

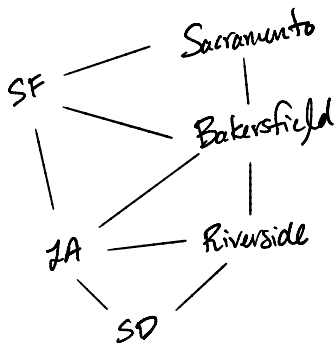
# DSC 40B

## *Theoretical Foundations II*

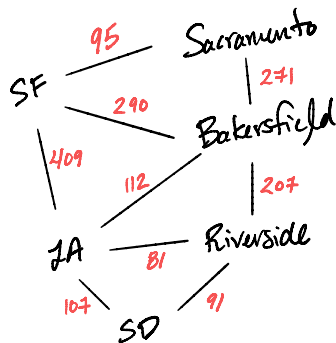
Lecture 14 | Part 1

### Shortest Paths in Weighted Graphs

# Google Maps



# Google Maps



# Weighted Graphs

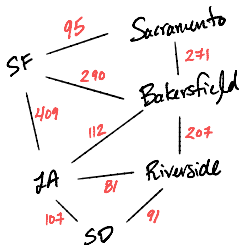
An **edge weighted graph**  $G = (V, E, \omega)$  is a triple where  $(V, E)$  is a graph and  $\omega : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  maps each edge to a **weight**.

- ▶ Can be directed or undirected.
- ▶ In general, weights can be positive, negative, zero.
- ▶ Many uses, such as representing **metric spaces**.

# Path Lengths

The **length** of a path in a **weighted graph** (usually) refers to the total weight of all edges in the path.

Example: (SD, Riverside, Bakersfield, SF)

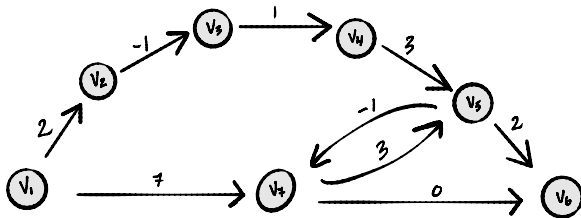


# Shortest Paths

- ▶ A **shortest path** between  $u$  and  $v$  is a path between  $u$  and  $v$  with minimum length.
  - ▶ In other words, minimum total weight.

# Example

What is the shortest path from  $v_1$  to  $v_6$ ?



Path:

Length:

# **Today (and next time)**

How do we find shortest paths in weighted graphs?



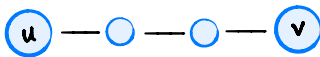
# Idea #0

- ▶ Does BFS work?
  - ▶ **No**, not really. Only if all weights are the same.
- ▶ Can we “convert” a weighted graph to an unweighted one?

# Idea #0



# Idea #0

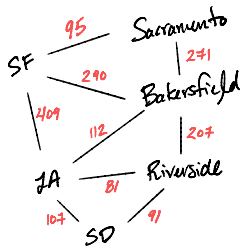


## Idea #0

- ▶ Step 1: “Convert” weighted graph to unweighted one with dummy nodes.
- ▶ Step 2: Call BFS on this new graph.

# Idea #0

- **Very inefficient** for large weights.



- What if edge weights are floats, or negative?

# Ideas #1 and #2

- ▶ We'll look at two algorithms: **Bellman-Ford** and **Dijkstra's**.

INPUT: weighted graph, source vertex  $s$ .

OUTPUT: shortest paths from  $s$  to every other node.

- ▶ Both work by:
  - ▶ keeping track of shortest known path (**estimates**).
  - ▶ iteratively **updating** these until they're correct.

# Shortest Path Estimates

- ▶ B-F and Dijkstra's keep track of the shortest paths found so far; we call these the **estimated shortest paths**.
- ▶ For each node  $u$ , remember  $u$ 's:
  - ▶ predecessor in estimated shortest path;
  - ▶ distance from source  $s$  in estimated shortest path.
- ▶ **Key:** estimated distance will always be  $\geq$  actual distance.

# Updates

- ▶ Both algorithms work by iteratively updating their estimates.
- ▶ On each iteration, consider a new edge  $(u, v)$ . Ask: is the best known shortest path from

$\text{source} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow u \rightarrow v$

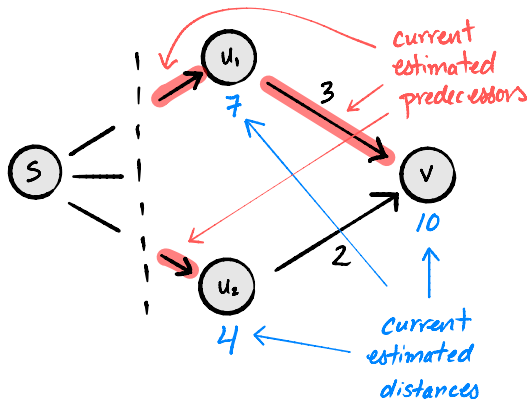
shorter than the best known shortest path from

$\text{source} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{predecessor}[v] \rightarrow v?$

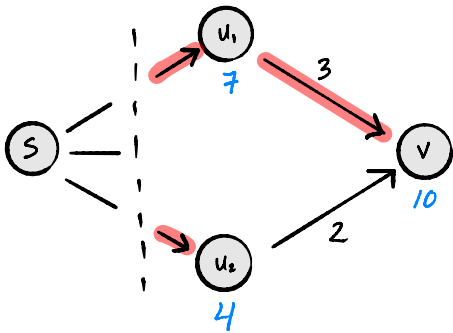
- ▶ If it is, we have discovered a shorter path to  $v$ .



## Example: Updating $(u_2, v)$ :

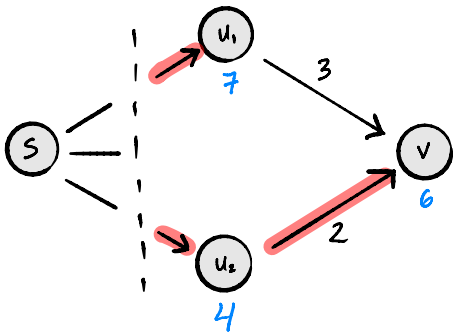


## Example: Updating $(u_2, v)$ :



estimated length of  $s \rightarrow u_2 \rightarrow v$   
= (estimated length of  $s \rightarrow u_2$ ) +  $w(u_2, v)$   
=  $4 + 2 = 6 < 10$

## Example: After Updating $(u_2, v)$ :



A shorter path has been found.

# Updating, in Code

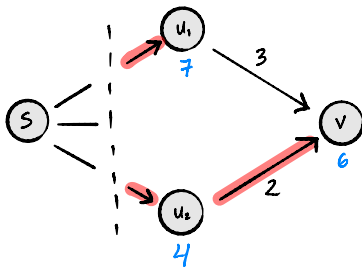
- ▶ Let:
  - ▶ `est` be a dictionary of estimated shortest path distances.
  - ▶ `predecessor` be a dictionary of estimated shortest path predecessors.
  - ▶ `weights` be a function which returns edge weights.

# Updating, in Code

```
def update(u, v, weights, est, predecessor):  
    """Update edge (u,v)."""  
    if est[v] > est[u] + weights(u,v):  
        est[v] = est[u] + weights(u,v)  
        predecessor[v] = u  
        return True  
    else:  
        return False
```

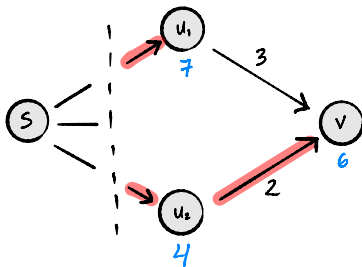
► Time complexity: \_\_\_\_\_

# When does an update discover a shortest path?



- Suppose updating  $(u_2, v)$  finds a shorter path to  $v$ .
- True or False: the actual shortest path must go through  $u_2$ .

# When does an update discover a shortest path?



- ▶ Suppose updating  $(u_2, v)$  finds a shorter path to  $v$ .
- ▶ True or False: the actual shortest path must go through  $u_2$ .
- ▶ **False**: we might later discover a better path to  $u_1$ .

# When does an update discover the shortest path?

- ▶ Let  $(u, v)$  be an edge.
- ▶ Suppose:
  - ▶ the actual shortest path to  $u$  has been found;
  - ▶ the actual shortest path to  $v$  goes through  $(u, v)$ .
- ▶ Then after updating  $(u, v)$ , the estimated shortest path to  $v$  is correct.



# DSC 40B

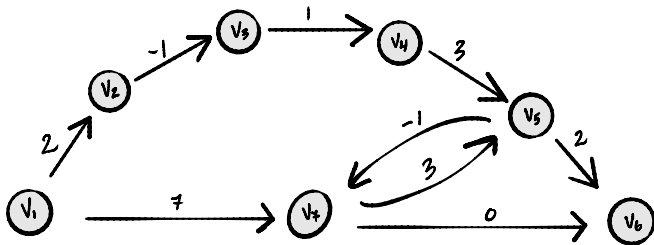
## *Theoretical Foundations II*

Lecture 14 | Part 2

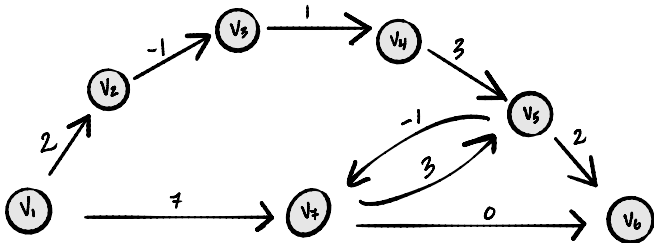
**Bellman-Ford**

# Intuition

- ▶ Shortest paths that have many edges are “harder” to discover.
  - ▶ May require many updates.
- ▶ Shortest paths that have few edges are “easier” to discover.
- ▶ Once we’ve discovered all of the shortest paths with few edges, it makes it easier to discover the shortest paths with more edges.

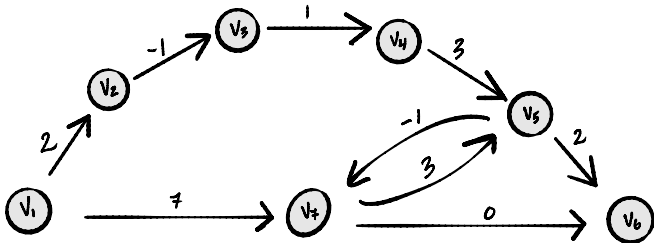


# Updating All Edges



- Suppose we update all of the edges, one by one.
- Then all nodes whose shortest path from  $s$  has only **one** edge are **guaranteed** to be estimated correctly.

# Updating All Edges



- Suppose we update all of the edges again.
- Then all nodes whose shortest path from  $s$  has at most **two** edges are **guaranteed** to be estimated correctly.

# Loop Invariant

- ▶ One iteration: update all edges in arbitrary order.
- ▶ Loop invariant: After  $\alpha$  iterations, all nodes whose shortest path from  $s$  has  $\leq \alpha$  edges are guaranteed to be estimated correctly.

# The Bellman-Ford Algorithm

```
def bellman_ford(graph, weights, source):  
    """Assume graph is directed."""  
    est = {node: float('inf') for node in graph.nodes}  
    est[source] = 0  
    predecessor = {node: None for node in graph.nodes}  
  
    for i in range(?):  
        for (u, v) in graph.edges:  
            update(u, v, weights, est, predecessor)  
  
    return est, predecessor
```

# Bellman-Ford

- ▶ Claim: each node must have a shortest path which is simple<sup>1</sup>.
- ▶ The most edges a simple path can have is  $|V| - 1$
- ▶ Idea of Bellman-Ford: iteratively update all edges, repeat  $|V| - 1$  times.

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<sup>1</sup>Edge case: cycles of weight zero.



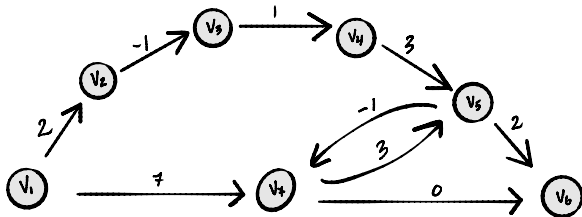
# The Bellman-Ford Algorithm

```
def bellman_ford(graph, weights, source):  
    """Assume graph is directed."""  
    est = {node: float('inf') for node in graph.nodes}  
    est[source] = 0  
    predecessor = {node: None for node in graph.nodes}  
  
    for i in range(len(graph.nodes) - 1):  
        for (u, v) in graph.edges:  
            update(u, v, weights, est, predecessor)  
  
    return est, predecessor
```

# Example

Suppose graph.edges returns edges in following order:

$(v_3, v_4), (v_1, v_2), (v_2, v_3), (v_7, v_6), (v_5, v_7),$   
 $(v_7, v_5), (v_4, v_5), (v_5, v_6), (v_1, v_7)$



# Time Complexity

```
def bellman_ford(graph, weights, source):  
    """Assume graph is directed."""  
    est = {node: float('inf') for node in graph.nodes}  
    est[source] = 0  
    predecessor = {node: None for node in graph.nodes}  
  
    for i in range(len(graph.nodes) - 1):  
        for (u, v) in graph.edges:  
            update(u, v, weights, est, predecessor)  
  
    return est, predecessor
```

- ▶ Setup: \_\_\_\_\_ time
- ▶ Each update takes \_\_\_\_\_ time
- ▶ There are exactly \_\_\_\_\_ updates
- ▶ Total time complexity: \_\_\_\_\_

# DSC 40B

## *Theoretical Foundations II*

Lecture 14 | Part 3

### Early Stopping and Negative Cycles

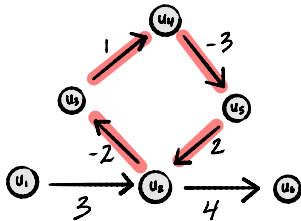
# Early Stopping

- ▶ B-F may not need to run for  $|V| - 1$  iterations.
- ▶ If no predecessors change, we can break:

```
def bellman_ford(graph, weights, source):  
    """Early stopping version."""  
    est = {node: float('inf') for node in graph.nodes}  
    est[source] = 0  
    predecessor = {node: None for node in graph.nodes}  
  
    for i in range(len(graph.nodes) - 1):  
        any_changes = False  
        for (u, v) in graph.edges:  
            changed = update(u, v, weights, est, predecessor)  
            any_changes = changed or any_changes  
        if not any_changes:  
            break  
    return est, predecessor
```

# Negative Cycles

- A **negative cycle** is a cycle whose total edge weight is negative:



- If a graph has a negative cycle, (some) shortest paths are **not well defined**.

# Detecting Negative Cycles

- ▶ If graph **does not have** negative cycles, estimated distances eventually stop changing (after at most  $|V| - 1$  iterations).
- ▶ If graph **has** negative cycles, estimated distances always decrease.
- ▶ To detect them: run a  $|V|$ th iteration; if distances change, a negative cycle exists.

# Detecting Negative Cycles

```
def bellman_ford(graph, weights, source):  
    """Early stopping version, detects negative cycles."""  
    est = {node: float('inf') for node in graph.nodes}  
    est[source] = 0  
    predecessor = {node: None for node in graph.nodes}  
  
    for i in range(len(graph.nodes)):  
        any_changes = False  
        for (u, v) in graph.edges:  
            changed = update(u, v, weights, est, predecessor)  
            any_changes = changed or any_changes  
        if not any_changes:  
            break  
    # this will be True if negative cycles exist  
    contains_negative_cycles = any_changes  
    return est, predecessor, contains_negative_cycles
```