

# Lecture 11

Weighted Graphs: Dijkstra and Bellman-Ford

NOTE: We may not get to Bellman-Ford!  
We will spend more time on it next time.

# Announcements

- The midterm is today, 6-9pm. Good luck!
- Don't talk about it after you are done – we will tell you when it is ok to discuss the midterm.
- See Ed post for detailed midterm instructions and logistics.

# Midterm instructions (condensed)

- Double check time and location
- One 2-sided cheat sheet allowed
- No scratch paper; extra blank sheets in exam
- DO NOT tear off any pages!
- Sign out with the TA before you leave

# AIWG pilot

- The course is part of the AIWG proctoring pilot. We have released the seating chart for the exam rooms on ed.
- Bring ID!

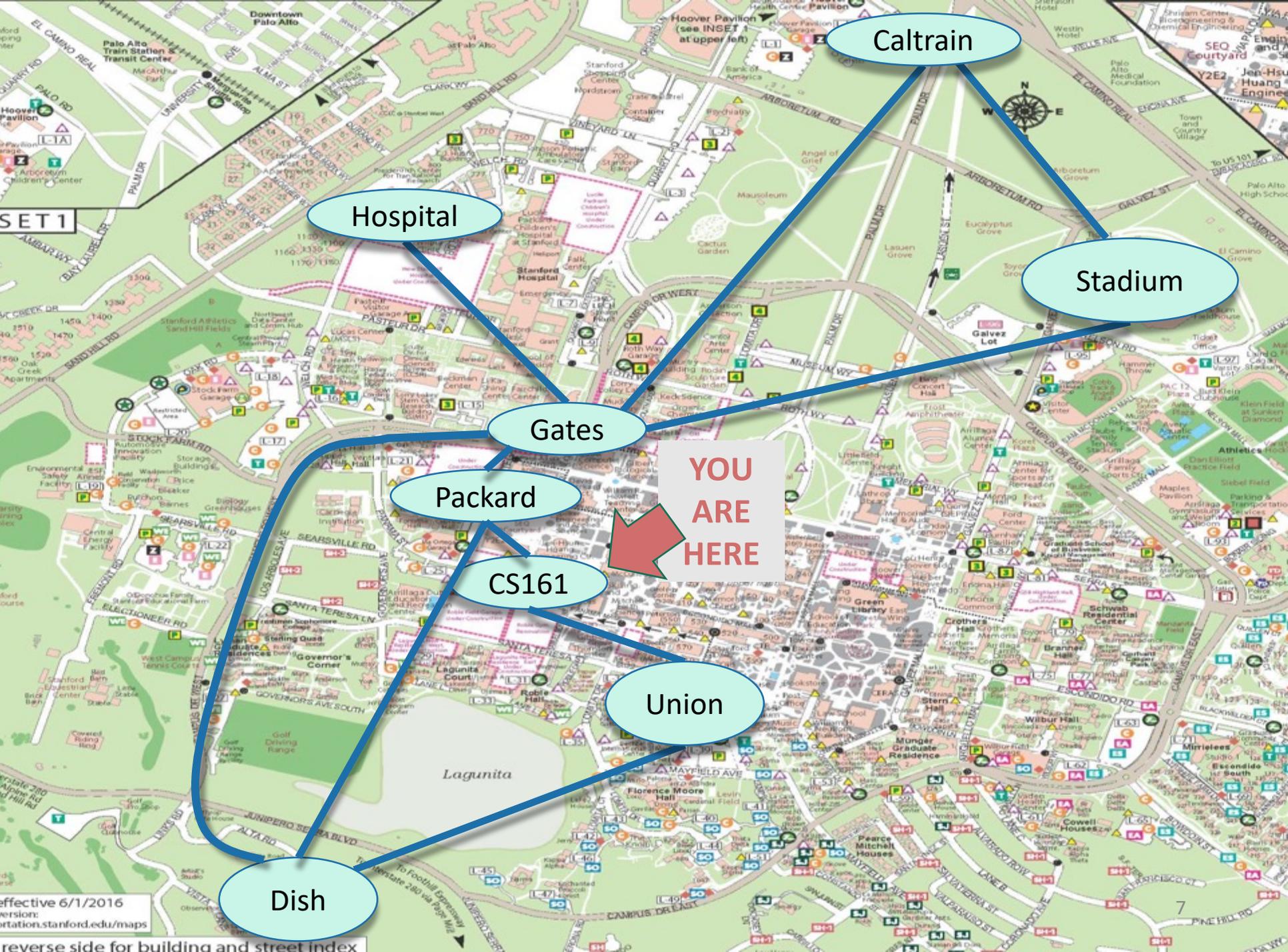
# Previous two lectures

- Graphs!
- DFS
  - Topological Sorting
  - Strongly Connected Components
- BFS
  - Shortest Paths in unweighted graphs

# Today

- What if the graphs are weighted?
- Part 1: Dijkstra!
  - This will take most of today's class
- Part 2: Bellman-Ford!
  - Real quick at the end if we have time!
  - We'll come back to Bellman-Ford in more detail, so today is just a taste.





Caltrain

Hospital

Stadium

Gates

YOU ARE HERE

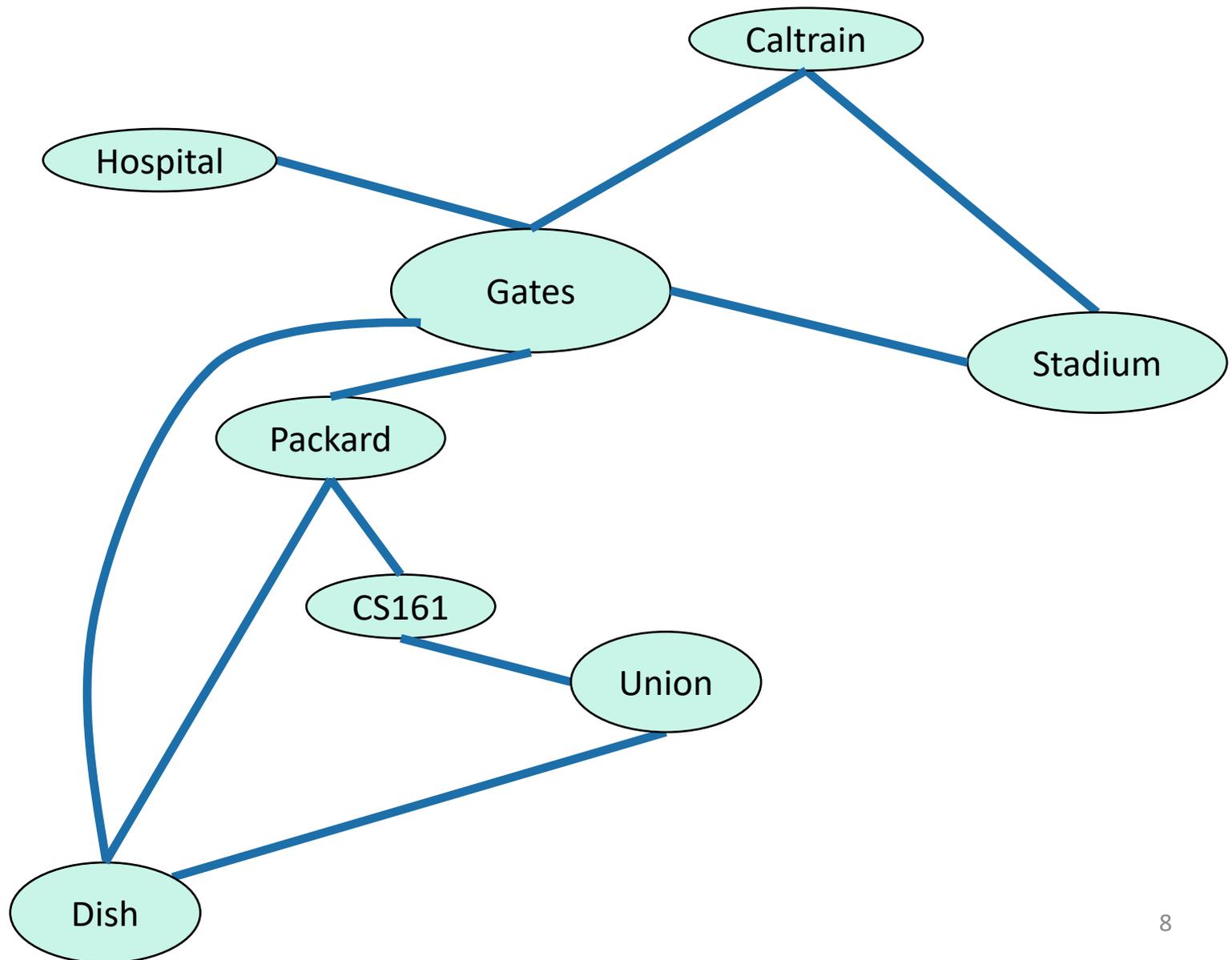
Packard

CS161

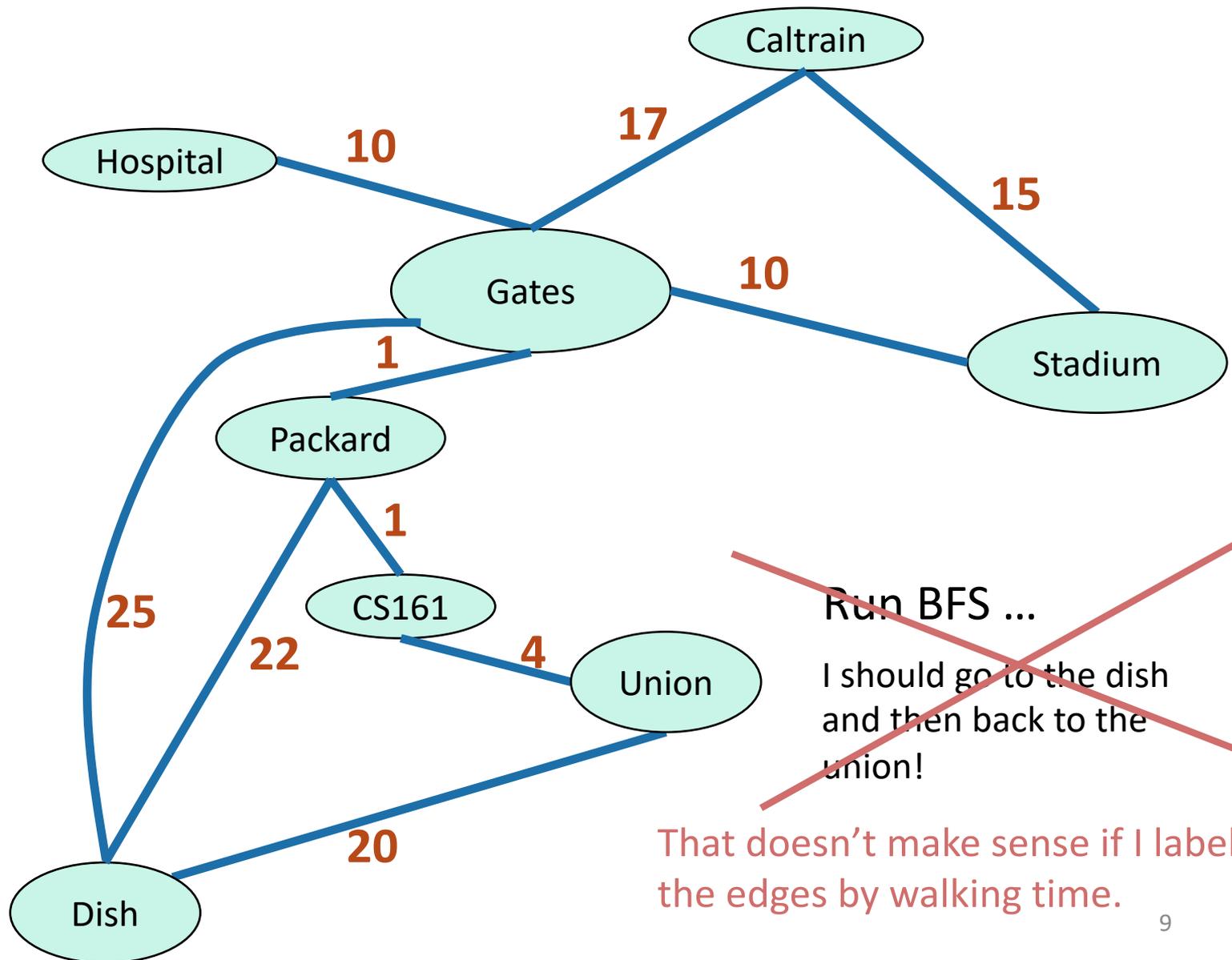
Union

Dish

# Just the graph



# Shortest path from Gates to the Union?

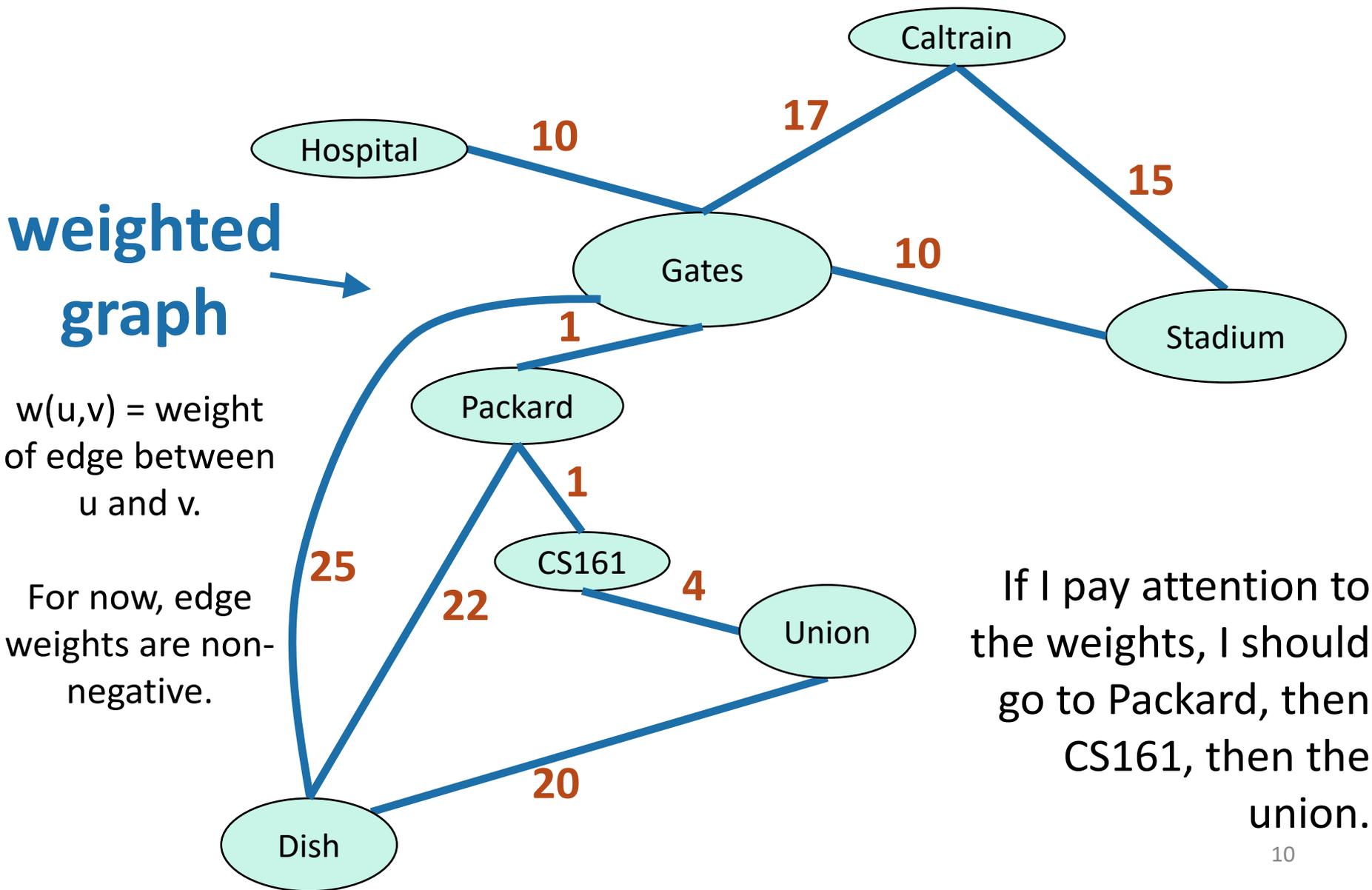


~~Run BFS ...~~

~~I should go to the dish  
and then back to the  
union!~~

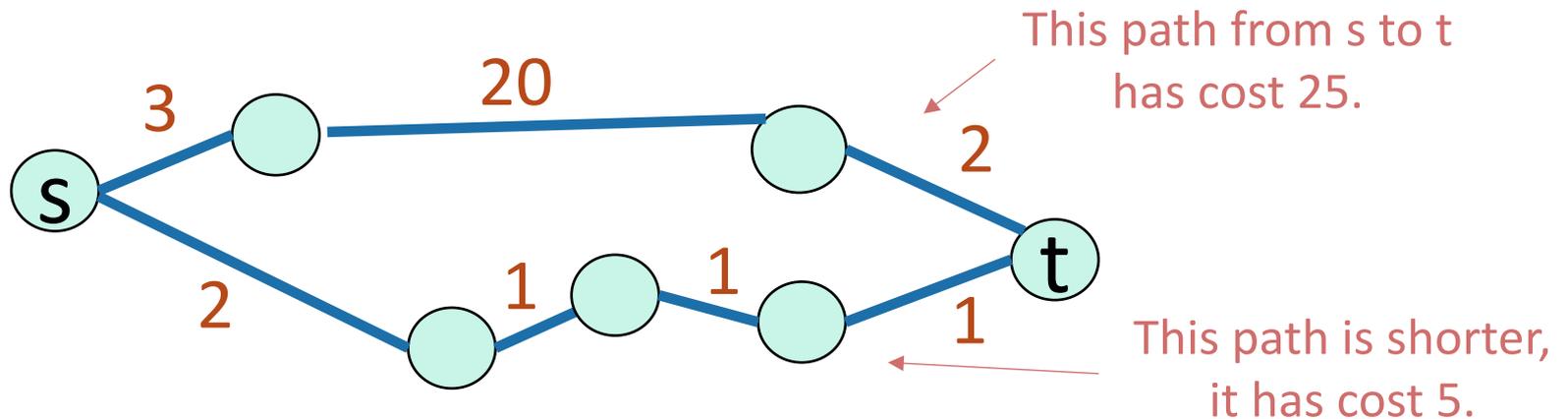
That doesn't make sense if I label  
the edges by walking time.

# Shortest path from Gates to the Union?

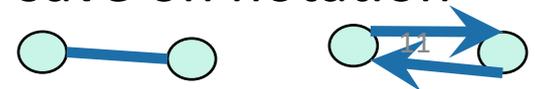


# Shortest path problem

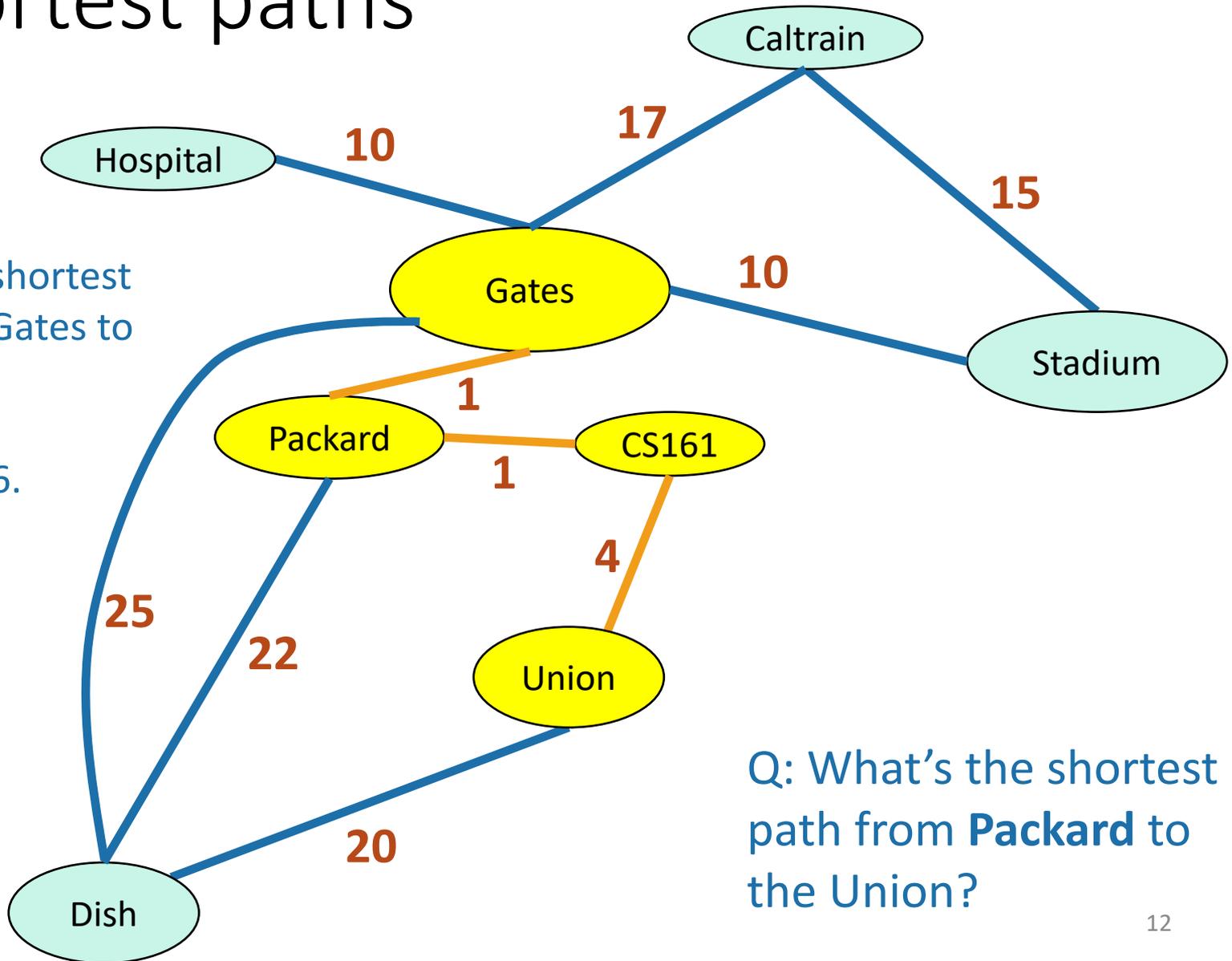
- What is the **shortest path** between  $u$  and  $v$  in a weighted graph?
  - the **cost** of a path is the sum of the weights along that path
  - The **shortest path** is the one with the minimum cost.



- The **distance**  $d(u,v)$  between two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  is the cost of the the shortest path between  $u$  and  $v$ .
- For this lecture **all graphs are directed**, but to save on notation I'm just going to draw undirected edges.



# Shortest paths



This is the shortest path from Gates to the Union.

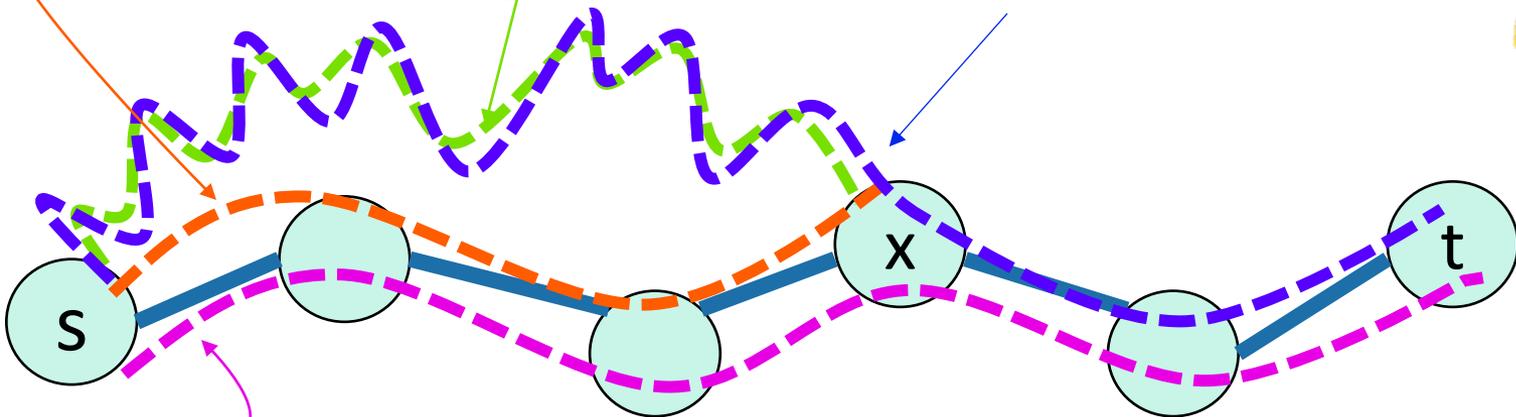
It has cost 6.

Q: What's the shortest path from **Packard** to the Union?

# Warm-up

- A sub-path of a shortest path is also a shortest path.

- Say **this** is a shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$ .
- Claim: **this** is a shortest path from  $s$  to  $x$ .
  - Suppose not, **this** one is a shorter path from  $s$  to  $x$ .
  - But then that gives an **even shorter path** from  $s$  to  $t$ !



# Single-source shortest-path problem

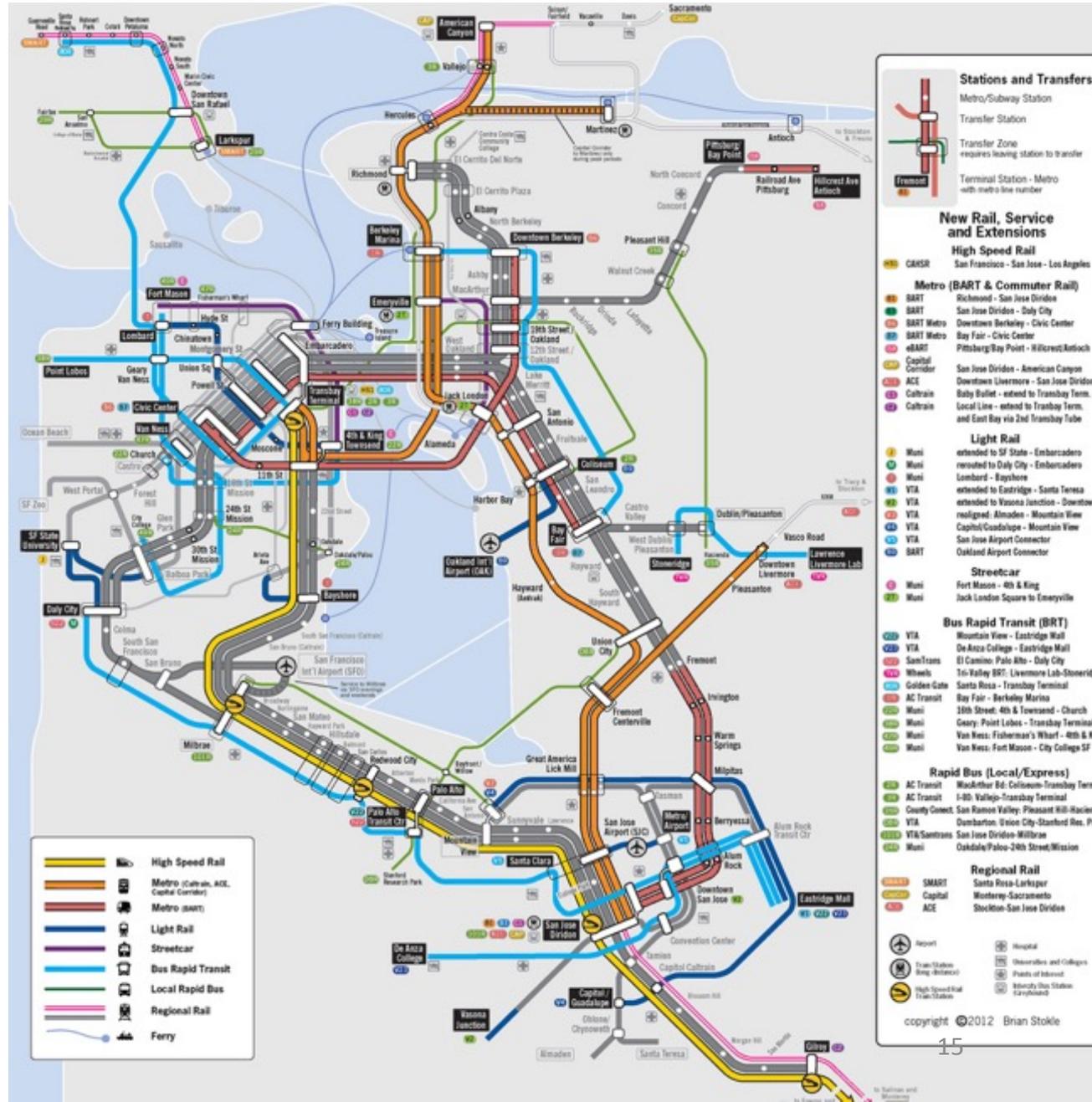
- I want to know the shortest path from one vertex (Gates) to all other vertices.

Destination	Cost	To get there
Packard	1	Packard
CS161	2	Packard-CS161
Hospital	10	Hospital
Caltrain	17	Caltrain
Union	6	Packard-CS161-Union
Stadium	10	Stadium
Dish	23	Packard-Dish

(Not necessarily stored as a table – how this information is represented will depend on the application)

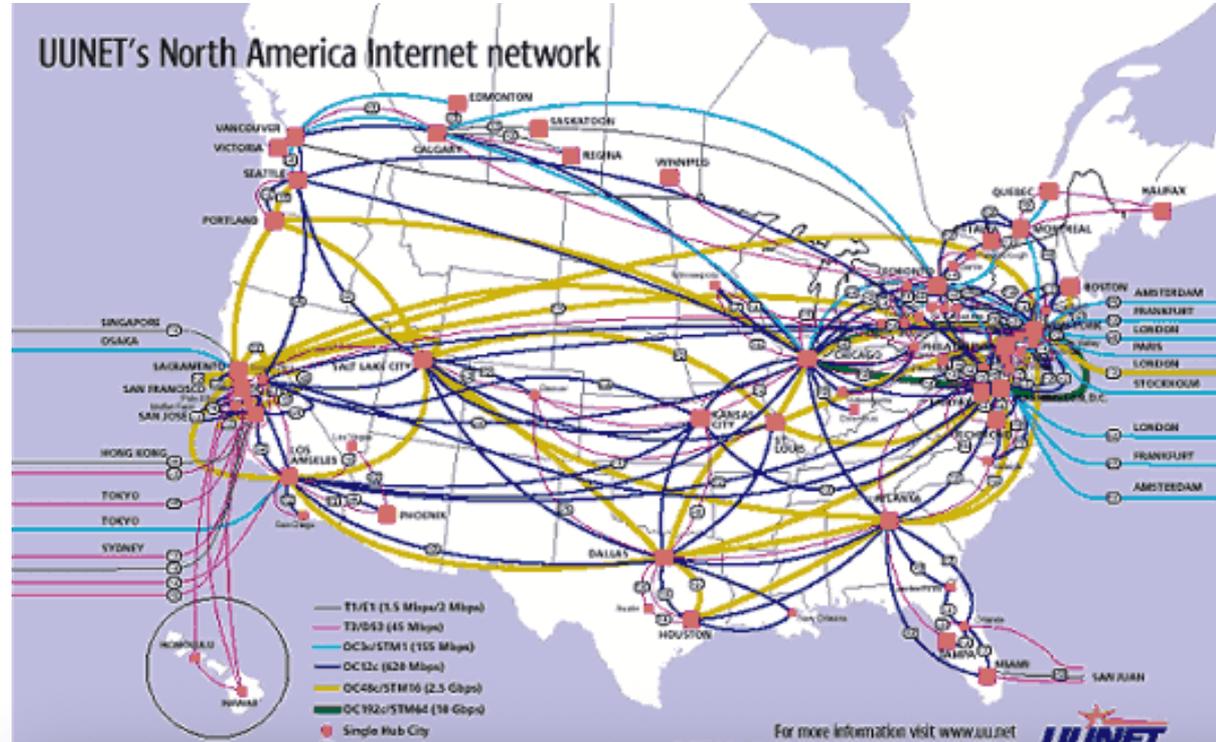
# Example

- “what is the shortest path from Palo Alto to [anywhere else]” using BART, Caltrain, lightrail, MUNI, bus, Amtrak, bike, walking, uber/lyft.
- Edge weights have something to do with time, money, hassle.

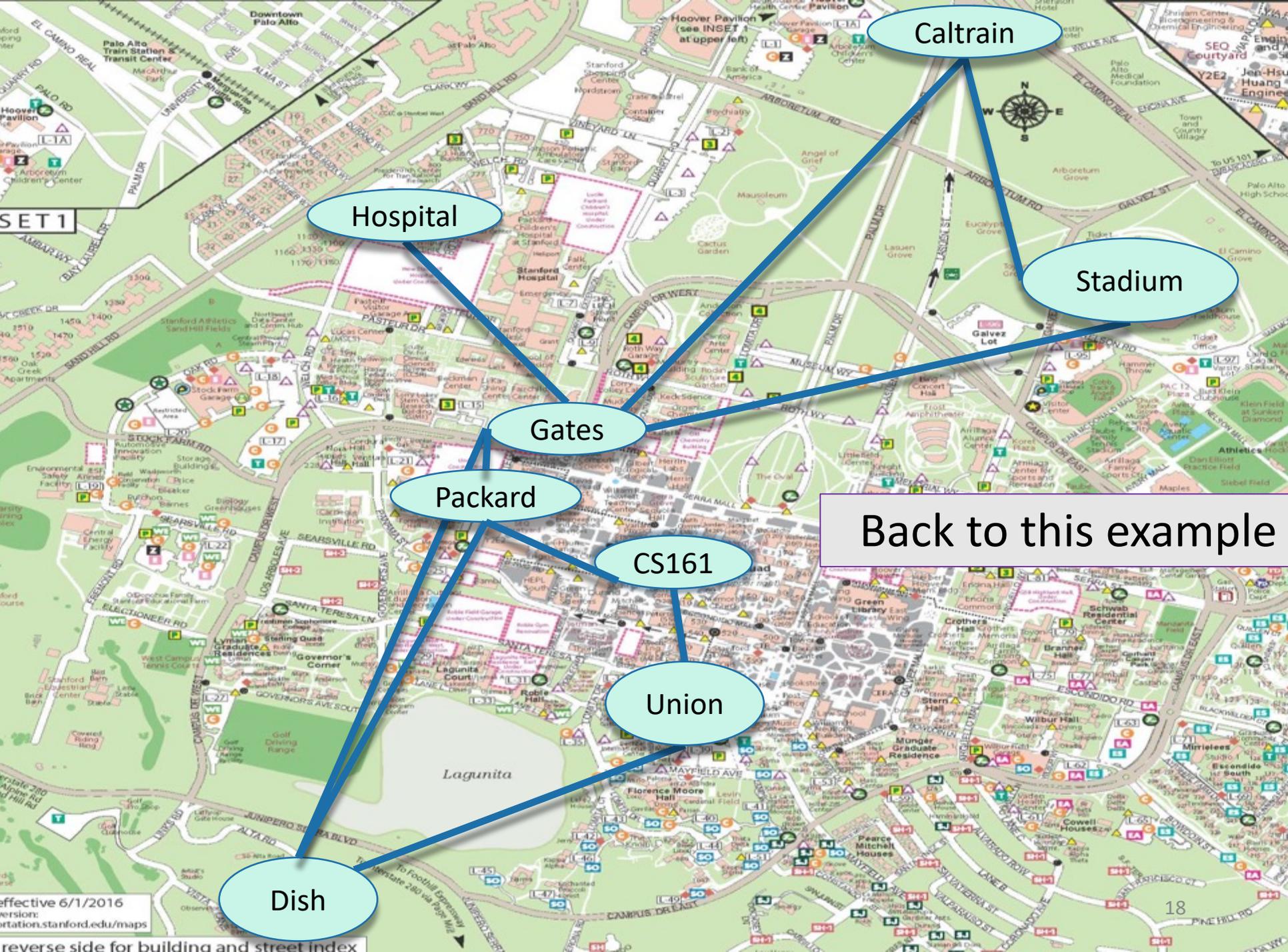


# Example

- **Network routing**
- I send information over the internet, from my computer to to all over the world.
- Each path has a cost which depends on link length, traffic, other costs, etc..
- How should we send packets?



```
moses — traceroute -a www.ethz.ch — 103x19
Last login: Mon Feb 7 09:27:47 on ttys003
[moses@Mosess-MacBook-Pro ~ % traceroute -a www.ethz.ch
traceroute to www.ethz.ch (129.132.19.216), 64 hops max, 52 byte packets
 1 [AS0] 192.168.7.1 (192.168.7.1)  3.898 ms  2.066 ms  2.881 ms
 2 [AS0] 192.168.0.1 (192.168.0.1)  2.897 ms  4.720 ms  3.108 ms
 3 [AS0] 10.127.252.2 (10.127.252.2)  57.256 ms  5.571 ms  4.268 ms
 4 [AS32] he-rtr.stanford.edu (128.12.0.209)  4.039 ms  11.471 ms  4.628 ms
 5 [AS6939] 100gigabitethernet5-1.core1.pao1.he.net (184.105.177.237)  4.648 ms  3.
 6 [AS6939] 100ge9-2.core1.sjc2.he.net (72.52.92.157)  5.949 ms  5.291 ms  4.980 ms
 7 [AS6939] 100ge10-2.core1.nyc4.he.net (184.105.81.217)  69.007 ms  66.575 ms  67.
 8 [AS6939] 100ge7-1.core1.lon2.he.net (72.52.92.165)  268.329 ms  191.401 ms  203.
 9 [AS6939] port-channel2.core3.lon2.he.net (184.105.64.2)  205.515 ms  350.183 ms
10 [AS6939] port-channel12.core2.ams1.he.net (72.52.92.214)  144.263 ms  143.638 ms
11 [AS1200] swice1-100ge-0-3-0-1.switch.ch (80.249.208.33)  161.119 ms  208.169 ms
12 [AS559] swice4-b4.switch.ch (130.59.36.70)  219.228 ms  203.833 ms  204.402 ms
13 [AS559] swibf1-b2.switch.ch (130.59.36.113)  184.671 ms  204.955 ms  204.671 ms
14 [AS559] swiez3-b5.switch.ch (130.59.37.6)  205.079 ms  164.116 ms  245.086 ms
15 [AS559] rou-gw-lee-tengig-to-switch.ethz.ch (192.33.92.1)  204.296 ms  164.770 ms
16 [AS559] rou-fw-rz-rz-gw.ethz.ch (192.33.92.169)  165.148 ms  322.839 ms  204.627
```



Caltrain

Hospital

Stadium

Gates

Packard

Back to this example

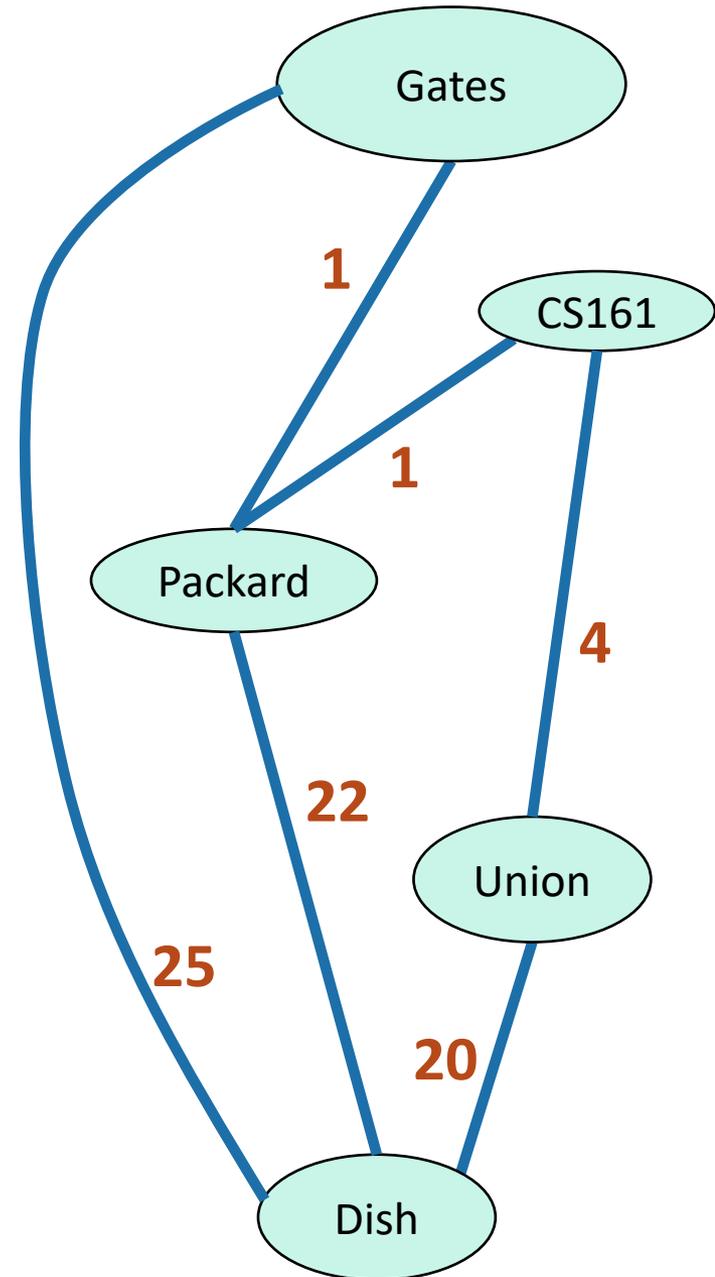
CS161

Union

Dish

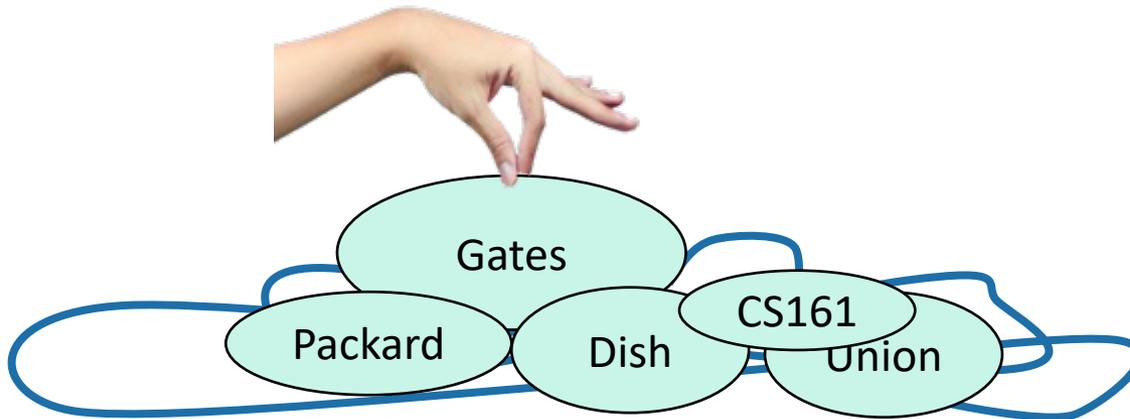
# Dijkstra's algorithm

- Finds shortest paths from Gates to everywhere else.



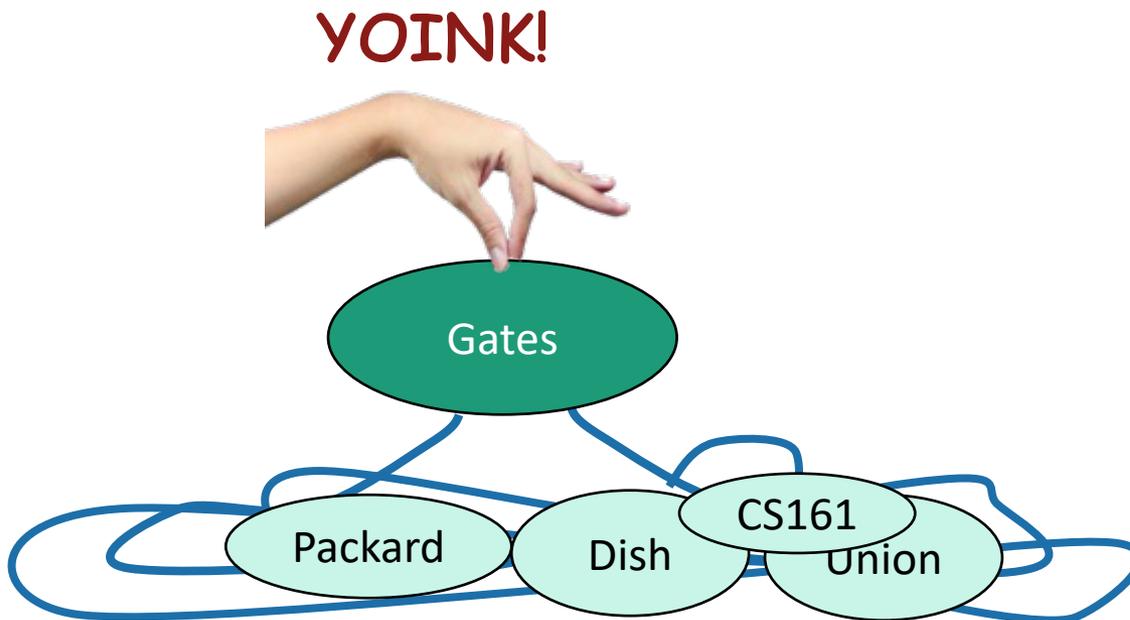
# Dijkstra intuition

**YOINK!**



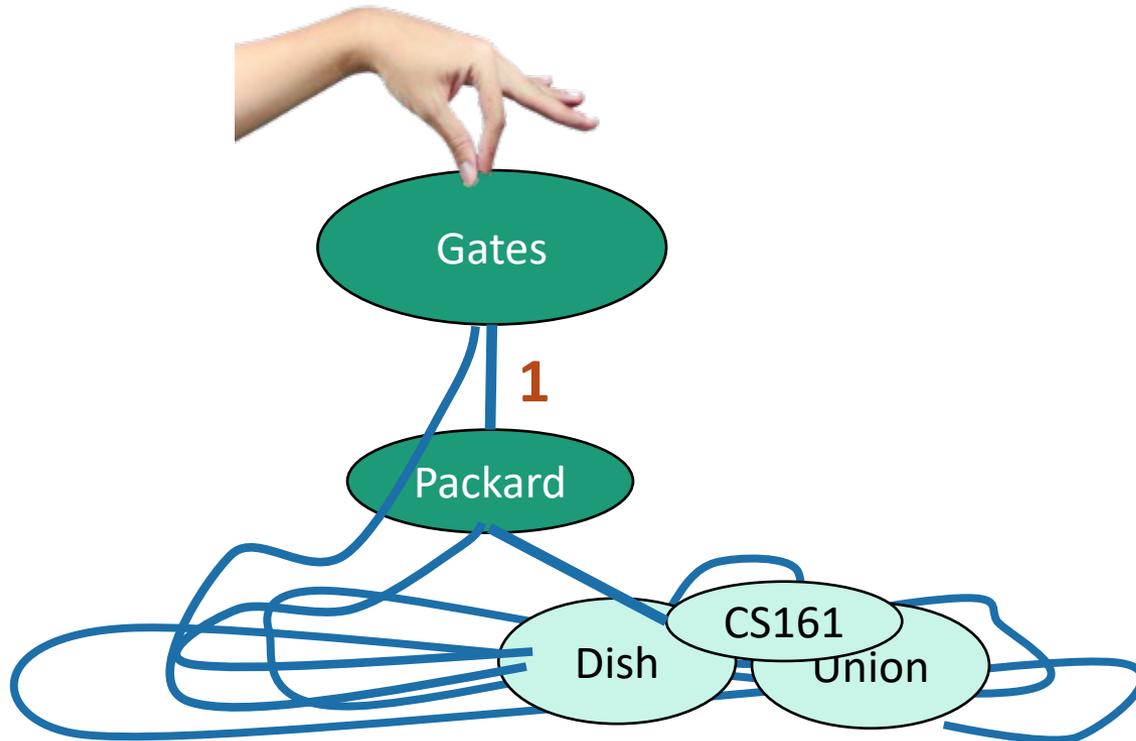
# Dijkstra intuition

A vertex is done when it's not on the ground anymore.



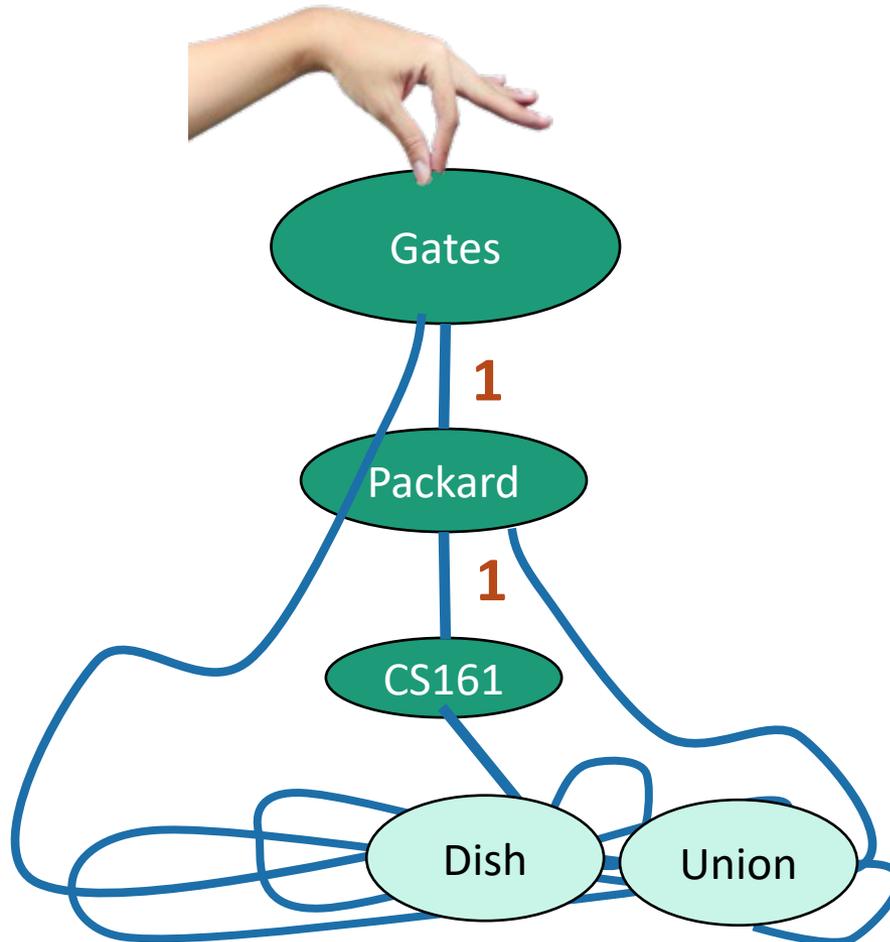
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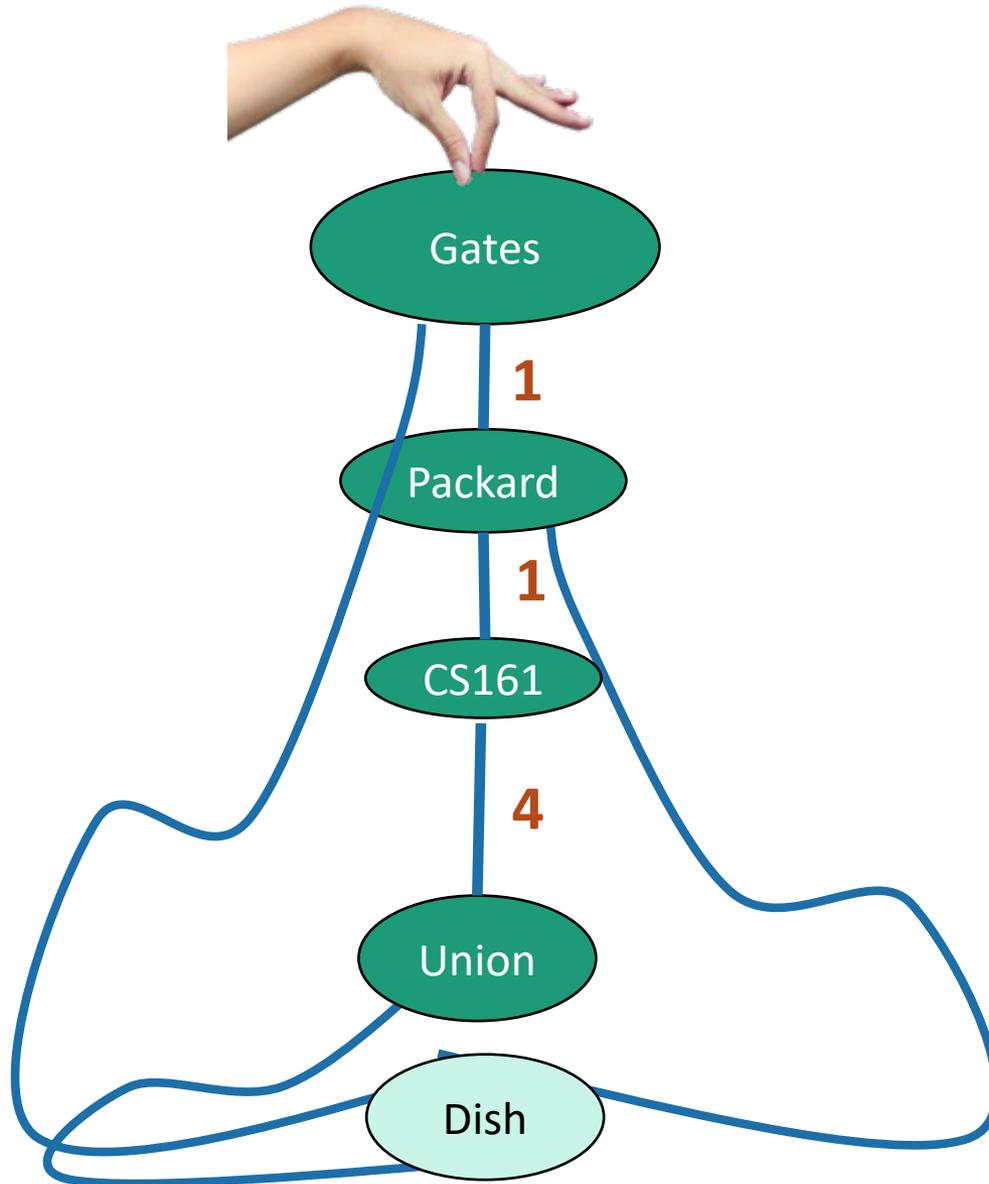
# Dijkstra intuition

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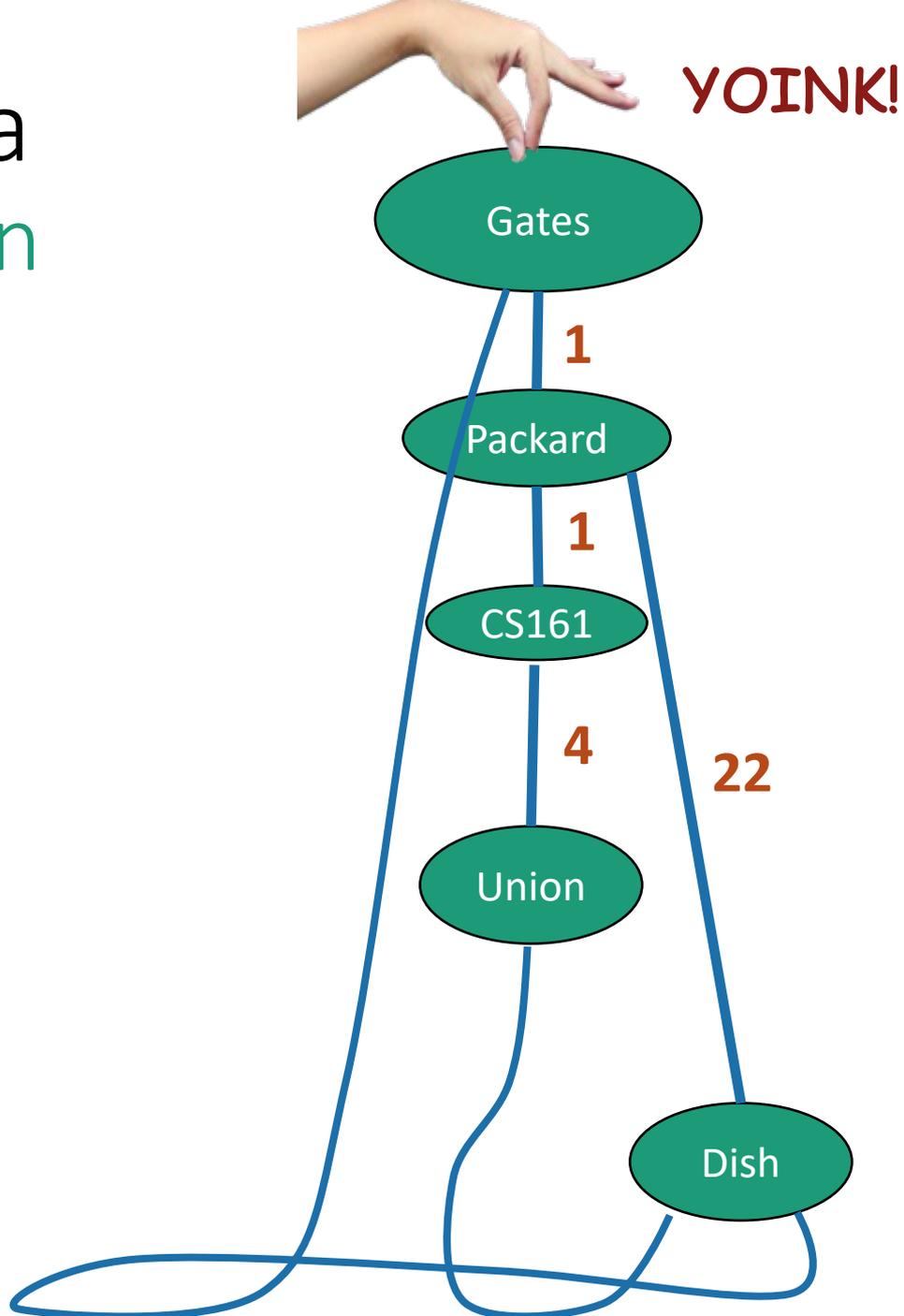


# Dijkstra intuition

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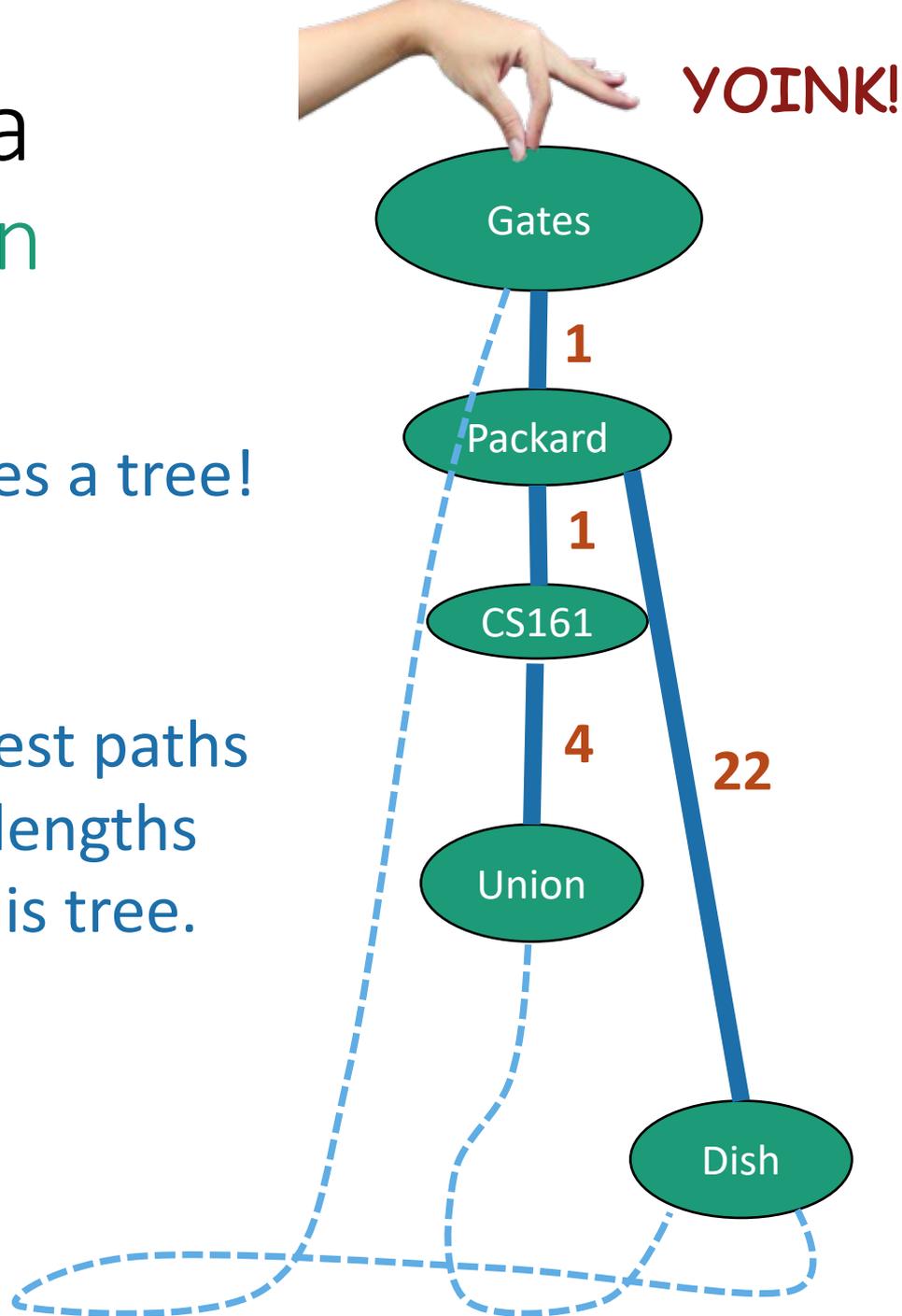
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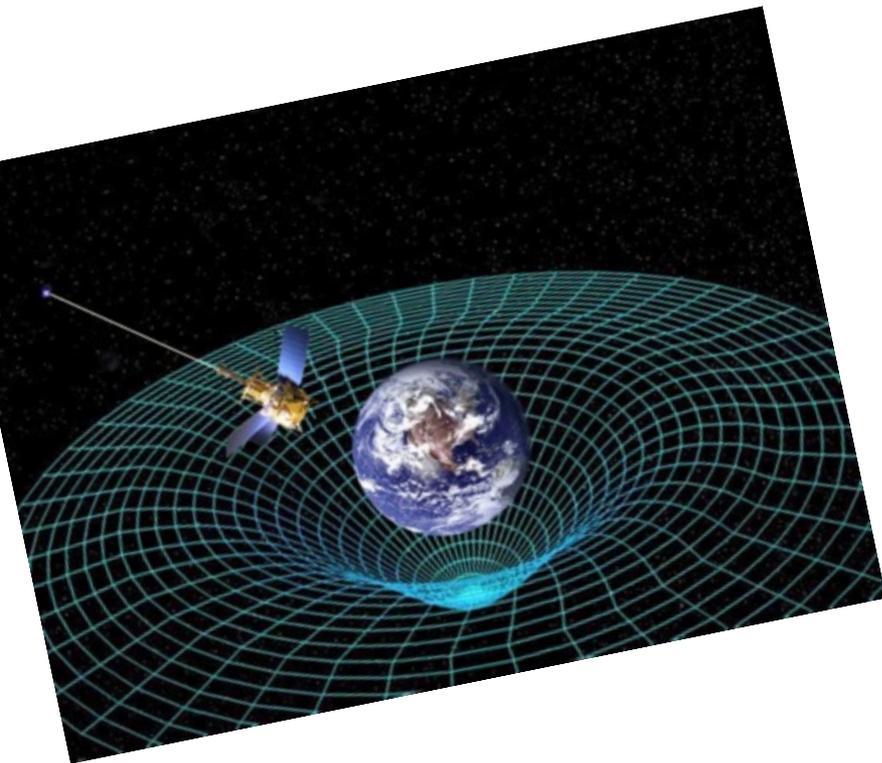
This creates a tree!

The shortest paths are the lengths along this tree.



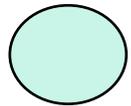
# How do we actually implement this?

- **Without** string and gravity?

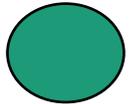


# Dijkstra by example

How far is a node from Gates?



I'm not sure yet



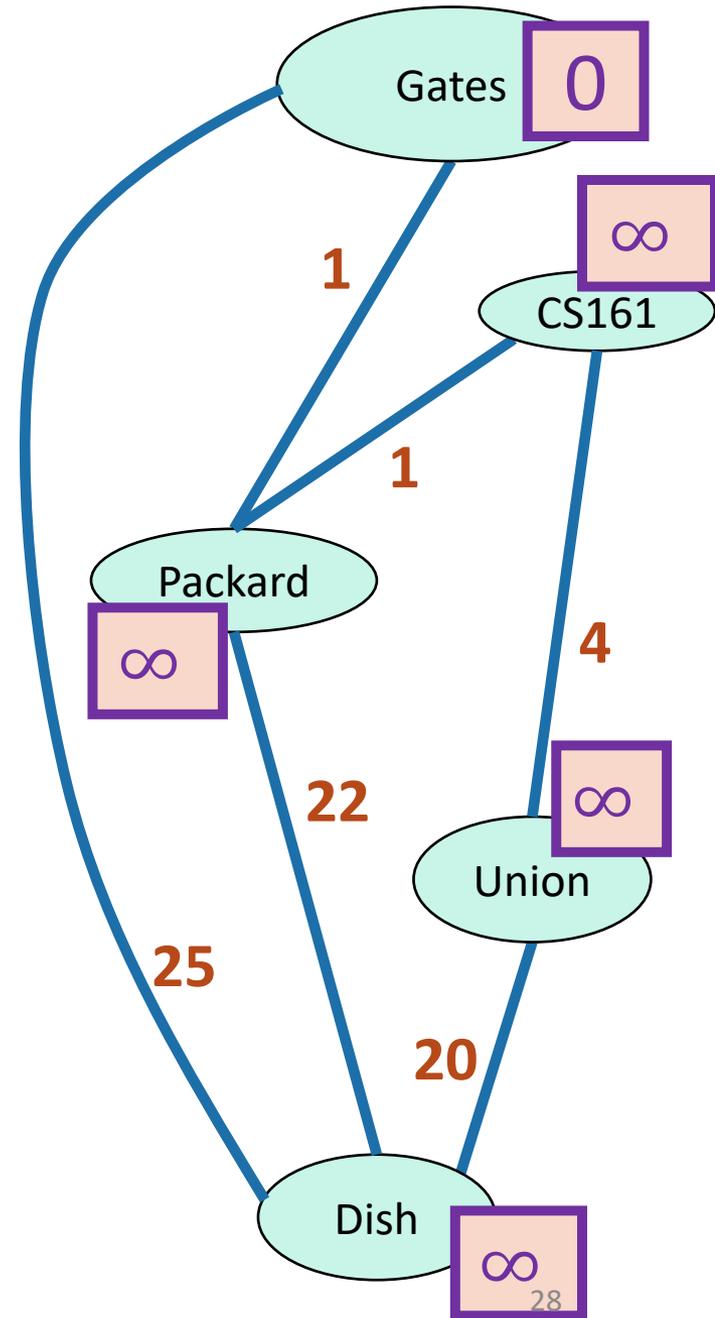
I'm sure



$x = d[v]$  is my best **over-estimate** for  $\text{dist}(\text{Gates}, v)$ .

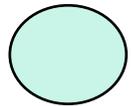
Initialize  $d[v] = \infty$   
for all non-starting vertices  $v$ ,  
and  $d[\text{Gates}] = 0$

- Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  $d[u]$ .

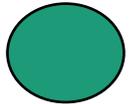


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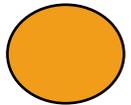
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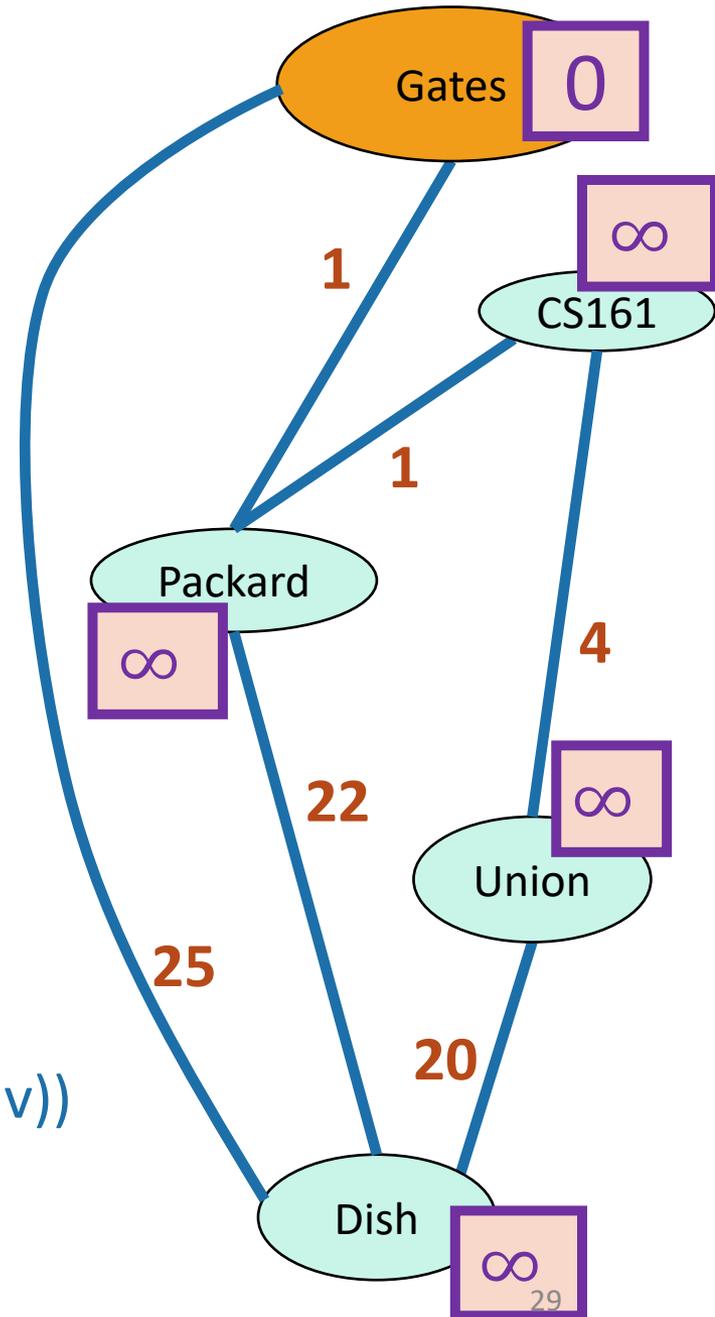


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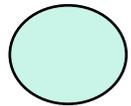
Current node  $u$

- Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  $d[u]$ .
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  - $d[v] = \min( d[v] , d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$

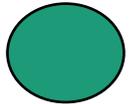


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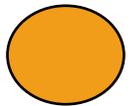
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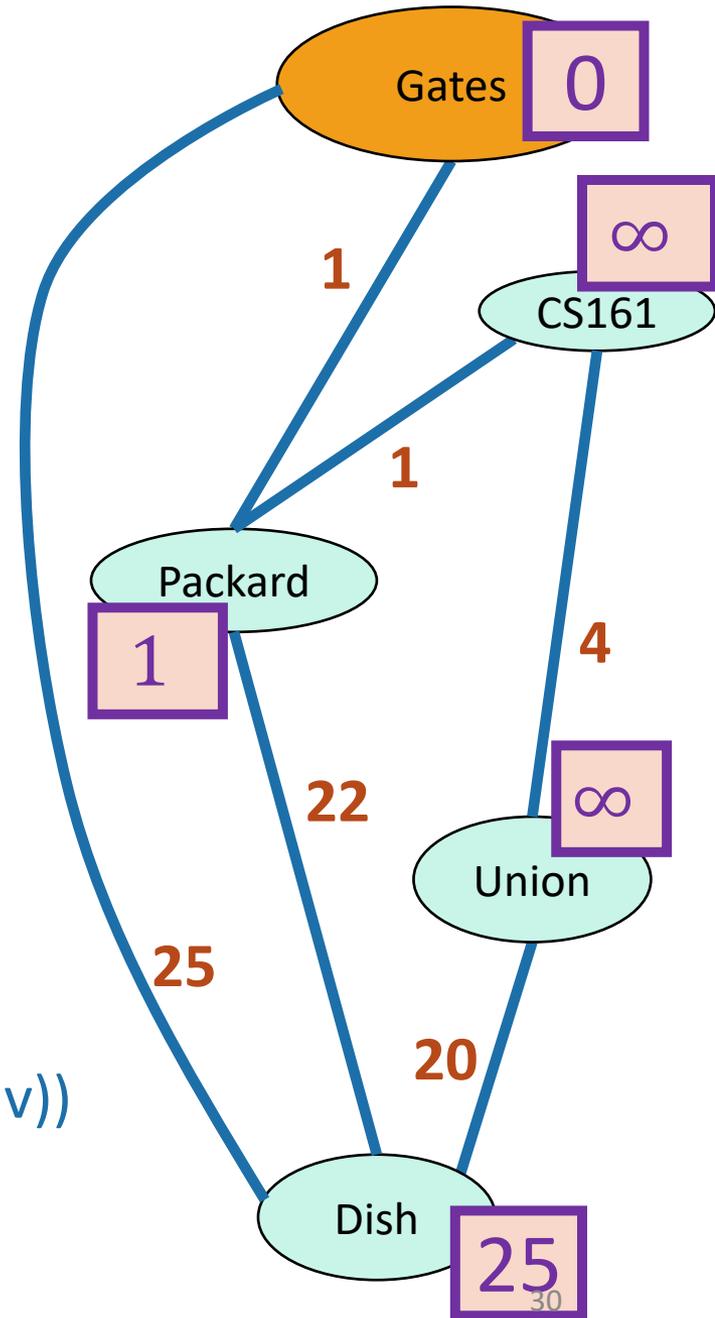


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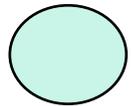
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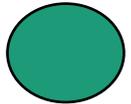


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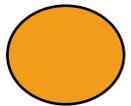
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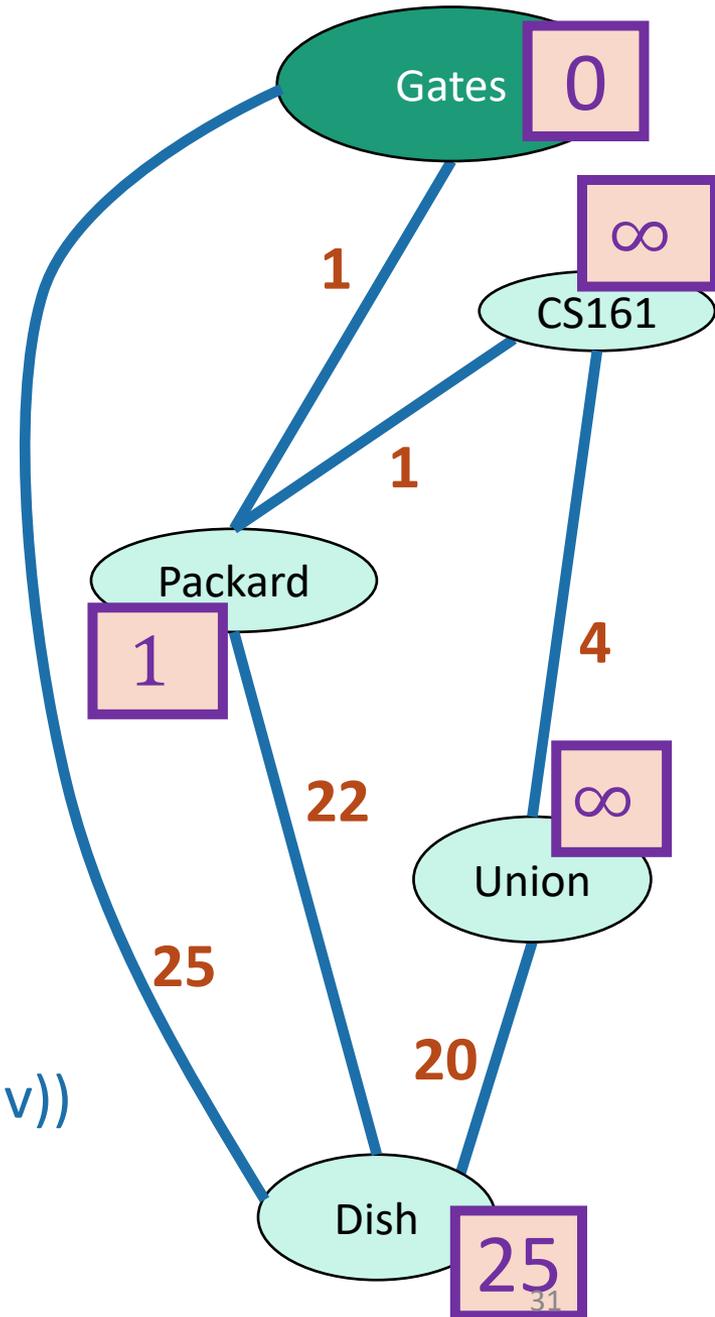


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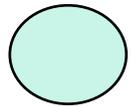
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- Repeat

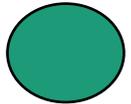


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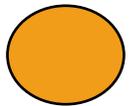
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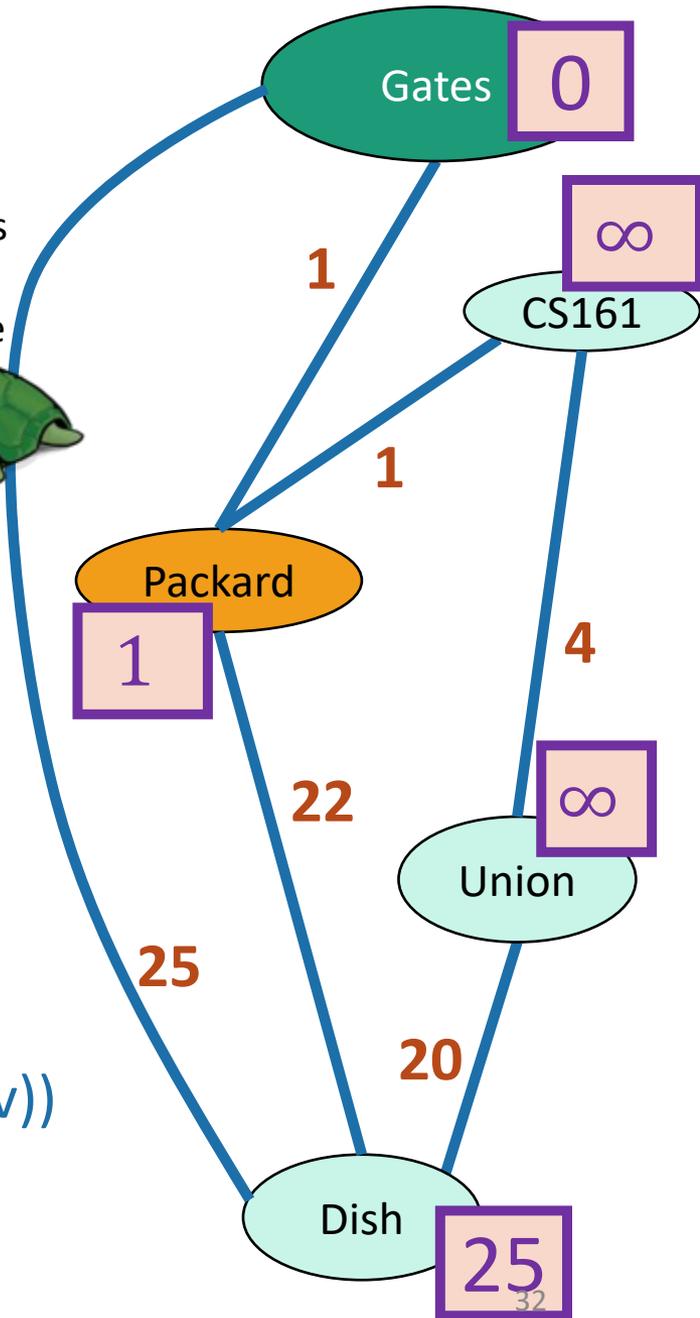
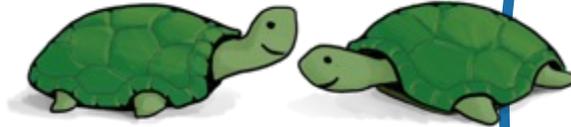
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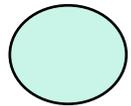
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- Repeat

Packard has three neighbors. What happens when we update them?  
1 min. think; 1 min. share

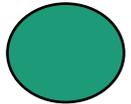


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How far is a node from Gates?



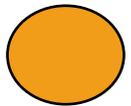
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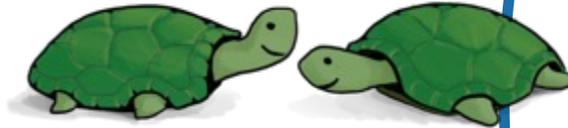
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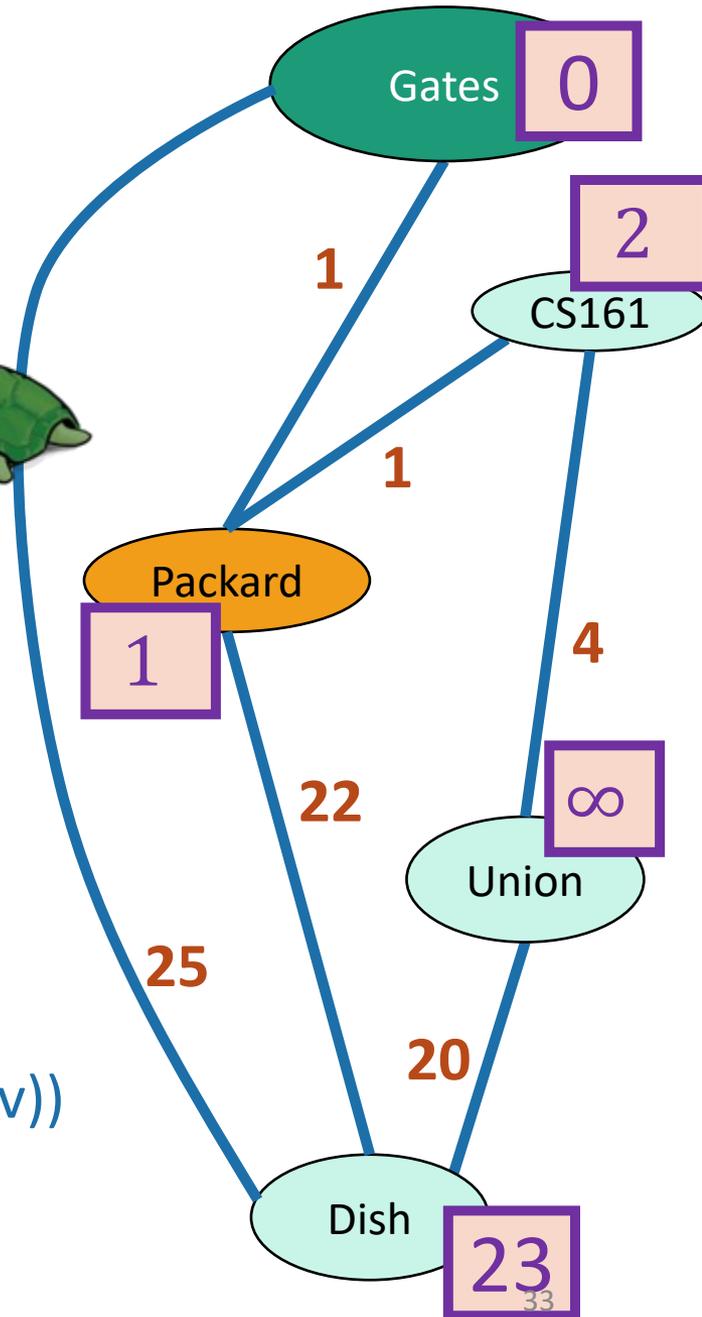


Current node  $u$



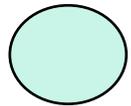
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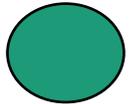


# Dijkstra by example

How far is a node from Gates?



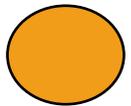
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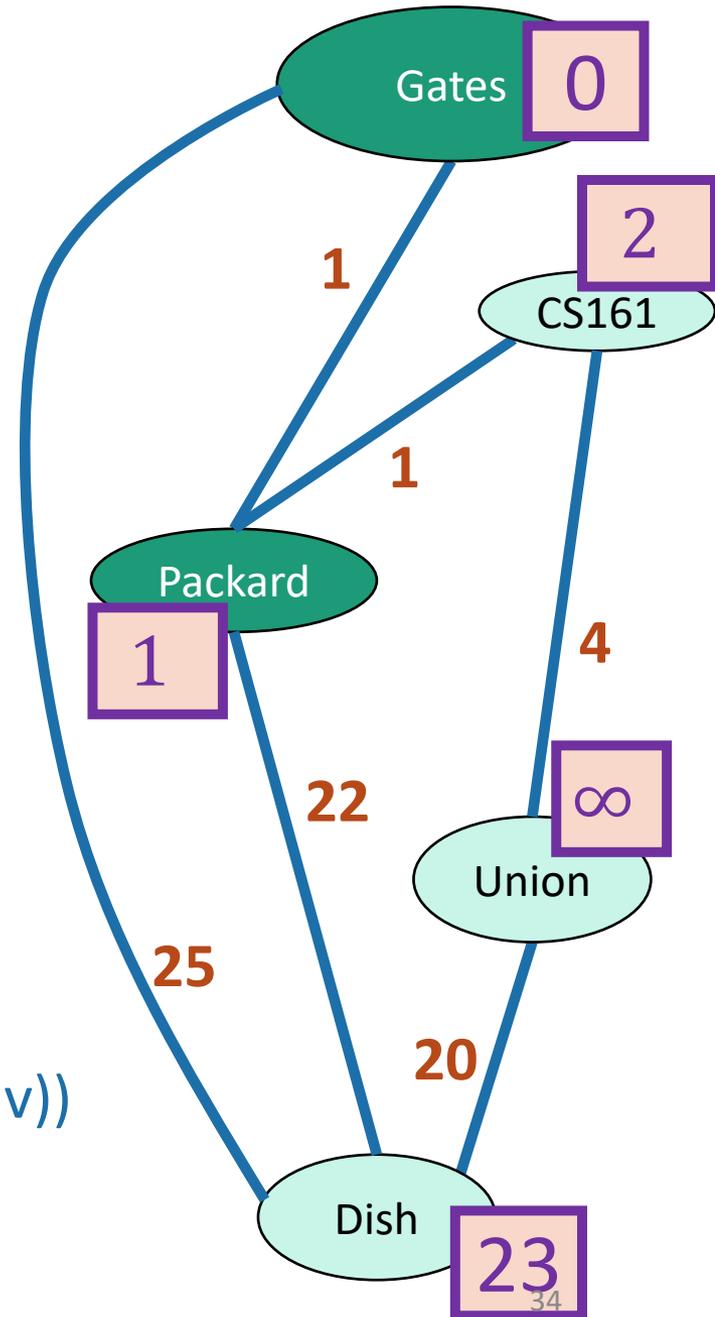


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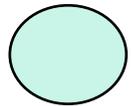
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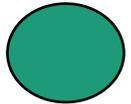


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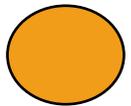
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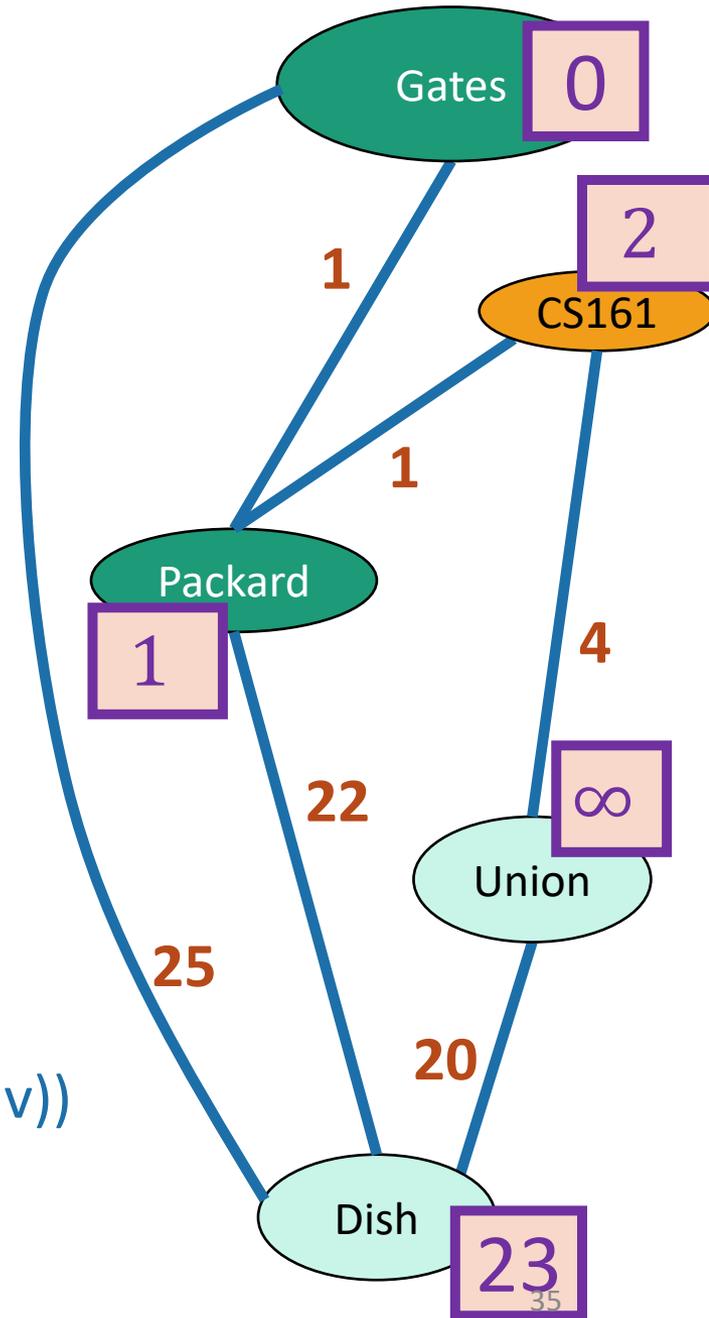


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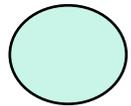
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  - $d[v] = \min( d[v] , d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$
- Mark  $u$  as **sure**.
- Repeat

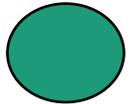


# Dijkstra by example

How far is a node from Gates?



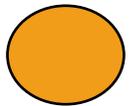
I'm not sure yet



I'm sure

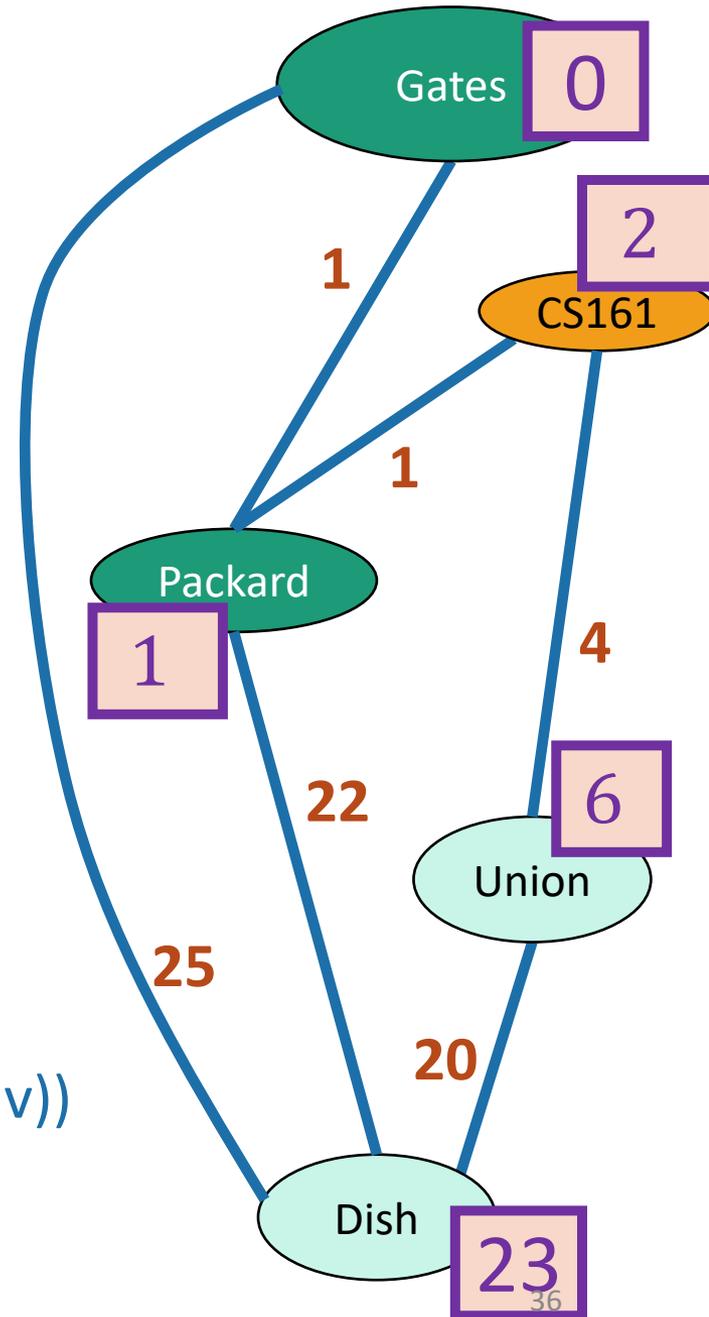


$x = d[v]$  is my best **over-estimate** for  $\text{dist}(\text{Gates}, v)$ .



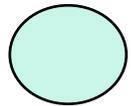
Current node  $u$

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- Repeat

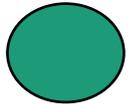


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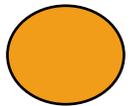
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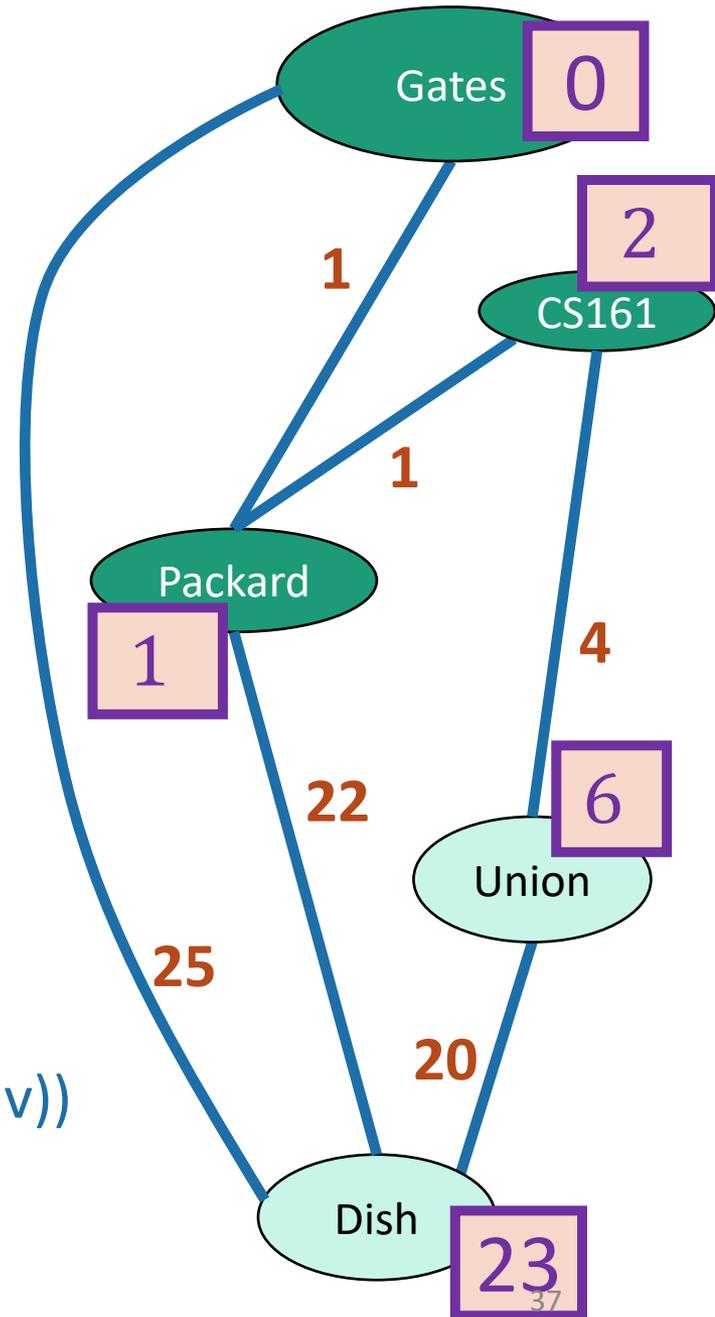


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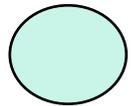
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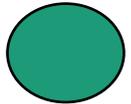


# Dijkstra by example

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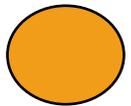
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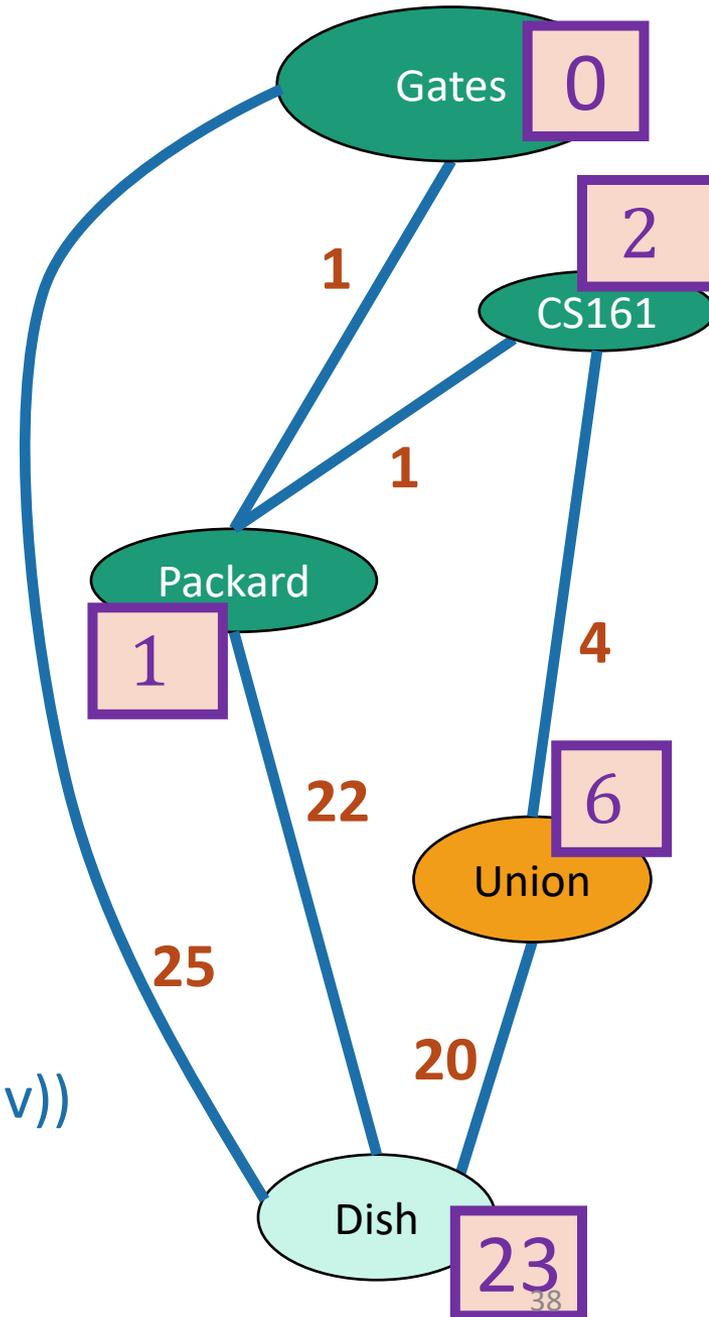


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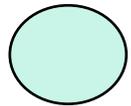
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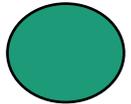


# Dijkstra by example

How far is a node from Gates?



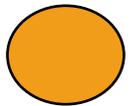
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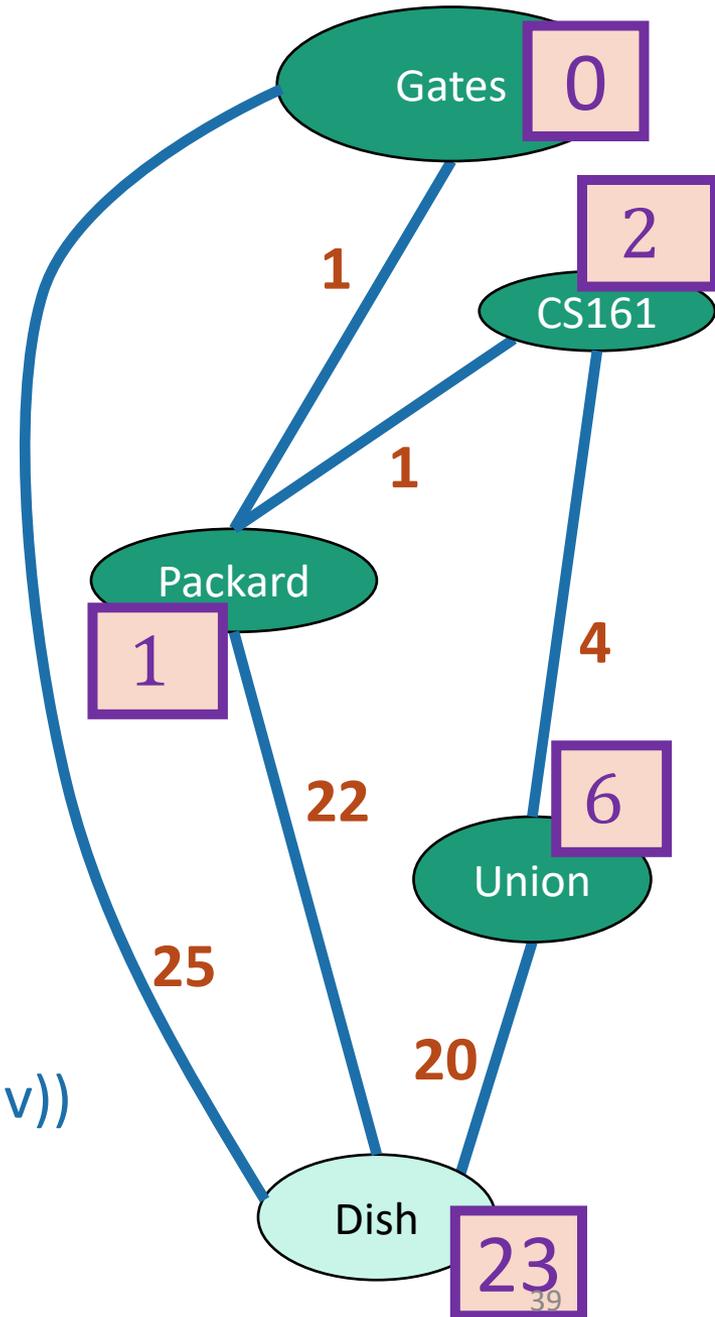


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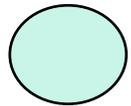
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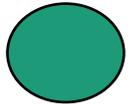


# Dijkstra by example

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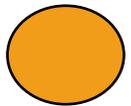
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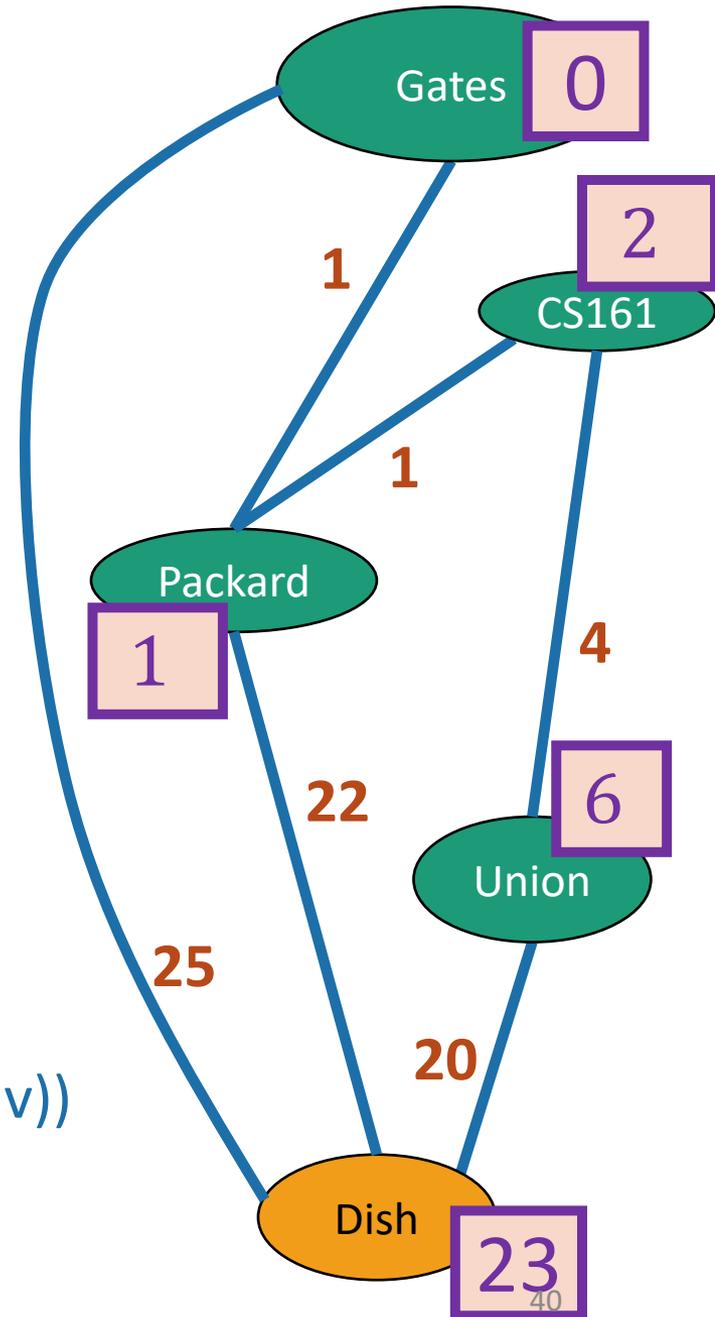


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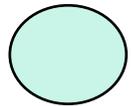
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- Repeat

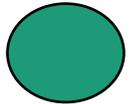


# Dijkstra by example

How far is a node from Gates?



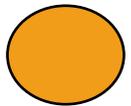
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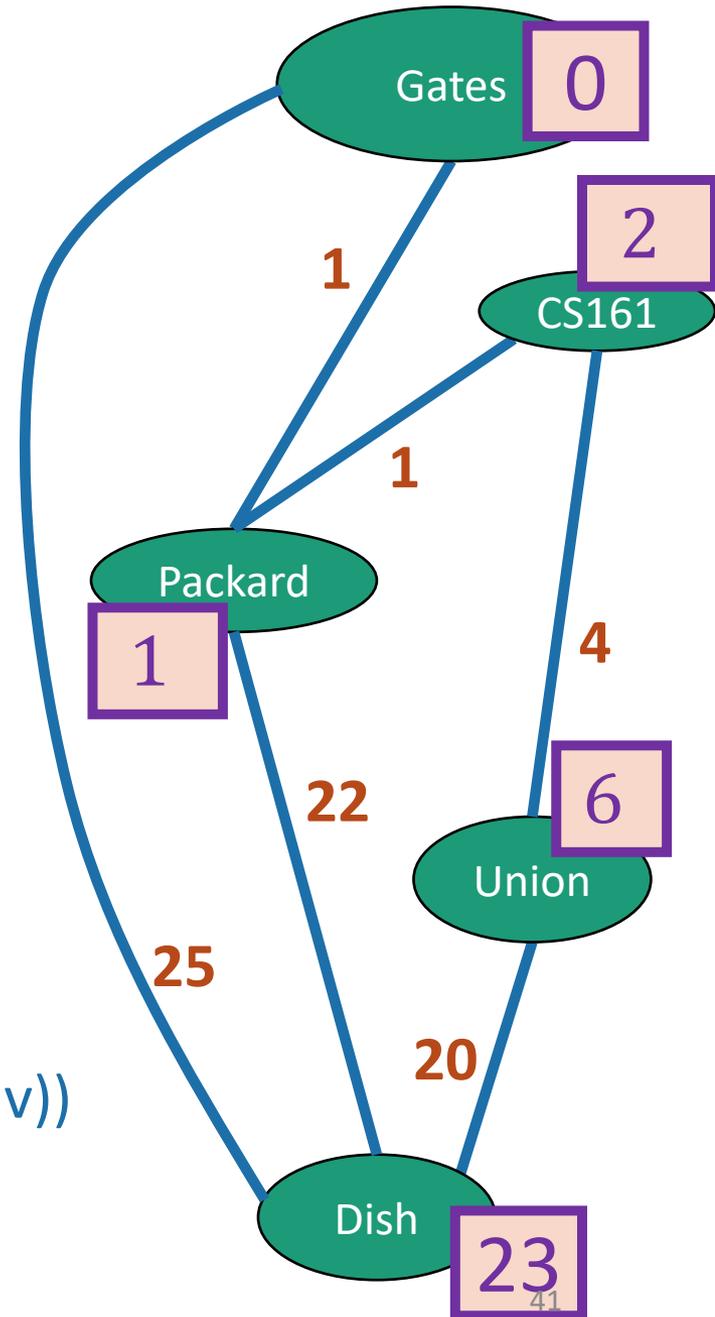


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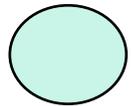
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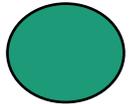


# Dijkstra by example

How far is a node from Gates?



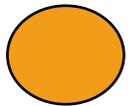
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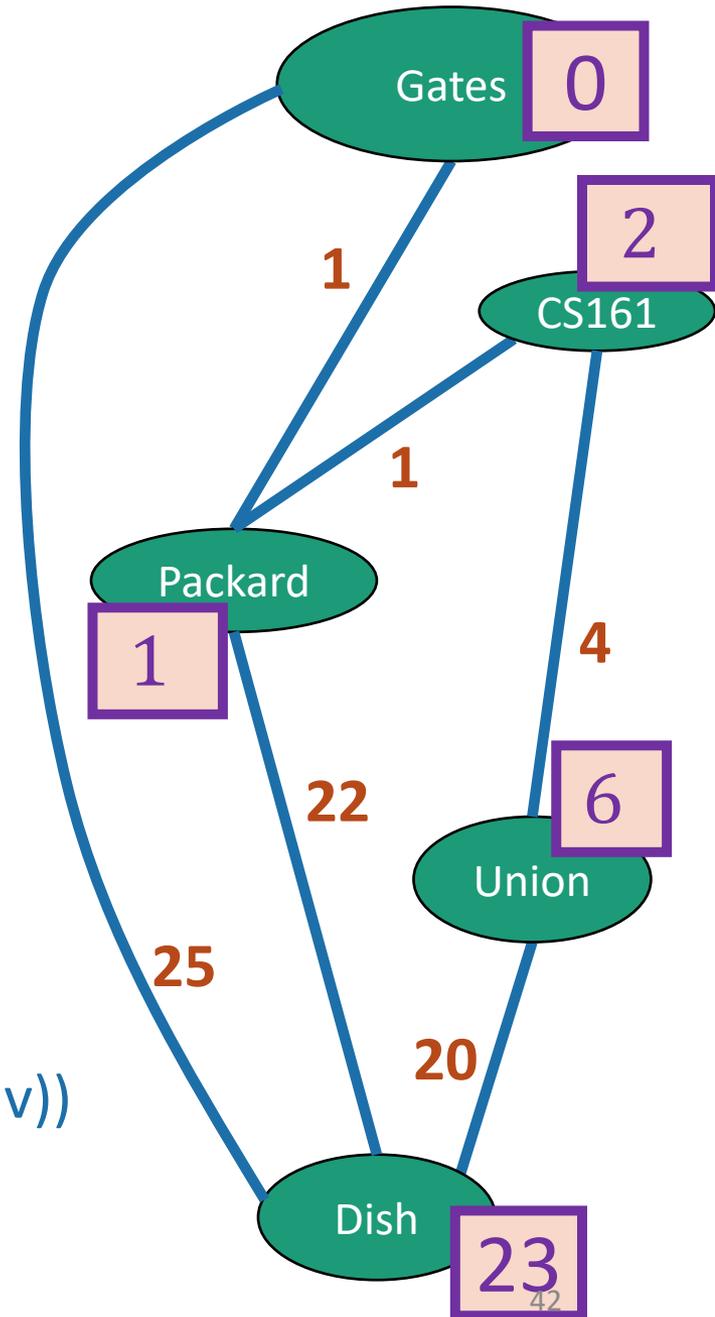


$x = d[v]$  is my best **over-estimate** for  $\text{dist}(\text{Gates}, v)$ .



Current node  $u$

- Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  $d[u]$ .
- Update all  $u$ 's neighbors  $v$ :
  - $d[v] = \min( d[v] , d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$
- Mark  $u$  as **sure**.
- Repeat
- After all nodes are **sure**, say that  $d(\text{Gates}, v) = d[v]$  for all  $v$



# Dijkstra's algorithm

## Dijkstra(G,s):

- Set all vertices to **not-sure**
- $d[v] = \infty$  for all  $v$  in  $V$
- $d[s] = 0$
- **While** there are **not-sure** nodes:
  - Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  **$d[u]$** .
  - **For**  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
    - $d[v] \leftarrow \min( d[v] , d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$
  - Mark  $u$  as **sure**.
- Now  $d(s, v) = d[v]$

Lots of implementation details left un-explained.  
We'll get to that!

See IPython Notebook for code!

# As usual

- Does it work?

- Yes.

- Is it fast?

- Depends on how you implement it.



# Why does this work?

- **Theorem:**

- Suppose we run Dijkstra on  $G = (V, E)$ , starting from  $s$ .
- At the end of the algorithm, the estimate  $d[v]$  is the actual distance  $d(s, v)$ .

Let's rename "Gates" to "s", our starting vertex.

- Proof outline:

- **Claim 1:** For all  $v$ ,  $d[v] \geq d(s, v)$ .
- **Claim 2:** When a vertex  $v$  is marked **sure**,  $d[v] = d(s, v)$ .

- **Claims 1 and 2** imply the **theorem**.

- When  $v$  is marked **sure**,  $d[v] = d(s, v)$ .
- $d[v] \geq d(s, v)$  and never increases, so after  $v$  is **sure**,  $d[v]$  stops changing.
- This implies that at any time *after*  $v$  is marked **sure**,  $d[v] = d(s, v)$ .
- All vertices are **sure** at the end, so all vertices end up with  $d[v] = d(s, v)$ .

Claim 2

Claim 1 + def of algorithm

Next let's prove the claims!

# Claim 1

$d[v] \geq d(s,v)$  for all  $v$ .

## Informally:

- Every time we update  $d[v]$ , we have a path in mind:

$$d[v] \leftarrow \min( d[v], d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$$

Whatever path we had in mind before

The shortest path to  $u$ , and then the edge from  $u$  to  $v$ .

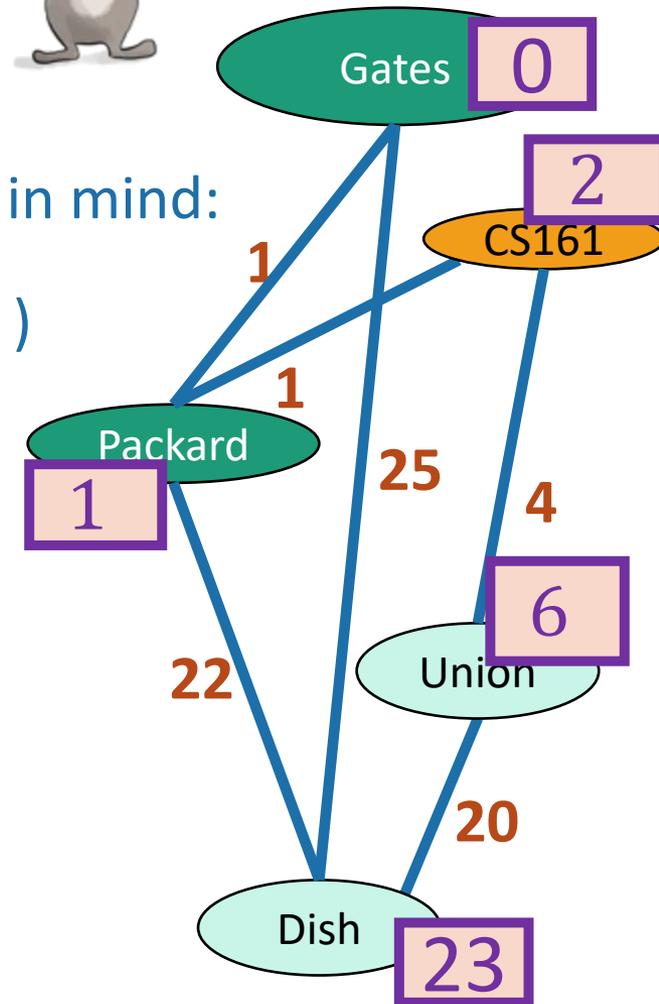
- $d[v]$  = length of the path we have in mind  
 $\geq$  length of shortest path  
 $= d(s,v)$

## Formally:

- We should prove this by induction.
  - (See skipped slide or do it yourself)



Intuition!



YOINK!

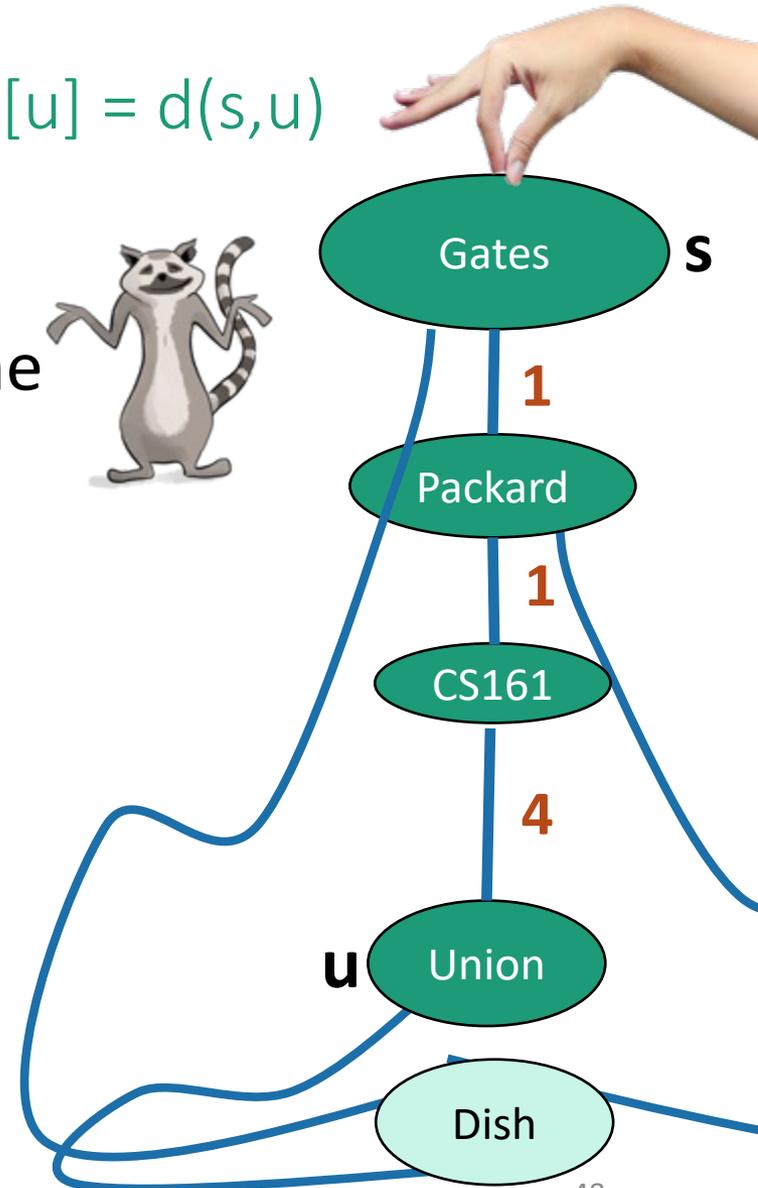
# Intuition for Claim 2

When a vertex  $u$  is marked sure,  $d[u] = d(s,u)$

- The first path that lifts  $u$  off the ground is the shortest one.



- Let's prove it!
  - Or at least see a proof outline.





# Claim 2

When a vertex  $u$  is marked sure,  $d[u] = d(s,u)$

- **Inductive Hypothesis:**

- When we mark the  $t$ 'th vertex  $v$  as sure,  $d[v] = \text{dist}(s,v)$ .

- **Base case ( $t=1$ ):**

- The first vertex marked **sure** is  $s$ , and  $d[s] = d(s,s) = 0$ . (Assuming edge weights are non-negative!)

- **Inductive step:**

- Assume by induction that every  $v$  already marked **sure** has  $d[v] = d(s,v)$ .
- Suppose that we are about to add  $u$  to the **sure** list.
- That is, we picked  $u$  in the first line here:

- Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  $d[u]$ .
- Update all  $u$ 's neighbors  $v$ :
  - $d[v] \leftarrow \min(d[v], d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$
- Mark  $u$  as **sure**.
- Repeat

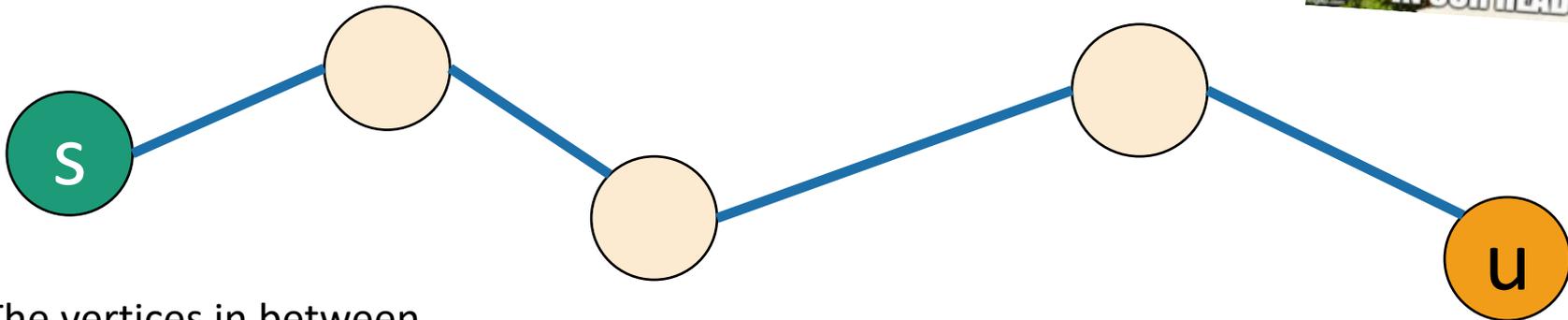
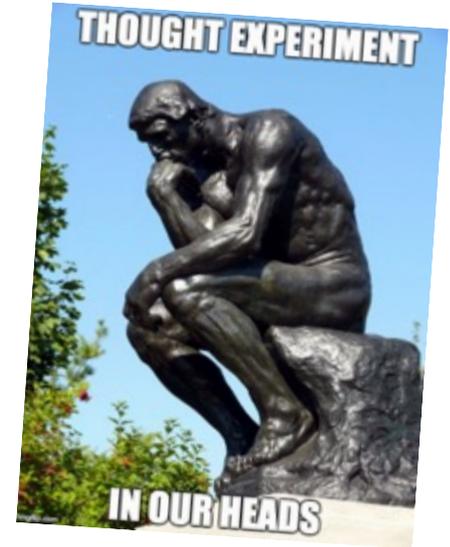
- Want to show that  $d[u] = d(s,u)$ .

**Temporary definition:**  
v is “good” means that  $d[v] = d(s,v)$

# Claim 2

Inductive step

- Want to show that u is good.
- Consider a **true** shortest path from s to u:



The vertices in between are beige because they may or may not be **sure**.

True shortest path.

# Claim 2

Inductive step

**Temporary definition:**

$v$  is “good” means that  $d[v] = d(s,v)$



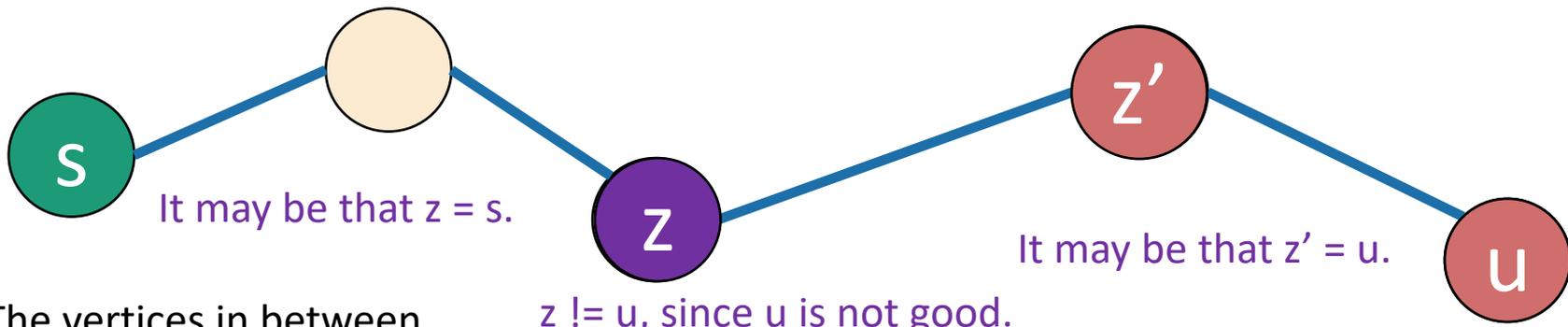
means good



means not good

“by way of contradiction”

- Want to show that  $u$  is good. **BWOC, suppose  $u$  isn't good.**
- Say  $z$  is the last good vertex before  $u$  (on shortest path to  $u$ ).
- $z'$  is the vertex after  $z$ .



The vertices in between are beige because they may or may not be **sure**.

True shortest path.

# Claim 2

Inductive step

**Temporary definition:**

$v$  is “good” means that  $d[v] = d(s,v)$



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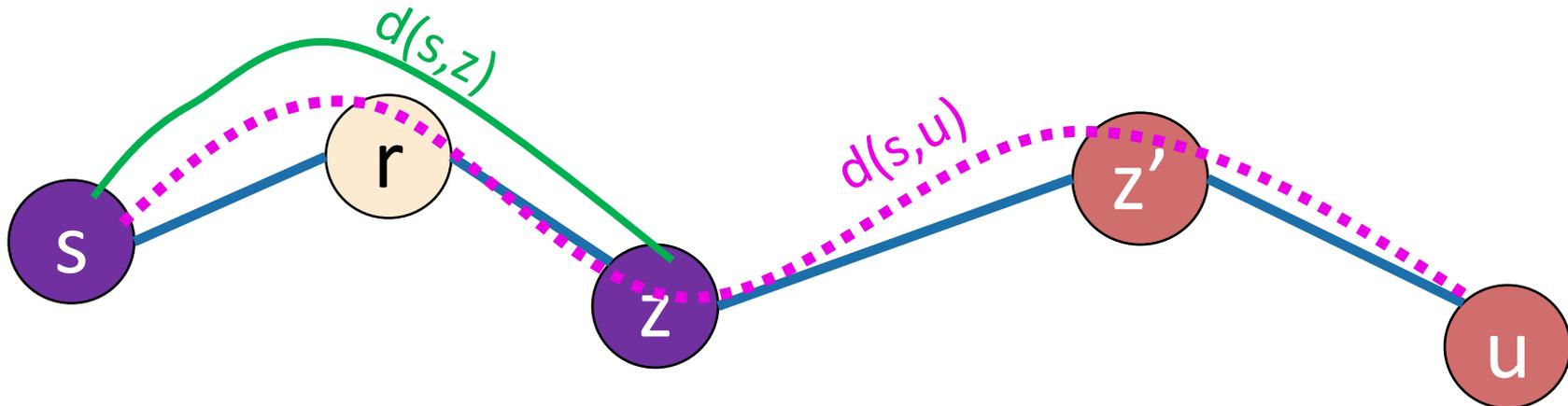
- Want to show that  $u$  is good. BWOC, suppose  $u$  isn't good.

$$d[z] = d(s, z) \leq d(s, u) \leq d[u]$$

$z$  is good

Subpaths of  
shortest paths are  
shortest paths.

(We're also using that  
the edge weights are  
non-negative here).



# Claim 2

Inductive step

**Temporary definition:**

$v$  is “good” means that  $d[v] = d(s,v)$



means good



means not good

- Want to show that  $u$  is good. BWOC, suppose  $u$  isn't good.

$$d[z] = d(s, z) \leq d(s, u) \leq d[u]$$

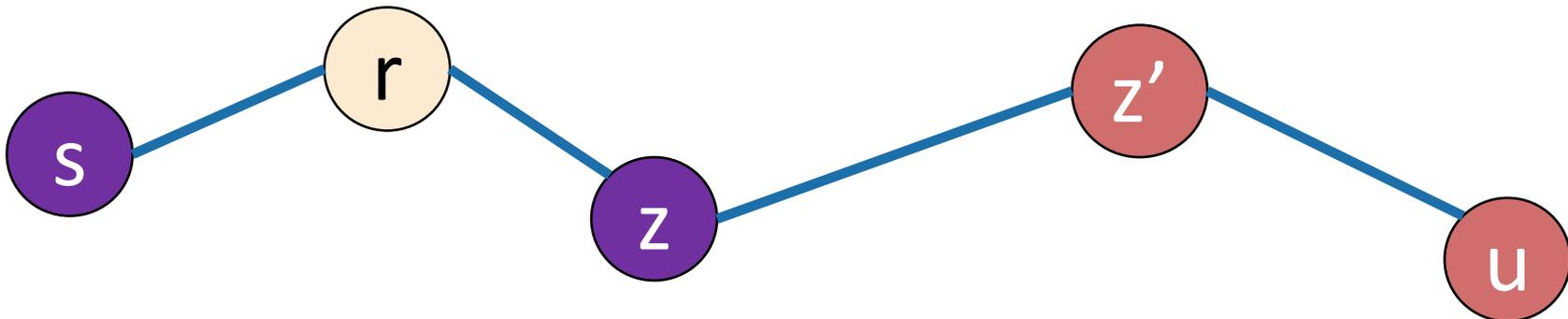
$z$  is good

Subpaths of  
shortest paths are  
shortest paths.

Claim 1

- Since  $u$  is not good,  $d[z] \neq d[u]$ .

- So  $d[z] < d[u]$ , so  $z$  is **sure**. We chose  $u$  so that  $d[u]$  was smallest of the unsure vertices.



# Claim 2

Inductive step

**Temporary definition:**

$v$  is “good” means that  $d[v] = d(s,v)$



means good



means not good

- Want to show that  $u$  is good. BWOC, suppose  $u$  isn't good.

$$d[z] = d(s, z) \leq d(s, u) \leq d[u]$$

$z$  is good

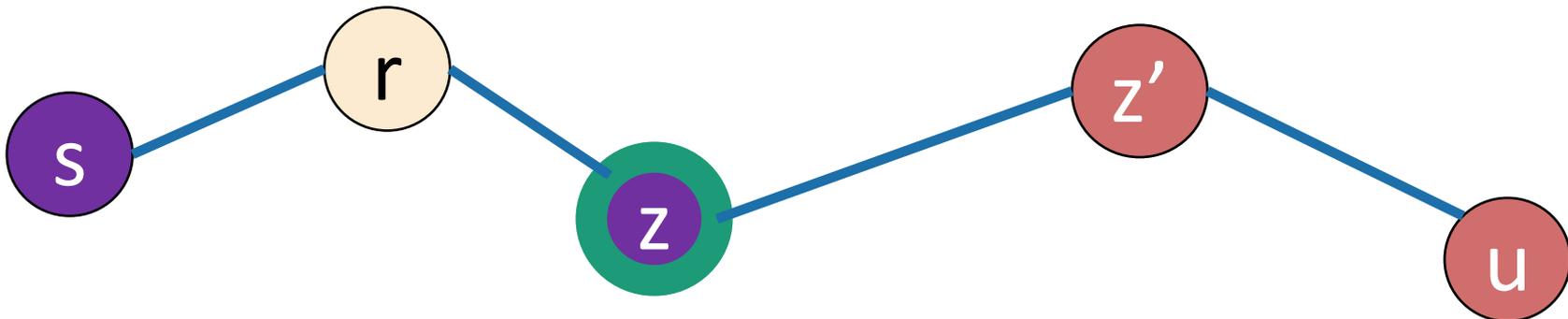
Subpaths of  
shortest paths are  
shortest paths.

Claim 1

- If  $d[z] = d[u]$ , then  $u$  is good. ⚡ But  $u$  is not good!

- So  $d[z] < d[u]$ , so  $z$  is **sure**.

We chose  $u$  so that  $d[u]$  was  
smallest of the unsure vertices.



# Claim 2

Inductive step

## Temporary definition:

$v$  is “good” means that  $d[v] = d(s,v)$



means good



means not good

• Want to show that  $u$  is good. BWOC, suppose  $u$  isn't good.

• If  $z$  is **sure** then we've already updated  $z'$ :

•  $d[z'] \leq d[z] + w(z, z')$  *def of update*  
 $d[z'] \leftarrow \min\{d[z'], d[z] + w(z, z')\}$

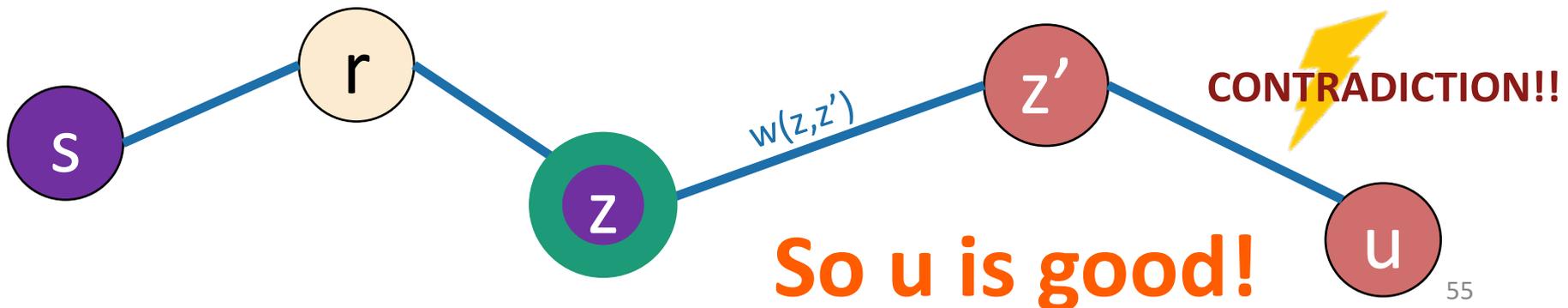
$= d(s, z) + w(z, z')$  *By induction when  $z$  was added to the sure list it had  $d(s, z) = d[z]$*

That is, the value of  $d[z]$  when  $z$  was marked sure...

$= d(s, z')$  *sub-paths of shortest paths are shortest paths*

$\leq d[z']$  *Claim 1*

So  $d(s, z') = d[z']$  and so  $z'$  is good.



# Claim 2

When a vertex  $u$  is marked sure,  $d[u] = d(s,u)$

- **Inductive Hypothesis:**
  - When we mark the  $t$ 'th vertex  $v$  as sure,  $d[v] = \text{dist}(s,v)$ .
- **Base case:**
  - The first vertex marked **sure** is  $s$ , and  $d[s] = d(s,s) = 0$ .
- **Inductive step:**
  - Suppose that we are about to add  $u$  to the **sure** list.
  - That is, we picked  $u$  in the first line here:

- Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  $d[u]$ .
- Update all  $u$ 's neighbors  $v$ :
  - $d[v] \leftarrow \min(d[v], d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$
- Mark  $u$  as **sure**.
- Repeat

- Assume by induction that every  $v$  already marked **sure** has  $d[v] = d(s,v)$ .
- Want to show that  $d[u] = d(s,u)$ .

**Conclusion:** Claim 2 holds!



*Now back to  
this slide*

# Why does this work?

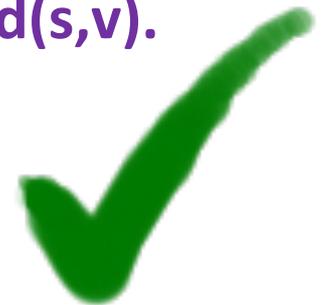
- **Theorem:**

- Run Dijkstra on  $G=(V,E)$  starting from  $s$ .
- At the end of the algorithm, the estimate  $d[v]$  is the actual distance  $d(s,v)$ .

- Proof outline:

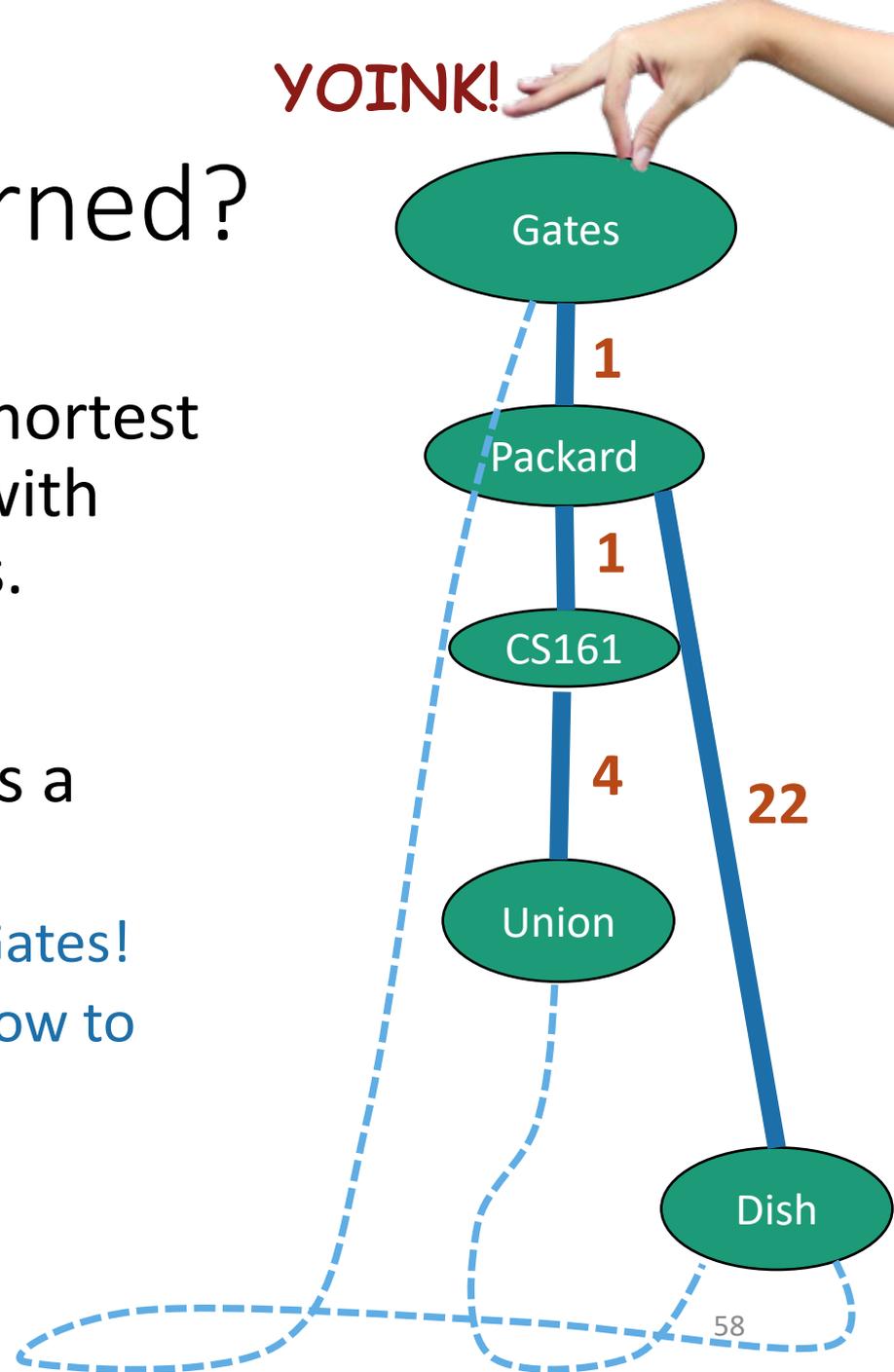
- **Claim 1:** For all  $v$ ,  $d[v] \geq d(s,v)$ .
- **Claim 2:** When a vertex is marked **sure**,  $d[v] = d(s,v)$ .

- **Claims 1 and 2** imply the **theorem**.



# What have we learned?

- Dijkstra's algorithm finds shortest paths in weighted graphs with non-negative edge weights.
- Along the way, it constructs a nice tree.
  - We could post this tree in Gates!
  - Then people would know how to get places quickly.



# As usual

- Does it work?
  - Yes.

- Is it fast?



- Depends on how you implement it.

# Running time?

## Dijkstra(G,s):

- Set all vertices to **not-sure**
- $d[v] = \infty$  for all  $v$  in  $V$
- $d[s] = 0$
- **While** there are **not-sure** nodes:
  - Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  $d[u]$ .
  - **For**  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
    - $d[v] \leftarrow \min( d[v] , d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$
  - Mark  $u$  as **sure**.
- Now  $\text{dist}(s, v) = d[v]$

- $n$  iterations (one per vertex)
- How long does one iteration take?

Depends on how we implement it...

# We need a data structure that:

- Stores unsure vertices  $v$
- Keeps track of  $d[v]$
- Can find  $u$  with minimum  $d[u]$ 
  - `findMin()`
- Can remove that  $u$ 
  - `removeMin(u)`
- Can update (decrease)  $d[v]$ 
  - `updateKey(v, d)`

Just the inner loop:

- Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  **$d[u]$** .
- Update all  $u$ 's neighbors  $v$ :
  - $d[v] \leftarrow \min(d[v], d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$
- Mark  $u$  as **sure**.

Total running time is big-oh of:

$$\sum_{u \in V} \left( T(\text{findMin}) + \left( \sum_{v \in u.\text{neighbors}} T(\text{updateKey}) \right) + T(\text{removeMin}) \right)$$

$$= n( T(\text{findMin}) + T(\text{removeMin}) ) + m T(\text{updateKey})$$

# If we use an array

- $T(\text{findMin}) = O(n)$
- $T(\text{removeMin}) = O(n)$
- $T(\text{updateKey}) = O(1)$
  
- Running time of Dijkstra
  - $= O(n( T(\text{findMin}) + T(\text{removeMin}) )) + m T(\text{updateKey})$
  - $= O(n^2) + O(m)$
  - $= O(n^2)$

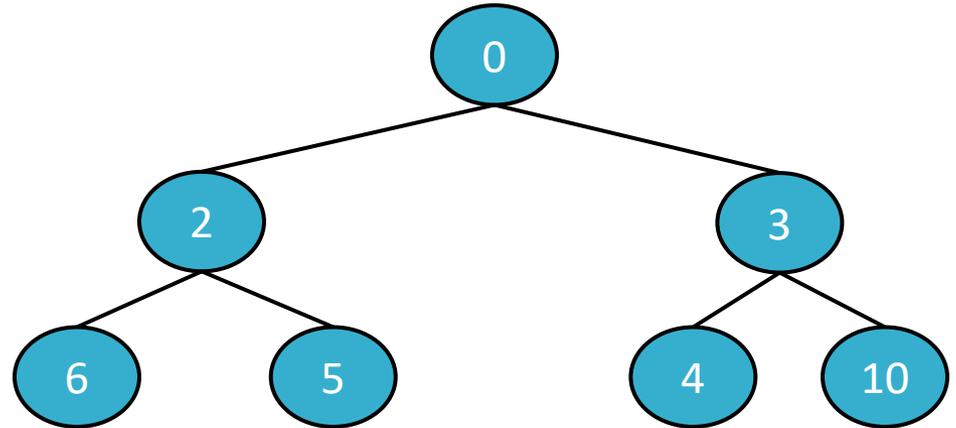
# If we use a red-black tree

- $T(\text{findMin}) = O(\log(n))$
- $T(\text{removeMin}) = O(\log(n))$
- $T(\text{updateKey}) = O(\log(n))$
  
- Running time of Dijkstra
  - $= O(n(T(\text{findMin}) + T(\text{removeMin}))) + m T(\text{updateKey})$
  - $= O(n \log(n)) + O(m \log(n))$
  - $= O((n + m) \log(n))$

Better than an array if the graph is sparse!  
aka if  $m$  is much smaller than  $n^2$

# Heaps support these operations

- findMin
- removeMin
- updateKey



- A **heap** is a tree-based data structure that has the property that **every node has a smaller key than its children.**
- Not covered in this class – see CS166
- But! We will use them.

# Many heap implementations

Nice chart on Wikipedia:

Operation	Binary <sup>[7]</sup>	Leftist	Binomial <sup>[7]</sup>	Fibonacci <sup>[7][8]</sup>	Pairing <sup>[9]</sup>	Brodal <sup>[10][b]</sup>	Rank-pairing <sup>[12]</sup>	Strict Fibonacci <sup>[13]</sup>
find-min	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(\log n)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$
delete-min	$\Theta(\log n)$	$\Theta(\log n)$	$\Theta(\log n)$	$O(\log n)^{[c]}$	$O(\log n)^{[c]}$	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)^{[c]}$	$O(\log n)$
insert	$O(\log n)$	$\Theta(\log n)$	$\Theta(1)^{[c]}$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$
decrease-key	$\Theta(\log n)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(\log n)$	$\Theta(1)^{[c]}$	$o(\log n)^{[c][d]}$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)^{[c]}$	$\Theta(1)$
merge	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(\log n)$	$O(\log n)^{[e]}$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(1)$

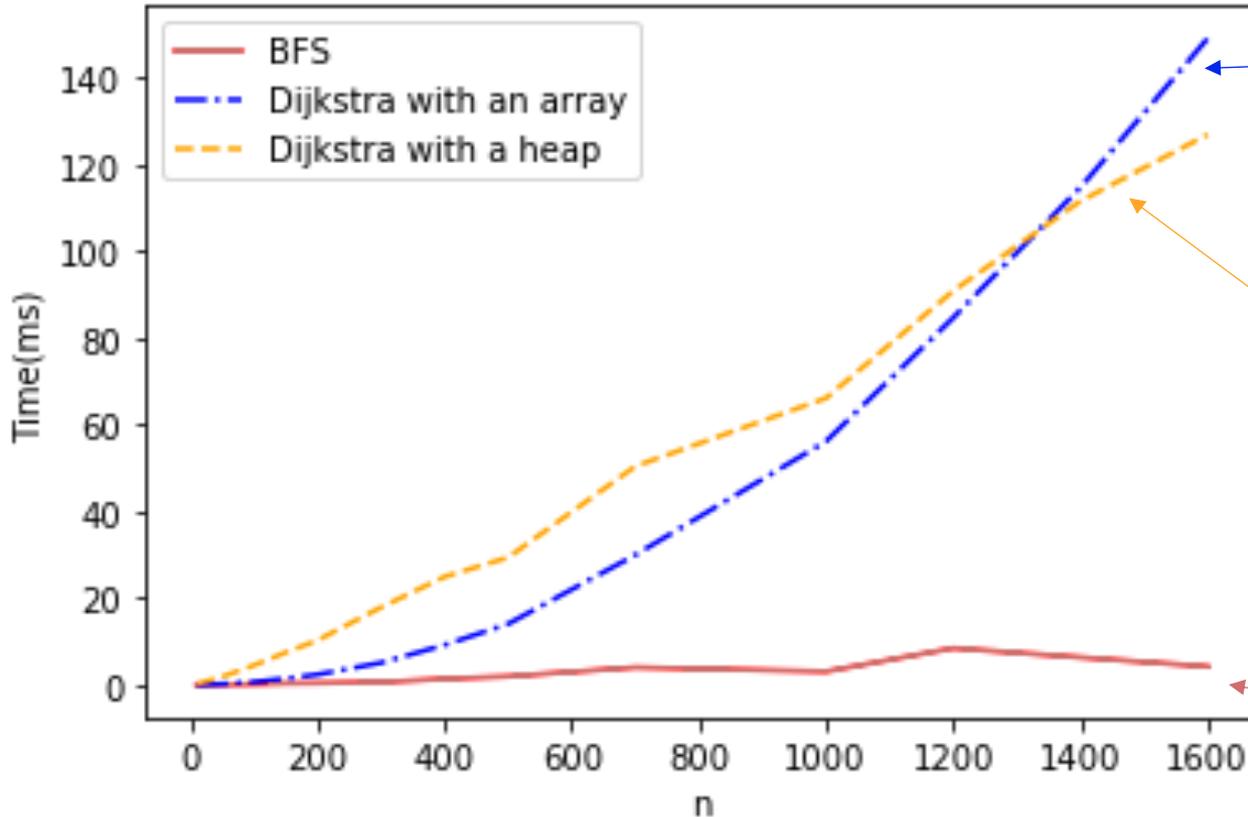
# Say we use a Fibonacci Heap

- $T(\text{findMin}) = O(1)$  (amortized time\*)
- $T(\text{removeMin}) = O(\log(n))$  (amortized time\*)
- $T(\text{updateKey}) = O(1)$  (amortized time\*)
- See CS166 for more!
- Running time of Dijkstra
  - =  $O(n(T(\text{findMin}) + T(\text{removeMin})) + m T(\text{updateKey}))$
  - =  $O(n \log(n) + m)$  (amortized time)

\*This means that any sequence of  $d$  `removeMin` calls takes time at most  $O(d \log(n))$ .  
But a few of the  $d$  may take longer than  $O(\log(n))$  and some may take less time..

# In practice

Shortest paths on a graph with  $n$  vertices and about  $5n$  edges



Dijkstra using a Python list to keep track of vertices has quadratic runtime.

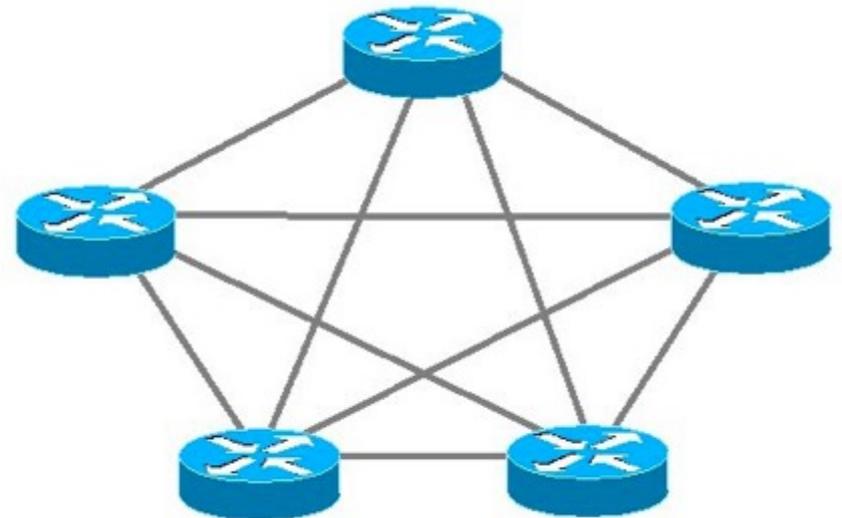
Dijkstra using a heap looks a bit more linear (actually  $n \log(n)$ )

BFS is really fast by comparison! But it doesn't work on weighted graphs.

# Dijkstra is used in practice

- eg, **OSPF (Open Shortest Path First)**, a routing protocol for IP networks, uses Dijkstra.

But there are some things it's not so good at.



# Dijkstra Drawbacks

- Needs **non-negative edge weights**.
- If the weights change, we need to re-run the whole thing.
  - in OSPF, a vertex broadcasts any changes to the network, and then every vertex re-runs Dijkstra's algorithm from scratch.

# Bellman-Ford algorithm

- (-) Slower than Dijkstra's algorithm
- (+) Can handle negative edge weights.
  - Can be useful if you want to say that some edges are actively good to take, rather than costly.
  - Can be useful as a building block in other algorithms.
- (+) Allows for some flexibility if the weights change.
  - We'll see what this means later

# Today: *intro* to Bellman-Ford

- We'll see a definition by example.
- We'll come back to it next lecture with more rigor.
  - Don't worry if it goes by quickly today.
  - There are some skipped slides with pseudocode, but we'll see them again next lecture.
- Basic idea:
  - Instead of picking the  $u$  with the smallest  $d[u]$  to update, just update all of the  $u$ 's simultaneously.

# Bellman-Ford algorithm

## Bellman-Ford(G,s):

- $d[v] = \infty$  for all  $v$  in  $V$
  - $d[s] = 0$
  - **For**  $i=0,\dots,n-1$ :
    - **For**  $u$  in  $V$ :
      - **For**  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
        - $d[v] \leftarrow \min( d[v] , d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$
- Instead of picking  $u$  cleverly, just update for all of the  $u$ 's.

## Compare to Dijkstra:

- **While** there are **not-sure** nodes:
  - Pick the **not-sure** node  $u$  with the smallest estimate  $d[u]$ .
  - **For**  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
    - $d[v] \leftarrow \min( d[v] , d[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v) )$
  - Mark  $u$  as **sure**.

# For pedagogical reasons which we will see next lecture

- We are actually going to change this to be less smart.
- Keep  $n$  arrays:  $d^{(0)}, d^{(1)}, \dots, d^{(n-1)}$

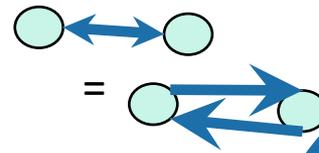
## Bellman-Ford\*(G,s):

- $d^{(i)}[v] = \infty$  for all  $v$  in  $V$ , for all  $i=0, \dots, n-1$
- $d^{(0)}[s] = 0$
- **For**  $i=0, \dots, n-2$ :
  - **For**  $u$  in  $V$ :
    - **For**  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
      - $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$
- Then  $\text{dist}(s,v) = d^{(n-1)}[v]$

Slightly different than the original Bellman-Ford algorithm, but the analysis is basically the same.

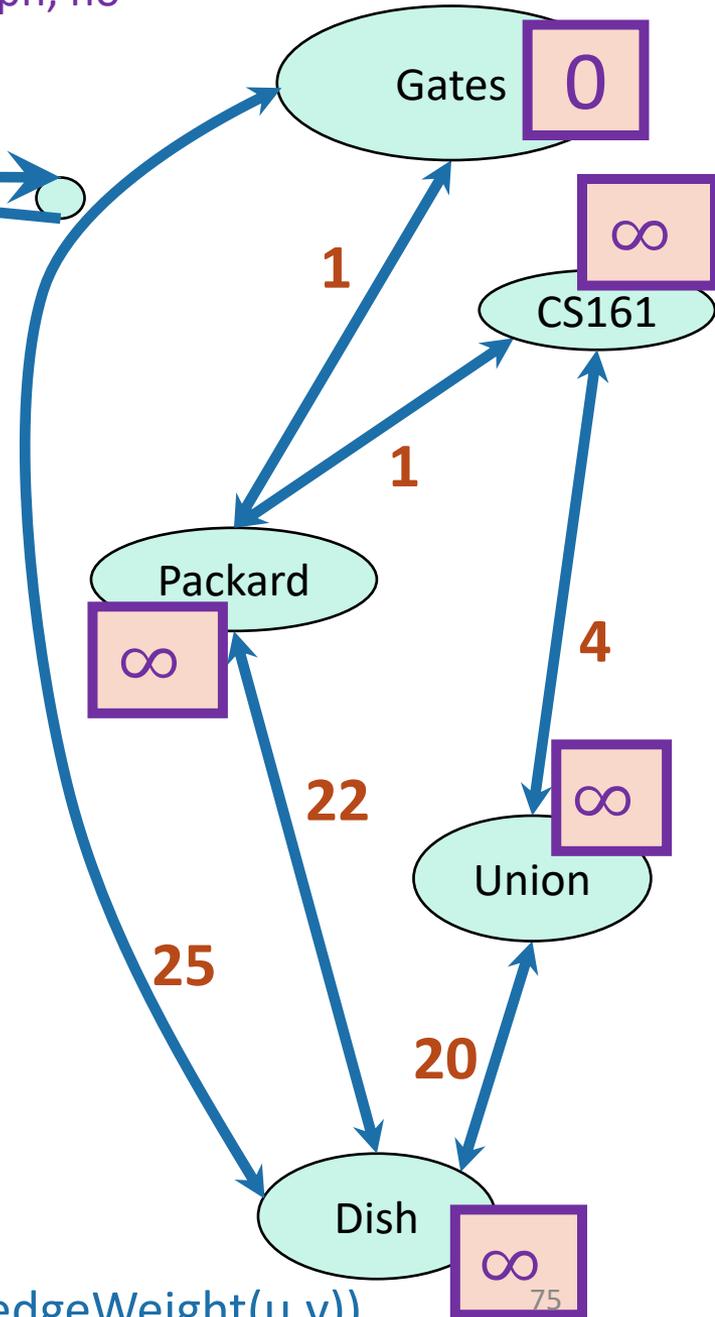
# Bellman-Ford

Start with the same graph, no negative weights.



How far is a node from Gates?

	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$					
$d^{(2)}$					
$d^{(3)}$					
$d^{(4)}$					



- For  $i=0, \dots, n-2$ :

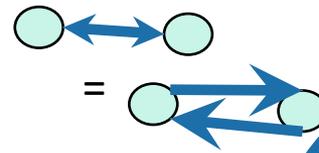
- For  $u$  in  $V$ :

- For  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:

- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$

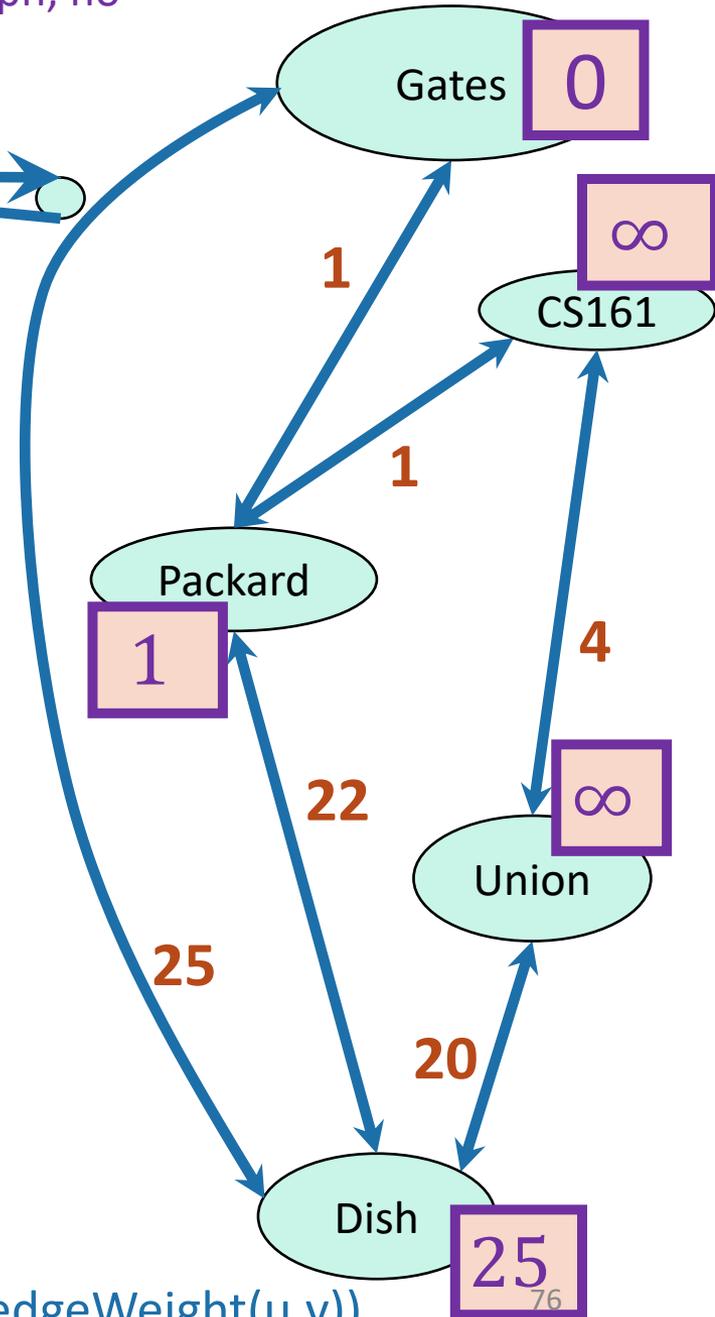
# Bellman-Ford

Start with the same graph, no negative weights.



How far is a node from Gates?

	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	25
$d^{(2)}$					
$d^{(3)}$					
$d^{(4)}$					



- For  $i=0, \dots, n-2$ :

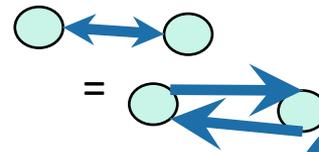
- For  $u$  in  $V$ :

- For  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:

- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$

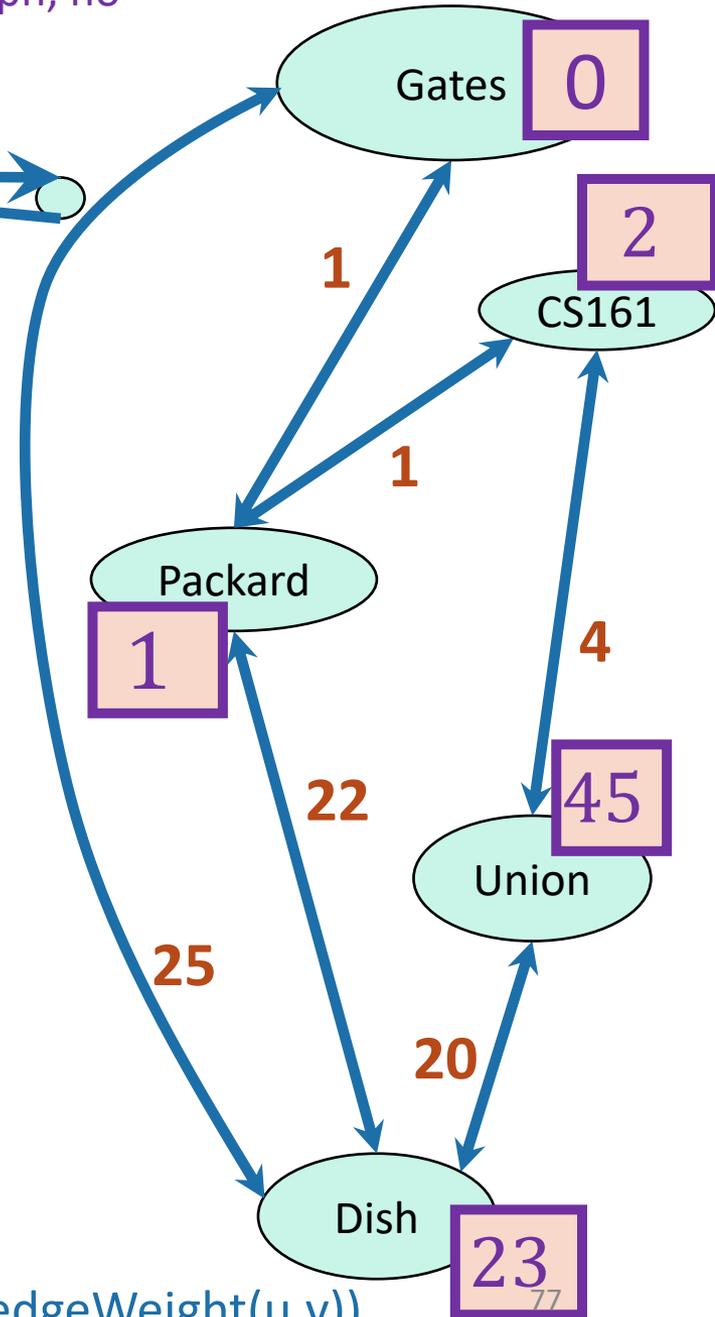
# Bellman-Ford

Start with the same graph, no negative weights.



How far is a node from Gates?

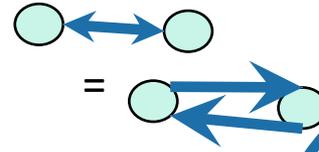
	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	25
$d^{(2)}$	0	1	2	45	23
$d^{(3)}$					
$d^{(4)}$					



- For  $i=0, \dots, n-2$ :
  - For  $u$  in  $V$ :
    - For  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
      - $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$

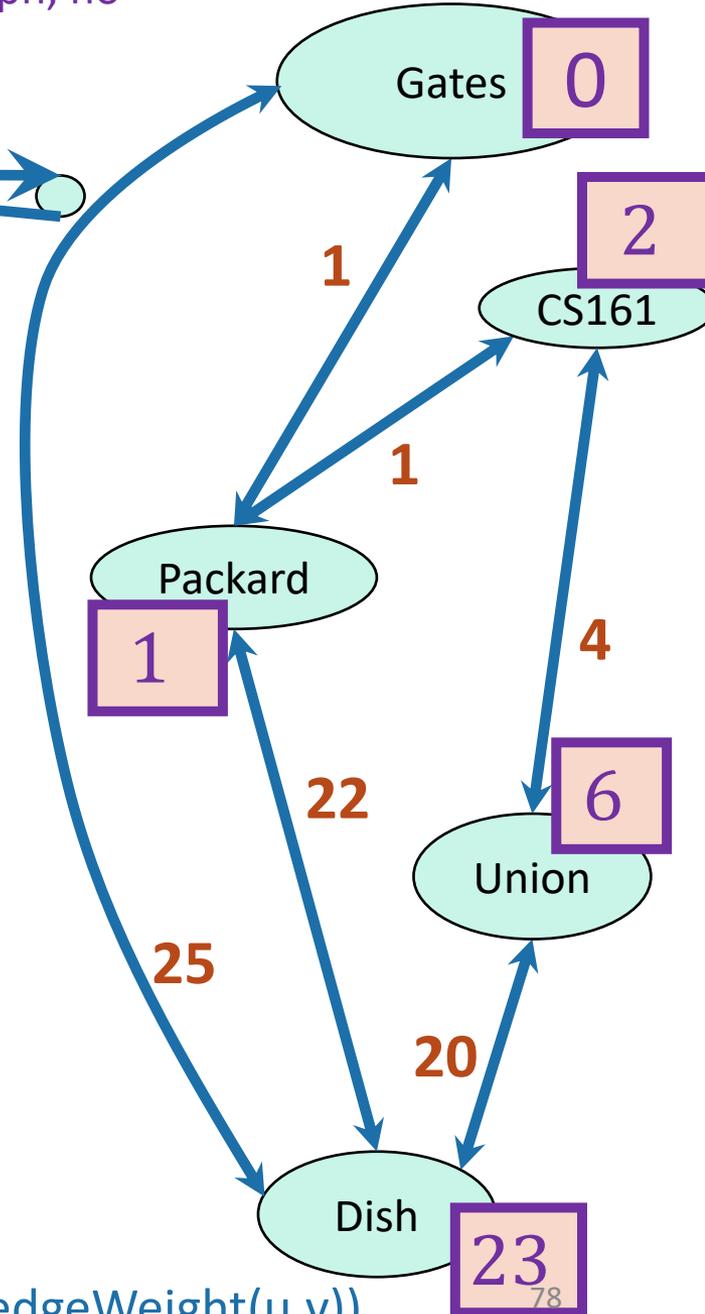
# Bellman-Ford

Start with the same graph, no negative weights.



How far is a node from Gates?

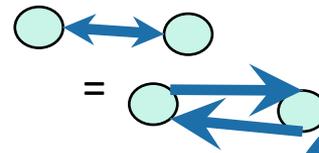
	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	25
$d^{(2)}$	0	1	2	45	23
$d^{(3)}$	0	1	2	6	23
$d^{(4)}$					



- For  $i=0, \dots, n-2$ :
  - For  $u$  in  $V$ :
    - For  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
      - $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$

# Bellman-Ford

Start with the same graph, no negative weights.



How far is a node from Gates?

	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	25
$d^{(2)}$	0	1	2	45	23
$d^{(3)}$	0	1	2	6	23
$d^{(4)}$	0	1	2	6	23

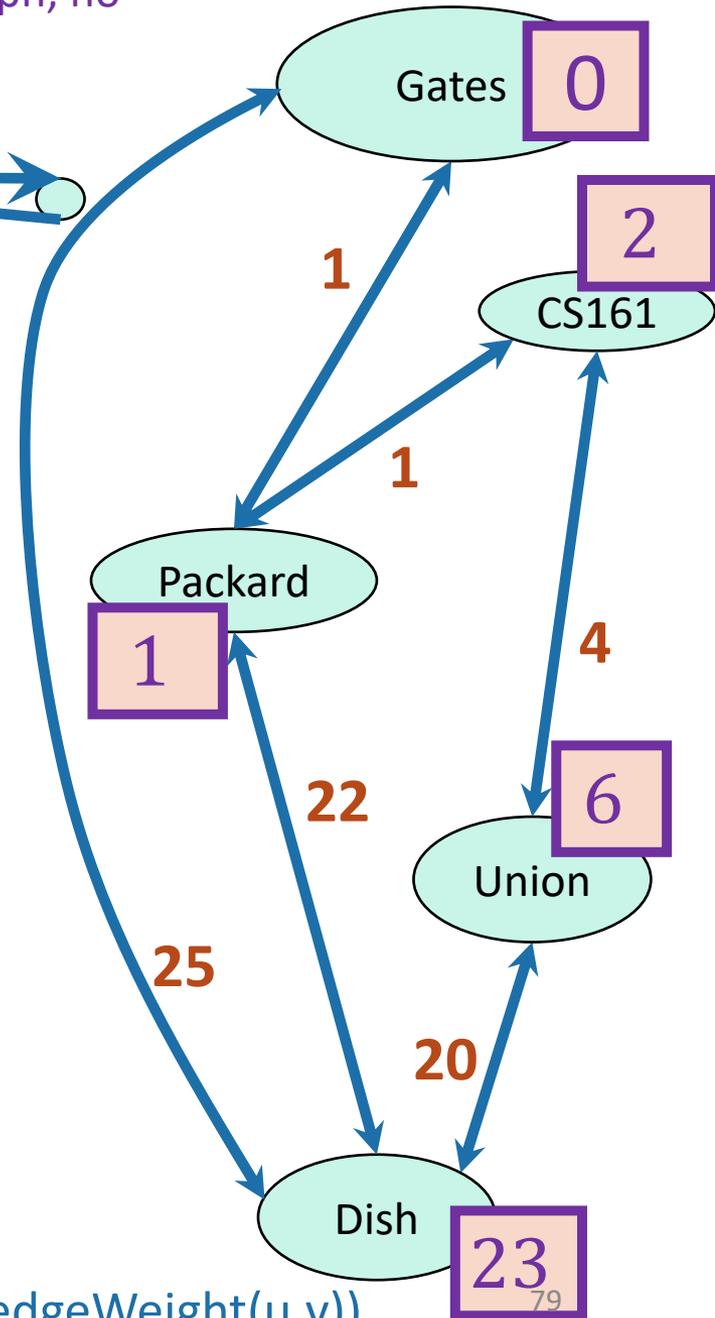
These are the final distances!

- For  $i=0, \dots, n-2$ :

- For  $u$  in  $V$ :

- For  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:

- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$



# As usual

- Does it work?
  - Yes
  - Idea to the right.
  - (See hidden slides for details)

- Is it fast?
  - Not really...

A **simple path** is a path with no cycles.



	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	25
$d^{(2)}$	0	1	2	45	23
$d^{(3)}$	0	1	2	6	23
$d^{(4)}$	0	1	2	6	23

**Idea:** proof by induction.

**Inductive Hypothesis:**

$d^{(i)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest path between  $s$  and  $v$  with at most  $i$  edges.

**Conclusion:**

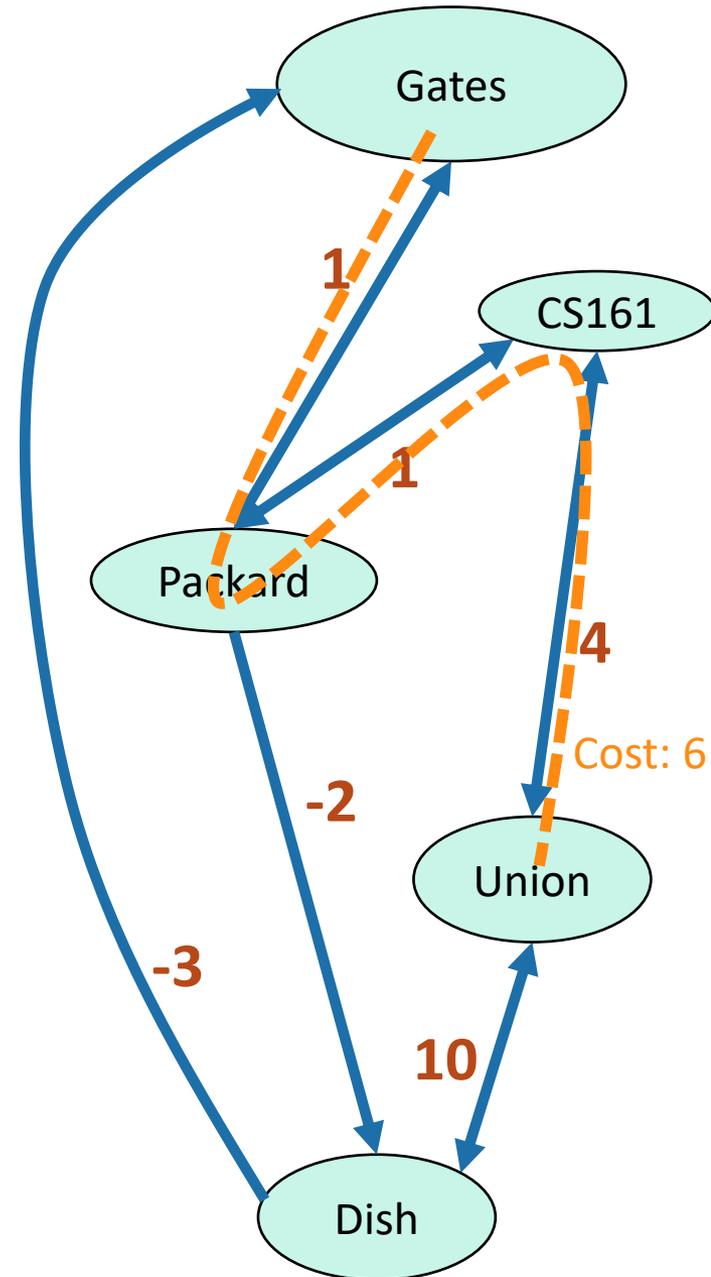
$d^{(n-1)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest simple path between  $s$  and  $v$ . (Since all simple paths have at most  $n-1$  edges).

# Pros and cons of Bellman-Ford

- Running time:  $O(mn)$  running time
  - For each of  $n$  steps we update  $m$  edges
  - Slower than Dijkstra
- However, it's also more flexible in a few ways.
  - Can handle negative edges
  - If we constantly do these iterations, any changes in the network will eventually propagate through.

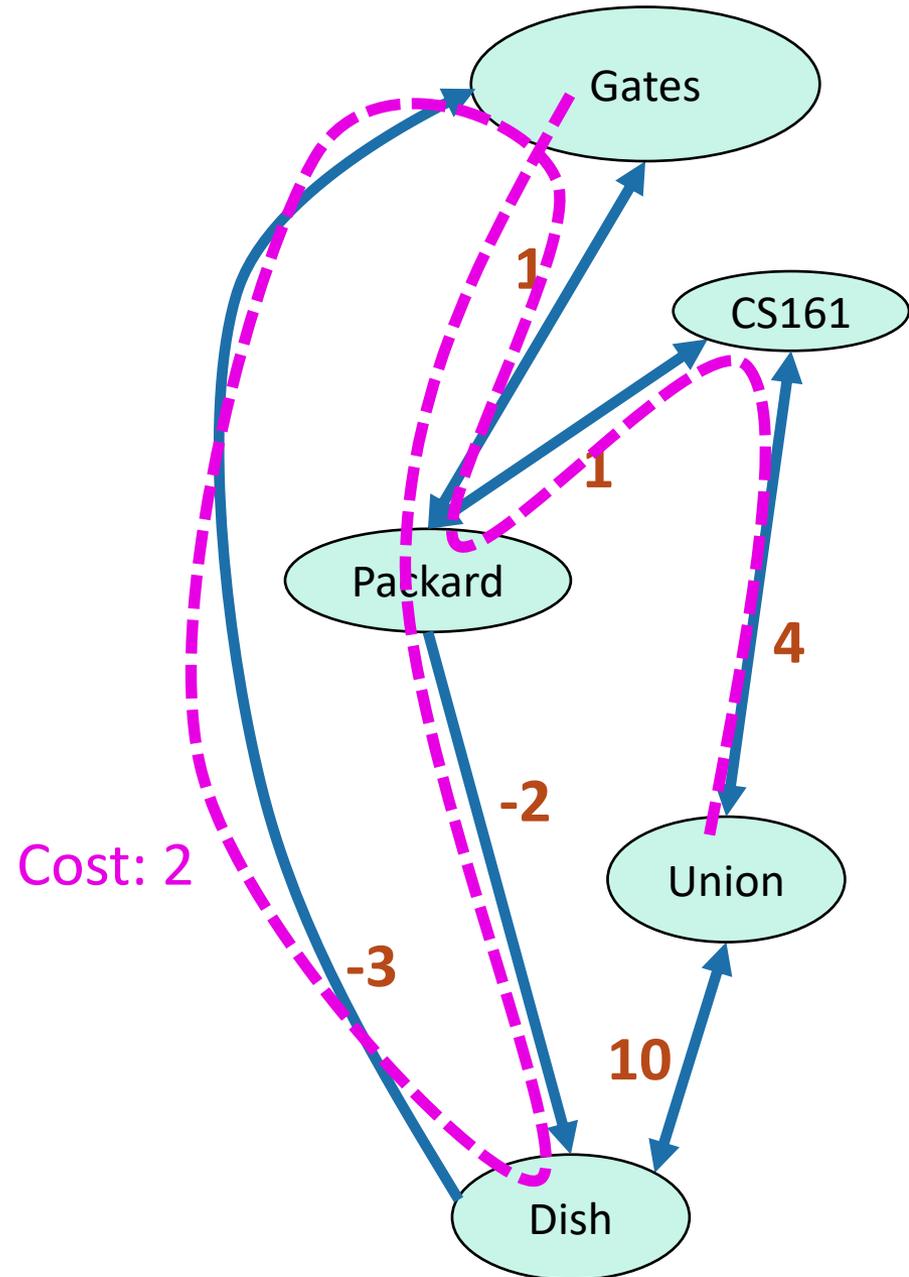
Wait a second...

- What is the shortest path from Gates to the Union?



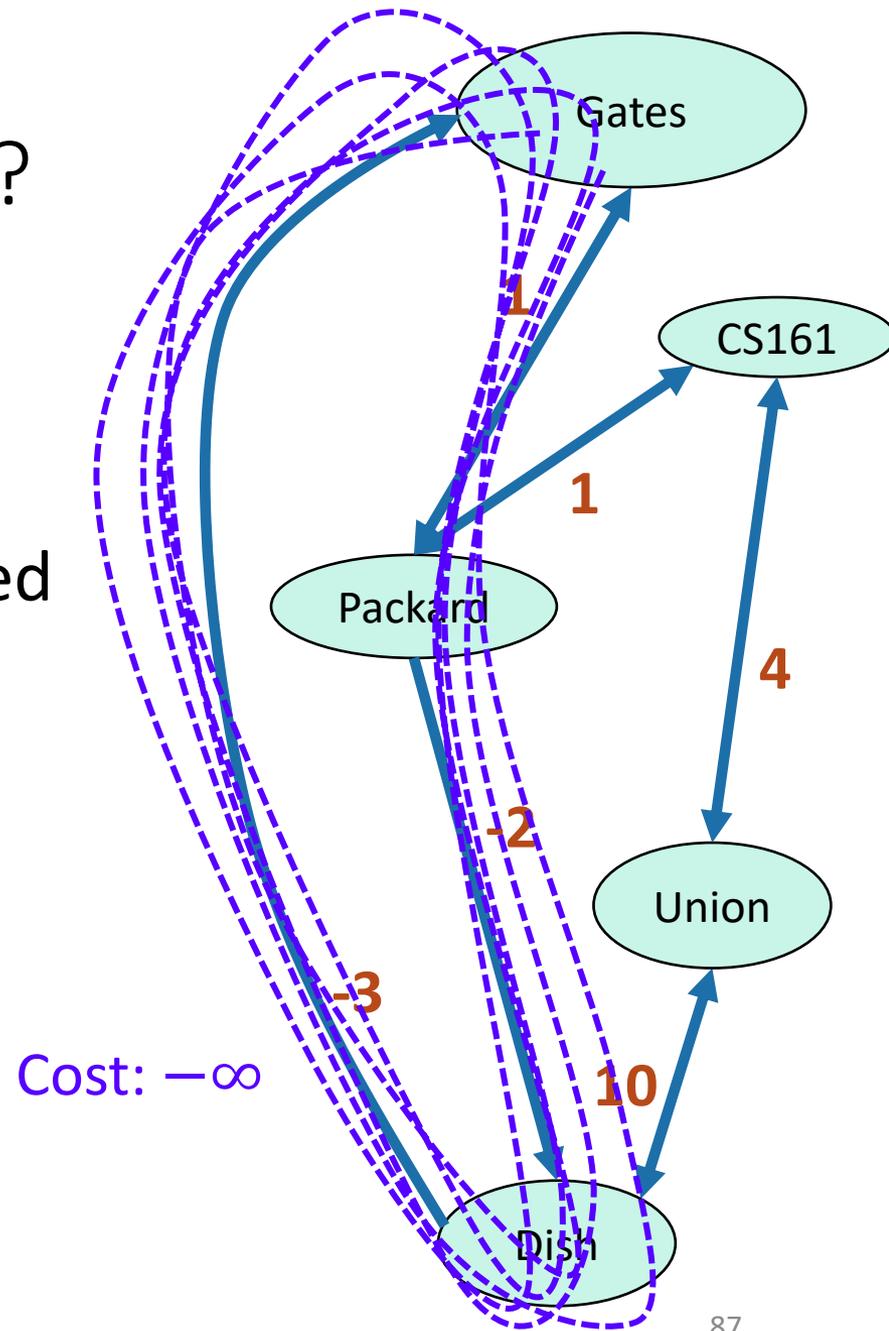
Wait a second...

- What is the shortest path from Gates to the Union?



# Negative edge weights?

- What is the shortest path from Gates to the Union?
- Shortest paths aren't defined if there are negative cycles!



# Bellman-Ford and negative edge weights

- B-F works with negative edge weights...as long as there are no negative cycles.
  - A negative cycle is a path with the same start and end vertex whose cost is negative.
- However, B-F can **detect** negative cycles.

# Back to the correctness

- Does it work?
  - Yes
  - Idea to the right.

	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	25
$d^{(2)}$	0	1	2	45	23
$d^{(3)}$	0	1	2	6	23
$d^{(4)}$	0	1	2	6	23

**Idea:** proof by induction.

**Inductive Hypothesis:**

$d^{(i)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest path between  $s$  and  $v$  with at most  $i$  edges.

**Conclusion:**

$d^{(n-1)}[v]$  is equal to the cost of the shortest simple path between  $s$  and  $v$ . (Since all simple paths have at most  $n-1$  edges).

**If there are negative cycles,  
then non-simple paths matter!**

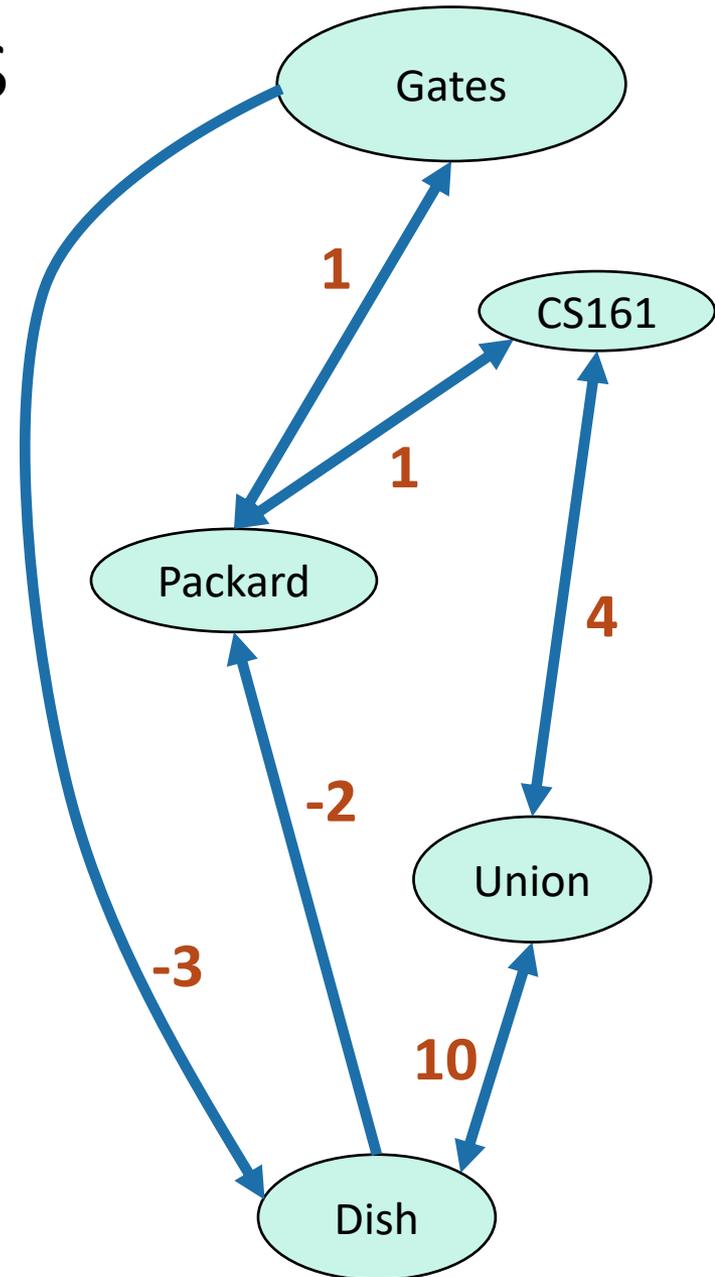
So the proof breaks for  
negative cycles.



# B-F with negative cycles

	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	-3
$d^{(2)}$	0	-5	2	7	-3
$d^{(3)}$	-4	-5	-4	6	-3

This is not looking good!



- For  $i=0, \dots, n-2$ :
  - For  $u$  in  $V$ :
    - For  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:
      - $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$

# B-F with negative cycles

	Gates	Packard	CS161	Union	Dish
$d^{(0)}$	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
$d^{(1)}$	0	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	-3
$d^{(2)}$	0	-5	2	7	-3
$d^{(3)}$	-4	-5	-4	6	-3
$d^{(4)}$	-4	-5	-4	6	-7

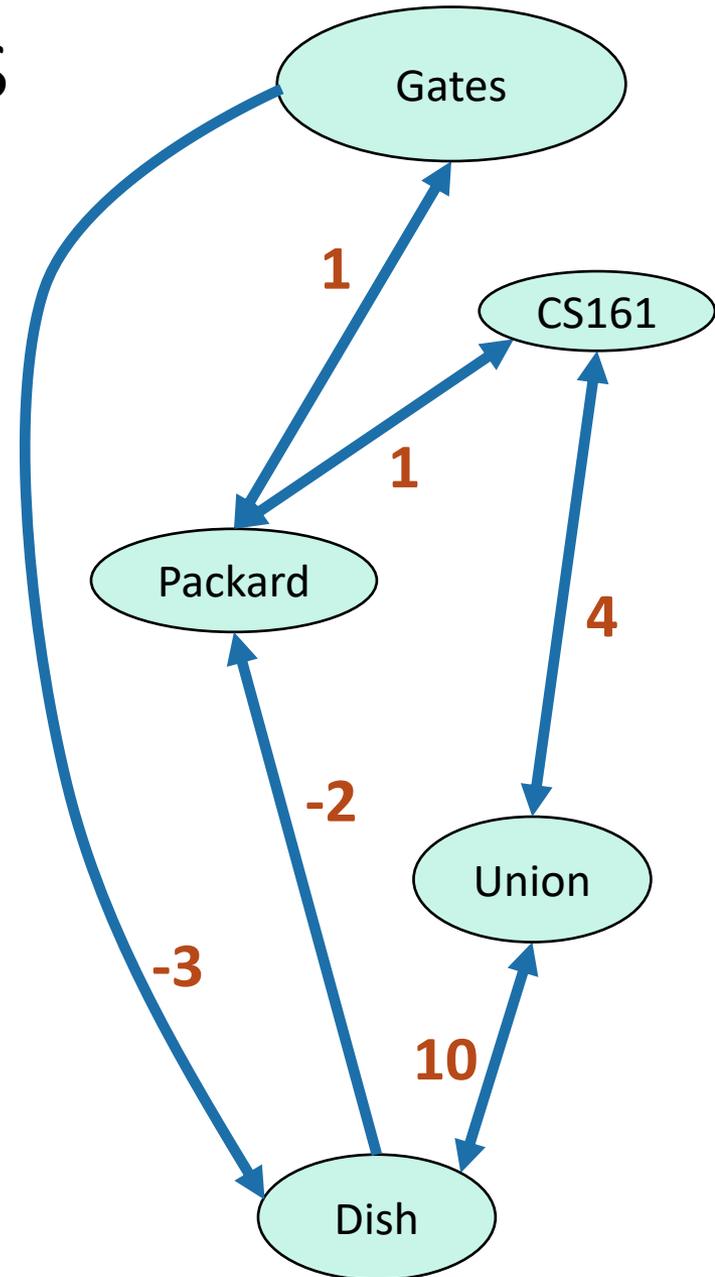
But **we can tell** that it's not looking good:

$d^{(5)}$	-4	-9	-4	3	-7
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Some stuff changed!

- For  $i=0, \dots, n-1$ :
  - For  $u$  in  $V$ :
    - For  $v$  in  $u$ .neighbors:

- $d^{(i+1)}[v] \leftarrow \min(d^{(i)}[v], d^{(i+1)}[v], d^{(i)}[u] + \text{edgeWeight}(u,v))$



# How Bellman-Ford deals with negative cycles

- If there are no negative cycles:
  - Everything works as it should.
  - The algorithm stabilizes after  $n-1$  rounds.
  - **Note: Negative *edges* are okay!!**
- If there are negative cycles:
  - Not everything works as it should...
    - it couldn't possibly work, since shortest paths aren't well-defined if there are negative cycles.
  - The  $d[v]$  values will keep changing.
- Solution:
  - Go one round more and see if things change.
    - If so, return NEGATIVE CYCLE ☹️
  - (Pseudocode on skipped slide)

# Summary

It's okay if that went by fast, we'll come back to Bellman-Ford

- The Bellman-Ford algorithm:
  - Finds shortest paths in weighted graphs with negative edge weights
  - runs in time  $O(nm)$  on a graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges.
- If there are no negative cycles in  $G$ :
  - the BF algorithm terminates with  $d^{(n-1)}[v] = d(s,v)$ .
- If there are negative cycles in  $G$ :
  - the BF algorithm returns `negative cycle`.

# Recap: shortest paths

- **BFS:**
  - (+)  $O(n+m)$
  - (-) only unweighted graphs
- **Dijkstra's algorithm:**
  - (+) weighted graphs
  - (+)  $O(n\log(n) + m)$  if you implement it right.
  - (-) no negative edge weights
  - (-) very “centralized” (need to keep track of all the vertices to know which to update).
- **The Bellman-Ford algorithm:**
  - (+) weighted graphs, even with negative weights
  - (+) can be done in a distributed fashion, every vertex using only information from its neighbors.
  - (-)  $O(nm)$

# Bonus

- Tomorrow (Feb 13) 4-5pm in CoDa E160:

Bob Tarjan speaking on

Universal Optimality of Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm

IEEE FOCS (Foundations of Computer Science) 2024  
Best Paper Award

# Next Time

- Dynamic Programming!!!

## Before next time

- Pre-lecture exercise for Lecture 12
  - Remember the Fibonacci numbers from HW1?