

Point-to-Point Shortest Path

algorithm gives you shortest paths from a particular given vertex to all other vertices in a graph.

If you're only interested in getting to a particular vertex?

If algorithm finds paths in order of length, you *could* simply stop when you get to the vertex you want.

It could be really wasteful.

Example: to travel by road from Denver to a destination on lower 48 in New York City is about 1750 miles (says Google).

Example: going from Denver to the Gourmet Ghetto in Berkeley is about 1750 miles.

Example: going to more much of California, Nevada, Arizona, etc. before reaching destination, even though these are all in the wrong direction.

Even worse when graph is infinite, generated on the fly.

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Admissible Heuristics for A* Search

Example: heuristic estimate for the distance to NYC is too high (i.e., greater than the actual path by road), then we may get to NYC without visiting all points along the shortest route.

Example: if our heuristic decided that the midwest was literally further from nowhere, and $h(C) = 2000$ for C any city in Michigan or Ohio, we might only find a path that detoured south through Kentucky.

Admissible, $h(C)$ must never overestimate $d(C, \text{NYC})$, the actual distance from C to NYC.

Example: $h(C) = 0$ will work (what is the result?), but yield a sub-optimal algorithm.

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Summary of Shortest Paths

Algorithm finds a *shortest-path tree* computing giving shortest paths in a weighted graph from a given start vertex to all other nodes.

$d =$

Remove V nodes from priority queue +

Update all neighbors of each of these nodes and add or remove them in queue ($E \lg E$)

$(V + E \lg V) = \Theta((V + E) \lg V)$

Searches for a shortest path to a *particular* target node.

Dijkstra's algorithm, except:

When we take target from queue.

Queue by estimated distance to start + heuristic guess of distance ($h(v) = d(v, \text{target})$)

Must not overestimate distance and obey triangle inequality: $d(a, b) + d(b, c) \geq d(a, c)$.

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CS61B Lecture #34

Search, Minimum spanning trees, union-find.

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A* Search

Example: going for a path from vertex Denver to the desired NYC

Example: if we had a *heuristic guess*, $h(V)$, of the length of a path from vertex V to NYC.

Example: instead of visiting vertices in the fringe in order of shortest known path to Denver, we order by the sum of the shortest known path to Denver plus a *heuristic estimate* of the remaining distance to NYC: $d(\text{Denver}, V) + h(V)$.

Example: if we know that some paths are not good, we look at places that are reachable from places we already know the shortest path to Denver and choose those that look like they will result in the shortest trip to NYC, based on the remaining distance.

Example: if a heuristic estimate is good, then we don't look at, say, Grand Junction (if it's not the best by road), because it's in the wrong direction.

Example: the algorithm is *A* search*.

Example: if it works, we must be careful about the heuristic.

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Consistency

Example: if we estimate $h(\text{Chicago}) = 700$, and $h(\text{Springfield, IL}) = 200$, and $d(\text{Chicago, Springfield}) = 200$.

Example: if we are 200 miles to Springfield, we guess that we are suddenly much closer to NYC.

Example: it's possible, since both estimates are low, but it will mess up the heuristic.

Example: it will require that we put processed nodes back into the queue if our estimate was wrong.

Example: of course, anyway) we also require *consistent heuristics*: $d(A, B) + h(B) \geq h(A)$, as for the triangle inequality.

Example: if heuristics are admissible (why?).

Example: 3, distance "as the crow flies" is a good $h(\cdot)$ in the trip

Example: the search (and others) is in *cs61b-software* and on the machines as *graph-demo*.

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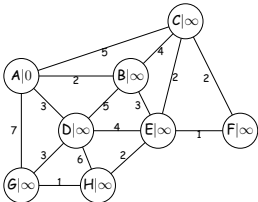
Minimum Spanning Trees by Prim's Algorithm

How to grow a tree starting from an arbitrary node.
At each step, add the shortest edge connecting some node already in the tree to one that isn't yet.
How does this work?

```
Initialize();
{ v.dist() = ∞; v.parent() = null; }
for each starting node, s;

queue ordered by smallest .dist();
fringe;
while !fringe.empty() {
    v = fringe.removeFirst();

    for each (v,w) {
        if weight(v,w) < w.dist() {
            w.dist() = weight(v, w); w.parent() = v; }
    }
}
```



Minimum Spanning Trees

Given a set of places and distances between them (assume positive), find a set of connecting roads of minimum total length that allows travel between any two.
Your solution may not necessarily be shortest paths.
Remember that such a set of connecting roads and places must be a tree because removing one road in a cycle still allows all to

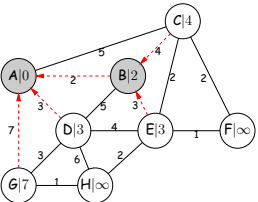
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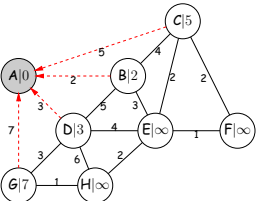
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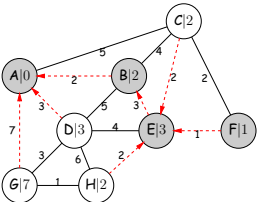
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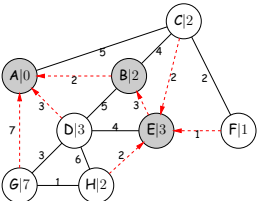
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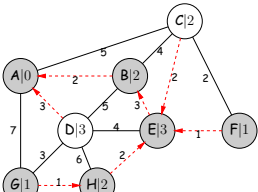
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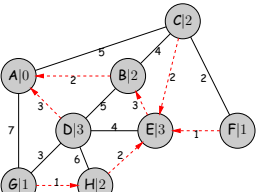
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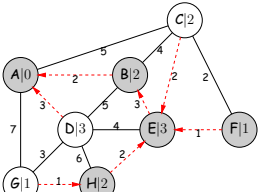
Union Find

gorithm required that we have a set of sets of nodes with
ns:
h of the sets a given node belongs to.
vo sets with their *union*, reassigning all the nodes in the
al sets to this union.
g to do is to store a set number in each node, making
es changing the set number in one of the two sets being
smaller is better choice.
n individual union can take $\Theta(N)$ time.
fast?

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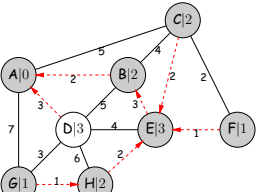
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Spanning Trees by Kruskal's Algorithm

the shortest edge in a graph can always be part of a
nning tree.
e have a bunch of subtrees of a MST, then the shortest
nnects two of them can be part of a MST, combining
rees into a bigger one.

(trivial) subtree for each node in the graph:

```
nge(v,w), in increasing order of weight {  
,w) connects two different subtrees ) {  
(v,w) to MST;  
ine the two subtrees into one;
```

Path Compression

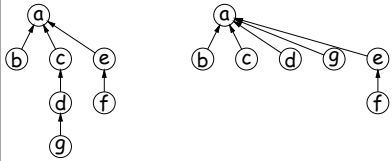
unioning really fast, but the find operation potentially).

following trick: whenever we do a *find* operation, *com-*th to the root, so that subsequent finds will be faster.

each of the nodes in the path point directly to the

very fast, and sequence of unions and finds each have early constant amortized time.

d 'g' in last tree (result of compression on right):



A Clever Trick

to represent a set of nodes by *one* arbitrary represen-
n that set.

de contain a pointer to another node in the same set.

each pointer to represent the *parent* of a node in a tree
representative node as its root.

set a node is in, follow parent pointers.

such trees, make one root point to the other (choose
he larger tree as the union representative).

