

# DFS, BFS, and Dijkstra's Algorithm Demonstrations

Written by Melanie Baybay  
University of San Francisco

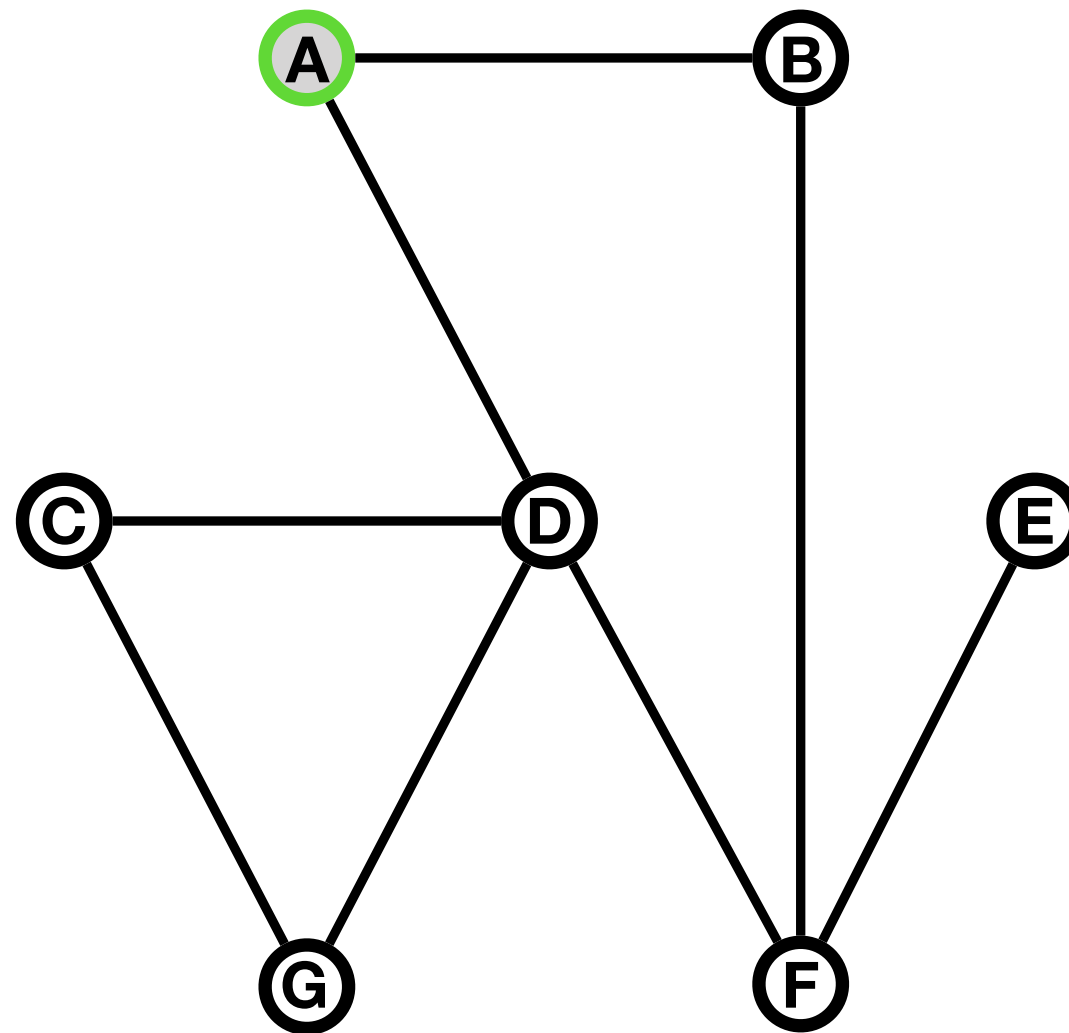
# Depth First Search

explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)

- track visited nodes
- recursively visit neighbors until all nodes have been visited

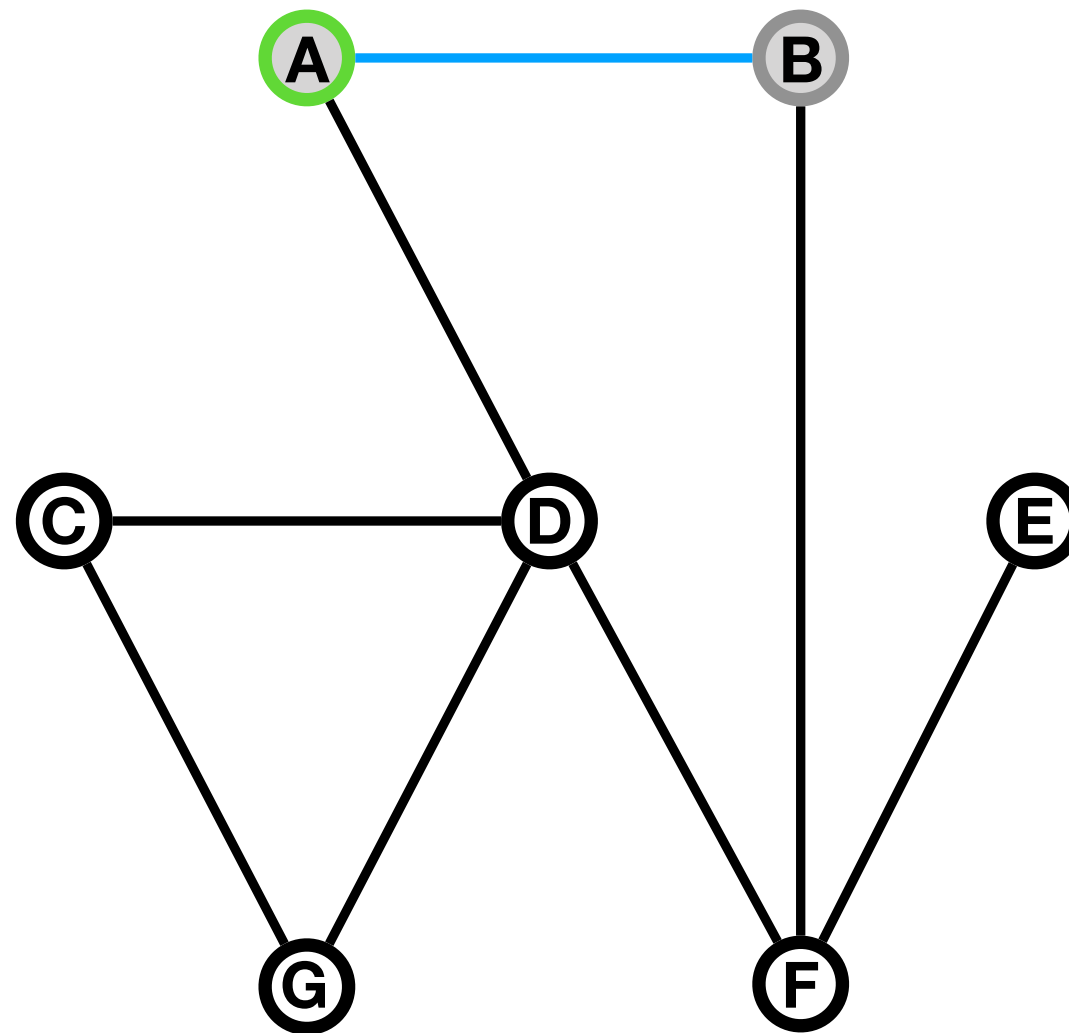
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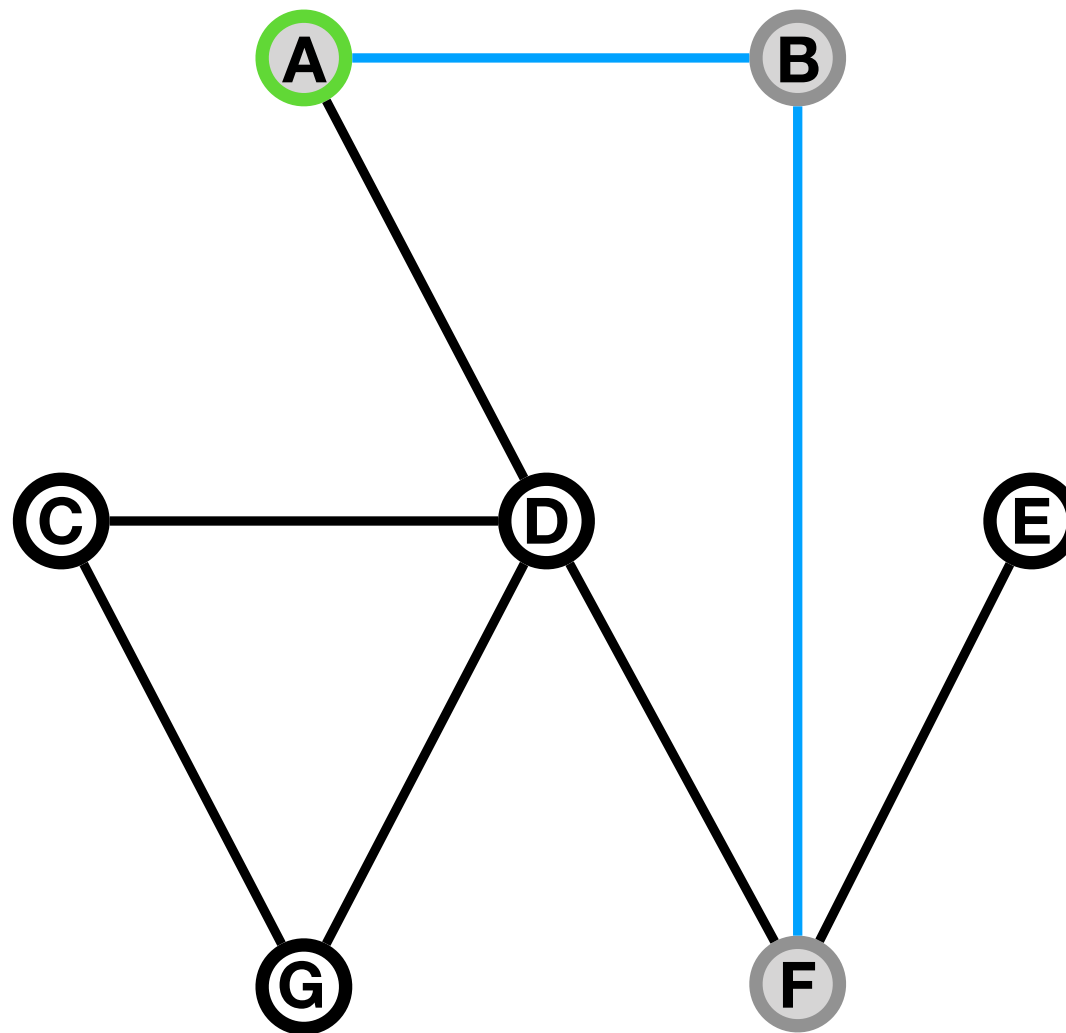
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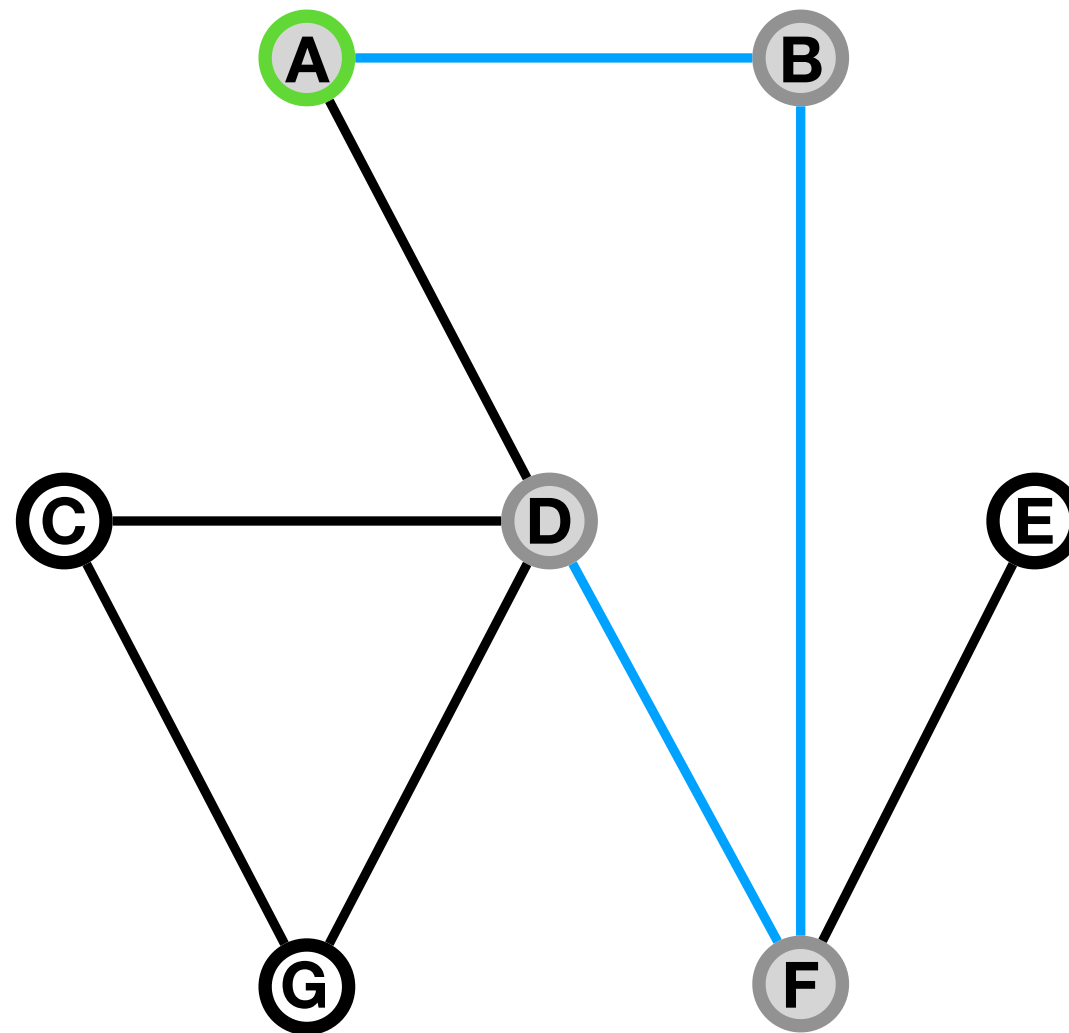
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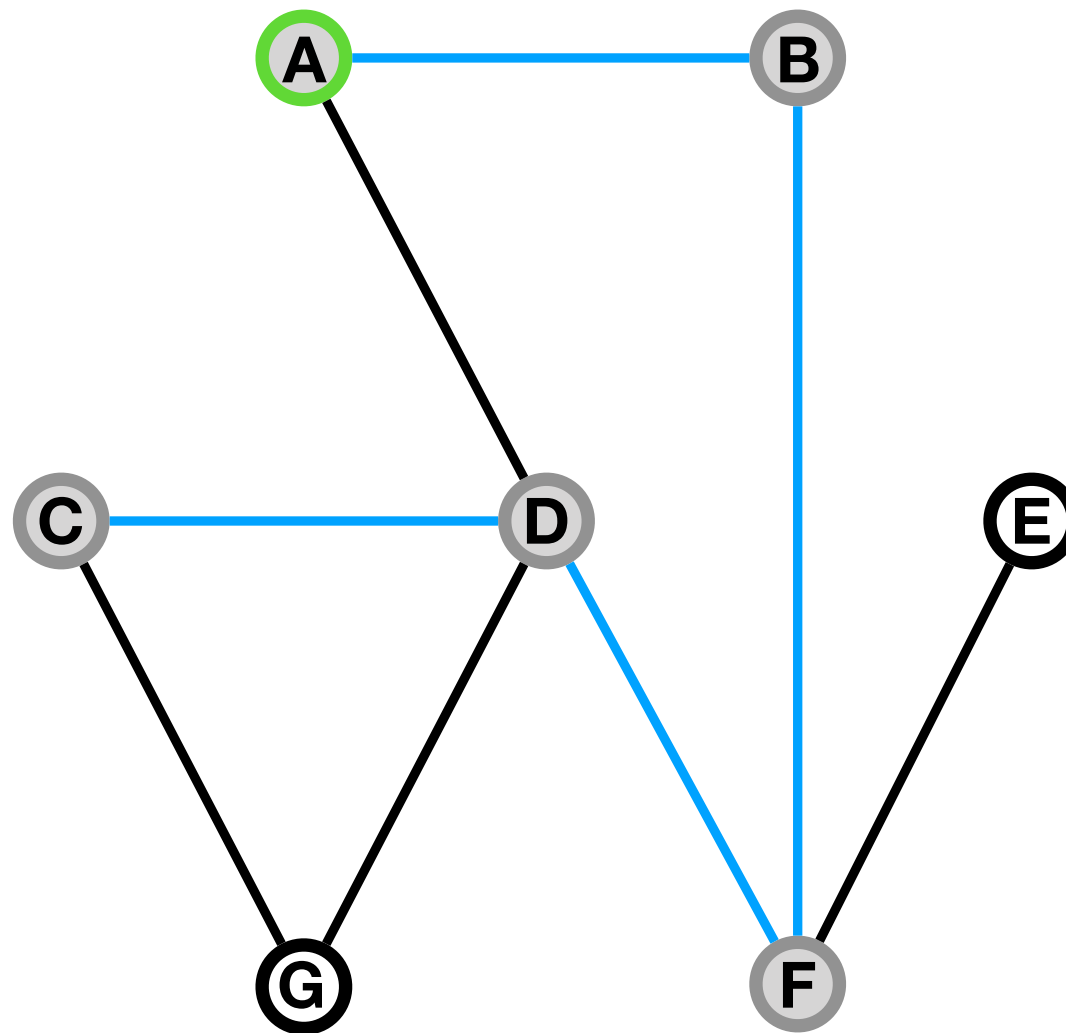
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



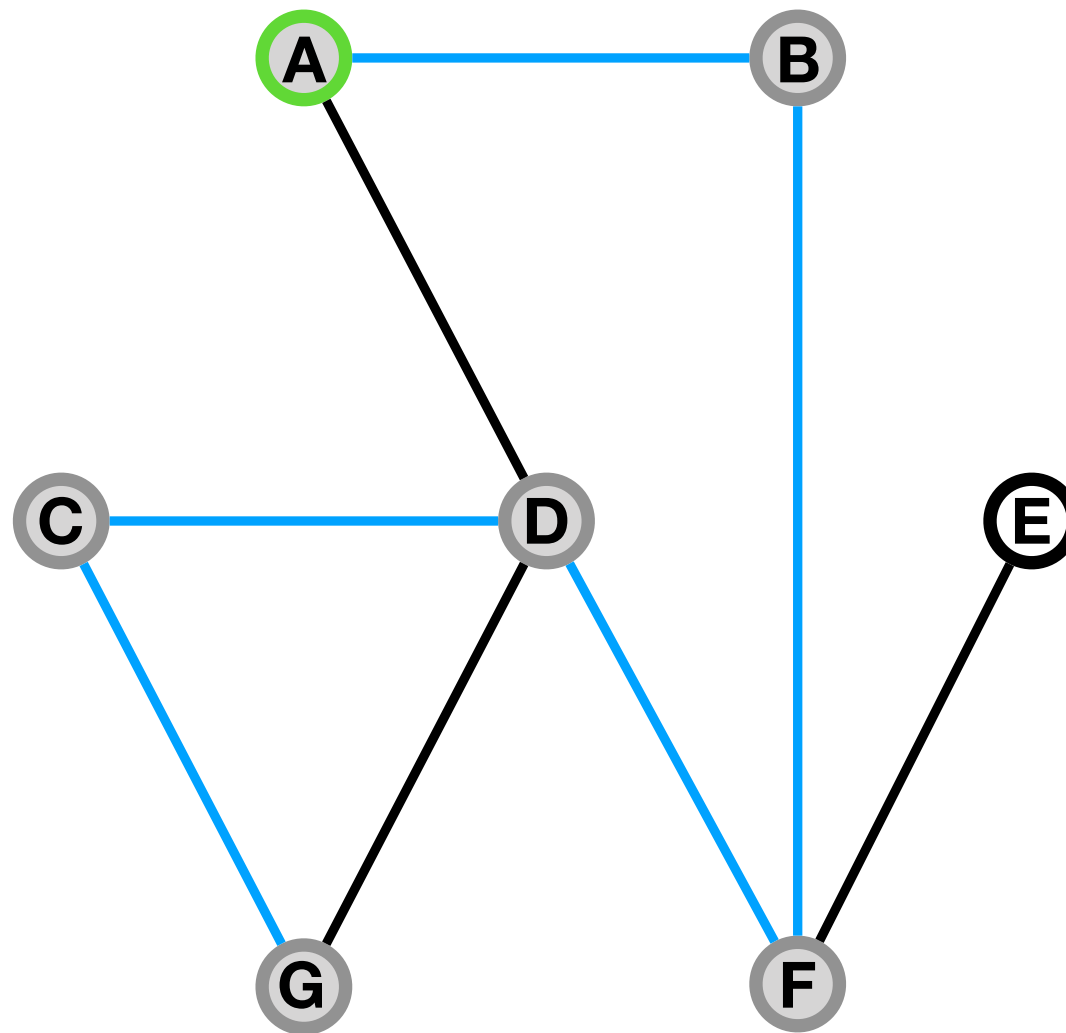
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



# Depth First Search

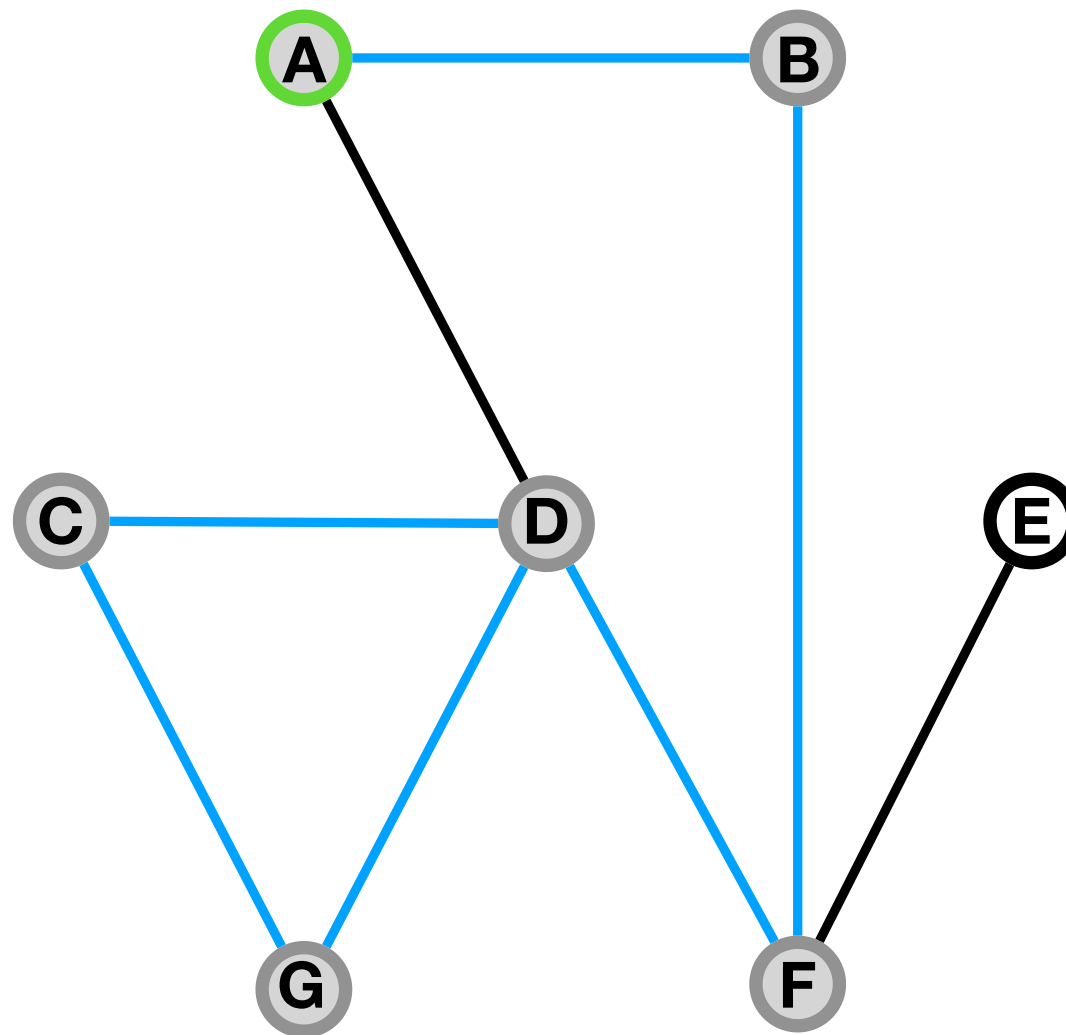
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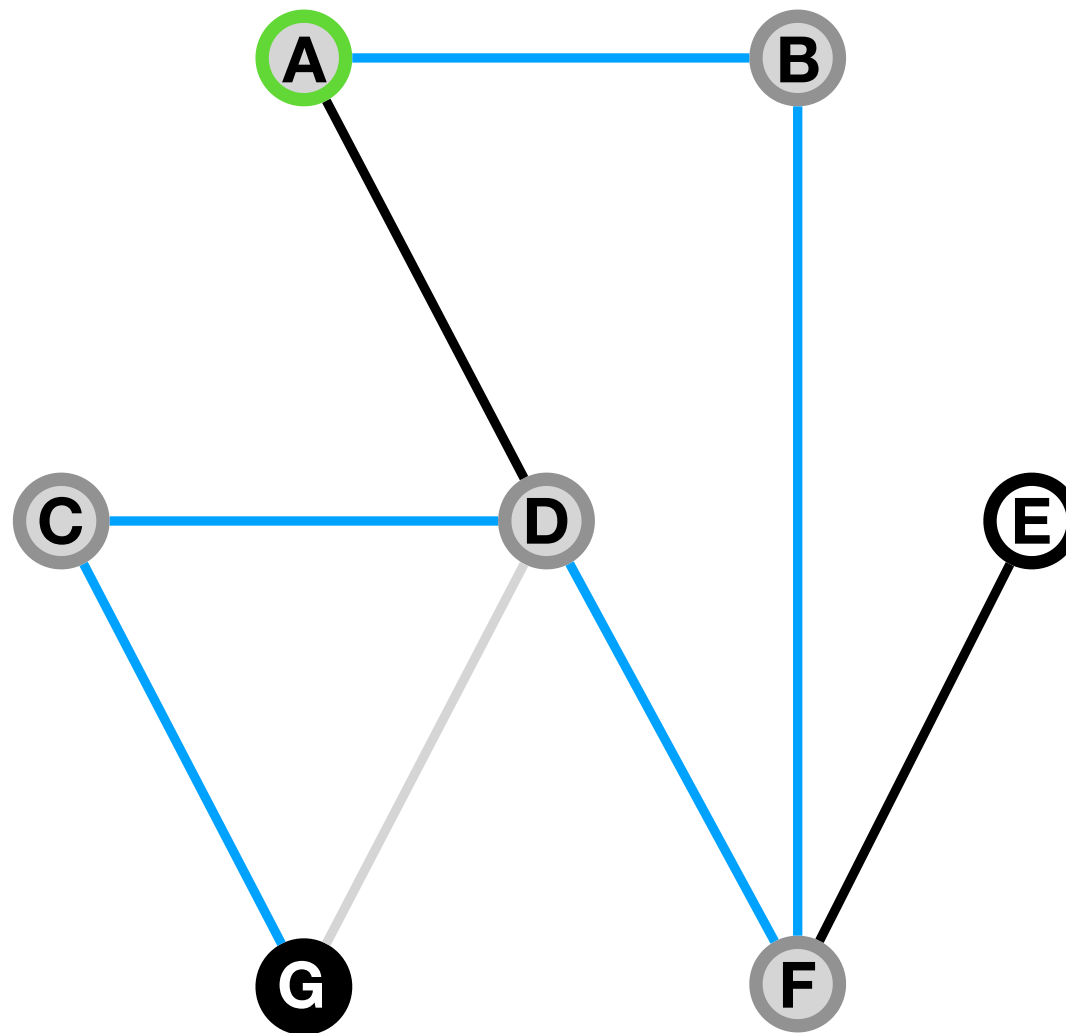
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



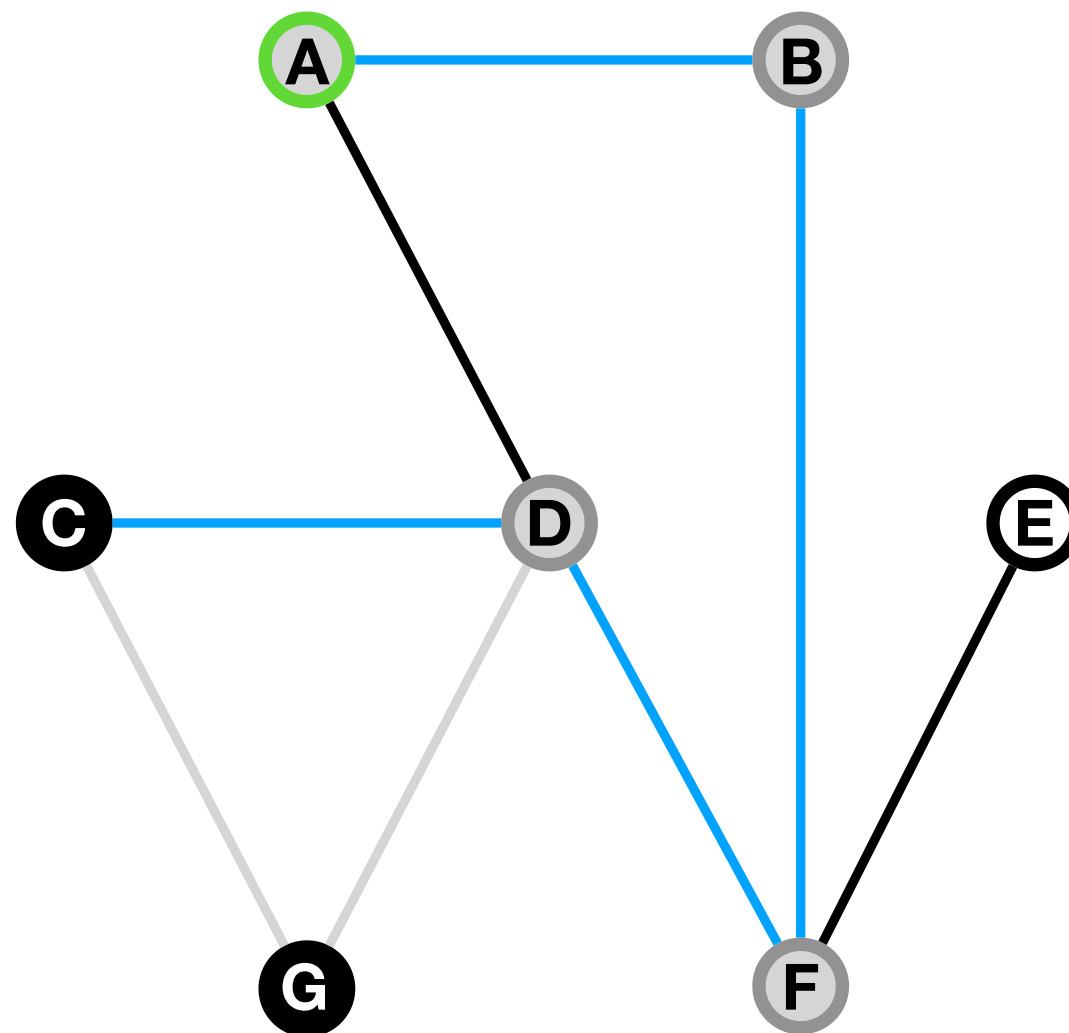
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



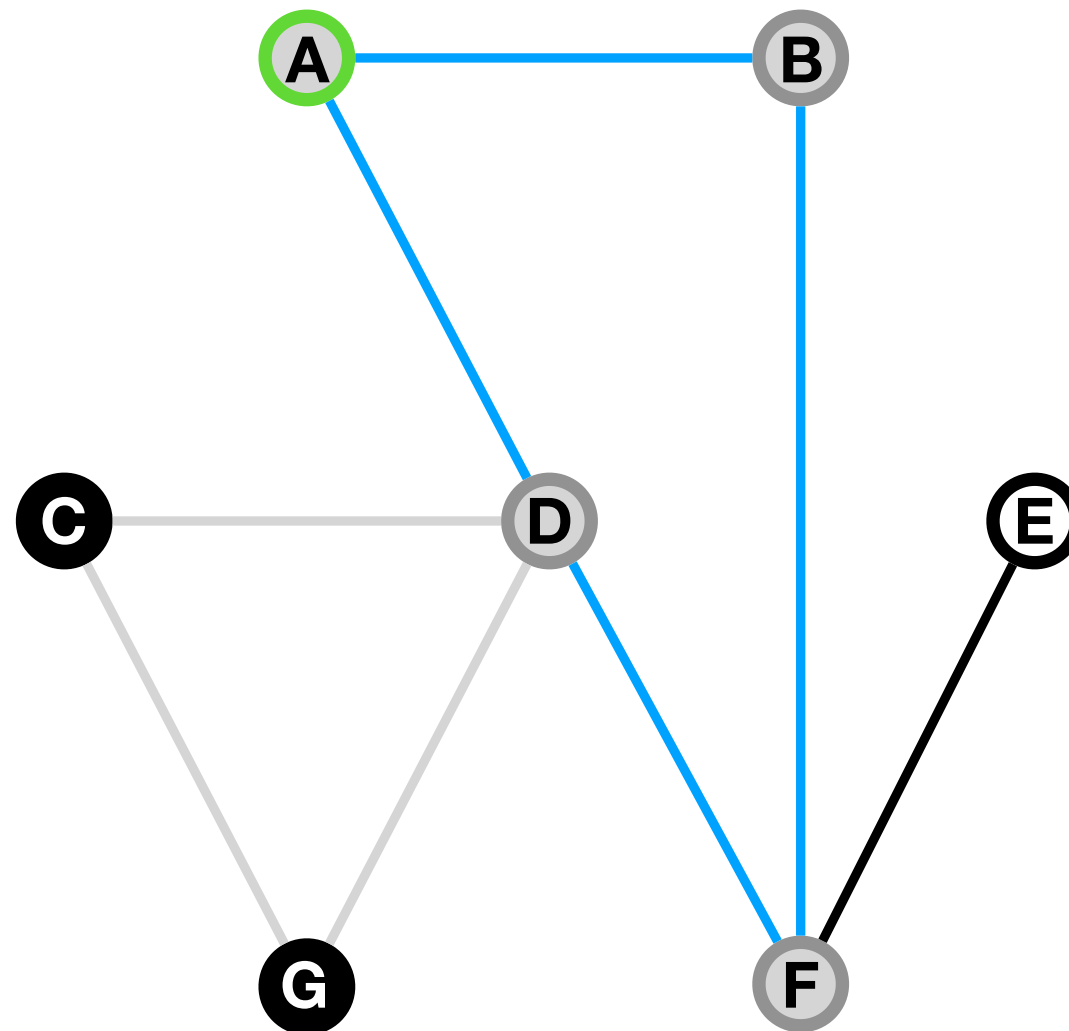
# Depth First Search

explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



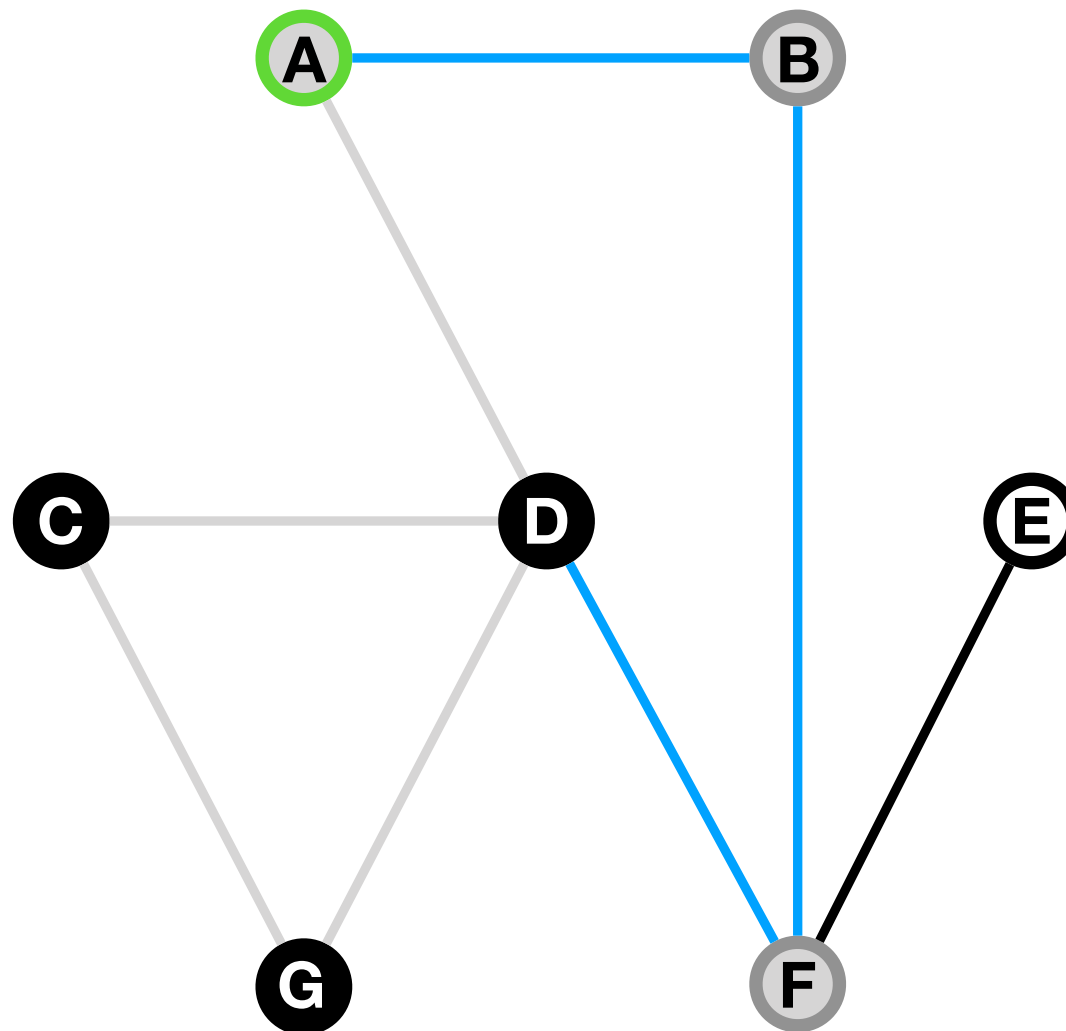
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



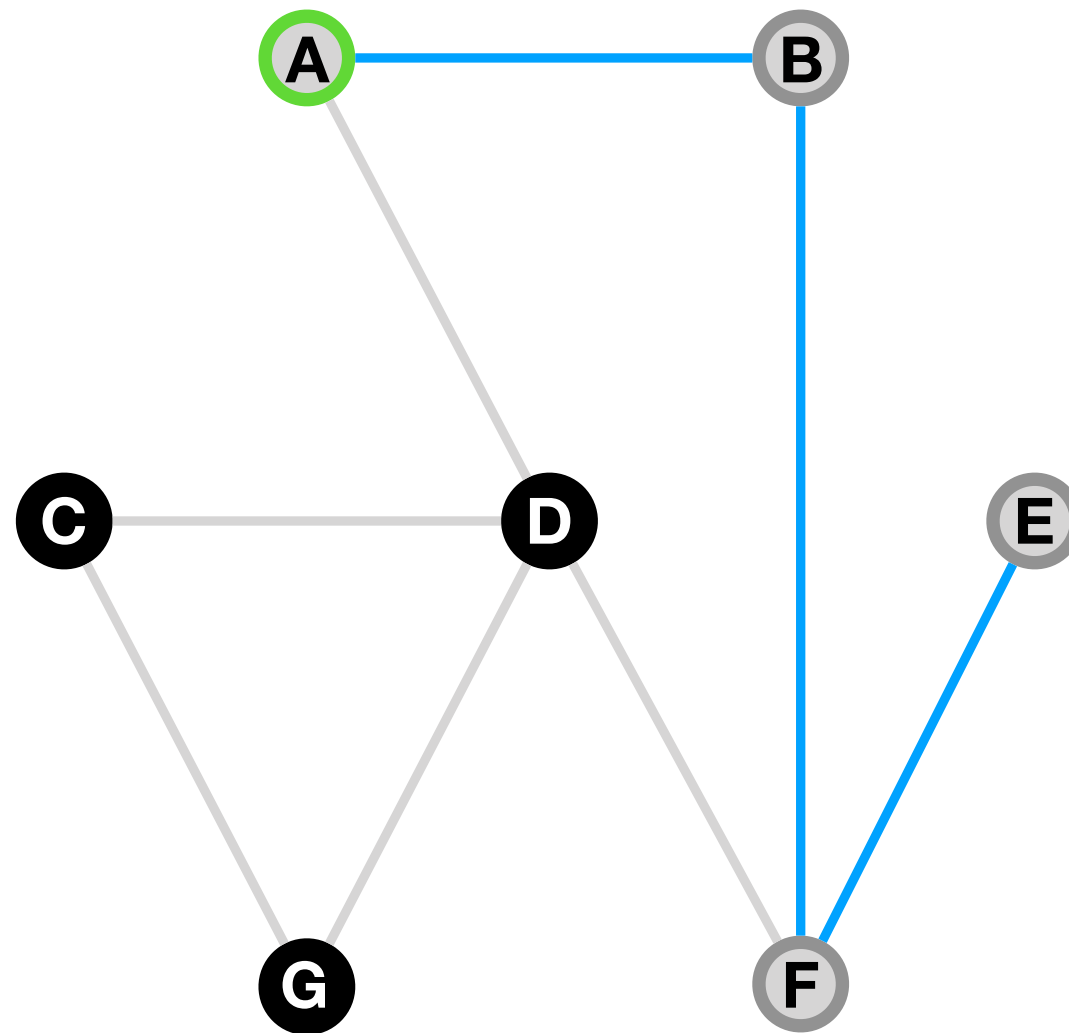
# Depth First Search

explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



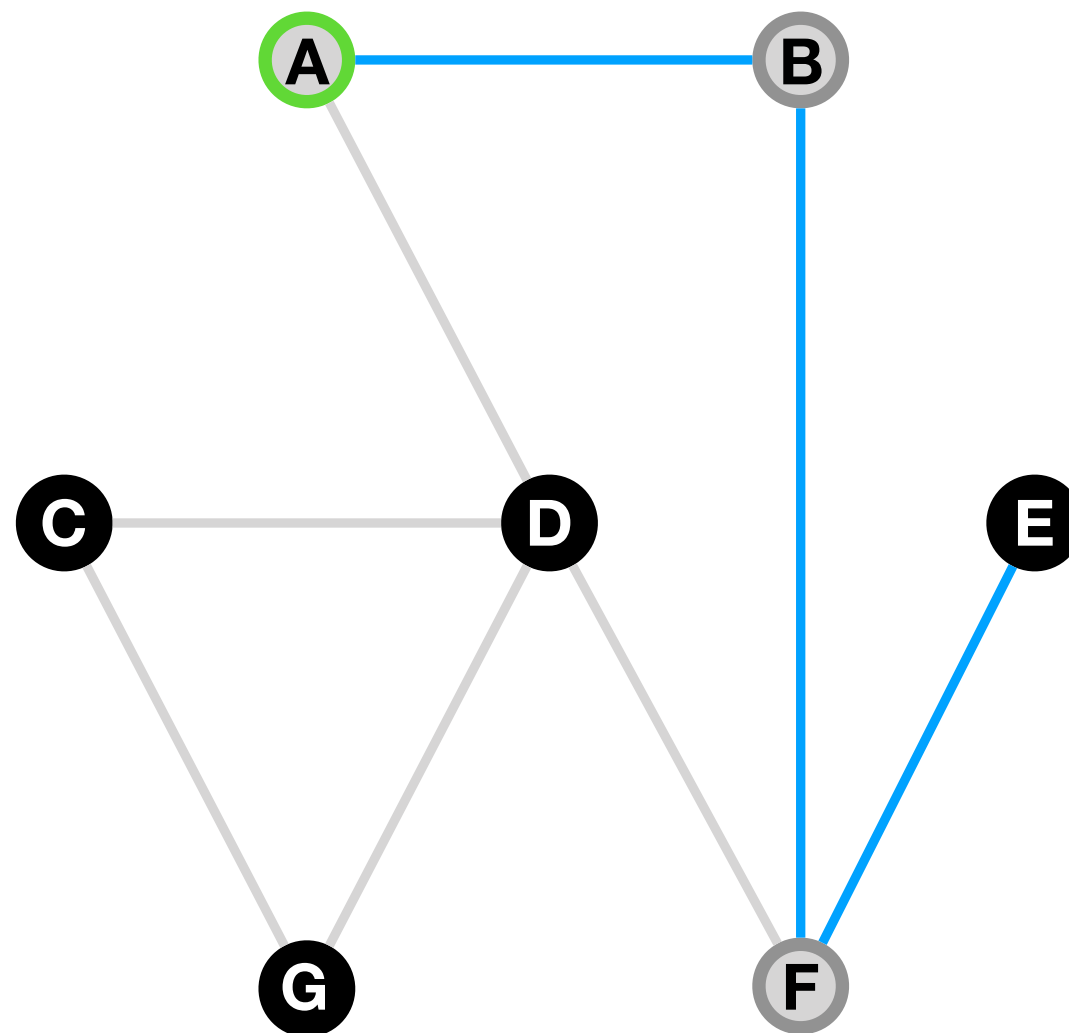
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



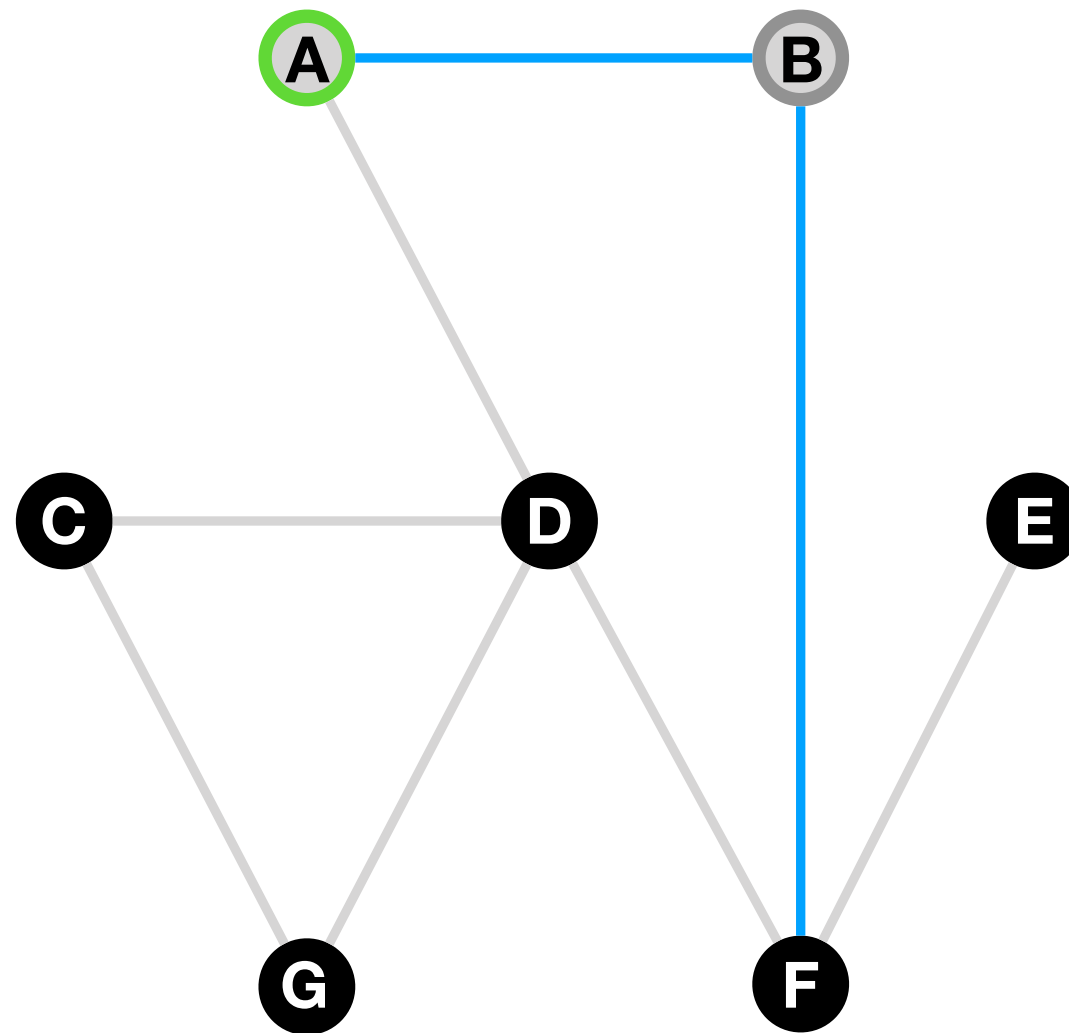
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



# Depth First Search

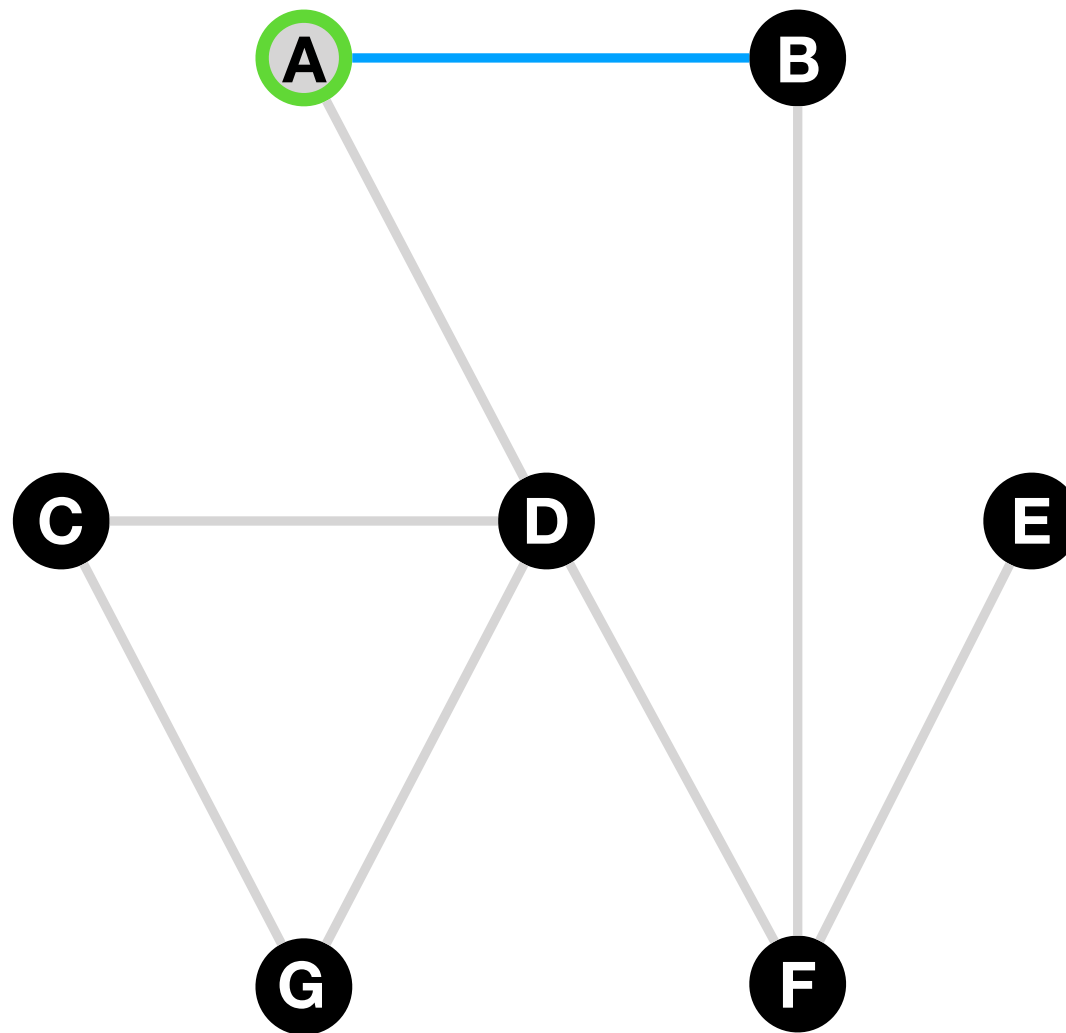
explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)





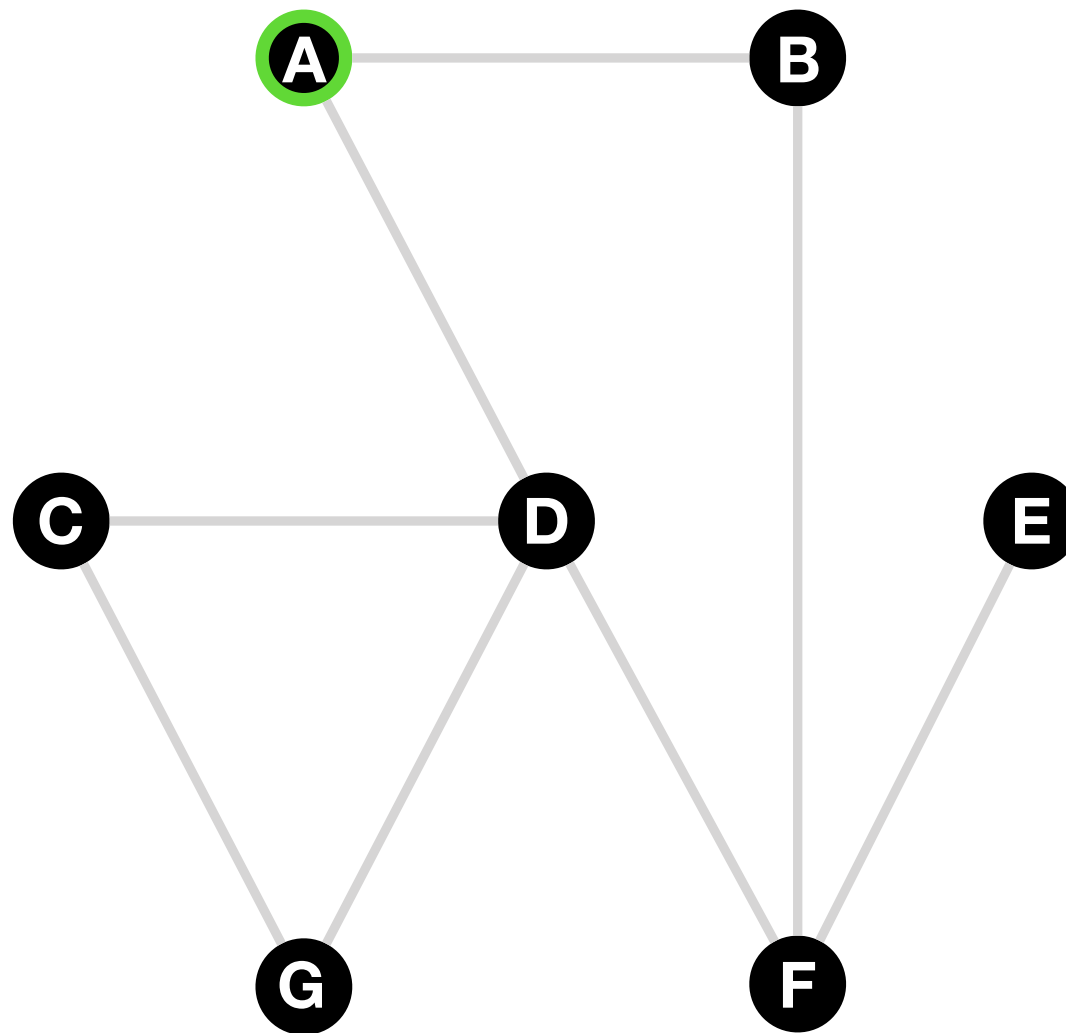
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



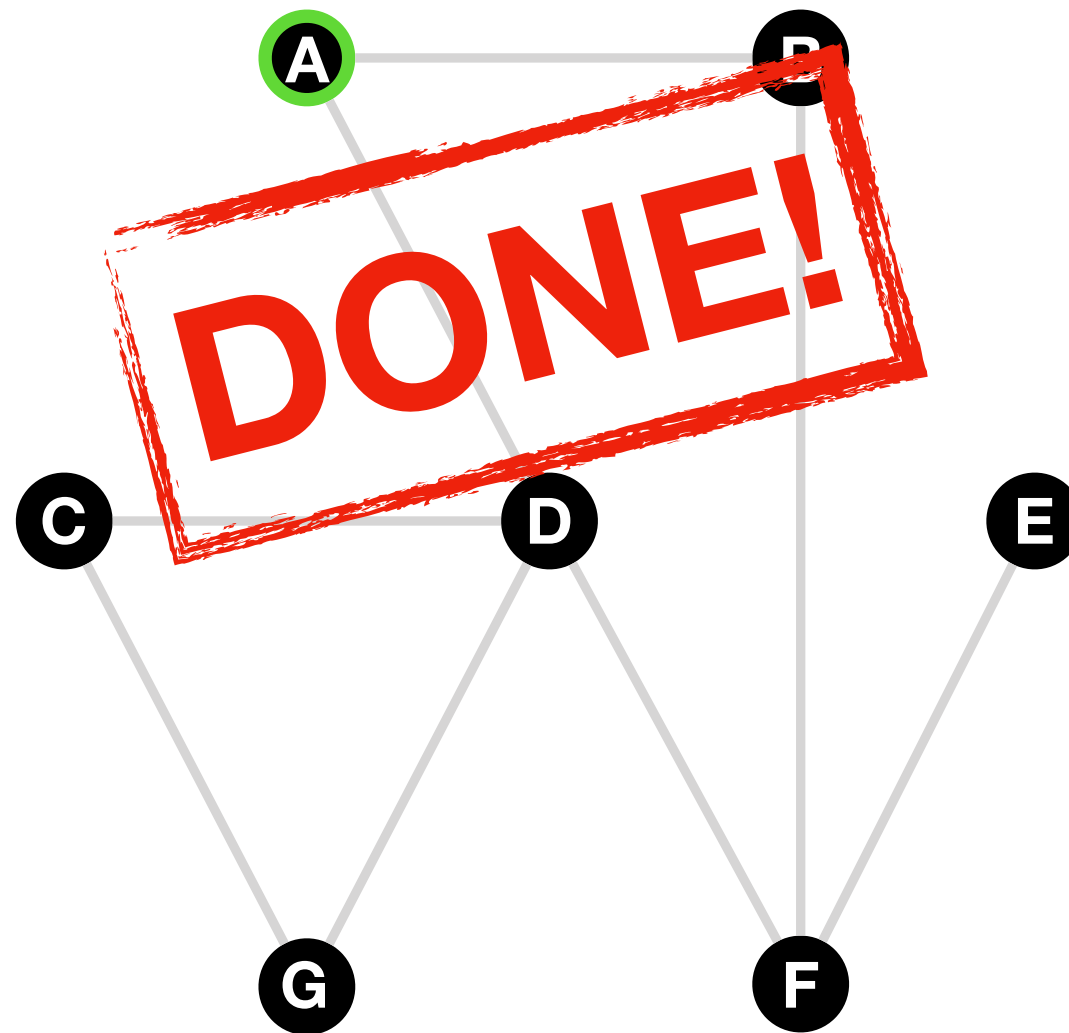
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explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



# Depth First Search

explore nodes as *deep* as possible before looking *wide* (i.e. examine all descendants of a node before moving on to siblings)



# Depth First Search

```
DepthFirstSearch(G, vertex, visited[ ]) {  
    visited[vertex] = True           # mark vertex as visited  
    for each in G[vertex]:          # for each neighbor of vertex  
        if ( !visited[neighbor] ) { # if neighbor has not been visited  
            DepthFirstSearch(G, neighbor, visited[ ]) # visit neighbor  
        }  
    }  
}
```

**Complexity:**

**$O(V + E)$** . Each vertex and edge is visited at most once

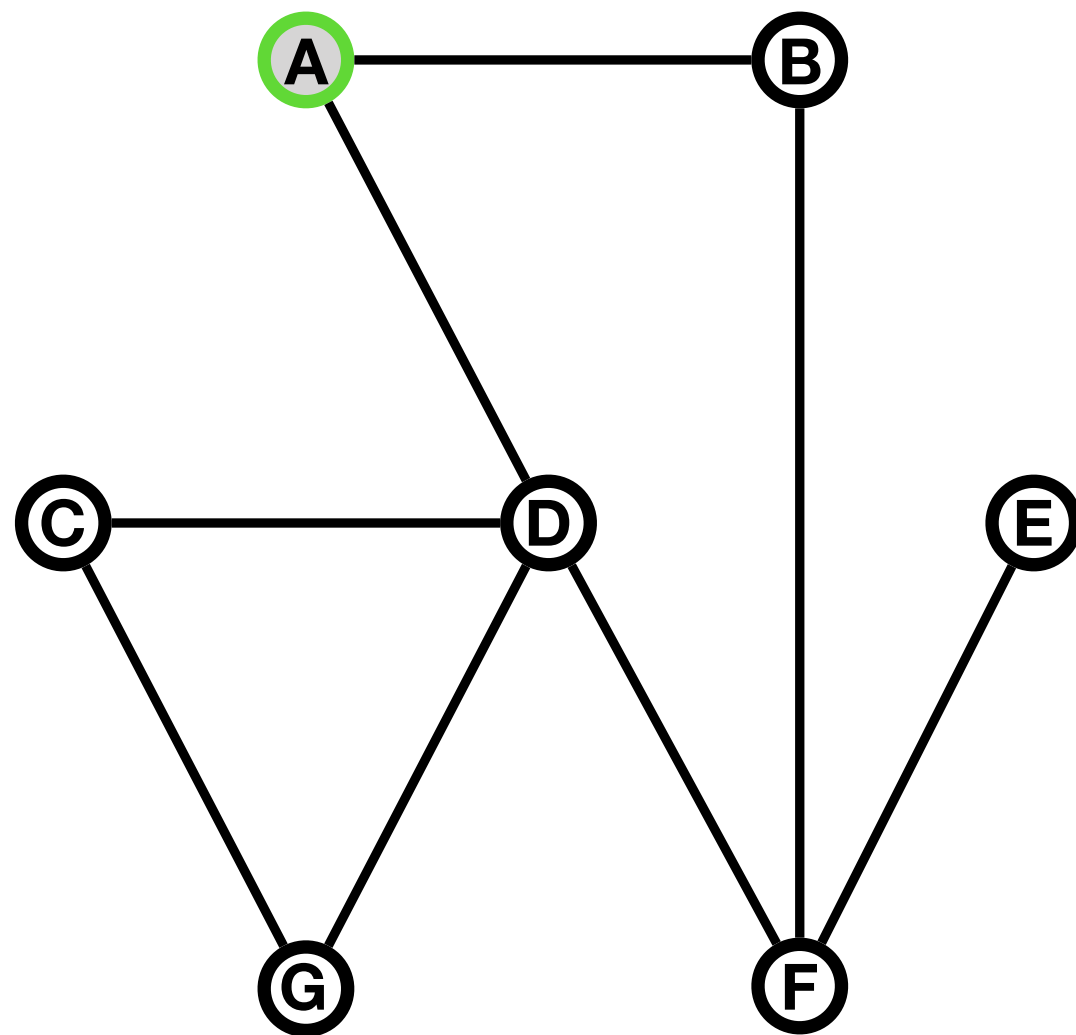
# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

- keep a queue to track visited nodes
- when visiting a node, add all its *unvisited* neighbors to the queue
- until queue is empty: remove node from top of queue and visit it.

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

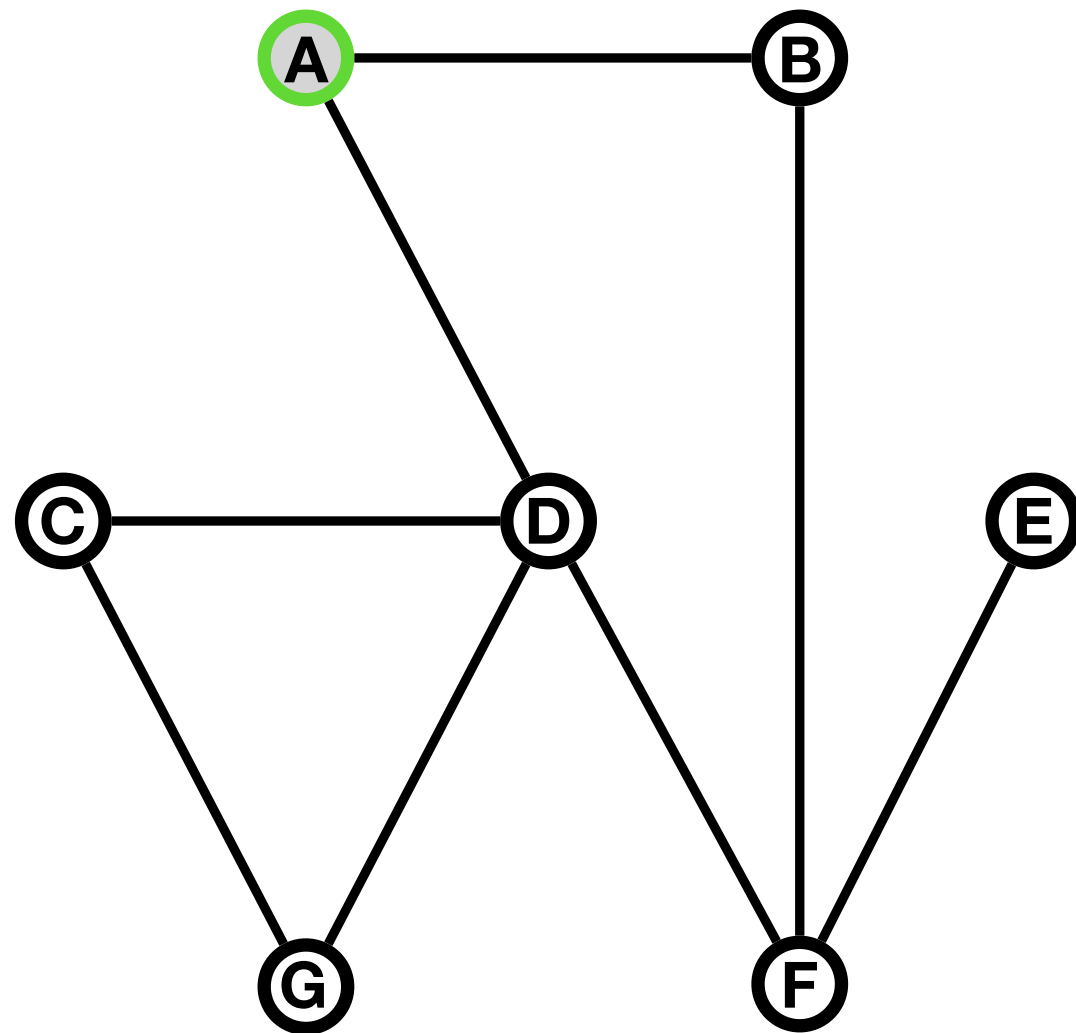


**QUEUE:**

A

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

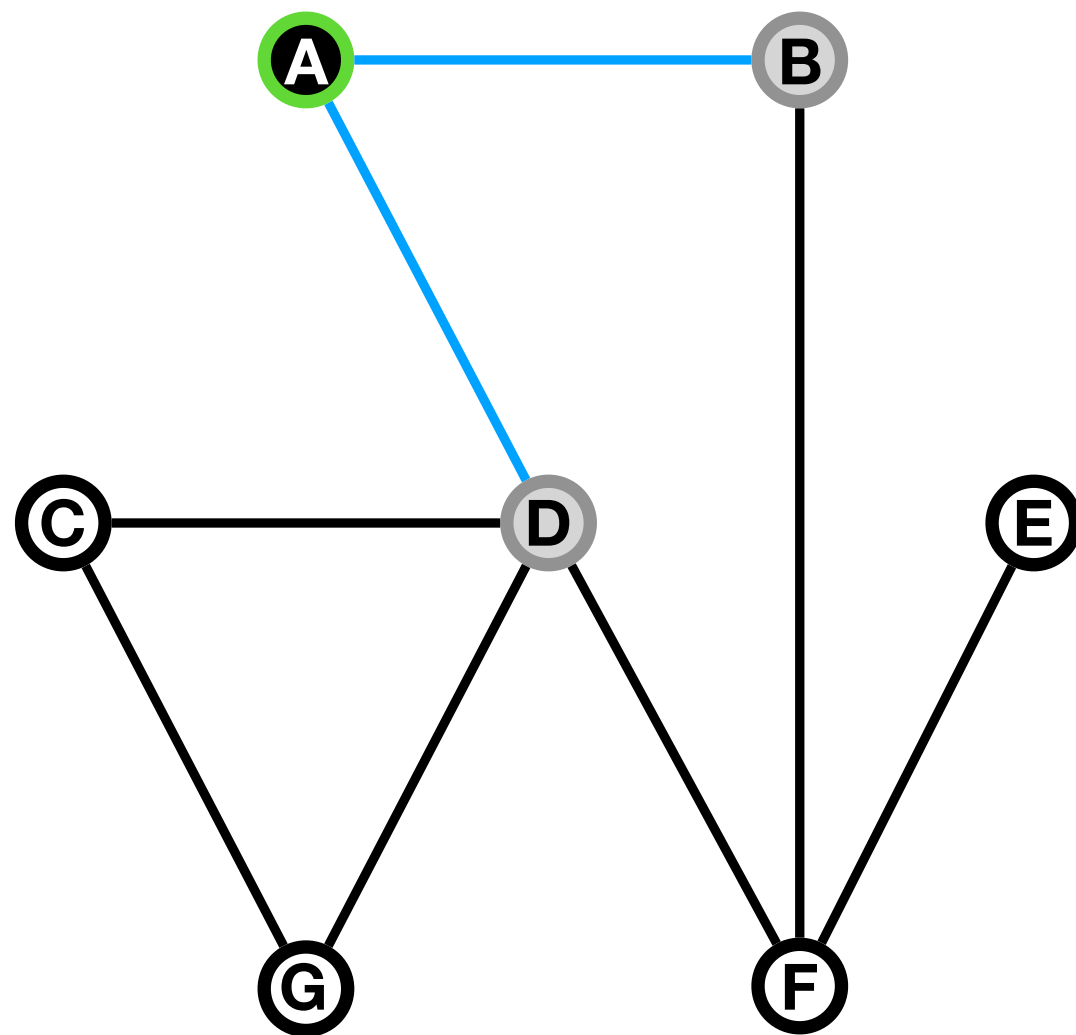


QUEUE:

A →

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



**QUEUE:**

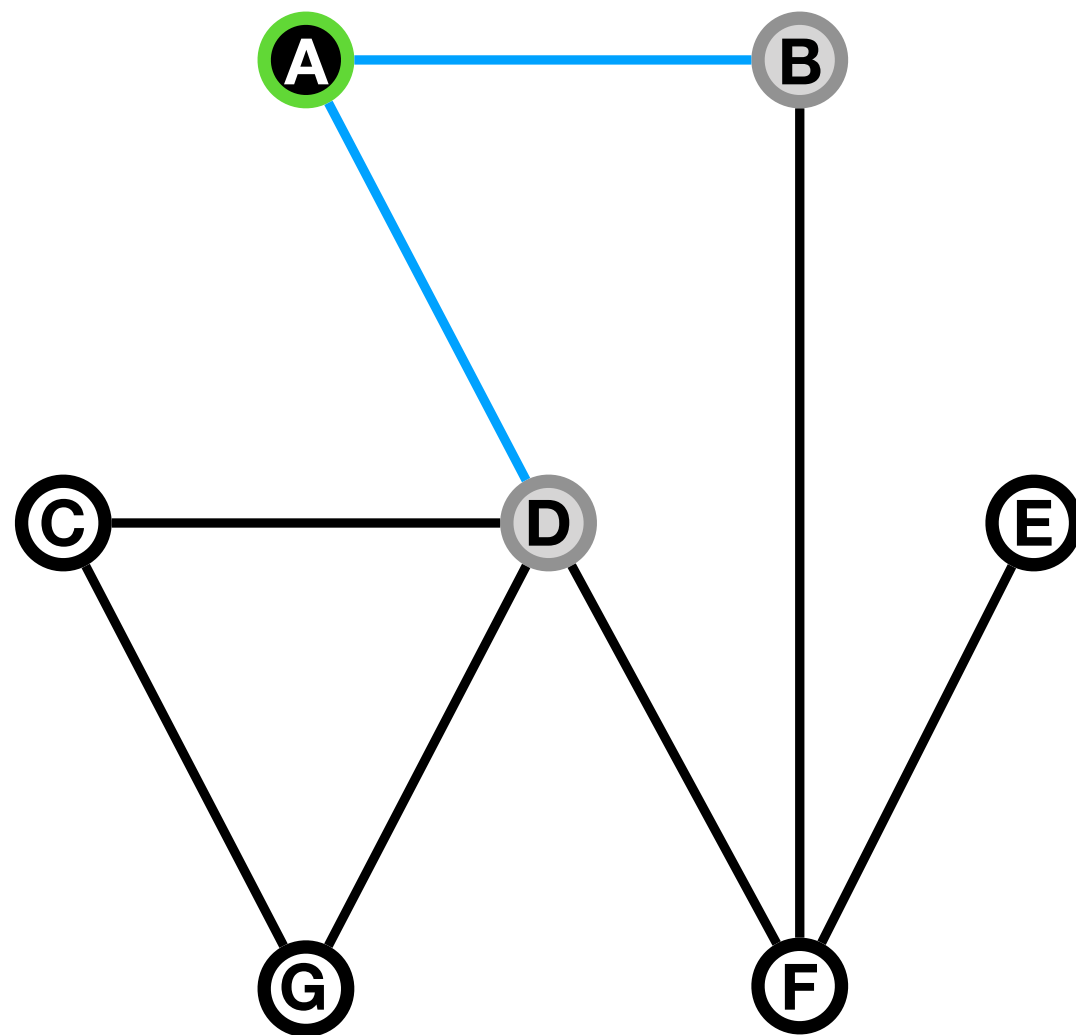
B

D



# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



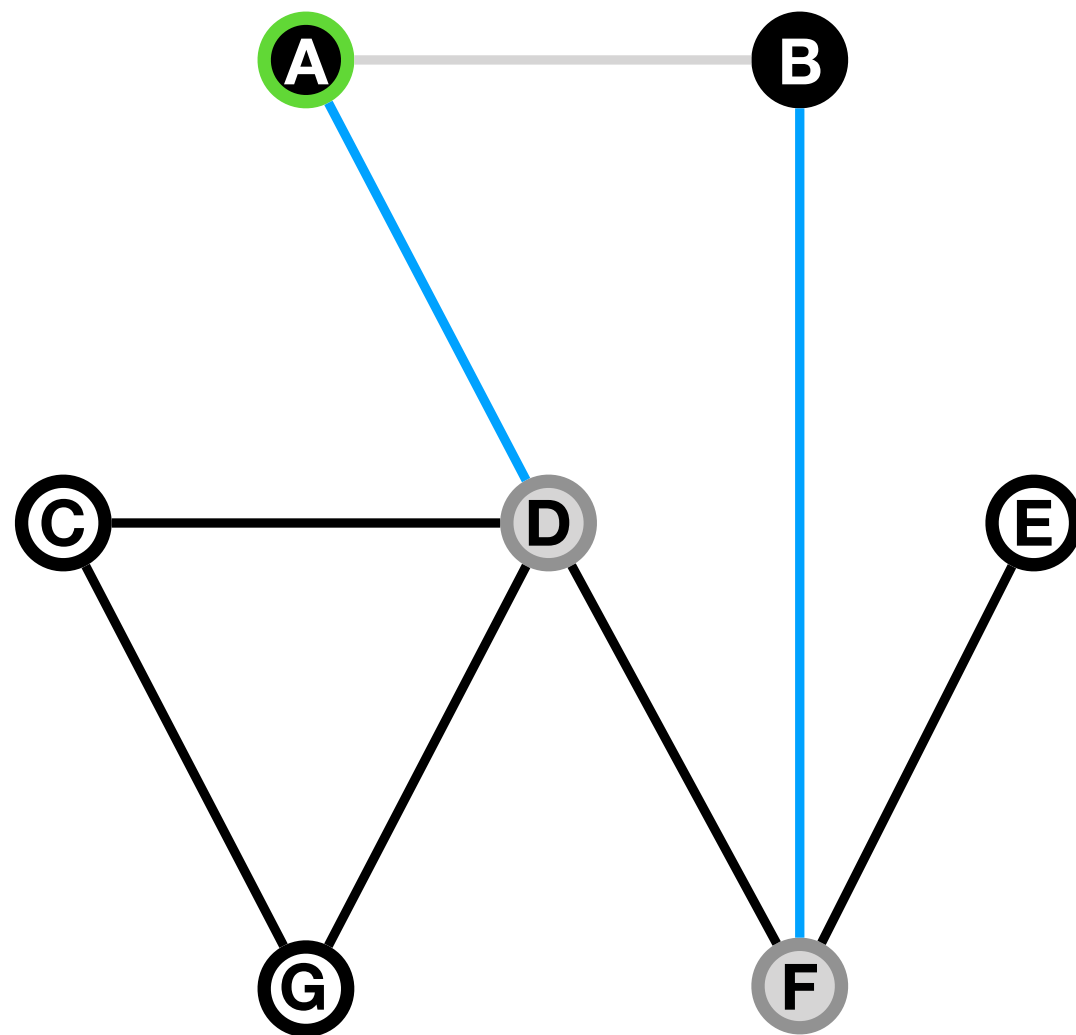
QUEUE:

B →

D

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



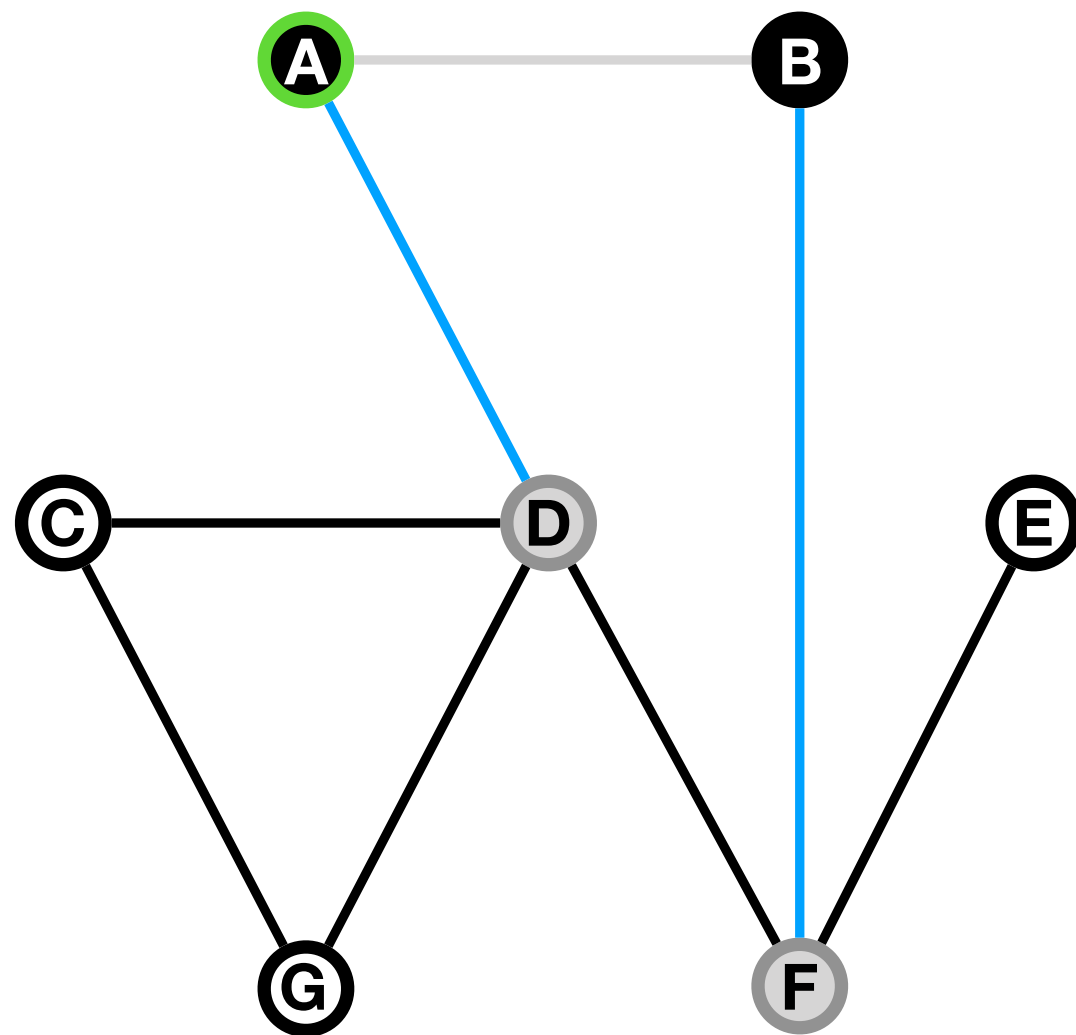
**QUEUE:**

D

F

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

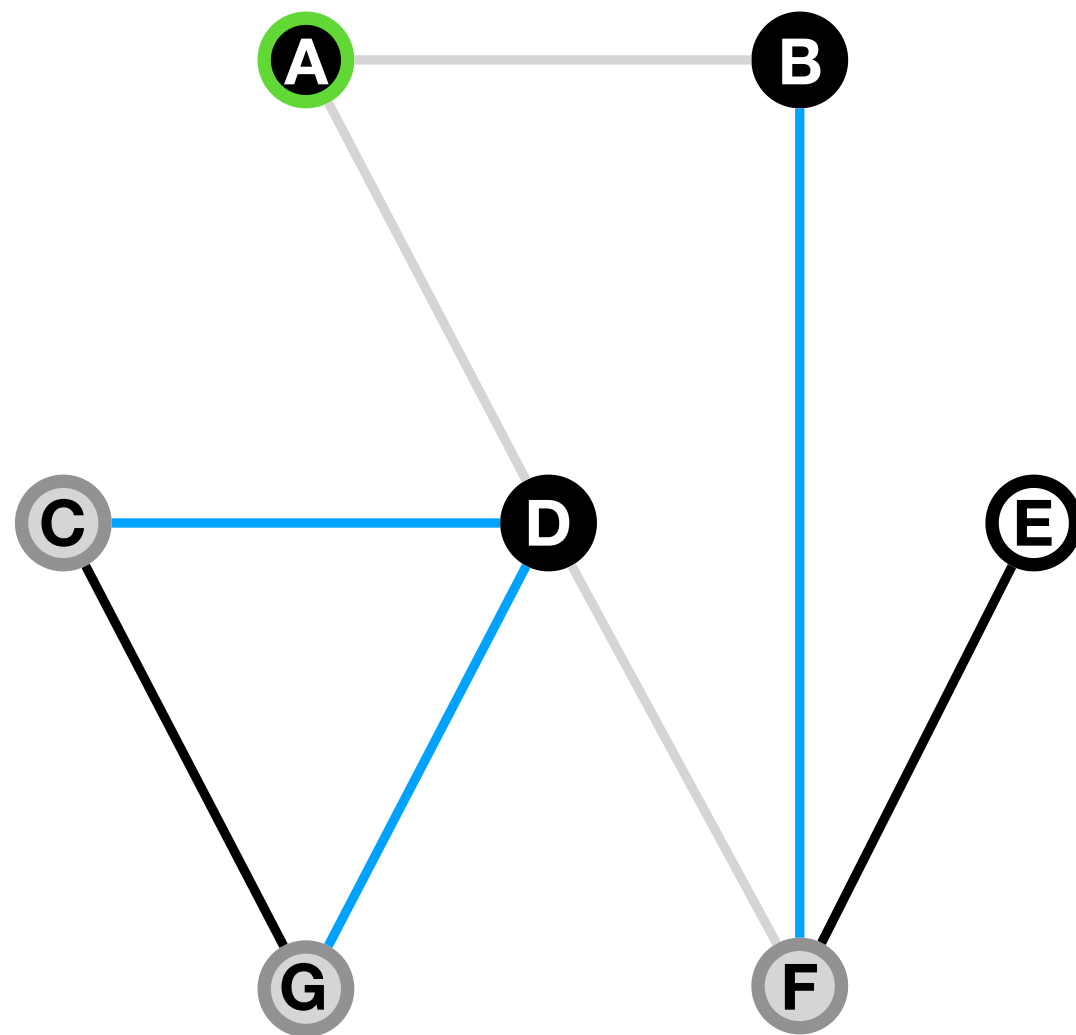


QUEUE:

D →  
F

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



**QUEUE:**

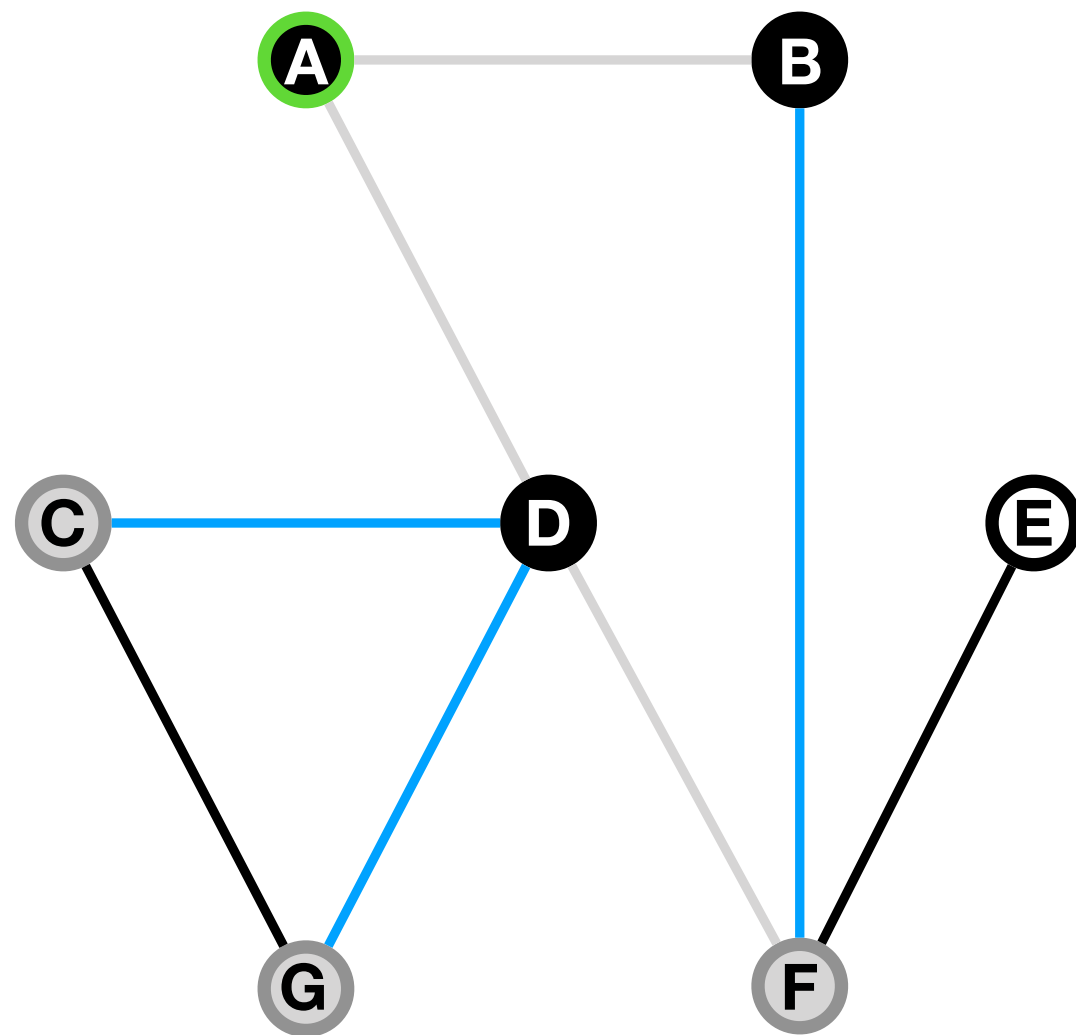
F

C

G

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

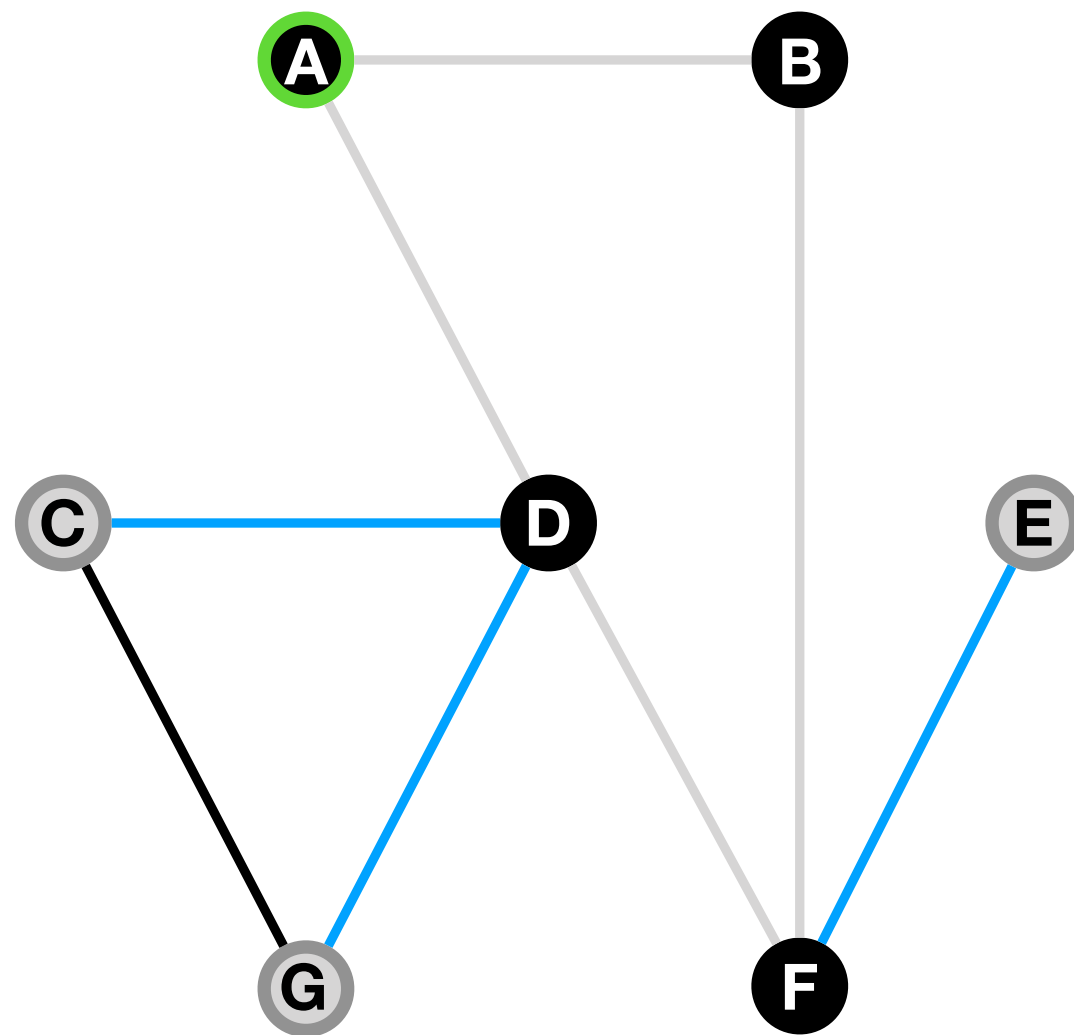


QUEUE:

F →  
C  
G

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

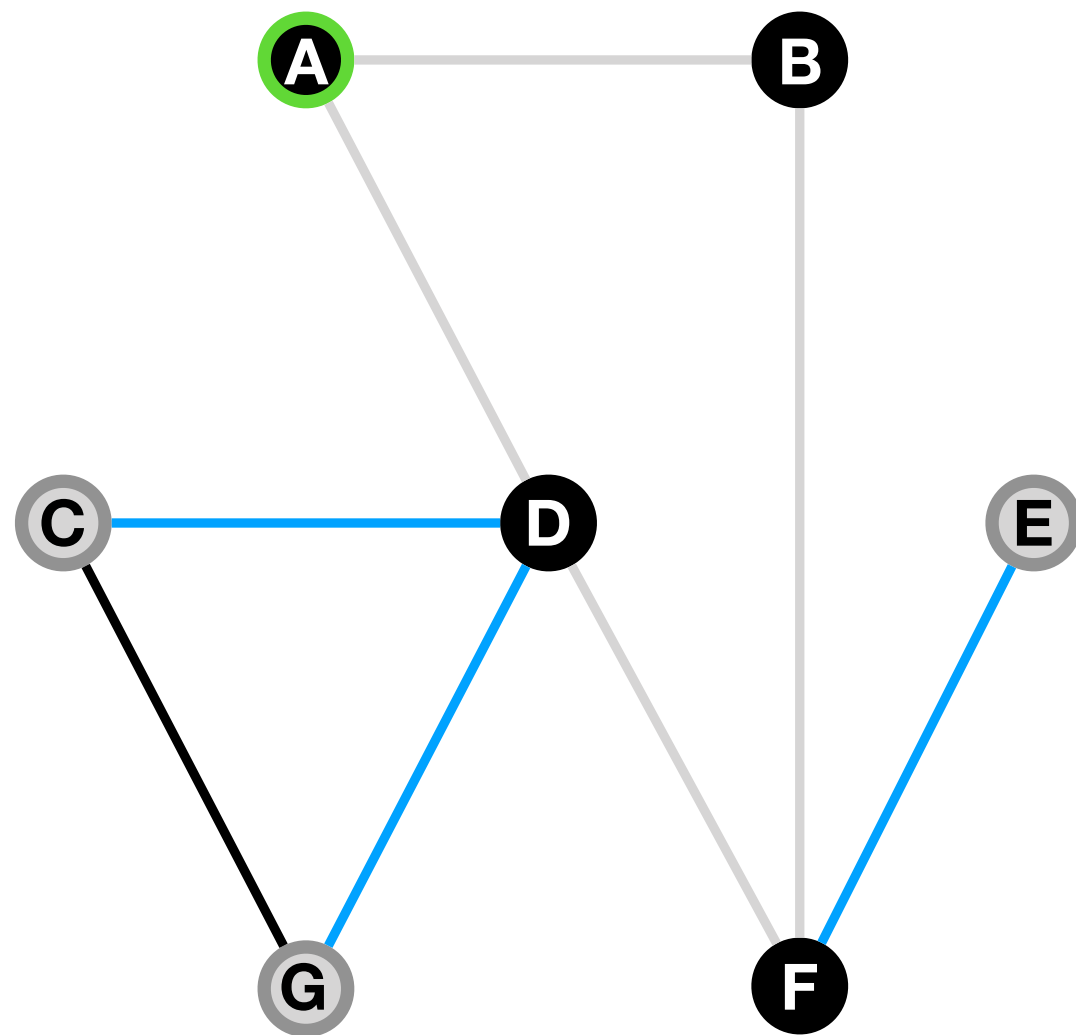


**QUEUE:**

C  
G  
E

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

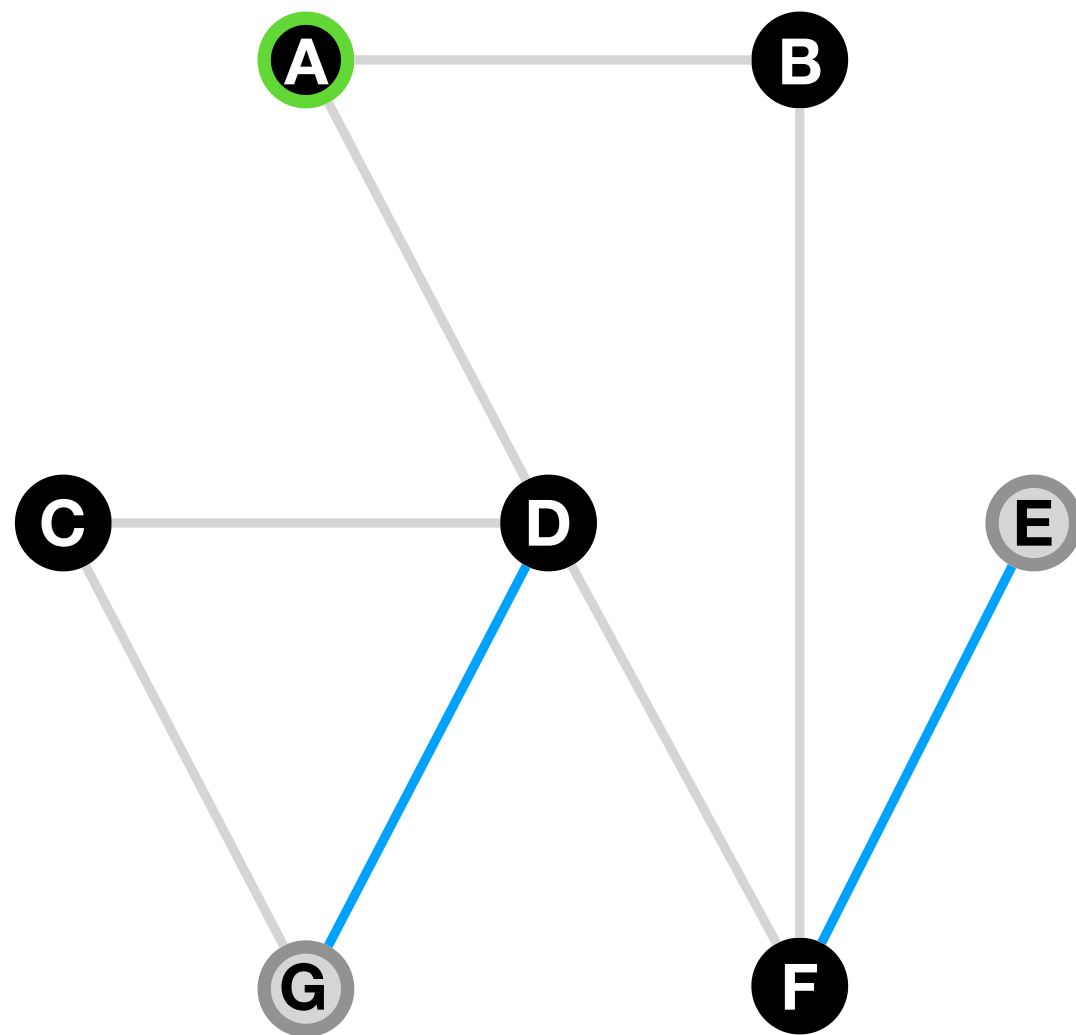


**QUEUE:**

C →  
G  
E

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



**QUEUE:**

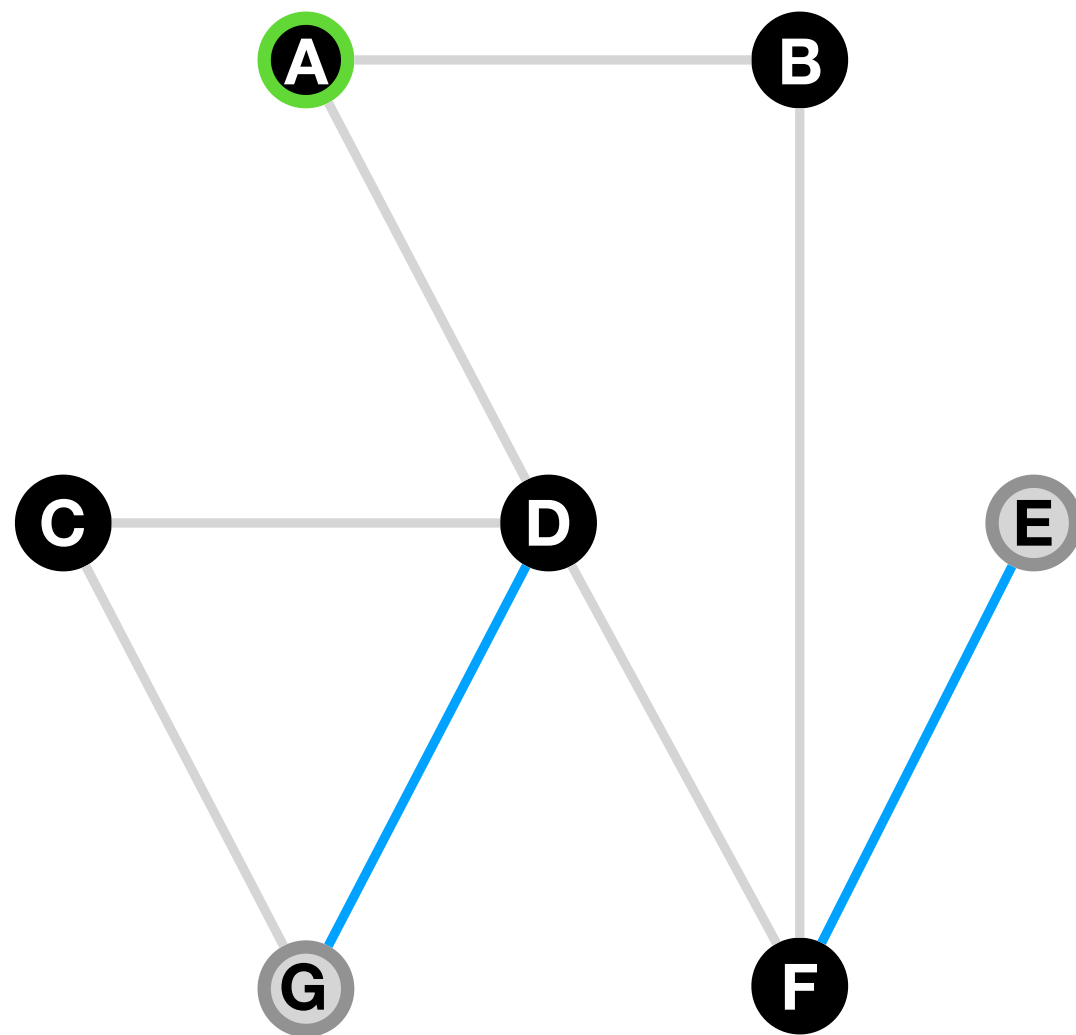
G

E



# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

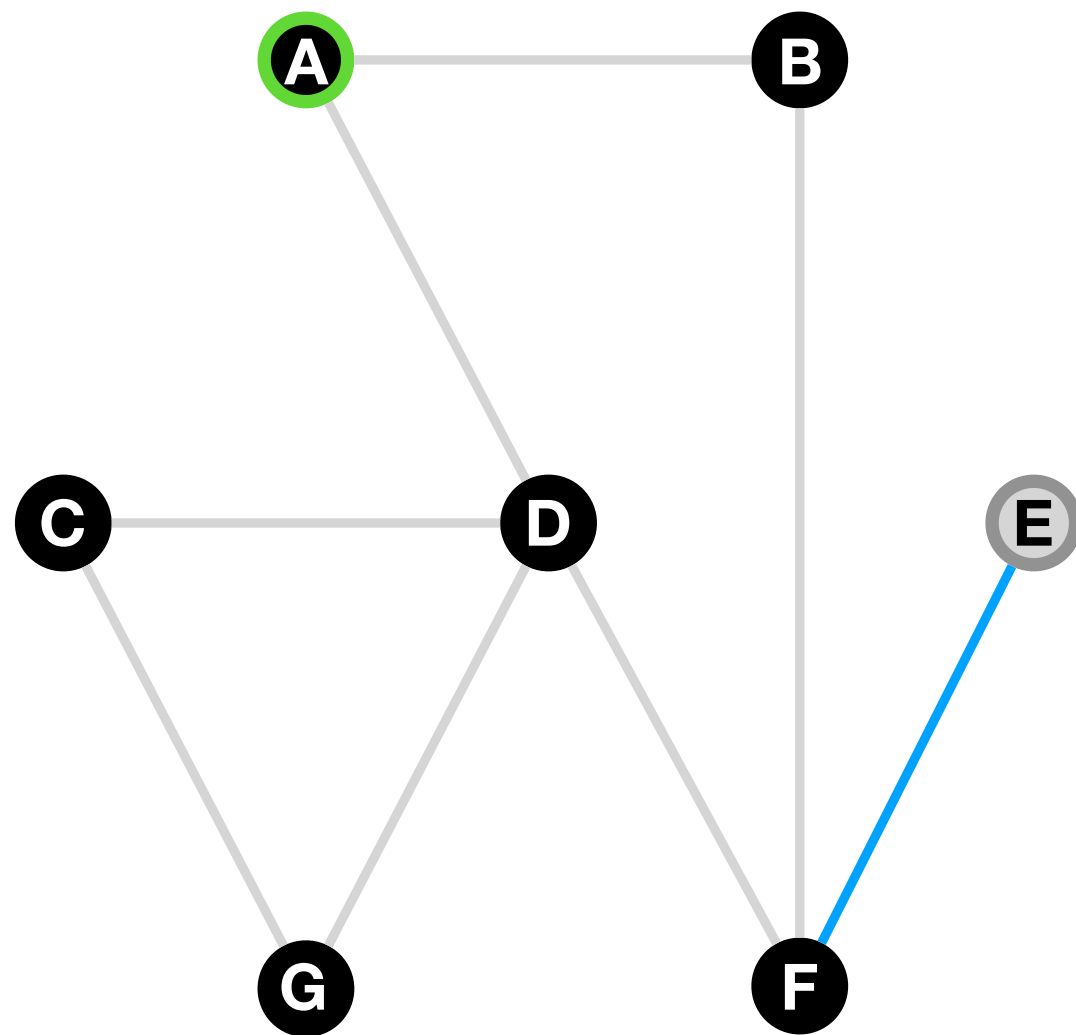


QUEUE:

G →  
E

# Breadth First Search

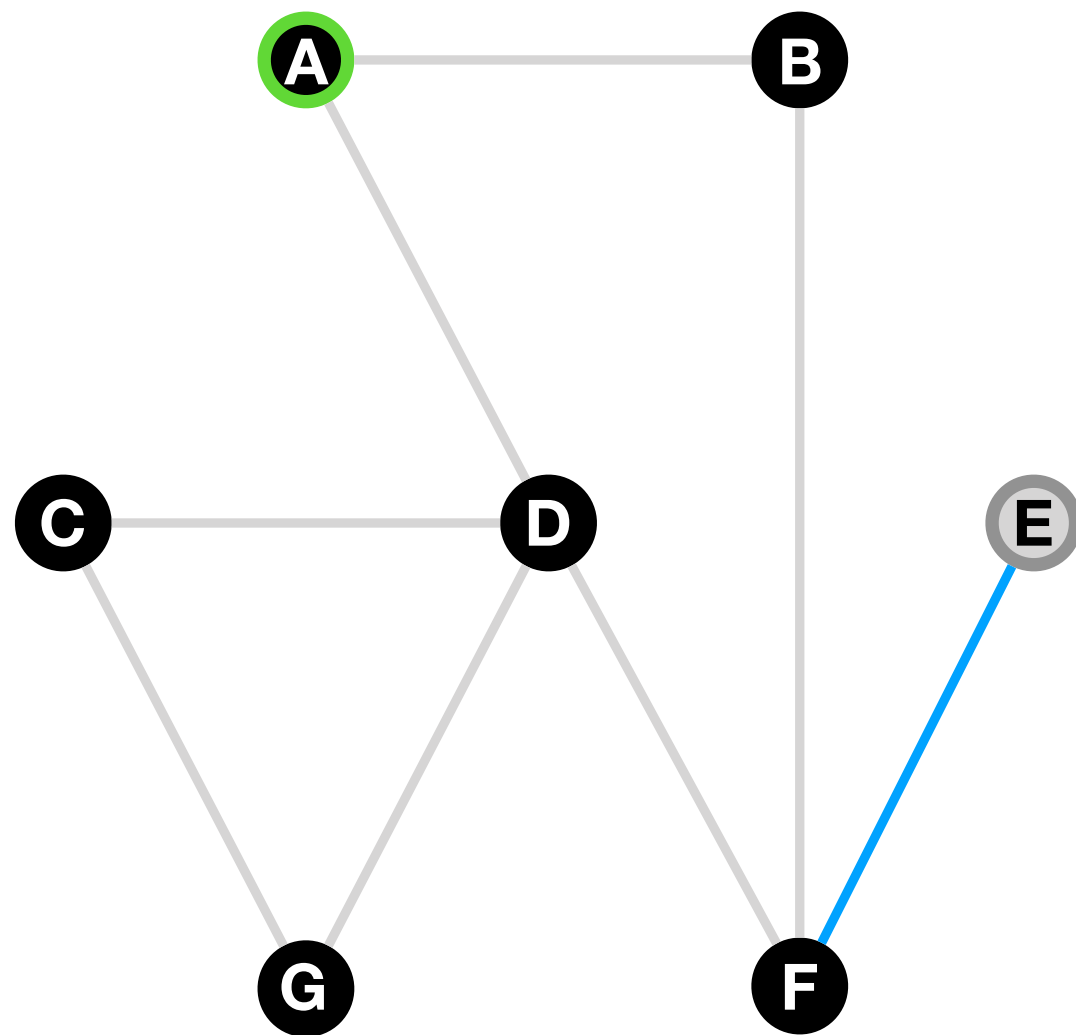
explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



QUEUE:  
E

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)

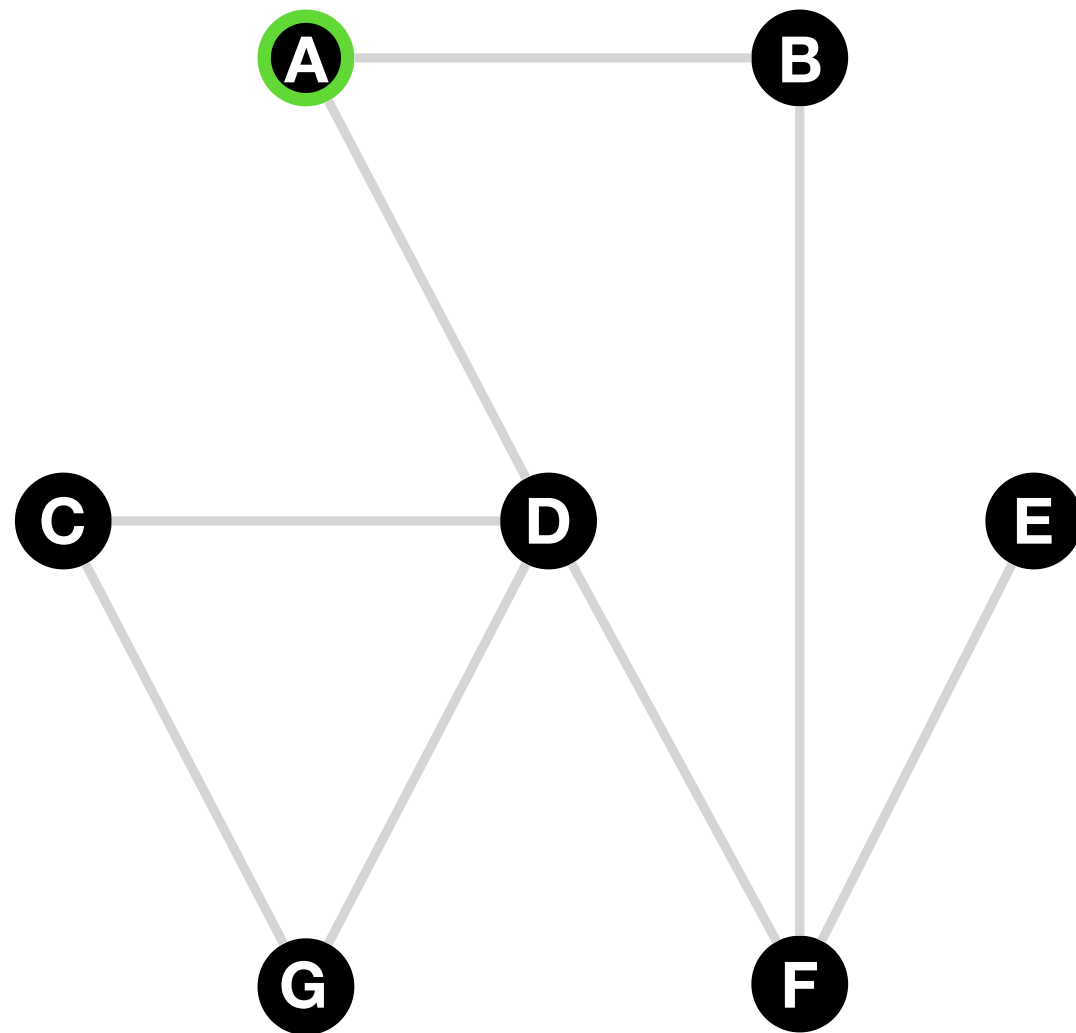


QUEUE:

E →

# Breadth First Search

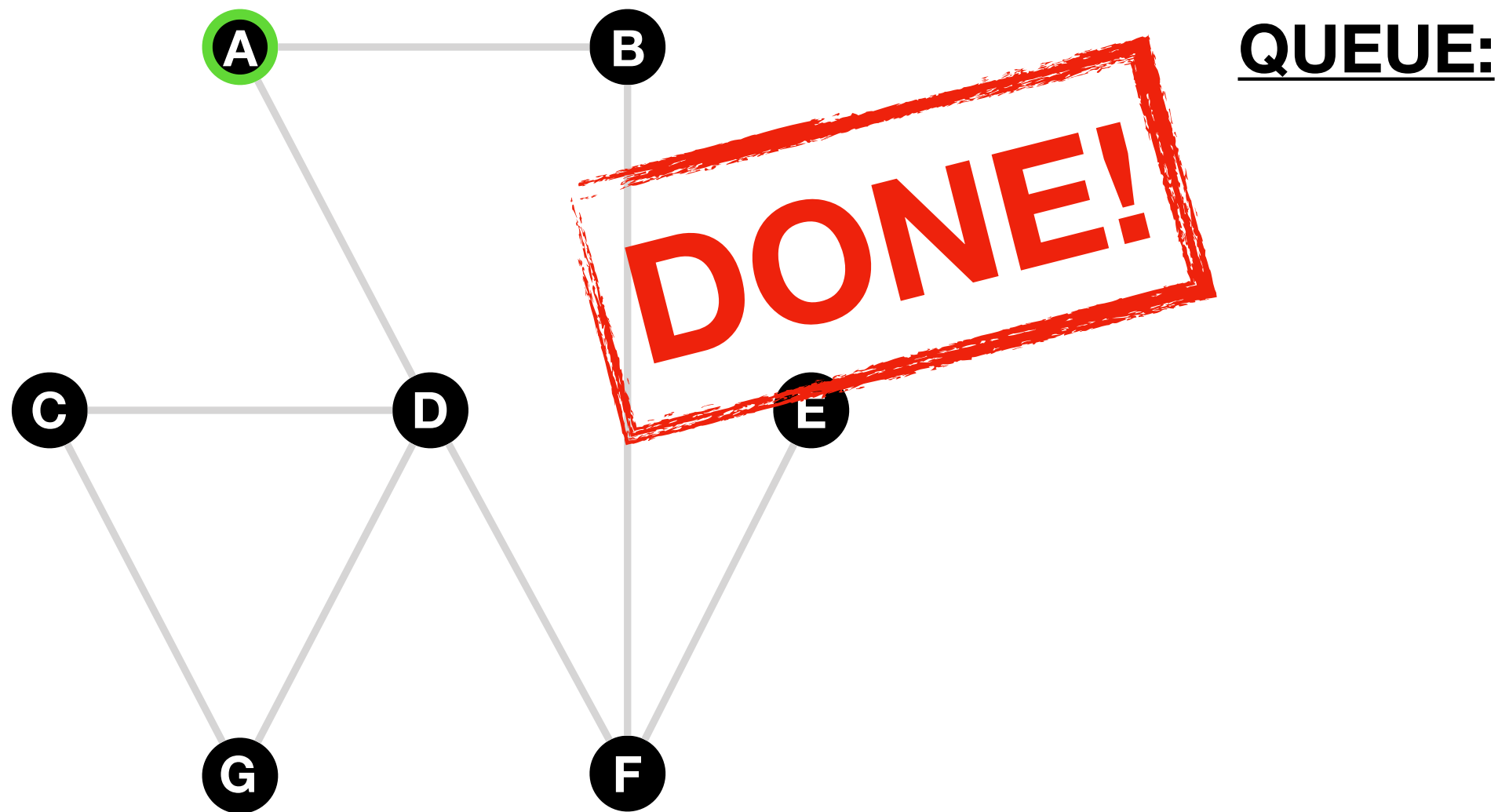
explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



**QUEUE:**

# Breadth First Search

explore nodes as *wide* as possible before looking *deep*  
(i.e. examine all siblings before descendants)



# Breadth First Search

```
BreadthFirstSearch(G, vertex, visited[ ]) {  
    initialize q                # queue  
    initialize next             # next vertex  
  
    q.enqueue(vertex)           # add vertex to queue  
    while (q is not empty) {  
        next = q.dequeue()      # remove from top of queue  
        if ( !visited[next] ) { # next has not been visited  
            visited[next] = True # mark next as visited  
            for each neighbor in G[next]: # for all of next's neighbors  
                q.enqueue(neighbor)      # add neighbor to queue  
        }  
    }  
}
```

**Complexity:**

**$O(V + E)$ .** each vertex enqueued/dequeued once and each edge traversed once.

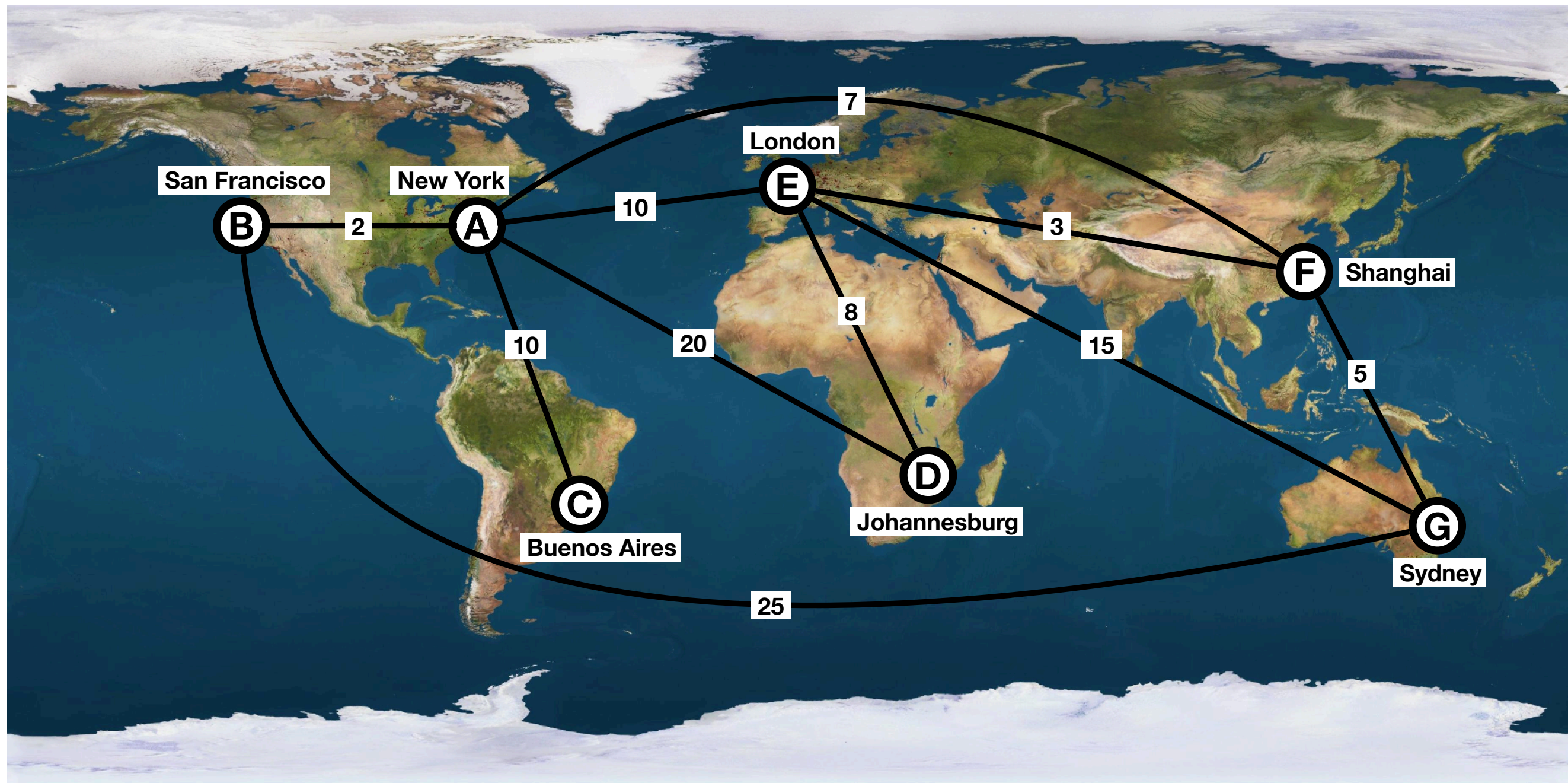
# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

- keep a table to track distance from start node, previous node in path, and whether a node's place in path is known
- initialize distance for start node as 0 and all other distances to infinity
- initialize current node,  $i$  = start node.
- repeat until all nodes have been visited:
  - for all  $j$  adjacent to  $i$ ,
    - if  $\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j$ , update  $\text{distance}_j = \text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j}$  and  $\text{previous}_j = i$
  - update  $i$  = to the unvisited node that has the shortest distance to the start node

V	DIST	PREV	KNOWN
A	0		
B	$\infty$		
C	$\infty$		
...	...	...	...



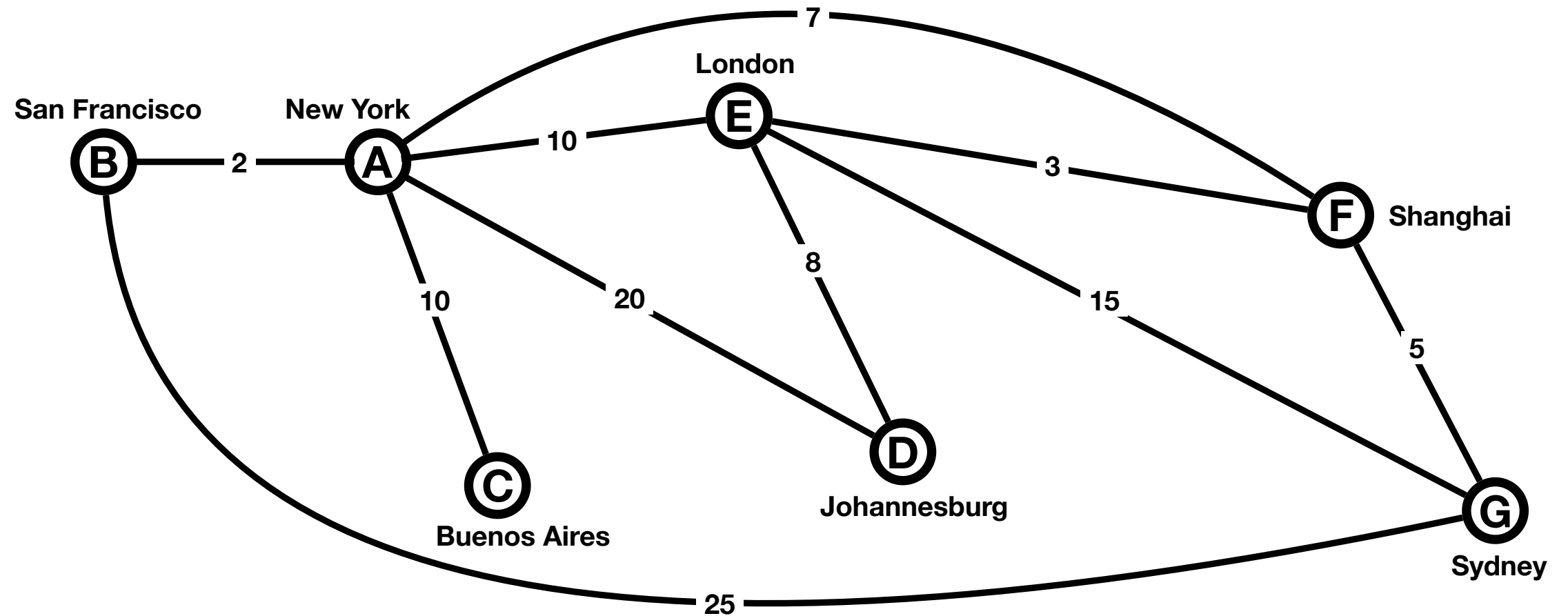
# Dijkstra's Shortest Path



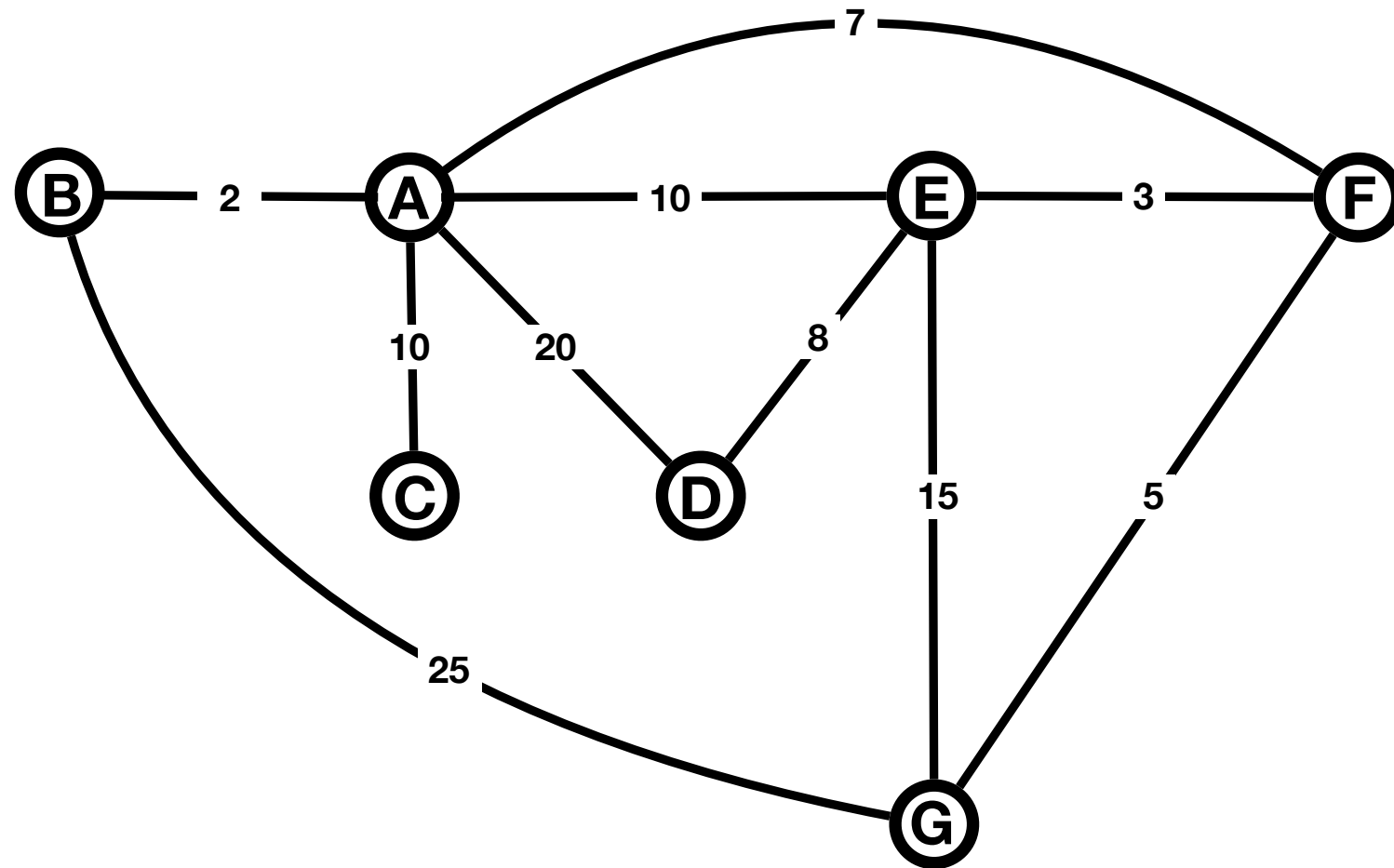
\*Edge weights are in hundreds of US dollars



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

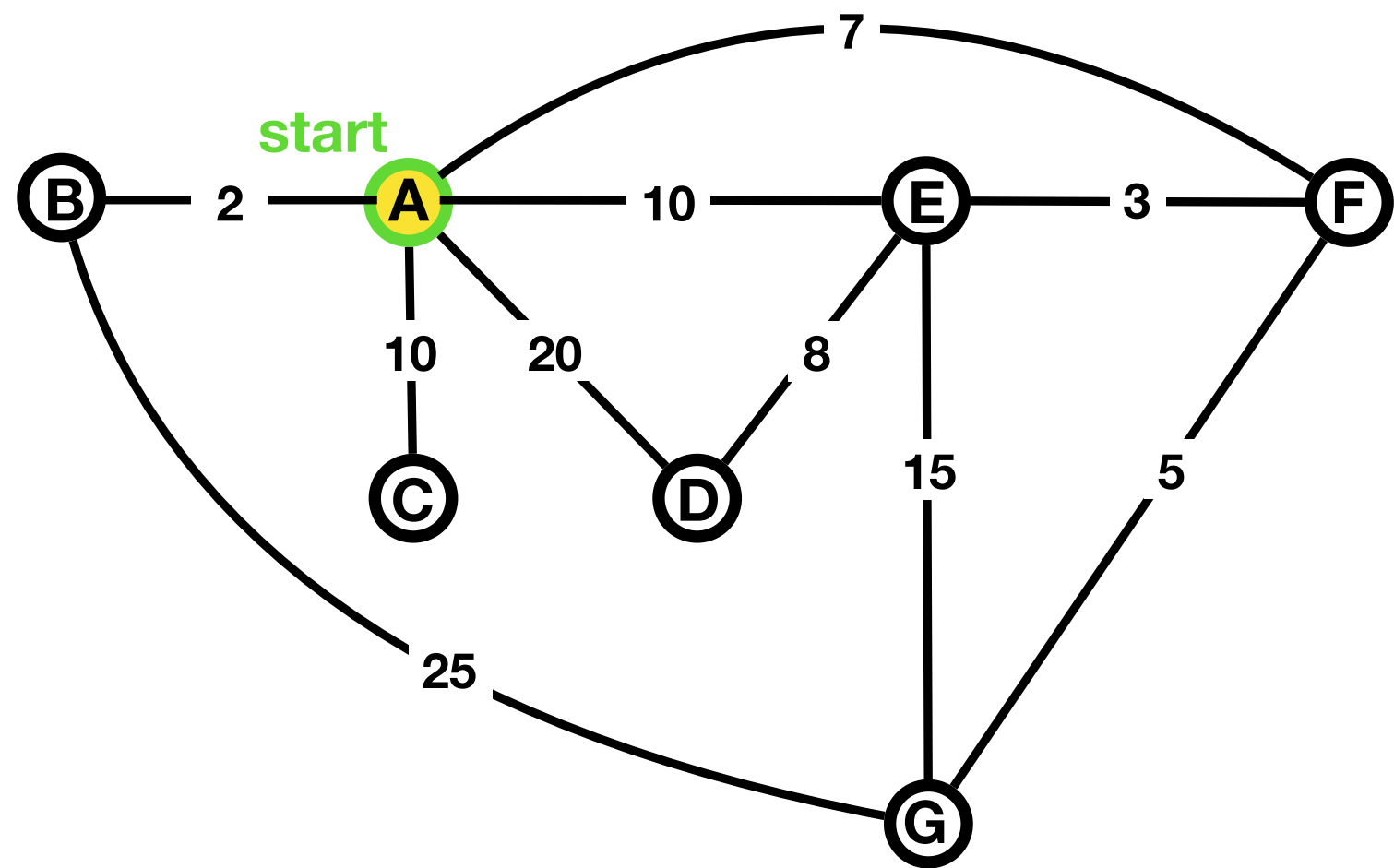


# Dijkstra's Shortest Path



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

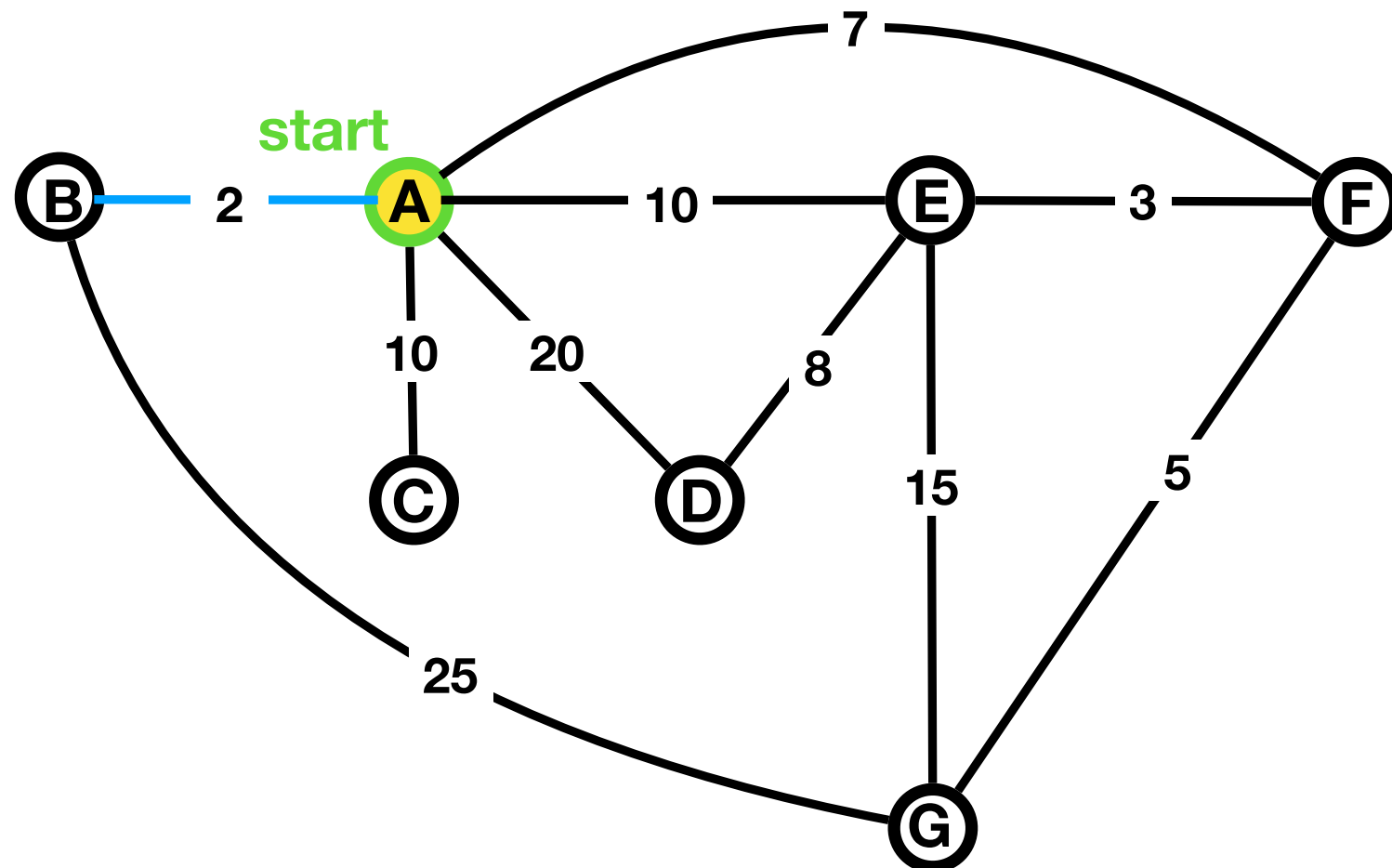
current node	<b>A</b>
next node	



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>B</b>



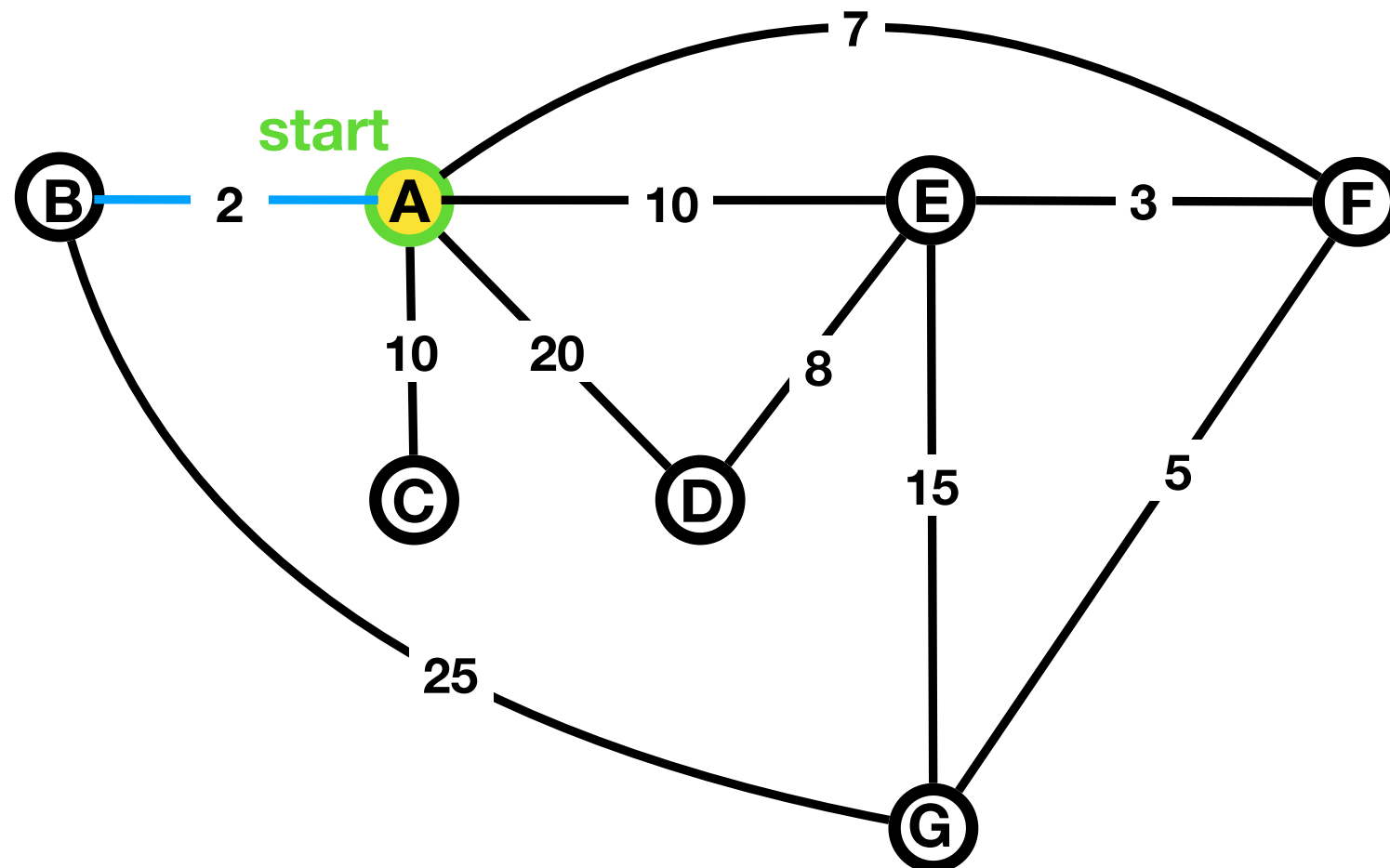
V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

Is B known ? No

$$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (0) + (2) < (\infty) ?$$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>B</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

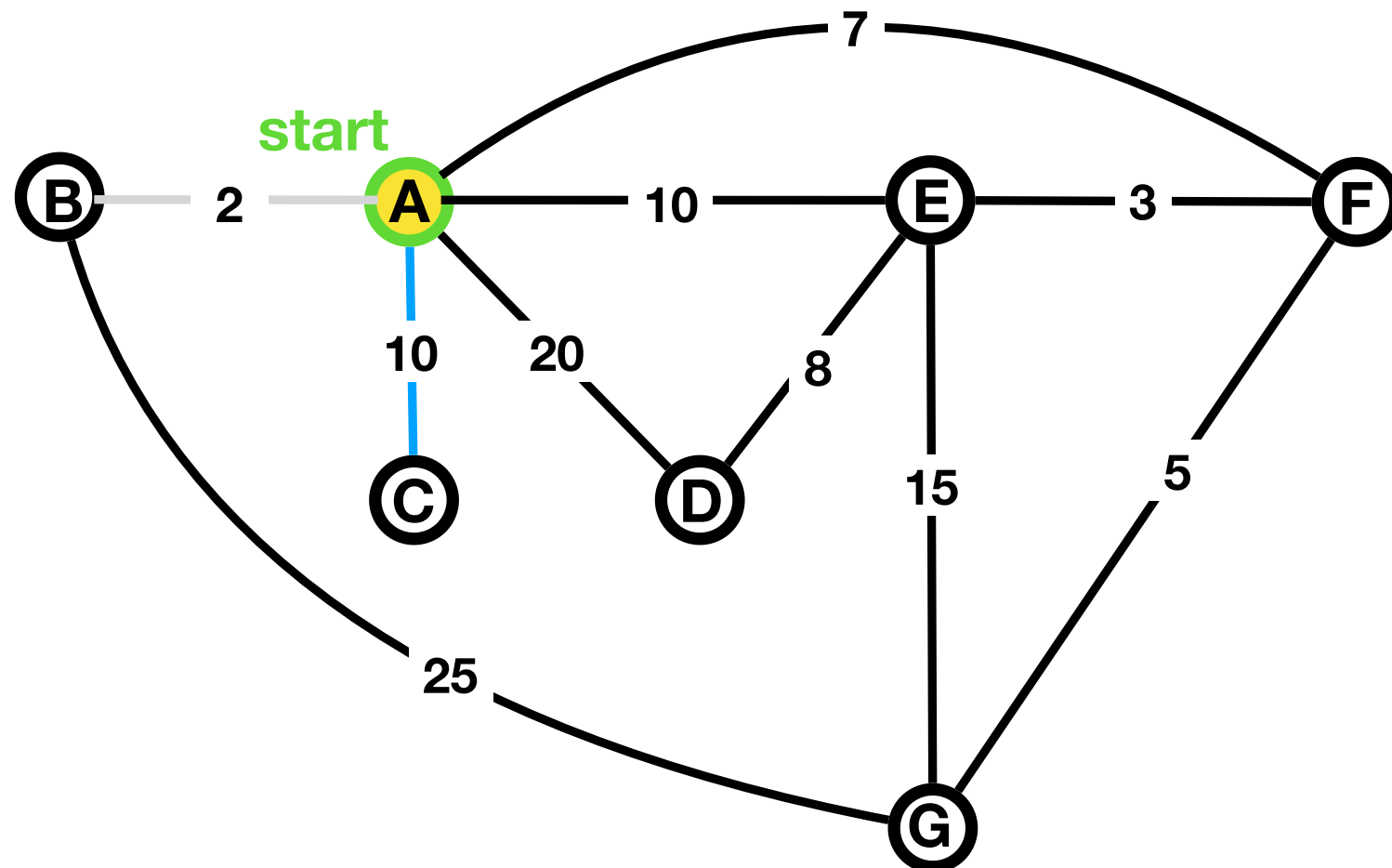
Is B known ? No

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j$  =  $(0) + (2) < (\infty)$  ? Yes

=> update  $\text{distance}_j = (0) + (2)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = \text{A}$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>C</b>



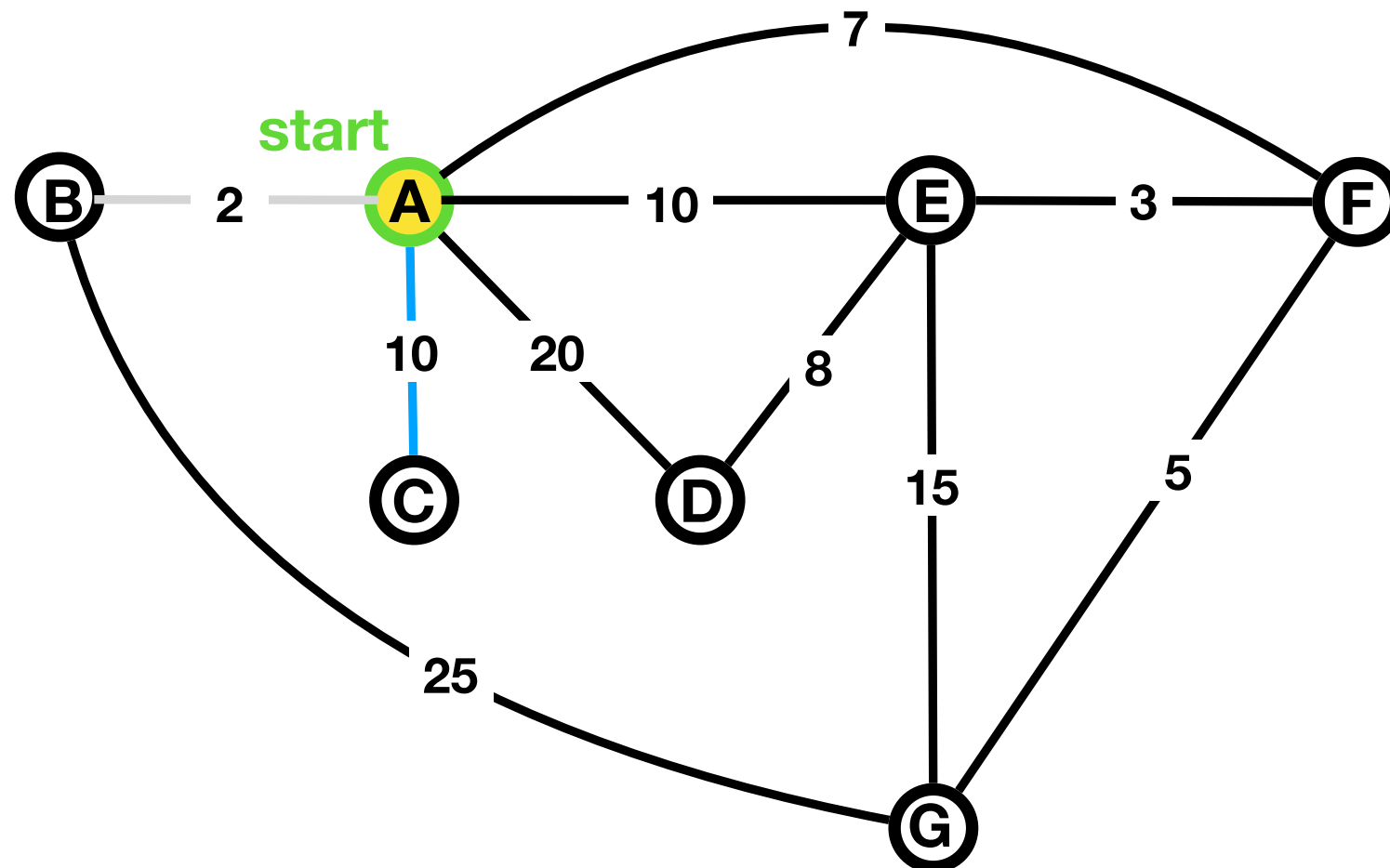
V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

Is C known ? No

$$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (0) + (10) < (\infty) ?$$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>C</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

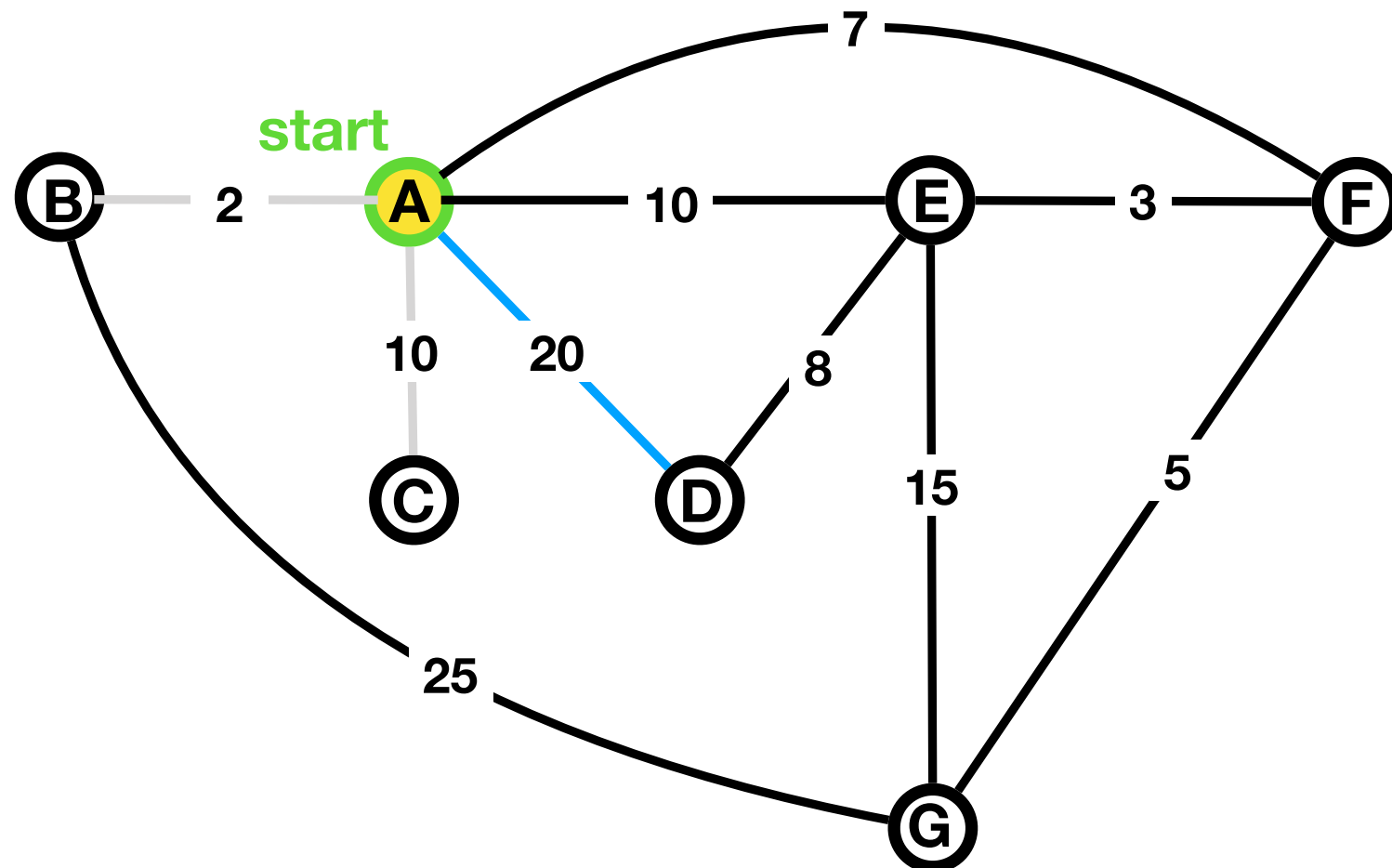
Is C known ? No

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j = (0) + (10) < (\infty)$  ? Yes

$\Rightarrow$  update  $\text{distance}_j = (0) + (10)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = A$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>D</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

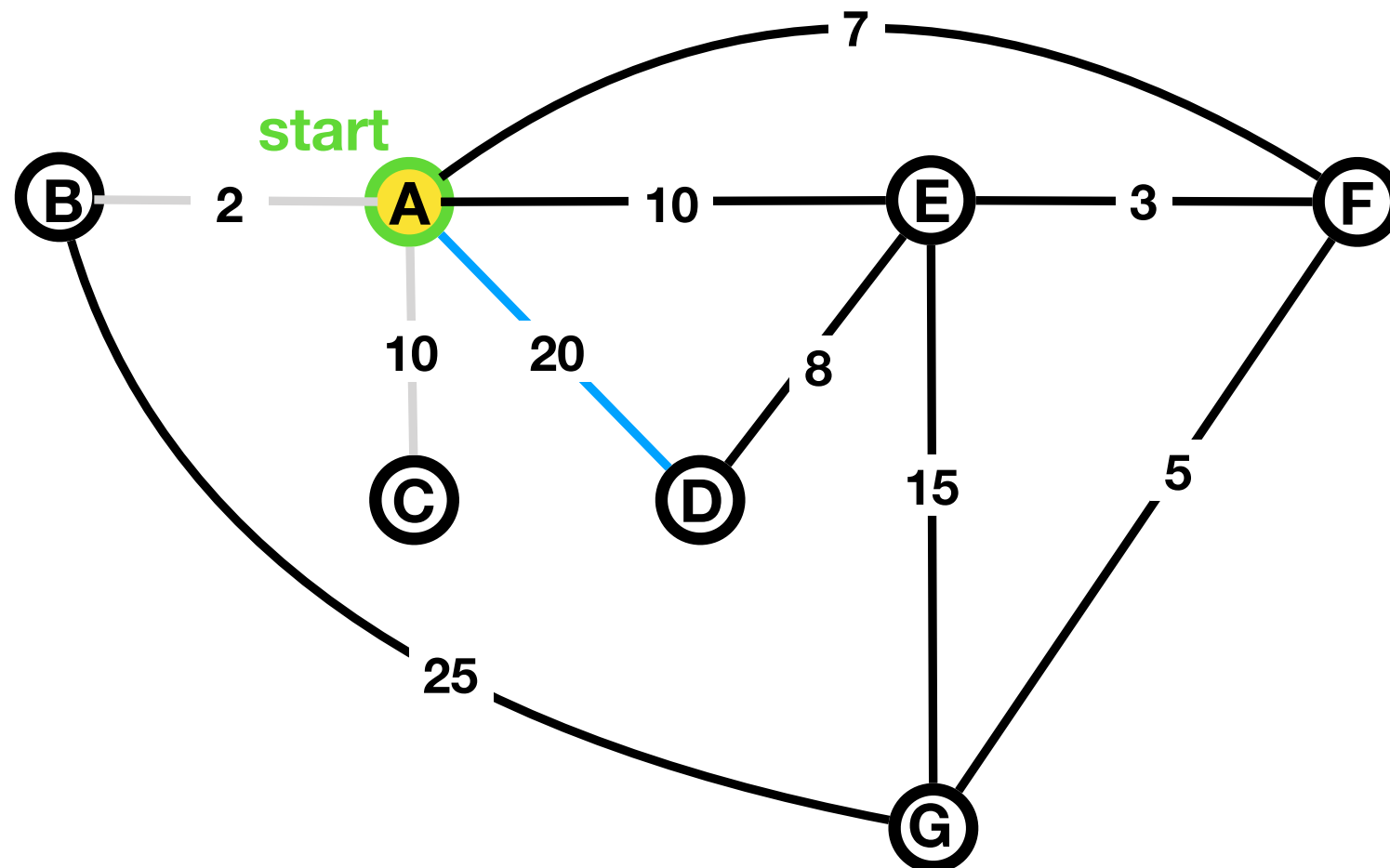
Is D known ? No

$$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (0) + (20) < (\infty) ?$$



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>D</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	F
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	$\infty$		F
F	$\infty$		F
G	$\infty$		F

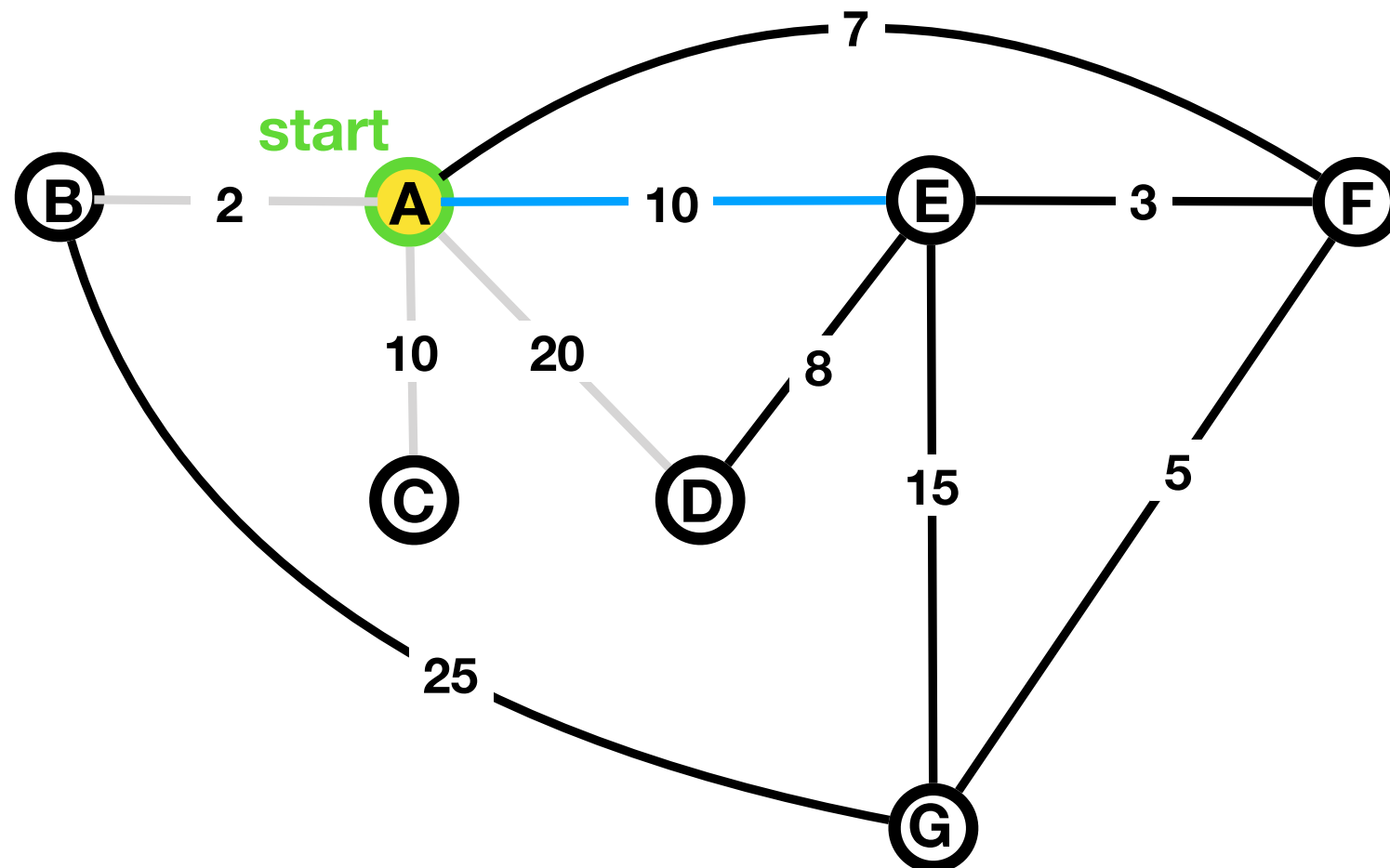
Is D known ? No

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j = (0) + (20) < (\infty)$  ? Yes

$\Rightarrow$  update  $\text{distance}_j = (0) + (20)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = A$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>E</b>



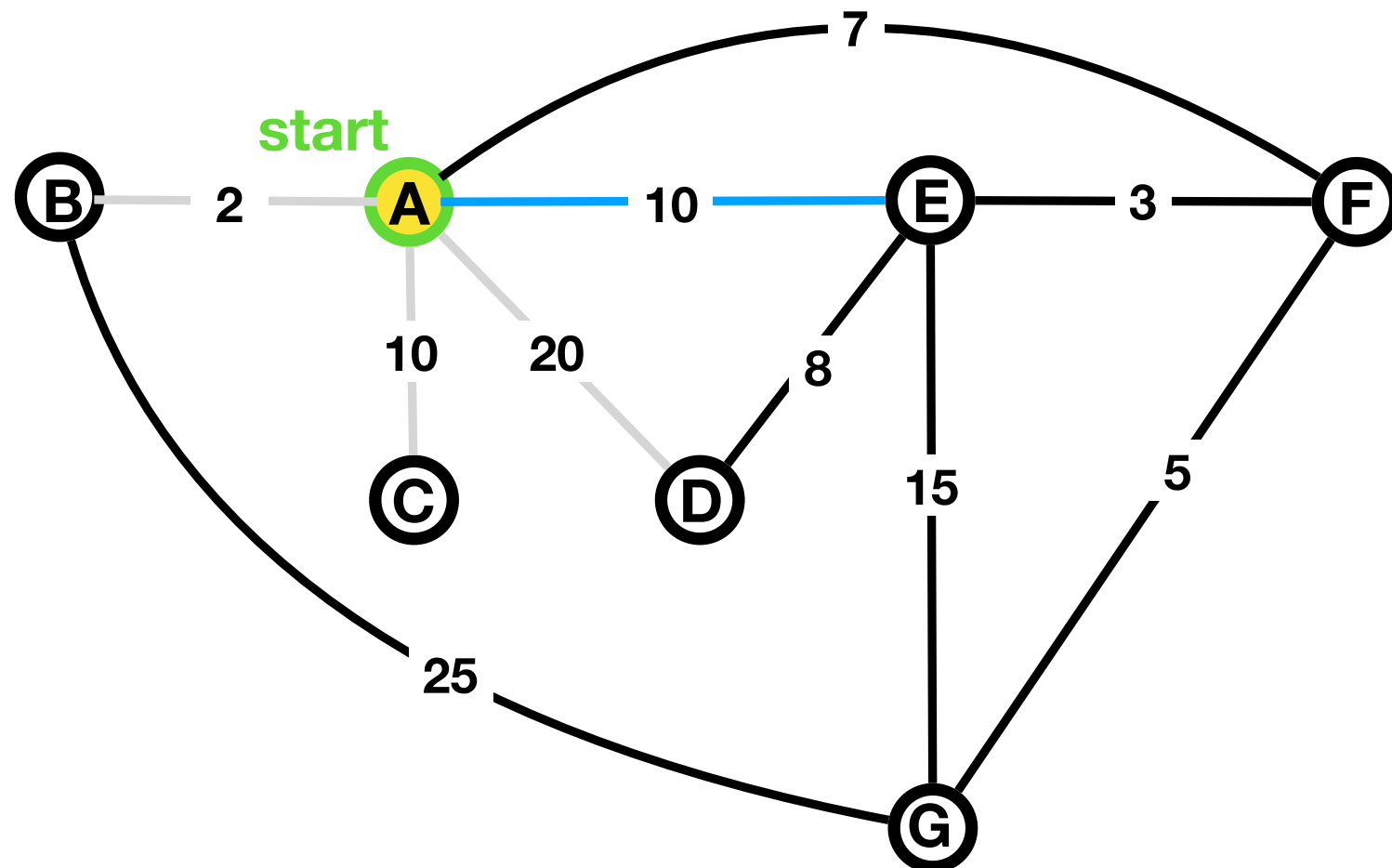
V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	<b><math>\infty</math></b>		<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	<b><math>\infty</math></b>		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	<b><math>\infty</math></b>		<b>F</b>

Is E known ? No

$$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (0) + (10) < (\infty) ?$$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>E</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

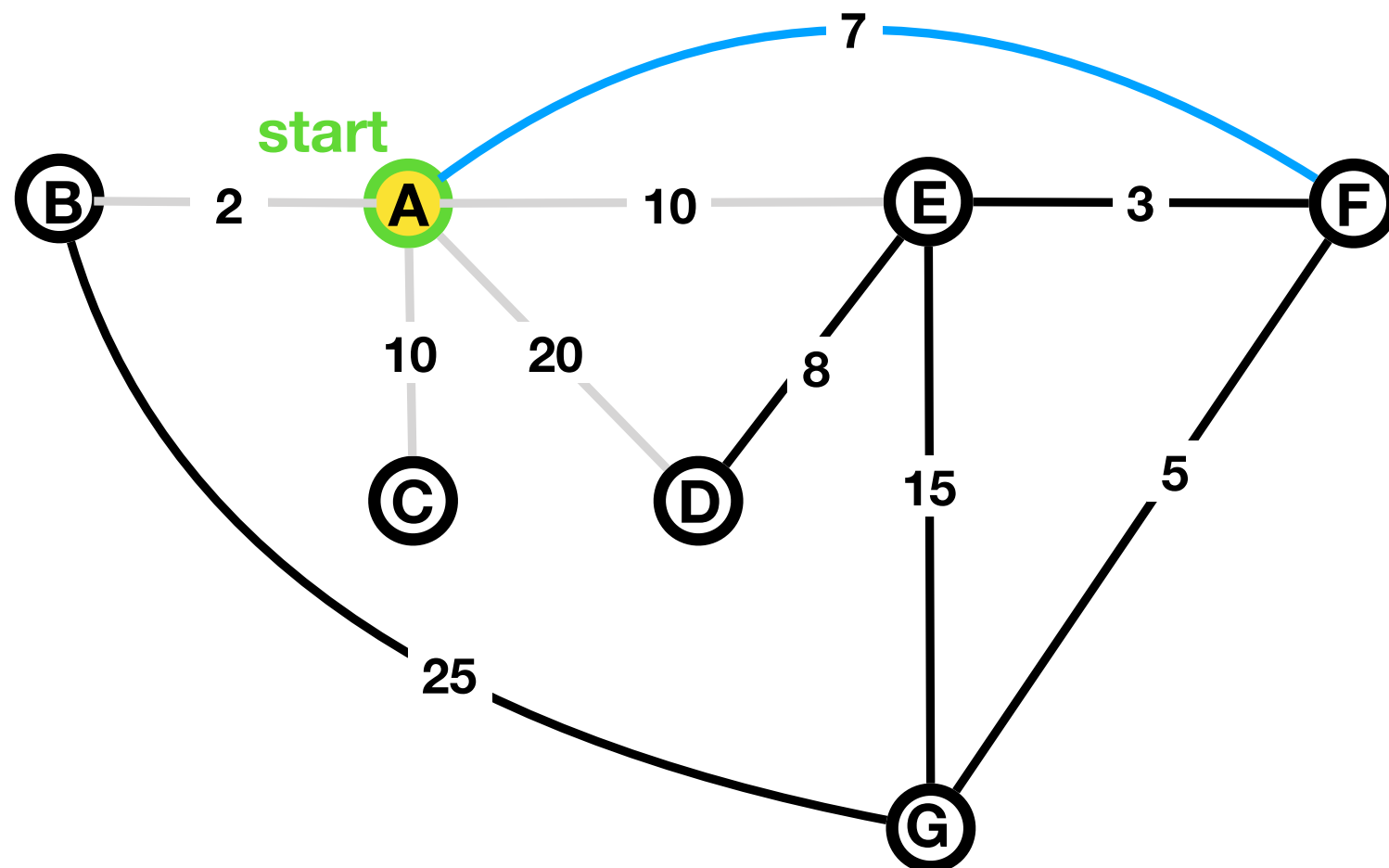
Is E known ? No

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j = (0) + (10) < (\infty)$  ? Yes

$\Rightarrow$  update  $\text{distance}_j = (0) + (10)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = A$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>F</b>



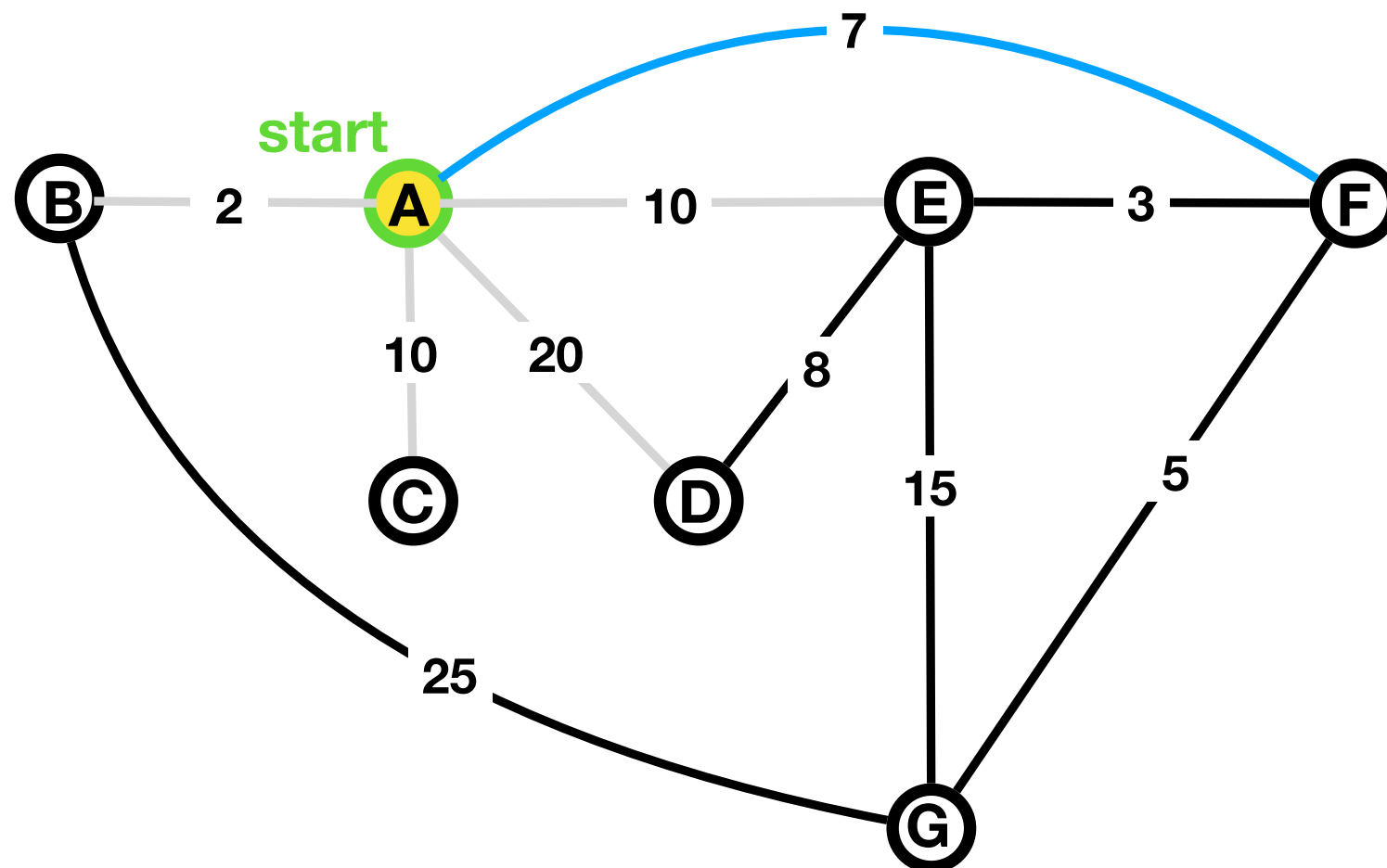
V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	$\infty$		<b>F</b>

Is F known ? No

$$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (0) + (7) < (\infty) ?$$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>A</b>
next, $j$	<b>F</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	F
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	F
G	$\infty$		F

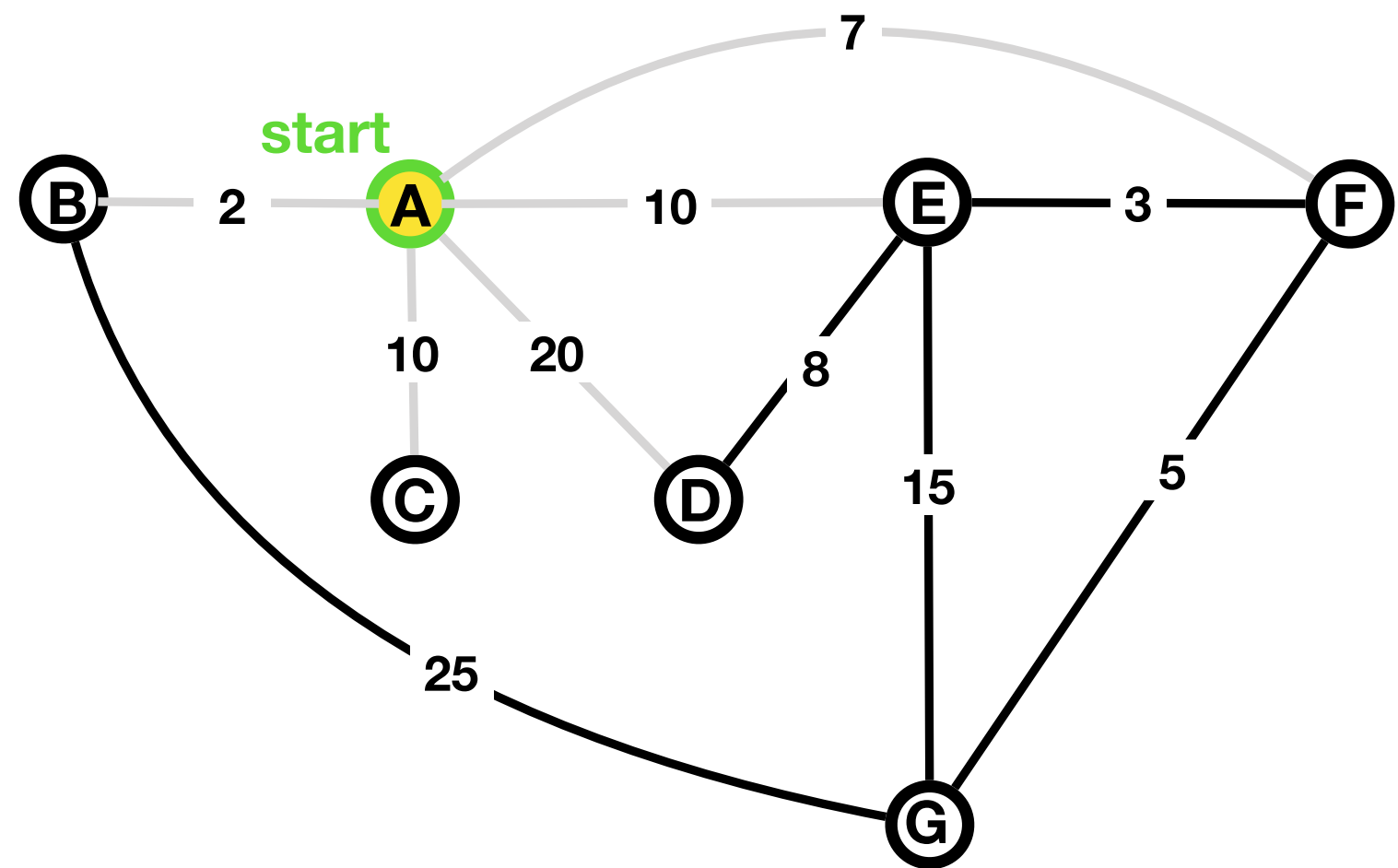
Is F known ? No

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j$  =  $(0) + (7) < (\infty)$  ? Yes

=> update  $\text{distance}_j = (0) + (7)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = A$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>A</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

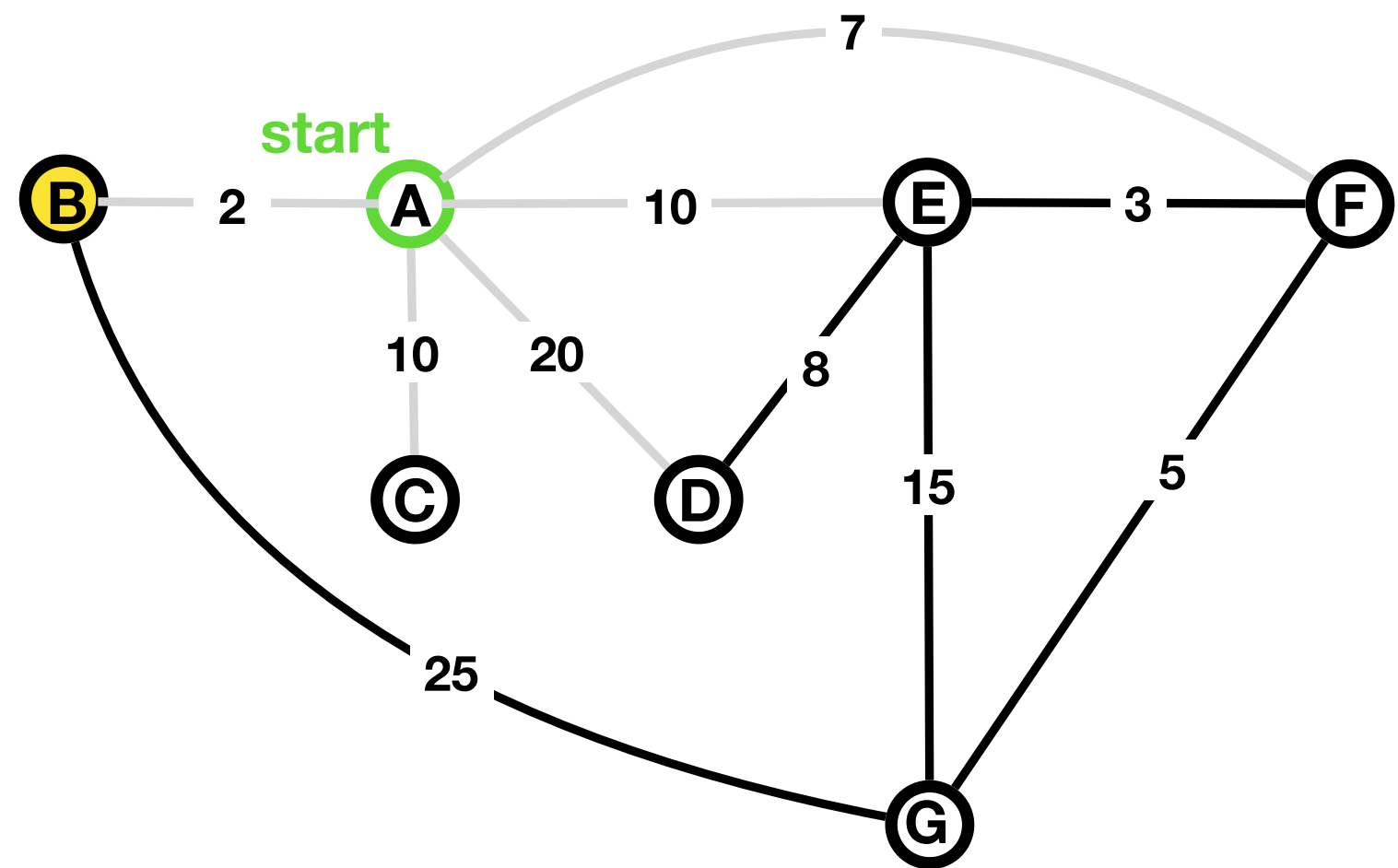


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
<b>A</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>T</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>∞</b>		<b>F</b>

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>B</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

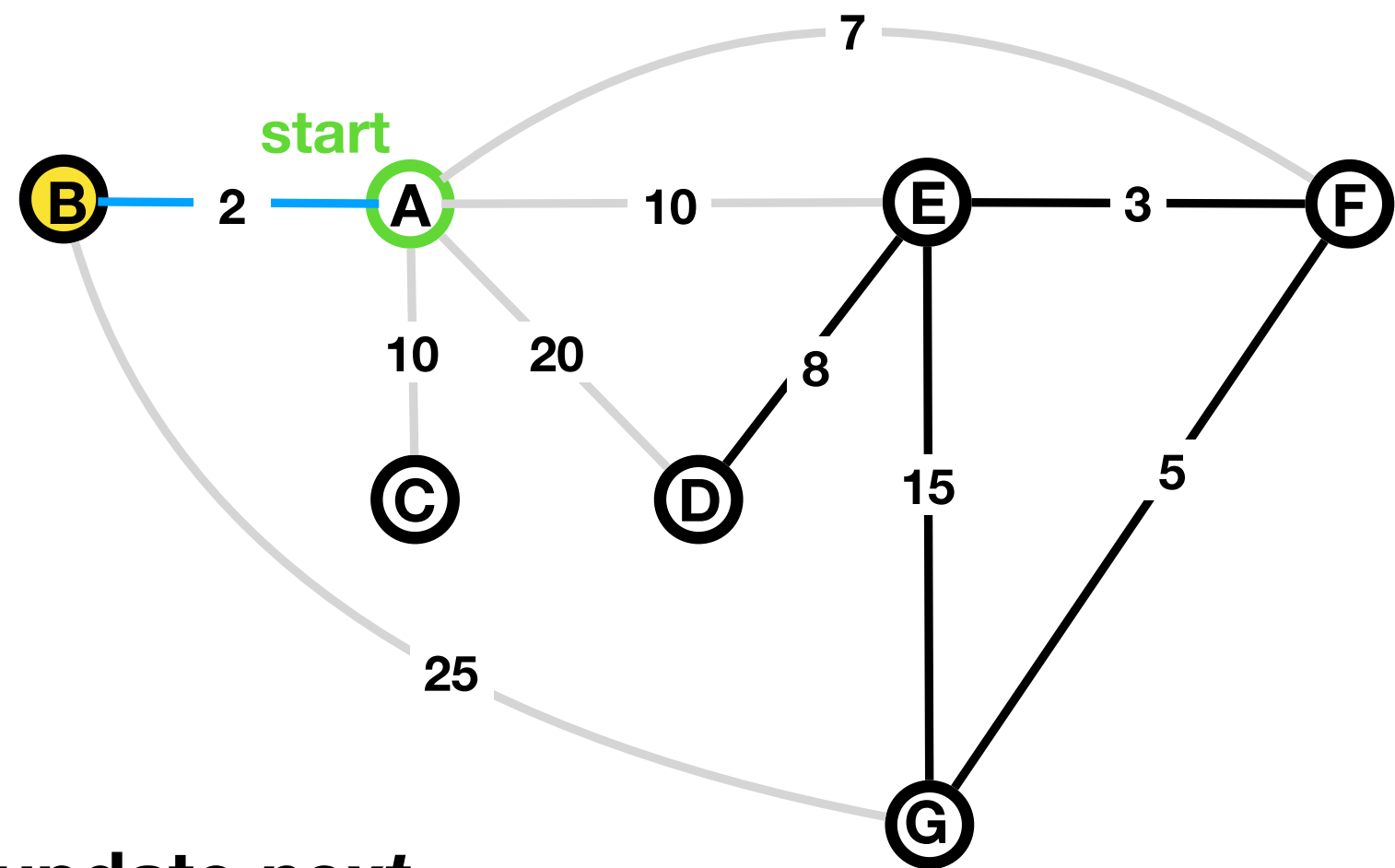


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	F
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	F
G	$\infty$		F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>B</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>A</b>



update *next*.

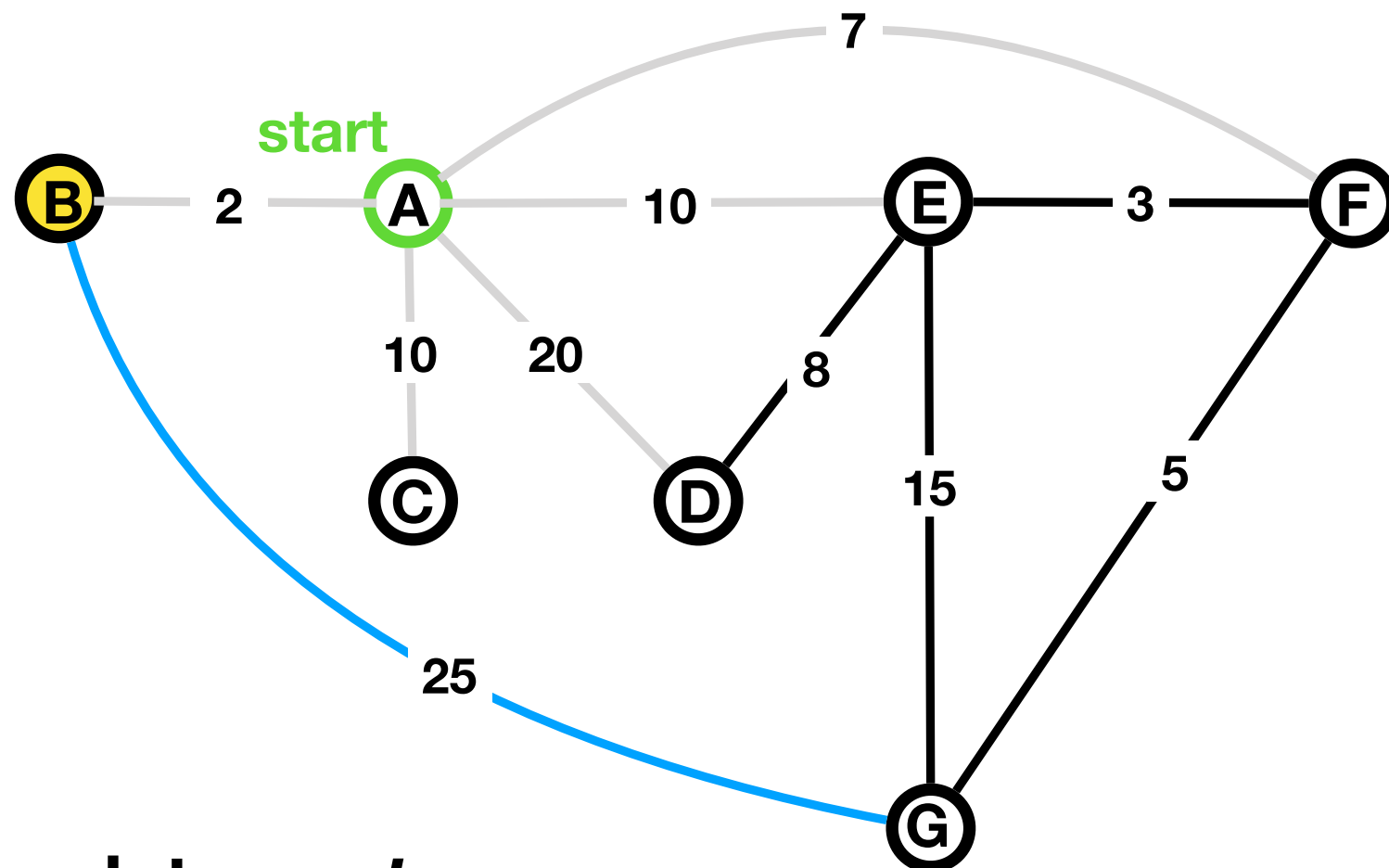
Is A known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	F
G	$\infty$		F



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>B</b>
next, $j$	<b>G</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	F
G	$\infty$		F

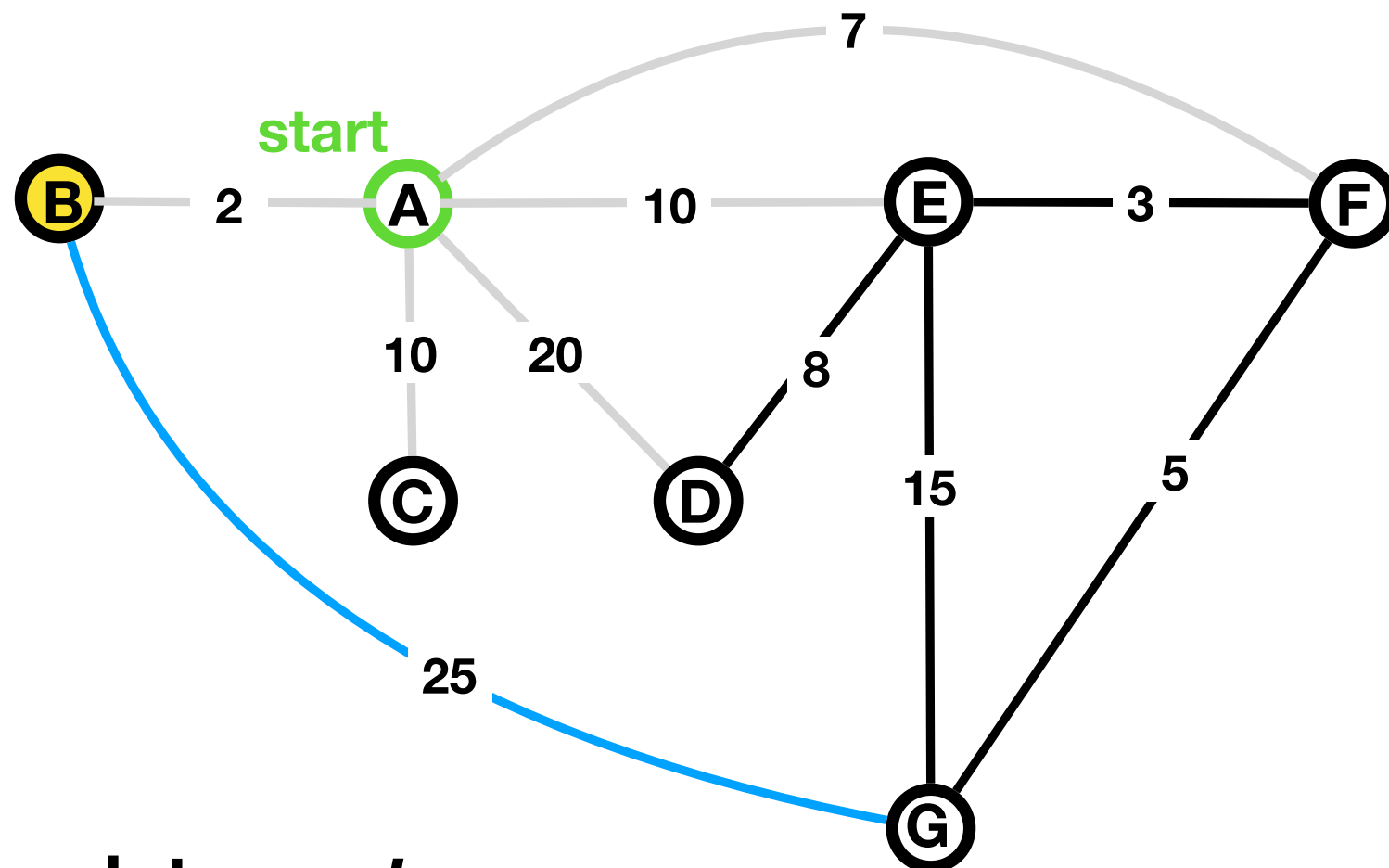
update *next*.

Is G known ? No

$$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j = (2) + (25) < (\infty) ?$$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>B</b>
next, $j$	<b>G</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	F
G	27	B	F

update *next*.

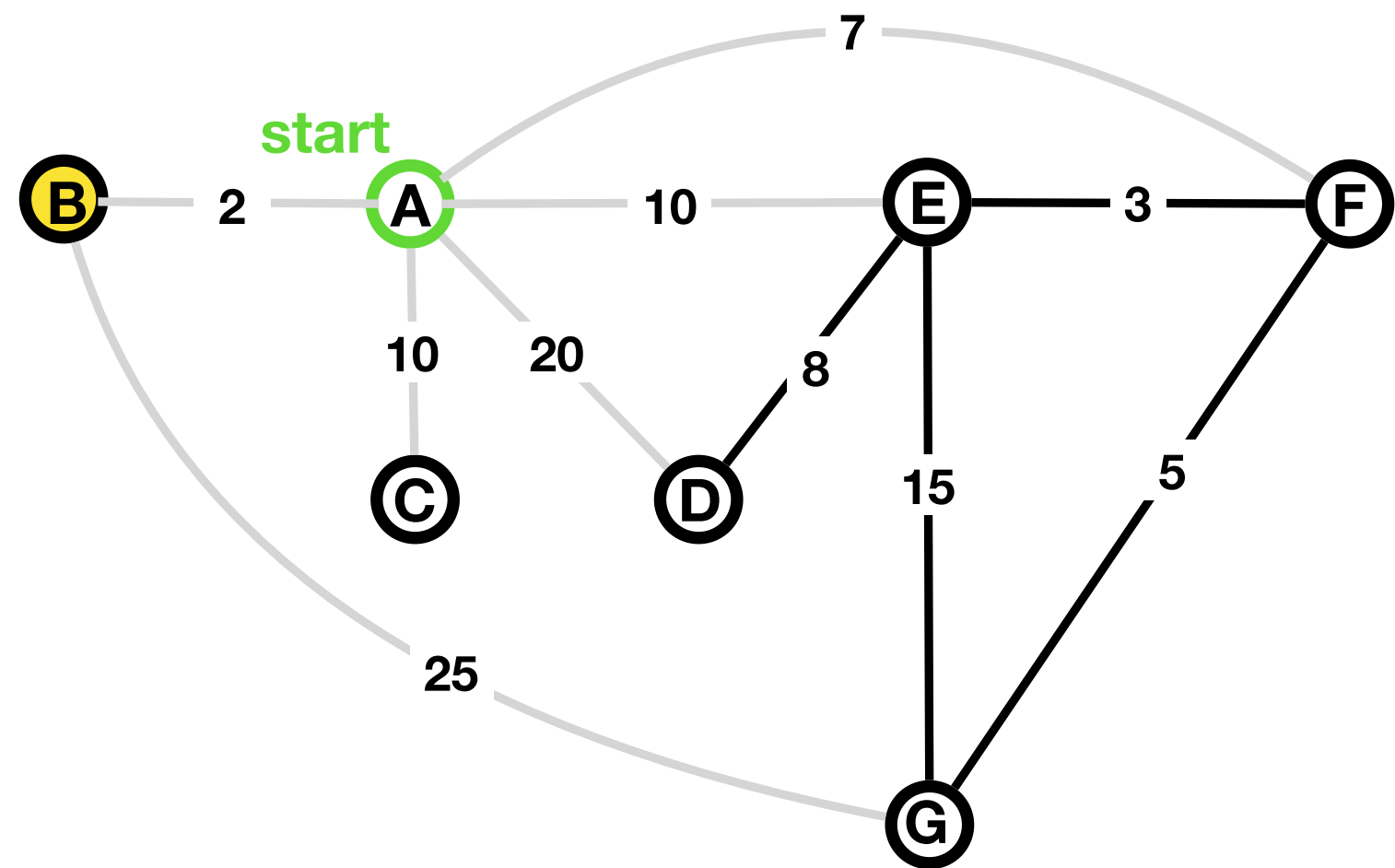
Is G known ? No

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j$  =  $(2) + (25) < (\infty)$  ? Yes

=> update  $\text{distance}_j = (2) + (25)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = \text{B}$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>B</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

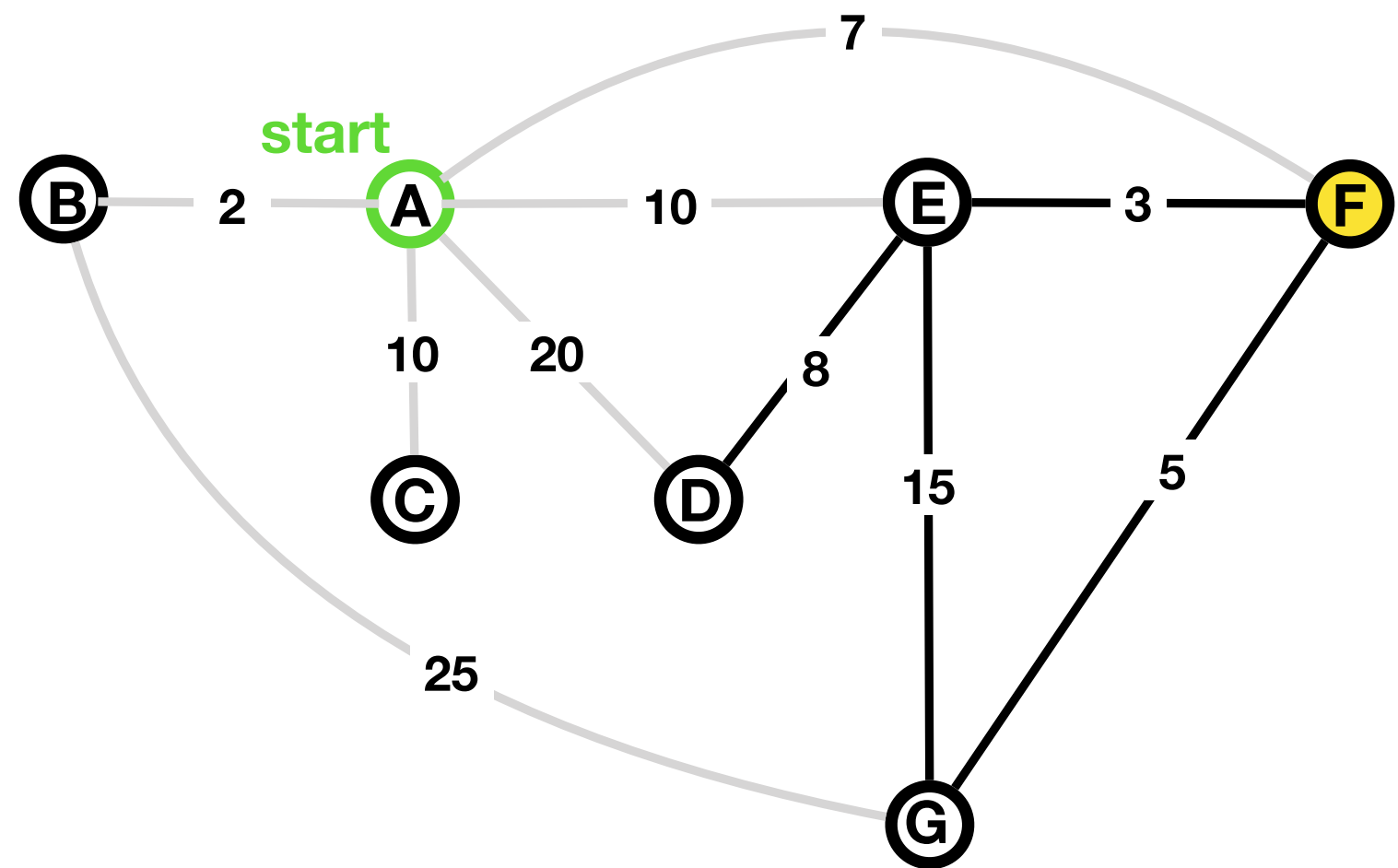


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	F
G	27	B	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>F</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

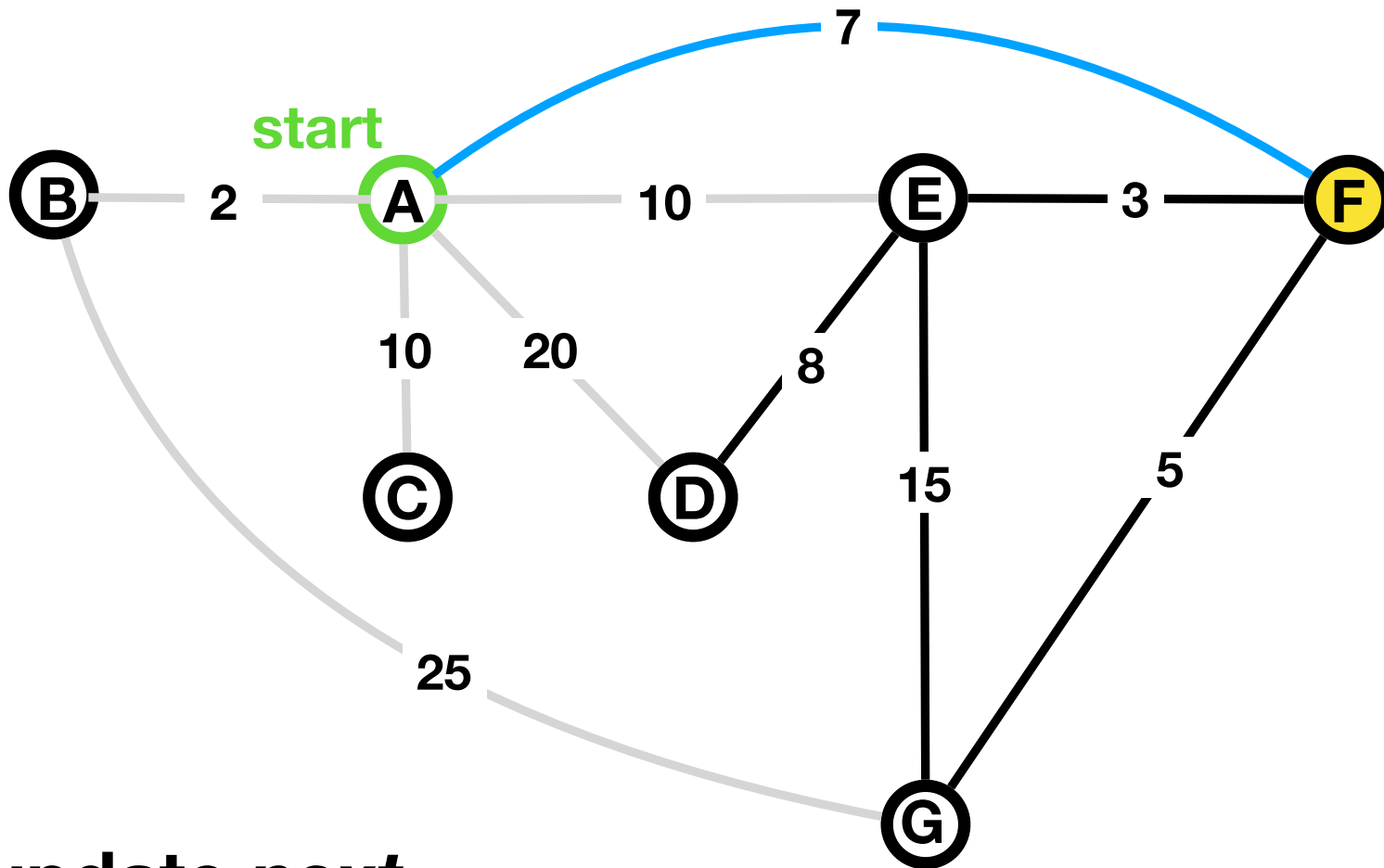


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	F
G	27	B	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>F</b>
next, $j$	<b>A</b>



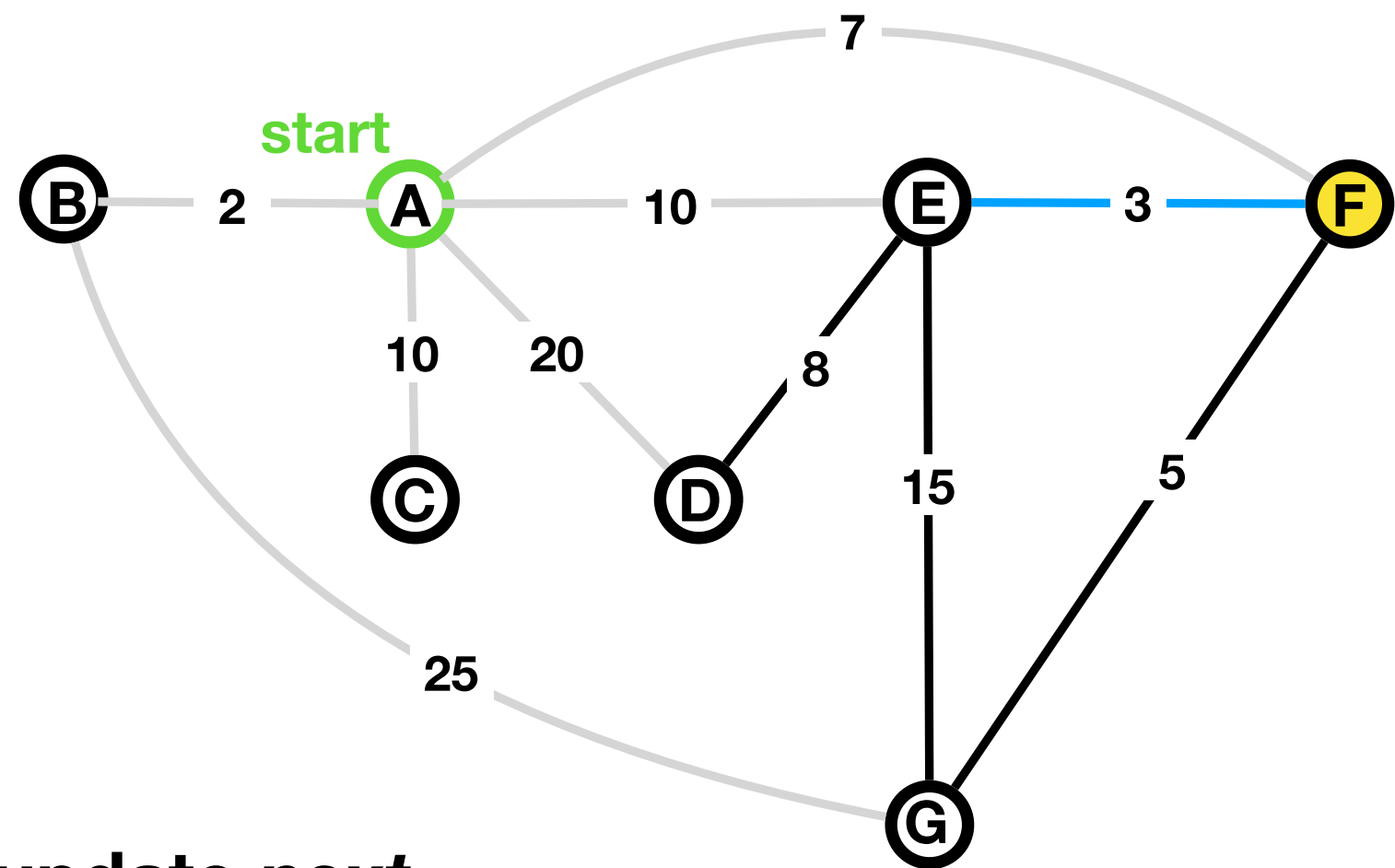
**update *next*.**

**Is A known ? Yes.**

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	27	B	F

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>F</b>
next, $j$	<b>E</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	27	B	F

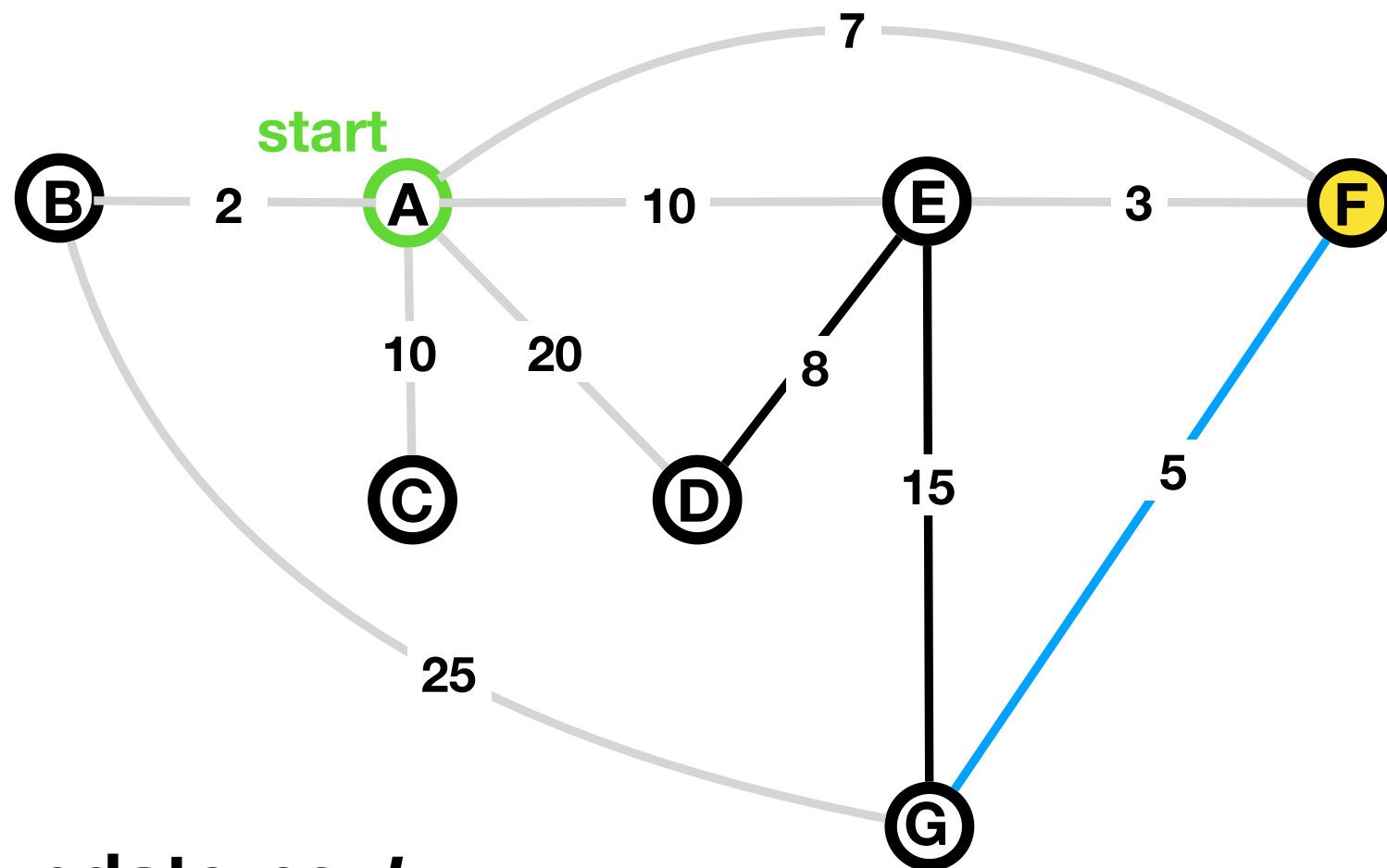
update *next*.

Is E known ? No.

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (7) + (3) < (10) \text{ ? } \underline{\text{No}}$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>F</b>
next, $j$	<b>G</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	27	B	F

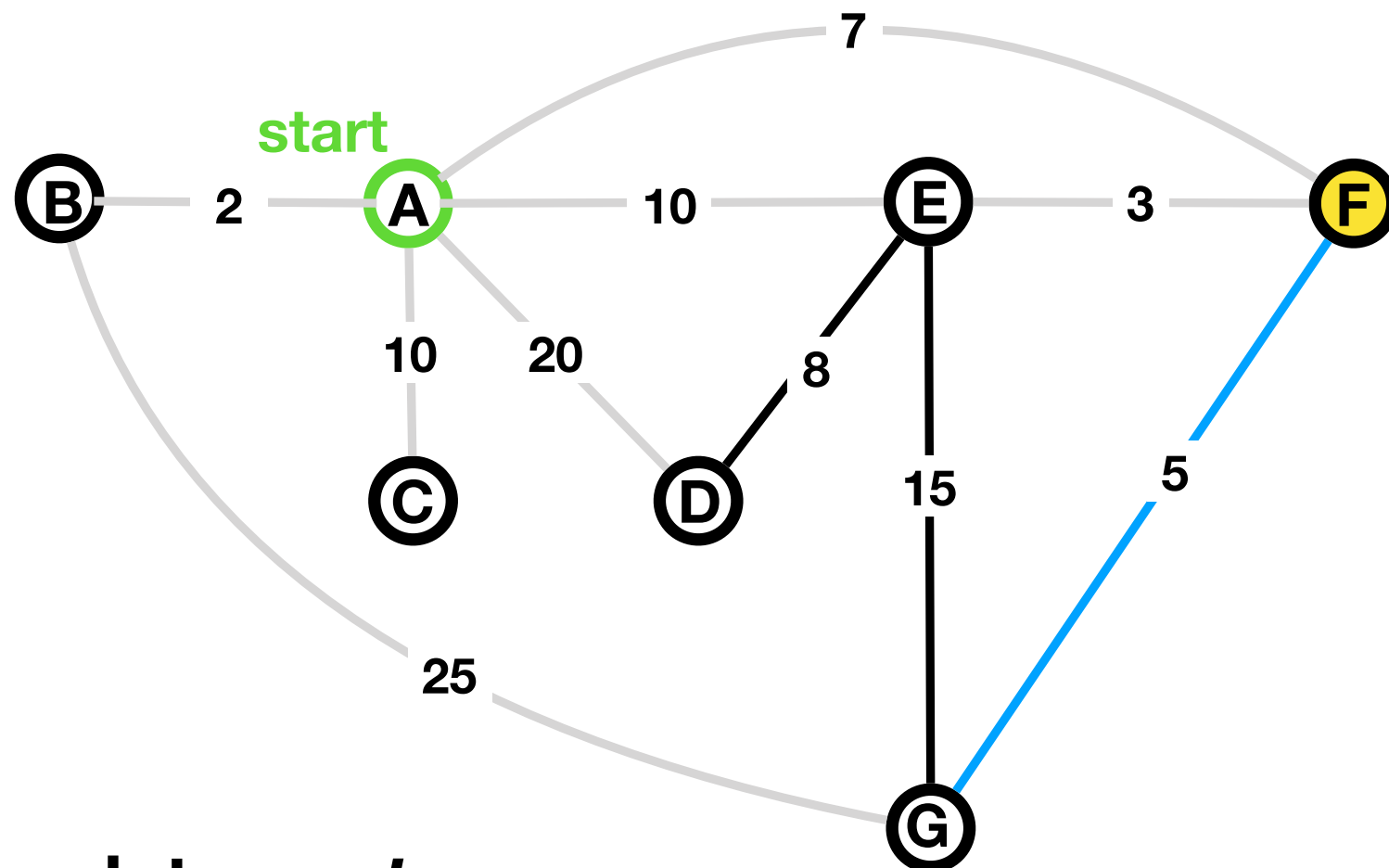
update *next*.

Is G known ? No.

$$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j = (7) + (5) < (27) ?$$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>F</b>
next, $j$	<b>G</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *next*.

Is G known ? No.

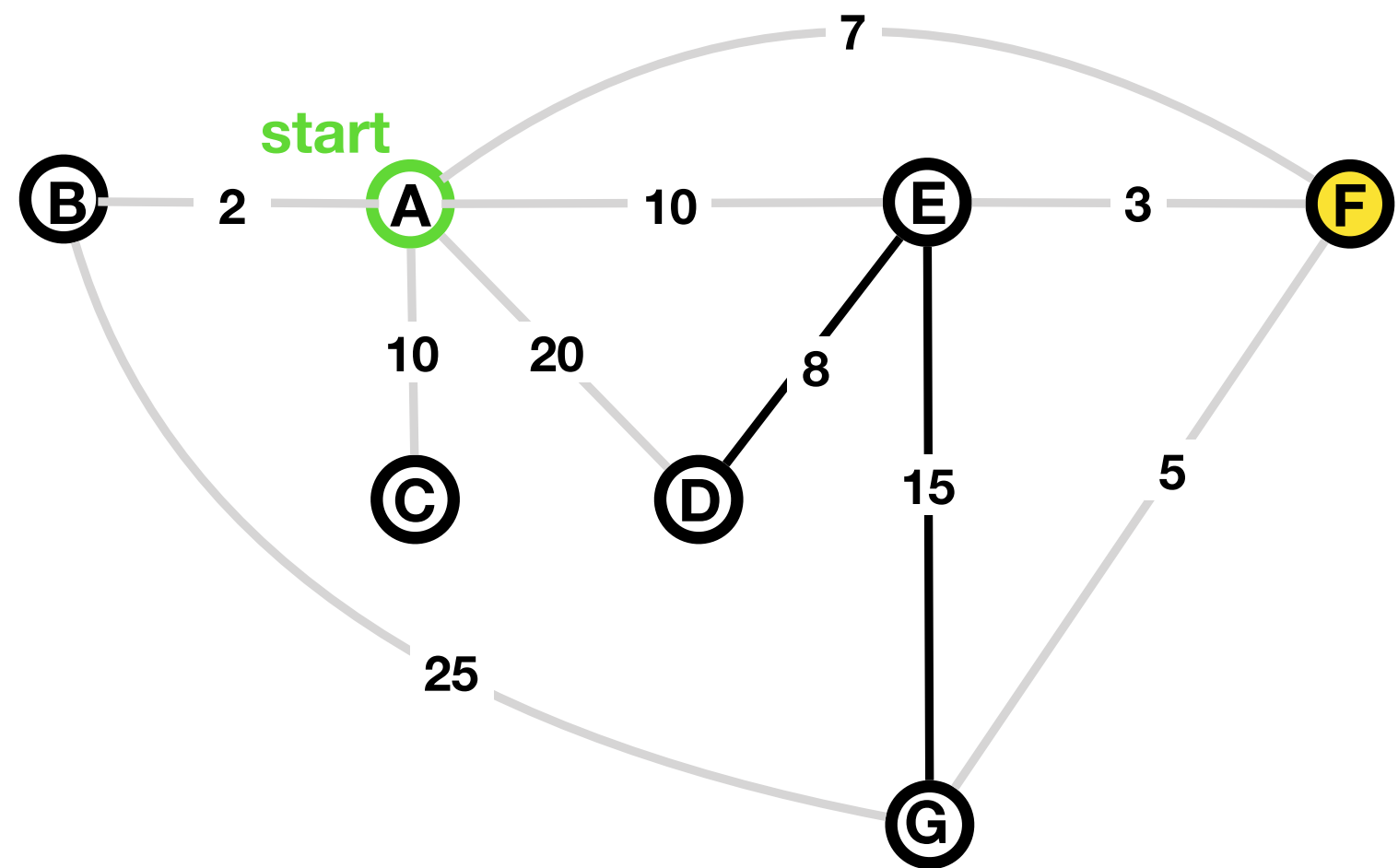
$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j$  =  $(7) + (5) < (27)$  ? Yes

=> update  $\text{distance}_j = (7) + (5)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = \text{F}$



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>F</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

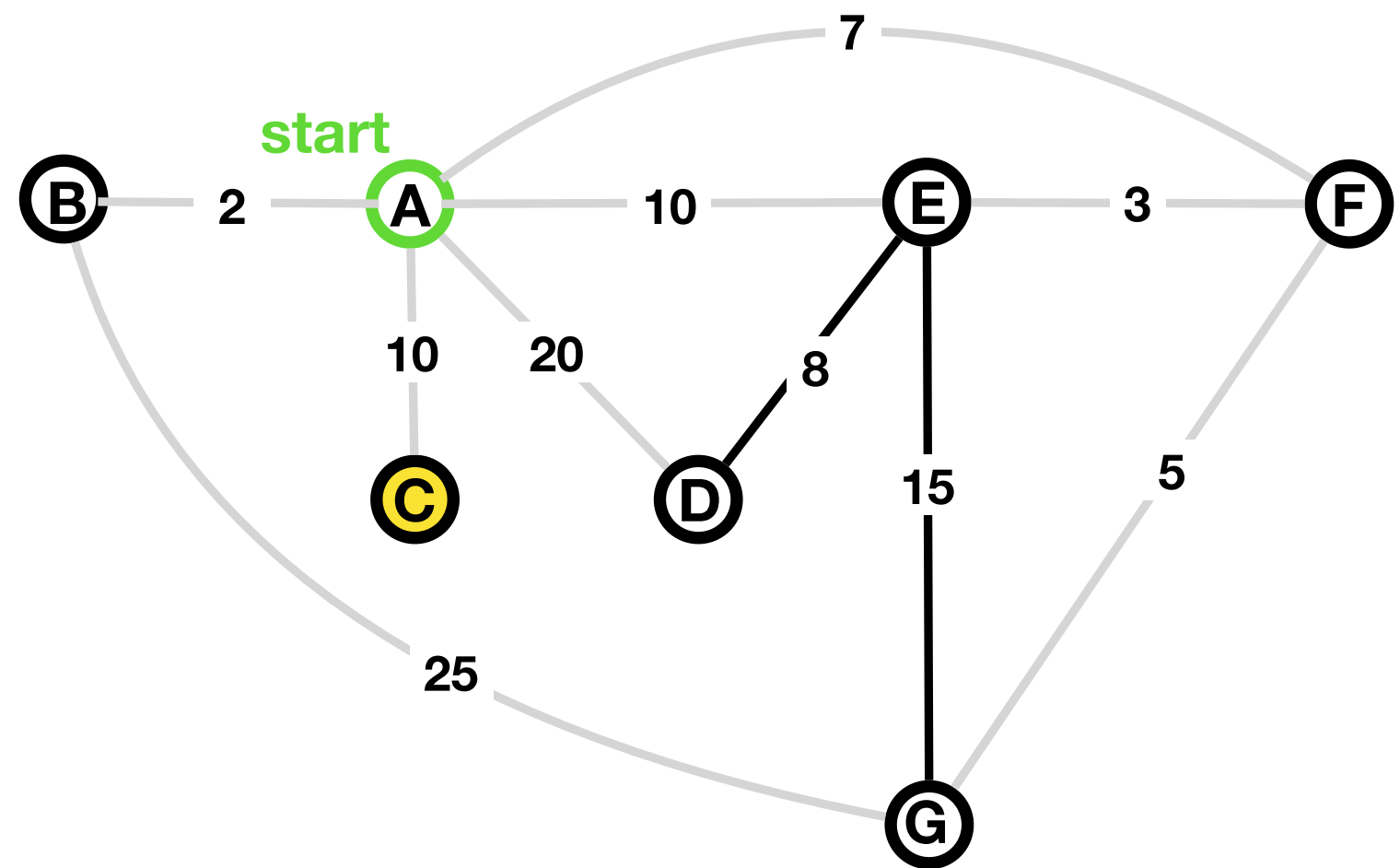


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>C</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

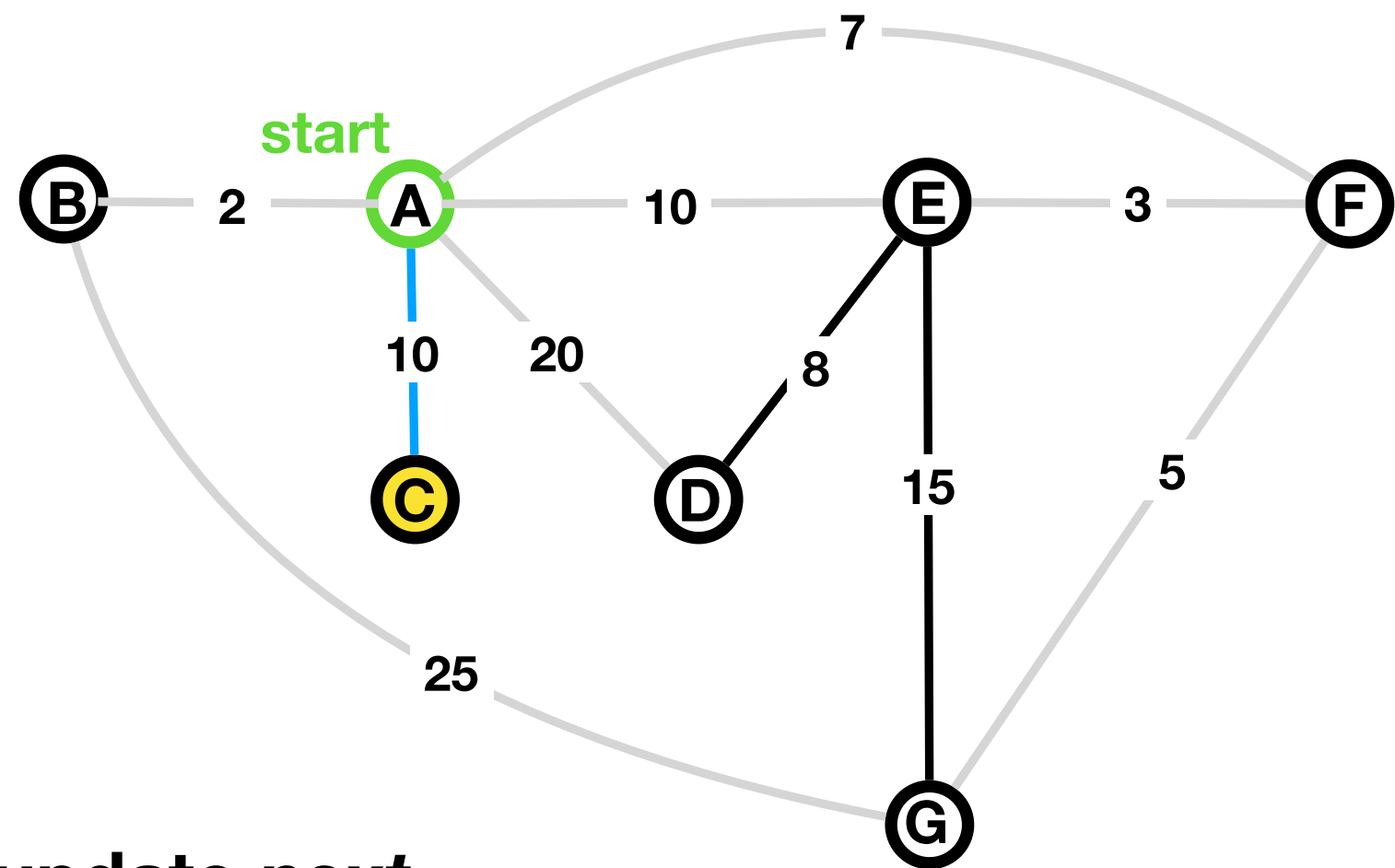


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	F
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>C</b>
next, <i>j</i>	



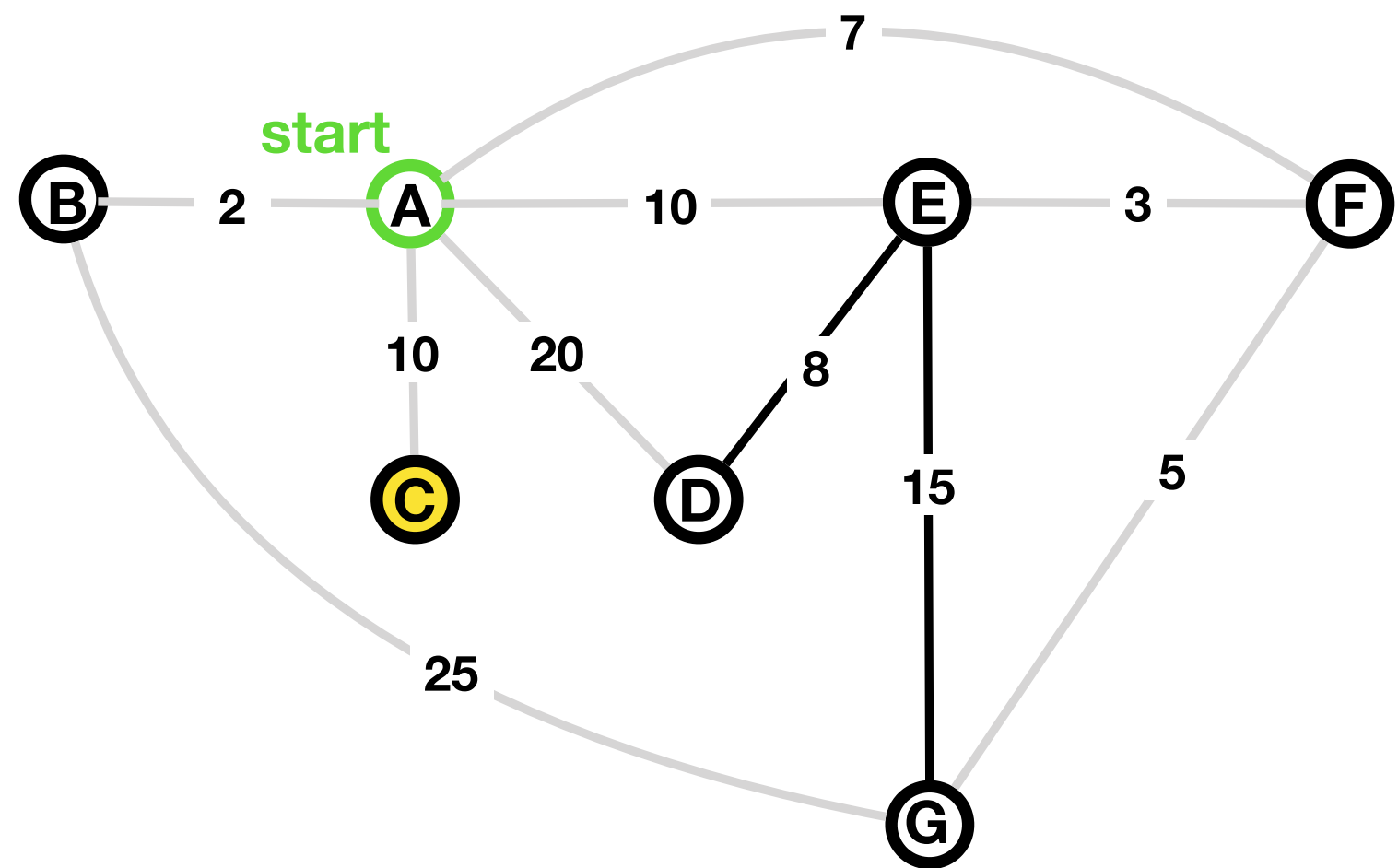
update *next*.

Is A known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>C</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

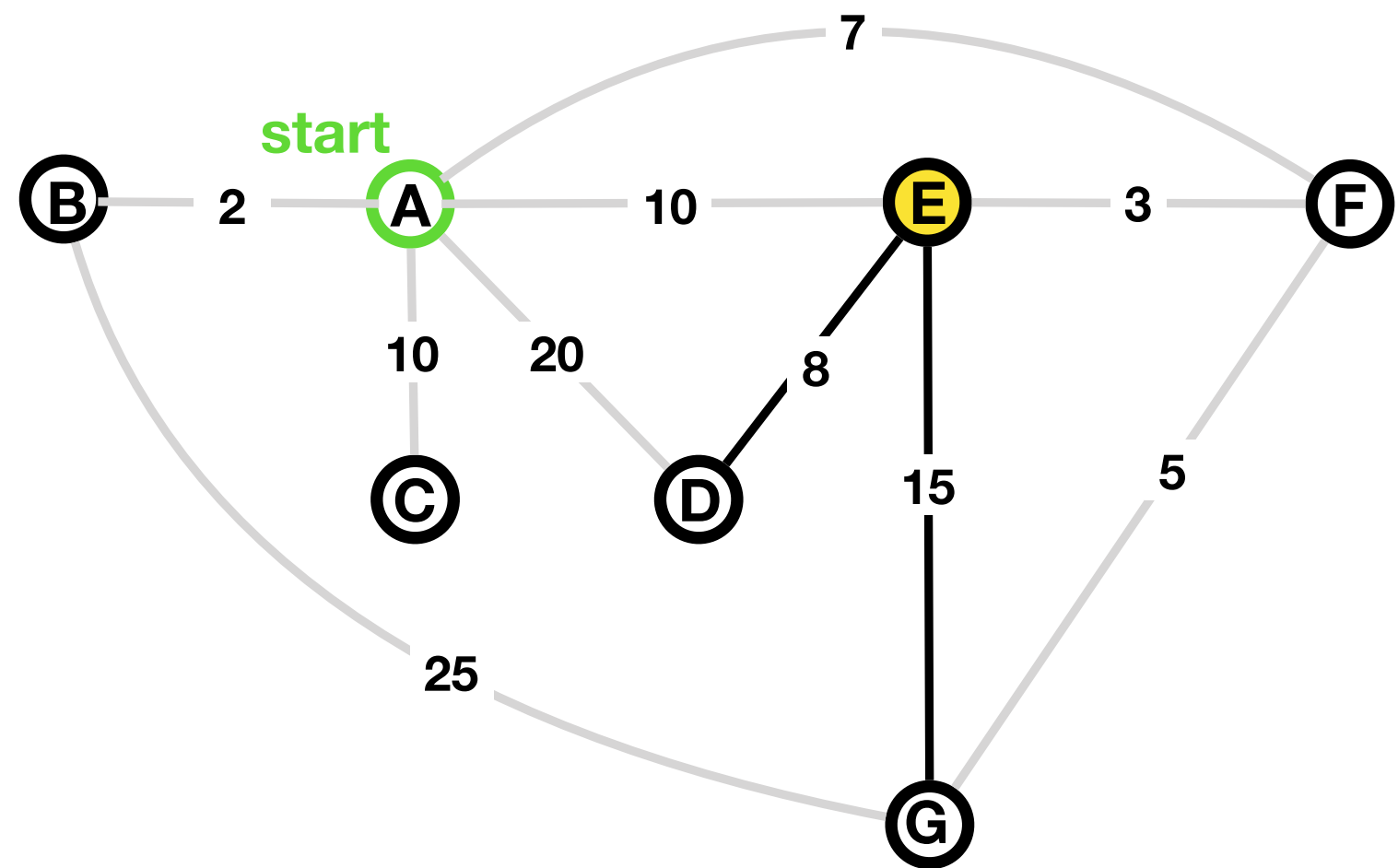


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>E</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

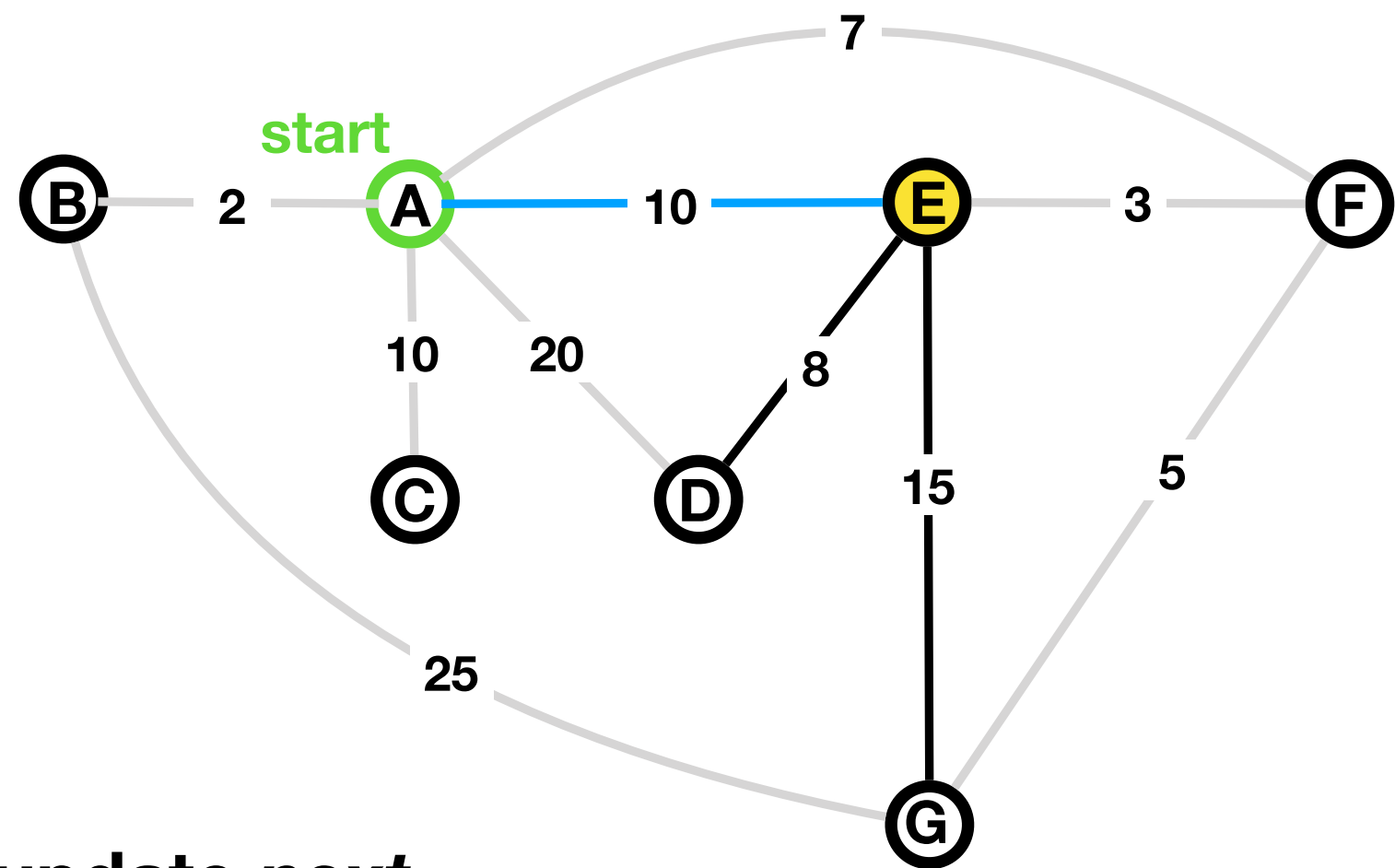


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	F
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>E</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>A</b>

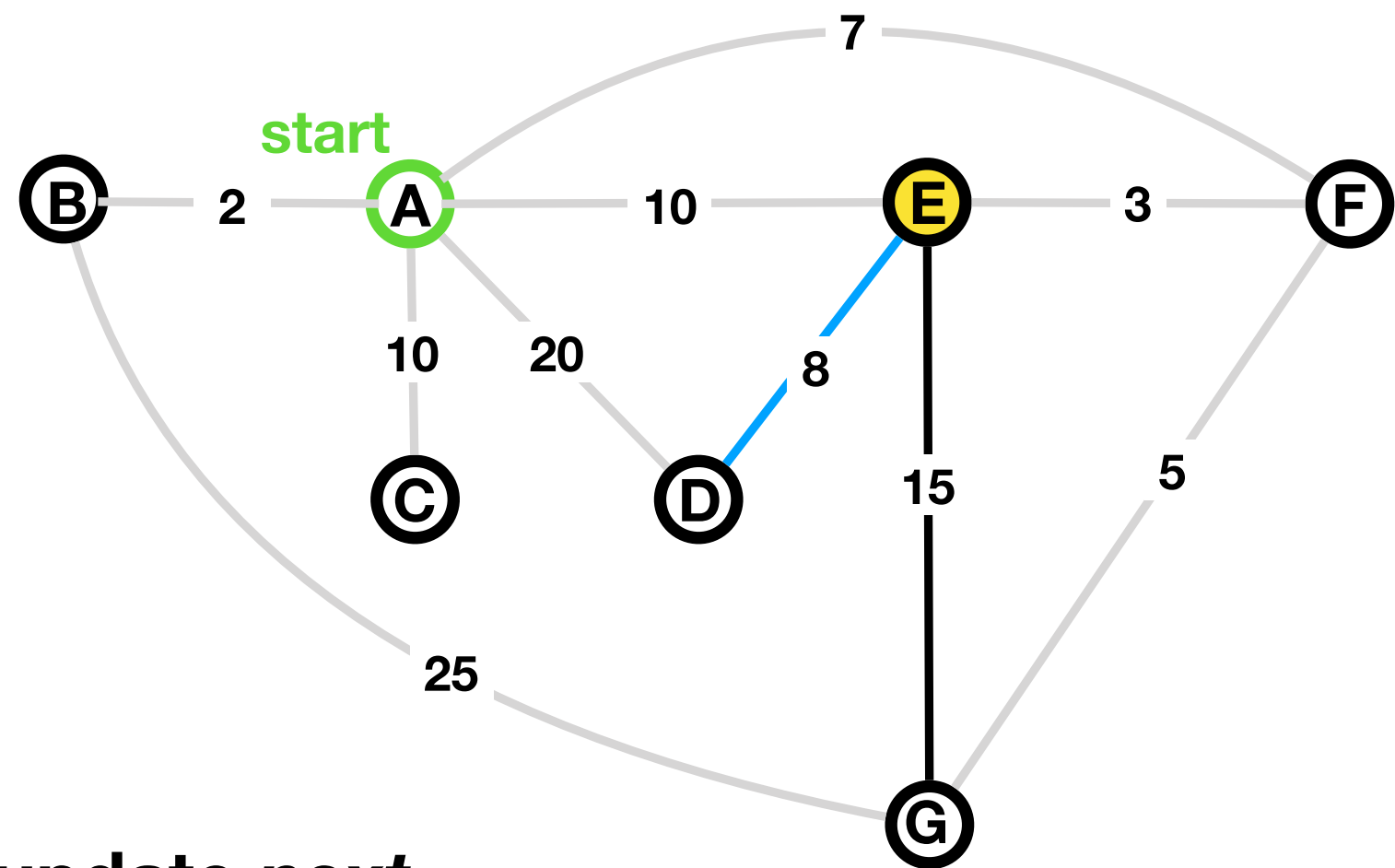


update *next*.  
Is A known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>E</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>D</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	20	A	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

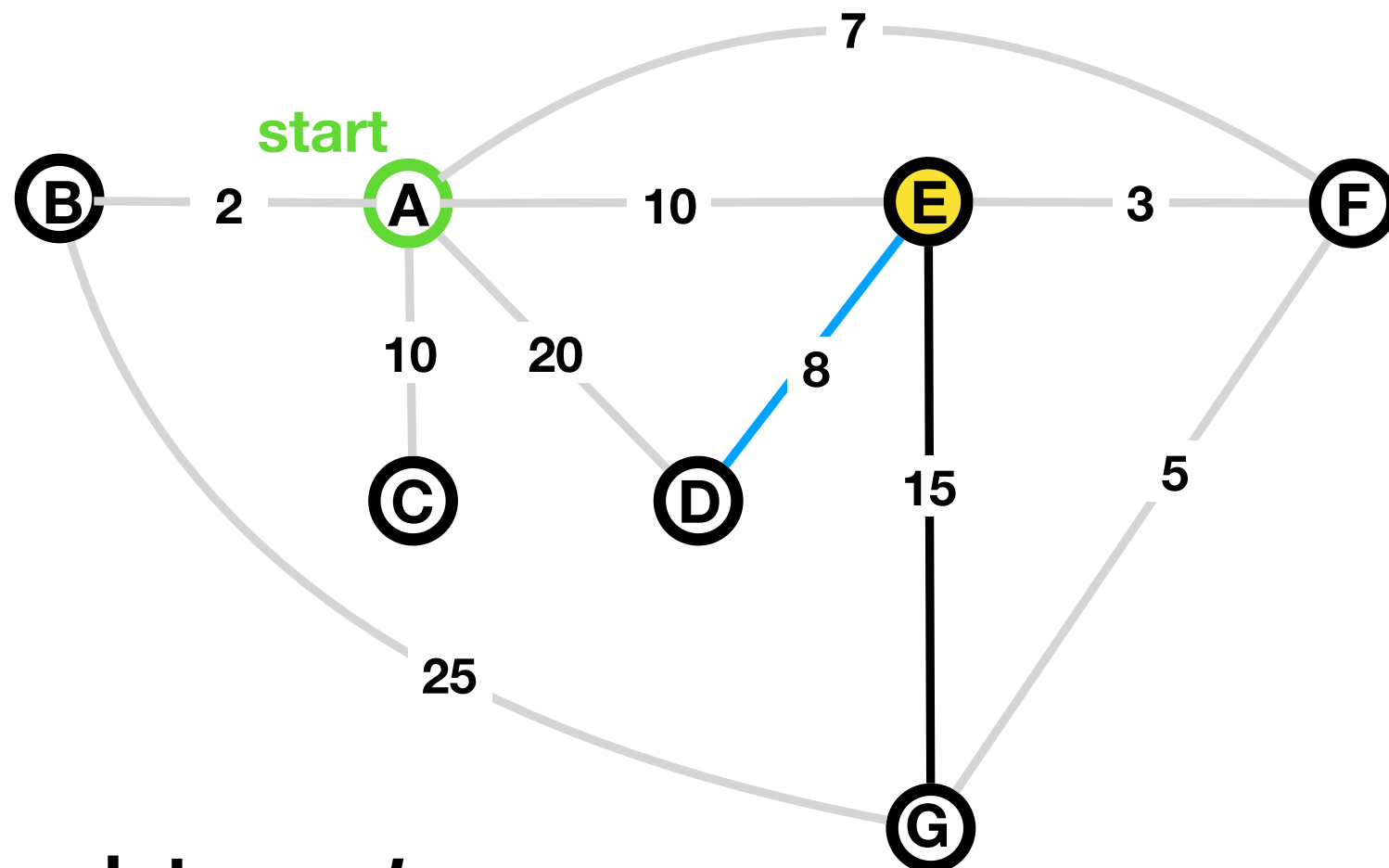
update *next*.

Is D known ? No.

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (10) + (8) < (20) \quad ?$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>E</b>
next, $j$	<b>D</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *next*.

Is D known ? No.

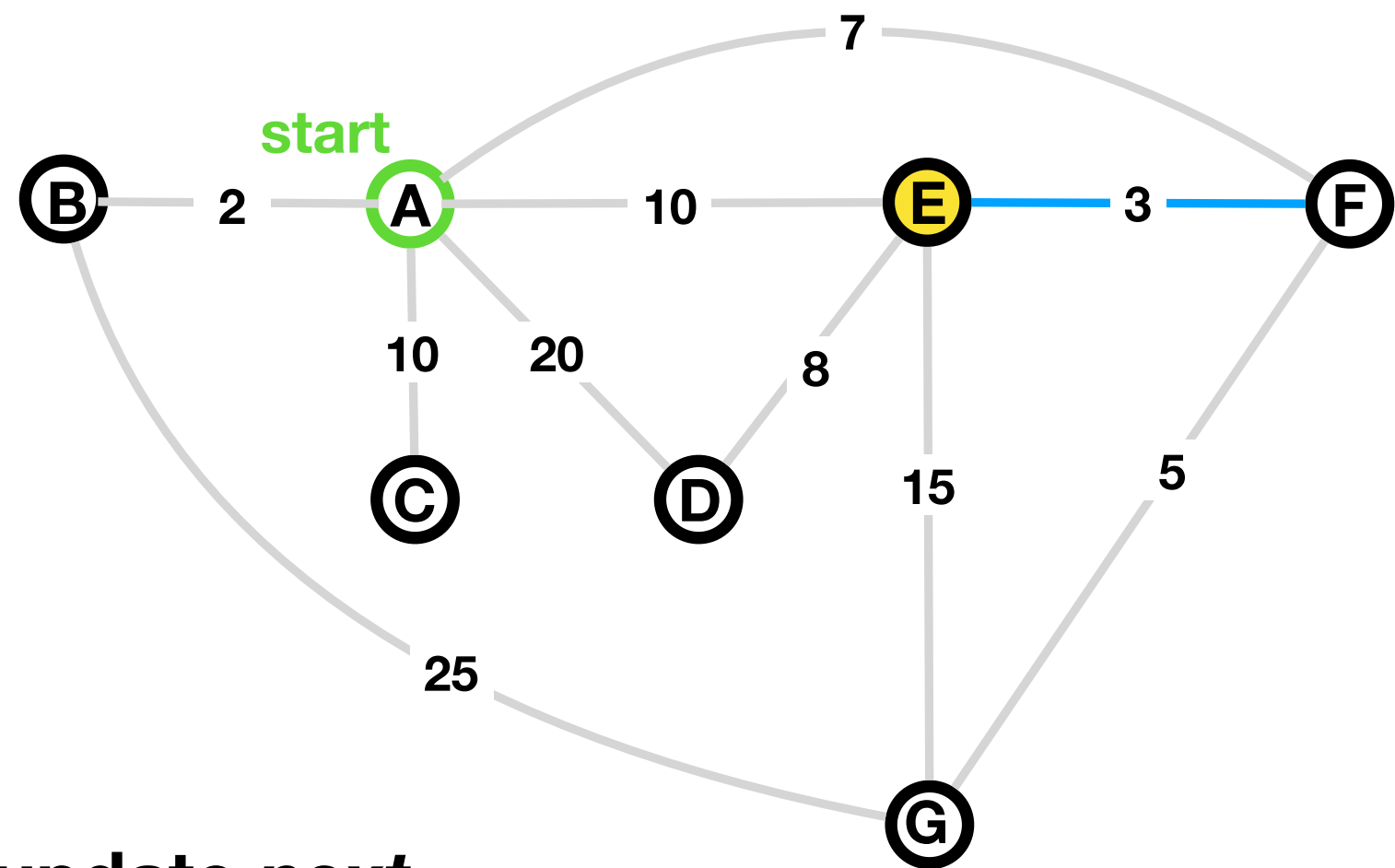
$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j$  =  $(10) + (8) < (20)$  ? Yes

=> update  $\text{distance}_j = (10) + (8)$  and  $\text{previous}_j = \text{current} = E$



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>E</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>F</b>



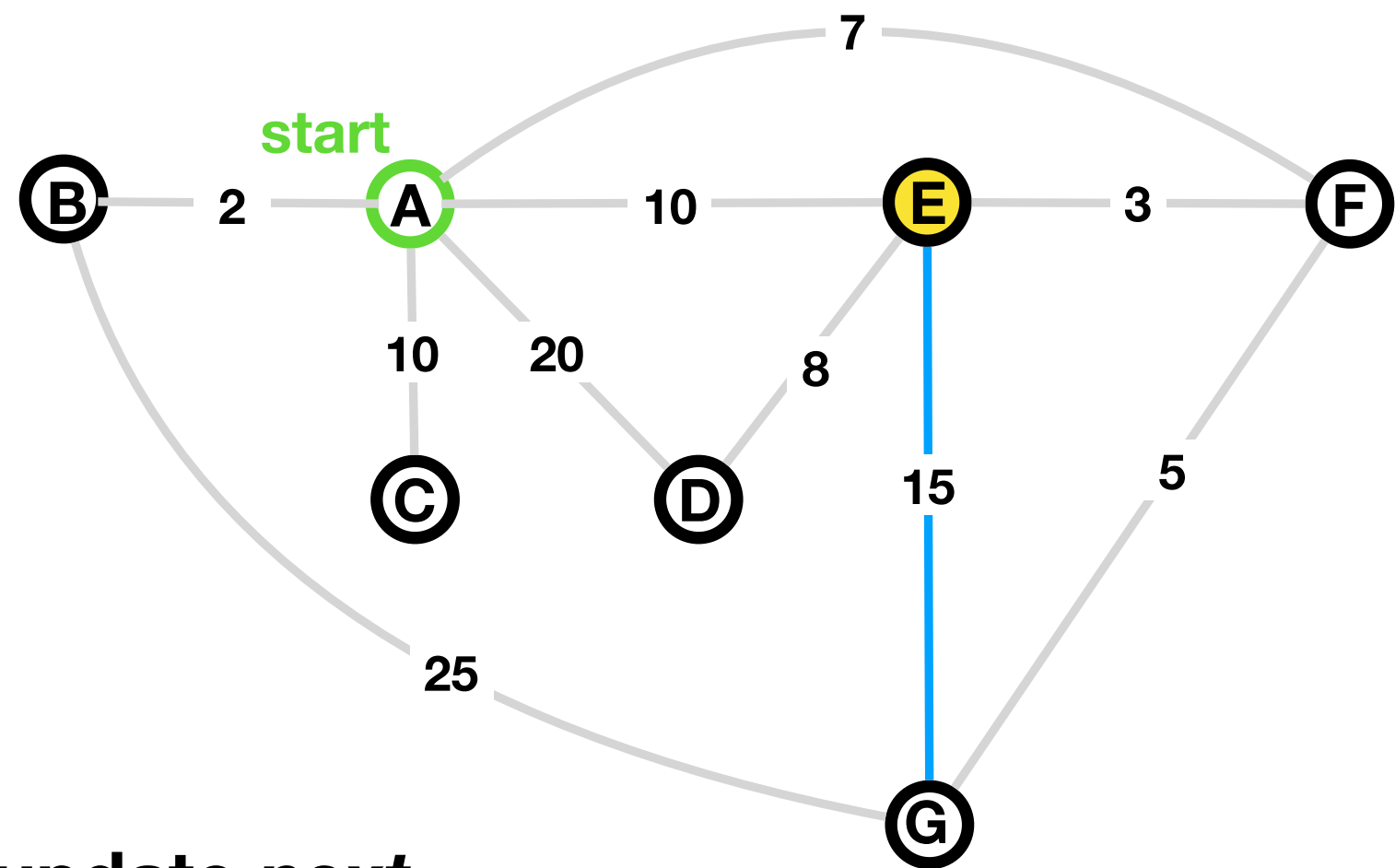
update *next*.

Is F known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>E</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>G</b>



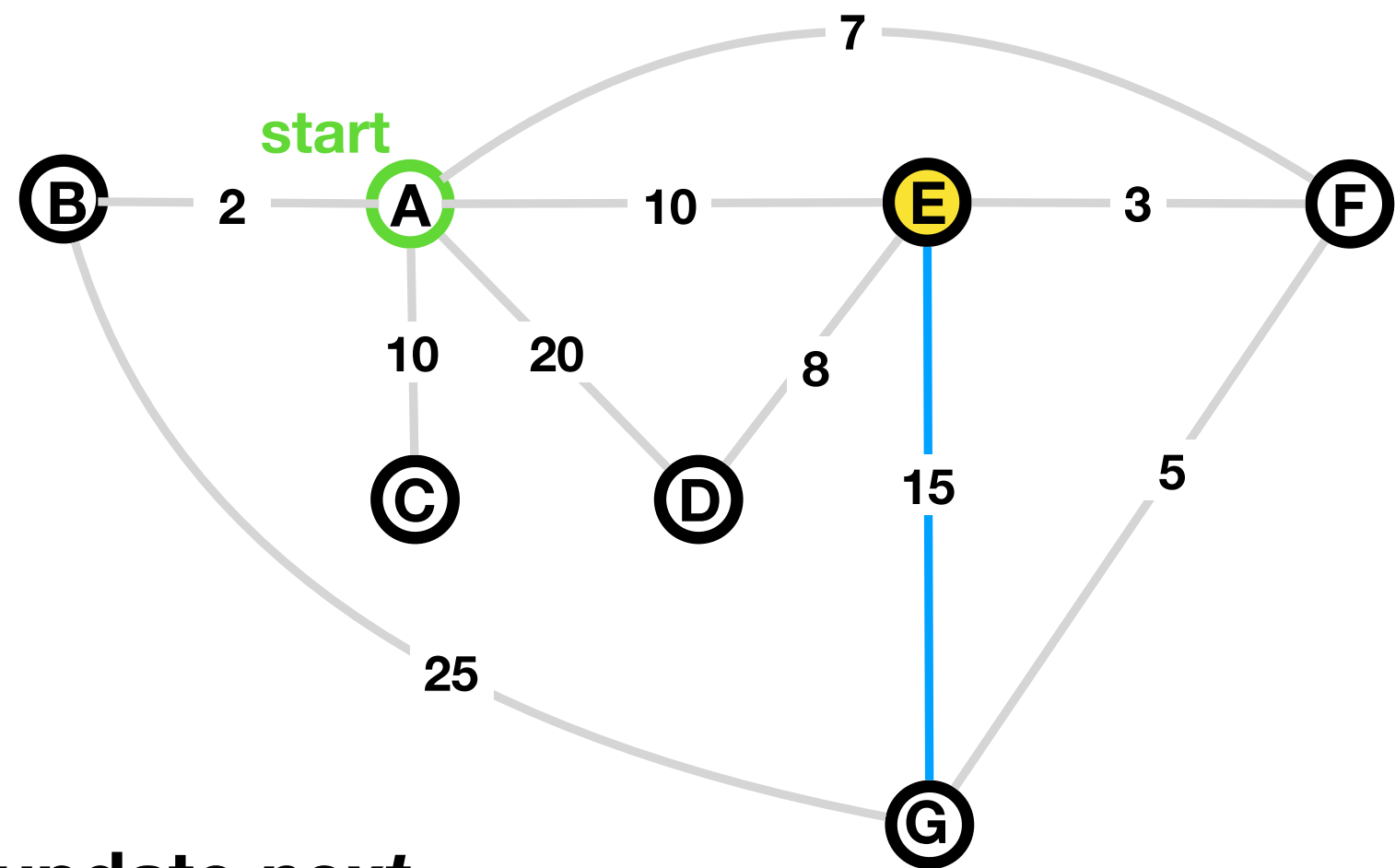
update *next*.

Is G known ? No.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>E</b>
next, $j$	<b>G</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

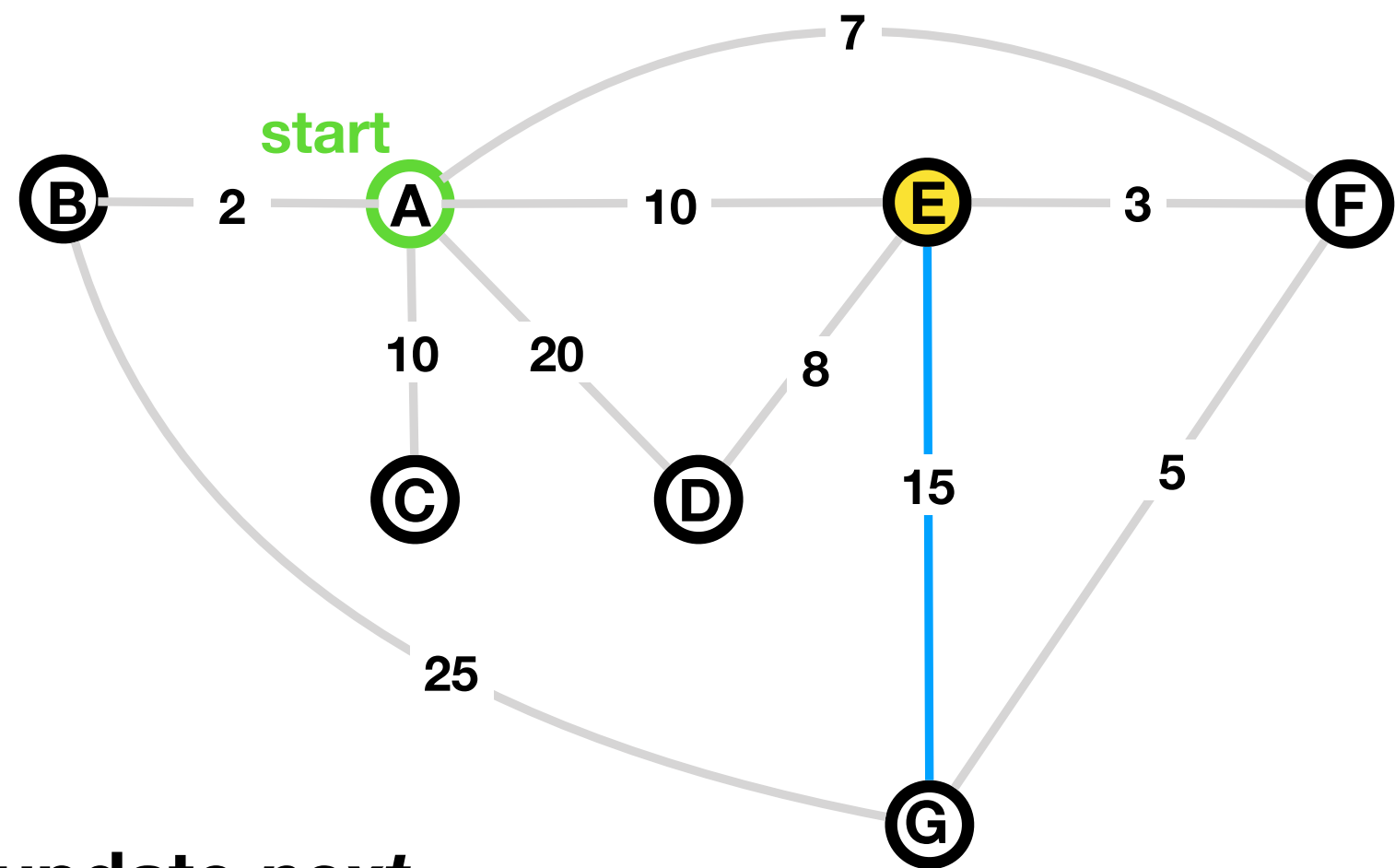
update *next*.

Is G known ? No.

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (10) + (15) < (12) \quad ?$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>E</b>
next, $j$	<b>G</b>



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

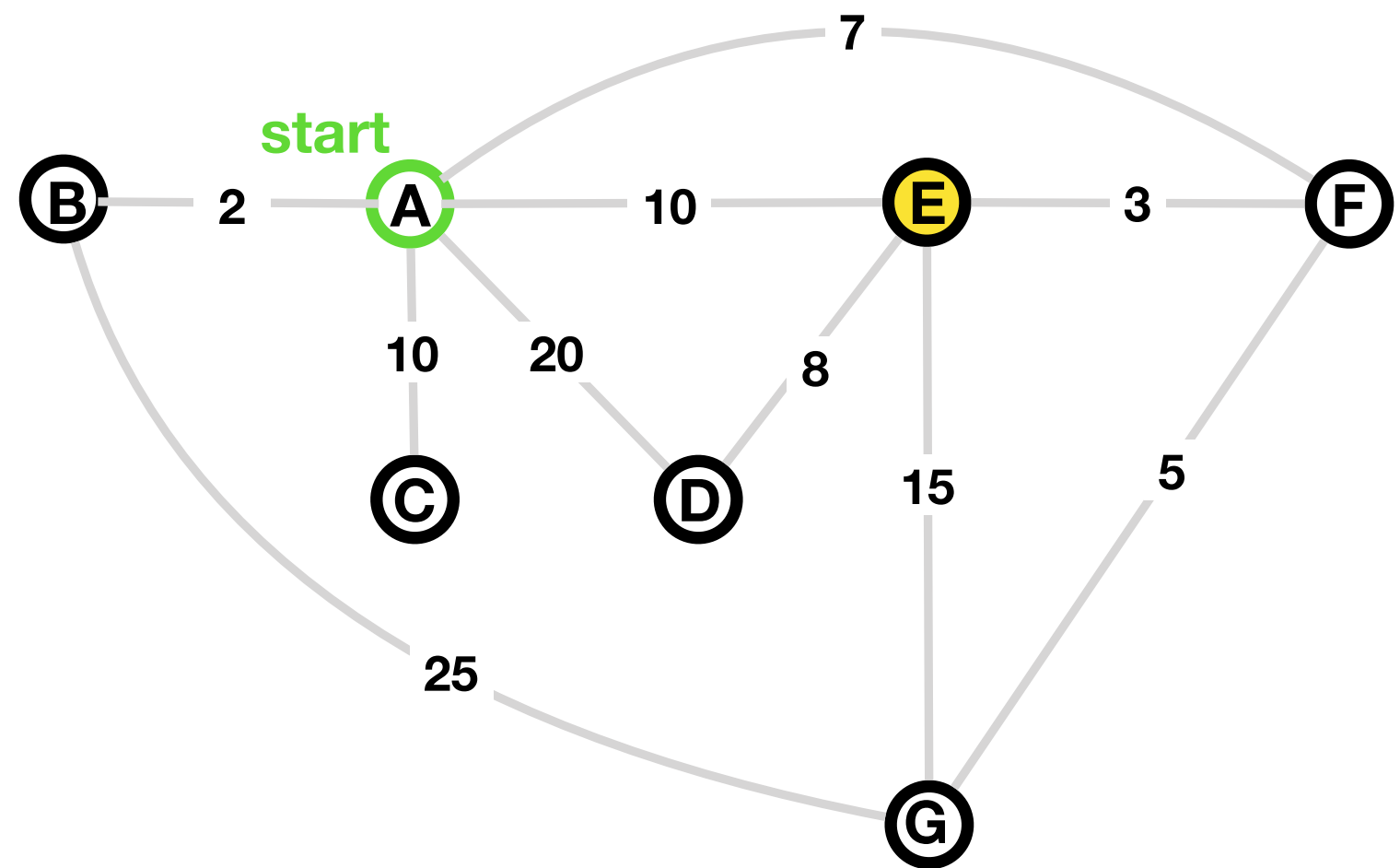
update *next*.

Is G known ? No.

$\text{distance}_i + \text{weight}_{i,j} < \text{distance}_j \quad = \quad (10) + (15) < (12) ? \text{ No }$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>E</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

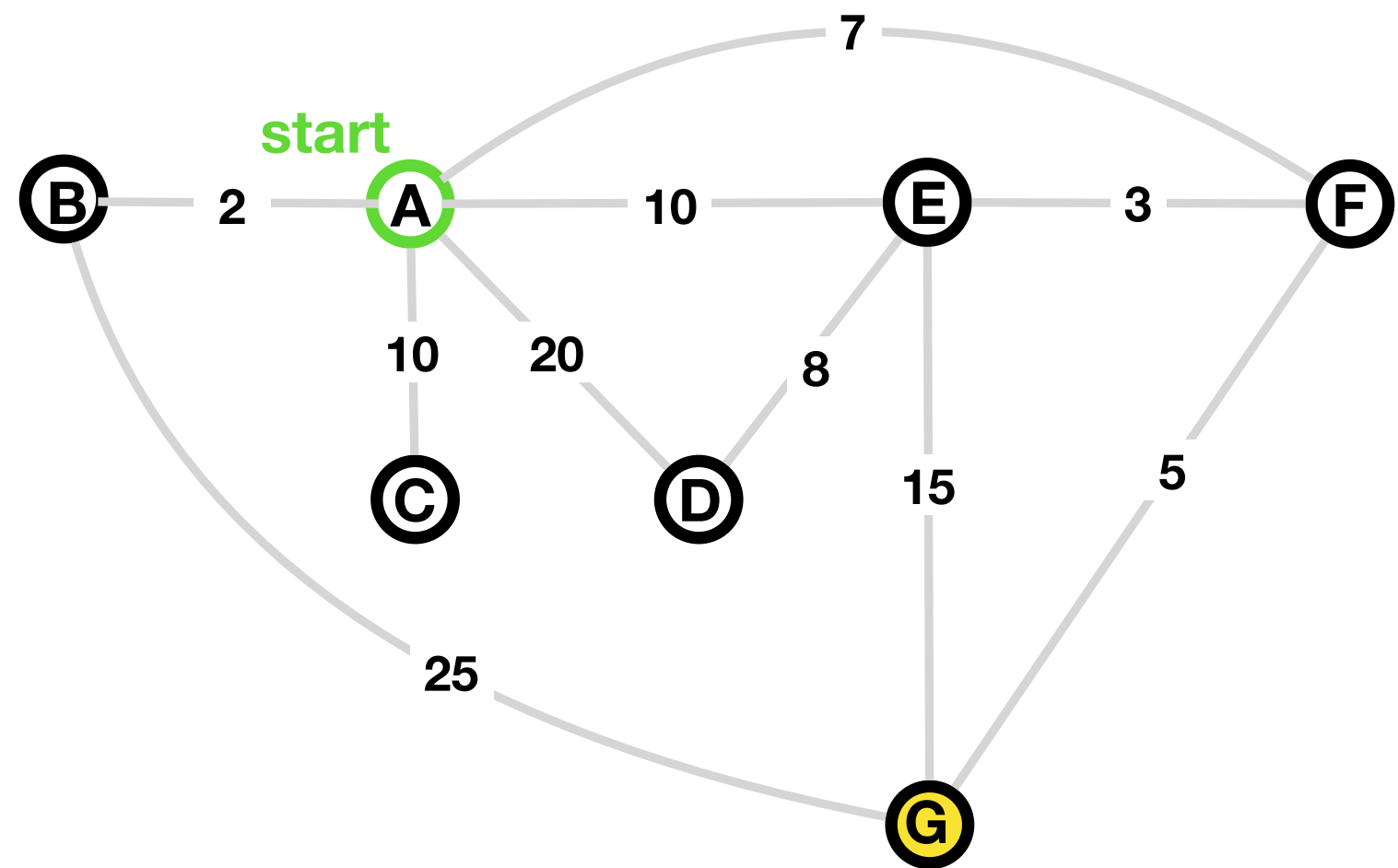


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>G</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

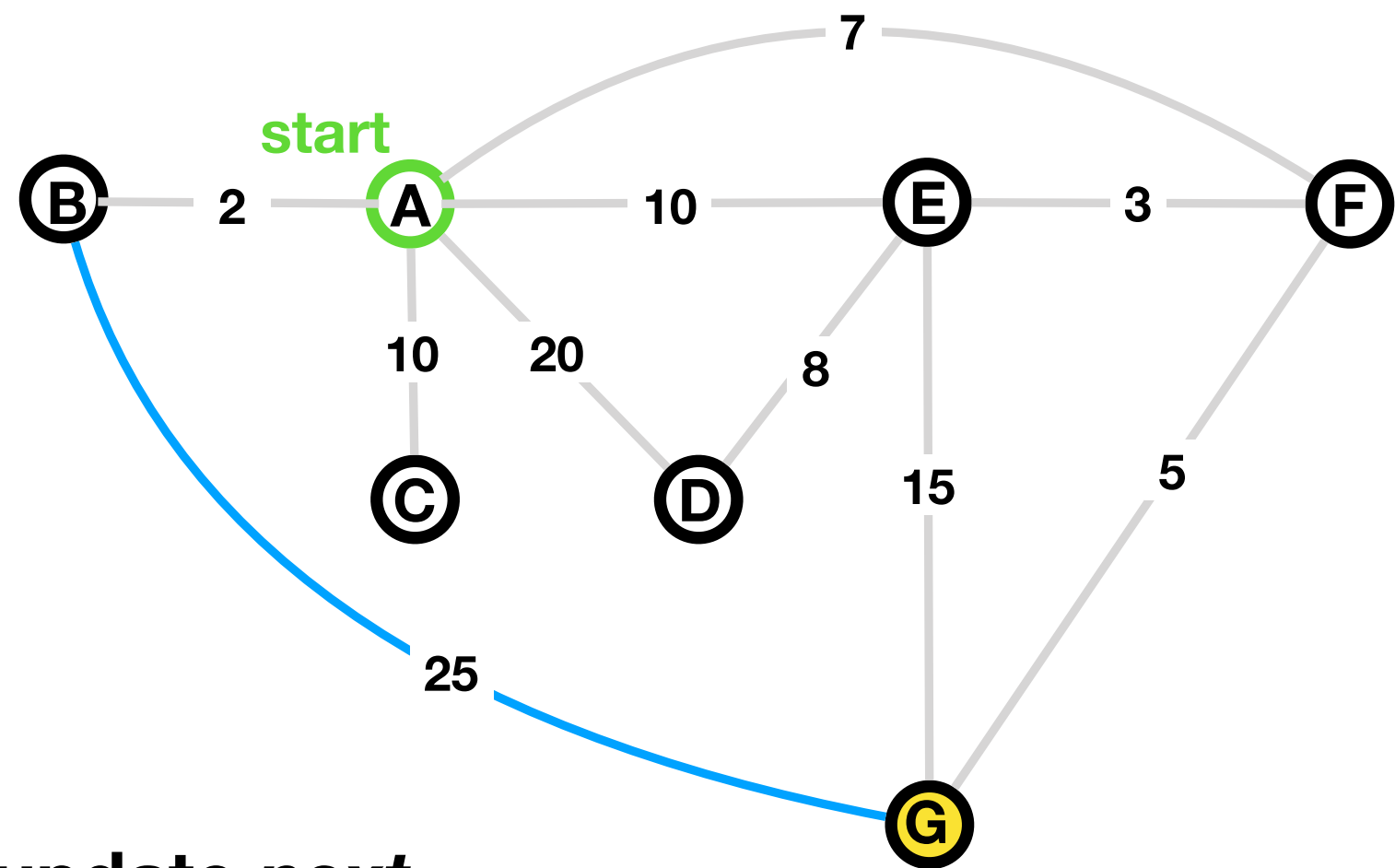


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	F

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>G</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>B</b>



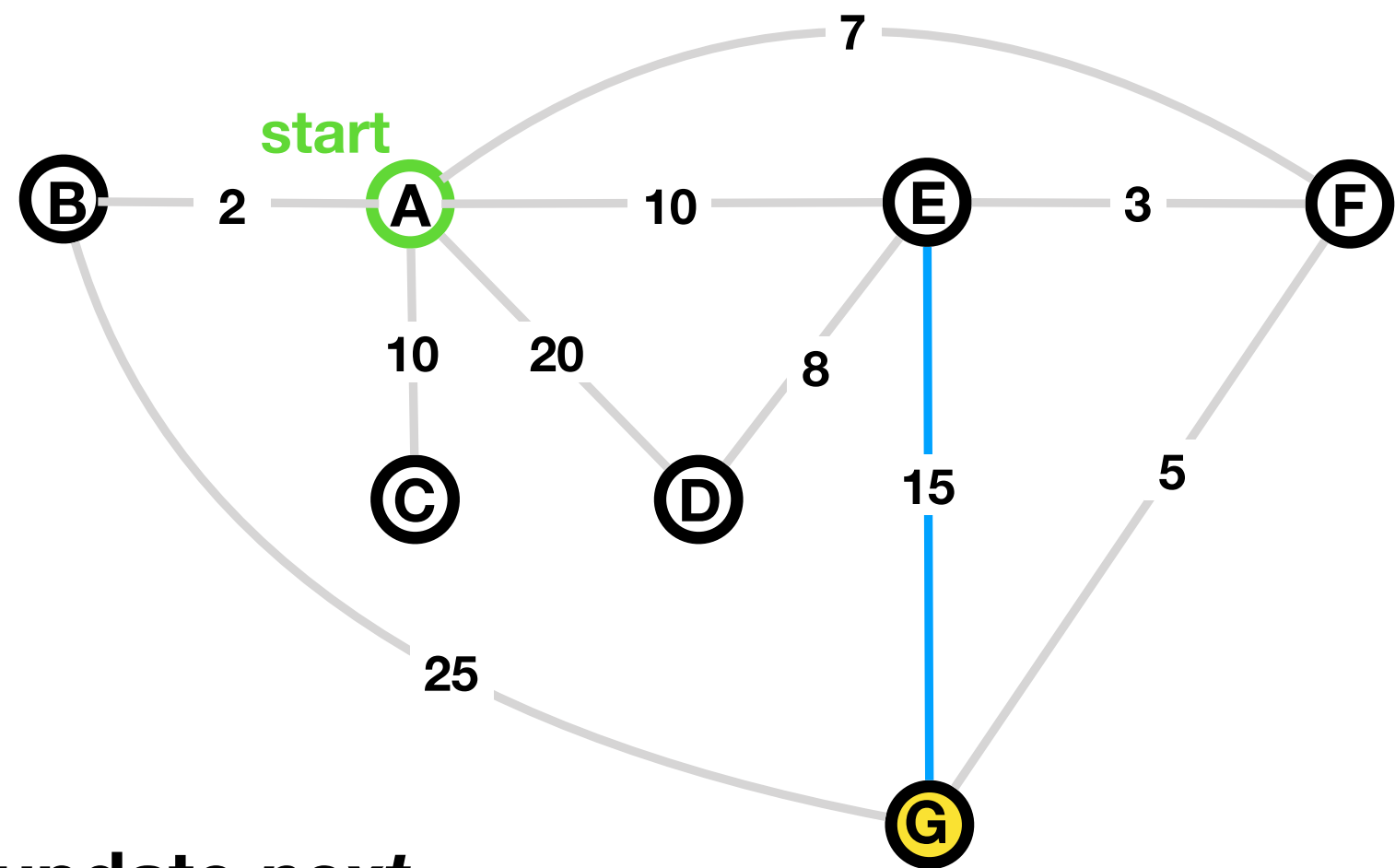
update *next*.

Is B known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>G</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>E</b>



update *next*.

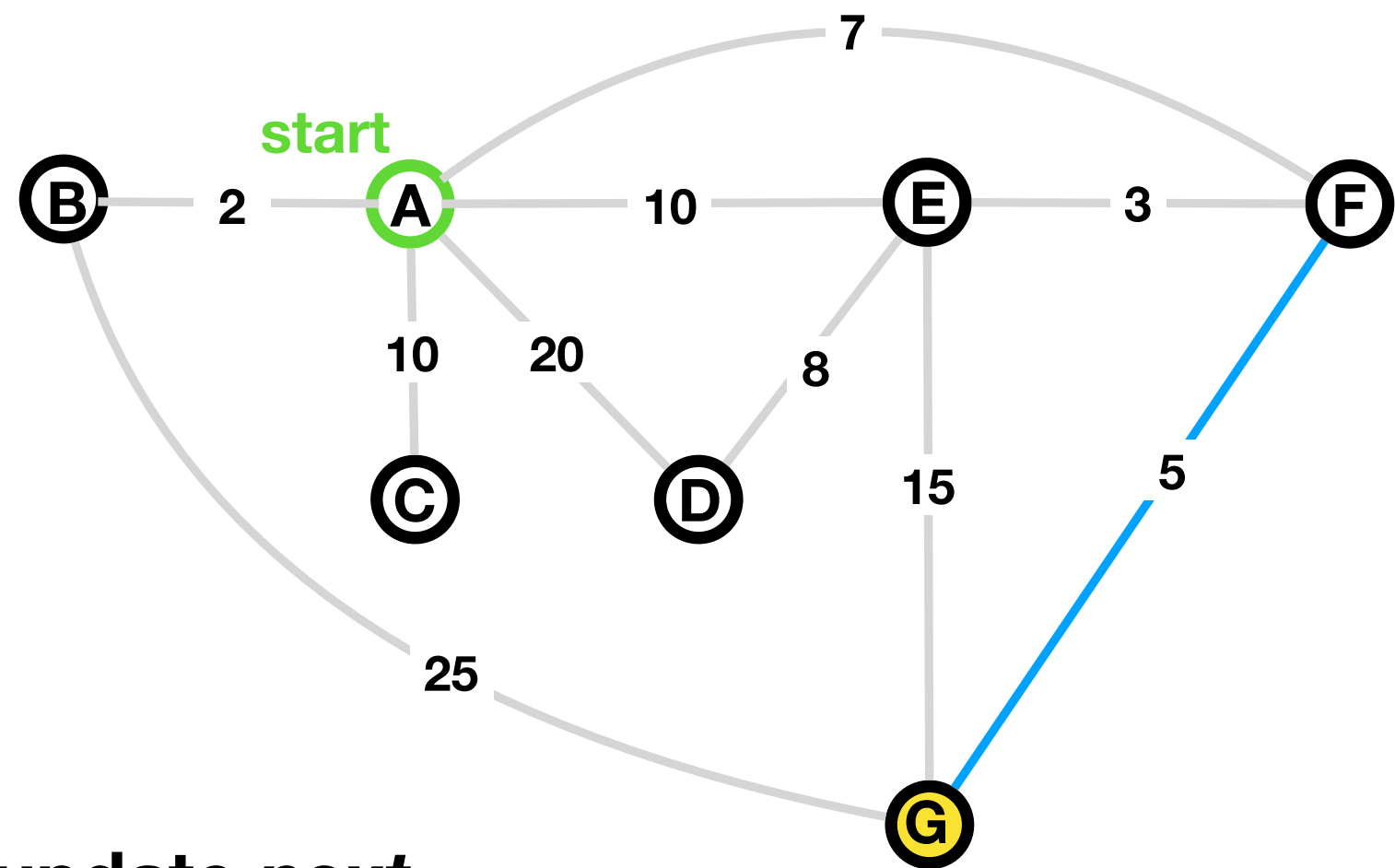
Is E known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>G</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>F</b>



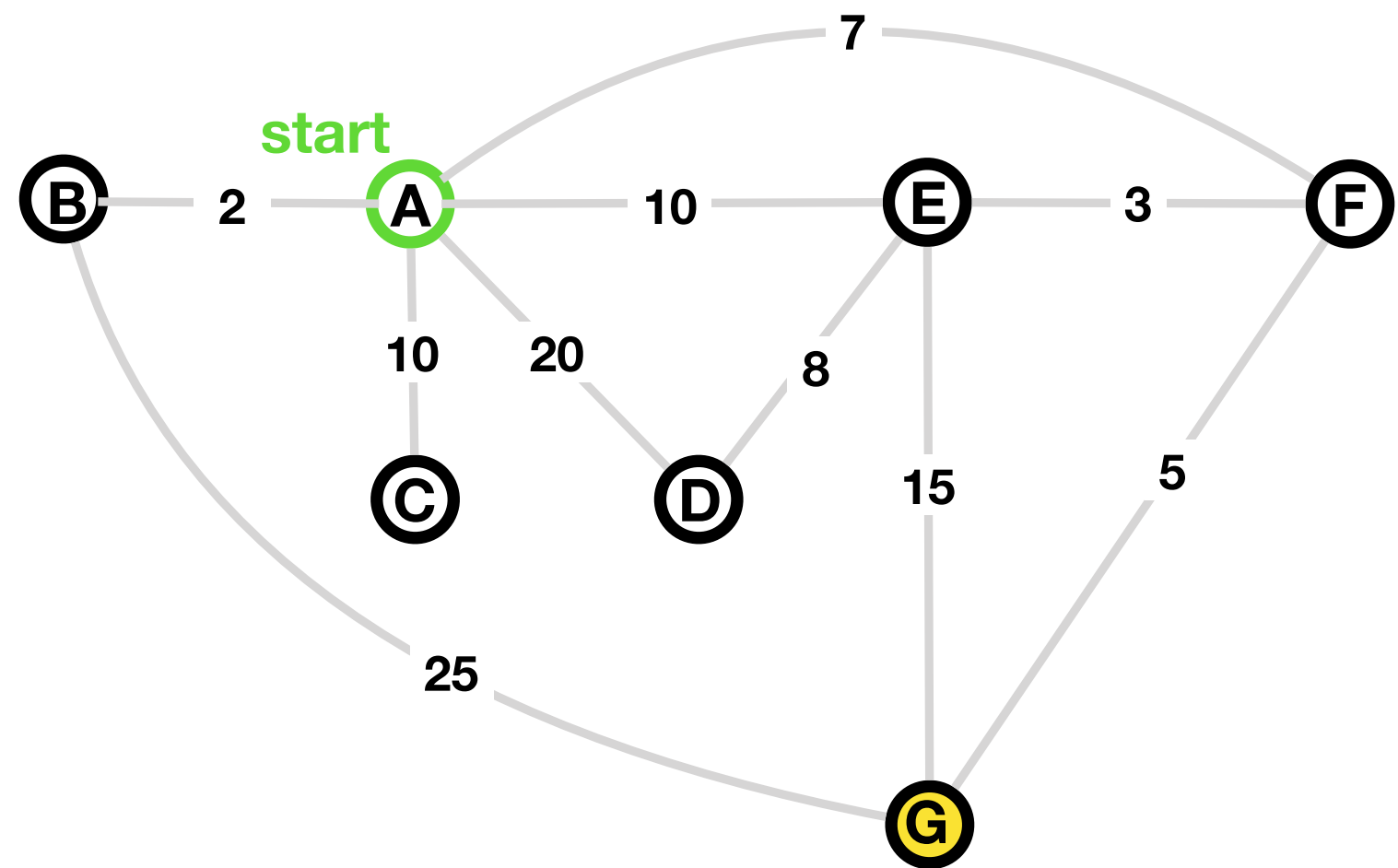
update *next*.

Is F known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>G</b>
next, <i>j</i>	

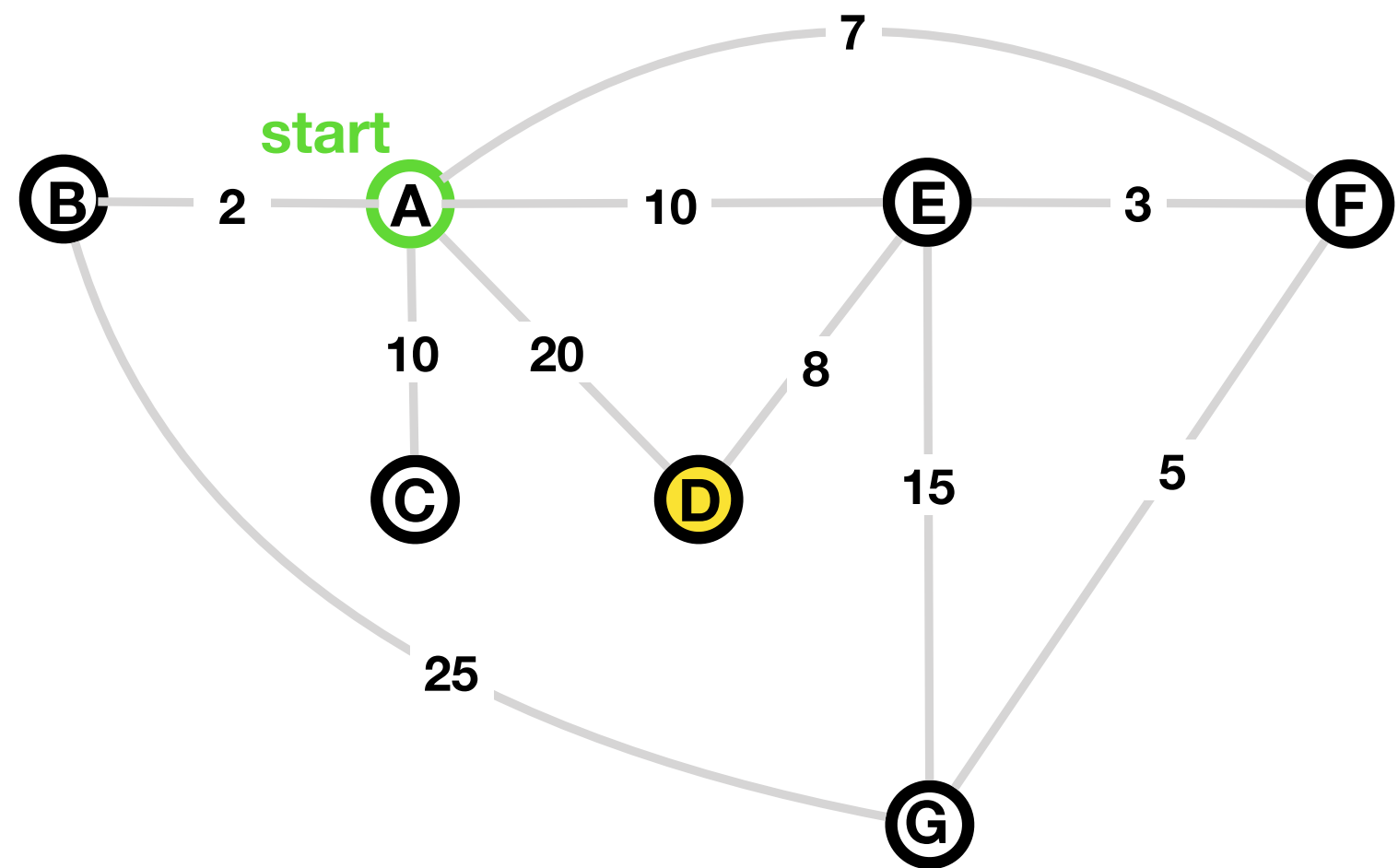


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	D
next, <i>j</i>	

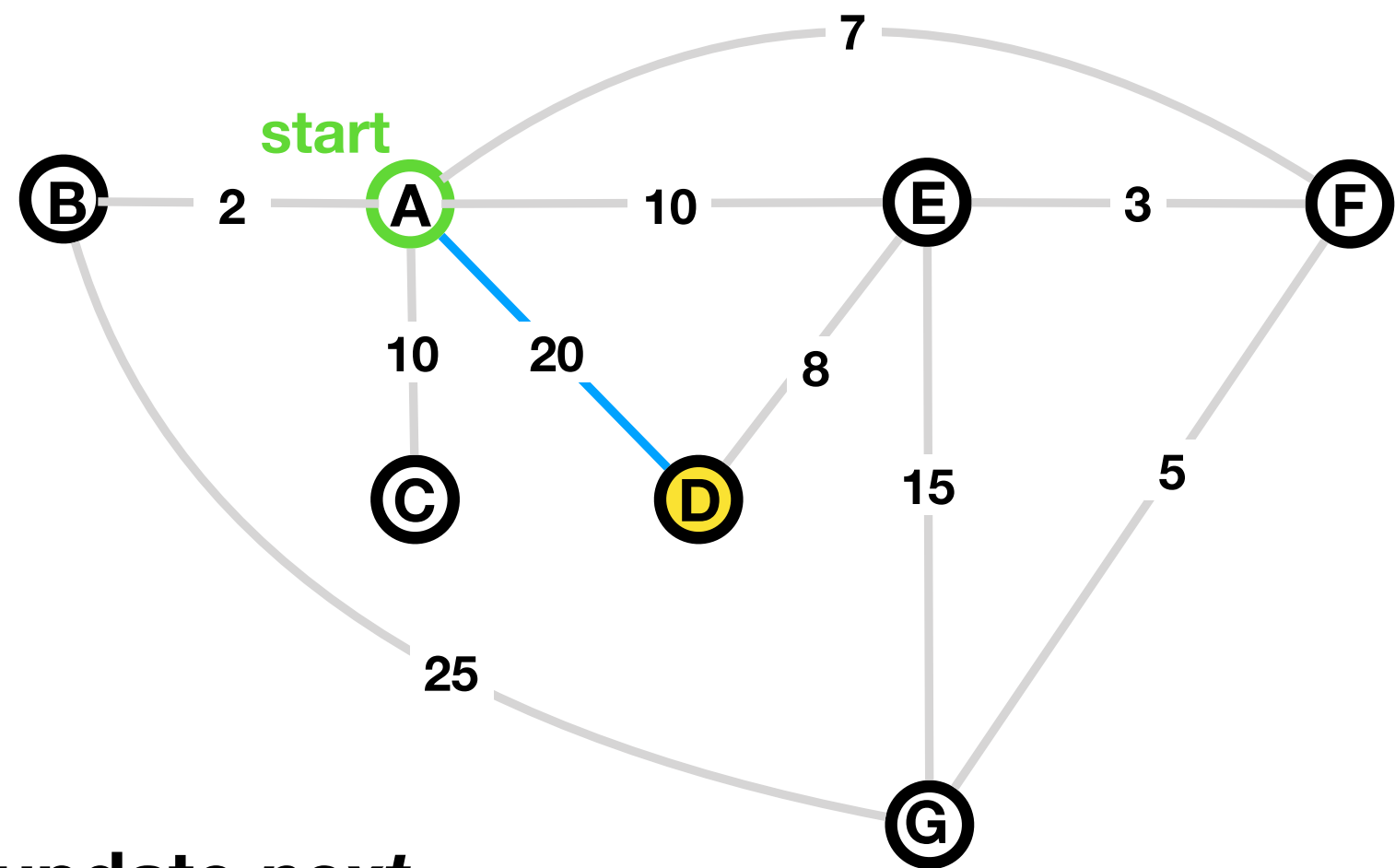


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	F
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

update *current* to node with smallest distance

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>D</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>A</b>



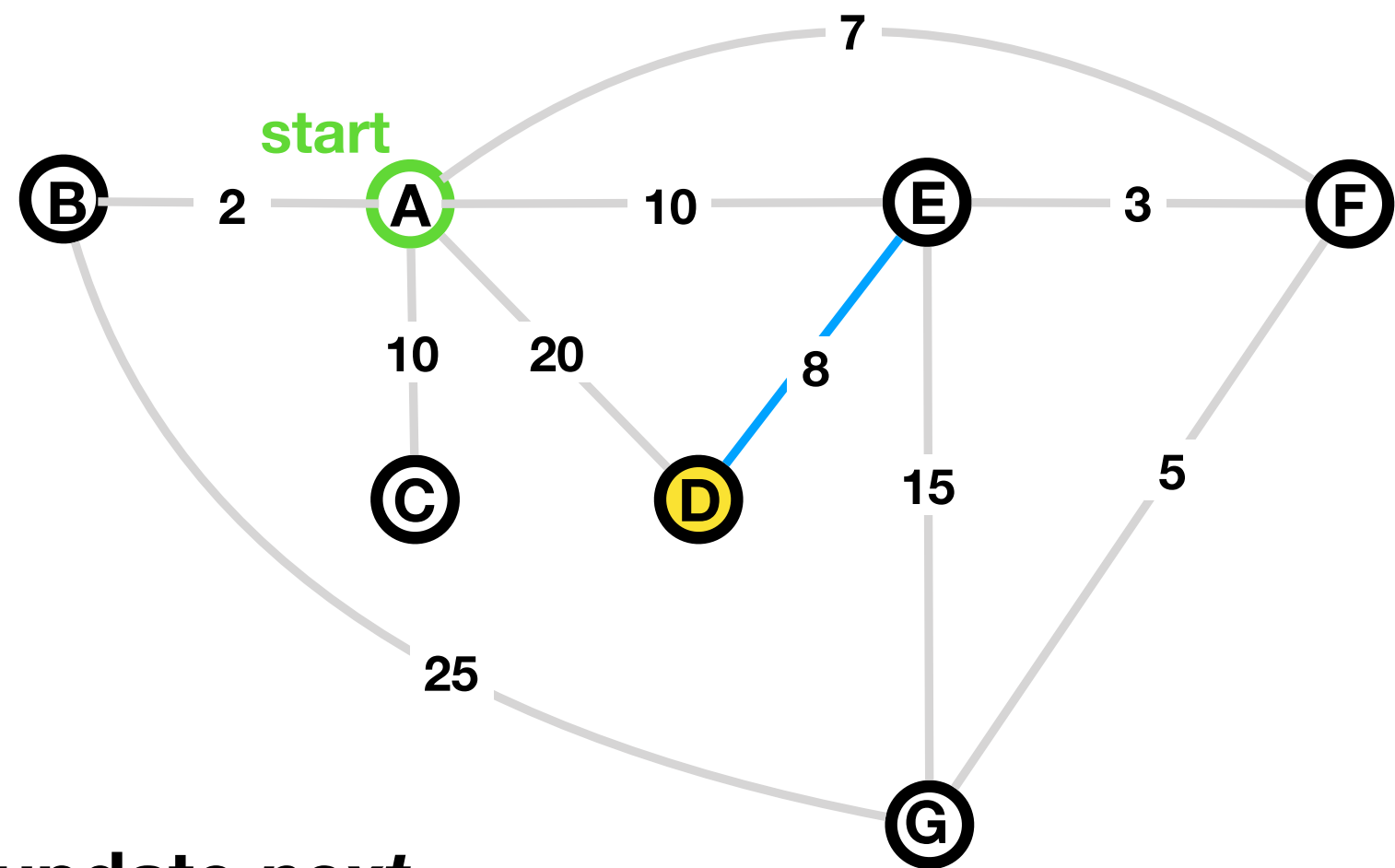
update *next*.

Is A known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, <i>i</i>	<b>D</b>
next, <i>j</i>	<b>E</b>



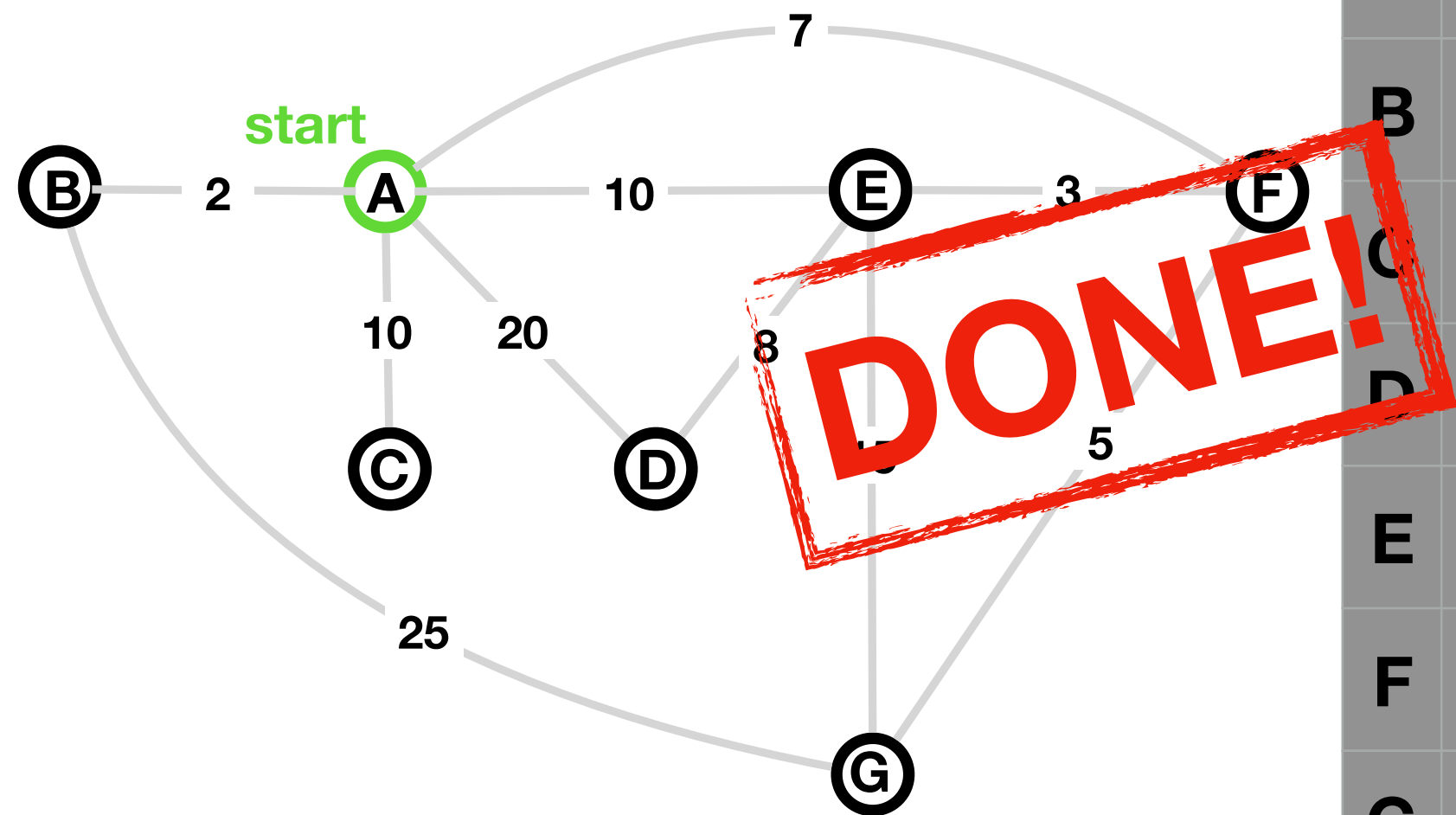
update *next*.

Is E known ? Yes.

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

current, $i$	<b>D</b>
next, $j$	



V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

From the table, we can extract both the shortest distance and the shortest path from the start node to all other nodes in the network

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

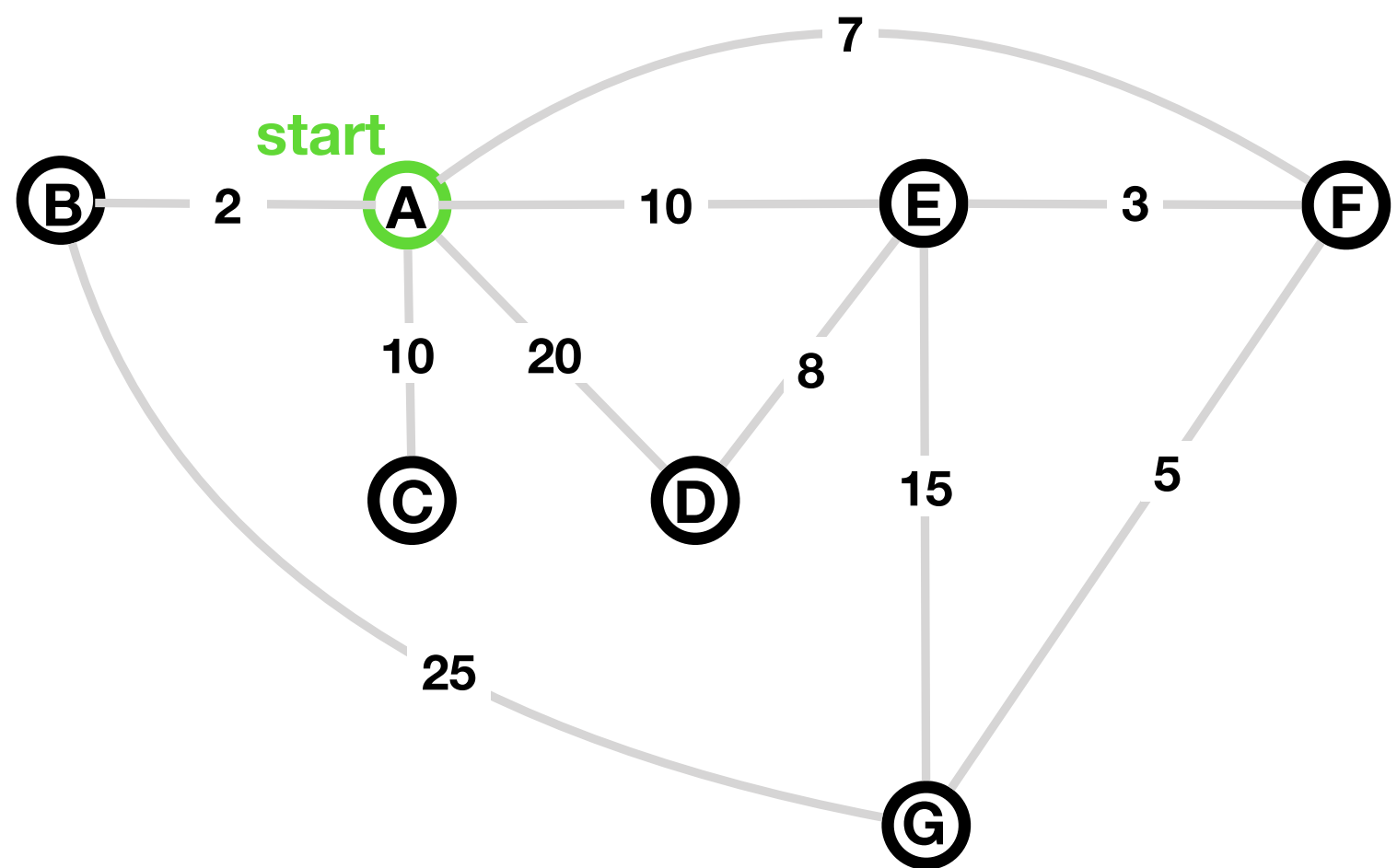
V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

For **shortest distance** to another node, simply look at the *distance* column.

For **shortest path**, we need to backtrack the table...



# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

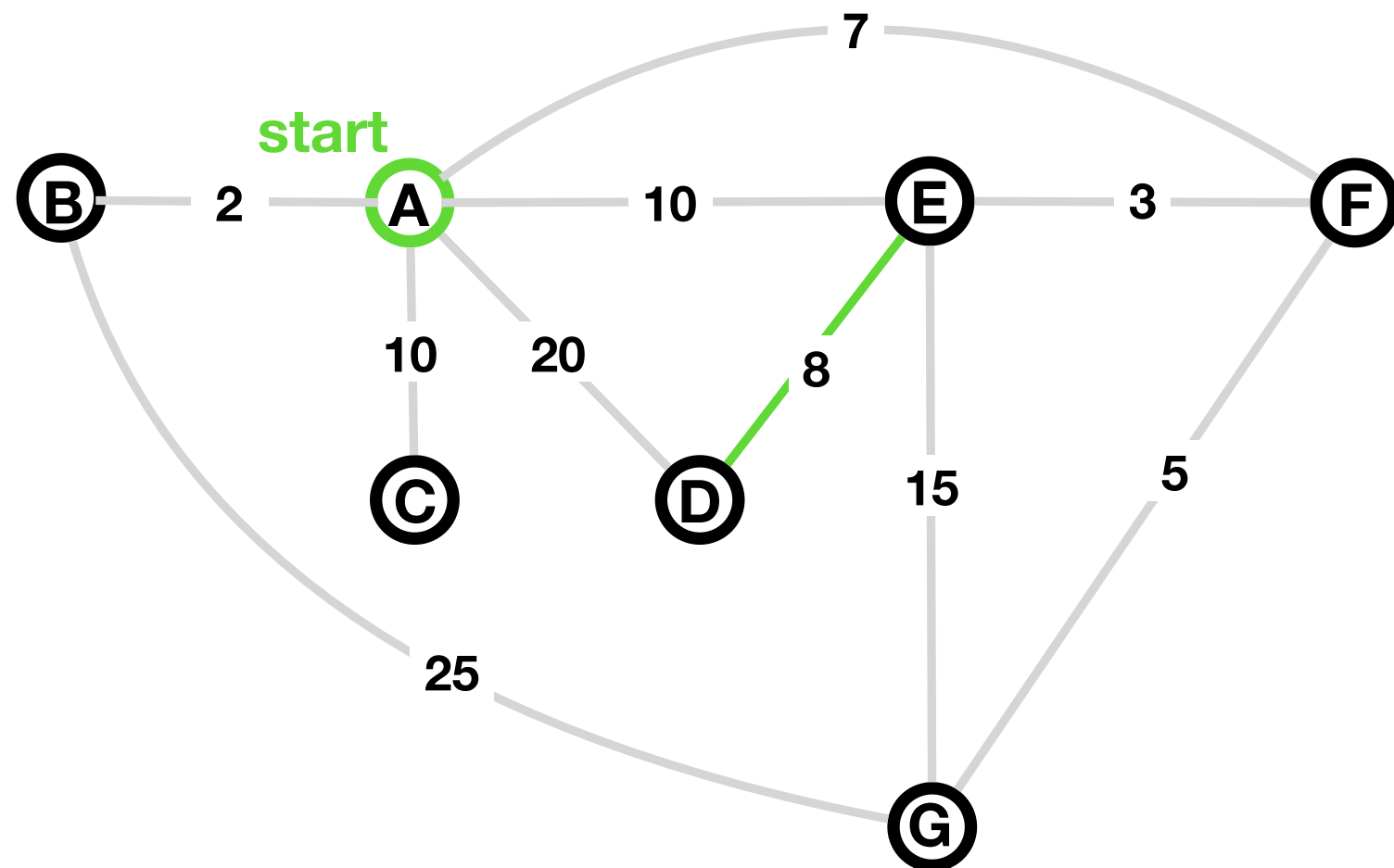


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

**Shortest Path from A to D:**

**Shortest Path from A to G:**

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

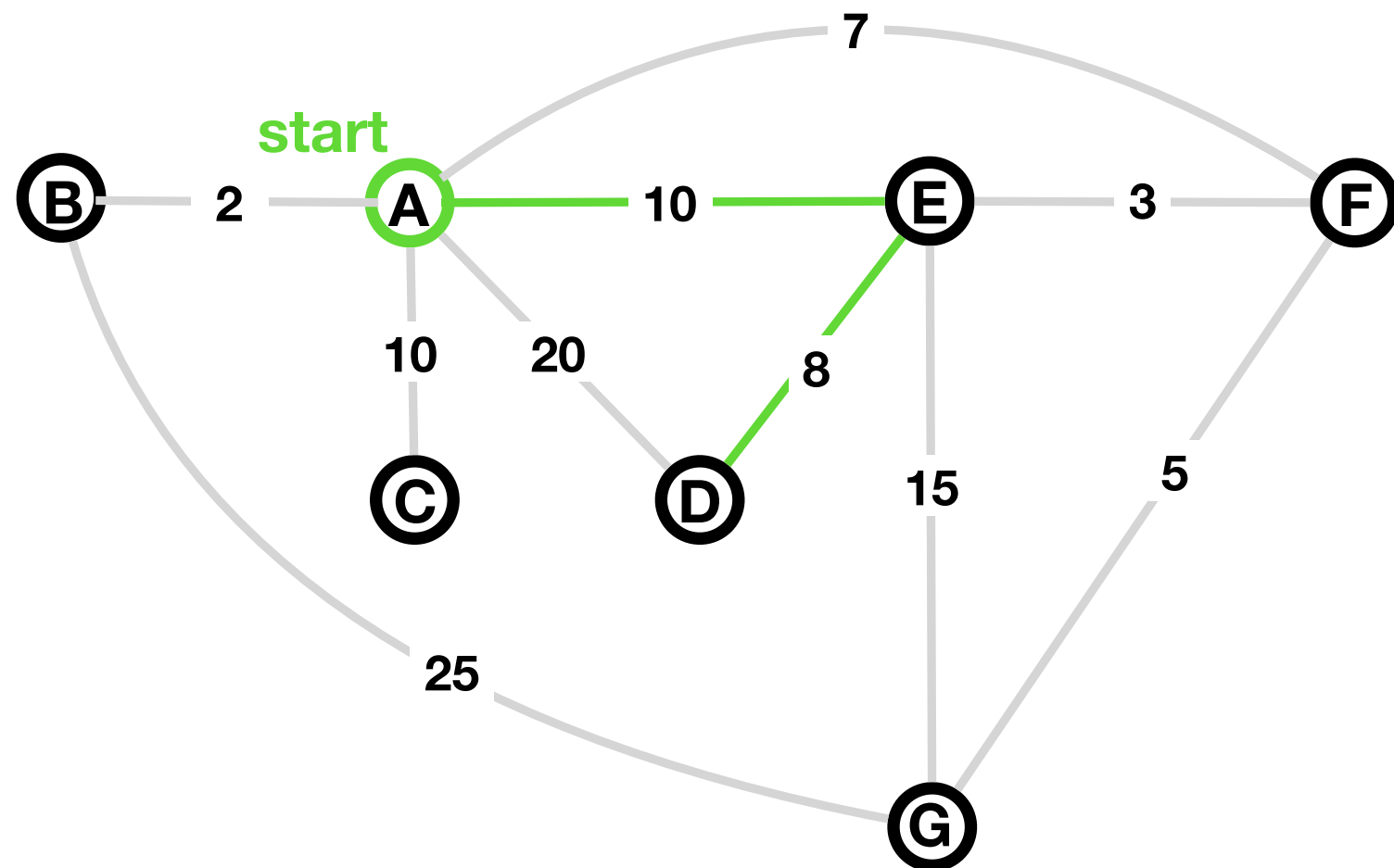


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

**Shortest Path from A to D:  $D \leftarrow E$**

**Shortest Path from A to G:**

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

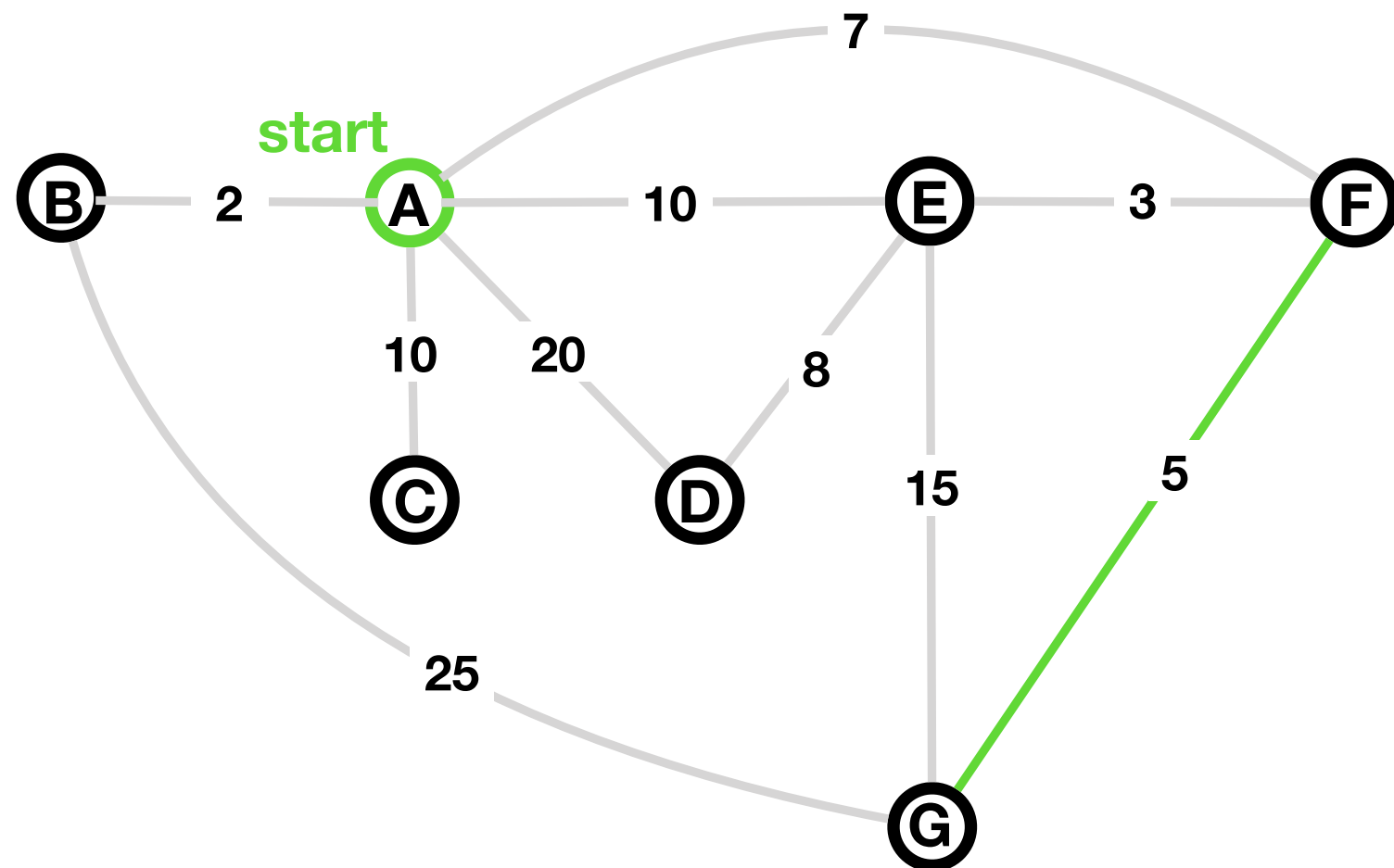


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

**Shortest Path from A to D:**  $D \leftarrow E \leftarrow A$

**Shortest Path from A to G:**

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

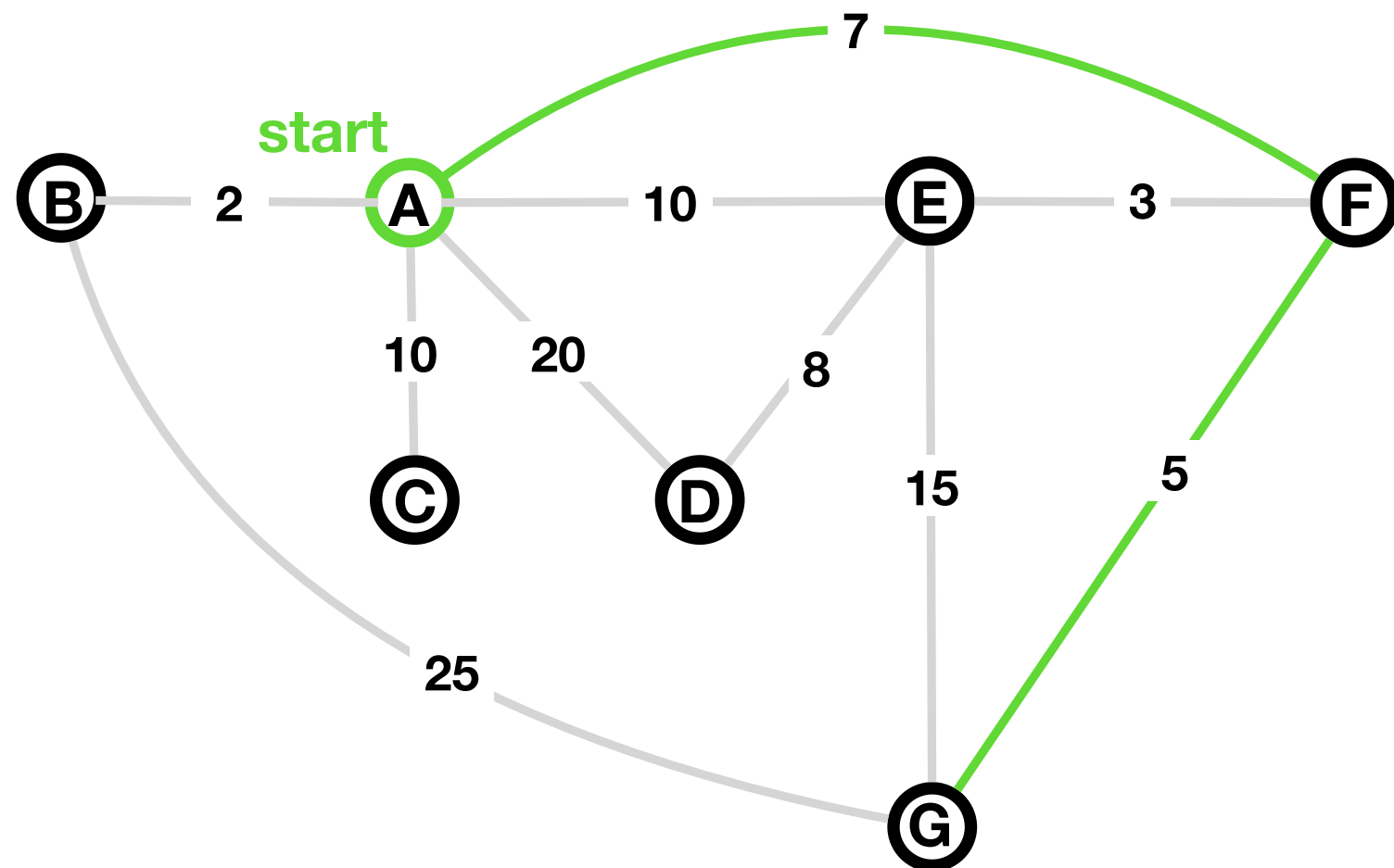


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

**Shortest Path from A to D:  $D \leftarrow E \leftarrow A$**

**Shortest Path from A to G:  $G \leftarrow F$**

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

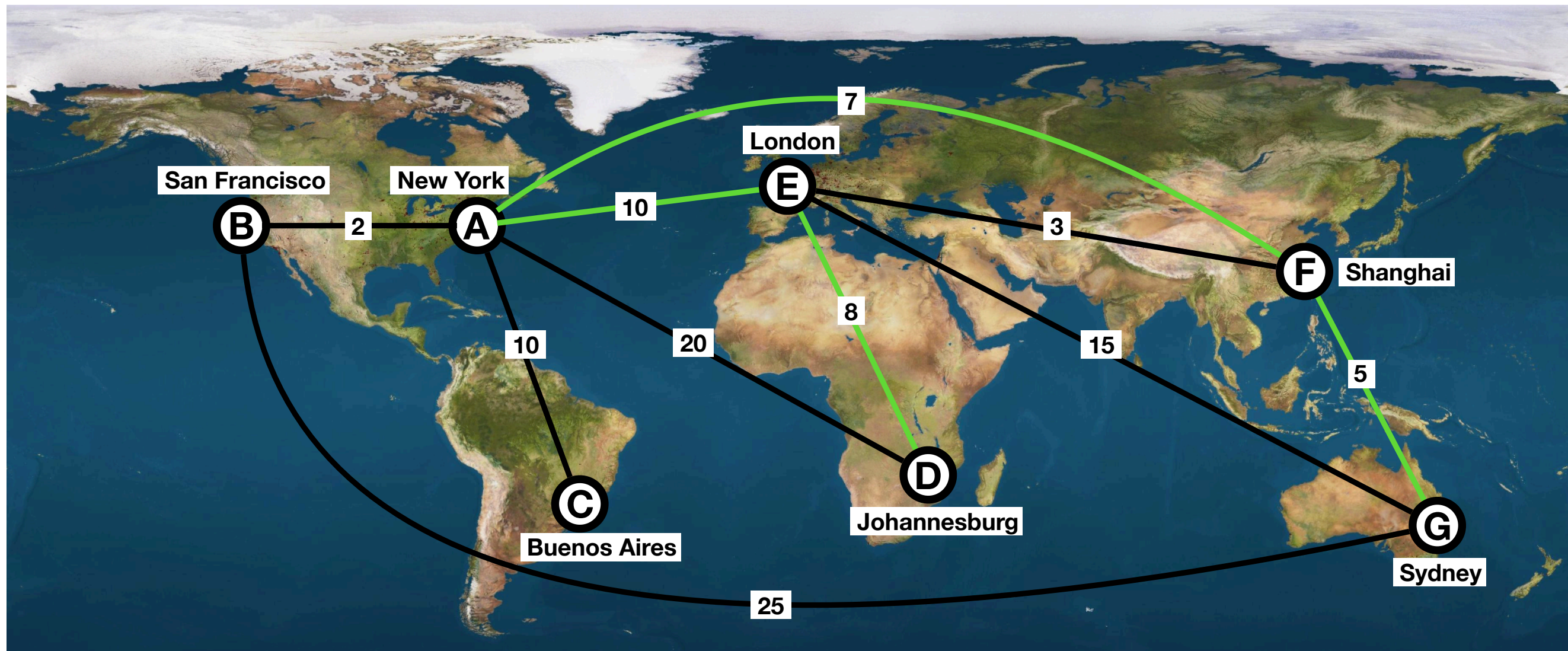


V	DISTANCE	PREVIOUS	KNOWN
A	0		T
B	2	A	T
C	10	A	T
D	18	E	T
E	10	A	T
F	7	A	T
G	12	F	T

**Shortest Path from A to D:**  $D \leftarrow E \leftarrow A$

**Shortest Path from A to G:**  $G \leftarrow F \leftarrow A$

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path



**Shortest Path from New York (A) to Johannesburg (D):**  
Johannesburg (D) ← London (E) ← New York (A)

**Shortest Path from New York (A) to Sydney (G):**  
Sydney (G) ← Shanghai (F) ← New York (A)

# Dijkstra's Shortest Path

## **Complexity:**

**$O(V^2)$**  when using basic implementation

**$O(E \log V)$**  when using more complex data structures  
(adjacency list represented as a min binary heap)