# CSE 421: Introduction to Algorithms

### **Greedy Algorithms**

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### **Greedy Algorithms**

- Hard to define exactly but can give general properties
  - Solution is built in small steps
  - Decisions on how to build the solution are made to maximize some criterion without looking to the future
    - Want the 'best' current partial solution as if the current step were the last step
- May be more than one greedy algorithm using different criteria to solve a given problem

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### **Greedy Algorithms**

- Greedy algorithms
  - Easy to produce
  - Fast running times
  - Work only on certain classes of problems
- Two methods for proving that greedy algorithms do work
  - Greedy algorithm stays ahead
    - At each step any other algorithm will have a worse value for the criterion
  - Exchange Argument
    - Can transform any other solution to the greedy solution at no loss in quality

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### **Interval Scheduling**

- Interval Scheduling
  - Single resource
  - Reservation requests
    - Of form "Can I reserve it from start time s to finish time f?"
    - s < f
  - Find: maximum number of requests that can be scheduled so that no two reservations have the resource at the same time

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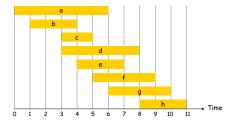
### Interval scheduling

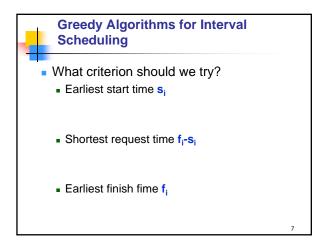
- Formally
  - Requests 1,2,...,n
    - request i has start time s; and finish time f; > s;
  - Requests i and j are compatible iff either
    - request i is for a time entirely before request j
      - $f_i \leq s_i$
    - or, request j is for a time entirely before request i
    - f<sub>i</sub> ≤ S<sub>i</sub>
  - Set A of requests is compatible iff every pair of requests i,j∈ A, i≠j is compatible
  - Goal: Find maximum size subset A of compatible requests

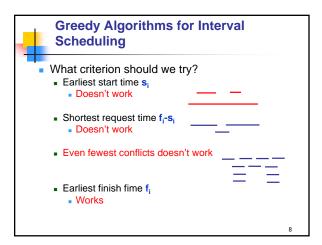
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### **Interval Scheduling**

- Interval scheduling.
  - Job j starts at s<sub>j</sub> and finishes at f<sub>j</sub>.
  - Two jobs compatible if they don't overlap.
  - Goal: find maximum subset of mutually compatible jobs.







Greedy Algorithm for Interval
Scheduling

R←set of all requests
A←∅

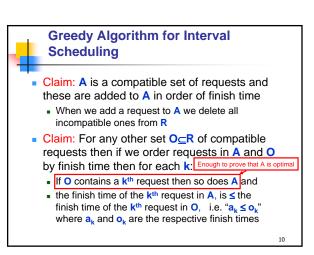
While R≠∅ do

Choose request i∈ R with smallest
finishing time f<sub>i</sub>

Add request i to A

Delete all requests in R that are not
compatible with request i

Return A



Inductive Proof of Claim: a<sub>k</sub>≤o<sub>k</sub>

■ Base Case: This is true for the first request in A since that is the one with the smallest finish time

■ Inductive Step: Suppose a<sub>k</sub>≤o<sub>k</sub>

■ By definition of compatibility

■ If O contains a k+1<sup>st</sup> request r then the start time of that request must be after o<sub>k</sub> and thus after a<sub>k</sub>

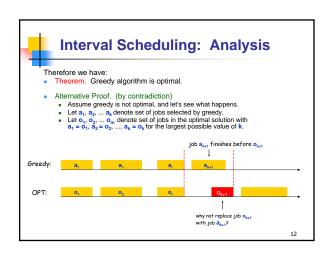
■ Thus r is compatible with the first k requests in A

■ Therefore

■ A has at least k+1 requests since a compatible one is available after the first k are chosen

■ r was among those considered by the greedy algorithm for that k+1<sup>st</sup> request in A

■ Therefore by the greedy choice the finish time of r which is o<sub>k+1</sub> is at least the finish time of that k+1<sup>st</sup> request in A which is a<sub>k+1</sub>





### Implementing the Greedy Algorithm

- Sort the requests by finish time
  - O(nlog n) time
- Maintain current latest finish time scheduled
- Keep array of start times indexed by request number
- Only eliminate incompatible requests as needed
  - Walk along array of requests sorted by finish times skipping those whose start time is before current latest finish time scheduled
  - O(n) additional time for greedy algorithm

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Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithm Implementation O(n \log n) \quad \text{sort jobs by finish times so that } 0 \le f_1 \le f_2 \le \ldots \le f_n.
O(n) \quad \begin{cases} \lambda \leftarrow \phi \\ \text{last } \leftarrow 0 \\ \text{for } j = 1 \text{ to } n \end{cases}
\int_{\lambda \leftarrow \lambda} (j) \int_{\text{last } \leftarrow f_j} (j) \int_{\text{return } \lambda} (j) \int_{\text{return
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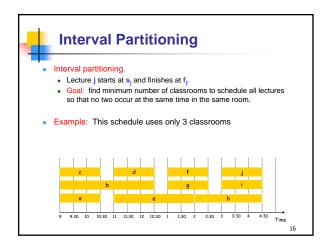
Scheduling All Intervals:
Interval Partitioning.

Interval partitioning.

Lecture j starts at s<sub>j</sub> and finishes at f<sub>j</sub>.

Goal: find minimum number of classrooms to schedule all lectures so that no two occur at the same time in the same room.

Example: This schedule uses 4 classrooms to schedule 10 lectures.





### Scheduling all intervals

- Interval Partitioning Problem: We have resources to serve more than one request at once and want to schedule all the intervals using as few of our resources as possible
- Obvious requirement: At least the depth of the set of requests



Interval Partitioning: Lower Bound on Optimal Solution

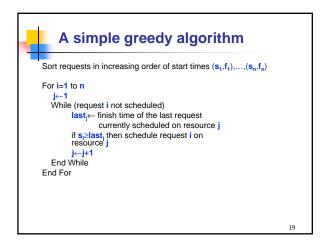
■ Definition. The depth of a set of open intervals is the maximum number that contain any given time.

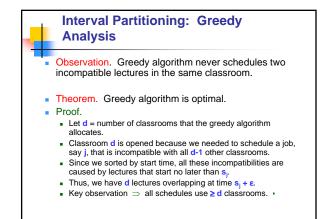
■ Key observation. Number of classrooms needed ≥ depth.

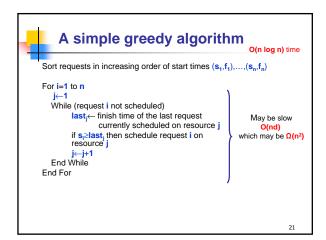
■ Ex: Depth of schedule below = 3 ⇒ schedule below is optimal.

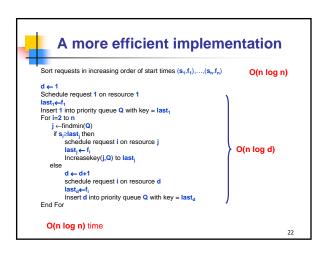
■ Compared to the depth of schedule below = 3 ⇒ schedule below is optimal.

■ Q. Does there always exist a schedule equal to depth of intervals?











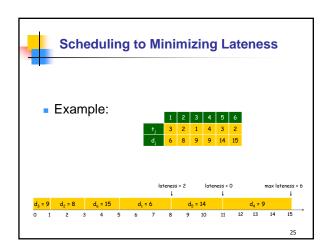
### **Greedy Analysis Strategies**

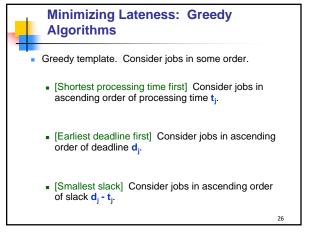
- Greedy algorithm stays ahead. Show that after each step of the greedy algorithm, its solution is at least as good as any other algorithm's.
- Exchange argument. Gradually transform any solution to the one found by the greedy algorithm without hurting its quality.
- Structural. Discover a simple "structural" bound asserting that every possible solution must have a certain value. Then show that your algorithm always achieves this bound.

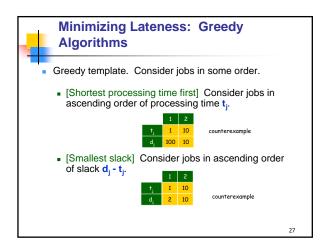
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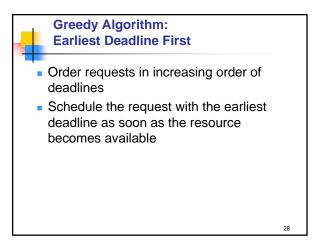
### Scheduling to Minimize Lateness

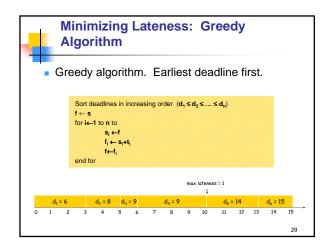
- Scheduling to minimize lateness
- Single resource as in interval scheduling but instead of start and finish times request i has
  - Time requirement  $\mathbf{t}_i$  which must be scheduled in a contiguous block
  - Target deadline  $\mathbf{d}_{\mathbf{i}}$  by which time the request would like to be finished
  - Overall start time s
- Requests are scheduled by the algorithm into time intervals  $[\boldsymbol{s}_i, f_i]$  such that  $t_i = f_i s_i$
- Lateness of schedule for request i is
- If  $d_i < f_i$  then request i is late by  $L_i = f_i \text{--} d_i$  otherwise its lateness  $L_i = 0$
- Maximum lateness L=max<sub>i</sub> L<sub>i</sub>
   Goal: Find a schedule for all requests (values of s<sub>i</sub> and f<sub>i</sub> for each request i) to minimize the maximum lateness, L

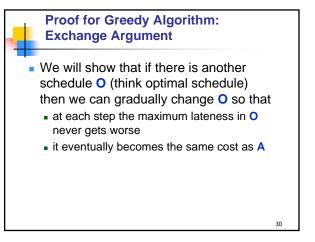


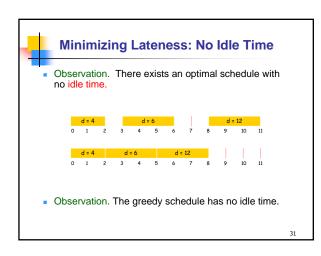


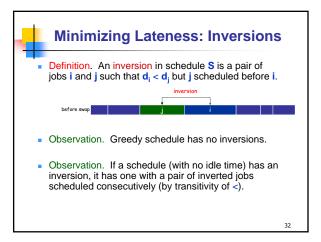


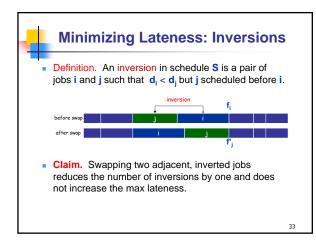


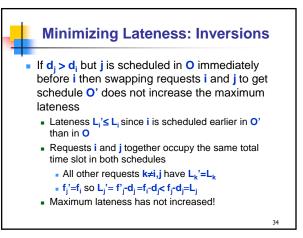


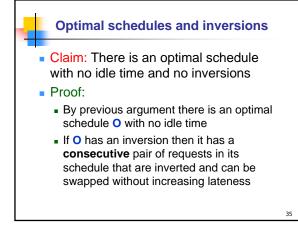


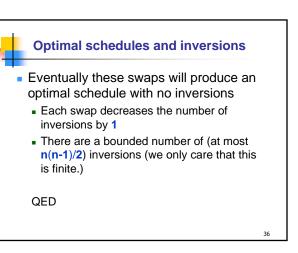














### Idleness and Inversions are the only

- Claim: All schedules with no inversions and no idle time have the same maximum lateness
- Proof
  - Schedules can differ only in how they order requests with equal deadlines
  - Consider all requests having some common deadline d
  - Maximum lateness of these jobs is based only on the finish time of the last of these jobs but the set of these requests occupies the same time segment in both schedules
    - Last of these requests finishes at the same time in any such schedule.

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### Earliest Deadline First is optimal

- We know that
  - There is an optimal schedule with no idle time or inversions
  - All schedules with no idle time or inversions have the same maximum lateness
  - EDF produces a schedule with no idle time or inversions
- Therefore
  - EDF produces an optimal schedule

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### **Optimal Caching/Paging**

- Memory systems
  - many levels of storage with different access times
  - smaller storage has shorter access time
  - to access an item it must be brought to the lowest level of the memory system
- Consider the management problem between adjacent levels
  - Main memory with n data items from a set U
  - Cache can hold k<n items
  - Simplest version with no direct-mapping or other restrictions about where items can be
  - Suppose cache is full initially
    - Holds k data items to start with

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### **Optimal Caching/Paging**

- Given a memory request d from U
  - If d is stored in the cache we can access it quickly
  - If not then we call it a cache miss and (since the cache is full)
    - we must bring it into cache and evict some other data item from the cache
    - which one to evict?
- Given a sequence D=d<sub>1</sub>,d<sub>2</sub>,...,d<sub>m</sub> of elements from U corresponding to memory requests
- Find a sequence of evictions (an eviction schedule) that has as few cache misses as possible

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### **Caching Example**

- n=3, k=2, U={a,b,c}
- Cache initially contains {a,b}
- D=abcbcab
- S=
- a
- C=a
- b

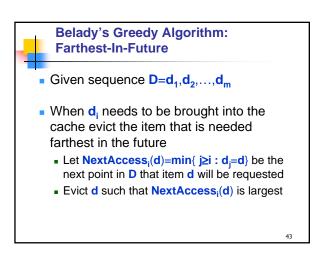


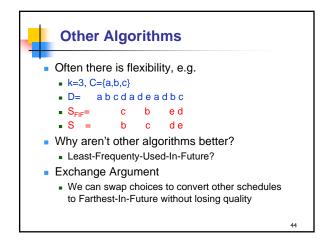
This is optimal

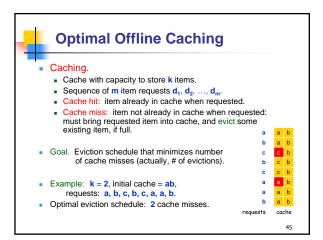


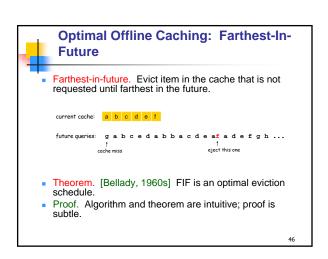
### A Note on Optimal Caching

- In real operating conditions one typically needs an on-line algorithm
  - make the eviction decisions as each memory request arrives
- However to design and analyze these algorithms it is also important to understand how the best possible decisions can be made if one did know the future
  - Field of on-line algorithms compares the quality of on-line decisions to that of the optimal schedule
- What does an optimal schedule look like?

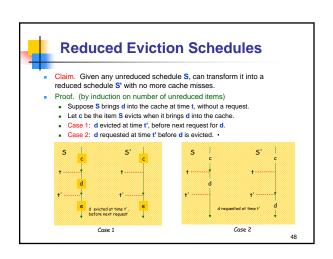


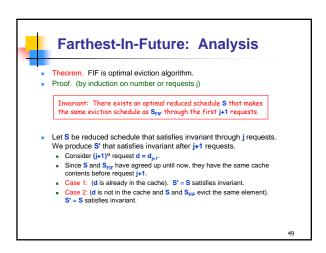


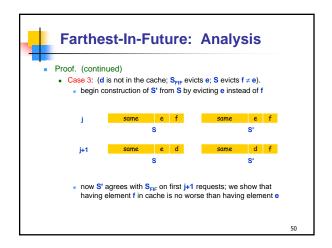


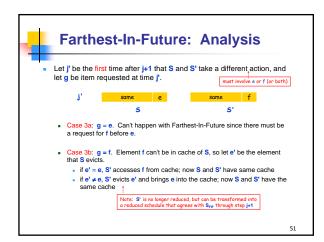


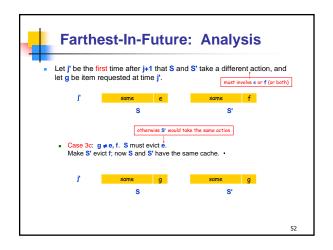


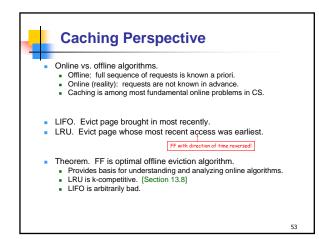


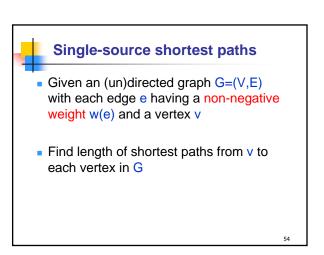


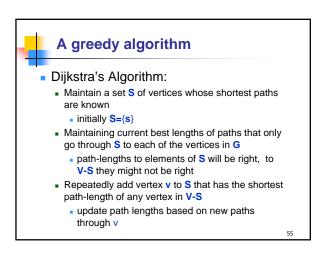


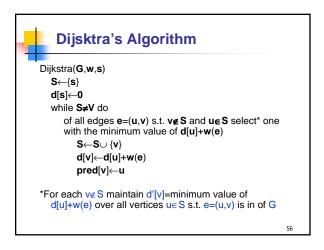


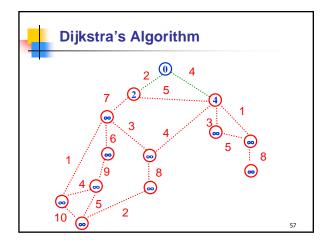


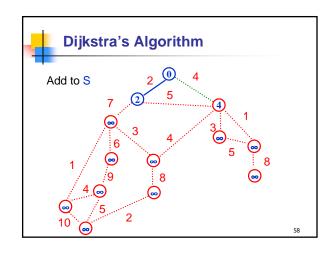


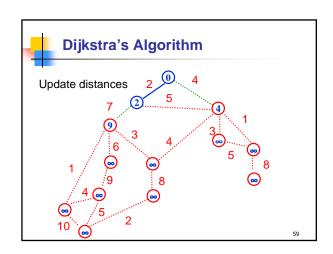


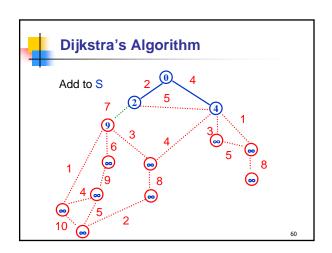


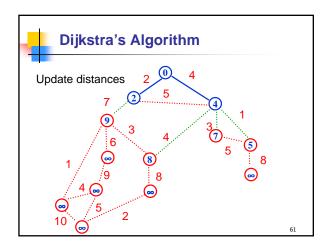


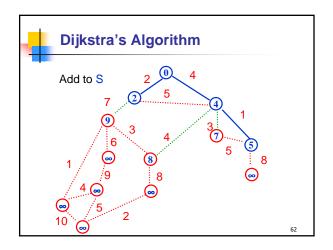


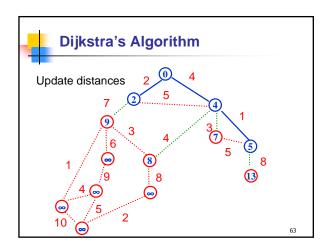


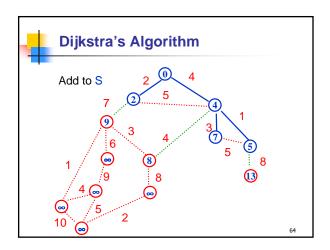


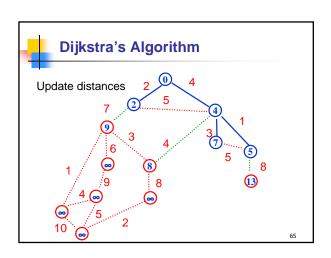


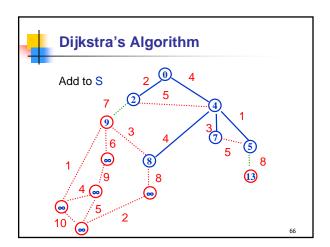


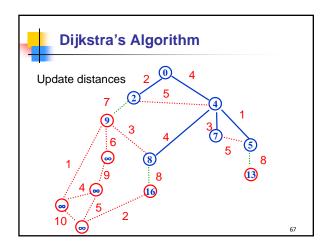


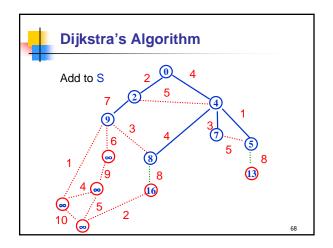


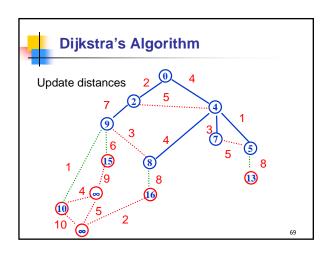


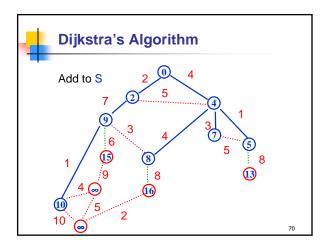


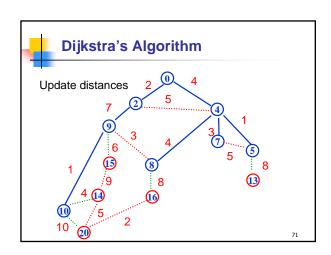


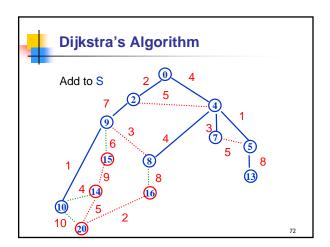


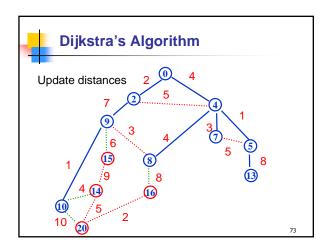


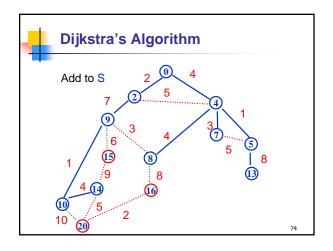


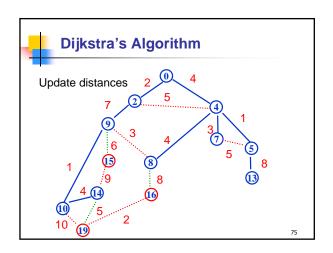


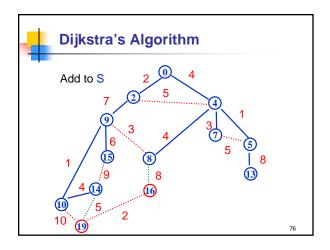


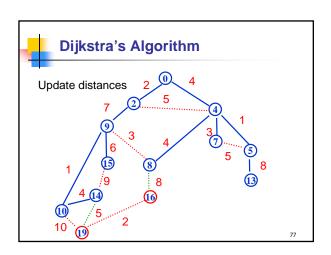


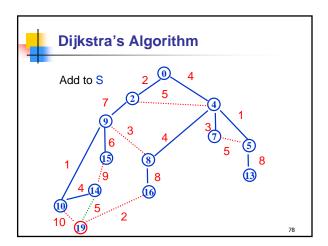


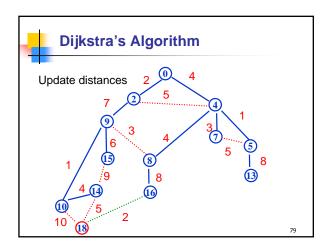


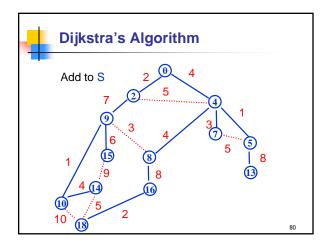


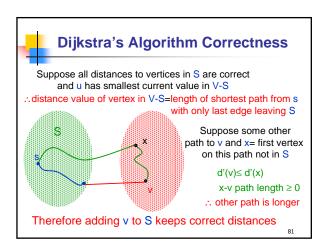


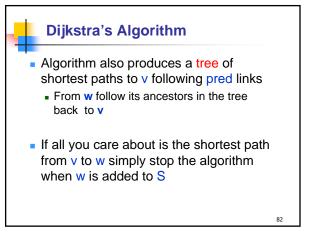


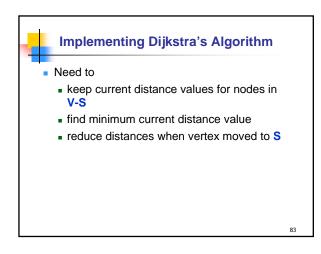


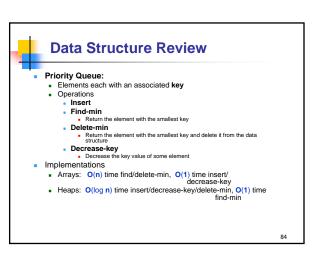














# Dijkstra's Algorithm with Priority Queues

- For each vertex **u** not in tree maintain cost of current cheapest path through tree to **u**
- Store u in priority queue with key = length of this path
- Operations:
  - n-1 insertions (each vertex added once)
  - n-1 delete-mins (each vertex deleted once)
    - pick the vertex of smallest key, remove it from the priority queue and add its edge to the graph
  - <m decrease-keys (each edge updates one vertex)</p>

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# Dijskstra's Algorithm with Priority Queues

- Priority queue implementations
  - Array
    - insert O(1), delete-min O(n), decrease-key O(1)
    - total O(n+n²+m)=O(n²)
  - Heap
  - insert, delete-min, decrease-key all O(log n)
  - total O(m log n)
  - d-Heap (d=m/n)
    - insert, decrease-key O(log<sub>m/n</sub> n)
    - delete-min O((m/n) log<sub>m/n</sub> n)
    - total O(m log<sub>m/n</sub> n)

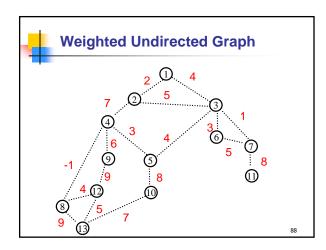
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### **Minimum Spanning Trees (Forests)**

- Given an undirected graph G=(V,E) with each edge e having a weight w(e)
- Find a subgraph T of G of minimum total weight s.t. every pair of vertices connected in G are also connected in T
  - if G is connected then T is a tree otherwise it is a forest

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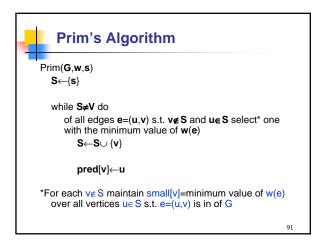
### **Greedy Algorithm**

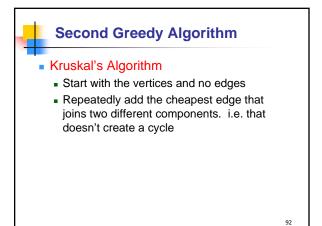
### Prim's Algorithm:

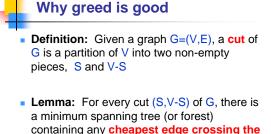
- start at a vertex s
- add the cheapest edge adjacent to s
- repeatedly add the cheapest edge that joins the vertices explored so far to the rest of the graph
- Exactly like Dijsktra's Algorithm but with a different metric

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# Dijsktra's Algorithm Dijkstra(G,w,s) S ← {s} d[s] ← 0 while S≠V do of all edges e=(u,v) s.t. v∉S and u∈S select\* one with the minimum value of d[u]+w(e) S←S ∪ {v} d[v] ← d[u]+w(e) pred[v] ← u \*For each v∉S maintain d'[v]=minimum value of d[u]+w(e) over all vertices u∈S s.t. e=(u,v) is in of G





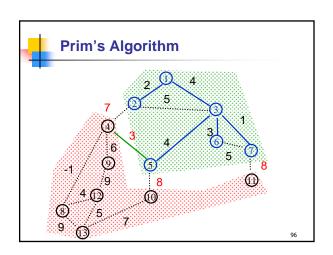


Lemma: For every cut (S,V-S) of G, there is a minimum spanning tree (or forest) containing any cheapest edge crossing the cut, i.e. connecting some node in S with some node in V-S.
 call such an edge safe

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The greedy algorithms always choose safe edges

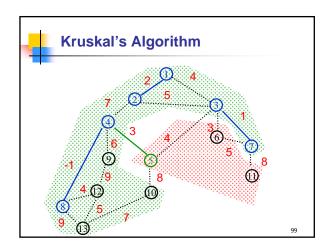
Prim's Algorithm
Always chooses cheapest edge from current tree to rest of the graph
This is cheapest edge across a cut which has the vertices of that tree on one side.

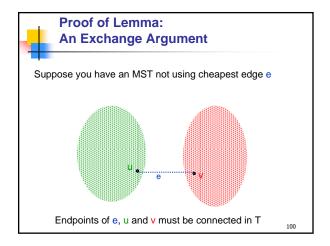


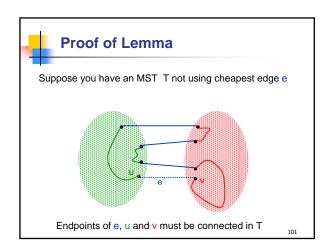
# The greedy algorithms always choose safe edges

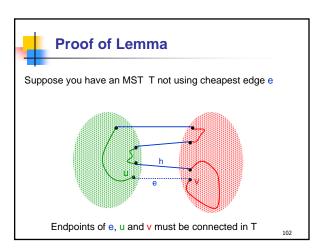
### Kruskal's Algorithm

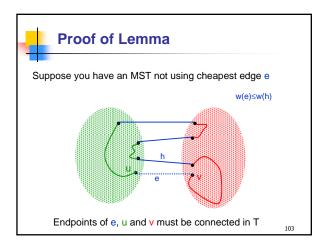
- Always chooses cheapest edge connecting two pieces of the graph that aren't yet connected
- This is the cheapest edge across any cut which has those two pieces on different sides and doesn't split any current pieces.

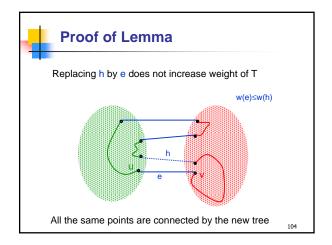














# Kruskal's Algorithm Implementation & Analysis

- First sort the edges by weight O(m log m)
- Go through edges from smallest to largest
  - if endpoints of edge e are currently in different components
    - then add to the graph
    - else skip
- Union-find data structure handles last part
- Total cost of last part: O(m α(n)) where α(n)<< log m</li>
- Overall O(m log n)

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# Union-find disjoint sets data structure

- Maintaining components
  - start with n different components
    - one per vertex
  - find components of the two endpoints of e
    - 2m finds
  - union two components when edge connecting them is added
    - n-1 unions

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# Prim's Algorithm with Priority Queues

- For each vertex u not in tree maintain current cheapest edge from tree to u
  - Store u in priority queue with key = weight of this edge
- Operations:
  - n-1 insertions (each vertex added once)
  - n-1 delete-mins (each vertex deleted once)
    - pick the vertex of smallest key, remove it from the p.q. and add its edge to the graph
  - <m decrease-keys (each edge updates one vertex)</p>

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# Prim's Algorithm with Priority Queues

- Priority queue implementations
  - Array
    - insert O(1), delete-min O(n), decrease-key O(1)
  - total O(n+n²+m)=O(n²)
  - Heap
    - insert, delete-min, decrease-key all O(log n)
    - total O(m log n)
  - d-Heap (d=m/n)
    - insert, decrease-key O(log<sub>m/n</sub> n)
    - delete-min O((m/n) log<sub>m/n</sub> n)
    - total O(m log<sub>m/n</sub> n)



### Boruvka's Algorithm (1927)

- A bit like Kruskal's Algorithm
  - Start with n components consisting of a single vertex each
  - At each step, each component chooses its cheapest outgoing edge to add to the spanning forest
    - Two components may choose to add the same edge
  - Useful for parallel algorithms since components may be processed (almost) independently

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# Many other minimum spanning tree algorithms, most of them greedy

- Cheriton & Tarjan
  - O(m loglog n) time using a queue of components
- Chazelle
  - $O(m \alpha(m) \log \alpha(m))$  time
    - Incredibly hairy algorithm
- Karger, Klein & Tarjan
  - O(m+n) time randomized algorithm that works most of the time

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### Applications of Minimum Spanning Tree Algorithms

- Minimum cost network design:
  - Build a network to connect all locations {v<sub>1</sub>,...,v<sub>n</sub>}
  - Cost of connecting  $v_i$  to  $v_i$  is  $w(v_i, v_i) > 0$
  - Choose a collection of links to create that will be as cheap as possible
  - Any minimum cost solution is an MST
    - If there is a solution containing a cycle then we can remove any edge and get a cheaper solution

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# Applications of Minimum Spanning Tree Algorithms

- Maximum Spacing Clustering
  - Given
  - a collection U of n objects {p<sub>1</sub>,...,p<sub>n</sub>}
    - Distance measure d(p<sub>i</sub>,p<sub>i</sub>) satisfying
      - $= d(p_i, p_i) = 0$
      - $d(p_i,p_i)>0$  for  $i\neq j$
    - d(p<sub>i</sub>,p<sub>j</sub>)=d(p<sub>j</sub>,p<sub>i</sub>)
       Positive integer k≤n
  - Find a k-clustering, i.e. partition of U into k clusters C<sub>1</sub>,...,C<sub>k</sub>, such that the spacing between the clusters is as large possible where
    - spacing =  $min\{d(p_i,p_j): p_i \text{ and } p_j \text{ in different clusters}\}$

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### **Greedy Algorithm**

- Start with n clusters each consisting of a single point
- Repeatedly find the closest pair of points in different clusters under distance d and merge their clusters until only k clusters remain
- Gets the same components as Kruskal's Algorithm does!
  - The sequence of closest pairs is exactly the MST
- Alternatively we could run Kruskal's algorithm once and for any k we could get the maximum spacing k-clustering by deleting the k-1 most expensive edges

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### **Proof that this works**

- Removing the k-1 most expensive edges from an MST yields k components C<sub>1</sub>,...,C<sub>k</sub> and the spacing for them is precisely the cost d\* of the k-1st most expensive edge in the tree
- Consider any other k-clustering C'<sub>1</sub>,...,C'<sub>k</sub>
  - Since they are different and cover the same set of points there is some pair of points p<sub>i</sub>,p<sub>j</sub> such that p<sub>i</sub>,p<sub>j</sub> are in some cluster C<sub>r</sub> but p<sub>i</sub>, p<sub>j</sub> are in different clusters C'<sub>s</sub> and C'<sub>t</sub>
    - Since p<sub>i</sub>,p<sub>j</sub> ∈ C<sub>r</sub>, p<sub>j</sub> and p<sub>j</sub> have a path between them all of whose edges have distance at most d\*
    - This path must cross between clusters in the C' clustering so the spacing in C' is at most d\*

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