

## Minimum Spanning Trees

Carola Wenk

Slides courtesy of Charles Leiserson with changes and additions by Carola Wenk



## Graphs (review)

**Definition.** A *directed graph (digraph)*  $G = (V, E)$  is an ordered pair consisting of

- a set  $V$  of *vertices* (singular: *vertex*),
- a set  $E \subseteq V \times V$  of *edges*.

In an *undirected graph*  $G = (V, E)$ , the edge set  $E$  consists of *unordered* pairs of vertices.

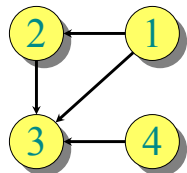
In either case, we have  $|E| = O(|V|^2)$ .  
 Moreover, if  $G$  is connected, then  $|E| \geq |V| - 1$ .

(Review CLRS, Appendix B.4 and B.5.)

## Adjacency-matrix representation

The *adjacency matrix* of a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , is the matrix  $A[1..n, 1..n]$  given by

$$A[i, j] = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (i, j) \in E, \\ 0 & \text{if } (i, j) \notin E. \end{cases}$$



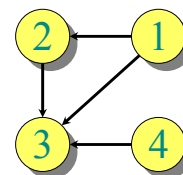
$A$	1	2	3	4
1	0	1	1	0
2	0	0	1	0
3	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	1	0

$\Theta(|V|^2)$  storage  
 $\Rightarrow$  *dense*  
 representation.



## Adjacency-list representation

An *adjacency list* of a vertex  $v \in V$  is the list  $Adj[v]$  of vertices adjacent to  $v$ .



$Adj[1] = \{2, 3\}$   
 $Adj[2] = \{3\}$   
 $Adj[3] = \{\}$   
 $Adj[4] = \{3\}$

For undirected graphs,  $|Adj[v]| = degree(v)$ .

For digraphs,  $|Adj[v]| = out-degree(v)$ .

# Adjacency-list representation

## Handshaking Lemma:

- For undirected graphs:

$$\sum_{v \in V} \text{degree}(v) = 2|E|$$

- For digraphs:

$$\sum_{v \in V} \text{in-degree}(v) + \sum_{v \in V} \text{out-degree}(v) = 2|E|$$

⇒ adjacency lists use  $\Theta(|V| + |E|)$  storage

⇒ a *sparse* representation



# Minimum spanning trees

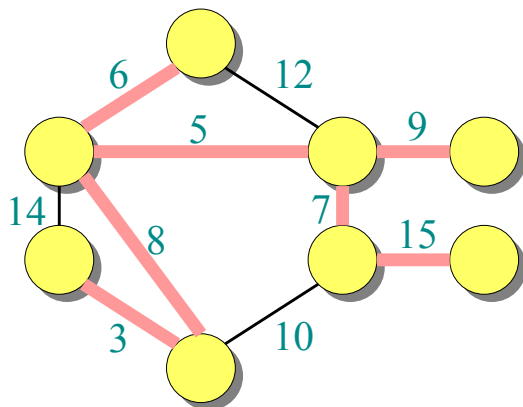
**Input:** A connected, undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with weight function  $w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- For simplicity, assume that all edge weights are distinct. (CLRS covers the general case.)

**Output:** A *spanning tree*  $T$  — a tree that connects all vertices — of minimum weight:

$$w(T) = \sum_{(u,v) \in T} w(u,v).$$

## Example of MST



## Hallmark for “greedy” algorithms

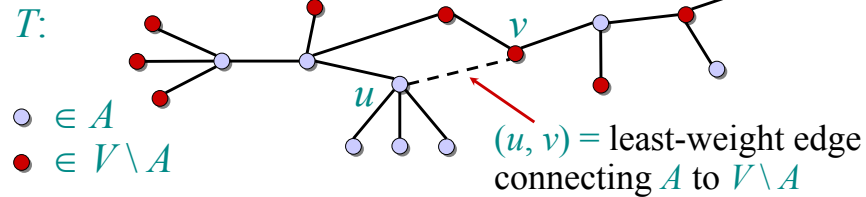
**Greedy-choice property**  
A locally optimal choice  
is globally optimal.

**Theorem.** Let  $T$  be the MST of  $G = (V, E)$ , and let  $A \subseteq V$ . Suppose that  $(u, v) \in E$  is the least-weight edge connecting  $A$  to  $V \setminus A$ . Then,  $(u, v) \in T$ .



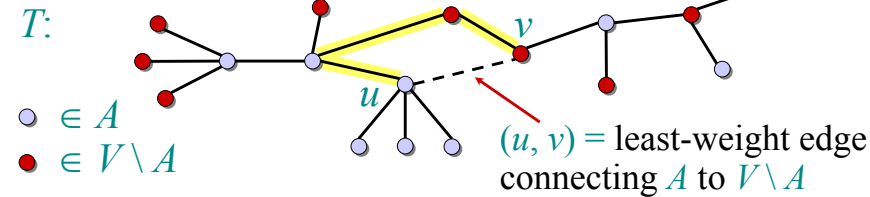
# Proof of theorem

*Proof.* Suppose  $(u, v) \notin T$ . Cut and paste.



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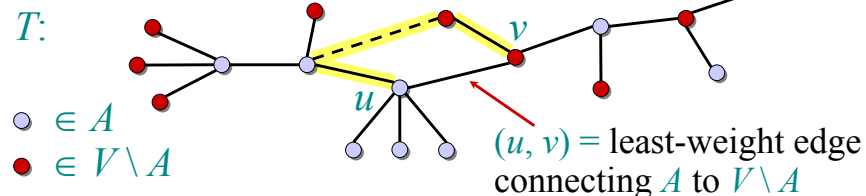


Consider the unique simple path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ .



# Proof of theorem

*Proof.* Suppose  $(u, v) \notin T$ . Cut and paste.



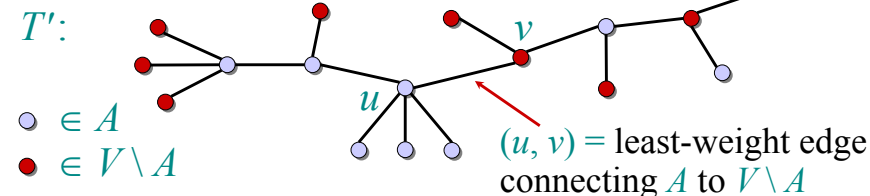
Consider the unique simple path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ .

Swap  $(u, v)$  with the first edge on this path that connects a vertex in  $A$  to a vertex in  $V \setminus A$ .



# Proof of theorem

*Proof.* Suppose  $(u, v) \notin T$ . Cut and paste.



Consider the unique simple path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ .

Swap  $(u, v)$  with the first edge on this path that connects a vertex in  $A$  to a vertex in  $V \setminus A$ .

A lighter-weight spanning tree than  $T$  results. □

# Prim's algorithm

**IDEA:** Maintain  $V \setminus A$  as a priority queue  $Q$ . Key each vertex in  $Q$  with the weight of the least-weight edge connecting it to a vertex in  $A$ .

```

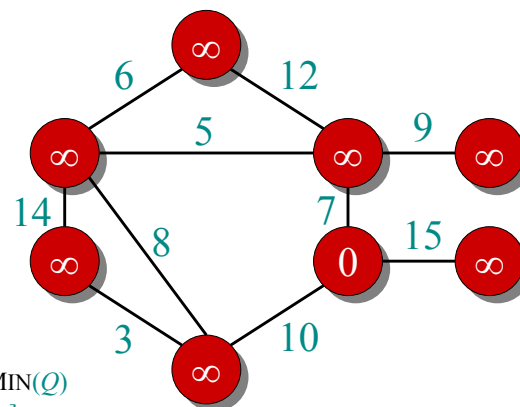
 $Q \leftarrow V$ 
 $key[v] \leftarrow \infty$  for all  $v \in V$ 
 $key[s] \leftarrow 0$  for some arbitrary  $s \in V$ 
while  $Q \neq \emptyset$ 
  do  $u \leftarrow \text{EXTRACT-MIN}(Q)$ 
    for each  $v \in \text{Adj}[u]$ 
      do if  $v \in Q$  and  $w(u, v) < key[v]$ 
        then  $key[v] \leftarrow w(u, v)$   $\triangleright$  DECREASE-KEY
           $\pi[v] \leftarrow u$ 
  
```

At the end,  $\{(v, \pi[v])\}$  forms the MST.



# Example of Prim's algorithm

$\circ \in A$   
 $\bullet \in V \setminus A$

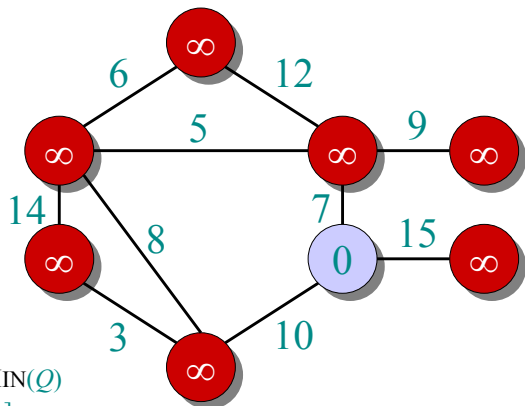


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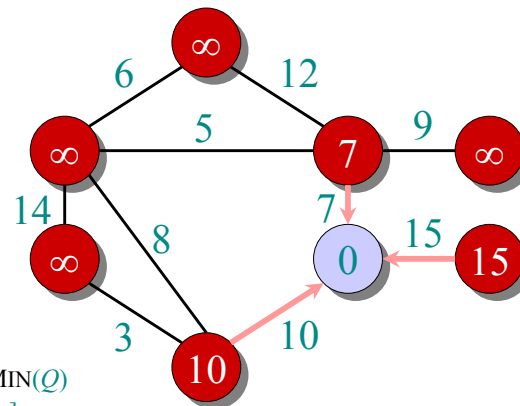
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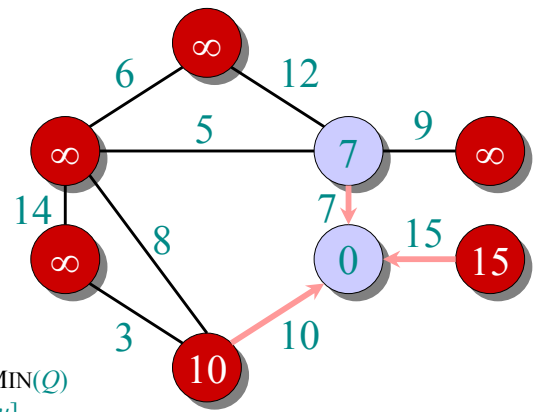


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●  $\in V \setminus A$

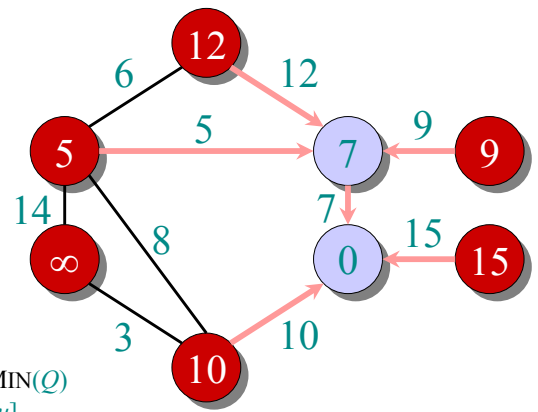


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u ← EXTRACT-MIN(Q)
for each v ∈ Adj[u]
  do if v ∈ Q and w(u, v) < key[v]
    then key[v] ← w(u, v) ▷ DECREASE-KEY
    π[v] ← u
    
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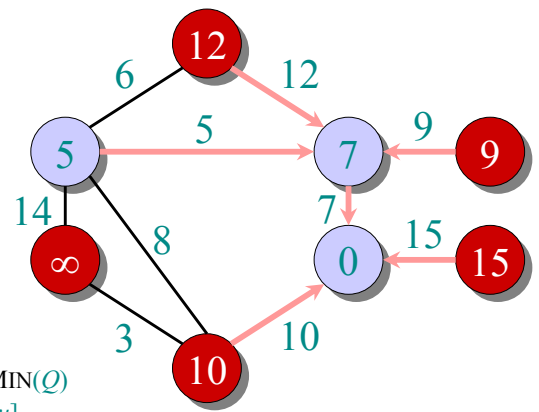


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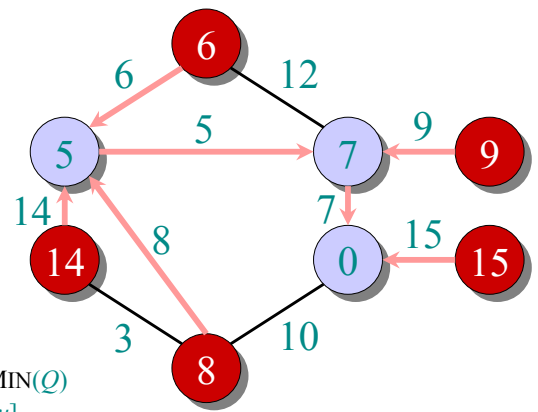


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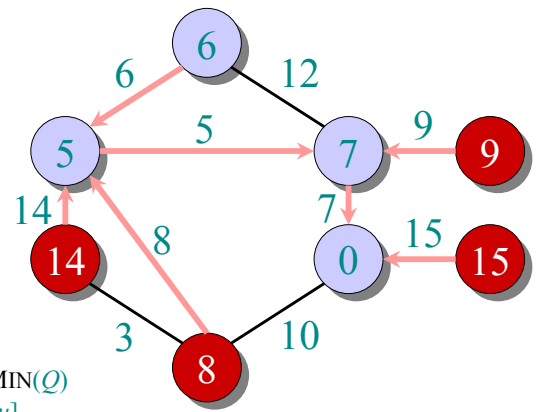


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# Example of Prim's algorithm

○ ∈ A  
● ∈ V \ A

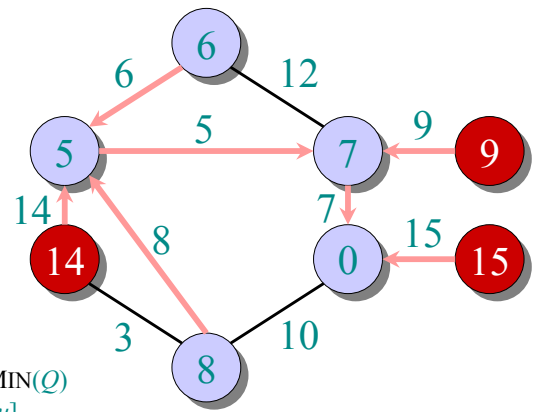


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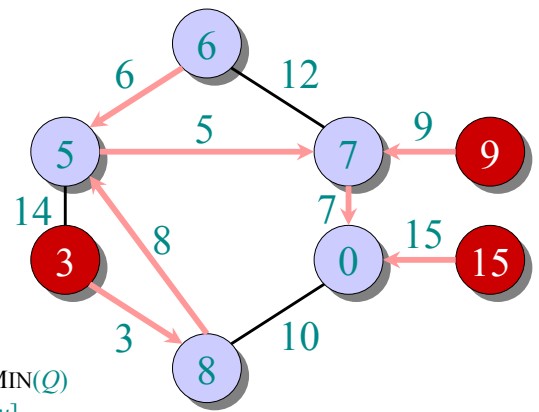


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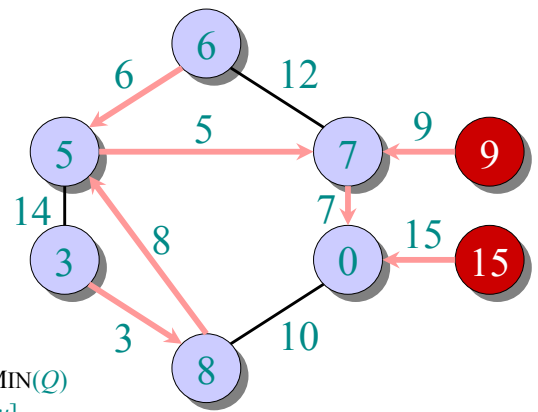


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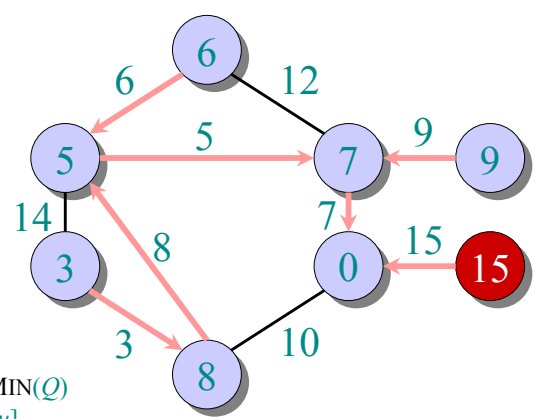


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# Example of Prim's algorithm

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●  $\in V \setminus A$

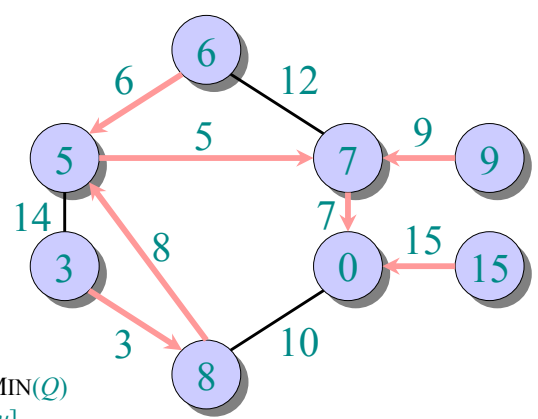


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●  $\in V \setminus A$



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```

# Analysis of Prim

$\Theta(|V|)$  total  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Q \leftarrow V \\ key[v] \leftarrow \infty \text{ for all } v \in V \\ key[s] \leftarrow 0 \text{ for some arbitrary } s \in V \end{array} \right.$

$|V|$  times  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{while } Q \neq \emptyset \\ \text{do } u \leftarrow \text{EXTRACT-MIN}(Q) \\ \text{for each } v \in \text{Adj}[u] \\ \text{do if } v \in Q \text{ and } w(u, v) < key[v] \\ \text{then } key[v] \leftarrow w(u, v) \\ \pi[v] \leftarrow u \end{array} \right.$

$degree(u)$  times

Handshaking Lemma  $\Rightarrow \Theta(|E|)$  implicit DECREASE-KEY's.

Time =  $\Theta(|V|) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(|E|) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$

# Analysis of Prim (continued)

Time =  $\Theta(|V|) \cdot T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}} + \Theta(|E|) \cdot T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$

$Q$	$T_{\text{EXTRACT-MIN}}$	$T_{\text{DECREASE-KEY}}$	Total
array	$O( V )$	$O(1)$	$O( V ^2)$
binary heap	$O(\log  V )$	$O(\log  V )$	$O( E  \log  V )$
Fibonacci heap	$O(\log  V )$ amortized	$O(1)$ amortized	$O( E  +  V  \log  V )$ worst case

# Kruskal's algorithm

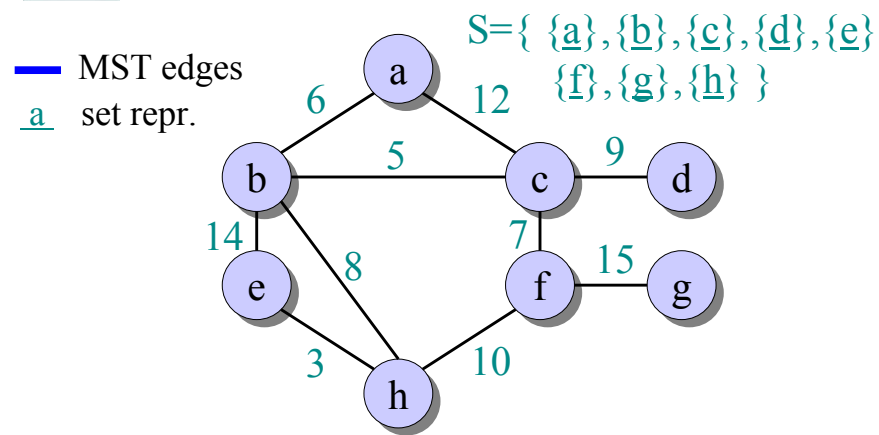
## IDEA (again greedy):

Repeatedly pick edge with smallest weight as long as it does not form a cycle.

- The algorithm creates a set of trees (a **forest**)
- During the algorithm the added edges merge the trees together, such that in the end only one tree remains
- The correctness of this greedy strategy is not obvious and needs to be proven. (Proof skipped here.)



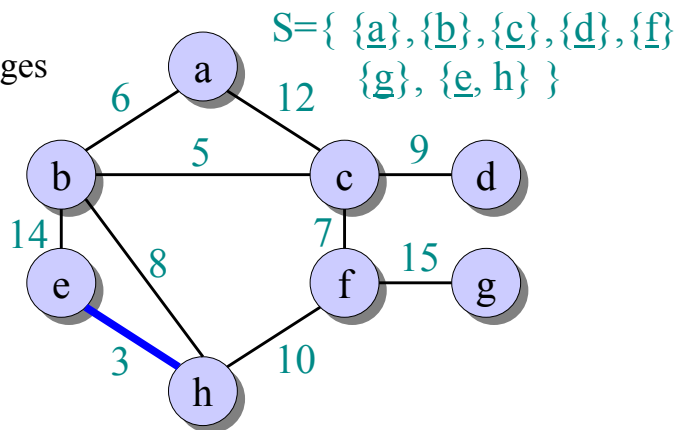
# Example of Kruskal's algorithm



Every node is a single tree.

# Example of Kruskal's algorithm

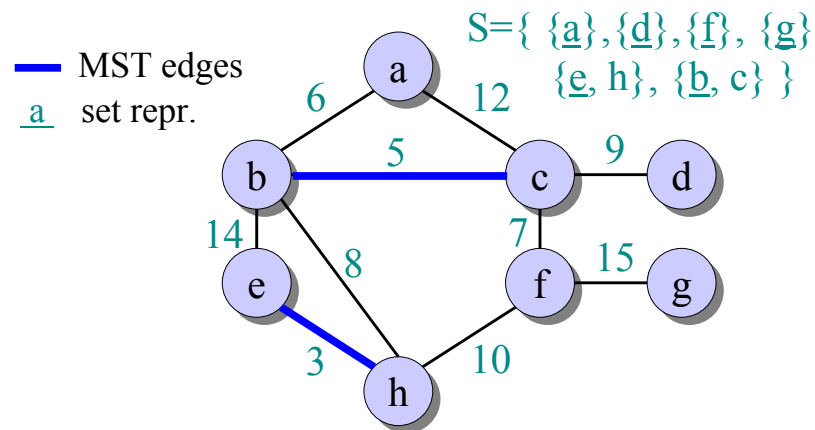
— MST edges  
a set repr.



Edge 3 merged two singleton trees.

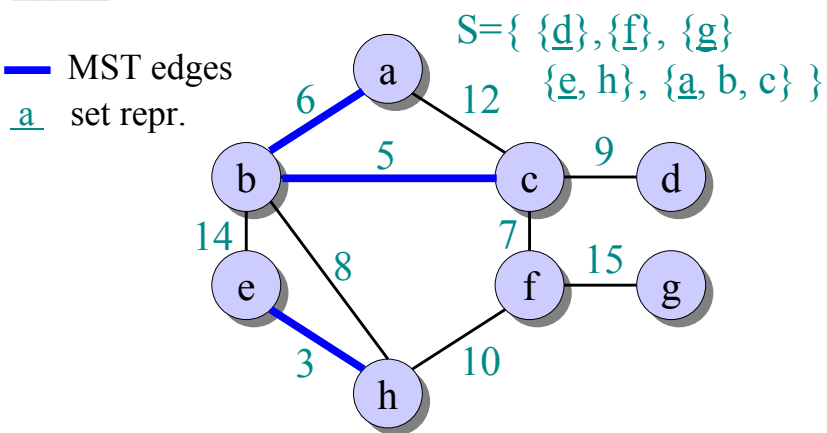


# Example of Kruskal's algorithm

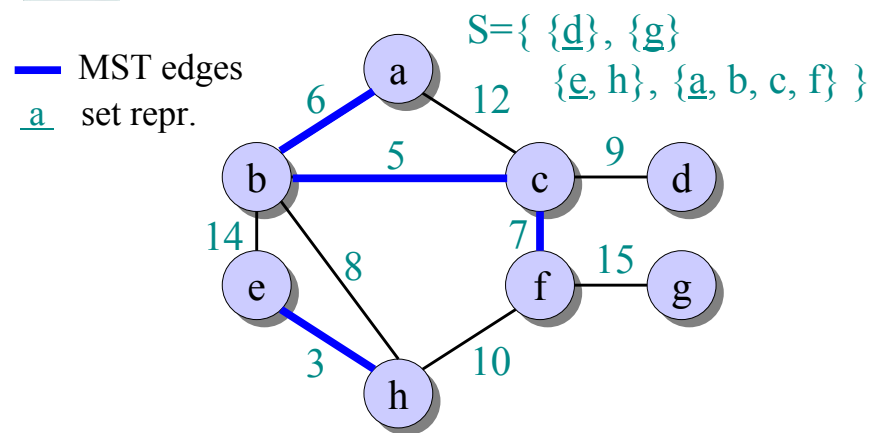




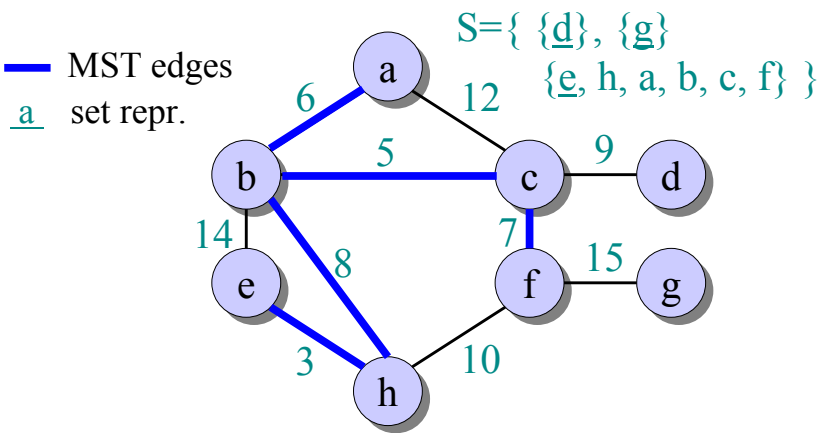
# Example of Kruskal's algorithm



# Example of Kruskal's algorithm

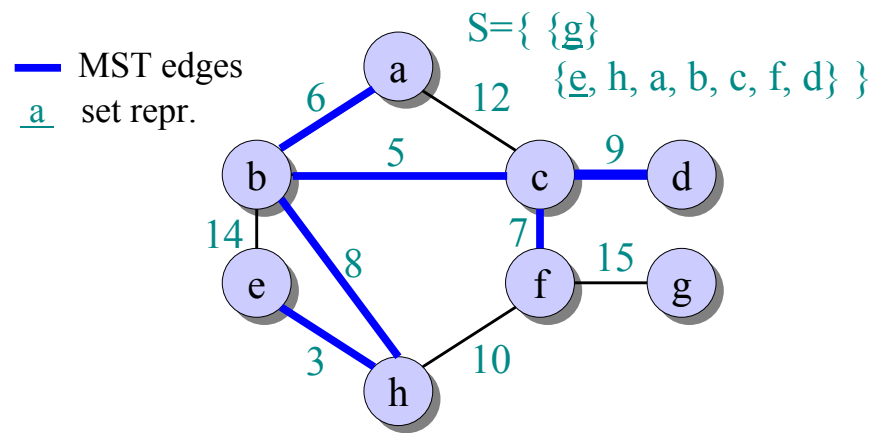


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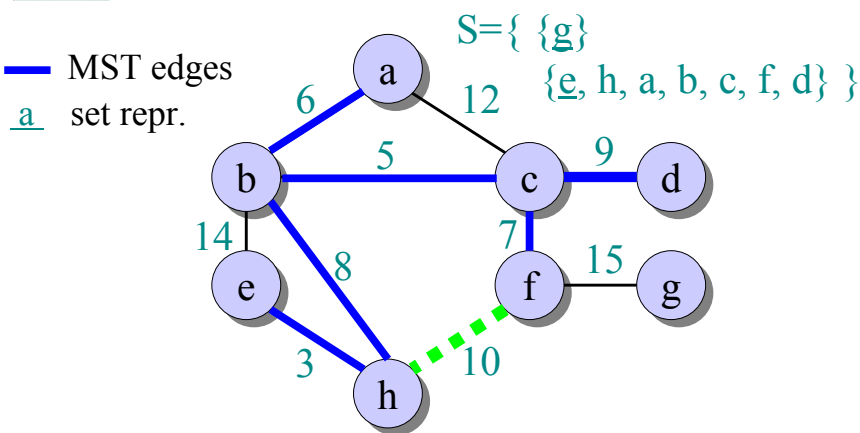


Edge 8 merged the two bigger trees.

# Example of Kruskal's algorithm

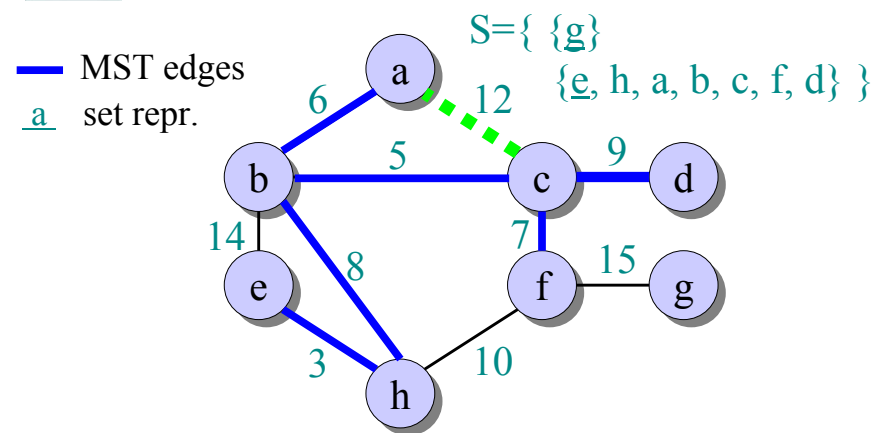


## Example of Kruskal's algorithm



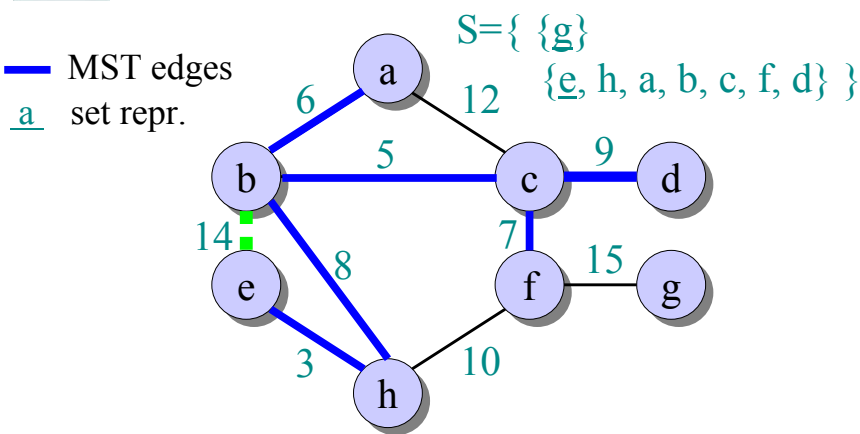
Skip edge 10 as it would cause a cycle.

## Example of Kruskal's algorithm



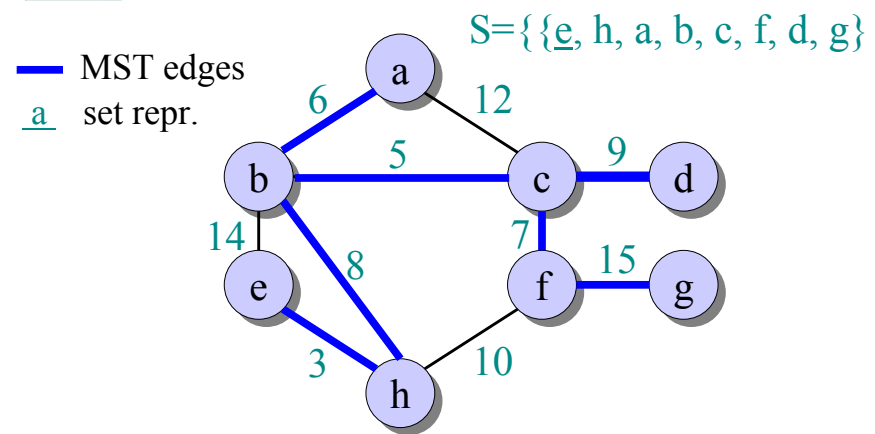
Skip edge 12 as it would cause a cycle.

## Example of Kruskal's algorithm



Skip edge 14 as it would cause a cycle.

## Example of Kruskal's algorithm



## Disjoint-set data structure (Union-Find)

- Maintains a dynamic collection of *pairwise-disjoint* sets  $\mathcal{S} = \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_r\}$ .
- Each set  $S_i$  has one element distinguished as the **representative** element.
- Supports operations:
  - $O(1)$  • MAKE-SET( $x$ ): adds new set  $\{x\}$  to  $\mathcal{S}$
  - $O(\alpha(n))$  • UNION( $x, y$ ): replaces sets  $S_x, S_y$  with  $S_x \cup S_y$
  - $O(\alpha(n))$  • FIND-SET( $x$ ): returns the representative of the set  $S_x$  containing element  $x$
- $1 < \alpha(n) < \log^*(n) < \log(\log(n)) < \log(n)$

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## Kruskal's algorithm

**IDEA:** Repeatedly pick edge with smallest weight as long as it does not form a cycle.

$S \leftarrow \emptyset$  ▷  $S$  will contain all MST edges

$O(|V|)$  for each  $v \in V$  do MAKE-SET( $v$ )  
 $O(|E|\log|E|)$  Sort edges of  $E$  in non-decreasing order according to  $w$   
 $O(|E|)$  For each  $(u,v) \in E$  taken in this order do  
 $O(\alpha(|V|))$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{if FIND-SET}(u) \neq \text{FIND-SET}(v) \text{ } \triangleright u,v \text{ in different trees} \\ A \leftarrow A \cup \{(u,v)\} \\ \text{UNION}(u,v) \text{ } \triangleright \text{Edge } (u,v) \text{ connects the two trees} \end{array} \right.$

**Runtime:**  $O(|V| + |E|\log|E| + |E|\alpha(|V|)) = O(|E|\log|E|)$

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## MST algorithms

- Prim's algorithm:
  - Maintains one tree
  - Runs in time  $O(|E|\log|V|)$ , with binary heaps.
- Kruskal's algorithm:
  - Maintains a forest and uses the disjoint-set data structure
  - Runs in time  $O(|E|\log|E|)$
- Best to date: Randomized algorithm by Karger, Klein, Tarjan [1993]. Runs in expected time  $O(|V| + |E|)$