

## White-Path Lemma

- In (directed or undirected) graph  $G$ , node  $v$  is descendant of  $u$  iff at  $d(u)$  (time when  $u$  was discovered) there is a path from  $u$  to  $v$  using only currently white nodes (the “white path”).
- Note that we are not claiming that DFS will follow this white path, only that its existence in the input graph guarantees that, by the end of the algorithm execution,  $v$  will become a descendant of  $u$ .

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## Proof of White-Path Lemma

- Assume  $v$  is descendant of  $u$  and thus there exists a  $u \rightarrow v$  path using tree edges. Let  $ww'$  be an edge on this  $u \rightarrow v$  path in the tree.  
  
If  $w'$  was not white at  $d(u)$ , then  $ww'$  will not be tree edge. Thus, all nodes on the  $u \rightarrow v$  path are white when  $u$  is discovered.
- Assume that at  $d(u)$  there is a white path from  $u$  to  $v$ . For contradiction, assume  $v$  is not a descendant of  $u$ .  
  
Let  $ww'$  be the first edge on this path where  $w$  is descendant of  $u$  but  $w'$  is not.
  - » We have  $f(u) > f(w) > d(w) > d(u)$ .
  - » But we have to discover  $w'$  after starting  $u$  and before finishing  $w$ :  
 $d(u) < d(w') < f(w) < f(u)$
  - » By parenthesis theorem,  $w'$  is also a descendant of  $u$ , contradiction.

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## Simple Lemma

- **Lemma:** if  $G$  **undirected**, then only tree and back edges.

**Proof:** Consider  $uv$  edge, WLOG  $d(u) < d(v)$ .

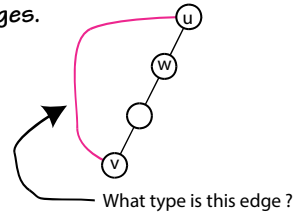
Thus  $v$  must be discovered and finished before finishing  $u$ , since  $uv$  exists.

If  $uv$  discovered from  $u$ , before  $v$ ,

it is **tree edge**

if  $v$  was discovered before  $uv$ ,

$uv$  becomes a **back edge**.



- HW: Why does the proof break down in the directed case ?

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## Discovering Cycles

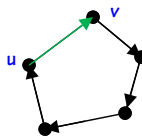
- **Claim:**  $G$  acyclic iff DFS yields no back edges.

- **Proof:**

» Trivial to observe that back edge implies a cycle.

» Assume there exists a cycle:

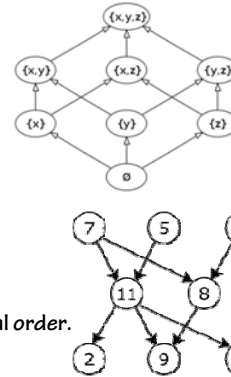
- Let  $v$  be the node with smallest  $d$  on the cycle and let  $uv$  be edge of the cycle.
- At  $d(v)$  all nodes on the cycle, including  $u$ , are white.
- All these nodes, including  $u$ , become descendants of  $v$ .
- Why ?
- White-path lemma!
- Thus, when  $u$  is scanned, we will discover  $uv$  edge and mark it as “back edge”.



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## Partial Order

- Example: subsets ordered by inclusion
  - » Note implicit relationships, e.g.  $x \in \{x,y,z\}$  but there is no edge between them.
- Acyclic directed graph, vertices ordered by reachability
- Topological sort: total order compatible with partial order.
  - » 7,5,3,11,8,2,10,9
  - » 3,7,8,5,11,10,9,2
- Numerous applications, mostly in scheduling: instructions, compilations in makefile, etc.



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## Topological Sort

- Directed acyclic graph  $G$ .
- Algorithm:
  - » Call DFS to compute finishing times  $f[v]$  for each vertex  $v$ .
  - » As each  $v$  is finished, insert it onto the **front** of linked list
  - » Return the linked list.
- Claim: the output list is a legal topological sort.
  - » Sufficient to prove that, for every  $u$  and  $v$  s.t.  $(uv)$  is an edge, we have  $f[v] < f[u]$ . (Why ??)
  - » Consider edge  $(uv)$  explored by DFS. Observe that when  $(uv)$  is explored,  $v$  cannot be gray!
  - » (reason: back edge implies cycle)
  - » If  $v$  white, it becomes descendant of  $u$ , and thus  $f[v] < f[u]$ .
  - » If  $v$  black, it finished before  $u$  started, so again  $f[v] < f[u]$ .

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## Min-Cost Spanning Tree

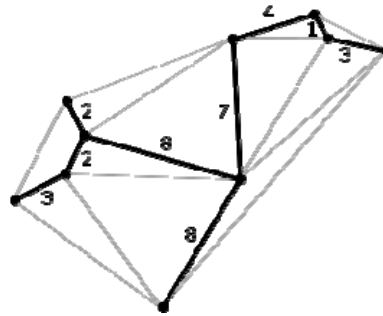
- Applications:

- » Cable TV,
- » Circuit layout,
- » Basic task for many optimization algs (eg. flow).

- Formally:

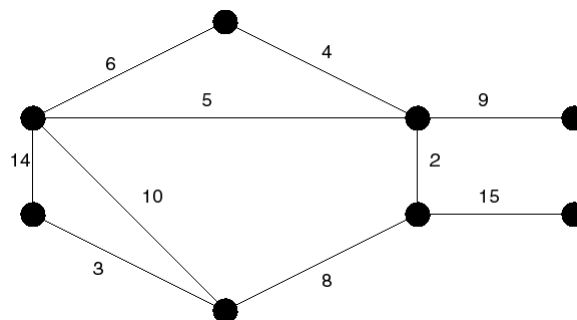
- » Undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .
- » Weights  $w: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- » Goal: find **spanning tree of minimum weight**.  
(spanning = connects all nodes in  $G$ )  
(tree weight = sum of weights of tree edges)

- » For simplicity, we will assume single connected component.  
Straightforward extension to multiple components.



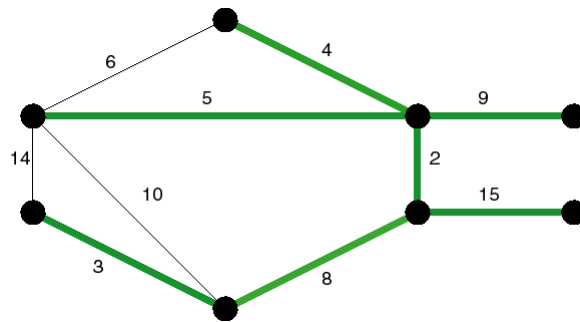
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## Example graph



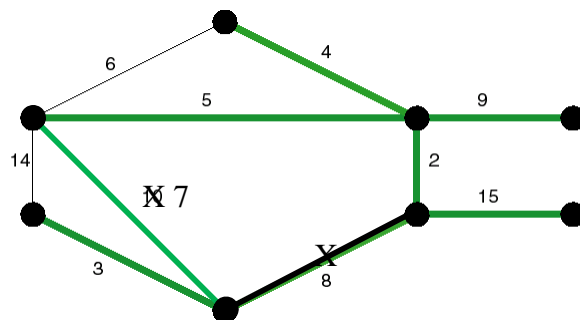
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## Example MST



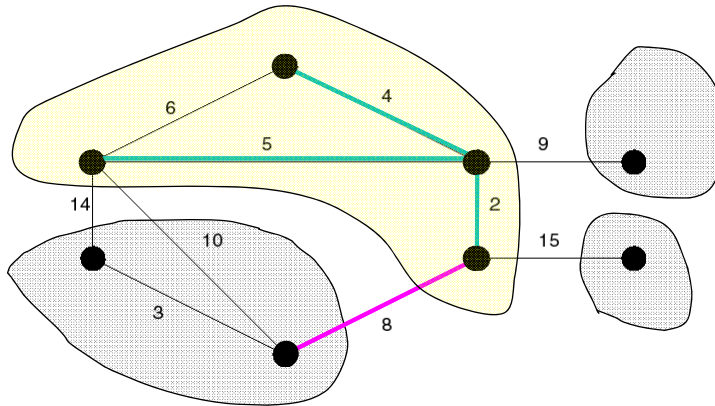
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## What if we modify edge weight ?



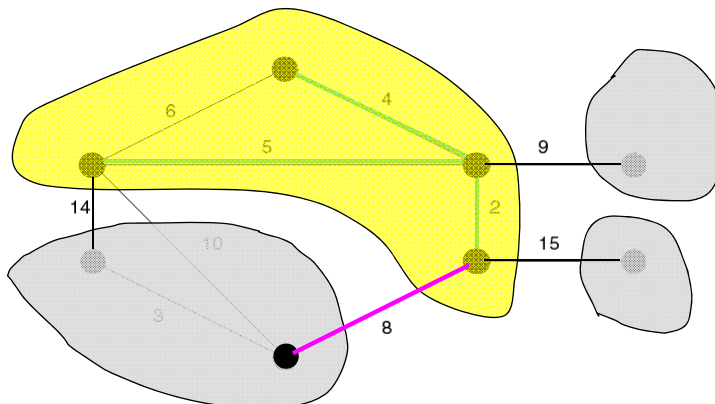
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## Greedy step



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## Greedy step



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## Optimum Substructure

- Assume  $T$  is MST of  $G$ ,  $A \subset T$  subtree of  $T$   
 let  $uv$  be min-weight edge connecting  $A$  to  $(T-A)$   
 $\Rightarrow \exists$  MST  $T'$  s.t.  $(A \cup uv) \subseteq T'$  (loose notation)

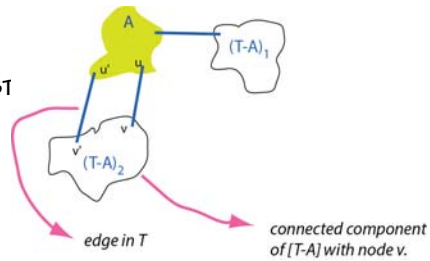
Graph induced by  
edges in  $T$  but  
not in  $A$

- Proof: "Cut-and-Paste" approach

- »  $u'v'$  connects  $A$  to  $(T-A)_2$  in  $T$
- » Replace  $u'v'$  by  $uv$ ,
- » Claim resulting  $T$  is optimum MST

- Questions:

- » Why no more edges parallel to  $u'v'$  in  $T$  ??
  - $T$  cannot have cycles
- » Why  $u'v'$  exists at all ??
  - walk in  $T$  until you hit  $(T-A)_2$
  - No edges in  $T$  between  $(T-A)_1$  and  $(T-A)_2$



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