

# Greedy algorithms

CMPSC 465 - Yana Safonova

Disjoint sets or union-find sets or  
merge-find sets

# Optimized disjoint set - implementation

#finding root of an element

```
def root(Arr, i):  
    while Arr[ i ] != i:  
        i = Arr[ i ]  
    return i
```

```
def union(Arr, A, B):  
    root_A = root(Arr, A)  
    root_B = root(Arr, B)  
    Arr[ root_A ] = root_B
```

```
def find(Arr, A, B):  
    return root(Arr, A)==root(Arr, B)
```

# Optimized disjoint set - only a half-way through!

A loop is  
hidden  
here

```
#finding root of an element
def root(Arr, i):
    while Arr[ i ] != i:
        i = Arr[ i ]
    return i
```

We don't  
have a  
loop here  
anymore

```
def union(Arr, A, B):
    root_A = root(Arr, A)
    root_B = root(Arr, B)
    Arr[ root_A ] = root_B
```

```
def find(Arr, A, B):
    return root(Arr, A)==root(Arr, B)
```

# Optimized disjoint set - the worst case scenario

0	1	2	3	4	5
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0	1	2	3	4	5
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Union(1, 0)

# Optimized disjoint set - the worst case scenario

0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	2	3	4	5

Union(1, 0)

Union(0, 2)

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Union(1, 0)

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Union(2, 3)



# Optimized disjoint set - the worst case scenario

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Union(3, 4)

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0	1	2	3	4	5
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Union(2, 3)

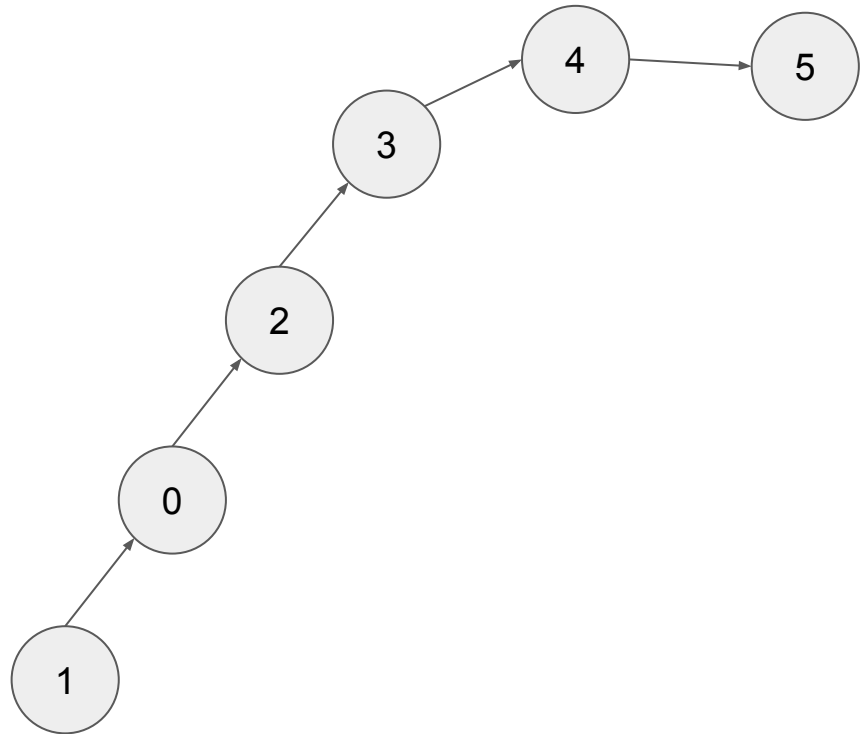
Union(3, 4)

Union(4, 5)

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0	1	2	3	4	5
2	0	3	4	5	5

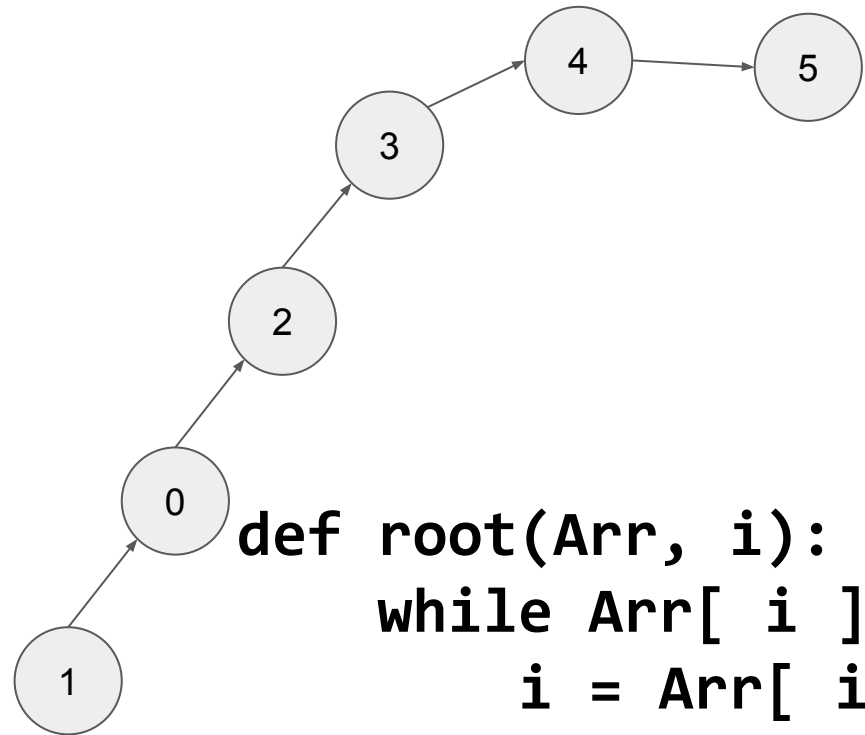
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Still  $O(N)$ !

```
def root(Arr, i):  
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        i = Arr[ i ]  
    return i
```

# Disjoint sets

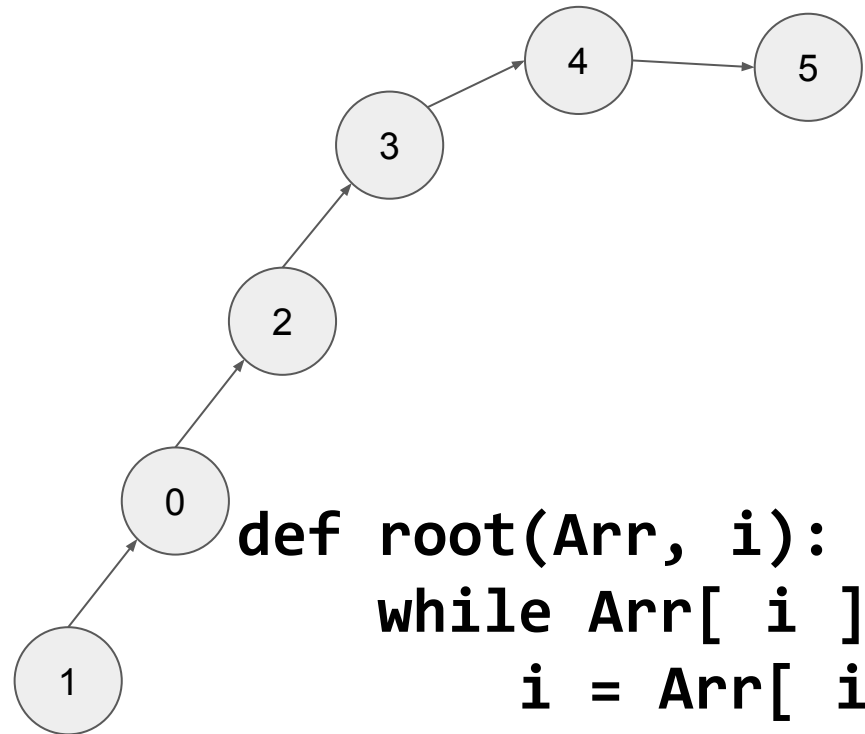
- Stores non-overlapping sets
- $\text{Union}(a, b)$  = merges sets where  $a$  and  $b$  are located
- $\text{Find}(a, b)$  = tells whether or not  $a$  and  $b$  are located in the same set

	Naive implementation	Semi-optimized implementation
Find	$O(1)$	$O(N)$ - uses root
Union	$O(N)$	$O(N)$ - uses root
Union for all elements	$O(N^2)$	$O(N^2)$
Root	-	$O(N)$

# From semi-optimal to optimized implementation

Consecutive merging elements from left to right (or vice versa) is the worst case scenario for the semi-optimized implementation

The tree representing all unions looks like a single branch in this case



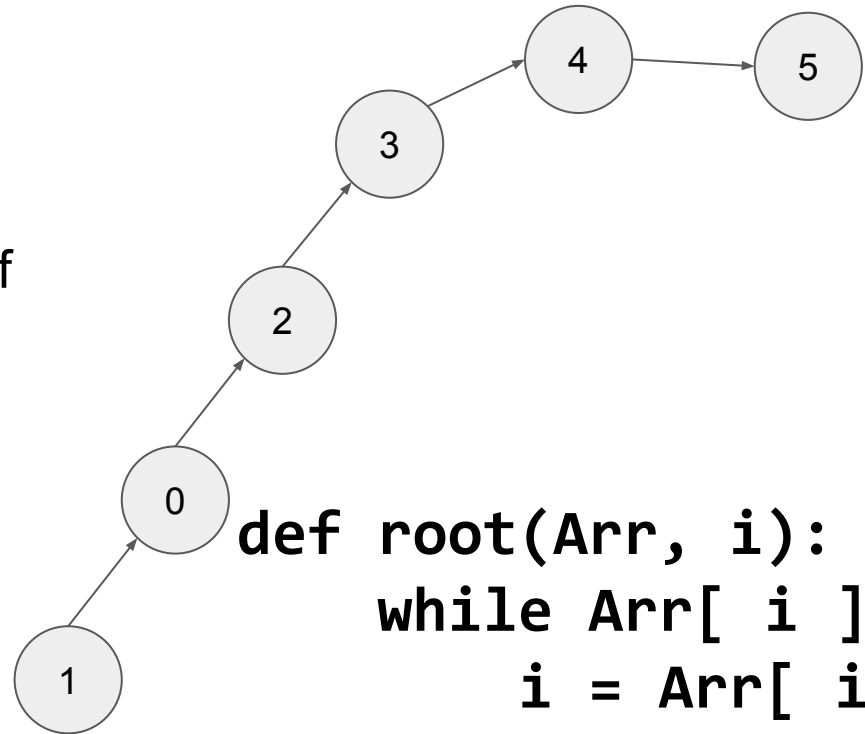
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Consecutive merging elements from left to right (or vice versa) is the worst case scenario for the semi-optimized implementation

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Do we really care about the shape of the tree representing elements of the same set?



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def root(Arr, i):  
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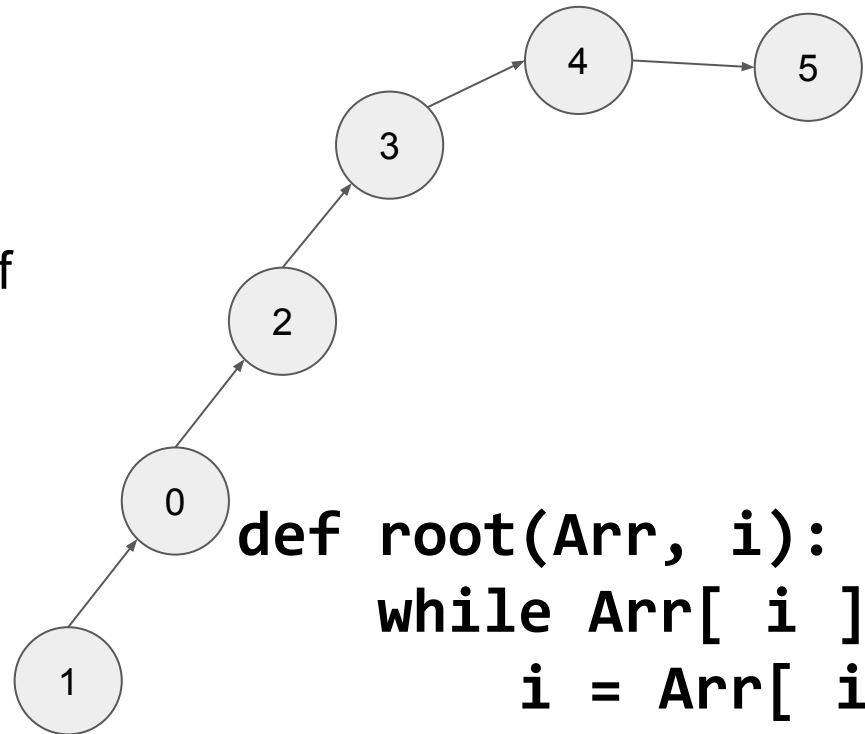
# From semi-optimal to optimized implementation

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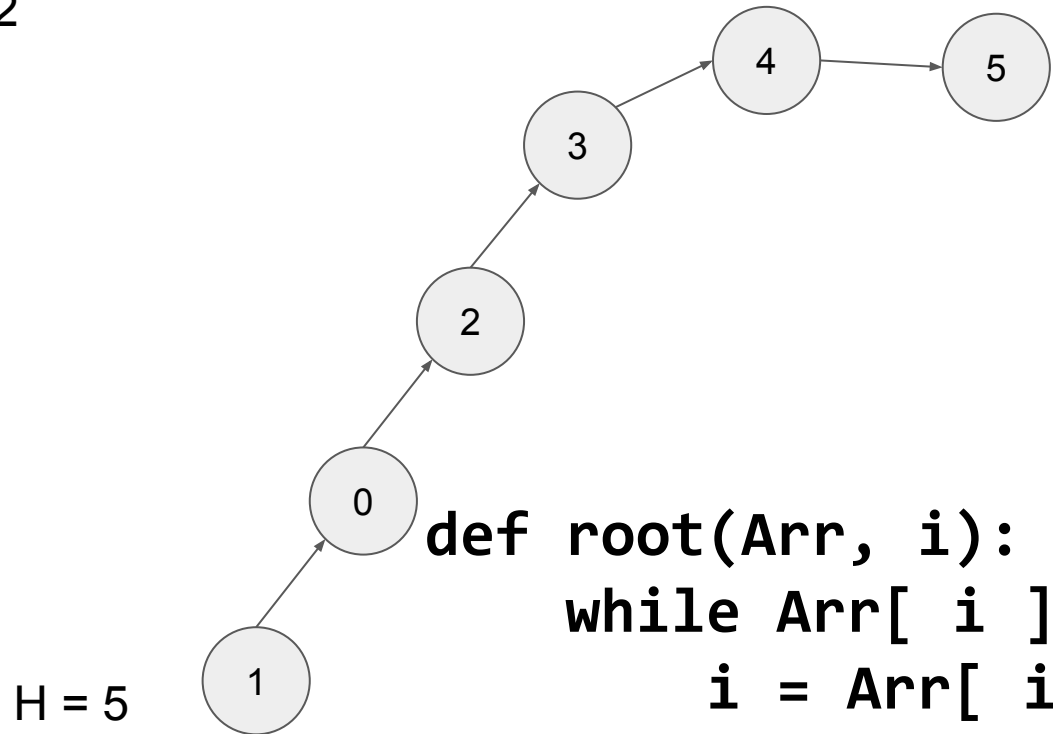
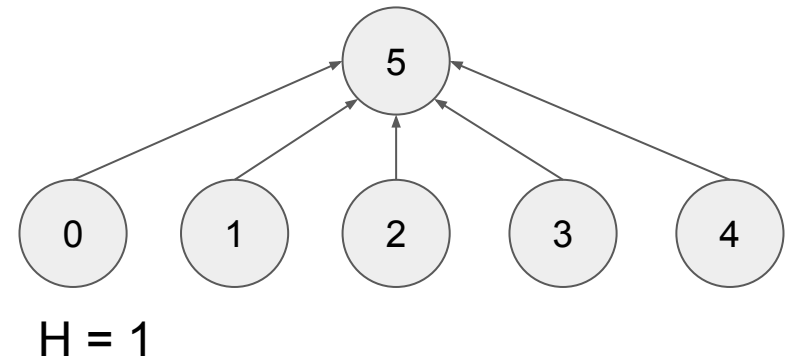
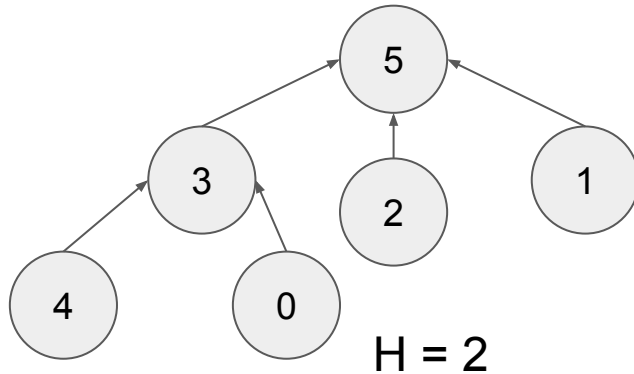
No!



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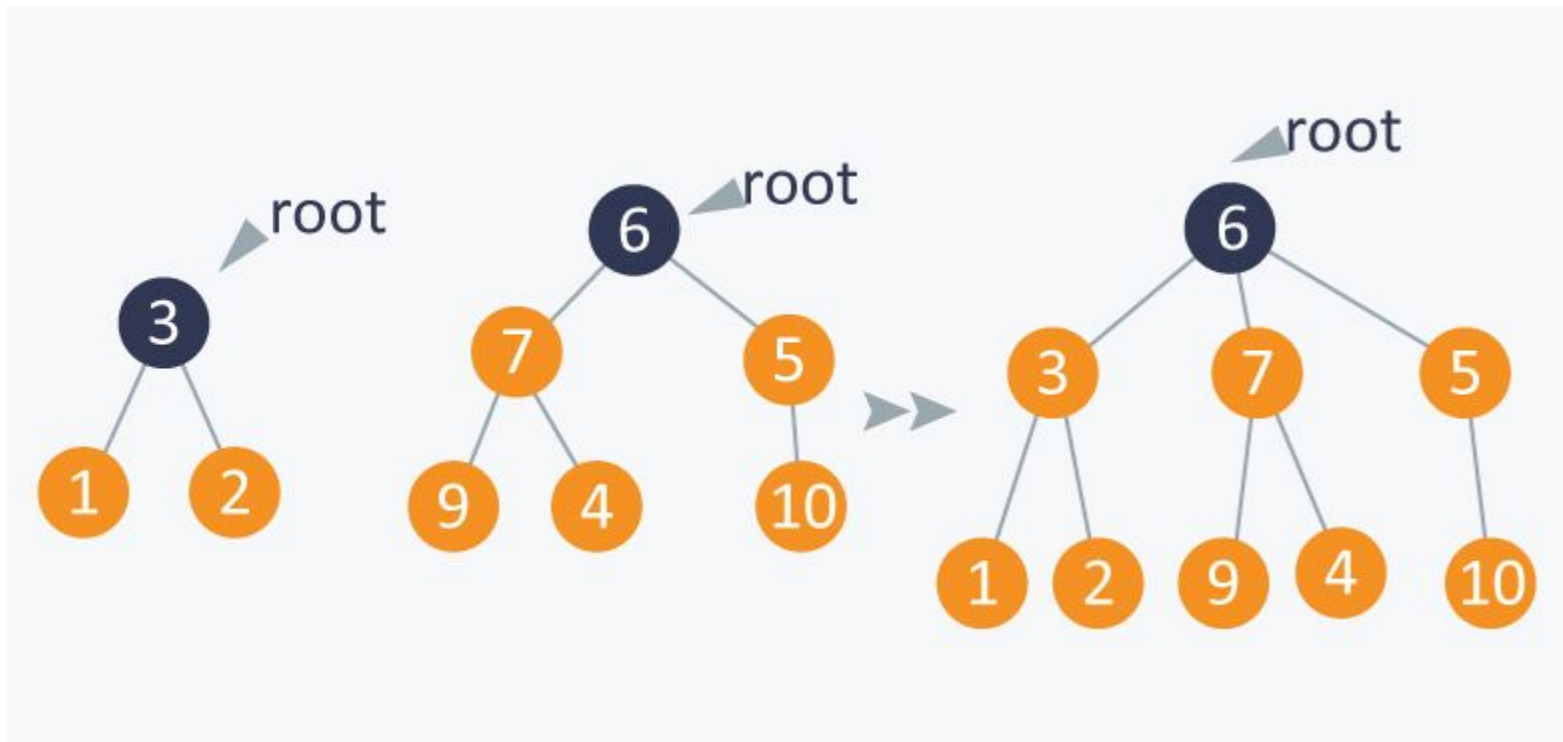


**The running time of the “root” procedure is defined as the tree height**



```
def root(Arr, i):  
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```

# Optimized disjoint set: weighted-union operation



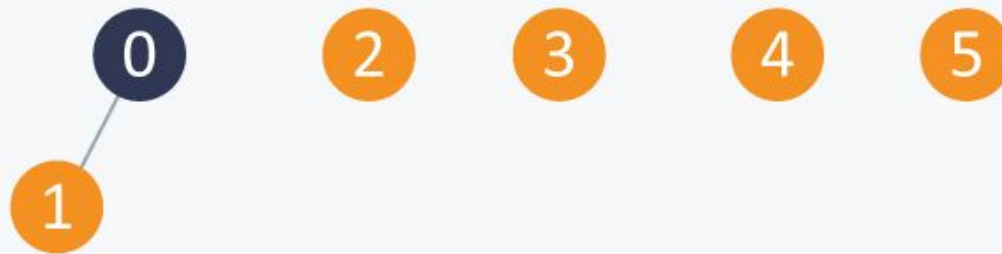
Union(A, B): instead of always merging the left set with the right set, let's merge the smallest set with the biggest one

In terms of trees representing sets, it would mean rerooting the smallest tree

# Weighted-union operation

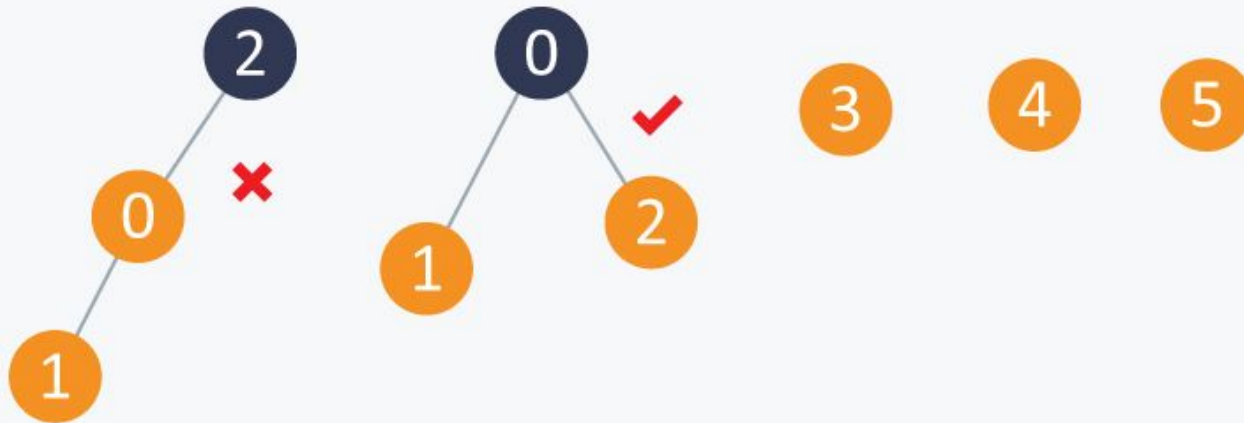
size	1	1	1	1	1	1
	0	1	2	3	4	5

## Weighted-union operation - union(0, 1)



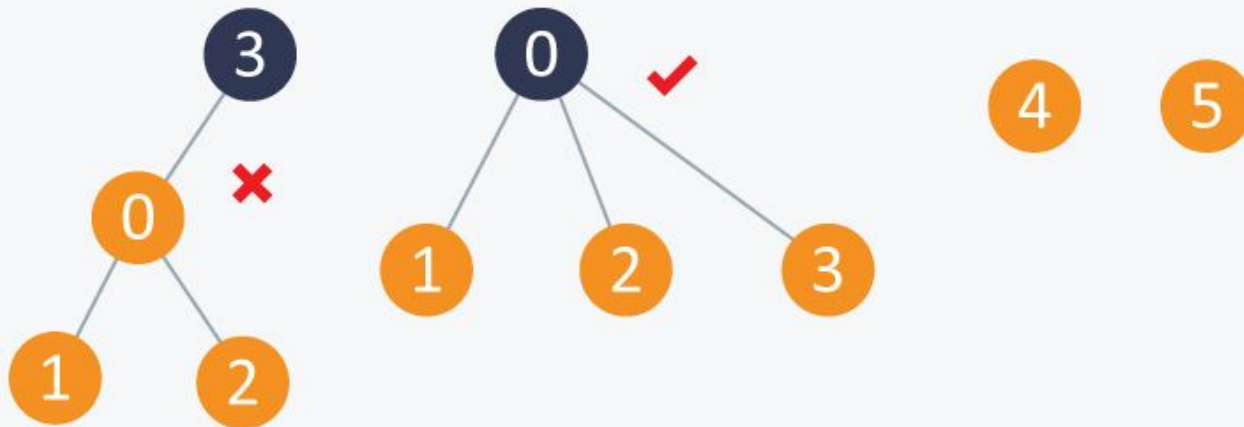
size	2	1	1	1	1	1
	0	1	2	3	4	5
Arr	0	0	2	3	4	5
	0	1	2	3	4	5

## Weighted-union operation - union(1, 2)



size	3	1	1	1	1	1
	0	1	2	3	4	5
Arr	0	0	0	3	4	5
	0	1	2	3	4	5

## Weighted-union operation - union(3, 2)



size	4	1	1	1	1	1
	0	1	2	3	4	5
Arr	0	0	0	0	4	5
	0	1	2	3	4	5

# Weighted-union operation

```
def initialize(Arr, size, N):  
    for i in range(N):  
        Arr[ i ] = i  
        size[ i ] = 1  
  
def weighted_union(Arr, size, A, B):  
    root_A = root(Arr, A)  
    root_B = root(Arr, B)  
    if size[root_A] < size[root_B]:  
        Arr[root_A] = Arr[root_B]  
        size[root_B] += size[root_A]  
    else:  
        Arr[root_B] = Arr[root_A]  
        size[root_A] += size[root_B]
```

# Running time of the “root” procedure

- If we merge sets represented by trees of different heights, then the height of the resulting tree (tree tree after union) doesn't change
- **?:** If we merge sets of the same height  $H$ , what would be the height of the resulting tree?



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By merging two elements, we increased the maximum height

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# Running time of the “root” procedure

The maximum height is achieved when we merge “similar” sets: represented by trees of the same heights and in the worst case having the same numbers of elements



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?: what is the maximum number of unions of sets of the same sizes?

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The maximum height is achieved when we merge “similar” sets: represented by trees of the same heights and in the worst case having the same numbers of elements



?: what is the maximum number of unions of sets of the same sizes?  $O(\log N)$

# Disjoint sets

- Stores non-overlapping sets
- $\text{Union}(a, b)$  = merges sets where  $a$  and  $b$  are located
- $\text{Find}(a, b)$  = tells whether or not  $a$  and  $b$  are located in the same set

	Naive implementation	Semi-optimized implementation	Weighted-union implementation
Find	$O(1)$	$O(N)$	$O(\log N)$
Union	$O(N)$	$O(N)$	$O(\log N)$
Union for all elements	$O(N^2)$	$O(N^2)$	$O(N \log N)$
Root	-	$O(N)$	$O(\log N)$

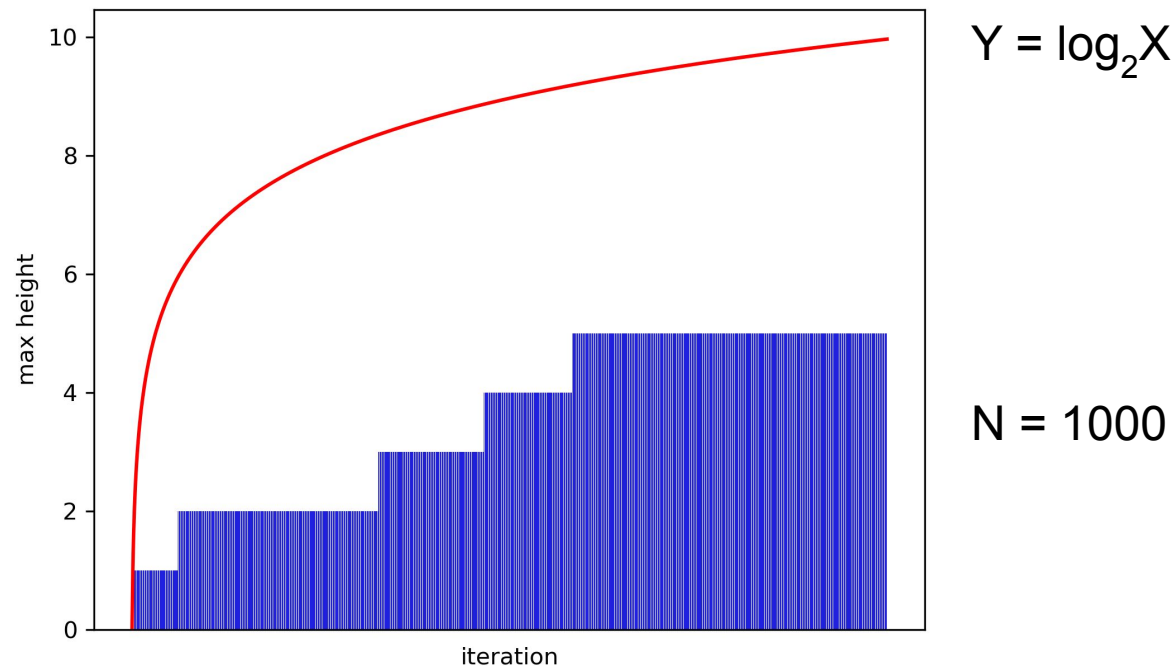
## Example - random case

Let's start with  $N$  elements and at each step merge two randomly chosen elements



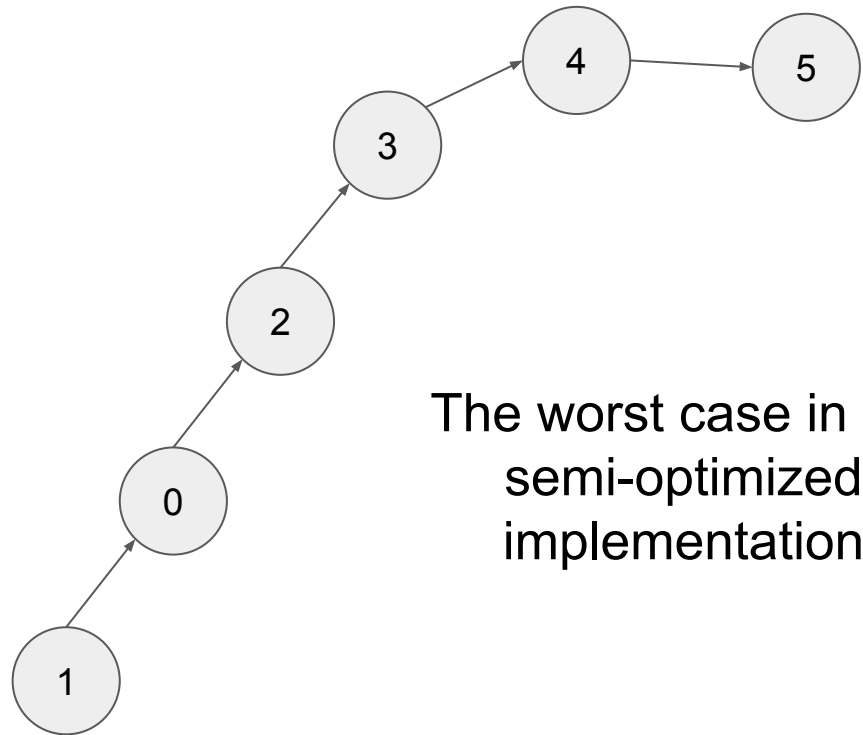
# Example - random case

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## Example - previous worst case

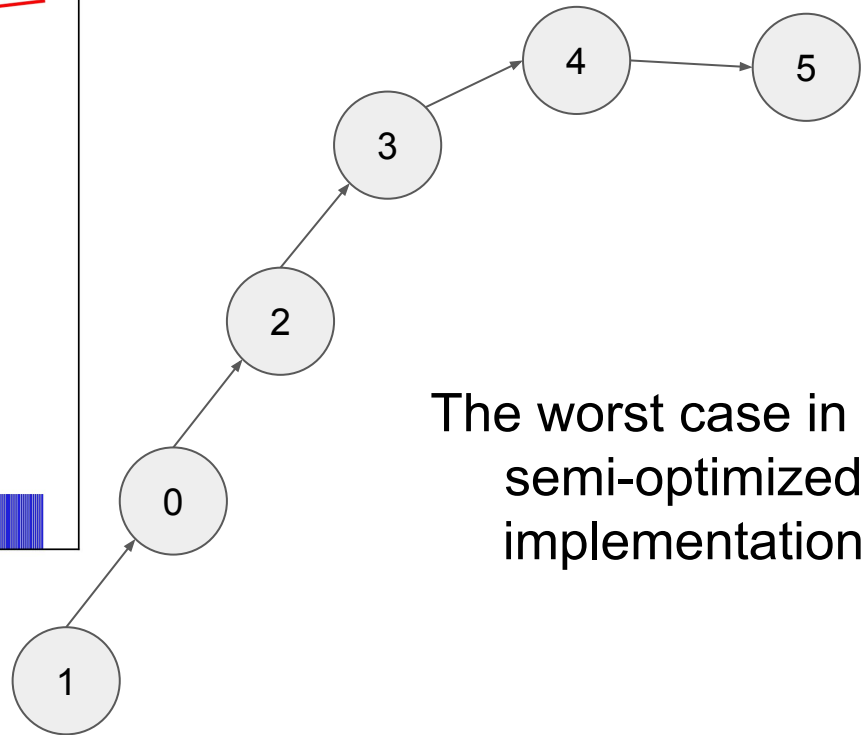
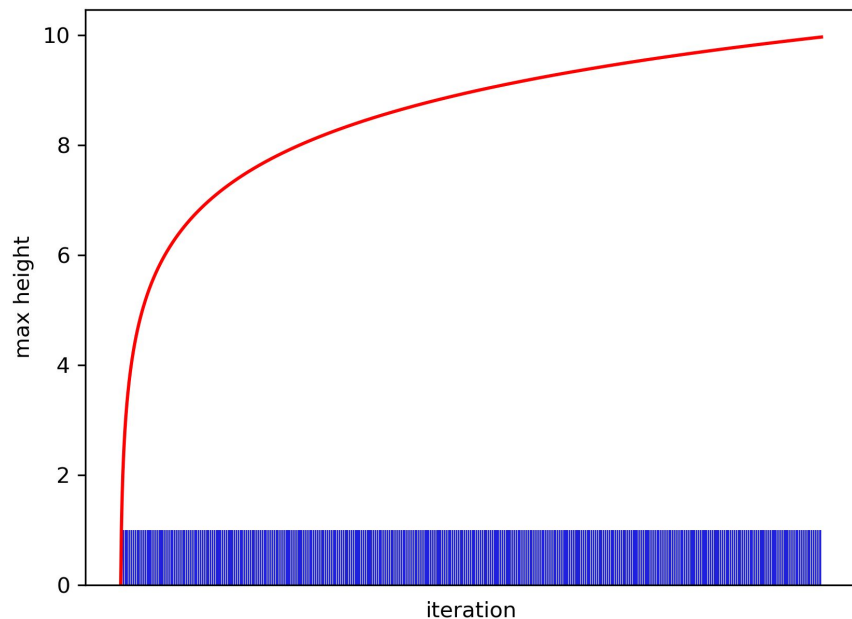
Let's start with N elements and at each step merge two consecutive elements



The worst case in the  
semi-optimized  
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The worst case in the semi-optimized implementation

## Example - previous worst case

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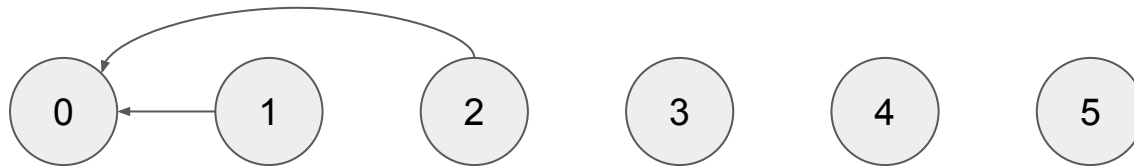
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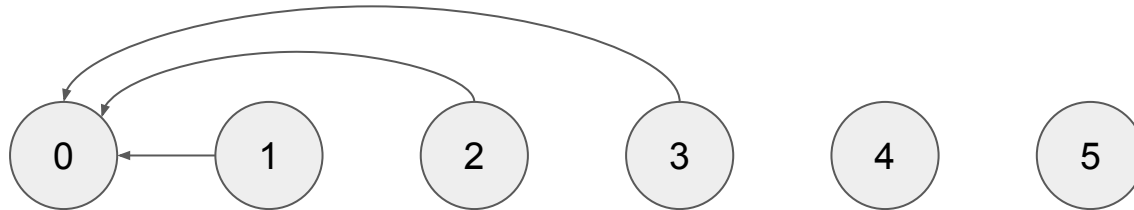
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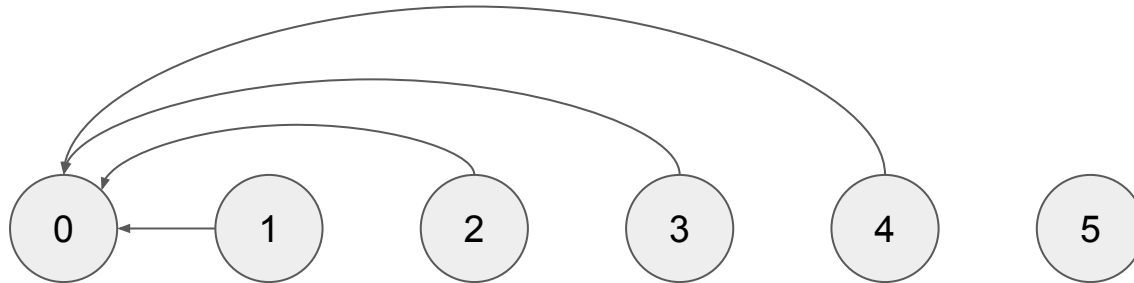
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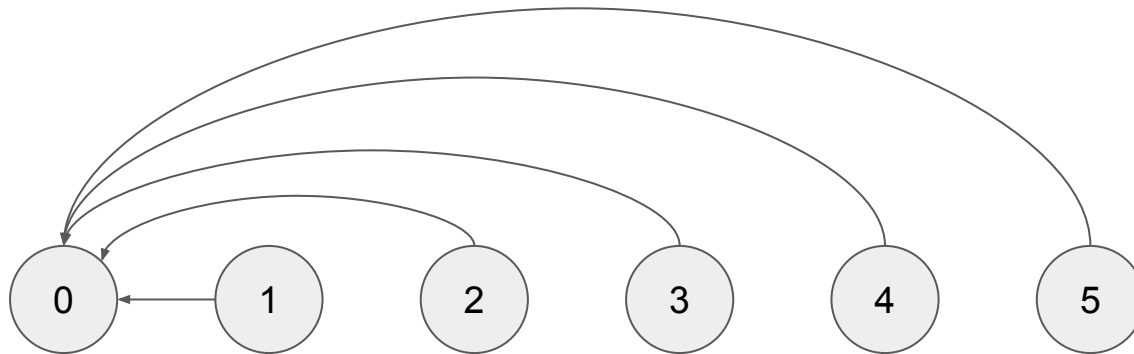
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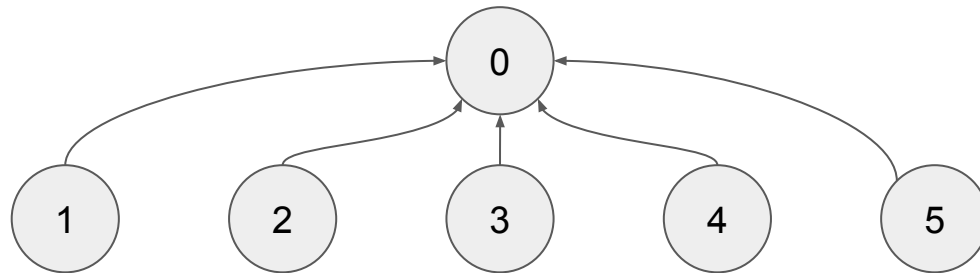
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**Example: how to compute the maximum tree height?**

```
def root(Arr, i):  
    while Arr[ i ] != i:  
        i = Arr[ i ]  
    return i
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```
def root(Arr, i):  
    while Arr[ i ] != i:  
        i = Arr[ i ]  
    return i
```

```
def height(Arr, i):  
    H = 0  
    while Arr[ i ] != i:  
        H += 1  
        i = Arr[ i ]  
    return H
```

## Example: how to compute the maximum tree height?

```
def height(Arr, i):  
    H = 0  
    while Arr[ i ] != i:  
        H += 1  
        i = Arr[ i ]  
    return H
```

```
def max_height(Arr, N):  
    return max([height(Arr, i) for i in range(N)])
```

# Further optimization of disjoint set

Let the subset  $\{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$  be represented as below and `find()` is called for element 3.



When `find()` is called for 3, we traverse up and find 9 as representative of this subset. With path compression, we also make 3 and 0 as the child of 9 so that when `find()` is called next time for 0, 1, 2 or 3, the path to root is reduced.



Path compression: requires additional memory but speed up the “find” procedure

Path compression + weighted union:

the amortized time complexity is  $O(\alpha(n))$ ,

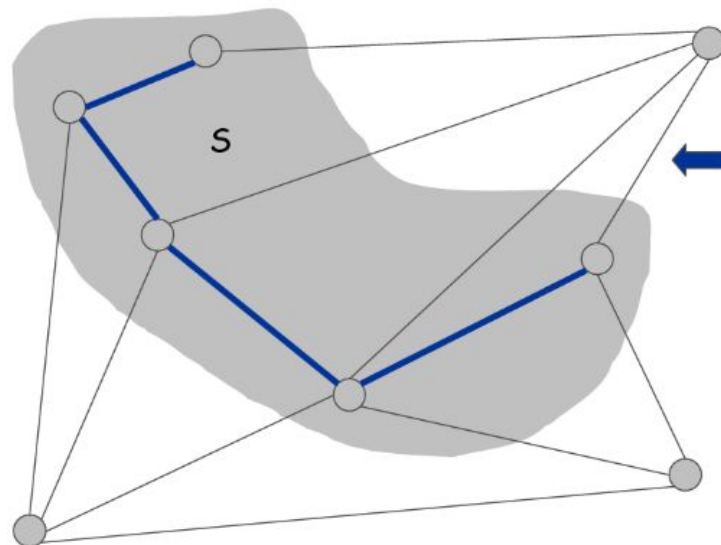
$\alpha(n)$  is the inverse Ackermann function (a very slowly growing function)

# Prim's algorithm

**Prim's algorithm.** Start with some root node  $s$  and greedily grow a tree  $T$  from  $s$  outward. At each step, add the cheapest edge  $e$  to  $T$  that has exactly one endpoint in  $T$ .

- Initialize  $S = \text{any node}$ .
- Apply cut property to  $S$ .
- Add min cost edge in cutset corresponding to  $S$  to  $T$ , and add one new explored node  $u$  to  $S$ .

Implementation uses  
the priority queue  
similar to the one in  
Dijkstra algorithm



# Maximum spanning tree?

The algorithms are similar except for:

- Kruskal's algorithm: sort edges in the decreasing order of the weights
- Prim's algorithm: choose the max weight edge
- The cut property: the max weight edge in a cutset is in the MST
- The cycle property: the min weight edge in a cycle is not in the MST



# MST and clustering

# Application: clustering

You're given  $n$  items and the distance  $d(u, v)$  between each of pair.

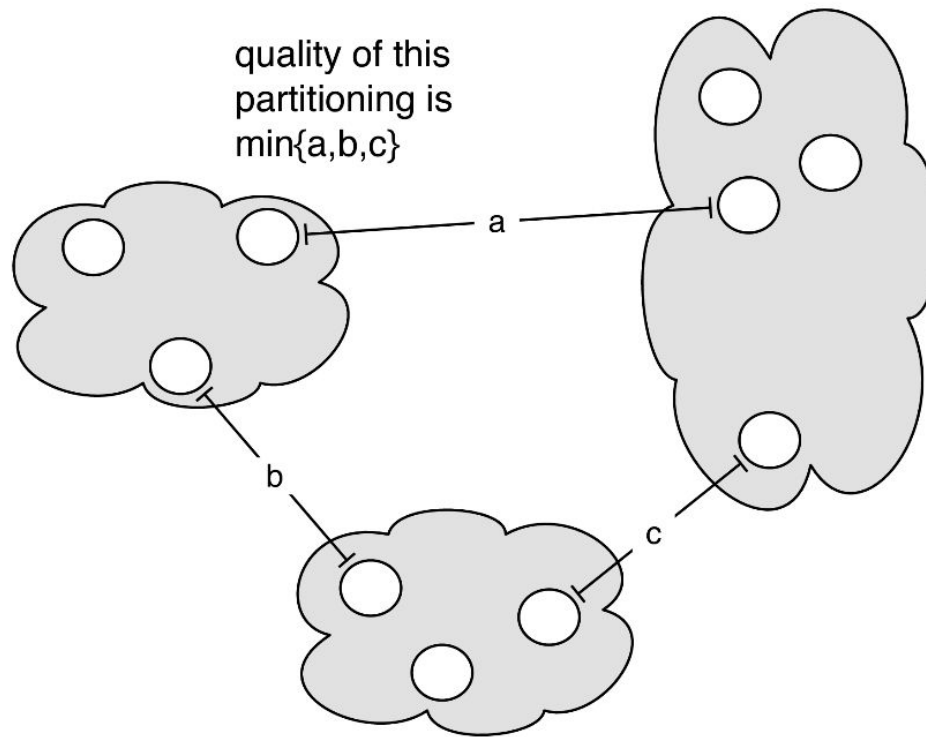
$d(u, v)$  may be an actual distance, or some abstract representation of how dissimilar two things are.

(What's the “distance” between two species?)

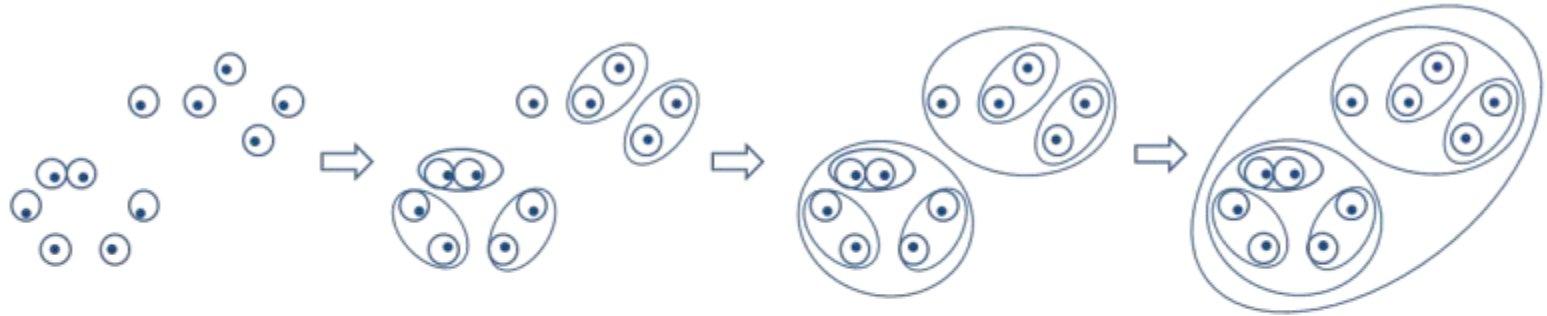
**Our Goal:** Divide the  $n$  items up into  $k$  groups so that the minimum distance between items **in different groups** is maximized.

# Clustering

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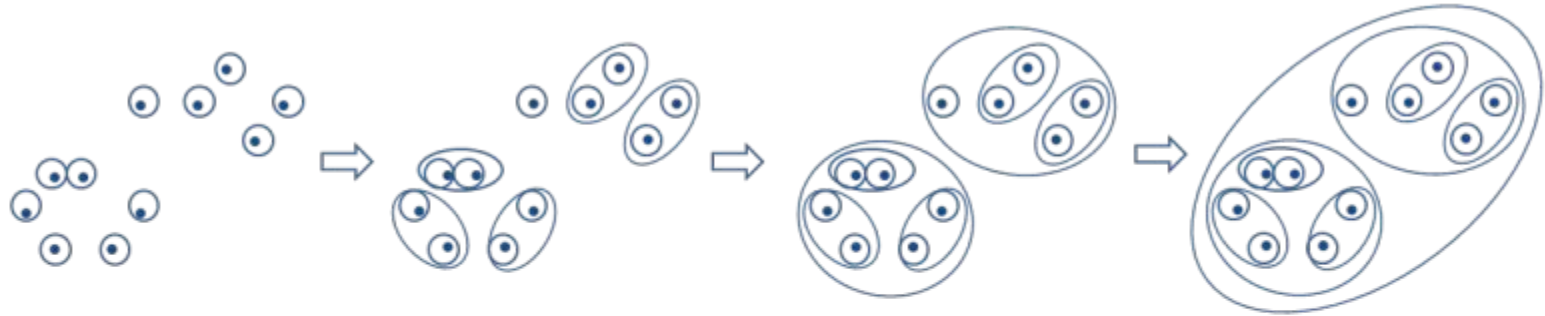


# Agglomerative clustering: from bottom to top



1. Compute distance between each pairs of objects
2. Choose a pair (A, B) with the shortest distance
3. Combine A & B into the same cluster A'
4. Remove A and B from the distance matrix and add A'
5. Compute distances from A' to all other objects
6. Repeat from 2

# Agglomerative clustering: from bottom to top

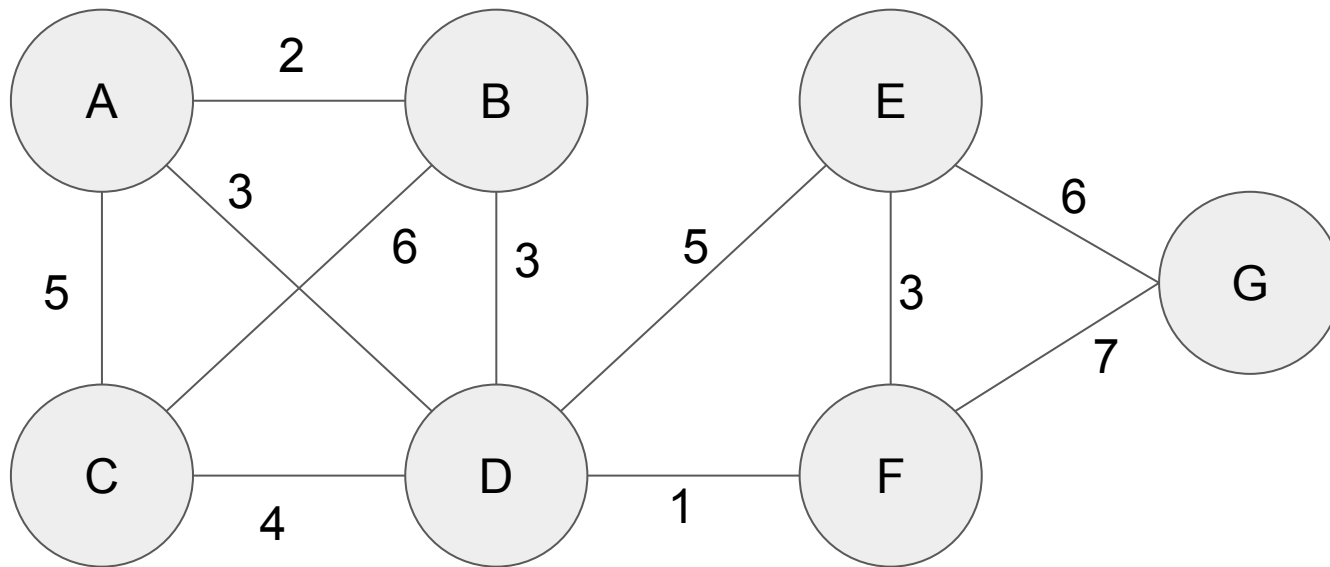


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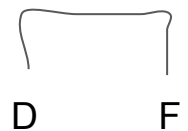
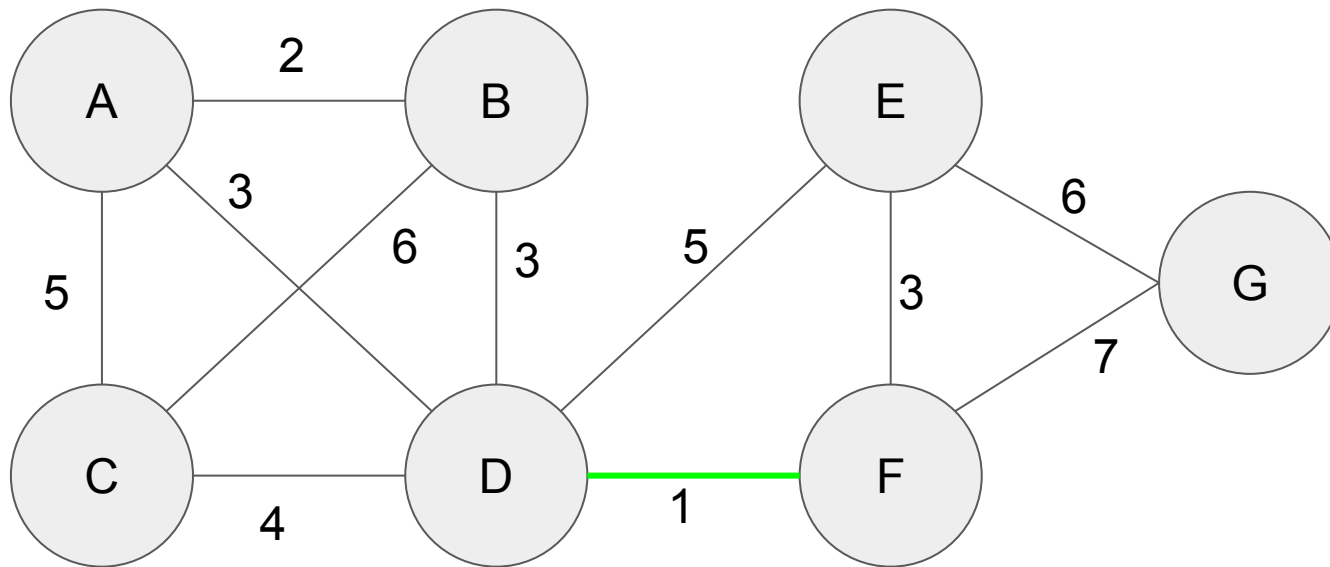
Single linkage:  $\min\{ d(x, y): x \text{ in } A, y \text{ in } B \}$

Average clustering:  $\text{sum}\{ d(x, y): x \text{ in } A, y \text{ in } B \} / |A| / |B|$

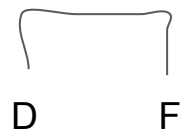
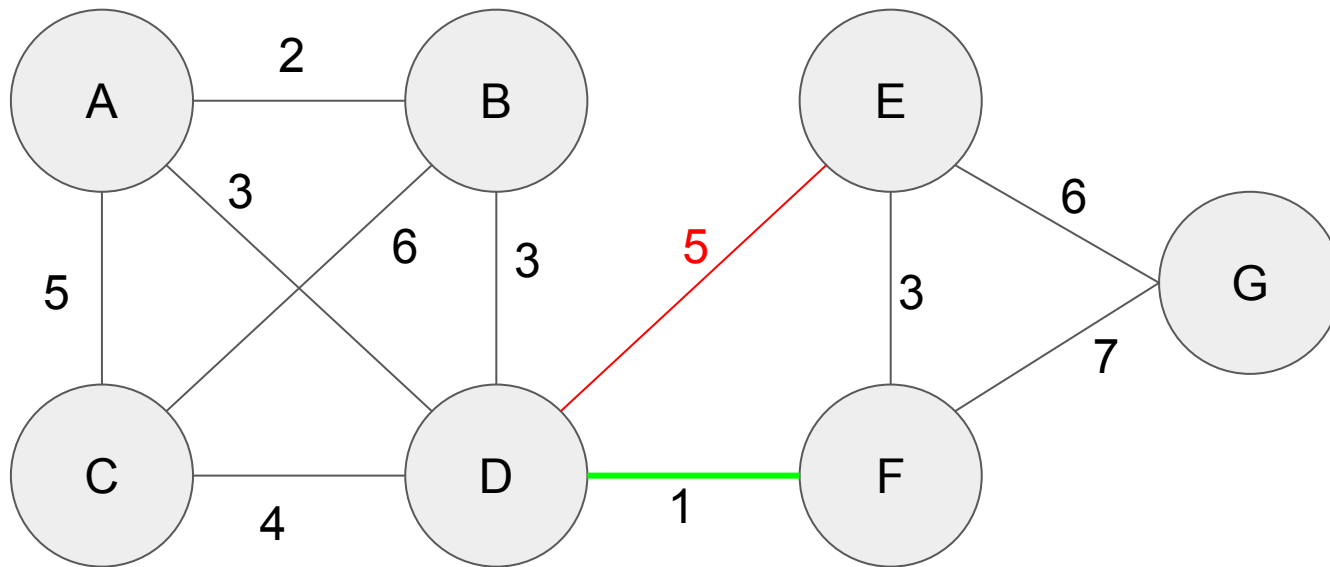
# Kruskal's algorithm aka single-linkage clustering



# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 1

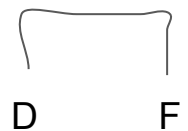
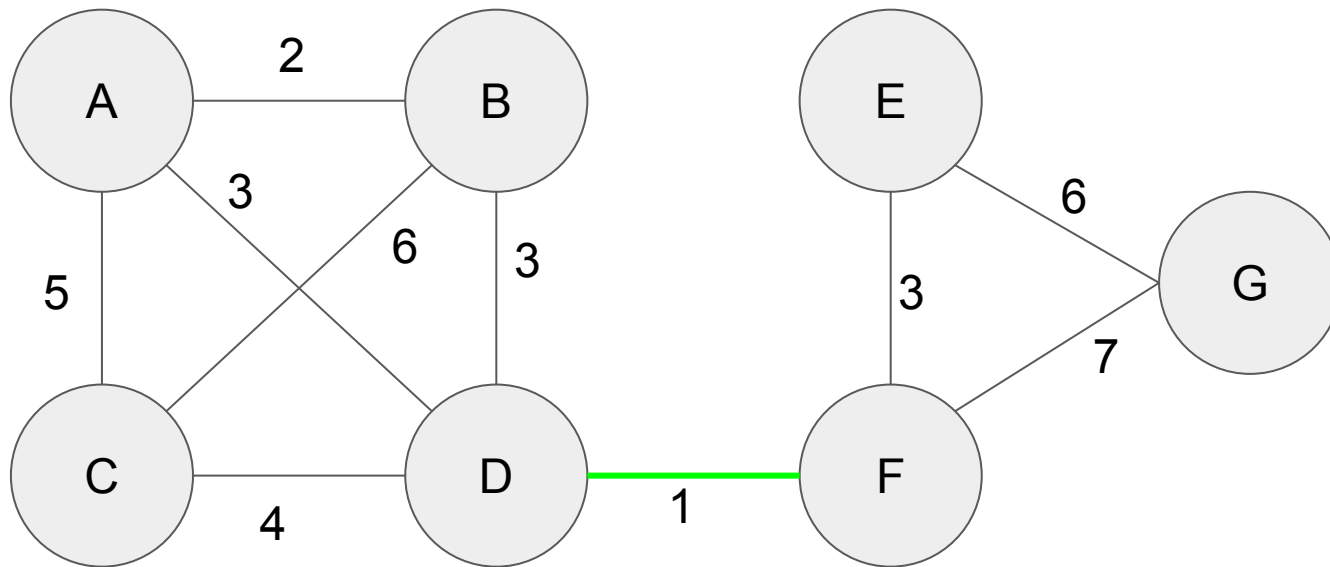


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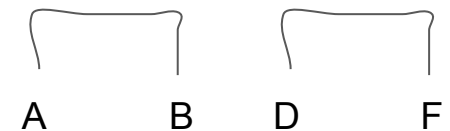
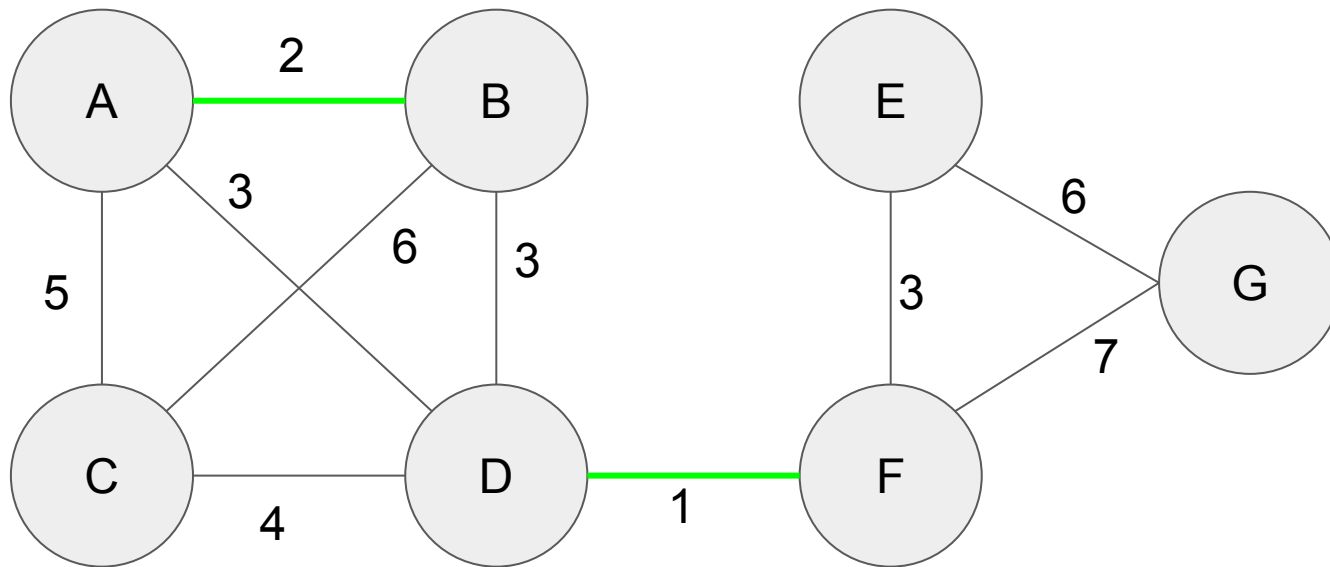




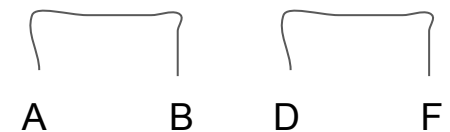
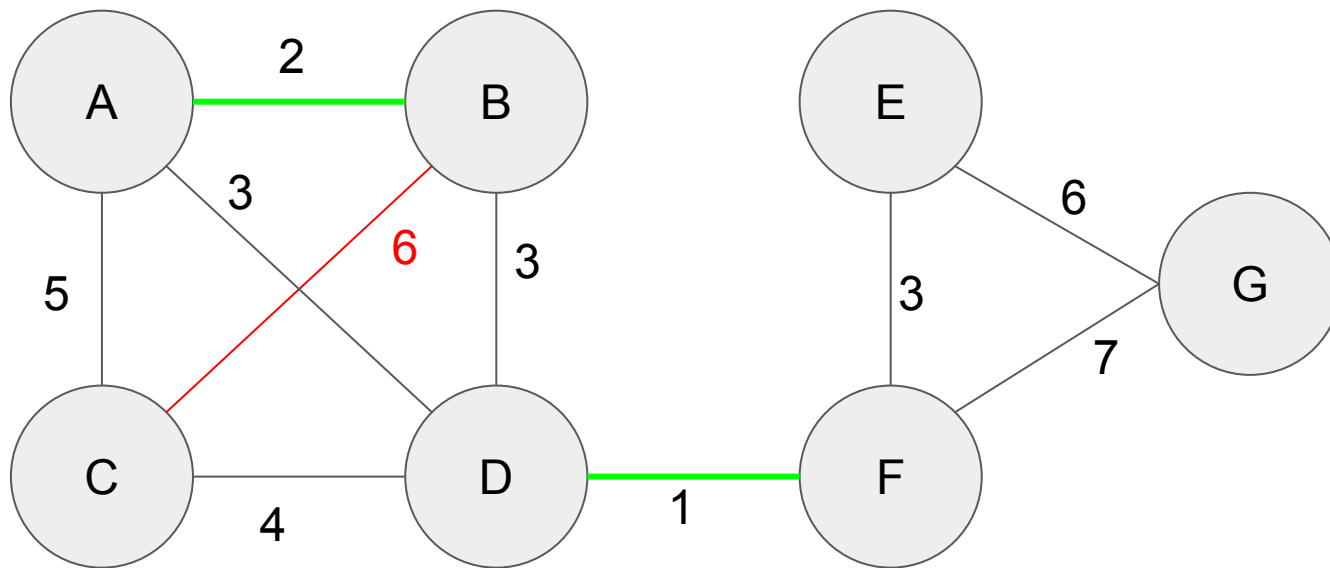
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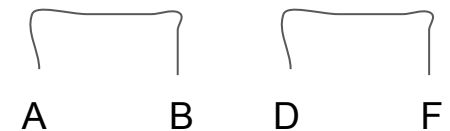
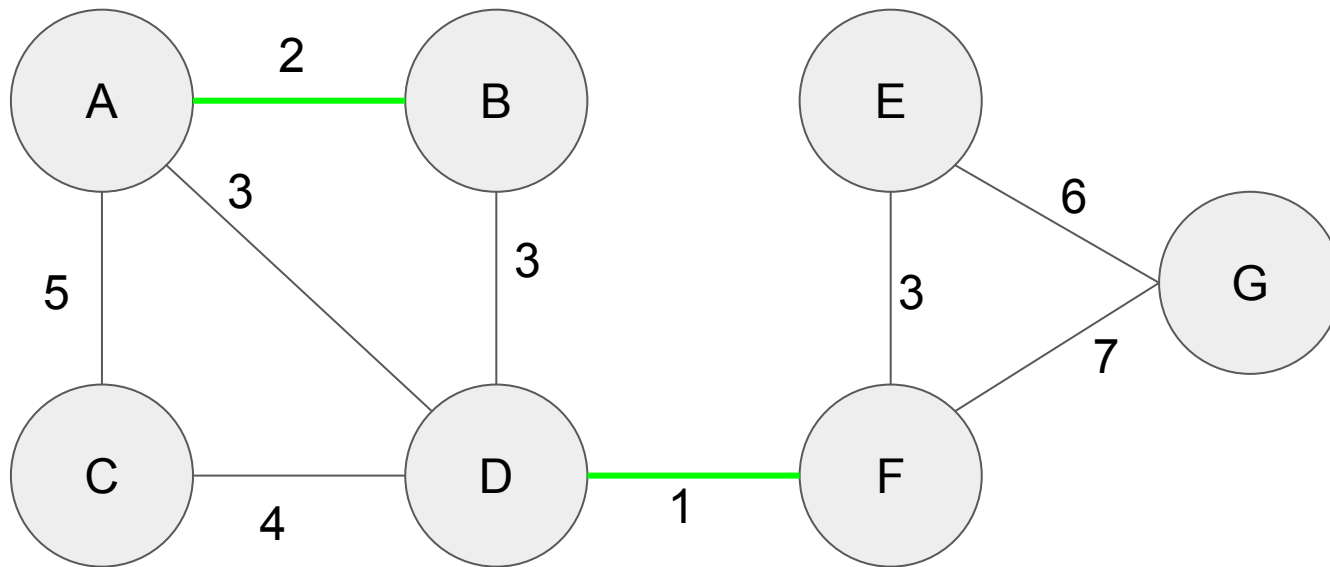
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 2



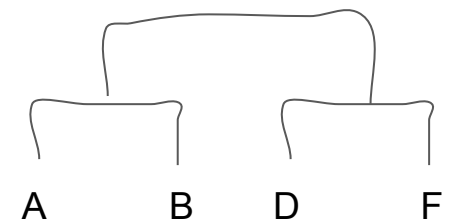
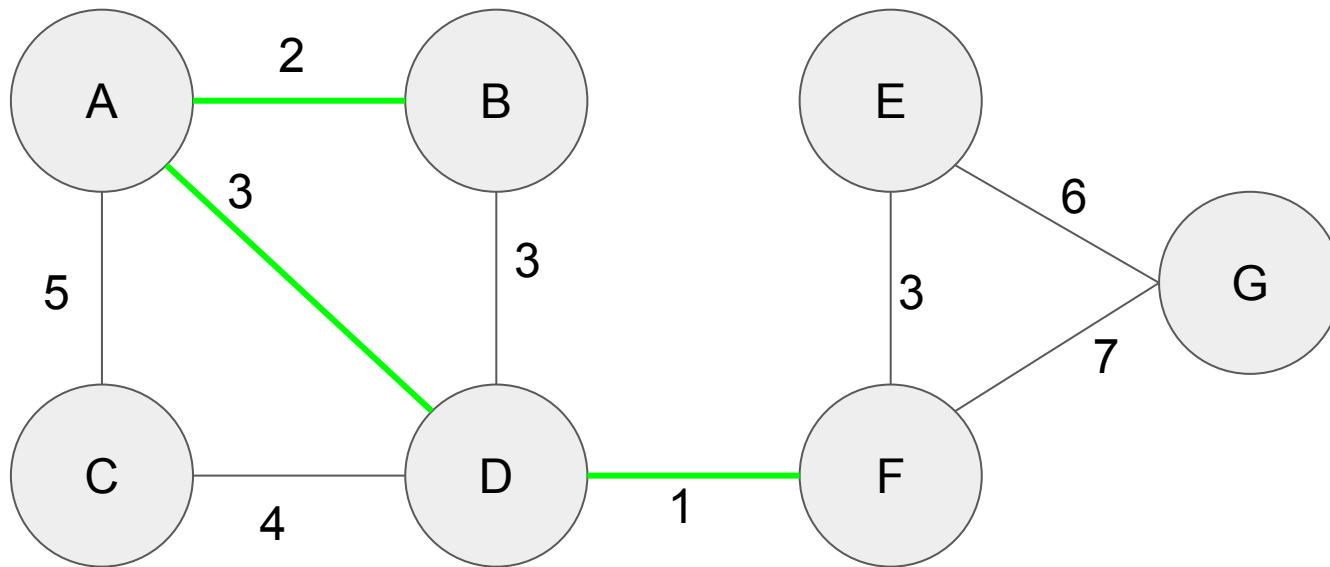
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 2



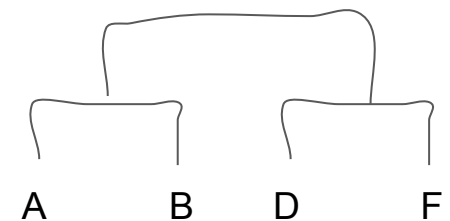
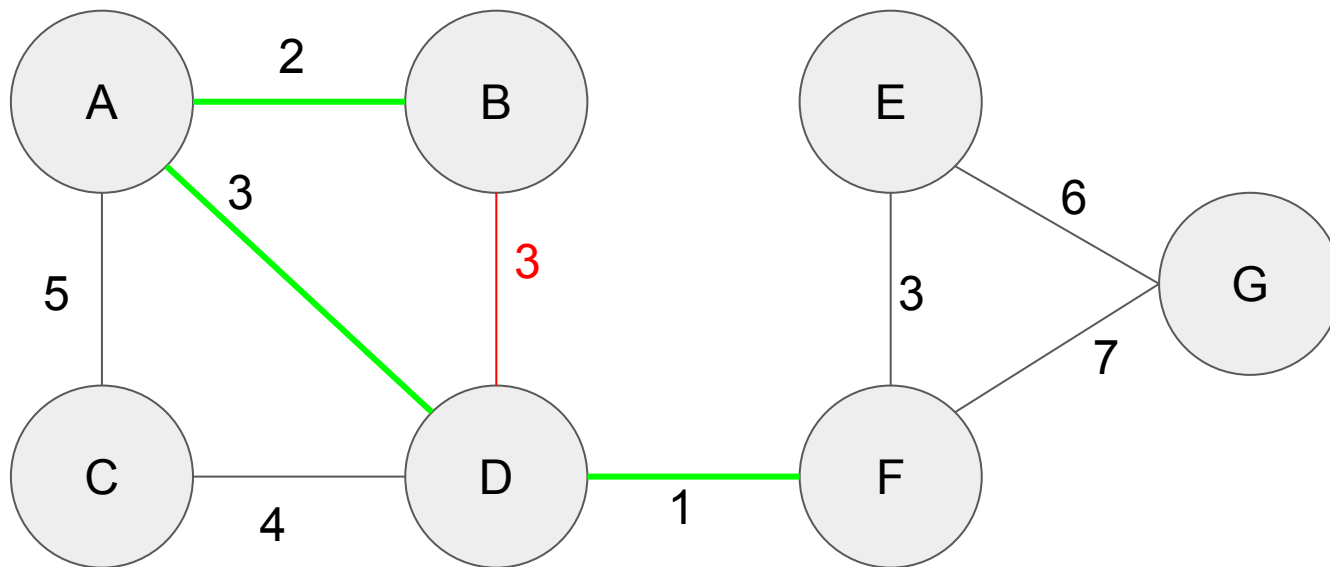
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 2



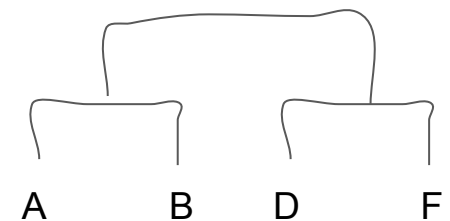
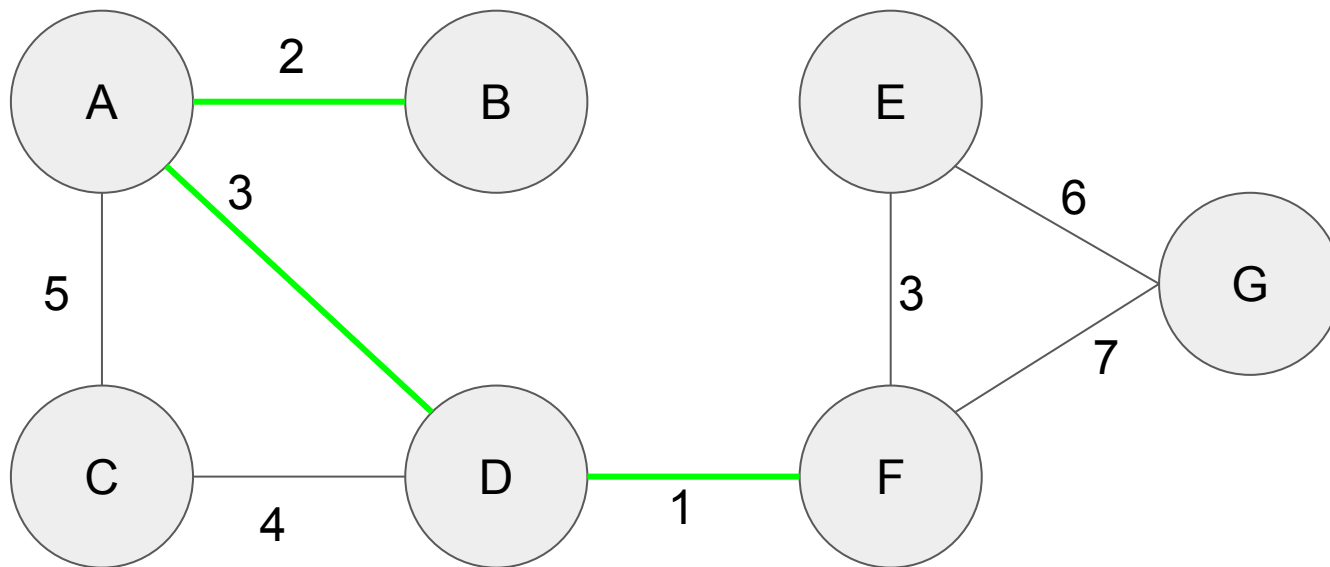
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3



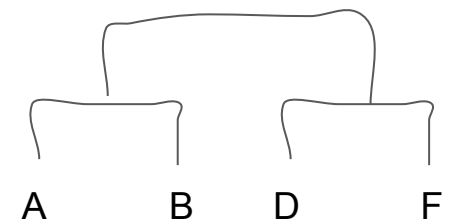
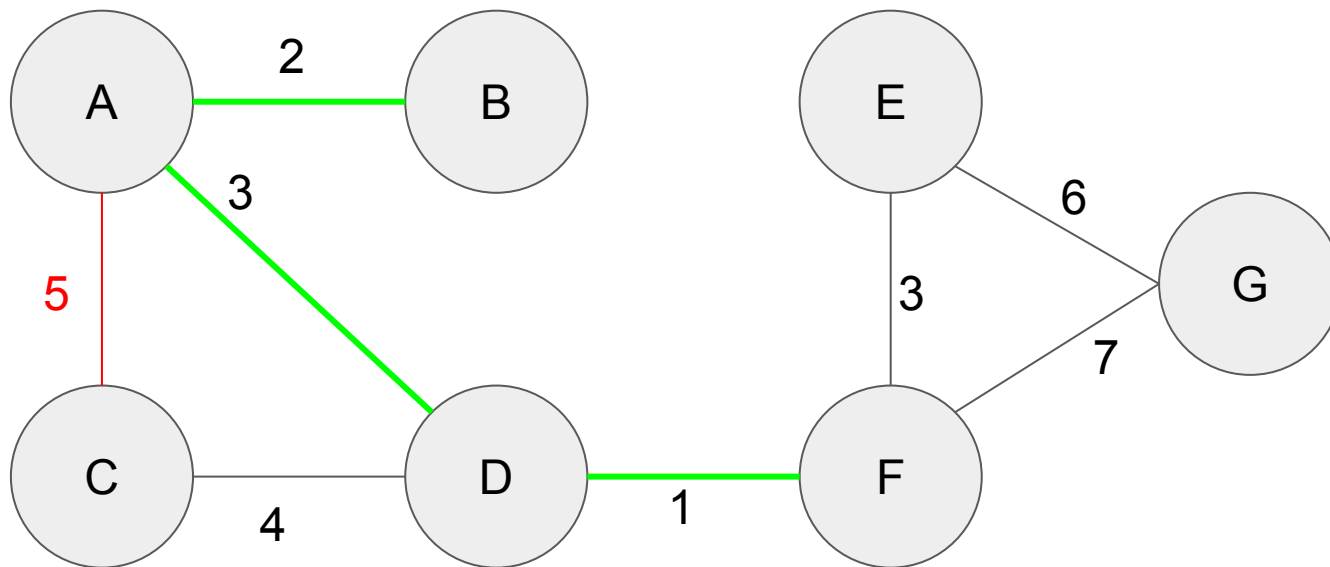
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3



# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3

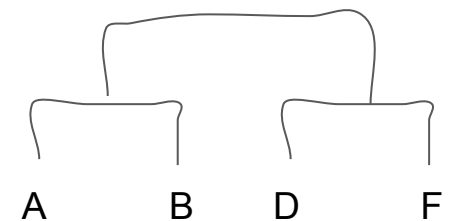
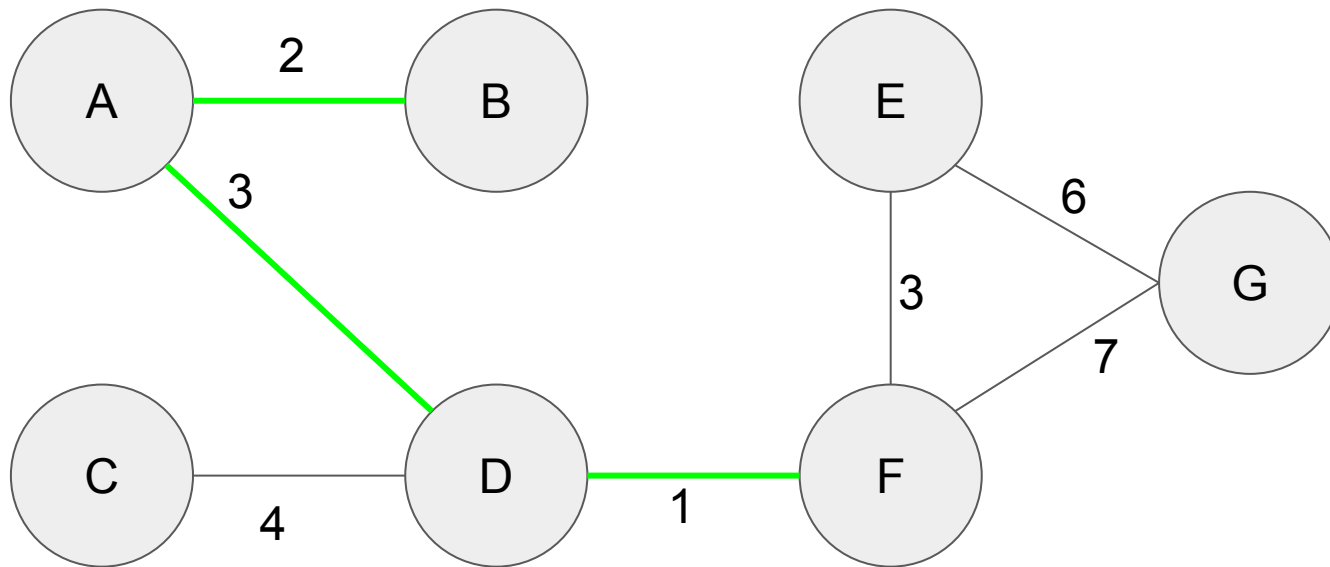


# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3

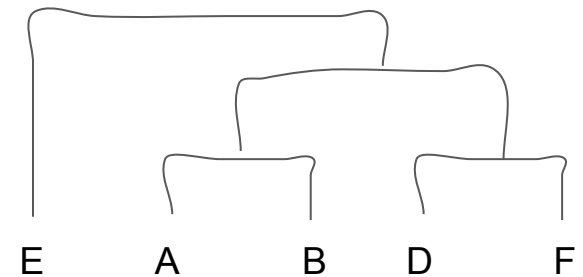
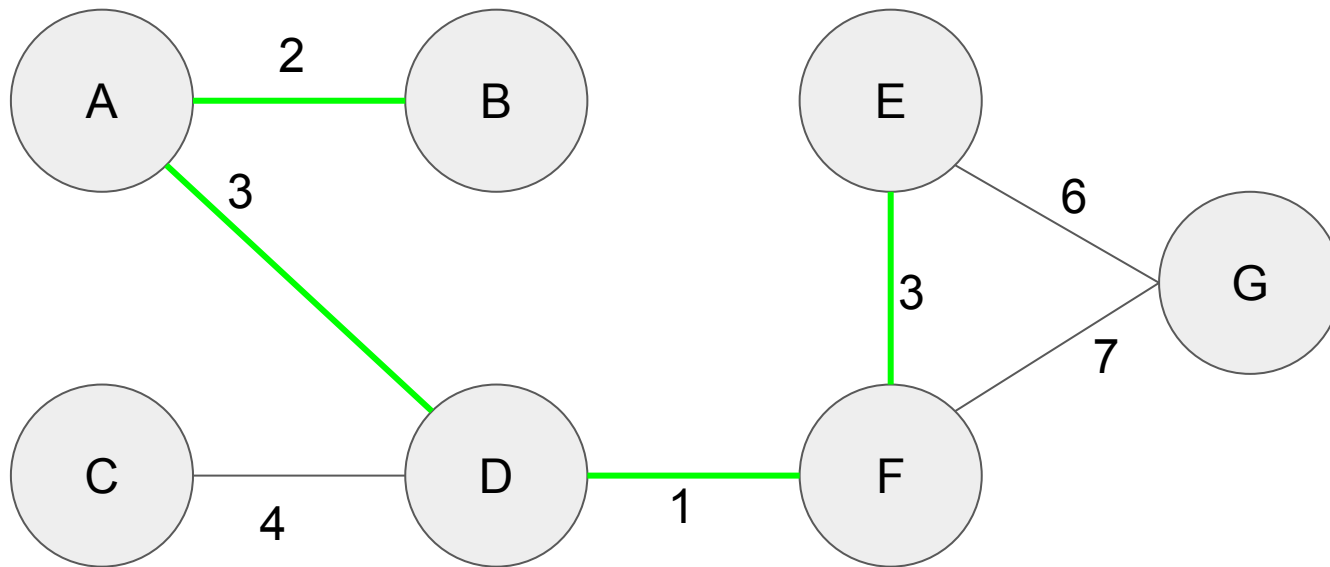




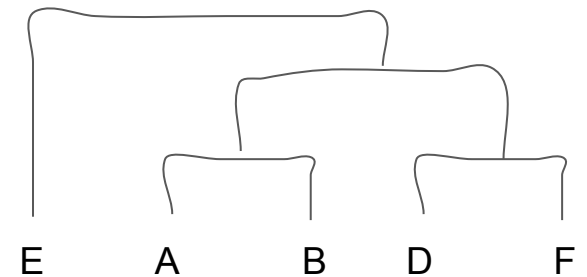
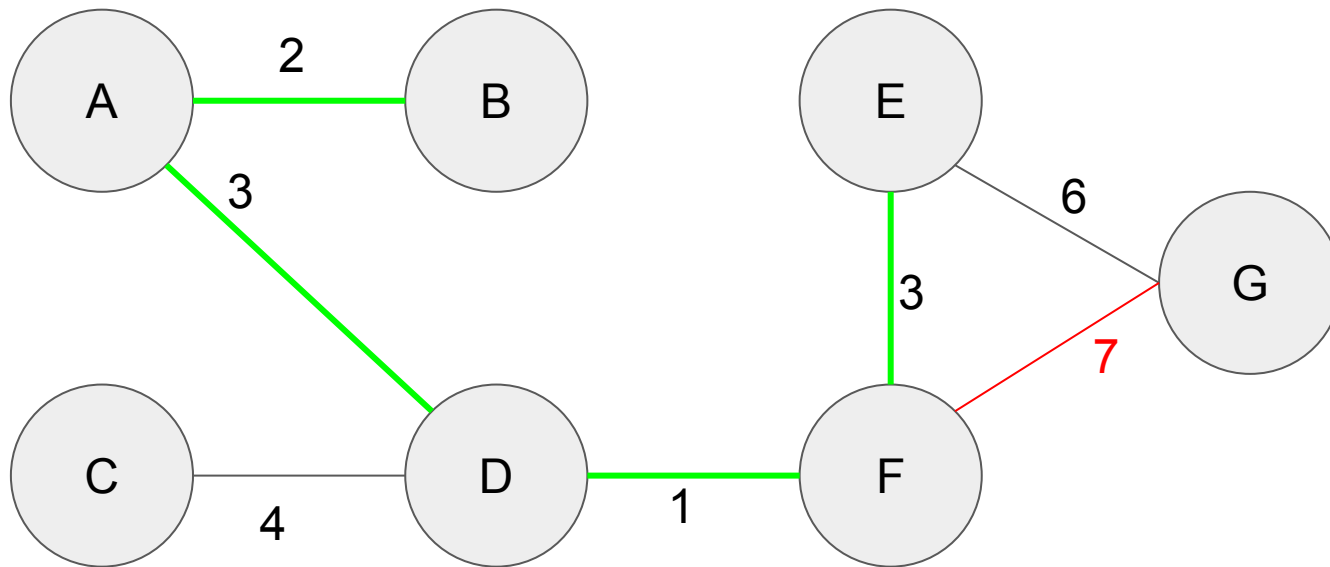
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3



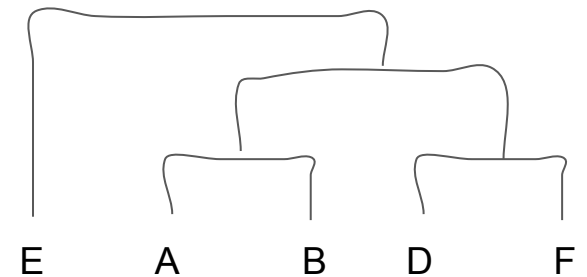
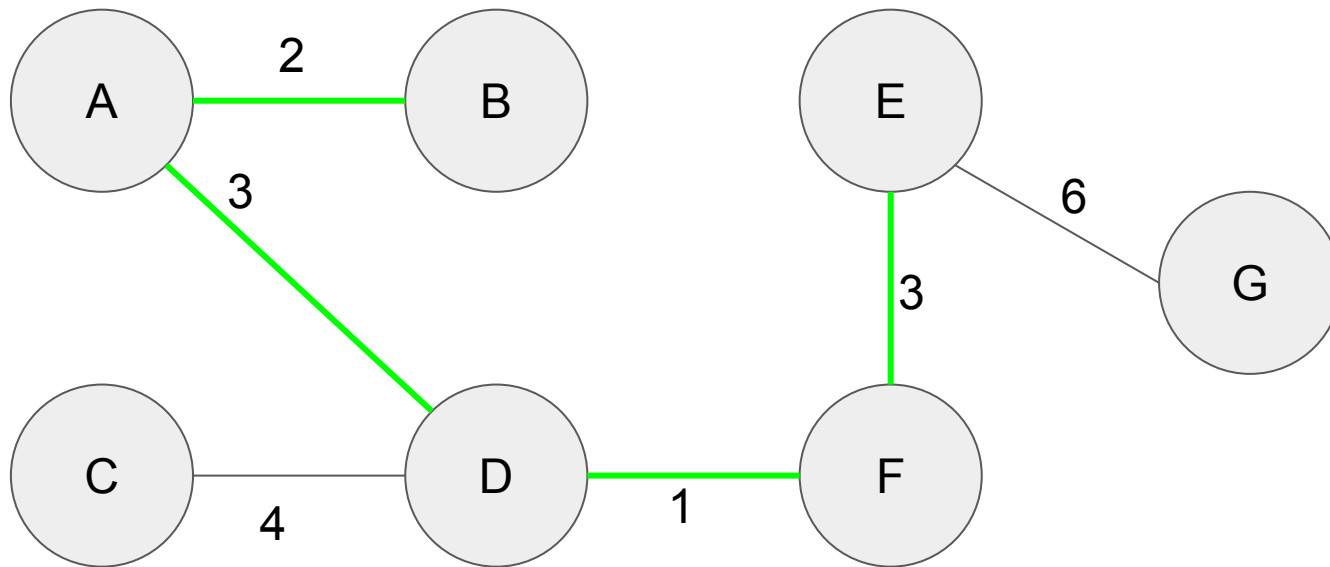
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3



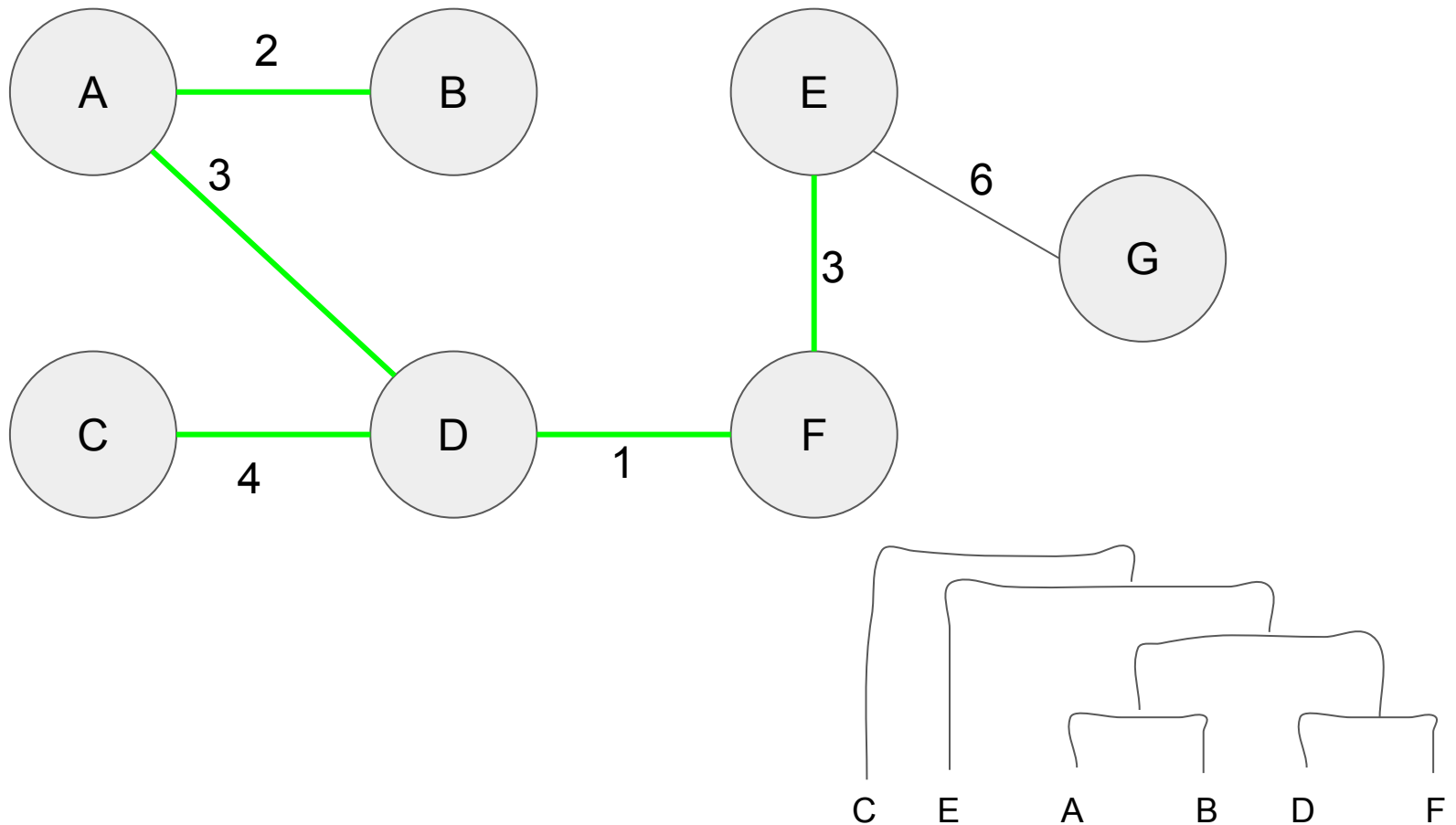
# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3



# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 3



# Kruskal's algorithm - weight 4



## Kruskal's algorithm - weight 6

