



CSE332: Data Abstractions  
Lecture 23: Minimum Spanning Trees

Ruth Anderson  
Winter 2011

Announcements

- **Homework 7** – due NOW at the BEGINNING of lecture!
- **Homework 8** – coming soon, due Friday March 11<sup>th</sup> at the BEGINNING of lecture!
- **Project 3** – the last programming project!
  - ALL Code - Tues March 8, 2011 11PM - (65% of overall grade):
  - Writeup - Thursday March 10, 2011, 11PM - (25% of overall grade)

“Scheduling note”

- “We now return to our interrupted program” on graphs
  - Last “graph lecture” was lecture 16
    - Shortest-path problem
    - Dijkstra’s algorithm for graphs with non-negative weights
- Why this strange schedule?
  - Needed to do parallelism and concurrency in time for project 3 and homeworks 6 and 7
  - But cannot delay all of graphs because of the CSE312 co-requisite
- So: not the most logical order, but hopefully not a big deal

Minimum Spanning Trees

Given an undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ , find a graph  $G'=(V, E')$  such that:

- $E'$  is a subset of  $E$
- $|E'| = |V| - 1$
- $G'$  is connected

**$G'$  is a minimum spanning tree.**

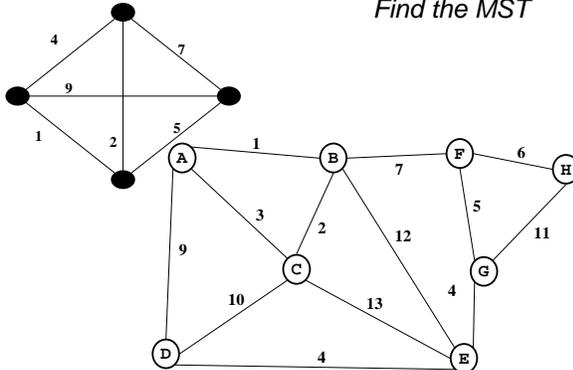
–  $\sum_{(u,v) \in E'} c_{uv}$  is minimal

Applications:

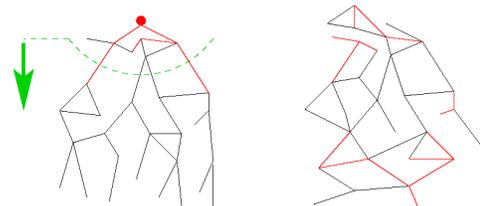
- Example: Electrical wiring for a house or clock wires on a chip
- Example: A road network if you cared about asphalt cost rather than travel time

Student Activity

Find the MST



Two Different Approaches



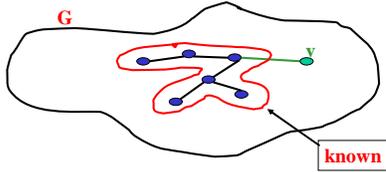
**Prim's Algorithm**  
Almost identical to Dijkstra's

**Kruskals's Algorithm**  
Completely different!

## Prim's algorithm

**Idea:** Grow a tree by picking a vertex from the unknown set that has the smallest cost. Here cost = cost of the edge that connects that vertex to the known set. *Pick the vertex with the smallest cost that connects "known" to "unknown."*

**A node-based greedy algorithm**  
Builds MST by greedily adding nodes



3/04/2011

7

## Prim's Algorithm vs. Dijkstra's

Recall:

Dijkstra picked the unknown vertex with smallest cost where cost = **distance to the source**.

Prim's pick the unknown vertex with smallest cost where cost = **distance from this vertex to the known set** (in other words, the cost of the smallest edge connecting this vertex to the known set)

- Otherwise identical
- Compare to slides in lecture 16!

3/04/2011

8

## Prim's Algorithm for MST

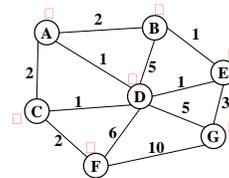
- For each node  $v$ , set  $v.cost = \infty$  and  $v.known = false$
- Choose any node  $v$ . (this is like your "start" vertex in Dijkstra)
  - Mark  $v$  as known
  - For each edge  $(v, u)$  with weight  $w$ :  
set  $u.cost = w$  and  $u.prev = v$
- While there are unknown nodes in the graph
  - Select the unknown node  $v$  with lowest **cost**
  - Mark  $v$  as known and add  $(v, v.prev)$  to output (the MST)
  - For each edge  $(v, u)$  with weight  $w$ ,
 

```
if(w < u.cost) {
                        u.cost = w;
                        u.prev = v;
                    }
```

3/04/2011

9

## Example: Find MST using Prim's

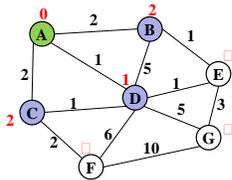


vertex	known?	cost	prev
A		??	
B		??	
C		??	
D		??	
E		??	
F		??	
G		??	

3/04/2011

10

## Example: Find MST using Prim's

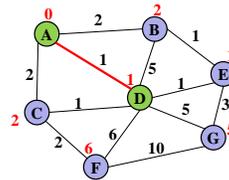


vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C		2	A
D		1	A
E		??	
F		??	
G		??	

3/04/2011

11

## Example: Find MST using Prim's

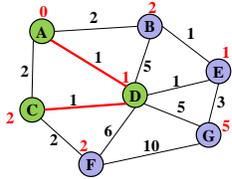


vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C		1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		6	D
G		5	D

3/04/2011

12

Example: Find MST using Prim's

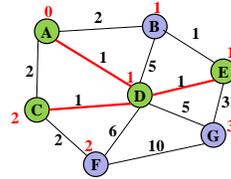


vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		2	C
G		5	D

3/04/2011

13

Example: Find MST using Prim's

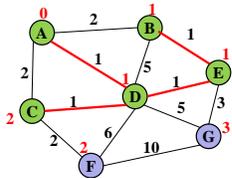


vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

3/04/2011

14

Example: Find MST using Prim's

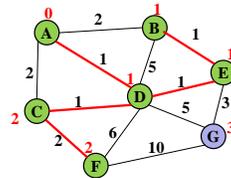


vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

3/04/2011

15

Example: Find MST using Prim's

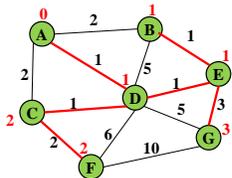


vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F	Y	2	C
G		3	E

3/04/2011

16

Example: Find MST using Prim's



vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F	Y	2	C
G	Y	3	E

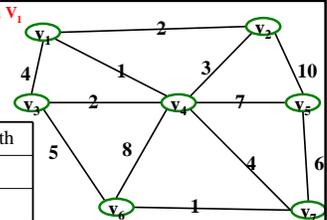
3/04/2011

17

Student Activity

Start with  $V_1$

Find MST using Prim's



Order Declared Known:  
 $V_1$

V	Kwn	Distance	path
v1			
v2			
v3			
v4			
v5			
v6			
v7			

3/04/2011

18

## Prim's Analysis

- Correctness ??
  - A bit tricky
  - Intuitively similar to Dijkstra
  - Might return to this time permitting (unlikely)
- Run-time
  - Same as Dijkstra
  - $O(|E|\log |V|)$  using a priority queue

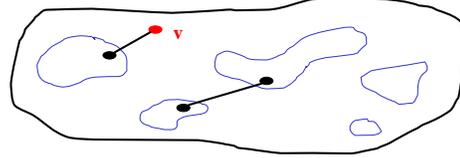
3/04/2011

19

## Kruskal's MST Algorithm

**Idea:** Grow a forest out of edges that do not create a cycle. Pick an edge with the smallest weight.

$G=(V,E)$



3/04/2011

20

## Kruskal's Algorithm for MST

**An edge-based greedy algorithm**  
Builds MST by greedily adding edges

1. Initialize with
  - empty MST
  - all vertices marked unconnected
  - all edges unmarked
2. While there are still unmarked edges
  - a. Pick the **lowest cost edge**  $(u,v)$  and mark it
  - b. If  $u$  and  $v$  are not already connected, add  $(u,v)$  to the MST and mark  $u$  and  $v$  as connected to each other

3/04/2011

21

## Aside: Union-Find aka Disjoint Set ADT

- **Union(x,y)** – take the union of two sets named  $x$  and  $y$ 
  - Given sets:  $\{3,5,7\}$ ,  $\{4,2,8\}$ ,  $\{9\}$ ,  $\{1,6\}$
  - **Union(5,1)**  
Result:  $\{3,5,7,1,6\}$ ,  $\{4,2,8\}$ ,  $\{9\}$
  - To perform the union operation, we replace sets  $x$  and  $y$  by  $(x \cup y)$
- **Find(x)** – return the name of the set containing  $x$ .
  - Given sets:  $\{3,5,7,1,6\}$ ,  $\{4,2,8\}$ ,  $\{9\}$
  - **Find(1)** returns 5
  - **Find(4)** returns 8
- We can do Union in constant time.
- We can get Find to be **amortized** constant time (worst case  $O(\log n)$  for an individual Find operation).

3/04/2011

22

## Kruskal's pseudo code

```

void Graph::kruskal(){
    int edgesAccepted = 0;
    DisjSet s(NUM_VERTICES);

    while (edgesAccepted < NUM_VERTICES - 1){
        e = smallest weight edge not deleted yet;
        // edge e = (u, v)
        uset = s.find(u);
        vset = s.find(v);
        if (uset != vset){
            edgesAccepted++;
            s.unionSets(uset, vset);
        }
    }
}
    
```

**[E] heap ops** (points to 'smallest weight edge not deleted yet')

**2|E| finds** (points to 'uset = s.find(u); vset = s.find(v);')

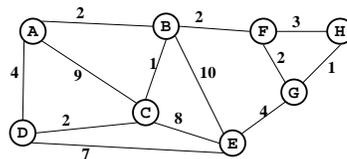
**|V| unions** (points to 's.unionSets(uset, vset);')

3/04/2011

23

## Student Activity

### Find MST using Kruskal's



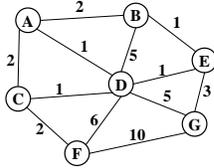
Total Cost:

- Now find the MST using Prim's method.
- Under what conditions will these methods give the same result?

3/04/2011

24

**Example: Find MST using Kruskal's**

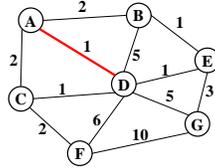


- Edges in sorted order:  
 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)  
 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)  
 3: (E,G)  
 5: (D,G), (B,D)  
 6: (D,F)  
 10: (F,G)

Output:

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

**Example: Find MST using Kruskal's**

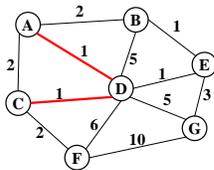


- Edges in sorted order:  
 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)  
 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)  
 3: (E,G)  
 5: (D,G), (B,D)  
 6: (D,F)  
 10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

**Example: Find MST using Kruskal's**

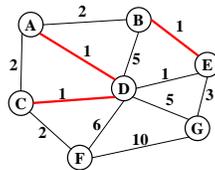


- Edges in sorted order:  
 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)  
 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)  
 3: (E,G)  
 5: (D,G), (B,D)  
 6: (D,F)  
 10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D), (C,D)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

**Example: Find MST using Kruskal's**

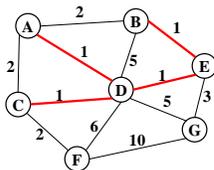


- Edges in sorted order:  
 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)  
 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)  
 3: (E,G)  
 5: (D,G), (B,D)  
 6: (D,F)  
 10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

**Example: Find MST using Kruskal's**

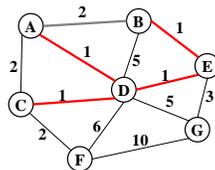


- Edges in sorted order:  
 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)  
 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)  
 3: (E,G)  
 5: (D,G), (B,D)  
 6: (D,F)  
 10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

**Example: Find MST using Kruskal's**

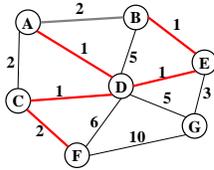


- Edges in sorted order:  
 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)  
 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)  
 3: (E,G)  
 5: (D,G), (B,D)  
 6: (D,F)  
 10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

### Example: Find MST using Kruskal's



- Edges in sorted order:
- 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
  - 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
  - 3: (E,G)
  - 5: (D,G), (B,D)
  - 6: (D,F)
  - 10: (F,G)

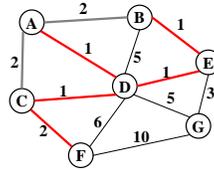
Output: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E), (C,F)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

3/04/2011

31

### Example: Find MST using Kruskal's



- Edges in sorted order:
- 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
  - 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
  - 3: (E,G)
  - 5: (D,G), (B,D)
  - 6: (D,F)
  - 10: (F,G)

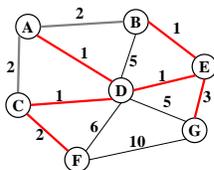
Output: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E), (C,F)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

3/04/2011

32

### Example: Find MST using Kruskal's



- Edges in sorted order:
- 1: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
  - 2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
  - 3: (E,G)
  - 5: (D,G), (B,D)
  - 6: (D,F)
  - 10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E), (C,F), (E,G)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

3/04/2011

33

### Correctness

Kruskal's algorithm is clever, simple, and efficient

- But does it generate a minimum spanning tree?
- How can we prove it?

First: it generates a spanning tree

- Intuition: Graph started connected and we added every edge that did not create a cycle
- Proof by contradiction: Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are disconnected in Kruskal's result. Then there's a path from  $u$  to  $v$  in the initial graph with an edge we could add without creating a cycle. But Kruskal would have added that edge. Contradiction.

Second: There is no spanning tree with lower total cost...

3/04/2011

34

### The inductive proof set-up

Let  $F$  (stands for "forest") be the set of edges Kruskal has added at some point during its execution.

Claim:  $F$  is a subset of *one or more* MSTs for the graph (Therefore, once  $|F|=|V|-1$ , we have an MST.)

Proof: By induction on  $|F|$

Base case:  $|F|=0$ : The empty set is a subset of all MSTs

Inductive case:  $|F|=k+1$ : By induction, before adding the  $(k+1)^{\text{th}}$  edge (call it  $e$ ), there was some MST  $T$  such that  $F-\{e\} \subseteq T$  ...

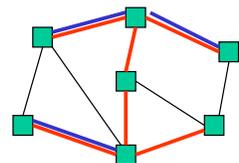
3/04/2011

35

### Staying a subset of *some* MST

Claim:  $F$  is a subset of *one or more* MSTs for the graph

So far:  $F-\{e\} \subseteq T$ :



Two disjoint cases:

- If  $\{e\} \subseteq T$ : Then  $F \subseteq T$  and we're done
- Else  $e$  forms a cycle with some simple path (call it  $p$ ) in  $T$ 
  - Must be since  $T$  is a spanning tree

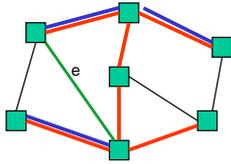
3/04/2011

36

### Staying a subset of **some** MST

Claim:  $F$  is a subset of *one or more* MSTs for the graph

So far:  $F - \{e\} \subseteq T$  and  $e$  forms a cycle with  $p \subseteq T$



- There must be an edge  $e2$  on  $p$  such that  $e2$  is not in  $F$ 
  - Else Kruskal would not have added  $e$
- Claim:  $e2.weight == e.weight$

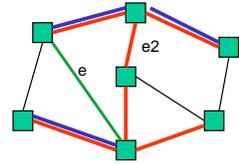
3/04/2011

37

### Staying a subset of **some** MST

Claim:  $F$  is a subset of *one or more* MSTs for the graph

So far:  $F - \{e\} \subseteq T$   
 $e$  forms a cycle with  $p \subseteq T$   
 $e2$  on  $p$  is not in  $F$



- Claim:  $e2.weight == e.weight$ 
  - If  $e2.weight > e.weight$ , then  $T$  is not an MST because  $T - \{e2\} + \{e\}$  is a spanning tree with lower cost: contradiction
  - If  $e2.weight < e.weight$ , then Kruskal would have already considered  $e2$ . It would have added it since  $T$  has no cycles and  $F - \{e\} \subseteq T$ . But  $e2$  is not in  $F$ : contradiction

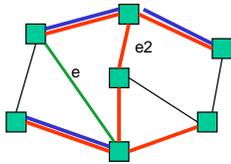
3/04/2011

38

### Staying a subset of **some** MST

Claim:  $F$  is a subset of *one or more* MSTs for the graph

So far:  $F - \{e\} \subseteq T$   
 $e$  forms a cycle with  $p \subseteq T$   
 $e2$  on  $p$  is not in  $F$   
 $e2.weight == e.weight$



- Claim:  $T - \{e2\} + \{e\}$  is an MST
    - It's a spanning tree because  $p - \{e2\} + \{e\}$  connects the same nodes as  $p$
    - It's minimal because its cost equals cost of  $T$ , an MST
  - Since  $F \subseteq T - \{e2\} + \{e\}$ ,  $F$  is a subset of one or more MSTs
- Done.

3/04/2011

39