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Suppose  $G$  is connected, and no two edges of  $G$  have the same weight. Show that  $G$  has exactly one minimum spanning tree

*Proof.* Suppose there are two different minimum spanning trees, named  $T$  and  $T'$ .

Now we remove an edge  $e$  in  $T$ , and the graph becomes two connected parts. If in  $T'$  the two parts are connected by  $e$  too, then remove another edge in  $T$  until the one in  $T'$  is different from the one in  $T$ , and we name the one in  $T'$  be  $e'$  in this case.

There should be such a pair  $(e, e')$ : otherwise, each edge in  $T$  is the same as that in  $T'$ , which is a contradiction.

Now consider such pair  $(e, e')$ . Without loss of generality, assume that  $w(e) < w(e')$ . Then if we replace  $e'$  in  $T'$  by  $e$ , the total weight of  $T'$  is less, so  $T'$  is not a minimum spanning tree.  $\square$