

SPANNING TREES

Lecture 21 CS2110 – Spring 2014

A lecture with two distinct parts

Part I: Finishing our discussion of graphs

- Short review of DFS and BFS.
- Spanning trees
- Definitions, algorithms (Prim's, Kruskal's)
- Travelling salesman problem

Undirected Trees

 An undirected graph is a *tree* if there is exactly one simple path between any pair of vertices



Facts About Trees

- |E| = |V| 1 • connected
- connected
- no cycles

In fact, any two of these properties imply the third, and imply that the graph is a tree



Spanning Trees

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A *spanning tree* of a connected undirected graph (V,E) is a subgraph (V,E') that is a tree



Spanning Trees

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A *spanning tree* of a connected undirected graph (V,E) is a subgraph (V,E') that is a tree

- Same set of vertices V
- E' ⊆ E
- (V,E') is a tree



A subtractive method

- Start with the whole graph it is connected
- If there is a cycle, pick an edge on the cycle, throw it out – the graph is still
 connected (why?)
- Repeat until no more cycles



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- If there is a cycle, pick an edge on the cycle, throw it out – the graph is still connected (why?)
- Repeat until no more cycles



- Start with no edges there are no cycles
- If more than one connected component, insert an edge between them – still no cycles (why?)
- Repeat until only one component



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Minimum Spanning Trees

- Suppose edges are weighted, and we want a spanning tree of *minimum cost* (sum of edge weights)
- Some graphs have exactly one minimum spanning tree. Others have multiple trees with the same cost, any of which is a minimum spanning tree

Minimum Spanning Trees

- Suppose edges are weighted, and we want a spanning tree of *minimum cost* (sum of edge weights)
- Useful in network routing & other applications
- For example, to stream a video



















B. Find a min weight edge – if it forms a cycle with edges already taken, throw it out, otherwise keep it



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C. Start with any vertex, add min weight edge extending that connected component that does not form a cycle



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Prim's algorithm (reminiscent of Dijkstra's algorithm)

• When edge weights are all distinct, or if there is exactly one minimum spanning tree, the 3 algorithms all find the identical tree



Prim's Algorithm

```
prim(s) {
   D[s] = 0; mark s; //start vertex
   while (some vertices are unmarked) {
      v = unmarked vertex with smallest D;
      mark v;
      for (each w adj to v) {
         D[w] = min(D[w], c(v,w));
      }
   }
}
```

- O(n²) for adj matrix
- While-loop is executed n times
- For-loop takes O(n) time

- \Box O(m + n log n) for adj list
 - Use a PQ
 - Regular PQ produces time O(n + m log m)
 - Can improve to O(m + n log n) using a fancier heap

These are examples of Greedy Algorithms

- The Greedy Strategy is an algorithm design technique
 - Like Divide & Conquer
- Greedy algorithms are used to solve optimization problems
 - The goal is to find the best solution
- Works when the problem has the greedy-choice property
 - A global optimum can be reached by making locally optimum choices

- Example: the Change Making Problem: Given an amount of money, find the smallest number of coins to make that amount
- Solution: Use a Greedy Algorithm
- Give as many large coins as you can
- This greedy strategy produces the optimum number of coins for the US coin system
- Different money system ⇒greedy strategy may fail
- Example: old UK system

Similar Code Structures

```
while (some vertices are
    unmarked) {
    v = best of unmarked
    vertices;
    mark v;
    for (each w adj to v)
        update w;
}
```

- Breadth-first-search (bfs)
- -best: next in queue
- -update: D[w] = D[v]+1
- Dijkstra's algorithm
- -best: next in priority queue
- -update: D[w] = min(D[w], D[v]+c(v,w))
- Prim's algorithm
- -best: next in priority queue
- -update: D[w] = min(D[w], c(v,w))

here c(v,w) is the $v \rightarrow w$ edge weight

Traveling Salesman Problem

- Given a list of cities and the distances between each pair, what is the shortest route that visits each city exactly once and returns to the origin city?
 - Basically what we want the butterfly to do in A6! But we don't mind if the butterfly revisits a city (Tile), or doesn't use the very shortest possible path.
 - The true TSP is very hard (NP complete)... for this we want the <u>perfect</u> answer in all cases, and can't revisit.
 - Most TSP algorithms start with a spanning tree, then "evolve" it into a TSP solution. Wikipedia has a lot of information about packages you can download...