

# Breadth First Search, Dijkstra's Algorithm for Shortest Paths

Lecture 3

January 28, 2014

# Part I

## Breadth First Search

# Breadth First Search (BFS)

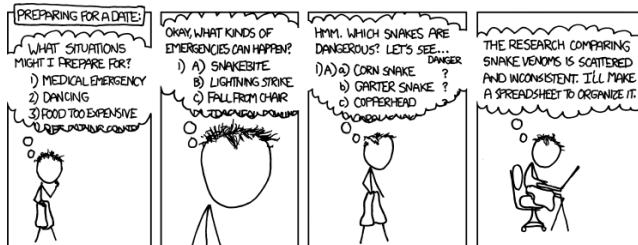
## Overview

- (A) **BFS** is obtained from **BasicSearch** by processing edges using a data structure called a **queue**.
- (B) It processes the vertices in the graph in the order of their shortest distance from the vertex **s** (the start vertex).

## As such...

- ① **DFS** good for exploring graph structure
- ② **BFS** good for exploring *distances*

# xkcd take on DFS



I REALLY NEED TO STOP USING DEPTH-FIRST SEARCHES.

# Queue Data Structure

## Queues

A **queue** is a list of elements which supports the operations:

- ① **enqueue**: Adds an element to the end of the list
- ② **dequeue**: Removes an element from the front of the list

Elements are extracted in **first-in first-out (FIFO)** order, i.e., elements are picked in the order in which they were inserted.

# BFS Algorithm

Given (undirected or directed) graph  $G = (V, E)$  and node  $s \in V$

## BFS( $s$ )

Mark all vertices as unvisited

Initialize search tree  $T$  to be empty

Mark vertex  $s$  as visited

set  $Q$  to be the empty queue

**enq**( $s$ )

**while**  $Q$  is nonempty **do**

$u = \mathbf{deq}(Q)$

**for** each vertex  $v \in \text{Adj}(u)$

**if**  $v$  is not visited **then**

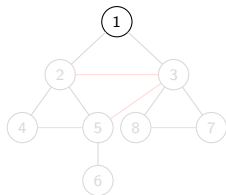
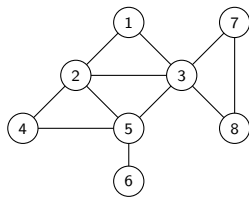
            add edge  $(u, v)$  to  $T$

            Mark  $v$  as visited and **enq**( $v$ )

## Proposition

**BFS**( $s$ ) runs in  $O(n + m)$  time.

# BFS: An Example in Undirected Graphs



1. [1]

2. [2,3]

3. [3,4,5]

4. [4,5,7,8]

5. [5,7,8]

6. [7,8,6]

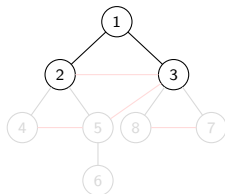
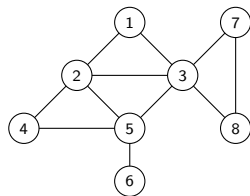
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8. [6]

9. []

**BFS** tree is the set of black edges.

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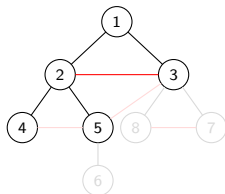
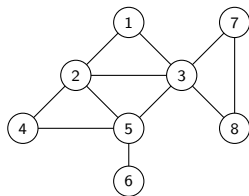
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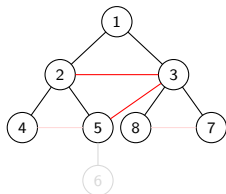
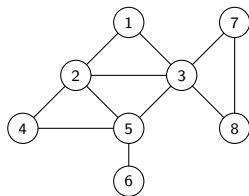
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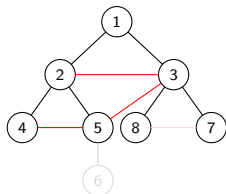
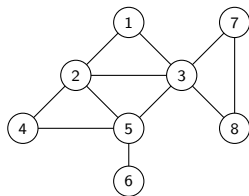
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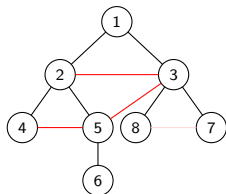
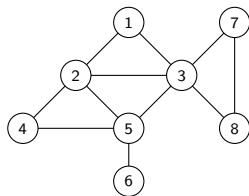
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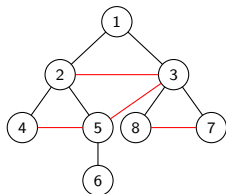
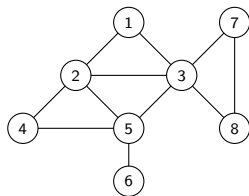
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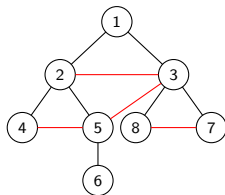
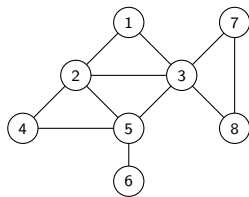
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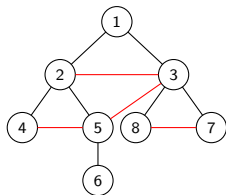
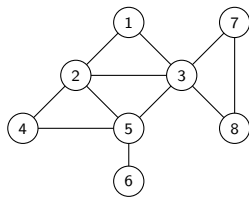
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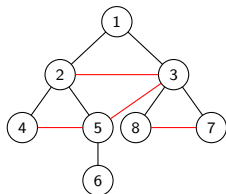
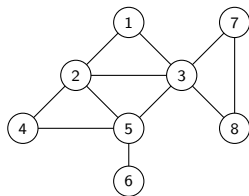
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# BFS: An Example in Undirected Graphs

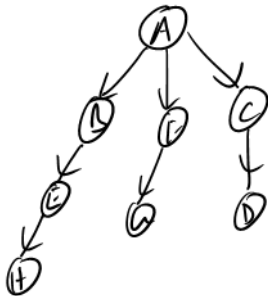
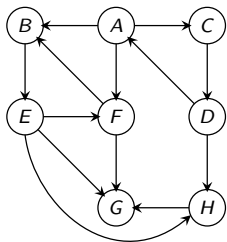


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**BFS** tree is the set of black edges.



# BFS: An Example in Directed Graphs



# BFS with Distance

## BFS(s)

Mark all vertices as unvisited; for each  $v$  set  $\text{dist}(v) = \infty$

Initialize search tree  $T$  to be empty

Mark vertex  $s$  as visited and set  $\text{dist}(s) = 0$

set  $Q$  to be the empty queue

**enq(s)**

**while**  $Q$  is nonempty **do**

$u = \text{deq}(Q)$

**for** each vertex  $v \in \text{Adj}(u)$  **do**

**if**  $v$  is not visited **do**

            add edge  $(u, v)$  to  $T$

            Mark  $v$  as visited, **enq(v)**

            and set  $\text{dist}(v) = \text{dist}(u) + 1$

# Properties of BFS: Undirected Graphs

## Proposition

The following properties hold upon termination of **BFS**(**s**)

- (A) The search tree contains exactly the set of vertices in the connected component of **s**.
- (B) If  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}) < \text{dist}(\mathbf{v})$  then **u** is visited before **v**.
- (C) For every vertex **u**,  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u})$  is the length of a shortest path (in terms of edges) from **s** to **u**.
- (D) If **u**, **v** are in connected component of **s** and  $\mathbf{e} = \{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$  is an edge of **G**, then  $|\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}) - \text{dist}(\mathbf{v})| \leq 1$ .

## Proof.

Exercise. □

# Properties of BFS: Directed Graphs

## Proposition

The following properties hold upon termination of **BFS**(**s**):

- (A) The search tree contains exactly the set of vertices reachable from **s**
- (B) If  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}) < \text{dist}(\mathbf{v})$  then **u** is visited before **v**
- (C) For every vertex **u**,  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u})$  is indeed the length of shortest path from **s** to **u**
- (D) If **u** is reachable from **s** and  $\mathbf{e} = (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$  is an edge of **G**, then  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{v}) - \text{dist}(\mathbf{u}) \leq 1$ . *Not necessarily the case that  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}) - \text{dist}(\mathbf{v}) \leq 1$ .*

## Proof.

Exercise. □

# BFS with Layers

**BFSLayers**(**s**):

Mark all vertices as unvisited and initialize **T** to be empty

Mark **s** as visited and set  $L_0 = \{s\}$

**i** = 0

**while**  $L_i$  is not empty **do**

    initialize  $L_{i+1}$  to be an empty list

**for** each **u** in  $L_i$  **do**

**for** each edge  $(u, v) \in \text{Adj}(u)$  **do**

            if **v** is not visited

                mark **v** as visited

                add  $(u, v)$  to tree **T**

                add **v** to  $L_{i+1}$

**i** = **i** + 1

Running time:  $O(n + m)$

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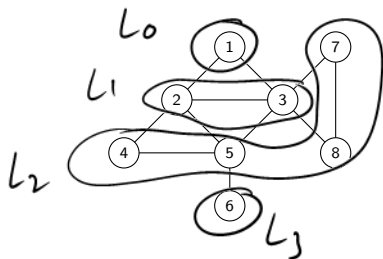
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**i** = **i** + 1

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# Example



# BFS with Layers: Properties

## Proposition

The following properties hold on termination of **BFS**Layers(**s**).

- 1 **BFS**Layers(**s**) outputs a **BFS** tree
- 2  $L_i$  is the set of vertices at distance exactly **i** from **s**
- 3 If **G** is undirected, each edge  $e = \{u, v\}$  is one of three types:
  - 1 **tree** edge between two consecutive layers
  - 2 non-tree **forward/backward** edge between two consecutive layers
  - 3 non-tree **cross-edge** with both **u, v** in same layer
  - 4  $\implies$  Every edge in the graph is either between two vertices that are either (i) in the same layer, or (ii) in two consecutive layers.



# BFS with Layers: Properties

For directed graphs

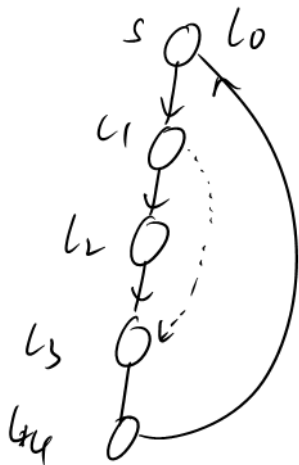
## Proposition

The following properties hold on termination of **BFSLayers**(**s**), if **G** is directed.

For each edge  $e = (u, v)$  is one of four types:

- 1 a **tree** edge between consecutive layers,  $u \in L_i, v \in L_{i+1}$  for some  $i \geq 0$
- 2 a non-tree **forward** edge between consecutive layers
- 3 a non-tree **backward** edge
- 4 a **cross-edge** with both  $u, v$  in same layer

# Example



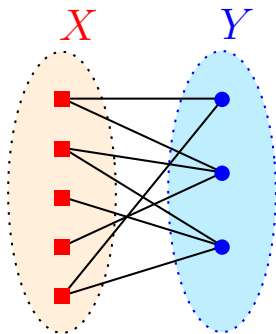
## Part II

# Bipartite Graphs and an application of BFS

# Bipartite Graphs

## Definition (Bipartite Graph)

Undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a **bipartite graph** if  $V$  can be partitioned into  $X$  and  $Y$  s.t. all edges in  $E$  are between  $X$  and  $Y$ .



# Bipartite Graph Characterization

## Question

When is a graph bipartite?

## Proposition

*Every tree is a bipartite graph.*

## Proof.

Root tree  $T$  at some node  $r$ . Let  $L_i$  be all nodes at level  $i$ , that is,  $L_i$  is all nodes at distance  $i$  from root  $r$ . Now define  $X$  to be all nodes at even levels and  $Y$  to be all nodes at odd level. Only edges in  $T$  are between levels. □

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*An odd length cycle is not bipartite.*

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# Odd Cycles are not Bipartite

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*An odd length cycle is not bipartite.*

## Proof.

Let  $C = u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{2k+1}, u_1$  be an odd cycle. Suppose  $C$  is a bipartite graph and let  $X, Y$  be the partition. Without loss of generality  $u_1 \in X$ . Implies  $u_2 \in Y$ . Implies  $u_3 \in X$ . Inductively,  $u_i \in X$  if  $i$  is odd  $u_i \in Y$  if  $i$  is even. But  $\{u_1, u_{2k+1}\}$  is an edge and both belong to  $X$ ! □

# Subgraphs

## Definition

Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  a **subgraph** of  $G$  is another graph  $H = (V', E')$  where  $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$ .

## Proposition

*If  $G$  is bipartite then any subgraph  $H$  of  $G$  is also bipartite.*

## Proposition

*A graph  $G$  is not bipartite if  $G$  has an odd cycle  $C$  as a subgraph.*

## Proof.

If  $G$  is bipartite then since  $C$  is a subgraph,  $C$  is also bipartite (by above proposition). However,  $C$  is not bipartite! □

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# Bipartite Graph Characterization

## Theorem

*A graph  $G$  is bipartite if and only if it has no odd length cycle as subgraph.*

## Proof.

**Only If:**  $G$  has an odd cycle implies  $G$  is not bipartite.

**If:**  $G$  has no odd length cycle. Assume without loss of generality that  $G$  is connected.

- 1 Pick  $u$  arbitrarily and do **BFS**( $u$ )
- 2  $X = \cup_{i \text{ is even}} L_i$  and  $Y = \cup_{i \text{ is odd}} L_i$
- 3 **Claim:**  $X$  and  $Y$  is a valid partition if  $G$  has no odd length cycle.



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# Proof of Claim

## Claim

In **BFS**(**u**) if **a**, **b**  $\in L_i$  and (**a**, **b**) is an edge then there is an odd length cycle containing (**a**, **b**).

## Proof.

Let **v** be least common ancestor of **a**, **b** in **BFS** tree **T**.

**v** is in some level **j**  $< i$  (could be **u** itself).

Path from **v**  $\rightsquigarrow$  **a** in **T** is of length **i**  $- j$ .

Path from **v**  $\rightsquigarrow$  **b** in **T** is of length **i**  $- j$ .

These two paths plus (**a**, **b**) forms an odd cycle of length  $2(i - j) + 1$ . □



# Proof of Claim

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In **BFS**( $u$ ) if  $a, b \in L_i$  and  $(a, b)$  is an edge then there is an odd length cycle containing  $(a, b)$ .

## Proof.

Let  $v$  be least common ancestor of  $a, b$  in **BFS** tree  $T$ .

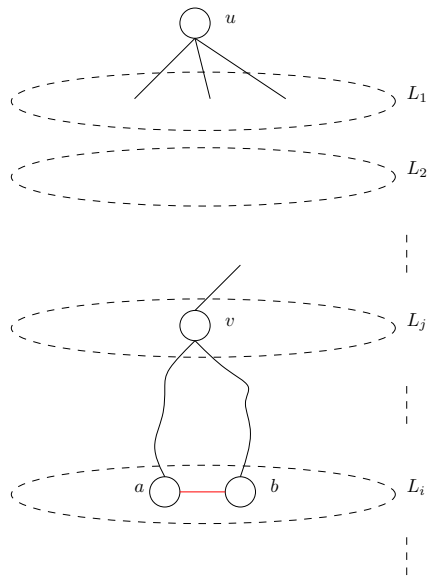
$v$  is in some level  $j < i$  (could be  $u$  itself).

Path from  $v \rightsquigarrow a$  in  $T$  is of length  $i - j$ .

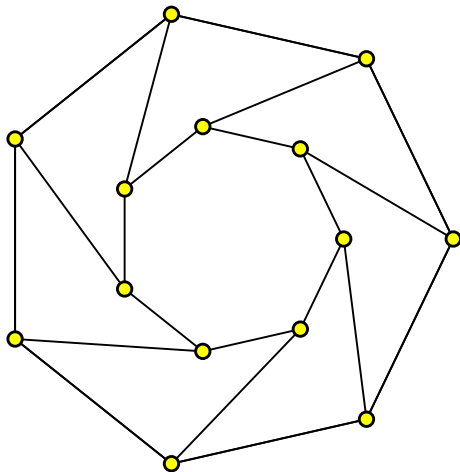
Path from  $v \rightsquigarrow b$  in  $T$  is of length  $i - j$ .

These two paths plus  $(a, b)$  forms an odd cycle of length  $2(i - j) + 1$ . □

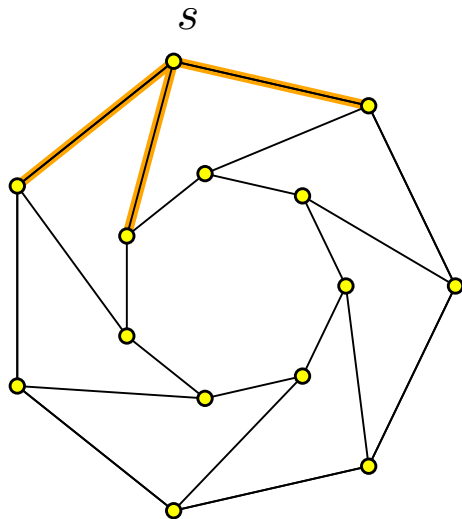
# Proof of Claim: Figure



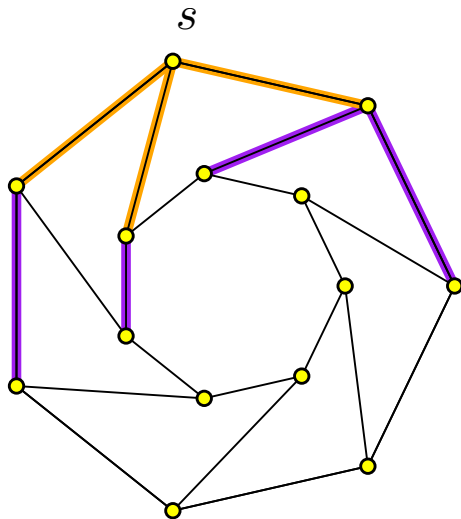
# Is this graph bipartite?



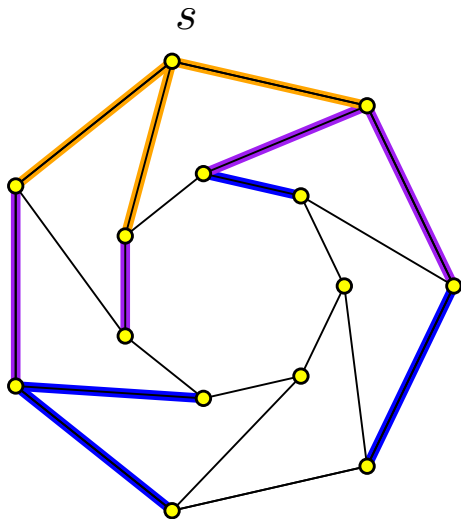
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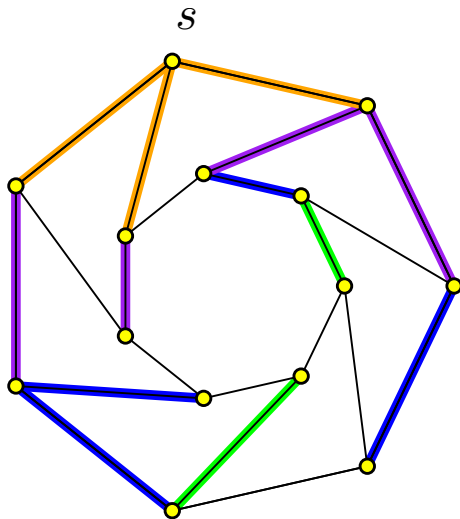
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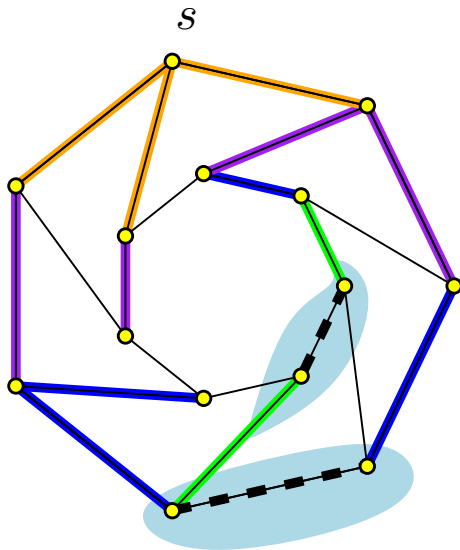
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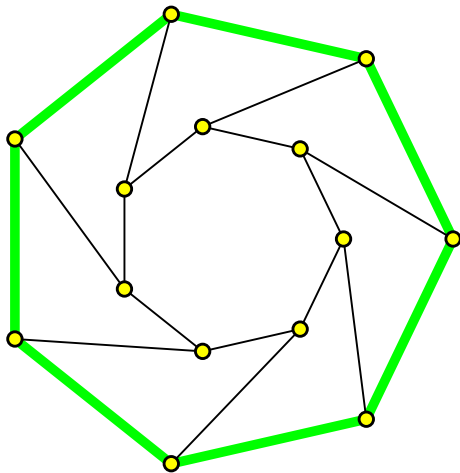


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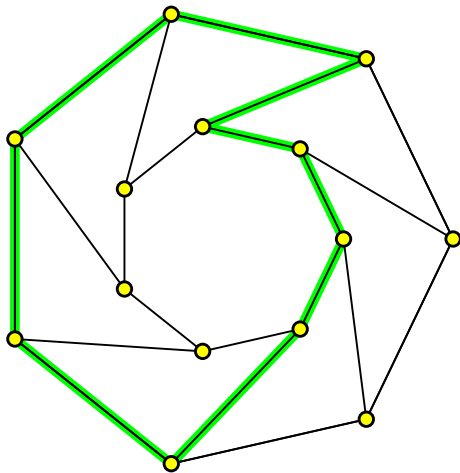




# Is this graph bipartite?



# Is this graph bipartite?



# Another tidbit

## Corollary

*There is an  $O(n + m)$  time algorithm to check if  $G$  is bipartite and output an odd cycle if it is not.*

**Question:** Can you come up with an efficient algorithm to check whether a given graph  $G$  has an even length cycle and find one if it has? What is the running time of your algorithm?

## Part III

# Shortest Paths and Dijkstra's Algorithm

# Shortest Path Problems

## Shortest Path Problems

**Input** A (undirected or directed) graph  $G = (V, E)$  with edge lengths (or costs). For edge  $e = (u, v)$ ,  $l(e) = l(u, v)$  is its length.

- 1 Given nodes  $s, t$  find shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$ .
- 2 Given node  $s$  find shortest path from  $s$  to all other nodes.
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Many applications!

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# Single-Source Shortest Paths:

## Non-Negative Edge Lengths

### Single-Source Shortest Path Problems

- 1 **Input:** A (undirected or directed) graph  $G = (V, E)$  with **non-negative** edge lengths. For edge  $e = (u, v)$ ,  $\ell(e) = \ell(u, v)$  is its length.
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  - 2 Undirected graph problem can be reduced to directed graph problem - how?
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# Single-Source Shortest Paths via BFS

**Special case:** All edge lengths are **1**.

- 1 Run **BFS**(s) to get shortest path distances from s to all other nodes.
- 2  $O(m + n)$  time algorithm.

**Special case:** Suppose  $\ell(e)$  is an integer for all  $e$ ?

Can we use **BFS**? Reduce to unit edge-length problem by placing  $\ell(e) - 1$  dummy nodes on  $e$

Let  $L = \max_e \ell(e)$ . New graph has  $O(mL)$  edges and  $O(mL + n)$  nodes. **BFS** takes  $O(mL + n)$  time. Not efficient if  $L$  is large.

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Why does **BFS** work?

**BFS**( $s$ ) explores nodes in increasing distance from  $s$

## Lemma

Let  $G$  be a directed graph with non-negative edge lengths. Let  $\text{dist}(s, v)$  denote the shortest path length from  $s$  to  $v$ . If  $s = v_0 \rightarrow v_1 \rightarrow v_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow v_k$  is a shortest path from  $s$  to  $v_k$  then for  $1 \leq i < k$ :

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## Proof.

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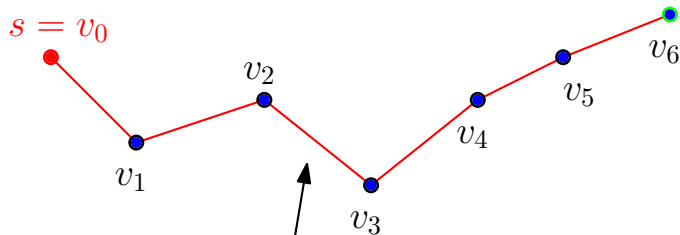
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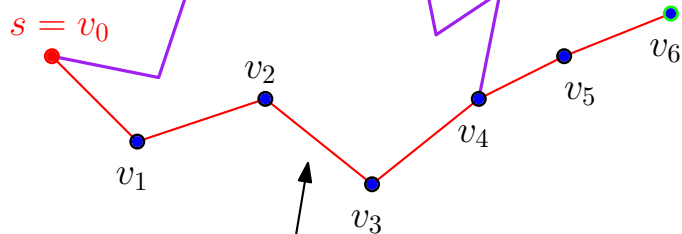
# A proof by picture



Shortest path  
from  $v_0$  to  $v_6$

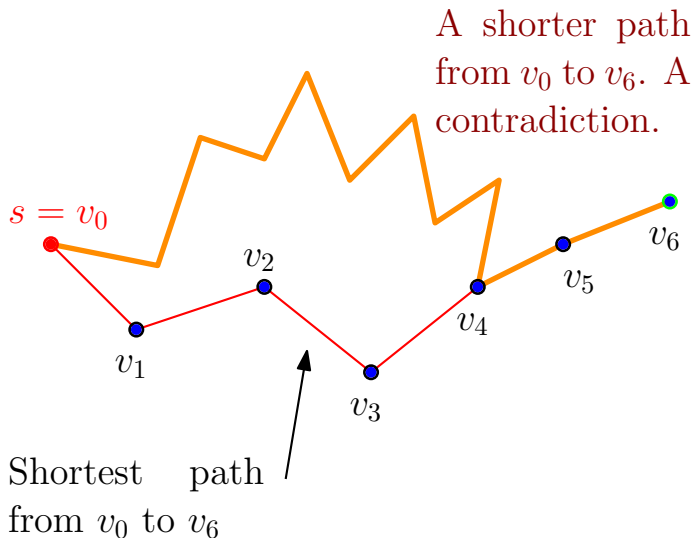
# A proof by picture

Shorter path  
from  $v_0$  to  $v_4$



Shortest path  
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# A proof by picture



# A Basic Strategy

Explore vertices in increasing order of distance from  $s$ :  
(For simplicity assume that nodes are at different distances from  $s$  and that no edge has zero length)

Initialize for each node  $v$ ,  $\text{dist}(s, v) = \infty$

Initialize  $S = \emptyset$ ,

**for**  $i = 1$  to  $|V|$  **do**

(\* Invariant:  $S$  contains the  $i - 1$  closest nodes to  $s$  \*)

Among nodes in  $V \setminus S$ , find the node  $v$  that is the  
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What do we know about the  $i$ th closest node?

## Claim

*Let  $P$  be a shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$  where  $v$  is the  $i$ th closest node. Then, all intermediate nodes in  $P$  belong to  $S$ .*

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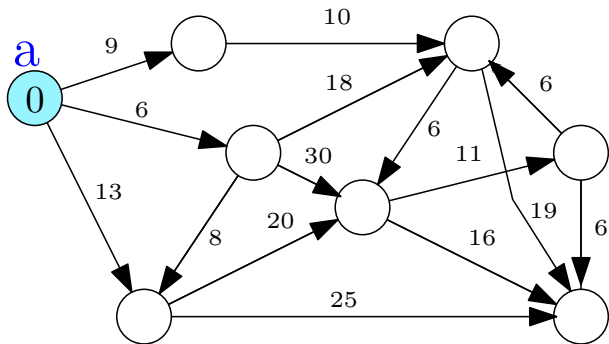
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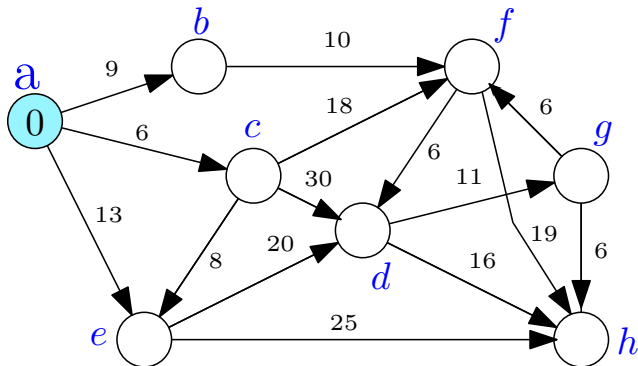
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An example



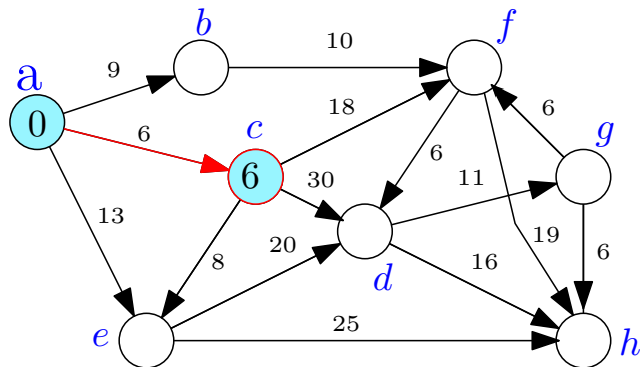
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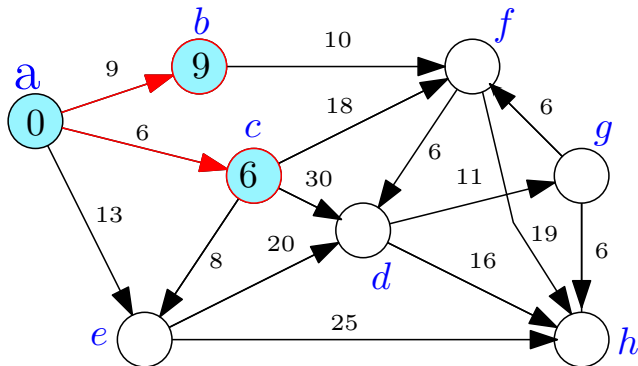
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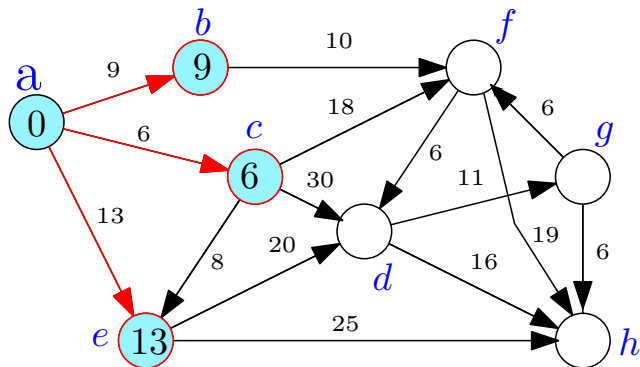
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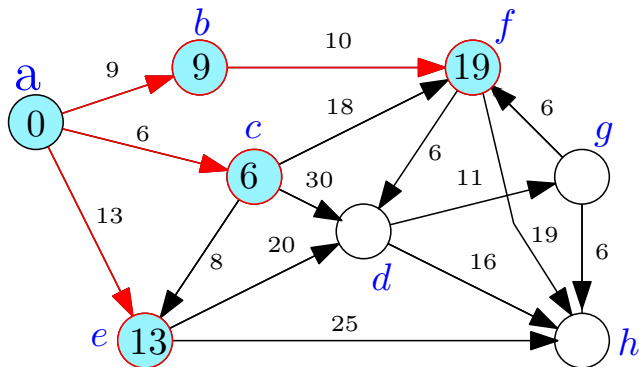
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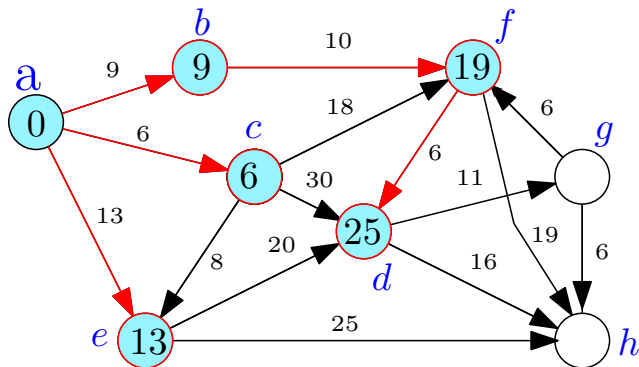
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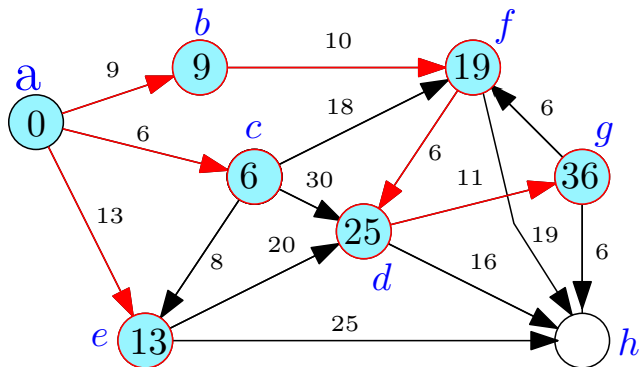
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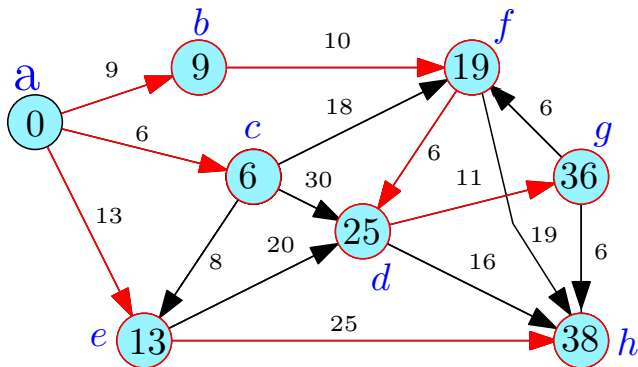
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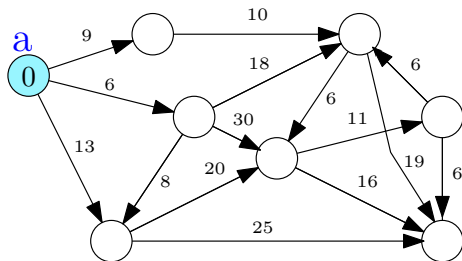


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## Corollary

The  $i$ th closest node is adjacent to **S**.

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Observations: for each  $u \in V - S$ ,

- 1  $\text{dist}(s, u) \leq d'(s, u)$  since we are constraining the paths
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- 2  $d'(s, u) = \min_{a \in S} (\text{dist}(s, a) + \ell(a, u))$  - Why?

## Lemma

If  $v$  is the  $i$ th closest node to  $s$ , then  $d'(s, v) = \text{dist}(s, v)$ .

# Finding the $i$ th closest node

## Lemma

Given:

- 1  $\mathbf{S}$ : Set of  $i - 1$  closest nodes to  $\mathbf{s}$ .
- 2  $\mathbf{d}'(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{u}) = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{S}} (\text{dist}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x}) + \ell(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}))$

If  $\mathbf{v}$  is an  $i$ th closest node to  $\mathbf{s}$ , then  $\mathbf{d}'(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{v}) = \text{dist}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{v})$ .

## Proof.

Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be the  $i$ th closest node to  $\mathbf{s}$ . Then there is a shortest path  $\mathbf{P}$  from  $\mathbf{s}$  to  $\mathbf{v}$  that contains only nodes in  $\mathbf{S}$  as intermediate nodes (see previous claim). Therefore  $\mathbf{d}'(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{v}) = \text{dist}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{v})$ .  $\square$



# Finding the $i$ th closest node

## Lemma

If  $v$  is an  $i$ th closest node to  $s$ , then  $d'(s, v) = \text{dist}(s, v)$ .

## Corollary

The  $i$ th closest node to  $s$  is the node  $v \in V - S$  such that  $d'(s, v) = \min_{u \in V - S} d'(s, u)$ .

## Proof.

For every node  $u \in V - S$ ,  $\text{dist}(s, u) \leq d'(s, u)$  and for the  $i$ th closest node  $v$ ,  $\text{dist}(s, v) = d'(s, v)$ . Moreover,  $\text{dist}(s, u) \geq \text{dist}(s, v)$  for each  $u \in V - S$ . □

# Algorithm

Initialize for each node  $v$ :  $\text{dist}(s, v) = \infty$

Initialize  $S = \emptyset$ ,  $d'(s, s) = 0$

**for**  $i = 1$  to  $|V|$  **do**

(\* Invariant:  $S$  contains the  $i-1$  closest nodes to  $s$  \*)

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$S = S \cup \{v\}$

**for** each node  $u$  in  $V \setminus S$  **do**

$d'(s, u) \leftarrow \min_{a \in S} (\text{dist}(s, a) + \ell(a, u))$

**Correctness:** By induction on  $i$  using previous lemmas.

**Running time:**  $O(n \cdot (n + m))$  time.

- 1  $n$  outer iterations. In each iteration,  $d'(s, u)$  for each  $u$  by scanning all edges out of nodes in  $S$ ;  $O(m + n)$  time/iteration.

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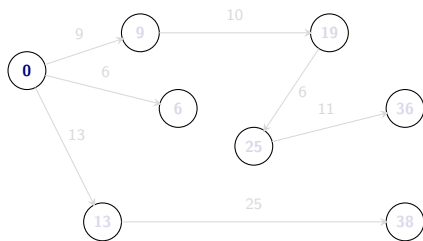
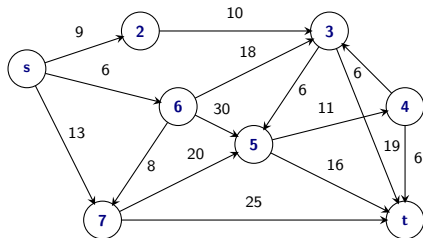
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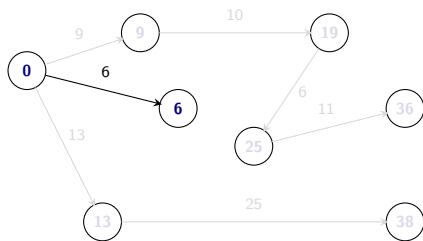
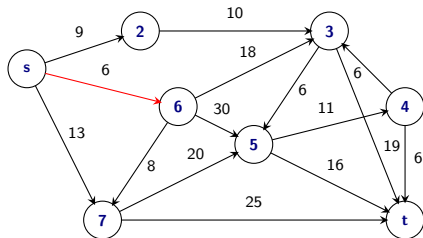
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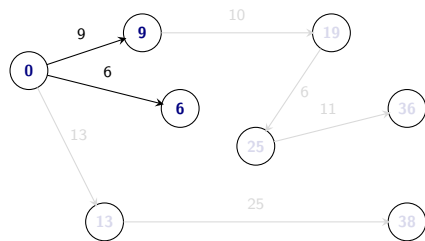
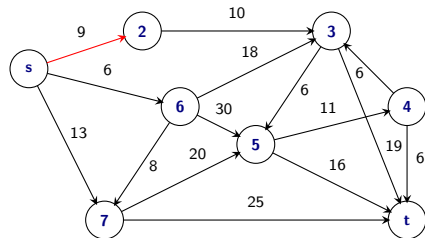
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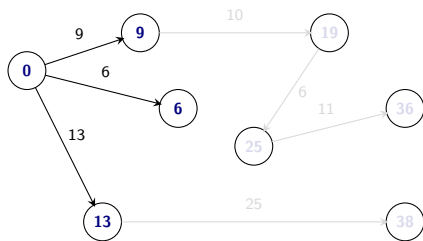
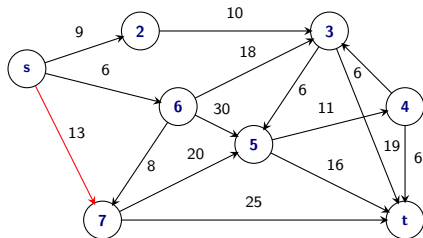


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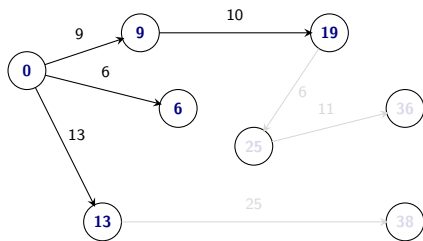
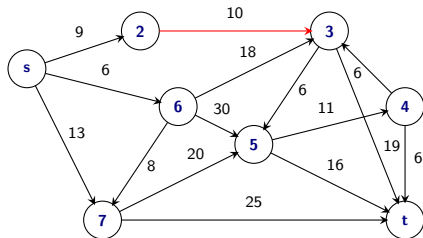




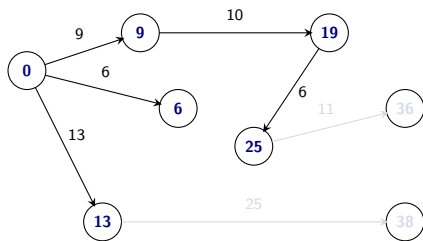
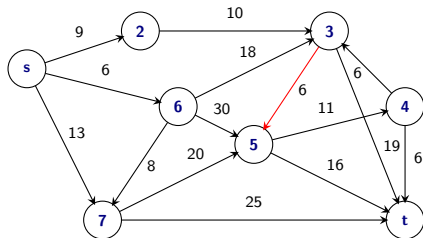
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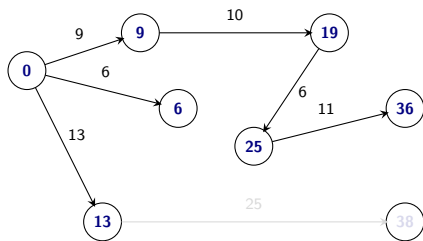
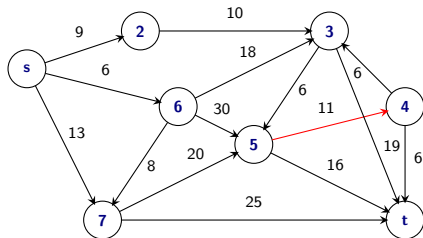
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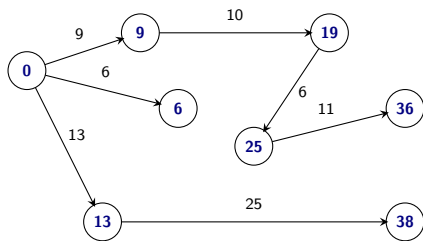
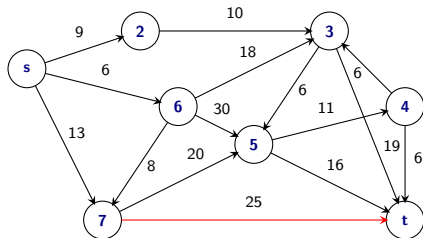
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# Improved Algorithm

- 1 Main work is to compute the  $d'(s, u)$  values in each iteration
- 2  $d'(s, u)$  changes from iteration  $i$  to  $i + 1$  only because of the node  $v$  that is added to  $S$  in iteration  $i$ .

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Running time:  $O(m + n^2)$  time.

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- 3 Finding  $v$  from  $d'(s, u)$  values is  $O(n)$  time



# Dijkstra's Algorithm

- 1 eliminate  $d'(s, u)$  and let  $\text{dist}(s, u)$  maintain it
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Priority Queues to maintain  $\text{dist}$  values for faster running time

- 1 Using heaps and standard priority queues:  $O((m + n) \log n)$
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Data structure to store a set  $S$  of  $n$  elements where each element  $v \in S$  has an associated real/integer key  $k(v)$  such that the following operations:

- 1 **makePQ**: create an empty queue.
- 2 **findMin**: find the minimum key in  $S$ .
- 3 **extractMin**: Remove  $v \in S$  with smallest key and return it.
- 4 **insert**( $v, k(v)$ ): Add new element  $v$  with key  $k(v)$  to  $S$ .
- 5 **delete**( $v$ ): Remove element  $v$  from  $S$ .
- 6 **decreaseKey**( $v, k'(v)$ ): *decrease* key of  $v$  from  $k(v)$  (current key) to  $k'(v)$  (new key). Assumption:  $k'(v) \leq k(v)$ .
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# Dijkstra's Algorithm using Priority Queues

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Q ← makePQ()
insert(Q, (s, 0))
for each node u ≠ s do
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S ← ∅
for i = 1 to |V| do
    (v, dist(s, v)) = extractMin(Q)
    S = S ∪ {v}
    for each u in Adj(v) do
        decreaseKey(Q, (u, min(dist(s, u), dist(s, v) + ℓ(v, u))))
```

Priority Queue operations:

- 1  $O(n)$  insert operations
- 2  $O(n)$  extractMin operations
- 3  $O(m)$  decreaseKey operations

# Implementing Priority Queues via Heaps

## Using Heaps

Store elements in a heap based on the key value

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## Fibonacci Heaps

- 1 **extractMin**, **insert**, **delete**, **meld** in  $O(\log n)$  time
  - 2 **decreaseKey** in  $O(1)$  amortized time:  $\ell$  **decreaseKey** operations for  $\ell \geq n$  take together  $O(\ell)$  time
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- 1 Dijkstra's algorithm can be implemented in  $O(n \log n + m)$  time. If  $m = \Omega(n \log n)$ , running time is linear in input size.
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# Shortest Path Tree

Dijkstra's algorithm finds the shortest path distances from  $s$  to  $V$ .

**Question:** How do we find the paths themselves?

```
Q = makePQ()
insert(Q, (s, 0))
prev(s) ← null
for each node  $u \neq s$  do
    insert(Q, (u,  $\infty$ ))
    prev(u) ← null

S =  $\emptyset$ 
for  $i = 1$  to  $|V|$  do
    ( $v$ ,  $\text{dist}(s, v)$ ) = extractMin(Q)
    S = S  $\cup$  { $v$ }
    for each  $u$  in Adj( $v$ ) do
        if ( $\text{dist}(s, v) + \ell(v, u) < \text{dist}(s, u)$ ) then
            decreaseKey(Q, ( $u$ ,  $\text{dist}(s, v) + \ell(v, u)$ ))
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```

# Shortest Path Tree

## Lemma

*The edge set  $(\mathbf{u}, \text{prev}(\mathbf{u}))$  is the reverse of a shortest path tree rooted at  $\mathbf{s}$ . For each  $\mathbf{u}$ , the reverse of the path from  $\mathbf{u}$  to  $\mathbf{s}$  in the tree is a shortest path from  $\mathbf{s}$  to  $\mathbf{u}$ .*

## Proof Sketch.

- 1 The edge set  $\{(\mathbf{u}, \text{prev}(\mathbf{u})) \mid \mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{V}\}$  induces a directed in-tree rooted at  $\mathbf{s}$  (Why?)
- 2 Use induction on  $|\mathbf{S}|$  to argue that the tree is a shortest path tree for nodes in  $\mathbf{V}$ .



# Shortest paths to **s**

Dijkstra's algorithm gives shortest paths from **s** to all nodes in **V**.  
How do we find shortest paths from all of **V** to **s**?

- 1 In undirected graphs shortest path from **s** to **u** is a shortest path from **u** to **s** so there is no need to distinguish.
- 2 In directed graphs, use Dijkstra's algorithm in **G<sup>rev</sup>**!



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