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# Shortest Paths

# Shortest Paths: Part 1

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- | **Shortest Path Problem**

- | **Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm**

- | **Analysis**

# Definitions

**A path in a directed graph** is a sequence of vertices  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$  s.t. there is an edge connecting  $v_i$  to  $v_{i+1}$  for all  $i$

**A path in an undirected graph** is a sequence of vertices  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$  s.t. there is an edge connecting  $v_i$  and  $v_{i+1}$  for all  $i$

# Definitions

| The weight of a path  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$  is

$$w(p) = \sum_{i=1}^k w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$$

| The shortest-path weight from vertex  $u$  to vertex  $v$  is

$$\delta(u, v) = \begin{cases} \min \{w(p) : u \xrightarrow{p} v\} & (\exists p)(u \dots v) \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Applications: Navigation System

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Suppose you want to find the distance or travel time from one POI (point of interest) to another POI, you can ask Google:

<https://www.google.com/maps>

If you need to know how to go to an address, you can use an app on your phone.

Why doesn't your phone ask for the source?

# Vertex attributes, Initialization

| For each node,  $v$ , we have two attributes:  $v.d$ ,  $v.\pi$  representing the **current distance (from the source)** and the **current predecessor** of vertex  $v$ .

|  $v.d$  will not increase in the process.

| We initialize distance from the source to  $\infty$

## **Initialize-Single-Source( $G, s$ )**

1. for each vertex  $v \in V[G]$  do
2.      $v.d = \infty$
3.      $v.p = \text{nil}$
4.  $s.d = 0$

# Relax( $u, v, w$ )

We adjust (if it reduces) the distance at vertex  $v$  whenever we traverse an edge  $(u, v)$ .

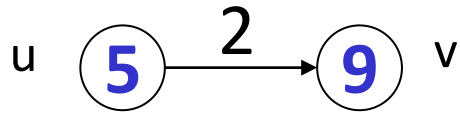
## Relax( $u, v, w$ )

1. if ( $v.d > u.d + w(u, v)$ ) then
2.      $v.d = u.d + w(u, v)$
3.      $v.p = u$

# Relax (u, v, w): Illustration

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**Before:**

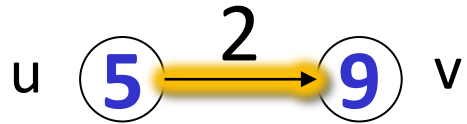




# Relax (u, v, w): Illustration

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**Relax:**



# Relax (u, v, w): Illustration

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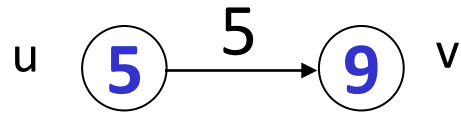
**Result:**



# Relax (u, v, w): Illustration

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**Before:**



# Relax (u, v, w): Illustration

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**Relax:**

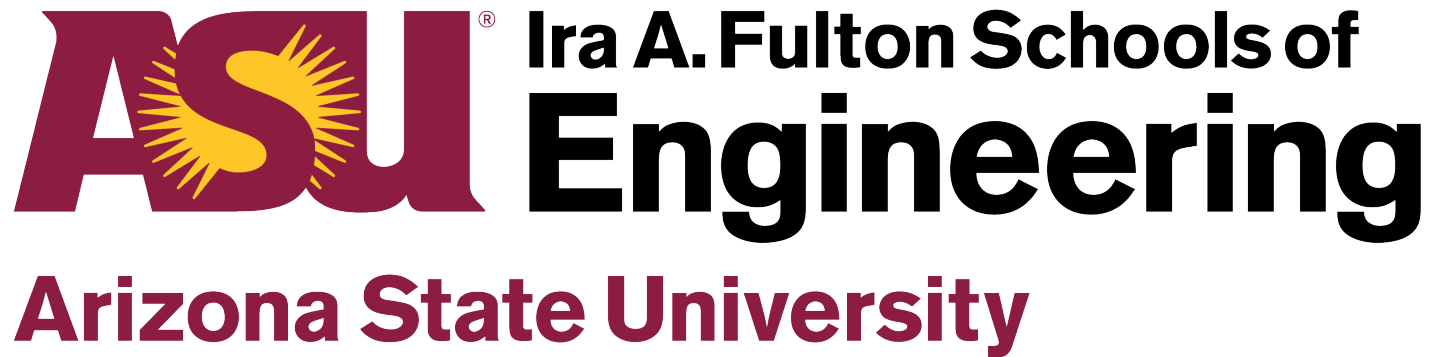


# Relax (u, v, w): Illustration

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**Result:**





# Shortest Paths: Part 2

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- | Shortest Path Problem

- | Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm

- | Analysis

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

| The idea of the algorithm is the following:

- Use a greedy algorithm
- Use a priority queue  $Q$ , where the key of vertex  $v$  is the currently computed distance from the source.
- Processed vertices are removed from  $Q$  and stored in a set  $S$



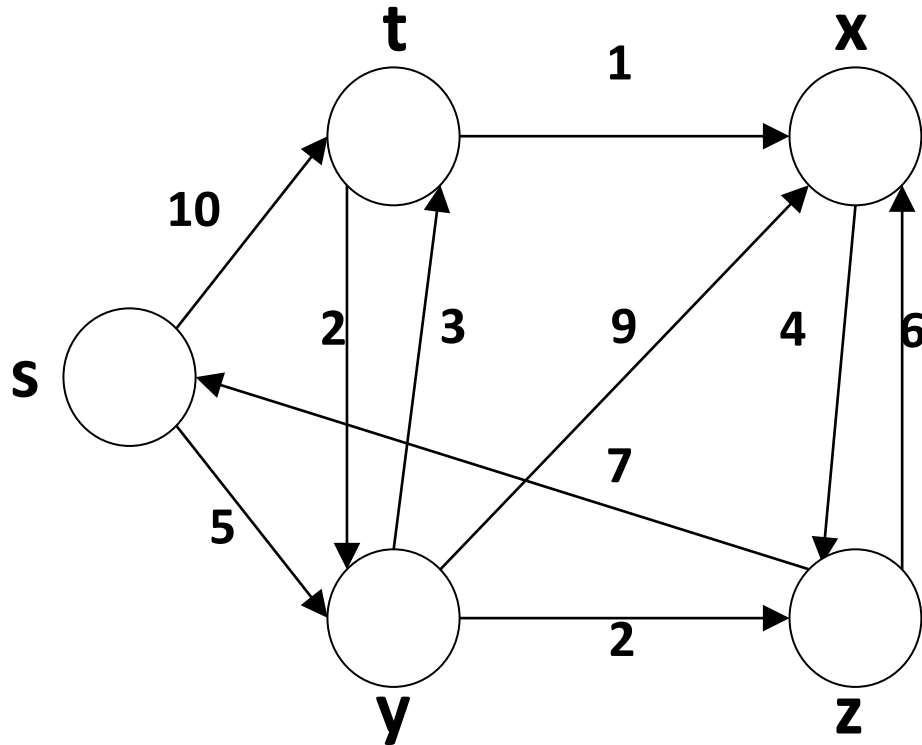


# Dijkstra's Algorithm

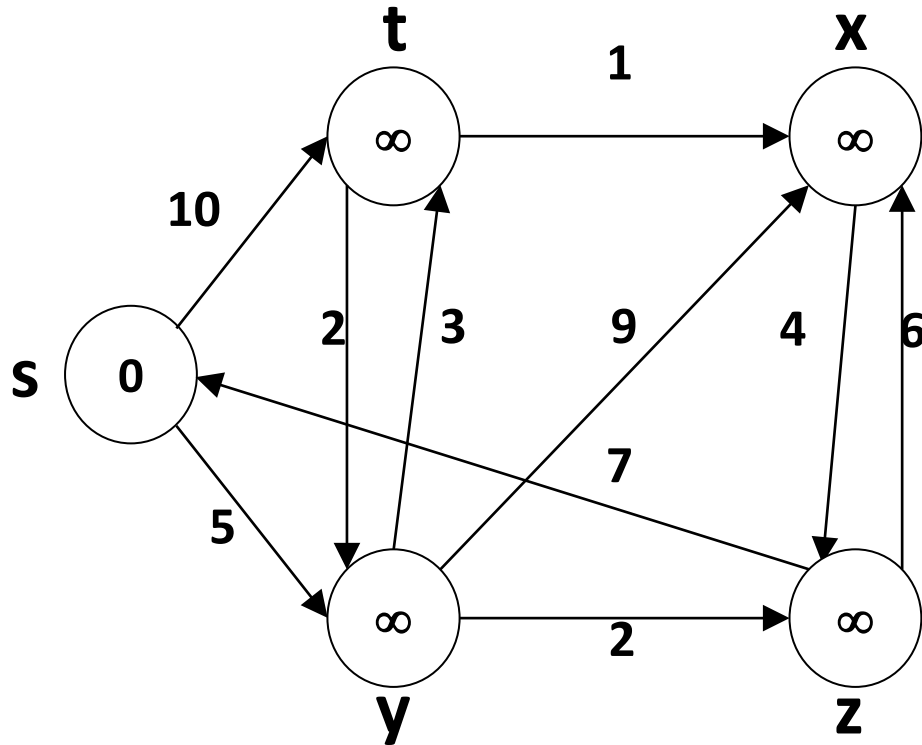
Dijkstra( $G, w, s$ )

1. Initialize-Single-Source( $G, s$ )
2.  $S = \phi$
3.  $Q = \phi$
4. **for** each vertex  $u \in G.V$
5.     Insert( $Q, u$ )
6. **while**  $Q \neq \phi$  **do**
7.      $u = \text{Extract-Min}(Q)$
8.      $S = S \cup \{u\}$
9.     **for** each vertex  $v \in u.\text{adj}$  **do**
10.         Relax( $u, v, w$ )
11.         if the call of Relax decreases  $v.d$
12.             Decrease-Key( $Q, v, v.d$ )

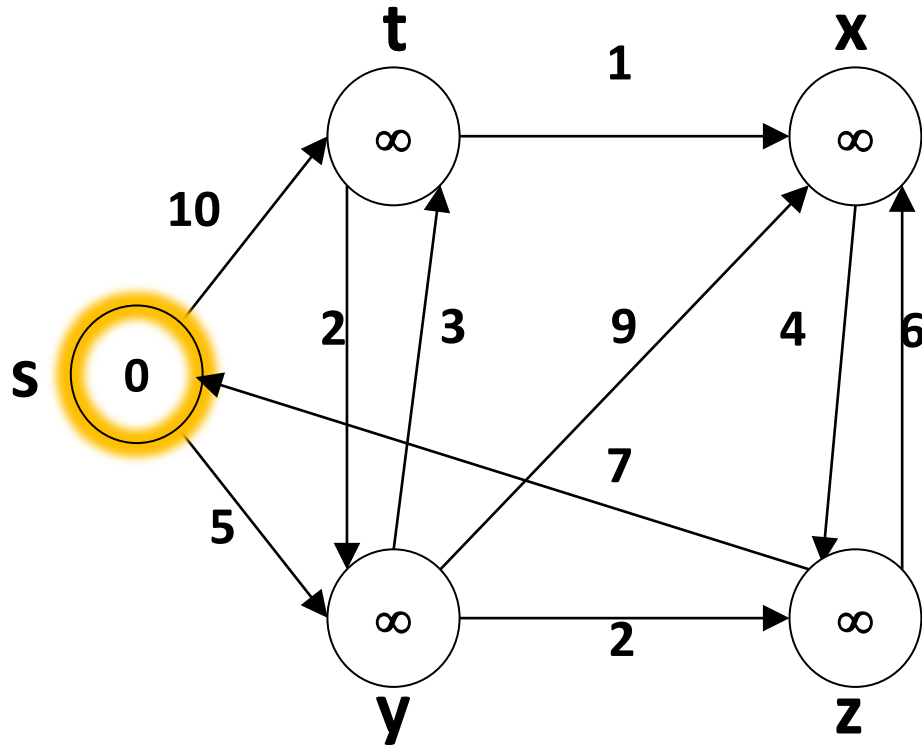
# Running Example



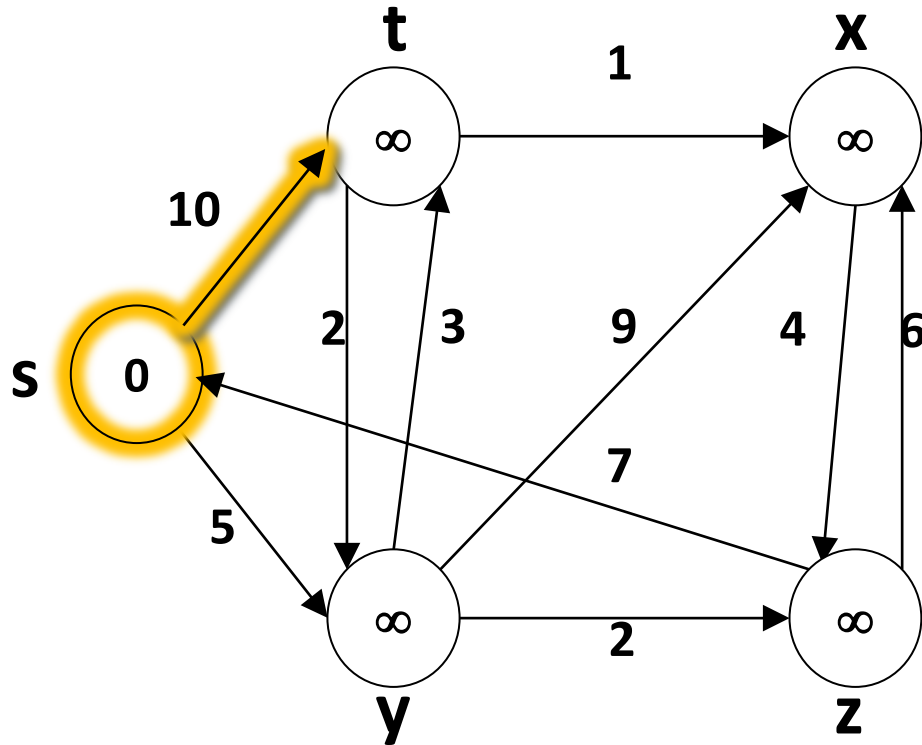
# Running Example



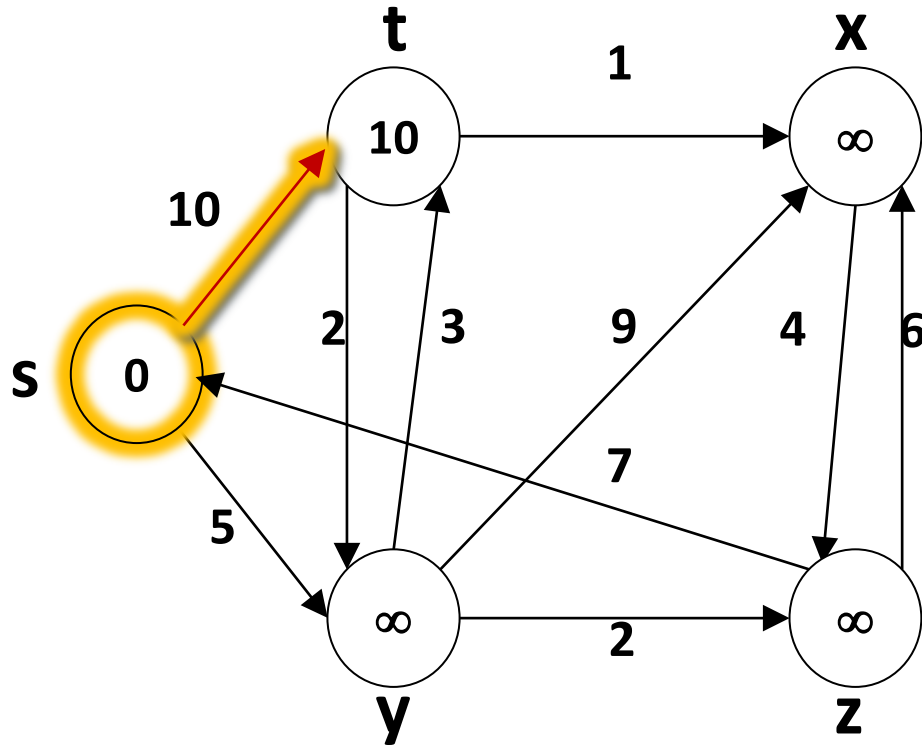
# Running Example



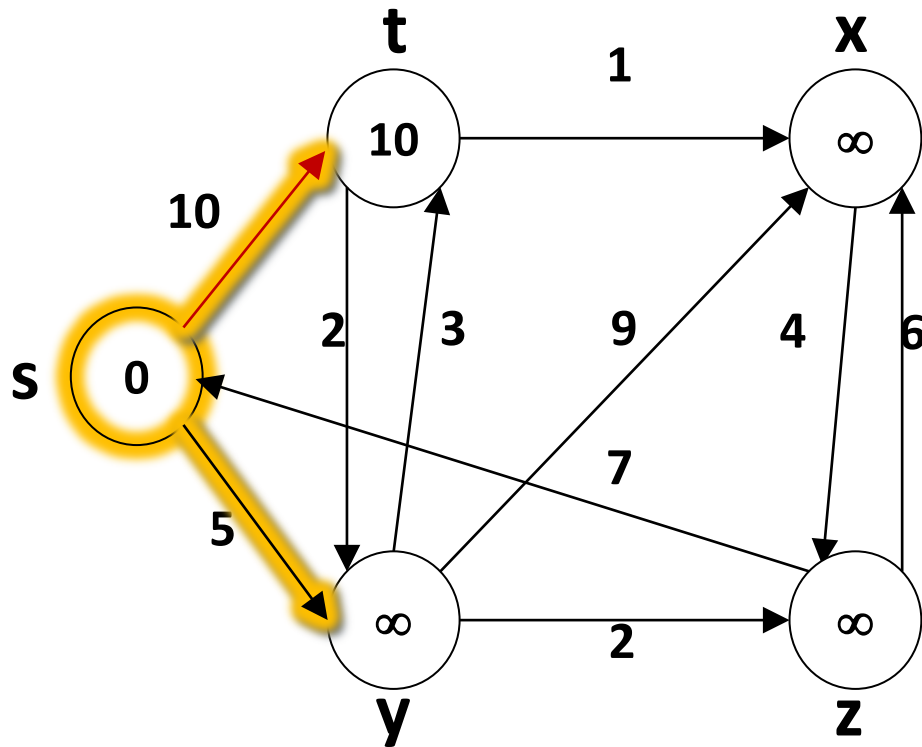
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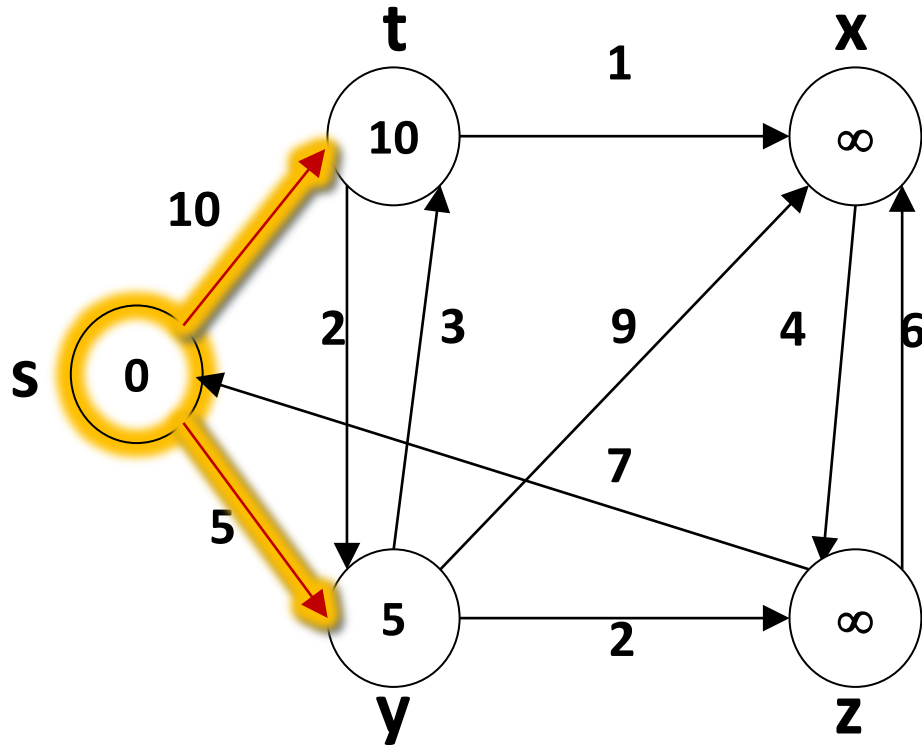
# Running Example



# Running Example

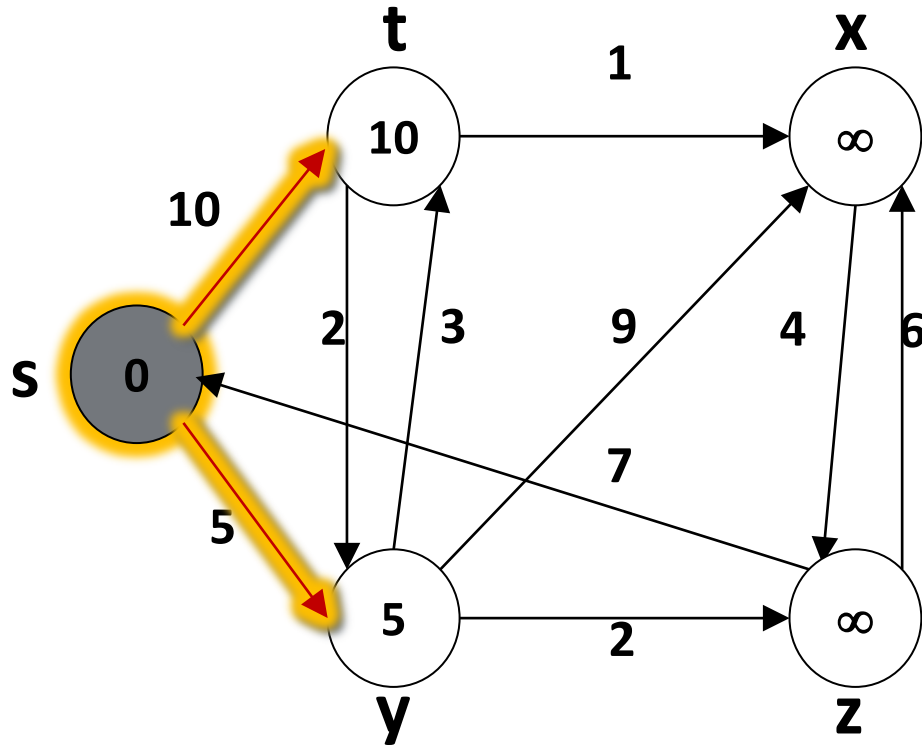


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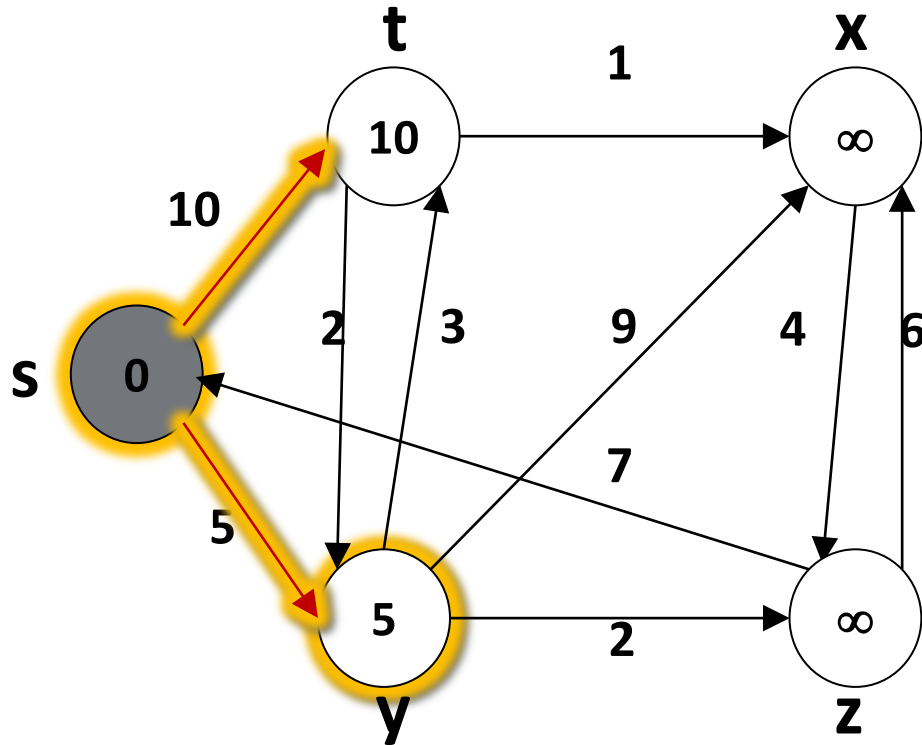




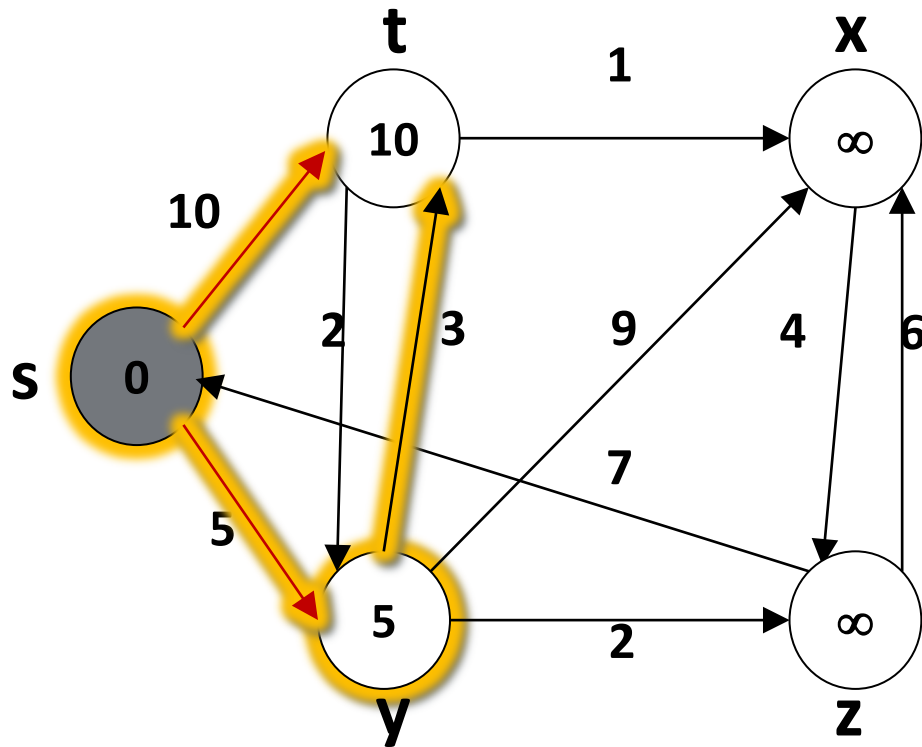
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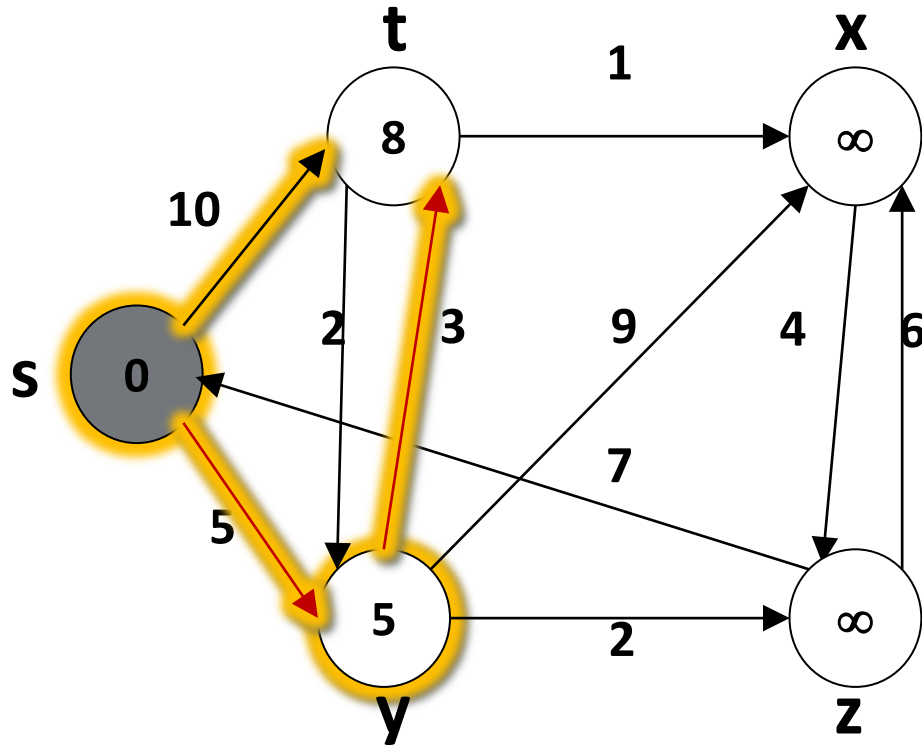
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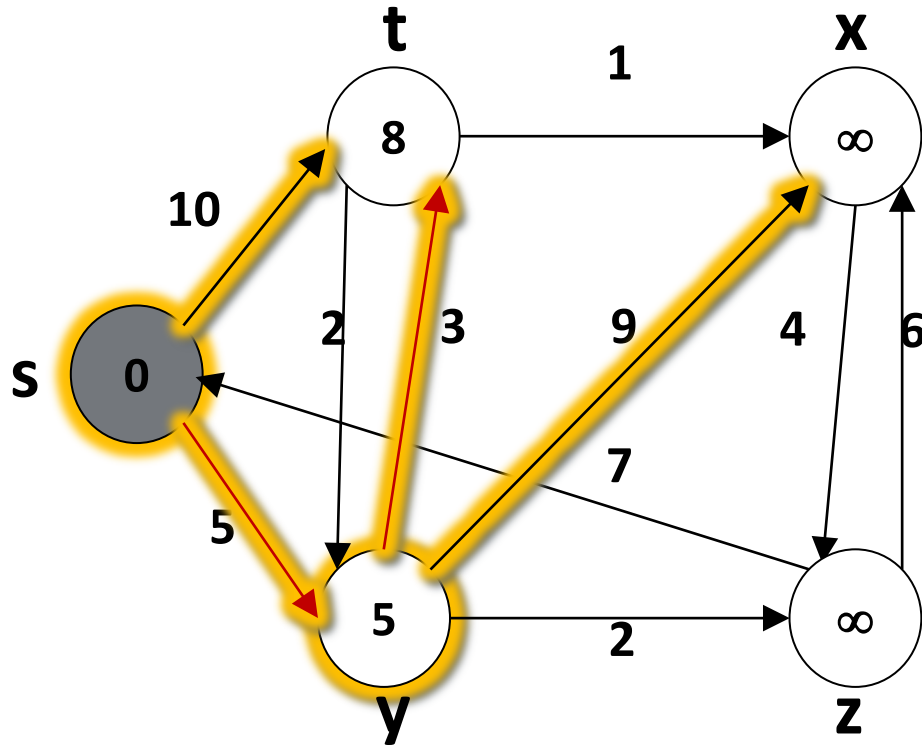
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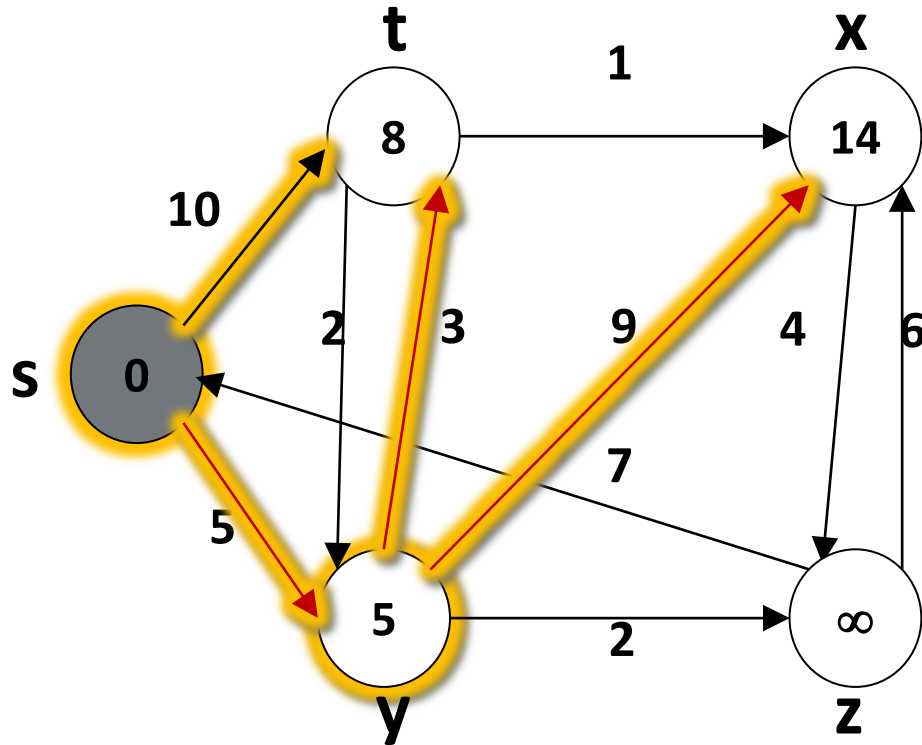
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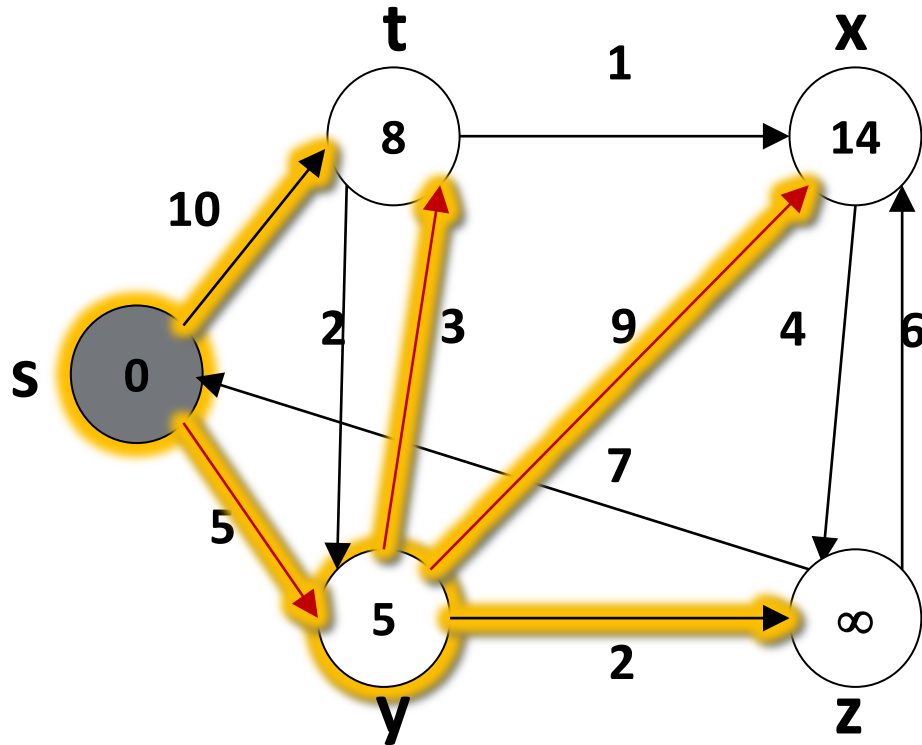
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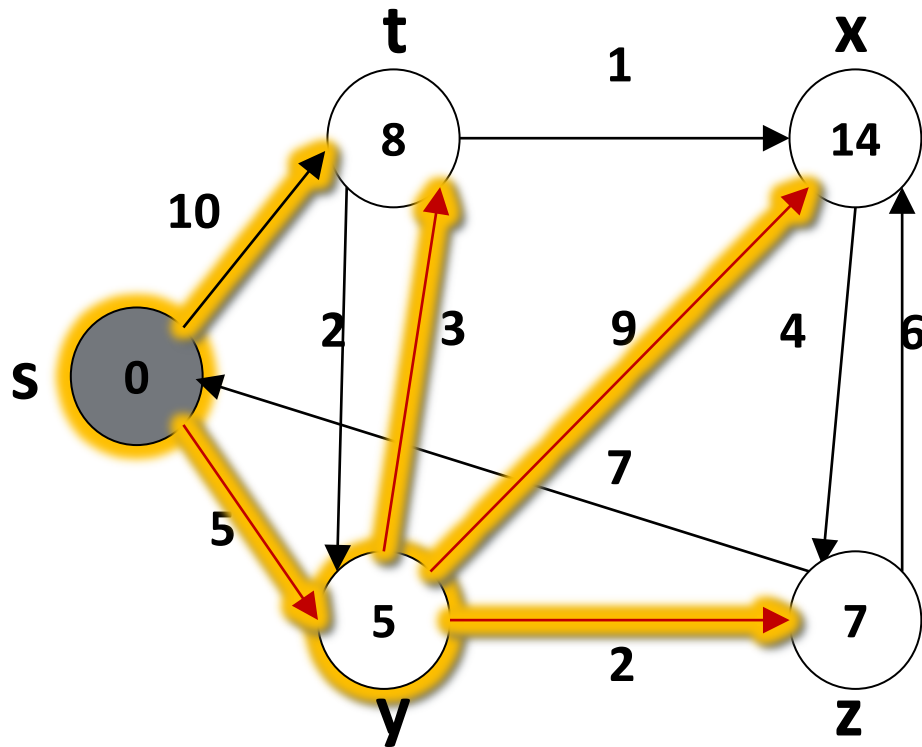
# Running Example



# Running Example

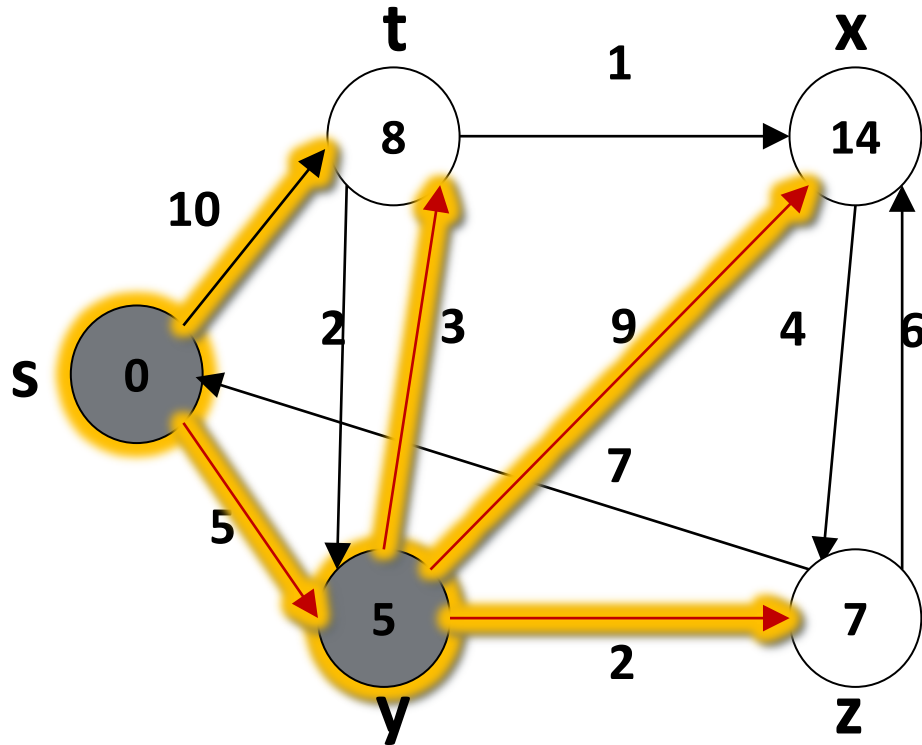


# Running Example

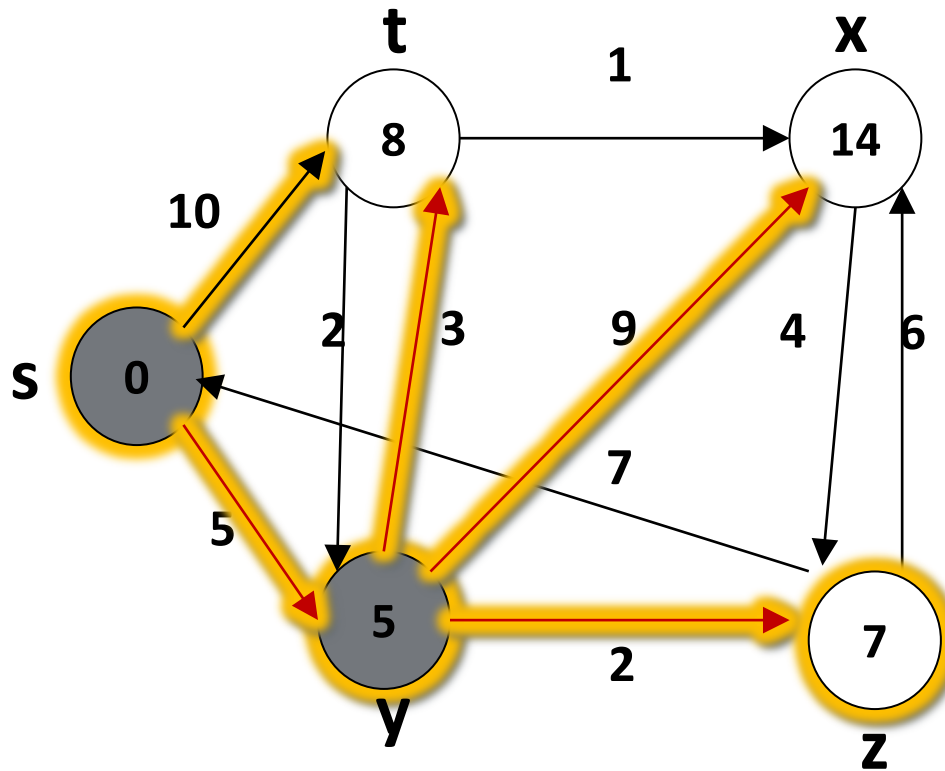




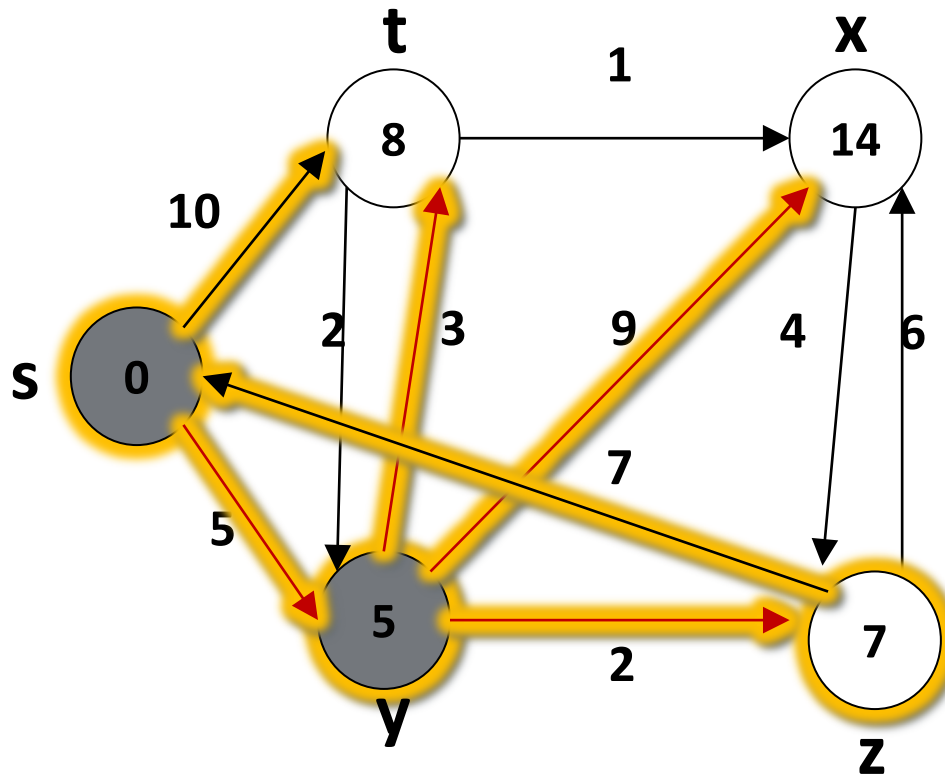
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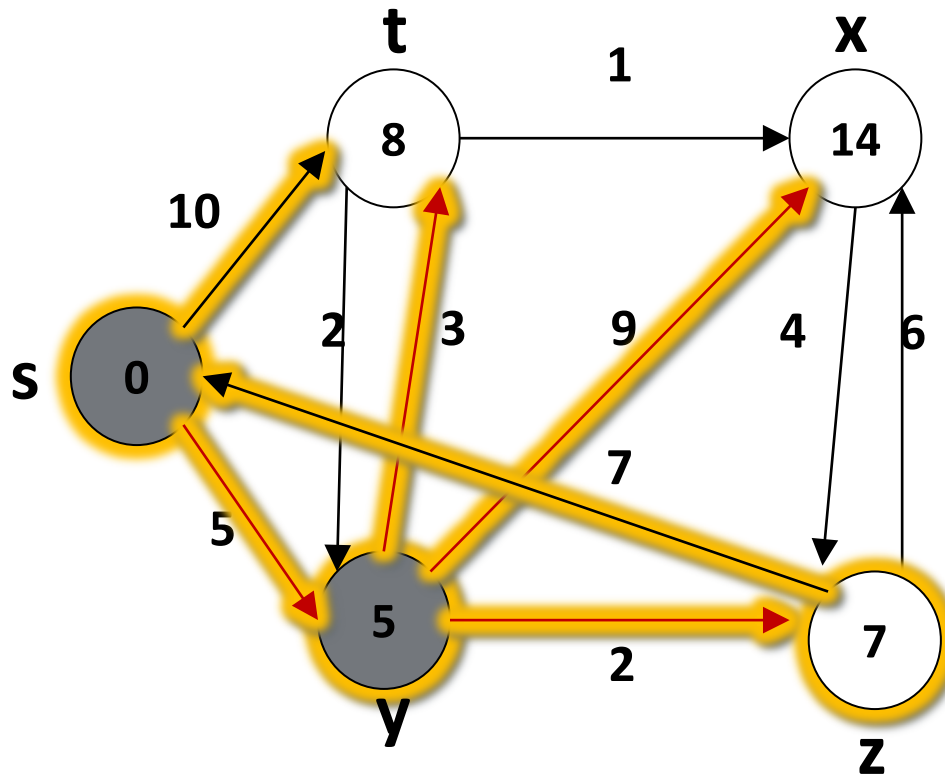
# Running Example



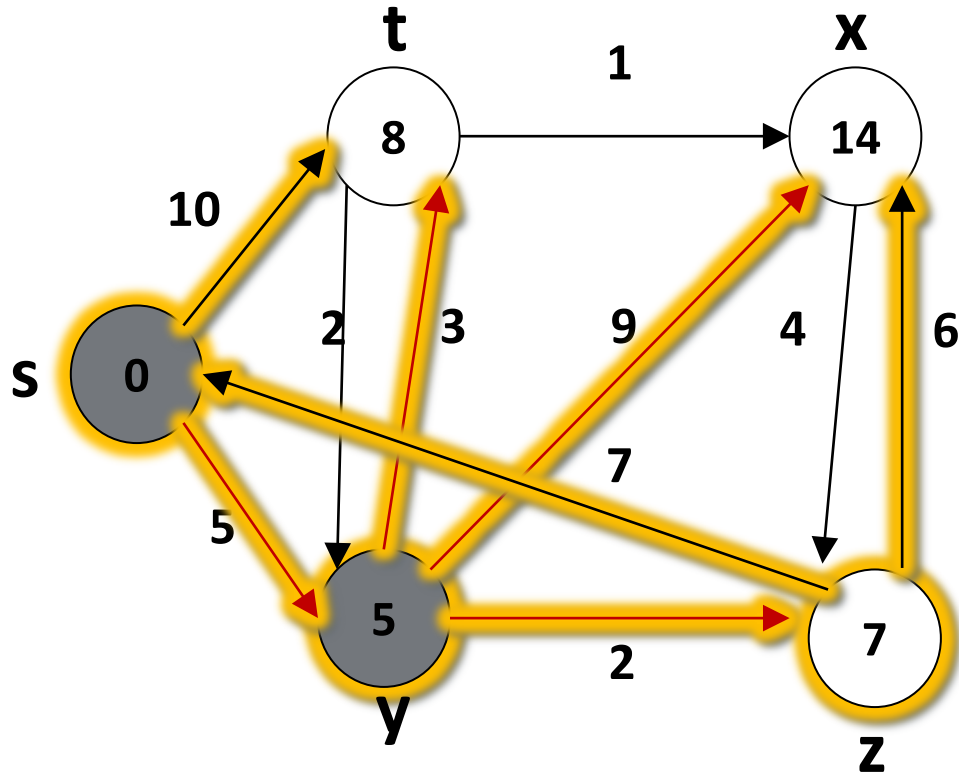
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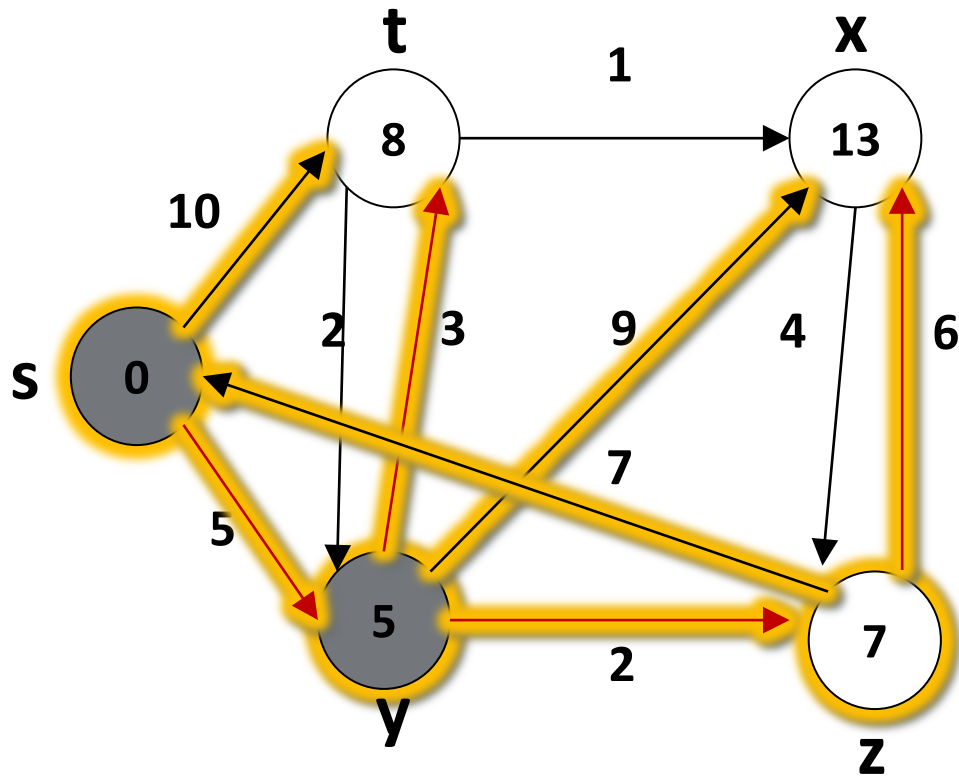
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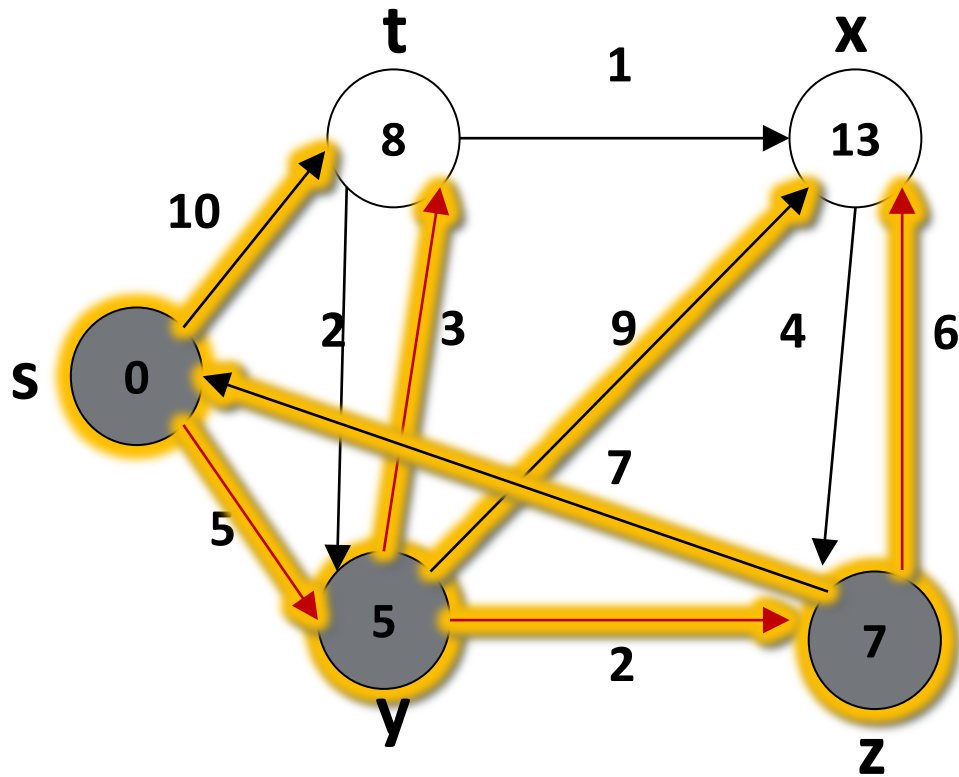
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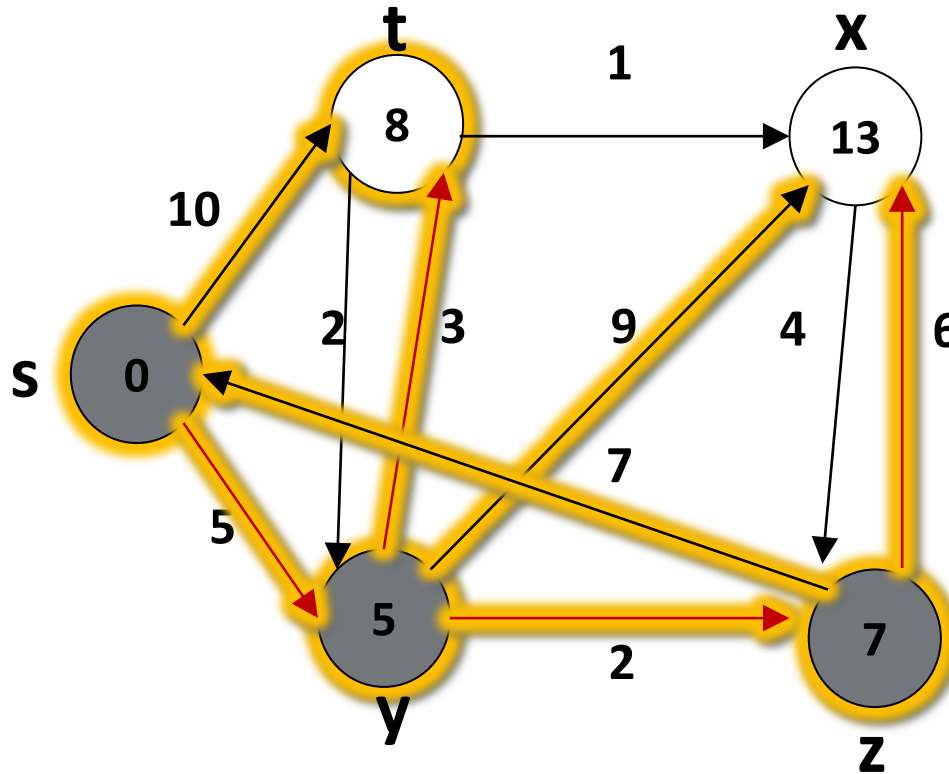
# Running Example



# Running Example

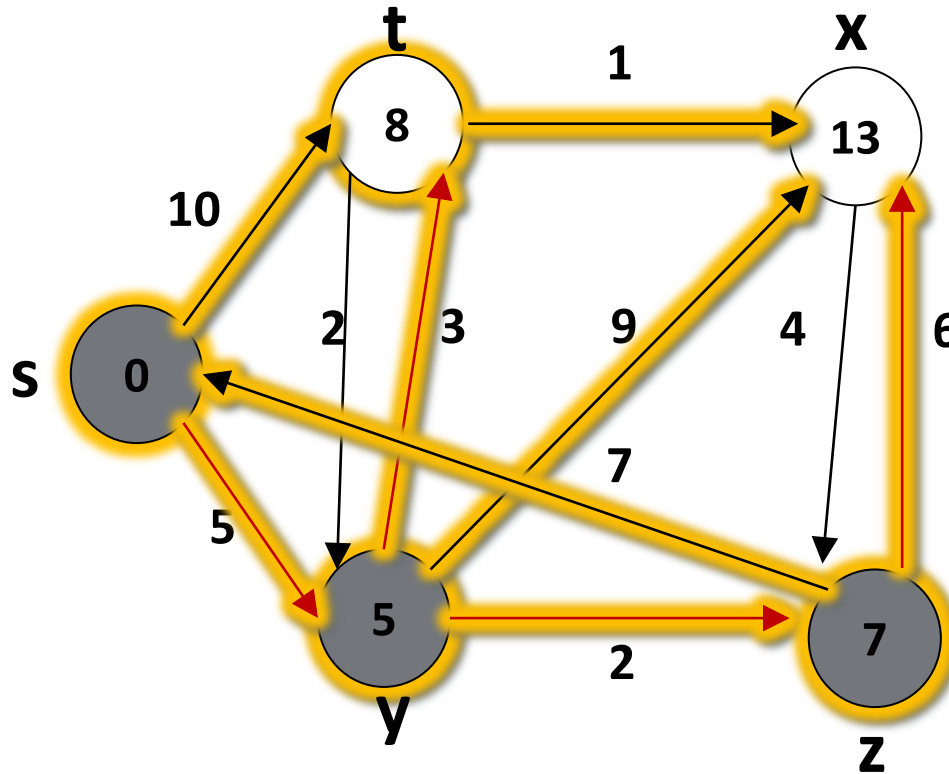


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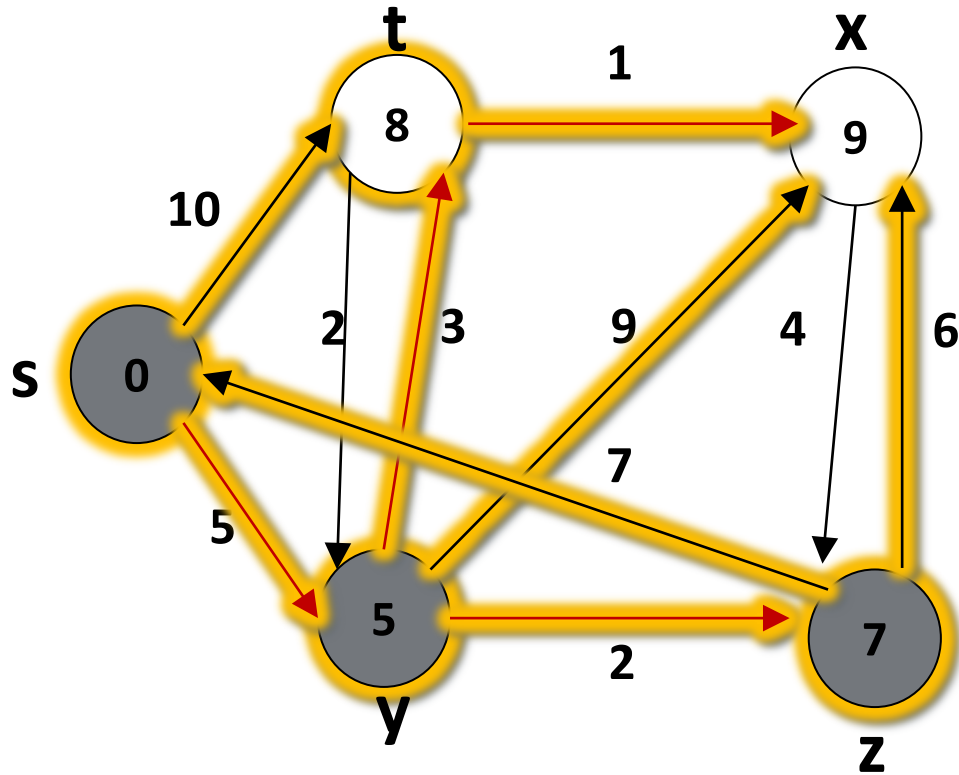




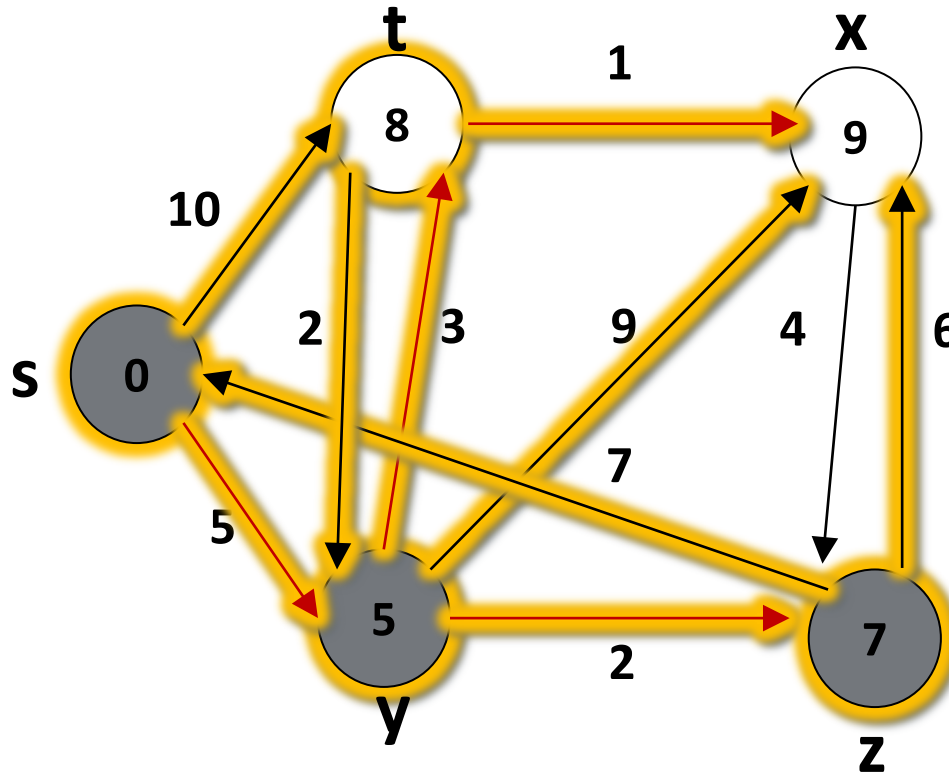
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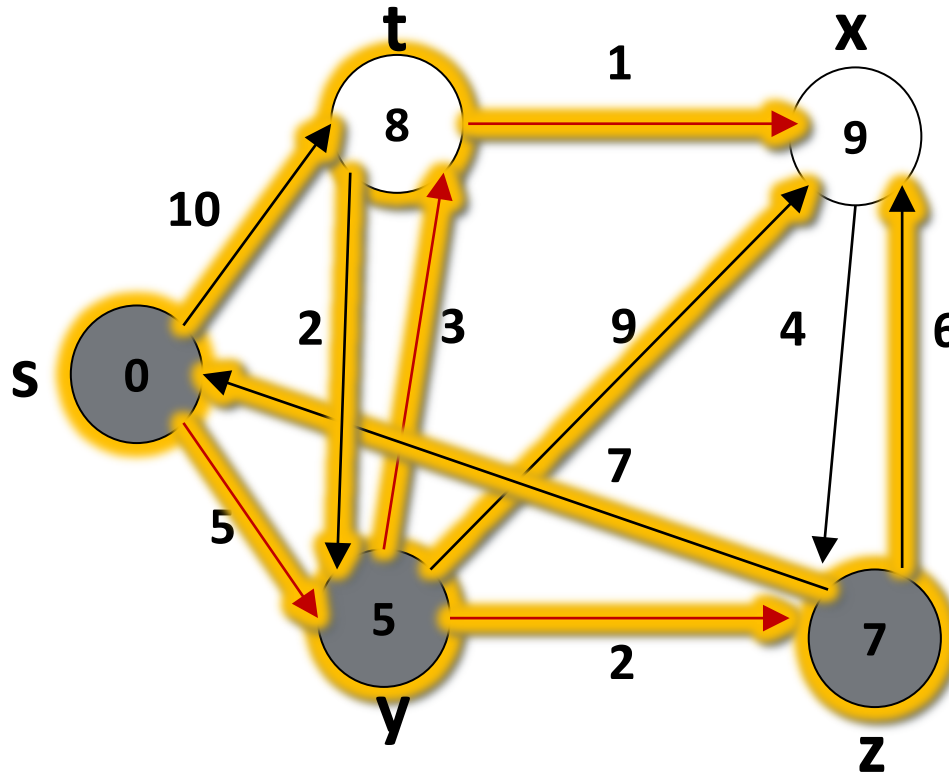
# Running Example



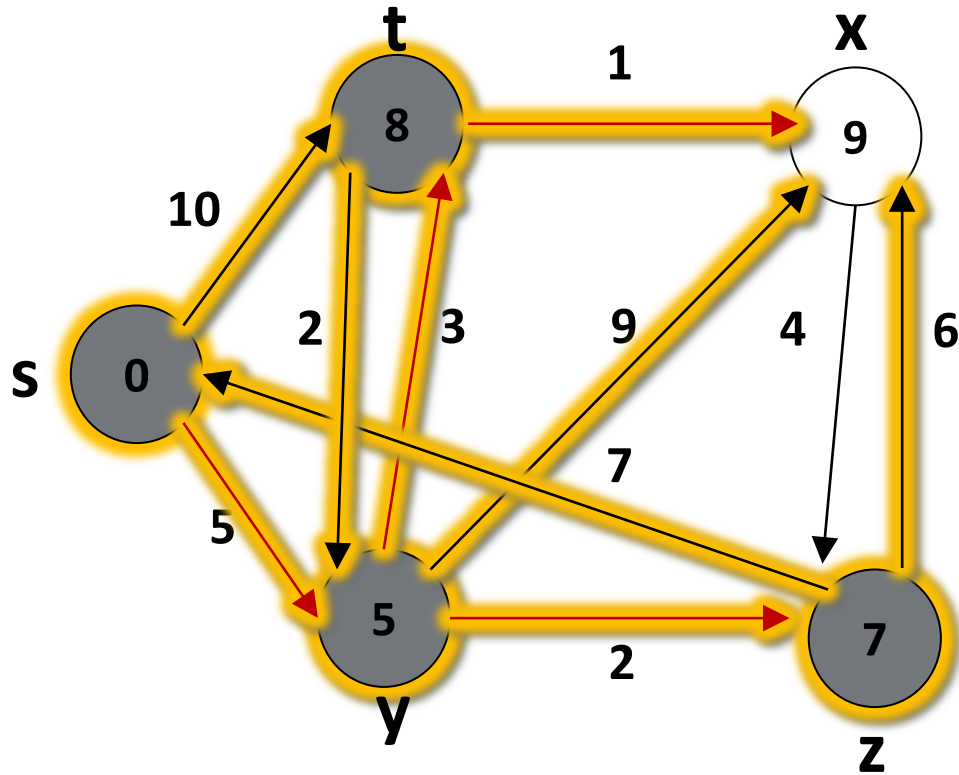
# Running Example



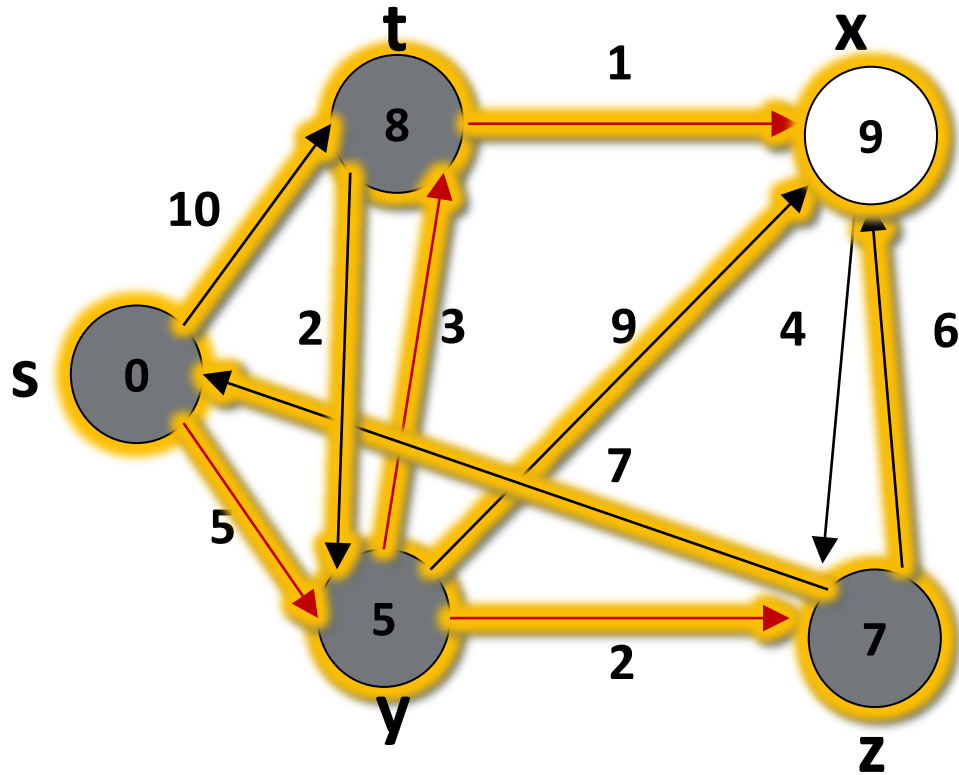
# Running Example



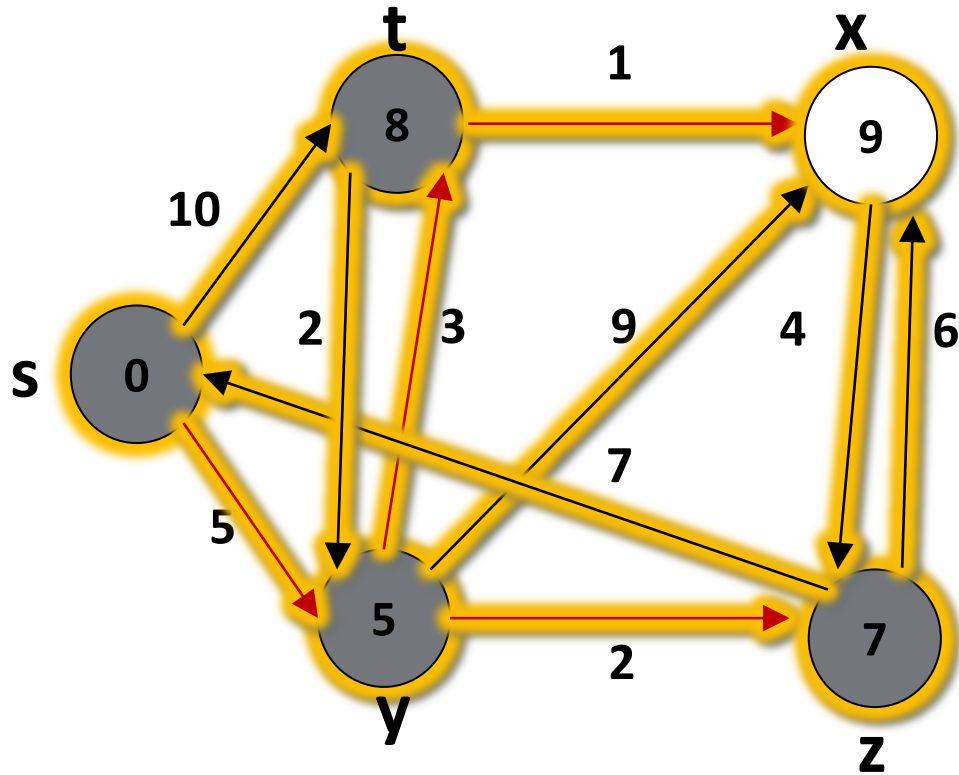
# Running Example



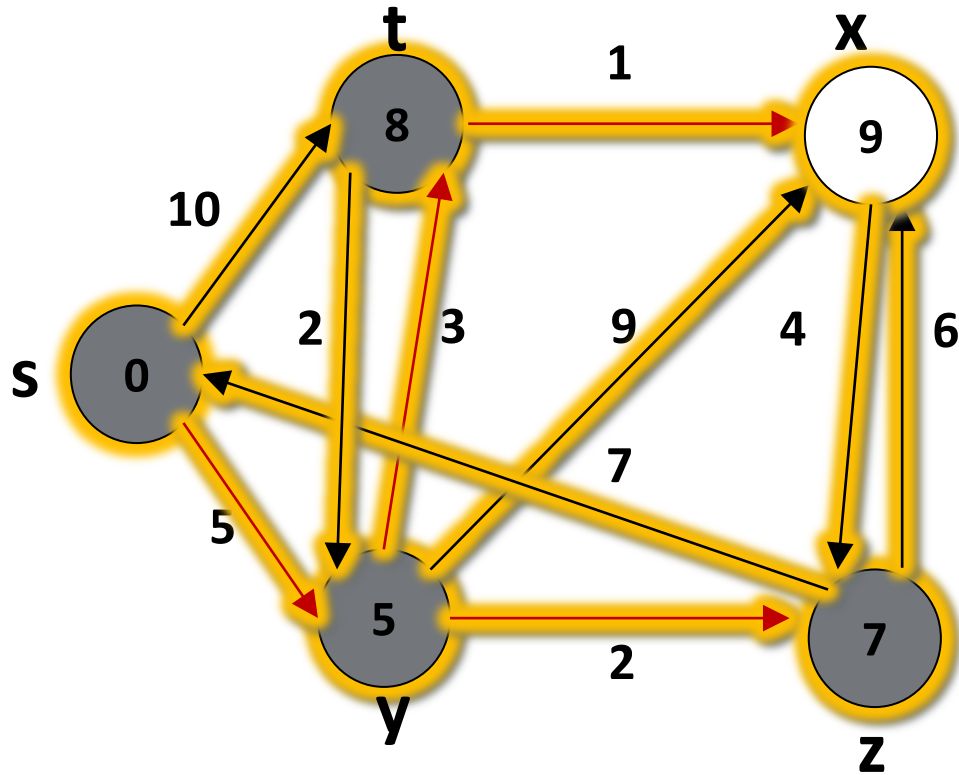
# Running Example



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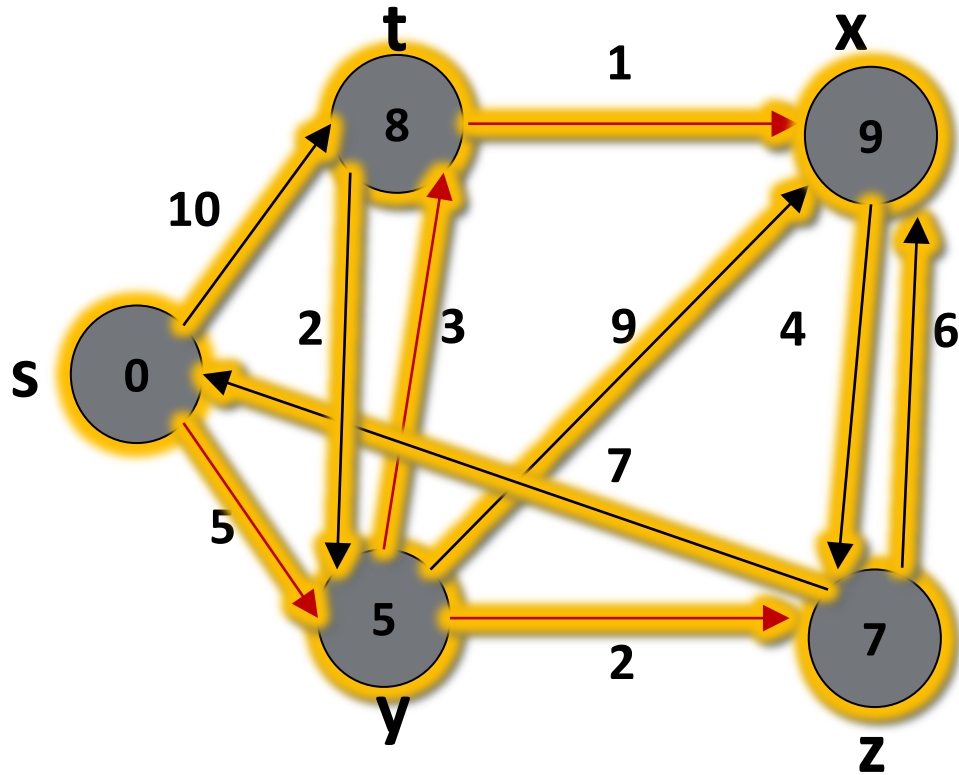


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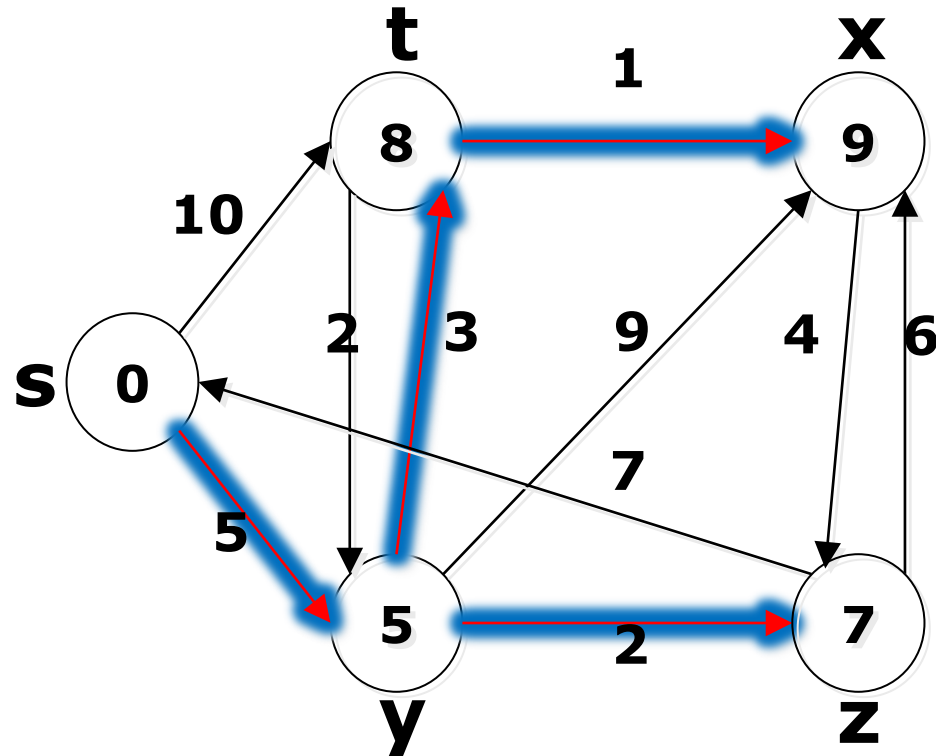


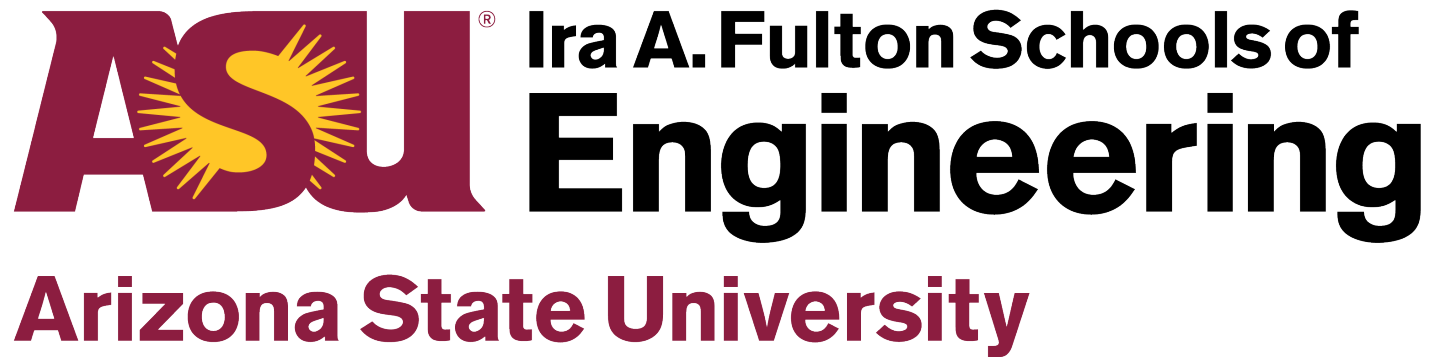


# Running Example



# Running Example





**ASU<sup>®</sup> Ira A. Fulton Schools of  
Engineering**

**Arizona State University**

# Shortest Paths: Part 3

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- | Shortest Path Problem

- | Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm

- | Analysis

# Running Time of Dijkstra's Algorithm

The running time depends on how we implement Q

If we use a binary heap to implement the priority Q

- Insertion takes  $O(\log|V|)$
- Extract-Min takes  $O(\log|V|)$
- $v.d := u.d + w(u, v)$  in Relax decrease-key:  $O(\log|V|)$
- The total running time is  $O((|E| + |V|) \cdot \log|V|)$   
=  $O(|E| \cdot \log|V|)$  if the graph is connected. If we use a

If we use Fibonacci heap to implement the priority Q

- The total running time is  $O(|V| \cdot \log|V| + |E|)$

# Fibonacci Heap Data Structure

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| Fredman, Michael Lawrence; Tarjan, Robert E.  
"Fibonacci heaps and their uses in improved  
network optimization algorithms" (PDF). Journal  
of the Association for Computing Machinery. 34  
(3): 596–615.

# Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

| The algorithm produces correct output.

## | Partial Correctness

- If the preconditions are satisfied and
- if the program terminates,
- then the postconditions are satisfied.
- Core: loop invariant and induction

## | Termination

- If the preconditions are satisfied
- then the algorithm terminates in finite steps
- strictly decreasing order on finite set

# Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Partial correctness and termination

Precondition:

weighted graph  $G = (V, E, W)$  and  $s \in V$  and  $w \geq 0$

Postcondition:

$$d[u] = \delta(s, u)$$

Loop-invariant:

$$(\forall u) (u \in S \Rightarrow d[u] = \delta(s, u))$$

$S = V$  when exiting the loop

Therefore the postcondition is true.



# Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Use mathematical induction:

**Step 1:** For iteration 1,  $S = \{s\}$  and  $d[u] = \delta(s, u)$

**Step 2:** Assume that it is true when  $S$  has  $k$  elements, and we wish to prove that it is still true when another element  $u$  is added to  $S$ .

Assume that  $d[u] \neq \delta(s, u)$ . We will derive a contradiction.

Since  $d[s] = \delta(s, s) = 0$ ,  $u \neq s$ .

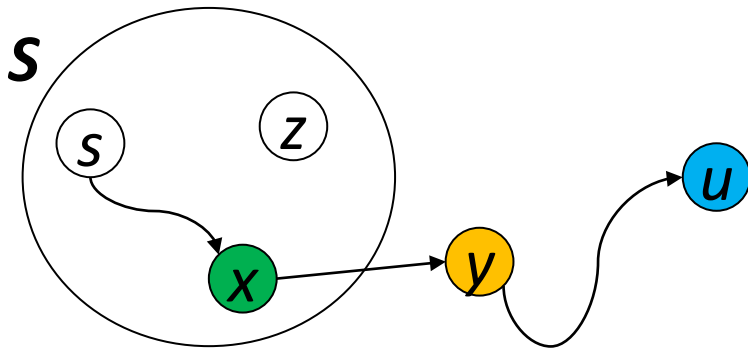
Since  $u$  is added to  $S$ , there is a shortest path  $p$  from  $s$  to  $u$ .

Let  $y$  be the first vertex on path  $p$  that is NOT in  $S$ .

# Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Let  $y$  be the first vertex on path  $p$  that is not in  $S$ .

We claim that  $d[y] = \delta(s, y)$  when we add  $u$  to  $S$ .



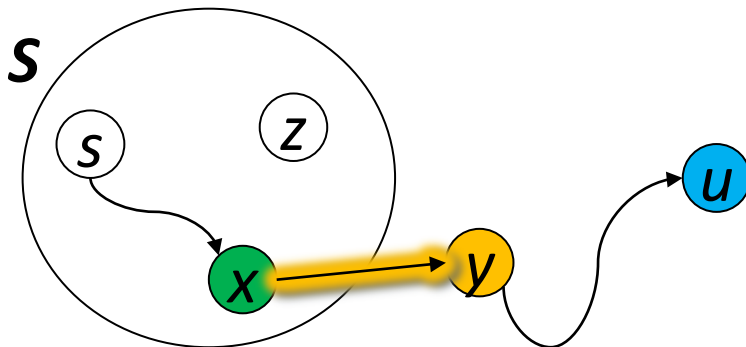
Shortest path from  $s$  to  $u$ .

# Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Let  $y$  be the first vertex on path  $p$  that is not in  $S$ .

We claim that  $d[y] = \delta(s, y)$  when we add  $u$  to  $S$ .

Let  $x$  be the predecessor of  $y$  on path  $p$ . Since  $y$  is the first vertex on  $p$  that is not in  $S$ ,  $x$  is in  $S$ . At the time  $x$  is added to  $S$ , we have relaxed along edge  $(x, y)$ . Hence  $d[y] = \delta(s, x) + w(x, y) = \delta(s, y)$ . If  $y = u$ , we have a contradiction. In the rest, we consider the case where  $y \neq u$ .



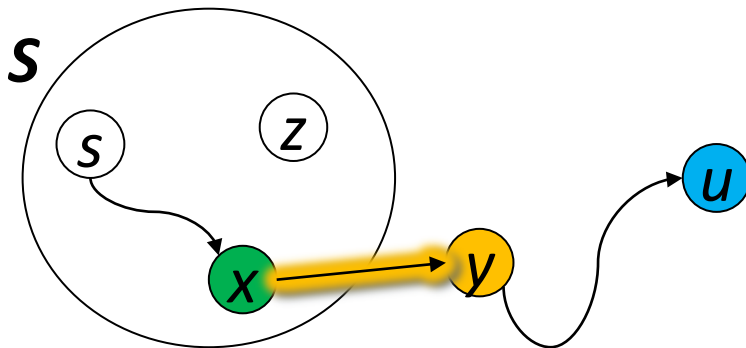
Shortest path from  $s$  to  $u$ .

# Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Let  $y$  be the first vertex on path  $p$  that is not in  $S$ .

We proved that  $d[y] = \delta(s, y)$  when we add  $u$  to  $S$ .

Since  $y$  is ahead of  $u$  on path  $p$ , we have  $\delta(s, y) \leq \delta(s, u)$ .



Shortest path from  $s$  to  $u$ .

# Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Let  $y$  be the first vertex on path  $p$  that is not in  $S$ .

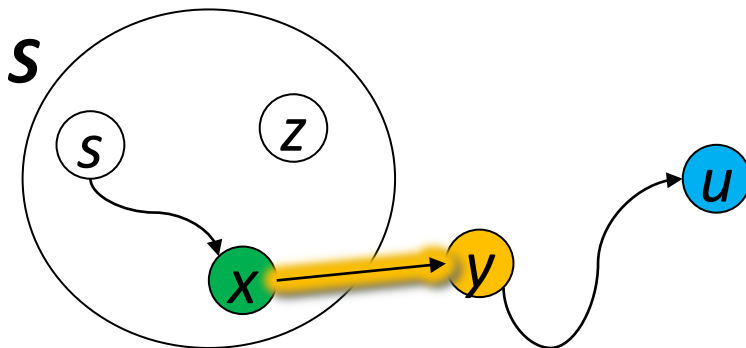
We proved that  $d[y] = \delta(s, y)$  when we add  $u$  to  $S$ .

Since  $y$  is ahead of  $u$  on path  $p$ , we have  $\delta(s, y) \leq \delta(s, u)$ .

Since  $u$  is added to  $S$  before  $y$ ,  $d[u] \leq d[y] = \delta(s, y)$ .

Now we have  $d[u] \leq d[y] = \delta(s, y) \leq \delta(s, u) \leq d[u]$ .

Therefore, **all the above inequalities must be equalities**. Hence, we have  $d[u] = \delta(s, u)$ . This is a contradiction.



Shortest path from  $s$  to  $u$ .

# Dijkstra's Algorithm on Undirected Graphs

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- | The algorithm works equally well on directed graphs and undirected graphs.
- | Same Asymptotic time complexity.

# Single-Pair Shortest Paths

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- | When you use a navigation system, you ask for a single-pair shortest paths, also known as s-t shortest paths, where s is the source (your current location) and t is the destination.
- | We can modify Dijkstra's algorithm slightly to compute s-t shortest paths.
- | The key in this modification is: **STOP** as soon as the vertex t is deleted from the min-Heap.

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

## Dijkstra-ST( $G, w, s$ )

1. Initialize-Single-Source( $G, s$ )
2.  $S = \phi$
3.  $Q = \phi$
4. **for** each vertex  $u \in G.V$
5.     Insert( $Q, u$ )
6. **while**  $Q \neq \phi$  **do**
7.      $u = \text{Extract-Min}(Q)$
8.     **if** ( $u == t$ ) **STOP**
9.      $S = S \cup \{u\}$
10.    **for** each vertex  $v \in u.\text{adj}$  **do**
11.       Relax( $u, v, w$ )
12.       if the call of Relax decreases  $v.d$
13.       Decrease-Key( $Q, v, v.d$ )



