



# Data Structures and Algorithms

## Finding Shortest Way

From Here to There, Part I

# Acknowledgement

- The contents of these slides have origin from School of Computing, National University of Singapore.
- We greatly appreciate support from Dr. Steven Halim for kindly sharing these materials.

# Policies for students

- These contents are only used for students PERSONALLY.
- Students are NOT allowed to modify or deliver these contents to anywhere or anyone for any purpose.

# Recording of modifications

- Currently, there are no modification on these contents.

# Outline

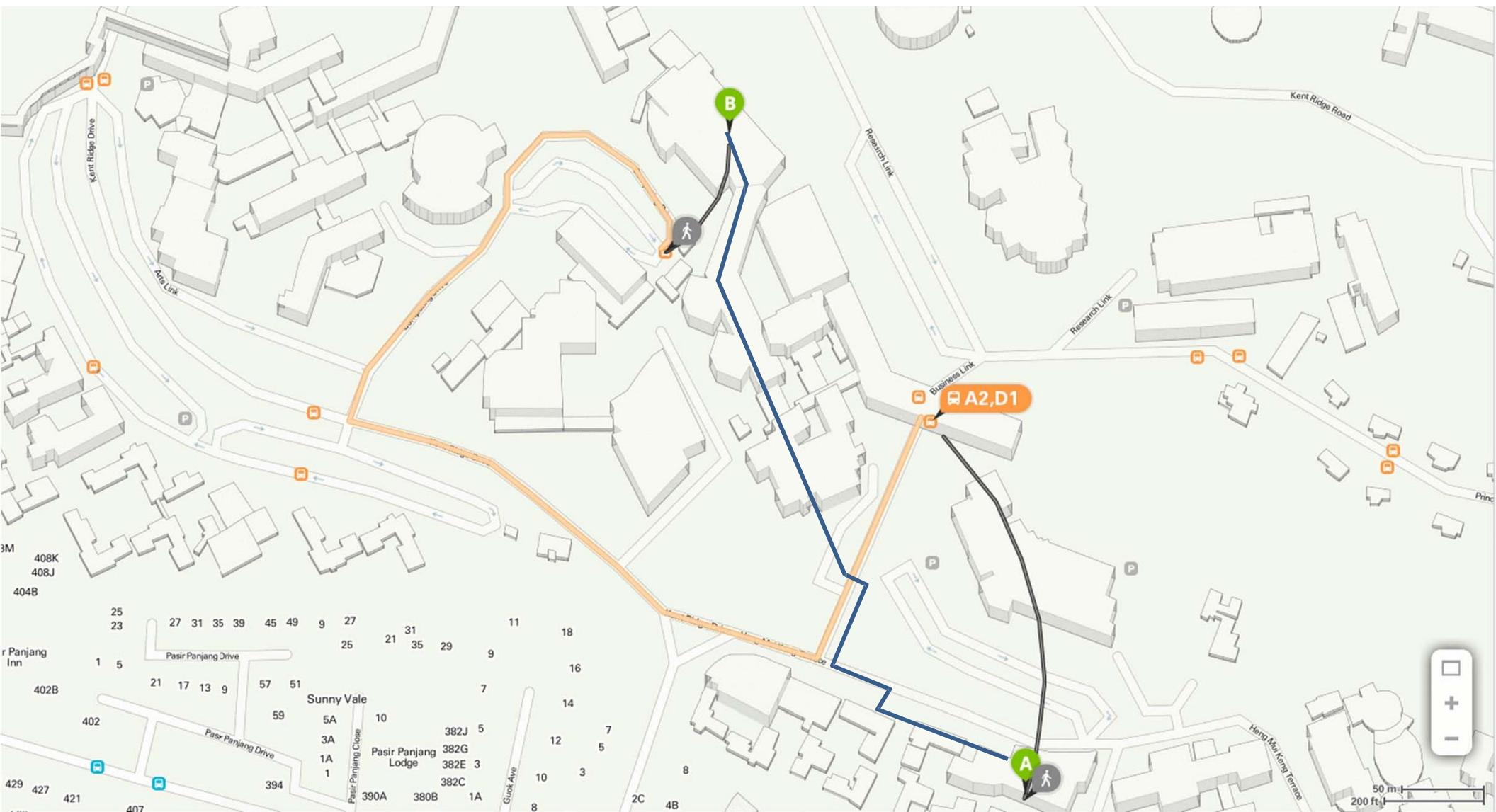
## Single-Source Shortest Paths (SSSP) Problem

- Motivating example
- Some more definitions
- Discussion of negative weight edges and cycles

## Algorithms to Solve SSSP Problem (CP3 Section 4.4)

- BFS algorithm cannot be used for the general SSSP problem
- Bellman Ford's algorithm
  - Pseudo code, example animation, and later: Java implementation
  - Theorem, proof, and corollary about Bellman Ford's algorithm

# Motivating Example



# Review: Definitions that you know (1)

- Vertex set **V** (e.g. street intersections, houses, etc)
- Edge set **E** (e.g. streets, roads, avenues, etc)
  - **Directed** (e.g. one way road, etc)
    - Note that we can simply use 2 edges (bi-directional) to model 1 undirected edge (e.g. two ways road, etc)
    - Recall that for the MST problem discussed in the previous lecture, we generally deal with **a connected undirected weighted graph**
  - **Weighted** (e.g. distance, time, toll, etc)
    - Weight function  $w(a, b): E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , sets the weight of edge from **a** to **b**
- **Weighted Graph:**  $G(V, E), w(a, b): E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

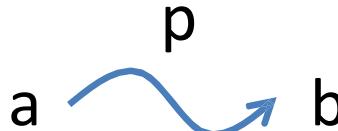
# Review: Definitions that you know (2)

- **(Simple) Path**  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, v_2, \square, v_k \rangle$ 
  - Where  $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E, \forall_{0 \leq i \leq (k-1)}$
  - Simple = No repeated vertex!
- Shortcut notation:  $v_0 \xrightarrow{p} v_k$ 
  - Means that  $p$  is a path from  $v_0$  to  $v_k$
- **Path weight:**  $PW(p) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} w(v_i, v_{i+1})$

# More Definitions (1)

- **Shortest Path weight** from vertex **a** to **b**:  $\delta(a, b)$ 
  - $\delta$  is pronounced as ‘delta’

$$\delta(a, b) = \begin{cases} \min(PW(p)) & \text{If there exists such path} \\ \infty & \text{If } b \text{ is unreachable from } a \end{cases}$$

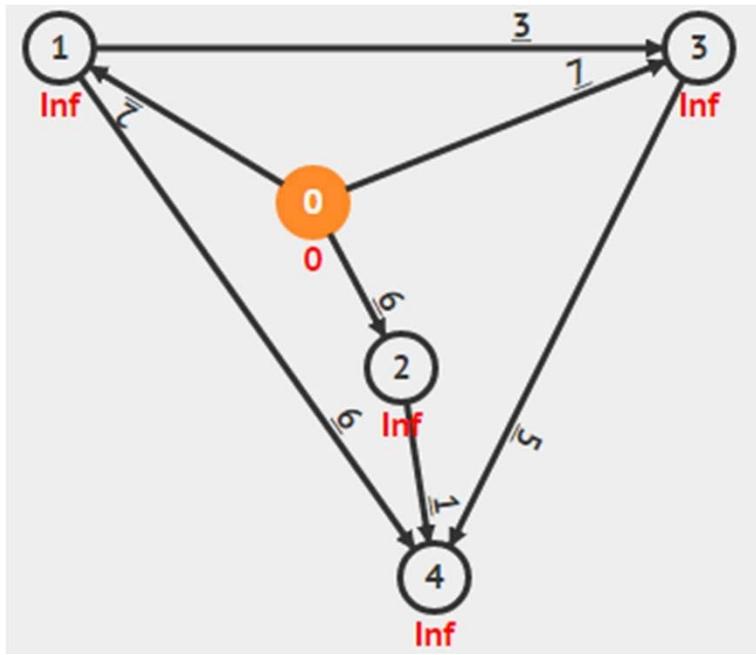


- **Single-Source Shortest Paths** (SSSP) Problem:
  - Given  $G(V, E)$ ,  $w(a, b): E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and a source vertex s
  - Find  $\delta(s, b)$  (+best paths) from vertex **s** to each vertex **b**  $\in V$ 
    - i.e. From one source **to the rest**

# More Definitions (2)

- **Additional Data Structures** to solve the SSSP Problem:
  - An array/Vector **D** of size **V** (**D** stands for ‘distance’)
    - Initially,  $D[v] = 0$  if  $v = s$ ; otherwise  $D[v] = \infty$  (a large number)
    - $D[v]$  decreases as we find better paths
    - $D[v] \geq \delta(s, v)$  throughout the execution of SSSP algorithm
    - $D[v] = \delta(s, v)$  at the end of SSSP algorithm
  - An array/Vector **p** of size **V**
    - $p[v] =$  the predecessor on best path from source **s** to **v**
    - $p[s] = \text{NULL}$  (not defined, we can use a value like -1 for this)
    - Recall: The usage of this array/Vector **p** is already discussed in BFS/DFS Spanning Tree (and also in PS4, Min Spanning Tree)

# Example



$s = 0$

Initially:

$D[s] = D[0] = 0$

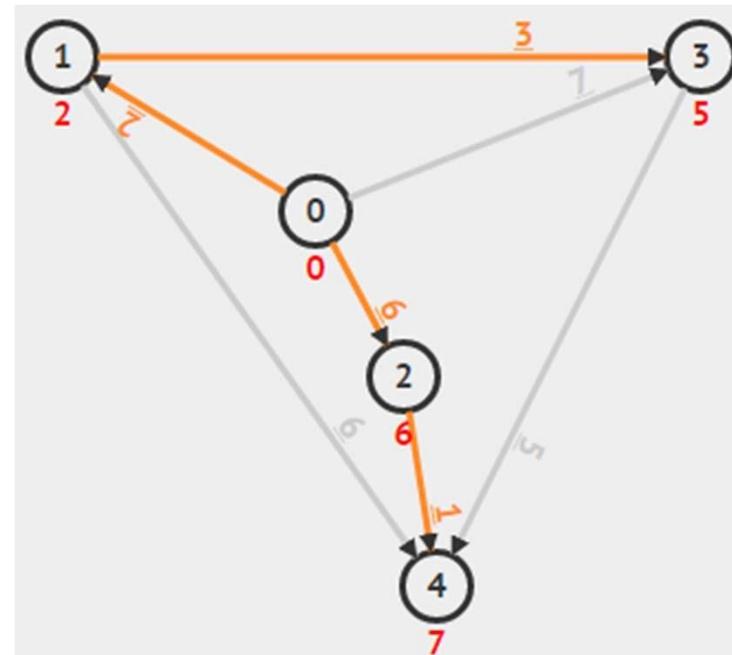
$D[v] = \infty$  for the rest

Denoted as values in **red font/vertex**

$p[s] = -1$  (to say 'no predecessor')

$p[v] = -1$  for the rest

Denoted as **orange edges (none initially)**



$s = 0$

At the end of algorithm:

$D[s] = D[0] = 0$  (unchanged)

$D[v] = \delta(s, v)$  for the rest

e.g.  $D[2] = 6$ ,  $D[4] = 7$

$p[s] = -1$  (source has no predecessor)

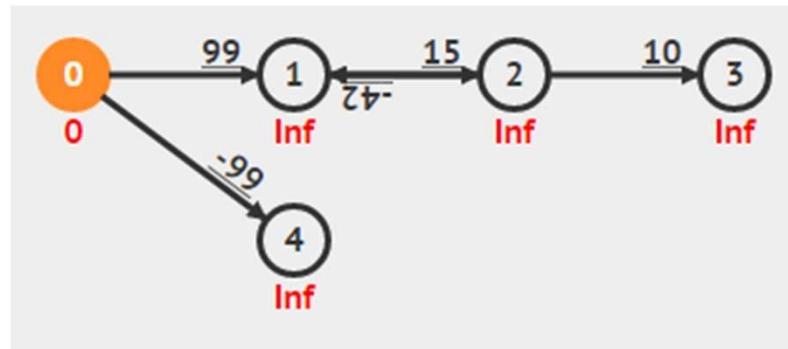
$p[v] =$  the origin of **orange edges** for the rest

e.g.  $p[0] = 2$ ,  $p[4] = 0$

# Negative Weight Edges and Cycles

They exist in some applications

- Fictional application: Suppose you can travel back in time by passing through time tunnel (edges with negative weight)



- Shortest paths from 0 to {1, 2, 3} are **undefined**
  - $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1$  is a negative cycle as it has negative total path (cycle) weight
  - One can take  $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \dots$  indefinitely to get  $-\infty$
- Shortest path from 0 to 4 is ok, with  $\delta(0, 4) = -99$

# SSSP Algorithms

This SSSP problem is a(nother) **well-known** CS problem

We will discuss three algorithms in this lecture:

1.  $O(V+E)$  BFS fails on *general case* of SSSP problem
  - Introducing the “initSSSP” and “Relax” operations
2.  $O(VE)$  Bellman Ford’s SSSP algorithm
  - General idea of SSSP algorithm
  - Trick to ensure termination of the algorithm
  - Bonus: Detecting negative weight cycle

# Initialization Step

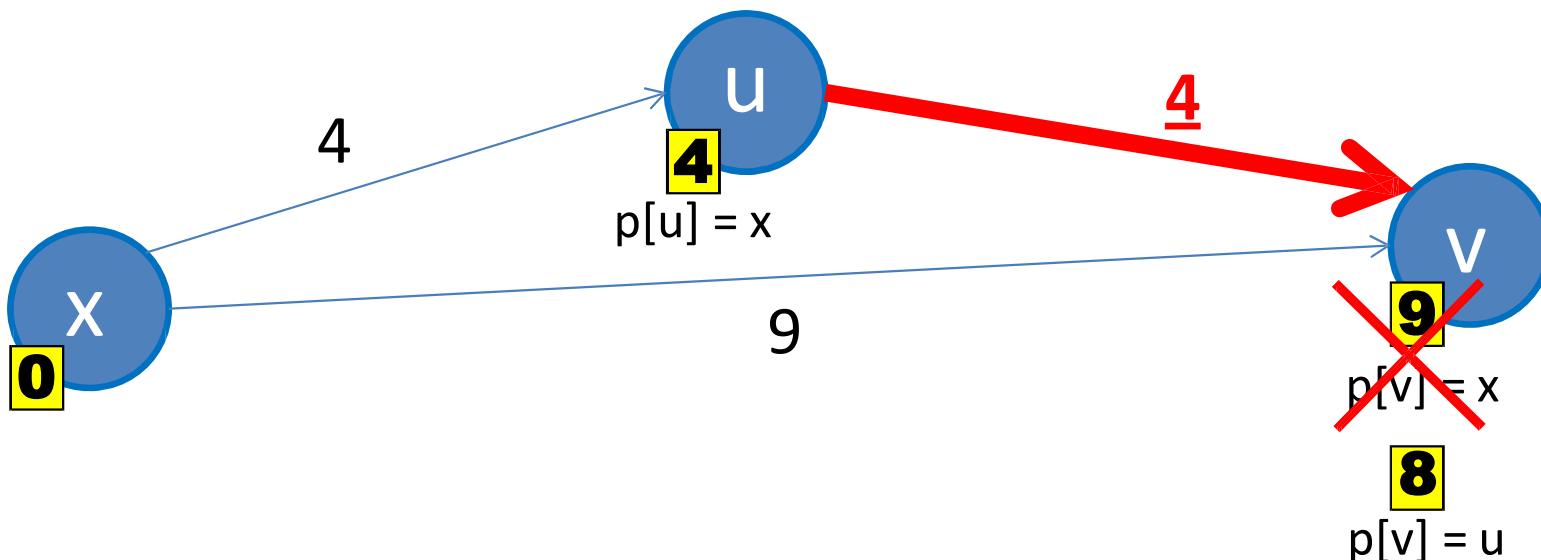
We will use this initialization step  
for all our SSSP algorithms

```
initSSSP(s)
    for each v ∈ V // initialization phase
        D[v] ← 1000000000 // use 1B to represent INF
        p[v] ← -1 // use -1 to represent NULL
    D[s] ← 0 // this is what we know so far
```

# “Relax” Operation

(abbreviated name of these actions)

```
relax(u, v, w_u_v)
  if D[v] > D[u]+w_u_v // if SP can be shortened
    D[v] ← D[u]+w_u_v // relax this edge
    p[v] ← u // remember/update the predecessor
  // if necessary, update some data structure
```



# Review: BFS

When the graph is **unweighted\***, the SSSP can be viewed as a problem of finding the **least number of edges** traversed from source  $s$  to other vertices

\* We can view each edge as having weight 1 or constant weight

The  $O(V+E)$  Breadth First Search (BFS) traversal algorithm precisely measures such thing

- BFS Spanning Tree = Shortest Paths Spanning Tree

# Modified BFS

Do these three simple modifications:

1. Rename **visited** to **D** ☺
2. At the start of BFS, set **D[v] = INF** (say, 1B) for all **v** in **G**, except **D[s] = 0** ☺
3. Change this part (in the BFS loop) from:

```
if visited[v] = 0 // if v is not visited before  
    visited[v] = 1; // set v as reachable from u
```

into:

```
if D[v] = INF // if v is not visited before  
    D[v] = D[u]+1; // v is 1 step away from u ☺
```

# Modified BFS Pseudo Code (1)

```
for all v in V
    D[v] ←
        INF
    Q[v] ← {s} // start from s
D[s] ← 0
```

Initialization phase

```
while Q is not empty
    u ← Q.dequeue()
    for all v adjacent to u // order of neighbor
        if D[v] = INF // influences BFS
            D[v] ← D[u]+1 // visitation sequence
            p[v] ← u
            Q.enqueue(v)
```

Main loop

// we can then use information stored in D/p

# Modified BFS Pseudo Code (2)

simpler form

```
initSSSP(s)
```

```
Q ← {s} // start from s
```



Initialization phase

```
while Q is not empty
```

```
    u ← Q.dequeue()
```

```
    for all v adjacent to u // order of neighbor
```

```
        relax(u, v, 1); // the weight is 1
```



Main  
loop

```
// we can then use information stored in D/p
```

# SSSP: BFS on Unweighted Graph

Ask VisuAlgo to perform BFS from various sources on the sample Graph (CP3 4.3)

In the screen shot below, we show the start of BFS from source vertex 5 (the same example as in Lecture 06, *it just looks messier due to bidirectional edges*)

7 VISUALGO SINGLE-SOURCE SHORTEST PATHS Exploration Mode

BFS(5)

Start from source s = 5  
Set d[5] = 0

```
initSSSP
while the queue Q is not empty
    for each neighbor v of u = Q.front()
        relax(u, v, w(u, v))
```

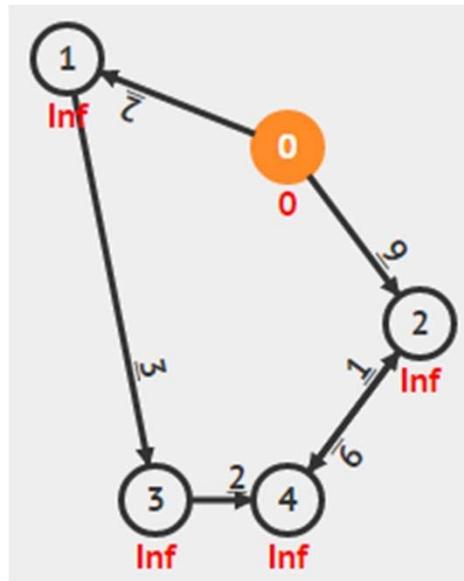
Draw Graph Random Graph Sample Graphs BFS Bellman Ford's Algo Dijkstra's Algo

5 GO >

# But BFS will not work on general cases

The shortest path from 0 to 2 is not path  $0 \rightarrow 2$  with weight 9, but a “detour” path  $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2$  with weight  $2+3+2+1=8$

- BFS cannot detect this and will only report path  $0 \rightarrow 2$  (wrong answer)
- You can draw this graph @ VisuAlgo and try it for yourself



## Rule of Thumb:

If you know for sure that your graph is unweighted (all edges have weight 1 or all edges have the same constant weight), then solve SSSP problem on it using the more efficient  $O(V+E)$  BFS algorithm

Reference: CP3 Section 4.4 (especially Section 4.4.4)

[visualgo.net/sssp.html](http://visualgo.net/sssp.html)

# BELLMAN FORD'S SSSP ALGORITHM



# Bellman Ford's Algorithm

```
initSSSP(s)
```

```
// Simple Bellman Ford's algorithm runs in O(VE)
for i = 1 to |V|-1 // O(V) here
    for each edge(u, v) ∈ E // O(E) here
        relax(u, v, w_u_v) // O(1) here
```

```
// At the end of Bellman Ford's algorithm,
// D[v] = δ(s, v) if no negative weight cycle exist
```

```
// Q: Why "relaxing all edges V-1 times" works?
```

# SSSP: Bellman Ford's

Ask VisuAlgo to perform Bellman Ford's algorithm  
from various sources on the sample Graph (CP3 4.17)

The screen shot below is *the first pass* of all E edges  
of BellmanFord(0)

7 VISUALGO SINGLE-SOURCE SHORTEST PATHS Exploration Mode

BellmanFord(0)

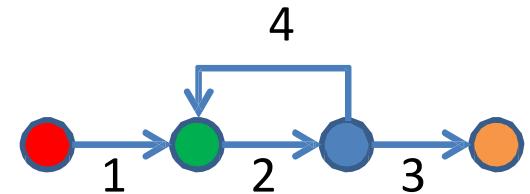
Pass number: 1, relax(0,3,7), #edge processed = 7  
We update  $d[3] = 7$  and  $p[3] = 0$

```
initSSSP
for i = 1 to |V|-1
    for each edge(u, v) in E
        relax(u, v, w(u, v))
```

**Theorem:** If  $G = (V, E)$  contains no negative weight cycle, then the shortest path  $p$  from  $s$  to  $v$  is a **simple path**

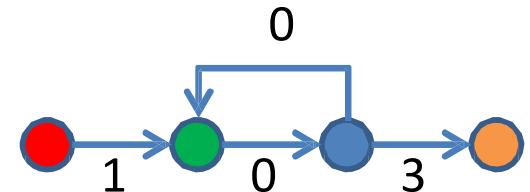
Let's do a **Proof by Contradiction!**

1. Suppose the shortest path  $p$  is not a simple path
2. Then  $p$  contains one (or more) cycle(s)
3. Suppose there is a cycle  $c$  in  $p$  with positive weight
4. If we remove  $c$  from  $p$ ,  
then we have a shorter ‘shortest path’ than  $p$
5. This contradicts the fact that  $p$  is a shortest path



**Theorem:** If  $\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E})$  contains no negative weight cycle, then the shortest path  $\mathbf{p}$  from  $s$  to  $v$  is a **simple path**

6. Even if  $c$  is a cycle with zero total weight (it is possible!), we can still remove  $c$  from  $p$  without increasing the shortest path weight of  $p$
7. So,  $p$  is a simple path (from point 5) or can always be made into a simple path (from point 6)



In another word, path  $p$  has at most  $|\mathbf{V}| - 1$  edges from the source  $s$  to the “furthest possible” vertex  $v$  in  $\mathbf{G}$  (in terms of number of edges in the shortest path)

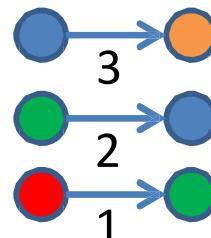
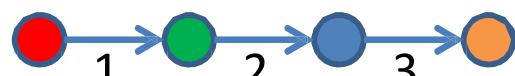
**Theorem:** If  $\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E})$  contains no negative weight cycle, then after Bellman Ford's terminates  $\mathbf{D}[v] = \delta(s, v)$ ,  $\forall v \in \mathbf{V}$

Let's do a **Proof by Induction!**

1. Consider the shortest path  $p$  from  $s$  to  $v_i$  ( $p$  will have minimum number of edges)
  - $v_i$  is defined as a vertex which shortest path requires  $i$  hops (number of edges) from  $s$
2. Initially  $\mathbf{D}[v_0] = \delta(s, v_0) = 0$ , as  $v_0$  is just  $s$
3. After 1 pass through  $E$ , we have  $\mathbf{D}[v_1] = \delta(s, v_1)$

Theorem: If  $\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E})$  contains no negative weight cycle, then after Bellman Ford's terminates  $D[v] = \delta(s, v), \forall v \in V$

4. After 2 passes through  $E$ , we have  $D[v_2] = \delta(s, v_2), \dots$
5. After  $k$  passes through  $E$ , we have  $D[v_k] = \delta(s, v_k)$
6. When there is no negative weight cycle, the shortest path  $p$  will be simple (see the previous proof)
7. Thus, after  $|V|-1$  iterations, the “furthest” vertex  $v_{|V|-1}$  from  $s$  has  $D[v_{|V|-1}] = \delta(s, v_{|V|-1})$ 
  - Even if edges in  $E$  are in *worst possible order*



# “Side Effect” of Bellman Ford’s

Corollary: If a value  $D[v]$  fails to converge after  $|V|-1$  passes, then there exists a negative-weight cycle reachable from  $s$

Additional check after running Bellman Ford's:

```
for each edge(u, v) ∈ E  
  if  $D[v] > D[u] + w(u, v)$   
    report negative weight cycle exists in G
```

# Java Implementation (2)

See BellmanFordDemo.java

- Now implemented using **AdjacencyList** ☺
  - **AdjacencyList** or **EdgeList** can be used to have an  $O(VE)$  Bellman Ford's

Show performance on:

- Small graph without negative weight cycle → OK, in  $O(VE)$
- Small graph with negative weight cycle → terminate in  $O(VE)$ 
  - Plus we can report that negative weight cycle exists
- Small graph; some negative edges; no negative cycle → OK

# Summary

Introducing the SSSP problem

Revisiting BFS algorithm for unweighted SSSP problem

- But it fails on general case

Introducing Bellman Ford's algorithm

- This one solves SSSP for general weighted graph in  $O(VE)$
- Can also be used to detect the presence of -ve weight cycle

# PS5\* should now be doable 😊

\* The first Subtask of PS5...

(but I will only open it on Saturday, 17 Oct 2015, 8am)

Subtask B (easy), Subtask C (medium-hard), and Subtask E (R-option, also medium-hard) require something else 😊

Train first to check basic understanding of the past two lectures on graph algorithms:

<http://visualgo.net/training.html?diff=Medium&n=5&tl=0&module=mst,sssp>