

# Negative Cycle Detection

Algorithmique  
Fall semester 2011/12

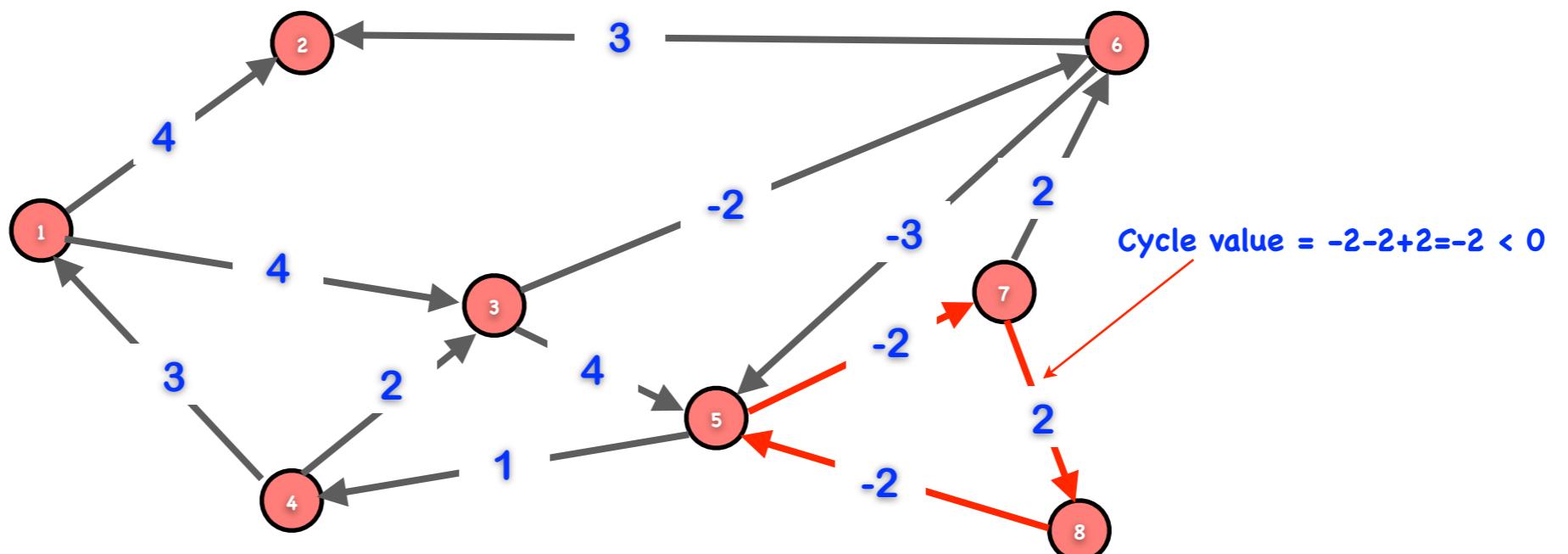
# Recap

**Given:** Directed+connected graph  $G$  with edge weights  $w(e)$  on edges  $e$ .

**Definition:** A negative cycle in  $G$  is a cycle  $v_0 - v_1 - \dots - v_t - v_0$

in which  $w(v_0, v_1) + w(v_1, v_2) + \dots + w(v_t, v_0) < 0$

**Goal:** Determine whether the graph has a negative cycle.



# Moore-Bellman-Ford Algorithm

**Assumes:**  $n$  nodes, set of edges  $E$ , set of nodes  $V$ ,  $s$  in  $V$ , no negative cycles

**Finds:** for all nodes  $v$ , the shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$

**How:** for every node  $v$ , keep track of a value  $l(v)$  and  $\text{pred}(v)$ ;  $l(v)$  is the current estimate of the length of shortest path to  $v$ ,  $\text{pred}(v)$  is the predecessor of  $v$  in this shortest path

(1)  $\text{dist}(s) = 0$ ,  $\text{dist}(v) = \text{infinity}$  if  $v$  is not  $s$ ,  $\text{pred}(v) = \text{NULL}$  for all  $v$

(2) For  $i$  from 1 to  $n-1$  do

(A) For all edges  $(u,v)$  in  $E$  do

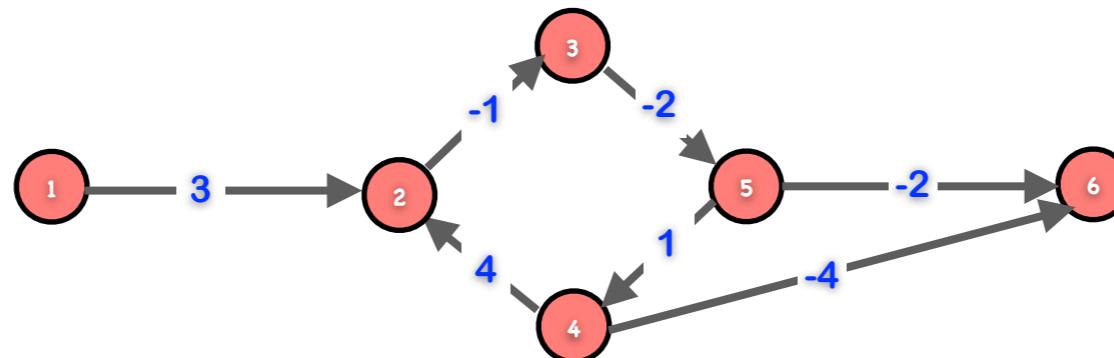
(a) if  $( l(u) + w(u,v) < l(v) )$  then

(i) Set  $l(v)$  to  $l(u) + w(u,v)$

(ii) Set  $\text{pred}(v)$  to  $u$

Invariant:  
at iteration  $i$ ,  $l(v)$  is the length of the  
shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  using at most  $i$   
edges.

# Example

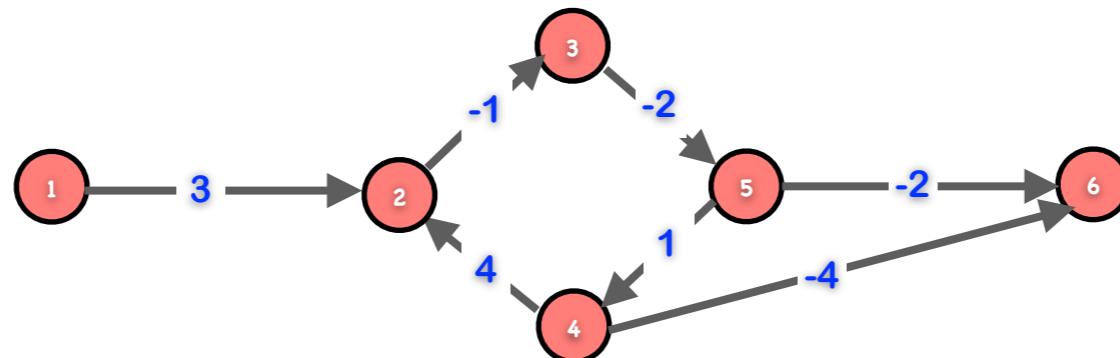


Nodes

	1	2	3	4	5	6	
0	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	Initialization
1	0	3	inf	inf	inf	inf	
2	0	3	2	inf	inf	inf	
3	0	3	2	inf	0	inf	
4	0	3	2	1	0	-2	
5	0	3	2	1	0	-3	

$=\min(\inf-4, 0-2)=-2$

# Example



		Nodes					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
Iterations		0	0	inf	inf	inf	inf
	1	0	3	inf	inf	inf	inf
	2	0	3	2	inf	inf	inf
	3	0	3	2	inf	0	inf
	4	0	3	2	1	0	-2
	5	0	3	2	1	0	-3
	6	0	3	2	1	0	-3

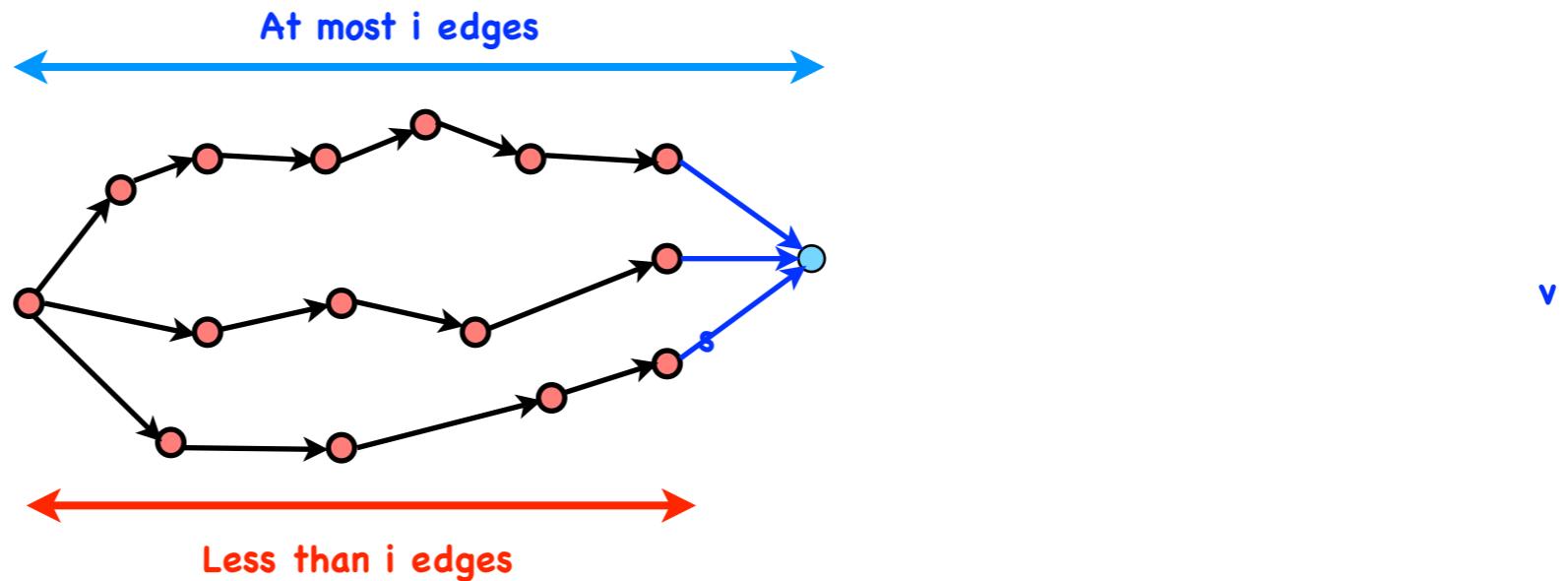
Initialization

Stays the same in the next iteration

# Why does it work?

Invariant:

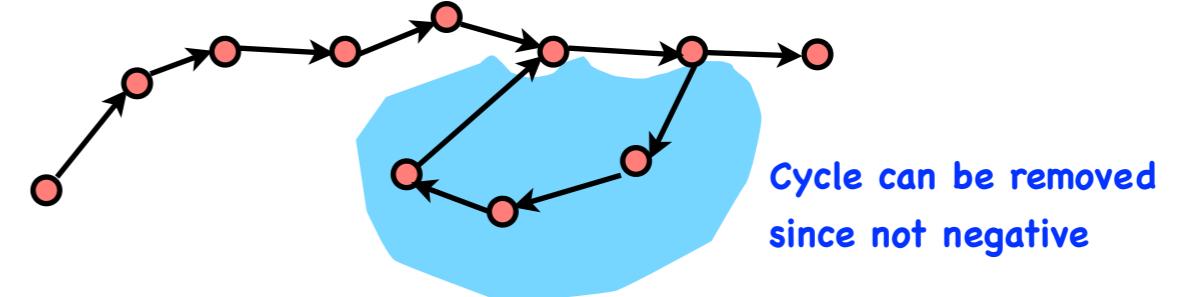
- $l(v)$  is the length of the shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  using at most  $i$  edges in the  $i$ -th iteration.
- Proof by induction.



**Negative cycles:** If there are no negative cycles visible from  $s$ , then for any  $v$  there is a shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  using at most  $n-1$  edges.

A negative cycle visible from  $s$  is a negative cycle on a path from  $s$  to some other node  $v$  in the graph.

If there is a path with  $n$  or more edges, then there is a cycle, and it can be removed.



# Visible Negative Cycles

If the  $l$ -value of at least one node changes in round  $n$  of the MBF algorithm, then there is a negative cycle that is visible from  $s$ .

This is because the contrapositive is true: if there are no negative cycles visible from  $s$ , then the  $l$ -values don't change in round  $n$ . See previous slide.

How about the converse?

If the  $l$ -values of the nodes don't change in round  $n$ , then there is no negative cycle visible from  $s$ .

In this case  $\forall(u, v) \in E: l(u) + w(u, v) \geq l(v)$

So, for a cycle  $v_0 - v_1 - \dots - v_{t-1} - v_t = v_0$

$$\sum_{i=1}^t l(v_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^t (l(v_{i-1}) + w(v_{i-1}, v_i)) = \sum_{i=1}^t l(v_{i-1}) + \sum_{i=1}^t w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$$

**Equal!**

$$\implies 0 \leq \sum_{i=1}^t w(v_{i-1}, v_i) \quad \text{Cycle is not negative.}$$

# Visible Negative Cycles

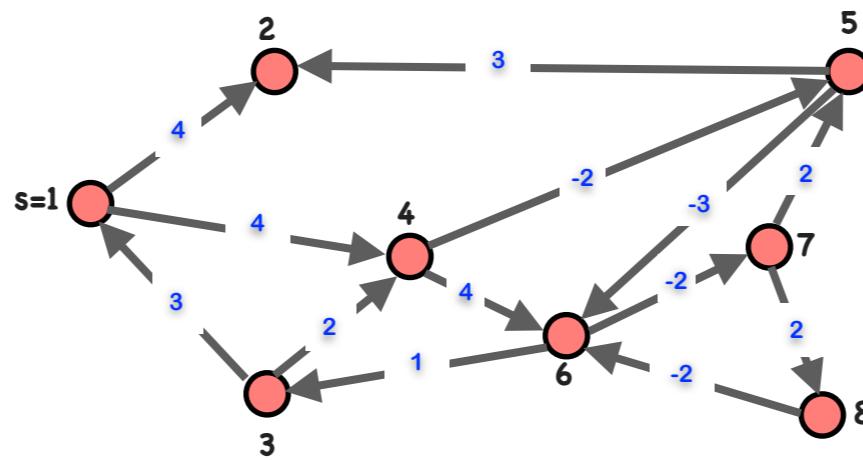
- (1) Apply the MBF algorithm to the graph
- (2) For all edges in  $E$  do
  - (a) if ( $l(u) + w(u,v) < l(v)$ ) then
    - (i) Output TRUE Yes, there is a negative cycle
- (3) Output FALSE No negative cycles

# Visible Negative Cycles

- (1) Apply the MBF algorithm to the graph  $O(|E||V|)$
- (2) For all edges in  $E$  do  $O(|E|)$ 
  - (a) if  $(l(u) + w(u,v) < l(v))$  then
    - (i) Output TRUE
- (3) Output FALSE

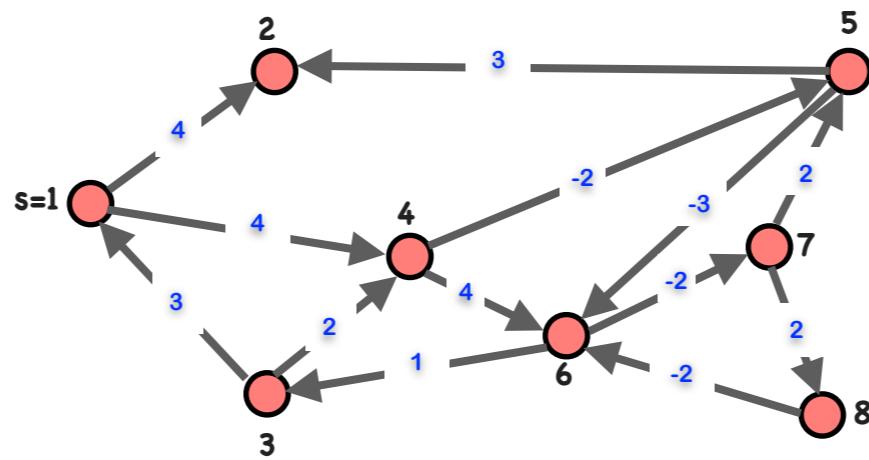
Running time is  $O(|E||V|)$

# Example



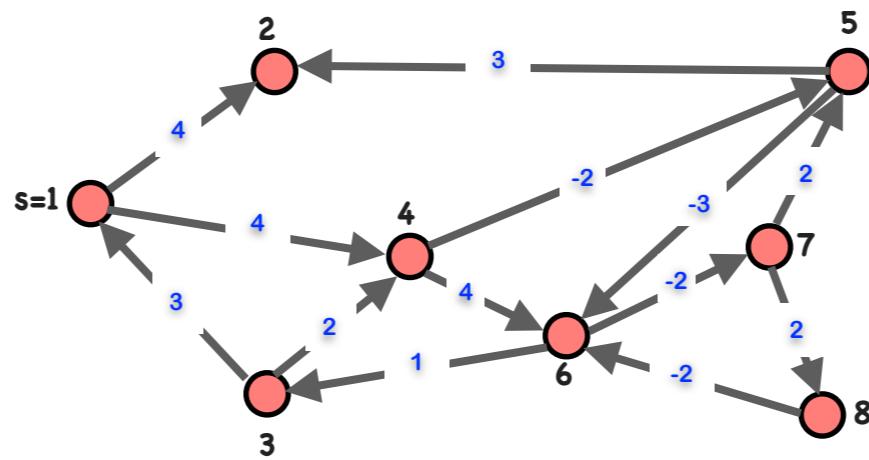
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						

# Example



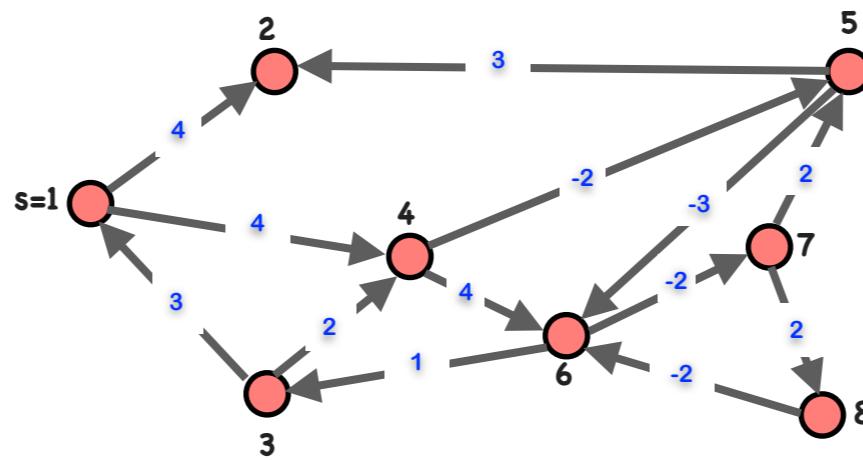
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf

# Example



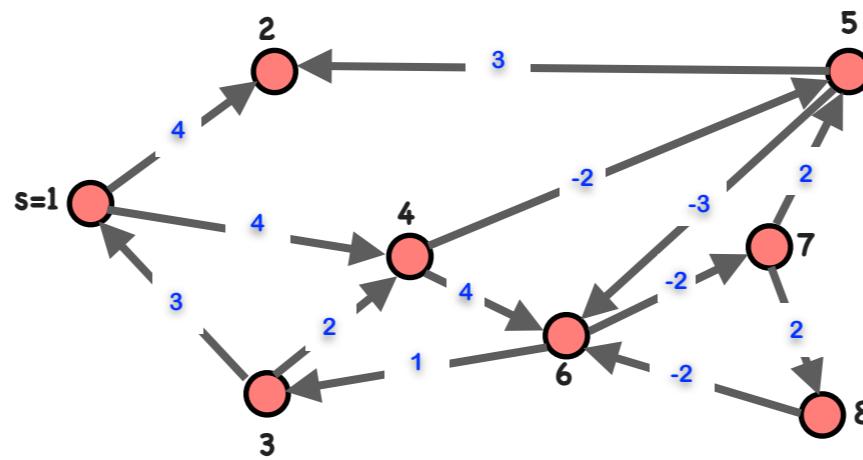
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf

# Example



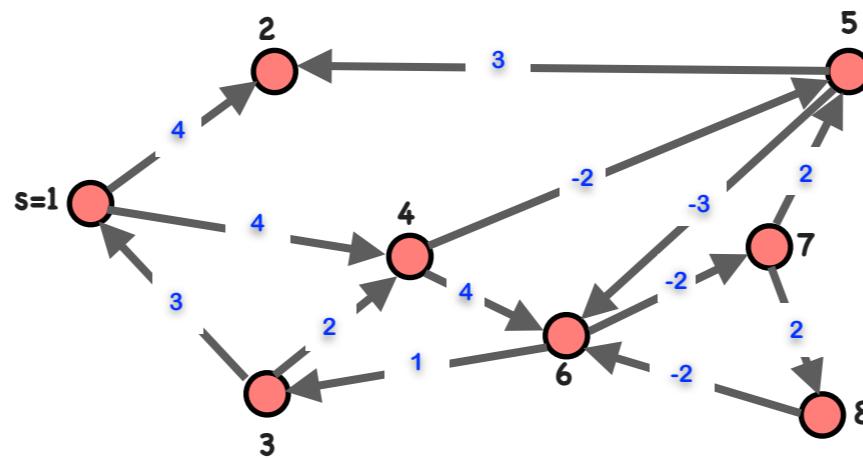
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf

# Example



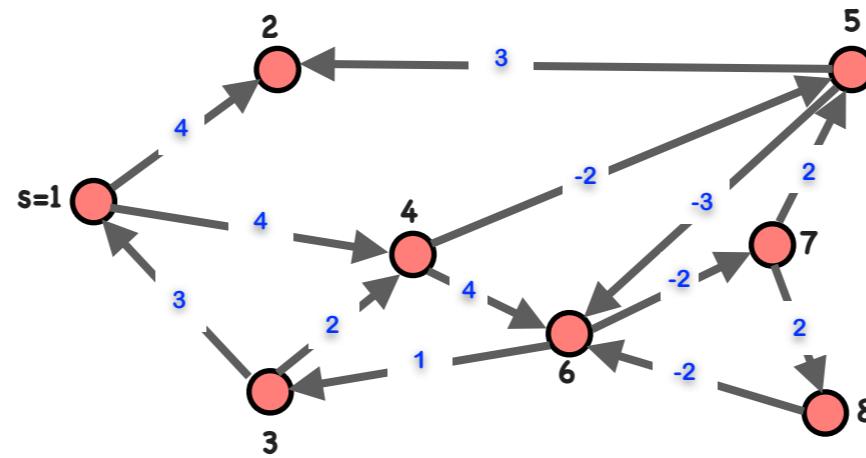
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8

# Example



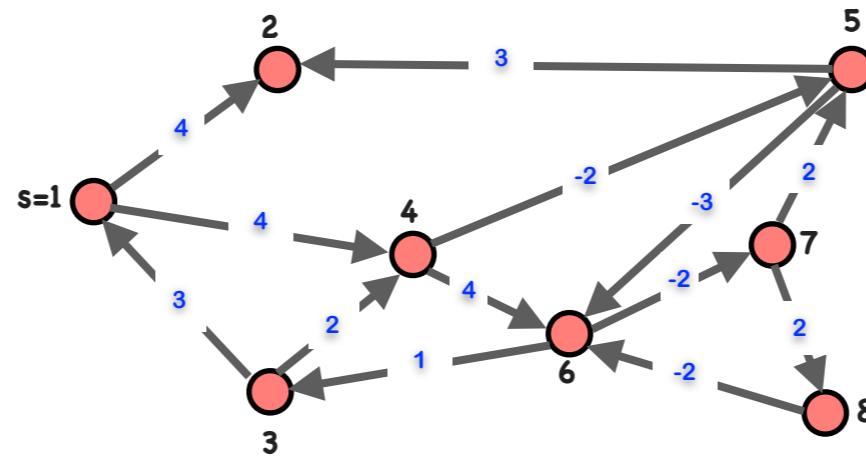
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8
5	0	4	0	2	-1	-1	-3	-1

# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8
5	0	4	0	2	-1	-1	-3	-1
6	0	2	0	2	-1	-4	-3	-1

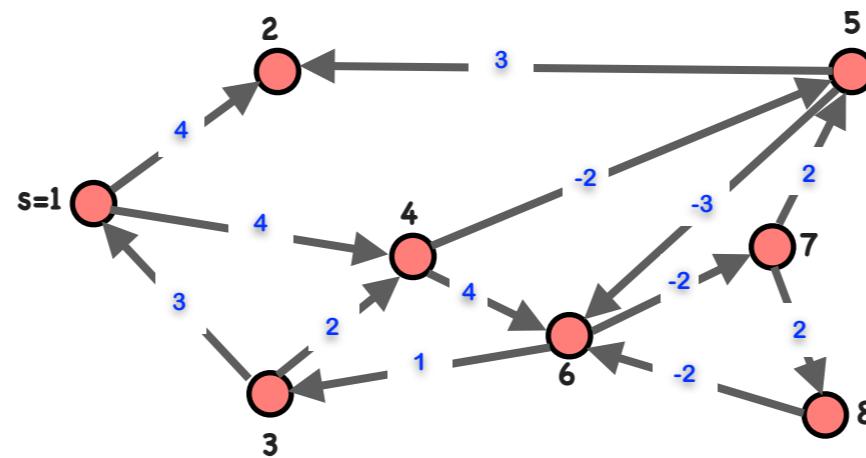
# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8
5	0	4	0	2	-1	-1	-3	-1
6	0	2	0	2	-1	-4	-3	-1
7	0	2	-3	2	-1	-4	-6	-1

The MBF step is finished at this point. We run one more step

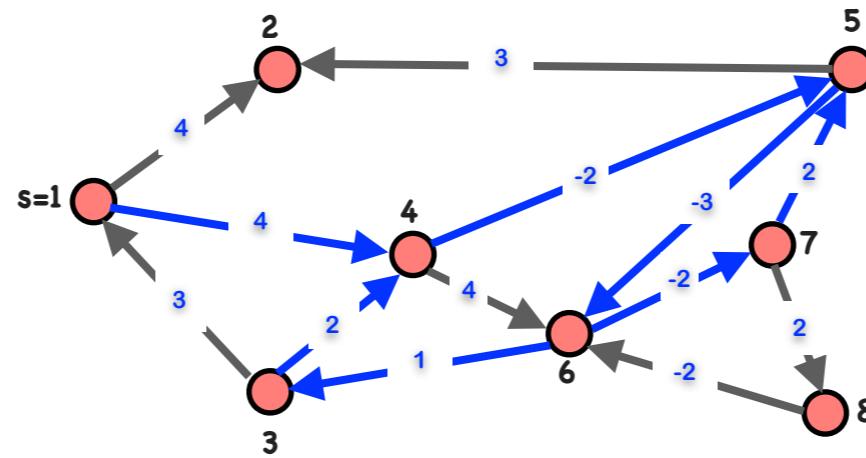
# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8
5	0	4	0	2	-1	-1	-3	-1
6	0	2	0	2	-1	-4	-3	-1
7	0	2	-3	2	-1	-4	-6	-1
8	0	2	-3	-1	-4	-4	-6	-4

These values changed, so we have at least one negative cycle.

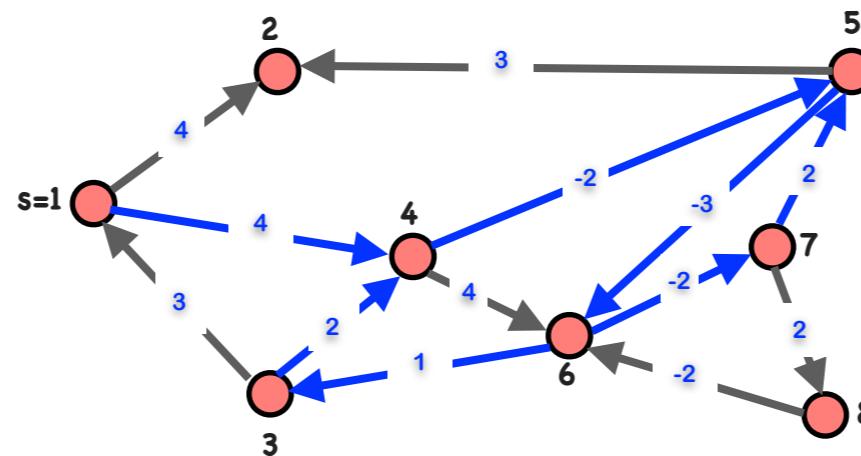
# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8
5	0	4	0	2	-1	-1	-3	-1
6	0	2	0	2	-1	-4	-3	-1
7	0	2	-3	2	-1	-4	-6	-1
8	0	2	-3	-1	-4	-4	-6	-4

To find one, we follow the arrows  
in the reverse direction towards s

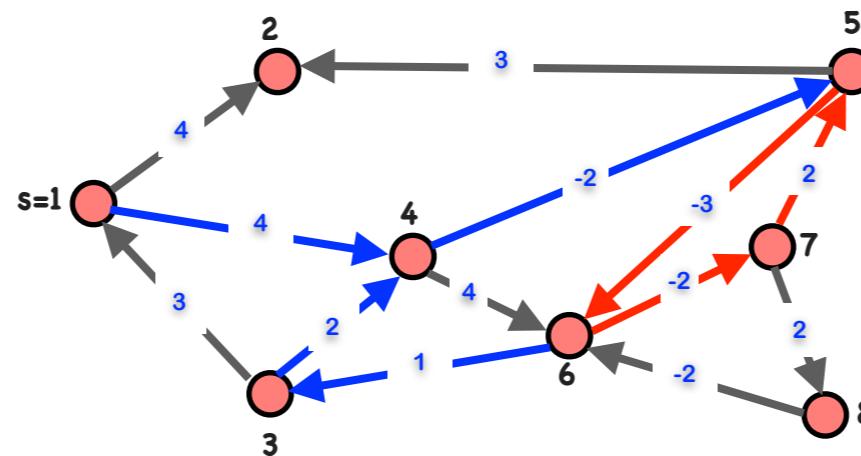
# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8
5	0	4	0	2	-1	-1	-3	-1
6	0	2	0	2	-1	-4	-3	-1
7	0	2	-3	2	-1	-4	-6	-1
8	0	2	-3	-1	-4	-4	-6	-4

If the path crosses the same column twice, then the corresponding node is on a negative cycle

# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	0	inf						
1	0	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
2	0	4	inf	4	2	8	inf	inf
3	0	4	9	4	2	-1	6	inf
4	0	4	0	4	2	-1	-3	8
5	0	4	0	2	-1	-1	-3	-1
6	0	2	0	2	-1	-4	-3	-1
7	0	2	-3	2	-1	-4	-6	-1
8	0	2	-3	-1	-4	-4	-6	-4

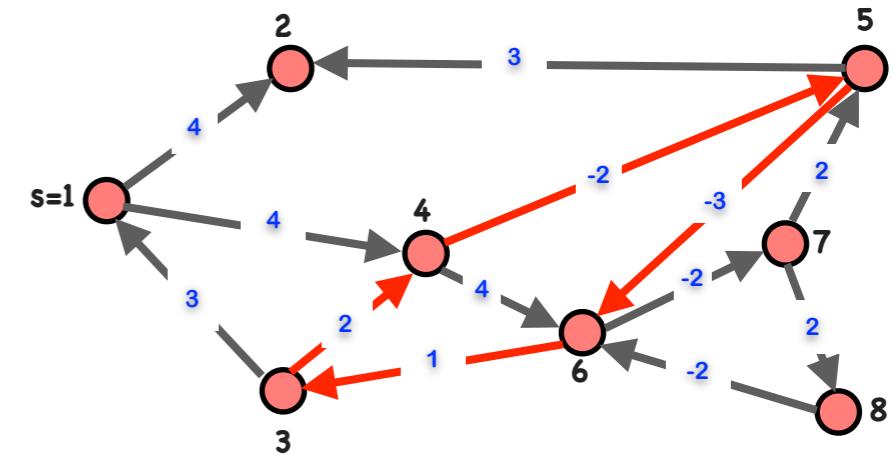
If the path crosses the same column twice, then the corresponding node is on a negative cycle

# Karp's Algorithm

What is the smallest *average* weight of a cycle in the graph?

$$C: v_0 - v_1 - \cdots - v_{t-1} - v_t = v_0$$

$$\mu(C) := \frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t w(v_{i-1}, v_i)$$



Average weight of this cycle is  $(-2-3+1+2)/4 = -1/2$

$$\mu^*(G) \leq -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\mu^*(G) := \min_{C \text{ cycle in } G} \mu(C)$$

Karp has designed an algorithm to compute this number which we will study in the following.

# Karp's Algorithm: First Step

For  $k$  from 0 to  $n$  calculate the shortest path from  $s$  to all  $v$  using **exactly**  $k$  edges.

Set value to infinity if no such path exists.

This is the same as adding all non-existent edges to the graph with a weight of infinity, and calculating shortest paths with exactly  $k$  edges

Solution: dynamic programming.

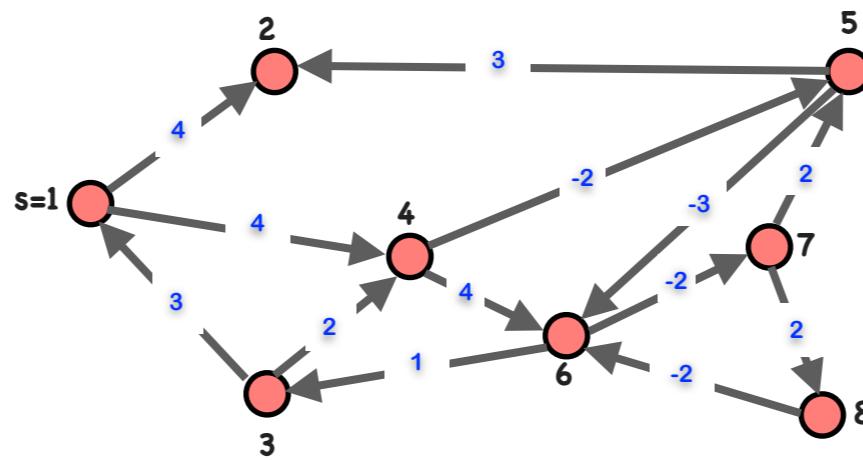
$$F_0(v) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v = s \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

And for  $k=1,\dots,n$

$$F_k(v) := \begin{cases} \min_{(u,v) \in E} F_{k-1}(u) + w(u, v) & \text{if } \exists(u, v) \in E \\ \infty & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

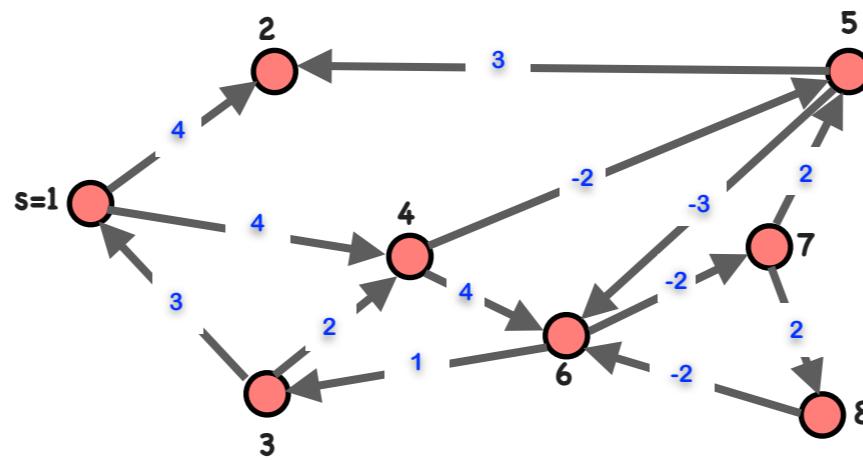
Extend to path to  $u$  by one more edge to obtain path with  $k$  edges

# Example



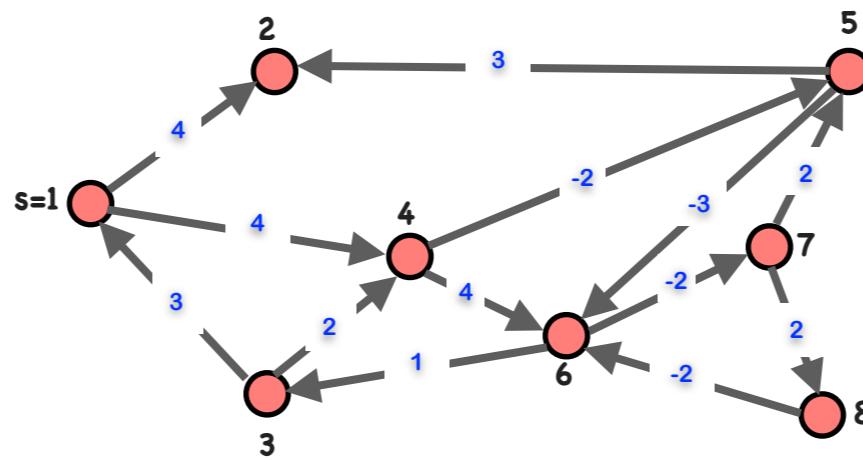
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_o(v)$	0	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf

# Example



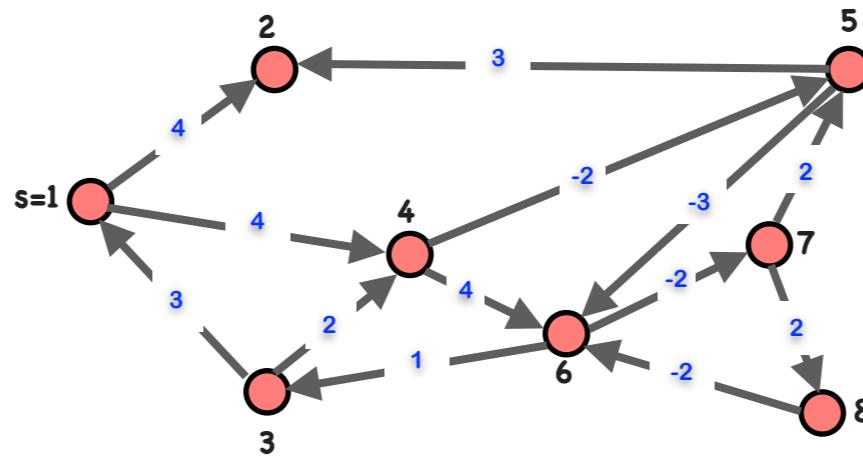
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_o(v)$	0	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_1(v)$	1	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf

# Example



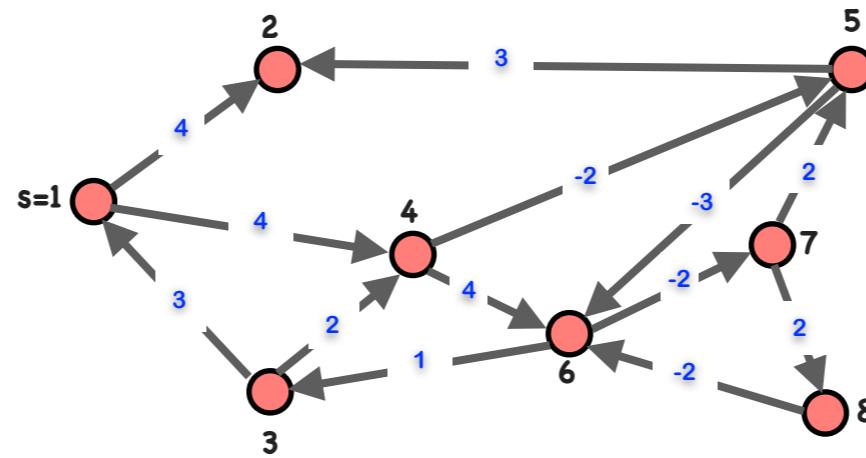
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf

# Example



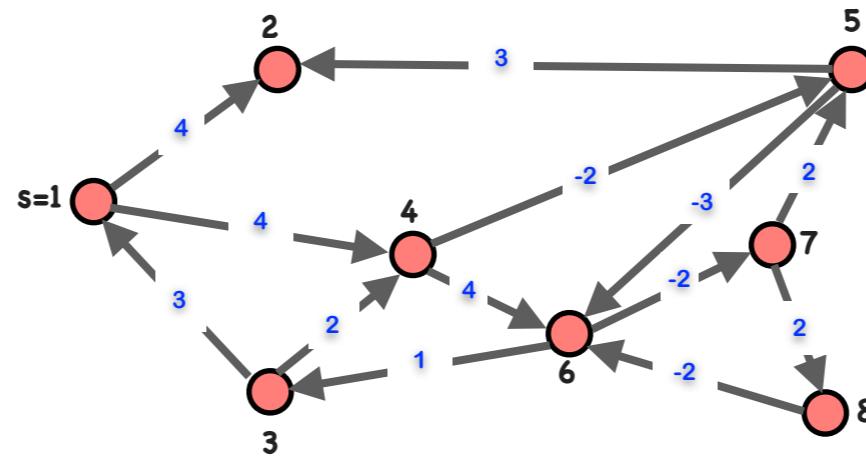
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf

# Example



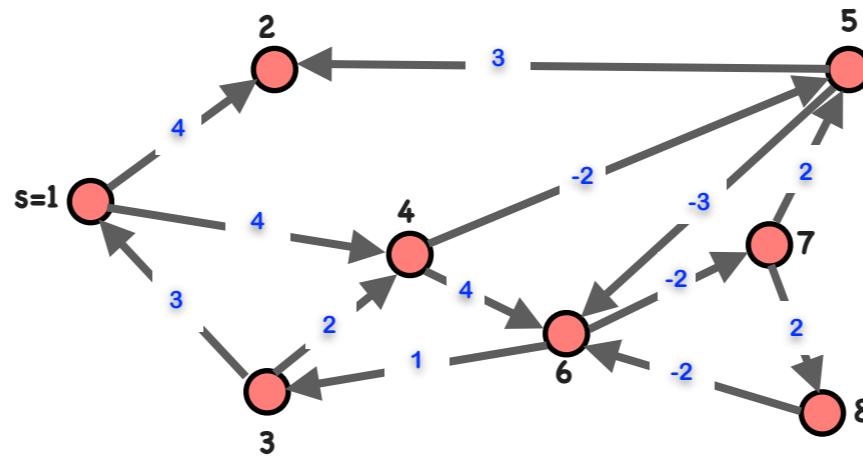
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8

# Example



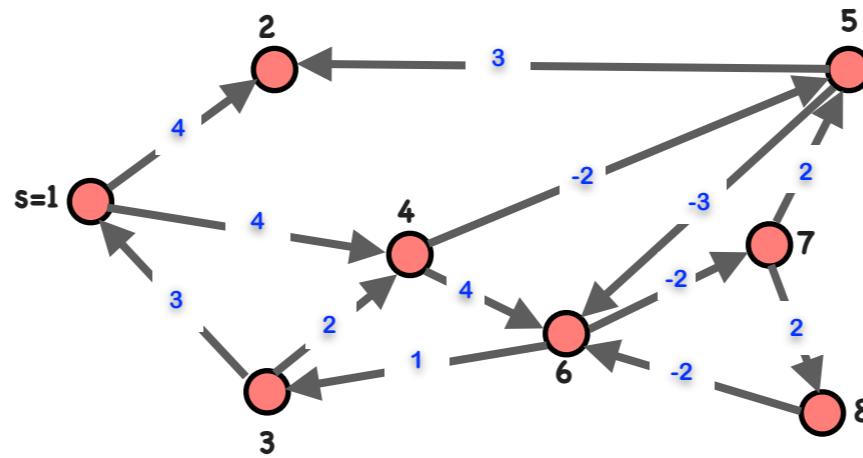
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1

# Example



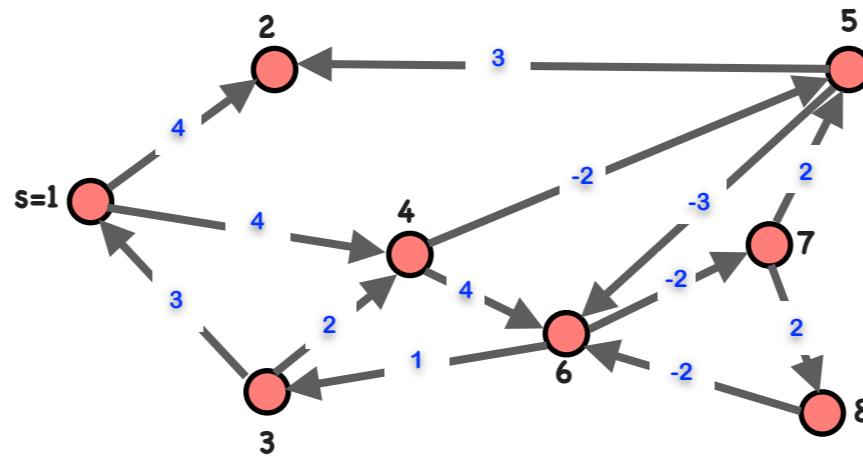
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf

# Example



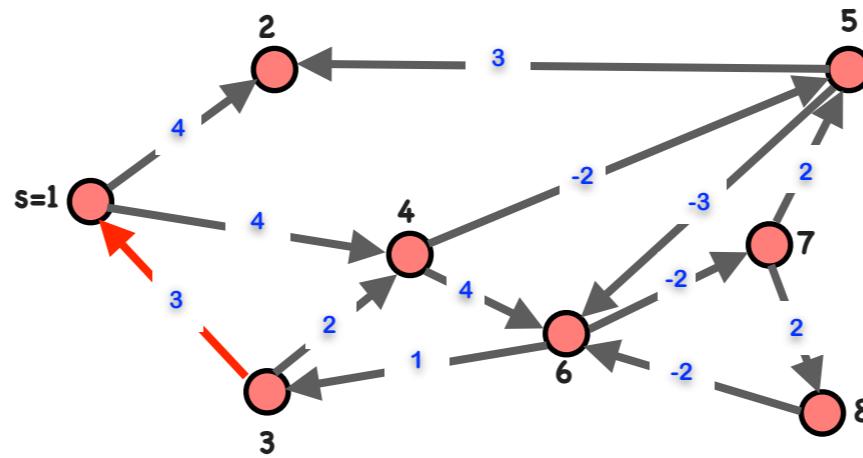
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5

# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

# Reading the Paths



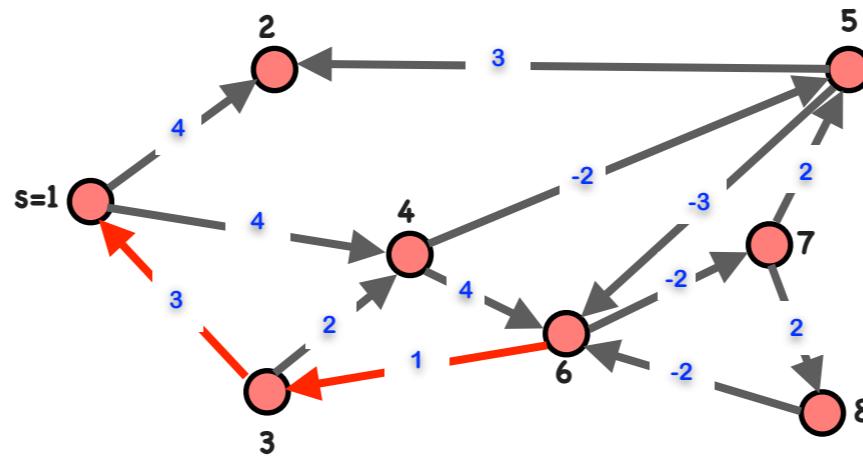
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

-3-1

Current path

# Reading the Paths



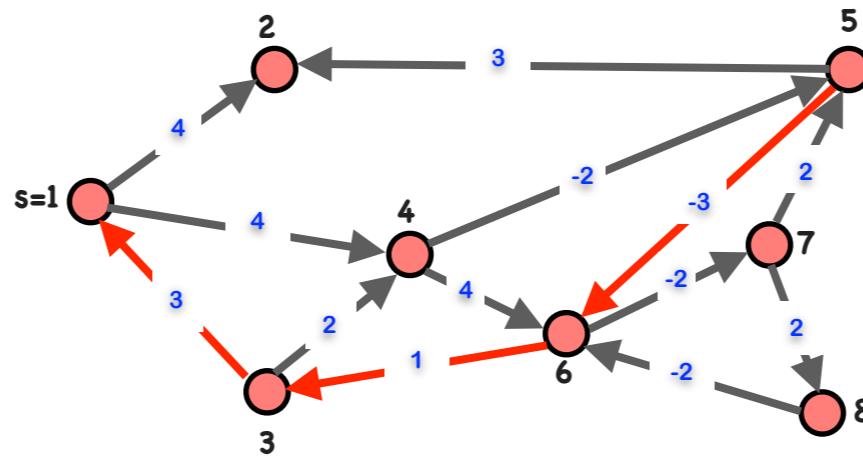
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

-6-3-1

Current path

# Reading the Paths



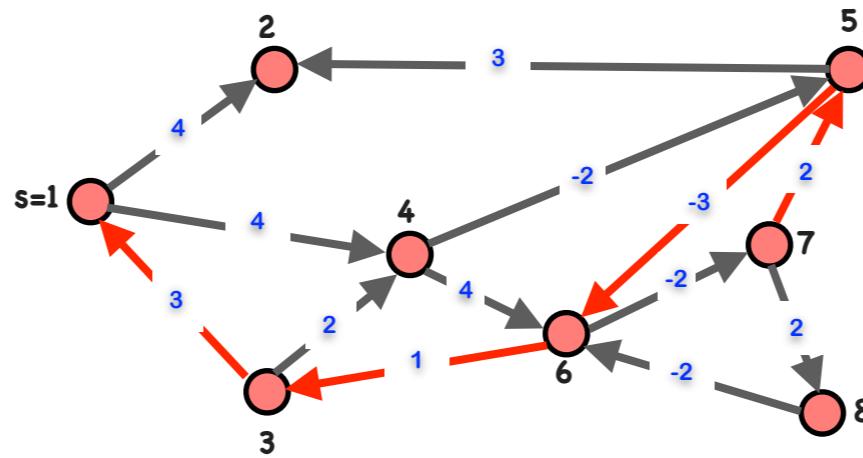
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

-5-6-3-1

Current path

# Reading the Paths



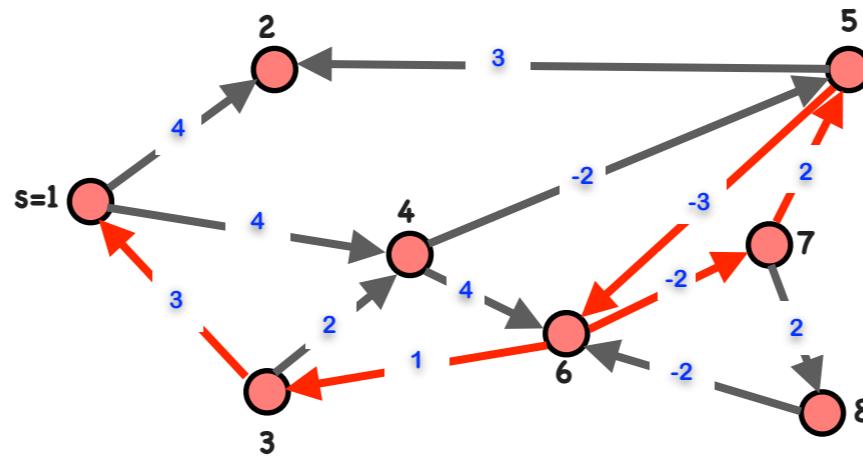
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

-7-5-6-3-1

Current path

# Reading the Paths



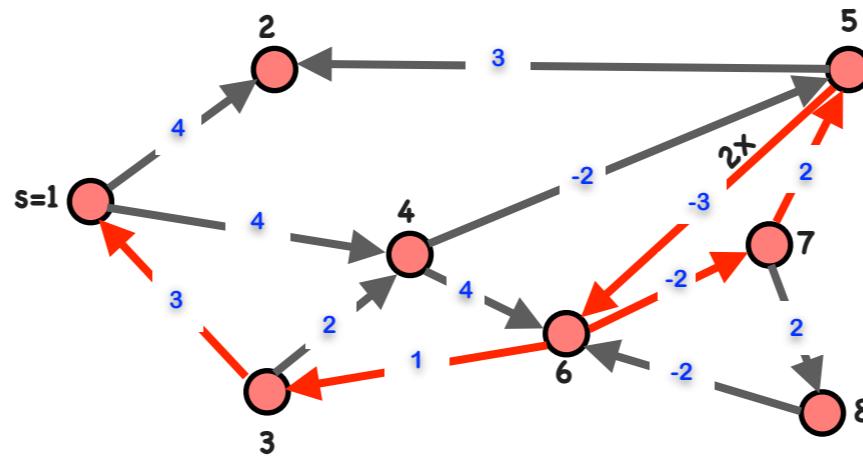
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

-6-7-5-6-3-1

Current path

# Reading the Paths



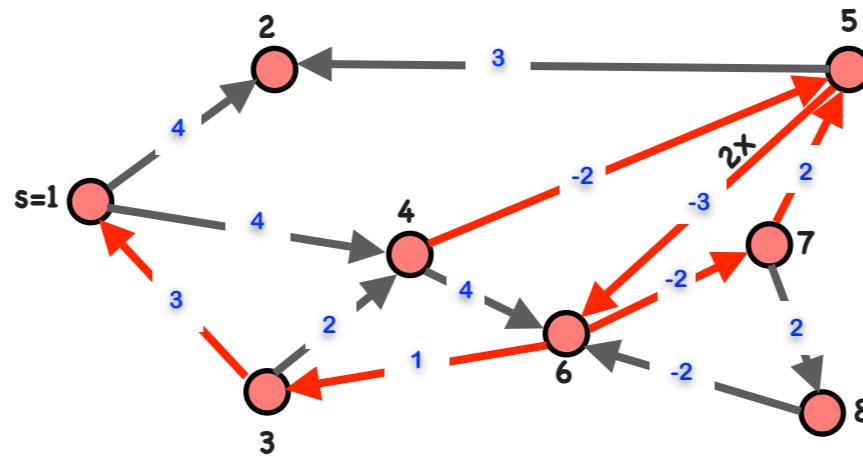
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

-5-6-7-5-6-3-1

Current path

# Reading the Paths



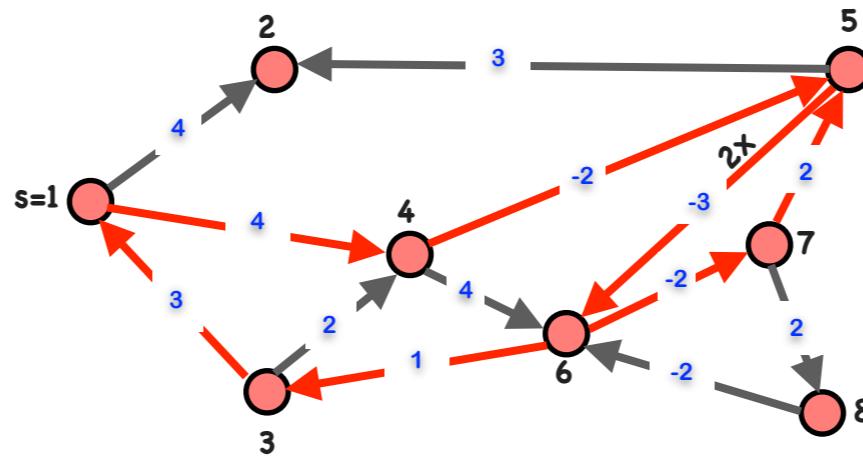
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

-4-5-6-7-5-6-3-1

Current path

# Reading the Paths



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

Follow the arrows backwards

1-4-5-6-7-5-6-3-1

Current path

## Karp's Algorithm: Second Step

Now we have calculated  $F_k(v)$  for all  $k=0,\dots,n$  and all nodes  $v$ .

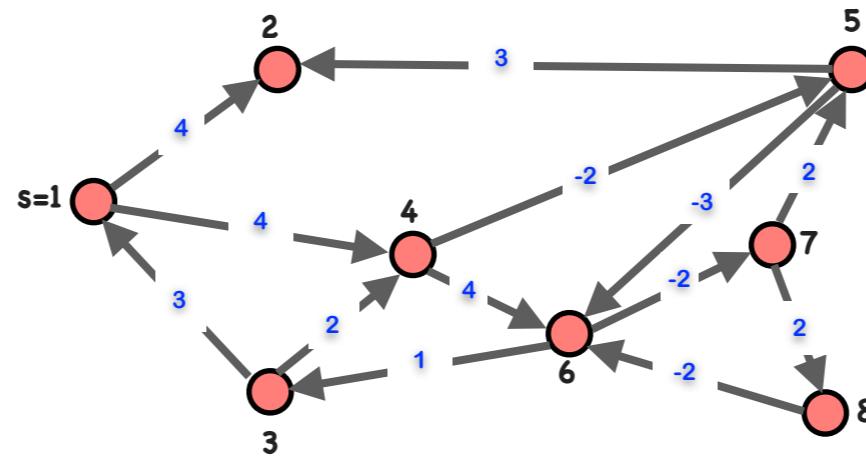
For all  $v$ , calculate

$$\alpha(v) := \max_{0 \leq k < n} \frac{F_n(v) - F_k(v)}{n - k}$$

Karp's theorem says:

$$\mu^*(G) = \min_{v \in V} \alpha(v)$$

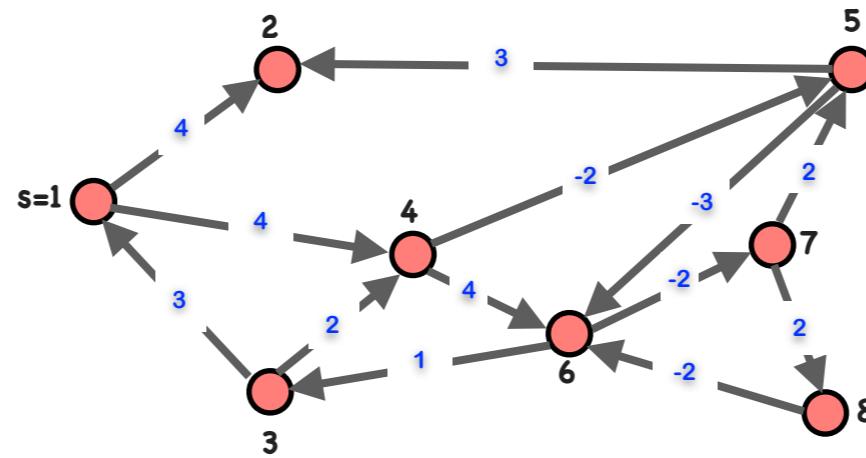
# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf						
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4

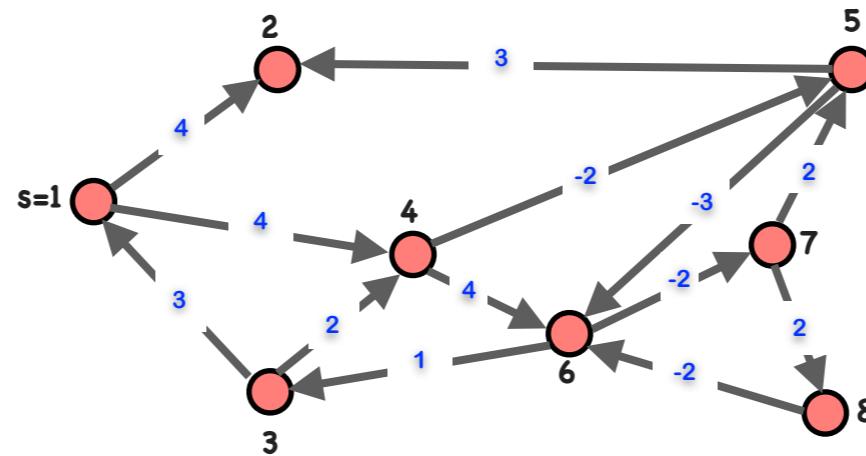
→  $\alpha(3) = \max( (-2+3)/1, (-2-6)/2, (-2-\infty)/3, (-2-0)/4, (-2-9)/5, (-2-\infty)/8) = \max(1, -4, -\infty, -1/2, -11/5) = 1$

# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4
alpha	0	5	1	-5/7	-1	5	1	-1

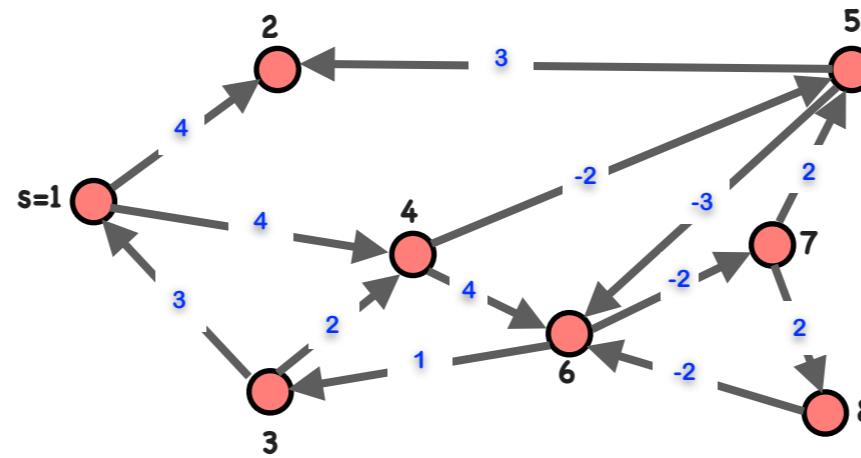
# Example



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4
alpha	0	5	1	-5/7	-1	5	1	-1

$\rightarrow (-4-2)/(8-2) = -1$

# Example



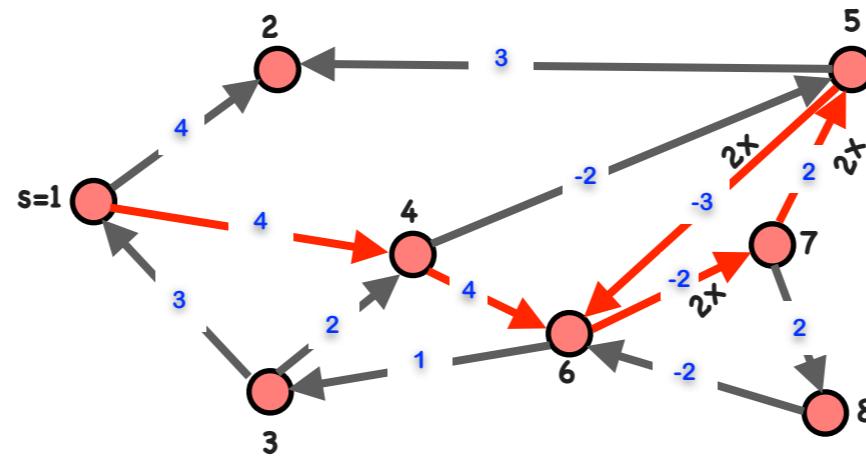
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4
alpha	0	5	1	-5/7	-1	5	1	-1

$\mu^*(G) = -1$

(Blue arrow points from the bottom row to the formula below.)

$(-4-2)/(8-2) = -1$

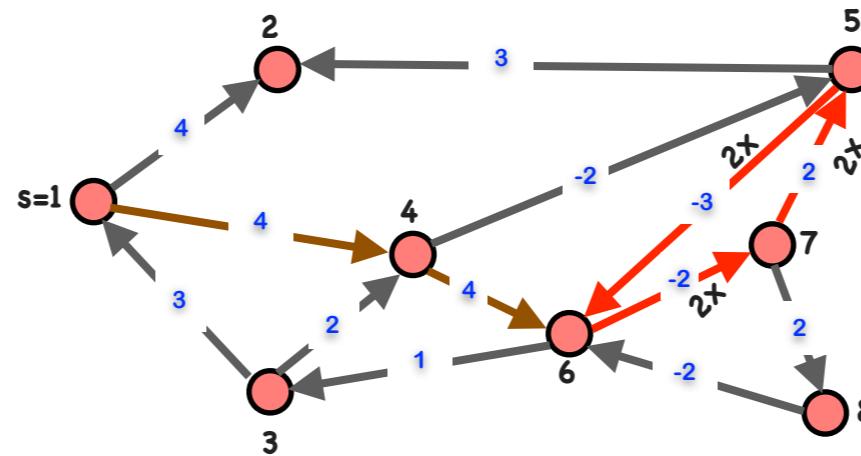
# What does it Have to do with Cycles?



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4
alpha	0	5	1	-5/7	-1	5	1	-1

Path of length 8  
and cost -4

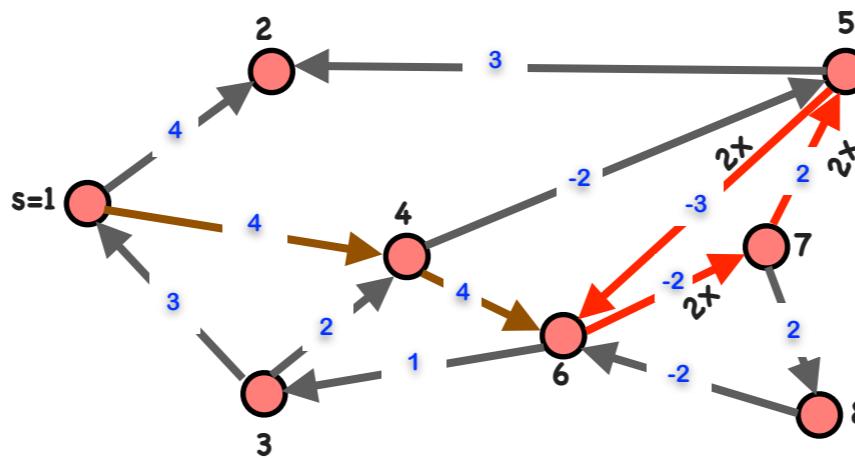
# What does it Have to do with Cycles?



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4
alpha	0	5	1	-5/7	-1	5	1	-1

Path of length 2  
and cost 2

# What does it Have to do with Cycles?



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$F_0(v)$	0	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_1(v)$	inf	4	inf	4	inf	inf	inf	inf
$F_2(v)$	inf	inf	inf	inf	2	8	inf	inf
$F_3(v)$	inf	5	9	inf	inf	-1	6	inf
$F_4(v)$	12	inf	0	11	8	inf	-3	8
$F_5(v)$	3	11	inf	2	-1	5	inf	-1
$F_6(v)$	inf	2	6	7	0	-4	3	inf
$F_7(v)$	9	3	-3	8	5	-3	-6	5
$F_8(v)$	0	8	-2	-1	-4	2	-5	-4
alpha	0	5	1	-5/7	-1	5	1	-1

What remains is a cycle with 6 edges and cost -6

$F_n(v) - F_k(v)$  is the weight of a cycle with  $n-k$  edges starting and ending in  $v$

# Proof of Karp's Therem

Now we have calculated  $F_k(v)$  for all  $k=0,\dots,n$  and all nodes  $v$ .

For all  $v$ , calculate

$$\alpha(v) := \max_{0 \leq k < n} \frac{F_n(v) - F_k(v)}{n - k}$$

Karp's theorem says:

$$\mu^*(G) = \min_{v \in V} \alpha(v)$$

## First Step: Zero Cycles

Consider the graph  $\hat{G}$  obtained from  $G$  by subtracting from all edge values the quantity  $\mu^*(G)$

$$\mu^*(\hat{G}) = 0$$

Proof: weights in new graph are  $\hat{w}(u, v) = w(u, v) - \mu^*(G)$

Average weight of a cycle in the new graph is

$$\frac{1}{t} \sum_{i=1}^t \hat{w}(v_{i-1}, v_i) = \mu(C) - \mu^*(G)$$

All cycle weights in the old graph are at least  $\mu^*(G)$ .

So, smallest average weight cycle weight in new graph is 0.      Q.E.D.

Without loss of generality: consider a graph in which smallest average cycle length is 0.

## Second Step: Zero is Smallest Average Cycle Weight

Need to show that

$$\min_{v \in V} \max_{0 \leq k < n} \frac{F_n(v) - F_k(v)}{n - k} = 0$$

Since  $\mu^*(G) = 0$ , there are no negative cycles in the graph, so

$$\sigma := \min_{k=0, \dots, n-1} F_k(v)$$

is the length of the shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ . On the other hand,  $F_n(v)$  is the length of the shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  with exactly  $n$  edges, so it is not smaller than  $\sigma$ . Therefore

$$\max_{k=0, \dots, n-1} F_n(v) - F_k(v) \geq 0$$

We therefore see that

$$\min_{v \in V} \max_{0 \leq k < n} \frac{F_n(v) - F_k(v)}{n - k} \geq 0$$

Need to show: there are  $v$  and  $k$  such that  $F_n(v) - F_k(v) = 0$

## Second Step: Zero is Smallest Average Cycle Weight

Need to show: there are  $v$  and  $k$  such that  $F_n(v) - F_k(v) = 0$

Take cycle  $C$  of weight 0, node  $w$  on  $C$ , and *simple* path  $P$  from  $s$  to  $w$ . **Simple path is one in which no node is repeated**

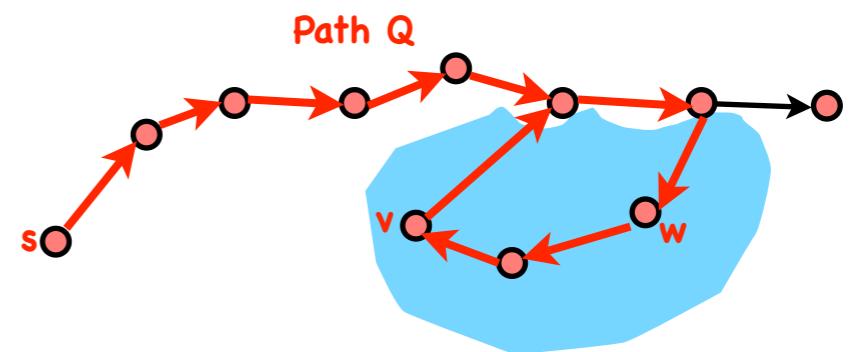
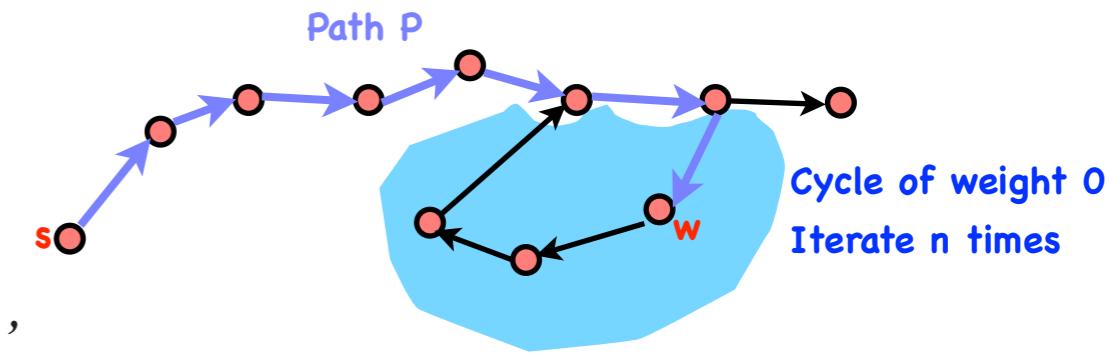
Extend path  $P$  by  $n$  iterations of cycle  $C$  to obtain a path  $P'$ .

This path has at least  $n$  edges.

Let  $Q$  be the path formed by the first  $n$  edges of  $P'$

$v$  is final node on path  $Q$

$$Q: s = v_0 \rightarrow v_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow v_{n-1} \rightarrow v_n = v$$



## Second Step: Zero is Smallest Average Cycle Weight

Need to show: there are  $v$  and  $k$  such that  $F_n(v) - F_k(v) = 0$

Take cycle  $C$  of weight 0, node  $w$  on  $C$ , and *simple* path  $P$  from  $s$  to  $w$ . Simple path is one in which no node is repeated

Extend path  $P$  by  $n$  iterations of cycle  $C$  to obtain a path  $P'$ .

This path has at least  $n$  edges.

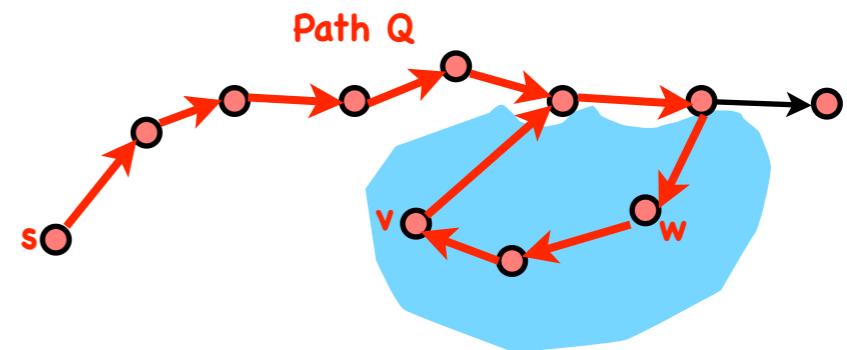
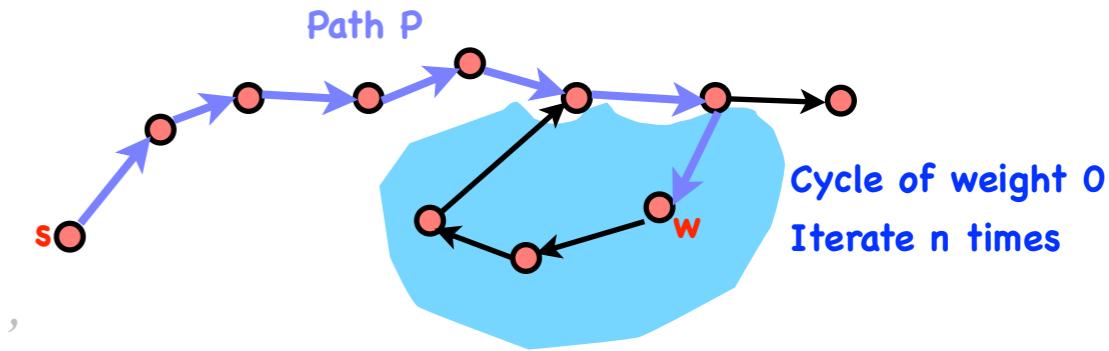
Let  $Q$  be the path formed by the first  $n$  edges of  $P'$

$v$  is final node on path  $Q$

$$Q: s = v_0 \rightarrow v_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow v_{n-1} \rightarrow v_n = v$$

$k$  smallest index such that  $v = v_k$  Note:  $k < n$  by choice of path

Then,  $F_k(v) = F_n(v)$  since cycle  $C$  has zero weight Q.E.D.



# Karp's Algorithm

- (1) Set  $F_0(s)=0$ ,  $F_0(v)=\inf$  for  $v \neq s$  Initialization
- (2) For  $i$  from 1 to  $n$  do
  - (i) For  $v$  in  $V$  set  $F_i(v) = \inf$  This loop calculates the  $F_i(v)$  for all  $v$  in  $V$  and all  $i$  from 0 to  $n$
  - (ii) For  $(u,v)$  in  $E$  do
    - (a) Set  $F_i(v) = \min(F_i(v), F_{i-1}(v)+w(u,v))$
- (3) For  $v$  in  $V$  do
  - (i) Set  $\alpha(v)=-\inf$  This loop calculates the  $\alpha$  values
  - (ii) For  $i$  from 1 to  $n-1$  do
    - (a) Set  $\alpha(v) = \max(\alpha(v), (F_n(v)-F_i(v))/(n-i))$
- (4) Set  $\mu=\alpha(s)$
- (5) For  $v$  in  $V$  do
  - (i) Set  $\mu = \min(\mu, \alpha(v))$  This loop calculates the final result
- (6) Return  $\mu$

# Karp's Algorithm

- (1) Set  $F_0(s)=0$ ,  $F_0(v)=\inf$  for  $v \neq s$   $O(n)$
- (2) For  $i$  from 1 to  $n$  do
  - (i) For  $v$  in  $V$  set  $F_i(v) = \inf$   $O(|E| n)$
  - (ii) For  $(u,v)$  in  $E$  do
    - (a) Set  $F_i(v) = \min(F_i(v), F_{i-1}(v)+w(u,v))$
- (3) For  $v$  in  $V$  do
  - (i) Set  $\alpha(v)=-\inf$   $O(n^2)$
  - (ii) For  $i$  from 1 to  $n-1$  do
    - (a) Set  $\alpha(v) = \max(\alpha(v), (F_n(v)-F_i(v))/(n-i))$
- (4) Set  $\mu=\alpha(s)$
- (5) For  $v$  in  $V$  do
  - (i) Set  $\mu = \min(\mu, \alpha(v))$   $O(n)$
- (6) Return  $\mu$

Running time is  $O(|E||V|)$