



Dynamic Graph Algorithms

CSL-531

2026

Introduction

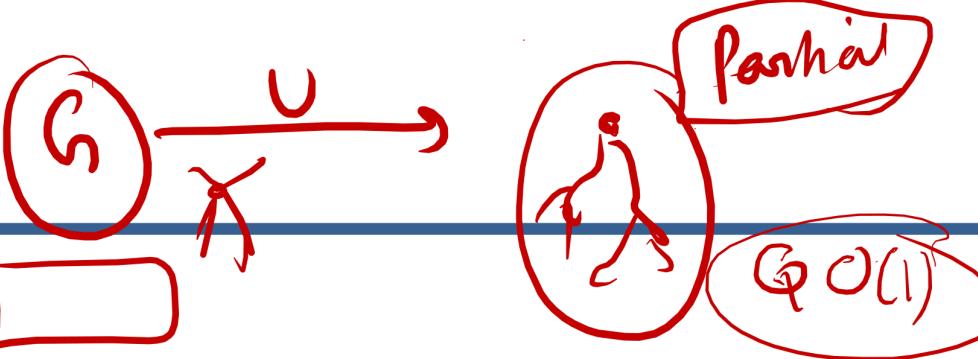
Dr. Shahbaz Khan

Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

shahbaz.khan@cs.iitr.ac.in



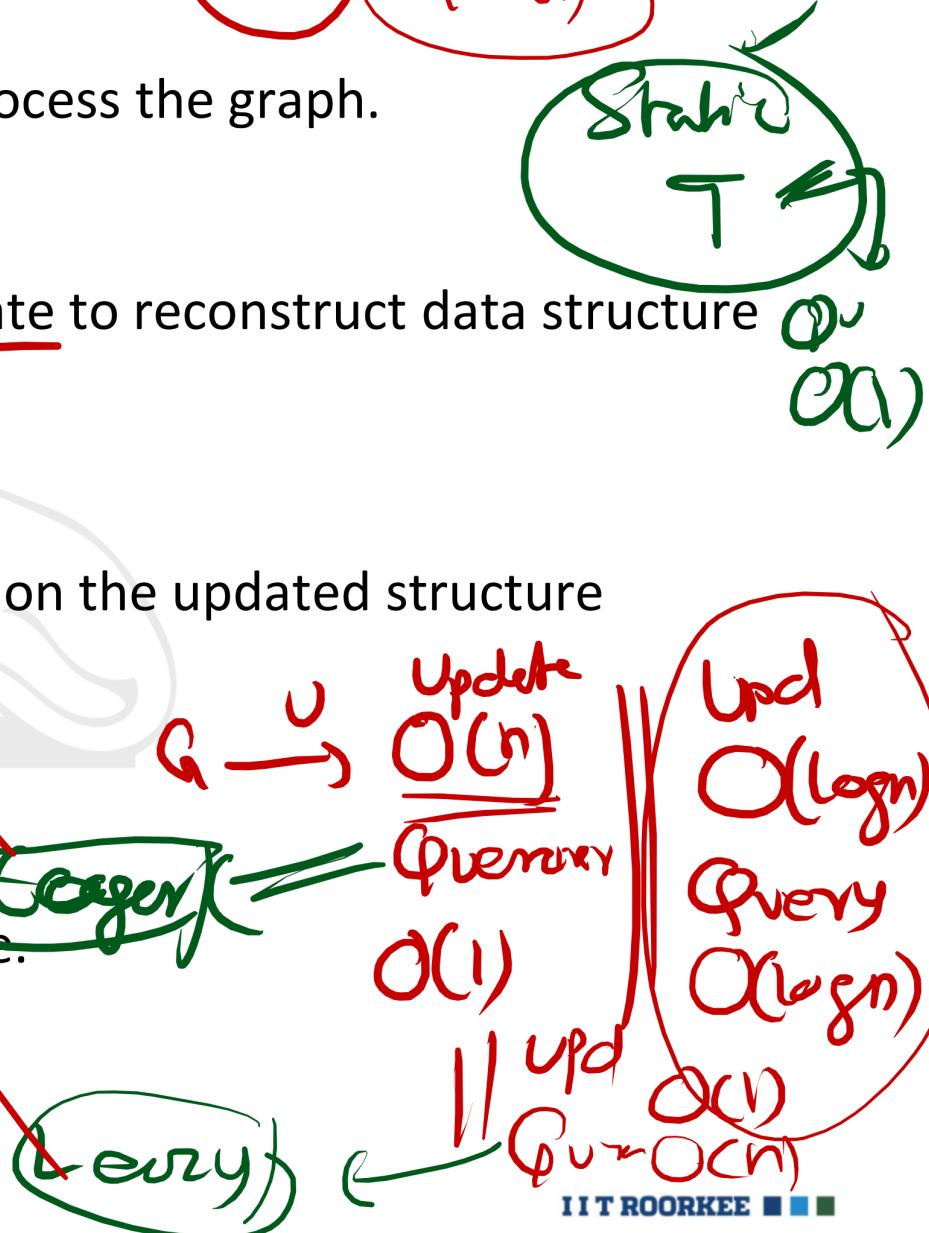
Time Complexity



- **Preprocessing Time:** Initial time to preprocess the graph.
 - Shortest Path Tree from s
- **Update Time:** Time taken after each update to reconstruct data structure
 - Max: $\Theta(T)$
 - Min: $O(1)$
- **Query Time:** Time taken to answer query on the updated structure
 - Max: $O(T)$
 - Min: $O(1)$

Different tradeoffs for **Update** and **Query** time.

Worst-Case Bound vs Amortized Bounds.





Limitations and Bounds

For a given problem P having best static algo time $T_s(n)$ $\Rightarrow O(n^3)$
Dynamic Algorithm $T_d(n)$: $O(mn)$

Upper bound:

$$\max(\text{update}, \text{query}) = \boxed{T_d(n)} = O(T_s(n)) \quad \leftarrow$$

$O(m^2) \times$

Lower bound:

$$\max(\text{update}, \text{query}) = T_d(n) \quad \sqrt{n}$$

Incremental, Decremental, Fully Dynamic?

$$T_d(n) \in \frac{m^3}{m} = O(n)$$

Dynamic Algorithm for NP Complete Problem in P?

WC ✓
Amortized ✓



Limitations and Bounds

For a given problem P having best static algo time $T_s(n)$ $\Rightarrow O(n^3)$
 Dynamic Algorithm $T_d(n)$: $O(mn)$

Upper bound:

$$\max(\text{update,query}) = T_d(n) = O(T_s(n)) \quad \leftarrow$$

Lower bound:

$$\max(\text{update,query}) = T_d(n) \geq \sqrt{n}$$

Incremental, Decremental, Fully Dynamic?

$$O(T_s/m) \leftarrow \frac{m!}{m} \cdot O(n)$$

Dynamic Algorithm for NP Complete Problem in P?



Classical Problem

$$G' = \emptyset \Rightarrow O(1)$$

$$1e \rightarrow \sqrt{n} \uparrow$$

$$te \rightarrow \sqrt{n} \uparrow$$

$$1 \rightarrow \sqrt{n} \uparrow$$

$$\rightarrow 6$$

$$\rightarrow 6$$

$$m\sqrt{n}$$

$$G \rightarrow$$

Incremental

Edge Updates

Upper Bound = $O(T_s)$

Lower Bound = $\Omega(T_s/m)$] the static algo improved

Assuming edge updates

Because Preprocessing takes $O(1)$ time

Vertex : V along with all edges

incident on existing vertices

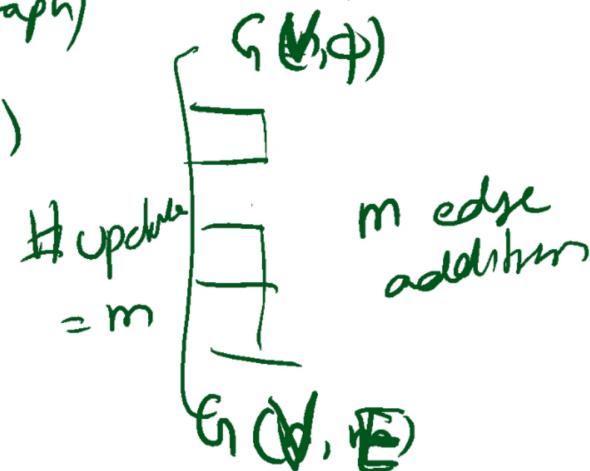
→ Singleton vertex = $\Omega(1)$ Add vertex w/o edges

→ Vertex with edges = $\Theta(\Omega(T_s/n))$

updates = $O(n)$

(Start from empty graph)

→ Preprocessing $O(1)$



For NP Hard

Update in Polynomial
 $n \times p$
 $m \times p$ = Poly
X

Works for Both WC & Amortized

Decremental

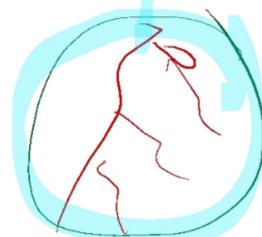
$$G(V, V \times V)$$

BFS tree



$$n^2 - m = O(n^2)$$

$$G(N, E)$$



$$\text{Upper Bound} = O(T_s)$$

Lower Bound :

$$\text{Preprocessing} + n^2 \times T_d \leq T_s$$

$$O(n^2 - m) + n^2 \times T_d \leq T_s$$

$$T_s \Leftarrow O(n^2)$$

$$T_s = \sqrt{2(1)} \cdot T_{\text{initial}}$$

$$T_s = \omega(n^2)$$

$$T_d = \omega(T_s/n^2)$$

NP Hard

TSP

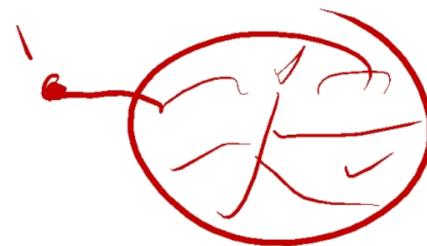
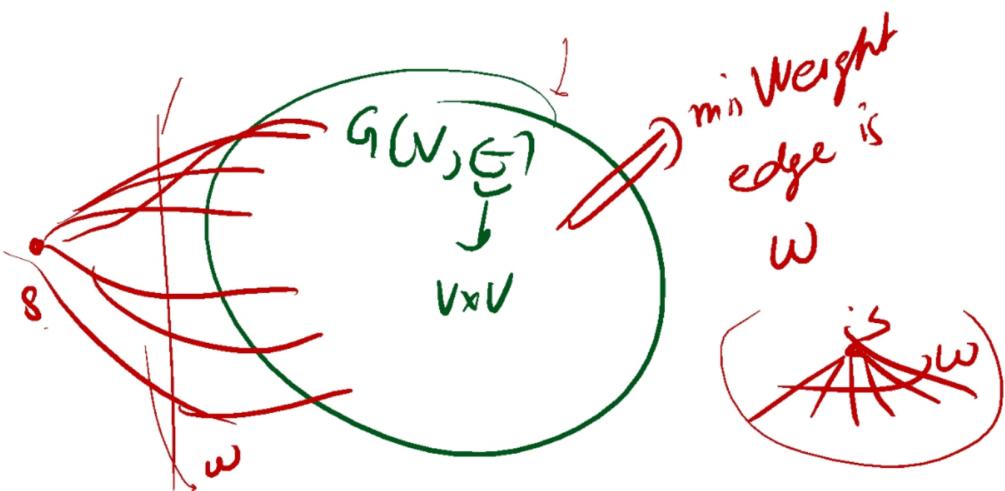
Complete Weighted
Graph

→ Find min cost
cycle covering
all vertices

Minimum Spanning
Tree

Works for Both WC & Amortized

Minimum Spanning Tree



Vertex Deletions

$$\text{Preprocess} + I \times T_d \leq T_s$$

$O(n^2)$

b
deletions
of s

Upper Bound $T_d = O(T_s)$

$$T_d = \Omega(T_s)$$

Edge Deletions

$$T_d = O(T_s)$$

$$\text{Preprocess} + \# \text{Upd} \times T_d \leq T_s$$

$O(n)$

$(n-1)$

$$T_d = \Omega\left(\frac{T_s}{n}\right)$$



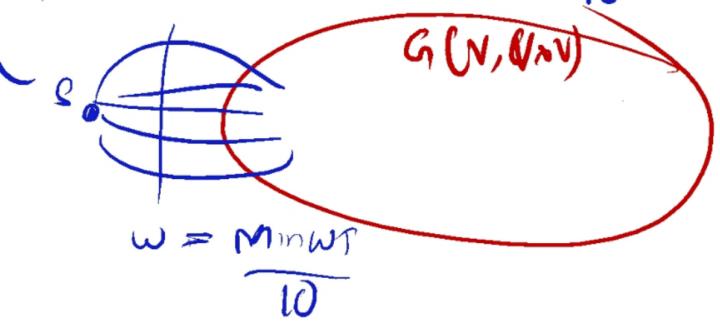
Travelling Salesman

Complete Weighted graph

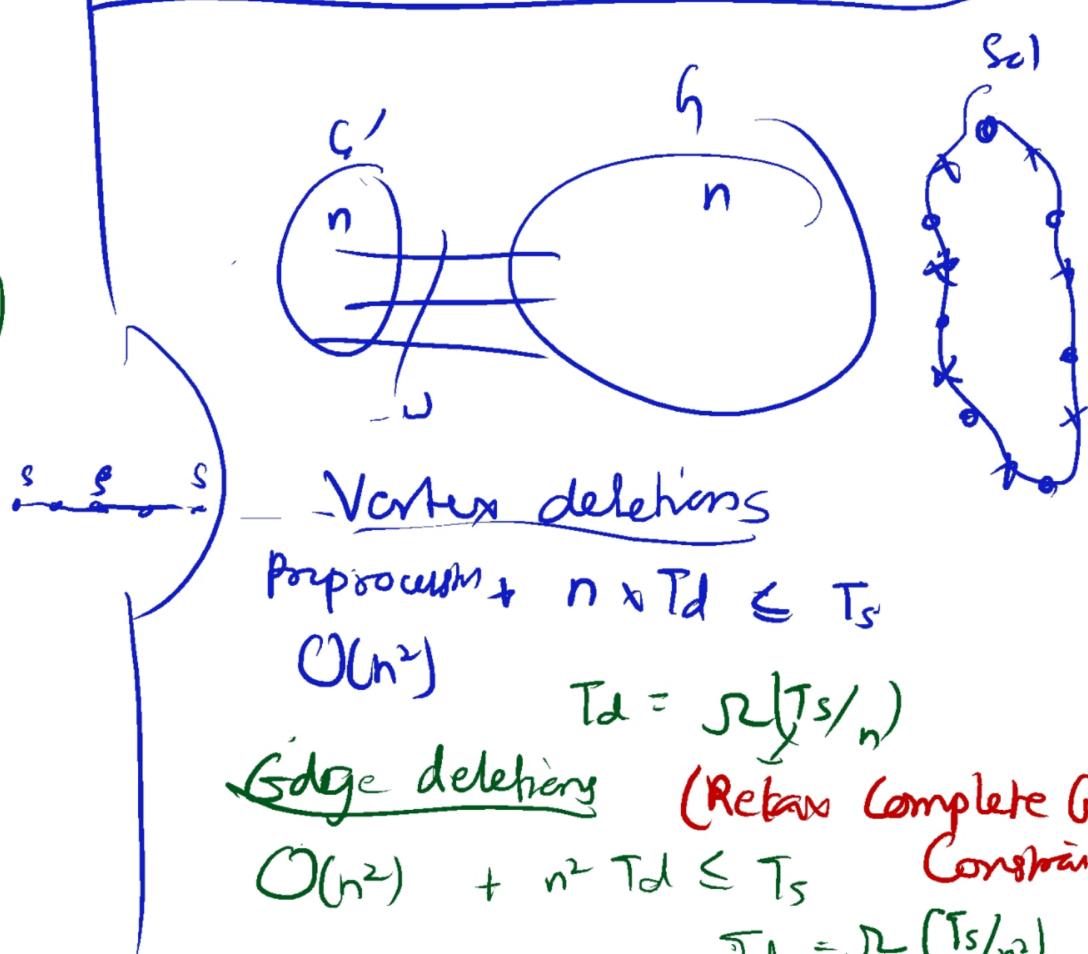
Find a cycle of minimum weight that covers all vertices

\Rightarrow Simple (Not vertex is repeated)

(w/o simple constraint | Similar to MST)



with simple cycle constraint



Fully Dynamic

Algo

T_d

$O(T_s/n)$

Incremental T_d

$O(T_s/m)$

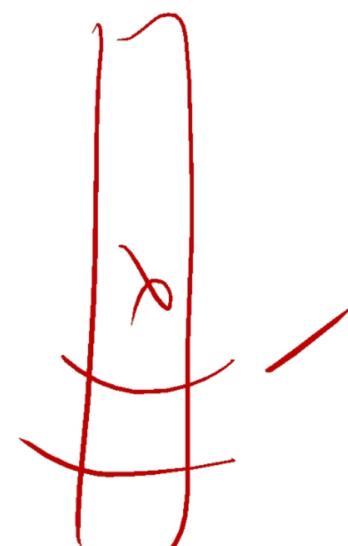
Decremental T_d

$O(T_s/n)$

Lower Bound

Fully dynamic Algo implies Incremental & Decremental Algo

Inc/Dec Lower bound implies equivalent bound on fully dynamic





Classical Problem

Incremental Reachability

Given a graph under edge insertions, maintain
all vertices reachable from s

What is optimal update and query time?



Static

$O(m+n)$

Dynamic

$O(1)$ time

$\hookrightarrow \mathcal{S}^2$

Amortized?

WC. time?