

Graph Algorithms

Shortest Paths

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Shortest Path Problems

Input: **Edge-weighted** (di)graph

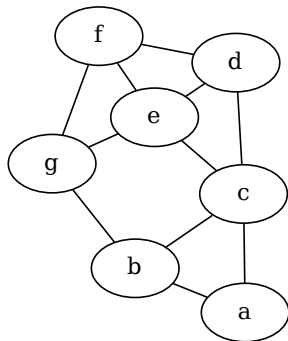
Shortest Path Problems

Input: **Edge-weighted** (di)graph

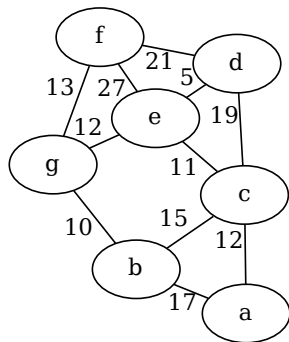
Problems:

- Single-Pair Shortest Path (SPSP): find shortest path from s to t .
- Single-Source Shortest Path (SSSP): find shortest path from s to everyone.
- All-Pairs Shortest Paths: find shortest paths from everyone to everyone.

Example

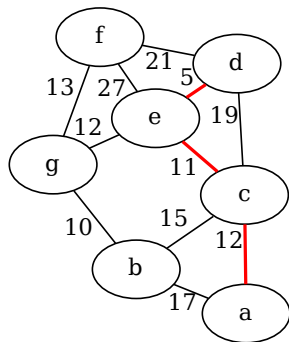


Example



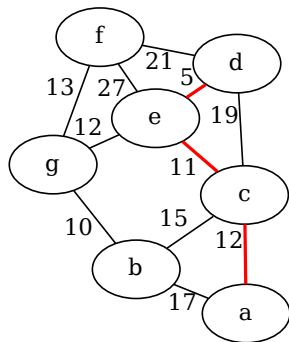
Find shortest path from *a* to *d*.

Example



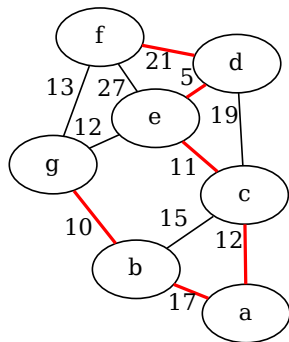
Find shortest path from a to d .
 $a \rightarrow c \rightarrow e \rightarrow d$ (cost= 28)

Example



Find shortest path from *a* to everyone

Example

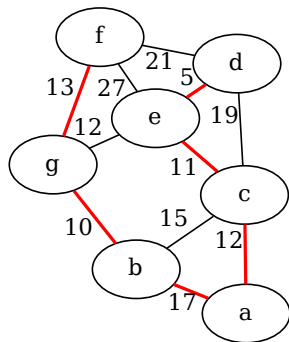


Find shortest path from *a* to everyone

Costs:

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
a	0	17	12	28	23	49	27

Example

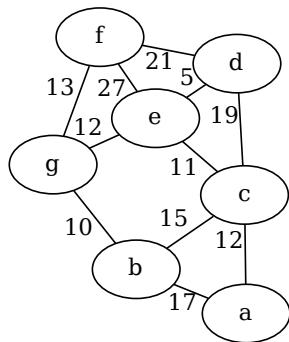


Find shortest path from *a* to everyone

Costs:

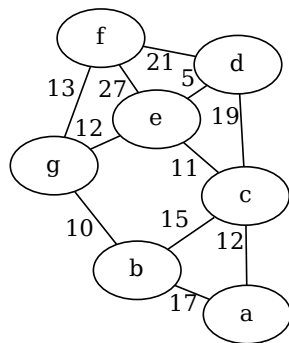
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
a	0	17	12	28	23	40	27

Example



Find all shortest paths

Example

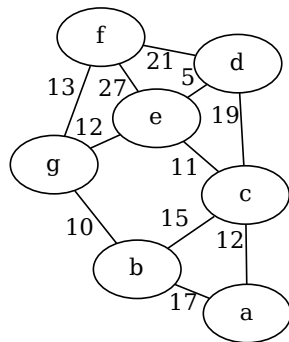


Find all shortest paths

Costs:

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
a	0	17	12	28	23	40	27
b	17	0	15	27	22	23	10
c	12	15	0	16	11	36	23
d	28	27	16	0	5	21	17
e	23	22	11	5	0	27	12
f	40	23	36	21	27	0	13
g	27	10	23	17	12	13	0

Example

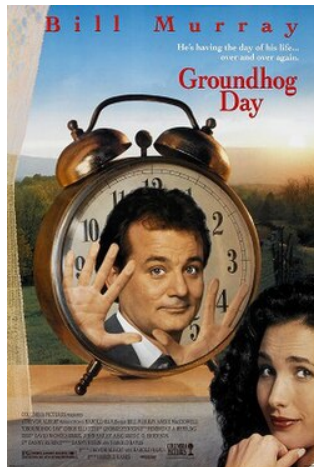


Find all shortest paths

Costs:

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
a	0	17	12	28	23	40	27
b	17	0	15	27	22	23	10
c	12	15	0	16	11	36	23
d	28	27	16	0	5	21	17
e	23	22	11	5	0	25	12
f	40	23	36	21	25	0	13
g	27	10	23	17	12	13	0

Why not BFS?

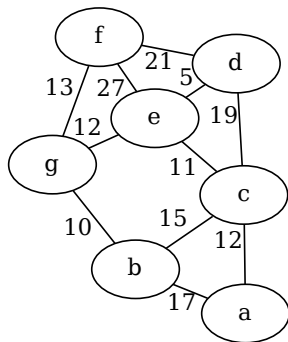


Why not BFS?

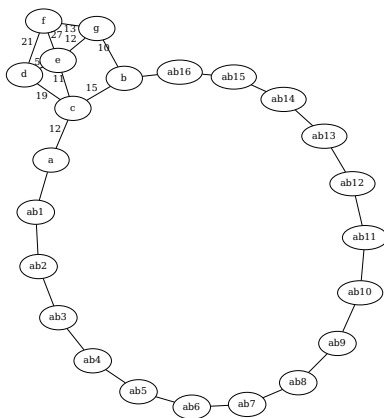
We could use BFS:

- Handle edges of weight w by sub-dividing them w times.
- But then complexity goes from $O(m + n)$ to $O(n + mW)$, where W is max weight.
 - This algorithm is **exponential**-time in the input size!!
- Goal: attain complexity polynomial in $n, m, \log W$.

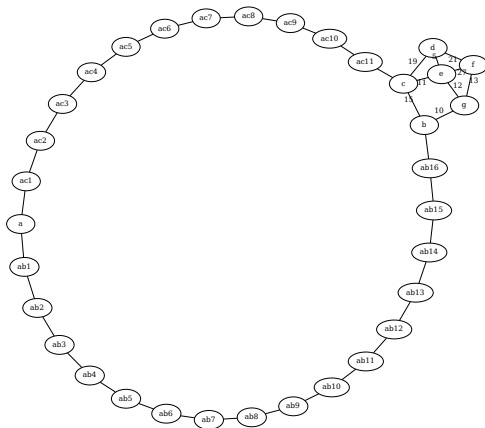
Why not BFS?



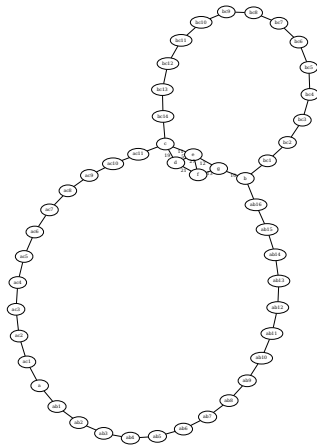
Why not BFS?



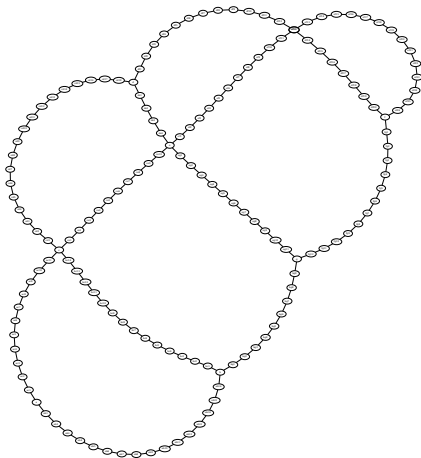
Why not BFS?



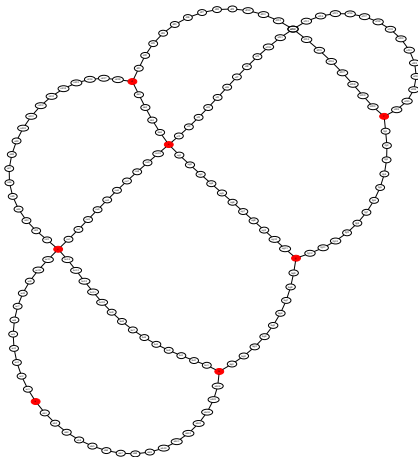
Why not BFS?



Why not BFS?



Why not BFS?



Running BFS on this is a terrible idea!!

Dijkstra's algorithm

Dijkstra's algorithm

Dijkstra's algorithm for SSSP

- Works for instances with positive edge weights.
- Computes shortest path tree from given source s .
- Main idea: **Greedy**. Consider closer vertices first.
 - (in a sense, similar in spirit to BFS)
- Directed or Undirected Graphs.
- Complexity: $O((n + m) \log n)$ time and $O(n)$ space
 - Above depends slightly on some assumptions and data structures, see later.
 - Also assume arithmetic operations take $O(1)$, otherwise we must add a $O(\log W)$ factor, where W is maximum weight.

Basic Setup

- Vertices are White, Gray, or Black
 - White vertex \rightarrow no path found.
 - Gray vertex \rightarrow some path found.
 - Black vertex \rightarrow shortest path found.
- We maintain current Distances and Tree
 - Update each time we find a **shortcut**.
- We maintain a **Priority** Queue
 - Queue contains Gray vertices.
 - Prioritize by **min** distance from source.

Priority Queue – Abstract View

Basic Properties:

- Queue contains a collection of (key, values) pairs.
 - For us: key \rightarrow vertex, value \rightarrow distance.
- Operations:
 - Insert(k, v)
 - Extract $\rightarrow k$
 - **Caution:** returns k with **min** value in queue! Not FIFO!
 - Decrease(k, v')
 - Updates value of key k from v to v' .
 - **Edge case:** if k not present, calls Insert(k, v')

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ➊ Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ➋ Extract
- ➌ Decrease(c,2)
- ➍ Extract
- ➎ Insert (f,7)
- ➏ Extract x4

Queue state:

(a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)

Output:

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ① Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ② Extract
- ③ Decrease(c,2)
- ④ Extract
- ⑤ Insert (f,7)
- ⑥ Extract x4

Queue state:

(a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (e, 2)

Output:

d

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ➊ Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ➋ Extract
- ➌ Decrease(c,2)
- ➍ Extract
- ➎ Insert (f,7)
- ➏ Extract x4

Queue state:

(a,5), (b,3), (c,2), (e, 2)

Output:

d

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ① Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ② Extract
- ③ Decrease(c,2)
- ④ Extract
- ⑤ Insert (f,7)
- ⑥ Extract x4

Queue state:

(a,5), (b,3), (e, 2)

Output:

d, c

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ➊ Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ➋ Extract
- ➌ Decrease(c,2)
- ➍ Extract
- ➎ Insert (f,7)
- ➏ Extract x4

Queue state:

(a,5), (b,3), (e, 2), (f, 7)

Output:

d, c

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ① Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ② Extract
- ③ Decrease(c,2)
- ④ Extract
- ⑤ Insert (f,7)
- ⑥ Extract x4

Queue state:

(a,5), (b,3), (f, 7)

Output:

d, c, e

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ① Insert $(a,5)$, $(b,3)$, $(c,8)$, $(d, 1)$,
 $(e, 2)$
- ② Extract
- ③ Decrease($c,2$)
- ④ Extract
- ⑤ Insert $(f,7)$
- ⑥ Extract $\times 4$

Queue state:

$(a,5)$, $(f, 7)$

Output:

d, c, e, b

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ① Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ② Extract
- ③ Decrease(c,2)
- ④ Extract
- ⑤ Insert (f,7)
- ⑥ Extract x4

Queue state:

(f, 7)

Output:

d, c, e, b, a

Priority Queue – Example

Operations:

- ➊ Insert (a,5), (b,3), (c,8), (d, 1), (e, 2)
- ➋ Extract
- ➌ Decrease(c,2)
- ➍ Extract
- ➎ Insert (f,7)
- ➏ Extract x4

Queue state:

\emptyset

Output:

d, c, e, b, a, f

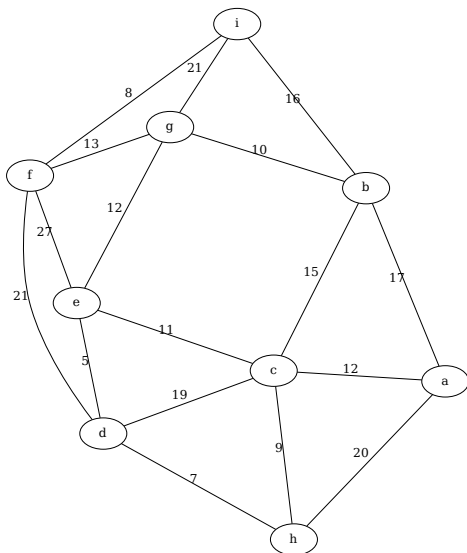
Dijkstra's algorithm

```

1: Initialize ( $\text{dist}[1 \dots n] = \infty$ ,  $\text{parent}[1 \dots n] \leftarrow \text{NULL}$ , etc. )
2: Initialize  $Q \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
3:  $Q.\text{Insert}(s, 0)$ 
4: while  $Q$  not empty do
5:    $u \leftarrow Q.\text{Extract}()$ 
6:   for  $v \in N^+(u)$  do
7:     if  $\text{dist}[v] > \text{dist}[u] + w(u, v)$  then                                 $\triangleright$  Shortcut found
8:        $\text{Parent}[v] \leftarrow u$ 
9:        $\text{dist}[v] \leftarrow \text{dist}[u] + w(u, v)$ 
10:       $Q.\text{Decrease}(v, \text{dist}[v])$ 
11:   end if
12: end for
13: end while

```

Example



Distances:

a	0
b	∞
c	∞
d	∞
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	∞
i	∞

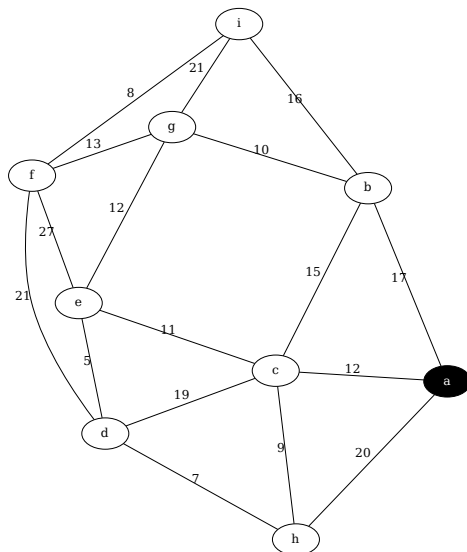
Priority Queue:

(0, a)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
- Gray vertex → some path found.
- Black vertex → shortest path found.
- Black edge → not yet considered.
- Red edge → shortest path edge.
- Dotted edge → non-optimal edge.

Example



Distances:

a	0
b	∞
c	∞
d	∞
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	∞
i	∞

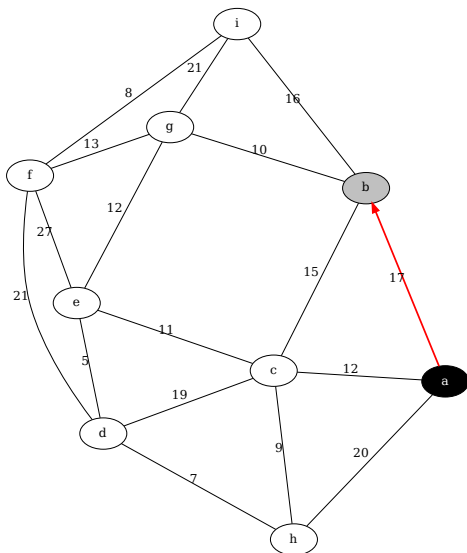
Priority Queue:

(0, a)

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Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	∞
d	∞
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	∞
i	∞

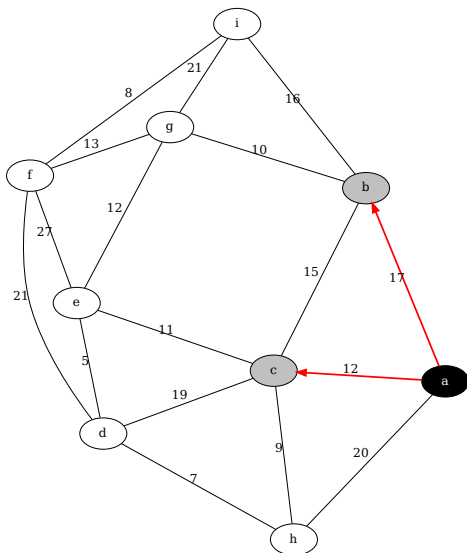
Priority Queue:

(17, b)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
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- Black edge → not yet considered.
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- Dotted edge → non-optimal edge.

Example



Distances:

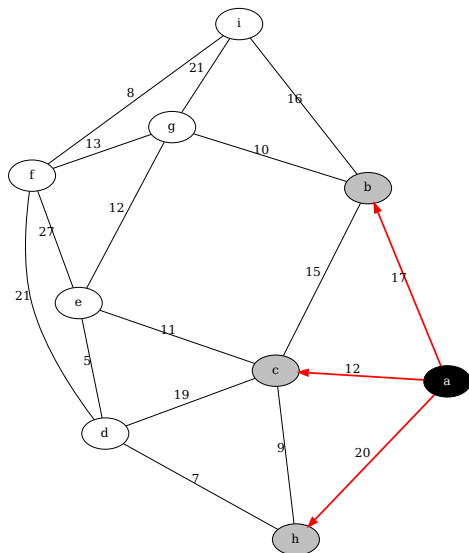
a	0
b	17
c	12
d	∞
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	∞
i	∞

Priority Queue:
(12, c), (17, b)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
- Gray vertex → some path found.
- Black vertex → shortest path found.
- Black edge → not yet considered.
- Red edge → shortest path edge.
- Dotted edge → non-optimal edge.

Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	∞
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	20
i	∞

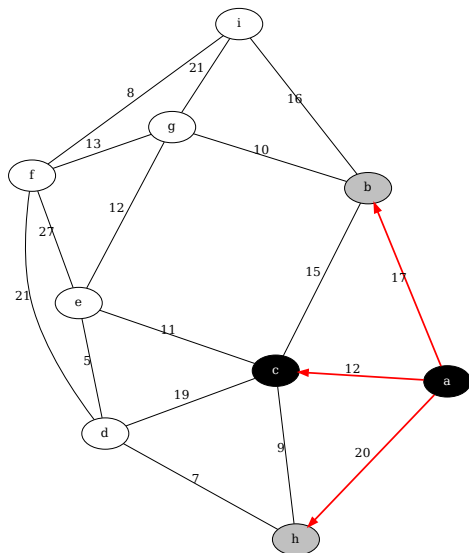
Priority Queue:

(12, c), (17, b), (20, h)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
- Gray vertex → some path found.
- Black vertex → shortest path found.
- Black edge → not yet considered.
- Red edge → shortest path edge.
- Dotted edge → non-optimal edge.

Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	∞
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	20
i	∞

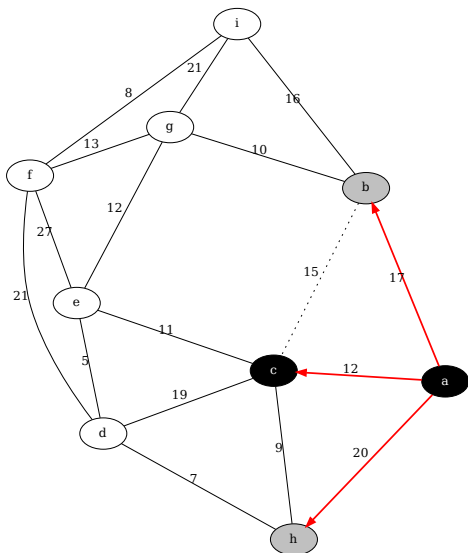
Priority Queue:

(17, b), (20, h)

Legend:

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Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	∞
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	20
i	∞

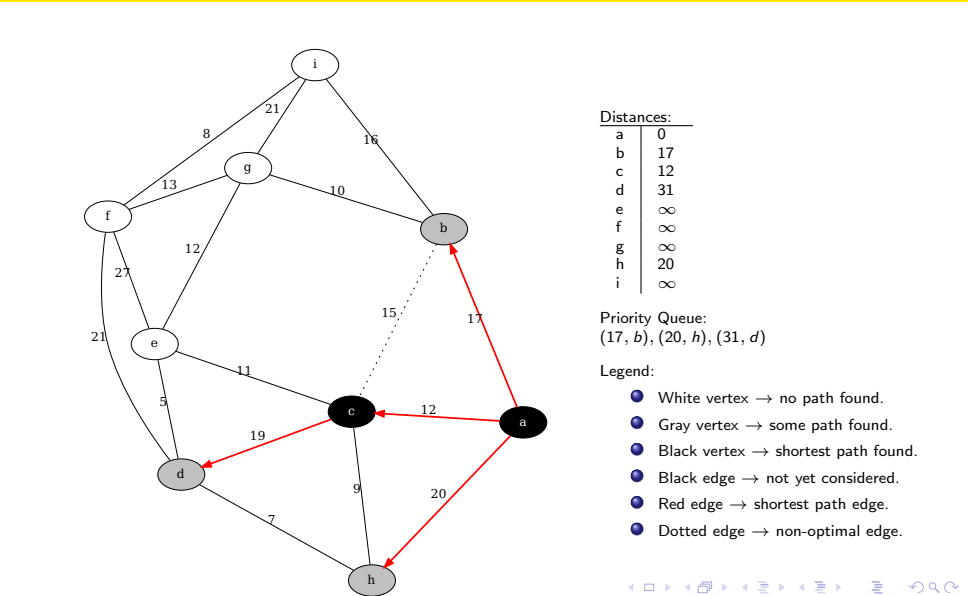
Priority Queue:

(17, b), (20, h)

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Example



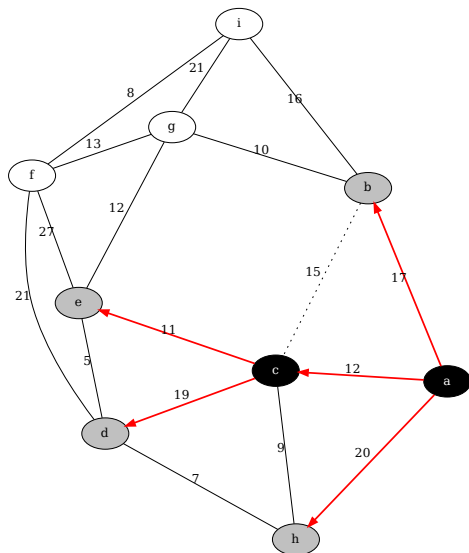
Distances:	
a	0
b	17
c	12
d	31
e	∞
f	∞
g	∞
h	20
i	∞

Priority Queue:
 $(17, b), (20, h), (31, d)$

Legend:

- White vertex \rightarrow no path found.
- Gray vertex \rightarrow some path found.
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- Black edge \rightarrow not yet considered.
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- Dotted edge \rightarrow non-optimal edge.

Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	31
e	23
f	∞
g	∞
h	20
i	∞

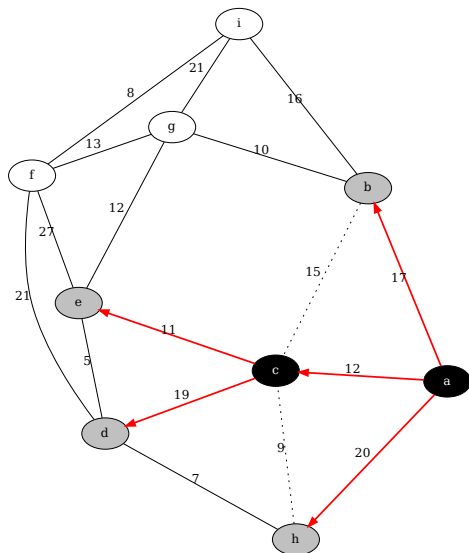
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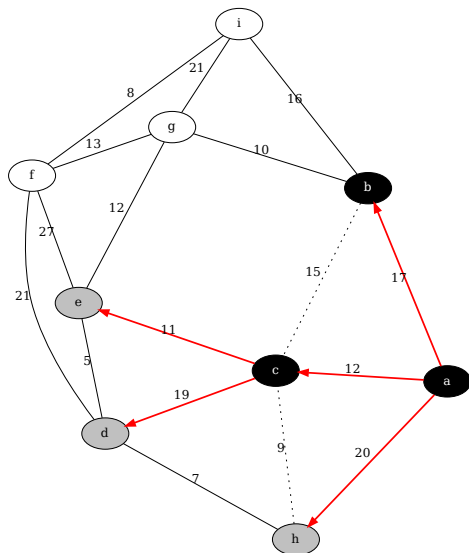
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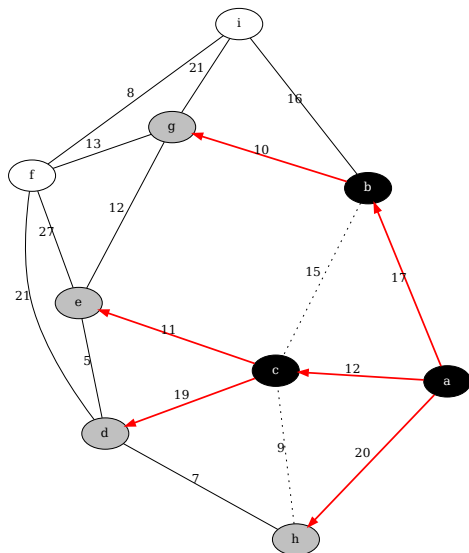
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h	20
i	∞

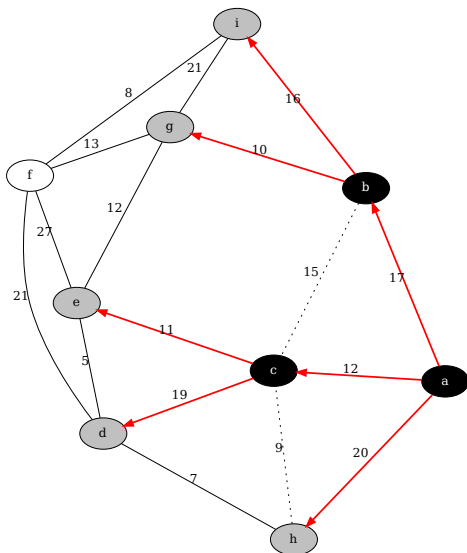
Priority Queue:

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Legend:

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Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	31
e	23
f	∞
g	27
h	20
i	33

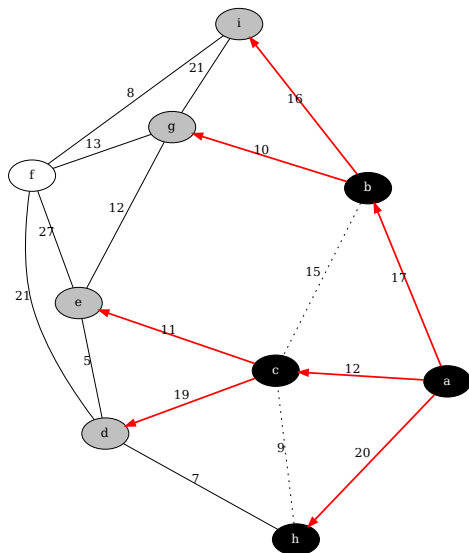
Priority Queue:

(20, h), (23, e), (27, g), (31, d), (33, i)

Legend:

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Example



Distances:

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b	17
c	12
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e	23
f	∞
g	27
h	20
i	33

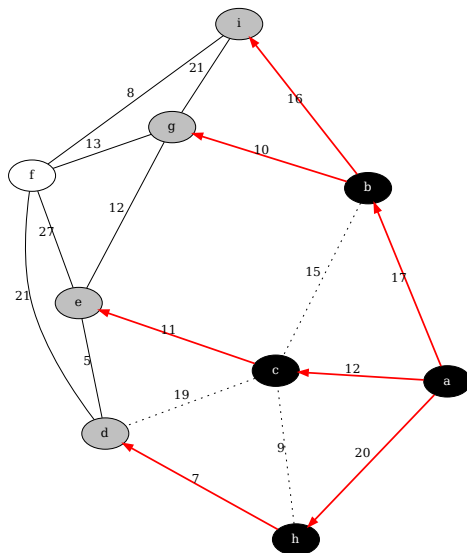
Priority Queue:

(23, e), (27, g), (31, d), (33, i)

Legend:

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Example



Distances:

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b	17
c	12
d	27
e	23
f	∞
g	27
h	20
i	33

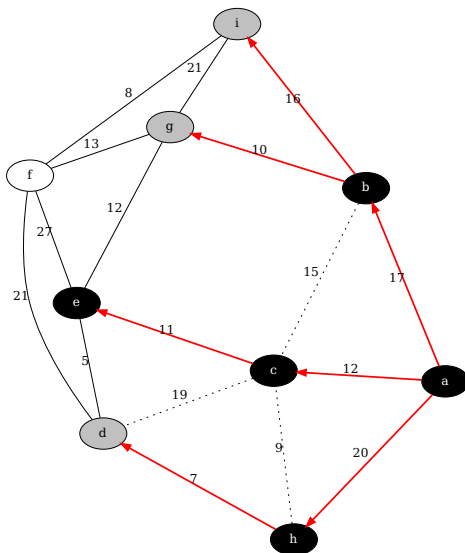
Priority Queue:

(23, e), (27, d), (27, g), (33, i)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
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Example



Distances:

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b	17
c	12
d	27
e	23
f	∞
g	27
h	20
i	33

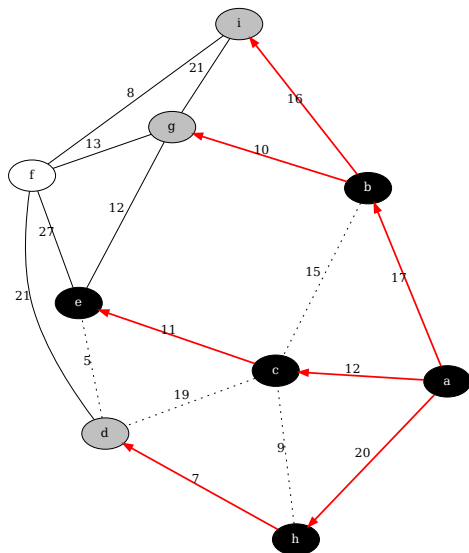
Priority Queue:

(27, d), (27, g), (33, i)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
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Example



Distances:

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c	12
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f	∞
g	27
h	20
i	33

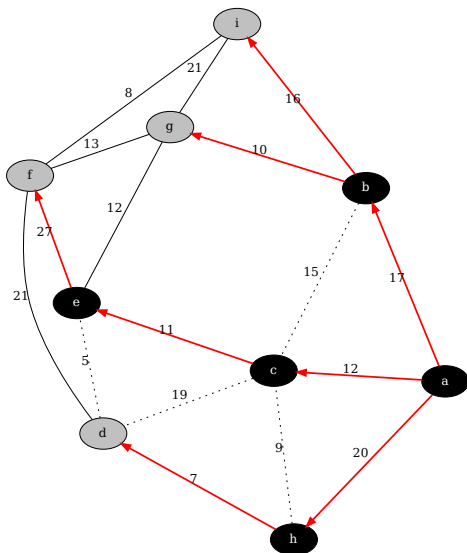
Priority Queue:

(27, d), (27, g), (33, i)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
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- Black vertex → shortest path found.
- Black edge → not yet considered.
- Red edge → shortest path edge.
- Dotted edge → non-optimal edge.

Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	27
e	23
f	50
g	27
h	20
i	33

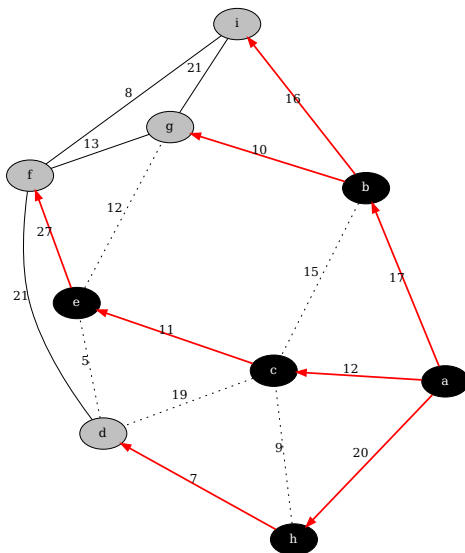
Priority Queue:

(27, d), (27, g), (33, i), (50, f)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
- Gray vertex → some path found.
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Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	27
e	23
f	50
g	27
h	20
i	33

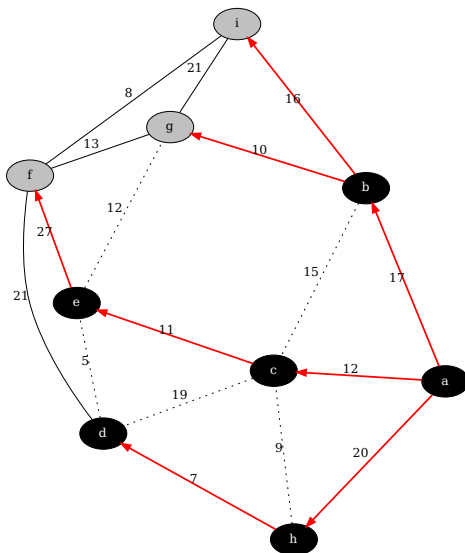
Priority Queue:

(27, d), (27, g), (33, i), (50, f)

Legend:

- White vertex → no path found.
- Gray vertex → some path found.
- Black vertex → shortest path found.
- Black edge → not yet considered.
- Red edge → shortest path edge.
- Dotted edge → non-optimal edge.

Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	27
e	23
f	50
g	27
h	20
i	33

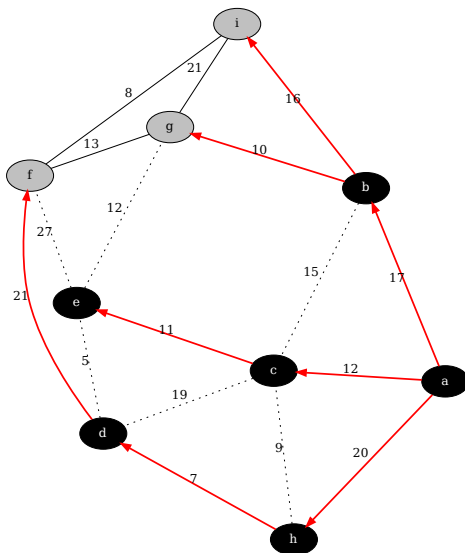
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Example



Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	27
e	23
f	48
g	27
h	20
i	33

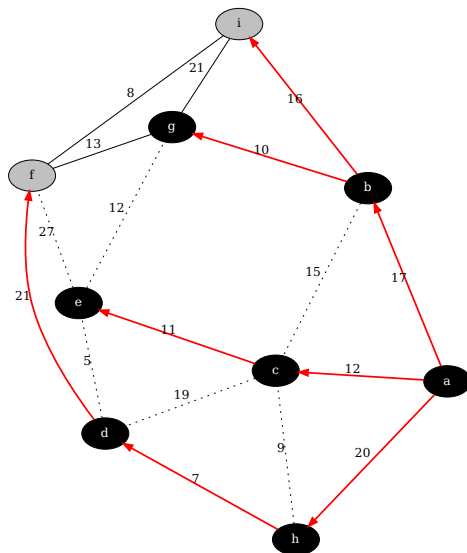
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f	48
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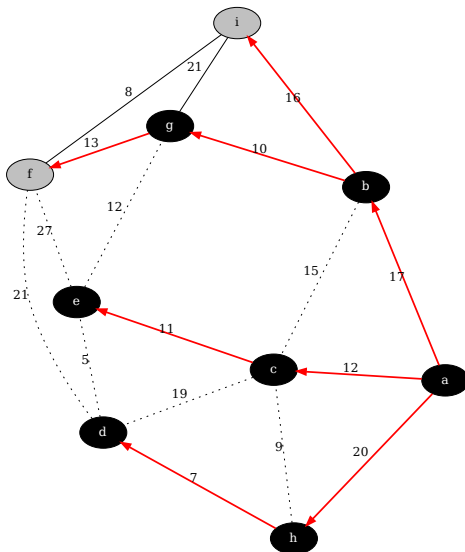
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Distances:

a	0
b	17
c	12
d	27
e	23
f	40
g	27
h	20
i	33

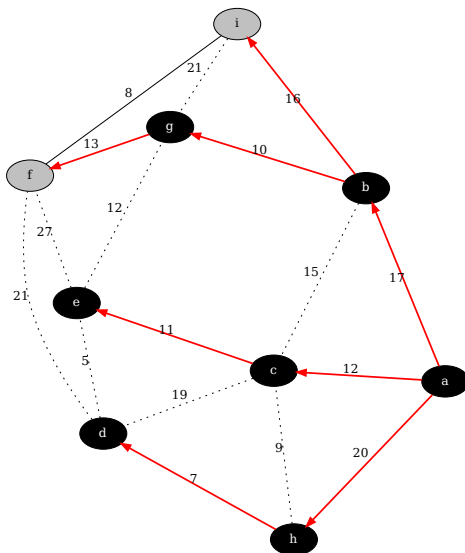
Priority Queue:

(33, i), (40, f)

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Example



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e	23
f	40
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h	20
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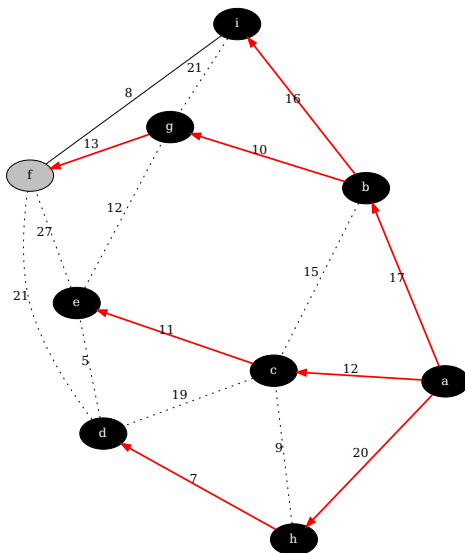
Priority Queue:

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Distances:

a	0
b	17
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e	23
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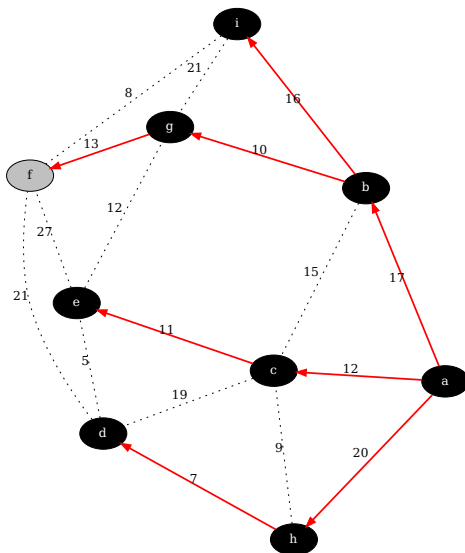
Priority Queue:

(40, f)

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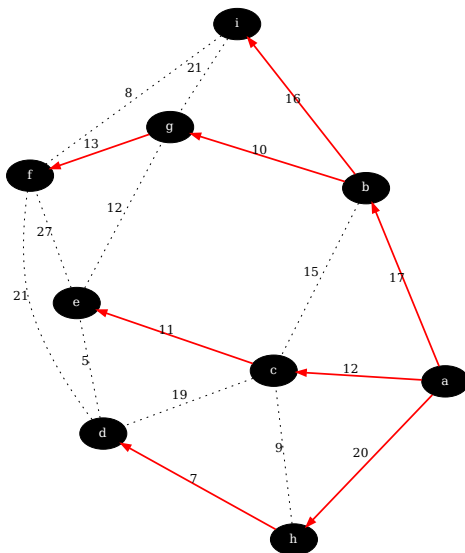
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Example



Distances:

a	0
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Priority Queue:

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Correctness Proof

Easy direction

Definition

We denote $d_D(v)$ the final distance computed by Dijkstra for v .

We want to prove that $\forall v \in V$ we have:

$$d_D(v) = \text{dist}(s, v)$$

Easy direction

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Lemma

For all $v \in V$ we have $\text{dist}(s, v) \leq d_D(v)$.

Proof of easy direction

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Proof.

- Initially $\text{dist}[v] = \infty \geq \text{dist}(s, v)$.
- $\text{dist}[v]$ only modified on line 7.
- Prove by induction: \forall modification, \exists path of desired length.

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- $\text{dist}[v]$ only modified on line 7.
- Prove by induction: \forall modification, \exists path of desired length.

Relevant line:

$$\text{dist}[v] \leftarrow \text{dist}[u] + w(u, v)$$

- If by induction there exists $s \rightarrow u$ path of length at most $\text{dist}[u]$
- \Rightarrow there exists $s \rightarrow v$ path of length at most $\text{dist}[u] + w(u, v)$



Optimal Sub-structure

Lemma

Shortest paths satisfy triangle inequality: $\forall a, b, c$ we have
 $\text{dist}(a, b) \leq \text{dist}(a, c) + \text{dist}(c, b)$

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Lemma (Optimal sub-structure)

If there is a shortest $a \rightarrow b$ path that goes through x , then
 $\text{dist}(a, b) = \text{dist}(a, x) + \text{dist}(x, b)$.

Optimal Sub-structure

Lemma

Shortest paths satisfy triangle inequality: $\forall a, b, c$ we have
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Lemma (Optimal sub-structure)

If there is a shortest $a \rightarrow b$ path that goes through x , then
 $\text{dist}(a, b) = \text{dist}(a, x) + \text{dist}(x, b)$.

(In other words, we can construct a shortest $a \rightarrow b$ path by gluing a shortest $a \rightarrow x$ path with a shortest $x \rightarrow b$ path.)

Proof of hard direction

Two basic observations:

Lemma

The value $\text{dist}[v]$ may only decrease as the algorithm progresses.

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Two basic observations:

Lemma

The value $\text{dist}[v]$ may only decrease as the algorithm progresses.

Proof.

Easy! □

Lemma

When v exits the queue, $\text{dist}[v] \leq \text{dist}(s, v)$.

Therefore, $d_D(v) \leq \text{dist}(s, v)$ as desired.

Main lemma

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Proof.

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- OK for s (base case)
- Suppose u was just extracted, so has minimum $\text{dist}[u]$ over all remaining vertices.
- Let P be a shortest $s \rightarrow u$ path, x_1 be the **last** Black vertex of P .
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Main lemma

Lemma

When v exits the queue, $\text{dist}[v] \leq \text{dist}(s, v)$.

Proof.

Induction on number of vertices extracted from queue.

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- Suppose u was just extracted, so has minimum $\text{dist}[u]$ over all remaining vertices.
- Let P be a shortest $s \rightarrow u$ path, x_1 be the **last** Black vertex of P .
- Let x_2 be the next vertex of P (not Black).

$$\text{dist}[u] \leq \text{dist}[x_2] \leq \text{dist}(s, x_1) + w(x_1, x_2) = \text{dist}(s, x_2) \leq \text{dist}(s, u)$$



Complexity Analysis

- Each vertex is extracted once.
 - By previous lemma, when we extract, we have correct distance.
 - We only insert/decrease when we find a shortcut; impossible if we have correct distance.
- Therefore, $O(n)$ Extract operations and $O(m)$ Decrease/Insert operations.
 - $O(d(v))$ Decrease operations per vertex.

Complexity Analysis

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 - By previous lemma, when we extract, we have correct distance.
 - We only insert/decrease when we find a shortcut; impossible if we have correct distance.
- Therefore, $O(n)$ Extract operations and $O(m)$ Decrease/Insert operations.
 - $O(d(v))$ Decrease operations per vertex.
- What is the cost of each operation?
 - Naïve implementation: $O(n)$ per operation $\Rightarrow O(mn + n^2)$ time in total.

Min-Heaps

Reminder: min-heaps

- Initialize an array H of size n
 - Keep track of how many items we have
- Invariant: for all i we have $H[i] \leq H[2i + 1]$ and $H[i] \leq H[2i + 2]$
 - Min element always at $H[0]$
- Insert: add element to the end of the array, **Fix**
- Decrease: **Fix**
- Fix: if inequality is violated, exchange $H[i]$ with smaller of $H[2i + 1]$, $H[2i + 2]$, repeat.
 - $O(\log n)$ complexity to completely fix one offending element.

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

5	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

3	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

3	5	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

3	5	8	1	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

3	1	8	5	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	3	8	5	*	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	3	8	5	2	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	2	8	5	3	*	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	2	8	5	3	7	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	2	7	5	3	8	*	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	2	7	5	3	8	6	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	2	6	5	3	8	7	*	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	2	6	5	3	8	7	4	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

1	2	6	4	3	8	7	5	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
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Heap state:

1	2	6	4	3	8	7	5	9	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

9	2	6	4	3	8	7	5	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Min-Heap example

Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
- 2 Extract
- 3 Decrease 8 \rightarrow 1

Heap state:

2	9	6	4	3	8	7	5	*	*
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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Operations:

- 1 Insert 5, 3, 8, 1, 2, 7, 6, 4, 9
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Heap state:

2	3	6	4	9	8	7	5	*	*
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2	3	1	4	9	6	7	5	*	*
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