

# SHORTEST PATHS

unweighted graphs : 2 way BFS = shortest path.  
 every edge counts equally - shortest = min # nodes.

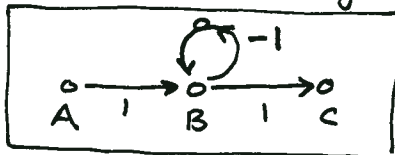
weighted graphs : for each edge associate a number  $w(u, v)$

weighted paths : 
$$W(p) = \sum_{\substack{\text{edge} \\ (u,v) \\ \in p}} [w(u, v)]$$

- commutative
- $W(p \rightarrow x) = W(p) + W(p_{\text{end}} \rightarrow x)$
- $W(u \rightarrow x) + W(x \rightarrow v) = W(u \rightarrow x \rightarrow v)$
- linear accumulation

shortest path = 
$$\delta(u, v) = \begin{cases} \min [W(p) : u \xrightarrow{p} v] & \text{path from } u \rightarrow v. \\ \infty & \text{no path exists} \end{cases}$$

- corner case : negative weight cycle



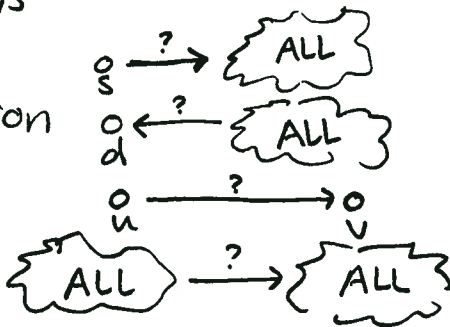
possible responses

- $\delta(A, C) = -\infty$   $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow B \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$
- simple paths : no loops allowed  
 - hard / expensive to enforce since ALL min paths algs capitalize on locality.

- longest? pset 5.

## Shortest paths problems

- \* single source
- single destination
- single pair
- all pairs



reverse edges.

brute force : can be done faster though.

## optimal substructure

$P = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k) =$  shortest path from  $v_1$  to  $v_k$   
 $P_{ij} = (v_i, \dots, v_j) =$  subpath from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$   
 $\Rightarrow P_{ij}$  is a shortest path.

proof: assume  $P'_{ij}$  and  $w(P'_{ij}) < w(P_{ij})$

subst.  $P'_{ij}$  in  $P$ : then  $w(P') = w(v_1, v_i) + w(P'_{ij}) + w(v_j, v_k)$

$w(P) = w(v_1, v_i) + w(P_{ij}) + w(v_j, v_k)$

$w(P') < w(P)$  contradiction since  $P$  shortest.



cycles? can a shortest path contain a cycle? No cut out cycle = shorter using optimal substructure to represent paths.

$P_{k+1} = (x_1, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1})$  shortest path to  $x_{k+1}$

$P_k = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$  shortest path to  $x_k$

...

$P_1 = (x_1)$  shortest path to  $x_1$

So only need to store the predecessor on the shortest path!

$O(V)$  extra storage.

- $\pi[v] = \text{pred.}$

forms a shortest paths tree — why tree? b/c we choose ONE min path

subgraph  $G'_s = (V' E')$   $V' \subseteq V$   $E' \subseteq E$  ← tree rooted @  $s$ .

↑ reachable from  $s$ .

unique path from  $s \rightarrow v \in G'_s =$  min path in  $G$  from  $s$  to  $v$ .

## Relaxation

- maintain a shortest path estimate  $d[v]$  — current min. dist.

- initialize  $d[v] = \infty$   $\pi[v] = \text{none}$   
 $d[s] = 0$   $\pi[s] = \text{none.}$

- relaxing can we improve any  $d[v]$ ?

- algs supply when to relax a particular edge.

- will never relax a shortest path

- properties CLRS p587

Relax( $u, v, w$ )  
 if  $d[v] > d[u] + w(u, v)$ :  
 $d[v] =$  "  
 $\pi[v] = u$

# RUBIKs code

## Interface

## representations

- position : a particular state of a cube
- I : the identity / solved position.
- move : represent a possible move
- F, Fi : rotate front face clock/cclock
- L, Li :
- R, Ri :

} quarter twists = tuple of these.

## operations

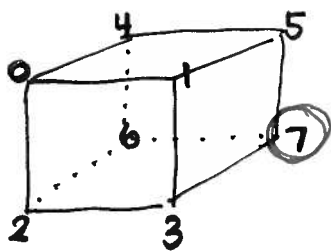
- perm-apply (move, position) → new state of cube
- perm-inverse (move) → inverse move
- equals (move 1, move 2)
- equals (pos 1, pos 2)

if computing this is ALL you need to know!

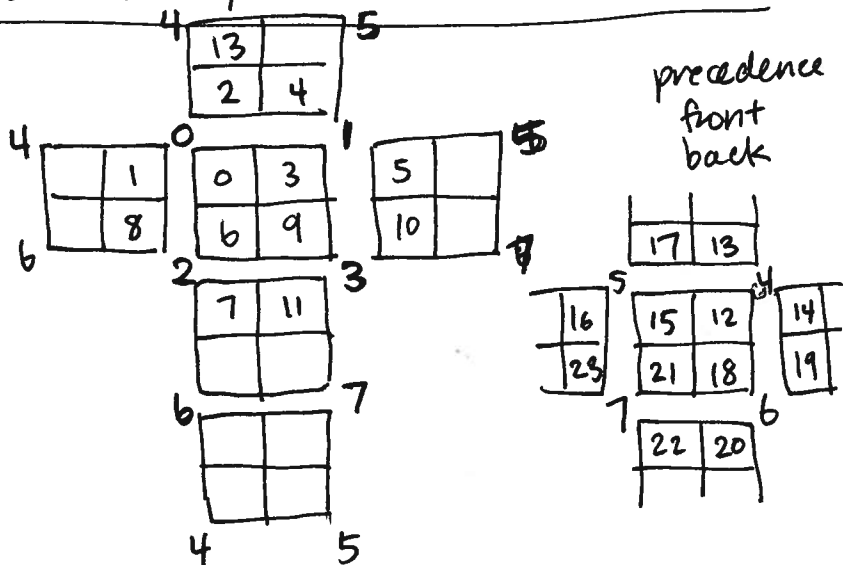
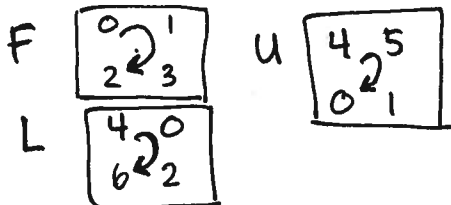
⇓ simple

⇓ but what about my pocket cube.

best: a user interface that masks the representation (10 prnts)

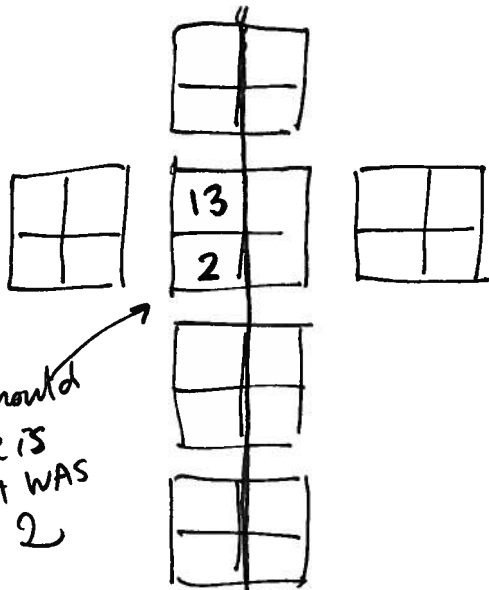


Moves:



code swaps yellow + blue! sorry. batch soon.

move: L



What should  
be here is  
What WAS  
in 2

→ same .