

# Algorithms for Minimum Spanning Trees

Lecture 18

October 27, 2015

# Part I

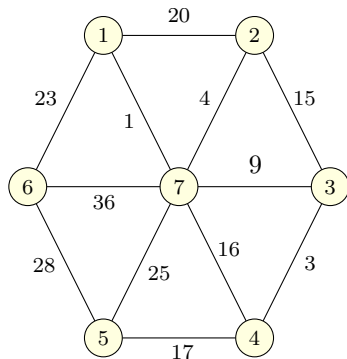
## Algorithms for Minimum Spanning Tree

# Minimum Spanning Tree

**Input** Connected graph  $\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E})$  with edge costs

**Goal** Find  $\mathbf{T} \subseteq \mathbf{E}$  such that  $(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{T})$  is connected and total cost of all edges in  $\mathbf{T}$  is smallest

①  $\mathbf{T}$  is the **minimum spanning tree (MST)** of  $\mathbf{G}$

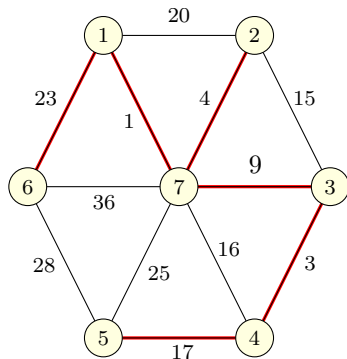


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# Applications

- 1 Network Design
  - 1 Designing networks with minimum cost but maximum connectivity
- 2 Approximation algorithms
  - 1 Can be used to bound the optimality of algorithms to approximate Traveling Salesman Problem, Steiner Trees, etc.
- 3 Cluster Analysis

# Greedy Template

```
Initially E is the set of all edges in G  
T is empty (* T will store edges of a MST *)  
while E is not empty do  
    choose  $e \in E$   
    if ( $e$  satisfies condition)  
        add  $e$  to T  
return the set T
```

**Main Task:** In what order should edges be processed? When should we add edge to spanning tree?

KA

PA

RD

# Kruskal's Algorithm

Process edges in the order of their costs (starting from the least) and add edges to **T** as long as they don't form a cycle.

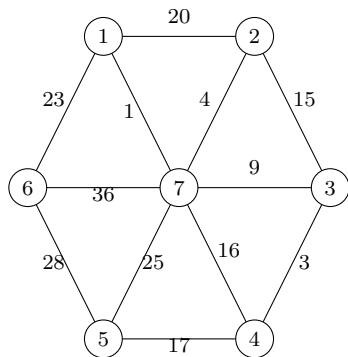


Figure : Graph **G**

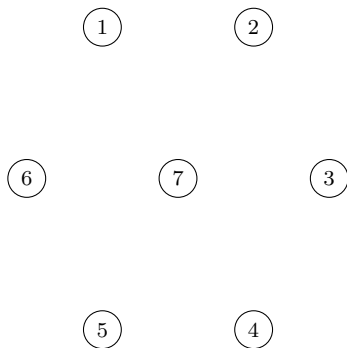


Figure : **MST** of **G**

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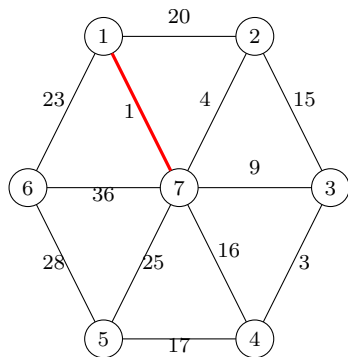


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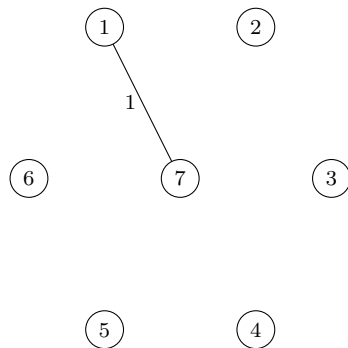


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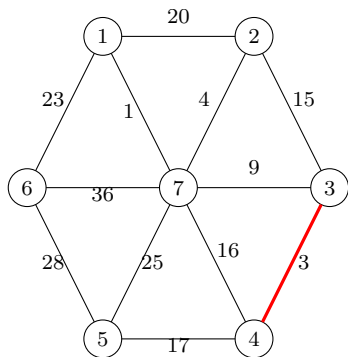


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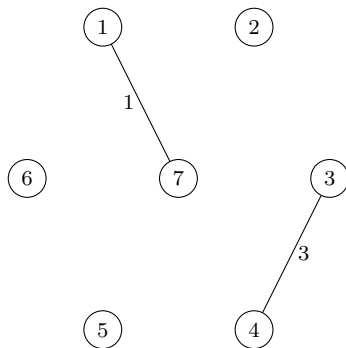


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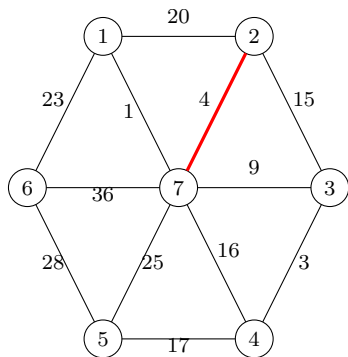


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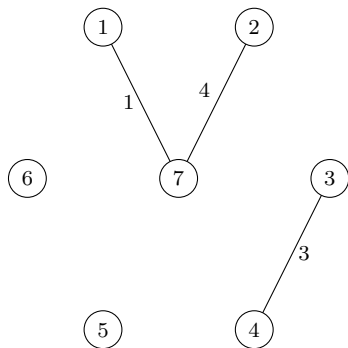


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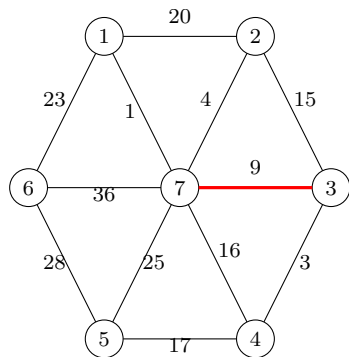


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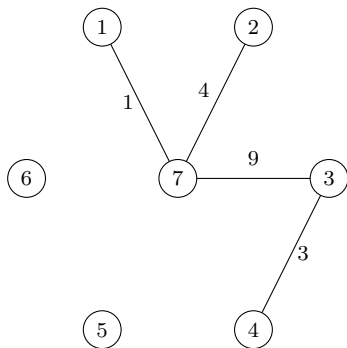


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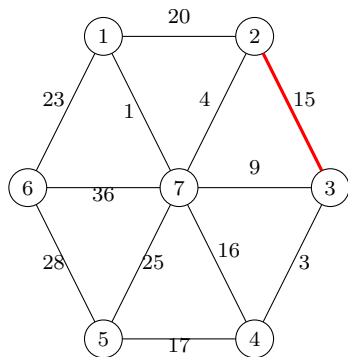


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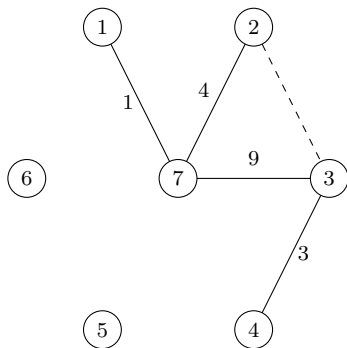


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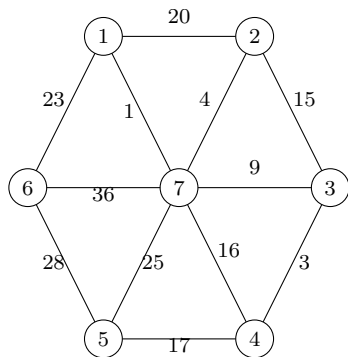


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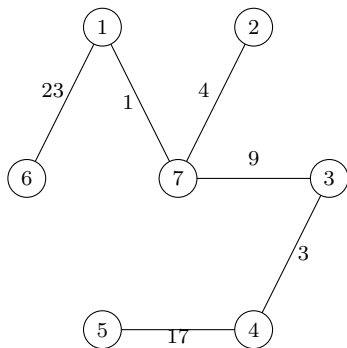


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# Prim's Algorithm

**T** maintained by algorithm will be a tree. Start with a node in **T**. In each iteration, pick edge with least attachment cost to **T**.

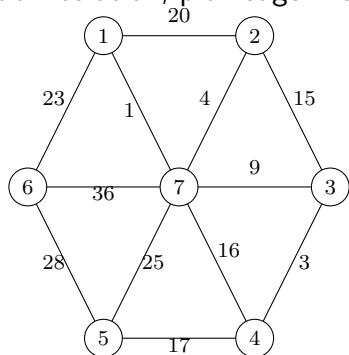


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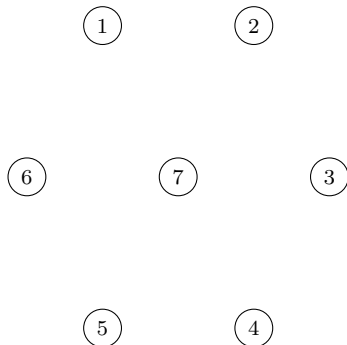


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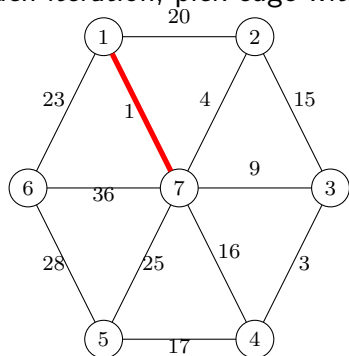


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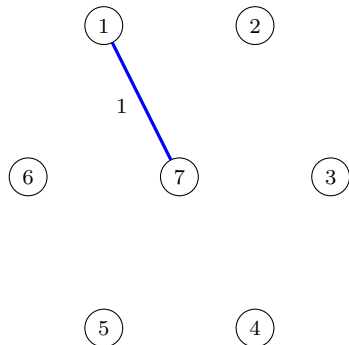


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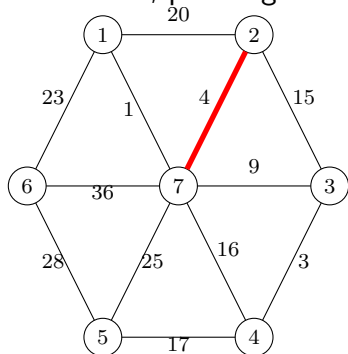


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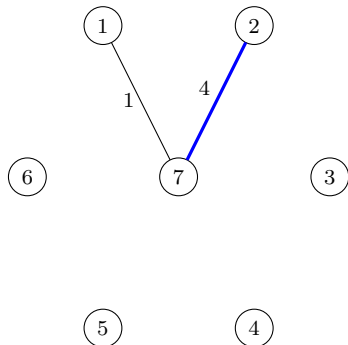


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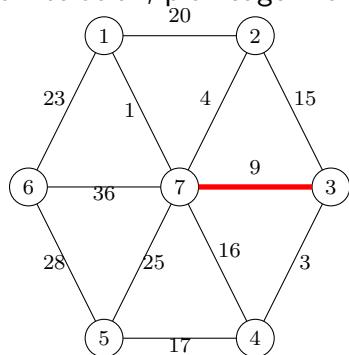


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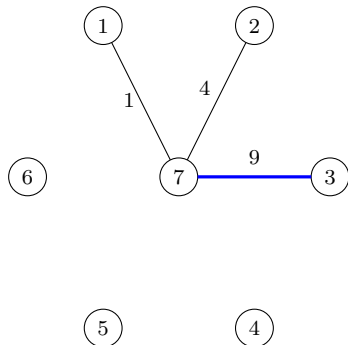


Figure : MST of **G**

Back

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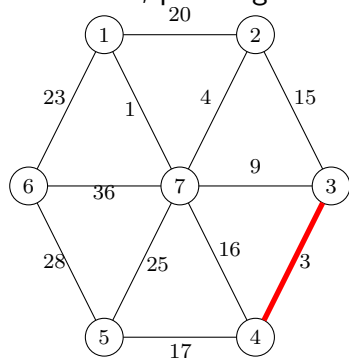


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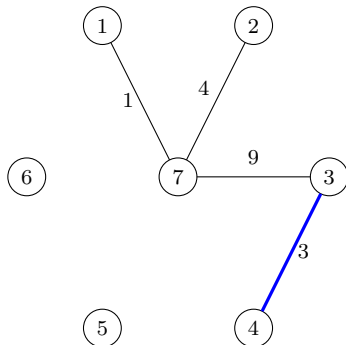


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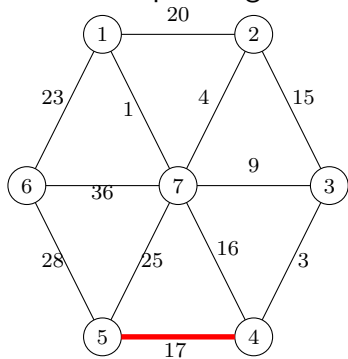


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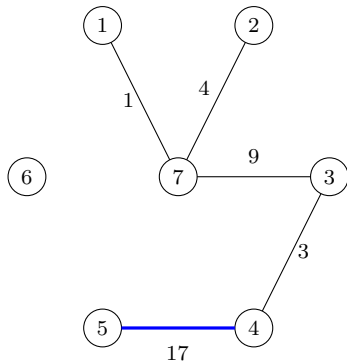


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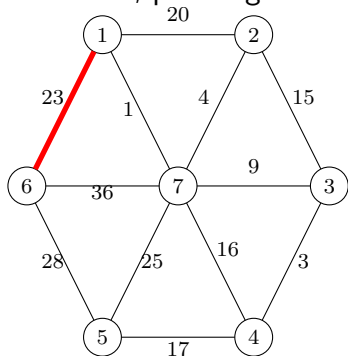


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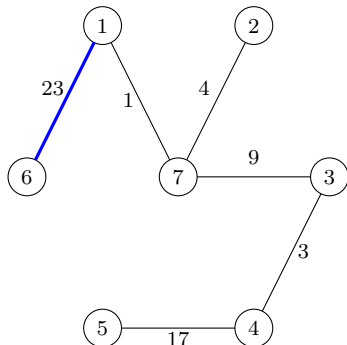


Figure : **MST** of **G**

Back

# Reverse Delete Algorithm

```
Initially  $E$  is the set of all edges in  $G$   
 $T$  is  $E$  (*  $T$  will store edges of a MST *)  
while  $E$  is not empty do  
    choose  $e \in E$  of largest cost  
    if removing  $e$  does not disconnect  $T$  then  
        remove  $e$  from  $T$   
return the set  $T$ 
```

Returns a minimum spanning tree.

Back

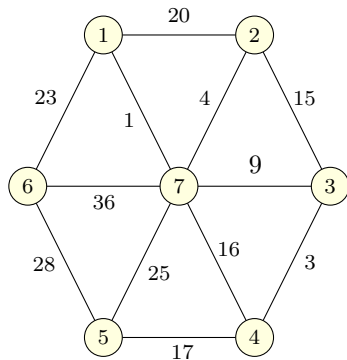
# Borůvka's Algorithm

Simplest to implement. See notes.

Assume **G** is a connected graph.

```
T is  $\emptyset$  (* T will store edges of a MST *)  
while T is not spanning do  
    X  $\leftarrow \emptyset$   
    for each connected component S of T do  
        add to X the cheapest edge between S and  $V \setminus S$   
    Add edges in X to T  
return the set T
```

# Borůvka's Algorithm



# Correctness of MST Algorithms

- 1 Many different **MST** algorithms
- 2 All of them rely on some basic properties of **MSTs**, in particular the **Cut Property** to be seen shortly.



# Assumption

And for now . . .

## Assumption

*Edge costs are distinct, that is no two edge costs are equal.*

## Definition

Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a **cut** is a partition of the vertices of the graph into two sets  $(S, V \setminus S)$ .

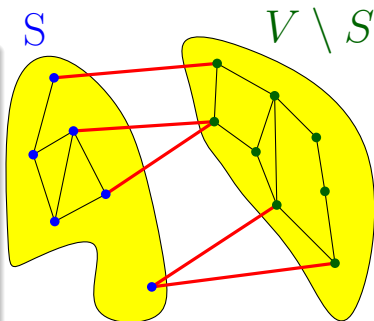
# Cuts

## Definition

Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a **cut** is a partition of the vertices of the graph into two sets  $(S, V \setminus S)$ .

Edges having an endpoint on both sides are the **edges of the cut**.

A cut edge is **crossing** the cut.



# Safe and Unsafe Edges

## Definition

An edge  $e = (u, v)$  is a **safe** edge if there is some partition of  $V$  into  $S$  and  $V \setminus S$  and  $e$  is the unique minimum cost edge crossing  $S$  (one end in  $S$  and the other in  $V \setminus S$ ).

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An edge  $e = (u, v)$  is an **unsafe** edge if there is some cycle  $C$  such that  $e$  is the unique maximum cost edge in  $C$ .

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## Proposition

*If edge costs are distinct then every edge is either safe or unsafe.*

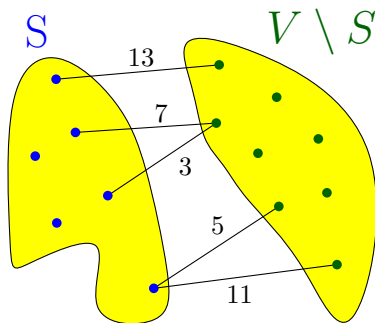
## Proof.

Exercise. □

# Safe edge

Example...

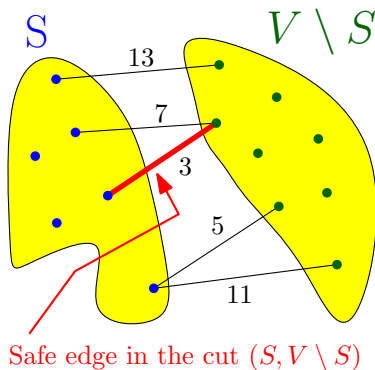
Every cut identifies one safe edge...



# Safe edge

Example...

Every cut identifies one safe edge...



...the cheapest edge in the cut.

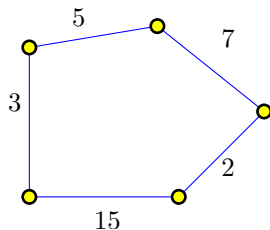
**Note:** An edge  $e$  may be a safe edge for *many* cuts!



# Unsafe edge

Example...

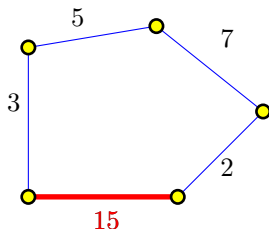
Every cycle identifies one **unsafe** edge...



# Unsafe edge

Example...

Every cycle identifies one **unsafe** edge...



...the most expensive edge in the cycle.

# Example

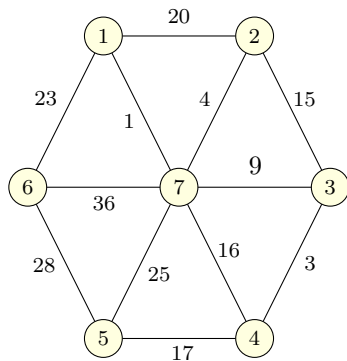


Figure : Graph with unique edge costs. Safe edges are red, rest are unsafe.

# Example

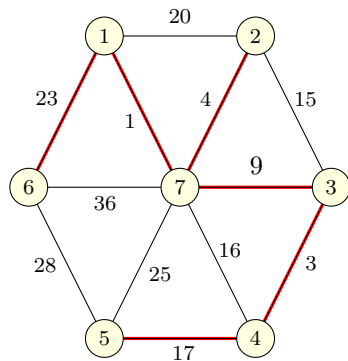


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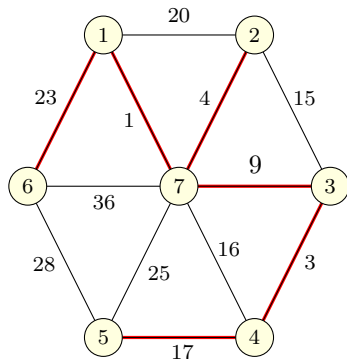


Figure : Graph with unique edge costs. Safe edges are red, rest are unsafe.

And all safe edges are in the **MST** in this case...

# Key Observation: Cut Property

## Lemma

*If  $e$  is a safe edge then every minimum spanning tree contains  $e$ .*

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## Proof.

- 1 Suppose (for contradiction)  $e$  is not in **MST**  $T$ .
- 2 Since  $e$  is safe there is an  $S \subset V$  such that  $e$  is the unique minimum cost edge crossing  $S$ .
- 3 Since  $T$  is connected, there must be some edge  $f$  with one end in  $S$  and the other in  $V \setminus S$ .
- 4 Since  $c_f > c_e$ ,  $T' = (T \setminus \{f\}) \cup \{e\}$  is a spanning tree of lower cost!

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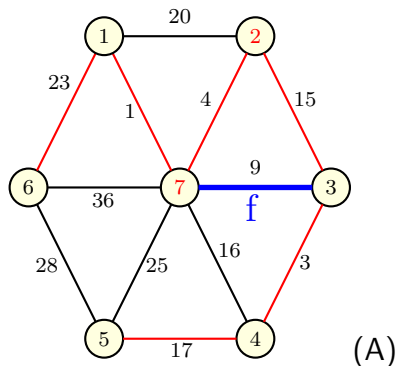
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- 4 Since  $c_f > c_e$ ,  $T' = (T \setminus \{f\}) \cup \{e\}$  is a spanning tree of lower cost! **Error:  $T'$  may not be a spanning tree!!**





# Error in Proof: Example

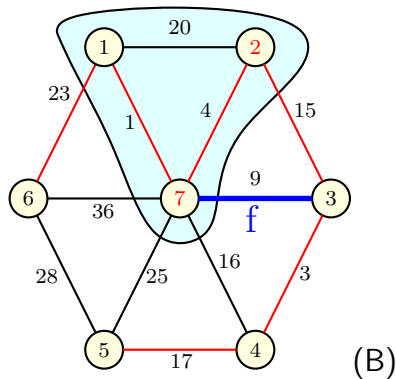
Problematic example.  $S = \{1, 2, 7\}$ ,  $e = (7, 3)$ ,  $f = (1, 6)$ .  $T - f + e$  is not a spanning tree.



- 1 (A) Consider adding the edge  $f$ .

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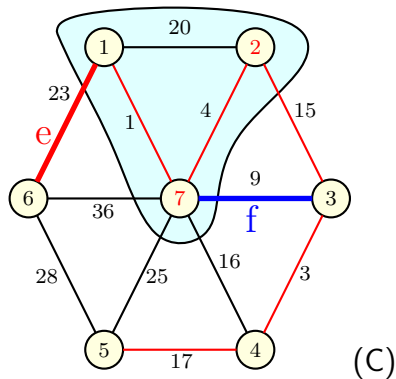
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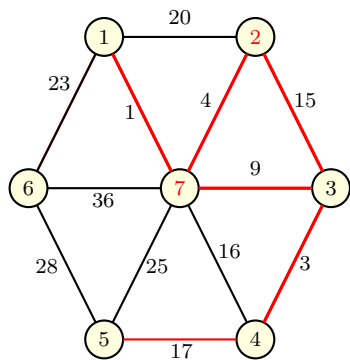
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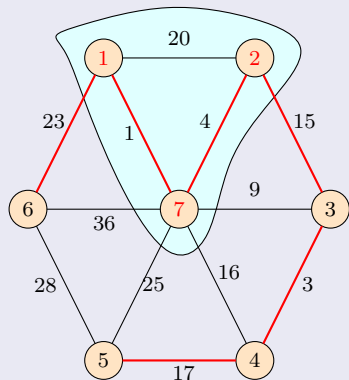
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- 3 (C) Lets throw out the edge  $e$  currently in the spanning tree which is more expensive than  $f$  and is in the same cut. Put it  $f$  instead...
- 4 (D) New graph of selected edges is not a tree anymore. BUG.

# Proof of Cut Property

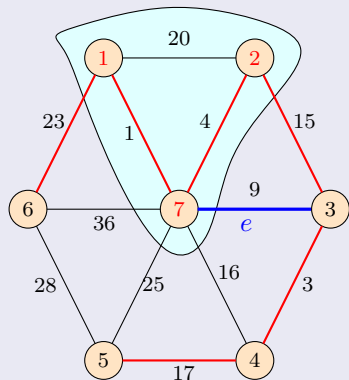
## Proof.



- Suppose  $e = (v, w)$  is not in **MST T** and  $e$  is min weight edge in cut  $(S, V \setminus S)$ . Assume  $v \in S$ .

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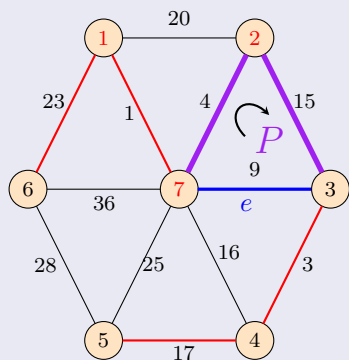
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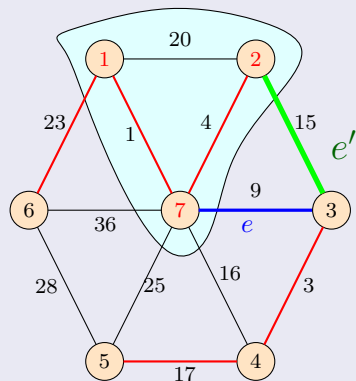
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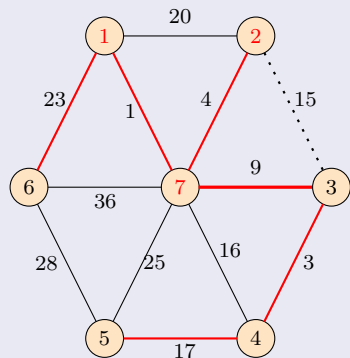


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- 3 Let  $w'$  be the first vertex in **P** belonging to  $V \setminus S$ ; let  $v'$  be the vertex just before it on **P**, and let  $e' = (v', w')$



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- 4  $T' = (T \setminus \{e'\}) \cup \{e\}$  is spanning tree of lower cost. (Why?)  $\square$

# Proof of Cut Property (contd)

## Observation

$T' = (T \setminus \{e'\}) \cup \{e\}$  is a spanning tree.

## Proof.

$T'$  is connected.

$T'$  is a tree



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## Proof.

$T'$  is connected.

Removed  $e' = (v', w')$  from  $T$  but  $v'$  and  $w'$  are connected by the path  $P - f + e$  in  $T'$ . Hence  $T'$  is connected if  $T$  is.

$T'$  is a tree



# Proof of Cut Property (contd)

## Observation

$T' = (T \setminus \{e'\}) \cup \{e\}$  is a spanning tree.

## Proof.

$T'$  is connected.

Removed  $e' = (v', w')$  from  $T$  but  $v'$  and  $w'$  are connected by the path  $P - f + e$  in  $T'$ . Hence  $T'$  is connected if  $T$  is.

$T'$  is a tree

$T'$  is connected and has  $n - 1$  edges (since  $T$  had  $n - 1$  edges) and hence  $T'$  is a tree



# Safe Edges form a Tree

## Lemma

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with distinct edge costs, then the set of safe edges form a connected graph.

## Proof.

- 1 Suppose not. Let  $S$  be a connected component in the graph induced by the safe edges.
- 2 Consider the edges crossing  $S$ , there must be a safe edge among them since edge costs are distinct and so we must have picked it.



# Safe Edges form an MST

## Corollary

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with distinct edge costs, then set of safe edges form the *unique* MST of  $G$ .

# Safe Edges form an MST

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Let  $G$  be a connected graph with distinct edge costs, then set of safe edges form the *unique* MST of  $G$ .

**Consequence:** Every correct MST algorithm when  $G$  has unique edge costs includes exactly the safe edges.

# Cycle Property

## Lemma

If  $e$  is an unsafe edge then no **MST** of  $G$  contains  $e$ .

## Proof.

Exercise.

**Note:** Cut and Cycle properties hold even when edge costs are not distinct. Safe and unsafe definitions do not rely on distinct cost assumption.



# Correctness of Prim's Algorithm

## Prim's Algorithm

Pick edge with minimum attachment cost to current tree, and add to current tree.

## Proof of correctness.

- 1 If  $e$  is added to tree, then  $e$  is safe and belongs to every **MST**.
- 2 Set of edges output is a spanning tree

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  - 1 Set of edges output forms a connected graph: by induction,  $S$  is connected in each iteration and eventually  $S = V$ .

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- ② Set of edges output is a spanning tree
  - ① Set of edges output forms a connected graph: by induction,  $S$  is connected in each iteration and eventually  $S = V$ .
  - ② Only safe edges added and they do not have a cycle □

# Correctness of Kruskal's Algorithm

## Kruskal's Algorithm

Pick edge of lowest cost and add if it does not form a cycle with existing edges.

## Proof of correctness.

- 1 If  $e = (u, v)$  is added to tree, then  $e$  is safe
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2 Set of edges output is a spanning tree : exercise



# Correctness of Kruskal's Algorithm

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Pick edge of lowest cost and add if it does not form a cycle with existing edges.

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  - 1 When algorithm adds  $e$  let  $S$  and  $S'$  be the connected components containing  $u$  and  $v$  respectively
  
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  - 2  $e$  is the lowest cost edge crossing  $S$  (and also  $S'$ ).
  
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  - 2  $e$  is the lowest cost edge crossing  $S$  (and also  $S'$ ).
  - 3 If there is an edge  $e'$  crossing  $S$  and has lower cost than  $e$ , then  $e'$  would come before  $e$  in the sorted order and would be added by the algorithm to  $T$
- 2 Set of edges output is a spanning tree : exercise



# Correctness of Borůvka's Algorithm

Proof of correctness.

Argue that only safe edges are added.

# Correctness of Reverse Delete Algorithm

## Reverse Delete Algorithm

Consider edges in decreasing cost and remove an edge if it does not disconnect the graph

## Proof of correctness.

Argue that only unsafe edges are removed.

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**Heuristic argument:** Make edge costs distinct by adding a small tiny and different cost to each edge

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**Formal argument:** Order edges lexicographically to break ties

- 1  $e_i \prec e_j$  if either  $c(e_i) < c(e_j)$  or ( $c(e_i) = c(e_j)$  and  $i < j$ )
- 2 Lexicographic ordering extends to sets of edges. If  $A, B \subseteq E$ ,  $A \neq B$  then  $A \prec B$  if either  $c(A) < c(B)$  or ( $c(A) = c(B)$  and  $A \setminus B$  has a lower indexed edge than  $B \setminus A$ )
- 3 Can order all spanning trees according to lexicographic order of their edge sets. Hence there is a unique **MST**.

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- 3 Can order all spanning trees according to lexicographic order of their edge sets. Hence there is a unique **MST**.

Prim's, Kruskal, and Reverse Delete Algorithms are optimal with respect to lexicographic ordering.

# Edge Costs: Positive and Negative

- 1 Algorithms and proofs don't assume that edge costs are non-negative! **MST** algorithms work for arbitrary edge costs.
- 2 Another way to see this: make edge costs non-negative by adding to each edge a large enough positive number. Why does this work for **MST**s but not for shortest paths?
- 3 Can compute *maximum* weight spanning tree by negating edge costs and then computing an MST.



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- 2 Another way to see this: make edge costs non-negative by adding to each edge a large enough positive number. Why does this work for **MST**s but not for shortest paths?
- 3 Can compute *maximum* weight spanning tree by negating edge costs and then computing an MST.

**Question:** Why does this not work for shortest paths?

## Part II

# Data Structures for MST: Priority Queues and Union-Find

# Implementing Borůvka's Algorithm

No complex data structure needed.

```
T is  $\emptyset$  (* T will store edges of a MST *)  
while T is not spanning do  
  X  $\leftarrow \emptyset$   
  for each connected component S of T do  
    add to X the cheapest edge between S and V \ S  
  Add edges in X to T  
return the set T
```

- $O(\log n)$  iterations of while loop. Why?

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- Each iteration can be implemented in  $O(m)$  time.

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Running time:  $O(m \log n)$  time.

# Implementing Prim's Algorithm

## Implementing Prim's Algorithm

### Prim\_ComputeMST

**E** is the set of all edges in **G**

**S** = {1}

**T** is empty (\* **T** will store edges of a **MST** \*)

**while S**  $\neq$  **V** **do**

    pick **e** = **(v,w)**  $\in$  **E** such that

**v**  $\in$  **S** and **w**  $\in$  **V** - **S**

**e** has minimum cost

**T** = **T**  $\cup$  **e**

**S** = **S**  $\cup$  **w**

**return** the set **T**

## Analysis

# Implementing Prim's Algorithm

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- 1 Number of iterations = **O(n)**, where **n** is number of vertices

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**pick** **e** = (**v**, **w**) ∈ **E** such that

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### Analysis

- 1 Number of iterations =  $O(n)$ , where **n** is number of vertices
- 2 Picking **e** is  $O(m)$  where **m** is the number of edges



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### Analysis

- 1 Number of iterations =  $O(n)$ , where **n** is number of vertices
- 2 Picking **e** is  $O(m)$  where **m** is the number of edges
- 3 Total time  $O(nm)$

# Implementing Prim's Algorithm

## More Efficient Implementation

### Prim\_ComputeMST

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for  $v \notin S$ ,  $a(v) = \min_{w \in S} c(w, v)$

for  $v \notin S$ ,  $e(v) = w$  such that  $w \in S$  and  $c(w, v)$  is minimum

**while**  $S \neq V$  **do**

    pick  $v$  with minimum  $a(v)$

$T = T \cup \{(e(v), v)\}$

$S = S \cup \{v\}$

    update arrays  $a$  and  $e$

**return** the set **T**

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**return** the set **T**

Maintain vertices in  $V \setminus S$  in a priority queue with key  $a(v)$ .

# Priority Queues

Data structure to store a set  $S$  of  $n$  elements where each element  $v \in S$  has an associated real/integer key  $k(v)$  such that the following operations

- 1 **makeQ**: create an empty queue
- 2 **findMin**: find the minimum key in  $S$
- 3 **extractMin**: Remove  $v \in S$  with smallest key and return it
- 4 **add**( $v, k(v)$ ): Add new element  $v$  with key  $k(v)$  to  $S$
- 5 **Delete**( $v$ ): Remove element  $v$  from  $S$
- 6 **decreaseKey** ( $v, k'(v)$ ): decrease key of  $v$  from  $k(v)$  (current key) to  $k'(v)$  (new key). Assumption:  $k'(v) \leq k(v)$
- 7 **meld**: merge two separate priority queues into one

# Prim's using priority queues

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while S  $\neq$  V do  
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Maintain vertices in  $V \setminus S$  in a priority queue with key  $a(v)$

- 1 Requires  $O(n)$  **extractMin** operations
- 2 Requires  $O(m)$  **decreaseKey** operations



# Running time of Prim's Algorithm

$O(n)$  **extractMin** operations and  $O(m)$  **decreaseKey** operations

- ① Using standard Heaps, **extractMin** and **decreaseKey** take  $O(\log n)$  time. Total:  $O((m + n) \log n)$
- ② Using Fibonacci Heaps,  $O(\log n)$  for **extractMin** and  $O(1)$  (amortized) for **decreaseKey**. Total:  $O(n \log n + m)$ .

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Prim's algorithm and Dijkstra's algorithms are similar. Where is the difference?

# Kruskal's Algorithm

## Kruskal\_ComputeMST

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Initially E is the set of all edges in G  
T is empty (* T will store edges of a MST *)  
while E is not empty do  
    choose  $e \in E$  of minimum cost  
    if ( $T \cup \{e\}$  does not have cycles)  
        add e to T  
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- 1 Presort edges based on cost. Choosing minimum can be done in  $O(1)$  time

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- 3 Total time  $O(m \log m) + O(mn) = O(mn)$



# Implementing Kruskal's Algorithm Efficiently

## Kruskal\_ComputeMST

Sort edges in **E** based on cost

**T** is empty (\* **T** will store edges of a MST \*)

each vertex **u** is placed in a set by itself

**while** **E** is not empty **do**

    pick **e = (u,v) ∈ E** of minimum cost

    if **u** and **v** belong to different sets

        add **e** to **T**

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Using **Union-Find** data structure can implement Kruskal's algorithm in  **$O((m + n) \log m)$**  time.

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**while**  $E$  is not empty **do**

    pick  $e = (u, v) \in E$  of minimum cost

**if**  $u$  and  $v$  belong to different sets

        add  $e$  to  $T$

        merge the sets containing  $u$  and  $v$

**return** the set  $T$

Need a data structure to check if two elements belong to same set and to merge two sets.

Using **Union-Find** data structure can implement Kruskal's algorithm in  **$O((m + n) \log m)$**  time.

# Best Known Asymptotic Running Times for MST

Prim's algorithm using Fibonacci heaps:  $O(n \log n + m)$ .

If  $m$  is  $O(n)$  then running time is  $\Omega(n \log n)$ .

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## Question

Is there a linear time ( $O(m + n)$  time) algorithm for MST?

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Is there a linear time ( $O(m + n)$  time) algorithm for MST?

- 1  $O(m \log^* m)$  time [Fredman, Tarjan 1987]
- 2  $O(m + n)$  time using bit operations in RAM model [Fredman, Willard 1994]
- 3  $O(m + n)$  expected time (randomized algorithm) [Karger, Klein, Tarjan 1995]
- 4  $O((n + m)\alpha(m, n))$  time Chazelle 2000]
- 5 Still open: Is there an  $O(n + m)$  time deterministic algorithm in the comparison model?