

Edge Weighted Graph:

Directed Graph:

$$\sum \deg(v) = 2|E|$$

$$\sum \text{indegree}(v) = \sum \text{outdegree} = |E|$$

Weight Function of an edge:

$$w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{or})$$

$$w : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$w(u, v)$ = weight of the edge from u to v

if $(u, v) \notin E$, then $\{ w(u, v) = \infty \}$ } extended weight function

Graph as a Triplet: $G = (V, E, w)$

Weight matrix: $w \in \mathbb{R}^{|V| \times |V|}$
 $w_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$

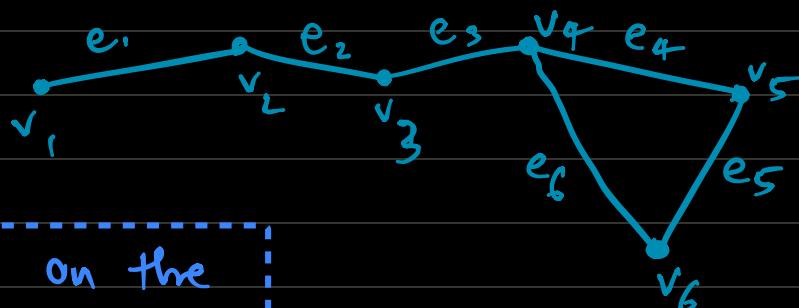
↳ can be a defined function also

$w(i, j)$: weight of the edge from vertex i to vertex j .

Walk: Sequence of connected edges

$\langle e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k \rangle$

Vertices can repeat
edges can repeat



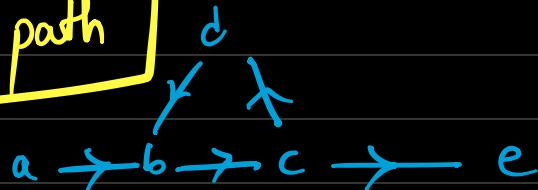
No limit on the size of a walk

$\langle e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6, e_3 \rangle$ is a walk from vertex v_1 to v_3

Path: A walk in which all the intermediate vertices are distinct

∴ Length of any path $\leq n-1$

Cycle = closed path



$n = |V|$
in $G = (V, E, w)$

$\langle a, b, c, e \rangle$ — path of length 3
 $\langle a, b, c, d, b \rangle$ — Not a path;
walk of length 4

Weight of a path :

$$w(P) = \sum_{e \in P} w(e)$$

↓
Sum of the weights of
all the edges in the
path

Weight of a walk w :

$$w(w) = \sum_{e \in w} w(e)$$

Weight of a cycle C :

$$w(C) = \sum_{e \in C} w(e)$$

Negative Cycle :

$$w(C) < 0$$

Shortest path: $\delta(u, v)$

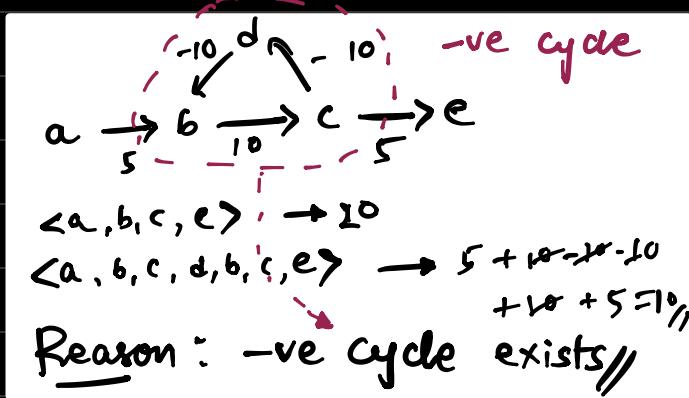
$\delta(u, v) = \min \{ w(P) : P \text{ is a path from } u \text{ to } v \}$

\therefore # paths from u to v in any graph is finite, $\delta(u, v)$ is "well-defined"

Shortest Walk: $\alpha(u, v)$

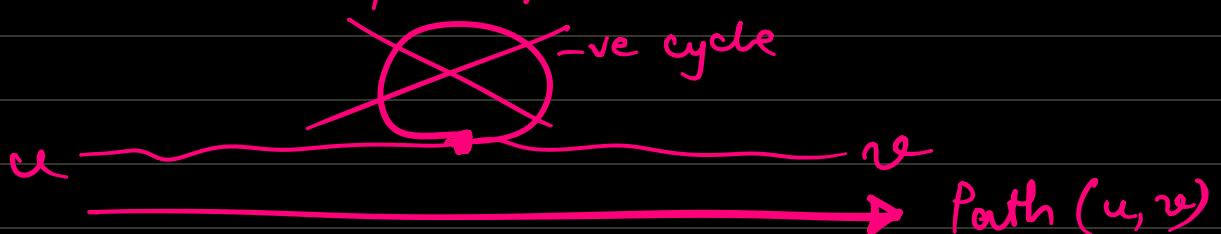
Could be $-\infty$

; shortest walk is not well-defined because the no. of edges can be as many as possible in a walk if the given graph has a -ve cycle in it.



* The weight of a shortest walk can be reduced to $-\infty$ if there is a -ve cycle in the walk.

* If w is a walk from u to v , then w contains a path from u to v

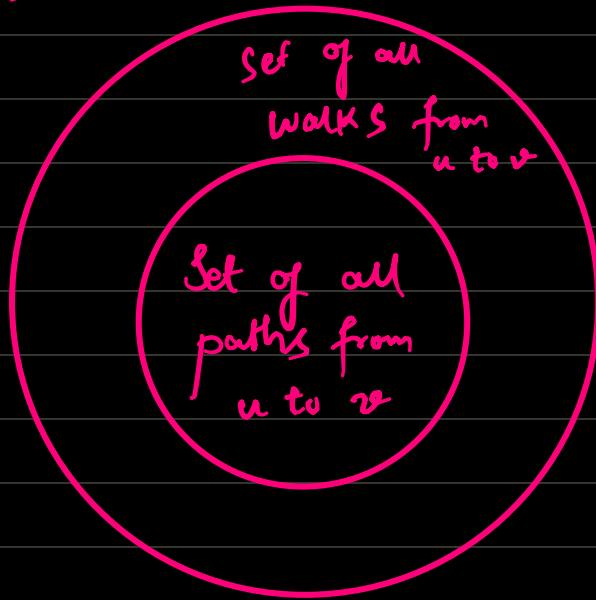


we obtain the path by removing the cycles in
the walk

- * Assume that G_1 has no -ve cycles. Let w be a walk from u to v . Then w contains a path from u to v such that

$$w(P) \leq w(w)$$

- * If $G_1 = (V, E, w)$ has no -ve cycle, then the shortest walk from u to v is the shortest path from u to v .



$$\alpha(u, v) \leq \delta(u, v)$$

Single Source Shortest Path Problem

Redefinition of the Graph in this problem:

$$G_1 = (V, E, W, s)$$

↗ Set of vertices
 ↗ Set of edges
 ↓ weight function
 ↗ Source vertex
 $s \in V$

$$\delta(s, v) ; v \in V - \{s\}$$

P_v : Shortest path from s to v

$\because s$ is fixed, we rewrite $\delta(s, v)$ as

$$\delta(v) \quad ; \quad \boxed{\delta(v) = \delta(s, v)}$$

problem : Given : $G_1 = (V, E, W, s)$
Return : $\delta(v), P_v \quad \forall v \in V - \{s\}$

s : source

Mathematical Foundations of Shortest Path Weights

Theorem 1 : Let $G_1 = (V, E, W, s)$. Let $\delta(v)$ be the weight of the shortest path from s to v .

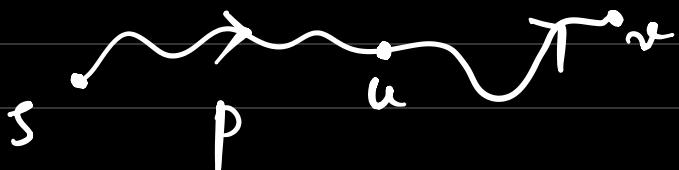
If there exists an edge $(u, v) \in E$
such that

$$\delta(u) + w(u, v) < \delta(v) \quad \text{--- } ①$$

then G has a negative cycle.

Proof:

Let P be a shortest path from s to u .



Case ①: when P doesn't contain v

$\Rightarrow P + (u, v)$ is a path

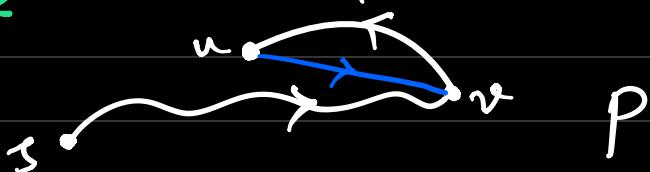
$$\begin{aligned} w(P + (u, v)) &= w(P) + w(u, v) \\ &= \delta(u) + w(u, v) \\ &< \delta(v) \end{aligned}$$

↪ by ①

This is impossible!

\therefore A path from s to v with weight smaller than $\delta(v)$ cannot exist.

Case ②: when P contains v



P can be broken down into two paths:

$$P[s, u] = P[s, v] + P[v, u]$$

$$\boxed{\delta(u) = X + Y} \quad \text{--- } ②$$

$$\begin{aligned} X &= w(P[s, v]) \\ Y &= w(P[v, u]) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore P[s, v]$ is a path from s to v ,
 $\omega(P[s, v]) \geq \delta(v)$

$$\Rightarrow x \geq \delta(v) \quad \text{---} (3)$$

$$\therefore \delta(u) + \omega(u, v) < \delta(v)$$

$$\Rightarrow x + y + \omega(u, v) < \delta(v) \quad (\text{from } 2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{x} + y + \omega(u, v) < \cancel{x} \quad (\text{from } 3)$$

$$\Rightarrow y + \omega(u, v) < 0$$

\Rightarrow weight of the cycle $P[v, u] + (u, v)$,

$$\Rightarrow y + \omega(u, v) < 0$$

\Rightarrow -ve cycle !

\therefore we have shown that if there is an edge (u, v) , such that $\delta(u) + \omega(u, v) < \delta(v)$, then G_1 has a negative cycle.

Contrapositive:

$$P \rightarrow q \equiv \neg q \rightarrow \neg P //$$

So, by Contrapositioning the above theorem, we can also say that

If G_1 has no negative cycle, then for every edge (u, v) :

$$\delta(u) + \omega(u, v) \geq \delta(v)$$

(or)

$$\delta(v) \leq \delta(u) + \omega(u, v)$$

Theorem-2 :

Let P be a shortest path from S to v and let (u, v) be its last edge.



let Q be the part of P from S to u .

$$P = Q + (u, v)$$

$$w(P) = w(Q) + w(u, v)$$

If we prove Q is a shortest path from S to u ,
then $w(Q) = \delta(u)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(v) &= w(P) = w(Q) + w(u, v) \\ &\Rightarrow \delta(v) = \delta(u) + w(u, v) \end{aligned}$$

Proof:

By Contradiction!

Assume Q is not a shortest path from S to u and there exists another path Q' which is a shortest path from S to u

$$So, w(Q') < w(Q)$$

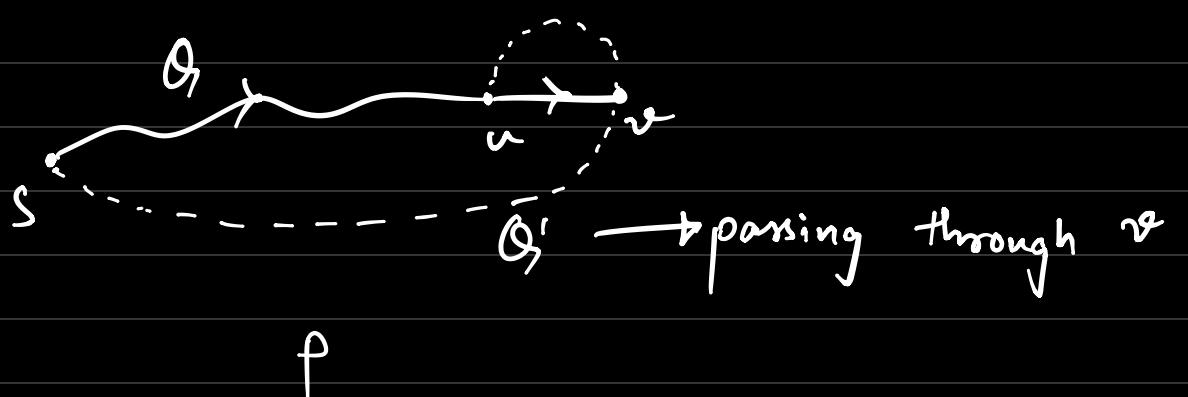
$Q' + (u, v)$ is a path from S to v

$$\begin{aligned} w(Q' + (u, v)) &= w(Q') + w(u, v) \\ &< w(Q) + w(u, v) \\ &= w(P) \\ &= \delta(v) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow Q' + (u, v)$ is a shortest path from S to v with weight smaller than weight of P .

But P was the shortest path from S to v

This is a contradiction!



Thus Q' must pass through v .

$\therefore Q' + (u, v)$ is a walk from s to v
 \because vertex v is occurring twice

$$\begin{aligned} w(Q') + w(u, v) &< w(Q) + w(u, v) \\ &= w(P) \end{aligned}$$

$$Q' + (u, v) = Q'[s, v] + (Q'[v, u] + (u, v))$$

Q' is passing through v . Split Q' at v .

$$\begin{aligned} Q' &= Q'[s, v] + Q'[v, u] \\ \Rightarrow Q' + (u, v) &= Q'[s, v] + Q'[v, u] + (u, v) \\ \Rightarrow w(Q' + (u, v)) &= w(Q'[s, v] + Q'[v, u] + (u, v)) \\ \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{w(Q'[s, v])}} &\leq w(Q' + (u, v)) \\ &< w(P) \end{aligned}$$

path with smaller weight

// This contradicts the minimality of P .

This implies such a path Q' from s to u with weight smaller than the weight of Q cannot exist.

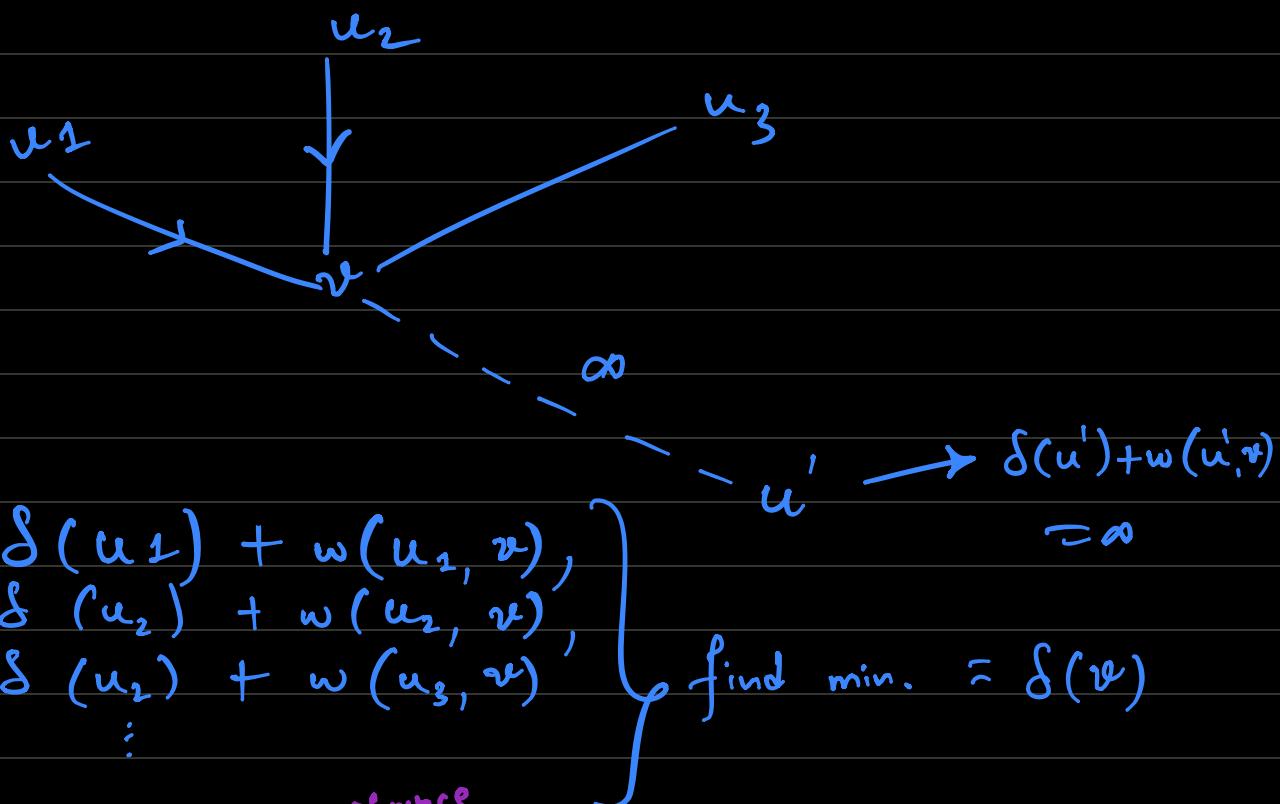
$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow Q &\text{ is a shortest path from } s \text{ to } u \\ \Rightarrow w(Q) &= \delta(s, u) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta(v) = w(\emptyset + (u, v)) \\ = w(\emptyset) + w(u, v)$$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \delta(v) &= \min_{(u,v) \in E} \{ \delta(u) + w(u, v) \} \\ &= \min_{\substack{u \in V \\ (u,v) \in E}} \{ \delta(u) + w(u, v) \} \end{aligned}}$$

Extended weight function

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} w(u, v) &= \infty \quad \text{if } (u, v) \notin E \text{ and } (u \neq v) \\ w(u, u) &= 0 \quad \forall u \in V \end{aligned}}$$



we set $\delta(s) = 0$ as all cycles are non-negative
In Summary,

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \delta(s) &= 0 \\ \delta(v) &= \min_{u \neq v} \{ \delta(u) + w(u, v) \} \end{aligned}}$$

Bellman Equations for Shortest Path weights.

We have shown that

$x^* = \delta(v)$ is a solution for the Bellman Equations.

Muse: What if Bellman Equations has multiple Solutions?

∴ Condition for Bellman Equation to have unique solution:

1. No negative cycles
2. No zero cycles