

# Minimum Spanning Trees

- ▶ weighted graph API
- ▶ cycles and cuts
- ▶ Kruskal's algorithm
- ▶ Prim's algorithm
- ▶ advanced topics

References:

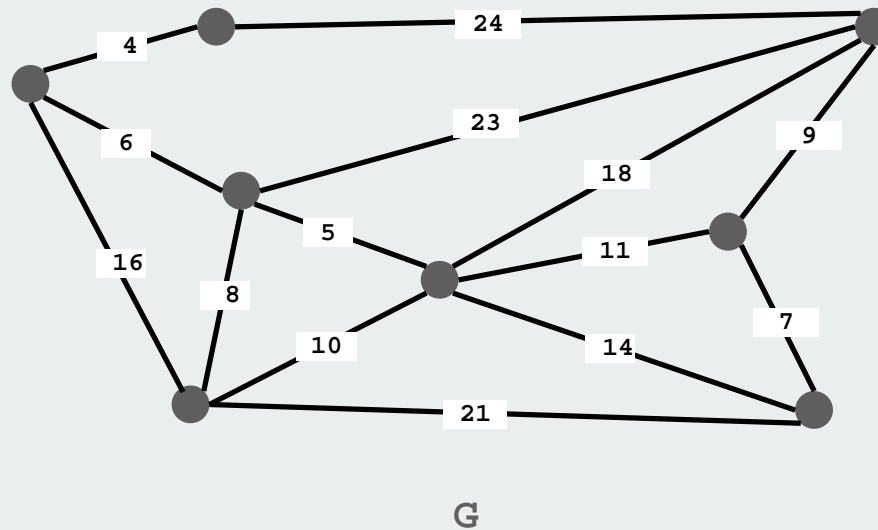
Algorithms in Java, Chapter 20

<http://www.cs.princeton.edu/introalgsds/54mst>

## Minimum Spanning Tree

**Given.** Undirected graph  $G$  with positive edge weights (connected).

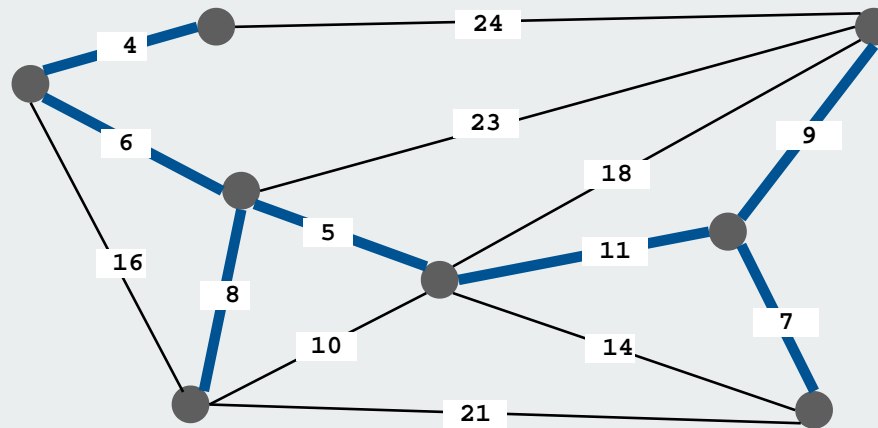
**Goal.** Find a min weight set of edges that connects all of the vertices.



## Minimum Spanning Tree

**Given.** Undirected graph  $G$  with positive edge weights (connected).

**Goal.** Find a min weight set of edges that connects all of the vertices.



$$\text{weight}(T) = 50 = 4 + 6 + 8 + 5 + 11 + 9 + 7$$

Brute force: Try all possible spanning trees

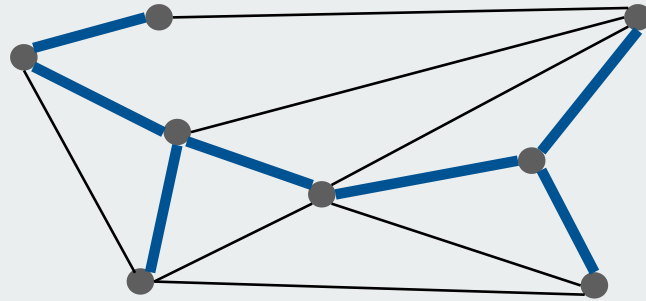
- problem 1: not so easy to implement
- problem 2: far too many of them

Ex: [Cayley, 1889]:  $V^{V-2}$  spanning trees on the complete graph on  $V$  vertices.

## MST Origin

### Otakar Boruvka (1926).

- Electrical Power Company of Western Moravia in Brno.
- Most economical construction of electrical power network.
- Concrete engineering problem is now a cornerstone problem-solving model in combinatorial optimization.



Otakar Boruvka

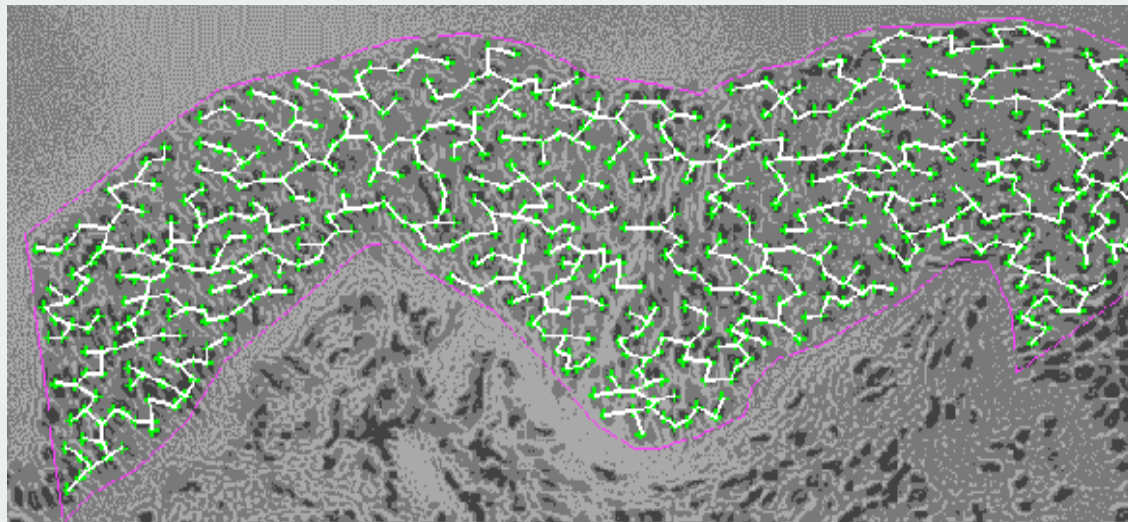
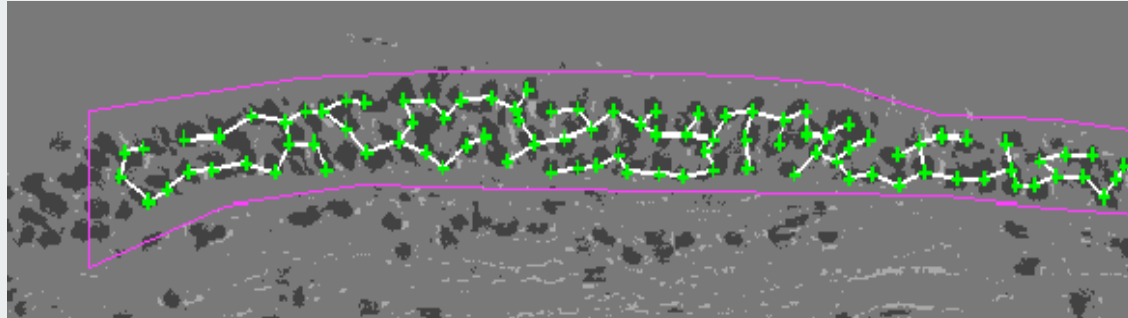
## Applications

MST is fundamental problem with diverse applications.

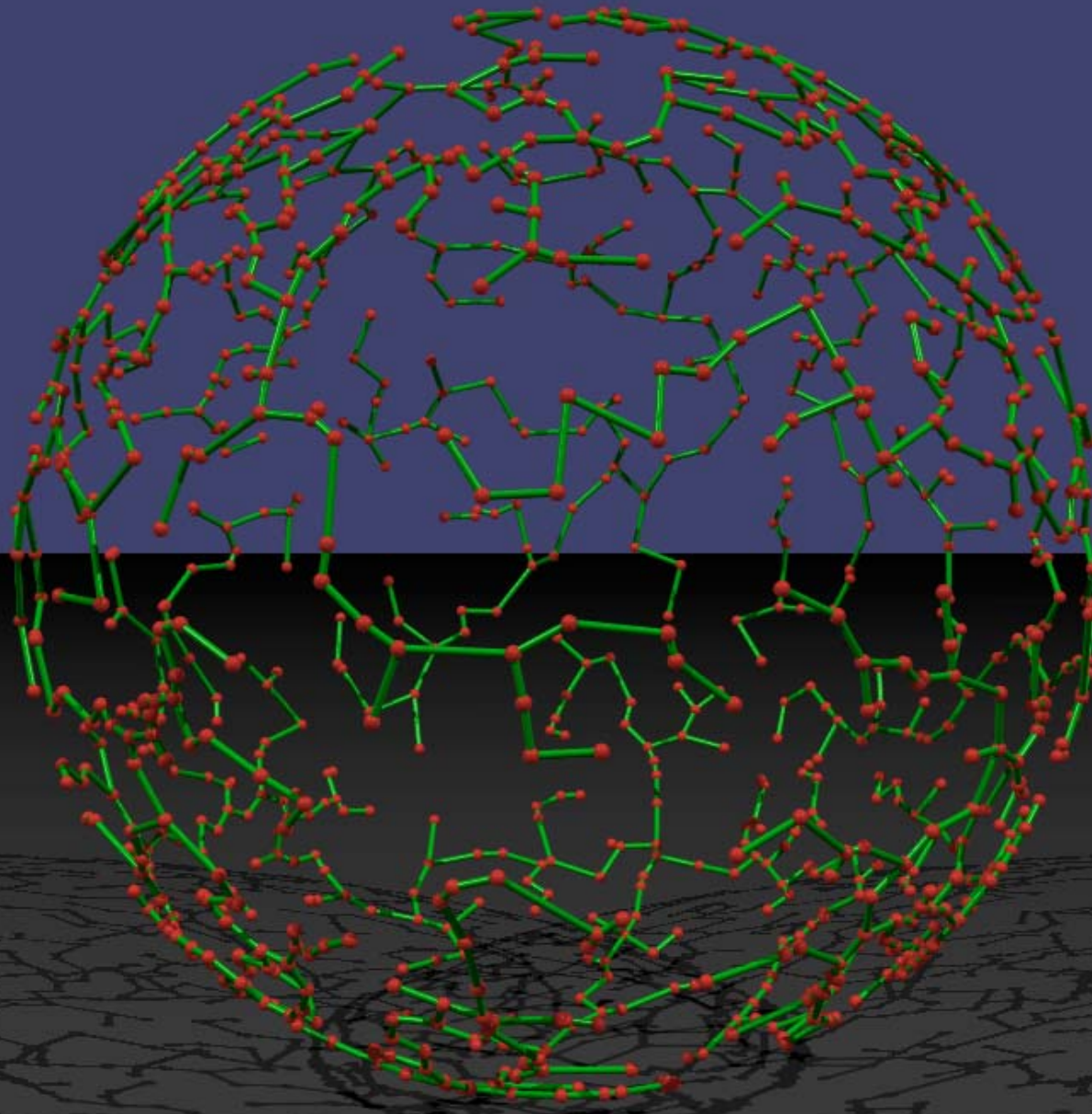
- Network design.  
telephone, electrical, hydraulic, TV cable, computer, road
- Approximation algorithms for NP-hard problems.  
traveling salesperson problem, Steiner tree
- Indirect applications.  
max bottleneck paths  
LDPC codes for error correction  
image registration with Renyi entropy  
learning salient features for real-time face verification  
reducing data storage in sequencing amino acids in a protein  
model locality of particle interactions in turbulent fluid flows  
autoconfig protocol for Ethernet bridging to avoid cycles in a network
- Cluster analysis.

# Medical Image Processing

MST describes arrangement of nuclei in the epithelium for cancer research



[http://www.bccrc.ca/ci/ta01\\_archlevel.html](http://www.bccrc.ca/ci/ta01_archlevel.html)



## Two Greedy Algorithms

**Kruskal's algorithm.** Consider edges in ascending order of cost. Add the next edge to  $T$  unless doing so would create a cycle.

**Prim's algorithm.** Start with any vertex  $s$  and greedily grow a tree  $T$  from  $s$ . At each step, add the cheapest edge to  $T$  that has exactly one endpoint in  $T$ .

**Proposition.** Both greedy algorithms compute an MST.

Greed is good. Greed is right. Greed works. Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the essence of the evolutionary spirit." - *Gordon Gecko*





▶ **weighted graph API**

- ▶ cycles and cuts
- ▶ Kruskal's algorithm
- ▶ Prim's algorithm
- ▶ advanced topics

## Weighted Graph API

```
public class WeightedGraph
```

---

<code>WeightedGraph(int V)</code>	<i>create an empty graph with V vertices</i>
<code>void insert(Edge e)</code>	<i>insert edge e</i>
<code>Iterable&lt;Edge&gt; adj(int v)</code>	<i>return an iterator over edges incident to v</i>
<code>int V()</code>	<i>return the number of vertices</i>
<code>String toString()</code>	<i>return a string representation</i>

*iterate through all edges (once in each direction)*

## Weighted graph data type

Identical to `Graph.java` but use `Edge` adjacency sets instead of `int`.

```
public class WeightedGraph
{
    private int V;
    private SET<Edge>[] adj;

    public Graph(int V)
    {
        this.V = V;
        adj = (SET<Edge>[]) new SET[V];
        for (int v = 0; v < V; v++)
            adj[v] = new SET<Edge>();
    }

    public void addEdge(Edge e)
    {
        int v = e.v, w = e.w;
        adj[v].add(e);
        adj[w].add(e);
    }

    public Iterable<Edge> adj(int v)
    { return adj[v]; }
}
```

## Weighted edge data type

```
public class Edge implements Comparable<Edge>
{
    private final int v, int w;
    private final double weight;

    public Edge(int v, int w, double weight)
    {
        this.v = v;
        this.w = w;
        this.weight = weight;
    }

    public int either()
    { return v; }

    public int other(int vertex)
    {
        if (vertex == v) return w;
        else return v;
    }

    public int weight()
    { return weight; }

    // See next slide for edge compare methods.

}
```

## Edge abstraction needed for weights

slightly tricky accessor methods  
(enables client code like this)

```
for (int v = 0; v < G.V(); v++)
{
    for (Edge e : G.adj(v))
    {
        int w = e.other(v);

        // edge v-w
    }
}
```

## Weighted edge data type: compare methods

Two different compare methods for edges

- `compareTo()` so that edges are comparable (for use in `SET`)
- `compare()` so that clients can compare edges by weight.

```
public final static Comparator<Edge> BY_WEIGHT = new ByWeightComparator();

private static class ByWeightComparator implements Comparator<Edge>
{
    public int compare(Edge e, Edge f)
    {
        if (e.weight < f.weight) return -1;
        if (e.weight > f.weight) return +1;
        return 0;
    }
}

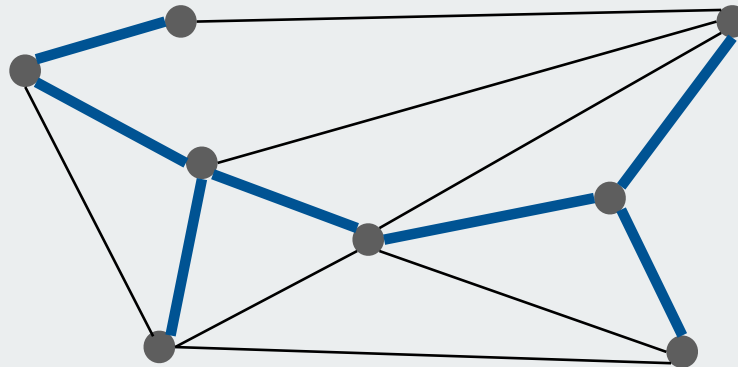
public int compareTo(Edge that)
{
    if (this.weight < that.weight) return -1;
    else if (this.weight > that.weight) return +1;
    else return 0;
}
}
```

- ▶ weighted graph API
- ▶ **cycles and cuts**
- ▶ Kruskal's algorithm
- ▶ Prim's algorithm
- ▶ advanced topics

## Spanning Tree

**MST.** Given connected graph  $G$  with positive edge weights, find a min weight set of edges that connects all of the vertices.

**Def.** A **spanning tree** of a graph  $G$  is a subgraph  $T$  that is connected and acyclic.



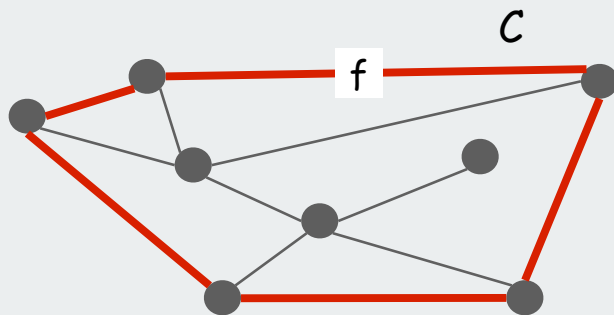
**Property.** MST of  $G$  is always a spanning tree.

## Greedy Algorithms

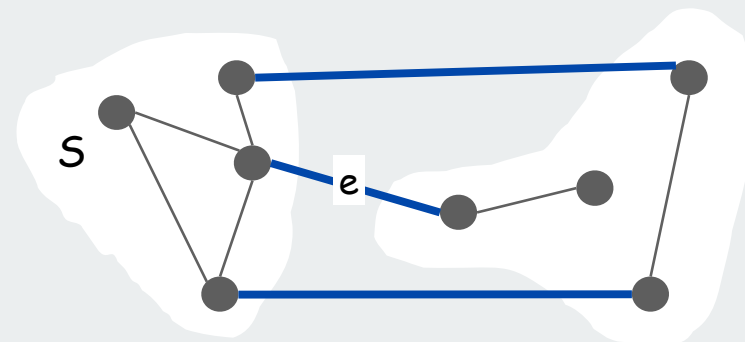
**Simplifying assumption.** All edge weights  $w_e$  are distinct.

**Cycle property.** Let  $C$  be any cycle, and let  $f$  be the **max cost** edge belonging to  $C$ . Then the MST does not contain  $f$ .

**Cut property.** Let  $S$  be any subset of vertices, and let  $e$  be the **min cost** edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ . Then the MST contains  $e$ .



$f$  is not in the MST



$e$  is in the MST



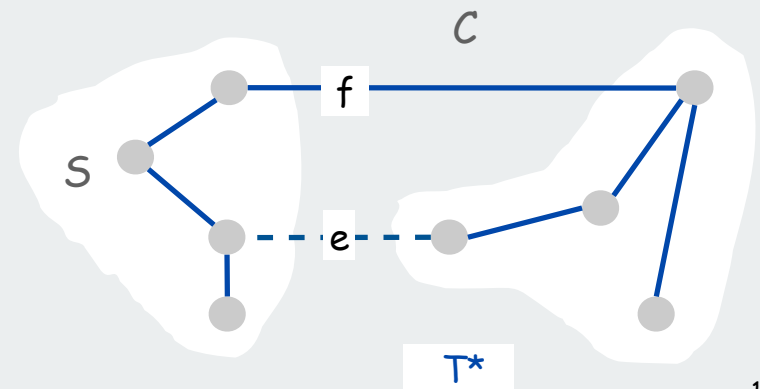
## Cycle Property

**Simplifying assumption.** All edge weights  $w_e$  are distinct.

**Cycle property.** Let  $C$  be any cycle, and let  $f$  be the **max cost** edge belonging to  $C$ . Then the MST  $T^*$  does not contain  $f$ .

Pf. [by contradiction]

- Suppose  $f$  belongs to  $T^*$ . Let's see what happens.
- Deleting  $f$  from  $T^*$  disconnects  $T^*$ . Let  $S$  be one side of the cut.
- Some other edge in  $C$ , say  $e$ , has exactly one endpoint in  $S$ .
- $T = T^* \cup \{e\} - \{f\}$  is also a spanning tree.
- Since  $c_e < c_f$ ,  $\text{cost}(T) < \text{cost}(T^*)$ .
- Contradicts minimality of  $T^*$ . ■



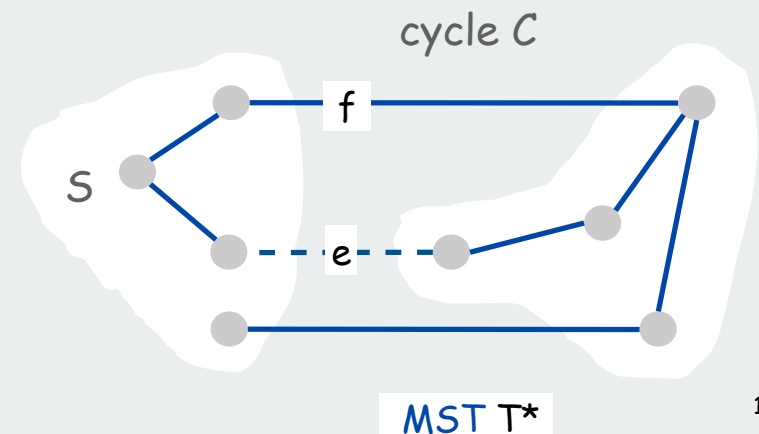
## Cut Property

**Simplifying assumption.** All edge costs  $c_e$  are distinct.

**Cut property.** Let  $S$  be any subset of vertices, and let  $e$  be the **min cost** edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ . Then the MST  $T^*$  contains  $e$ .

Pf. [by contradiction]

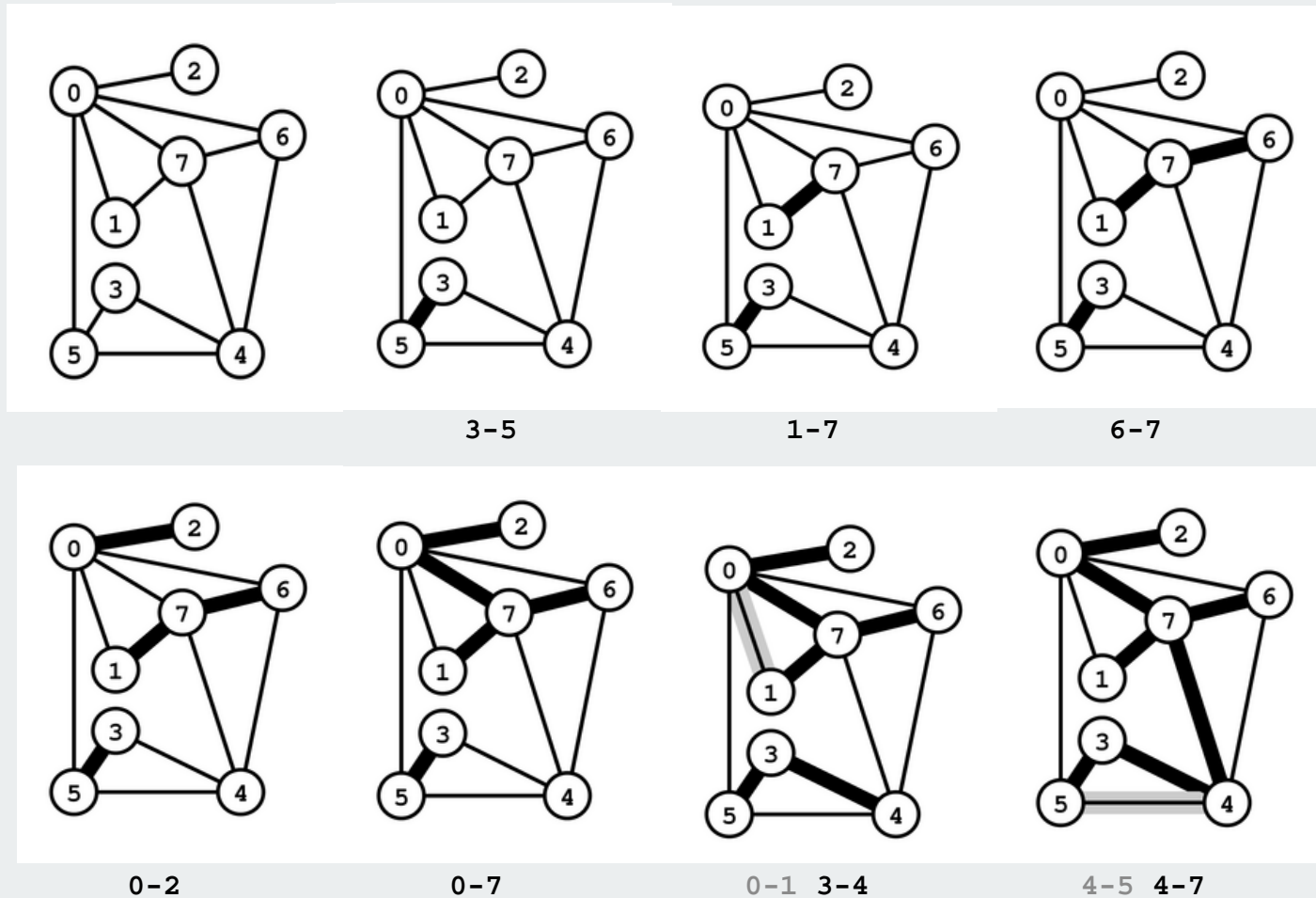
- Suppose  $e$  does not belong to  $T^*$ . Let's see what happens.
- Adding  $e$  to  $T^*$  creates a (unique) cycle  $C$  in  $T^*$ .
- Some other edge in  $C$ , say  $f$ , has exactly one endpoint in  $S$ .
- $T = T^* \cup \{e\} - \{f\}$  is also a spanning tree.
- Since  $c_e < c_f$ ,  $\text{cost}(T) < \text{cost}(T^*)$ .
- Contradicts minimality of  $T^*$ . ■



- ▶ weighted graph API
- ▶ cycles and cuts
- ▶ **Kruskal's algorithm**
- ▶ Prim's algorithm
- ▶ advanced algorithms
- ▶ clustering

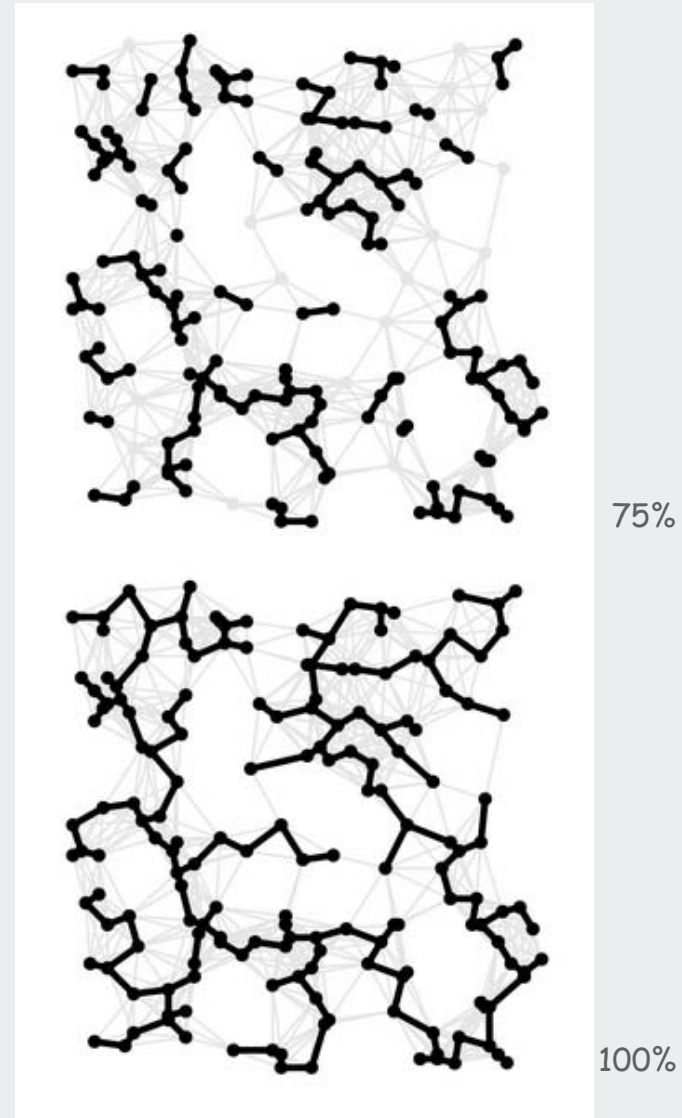
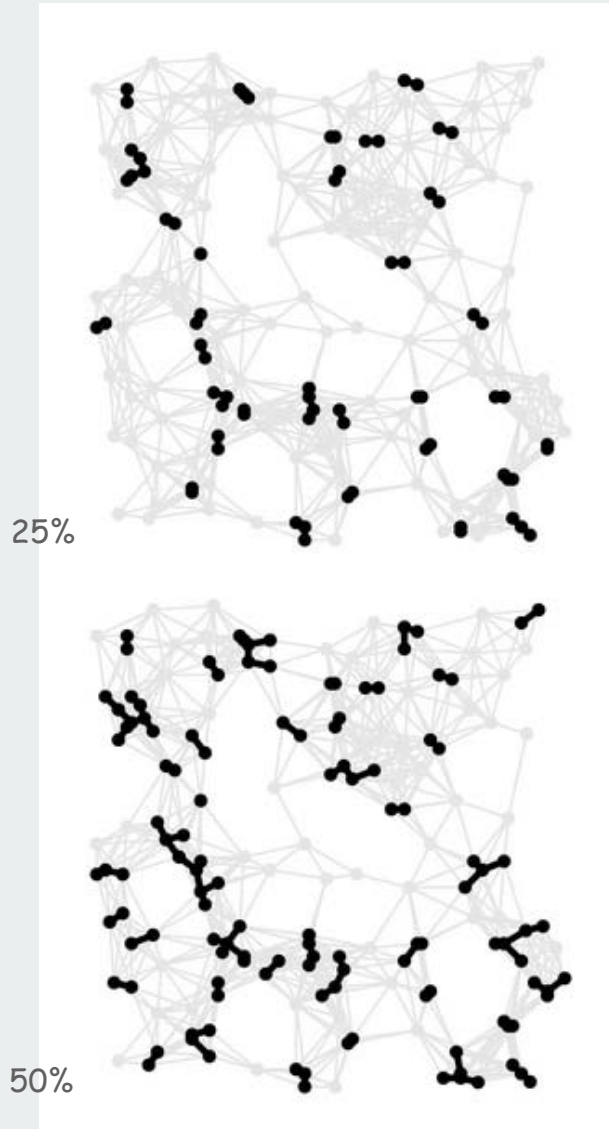
## Kruskal's Algorithm: Example

**Kruskal's algorithm.** [Kruskal, 1956] Consider edges in ascending order of cost. Add the next edge to  $T$  unless doing so would create a cycle.



3-5	0.18
1-7	0.21
6-7	0.25
0-2	0.29
0-7	0.31
0-1	0.32
3-4	0.34
4-5	0.40
4-7	0.46
0-6	0.51
4-6	0.51
0-5	0.60

# Kruskal's algorithm example

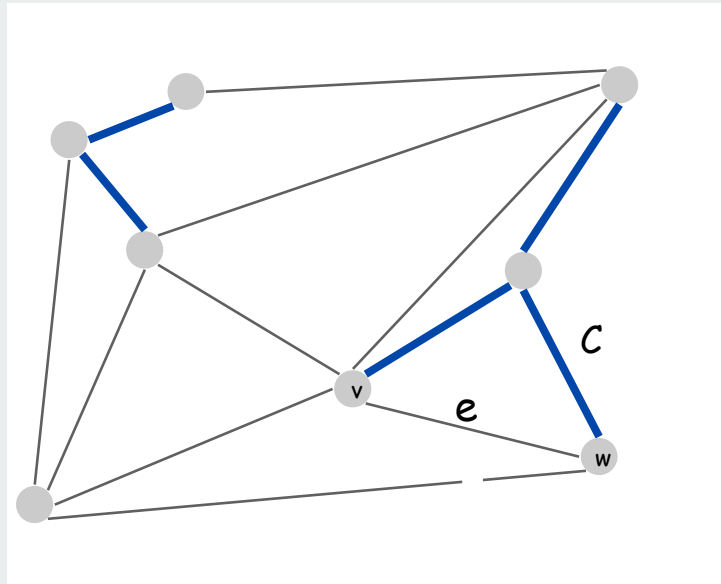


## Kruskal's algorithm correctness proof

**Proposition.** Kruskal's algorithm computes the MST.

**Pf.** [case 1] Suppose that adding  $e$  to  $T$  creates a cycle  $C$

- $e$  is the max weight edge in  $C$  (weights come in increasing order)
- $e$  is not in the MST (cycle property)

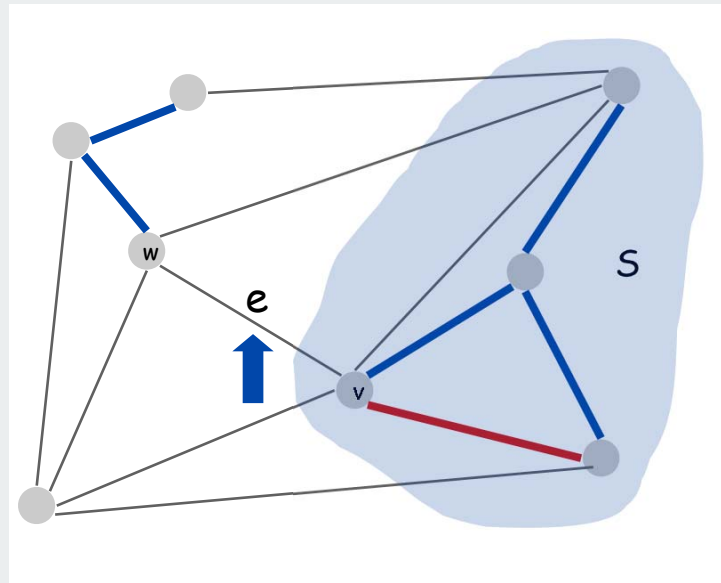


## Kruskal's algorithm correctness proof

**Proposition.** Kruskal's algorithm computes the MST.

**Pf.** [case 2] Suppose that adding  $e = (v, w)$  to  $T$  does not create a cycle

- let  $S$  be the vertices in  $v$ 's connected component
- $w$  is not in  $S$
- $e$  is the min weight edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$
- $e$  is in the MST (cut property) ■



## Kruskal's algorithm implementation

Q. How to check if adding an edge to  $T$  would create a cycle?

A1. Naïve solution: use DFS.

- $O(V)$  time per cycle check.
- $O(E V)$  time overall.

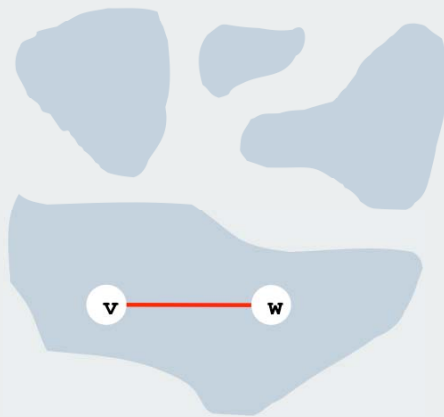


## Kruskal's algorithm implementation

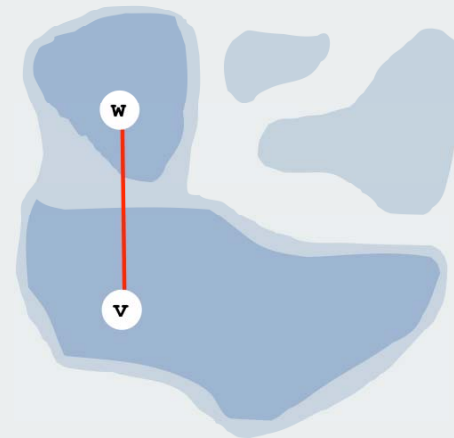
Q. How to check if adding an edge to  $T$  would create a cycle?

A2. Use the **union-find** data structure from lecture 1 (!).

- Maintain a set for each connected component.
- If  $v$  and  $w$  are in same component, then adding  $v-w$  creates a cycle.
- To add  $v-w$  to  $T$ , merge sets containing  $v$  and  $w$ .



Case 1: adding  $v-w$  creates a cycle



Case 2: add  $v-w$  to  $T$  and merge sets

## Kruskal's algorithm: Java implementation

```
public class Kruskal
{
    private SET<Edge> mst = new SET<Edge>();

    public Kruskal(WeightedGraph G)
    {
        Edge[] edges = G.edges();
        Arrays.sort(edges, Edge.BY_WEIGHT);

        UnionFind uf = new UnionFind(G.V());
        for (Edge e: edges)
            if (!uf.find(e.either(), e.other()))
            {
                uf.unite(e.either(), e.other());
                mst.add(edge);
            }
    }

    public Iterable<Edge> mst()
    {
        return mst;
    }
}
```

← sort edges  
by weight

← greedily add  
edges to MST

← return to client iterable  
sequence of edges

Easy speedup: Stop as soon as there are  $V-1$  edges in MST.

## Kruskal's algorithm running time

Kruskal running time: Dominated by the cost of the sort.

Operation	Frequency	Time per op
sort	1	$E \log E$
union	$V$	$\log^* V$ †
find	$E$	$\log^* V$ †

† amortized bound using weighted quick union with path compression

recall:  $\log^* V \leq 5$  in this universe

**Remark 1.** If edges are already sorted, time is proportional to  $E \log^* V$

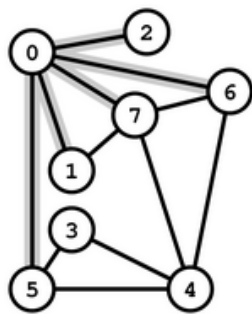
**Remark 2.** Linear in practice with PQ or quicksort partitioning  
(see book: don't need full sort)

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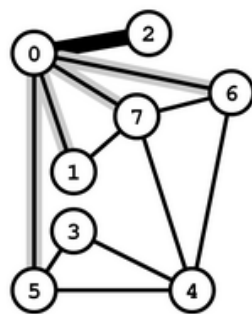
## Prim's algorithm example

**Prim's algorithm.** [Jarník 1930, Dijkstra 1957, Prim 1959]

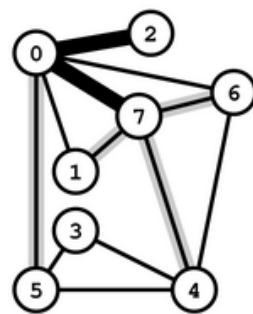
Start with vertex 0 and greedily grow tree  $T$ . At each step, add cheapest edge that has exactly one endpoint in  $T$ .



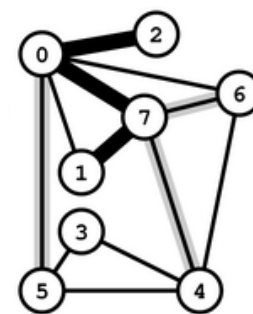
0-2 0-7 0-1 0-6 0-5



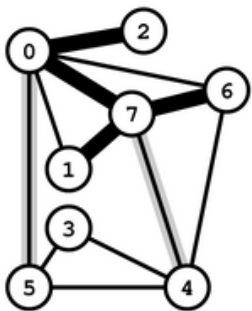
0-7 0-1 0-6 0-5



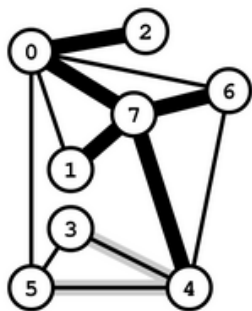
7-1 7-6 7-4 0-5



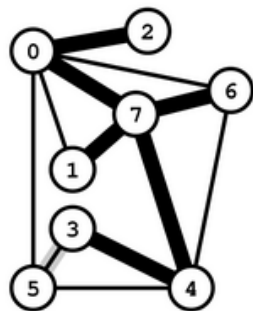
7-6 7-4 0-5



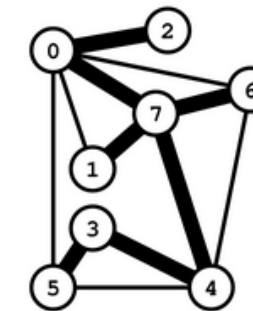
7-4 0-5



4-3 4-5

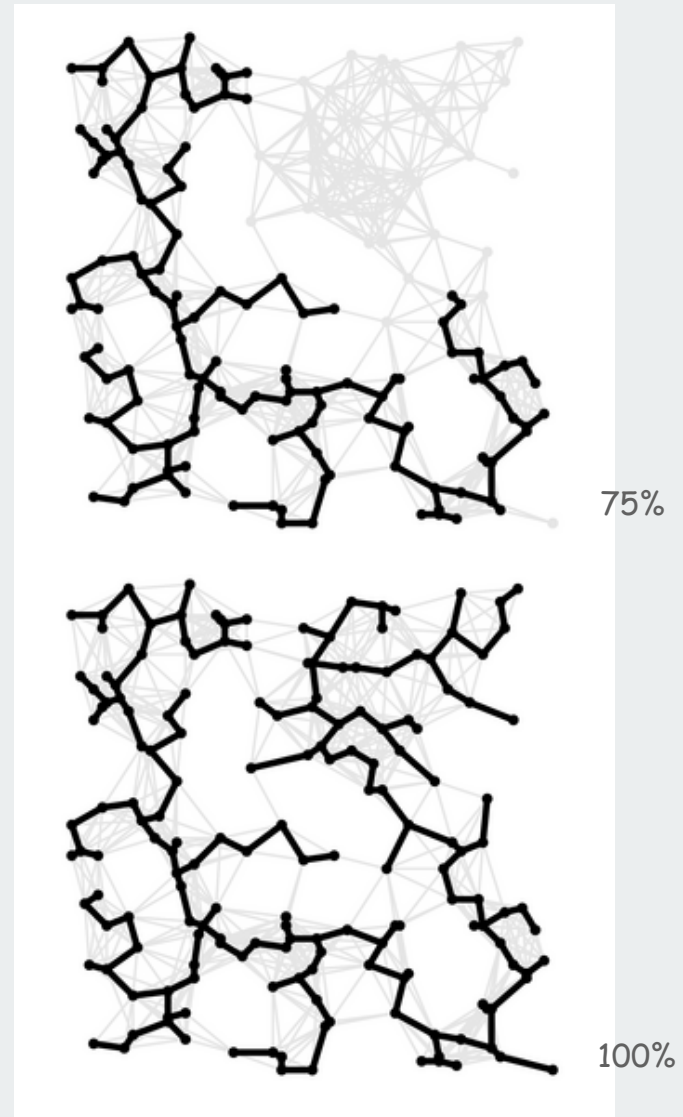
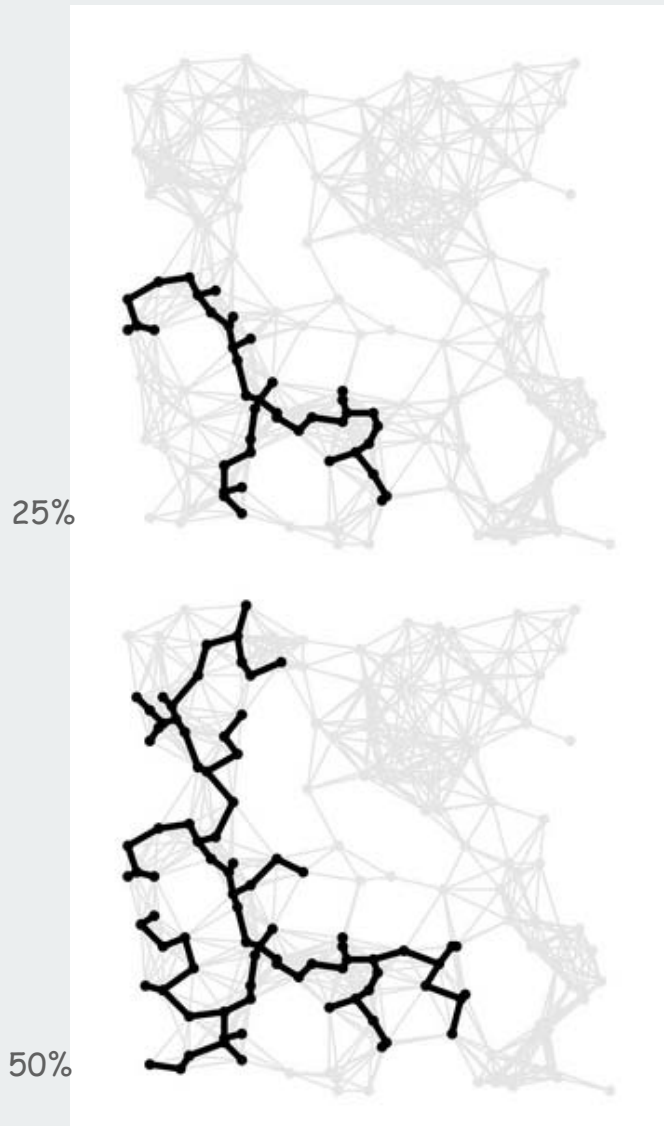


3-5



0-1	0.32
0-2	0.29
0-5	0.60
0-6	0.51
0-7	0.31
1-7	0.21
3-4	0.34
3-5	0.18
4-5	0.40
4-6	0.51
4-7	0.46
6-7	0.25

# Prim's Algorithm *example*

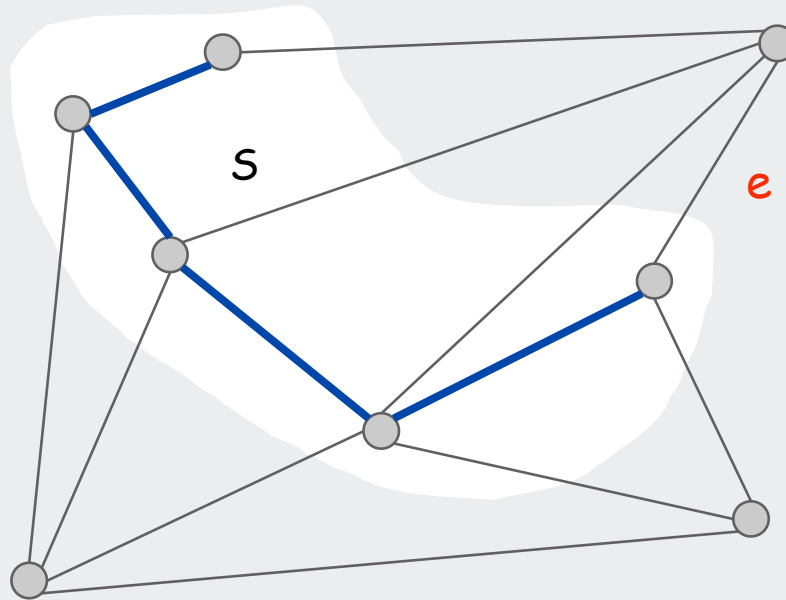


## Prim's algorithm correctness proof

**Proposition.** Prim's algorithm computes the MST.

**Pf.**

- Let  $S$  be the subset of vertices in current tree  $T$ .
- Prim adds the cheapest edge  $e$  with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ .
- $e$  is in the MST (cut property) ■



## Prim's algorithm implementation

Q. How to find cheapest edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ ?

A1. Brute force: try all edges.

- $O(E)$  time per spanning tree edge.
- $O(E V)$  time overall.



## Prim's algorithm implementation

Q. How to find cheapest edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ ?

A2. Maintain a **priority queue** of vertices connected by an edge to  $S$

- Delete min to determine next vertex  $v$  to add to  $S$ .
- Disregard  $v$  if already in  $S$ .
- Add to PQ any vertex brought closer to  $S$  by  $v$ .

Running time.

- $\log V$  steps per edge (using a binary heap).
- $E \log V$  steps overall.

**Note:** This is a **lazy** version of implementation in Algs in Java

lazy: put all adjacent vertices (that are not already in MST) on PQ  
eager: first check whether vertex is already on PQ and decrease its key

## Key-value priority queue

Associate a value with each key in a priority queue.

### API:

```
public class MinPQplus<Key extends Comparable<Key>, Value>
    MinPQplus()                create a key-value priority queue
    void put(Key key, Value val) put key-value pair into the priority queue
    Value delMin()             return value paired with minimal key
    Key min()                   return minimal key
```

### Implementation:

- start with same code as standard heap-based priority queue
- use a parallel array `vals[]` (value associated with `keys[i]` is `vals[i]`)
- modify `exch()` to maintain parallel arrays (do `exch` in `vals[]`)
- modify `delMin()` to return value
- add `min()` (just returns `keys[1]`)

## Lazy implementation of Prim's algorithm

```
public class LazyPrim
{
```

```
    Edge[] pred = new Edge[G.V()];
    public LazyPrim(WeightedGraph G)
```

```
    {
```

```
        boolean[] marked = new boolean[G.V()];
```

```
        double[] dist = new double[G.V()];
```

```
        MinPQplus<Double, Integer> pq;
```

```
        pq = new MinPQplus<Double, Integer>();
```

```
        dist[s] = 0.0;
```

```
        marked[s] = true;
```

```
        pq.put(dist[s], s);
```

```
        while (!pq.isEmpty())
```

```
        {
```

```
            int v = pq.delMin();
```

```
            if (marked[v]) continue;
```

```
            marked[v] = true;
```

```
            for (Edge e : G.adj(v))
```

```
            {
```

```
                int w = e.other(v);
```

```
                if (!done[w] && (dist[w] > e.weight()))
```

```
                {
```

```
                    dist[w] = e.weight(); pred[w] = e;
```

```
                    pq.insert(dist[w], w);
```

```
                }
```

```
            }
```

```
        }
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

← pred[v] is edge  
attaching v to MST

← marks vertices in MST  
← distance to MST

← key-value PQ

← get next vertex

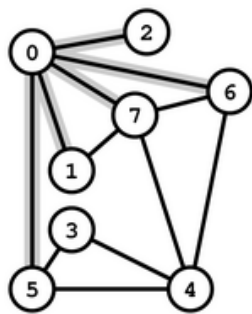
← ignore if already in MST

← add to PQ any vertices  
brought closer to S by v

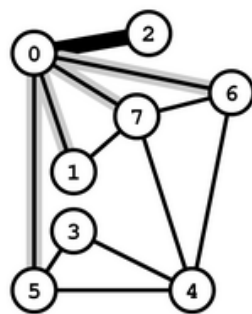
# Prim's algorithm (lazy) example

Priority queue **key** is distance (edge weight); **value** is vertex

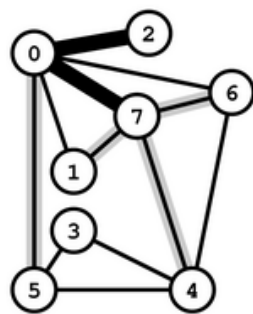
Lazy version leaves obsolete entries in the PQ  
therefore may have multiple entries with same value



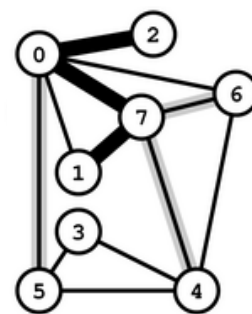
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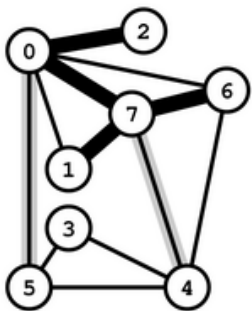
0-7 0-1 0-6 0-5



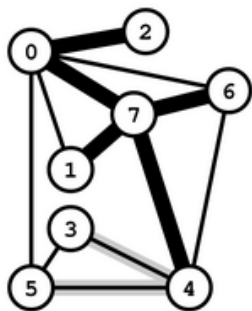
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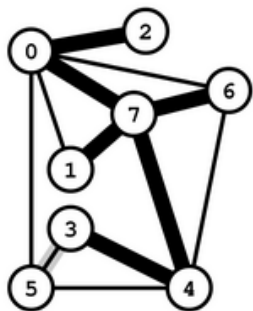
7-6 0-1 7-4 0-6 0-5



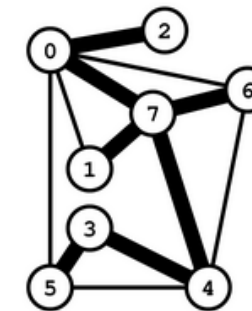
0-1 7-4 0-6 0-5



4-3 4-5 0-6 0-5



3-5 4-5 0-6 0-5



0-1	0.32
0-2	0.29
0-5	0.60
0-6	0.51
0-7	0.31
1-7	0.21
3-4	0.34
3-5	0.18
4-5	0.40
4-6	0.51
4-7	0.46
6-7	0.25

red: pq value (vertex)  
blue: obsolete value

## Eager implementation of Prim's algorithm

Use *indexed priority queue* that supports

- contains: is there a key associated with value  $v$  in the priority queue?
- decrease key: decrease the key associated with value  $v$

[more complicated data structure, see text]

Putative "benefit": reduces PQ size guarantee from  $E$  to  $V$

- not important for the huge sparse graphs found in practice
- PQ size is far smaller in practice
- widely used, but practical utility is debatable

## Removing the distinct edge costs assumption

**Simplifying assumption.** All edge weights  $w_e$  are distinct.

**Fact.** Prim and Kruskal don't actually rely on the assumption  
(our proof of correctness does)

Suffices to introduce tie-breaking rule for `compare()`.

**Approach 1:**

```
public int compare(Edge e, Edge f)
{
    if (e.weight < f.weight) return -1;
    if (e.weight > f.weight) return +1;
    if (e.v < f.v) return -1;
    if (e.v > f.v) return +1;
    if (e.w < f.w) return -1;
    if (e.w > f.w) return +1;
    return 0;
}
```

**Approach 2:** add tiny random perturbation.

- ▶ weighted graph API
- ▶ cycles and cuts
- ▶ Kruskal's algorithm
- ▶ Prim's algorithm
- ▶ **advanced topics**

## Advanced MST theorems: does an algorithm with a linear-time guarantee exist?

Year	Worst Case	Discovered By
1975	$E \log \log V$	Yao
1976	$E \log \log V$	Cheriton-Tarjan
1984	$E \log^* V, E + V \log V$	Fredman-Tarjan
1986	$E \log (\log^* V)$	Gabow-Galil-Spencer-Tarjan
1997	$E \alpha(V) \log \alpha(V)$	Chazelle
2000	$E \alpha(V)$	Chazelle
2002	optimal	Pettie-Ramachandran
20xx	$E$	???

deterministic comparison based MST algorithms



Year	Problem	Time	Discovered By
1976	Planar MST	$E$	Cheriton-Tarjan
1992	MST Verification	$E$	Dixon-Rauch-Tarjan
1995	Randomized MST	$E$	Karger-Klein-Tarjan

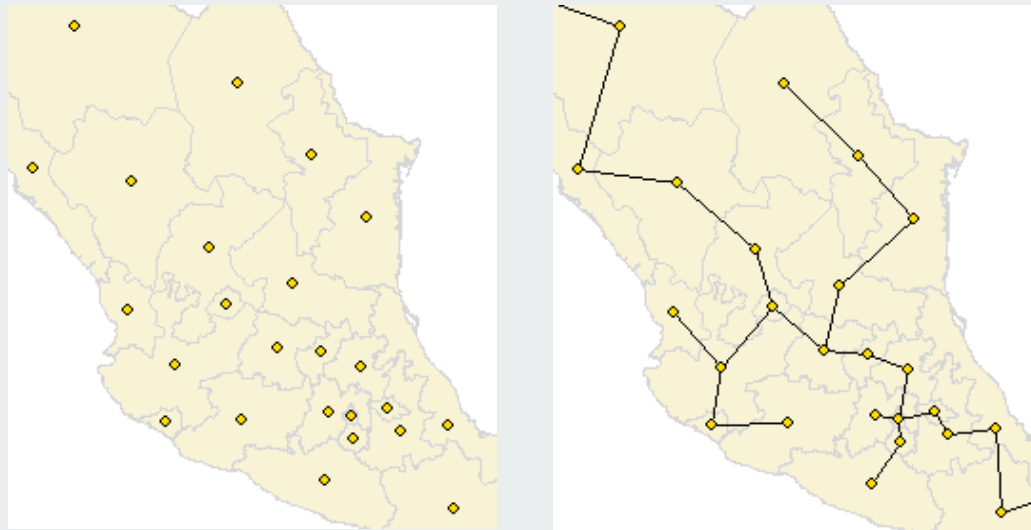
related problems



## Euclidean MST

**Euclidean MST.** Given  $N$  points in the plane, find MST connecting them.

- Distances between point pairs are **Euclidean** distances.



**Brute force.** Compute  $N^2 / 2$  distances and run Prim's algorithm.

**Ingenuity.** Exploit geometry and do it in  $O(N \log N)$

[stay tuned for geometric algorithms]

## Scientific application: clustering

**k-clustering.** Divide a set of objects classify into k coherent groups.

**distance function.** numeric value specifying "closeness" of two objects.

### Fundamental problem.

Divide into clusters so that points in different clusters are far apart.

### Applications.

- Routing in mobile ad hoc networks.
- Identify patterns in gene expression.
- Document categorization for web search.
- Similarity searching in medical image databases
- Skycat: cluster  $10^9$  sky objects into stars, quasars, galaxies.

Outbreak of cholera deaths in London in 1850s.  
Reference: Nina Mishra, HP Labs

## k-clustering of maximum spacing

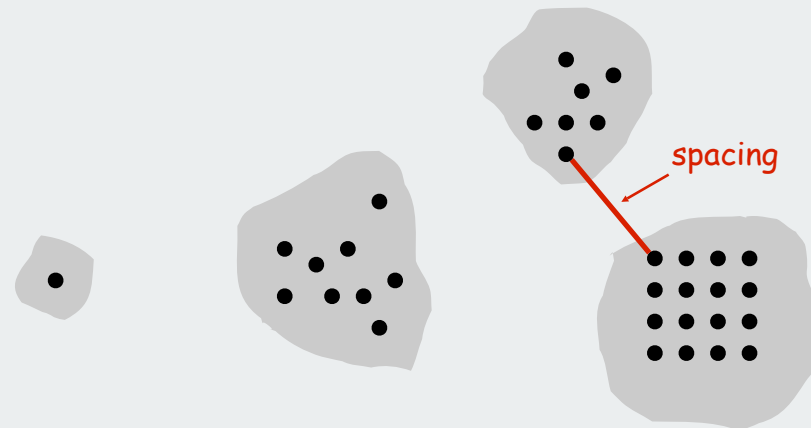
**k-clustering.** Divide a set of objects classify into  $k$  coherent groups.

**distance function.** Numeric value specifying "closeness" of two objects.

**Spacing.** Min distance between any pair of points in different clusters.

**k-clustering of maximum spacing.**

Given an integer  $k$ , find a  $k$ -clustering such that spacing is maximized.



## Single-link clustering algorithm

“Well-known” algorithm for single-link clustering:

- Form  $V$  clusters of one object each.
- Find the closest pair of objects such that each object is in a different cluster, and add an edge between them.
- Repeat until there are exactly  $k$  clusters.

**Observation.** This procedure is **precisely** Kruskal's algorithm (stop when there are  $k$  connected components).

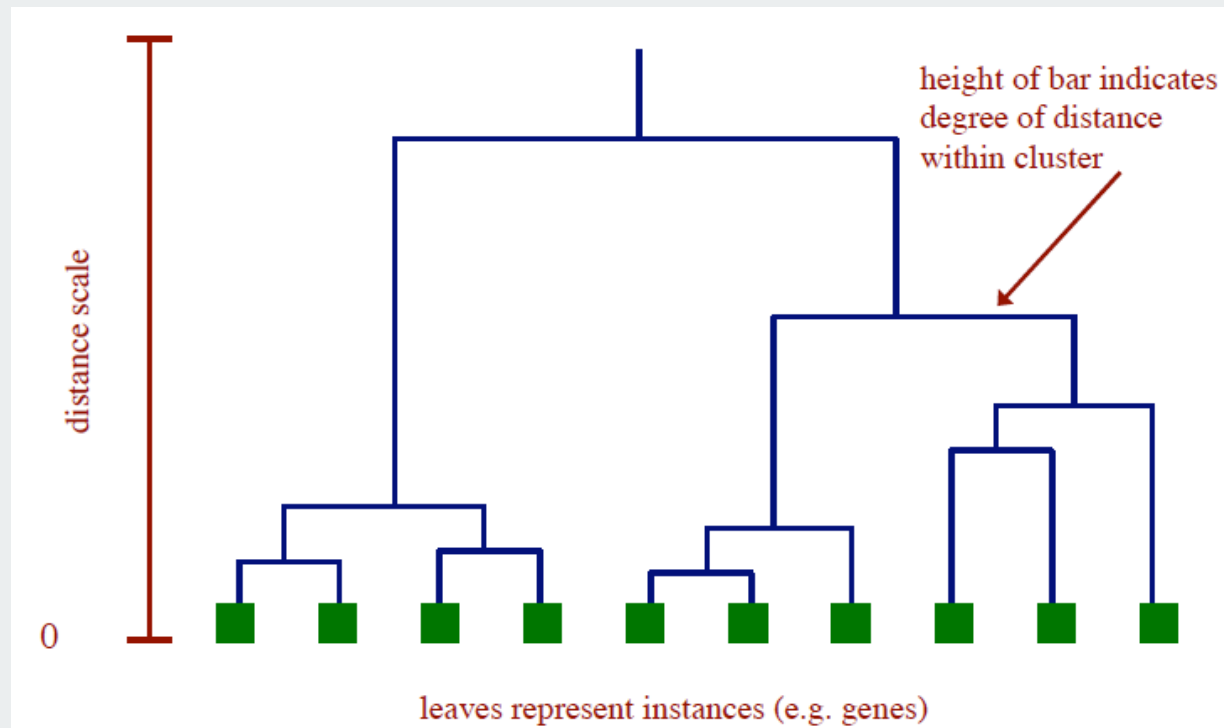
**Property.** Kruskal's algorithm finds a  $k$ -clustering of maximum spacing.

## Clustering application: dendrograms

### Dendrogram.

Scientific visualization of hypothetical sequence of evolutionary events.

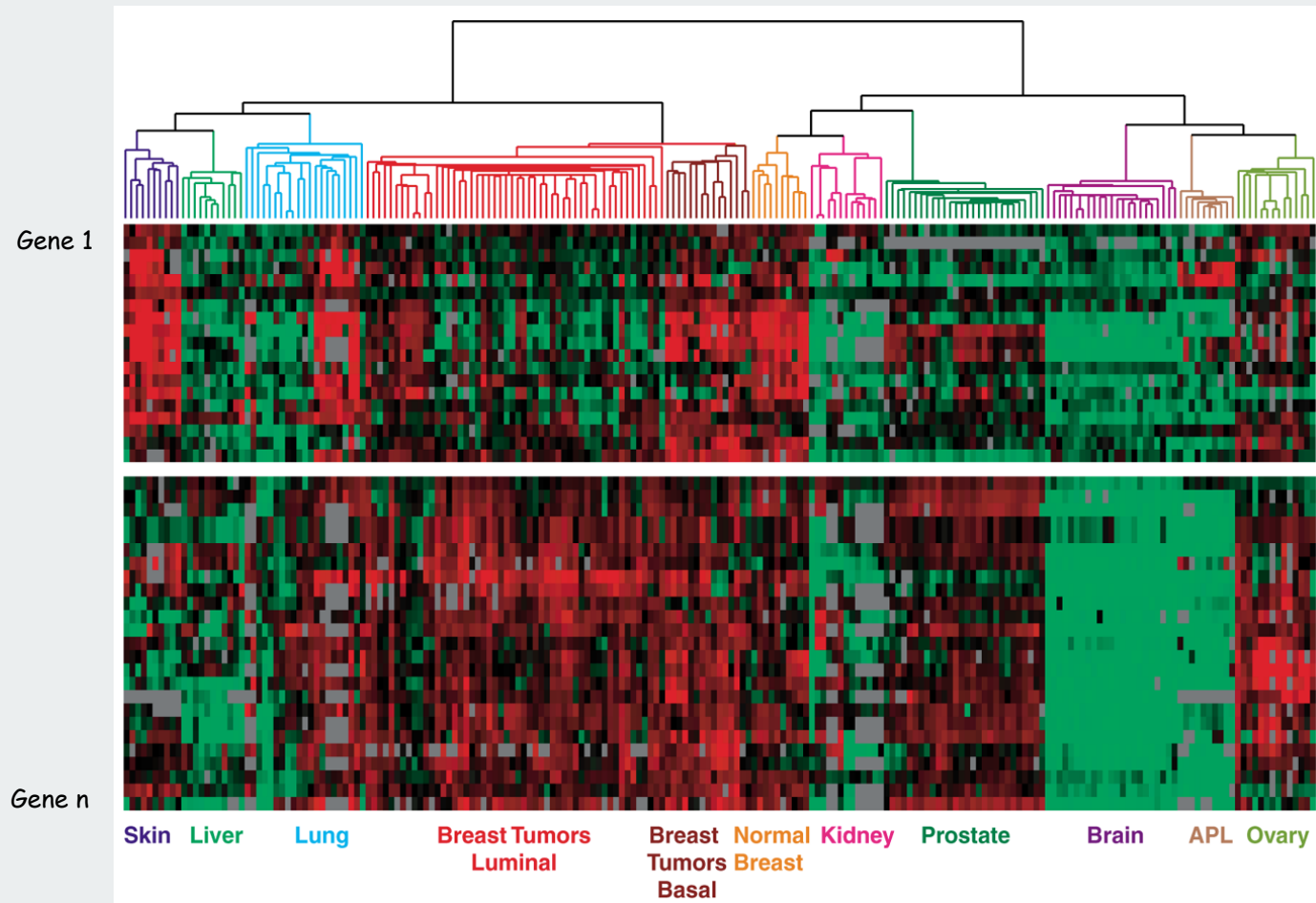
- Leaves = genes.
- Internal nodes = hypothetical ancestors.



Reference: <http://www.biostat.wisc.edu/bmi576/fall-2003/lecture13.pdf>

# Dendrogram of cancers in human

Tumors in similar tissues cluster together.



Reference: Botstein & Brown group