

# CS2040 – Data Structures and Algorithms

## Lecture 16 – Finding Shortest Way from Here to There, Part II

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# Outline

- **Four** special cases of the classical SSSP problem
  1. The graph is a **tree**
  2. The graph is **unweighted**
  3. The graph is **directed** and **acyclic** (DAG)
  4. The graph has **no negative weight edge/cycle**
    - Introduce a new SSSP algorithm (Dijkstra's algorithm)
- <https://visualgo.net/sssp>

# Special Case 1: Tree

- Solving the SSSP problem becomes much easier as every path in a tree is a shortest path
- No negative weight cycle
- ➔ Any  **$O(V)$**  graph traversal, i.e., **either DFS or BFS** can be used to solve this SSSP problem

# Special Case 2: Graph is Unweighted

- Discussed in previous lecture
  - BFS 😊 ( $O(V+E)$ )
- Important:
  - For SSSP on unweighted graph, we can *only* use BFS
  - For SSSP on tree, we can use *either* DFS/BFS

# Special Case 3: Graph is a DAG

- No cycles – yay! 😊
- Can do an ordering of the vertices – topological sort ([Kahn's algorithm](#))
- Modify Bellman Ford's algorithm by replacing the outermost **V-1** loop to just **one pass**
  - Only run the relaxation across all edges once in topological order

# Special Case 4a: No Negative Weight Edge

- Bellman-Ford's algorithm works fine for all cases of SSSP on weighted graphs, but it runs in  **$O(VE)$**  ...
  - For a “reasonably sized” weighted graph with  $V \sim 1000$  and  $E \sim 100000$
  - $E = O(V^2)$  in a complete simple graph, Bellman-Ford's is (really) “slow”...
- For **many practical cases**, the SSSP problem is performed on a graph where all its edges have non-negative weight
  - Example: Traveling between two cities on a map (graph) usually takes positive amount of time units
- Introducing ... Dijkstra's algorithm (exploits above property)

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

‘Original’ version

# Key Ideas

- **Assumption:** No negative weight edges in the graph
- **Key ideas** of (the original) Dijkstra's algorithm:
  - Maintain a set **Solved** of vertices whose **final shortest path weights** have been determined, initially **Solved** = {**s**}, source vertex **s** only
    - Repeatedly select vertex **u** in {**V-Solved**} with the min shortest path *estimate* **D[u]**, add **u** to **Solved**, and relax all edges out of **u**
    - This entails the use of a kind of “**Priority Queue**”
    - **Greedy Algorithm** → select the “best so far”
      - Once added to **Solved** greedily, a vertex is never again enqueued in the PQ
      - Eventually ends up with optimal result (see the proof later)

Note: Vertices are added to **Solved** in non-decreasing SP costs ...



# More Details

1. PQ: Store the *shortest path estimate* for a vertex  $\mathbf{v}$  as an IntegerPair  $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v})$  in the PQ, where  $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{D}[\mathbf{v}]$  (current shortest path estimate)
2. Initialization: Enqueue  $(\infty, \mathbf{v})$  for all vertices  $\mathbf{v}$  except for source  $\mathbf{s}$  which will enqueue  $(0, \mathbf{s})$  into the PQ
  - PQ will store integer pair for all vertices at the start

# More Details

3. Main loop: Keep removing vertex **u** with minimum **d** from the PQ, add **u** to **Solved** and relax all its outgoing edges (see point 4) until the PQ is empty
  - When PQ is empty all the vertices will be in **Solved**
4. If an edge (**u,v**) is relaxed find the vertex **v** it is pointing to in the PQ and “update” the shortest path estimate
  - Need to find **v** quickly and perform PQ “DecreaseKey” operation (not in Java PQ ☹)
  - Alternatively use bBST to implement the PQ

# Why Does The Algorithm Work?

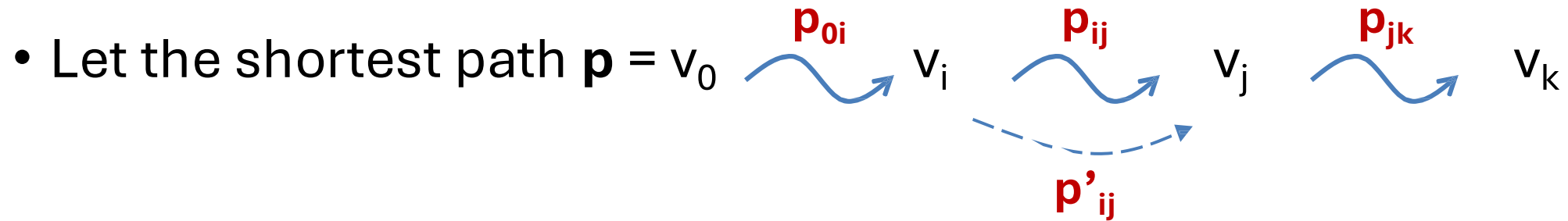
- Loop invariant = *Every vertex  $v$  in set **Solved** has correct shortest path distance from source, i.e.,  $D[v] = \delta(s, v)$* 
  - This is true initially, **Solved** = {**s**} and **D[s]** =  $\delta(s, s) = 0$
- Dijkstra's algorithm iteratively adds the next vertex **u** with the lowest **D[u]** into set **Solved**
  - Is the loop invariant always valid?
  - Lemma first and then the proof 😊

# Lemma 1

- Subpaths of a shortest path are shortest paths
- Let **p** be the shortest path:  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \rangle$
- Let **p<sub>ij</sub>** be the subpath of **p**:  $p_{ij} = \langle v_i, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_j \rangle, 0 \leq i \leq j \leq k$
- **→ p<sub>ij</sub>** is a shortest path (from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$ )

# Proof

- By contradiction ... of course 😊



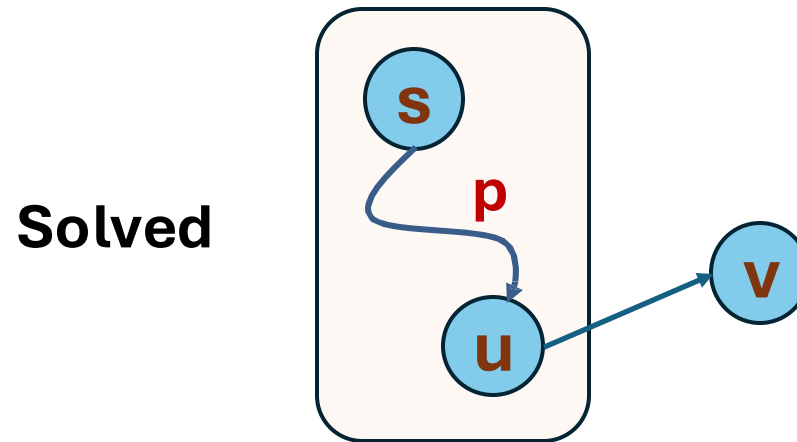
- If  $\mathbf{p}_{ij}$  is not the shortest path, then we have another  $\mathbf{p}'_{ij}$  that is shorter than  $\mathbf{p}_{ij}$ . We can then replace  $\mathbf{p}_{ij}$  with  $\mathbf{p}'_{ij} \rightarrow$  new shortest path  $\Leftrightarrow$  **contradiction!**
- $\Rightarrow \mathbf{p}_{ij}$  must be a shortest path between  $v_i$  and  $v_j$

# Yet Another Lemma – Lemma 2

- After a vertex  $v$  is added to **Solved**, SP from  $s$  to  $v$  has been found
- Proof by contradiction

# Proof

- Let  $v$  be the 1<sup>st</sup> vertex added to **Solved** where SP from  $s$  to  $v$  has not be found when it was added
- Let  $p$  be path from  $s$  to  $v$  when  $v$  was added to **Solved**

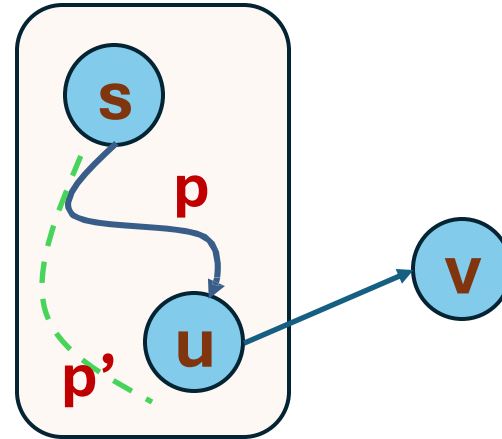


- Observations:
  1. All vertices in  $s \rightsquigarrow u$  must be in **Solved**
  2.  $s \rightsquigarrow u$  must be the SP from  $s$  to  $u$  since  $v$  is the 1<sup>st</sup> one added wrongly

# Proof

- There are then only 3 possibilities for the correct SP  $p'$
- **Possibility 1:** Predecessor of  $v$  in the correct SP is still  $u$  but the path from  $s$  to  $u$  is not the same

Solved

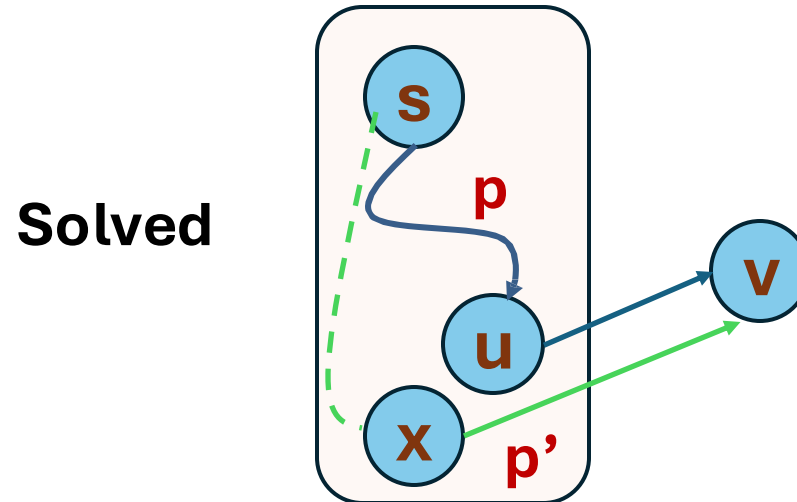


- Cannot be due to Lemma 1 and the fact that  $s \rightsquigarrow u$  is SP from  $s$  to  $u$  by observation 2



# Proof

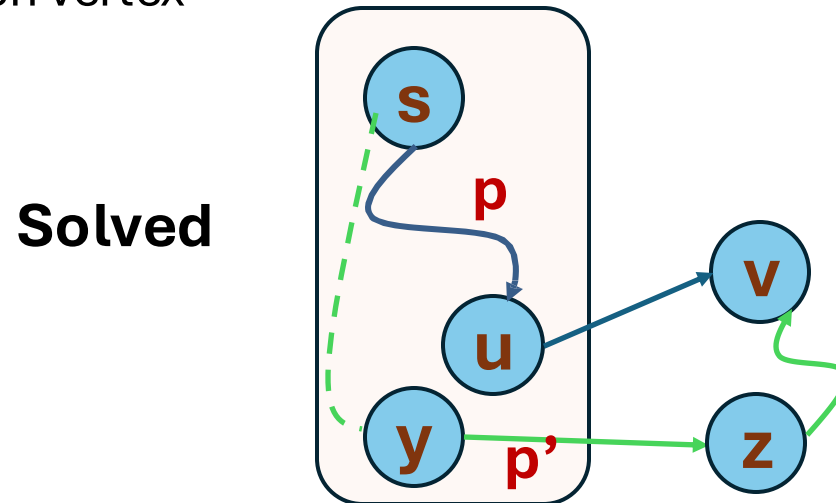
- **Possibility 2:** Predecessor of  $v$  in the correct SP  $p'$  is another vertex  $x$



- Cannot be the case since  $v$  had the lowest cost in the PQ through relaxation of  $(u,v)$  and not  $(x,v)$ , therefore  
$$\text{cost}(p') = \text{cost}(\text{SP}(s,x)) + w(x,v) > \text{cost}(p) = \text{cost}(\text{SP}(s,u)) + w(u,v)$$

# Proof

- **Possibility 3:** There exists at least one vertex along correct SP  $p'$  from  $s$  to  $v$  which is not in **Solved**. Let  $z$  be the first such vertex



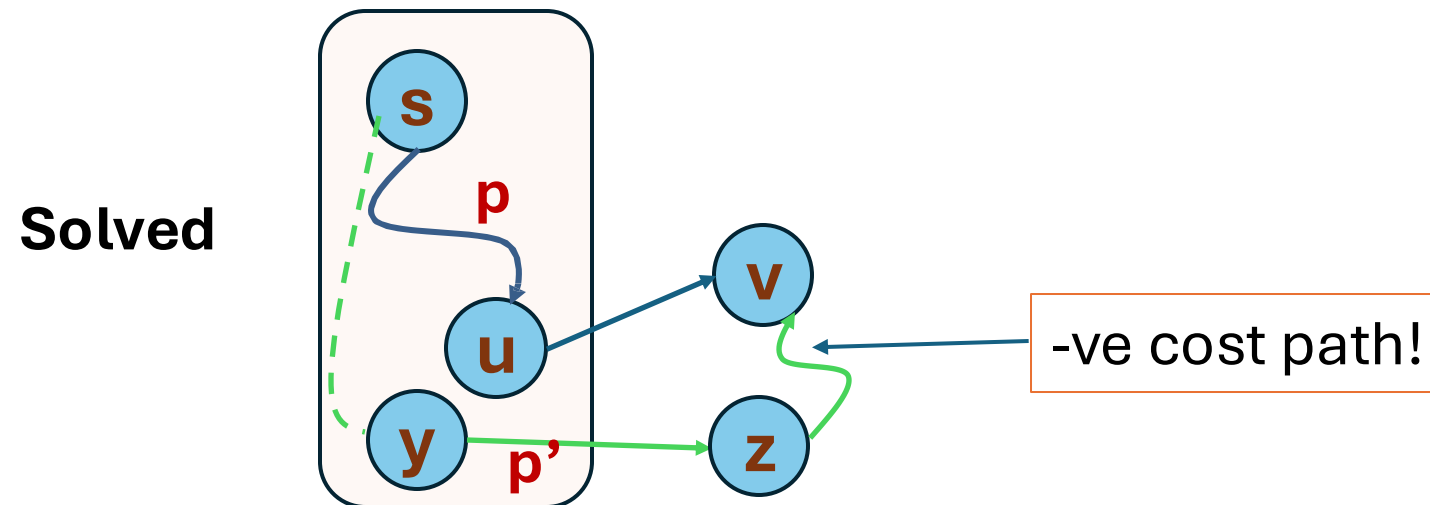
- Since  $y$  and  $u$  in **Solved**, their SP is correct and they will have correctly relaxed their neighbour  $z$  and  $v$  respectively
- Since  $v$  was added to **Solved** instead of  $z$ , we have

$$\text{cost}(\text{SP}(s,z)) = \text{cost}(\text{SP}(s,y)) + w(y,z) > \text{cost}(p)$$

# Proof

- Now for  $\text{cost}(p') = \text{cost}(\text{SP}(s,z)) + \text{cost}(\text{SP}(z,v)) < \text{cost}(p)$

$\text{cost}(\text{SP}(z,v))$  must be  $< 0$  which means there are -ve edge weights which is a contradiction that the graph only has +ve edge weights



- Since there is no 1<sup>st</sup> vertex which is added wrongly, the algorithm is correct

# Back to ... Why Does The Algorithm Work?

- By lemma 2, since SP to  $v$  has been found once it is put into Solved, we will never need to revisit it again, thus greedy works

# Algorithm Analysis

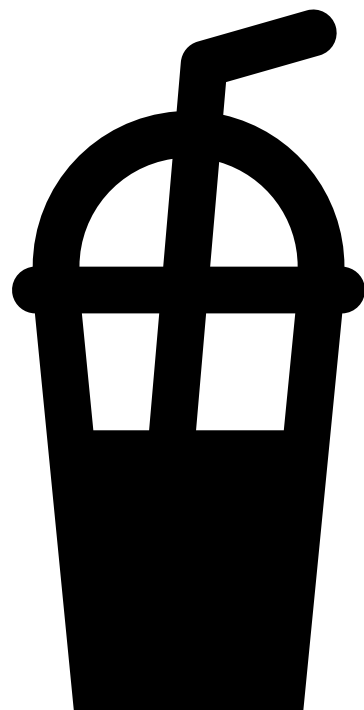
- Each vertex will only be inserted and extracted from the priority queue **once**
  - As there are  **$V$**  vertices, we will do this at most  $O(V)$  times
  - Each insert/extract min runs in  $O(\log V)$  (since at most  $V$  items in the PQ) if implemented using **binary min heap (insert/extractMin)** or **bBST (insert/deleteMin)**
- **→  $O(V \log V)$**

# Algorithm Analysis

- Every time a vertex is processed, we relax its neighbors
  - In total, all  $O(E)$  edges are processed (and only once for each edge)
  - If by relaxing edge( $u, v$ ), we have to decrease  $D[v]$ , we call the  $O(\log V)$  **DecreaseKey() in binary min heap** (harder to implement) or simply **delete old entry and then re-insert new entry in balanced BST** (which also runs in  $O(\log V)$ , but this is much easier to implement)
- $\rightarrow O(E \log V)$

Overall:  $O(V \log V + E \log V) == O((V+E) \log V)$

# Take a Break



# Special Case 4b: No Negative Weight Cycle

- For **many practical cases**, the SSSP problem is performed on a graph where its edges may have **negative weight**, but it has **no negative cycle**
- Presenting ... The **Modified Dijkstra's** algorithm



# Dijkstra's Algorithm

‘Modified’ version

# Implementation (1)

- Formal assumption (different from the original one):
  - The graph has **no negative weight cycle** (but can have negative weight edges)
- **Key ideas:**
  - Allow a vertex to be possibly processed multiple times as detailed below and in the next slide
  - Use a **built-in** priority queue in **Java Collections** to order the next vertex **u** to be processed based on its **D[u]**
    - This vertex information is stored as IntegerPair (**d, u**) where **d = D[u]** (the current shortest path estimate)
- But with modification: We use “**Lazy Data Structure**” strategy
  - **Main idea:** No need to maintain just one IntegerPair (shortest path estimate) for each vertex **v** in the PQ
  - Can have multiple shortest path estimates to exist in the PQ for a vertex **v**

# Implementation (2)

- Lazy DS: Extract pair **(d, u)** in **front of the priority queue PQ** with the minimum shortest path estimate ***so far***
- if **d = D[u]**, we relax all edges out of **u**,  
else if **d > D[u]**, we discard this inferior **(d, u)** pair
  - Since there can be multiple copies of **(d, u)** pair we only want the most up to date copy
  - See below to understand how we get multiple copies!
- If during edge relaxation, **D[v]** of a neighbour **v** of **u** *decreases*, enqueue a new **(D[v], v)** pair for *future propagation* of shortest path estimate
  - No need to find the **v** in the **PQ** and update it!
  - Thus no need to implement **DecreaseKey** (which you don't have in Java PriorityQueue class) or need bBST implementation of PQ!

# Modified Dijkstra's Algorithm

```
initSSSP(s)

PQ.enqueue((0, s)) // store pair of (dist[u], u)
while PQ is not empty // order: increasing dist[u]
    (d, u) ← PQ.dequeue()
    if d == D[u] // important check, lazy DS
        for each vertex v adjacent to u
            if D[v] > D[u] + w(u, v) // can relax
                D[v] = D[u] + w(u, v) // relax
                PQ.enqueue((D[v], v)) // (re)enqueue this
```

# Algorithm Analysis

- If there is **no-negative weight edge**, there will never be another path that can decrease  $D[u]$  once  $u$  is dequeued from the PQ and processed (**Original Dijkstra's proof**)
  - Thus each vertex will still be dequeued from the PQ and processed once
    - Even though a vertex  $v$  can have multiple copies in the PQ outdated copies are not processed due to the  $(d > D[v])$  check
  - Each processed vertex can at most relax all its neighbours thus making as many insertions into the PQ as there are neighbours

# Algorithm Analysis

- In total the number of insertions into the PQ is  $O(E)$  meaning the size of the PQ is at most  $O(E)$
- At the end, the PQ is empty so we have made  $O(E)$  insertions and extractMin, each taking at most  $O(\log E)$  time, thus total time is  $O(E \log E)$ . This is the same as  $O((V+E) \log V)$  except when  $E < O(V)$ , then  $O(E \log E) < (O((V+E) \log V) = O(V \log V))$

# ☹ Extreme Test Case ☹

- Such extreme cases that causes *exponential time complexity* are *rare* and thus in practice, the modified Dijkstra's implementation runs much faster than the Bellman Ford's algorithm 😊

# Good Practice 😊

- If you know your graph has only a few (or no) negative weight edge, this version is probably one of the best current implementation of Dijkstra's algorithm
- But, if you know for sure that your graph has a high probability of having a negative weight cycle, use the tighter (and also simpler)  $O(VE)$  Bellman Ford's algorithm as this modified Dijkstra's implementation can be trapped in an infinite loop

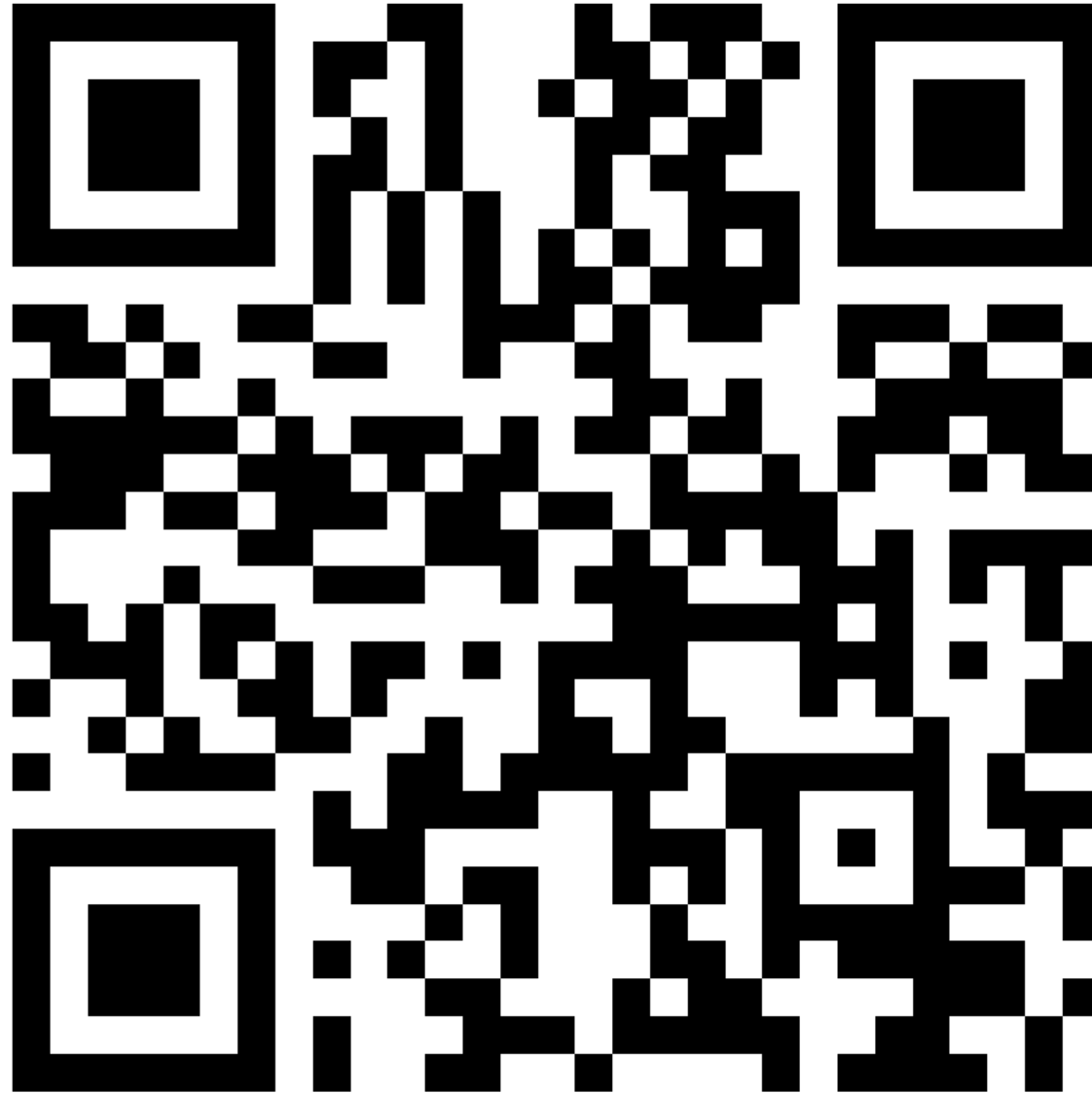


# Summary

- General case: weighted graph
  - Use  $O(\mathbf{VE})$  Bellman Ford's algorithm (the previous lecture)
- Special case 1: Tree
  - Use  $O(\mathbf{V})$  BFS or DFS 😊
- Special case 2: unweighted graph
  - Use  $O(\mathbf{V+E})$  BFS 😊
- Special case 3: DAG
  - Use  $O(\mathbf{V+E})$  DFS to get the topological sort, then relax the vertices using this topological order
- Special case 4ab: graph has no negative weight/negative cycle
  - Use  $O((\mathbf{V+E}) \log \mathbf{V})$  original/ $O(\mathbf{E} \log \mathbf{E})$  modified Dijkstra's, respectively

# Next

- All Pairs Shortest Paths Problem



Continuous Feedback

<https://forms.office.com/r/KsNwmTUD0q>