

# 1/24 Minimum Spanning Tree

Wednesday, January 24, 2018 5:57 PM

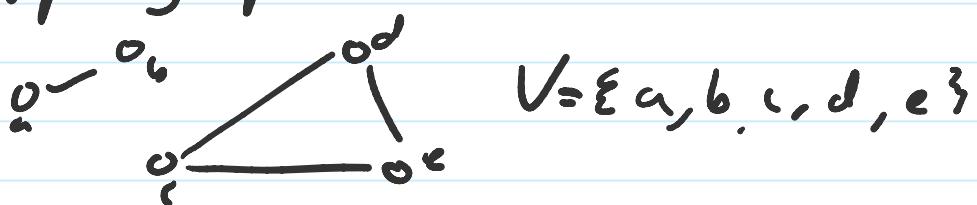
MST or  
Minimum Spanning  
Tree

Graph sets  
Vertex Set  $V$  or  $V(G)$   
Edge set  $E$  or  $E(G)$

Vertex (Points or  
Nodes)  
Edge (connection)

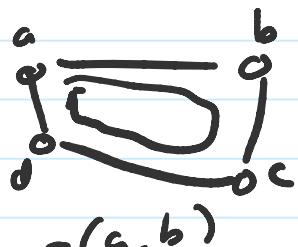
$e = (a, b)$  where  
 $a, b \in V$

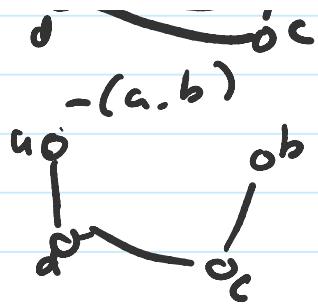
Example graph



Tree a connected graph  
with no self loops or  
cycles

example cycle





$w(a, d)$   
 $w(d, c)$   
 $w(b, c)$

## Disjoint set revisited

$V = \{a\}, \{c\}, \dots,$   
 $\{b\}, \{d\}, \dots,$

for our purposes

$= \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \dots, \{n\}$

`find(int n)`

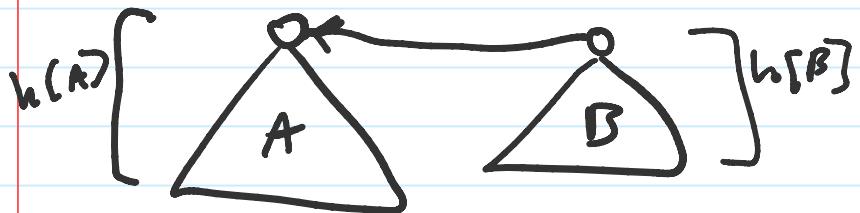
returns a representative for  
the set containing  $n_j$

`union(int a, int b)`

$int rep =$

$int rep_b$

adjusts the disjoint set  
so rep\_a will represent  
set containing b or vice  
versa



if ( $h(A) > h(B)$ )  
then

adding B to A  
won't change the height  
of A

otherwise

The height of A going  
into B will be at most  
 $h[B] + 1$

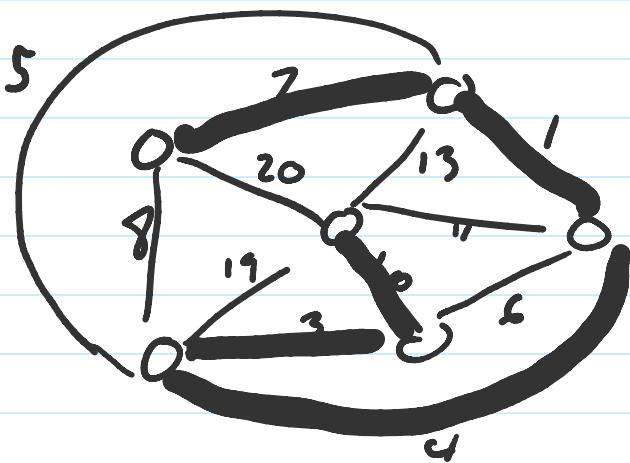
Suppose we have  
some connected graph G

if we add an edge to  
G we induce a cycle

add edge  $(v, v)$

Sort all the edges by weight

By greedily selecting the least weight edge and adding it to our graph if the two vertices we disconnected we can build a tree.



A tree with  $n$  Nodes contains  $n-1$  Edges

A forest is a graph (potentially disconnected) with no cycles.

Kruskal's works by greedily adding edges until all edges have been checked

Kruskal's step by step

1. Initialize chosen Edges to  $\emptyset$  (Empty Set)

Kruskal's step by step

1. Initialize chosen Edges to  $\emptyset$  (Empty Set)
2. Initialize a Disjoint Set to track connected nodes
3. Loop through edges least to greatest
  - 3a. Check if current edge connects two separate components.
  - 3b. Add edge if components are disconnected
  - 3c. Update Disjoint Set if necessary
4. Return chosen Edge Set.