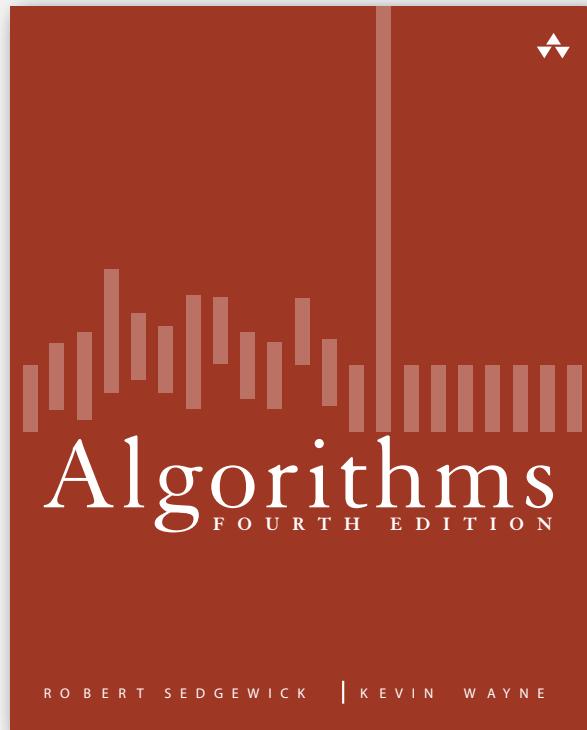


# 4.4 SHORTEST PATHS



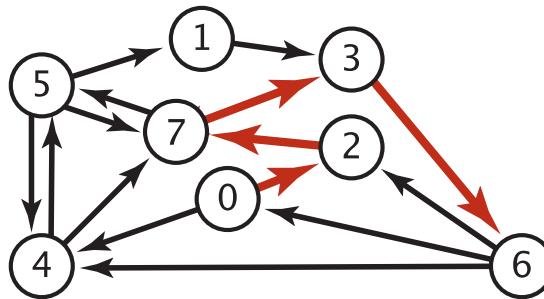
- ▶ **edge-weighted digraph API**
- ▶ **shortest-paths properties**
- ▶ **Dijkstra's algorithm**
- ▶ **edge-weighted DAGs**
- ▶ **negative weights**

## Shortest paths in a weighted digraph

Given an edge-weighted digraph, find the shortest (directed) path from  $s$  to  $t$ .

edge-weighted digraph

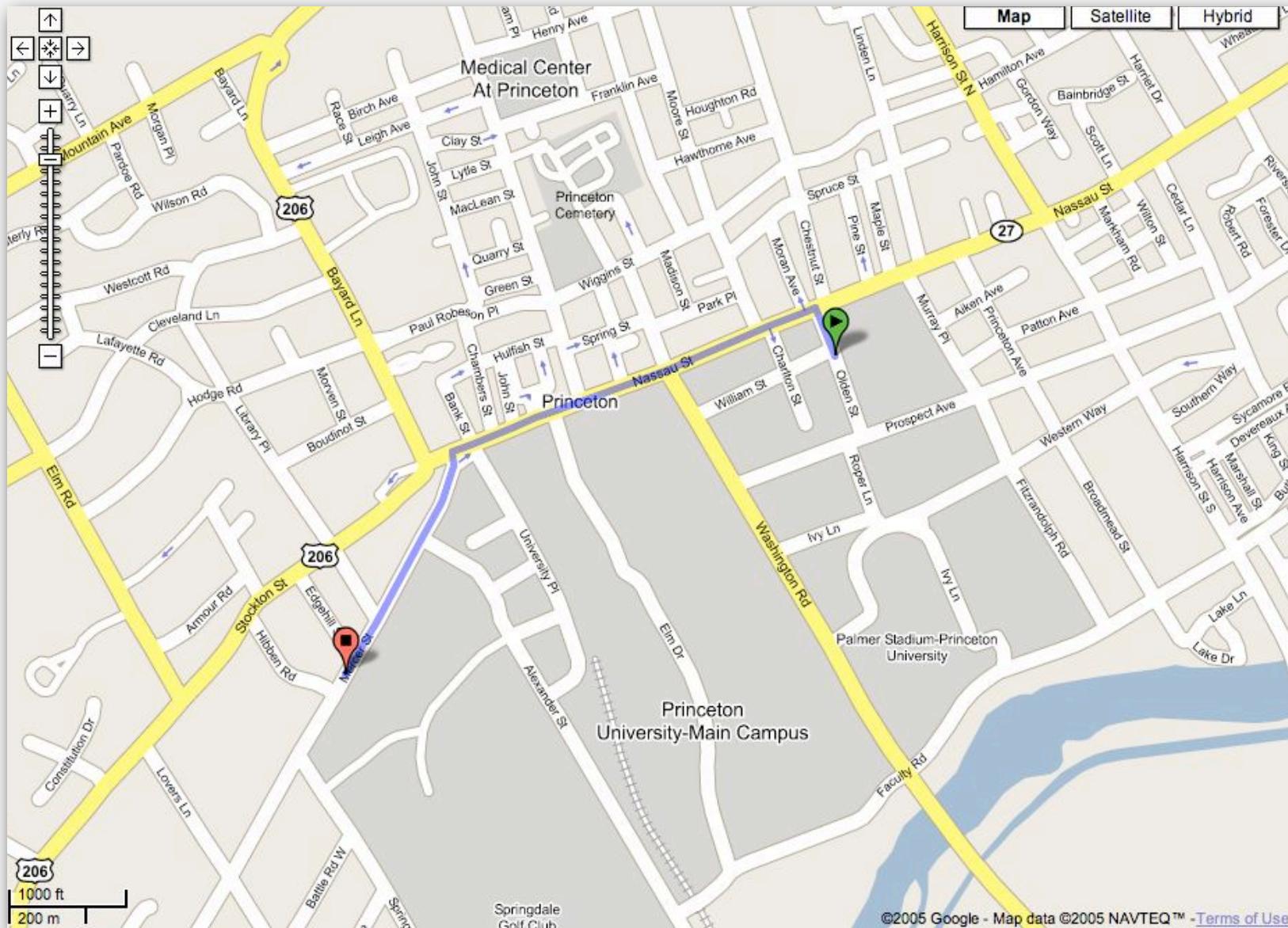
4->5	0.35
5->4	0.35
4->7	0.37
5->7	0.28
7->5	0.28
5->1	0.32
0->4	0.38
0->2	0.26
7->3	0.39
1->3	0.29
2->7	0.34
6->2	0.40
3->6	0.52
6->0	0.58
6->4	0.93



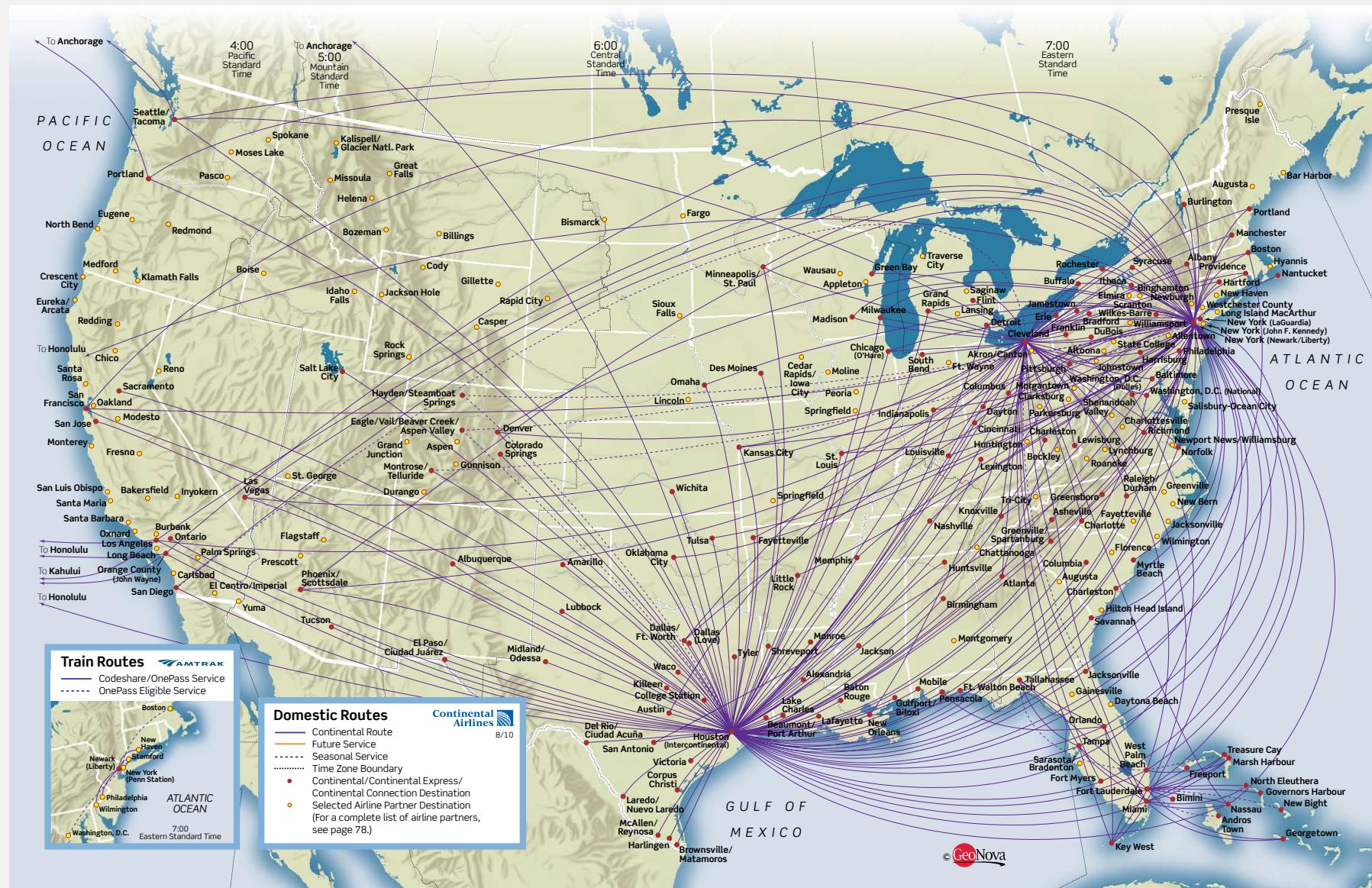
shortest path from 0 to 6

0->2	0.26
2->7	0.34
7->3	0.39
3->6	0.52

## Google maps



# Continental U.S. routes (August 2010)



<http://www.continental.com/web/en-US/content/travel/routes>

## Shortest path applications

- PERT/CPM.
- Map routing.
- Seam carving.
- Robot navigation.
- Texture mapping.
- Typesetting in TeX.
- Urban traffic planning.
- Optimal pipelining of VLSI chip.
- Telemarketer operator scheduling.
- Routing of telecommunications messages.
- Network routing protocols (OSPF, BGP, RIP).
- Exploiting arbitrage opportunities in currency exchange.
- Optimal truck routing through given traffic congestion pattern.



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seam\\_carving](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seam_carving)



Reference: Network Flows: Theory, Algorithms, and Applications, R. K. Ahuja, T. L. Magnanti, and J. B. Orlin, Prentice Hall, 1993.

## Shortest path variants

### Which vertices?

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

### Restrictions on edge weights?

- Nonnegative weights.
- Arbitrary weights.
- Euclidean weights.

### Cycles?

- No directed cycles.
- No "negative cycles."

Simplifying assumption. There exists a shortest path from  $s$  to each vertex  $v$ .

- edge-weighted digraph API
- shortest-paths properties
- Dijkstra's algorithm
- edge-weighted DAGs
- negative weights

## Weighted directed edge API

```
public class DirectedEdge  
  
    DirectedEdge(int v, int w, double weight)      weighted edge v→w  
  
    int from()                                     vertex v  
  
    int to()                                       vertex w  
  
    double weight()                                weight of this edge  
  
    String toString()                             string representation
```



Idiom for processing an edge `e`: `int v = e.from(), w = e.to();`

## Weighted directed edge: implementation in Java

Similar to `Edge` for undirected graphs, but a bit simpler.

```
public class DirectedEdge
{
    private final int v, w;
    private final double weight;

    public DirectedEdge(int v, int w, double weight)
    {
        this.v = v;
        this.w = w;
        this.weight = weight;
    }

    public int from()
    {   return v;   }

    public int to()
    {   return w;   }

    public int weight()
    {   return weight;   }
}
```

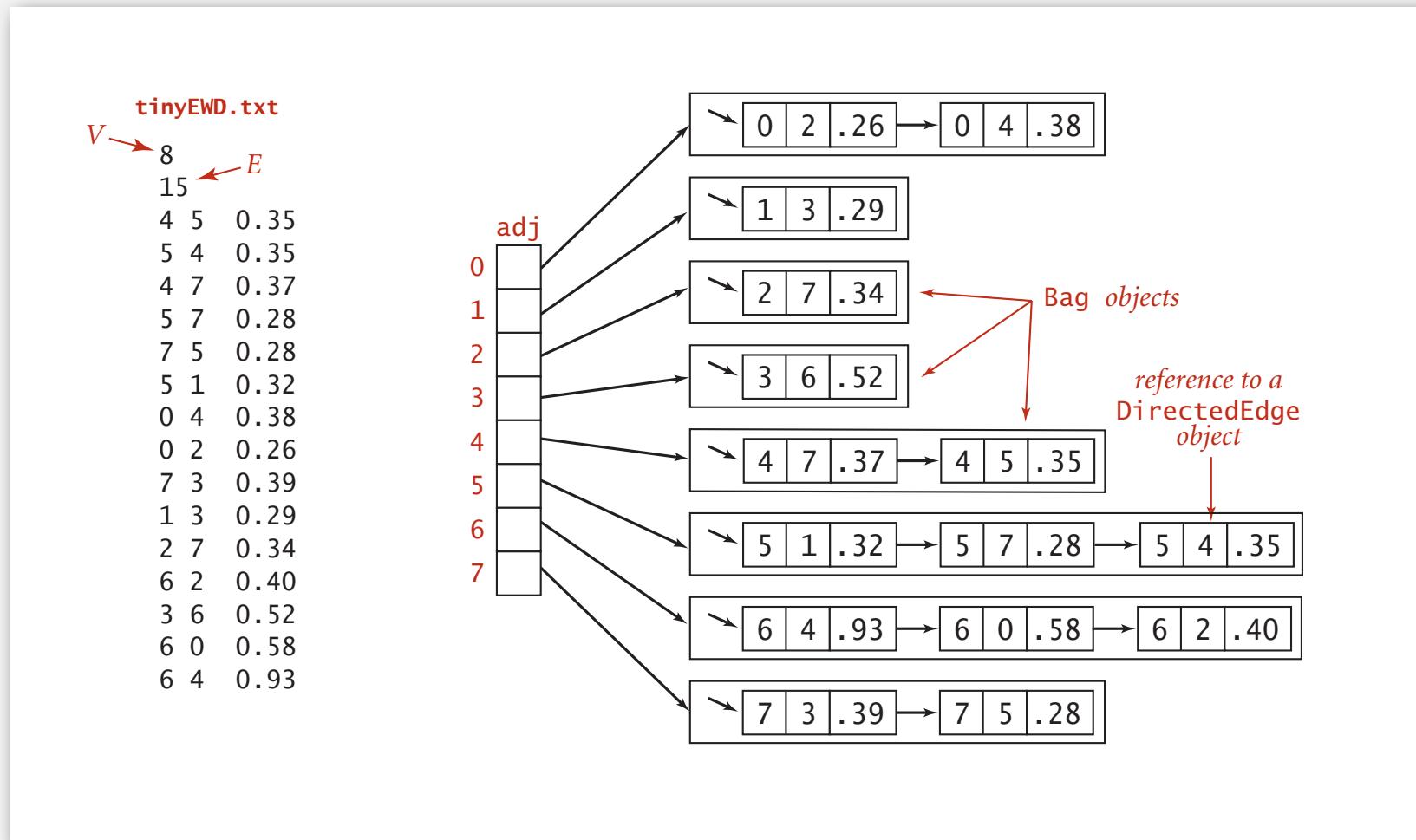
`from()` and `to()` replace  
`either()` and `other()`

## Edge-weighted digraph API

<b>public class EdgeWeightedDigraph</b>	
<b>EdgeWeightedDigraph(int V)</b>	<i>edge-weighted digraph with V vertices</i>
<b>EdgeWeightedDigraph(In in)</b>	<i>edge-weighted digraph from input stream</i>
<b>void addEdge(DirectedEdge e)</b>	<i>add weighted directed edge e</i>
<b>Iterable&lt;DirectedEdge&gt; adj(int v)</b>	<i>edges pointing from v</i>
<b>int V()</b>	<i>number of vertices</i>
<b>int E()</b>	<i>number of edges</i>
<b>Iterable&lt;DirectedEdge&gt; edges()</b>	<i>all edges</i>
<b>String toString()</b>	<i>string representation</i>

Conventions. Allow self-loops and parallel edges.

## Edge-weighted digraph: adjacency-lists representation



## Edge-weighted digraph: adjacency-lists implementation in Java

Same as EdgeWeightedGraph except replace Graph with Digraph.

```
public class EdgeWeightedDigraph
{
    private final int V;
    private final Bag<Edge>[] adj;

    public EdgeWeightedDigraph(int V)
    {
        this.V = V;
        adj = (Bag<DirectedEdge>[]) new Bag[V];
        for (int v = 0; v < V; v++)
            adj[v] = new Bag<DirectedEdge>();
    }

    public void addEdge(DirectedEdge e)
    {
        int v = e.from();
        adj[v].add(e);
    }

    public Iterable<DirectedEdge> adj(int v)
    {   return adj[v];   }
}
```

←  
add edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$  only to  
 $v$ 's adjacency list

## Single-source shortest paths API

Goal. Find the shortest path from  $s$  to every other vertex.

```
public class SP
```

```
    SP(EdgeWeightedDigraph G, int s)      shortest paths from s in graph G
```

```
    double distTo(int v)                  length of shortest path from s to v
```

```
    Iterable <DirectedEdge> pathTo(int v)   shortest path from s to v
```

```
    boolean hasPathTo(int v)                is there a path from s to v?
```

```
SP sp = new SP(G, s);
for (int v = 0; v < G.V(); v++)
{
    StdOut.printf("%d to %d (%.2f): ", s, v, sp.distTo(v));
    for (DirectedEdge e : sp.pathTo(v))
        StdOut.print(e + " ");
    StdOut.println();
}
```

## Single-source shortest paths API

Goal. Find the shortest path from  $s$  to every other vertex.

```
public class SP
```

```
    SP(EdgeWeightedDigraph G, int s)      shortest paths from s in graph G
```

```
    double distTo(int v)                  length of shortest path from s to v
```

```
    Iterable <DirectedEdge> pathTo(int v)    shortest path from s to v
```

```
    boolean hasPathTo(int v)                is there a path from s to v?
```

```
% java SP tinyEWD.txt 0
0 to 0 (0.00):
0 to 1 (1.05): 0->4 0.38  4->5 0.35  5->1 0.32
0 to 2 (0.26): 0->2 0.26
0 to 3 (0.99): 0->2 0.26  2->7 0.34  7->3 0.39
0 to 4 (0.38): 0->4 0.38
0 to 5 (0.73): 0->4 0.38  4->5 0.35
0 to 6 (1.51): 0->2 0.26  2->7 0.34  7->3 0.39  3->6 0.52
0 to 7 (0.60): 0->2 0.26  2->7 0.34
```

- ▶ edge-weighted digraph API
- ▶ shortest-paths properties
- ▶ Dijkstra's algorithm
- ▶ edge-weighted DAGs
- ▶ negative weights

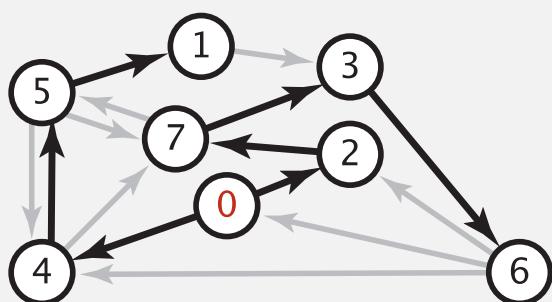
## Data structures for single-source shortest paths

Goal. Find the shortest path from  $s$  to every other vertex.

Observation. A **shortest-paths tree (SPT)** solution exists. Why?

Consequence. Can represent the SPT with two vertex-indexed arrays:

- `distTo[v]` is length of shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ .
- `edgeTo[v]` is last edge on shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ .



	edgeTo[]	distTo[]
0	null	0
1	5->1	0.32
2	0->2	0.26
3	7->3	0.37
4	0->4	0.38
5	4->5	0.35
6	3->6	0.52
7	2->7	0.60

shortest-paths tree from 0

## Data structures for single-source shortest paths

**Goal.** Find the shortest path from  $s$  to every other vertex.

**Observation.** A **shortest-paths tree** (SPT) solution exists. Why?

**Consequence.** Can represent the SPT with two vertex-indexed arrays:

- `distTo[v]` is length of shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ .
- `edgeTo[v]` is last edge on shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ .

```
public double distTo(int v)
{   return distTo[v];  }

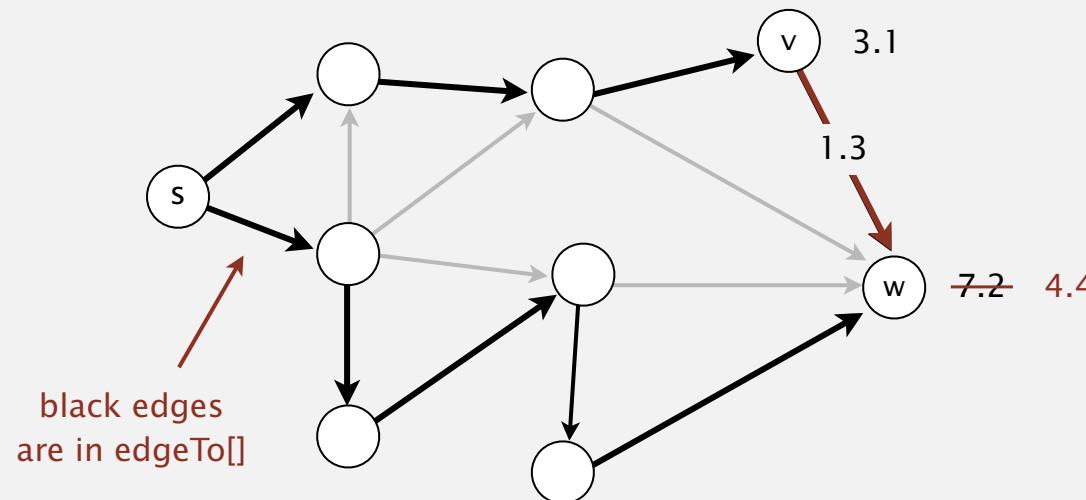
public Iterable<DirectedEdge> pathTo(int v)
{
    Stack<DirectedEdge> path = new Stack<DirectedEdge>();
    for (DirectedEdge e = edgeTo[v]; e != null; e = edgeTo[e.from()])
        path.push(e);
    return path;
}
```

## Edge relaxation

Relax edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$ .

- `distTo[v]` is length of shortest **known** path from  $s$  to  $v$ .
- `distTo[w]` is length of shortest **known** path from  $s$  to  $w$ .
- `edgeTo[w]` is last edge on shortest **known** path from  $s$  to  $w$ .
- If  $e = v \rightarrow w$  gives shorter path to  $w$  through  $v$ , update `distTo[w]` and `edgeTo[w]`.

$v \rightarrow w$  successfully relaxes



## Edge relaxation

Relax edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$ .

- `distTo[v]` is length of shortest known path from  $s$  to  $v$ .
- `distTo[w]` is length of shortest known path from  $s$  to  $w$ .
- `edgeTo[w]` is last edge on shortest known path from  $s$  to  $w$ .
- If  $e = v \rightarrow w$  gives shorter path to  $w$  through  $v$ , update `distTo[w]` and `edgeTo[w]`.

```
private void relax(DirectedEdge e)
{
    int v = e.from(), w = e.to();
    if (distTo[w] > distTo[v] + e.weight())
    {
        distTo[w] = distTo[v] + e.weight();
        edgeTo[w] = e;
    }
}
```

## Shortest-paths optimality conditions

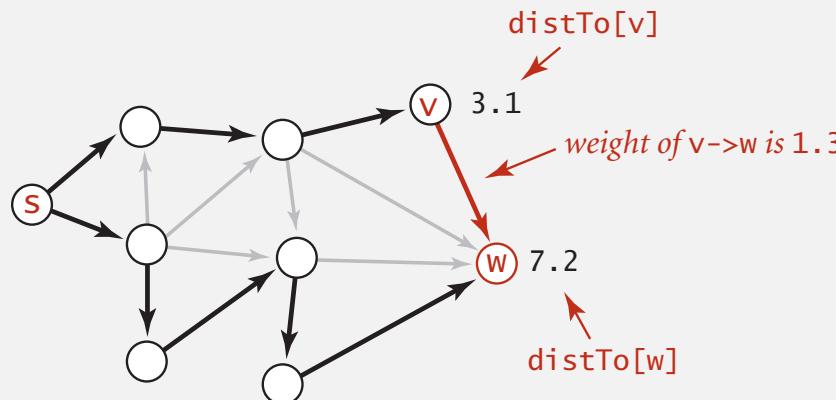
Proposition. Let  $G$  be an edge-weighted digraph.

Then  $\text{distTo}[]$  are the shortest path distances from  $s$  iff:

- For each vertex  $v$ ,  $\text{distTo}[v]$  is the length of some path from  $s$  to  $v$ .
- For each edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$ ,  $\text{distTo}[w] \leq \text{distTo}[v] + e.\text{weight}()$ .

Pf.  $\Leftarrow$  [ necessary ]

- Suppose that  $\text{distTo}[w] > \text{distTo}[v] + e.\text{weight}()$  for some edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$ .
- Then,  $e$  gives a path from  $s$  to  $w$  (through  $v$ ) of length less than  $\text{distTo}[w]$ .



## Shortest-paths optimality conditions

Proposition. Let  $G$  be an edge-weighted digraph.

Then  $\text{distTo}[]$  are the shortest path distances from  $s$  iff:

- For each vertex  $v$ ,  $\text{distTo}[v]$  is the length of some path from  $s$  to  $v$ .
- For each edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$ ,  $\text{distTo}[w] \leq \text{distTo}[v] + e.\text{weight}()$ .

Pf.  $\Rightarrow$  [ sufficient ]

- Suppose that  $s = v_0 \rightarrow v_1 \rightarrow v_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow v_k = w$  is a shortest path from  $s$  to  $w$ .
- Then,  
$$\begin{aligned}\text{distTo}[v_k] &\leq \text{distTo}[v_{k-1}] + e_k.\text{weight}() \\ \text{distTo}[v_{k-1}] &\leq \text{distTo}[v_{k-2}] + e_{k-1}.\text{weight}() \\ &\dots \\ \text{distTo}[v_1] &\leq \text{distTo}[v_0] + e_1.\text{weight}()\end{aligned}$$


$e_i = i^{\text{th}}$  edge on shortest path from  $s$  to  $w$

- Add inequalities; simplify; and substitute  $\text{distTo}[v_0] = \text{distTo}[s] = 0$ :

$$\text{distTo}[w] = \text{distTo}[v_k] \leq e_k.\text{weight}() + e_{k-1}.\text{weight}() + \dots + e_1.\text{weight}()$$

↑  
weight of some path from  $s$  to  $w$

---

—————  
weight of shortest path from  $s$  to  $w$

- Thus,  $\text{distTo}[w]$  is the weight of shortest path to  $w$ . ■

## Generic shortest-paths algorithm

### Generic algorithm (to compute SPT from $s$ )

Initialize  $\text{distTo}[s] = 0$  and  $\text{distTo}[v] = \infty$  for all other vertices.

Repeat until optimality conditions are satisfied:

- Relax any edge.

Proposition. Generic algorithm computes SPT (if it exists) from  $s$ .

Pf sketch.

- Throughout algorithm,  $\text{distTo}[v]$  is the length of a simple path from  $s$  to  $v$  (and  $\text{edgeTo}[v]$  is last edge on path).
- Each successful relaxation decreases  $\text{distTo}[v]$  for some  $v$ .
- The entry  $\text{distTo}[v]$  can decrease at most a finite number of times. ■

## Generic shortest-paths algorithm

### Generic algorithm (to compute SPT from s)

---

Initialize  $\text{distTo}[s] = 0$  and  $\text{distTo}[v] = \infty$  for all other vertices.

Repeat until optimality conditions are satisfied:

- Relax any edge.
- 

Efficient implementations. How to choose which edge to relax?

- Ex 1. Dijkstra's algorithm (nonnegative weights).
- Ex 2. Topological sort algorithm (no directed cycles).
- Ex 3. Bellman-Ford algorithm (no negative cycles).

- edge-weighted digraph API
- shortest-paths properties
- Dijkstra's algorithm
- edge-weighted DAGs
- negative weights

## Edsger W. Dijkstra: select quotes

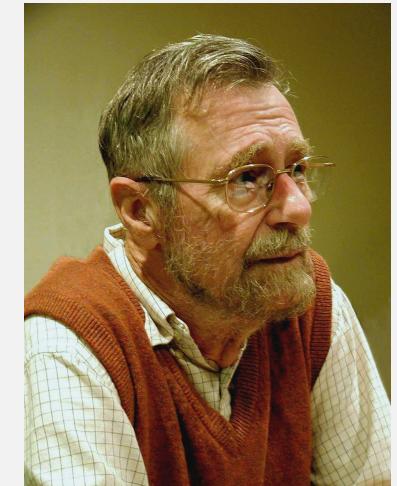
*“Do only what only you can do.”*

*“In their capacity as a tool, computers will be but a ripple on the surface of our culture. In their capacity as intellectual challenge, they are without precedent in the cultural history of mankind.”*

*“The use of COBOL cripples the mind; its teaching should, therefore, be regarded as a criminal offence.”*

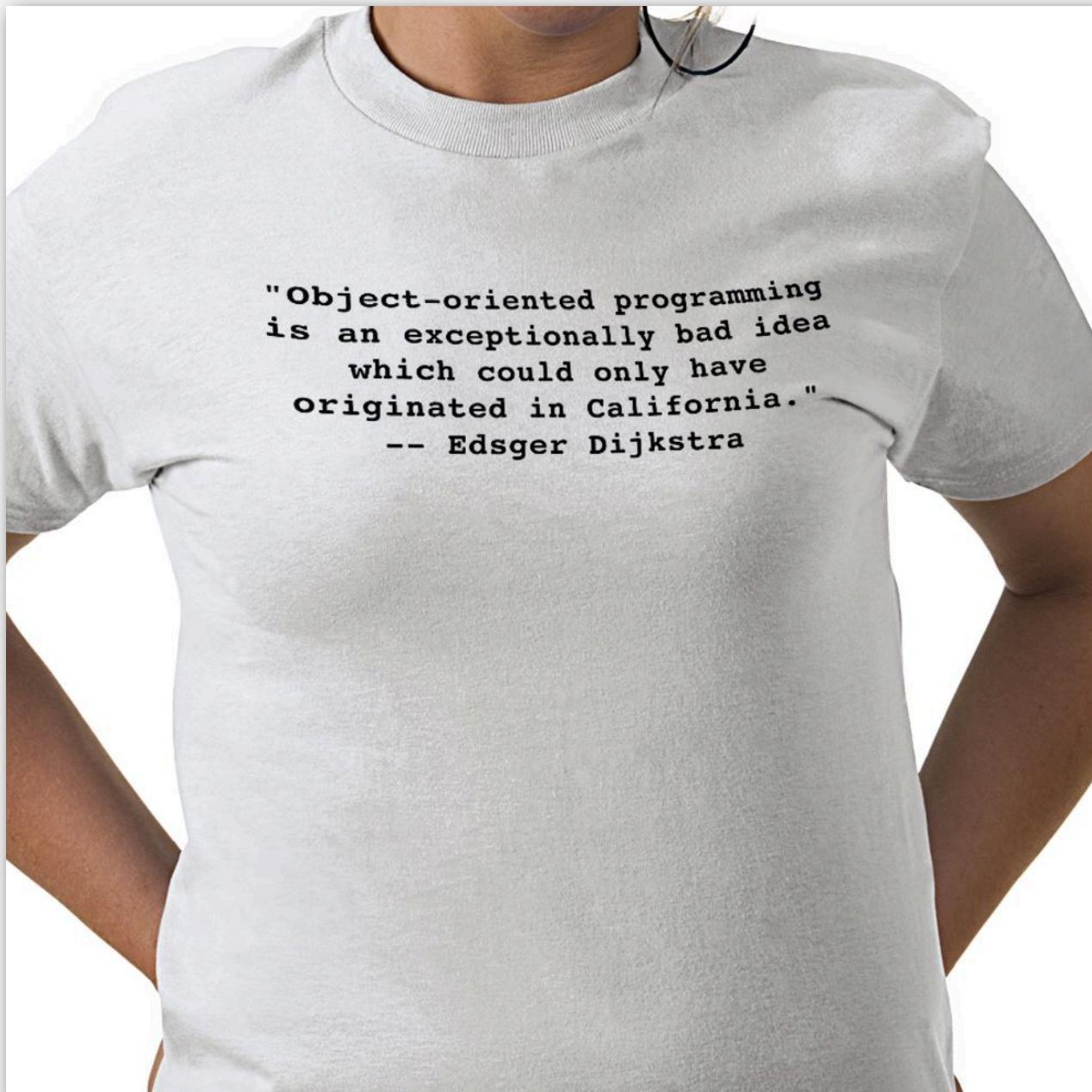
*“It is practically impossible to teach good programming to students that have had a prior exposure to BASIC: as potential programmers they are mentally mutilated beyond hope of regeneration.”*

*“APL is a mistake, carried through to perfection. It is the language of the future for the programming techniques of the past: it creates a new generation of coding bums.”*



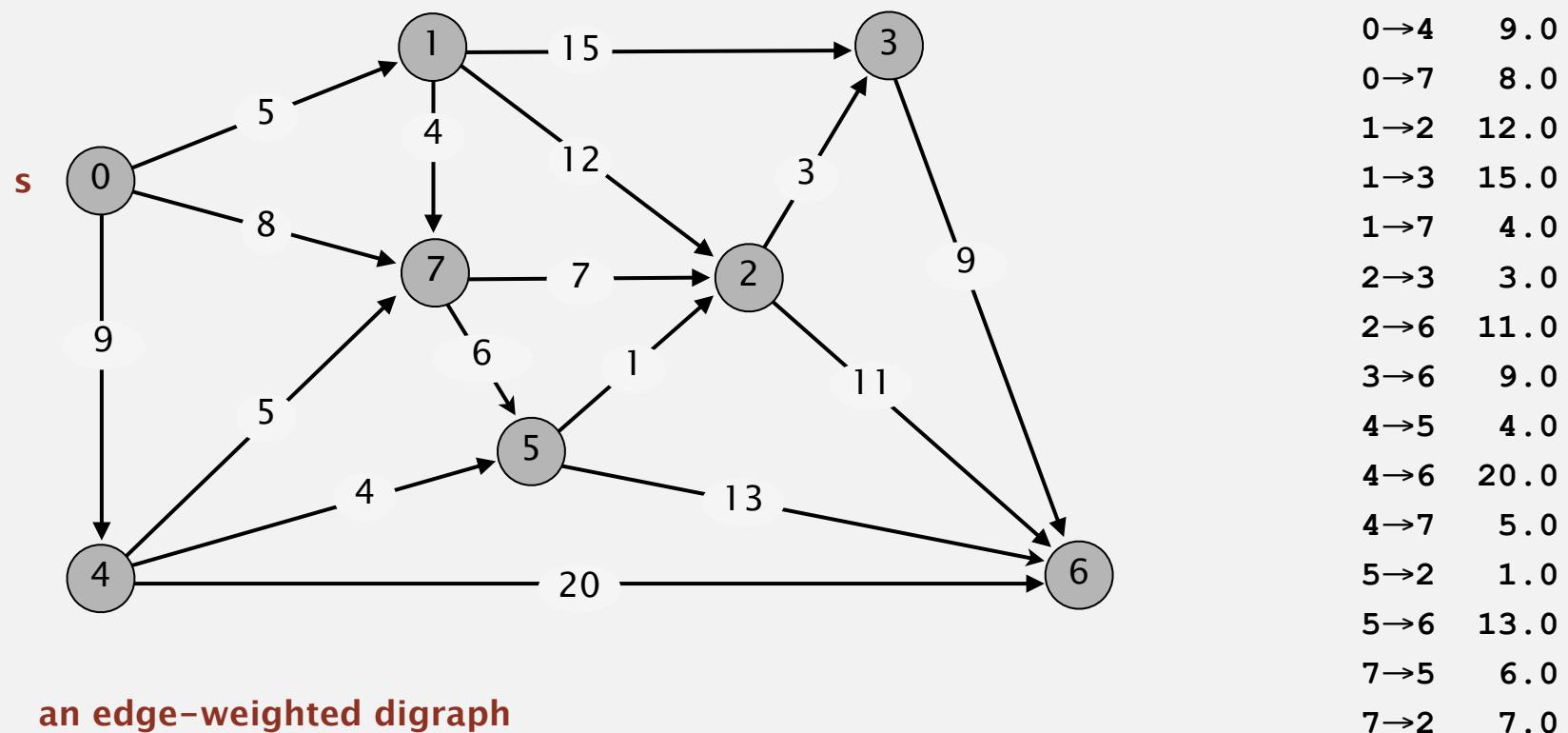
Edsger W. Dijkstra  
Turing award 1972

## Edsger W. Dijkstra: select quotes



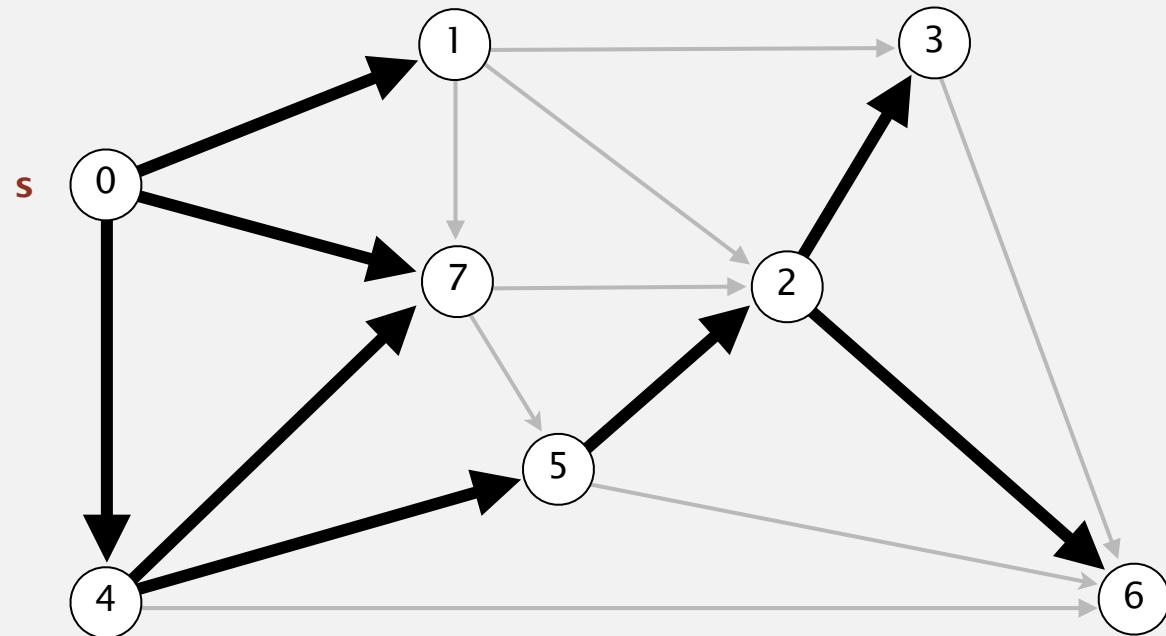
## Dijkstra's algorithm demo

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



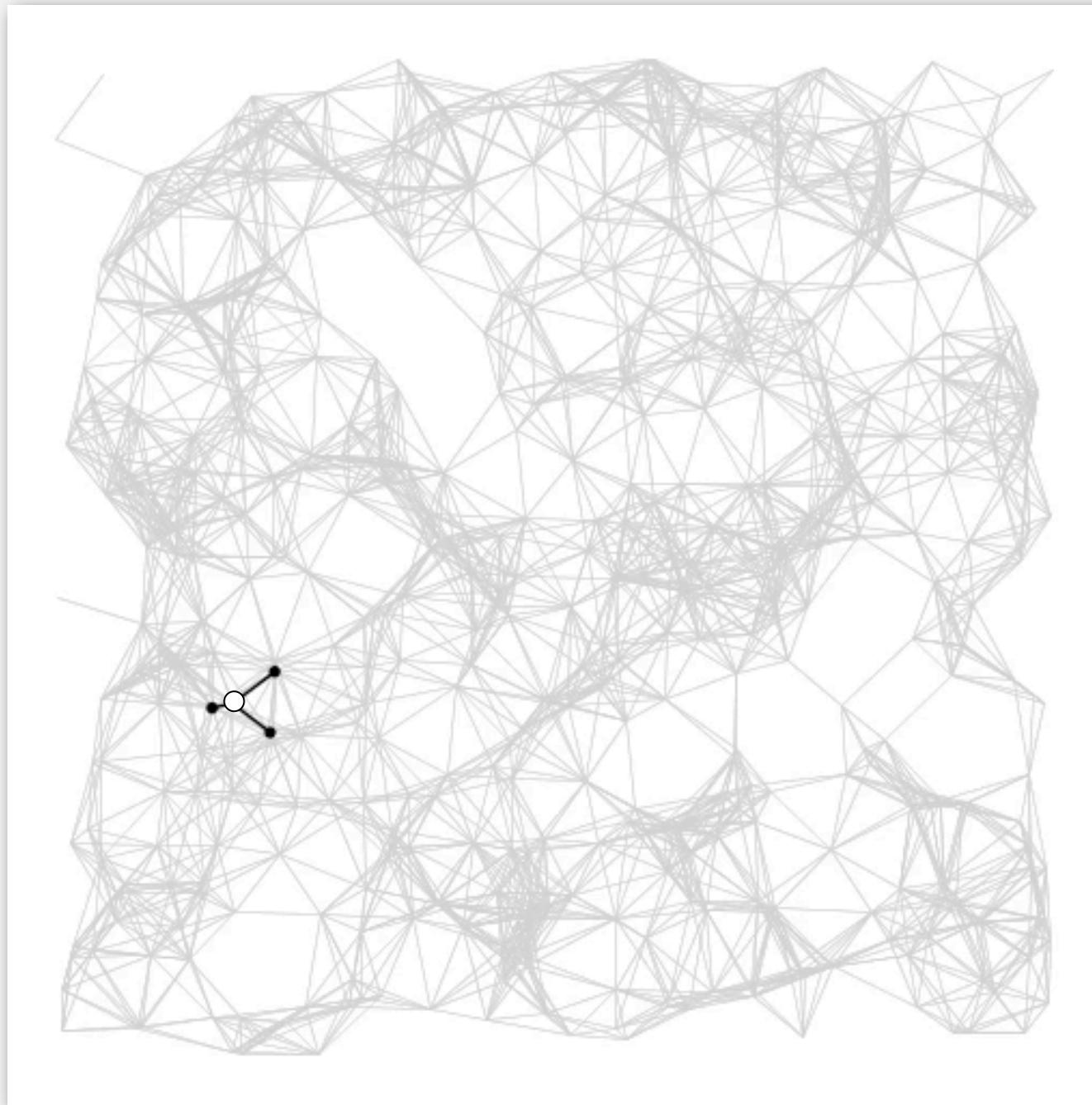
## Dijkstra's algorithm demo

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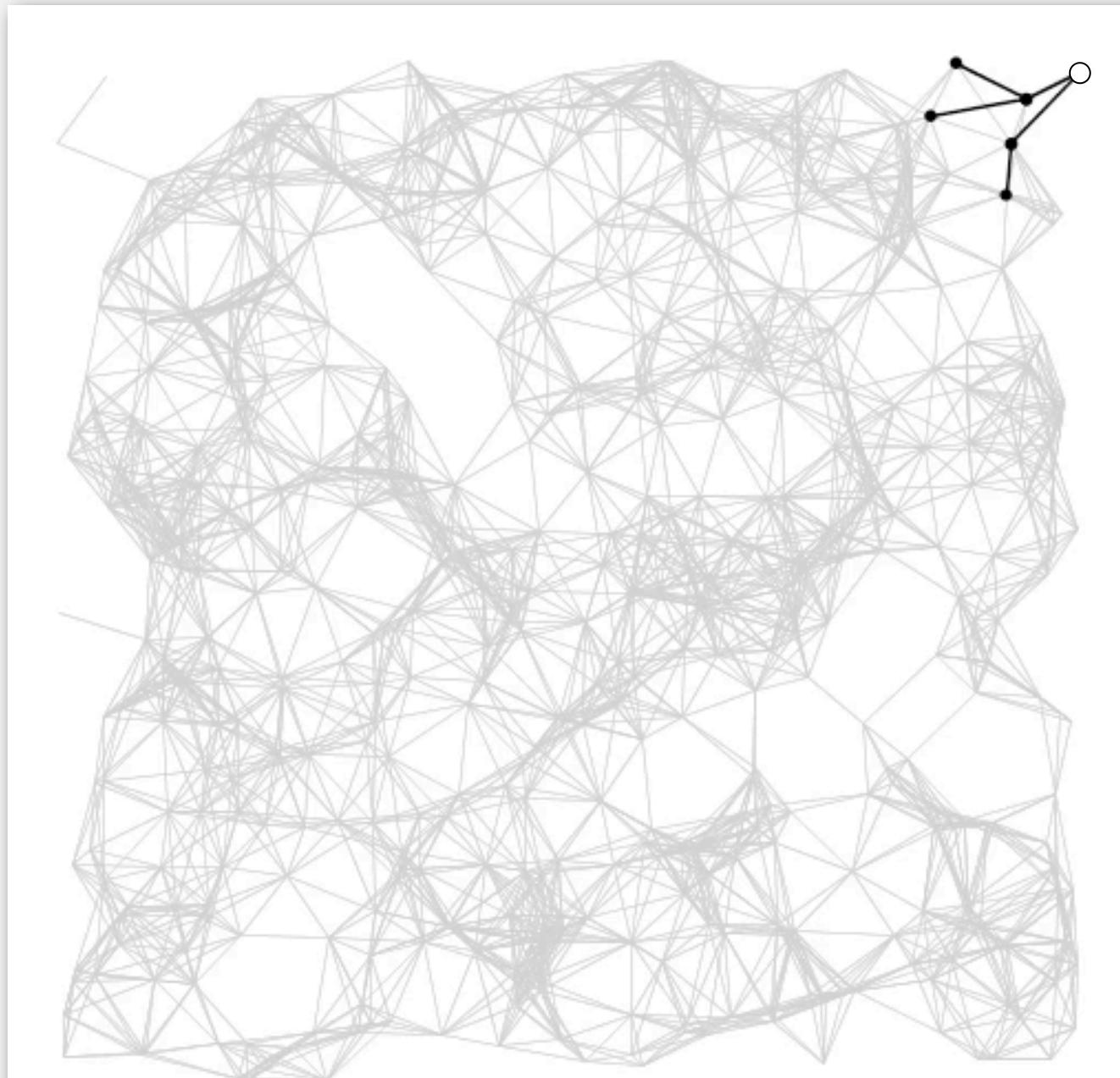


v	distTo[]	edgeTo[]
0	0.0	-
1	5.0	0→1
2	14.0	5→2
3	17.0	2→3
4	9.0	0→4
5	13.0	4→5
6	25.0	2→6
7	8.0	0→7

## Dijkstra's algorithm visualization



## Dijkstra's algorithm visualization



## Dijkstra's algorithm: correctness proof

**Proposition.** Dijkstra's algorithm computes a SPT in any edge-weighted digraph with nonnegative weights.

Pf.

- Each edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$  is relaxed exactly once (when  $v$  is relaxed), leaving  $\text{distTo}[w] \leq \text{distTo}[v] + e.\text{weight}()$ .
- Inequality holds until algorithm terminates because:
  - $\text{distTo}[w]$  cannot increase  $\leftarrow$   $\text{distTo}[]$  values are monotone decreasing
  - $\text{distTo}[v]$  will not change  $\leftarrow$  edge weights are nonnegative and we choose lowest  $\text{distTo}[]$  value at each step
- Thus, upon termination, shortest-paths optimality conditions hold. ■

## Dijkstra's algorithm: Java implementation

```
public class DijkstraSP
{
    private DirectedEdge[] edgeTo;
    private double[] distTo;
    private IndexMinPQ<Double> pq;

    public DijkstraSP(EdgeWeightedDigraph G, int s)
    {
        edgeTo = new DirectedEdge[G.V()];
        distTo = new double[G.V()];
        pq = new IndexMinPQ<Double>(G.V());
        for (int v = 0; v < G.V(); v++)
            distTo[v] = Double.POSITIVE_INFINITY;
        distTo[s] = 0.0;

        pq.insert(s, 0.0);
        while (!pq.isEmpty())
        {
            int v = pq.delMin();
            for (DirectedEdge e : G.adj(v))
                relax(e);
        }
    }
}
```

←  
relax vertices in order  
of distance from s

## Dijkstra's algorithm: Java implementation

```
private void relax(DirectedEdge e)
{
    int v = e.from(), w = e.to();
    if (distTo[w] > distTo[v] + e.weight())
    {
        distTo[w] = distTo[v] + e.weight();
        edgeTo[w] = e;
        if (pq.contains(w)) pq.decreaseKey(w, distTo[w]);
        else                  pq.insert      (w, distTo[w]);
    }
}
```

← update PQ

## Dijkstra's algorithm: which priority queue?

Depends on PQ implementation:  $V$  insert,  $V$  delete-min,  $E$  decrease-key.

PQ implementation	insert	delete-min	decrease-key	total
array	1	$V$	1	$V^2$
binary heap	$\log V$	$\log V$	$\log V$	$E \log V$
d-way heap (Johnson 1975)	$d \log_d V$	$d \log_d V$	$\log_d V$	$E \log_{E/V} V$
Fibonacci heap (Fredman-Tarjan 1984)	$1^\dagger$	$\log V^\dagger$	$1^\dagger$	$E + V \log V$

$\dagger$  amortized

Bottom line.

- Array implementation optimal for dense graphs.
- Binary heap much faster for sparse graphs.
- d-way heap worth the trouble in performance-critical situations.
- Fibonacci heap best in theory, but not worth implementing.

## Priority-first search

**Insight.** Four of our graph-search methods are the same algorithm!

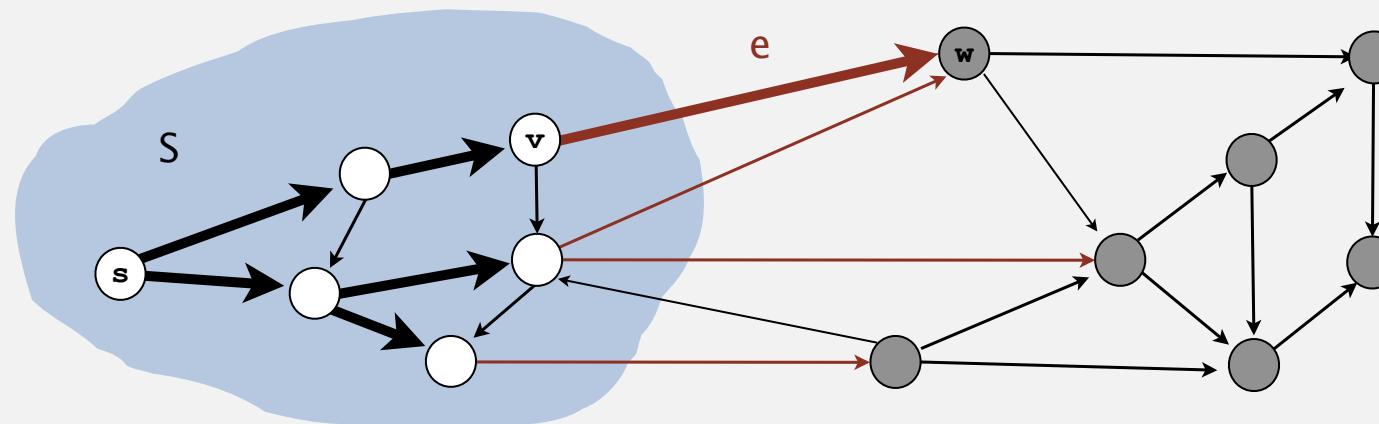
- Maintain a set of explored vertices  $S$ .
- Grow  $S$  by exploring edges with exactly one endpoint leaving  $S$ .

**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  $S$ .



**Challenge.** Express this insight in reusable Java code.

- edge-weighted digraph API
- shortest-paths properties
- Dijkstra's algorithm
- **edge-weighted DAGs**
- negative weights

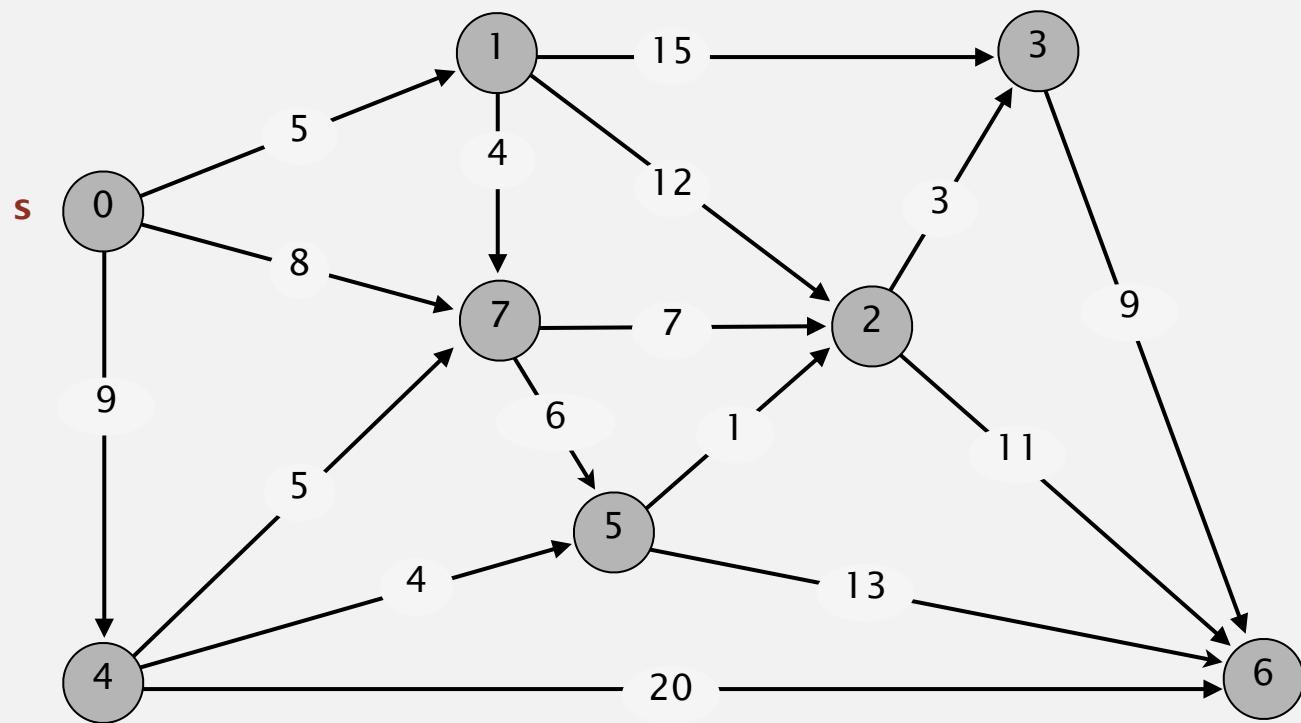
## Acyclic edge-weighted digraphs

**Q.** Suppose that an edge-weighted digraph has no directed cycles.  
Is it easier to find shortest paths than in a general digraph?

**A.** Yes!

## Topological sort algorithm demo

- Consider vertices in topologically order.
- Relax all edges pointing from vertex.

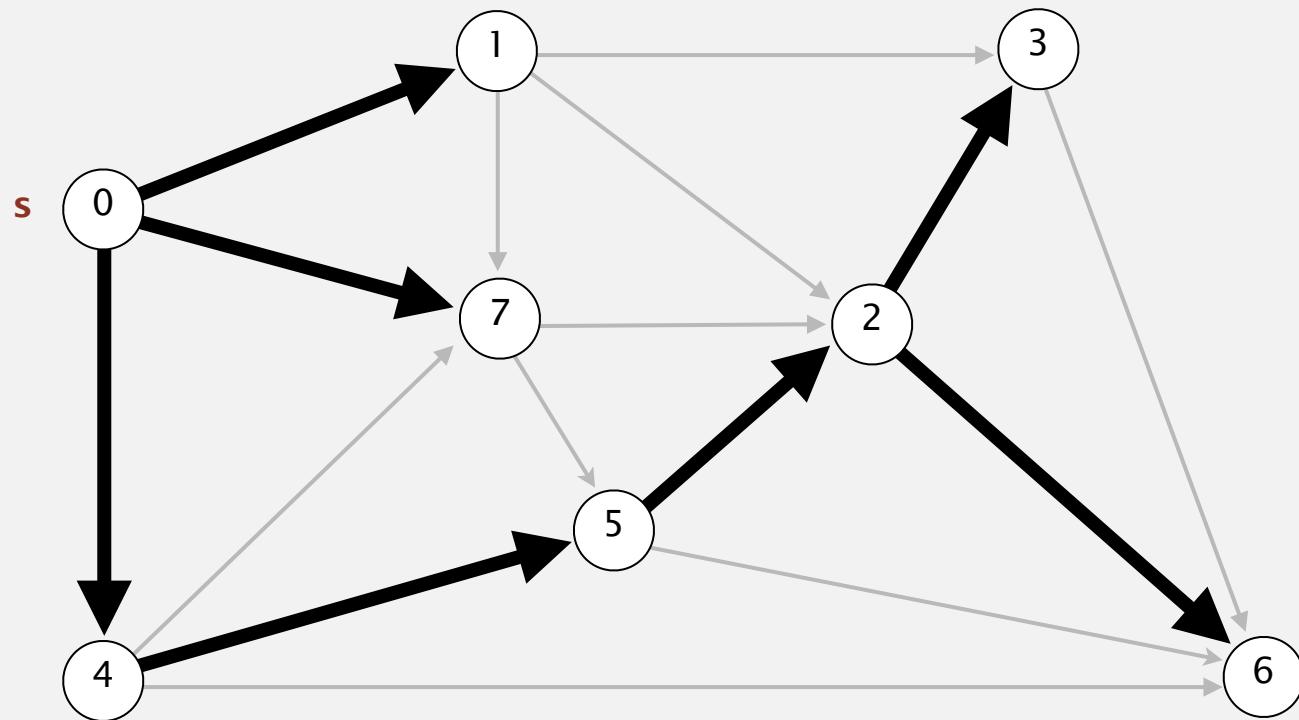


an edge-weighted DAG

0→1	5.0
0→4	9.0
0→7	8.0
1→2	12.0
1→3	15.0
1→7	4.0
2→3	3.0
2→6	11.0
3→6	9.0
4→5	4.0
4→6	20.0
4→7	5.0
5→2	1.0
5→6	13.0
7→5	6.0
7→2	7.0

## Topological sort algorithm demo

- Consider vertices in topologically order.
- Relax all edges pointing from vertex.



shortest-paths tree from vertex s

v	distTo[]	edgeTo[]
0	0.0	-
1	5.0	0→1
2	14.0	5→2
3	17.0	2→3
4	9.0	0→4
5	13.0	4→5
6	25.0	2→6
7	8.0	0→7

## Shortest paths in edge-weighted DAGs

Proposition. Topological sort algorithm computes SPT in any edge-weighted DAG in time proportional to  $E + V$ .

edge weights  
can be negative!

Pf.

- Each edge  $e = v \rightarrow w$  is relaxed exactly once (when  $v$  is relaxed), leaving  $\text{distTo}[w] \leq \text{distTo}[v] + e.\text{weight}()$ .
- Inequality holds until algorithm terminates because:
  - $\text{distTo}[w]$  cannot increase ←  $\text{distTo}[]$  values are monotone decreasing
  - $\text{distTo}[v]$  will not change ← because of topological order, no edge pointing to  $v$  will be relaxed after  $v$  is relaxed
- Thus, upon termination, shortest-paths optimality conditions hold. ■

## Shortest paths in edge-weighted DAGs

```
public class AcyclicSP
{
    private DirectedEdge[] edgeTo;
    private double[] distTo;

    public AcyclicSP(EdgeWeightedDigraph G, int s)
    {
        edgeTo = new DirectedEdge[G.V()];
        distTo = new double[G.V()];

        for (int v = 0; v < G.V(); v++)
            distTo[v] = Double.POSITIVE_INFINITY;
        distTo[s] = 0.0;

        Topological topological = new Topological(G); ← topological order
        for (int v : topological.order())
            for (DirectedEdge e : G.adj(v))
                relax(e);
    }
}
```

## Content-aware resizing

**Seam carving.** [Avidan and Shamir] Resize an image without distortion for display on cell phones and web browsers.



## Content-aware resizing

Seam carving. [Avidan and Shamir] Resize an image without distortion for display on cell phones and web browsers.



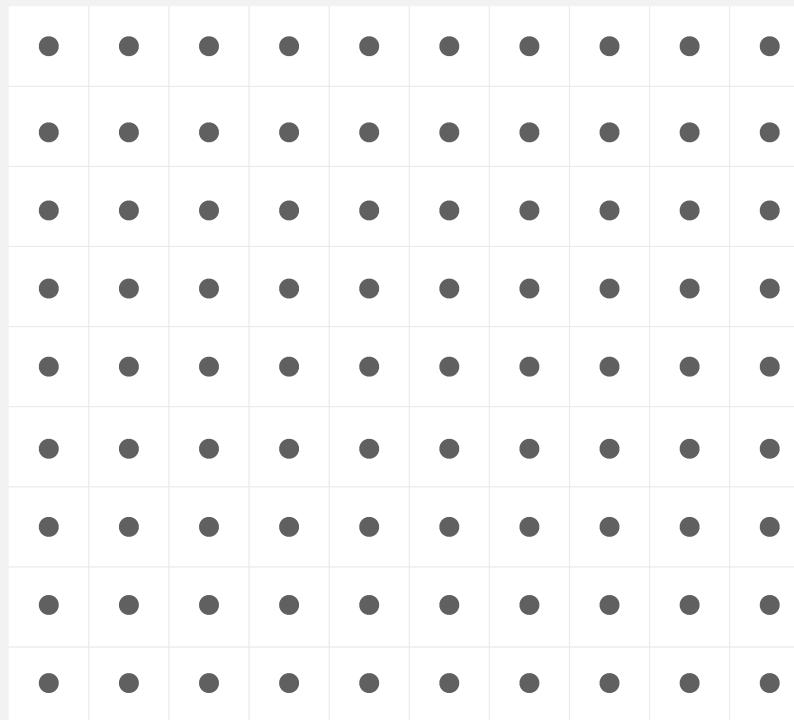
In the wild. Photoshop CS 5, Imagemagick, GIMP, ...



## Content-aware resizing

To find vertical seam:

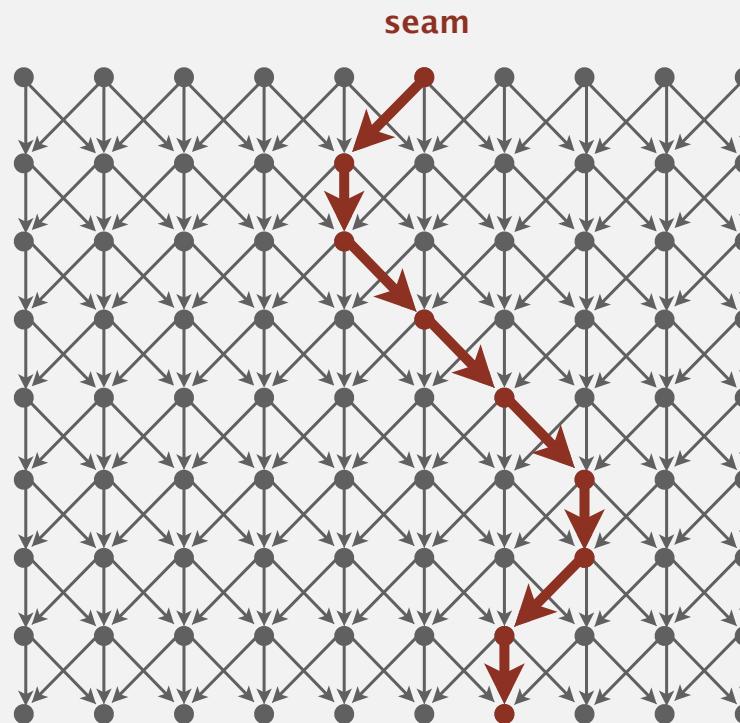
- Grid DAG: vertex = pixel; edge = from pixel to 3 downward neighbors.
- Weight of pixel = energy function of 8 neighboring pixels.
- Seam = shortest path from top to bottom.



## Content-aware resizing

To find vertical seam:

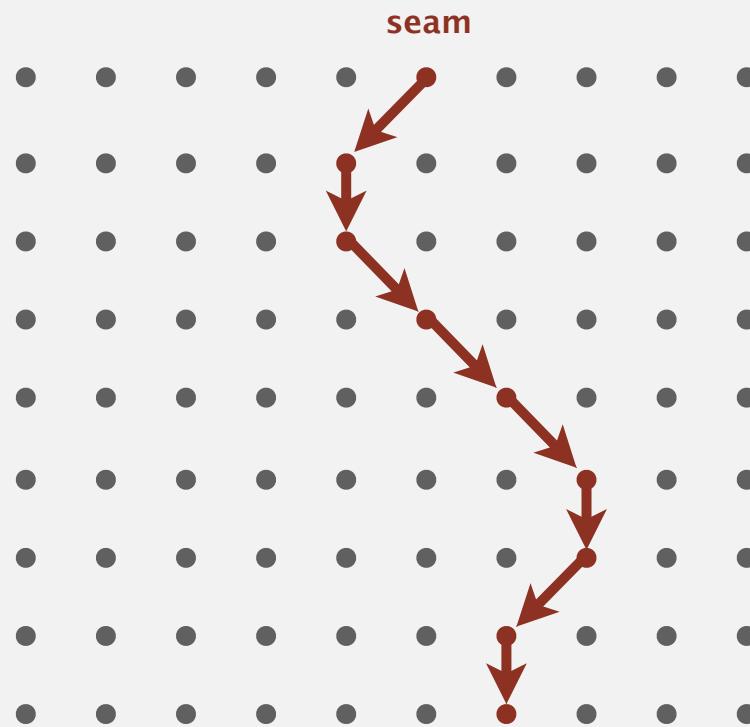
- Grid DAG: vertex = pixel; edge = from pixel to 3 downward neighbors.
- Weight of pixel = energy function of 8 neighboring pixels.
- Seam = shortest path from top to bottom.



## Content-aware resizing

To remove vertical seam:

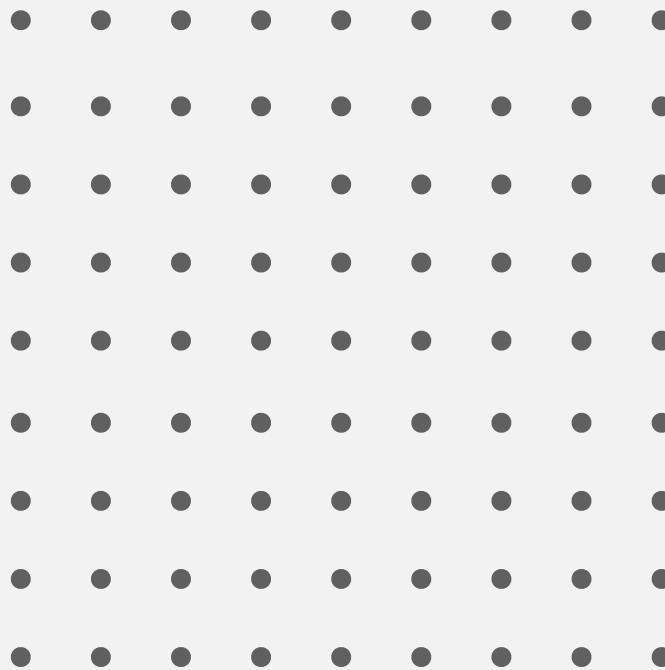
- Delete pixels on seam (one in each row).



## Content-aware resizing

To remove vertical seam:

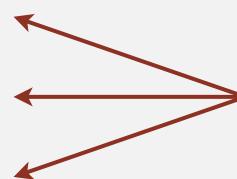
- Delete pixels on seam (one in each row).



## Longest paths in edge-weighted DAGs

Formulate as a shortest paths problem in edge-weighted DAGs.

- Negate all weights.
- Find shortest paths.
- Negate weights in result.



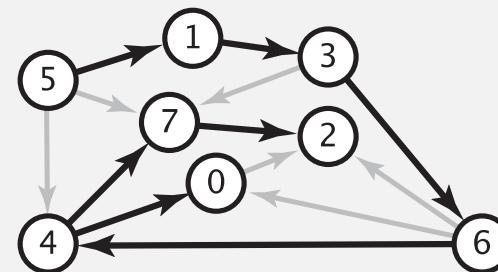
equivalent: reverse sense of equality in `relax()`

longest paths input

5->4	0.35
4->7	0.37
5->7	0.28
5->1	0.32
4->0	0.38
0->2	0.26
3->7	0.39
1->3	0.29
7->2	0.34
6->2	0.40
3->6	0.52
6->0	0.58
6->4	0.93

shortest paths input

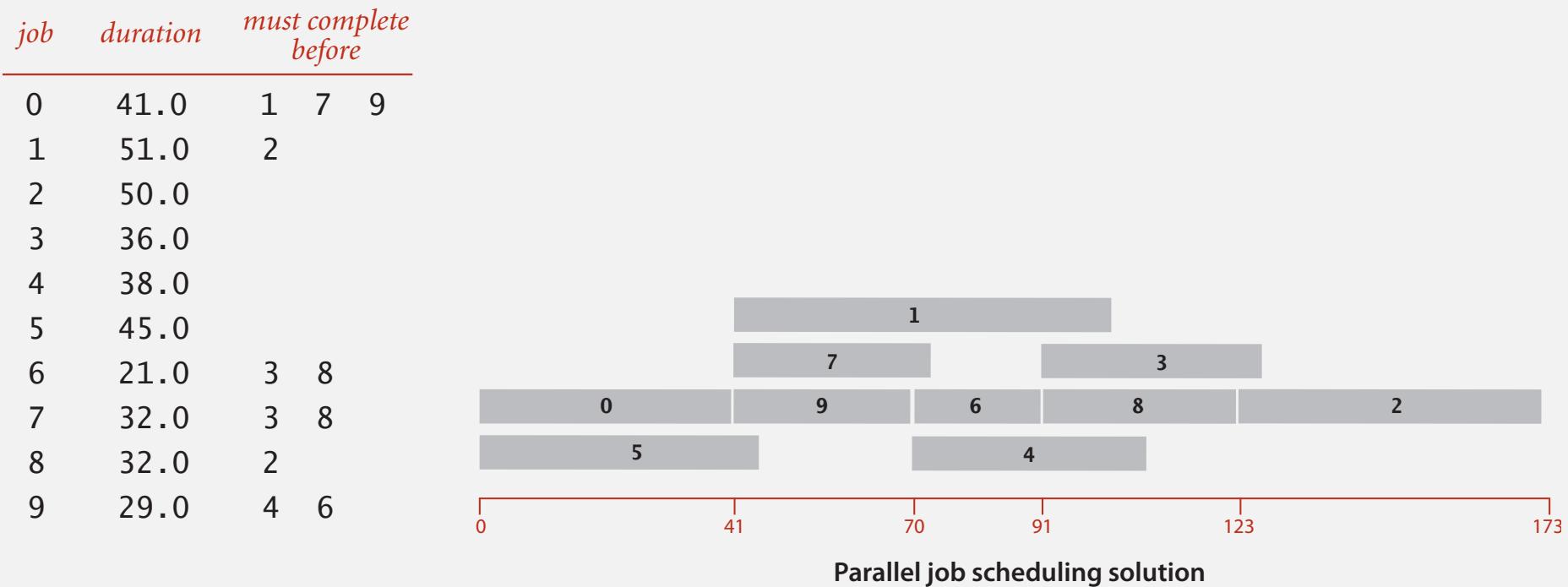
5->4	-0.35
4->7	-0.37
5->7	-0.28
5->1	-0.32
4->0	-0.38
0->2	-0.26
3->7	-0.39
1->3	-0.29
7->2	-0.34
6->2	-0.40
3->6	-0.52
6->0	-0.58
6->4	-0.93



Key point. Topological sort algorithm works even with negative edge weights.

## Longest paths in edge-weighted DAGs: application

**Parallel job scheduling.** Given a set of jobs with durations and precedence constraints, schedule the jobs (by finding a start time for each) so as to achieve the minimum completion time, while respecting the constraints.

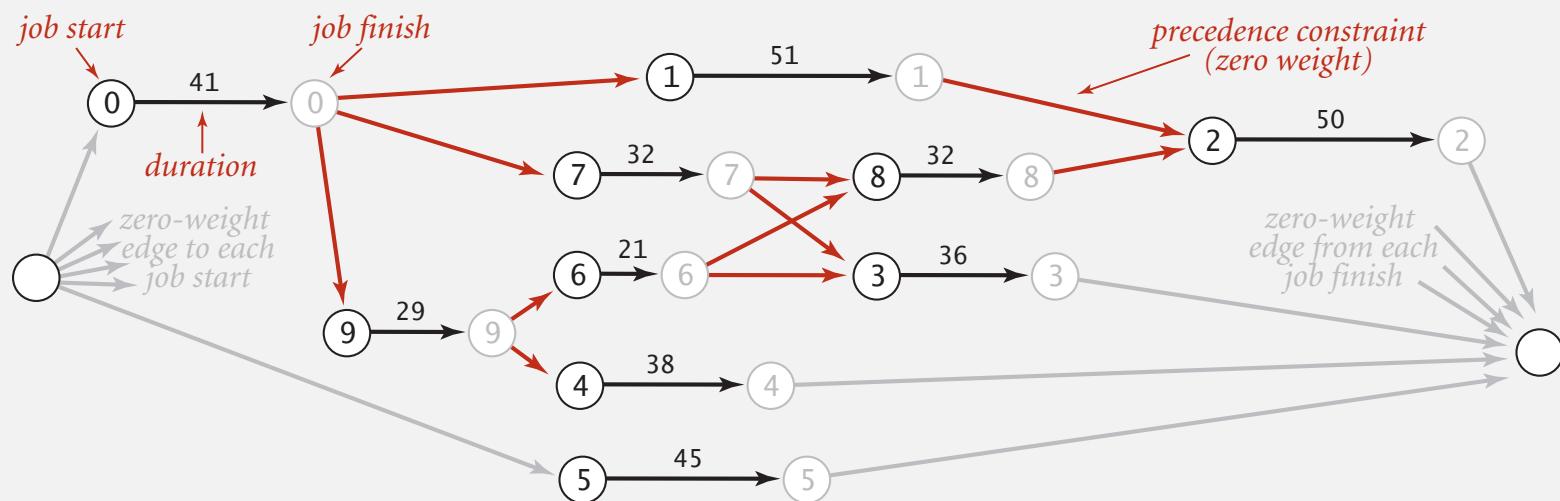


## Critical path method

**CPM.** To solve a parallel job-scheduling problem, create edge-weighted DAG:

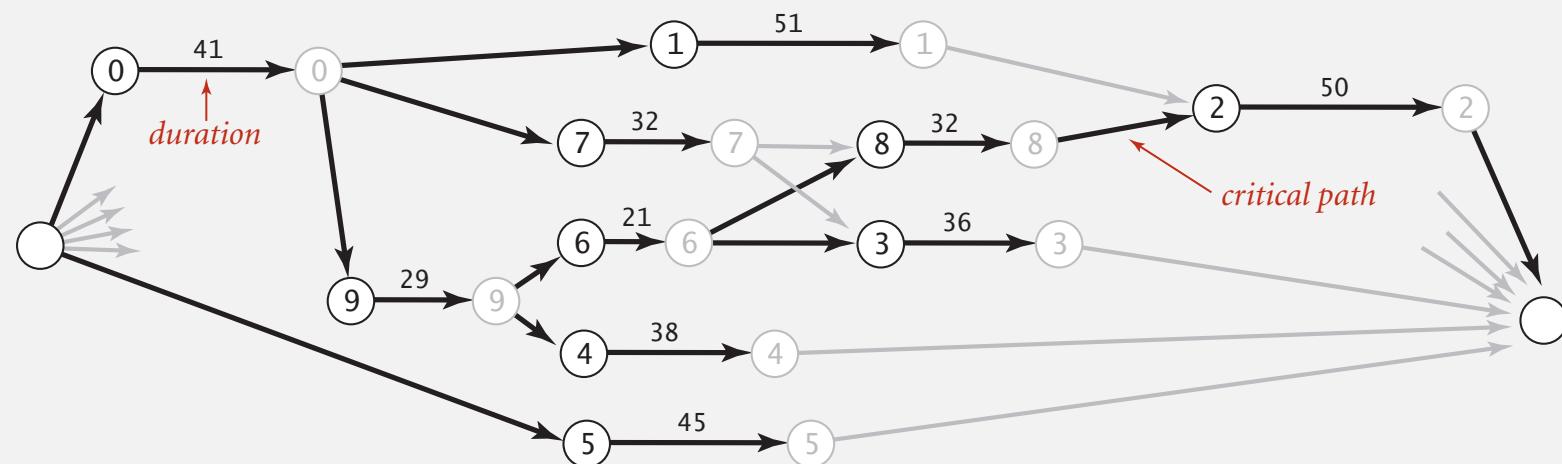
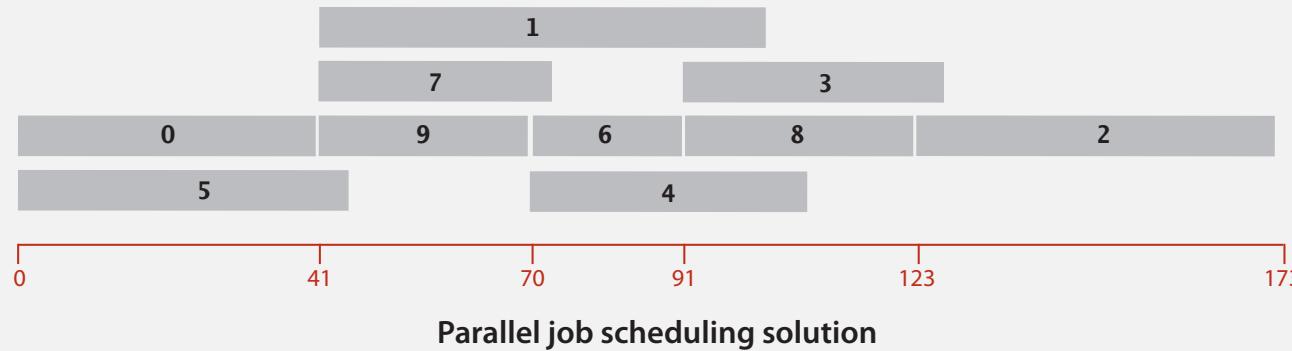
- Source and sink vertices.
- Two vertices (begin and end) for each job.
- Three edges for each job.
  - begin to end (weighted by duration)
  - source to begin (0 weight)
  - end to sink (0 weight)
- One edge for each precedence constraint (0 weight).

job	duration	must complete before		
0	41.0	1	7	9
1	51.0	2		
2	50.0			
3	36.0			
4	38.0			
5	45.0			
6	21.0	3	8	
7	32.0	3	8	
8	32.0	2		
9	29.0	4	6	



## Critical path method

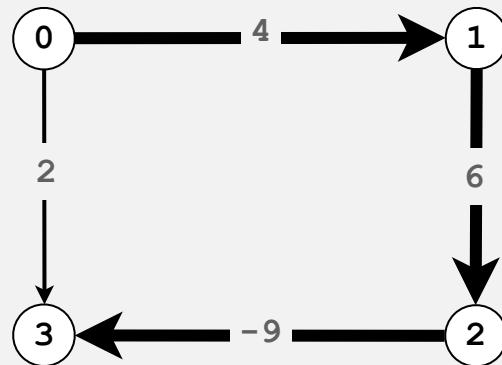
CPM. Use longest path from the source to schedule each job.



- ▶ edge-weighted digraph API
- ▶ shortest-paths properties
- ▶ Dijkstra's algorithm
- ▶ edge-weighted DAGs
- ▶ negative weights

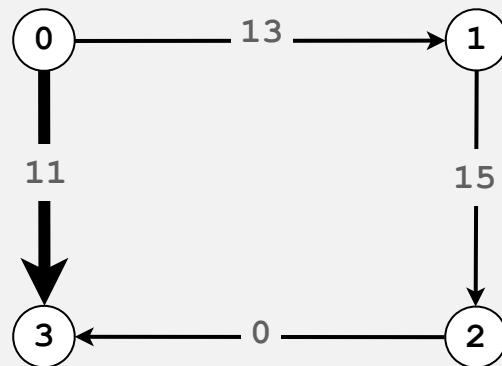
## Shortest paths with negative weights: failed attempts

Dijkstra. Doesn't work with negative edge weights.



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

Re-weighting. Add a constant to every edge weight doesn't work.



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

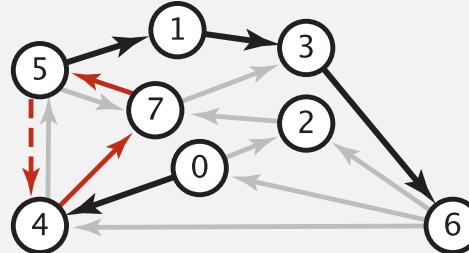
Bad news. Need a different algorithm.

## Negative cycles

Def. A negative cycle is a directed cycle whose sum of edge weights is negative.

digraph

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

Proposition. A SPT exists iff no negative cycles.

assuming all vertices reachable from s

# Bellman-Ford algorithm

## Bellman-Ford algorithm

Initialize  $\text{distTo}[s] = 0$  and  $\text{distTo}[v] = \infty$  for all other vertices.

Repeat  $V$  times:

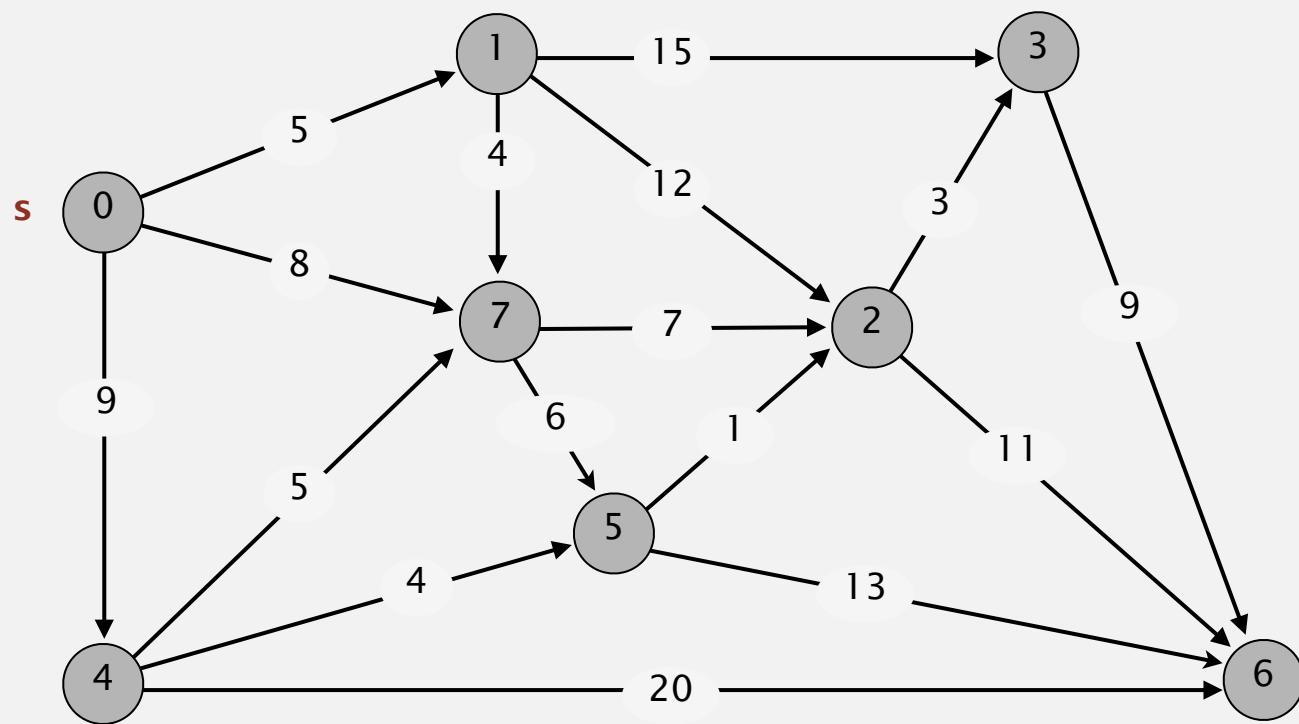
- Relax each edge.

```
for (int i = 0; i < G.V(); i++)
    for (int v = 0; v < G.V(); v++)
        for (DirectedEdge e : G.adj(v))
            relax(e);
```



## Bellman-Ford algorithm demo

Repeat  $V$  times: relax all  $E$  edges.

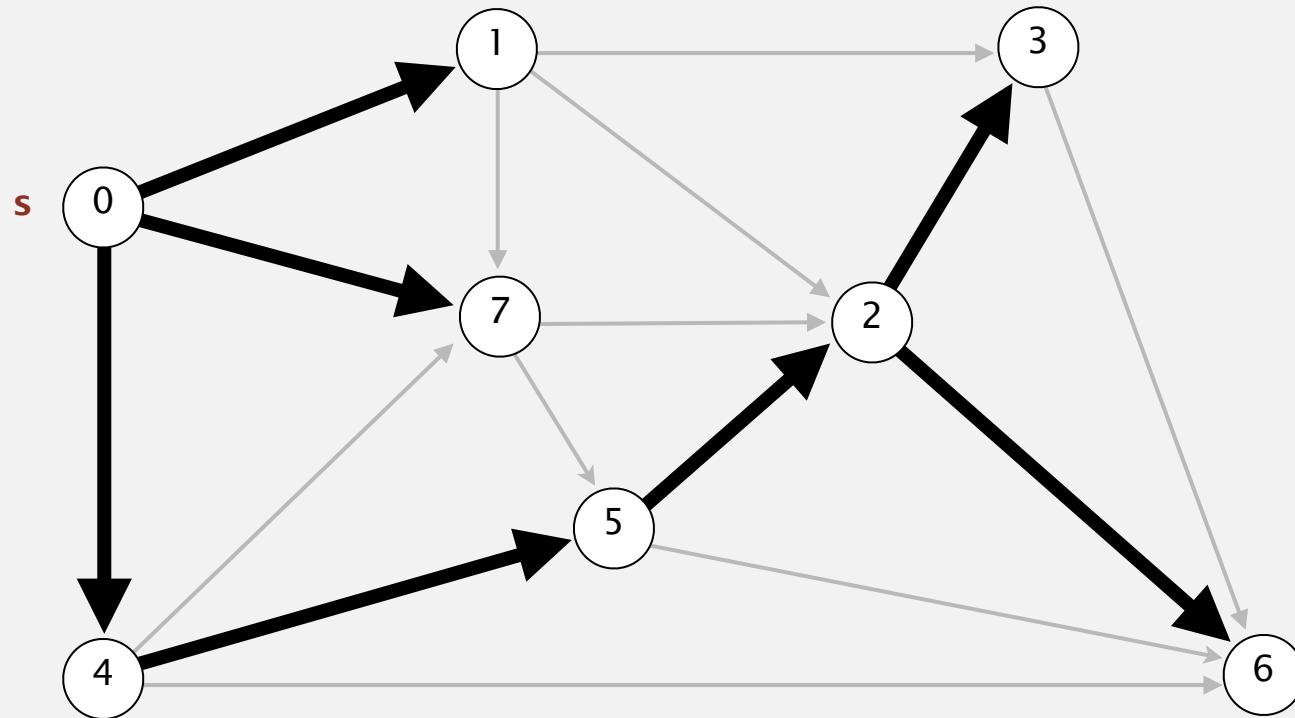


an edge-weighted digraph

0→1	5.0
0→4	9.0
0→7	8.0
1→2	12.0
1→3	15.0
1→7	4.0
2→3	3.0
2→6	11.0
3→6	9.0
4→5	4.0
4→6	20.0
4→7	5.0
5→2	1.0
5→6	13.0
7→5	6.0
7→2	7.0

## Bellman-Ford algorithm demo

Repeat  $V$  times: relax all  $E$  edges.



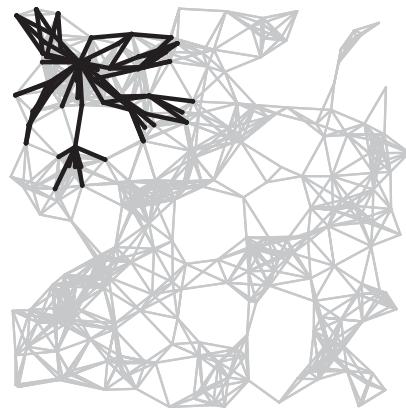
shortest-paths tree from vertex s

v	distTo[]	edgeTo[]
0	0.0	-
1	5.0	0→1
2	14.0	5→2
3	17.0	2→3
4	9.0	0→4
5	13.0	4→5
6	25.0	2→6
7	8.0	0→7

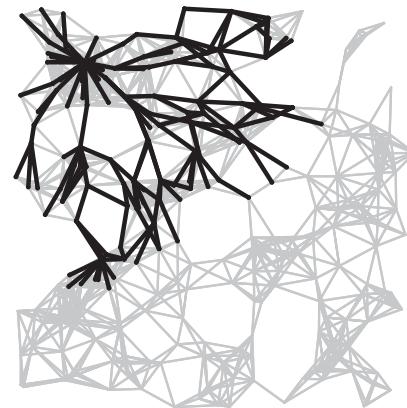
## Bellman-Ford algorithm visualization

passes

4



7



10



13



SPT



## Bellman-Ford algorithm: analysis

### Bellman-Ford algorithm

---

**Initialize  $\text{distTo}[s] = 0$  and  $\text{distTo}[v] = \infty$  for all other vertices.**

**Repeat  $V$  times:**

- Relax each edge.
- 

**Proposition.** Dynamic programming algorithm computes SPT in any edge-weighted digraph with no negative cycles in time proportional to  $E \times V$ .

**Pf idea.** After pass  $i$ , found shortest path containing at most  $i$  edges.

## Bellman-Ford algorithm: practical improvement

**Observation.** If `distTo[v]` does not change during pass  $i$ , no need to relax any edge pointing from  $v$  in pass  $i + 1$ .

**FIFO implementation.** Maintain **queue** of vertices whose `distTo[]` changed.



be careful to keep at most one copy  
of each vertex on queue (why?)

**Overall effect.**

- The running time is still proportional to  $E \times V$  in worst case.
- But much faster than that in practice.

## Bellman-Ford algorithm: Java implementation

```
public class BellmanFordSP
{
    private double[] distTo;
    private DirectedEdge[] edgeTo;
    private boolean[] onQ;
    private Queue<Integer> queue;

    public BellmanFordSPT(EdgeWeightedDigraph G, int s)
    {
        distTo = new double[G.V()];
        edgeTo = new DirectedEdge[G.V()];
        onQ = new boolean[G.V()];
        queue = new Queue<Integer>();

        for (int v = 0; v < V; v++)
            distTo[v] = Double.POSITIVE_INFINITY;
        distTo[s] = 0.0;

        queue.enqueue(s);
        while (!queue.isEmpty())
        {
            int v = queue.dequeue();
            onQ[v] = false;
            for (DirectedEdge e : G.adj(v))
                relax(e);
        }
    }
}
```

queue of vertices whose  
distTo[] value changes

```
private void relax(DirectedEdge e)
{
    int v = e.from(), w = e.to();
    if (distTo[w] > distTo[v] + e.weight())
    {
        distTo[w] = distTo[v] + e.weight();
        edgeTo[w] = e;
        if (!onQ[w])
        {
            queue.enqueue(w);
            onQ[w] = true;
        }
    }
}
```

## Single source shortest-paths implementation: cost summary

algorithm	restriction	typical case	worst case	extra space
topological sort	no directed cycles	$E + V$	$E + V$	$V$
Dijkstra (binary heap)	no negative weights	$E \log V$	$E \log V$	$V$
Bellman-Ford	no negative cycles	$E V$	$E V$	$V$
Bellman-Ford (queue-based)		$E + V$	$E V$	$V$

**Remark 1.** Directed cycles make the problem harder.

**Remark 2.** Negative weights make the problem harder.

**Remark 3.** Negative cycles makes the problem intractable.

## Finding a negative cycle

Negative cycle. Add two method to the API for SP.

`boolean hasNegativeCycle()`

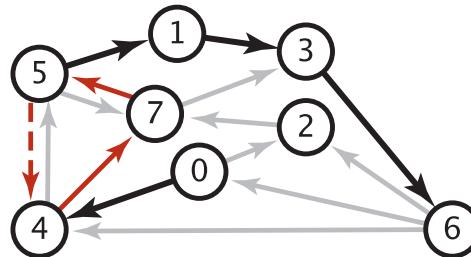
*is there a negative cycle?*

`Iterable <DirectedEdge> negativeCycle()`

*negative cycle reachable from s*

**digraph**

```
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
```

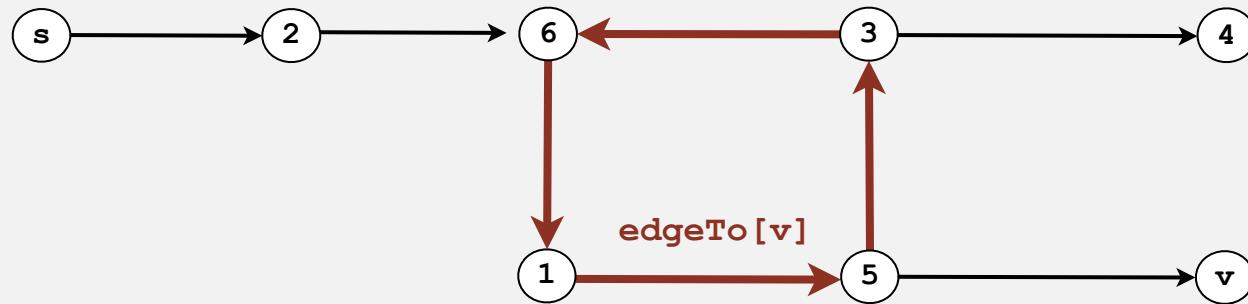


**negative cycle (-0.66 + 0.37 + 0.28)**

$5 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 5$

## Finding a negative cycle

**Observation.** If there is a negative cycle, Bellman-Ford gets stuck in loop, updating `distTo[]` and `edgeTo[]` entries of vertices in the cycle.



**Proposition.** If any vertex  $v$  is updated in phase  $V$ , there exists a negative cycle (and can trace back `edgeTo[v]` entries to find it).

**In practice.** Check for negative cycles more frequently.

## Negative cycle application: arbitrage detection

Problem. 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.

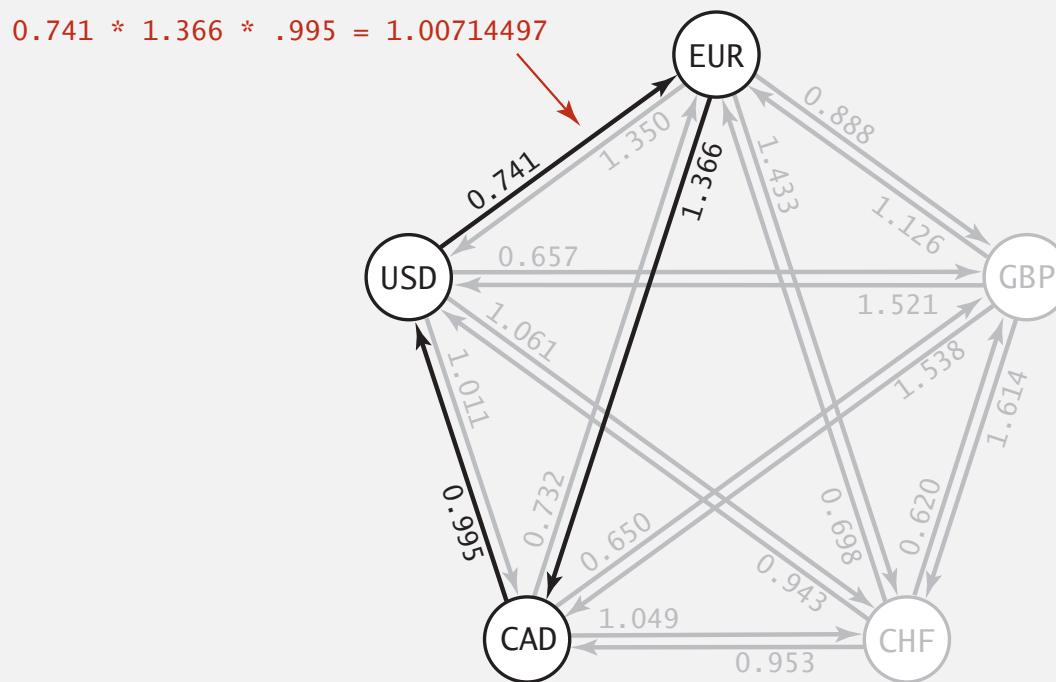
$$1000 \times 0.741 \times 1.366 \times 0.995 = 1007.14497$$



## Negative cycle application: arbitrage detection

Currency exchange graph.

- Vertex = currency.
- Edge = transaction, with weight equal to exchange rate.
- Find a directed cycle whose product of edge weights is  $> 1$ .

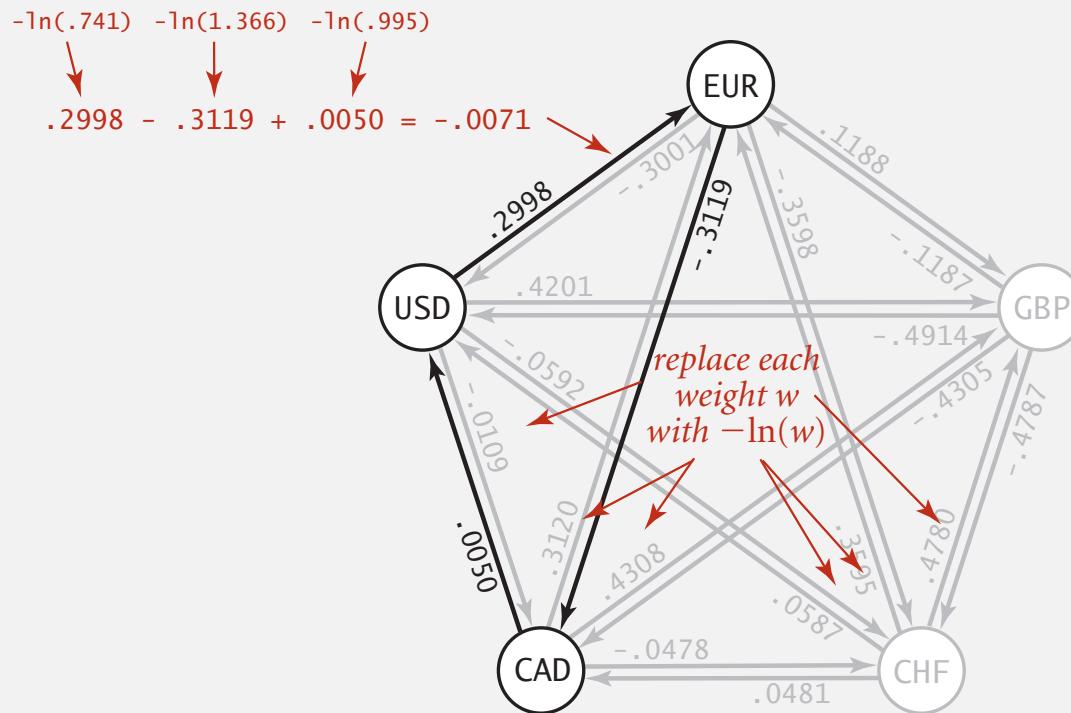


Challenge. Express as a negative cycle detection problem.

## Negative cycle application: arbitrage detection

Model as a negative cycle detection problem by taking logs.

- Let weight of edge  $v \rightarrow w$  be  $-\ln$  (exchange rate from currency  $v$  to  $w$ ).
- Multiplication turns to addition;  $> 1$  turns to  $< 0$ .
- Find a directed cycle whose sum of edge weights is  $< 0$  (negative cycle).



**Remark.** Fastest algorithm is extraordinarily valuable!

## Shortest paths summary

### Dijkstra's algorithm.

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

### Acyclic edge-weighted digraphs.

- Arise in applications.
- Faster than Dijkstra's algorithm.
- Negative weights are no problem.

### Negative weights and negative cycles.

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

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