

Prim's Algorithm

Finds a MST & is greedy

Start vertex r (arbitrary)



Grow MST out from r
Initially, r is only vertex & no edges in tree.

$T.V = \{r\}$

$T.E = \emptyset$

while $T.V \neq G.V$

find a min wt edge

with one endpoint in $T.V$

and the other in $G.V - T.V$.

call this edge (u, v)

where $u \in T.V$ & $v \in G.V - T.V$

$T.V := T.V \cup \{v\}$

$T.E := T.E \cup \{(u, v)\}$

Kruskal vs. Prim
T is an acyclic graph at any time (not necessarily connected)
T is always connected, but does not include all the vertices until the end.

Prim is an example of graph search.

Implementation

Use a min heap of vertices

H

Initially: each vertex u has key (numerical) and π (vertex)

$v.key := 0$

$u.key := \infty$ for all $u \neq r$

$u.\pi := \text{nil}$ for all u

H initially contains all vertices
while $H \neq \emptyset$

$u := \text{ExtractMin}(H)$

// $u = r$ on 1st iteration

for each v adjacent to u

if $v \notin H$ // $v \in T.V$

go on to the next v

// $v \in H$

let w be the weight of the edge (u, v)

if $w < v.key$ then

$v.key := w$ // decrease key

$v.\pi := u$

end for each

add u to $T.V$

add $(u, u.\pi)$ to $T.E$,

provided $u.\pi \neq \text{nil}$



Min key in H corresponds to the lightest edge between $T.V$ and H .

Extracting it exercises Prim's algo.

Running times of Prim & Kruskal

Kruskal:

sort edges: time $|E| \lg |E|$

(note: $|V| - 1 \leq |E| \leq |V|^2$)

G is connected graph

so $\lg |E| = \Theta(\lg |V|)$

$\therefore$ sorting time $\Theta(|E| \lg |V|)$

Disjoint set system of vertices:

$|V|$ many MakeSet ops

for each edge, 2 Finds

& ≤ 1 merge (Union)

$\Theta(|E|)$ ops - total

time is $\Theta(|E| \lg |V|)$

$= O(|E| \lg |V|)$

$\therefore$ time of Kruskal is dominated

by the initial sort

$\therefore$ total time is $\Theta(|E| \lg |V|)$

Running time for Prim:

H — insert $|V|$ many
vertices into H
time $\Theta(H)$
(H is a binary heap)

$|V|$ many extract mins
(each takes $\lg |V|$)
total time is $\Theta(|V| \lg |V|)$

$|E|$ many decrease key ops
(worst case)
time $\Theta(|E| \lg |V|)$ ←
(if H is binary heap)
better time

If H is a Fib heap, get
better run time:
DecreaseKey is $O(1)$ amortized
time
 $\therefore$ total decrease key time is
 $\Theta(|E|)$

$\therefore$ total over all
is $\Theta(|E| + |V| \lg |V|)$



Correctness

Def: Let $G = (V, E)$ be
a graph (undir.)

A cut of G is a partition
of V into two disjoint sets
 S & $V-S$

for some $S \subseteq V$

An edge e crosses
cut $(S, V-S)$

if one endpt of e is in S
& the other is in $V-S$

Let A be a set of edges.
Say that A respects cut
 $(S, V-S)$ if no edge in A
crosses the cut.

Lemma: Suppose A is a
set of edges that respects
some cut $(S, V-S)$, and
 e is some minimum wt edge
crossing this cut (among
all edges crossing the same cut).

If A is a subset of some MST,
then $A \cup \{e\}$ is also a subset
of some MST.

Assume lemma (proof later)

Kruskal



Prim

