Given a set of nodes and a metric defining the distances between the nodes, people often want to find a minimal spanning tree for these nodes. **MLAB** has a built-in function, `MST`, to construct such a tree. Given a distance matrix `D` for a set of points given in the rows of a 2-column matrix `M`, `MST(D)` generates a 3-column output matrix defining the edges and edge-length of a minimal spanning tree of the points in `M`. Here is an example of **MLAB** computing a minimal spanning tree.

```mlab
m = shape(140,2, ran on 0^-280)
d = dists(m)
e = mst(d)

v = mesh(m row (e col 1), m row (e col 2))

draw m pt circle ptsize .01 lt none
draw v lt alternate color red
top title = "A Minimal Spanning Tree"
view
```