DISCRETE STRUCTURE



Lecture-24



Topics covered

Introduction to Weighted Graphs
Shortest path in weighted graphs

Introduction to Weighted Graphs

- In a weighted graph, each edge has an associated numerical value, called the weight of the edge
- Edge weights may represent, distances, costs, etc.
- Example:

 In a flight route graph, the weight of an edge represents the distance in miles between the endpoint airports



Shortest Path Problem



Given a weighted graph and two vertices u and v, we want to find a path of minimum total weight between u and v.

- Length of a path is the sum of the weights of its edges.

Example:

Shortest path between Providence and Honolulu



Weighted Graphs

- A weighted graph is a graph in which each edge (u, v) has a weight w(u, v). Each weight is a real number.
- Weights can represent distance, cost, time, capacity, etc.
- The length of a path in a weighted graph is the sum of the weights on the edges.
- Dijkstra's Algorithm finds the shortest path between two vertices.



Shortest Path Properties



7

Property 1:

A subpath of a shortest path is itself a shortest path

Property 2:

There is a tree of shortest paths from a start vertex to all the other vertices

Example:

Tree of shortest paths from Providence



Dijkstra's Algorithm



- The distance of a vertex v from a vertex s is the length of a shortest path between s and v
- Dijkstra's algorithm computes the distances of all the vertices from a given start vertex *s*
- Assumptions:

- the graph is connected
- the edges are undirected
- the edge weights are nonnegative

Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm

- Due to Edsger W. Dijkstra (1959, when 29).
- Assign scores to verticies:
 - -S(v) = score of vertex v (some integer)
 - there are *temporary* and *permanent* scores
 - all verticies start with a temporary score of infinity (Inf)

Example of Dijkstra's Algorithm

Find shortest-path from A to D:



Application & Scope of research

Application

- Internet packet routing
- Flight reservations
- Driving directions

Scope of research

 To find shortest path from source to destination in a given network s.t. it has minimum cost

