

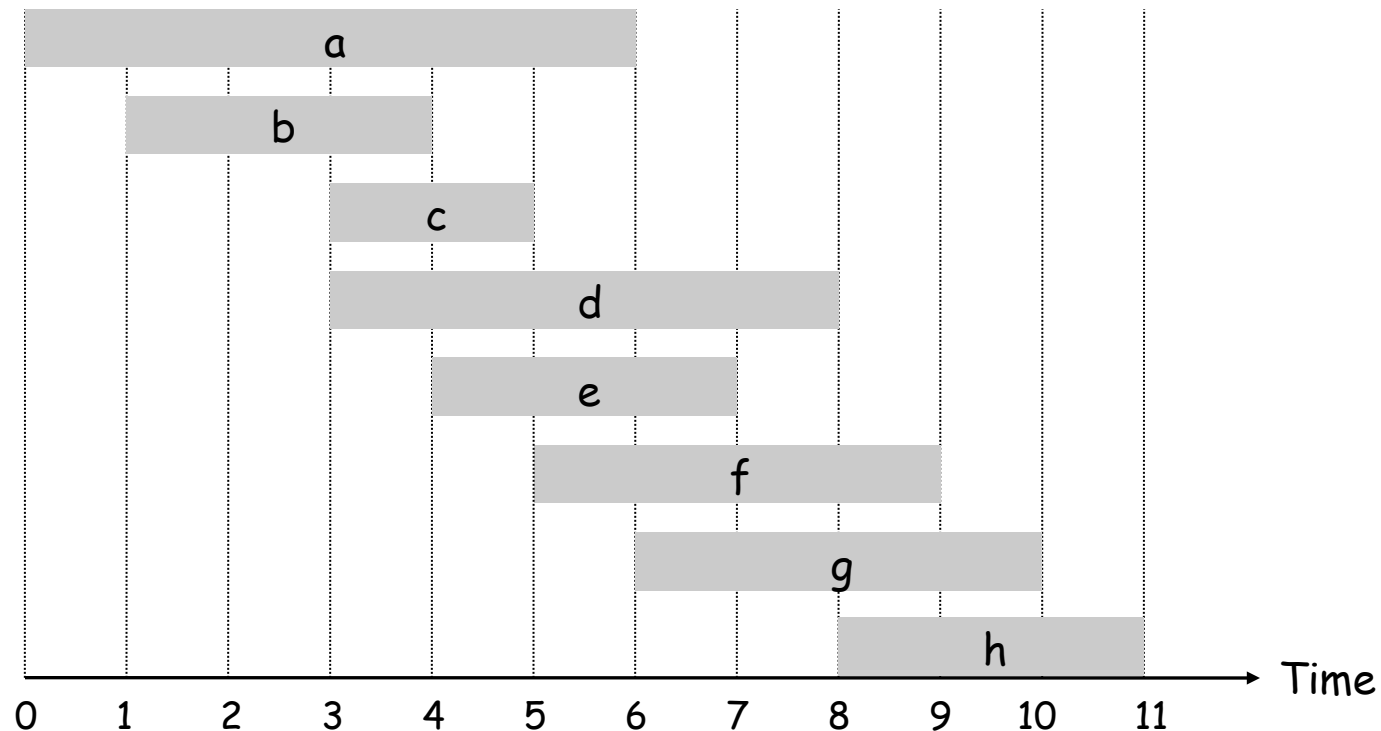
## 4.1 Interval Scheduling

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# Interval Scheduling

## 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.



# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

**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  $c_j$ .

# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

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



breaks earliest start time



breaks shortest interval



breaks fewest conflicts

# 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.

```
Sort jobs by finish times so that  $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots \leq f_n$ .  
  ↙ jobs selected  
A ← ∅  
for j = 1 to n {  
    if (job j compatible with A)  
        A ← A ∪ {j}  
}  
return A
```

**Implementation.**  $O(n \log n)$ .

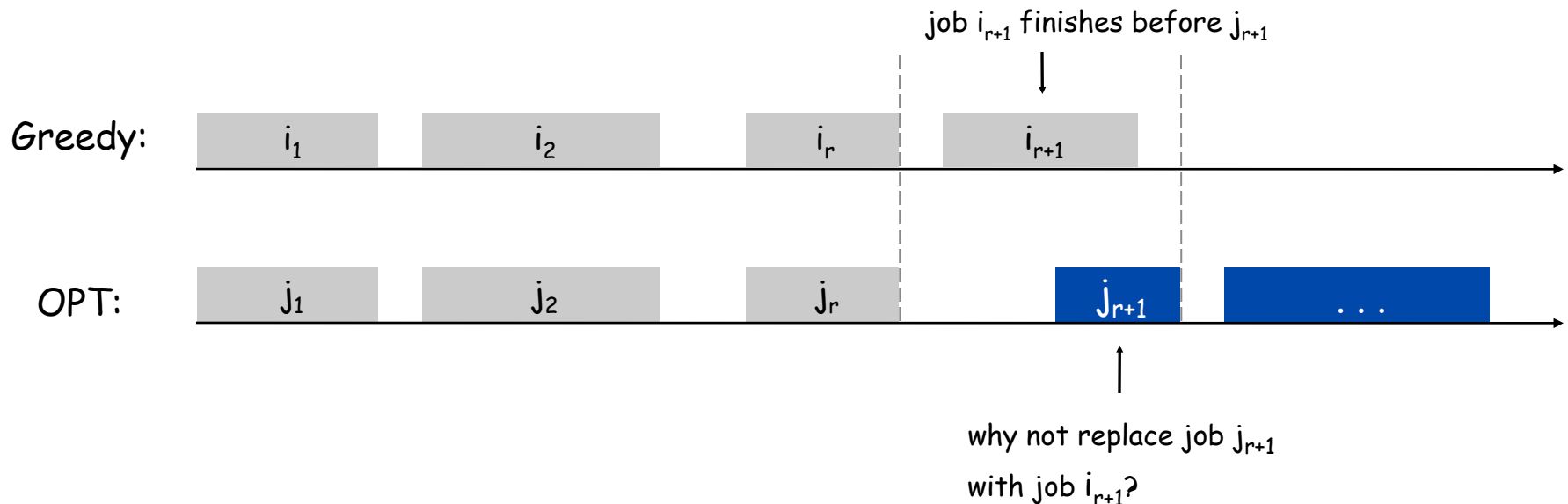
- Remember job  $j^*$  that was added last to A.
- Job  $j$  is compatible with A if  $s_j \geq f_{j^*}$ .

# 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 a set of jobs selected by greedy.
- Let  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m$  denote a set of jobs in an optimal solution with  $i_1 = j_1, i_2 = j_2, \dots, i_r = j_r$  for the largest possible value of  $r$ .

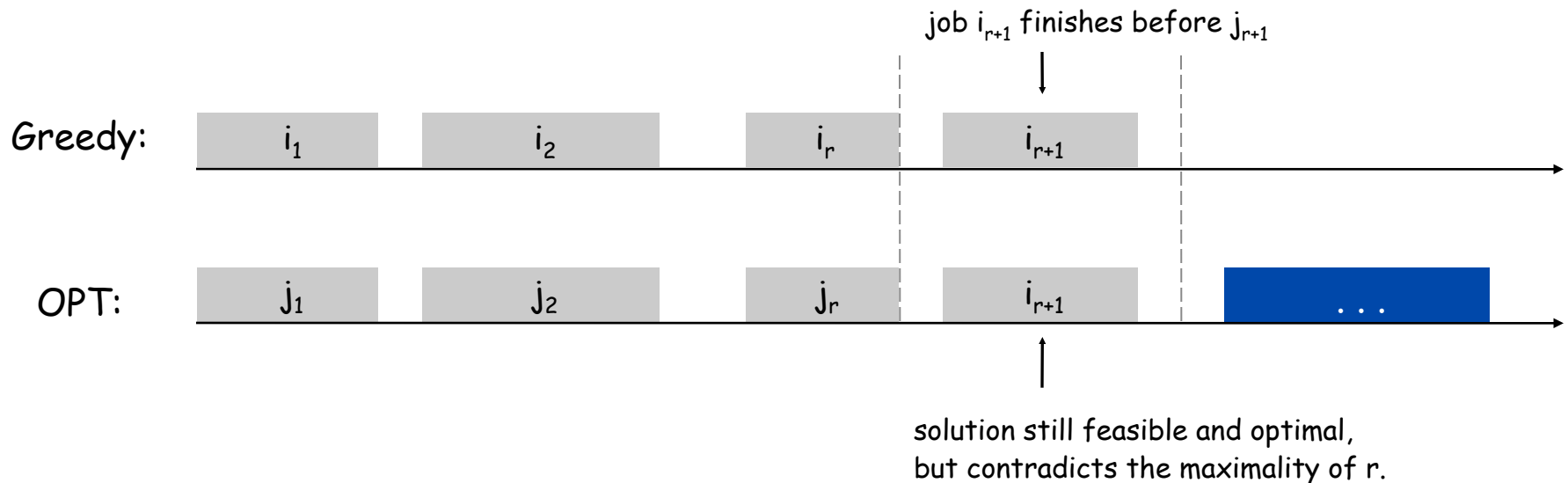


# Interval Scheduling: Analysis

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal.

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



## 4.1 Interval Partitioning

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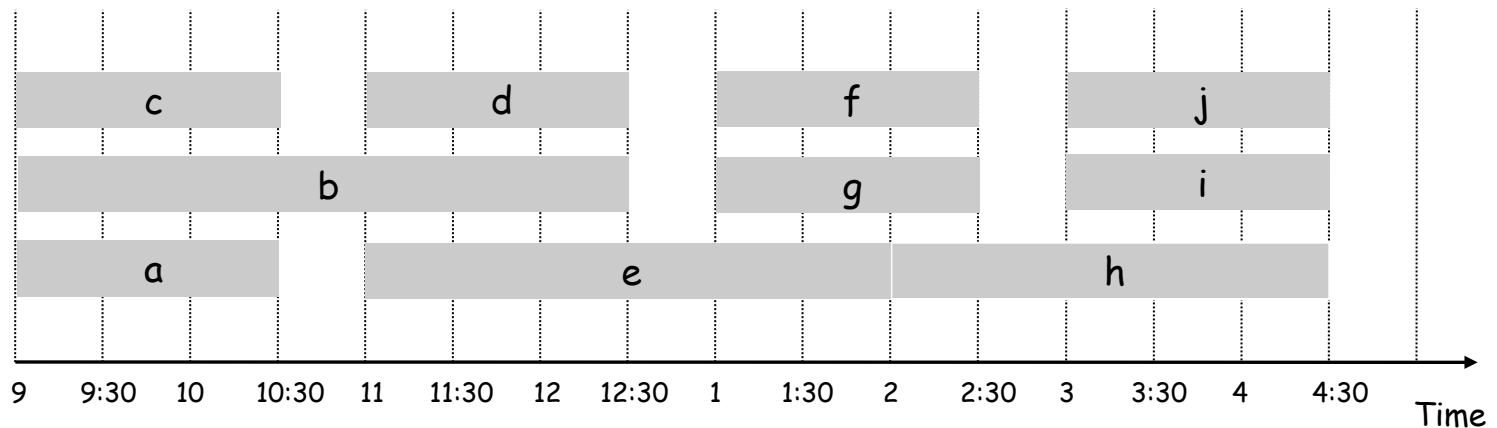


# Interval Partitioning

## Interval partitioning.

- Lecture  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
- Goal: find minimum number of classrooms to schedule all lectures so that no two occur at the same time in the same room.

Ex: This schedule uses only 3.



# Interval Partitioning: Lower Bound on Optimal Solution

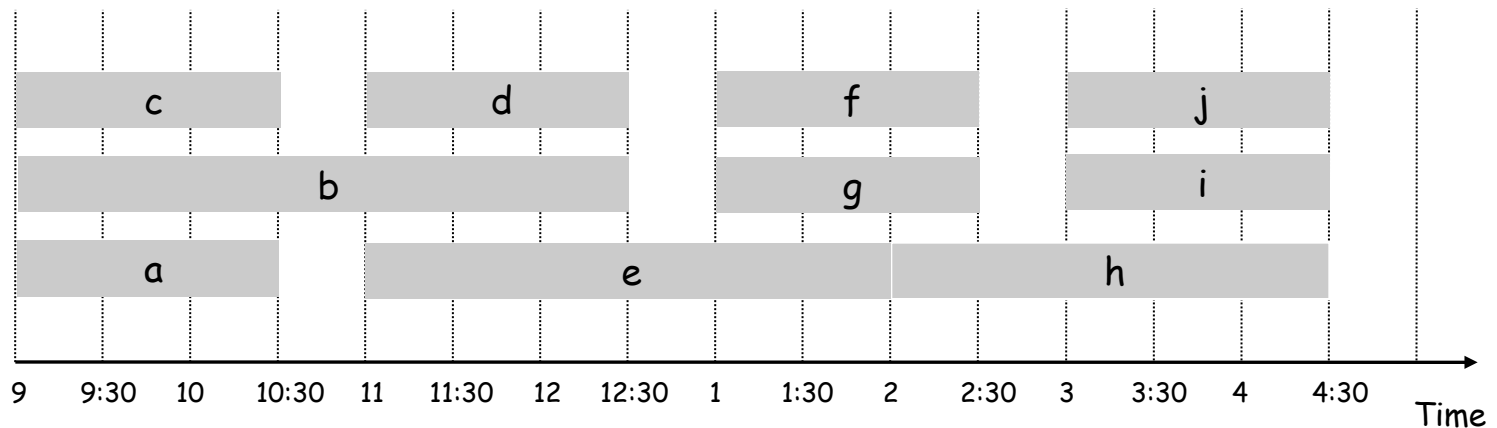
**Def.** The **depth** of a set of open intervals is the maximum number that contain any given time.

**Key observation.** Number of classrooms needed  $\geq$  depth.

**Ex:** Depth of schedule below = 3  $\Rightarrow$  schedule below is optimal.

↑  
a, b, c all contain 9:30

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



# Interval Partitioning: Greedy Algorithm

**Greedy algorithm.** Consider lectures in increasing order of start time: assign lecture to any compatible classroom.

```
Sort intervals by starting time so that  $s_1 \leq s_2 \leq \dots \leq s_n$ .  
d  $\leftarrow$  0    — number of allocated classrooms  
  
for j = 1 to n {  
    if (lecture j is compatible with some classroom k)  
        schedule lecture j in classroom k  
    else  
        allocate a new classroom d + 1  
        schedule lecture j in classroom d + 1  
        d  $\leftarrow$  d + 1  
}
```

**Implementation.**  $O(n \log n)$ .

- For each classroom k, maintain the finish time of the last job added.
- Keep the classrooms in a priority queue.

## Interval Partitioning: Greedy Analysis

**Observation.** Greedy algorithm never schedules two incompatible lectures in the same classroom.

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal.

**Pf.**

- Let  $d$  = number of classrooms that the greedy algorithm allocates.
- Classroom  $d$  was allocated because we needed to schedule a job, say  $j$ , that is incompatible with all  $d-1$  other classrooms.
- Since we sorted by start time, all these incompatibilities are caused by lectures that start no later than  $s_j$ .
- Thus, we have  $d$  lectures overlapping at time  $s_j + \epsilon$ .
- Key observation  $\Rightarrow$  all schedules use  $\geq d$  classrooms. ▪

## 4.2 Scheduling to Minimize Lateness

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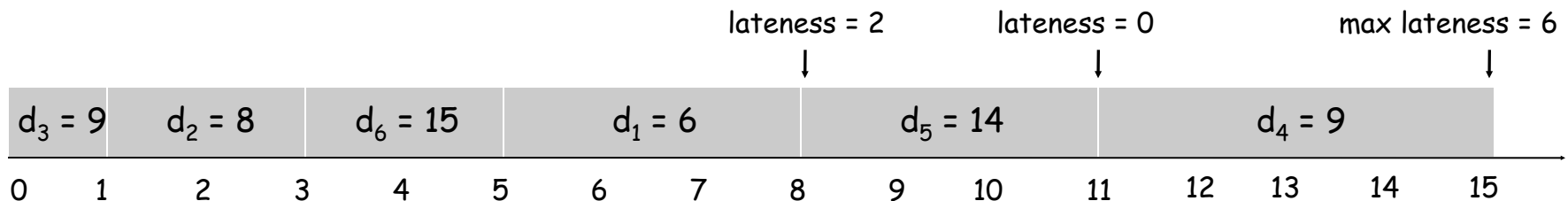
# Scheduling to Minimizing Lateness

## Minimizing lateness problem.

- Single resource processes one job at a time.
- Job  $j$  requires  $t_j$  units of processing time and is due at time  $d_j$ .
- If  $j$  starts at time  $s_j$ , it finishes at time  $f_j = s_j + t_j$ .
- Lateness:  $\ell_j = \max \{ 0, f_j - d_j \}$ .
- Goal: schedule all jobs to minimize **maximum** lateness  $L = \max \ell_j$ .

Ex:

	1	2	3	4	5	6
$t_j$	3	2	1	4	3	2
$d_j$	6	8	9	9	14	15



# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithms

**Greedy template.** Consider jobs in some order.

- [Shortest processing time first] Consider jobs in ascending order of processing time  $t_j$ .

	1	2
$t_j$	1	10
$d_j$	100	10

counterexample

- [Smallest slack] Consider jobs in ascending order of slack  $d_j - t_j$ .

	1	2
$t_j$	10	1
$d_j$	10	2

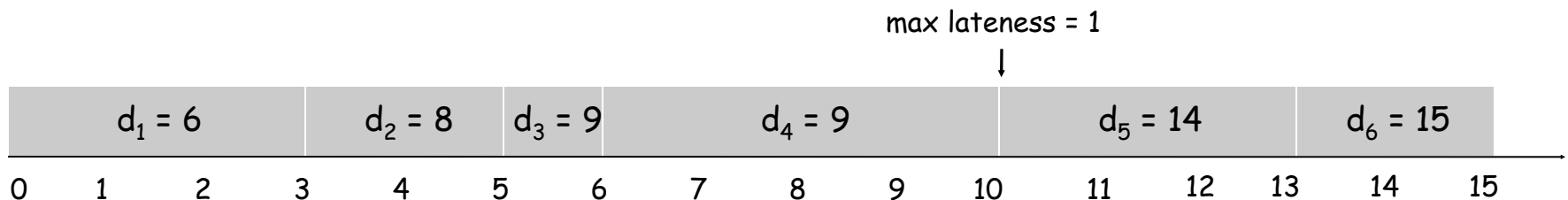
counterexample

# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithm

Greedy algorithm. Earliest deadline first.

```
Sort n jobs by deadline so that  $d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_n$ 

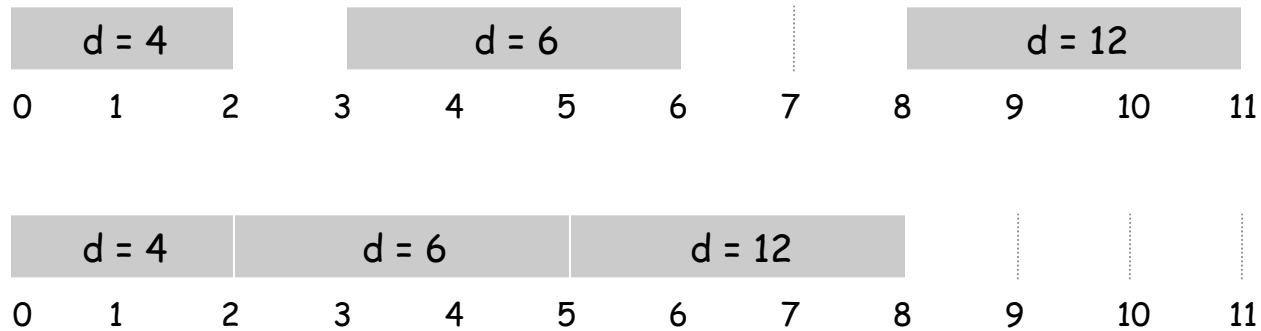
 $t \leftarrow 0$ 
for j = 1 to n
    ( Assign job j to interval  $[t, t + t_j]$  )
     $s_j \leftarrow t, f_j \leftarrow t + t_j$ 
     $t \leftarrow t + t_j$ 
output intervals  $[s_j, f_j]$ 
```





## Minimizing Lateness: No Idle Time

**Observation.** There exists an optimal schedule with no **idle time**.



**Observation.** The greedy schedule has no idle time.

## Minimizing Lateness: Inversions

**Def.** An **inversion** in schedule  $S$  is a pair of jobs  $i$  and  $j$  such that:  
 $i < j$  but  $j$  scheduled before  $i$ .

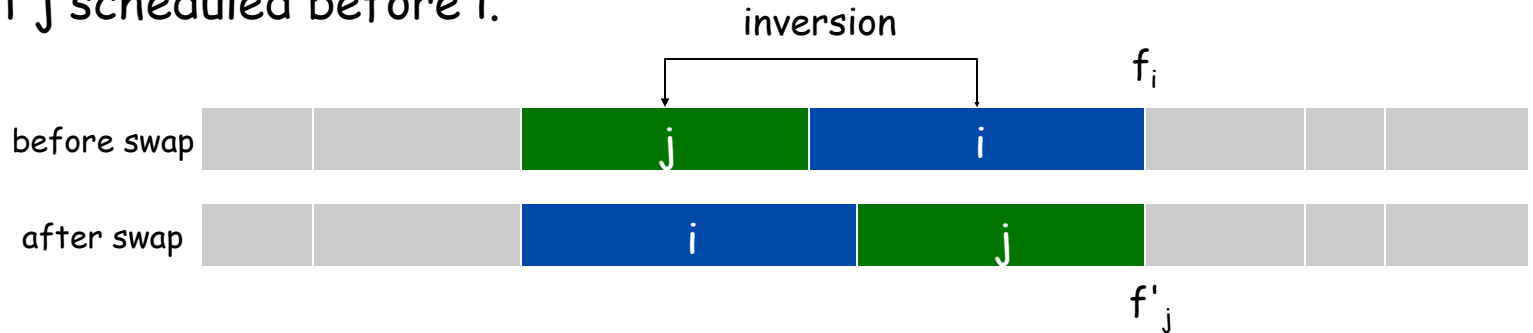


**Observation.** Greedy schedule has no inversions.

**Observation.** If a schedule (with no idle time) has an inversion, it has one with a pair of inverted jobs scheduled consecutively.

## Minimizing Lateness: Inversions

**Def.** An **inversion** in schedule  $S$  is a pair of jobs  $i$  and  $j$  such that:  $i < j$  but  $j$  scheduled before  $i$ .



**Claim.** Swapping two adjacent, inverted jobs reduces the number of inversions by one and does not increase the max lateness.

**Pf.** Let  $\ell$  be the lateness before the swap, and let  $\ell'$  be it afterwards.

- $\ell'_k = \ell_k$  for all  $k \neq i, j$
- $\ell'_i \leq \ell_i$
- If job  $j$  is late:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ell'_j &= f'_j - d_j && \text{(definition)} \\
 &= f_i - d_j && \text{(j finishes at time } f_i) \\
 &\leq f_i - d_i && (i < j) \\
 &= \ell_i && \text{(definition)}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Minimizing Lateness: Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

**Theorem.** Greedy schedule  $S$  is optimal.

**Pf.** Define  $S^*$  to be an optimal schedule that has the fewest number of inversions, and let's see what happens.

- Can assume  $S^*$  has no idle time.
- If  $S^*$  has no inversions, then  $S = S^*$ .
- If  $S^*$  has an inversion, let  $i$ - $j$  be an adjacent inversion.
  - swapping  $i$  and  $j$  does not increase the maximum lateness and strictly decreases the number of inversions
  - this contradicts definition of  $S^*$  ▪

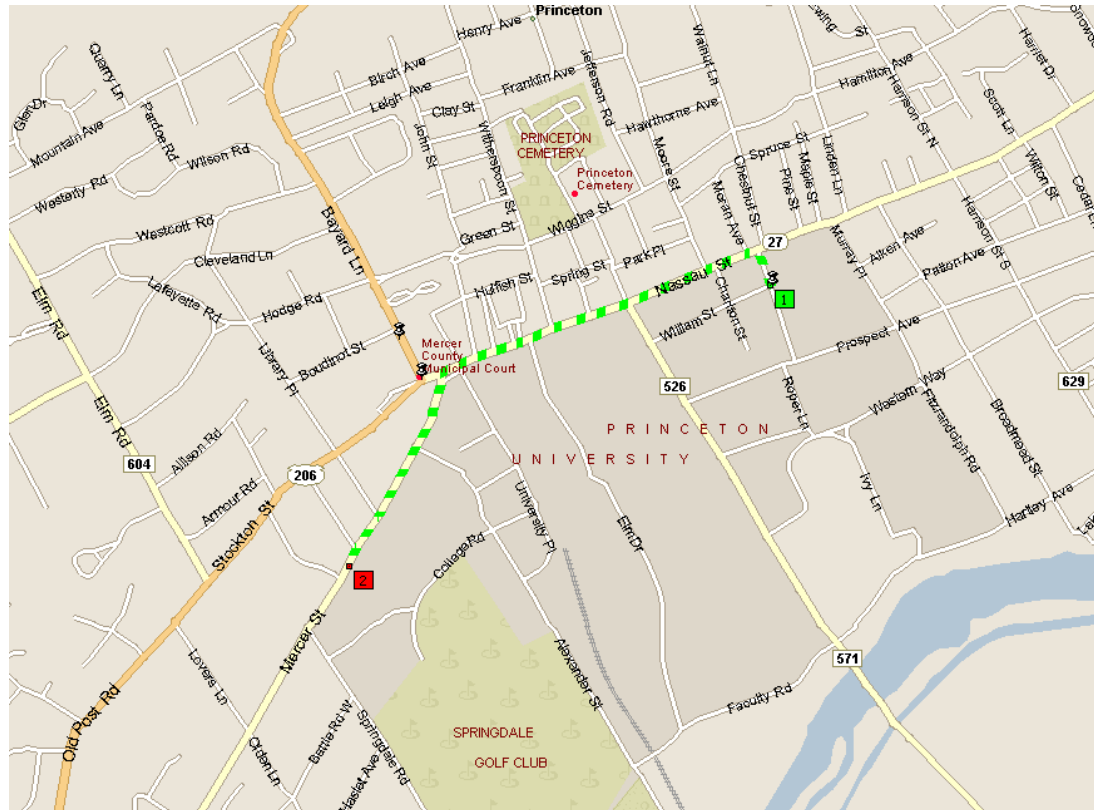
## Greedy Analysis Strategies

**Greedy algorithm stays ahead.** Show that after each step of the greedy algorithm, its solution is at least as good as any other algorithm's.

**Exchange argument.** Gradually transform any solution to the one found by the greedy algorithm without hurting its quality.

**Structural.** Discover a simple "structural" bound asserting that every possible solution must have a certain value. Then show that your algorithm always achieves this bound.

## 4.4 Shortest Paths in a Graph



shortest path from Princeton CS department to Einstein's house

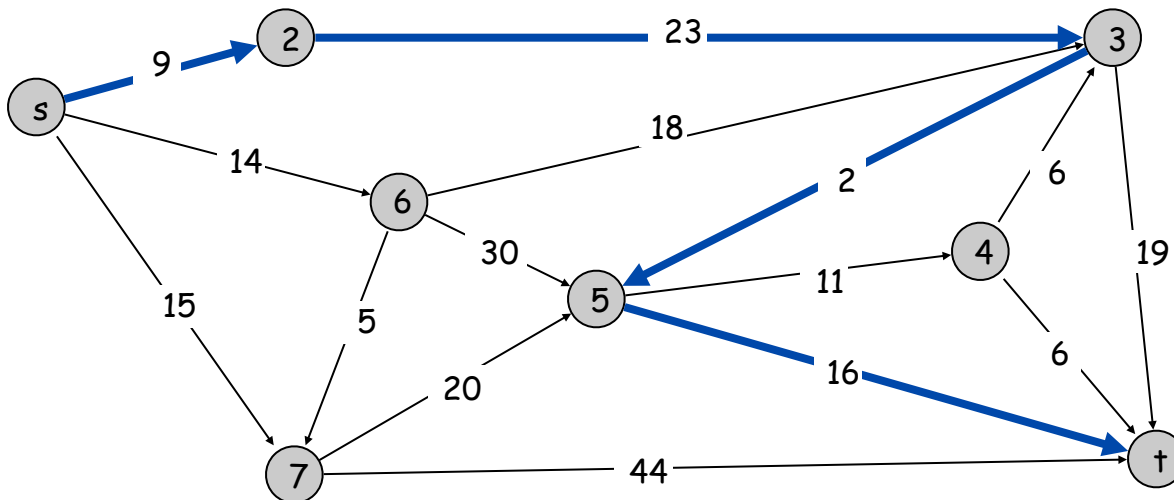
# Shortest Path Problem

## Shortest path network.

- Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
- Source  $s$ , target  $t$ .
- Length  $\ell_e$  = length of edge  $e$ .

Shortest path problem: find shortest directed path from  $s$  to  $t$ .

cost of path = sum of edge costs in path



Cost of path  $s-2-3-5-t$   
=  $9 + 23 + 2 + 16$   
= 50.

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

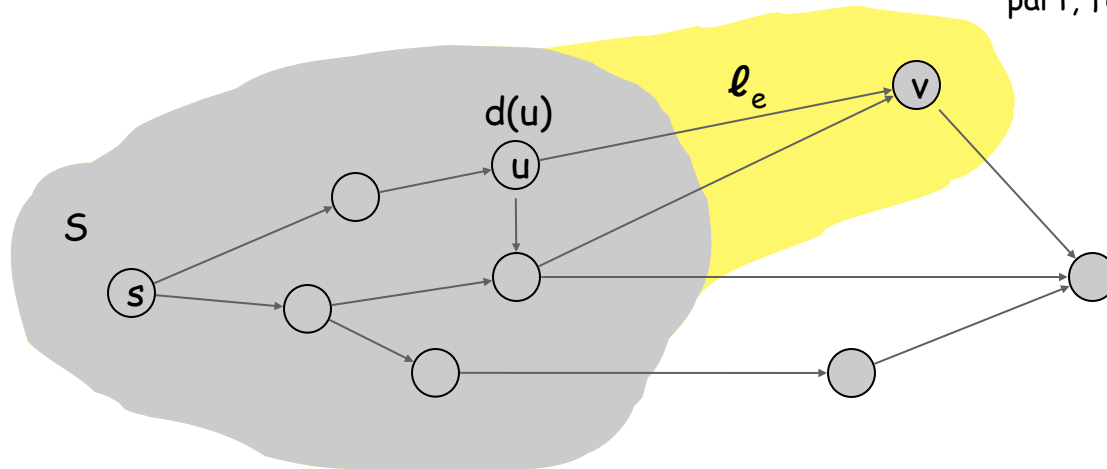
## Dijkstra's algorithm.

- 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 (greedily) choose unexplored node  $v \notin S$  which minimizes

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

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

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



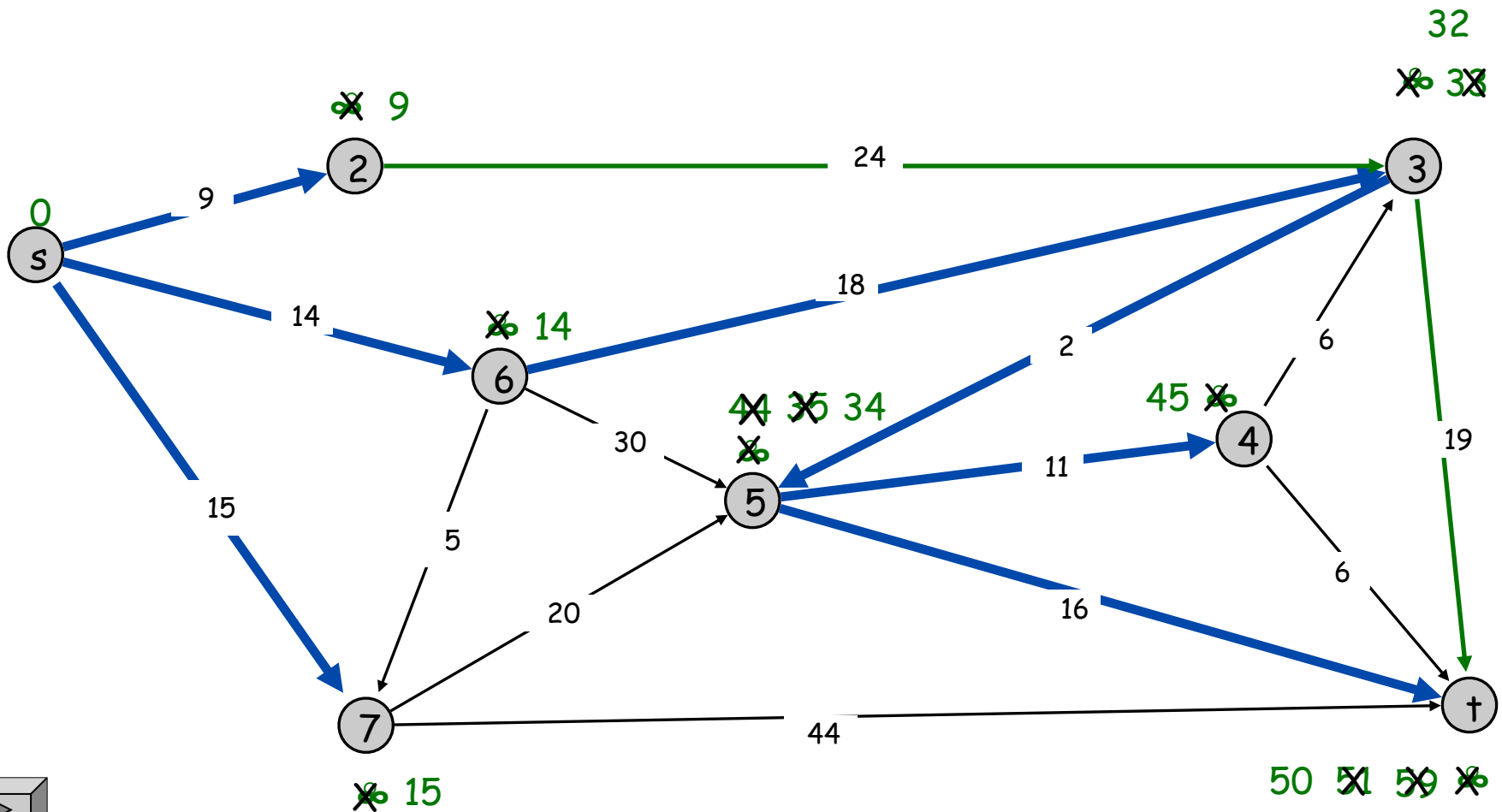


# Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm

maintain keys of  
shortest path to  
each node, update if  
new path is shorter

$S = \{s, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, t\}$

$PQ = \{\}$



# Dijkstra's Algorithm: Proof of Correctness

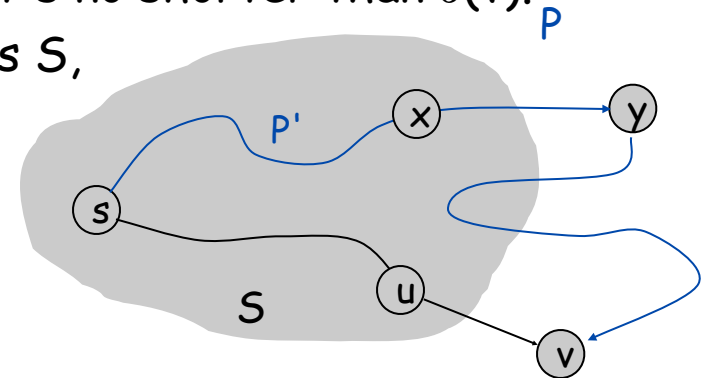
**Invariant.** For each node  $u \in S$ ,  $d(u)$  is the length of the shortest  $s$ - $u$  path.

**Pf.** (by induction on  $|S|$ )

**Base case:**  $|S| = 1$  is trivial.

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume true for  $|S| = k \geq 1$ .

- Let  $v$  be next node added to  $S$ , and let  $(u,v)$  be the chosen edge.
- The shortest  $s$ - $u$  path plus  $(u, v)$  is an  $s$ - $v$  path of length  $\partial(v)$ .
- Consider any  $s$ - $v$  path  $P$ . We'll see that it's no shorter than  $\partial(v)$ .
- Let  $x$ - $y$  be the first edge in  $P$  that leaves  $S$ , and let  $P'$  be the subpath to  $x$ .
- $P$  is already too long as soon as it leaves  $S$ .



$$l(P) \geq l(P') + l(x,y) \geq d(x) + l(x,y) \geq \partial(y) \geq \partial(v)$$

↑  
nonnegative  
weights

↑  
inductive  
hypothesis

↑  
defn of  $\partial(y)$

↑  
Dijkstra chose  $v$   
instead of  $y$

# Dijkstra's Algorithm: Implementation

For each unexplored node  $v \notin S$ ,

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

- Next node to explore = node  $v \notin S$  with minimum  $\partial(v)$ .
- When exploring  $v$ , for each incident edge  $e = (v, w)$ ,  $w \notin S$ , update

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

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

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		$n^2$	$m \log n$	$m \log_{m/n} n$	$m + n \log n$

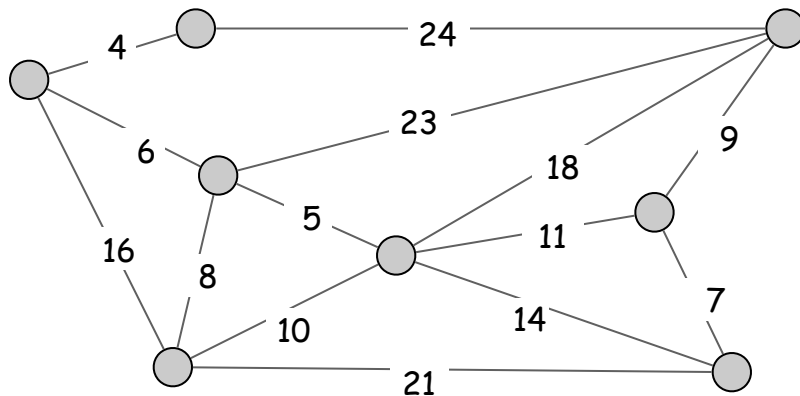
<sup>†</sup> Individual ops are amortized bounds

## 4.5 Minimum Spanning Tree

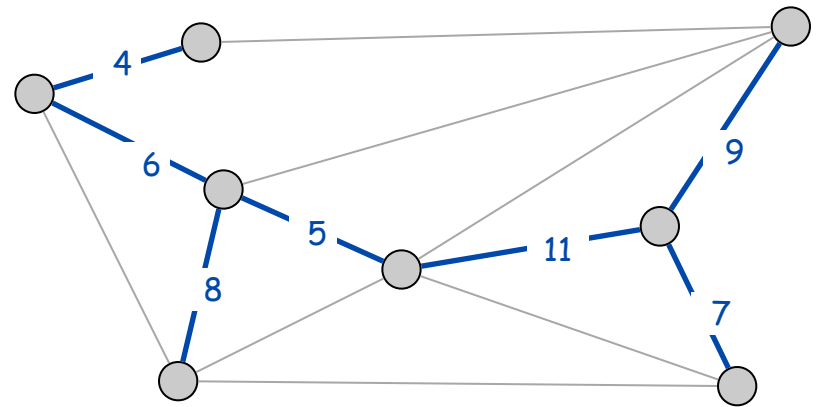
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# Minimum Spanning Tree

**Minimum spanning tree.** Given a connected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with real-valued edge weights  $c_e$ , an MST is a subset of the edges  $T \subseteq E$  such that  $T$  is a spanning tree whose sum of edge weights is minimized.



$G = (V, E)$



$T, \sum_{e \in T} c_e = 50$

**Cayley's Theorem.** There are  $n^{n-2}$  spanning trees of  $K_n$ .

↑  
can't solve by brute force

# 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.

# Greedy Algorithms

**Kruskal's algorithm.** Start with  $T = \emptyset$ . Consider edges in ascending order of cost. Insert edge  $e$  in  $T$  unless doing so would create a cycle.

**Reverse-Delete algorithm.** Start with  $T = E$ . Consider edges in descending order of cost. Delete edge  $e$  from  $T$  unless doing so would disconnect  $T$ .

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

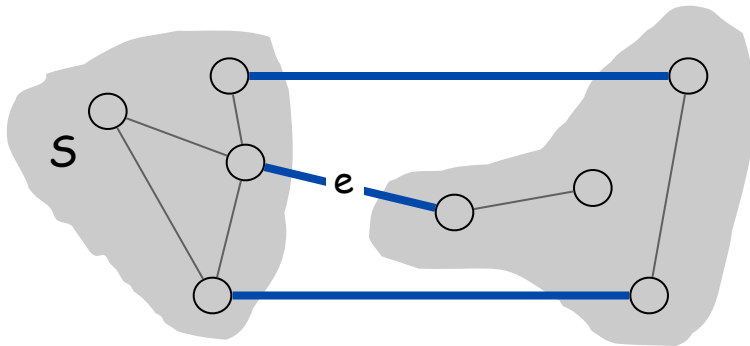
**Remark.** All three algorithms produce an MST.

# Greedy Algorithms

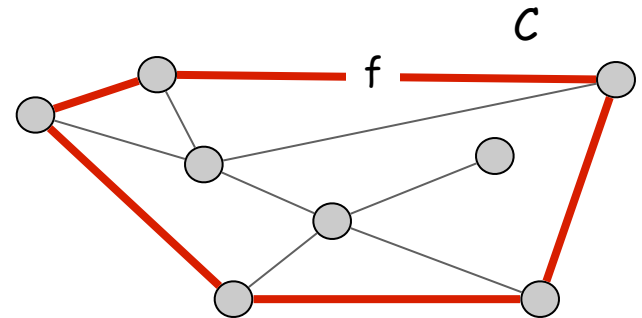
**Simplifying assumption.** All edge costs  $c_e$  are distinct.

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

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



$e$  is in the MST

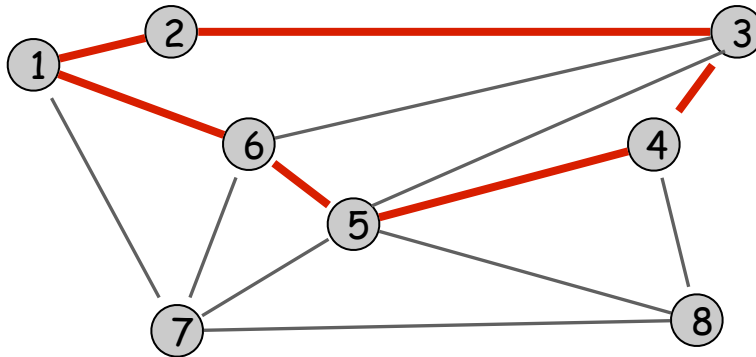


$f$  is not in the MST



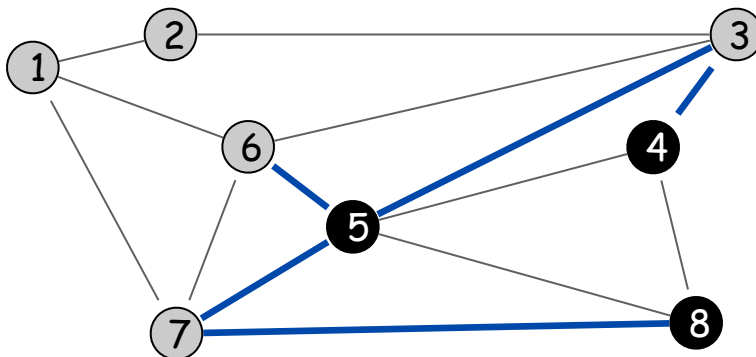
# Cycles and Cuts

**Cycle.** Set of edges the form  $a-b, b-c, c-d, \dots, y-z, z-a$ .



Cycle  $C = 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 4-5, 5-6, 6-1$

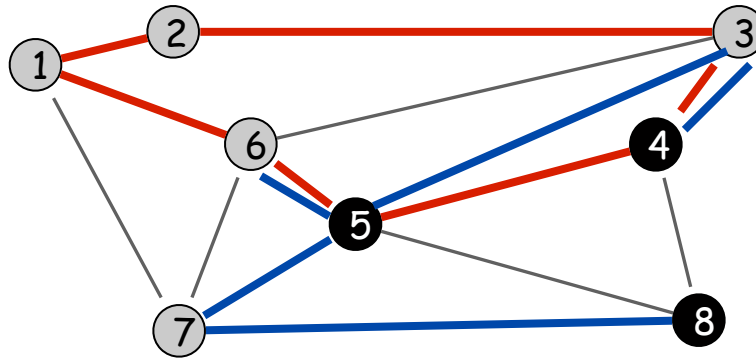
**Cutset.** A cut is a subset of nodes  $S$ . The corresponding cutset  $D$  is the subset of edges with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ .



Cut  $S = \{4, 5, 8\}$   
Cutset  $D = 5-6, 5-7, 3-4, 3-5, 7-8$

# Cycle-Cut Intersection

**Claim.** A cycle and a cutset intersect in an even number of edges.

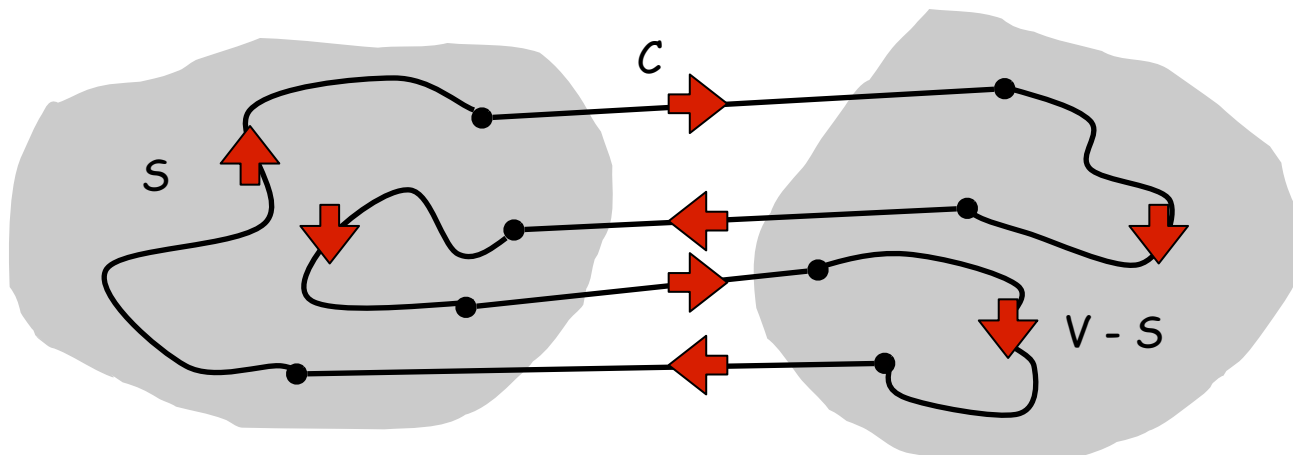


Cycle  $C = 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, 4-5, 5-6, 6-1$

Cutset  $D = 3-4, 3-5, 5-6, 5-7, 7-8$

Intersection =  $3-4, 5-6$

**Pf.** (by picture)



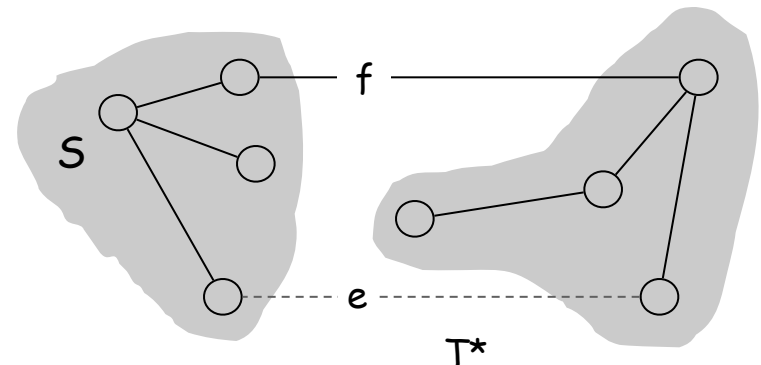
# Greedy Algorithms

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

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

Pf. (exchange argument)

- Suppose  $e$  does not belong to  $T^*$ , and let's see what happens.
- Adding  $e$  to  $T^*$  creates a cycle  $C$  in  $T^*$ .
- Edge  $e$  is both in the cycle  $C$  and in the cutset  $D$  corresponding to  $S$   
 $\Rightarrow$  there exists another edge, say  $f$ , that is in both  $C$  and  $D$ .
- $T' = T^* \cup \{e\} - \{f\}$  is also a spanning tree.
- Since  $c_e < c_f$ ,  $\text{cost}(T') < \text{cost}(T^*)$ .
- This is a contradiction. ■



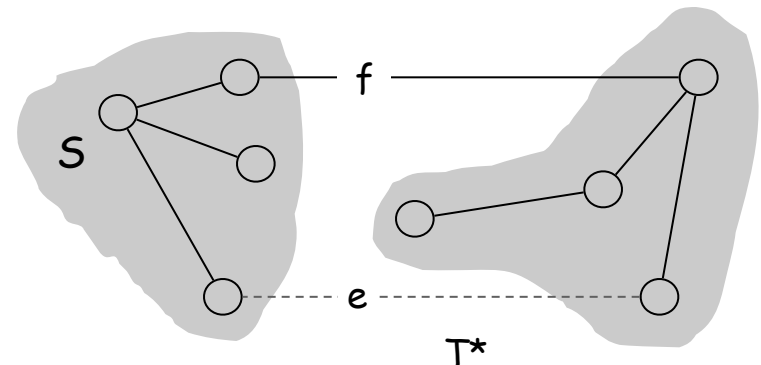
# Greedy Algorithms

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

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

**Pf.** (exchange argument)

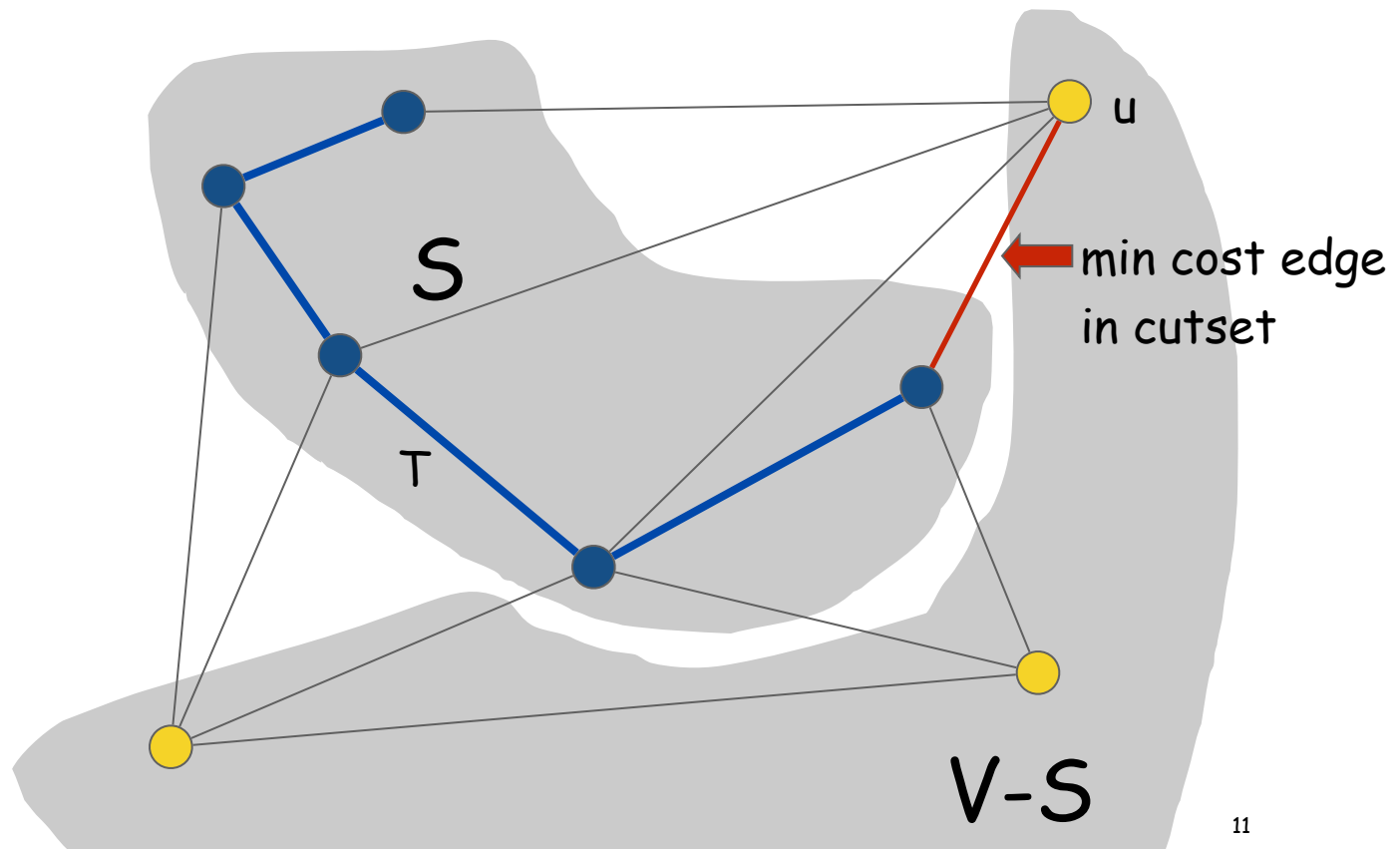
- Suppose  $f$  belongs to  $T^*$ , and let's see what happens.
- Deleting  $f$  from  $T^*$  creates a cut  $S$  in  $T^*$ .
- Edge  $f$  is both in the cycle  $C$  and in the cutset  $D$  corresponding to  $S$   
 $\Rightarrow$  there exists another edge, say  $e$ , that is in both  $C$  and  $D$ .
- $T' = T^* \cup \{e\} - \{f\}$  is also a spanning tree.
- Since  $c_e < c_f$ ,  $\text{cost}(T') < \text{cost}(T^*)$ .
- This is a contradiction. ▀



# Prim's Algorithm: Proof of Correctness

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

- Initialize  $S$  = any node.
- Apply cut property to  $S$ .
- Add to  $T$  the min cost edge in cutset corresponding to  $S$ , and add one new explored node  $u$  to  $S$ .



# Implementation: Prim's Algorithm

**Implementation.** Use a priority queue à la Dijkstra.

- Maintain set of explored nodes  $S$ .
- For each unexplored node  $v$ , maintain attachment cost  $a[v]$  = cost of cheapest edge from  $v$  to a node in  $S$ .
- $O(n^2)$  with an array;  $O(m \log n)$  with a binary heap.

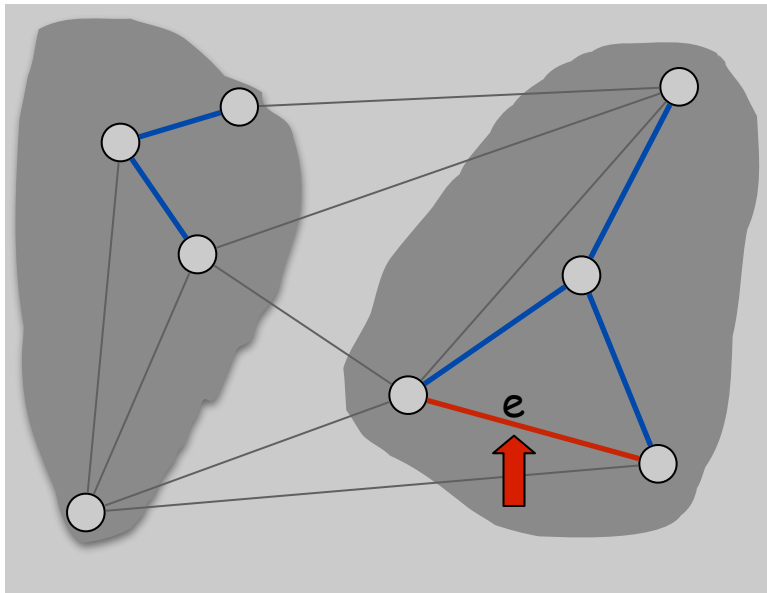
```
Prim(G, c) {  
    foreach ( $v \in V$ )  $a[v] \leftarrow \infty$   
        {Initialize an empty priority queue  $Q$ }  
    foreach ( $v \in V$ ) insert  $v$  onto  $Q$   
        {Initialize set of explored nodes  $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ }  
  
    while ( $Q$  is not empty) {  
         $u \leftarrow$  extract min element from  $Q$   
         $S \leftarrow S \cup \{u\}$   
        foreach (edge  $e = (u, v)$ )  
            if ( $(v \notin S)$  and ( $c_e < a[v]$ ))  
                decrease priority  $a[v]$  to  $c_e$  in  $Q$   
    }  
}
```

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Proof of Correctness

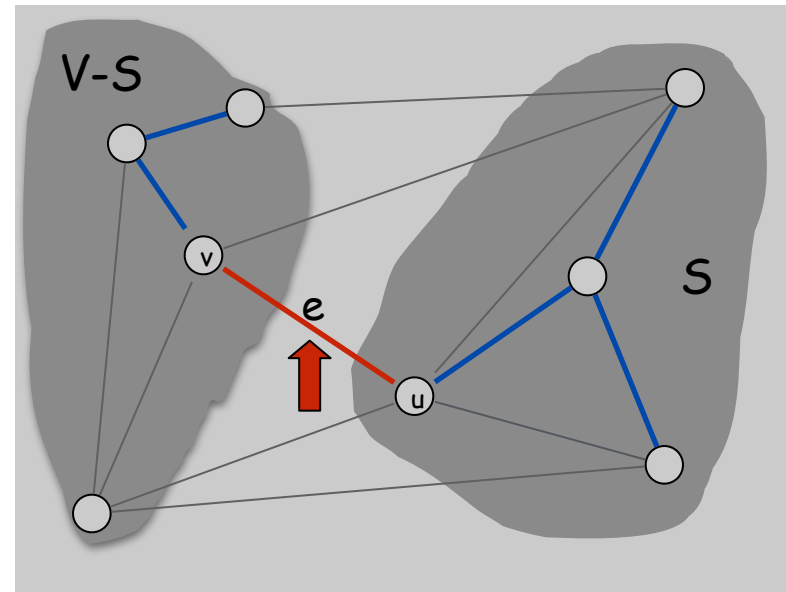
Kruskal's algorithm. [Kruskal, 1956]

Consider edges in ascending order of weight.

- Case 1: If adding  $e$  to  $T$  creates a cycle, discard  $e$  according to cycle property.
- Case 2: Otherwise, insert  $e = (u, v)$  into  $T$  according to cut property where  $S$  = set of nodes in  $u$ 's connected component.



Case 1



Case 2

# Implementation: Kruskal's Algorithm

**Implementation.** Use the **union-find** data structure.

- Build set  $T$  of edges in the MST.
- Maintain set for each connected component.
- $O(m \log n)$  for sorting and  $O(m \alpha(m, n))$  for union-find.

$m \leq n^2 \Rightarrow \log m \in O(\log n)$

essentially a constant

```
Kruskal(G, c) {  
    Sort edges weights so that  $c_1 \leq c_2 \leq \dots \leq c_m$ .  
     $T \leftarrow \emptyset$   
  
    foreach ( $u \in V$ ) make a set containing singleton  $u$   
  
    for  $i = 1$  to  $m$   
         $(u, v) = e_i$  are  $u$  and  $v$  in different connected components?  
        if ( $u$  and  $v$  are in different sets) {  
             $T \leftarrow T \cup \{e_i\}$   
            merge the sets containing  $u$  and  $v$  two different connected components  
        }  
    return  $T$   
}
```



# Tiebreaking

To remove the assumption that all edge costs are distinct: perturb all edge costs by tiny amounts to break any ties.

**Impact.** Kruskal and Prim only interact with costs via pairwise comparisons. If perturbations are sufficiently small, MST with perturbed costs is MST with original costs.

↑  
e.g., if all edge costs are integers,  
perturbing cost of edge  $e_i$  by  $i / n^2$

**Implementation.** Can handle arbitrarily small perturbations implicitly by instead breaking ties lexicographically, according to index.

```
boolean less(i, j) {  
    if      (cost(ei) < cost(ej)) return true  
    else if (cost(ei) > cost(ej)) return false  
    else if (i < j)                  return true  
    else                             return false  
}
```

# MST Algorithms: Theory

## Deterministic comparison based algorithms.

- $O(m \log n)$  [Jarník, Prim, Dijkstra, Kruskal, Boruvka]
- $O(m \log \log n)$ . [Cheriton-Tarjan 1976, Yao 1975]
- $O(m \beta(m, n))$ . [Fredman-Tarjan 1987]
- $O(m \log \beta(m, n))$ . [Gabow-Galil-Spencer-Tarjan 1986]
- $O(m \alpha(m, n))$ . [Chazelle 2000]

Holy grail.  $O(m)$ .

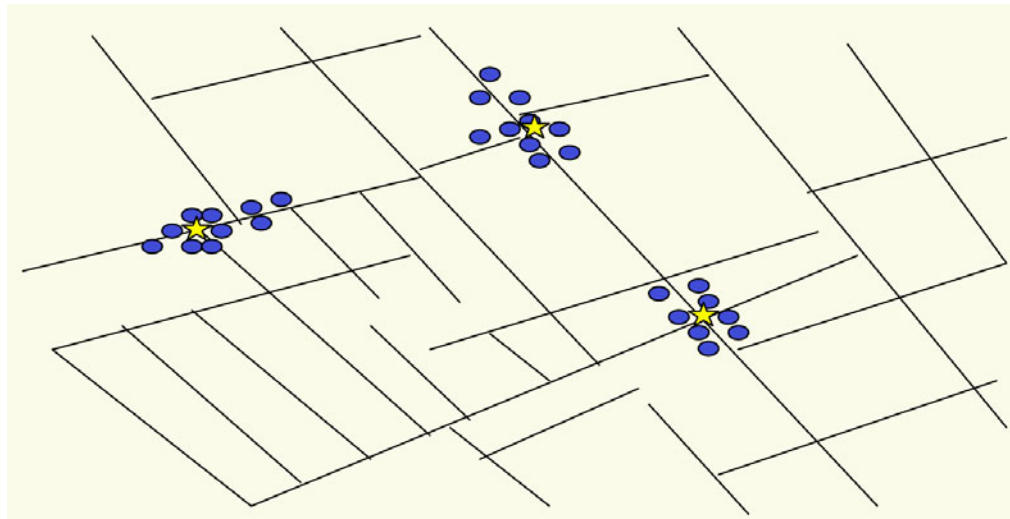
## Notable.

- $O(m)$  randomized. [Karger-Klein-Tarjan 1995]
- $O(m)$  verification. [Dixon-Rauch-Tarjan 1992]

## Euclidean.

- 2-d:  $O(n \log n)$ . compute MST of edges in Delaunay
- k-d:  $O(k n^2)$ . dense Prim

## 4.7 Clustering



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

# Clustering

**Clustering.** Given a set  $U$  of  $n$  objects labeled  $p_1, \dots, p_n$ , classify into coherent groups.

↑  
photos, documents, micro-organisms

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

↑  
number of corresponding pixels whose intensities differ by some threshold

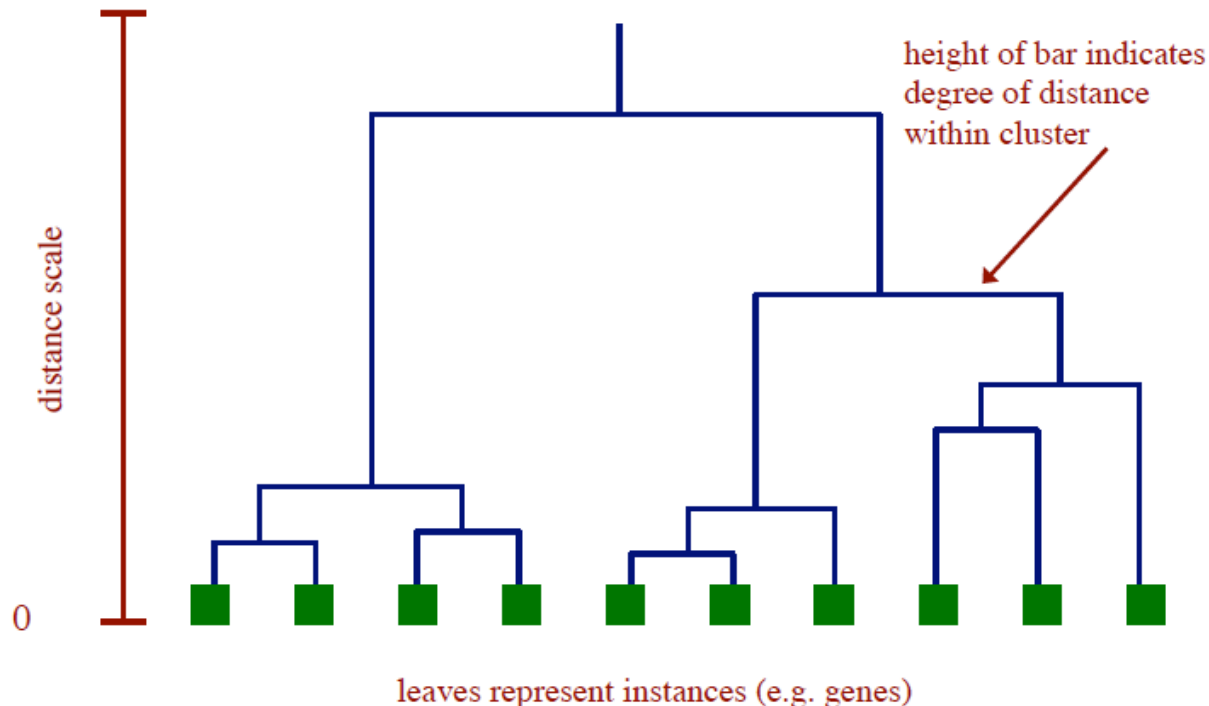
**Fundamental problem.** Divide into clusters so that points in different clusters are far apart.

- 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.

# Dendrogram

**Dendrogram.** Scientific visualization of hypothetical sequence of evolutionary events.

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



# Clustering of Maximum Spacing

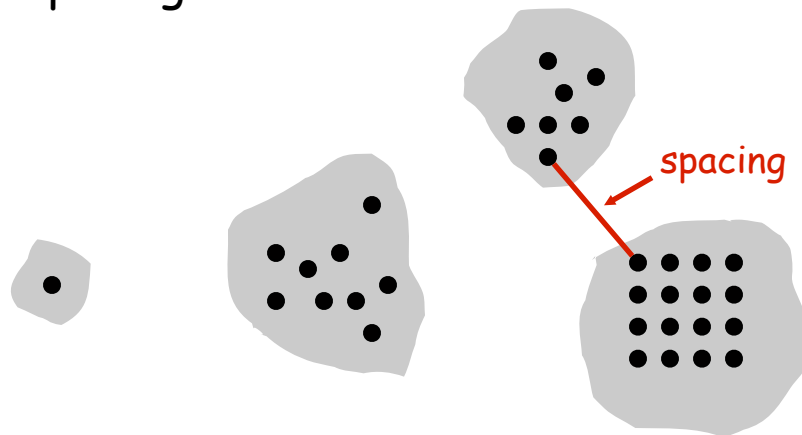
**k-clustering.** Divide objects into  $k$  non-empty groups.

**Distance function.** Assume it satisfies several natural properties.

- $d(p_i, p_j) = 0$  iff  $p_i = p_j$  (identity of indiscernibles)
- $d(p_i, p_j) \geq 0$  (nonnegativity)
- $d(p_i, p_j) = d(p_j, p_i)$  (symmetry)

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

**Clustering of maximum spacing.** Given an integer  $k$ , find a  $k$ -clustering of maximum spacing.



# Greedy Clustering Algorithm

## Single-link $k$ -clustering algorithm.

- Form a graph on the vertex set  $U$ , corresponding to  $n$  clusters.
- Find the closest pair of objects such that each object is in a different cluster, and add an edge between them.
- Repeat  $n-k$  times until there are exactly  $k$  clusters.

**Key observation.** This procedure is precisely Kruskal's algorithm (except that we stop with  $k$  (instead of 1) connected components).

**Remark.** Equivalent to finding an MST and deleting the  $k-1$  most expensive edges.

# Greedy Clustering Algorithm: Analysis

**Theorem.** Let  $C^*$  denote the clustering  $C_1^*, \dots, C_k^*$  formed by deleting the  $k-1$  most expensive edges of a MST.  $C^*$  is a  $k$ -clustering of max spacing.

**Pf.** Let  $C$  denote some other clustering  $C_1, \dots, C_k$ .

- The **spacing** of  $C^*$  is the length  $d^*$  of the  $(k-1)^{\text{st}}$  most expensive edge.
- Let  $u, v$  be in the same cluster  $C_r^*$  in  $C^*$  but different clusters in  $C$ .
- Some edge  $(p, q)$  on  $u$ - $v$  path in  $C_r^*$  spans two different clusters, say  $C_p$  and  $C_q$ , in  $C$ .
- All edges on  $u$ - $v$  path have length  $\leq d^*$  since Kruskal chose them.
- Spacing of  $C$  is  $\leq d^*$  since  $p$  and  $q$  are in different clusters. ■

