

LECTURE 13: SINGLE-SOURCE SHORTEST PATHS

Harold Soh
harold@comp.nus.edu.sg

A POLL:



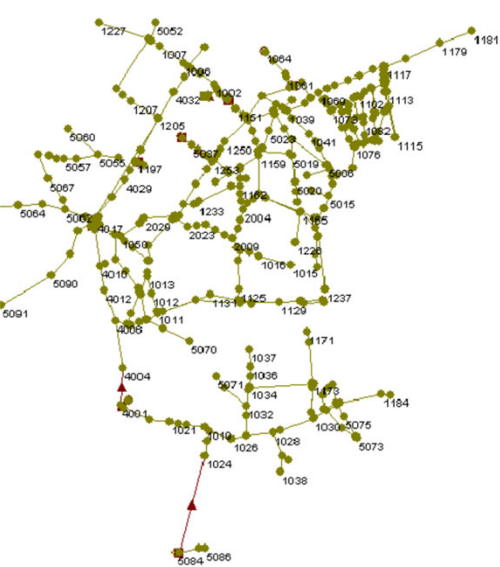
What wasn't clear in yesterday's lecture?

- A. BFS and DFS
- B. Topological Sort ("Breadth-first")
- C. Topological Sort ("Depth-first")
- D. B and C
- E. A,B,C... All I don't understand. ☹️
- F. I understood it all. 😊

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the session, students should be able to:

- describe the **shortest path algorithm** for **unweighted graphs**
- explain the **Bellman-Ford algorithm**
- describe the time complexity of the **Bellman-Ford algorithm**
- Understand when **Bellman-Ford will fail**



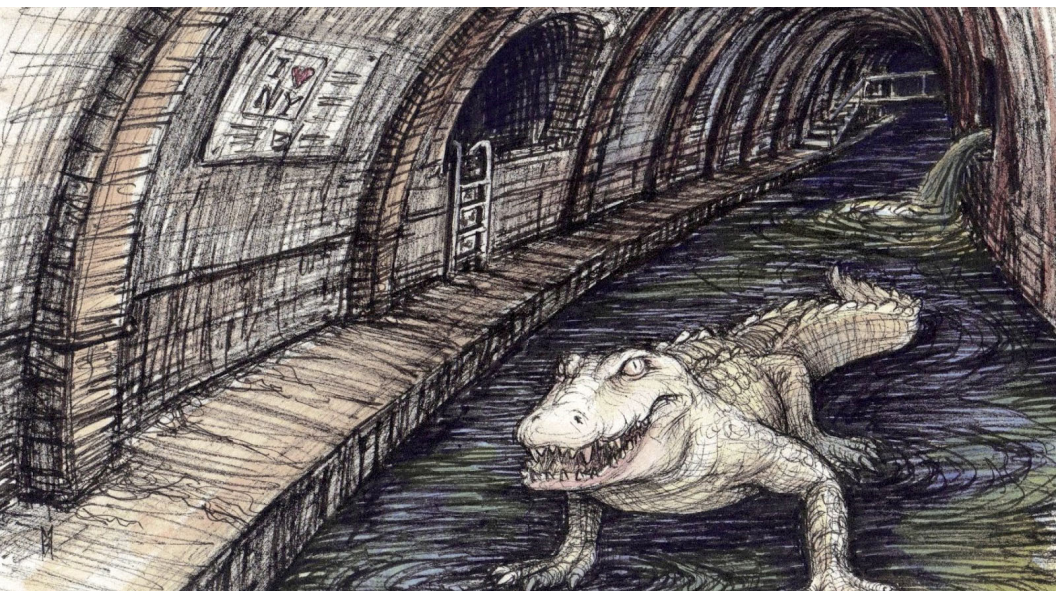
PROBLEM: FINDING HERBERT!

Herbert has gone missing!

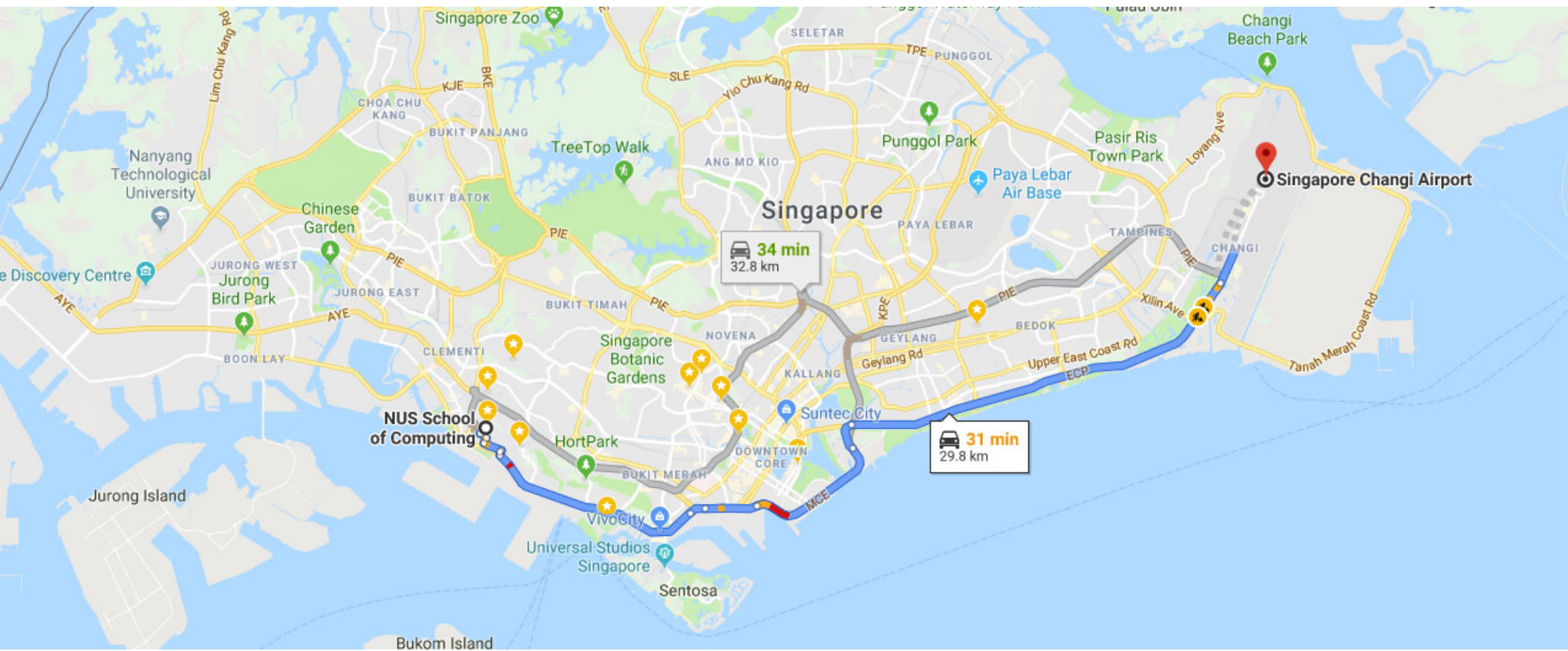
Last sighting: in the sewer system.

How can we *systematically* search for Herbert... before he gets destroyed by an alligator?

The tunnels may have different lengths!



ROUTING YOUR VEHICLE



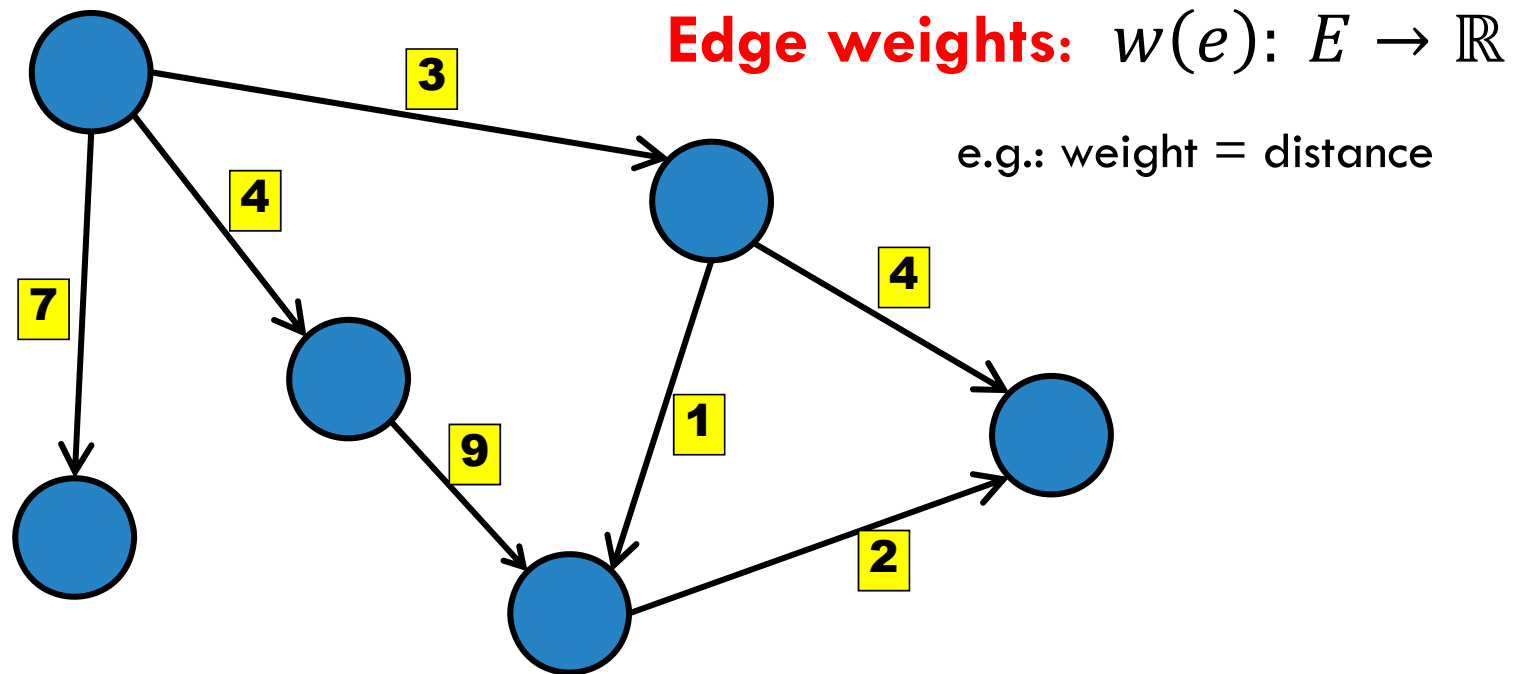
PATH TO ROUTE A PACKET OR A PACKAGE

Different edges have different costs:

- Time to send
- Cost to send
- Risk of going missing



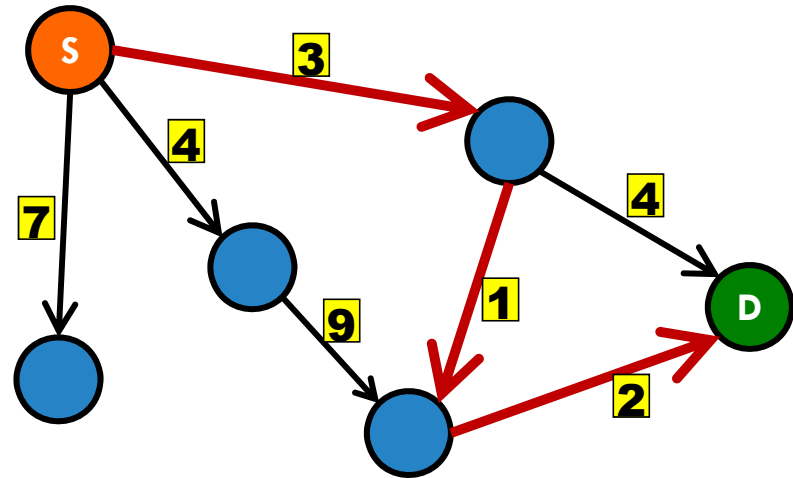
WEIGHTED GRAPHS



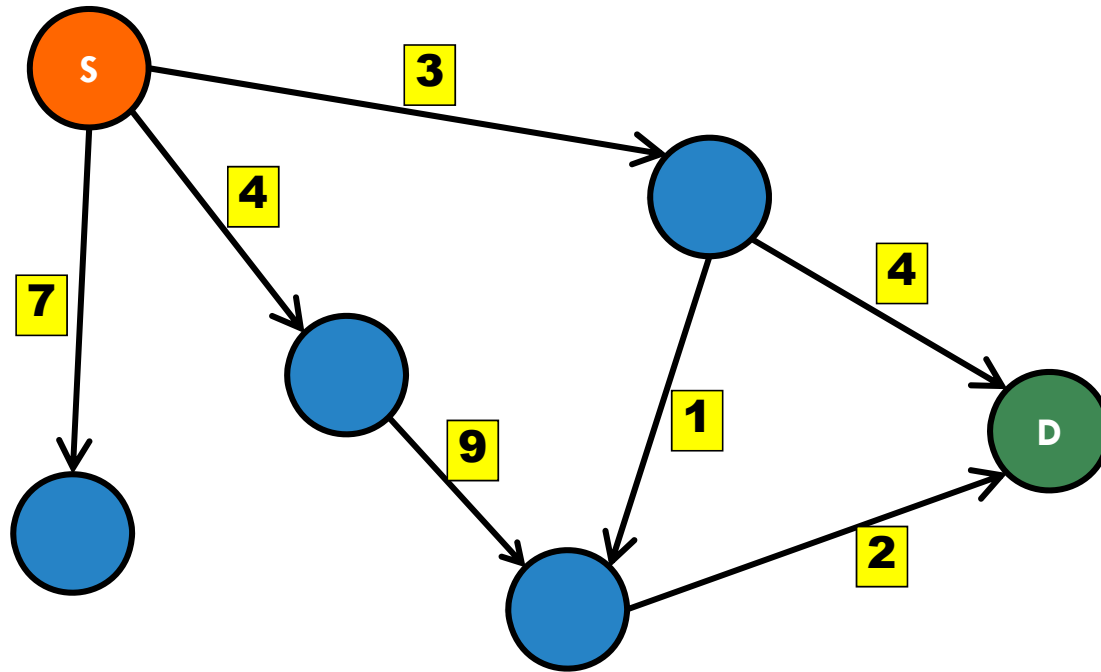
SHORTEST PATHS

Questions:

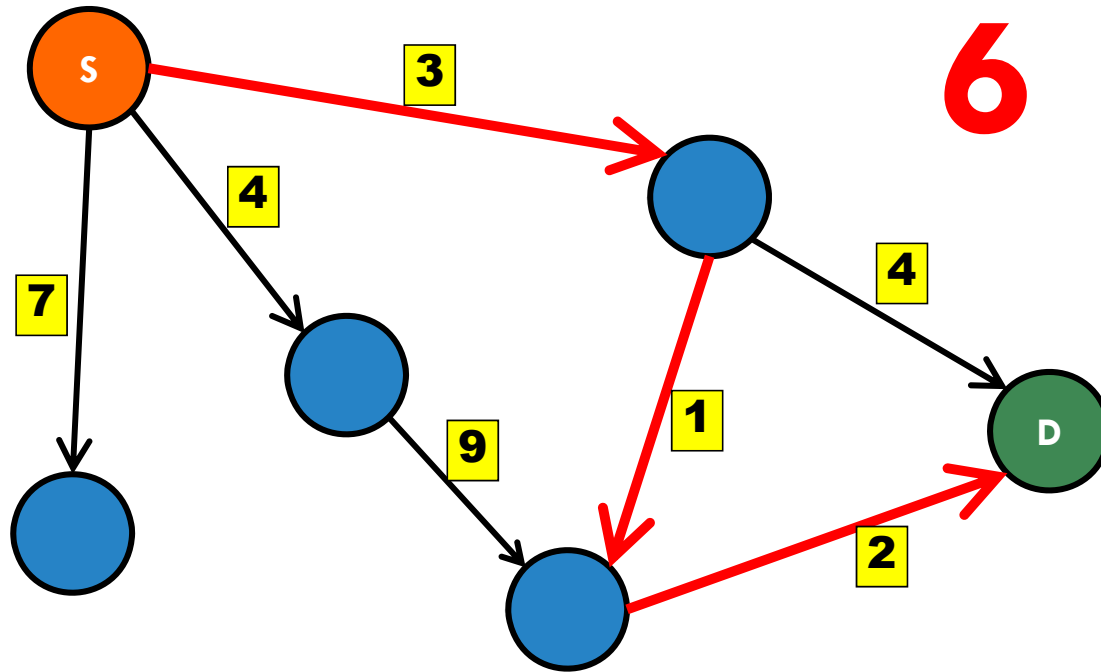
- How far is it from S to D?
- What is the shortest path from S to D?
- Find the shortest path from S to every node.
- Find the shortest path between every pair of nodes.



DISTANCE FROM THE SOURCE?

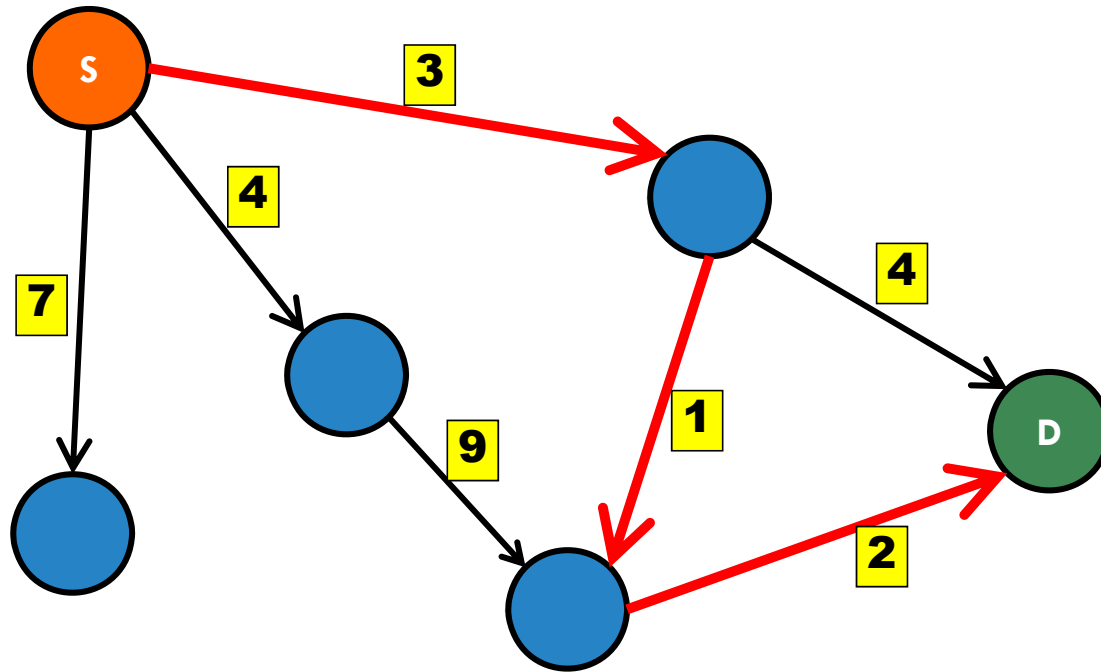


DISTANCE FROM THE SOURCE?

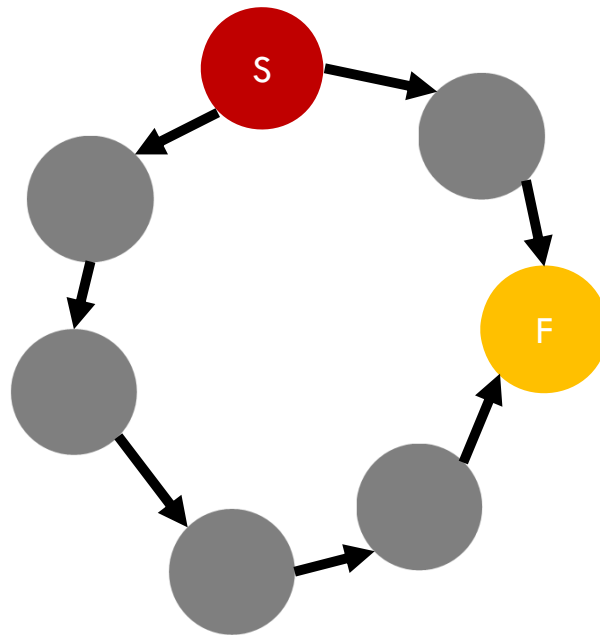


CAN WE USE **BFS**?

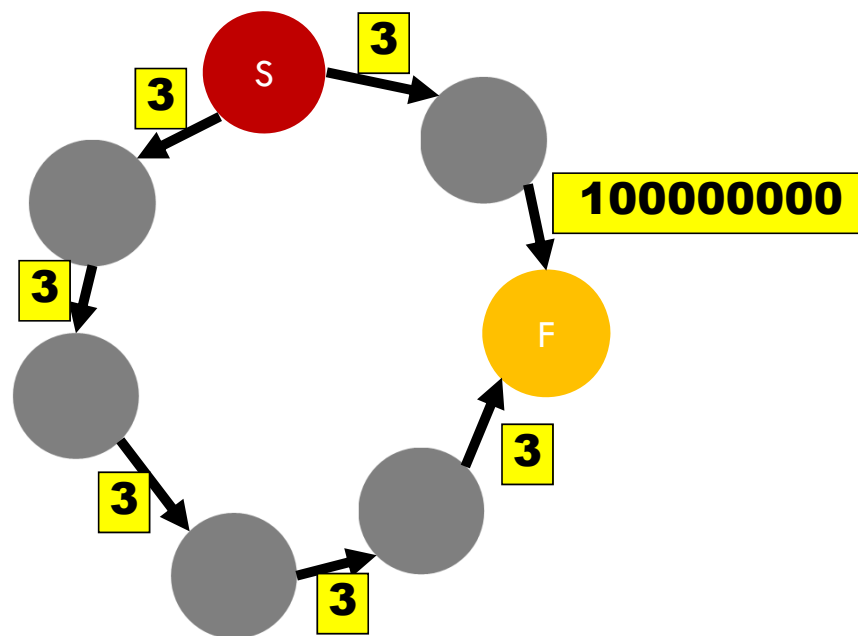
BFS finds minimum number of **HOPS** not minimum **DISTANCE**.



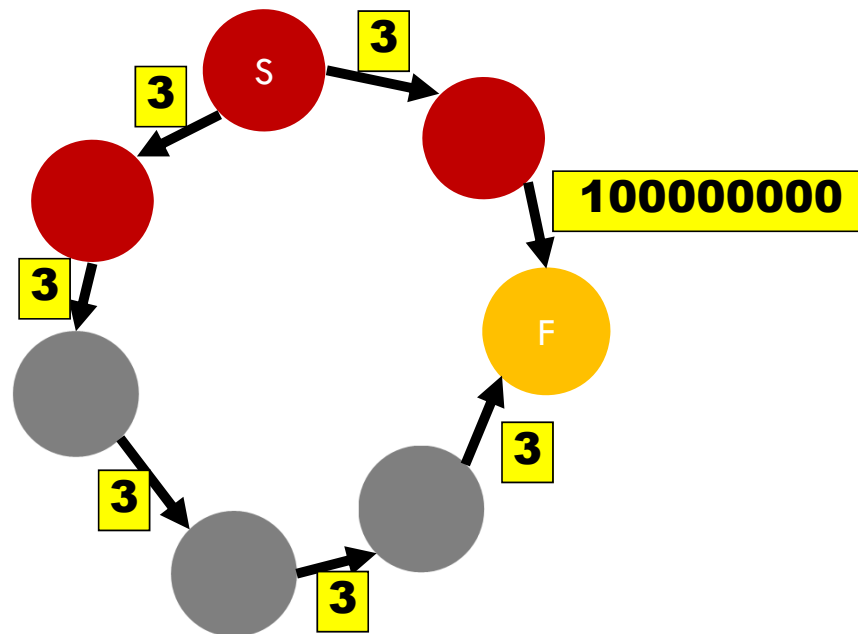
AN EXAMPLE: BFS



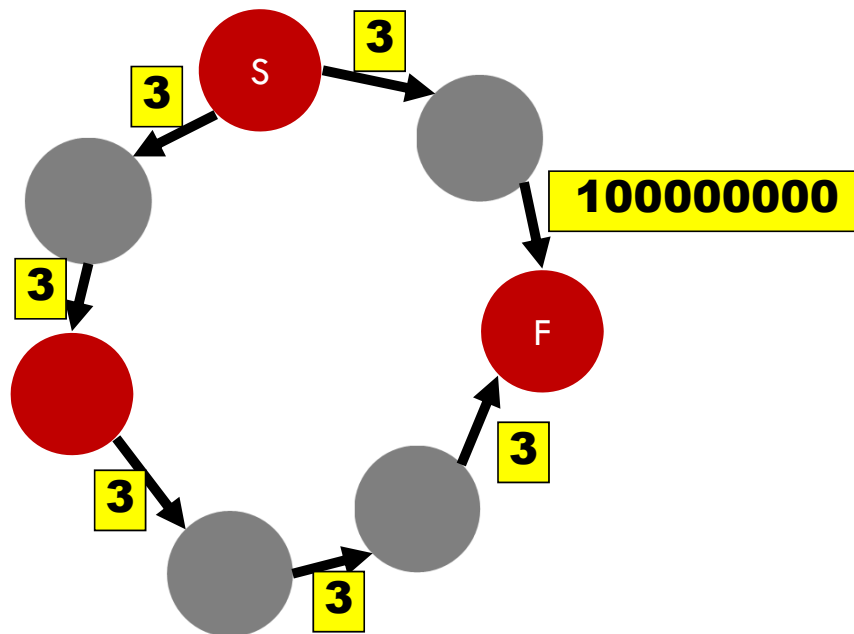
AN EXAMPLE: BFS



AN EXAMPLE: BFS

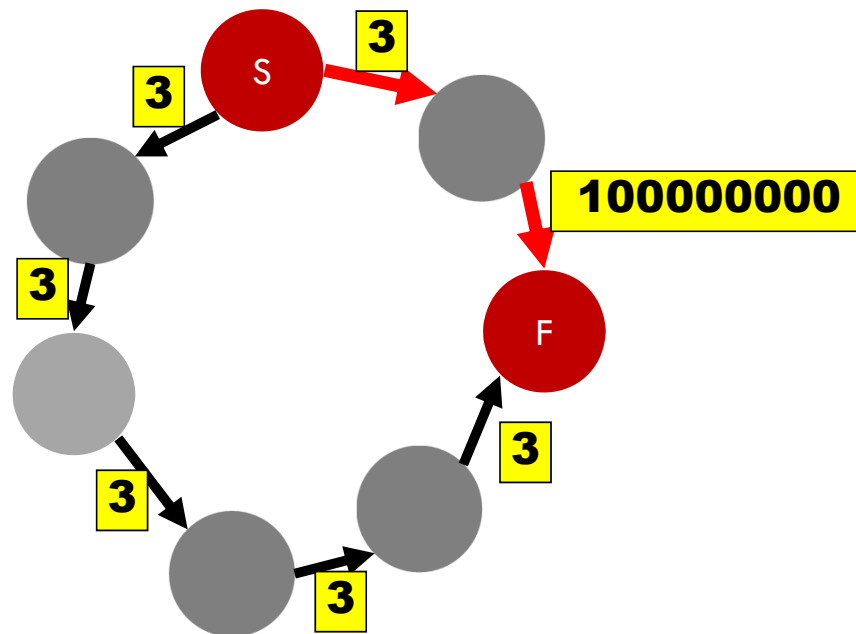


AN EXAMPLE: BFS



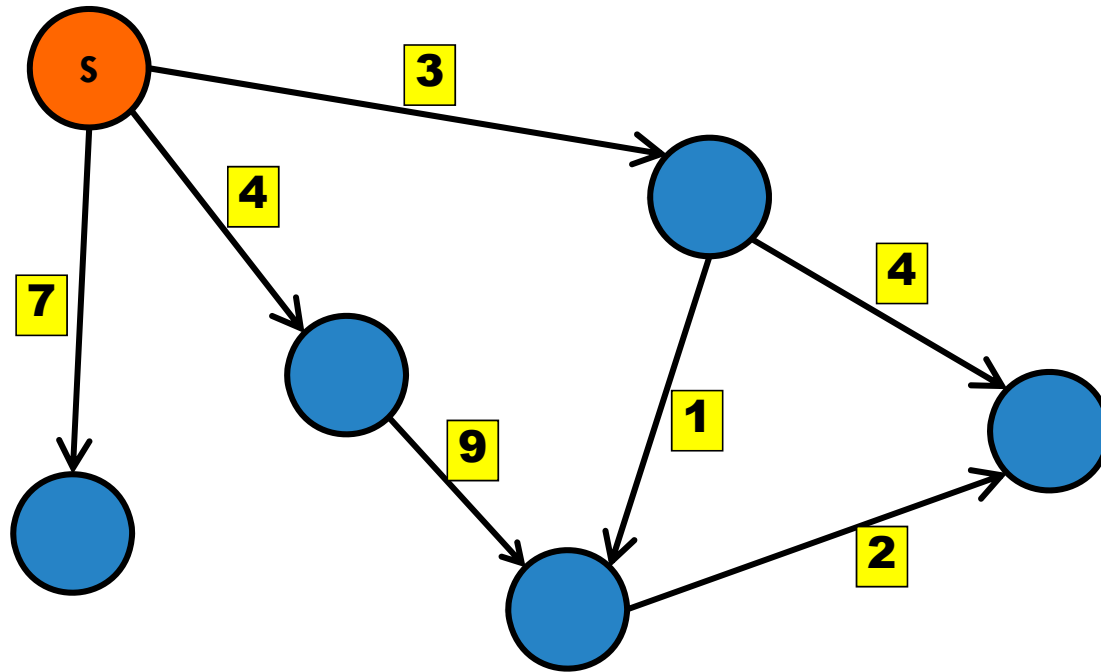
AN EXAMPLE: BFS

BFS finds minimum number of **HOPS** not minimum **DISTANCE**.

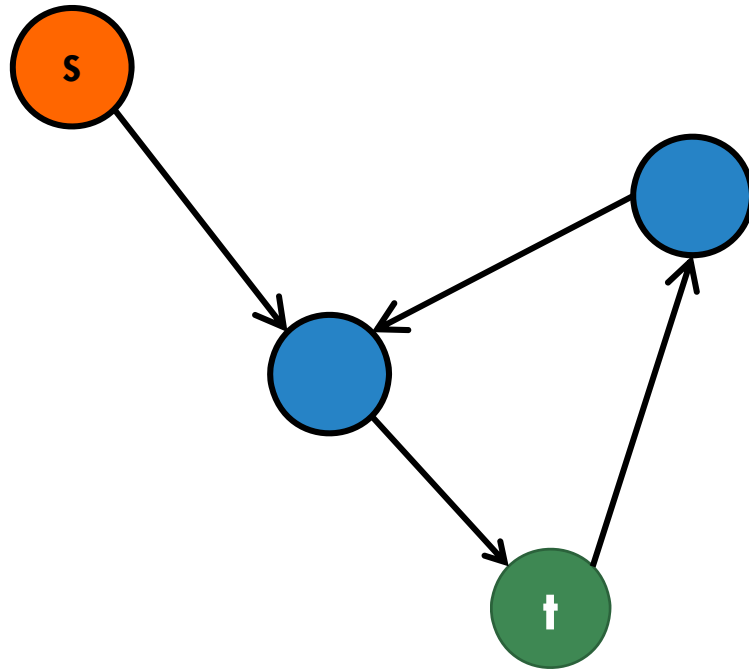


SHORTEST PATHS

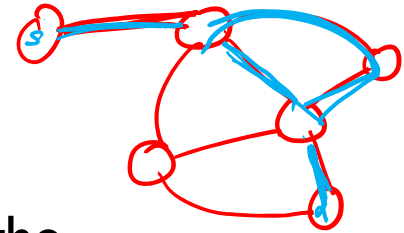
Notation: $\delta(u, v)$ = minimum distance from u to v



IF ALL WEIGHTS ARE POSITIVE, CAN THE
SHORTEST PATH CONTAIN A CYCLE?



IF ALL WEIGHTS ARE POSITIVE, CAN THE SHORTEST PATH CONTAIN A CYCLE?



Lemma 1: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **only positive weights** then the shortest path p from source vertex s to a vertex v must be a simple path.

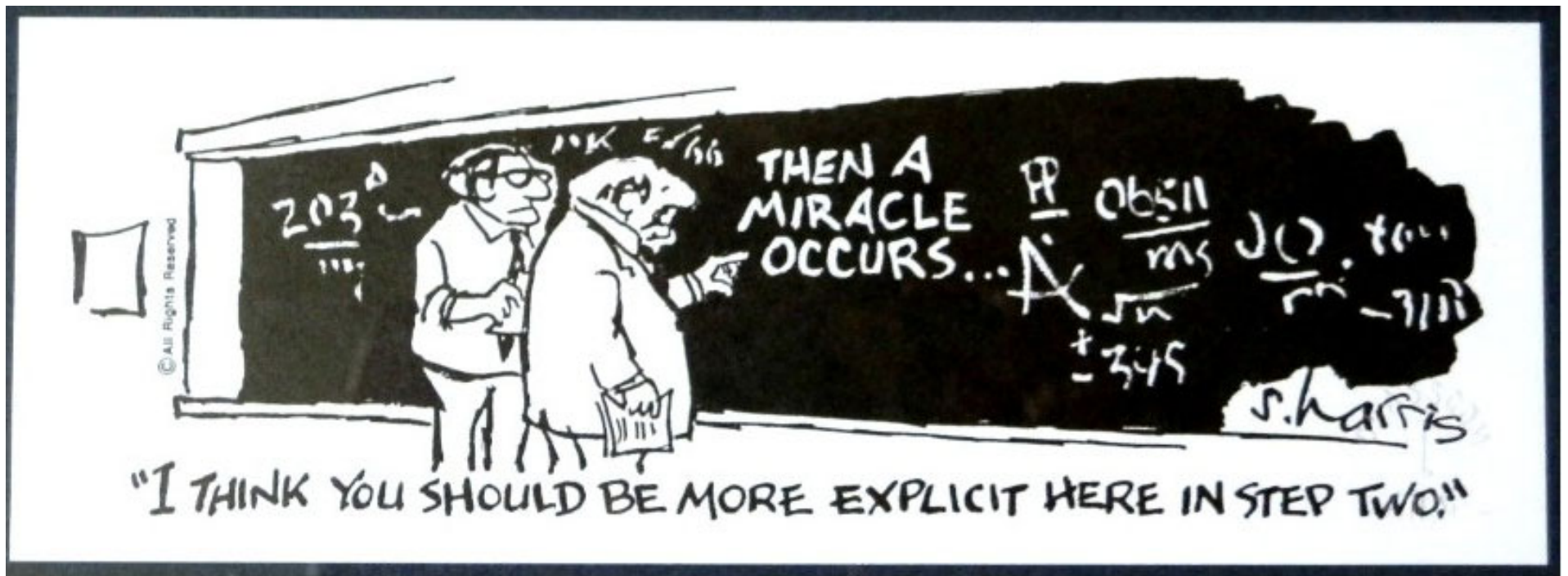
A simple path is defined as path $p = (v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k)$ where $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E, \forall 0 \leq i \leq (k-1)$ and there is no repeated vertex along this path.

WHY PROVE STUFF?



WHY PROVE STUFF?





PROOF METHODS

Direct Proof

Mathematical Induction

Contradiction

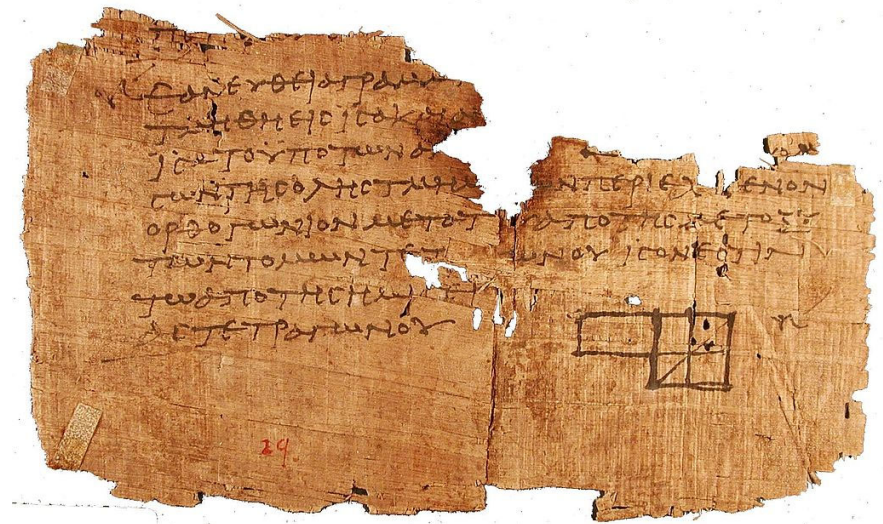
Contraposition

Proof by construction

Proof by exhaustion

Probabilistic proof

...



Page Fragment from Euclid's Elements of Geometry
(75-125 A.D)

PROOF METHODS

Direct Proof

Mathematical Induction

Contradiction

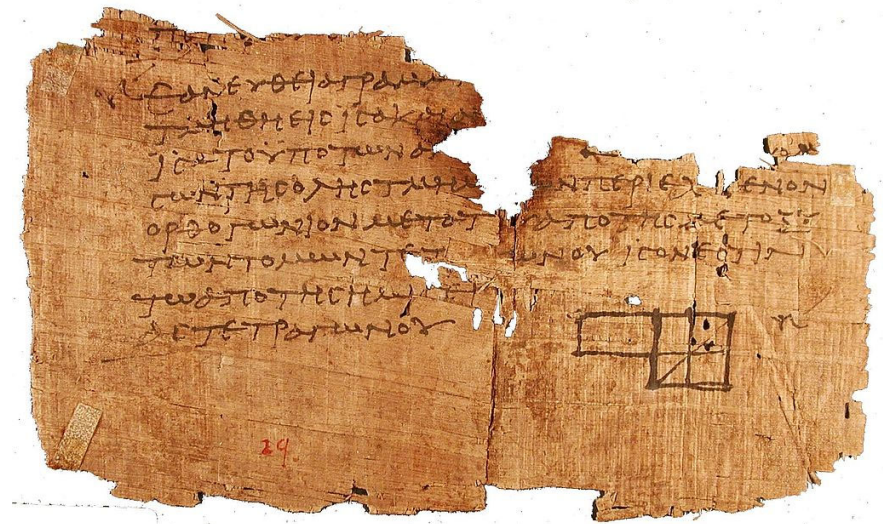
Contraposition

Proof by construction

Proof by exhaustion

Probabilistic proof

...



Page Fragment from Euclid's Elements of Geometry
(75-125 A.D.)

IF ALL WEIGHTS ARE POSITIVE, CAN THE SHORTEST PATH CONTAIN A CYCLE?

Lemma 1: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **only positive weights** then the shortest path p from source vertex s to a vertex v must be a **simple path**.

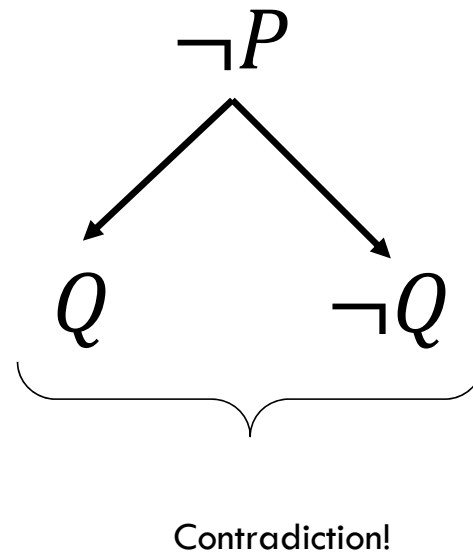
A **simple path** is defined as path $p = \{v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ where $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E, \forall 0 \leq i \leq (k - 1)$ and there is **no** repeated vertex along this path.

PROOF SKETCH OF LEMMA 1

(By Contradiction)

Strategy:

- Assume some statement P to be *false*, i.e. $\neg P$
- Show that if $\neg P$, then two contradictory statements Q and $\neg Q$ are reached.
- Since both Q and $\neg Q$ cannot be true, $\neg P$ is false!
- So, P must be true



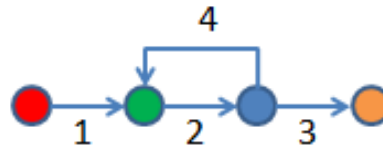
Lemma 1: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **only positive weights** then the shortest path p from source vertex s to a vertex v must be a **simple path**.

PROOF SKETCH OF LEMMA 1

Suppose the shortest path p is **not** a simple path

Then p must contain *at least* one cycle

Suppose there is a cycle c in p with positive weight:



If we remove c then we will have a “shorter” shortest path.

Contradiction! (we said at the beginning that p is the shortest path)

Conclusion: p is a simple path.

IF ALL WEIGHTS ARE POSITIVE, CAN THE SHORTEST PATH CONTAIN A CYCLE?

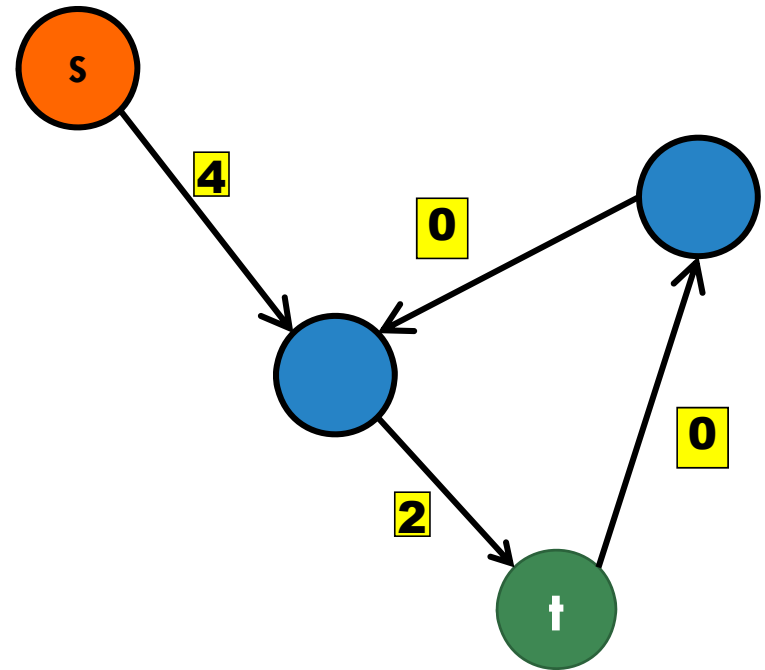
Lemma 1: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **only positive weights** then the shortest path p from source vertex s to a vertex v must be a **simple path**.

A **simple path** is defined as path $p = \{v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ where $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E, \forall 0 \leq i \leq (k - 1)$ and there is **no** repeated vertex along this path.

HOW ABOUT **NON-POSITIVE** WEIGHTS?

What about 0 weight?

- 0-cycles can occur but can be removed.



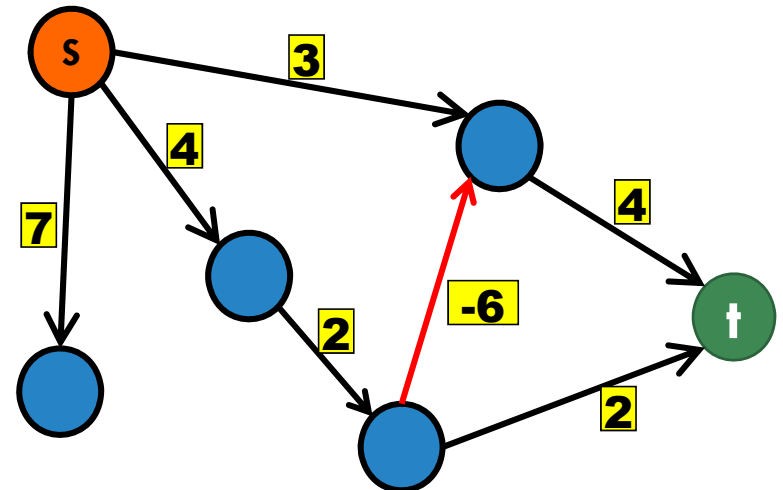
HOW ABOUT **NON-POSITIVE** WEIGHTS?

What about 0 weight?

- 0-cycles can occur but can be removed.

What about negative weights?

- Ok! Up to a point ...



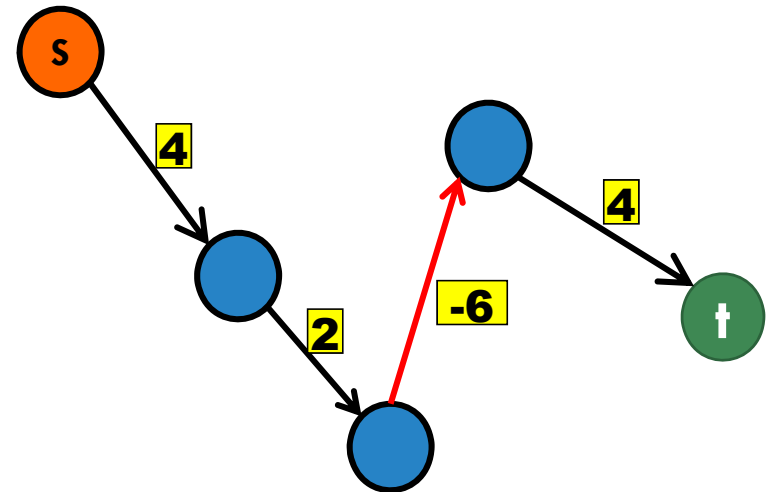
HOW ABOUT **NON-POSITIVE** WEIGHTS?

What about 0 weight?

- 0-cycles can occur but can be removed.

What about negative weights?

- Ok! Up to a point ...



HOW ABOUT **NON-POSITIVE** WEIGHTS?

What about 0 weight?

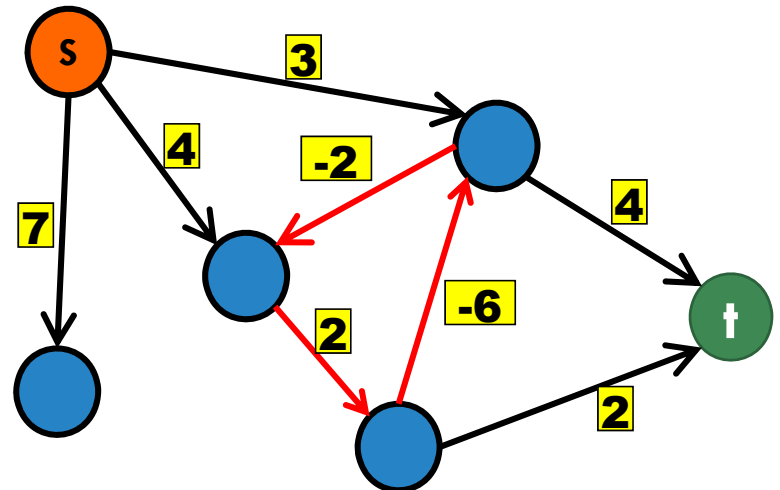
- 0-cycles can occur but can be removed.

What about negative weights?

- Ok!

But **no negative weight cycles!**

- Negative weight cycles make the problem ill-defined



SIMPLE PATHS

Lemma 2: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **no negative weight cycles**, then the shortest path p from source vertex s to a vertex v is a **simple path**.

A **simple path** is defined as path $p = \{v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ where $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E, \forall 0 \leq i \leq (k - 1)$ and there is **no** repeated vertex along this path.

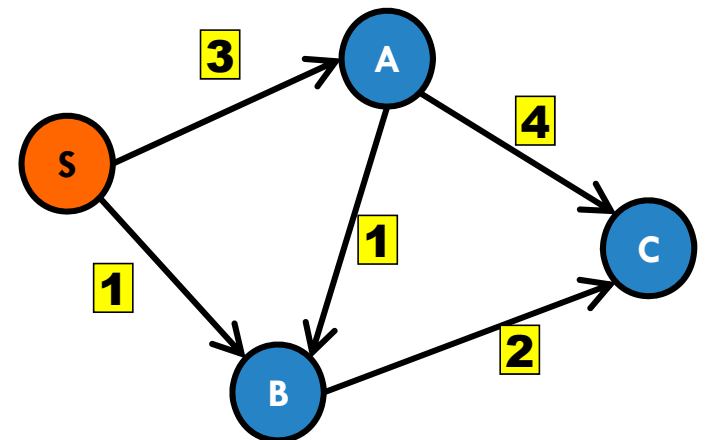
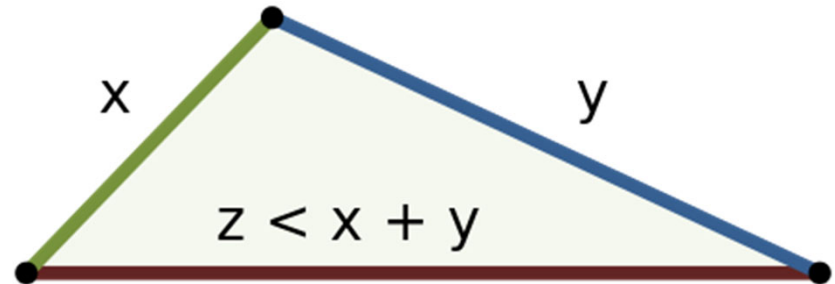
This means that the shortest path can have at most $|V| - 1$ edges

SHORTEST PATHS

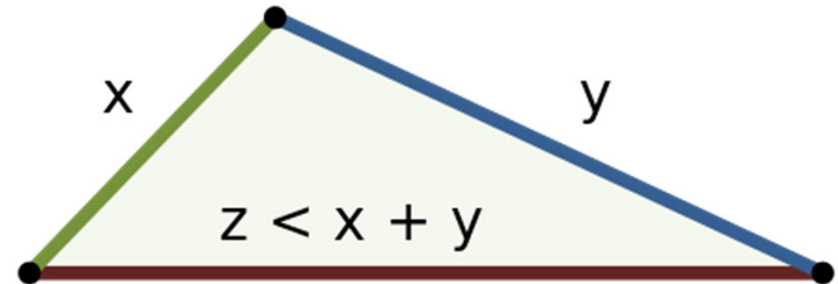
Lemma 3: Triangle Inequality.
For any edge (u, v)

$$\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + w(u, v)$$

Proof Sketch (by contradiction):



SHORTEST PATHS



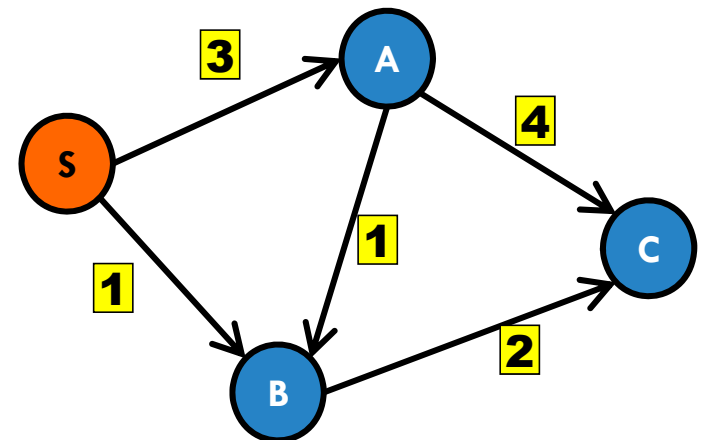
Lemma 3: Triangle Inequality.
For any edge (u, v)

$$\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + w(u, v)$$

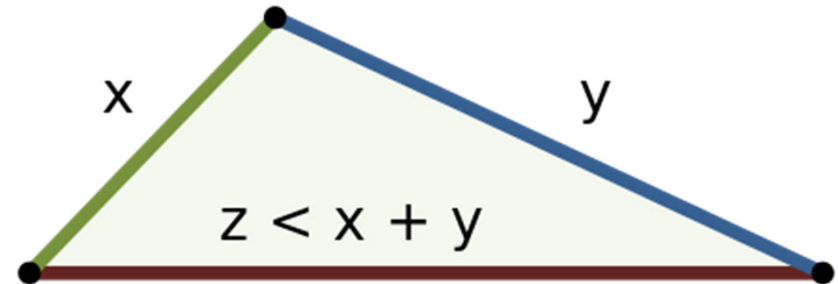
Proof Sketch (by contradiction):

Suppose the shortest path p has

$$\delta(s, v) > \delta(s, u) + w(u, v)$$



SHORTEST PATHS



Lemma 3: Triangle Inequality.

For any edge (u, v)

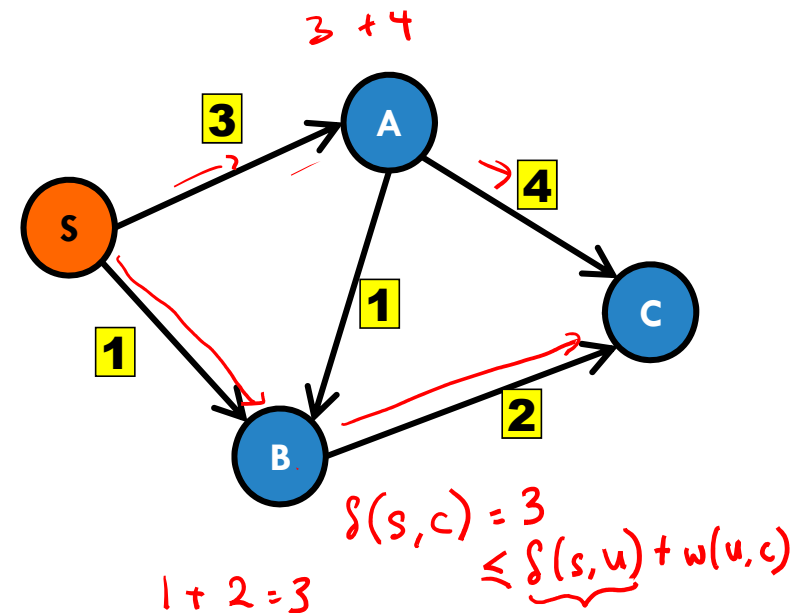
$$\delta(s, v) \leq \delta(s, u) + w(u, v)$$

Proof Sketch (by contradiction):

Suppose the shortest path p has

$$\delta(s, v) > \delta(s, u) + w(u, v)$$

But then, we can take the path from $s \rightsquigarrow u \rightarrow v$ which has shorter distance so, p could not have been the shortest path. Contradiction! ■

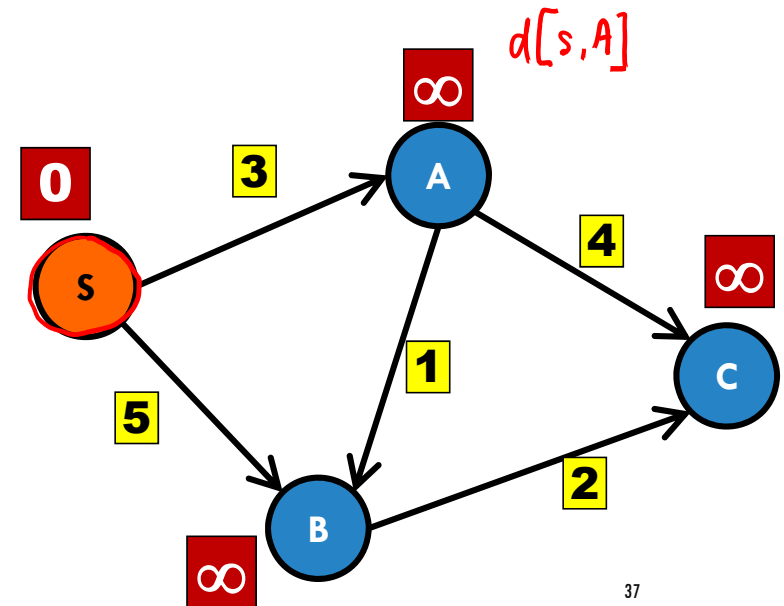


SHORTEST PATHS

Maintain estimate for each distance:

- **Reduce** estimate $d[s, u]$
- **Invariant:** estimate $d[s, u] \geq \delta[s, u]$

```
// in Java  
int[] dist = new int[V.length];  
Arrays.fill(dist, INFTY);  
dist[start] = 0;
```



NEXT, **RELAX!**



SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if ( $\infty$   $\overset{=d[u]=0}{\text{dist}}[v] > \text{dist}[u] + \text{weight}(u,v) \overset{=3}{\text{weight}}(u,v))$   
         $\text{dist}[v] = \text{dist}[u] + \text{weight}(u,v);$   
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

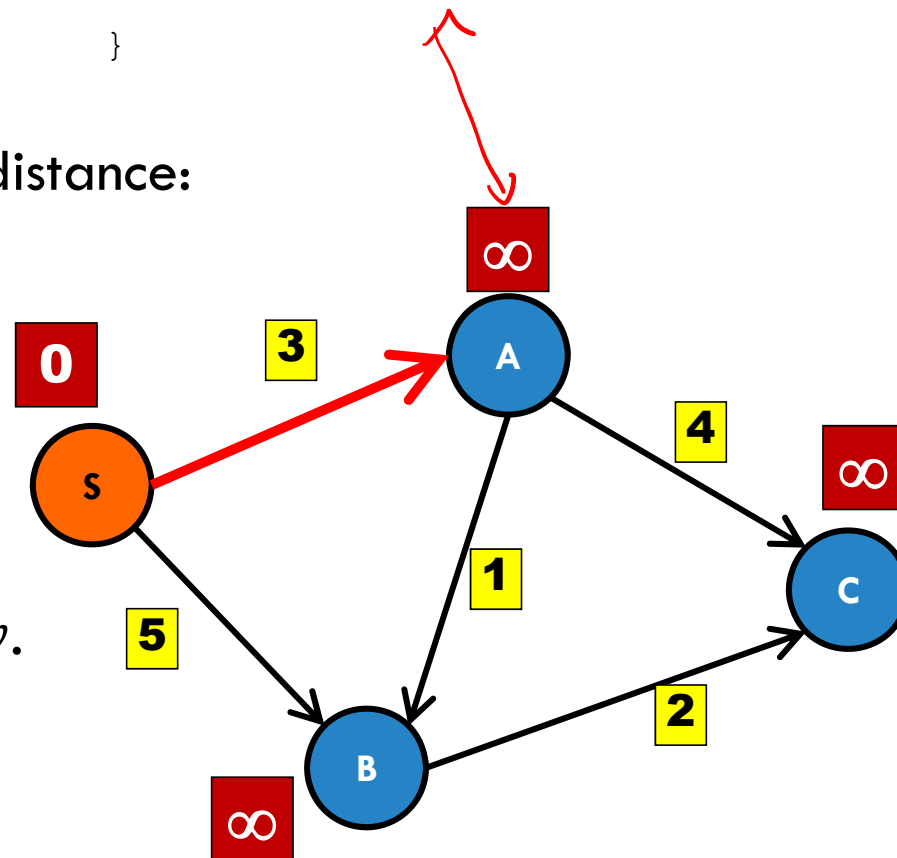
$\text{relax}(S, A)$

The idea:

$\text{relax}(w, v)$:

Test if the best way to
get from $S \rightarrow v$ is to
go from $S \rightarrow w$, then $w \rightarrow v$.

Update dist



SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

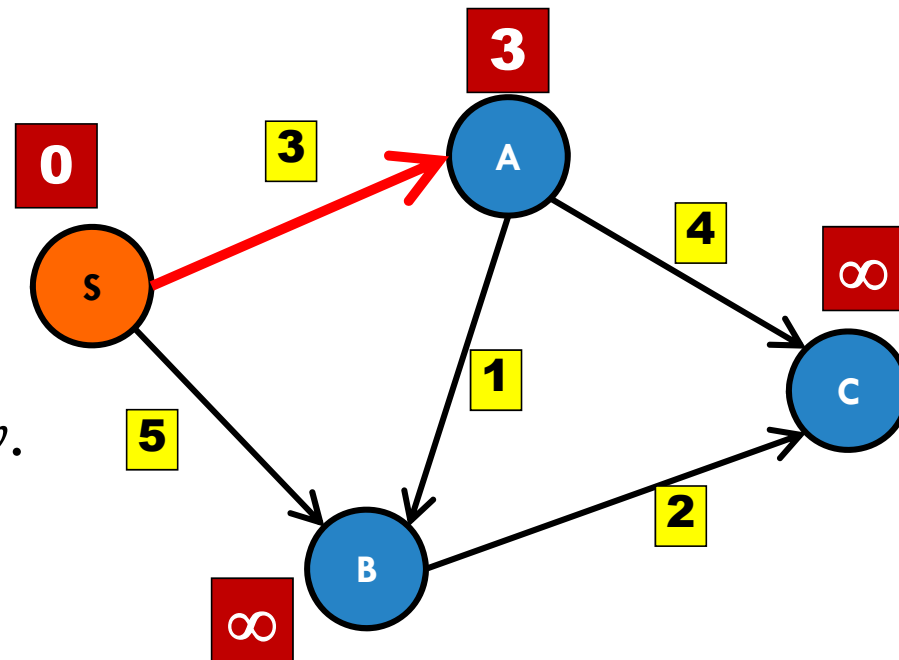
$\text{relax}(S, A)$

The idea:

$\text{relax}(w, v)$:

Test if the best way to
get from $S \rightarrow v$ is to
go from $S \rightarrow w$, then $w \rightarrow v$.

Update dist



SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist∞[v] > dist3[u] + weight+4-7(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

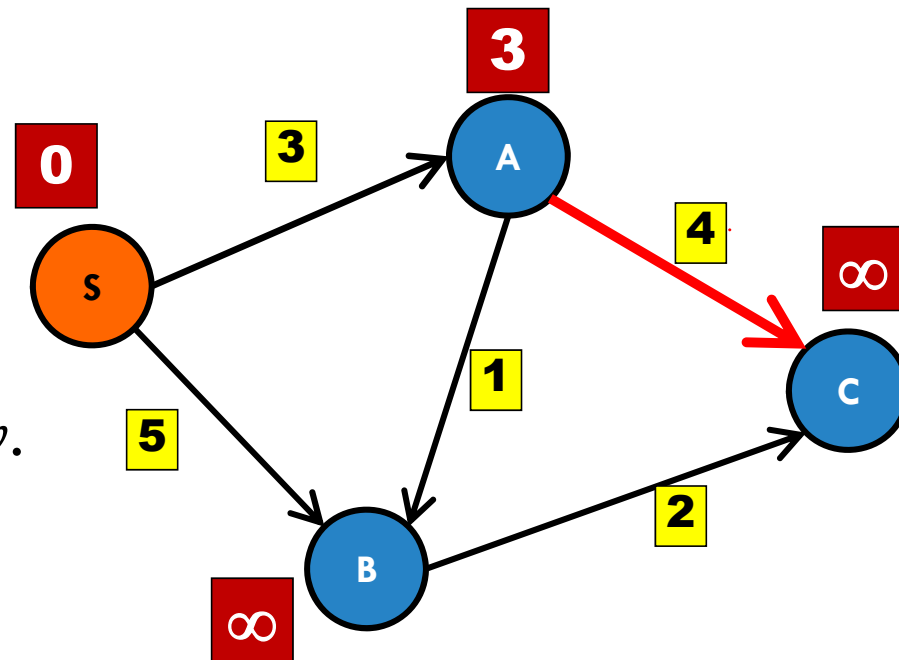
relax(A, C)

The idea:

relax(w, v):

Test if the best way to
get from $s \rightarrow v$ is to
go from $s \rightarrow w$, then $w \rightarrow v$.

Update dist



SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

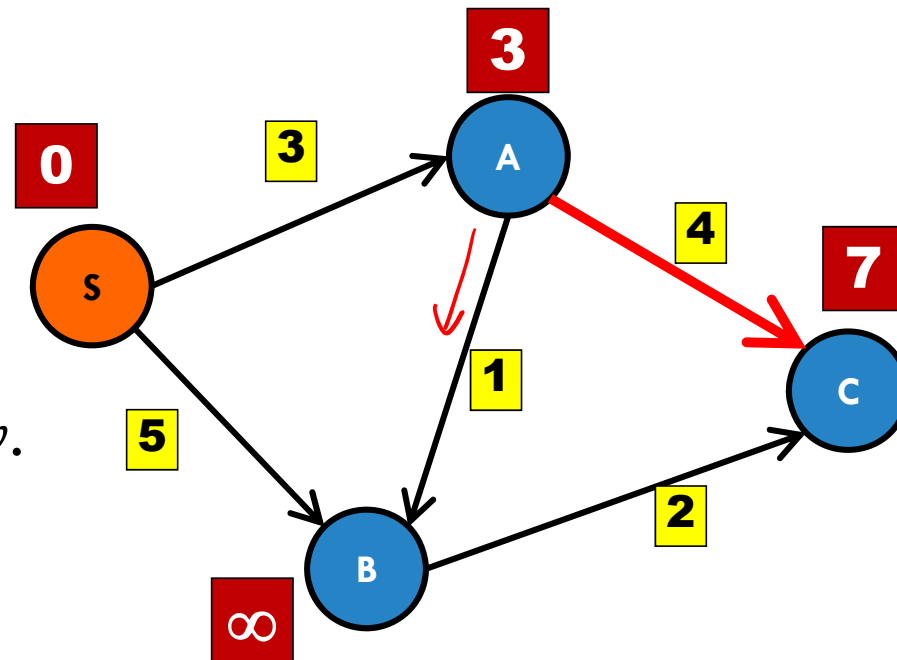
$\text{relax}(A, C)$

The idea:

$\text{relax}(w, v)$:

Test if the best way to
get from $s \rightarrow v$ is to
go from $s \rightarrow w$, then $w \rightarrow v$.

Update dist



SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

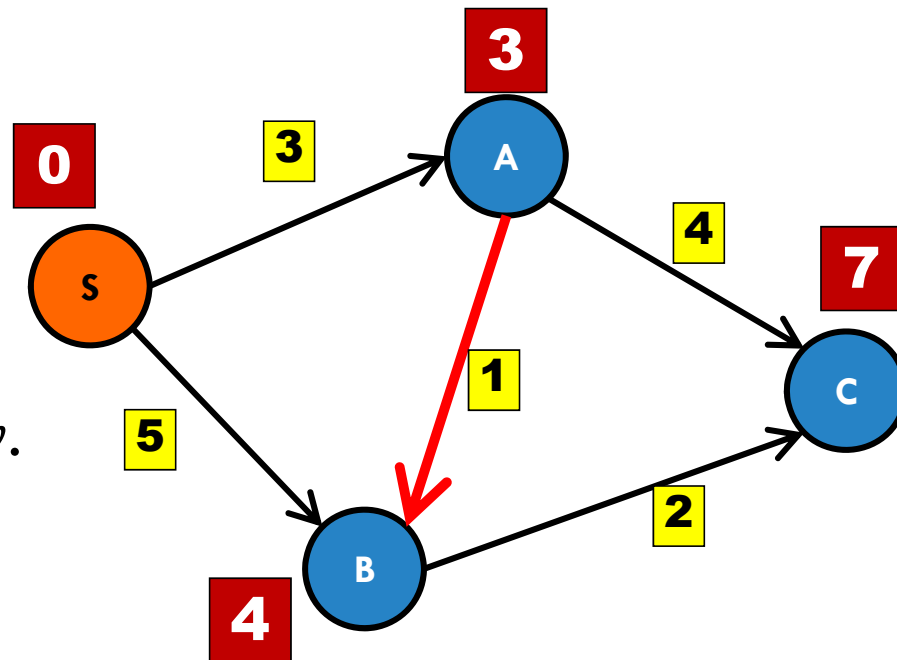
$\text{relax}(A, B)$

The idea:

$\text{relax}(w, v)$:

Test if the best way to
get from $s \rightarrow v$ is to
go from $s \rightarrow w$, then $w \rightarrow v$.

Update dist



SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

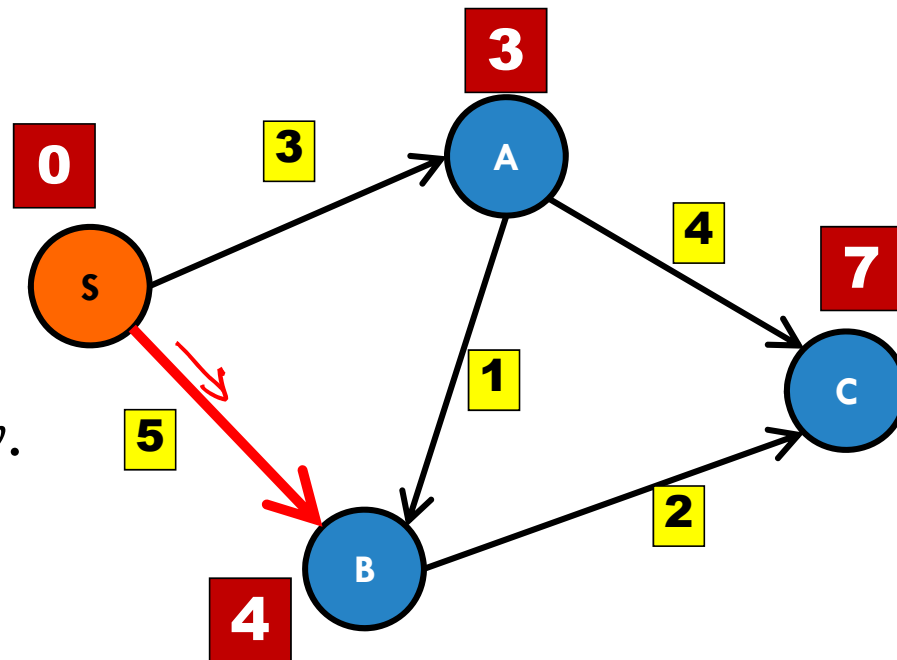
$\text{relax}(S, B)$

The idea:

$\text{relax}(w, v)$:

Test if the best way to
get from $S \rightarrow v$ is to
go from $S \rightarrow w$, then $w \rightarrow v$.

Update dist



SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

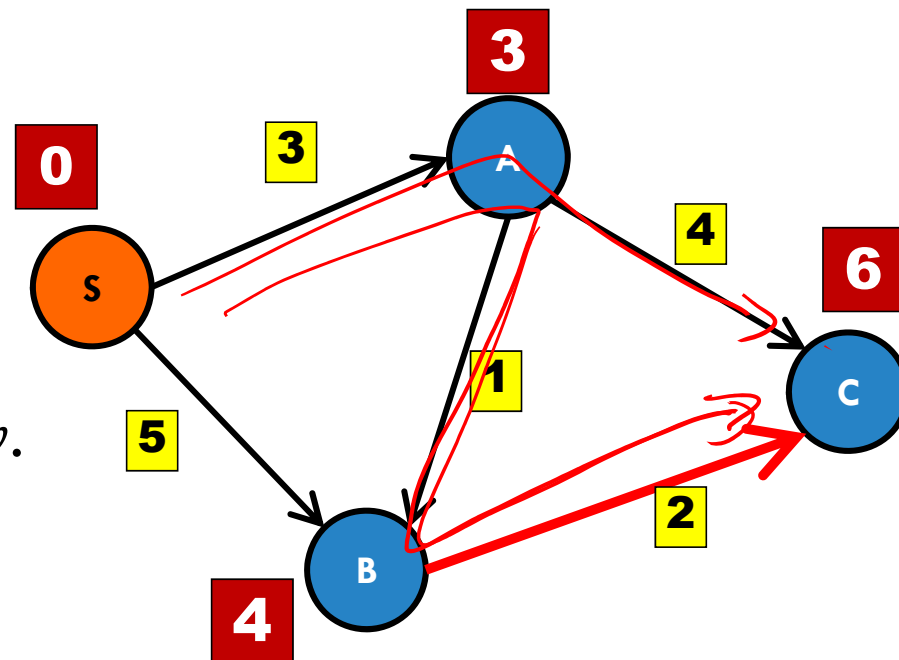
relax(B, C)

The idea:

relax(w, v):

Test if the best way to
get from $s \rightarrow v$ is to
go from $s \rightarrow w$, then $w \rightarrow v$.

Update dist



```

relax(int u, int v)
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);

```

RELAXATION: UPPER BOUND PROPERTY

Lemma 4: We always have $\overset{\text{estimate}}{\downarrow} d[v] \geq \overset{\text{true shortest distance}}{\downarrow} \delta[v]$ for all $v \in V$ and once $d[v] = \delta[v]$, it never changes.

Proof via induction (left as an exercise)

Notation note: I'm going to drop the dependence of $\overset{d[s, v]}{\underline{d[s, v]}}$ on s to reduce clutter. So, $d[v]$ = $d[s, v]$ for some source node s

```

relax(int u, int v)
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);

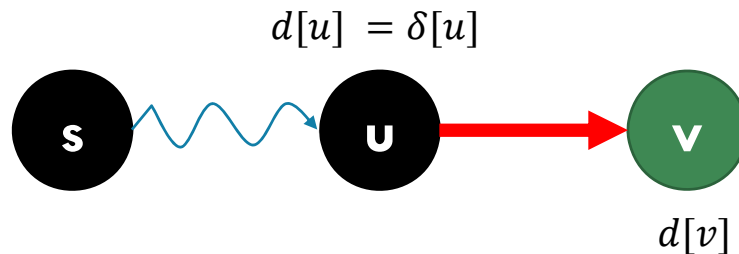
```

RELAXATION: CONVERGENCE PROPERTY

Lemma 5: If

- $\underline{s} \rightsquigarrow \underline{u} \rightarrow v$ is a shortest path from \underline{s} to \underline{v} and
- $\underline{d[u]} = \underline{\delta[u]}$ before relaxing edge (u, v) ,

then $d[v] = \delta[v]$ **at all times after relaxing**



```

relax(int u, int v)
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);

```

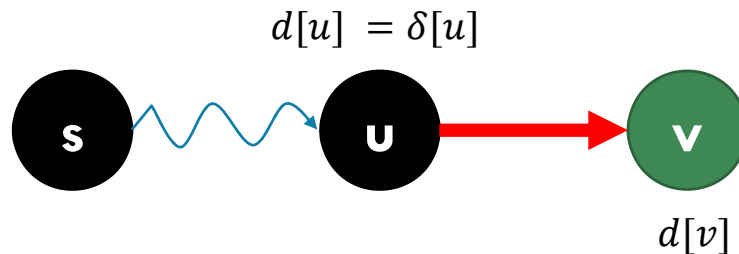
RELAXATION: CONVERGENCE PROPERTY

Lemma 5: If

- $s \rightsquigarrow u \rightarrow v$ is a shortest path from s to v and
- $d[u] = \delta[u]$ before relaxing edge (u, v) ,

then $d[v] = \delta[v]$ **at all times after relaxing**

$$d[v] \leq d[u] + w(u, v)$$




```

relax(int u, int v)
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);

```

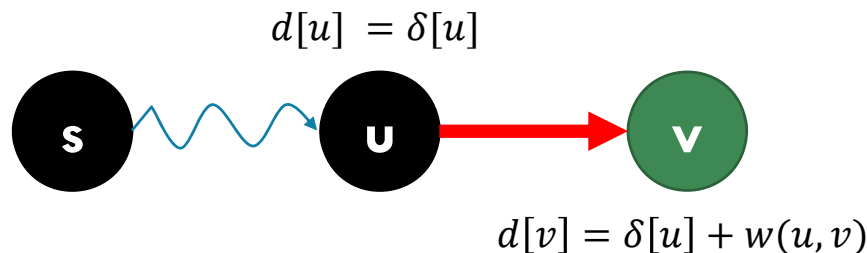
RELAXATION: CONVERGENCE PROPERTY

Lemma 5: If

- $s \rightsquigarrow u \rightarrow v$ is a shortest path from s to v and
- $d[u] = \delta[u]$ before relaxing edge (u, v) ,

then $d[v] = \delta[v]$ **at all times after relaxing**

$$\begin{aligned}
 d[v] &\leq d[u] + w(u, v) \\
 &= \delta[u] + w(u, v)
 \end{aligned}$$



```

relax(int u, int v)
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);

```

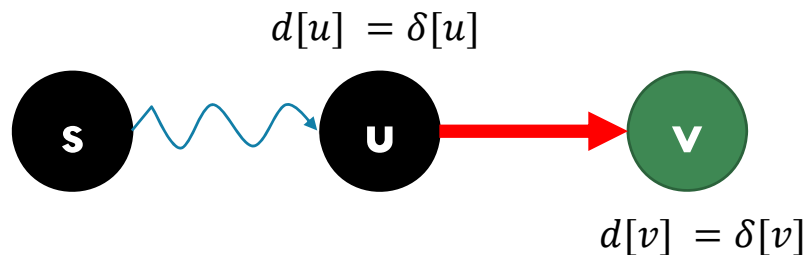
RELAXATION: CONVERGENCE PROPERTY

Lemma 5: If

- $s \rightsquigarrow u \rightarrow v$ is a shortest path from s to v and
- $d[u] = \delta[u]$ before relaxing edge (u, v) ,

then $d[v] = \delta[v]$ **at all times after relaxing**

$$\begin{aligned}
 d[v] &\leq d[u] + w(u, v) \\
 &= \delta[u] + w(u, v) \\
 &= \delta[v]
 \end{aligned}$$



```

relax(int u, int v)
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);

```

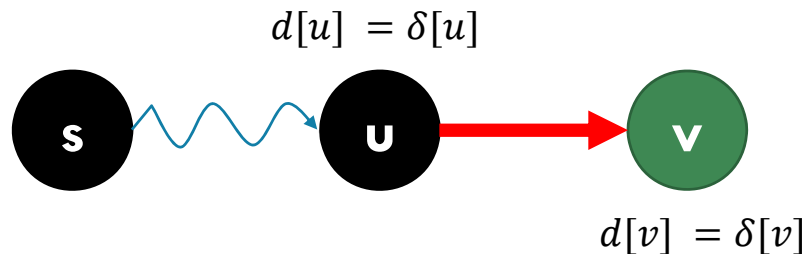
RELAXATION: CONVERGENCE PROPERTY

Lemma 5: If

- $s \rightsquigarrow u \rightarrow v$ is a shortest path from s to v and
- $d[u] = \delta[u]$ before relaxing edge (u, v) ,

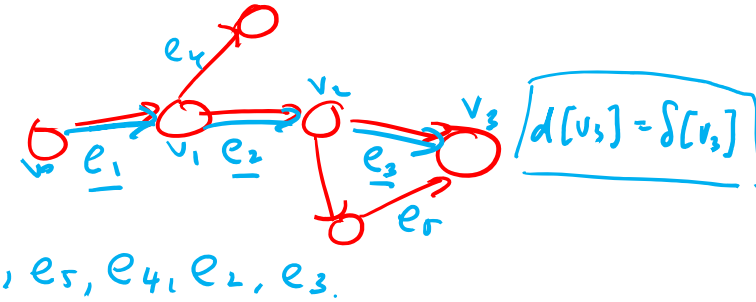
then $d[v] = \delta[v]$ **at all times after relaxing**

$$\begin{aligned}
 d[v] &\leq d[u] + w(u, v) \\
 &= \delta[u] + w(u, v) \\
 &= \delta[v]
 \end{aligned}$$



By Lemma 3 (upper bound property), $d[v] = \delta[v]$ is maintained and never changes ■

PATH RELAXATION PROPERTY



Lemma 6. If $p = (\underline{v_0}, \underline{v_1}, \dots, \underline{v_k})$ is a shortest path from $\underline{s} = \underline{v_0}$ to $\underline{v_k}$ and we relax the edges of p in the order

$$(\underline{v_0}, \underline{v_1}), (\underline{v_1}, \underline{v_2}), \dots, (\underline{v_{k-1}}, \underline{v_k})$$

Then $\underline{d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]}$. *correct*

This property holds **regardless of any other relaxation steps that occur** (even intermixed)

- E.g., $(v_0, v_1), (\underline{v_i}, \underline{v_j}), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ will still result in $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$.

PROOF (SKETCH) BY INDUCTION

Lemma 5. If $p = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k)$ is a shortest path from $s = v_0$ to v_k and we relax the edges of p in the order $(v_0, v_1), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ Then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$.

Consider the shortest path p from source vertex s to v_k

Show: After the k -th edge is relaxed, $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$

Proof Strategy: (like recursion)

- *Base case:* Show the statement is true for $k = 0$
- *Inductive hypothesis:* Assume the statement is true for some $k - 1$
- *Inductive step:* Show the statement holds for k

PROOF (SKETCH) BY INDUCTION

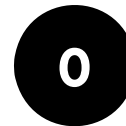
Lemma 5. If $p = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k)$ is a shortest path from $s = v_0$ to v_k and we relax the edges of p in the order $(v_0, v_1), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ Then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$.

Consider the **shortest path** p from source vertex v_0 to v_k

Show: After the k -th edge is relaxed, $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$

Base Case:

$$D[v_0] = \delta[v_0] = 0$$



$$d[v_0] = \delta[v_0] = 0$$

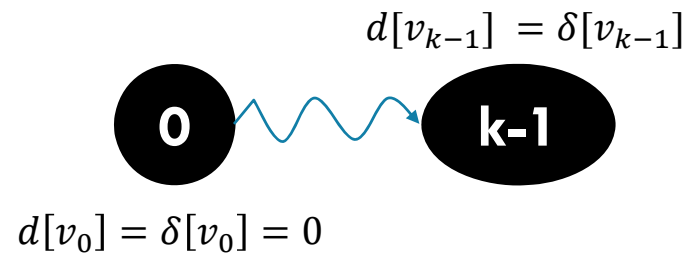
PROOF (SKETCH) BY INDUCTION

Lemma 5. If $p = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k)$ is a shortest path from $s = v_0$ to v_k and we relax the edges of p in the order $(v_0, v_1), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ Then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$.

Inductive hypothesis:

Assume:

$$d[v_{k-1}] = \delta[v_{k-1}]$$



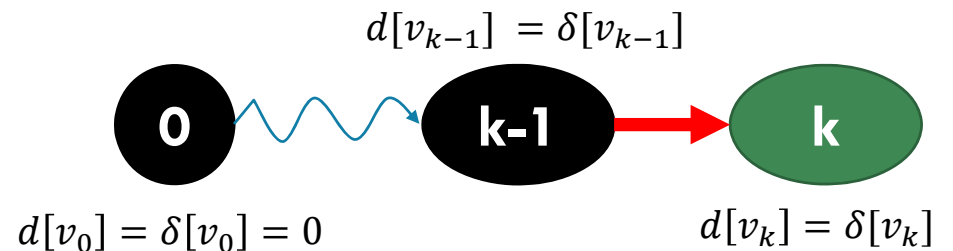
PROOF (SKETCH) BY INDUCTION

Lemma 5. If $p = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k)$ is a shortest path from $s = v_0$ to v_k and we relax the edges of p in the order $(v_0, v_1), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ Then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$.

Inductive step: (Show for step k)

v_k is reachable from v_{k-1} where

$$d[v_{k-1}] = \delta[v_{k-1}]$$



PROOF (SKETCH) BY INDUCTION

Lemma 5. If $p = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k)$ is a shortest path from $s = v_0$ to v_k and we relax the edges of p in the order $(v_0, v_1), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ Then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$.

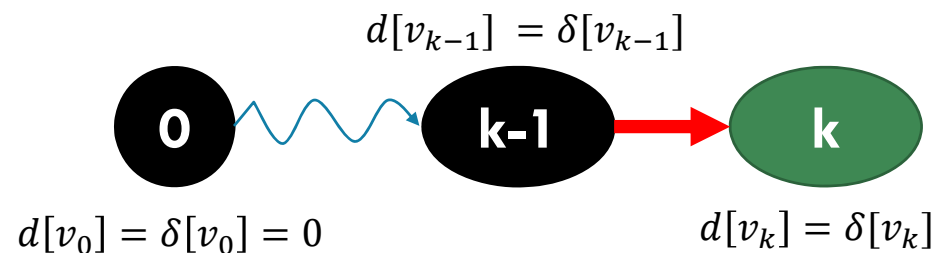
Inductive step: (Show for step k)

v_k is reachable from v_{k-1} where

$$d[v_{k-1}] = \delta[v_{k-1}]$$

When we relax $e = (v_{k-1}, v_k)$

$$\begin{aligned} d[v_k] &= \delta[v_{k-1}] + w(e) \\ &= \delta[v_k] \end{aligned}$$



PROOF (SKETCH) BY INDUCTION

Lemma 5. If $p = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k)$ is a shortest path from $s = v_0$ to v_k and we relax the edges of p in the order $(v_0, v_1), (v_1, v_2), \dots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$ Then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$.

Inductive step: (Show for step k)

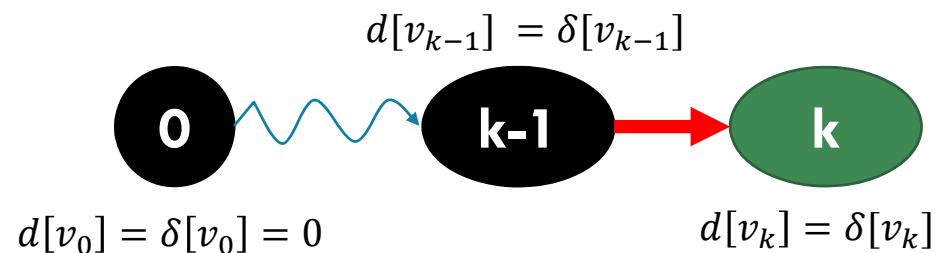
v_k is reachable from v_{k-1} where

$$d[v_{k-1}] = \delta[v_{k-1}]$$

When we relax $e = (v_{k-1}, v_k)$

$$\begin{aligned} d[v_k] &= \delta[v_{k-1}] + w(e) \\ &= \delta[v_k] \end{aligned}$$

And by convergence property, after relaxation, the equality is maintained. ■



LET'S SUMMARIZE:

Assuming no negative cycles:

The shortest path must be a simple path

When performing relaxations:

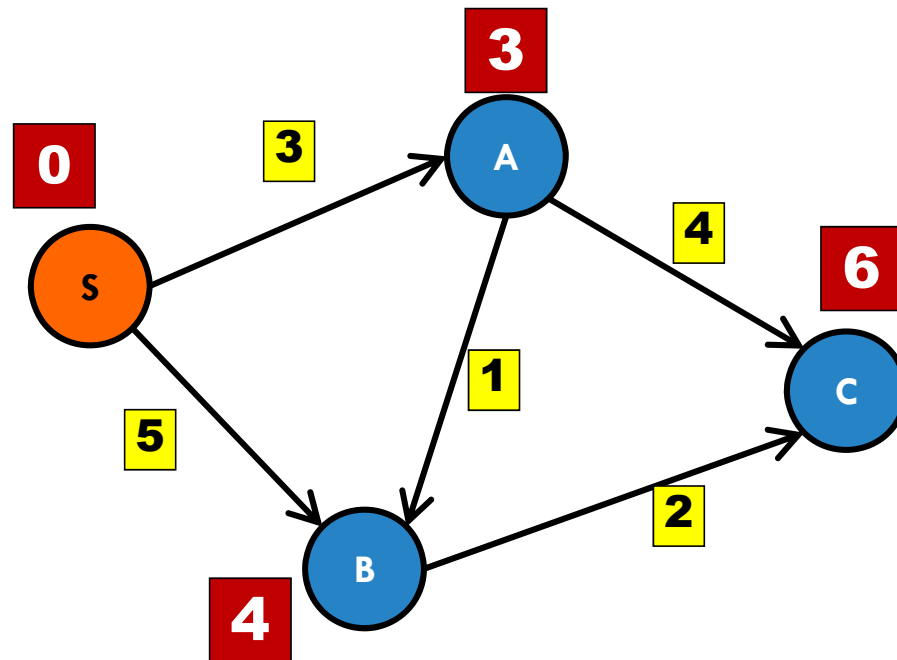
- **Upper-Bound Property:** Once a shortest path estimate $d[v_i]$ is correct, $d[v_i] = \delta[v_i]$, it never changes.
- **Convergence Property:** For a shortest path $v_0 \rightsquigarrow v_{k-1} \rightarrow v_k$, if the estimate $d[v_{k-1}]$ is correct, then after relaxing (v_{k-1}, v_k) , the estimate $d[v_k]$ will also be correct (forever).
- **Path Relaxation Property:** If p is a shortest path from v_0 to v_k , then once we relax the edges of p in order, then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$

SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

```
for Edge e in graph  
    relax(e)
```





SHORTEST PATHS

Maintain estimate for each distance:

```
for Edge e in graph  
    relax(e)
```

Does this algorithm always work?

- A. Yes!
- B. No!
- C. Maybe yes, maybe no...
- D. Hmm.. I would ask Naruto but he hasn't appeared for a while...



SHORTEST PATHS

Maintain estimate for each distance:

for Edge e in graph

`relax(e)`

Does this algorithm always work?

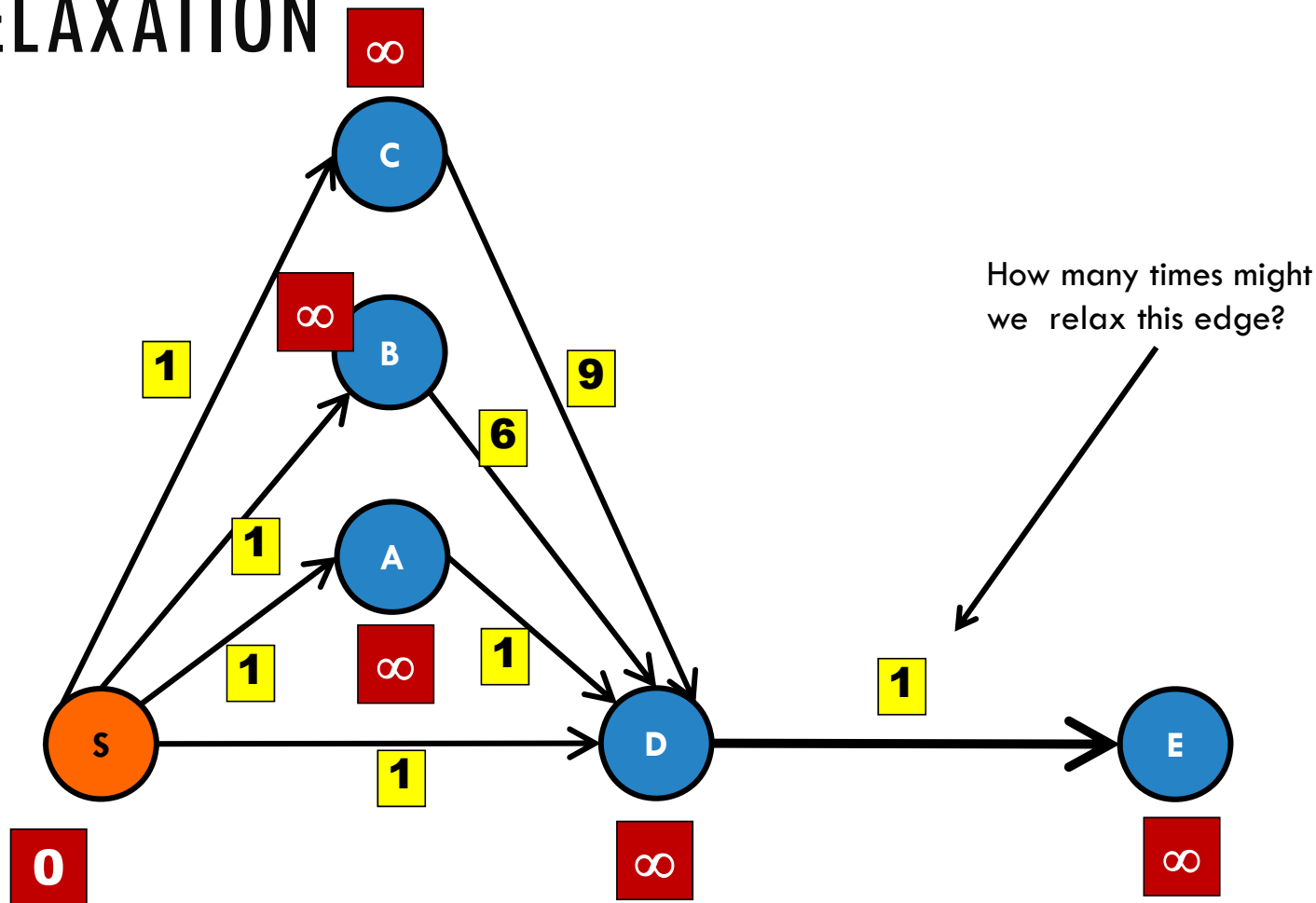
A. Yes!

B. No!

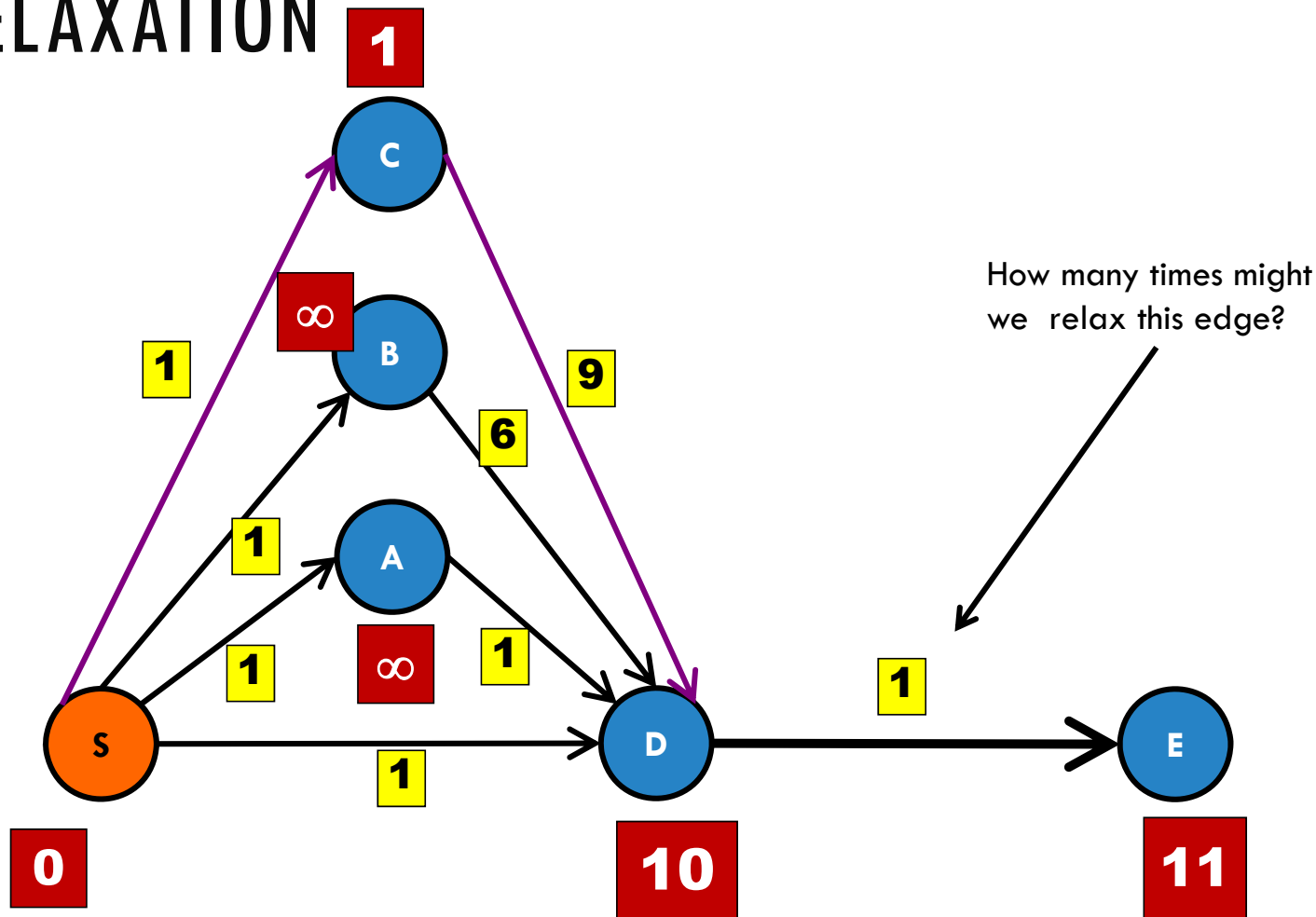
C. Maybe yes, maybe no...

D. Hmm.. I would ask Naruto but he hasn't appeared for a while...

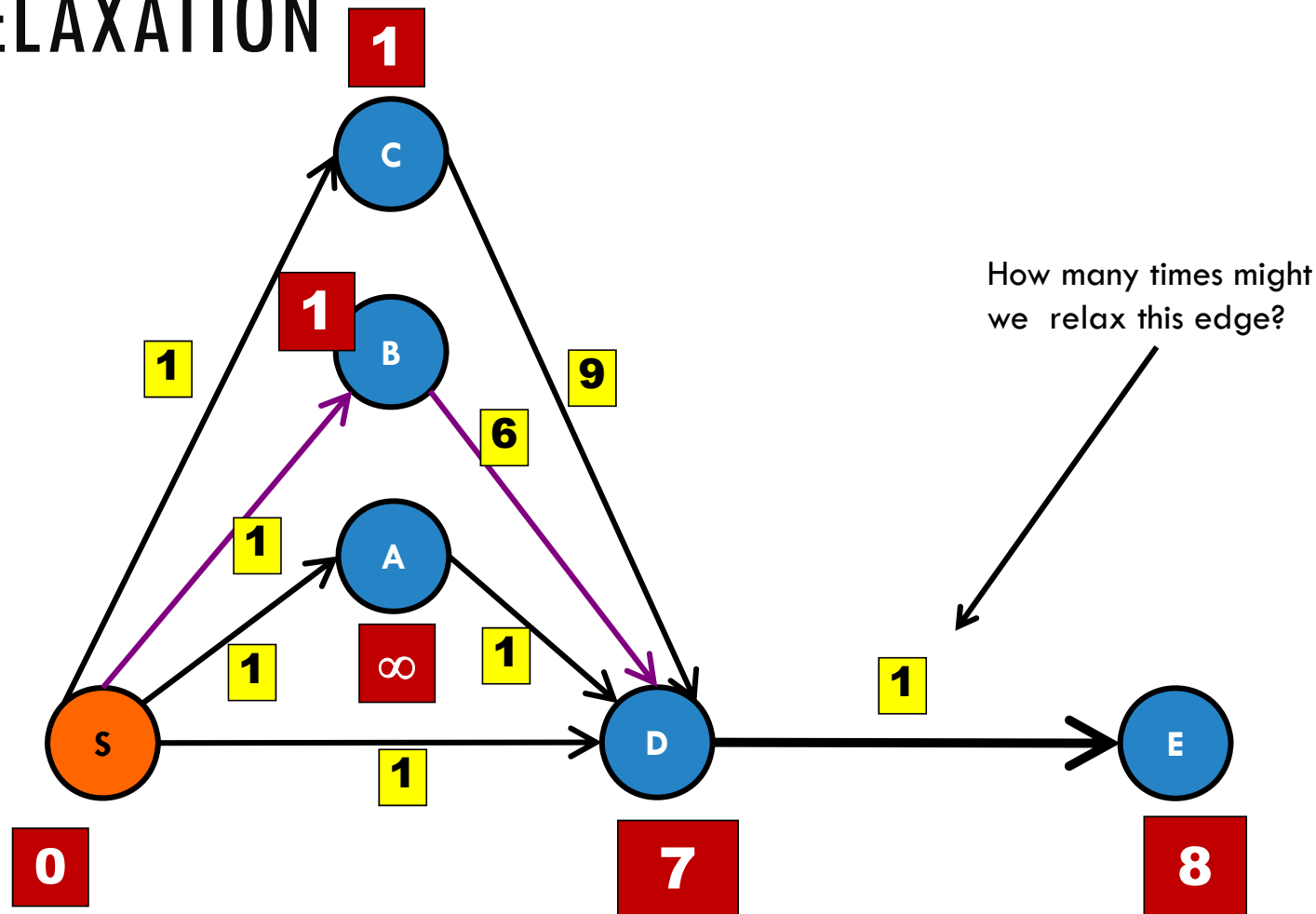
RELAXATION



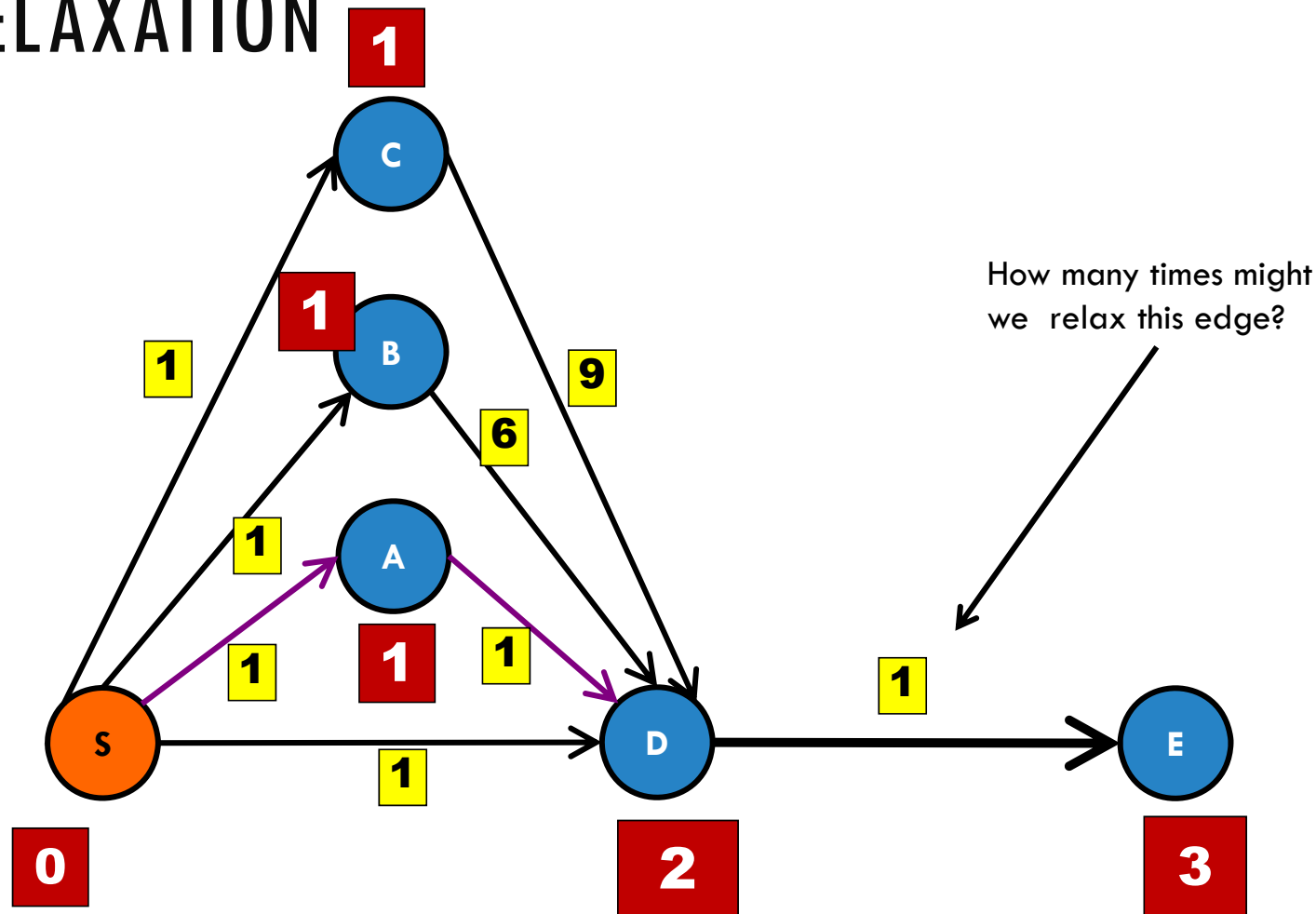
RELAXATION



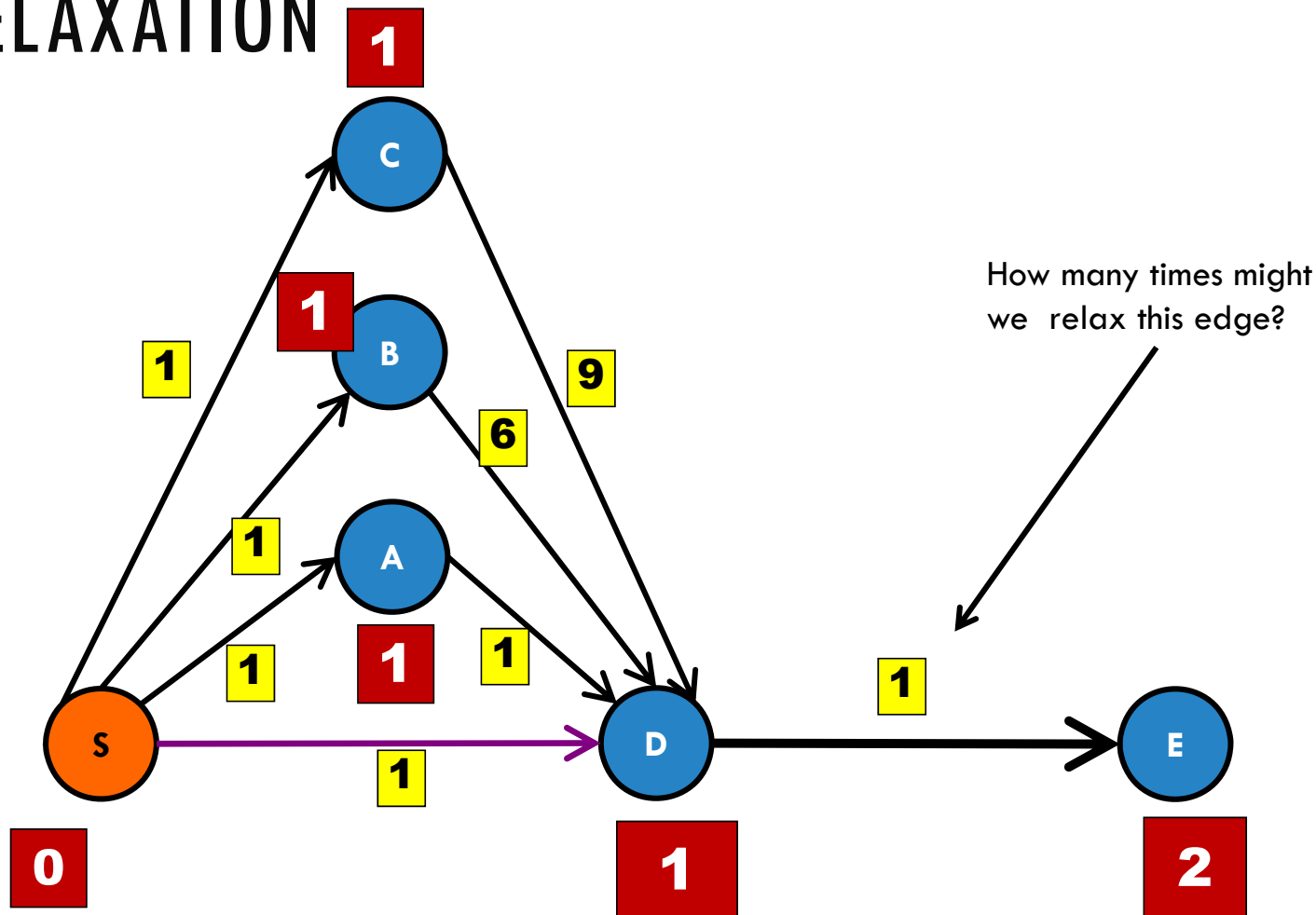
RELAXATION



RELAXATION



RELAXATION



HOW MANY TIMES MUST I RELAX?

Assuming no negative cycles:

The shortest path must be a simple path

When performing relaxations:

- **Upper-Bound Property:** Once a shortest path estimate $d[v_i]$ is correct, $d[v_i] = \delta[v_i]$, it never changes.
- **Convergence Property:** For a shortest path $v_0 \rightsquigarrow v_{k-1} \rightarrow v_k$, if the estimate $d[v_{k-1}]$ is correct, then after relaxing (v_{k-1}, v_k) , the estimate $d[v_k]$ will also be correct (forever).
- **Path Relaxation Property:** If p is a shortest path from v_0 to v_k , then once we relax the edges of p in order, then $d[v_k] = \delta[v_k]$

SIMPLE PATHS

Lemma 2: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **no negative weight cycles**, then the shortest path p from source vertex s to a vertex v is a **simple path**.

A **simple path** is defined as path $p = \{v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ where $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E, \forall 0 \leq i \leq (k - 1)$ and there is **no** repeated vertex along this path.

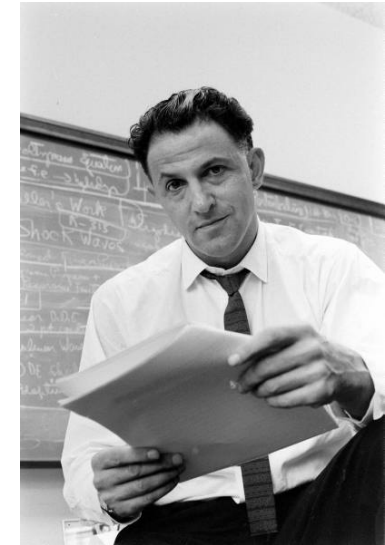
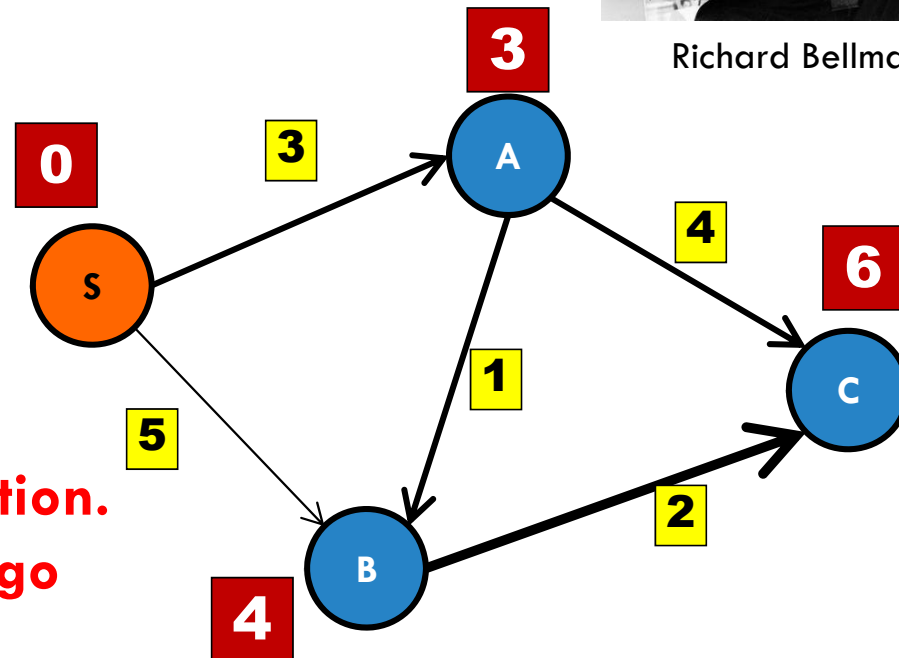
This means that the shortest path can have at most $|V| - 1$ edges

BELLMAN-FORD ALGORITHM

```
n = V.length
for i = 1 to n-1
  for Edge e in Graph
    relax(e)
```

**Does Bellman-Ford
always work?**

**Yes! Because of Path Relaxation.
Proof by Induction in Visualgo**

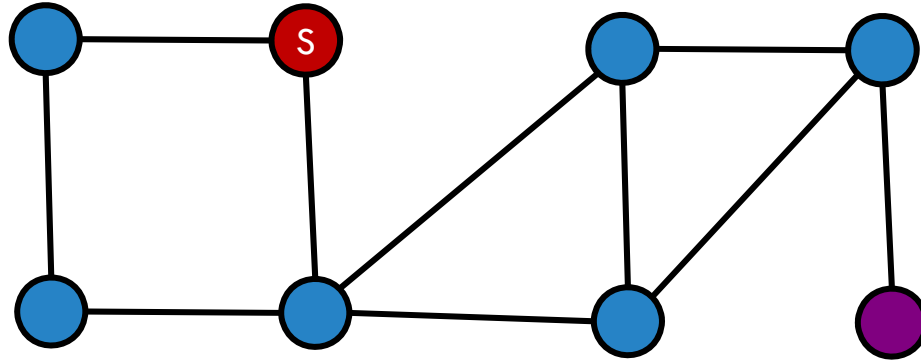


Richard Bellman

WHY DOES BELLMAN FORD WORK?

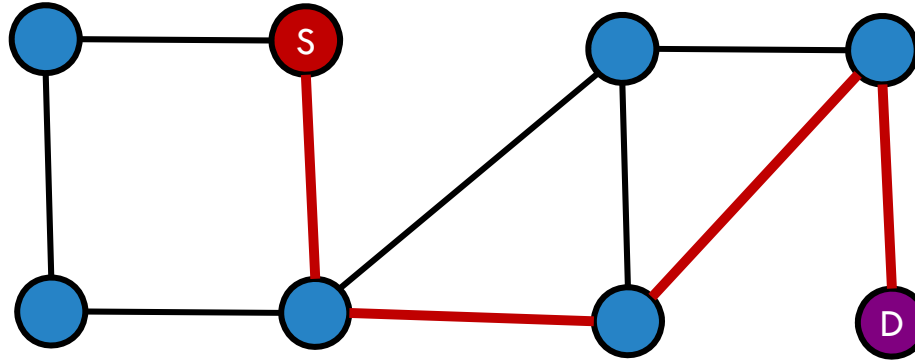
Theorem 1: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **no negative weight cycle**, then after Bellman Ford's algorithm terminates, we will have $D[u] = \delta(s, u), \forall u \in V$.

WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?



WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?

```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```

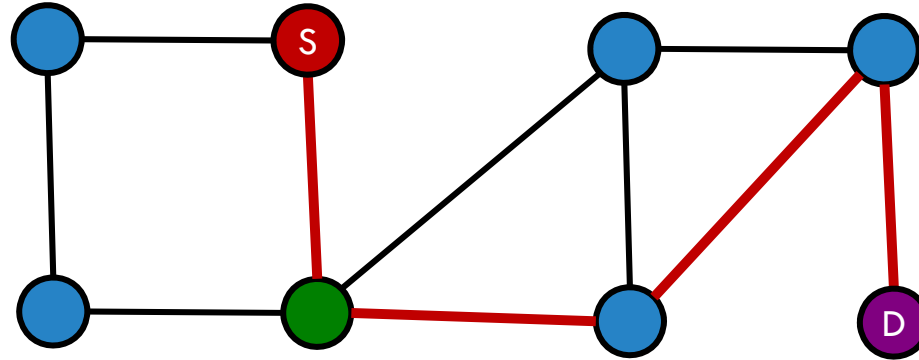


Look at minimum weight path from S to D.

(Path is simple: no loops.)

WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?

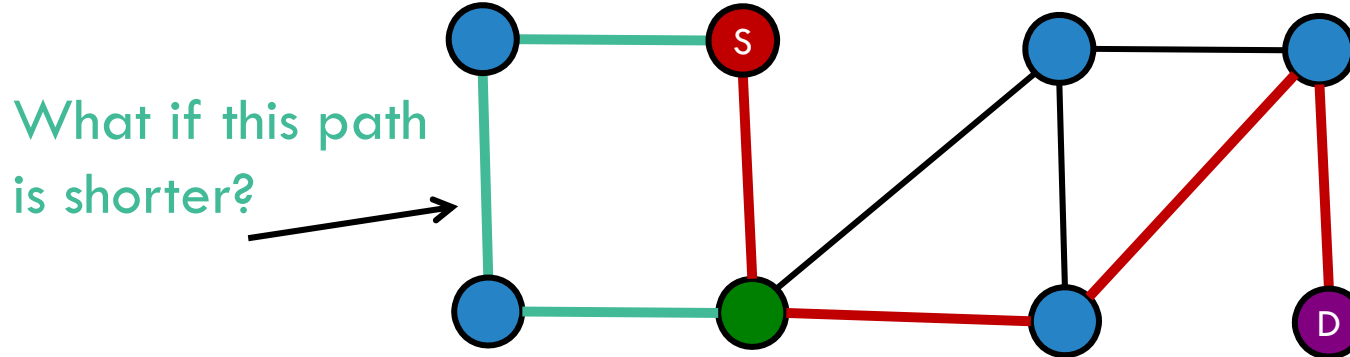
```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```



After 1 iteration, 1 hop estimate is correct. (**Path Relaxation**)
meaning: All shortest paths that are 1 hop long are now correct

WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?

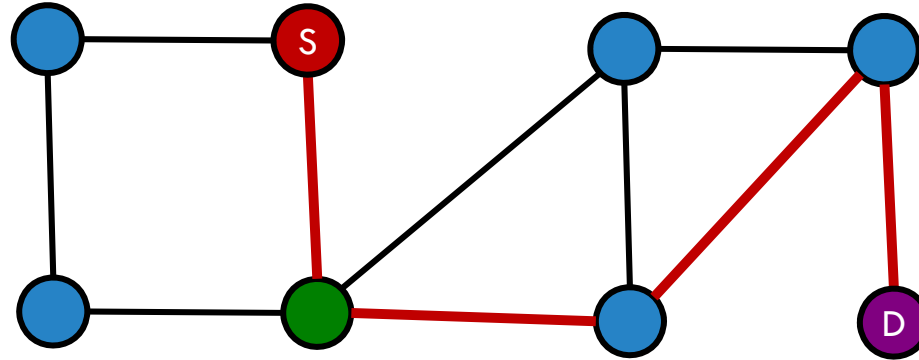
```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```



After 1 iteration, 1 hop estimate is correct. (**Path Relaxation**)

WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?

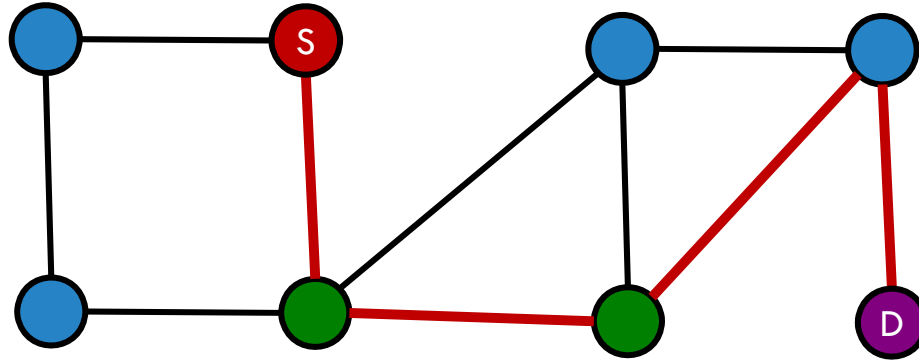
```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```



After 1 iteration, 1 hop estimate is correct. (**Path Relaxation**)

WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?

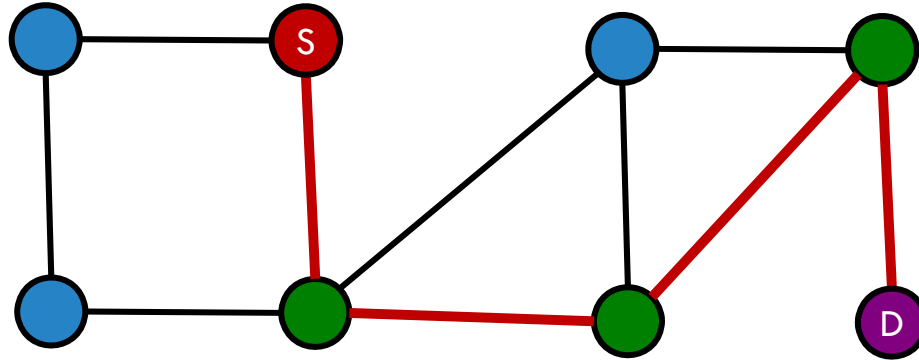
```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```



After 2 iterations, 2 hop estimate is correct. (**Path Relaxation**)

WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?

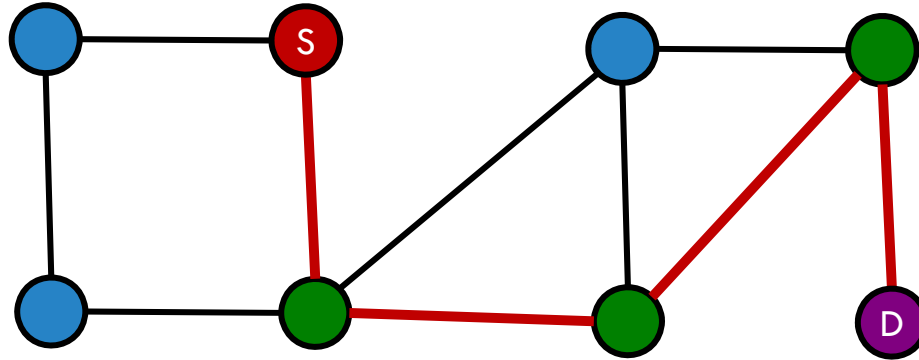
```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```



After 3 iterations, 3 hop estimate is correct. (**Path Relaxation**)

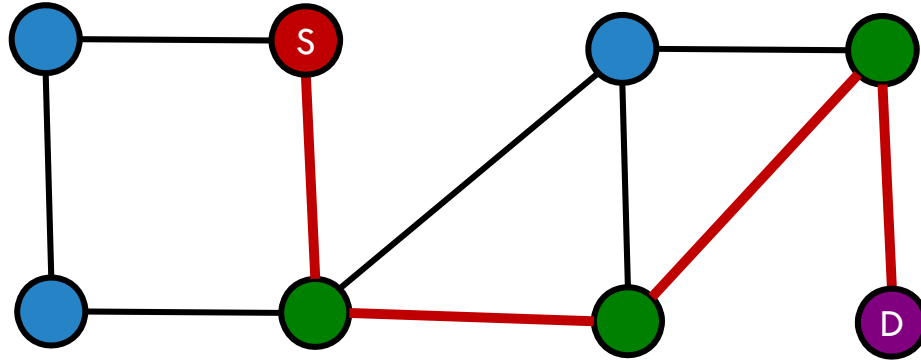
WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?

```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```



After 4 iterations, D estimate is correct. (**Path Relaxation**)

WHY DOES BELLMAN-FORD WORK?



Keep running till $V-1$ and Bellman-Ford finds shortest paths from s to all other nodes!

BELLMAN-FORD WORKS.

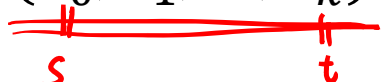
```
BellmanFord(V,E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```

Theorem 1: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **no negative weight cycles**, then after Bellman Ford's algorithm terminates, we will have $D[u] = \delta(s, u), \forall u \in V$.

Proof Sketch (Direct):

Given source s and any destination t

Let $p = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k)$ be the shortest path from s to t



Theorem 1: If $G = (V, E)$ contains **no negative weight cycles**, then after Bellman Ford's algorithm terminates, we will have $D[v] = \delta(s, u), \forall u \in V$.

```
BellmanFord(V, E)
  n = V.length
  for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in E
      relax(e)
```

Proof Sketch (Direct):

How long can p be? $k \leq |V| - 1$

What happens at each iteration?

In each iteration, we relax all $|E|$ edges.

Within the $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ iteration, we relax $(\underline{v_{i-1}}, \underline{v_i})$

By the path relaxation property, after $|V| - 1$ iterations,
 $d[t = v_k] = \delta[t = v_k]$ ■



WHAT IS THE RUNNING TIME OF BELLMAN-FORD?

```
n = V.length
for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in Graph
        relax(e)
```

$|V|$
 $|E|$
 $\mathcal{O}(|V||E|)$

What is the running time of Bellman-Ford?

- A. $O(V)$
- B. $O(E)$
- C. $O(V + E)$
- D. $O(VE)$
- E. $O(E \log V)$
- F. I have no idea.



WHAT IS THE RUNNING TIME OF BELLMAN-FORD?

```
n = V.length
for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in Graph
        relax(e)
```

What is the running time of Bellman-Ford?

- A. $O(V)$
- B. $O(E)$
- C. $O(V + E)$
- D. $O(VE)$**
- E. $O(E \log V)$
- F. I have no idea.



EARLY TERMINATION?

```
n = V.length
for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in Graph
        relax(e)
```

When can we terminate early?

- A. When a relax operation has no effect.
- B. When two consecutive relax operations have no effect.
- C. When an entire sequence of $|E|$ relax operations have no effect.
- D. Never. Only after $|V|$ complete iterations.



EARLY TERMINATION?

```
n = V.length
for i = 1 to n-1
    for Edge e in Graph
        relax(e)
```

When can we terminate early?

- A. When a relax operation has no effect.
- B. When two consecutive relax operations have no effect.
- C. When an entire sequence of $|E|$ relax operations have no effect.
- D. Never. Only after $|V|$ complete iterations.

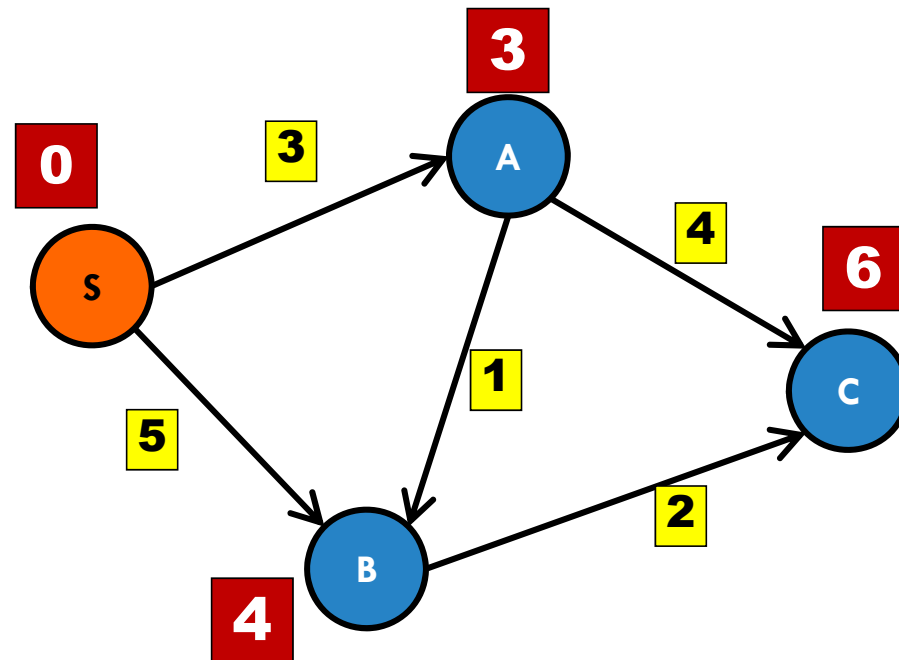
SHORTEST PATHS

```
relax(int u, int v){  
    if (dist[v] > dist[u] + weight(u,v))  
        dist[v] = dist[u] + weight(u,v);  
}
```

Maintain estimate for each distance:

```
for Edge e in graph  
    relax(e)
```

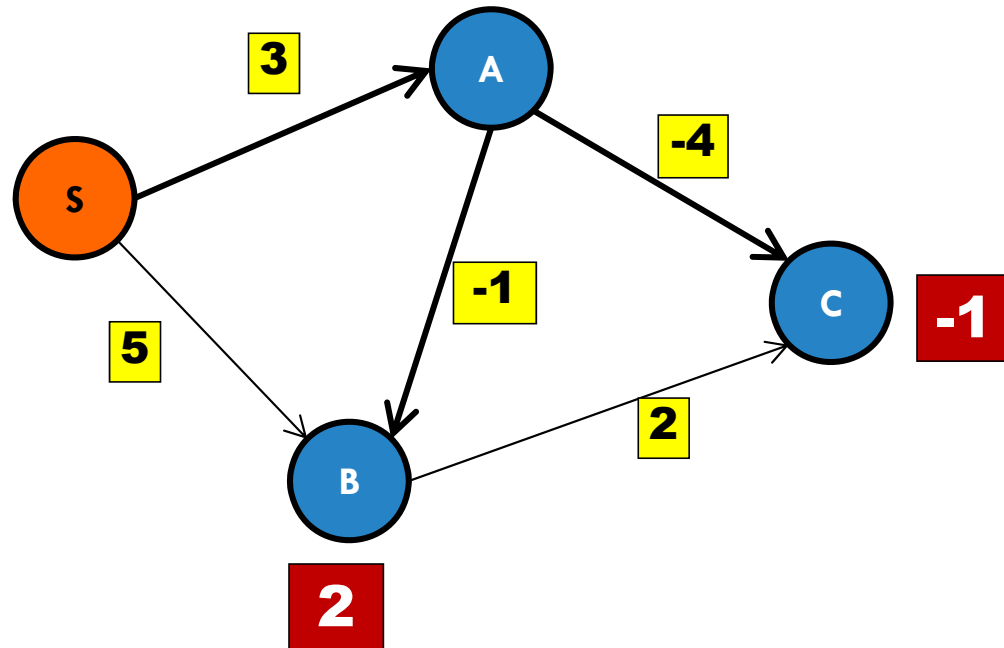
If we relax all the edges and
there is no faster way to get to
any node, we have the shortest
paths!



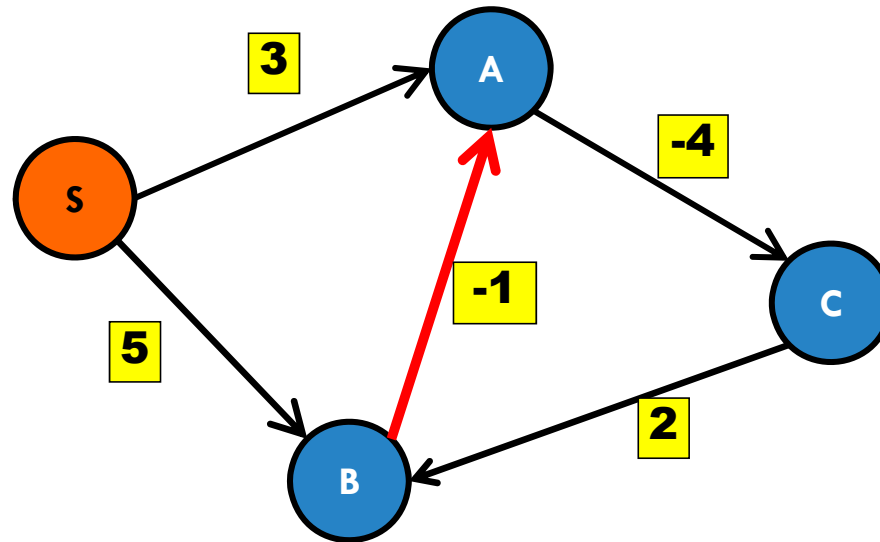
NEGATIVE EDGE WEIGHTS?

**Bellman-Ford has no
problems with negative
edge weights!**

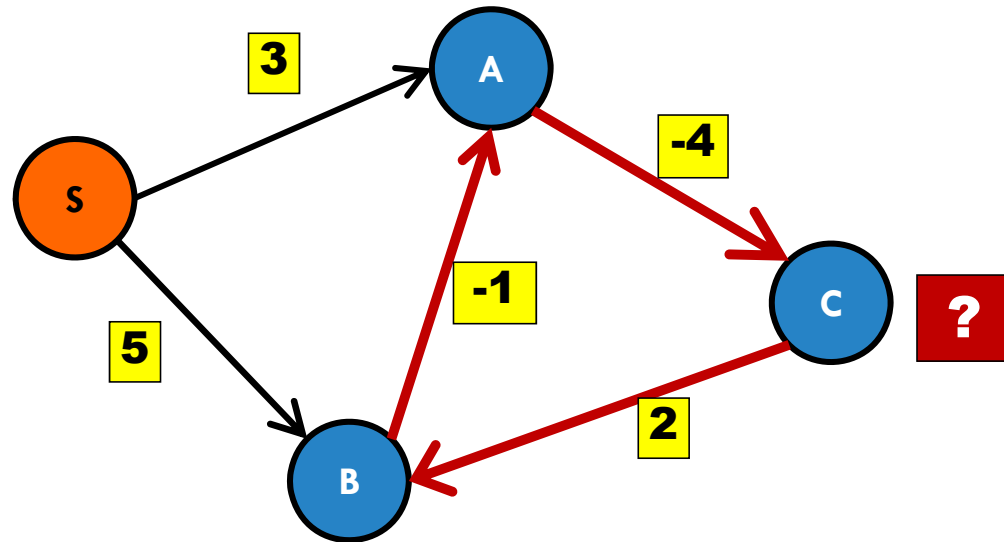
Almost...



WHAT IF THE GRAPH LOOKS LIKE THIS:



NEGATIVE WEIGHT **CYCLE**

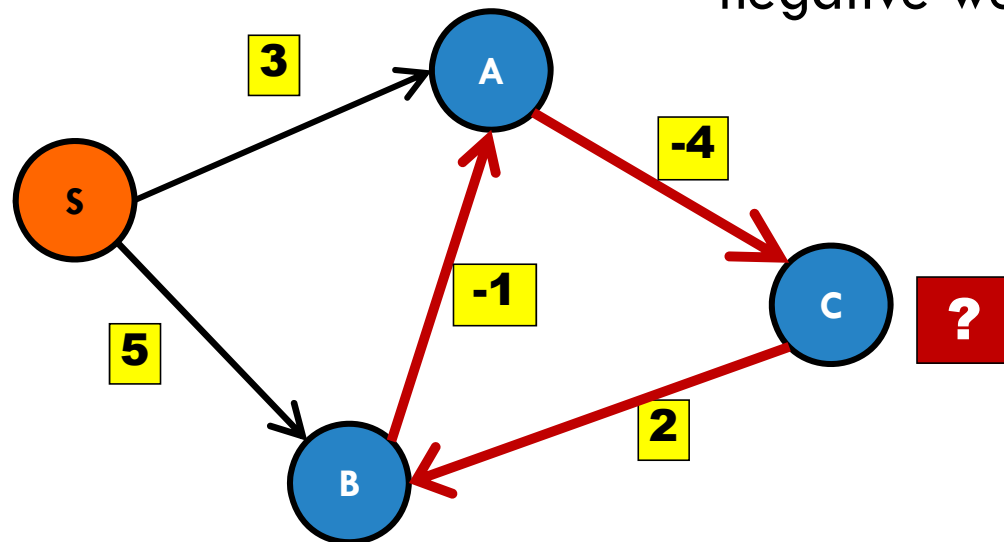


$d(S,C)$ is infinitely negative!

NEGATIVE WEIGHT **CYCLE**

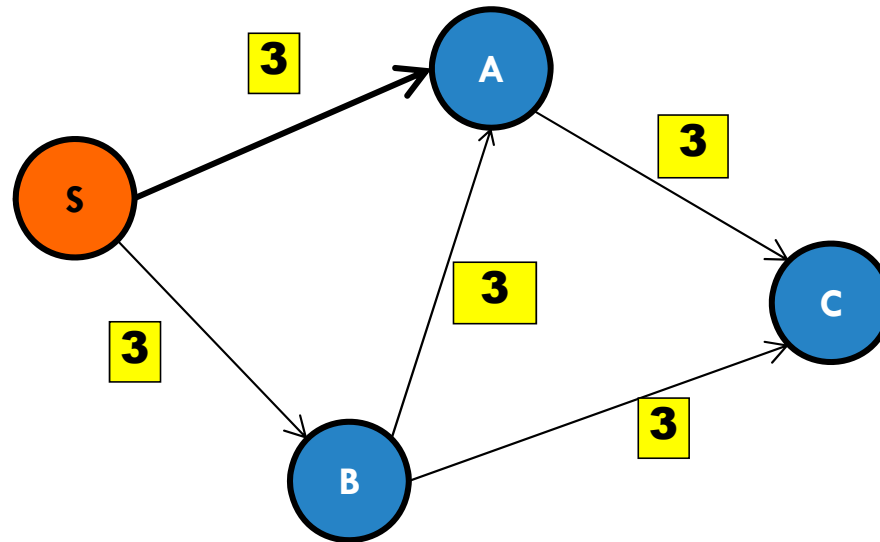
Run Bellman-Ford for $|V|$ iterations.

If an **estimate changes in the last iteration** then negative weight cycle.



How to **detect** negative weight cycles?

SPECIAL CASE:



all edges have the **same weight**: What can we use? **BFS!!!**

SPECIAL CASES

Condition	Algorithm	Time Complexity
No Negative Weight Cycles	Bellman-Ford Algorithm	$O(VE)$
On Unweighted Graph (or equal weights)	BFS	$O(V + E)$
No Negative Weights	Dijkstra's Algorithm	
On Tree	BFS / DFS	
On DAG	Topological Sort	

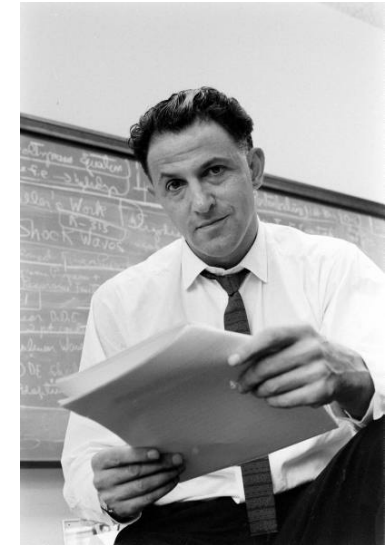
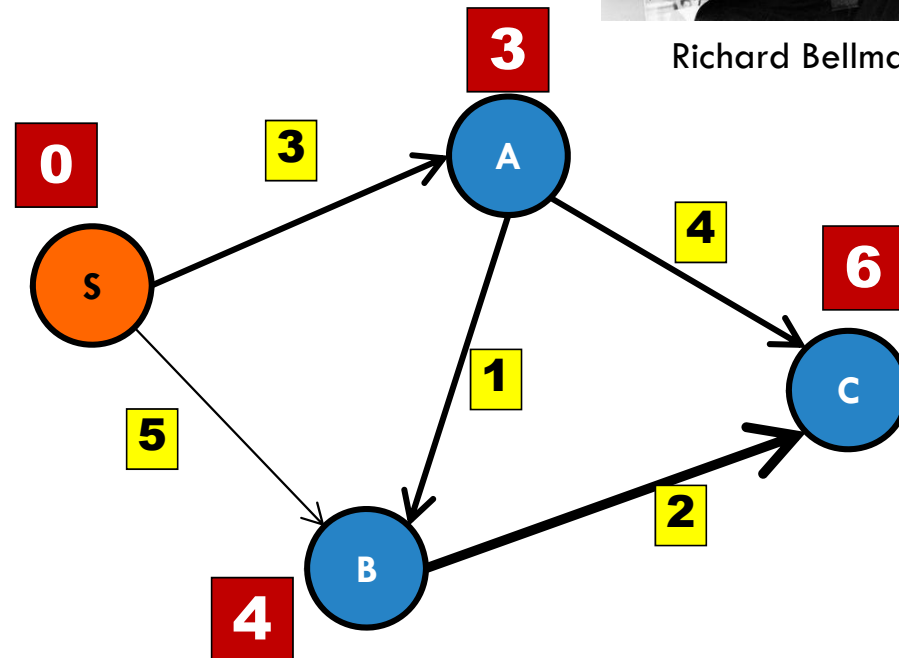
BELLMAN-FORD ALGORITHM

```
n = V.length
```

```
for i = 1 to n-1
```

```
  for Edge e in Graph  
    relax(e)
```

**In what order should
we relax edges?**



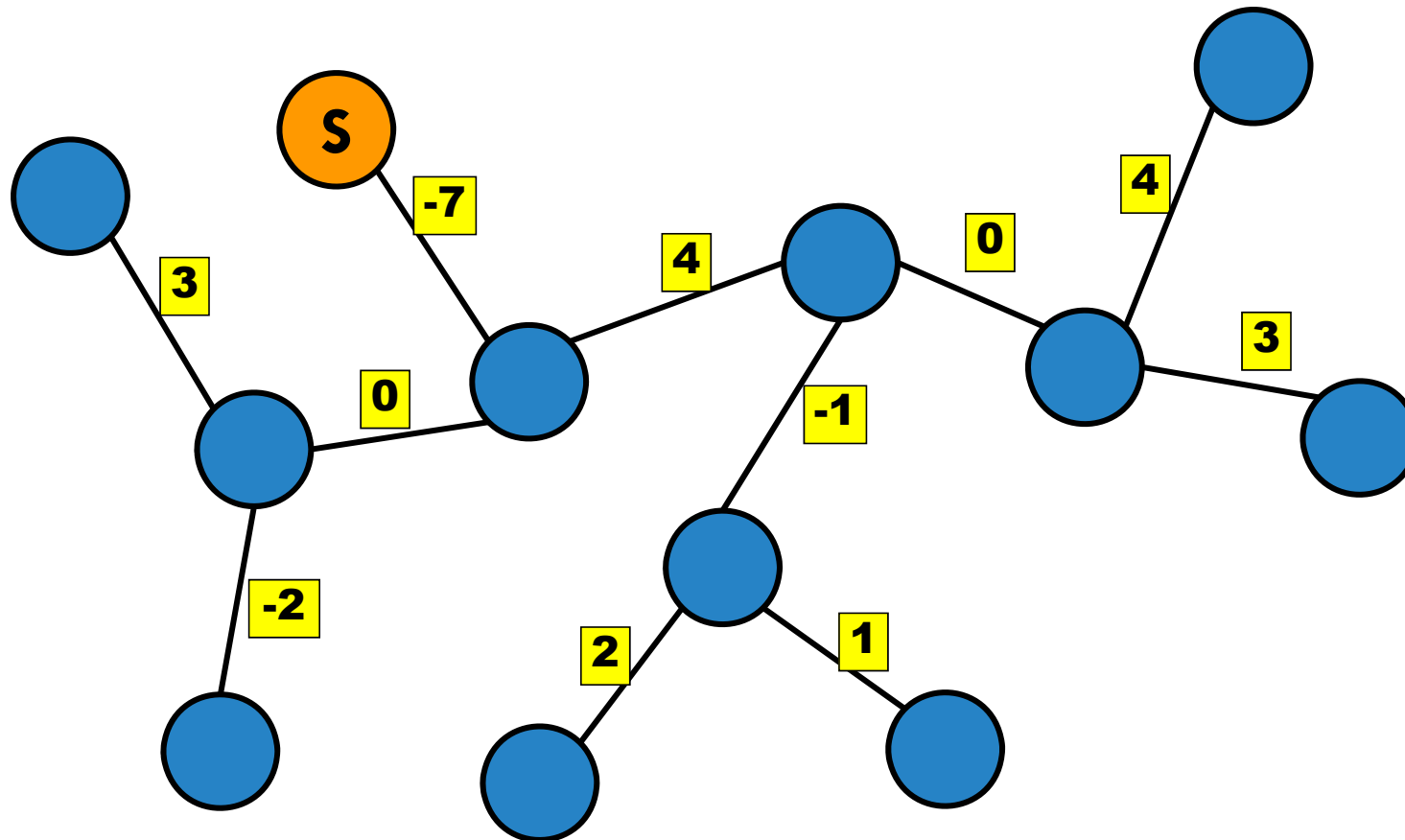
Richard Bellman

SPECIAL CASES

Condition	Algorithm	Time Complexity
No Negative Weight Cycles	Bellman-Ford Algorithm	$O(VE)$
On Unweighted Graph (or equal weights)	BFS	$O(V + E)$
No Negative Weights	Dijkstra's Algorithm	
On Tree	BFS / DFS	
On DAG	Topological Sort	



SPECIAL CASE: UNDIRECTED, WEIGHTED TREE



TREES (REDEFINED)

What is an (undirected) tree?

- A graph with no cycles is an (undirected) tree.

What is a *rooted* tree?

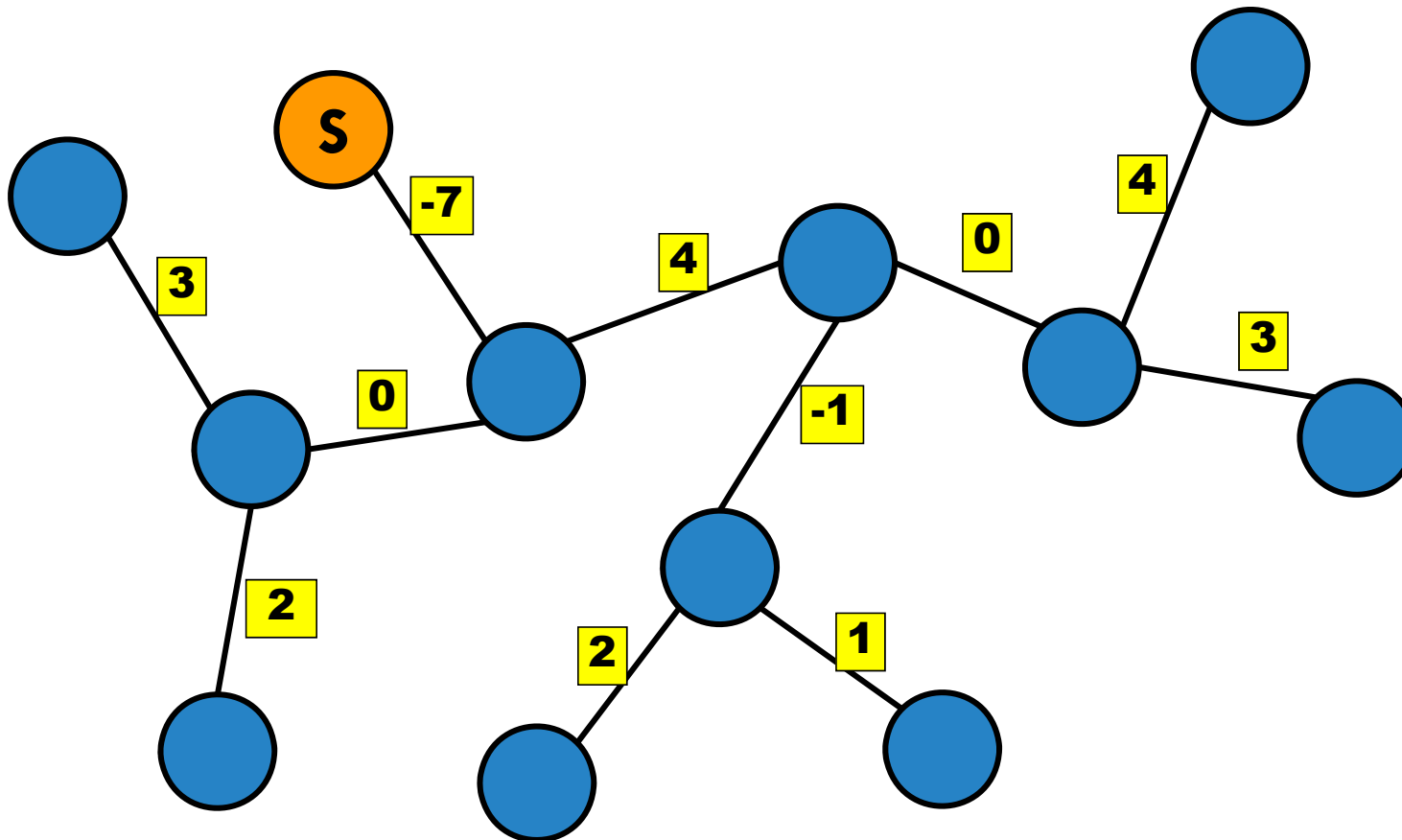
- A tree with a special designated root node.

Our previous (recursive) definition of a *tree*:

- A node with zero, one, or more sub-trees.
- a *rooted* tree.

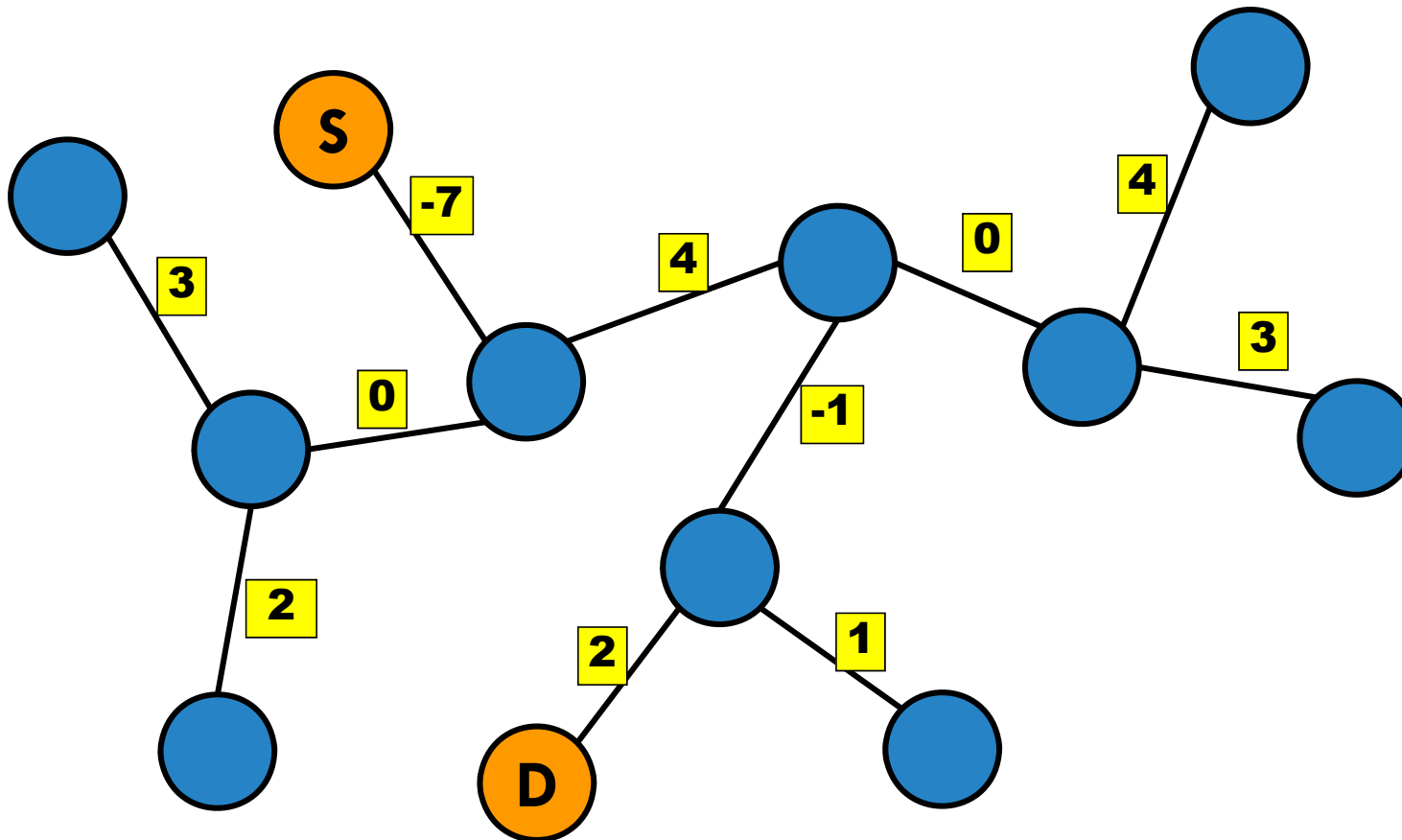
UNDIRECTED WEIGHTED TREE

Assume you can only cross an edge once on your path.



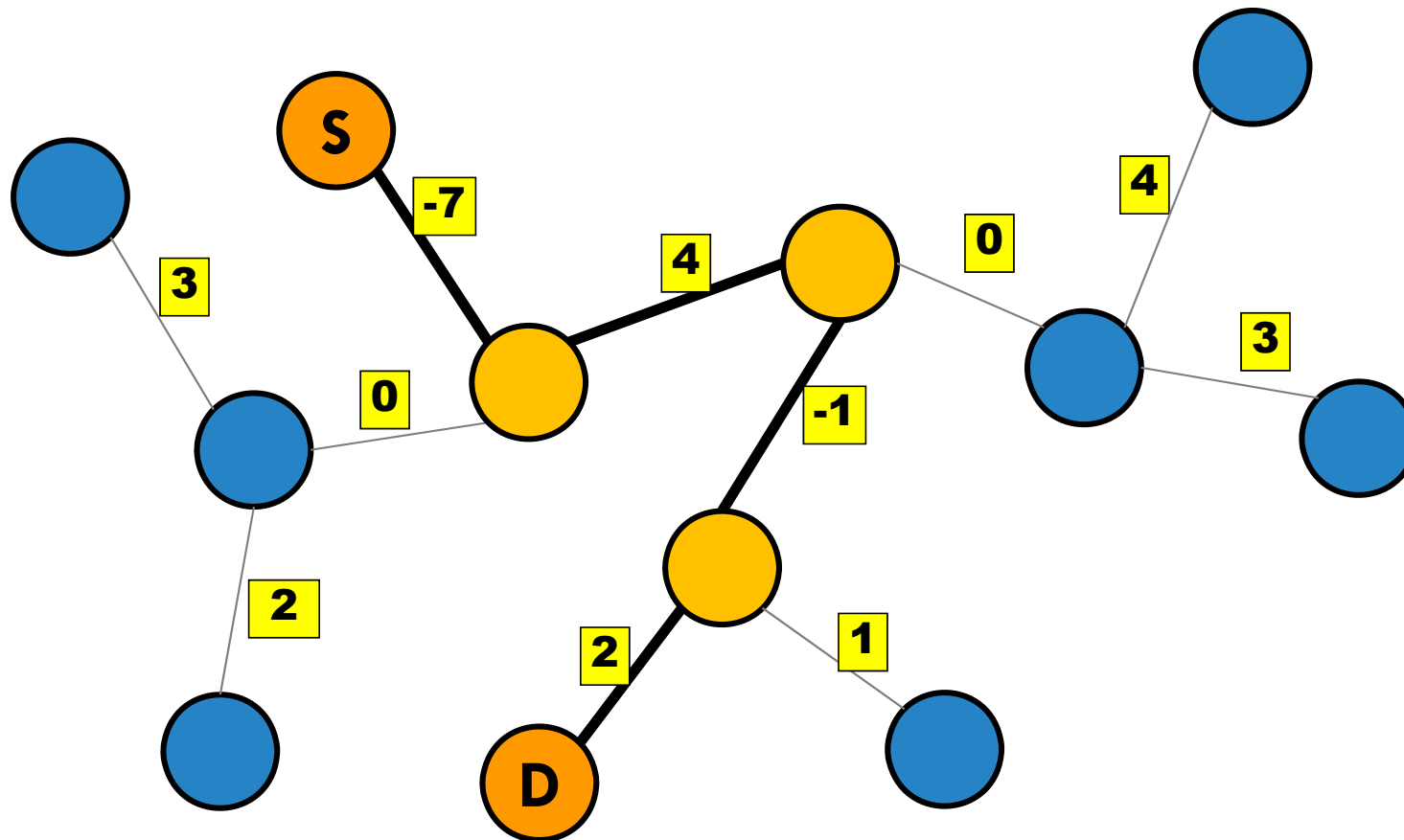
UNDIRECTED WEIGHTED TREE

how many ways to get
from S to D?
(assume no backpedaling)



UNDIRECTED WEIGHTED TREE

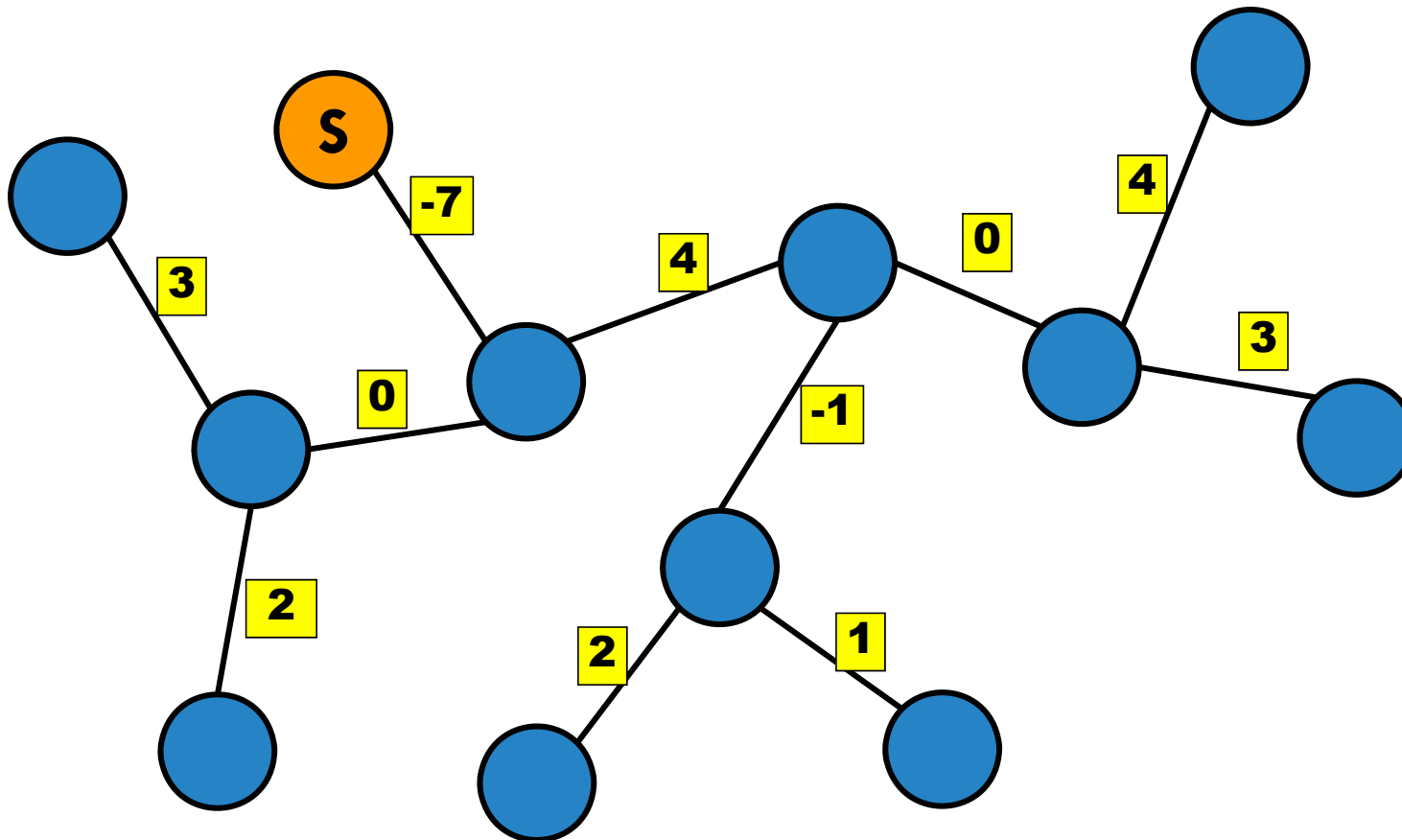
Just 1 way! It's a tree!



TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

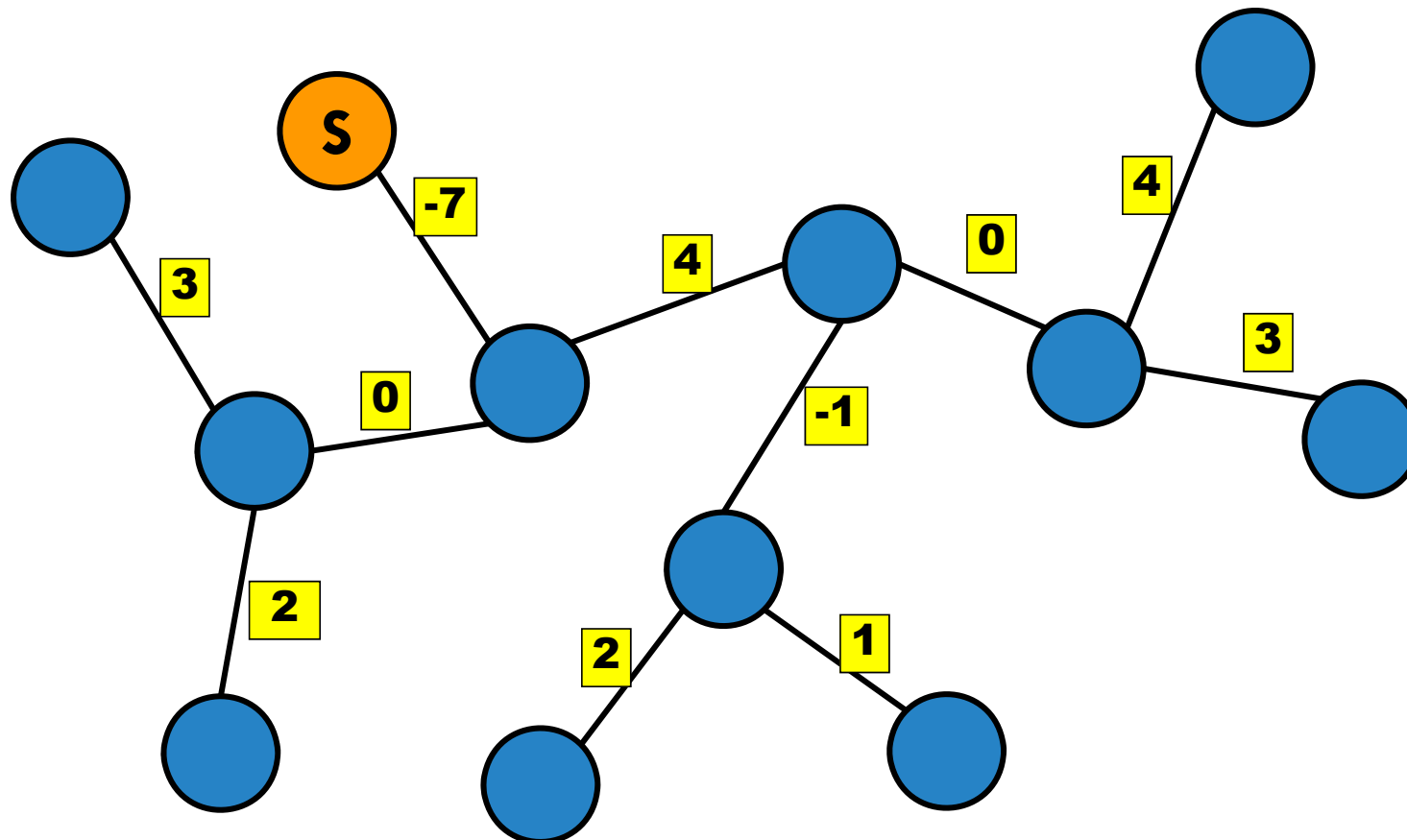
In what order should
we relax the nodes?

Use DFS or BFS



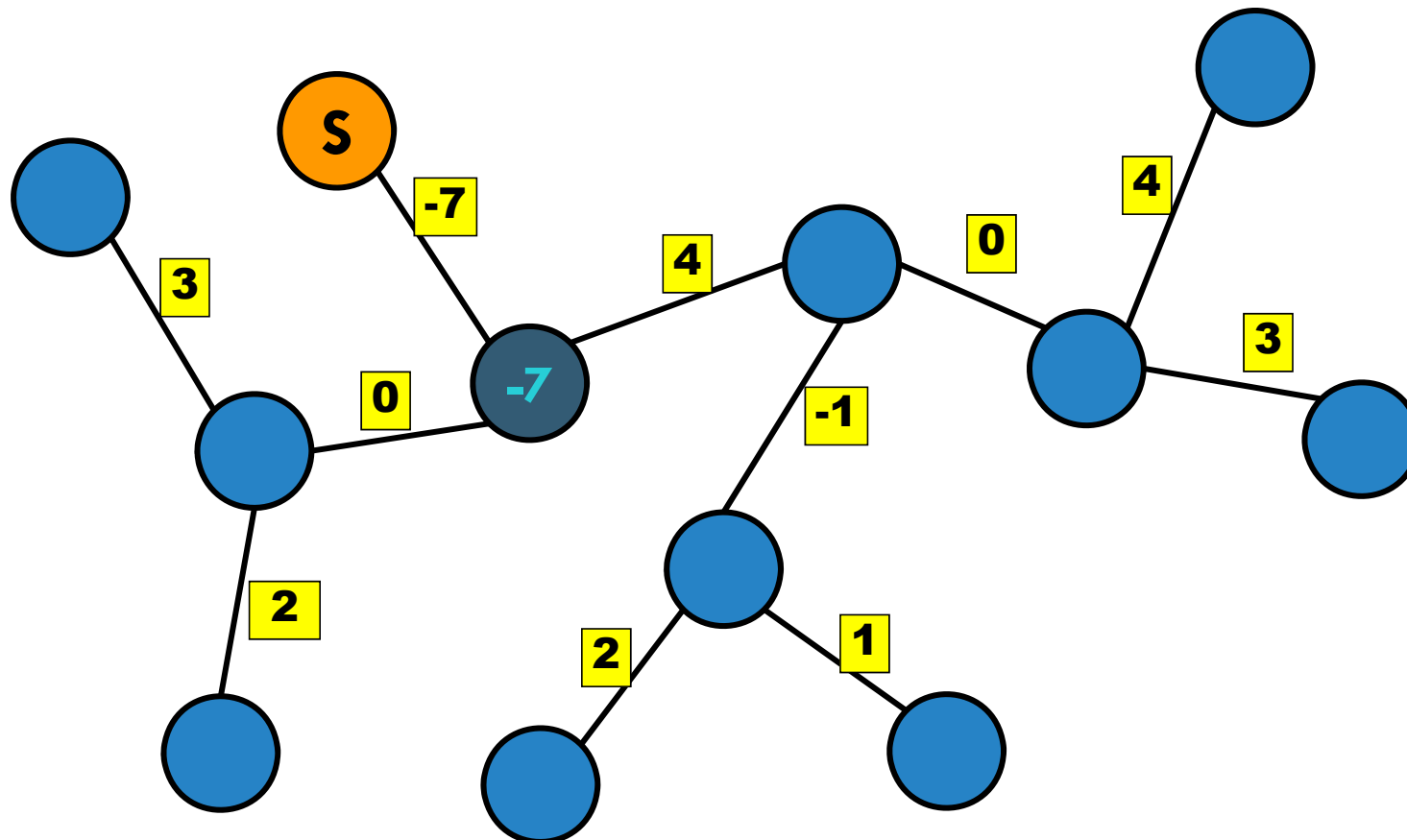
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



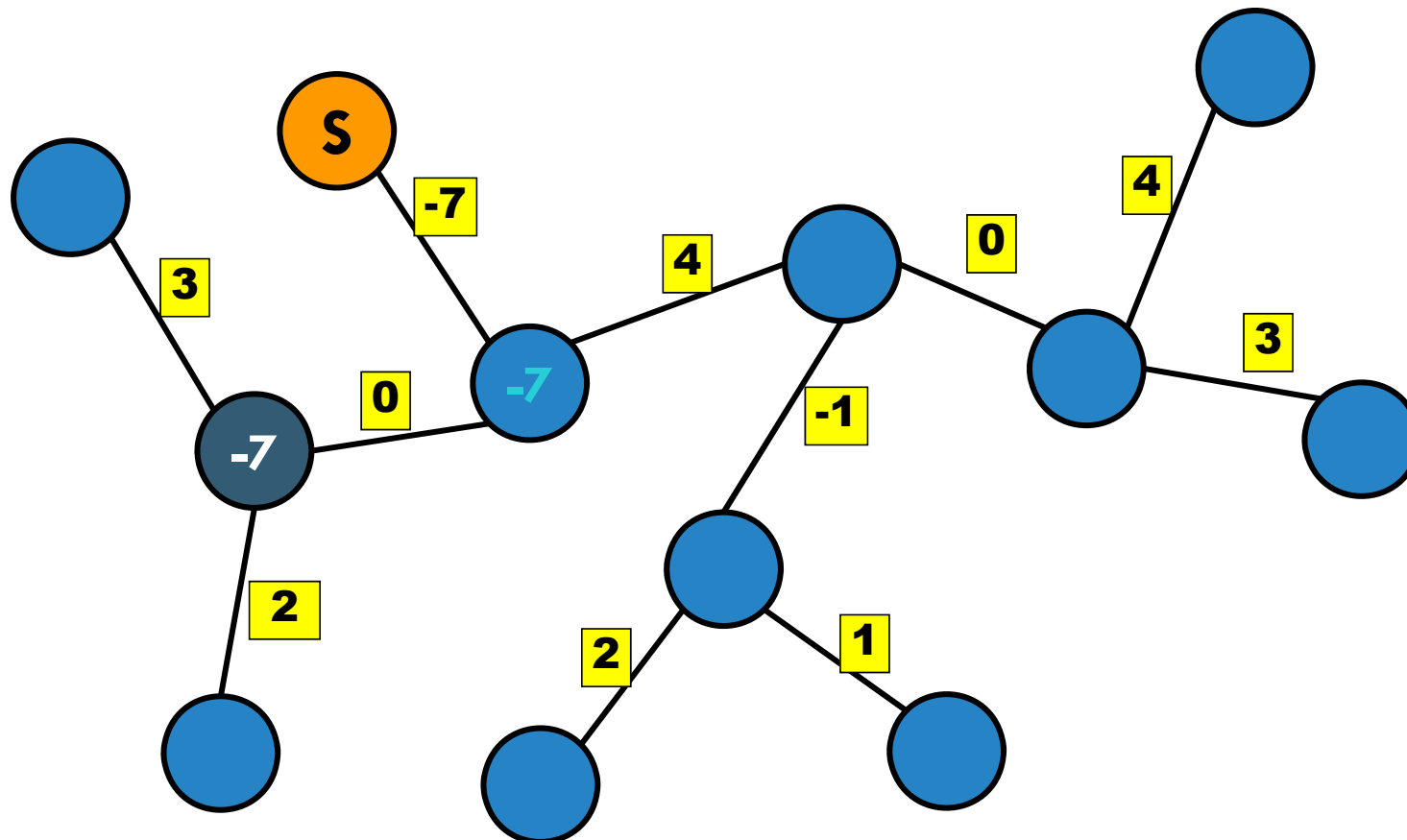
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



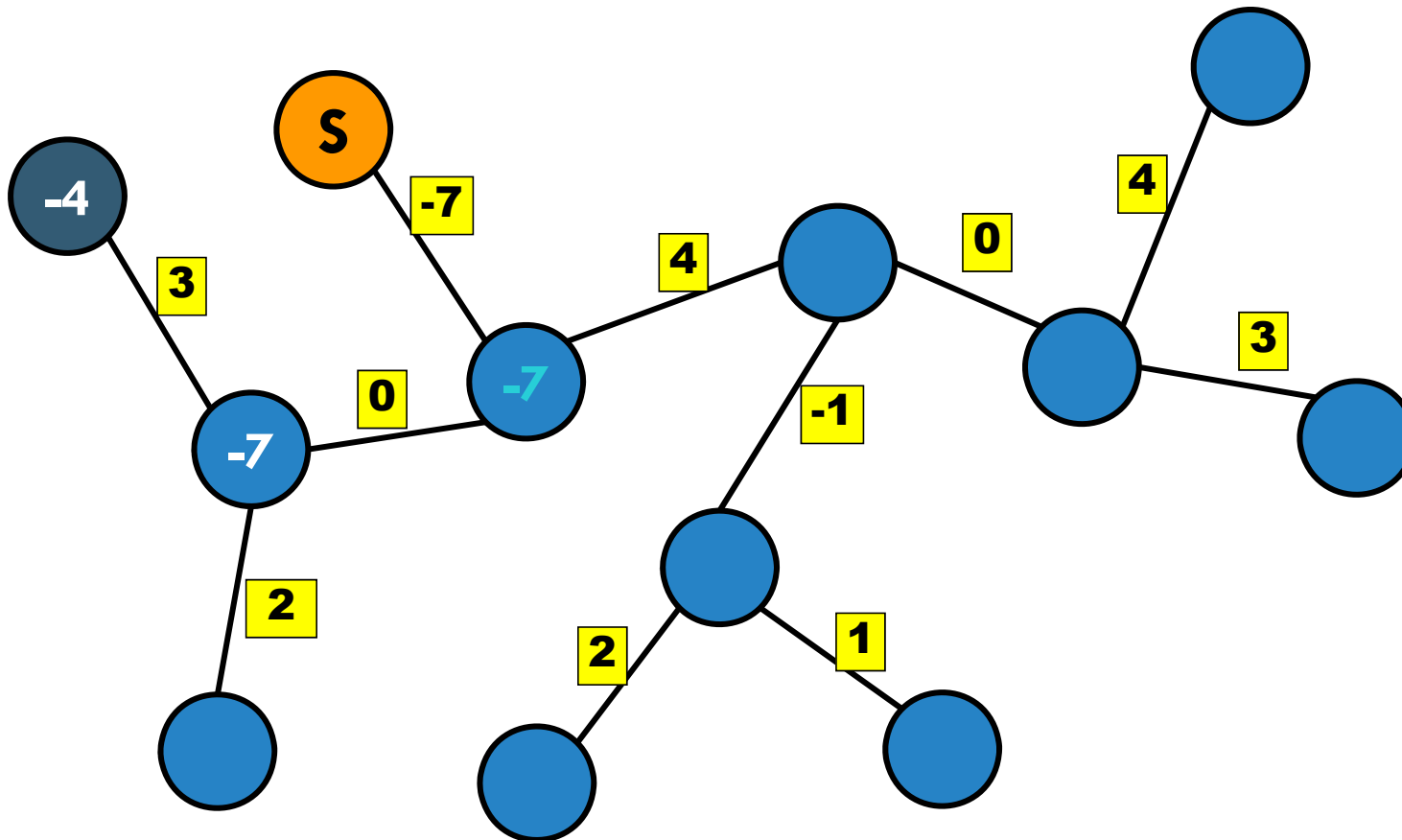
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



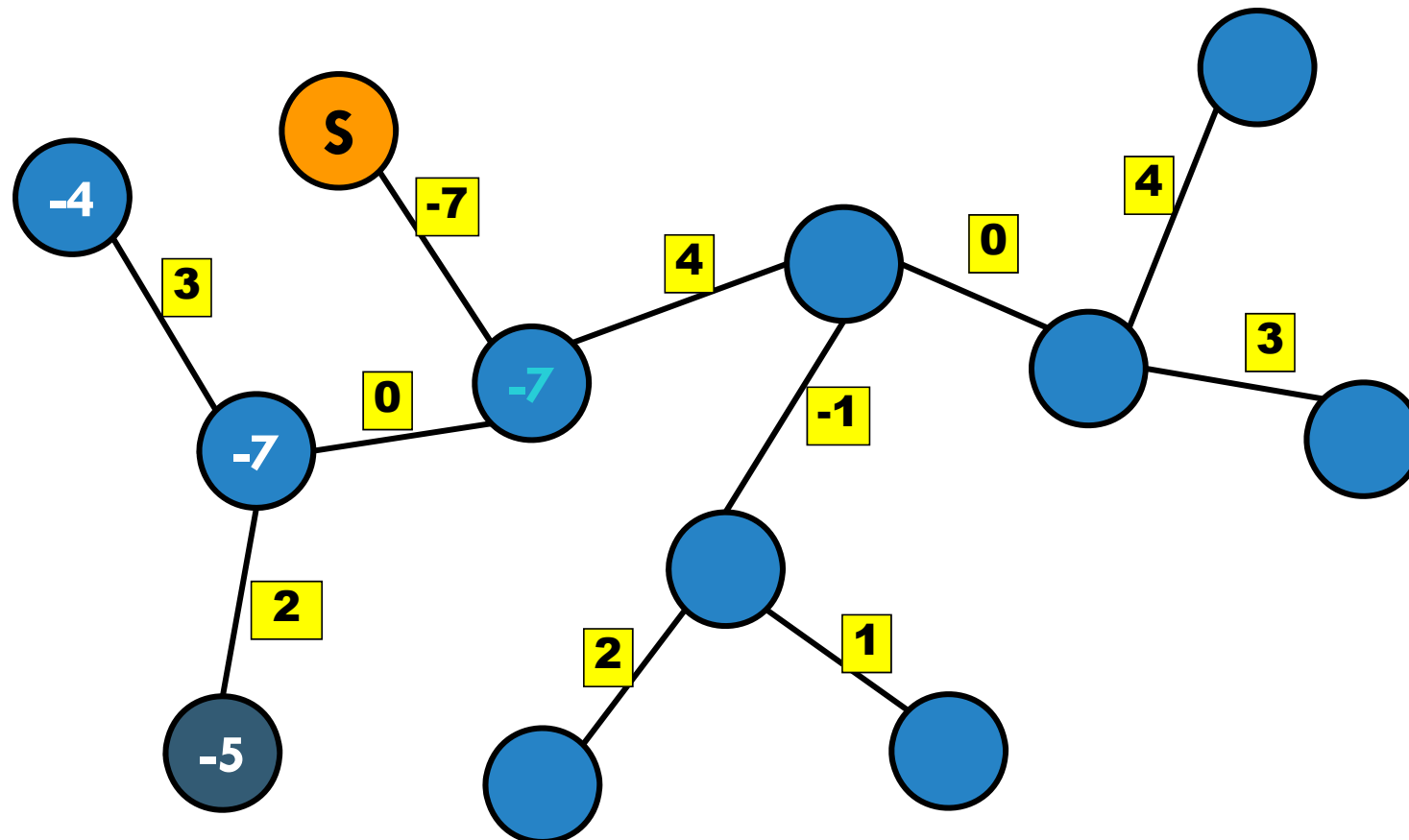
1

Relax in DFS Order



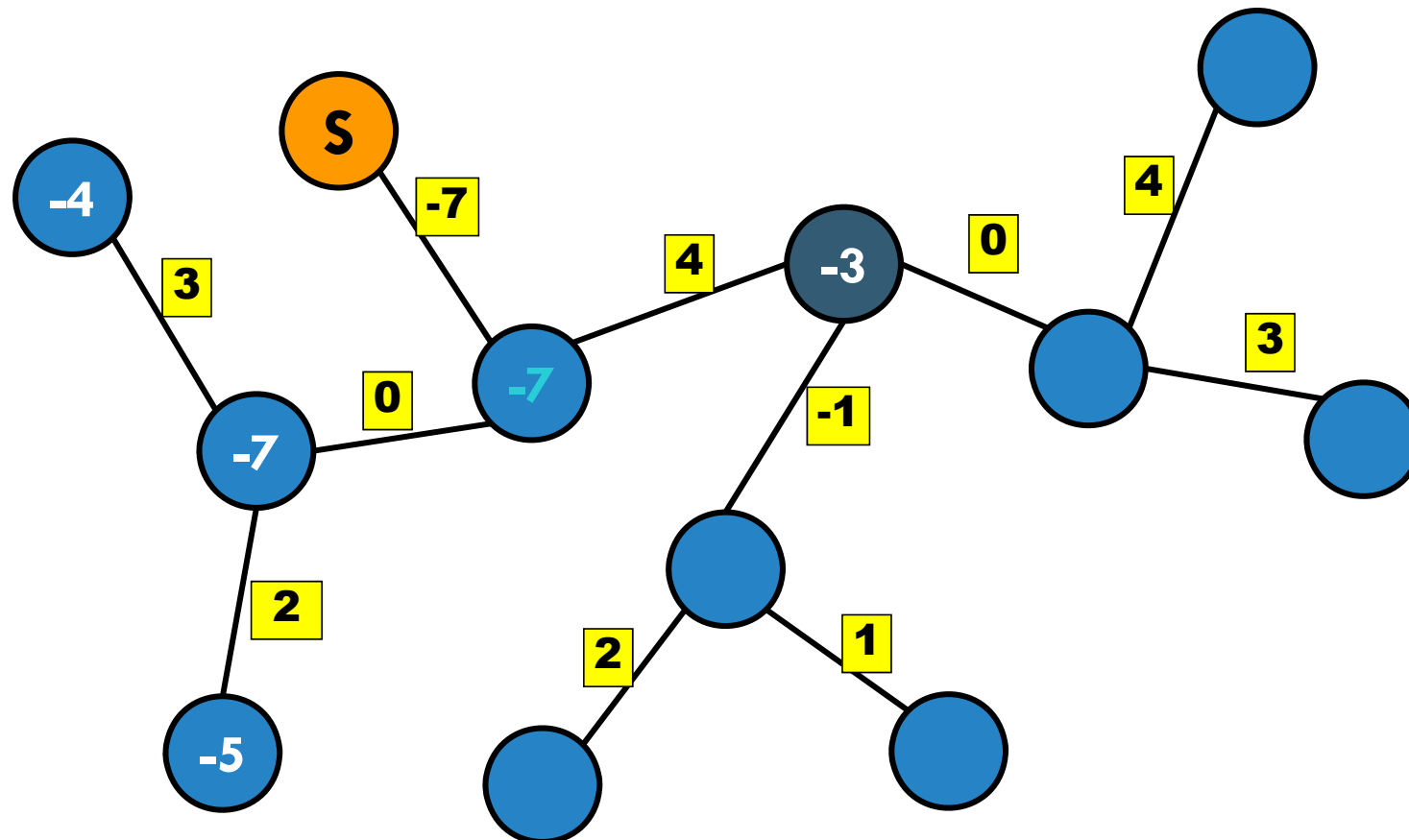
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



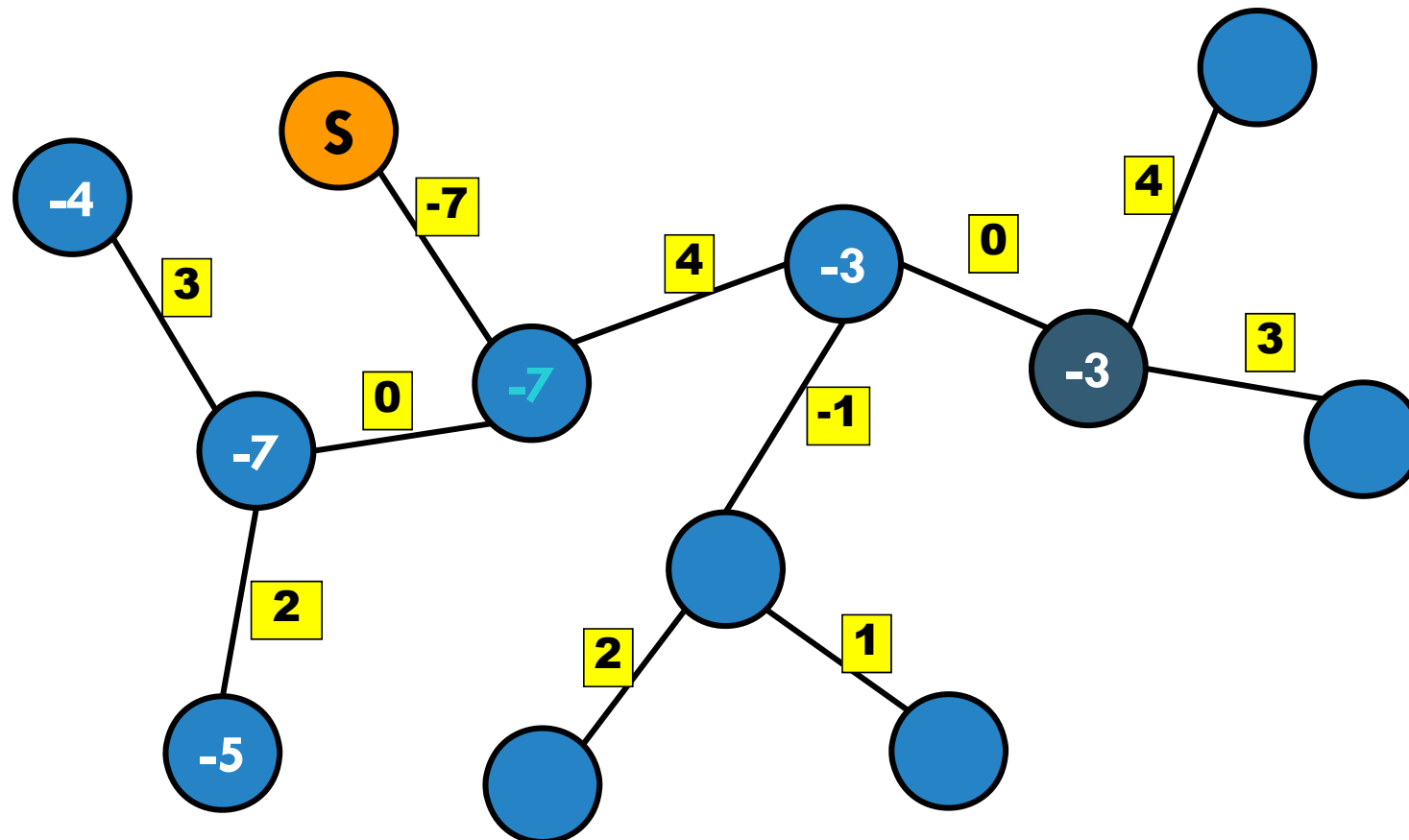
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



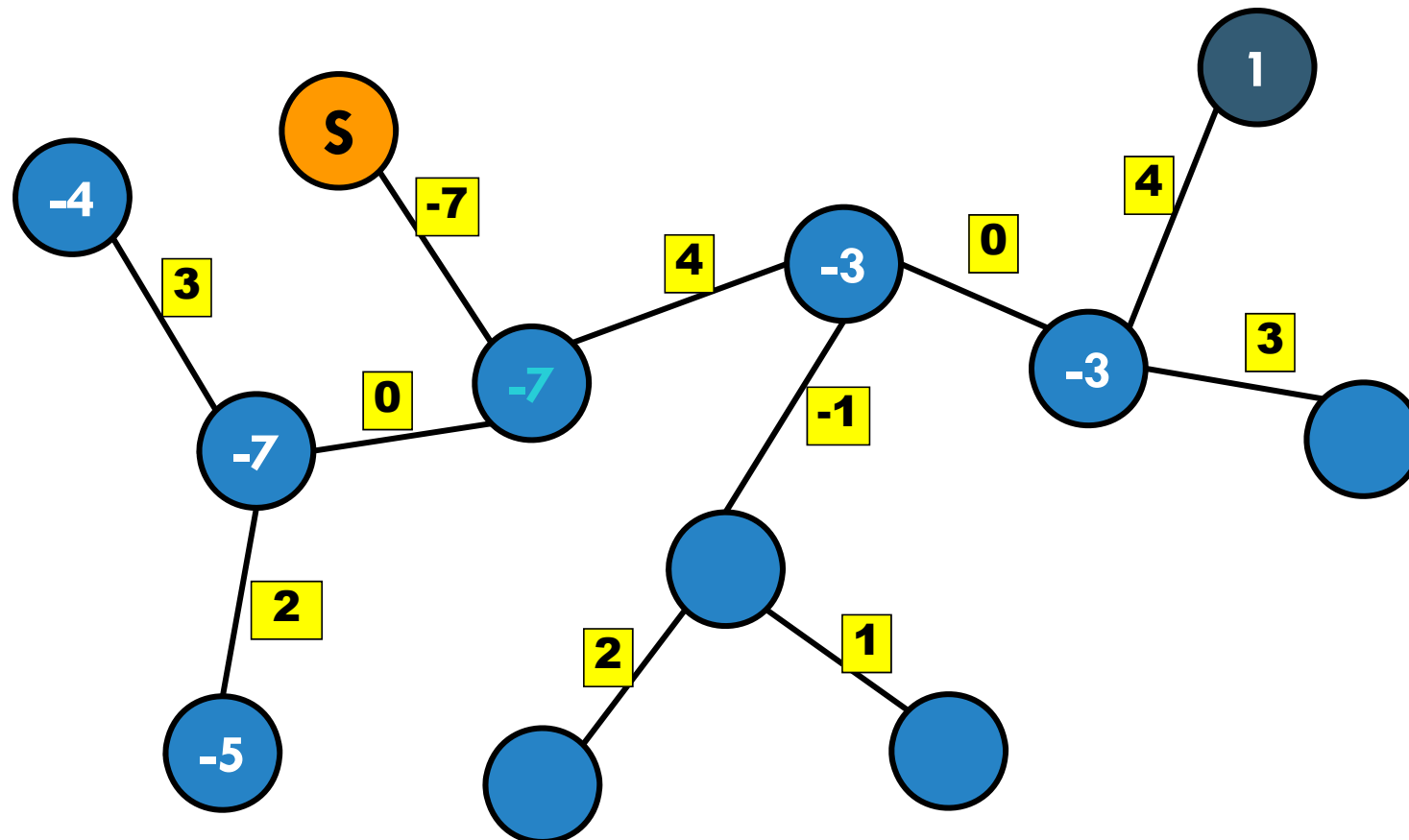
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



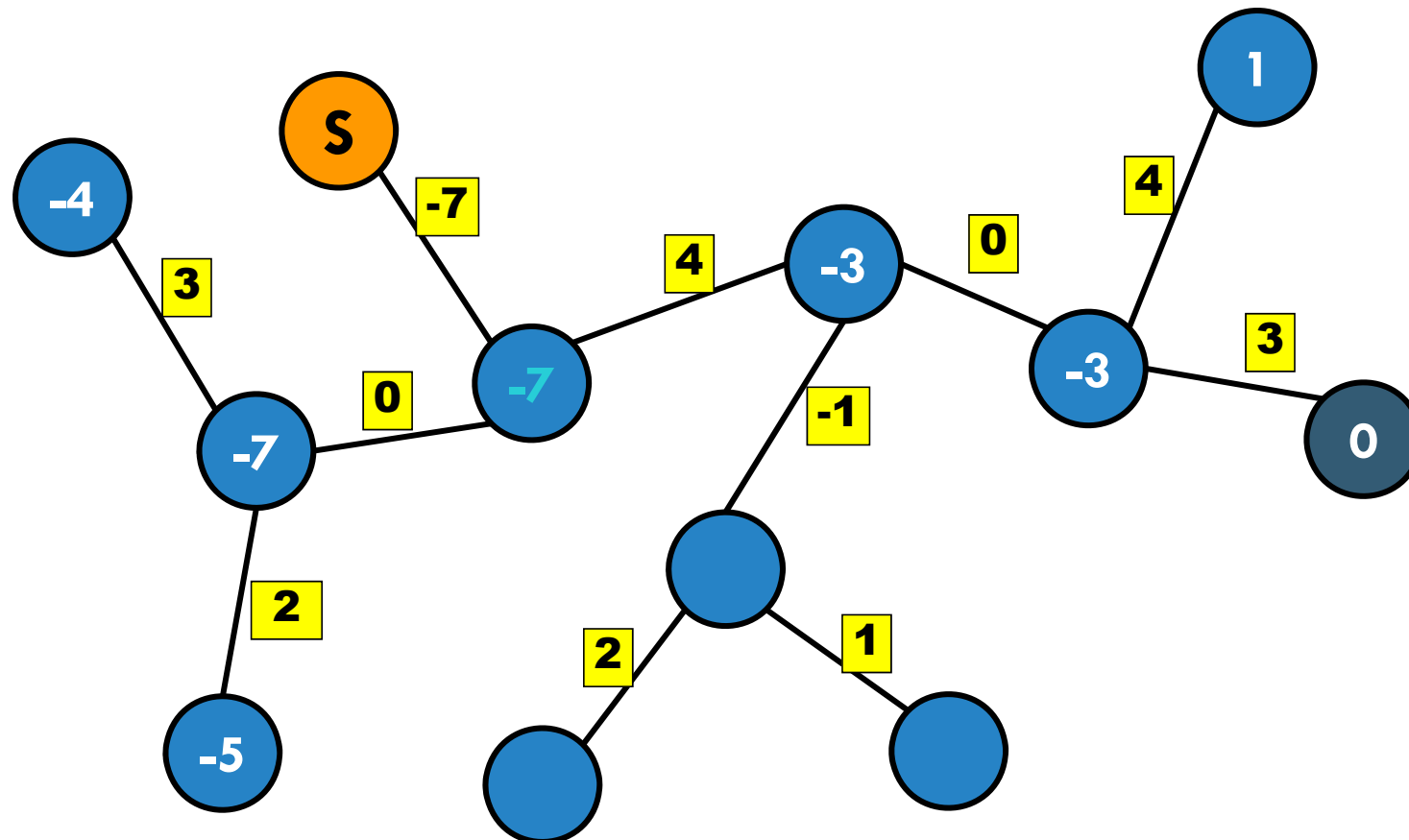
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



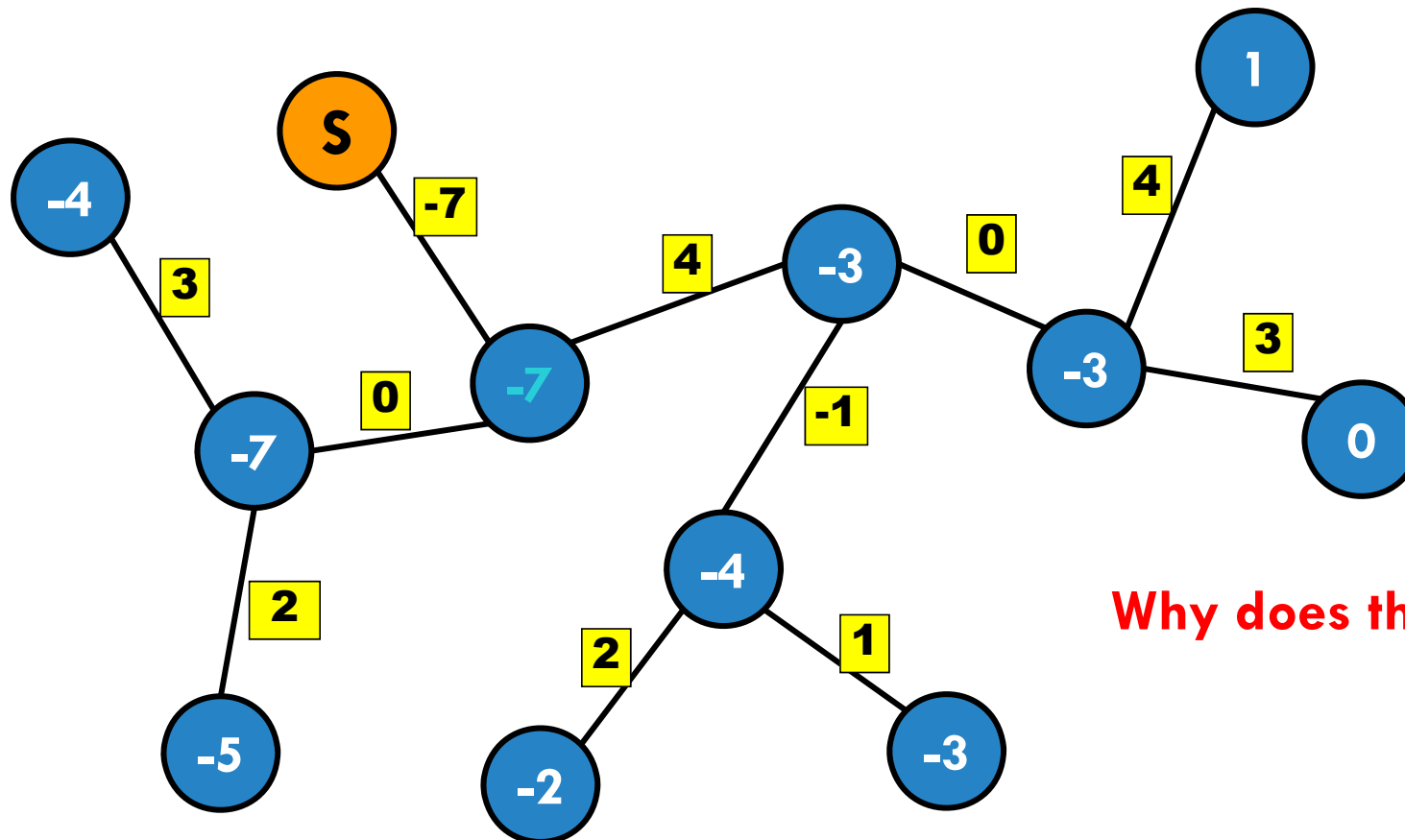
TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

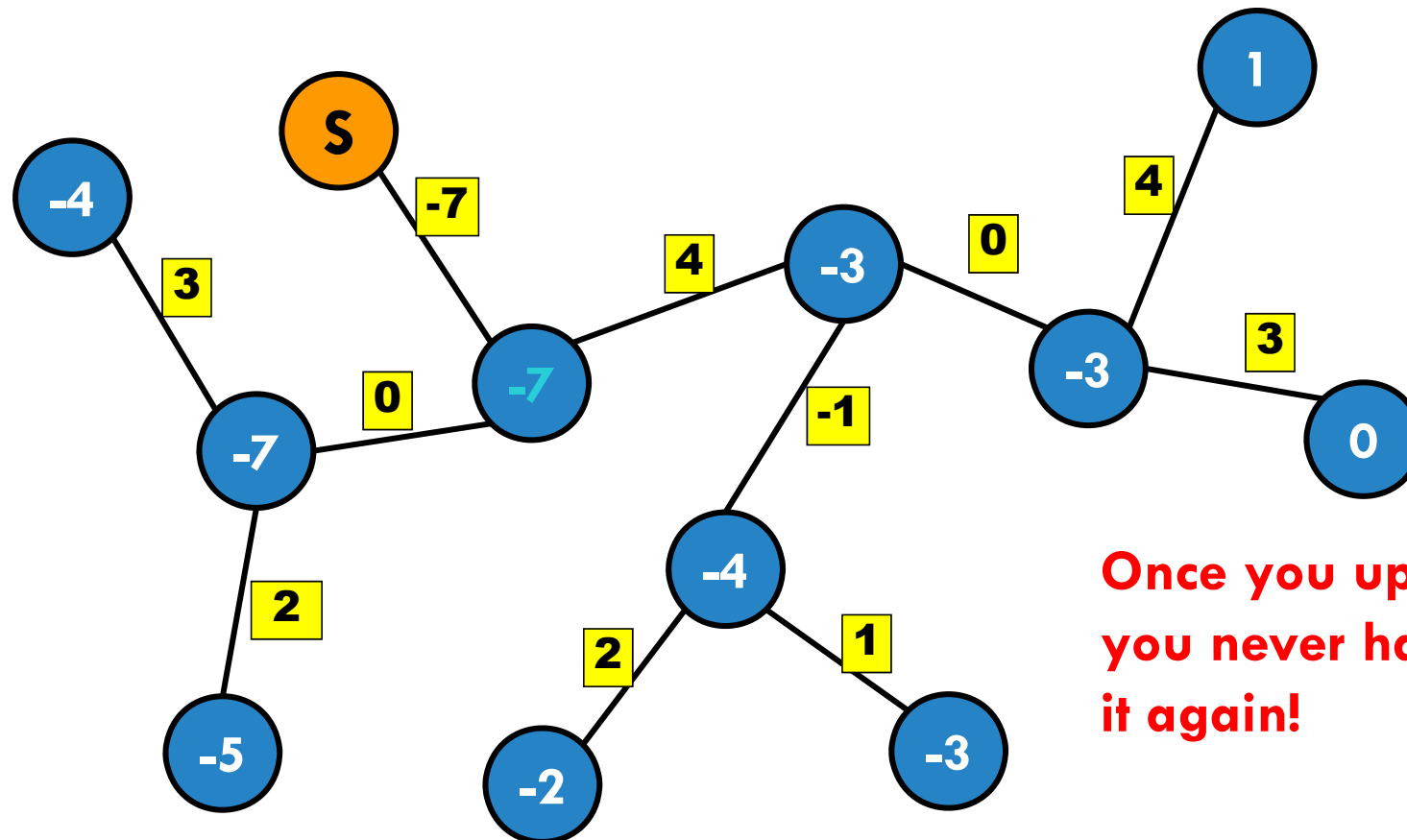
Relax in DFS Order



Why does this work?

TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Relax in DFS Order



Once you update a node, you never have to update it again!



TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Special case:

- Positive or negative weights
- Undirected tree (no backpedaling)

Basic idea:

- Perform DFS or BFS
- Relax each edge the first time you see it.

What is the running time?

- A. $O(V)$
- B. $O(E)$
- C. $O(V + E)$
- D. $O(VE)$
- E. Naturo says it is not C.





TREE: SOURCE-TO-ALL

Special case:

- Positive or negative weights
- Undirected tree (no backpedaling)

Basic idea:

- Perform DFS or BFS
- Relax each edge the first time you see it.

how many edges in a tree?

What is the running time?

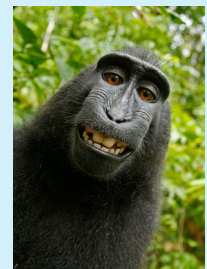
A. $O(V)$

B. $O(E)$

C. $O(V + E)$

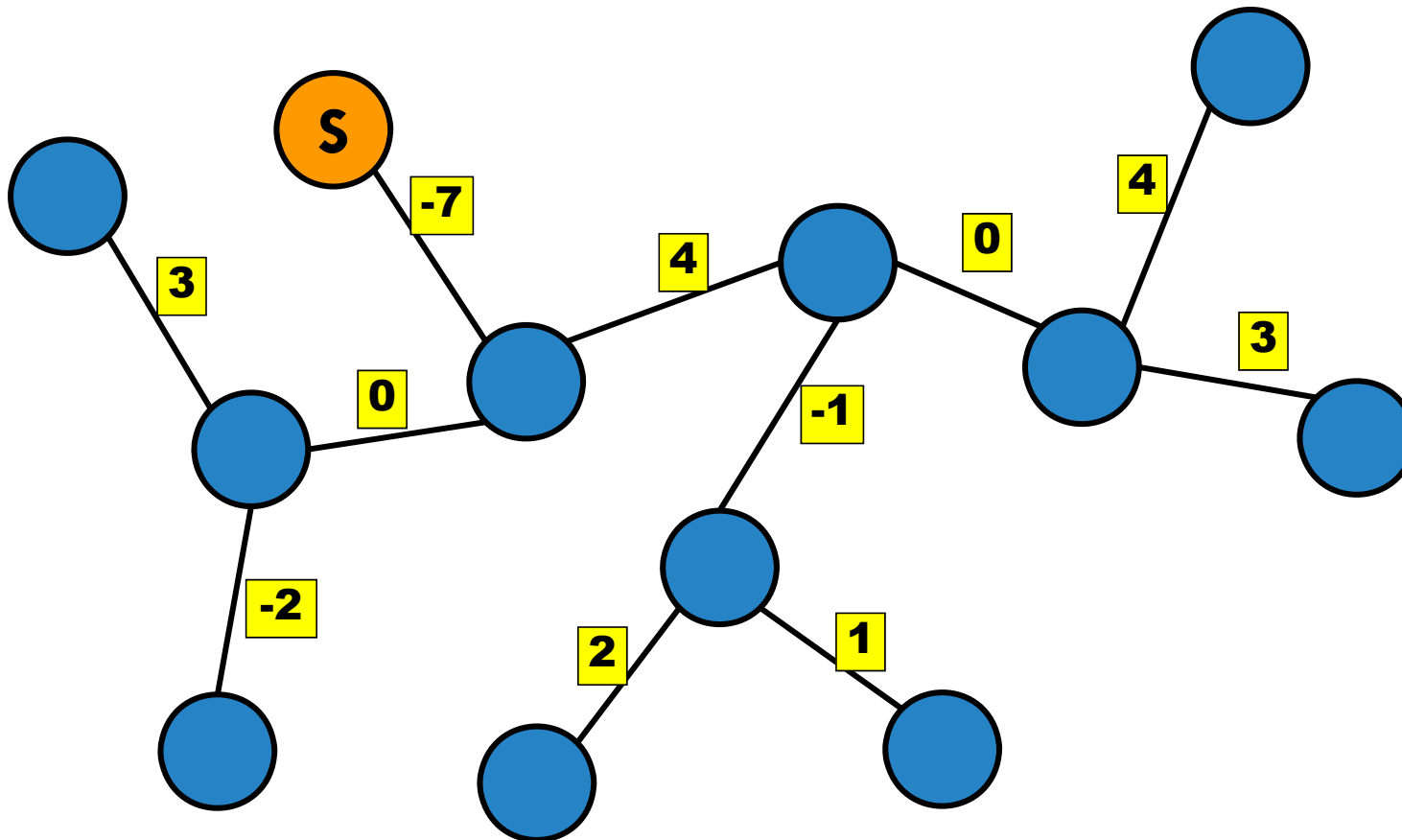
D. $O(VE)$

E. Naturo says it is not C.



UNDIRECTED WEIGHTED TREE

every node only has one
parent (except the root).
 $O(V) = O(E)$ edges.



SUMMARY

By the end of the session, students should be able to:

- describe the **shortest path algorithm** for **unweighted graphs**
- explain the **Bellman-Ford algorithm**
- describe the time complexity of the **Bellman-Ford algorithm**
- Understand when **Bellman-Ford will fail**

NEXT WEEK: SPECIAL CASES

Condition	Algorithm	Time Complexity
No Negative Weight Cycles	Bellman-Ford Algorithm	$O(VE)$
On Unweighted Graph (or equal weights)	BFS	$O(V + E)$
No Negative Weights	Dijkstra's Algorithm	
On Tree	BFS / DFS	$O(V)$
On DAG	Topological Sort	