

# COMP S265F Lab 11: Minimum Spanning Tree: Kruskal's Algorithm

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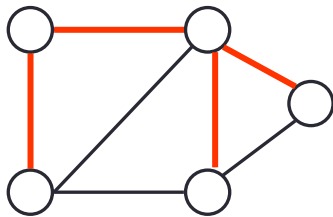
*The Open University of Hong Kong*

# Overview

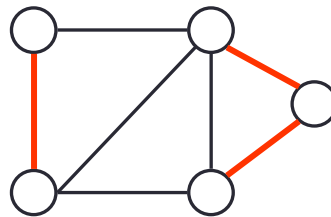
- **Spanning tree**
  - Some simple facts on a spanning tree
- **Minimum (weighted) Spanning Tree**
  - **Kruskal's algorithm** & sample run
  - Proof of correctness: Transformation argument
- Implementing Kruskal's algorithm:
  - **FindSet(a vertex), Union(set 1, set 2)**
  - Time complexity

# Spanning Tree

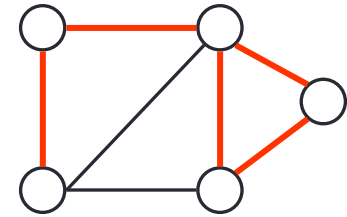
- A *spanning tree*  $T = (V, E')$  on an *undirected* graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a subgraph of  $G$  (i.e.,  $E' \subseteq E$ ) such that
  - for any two vertices  $u, v$  in  $V$ , there is a path in  $T$  connecting  $u, v$ ; and
  - $T$  does not contain any cycle.



A spanning tree



Not connected



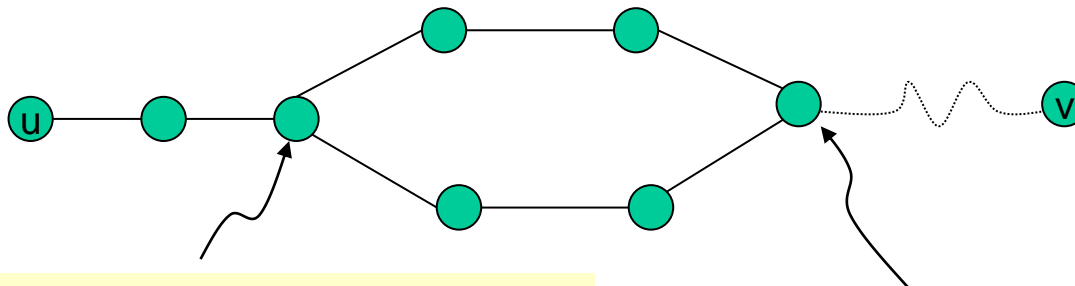
has cycle

# Simple facts about a spanning tree $T$

**Fact 1:** For any two vertices  $u, v$  in  $T$ , there is a unique path in  $T$  between  $u$  and  $v$ .

**Proof:**

- By definition,  $T$  is connected and there is at least one path.
- We can prove that there is **only one path** by contradiction.
- Suppose there are two paths connecting  $u$  and  $v$ .



The first vertex the two paths split. It can be  $u$ , but cannot be  $v$  (otherwise, the two paths are identical).

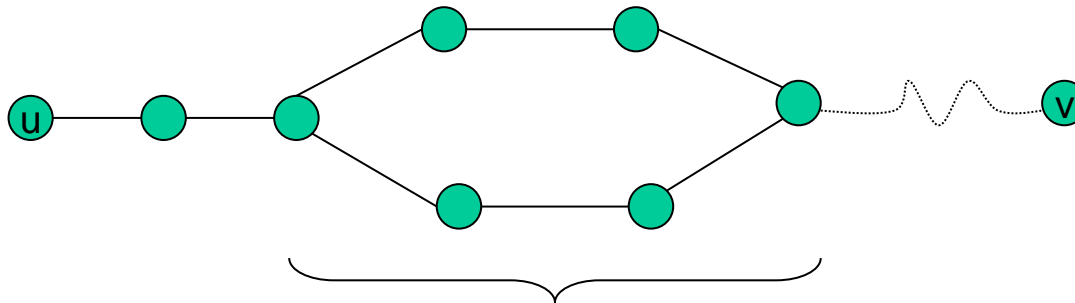
The **first** vertex the two paths join together. This vertex must exist; the two paths will at least join at  $v$ .

# Simple facts about a spanning tree $T$

**Fact 1:** For any two vertices  $u, v$  in  $T$ , there is a unique path in  $T$  between  $u$  and  $v$ .

**Proof:**

- By definition,  $T$  is connected and there is at least one path.
- We can prove that there is **only one path** by contradiction.
- Suppose there are two paths connecting  $u$  and  $v$ .



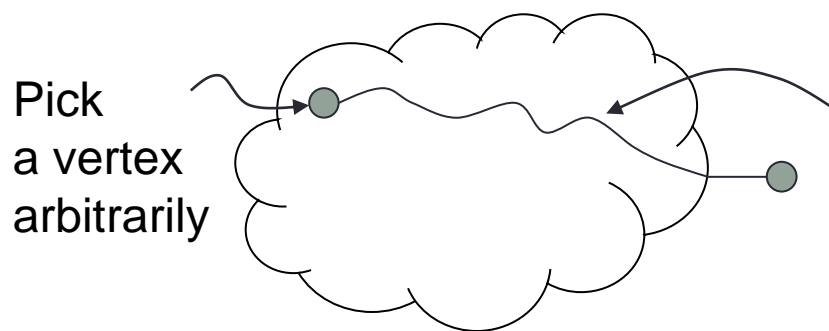
We find a cycle from these two paths  
 $\Rightarrow$  A contradiction because  $T$  does not have cycle.

# Simple facts about a spanning tree $T$

**Fact 2:** Let  $n$  be the number of vertices, and  $m$  be the number of edges in  $T$ . Then, we always have  $m = n - 1$ .

**Proof:**

- By induction on  $n$ , the number of vertices.
- Basis step:  $n = 1$ . A spanning tree with one vertex does not have any edge, i.e.,  $m = 0 \Rightarrow m = n - 1$ .
- Suppose the fact is true for all trees with *fewer than*  $n$  vertices.
- Consider a tree  $T$  with  $n$  vertices.



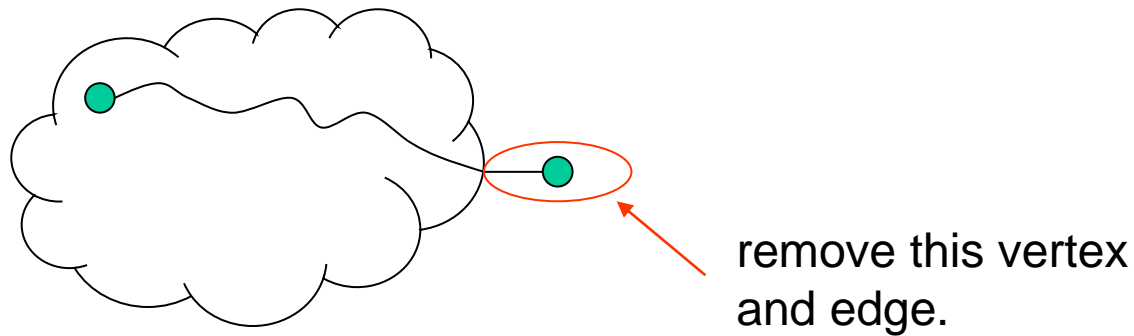
Move forward until hitting some dead end. This must happen eventually because there is no cycle, every step will hit a new vertex, and you can hit at most  $n-1$  new vertices.

# Simple facts about a spanning tree $T$

**Fact 2:** Let  $n$  be the number of vertices, and  $m$  be the number of edges in  $T$ . Then, we always have  $m = n - 1$ .

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- Basis step:  $n = 1$ . A spanning tree with one vertex does not have any edge, i.e.,  $m = 0 \Rightarrow m = n - 1$ .
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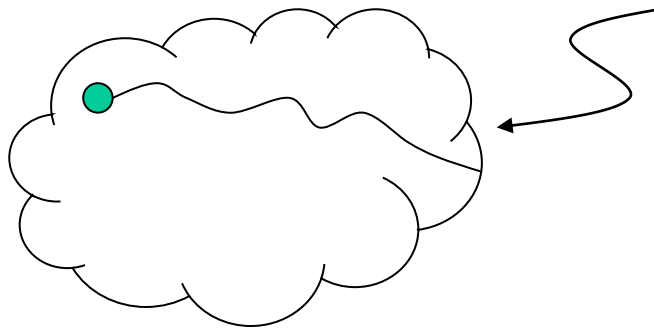


# Simple facts about a spanning tree $T$

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- Suppose the fact is true for all trees with *fewer than*  $n$  vertices.
- Consider a tree  $T$  with  $n$  vertices.



The remain part is a spanning tree with  $n-1$  vertices. By the induction hypothesis, it has  $(n-1) - 1$  edges  
 $\Rightarrow$  The original tree has  $(n-1) + 1$  vertices, and  $m = (n-1) - 1 + 1$  edges  
 $\Rightarrow$  i.e.,  $m = n - 1$ .

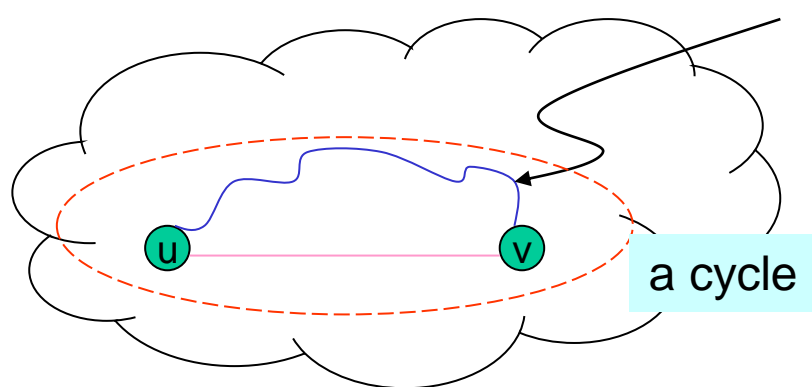


# Simple facts about a spanning tree $T$

**Fact 3 (most important):** Adding any edge to  $T$  will create a cycle. And if we remove some edge in this cycle, we will get another tree.

**Proof:**

- Consider any edge  $(u,v)$ . Adding  $(u,v)$  creates a cycle because



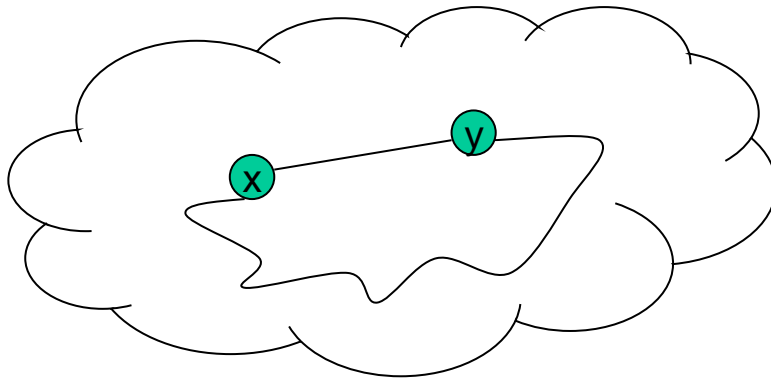
There is a path in  $T$  connecting  $u$  and  $v$ .

# Simple facts about a spanning tree $T$

**Fact 3 (most important):** Adding any edge to  $T$  will create a cycle. And if we remove some edge in this cycle, we will get another tree.

**Proof:**

- Deleting any edge  $(x,y)$  in the cycle produces another tree.



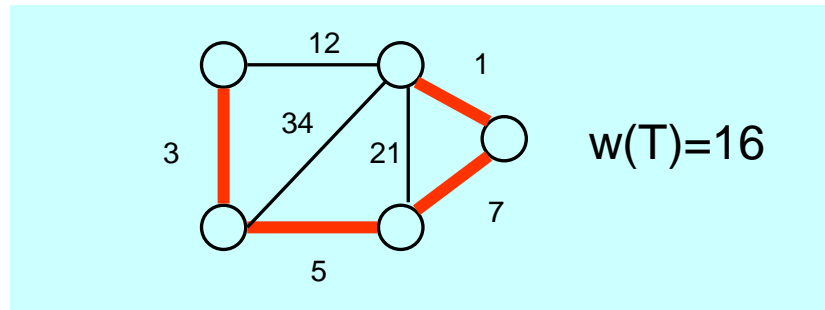
Now, the graph has no cycle, and the graph is still connected  $\Rightarrow$  it is a tree.

# Minimum (weighted) Spanning Tree

- Let **G** be a general undirected graph that is connected.
- Suppose that every edge  $(u, v)$  of **G** has a **weight**  $w(u, v)$ .
- Define the **weight** of a spanning tree **T** of **G**, denoted as  $w(\mathbf{T})$ , to be the sum of the weight of all edges in **T**, i.e.,

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

- We say that **T** is a **minimum spanning tree** of **G** if its weight is minimum among all spanning trees of **G**.
- **Example:**

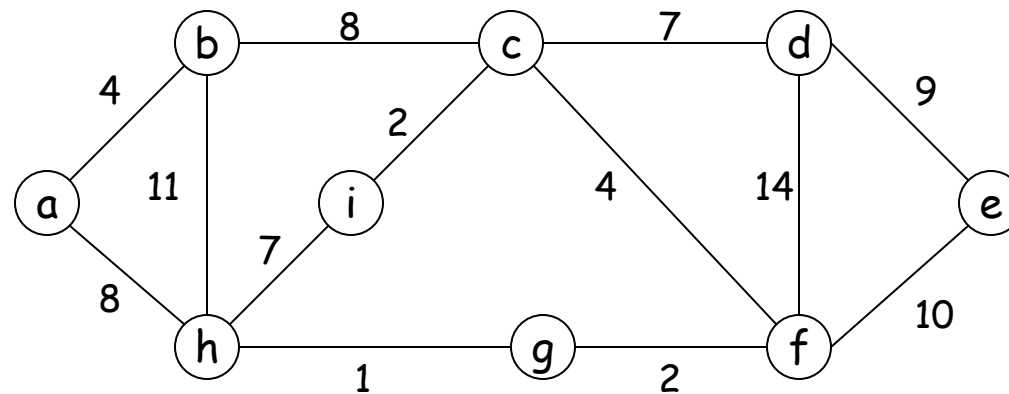


# Kruskal's algorithm

- Kruskal has a greedy idea for constructing a spanning tree with minimum weight.
1. Try to construct the tree by **adding** to the tree **one edge at a time**, starting from the edge with the **smallest weight**, and the edge with the next smallest, ..., until we finally get the whole spanning tree (i.e., get a tree with  **$n-1$**  edges).
  2. When try to add an edge to the solution, we have to make sure that **it will not create a cycle**.

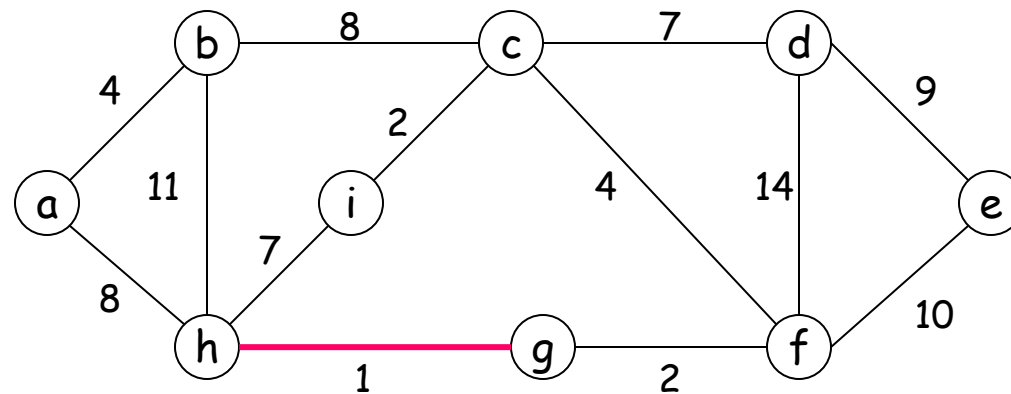
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	7
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



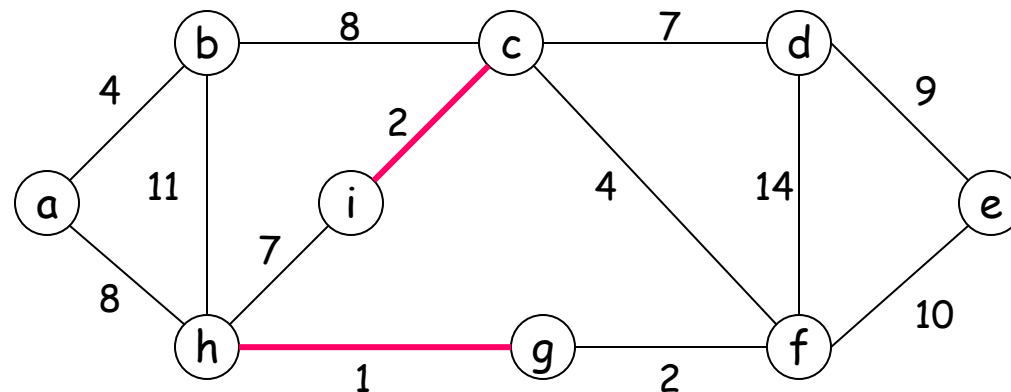
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 1)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	7
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



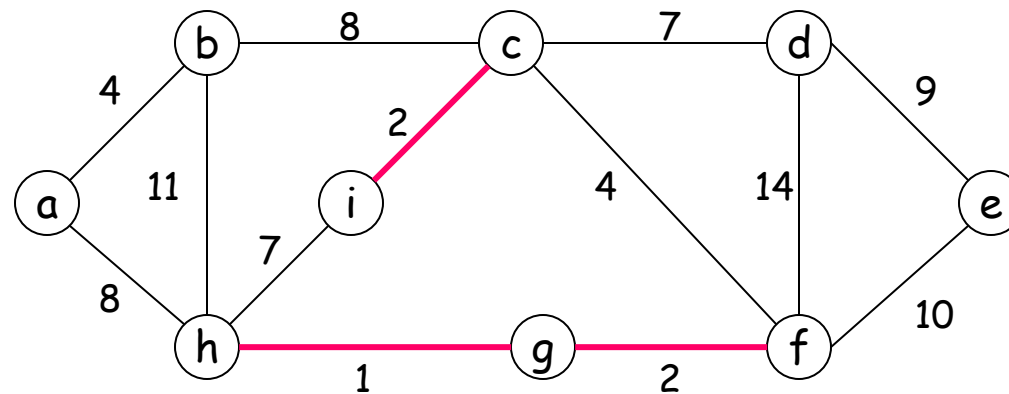
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 2)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	7
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 3)

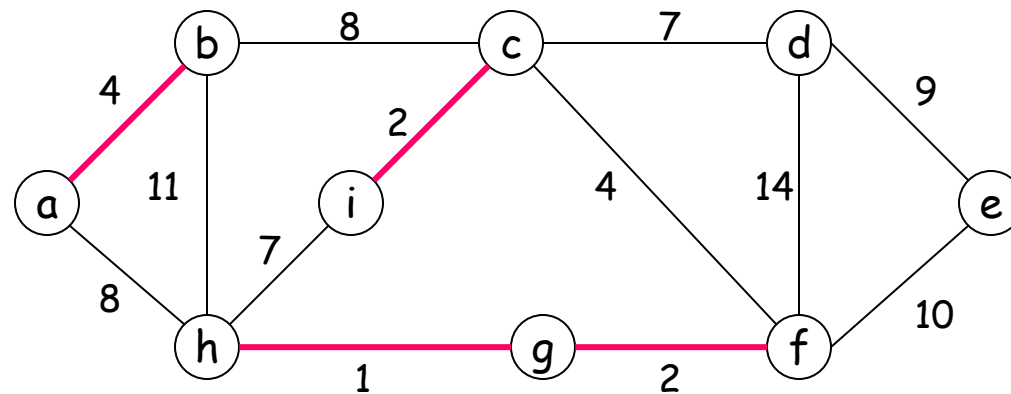
(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	7
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14





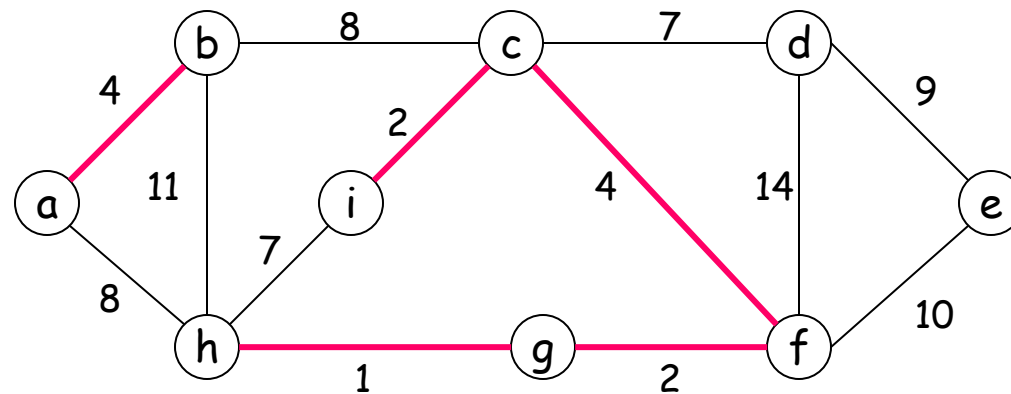
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 4)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	7
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



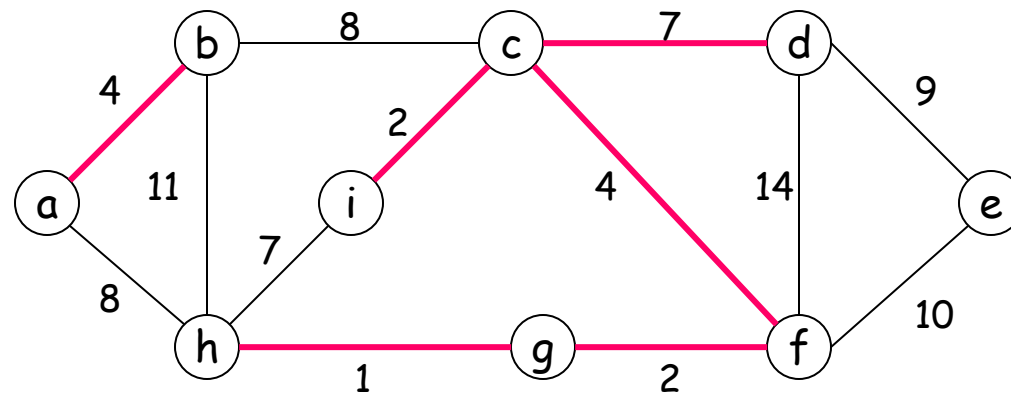
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 5)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	7
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



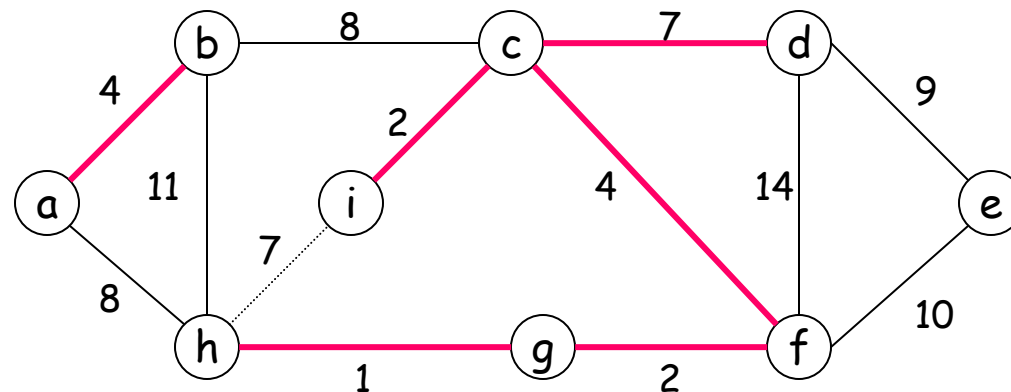
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 6)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	7
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 7)

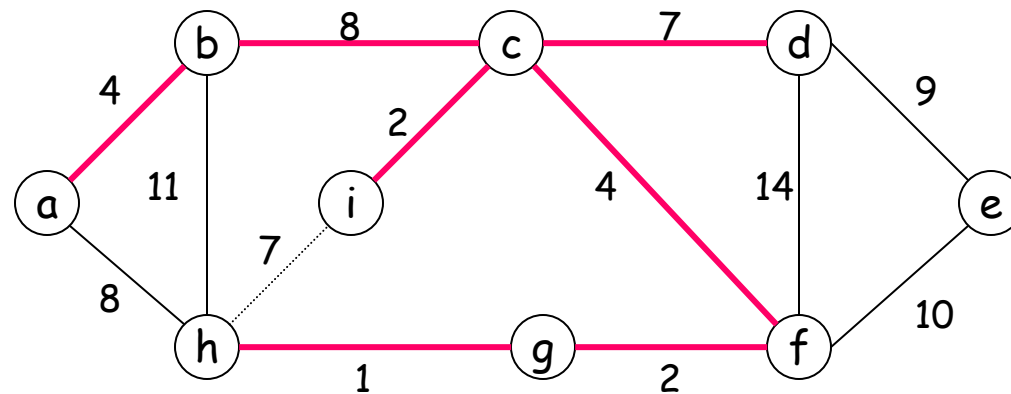
(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	<del>7</del>
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



(h,i) cannot be in the solution because it forms a cycle with the previously selected edges.

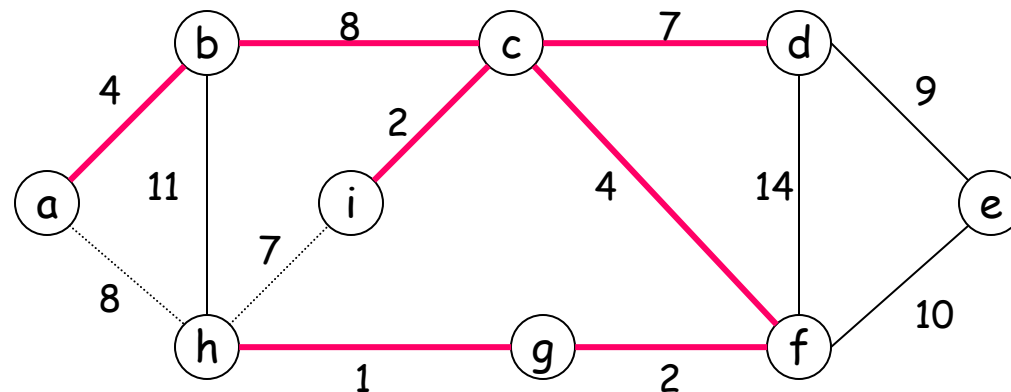
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 8)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	<del>7</del>
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	8
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 9)

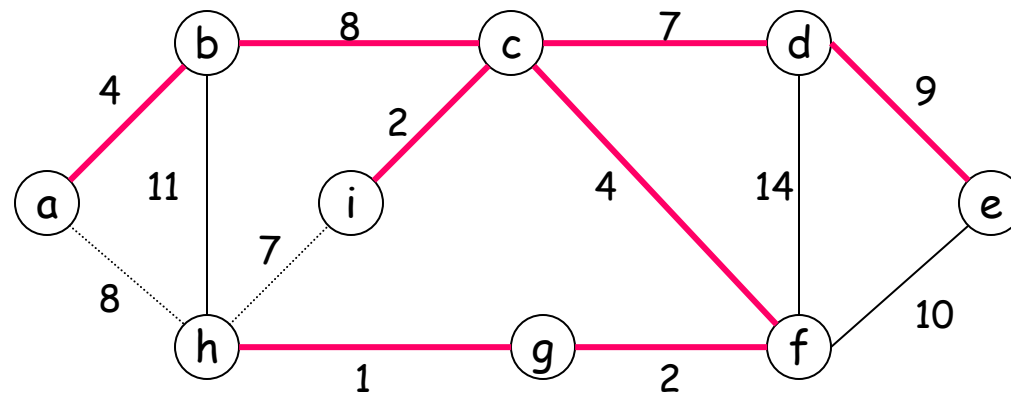
(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	<del>7</del>
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	<del>8</del>
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



(a,h) cannot be in the solution because it forms a cycle with the previously selected edges.

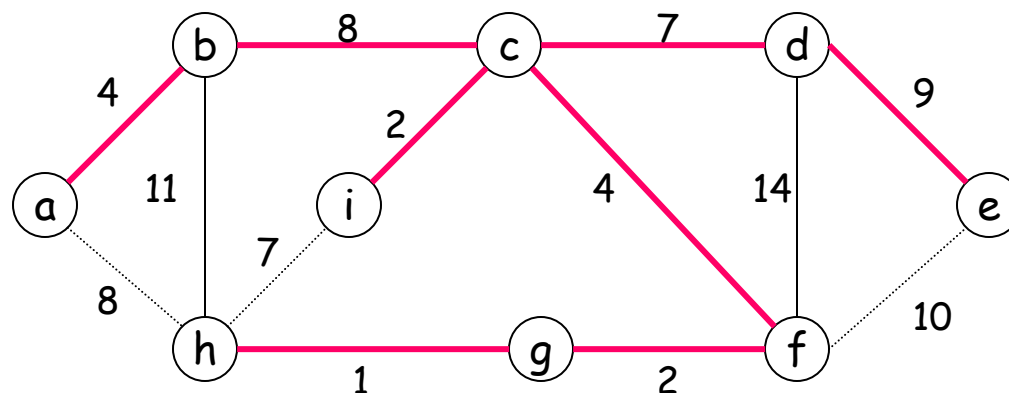
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 10)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	<del>7</del>
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	<del>8</del>
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	10
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14



# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 11)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	<del>7</del>
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	<del>8</del>
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	<del>10</del>
(b,h)	11
(d,f)	14

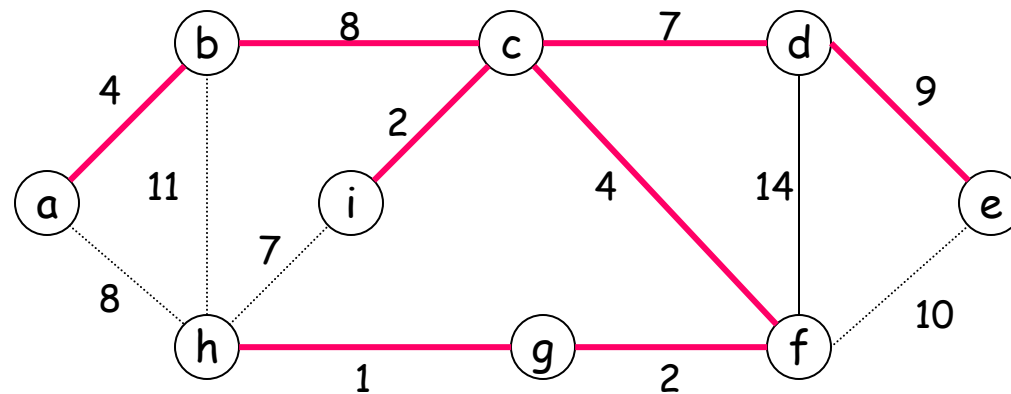


(f,e) cannot be in the solution because it forms a cycle with the previously selected edges.



# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 12)

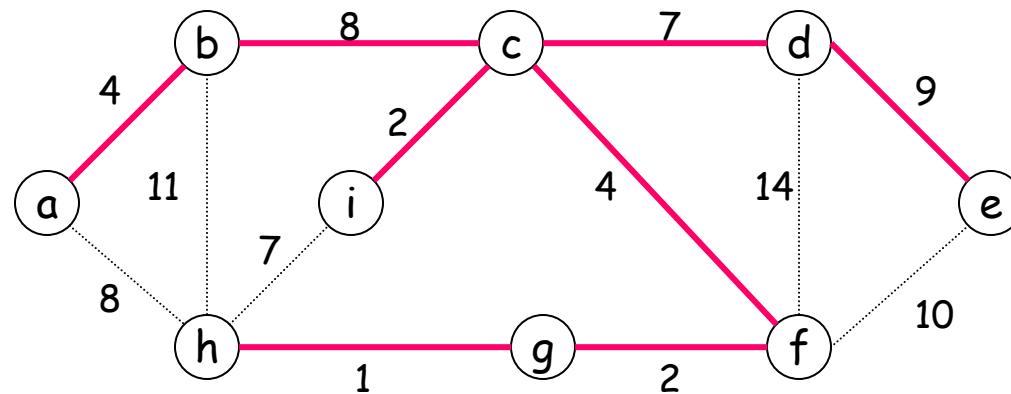
(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	<del>7</del>
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	<del>8</del>
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	<del>10</del>
(b,h)	<del>11</del>
(d,f)	14



(b,h) cannot be in the solution because it forms a cycle with the previously selected edges.

# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 13)

(h,g)	1
(i,c)	2
(g,f)	2
(a,b)	4
(c,f)	4
(c,d)	7
(h,i)	<del>7</del>
(b,c)	8
(a,h)	<del>8</del>
(d,e)	9
(f,e)	<del>10</del>
(b,h)	<del>11</del>
(d,f)	<del>14</del>



$$w(T) = 37$$

# Proof of correctness

The algorithm always returns a spanning tree because

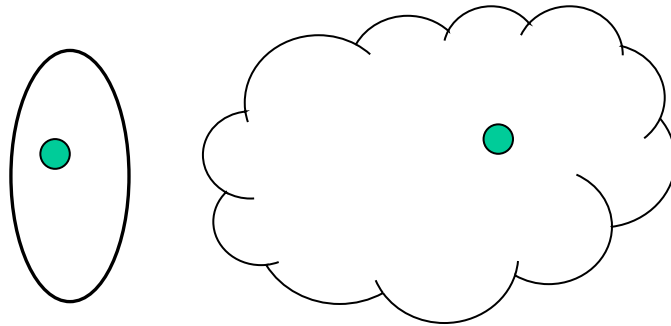
- the output has **no cycle**, and
- the output is **connected**.

➤ Why?

# Proof of correctness (cont')

The algorithm always returns a spanning tree because

- the output has **no cycle**, and
- the output is **connected**.
  - Why? Suppose the output is not connected. That is,

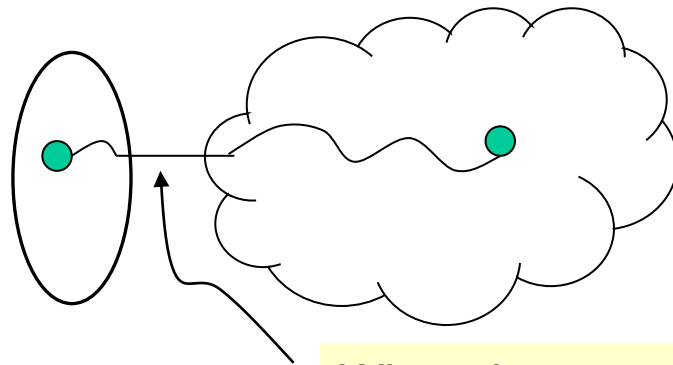


Pick two vertices in two different components

# Proof of correctness (cont')

The algorithm always returns a spanning tree because

- the output has **no cycle**, and
  - the output is **connected**.
- Why? Suppose the output is not connected. That is,



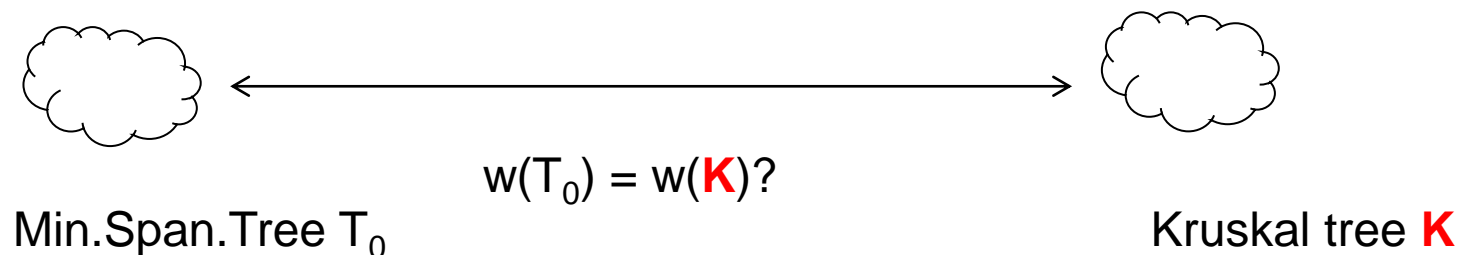
Since the input graph is connected, there must be a path connecting these two vertices.

When the execution checks this edge, it will not delete it as there is no cycle  $\Rightarrow$  contradiction

# Proof of correctness: Minimum weight

Kruskal's algorithm always return the minimum spanning tree.

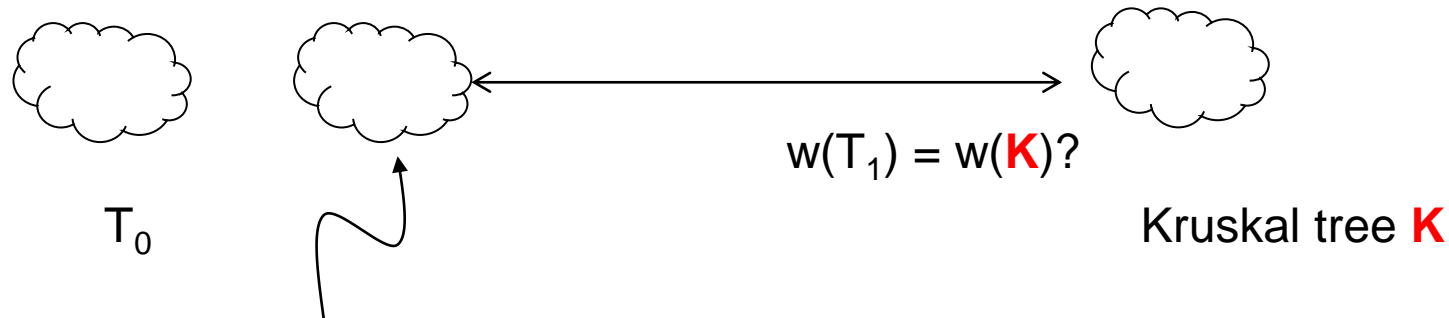
**Idea:** The framework of the proof is exactly the same as the one we use in proving the optimality of the Huffman code.



# Proof of correctness: Minimum weight

Kruskal's algorithm always return the minimum spanning tree.

**Idea:** The framework of the proof is exactly the same as the one we use in proving the optimality of the Huffman code.

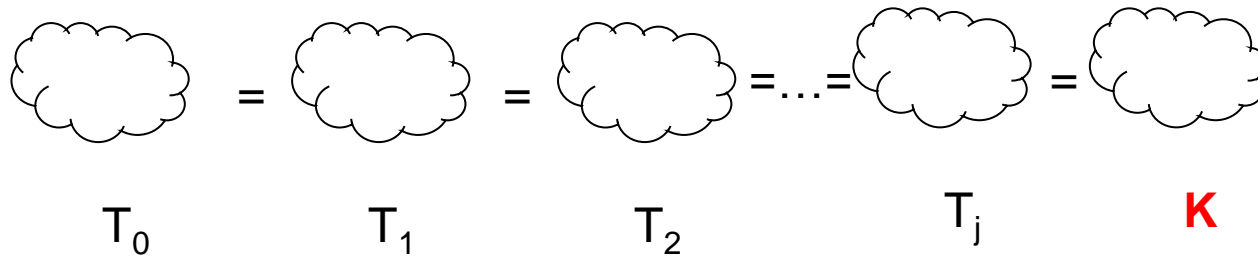


we construct a  
 $T_1$  such that  
 $w(T_0) = w(T_1)$  and  
 $T_1$  is “more similar” to  $\mathbf{K}$

# Proof of correctness: Minimum weight

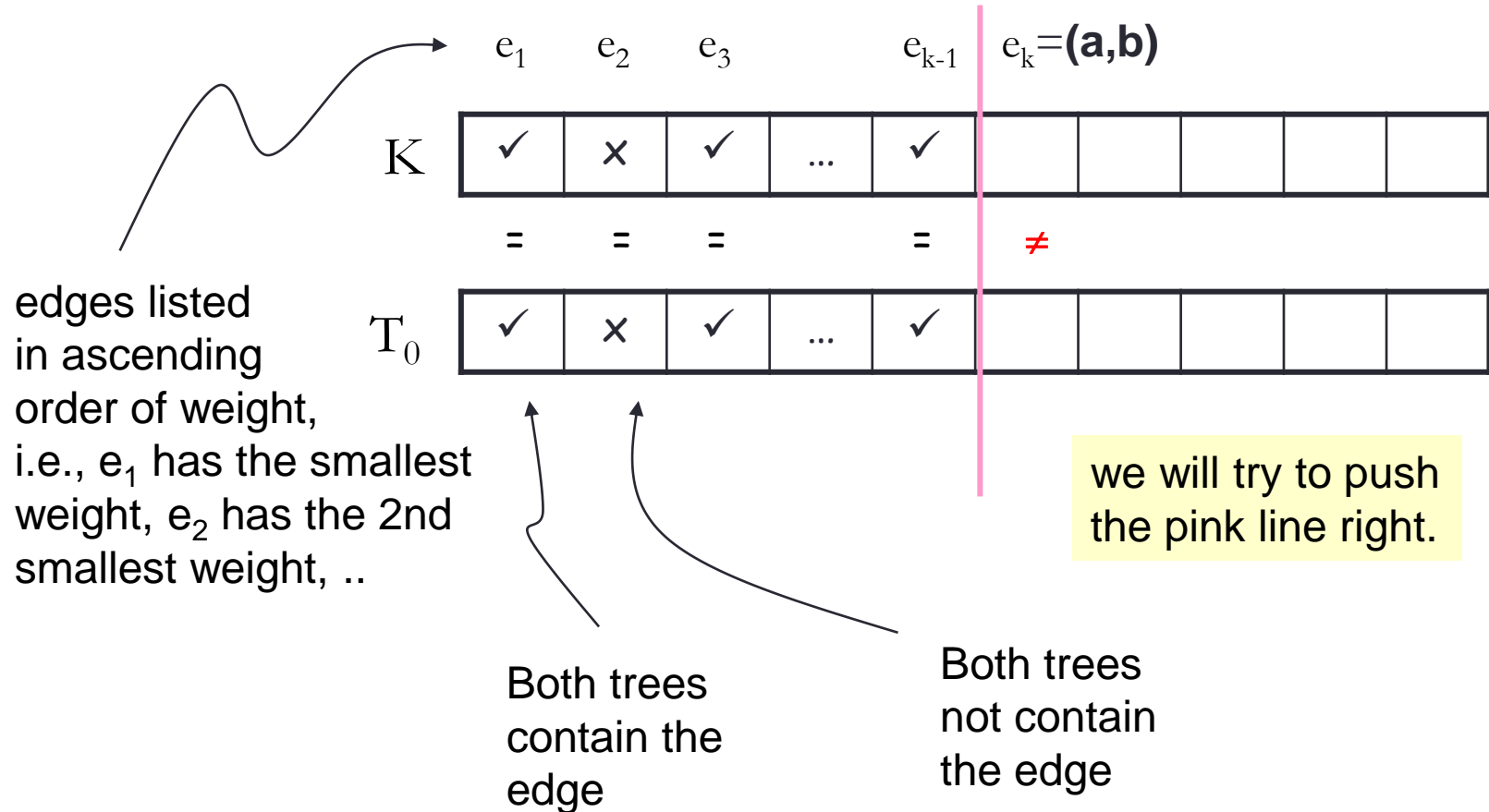
Kruskal's algorithm always return the minimum spanning tree.

**Idea:** The framework of the proof is exactly the same as the one we use in proving the optimality of the Huffman code.

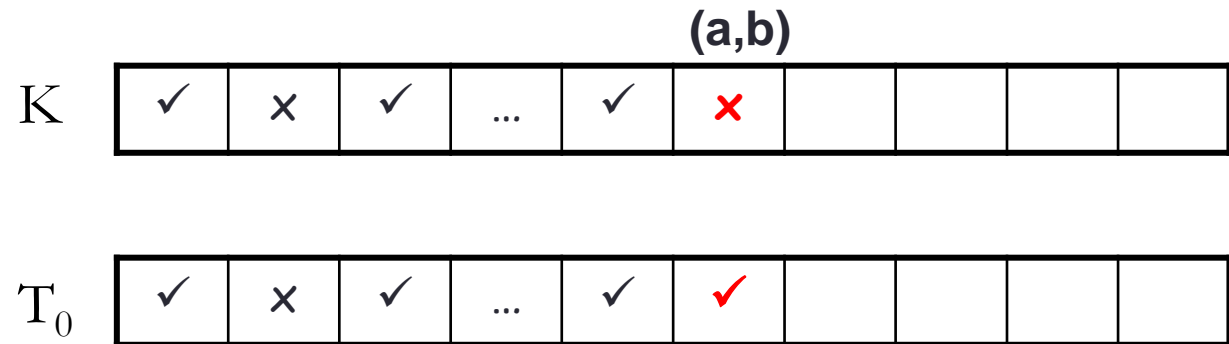




# How to construct $T_1$ ?



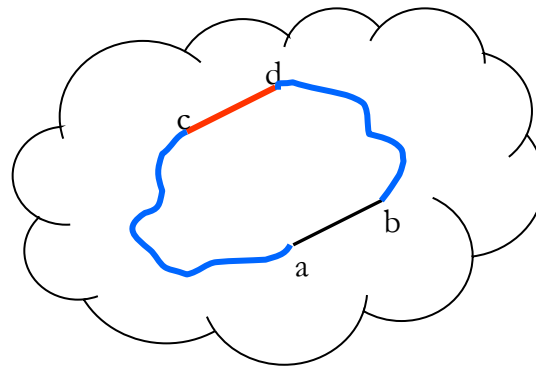
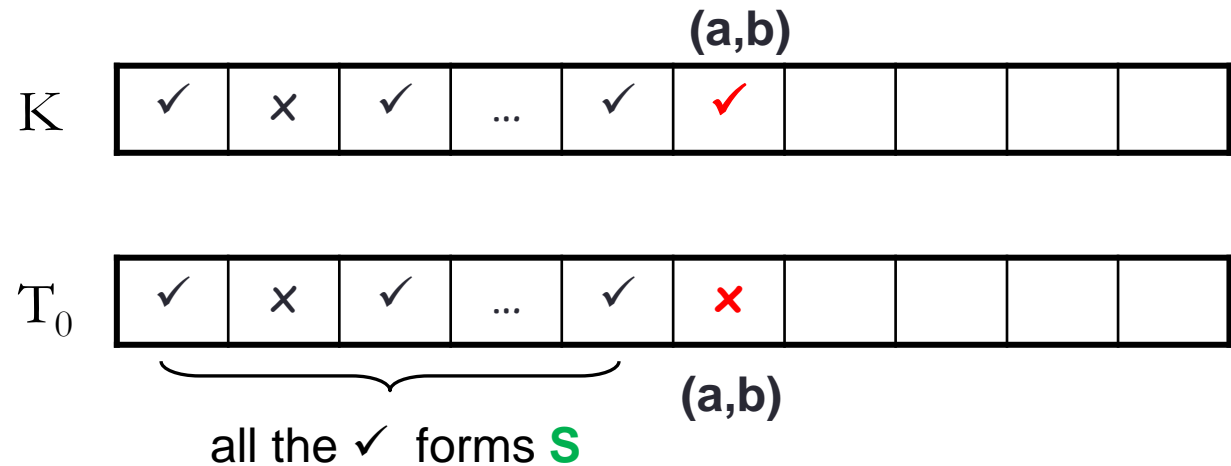
# How to construct $T_1$ ? (cont')



This case is not possible. Adding **(a,b)** will not form any cycle; otherwise the optimal solution is not a tree.

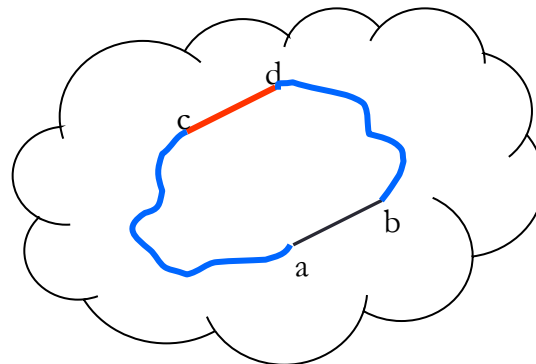
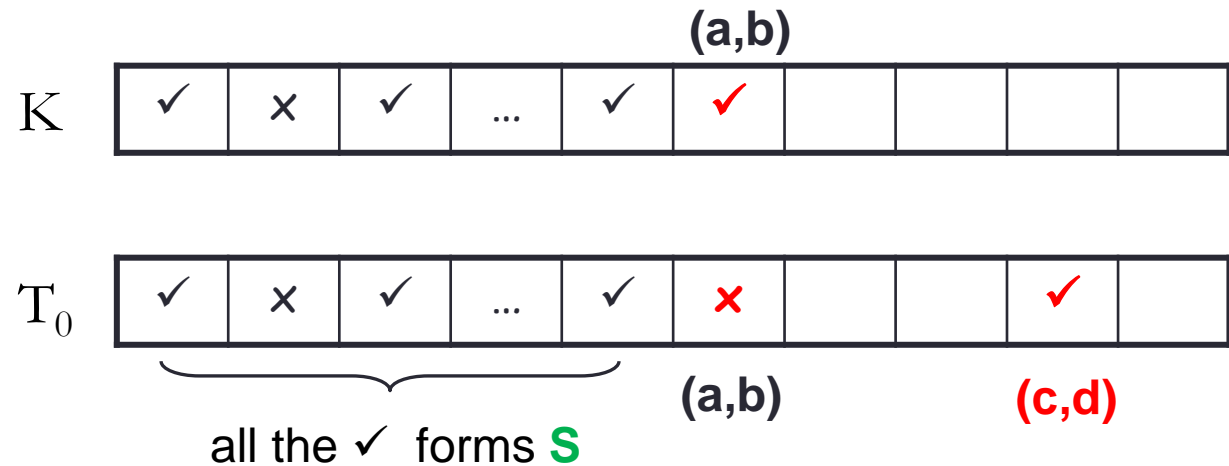
This implies Kruskal will also choose **(a,b)**.

# How to construct $T_1$ ? (cont')



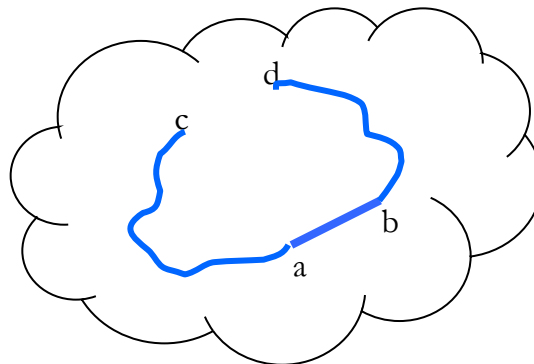
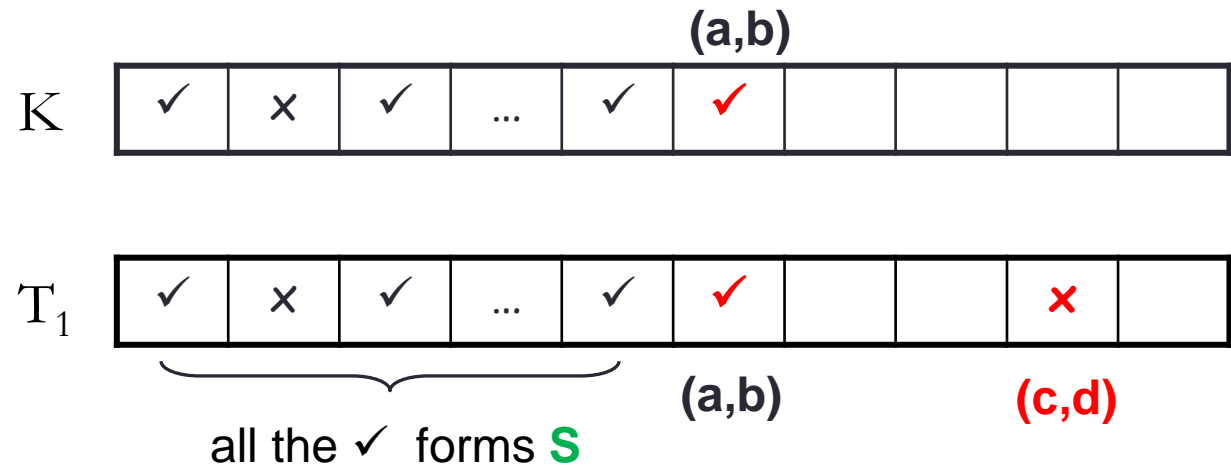
add the edge  $(a,b)$  to  $T_0$ , and we form a cycle, which must contain some edge  $(c,d)$  not in  $S \cup (a,b)$  (otherwise, Kruskal will not choose  $(a,b)$  ).

# How to construct $T_1$ ? (cont')



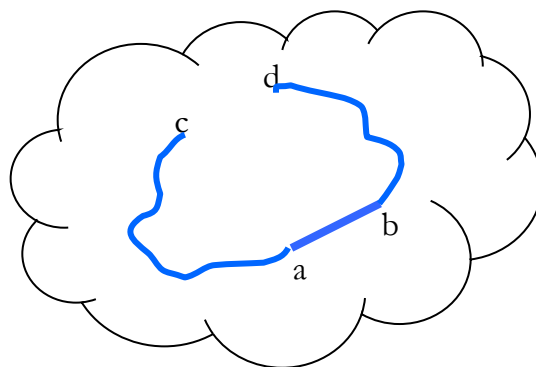
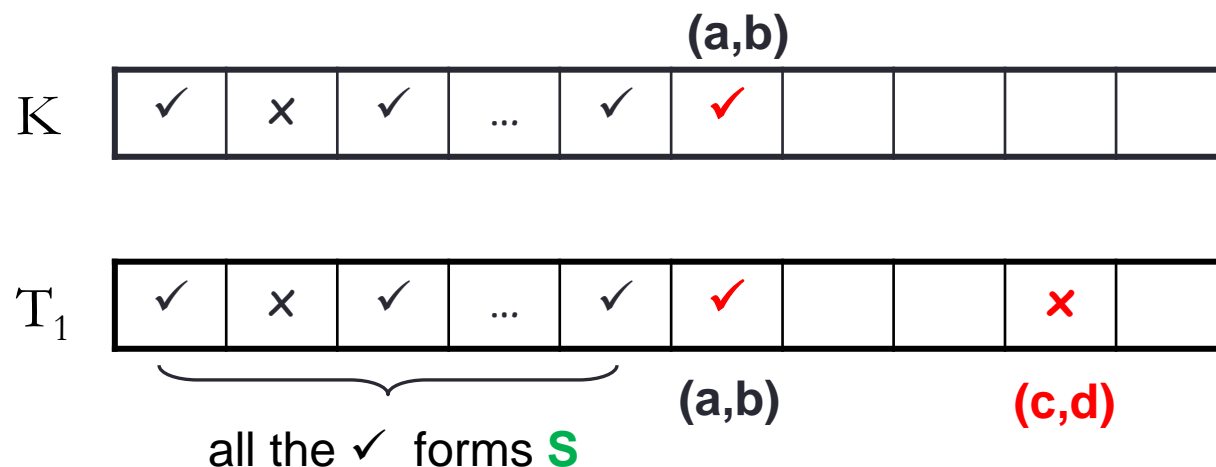
Thus,  $(c,d)$  is an edge in  $T_0$ , and is after  $(a,b)$ .

# How to construct $T_1$ ? (cont')



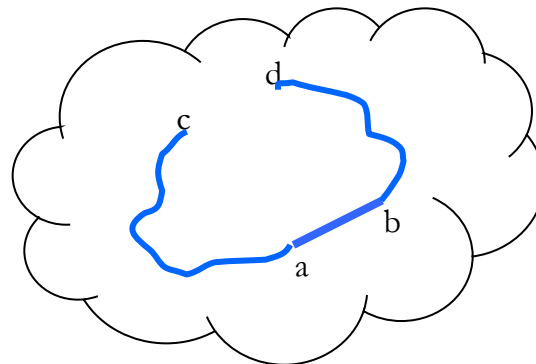
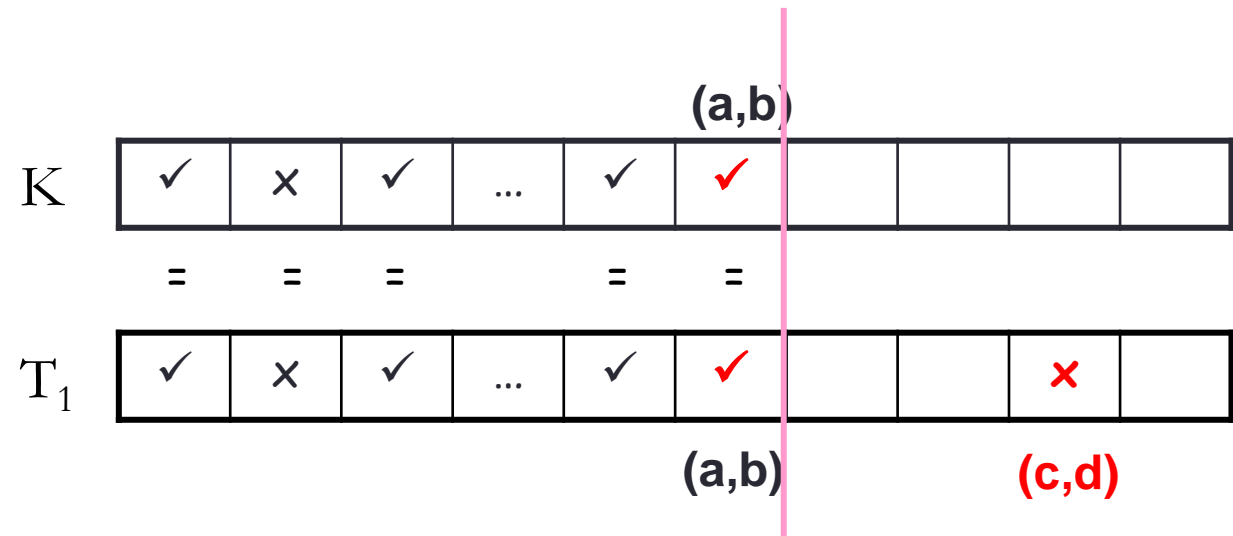
Delete  $(c,d)$  and add  $(a,b)$  forms another tree, which is  $T_1$ . Since edges are listed in ascending order,  $w(a,b) \leq w(c,d)$   $\Rightarrow w(T_1)$  is no greater than  $w(T_0)$ .

# How to construct $T_1$ ? (cont')



But  $T_0$  has the smallest weight  
(as  $T_0$  is a min. spanning tree)  
 $\Rightarrow w(T_1) = w(T_0)$

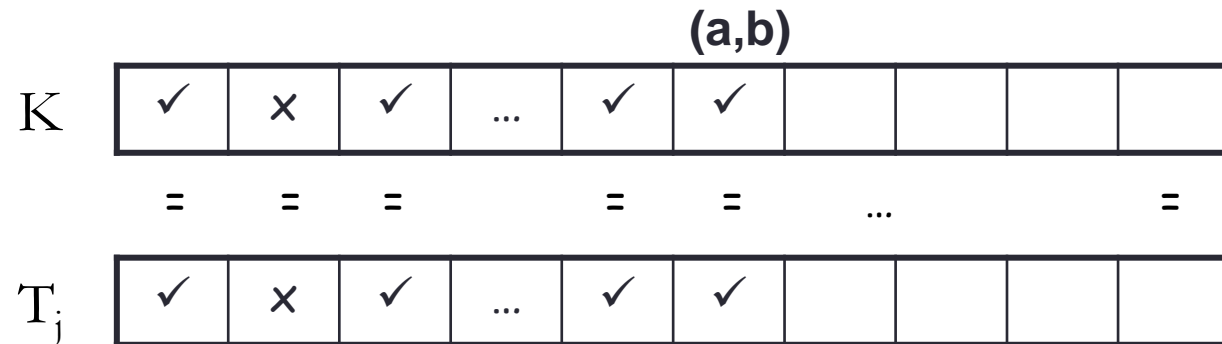
# How to construct $T_1$ ? (cont')



has one more edge  
same as K.

# Proof of correctness: Minimum weight

- Repeat the process, we will eventually push the pink line to the rightmost end.



Thus,  $\mathbf{K} = T_j$ ,

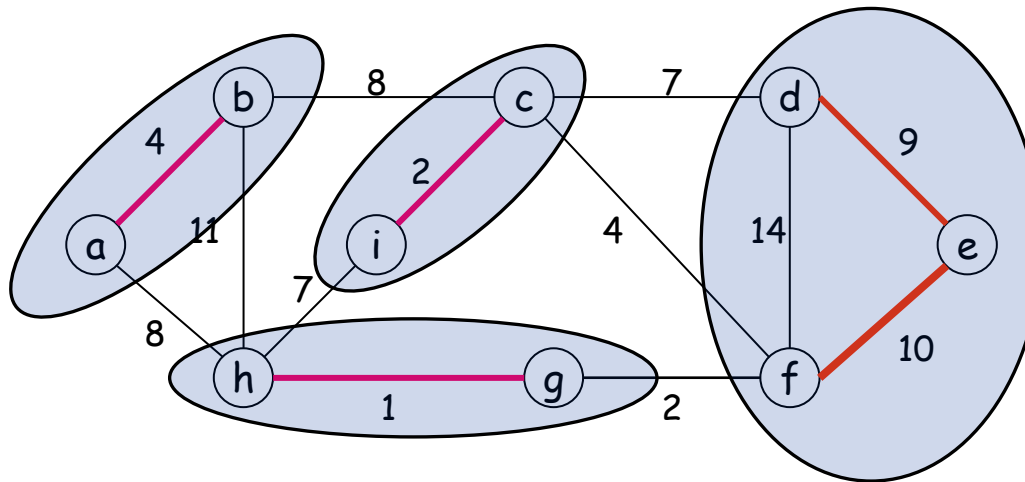
and we have  $w(T_0) = w(T_j) = w(\mathbf{K})$ .

This follows that  $\mathbf{K}$  has also the minimum weight; it is a minimum spanning tree (MST).



# Implementing Kruskal's algorithm

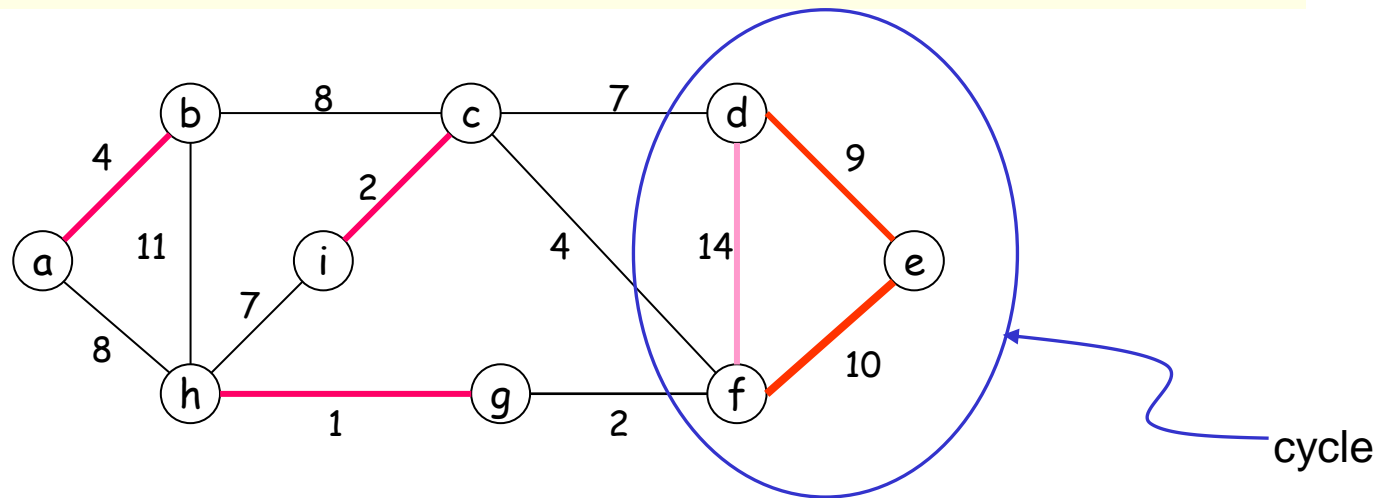
- How to determine whether adding an edge will cause a cycle?
- **Observation:** During the execution of the algorithm, the set of edges in the solution (red edges) forms **a set of disjoint trees**.



Four “subtrees”

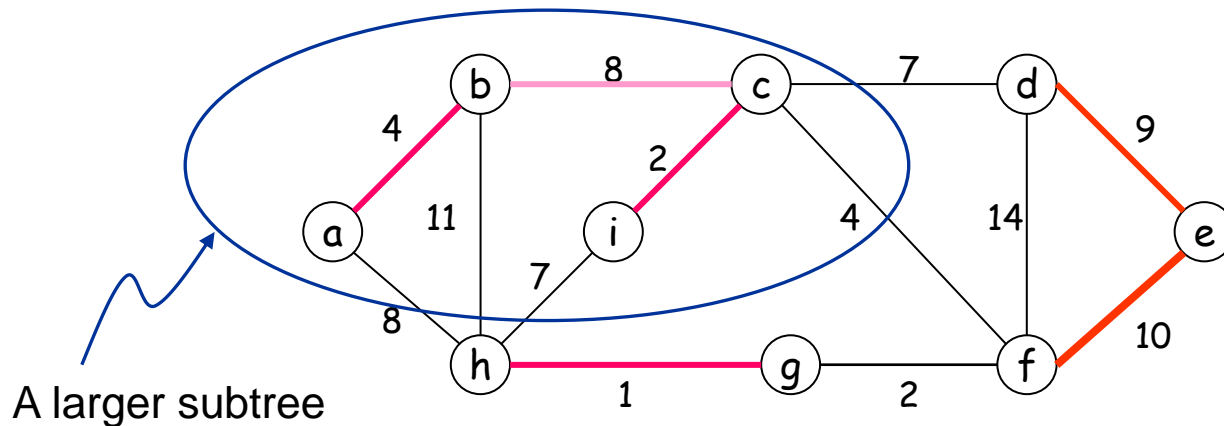
# Implementing Kruskal's algorithm (cont')

- **Observation:** During the execution of the algorithm, the set of edges in the solution (red edges) forms **a set of disjoint trees**.
- **Case 1:** Adding  $(u,v)$  where  $u$  and  $v$  are in the same subtree  $\Rightarrow$  **cycle** and thus not add to solution.



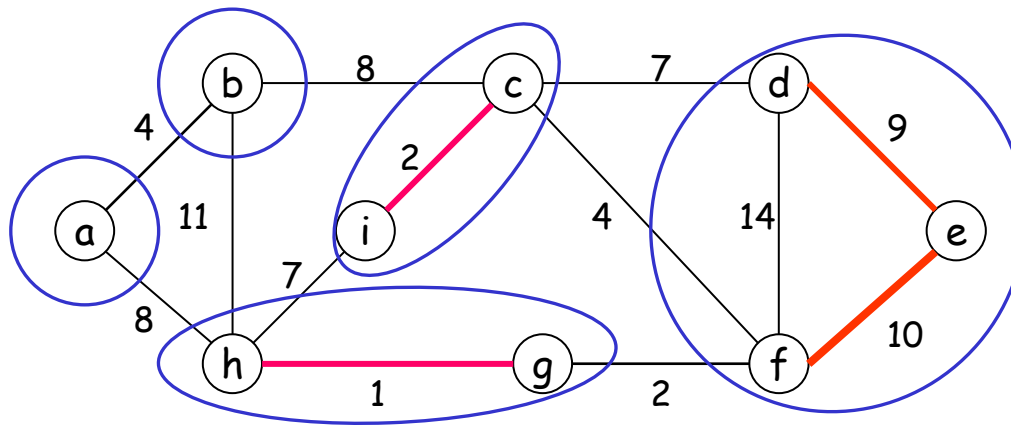
# Implementing Kruskal's algorithm (cont')

- **Observation:** During the execution of the algorithm, the set of edges in the solution (red edges) forms **a set of disjoint trees**.
- **Case 2:** Adding  $(u,v)$  where  $u$  and  $v$  are in the different subtrees  
⇒ add to solution to **form a larger subtree**



# Implementing Kruskal's algorithm (cont')

- **Idea:** Remember the sets of vertices of the subtrees. (We agree that isolated vertex is also a subtree.)

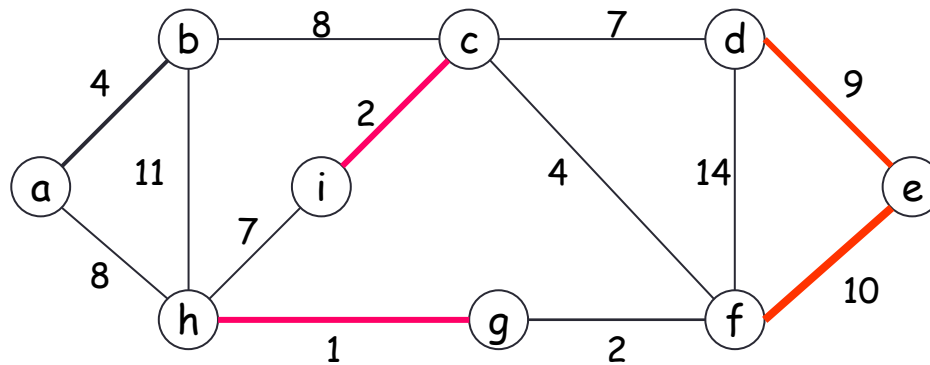


The “forest” (i.e., set of subtrees):

$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{i,c\}, \{h,g\}, \{d,e,f\}$

# Find-Set(vertex)

- **Case 1: Adding edge (d,f).** Since **Find-Set(d) = Find-Set(f)**,  
 $\Rightarrow$  d, f are in the **same** set and hence are in the **same** tree  
 $\Rightarrow$  **cycle** and don't add (d,f) to the current solution set.



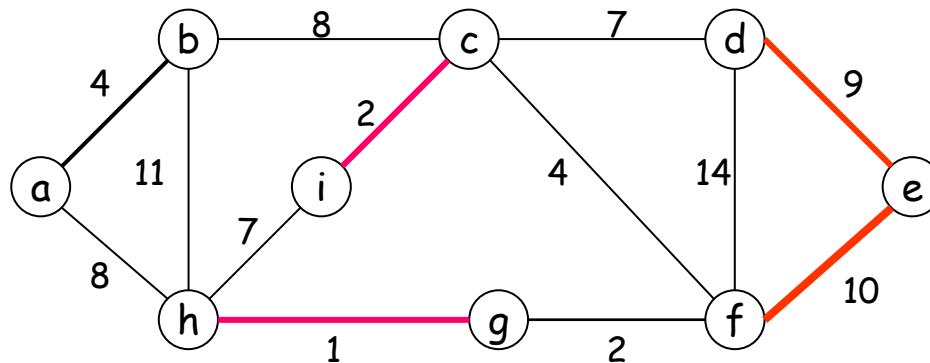
return the set  
which the  
argument  
belongs in the  
current forest.

The “forest” (i.e., set of subtrees):

$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{i,c\}, \{h,g\}, \{d,e,f\}$

# Union(set 1, set 2)

- **Case 2: Adding edge (i,h).** Since  $\text{Find-Set}(i) \neq \text{Find-Set}(h)$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow i, h$  are in **different** sets, and hence in **different** trees.  
 $\Rightarrow$  no cycle and add (i,h) to the solution set, and  
 $\Rightarrow$  “merge” the two subtrees by **Union**(Find-Set(i), Find-Set(h)).

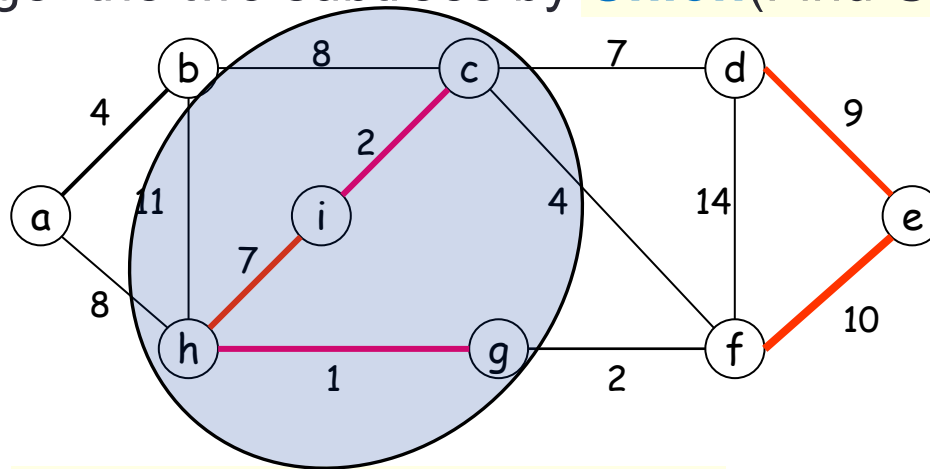


The “forest” (i.e., set of subtrees):

$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{i,c\}, \{h,g\}, \{d,e,f\}$

# Union(set 1, set 2) (cont')

- **Case 2: Adding edge (i,h).** Since  $\text{Find-Set}(i) \neq \text{Find-Set}(h)$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow$  i, h are in **different** sets, and hence in **different** trees.  
 $\Rightarrow$  no cycle and add (i,h) to the solution set, and  
 $\Rightarrow$  “merge” the two subtrees by **Union**(Find-Set(i), Find-Set(h)).



The “forest” (i.e., set of subtrees):

$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{i, c, h, g\}, \{d, e, f\}$

# Kruskal's algorithm

MST-KRUSKAL( $G, w$ )

```

1   $A = \emptyset$ 
2  for each vertex  $v \in G.V$ 
3      MAKE-SET( $v$ )
4  sort the edges of  $G.E$  into nondecreasing order by weight  $w$ 
5  for each edge  $(u, v) \in G.E$ , taken in nondecreasing order by weight
6      if FIND-SET( $u$ )  $\neq$  FIND-SET( $v$ )
7           $A = A \cup \{(u, v)\}$ 
8          UNION( $u, v$ )
9  return  $A$ 

```

- No. of **Make-Set** =  $|V|$ , No. of **Find-Set** =  $2 |E|$ , No. of **Union** =  $|V| - 1$

- ***Union-Find Disjoint Sets*** take  **$O(V \log V)$**  time for **all** unions.

- Sorting of edges has a time complexity of  $O(E \log E)$

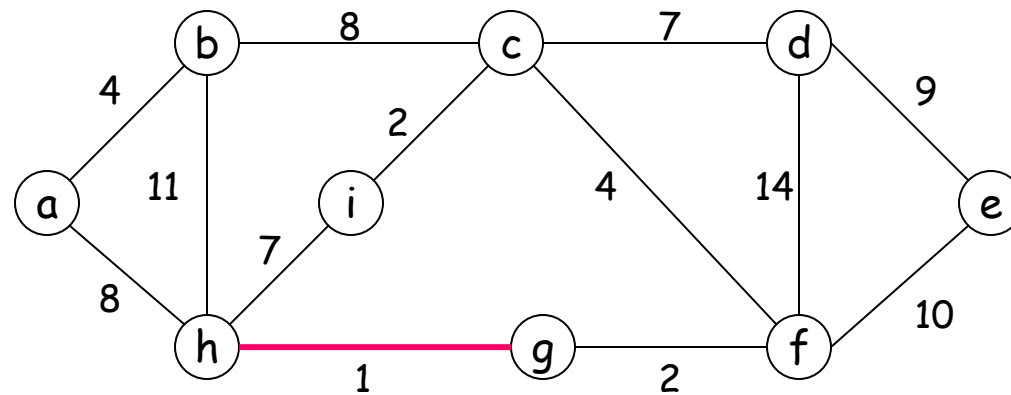
$\Rightarrow$  **Total time complexity** =  $O(E \log \mathbf{E} + 2E + \mathbf{V} \log V)$

=  $O(E \log \mathbf{V}^2 + \mathbf{E} \log V)$  [a tree has  $|V| - 1$  edges, so  $|E| \geq |V| - 1$ ]

=  $O(\mathbf{2E} \log \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{E} \log V) = \mathbf{O(E \log V)}$ .

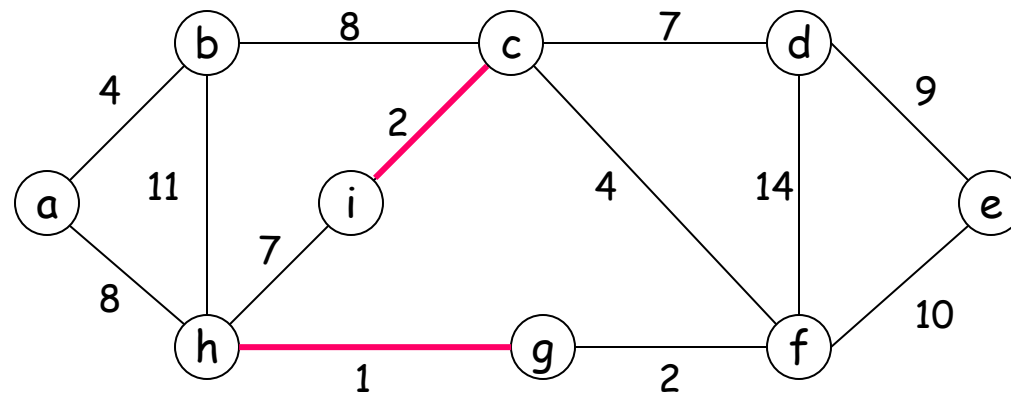


# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 1)



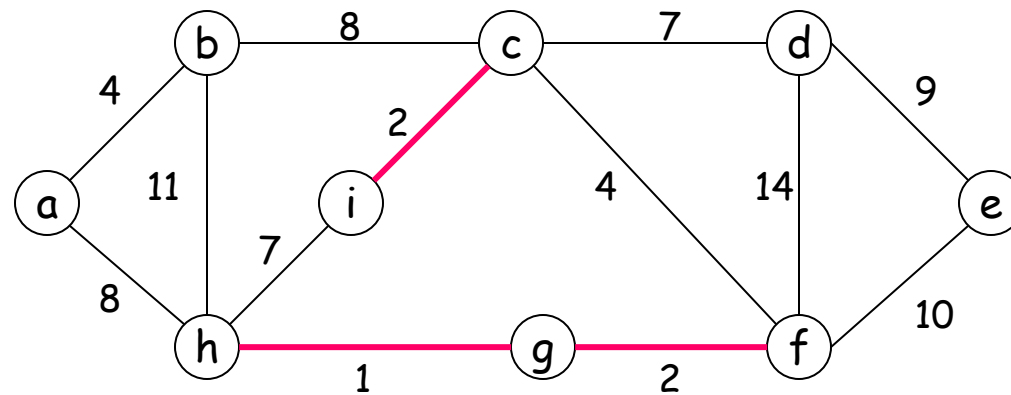
$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{e\}, \{f\}, \{g\}, \{h\}, \{i\}$

## Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 2)



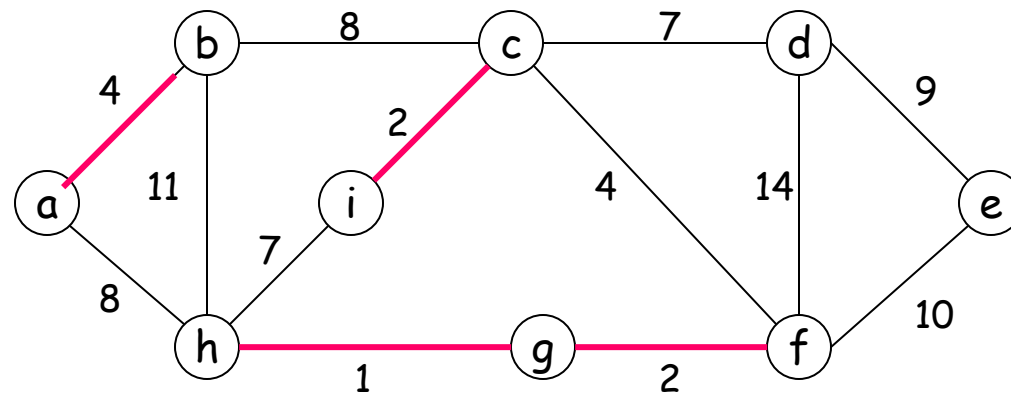
$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{e\}, \{f\}, \{g, h\}, \{i\}$

# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 3)



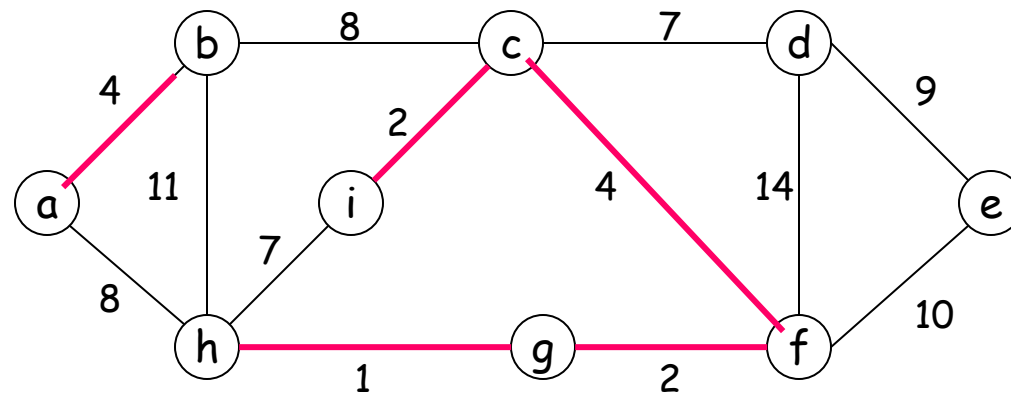
$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c,i\}, \{d\}, \{e\}, \{f\}, \{h,g\}$

# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 4)



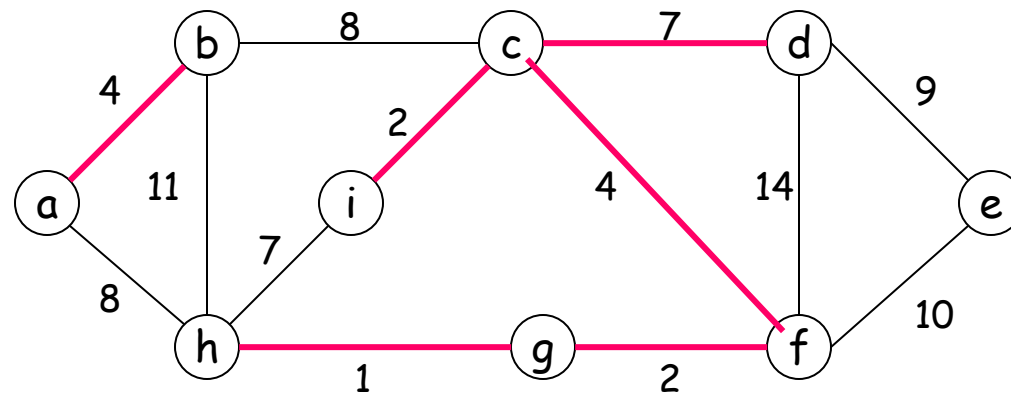
$\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c,i\}, \{d\}, \{e\}, \{f,h,g\}$

# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 5)



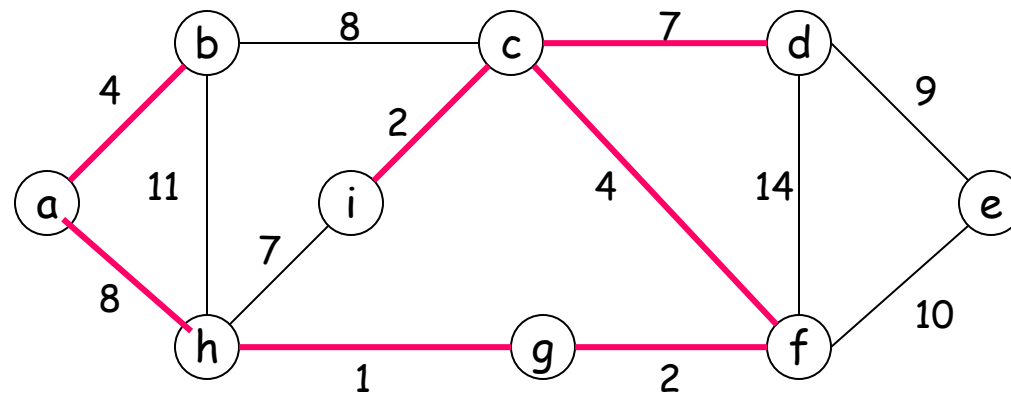
$\{a,b\}, \{c,i\}, \{d\}, \{e\}, \{f,h,g\}$

# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 6)



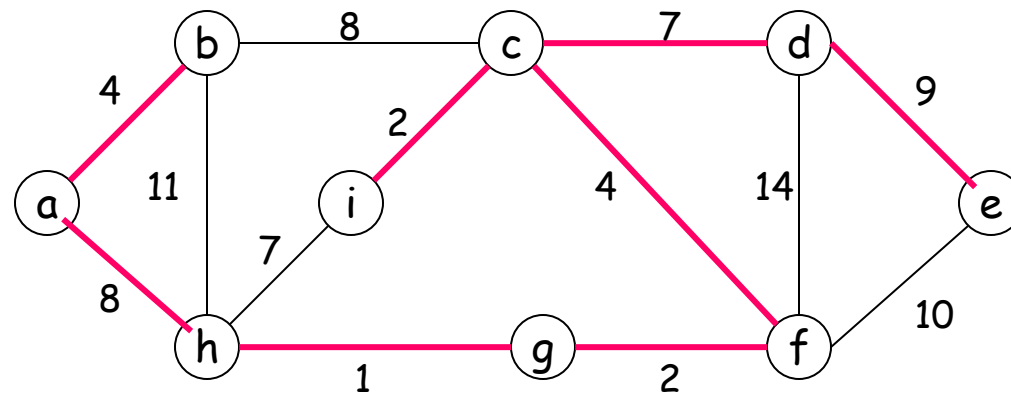
$\{a,b\}, \{c,i,f,h,g\}, \{d\}, \{e\}$

# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 7)



$\{a,b\}, \{c,i,f,h,g,d\}, \{e\}$

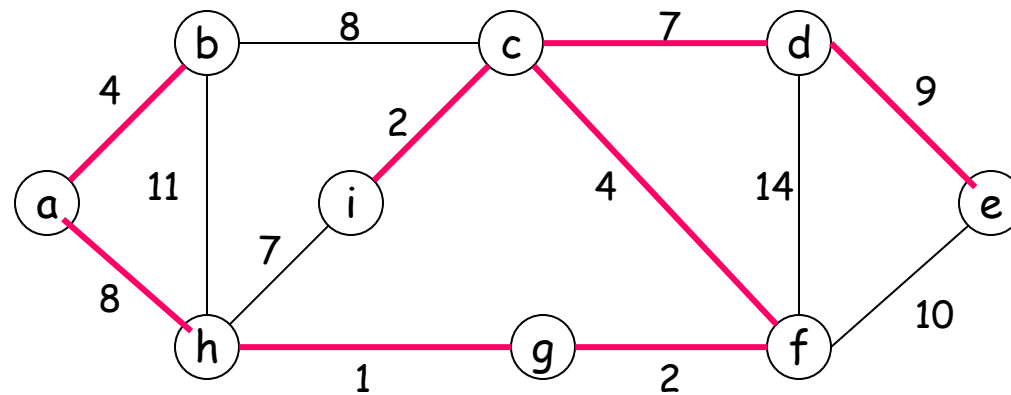
# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 8)



$\{a,b,c,i,f,h,g,d\}, \{e\}$



# Kruskal's algorithm: Sample run (Step 9)



$\{a,b,c,i,f,h,g,d,e\}$