

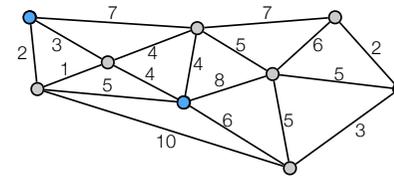
# k-center

## The k-center problem

- **Input.** An integer  $k$  and a complete, undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ , with distance  $d(i,j)$  between each pair of vertices  $i,j \in V$ .
- $d$  is a metric:
  - $\text{dist}(i,i) = 0$
  - $\text{dist}(i,j) = \text{dist}(j,i)$
  - $\text{dist}(i,l) \leq \text{dist}(i,j) + \text{dist}(j,l)$
- **Goal.** Choose a set  $S \subseteq V$ ,  $|S| = k$ , of  $k$  centers so as to minimize the maximum distance of a vertex to its closest center.

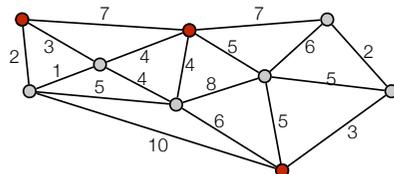
$$S = \text{argmin}_{S \subseteq V, |S|=k} \max_{i \in V} \text{dist}(i,S)$$

- **Covering radius.** Maximum distance of a vertex to its closest center.



## k-center: Greedy algorithm

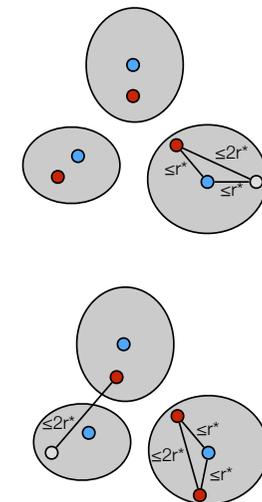
- **Greedy algorithm.**
  - Pick arbitrary  $i$  in  $V$ .
  - Set  $S = \{i\}$
  - while  $|S| < k$  do
    - Find vertex  $j$  farthest away from any cluster center in  $S$
    - Add  $j$  to  $S$



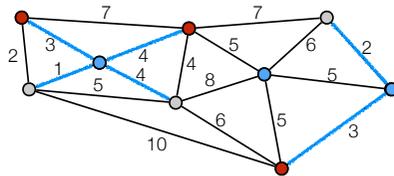
- Greedy is a 2-approximation algorithm:
  - polynomial time ✓
  - valid solution ✓
  - factor 2

## k-center: analysis greedy algorithm

- $r^*$  optimal radius.
- Show all vertices within distance  $2r^*$  from a center.
- Consider optimal clusters. 2 cases.
  - Algorithm picked one center in each optimal cluster
    - distance from any vertex to its closest center  $\leq 2r^*$  (triangle inequality)
- Some optimal cluster does not have a center.
  - Some cluster have more than one center.
  - distance between these two centers  $\leq 2r^*$ .
  - when second center in same cluster picked it was the vertex farthest away from any center.
  - distance from any vertex to its closest center at most  $2r^*$ .



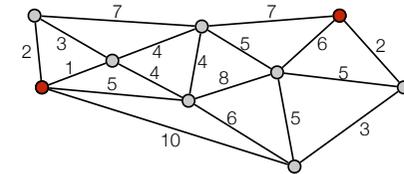
## k-center



## Bottleneck algorithm

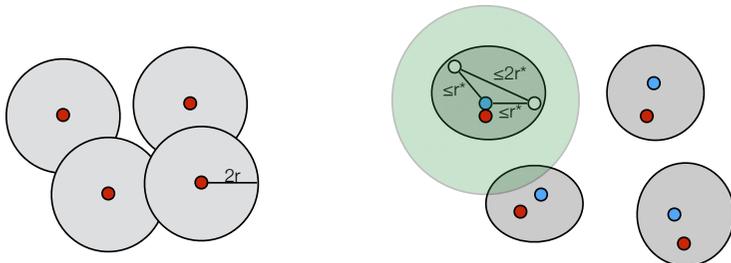
- Assume we know the optimum covering radius  $r$ .
- Bottleneck algorithm.
  - Set  $R := V$  and  $S := \emptyset$ .
  - while  $R \neq \emptyset$  do
    - Pick arbitrary  $i$  in  $R$ .
    - Add  $j$  to  $S$
    - Remove all vertices with  $d(j,v) \leq 2r$  from  $R$ .

- Example:  $k=3$ .  $r=4$ .



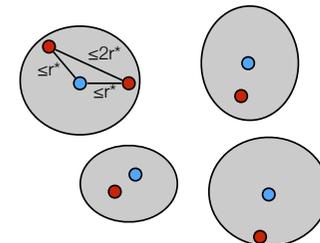
## Analysis bottleneck algorithm

- $r^*$  optimal radius.
- Covering radius is at most  $2r^*$ .
- Show that: We cannot pick more than  $k$  centers:
  - We can pick at most one in each optimal cluster:
    - Distance between two nodes in same optimal cluster  $\leq 2r^*$
    - When we pick a center in a optimal cluster all nodes in same optimal cluster is removed.



## Analysis bottleneck algorithm

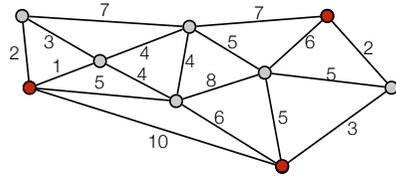
- $r^*$  optimal radius.
- Can use algorithm to "guess"  $r^*$  (at most  $n^2$  values).
- If algorithm picked more than  $k$  centers then  $r^* > r$ .
  - If algorithm picked more than  $k$  centers then it picked more than one in some optimal cluster.
  - Distance between two nodes in same optimal cluster  $\leq 2r^*$
  - If more than one in some optimal cluster then  $2r < 2r^*$ .



## Bottleneck algorithm

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- Assume we know the optimum covering radius  $r$ .
- Example:  $k=3$ .  $r^* = 4$ .
- Try with  $r=2$ :



## Set cover

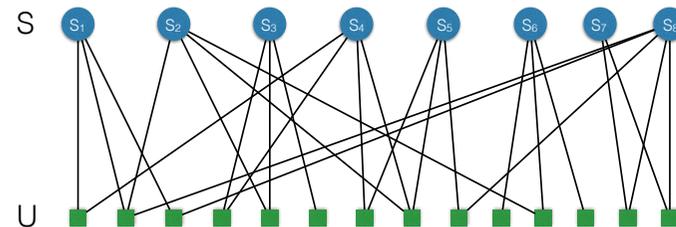
## Set cover problem

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- Set  $U$  of  $n$  elements.
- Subsets of  $U$ :  $S_1, \dots, S_m$ .
- Each set  $S_i$  has a weight  $w_i \geq 0$ .
- **Set cover**. A collection of subsets  $C$  whose union is equal to  $U$ .
- **Goal**. find set cover of minimum weight.

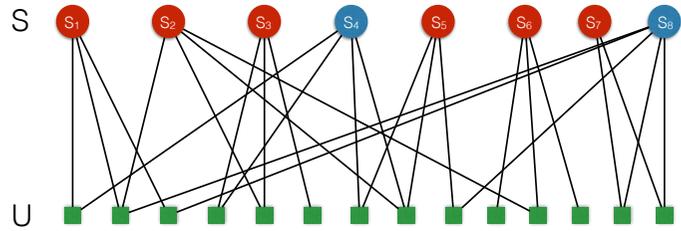
## Set Cover

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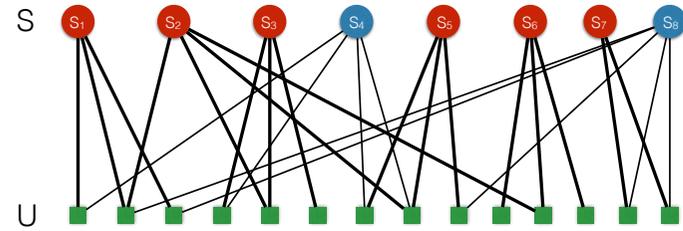
### Set Cover

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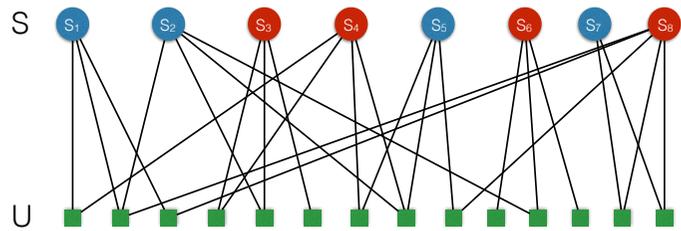
### Set Cover

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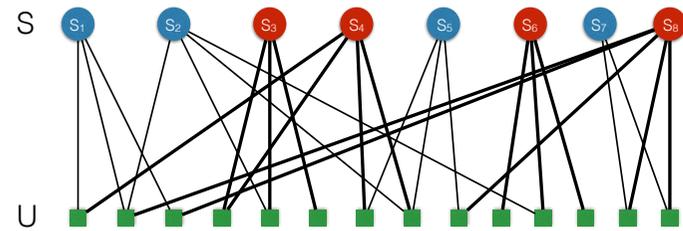
### Set Cover

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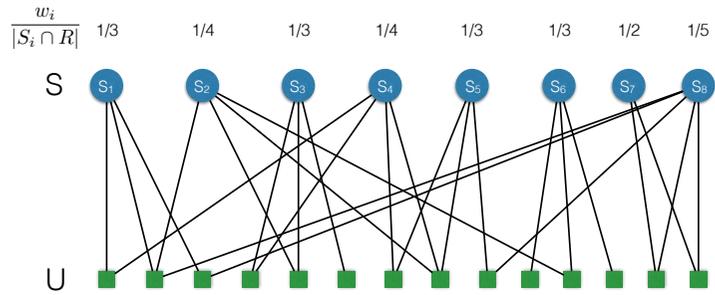


### Set Cover

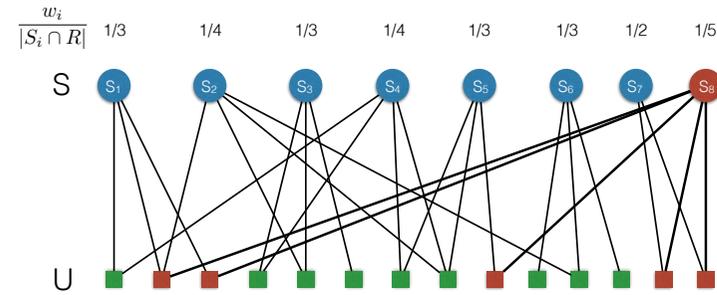
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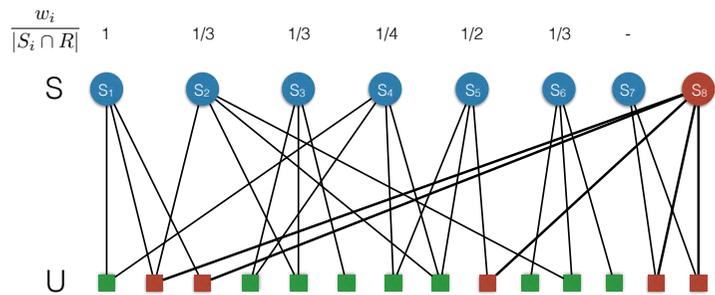
### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



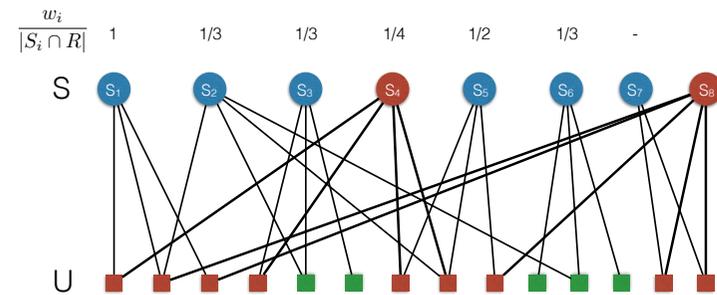
### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



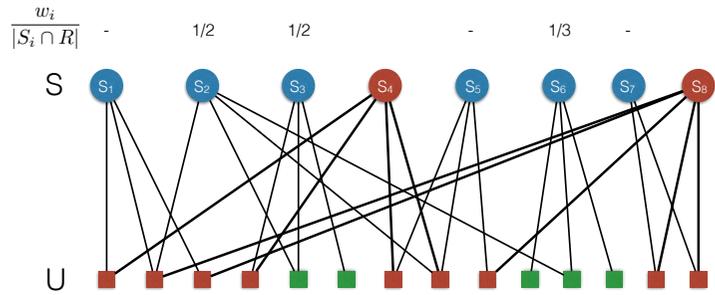
### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



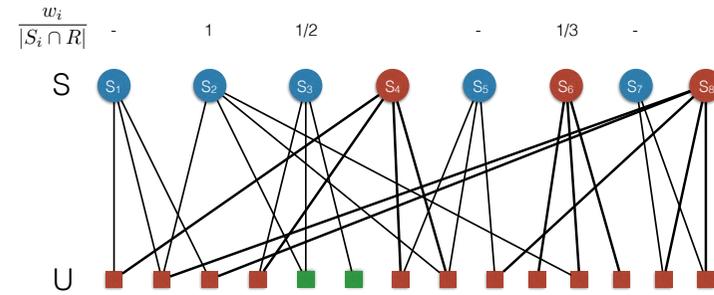
### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



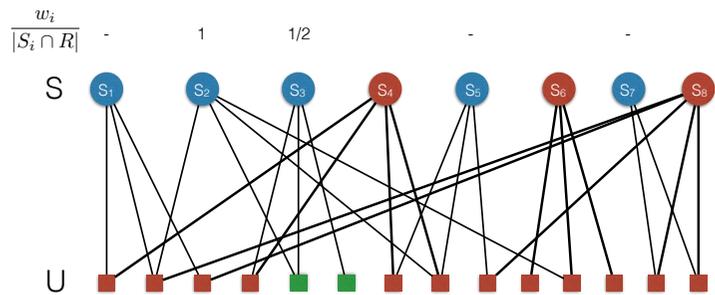
### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



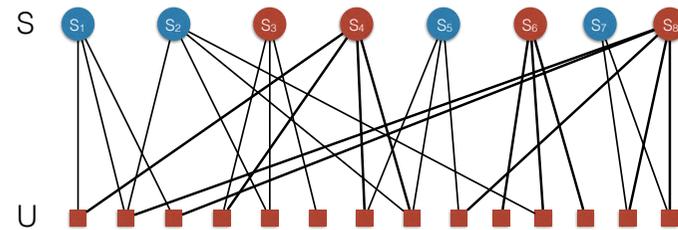
### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



### Set Cover: Greedy algorithm



## Set cover: greedy algorithm

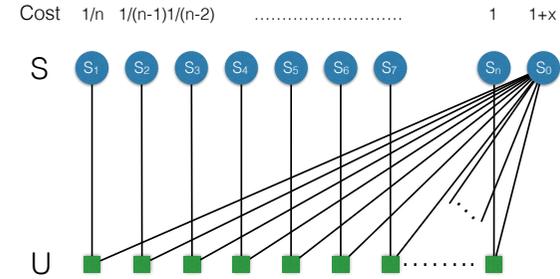
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Greedy-set-cover
Set R := U and C := ∅
while R ≠ ∅
  Select the set Si minimizing  $\frac{w_i}{|S_i \cap R|}$ 

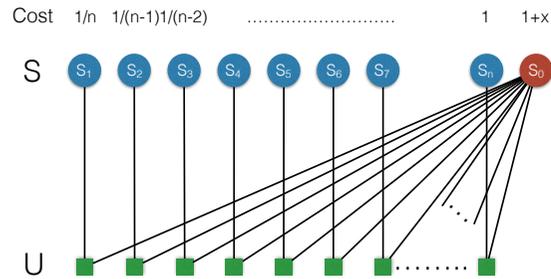
  Delete the elements from Si from R.
  Add Si to C.
endwhile
Return C.
    
```

- Greedy-set-cover is a  $n \cdot O(\log n)$ -approximation algorithm:
  - polynomial time ✓
  - valid solution ✓
  - factor  $O(\log n)$

## Set Cover: Greedy algorithm - tight example

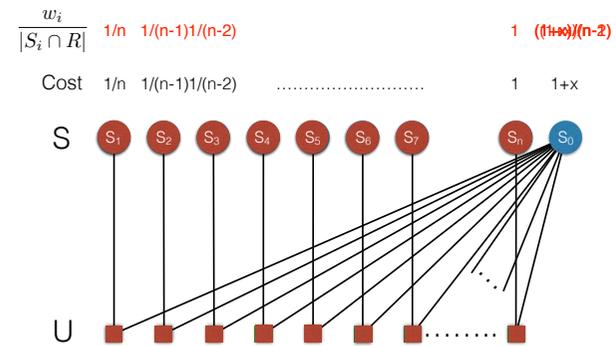


## Set Cover: Greedy algorithm - tight example



OPT = 1+x

## Set Cover: Greedy algorithm - tight example



OPT = 1+x  
 Greedy =  $1/n + 1/(n-1) + 1/(n-2) + \dots = H_n$