Discrete Mathematics

Trees

Introduction



A (free) tree T is

- A simple graph such that for every pair of vertices v and w
- there is a unique path from v to w

Rooted tree



A *rooted tree* is a tree where one of its vertices is designated the *root*

Internal and external vertices



- An internal vertex is a vertex that has at least one child
- A terminal vertex is a vertex that has no children
- The tree in the example has 4 internal vertices and 4 terminal vertices

Subtrees

A subtree of a tree T is a tree T' such that $V(T') \subseteq V(T)$ and $E(T') \subseteq E(T)$



Spanning trees

Given a graph G, a tree T is a *spanning tree* of G if:

T is a subgraph of G and

T contains all the vertices of G



Minimal spanning trees

Given a weighted graph G, a minimum spanning tree is
a spanning tree of G
that has minimum "weight"



1. Prim's algorithm

- Step 0: Pick any vertex as a starting vertex (call it a). T = {a}.
- Step 1: Find the edge with smallest weight incident to a.
 Add it to T Also include in T the next vertex and call it b.
- Step 2: Find the edge of smallest weight incident to either a or b. Include in T that edge and the next incident vertex. Call that vertex c.
- Step 3: Repeat Step 2, choosing the edge of smallest weight that does not form a cycle until all vertices are in T. The resulting subgraph T is a minimum spanning

tree.



2. Kruskal's algorithm

- Step 1: Find the edge in the graph with smallest weight (if there is more than one, pick one at random). Mark it with any given color, say red.
- <u>Step 2</u>: Find the next edge in the graph with smallest weight that doesn't close a cycle. Color that edge and the next incident vertex.

Step 3: Repeat Step 2 until you reach out to every vertex of the graph. The chosen edges form the desired minimum spanning tree.



Binary trees

A *binary tree* is a tree where each vertex has zero, one or two children



Isomorphism of trees

Given two trees $\rm T_1$ and $\rm T_2$

- \Box T₁ is *isomorphic* to T₂
- □ if we can find a one-to-one and onto function $f : T_1 \rightarrow T_2$

that preserves the adjacency relation

• i.e. if v, $w \in V(T_1)$ and e = (v, w) is an edge in T_1 , then e' = (f(v), f(w)) is an edge in T_2 .





