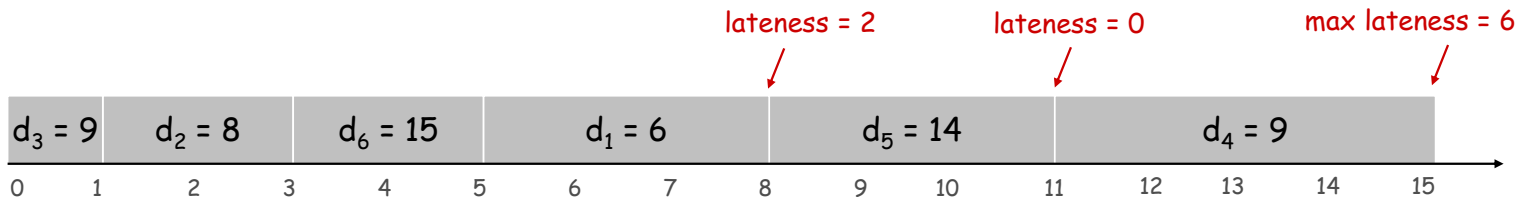
# Scheduling to Minimizing Lateness

## Minimizing lateness problem.

- Single resource processes one job at a time.
  - Job  $j$  requires  $t_j$  units of processing time and is due at time  $d_j$ .
  - If  $j$  starts at time  $s_j$ , it finishes at time  $f_j = s_j + t_j$ .
  - Lateness:  $\ell_j = \max \{ 0, f_j - d_j \}$ .
  - Goal: schedule all jobs to minimize **maximum** lateness  $L = \max \ell_j$ .
- 

Ex:

	1	2	3	4	5	6
$t_j$	3	2	1	4	3	2
$d_j$	6	8	9	9	14	15





# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithms

**Greedy template.** Consider jobs in some order.

- [Shortest processing time first] Consider jobs in ascending order of processing time  $t_j$ .
- [Earliest deadline first] Consider jobs in ascending order of deadline  $d_j$ .
- [Smallest slack] Consider jobs in ascending order of slack  $d_j - t_j$ .

三种贪心策略 { 运行时间 asc  
结束时间 asc  
最晚开始时间 asc

# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithms

*Greedy template.* Consider jobs in some order.

- [Shortest processing time first] Consider jobs in ascending order of processing time  $t_j$ .

	1	2
$t_j$	1	10
$d_j$	100	10

counterexample

- [Smallest slack] Consider jobs in ascending order of slack  $d_j - t_j$ .

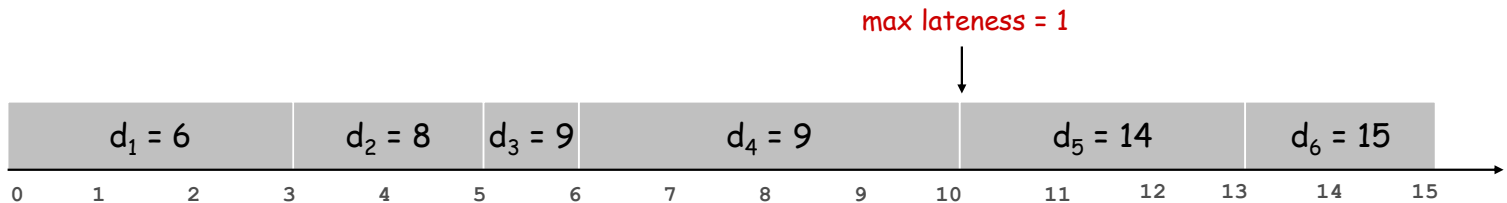
	1	2
$t_j$	1	10
$d_j$	2	10

counterexample

# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithm

Greedy algorithm. Earliest deadline first.

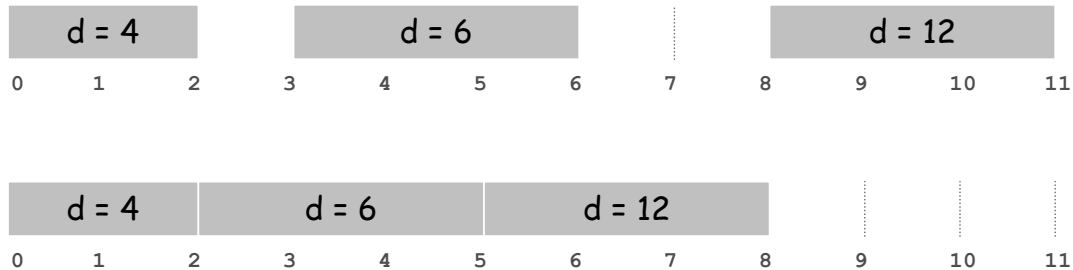
```
Sort n jobs by deadline so that  $d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_n$   
  
t  $\leftarrow$  0  
for j = 1 to n  
    Assign job j to interval [t, t + tj]  
    sj  $\leftarrow$  t, fj  $\leftarrow$  t + tj  
    t  $\leftarrow$  t + tj  
output intervals [sj, fj]
```



# Minimizing Lateness: No Idle Time

空闲的

**Observation.** There exists an optimal schedule with no **idle time**.



**Observation.** The greedy schedule has no idle time.

# Minimizing Lateness: Inversions

**Def.** Given a schedule  $S$ , an **inversion** is a pair of jobs  $i$  and  $j$  such that:  $i < j$  but  $j$  scheduled before  $i$ .



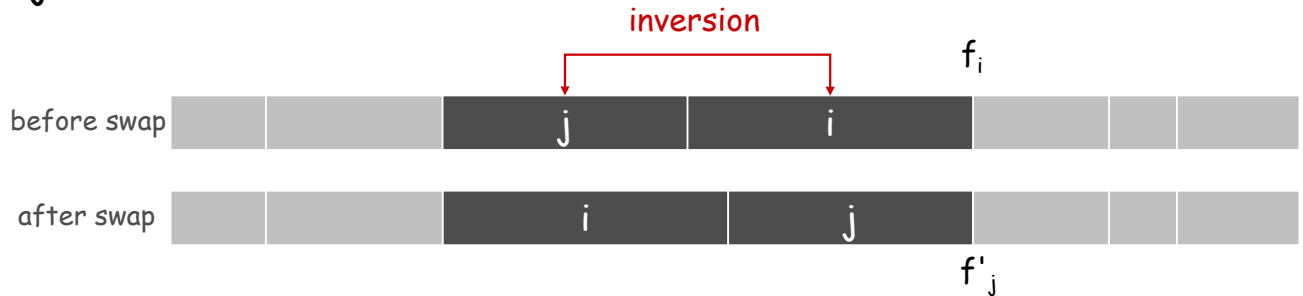
[ as before, we assume jobs are numbered so that  $d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_n$  ]

**Observation.** Greedy schedule has no inversions.

**Observation.** If a schedule (with no idle time) has an inversion, it has one with a pair of inverted jobs scheduled consecutively.

# Minimizing Lateness: Inversions

**Def.** Given a schedule  $S$ , an **inversion** is a pair of jobs  $i$  and  $j$  such that:  $i < j$  but  $j$  scheduled before  $i$ .



**Claim.** Swapping two consecutive, inverted jobs reduces the number of inversions by one and does not increase the max lateness.

**Pf.** Let  $\ell$  be the lateness before the swap, and let  $\ell'$  be it afterwards.

- $\ell'_k = \ell_k$  for all  $k \neq i, j$
- $\ell'_i \leq \ell_i$
- If job  $j$  is late:

$\ell_i \leq \ell_j$ , because  $d_j \geq d_i$  and  $f_j \leq f_i$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ell'_j &= f'_j - d_j && \text{(definition)} \\
 &= f_i - d_j && (j \text{ finishes at time } f_i) \\
 &\leq f_i - d_i && (i < j) \\
 &\leq \ell_i \leq \ell_j && \text{(definition)}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Minimizing Lateness: Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

**Theorem.** Greedy schedule  $S$  is optimal.

**Pf.** Define  $S^*$  to be an optimal schedule that has the fewest number of inversions, and let's see what happens.

- Can assume  $S^*$  has no idle time.
- If  $S^*$  has no inversions, then  $S = S^*$ .
- If  $S^*$  has an inversion, let  $i$ - $j$  be an adjacent inversion.
  - swapping  $i$  and  $j$  does not increase the maximum lateness and strictly decreases the number of inversions
  - this contradicts definition of  $S^*$  .

# Greedy Analysis Strategies

**Greedy algorithm stays ahead.** Show that after each step of the greedy algorithm, its solution is at least as good as any other algorithm's.

**Structural.** Discover a simple "structural" bound asserting that every possible solution must have a certain value. Then show that your algorithm always achieves this bound.

**Exchange argument.** Gradually transform any solution to the one found by the greedy algorithm without hurting its quality.

**Other greedy algorithms.** Kruskal, Prim, Dijkstra, Huffman, ...



## 4.3 Optimal Caching

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# Optimal Offline Caching

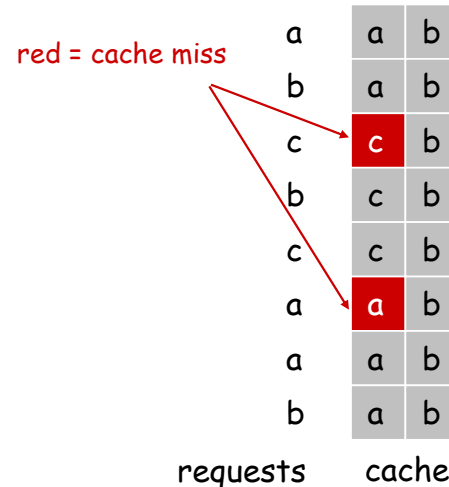
## Caching.

- Cache with capacity to store  $k$  items.
- Sequence of  $m$  item requests  $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_m$ .
- Cache hit: item already in cache when requested.
- Cache miss: item not already in cache when requested: must bring requested item into cache, and evict some existing item, if full.

**Goal.** Eviction schedule that minimizes number of cache misses.

**Ex:**  $k = 2$ , initial cache =  $ab$ ,  
requests:  $a, b, c, b, c, a, a, b$ .

**Optimal eviction schedule:** 2 cache misses.



## Optimal Offline Caching: Farthest-In-Future

**Farthest-in-future.** Evict item in the cache that is not requested until farthest in the future.

current cache: 

a	b	c	d	e	f
---	---	---	---	---	---

future queries: g a b c e d a b b a c d e a **f** a d e f g h ...

**Theorem.** [Bellady, 1960s] FF is optimal eviction schedule.

**Pf.** Algorithm and theorem are intuitive; proof is subtle.

## Reduced Eviction Schedules

**Def.** A reduced schedule is a schedule that only inserts an item into the cache in a step in which that item is requested.

**Intuition.** Can transform an unreduced schedule into a reduced one with no more cache misses.

a	a	b	c
a	a	x	c
c	a	d	c
d	a	d	b
a	a	c	b
b	a	x	b
c	a	c	b
a	a	b	c
a	a	b	c

an unreduced schedule

a	a	b	c
a	a	b	c
c	a	b	c
d	a	d	c
a	a	d	c
b	a	d	b
c	a	c	b
a	a	c	b
a	a	c	b

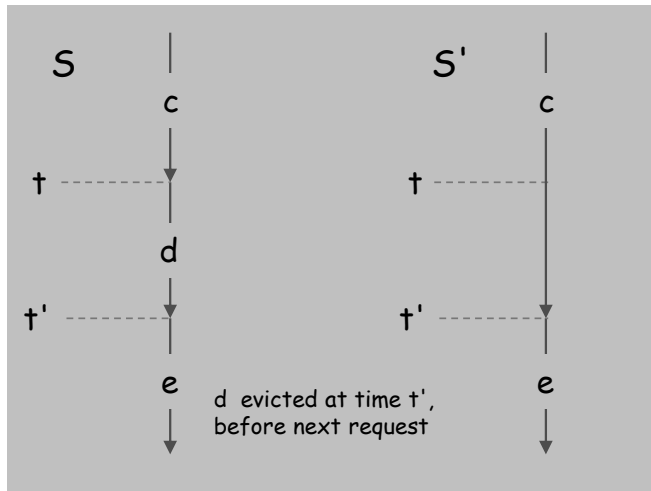
a reduced schedule

# Reduced Eviction Schedules

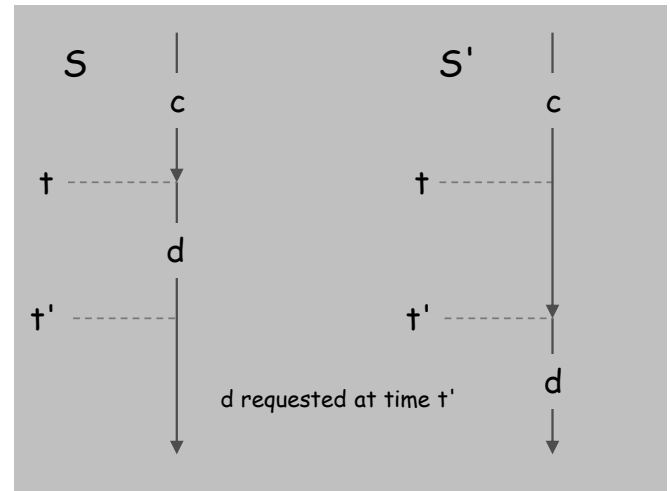
**Claim.** Given any unreduced schedule  $S$ , can transform it into a reduced schedule  $S'$  with no more cache misses.

**Pf.** (by induction on number of unreduced items) ← doesn't enter cache at requested time

- Suppose  $S$  brings  $d$  into the cache at time  $t$ , without a request.
- Let  $c$  be the item  $S$  evicts when it brings  $d$  into the cache.
- Case 1:  $d$  evicted at time  $t'$ , before next request for  $d$ .
- Case 2:  $d$  requested at time  $t'$  before  $d$  is evicted.



Case 1



Case 2

# Farthest-In-Future: Analysis

**Theorem.** FF is optimal eviction algorithm.

**Pf.** (by induction on number of requests  $j$ )

Invariant: There exists an optimal reduced schedule  $S$  that makes the same eviction schedule as  $S_{FF}$  through the first  $j+1$  requests.

Let  $S$  be reduced schedule that satisfies invariant through  $j$  requests.

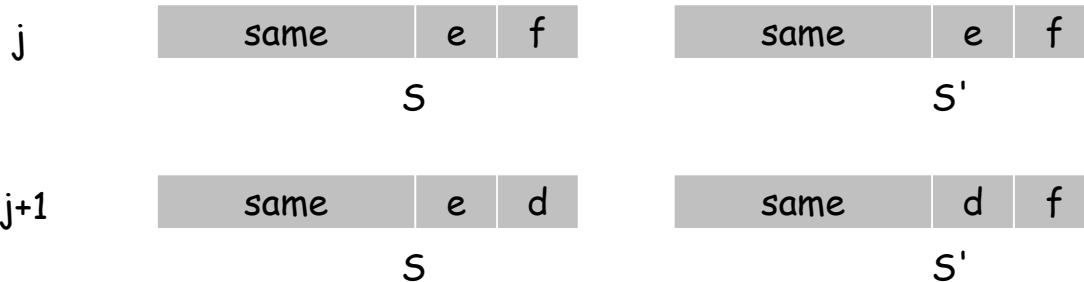
We produce  $S'$  that satisfies invariant through the first  $j+1$  requests.

- Consider  $(j+1)^{st}$  request  $d = d_{j+1}$ .
- Since  $S$  and  $S_{FF}$  have agreed up until now, they have the same cache contents before request  $j+1$ .
- Case 1: ( $d$  is already in the cache).  $S' = S$  satisfies invariant.
- Case 2: ( $d$  is not in the cache and  $S$  and  $S_{FF}$  evict the same element).  $S' = S$  satisfies invariant.

## Farthest-In-Future: Analysis

Pf. (continued)

- Case 3: ( $d$  is not in the cache;  $S_{FF}$  evicts  $e$ ;  $S$  evicts  $f \neq e$ ).
  - begin construction of  $S'$  from  $S$  by evicting  $e$  instead of  $f$

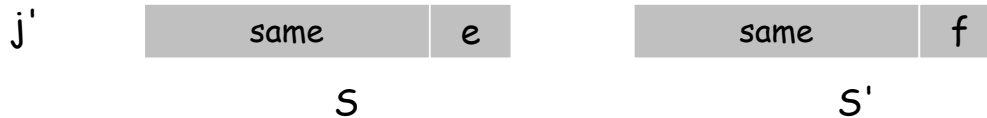


- now  $S'$  agrees with  $S_{FF}$  on first  $j+1$  requests; we show that having element  $f$  in cache is no worse than having element  $e$

## Farthest-In-Future: Analysis

Let  $j'$  be the **first** time after  $j+1$  that  $S$  and  $S'$  take a different action, and let  $g$  be item requested at time  $j'$ .

↑  
must involve  $e$  or  $f$  (or both)



- Case 3a:  $g = e$ . Can't happen with Farthest-In-Future since there must be a request for  $f$  before  $e$ .
- Case 3b:  $g = f$ . Element  $f$  can't be in cache of  $S$ , so let  $e'$  be the element that  $S$  evicts.
  - if  $e' = e$ ,  $S'$  accesses  $f$  from cache; now  $S$  and  $S'$  have same cache
  - if  $e' \neq e$ ,  $S'$  evicts  $e'$  and brings  $e$  into the cache; now  $S$  and  $S'$  have the same cache

↑

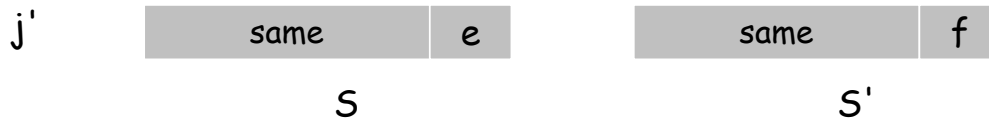
Note:  $S'$  is no longer reduced, but can be transformed into a reduced schedule that agrees with  $S_{FF}$  through step  $j+1$



# Farthest-In-Future: Analysis

Let  $j'$  be the **first** time after  $j+1$  that  $S$  and  $S'$  take a different action, and let  $g$  be item requested at time  $j'$ .

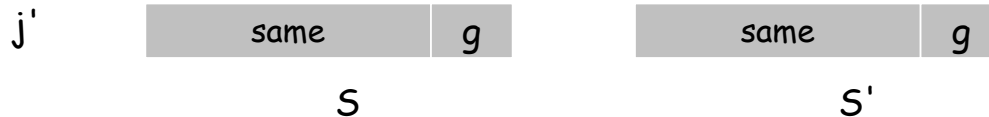
↑  
must involve  $e$  or  $f$  (or both)



otherwise  $S'$  would take the same action



- Case 3c:  $g \neq e, f$ .  $S$  must evict  $e$ .  
Make  $S'$  evict  $f$ ; now  $S$  and  $S'$  have the same cache. •



Hence, in all these cases, we have a new reduced schedule  $S$  that agrees with  $S_{FF}$  through the first  $j+1$  items and incurs no more misses than  $S$  does.

# Caching Perspective

## Online vs. offline algorithms.

- Offline: full sequence of requests is known a priori.
- Online (reality): requests are not known in advance.
- Caching is among most fundamental online problems in CS.

**LIFO.** Evict page brought in most recently.

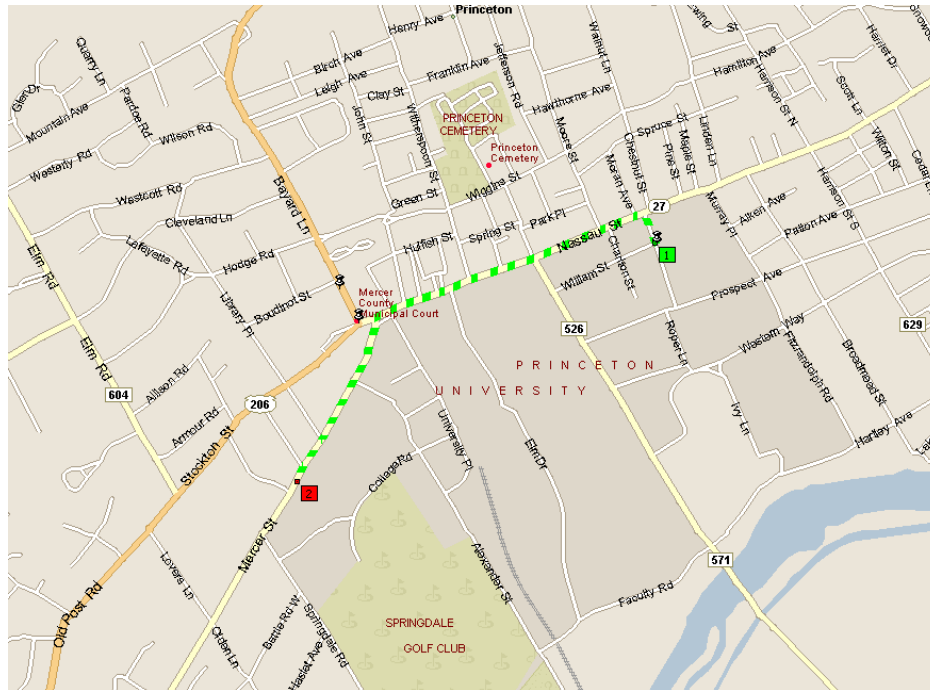
**Least-Recently-Used (LRU).** Evict page whose most recent access was earliest.

↑  
FF with direction of time reversed!

**Theorem.** FF is an optimal offline eviction algorithm.

- Provides basis for understanding and analyzing online algorithms.
- LRU is  $k$ -competitive. [Section 13.8]
- LIFO is arbitrarily bad.

## 4.4 Shortest Paths in a Graph



shortest path from Princeton CS department to Einstein's house

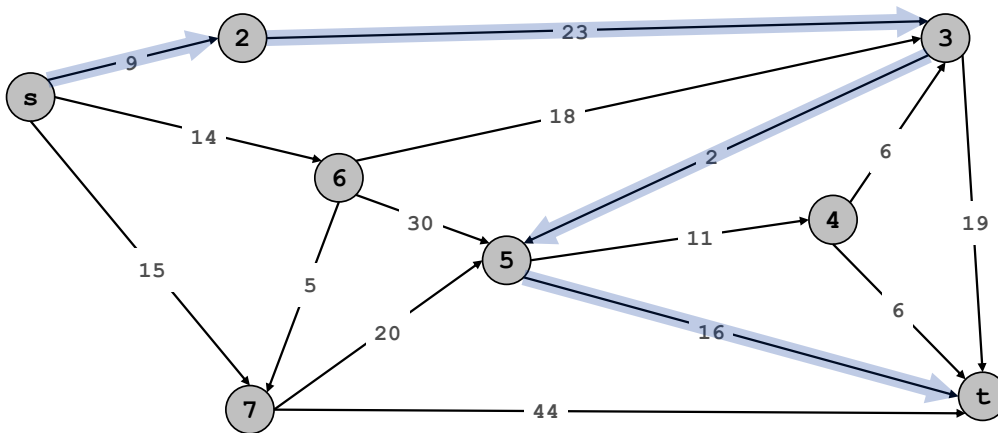
# Shortest Path Problem

## Shortest path network.

- Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
- Source  $s$ , destination  $t$ .
- Length  $\ell_e$  = length of edge  $e$ .

Shortest path problem: find shortest directed path from  $s$  to  $t$ .

↑  
cost of path = sum of edge costs in path



Cost of path  $s-2-3-5-t$   
=  $9 + 23 + 2 + 16$   
= 50.

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

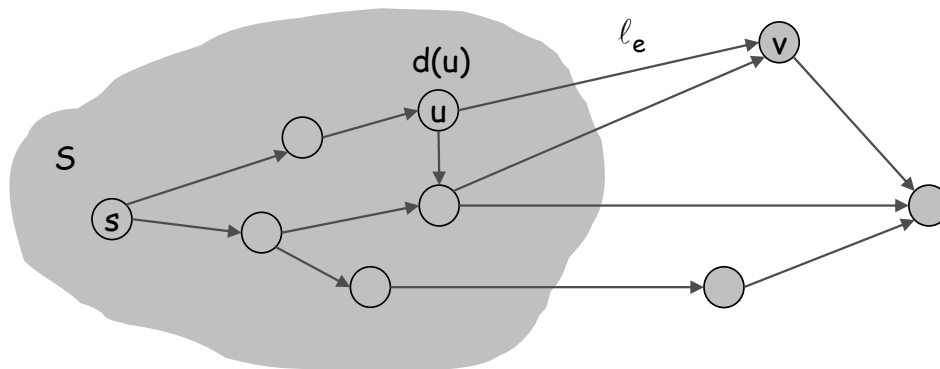
## Dijkstra's algorithm.

- Maintain a set of **explored nodes**  $S$  for which we have determined the shortest path distance  $d(u)$  from  $s$  to  $u$ .
- Initialize  $S = \{s\}$ ,  $d(s) = 0$ .
- Repeatedly choose unexplored node  $v$  which minimizes

$$\pi(v) = \min_{e = (u, v) : u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e,$$

add  $v$  to  $S$ , and set  $d(v) = \pi(v)$ .

← shortest path to some  $u$  in explored part, followed by a single edge  $(u, v)$



# Dijkstra's Algorithm

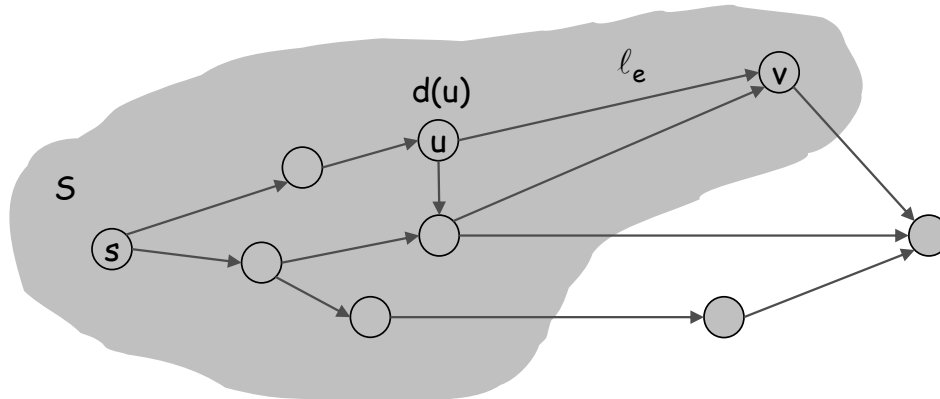
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- Maintain a set of **explored nodes**  $S$  for which we have determined the shortest path distance  $d(u)$  from  $s$  to  $u$ .
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add  $v$  to  $S$ , and set  $d(v) = \pi(v)$ .

← shortest path to some  $u$  in explored part, followed by a single edge  $(u, v)$



# Dijkstra's Algorithm: Proof of Correctness

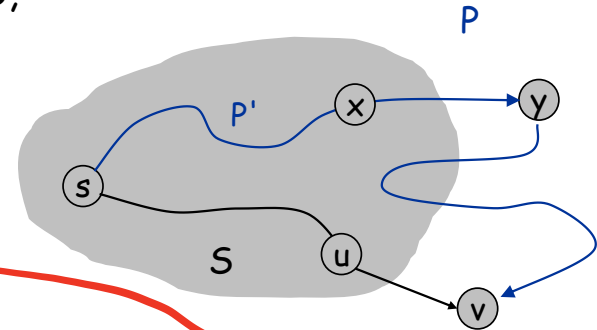
**Invariant.** For each node  $u \in S$ ,  $d(u)$  is the length of the shortest  $s$ - $u$  path.

**Pf.** (by induction on  $|S|$ )

**Base case:**  $|S| = 1$  is trivial.

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume true for  $|S| = k \geq 1$ .

- Let  $v$  be next node added to  $S$ , and let  $u$ - $v$  be the chosen edge.
- The shortest  $s$ - $u$  path plus  $(u, v)$  is an  $s$ - $v$  path of length  $\pi(v)$ .
- Consider any  $s$ - $v$  path  $P$ . We'll see that it's no shorter than  $\pi(v)$ .
- Let  $x$ - $y$  be the first edge in  $P$  that leaves  $S$ , and let  $P'$  be the subpath to  $x$ .
- $P$  is already too long as soon as it leaves  $S$ .



$$\ell(P) \geq \ell(P') + \ell(x, y) \geq d(x) + \ell(x, y) \geq \pi(y) \geq \pi(v)$$

↑  
nonnegative  
weights

↑  
inductive  
hypothesis

↑  
defn of  $\pi(y)$

↑  
Dijkstra chose  $v$   
instead of  $y$

# Dijkstra's Algorithm: Implementation

For each unexplored node, explicitly maintain  $\pi(v) = \min_{e=(u,v): u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e$ .

- Next node to explore = node with minimum  $\pi(v)$ .
- When exploring  $v$ , for each incident edge  $e = (v, w)$ , update

$$\pi(w) = \min \{ \pi(w), \pi(v) + \ell_e \}.$$

**Efficient implementation.** Maintain a priority queue of unexplored nodes, prioritized by  $\pi(v)$ .

