

5 Feb 2024

Fast Implementations of MST

Announcement:

Challenge Problems are mandatory for 5820,
optional (+ ungraded) for 4820.

Two algorithms (among many) for MST:

(1) PRIM'S

Start from any vertex. Build a tree by growing out from there, one edge at a time, always adding the min-weight edge from the tree to its complement.

(2) KRUSKAL'S

Sort edges in increasing weight order.

Add edges from the list in this order, omitting the ones that form a cycle.

Space Complexity measured in words, not bits.

Running Times.

The assumption is always if a problem has input size B bits,

then one "word" of data is $\log(B)$ bits.

(2) Operations whose inputs and outputs are $O(1)$ words are assumed to run in $O(1)$ time.

E.g., adding two integers each of size $\log(B)$ bits takes $O(1)$ time.

How many bits in the input to MST?

Graph has n vertices

m edges

m edge weights (integers)

$\log(n)$ bits to identify a vertex

$\log(m) \leq 2 \log(n)$ bits to identify an edge.

List of n vertices: $O(n \log n)$.

List of neighbors of vertex v_i

if v has d_v neighbors,

$O(d_v \log n)$ bits.

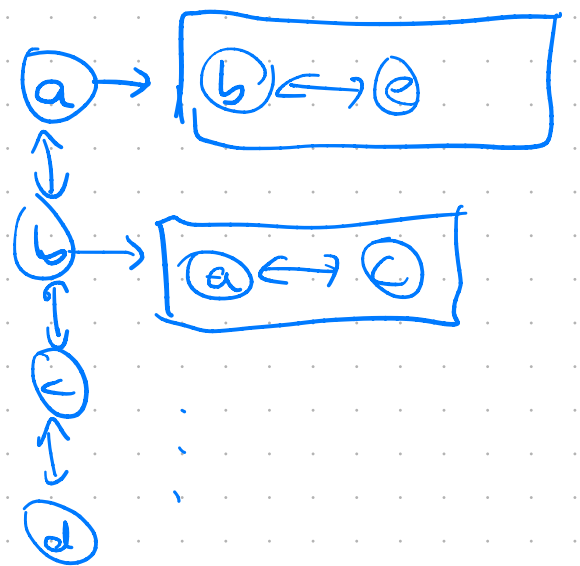
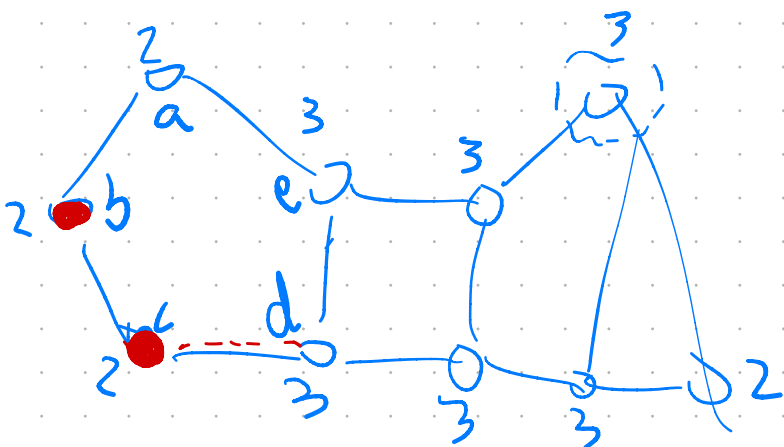
$$\log B \geq \log(m+n) + \log \log n \geq \log(n)$$

Total bits in adj list is

$$O(n \log n) + \sum_v O(d_v \log n) = O((m+n) \log n)$$

Total words in adj list: $O(m+n)$.

In MST problem the standard assumption is that edge weights are in the range $[0, 2^{O(\log n)}]$ so writing an edge weight in binary takes $O(\log n)$ bits, i.e. $O(1)$ words.



Implementing Prim's algorithm:

Using priority queue — a data struct
that stores elements with priorities.
("values") ("keys")

Operations:

insert an element

delete an element

change priority of element

extract element of min priority

"heap"
 $O(\log n)$

Elements of the PQ are vertices not yet
in T .

Priority of element v is the min weight
of an edge from T to v .

(Or ∞ if no such edge has been found)

Extra data struct mapping $v \notin T$ to cheapest edge.
(e.g. hash map)

n loop iterations.

Each starts with ExtractMin to find
the vertex with min-weight

connection to T .

Use hash map to find that
min weight edge.

Update priority of all neighbors.