# Kruskal Algorithm (1956)

Approach: Maintain a forest. In each step, add an edge of minimum weight that does not create a cycle.

Start: At the beginning, each vertex is a (trivial) tree.

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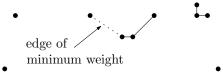
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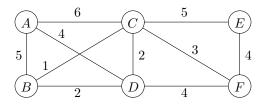
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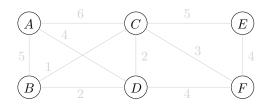
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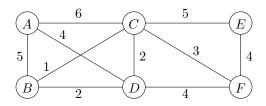


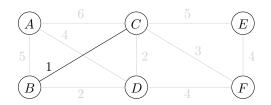
One Iteration: Combine two trees using an edge of minimum weight.

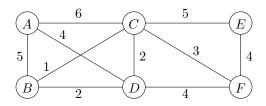


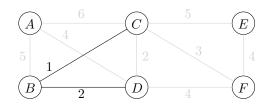


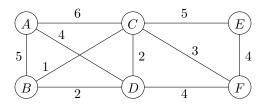


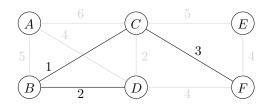


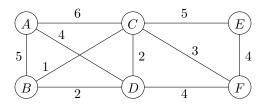


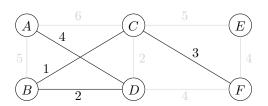


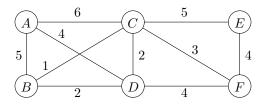




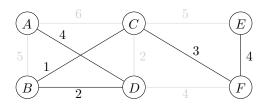








BC, BD, CD, CF, AD, DF, EF, AB, CE, AC



Total weight: 14

# **Algorithm** Kruskal(G)

```
Input: G = (V, E), where V = \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_n\} and m = |E|.
Output: A minimum spanning tree of G.
 1: Sort the edges of E by weight using Merge Sort: e_1, e_2, ..., e_m
 2: for i = 1 to n do
 3: V_i = \{x_i\}
 4: end for
 5: T = \{ \}
 6: for k = 1 to m do
 7:
       let u_k and v_k be the vertices of e_k.
 8:
       let i be the index such that u_k \in V_i
 9:
      let j be the index such that v_k \in V_i
10: if i \neq j then
11: V_i = V_i \cup V_i
12: V_i = \{ \}
      T = T \cup \{\{u_k, v_k\}\}\
13:
14:
       end if
15: end for
```

16: **return** *T* 

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(do you see why?)

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  - Store T in a linked list. Total time to maintain this list: O(n) time
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In this second For-Loop, we do

- 2*m* **Find** operations
- n-1 **Union** operations

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So the total time is

$$O(m\log(n)) + O(n) + O(m+n\log(n)) = O(m\log(n))$$

Do you see why?

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Conclusion: Kruskal computes an MST in  $O(m \log(n))$  time.