

# Minimum Spanning Tree

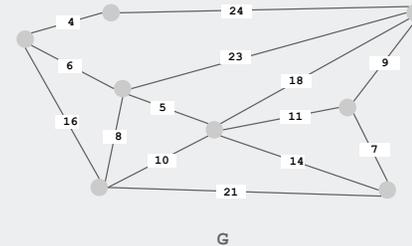
- introduction
- Weighted graph API
- cycles and cuts
- Kruskal's algorithm
- Prim's algorithm
- advanced algorithms
- clustering

References: Algorithms in Java (Part 5), Chapter 20  
Intro to Algs and Data Structures, Section 5.4

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## Minimum Spanning Tree

**MST.** Given connected graph  $G$  with positive edge weights, find a min weight set of edges that connects all of the vertices.



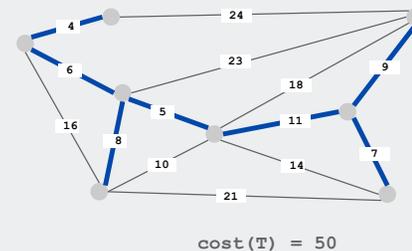
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## Minimum Spanning Tree

**MST.** Given connected graph  $G$  with positive edge weights, find a min weight set of edges that connects all of the vertices.



Brute force: Try all possible spanning trees

- problem 1: not so easy to implement
- problem 2: far too many of them

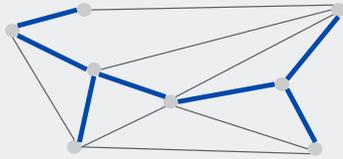
Ex: [Cayley, 1889]:  $V^{V-2}$  spanning trees on the complete graph on  $V$  vertices.

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## MST Origin

### Otakar Boruvka (1926).

- Electrical Power Company of Western Moravia in Brno.
- Most economical construction of electrical power network.
- Concrete engineering problem is now a cornerstone problem in combinatorial optimization.

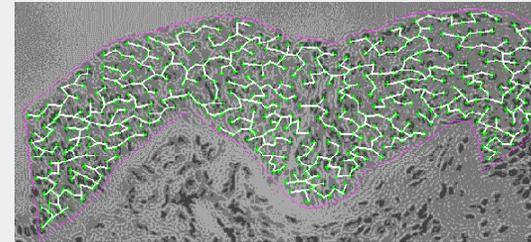
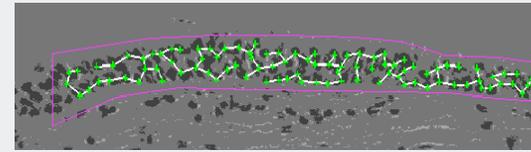


Otakar Boruvka

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## Medical Image Processing

MST describes arrangement of nuclei in the epithelium for cancer research



[http://www.bocrc.ca/ci/ta01\\_archlevel.html](http://www.bocrc.ca/ci/ta01_archlevel.html)

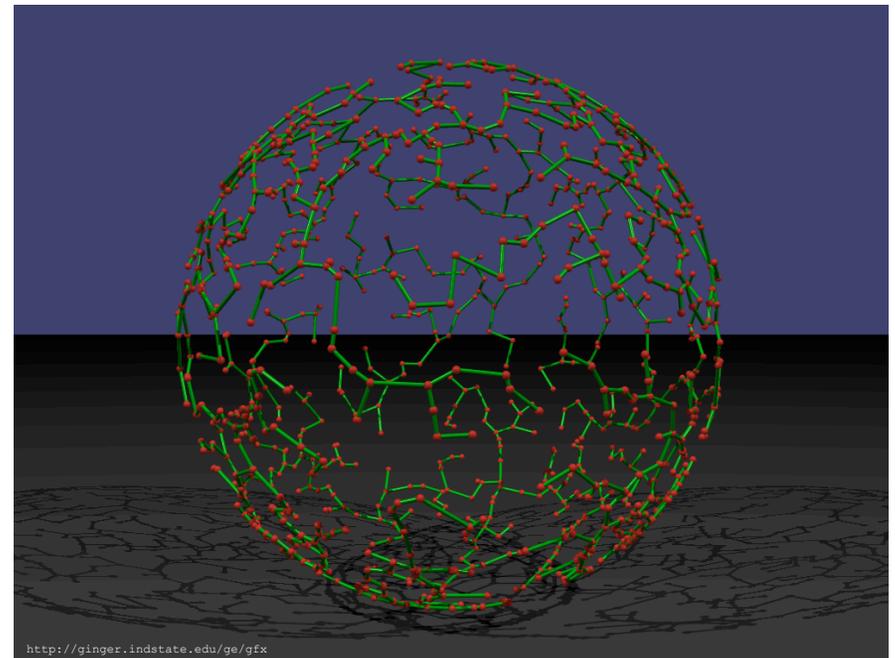
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## Applications

MST is fundamental problem with diverse applications.

- Network design.
  - telephone, electrical, hydraulic, TV cable, computer, road
- Approximation algorithms for NP-hard problems.
  - traveling salesperson problem, Steiner tree
- Indirect applications.
  - max bottleneck paths
  - LDPC codes for error correction
  - image registration with Renyi entropy
  - learning salient features for real-time face verification
  - reducing data storage in sequencing amino acids in a protein
  - model locality of particle interactions in turbulent fluid flows
  - autoconfig protocol for Ethernet bridging to avoid cycles in a network
- Cluster analysis.

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<http://ginger.indstate.edu/ge/gfx>

## Two Greedy Algorithms

**Kruskal's algorithm.** Consider edges in ascending order of cost. Add the next edge to  $T$  unless doing so would create a cycle.

**Prim's algorithm.** Start with any vertex  $s$  and greedily grow a tree  $T$  from  $s$ . At each step, add the cheapest edge to  $T$  that has exactly one endpoint in  $T$ .

**Theorem.** Both greedy algorithms compute an MST.

Greed is good. Greed is right. Greed works. Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the essence of the evolutionary spirit." - Gordon Gecko



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## Weighted Graph Interface

```
public class WeightedGraph (graph data type)
    WeightedGraph(int V)    create an empty graph with V vertices
    void insert(Edge e)    insert edge e
    Iterable<Edge> adj(int v) return an iterator over edges incident to v
    int V()                return the number of vertices
    String toString()      return a string representation
```

```
for (int v = 0; v < G.V(); v++)
{
    for (Edge e : G.adj(v))
    {
        int w = e.other(v);
        // edge v-w
    }
}
```

iterate through all edges (once in each direction)

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## Edge data type

```
public class Edge implements Comparable<Edge>
{
    public final int v, int w;
    public final double weight;

    public Edge(int v, int w, double weight)
    {
        this.v = v;
        this.w = w;
        this.weight = weight;
    }

    public int either()
    { return v; }

    public int other(int vertex)
    {
        if (vertex == v) return w;
        else return v;
    }

    public int compareTo(Edge f)
    {
        Edge e = this;
        if (e.weight < f.weight) return -1;
        else if (e.weight > f.weight) return +1;
        else if (e.weight == f.weight) return 0;
    }
}
```

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## Weighted graph: Java implementation

Identical to `Graph.java` but use `Edge` adjacency lists instead of `int`.

```
public class WeightedGraph
{
    private int V;
    private Sequence<Edge>[] adj;

    public Graph(int V)
    {
        this.V = V;
        adj = (Sequence<Edge>[]) new Sequence[V];
        for (int v = 0; v < V; v++)
            adj[v] = new Sequence<Edge>();
    }

    public void insert(Edge e)
    {
        int v = e.v, w = e.w;
        adj[v].add(e);
        adj[w].add(e);
    }

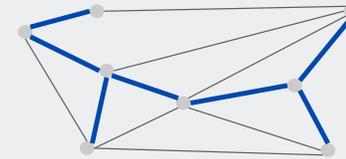
    public Iterable<Edge> adj(int v)
    { return adj[v]; }
}
```

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## Spanning Tree

**MST.** Given connected graph  $G$  with positive edge weights, find a min weight set of edges that connects all of the vertices.

**Def.** A **spanning tree** of a graph  $G$  is a subgraph  $T$  that is connected and acyclic.



**Property.** MST of  $G$  is always a spanning tree.

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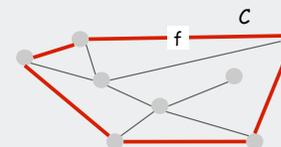
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## Greedy Algorithms

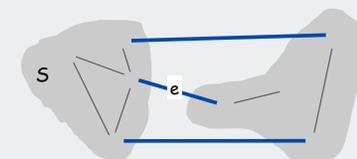
**Simplifying assumption.** All edge costs  $c_e$  are distinct.

**Cycle property.** Let  $C$  be any cycle, and let  $f$  be the **max cost** edge belonging to  $C$ . Then the MST does not contain  $f$ .

**Cut property.** Let  $S$  be any subset of vertices, and let  $e$  be the **min cost** edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ . Then the MST contains  $e$ .



$f$  is not in the MST



$e$  is in the MST

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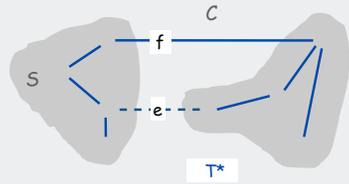
## Cycle Property

**Simplifying assumption.** All edge costs  $c_e$  are distinct.

**Cycle property.** Let  $C$  be any cycle, and let  $f$  be the **max cost** edge belonging to  $C$ . Then the MST  $T^*$  does not contain  $f$ .

Pf. [by contradiction]

- Suppose  $f$  belongs to  $T^*$ . Let's see what happens.
- Deleting  $f$  from  $T^*$  disconnects  $T^*$ . Let  $S$  be one side of the cut.
- Some other edge in  $C$ , say  $e$ , has exactly one endpoint in  $S$ .
- $T = T^* \cup \{e\} - \{f\}$  is also a spanning tree.
- Since  $c_e < c_f$ ,  $\text{cost}(T) < \text{cost}(T^*)$ .
- Contradicts minimality of  $T^*$ . ▪



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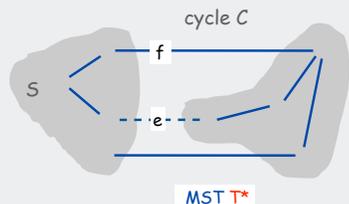
## Cut Property

**Simplifying assumption.** All edge costs  $c_e$  are distinct.

**Cut property.** Let  $S$  be any subset of vertices, and let  $e$  be the **min cost** edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ . Then the MST  $T^*$  contains  $e$ .

Pf. [by contradiction]

- Suppose  $e$  does not belong to  $T^*$ . Let's see what happens.
- Adding  $e$  to  $T^*$  creates a (unique) cycle  $C$  in  $T^*$ .
- Some other edge in  $C$ , say  $f$ , has exactly one endpoint in  $S$ .
- $T = T^* \cup \{e\} - \{f\}$  is also a spanning tree.
- Since  $c_e < c_f$ ,  $\text{cost}(T) < \text{cost}(T^*)$ .
- Contradicts minimality of  $T^*$ . ▪

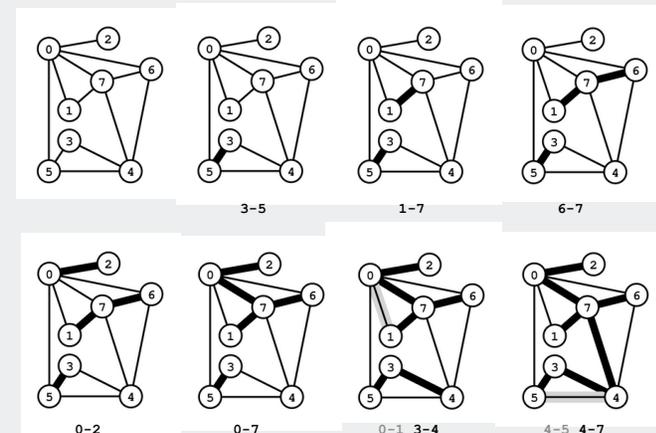


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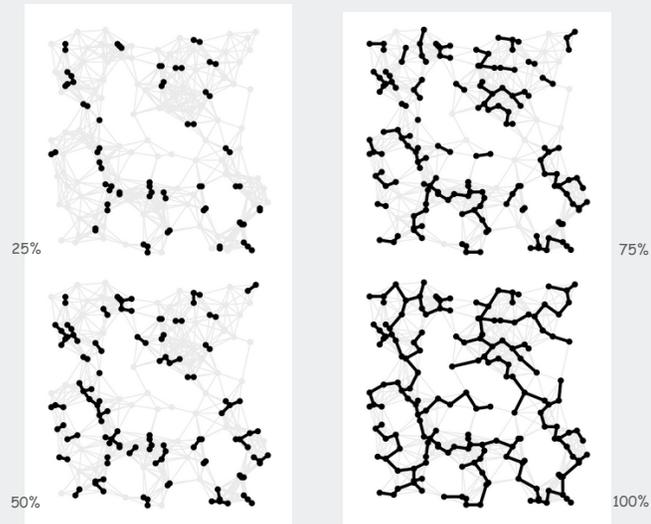
## Kruskal's Algorithm: Example

**Kruskal's algorithm.** [Kruskal, 1956] Consider edges in ascending order of cost. Add the next edge to  $T$  unless doing so would create a cycle.



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## Kruskal's algorithm example



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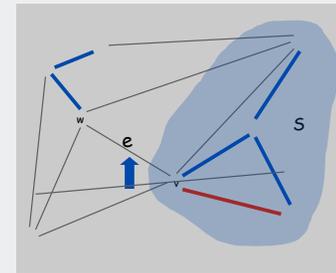
## Kruskal's algorithm correctness proof

**Theorem.** Kruskal's algorithm computes the MST.

**Pf.** [case 2] Suppose that adding  $e = (v, w)$  to  $T$  does not create a cycle

- let  $S$  be the vertices in  $v$ 's connected component
- $w$  is not in  $S$
- $e$  is the min weight edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$
- $e$  is in the MST (cut property)

QED



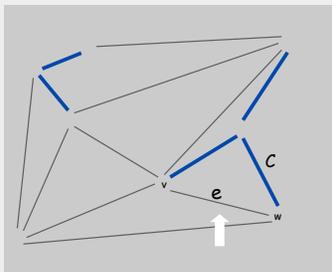
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## Kruskal's algorithm correctness proof

**Theorem.** Kruskal's algorithm computes the MST.

**Pf.** [case 1] Suppose that adding  $e$  to  $T$  creates a cycle  $C$

- $e$  is the max weight edge in  $C$  (weights come in increasing order)
- $e$  is not in the MST (cycle property)



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## Kruskal's algorithm implementation

**Q.** How to check if adding an edge to  $T$  would create a cycle?

- A1.** Naïve solution: use DFS.
- $O(V)$  time per cycle check.
  - $O(E V)$  time overall.

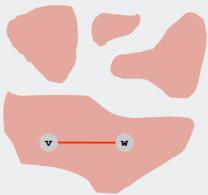
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## Kruskal's algorithm implementation

Q. How to check if adding an edge to T would create a cycle?

A2. Use the **union-find** data structure from lecture 1 (!).

- Maintain a set for each connected component.
- If  $v$  and  $w$  are in same component, then adding  $v-w$  creates a cycle.
- To add  $v-w$  to  $T$ , merge sets containing  $v$  and  $w$ .



Case 1: adding  $v-w$  creates a cycle



Case 2: add  $v-w$  to  $T$  and merge sets

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## Kruskal's algorithm running time

**Kruskal running time:** Dominated by the cost of the sort.

Operation	Frequency	Time per op
sort	1	$E \log E$
union	$V$	$\log^* V \uparrow$
find	$E$	$\log^* V \uparrow$

$\uparrow$  amortized bound using weighted quick union with path compression

recall:  $\log^* V \leq 5$  in this universe

**Remark 1.** If edges are already sorted, time is proportional to  $E \log^* V$

**Remark 2.** With PQ or quicksort partitioning, time depends on number of edges shorter than longest edge in the MST (may be small in practice).

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## Kruskal's algorithm: Java implementation

```

public class Kruskal
{
    private Sequence<Edge> mst
        = new Sequence<Edge>();

    public Kruskal(WeightedGraph G)
    {
        Edge[] edges = G.edges();
        Arrays.sort(edges);
        UnionFind uf = new UnionFind(G.V());
        for (Edge edge : edges)
            if (!uf.find(edge.v, edge.w))
            {
                uf.unite(edge.v, edge.w);
                mst.add(edge);
            }
    }

    public Iterable<Edge> mst()
    { return mst; }
}
    
```

← sort edges

← greedily add edges to MST

← return to client iterable sequence of edges

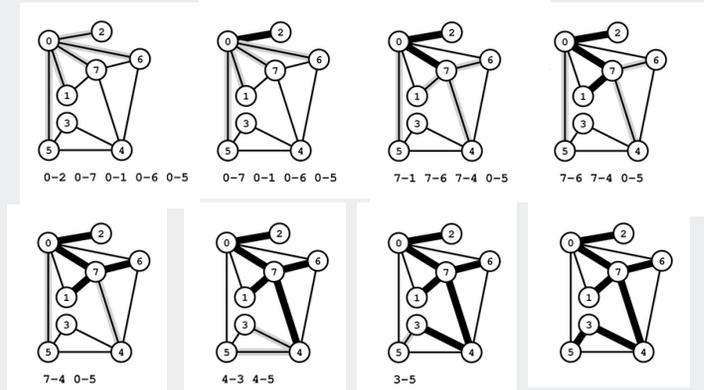
**Easy speedup:** Stop as soon as there are  $V-1$  edges in MST.

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## Prim's Algorithm example

**Prim's algorithm.** [Jarník 1930, Dijkstra 1957, Prim 1959]  
 Start with vertex 0 and greedily grow tree  $T$ . At each step, add cheapest edge that has exactly one endpoint in  $T$ .



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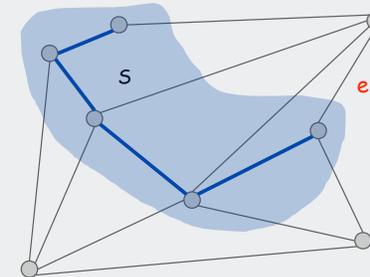
## Prim's algorithm correctness proof

**Theorem.** Prim's algorithm computes the MST.

**Pf.**

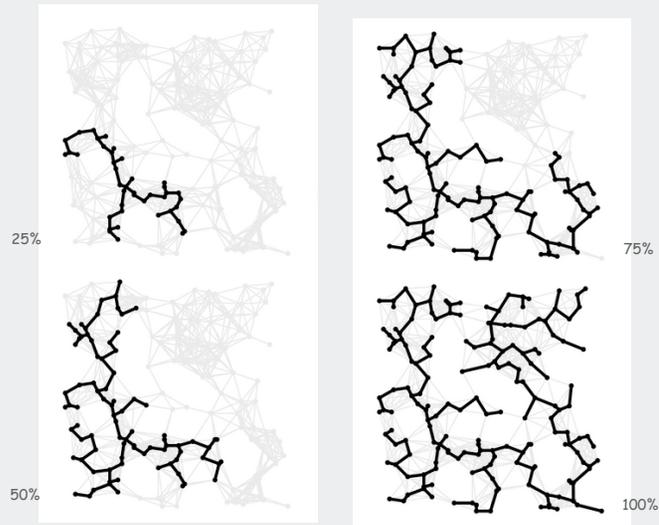
- Let  $S$  be the subset of vertices in current tree  $T$ .
- Prim adds the cheapest edge  $e$  with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ .
- $e$  is in the MST (cut property)

**QED.**



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## Prim's Algorithm example



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## Prim's algorithm implementation

**Q.** How to find cheapest edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ ?

**A1.** Brute force: try all edges.

- $O(E)$  time per spanning tree edge.
- $O(E V)$  time overall.

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## Prim's algorithm implementation

Q. How to find cheapest edge with exactly one endpoint in  $S$ ?

A2. Maintain a **priority queue** of edges with (at least) one endpoint in  $S$

- Delete min to determine next edge  $e$  to add to  $T$ .
- Disregard  $e$  if both endpoints are in  $S$ .
- Upon adding  $e$  to  $T$ , add to PQ the edges incident to the endpoint not already in  $S$ .

Running time.

- $\log V$  steps per edge (using a binary heap).
- $E \log V$  steps overall.

Note: This is a **lazy** version of implementation in Algs in Java

lazy: put all adjacent nodes on PQ

book: first check whether the other endpoint is was put in  $S$  during the time it was on the PQ

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## Removing the distinct edge costs assumption

**Simplifying assumption.** All edge costs  $c_e$  are distinct.

**Fact.** Prim and Kruskal don't actually rely on the assumption (our proof of correctness does)

Suffices to introduce tie-breaking rule for `compareTo()`.

Approach 1:

```
public int compareTo(Edge f)
{
    Edge e = this;
    if (e.weight < f.weight) return -1;
    if (e.weight > f.weight) return +1;
    if (e.v < f.v) return -1;
    if (e.v > f.v) return +1;
    if (e.w < f.w) return -1;
    if (e.w > f.w) return +1;
    return 0;
}
```

Approach 2: add tiny random perturbation.

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## Prim's Algorithm: Java Implementation

```
public class LazyPrim
{
    private Sequence<Edge> mst = new Sequence<Edge>();
    public LazyPrim(WeightedGraph G)
    {
        boolean[] marked = new boolean[G.V()];
        MinPQ<Edge> pq = new MinPQ<Edge>();
        int s = 0;
        marked[s] = true;
        for (Edge e : G.adj(s)) pq.insert(e);
        while (!pq.isEmpty())
        {
            Edge e = pq.delMin();
            int v = e.either(), w = e.other(v);
            if (!marked[v])
            {
                mst.add(e); marked(v) = true;
                for (Edge f : G.adj(v)) pq.insert(f);
            }
            else if (!marked[w])
            {
                mst.add(e); marked(w) = true;
                for (Edge f : G.adj(w)) pq.insert(f);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

marks vertices in  $s$   
PQ  
add to PQ all edges incident to  $s$   
add to PQ all edges incident to  $v$

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## Advanced MST Algorithms

Year	Worst Case	Discovered By
1975	$E \log \log V$	Yao
1976	$E \log \log V$	Cheriton-Tarjan
1984	$E \log^* V, E + V \log V$	Fredman-Tarjan
1986	$E \log(\log^* V)$	Gabow-Galil-Spencer-Tarjan
1997	$E \alpha(V) \log \alpha(V)$	Chazelle
2000	$E \alpha(V)$	Chazelle
2002	optimal	Pettie-Ramachandran
20xx	$E$	???

deterministic comparison based MST algorithms

Year	Problem	Time	Discovered By
1976	Planar MST	$E$	Cheriton-Tarjan
1992	MST Verification	$E$	Dixon-Rauch-Tarjan
1995	Randomized MST	$E$	Karger-Klein-Tarjan

related problems



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## Euclidean MST

### Key geometric fact.

Edges of the Euclidean MST are edges of the Delaunay triangulation.

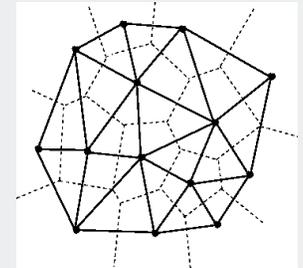
### Euclidean MST algorithm.

- Compute Delaunay triangulation.
- Run Kruskal's MST algorithm on Delaunay edges.

### Running time. $O(N \log N)$ .

- $O(N)$  Delaunay edges since it is planar.
- $O(N \log N)$  for Delaunay.
- $O(N \log N)$  for Kruskal.

**In practice.** Use any set of edges of size  $O(N)$  that contains the Delaunay with high probability



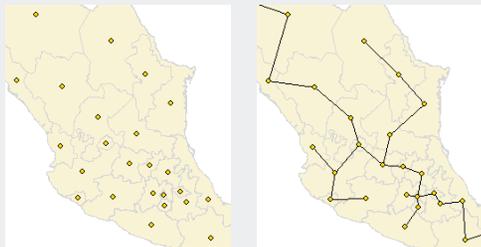
**Lower bound.** Any comparison-based Euclidean MST algorithm requires  $\Omega(N \log N)$  comparisons.

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## Euclidean MST

**Euclidean MST.** Given  $N$  points in the plane, find MST connecting them.

- Distances between point pairs are **Euclidean** distances.



**Brute force.** Compute  $N^2 / 2$  distances and run Prim's algorithm.

**Ingenuity.** Exploit geometry and do it in  $O(N \log N)$ .

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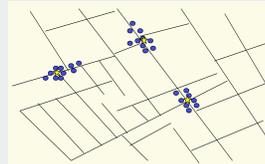
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## Clustering

**k-clustering.** Divide a set of objects classify into k coherent groups.  
**distance function.** numeric value specifying "closeness" of two objects.

### Fundamental problem.

Divide into clusters so that points in different clusters are far apart.



Outbreak of cholera deaths in London in 1850s.  
Reference: Nina Mishra, HP Labs

### Applications.

- Routing in mobile ad hoc networks.
- Identify patterns in gene expression.
- Document categorization for web search.
- Similarity searching in medical image databases
- Skycat: cluster  $10^9$  sky objects into stars, quasars, galaxies.

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## Single-link clustering algorithm

### "Well-known" algorithm for single-link clustering:

- Form V clusters of one object each.
- Find the closest pair of objects such that each object is in a different cluster, and add an edge between them.
- Repeat until there are exactly k clusters.

**Observation.** This procedure is **precisely** Kruskal's algorithm (stop when there are k connected components).

**Property.** Kruskal's algorithm finds a k-clustering of maximum spacing.

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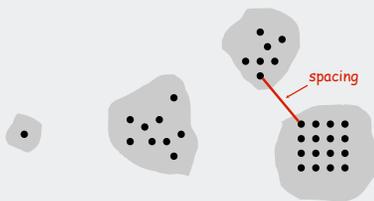
## k-Clustering of maximum spacing

**k-clustering.** Divide a set of objects classify into k coherent groups.  
**distance function.** Numeric value specifying "closeness" of two objects.

**Spacing.** Min distance between any pair of points in different clusters.

### k-clustering of maximum spacing.

Given an integer k, find a k-clustering such that spacing is maximized.



k = 4

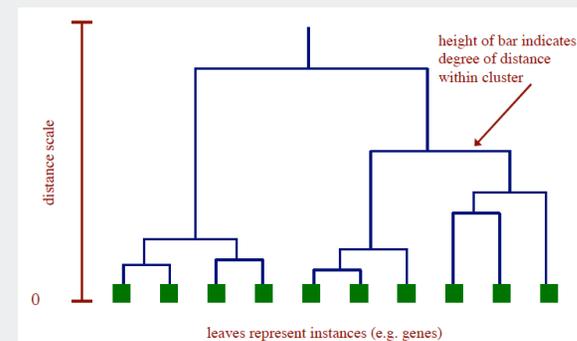
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## Dendrogram

### Dendrogram.

Scientific visualization of hypothetical sequence of evolutionary events.

- Leaves = genes.
- Internal nodes = hypothetical ancestors.



Reference: <http://www.biostat.wisc.edu/bmi576/fall-2003/lecture13.pdf>

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## Dendrogram of cancers in human

Tumors in similar tissues cluster together.

