



# CSE373: Data Structures & Algorithms

## Lecture 18: Minimum Spanning Trees

Lauren Milne  
Summer 2015

# *Announcements*

- Homework 3 graded and comments out
- Homework 5 is out
  - Due next Wednesday
  - Can be done with partners
    - List partner on files

# *So far*

- We've figured out how to
  - Find the shortest paths between a vertex and all other vertices
    - Breadth First Search (unweighted graph)
    - Dijkstra (weighted graph)
  - Find a spanning tree on an unweighted graph
    - Graph Traversal (we did DFS)
    - Pick random edges and see if it connects the graph (use Union Find)
- Next up
  - Find a minimum spanning tree on a weighted graph
    - Prim's algorithm
    - Kruskal's algorithm

# *Minimum Spanning Trees*

The minimum-spanning-tree problem

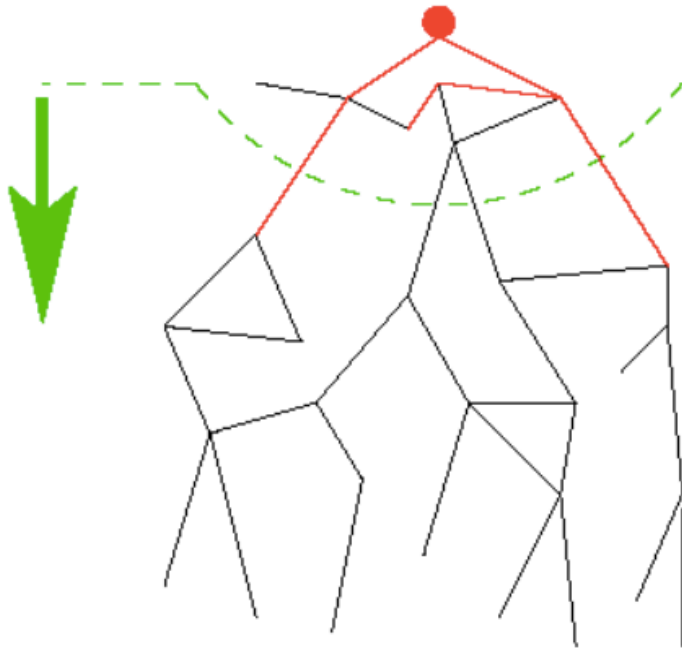
- Given a weighted undirected graph, compute a spanning tree of minimum weight

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

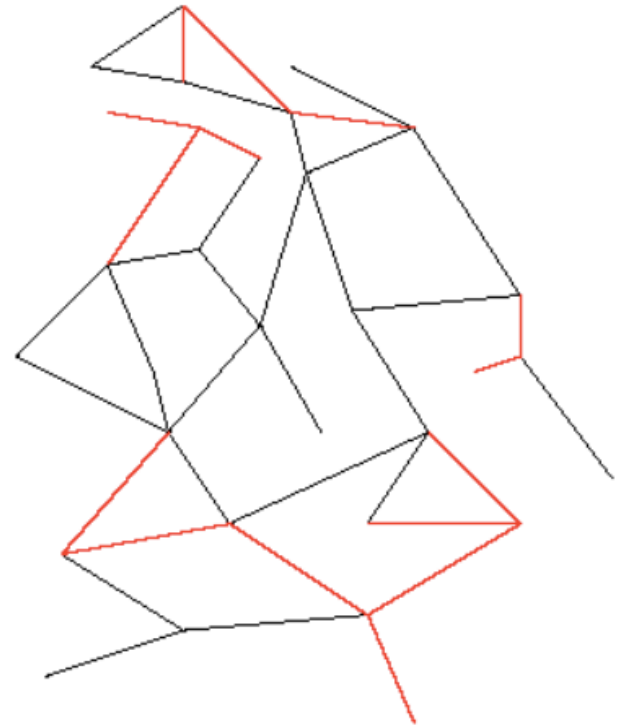
**$G'$  is a minimum spanning tree.**

## *Two different approaches*



### **Prim's Algorithm**

**Almost identical to Dijkstra's**



### **Kruskals's Algorithm**

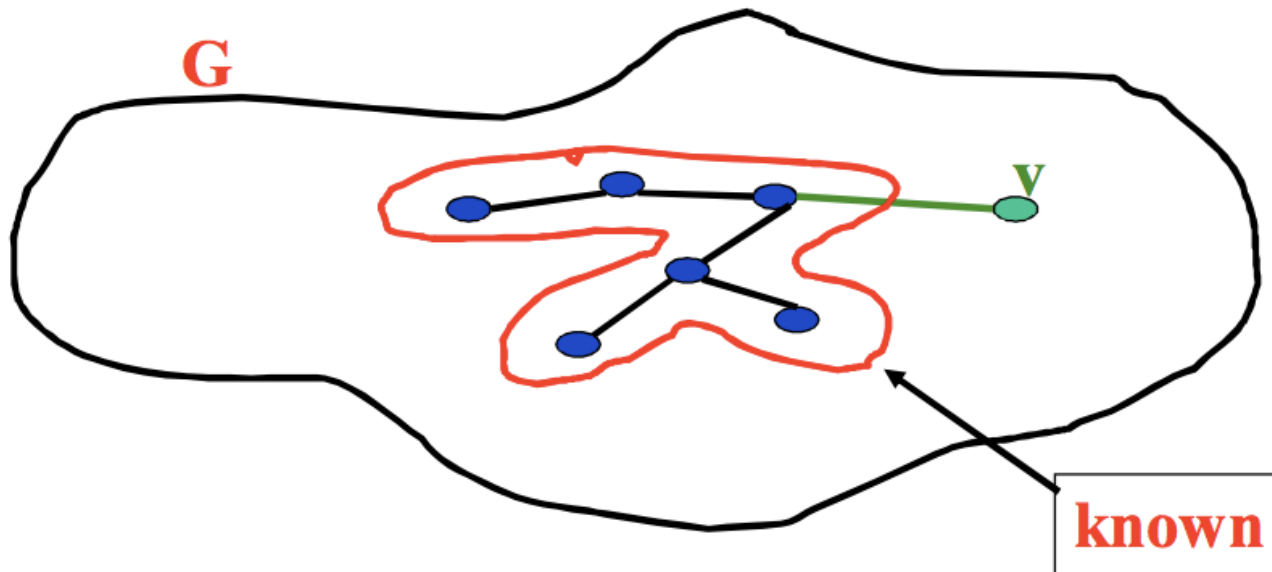
**Completely different!**

# 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 😊

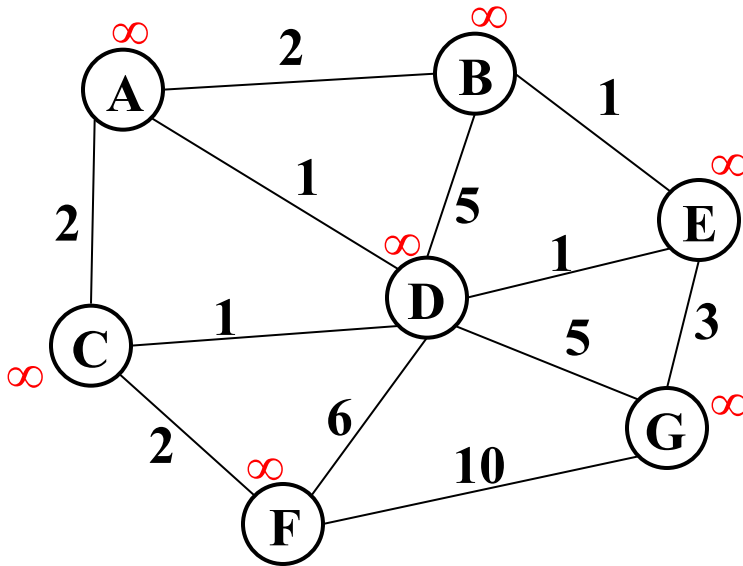
# *Prim's Algorithm*

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

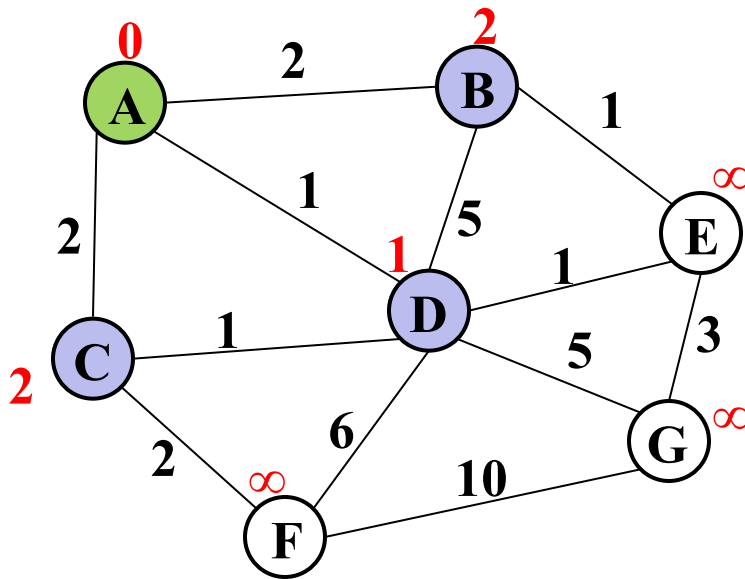


# Prim's Example



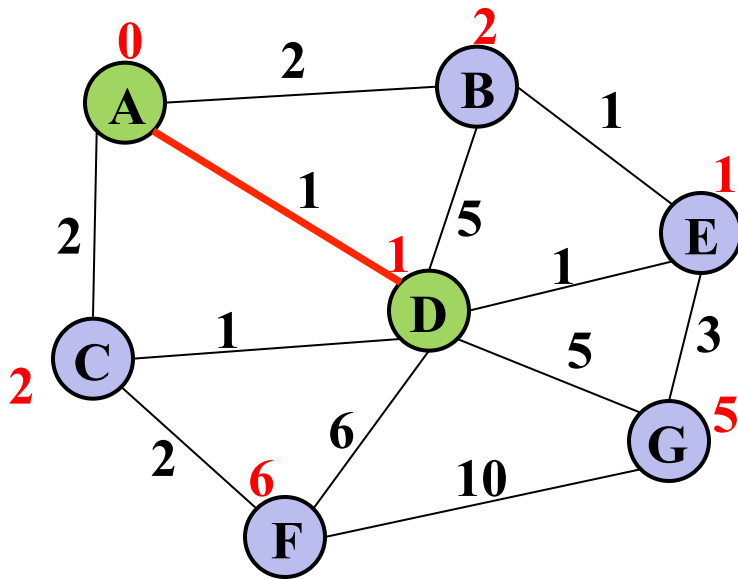
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A		??	
B		??	
C		??	
D		??	
E		??	
F		??	
G		??	

# Prim's Example



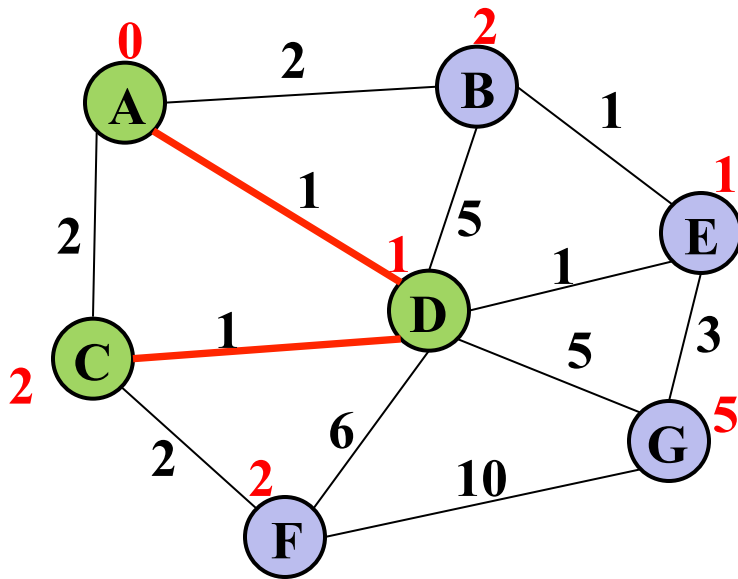
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C		2	A
D		1	A
E		??	
F		??	
G		??	

# Prim's Example



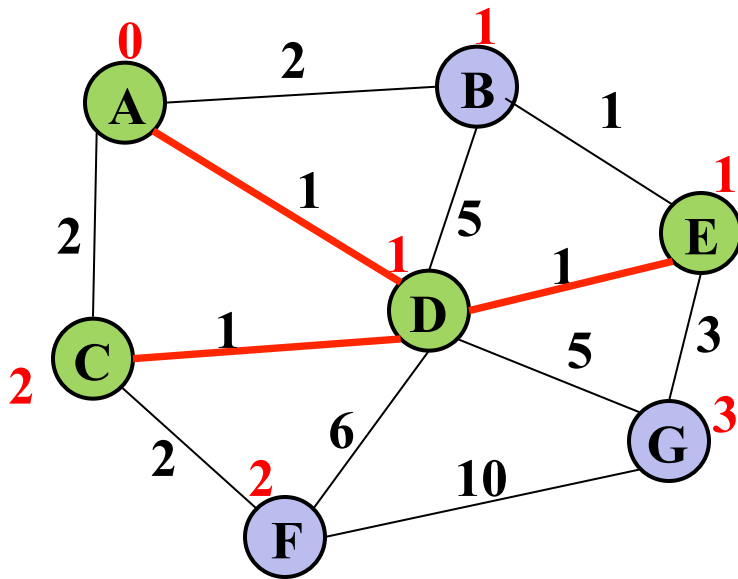
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C		1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		6	D
G		5	D

# Prim's Example



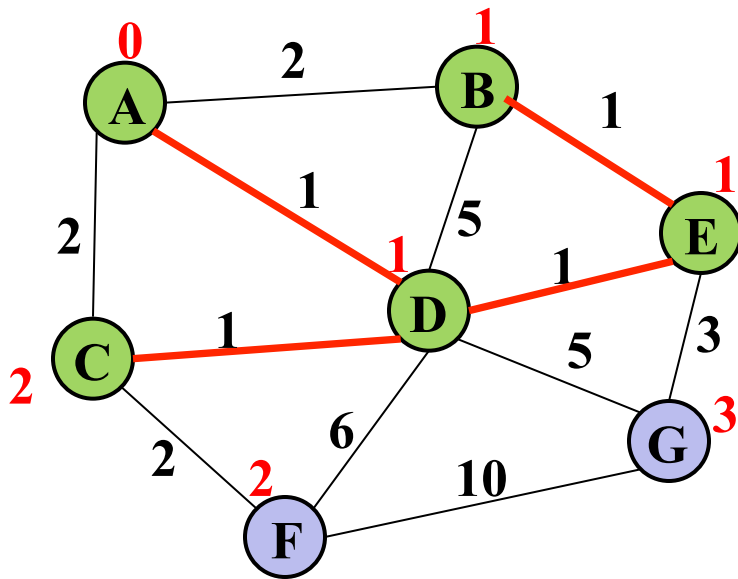
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		2	A
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E		1	D
F		2	C
G		5	D

# Prim's Example



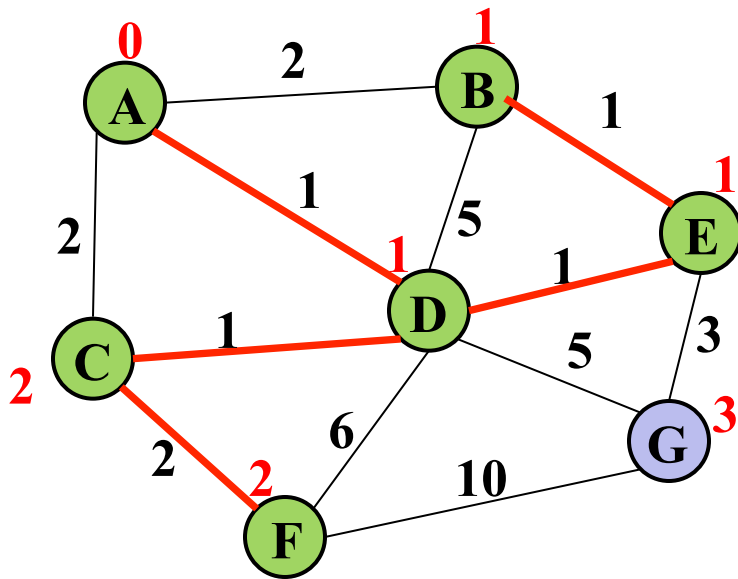
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B		1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

# Prim's Example



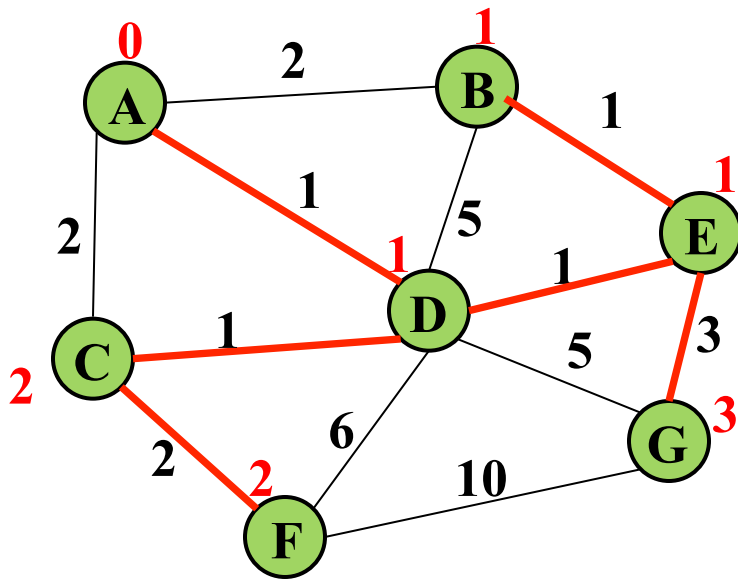
vertex	known?	cost	prev
A	Y	0	
B	Y	1	E
C	Y	1	D
D	Y	1	A
E	Y	1	D
F		2	C
G		3	E

# 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

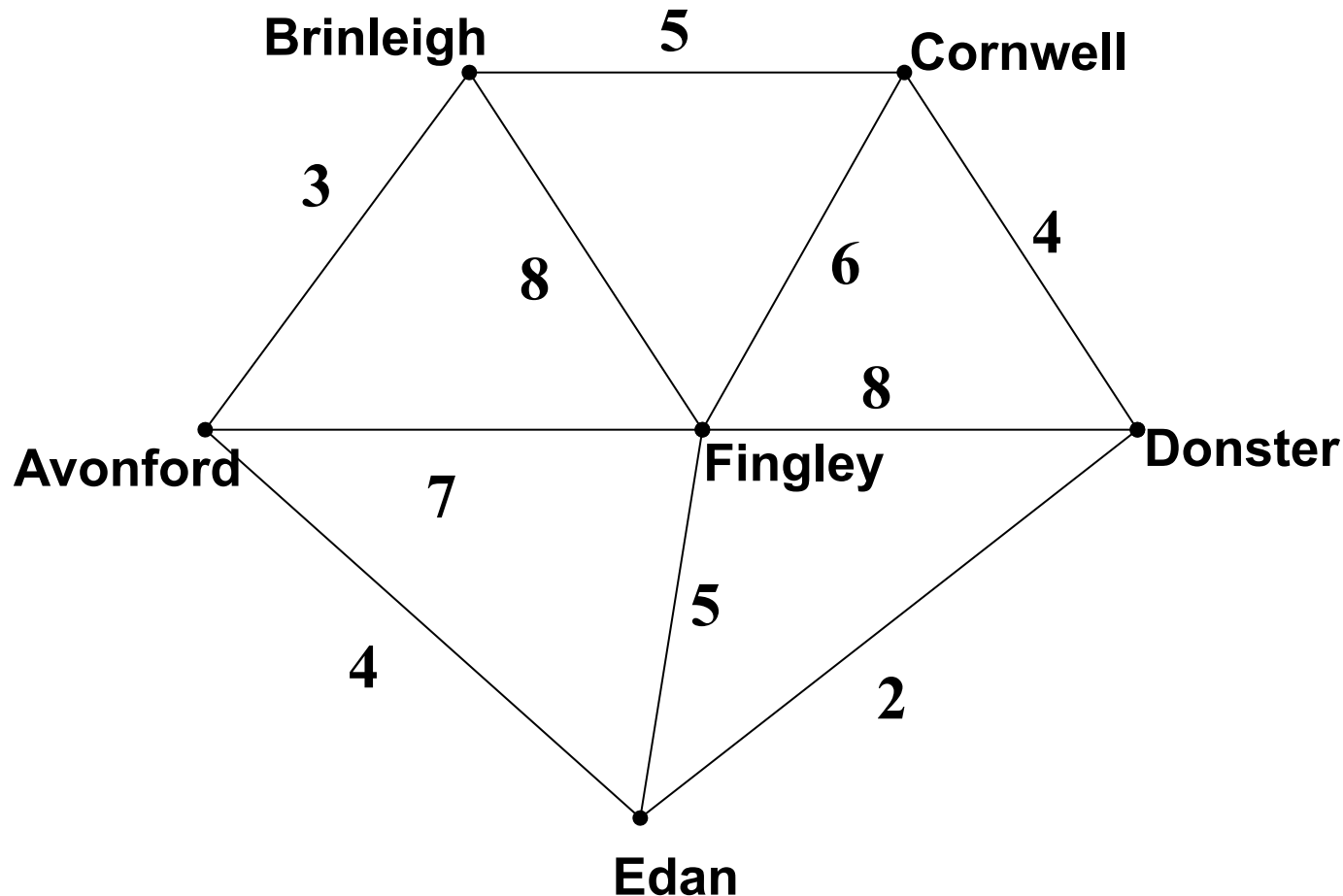


# *Analysis*

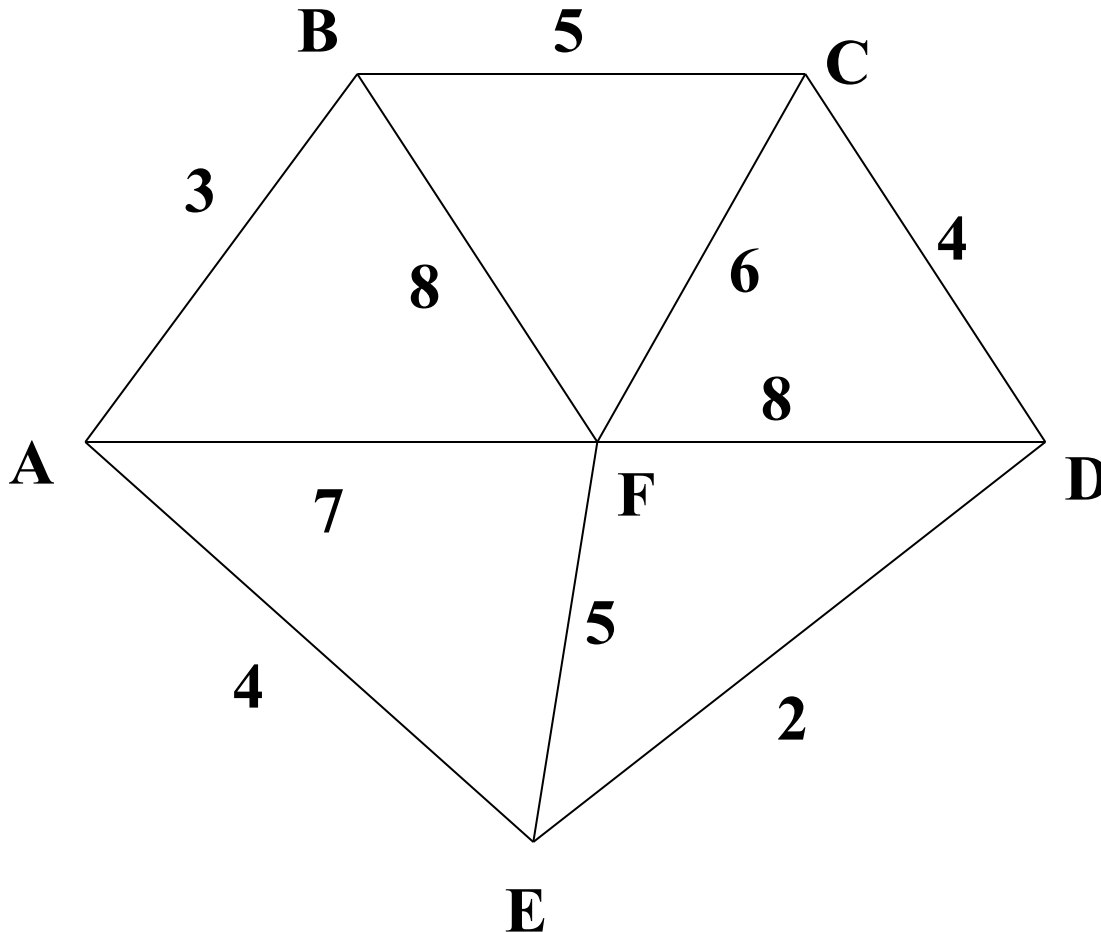
- Correctness
  - A bit tricky
  - Intuitively similar to Dijkstra
- Run-time
  - Same as Dijkstra
  - $O(|E| \log |V|)$  using a priority queue
    - Costs/priorities are just edge-costs, not path-costs

# 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?*

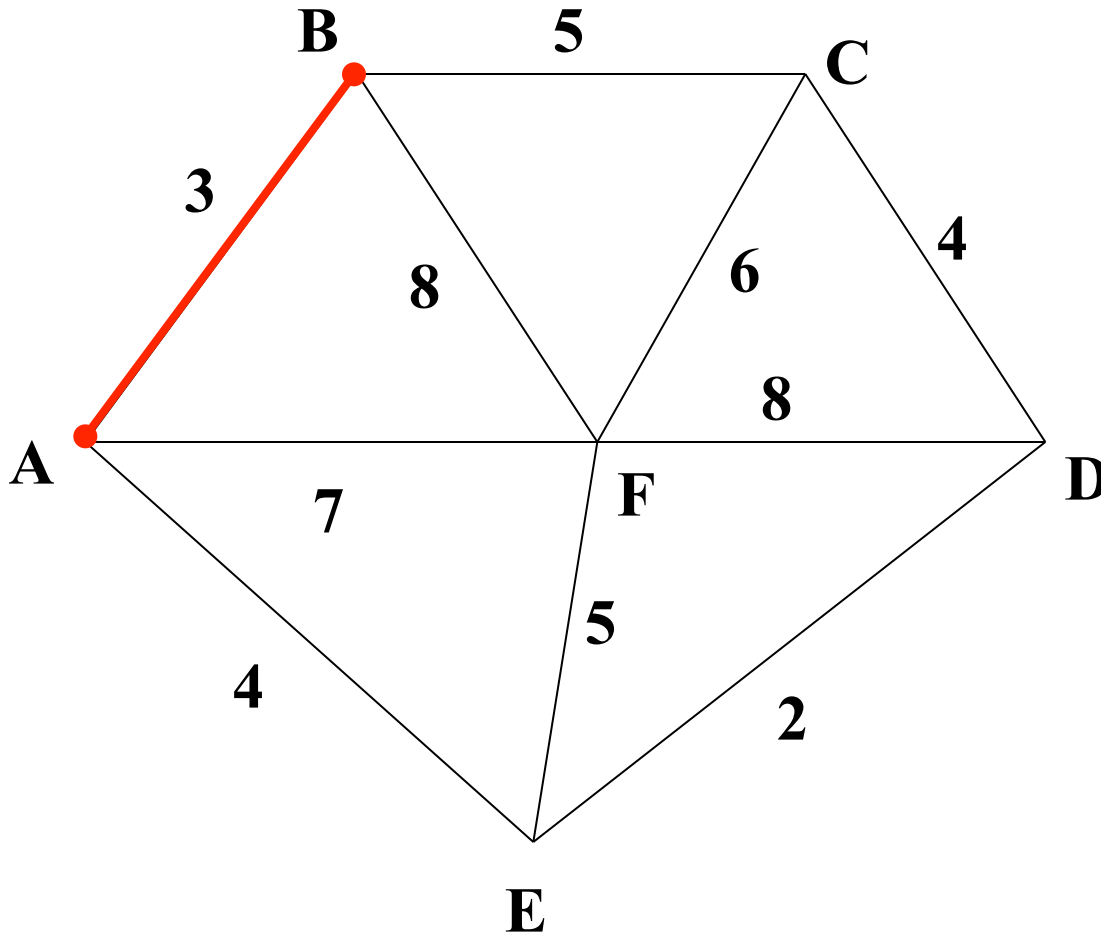


# Prim's Algorithm



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

# Prim's Algorithm



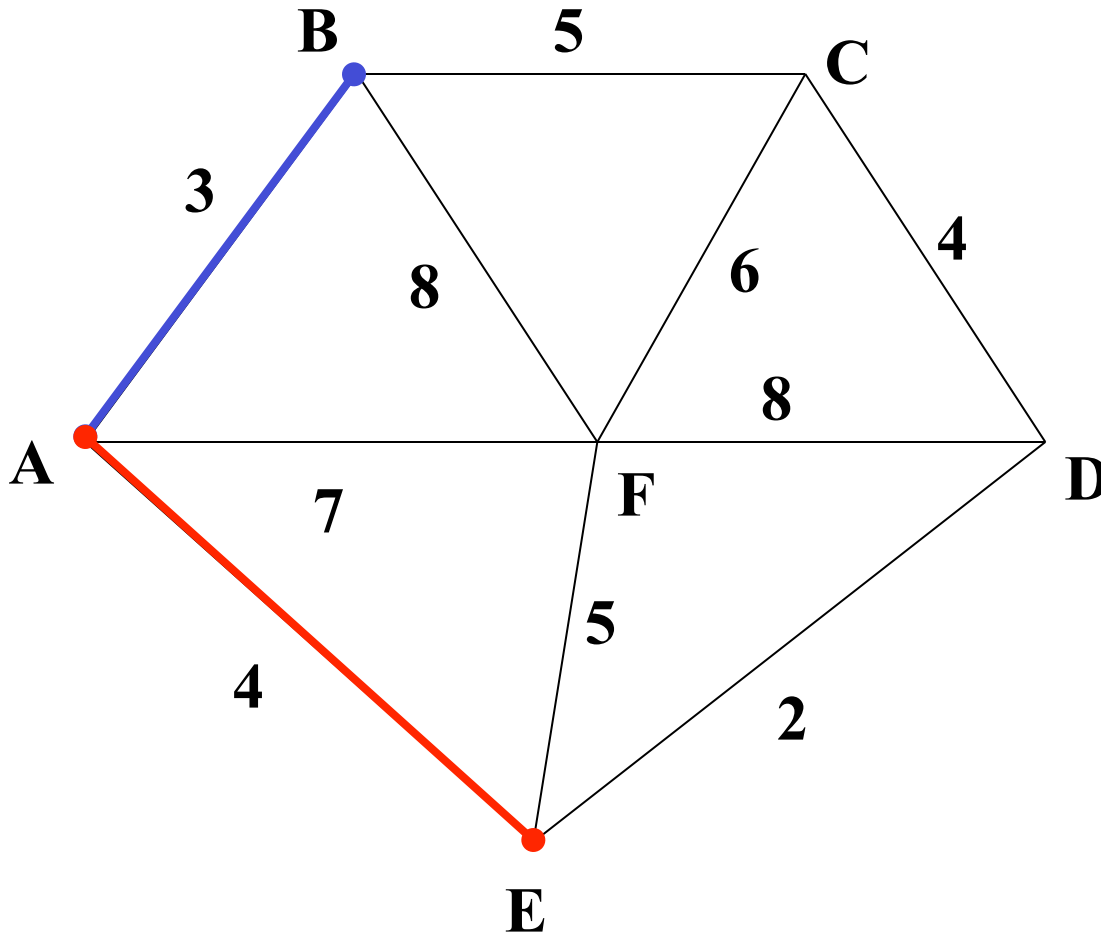
Select any vertex

A

Select the shortest  
edge connected to  
that vertex

AB 3

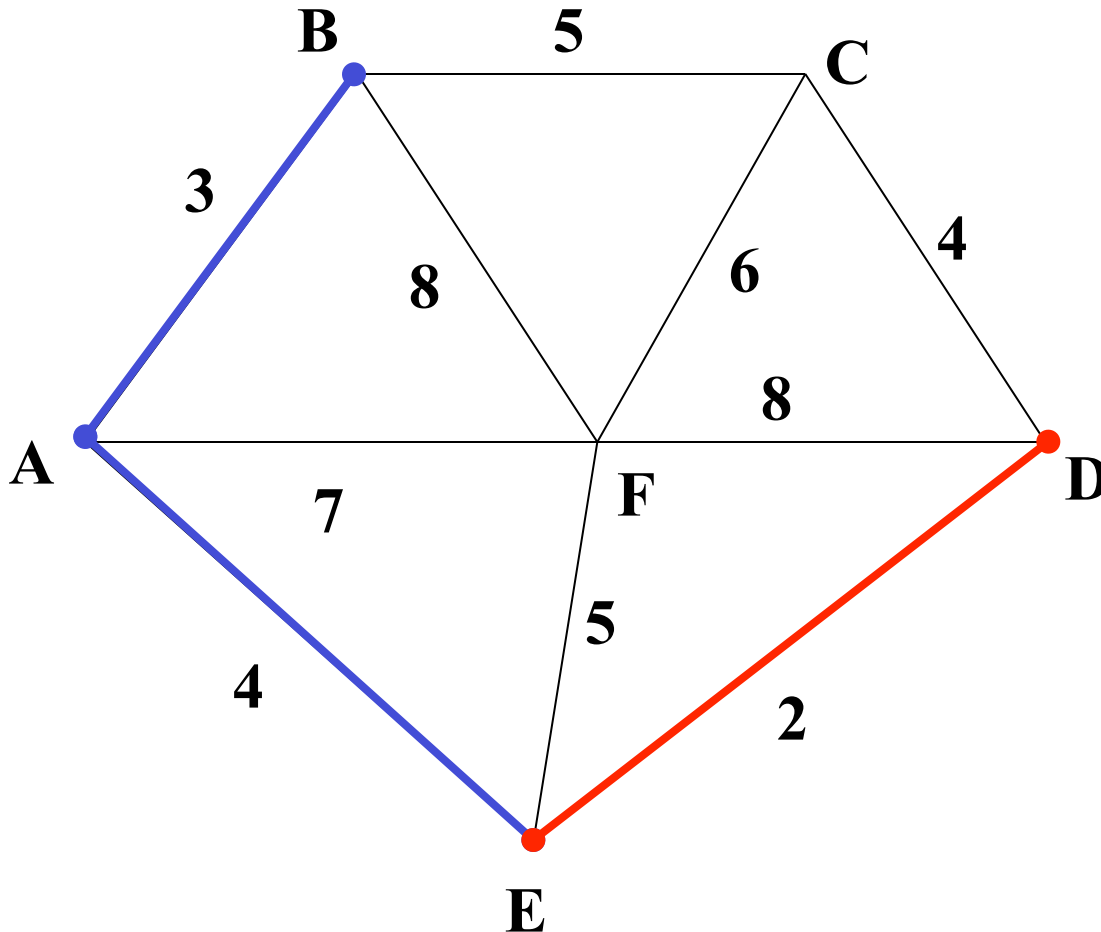
# Prim's Algorithm



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

**AE 4**

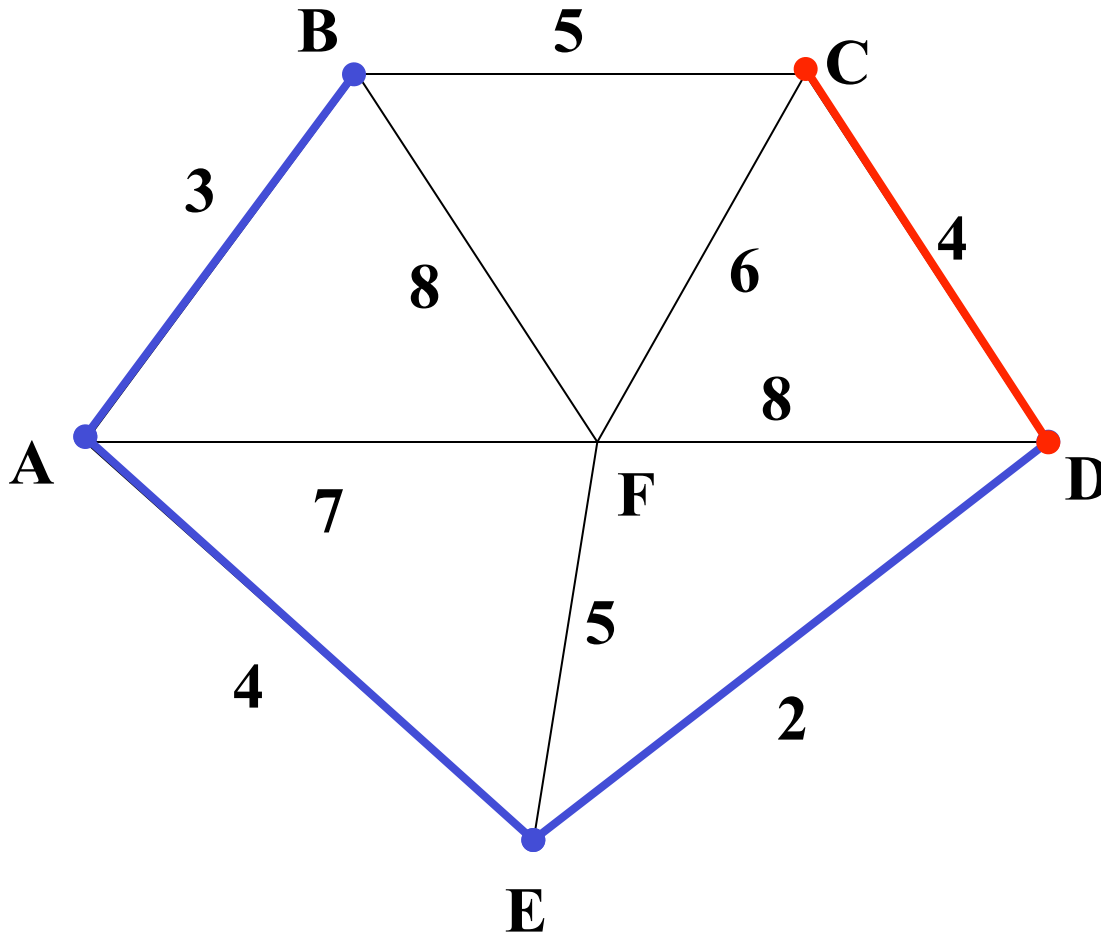
# Prim's Algorithm



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

ED 2

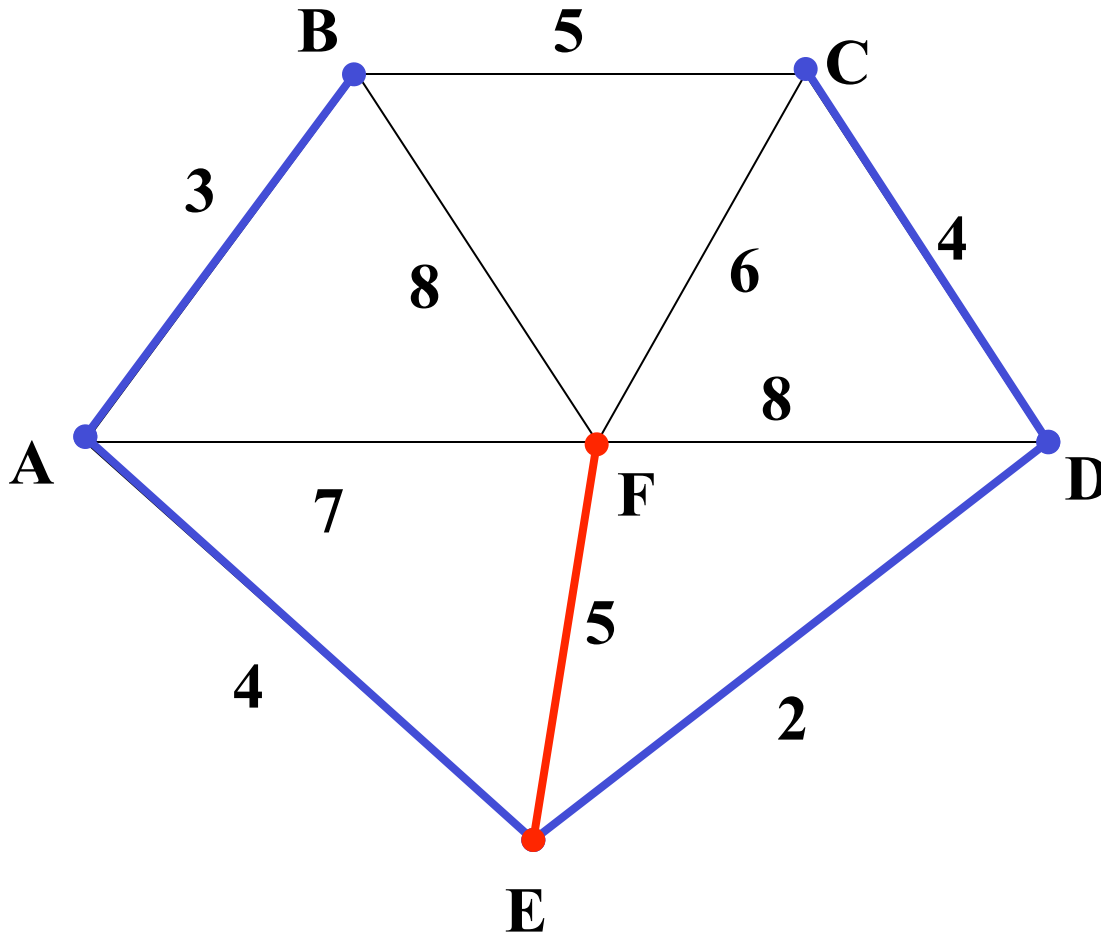
# Prim's Algorithm



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

DC 4

# Prim's Algorithm

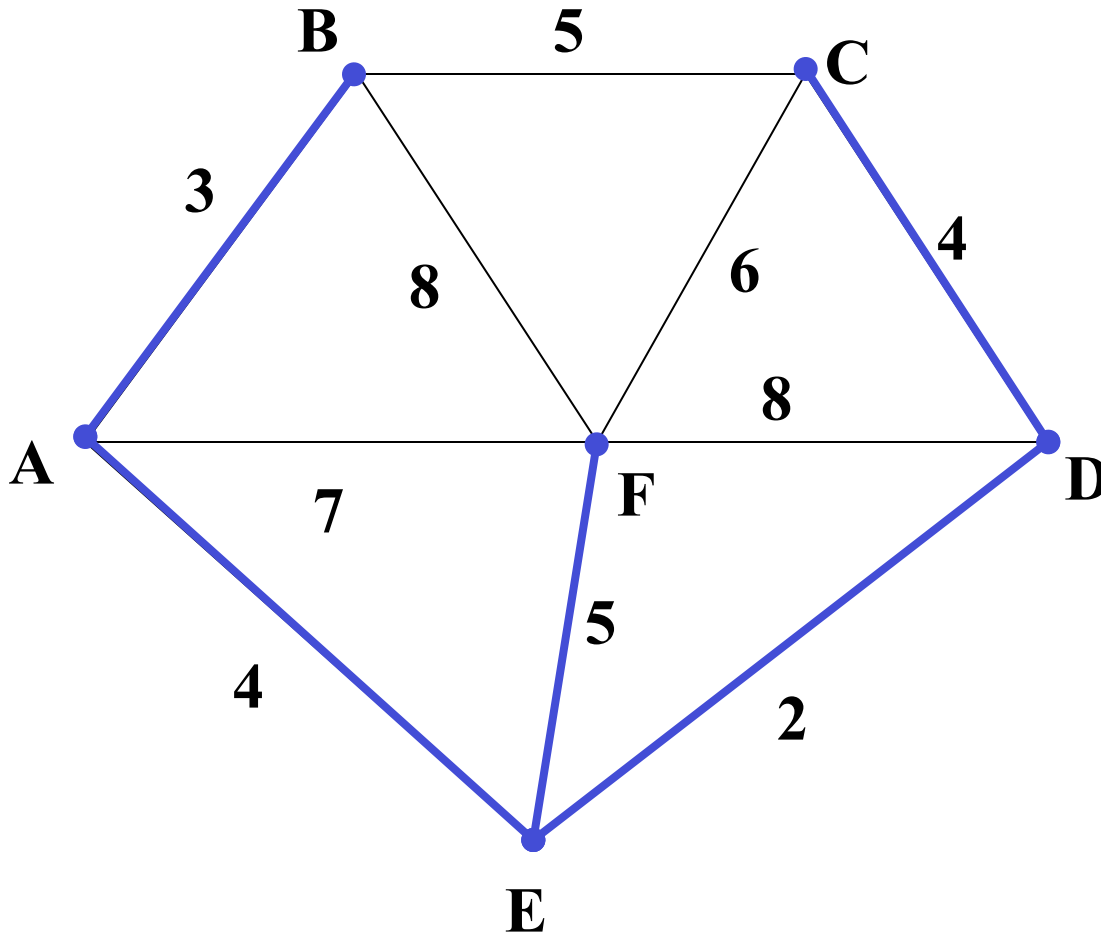


Select the shortest edge that connects an unknown vertex to any known vertex.

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*

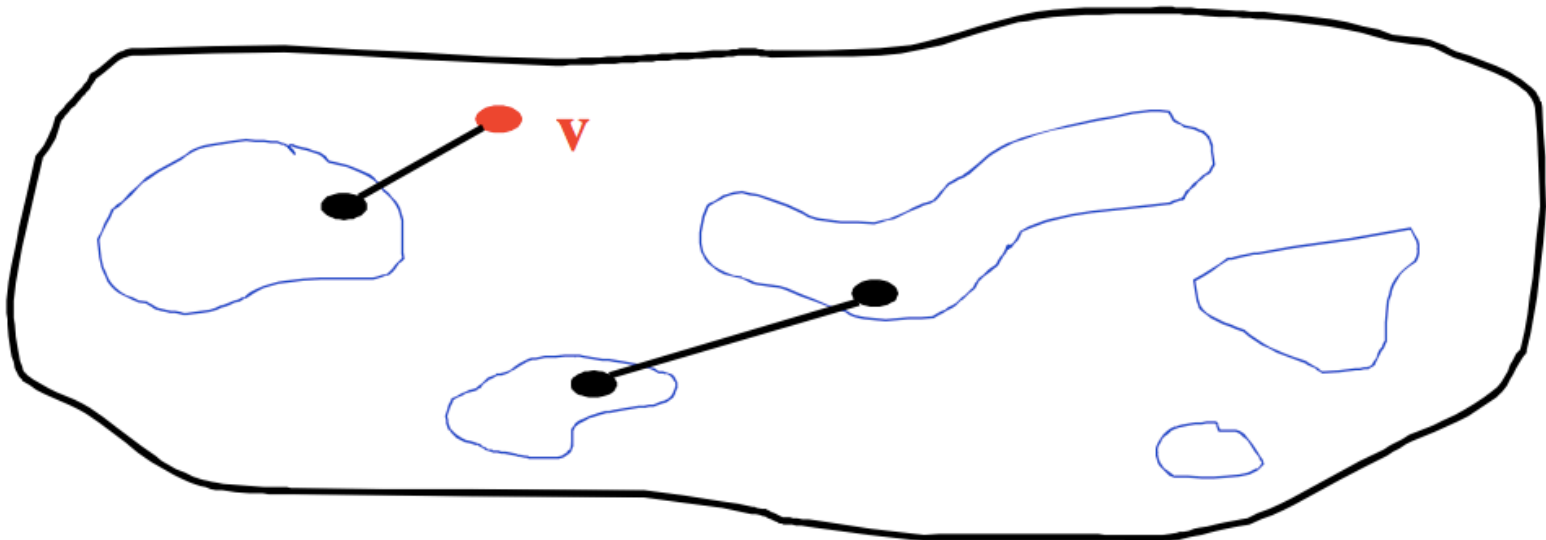
- **Prim's Algorithm** for Minimum Spanning Tree
  - Similar idea to Dijkstra's Algorithm but for MSTs.
  - Both based on expanding cloud of known vertices
- **Kruskal's Algorithm** for Minimum Spanning Tree
  - Another, but different, greedy MST algorithm.
  - Uses the Union-Find data structure.

# 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**

$G=(V,E)$



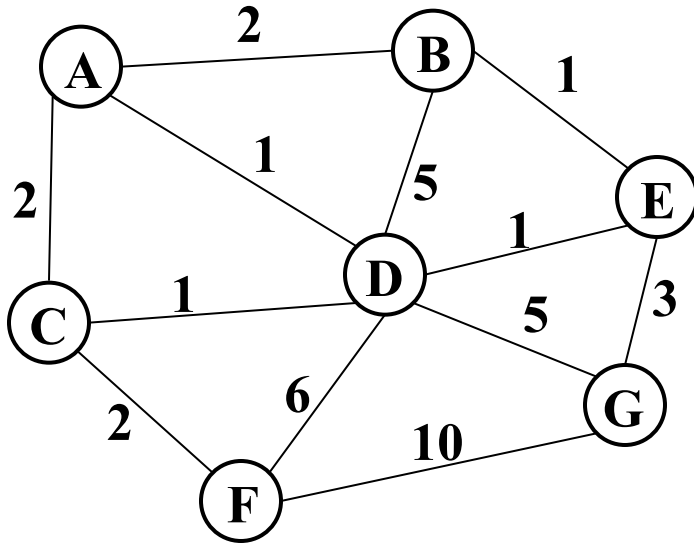
# *Kruskal's Algorithm Pseudocode*

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))`

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)

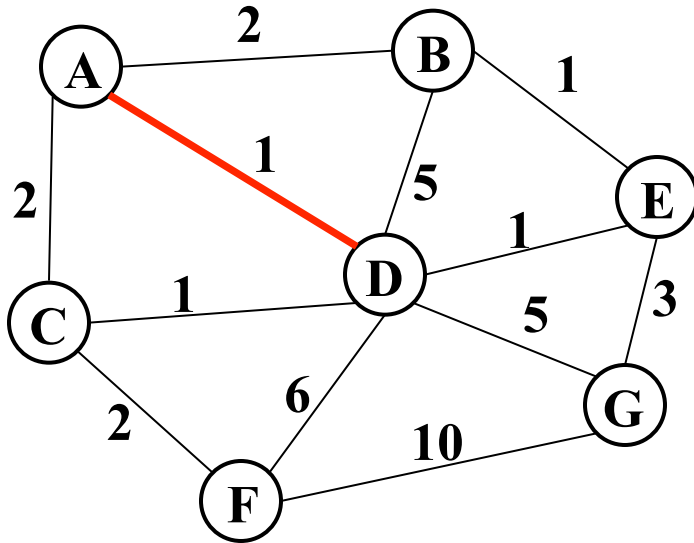
6: (D,F)

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)

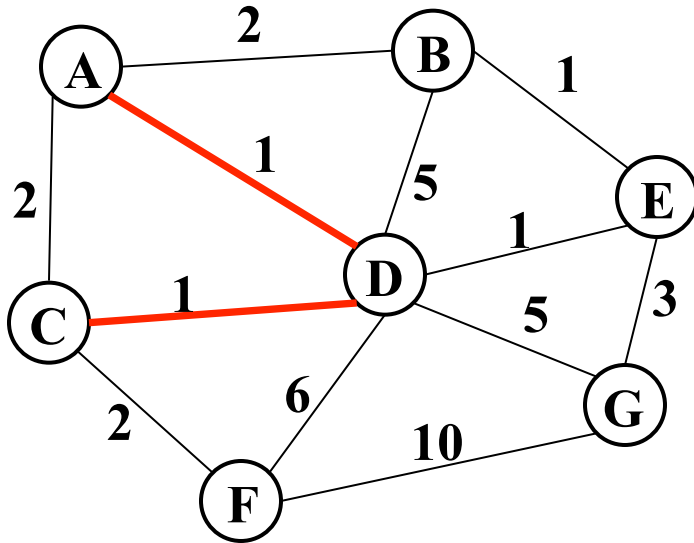
6: (D,F)

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)

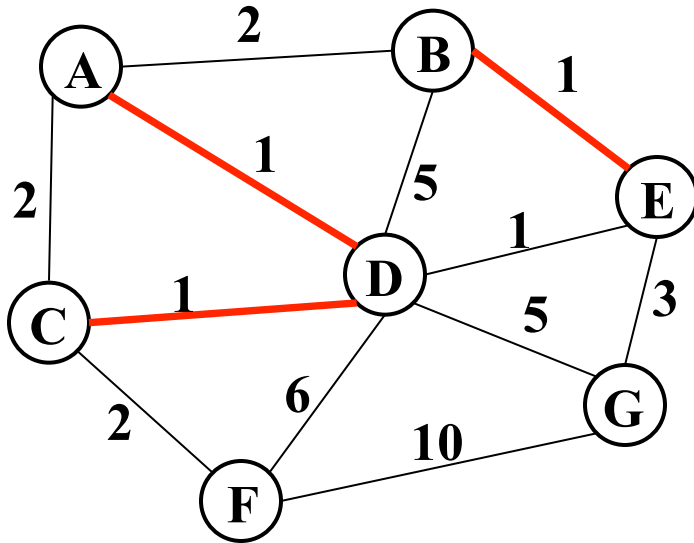
6: (D,F)

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)

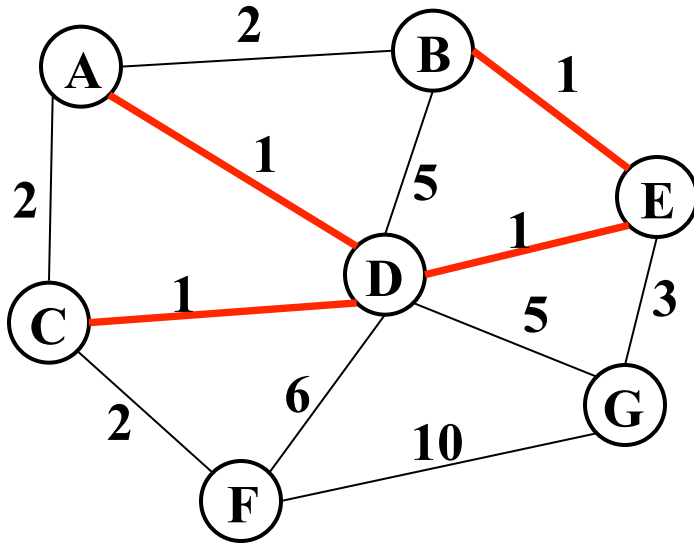
10: (F,G)

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)

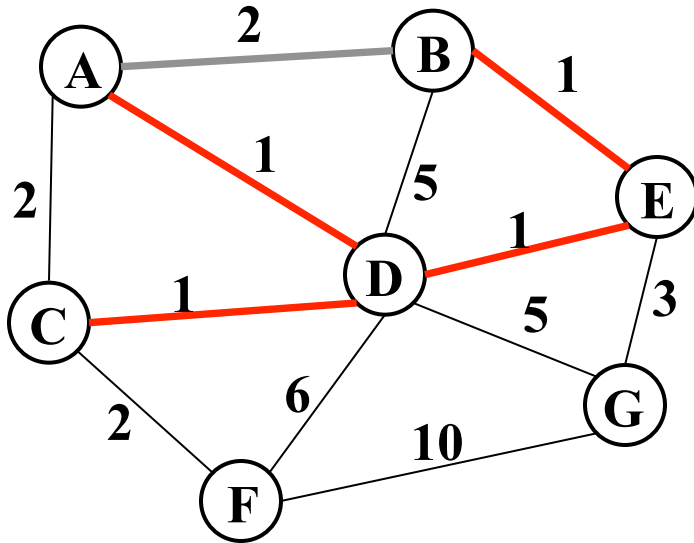
6: (D,F)

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)

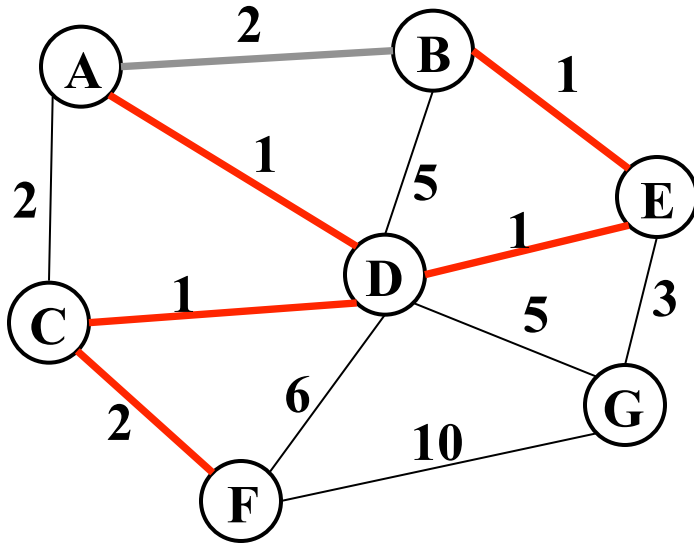
6: (D,F)

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)

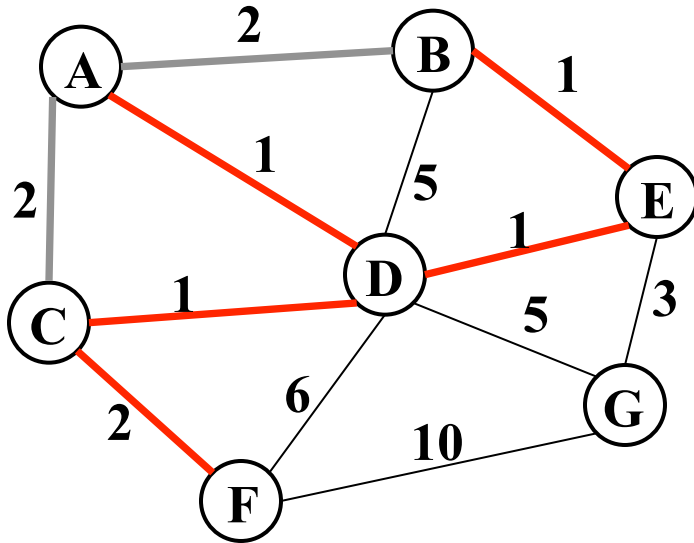
6: (D,F)

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)

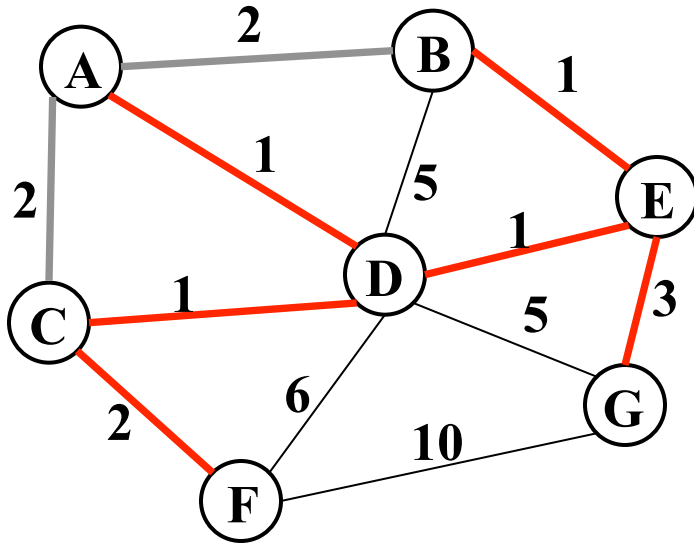
6: (D,F)

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

But now consider the edges in order by weight

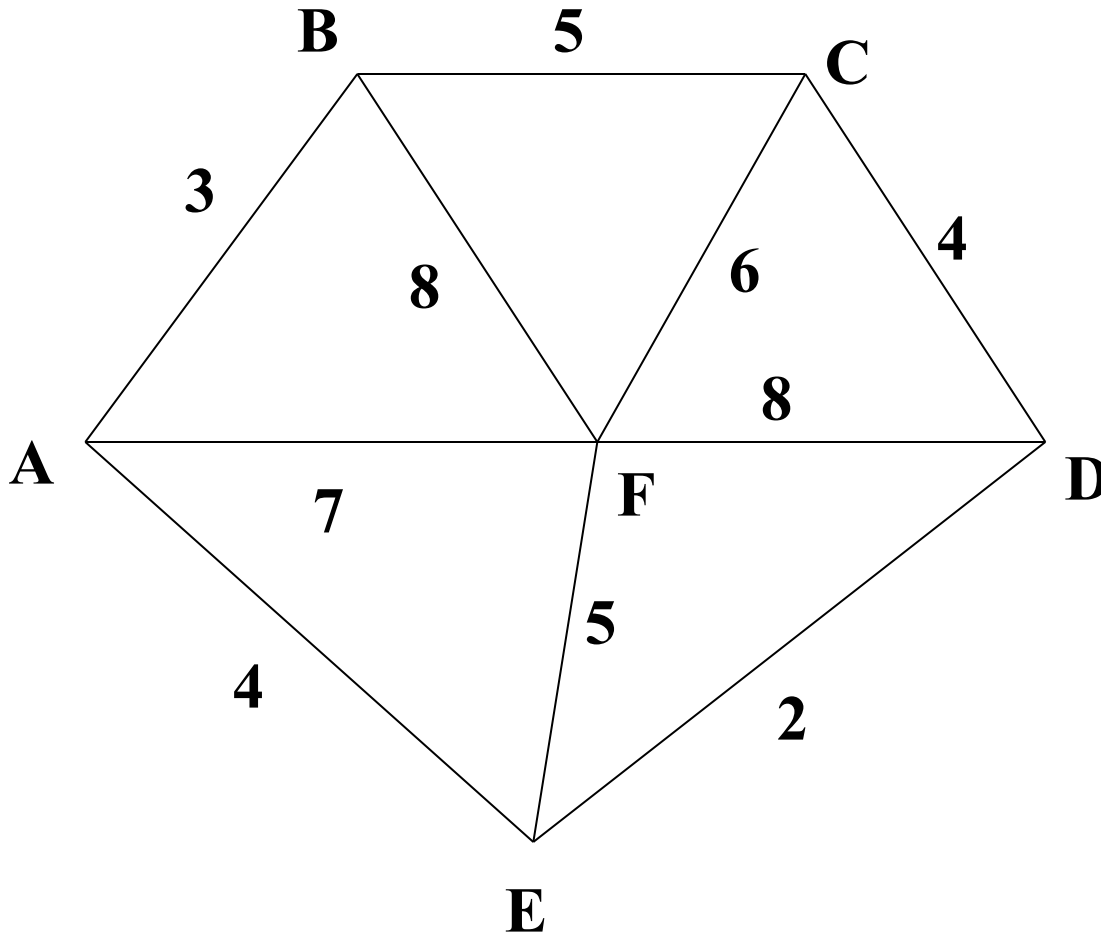
So:

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

Somewhat better:

- Build min-heap with edges  $O(|E|)$  (Floyd's algorithm)
- 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

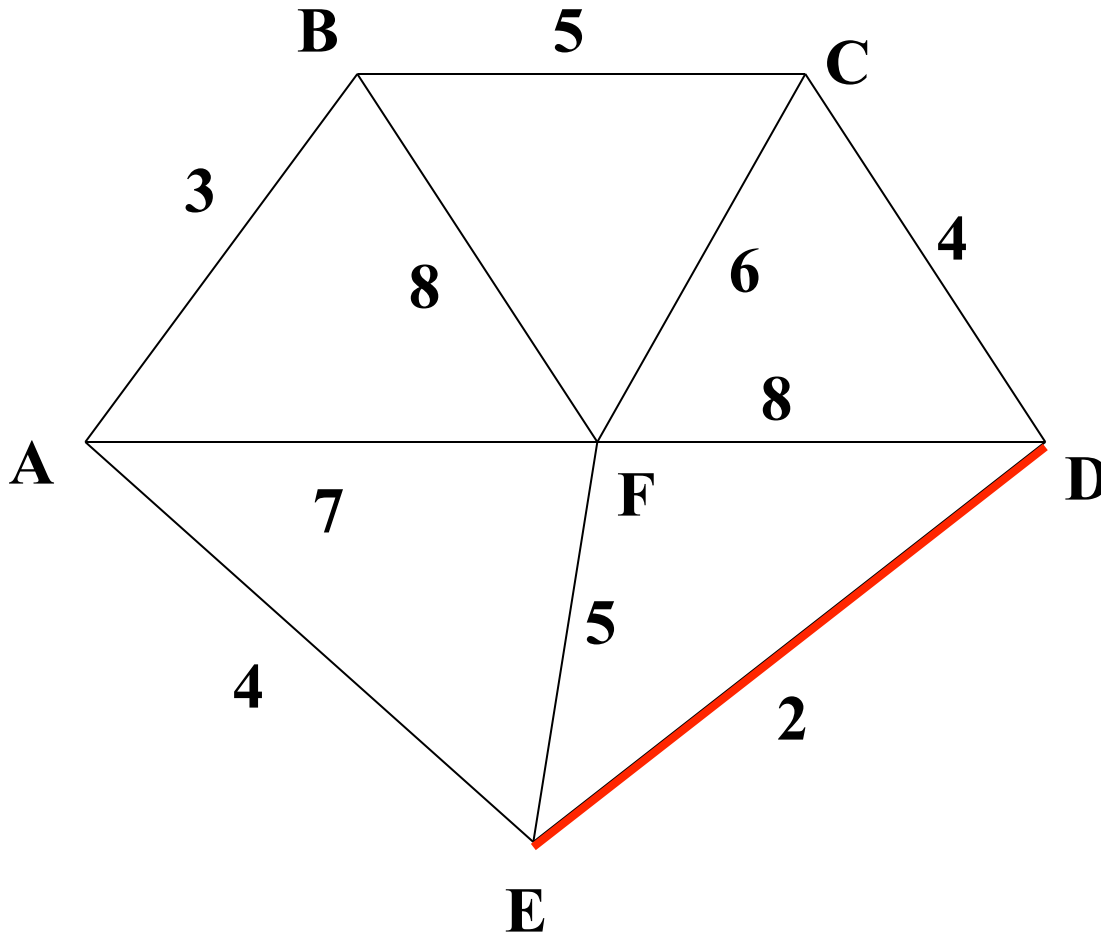


List the edges in  
order of size:

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

# Kruskal's Algorithm

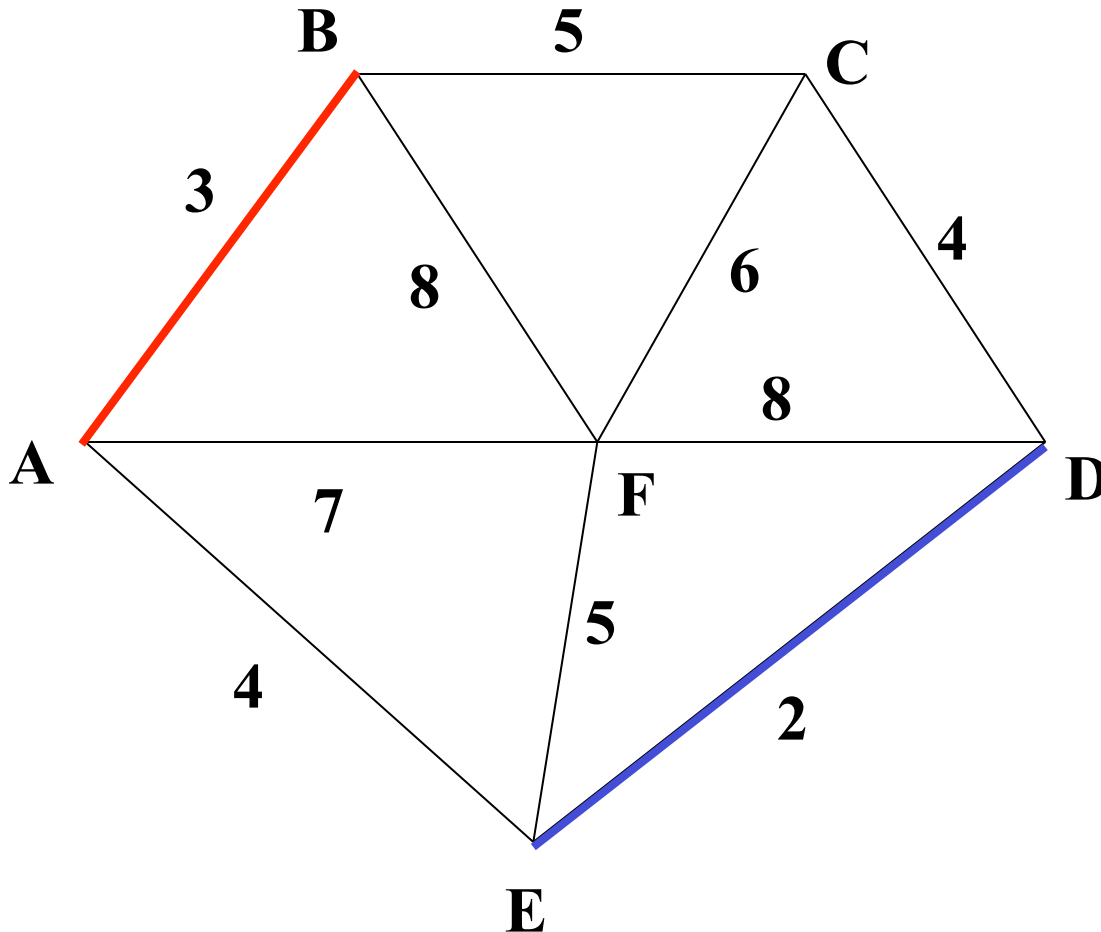
Select the edge  
with min cost



ED 2



# Kruskal's Algorithm

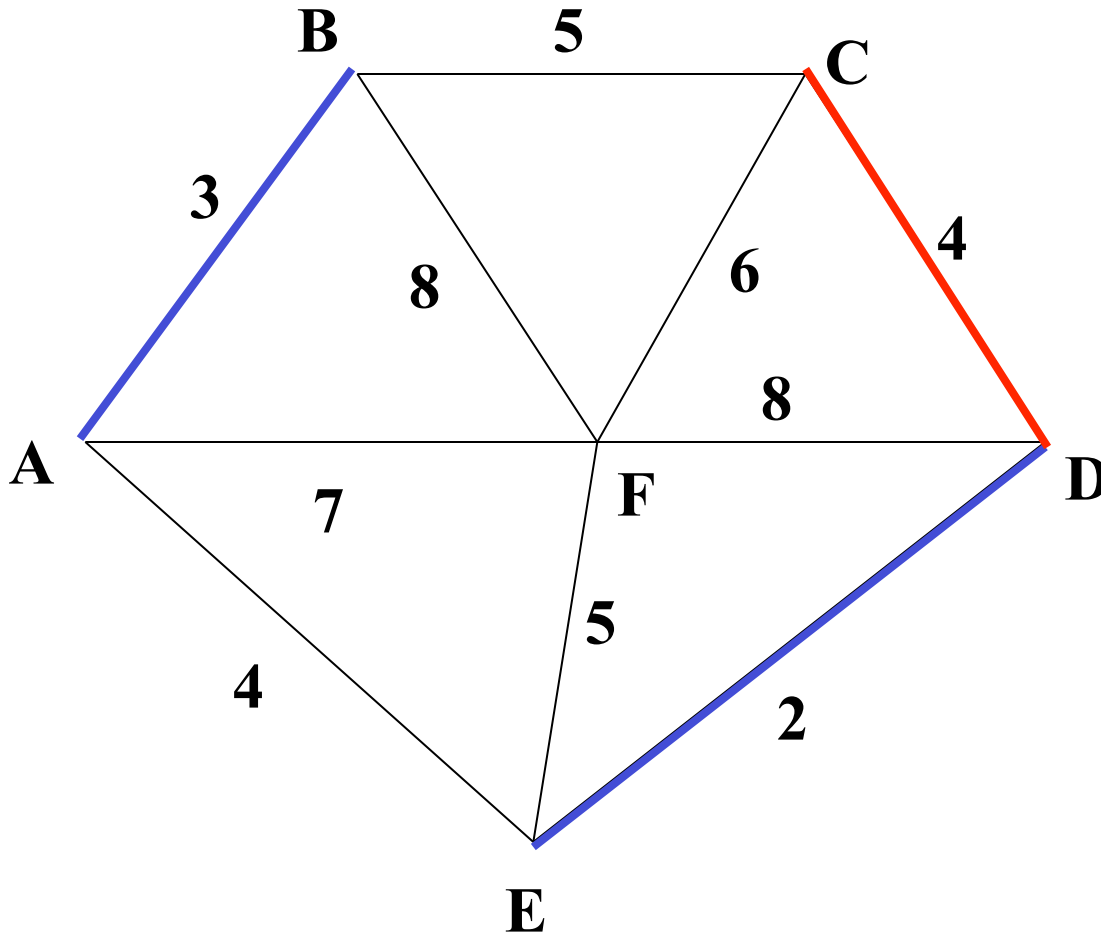


Select the next  
minimum cost  
edge that does not  
create a cycle

ED 2

AB 3

# Kruskal's Algorithm



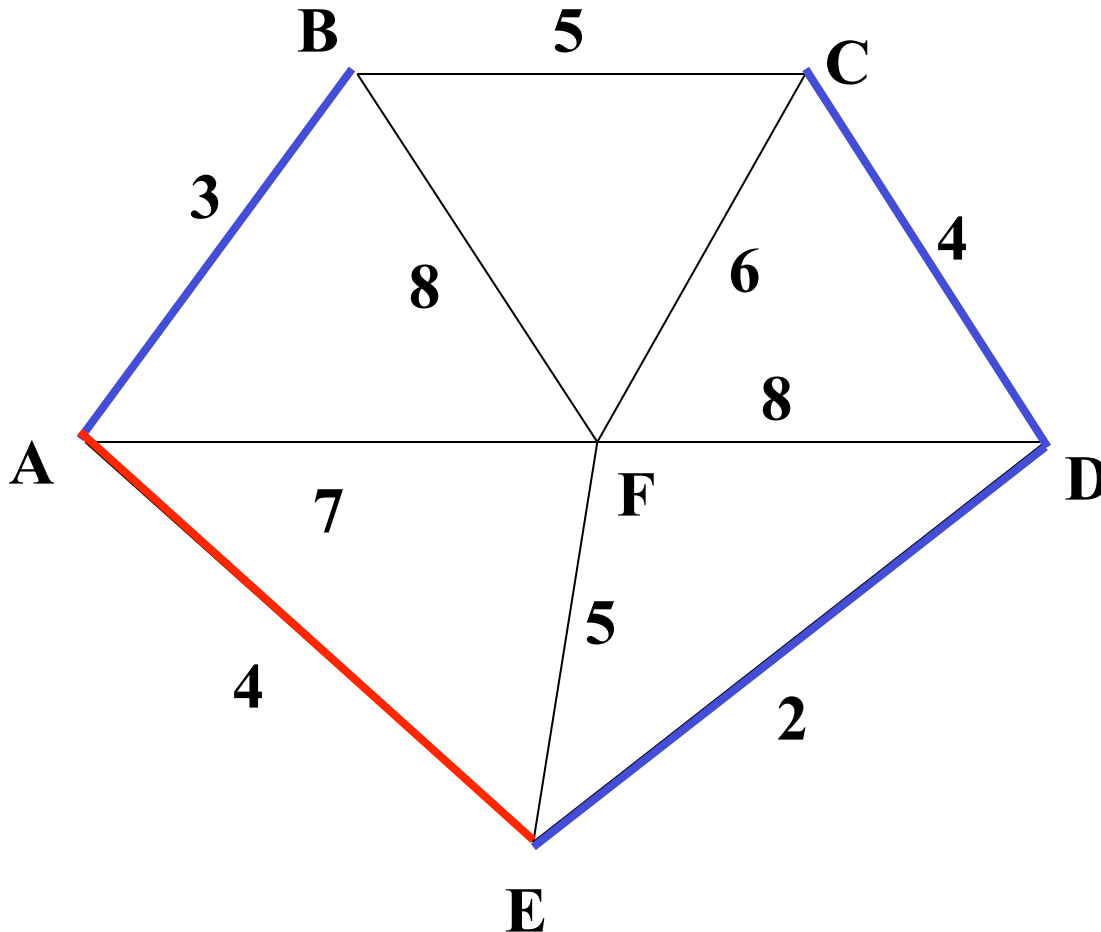
Select the next minimum cost edge that does not create a cycle

ED 2

AB 3

**CD 4** (or AE 4)

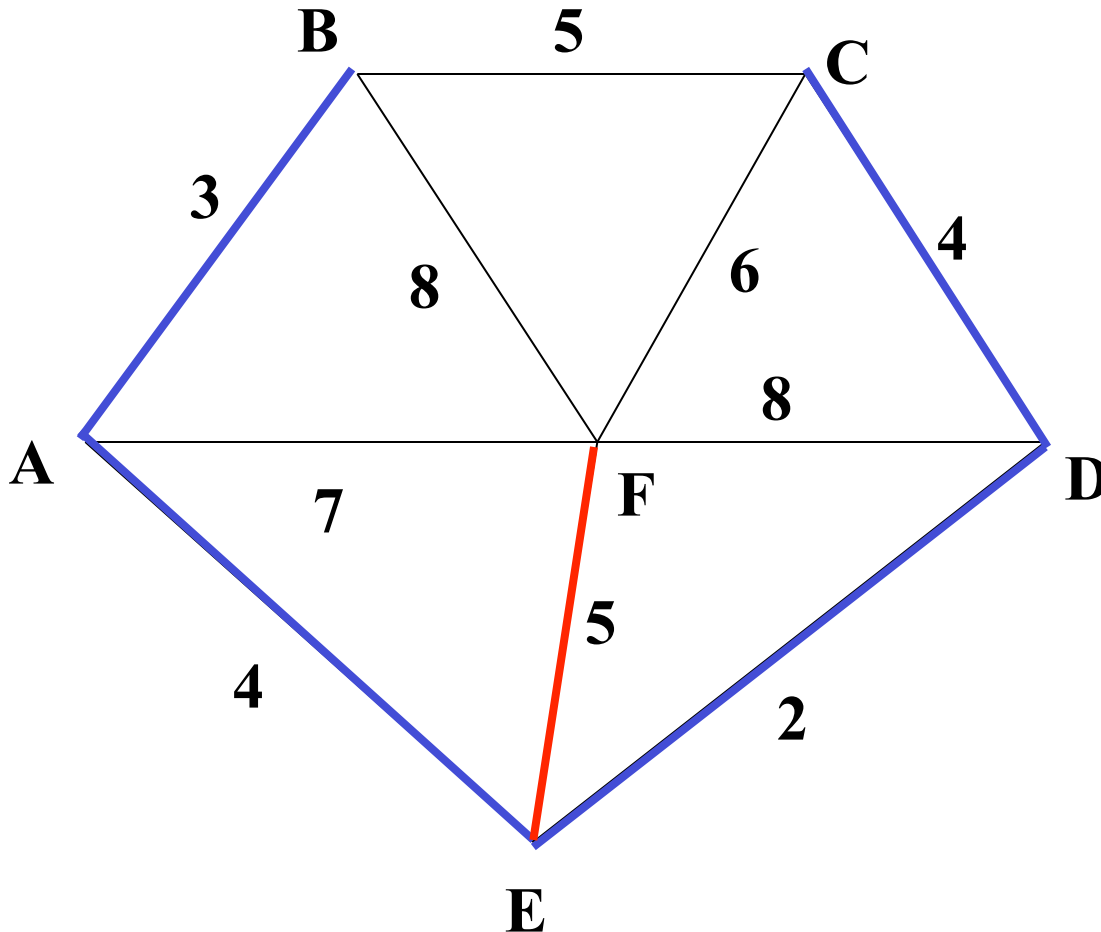
# Kruskal's Algorithm



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

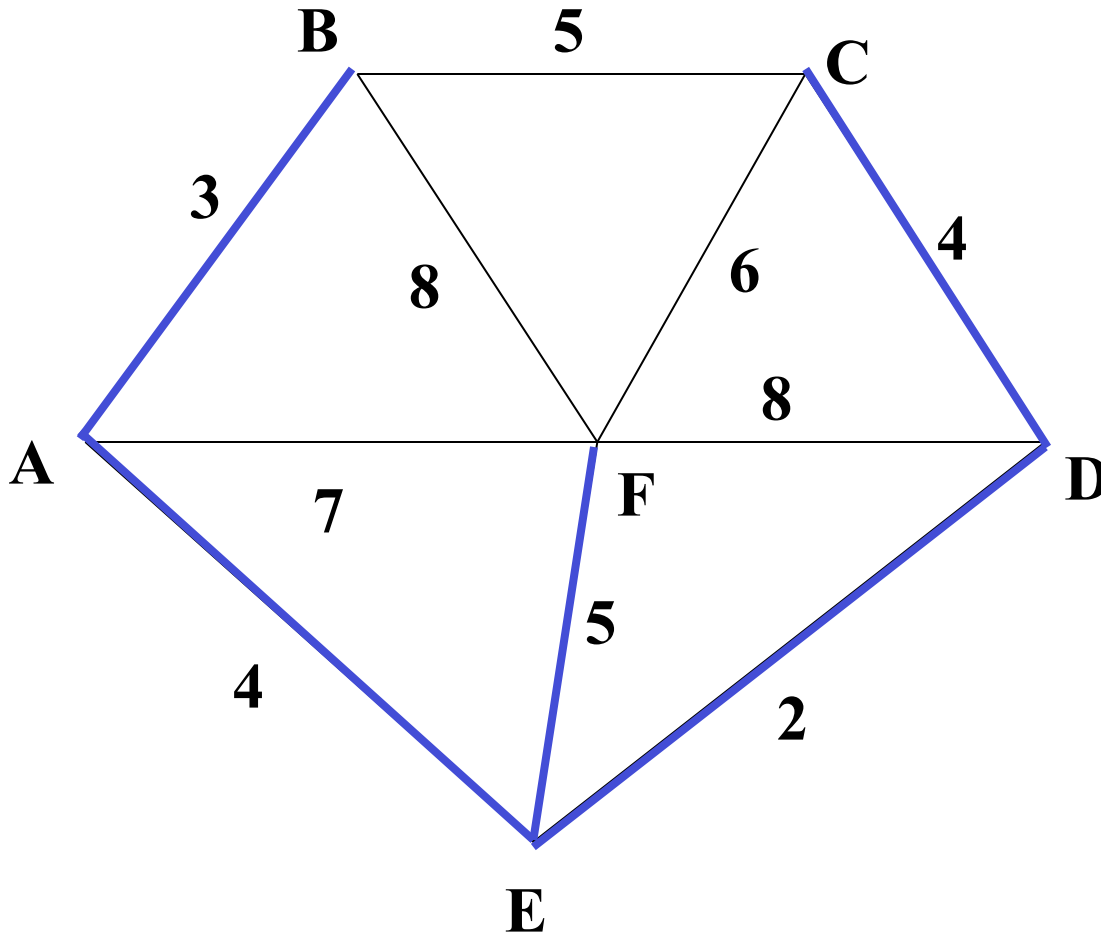
CD 4

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



# Homework 5

- Due 11pm next Wednesday
- You may work with a partner
- Create graph representation in MyGraph.java
  - adjacency list or adjacency matrix
  - don't change constructor!
  - deal with edge cases/exceptions as outlined in html
  - probably want to use map to look up info about some vertex
- Compute shortestPath() using Dijkstra's
  - not required to use priority queue to store un-explored vertices
  - use equals, not == to determine if same vertex, FindPaths() create copies of vertices
  - finish FindPaths.java so it prints correct output
- Test and Readme