

Lecture 16:

Minimum Spanning Trees

Kruskal's Algorithm

Tue, March 12<sup>th</sup>

# Outline For Today

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1. Graph Theory Part 1: Trees & Properties of Trees
2. Minimum Spanning Trees
3. Kruskal's Algorithm
4. Graph Theory Part 2: Cuts & Properties of Cuts
5. Correctness Proof of Kruskal's Algorithm

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# Tree

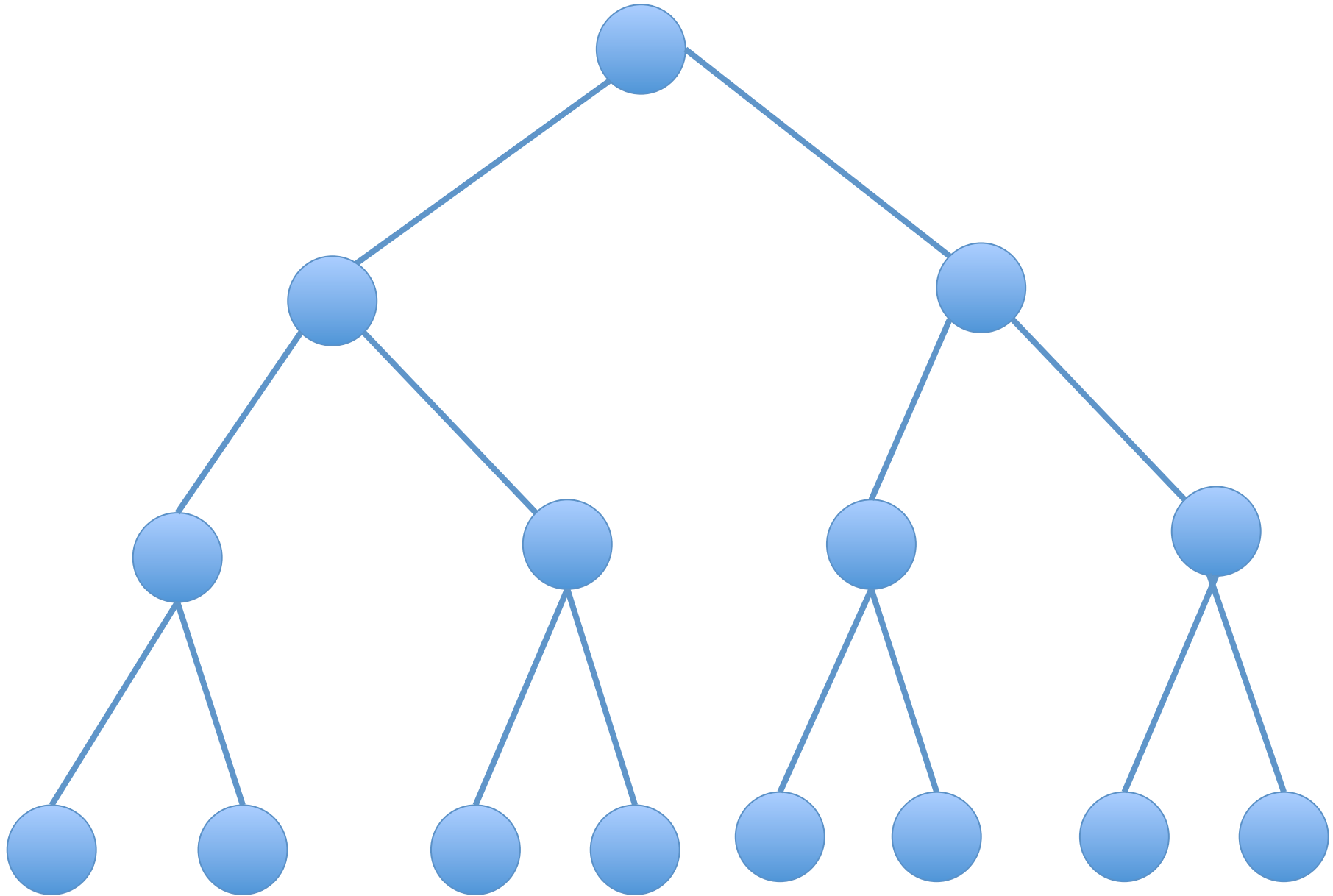
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◆ Definition: An undirected graph  $G(V, E)$  is a tree iff

1.  $G$  is connected
2.  $G$  is acyclic

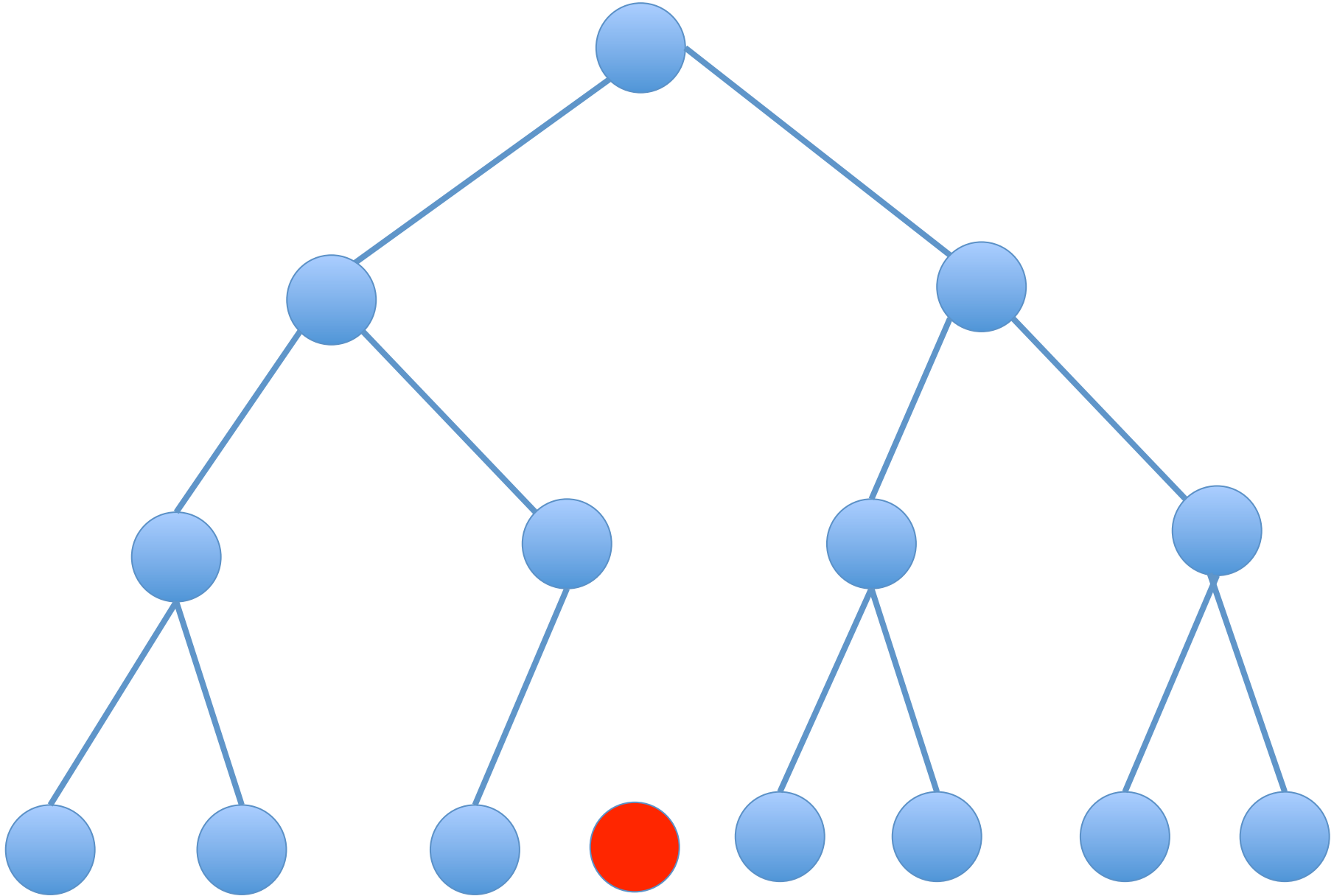
# Example: Tree (1)

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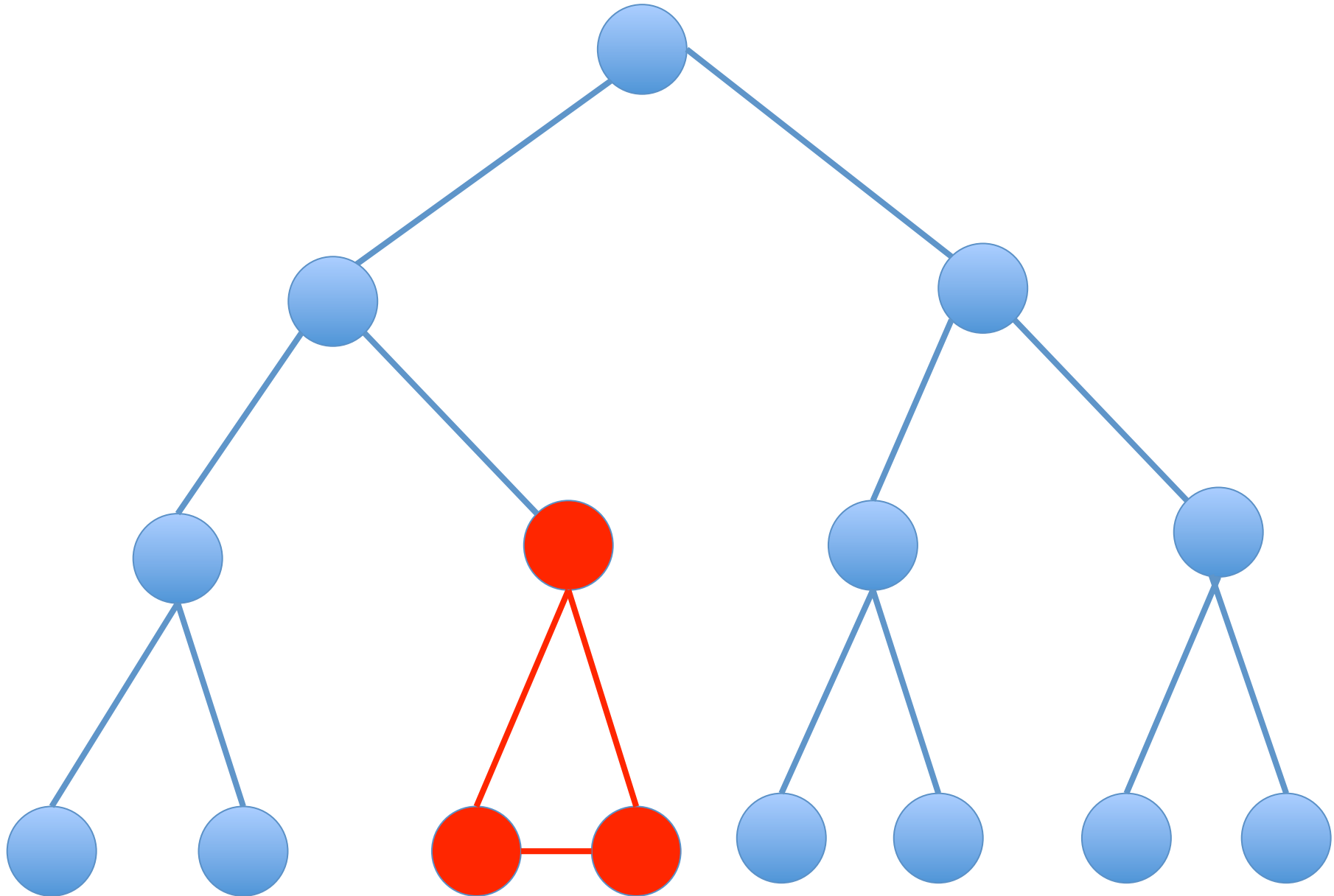
# Example: Not a Tree (1)

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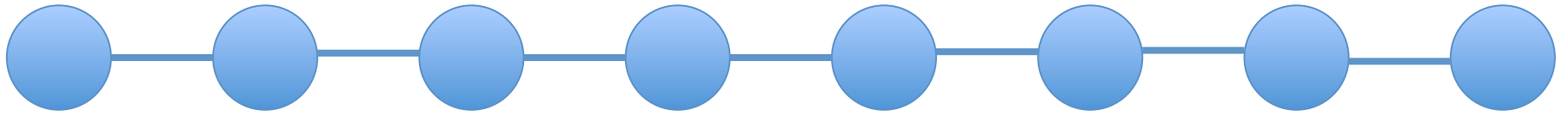
# Example: Not a Tree (2)

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# Example: Tree (2)

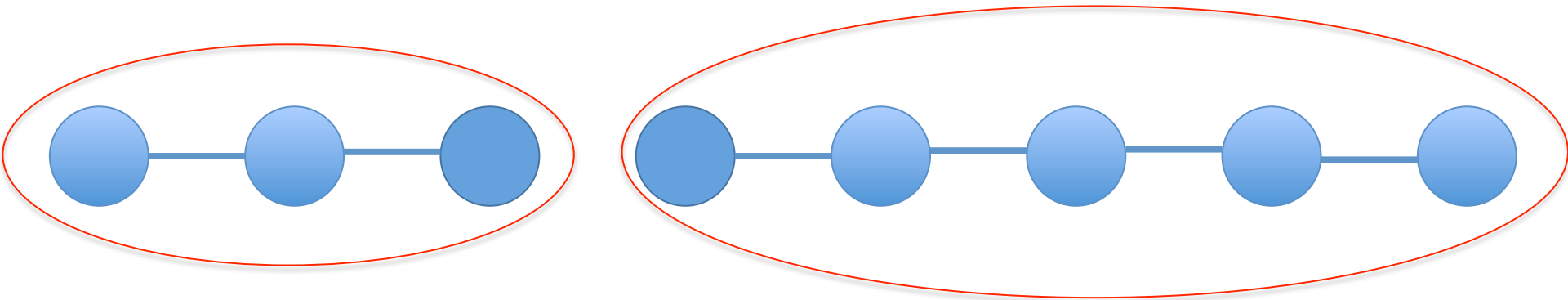
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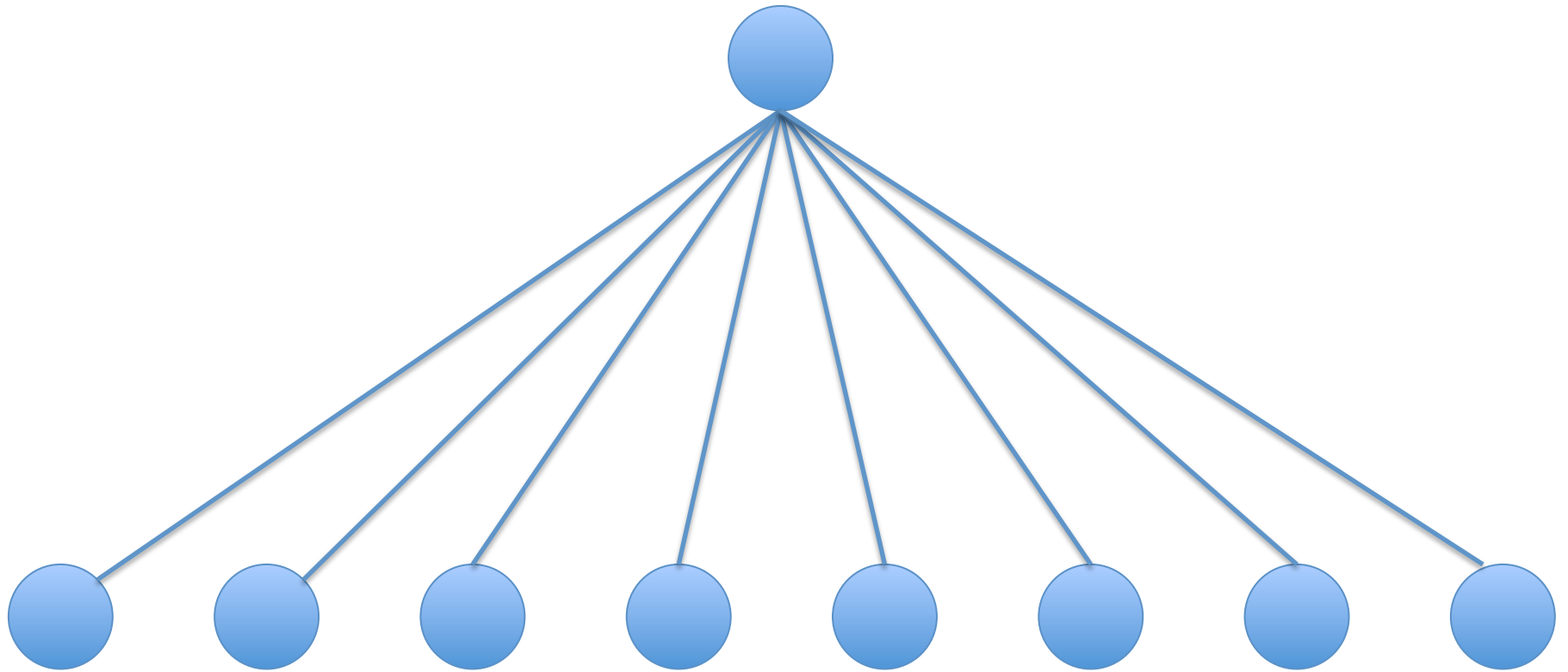
# Example: Not a Tree (3)

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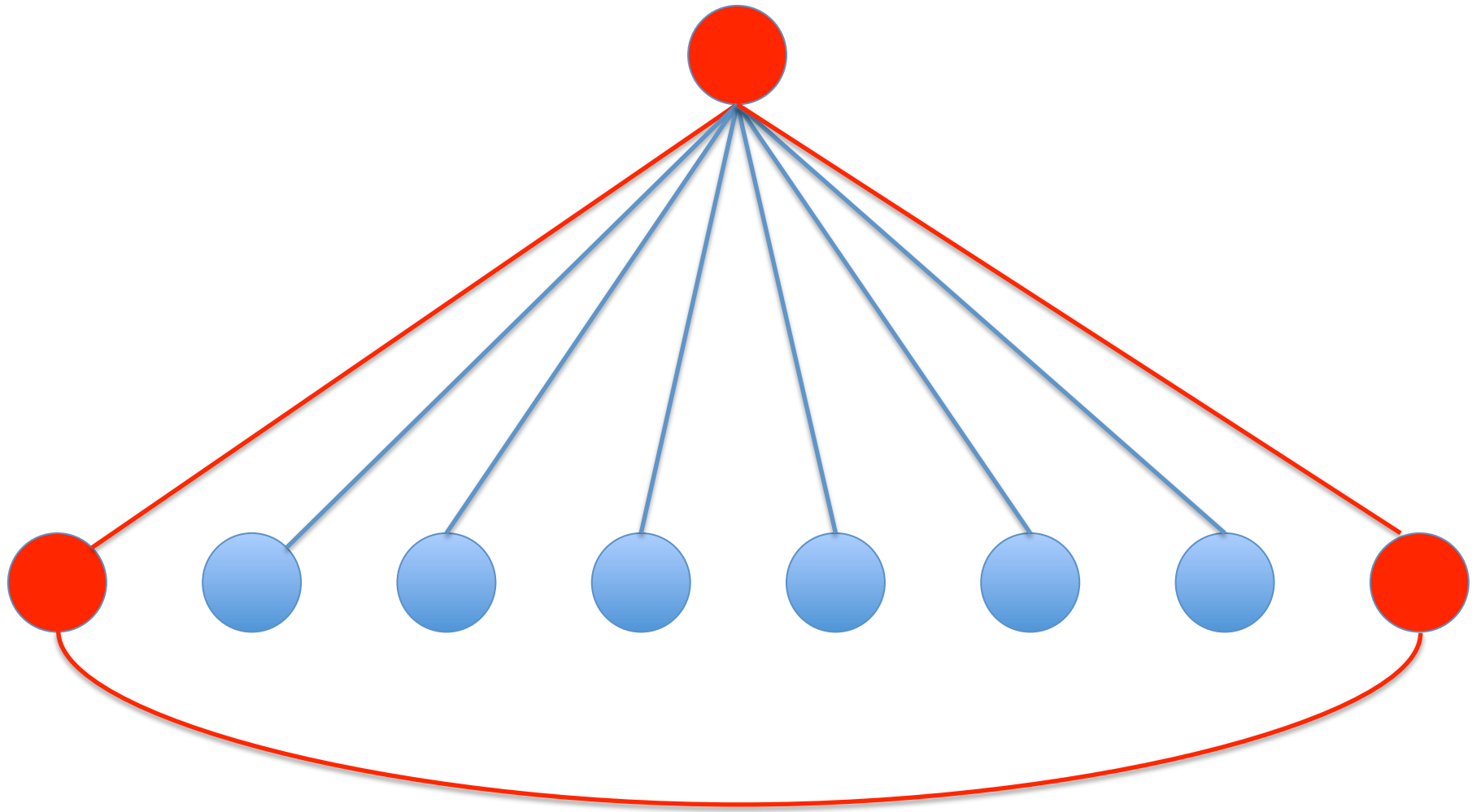


# Example: Tree (3)

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# Example: Not a Tree (3)

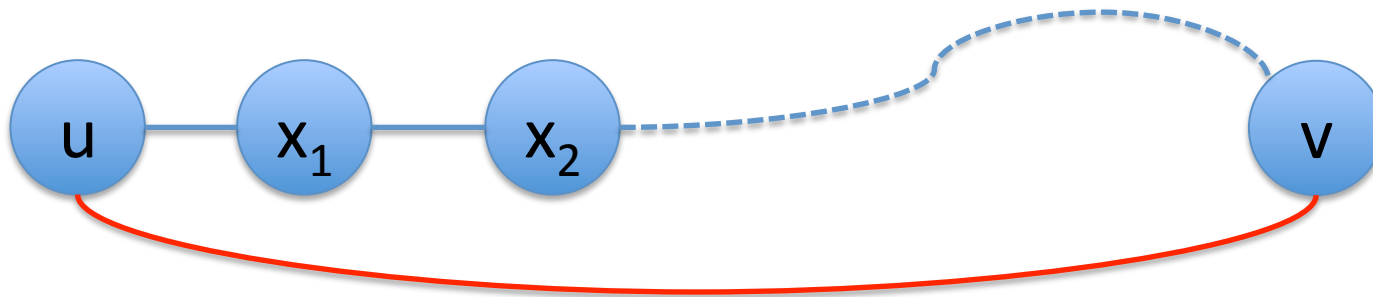


# Breaking a Tree Lemma

*Removing any edge  $(u, v)$  from a tree  $T$   
disconnects  $T$ !*

*Why?*

*No  $u \rightsquigarrow v$  path can exist! Assume it did...*



*Contradicts acyclicity of  $T$ !*

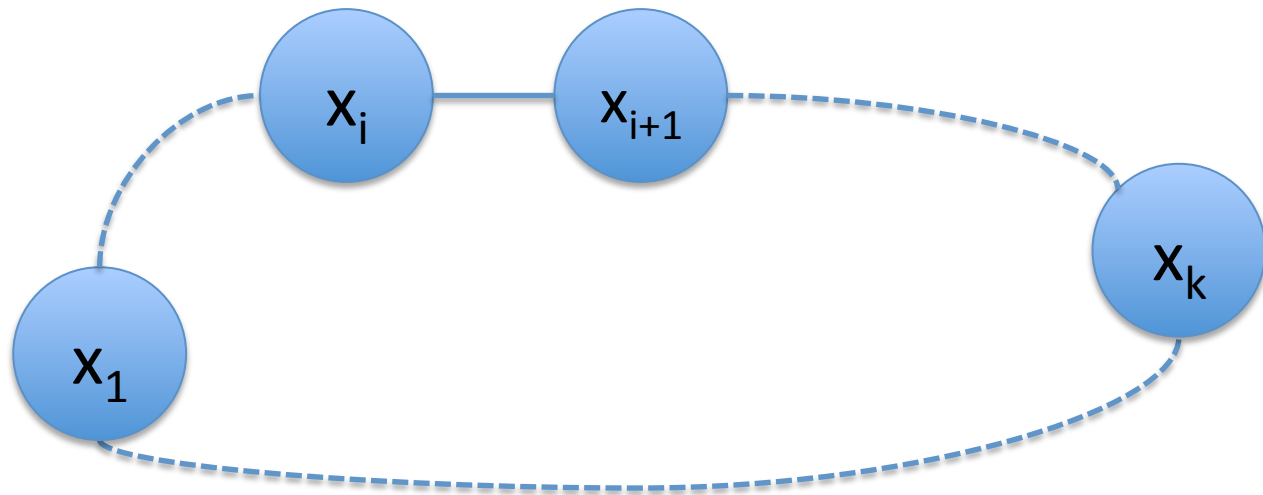
# Reverse is Also True

Let  $G$  be a connected graph and assume removing any edge from  $G$  disconnects it.

*Then  $G$  is acyclic and hence a tree.*

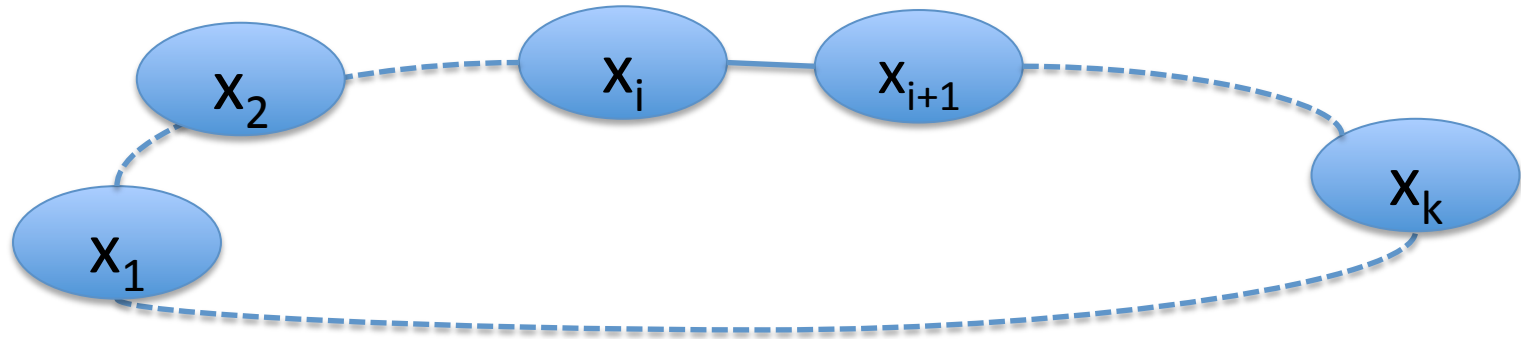
*Why?*

*Claim:  $G$  cannot contain a cycle  $C$*

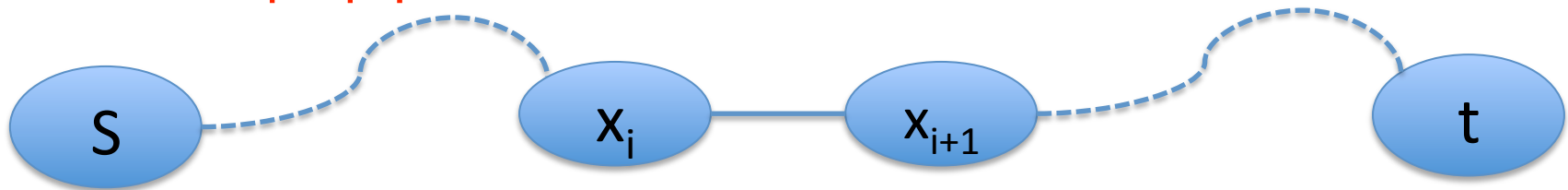


# Proof That G Cannot Contain a Cycle C

*Breaking a Cycle Lemma: Removing any edge from a cycle cannot disconnect a connected graph!*

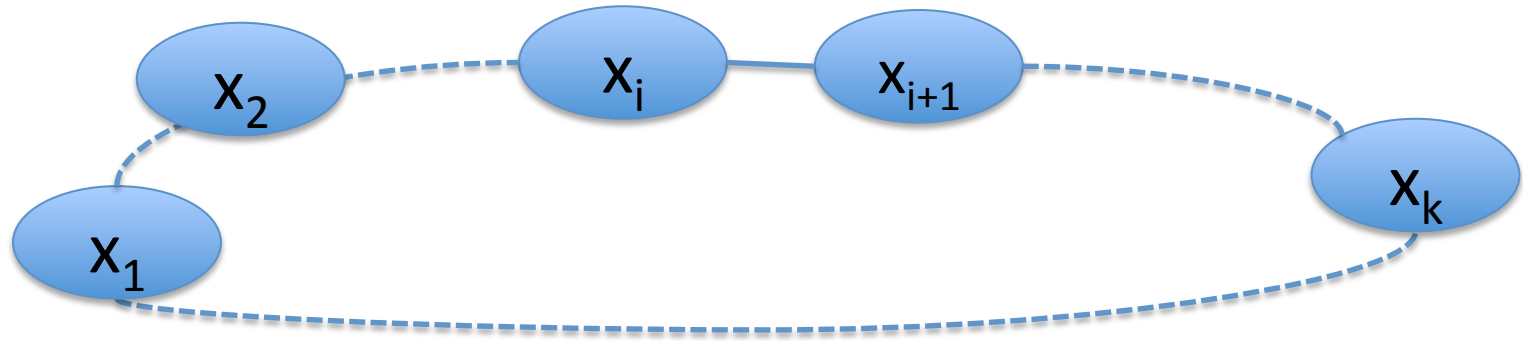


Take  $(x_i, x_{i+1})$ , and any path  $P$  that was using it



# Proof That G Cannot Contain a Cycle C

*Breaking a Cycle Lemma: Removing any edge from a cycle cannot disconnect a connected graph!*

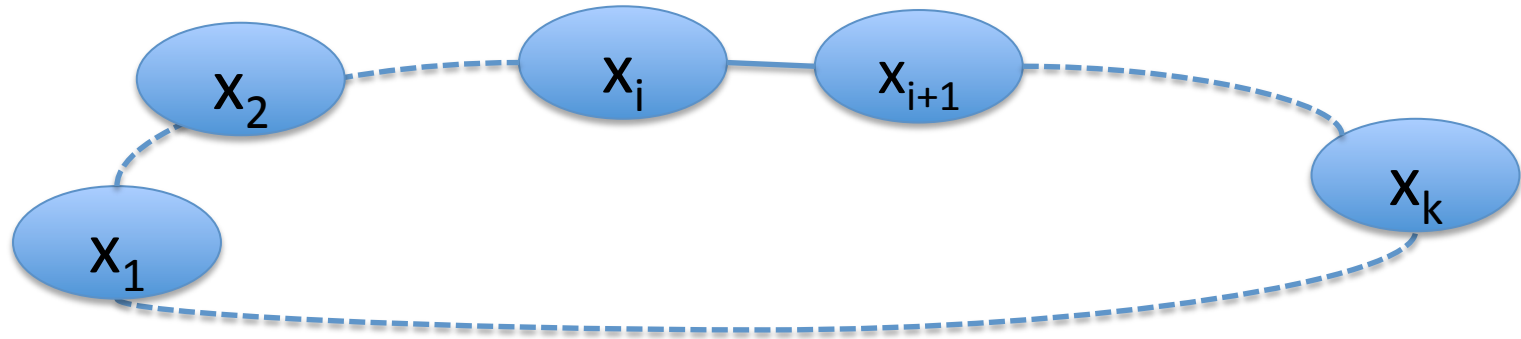


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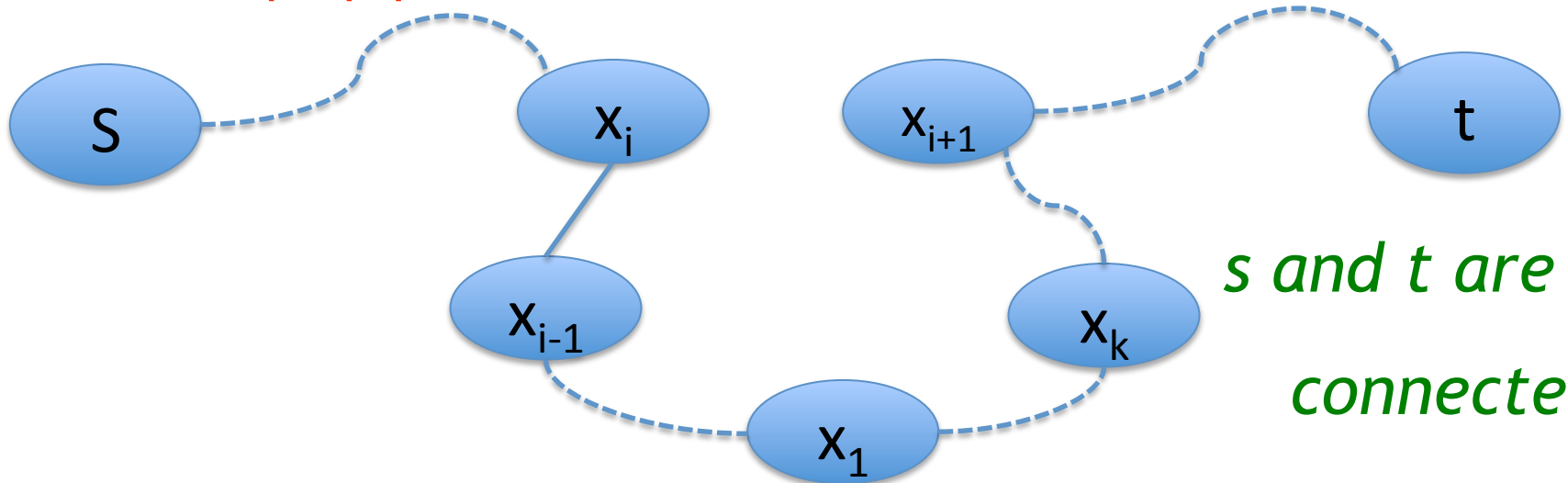


# Proof That G Cannot Contain a Cycle C

*Breaking a Cycle Lemma: Removing any edge from a cycle cannot disconnect a connected graph!*



Take  $(x_i, x_{i+1})$ , and any path  $P$  that was using it

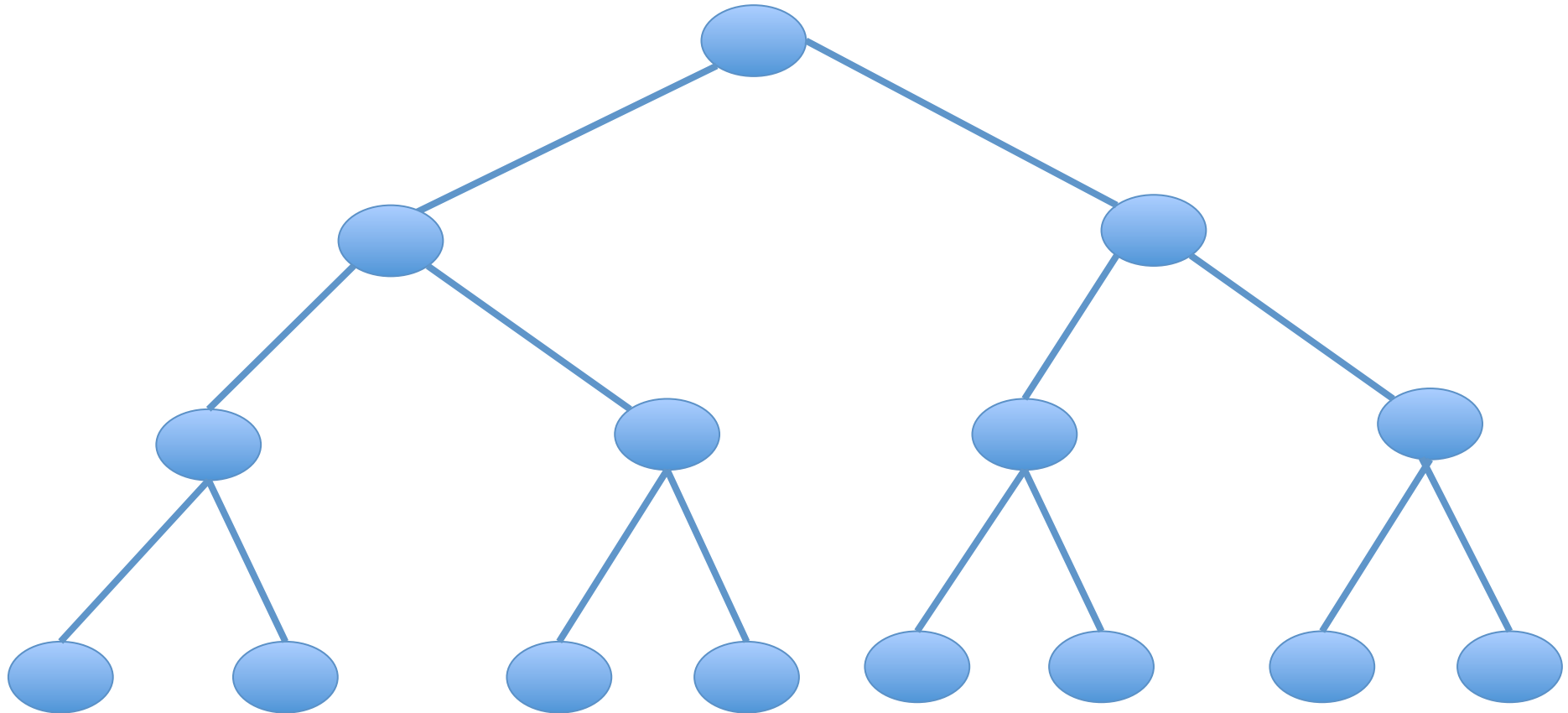


*s and t are still connected!*



# Cycle Creation Lemma

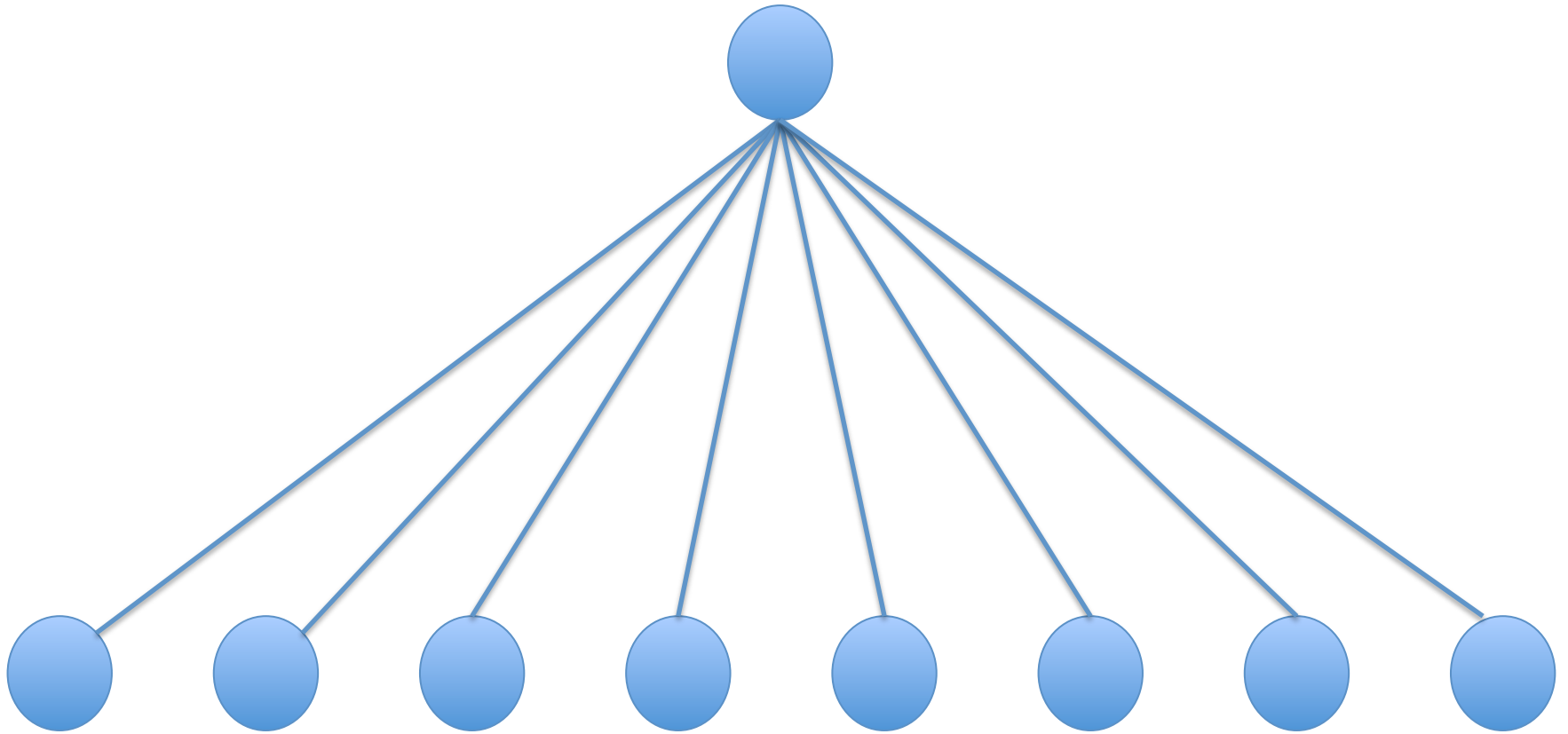
*Adding any edge  $(u, v)$  to a tree  $T$  creates  
a cycle!*



# Cycle Creation Lemma

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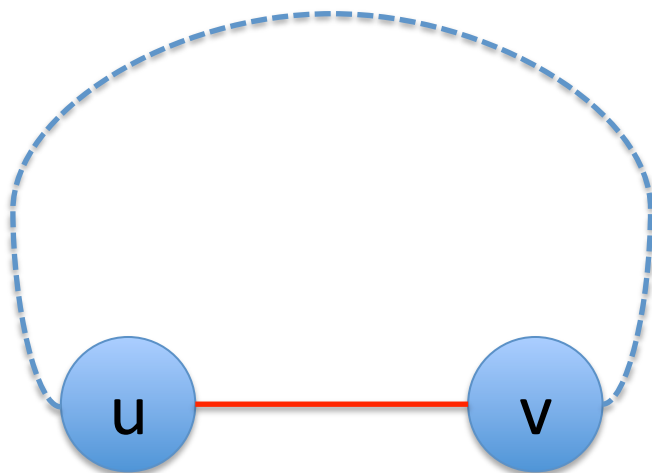
*Adding any edge  $(u, v)$  to a tree  $T$  creates  
a cycle!*



# Cycle Creation Lemma

*Adding any edge  $(u, v)$  to a tree  $T$  creates  
a cycle!*

Proof: B/c  $T$  is connected,  $\exists$  path  $P$  from  $u$  to  $v$ .



adding  $(u, v)$  closes the cycle.

# Theorems

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*Do all by induction as exercise.*

*1) Every tree of  $n$  vertices contains exactly  $n-1$  edges!*

*2) Every  $n-1$  acyclic set of edges among  $n$  nodes is a tree  $\Rightarrow$  i.e., they connect  $V$ !*

*3) Every  $n-1$  set of edges that connects  $n$  vertices is a tree  $\Rightarrow$  i.e., they are acyclic!*

# Outline For Today

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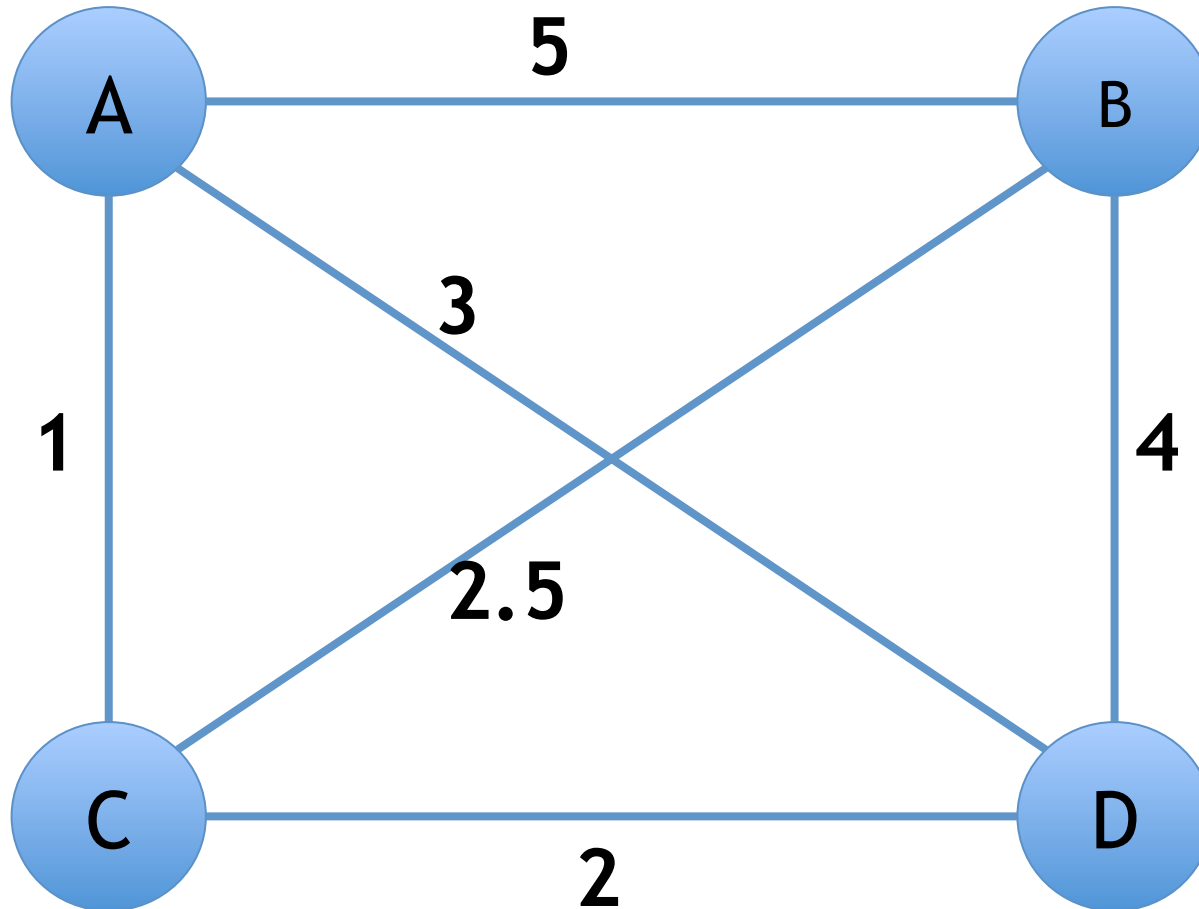
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# Minimum Spanning Tree

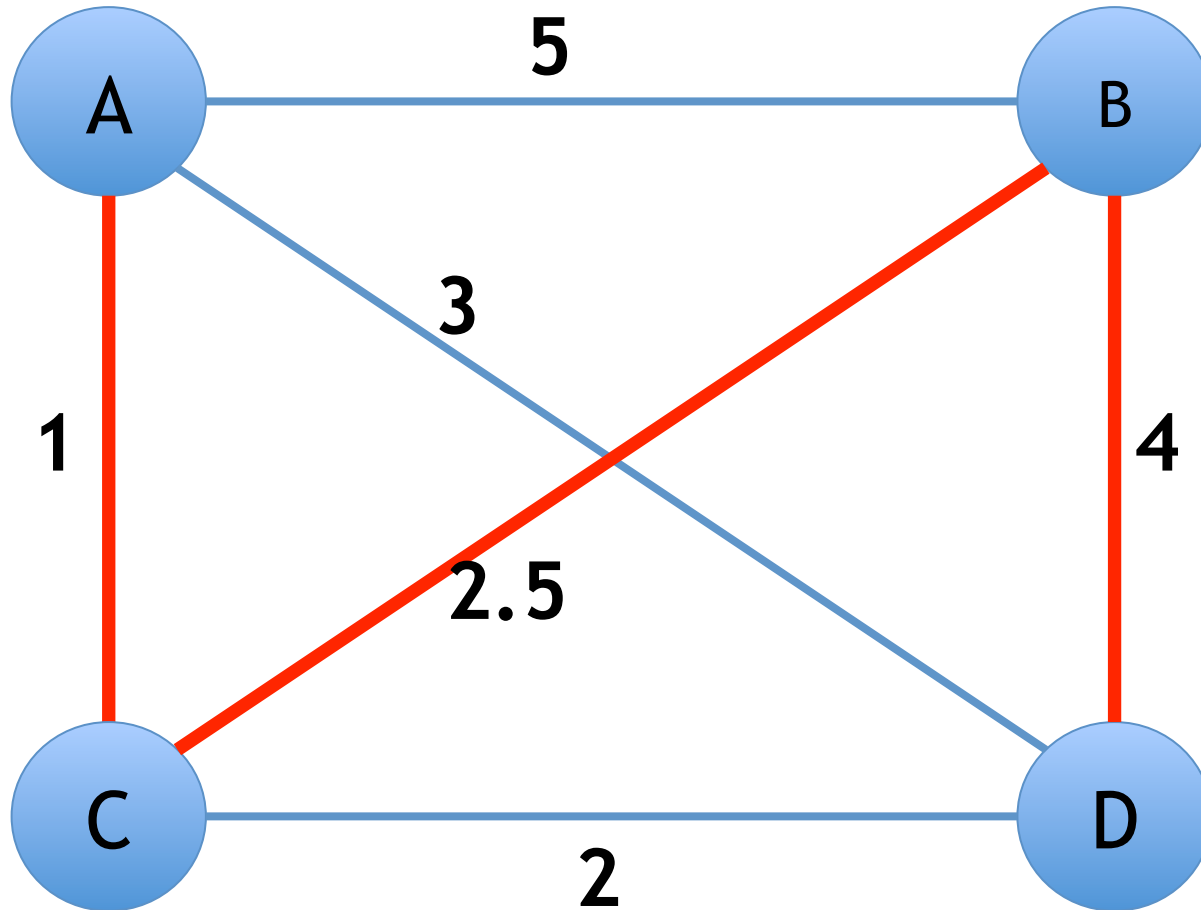
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- ◆ Input: undirected & connected  $G(V, E)$  and arbitrary edge weights
- ◆ Output: A tree  $T^*$  of  $V$  such that  $w(T^*) \leq$  any other  $T$  of  $V$ 
  - $w(T)$  = sum of the weights of all  $n-1$  edges in  $T$
  - “spanning” tree of  $G(V, E)$  means  $T^*$  has to connect all of  $V$
- ◆ Assumptions:
  1.  $G$  is connected (minor)
  2. Edge weights are distinct (all of our algorithms work w/o this assumption)

# Spanning Tree Example



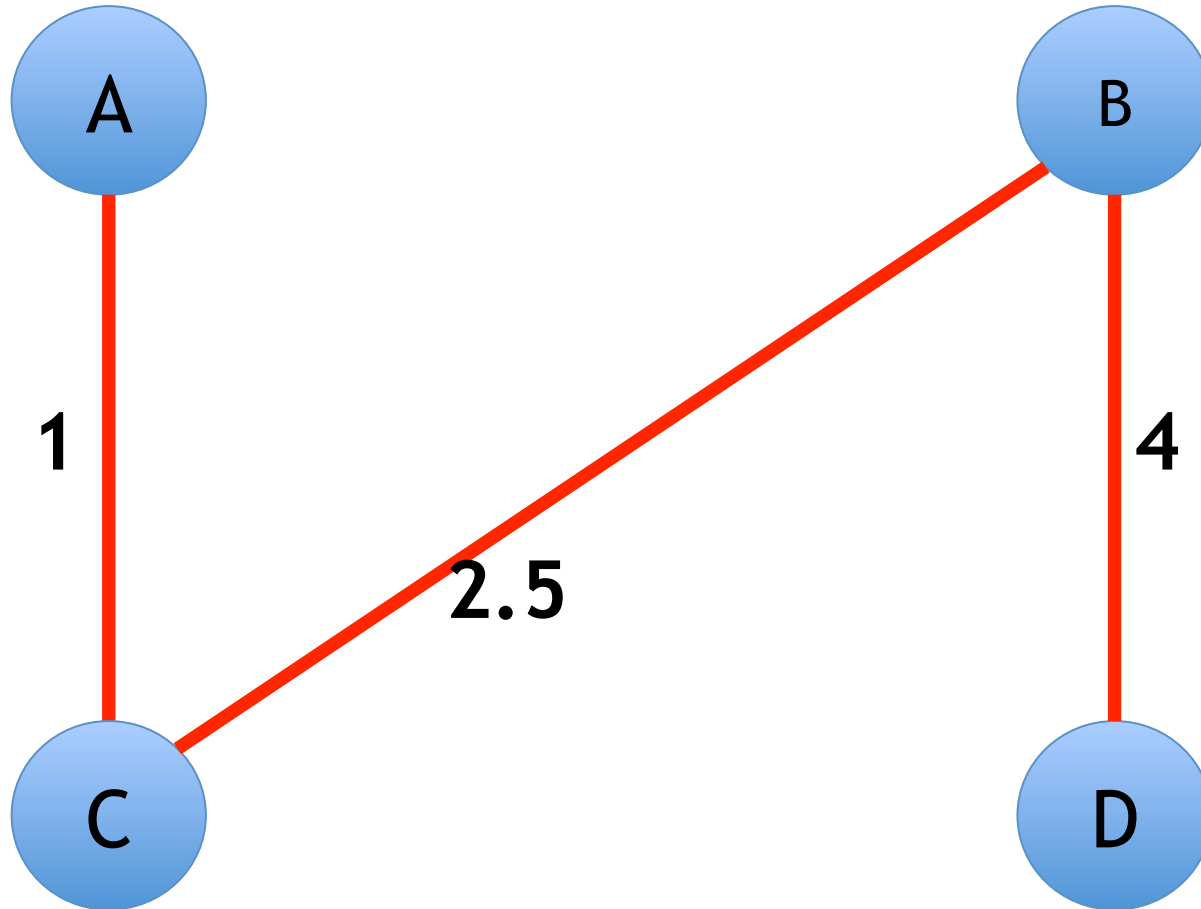
# Spanning Tree Example





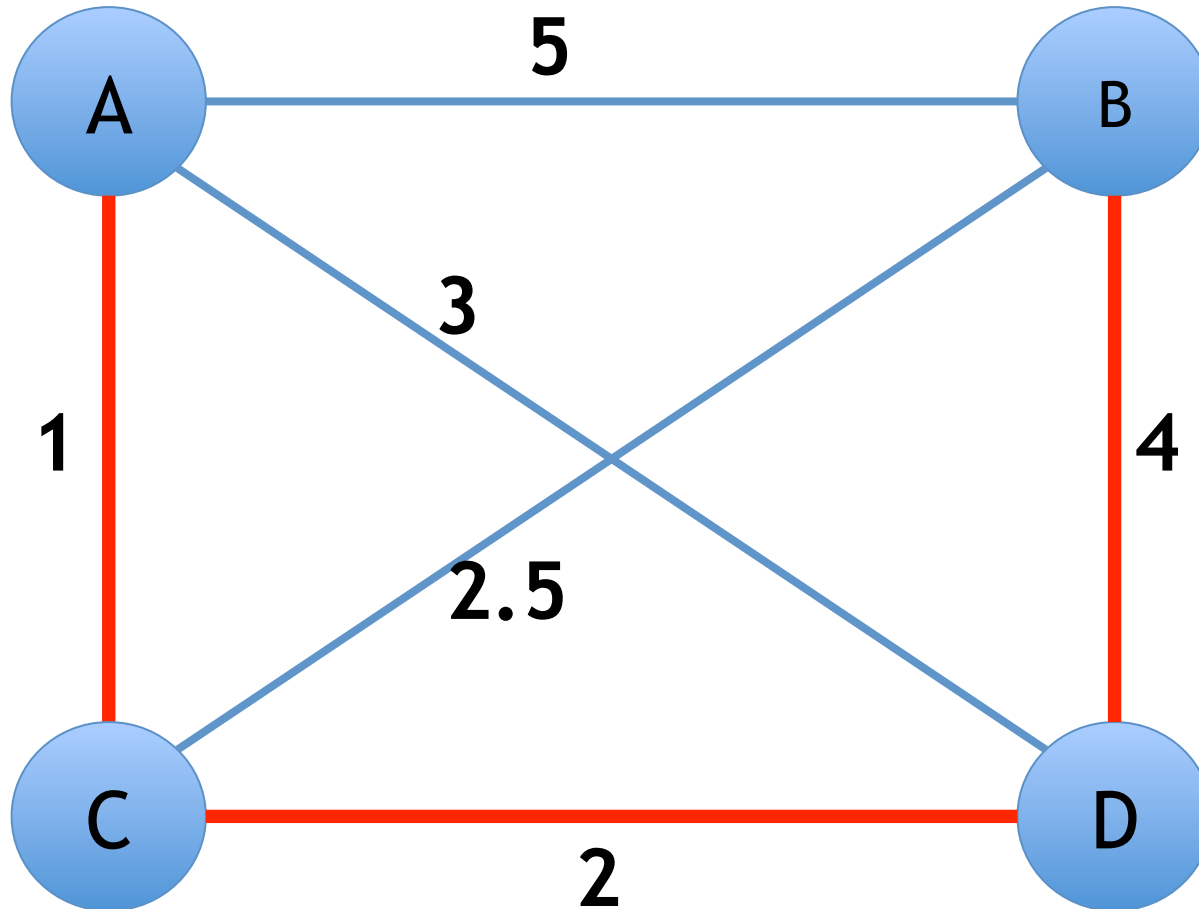
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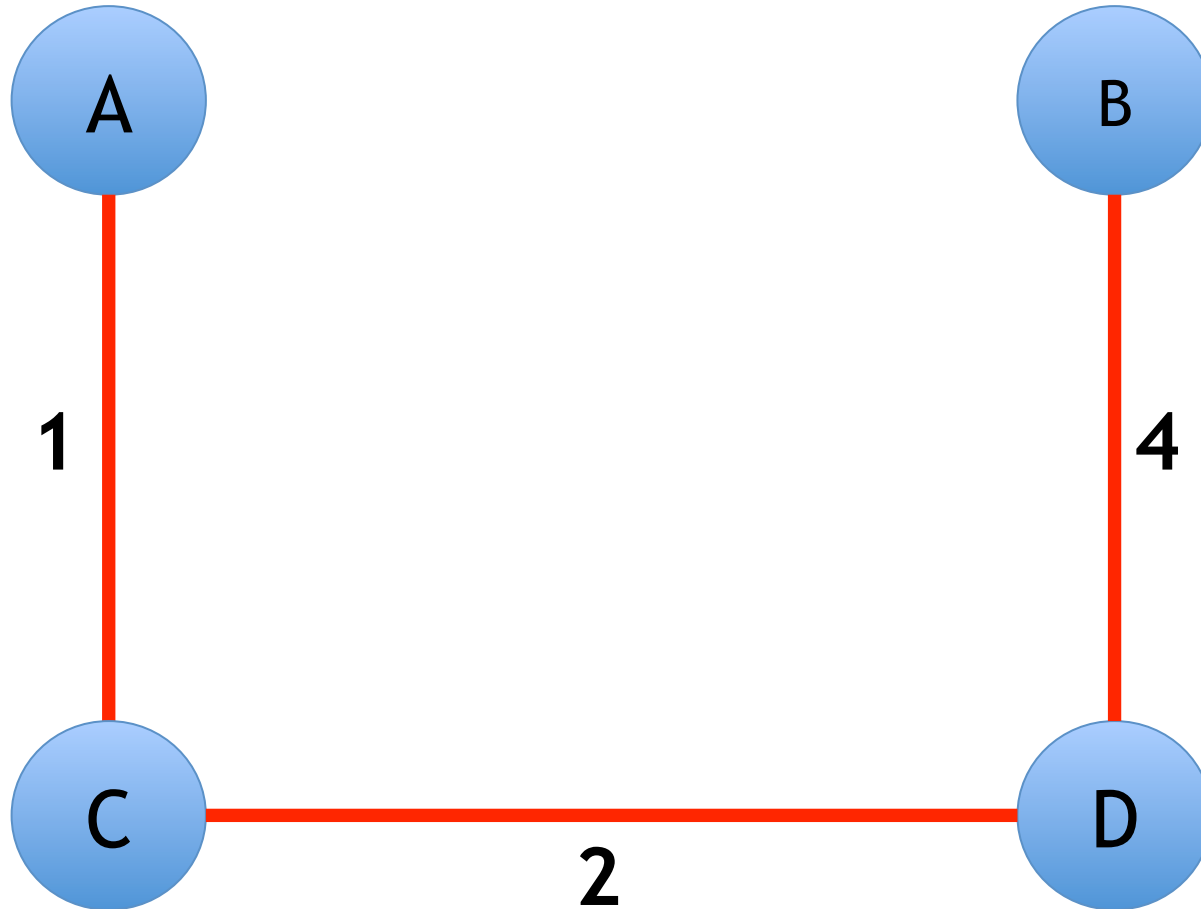


$$W((A,C), (C,B), (B,D)) = 1 + 2.5 + 4 = 7.5$$

# Spanning Tree Example

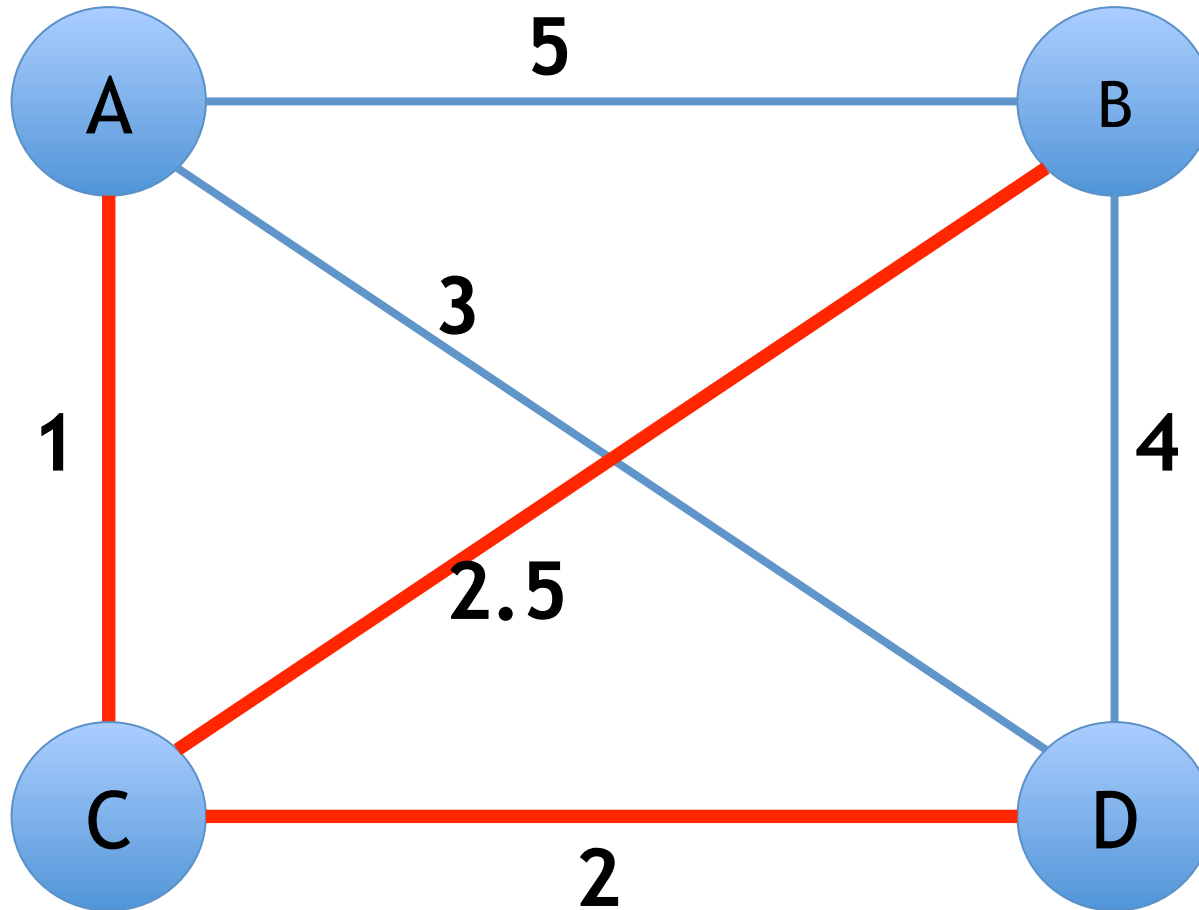


# Spanning Tree Example

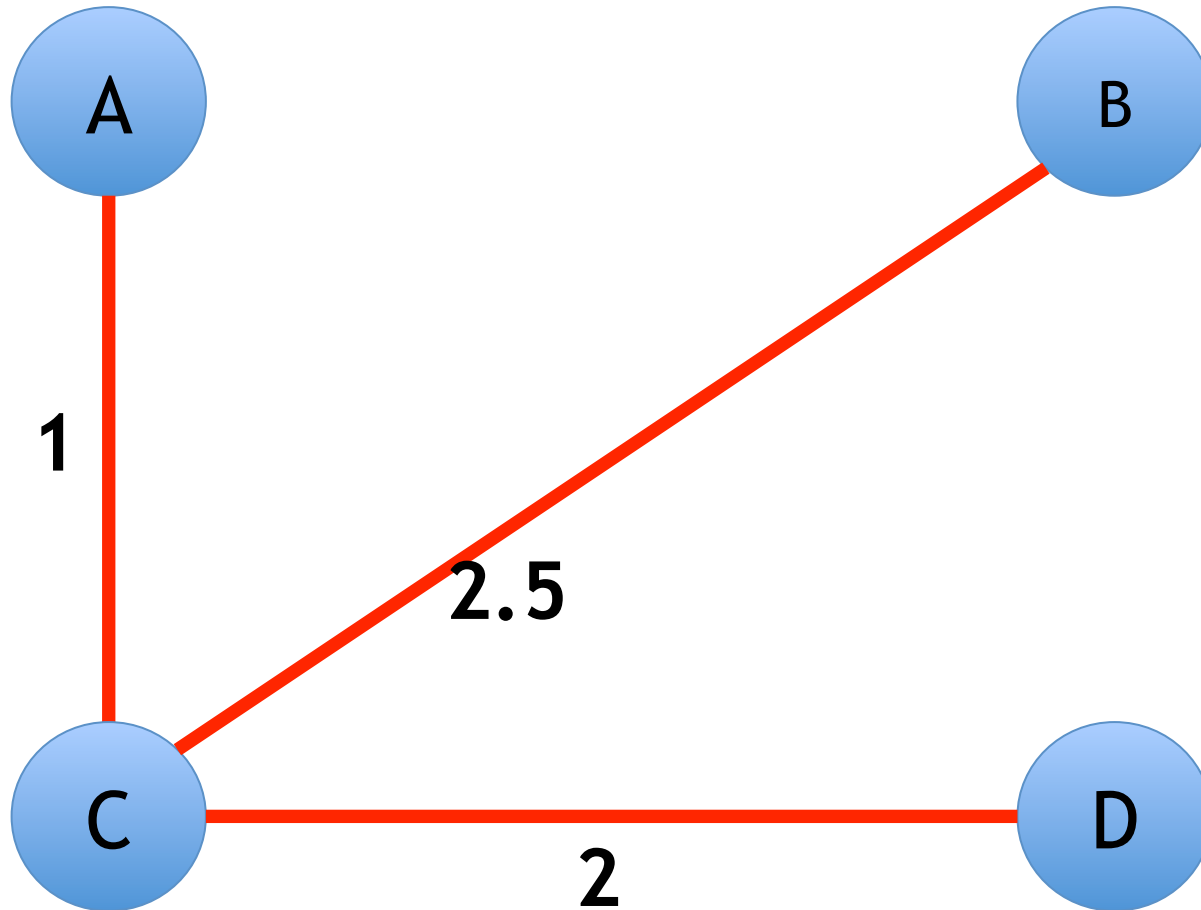


$$W((A,C), (C,D), (B,D)) = 1 + 2 + 4 = 7$$

# Spanning Tree Example



# Spanning Tree Example



$$W((A,C), (C,D), (C,B)) = 1 + 2 + 2.5 = 5.5$$

# MST Applications

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## ◆ Designing all kinds of networks:

- datacenter networks
- road networks
- phone networks

## ◆ Circuit Design

## ◆ Clustering

## ◆ Image Segmentation

...

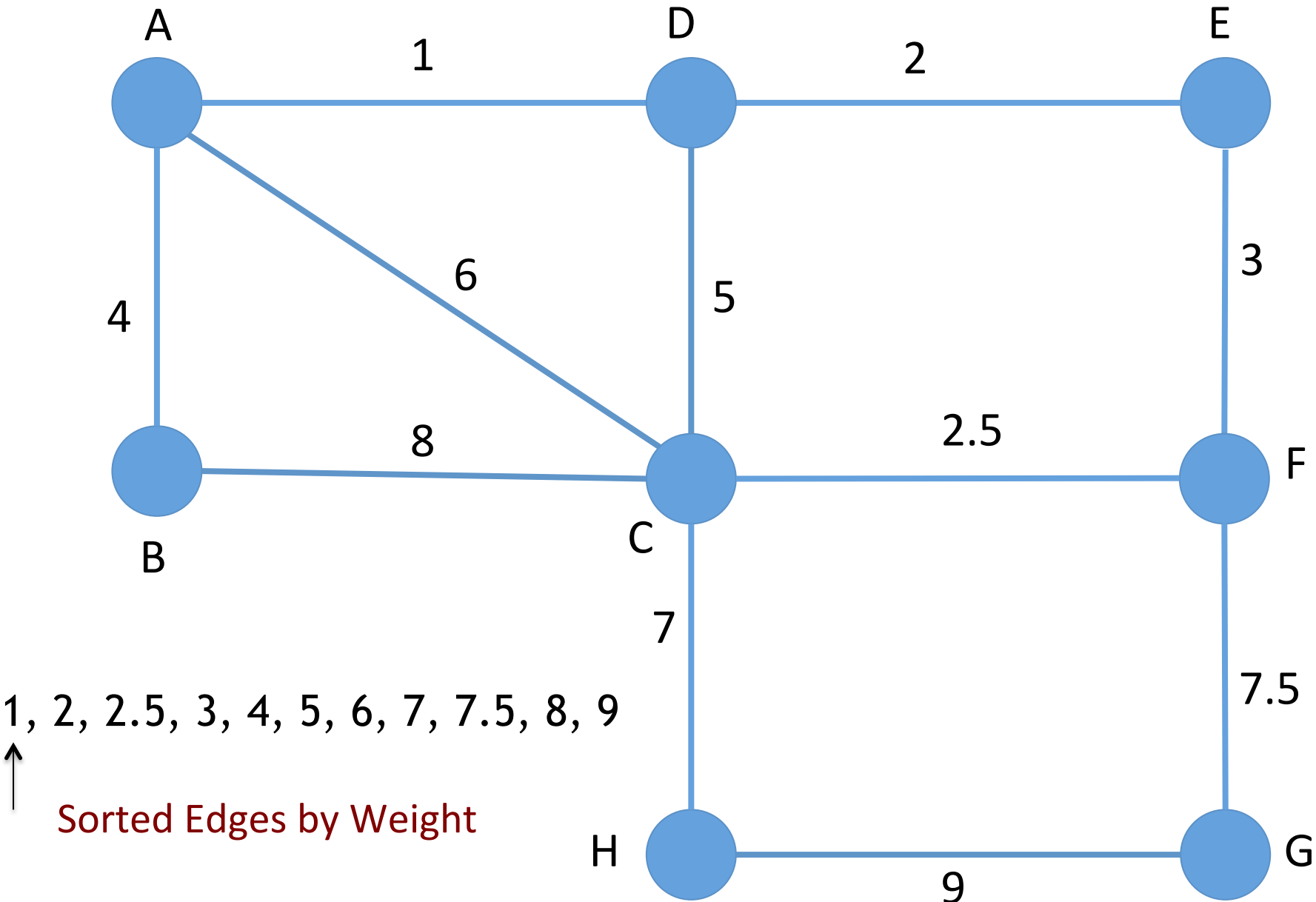
*> 110 years old problem. Can find publications from 1906.*

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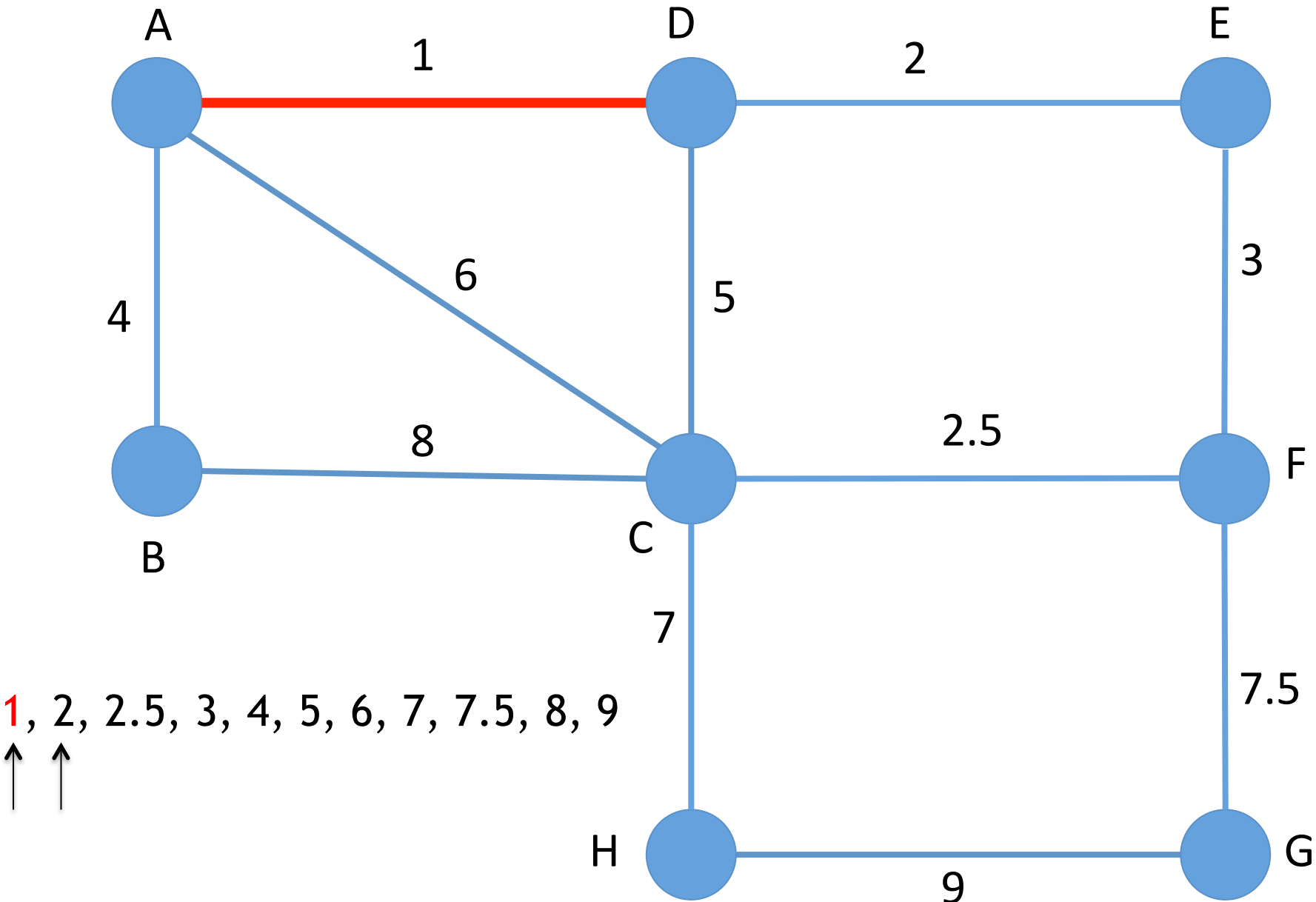
# Kruskal's Algorithm Simulation



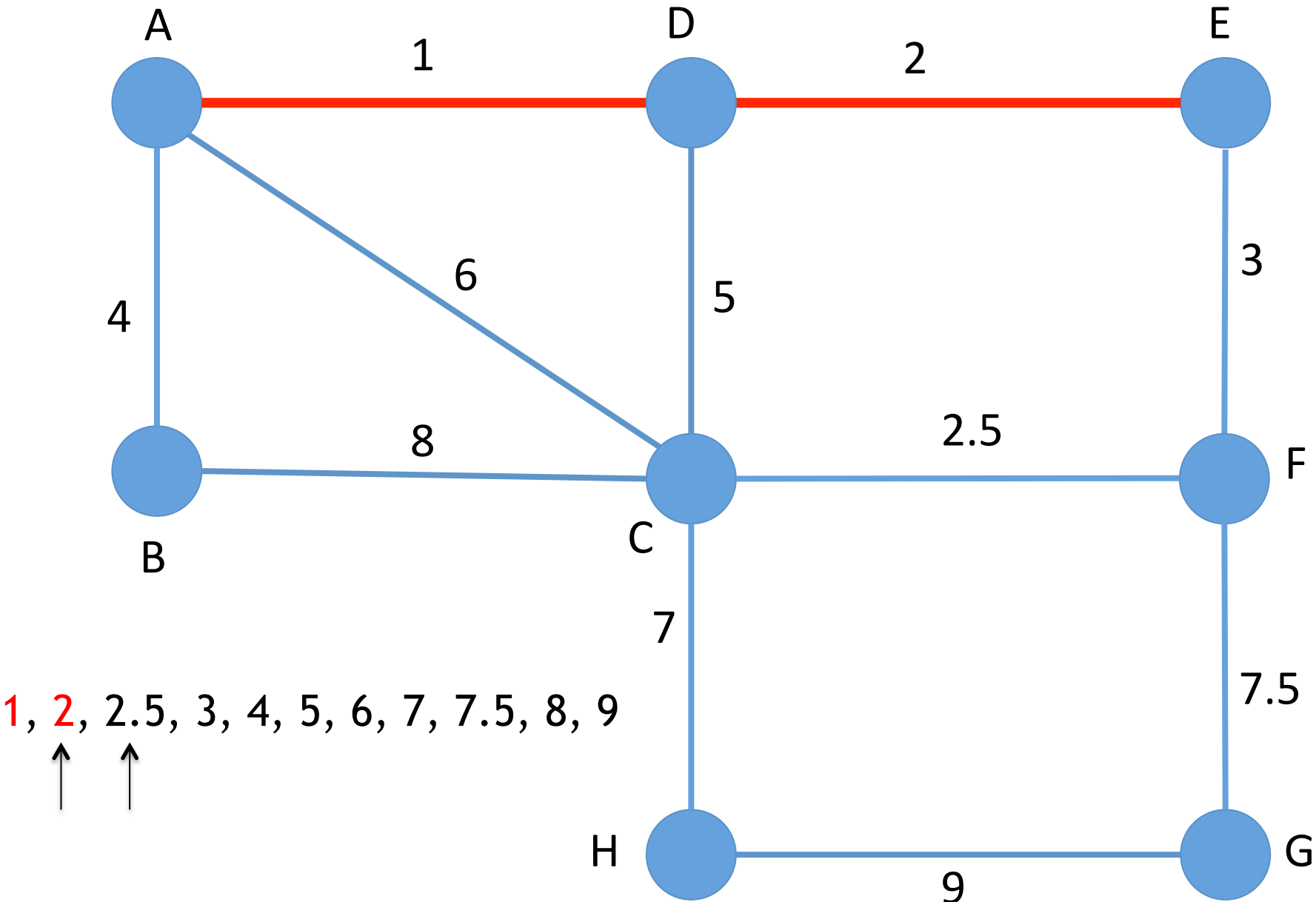
1, 2, 2.5, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 7.5, 8, 9  
↑  
Sorted Edges by Weight



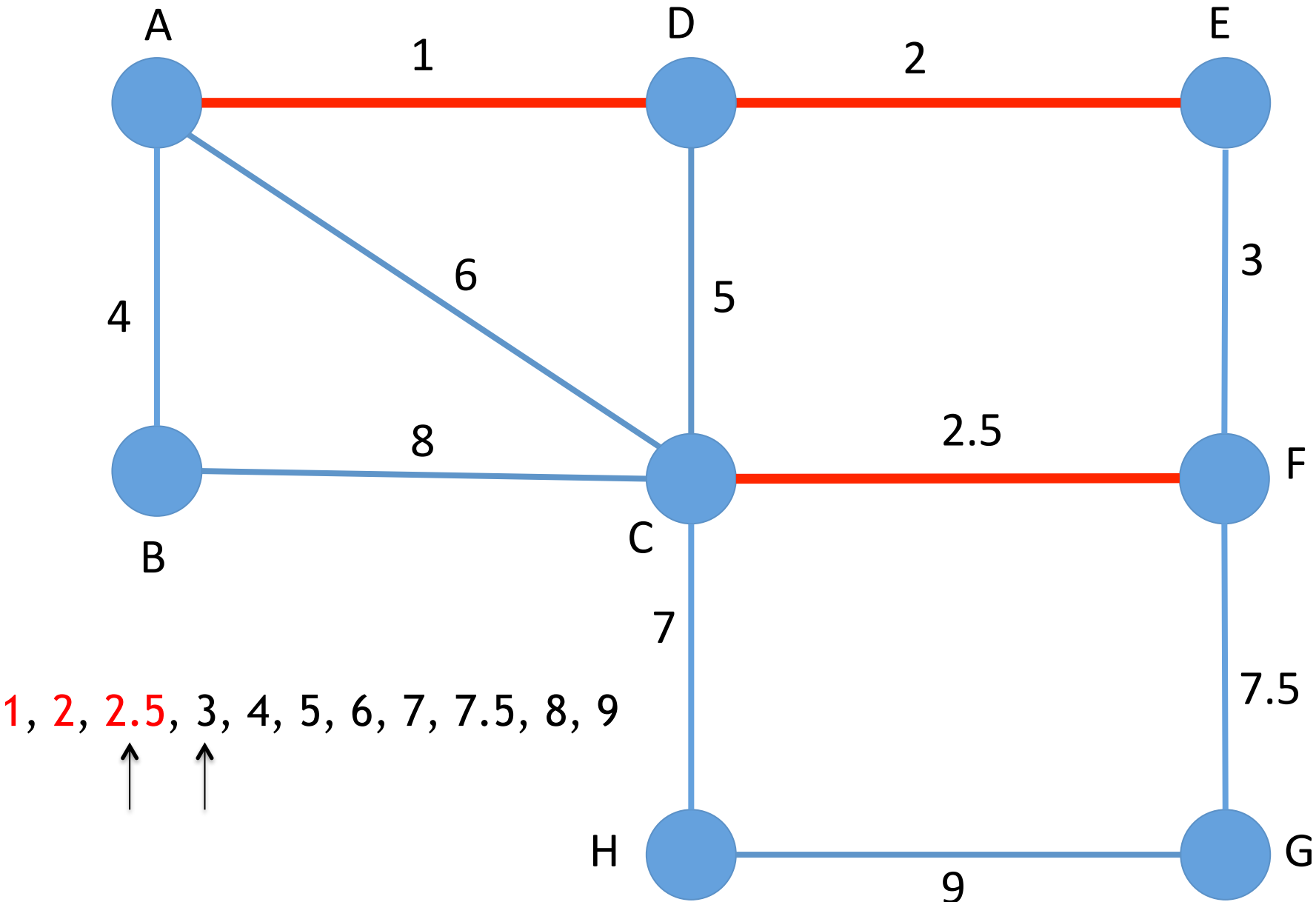
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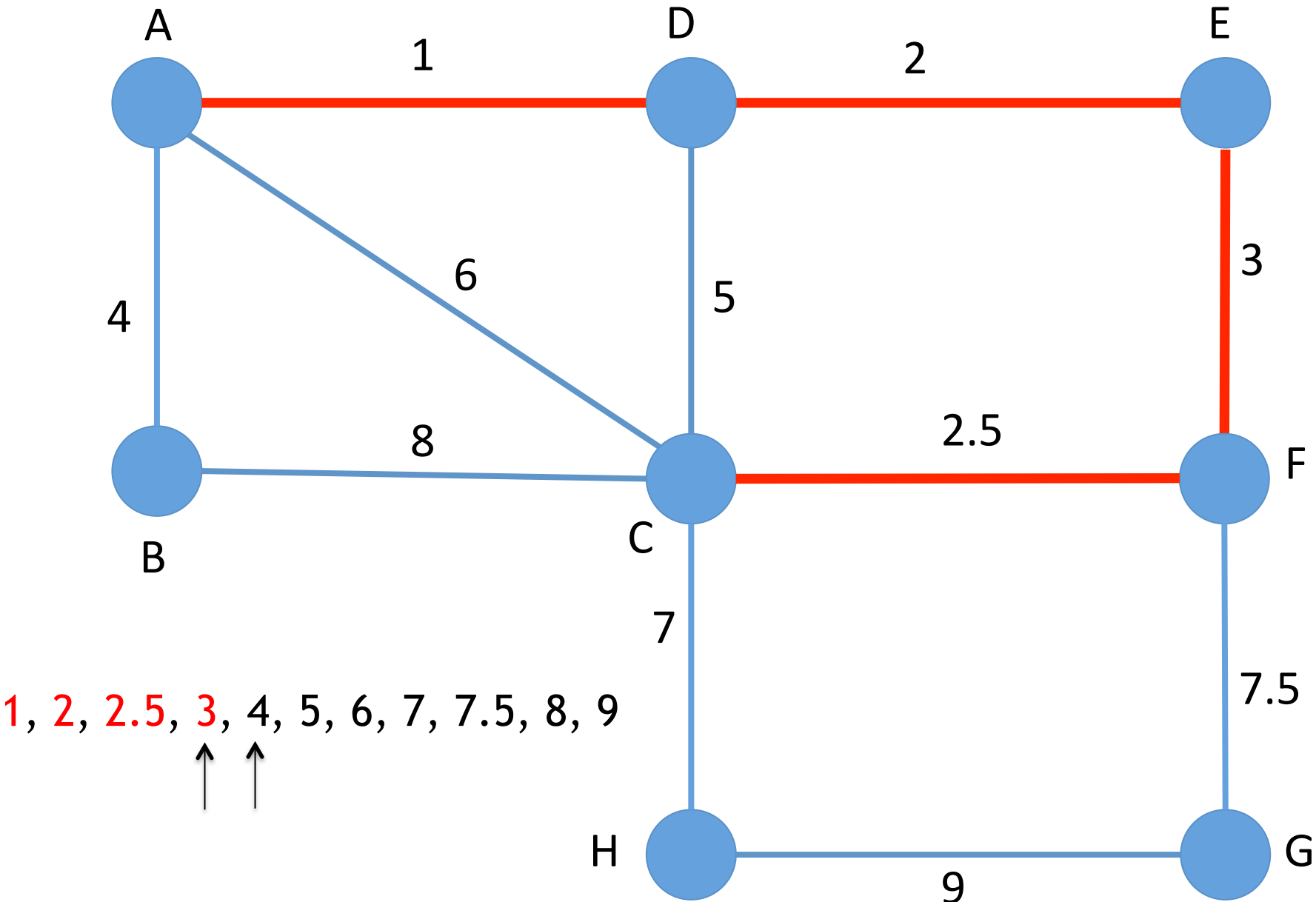
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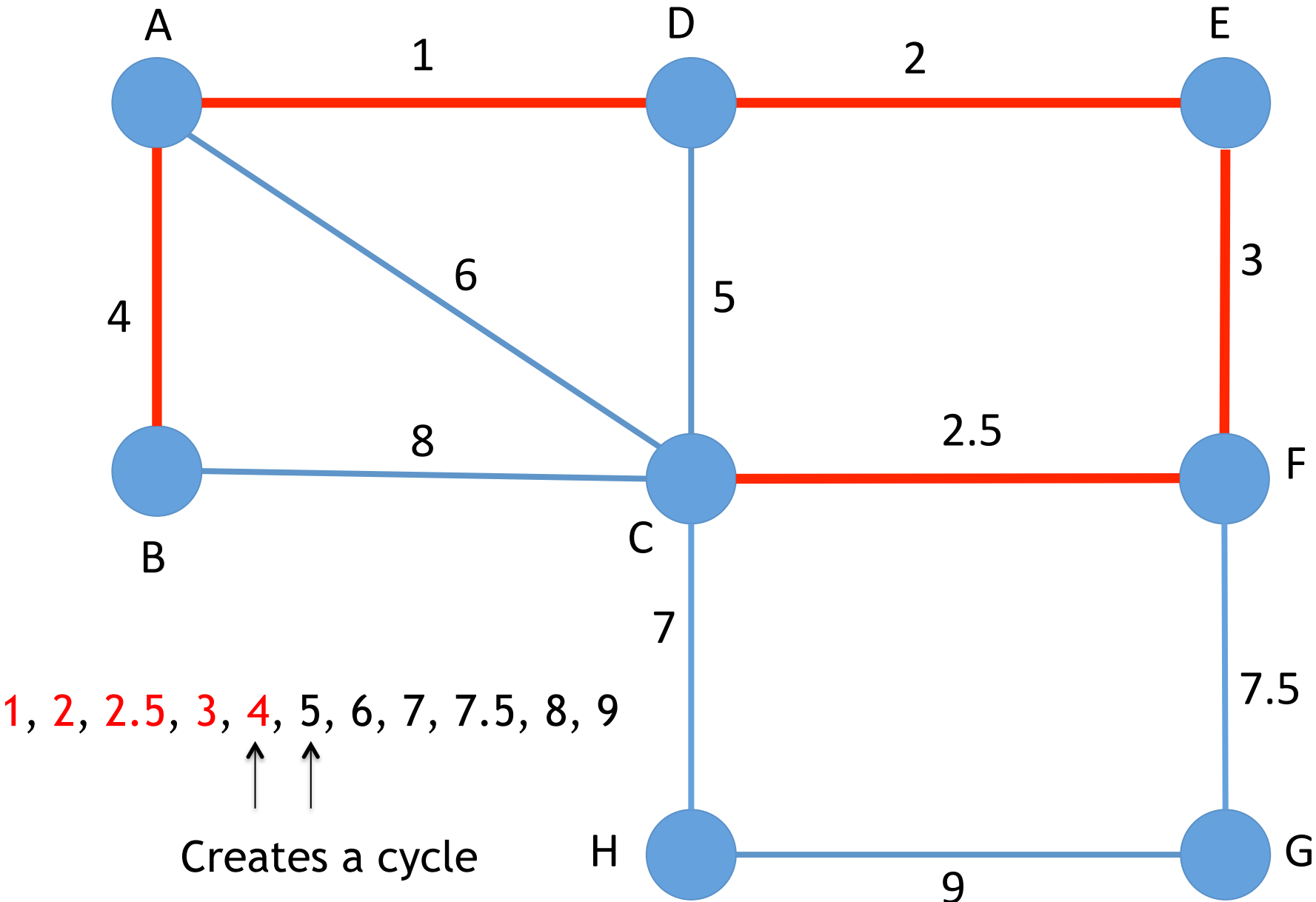
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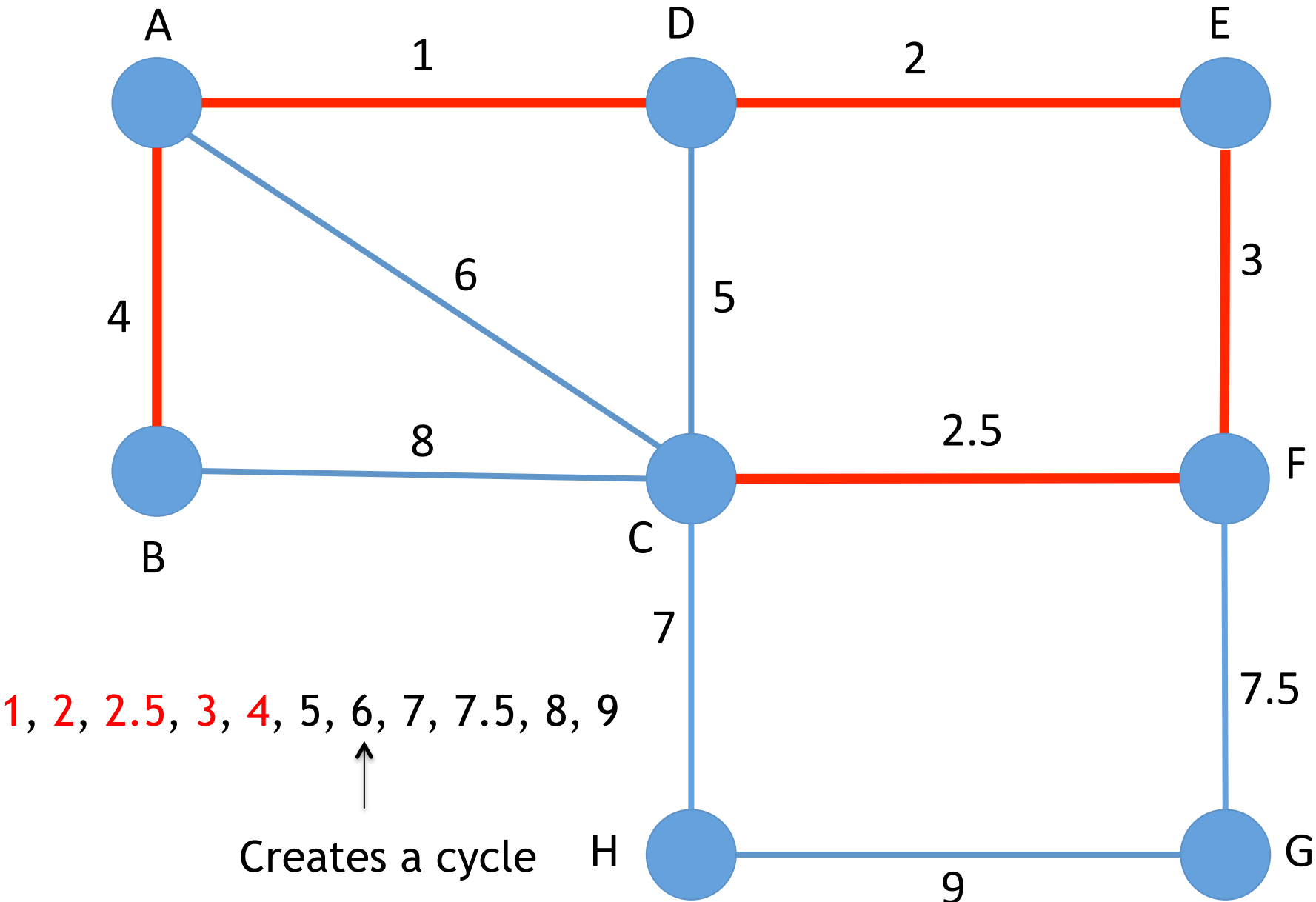
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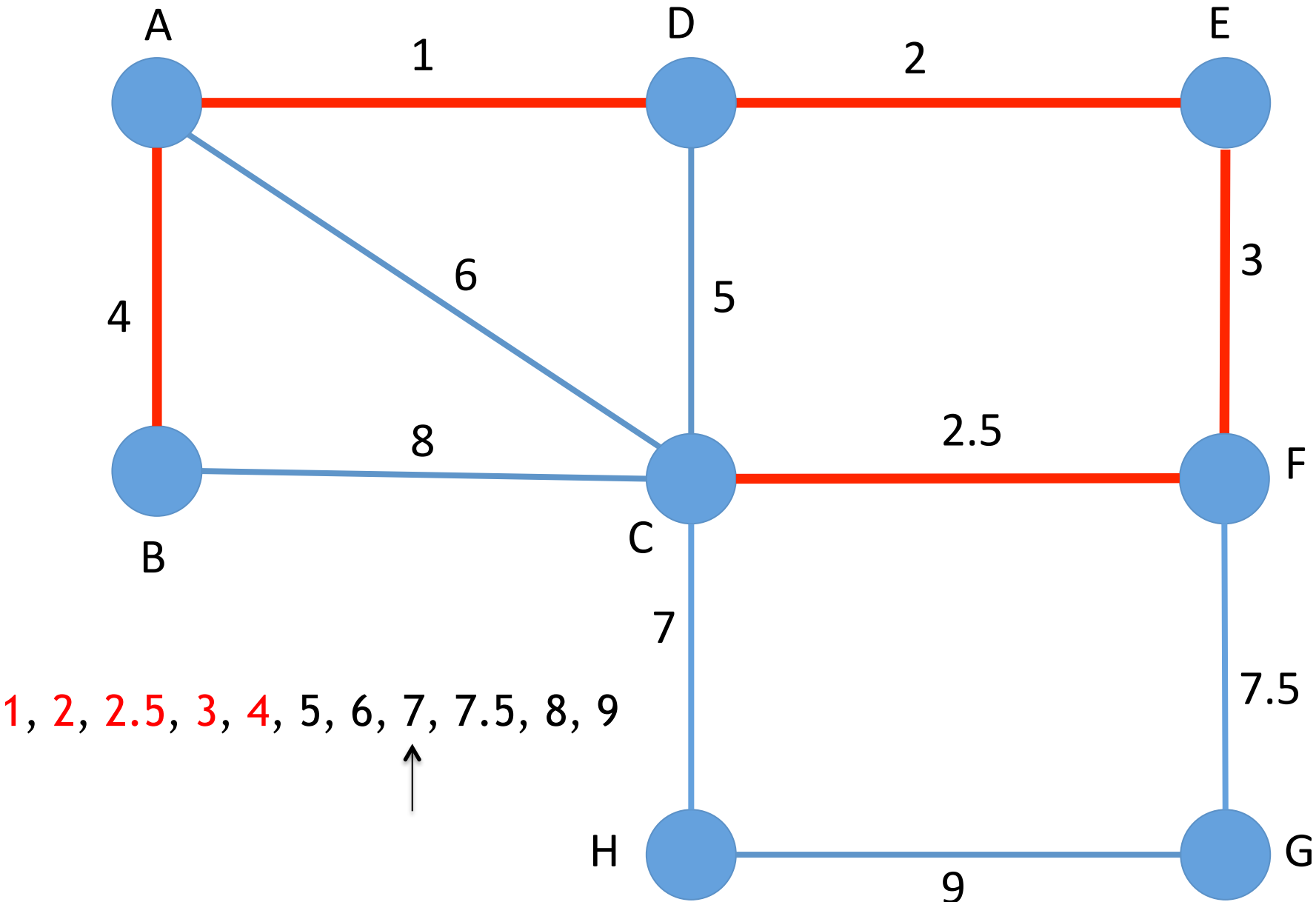
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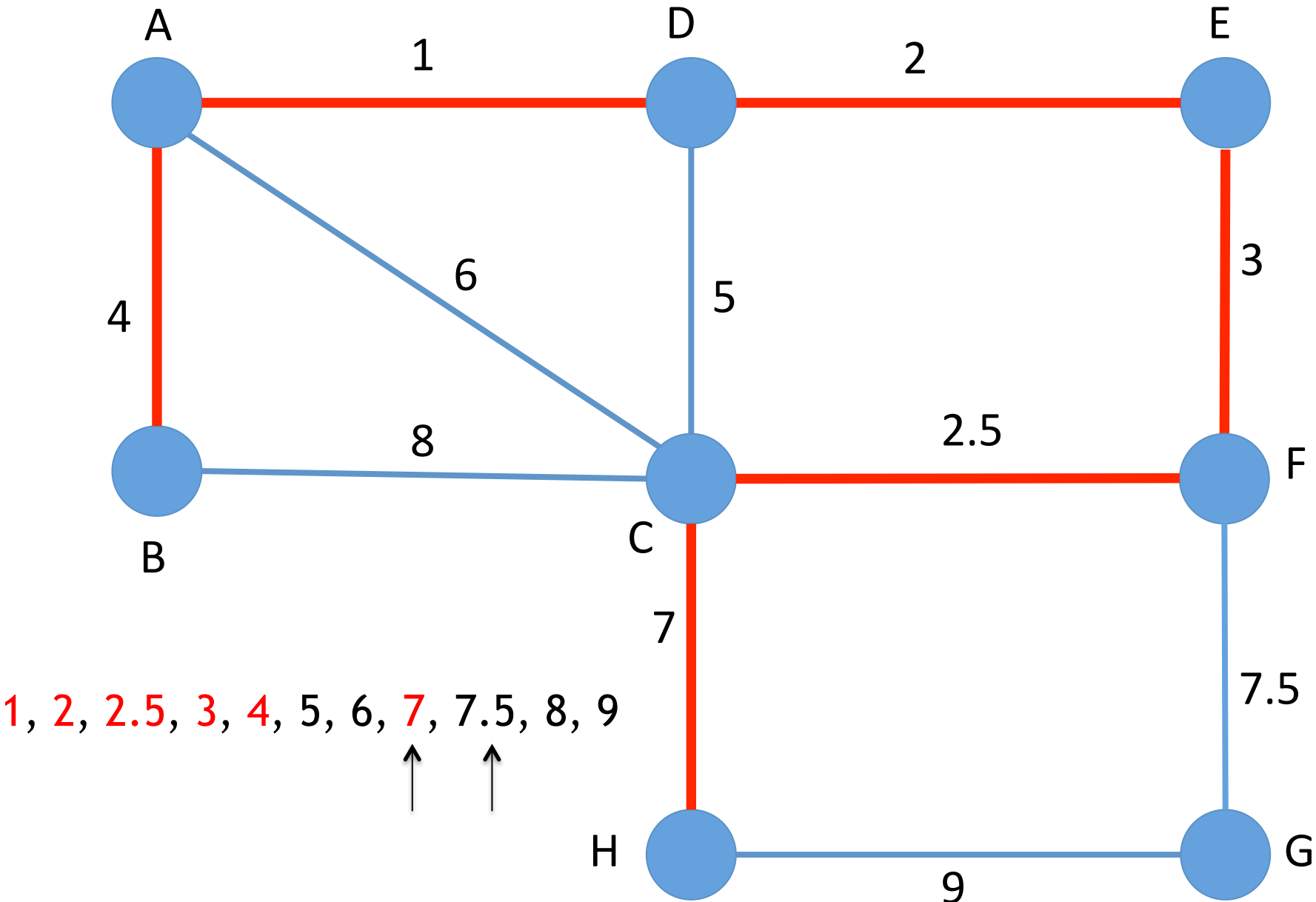
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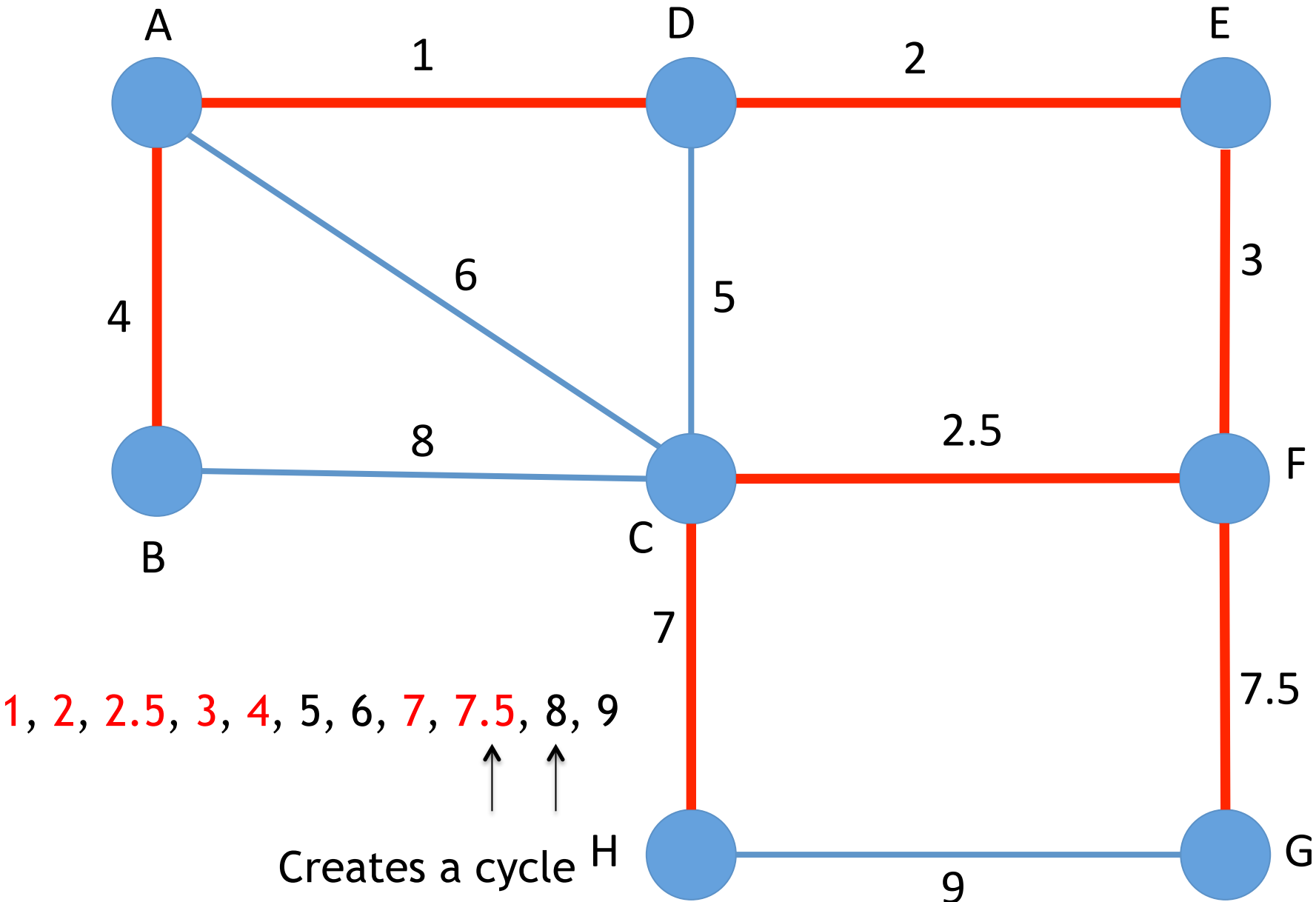


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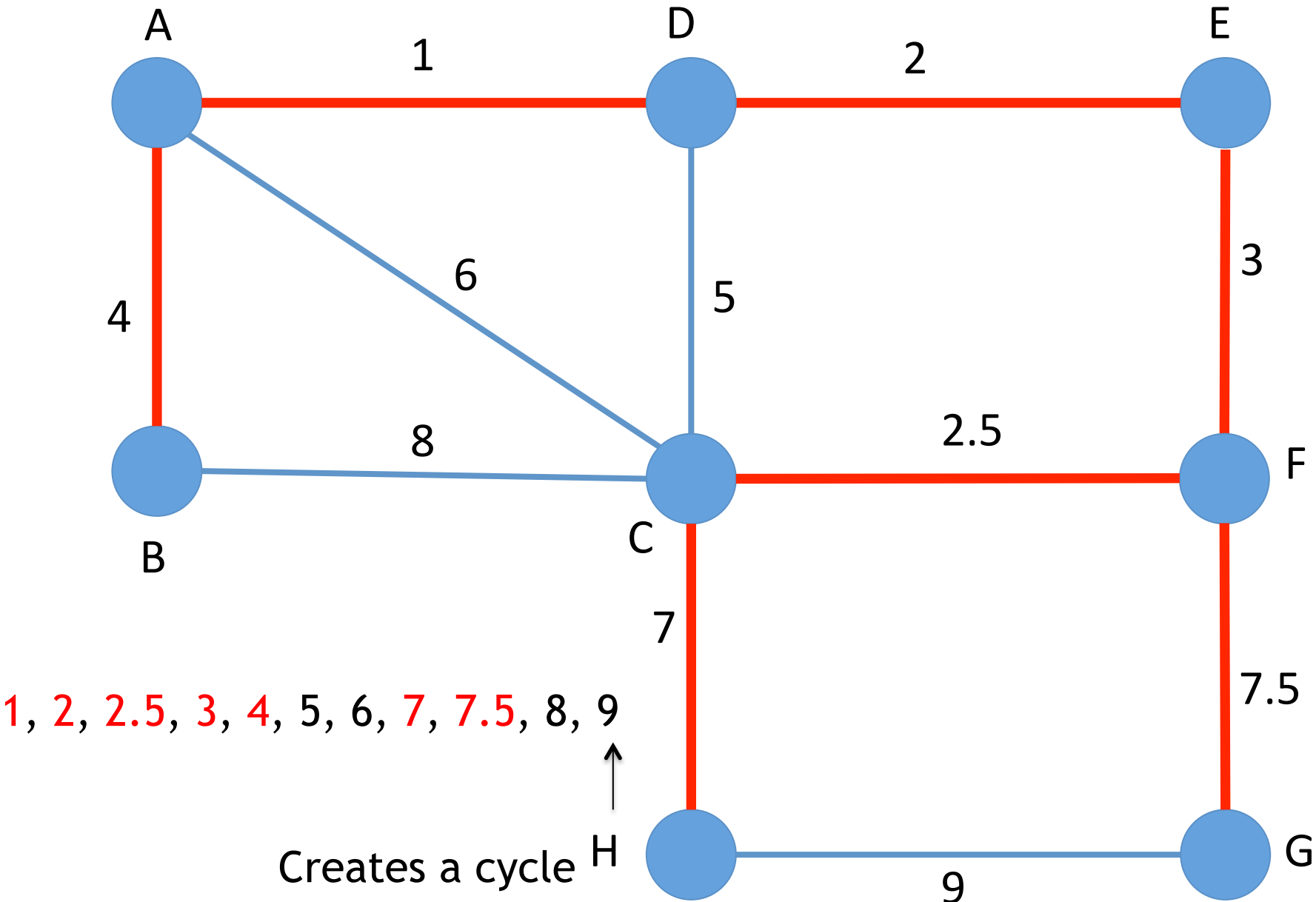




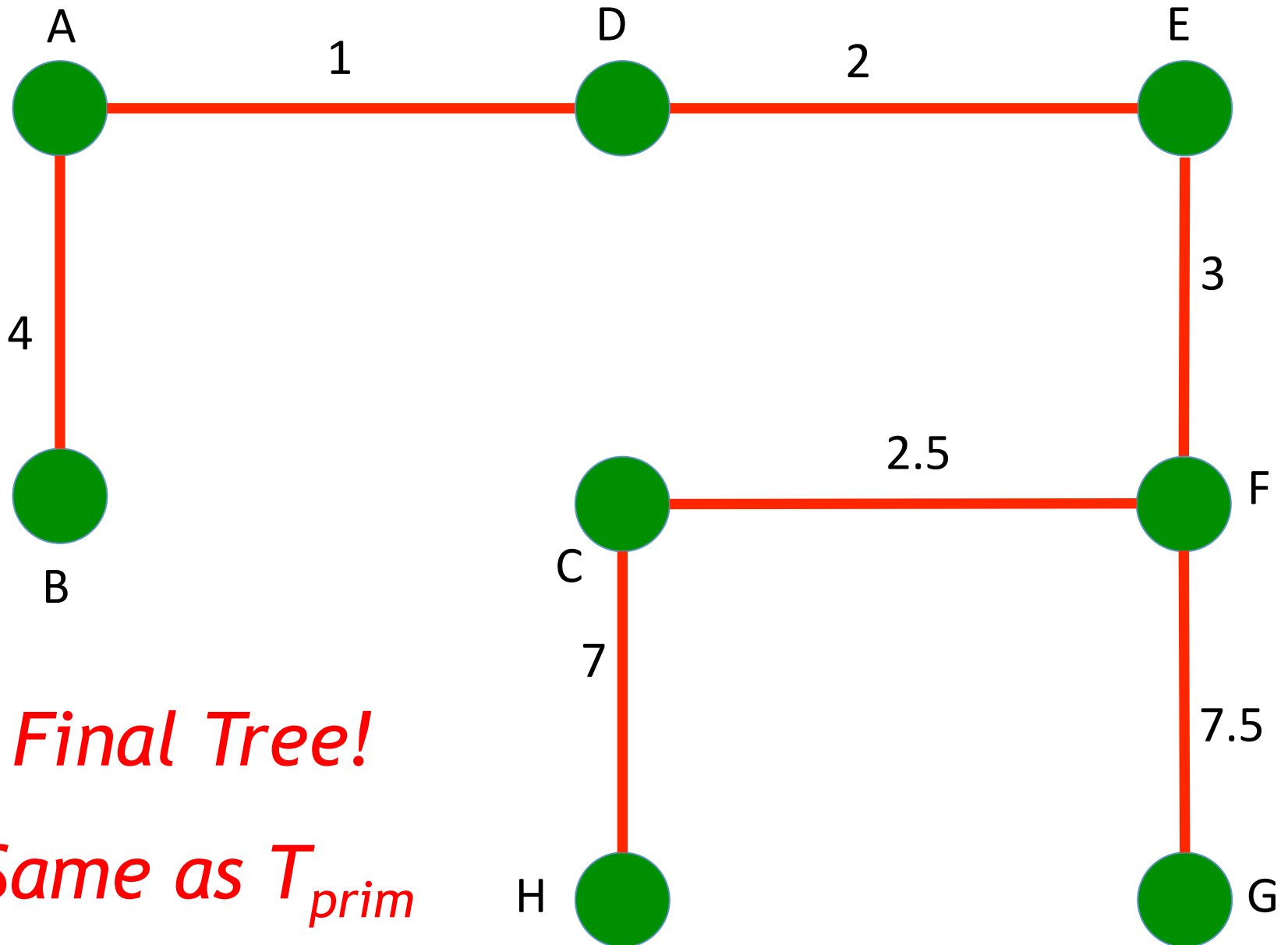
# Kruskal's Algorithm Simulation



# Kruskal's Algorithm Simulation



# Kruskal's Algorithm Simulation



# Kruskal's Algorithm Pseudocode (1956)

**procedure** kruskal( $G(V, E)$ ):

sort  $E$  in order of increasing weights

rename  $E$  so  $w(e_1) < w(e_2) < \dots < w(e_m)$

$T = \{\}$  // final tree edges

**for**  $i = 1$  to  $m$ :

**if**  $T \cup e_i = (u, v)$  doesn't create cycle

add  $e_i$  to  $T$

**return**  $T$

Total Runtime:

$O(m \log(n))$

$O(m \log(n))$

$O(\log(n))$  by union-find  
data structure

(Verify as an exercise)

So in total:  $O(m \log(n))$

*Correctness?*

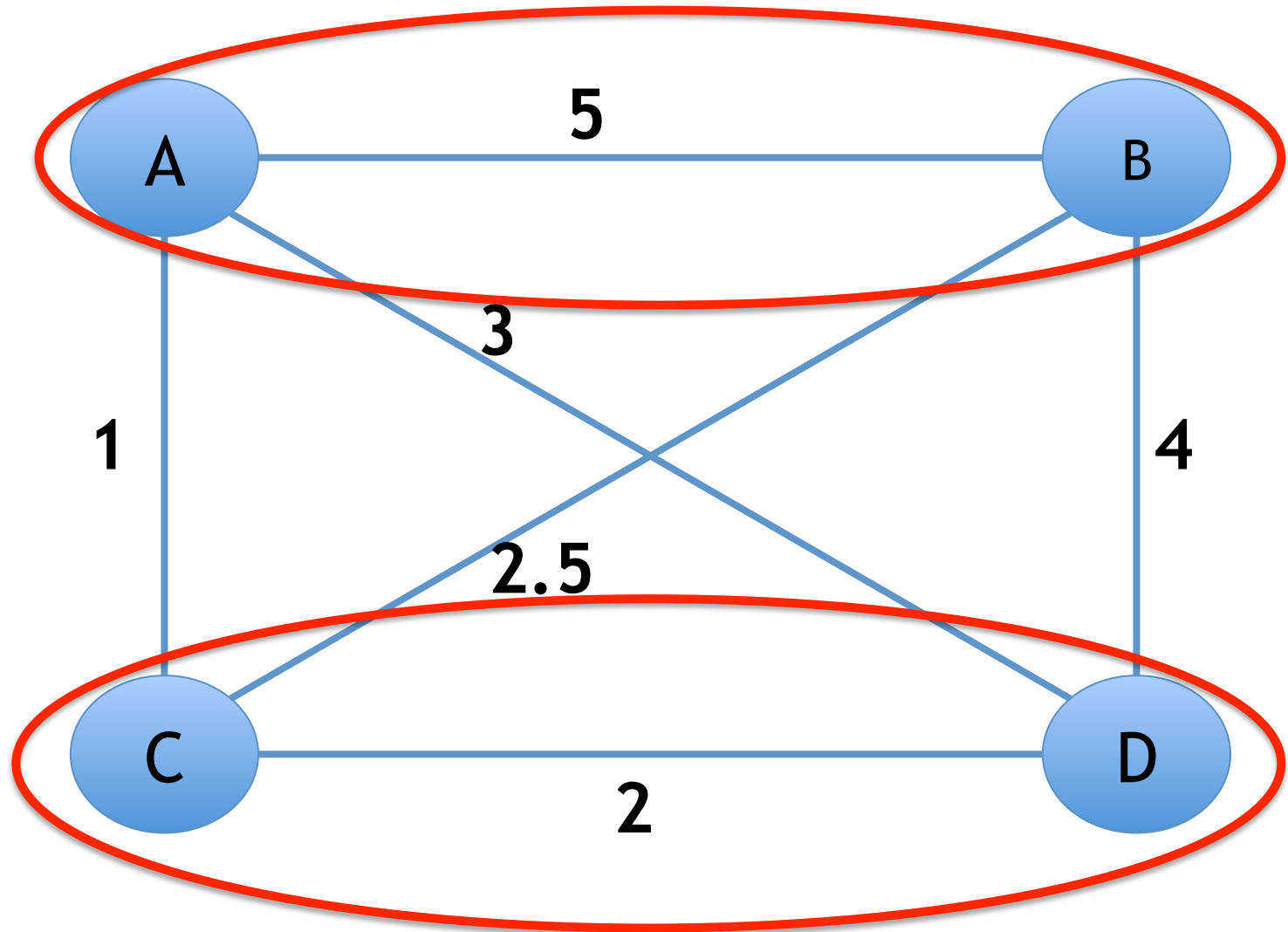
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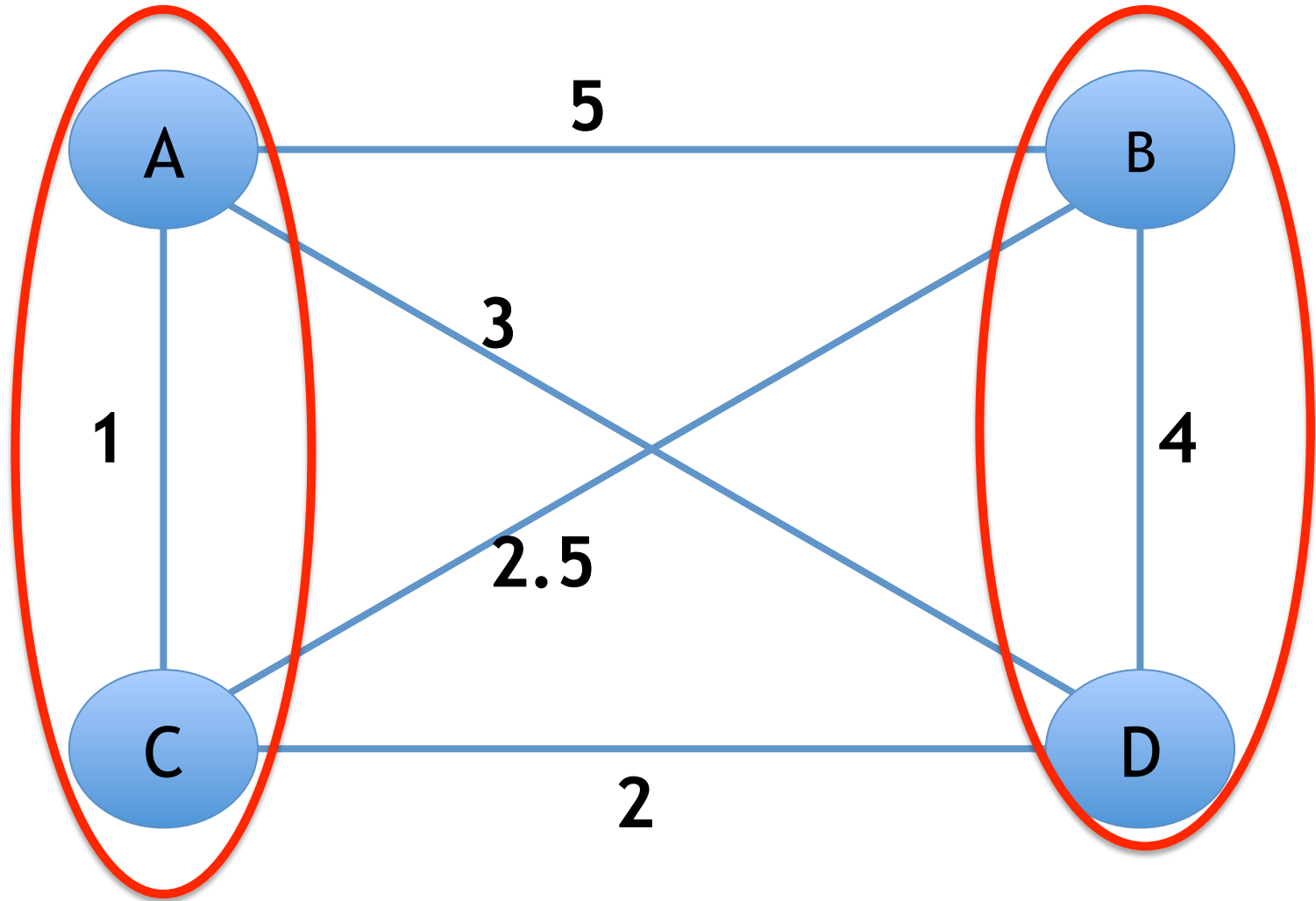
# Cuts

- ◆ A cut of  $G(V, E)$  is a *slice* of  $V$  into 2 non-empty sets



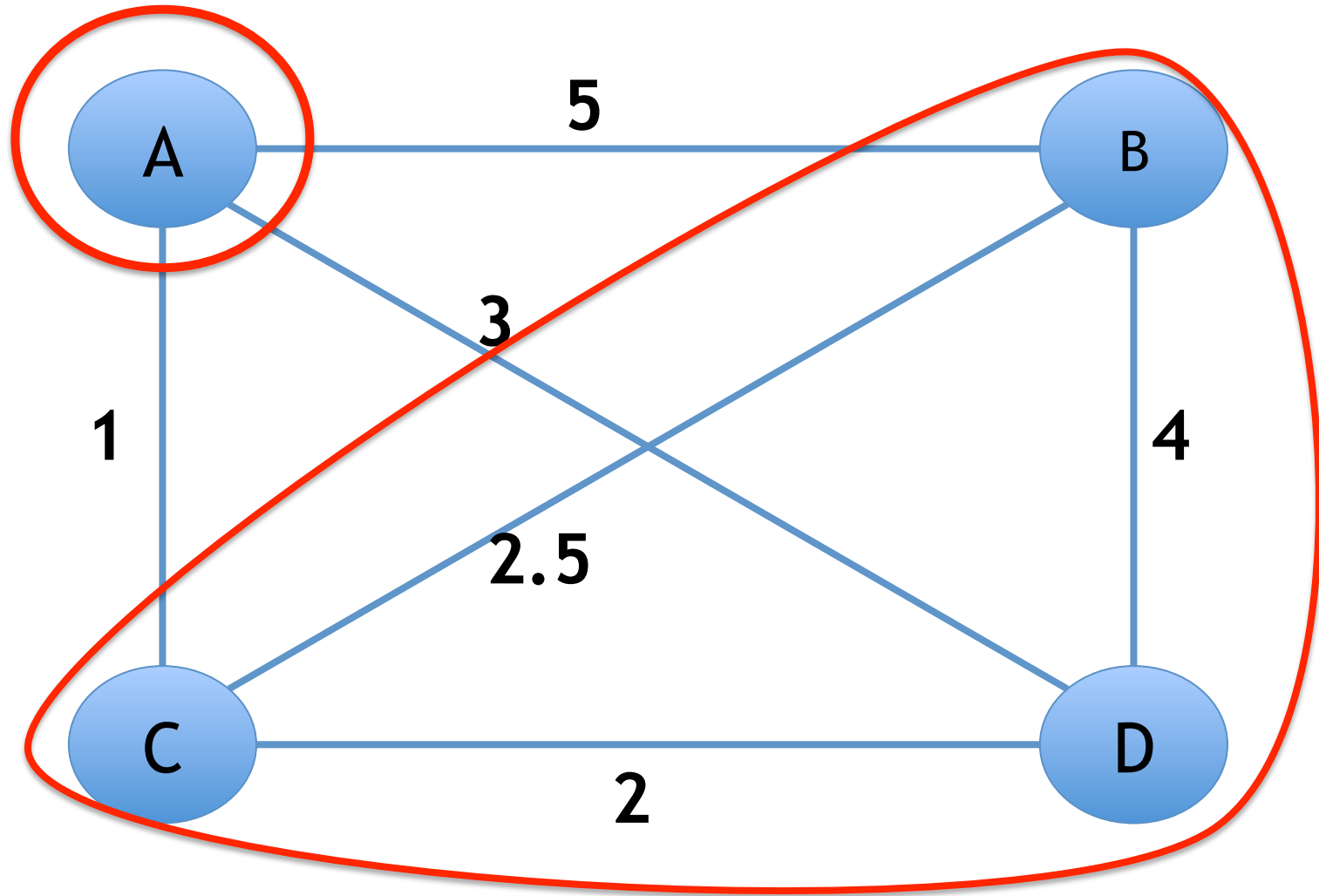
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# Empty Cut Lemma

---

*A graph  $G(V, E)$   
is disconnected*



*$\exists$  cut  $(X, Y)$   
with no crossing  
edges*

*[prove as exercise]*

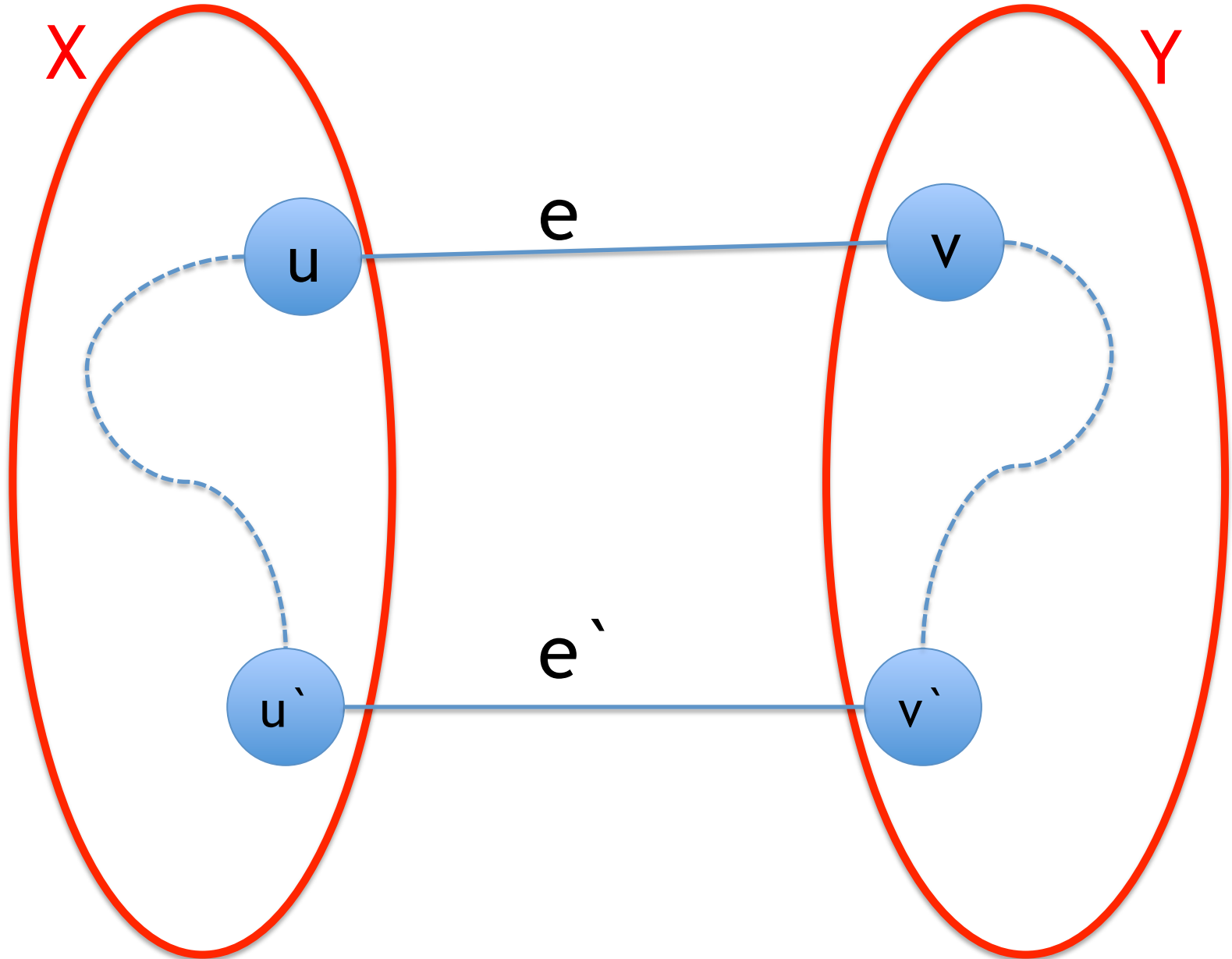
# Double Cut Crossing Lemma of Cycles

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Suppose a cycle  $C \subseteq E$  has an edge  $e$   
crossing a cut  $(X, Y)$

*Claim: Then there is another  $e' \neq e$  of  $C$   
that also crosses  $(X, Y)$*

# Double Cut Crossing Lemma of Cycles



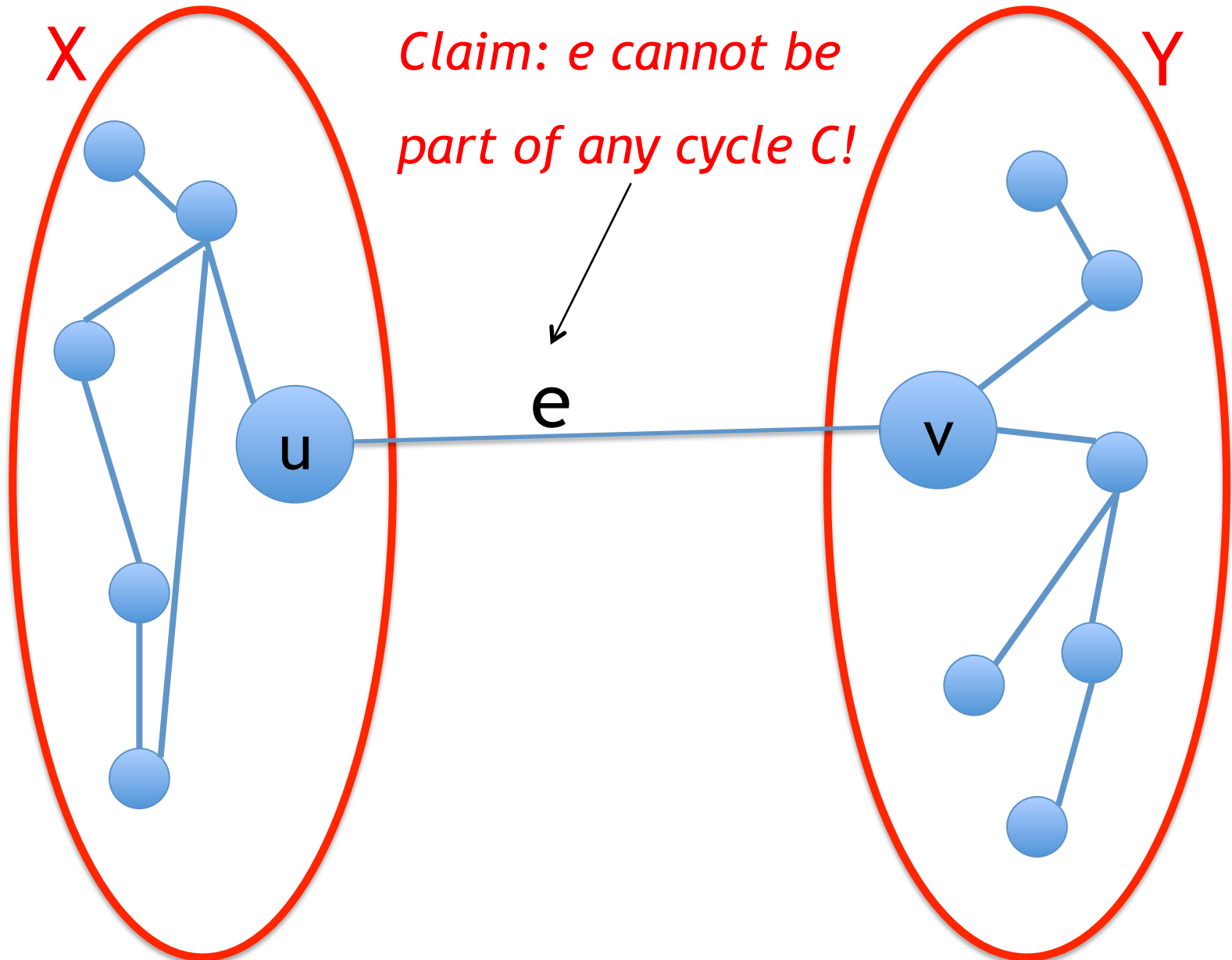
# Lonely Cut Edge Corollary

---

Suppose there is a cut  $(X, Y)$  which has only one edge  $e$  crossing it

*Claim:  $e$  cannot be part of any cycle  $C$ !*

# Lonely Cut Edge Corollary



# Outline For Today

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1. Graph Theory Part 1: Trees & Properties of Trees
2. Minimum Spanning Trees
3. Kruskal's Algorithm
4. Graph Theory Part 2: Cuts & Properties of Cuts
5. **Correctness Proof of Kruskal's Algorithm**

# For Correctness We Need To Prove 2 Things

---

1. Outputs a Spanning Tree  $T_{krsk}$
2.  $T_{krsk}$  is a minimum spanning tree

# 1: Kruskal Outputs a Spanning Tree (1)

---

Need to prove  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  is spanning AND is acyclic

Acyclic is by construction of the algorithm.

Why is  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  spanning (i.e., connected)?

*Recall Empty Cut Lemma:*

*A graph is not connected iff  $\exists$  cut  $(X, Y)$  with no crossing edges*

*$\Rightarrow$  If all cuts have a crossing edge  $\rightarrow$  graph is connected!*



# 1: Kruskal Outputs a Spanning Tree (2)

---

*Consider any cut  $(X, Y)$*

*Since input  $G$  is connected,  $\exists$  edges crossing  $(X, Y)$*

*Let  $e^*$  be the min-weight edge*

*Kruskal inspects all edges*

*Consider the time when Kruskal inspects  $e^*$*

*Claim: No edge crossing  $(X, Y)$  is in  $T_{krsk}$*

*And adding  $e^*$  to  $T_{krsk}$  cannot create a cycle  $\Rightarrow$  Why?*

*(because of lonely cut edge corollary)*

*Therefore Kruskal will add  $e^*$ , so for each cut, there is an edge in  $T_{krsk}$  crossing it  $\Rightarrow T_{krsk}$  spans  $V$ .*

# Plan for 2: $T_{\text{krsk}}$ is a *Minimum* Spanning Tree

---

1. “MST Cut Property” of Edges
2. Argue that the MST Cut Property Implies  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  is an MST

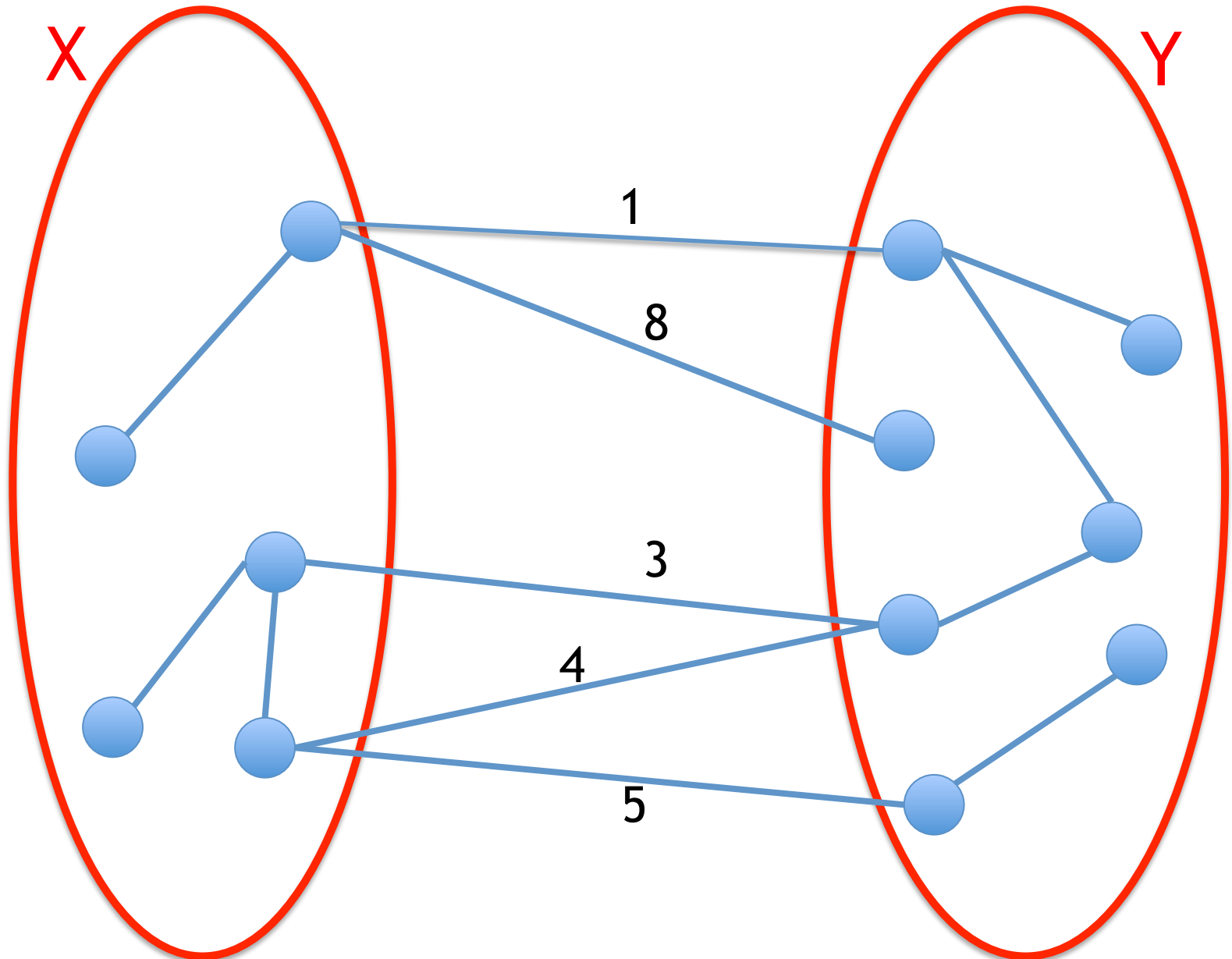
# MST Cut Property of Edges

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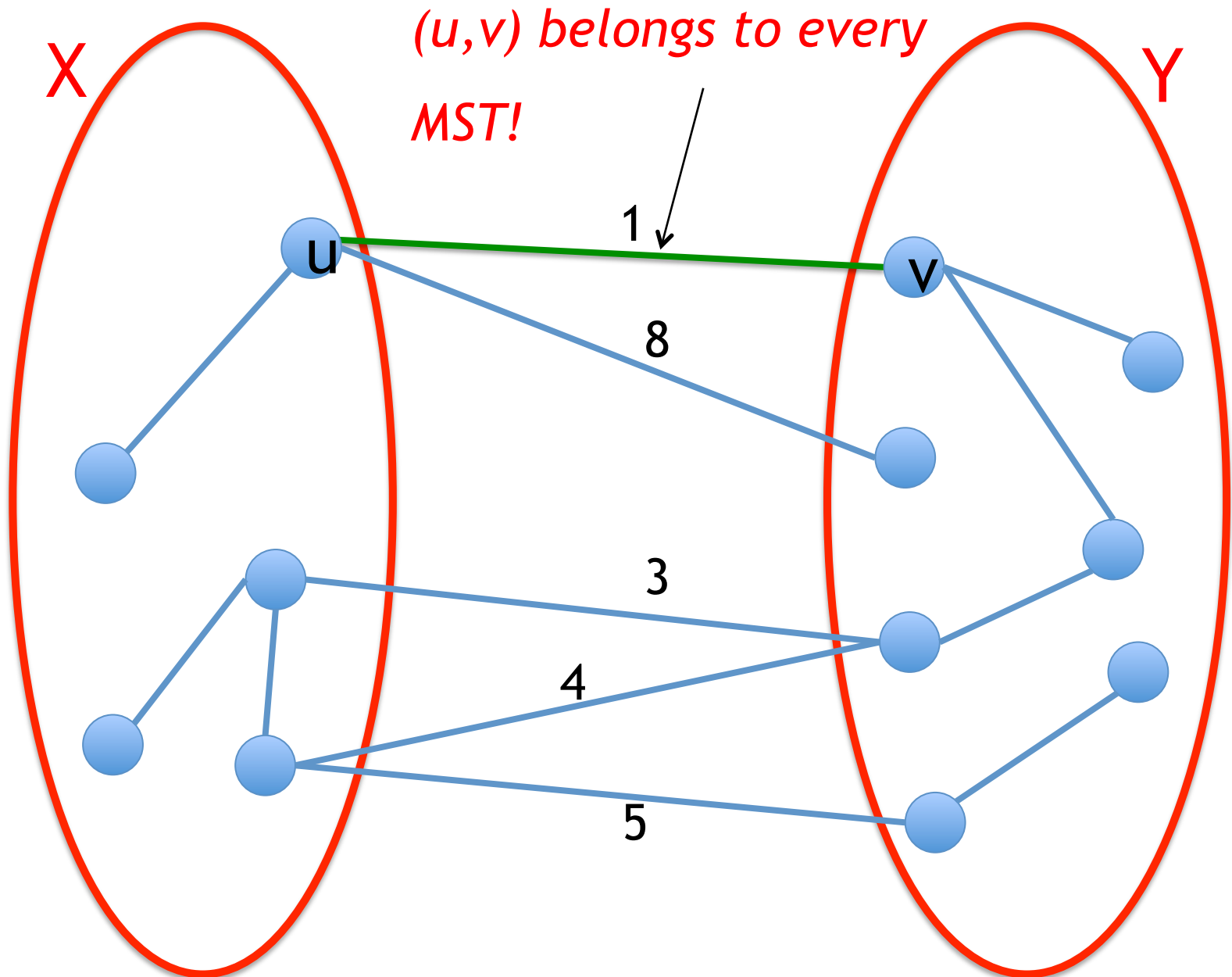
Consider any cut  $(X, Y)$  of  $G$ , and suppose  $e$  is the minimum edge crossing  $(X, Y)$

*Claim:  $e$  belongs to every MST*  
*(assuming edge weights are distinct)*

# MST Cut Property of Edges



# MST Cut Property of Edges



# Final Step: MST Cut Property $\Rightarrow T_{krsk}$ is a MST

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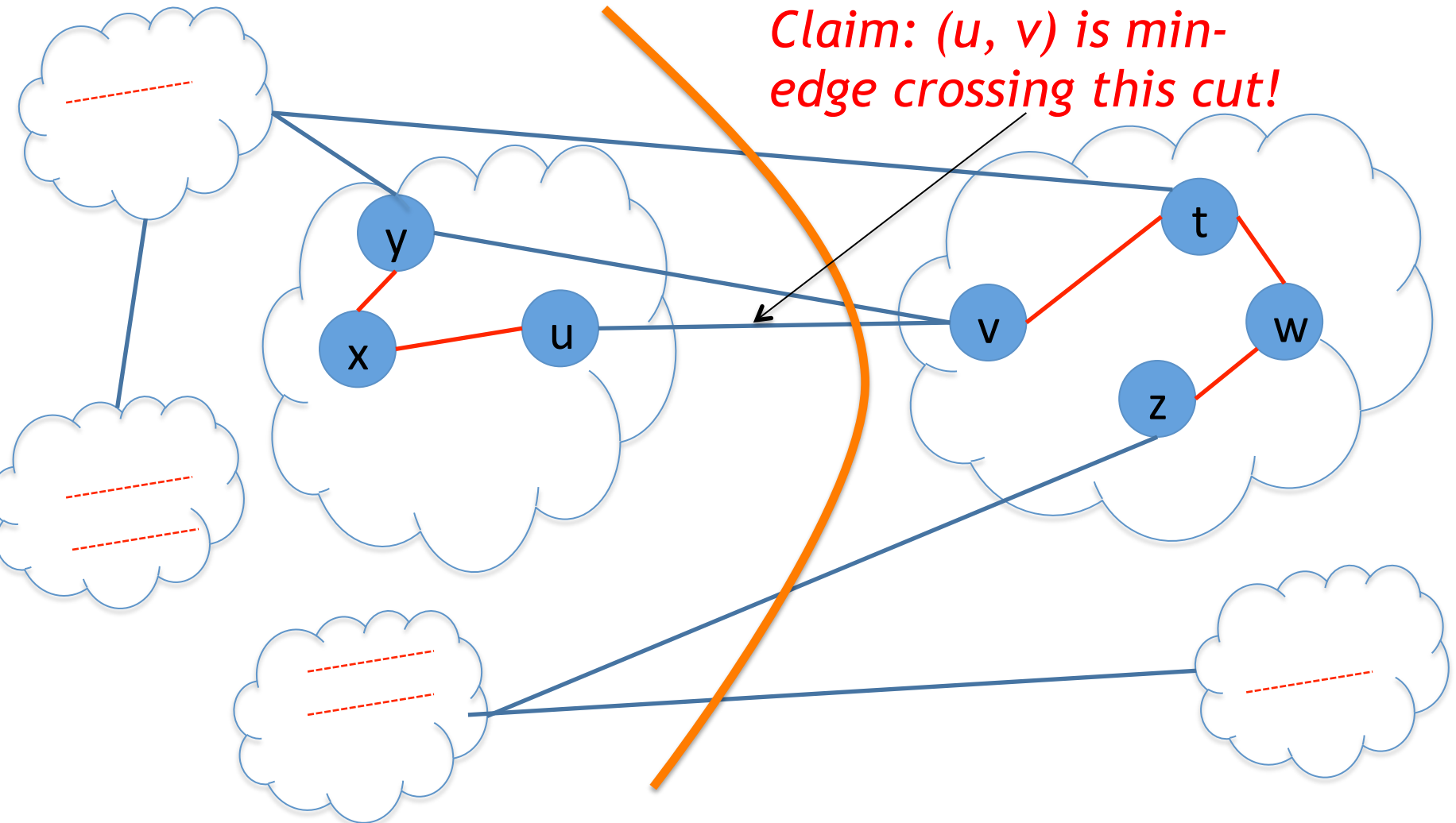
Argue that MST Cut Property Implies  $T_{krsk}$  is an MST

In particular we will argue that each edge  $(u, v)$  added to  $T_{krsk}$  is a min-edge in a cut  $(X, Y)$  in  $G$ .

# MST Cut Property $\Rightarrow T_{\text{krsk}}$ is a MST (1)

Let  $(u, v)$  be any edge added by Kruskal's Algorithm.

$u$  and  $v$  are in different comp. (b/c Kruskal checks for cycles)



# MST Cut Property $\Rightarrow T_{krsk}$ is a MST (2)

---

*(u, v) is the min edge crossing the cut b/c Kruskal looks at edges in increasing weights.*

*By the Cut Property  $\Rightarrow (u, v)$  is in every MST.*

*Therefore all edges added to  $T_{krsk}$  is in every MST*

*$\Rightarrow T_{krsk}$  is “the” MST.*

Q.E.D.

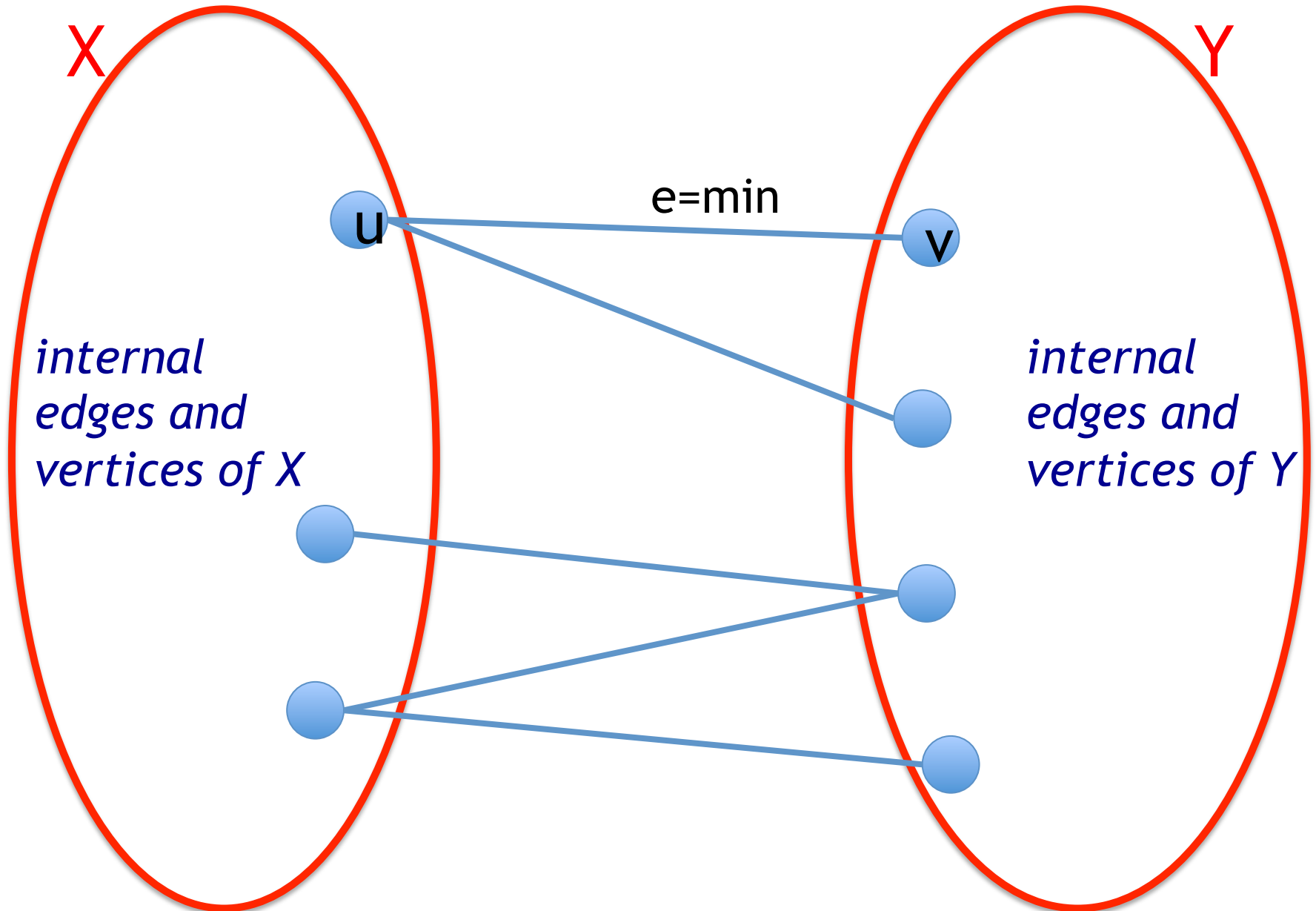


# Summary of Kruskal's Correctness

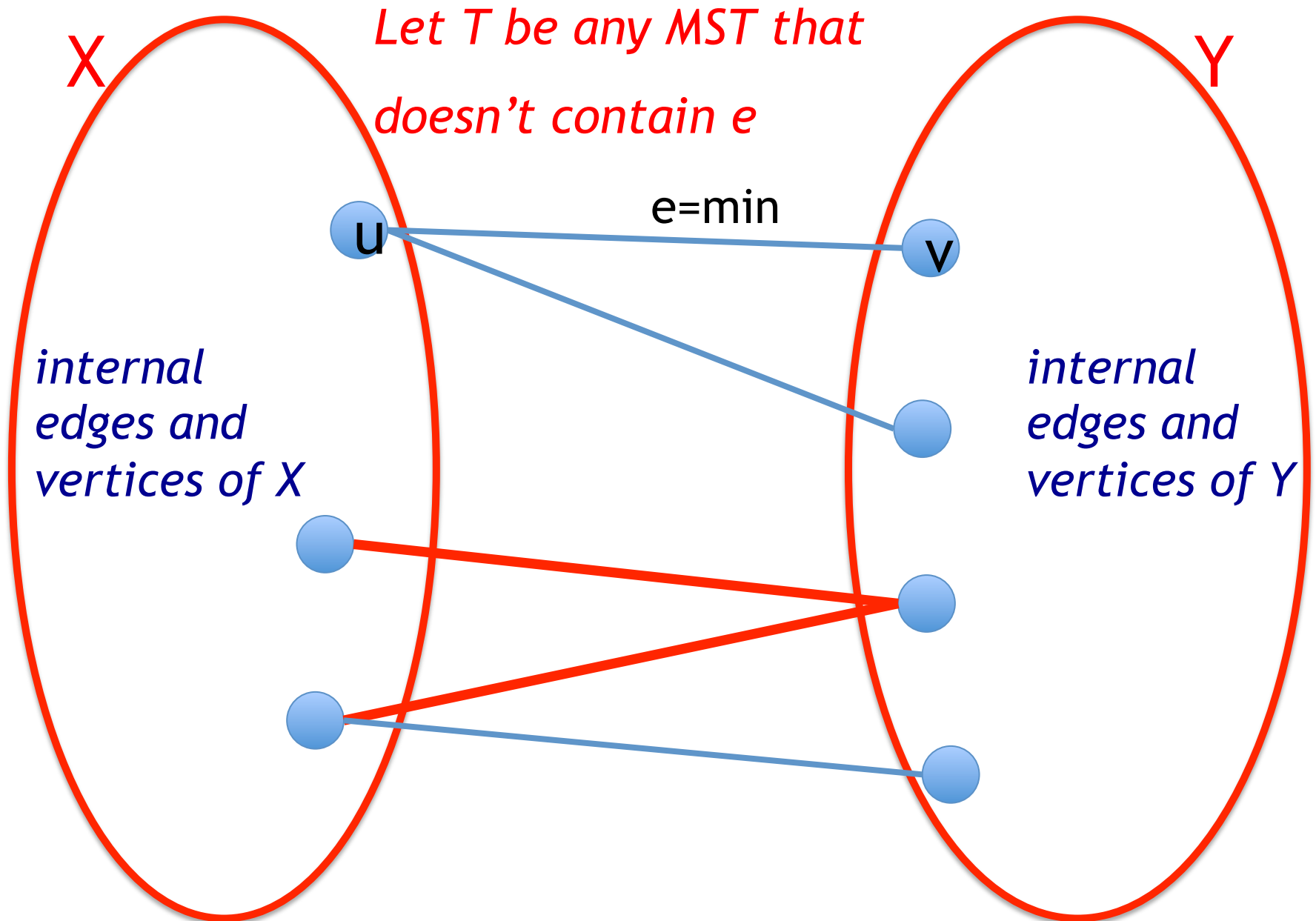
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- ◆ First proved  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  is a spanning tree
  - Acyclicity was by definition
  - Connectedness followed from showing that there is an edge of  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  crossing any cut  $(X, Y)$  of  $G$ , which by the empty cut lemma implied that  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  was connected
- ◆ Second proved  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  was a *minimum* spanning tree by arguing that any edge  $(u, v)$  if  $T_{\text{krsk}}$  is a min-edge in some cut  $(X, Y)$
- ◆ Note this version of Kruskal's Correctness Proof contains:
  - Exchange Argument: MST Cut Property
  - Greedy Stays Ahead Argument: Kruskal adds  $n-1$  edges and all are justified.

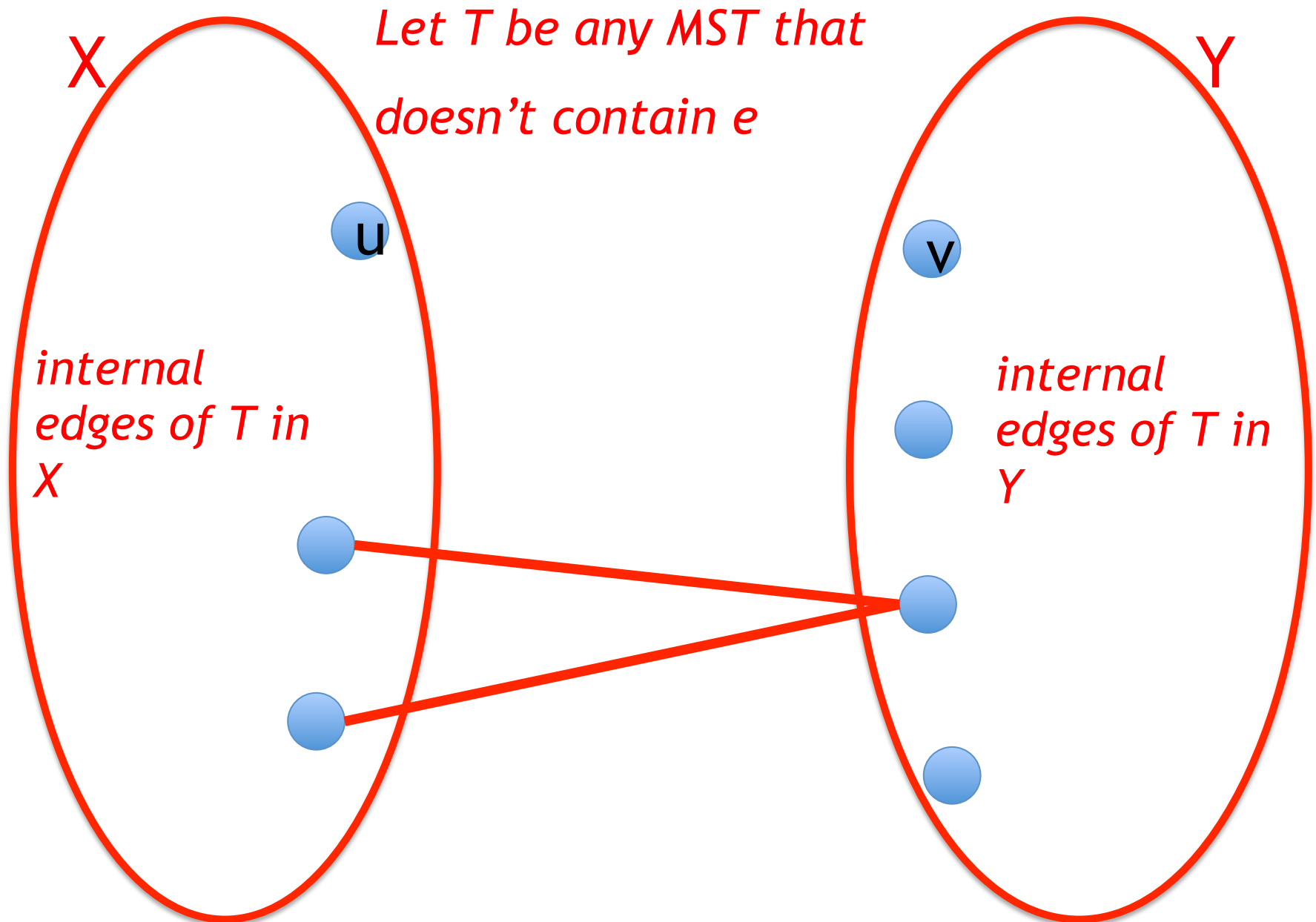
# Proof of MST Cut Property (Exchange Argument)



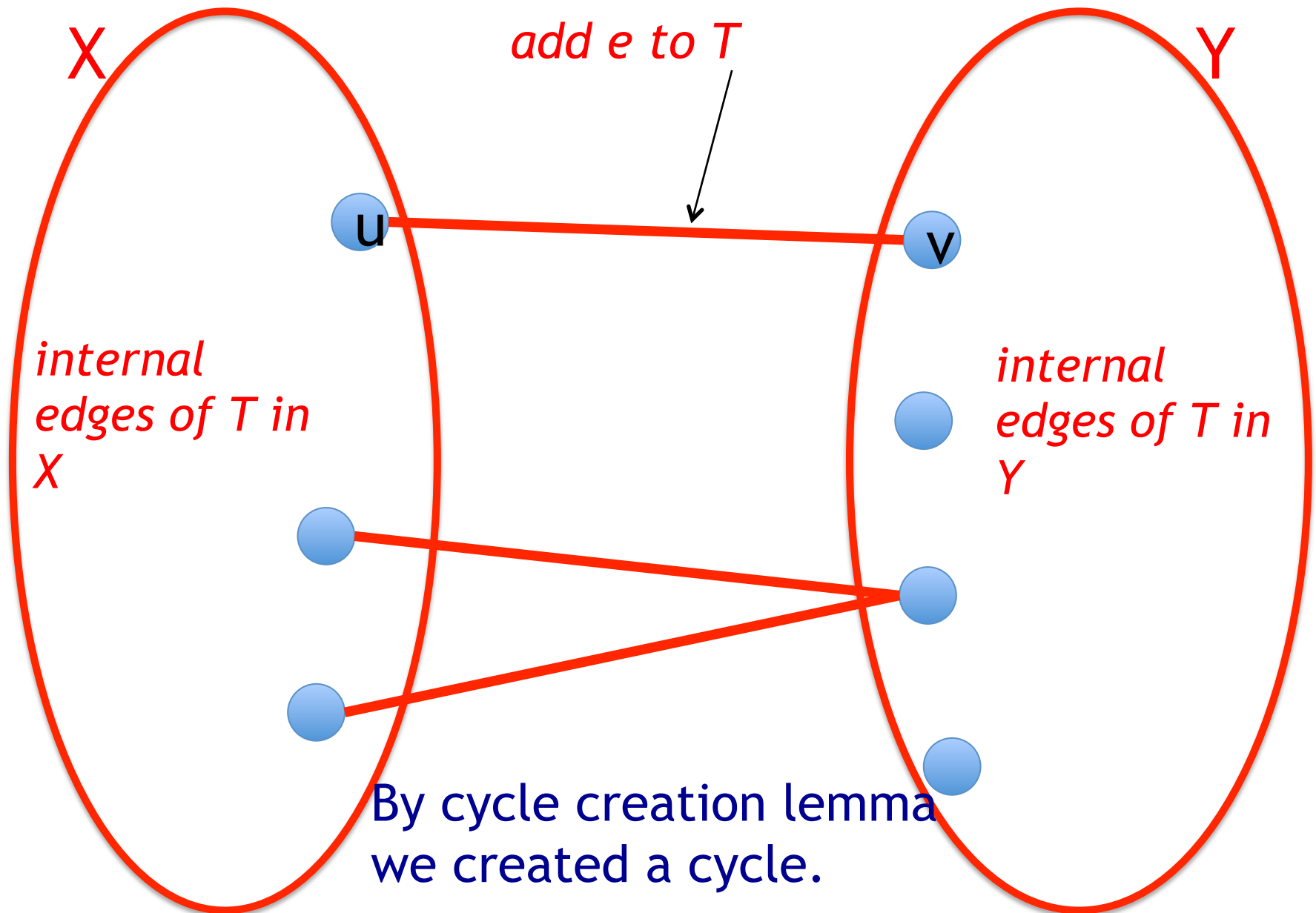
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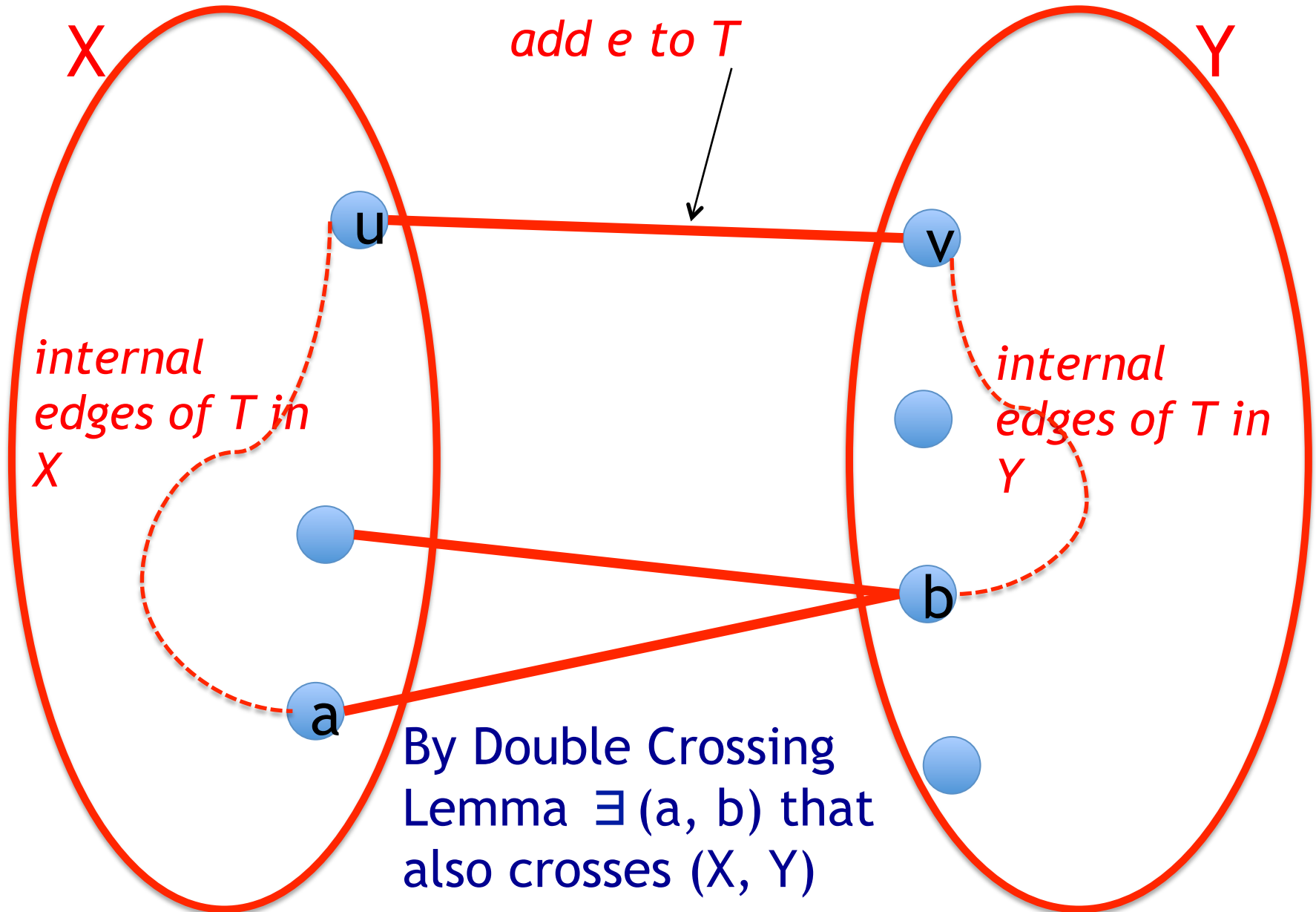
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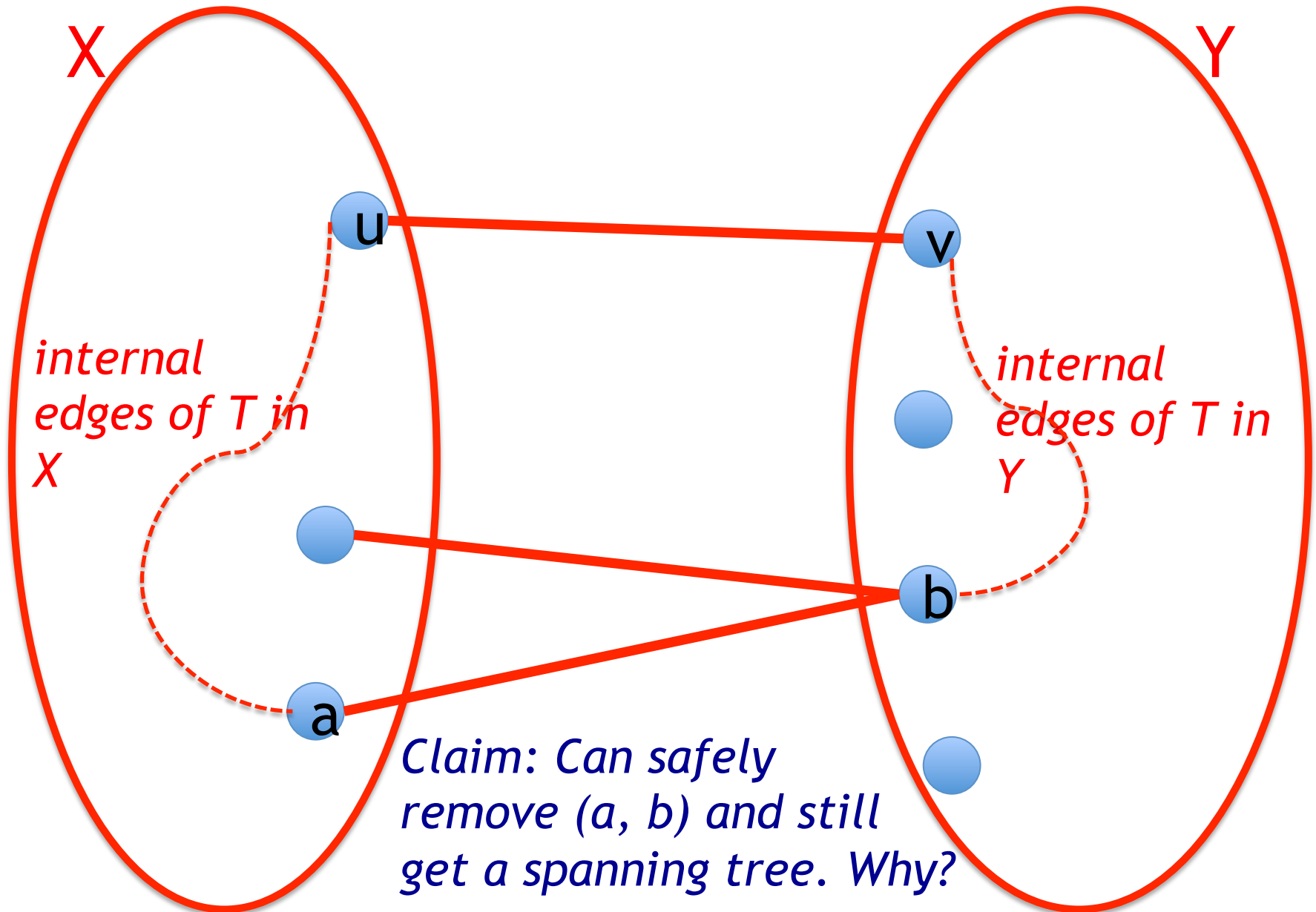
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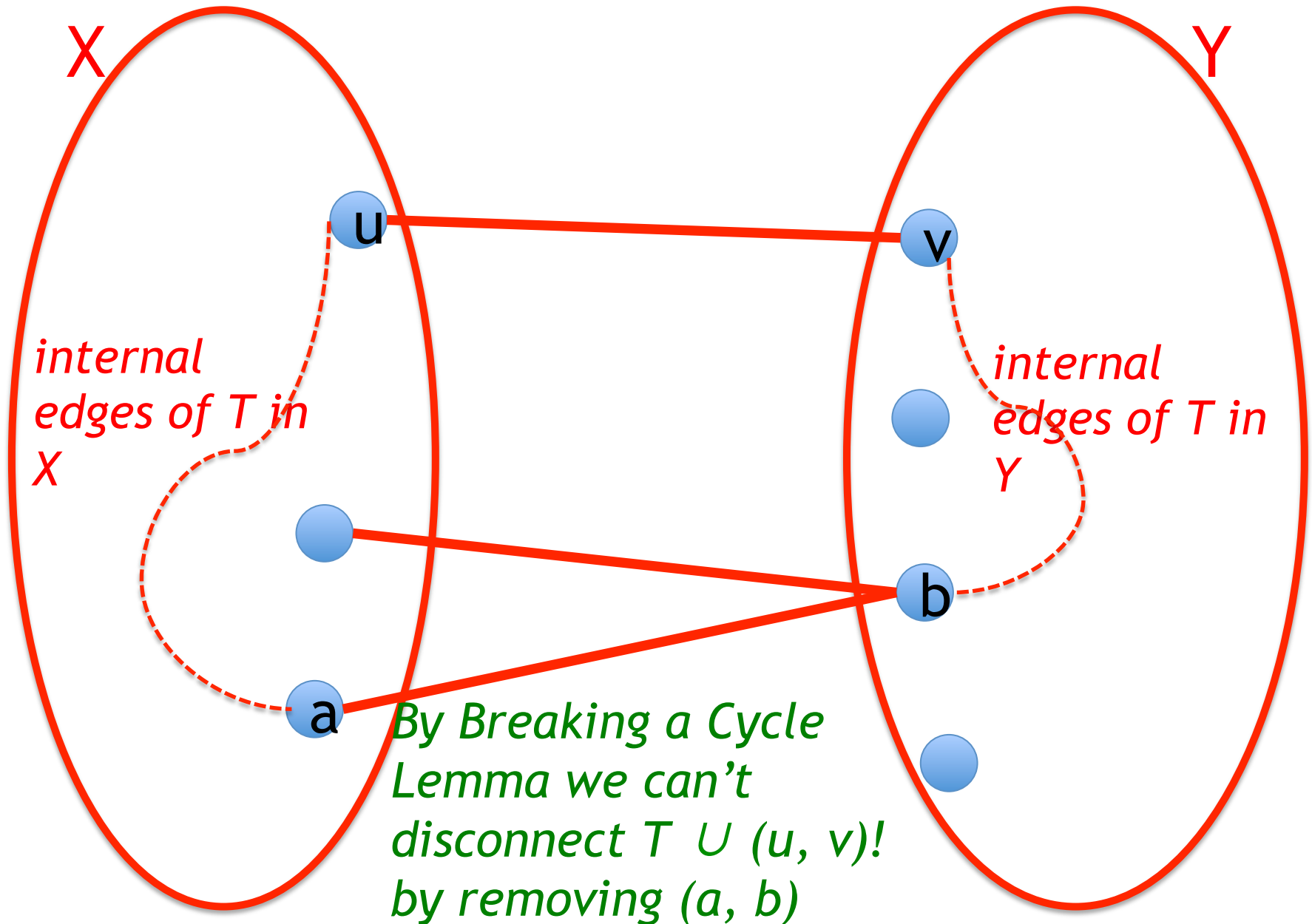
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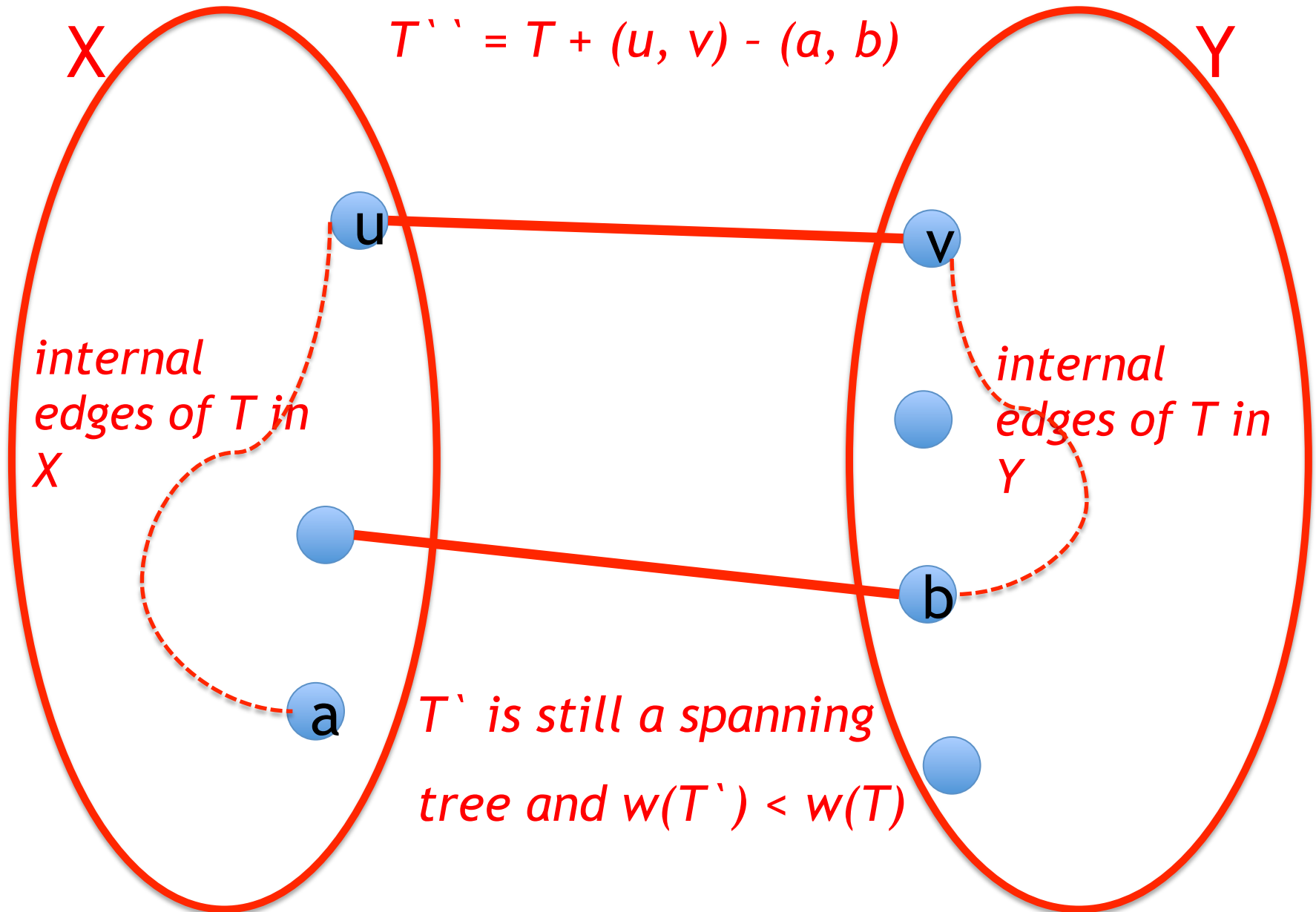


# Proof of MST Cut Property (Exchange Argument)





# Proof of MST Cut Property (Exchange Argument)



# Proof of MST Cut Property (Exchange Argument)

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- ◆ Started with  $(X, Y)$  cut, and  $e=(u, v)$ : min edge crossing  $(X, Y)$
- ◆ Took any minimum spanning tree  $T$  that did not include  $e$ .
- ◆ Added  $e$  to  $T \Rightarrow$  created a cycle  $C$  (by cycle-creation-lemma)
- ◆ By DCL, there is another edge  $e'$  that crosses  $(X, Y)$
- ◆ Removed  $e' \Rightarrow T'$
- ◆ By Breaking A Cycle Lemma:  $T'$  is still connected
- ◆ Therefore  $w(T') < w(T) \Rightarrow T$  was not an MST.

*$\Rightarrow$  Every MST has to include  $e$ !*

Q.E.D.