



香港中文大學 (深圳)  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

# CSC3100 Data Structures

## Lecture 17: Graph minimum spanning tree

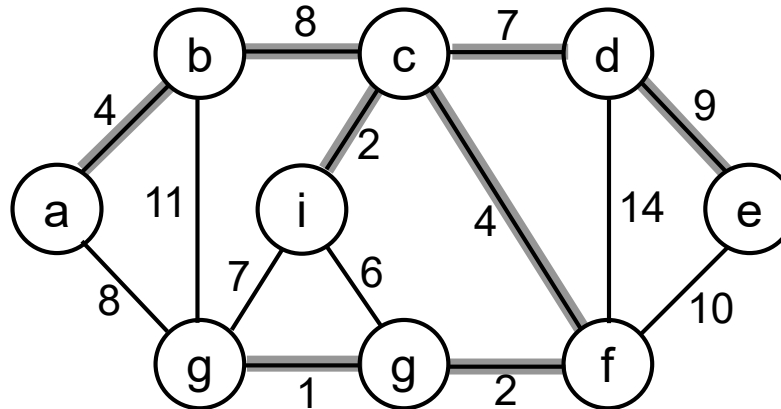
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# Minimum Spanning Trees

- ▶ **Spanning Tree**
  - A tree (i.e., connected, acyclic graph) which contains all the vertices of the graph
- ▶ **Minimum Spanning Tree (MST)**
  - Spanning tree with the **minimum sum of weights**

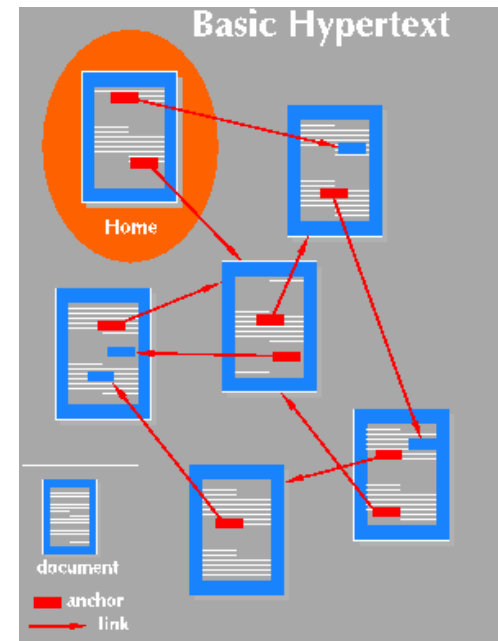
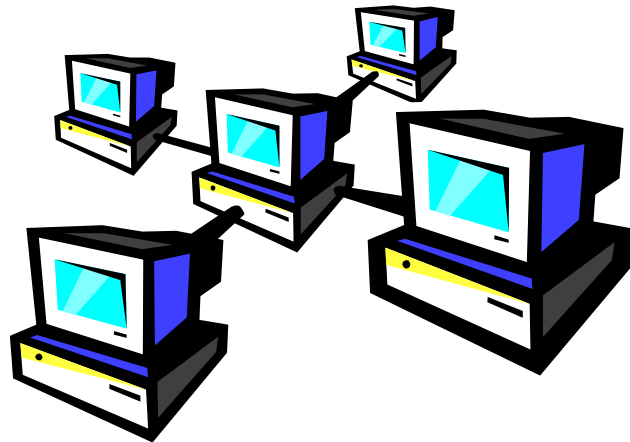


- ▶ **Spanning forest**
  - If a graph is not connected, then there is an MST for each connected component of the graph



# Applications of MST

- Find the least expensive way to connect a set of houses, cities, terminals, computers, etc.

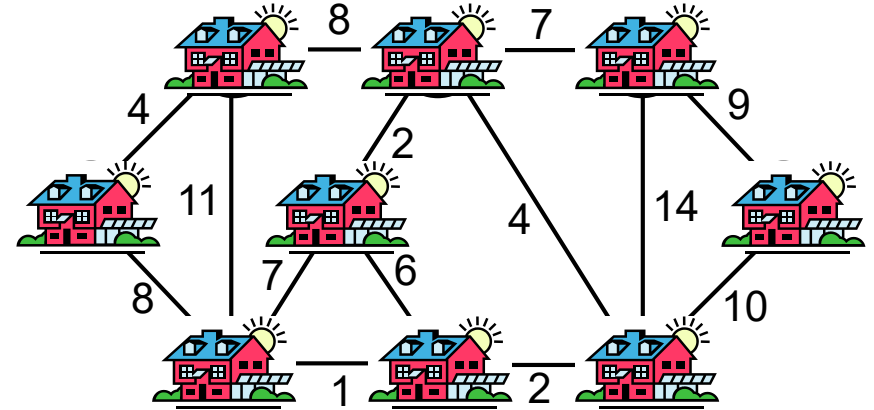




# Example

## Problem

- ▶ A town has a set of houses and a set of roads
- ▶ A road connects 2 and only 2 houses
- ▶ A road connecting houses  $u$  and  $v$  has a cost  $w(u, v)$



**Goal:** Build enough (and no more) roads such that:

1. Everyone stays connected  
i.e., can reach every house from all other houses
2. Total cost is minimum

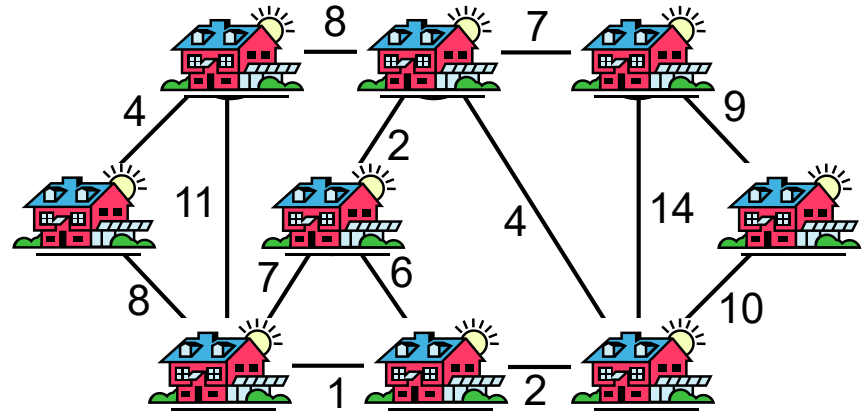


# Minimum Spanning Trees (MSTs)

- ▶ A connected, undirected graph:
  - Vertices = houses, Edges = roads
- ▶ A **weight**  $w(u, v)$  on each edge  $(u, v) \in E$

Find  $T \subseteq E$  such that:

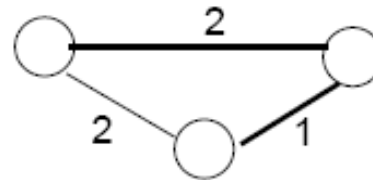
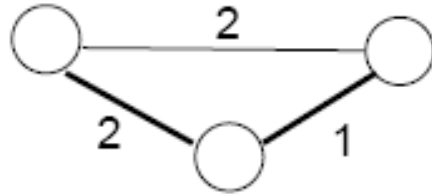
1.  $T$  connects all vertices
2.  $w(T) = \sum_{(u,v) \in T} w(u, v)$  is minimized





# Properties of MSTs

- ▶ Minimum spanning tree is **not** unique

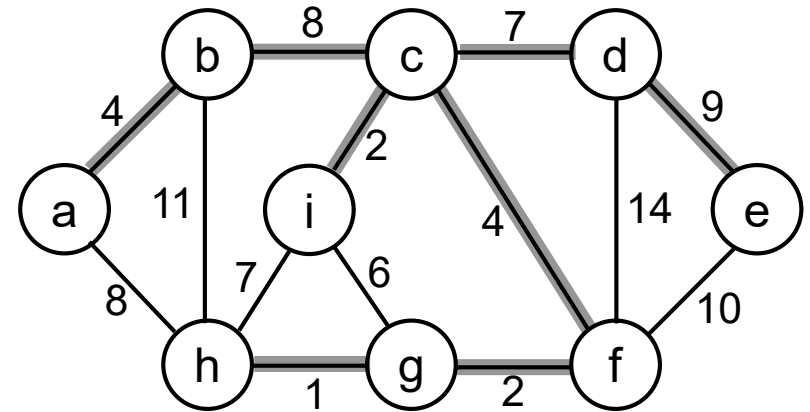


- ▶ MST has no cycles - see why:
  - We can take out an edge of a cycle, and still have the vertices connected while reducing the cost
- ▶ # of edges in a MST:
  - $|V| - 1$



# Growing an MST - Generic Approach

- Grow a set  $A$  of edges (initially empty)
- Incrementally add edges to  $A$  such that they would belong to an MST



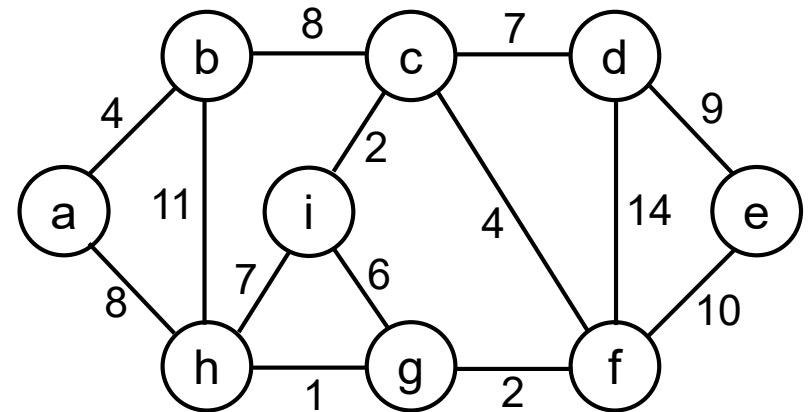
**Idea:** add only “safe” edges

- An edge  $(u, v)$  is **safe** for  $A$ , if and only if  $A \cup \{(u, v)\}$  is also a subset of **some** MST



# Generic MST algorithm

1.  $A \leftarrow \emptyset$
2. **while**  $A$  is not a spanning tree
3.     **do** find an edge  $(u, v)$  that is **safe** for  $A$
4.      $A \leftarrow A \cup \{(u, v)\}$
5. **return**  $A$



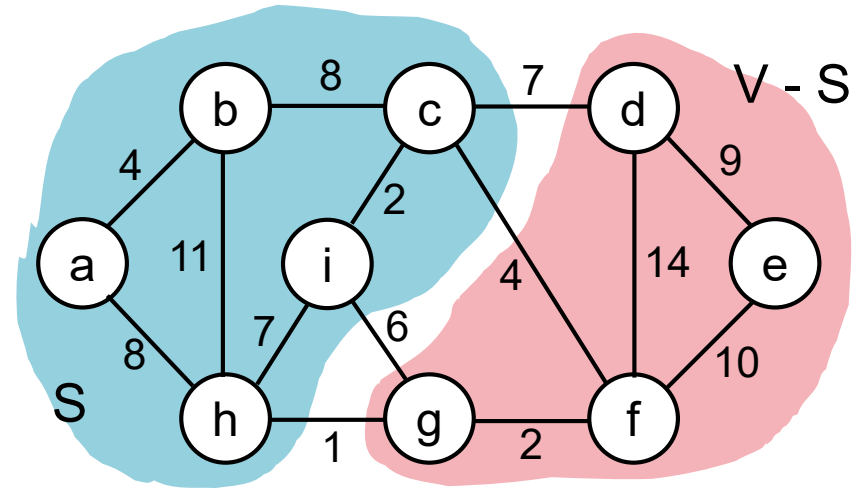
- How do we find safe edges?





# Finding Safe Edges

- ▶ Let's look at edge  $(h, g)$ 
  - Is it safe for  $A$  initially?

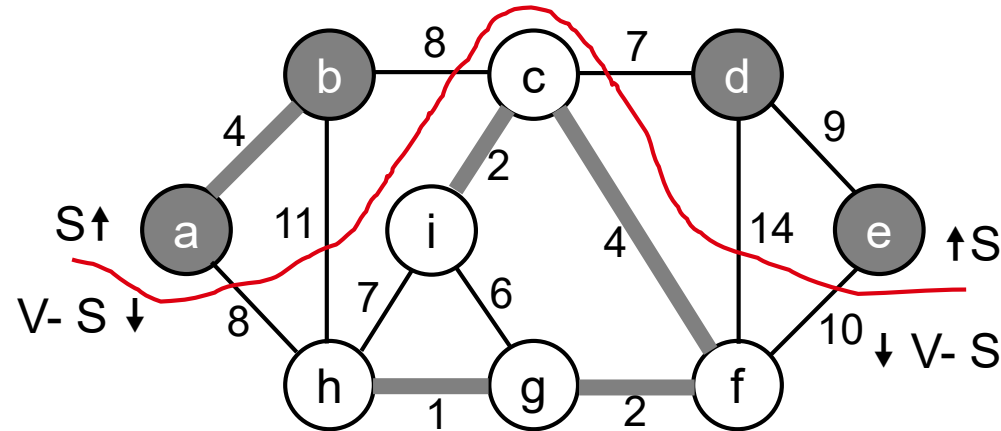


- ▶ Yes. Why?
  - Let  $S \subset V$  be any set of vertices that includes  $h$  but not  $g$  (so that  $g$  is in  $V - S$ )
  - In any MST, there has to be one edge (at least) that connects  $S$  with  $V - S$
  - Why not choose the edge with **minimum weight**  $(h, g)$ ?



# Definitions

- ▶ A **cut**  $(S, V - S)$  is a partition of vertices into disjoint sets  $S$  and  $V - S$
- ▶ An edge **crosses** the cut  $(S, V - S)$  if one endpoint is in  $S$  and the other in  $V - S$
- ▶ A cut **respects** a set  $A$  of edges  $\Leftrightarrow$  no edge in  $A$  crosses the cut
- ▶ An edge is a **light edge** crossing a cut  $\Leftrightarrow$  its weight is minimum over all edges crossing the cut
  - Note that for a given cut, there can be  $> 1$  light edges crossing it



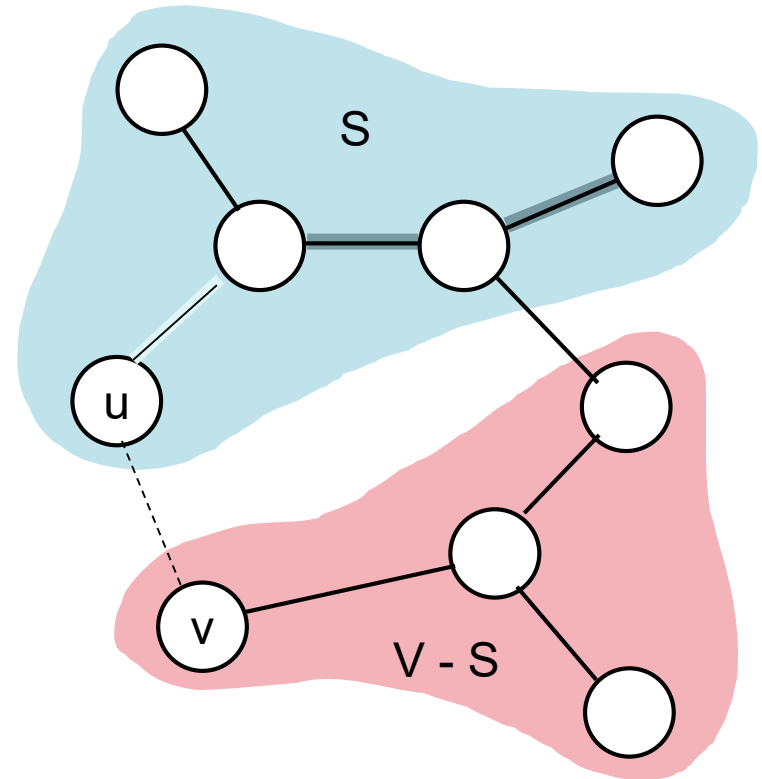


# Theorem

- ▶ Let  $A$  be a subset of some MST (i.e.,  $T$ ),  $(S, V - S)$  be a cut that respects  $A$ , and  $(u, v)$  be a **light edge** crossing  $(S, V - S)$ . Then  **$(u, v)$  is safe for  $A$ .**

## Proof:

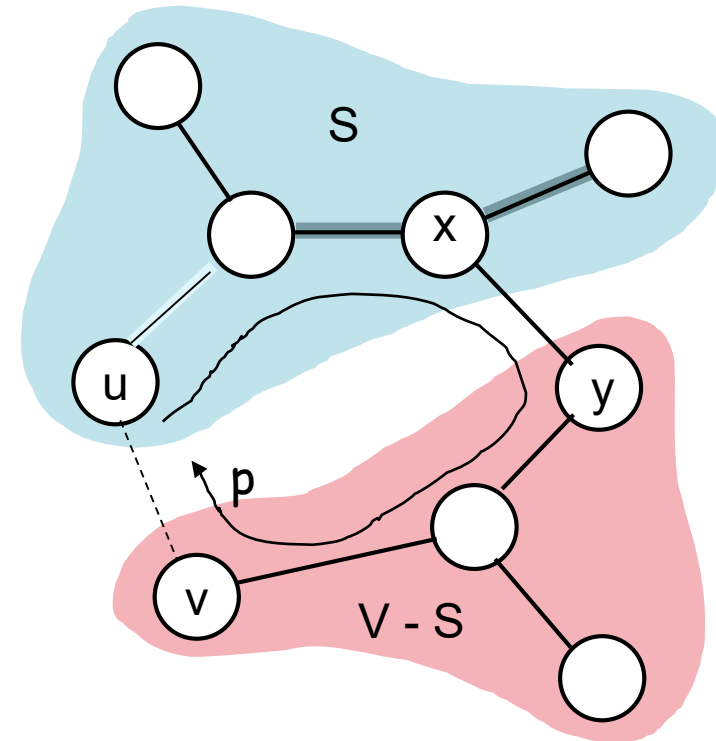
- ▶ Let  $T$  be an MST that includes  $A$ 
  - edges in  $A$  are shaded
- ▶ Case1: If  $T$  includes  $(u, v)$ , then it would be safe for  $A$
- ▶ Case2: Suppose  $T$  does not include the edge  $(u, v)$ 
  - **Idea**: construct another MST  $T'$  that includes  $A + \{(u, v)\}$





# Theorem - Proof

- ▶  $T$  contains a unique path  $p$  between  $u$  and  $v$
- ▶ Path  $p$  must cross the cut  $(S, V - S)$  at least once: let  $(x, y)$  be that edge
- ▶ Let's remove  $(x, y) \Rightarrow$  breaks  $T$  into two components
- ▶ Adding  $(u, v)$  reconnects the components  
$$T' = T - \{(x, y)\} + \{(u, v)\}$$





# Theorem – Proof (cont.)

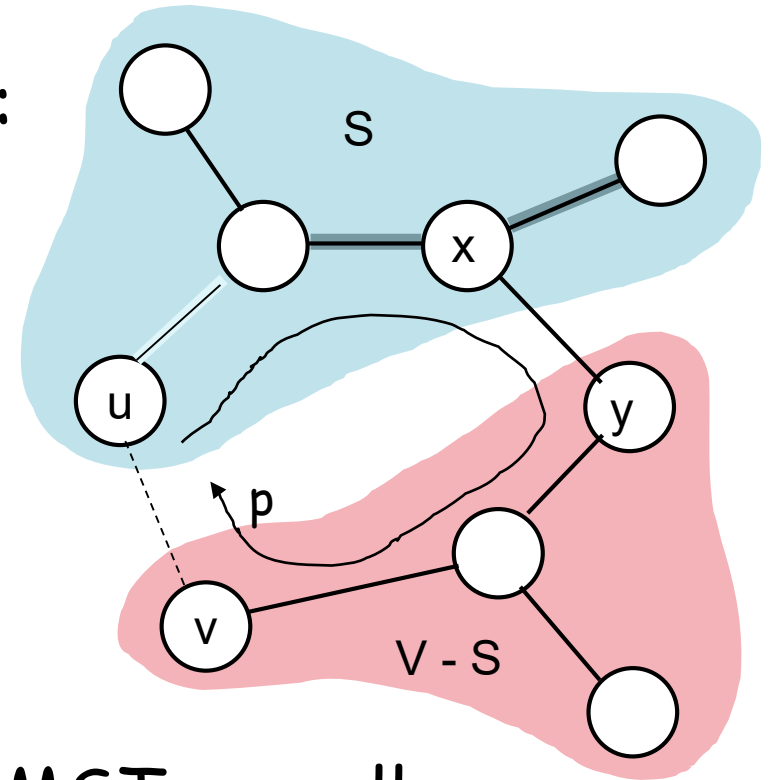
$$T' = T - \{(x, y)\} + \{(u, v)\}$$

Have to show that  $T'$  is an MST:

▶  $(u, v)$  is a light edge  
 $\Rightarrow w(u, v) \leq w(x, y)$

▶  $w(T') = w(T) - w(x, y) + w(u, v) \leq w(T)$

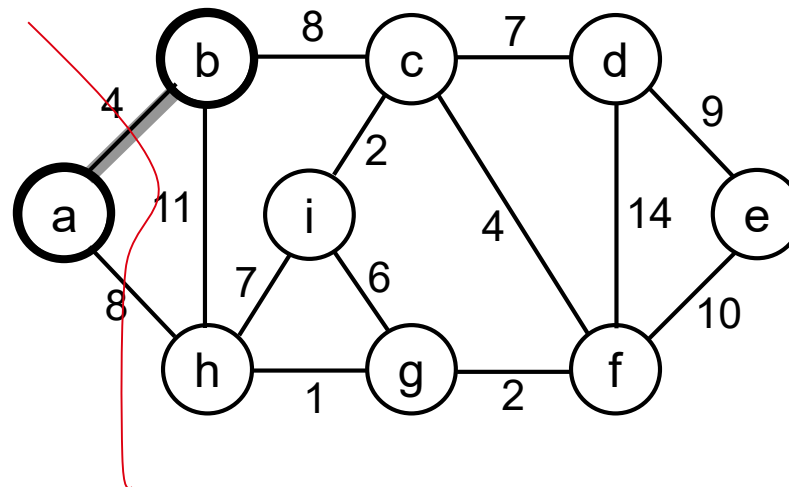
▶ Since  $T$  is a spanning tree  
 $w(T) \leq w(T') \Rightarrow T'$  must be an MST as well





# Prim's Algorithm

- ▶ The edges in set  $A$  always form a single tree
- ▶ Starts from an arbitrary "root":  $V_A = \{a\}$
- ▶ At each step:
  - Find a light edge crossing  $(V_A, V - V_A)$
  - Add this edge to  $A$
  - Repeat until the tree spans all vertices

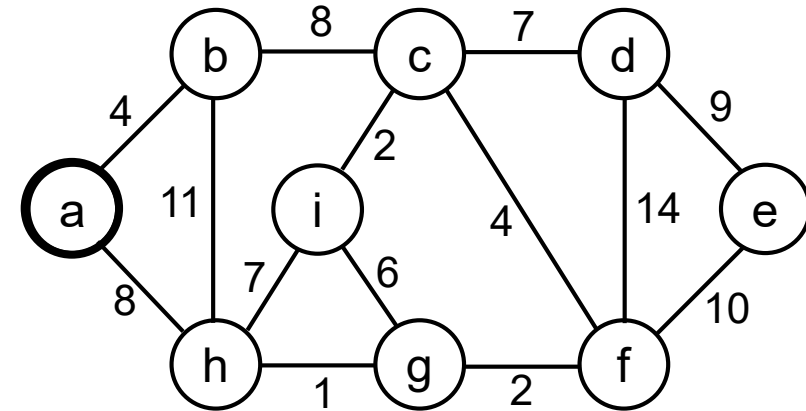




# How to Find Light Edges Quickly?

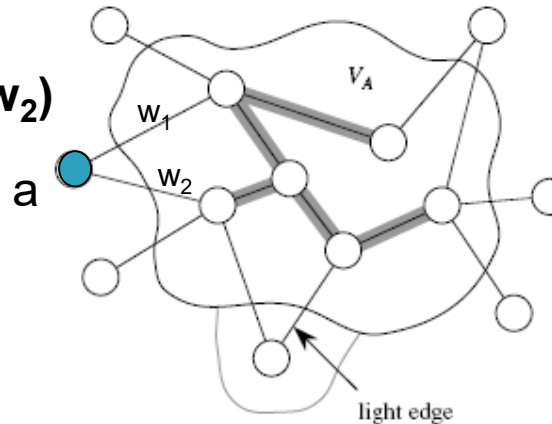
Use a priority queue  $Q$ :

- Contains vertices not yet included in the tree, i.e.,  $(V - V_A)$ 
  - $V_A = \{a\}$ ,  $Q = \{b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i\}$



- We associate a key with each vertex  $v$ :  
 $\text{key}[v] = \text{minimum weight of any edge } (u, v) \text{ connecting } v \text{ to } V_A$

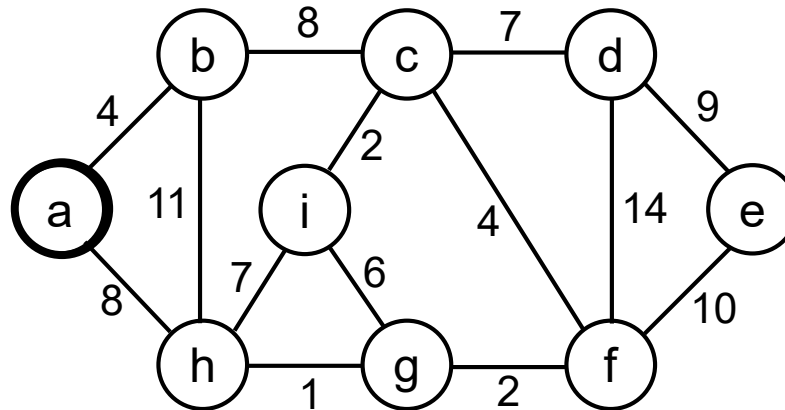
$$\text{Key}[a] = \min(w_1, w_2)$$





# How to Find Light Edges Quickly? (cont.)

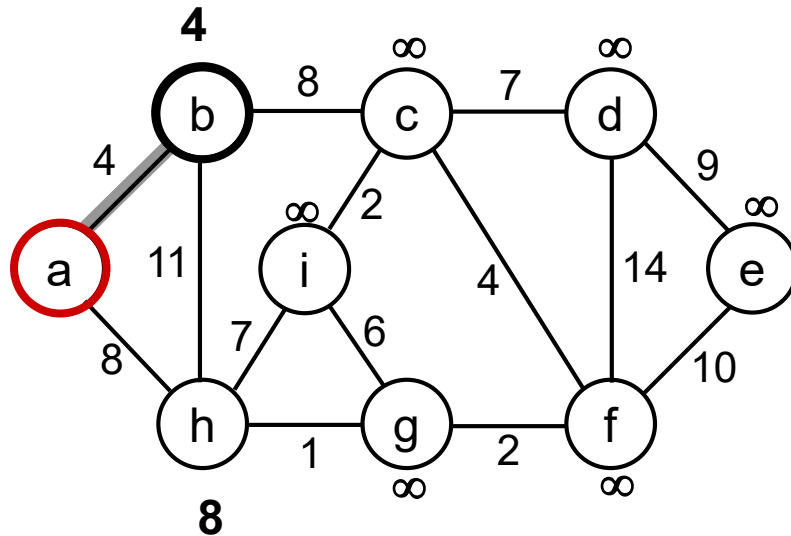
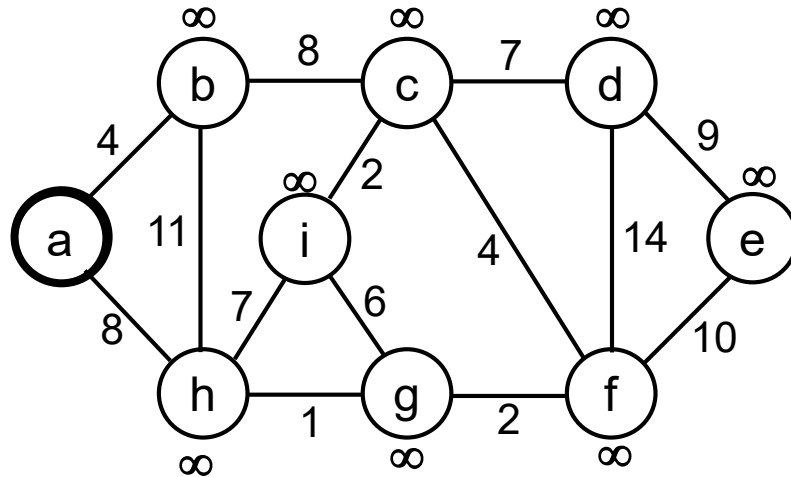
- ▶ After adding a new node to  $V_A$  we update the weights of all the nodes adjacent to it  
e.g., after adding a to the tree,  $k[b]=4$  and  $k[h]=8$
- ▶ Key of  $v$  is  $\infty$  if  $v$  is not adjacent to any vertices in  $V_A$







# Example



0   ∞   ∞   ∞   ∞   ∞   ∞   ∞   ∞

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

$V_A = \emptyset$

Extract-MIN( $Q$ )  $\Rightarrow a$

key  $[b] = 4$     $\pi[b] = a$

key  $[h] = 8$     $\pi[h] = a$

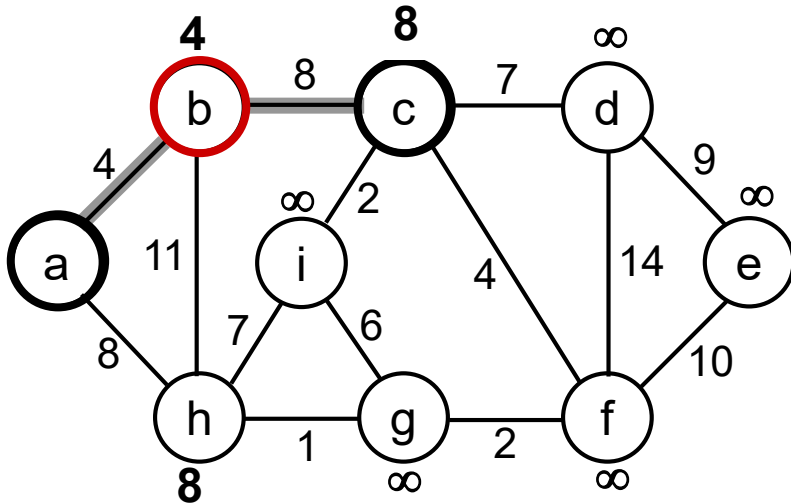
4   ∞   ∞   ∞   ∞   ∞   8   ∞

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

Extract-MIN( $Q$ )  $\Rightarrow b$



# Example



key [c] = 8     $\pi$  [c] = b

key [h] = 8     $\pi$  [h] = a - unchanged

**8    ∞    ∞    ∞    ∞    8    ∞**

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

Extract-MIN(Q)  $\Rightarrow$  c

key [d] = 7     $\pi$  [d] = c

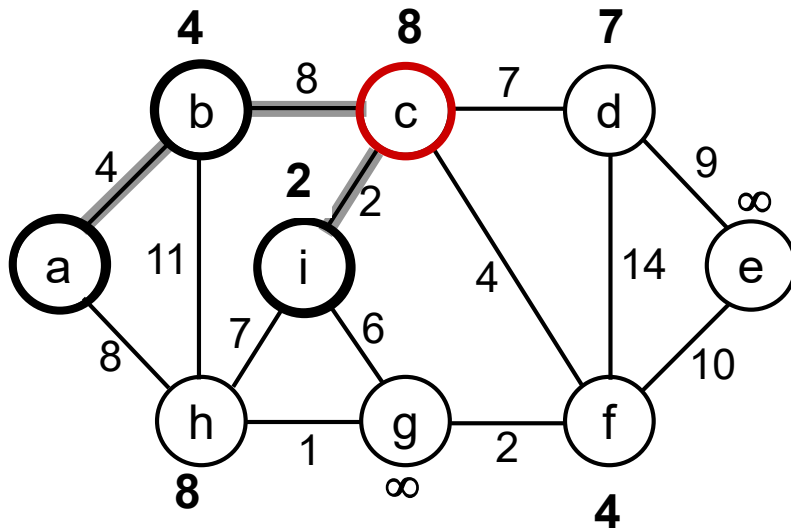
key [f] = 4     $\pi$  [f] = c

key [i] = 2     $\pi$  [i] = c

**7    ∞    4    ∞    8    2**

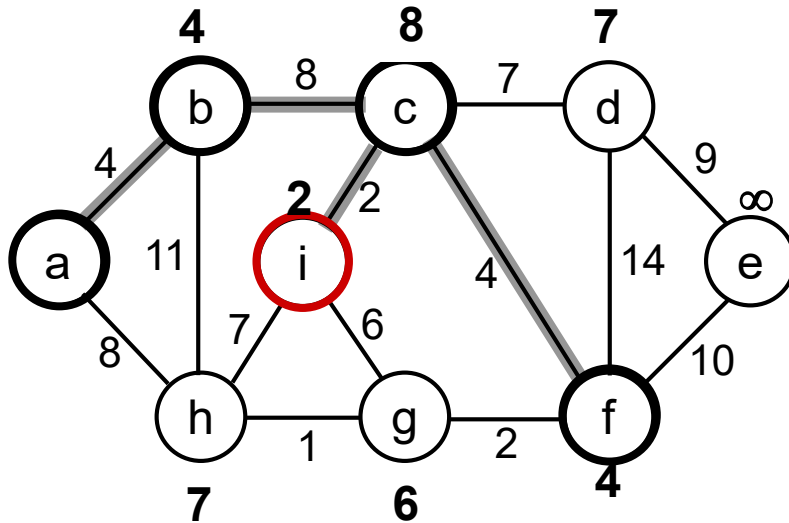
$Q = \{d, e, f, g, h, i\}$      $V_A = \{a, b, c\}$

Extract-MIN(Q)  $\Rightarrow$  i





# Example



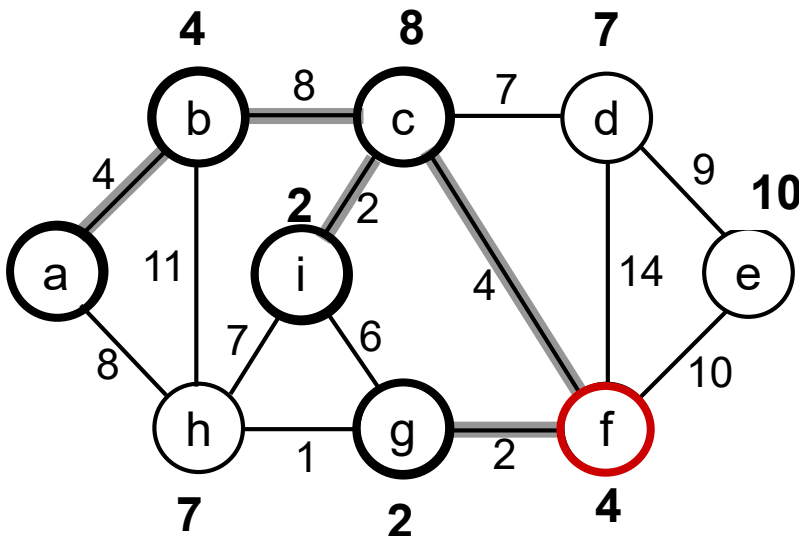
$\text{key}[h] = 7 \quad \pi[h] = i$

$\text{key}[g] = 6 \quad \pi[g] = i$

**7 ∞ 4 6 8**

$Q = \{d, e, f, g, h\} \quad V_A = \{a, b, c, i\}$

$\text{Extract-MIN}(Q) \Rightarrow f$



$\text{key}[g] = 2 \quad \pi[g] = f$

$\text{key}[d] = 7 \quad \pi[d] = c \text{ unchanged}$

$\text{key}[e] = 10 \quad \pi[e] = f$

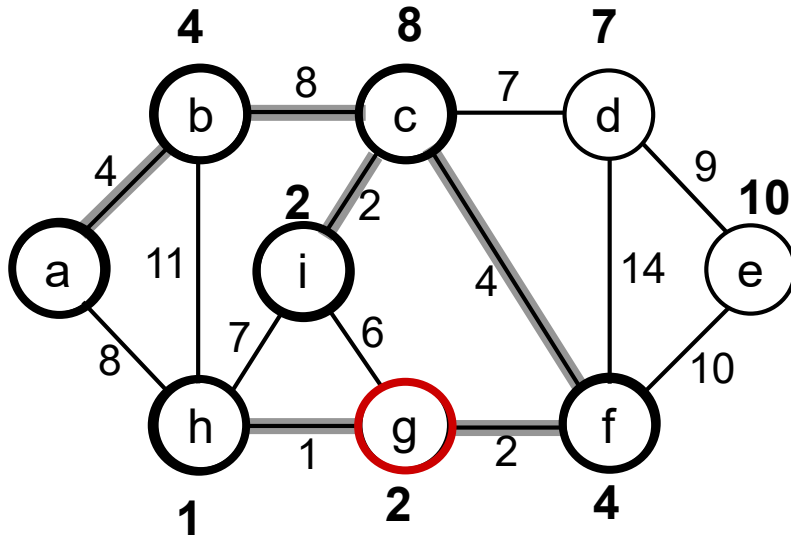
**7 10 2 8**

$Q = \{d, e, g, h\} \quad V_A = \{a, b, c, i, f\}$

$\text{Extract-MIN}(Q) \Rightarrow g$



# Example

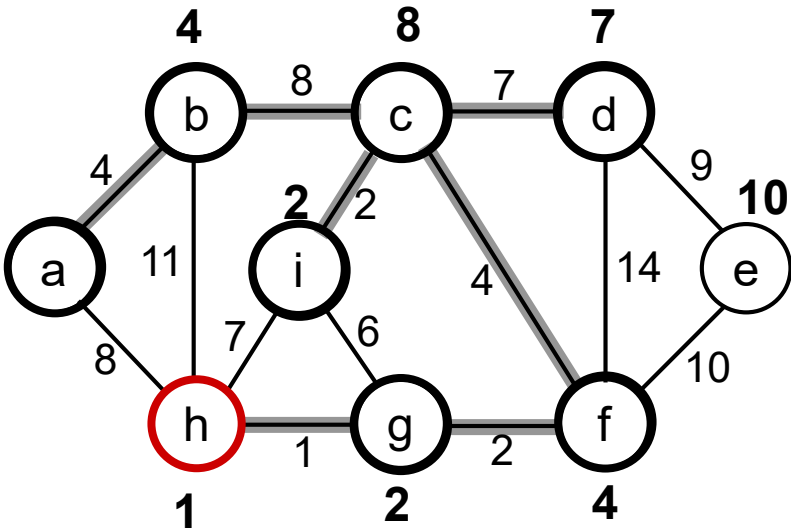


key [h] = 1     $\pi$  [h] = g

**7 10 1**

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

Extract-MIN(Q)  $\Rightarrow$  h



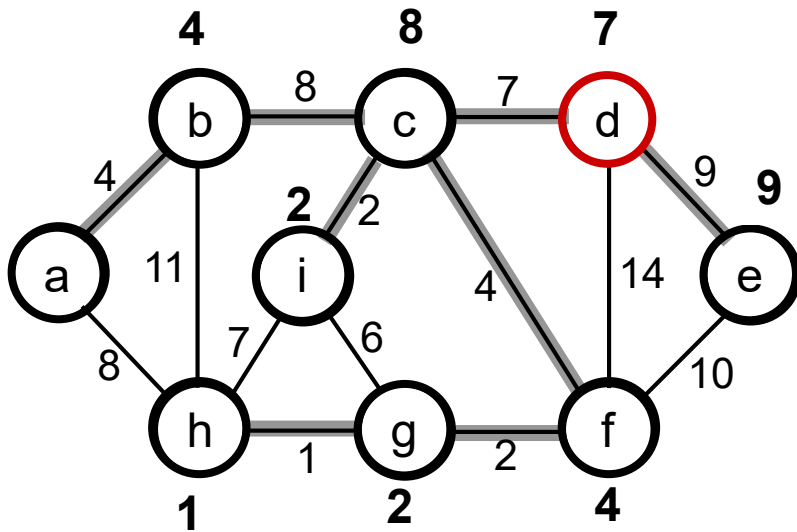
**7 10**

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

Extract-MIN(Q)  $\Rightarrow$  d



# Example



$\text{key}[e] = 9 \quad \pi[e] = d$   
**9**

$Q = \{e\} \quad V_A = \{a, b, c, i, f, g, h, d\}$

$\text{Extract-MIN}(Q) \Rightarrow e$

$Q = \emptyset \quad V_A = \{a, b, c, i, f, g, h, d, e\}$



# PRIM(V, E, w, r)

```
1.  Q ← ∅
2.  for each u ∈ V
3.      do key[u] ← ∞
4.      π[u] ← NIL
5.      INSERT(Q, u)
6.  DECREASE-KEY(Q, r, 0)
7.  while Q ≠ ∅
8.      do u ← EXTRACT-MIN(Q)
9.      for each v ∈ Adj[u]
10.         do if v ∈ Q and w(u, v) < key[v]
11.             then π[v] ← u
12.                 DECREASE-KEY(Q, v, w(u, v))
```

**Total time:**  $O(V \lg V + E \lg V) = O(E \lg V)$

$O(V)$  if Q is implemented as a min-heap

key[r] ← 0 ←  $O(\lg V)$

Executed |V| times

Min-heap operations:  $O(V \lg V)$

Takes  $O(\lg V)$

Executed  $O(E)$  times total

Constant

Takes  $O(\lg V)$

$O(E \lg V)$



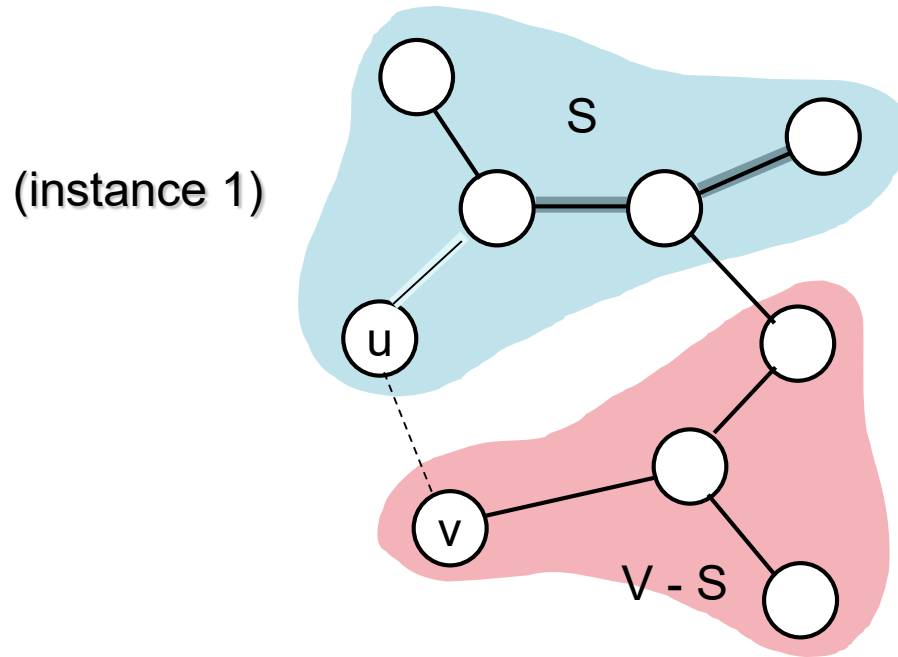
# Prim's Algorithm

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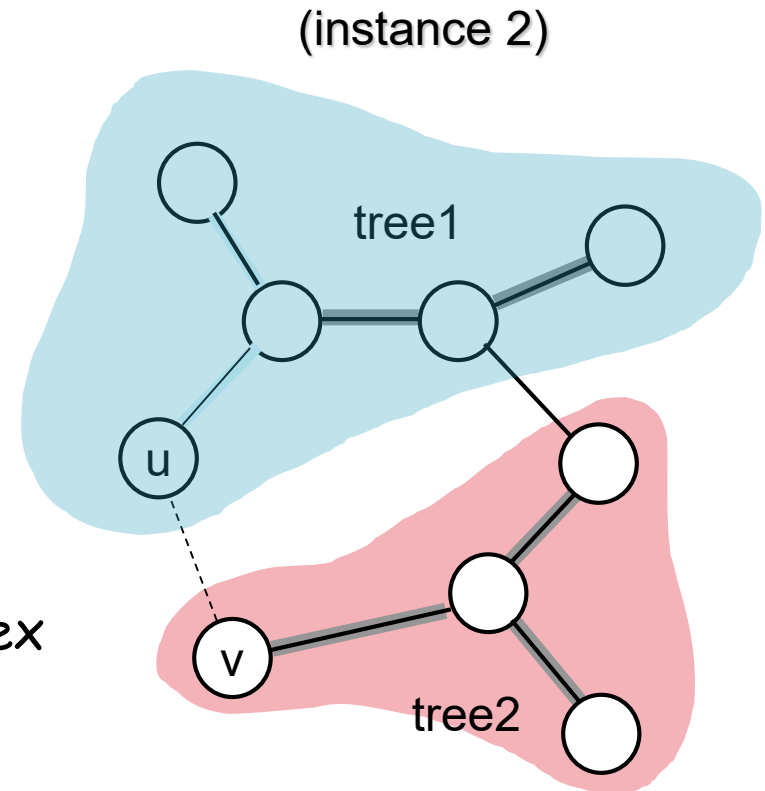
- ▶ Prim's algorithm is a **"greedy"** algorithm
  - Greedy algorithms find solutions based on a sequence of choices which are **"locally"** optimal at each step
- ▶ Nevertheless, Prim's greedy strategy produces a globally optimum solution!
  - See proof in previous slides



# A different instance of the generic approach



- ▶ A is a forest containing connected components
  - Initially, each component is a single vertex
- ▶ Any safe edge merges two of these components into one
  - Each component is a tree

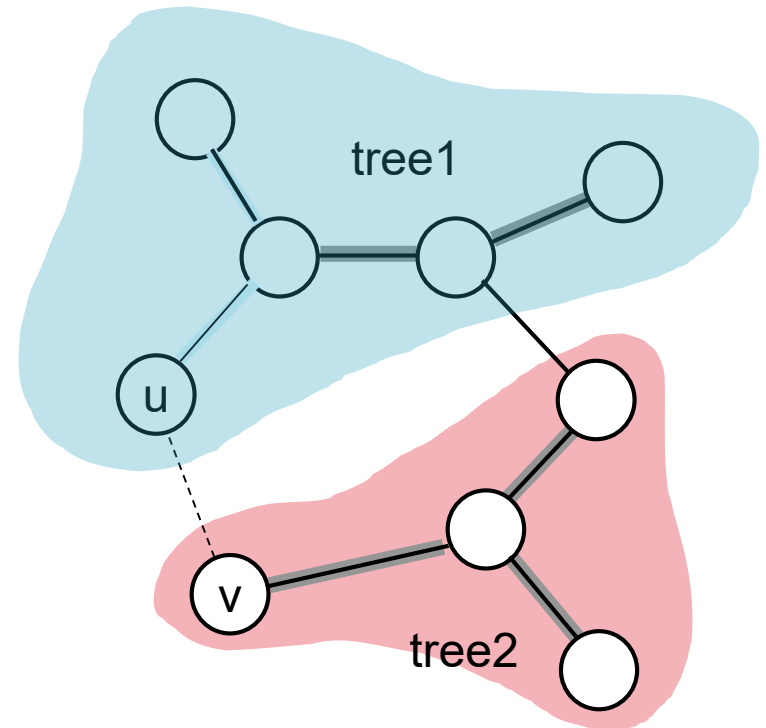






# Kruskal's Algorithm

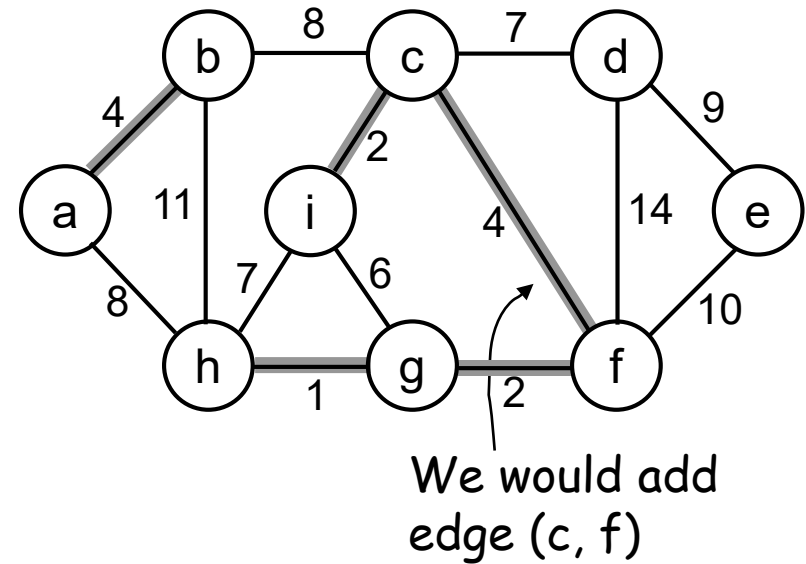
- ▶ How is it different from Prim's algorithm?
  - Prim's algorithm grows one tree all the time
  - Kruskal's algorithm grows multiple trees (i.e., a forest) at the same time
  - Trees are merged together using **safe edges**





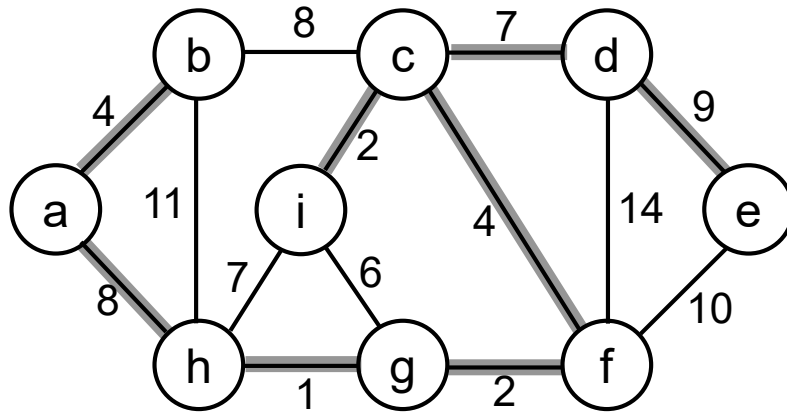
# Kruskal's Algorithm

- ▶ Start with each vertex being its own component
- ▶ Repeatedly merge two components into one by choosing the **light** edge that connects them
- ▶ Which components to consider at each iteration?
  - Scan the set of edges in monotonically increasing order by weight





# Example



1: (h, g)                      8: (a, h), (b, c)

2: (c, i), (g, f)            9: (d, e)

4: (a, b), (c, f)            10: (e, f)

6: (i, g)                      11: (b, h)

7: (c, d), (i, h)            14: (d, f)

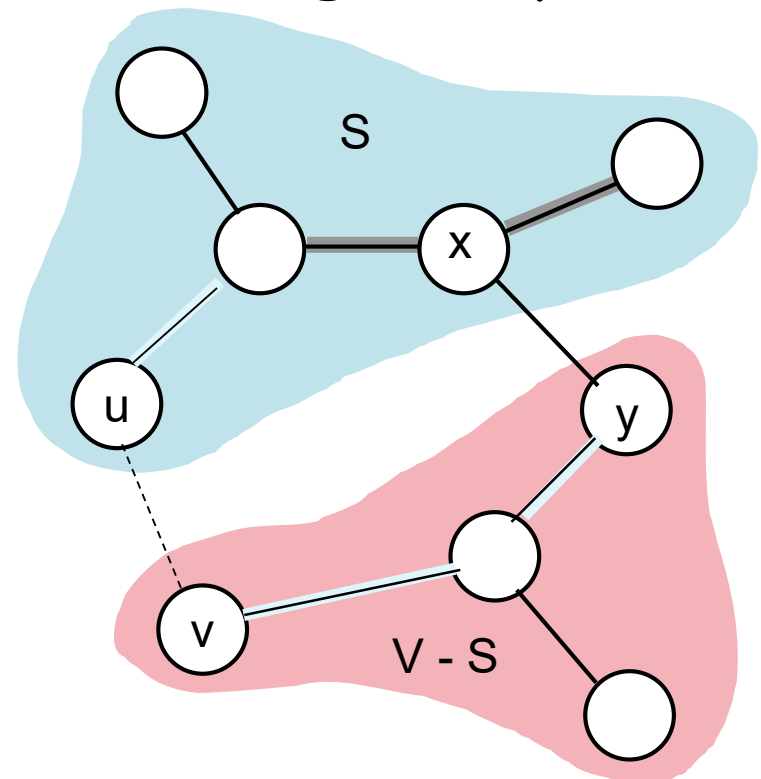
{a}, {b}, {c}, {d}, {e}, {f}, {g}, {h}, {i}

1. Add (h, g)            {g, h}, {a}, {b}, {c}, {d}, {e}, {f}, {i}
2. Add (c, i)            {g, h}, {c, i}, {a}, {b}, {d}, {e}, {f}
3. Add (g, f)            {g, h, f}, {c, i}, {a}, {b}, {d}, {e}
4. Add (a, b)            {g, h, f}, {c, i}, {a, b}, {d}, {e}
5. Add (c, f)            {g, h, f, c, i}, {a, b}, {d}, {e}
6. Ignore (i, g)        {g, h, f, c, i}, {a, b}, {d}, {e}
7. Add (c, d)            {g, h, f, c, i, d}, {a, b}, {e}
8. Ignore (i, h)        {g, h, f, c, i, d}, {a, b}, {e}
9. Add (a, h)            {g, h, f, c, i, d, a, b}, {e}
10. Ignore (b, c)        {g, h, f, c, i, d, a, b}, {e}
11. Add (d, e)            {g, h, f, c, i, d, a, b, e}
12. Ignore (e, f)        {g, h, f, c, i, d, a, b, e}
13. Ignore (b, h)        {g, h, f, c, i, d, a, b, e}
14. Ignore (d, f)        {g, h, f, c, i, d, a, b, e}



# Kruskal's Algorithm

- ▶ Kruskal's algorithm is a **"greedy"** algorithm
- ▶ Kruskal's greedy strategy produces a globally optimum solution
- ▶ Proof for generic approach applies to Kruskal's algorithm too





# Kruskal(V, E, R)

Assume vertices are 1, 2, ..., n, and  $E \supseteq V$

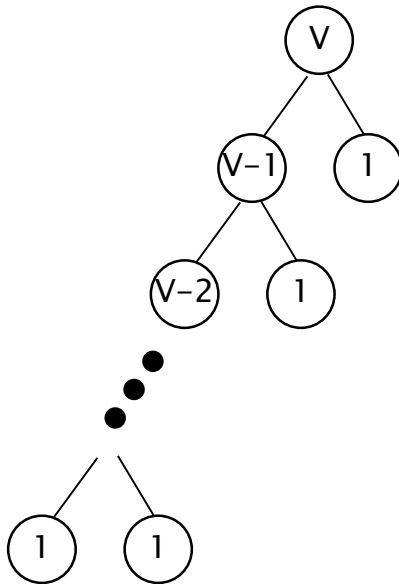
1. Sort all the edges  $\longleftarrow O(E \log E)$
  2. **for** each  $v \in V$
  3.      $\text{label}[v] = v$
  4.      $\text{setArray}[v] = \{v\}$      }  $O(V)$
  5. **for** each edge  $(u, v) \in E$
  6.      $uL = \text{label}[u], vL = \text{label}[v]$      }  $O(E)$
  7.     **if**  $uL == vL$  **continue**
  8.      $R.\text{add}((u, v))$
  9.     **if**  $\text{setArray}[uL].\text{size} \geq \text{setArray}[vL].\text{size}$
  10.         **for** each vertex  $w \in \text{setArray}[vL]$      }  $O(\text{setArray}[vL].\text{size})$
  11.              $\text{label}[w] = uL$
  12.              $\text{setArray}[uL].\text{add}(w)$
  13.     **else**     }  $O(\text{setArray}[uL].\text{size})$
  14.         **for** each vertex  $w \in \text{setArray}[uL]$
  15.              $\text{label}[w] = vL$
  16.              $\text{setArray}[vL].\text{add}(w)$
  17. Output R
- } ???



# What's the total times of changing the labels for all the vertices?

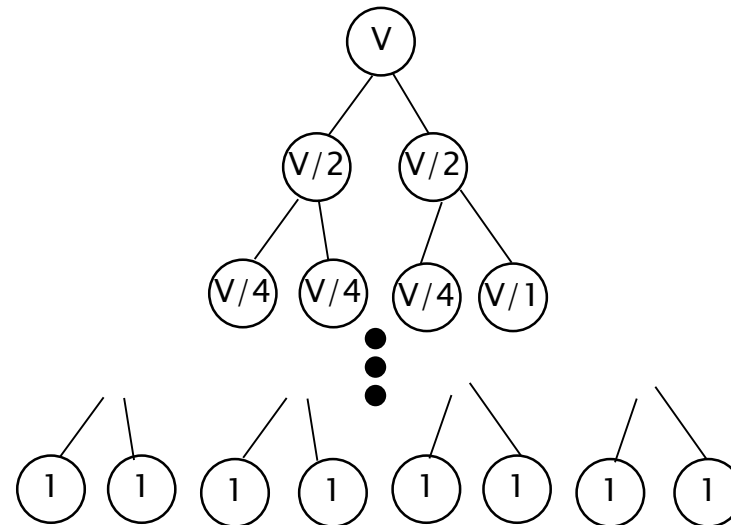
## ► Case 1

- Height:  $V-1$
- $O(V)$



## ► Case 2

- Height:  $\lg V$
- $O(V \lg V)$



Consider a specific vertex  $v$ : if  $v$ 's label is changed, then the updated set  $\text{setArray}[vL]$  will be at least twice larger than the original set  $\text{setArray}[vL]$ . Hence, the number of times for changing labels for  $v$  is at most  $O(\lg V)$ .



# Kruskal(V, E, R)

Assume vertices are 1, 2, ..., n, and  $E \supseteq V$

```
1.  Sort all the edges ←  $O(E \log E)$ 
2.  for each  $v \in V$ 
3.      label[v] = v
4.      setArray[v] = {v} }  $O(V)$ 
5.  for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$ 
6.       $u_L = \text{label}[u], v_L = \text{label}[v]$ 
7.      if  $u_L == v_L$  continue }  $O(E)$ 
8.      R.add((u, v))
9.      if setArray[uL].size  $\geq$  setArray[vL].size
10.         for each vertex  $w \in \text{setArray}[v_L]$ 
11.             label[w] = uL
12.             setArray[uL].add(w)
13.         else
14.             for each vertex  $w \in \text{setArray}[u_L]$ 
15.                 label[w] = vL
16.                 setArray[vL].add(w)
17.  Output R
```

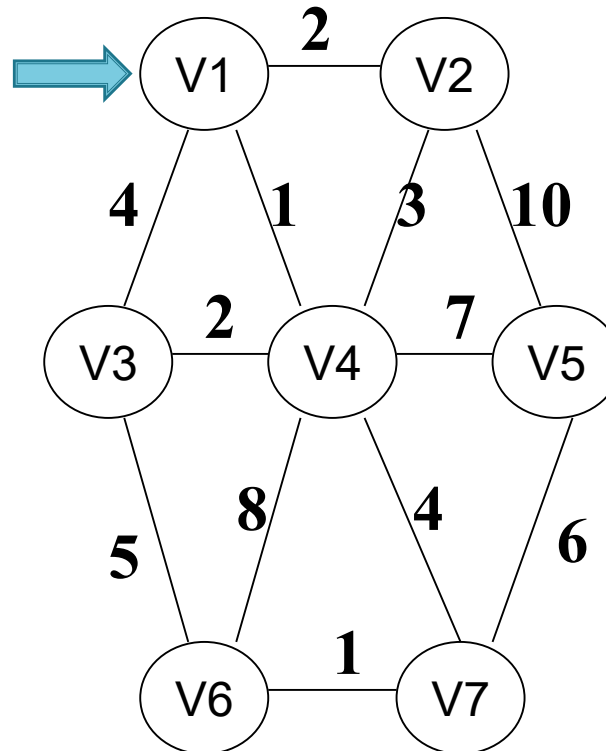
$O(E \log E)$

$O(V \log V)$



# Exercise 1: Find an MST

- ▶ Use Prim's algorithm
- ▶ Use Kruskal's algorithm







## Exercise 2

---

Compare Prim's algorithm with and Kruskal's algorithm assuming:

(a) sparse graphs:

In this case,  $E = O(V)$

Kruskal:  $O(E \lg E) = O(V \lg V)$

Prim:  $O(E \lg V) = O(V \lg V)$

(b) dense graphs:

In this case,  $E = O(V^2)$

Kruskal:  $O(E \lg E) = O(V^2 \lg V^2) = O(2V^2 \lg V) = O(V^2 \lg V)$

Prim:  $O(E \lg V) = O(V^2 \lg V)$



## Exercise 3

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- ▶ Suppose that some of the weights in a connected graph  $G$  are negative. Will Prim's algorithm still work? What about Kruskal's algorithm? Justify your answers.
  - Yes, both algorithms will work with negative weights
  - Review the proof of the generic approach; there is no assumption in the proof about the weights being positive



## Exercise 4

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- ▶ Analyze Prim's algorithm assuming:
  - (a) an adjacency-list representation of  $G$
  - (b) an adjacency-matrix representation of  $G$



# PRIM(V, E, w, r)

```

1.  Q ← ∅
2.  for each u ∈ V
3.      do key[u] ← ∞
4.      π[u] ← NIL
5.      INSERT(Q, u)
6.  DECREASE-KEY(Q, r, 0)
7.  while Q ≠ ∅
8.      do u ← EXTRACT-MIN(Q)
9.      for each v ∈ Adj[u]
10.         do if v ∈ Q and w(u, v) < key[v]
11.            then π[v] ← u
12.                DECREASE-KEY(Q, v, w(u, v))

```

Total time:  $O(V \lg V + E \lg V) = O(E \lg V)$   
 $O(V)$  if Q is implemented as a min-heap

▶ key[r] ← 0 ←  $O(\lg V)$   
 Executed |V| times  
 Min-heap operations:  $O(V \lg V)$

Executed  $O(E)$  times  
 Constant  
 Takes  $O(\lg V)$   
 $O(E \lg V)$



# PRIM(V, E, w, r)

```

1.  Q ← ∅
2.  for each u ∈ V
3.      do key[u] ← ∞
4.          π[u] ← NIL
5.          INSERT(Q, u)
6.  DECREASE-KEY(Q, r, 0)
7.  while Q ≠ ∅
8.      do u ← EXTRACT-MIN(Q)
9.          for (j=0; j<|V|; j++)
10.             if (A[u][j]=1)
11.                 if v ∈ Q and w(u, v) < key[v]
12.                     then π[v] ← u
13.                     DECREASE-KEY(Q, v, w(u, v))

```

**Total time:**  $O(V \lg V + E \lg V + V^2) = O(E \lg V + V^2)$

$O(V)$  if Q is implemented as a min-heap

▶ key[r] ← 0 ←  $O(\lg V)$

Executed |V| times

Takes  $O(\lg V)$

Executed  $O(V^2)$  times total

Constant

Takes  $O(\lg V)$

$O(E \lg V)$

Min-heap operations:  $O(V \lg V)$



## Exercise 5

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- ▶ Find an algorithm for the “maximum” spanning tree. That is, given an undirected weighted graph  $G$ , find a spanning tree of  $G$  of maximum cost. Prove the correctness of your algorithm.
  - Consider choosing the “heaviest” edge (i.e., the edge associated with the largest weight) in a cut. The generic proof can be modified easily to show that this approach will work.
  - Alternatively, multiply the weights by  $-1$  and apply either Prim’s or Kruskal’s algorithms without any modification at all!



# Prim vs. Kruskal

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- ▶ One begins with an edge while the other starts with a node
- ▶ One selects the next edge in order while the other does it from one node to another node
- ▶ One works on both connected and disconnected graphs while the other is mainly for connected graph
- ▶ One is good for sparse graph and the other is for dense graph
  - Depending on the implementation of data structure



# Recommended Reading

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- ▶ Reading materials
  - Textbook Chapter 23
- ▶ Next lecture
  - Shortest paths, Chapters 24&25