Lecture 5.0 Shortest Paths

Department of Computer Science Hofstra University

Lecture Goals

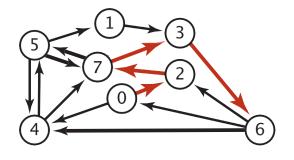
- In this lecture we study shortest-paths problems. We begin by analyzing some basic properties of shortest paths and a generic algorithm for the problem.
- We introduce and analyze Dijkstra's algorithm for shortestpaths problems with nonnegative weights.
- Next, we consider Topological Sort for Edge-weighted DAG, which works even if the weights are negative.
- We conclude with the Bellman–Ford algorithm for edgeweighted digraphs with no negative cycles.
- We conclude with the Floyd Warshall Algorithm for all-pairs shortest path

Shortest Paths in an Edge-weighted Digraph

Given an edge-weighted digraph, find the shortest path from s to t.

edge-weighted digraph

4->5	0.35
5->4	0.35
4->7	0.37
5->7	0.28
7->5	0.28
5->1	0.32
0->4	0.38
0->2	0.26
7->3	0.39
1->3	0.29
2->7	0.34
6->2	0.40
3->6	0.52
6->0	0.58
6->4	0.93



shortest path from 0 to 6

0->2	0.26
2->7	0.34
7->3	0.39
3->6	0.52

Can we use BFS?

Variants

- ***** Which vertices?
- Single source: from one vertex s to every other vertex.
- Source-sink: from one vertex s to another t.
- All pairs: between all pairs of vertices.
- **Nonnegative weights?**
- ***** Cycles?
- Negative cycles.





Simplifying assumption: Each vertex is reachable from s.

Weighted Directed Edge API

public class DirectedEdge

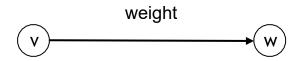
```
DirectedEdge(int v, int w, double weight) //weighted edge v->w

int from() // vertex v

int to() // vertex w

double weight() // the weight

String toString() // string representation
```



Idiom for processing an edge e: int v = e.from(), w = e.to();

Weighted Edge: Java Implementation

```
public class DirectedEdge
   private final int v, w;
   private final double weight;
   public DirectedEdge(int v, int w, double weight)
      this.v = v;
      this.w = w;
      this.weight = weight;
   }
   public int from()
   { return v; }
  public int to()
   { return w; }
   public int weight()
   { return weight; }
```

Edge-Weighted Graph API

public class EdgeWeightedDigraph

```
EdgeWeightedDigraph(int V) // edge-weighted digraph with V vertices

void addEdge(DirectedEdge e) // add weighted directed edge e

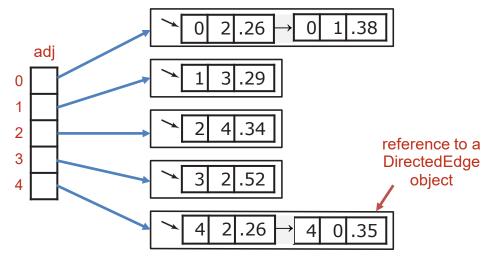
Iterable <DirectedEdge> adj(int v) // edges pointing from v

Iterable <DirectedEdge> edges() // all edges in this graph

int V() // number of vertices

int E() // number of edges

String toString() // string representation
```



Edge-Weighted Digraph: Adjacency-Lists Implementation

```
public class EdgeWeightedDigraph
   private final int V;
   private final List<DirectedEdge>[] adj;
   public EdgeWeightedDigraph (int V)
       this.V = V;
       adj = (List<DirectedEdge>[]) new ArrayList[V];
      for (int v = 0; v < V; v++)
          adj[v] = new ArrayList<DirectedEdge>();
   public void addEdge(DirectedEdge e)
       int v = e.from();
       adj[v].add(e);
   public Iterable < DirectedEdge > adj(int v)
      return adj[v];
```

add edge e = v->w to only v's adjacency lists

Single-source Shortest Paths API

Goal. Find the shortest path from s to every other vertex.

```
public class SP

SP(EdgeWeightedGraph G, int s) // shortest paths from s in graph G

double distTo(int v) // length of shortest path from s to v

Iterable <DirectedEdge> pathTo(int v) // shortest path from s to v
```

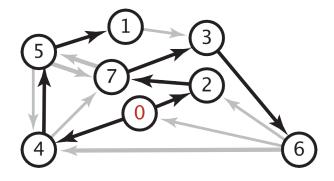
Data Structures for Single-source Shortest Paths

Goal. Find the shortest path from s to every other vertex.

Observation. A shortest-paths tree (SPT) solution exists.

Consequence. Can represent the SPT with two vertexindexed arrays:

- distTo[v] is length of shortest path from s to v.
- edgeTo[v] is last edge on shortest path from s to v.



shortest-paths tree from 0

```
edgeTo[]
             distTo[]
  null
  5->1 0.32
                1.05
  0 -> 20.26
               0.26
               0.97
  7->3 0.37
  0 - > 40.38
               0.38
  4->5 0.35
               0.73
  3->6 0.52
               1.49
               0.60
  2->7 0.34
```

parent-link representation

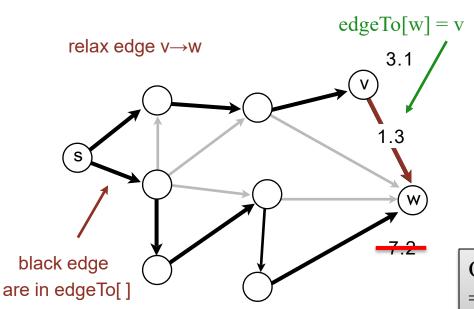
```
public double distTo(int v)
{ return distTo[v]; }

public Iterable<DirectedEdge> pathTo(int v)
{
    Stack<DirectedEdge> path = new Stack<DirectedEdge>();
    for (DirectedEdge e = edgeTo[v]; e != null; e = edgeTo[e.from()])
        path.push(e);
    return path;
}
```

Edge Relaxation

Relax edge $e = v \rightarrow w$. (basic of building SPT)

- distTo[v] is length of shortest known path from s to v.
- distTo[w] is length of shortest known path from s to w.
- edgeTo[w] is last edge on shortest known path from s to w.
- If e = v→w gives shorter path to w through v, update distTo[w] and edgeTo[w].
 - distTo[w] = min(distTo[w], distTo[v] + e.weight());



```
private void relax(DirectedEdge e)
{
   int v = e.from(), w = e.to();
   if (distTo[w] > distTo[v] + e.weight())
   {
      distTo[w] = distTo[v] +
      e.weight();
      edgeTo[w] = e;
   }
}
```

```
OLD distTo[w] = 7.2 > distTo[v] + e.weight()
= 3.1+1.3 = 4.4
NEW distTo[w] \leftarrow distTo[v] + e.weight() = 4.4
```

Generic Shortest-paths Algorithm

Generic algorithm (to compute SPT from s)

For each vertex v: $distTo[v] = \infty$.

For each vertex v: edgeTo[v] = null.

distTo[s] = 0.

Repeat until done:

- Relax any edge.

Proposition. Generic algorithm computes SPT (if it exists) from s.

Pf.

- Throughout algorithm, distTo[v] is the length of a simple path from s to v (and edgeTo[v] is last edge on path).
- Each successful relaxation decreases distTo[v] for some v.
- The entry distTo[v] can decrease at most a finite number of times.

Efficient implementations. How to choose which edge to relax?

- Ex 1. Dijkstra's algorithm. (nonnegative weights, directed cycles).
- Ex 2. Bellman–Ford algorithm. (no negative cycles).

Dijkstra's Algorithm

Initialization:

- Set the distance to the source node as 0 and to all other nodes as infinity.
- Mark all nodes as unvisited and store them in a priority queue.

Main Loop:

- Extract the unvisited node with the smallest known distance from the queue.
- For each neighboring node, calculate its tentative distance through the current node. If this distance is smaller than the previously recorded distance, update it with relaxation.
- Mark the current node as visited once all its neighbors are processed.

Termination:

• The algorithm continues until all reachable nodes are visited, or until the shortest path to a specific destination is found.

Dijkstra's Algorithm: Correctness Proof

Proposition. Dijkstra's algorithm computes a SPT in any edge-weighted digraph with nonnegative weights.

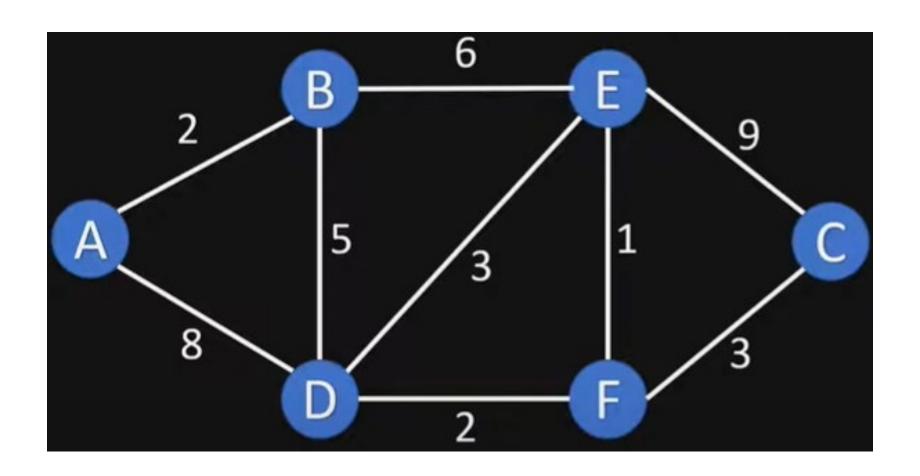
Pf.

- Each edge e = v→w is relaxed exactly once (when v is relaxed),
 - leaving distTo[w] ≤ distTo[v] + e.weight().
- Inequality holds until algorithm terminates because:
 - distTo[w] cannot increase ← distTo[] values are monotone decreasing
 - distTo[v] will not change
 we choose lowest distTo[] value at each step (and edge weights are nonnegative)
- Thus, upon termination, shortest-paths optimality conditions hold.

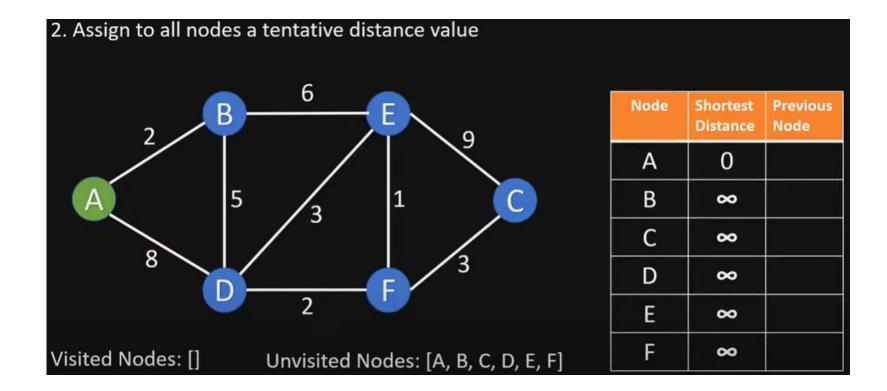
Video Tutorials

- Dijkstras Shortest Path Algorithm Explained | With Example |
 Graph Theory
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZkzH5x0SKU
 - The following lecture slides are based on this video
- Dijkstra's algorithm in 3 minutes
 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_lHSawdgXpI</u>
- Bellman-Ford in 4 minutes Theory
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PHkk0UavIM
- Bellman-Ford in 5 minutes Step by step example
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obWXjtg0L64

Example Graph

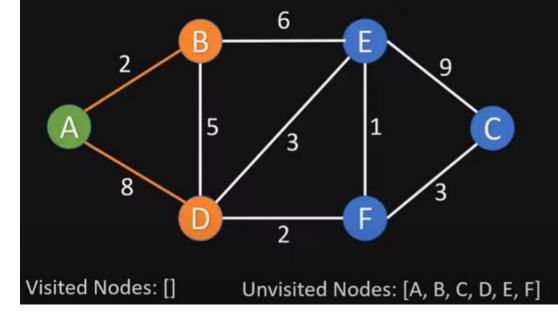


Initialize



Visit Node A

- 3. For the current node calculate the distance to all unvisited neighbours
- 3.1. Update shortest distance, if new distance is shorter than old distance

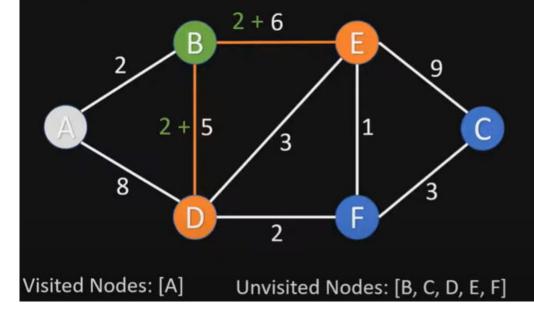


Node	Shortest Distance	Previous Node
Α	0	
В	2	Α
С	∞	
D	8	Α
Е	∞	
F	∞	

OLD distTo[B] = ∞ > distTo[A] + e[A][B].weight() = 0+2 = 2 NEW distTo[B] \leftarrow distTo[A] + e[A][B].weight() = 2 OLD distTo[D] = ∞ > distTo[A] + e[A][D].weight() = 0+8 = 8 NEW distTo[D] \leftarrow distTo[A] + e[A][D].weight() = 8

Visit Node B

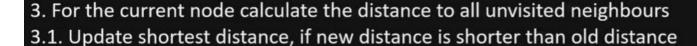
- 3. For the current node calculate the distance to all unvisited neighbours
- 3.1. Update shortest distance, if new distance is shorter than old distance

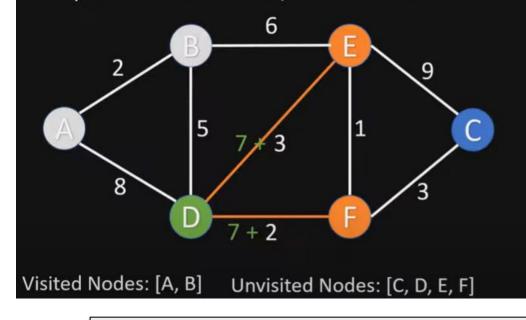


Node	Shortest Distance	Previous Node
Α	0	
В	2	Α
С	∞	
D	7	В
Е	8	В
F	∞	

OLD distTo[D] = 8 > distTo[B] + e[B][D].weight() = 2+5 = 7NEW distTo[D] \leftarrow distTo[B] + e[B][D].weight() = 7OLD distTo[E] = $\infty > distTo[B] + e[B][E].weight() = <math>2+6 = 8$ NEW distTo[E] \leftarrow distTo[B] + e[B][E].weight() = 8

Visit Node D



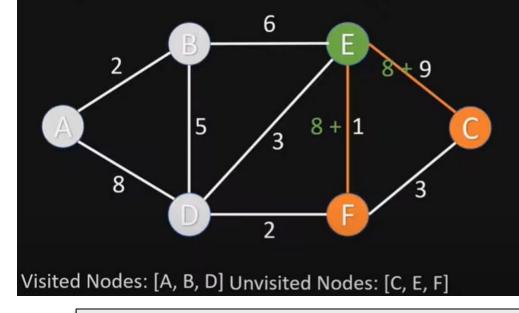


Node	Shortest Distance	Previous Node
Α	0	
В	2	А
С	∞	
D	7	В
Е	8	В
F	9	D

OLD distTo[E] = 8 < distTo[D] + e[D][E].weight() = 7+3 = 10No update, distTo[E] stays 8OLD distTo[F] = $\infty > \text{distTo}[D] + \text{e}[D][F].\text{weight}() = 7+2 = 9$ NEW distTo[F] \leftarrow distTo[D] + e[D][E].weight() = 9

Visit Node E

- 3. For the current node calculate the distance to all unvisited neighbours
- 3.1. Update shortest distance, if new distance is shorter than old distance

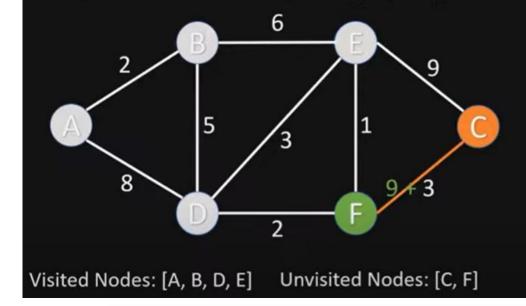


Node	Shortest Distance	Previous Node
Α	0	
В	2	Α
С	17	Е
D	7	В
Е	8	В
F	9	D

OLD distTo[C] = ∞ > distTo[E] + e[E][C].weight() = 8+9 = 17 NEW distTo[C] \leftarrow distTo[E] + e[E][C].weight() = 17 OLD distTo[F] = 9 = distTo[E] + e[E][F].weight() = 8+1 = 9 No update, distTo[F] stays 9

Visit Node F

- 3. For the current node calculate the distance to all unvisited neighbours
- 3.1. Update shortest distance, if new distance is shorter than old distance

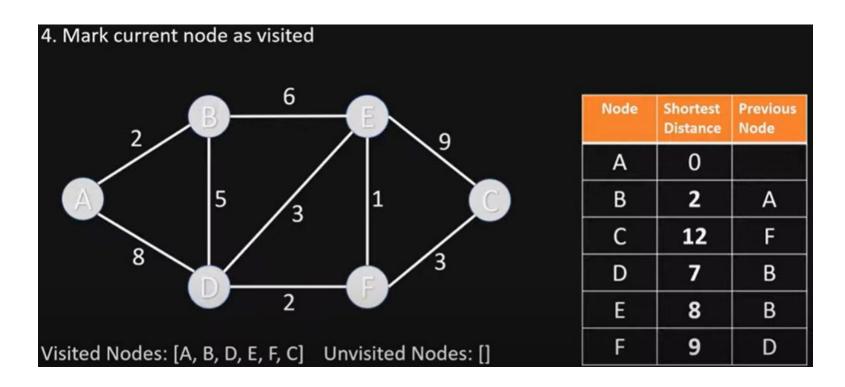


Node	Shortest Distance	Previous Node
Α	0	
В	2	Α
С	12	F
D	7	В
Е	8	В
F	9	D

OLD distTo[C] = 17 > distTo[F] + e[F][C].weight() = 9+3 = 12NEW distTo[C] \leftarrow distTo[F] + e[F][C].weight() = 12

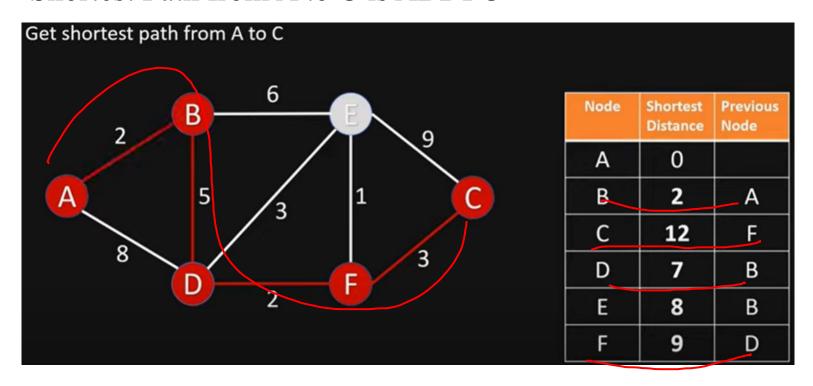
End of Algorithm

Table contains the shortest distance to each node N from the source node A, and its previous node in the shortest path



Getting the Shortest Path from A to C

- C's previous node is F; F's previous node is D; D's previous node is B; B's previous node is A
- Shortest Path from A to C is ABDFC



Dijkstra's Algorithm Example 2

- Consider vertices in increasing order of distance from s(non-tree vertex with the lowest distTo[] value).
- Add vertex to tree and relax all edges pointing from that vertex.

choose vertex 5
relax all edges adjacent from 5
choose vertex 2
relax all edges adjacent from 2
choose vertex 3
relax all edges adjacent from 3
choose vertex 6
relax all edges adjacent from 6

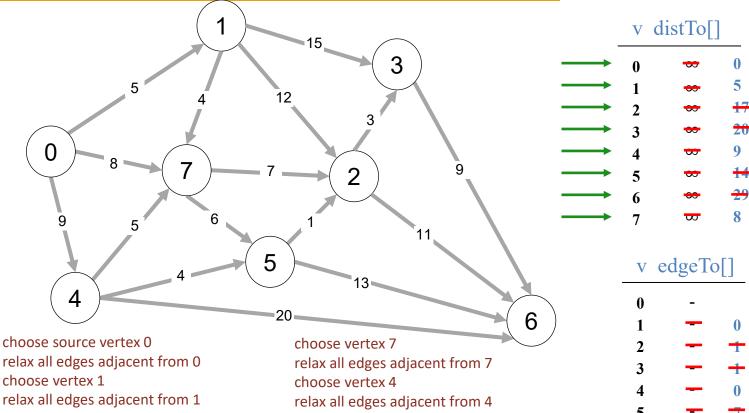
15

17

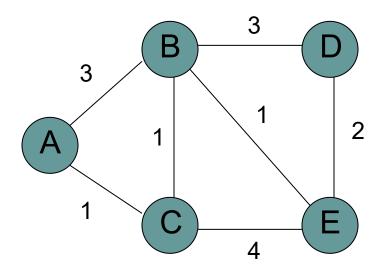
13

14

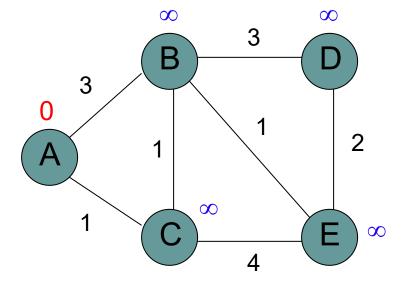
25



Dijkstra's Algorithm Example 3

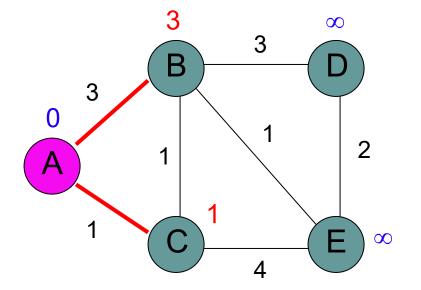


Initialize



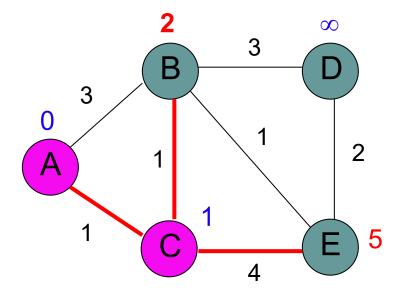
N	SD	PN
Α	0	
В	∞	
С	∞	
D	∞	
Ε	∞	

Visit Node A



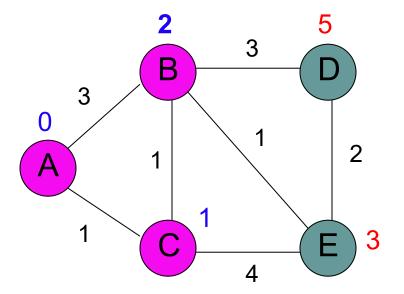
N	SD	PN
Α	0	
В	3	Α
С	1	Α
D	∞	
Ε	∞	

Visit Node C



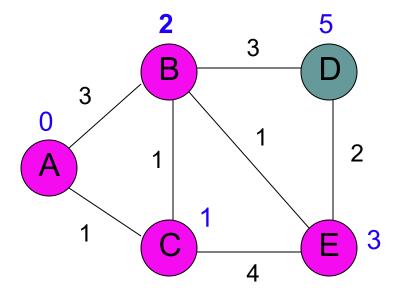
N	SD	PN
Α	0	
В	2	С
С	1	Α
D	∞	
Ε	5	С

Visit Node B



N	SD	PN
Α	0	
В	2	С
С	1	Α
D	5	В
Ε	3	В

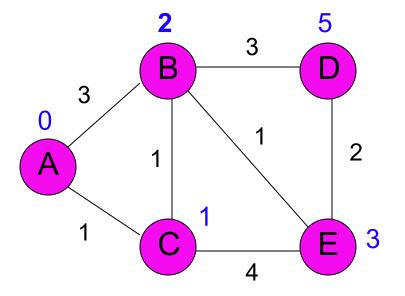
Visit Node E



N	SD	PN
Α	0	
В	2	С
С	1	Α
D	5	В
Ε	3	В

Nothing changes

Visit Node D

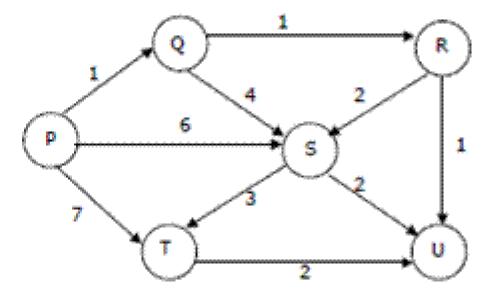


N	SD	PN			
Α	0				
В	2	С			
С	1	Α			
D	5	В			
Ε	3	В			

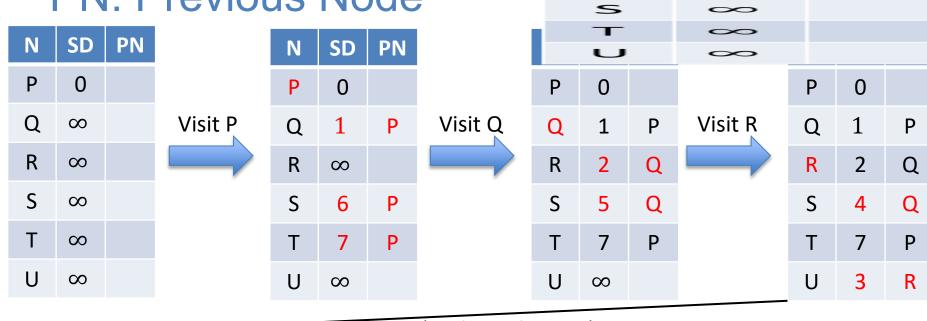
Nothing changes

Quiz: Dijstra's Algorithm

- Suppose we run Dijkstra's single source shortest-path algorithm on the following edge weighted directed graph with vertex P as the source. In what order do the nodes get included into the set of vertices for which the shortest path distances are finalized?
- ANS: P, Q, R, U, S, T



SD: Shortest Distance PN: Previous Node



7

R

SD

PN

Visit U (nothing changes)

N	SD	PN		N	SD	PN		N	SD	PN		N	SD	PN
Р	0		Visit S	Р	0		Visit T	Р	0		Finished	Р	0	
Q	1	Р		Q	1	Р		Q	1	Р		Q	1	Р
R	2	Q	(nothing	R	2	Q	(nothing	R	2	Q		R	2	Q
S	4	Q	changes)	S	4	Q	changes)	S	4	Q		S	4	Q
Т	7	Р		Т	7	Р		Т	7	Р		Т	7	Р
U	3	R		U	3	R		U	3	R		U	3	R

Bellman-Ford Algorithm

- Initialize distance array distTo[] for each vertex v as distTo[v] = ∞, and distTo[s] = 0 to source vertex s.
- Relax all edges |V|-1 times.

```
private void relax(DirectedEdge e)
{
  int v = e.from(), w = e.to();
  if (distTo[w] > distTo[v] + e.weight())
  {
     distTo[w] = distTo[v] +
     e.weight();
     edgeTo[w] = e;
  }
}
```

Recall:

Generic algorithm (to compute SPT from s)

```
For each vertex v: distTo[v] = \infty.

For each vertex v: edgeTo[v] = null.

distTo[s] = 0.

Repeat until done:
```

- Relax any edge.

Bellman-Ford algorithm

```
For each vertex v: distTo[v] = \infty.

For each vertex v: edgeTo[v] = null.

distTo[s] = 0.

Repeat |V| - 1 times:
```

- Relax each edge.

Bellman-Ford Algorithm Proof of Correctness

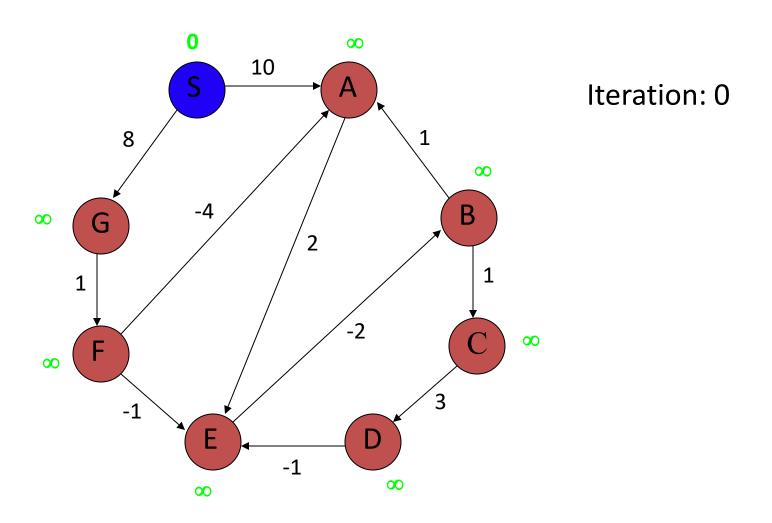
• Relaxing edges |V|-1 times in the Bellman-Ford Algorithm guarantees that the algorithm has explored all possible paths of length up to |V|-1, which is the maximum possible length of a shortest path in a graph with |V| vertices. This allows the algorithm to correctly calculate the shortest paths from the source vertex to all other vertices, given that there are no negative-weight cycles.

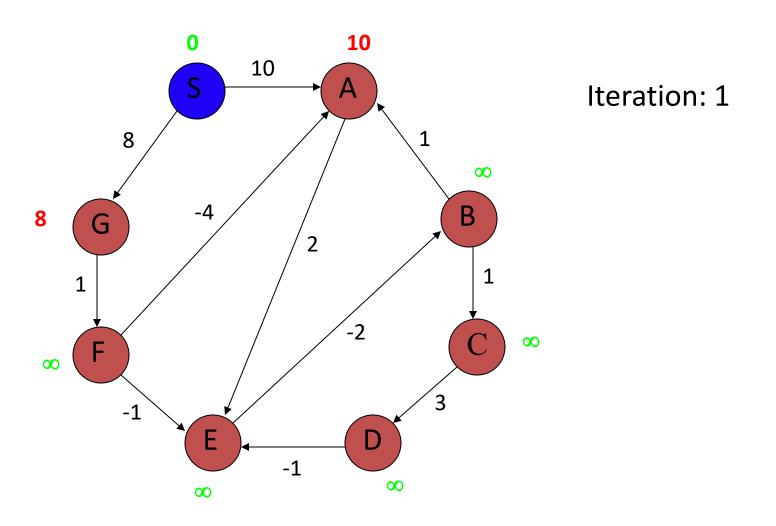
Bellman-Ford Algorithm with Negative Cycle Detection

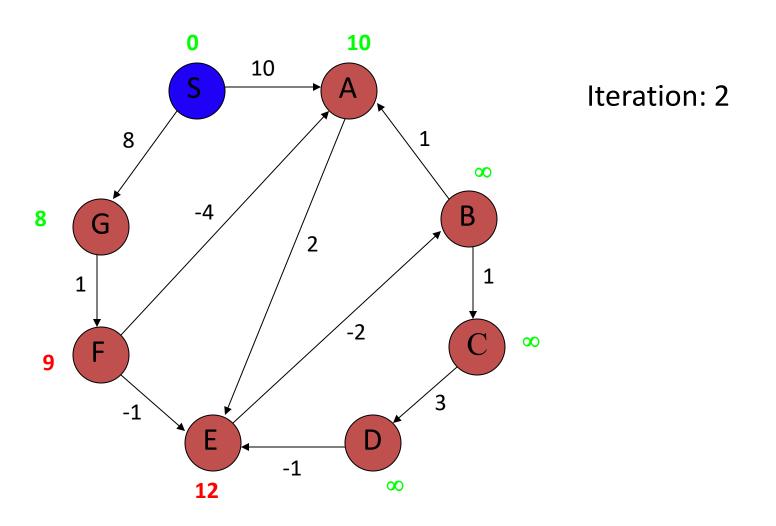
- Initialize distance array distTo[] for each vertex \mathbf{v} as $\mathbf{distTo[v]} = \infty$, and $\mathbf{distTo[s]} = \mathbf{0}$ to source vertex \mathbf{s} .
- Relax all **edges** |V|-1 times.
- Relax all the edges one more time i.e. the **N-th** time:
 - Case 1 (Negative cycle exists): if any edge can be further relaxed, i.e., for any edge e, if distTo[w] > distTo[v] + e.weight())
 - Case 2 (No Negative cycle): case 1 fails for all the edges.

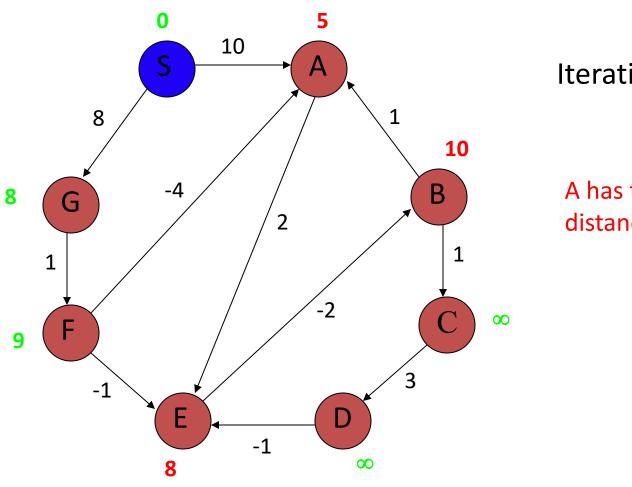
Time Complexity of Bellman-Ford Algorithm

- Time complexity for connected graph:
- Best Case: O(|E|), when distance array after 1st and 2nd relaxation are same, we can simply stop further processing after one iteration
- Average Case: $O(|V|^*|E|)$
- Worst Case: $O(|V|^*|E|)$
 - If the graph is complete, the value of E becomes $O(|V|^2)$. So overall time complexity becomes $O(|V|^3)$



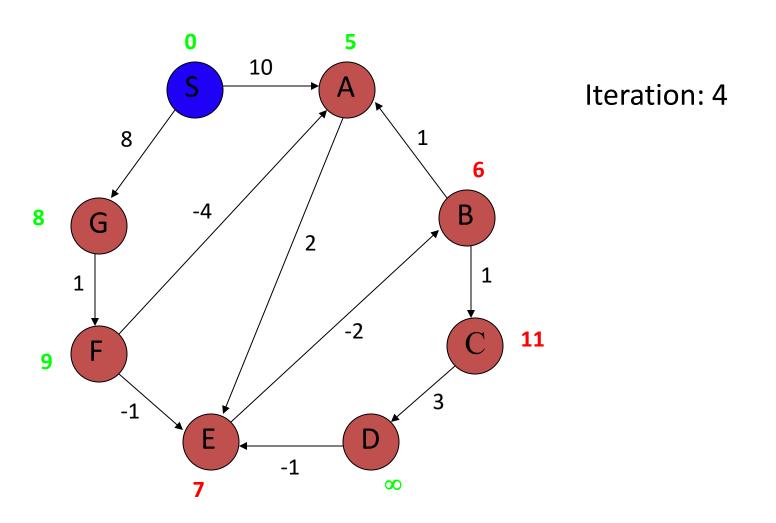


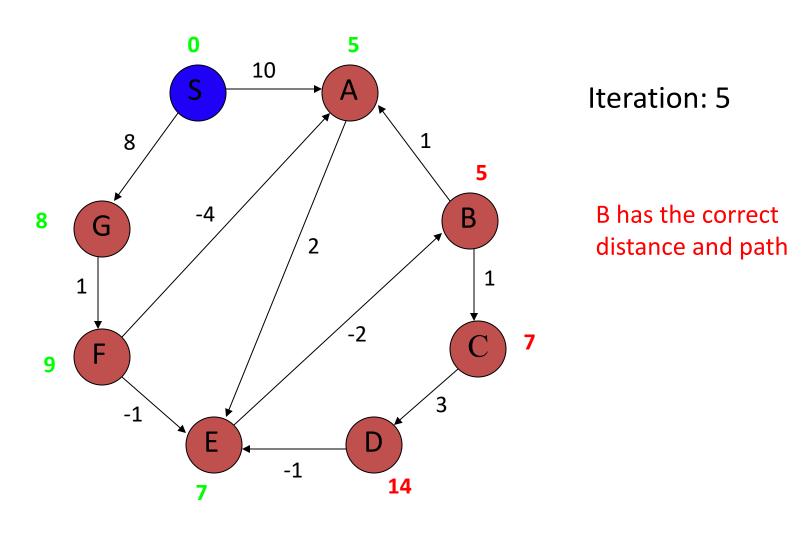


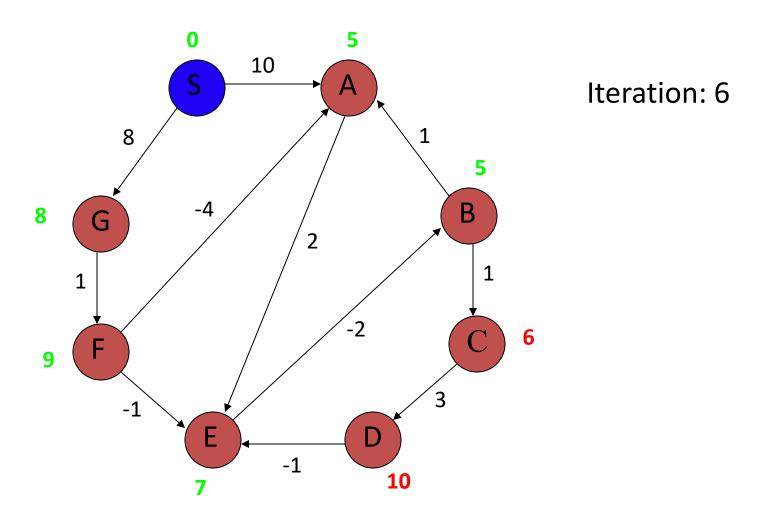


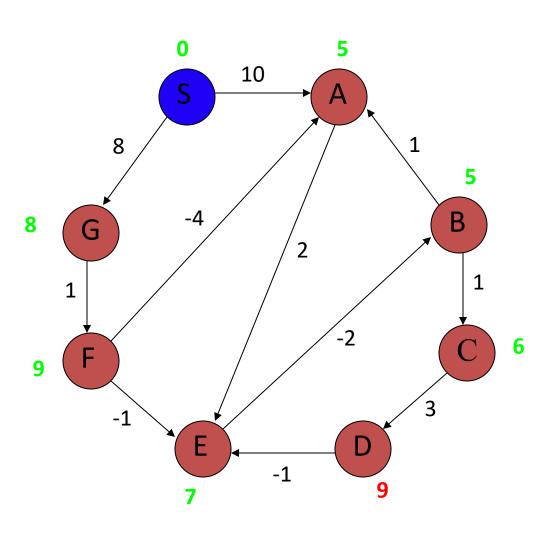
Iteration: 3

A has the correct distance and path





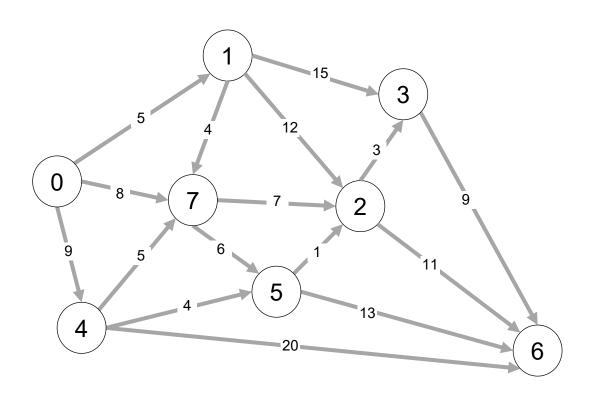




Iteration: 7

D (and all other nodes) have the correct distance and path

Repeat V – 1 times: relax all E edges.



v distTo[]				
0		0		
1		5		
2		17	14	
3		20	17	
4	∞	9		
5		13		
6		28	26	25
7	$\overline{\mathbf{w}}$	8		

```
      v edgeTo[]

      0 -

      1 -
      0

      2 -
      +
      5

      3 -
      +
      2

      4 -
      0
      0

      5 -
      4
      6

      6 -
      -
      2
      5
      2

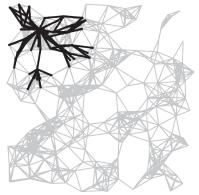
      7 -
      0
      0
      0
      0
```

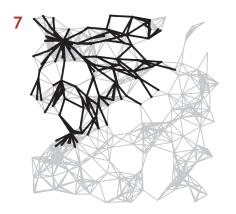
pass 1 pass 2 pass 3 (no further changes) pass 4-7 (no further changes)

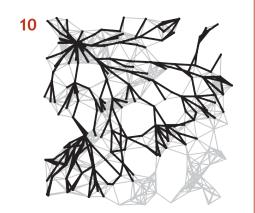
 $0 \rightarrow 1 \ 0 \rightarrow 4 \ 0 \rightarrow 7 \ 1 \rightarrow 2 \ 1 \rightarrow 3 \ 1 \rightarrow 7 \ 2 \rightarrow 3 \ 2 \rightarrow 6 \ 3 \rightarrow 6 \ 4 \rightarrow 5 \ 4 \rightarrow 6 \ 4 \rightarrow 7 \ 5 \rightarrow 2 \ 5 \rightarrow 6 \ 7 \rightarrow 2 \ 7 \rightarrow 5$

Bellman-Ford Algorithm Visualization

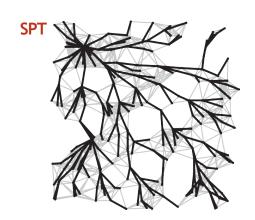




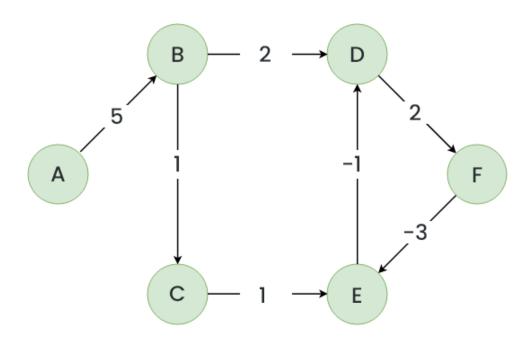




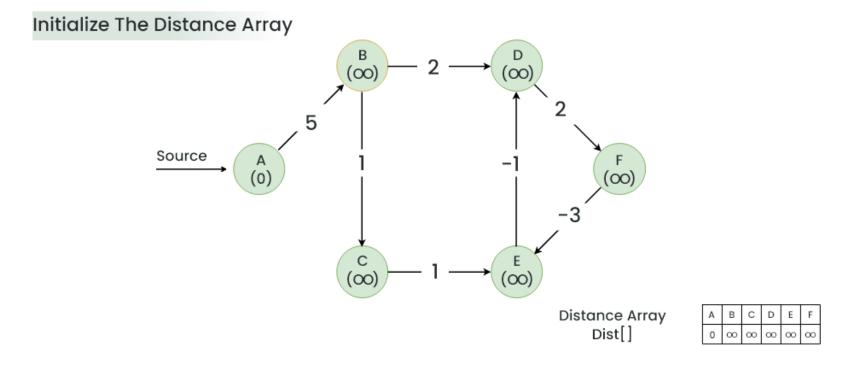




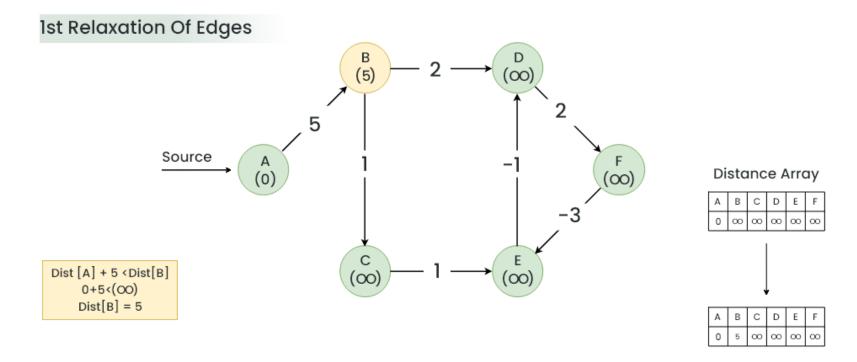
Bellman-Ford Algorithm Example 3 w. Negative Cycle



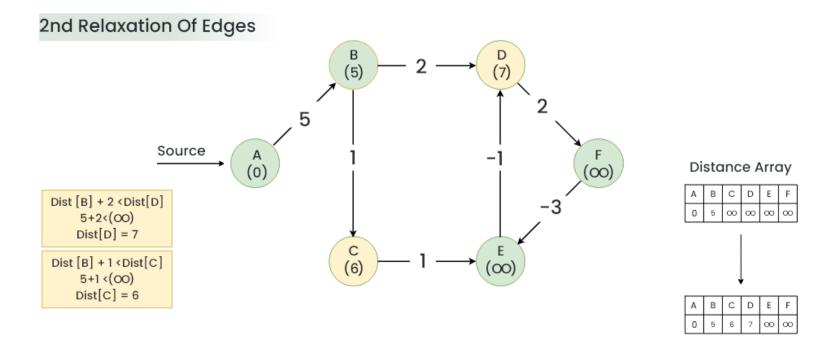
Step 1: Initialize a distance array Dist[] to store the shortest distance for each vertex from the source vertex. Initially distance of source will be 0 and Distance of other vertices will be INFINITY. distTo[N] = ∞



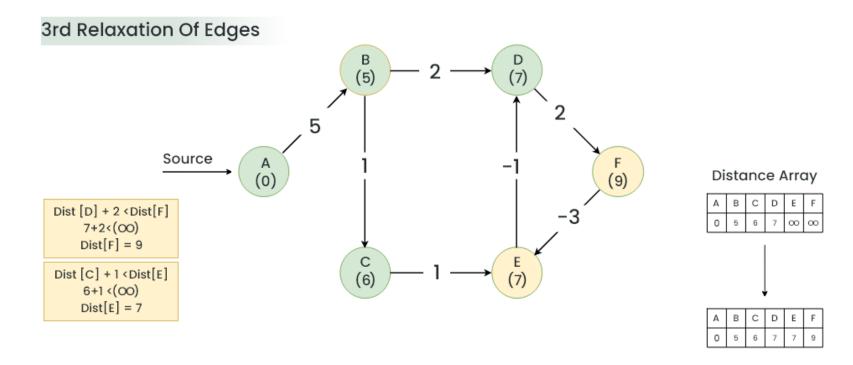
- Step 2: Start relaxing the edges, during 1st relaxation:
- OLD distTo[B] = ∞ > distTo[A] + e[A][B].weight() = 0+5 = 5
- NEW distTo[B] = distTo[A] + e[A][B].weight() = 5



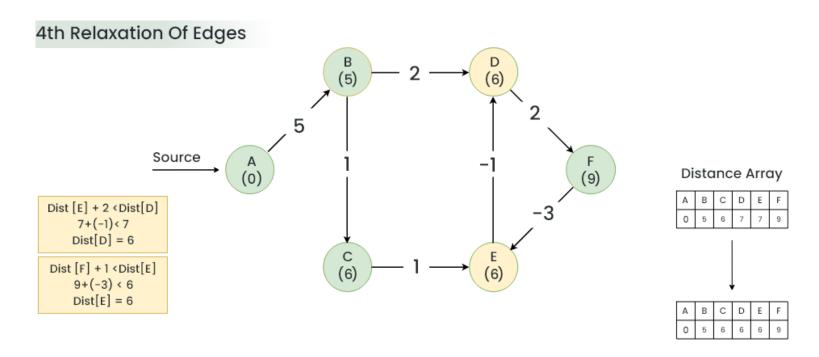
- Step 3: During 2nd relaxation:
- OLD distTo[D] = ∞ > distTo[B] + e[B][D].weight() = 5+2 = 7
- NEW distTo[D] \leftarrow distTo[B] + e[B][D].weight() = 7
- OLD distTo[C] = ∞ > distTo[B] + e[B][C].weight() = 5+1 = 6
- NEW distTo[C] \leftarrow distTo[B] + e[B][C].weight() = 6



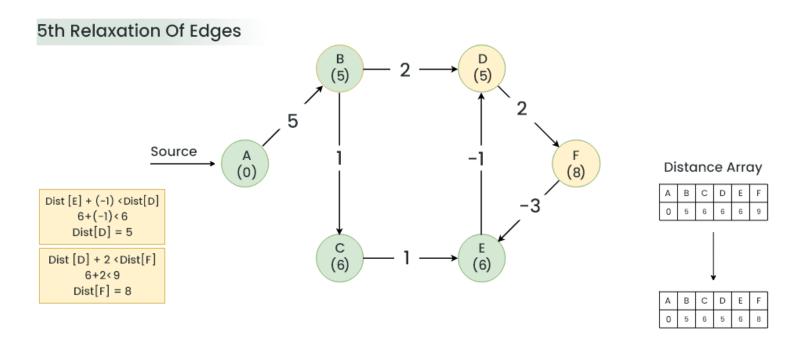
- Step 4: During 3rd relaxation:
- OLD distTo[F] = ∞ > distTo[D] + e[D][F].weight() = 7+2 = 9
- NEW distTo[F] \leftarrow distTo[D] + e[D][F].weight() = 9
- OLD distTo[E] = ∞ > distTo[C] + e[C][E].weight() = 6+1 = 7
- NEW distTo[E] \leftarrow distTo[C] + e[C][E].weight() = 7



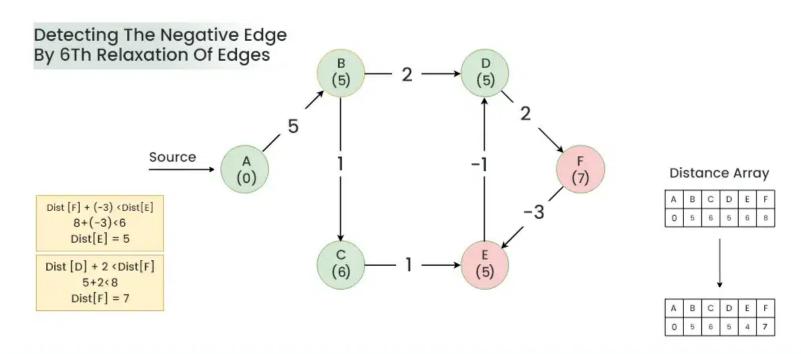
- Step 5: During 4th relaxation:
- OLD distTo[D] = 7 > distTo[E] + e[E][D].weight() = 7-1 = 6
- NEW distTo[D] \leftarrow distTo[E] + e[E][D].weight() = 6
- OLD distTo[E] = 7 > distTo[F] + e[F][E].weight() = 9-3 = 6
- NEW distTo[E] \leftarrow distTo[F] + e[F][E].weight() = 6



- Step 6: During 5th relaxation:
- OLD distTo[F] = 9 > distTo[D] + e[D][F].weight() = 6+2=8
- NEW distTo[D] \leftarrow distTo[D] + e[D][F].weight() = 8
- OLD distTo[D] = 6 > distTo[E] + e[E][D].weight() = 6-1 = 5
- NEW distTo[E] \leftarrow distTo[E] + e[E][D].weight() = 5
- Since the graph h 6 vertices, So during the 5th relaxation the shortest distance for all the vertices should have been calculated.



- Step 7: Now the final relaxation i.e. the 6th relaxation should indicate the presence of negative cycle if there is any changes in the distance array of 5th relaxation.
- During the 6th relaxation, following changes can be seen:
- OLD distTo[E] = 6 > distTo[F] + e[F][E].weight() = 8-3=5
- NEW distTo[D] \leftarrow distTo[F] + e[F][E].weight() = 5
- OLD distTo[F] = 8 > distTo[D] + e[D][F].weight() = 5+2 = 7
- NEW distTo[E] \leftarrow distTo[D] + e[D][F].weight() = 7
- Since, we observer changes in the Distance array. Hence ,we can conclude the presence of a negative cycle in the graph (D->F->E).



Dijkstra's Algorithm vs. Bellman-Ford Algorithm

Dijkstra's Algorithm:

- Uses a priority queue to select the next vertex to process.
- Greedily selects the vertex with the smallest tentative distance to source node.
- Works only on graphs with non-negative edge weights.
- Time complexity of $O(V^2)$ for a dense graph and $O(E \log V)$ for a sparse graph.

Bellman-Ford Algorithm:

- Iteratively relaxes all edges V-1 times, where V is the number of vertices.
- Does not use a priority queue.
- Can handle graphs with negative edge weights, and can detect negative cycles.
- Time complexity of O(VE), where V is the number of vertices and E is the number of edges in the graph.
- Dijkstra's algorithm is faster and more efficient for graphs with nonnegative weights, the Bellman-Ford Algorithm Example 1 is more versatile as it can handle negative weights and detect negative cycles, albeit at the cost of lower efficiency.

- Given a directed graph where weight of every edge is same, we can most efficiently find shortest path from a given source to destination using?
 - A. Breadth First Traversal
 - B. Dijkstra\'s Shortest Path Algorithm
 - C. Neither Breadth First Traversal nor Dijkstra\'s algorithm can be used
 - D. Depth First Search
- ANS: A
- With BFS, we first explore vertices at one edge distance, then all vertices at 2 edge distance, and so on.

Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph with a subgraph G1 = (V1, E1). Weights are assigned to edges of G as follows:

$$w(e) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } e \in E_1 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- A single-source shortest path algorithm is executed on the weighted graph (V, E, w) with an arbitrary vertex v1 of V1 as the source. Which of the following can always be inferred from the path costs computed?
- A. The number of edges in the shortest paths from v1 to all vertices of G
- B. G1 is connected or not
- C. V1 forms a clique in G
- D. G1 is a tree
- ANS: B
- When shortest path shortest path from v1 (one of the vertices in V1) is computed. G1 is connected if the distance from v1 to any other vertex in V1 is greater than 0, otherwise G1 is disconnected.

- Let G = (V, E) be a simple undirected graph, and s be a particular vertex in it called the source. For $x \in V$, let d(x) denote the shortest distance in G from s to x. A breadth first search (BFS) is performed starting at s. Let T be the resultant BFS tree. If (u, v) is an edge of G that is not in T, then which one of the following CANNOT be the value of d(u) d(v)?
- A. -1 B. 0 C. 1 D. 2
- ANS: D
- Note that the given graph is undirected, so an edge (u, v) also means (v, u) is also an edge. Since a shorter path can always be obtained by using edge (u, v) or (v, u), the difference between d(u) and d(v) can not be more than 1.

- Which of the following algorithm can be used to efficiently calculate single source shortest paths in a Directed Acyclic Graph?
 - Dijkstra
 - Bellman-Ford
 - Topological Sort
 - Strongly Connected Component
- ANS: Topological Sort
- Using Topological Sort, we can find single source shortest paths in O(V+E) time which is the most efficient algorithm

- Given a graph where all edges have positive weights, the shortest paths produced by Dijsktra and Bellman Ford algorithm may be different but path weight would always be same.
- ANS: True
- Dijkstra and Bellman-Ford both work fine for a graph with all positive weights, but they are different algorithms and may pick different edges for shortest paths.

- Match the following
 - Group A
 - a) Dijkstra's single shortest path algo
 - b) Bellmen Ford's single shortest path algo
 - c) Floyd Warshall's all pair shortest path algo
 - Group B
 - p) Dynamic Programming
 - q) Backtracking
 - r) Greedy Algorithm
- Dijkstra is a greedy algorithm where we pick the minimum distant vertex from not yet finalized vertices. Bellman Ford and Floyd Warshall both are Dynamic Programming algorithms where we build the shortest paths in bottom up manner.

- Let G be a directed graph whose vertex set is the set of numbers from 1 to 100. There is an edge from a vertex i to a vertex j if either j = i + 1 or j = 3i. The minimum number of edges in a path in G from vertex 1 to vertex 100 is
- A. 4 B. 7 C. 23 D. 99
- ANS: 7
- The task is to find minimum number of edges in a path in G from vertex 1 to vertex 100 such that we can move to either i+1 or 3i from a vertex i.
- Since the task is to minimize number of edges, we would prefer to follow 3*i. Let us follow multiple of 3. $1 \Rightarrow 3 \Rightarrow 9 \Rightarrow 27 \Rightarrow 81$, now we can't follow multiple of 3 anymore. So we will have to follow i+1. This solution gives a long path.
- What if we begin from end, and we reduce by 1 if the value is not multiple of 3, else we divide by 3. $100 \Rightarrow 99 \Rightarrow 33 \Rightarrow 11 \Rightarrow 10 \Rightarrow 9 \Rightarrow 3 \Rightarrow 1$
- So we need total 7 edges.