

| The Minimum Spanning Tree |
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| for Undirected Graphs |
| Find a spanning tree of minimum <br> total weight. |
| The weight of a spanning tree is the <br> sum of the weights on all the edges <br> which comprise the spanning tree. |

## Prim's Algorithm

Greedy algorithm that builds a tree one VERTEX at a time.

First described by Jarnik in a 1929 letter to Boruvka.
Rediscovered by Kruskal in 1956, by Prim in 1957, by Loberman and Weinberger in 1957, and finally by Dijkstra in 1958.

Plan:
Min-cost Spanning Tree Algorithms:

- Prim's (review)
- Arborescence problem

Kleinberg-Tardos, Ch. 4


## Prim's Algorithm

algorithm builds a tree one VERTEX at a time.

- Start with an arbitrary vertex as component $C$
- Expand $C$ by adding a new vertex having the minimum weight edge with exactly one end point in $C$.
- Continue to grow the tree until $C$ gets all vertices.


Prim's Algorithm

$$
C=\{a, d, c, b, e, f\}
$$



Weight $=1+1+2+2+3=9$

## Property of the MST

Lemma: Let $X$ be any subset of the vertices of $G$, and let edge $e$ be the smallest edge connecting $X$ to $G-X$. Then $e$ is part of the minimum spanning tree.



## The Minimum Spanning Tree <br> for Directed Graphs

This example exhibits two problems

What is the meaning of MST for directed graphs?


Clearly, we want to have a rooted tree, in which we can reach any vertex staring at the root

How would you find it?
Clearly, the greedy approach of Prim's does not work


## Arborescences

Theorem. A subgraph $T$ of $G$ is an arborescence rooted at $r$ iff $T$ has no directed cycles and each node $v \neq r$ has exactly one entering edge.
Proof.
$\Rightarrow)$ Trivial.
$\Leftrightarrow$ Start a vertex $v$ and follow edges in backward direction.

Since no cycles you eventually reach $r$.


Def. Given a digraph $G=(V, E)$ and a vertex $r \in V$, an arborescence (rooted at $r$ ) is a tree T s.t.
$T$ is a spanning tree of $G$ if we ignore the direction of edges.
There is a directed unique path in $T$ from $r$ to each other node $v \in V$.

## Min-cost Arborescences

Observation 1. This is not a min-cost spanning tree. It does not necessarily include the cheapest edge.


Running Prim's on undirected graph won't help.
Running an analogue of Prim's for directed graph won't help either

## Min-cost Arborescences

Observation 2. This is not a shortest-path tree


Edges rb and rc won't be in the min-cost arborescence tree

## Edge reweighting

For each $v \neq r$, let $\delta(v)$ denote the min cost of any edge entering $v$.
In the picture, $\delta(x)$ is 1 .
The reduced cost $w^{*}(u, v)=w(u, v)-\delta(v) \geq 0$
$\delta(y)$ is 5.
$\delta(a)$ is 3.
$\delta(b)$ is 3.


## Algorithm: intuition

Let $G^{\star}$ denote a new graph after reweighting.
For every $v \neq r$ in $G^{*}$ pick 0 -weight edge entering $v$. Let $B$ denote the set of such edges.

If $B$ is an arborescence, we are done.
Note B is the min-cost since all edges have 0 cost.
If $B$ is NOT an arborescence...
When $B$ is not an arborescence?

| $\qquad$Algorithm: intuition <br> Let $G^{\star}$ denote a new graph after reweighting. <br> For every $v \neq r$ in $G^{\star}$ pick 0-weight edge entering $v$. <br> Let $B$ denote the set of such edges. <br> If $B$ is an arborescence, we are done. <br> $\quad$ Note $B$ is the min-cost since all edges have 0 cost. <br> If $B$ is NOT an arborescence... <br> When $B$ is not an arborescence? |
| :--- |

$$
w^{*}(u, v)=w(u, v)-\delta(v)
$$

Lemma. An arborescence in a digraph has the min-cost with respect to $w$ iff it has the mincost with respect to $w^{*}$.

Proof. Let $T$ be an arborescence in $G(V, E)$.
Compute $w(T)-w^{*}(T)$
$\delta(v)-\min$ cost of any edge entering $v$

$$
w(T)-w^{*}(T)=\sum_{e \in T} w(e)-w^{*}(e)=\sum_{v \in V V_{r}} \delta(v)
$$

The last term does not depend on $T$.
QED

## How can it happen $B$ is not an arborescence?

Note, only a single edge can enter a vertex



when it has a directed cycle or several cycles...


## The Algorithm

For each $v \neq r$ compute $\delta(v)$ - the mincost of edges entering $v$.
For each $v \neq r$ compute $w^{*}(u, v)=w(u, v)-\delta(v)$.
For each $v \neq r$ choose 0 -cost edge entering $v$.
Let us call this subset of edges - $B$.
If $B$ forms an arborescence, we are done.
else
Contract every cycle $C$ to a supernode
Repeat the algorithm
Extend an arborescence by adding all but one edge of $C$.
Return

## Vertex contraction

We contract every cycle into a supernode Dashed edges and nodes are from the original graph $G$.



Recursively solve the problem in contracted graph
Complexity
At most $V$ contractions (since each one reduces the
number of nodes).
Finding and contracting the cycle $C$ takes $O(E)$.
Transforming $T^{\prime}$ into $T$ takes $O(E)$ time.
Total - O(V E).
Faster for Fibonacci heaps.
Take

| O-weight |
| :--- |
| edges. |
| break ties |
| arbitrarily |

reweight


## Correctness

Lemma. Let $C$ be a cycle in $G$ consisting of 0 -cost edges. There exists a mincost arborescence rooted at $r$ that has exactly one edge entering $C$.


## Correctness

Lemma. Let $C$ be a cycle in $G$ consisting of 0 -cost edges. There exists a mincost arborescence rooted at $r$ that has exactly one edge entering $C$.

Proof. Let $T$ be a min-cost arborescence that has more than one edge enters $C$

Let $(a, x)$ lies on a shortest path from $r$.

We delete all edges in T that enters $C$ except $(a, b)$
We add all edges in $C$ except the one that enters $x$.


## Correctness

Lemma. Let $C$ be a cycle in $G$ consisting of 0 -cost edges. There exists a mincost arborescence rooted at $r$ that has exactly one edge entering $C$.
Claim: that new tree $T^{\star}$ is a mincost arborescence

1. $\operatorname{cost}\left(T^{*}\right) \leq \operatorname{cost}(T)$ since we add 0 -cost edges
2. $T^{*}$ has exactly one edge entering each vertex
3. $T^{*}$ has no cycles.

