

CS 3100

Data Structures and Algorithms 2

Lecture 5: Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm

Co-instructors: Robbie Hott and Ray Pettit
Spring 2024

Readings in CLRS 4th edition:

- Section 22.3

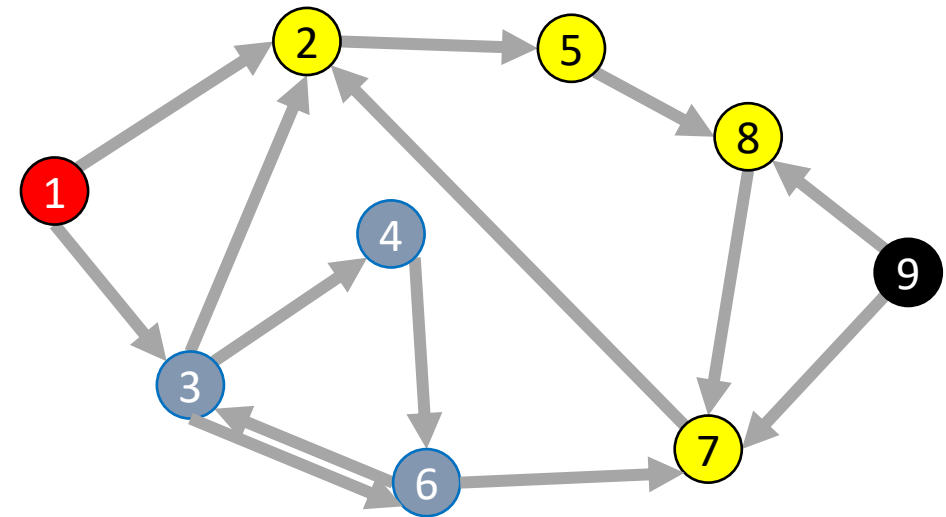
Announcements

- PS2 available soon, due Wednesday
- PA1 Gradescope submission coming soon
- Office hours
 - Prof Hott Office Hours: Mondays 11a-12p, Fridays 10-11a and 2-3p
 - Prof Pettit Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30-4:00p
 - TA office hours posted on our website

DFS: Recursively

```
def dfs(graph, s):  
    seen = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    done = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    dfs_rec(graph, s, seen, done)
```

```
def dfs_rec(graph, curr, seen, done)  
    mark curr as seen  
    for v in neighbors(current):  
        if v not seen:  
            dfs_rec(graph, v, seen, done)  
    mark curr as done
```

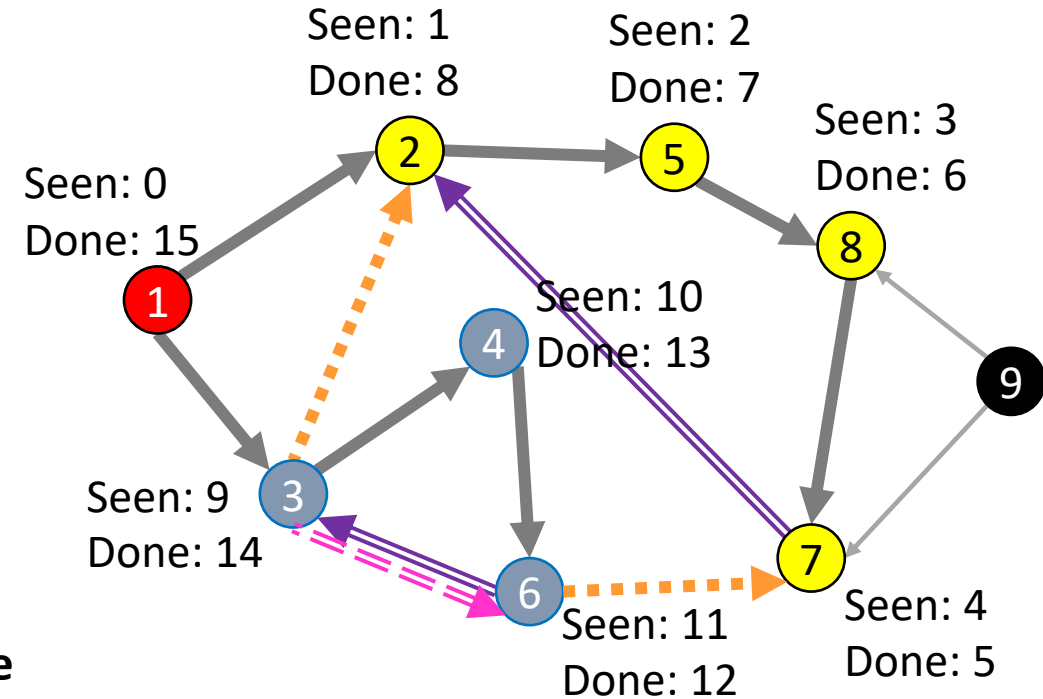


Using DFS

Consider the “seen times” and “done times”

Edges can be categorized:

- **Tree Edge** \longrightarrow
 - (a, b) was followed when pushing
 - (a, b) when b was **unseen** when we were at a
- **Back Edge** \Longrightarrow
 - (a, b) goes to an “ancestor”
 - a and b **seen** but not **done** when we saw (a, b)
 - $t_{seen}(b) < t_{seen}(a) < t_{done}(a) < t_{done}(b)$
- **Forward Edge** \dashrightarrow
 - (a, b) goes to a “descendent”
 - b was **seen** and **done** between when a was **seen** and **done**
 - $t_{seen}(a) < t_{seen}(b) < t_{done}(b) < t_{done}(a)$
- **Cross Edge** \dashrightarrow
 - (a, b) connects “branches” of the tree
 - b was **seen** and **done** before a was ever **seen**
 - (a, b) when $t_{done}(b) > t_{seen}(a)$ and

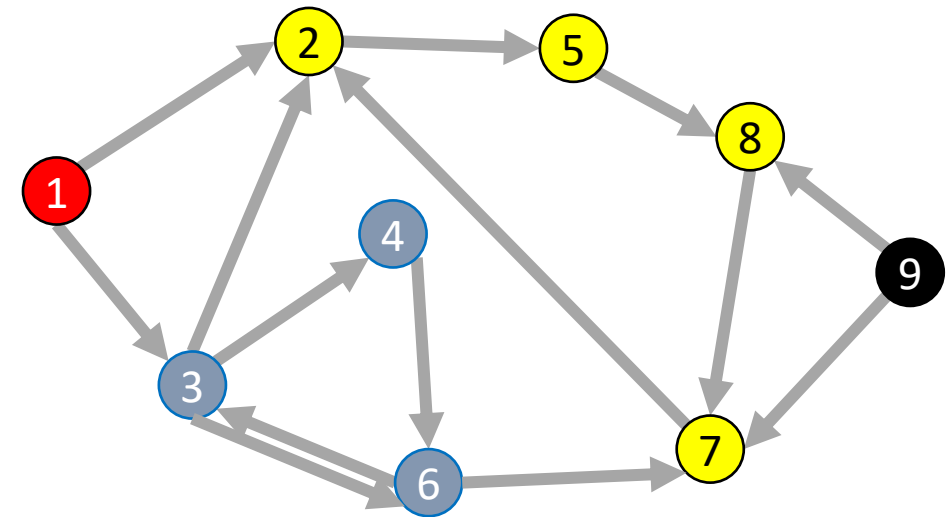


DFS: Cycle Detection

Idea: Look for a back edge!

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def dfs_rec(graph, curr, seen, done):  
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        if v not seen:  
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    mark curr as done
```



DFS: Cycle Detection

Idea: Look for a back edge!

```
def hasCycle(graph, s):  
    seen = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    done = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    dfs_rec(graph, s, seen, done)
```

```
def hasCycle_rec(graph, curr, seen, done)
```

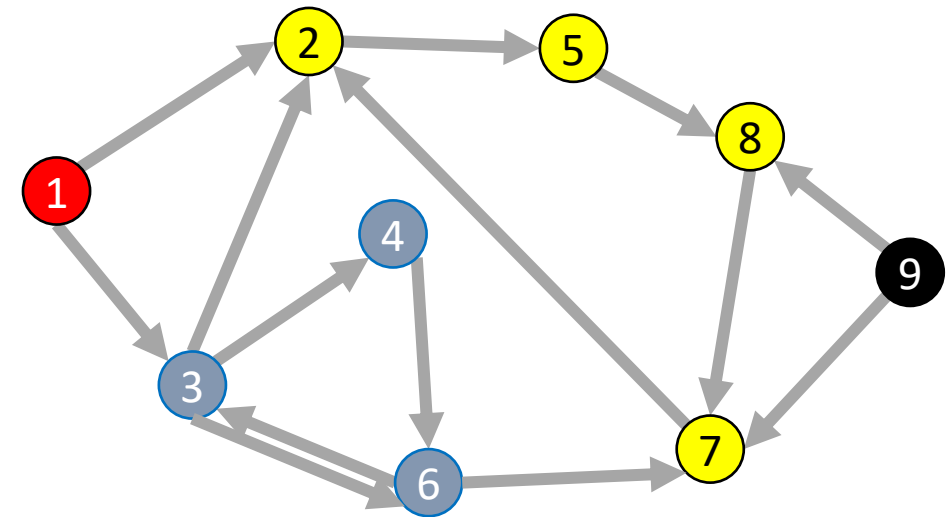
mark curr as seen

for v in neighbors(current):

if v not seen:

dfs_rec(graph, v, seen, done)

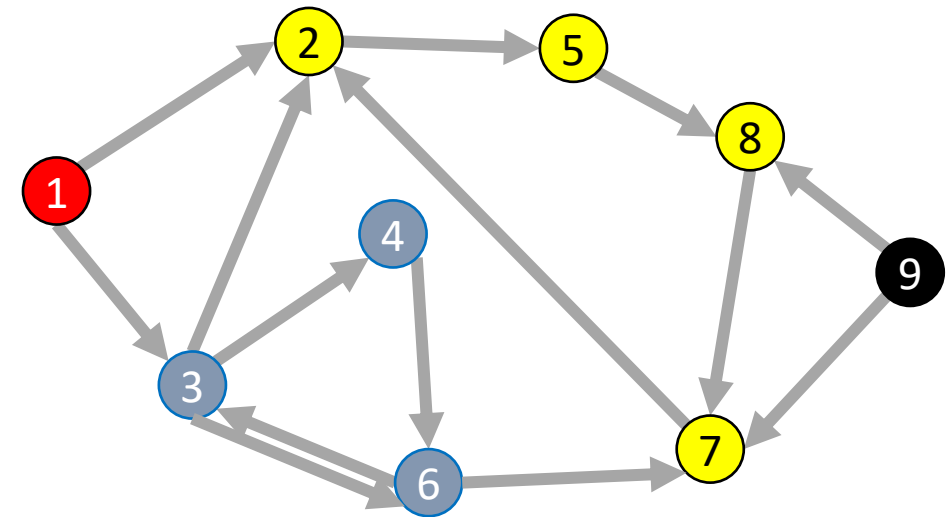
mark curr as done



DFS: Cycle Detection

Idea: Look for a back edge!

```
def hasCycle(graph, s):  
    seen = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    done = [False, False, False, ...] # length matches |V|  
    return hasCycle_rec(graph, s, seen, done)  
  
def hasCycle_rec(graph, curr, seen, done):  
    cycle = False  
    mark curr as seen  
    for v in neighbors(current):  
        if v seen and v not done:  
            cycle = True  
        elif v not seen:  
            cycle = dfs_rec(graph, v, seen, done) or cycle  
    mark curr as done  
    return cycle
```



Back Edges in Undirected Graphs

Finding back edges for an undirected graph is not **quite** this simple:

- The parent node of the current node is **seen** but not **done**
- Not a cycle, is it? It's the same edge you just traversed

Question: how would you modify our code to recognize this?

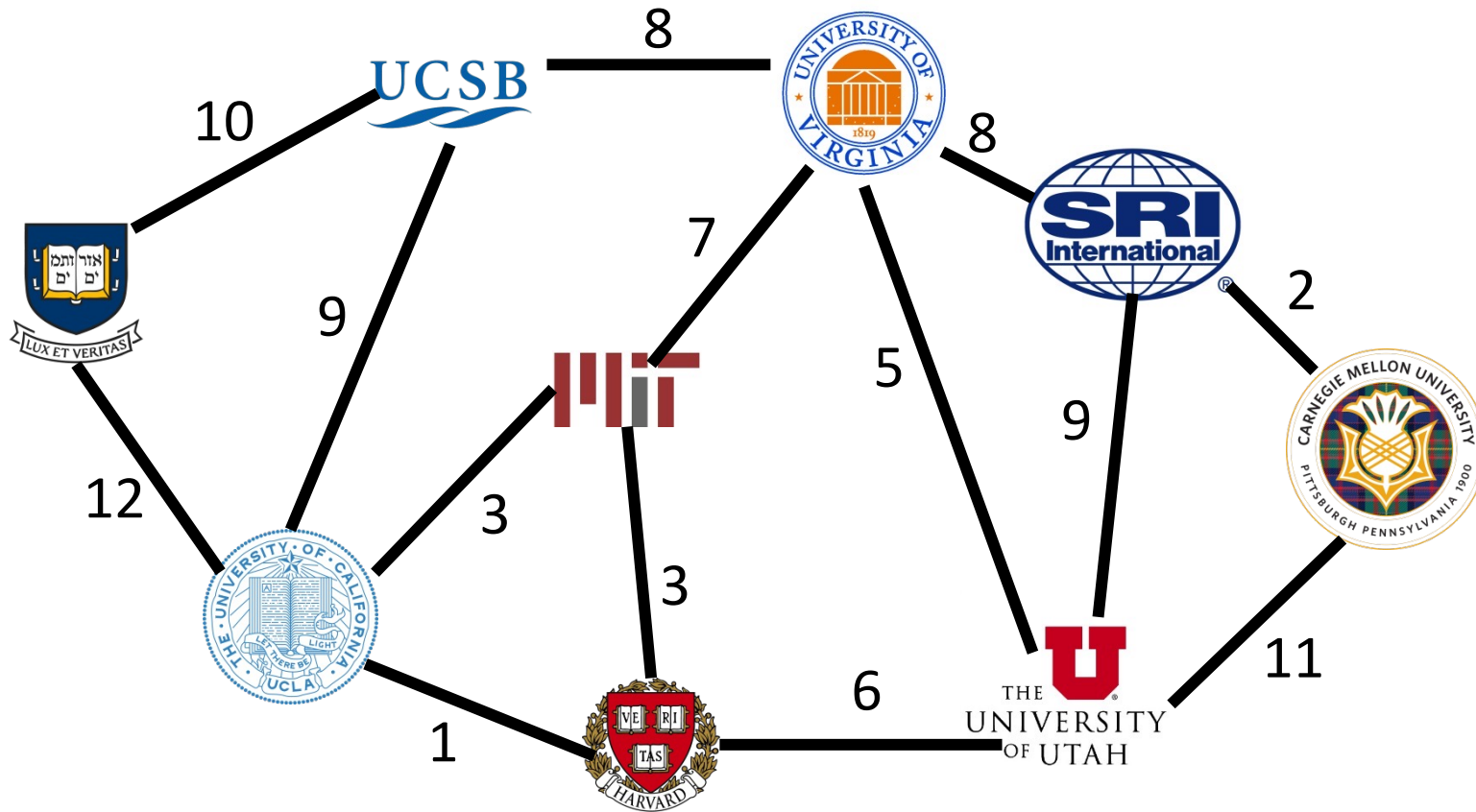
Time Complexity of DFS

For a digraph having V vertices and E edges

- Each edge is processed once in the while loop of `dfs_rec()` for a cost of $\Theta(E)$
 - Think about *adjacency list* data structure.
 - Traverse each list exactly once. (Never back up)
 - There are a total of E nodes in all the lists
- The non-recursive `dfs()` algorithm will do $\Theta(V)$ work even if there are no edges in the graph
- Thus over all time-complexity is $\Theta(V + E)$
 - Remember: this means the larger of the two values
 - Reminder: This is considered “linear” for graphs since there are two size parameters for graphs.
- Extra space is used for seen/done (or color) array.
 - Space complexity is $\Theta(V)$

Shortest Path

Single-Source Shortest Path Problem



Find the shortest path based on sum of edge-weights from UVA to each of these other places.

The problem: Given a graph $G = (V, E)$ and a start node (i.e., source) $s \in V$,

for each $v \in V$ find the minimum-weight path from $s \rightarrow v$ (call this weight $\delta(s, v)$)

Assumption (for this unit): all edge weights are positive

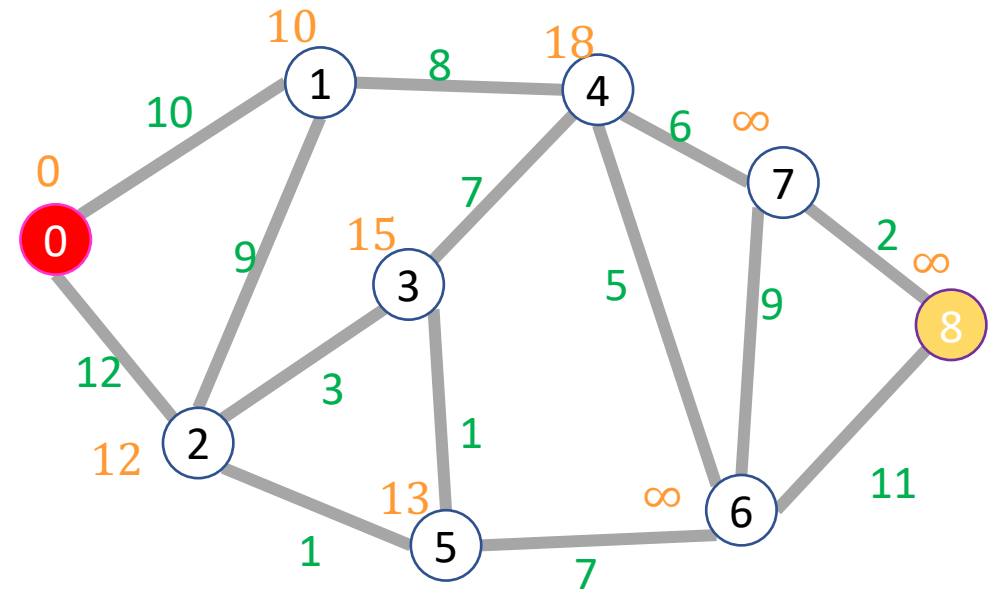
Dijkstra's Algorithm

Input: graph with **no negative edge weights**, start node s , end node t

Behavior: Start with node s , repeatedly go to the incomplete node "nearest" to s , stop when

Output:

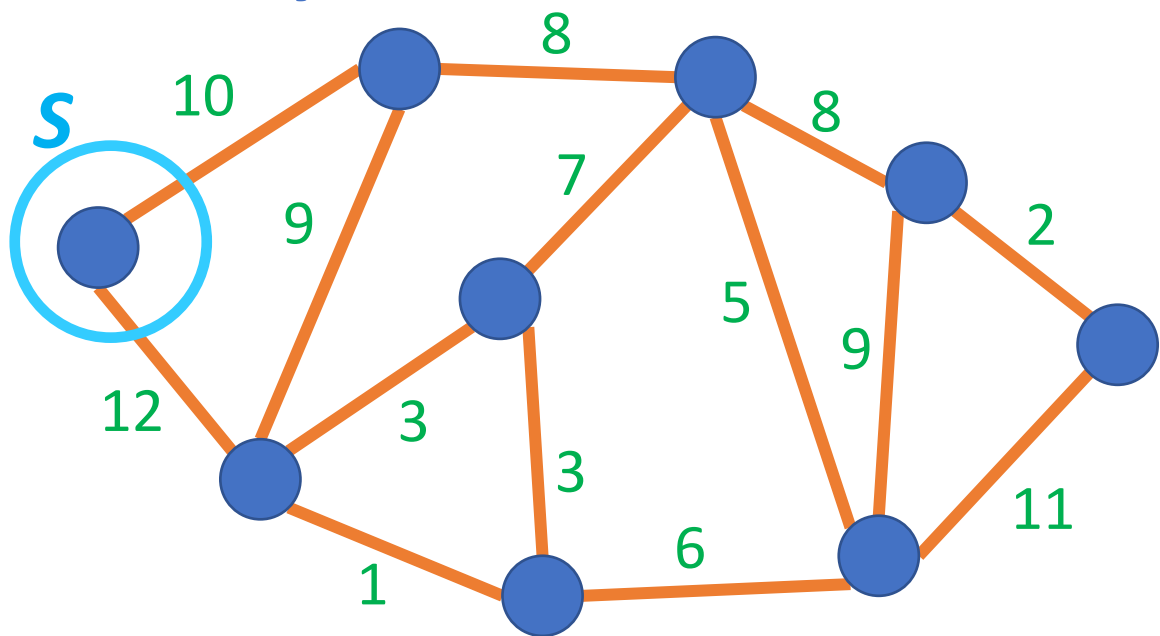
- Distance from start to end
- Distance from start to every node



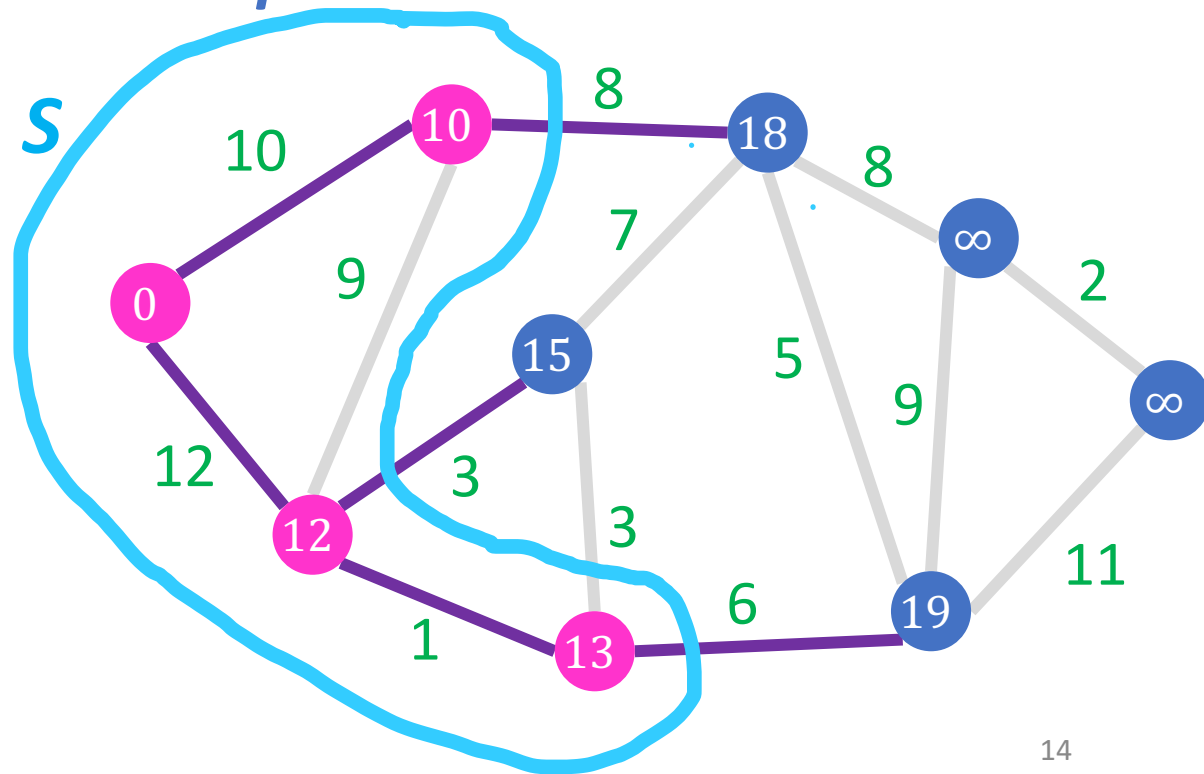
Dijkstra's Algorithm

1. Start with an empty tree S and add the source to S
2. Repeat $|V| - 1$ times:
 - At each step, add the node "nearest" to the source not yet in S to S

Initially:



At some point later:



Data Structure to Store Nodes

The strategy: At every step, choose node not in S that's closest to source

To do this efficiently, we need a data structure that:

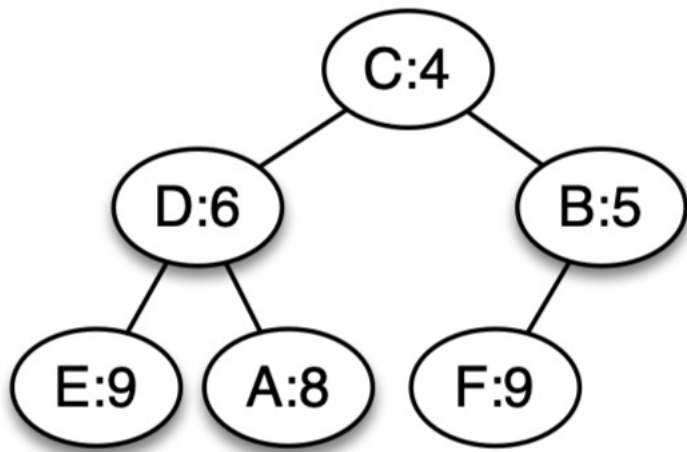
- Stores a set of (node, distance) pairs
- Allows efficient removal of the pair with smallest distance
- Allows efficient additions and updates

This is the **Priority Queue** ADT (Abstract Data Type)!

Remember the **binary heap** data structure?

We'll need a **min-heap** (node with smallest priority at the root)

Review: Storing a Heap in an Array



Min-heap
stored in array

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
:-1	C:4	D:6	B:5	E:9	A:8	F:9

Must store the key (priority) value, and maybe other info (e.g. node ID)

Store the elements in a **one-dimensional array** in strict left-to-right, **level order**

That is, we store all of the nodes on the tree's level i from left to right before storing the nodes on level $i + 1$.

- *Usually we ignore index position 0*
- *Simple formulas to find children, siblings,...*
 - $2i$: Left child, $2i+1$: right child
 - $\text{floor}(i/2)$: parent

Review: Heap Operations

extractMin() *perhaps called poll() in CS 2100*

- Returns and removes the item with the min key (e.g. the heap's root)
- Move last item to root and “bubble it down” to correct location
- Complexity: $O(\log n)$

insert(item, key) *perhaps called push() in CS 2100*

- Add new item at end of array and “bubble it up” to correct location
- Complexity: $O(\log n)$

decreaseKey(item, newKey) *not covered in CS 2100!*

- Find item in min-heap, decrease its key, and “bubble it up” to correct location
- Complexity: uh oh! Can we find item quickly, i.e. in $O(\log n)$?
- Could sequential search the array. Then complexity is $O(n)$ 😞
- We can do this in $O(\log n)$ if we use **indirect heaps** (details later)

Dijkstra's Algorithm Implementation

1. Start with an empty tree S and add the source to S
2. Repeat $|V| - 1$ times:
 - Add the node to S that's not yet in S and that's "nearest" to source

Implementation:

initialize $d_v = \infty$ for each node v

add all nodes $v \in V$ to the priority queue PQ, using d_v as the key

set $d_s = 0$

while PQ is not empty:

$v = \text{PQ.extractMin}()$

for each $u \in V$ such that $(v, u) \in E$:

if $u \in \text{PQ}$ and $d_v + w(v, u) < d_u$:

$\text{PQ.decreaseKey}(u, d_v + w(v, u))$

$u.\text{parent} = v$

each node also maintains a parent, initially NULL

key: length of shortest path $s \rightarrow u$ using nodes in PQ

Dijkstra's Algorithm Implementation

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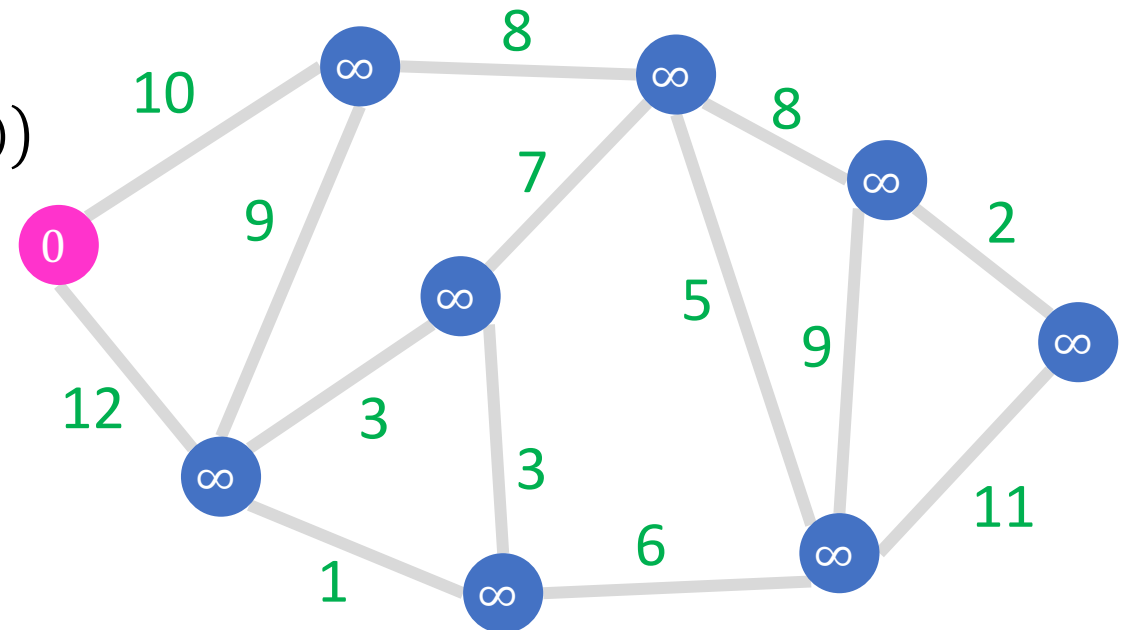
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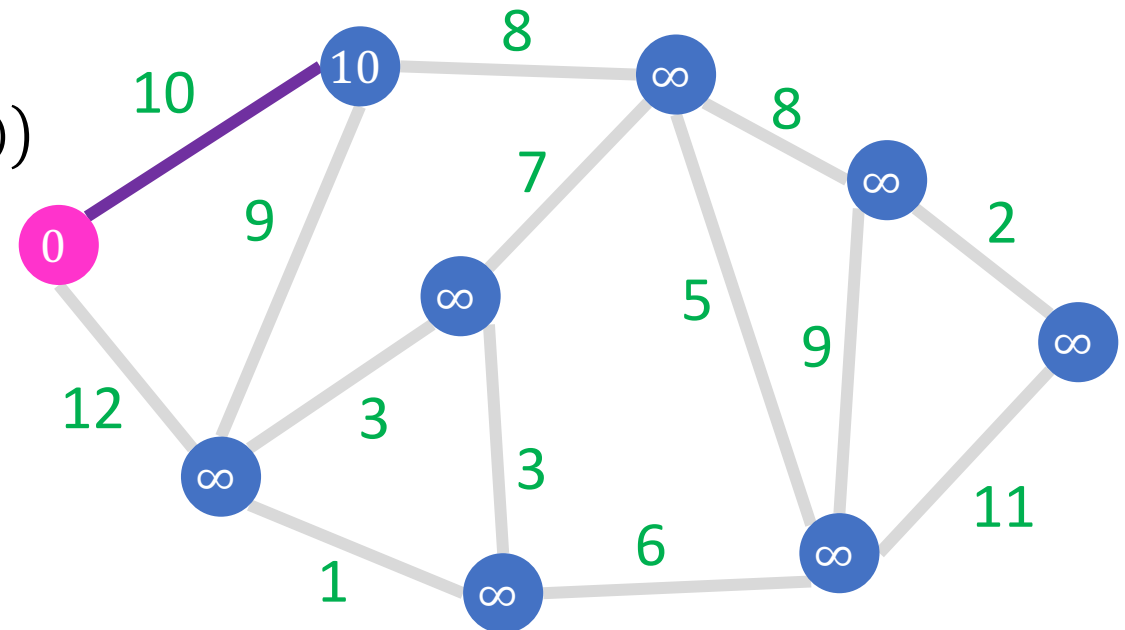
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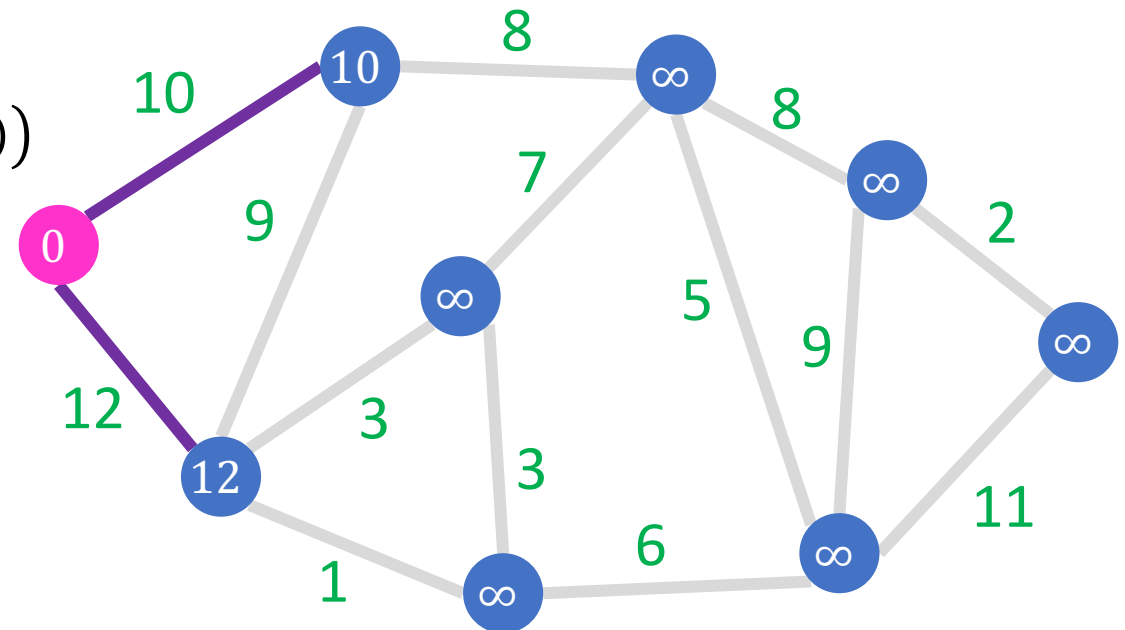
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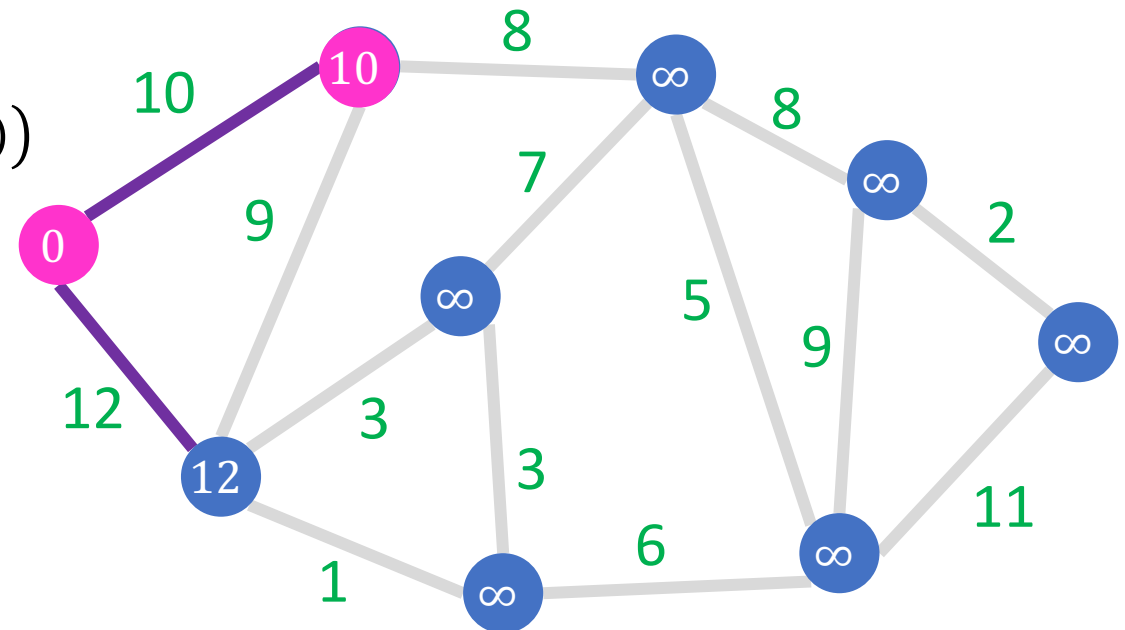
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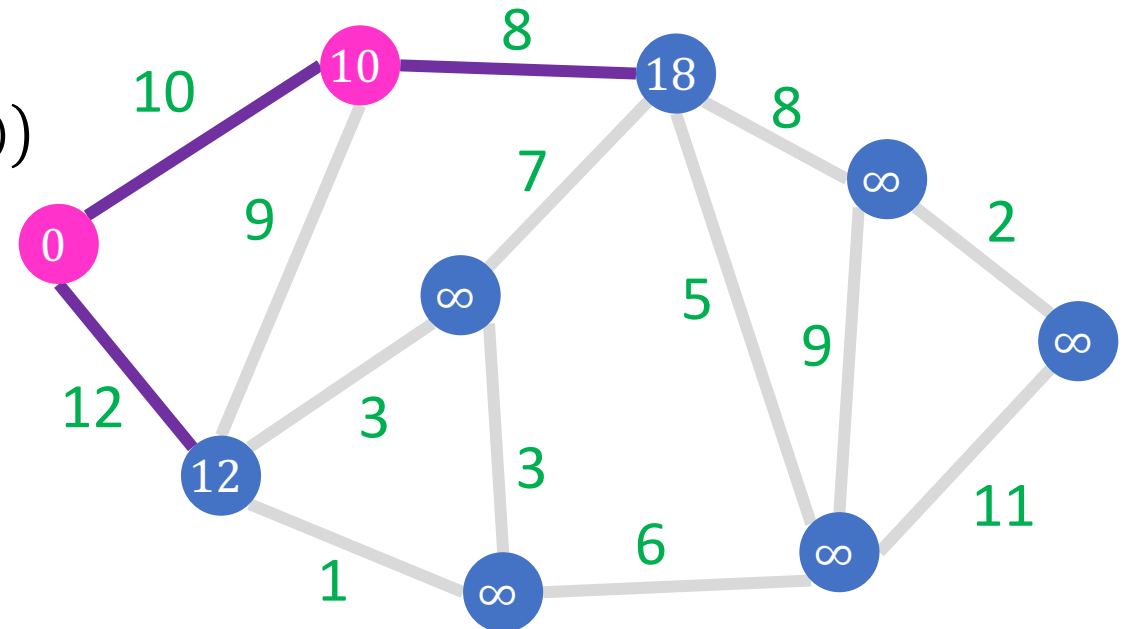
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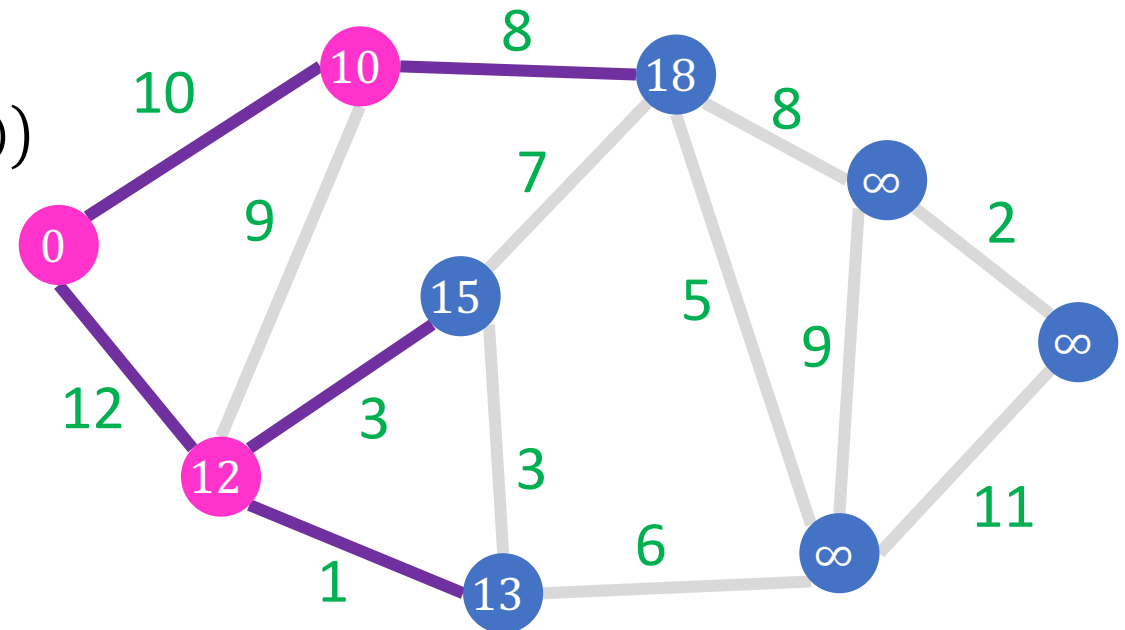
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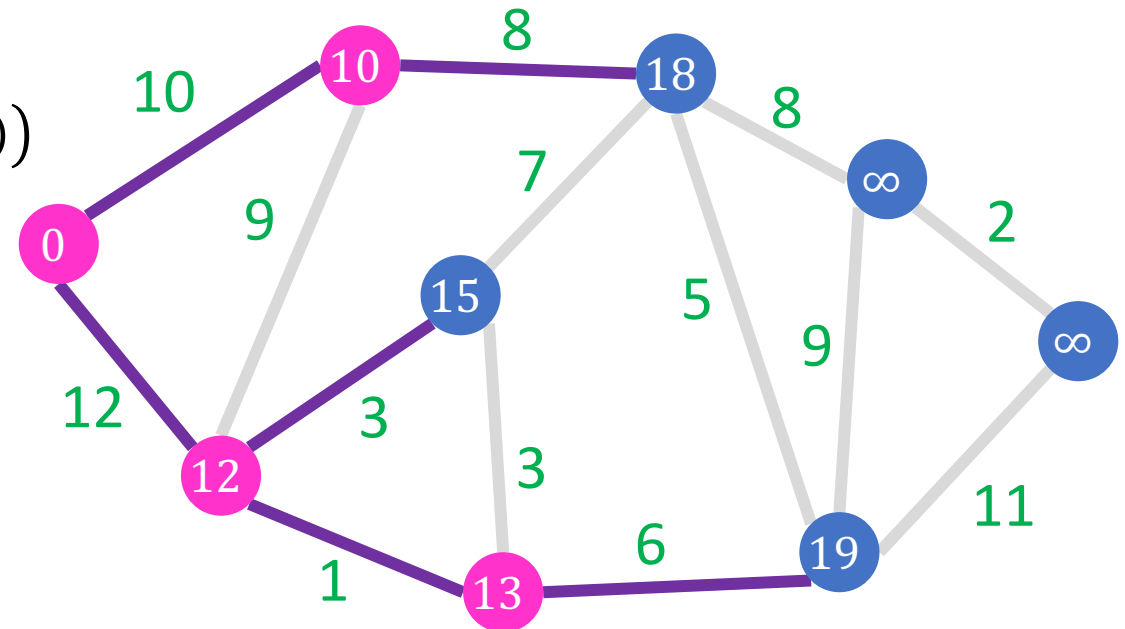
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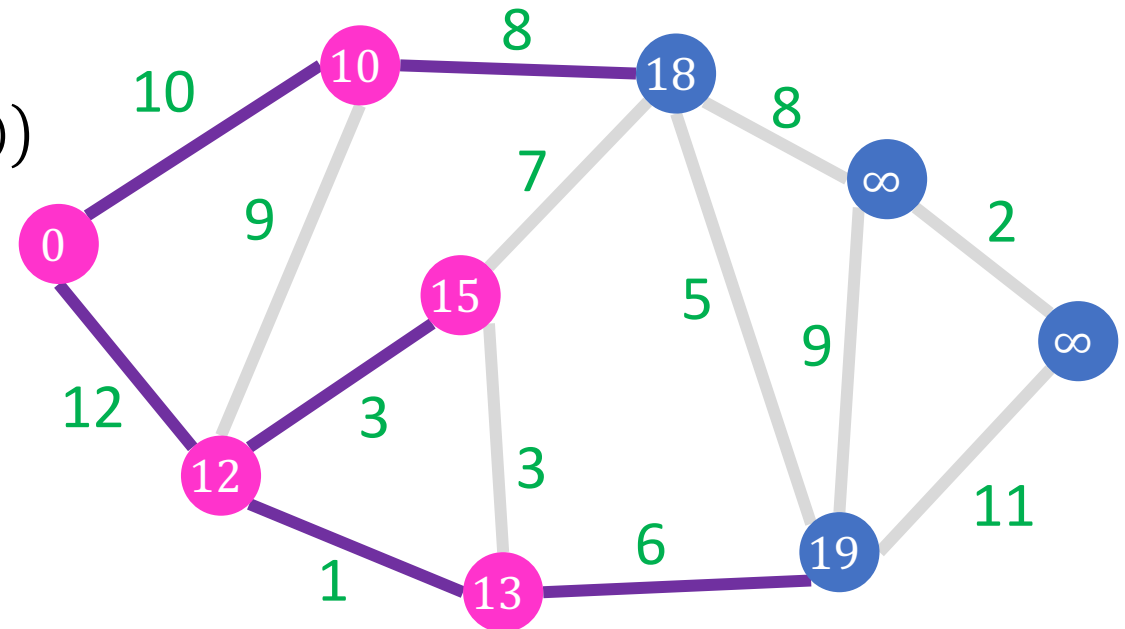
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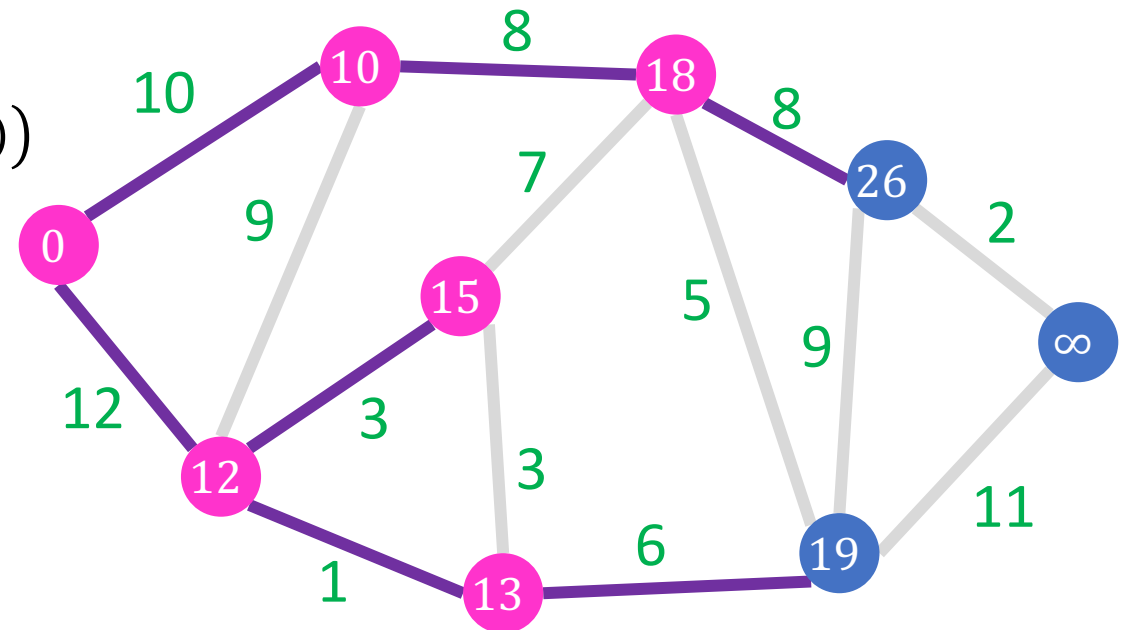
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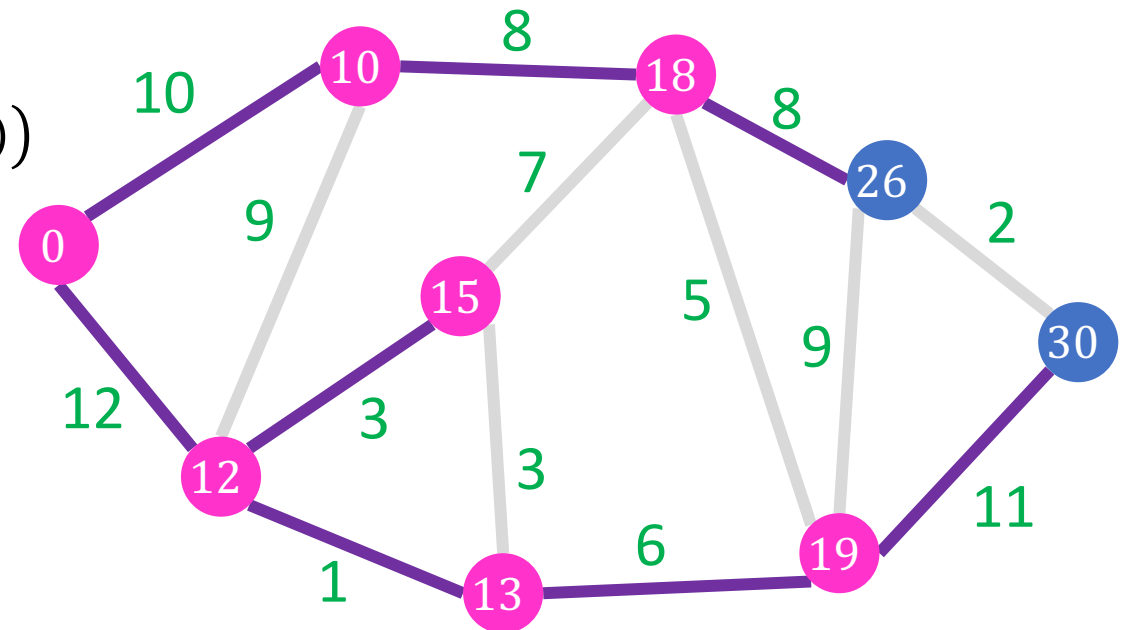
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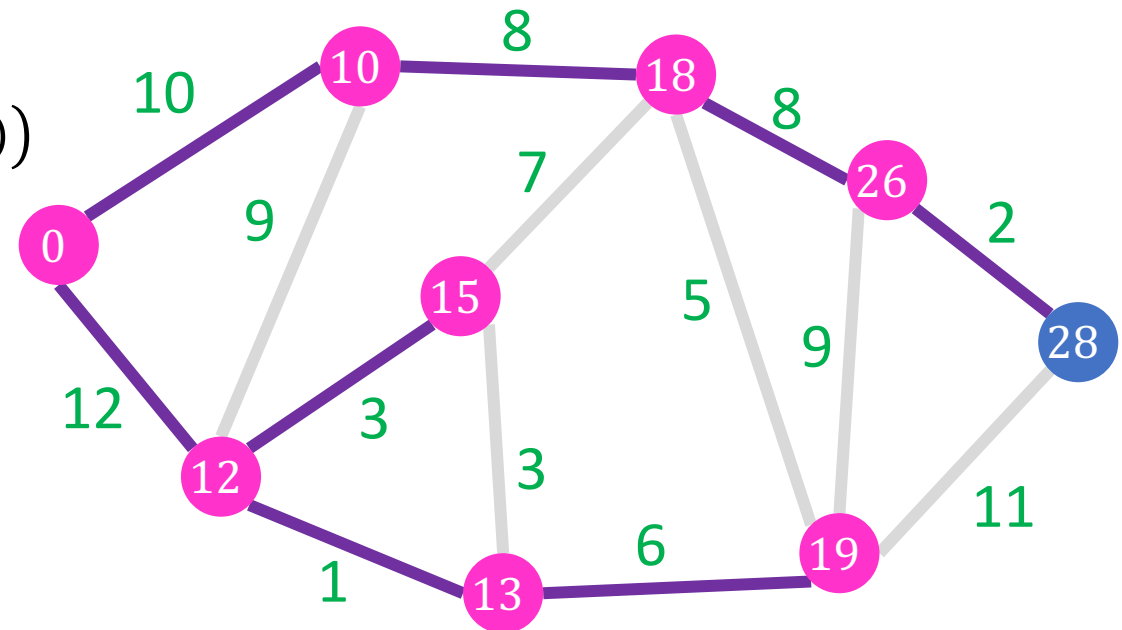
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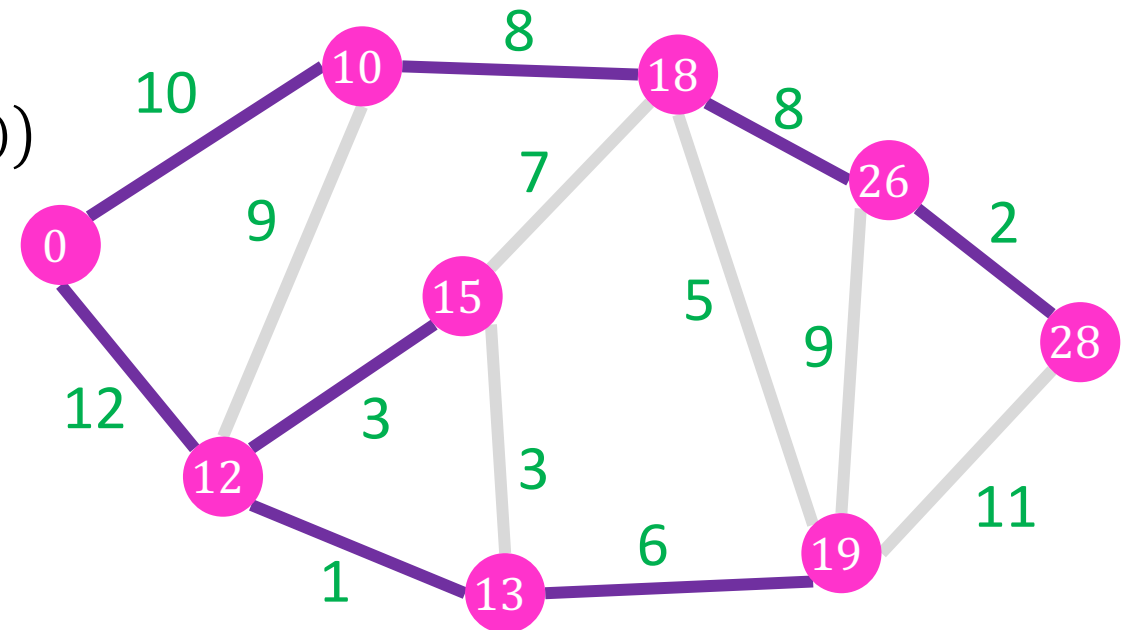
if $u \in \text{PQ}$ and $d_v + w(v, u) < d_u$:

$\text{PQ.decreaseKey}(u, d_v + w(v, u))$

$u.\text{parent} = v$

Observe: shortest paths from a source forms a tree, shortest path to every reachable node

Every subpath of a shortest path is itself a shortest path. (This is called the *optimal substructure property*.)



Dijkstra's Algorithm Running Time

Implementation:

initialize $d_v = \infty$ for each node v

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set $d_s = 0$

while PQ is not empty:

$v = \text{PQ.extractMin}()$

 for each $u \in V$ such that $(v, u) \in E$:

 if $u \in \text{PQ}$ and $d_v + w(v, u) < d_u$:

 PQ.decreaseKey($u, d_v + w(v, u)$)

$u.\text{parent} = v$

Initialization:

$O(|V|)$

$|V|$ iterations

$O(\log|V|)$

$|E|$ iterations total

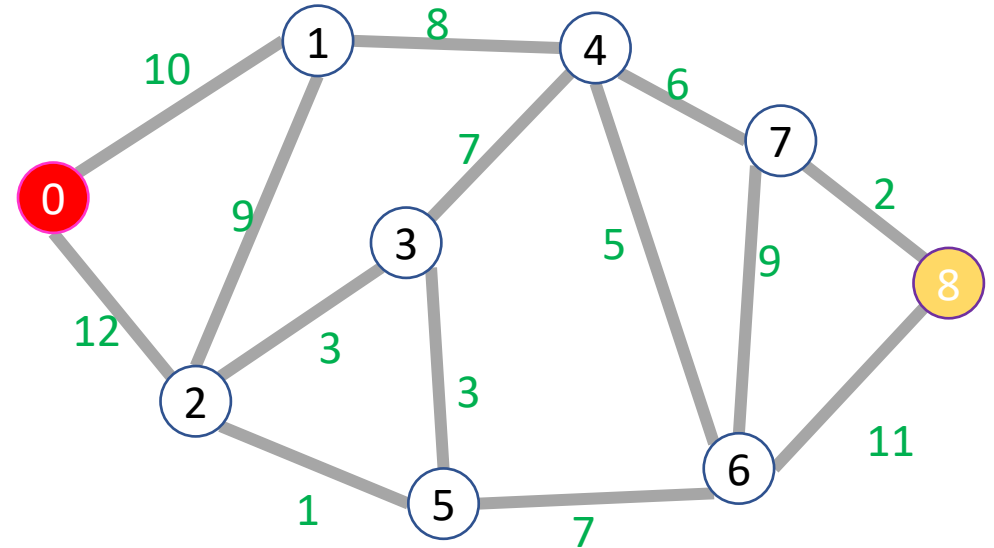
?? $O(\log|V|)$ if we use indirect heaps

Overall running time: $O(|V| \log|V| + |E| \log|V|) = O(|E| \log|V|)$
or, $O(m \log n)$

$$\begin{array}{l} |V| = n \\ |E| = m \end{array}$$

Python-like Code for Dijkstra's Algorithm

```
def Dijkstras(graph, start, end):
    distances = [∞, ∞, ∞,...] # one index per node
    done = [False,False,False,...] # one index per node
    PQ = priority queue # e.g. a min heap
    PQ.insert((0, start))
    distances[start] = 0
    while PQ is not empty:
        current = PQ.extractmin()
        if done[current]: continue
        done[current] = True
        for each neighbor of current:
            if not done[neighbor]:
                new_dist = distances[current]+weight(current,neighbor)
                if new_dist < distances[neighbor]:
                    distances[neighbor] = new_dist
                    PQ.insert((new_dist,neighbor))
    return distances[end]
```



Dijkstra's Algorithm

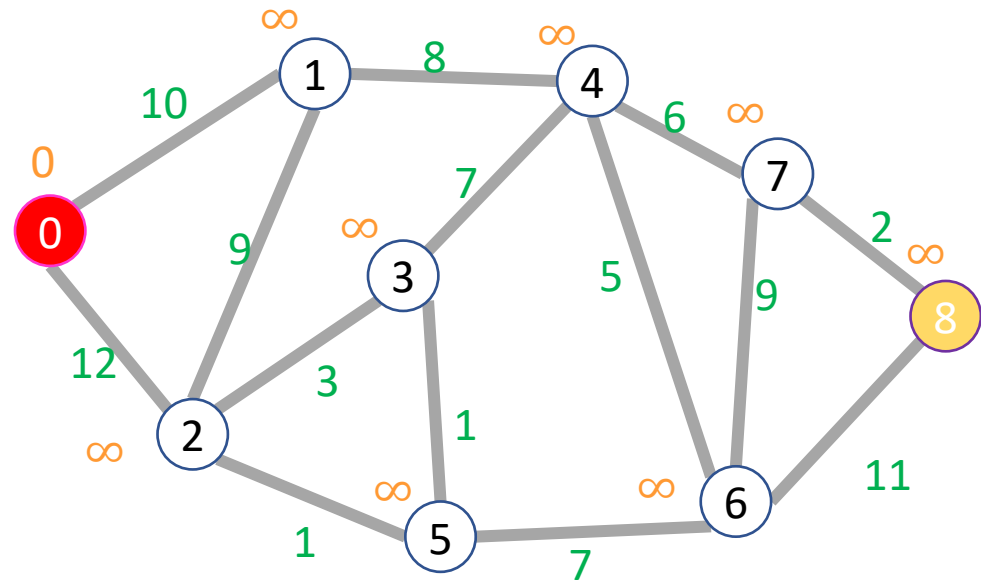
Start: 0

End: 8

Idea: When a node is the closest undiscovered thing to the start, we have found its shortest path

Node	Done?
0	F
1	F
2	F
3	F
4	F
5	F
6	F
7	F
8	F

Node	Distance
0	0
1	∞
2	∞
3	∞
4	∞
5	∞
6	∞
7	∞
8	∞



Dijkstra's Algorithm

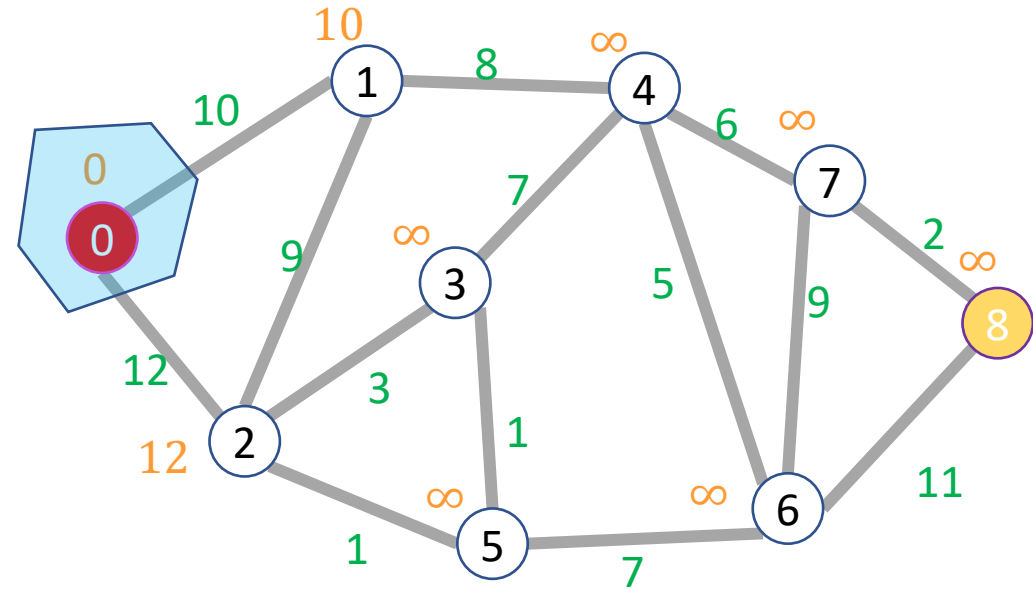
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Node	Done?
0	T
1	F
2	F
3	F
4	F
5	F
6	F
7	F
8	F

Node	Distance
0	0
1	10
2	12
3	∞
4	∞
5	∞
6	∞
7	∞
8	∞



Dijkstra's Algorithm

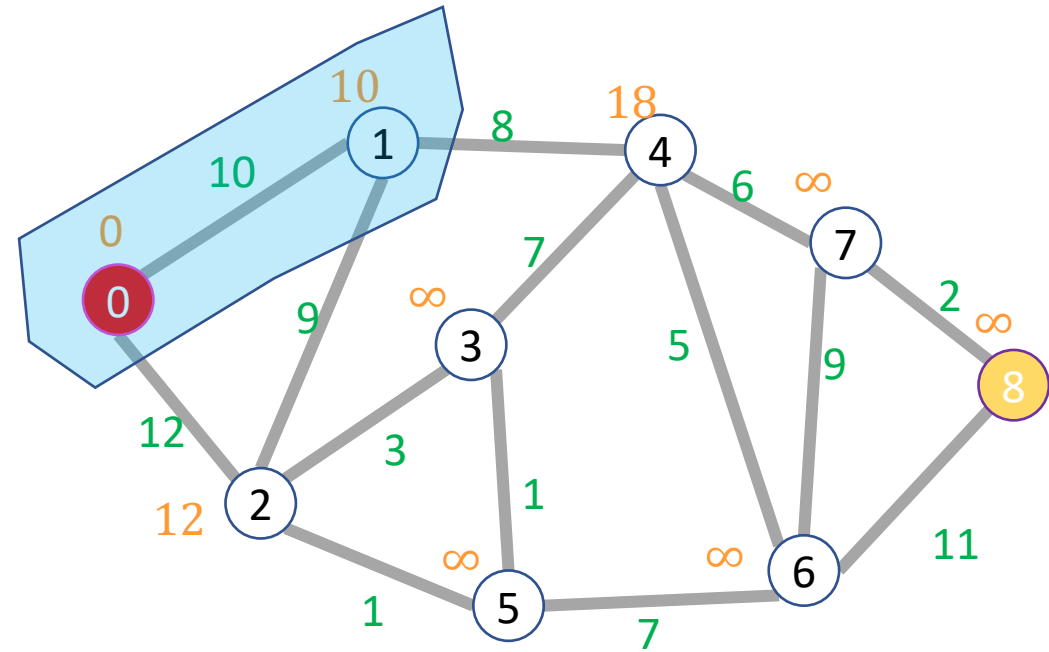
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Node	Done?
0	T
1	T
2	F
3	F
4	F
5	F
6	F
7	F
8	F

Node	Distance
0	0
1	10
2	12
3	∞
4	18
5	∞
6	∞
7	∞
8	∞



Dijkstra's Algorithm

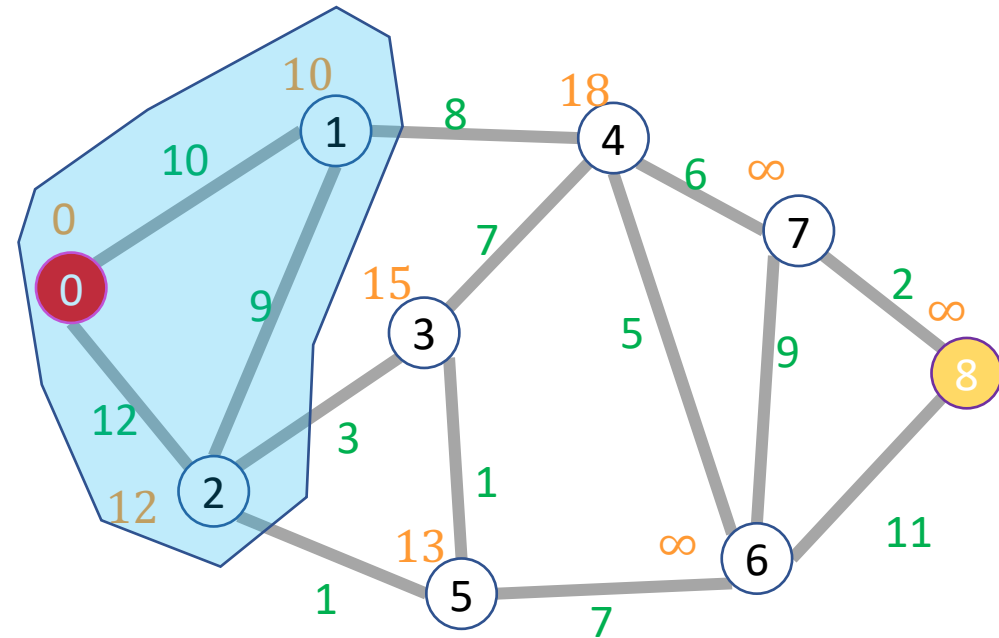
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Node	Done?
0	T
1	T
2	T
3	F
4	F
5	F
6	F
7	F
8	F

Node	Distance
0	0
1	10
2	12
3	15
4	18
5	13
6	∞
7	∞
8	∞



Dijkstra's Algorithm

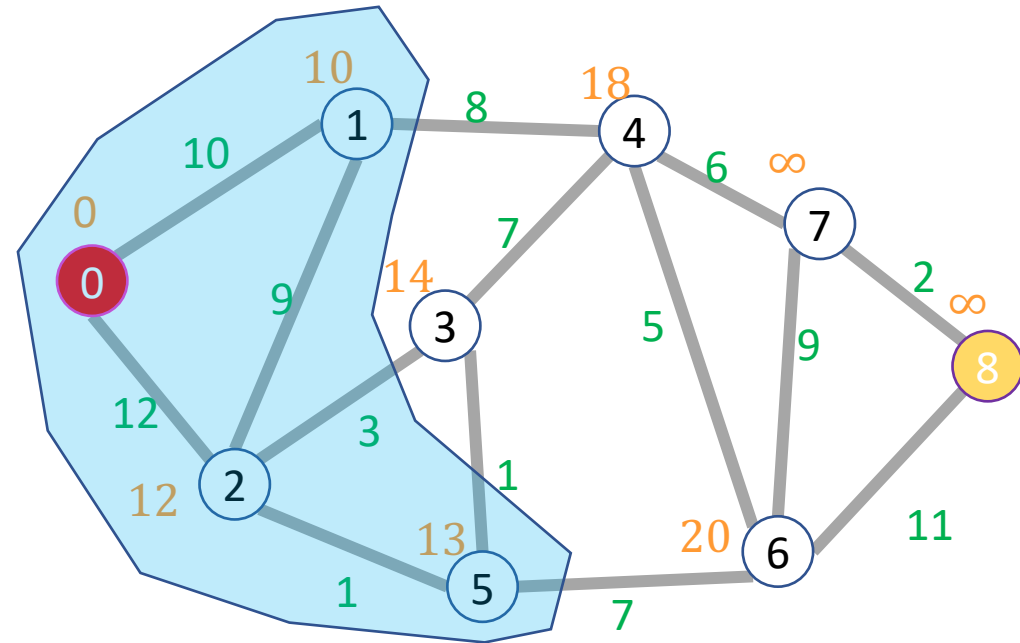
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0	T
1	T
2	T
3	F
4	F
5	T
6	F
7	F
8	F

Node	Distance
0	0
1	10
2	12
3	14
4	18
5	13
6	∞
7	20
8	∞



Dijkstra's Algorithm Implementation

Implementation:

initialize $d_v = \infty$ for each node v

add all nodes $v \in V$ to the priority queue PQ, using d_v as the key

set $d_s = 0$

while PQ is not empty:

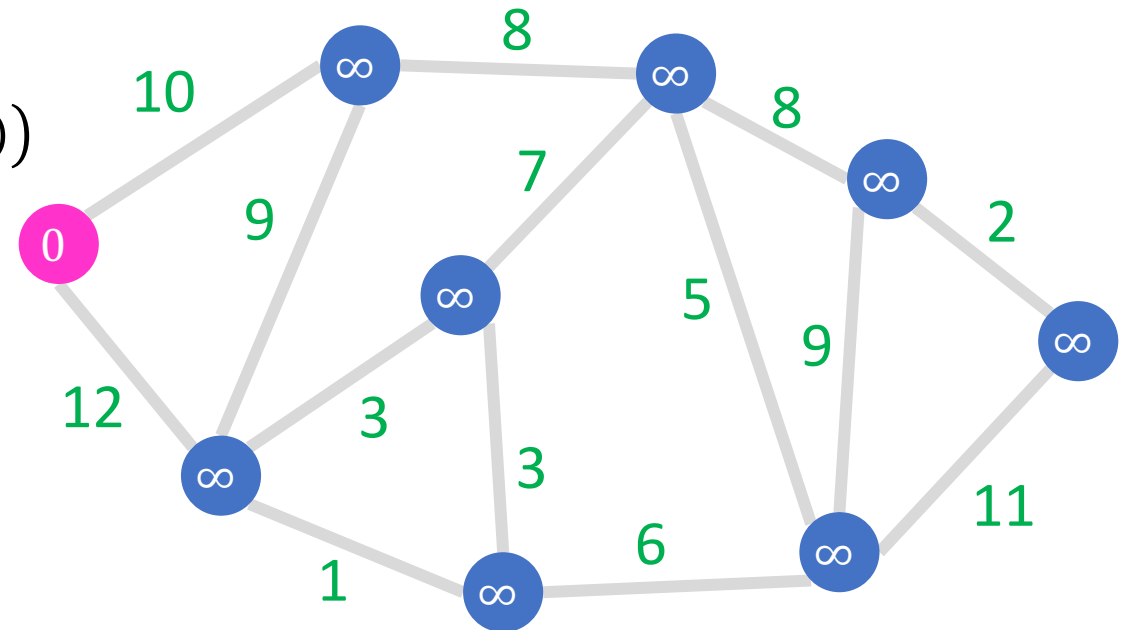
$v = \text{PQ.extractMin}()$

for each $u \in V$ such that $(v, u) \in E$:

if $u \in \text{PQ}$ and $d_v + w(v, u) < d_u$:

$\text{PQ.decreaseKey}(u, d_v + w(v, u))$

$u.\text{parent} = v$



Dijkstra's Algorithm Proof Strategy

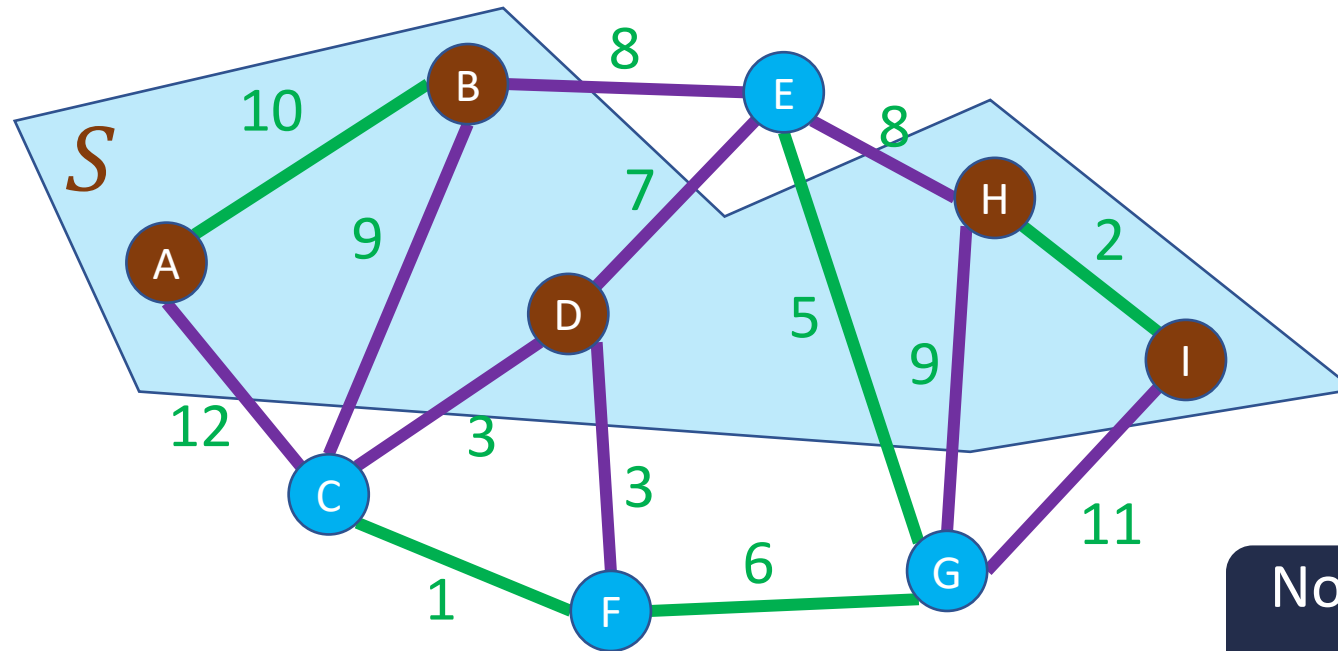
Proof by induction

Proof Idea: we will show that when node u is removed from the priority queue, $d_u = \delta(s, u)$ where $\delta(s, u)$ is the shortest distance

- **Claim 1:** There is a path of length d_u (as long as $d_u < \infty$) from s to u in G
- **Claim 2:** For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$

Graph Cuts

A **cut** of a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a partition of the nodes into two sets, S and $V - S$



Notion extends naturally to a set of edges

An edge $(v_1, v_2) \in E$ crosses a cut if $v_1 \in S$ and $v_2 \in V - S$

An edge $(v_1, v_2) \in E$ respects a cut if $v_1, v_2 \in S$ or if $v_1, v_2 \in V - S$

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Inductive hypothesis: Suppose that nodes $v_1 = s, \dots, v_i$ have been removed from PQ, and for each of them $d_{v_i} = \delta(s, v_i)$, and there is a path from s to v_i with distance d_{v_i} (whenever $d_{v_i} < \infty$)

Base case:

- $i = 0: v_1 = s$
- Claim holds trivially

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm: Claim 1

Let u be the $(i + 1)^{\text{st}}$ node extracted

Claim 1: There is a path of length d_u (as long as $d_u < \infty$) from s to u in G

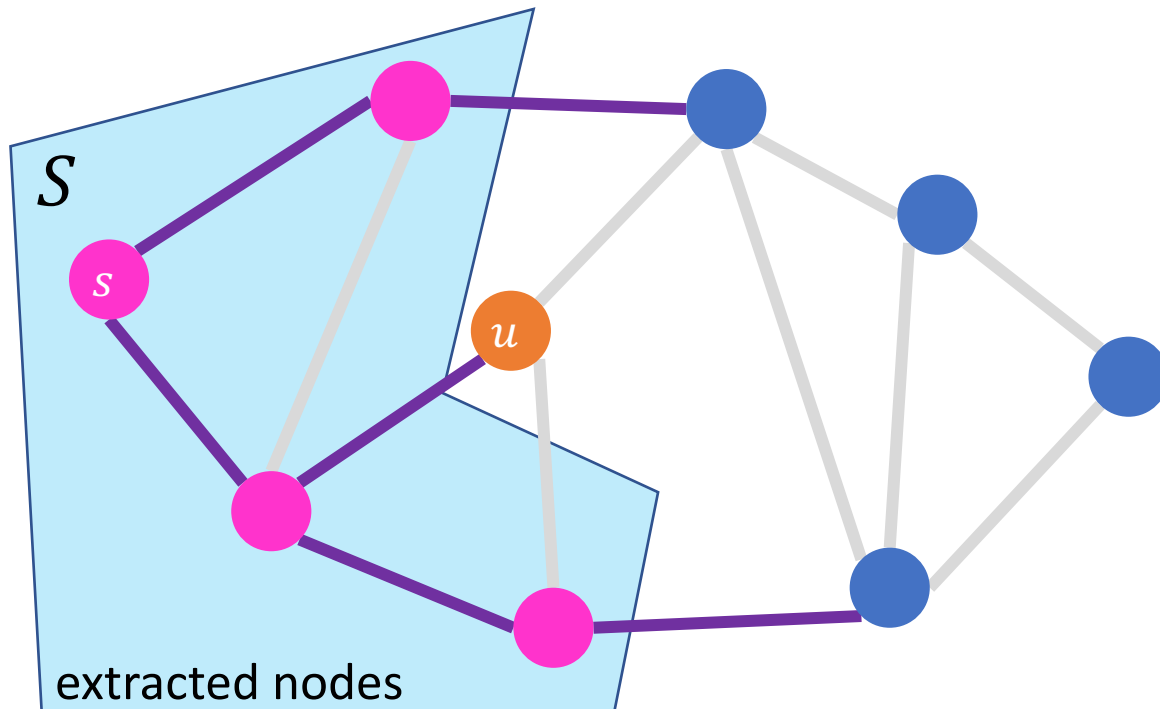
Proof:

- Suppose $d_u < \infty$
- This means that PQ. decreaseKey was invoked on node u on an earlier iteration
- Consider the last time PQ. decreaseKey is invoked on node u
- PQ. decreaseKey is only invoked when there exists an edge $(v, u) \in E$ and node v was extracted from PQ in a previous iteration
- In this case, $d_u = d_v + w(v, u)$
- By the inductive hypothesis, there is a path $s \rightarrow v$ of length d_v in G and since there is an edge $(v, u) \in E$, there is a path $s \rightarrow u$ of length d_u in G

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm: Claim 2

Let u be the $(i + 1)^{\text{st}}$ node extracted

Claim 2: For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$

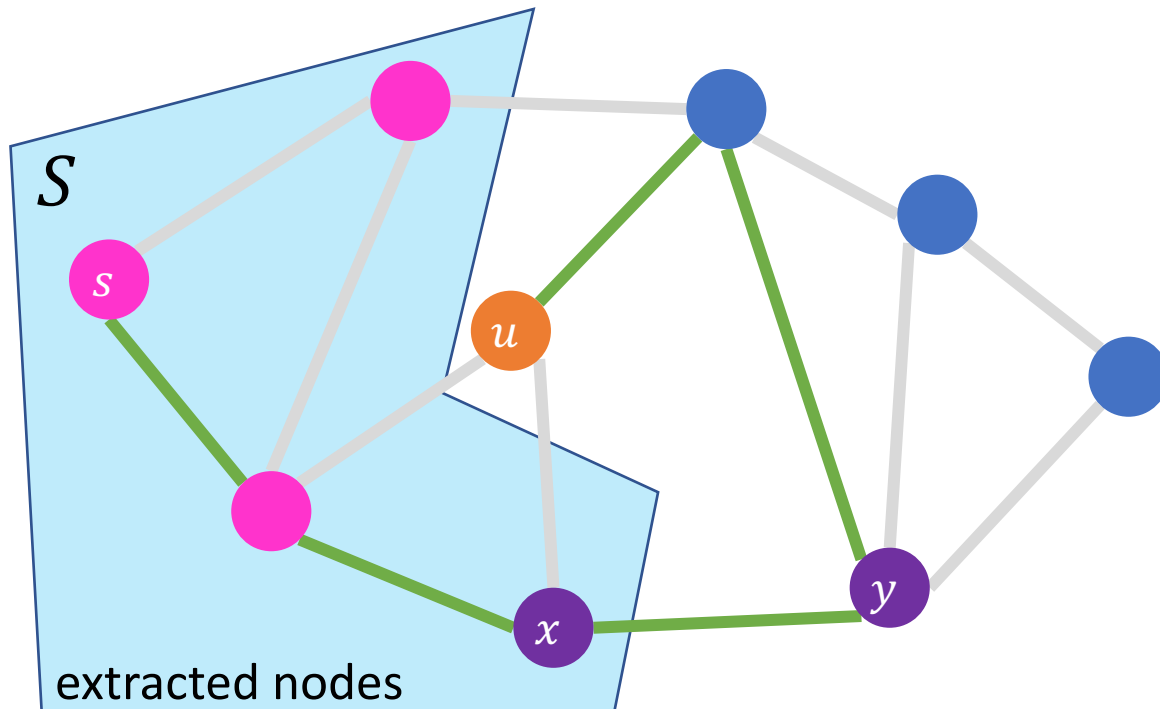


Extracted nodes “cuts” G into two subsets, $(S, V - S)$

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm: Claim 2

Let u be the $(i + 1)^{\text{st}}$ node extracted

Claim 2: For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$



Extracted nodes “cuts” G into $(S, V - S)$

Take any path (s, \dots, u)

Since $u \notin S$, (s, \dots, u) crosses the cut somewhere

- Let (x, y) be last edge in the path that crosses the cut

$$w(s, \dots, u) \geq \delta(s, x) + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u)$$

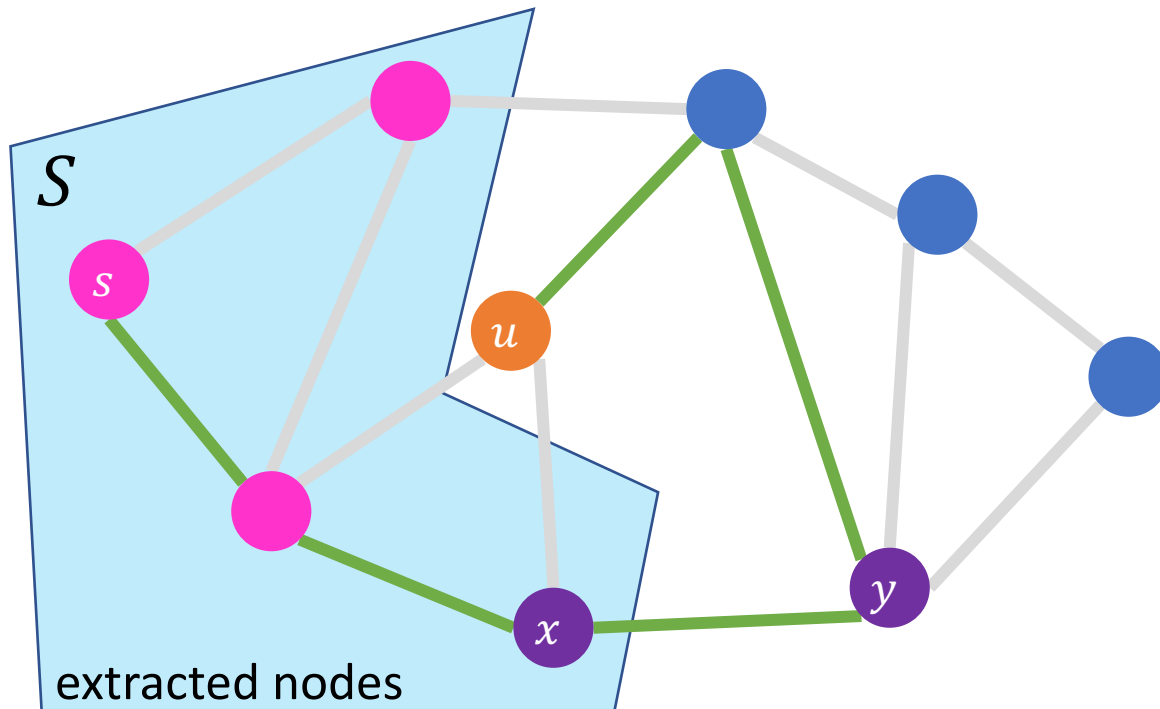
$$w(s, \dots, u) = w(s, \dots, x) + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u)$$

$w(s, \dots, x) \geq \delta(s, x)$ since $\delta(s, x)$ is weight of shortest path from s to x

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm: Claim 2

Let u be the $(i + 1)^{\text{st}}$ node extracted

Claim 2: For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$



Extracted nodes “cuts” G into $(S, V - S)$

Take any path (s, \dots, u)

Since $u \notin S$, (s, \dots, u) crosses the cut somewhere

- Let (x, y) be last edge in the path that crosses the cut

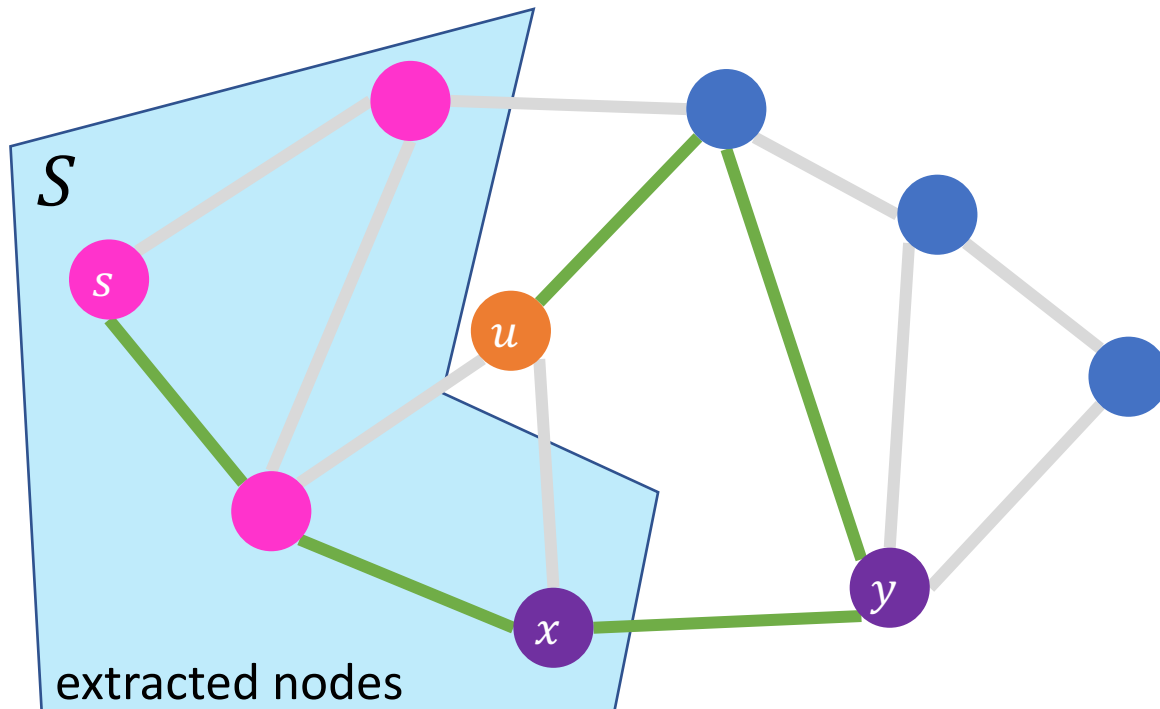
$$\begin{aligned} w(s, \dots, u) &\geq \delta(s, x) + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &= d_x + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \end{aligned}$$

Inductive hypothesis: since x was extracted before, $d_x = \delta(s, x)$

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm: Claim 2

Let u be the $(i + 1)^{\text{st}}$ node extracted

Claim 2: For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$



Extracted nodes “cuts” G into $(S, V - S)$

Take any path (s, \dots, u)

Since $u \notin S$, (s, \dots, u) crosses the cut somewhere

- Let (x, y) be last edge in the path that crosses the cut

$$\begin{aligned}w(s, \dots, u) &\geq \delta(s, x) + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &= d_x + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &\geq d_y + w(y, \dots, u)\end{aligned}$$

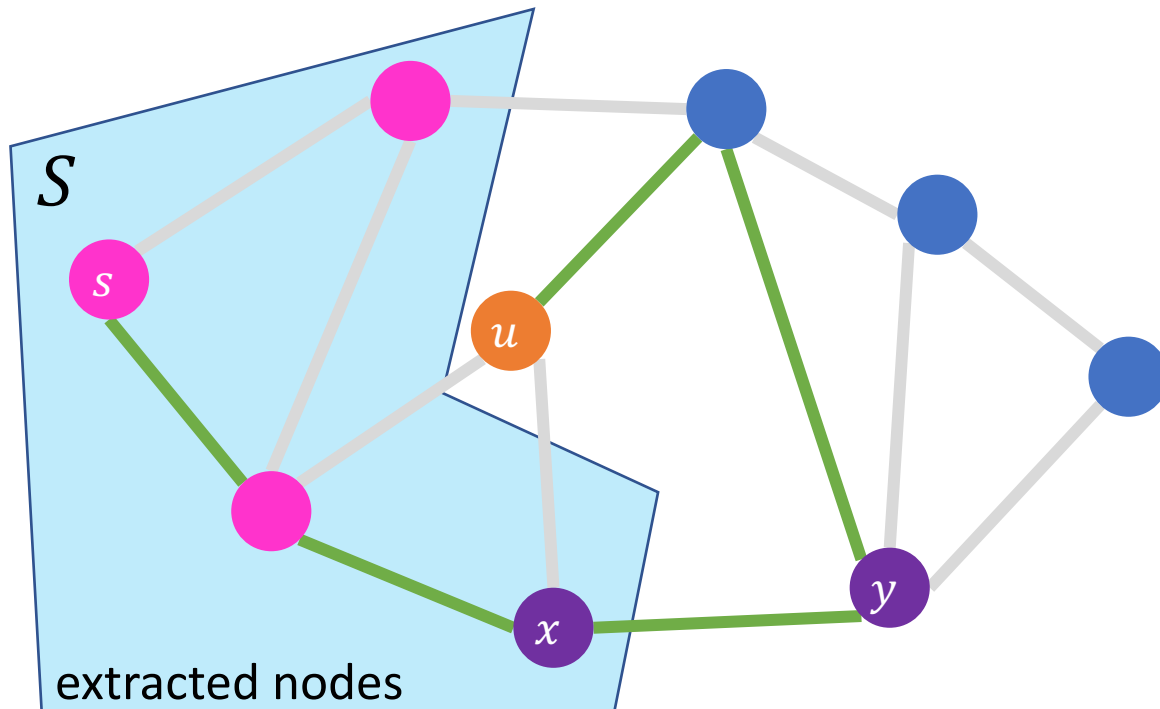
By construction of Dijkstra's algorithm, when x is extracted, d_y is updated to satisfy

$$d_y \leq d_x + w(x, y)$$

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm: Claim 2

Let u be the $(i + 1)^{\text{st}}$ node extracted

Claim 2: For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$



Extracted nodes “cuts” G into $(S, V - S)$

Take any path (s, \dots, u)

Since $u \notin S$, (s, \dots, u) crosses the cut somewhere

- Let (x, y) be last edge in the path that crosses the cut

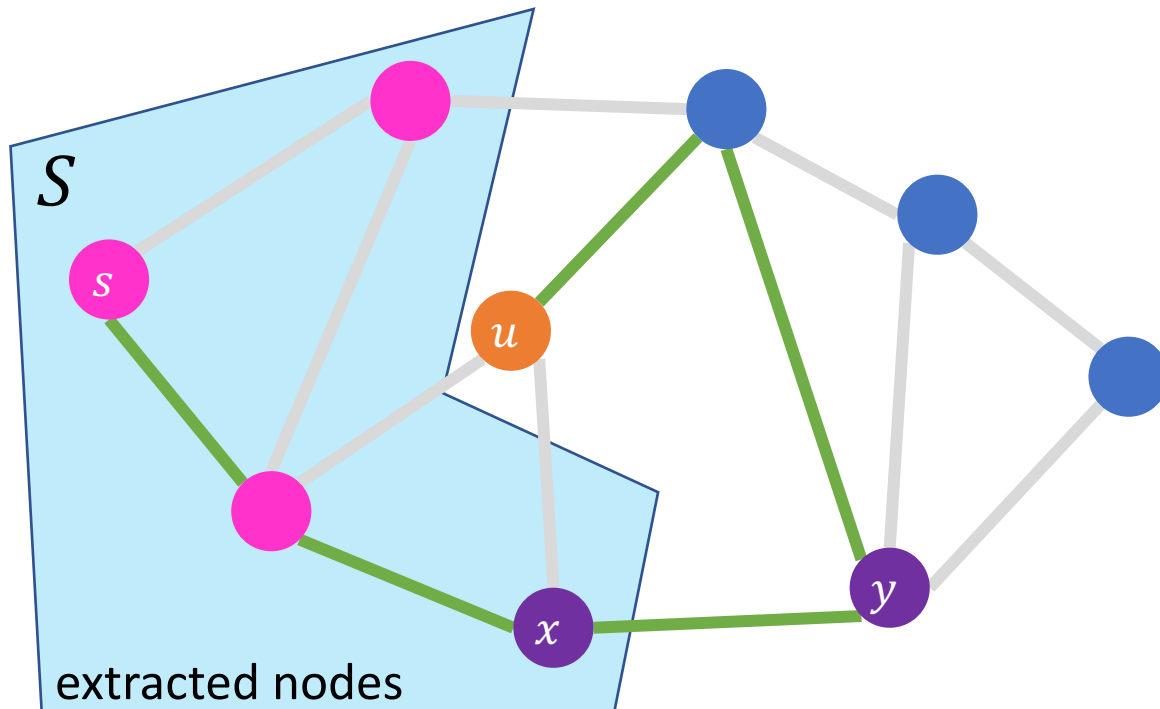
$$\begin{aligned}w(s, \dots, u) &\geq \delta(s, x) + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &= d_x + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &\geq d_y + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &\geq d_u + w(y, \dots, u)\end{aligned}$$

Greedy choice property: we always extract the node of minimal distance so $d_u \leq d_y$

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm: Claim 2

Let u be the $(i + 1)^{\text{st}}$ node extracted

Claim 2: For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$



Extracted nodes “cuts” G into $(S, V - S)$

Take any path (s, \dots, u)

Since $u \notin S$, (s, \dots, u) crosses the cut somewhere

- Let (x, y) be last edge in the path that crosses the cut

$$\begin{aligned}w(s, \dots, u) &\geq \delta(s, x) + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &= d_x + w(x, y) + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &\geq d_y + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &\geq d_u + w(y, \dots, u) \\ &\geq d_u\end{aligned}$$

All edge weights assumed to be positive

Correctness of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Conclusion: We used proof by induction to show:

When node u is removed from the priority queue, $d_u = \delta(s, u)$

- **Claim 1:** There is a path of length d_u (as long as $d_u < \infty$) from s to u in G
- **Claim 2:** For every path (s, \dots, u) , $w(s, \dots, u) \geq d_u$

In other words, all paths (s, \dots, u) are no shorter than d_u

which makes it the shortest path (or one of equally shortest paths).

Indirect Heaps

The Concern: Make decreaseKey $O(\log n)$

Indirect heaps are an example of the common computing principle of *indirection*:

- Simple example: an implementation of *FindMax(anArray)* that returns the array index of the max value instead of the value itself
- Pointers in languages like C and C++
- Object references in Java and Python
- A short read: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indirection>

Indirect heaps:

- The idea: have some kind of “index” that, given a node’s “ID”, you can quickly find where that node is in the heap’s tree
- Several ways to implement these
- What’s shown in the next slides works well if you identify nodes with strings and you can easily use a good hashtable (dictionary)

Indirect Heap Uses >1 Data Structure

item_at_posn[i] – an array that tells us what item is stored at the position **i** in the tree

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
:-1	C:4	D:6	B:5	E:9	A:8	F:9

posn_of_item[item] – a hashtable that gives the position in the tree where a given **item** ID is stored

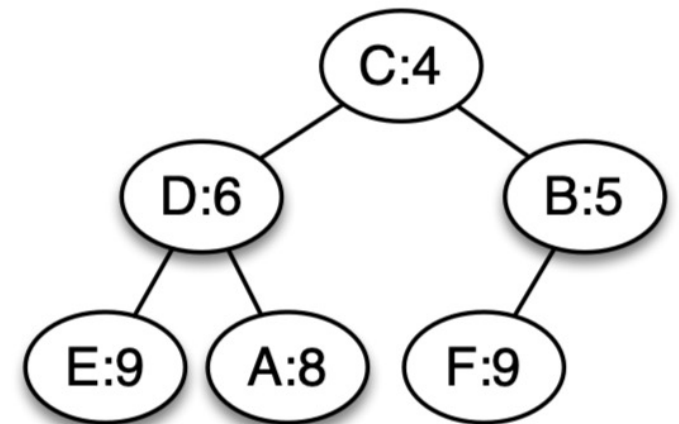
A	B	C	D	E	F
5	3	1	2	4	6

Example usage:

- What's the item at the root? **item_at_posn[1] → 'C'**
- Where in the tree is E? **posn_of_item['E'] → 4**
- What item is E's parent?

item_at_posn[posn_of_item['E']/2] = item_at_posn[2] → 'D'

There will be some way of getting the PQ key value from the item, which we'll show as **item.key**. E.g. the min key is **item_at_posn[1].key → 4**



Is decreaseKey more efficient now?

This code shows the idea: decrease B's key and bubble it up one level:

```
item = 'B'  
item.key = 3 # it was 5  
itemPosn = posn_of_item[item] # 3  
parentPosn = itemPosn / 2 # 1  
parent = item_at_posn[parentPosn] # 'C'
```

Assuming hashtable lookup is $O(1)$, everything here is $O(1)$. decreaseKey() might have to do this for the height of the tree, so $O(\log n)$ overall.

```
if item.key < parent.key: # need to swap?  
    item_at_posn[parentPosn] = item # item_at_posn[1] = 'B'  
    item_at_posn[itemPosn] = parent # item_at_posn[3] = 'C'  
    posn_of_item[parent] = itemPosn # posn_of_item['C'] = 3  
    posn_of_item[item] = parentPosn # posn_of_item['B'] = 1
```

