

## Lecture 2:

2011-10-13

### Definition 2.1 (connected):

A graph is called *connected* (zusammenhängend) if there exists a  $[s,t]$ -Path between all pairs of vertices  $s, t \in V$ .

### Definition 2.2 (forest, tree, spanning, forest problem, minimum spanning tree):

A *forest* (Wald) is a graph that does not contain a cycle (Kreis). A connected forest is called a *tree* (Baum). A tree in a graph (as subgraph) is called *spanning* (aufspannend), if it contains all vertices.

Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  with edge weights  $c_e \in \mathbb{R}$  for all  $e \in E$ , the task to find a forest  $W \subset E$  such that  $c(W) := \sum_{e \in W} c_e$  is maximal, is called the *Maximum Forest Problem* (Problem des maximalen Waldes). The task to find a tree  $T \subset E$  which spans  $G$  and which weight  $c(T)$  is minimal, is called the *Minimum Spanning Tree* (MST) problem (minimaler Spannbaum).

### Lemma 2.3:

A tree  $G = (V, E)$  with at least 2 vertices has at least 2 vertices of degree 1.

*Proof.* Let  $v$  be arbitrary. Since  $G$  is connected,  $\deg(v) \geq 1$ . Assume  $\deg(v) = 1$ . So  $\delta(v) = \{vw\}$ . If  $\deg(w) = 1$ , we found two vertices with degree 1. If  $\deg(w) > 1$ , there exist a neighbour of  $w$ , different from  $v : u$ . Now, again  $u$  has degree 1 or higher. If we repeat this procedure we either find a vertex of degree 1 or find again *new* vertices. Hence, after at most  $n - 1$  vertices we end up at a vertex of degree 1. Now, if  $\deg(v) \geq 2$ , we do the same and find a vertex of degree 1, say  $w$ . Then repeat the above, starting from  $w$  to find a second vertex of degree 1.  $\square$

### Corollary 2.4:

A tree  $G = (V, E)$  with maximum degree  $\Delta$  has at least  $\Delta$  vertices of degree 1.

**Lemma 2.5:** (a) For every graph  $G = (V, E)$  it holds that  $2|E| = \sum_{u \in V} \deg(u)$

(b) for every tree  $G = (V, E)$  it holds that  $|E| = |V| - 1$ .

*Proof.* (a) trivial

(b) Proof by induction. Clearly, if  $|V| = 1$  or  $|V| = 2$  it holds. Assumption: true for  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $G$  be a tree with  $n + 1$  vertices. By Lemma 2.3, there exists a vertex  $v \in G$  with  $\deg(v) = 1$ .  $G - v = G[V \setminus \{v\}]$  is a tree again with  $n$  vertices and thus  $|E(G - v)| = |V(G - v)| - 1$ . Since  $G$  differs by one vertex and one edge from  $G - v$ , the claim holds for  $G$  as well.  $\square$

### Lemma 2.6:

If  $G = (V, E)$  with  $|V| \geq 2$  has  $|E| < |V| - 1$ ,  $G$  is not connected.

## Algorithm MST

$\min_{x \in X} = -\max_{x \in X} - c(x)$  maximal forest

$X$  spanning trees

$$\min_{x \in X} + (n-1)D = -\max_{x \in X} - c(x)(n-1)D = \max_{x \in X} \sum \underbrace{D - C_{ij}x_{ij}}_{\geq 0 \text{ if } D \geq \max_{ij \in E} c_{ij}}$$

### Theorem 2.7:

Kruskal's Algorithm returns the optimal solution.

*Proof.* Let  $T$  be Kruskal's tree and assume there exists a tree  $T'$  with  $c(T') < c(T)$ . Then there exist an edge  $e' \in T' \setminus T$ . Then  $T \cup \{e'\}$  contains a cycle  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k, e'\}$ . Let  $c_f = \max_{i=1, \dots, k} c_{l_i}$ . At the moment Kruskal chooses edge  $f$ , edge  $e'$  cannot be added yet and therefore  $c(e') \geq c(f)$ . Now exchange  $e'$  by  $f$  in  $T'$ . Hence the number of differences between  $T'$  and  $T$  is reduced by one,  $c(T'_{\text{new}}) \leq c(T') < c(T)$ . Repeating the procedure results in  $c(T) \leq \dots < c(T)$ , a contradiction.  $\square$