

# ALGORITHMS AND DATA STRUCTURES II

## Lecture 5

Shortest Paths,  
Dijkstra's algorithm,  
Bellman-Ford algorithm

1/30

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# SHORTEST PATH

- Given a weighted directed graph, one common problem is finding the shortest path between two given vertices.
- Recall that in a weighted graph, the **length** of a path is the sum of the weights of each of the edges in that path.

# SHORTEST PATH

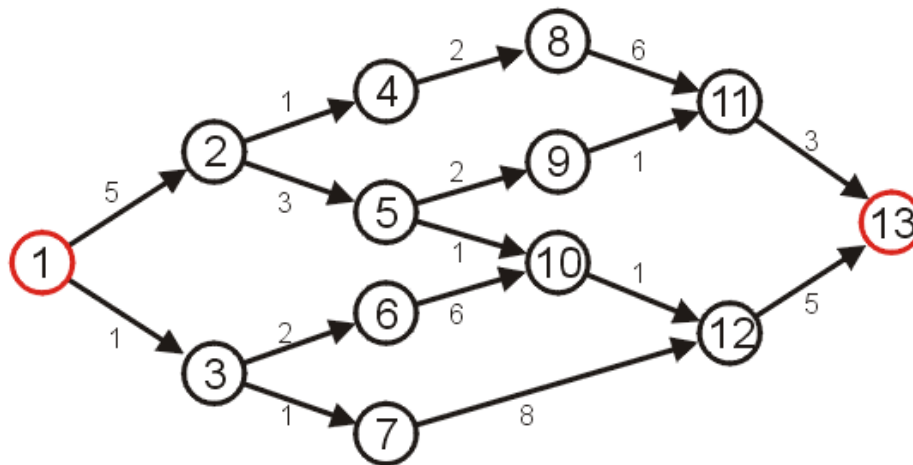
## ○ Google Maps – Directions

○ How to find the shortest path from **A** to **B**?



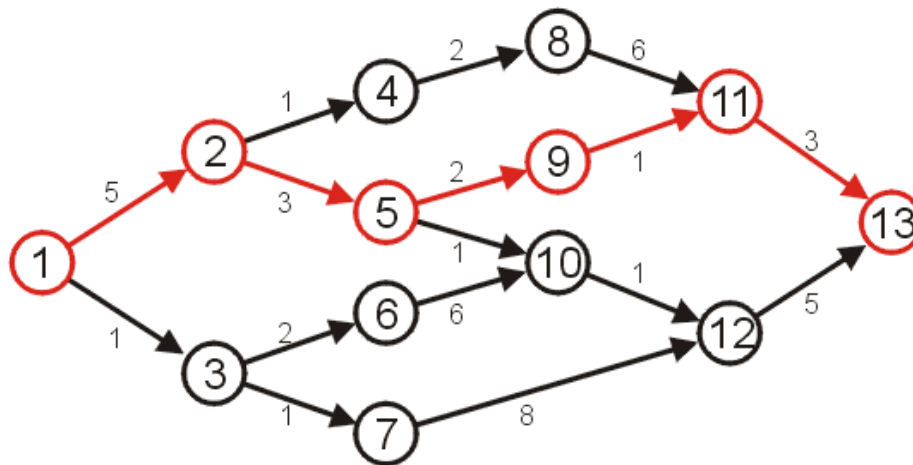
# SHORTEST PATH

- Given the graph below, suppose we wish to find the shortest path from vertex 1 to vertex 13



# SHORTEST PATH

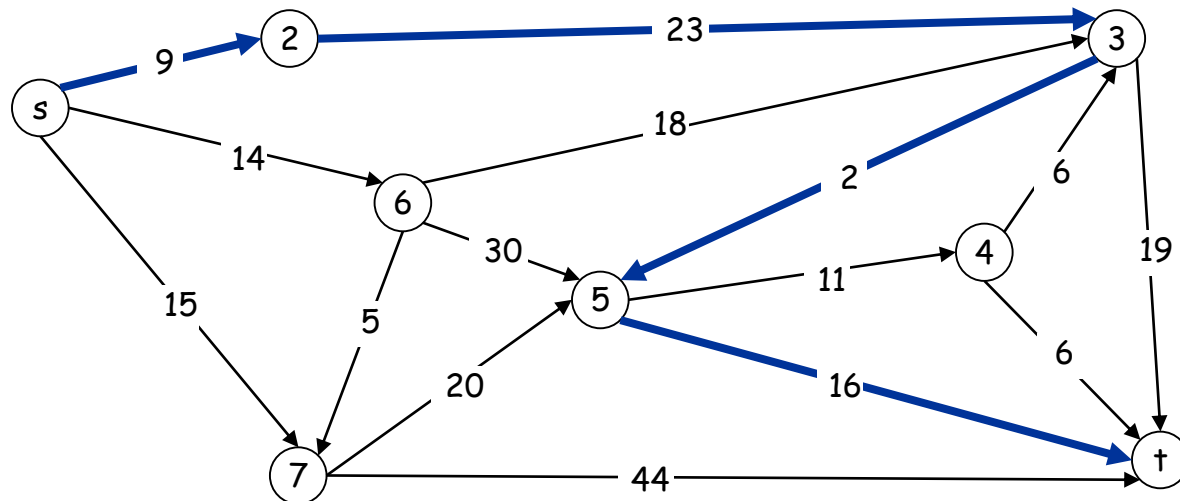
- After some consideration, we may determine that the shortest path is as follows, with length 14



- Other paths exist, but they are longer.

# SHORTEST PATH EXAMPLE

- Given:
  - Weighted Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
  - Source  $s$ , destination  $t$ .
- Find shortest directed path from  $s$  to  $t$ .



Cost of path  $s-2-3-5-t$   
 $= 9 + 23 + 2 + 16$   
 $= 48.$

# SHORTEST PATH

## ○ Which vertices?

- **Source-sink**: from one vertex to another.
- **Single source**: from one vertex to every other.
- **All pairs**: between all pairs of vertices.

## ○ Restriction on edge weights?

- Nonnegative weights.
- Arbitrary weights.
- No weights / equal weights.

## ○ Cycles?

- No cycles.
- No “negative cycles”.

# SHORTEST PATH

## ○ Applications:

- Map routing.
- Robot navigation.
- Texture mapping.
- Typesetting in TeX.
- Urban traffic planning.
- Optimal pipelining of VLSI chips.
- Routing of telecommunication messages.
- Network routing protocols - OSPF, BGP, RIP.
- Exploiting arbitrage opportunities in currency exchange.



# SHORTEST PATH

- A key observation is that if the **shortest path** between vertices  $s$  and  $t$  contains vertex  $v$ , then:
  - It will contain  $v$  once, as any cycles will only add to the length.
  - The shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  must be the shortest path to  $v$  from  $s$ .
  - The shortest path from  $v$  to  $t$  must be the shortest path to  $t$  from  $v$ .
- If we can determine the shortest path to all other vertices that are incident to the target vertex we can easily compute the shortest path.



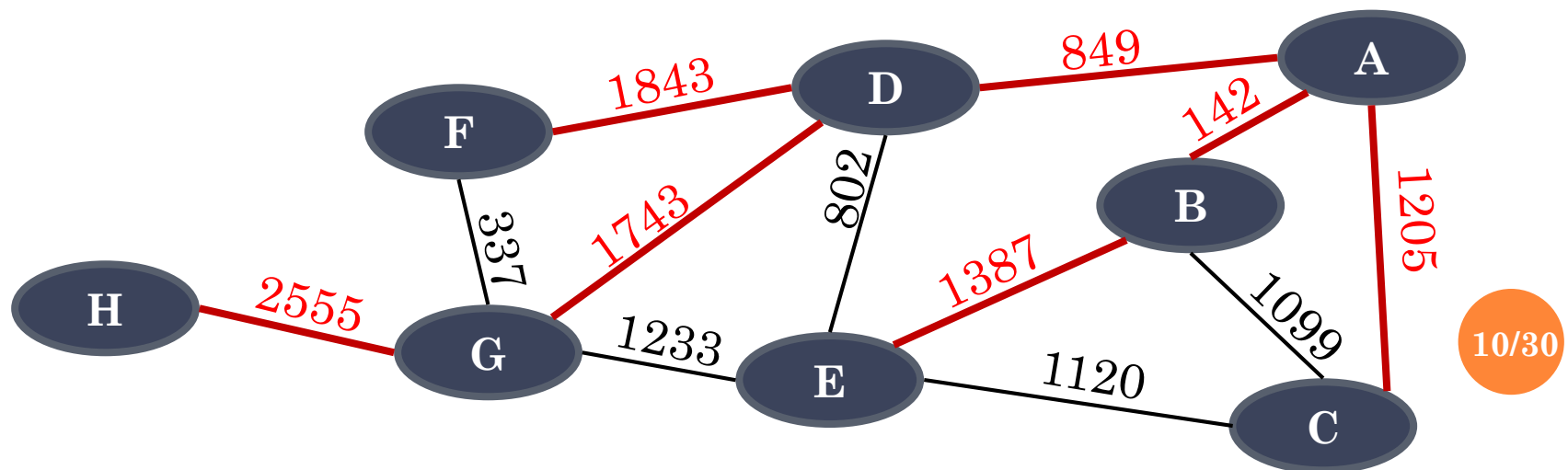
# SHORTEST PATH

## ○ Properties:

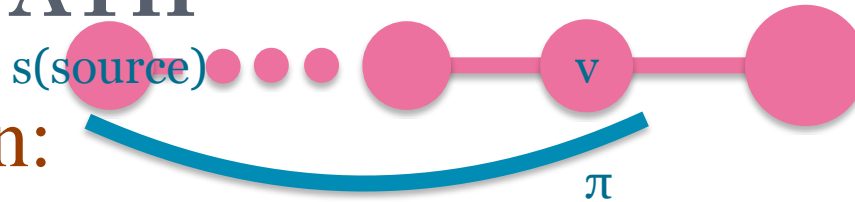
- A sub-path of a shortest path is itself a shortest path.
- There is a tree of shortest paths from a start vertex to all the other vertices.

## ○ Example:

- Tree of shortest paths from vertex **A**.



# SHORTEST PATH



## ○ Representation:

- Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , for each vertex  $v \in V$  we maintain a predecessor  $v.\pi$  that is either another vertex or  $NIL$ .
- Shortest path algorithms set the  $\pi$  attribute so that the chain of predecessors originating at a vertex  $v$  runs backwards along a shortest path from  $s$  (the source node) to  $v$ .
- We are interested in the predecessor sub-graph  $G_\pi = (V_\pi, E_\pi)$  induced by the  $\pi$  values:

$$V_\pi = \{v \in V : \underline{v.\pi \neq NIL}\} \cup \{s\}$$

$$E_\pi = \{(v.\pi, v) \in E : v \in V - \{s\}\}$$

# SHORTEST PATH

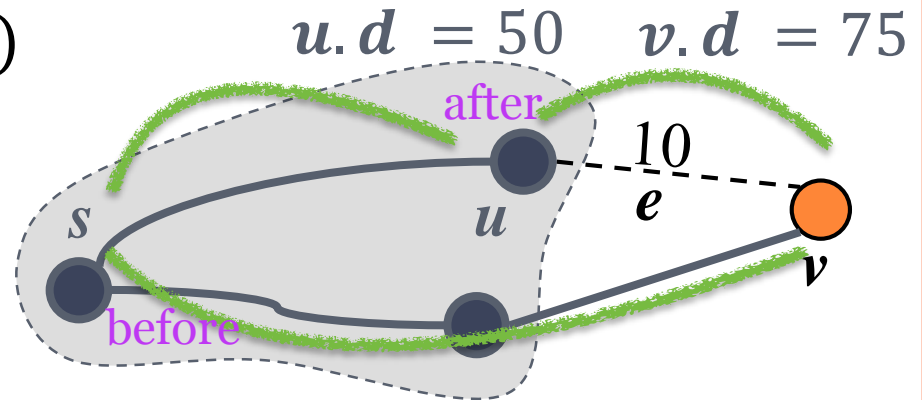
## ○ Edge relaxation.

- Shortest path algorithms are based on the technique called **relaxation**.
- For each vertex we maintain attribute  $v.d$  which is an upper bound on the weight of a shortest path from source  $s$  to  $v$ .
- Relaxing the edge  $(u, v)$  consists of testing whether we can improve the shortest path to  $v$  found so far by going through  $u$ , and if so, updating  $v.\pi$  and  $v.d$ .

# EDGE RELAXATION

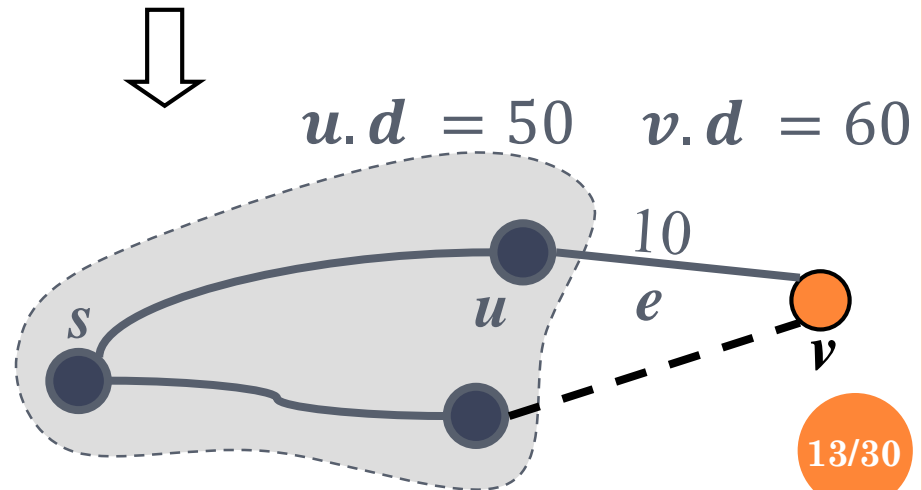
- Consider an edge  $e = (u, v)$  such that

- $u$  is the vertex most recently added to the tree.
- $v$  is not in the tree.



- The relaxation of edge  $e$  updates distance  $v.d$  as follows:

$$v.d = \min\{v.d, u.d + \text{weight}(e)\}$$



# SHORTEST PATH

## Initialization and relaxation algorithms.

**def INIT-SS ( $G, s$ ):**

// Initializes shortest  
// single source tree  
// Input: Graph  $G$   
// source vertex  $s$ .

**for each**  $u \in G.V$ :

$u.d = \infty$

$u.\pi = NIL$

$s.d = 0$

**def RELAX ( $u, v, w$ ):**

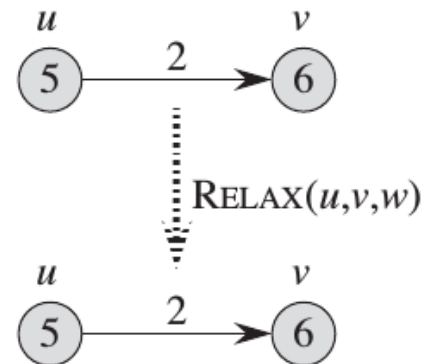
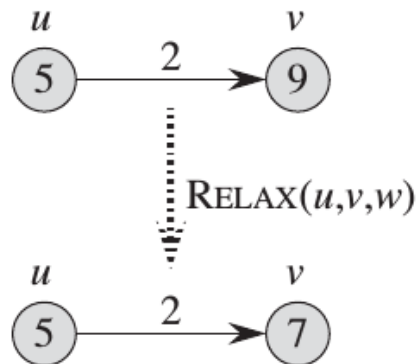
// Performs relaxation  
// step on edge  $(u, v)$   
// Input: nodes  $u, v$  and  
// weight matrix  $w$ .

**if**  $v.d > u.d + w(u, v)$ :

$v.d = u.d + w(u, v)$

$v.\pi = u$

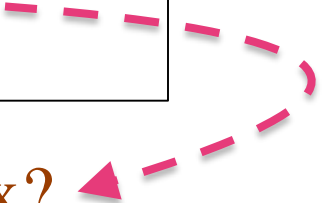
weight



# SHORTEST PATH

- Generic algorithm for finding shortest path tree (SPT).

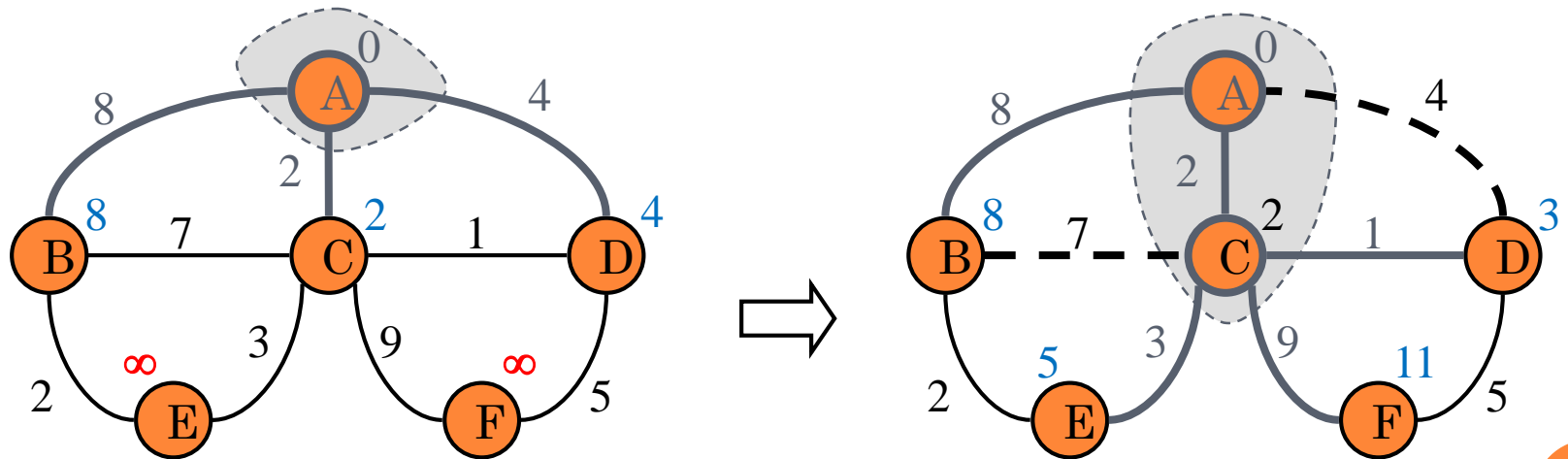
```
def SPT (G, s, w):  
    // Generic algorithm  
    INIT-SS (G, s)  
    while SPT not ready:  
        choose edge (u, v)  
        RELAX (u, v, w)
```



- How to choose which edge to relax?
  - Dijkstra's algorithm (nonnegative weights).
  - Topological sort algorithm (no directed cycles).
  - Bellman-Ford algorithm (no negative cycles).

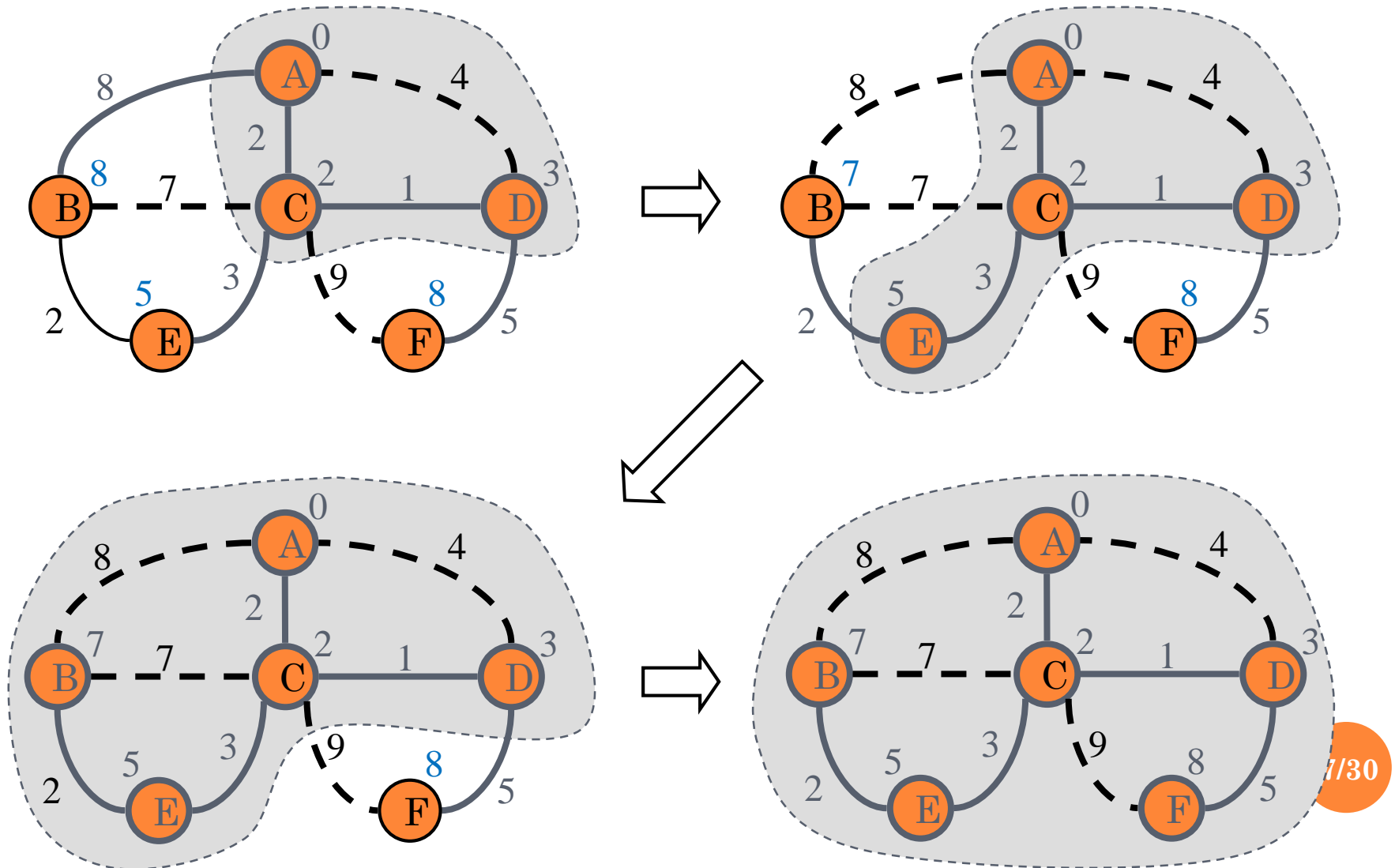
# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

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



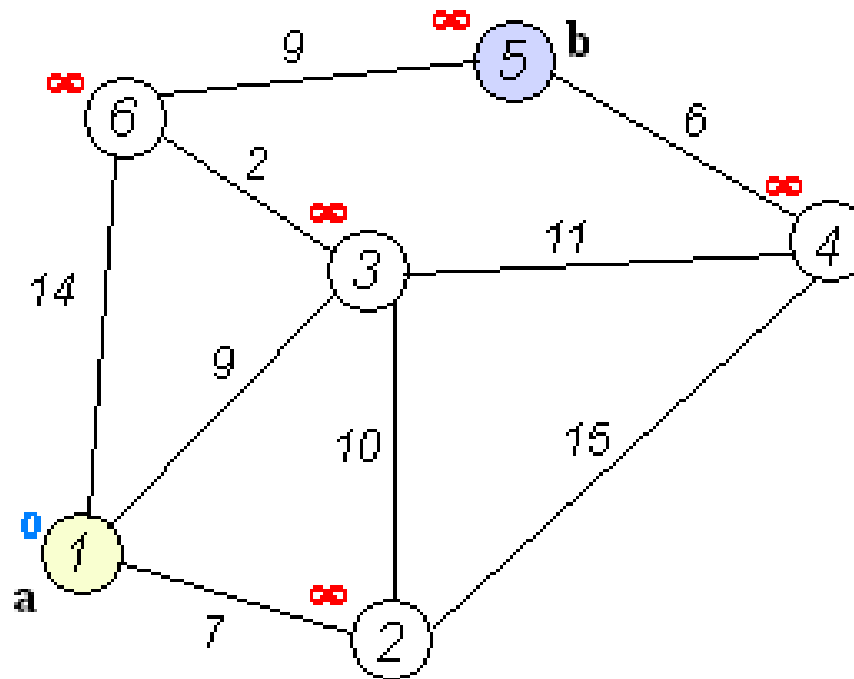


# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM



# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

- Animated example of finding shortest path between vertex *a* and vertex *b*.



# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

## ○ Implementation:

- Uses min-priority queue of vertices keyed by their  $d$  values.

```
def DIJKSTRA ( $G, s, w$ ):  
    // Dijkstra's algorithm based on min-priority queue  
    // Input: Graph  $G$ , start node  $s$ , weight matrix  $w$ .  
    INIT-SS ( $G, s$ )  
     $Q = \text{MIN-PRIORITY-QUEUE}(G.V)$   
    while  $Q \neq \emptyset$ :  
         $u = \text{EXTRACT-MIN}(Q)$   
        for each  $v \in G.Adj[u]$ :  
            RELAX ( $u, v, w$ )
```

# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM

## ○ Time complexity:

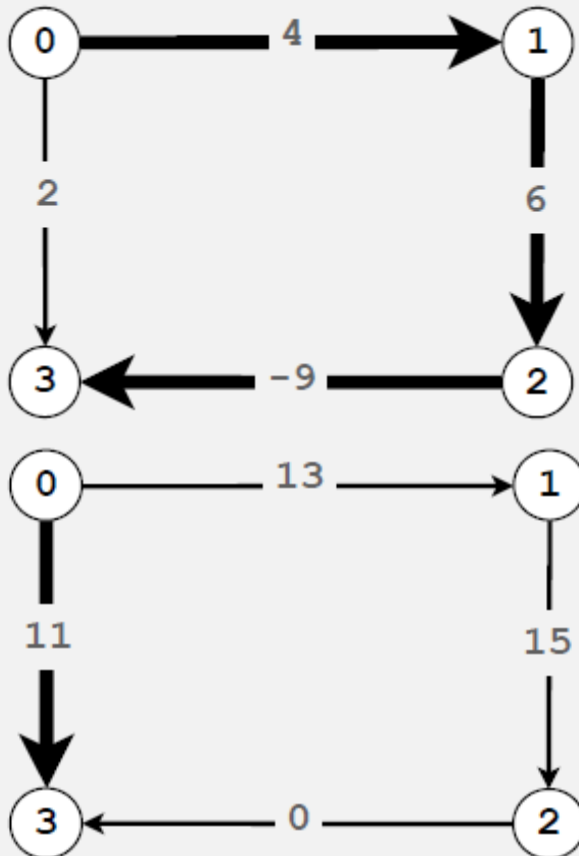
- Label operations
  - We set/get the distance and parents of vertex  $v$   $O(\deg(z))$  times. Each such operation takes  $O(1)$  time.
- Priority queue operations
  - Each vertex is inserted once into and removed once from the priority queue, where each insertion or removal takes  $O(\log V)$  time. In total -  $V \cdot O(\log V)$
  - The key of a vertex in the priority queue is modified at most  $\deg(w)$  times, where each key change takes  $O(\log V)$  time. In total -  $E \cdot O(\log V)$
- Dijkstra's algorithm runs in  $O((V + E) \log V)$  time provided the graph is represented by the adjacency list structure.

# PRIORITY-FIRST SEARCH

- **Observation:** Four of our graph-search methods are the same algorithm!
  - Maintain a set of explored vertices  $S$ .
  - Grow  $S$  by *exploring edges with exactly one endpoint leaving  $S$ .*
- **DFS.** Take edge from vertex which was discovered **most** recently.
- **BFS.** Take edge from vertex which was discovered **least** recently.
- **Prim.** Take edge of **minimum** weight.
- **Dijkstra.** Take edge to vertex that is **closest** to  $S$ .

# SHORTEST PATH - NEGATIVE WEIGHTS

- **Dijkstra.** Doesn't work with negative weights!



Dijkstra selects vertex 3 immediately after 0.  
But shortest path from 0 to 3 is  $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$ .

Adding 9 to each edge weight changes the  
shortest path from  $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$  to  $0 \rightarrow 3$ .

# SHORTEST PATH - NEGATIVE CYCLE

- **Negative cycle** - directed cycle whose sum of edge weights is negative.

4→5 0.35

5→4 -0.66

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

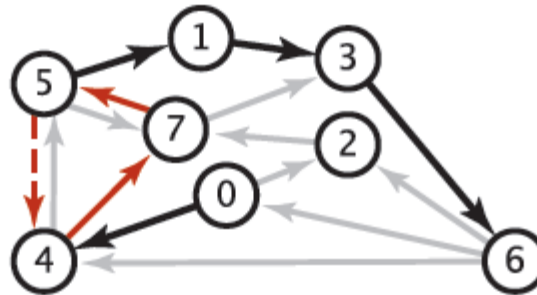
2→7 0.34

6→2 0.40

3→6 0.52

6→0 0.58

6→4 0.93



**negative cycle**  $(-0.66 + 0.37 + 0.28)$

5→4→7→5

**shortest path from 0 to 6**

0→4→7→5→4→7→5...→1→3→6

- **SPT** exists if there are no negative cycles!

# SHORTEST PATH - NEGATIVE WEIGHTS

## ○ SPT algorithm:

- Step 1. Initialize.
- Step 2. Relax all edges  $V - 1$  times.

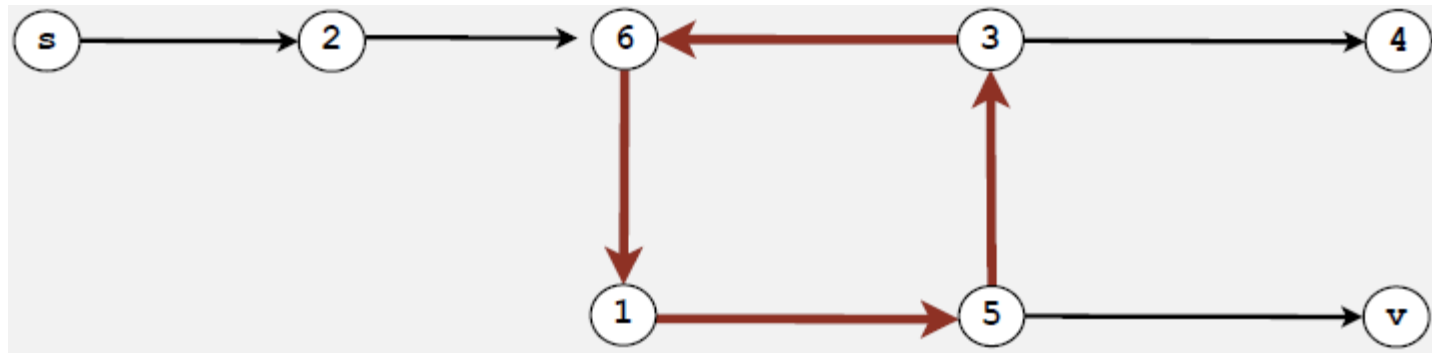
```
def BELLMAN-FORD (G, s, w):  
    // Bellman-Ford algorithm, no negative cycles.  
    // Input: Graph  $G$ , start node  $s$ , weight matrix  $w$ .  
    INIT-SS (G, s)  
    for  $i=1$  to  $|G.V|-1$ :  
        for each edge  $(u,v) \in G.E$ :  
            RELAX (u, v, w)
```

- The running time is proportional to  $|E| \cdot |V|$  in the worst case, so  **$O(EV)$** .



# FINDING A NEGATIVE CYCLE

- If there is a negative cycle, Bellman-Ford gets stuck in loop, updating  $d$  and  $\pi$  attributes of vertices in the cycle.



- If any vertex  $v$  is updated at  $V^{th}$  loop, there exists a negative cycle.

# NEGATIVE CYCLE

- **Application:** Given table of exchange rates, is there an arbitrage opportunity?

	USD	EUR	GBP	CHF	CAD
USD	1	0.741	0.657	1.061	1.011
EUR	1.350	1	0.888	1.433	1.366
GBP	1.521	1.126	1	1.614	1.538
CHF	0.943	0.698	0.620	1	0.953
CAD	0.995	0.732	0.650	1.049	1

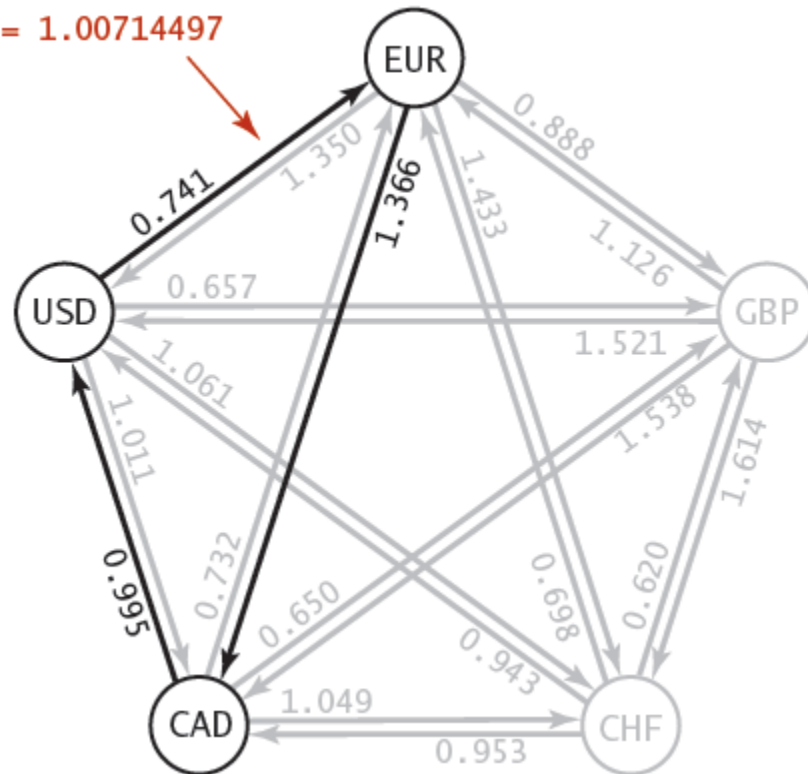
- Ex. \$1,000  $\Rightarrow$  741 Euros  $\Rightarrow$  1,012.206 Canadian dollars  $\Rightarrow$  \$1,007.14497. ( $1000 \times 0.741 \times 1.366 \times 0.995 = 1007.14497$ )

# NEGATIVE CYCLE

## ○ Currency exchange graph

- Vertex -> currency, Edge -> transaction, Weight -> exchange rate
- Find directed cycle with weight product > 1.

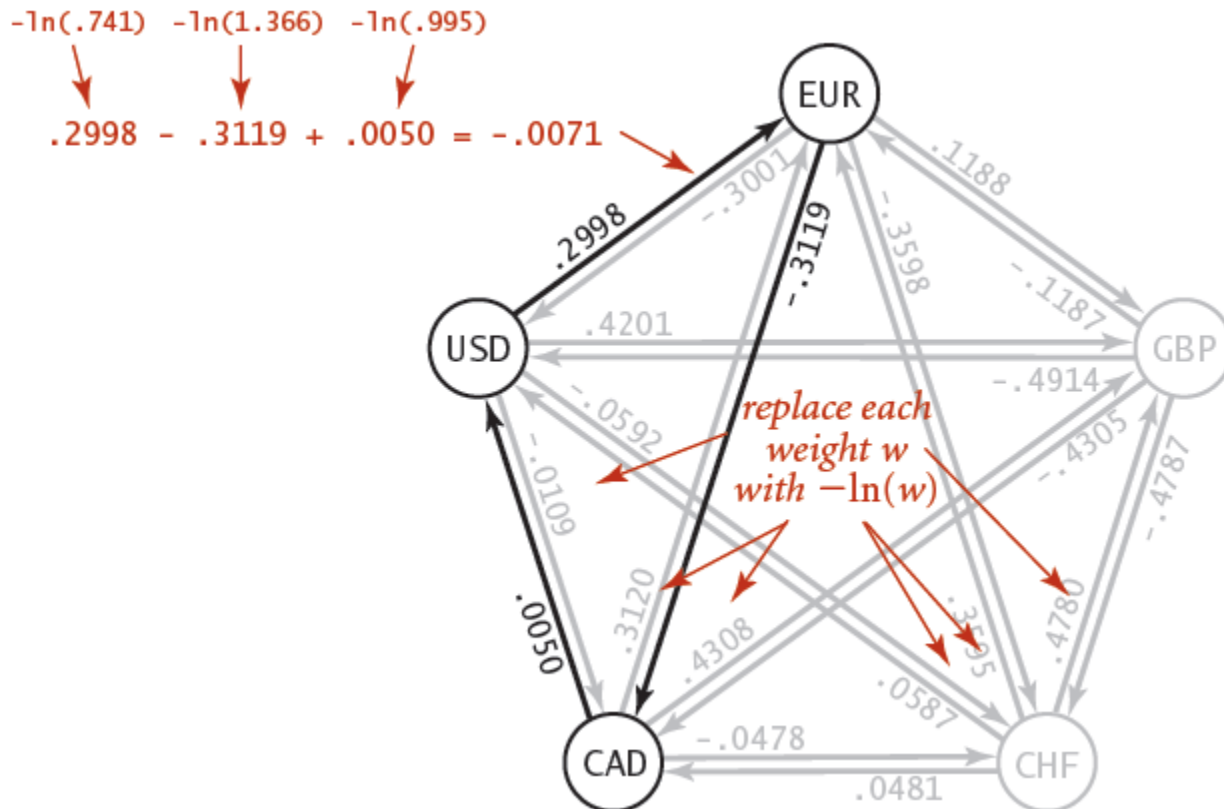
$$0.741 * 1.366 * .995 = 1.00714497$$



# NEGATIVE CYCLE

## ○ Currency exchange graph

- Take log of the weights:  $w \rightarrow -\ln(w)$ .
- Look for negative cycle.



# SHORTEST PATH SUMMARY

- Dijkstra's algorithm.

- Nearly linear-time when weights are nonnegative.
- Generalization encompasses DFS, BFS, and Prim.

- Negative weights and negative cycles.

- Arise in applications.
- If there are no negative cycles, we can find shortest paths via Bellman-Ford.
- If negative cycles exist, we can find one via Bellman-Ford.

- Shortest-paths is a broadly useful problem-solving model.

**THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY!**