



# CSE373: Data Structures & Algorithms

## Lecture 12: Minimum Spanning Trees

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Spring 2015

# *Announcements*

- Midterm & Homework 3 grades are out
- Homework 5 is out
  - Due Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Partner selection due Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup>

# Minimum Spanning Trees

The **minimum-spanning-tree problem**

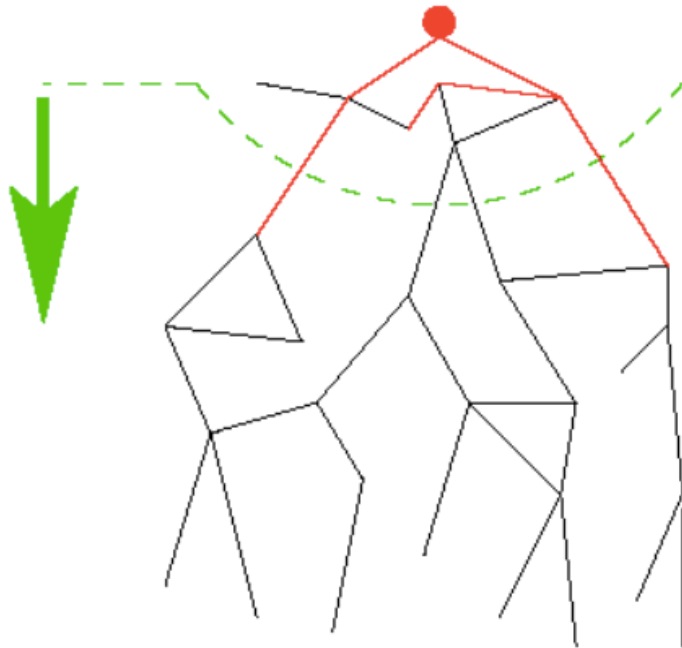
- Given a weighted undirected graph, compute a spanning tree of minimum weight

Given an undirected graph  $G=(V, E)$ , find a graph  $G'=(V, E')$  such that:

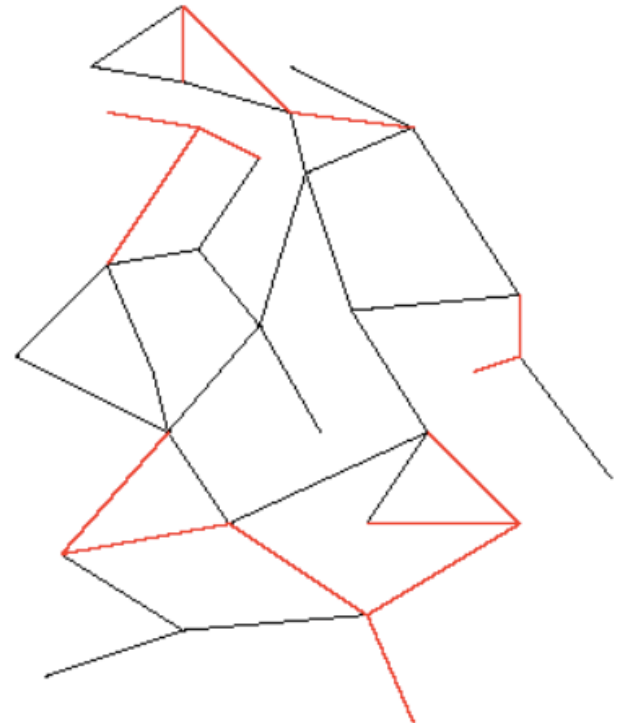
- $E'$  is a subset of  $E$
- $|E'| = |V| - 1$
- $G'$  is connected

**$G'$  is a minimum spanning tree.**

# Two different approaches



**Prim's Algorithm**  
**Almost identical to Dijkstra's**



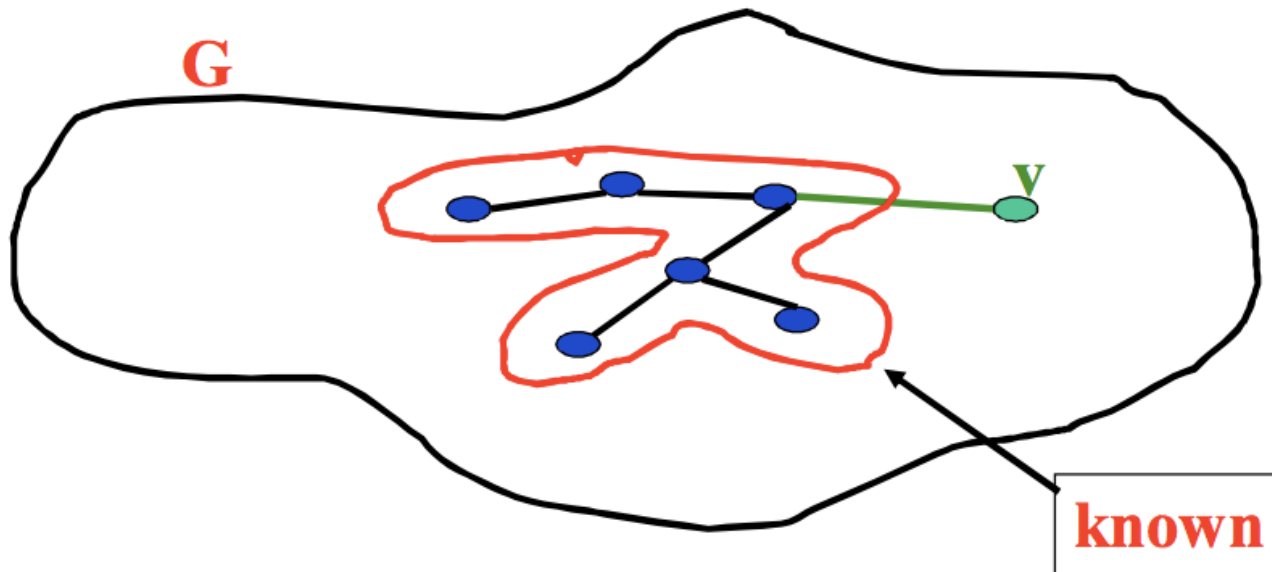
**Kruskals's Algorithm**  
**Completely different!**

# Prim's Algorithm Idea

**Idea:** Grow a tree by picking a vertex from the unknown set that has the smallest cost. Here cost = cost of the edge that connects that vertex to the known set. *Pick the vertex with the smallest cost that connects “known” to “unknown.”*

**A node-based greedy algorithm**

**Builds MST by greedily adding nodes**



# *Prim's vs. Dijkstra's*

Recall:

Dijkstra picked the unknown vertex with smallest cost where  
**cost = distance to the source.**

Prim's pick the unknown vertex with smallest cost where  
**cost = distance from this vertex to the known set**  
(in other words, the cost of the smallest edge connecting this vertex  
to the known set)

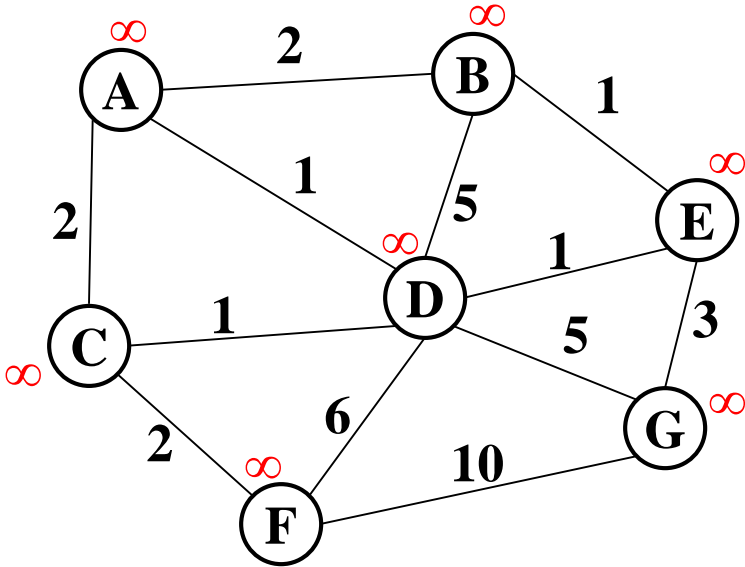
Otherwise identical 😊

# Prim's Algorithm

1. For each node  $v$ , set  $v.cost = \infty$  and  $v.known = false$
2. Choose any node  $v$ 
  - a) Mark  $v$  as known
  - b) For each edge  $(v, u)$  with weight  $w$ , set  $u.cost = w$  and  $u.prev = v$
3. While there are unknown nodes in the graph
  - a) Select the unknown node  $v$  with lowest cost
  - b) Mark  $v$  as known and add  $(v, v.prev)$  to output
  - c) For each edge  $(v, u)$  with weight  $w$ ,

```
        if(w < u.cost) {
            u.cost = w;
            u.prev = v;
        }
```

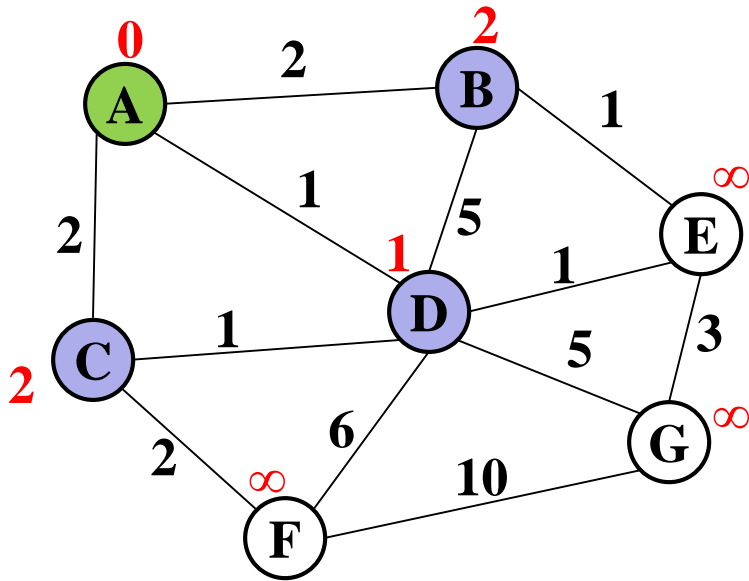
# Prim's Example



vertex	known?	cost	prev
A		??	
B		??	
C		??	
D		??	
E		??	
F		??	
G		??	

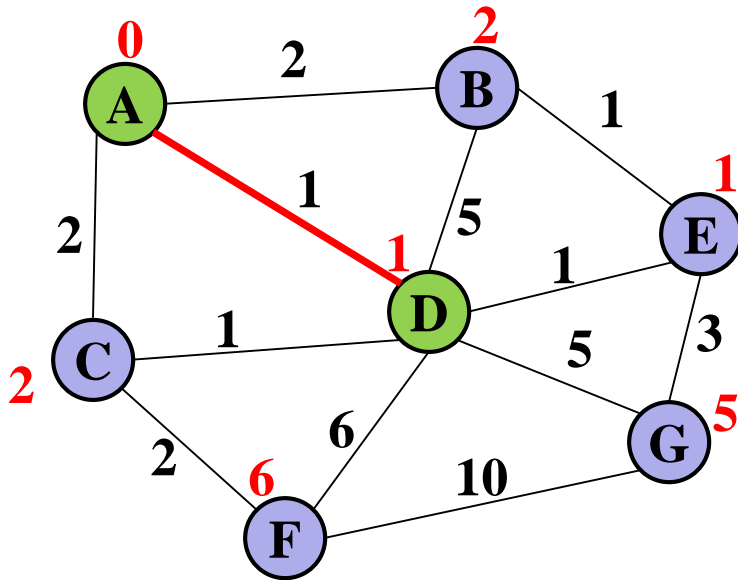


# Prim's Example



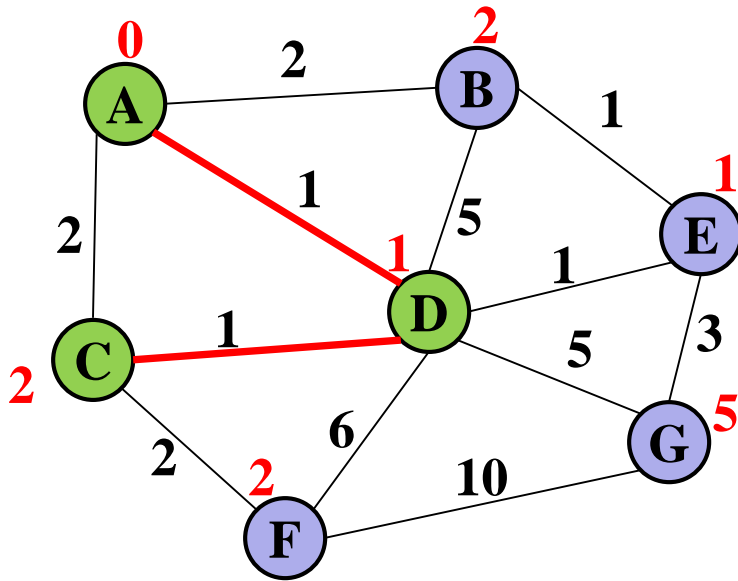
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C		2	A
D		1	A
E		??	
F		??	
G		??	

# Prim's Example



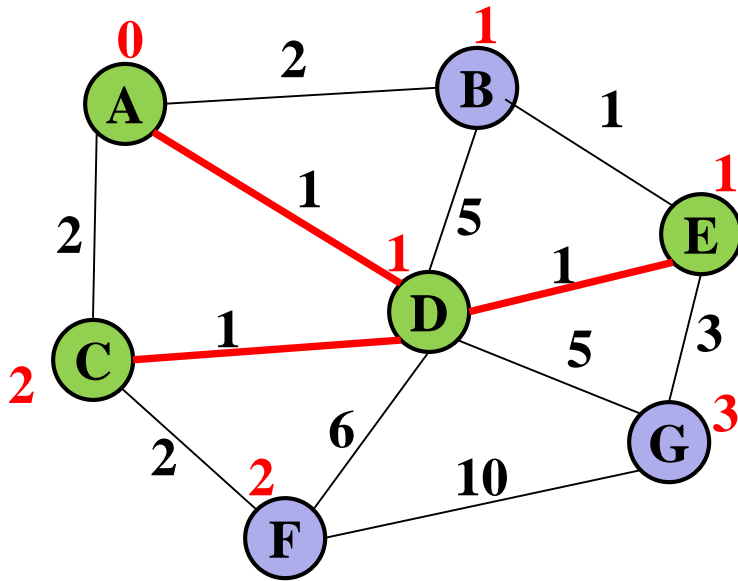
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C		1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		6	D
G		5	D

# Prim's Example



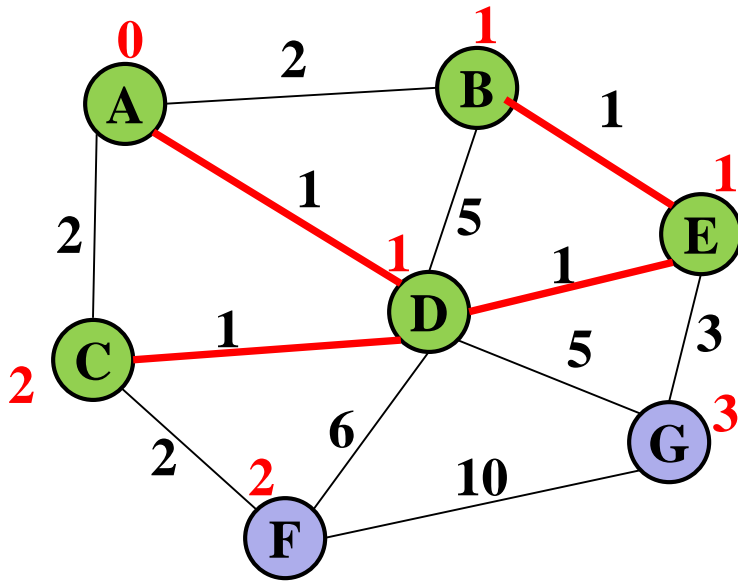
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		2	C
G		5	D

# Prim's Example



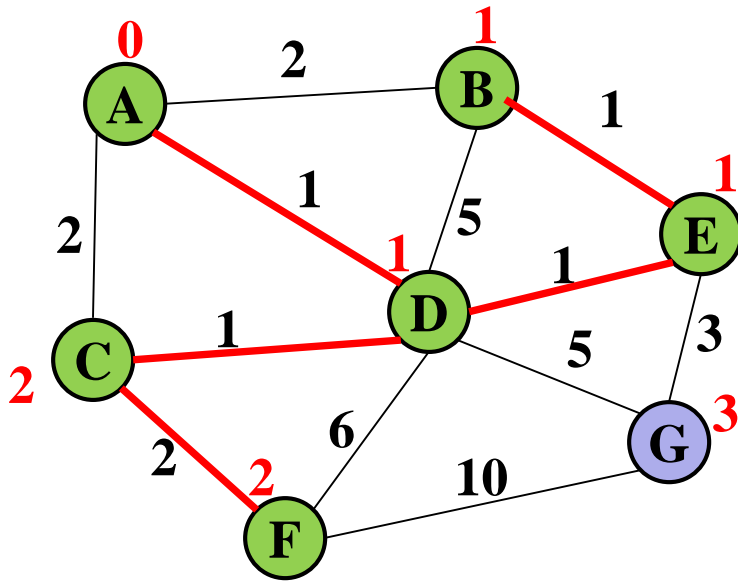
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

# Prim's Example



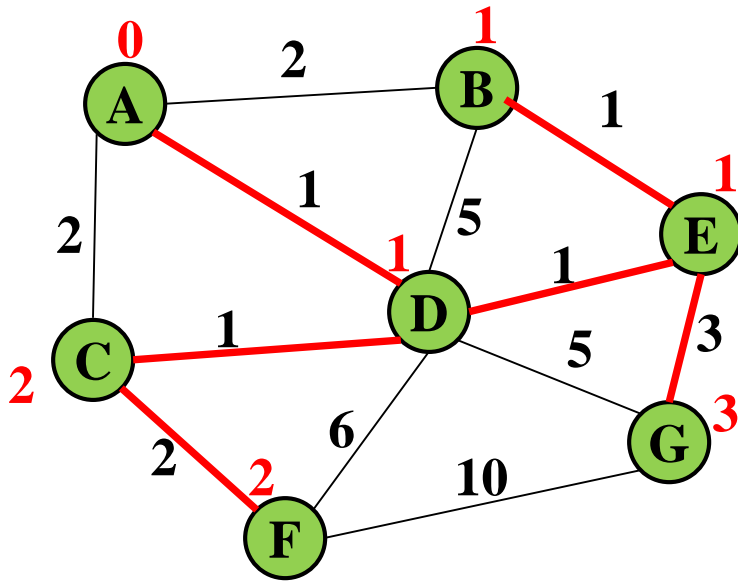
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

# Prim's Example



vertex	known?	cost	prev
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 Example



vertex	known?	cost	prev
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

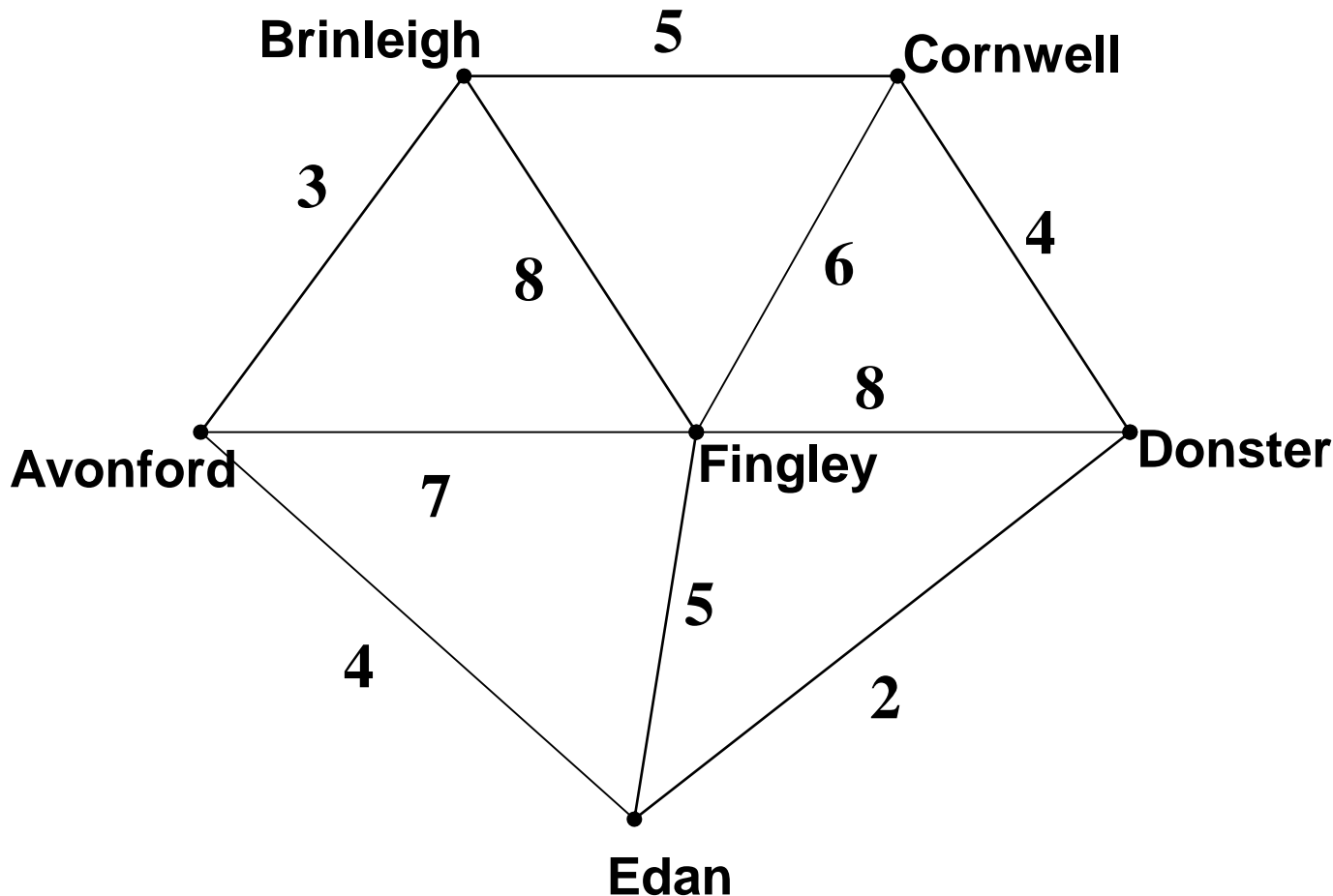
# *Analysis*

- Correctness
  - A bit tricky
  - Intuitively similar to Dijkstra
- Run-time
  - Same as Dijkstra
  - $O(|E|\log|V|)$  using a priority queue
    - Costs/priorities are just edge-costs, not path-costs

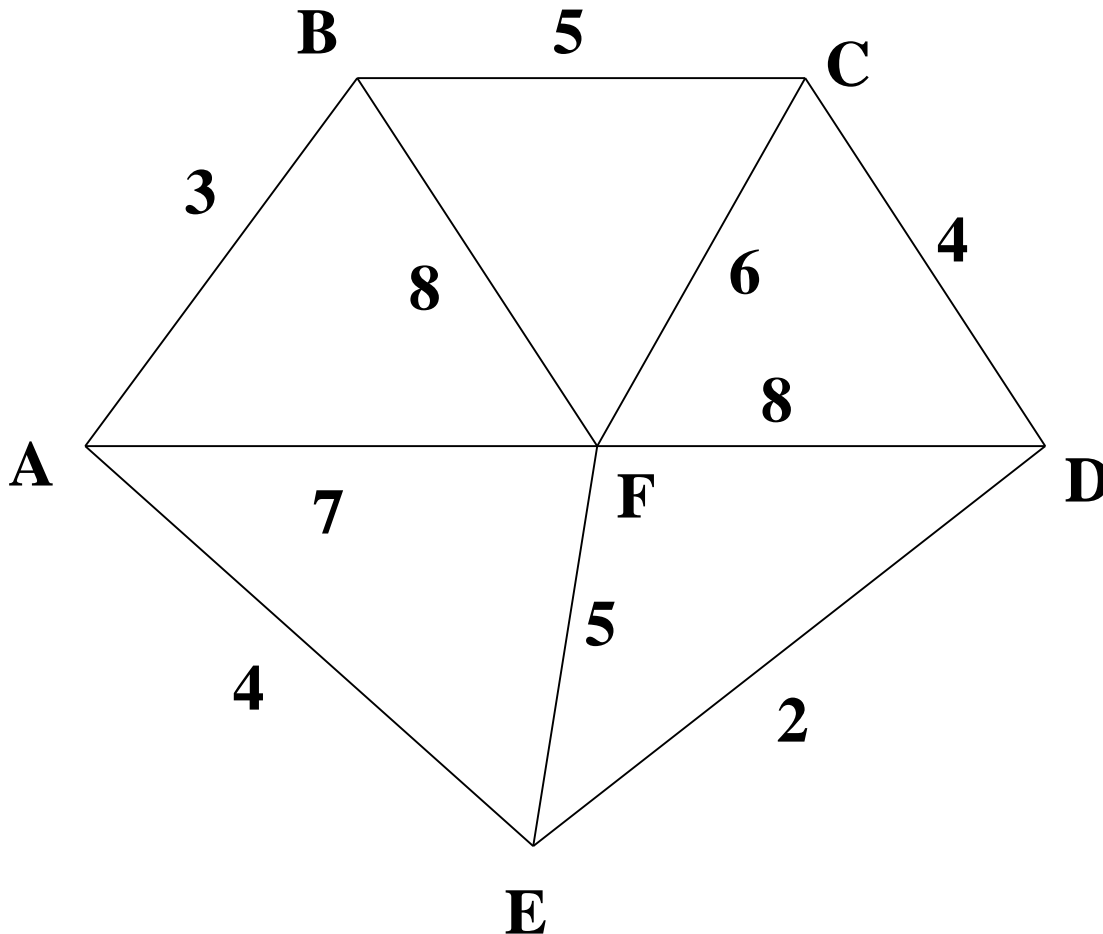


# Another Example

*A cable company wants to connect five villages to their network which currently extends to the town of Avonford. What is the minimum length of cable needed?*

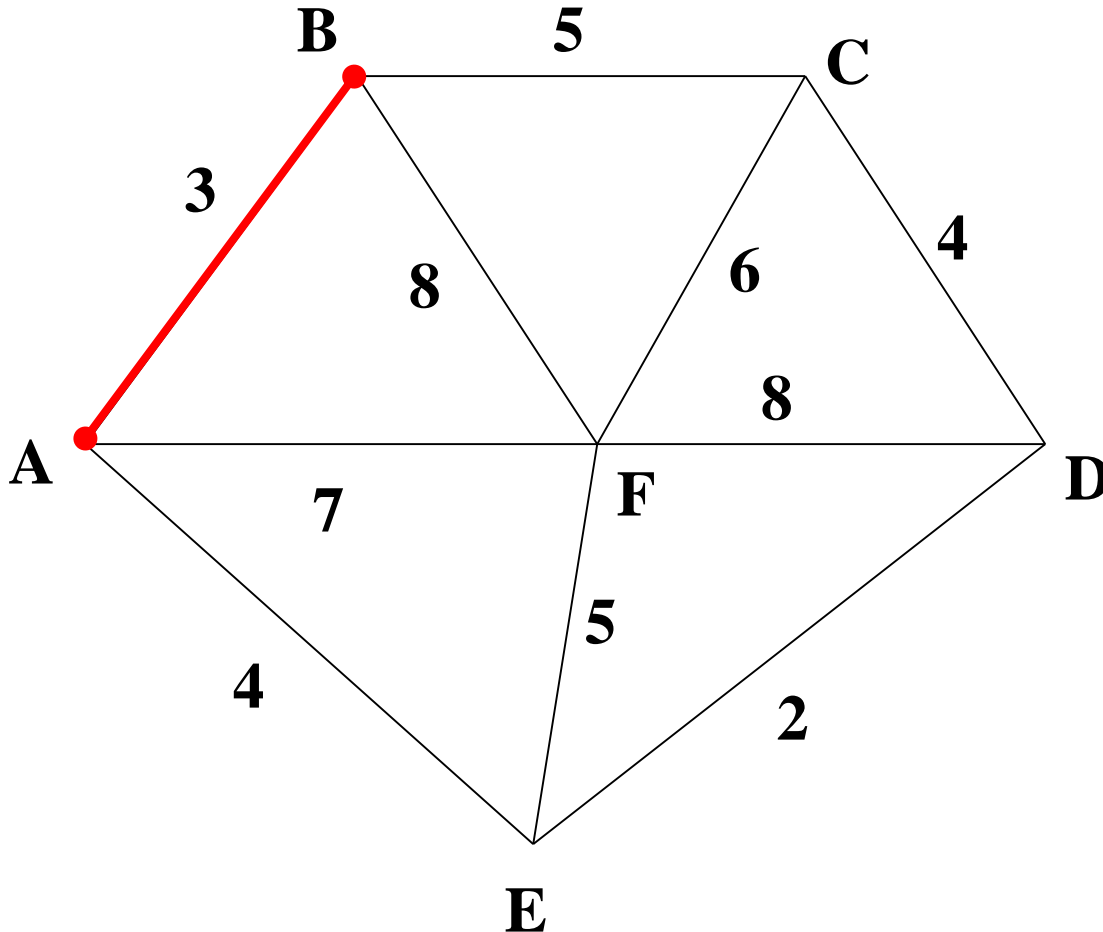


# Prim's Algorithm



Model the situation as a graph and find the MST that connects all the villages (nodes).

# Prim's Algorithm



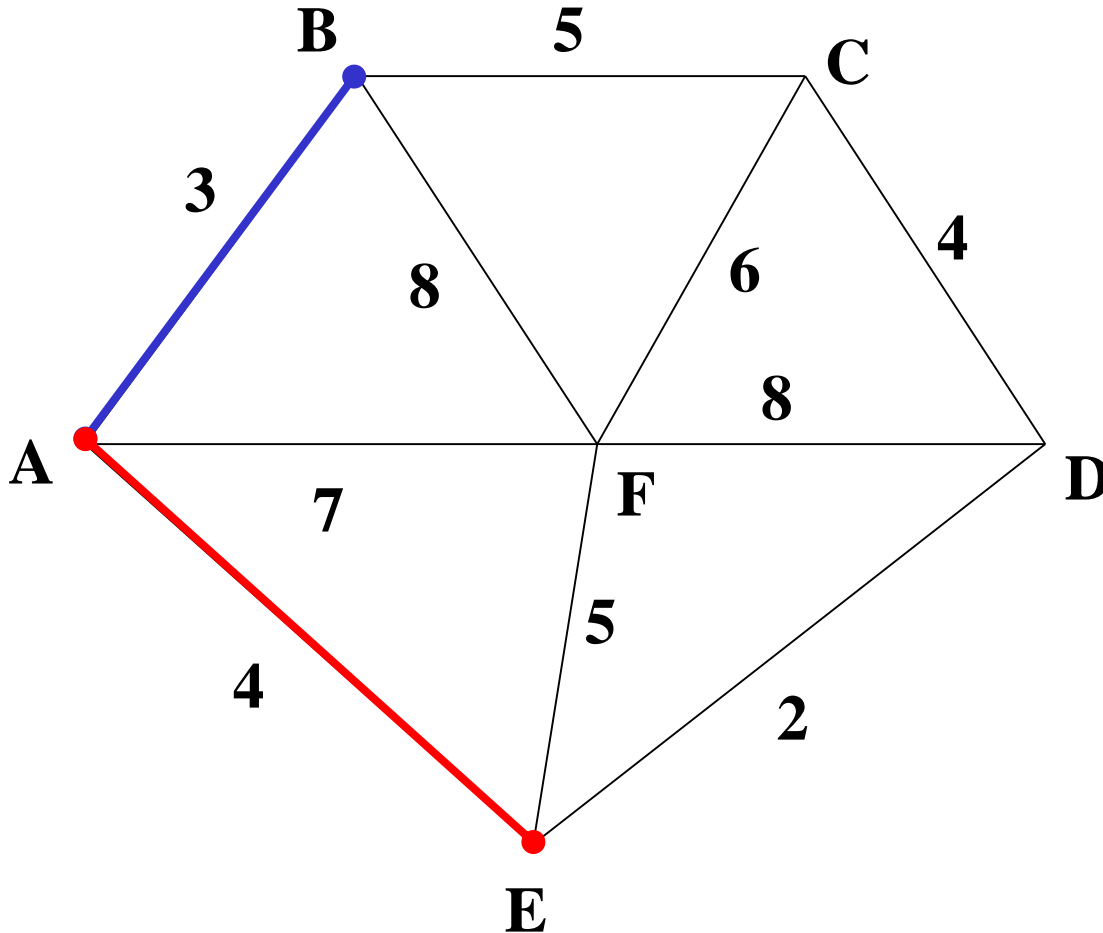
Select any vertex

A

Select the shortest edge connected to that vertex

AB 3

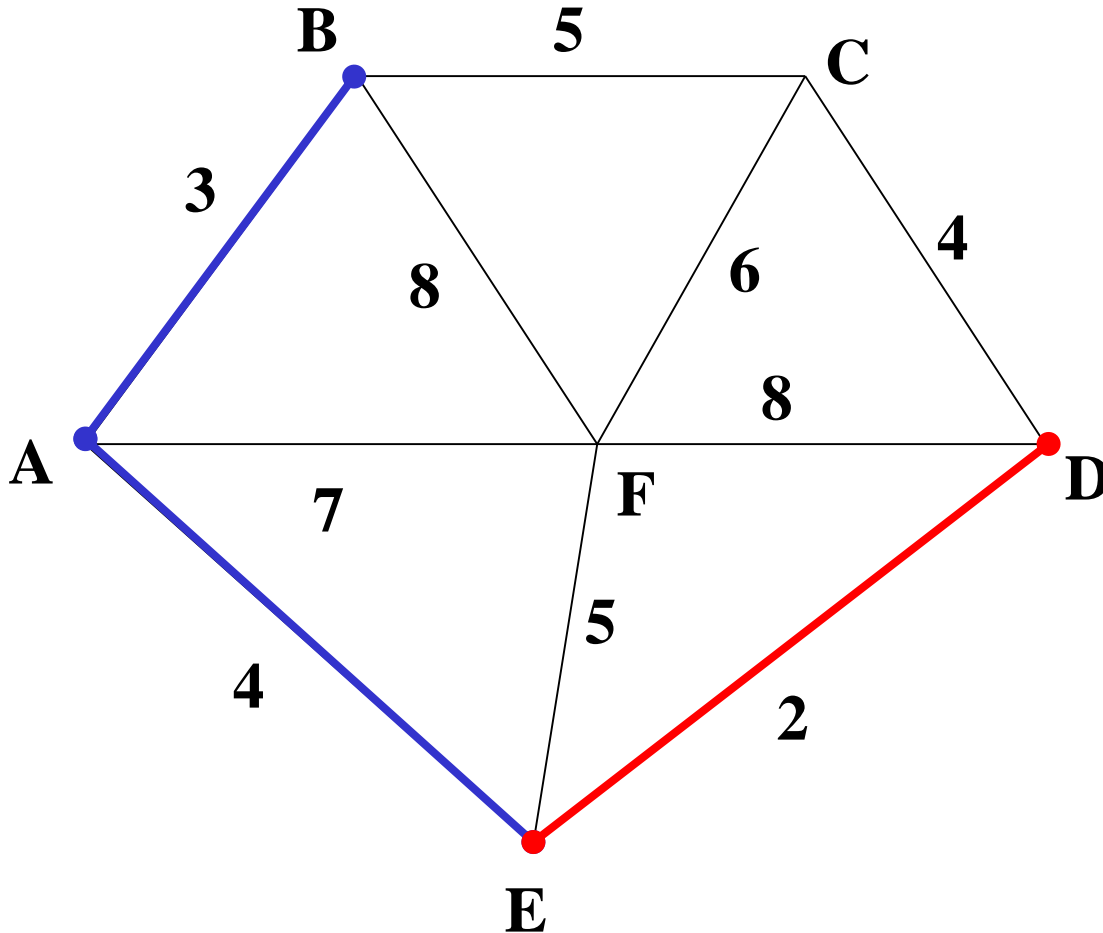
# Prim's Algorithm



Select the shortest edge that connects an unknown vertex to any known vertex.

AE 4

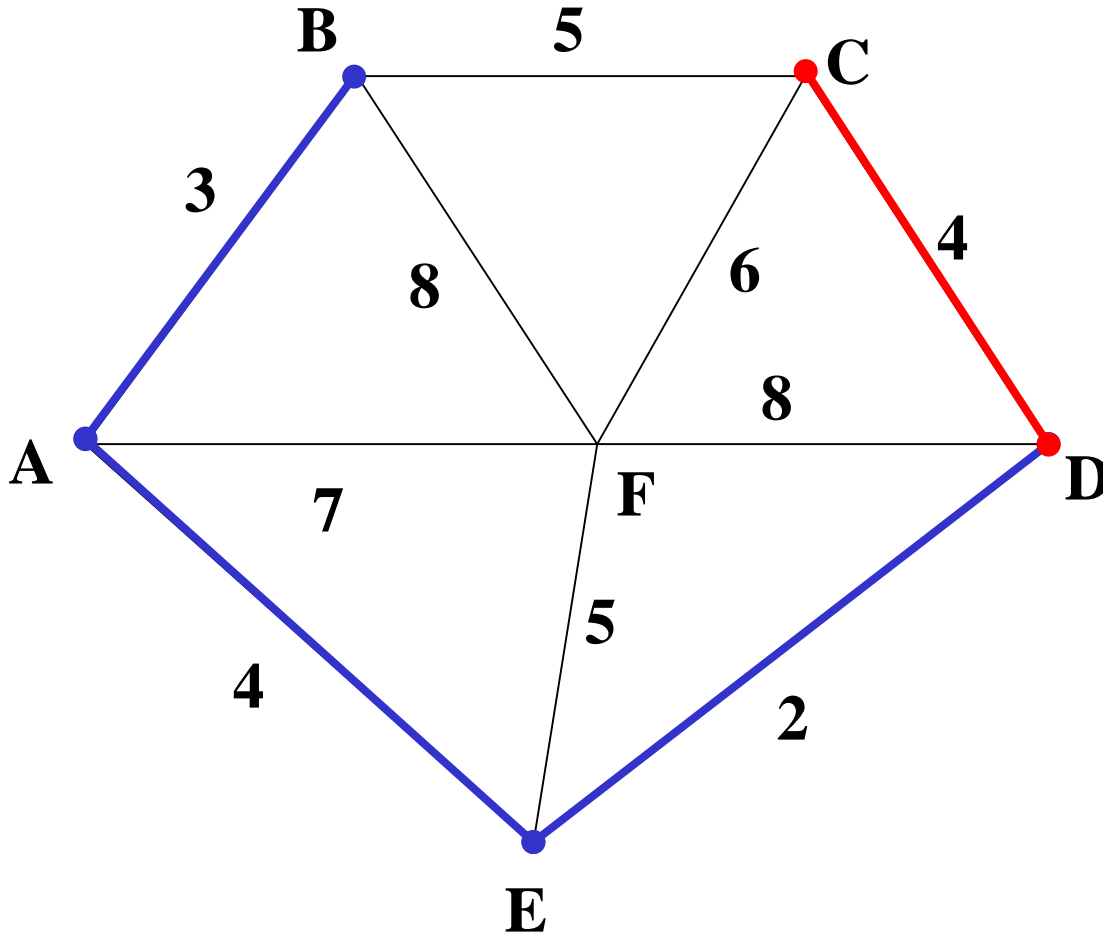
# Prim's Algorithm



Select the shortest edge that connects an unknown vertex to any known vertex.

ED 2

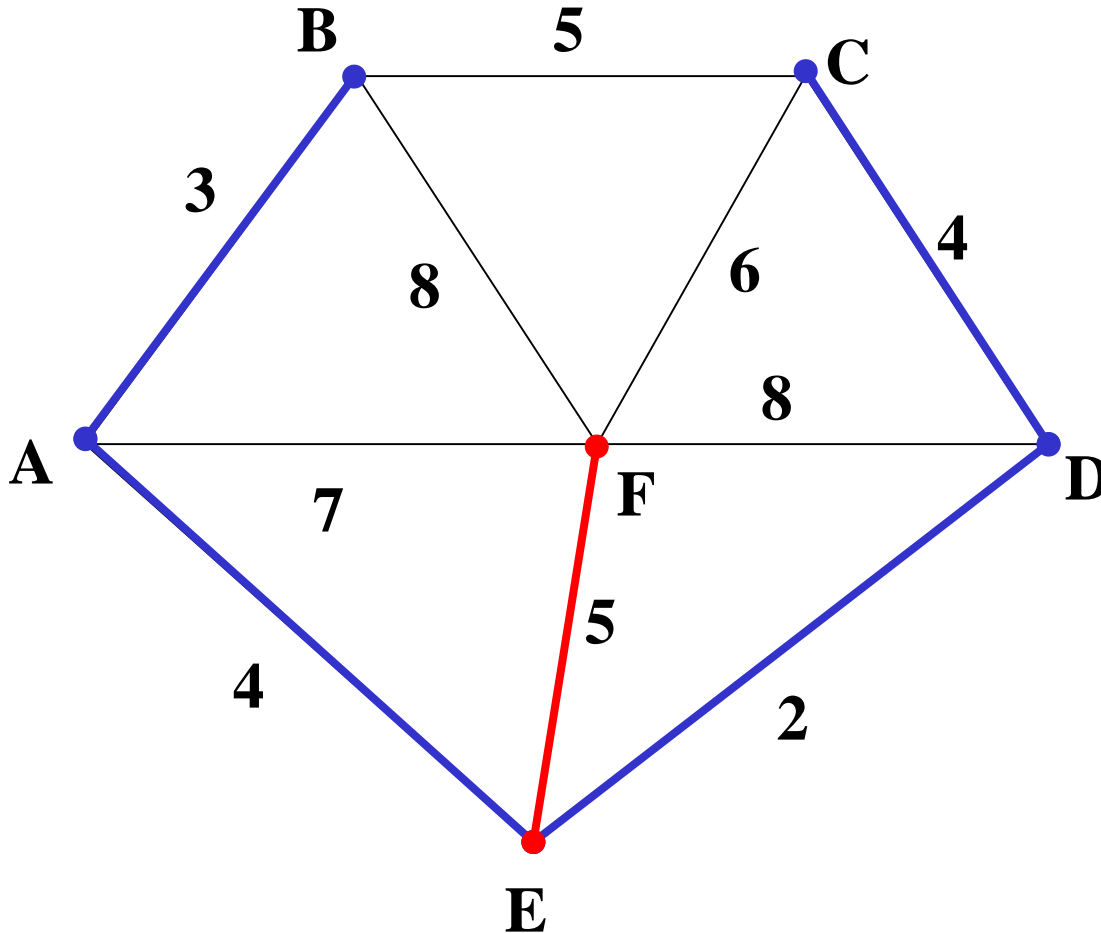
# Prim's Algorithm



Select the shortest edge that connects an unknown vertex to any known vertex.

DC 4

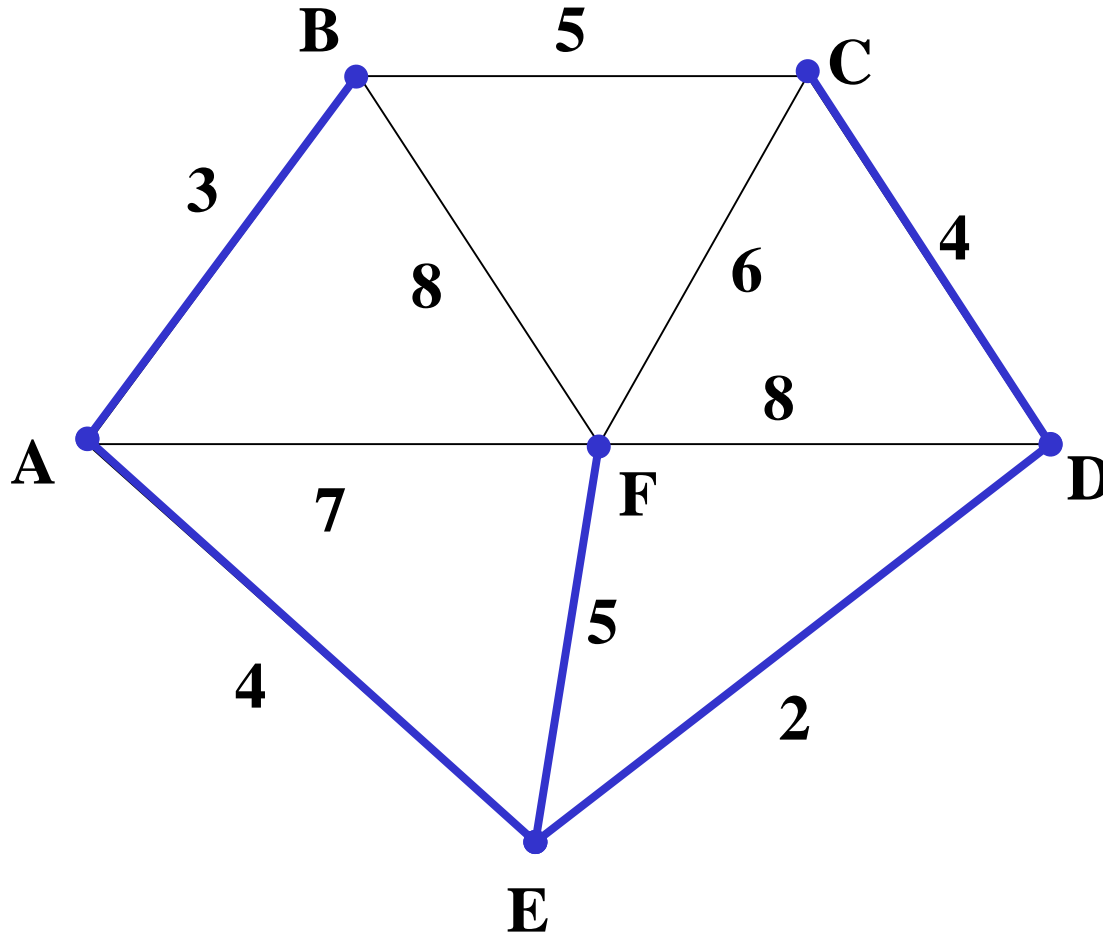
# Prim's Algorithm



Select the shortest edge that connects an unknown vertex to any known vertex.

EF 5

# Prim's Algorithm



All vertices have been connected.

The solution is

AB 3  
AE 4  
ED 2  
DC 4  
EF 5

Total weight of tree: 18



# *Minimum Spanning Tree Algorithms*

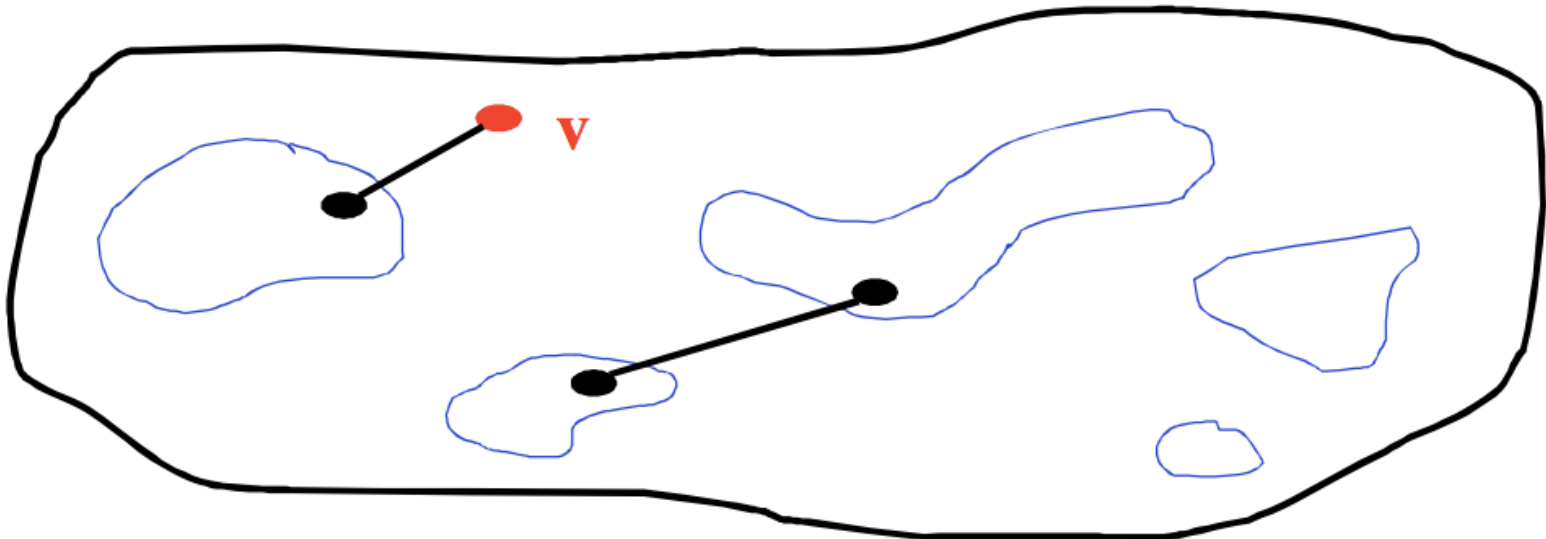
- **Prim's Algorithm** for Minimum Spanning Tree
  - Similar idea to Dijkstra's Algorithm but for MSTs.
  - Both based on expanding cloud of known vertices  
(basically using a priority queue instead of a DFS stack)
- **Kruskal's Algorithm** for Minimum Spanning Tree
  - Another, but different, greedy MST algorithm.
  - Uses the Union-Find data structure.

# Kruskal's Algorithm

**Idea:** Grow a **forest** out of edges that do not create a cycle. Pick an edge with the smallest weight.

**An edge-based greedy algorithm**  
**Builds MST by greedily adding edges**

$G=(V,E)$



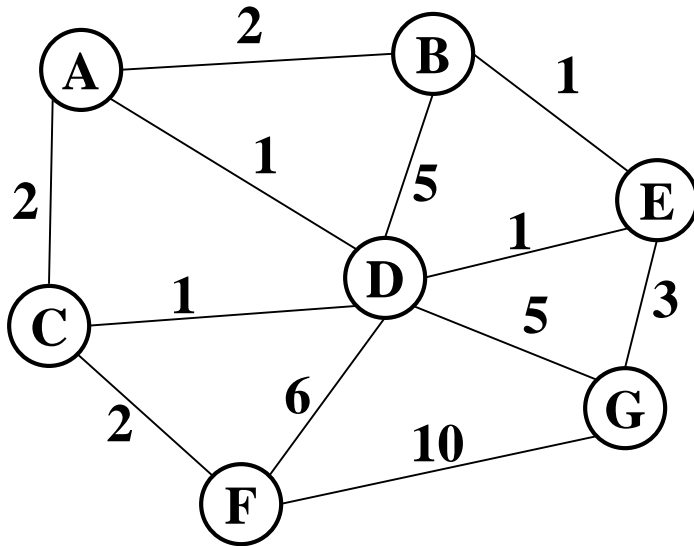
# *Kruskal's Algorithm Pseudocode*

1. Sort edges by weight (better: put in min-heap)
2. Each node in its own set
3. While output size  $< |V|-1$ 
  - Consider next smallest edge  $(u, v)$
  - if `find(u)` and `find(v)` indicate  $u$  and  $v$  are in different sets
    - `output (u, v)`
    - `union (find(u) , find(v) )`

Recall invariant:

$u$  and  $v$  in same set if and only if connected in output-so-far

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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

2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)

3: (E,G)

5: (D,G), (B,D)

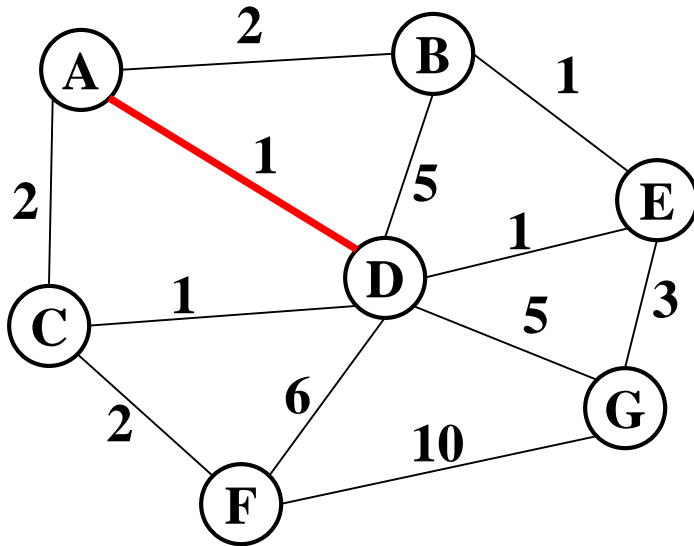
6: (D,F)

10: (F,G)

Output:

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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

2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)

3: (E,G)

5: (D,G), (B,D)

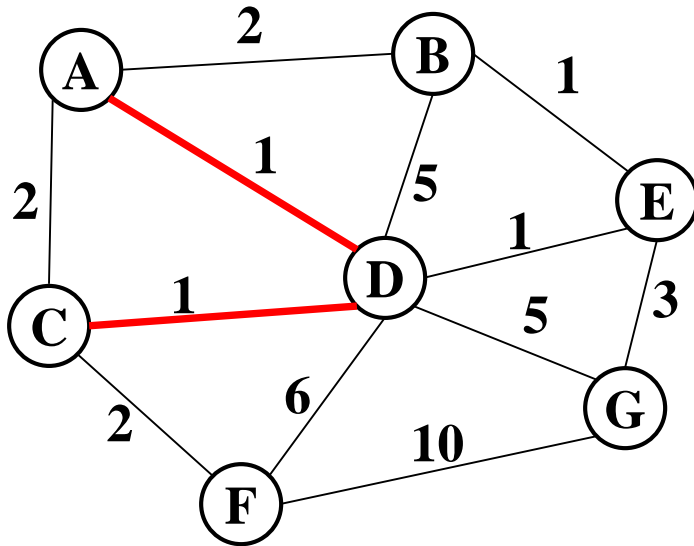
6: (D,F)

10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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

2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)

3: (E,G)

5: (D,G), (B,D)

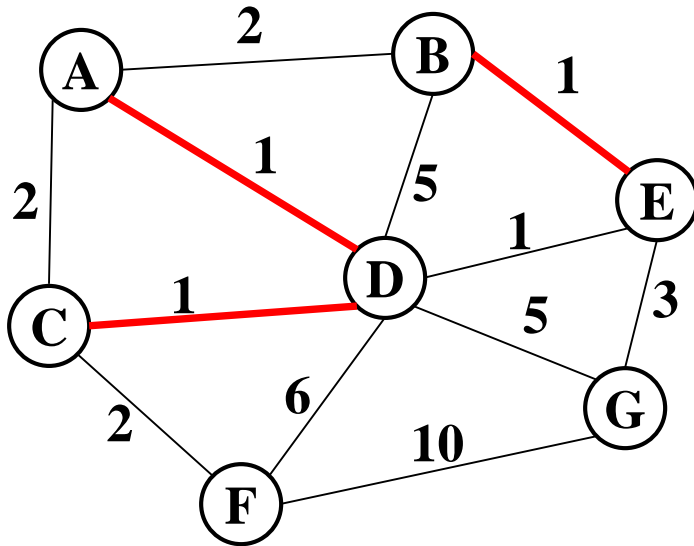
6: (D,F)

10: (F,G)

Output: (A,D), (C,D)

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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

2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)

3: (E,G)

5: (D,G), (B,D)

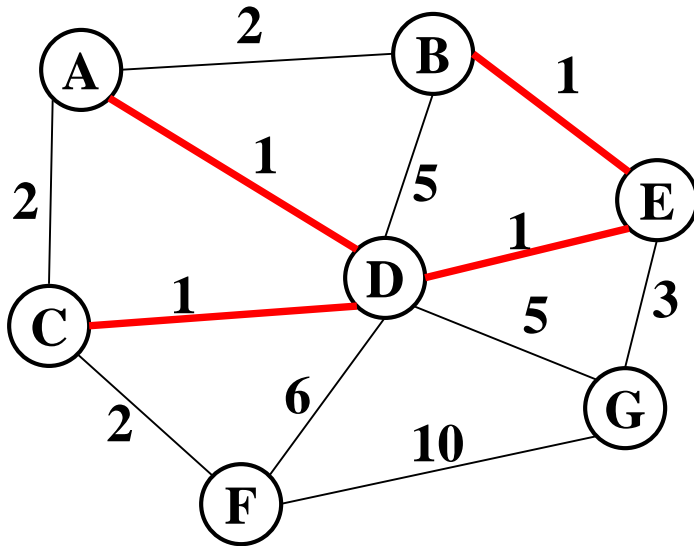
6: (D,F)

10: (F,G)

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

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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)

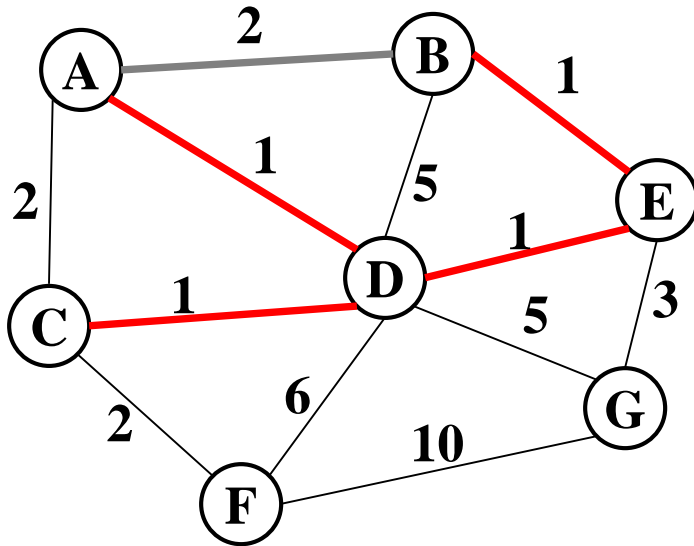
10: (F,G)

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

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest



# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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

2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)

3: (E,G)

5: (D,G), (B,D)

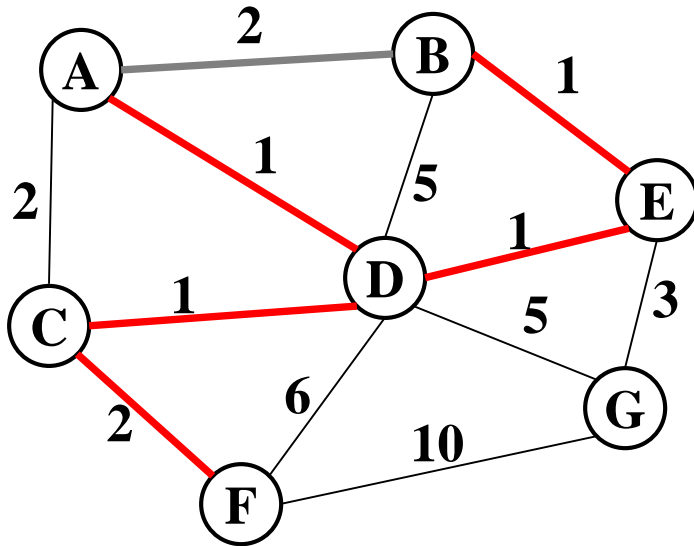
6: (D,F)

10: (F,G)

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

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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

2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)

3: (E,G)

5: (D,G), (B,D)

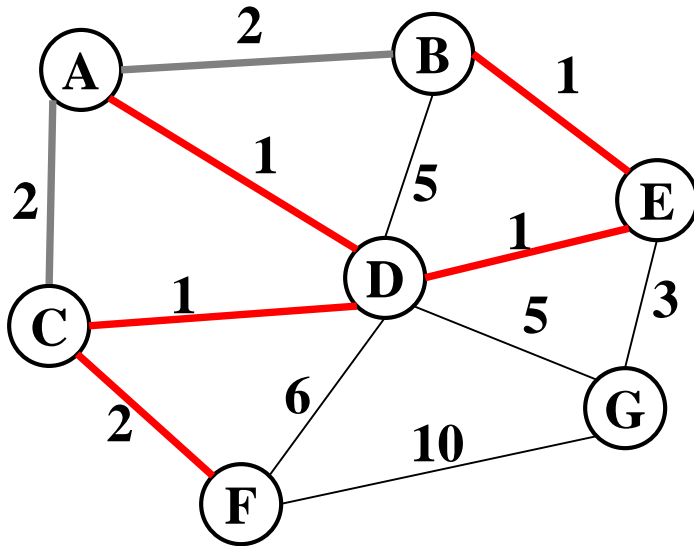
6: (D,F)

10: (F,G)

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

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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

2: (A,B), (C,F), (A,C)

3: (E,G)

5: (D,G), (B,D)

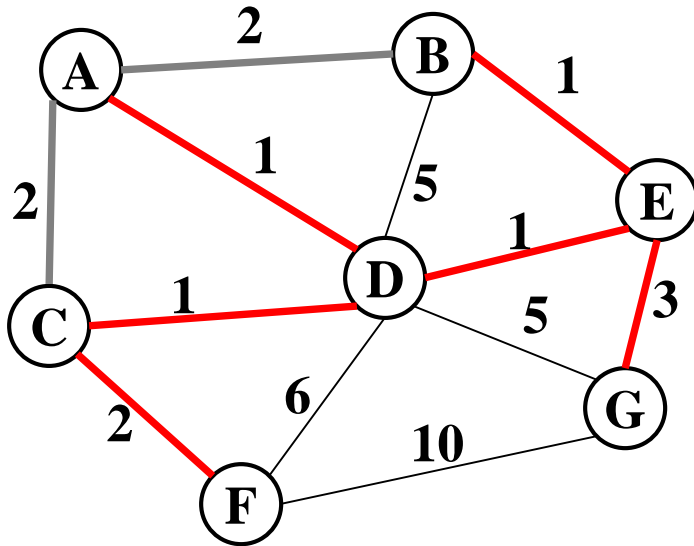
6: (D,F)

10: (F,G)

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

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Example



Edges in sorted order:

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)

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

Note: At each step, the union/find sets are the trees in the forest

# Kruskal's Algorithm Analysis

Idea: Grow a forest out of edges that do not grow a cycle, just like for the spanning tree problem.

- But now consider the edges in order by weight

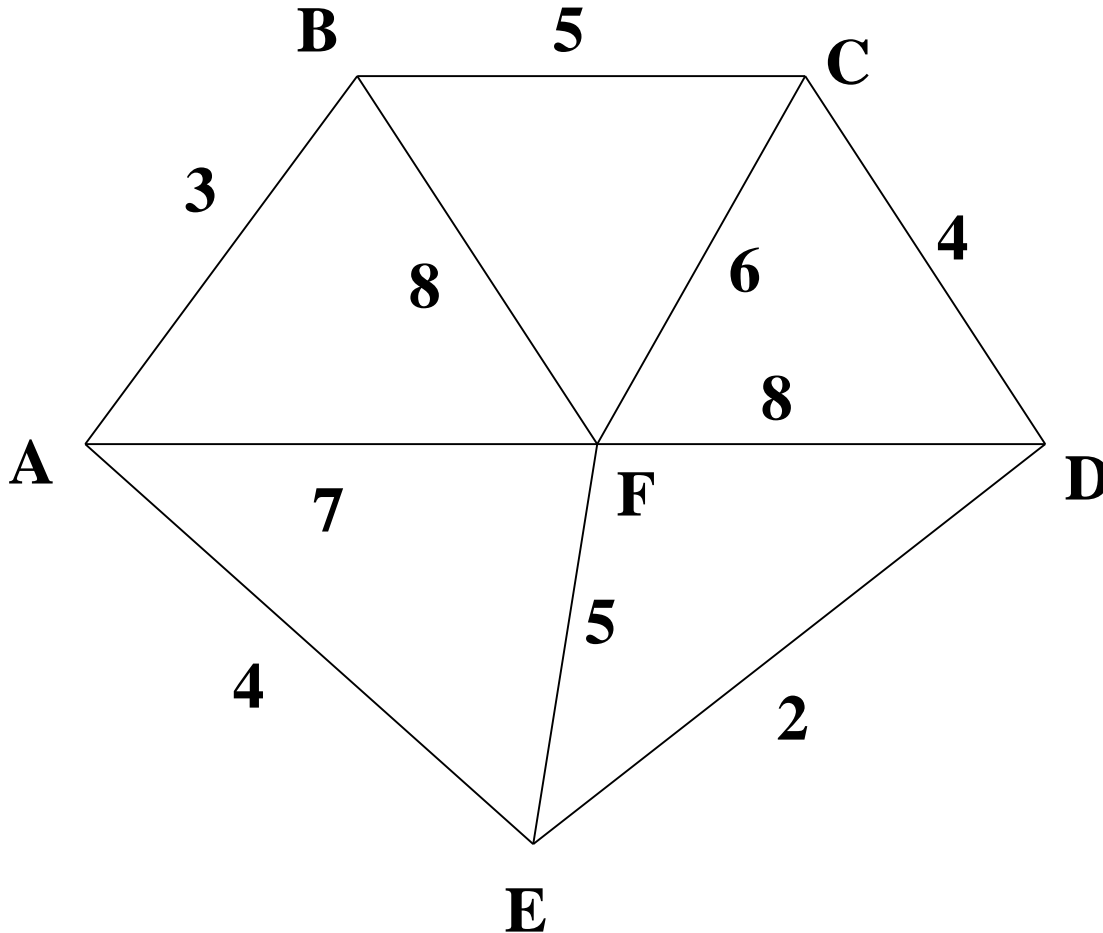
So:

- Sort edges:  $O(|E| \log |E|)$  (next course topic)
- Iterate through edges using union-find for cycle detection almost  $O(|E|)$

Somewhat better:

- Floyd's algorithm to build min-heap with edges  $O(|E|)$
- Iterate through edges using union-find for cycle detection and **deleteMin** to get next edge  $O(|E| \log |E|)$
- Not better *worst-case* asymptotically, but often stop long before considering all edges.

# Kruskal's Algorithm

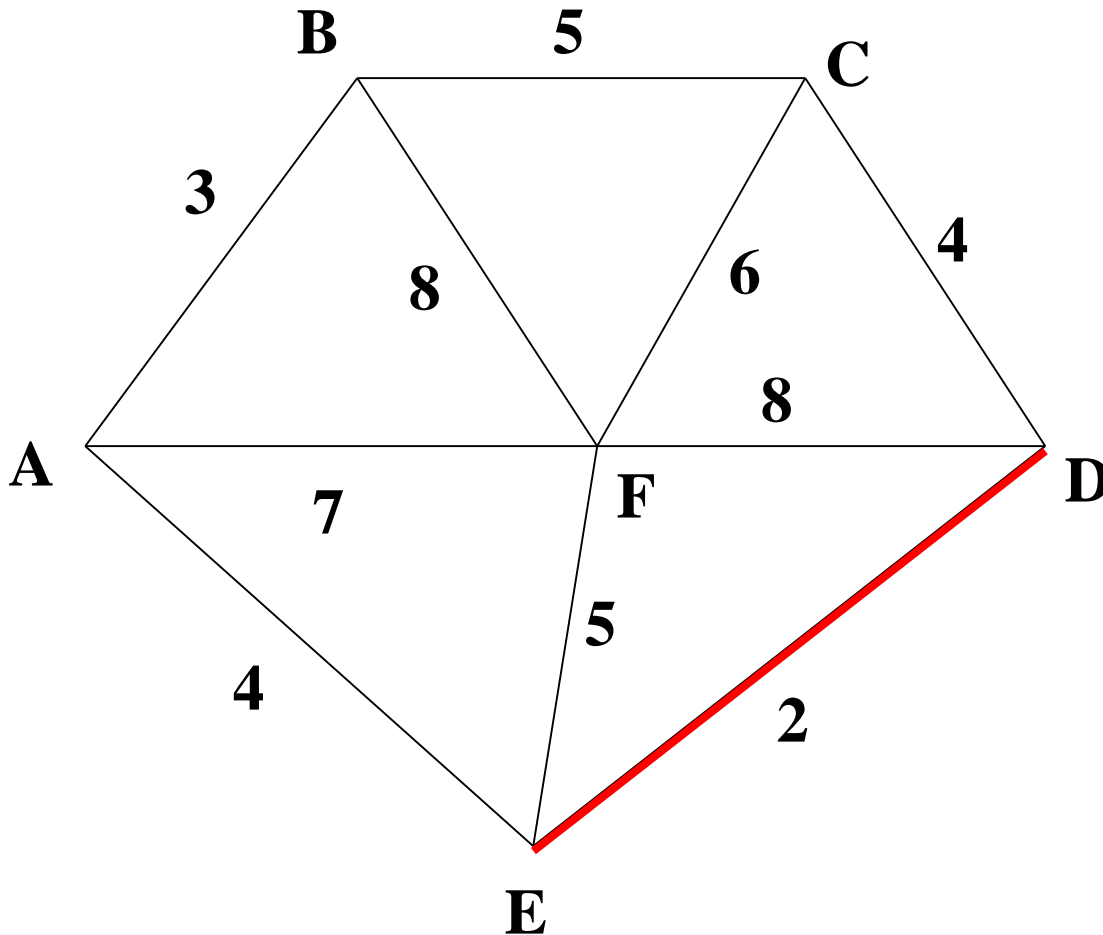


List the edges in order of size:

ED 2  
AB 3  
AE 4  
CD 4  
BC 5  
EF 5  
CF 6  
AF 7  
BF 8  
CF 8

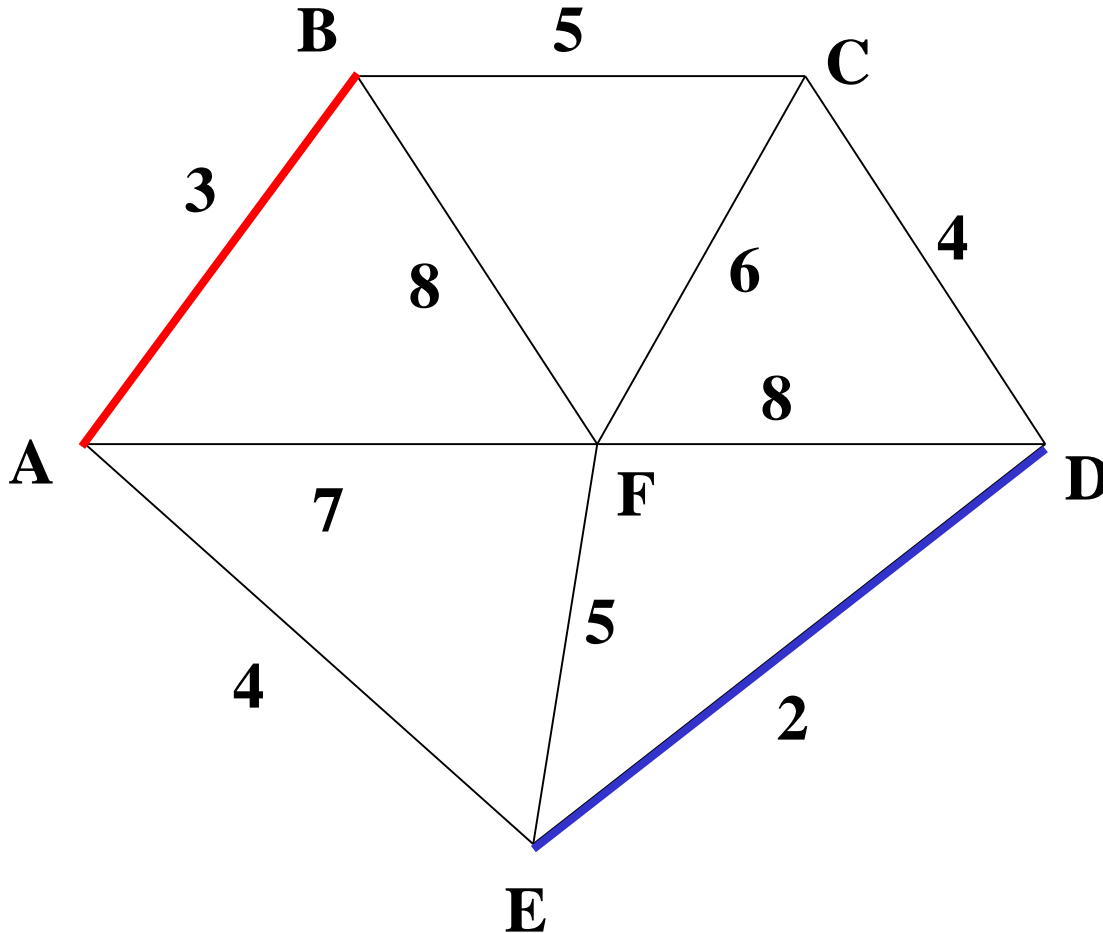
# Kruskal's Algorithm

Select the edge with min cost



ED 2

# Kruskal's Algorithm

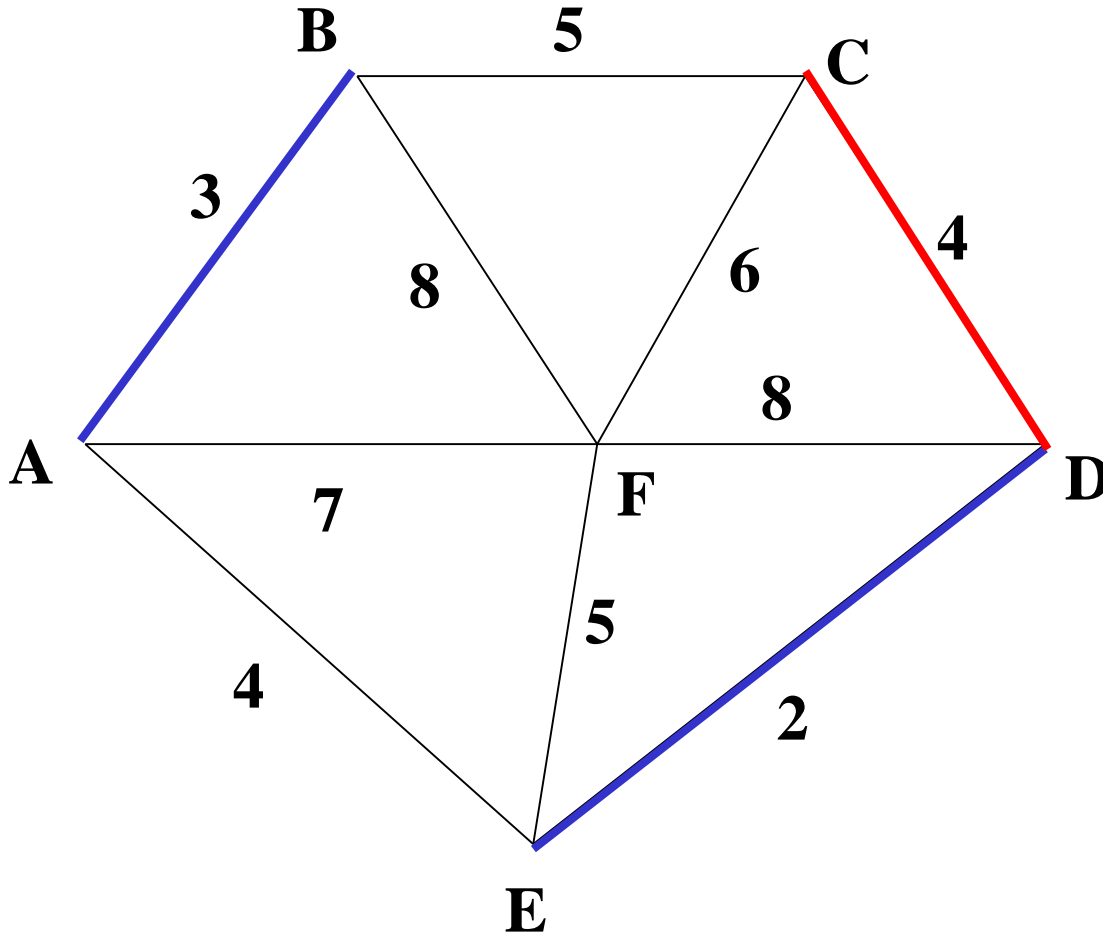


Select the next minimum cost edge that does not create a cycle

ED 2  
AB 3



# Kruskal's Algorithm



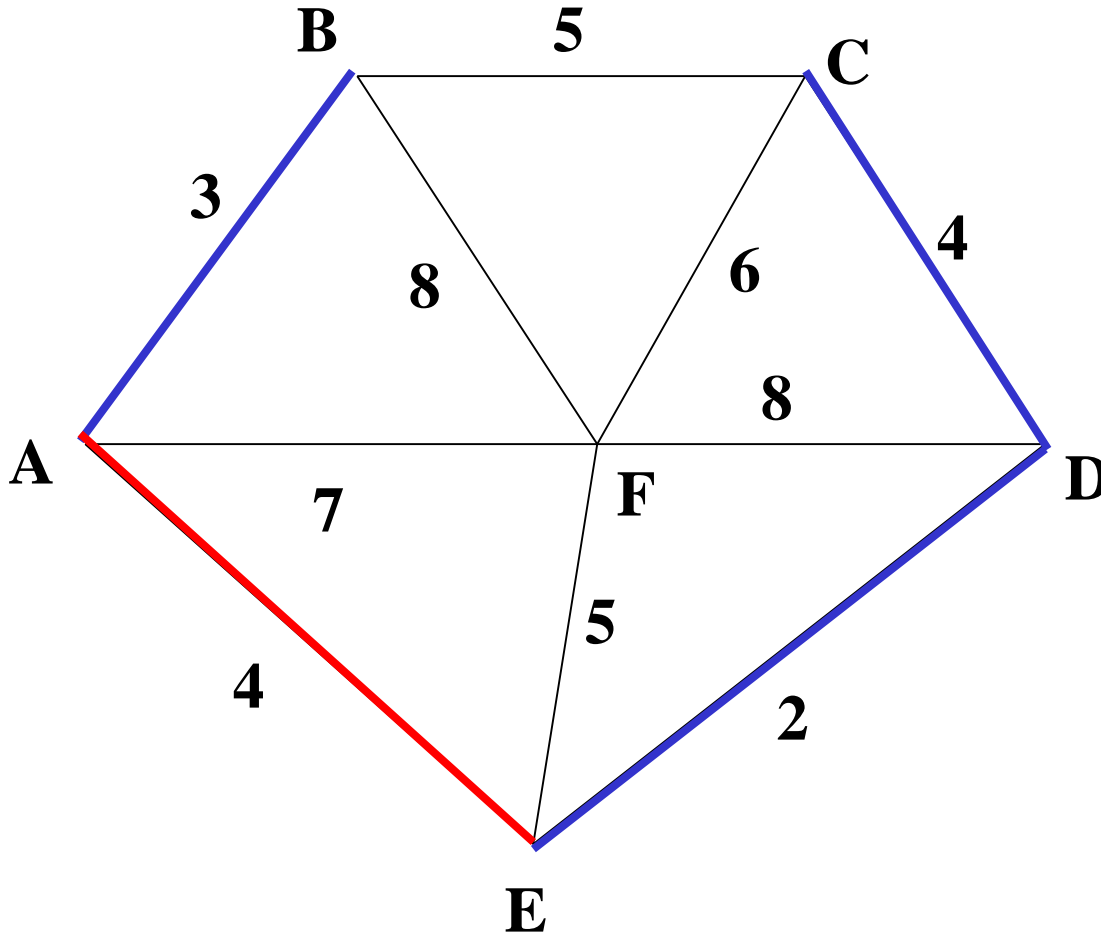
Select the next minimum cost edge that does not create a cycle

ED 2

AB 3

CD 4 (or AE 4)

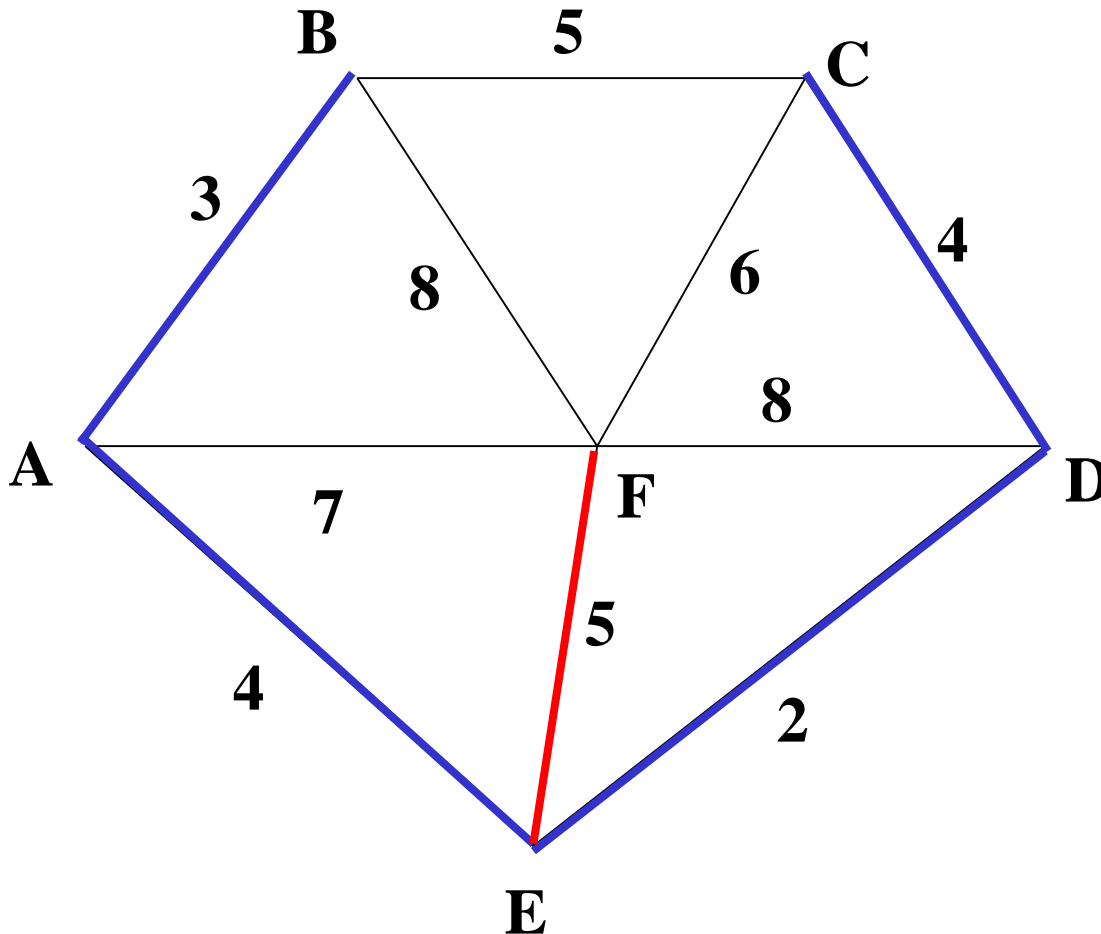
# Kruskal's Algorithm



Select the next minimum cost edge that does not create a cycle

- ED 2
- AB 3
- CD 4
- AE 4

# Kruskal's Algorithm



Select the next minimum cost edge that does not create a cycle

ED 2

AB 3

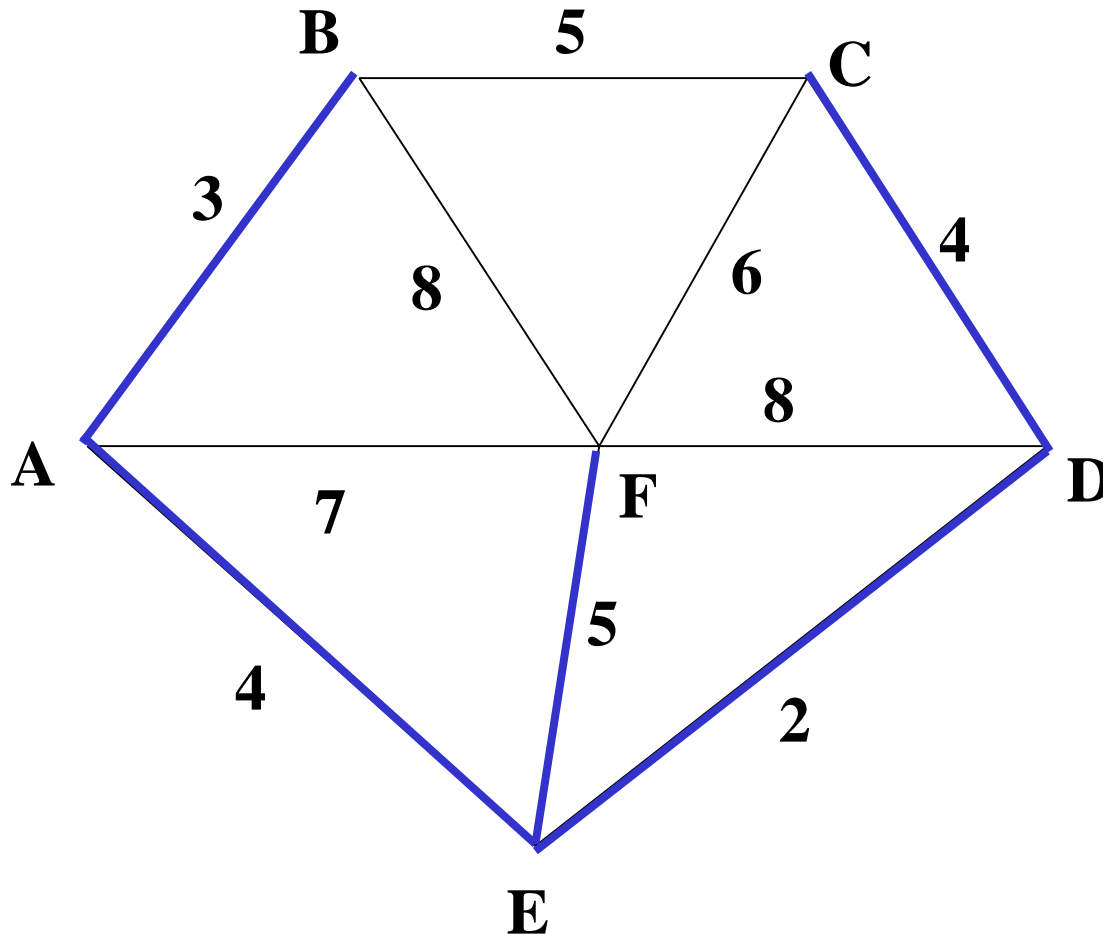
CD 4

AE 4

BC 5 – forms a cycle

EF 5

# Kruskal's Algorithm



All vertices have been connected.

The solution is

ED 2  
AB 3  
CD 4  
AE 4  
EF 5

Total weight of tree: 18

# *Done with graph algorithms!*

Next lecture...

- Sorting
- More sorting
- Even more sorting

