

# Greedy Algorithms

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## THE GREEDY TECHNIQUE



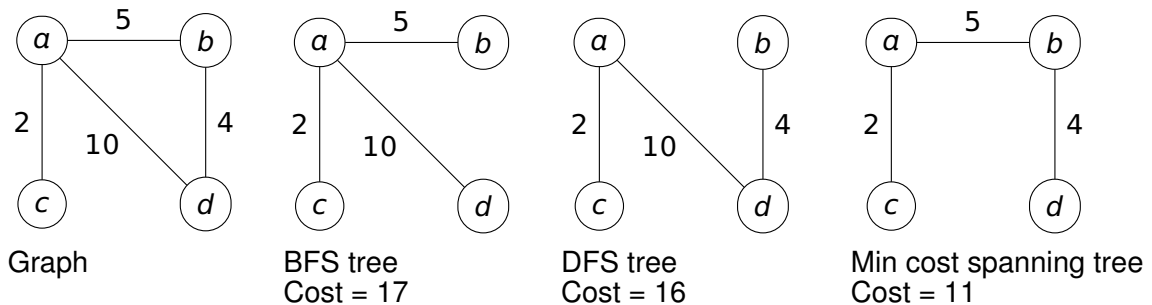
- Typically suitable to for **optimization problems**
- Builds the solution iteratively
- Makes a locally optimum choice in each iteration in the hope that all local optima will lead to a global optimum
- Guaranteed to give a “good” solution, but does not guarantee an optimal solution for all optimization problems

**algorithm** GREEDY( $A$ : set of candidates):

```
solution  $\leftarrow \emptyset$ 
while solution not complete do
   $x \leftarrow \text{SELECTBEST}(A)$  (local optimum)
   $A \leftarrow A \setminus x$ 
  if FEASIBLE(solution  $\cup x$ ) then
     $\text{solution} \leftarrow \text{solution} \cup x$ 
```



- A **spanning tree** of a graph  $G$  is a connected acyclic subgraph of  $G$  that contains all the vertices



- **Problem:** Given a weighted undirected connected graph  $G$
- **Question:** Find a spanning tree of  $G$  with minimum cost
  - Many applications including transportation networks, computer networks, electrical grids, even financial markets

## KRUSKAL'S ALGORITHM



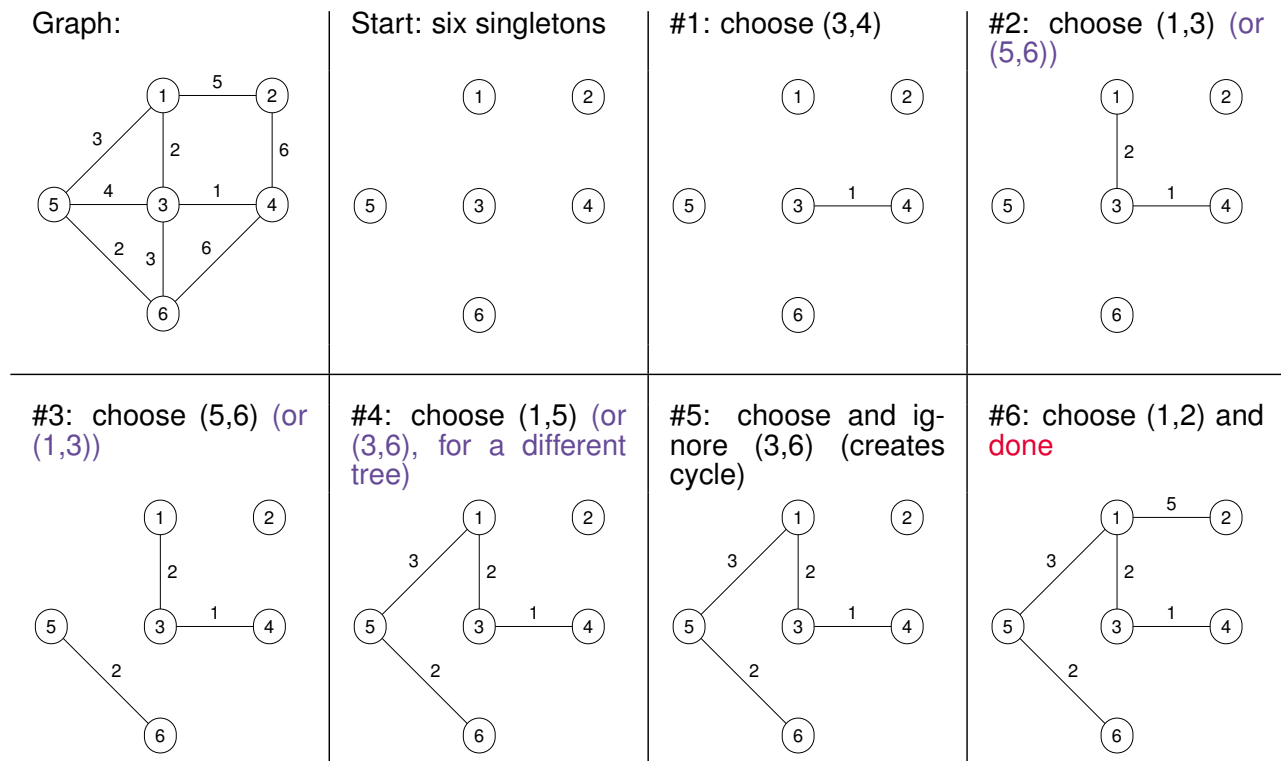
- For a given weighted graph  $G = (V, E, w)$ :
  - Choose an edge  $e$  of minimum weight  $w(e)$
  - If the edge does not create a cycle add it to the tree

```

algorithm KRUSKAL( $G = (V, E, w)$ ):
     $T \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
     $c \leftarrow 0$ 
     $L \leftarrow E$ 
    while  $|T| \leq n - 1$  do
        Select  $e \in L, w(e) = \min\{w(x) : x \in L\}$ 
         $L \leftarrow L \setminus \{e\}$ 
        if  $T \cup e$  does not contain cycles then
             $T \leftarrow T \cup \{e\}$ 
             $c \leftarrow c + w(e)$ 
    
```

- Still to implement:
  - Find an edge with a minimum weight
  - Detect cycles
- Data structures needed:
  - List of edges sorted by weight
  - Disjoint sets representing each connected component

# KRUSKAL'S ALGORITHM EXAMPLE



## KRUSKAL'S ALGORITHM (CONT'D)



**algorithm** KRUSKAL( $G = (V, E, w)$ ):

```

 $T \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
 $c \leftarrow 0$ 
 $L \leftarrow \text{MAKEQUEUE}(E)$ 
for  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do  $\text{MAKESET}(i)$ 
 $i \leftarrow 1$ 
while  $i \leq n - 1$  do
     $(u, v) \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(L)$ 
     $s_1 \leftarrow \text{FINDSET}(u)$ 
     $s_2 \leftarrow \text{FINDSET}(v)$ 
    if  $s_1 \neq s_2$  then
         $\text{UNION}(s_1, s_2)$ 
         $T \leftarrow T \cup \{(u, v)\}$ 
         $c \leftarrow c + w((u, v))$ 
         $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 

```

- Choice of implementation for the priority queue:

- Sorted list:**  $O(n \log n)$  to create,  $O(1)$  to extract minimum
- Min heap:**  $O(n)$  to create,  $O(\log n)$  to extract minimum

- Running time ( $|V| = n$ ,  $|E| = m$ ):

- With sorted list:  
 $T(n) = m \log m + n + m(1 + 2 \log n) = O(m \log n)$
- With heap:  
 $T(n) = m + n + m(\log m + 2 \log n) = O(m \log n)$

- Correctness:

- Loop invariant: The graph induced by each disjoint set  $S$  in  $(S, T)$  is a minimum-cost spanning tree for  $(S, E)$
- Kruskal's algorithm maintain a forest of minimum-cost spanning trees, collapsing it progressively into a single overall minimum-cost spanning tree

- Maintains a single, partial minimum-cost spanning tree
  - Start with a single vertex and no edges
  - Expand the tree by greedily choosing the minimum weight edge with an end in the tree and the other end outside the tree

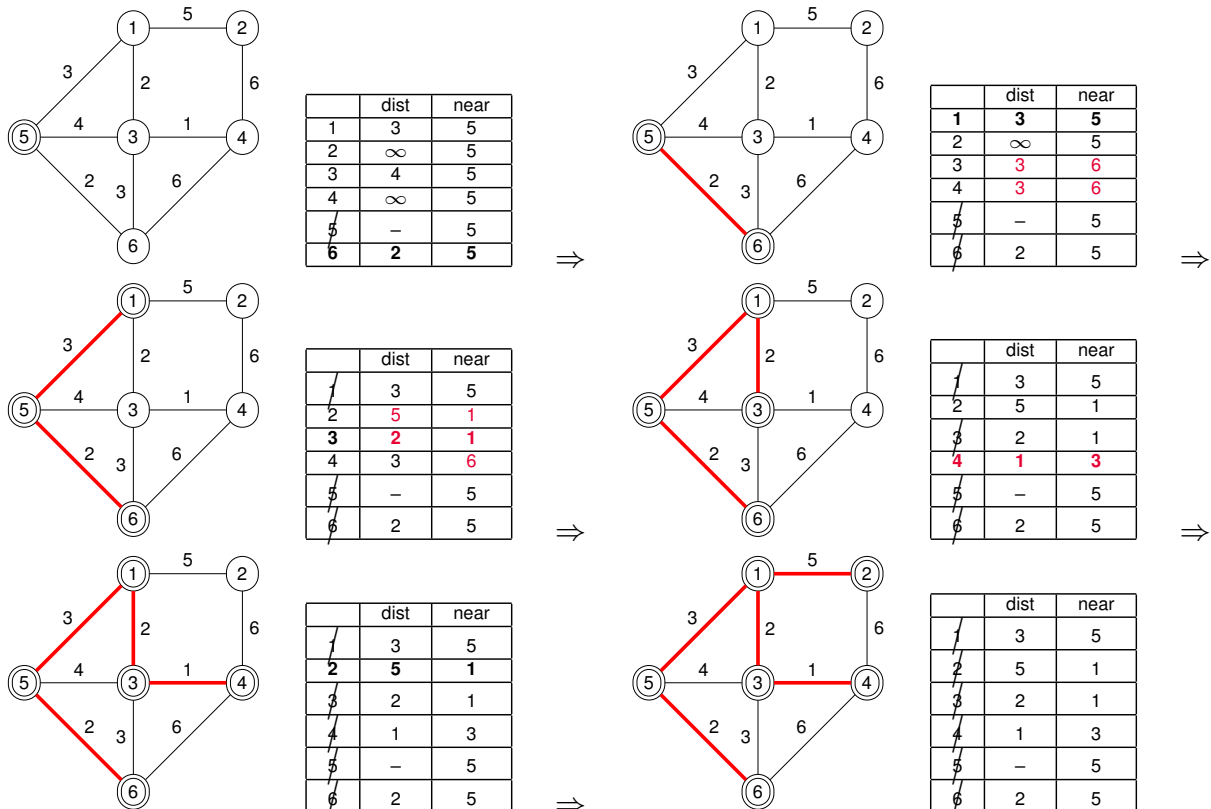
**algorithm** PRIM( $G = (V, E, w), v_0 \in V$ ):

```

 $T \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
 $c \leftarrow 0$ 
 $S \leftarrow \{v_0\}$ 
while  $S \neq V$  do
    Select  $v \in V \setminus S$  nearest to  $S$ 
    Let  $u \in S$  be the nearest vertex to  $v$ 
     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{v\}$ 
     $T \leftarrow T \cup \{(v, u)\}$ 
     $c \leftarrow c + w((u, v))$ 
    
```

- To keep track of candidate edges for each vertex outside the tree we keep track of:
  - Its minimum distance from the tree
  - The edge that realizes that minimum distance

## PRIM'S ALGORITHM EXAMPLE





**algorithm** PRIM( $G = (V, E, w), v_0 \in V$ ):

```

 $T \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
 $c \leftarrow 0$ 
for  $i = 0$  to  $n$  do
     $dist_i \leftarrow w(i, v_0)$ 
     $nearest_i \leftarrow v_0$ 
    HEAPIFY( $dist$ ) (optional)
for  $i = 1$  to  $n - 1$  do
     $v \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(dist)$ 
     $T \leftarrow T \cup \{(v, nearest_v)\}$ 
     $c \leftarrow c + w((v, nearest_v))$ 
    foreach neighbor  $x$  of  $v$  outside tree
    do
        if  $w(v, x) < dist_x$  then
             $dist_x \leftarrow w(v, x)$ 
             $nearest_x \leftarrow v$ 
            UPDATE( $dist_x$ ) (optional)
    
```

- Can organize  $dist$  as:
  - Heap:  $O(n)$  to heapify and  $O(\log n)$  to update but  $O(1)$  to get the minimum
  - Plain array: no need to heapify or update, but  $O(n)$  to get the minimum
- Running time ( $|V| = n, |E| = m$ ):
  - The foreach loop runs  $O(m)$  times overall (amortized)
  - Heap:
 
$$T(n) = n + n + n \log n + m \log n = O(m \log n)$$
  - Array:
 
$$T(n) = n + n \times n + m = O(n^2)$$

## KRUSKAL AND PRIM (CONT'D)



- Correctness of Prim:
  - Loop invariant: The partial tree is a minimum-cost spanning tree for the vertices it contains
- Comparison between Prim and Kruskal:

|         |       | Running time  | Sparse graphs<br>( $m = o(n^2 / \log n)$ ) | Dense graphs<br>( $m = O(n^2)$ ) |
|---------|-------|---------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Kruskal |       | $O(m \log n)$ | $O(n \log n)$                              | $O(n^2 \log n)$                  |
| Prim    | Array | $O(n^2)$      | $O(n^2)$                                   | $O(n^2)$                         |
|         | Heap  | $O(m \log n)$ | $O(n \log n)$                              | $O(n^2 \log n)$                  |

- No difference between Kruskal and Prim using a heap on sparse graphs
- Notable advantage for Prim using an array on dense graphs

# THERE IS ONLY ONE MINIMUM SPANNING TREE!



## Lemma

*If all the edge weights in a connected graph  $G$  are distinct then  $G$  has a unique minimum-cost spanning tree*

- Proof by contrapositive:
  - Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two minimum-cost spanning trees of  $G$
  - Let  $e$  and  $e'$  be the minimum weight edge in  $T \setminus T'$  and  $T' \setminus T$  respectively,  $w(e) \leq w(e')$
  - $T' \cup \{e\}$  must contain cycle  $C$  that goes through  $e$ , let  $e'' \in C \setminus T$
  - It must be that  $w(e'') \geq w(e') \geq w(e)$  (since  $e'' \in T' \setminus T$ )
  - Let  $T'' = T' \cup \{e\} \setminus \{e''\}$  (**greedy replace**)
    - $T''$  is a spanning tree (we replaced one edge in a cycle with another in the same cycle)
    - $w(T'') = w(T') + w(e) - w(e'')$  so  $w(T'') \leq w(T')$  (since  $w(e) \leq w(e'')$ )
    - But  $T'$  is a **minimum**-cost spanning tree, so it must be that  $w(T'') = w(T')$  and so  $w(e) = w(e'')$
- This kind of reasoning also works for not necessarily distinct edge weights as long as we use a consistent way of breaking ties

# THERE IS ONLY ONE ALGORITHM!



- Edge classification:
  - **Useless:**  $(u, v) \notin F$  with  $u$  and  $v$  in the same connected component of  $F$
  - **Safe:** minimum-weight  $(u, v)$  with only  $u$  or  $v$  in a connected component of  $F$
- Generic strategy for the minimum-cost spanning tree: **Maintain an acyclic subgraph  $F$  of  $G$  such that  $F$  is a subgraph of the minimum-cost spanning tree of  $G$  by always choosing safe edges (and never useless edges)**

## Lemma

*The minimum-cost spanning tree of  $G$  contains every safe edge*

- **Greedy-replace proof technique:**
  - Show that the minimum-cost spanning tree of any  $S \subseteq G$  contains the safe edge  $e$  for  $S$
  - Let  $T$  be a minimum-cost spanning tree of  $G$  not containing  $e$
  - It must have an edge  $e'$ ,  $w(e') > w(e)$  that connects  $S$  with the rest of  $G$
  - Then  $T' = T \setminus \{e'\} \cup \{e\}$  is a spanning tree with  $w(T') \leq w(T)$ , a contradiction

## Lemma

*The minimum-cost spanning tree contains no useless edge*

- We are given a directed, weighted graph  $G = (V, E, w)$ 
  - Notation: A path  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$  connects  $v_0$  and  $v_k$  and we write  $v_0 \xrightarrow{p} v_k$
  - The **shortest-path weight** from some vertex  $u$  to some vertex  $v$  is:

$$\delta(u, v) = \begin{cases} \min\{w(p) : u \xrightarrow{p} v\} & \text{if there exists a path from } u \text{ to } v \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- A **shortest path** from  $u$  to  $v$  is a path  $p$  such that  $u \xrightarrow{p} v$  and  $w(p) = \delta(u, v)$
- When we are interested in finding shortest paths in a graph we solve a **shortest-path problem**
  - **Single source, single destination** (e.g., finding the shortest way to travel from point A to point B)
  - **Single source, all destinations** (e.g., broadcasting a message from one node in a network to all the other nodes)
  - **All pairs shortest path** (e.g., finding the fastest way to send information from any node in a network to any other node)

## THE SINGLE-SOURCE SHORTEST-PATH PROBLEM

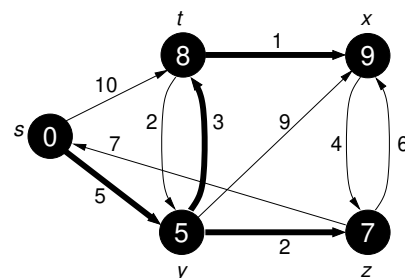
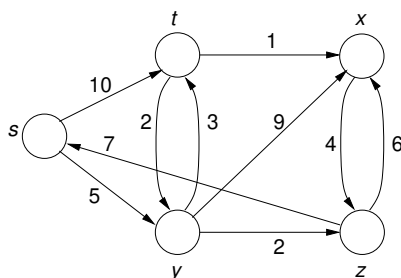
### Lemma

*One shortest path contains other shortest paths within it. Formally, if  $p = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_k \rangle$  is a shortest path from  $v_0$  to  $v_k$  then the sub-path  $\langle v_i, \dots, v_j \rangle$  of  $p$  is a shortest path between  $v_i$  and  $v_j$*

- The lemma implies that the single source, single destination variant does not make sense since solving it effectively solves the single source, all destinations variant:

**Input:** a weighted graph  $G$  and a **source** node  $s$ :

**Output:** the shortest paths between  $s$  and **any** other vertex in  $G$ :



- The lemma also ensures that a **greedy approach** will work

# INITIALIZATION



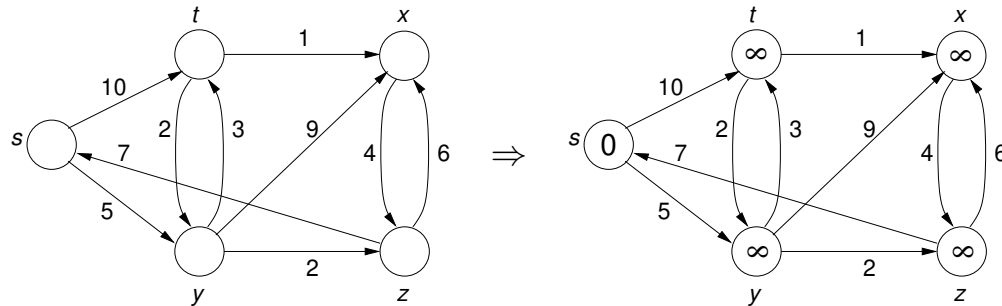
For each vertex  $v$  in the input graph, we keep two values:

- $d_v$  is a **shortest-path estimate**, initially  $\infty$  for all the vertices but  $s$
- $\pi_v$  is the **predecessor** of  $v$  in the shortest path, initially NIL
  - our shortest path algorithm will set  $\pi_v$  for all the vertices in the graph
  - then, the predecessor link from some vertex  $v$  to  $s$  runs backwards along a shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$

**algorithm** INITIALIZESINGLESOURCE( $G = (V, E, w)$ ,  $s \in V$ ;  $d, \pi$ ):

```

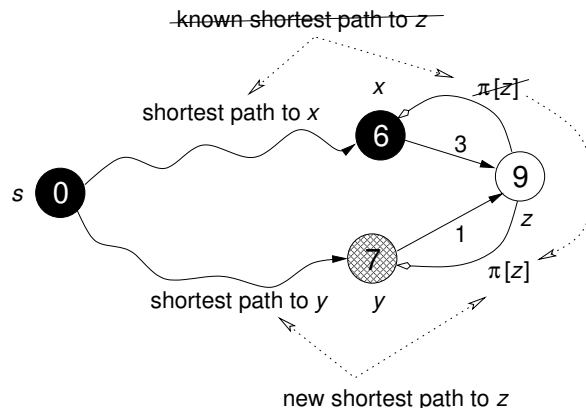
foreach  $v \in V$  do
     $d_v \leftarrow \infty$ 
     $\pi_v \leftarrow \text{NIL}$ 
 $d_s \leftarrow 0$ 
    
```



# RELAX!



- All algorithms that solve the shortest-path problem are built around the **relaxation** technique
- Simple idea: if we find something better, we go for it



**algorithm** RELAX( $y, z, w \in V$ ;  $d, \pi$ ):

```

if  $d_z > d_y + w(y, z)$  then
     $d_z \leftarrow d_y + w(y, z)$ 
    DECREASEKEY( $Q, z, d_z$ )
     $\pi_z \leftarrow y$ 
    
```



- Dijkstra's algorithm solves the single-source shortest-path problem on a weighted, directed graph  $G = (V, E, w)$  with positive edge weights

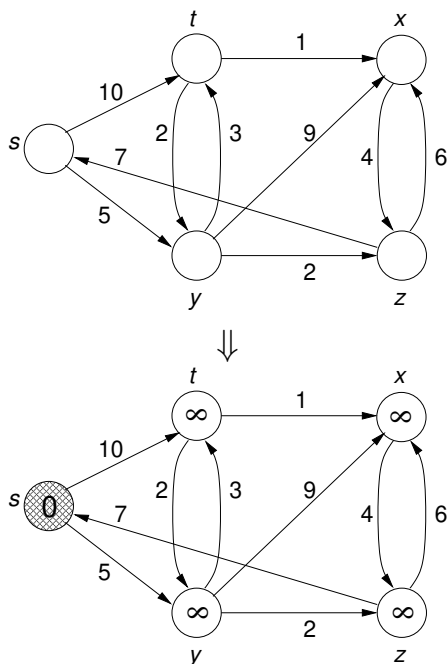
**algorithm** DIJKSTRA( $G = (V, E, w)$ ,  $s \in V$ ;  $\pi$ ):

```

INITIALIZESINGLESOURCE( $G, s$ )
 $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
 $Q \leftarrow \text{MAKEQUEUE}(V, d)$ 
while  $\neg \text{ISEMPTY}(Q)$  do
     $u \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(Q)$ 
     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{u\}$ 
    foreach  $v$  adjacent to  $u$ ,  $v \notin S$  do
        RELAX( $u, v, w$ )
    
```

- The algorithm maintains a set  $S$  of vertices whose final shortest path from the source  $s$  has been already determined
- The algorithm (**greedily**) keeps selecting the most promising edge  $u \in V \setminus S$ , adds it to  $S$ , and relaxes all the edges leaving  $u$ 
  - The “most promising” edge is the one with minimum  $d_u$
  - **Priority queue**  $Q$  for quick access to this most promising edge

## DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM (CONT'D)

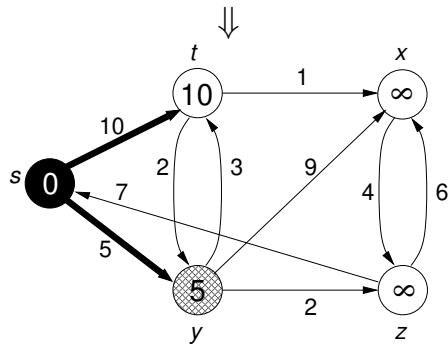
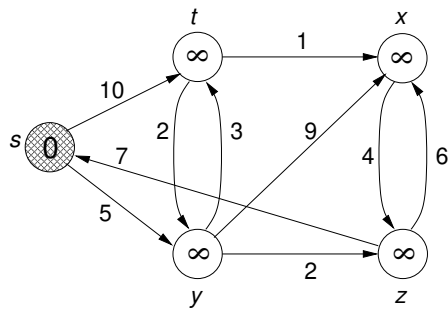


**algorithm** DIJKSTRA( $G = (V, E, w)$ ,  $s \in V$ ;  $\pi$ ):

```

INITIALIZESINGLESOURCE( $G, s$ )
 $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
 $Q \leftarrow \text{MAKEQUEUE}(V, d)$ 
while  $\neg \text{ISEMPTY}(Q)$  do
     $u \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(Q)$ 
     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{u\}$ 
    foreach  $v$  adjacent to  $u$ ,  $v \notin S$  do
        RELAX( $u, v, w$ )
    
```

# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM (CONT'D)



**algorithm** DIJKSTRA( $G = (V, E, w), s \in V; \pi$ ):

INITIALIZESINGLESOURCE( $G, s$ )

$S \leftarrow \emptyset$

$Q \leftarrow \text{MAKEQUEUE}(V, d)$

**while**  $\neg \text{ISEMPTY}(Q)$  **do**

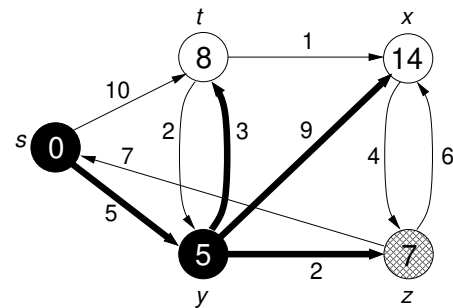
$u \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(Q)$

$S \leftarrow S \cup \{u\}$

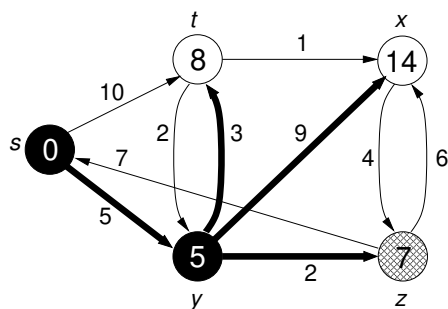
**foreach**  $v$  adjacent to  $u, v \notin S$  **do**

        RELAX( $u, v, w$ )

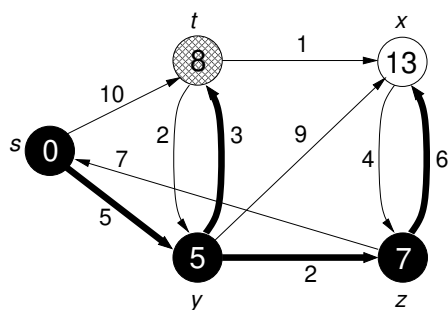
$\Rightarrow$



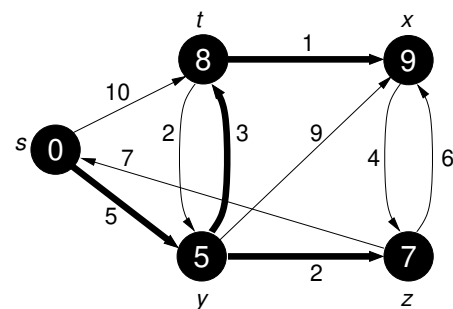
# DIJKSTRA'S ALGORITHM (CONT'D)



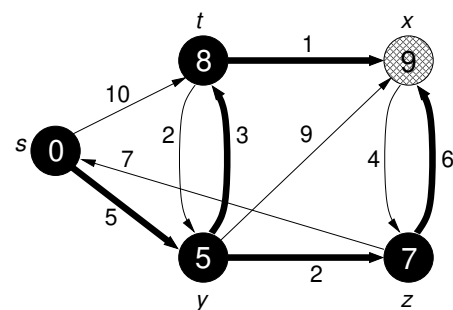
$\Downarrow$



$\Rightarrow$



$\Uparrow$



**while**  $\neg \text{ISEMPTY}(Q)$  **do...**



- Dijkstra's algorithm relies heavily of operations on the queue  $Q$ , namely ENQUEUE, DEQUEUE, and DECREASEKEY, of running time, say,  $t_+(n)$ ,  $t_-(n)$ ,  $t_x(n)$ , respectively (with  $n = |V|$ ,  $m = |E|$ )

**algorithm** DIJKSTRA( $G = (V, E, w)$ ,  $s \in V$ ;  $\pi$ ):

```

INITIALIZESINGLESOURCE( $G, s$ )
 $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
 $Q \leftarrow \text{MAKEQUEUE}(V, d)$ 
while  $\neg \text{ISEMPTY}(Q)$  do
     $u \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(Q)$ 
     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{u\}$ 
    foreach  $v$  adjacent to  $u$ ,  $v \notin S$  do
         $\text{RELAX}(u, v, w)$ 
    
```

- Total running time:  $O(n \times t_+(n) + n \times t_-(n) + m \times t_x(n))$
- Correctness, or **we always pick the right vertex**: Let  $u_i$  and  $u_{i+1}$  be the vertices returned by two successive calls to DEQUEUE; then  $d_{u_i} \leq d_{u_{i+1}}$  just after the extraction
  - Either  $(u_i, u_{i+1}) \in E$  and  $u_{i+1}$  is relaxed, so  $d_{u_{i+1}} = d_{u_i} + w((u_i, u_{i+1})) \geq d_{u_i}$
  - Or  $u_{i+1}$  is not relaxed so it is already in the queue so  $d_{u_{i+1}} \geq d_{u_i}$
  - Trivial generalization for  $u_i$  and  $u_{i+k}$
  - No vertex is dequeued more than once
  - Proof only works for **positive edge weights**

## ANALYSIS (CONT'D)



- The performance of Dijkstra's algorithm depends heavily of how the priority queue is implemented (**again!**)

|             | $t_+(n)$    | $t_-(n)$    | $t_x(n)$    |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Array queue | $O(1)$      | $O(n)$      | $O(1)$      |
| Heap queue  | $O(\log n)$ | $O(\log n)$ | $O(\log n)$ |

|           | Running time        | Sparse graphs<br>( $m = o(n^2 / \log n)$ ) | Dense graphs<br>( $m = O(n^2)$ ) |
|-----------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Array $Q$ | $O(n^2 + m)$        | $O(n^2)$                                   | $O(n^2)$                         |
| Heap $Q$  | $O((n + m) \log n)$ | $O(m \log n)$                              | $O(n^2 \log n)$                  |

- Represent data using the minimum amount of bits
- **Lossy**
  - Compressed data cannot be restored in its original form
  - Significant compression ratio
  - Mostly used for multimedia encoding
  - Examples: JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) and MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group)
- **Lossless**
  - Compressed data can be perfectly reconstructed
  - Lower compression ratio
  - Examples: Zip, Gif, Huffman encoding
- The **Huffman code** is an optimal variable-length prefix code
  - Minimizes the average number of bits/character based on the character frequencies of occurrence
  - Code system with the prefix property (**prefix code**): no code is a prefix of any other code
    - Necessary for decoding variable-length codes
    - Example: A, B, C, D can be encoded respectively as 0, 10, 110, 111, but not as 1, 10, 110, 111 (since the code for A would be a prefix for B, C and D)
    - Note in passing that fixed length codes (e.g. 00, 01, 10, 11) are all prefix codes

## THE HUFFMAN CODE

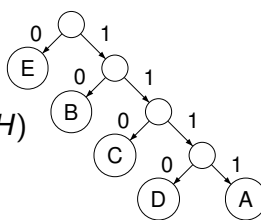


- Example: Five characters with their frequency:  
A (5%), B (25%), C (20%), D (15%), E (35%)
  - Traditional (fixed-length encoding):  
A=000, B=001, C=010, D=011, E=100 (3 bits/character)
- **Prefix code tree:**
  - Choose and remove the letter with highest frequency, assign as left child
  - Repeat for the right child
  - Label left branches with 0 and right branches with 1
  - Code for a character is the path from root to letter

**algorithm** HUFFMANLITE( $C$ ):

```

// C = set of n characters
H ← MAKEQUEUE(C)
T ← new node
for i = 1 to n - 1 do
    T.left ← DEQUEUE(H)
    T.right ← new node
    T ← T.right
T.right ← DEQUEUE(H)
// Set codes in a BFS traversal
    
```



| Letter | Freq | Code | Weighted # bits        |
|--------|------|------|------------------------|
| A      | 0.05 | 1111 | $4 \times 0.05 = 0.2$  |
| B      | 0.25 | 10   | $2 \times 0.25 = 0.5$  |
| C      | 0.20 | 110  | $3 \times 0.20 = 0.6$  |
| D      | 0.15 | 1110 | $4 \times 0.15 = 0.6$  |
| E      | 0.35 | 0    | $1 \times 0.35 = 0.35$ |

- Average bits per letter:  
 $0.2 + 0.5 + 0.6 + 0.6 + 0.35 = 2.25$
- Improvement of **25%**

- Correctness: letters at different depths = different all-1 prefixes before 0
- Running time:  $\Theta(n \log n)$  (both array and heap)

# THE HUFFMAN CODE (CONT'D)



- We can do better by assigning frequencies to internal nodes and choosing the best two frequencies to be the children of a new node:

**algorithm** HUFFMAN( $C$ ):

  //  $C$  = set of  $n$  characters

$H \leftarrow \text{MAKEQUEUE}(C)$

**while**  $H \neq \langle \rangle$  **do**

$T \leftarrow$  new node

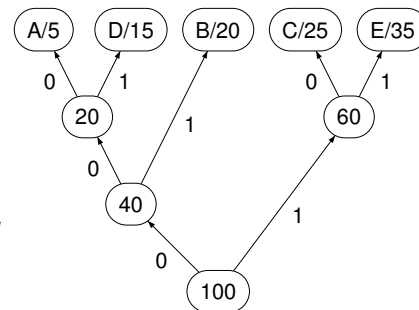
$T.\text{left} \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(H)$

$T.\text{right} \leftarrow \text{DEQUEUE}(H)$

$T.\text{freq} \leftarrow T.\text{left}.\text{freq} + T.\text{right}.\text{freq}$

$\text{INSERT}(T)$

  // Set codes in a BFS traversal



- Running time:  $\Theta(n^2)$  (sorted list) or  $\Theta(n \log n)$  (heap)

| Letter | Freq | Code | Weighted # bits        |
|--------|------|------|------------------------|
| A      | 0.05 | 000  | $3 \times 0.05 = 0.15$ |
| B      | 0.25 | 10   | $2 \times 0.25 = 0.5$  |
| C      | 0.20 | 01   | $2 \times 0.20 = 0.4$  |
| D      | 0.15 | 001  | $3 \times 0.15 = 0.45$ |
| E      | 0.35 | 11   | $2 \times 0.35 = 0.7$  |

- Average bits per letter: 2.2, 27% improvement
- Correctness: different paths ensure at least one different bit

## OPTIMAL TEXT COMPRESSION



- Huffman's algorithm produces an **optimal tree**
  - Show that the two least frequent characters have to be siblings in an optimal tree using a **greedy-replace technique**
  - Proceed upward by induction
  - See textbook
- Text compression algorithm:
  - Calculate the frequency of all letters in the text
  - Construct the Huffman tree
  - Encode all the text using the codes obtained from the Huffman tree
- Text recovery algorithm:
  - Traverse the Huffman tree from root to a leaf according to the input bits
  - Output the leaf label
  - Repeat traversal for as long as there are bits in the input
  - Note: this is why we need a code system with the prefix property!



- Given  $w = \langle w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n \rangle$  and  $p = \langle p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n \rangle$ , find  $x = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i p_i$  is maximized subject to  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \leq C$ 
  - Given  $n$  objects, each with a corresponding weight  $w_i$  and profit  $p_i$  and a knapsack of specific capacity  $C$ , choose the objects (or fractions) that you can fit in the knapsack so that the total profit is maximized
- Two versions:
  - Fractional knapsack:**  $0 \leq x_i \leq 1$
  - 0/1 knapsack:**  $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$

## FRACTIONAL KNAPSACK



- Greedy strategies:
  - Take objects one at a time in increasing order of their weights, until the knapsack is full (a fraction may need to be taken for the last object)
  - Take the objects in decreasing order of their profits
  - Take the objects in decreasing order of their profits per unit weight ratio
- Example:
 
$$\begin{aligned} w &= \langle 5, 10, 20 \rangle & C &= 30 \\ p &= \langle 50, 60, 140 \rangle \\ p/w &= \langle 10, 6, 7 \rangle \end{aligned}$$
  - $x = \langle 1, 1, 15/20 \rangle$ ,  $P = 50 + 60 + 140 \times 15/20 = 215$
  - $x = \langle 0, 1, 1 \rangle$ ,  $P = 60 + 140 = 200$
  - $x = \langle 1, 5/10, 1 \rangle$ ,  $P = 50 + 60 \times 5/10 + 140 = 220$
- In fact it can be shown that the third strategy will always guarantee an optimal solution
  - Suppose that we have an optimal solution that uses some amount of the lower value density object
  - Then we substitute that with the same weight of the higher value density object and we obtain a better solution, a contradiction



$$\begin{array}{rcl} w & = & \langle 5, 10, 20 \rangle \\ p & = & \langle 50, 60, 140 \rangle \\ p/w & = & \langle 10, 6, 7 \rangle \\ C & = & 30 \end{array}$$

- By  $w$ :  $x = \langle 1, 1, 0 \rangle$ ,  $P = 110$
- By  $p$ :  $x = \langle 0, 1, 1 \rangle$ ,  $P = 200$
- By  $p/w$ :  $x = \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle$ ,  $P = 190$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} w & = & \langle 18, 15, 10 \rangle \\ p & = & \langle 25, 24, 15 \rangle \\ p/w & = & \langle 1.38, 1.6, 1.5 \rangle \\ C & = & 20 \end{array}$$

- By  $w$ :  $x = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$ ,  $P = 15$
- By  $p$ :  $x = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$ ,  $P = 25$
- By  $p/w$ :  $x = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$ ,  $P = 24$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} w & = & \langle 5, 10, 20 \rangle \\ p & = & \langle 80, 50, 120 \rangle \\ p/w & = & \langle 16, 5, 6 \rangle \\ C & = & 20 \end{array}$$

- By  $w$ :  $x = \langle 1, 1, 0 \rangle$ ,  $P = 130$
- By  $p$ :  $x = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$ ,  $P = 120$
- By  $p/w$ :  $x = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$ ,  $P = 50$

- No greedy strategy guarantees an optimal solution for the 0/1 knapsack problem

## THE GREEDY-CHOICE PROPERTY



The greedy technique works only for those problems that have the **greedy-choice property**: We can assemble a globally optimal solution by making locally optimal (greedy) choices

- Goes hand in hand with the greedy-replace proof technique
- Many problems have the greedy-choice property, many more do not (such as the 0/1 knapsack)
- For some problems without the greedy-choice property may obtain a “good enough” solution for some reasonable definition of “good enough”
  - Good example: 0/1 knapsack
  - To be continued