

# Chapter 11. More Greedy Algorithms

- Dijkstra's algorithm (single source shortest paths)
- Fractional knapsack problem
- Finding optimal code

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

Single source shortest paths  
for a directed graph with no  
negative edges

# Single-Source Shortest Paths

- We want to find the shortest paths between Binghamton and New York City, Boston, and Washington DC. Given a US road map with all the possible routes how can we determine our shortest paths?

# Single Source Shortest Paths Problem

- To solve this problem, we may use Floyd's algorithm that finds all pairs shortest paths via dynamic programming. But, this is an overkill, because we have *a single source* now.
- Floyd's algorithm is  $\Theta(n^3)$ . Can we solve the single source shortest paths problem faster than  $\Theta(n^3)$ ?

# Dijkstra's algorithm

- Given a weighted digraph and a vertex  $s$  in the graph, find a shortest path from  $s$  to an arbitrary node  $t$
- Both for directed and undirected graphs
- No negative edges
- Graph must be connected

# Dijkstra's shortest path algorithm

- Dijkstra's algorithm solves the single source shortest path problem in 2 stages.
  - Stage 1: A greedy algorithm computes the shortest *distance* from  $s$  to all other nodes in the graph and saves a *data structure*.
  - Stage 2 : Uses the *data structure* to find a shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$ .

# Main idea

- Assume that the shortest distances from the starting node  $s$  to the rest of the nodes are
$$d(s, s) \leq d(s, s_1) \leq d(s, s_2) \leq \dots \leq d(s, s_{n-1})$$
- In this case a shortest path from  $s$  to  $s_i$  may include any of the vertices  $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{i-1}\}$  but cannot include any  $s_j$  where  $j > i$ .
- Dijkstra's main idea is to select the nodes and compute the shortest distances in the order  $s, s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1}$



# Example

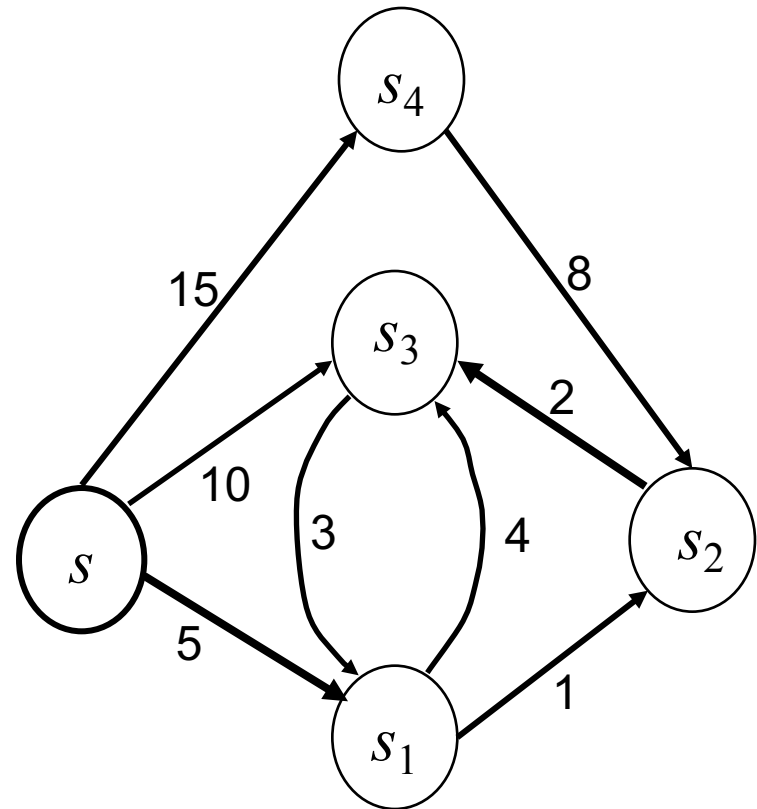
$$d(s, s) = 0 \leq$$

$$d(s, s_1) = 5 \leq$$

$$d(s, s_2) = 6 \leq$$

$$d(s, s_3) = 8 \leq$$

$$d(s, s_4) = 15$$



Note: The shortest path from  $s$  to  $s_2$  includes  $s_1$  as an intermediate node but cannot include  $s_3$  or  $s_4$ .

# Dijkstra's greedy selection rule

- Assume  $s_1, s_2 \dots s_{i-1}$  have been selected, and their shortest distances have been stored in *Solution*
- Select node  $s_i$  and save  $d(s, s_i)$  if  $s_i$  has the shortest distance from  $s$  on a path that may include only  $s_1, s_2 \dots s_{i-1}$  as intermediate nodes. We call such paths *special*
- To apply this selection rule efficiently, we need to maintain for each unselected node  $v$  the *distance of the shortest special path* from  $s$  to  $v$ ,  $D[v]$ .

# Application Example

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0)\}$

$D[s_1]=5$  for path  $[s, s_1]$

$D[s_2]=\infty$  for path  $[s, s_2]$

$D[s_3]=10$  for path  $[s, s_3]$

$D[s_4]=15$  for path  $[s, s_4]$ .

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0), (s_1, 5)\}$

$D[s_2]=6$  for path  $[s, s_1, s_2]$

$D[s_3]=9$  for path  $[s, s_1, s_3]$

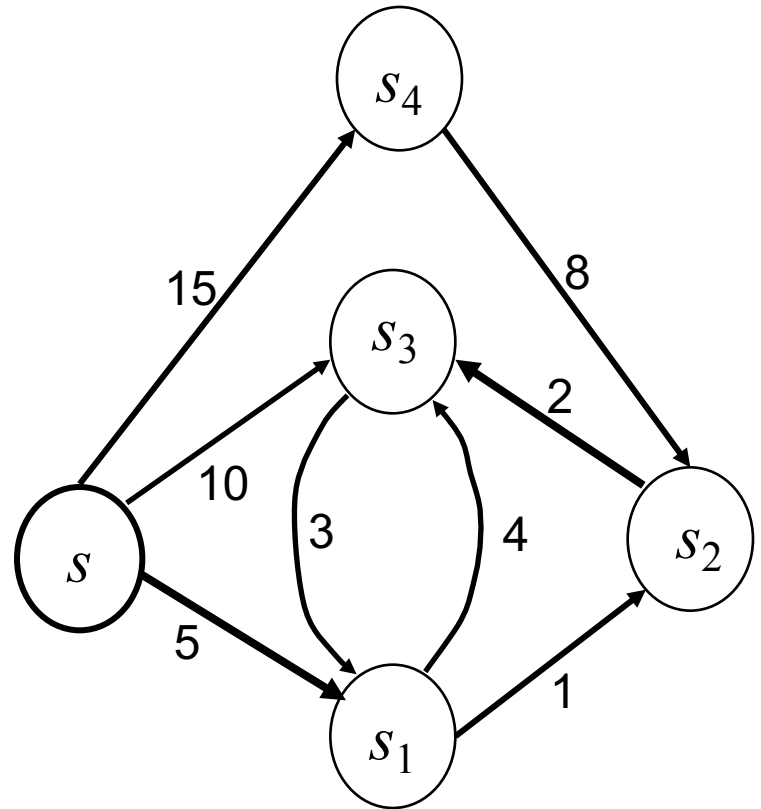
$D[s_4]=15$  for path  $[s, s_4]$

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0), (s_1, 5), (s_2, 6)\}$

$D[s_3]=8$  for path  $[s, s_1, s_2, s_3]$

$D[s_4]=15$  for path  $[s, s_4]$

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0), (s_1, 5), (s_2, 6), (s_3, 8), (s_4, 15)\}$



# Implementing the selection rule

- Node *near* is selected and added to *Solution* if  $D(near) \leq D(v)$  for any  $v \notin \text{Solution}$ .

$Solution = \{(s, 0)\}$

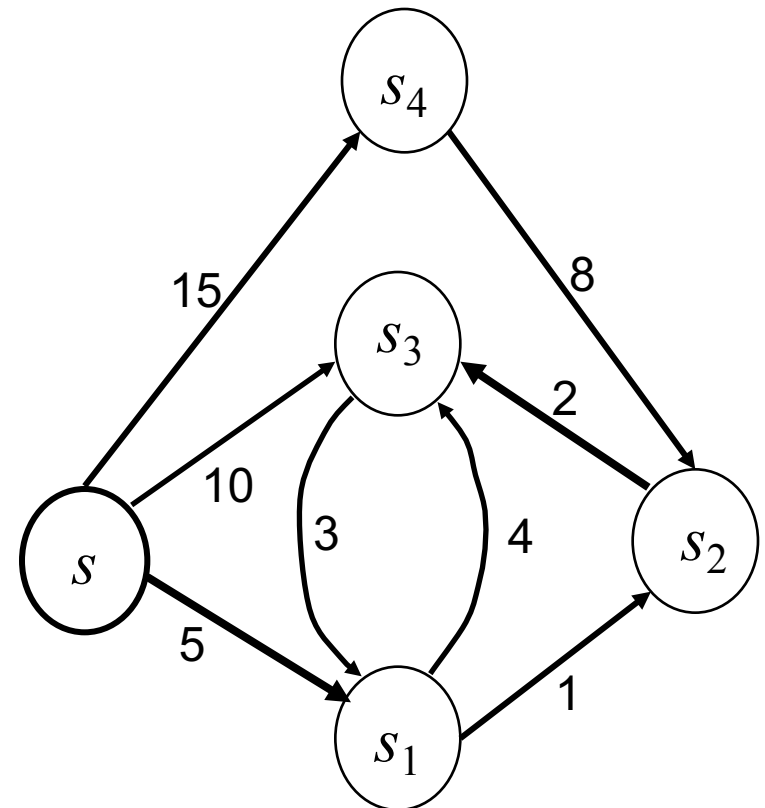
$D[s_1]=5 \leq D[s_2]=\infty$

$D[s_1]=5 \leq D[s_3]=10$

$D[s_1]=5 \leq D[s_4]=15$

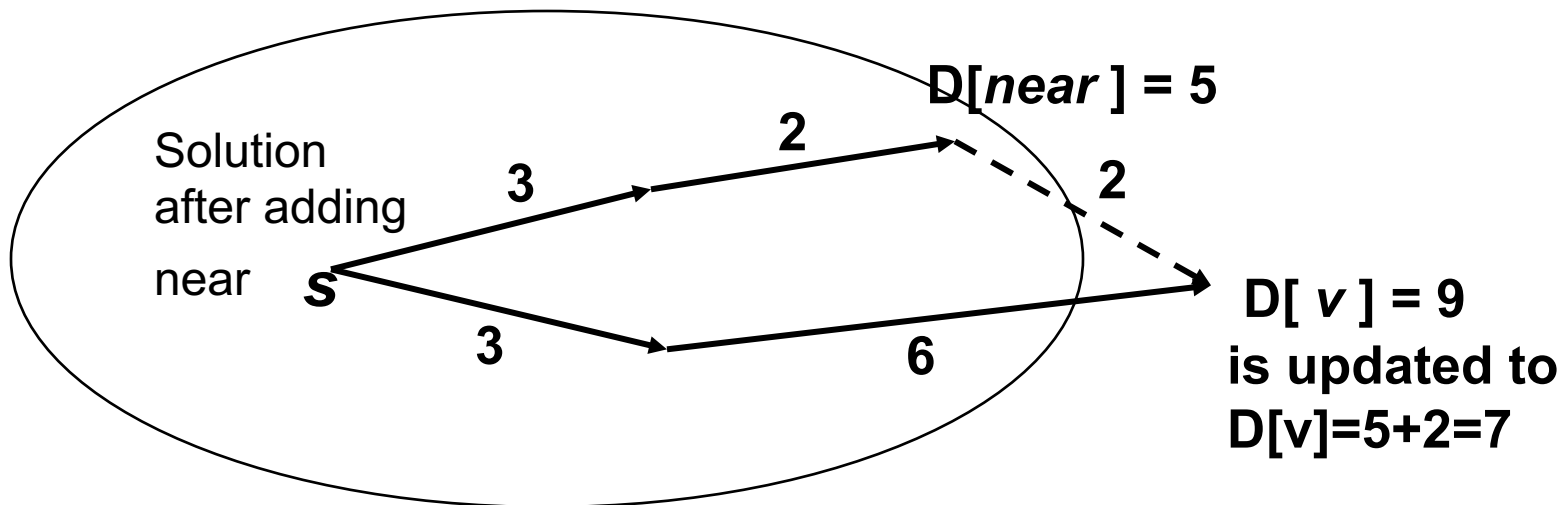
Node  $s_1$  is selected

$Solution = \{(s, 0), (s_1, 5)\}$



# Updating D[ ]

- After adding *near* to Solution,  $D[v]$  of all nodes  $v \notin \text{Solution}$  are updated if there is a **shorter special path** from  $s$  to  $v$  that contains node **near**, i.e., if  $(D[\text{near}] + w(\text{near}, v) < D[v])$  then  $D[v] = D[\text{near}] + w(\text{near}, v)$



# Example: Updating D

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0)\}$

$D[s_1]=5, D[s_2]=\infty, D[s_3]=10, D[s_4]=15.$

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0), (s_1, 5)\}$

$D[s_2]=D[s_1]+w(s_1, s_2)=5+1=6,$

$D[s_3]=D[s_1]+w(s_1, s_3)=5+4=9,$

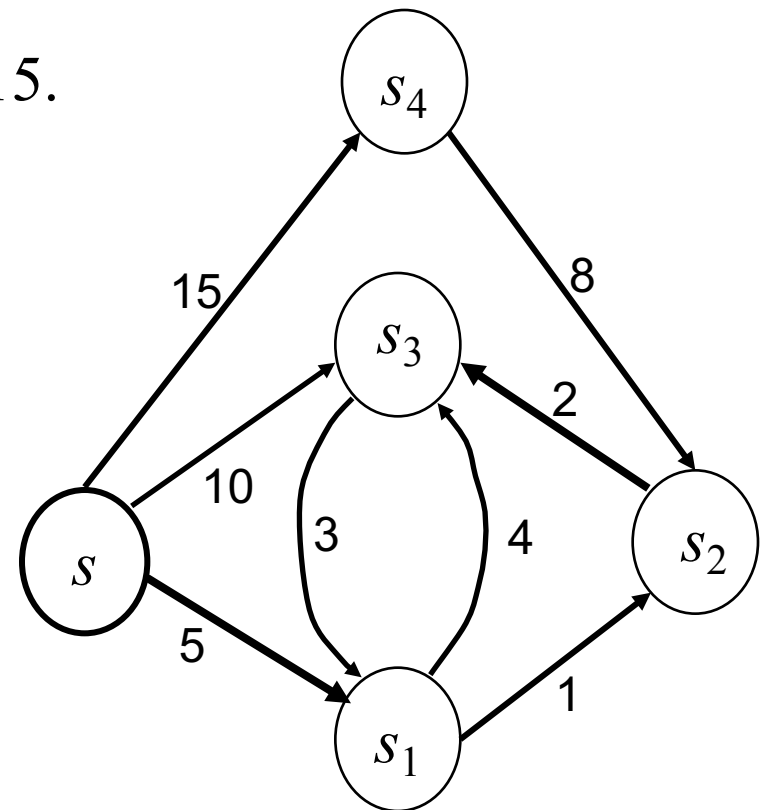
$D[s_4]=15$

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0), (s_1, 5), (s_2, 6)\}$

$D[s_3]=D[s_2]+w(s_2, s_3)=6+2=8,$

$D[s_4]=15$

*Solution* =  $\{(s, 0), (s_1, 5), (s_2, 6), (s_3, 8), (s_4, 15)\}$



# Dijkstra's Algorithm for Finding the Shortest Distance from a Single Source

Dijkstra( $G, s$ )

1. **for each**  $v \in V$
2.     **do**  $D[v] \leftarrow \infty$  Use adjacency matrix or list?
3.  $D[s] \leftarrow 0$
4.  $MH \leftarrow \text{make-MH}(D, V)$  // MH: MinHeap
5. **while**  $MH \neq \emptyset$
6.      $near \leftarrow MH.\text{extractMin}()$
7.     **for each**  $v \in \text{Adj}(near)$    // Use adjacency list or matrix?
8.         **if**  $D[v] > D[near] + w(near, v)$
9.         **then**  $D[v] \leftarrow D[near] + w(near, v)$
10.          $MH.\text{decreaseDistance}(D[v], v)$
11. **return** the label  $D[u]$  of each vertex  $u$

# Time Complexity Analysis

1. **for each**  $v \in V$
2.     **do**  $D[v] \leftarrow \infty$
3.  $D[s] \leftarrow 0$
4.  $MH \leftarrow \text{make-MH}(D, V)$
5. **while**  $MH \neq \emptyset$
6.     **do**  $near \leftarrow MH.\text{extractMin}()$
7.         **for each**  $v \in \text{Adj}(near)$
8.             **if**  $D[v] > D[near] + w(near, v)$
9.             **then**  $D[v] \leftarrow$   
                $D[near] + w(near, v)$
10.          $MH.\text{decreaseDistance}$   
                $(D[v], v)$
11. **return** the label  $D[u]$  of each vertex  $u$

Assume a node in  $MH$  can be accessed in  $O(1)$

Using Heap implementation

Lines 1 - 4 run in  $O(V)$

Max Size of  $MH$  is  $|V|$

(5) Loop =  $O(V)$

(6)  $O(\lg V)$

(5+6)  $O(V \lg V)$

8, 9) are  $O(1)$  and executed  $O(E)$  times in total

(10) Decrease- Key operation on the heap takes  $O(\lg V)$  time, and is executed  $O(E)$  times in total

→  $O(E \lg V)$

So total time is  $O(V \lg V + E \lg V)$   
=  $O(E \lg V)$



# Alternative way to implement Dijkstra's algorithm

- Use an array instead of a MinHeap
- Time Complexity
  - $O(V)$  to extract min
  - $O(1)$  for decreaseDistance
  - Thus,  $O(V^2)$  in total

# Knapsack Problem

- There are  $n$  different items in a store
- Item  $i$  :
  - weighs  $w_i$  pounds
  - worth  $\$v_i$
- A thief breaks in
- Can carry up to  $W$  pounds in his knapsack
- What should he take to maximize the value of his haul?



# 0-1 vs. Fractional Knapsack

- 0-1 Knapsack Problem:
  - the items cannot be divided
  - thief must take entire item or leave it behind
- **Fractional** Knapsack Problem:
  - thief can take partial items
  - for instance, items are liquids or powders
  - solvable with a greedy algorithm...

# Greedy Fractional Knapsack Algorithm

- Sort items in decreasing order of value per pound
- While still room in the knapsack (limit of  $W$  pounds) do
  - consider next item in sorted list
  - take as much as possible (all there is room or as much as will fit)
- $O(n \log n)$  running time (for sorting)

# Greedy 0-1 Knapsack Alg?

- 3 items:
  - item 1 weighs 10 lbs, worth \$60 (\$6/lb)
  - item 2 weighs 20 lbs, worth \$100 (\$5/lb)
  - item 3 weighs 30 lbs, worth \$120 (\$4/lb)
- knapsack can hold 50 lbs
- greedy strategy:
  - take item 1
  - take item 2
  - no room for item 3

**suboptimal!!**

# 0-1 Knapsack Problem

- Taking item 1 is a big mistake globally although looks good locally
- Use dynamic programming to solve this in pseudo-polynomial time
- Knapsack problem will be discussed in depth later on (a separate chapter)

# Finding Optimal Code

# Finding Optimal Code

- Input:
  - data file of characters and
  - number of occurrences of each character
- Output:
  - a binary encoding of each character so that the data file can be represented as efficiently as possible
  - "optimal code"



# Huffman Code

- Idea: use short codes for more frequent characters and long codes for less frequent

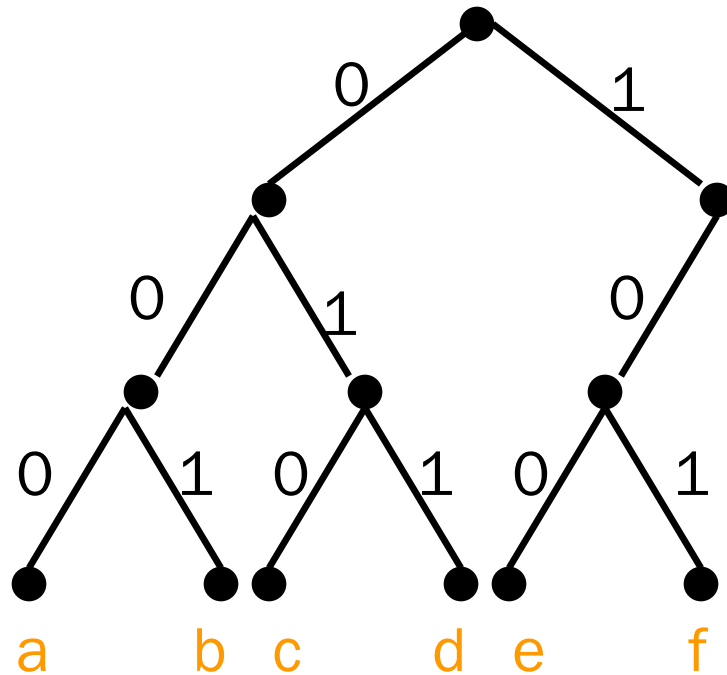
char	a	b	c	d	e	f	total bits
#	45	13	12	16	9	5	
fixed	000	001	010	011	100	101	300
variable	0	101	100	111	1101	1100	224

# How to Decode?

- With fixed length code, easy:
  - break up into 3's, for instance
- For variable length code, ensure that no character's code is the prefix of another
  - no ambiguity

101111110100  
b d e a a

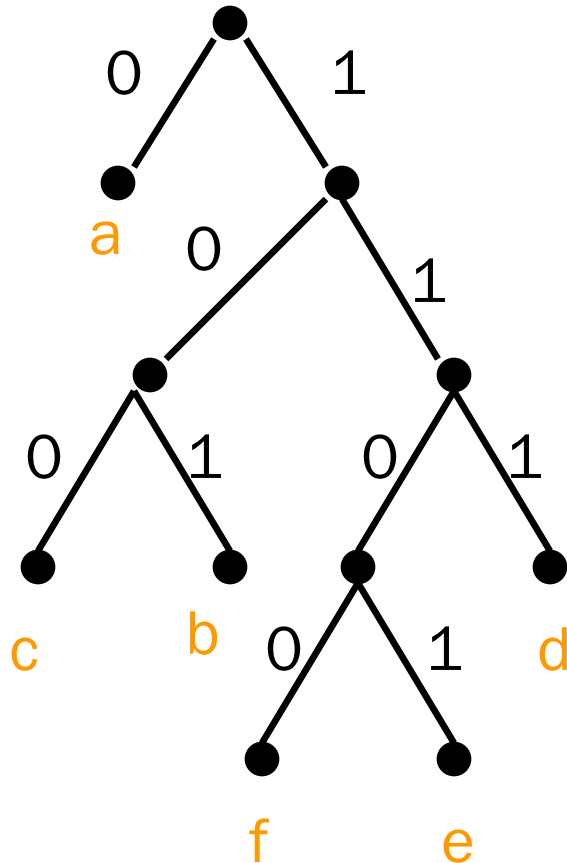
# Binary Tree Representation



fixed length code

cost of code is sum,  
over all chars  $x$ , of  
number of occurrences  
of  $x$  times depth of  $x$  in  
the tree

# Binary Tree Representation



variable length code

cost of code is sum,  
over all chars  $c$ , of  
number of occurrences  
of  $c$  times depth of  $c$  in  
the tree

# Algorithm to Construct Tree Representing Huffman Code

- Given set  $C$  of  $n$  chars,  $c$  occurs  $f[c]$  times
- insert each  $c$  into priority queue  $Q$  using  $f[c]$  as key
- for  $i := 1$  to  $n-1$  do
  - $x := \text{extract-min}(Q)$
  - $y := \text{extract-min}(Q)$
  - make a new node  $z$  with left child  $x$  (label edge 0), right child  $y$  (label edge 1), and  $f[z] = f[x] + f[y]$
  - insert  $z$  into  $Q$
- Time Complexity:  $O(n \lg n)$