

### Problems whose solutions can be "ranked"

	Travel	Investment	Course selection
Feasible solutions		don't spend more than one has	finish in 4 years
Optimal solutions	shortest distance, minimum time		best
Decisions	which highways to take	invest or not in a portfolio	take a course or not



- Decisions can be made
  - one at a time, without backtracking
  - Greedy method
  - □ Which decisions to make next?
  - ☐ How to guarantee optimality?
- Try many (all) possible combinations and choose one which is the best
  - Dynamic programming
  - □ How to test multiple solutions efficiently?



### The Greedy Method

- \* Input *n* elements stored in an array A(1:n)
- Procedure Greedy
  - □ Solution = *NULL*
  - $\square$  for i=1 to n do
    - > x = SELECT(A)
    - ➤ if FEASIBLE(Solution, x)
    - > then Solution = UNION(Solution, x)
    - > endif
  - enddo
  - □ return (Solution)



- ❖ A sequence of *n* decisions w.r.t *n* inputs
- ❖ SELECT: select one of the remaining decisions to make according to some optimization measure
  - once a decision is made, it will *not* become invalid at a later time
  - optimization should be based on the partial solutions built so far
- \* FEASIBLE: whether the partial solution satisfies some preset constraints



- \* Strategy: construct feasible solutions one step at a time which optimize (minimize or maximize) a certain objective function
- Make the obvious decisions first!
- \* Then try to show it is indeed optimal!



### Knapsack problem

- Input:
  - $\square$  a set of n objects  $(P_i, W_i)$  i = 1,...,n
  - □ a knapsack of capacity *M*
- Output: fill the knapsack to maximize the total profit earned
- \* Feasibility constraint:  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} W_i X_i \leq M$
- \* Objective function:  $\max \sum_{i=1}^{n} P_i X_i \quad 0 \le X_i \le 1$



#### Example

$$n = 3, M = 20$$
  
 $(P_1, P_2, P_3) = (25,24,15)$   
 $(W_1, W_2, W_3) = (18,15,10)$   
 $(X_1, X_2, X_3)$   $\sum_{i=1}^{n} W_i X_i$   $\sum_{i=1}^{n} P_i X_i$   
 $(1, \frac{2}{15}, 0)$  20 28.2 largest increase in profit  
 $(0, \frac{2}{3}, 1)$  20 31 smallest increase in weight  
 $(0, 1, \frac{1}{2})$  20 31.5 largest increase in profit to weight ratio  
 $(\frac{P_1}{W_1}, \frac{P_2}{W_2}, \frac{P_3}{W_2}) = (1.39, 1.6, 1.5)$ 

- For all three algorithms
  - decisions are made one object at a time
  - □ the *ordering* is determined by some optimization measure
    - > Largest increase in profit
      - Include the remaining object of the largest profit
    - > Smallest increase in weight
      - Include the remaining object of the smallest weight
    - Largest increase in profit/weight
      - Include the remaining object of the largest profit/weight
  - never backtrack
  - □ all greedy algorithms
  - not all guarantee optimal



Proposition: Greedy selection based on maximizing profit to weight ratio gives the optimal result

### General proof strategy:

- $\square$  Assume that the greedy solution is  $X = (X_1, X_2, ..., X_n)$
- $\square$  Assume that the optimal solution is  $Y = (Y_1, Y_2, ..., Y_n)$
- □ Then they better be different
- □ Transform *Y* into *X* without decreasing the profit of *Y*



#### Proof:

Optimal (Y)

$$0 \le X_j \le 1$$

$$1 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad \text{Greedy (X)}$$

– Let k be the first index where X and Y differ

$$(i) k < j X_k = 1 & Y_k \neq X_k \Rightarrow Y_k < X_k$$

(ii) 
$$k = j$$
 if  $Y_k > X_k$  then  $\sum W_i Y_i > M \Rightarrow Y_k < X_k$ 

(iii) 
$$k > j$$
  $X_k = 0 \& Y_k \neq X_k \Rightarrow Y_k > 0 \& \sum W_i Y_i > M$ , not possible





Optimal (Y)

New optimal (Z)

$$\begin{split} \sum_{i=1}^{n} Z_{i}P_{i} &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_{i}P_{i} &+ (Z_{k} - Y_{k})P_{k} &- \sum_{i=k+1}^{n} (Y_{i} - Z_{i})P_{i} \\ &\text{profit of Y} &\text{increase of profit} &\text{decrease of profit} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_{i}P_{i} &+ (Z_{k} - Y_{k})\frac{P_{k}}{W_{k}}W_{k} &- \sum_{i=k+1}^{n} (Y_{i} - Z_{i})\frac{P_{i}}{W_{i}}W_{i} \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_{i}P_{i} &+ \{(Z_{k} - Y_{k})W_{k} - \sum_{i=k+1}^{n} (Y_{i} - Z_{i})W_{i}\}\frac{P_{k}}{W_{k}} \\ &\text{increase in weight} &\text{decrease in weight} \end{split}$$



- $\square Z$  is also an optimal solution
- $\Box$  Either Z=X (Done)
- $\square$  Or not (Repeat the above procedure until Z=X)



- Time complexity
  - $\square$  Sort the *n* objects according to profit to weight ratio O(nlogn)
  - Scan down the sorted list

if 
$$W_i \le \text{rem aing capaity then}$$
  $X_i \leftarrow 1$  remaining capacity -=  $W_i$  else 
$$X_i \leftarrow \frac{\text{rem aining capacity}}{W_i}$$
 remaining capacity  $\leftarrow 0$  end if

Complexity O(nlogn)



## Optimal Storage on Tape

#### Input:

- $\square$  A set of *n* programs of different length
- $\square$  A computer tape of length L

### Output:

- $\square$  A storage pattern which minimizes the total retrieval time (TRT)
  - > before each retrieval, head is repositioned at the front

$$TRT = \sum_{1 \le j \le n} \sum_{1 \le k \le j} l_{i_k} \qquad I = i_1, i_2, \dots i_n$$



- Objective function: minimize TRT
- \* Feasibility constraint:  $\sum_{1 \le k \le n} l_{i_k} \le L$

### Example

$$n = 3, (l_1, l_2, l_3) = (5,10,3), L = 20$$

#### ordering

$(i_1, i_2, i_3)$			TRT	
1,2,3	5 +	5 + 10 +	5 + 10 + 3	= 38
1,3,2	5 +	5 + 3 +	5 + 3 + 10	= 31
2,1,3	10+	10 + 5 +	10 + 5 + 3	= 43
2,3,1	10+	10 + 3 +	10 + 3 + 5	= 41
3,1,2	3+	3 + 5 +	3 + 5 + 10	= 29

3+10+ 3+10+5 = 34



3,2,1

\* SELECT: Select the program to store next which minimizes the increase in TRT

$$TRT_{old} = \sum_{1 \le j \le r} \sum_{1 \le k \le j} l_{i_k}$$

$$TRT_{new} = \sum_{1 \le j \le r+1} \sum_{1 \le k \le j} l_{i_k} = TRT_{old} + \sum_{1 \le k \le r+1} l_{i_k}$$

$$TRT_{new} - TRT_{old} = \sum_{1 \le k \le r+1} l_{i_k} = \sum_{1 \le k \le r} l_{i_k} + l_{r+1}$$

fixed

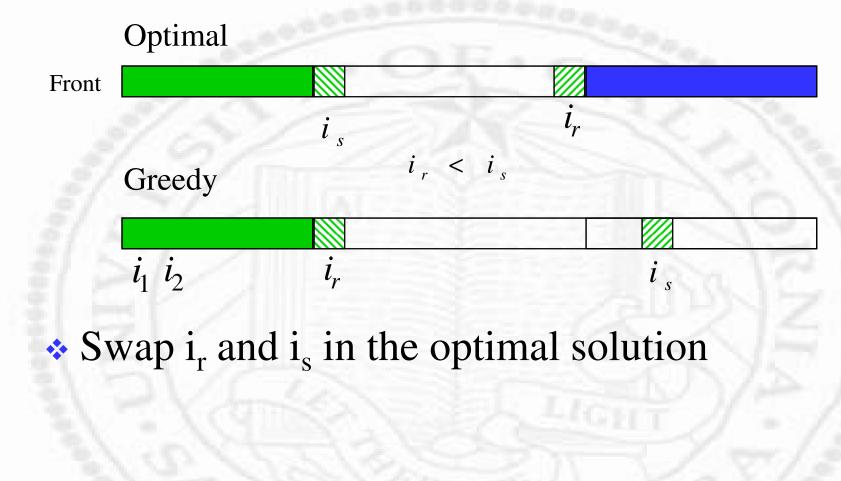
Currently shortest

program

### Proof strategy

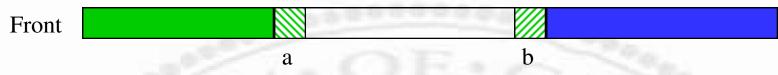
- □ follow the same principle as in knapsack problem
  - > there is a greedy solution
  - > there is an optimal solution
  - > they are different
  - > line them up and they better differ in some storage locations
  - > then make them the same (by swapping)
  - prove that the swapping does not reduce the optimality







### Intuitively



- For programs stored in
  - retrieval does not scan through either a or b
  - ordering of a and b not important
- For programs stored in
  - retrieval scans through both a and b
  - ordering of a and b not important
- For programs stored in
  - retrieval scans through a but not b
  - ordering of a and b is important



Proposition: The storage pattern with nondecreasing length order produces the smallest TRT

$$\begin{split} \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq j} l_{i_k} &= l_{i_1} \\ &+ l_{i_1} &+ l_{i_2} \\ &+ l_{i_1} &+ l_{i_2} \\ &\cdots &\cdots \\ &+ l_{i_1} &+ l_{i_2} &+ l_{i_3} \\ &\cdots &\cdots \\ &+ l_{i_1} &+ l_{i_2} &+ l_{i_3} &+ \cdots &+ l_{i_r} \\ &= n l_{i_1} &+ (n-1) l_{i_2} &+ (n-2) l_{i_3} &+ \cdots &+ l_{i_r} \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} (n-k+1) l_{i_k} \end{split}$$



❖ If prog. a and prog. b are out of order, then swap them should reduce the TRT

$$\begin{split} TRT_{old} &= \sum_{\substack{k \\ k \neq a \\ k \neq b}} (n-k+1)l_{i_k} + (n-a+1)l_{i_a} + (n-b+1)l_{i_b} \\ TRT_{new} &= \sum_{\substack{k \\ k \neq a \\ k \neq b}} (n-k+1)l_{i_k} + (n-a+1)l_{i_b} + (n-b+1)l_{i_a} \\ TRT_{old} - TRT_{new} &= (n-a+1)(l_{i_a} - l_{i_b}) + (n-b+1)(l_{i_b} - l_{i_a}) \\ &= (b-a)(l_{i_a} - l_{i_b}) > 0 \end{split}$$

• Time complexity: O(nlogn) for sorting



# Optimal Merge Pattern

- Input: a set of files of different lengths
- Output: an optimal sequence of two-way merges to obtain a sorted files

 $F_i, 1 \le i \le n$ , of length  $q_i$ merge files  $F_i$  and  $F_j$  requires  $O(q_i + q_j)$  time



Example

$$n = 3, (q_1, q_2, q_3) = (30, 20, 10)$$
ordering cost

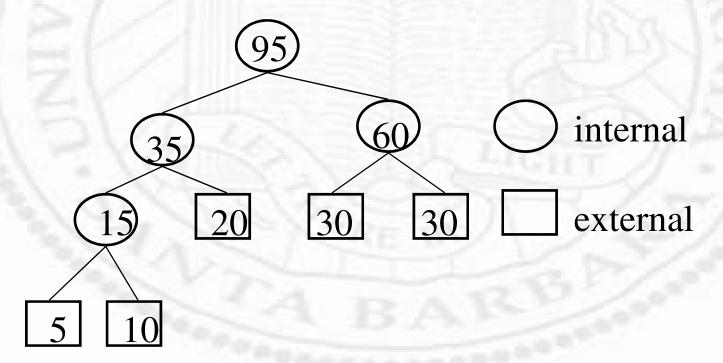
 $1,2,3$ 
 $50 + 60 = 110$ 
 $1,3,2$ 
 $40 + 60 = 100$ 
 $2,1,3$ 
 $50 + 60 = 90$ 
 $3,1,2$ 
 $40 + 60 = 90$ 
 $3,2,1$ 
 $30 + 60 = 90$ 

- Programs (files) stored on a tape (already merged together) may affect the access times (the merge times) of new programs (files) to be stored (merged)
- *SELECT*: At each step, merge two smallest files



#### Binary merge tree

- □ Distance from an external node to root = # of times a file is involved in merging
- □ Total # of record moves for file i  $d_iq_i$ 
  - > external path length to reach node i
- □ Total # of record moves for all files  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i q_i$ 
  - > total external path length



## Huffman Code

- For data compression to save storage space and transmission bandwidth
- \* ASCII code uses *fixed*-length 8 bits/character code words, O(8n) for storage and transmission
- \* Huffman codes uses variable-length code words depending on the frequency of occurrence



Example

200000	a	b	c	d	e	f
Frequency (thousands)	45	13	12	16	9	5
Fixed-length	000	001	010	011	100	101
Variable-length	0	101	100	111	1101	1100

fixed – length  $100,100 \times 3 = 300,000$  bits variable - length  $45,000 \times 1 + 13,000 \times 3 + 12,000 \times 3 + 16,000 \times 3 + 9,000 \times 4 + 5,000 \times 4 = 224,000$  bits Data Structures and Algorithms II



#### Prefix codes

no codeword is a prefix of some other codeword

1010 codeword a

1010001 codeword b

... 110 .... 1010 ...

codeword a? or beginning of codeword b?



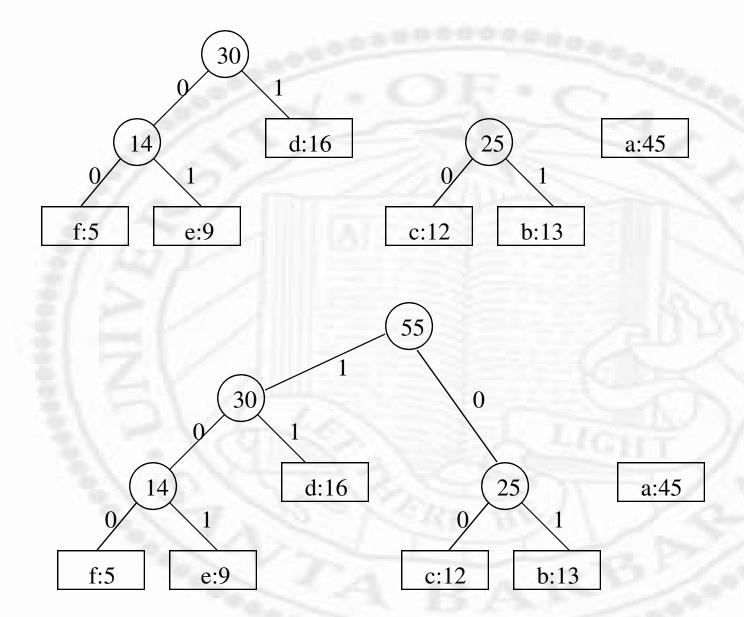
f:5 b:13 d:16 a:45 e:9 c:12 d:16 b:13 c:12 a:45 14) f:5 e:9 d:16 25 a:45 14

c:12

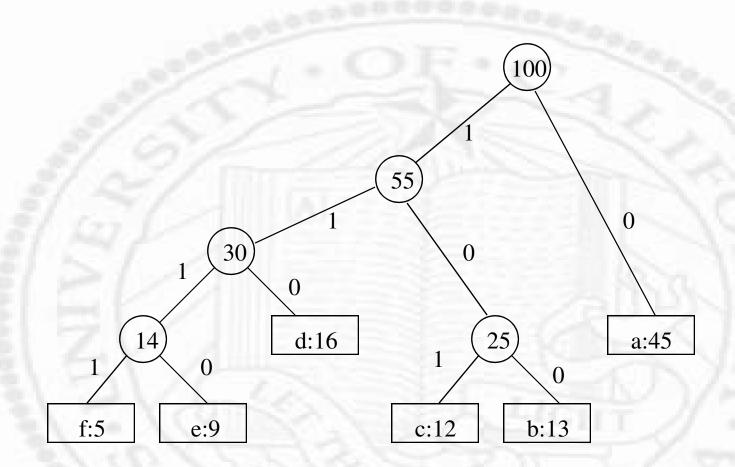
b:13

e:9

f:5







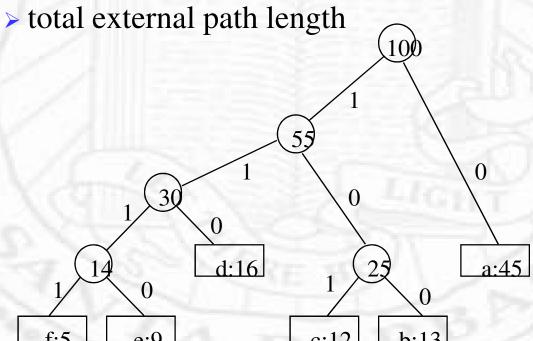


#### Huffman code

- □ Distance from an external node to root = # of bits in the code word
- □ Total effort of sending i

> external path length to reach node i

□ Total effort of sending all alphabets



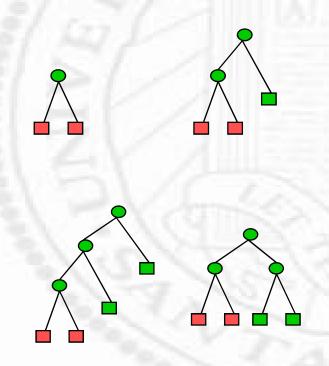
 $d_iq_i$ 

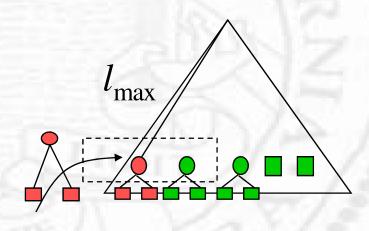
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i q_i$$



## An Important Fact

Using Huffman-tree rules, nodes that are merged first must have a longer path to the root than nodes that are merged later





$$p_1 + p_2 \le p_i + p_j$$
,  $i, j > 2$ 

No node can be merged more than once before p1+p2 is involved again



## An Important Fact (cont.)

- \* An iteration:
  - □ Between two successive merges involve p1
- In an iteration
  - No node can be involved in more than one merge
  - □ No node can increase in path length more than p1
- Hence, p1 must have the longest path length

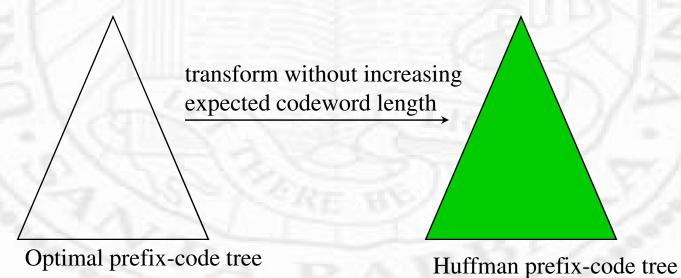


 Proposition: Huffman construction minimizes the expected codeword length

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i} l_{i}$$

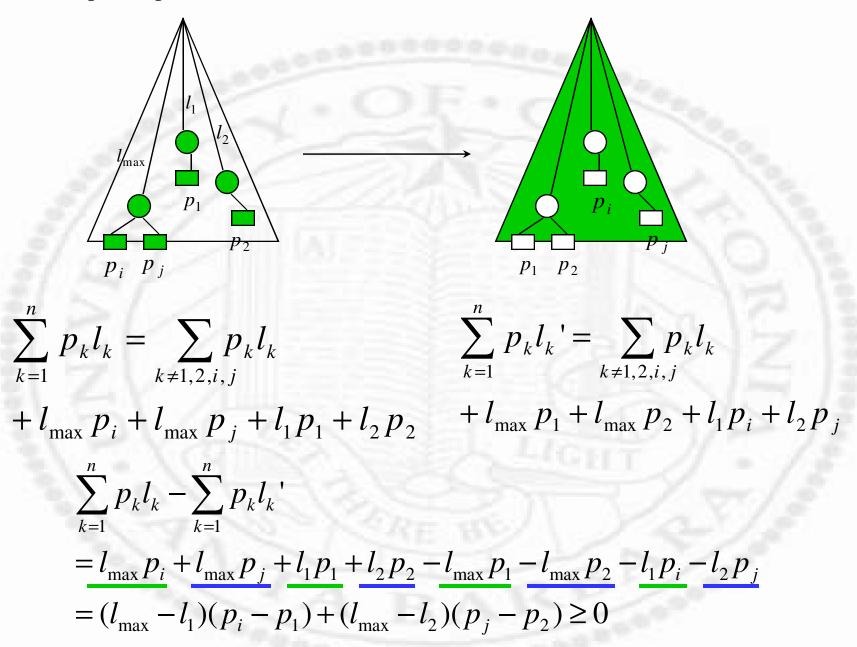
$$p_{i}$$
 probability of occurance
$$l_{i}$$
 codeword length

• **Proof:** Assume that  $p_1 \le p_2 \le ... \le p_n$ 



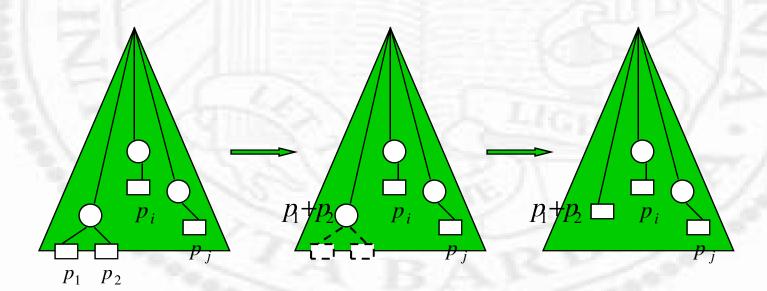


#### Optimal prefix-code tree



#### Recursion

- once p1 and p2 are moved to their right locations
- □ merge them into a single node of p1+p2
- □ now, greedy method will select from p1+p2, p3, ..., pn the smallest two to merge
- if that is not the case for optimal, then ...





### Time complexity

- $\square$  with *n* alphabets to code, exactly *n-1* merges are needed
- for each merge
  - > find an least-frequently-used alphabet
  - > find the next least-frequently-used alphabet
  - > merge
  - > put merged subtrees back into the list of subtrees
- priority queue (heap) is ideal for this operation
- $\bigcirc$  O(n) steps of *detelemin* and *insert* (O(logn))
- $\Box$  O(nlogn)



## Minimum-Cost Spanning Tree

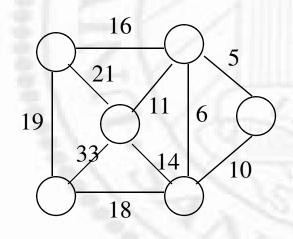
- \* Input: G=(V,E), an undirected, labeled graph
- Output: T=(V,E'), a subgraph of G
  - includes all the vertices
  - □ is a tree

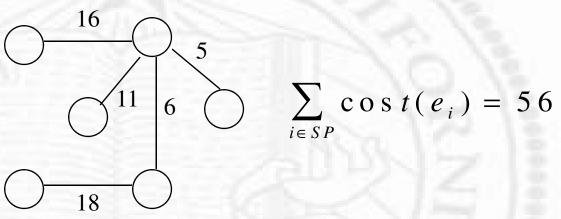
{Spanning tree}

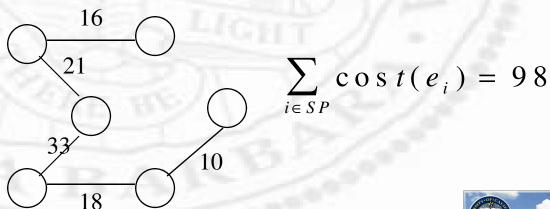
□ the sum of labels (costs) of all tree branches is minimum among all spanning trees



- \* Objective function:  $\sum_{i \in SP} \cos t(e_i)$
- Feasibility constraint: a tree containing all vertices
- Example







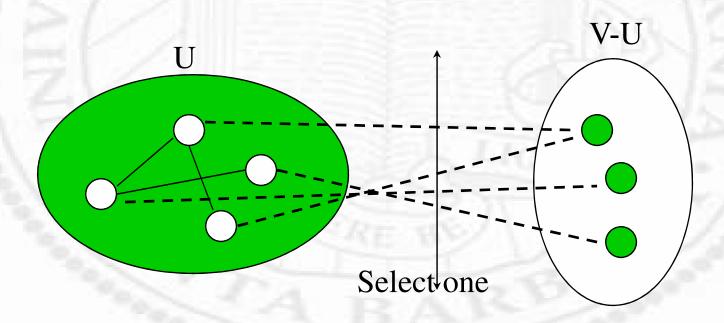


- \* SELECT: At each step, choose an edge with minimum cost (optimality) such that (feasibility):
  - □ the partial solution is always a tree (Prim)
  - the partial solution has potential of becoming a tree (no cycles, but not necessarily connected)(Kruskal)



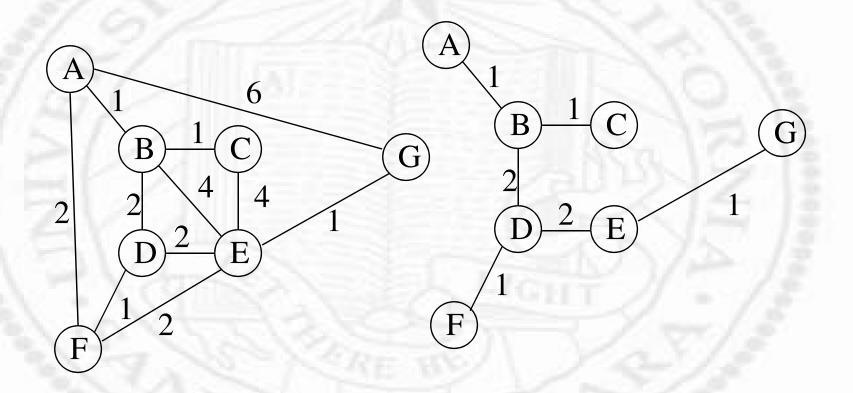
## Prim's algorithm

- First step: select a minimum cost edge, include it in the solution
- \* Other steps: select an edge (u,v), u in U and v in V-U, until all vertices are counted for

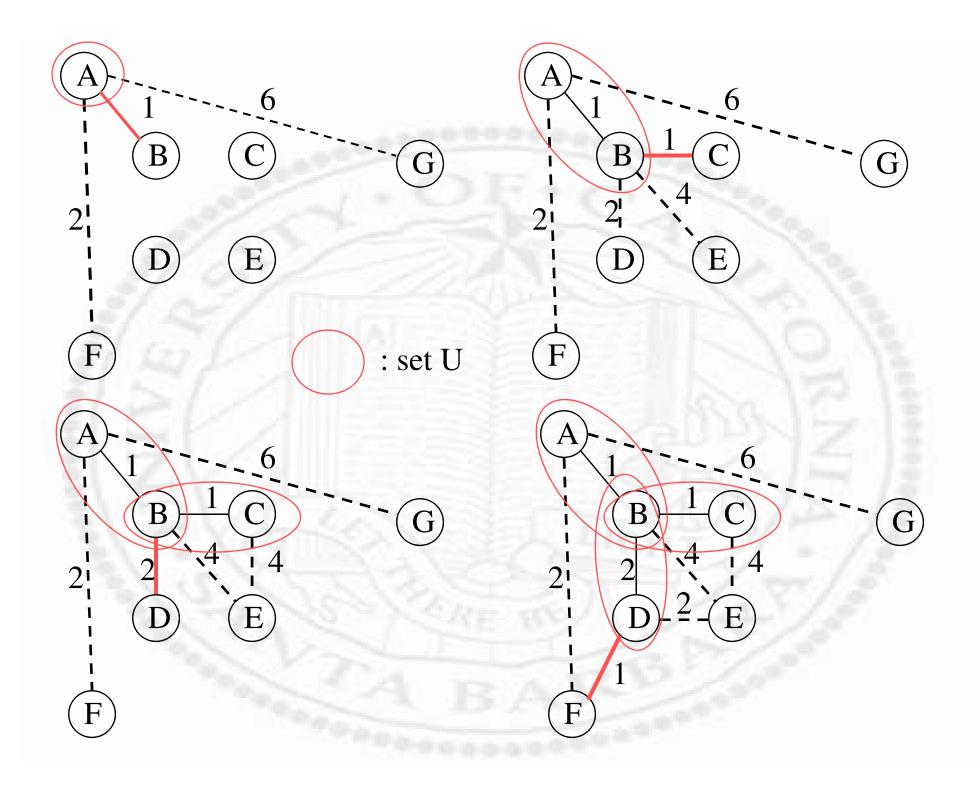


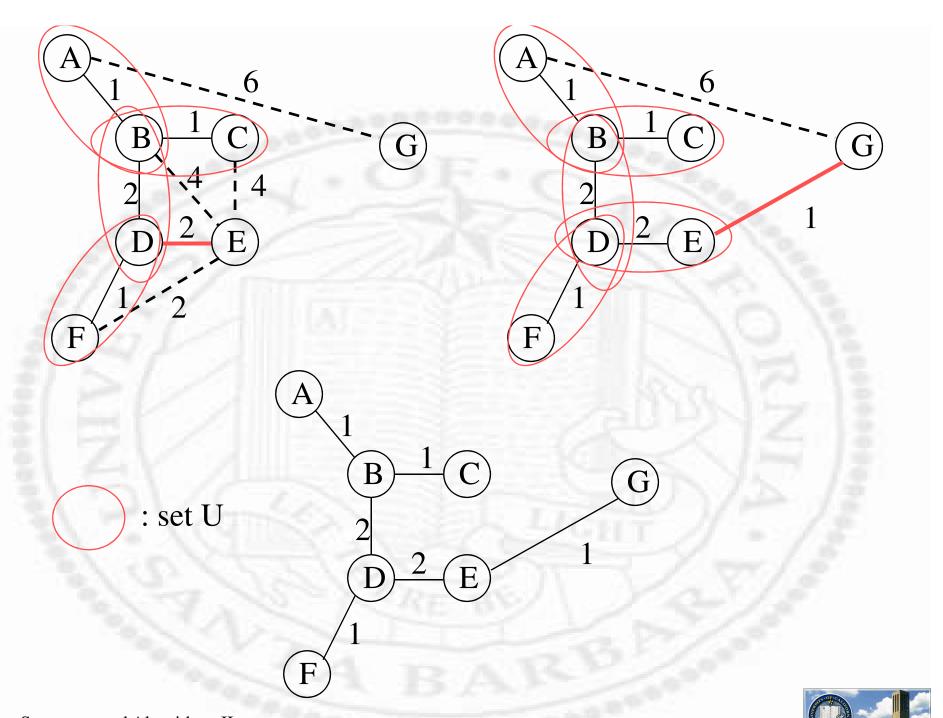


# Example







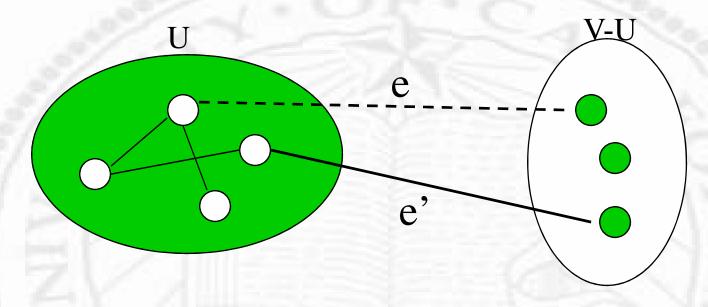


$$Cost_i = min(Cost_i, Cost(new, i))$$
 Cost update
$$Closest_i = (Cost_i = Cost(new, i))?new:Closet_i$$
 Nearest neighbor update



### \* Proposition: Prim's algorithm finds MCST

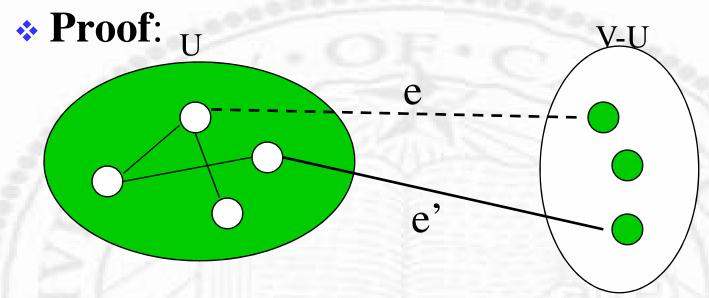
#### Proof:



- Again, there are two solutions, PRIM and MCST
- They better differ, and MCST has a lower cost
- In the construction of PRIM, if an edge e is considered
  - It is in MCST, ok, continue (cannot be forever)
  - If it is not in MCST, then ....

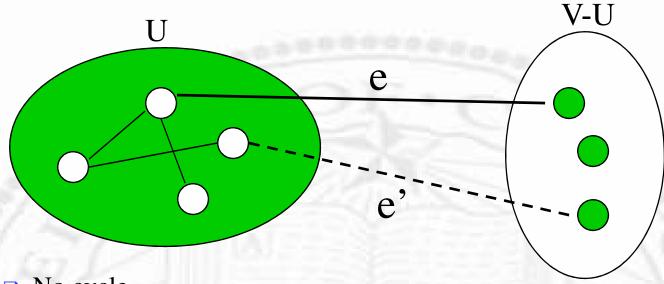


### Proposition: Prim's algorithm finds MCST



- Let U be the subgraph (tree) considered so far
- Let V-U be the remaining part, then
- There must be at least one edge (e') chosen between U
   and V-U in MCST
  - Prim's algorithm selects the minimum cost one (e)
  - e' can be replaced by e in the MCST





- □ No cycle
  - U has no cycle
  - > V-U has no cycle
  - > Between U and V-U cannot has cycle w. a single path e
- Still connected
  - > U is connected
  - > V-U is connected
  - > U and V-U connected through either e or e'
- □ The same number of edges => it is a spanning tree
- □ A tree of a smaller cost

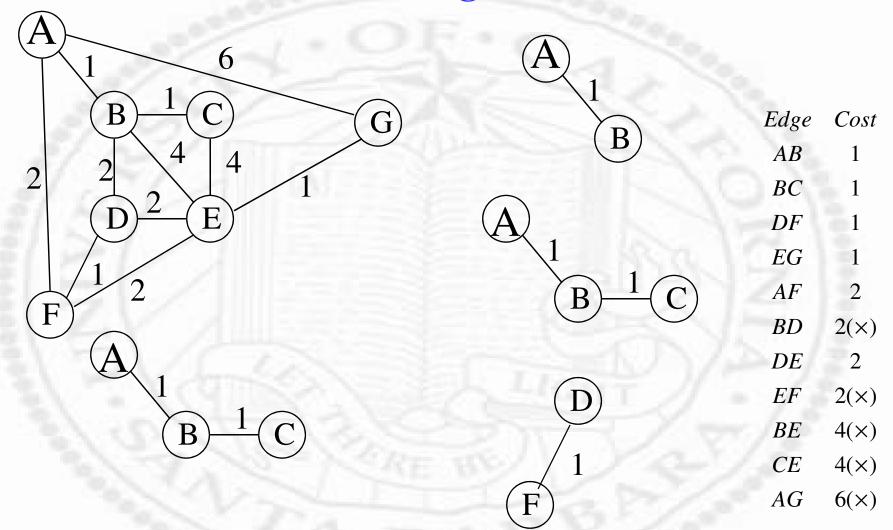


- Time complexity
  - $\square$  Totally n vertices have to be connected
  - Each time an edge is added, one additional vertex is accounted for
    - $\triangleright$  Loop through n-1 times
  - □ Through each loop
- O(n-i) > Select the edge of a minimum cost from U to V-U
- O(n-i) Update the nearest vertex and cost for vertices in V-U'

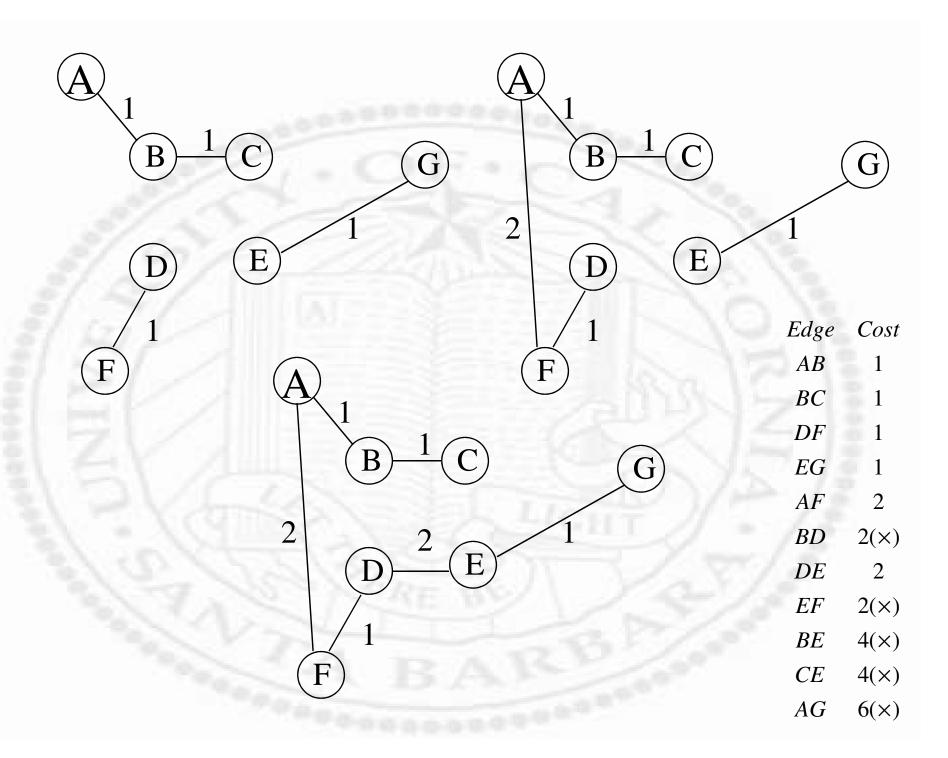
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (n-i) = O(n^2)$$



# Kruskal's algorithm







### \* Proposition: Kruskal's algorithm find MCST

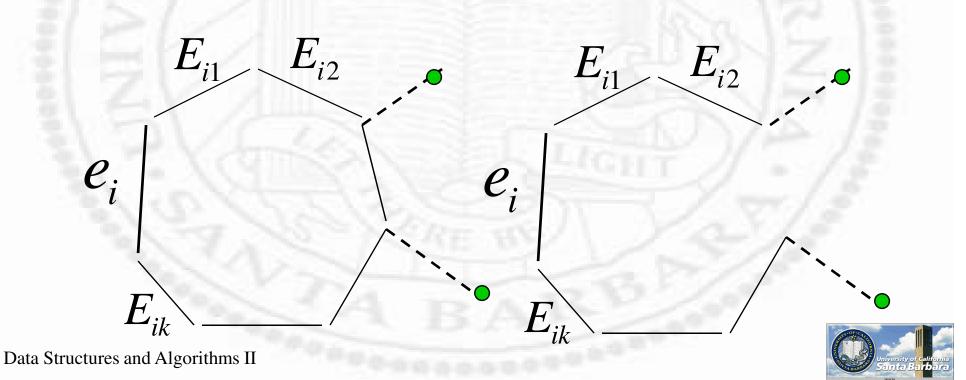
#### Proof:

$$T$$
 $E_1$ 
 $E_1$ 
 $E_2$ 
 $E_3$ 
 $E_4$ 
 $E_5$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_6$ 
 $E_8$ 
 $E_8$ 
 $E_8$ 
 $E_8$ 
 $E_9$ 
 $E_9$ 

$$Cost(e_i) \le Cost(E_j)$$
  $i \le j \le e$ 



- \* Including  $e_i$  in MCST creates a cycle
  - □ Not all edges in the cycle belongs to T (Kruskal's)
  - □ At least one of them must have a higher costs
  - Remove that high-cost edge breaks the cycle and maintain the tree structure



### Time complexity

- □ Total *e* edges are considered in order of nondecreasing cost
  - > Use partially-ordered tree (heap) to represent edges
    - Construction  $O(e \log e)$
    - Deletemin O(e log e)
- □ At each step, remove edge with a minimum cost and check to see whether it creates a cycle if included
  - > Use Union-and-Find tree
    - Initially each vertex in a set by itself
    - Inclusion of an edge, join the sets containing the edge's two end points
    - Edges are not included if the two end points are in the same set
- $\Box$  O(e log e)

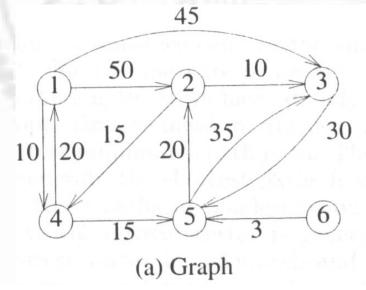
# Single-Source Shortest Path

### Input:

- $\Box G = (V, E)$ , an directed, labeled graph
- A source vertex

### Output:

□ The shortest path, from source to every other vertices in the graph, if one exists



		Path	Length
	1)	1,4	10
	2)	1, 4, 5	25
	3)	1, 4, 5, 2	45
	4)	1, 3	45
(h	2	hartest naths	from 1





# Possible Greedy Strategies

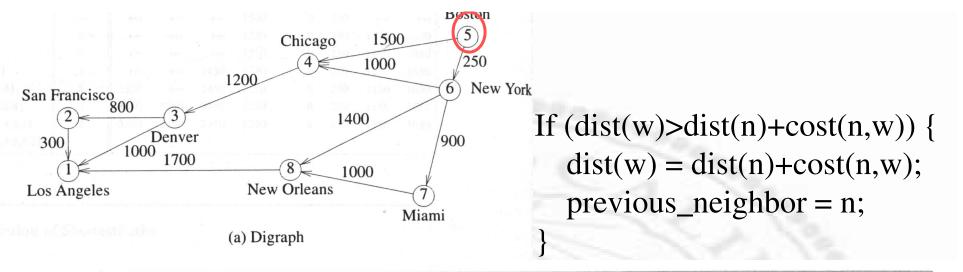
- Exploring a maze where you cannot see beyond the first turn
- Extremely greedy: with no memory, go where the path leads you (good paths can turn bad at any instance)
- Cautiously greedy: with memory, go where the shortest path encountered so far (backtracking to the path necessary)



## Greedy Selection

- 1. Visited set =  $\{s\}$
- 2. From visited set, find all 1-distance (direct edge) neighbors
- 3. Visit the one with the shortest distance: n
- 4. Enlarge visited set = visited set U  $\{n\}$
- 5. Update distances to the remaining vertices
  - 1. Go through original visited set
  - 2. Go through n
- 6. Go back to 2





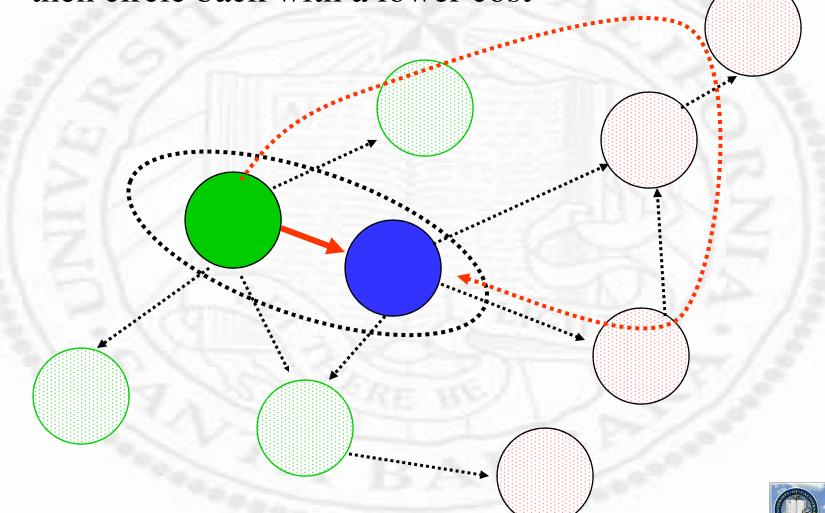
\ .		Distance								
Iteration	S	Vertex	LA	SF	DEN	CHI	BOST	NY	MIA	NO
	364	selected	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]
Initial			+∞	+∞	+∞	1500	0	250	+∞	+∞
1	{5}	6	+∞	+∞	+∞	1250	0	250	1150	1650
2	{5,6}	7	+∞	+∞	+∞	1250	0	250	1150	1650
3	{5,6,7}	4	+∞	+∞	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650
4	{5,6,7,4}	8	3350	+∞	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650
5	{5,6,7,4,8}	3	3350	3250	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650
6	{5,6,7,4,8,3} {5,6,7,4,8,3,2}	2	3350	3250	2450	1250	0	250	1150	1650

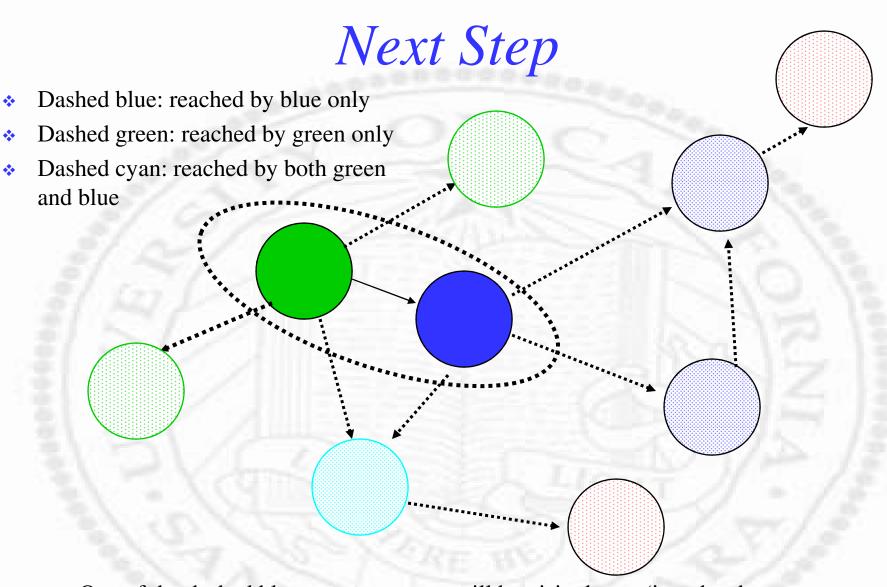
Complexity: O(n<sup>2</sup>)



# *Initially*

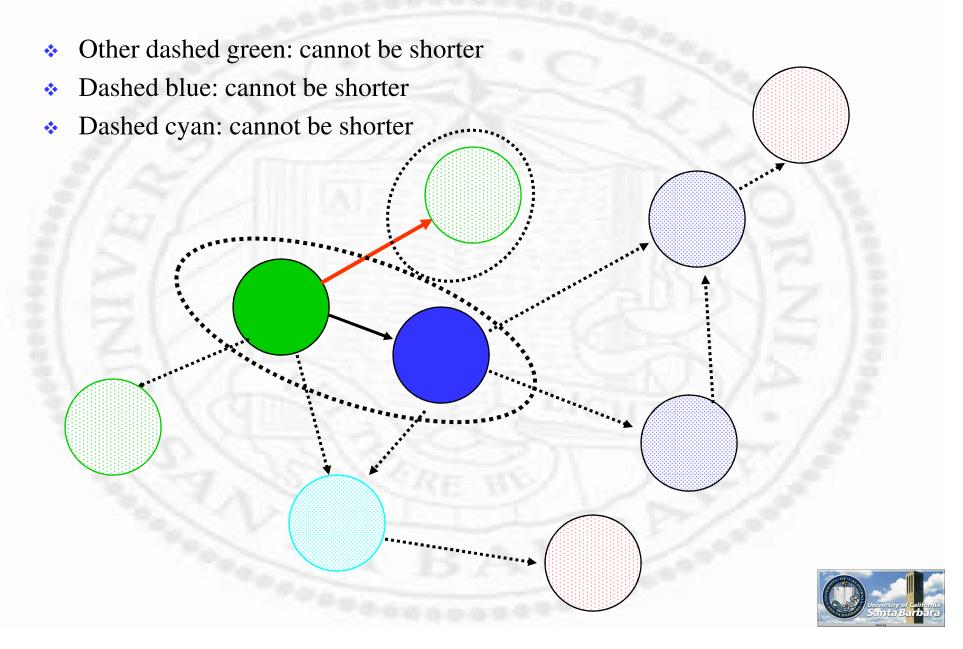
 You cannot go to blue through dashed green and then circle back with a lower cost



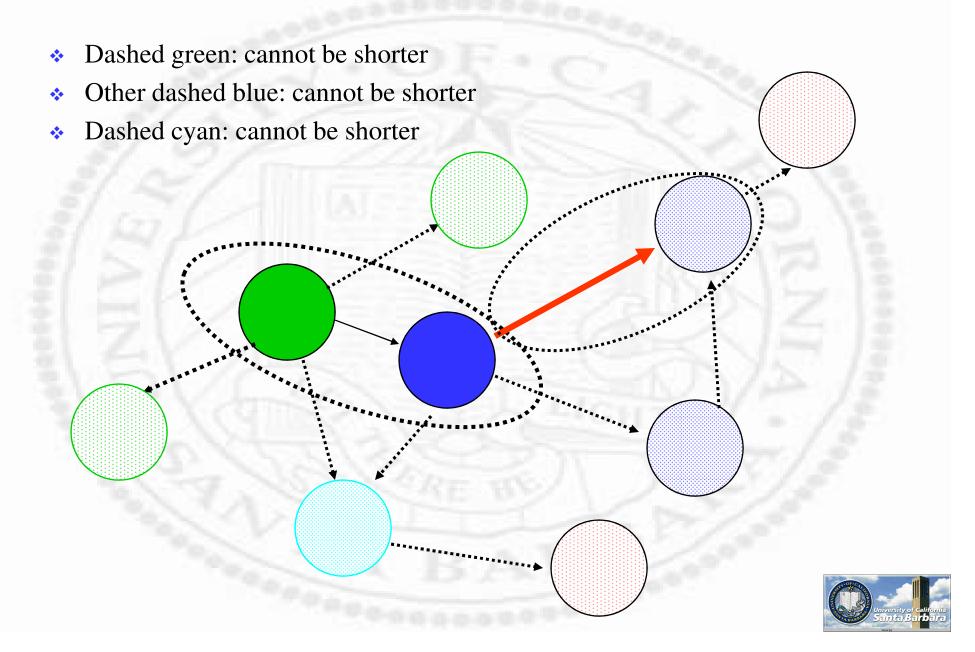


- \* One of the dashed blue, green, or cyan will be visited next (i.e., the shortest path to the visited node is determined greedily)
- Is that possible to go through other dashed blue, green, or cyan and circle back to the visited node with a shorter path?

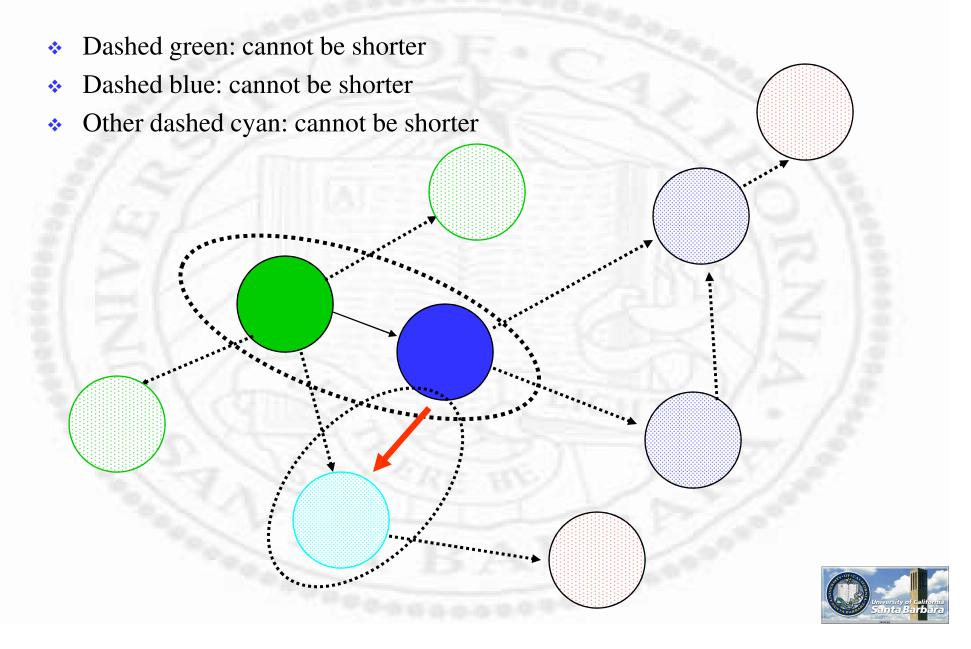
## Case one: Dashed green is selected

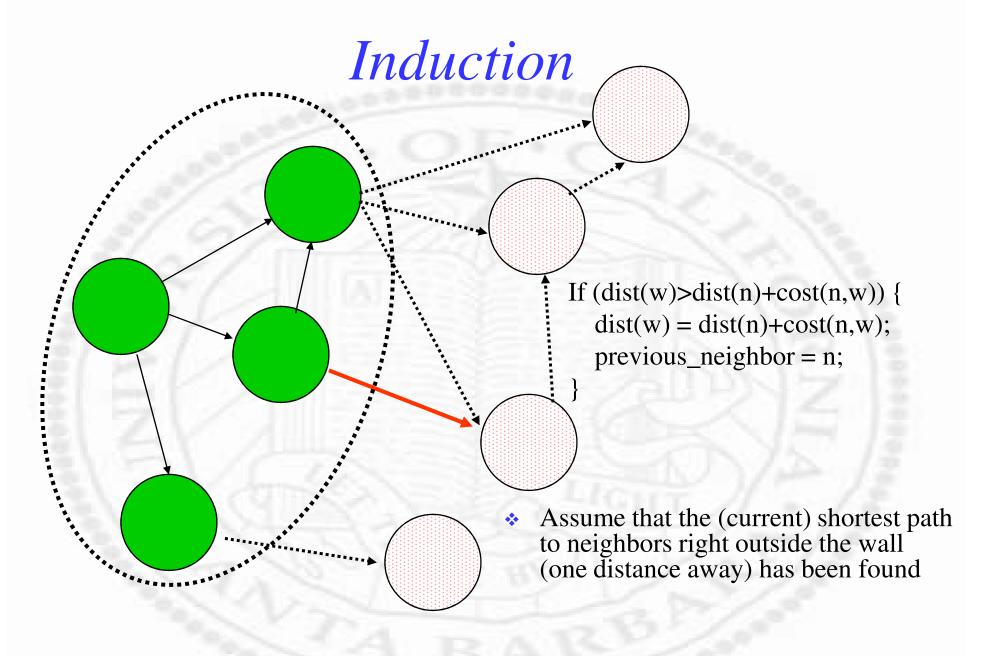


### Case two: Dashed blue is selected

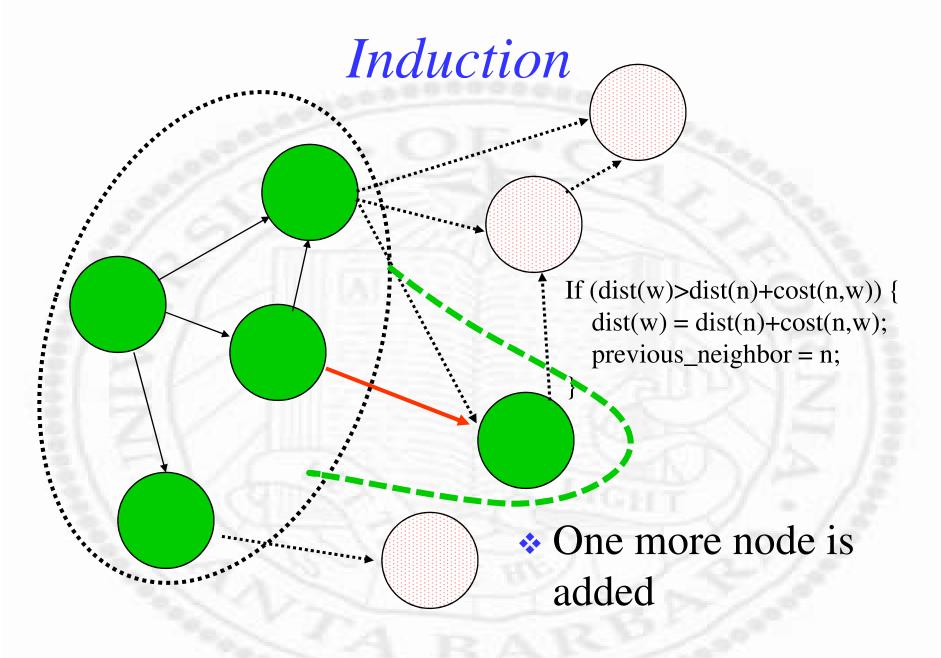


## Case three: Dashed cyan is selected











- Three things can happen for a node still outside the wall (the envelop) after a new node is added
  - □ Not reached by the new node
    - > The current best path didn't change
  - Reached by the new node but not any node in the previous envelop
    - > The current best path must be the one via the new node
  - Reached by the new node and also nodes in the previous envelop
    - > The update process should record the best between the two
- \* Hence, when "the best of the best" is chosen to go out the wall, one cannot jump through other paths on the wall and circle back to get a better result

## Job Sequencing with Deadlines

### Input:

- □ a set of *n* jobs, each with a deadline and a profit if completed before deadline
- one machine to execute all the jobs
- each job takes one unit of time

### Output:

□ a subset of jobs, each completed before deadline, with maximum profit



- \* Objective function:  $\max_{i \in J} \sum_{i \in J} P_i$
- Feasibility constraint:
- Example:

```
n = 4, (P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4) = (100, 10, 15, 27)
(d_1, d_2, d_3, d_4) = (2,1,2,1)
feasible schedule profit
 (1,2)
                      1 1 0
               2,1
 (1,3) 1,3 or 3,1 115
 (1,4)
              4,1
                         1 2 7
 (2,3)
               2,3
                            2 5
 (3,4)
               4,3
                            4 2
   (1)
                           1 0 0
  (2)
                            1 0
   (3)
                            1 5
   (4)
```



\* SELECT: select the job with maximum profit subject to the constraint that the resulting schedule is still feasible

	J	$\sum P_i$	
Initially	Φ	<i>i</i> ∈ <i>J</i> 0	
1	(1)	100	
4	(1,4)	127	
3	(1,4)	127	(1,4,3) not feasible
2	(1,4)	127	(1,4,2) not feasible



- (Q1) How to determine if J is feasible?
- (Q2) Is greedy algorithm optimal?

(Q1) If 
$$J = \{1, 2, 3, ..., k\}$$

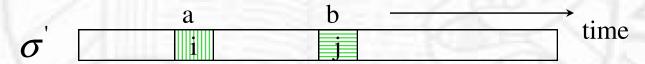
- ightharpoonup try all possible (k!) permutations (schedules) and see whether at least one of them allows all jobs to be finished before their deadlines
- □ intuitively, jobs with earlier deadline (more urgent) should be performed first
- check the permutation  $\sigma^* = (i_1, i_2, ..., i_k)$   $d_{i_1} \le d_{i_2} \le ... \le d_{i_k}$



\* Proposition:  $J = \{1, 2, ..., k\}$  is feasible if and only if  $\sigma^*$  is feasible

#### Proof:

- □ If  $\sigma^*$  is feasible, then  $J=\{1,2,...,k\}$  is feasible (by definition)
- $\square$  If  $J = \{1, 2, ..., k\}$  is feasible, then



$$d_i \ge a$$
 job completed before deadline

$$d_i \geq b$$

$$d_i \ge d_i$$
 out of order

$$d_i \ge b > a$$
 j can be moved forward

$$d_i \ge d_i \ge b$$
 i can be moved backward



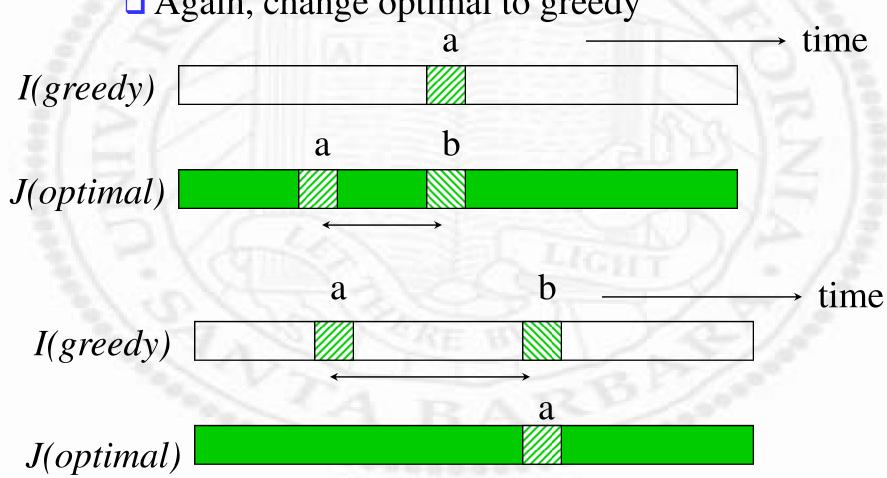
Proposition: The greedy method produces a schedule with the maximum profit

#### Proof:

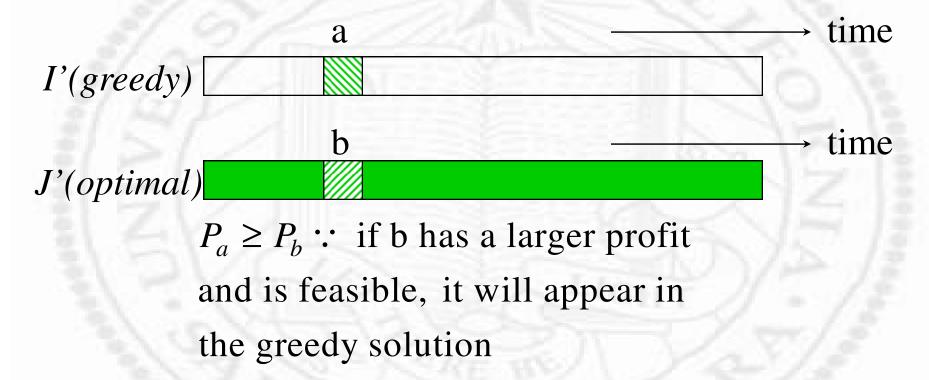
- □ Two *different* solutions: optimal and greedy
- Jobs that are in both optimal and greedy
  - > make sure that they are scheduled at the same time
- □ Jobs that are in one but not the other
  - change them into ones in greedy without decreasing profit
- The process continues until two solutions are equal



- For jobs that are in both
  - □ the job is scheduled the same in both
  - □ the job is scheduled earlier in optimal
  - the job is scheduled earlier in greedy
  - □ Again, change optimal to greedy



- For jobs that are different
  - $\square$  *I* and *J* are such that jobs common to both are scheduled at the same slot



 Replace b with a in the optimal solution will not decrease the profit

## **Finally**

- Can it be that greedy solution still does more jobs than optimal?
  - □ No, optimal will not be optimal then
- \* Can it be that optimal solution does more jobs than greedy?
  - □ No, if such a job is feasible, how come greedy solution doesn't include it?



### Time complexity

- $\square$  Sort jobs according to nondecreasing profit O(nlogn)
- $\Box$  Consider n jobs in turn
  - > for each job, insert the job into the partial solution using its deadline O(i)
  - $\triangleright$  check whether the new solution is still feasible O(i)

$$O(n^2)$$



## Greedy Method as Heuristics

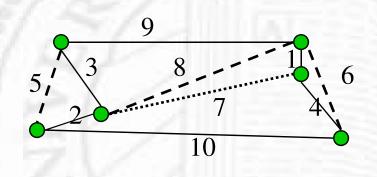
- \* For problems whose solutions are found by "try-all-possibilities," an optimal solution is difficult to compute for large problem size
- Greedy method can usually produce a "very good" solution at a fraction of the cost

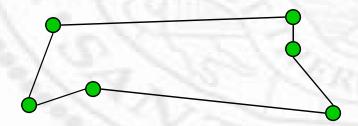


- Example: Traveling salesperson's problem
  - Input: a fully connected, labeled undirected graph
  - □ Output: a tour (a simple cycle including all vertices) whose edge weights are minimum.
  - □ Greedy method:
    - > A variant of Kruskal's algorithm
    - > Consider edges in nondecreasing cost
    - > The edge under consideration, together with all edges already selected:
      - do not cause a vertex to have a degree of three or more
      - do not form a cycle, unless the number of edges equals to that of vertices



 $\bullet$  (1,7)  $\bullet$  (15,7)  $\bullet$  (15,4)  $\bullet$  (15,4)  $\bullet$  (0,0)





- Greedy solution
  - □ 5,6 rejected: cycle
  - □ 7,8 rejected: vertex degree larger than 2
- Optimal solution

$$cost = 48.39$$

