

## LECTURES 20-21 Greedy Algorithms

- Graphs
- Minimum spanning trees
- Optimal substructure
- Greedy choice
- Prim's greedy MST algorithm

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## Graphs (review)

**Definition.** A *directed graph (digraph)*  $G = (V, E)$  is an ordered pair consisting of

- a set  $V$  of *vertices* (singular: *vertex*),
- a set  $E \subseteq V \times V$  of *edges*.

In an *undirected graph*  $G = (V, E)$ , the edge set  $E$  consists of *unordered* pairs of vertices.

In either case, we have  $|E| = O(V^2)$ . Moreover, if  $G$  is connected, then  $|E| \geq |V| - 1$ , which implies that  $\lg |E| = \Theta(\lg V)$ .

(Review CLRS, Appendix B.)

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## Adjacency-matrix representation

The *adjacency matrix* of a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , is the matrix  $A[1 \dots n, 1 \dots n]$  given by

$$A[i, j] = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (i, j) \in E, \\ 0 & \text{if } (i, j) \notin E. \end{cases}$$

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|  |     |   |   |   |   |   |                            |
|--|-----|---|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|
|  | $A$ |   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |                            |
|  | 1   | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |   | $\Theta(V^2)$ storage      |
|  | 2   | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |   | $\Rightarrow$ <i>dense</i> |
|  | 3   | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |   | representation.            |
|  | 4   | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |   |                            |

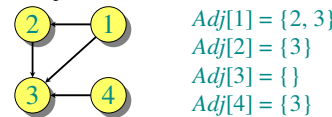
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## Adjacency-list representation

An *adjacency list* of a vertex  $v \in V$  is the list  $Adj[v]$  of vertices adjacent to  $v$ .



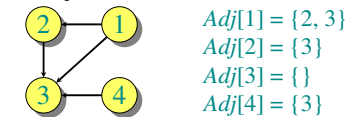
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## Adjacency-list representation

An *adjacency list* of a vertex  $v \in V$  is the list  $Adj[v]$  of vertices adjacent to  $v$ .



For undirected graphs,  $|Adj[v]| = \text{degree}(v)$ .  
For digraphs,  $|Adj[v]| = \text{out-degree}(v)$ .

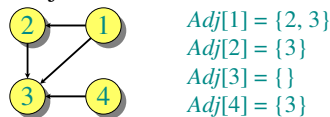
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For undirected graphs,  $|Adj[v]| = \text{degree}(v)$ .  
For digraphs,  $|Adj[v]| = \text{out-degree}(v)$ .

**Handshaking Lemma:**  $\sum_{v \in V} \text{degree}(v) = 2|E|$  for undirected graphs  $\Rightarrow$  adjacency lists use  $\Theta(V + E)$  storage — a *sparse* representation.

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## Minimum spanning trees

**Input:** A connected, undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with weight function  $w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- For simplicity, assume that all edge weights are distinct. (CLRS covers the general case.)

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## Minimum spanning trees

**Input:** A connected, undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with weight function  $w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- For simplicity, assume that all edge weights are distinct. (CLRS covers the general case.)

**Output:** A *spanning tree*  $T$  — a tree that connects all vertices — of minimum weight:

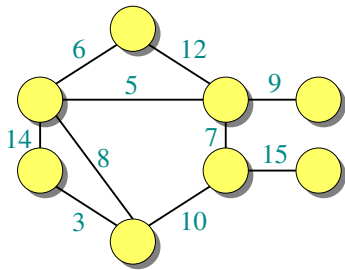
$$w(T) = \sum_{(u,v) \in T} w(u, v).$$

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## Example of MST

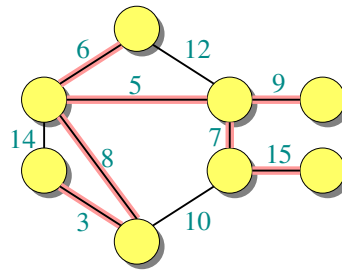


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## Example of MST



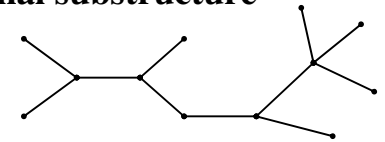
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## Optimal substructure

MST  $T$ :  
(Other edges of  $G$  are not shown.)



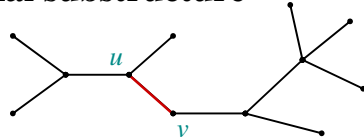
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## Optimal substructure

MST  $T$ :  
(Other edges of  $G$  are not shown.)



Remove any edge  $(u, v) \in T$ .

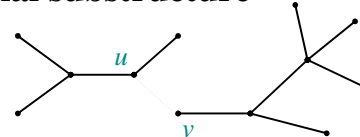
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## Optimal substructure

MST  $T$ :  
(Other edges of  $G$  are not shown.)



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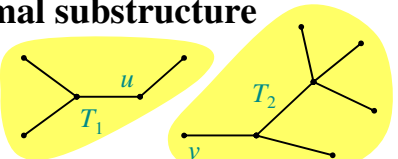
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## Optimal substructure

MST  $T$ :  
(Other edges of  $G$  are not shown.)



Remove any edge  $(u, v) \in T$ . Then,  $T$  is partitioned into two subtrees  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ .

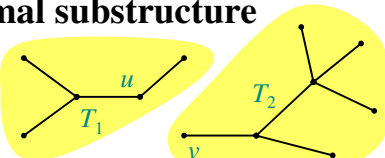
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## Optimal substructure

MST  $T$ :  
(Other edges of  $G$  are not shown.)



Remove any edge  $(u, v) \in T$ . Then,  $T$  is partitioned into two subtrees  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ .

**Theorem.** The subtree  $T_1$  is an MST of  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ , the subgraph of  $G$  induced by the vertices of  $T_1$ :

$$V_1 = \text{vertices of } T_1, \\ E_1 = \{ (x, y) \in E : x, y \in V_1 \}.$$

Similarly for  $T_2$ .

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## Proof of optimal substructure

**Proof.** Cut and paste:

$$w(T) = w(u, v) + w(T_1) + w(T_2).$$

If  $T'_1$  were a lower-weight spanning tree than  $T_1$  for  $G_1$ , then  $T' = \{(u, v)\} \cup T'_1 \cup T_2$  would be a lower-weight spanning tree than  $T$  for  $G$ .  $\square$

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## Proof of optimal substructure

**Proof.** Cut and paste:

$$w(T) = w(u, v) + w(T_1) + w(T_2).$$

If  $T'_1$  were a lower-weight spanning tree than  $T_1$  for  $G_1$ , then  $T' = \{(u, v)\} \cup T'_1 \cup T_2$  would be a lower-weight spanning tree than  $T$  for  $G$ .  $\square$

Do we also have overlapping subproblems?

- Yes.

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## Proof of optimal substructure

**Proof.** Cut and paste:

$$w(T) = w(u, v) + w(T_1) + w(T_2).$$

If  $T_1'$  were a lower-weight spanning tree than  $T_1$  for  $G_1$ , then  $T' = \{(u, v)\} \cup T_1' \cup T_2$  would be a lower-weight spanning tree than  $T$  for  $G$ .  $\square$

Do we also have overlapping subproblems?

• Yes.

Great, then dynamic programming may work!

• Yes, but MST exhibits another powerful property which leads to an even more efficient algorithm.

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## Hallmark for “greedy” algorithms

**Greedy-choice property**  
A locally optimal choice  
is globally optimal.

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## Hallmark for “greedy” algorithms

**Greedy-choice property**  
A locally optimal choice  
is globally optimal.

**Theorem.** Let  $T$  be the MST of  $G = (V, E)$ , and let  $A \subseteq V$ . Suppose that  $(u, v) \in E$  is the least-weight edge connecting  $A$  to  $V - A$ . Then,  $(u, v) \in T$ .

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## Proof of theorem

**Proof.** Suppose  $(u, v) \notin T$ . Cut and paste.

$T$ :

$\circ \in A$   
 $\bullet \in V - A$

$(u, v)$  = least-weight edge connecting  $A$  to  $V - A$

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## Proof of theorem

**Proof.** Suppose  $(u, v) \notin T$ . Cut and paste.

$T$ :

$\circ \in A$   
 $\bullet \in V - A$

$(u, v)$  = least-weight edge connecting  $A$  to  $V - A$

Consider the unique simple path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ .

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## Proof of theorem

**Proof.** Suppose  $(u, v) \notin T$ . Cut and paste.

$T$ :

$\circ \in A$   
 $\bullet \in V - A$

$(u, v)$  = least-weight edge connecting  $A$  to  $V - A$

Consider the unique simple path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ .

Swap  $(u, v)$  with the first edge on this path that connects a vertex in  $A$  to a vertex in  $V - A$ .

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## Proof of theorem

**Proof.** Suppose  $(u, v) \notin T$ . Cut and paste.

$T'$ :

$\circ \in A$   
 $\bullet \in V - A$

$(u, v)$  = least-weight edge connecting  $A$  to  $V - A$

Consider the unique simple path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ .

Swap  $(u, v)$  with the first edge on this path that connects a vertex in  $A$  to a vertex in  $V - A$ .

A lighter-weight spanning tree than  $T$  results.  $\square$

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## Prim's algorithm

**IDEA:** Maintain  $V - A$  as a priority queue  $Q$ . Key each vertex in  $Q$  with the weight of the least-weight edge connecting it to a vertex in  $A$ .

```

Q ← V
key[v] ← ∞ for all v ∈ V
key[s] ← 0 for some arbitrary s ∈ V
while Q ≠ ∅
  do u ← EXTRACT-MIN(Q)
  for each v ∈ Adj[u]
    do if v ∈ Q and w(u, v) < key[v]
       then key[v] ← w(u, v)  ▶ DECREASE-KEY
       π[v] ← u
  
```

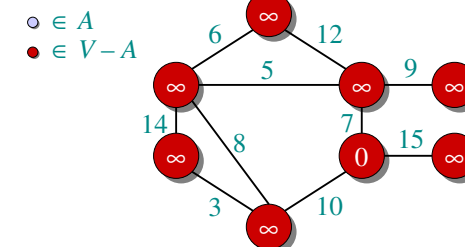
At the end,  $\{(v, \pi[v])\}$  forms the MST.

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## Example of Prim's algorithm



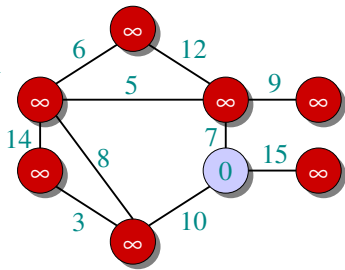
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$



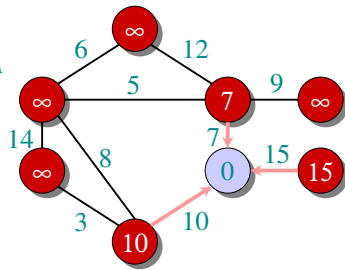
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$



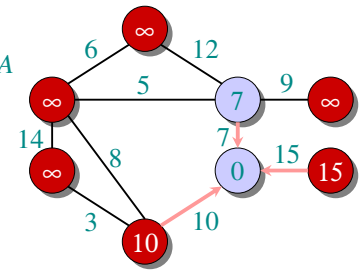
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
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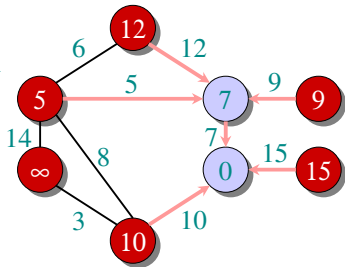
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$



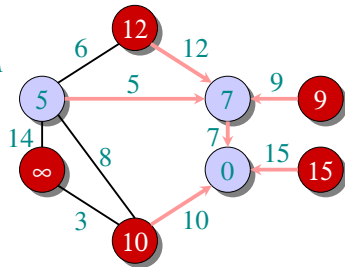
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$



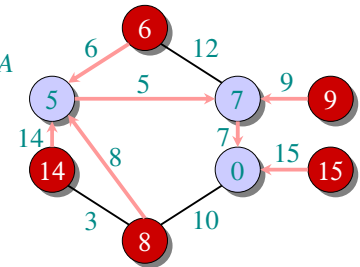
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$



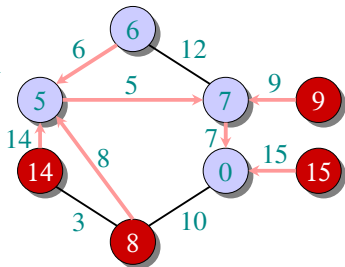
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$



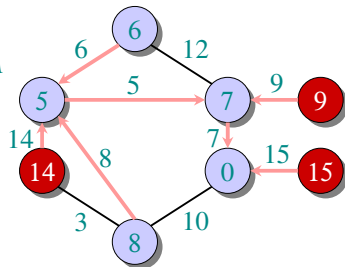
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$



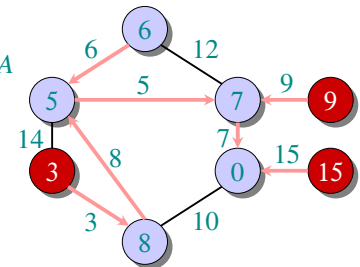
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## Example of Prim's algorithm

- $\circ \in A$
- $\bullet \in V-A$

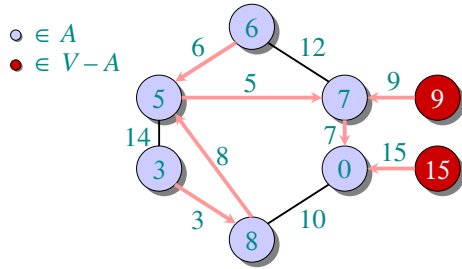


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## Example of Prim's algorithm

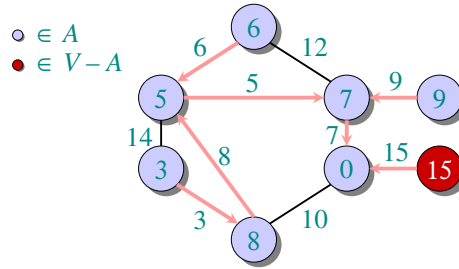


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## Example of Prim's algorithm

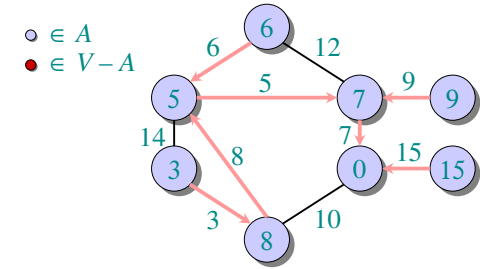


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## Example of Prim's algorithm



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## Analysis of Prim

```

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```

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## Analysis of Prim

$\Theta(V)$  total
  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Q \leftarrow V \\ \text{key}[v] \leftarrow \infty \text{ for all } v \in V \\ \text{key}[s] \leftarrow 0 \text{ for some arbitrary } s \in V \\ \text{while } Q \neq \emptyset \\ \quad \text{do } u \leftarrow \text{EXTRACT-MIN}(Q) \\ \quad \text{for each } v \in \text{Adj}[u] \\ \quad \quad \text{do if } v \in Q \text{ and } w(u, v) < \text{key}[v] \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{then } \text{key}[v] \leftarrow w(u, v) \\ \quad \quad \quad \pi[v] \leftarrow u \end{array} \right.$

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$|V|$  times
  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{do } u \leftarrow \text{EXTRACT-MIN}(Q) \\ \text{for each } v \in \text{Adj}[u] \\ \quad \text{do if } v \in Q \text{ and } w(u, v) < \text{key}[v] \\ \quad \quad \text{then } \text{key}[v] \leftarrow w(u, v) \\ \quad \quad \pi[v] \leftarrow u \end{array} \right.$

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## Analysis of Prim

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$|V|$  times
  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{degree}(u) \text{ times} \\ \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{do if } v \in Q \text{ and } w(u, v) < \text{key}[v] \\ \quad \text{then } \text{key}[v] \leftarrow w(u, v) \\ \quad \pi[v] \leftarrow u \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right.$

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## Analysis of Prim

$\Theta(V)$  total
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Handshaking Lemma  $\Rightarrow \Theta(E)$  implicit DECREASE-KEY's.

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## Analysis of Prim

$\Theta(V)$  total
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$|V|$  times
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Handshaking Lemma  $\Rightarrow \Theta(E)$  implicit DECREASE-KEY's.

Time =  $\Theta(V) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(E) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$

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## Analysis of Prim (continued)

$$\text{Time} = \Theta(V) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(E) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$$

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## Analysis of Prim (continued)

$$\text{Time} = \Theta(V) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(E) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$$

| $Q$ | $T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}}$ | $T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$ | Total |
|-----|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
|-----|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------|

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## Analysis of Prim (continued)

$$\text{Time} = \Theta(V) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(E) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$$

| $Q$   | $T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}}$ | $T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$ | Total    |
|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| array | $O(V)$                   | $O(1)$                    | $O(V^2)$ |

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## Analysis of Prim (continued)

$$\text{Time} = \Theta(V) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(E) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$$

| $Q$         | $T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}}$ | $T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$ | Total        |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| array       | $O(V)$                   | $O(1)$                    | $O(V^2)$     |
| binary heap | $O(\lg V)$               | $O(\lg V)$                | $O(E \lg V)$ |

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## Analysis of Prim (continued)

$$\text{Time} = \Theta(V) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(E) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$$

| $Q$            | $T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}}$ | $T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$ | Total                       |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| array          | $O(V)$                   | $O(1)$                    | $O(V^2)$                    |
| binary heap    | $O(\lg V)$               | $O(\lg V)$                | $O(E \lg V)$                |
| Fibonacci heap | $O(\lg V)$ amortized     | $O(1)$ amortized          | $O(E + V \lg V)$ worst case |

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## MST algorithms

Kruskal's algorithm (see CLRS):

- Uses the **disjoint-set data structure** (see CLRS, Ch. 21).
- Running time =  $O(E \lg V)$ .

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## MST algorithms

Kruskal's algorithm (see CLRS):

- Uses the **disjoint-set data structure** (see CLRS, Ch. 21).
- Running time =  $O(E \lg V)$ .

Best to date:

- Karger, Klein, and Tarjan [1993].
- Randomized algorithm.
- $O(V + E)$  expected time.

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