

# Dynamic Programming IV: Shortest Path Revisited

# Admin

- Additional office hours tomorrow: **12.30 - 2 pm**
- Purpose of help hours today and tomorrow:
  - Come with any questions you have about topics so far
  - Or any topic that you'd want reviewed
- No lecture on Friday: 24-hour open-book midterm
  - Can be turned in latest by 10 am Sunday
  - No late work permitted on exam
- Review item: Solving recurrences with an  $O()$  term
  - By definition, constants do not change as input size changes

# Partitioning Books

Reading: [Linked on GLOW](#)

# Partitioning Work

- Suppose we have to scan through a shelf of books, and each book has a different size
- We want to divide the shelf into  $k$  region of books, and each region is assigned one of the workers
- Order of books fixed by cataloging system: cannot reorder/rearrange the books
- **Goal:** divide the work in a fair way among the workers



# Linear Partition Problem

- **Input.** A input arrangement  $S$  of nonnegative integers  $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$  and an integer  $k$
- **Problem.** Partition  $S$  into  $k$  ranges such that the **maximum sum** over all the ranges is **minimized**
- Example.

- Consider the following arrangement

100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900

- If  $k = 3$ , a partition that minimizes the maximum sum:

100 200 300 400 500 | 600 700 | 800 900

# Subproblem

- **Subproblem**

$M(i, j)$  be the optimal cost of partitioning elements  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_i$  using  $j$  partitions, where  $1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq k$

- **Final answer**

$$M(n, k)$$

# Base Cases

- Let us think about which rows/columns can we fill initially
- What about the first row corresponding to item 1?
- Remember that optimal cost is max sum over all partitions
- $M(1, j)$ : optimal cost of partitioning  $s_1$  across  $j$  partitions
- For  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$  we can fill out the first column as:

$$M(1, j) = s_1$$

# Base Cases

- Let us think about which rows/columns can we fill initially
- What about the first row corresponding to item 1?
- Remember that optimal cost is max sum over all partitions
- $M(i, 1)$ : optimal cost of partitioning  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_i$  using only 1 partition
- For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  we can fill out the first column as:

$$M(i, 1) = \sum_{\ell=1}^i s_{\ell}$$



# Base Cases Summary

- For  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$  we can fill out the first column as:

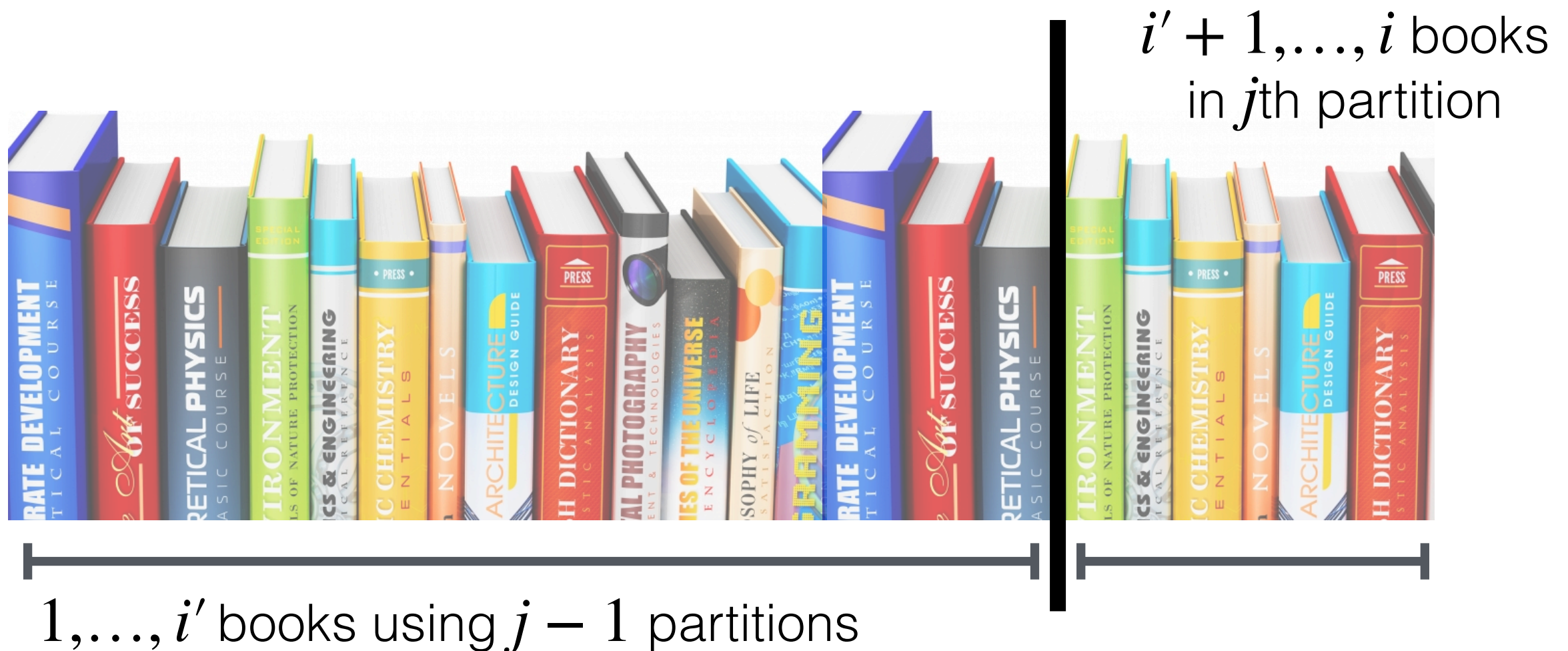
$$M(1, j) = s_1$$

- For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  we can fill out the first column as:

$$M(i, 1) = \sum_{\ell=1}^i s_{\ell}$$

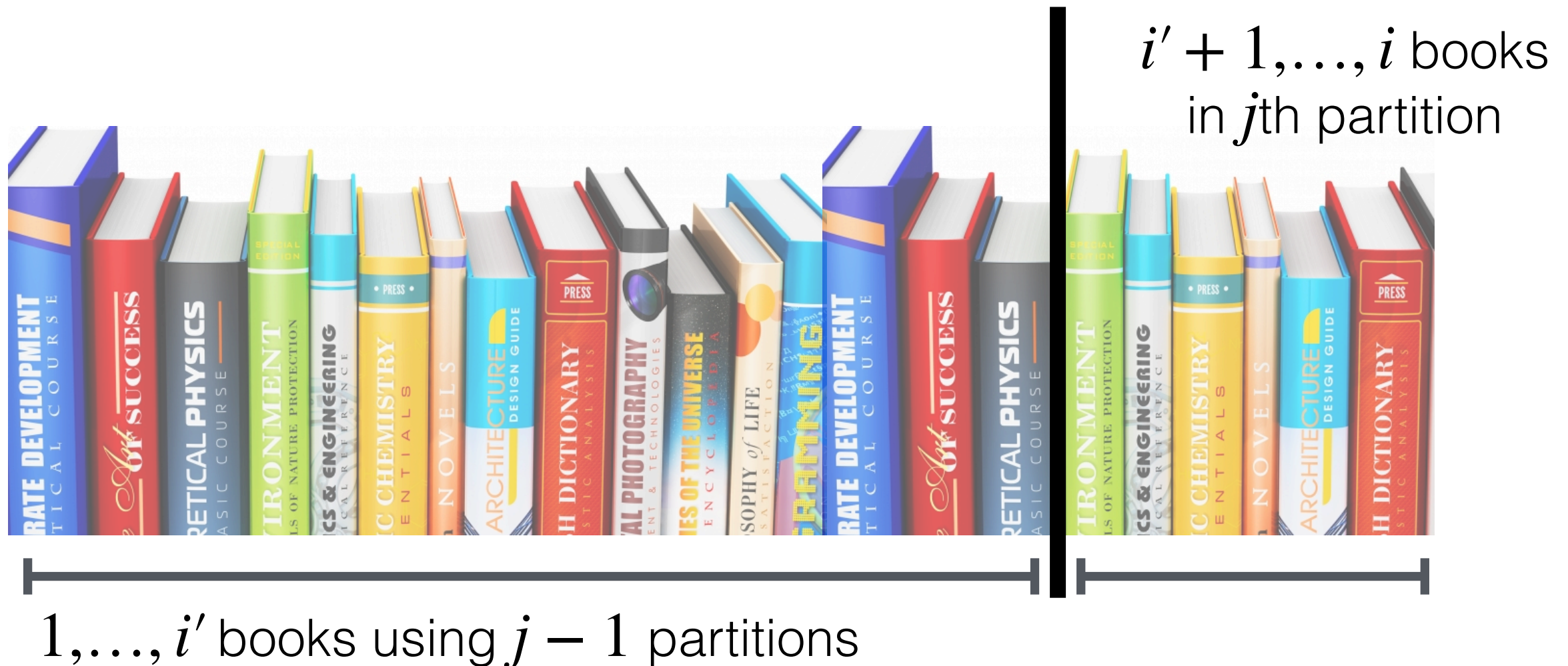
# Towards a Recurrence

- Want a recurrence for  $M(i, j)$
- Notice that the  $j$ th partition starts after we place the  $(j - 1)$ st “divider”
- Where can we place the  $j - 1$ st divider?



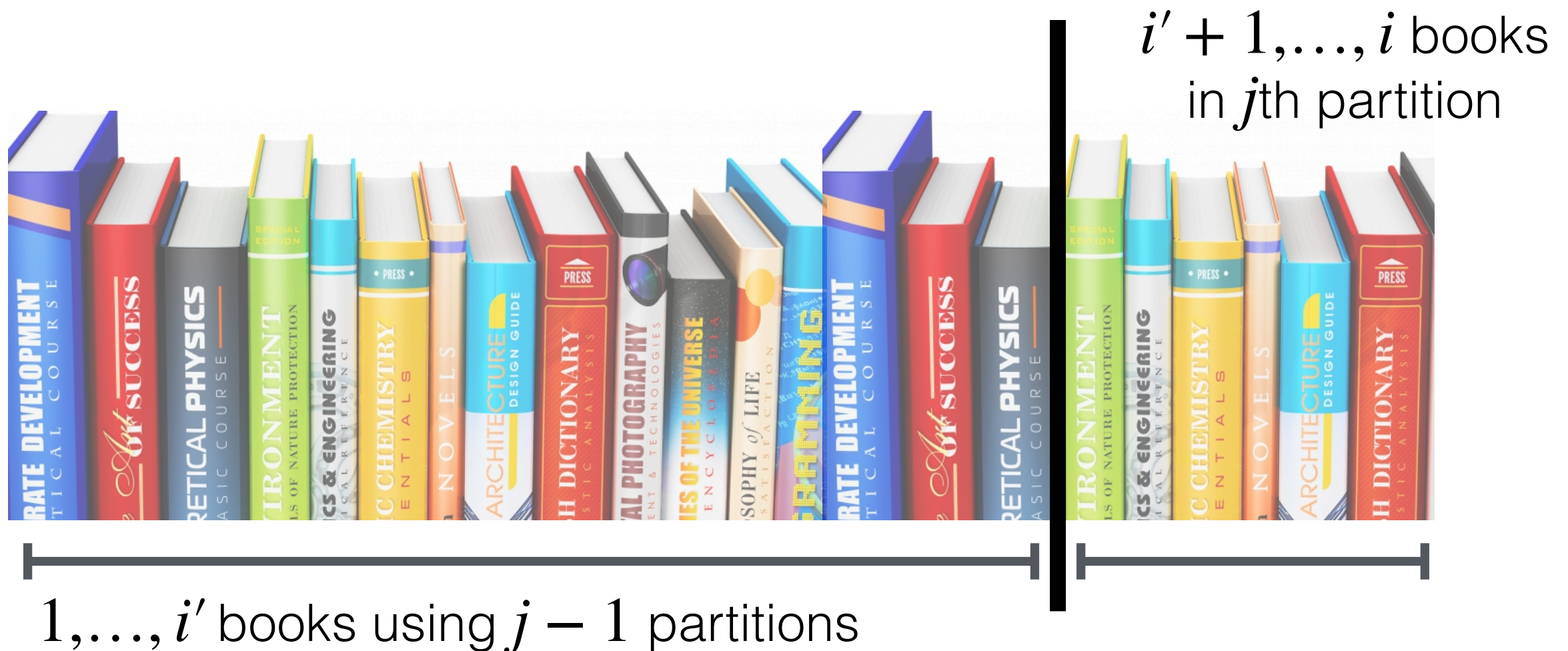
# Towards a Recurrence

- Where can we place the  $j - 1$ st divider?
  - Between books  $i'$  and  $i' + 1$  for some  $i' < i$



# Towards a Recurrence

- Finally: for to choose the partition point  $i'$  for starting the  $j$ th partition
  - Let us consider all possibilities  $1 \leq i' < i$
  - Take min cost option among them



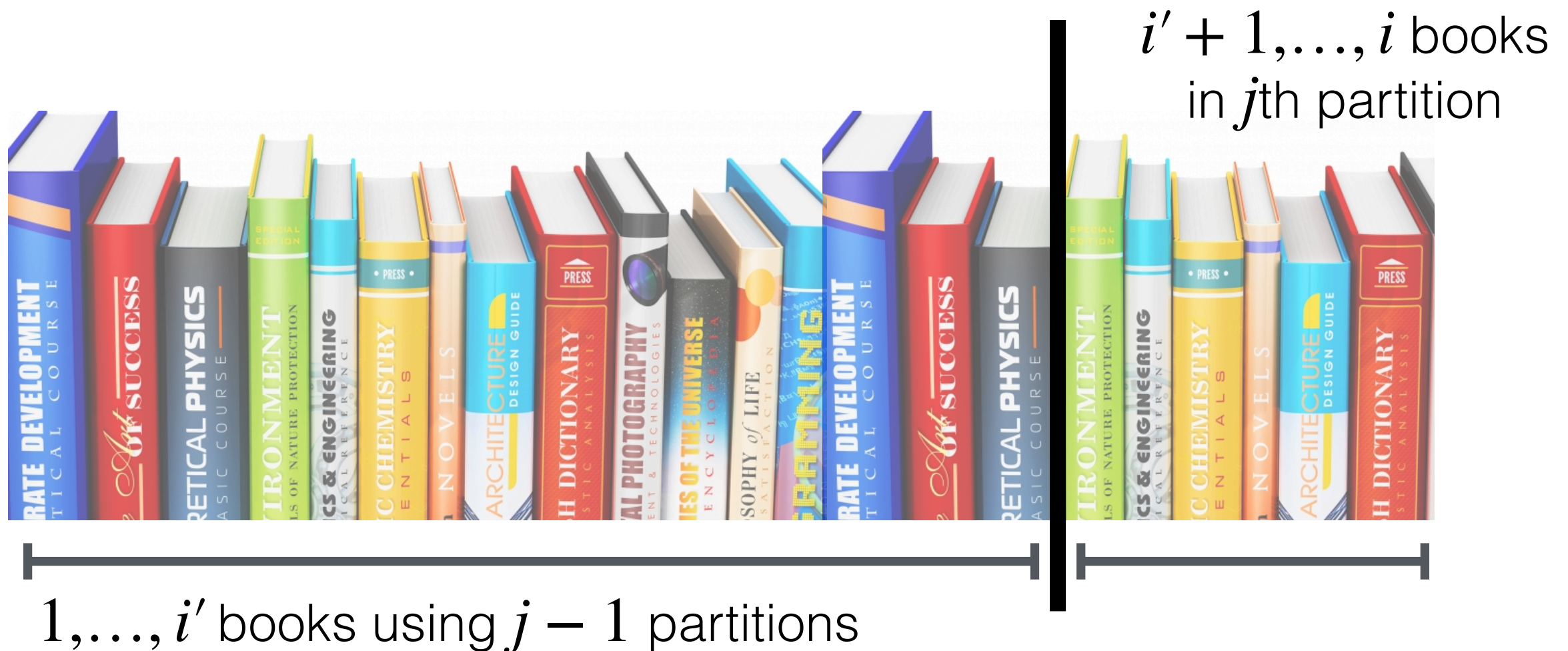
# Final Recurrence

- For  $2 \leq i \leq n$  and  $2 \leq j \leq k$ , we have:

$$M(i, j) = \min_{1 \leq i' < i} \text{cost of starting } j\text{th partition at book } i' + 1$$

# Towards a Recurrence

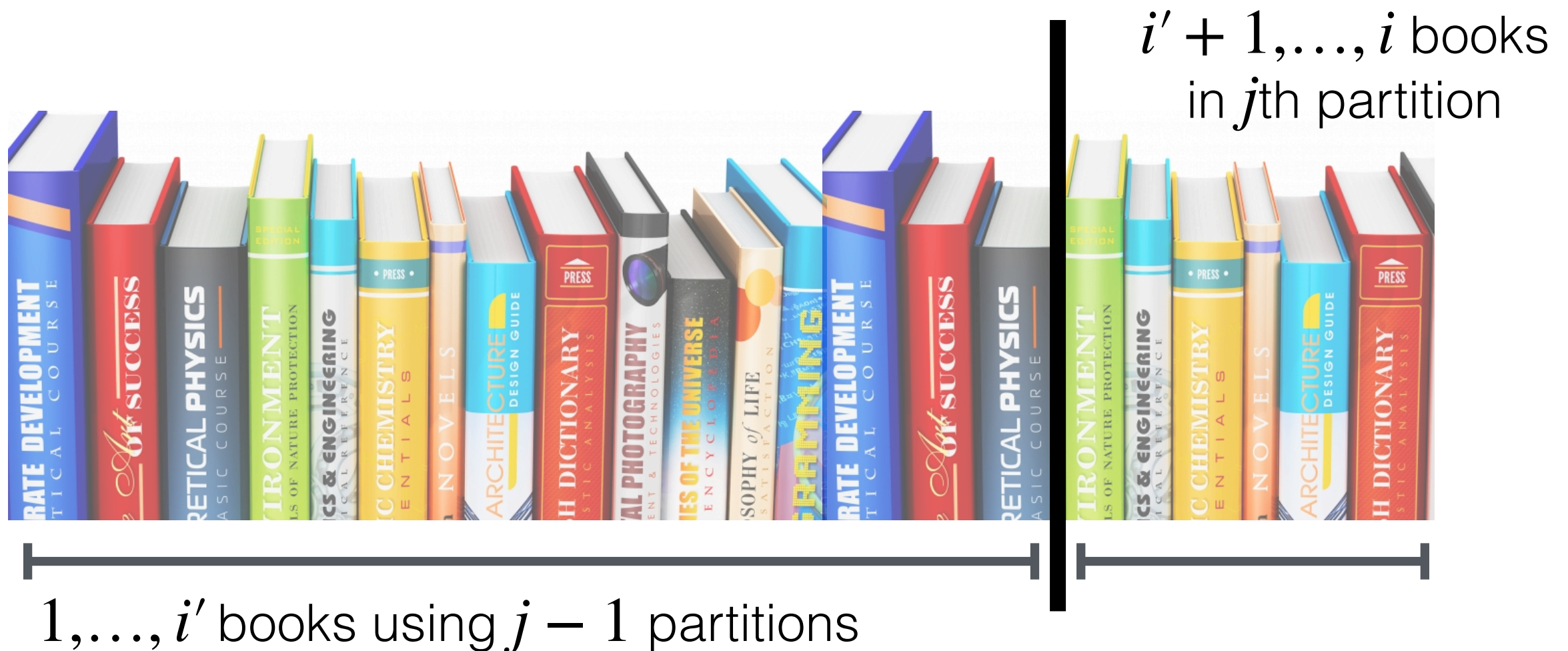
- Cost of this way of partitioning?
- (Remember cost is max sum across all partitions)





# Towards a Recurrence

- Cost of  $j$ th partition itself:  $\sum_{t=i'+1}^i s_t$
- Cost of remaining partitions?  $M[i', j - 1]$



# Final Recurrence

- For  $2 \leq i \leq n$  and  $2 \leq j \leq k$ , we have:

$$M(i, j) = \min_{1 \leq i' < i} \max \left\{ M(i', j-1), \sum_{\ell=i'+1}^i s_{\ell} \right\}$$

- **Memoization structure:** We store  $M[i, j]$  values in a 2-D array or table using space  $O(nk)$
- **Evaluation order:** In what order should we fill in the table?



# Final Pieces

- Evaluation order.
  - To fill out  $M[i, j]$ , I need the previous column filled in for rows less than  $i$ , that is,  $M[i', j - 1]$  for all  $1 \leq i' < i$
  - Can compute using column major order: column by column
- Running time?
  - Size of table (space):  $O(k \cdot n)$
  - How long to compute a single cell?
    - Depends on  $n$  other cells
    - $O(n)$  time to fill in one cell

# Running Time

- Running time
  - $O(n^2 \cdot k)$
- Is this a polynomial running time?
  - Not as stated, not polynomial in  $k$
  - But lets think if we can upper bound  $k$  using  $n$
- How big can  $k$  get?
  - At most  $n$  non-empty partitions of  $n$  elements
  - $O(n^3)$  algorithm in the worst case

# Last Topic in Dynamic Programming: Shortest Paths Revisited

# Shortest Path Problem

- **Single-Source Shortest Path Problem.**

Given a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  with edge weights  $w_e$  on each  $e \in E$  and a source node  $s$ , find the shortest path from  $s$  to all nodes in  $G$ .

- **Negative weights.** The edge-weights  $w_e$  in  $G$  can be negative.  
(When we studied Dijkstra's, we assumed non-negative weights.)

- Let  $P$  be a path from  $s$  to  $t$ , denoted  $s \rightsquigarrow t$ .

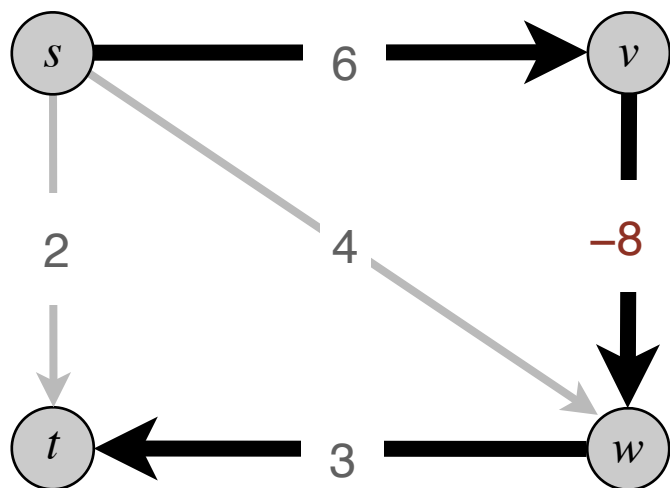
- The **length** of  $P$  is the number of edges in  $P$

- The cost or weight of  $P$  is  $w(P) = \sum_{e \in P} w_e$

- Goal: **cost** of the shortest path from  $s$  to all nodes

# Negative Weights & Dijkstra's

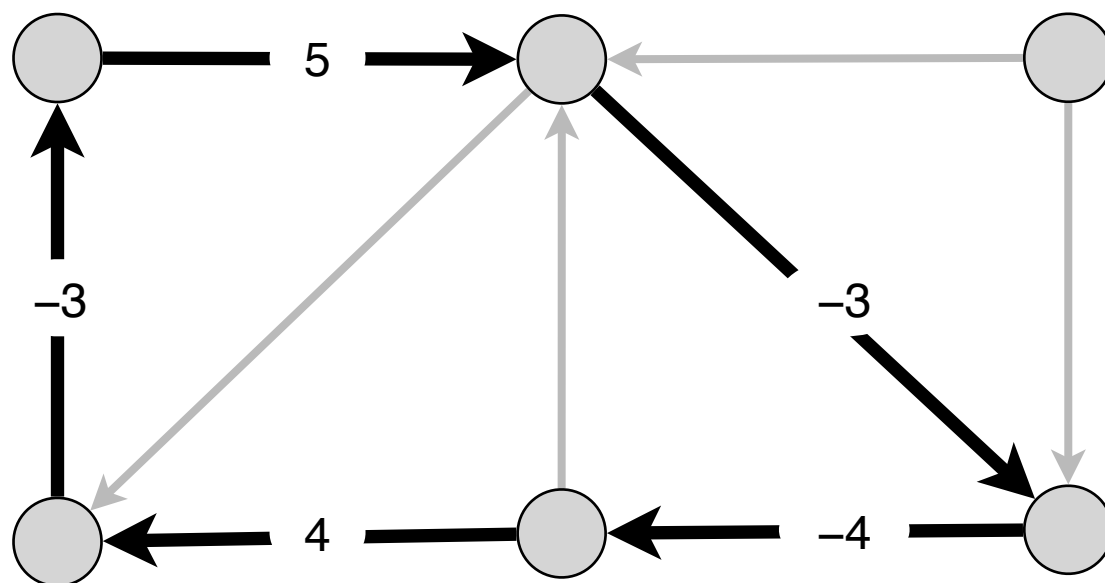
- **Dijkstra's Algorithm.** Does the greedy approach work for graphs with negative edge weights?
- Dijkstra's will explore  $s$ 's neighbor and add  $t$ , with  $d[t] = w_{sv} = 2$  to the shortest path tree
- Dijkstra assumes that there cannot be a "longer path" that has lower cost (relies on edge weights being non-negative)



Dijkstra's will find  $s \rightarrow t$  as shortest path with cost 2  
But the shortest path is  $s \rightarrow v \rightarrow w \rightarrow t$  with cost 1

# Negative Cycles

- **Definition.** A negative cycle is a directed cycle  $C$  such that the sum of all the edge weights in  $C$  is less than zero
- **Question.** How do negative cycles affect shortest path?



a negative cycle  $W$ :  $\ell(W) = \sum_{e \in W} \ell_e < 0$

# Negative Cycles & Shortest Paths

- **Claim.** If a path from  $s$  to some node  $v$  contains a negative cycle, then there does not exist a shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ .
- **Proof.**
  - Suppose there exists a shortest  $s \rightsquigarrow v$  path with cost  $d$  that traverses the negative cycle  $t$  times for  $t \geq 0$ .
  - Can construct a shorter path by traversing the cycle  $t + 1$  times

$\Rightarrow \Leftarrow \blacksquare$
- **Assumption.**  $G$  has no negative cycle.
- Later in the lecture: how can we detect whether the input graph  $G$  contains a negative cycle?

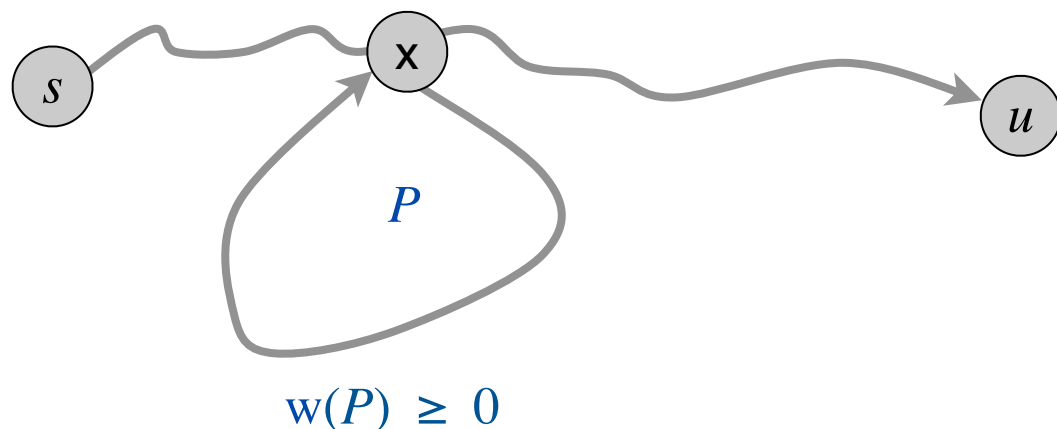
# Dynamic Programming Approach

- First step to a dynamic program? Recursive formulation
  - Subproblem with an “optimal substructure”
- **Structure of the problem.** With negative edge weights, the optimal cost can have any length
  - Let's keep track of **length of paths** considered so far
- How long can the shortest path from  $s$  to any node  $u$  be, assuming no negative cycle?
- **Claim.** If  $G$  has no negative cycles, then exists a shortest path from  $s$  to any node  $u$  that uses at most  $n - 1$  edges.



# No. of Edges in Shortest Path

- **Claim.** If  $G$  has no negative cycles, then exists a shortest path from  $s$  to any node  $u$  that uses at most  $n - 1$  edges.
- **Proof.** Suppose there exists a shortest path from  $s$  to  $u$  made up of  $n$  or more edges
- A path of length at least  $n$  must visit at least  $n + 1$  nodes
- There exists a node  $x$  that is visited more than once (**pigeonhole principle**). Let  $P$  denote the portion of the path between the successive visits.
- Can remove  $P$  without increasing cost of path. ■

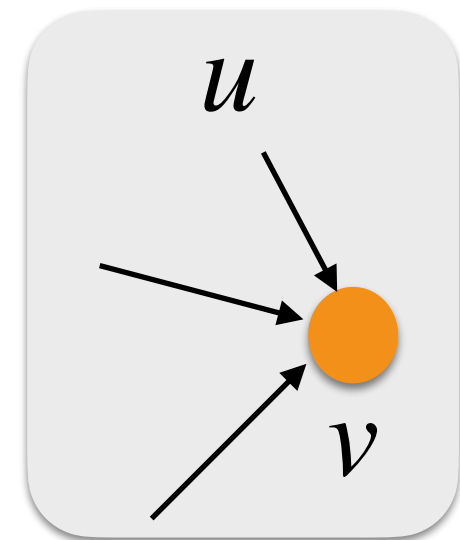


# Shortest Path Subproblem

- **Subproblem.**  $D[v, i]$ : (optimal) cost of shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  using  $\leq i$  edges
- **Base cases.**
  - $D[s, i] = 0$  for any  $i$
  - $D[v, 0] = \infty$  for any  $v \neq s$
- **Final answer** for shortest path cost to node  $v$ 
  - $D[v, n - 1]$

# Recurrence

- Suppose we have found shortest paths to all nodes of length at most  $i - 1$
- We are now considering shortest paths of length  $i$
- Cases to consider for the **recurrence** of  $D[v, i]$ 
  - **Case 1.** Shortest path to  $v$  was already found (is same as  $D[v, i - 1]$ )
  - **Case 2.** Shortest path to  $v$  is "longer" than paths found so far:
    - Look at all nodes  $u$  that have incoming edges to  $v$
    - Take minimum over their distances and add  $w_{uv}$

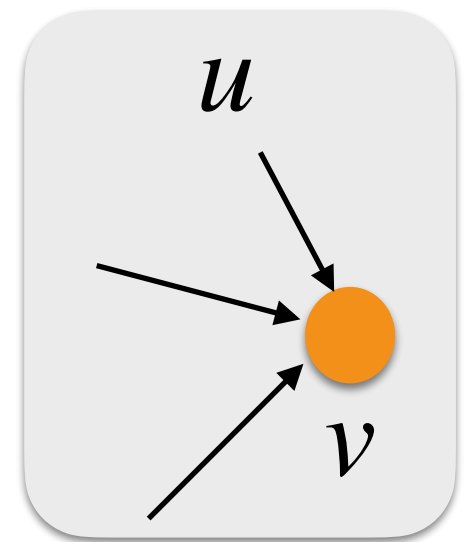


# Bellman-Ford-Moore Algorithm

- **Recurrence.** For all nodes  $v \neq s$ , and for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ,

$$D[v, i] = \min\{D[v, i - 1], \min_{(u,v) \in E} \{D[u, i - 1] + w_{uv}\}\}$$

- Called the **Bellman-Ford-Moore** algorithm



# Bellman-Ford-Moore Algorithm

- **Subproblem.**  $D[v, i]$ : (optimal) cost of shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  using  $\leq i$  edges

- **Recurrence.**

$$D[v, i] = \min\{D[v, i - 1], \min_{(u,v) \in E} \{D[u, i - 1] + w_{uv}\}\}$$

- **Memoization structure.** Two-dimensional array

- **Evaluation order.**

- $i : 1 \rightarrow n - 1$  (column major order)
- Starting from  $s$ , the row of vertices can be in any order

# Running Time

- **Recurrence.**

$$D[v, i] = \min\{D[v, i - 1], \min_{(u,v) \in E} \{D[u, i - 1] + w_{uv}\}\}$$

- **Naive analysis.**  $O(n^3)$  time

- Each entry takes  $O(n)$  to compute, there are  $O(n^2)$  entries

- **Improved analysis.** For a given  $i, v$ ,  $d[v, i]$  looks at each incoming edge of  $v$

- Takes  $\text{indegree}(v)$  accesses to the table

- For a given  $i$ , filling  $d[-, i]$  takes  $\sum_{v \in V} \text{indegree}(v)$  accesses

- At most  $O(n + m) = O(m)$  accesses for connected graphs where  $m \geq n - 1$

- Overall running time is  $O(nm)$

- **Shortest-Path Summary.** Assuming there are no negative cycles in  $G$ , we can compute the shortest path from  $s$  to all nodes in  $G$  in  $O(nm)$  time using the Bellman-Ford-Moore algorithm

# Dynamic Programming

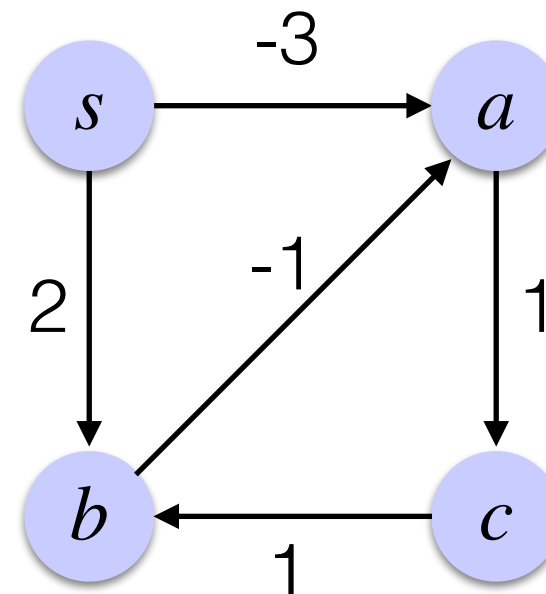
## Shortest Path:

### Bellman-Ford-Moore Example



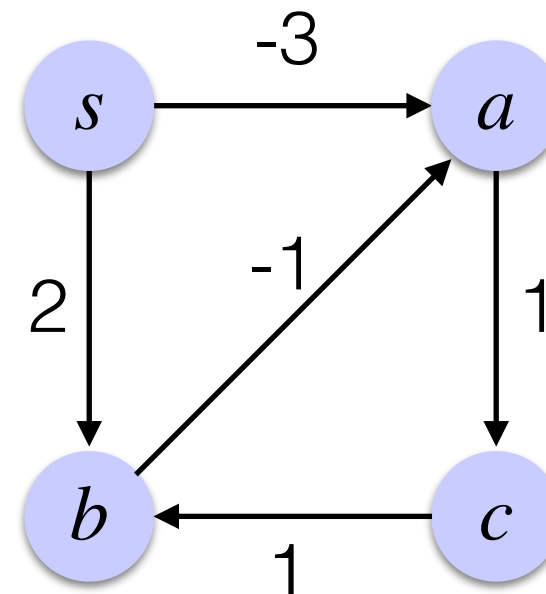
- $D[s, i] = 0$  for any  $i$
- $D[v, 0] = \infty$  for any  $v \neq s$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf			
b	inf			
c	inf			



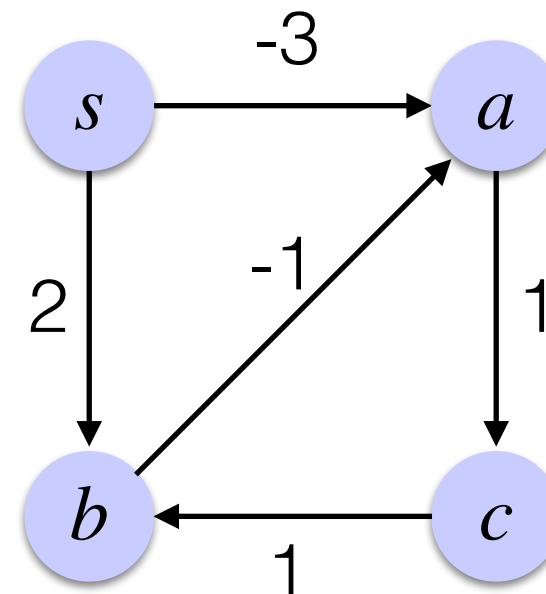
- $D[v,1] = \min\{D[v,0], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,0] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf			
b	inf			
c	inf			



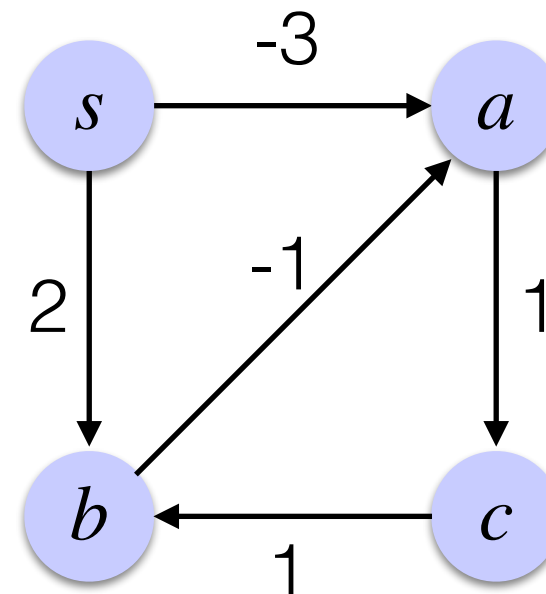
- $D[v,1] = \min\{D[v,0], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,0] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3		
b	inf			
c	inf			



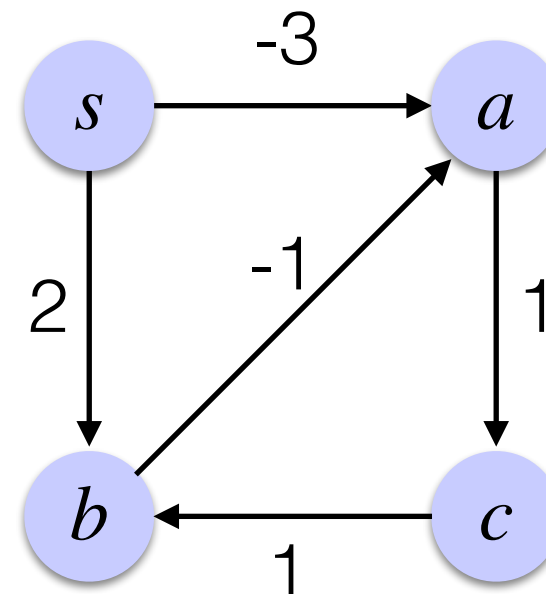
- $D[v,1] = \min\{D[v,0], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,0] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
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c	inf			



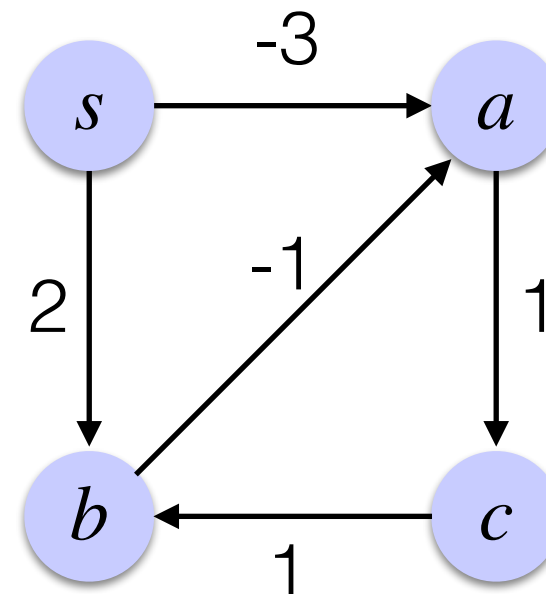
- $D[v,1] = \min\{D[v,0], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,0] + w_{uv}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3		
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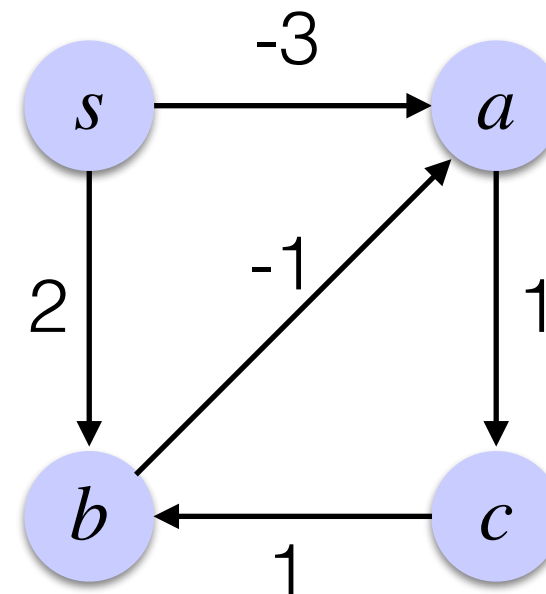
- $D[v,2] = \min\{D[v,1], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,1] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3		
b	inf	2		
c	inf	inf		



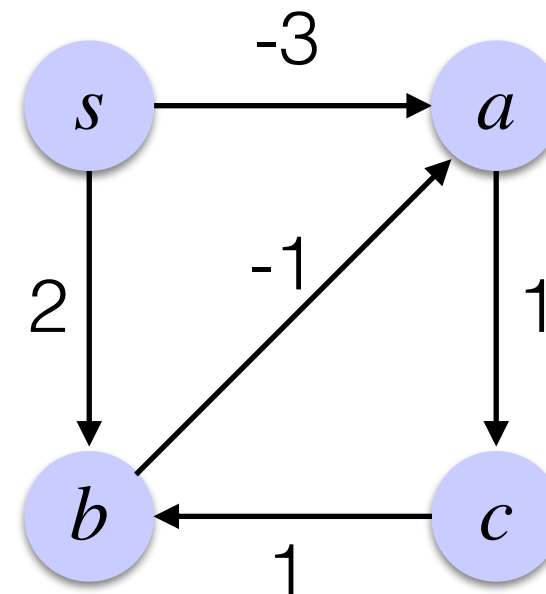
- $D[v,2] = \min\{D[v,1], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,1] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3	-3	
b	inf	2		
c	inf	inf		



- $D[v,2] = \min\{D[v,1], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,1] + w_{uv}\}$

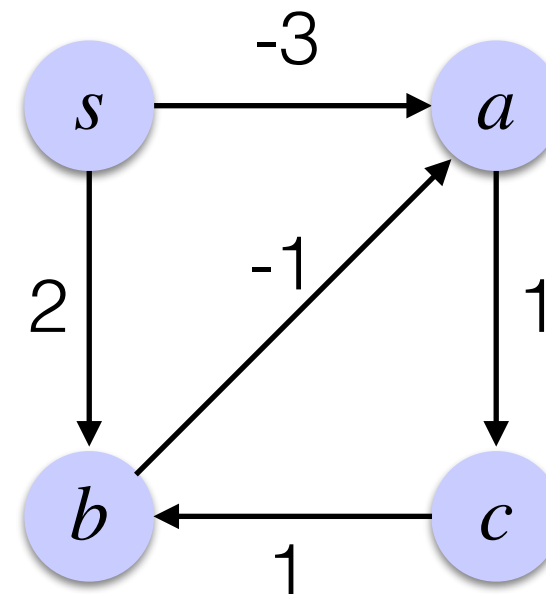
	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3	-3	
b	inf	2	2	
c	inf	inf		





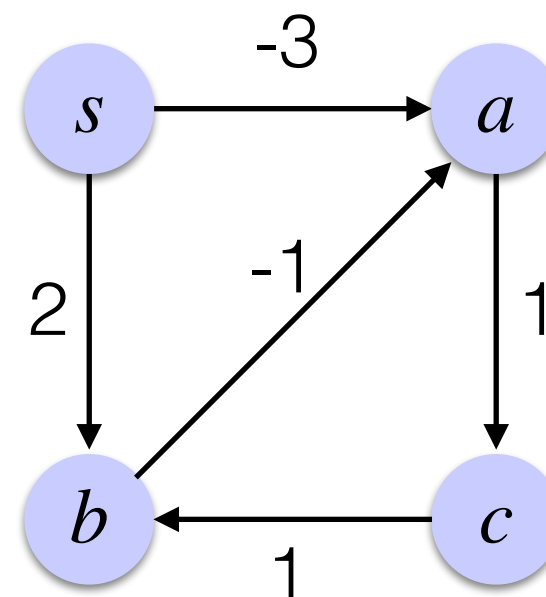
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	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3	-3	
b	inf	2	2	
c	inf	inf	-2	



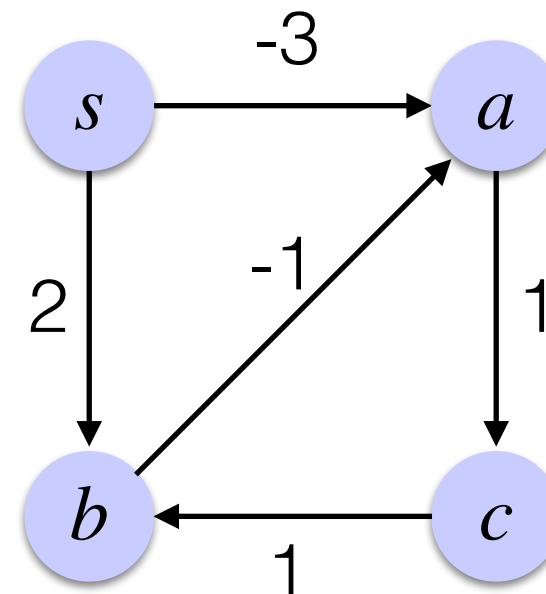
- $D[v,3] = \min\{D[v,2], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,2] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3	-3	-3
b	inf	2	2	
c	inf	inf	-2	



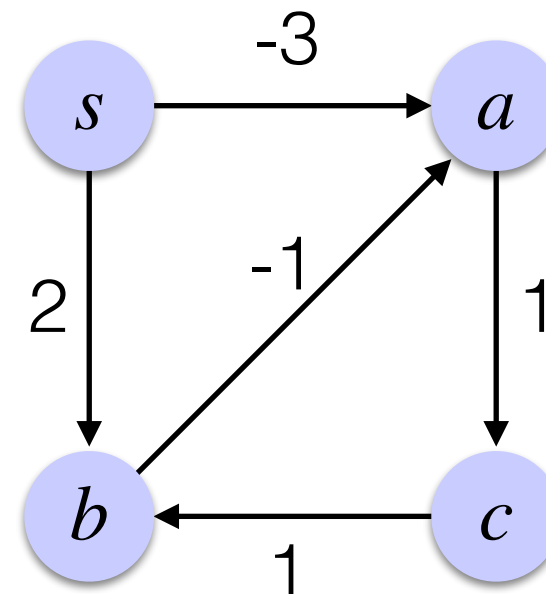
- $D[v,3] = \min\{D[v,2], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,2] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3	-3	-3
b	inf	2	2	-1
c	inf	inf	-2	



- $D[v,3] = \min\{D[v,2], \min_{u,v \in E} \{D[u,2] + w_{uv}\}\}$

	0	1	2	3
s	0	0	0	0
a	inf	-3	-3	-3
b	inf	2	2	-1
c	inf	inf	-2	-2



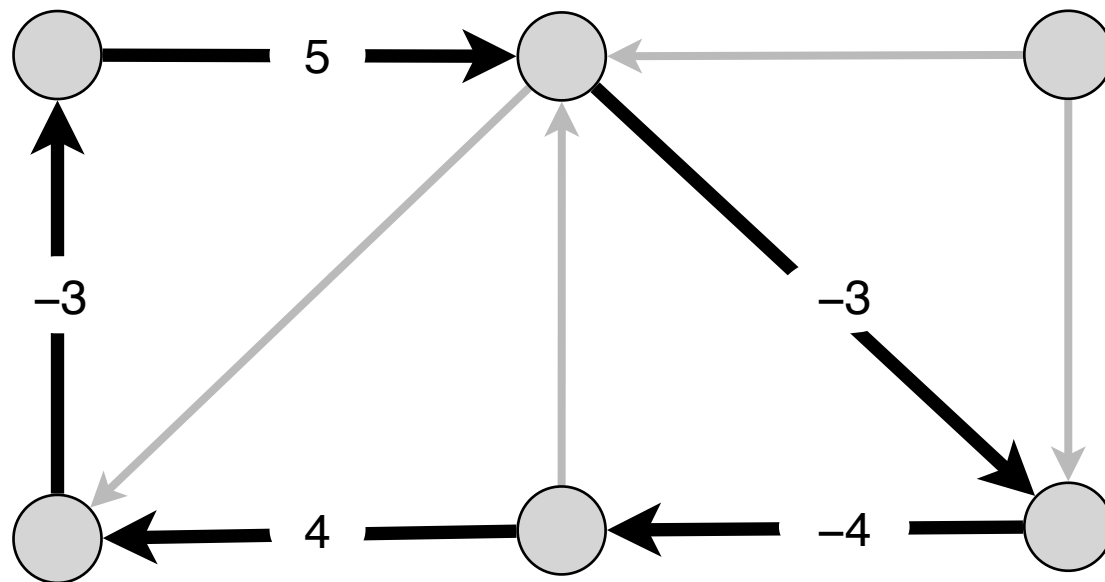
# Dynamic Programming

## Shortest Path:

### Detecting a Negative Cycle

# Negative Cycle

- **Definition.** A negative cycle is a directed cycle  $C$  such that the sum of all the edge weights in  $C$  is less than zero
- **Claim.** If a path from  $s$  to some node  $v$  contains a negative cycle, then there does not exist a shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ .



a negative cycle  $W$ :  $\ell(W) = \sum_{e \in W} \ell_e < 0$

# Detecting a Negative Cycle

- **Question.** Given a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  with edge-weights  $w_e$  (can be negative), determine if  $G$  contains a negative cycle.
- Now, we don't have a specific source node given to us
- Let's change this problem a little bit
- **Problem.** Given  $G$  and source  $s$ , find if there is negative cycle on a  $s \rightsquigarrow v$  path for any node  $v$ .

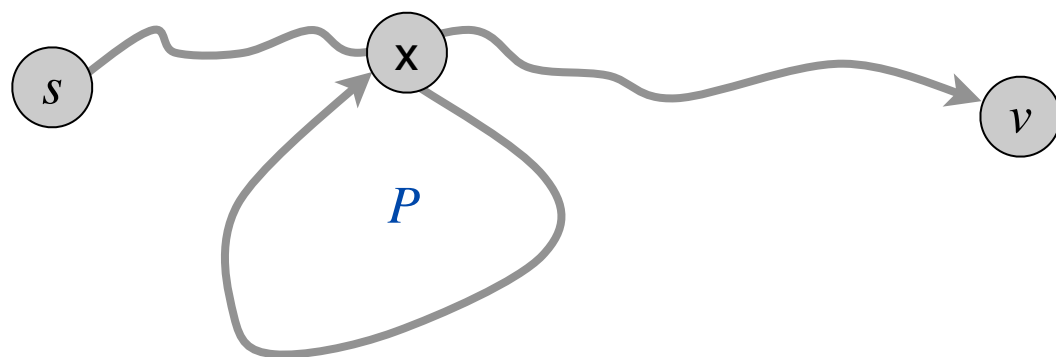
# Detecting a Negative Cycle

- **Problem.** Given  $G$  and source  $s$ , find if there is negative cycle on a  $s \rightsquigarrow v$  path for any node  $v$ .
- $D[v, i]$  is the cost of the shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  of length at most  $i$
- Suppose there is a negative cycle on a  $s \rightsquigarrow v$  path
  - Then  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} D[v, i] = -\infty$
- If  $D[v, n] = D[v, n - 1]$  for every node  $v$  then  $G$  has no negative cycles exists!
  - Table values converge, no further improvements possible



# Detecting a Negative Cycle

- **Lemma.** If  $D[v, n] < D[v, n - 1]$  then any shortest  $s \rightsquigarrow v$  path contains a negative cycle.
- **Proof.** [By contradiction] Suppose  $G$  does not contain a negative cycle
- Since  $D[v, n] < D[v, n - 1]$ , the shortest  $s \rightsquigarrow v$  path that caused this update has exactly  $n$  edges
- By pigeonhole principle, path must contain a repeated node, let the cycle between two successive visits to the node be  $P$
- If  $P$  has non-negative weight, removing it would give us a shortest path with less than  $n$  edges  $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$



# Problem Reduction

- Now we know how to detect negative cycles on a shortest path from  $s$  to some node  $v$ .
- How do we detect a negative cycle anywhere in  $G$ ?
- **Reduction.** Given graph  $G$ , add a source  $s$  and connect it to all vertices in  $G$  with edge weight 0. Let the new graph be  $G'$
- **Claim.**  $G$  has a negative cycle iff  $G'$  has a negative cycle from  $s$  to some node  $v$ .
- **Proof.**  $\Rightarrow$  If  $G$  has a negative cycle, then this cycle lies on the shortest path from  $s$  to a node on the cycle in  $G'$
- $\Leftarrow$  If  $G'$  has a negative cycle on a shortest path from  $s$  to some node, then that node is on a negative cycle in  $G$

# Acknowledgments

- Some of the material in these slides are taken from
  - Kleinberg Tardos Slides by Kevin Wayne (<https://www.cs.princeton.edu/~wayne/kleinberg-tardos/pdf/04GreedyAlgorithmsI.pdf>)
  - Jeff Erickson's Algorithms Book (<http://jeffe.cs.illinois.edu/teaching/algorithms/book/Algorithms-JeffE.pdf>)