

## Point-to-Point Shortest Path

Algorithm gives you shortest paths from a particular given others in a graph.

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

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

It can be really wasteful.

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

But going from Denver to the Gourmet Ghetto in Berkeley is 2000 miles.

It's more than twice as far as going through California, Nevada, Arizona, etc. before reaching your destination, even though these are all in the wrong direction.

It's even worse when graph is infinite, generated on the fly.

## Admissible Heuristics for A\* Search

If 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.

For example, if our heuristic decided that the midwest was literally flat and you were nowhere, and  $h(C) = 2000$  for  $C$  any city in Michigan or Ohio, you would only find a path that detoured south through Kentucky.

For a heuristic to be *admissible*,  $h(C)$  must never overestimate  $d(C, NYC)$ , the actual distance from  $C$  to NYC.

On the other hand,  $h(C) = 0$  will work (what is the result?), but yields a brute force algorithm.

## Summary of Shortest Paths

Dijkstra's algorithm finds a *shortest-path tree* computing giving shortest paths in a weighted graph from a given start node to all other nodes.

Time complexity:

Remove  $V$  nodes from priority queue +

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

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

A\* search for a shortest path to a *particular* target node.

Dijkstra's algorithm, except:

1. We take target from queue.

2. Update by estimated distance to start + heuristic guess of distance ( $h(v) = d(v, target)$ )

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

## CS61B Lecture #34

Search, Minimum spanning trees, union-find.

## A\* Search

Algorithm for a path from vertex Denver to the desired NYC destination.

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

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:  $d(Denver, V) + h(V)$ .

For each vertex  $V$  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 heuristic estimate.

If the heuristic estimate is good, then we don't look at, say, Grand Junction (if the shortest path is by road), because it's in the wrong direction.

The algorithm is *A\* search*.

For it to work, we must be careful about the heuristic.

## Consistency

If we estimate  $h(\text{Chicago}) = 700$ , and  $h(\text{Springfield, IL}) = 200$ .

If Springfield is 200 miles to Chicago, we guess that we are suddenly closer to NYC.

It's possible, since both estimates are low, but it will mess up the algorithm.

It will require that we put processed nodes back into the queue since our estimate was wrong.

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

That is, heuristics are admissible (why?).

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

The search (and others) is in [cs61b-software](#) and on the machines as [graph-demo](#).

## Minimum Spanning Trees by Prim's Algorithm

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

```

```

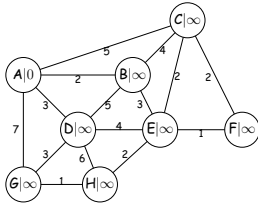
    queue ordered by smallest .dist();
    fringe;
    while !fringe.empty() {
        v = fringe.removeFirst();

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        for each (v,w) {
            if (weight(v,w) < w.dist())
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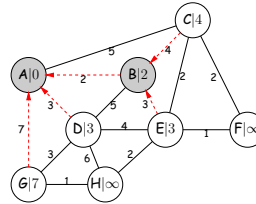
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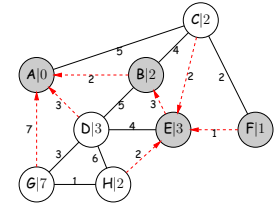
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## Minimum Spanning Trees

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.

Shortest paths you get will not necessarily be shortest paths.

For such a set of connecting roads and places must be chosen because removing one road in a cycle still allows all to travel.

## Minimum Spanning Trees by Prim's Algorithm

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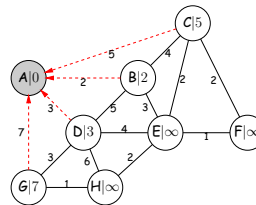
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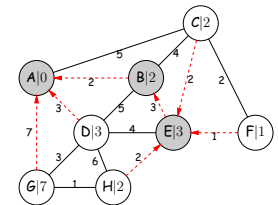
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## Spanning Trees by Prim's Algorithm

How to grow a tree starting from an arbitrary node.

Step 1: Add the shortest edge connecting some node already in the tree to one that isn't yet.

What is the work?

```

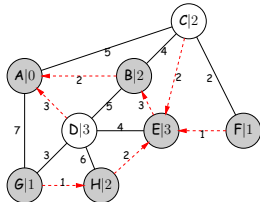
Initialize:
    v.dist() = ∞; v.parent() = null;
    v is starting node, s;
    
```

```

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

```

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```



## Spanning Trees by Prim's Algorithm

How to grow a tree starting from an arbitrary node.

Step 2: Add the shortest edge connecting some node already in the tree to one that isn't yet.

What is the work?

```

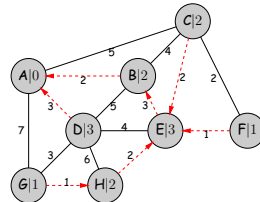
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```



## Union Find

Prim's algorithm required that we have a set of sets of nodes with disjoint nodes:

Step 1: Find the set of nodes a given node belongs to.

Step 2: For two sets with their union, reassigning all the nodes in the union to this union.

Step 3: The work to do is to store a set number in each node, making

Step 4: It's easier than changing the set number in one of the two sets being smaller is better choice.

Step 5: Finding an individual union can take  $\Theta(N)$  time.

Step 6: How fast?

## Spanning Trees by Prim's Algorithm

How to grow a tree starting from an arbitrary node.

Step 3: Add the shortest edge connecting some node already in the tree to one that isn't yet.

What is the work?

```

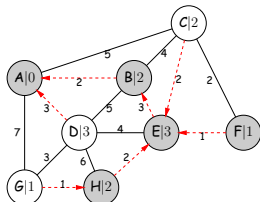
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    }
    
```



## Spanning Trees by Prim's Algorithm

How to grow a tree starting from an arbitrary node.

Step 4: Add the shortest edge connecting some node already in the tree to one that isn't yet.

What is the work?

```

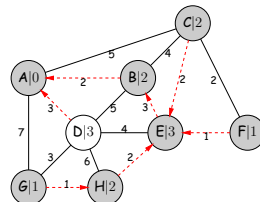
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## Spanning Trees by Kruskal's Algorithm

Step 1: The shortest edge in a graph can always be part of a spanning tree.

Step 2: If we have a bunch of subtrees of a MST, then the shortest edge connects two of them can be part of a MST, combining the subtrees into a bigger one.

Step 3: (trivial) subtree for each node in the graph:

```

for each (v,w), in increasing order of weight {
    if (v,w connects two different subtrees) {
        add (v,w) to MST;
        merge the two subtrees into one;
    }
}
    
```

## Path Compression

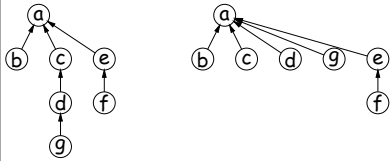
unioning really fast, but the find operation potentially ).

Following trick: whenever we do a *find* operation, connect 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 nearly constant amortized time.

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



## A Clever Trick

to represent a set of nodes by *one* arbitrary representative node in that set.

Each node contains a pointer to another node in the same set.

Each pointer represents the *parent* of a node in a tree, with the representative node as its root.

To find which set a node is in, follow parent pointers.

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

