

## Basic Terminology

REVIEW from Data Structures!

$G = (V, E)$ ;  $V$  is set of  $n$  nodes,  $E$  is set of  $m$  edges

- **Node** or **Vertex**: a point in a graph
- **Edge**: connection between nodes
- **Weight**: numerical cost or length of an edge
- **Direction**: arrow on an edge
- **Path**: sequence  $(u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k)$  with every  $(u_{i-1}, u_i) \in E$
- **Cycle**: path that starts and ends at the same node

## Examples

- Roads and intersections
- People and relationships
- Computers in a network
- Web pages and hyperlinks
- Makefile dependencies
- Scheduling tasks and constraints
- (many more!)

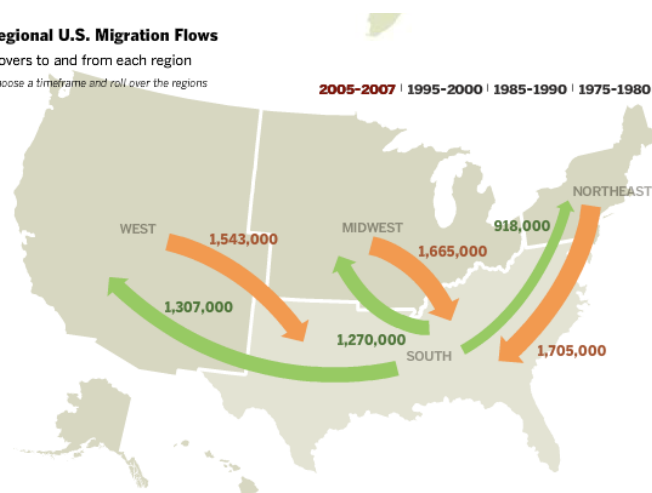
## Example: Migration Flows

### Regional U.S. Migration Flows

Movers to and from each region

Choose a timeframe and roll over the regions

2005-2007 | 1995-2000 | 1985-1990 | 1975-1980



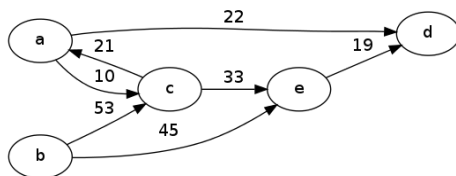
## Graph Representations

- **Adjacency Matrix:**  $n \times n$  matrix of weights.  
 $A[i][j]$  has the weight of edge  $(u_i, u_j)$ .  
 Weights of non-existent edges usually 0 or  $\infty$ .  
 Size:
- **Adjacency Lists:** Array of  $n$  lists;  
 each list has node-weight pairs for the \*outgoing edges\* of that node.  
 Size:
- **Implicit:** Adjacency lists computed on-demand.  
 Can be used for infinite graphs!

**Unweighted graphs** have all weights either 0 or 1.

**Undirected graphs** have every edge in both directions.

## Simple Example



Adjacency Matrix:

	a	b	c	d	e
a					
b					
c					
d					
e					

Adjacency List:

## Search Template

```

def genericSearch(G, start, end):
    colors = {}
    for u in G.V:
        colors[u] = "white"
    # initialize fringe with node-weight pairs
    while len(fringe) > 0:
        (u, w1) = fringe.top()
        if colors[u] == "white":
            colors[u] = "gray"
            for (v, w2) in G.edgesFrom(u):
                if colors[v] == "white":
                    fringe.insert((v, w1+w2))
        elif colors[u] == "gray":
            colors[u] = "black"
        else:
            fringe.remove((u, w1))
  
```

## Basic Searches

To find a path from  $u$  to  $v$ ,  
initialize `fringe` with  $(u, 0)$ ,  
and exit when we color  $v$  to “gray”.

Two choices:

- **Depth-First Search**  
`fringe` is a stack. Updates are pushes.
- **Breadth-First Search**  
`fringe` is a queue. Updates are enqueues.

## DAGs

Some graphs are acyclic by nature.

An acyclic undirected graph is a . . .

DAGs (Directed Acyclic Graphs) are more interesting:

- Can have more than  $n - 1$  edges
- Always at least one “source” and at least one “sink”
- Examples:

## Linearization

Problem

**Input:** A DAG  $G = (V, E)$

**Output:** Ordering of the  $n$  vertices in  $V$  as  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$  such that only “forward edges” exist, i.e., for all  $(u_i, u_j) \in E$ ,  $i < j$ .

(Also called “topological sort”.)

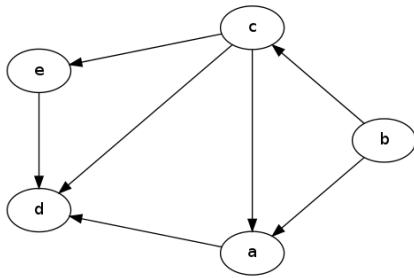
Applications:

```

def linearize(G):
    order = []; colors = {}; fringe = []
    for u in G.V:
        colors[u] = "white"
        fringe.append(u)
    while len(fringe) > 0:
        u = fringe[-1]
        if colors[u] == "white":
            colors[u] = "gray"
            for (v,w2) in G.edgesFrom(u):
                if colors[v] == "white":
                    fringe.append(v)
        elif colors[u] == "gray":
            colors[u] = "black"
            order.insert(0, u)
        else:
            fringe.pop()
    return order

```

## Linearization Example



## Properties of DFS

- Every vertex in the stack is a child of the first gray vertex below it.
- Every descendant of  $u$  is a child of  $u$  or a descendant of a child of  $u$ .
- In a DAG, when a node is colored gray its children are all white or black.
- In a DAG, every descendant of a black node is black.

## Dijkstra's Algorithm

Dijkstra's is a modification of BFS to find shortest paths.

Solves the single source shortest paths problem.

Used millions of times every day (!) for packet routing

**Main idea:** Use a minimum priority queue for the fringe

**Requires all edge weights to be non-negative**

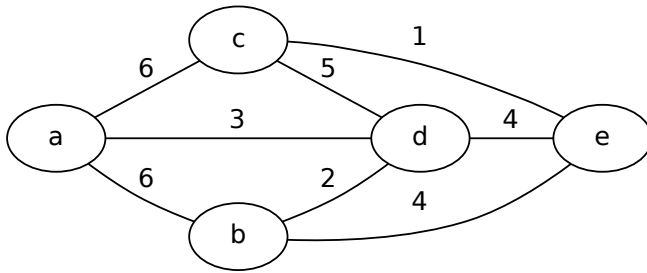
## Differences from the search template

- `fringe` is a priority queue
- No gray nodes! (No post-processing necessary.)

Useful variants:

- Keep track of the actual paths as well as path lengths
- Stop when a destination vertex is found

## Dijkstra example



```

def dijkstraHeap(G, start):
    shortest = {}
    colors = {}
    for u in G.V:
        colors[u] = "white"
    fringe = [(0, start)] # weight goes first for ordering.
    while len(fringe) > 0:
        (w1, u) = heappop(fringe)
        if colors[u] == "white":
            colors[u] = "black"
            shortest[u] = w1
            for (v, w2) in G.edgesFrom(u):
                heappush(fringe, (w1+w2, v))
    return shortest
  
```

```

def dijkstraArray(G, start):
    shortest = {}
    fringe = {}
    for u in G.V:
        fringe[u] = infinity
    fringe[start] = 0
    while len(fringe) > 0:
        w1 = min(fringe.values())
        for u in fringe:
            if fringe[u] == w1:
                break
        del fringe[u]
        shortest[u] = w1
        for (v, w2) in G.edgesFrom(u):
            if v in fringe:
                fringe[v] = min(fringe[v], w1+w2)
    return shortest
  
```

## Dijkstra Implementation Options

	Heap	Unsorted Array
Adj. Matrix		
Adj. List		

## Optimization Problems

An optimization problem is one where there are many solutions, and we have to find the “best” one.

Examples we have seen:

Optimal solution can often be made as a series of “moves”  
(Moves can be parts of the answer, or general decisions)

## Greedy Design Paradigm

A greedy algorithm solves an optimization problem by a sequence of “greedy moves”.

Greedy moves:

- Are based on “local” information
- Don’t require “looking ahead”
- Should be fast to compute!
- Might **not** lead to optimal solutions

Example: Counting change

## Appointment Scheduling

### Problem

Given  $n$  requests for EI appointments, each with start and end time, how to schedule the maximum number of appointments?

For example:

Name	Start	End
Billy	8:30	9:00
Susan	9:00	10:00
Brenda	8:00	8:20
Aaron	8:55	9:05
Paul	8:15	8:45
Brad	7:55	9:45
Pam	9:00	9:30

## Greedy Scheduling Options

How should the greedy choice be made?

- ① First come, first served
- ② Shortest time first
- ③ Earliest finish first

Which one will lead to optimal solutions?

## Proving Greedy Strategy is Optimal

Two things to prove:

- ① Greedy choice is always part of an optimal solution
- ② Rest of optimal solution can be found recursively



## Matchings

Pairing up people or resources is a common task.

We can model this task with graphs:

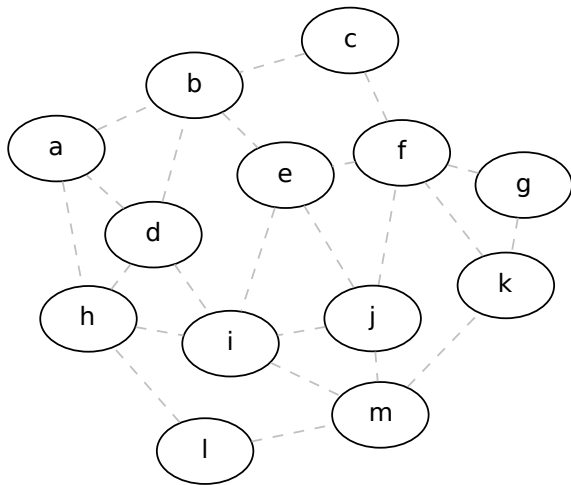
### Maximum Matching Problem

Given an undirected, unweighted graph  $G = (V, E)$ , find a subset of edges  $M \subseteq E$  such that:

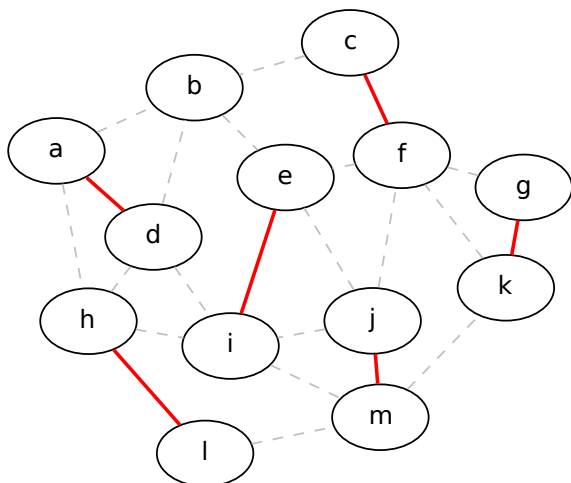
- Every vertex touches at most one edge in  $M$
- The size of  $M$  is as large as possible

**Greedy Algorithm:** Repeatedly choose any edge that goes between two unpaired vertices and add it to  $M$ .

## Greedy matching example



## Maximum matching example



## How good is the greedy solution?

**Theorem:** The optimal solution is at most \_\_\_ times the size of one produced by the greedy algorithm.

**Proof:**

## Spanning Trees

A *spanning tree* in a graph is a connected subset of edges that touches every vertex.

Dijkstra's algorithm creates a kind of spanning tree.  
This tree is created by **greedily** choosing the "closest" vertex at each step.

We are often interested in a minimal spanning tree instead.

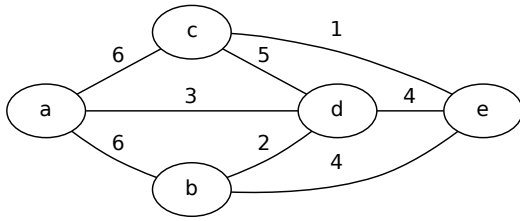
## MST Algorithms

There are two **greedy** algorithms for finding MSTs:

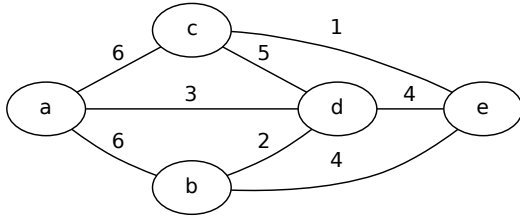
- **Prim's.** Start with a single vertex, and grow the tree by choosing the least-weight fringe edge.  
Identical to Dijkstra's with different weights in the "update" step.
- **Kruskal's.** Start with every vertex (a *forest* of trees) and combine trees by using the least-weight edge between them.

## MST Examples

- Prim's:



- Kruskal's:



## All-Pairs Shortest Paths

Let's look at a new problem:

**Problem:** All-Pairs Shortest Paths

**Input:** A graph  $G = (V, E)$ , weighted, and possibly directed.

**Output:** Shortest path between every pair of vertices in  $V$

Many applications in the precomputation/query model:

## Repeated Dijkstra's

**First idea:** Run Dijkstra's algorithm from every vertex.

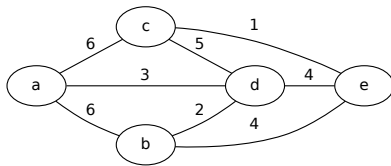
Cost:

- Sparse graphs:

- Dense graphs:

## Storing Paths

- Naive cost to store all paths:
- Memory wall
- Better way:



	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>e</i>
<i>a</i>					
<i>b</i>					
<i>c</i>					
<i>d</i>					
<i>e</i>					

## Recursive Approach

Idea for a simple recursive algorithm:

- New parameter  $k$ : The highest-index vertex visited in any shortest path.
- Basic idea: Path either contains  $k$ , or it doesn't.

Three things needed:

- 1 **Base case:**  $k = -1$ . Shortest paths are just single edges.
- 2 **Recursive step:** Use basic idea above.  
Compare shortest path containing  $k$  to shortest path without  $k$ .
- 3 **Termination:** When  $k = n$ , we're done.

## Recursive Shortest Paths

Shortest path from  $i$  to  $j$  using only vertices 0 up to  $k$ .

```
def recShortest(AM, i, j, k):
    if k == -1:
        return AM[i][j]
    else:
        option1 = recShortest(AM, i, j, k-1)
        option2 = recShortest(AM, i, k, k-1) + recShorte
        return min(option1, option2)
```

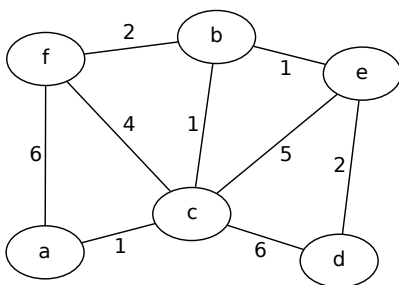
Analysis:

## Dynamic Programming Solution

**Key idea:** Keep overwriting shortest paths, using the same memory

This returns a matrix of ALL shortest path lengths at once!

```
def FloydWarshall(AM):
    L = copy(AM)
    n = len(AM)
    for k in range(0, n):
        for i in range(0, n):
            for j in range(0, n):
                L[i][j] = min( L[i][j],
                               L[i][k] + L[k][j]
                             )
    return L
```



	a	b	c	d	e	f
a						
b						
c						
d						
e						
f						

## Analysis of Floyd-Warshall

- Time:
- Space:
- **Advantages:**

## Another Dynamic Solution

What if  $k$  is the greatest number of edges in each shortest path?

Let  $L_k$  be the matrix of shortest-path lengths with at most  $k$  edges.

- **Base case:**  $k = 1$ , then  $L_1 = A$ , the adjacency matrix itself!
- **Recursive step:** Shortest  $(k + 1)$ -edge path is the minimum of  $k$ -edge paths, plus a single extra edge.
- **Termination:** Every path has length at most  $n - 1$ .  
So  $L_{n-1}$  is the final answer.

## Min-Plus Arithmetic

Update step:  $L_{k+1}[i, j] = \min_{0 \leq \ell < n} (L_k[i, \ell] + A[\ell, j])$

Min-Plus Algebra

- The  $+$  operation becomes “min”
- The  $\cdot$  operation becomes “plus”

Update step becomes:

## APSP with Min-Plus Matrix Multiplication

We want to compute  $A^{n-1}$ .

- Initial idea: Multiply  $n - 1$  times.
- Improvement:
- Further improvement?

## Transitive Closure

Examples of reachability questions:

- Is there any way out of a maze?
- Is there a flight plan from one airport another?
- Can you tell me  $a$  is greater than  $b$  without a direct comparison?

Precomputation/query formulation: Same graph, many reachability questions.

Transitive Closure Problem

**Input:** A graph  $G = (V, E)$ , unweighted, possibly directed

**Output:** Whether  $u$  is reachable from  $v$ , for every  $u, v \in V$

## TC with APSP

One vertex is reachable from another if the shortest path isn't infinite.

Therefore transitive closure can be solved with repeated Dijkstra's or Floyd-Warshall. Cost will be  $\Theta(n^3)$ .

Why might we be able to beat this?

## Back to Algebra

Define  $T_k$  as the reachability matrix **using at most k edges in a path**.

What is  $T_0$ ?

What is  $T_1$ ?

Formula to compute  $T_{k+1}$ :

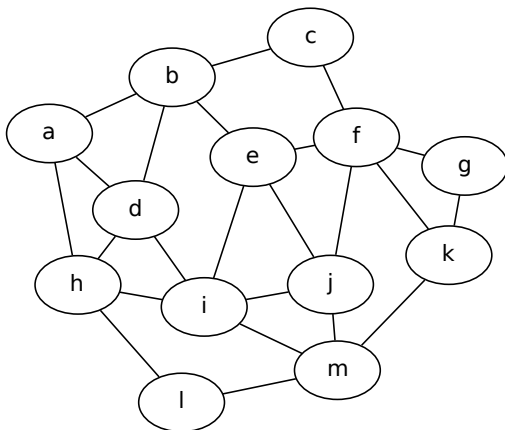
Therefore transitive closure is just:

## The most amazing connection

(Pay attention. Minds will be blown in 3...2...1...)

## Vertex Cover

**Problem:** Find the smallest set of vertices that touches every edge.





## Approximating VC

Approximation algorithm for minimal vertex cover:

- ① Find a greedy maximal matching
- ② Take both vertices in every edge in the matching

Why is this always a vertex cover?

How good is the approximation?