

CS3230 – Design and Analysis of Algorithms  
(S1 AY2024/25)

**Lecture 3a: Proof of Correctness**

# Correctness of an algorithm

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.
  - Iterative algorithms.
  - Recursive algorithms.

## **Fib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ , return  $n$ .
- Else, return **Fib**( $n - 1$ ) + **Fib**( $n - 2$ ).

## **IFib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ 
  - return  $n$
- Else,
  - $\text{prev2} = 0$
  - $\text{prev1} = 1$
  - for  $i = 2$  to  $n$ 
    - $\text{temp} = \text{prev1}$
    - $\text{prev1} = \text{prev1} + \text{prev2}$
    - $\text{prev2} = \text{temp}$
  - return  $\text{prev1}$

# Iterative algorithms

**While** ( some condition is met )

- **Do** { some work }

**For** ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$  up to  $i = n$ )

- **Do** { some work }

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.
- Analysis of an iterative algorithm:
  - **Loop invariant:**
    - Some desirable conditions that should be satisfied at the start of each iteration.

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- Analysis of an iterative algorithm:
  - **Loop invariant:**
    - Some desirable conditions that should be satisfied at the start of each iteration.
  - **Initialization:**
    - The loop invariant is true at the start of the first iteration.

# Iterative algorithms

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- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.
- Analysis of an iterative algorithm:
  - **Loop invariant:**
    - Some desirable conditions that should be satisfied at the start of each iteration.
  - **Initialization:**
    - The loop invariant is true at the start of the first iteration.
  - **Maintenance:**
    - If the loop invariant is satisfied at the start of the current iteration, then the loop invariant must be satisfied at the start of the next iteration.

Equivalently, the end of the current iteration.

# Iterative algorithms

**While** ( some condition is met )

• **Do** { some work }

**For** ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$  up to  $i = n$ )

• **Do** { some work }

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.
- Analysis of an iterative algorithm:
  - **Loop invariant:**
    - Some desirable conditions that should be satisfied at the start of each iteration.
  - **Initialization:**
    - The loop invariant is true at the start of the first iteration.
  - **Maintenance:**
    - If the loop invariant is satisfied at the start of the current iteration, then the loop invariant must be satisfied at the start of the next iteration.
  - **Termination:**
    - Loop invariant at the end of the last iteration  $\rightarrow$  The algorithm outputs a correct answer.

Equivalently, the end of the current iteration.

# Iterative algorithms

**While** ( some condition is met )

- **Do** { some work }

**For** ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$  up to  $i = n$ )

- **Do** { some work }

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.
- Analysis of an iterative algorithm:
  - **Loop invariant:** Induction hypothesis
    - Some desirable conditions that should be satisfied at the start of each iteration.
  - **Initialization:** Base case
    - The loop invariant is true at the start of the first iteration.
  - **Maintenance:** Inductive step
    - If the loop invariant is satisfied at the start of the current iteration, then the loop invariant must be satisfied at the start of the next iteration.
  - **Termination:** The proof by induction implies the correctness of the algorithm
    - Loop invariant at the end of the last iteration  $\rightarrow$  The algorithm outputs a correct answer.

# Fibonacci numbers

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.

## **IFib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ 
  - return  $n$
- Else,
  - $\text{prev2} = 0$
  - $\text{prev1} = 1$
  - for  $i = 2$  to  $n$ 
    - $\text{temp} = \text{prev1}$
    - $\text{prev1} = \text{prev1} + \text{prev2}$
    - $\text{prev2} = \text{temp}$
  - return  $\text{prev1}$

If  $n \leq 1$ , then the algorithm is correct.

- **Fib**(0) = 0
- **Fib**(1) = 1



# Fibonacci numbers

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.

## **IFib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ 
  - return  $n$
- Else,
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  - $\text{prev1} = 1$
  - for  $i = 2$  to  $n$ 
    - $\text{temp} = \text{prev1}$
    - $\text{prev1} = \text{prev1} + \text{prev2}$
    - $\text{prev2} = \text{temp}$
  - return  $\text{prev1}$

Now, consider the case of  $n \geq 2$ .

### **Loop invariant:**

- At the start of iteration  $i$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 2)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 1)$

# Fibonacci numbers

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.

## **IFib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ 
  - return  $n$
- Else,
  - $\text{prev2} = 0$
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  - for  $i = 2$  to  $n$ 
    - $\text{temp} = \text{prev1}$
    - $\text{prev1} = \text{prev1} + \text{prev2}$
    - $\text{prev2} = \text{temp}$
  - return  $\text{prev1}$

Now, consider the case of  $n \geq 2$ .

### **Loop invariant:**

- At the start of iteration  $i$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 2)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 1)$

### **Initialization:**

- At the start of iteration  $i = 2$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(0) = 0$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(1) = 1$

# Fibonacci numbers

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.

## **Fib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ 
  - return  $n$
- Else,
  - $\text{prev2} = 0$
  - $\text{prev1} = 1$
  - for  $i = 2$  to  $n$ 
    - $\text{temp} = \text{prev1}$   $\text{Fib}(i-1)$
    - $\text{prev1} = \text{prev1} + \text{prev2}$   $\text{Fib}(i-1) + \text{Fib}(i-2)$
    - $\text{prev2} = \text{temp}$   $\text{Fib}(i-1)$
  - return  $\text{prev1}$

Now, consider the case of  $n \geq 2$ .

### **Loop invariant:**

- At the start of iteration  $i$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i-2)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i-1)$

### **Initialization:**

- At the start of iteration  $i = 2$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(0) = 0$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(1) = 1$

### **Maintenance:**

- Suppose at the start of iteration  $i$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i-2)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i-1)$
- Then at the end of the iteration,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i-1)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i)$

# Fibonacci numbers

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.

## **IFib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ 
  - return  $n$
- Else,
  - $\text{prev2} = 0$
  - $\text{prev1} = 1$
  - for  $i = 2$  to  $n$ 
    - $\text{temp} = \text{prev1}$
    - $\text{prev1} = \text{prev1} + \text{prev2}$
    - $\text{prev2} = \text{temp}$
  - return  $\text{prev1}$

Now, consider the case of  $n \geq 2$ .

### **Loop invariant:**

- At the start of iteration  $i$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 2)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 1)$

### **Initialization:**

- At the start of iteration  $i = 2$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(0) = 0$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(1) = 1$

### **Maintenance:**

- Suppose at the start of iteration  $i$ ,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 2)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 1)$   $i = n$
- Then at the **end** of the iteration,
  - $\text{prev2} = \mathbf{Fib}(i - 1)$
  - $\text{prev1} = \mathbf{Fib}(i)$

### **Termination:**

- The algorithm returns  $\mathbf{Fib}(n)$ .

# Question 1 @ VisuAlgo online quiz

- What is a suitable loop invariant to analyze this sorting algorithm?  
at the start of iteration  $j$ 
  - $A$  is sorted.
  - $A[1..j - 1]$  is sorted.
  - $x \leq y$  for all  $x \in A[1..j - 1]$  and  $y \in A[j..n]$ .
  - $(A[1..j - 1]$  is sorted) and  $(x \leq y$  for all  $x \in A[1..j - 1]$  and  $y \in A[j..n])$ .

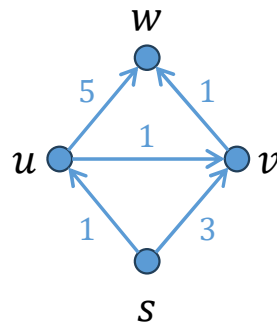
## **SelectionSort**( $A[1..n]$ )

- For  $j = 1$  to  $n - 1$ 
  - Select  $s \in \{j, j + 1, \dots, n\}$  so that  $A[s]$  is a smallest number in  $A[j..n]$ .
  - Swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[s]$ .

**VisuAlgo** (Selection sort): <https://visualgo.net/en/sorting?mode=Selection>

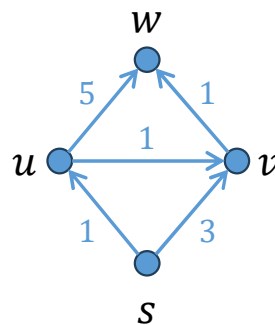
# Weighted directed graphs

- Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph.
- Each edge  $e \in E$  has a positive weight  $w(e)$ .
  - If  $(u, v) \in E$ , then  $w(u, v) = w(e)$ .
  - If  $(u, v) \notin E$ , then  $w(u, v) = \infty$ .



# Single-source shortest paths

- Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph.
- Each edge  $e \in E$  has a positive weight  $w(e)$ .
  - If  $(u, v) \in E$ , then  $w(u, v) = w(e)$ .
  - If  $(u, v) \notin E$ , then  $w(u, v) = \infty$ .
- **Goal:** Given a source  $s \in V$ , compute the shortest-path distance from  $s$  to all vertices.

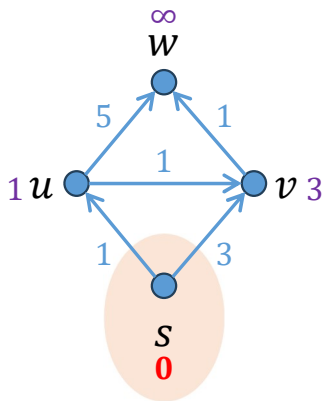


**dist**( $s, s$ ) = 0  
**dist**( $s, u$ ) = 1  
**dist**( $s, v$ ) = 2  
**dist**( $s, w$ ) = 3

# Dijkstra's algorithm

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$



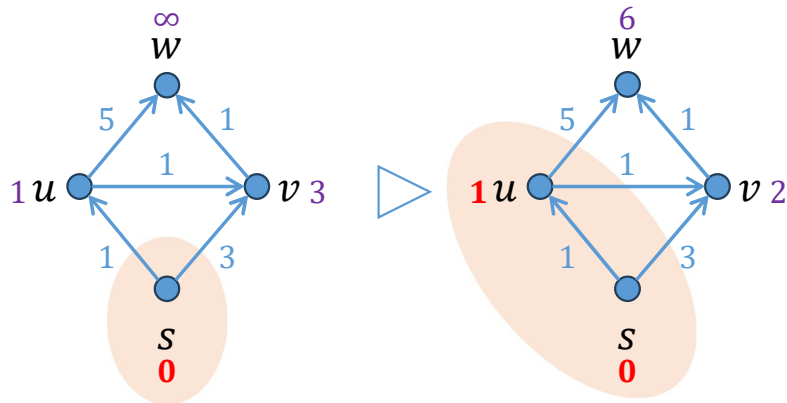
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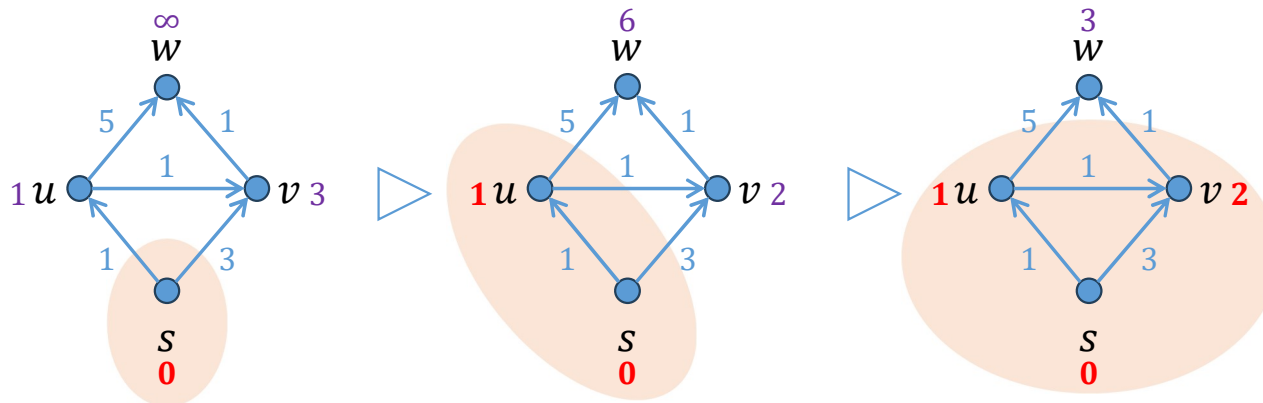


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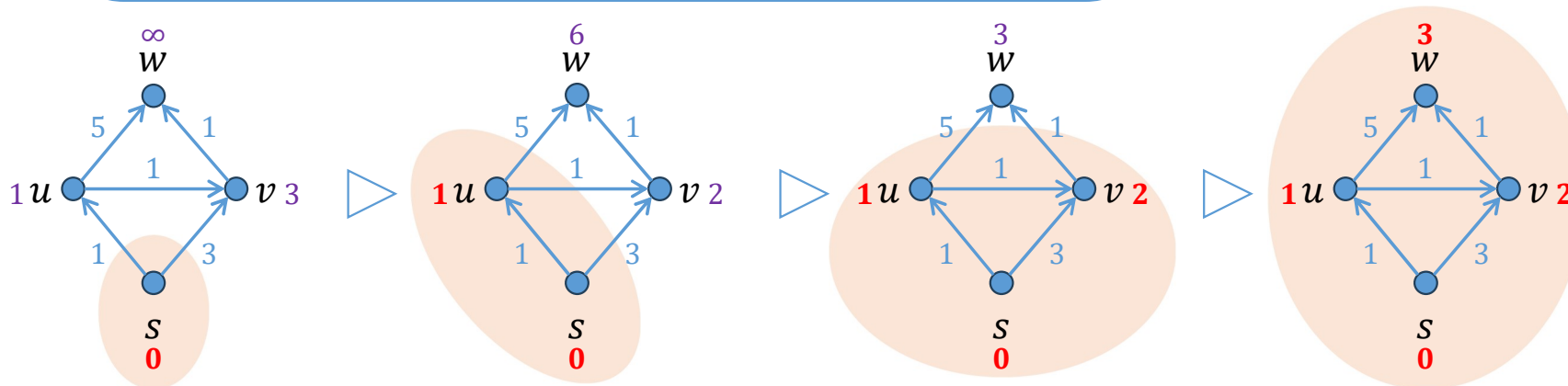


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$\mathbf{dist}(s, s) = 0$   
 $\mathbf{dist}(s, u) = 1$   
 $\mathbf{dist}(s, v) = 2$   
 $\mathbf{dist}(s, w) = 3$

**VisuAlgo** (Dijkstra): <https://visualgo.net/en/sssp?slide=7>

# Proof of correctness

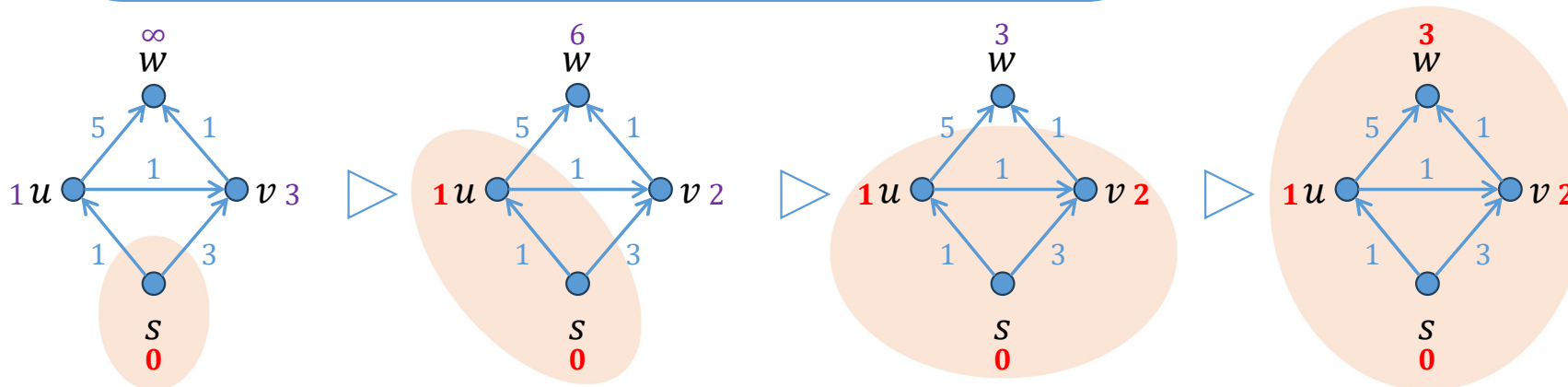
## Loop invariant:

- At the start of an iteration:
  - $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- While**  $R \neq V$ 
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$\mathbf{dist}(s, s) = 0$   
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  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Loop invariant:**

- At the start of an iteration:
  - $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

$d(s) = 0$  is correct.

- ✓ **Initialization**
- Maintenance
- Termination

# Proof of correctness

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
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  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Loop invariant:**

- At the start of an iteration:
  - $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

- ✓ Initialization
- Maintenance
- ✓ **Termination**

At the end of the computation,  $R = V$

# Proof of correctness

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Loop invariant:**

- At the start of an iteration:
  - $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

**Claim:** For the selected vertex  $v$ :

- $\mathbf{dist}(s, v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$

✓ Initialization

**Maintenance**

✓ Termination

# Proof of correctness

## Loop invariant:

- At the start of an iteration:
  - $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Claim:** For the selected vertex  $v$ :

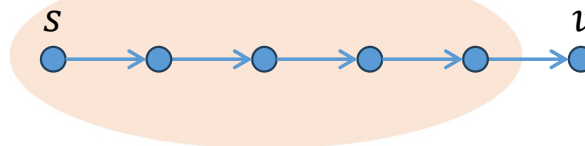
- $\mathbf{dist}(s, v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$

✓ Initialization

**Maintenance**

✓ Termination

**Proof:** Consider a shortest path  $P$  from  $s$  to  $v$ .



All vertices in  $P \setminus \{v\}$  must be in  $R$ .

- Otherwise, we should have selected the first vertex that is not in  $R$ .



# Proof of correctness

## Loop invariant:

- At the start of an iteration:
  - $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
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  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Claim:** For the selected vertex  $v$ :

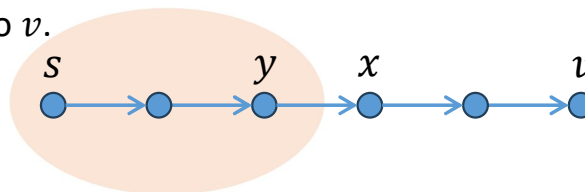
- $\mathbf{dist}(s, v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$

✓ Initialization

**Maintenance**

✓ Termination

**Proof:** Consider a shortest path  $P$  from  $s$  to  $v$ .



All vertices in  $P \setminus \{v\}$  must be in  $R$ .

- Otherwise, we should have selected the first vertex that is not in  $R$ .

$$\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v)) \geq \mathbf{dist}(s, v) > \mathbf{dist}(s, x) = d(y) + w(y, x) \geq \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, x))$$

$\mathbf{dist}(s, u)$ 
 $\mathbf{dist}(s, y)$

# Proof of correctness

## Loop invariant:

- At the start of an iteration:

- $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
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  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Claim:** For the selected vertex  $v$ :

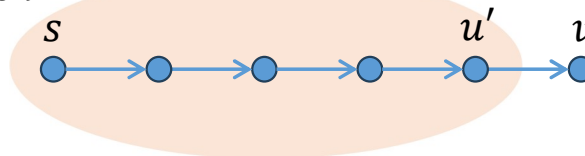
✓  $\mathbf{dist}(s, v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$

✓ Initialization

**Maintenance**

✓ Termination

**Proof:** Consider a shortest path  $P$  from  $s$  to  $v$ .



All vertices in  $P \setminus \{v\}$  must be in  $R$ .

$$\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v)) \geq \mathbf{dist}(s, v) = d(u') + w(u', v) \geq \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$$

$\mathbf{dist}(s, u)$ 
 $\mathbf{dist}(s, u')$

# Proof of correctness

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Loop invariant:**

- At the start of an iteration:
  - $\forall u \in R, d(u) = \mathbf{dist}(s, u)$

The computed distances are correct.

**Claim:** For the selected vertex  $v$ :

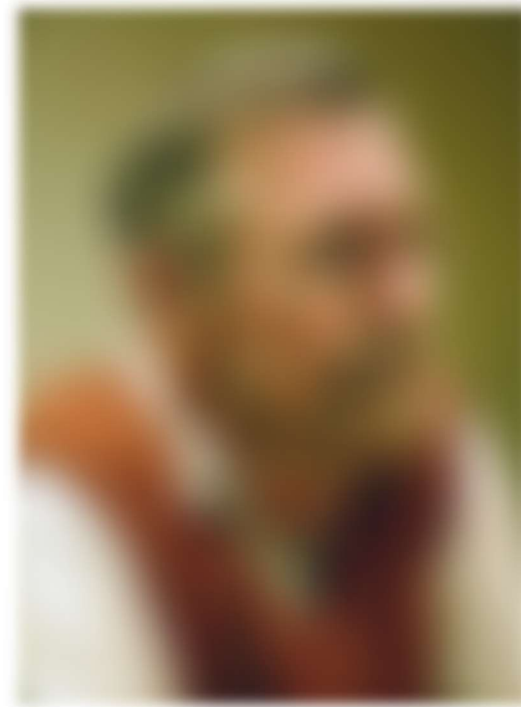
✓  $\mathbf{dist}(s, v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$

- ✓ Initialization
- ✓ **Maintenance**
- ✓ Termination

## Question 2 @ VisuAlgo online quiz

Who is the **Master of Algorithms** pictured below?

- Stephen Cook
- Edsger Dijkstra
- Robert Tarjan
- Avi Wigderson



# Efficiency

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

# Efficiency

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

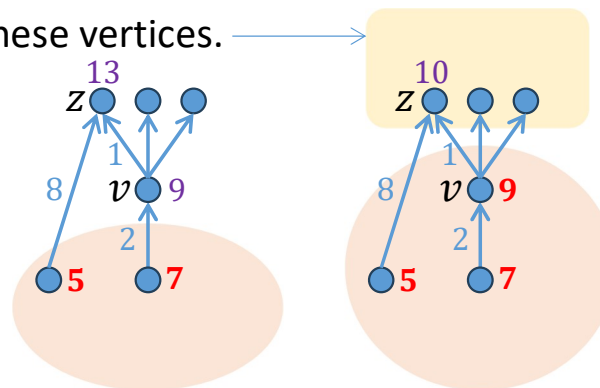
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- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

**Observation:** No need to compute  $x(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$  from scratch for every iteration.

Adding  $v$  to  $R$  can only affect the  $x$ -value of these vertices.

- $x(z) \leftarrow \min\{x(z), d(v) + w(v, z)\}$

10                  13                  9                  1



# Efficiency

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $R = \{s\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $\min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - $d(v) = \min_{u \in R} (d(u) + w(u, v))$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$

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**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

- $d(s) = 0$
- $x(v) = \infty$  for all  $v \in V \setminus \{s\}$
- $R = \{s\}$
- For all  $z \in V$  such that  $(s, z) \in E$ 
  - $x(z) = \min\{x(z), d(s) + w(s, z)\}$
- **While**  $R \neq V$ 
  - Select  $v \in V \setminus R$  to minimize  $x(v)$
  - $d(v) = x(v)$
  - Add  $v$  to  $R$
  - For all  $z \in V \setminus R$  such that  $(v, z) \in E$ 
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# Efficiency

- The algorithm can be implemented using a priority queue.

$|V|$  insert

$|V|$  extract-min

At most  $|E|$  decrease-key

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# Efficiency

- The algorithm can be implemented using a priority queue.

	Insert	Extract-min	Decrease-key	Time complexity of Dijkstra's algorithm
Binary heap	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$	$O(( E  +  V ) \log  V )$
Fibonacci heap	$O(1)$	$O(\log n)$ amortized	$O(1)$ amortized	$O( E  +  V  \log  V )$

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priority\\_queue](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priority_queue)

Amortized = average over  $n$  operations.

$|V|$  insert

$|V|$  extract-min

At most  $|E|$  decrease-key

**Dijkstra**( $G = (V, E), s \in V$ )

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    - $x(z) = \min\{x(z), d(v) + w(v, z)\}$

# Recursive algorithms

**Fib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ , return  $n$ .
- Else, return **Fib**( $n - 1$ ) + **Fib**( $n - 2$ ).

- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.
- Analysis of a recursive algorithm:
  - **Base case:** without any recursive calls
    - Show that the algorithm is correct for the base case.
  - **Inductive step:** with recursive calls
    - Assume that the algorithm is correct for any input of size smaller than  $n$ .
    - Show that the algorithm is correct for any input of size  $n$ .

# Recursive algorithms

**Fib**( $n$ )

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- Show that the algorithm is correct for the base case.

- **Inductive step:**

- Assume that the algorithm is correct for any input of size smaller than  $n$ .
- Show that the algorithm is correct for any input of size  $n$ .

If  $n \leq 1$ , the algorithm is correct:

- **Fib**(0) = 0
- **Fib**(1) = 1

# Recursive algorithms

**Fib**( $n$ )

- If  $n \leq 1$ , return  $n$ .
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- **Goal:** For a given algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$ , prove that it is correct.

- Analysis of a recursive algorithm:

- **Base case:**

- Show that the algorithm is correct for the base case.

- **Inductive step:**

- Assume that the algorithm is correct for any input of size smaller than  $n$ .
- Show that the algorithm is correct for any input of size  $n$ .

If  $n \leq 1$ , the algorithm is correct:

- **Fib**(0) = 0
- **Fib**(1) = 1

If  $n > 1$ , the algorithm is correct:

- **Fib**( $n$ ) = **Fib**( $n - 1$ ) + **Fib**( $n - 2$ )

# Searching in a sorted array

- **Input:**

- A sorted array  $A$ .
- Two indices:
  - lb (lower bound)
  - ub (upper bound)
- A number  $x$ .

- **Goal:**

- Decide if  $x \in A[\text{lb}.. \text{ub}]$

If ( $\text{lb} > \text{ub}$ ), the answer is **NO**.

# Searching in a sorted array

- **Input:**

- A sorted array  $A$ .
- Two indices:
  - lb (lower bound)
  - ub (upper bound)
- A number  $x$ .

**BinarySearch**( $A, lb, ub, x$ )

- **If** ( $lb > ub$ ), return **NO**.
- **Else**
  - $mid \leftarrow \left\lfloor \frac{lb+ub}{2} \right\rfloor$ .
  - **If** ( $x = A[mid]$ ), return **YES**.
  - **If** ( $x > A[mid]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, mid + 1, ub, x$ ).
  - **If** ( $x < A[mid]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, lb, mid - 1, x$ ).

- **Goal:**

- Decide if  $x \in A[lb..ub]$

# Searching in a sorted array

$x = 14$

mid = 5  
lb = 1 ub = 9  
[2 7 14 33 41 50 77 80 82]



mid = 2  
lb = 1 ub = 4  
[2 7 14 33 41 50 77 80 82]



mid = 3  
lb = 3 ub = 4  
[2 7 14 33 41 50 77 80 82]

**YES**

**BinarySearch**( $A, lb, ub, x$ )

- **If** ( $lb > ub$ ), return **NO**.
- **Else**
  - $mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{lb+ub}{2} \rfloor$ .
  - **If** ( $x = A[mid]$ ), return **YES**.
  - **If** ( $x > A[mid]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, mid + 1, ub, x$ ).
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# Proof of correctness

- **Induction** on the array size:

- $n = ub - lb + 1$

**BinarySearch**( $A, lb, ub, x$ )

- **If** ( $lb > ub$ ), return **NO**.
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  - $mid \leftarrow \left\lfloor \frac{lb+ub}{2} \right\rfloor$ .
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# Proof of correctness

- **Induction** on the array size:

- $n = \text{ub} - \text{lb} + 1$

- **Base case:**

- If  $n < 1$ , the algorithm correctly returns **NO**.

## **BinarySearch**( $A, \text{lb}, \text{ub}, x$ )

- **If** ( $\text{lb} > \text{ub}$ ), return **NO**.

- **Else**

- $\text{mid} \leftarrow \left\lfloor \frac{\text{lb} + \text{ub}}{2} \right\rfloor$ .

- **If** ( $x = A[\text{mid}]$ ), return **YES**.

- **If** ( $x > A[\text{mid}]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, \text{mid} + 1, \text{ub}, x$ ).

- **If** ( $x < A[\text{mid}]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, \text{lb}, \text{mid} - 1, x$ ).

# Proof of correctness

- **Induction** on the array size:

- $n = \text{ub} - \text{lb} + 1$

- **Inductive step:**

- Assume the algorithm works correctly for any input of size smaller than  $n$ .

**BinarySearch**( $A, \text{lb}, \text{ub}, x$ )

- **If** ( $\text{lb} > \text{ub}$ ), return **NO**.
- **Else**
  - $\text{mid} \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{\text{lb} + \text{ub}}{2} \rfloor$ .
  - **If** ( $x = A[\text{mid}]$ ), return **YES**.
  - **If** ( $x > A[\text{mid}]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, \text{mid} + 1, \text{ub}, x$ ).
  - **If** ( $x < A[\text{mid}]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, \text{lb}, \text{mid} - 1, x$ ).

If ( $x = A[\text{mid}]$ ), the answer must be **YES**.

If ( $x > A[\text{mid}]$ ), then:

- ( $x \in A[\text{lb}.. \text{ub}]$ ) if and only if ( $x \in A[\text{mid} + 1.. \text{ub}]$ ). *A is sorted*
- Therefore, the answer must be **BinarySearch**( $A, \text{mid} + 1, \text{ub}, x$ ). *Induction hypothesis*

The case of ( $x < A[\text{mid}]$ ) is similar.

# Efficiency

- Input size:
  - $n = ub - lb + 1$
- Subproblem input size:
  - $\leq \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$
- Depth of recursion:
  - $O(\log n)$
- Time complexity:
  - $T(n) \in O(\log n)$

**BinarySearch**( $A, lb, ub, x$ )

- **If** ( $lb > ub$ ), return **NO**.
- **Else**
  - $mid \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{lb+ub}{2} \rfloor$ .
  - **If** ( $x = A[mid]$ ), return **YES**.
  - **If** ( $x > A[mid]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, mid + 1, ub, x$ ).
  - **If** ( $x < A[mid]$ ), **BinarySearch**( $A, lb, mid - 1, x$ ).

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