

# Shortest Paths

Given weighted dir. graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $s, t \in V$ ,  
 $w: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

find path  $p$  from  $s$  to  $t$   
 minimizing  $\sum_{e \in p} w(e)$

## Special Case 1: Unweighted

use BFS in  $O(m+n)$  time

Solves single-source shortest paths (SSSP)  
 ( $s$  to  $v \forall v \in V$ )

## Special Case 2: DAG

by dyn prog., also solves SSSP

Define subproblems:  $\forall v \in V$

$d(v) =$  shortest-path dist.  
 from  $s$  to  $v$

Ans:  $d(t)$

Base case:  $d(s) = 0$

Recursive formula:



take choices over last edge

$$d(v) = \min_{u: (u,v) \in E} (d(u) + w(u,v))$$

Evaluation order:

topological order!

↪  $O(m+n)$  time

Runtime:

$$O\left(n + \sum_{v \in V} \text{in-deg}(v)\right)$$

$$= \boxed{O(n+m)}$$

Rmk:

- fails for general graphs
- works for negative wts

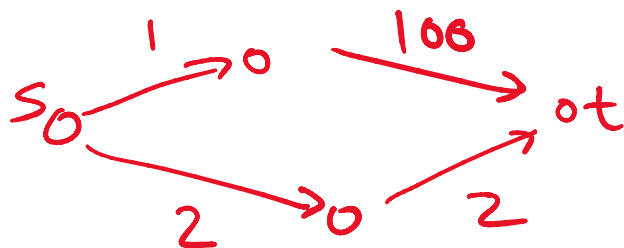
## Dijkstra's Alg'm (1959)

- assume no negative wts

- solves SSSP

compute  $d[v] =$  shortest-path dist from  $s$  to  $v \quad \forall v \in V.$

idea - smart greedy!



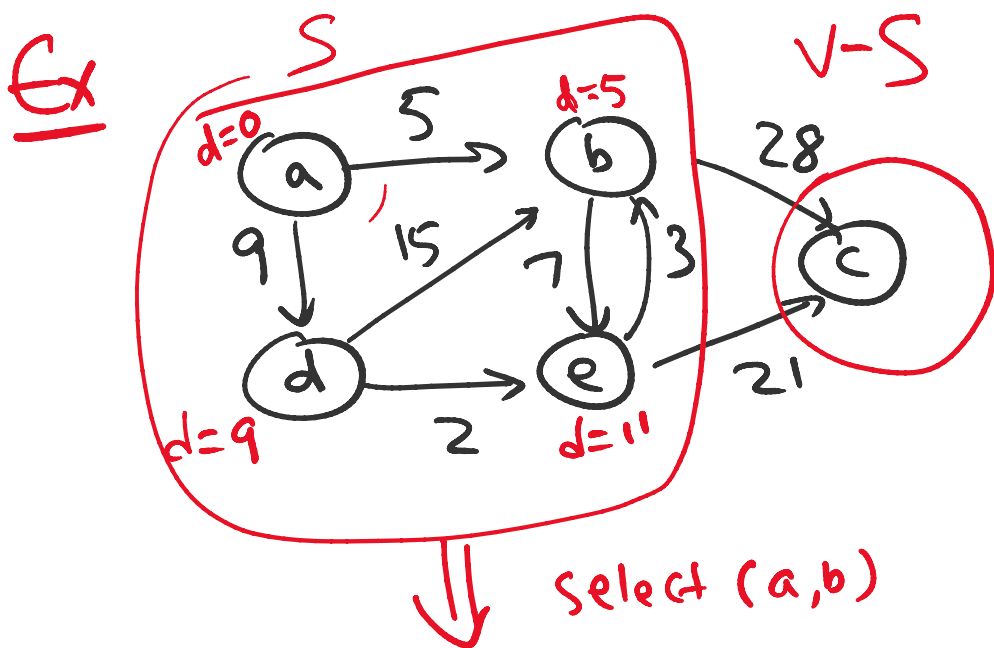
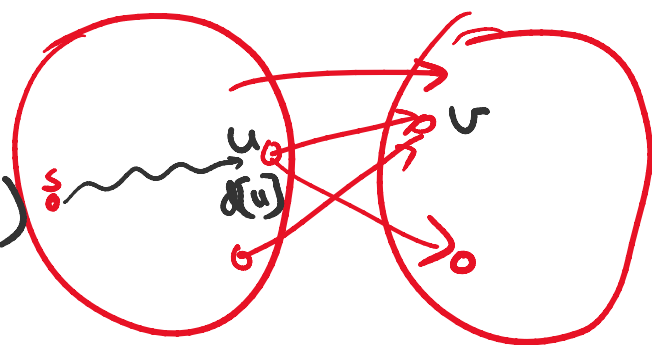
- Consider vertices in increas. order of dist from  $s$ .

# High-Level Version:

// maintain set  $S$  of "known" vertices

$$S = \{s\}, d[s] = 0$$

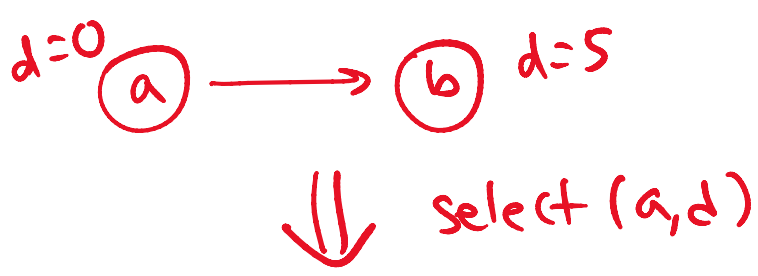
while  $S \neq V$  {  
 pick edge  $(u,v)$  with  $u \in S, v \in V-S$   
 minimizing  $d[u] + w(u,v)$   
 set  $d[v] = d[u] + w(u,v)$   
 insert  $v$  to  $S$   
 }



$$S = a \quad t = c$$

$$0 + 5$$

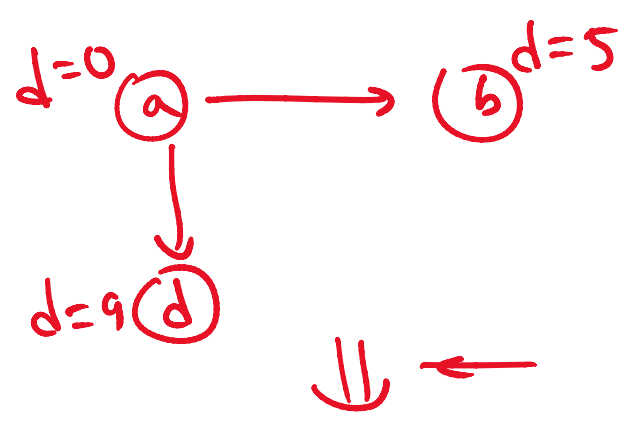
$$0 + 9$$



$$0 + 9$$

$$5 + 7$$

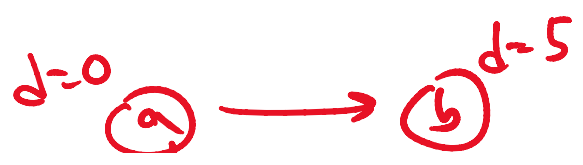
$$5 + 28$$

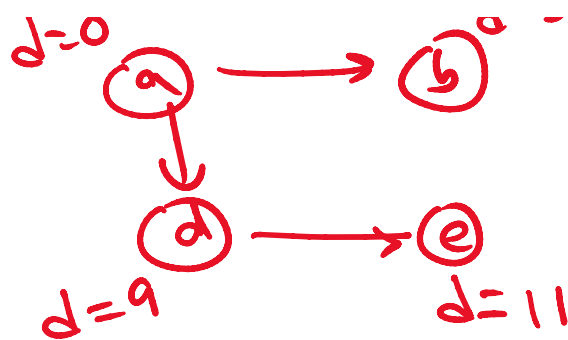


$$9 + 2$$

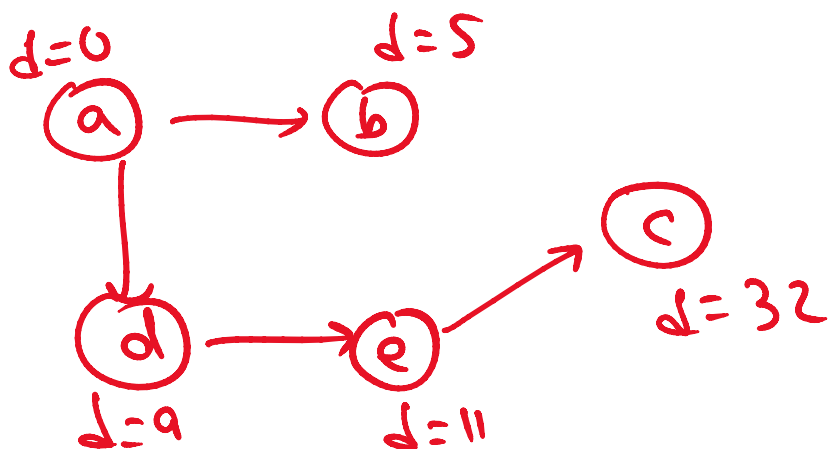
$$5 + 7$$

$$5 + 28$$





$$\begin{matrix} 5+28 \\ \hline 11+21 \end{matrix}$$



## Correctness Pf:

Claim Assume all  $d[u]$  values are correct  $\forall u \in S$ .

If  $(u, v)$  is edge from  $S$  to  $V-S$  with smallest  $d[u] + w(u, v)$ ,

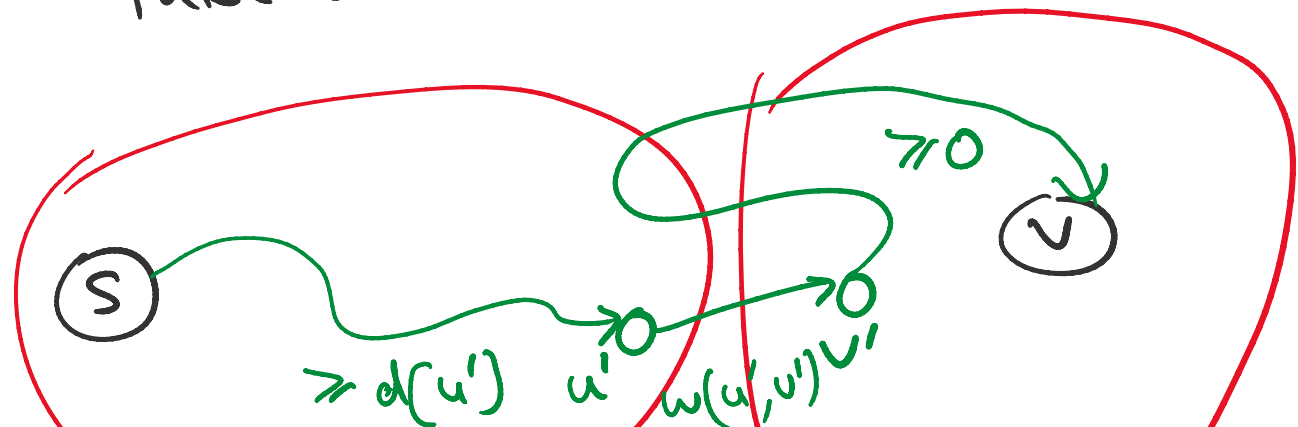
then  $\text{min-dist}(s, v) = d[u] + w(u, v)$ .

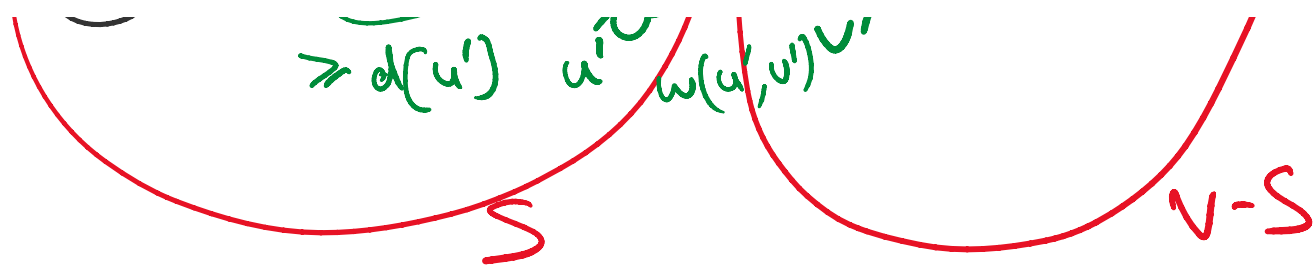
Pf: ( $\leq$ ) there is a path of dist  $d[u] + w(u, v)$



$$\Rightarrow \text{min-dist}(s, v) \leq d[u] + w(u, v)$$

( $\geq$ ) take shortest path  $p^*$  from  $s$  to  $v$ .



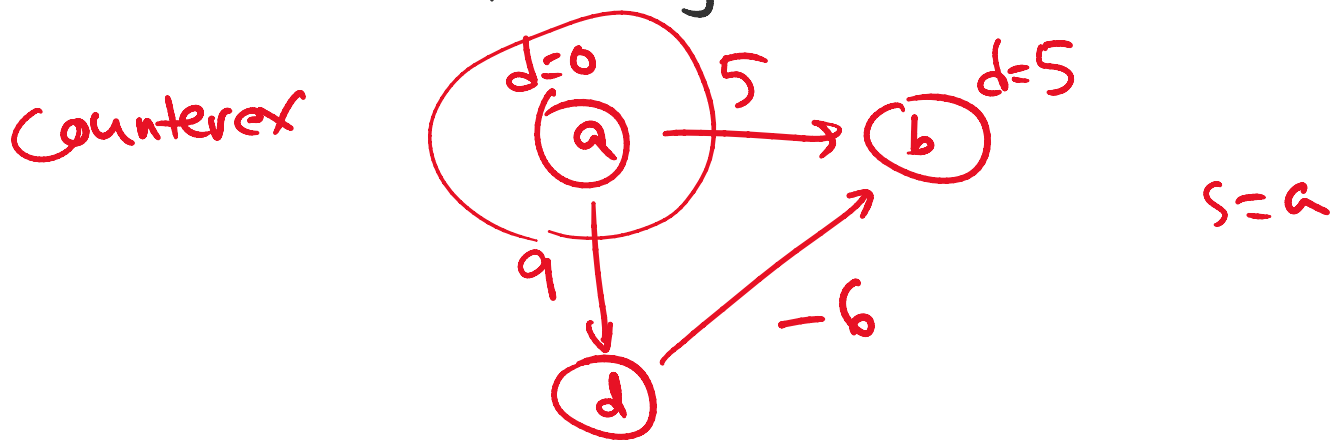


$p^*$  must have some edge  $(u', v')$  from  $S$  to  $V-S$

$$\Rightarrow \min\text{-dist}(s, v) \geq \underbrace{d[u'] + w(u', v')} + 0$$

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

Rmk - not correct for negative wts



### Implementation: (Detailed Vers.)

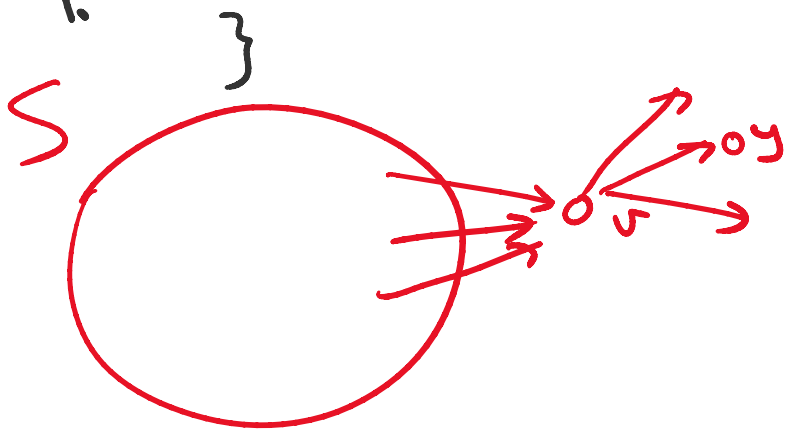
// maintain  $\text{key}[v] = \min_{u \in S} (d[u] + w(u, v))$   
 $\forall v \in V-S$

//  $Q = V-S$

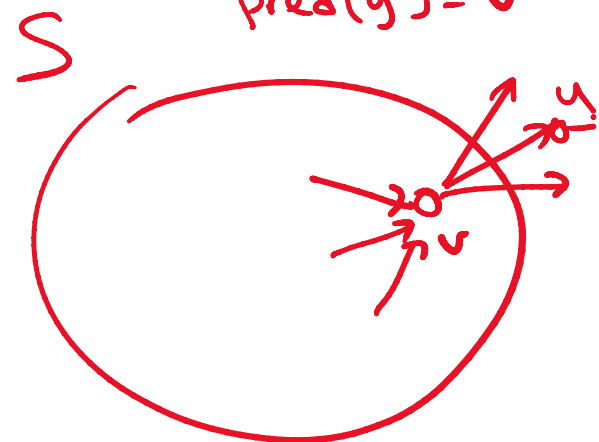
1.  $Q = V$
2.  $\text{key}[v] = \infty \quad \forall v \in V - \{s\}, \text{key}[s] = 0$
3. while  $Q \neq \emptyset$  {
4.     pick  $v \in Q$  with smallest key
5.      $d[v] = \text{key}[v]$
6.     remove  $v$  from  $Q$
7.     for each out-neighbor  $y$  of  $v$

6.  
7.  
8.  
9.

for each out-neighbor  $y$  of  $v$   
 if  $y \in Q$  and  $d[v] + w(v, y) < key[y]$   
 $key[y] = d[v] + w(v, y)$   
 $pred[y] = v$



BEFORE



AFTER

### Runtime:

Option 1: no data structure

line 4  $O(n)$  time ←  
 line 6  $O(1)$   
 line 9  $O(1)$

$$\Rightarrow \text{total time} \\
O\left(n \cdot n + \sum_{v \in V} \text{out-deg}(v) \cdot 1\right) \\
= O(n \cdot n + m \cdot 1) \\
= \boxed{O(n^2)}$$

Option 2: heap / priority queue

line 4  $O(\log n)$   
 line 6  $O(\log n)$  (delete-min)  
 line 9  $O(\log n)$  (change-key)

$$\Rightarrow \underline{O(n \cdot \log n + m \cdot \log n)}$$

$$\Rightarrow O(n \cdot \log n + m \cdot \log n)$$
$$= \boxed{O((m+n) \log n)}$$