

## Minimum Spanning Tree Problem

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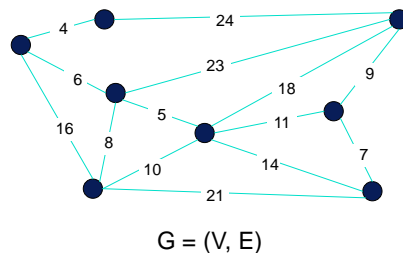
- Spanning tree of a connected graph  $G$ : a connected acyclic subgraph of  $G$  that includes all of  $G$ 's vertices
- Minimum spanning tree,  $MST$ , of a weighted, connected graph  $G$ : a spanning tree of  $G$  of minimum total weight (sum of the edge weights in the tree)
- Minimum Spanning Tree Problem: For a weighted graph, find the  $MST$

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## Minimal Spanning Tree Example

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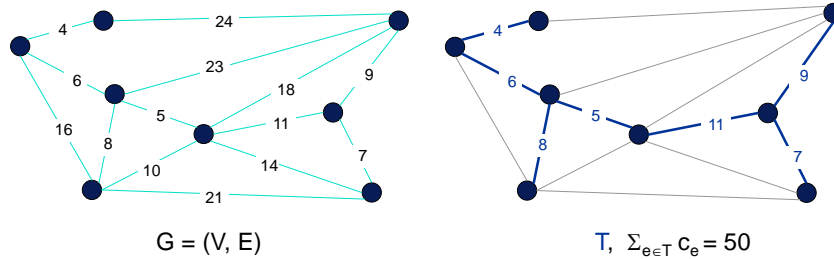


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## Minimal Spanning Tree Example

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## 3 Greedy Approaches – these all work!

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- Build a spanning tree by
  - Successively adding the lightest edge that does not create a cycle (Kruskal's)
  - Start with a root node and grow the tree outward without creating a cycle (Prim's)
  - Start with the full graph and delete edges in order of decreasing cost as long as we do not disconnect the tree (Reverse-delete?)

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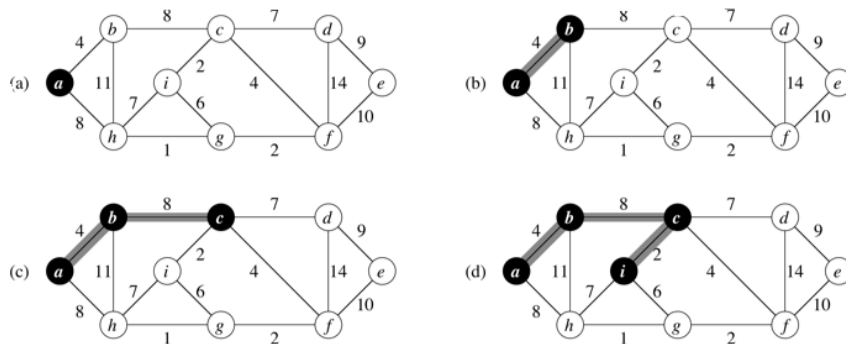
## Prim's MST algorithm

- Start with tree  $T_1$  consisting of one (any) vertex and “grow” tree one vertex at a time to produce MST through a series of expanding subtrees  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$
- On each iteration, construct  $T_{i+1}$  from  $T_i$  by adding vertex not in  $T_i$  that is closest to those already in  $T_i$  (this is a “greedy” step!)
  - Key Question – how do we do this efficiently
- Stop when all vertices are included

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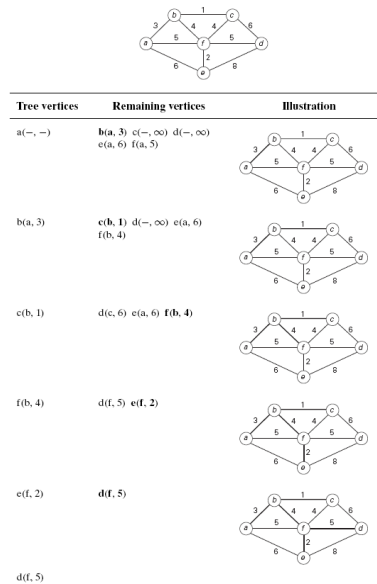
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## Example of Prim's Algorithm in action



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**FIGURE 9.3** Application of Prim's algorithm. The parenthesized labels of a vertex in the middle column indicate the nearest tree vertex and edge weight; selected vertices and edges are shown in bold.

7

## Prim's Algorithm: More details

```

Initialize prev(v), dist(v)  $\forall v \in V$ ;  $T = \{\text{start vertex}\}$ ;  $U = V - T$ ; dist(start vertex) = 0
while(T is missing a vertex)
    pick the vertex, v1, in U with the shortest edge, dist(), to the group of vertices in
    the spanning tree add v1 to T
    /* this loop looks through every neighbor of v and checks to see if that
    * neighbor could reach the minimum spanning tree more cheaply through v1 */
    for each edge of v1 (v1, v2)
        if(length(v1, v2) < dist[v2])
            dist[v2] = length(v1, v2)
            prev[v2] = v1
        end if
    end for
end while

```

Algorithm: Prim-MST (G)

Input: Graph  $G=(V,E)$  with edge-weights.

// Initialize priorities and place in priority queue.

1. priority[i] = infinity for each vertex i

2. Insert vertices and priorities into priorityQueue;

// Set the priority of vertex 0 to 0.

3. priorityQueue.decreaseKey (0, 0) //

// Process vertices one by one in order of priority

4. while priorityQueue.notEmpty()

// Get "best" vertex out of queue.

5. v = priorityQueue.extractMin()

6. Add v to MST;

// Explore edges from v.

7. for each edge  $e=(v, u)$  in adjList[v]

8. w = weight of edge  $e=(v, u)$ ;

// If it's shorter to get to MST via v, then update.

9. if priority[u] > w

10. priorityQueue.decreaseKey (u, w)

11. predecessor[u] = v

12. endif

13. endfor

14. endwhile

15. Build MST;

16. return MST

Algorithm: Dijkstra-SPT (G, s)

Input: Graph  $G=(V,E)$  with non-negative edge weights

// Initialize priorities and place in priority queue.

1. priority[i] = infinity for each vertex i;

2. Insert vertices and priorities into priorityQueue;

// Source s has priority 0

3. priorityQueue.decreaseKey (s, 0)

// Process vertices one by one in order of priority

4. while priorityQueue.notEmpty()

// Get "best" vertex out of queue.

5. v = priorityQueue.extractMin()

6. Add v to SPT;

// Explore edges from v.

7. for each edge  $e=(v, u)$  in adjList[v]

8. w = weight of edge  $e=(v, u)$ ;

// If it's shorter to get to u from s via v, update.

9. if priority[u] > priority[v] + w

10. priorityQueue.decreaseKey (u, priority[v]+w)

11. predecessor[u] = v

12. endif

13. endfor

14. endwhile

15. Build SPT;

16. return SPT

9

## Cut property – proving MST algorithms correct

Assume all the edge costs are distinct. Let

- S be non-empty proper subset of V
- $e = (v, w)$  the minimal cost edge between S and V-S
- then every MST contains e

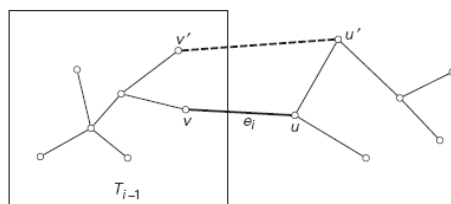


FIGURE 9.4 Correctness proof of Prim's algorithm.

## Cut property – proving MST algorithms correct

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Assume all the edge costs are distinct. Let

- $S$  be non-empty proper subset of  $V$
- $e = (v, w)$  the minimal cost edge between  $S$  and  $V-S$
- then every MST contains  $e$

Proof: (sketch – fill in the details)

- Let  $T$  be a spanning tree that does not contain  $e$
- Use an exchange argument
- Find an  $e'$  so that exchanging  $e$  for  $e'$  reduces the cost
  - » There must be a path from  $v$  to  $w$  in  $T$
  - » Follow the path to find an edge that goes from  $S$  to  $S-V$
  - » Let that be  $e'$ , exchange to get  $T'$
  - » Finally show:  $T'$  is a tree (acyclic) and has lower cost

## Correctness and Analysis: Prim's Algorithm

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- Correctness : apply the cut property at each stage of the algorithm
- Analysis: Using a heap implementation of a **priority queue** the algorithm will run:
  - $O(|E|)$  since each edge will eventually be placed in the queue
  - $|V| * \text{extractMin}$  and  $|E| * \text{changePriority}$  operations
  - A priority queue can be implemented using a heap so that both  $\text{extractMin}$  and  $\text{changePriority}$  are  $O(\log |V|)$
  - Therefore the overall running time is  $|E| * (\log |V|)$
- Why is it not proper to use the priority queue operations as the basic operations?

## Developing and remembering Prim's Algorithm

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Big idea: grow a tree adding one vertex (closest) at a time -- Refinements

1. How find next vertex? -- what needs to happen to set up for finding the next vertex?
2. What are the operations needed?
3. What are possible data structures?
4. What should control flow look like?

## Developing and remembering Prim's Algorithm - 2

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Try to make it concrete

- Keep track of vertices in a list and associate with each the "edge connecting it to the tree and the edge weight"
- Store the graph either as an adjacency matrix or an adjacency list
- Initialize the list of vertices, mark the start vertex with nil, 0 since it has no edge and no weight
- Traverse the adjacency list of the start vertex and update distances and edges
- Loop till all the vertices are connected - n-1
  - remove the nearest vertex and mark it in the tree
  - update the distances and edges of vertices in the adjacency list

## Single Source Shortest Paths Problem

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Single Source Shortest Paths Problem: Given a weighted connected graph  $G$ , find shortest (sum of the weights of the edges) paths from source vertex  $s$  to each of the other vertices

- Variants:
  - Single destination shortest paths problem
  - Single pair shortest paths problem
  - All pairs shortest paths problem
- Issues
  - Negative edge weights
  - Cycles

## Single Source Shortest Paths Problem Dijkstra's algorithm

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- Doesn't BFS solve shortest paths?  
Yes, but only if the edge costs are all 1
- Why not just add edges to get the weight? (Good Question, can you use what you already know.)



## Dijkstra's algorithm pseudo-code

### single source all shortest paths

---

- Doesn't BFS solve shortest paths?  
Yes, but only if the edge costs are all 1
- Why not just add edges to get the weight? (Good Question, can you use what you already know.)
- But problem is you may increase the number of edges significantly

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## Three Shortest Path Algorithms

### Depend on idea of relaxation

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- **Dijkstra**
  - Edge weights must be non-negative
  - Relaxes each edge exactly once.  $O((\log |V|) * |E|)$
- **Bellman-Ford**
  - Works with negative edge weights (Of course not cycles!)
  - Relaxes edges multiple times  $O(|V| * |E|)$
- **DAG - assumes no cycles!**
  - Uses topological sort of vertices
  - Guarantees  $O(|E| + |V|)$  performance
  - Works with negative edge weights

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## Relaxation:

- For each vertex,  $v$ , maintain an upper bound on the length (stored in  $\text{dist}(v)$ ) of the shortest path from the source vertex to that vertex and the previous vertex on that shortest path
- Test to see if some new path is shorter than the current upper bound. If so then reduce the upper bound and update the previous vertex.

Relax( $e=(u,v)$ ,  $w$ )

```

if  $\text{dist}(v) > \text{dist}(u) + w(u,v)$ 
     $\text{dist}(v) = \text{dist}(u) + w(u,v)$ 
     $\text{prev}(v) = u$ 

```

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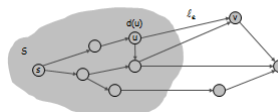
## Dijkstra's Algorithm

- Dijkstra's algorithm.
  - Maintain a set of **explored nodes**  $S$  for which we have determined the shortest path distance  $d(u)$  from  $s$  to  $u$ .
  - Initialize  $S = \{s\}$ ,  $d(s) = 0$ .
  - Repeatedly choose unexplored node  $v$  which minimizes

$$\pi(v) = \min_{e=(u,v): u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e,$$

shortest path to some  $u$  in explored part, followed by a single edge  $(u, v)$

add  $v$  to  $S$ , and set  $d(v) = \pi(v)$ .



20

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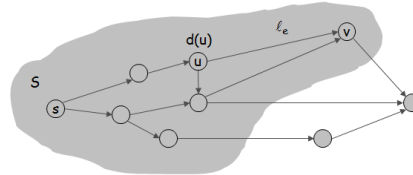
## Dijkstra's Algorithm

### ■ Dijkstra's algorithm.

- Maintain a set of **explored nodes**  $S$  for which we have determined the shortest path distance  $d(u)$  from  $s$  to  $u$ .
- Initialize  $S = \{s\}$ ,  $d(s) = 0$ .
- Repeatedly choose unexplored node  $v$  which minimizes

$$\pi(v) = \min_{e=(u,v): u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e, \quad \text{shortest path to some } u \text{ in explored part, followed by a single edge } (u, v)$$

add  $v$  to  $S$ , and set  $d(v) = \pi(v)$ .



21

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## Dijkstra's Algorithm: Implementation

- For each unexplored node, explicitly maintain  $\pi(v) = \min_{e=(u,v): u \in S} d(u) + \ell_e$ .
  - Next node to explore = node with minimum  $\pi(v)$ .
  - When exploring  $v$ , for each incident edge  $e = (v, w)$ , update

$$\pi(w) = \min \{ \pi(w), \pi(v) + \ell_e \}.$$

- Efficient implementation. Maintain a priority queue of unexplored nodes, prioritized by  $\pi(v)$ .

PQ Operation	Dijkstra	Array	Binary heap	d-way Heap	Fib heap <sup>†</sup>
Insert	$n$	$n$	$\log n$	$d \log_d n$	1
ExtractMin	$n$	$n$	$\log n$	$d \log_d n$	$\log n$
ChangeKey	$m$	1	$\log n$	$\log_d n$	1
IsEmpty	$n$	1	1	1	1
Total		$n^2$	$m \log n$	$m \log_{m/n} n$	$m + n \log n$

22

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<sup>†</sup> Individual ops are  
amortized bounds

## Representing Shortest Paths

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- For each vertex  $u$  maintain the previous vertex from the source to that vertex,  $\text{prev}(u)$
- Can reconstruct the shortest path to any vertex by walking backwards from the vertex to the source

```
Initialize_Single_Source(V)
  for  $v \in V$ 
     $\text{dist}(v) = \infty$ 
     $\text{prev}(v) = \text{null}$ 
   $\text{dist}(s) = 0$ 
```

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## Dijkstra's algorithm pseudo-code single source all shortest paths

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For every vertex  $\text{dist}[v] \leftarrow \infty$  as distance;  $\text{prev}[v] = \text{null}$ ;  
 $\text{Dist}[\text{source}] = 0$ ;  
 $Q = V$  ( $Q$  will be the set of unfinished vertices)  
 $V_T \neq \emptyset$   
 while  $Q$  is not empty.  
   // Loop invariant:  $V_T = \{ v: \text{know shortest path} \}$   
   // each time through finds shortest path to vertex  
   // and adds edge to  $V_T$

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24

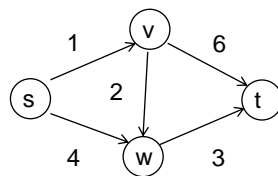
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- $\text{Dist}[\text{source}] = 0$ ;
- $Q = V$  ( $Q$  will be the set of unfinished vertices)
- $V_T \neq \emptyset$
- while  $Q$  is not empty. // Loop invariant:  $V_T = \{v: \text{know shortest path}\}$   
 // each time through finds shortest path to vertex and adds to  $V_T$ 
  - $u$  be vertex with smallest distance to source in  $Q$ , remove  $u^*$  from  $Q$
  - $V_T = V_T \cup \{u^*\}$
  - for all of its unfinished neighbors  $v$ 
    - » calculate their tentative distance to source through current node ---  $u^*$ .
    - » If this distance is less than the previously recorded tentative distance of  $v$ , then overwrite  $\text{dist}[v]$  and update  $\text{prev}[v]$

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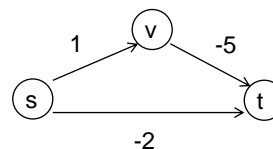
25

## Simple Examples



Works!

What if negative edges lengths?  
 -- What if run Dijkstra's on this?  
 -- Add constant to each edge?



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26

## Dijkstra's algorithm – proof of correctness

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- Theorem: For every directed graph with non-negative edge lengths, Dijkstra's algorithm correctly computes all shortest path distances

Proof by induction:

Picture

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## Dijkstra's algorithm – proof of correctness

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Proof by induction: mark nodes with a \* once shortest path has been found

base case: - empty path is optimal

Inductive case: all previous iterations correct  $\rightarrow$  next iteration correct

1. Dijkstra picks next node to add to the shortest path tree  $w$  by finding the  $w$  with the smallest length path given by  $\text{dist}(v^*) + l(v^*, w)$  where it has already found the shortest path to  $v^*$   
---- must show this is the shortest path of all possible paths from  $s$  to  $w^*$ .

Know the shortest path to  $v^*$  has been found in a previous iteration by the inductive hypothesis

2. Suppose there is a shorter path,  $P_2$ ,  $s$  to  $w$  that has not been found yet. Any path from  $s$  to  $w$  must cross the frontier between nodes whose shortest paths are known and other nodes. Let the edge where  $P_2$  crosses the frontier be  $(y^*, z)$  thus there is a path from  $s$  to  $y^*$  followed by the edge  $(y^*, z)$ , then a path from  $z$  to  $w$ .
3. But the the last section of  $P_2$  must be  $\geq 0$  (since all edge lengths are non-negative).
4. Finally consider the path length of the part of  $P_2$  from  $s$  to  $z$  given by  $\text{dist}(s \text{ to } y^*) + l(y^*, z)$ . But the path from  $s$  to  $z$  that is part of the proposed better path from  $s$  to  $w^*$  must be  $\leq$  shortest path from  $s$  to  $w$ . Why?. This contradicts that the vertex chosen by Dijkstra is the closest vertex to  $s$  among all the vertices one edge away from the vertices for which the shortest path is already known.

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28

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Kenneth H. Rosen, *Discrete Mathematics and Its Applications*, 7e

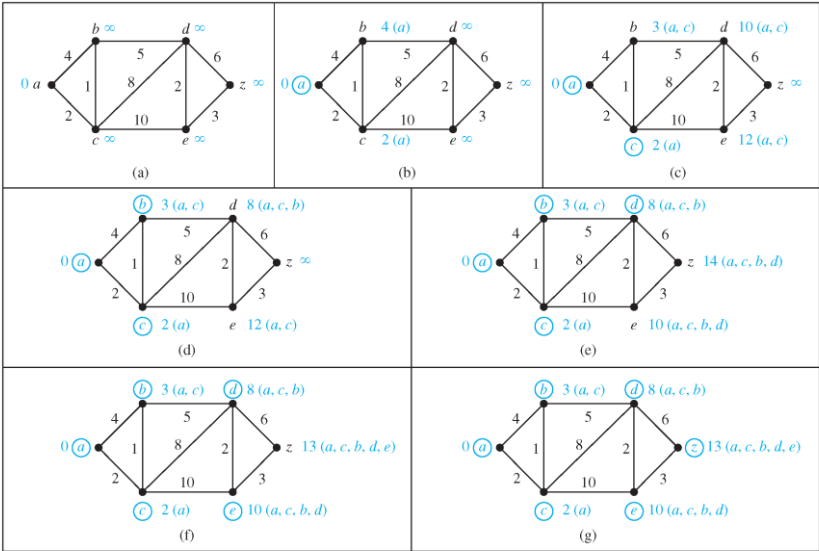
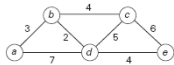


FIGURE 4 Using Dijkstra's Algorithm to Find a Shortest Path from  $a$  to  $z$ .



Tree vertices	Remaining vertices	Illustration
$a(-, 0)$	<b><math>b(a, 3)</math></b> $c(-, \infty)$ $d(a, 7)$ $e(-, \infty)$	
$b(a, 3)$	$c(b, 3+4)$ <b><math>d(b, 3+2)</math></b> $e(-, \infty)$	
$d(b, 5)$	<b><math>c(b, 7)</math></b> $e(d, 5+4)$	
$c(b, 7)$	<b><math>e(d, 9)</math></b>	
$e(d, 9)$		

The shortest paths (identified by following nonnumeric labels backward from a destination vertex in the left column to the source) and their lengths (given by numeric labels of the tree vertices) are as follows:

- from  $a$  to  $b$ :  $a - b$  of length 3
- from  $a$  to  $d$ :  $a - b - d$  of length 5
- from  $a$  to  $c$ :  $a - b - c$  of length 7
- from  $a$  to  $e$ :  $a - b - d - e$  of length 9

FIGURE 9.11 Application of Dijkstra's algorithm. The next closest vertex is shown in bold.

## Notes on Dijkstra's algorithm

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- Doesn't work for graphs with negative weight
- Applicable to both undirected and directed graphs
- Efficiency
  - $O(|V|^2)$  for graphs represented by weight matrix and array implementation of priority queue
  - $O(|E|\log|V|)$  for graphs represented by adj. lists and min-heap implementation of priority queue
- Don't mix up Dijkstra's algorithm with Prim's algorithm!

## Another greedy algorithm for MST: Kruskal's

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- Sort the edges in non-decreasing order of lengths
- "Grow" tree one edge at a time to produce MST through a series of expanding forests  $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_{n-1}$
- On each iteration, add the next edge on the sorted list unless this would create a cycle. (If it would, skip the edge.)



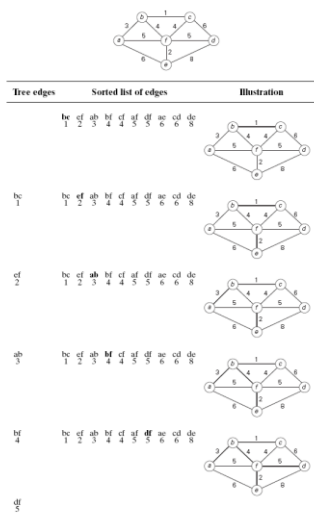


FIGURE 9.5 Application of Kruskal's algorithm. Selected edges are shown in bold.

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33

## Notes about Kruskal's algorithm

- Algorithm looks easier than Prim's but is harder to implement (checking for cycles!)
- Cycle checking: a cycle is created if and only if added edge connects vertices in the same connected component
- *Union-find* algorithms – see section 9.2

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34

## Correctness and Analysis: Kruskal's Algorithm

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- Correctness : apply the cut property at each stage of the algorithm
- Analysis: Assuming  $n$  vertices and  $m$  edges. Using Union, Find and MakeSet operations discussed in the text with an efficient implementation
  - the algorithms order of complexity is dominated by the sorting operation on the edges hence it is  $O(|E| * (\log |E|))$

## Bellman Ford Algorithm

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```

Bellman-Ford (G, w, s) // w: weights
  Initialize_Single_Source(V)
  For i = 1 to |V|-1
    for each edge (u,v) in E
      Relax((u,v), w)
  for each edge (u,v) in E
    if dist(v) > dist(u) + w(u,v)
      return false //negative cycle detected
  
```

## Correctness of Bellman Ford Algorithm

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- May want to defer till get to dynamic programming. Good lab to write out as a dynamic programming algorithm
- Proof of correctness is proof of optimal substructure

## DAG Algorithm

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- DAG implies no cycles – no need to worry about negative weight cycles
- If we topologically sort the vertices, then any path must be consistent with the topological sort, that is the  $u$  comes before  $v$  in the path  $\leftrightarrow u$  comes before  $v$  in the topological sort
- By making one pass over the vertices in the topological sort and relaxing the values of the vertices in their adjacency list we are guaranteed to find the shortest paths.

## DAG algorithm pseudo code and efficiency

```

DAG-Shortest-Paths (G,w,s)
  Topologically sort vertices in G
  Initialize-Single-Source (G,s)
  For each vertex u // in topological sorted order
    For vertex v in the adjacency list of u
      Relax(u,v,w)
  
```

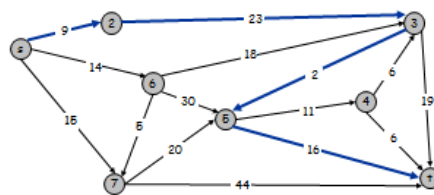
- Running time is  $\theta(|E|+|V|)$  since topological sorting is  $\theta(|E|+|V|)$  and the Relax function is called  $\theta(|E|+|V|)$  times

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39

## Shortest Path Problem

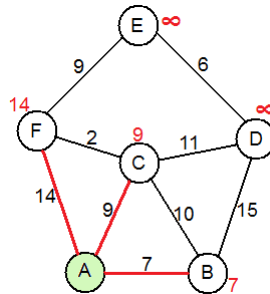
- Shortest path network.
  - Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
  - Source  $s$ , destination  $t$ .
  - Length  $\ell_e$  = length of edge  $e$ .
  - cost of path = sum of edge costs in path
- Shortest path problem: find shortest directed path from  $s$  to  $t$ .



Cost of path s-2-3-5-t  
 $= 9 + 23 + 2 + 16$   
 $= 48.$

40

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## A\* (heuristic): Brief comparison

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- A\* uses finds a least-cost path from a given initial node to one goal node (out of one or more possible goals).
- It uses a distance-plus-cost heuristic function  $f(x) = g(x) + h(x)$  to determine the order in which the search visits nodes in the tree.
  - $g(x)$  – path cost function which is the cost from the starting node to the current node
  - $h(x)$  an **admissible** "heuristic estimate" of the distance to the goal (usually denoted ). It must not over-estimate the distance to the goal

## Coding Problem

- Coding: assignment of bit strings to alphabet characters
- Codeword: bit string assigned to character
- Two types of codes:
  - fixed-length encoding (e.g., ASCII)
  - variable-length encoding (e.g., Morse code)
- Prefix-free codes: no codeword is a prefix of another codeword

Problem: If frequencies of the character occurrences are known, what is the best binary prefix-free code?

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43

## Morse and ASCII codes

A •—	J —•—	S •••
B —•••	K —•—	T —
C —•—•	L —•••	U —••
D —•••	M —•—	V •••—
E •••	N —••	W —•—•
F —•••	O —•—	X —••—
G —•—•	P —•••	Y —••—
H —••••	Q —•—•	Z —•••
I •••	R —••	

### Appendix B: ASCII codes

Printable 8-bit ASCII codes

Decimal	Binary	Symbol	Decimal	Binary	Symbol	Decimal	Binary	Symbol
017	00010001	space	064	01000000	@	128	01000000	—
018	00010010	!	065	01000001	A	129	01000001	a
019	00010011	"	066	01000010	B	130	01000010	b
020	00010100	#	067	01000011	C	131	01000011	c
021	00010101	\$	068	01000100	D	132	01000100	d
022	00010110	%	069	01000101	E	133	01000101	e
023	00010111	&	070	01000110	F	134	01000110	f
024	00011000	'	071	01000111	G	135	01000111	g
025	00011001	(	072	01001000	H	136	01001000	h
026	00011010	)	073	01001001	I	137	01001001	i
027	00011011	*	074	01001010	J	138	01001010	j
028	00011100	+	075	01001011	K	139	01001011	k
029	00011101	, -	076	01001100	L	140	01001100	l
030	00011110	.	077	01001101	M	141	01001101	m
031	00011111	/	078	01001110	N	142	01001110	n
032	00100000	0	079	01001111	O	143	01001111	o
033	00100001	1	080	01010000	P	144	01010000	p
034	00100010	2	081	01010001	Q	145	01010001	q
035	00100011	3	082	01010010	R	146	01010010	r
036	00100100	4	083	01010011	S	147	01010011	s
037	00100101	5	084	01010100	T	148	01010100	t
038	00100110	6	085	01010101	U	149	01010101	u
039	00100111	7	086	01010110	V	150	01010110	v
040	00101000	8	087	01010111	W	151	01010111	w
041	00101001	9	088	01011000	X	152	01011000	x
042	00101010	:	089	01011001	Y	153	01011001	y
043	00101011	;	090	01011010	Z	154	01011010	z
044	00101100	<	091	01011011	[	155	01011011	{
045	00101101	=	092	01011100	\	156	01011100	
046	00101110	>	093	01011101	^	157	01011101	~
047	00101111	?	094	01011110	_	158	01011110	—
048	00110000		095	01011111		159	01011111	

191

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44

## Example

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- Let  $\Sigma = \{ \text{lower case letters, five punctuation marks and space} \}$
- How can we encode this – 5 bits since  $2^5 = 32$
- Is there a way to reduce the length not of the code for each symbol BUT the average length of a message.
- Use frequency of the occurrence of the symbols
  - e, t, a - most frequent                      -- q, j, x, z – least frequent
  - Normalize so the sum of frequencies is = 1
  - Use frequencies to compute E(symbol length)
  - E.g. Morse code
- Prefix free codes are codes: for all symbols x and y –  
codeword(x) is not a prefix of codeword(y)
- Decoding is easy - - why?

## Huffman codes – key insights

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- Any binary tree with edges labeled with 0's and 1's yields a prefix-free code of characters assigned to its leaves
- Optimal binary tree minimizing the expected (weighted average) length of a codeword can be constructed as follows

## Example

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character	A	B	C	D	E
frequency	0.35	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.15

codeword	11	100	00	01	101
----------	----	-----	----	----	-----

average bits per character: 2.25

for fixed-length encoding: 3

*compression ratio:*  $(3-2.25)/3 \times 100\% = 25\%$

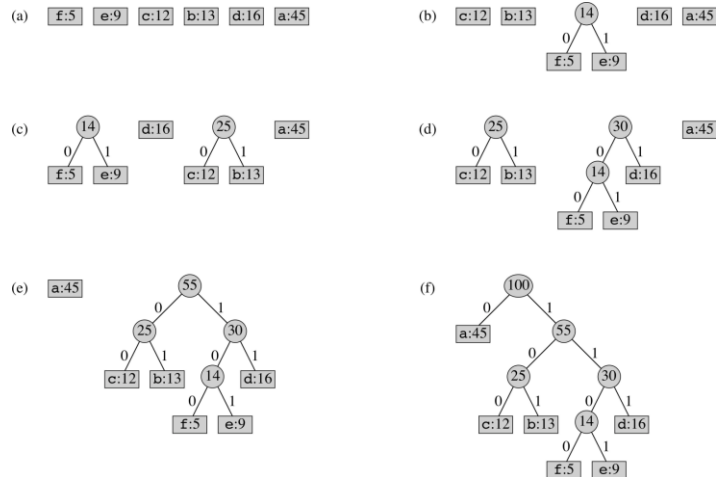
## Huffman's algorithm

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- Initialize  $n$  one-node trees with alphabet characters and the tree weights with their frequencies.
- Repeat the following step  $n-1$  times:
  - join two binary trees with smallest weights into one (as left and right subtrees)
  - make the new tree weight equal the sum of the weights of the two subtrees.
- Mark edges leading to left and right subtrees with 0's and 1's, respectively



## Constructing a Huffman code tree



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49

## Example: Build tree (smallest to left = 0)

character	A	B	C	D	E
frequency	0.32	0.25	0.2	0.18	0.05

Codewords:

H.C. average bits per character:

Fixed-length bits per character:

*compression ratio* =

Decode: 011110111011011

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50

## Extensions and issues

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- Image compression
  - Fraction of a bit for a white pixel, higher for black pixel
  - Video/audio – only send changes
- Adaptive encoding
- Many schemes are more effective for particular applications

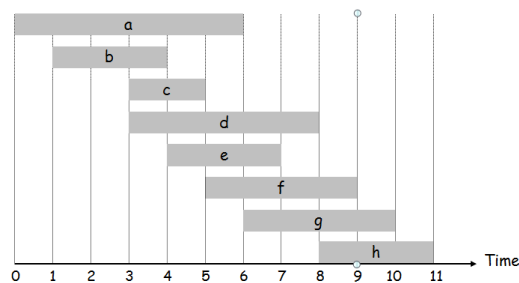
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51

## Interval Scheduling

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- Interval scheduling.
  - Job  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
  - Two jobs compatible if they don't overlap.
  - Goal: find maximum subset of mutually compatible jobs.



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52

## Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

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- Greedy template. Consider jobs in some order. Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.
  - [Earliest start time] Consider jobs in ascending order of start time  $s_j$ .
  - [Earliest finish time] Consider jobs in ascending order of finish time  $f_j$ .
  - [Shortest interval] Consider jobs in ascending order of interval length  $f_j - s_j$ .
  - [Fewest conflicts] For each job, count the number of conflicting jobs  $c_j$ . Schedule in ascending order of conflicts  $c_j$ .

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53

## Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

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- Greedy template. Consider jobs in some order. Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.



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54

## Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithm

- Greedy algorithm. Consider jobs in increasing order of finish time. Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken. (Earliest finish time first)

```

Sort jobs by finish times so that  $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots \leq f_n$ .
/ jobs selected
A  $\leftarrow \emptyset$ 
for j = 1 to n {
    if (job j compatible with A)
        A  $\leftarrow A \cup \{j\}$ 
}
return A

```

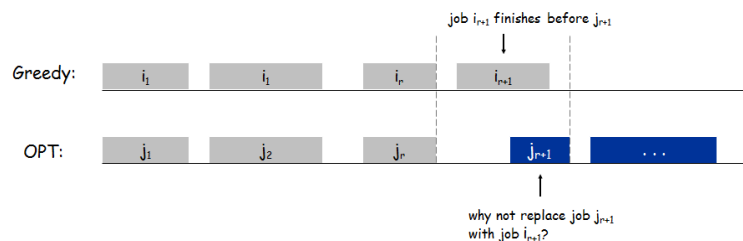
- Implementation.  $O(n \log n)$ .
  - Remember job  $j^*$  that was added last to A.
  - Job j is compatible with A if  $s_j \geq f_{j^*}$ .

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55

## Interval Scheduling: Analysis

- Theorem. Greedy algorithm is optimal.
- Pf. (by contradiction)
  - Assume greedy is not optimal, and let's see what happens.
  - Let  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k$  denote set of jobs selected by greedy.
  - Let  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m$  denote set of jobs in the optimal solution with  $i_1 = j_1, i_2 = j_2, \dots, i_r = j_r$  for the largest possible value of r.

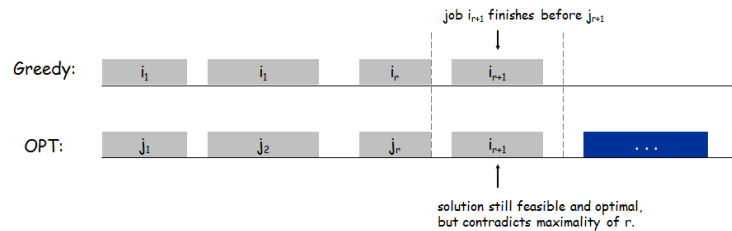


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56

## Interval Scheduling: Analysis

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57