

# Minimum Spanning Trees

CSE 332 Summer 2021

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## Teaching Assistants:

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# Announcements

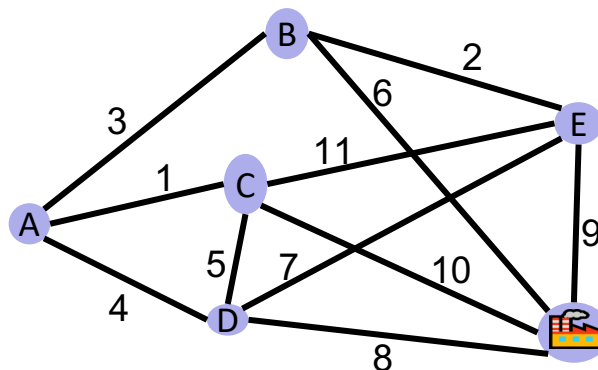
- ❖ Going to start importing grades from Gradescope to Canvas
  - Do not panic!
  - I'll be adjusting the points in canvas based on special cases in Canvas
    - If I didn't adjust something for you that I said I would, please let me know
  
- ❖ Today's and Monday's material not testable
  - Concepts that are casually thrown around, so you'll want to understand them

# Lecture Outline

- ❖ **Minimum Spanning Tree**
  - Prim's Algorithm
  - Kruskal's Algorithm

# Problem Statement

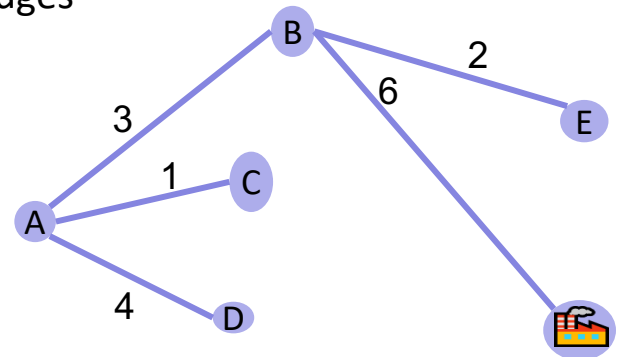
- ❖ Your friend at the electric company needs to connect all these cities to the power plant
- ❖ She knows the cost to lay wires between any pair of cities and wants the cheapest way to ensure electricity gets to every city



- ❖ Assume:
  - The graph is connected and undirected
  - *(In general, edge weights can be negative; just not in this example)*

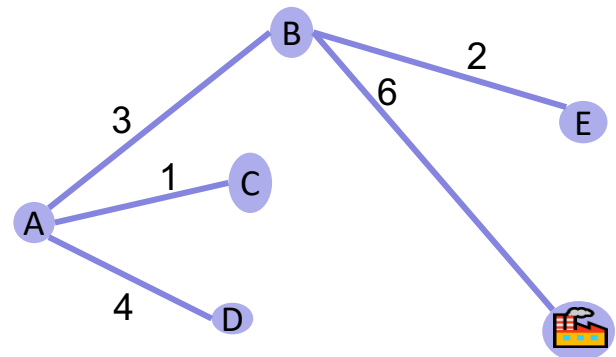
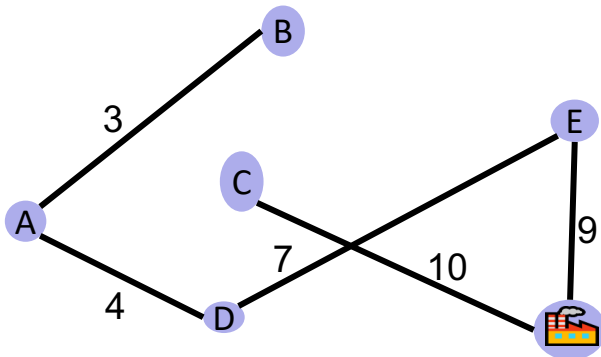
# Solution Statement

- ❖ We need a set of edges such that:
  - Every vertex touches at least one edge (“the edges **span** the graph”)
  - The graph using just those edges is **connected**
  - The total weight of these edges is **minimized**
- ❖ *Claim:* The set of edges we pick never forms a cycle. Why?
  - $V-1$  edges is the exact number of edges to connect all vertices
  - Taking away 1 edge breaks connectiveness
  - Adding 1 edge makes a cycle



# Solution Statement (v2)

- ❖ We need a ~~set of edges such that~~ Minimum Spanning Tree:
  - Every vertex touches at least one edge (“the edges **span** the graph”)
  - The graph using just those edges is **connected**
  - The total weight of these edges is **minimized**



# Minimum Spanning Trees

- ❖ Given an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a minimum spanning tree is a graph  $G' = (V, E')$  such that:
  - $E'$  is a subset of  $E$
  - $|E'| = |V| - 1$
  - $G'$  is connected
  - $\sum_{(u,v) \in E'} c_{uv}$  is minimal

# Applications of MSTs

- ❖ Handwriting recognition
  - <http://dspace.mit.edu/bitstream/handle/1721.1/16727/43551593-MIT.pdf;sequence=2>

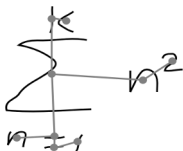
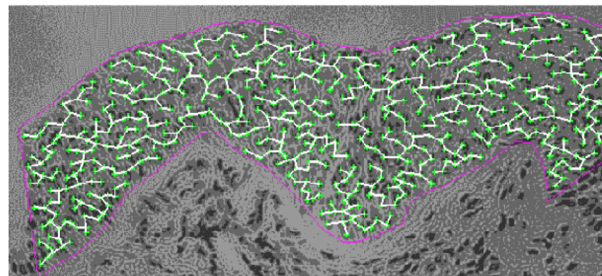
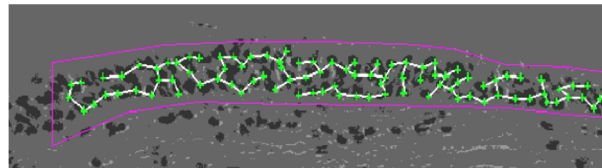


Figure 4-3: A typical minimum spanning tree

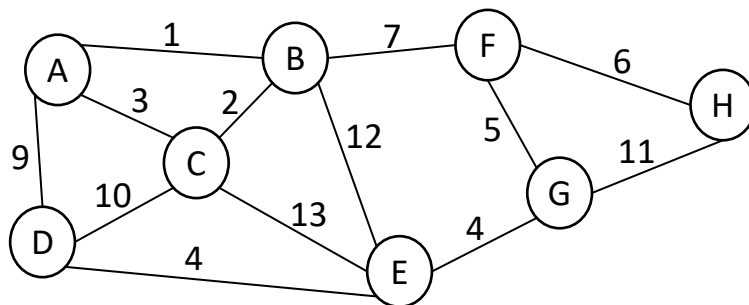
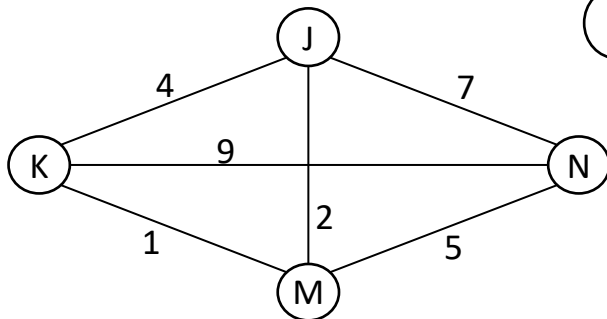
- ❖ Medical imaging
  - e.g. arrangement of nuclei in cancer cells



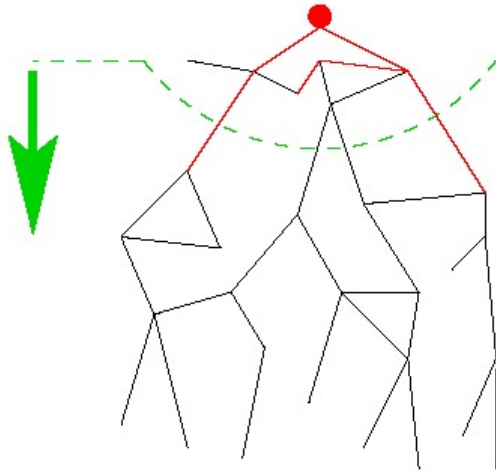
For more, see: <http://www.ics.uci.edu/~eppstein/gina/mst.html>

# Exercise (not on Gradescope again..)

- ❖ Grab something to write with & something to write on!
- ❖ Draw the MST for each of the following:

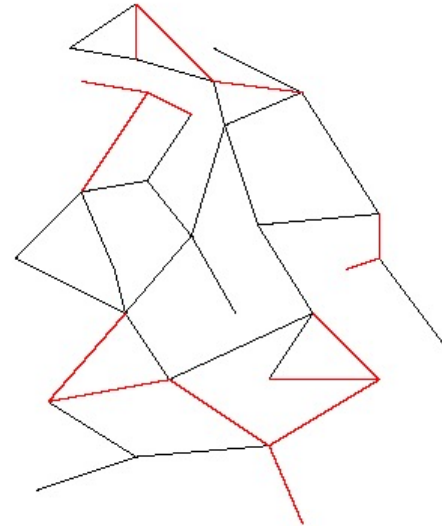


# MST Algorithms: Two Different Approaches



## *Prim's Algorithm*

Almost identical to Dijkstra's  
Start with one node, grow greedily



## *Kruskal's Algorithm*

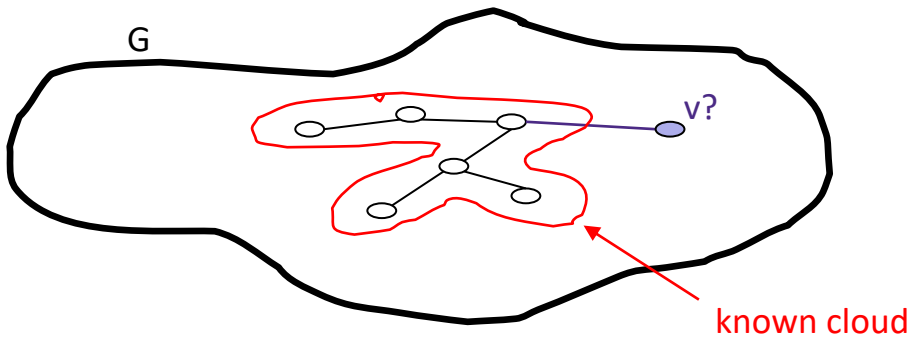
Completely different!  
Start with a forest of MSTs, union them together  
(Need a new data structure for this)

# Lecture Outline

- ❖ Minimum Spanning Tree
  - **Prim's Algorithm**
  - Kruskal's Algorithm

# Prim's Algorithm\*\*

- ❖ *Intuition*: a vertex-based greedy algorithm
  - Builds MST by greedily adding vertices
- ❖ *Summary*: Grow a single tree by picking a vertex from the fringe that has the smallest cost
  - Unlike Dijkstra's, cost is the *edge weight* into the known set



\*\* This algorithm was developed in 1930 by Votěch Jarník, then independently rediscovered by Robert Prim in 1957 and then Dijkstra in 1959. It's also known as Jarník's, Prim-Jarník, or DJP

# Prim's Algorithm: Pseudocode

```
prims(Graph g) {
  foreach vertex v in g:
    v.distance =  $\infty$ 
  start = g.getSomeArbitraryVertex()
  start.distance = 0

  mst = {}
  heap = buildHeap(g.vertices - {start})
  foreach vertex v in start.neighbors():
    v.distance = g.weight(start, v)
    v.previous = start
    heap.decreaseKey(v, v.distance)

  while (! heap.empty()):
    v = heap.deleteMin()
    mst.addEdge(v, v.previous)
    foreach edge (v, u) in g:
      d1 = v.distance
      d2 = u.distance
      if (d1 < d2):
        u.previous = v
}
```

*Remember our 5-step pattern for a graph traversal?*

# Prim's Algorithm vs. Dijkstra's Algorithm (1 of 2)

- ❖ Dijkstra's picks an unknown vertex with smallest *distance to the source*
  - ie, path weights
- ❖ Prim's picks an unknown vertex with smallest *distance to the known set*
  - i.e., edge weights
- ❖ Some differences in the initialization, but otherwise identical

# Prim's Algorithm: Pseudocode

```
prims(Graph g) {
  foreach vertex v in g:
    v.distance =  $\infty$ 
  start = g.getSomeArbitraryVertex()
  start.distance = 0

  mst = {}
  heap = buildHeap(g.vertices - {start})
  foreach vertex v in start.neighbors():
    v.distance = g.weight(start, v)
    v.previous = start
    heap.decreaseKey(v, v.distance)

  while (! heap.empty()):
    v = heap.deleteMin()
    mst.addEdge(v, v.previous)
    foreach edge (v, u) in g:
      d1 = v.distance
      d2 = u.distance
      if (d1 < d2):

        u.previous = v
}
```

```
dijkstra(Graph g, Vertex start) {
  foreach vertex v in g:
    v.distance =  $\infty$ 

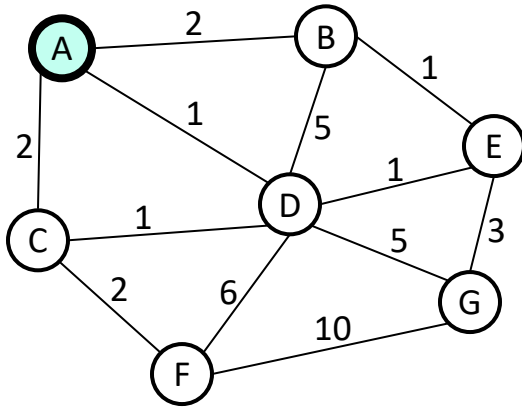
  start.distance = 0

  heap = buildHeap(g.vertices)

  while (! heap.empty()):
    v = heap.deleteMin()

    foreach edge (v, u) in g:
      d1 = v.dist + g.weight(v, u)
      d2 = u.dist
      if (d1 < d2):
        heap.decreaseKey(u, d1)
        u.previous = v
}
```

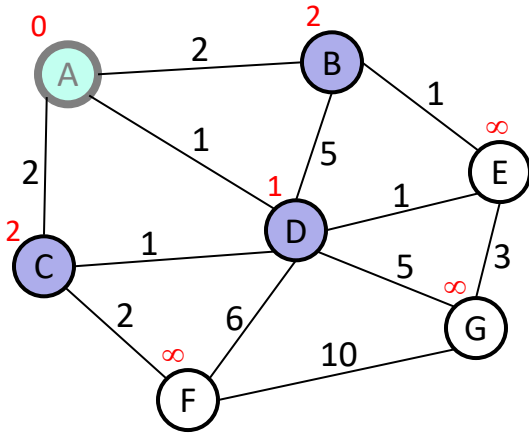
# Prim's Algorithm: Example



Order Added to Known Set:

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A		$\infty$	
B		$\infty$	
C		$\infty$	
D		$\infty$	
E		$\infty$	
F		$\infty$	
G		$\infty$	

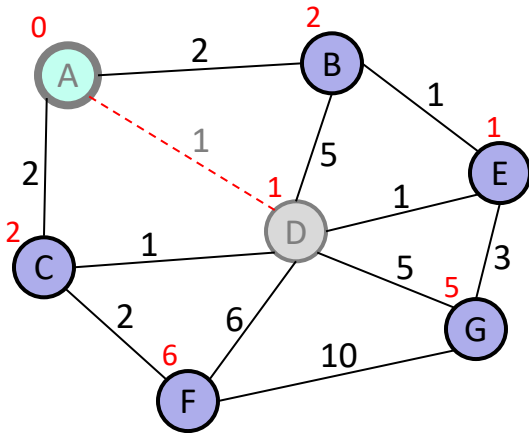
# Prim's Algorithm: Example



Order Added to Known Set:  
A

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	\
B		2	A
C		2	A
D		1	A
E		$\infty$	
F		$\infty$	
G		$\infty$	

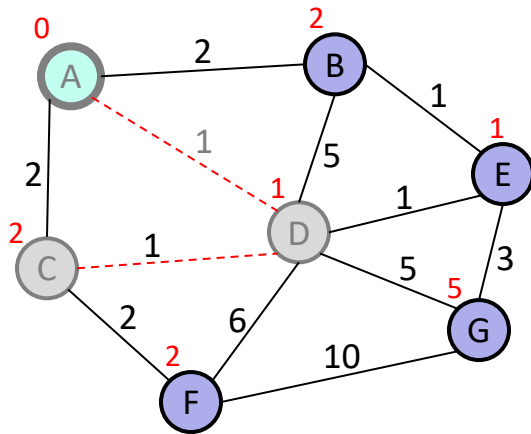
# Prim's Algorithm: Example



Order Added to Known Set:  
A, D

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	\
B		2	A
C		1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		6	D
G		5	D

# Prim's Algorithm: Example

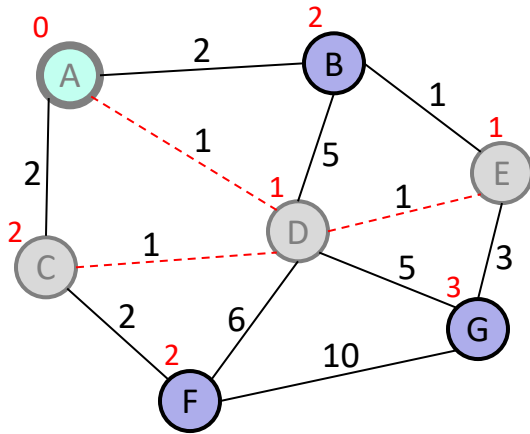


Order Added to Known Set:

A, D, C

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	\
B		2	A
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		2	C
G		5	D

# Prim's Algorithm: Example

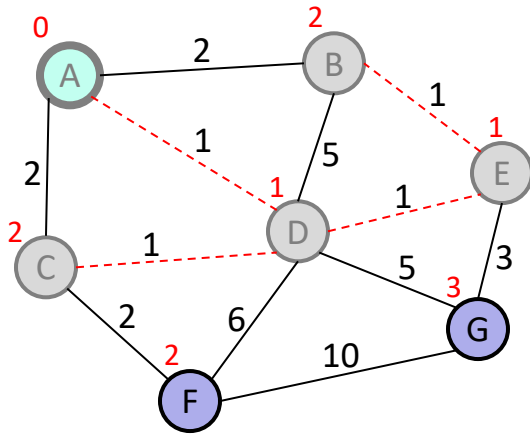


Order Added to Known Set:

A, D, C, E

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	\
B		1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

# Prim's Algorithm: Example

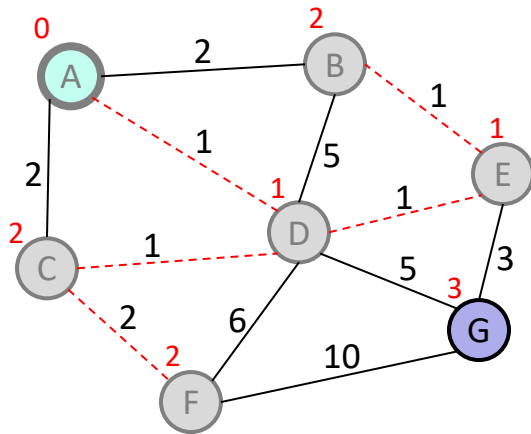


Order Added to Known Set:

A, D, C, E, B

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	\
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

# Prim's Algorithm: Example

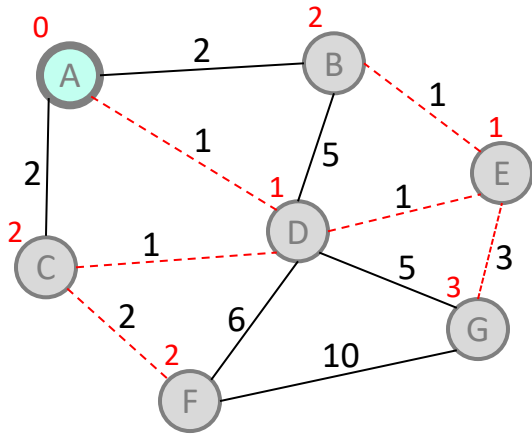


Order Added to Known Set:

A, D, C, E, B, F

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	\
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F	Y	2	C
G		3	E

# Prim's Algorithm: Example



:D(one)

Total Cost: 9

Order Added to Known Set:  
A, D, C, E, B, F

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	\
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F	Y	2	C
G	Y	3	E

# Prim's Algorithm Visualizations

## ❖ Dijkstra's Visualization

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1oiQ0hrVwJk>
- Dijkstra's proceeds radially from its source, because it chooses edges by *path length from source*

## ❖ Prim's Visualization

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uq0cQZOyoY>
- Prim's jumps around the MST-under-construction (the fringe), because it chooses edges by *edge weight* (there's no source)

# Prim's Algorithm: Analysis

## ❖ Correctness:

- A bit tricky to prove, but intuitively similar to Dijkstra
- Proof on next slide, but left as an activity if you're curious

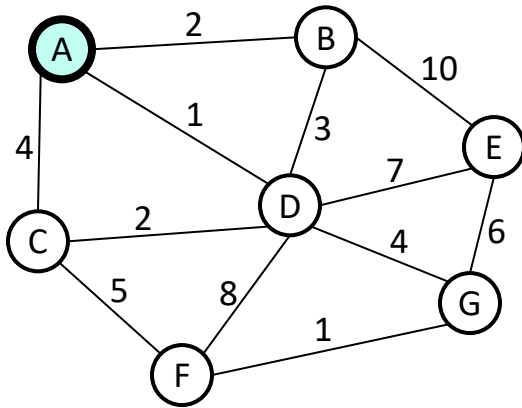
## ❖ Run-time:

- Same as Dijkstra's!  $O(|E|\log|V| + |V|\log|V|)$  using a priority queue
- But since  $E \in O(|V|^2)$ , can also state as  $O(|E|\log|V|)$

# Prim's Algorithm: Correctness Proof

- ❖ **Want to prove:** If  $G$  is a connected, weighted graph with distinct edge weights, Prim's algorithm correctly finds an MST.
- ❖ **Proof (credit: Stanford CS161, 13su); for more take CSE421!**
  - Let  $T$  be the spanning tree found by Prim's algorithm and  $T^*$  be the MST of  $G$ . We will prove  $T = T^*$  by contradiction. Assume  $T \neq T^*$ . Therefore,  $T - T^* \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $(u, v)$  be any edge in  $T - T^*$ .
  - When  $(u, v)$  was added to  $T$ , it was the least-cost edge crossing some cut  $(S, V - S)$ . Since  $T^*$  is an MST, there must be a path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T^*$ . This path begins in  $S$  and ends in  $V - S$ , so there must be some edge  $(x, y)$  along that path where  $x \in S$  and  $y \in V - S$ . Since  $(u, v)$  is the least-cost edge crossing  $(S, V - S)$ , we have  $c(u, v) < c(x, y)$ .
  - Let  $T^{*'} = T^* \cup \{(u, v)\} - \{(x, y)\}$ . Since  $(x, y)$  is on the cycle formed by adding  $(u, v)$ , this means  $T^{*'}$  is a spanning tree. However,  $c(T^{*'}) = c(T^*) + c(u, v) - c(x, y) < c(T^*)$ , contradicting that  $T^*$  is an MST.
  - We have reached a contradiction, so our assumption must have been wrong. Thus  $T = T^*$ , so  $T$  is an MST.

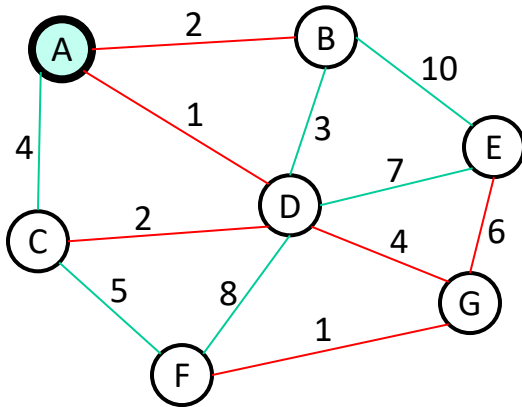
## Exercise #2: Run through Prim's algorithm!



Order Added to Known Set:

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A		$\infty$	
B		$\infty$	
C		$\infty$	
D		$\infty$	
E		$\infty$	
F		$\infty$	
G		$\infty$	

## Exercise #2: Solution



Order Added to Known Set:

A, D, B, C, G, F, E

Vertex	Known?	Distance	Previous
A	Y	0	/
B	Y	2	A
C	Y	2	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	6	G
F	Y	4	G
G	Y	1	D

# Lecture Outline

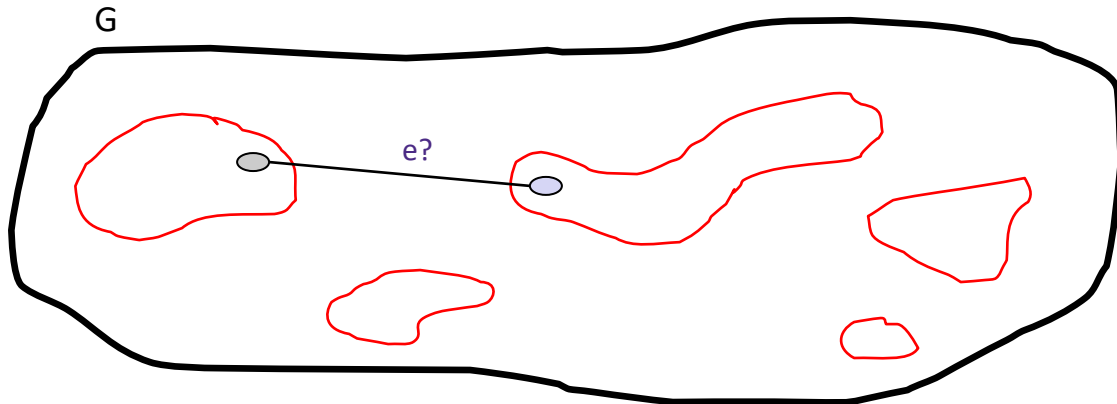
- ❖ Minimum Spanning Tree
  - Prim's Algorithm
  - **Kruskal's Algorithm**

# Kruskal's Algorithm: A Different Approach

- ❖ Prim's thinks vertex by vertex
  - Eg, add the closest vertex to the currently reachable set
- ❖ What if you think edge by edge instead?
  - Eg, start from the lightest edge; add it if it connects new things to each other (don't add it if it would create a cycle)

# Kruskal's Algorithm

- ❖ *Intuition*: an edge-based greedy algorithm
  - Builds MST by greedily adding edges
- ❖ *Summary*: Start with a **forest** of MSTs, and successively connect them by adding edges; do not create a cycle



# Kruskal's Algorithm: Pseudo-pseudocode

```
kruskals(Graph g) {
    edgesAccepted = 0
    mst = {}
    s = buildDisjointSets(g.vertices)
    edges = buildHeap(g.edges)

    while (edgesAccepted < NUM_VERTICES - 1):
        e = edges.deleteMin()
        u_id = s.find(e.u)
        v_id = s.find(e.v)
        if (u_id != v_id):
            mst.addEdge(e)
            s.unionSets(e.u, e.v)
            edgesAccepted++
}
```

*Does this fit our 5-step pattern for a graph traversal?*

*What data structure is this?!?!?*

# Aside: Disjoint Sets ADT

- ❖ The Disjoint Sets ADT has two operations:
  - Union
  - Find
  - AKA Union-Find ADT
- ❖ Applications include percolation theory (computational chemistry) and .... Kruskal's algorithm
- ❖ Simplifying assumptions
  - We can map elements to indices quickly
  - We know all the items in advance; they're all disconnected initially

# Disjoint Sets ADT

## Disjoint Sets ADT. A

collection of  
elements and sets  
of those elements.

- An element can only belong to a single set.
- Each set is identified by a unique id.
- Sets can be combined/  
connected/  
unioned.

- ❖  $\text{union}(x, y)$ : combines the set named  $x$  with the set named  $y$ ; replaces  $x$  and  $y$  with  $(x \cup y)$ 
  - Given sets:  $\{3,5,7\}$ ,  $\{4,2,8\}$ ,  $\{9\}$ ,  $\{1,6\}$ 
    - Sets typically named after one of their **elements**
  - $\text{union}(5,1)$  will union the set  $\{3,5,7\}$  with  $\{1,6\}$ 
    - Result:  $\{3,5,7,1,6\}$ ,  $\{4,2,8\}$ ,  $\{9\}$
  - Implementation: can be done in constant time
- ❖  $\text{find}(e)$ : gets the name of the element's set
  - Given sets:  $\{3,5,7\}$ ,  $\{4,2,8\}$ ,  $\{9\}$ ,  $\{1,6\}$
  - $\text{find}(1)$  returns 1
  - $\text{find}(7)$  returns 5
  - Implementation: can be amortized constant time with worst case  $O(\log n)$  for an individual find operation

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Pseudocode

```
kruskals(Graph g) {
    edgesAccepted = 0
    mst = {}
    s = buildDisjointSets(g.vertices)
    edges = buildHeap(g.edges)

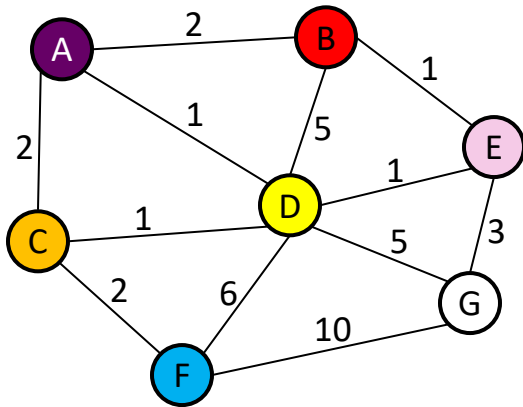
    while (edgesAccepted < NUM_VERTICES - 1):
        e = edges.deleteMin()
        u_id = s.find(e.u)
        v_id = s.find(e.v)
        if (u_id != v_id):
            mst.addEdge(e)
            s.unionSets(e.u, e.v)
            edgesAccepted++
}
```

$|E|$  deleteMin()  
 $2|E|$  find()  
 $|V|$  union()

*Runtime:*  $|E|(\log|E| + 2\log|V| + 1) + |V|(1 + 1 + 1) \in O(|E|\log|V| + |E|\log|E|)$

Note: we know  $|E| \leq |V|^2$ , so  $\log|E| \leq 2\log|V|$ . Therefore,  $|E|\log|V| + |E|\log|E| \leq 3|E|\log|V|$ , so the runtime can be simplified to  $O(|E|\log|V|)$

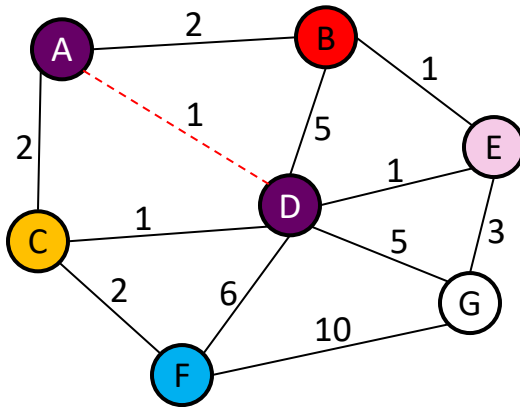
# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example



MST:

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
3	(E,G)
5	(D,G), (B,D)
6	(D,F)
10	(F,G)

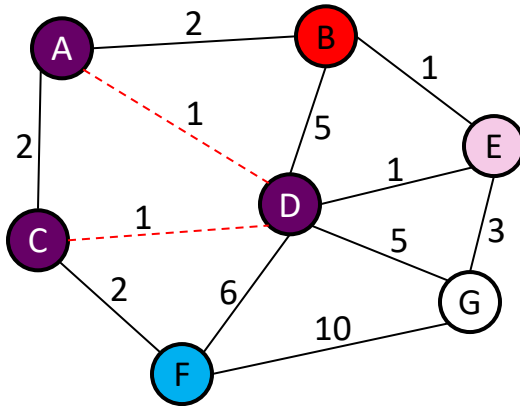
# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example



MST:  
(A, D)

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
3	(E,G)
5	(D,G), (B,D)
6	(D,F)
10	(F,G)

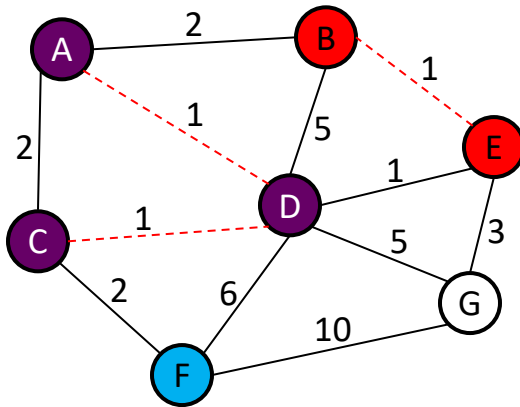
# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example



MST:  
(A, D), (C, D)

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
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5	(D,G), (B,D)
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# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example

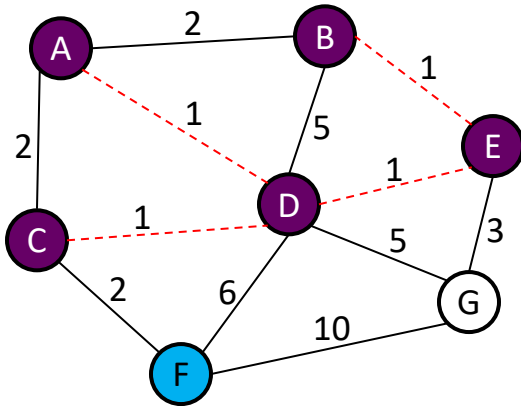


MST:

(A, D), (C, D), (B, E)

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
3	(E,G)
5	(D,G), (B,D)
6	(D,F)
10	(F,G)

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example

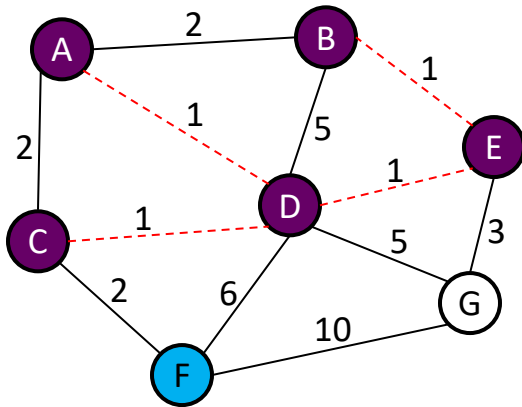


MST:

(A, D), (C, D), (B, E), (D, E)

Weight	Edges
1	$(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)$
2	$(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)$
3	$(E,G)$
5	$(D,G), (B,D)$
6	$(D,F)$
10	$(F,G)$

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example

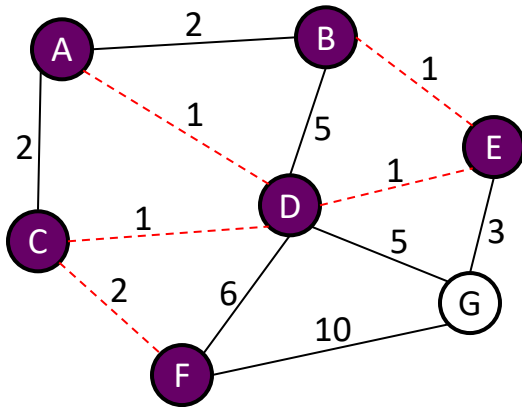


MST:

(A, D), (C, D), (B, E), (D, E)

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
3	(E,G)
5	(D,G), (B,D)
6	(D,F)
10	(F,G)

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example

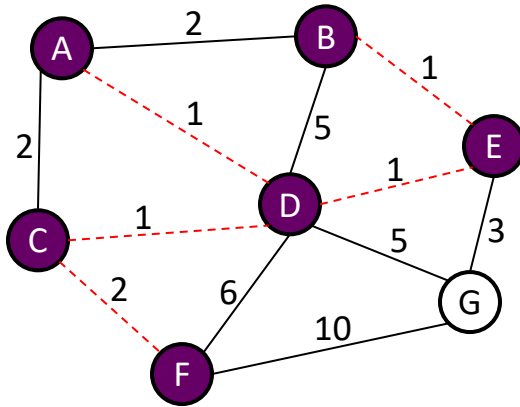


MST:

(A, D), (C, D), (B, E), (D, E), (C, F)

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
3	(E,G)
5	(D,G), (B,D)
6	(D,F)
10	(F,G)

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example

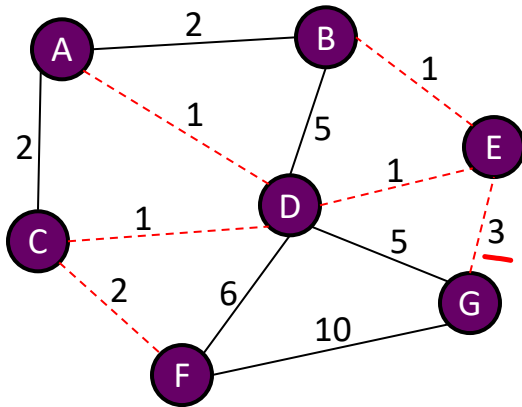


MST:

(A, D), (C, D), (B, E), (D, E), (C, F)

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
3	(E,G)
5	(D,G), (B,D)
6	(D,F)
10	(F,G)

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Example



Yay!

Total Cost: 9

MST:

(A, D), (C, D), (B, E), (D, E), (C, F), (E, G)

Weight	Edges
1	(A,D), (C,D), (B,E), (D,E)
2	(A,B), (C,F), (A,C)
3	(E,G)
5	(D,G), (B,D)
6	(D,F)
10	(F,G)

# Kruskal's Algorithm Visualizations

## ❖ Prim's Visualization

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uq0cQZOyoY>
- Prim's jumps around the fringe, adding vertices by edge weight

## ❖ Kruskal's Visualization:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggLyKfBTABo>
- Kruskal's jumps around the graph – not just the fringe – because it chooses edges by edge weight independent of the “tree under construction”

# Kruskal's Algorithm: Correctness

- ❖ Kruskal's algorithm is clever, simple, and efficient
  - But does it generate a minimum spanning tree?
- ❖ *First*: it generates a spanning tree
  - *Intuition*: Original graph was connected; we kept edges that didn't create a cycle
  - *Proof by contradiction*:
    - Suppose  $(u, v)$  is not in Kruskal's result
    - Then there's a path from  $u$  to  $v$  in the original graph with a *cheaper* edge we could add without creating a cycle
    - But Kruskal would have added that edge. **Contradiction!**
- ❖ *Second*: there is no spanning tree with lower total cost
  - Requires a more complex proof by Induction & Contradiction
  - Won't provide in a slide (relies on graph properties we won't cover)
  - Happy to prove in OH if you're curious; again, take CSE 421!

# Summary

- ❖ Minimum Spanning Trees are a subset of the edges in an undirected connected graph
- ❖ Prim's looks a lot like the vertex-based graph traversals we've seen so far, except it uses *edge weight* instead of *path weight*
  - And since edge weights don't change during the algorithm's execution, we don't need a `decreaseKey()` operation
- ❖ Kruskal's is an edge-based graph traversal (which we haven't seen so far), but still uses *edge weight* to choose edges
  - Doesn't need `decreaseKey()` for the same reason
  - Needs an auxiliary ADT – the Disjoint Sets ADT – to speed up execution