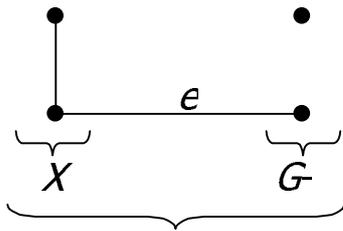


Minimal Spanning Tree

By Marco Gallotta

A Minimal Spanning Tree (MST) is a subgraph this is connected and whose sum of its edges is minimized.

Lemma: If X is a subset of vertices in G , and e is the smallest edge connecting X to $G-X$, then e is part of the MST.



Kruskal's Algorithm:

```

sort the edges of  $G$  in increasing order by length
keep a subgraph  $S$  of  $G$ , initially empty
for each edge  $e$  in sorted order
    if the endpoints of  $e$  are disconnected in  $S$ 
        add  $e$  to  $S$ 
return  $S$ 
    
```

Prim's Algorithm:

```

let  $T$  be a single vertex  $x$ 
while ( $T$  has fewer than  $n$  vertices)
    find the smallest edge connecting  $T$  to  $G-T$ 
    add it to  $T$ 
    
```

Prim can be speeded up by using a heap to remember, for each vertex, the smallest edge connecting T with that vertex.

Kruskal	Prim	Prim (heap)
$O(m \log m)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(m \log n)$

