



CSCI 241

Lecture 21

Dijkstra Proof of Correctness
More Graph Stuff, MSTs

Announcements

- Extra office hours are a possibility tomorrow if there's demand.
- Final exam study guide coming soon.
 - Same as midterm: it's just the Goals from each lecture.
- Final exam:
 - 3/18 10:30am-12:30pm
 - You'll be allowed **two** 2-sided 8.5x11 sheets of hand-written notes.

Goals

- See a proof of correctness of Dijkstra's algorithm.
- Know what it means for a graph to be planar
- Know the definition of a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG) and how to check whether a graph is a DAG using Topological Sort.

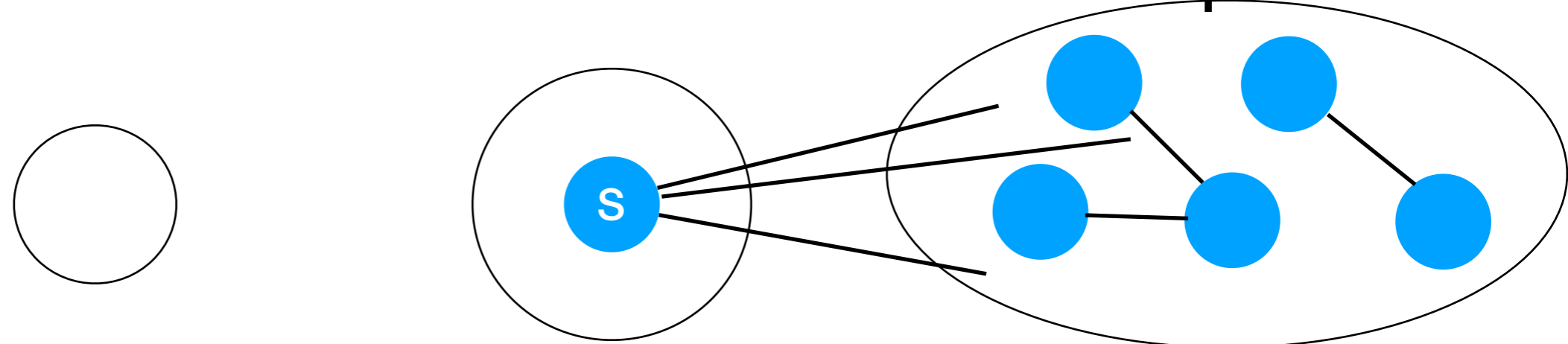
Dijkstra's Shortest Paths: Cartoon

settled

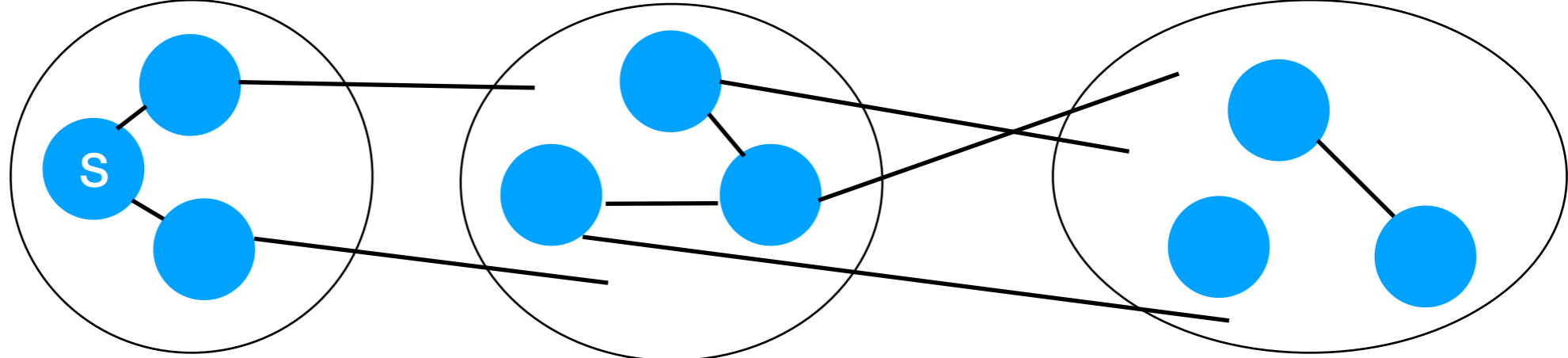
frontier

unexplored

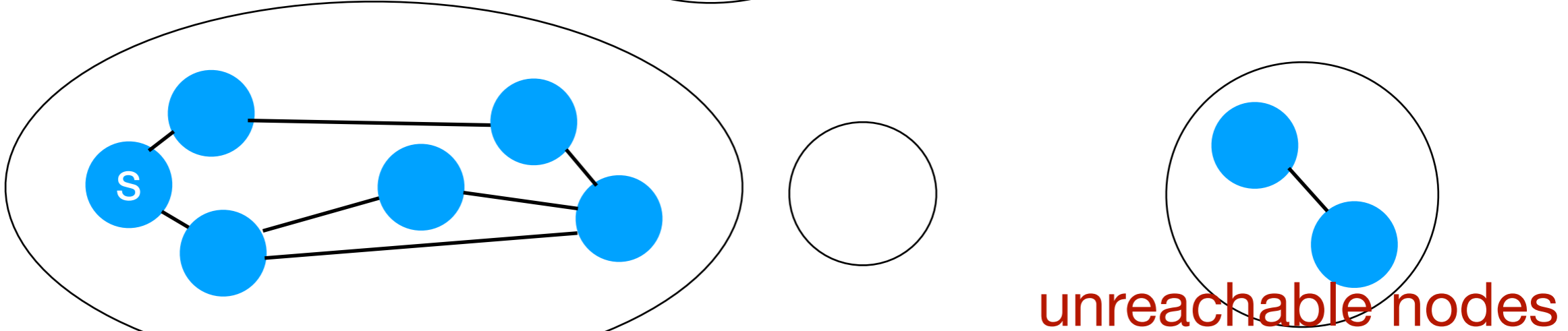
Before:



During:



After:



A close-up photograph of an owl's face, focusing on its large, yellow, circular eyes with black pupils. The owl's feathers are a mix of brown, grey, and white, creating a textured background. The text is overlaid in the lower half of the image.

**The next slide is so important,
I'm going to show it to you
again.**

Implementing Dijkstra Efficiently (A4)

- ```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0; v.bp = null;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 w.bp = f;
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 w.bp = f;
 }
 }
}
```
1. Store Frontier in a min-heap priority queue with d-values as priorities.
  2. To efficiently iterate over neighbors, use an adjacency list graph representation.
  3. Could store w.d and w.bp in Node class; in A4, we use a `HashMap<Node, PathData>`
  4. No need to explicitly store Settled or Unexplored sets: a node is in S or F iff it is in the map.

# Implementing Dijkstra Efficiently (A4)

- ```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0; v.bp = null;
while (F ≠ { }) {
  f = node in F with min d value;
  Remove f from F, add it to S;
  for each neighbor w of f {
    if (w not in S or F) {
      w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
      w.bp = f;
      add w to F;
    } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
      w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
      w.bp = f;
    }
  }
}
```
1. Store Frontier in a min-heap priority queue with d-values as priorities.
 2. To efficiently iterate over neighbors, use an adjacency list graph representation.
 3. **Could store w.d and w.bp in Node class; in A4, we use a HashMap<Node, PathData>**
 4. No need to explicitly store Settled or Unexplored sets:
a node is in S or F iff it is in the map.

Implementing Dijkstra Efficiently (A4)

- ```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0; v.bp = null;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 w.bp = f;
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 w.bp = f;
 }
 }
}
```
1. Store Frontier in a min-heap priority queue with d-values as priorities.
  2. To efficiently iterate over neighbors, use an adjacency list graph representation.
  3. Could store w.d and w.bp in Node class; in A4, we use a `HashMap<Node, PathData>`
  4. **No need to explicitly store Settled or Unexplored sets:**  
a node is in S or F iff it is in the map.



# Implementing Dijkstra Efficiently (A4)

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0; v.bp = null;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 w.bp = f;
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 w.bp = f;
 }
 }
}
```

4. No need to explicitly store Settled or Unexplored sets:  
w is in S or F  $\Leftrightarrow$  it is in the map.

The only time we need to check membership in S is **here**.

If w is not in S or F,  
**it must be in Unexplored.**

therefore,  
**we haven't found a path to it.**

therefore,  
**it has no d or bp yet.**

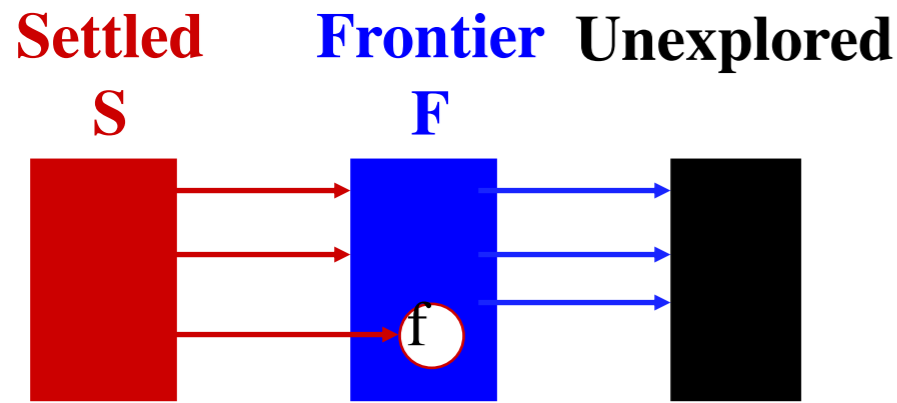
therefore,  
**it isn't in the map!**



# Proof of Correctness

- Dijkstra's algorithm is **greedy**: it makes a sequence of *locally* optimal moves, which results in the *globally* optimal solution.
  - Most algorithms don't work like this - need to prove that it results in the global optimum.
- Specifically: It is not obvious that there cannot still be a shorter path to the Frontier node with smallest d-value.

# Proof of Correctness: Invariant



The while loop in Dijkstra's algorithm maintains a 3-part invariant:

1. For a Settled node  $s$ , a shortest path from  $v$  to  $s$  contains only settled nodes and  $s.d$  is length of shortest  $v \rightarrow s$  path.



2. For a Frontier node  $f$ , at least one  $v \rightarrow f$  path contains only settled nodes (except perhaps for  $f$ ) and  $f.d$  is the length of the shortest such path
3. All edges leaving  $S$  go to  $F$  (or: no edges from  $S$  to Unexplored)

# Proof of Correctness:

## Theorem

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 }
 }
 Case 1: if v is in F, then S is empty and v.d = 0, which is trivially the
 shortest distance from v to v.
}
```

**Theorem:** For a node  $f$  in the Frontier with minimum  $d$  value (over all nodes in the Frontier),  $f.d$  is the shortest-path distance from  $v$  to  $f$ .

**Proof:** Show that any other path from  $v$  to  $f$  has length  $\geq f.d$

# Proof of Correctness:

## Theorem

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 }
 }
 Case 2: v is in S. Part 2 of the invariant says:
 • f.d is the length of the shortest path from v to f containing all
 settled nodes except f, and f.d is the length of such a path.
}
```

**Theorem:** For a node  $f$  in the Frontier with minimum  $d$  value (over all nodes in the Frontier),  $f.d$  is the shortest-path distance from  $v$  to  $f$ .

**Proof:** Show that any other path from  $v$  to  $f$  has length  $\geq f.d$



# Proof of Correctness:

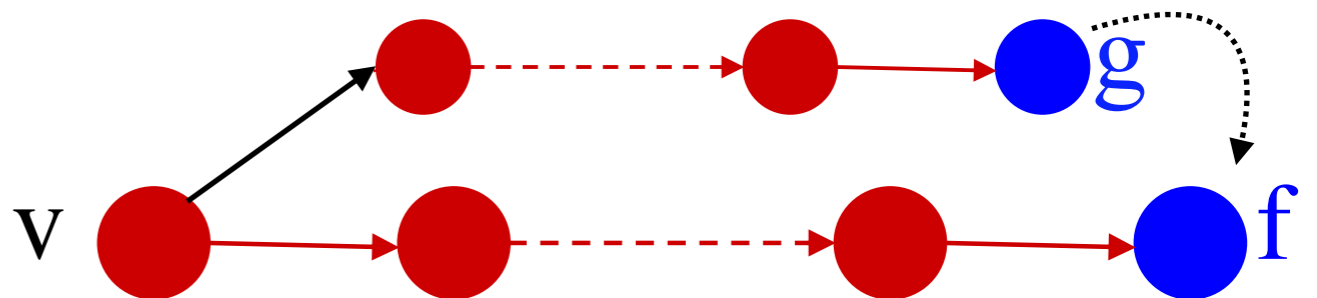
## Theorem

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 }
 }
 Case 2: v is in S. Part 2 of the invariant says:
 • f.d is the length of the shortest path from v to f containing all
 settled nodes except f, and f.d is the length of such a path.
}
```

**Theorem:** For a node  $f$  in the Frontier with minimum  $d$  value (over all nodes in the Frontier),  $f.d$  is the shortest-path distance from  $v$  to  $f$ .

**Proof:** Show that any other path from  $v$  to  $f$  has length  $\geq f.d$

Any other  $v$ - $f$  path must either be longer or go through another frontier node  $g$  then arrive at  $f$ :



# Proof of Correctness:

## Theorem

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 }
 }
 Case 2: v is in S. Part 2 of the invariant says:
 • f.d is the length of the shortest path from v to f containing all
 settled nodes except f, and f.d is the length of such a path.
}
```

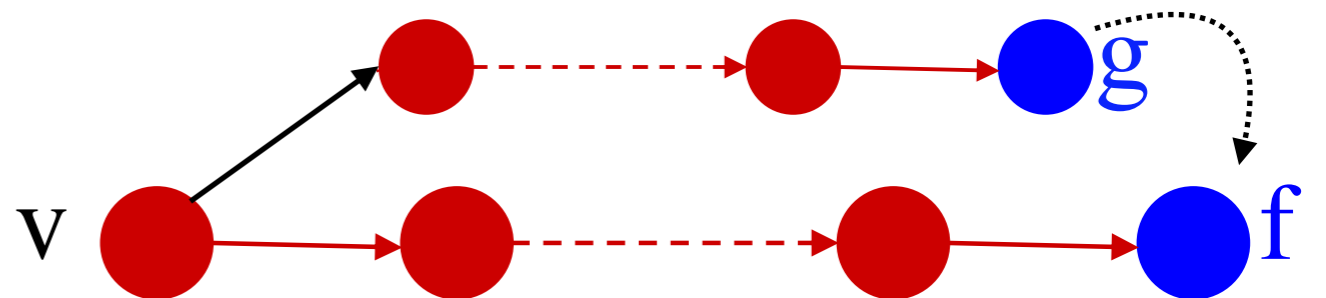
**Theorem:** For a node  $f$  in the Frontier with minimum  $d$  value (over all nodes in the Frontier),  $f.d$  is the shortest-path distance from  $v$  to  $f$ .

**Proof:** Show that any other path from  $v$  to  $f$  has length  $\geq f.d$

Any other  $v$ - $f$  path must either be longer or go through another frontier node  $g$  then arrive at  $f$ :

$d.f \leq d.g$ ,

so that path cannot be shorter





# Proof of Correctness: Invariant Maintenance

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 }
 }
}
```

1. For a Settled node  $s$ , a shortest path from  $v$  to  $s$  contains only settled nodes and  $s.d$  is length of shortest  $v \rightarrow s$  path.
2. For a Frontier node  $f$ , at least one  $v \rightarrow f$  path contains only settled nodes (except perhaps for  $f$ ) and  $f.d$  is the length of the shortest such path
3. All edges leaving  $S$  go to  $F$  (or: no edges from  $S$  to Unexplored)

# Proof of Correctness: Invariant Maintenance

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 }
 }
}
```

1. For a Settled node  $s$ , a shortest path from  $v$  to  $s$  contains only settled nodes and  $s.d$  is length of shortest  $v \rightarrow s$  path.
2. For a Frontier node  $f$ , at least one  $v \rightarrow f$  path contains only settled nodes (except perhaps for  $f$ ) and  $f.d$  is the length of the shortest such path
3. All edges leaving  $S$  go to  $F$  (or: no edges from  $S$  to Unexplored)

At initialization:

1.  $S$  is empty; trivially true.
2.  $v.d = 0$ , which is the shortest path.
3.  $S$  is empty, so no edges leave it.

# Proof of Correctness: Invariant Maintenance

```
S = { }; F = {v}; v.d = 0;
while (F ≠ { }) {
 f = node in F with min d value;
 Remove f from F, add it to S;
 for each neighbor w of f {
 if (w not in S or F) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 add w to F;
 } else if (f.d + weight(f, w) < w.d) {
 w.d = f.d + weight(f, w);
 }
 }
 At each iteration:
 1. Theorem says f.d is the shortest path, so it can safely move to S
 2. Updating w.d maintains Part 2 of the invariant.
 3. Each neighbor is either already in F or gets moved there.
```

1. For a Settled node  $s$ , a shortest path from  $v$  to  $s$  contains only settled nodes and  $s.d$  is length of shortest  $v \rightarrow s$  path.
2. For a Frontier node  $f$ , at least one  $v \rightarrow f$  path contains only settled nodes (except perhaps for  $f$ ) and  $f.d$  is the length of the shortest such path
3. All edges leaving  $S$  go to  $F$  (or: no edges from  $S$  to Unexplored)

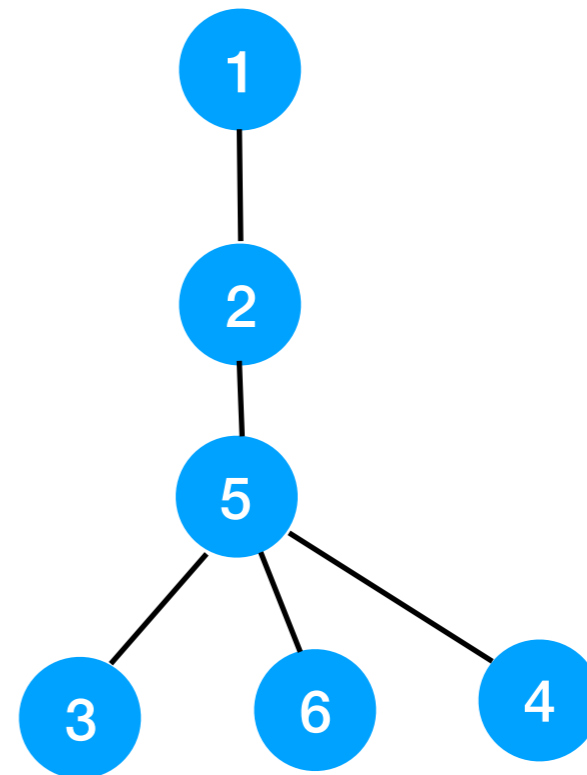
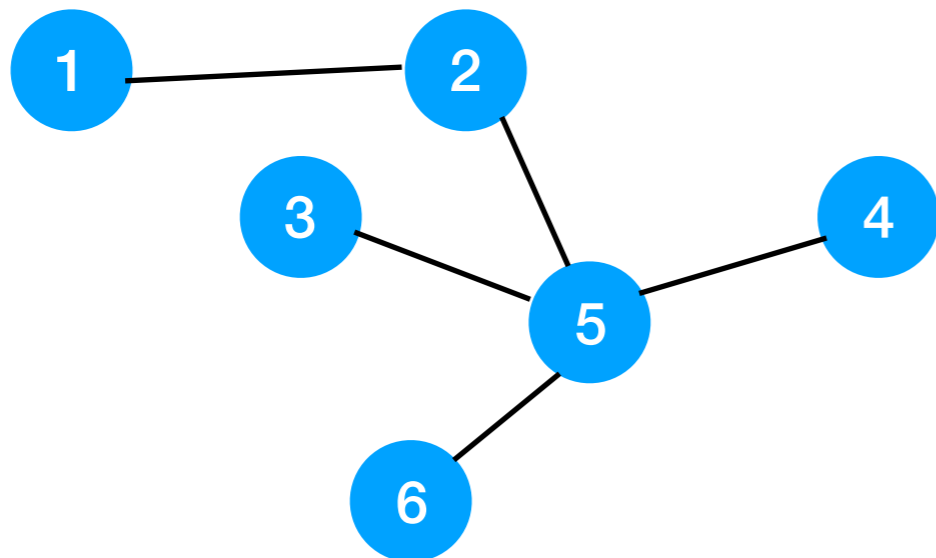
# Questions?

# Drawing Graphs

- The same graph can be drawn (infinitely!) many different ways.

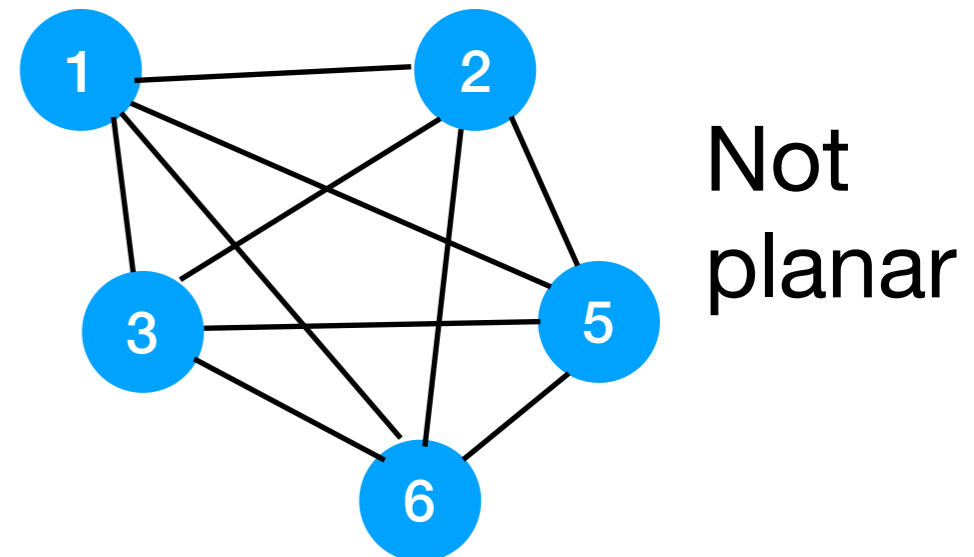
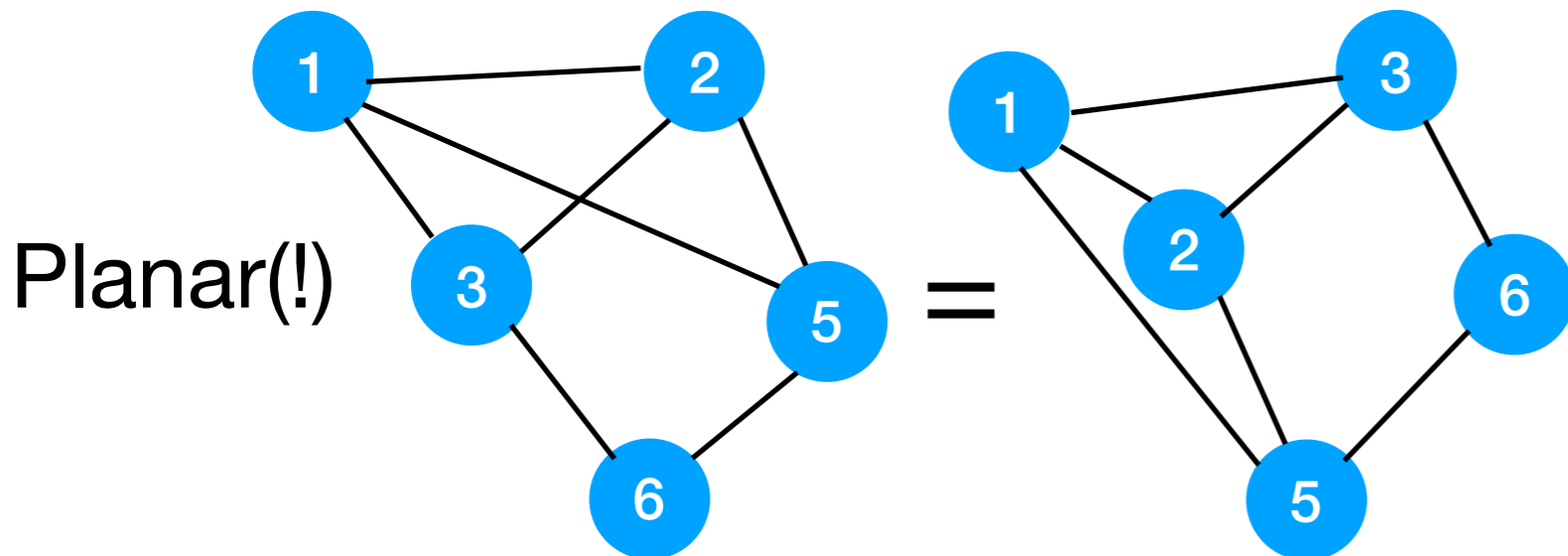
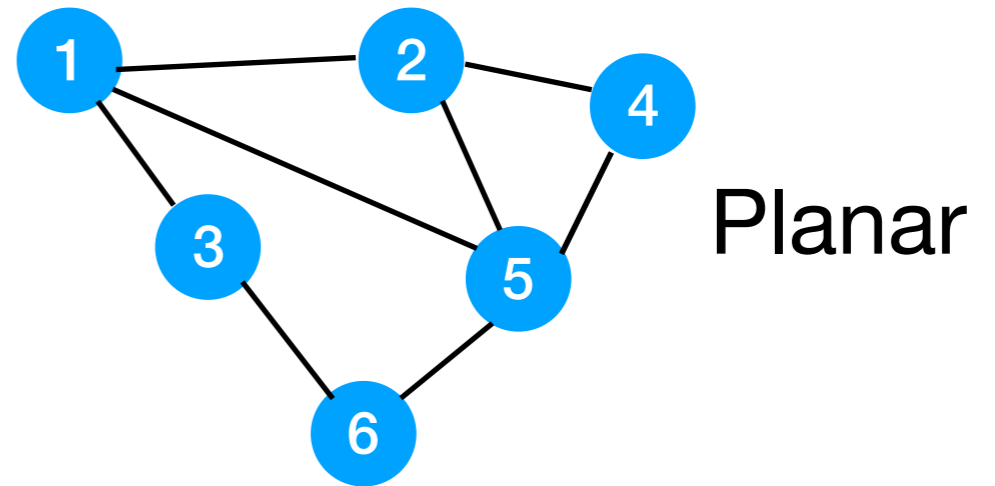
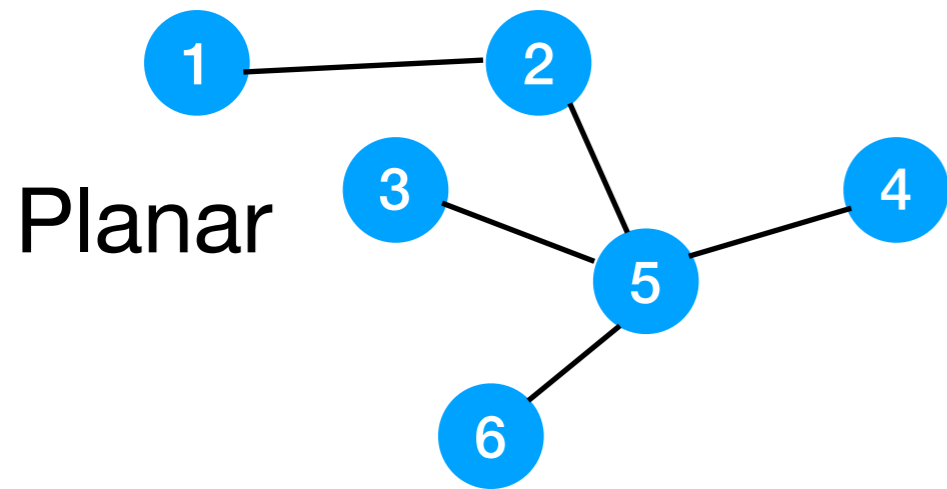
$$V = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$$

$$E = \{(1,2), (2,5), (3,5), (4,5), (5,6)\}$$



# Planarity

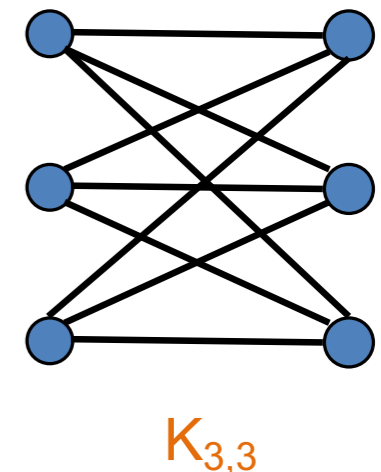
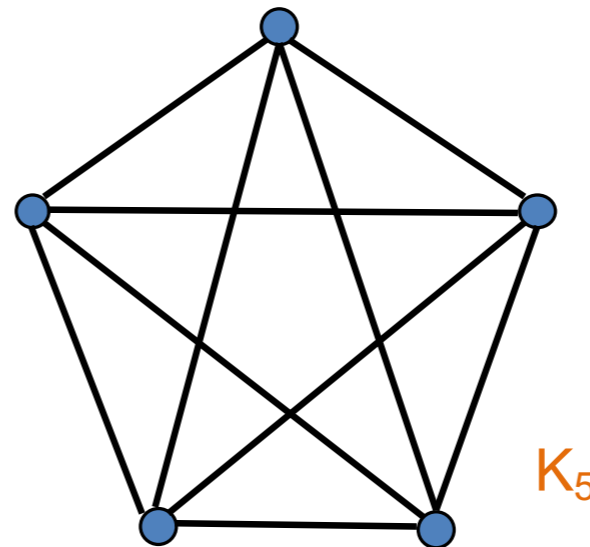
- If a graph can be drawn without crossing edges, it is **planar**.



# Detecting Planarity

A **subgraph** of a graph is a graph whose vertex and edge sets are subsets of the larger graph's.

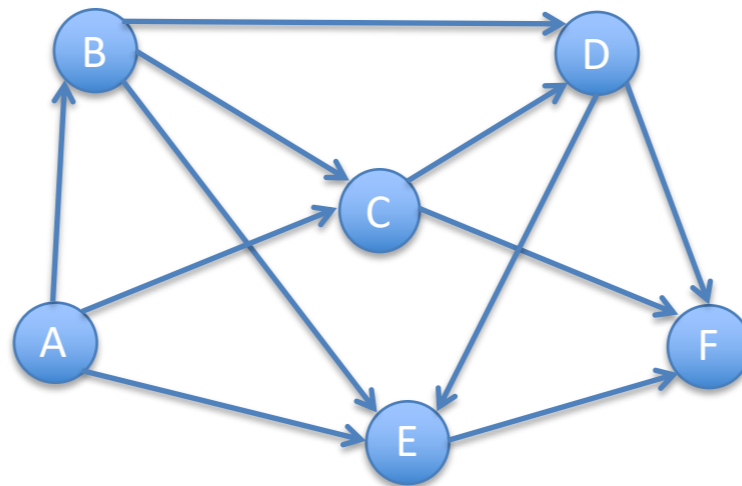
- Elements of the edge subset can only contain nodes in the vertex subset.
- There's a (non-obvious) theorem that says a graph is **planar** if and only if it does not contain\* one of these as a **subgraph**:



\*The definition of “contain” is slightly more general than having one of these directly as a subgraph.

# DAGs

- A **DAG**, or **Directed Acyclic Graph** is a...  
graph that is **directed** and **acyclic**.





# Is this a DAG?

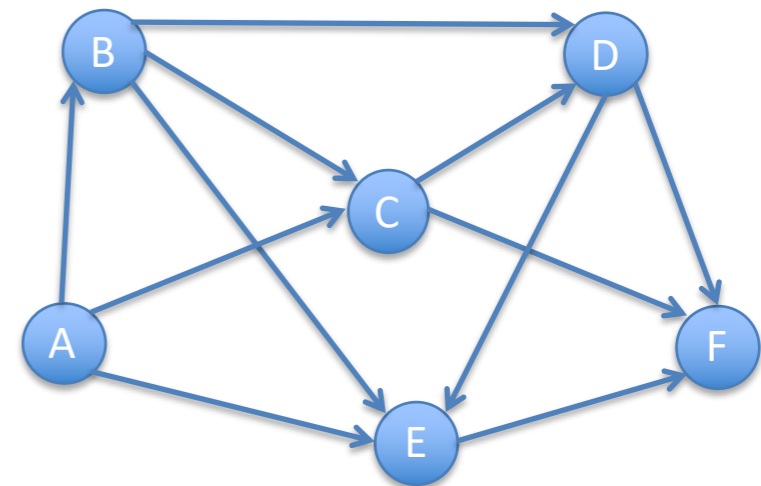
- How do we tell if a directed graph is acyclic?
  - If a node has indegree 0, it can't be part of a cycle.
  - Edges coming from that node also can't be part of a cycle.

Algorithm:

while there is a node with indegree 0:

delete the node and all edges coming from it

if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG



# Is this a DAG?

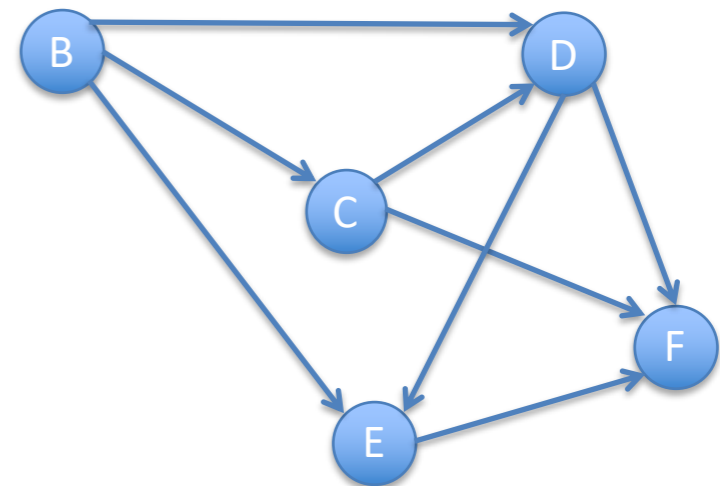
- How do we tell if a directed graph is acyclic?
  - If a node has indegree 0, it can't be part of a cycle.
  - Edges coming from that node also can't be part of a cycle.

Algorithm:

while there is a node with indegree 0:

delete the node and all edges coming from it

if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG



# Is this a DAG?

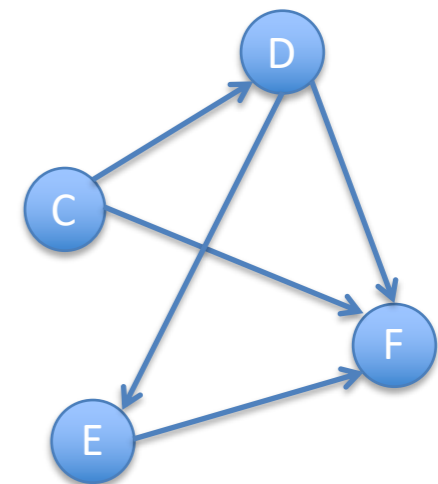
- How do we tell if a directed graph is acyclic?
  - If a node has indegree 0, it can't be part of a cycle.
  - Edges coming from that node also can't be part of a cycle.

Algorithm:

while there is a node with indegree 0:

delete the node and all edges coming from it

if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG



# Is this a DAG?

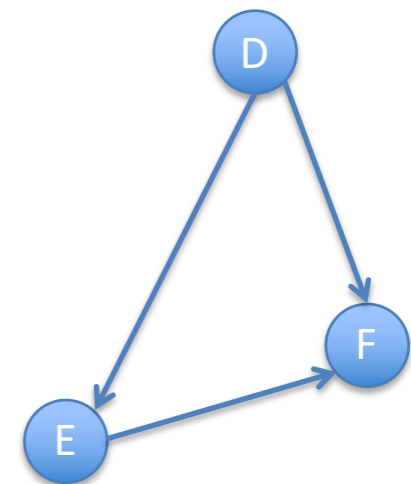
- How do we tell if a directed graph is acyclic?
  - If a node has indegree 0, it can't be part of a cycle.
  - Edges coming from that node also can't be part of a cycle.

Algorithm:

while there is a node with indegree 0:

delete the node and all edges coming from it

if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG



# Is this a DAG?

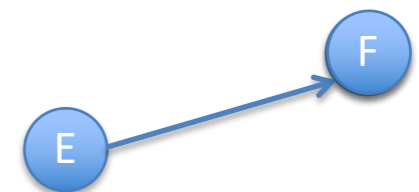
- How do we tell if a directed graph is acyclic?
  - If a node has indegree 0, it can't be part of a cycle.
  - Edges coming from that node also can't be part of a cycle.

Algorithm:

while there is a node with indegree 0:

delete the node and all edges coming from it

if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG



# Is this a DAG?

- How do we tell if a directed graph is acyclic?
  - If a node has indegree 0, it can't be part of a cycle.
  - Edges coming from that node also can't be part of a cycle.

Algorithm:

while there is a node with indegree 0:

    delete the node and all edges coming from it

if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG



# Topological Sort

Topological sort (or toposort):

$i = 0$

while there is a node with indegree 0:

    delete\* the node and all edges coming from it

    label\* the deleted node  $i$

    increment  $i$

if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG

# Topological Sort

Topological sort (or toposort):

$i = 0$

while there is a node with indegree 0:

**delete\*** the node and all edges coming from it

**label\*** the deleted node  $i$

increment  $i$

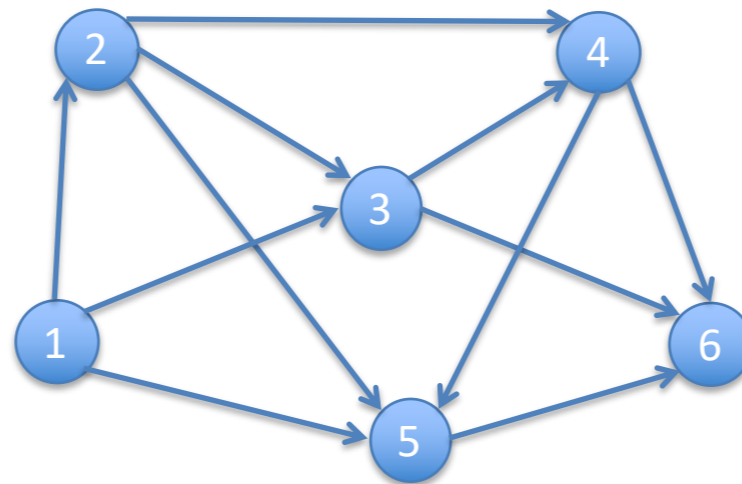
if the graph is empty, the original graph was a DAG

**\*This is pseudocode: we probably don't want to actually modify the graph. We'll need to store extra data with nodes and edges, and possibly overlay additional data structures to make it efficient.**



# Topological Sort

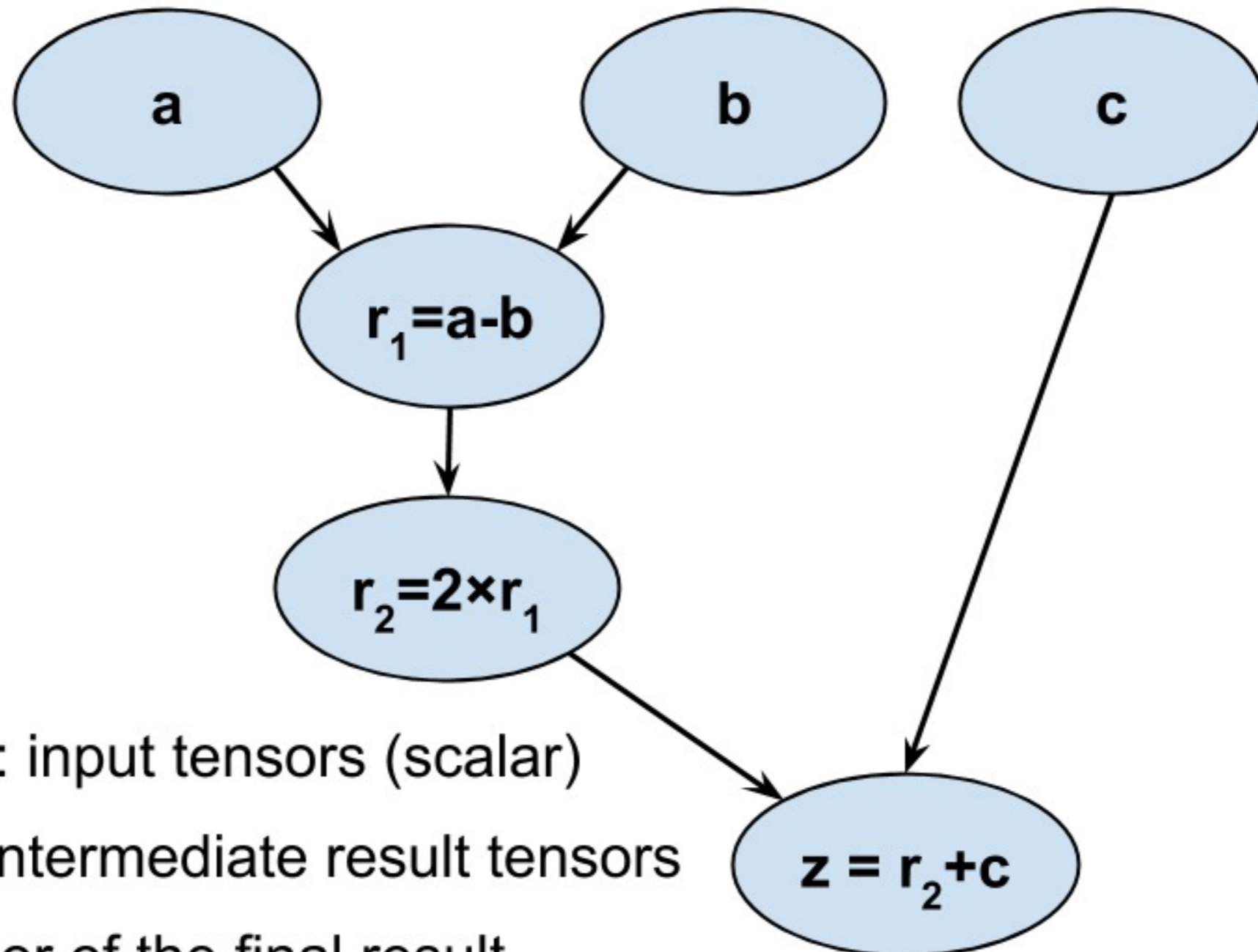
- Here are the labels we applied to the example graph:



- Property: all edges go from a lower-numbered node to a higher-numbered node.
- Useful for dependency resolution, job scheduling,
- Ordering is not necessarily unique: could have chosen from among multiple nodes with indegree 0.

# Tensorflow Computation Graphs

Computation graph implementing  
the equation  $z = 2 \times (a - b) + c$



**a, b, c:** input tensors (scalar)

**r<sub>1</sub>, r<sub>2</sub>:** intermediate result tensors

**z:** tensor of the final result