

# Shortest and Longest paths on DAGs

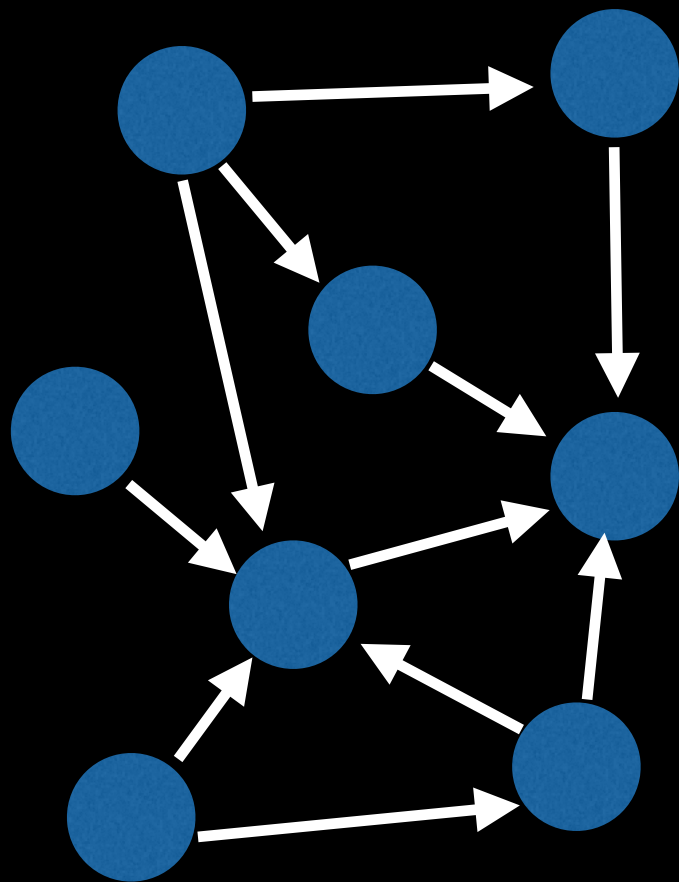
William Fiset

# Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)

Recall that a **Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)** is a graph with directed edges and no cycles. By definition this means all **trees** are automatically DAGs since they do not contain cycles.

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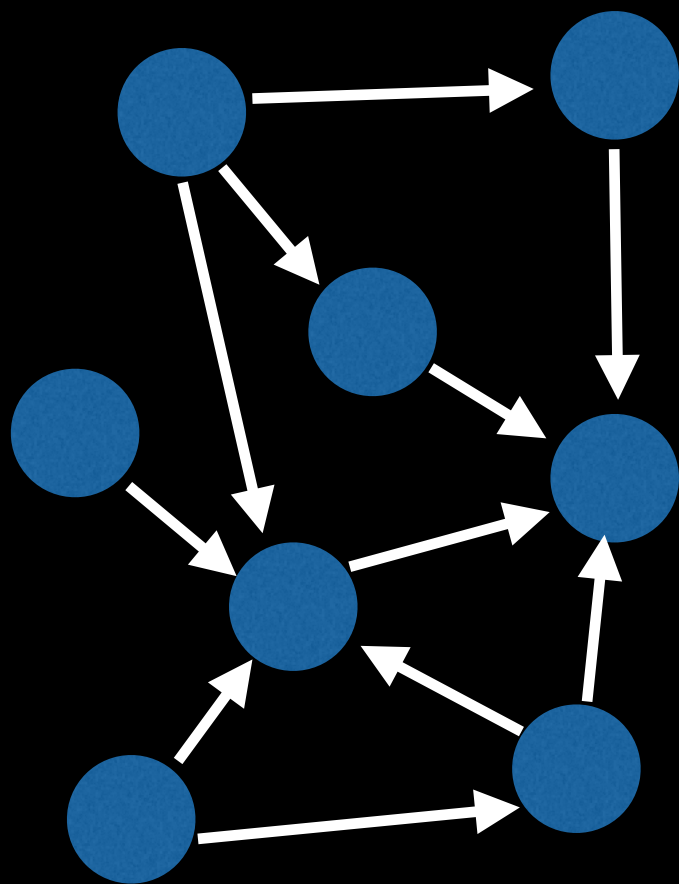
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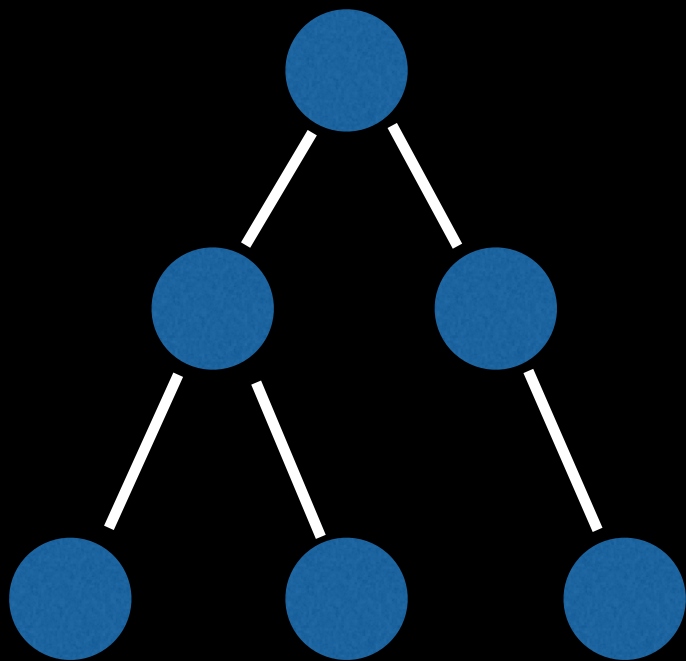


Q: Is this graph a DAG?

A: Yes!

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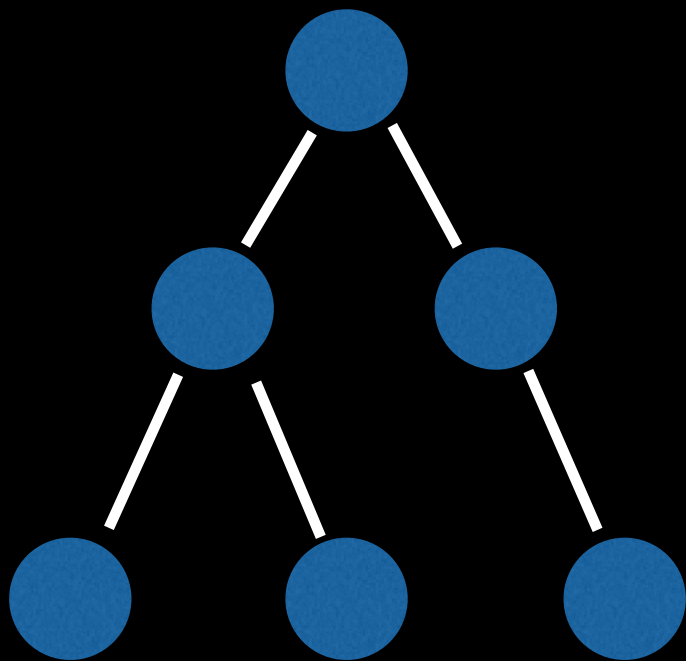
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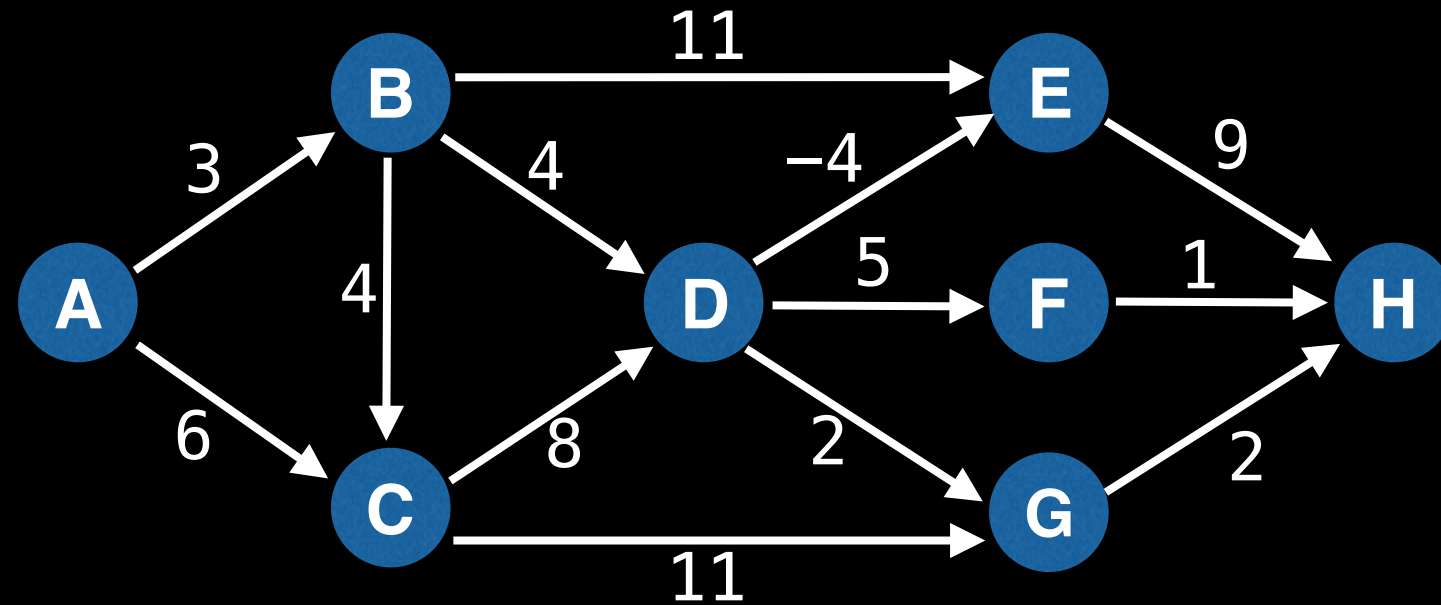
A: No, the structure may be a tree, but it does not have directed edges.

# SSSP on DAG

The **Single Source Shortest Path (SSSP)** problem can be solved efficiently on a DAG in  $O(V+E)$  time. This is due to the fact that the nodes can be ordered in a **topological ordering** via topsort and processed sequentially.

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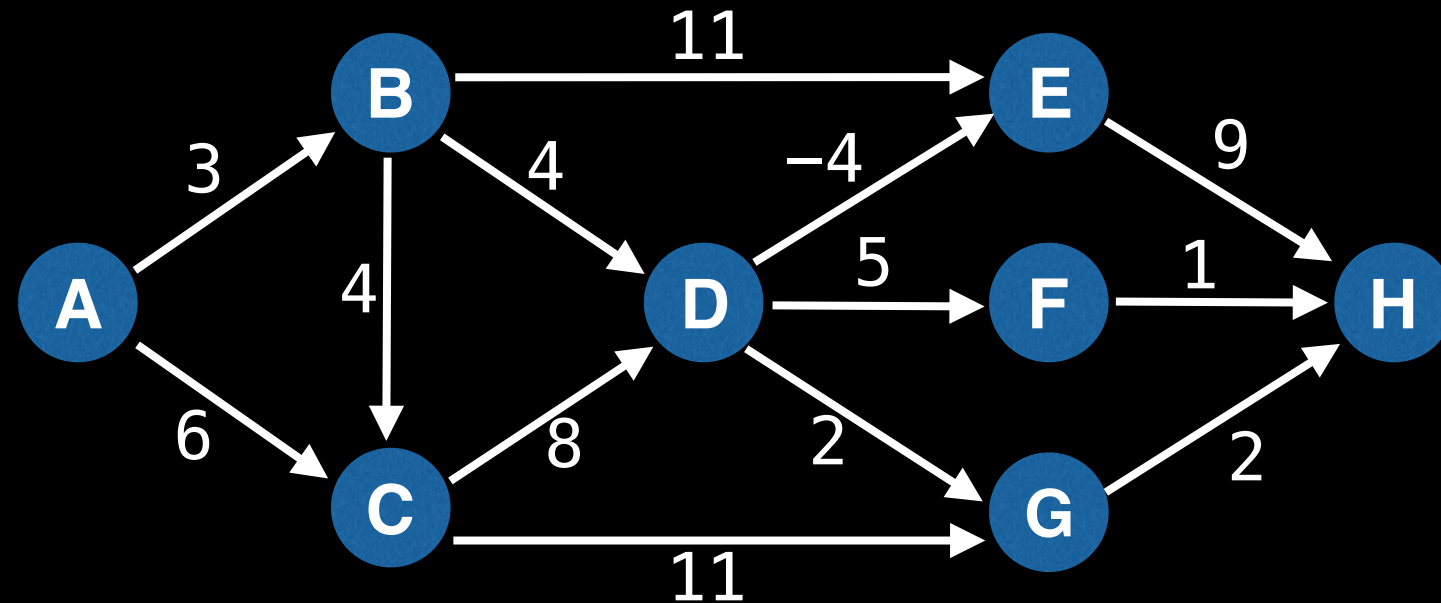
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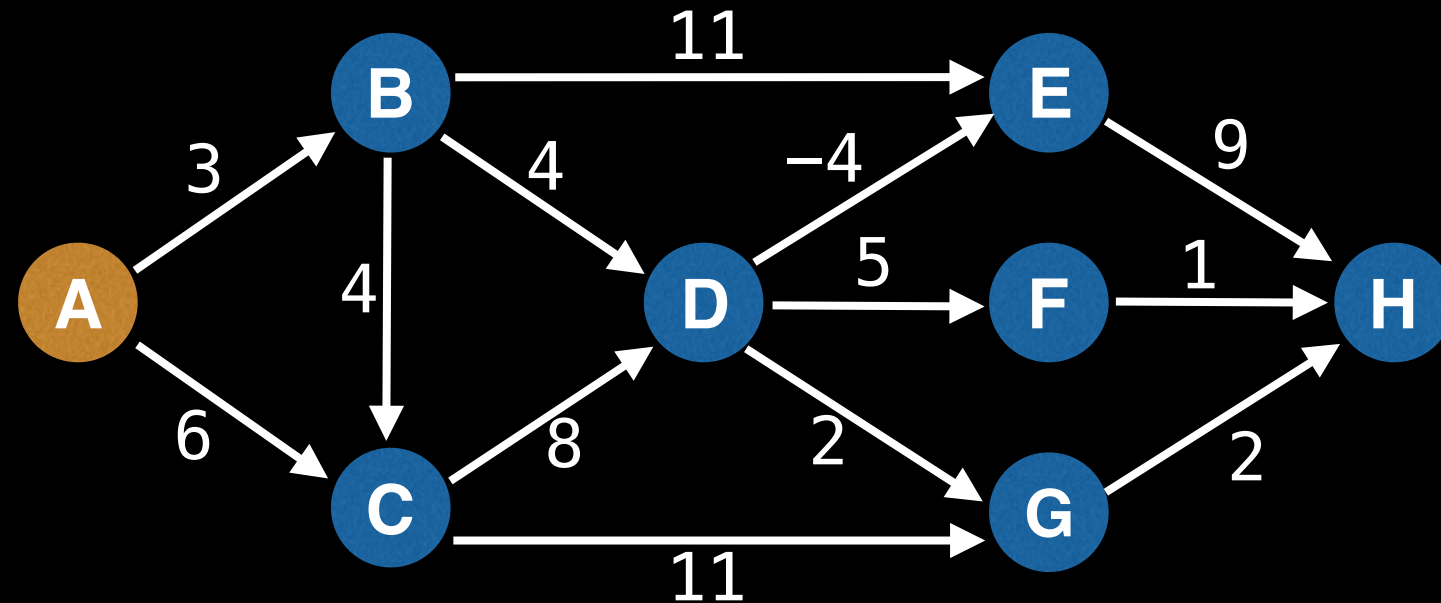


Arbitrary topological order: A, B, C, D, G, E, F, H

$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

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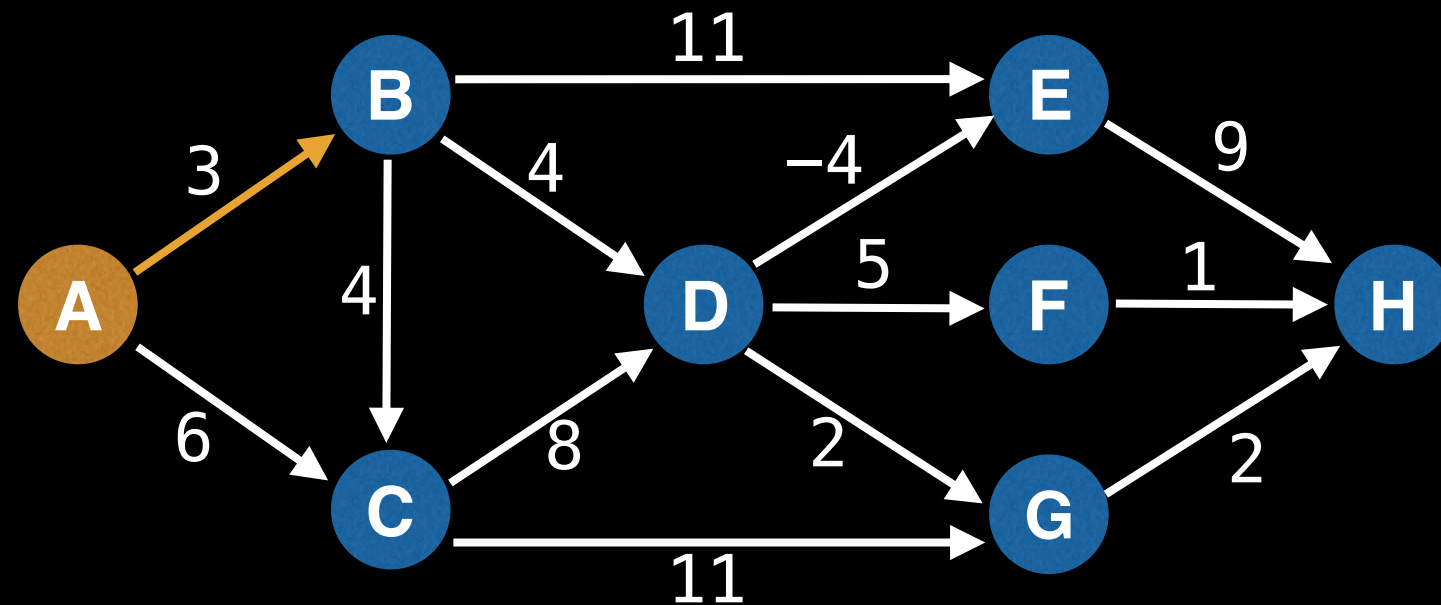


Arbitrary topological order: **A**, B, C, D, G, E, F, H

0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
<b>A</b>	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

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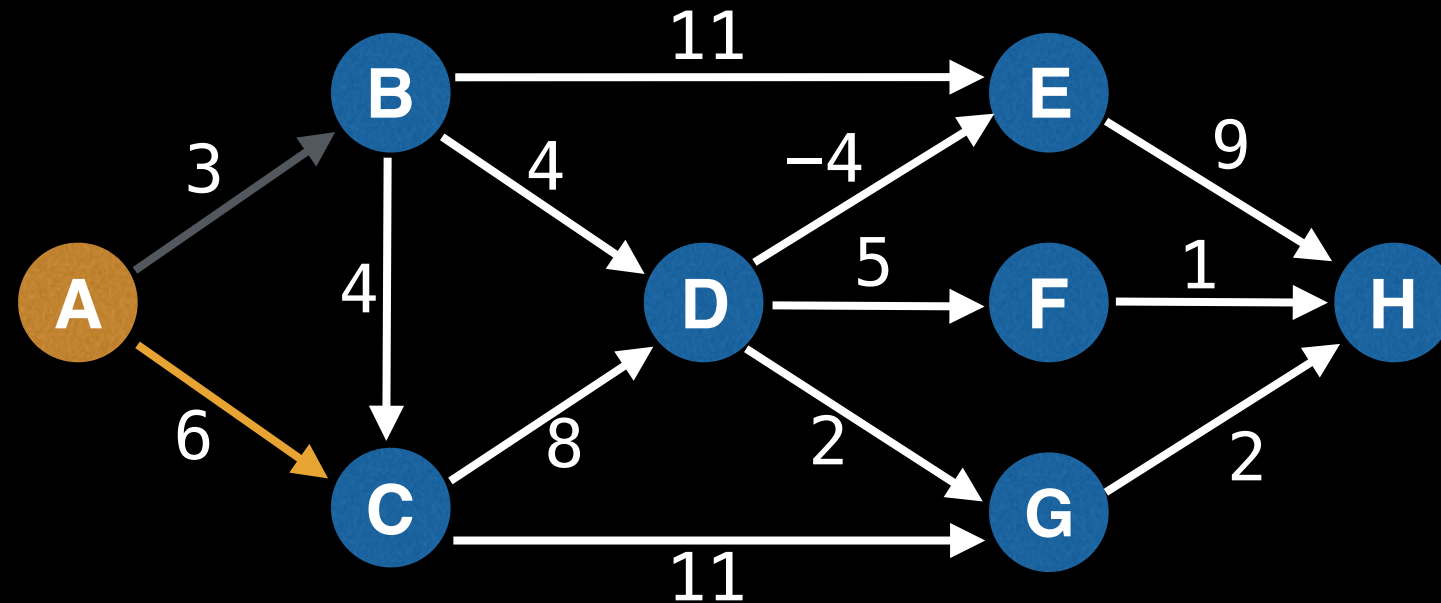


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0	3	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
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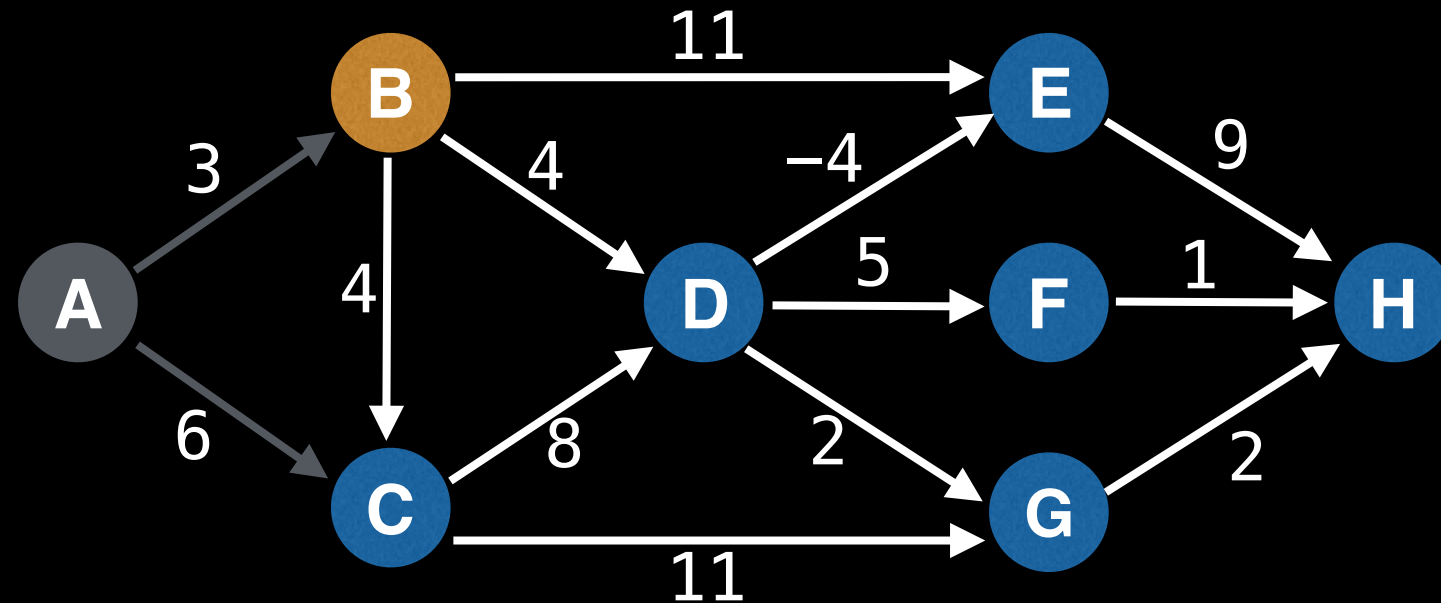


Arbitrary topological order: **A**, B, C, D, G, E, F, H

0	3	6	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
<b>A</b>	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

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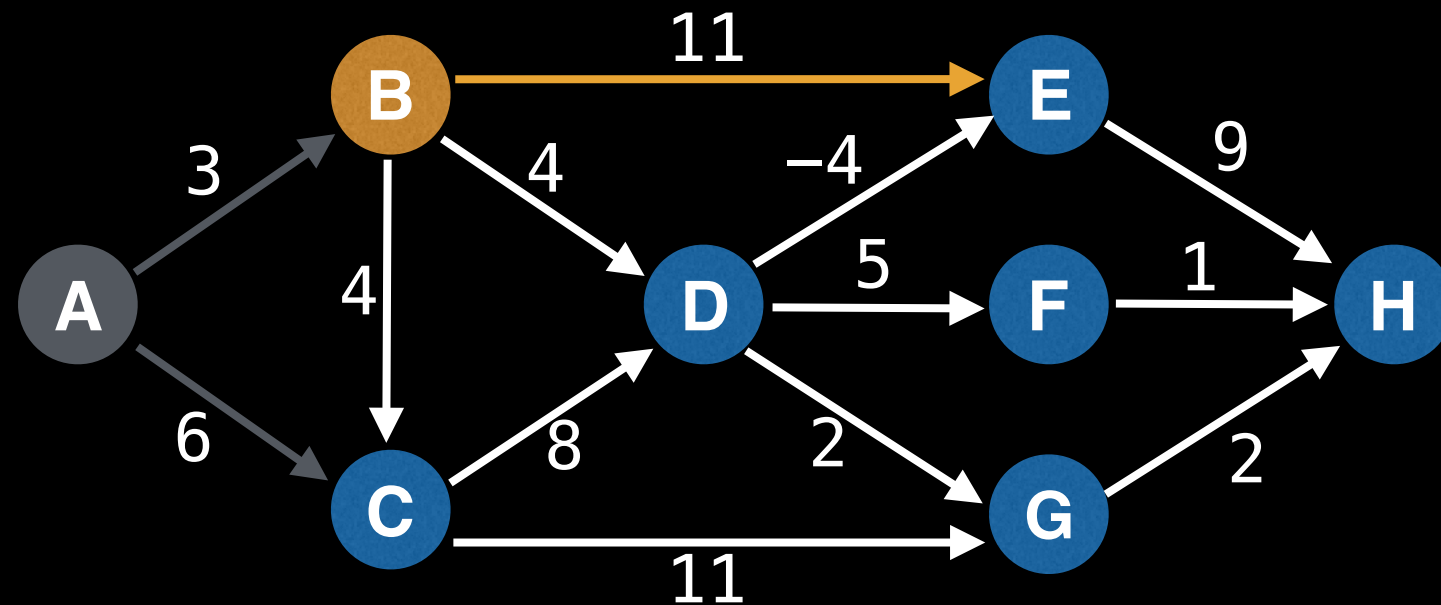


Arbitrary topological order: A, **B**, C, D, G, E, F, H

0	3	6	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
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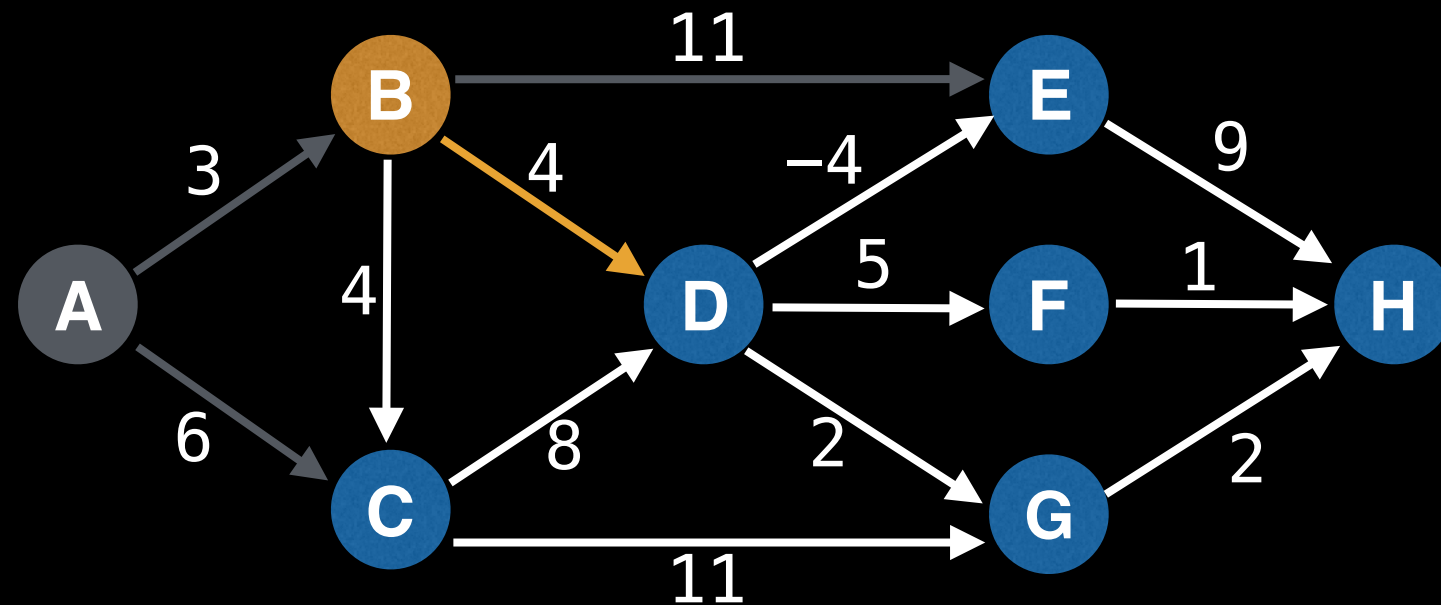


Arbitrary topological order: A, **B**, C, D, G, E, F, H

0	3	6	$\infty$	14	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
A	<b>B</b>	C	D	E	F	G	H

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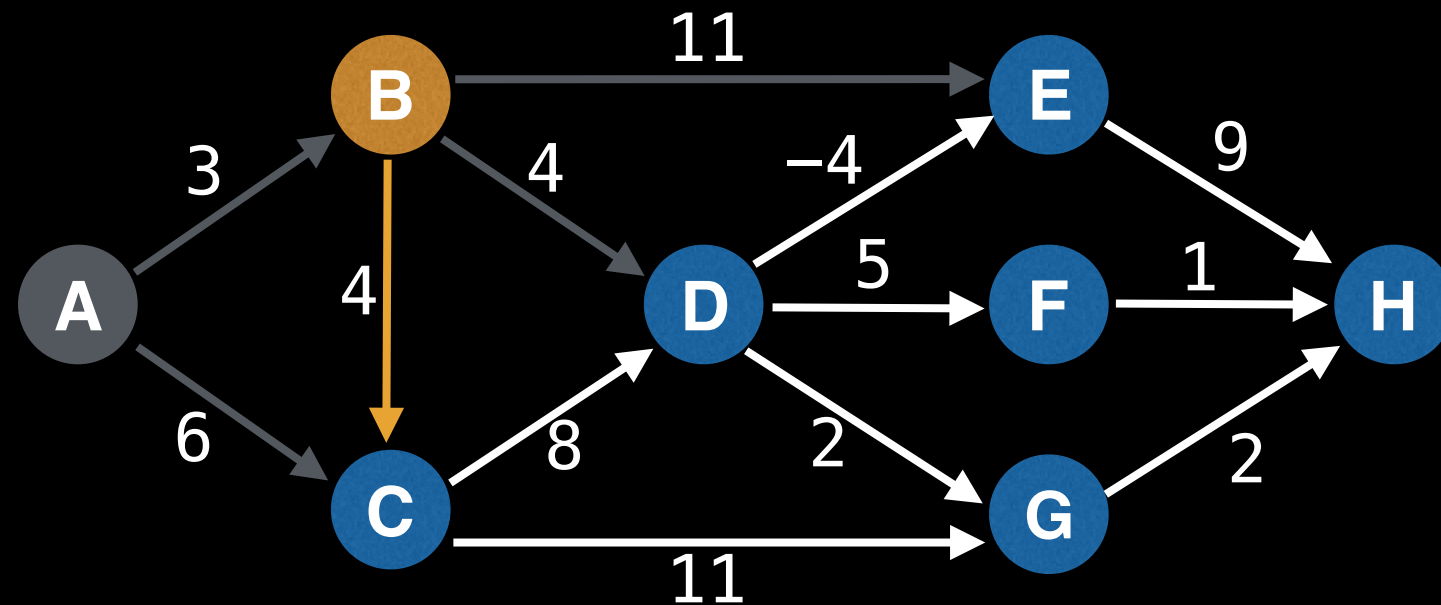


Arbitrary topological order: A, **B**, C, D, G, E, F, H

0	3	6	7	14	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
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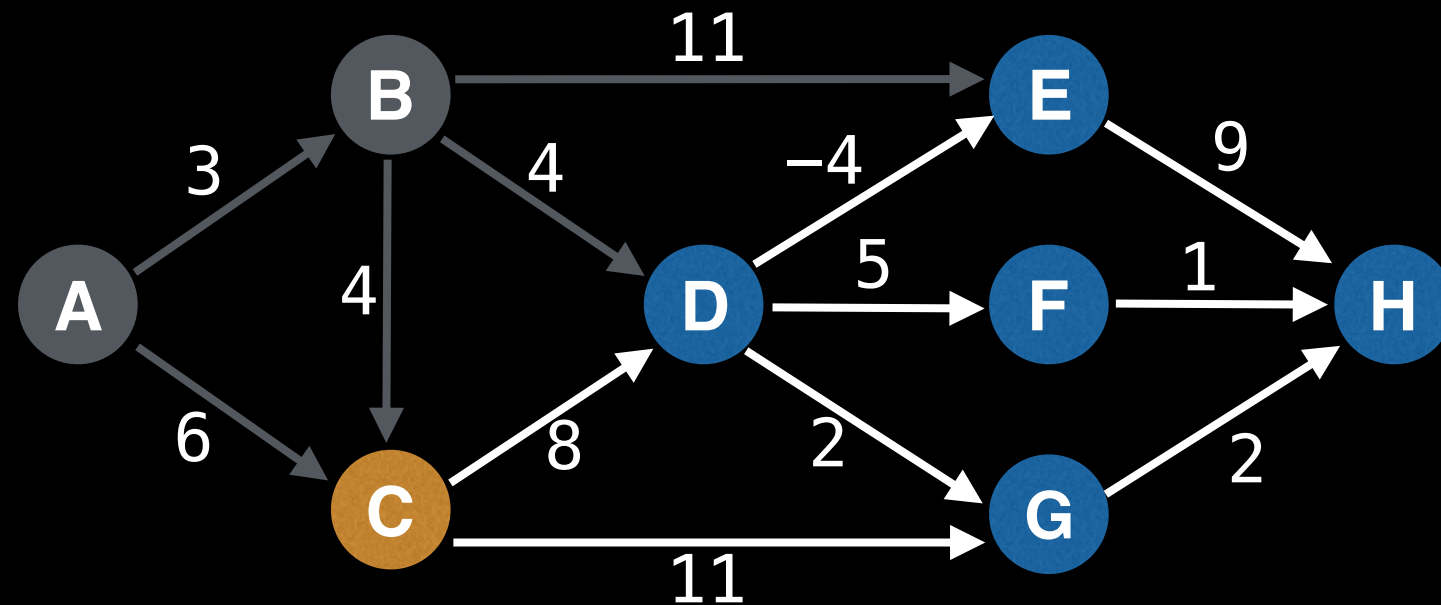
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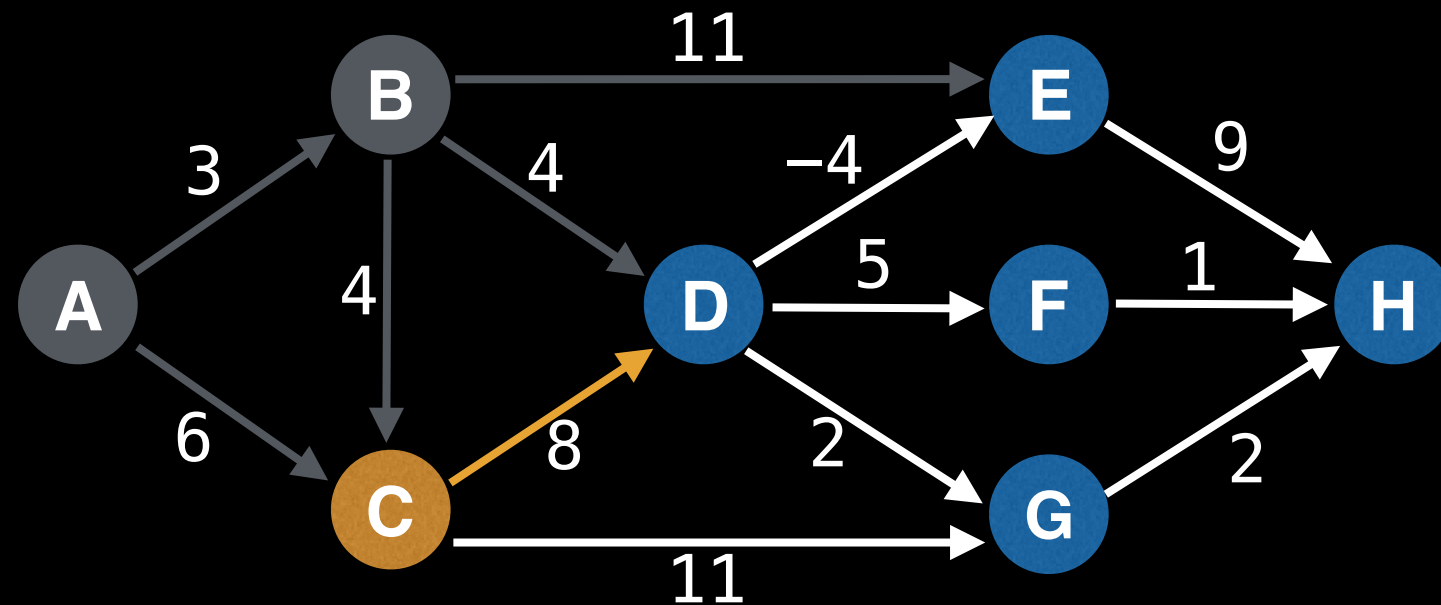


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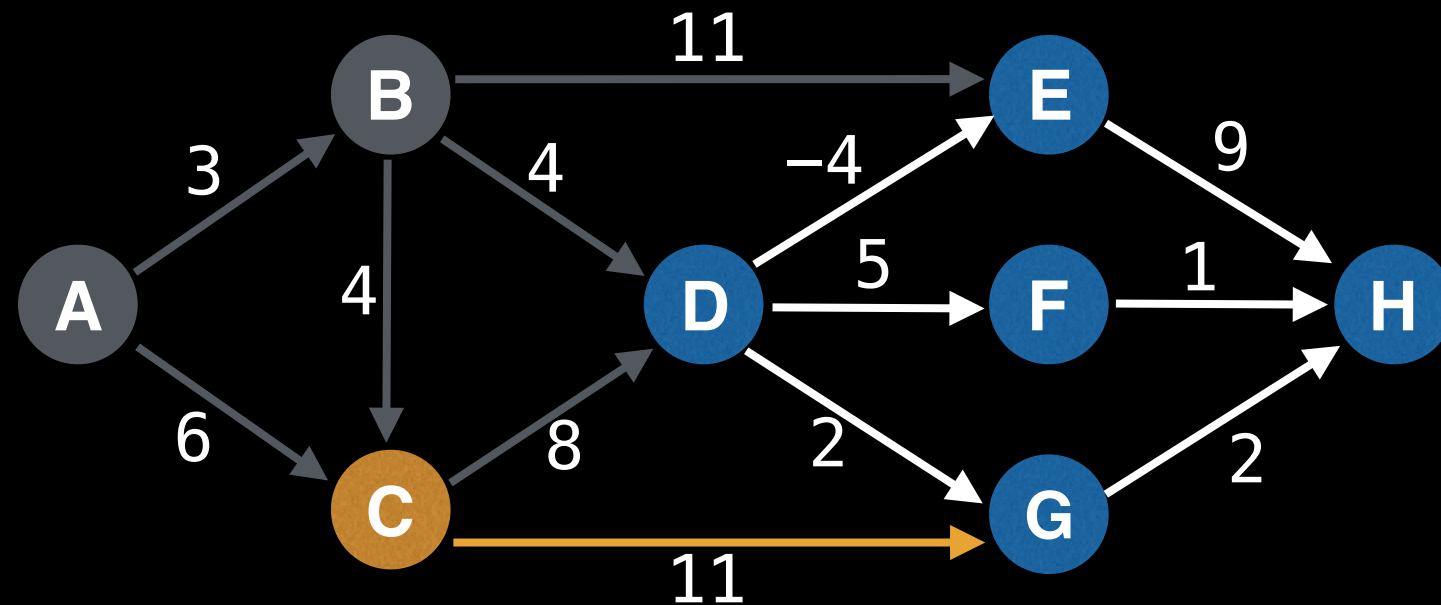


Arbitrary topological order: A, B, **C**, D, G, E, F, H

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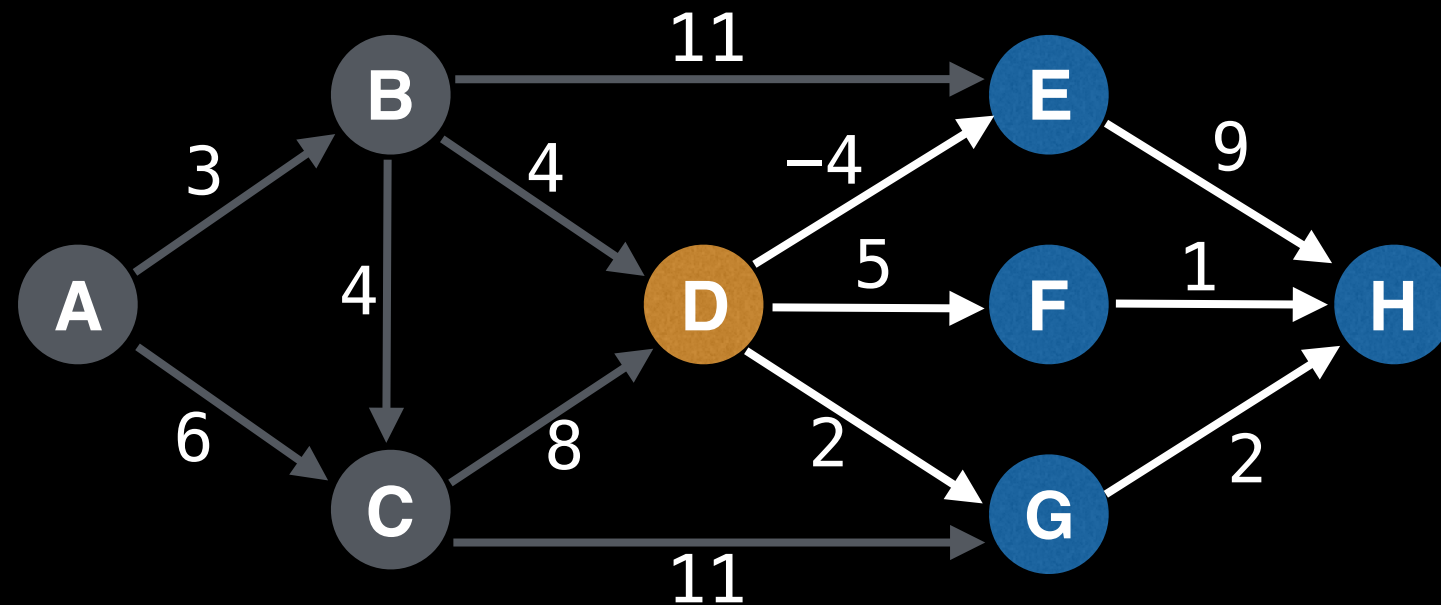


Arbitrary topological order: A, B, **C**, D, G, E, F, H

0	3	6	7	14	$\infty$	17	$\infty$
A	B	<b>C</b>	D	E	F	G	H

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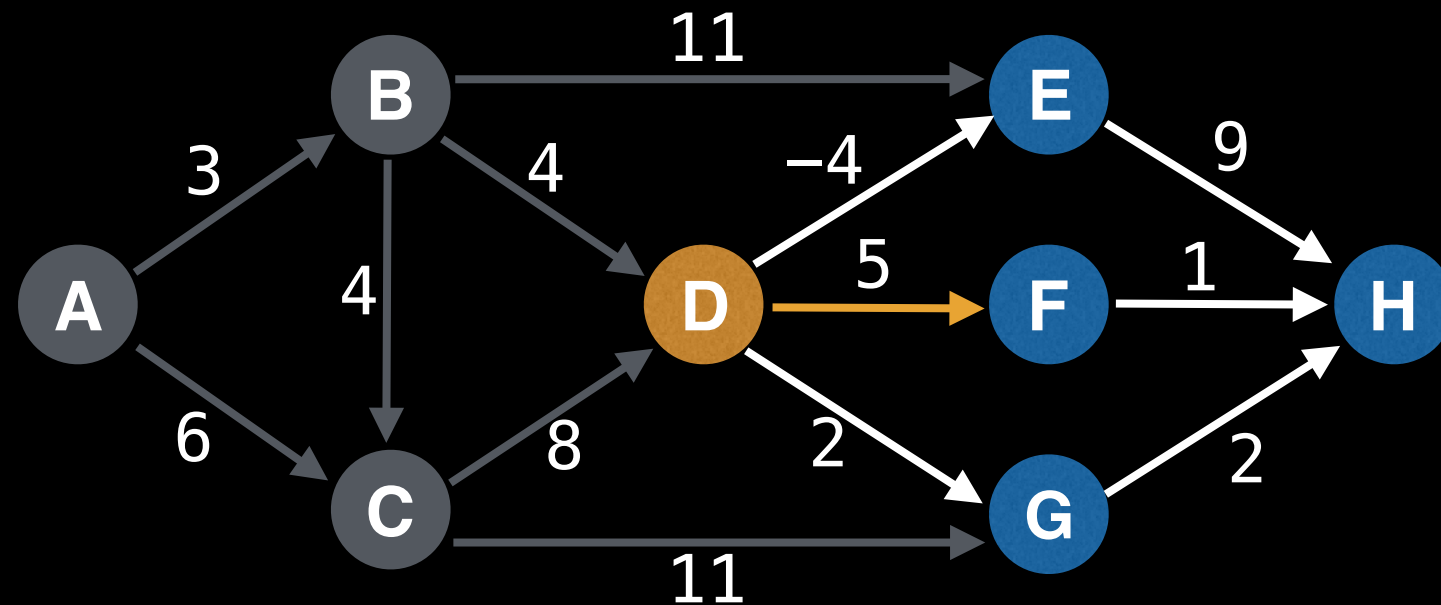


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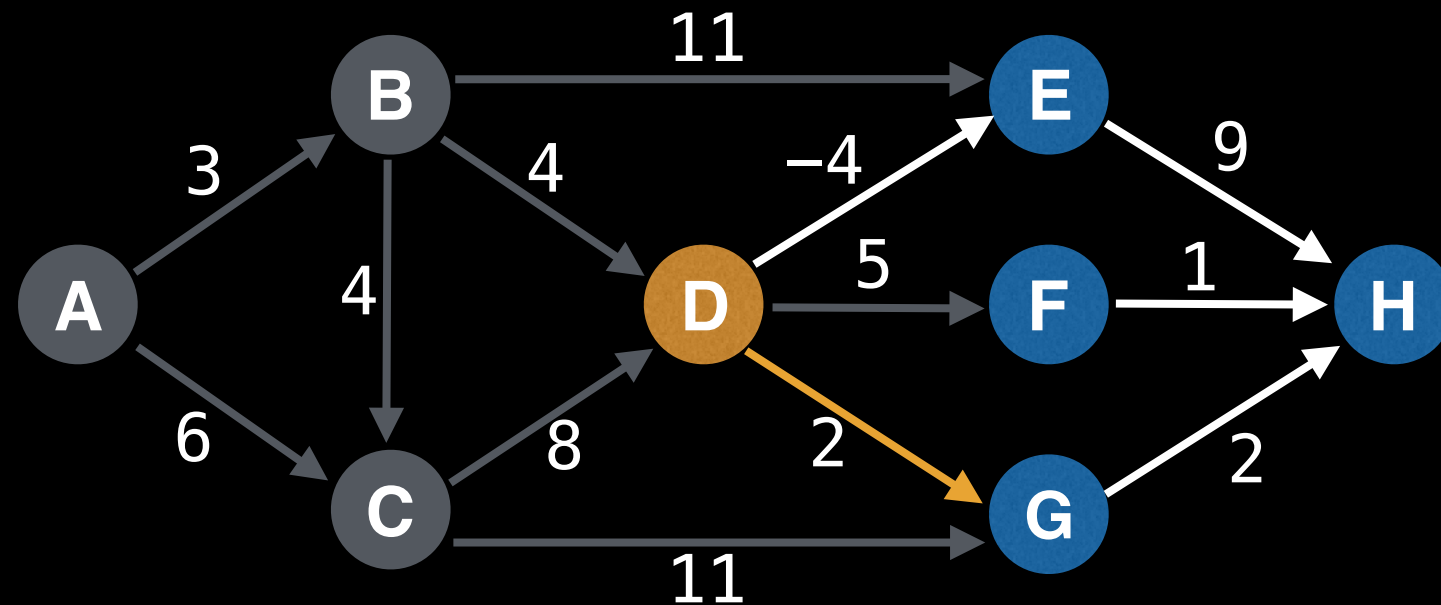


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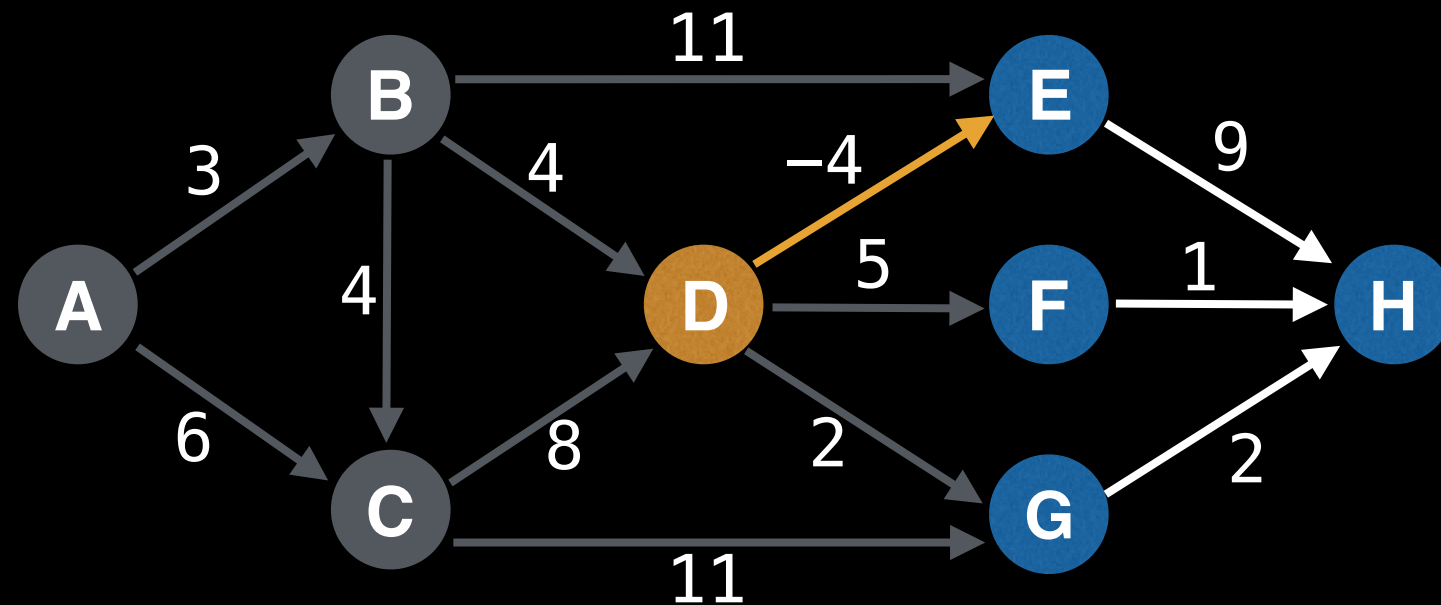


Arbitrary topological order: A, B, C, **D**, G, E, F, H

0	3	6	7	14	12	9	$\infty$
A	B	C	<b>D</b>	E	F	G	H

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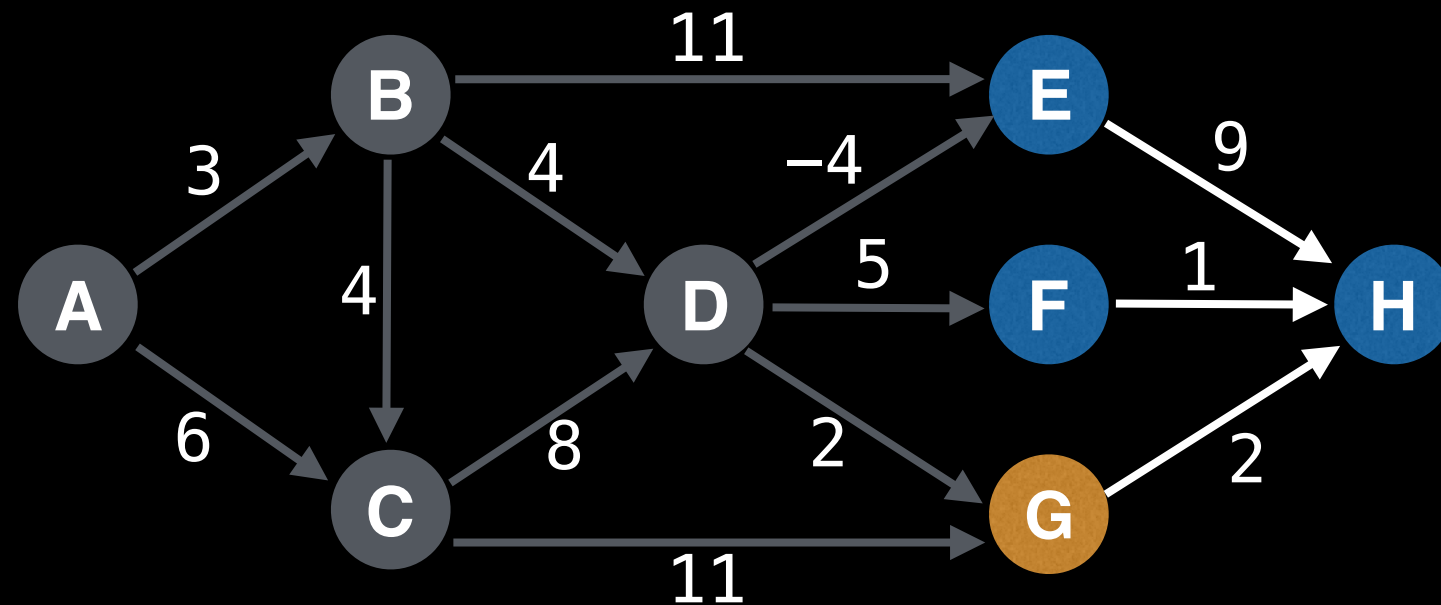


Arbitrary topological order: A, B, C, **D**, G, E, F, H

0	3	6	7	3	12	9	$\infty$
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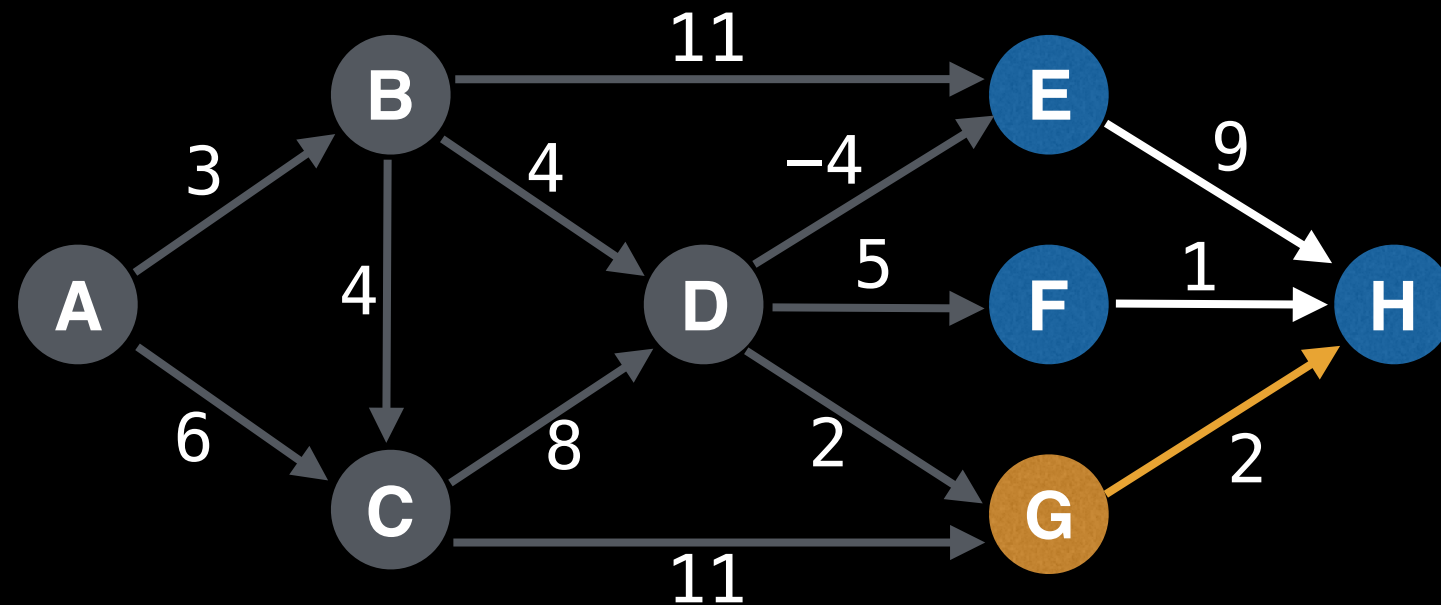
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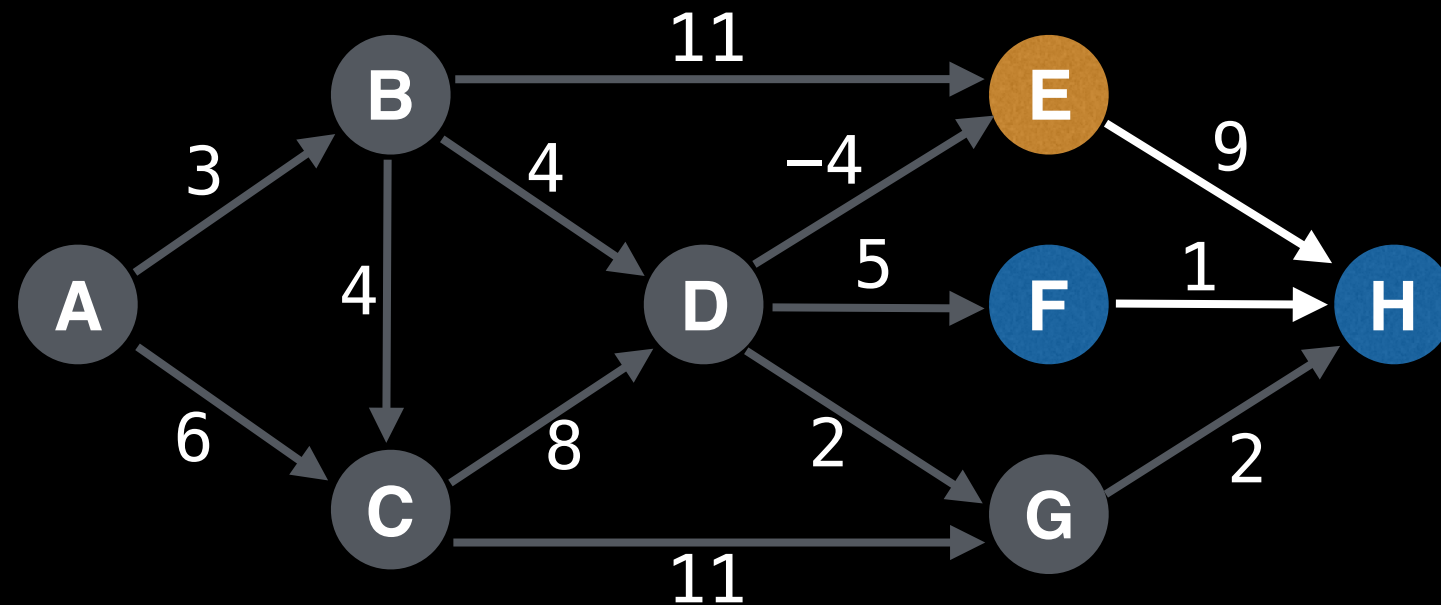


Arbitrary topological order: A, B, C, D, **G**, E, F, H

0	3	6	7	3	12	9	11
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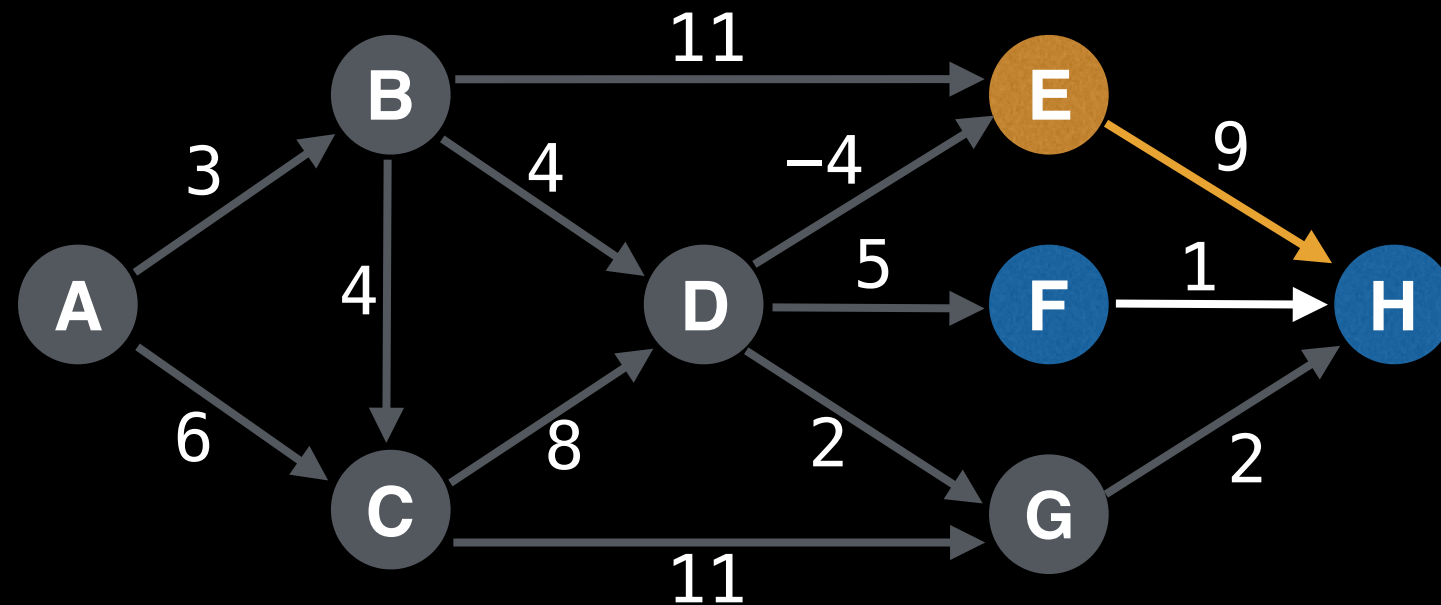


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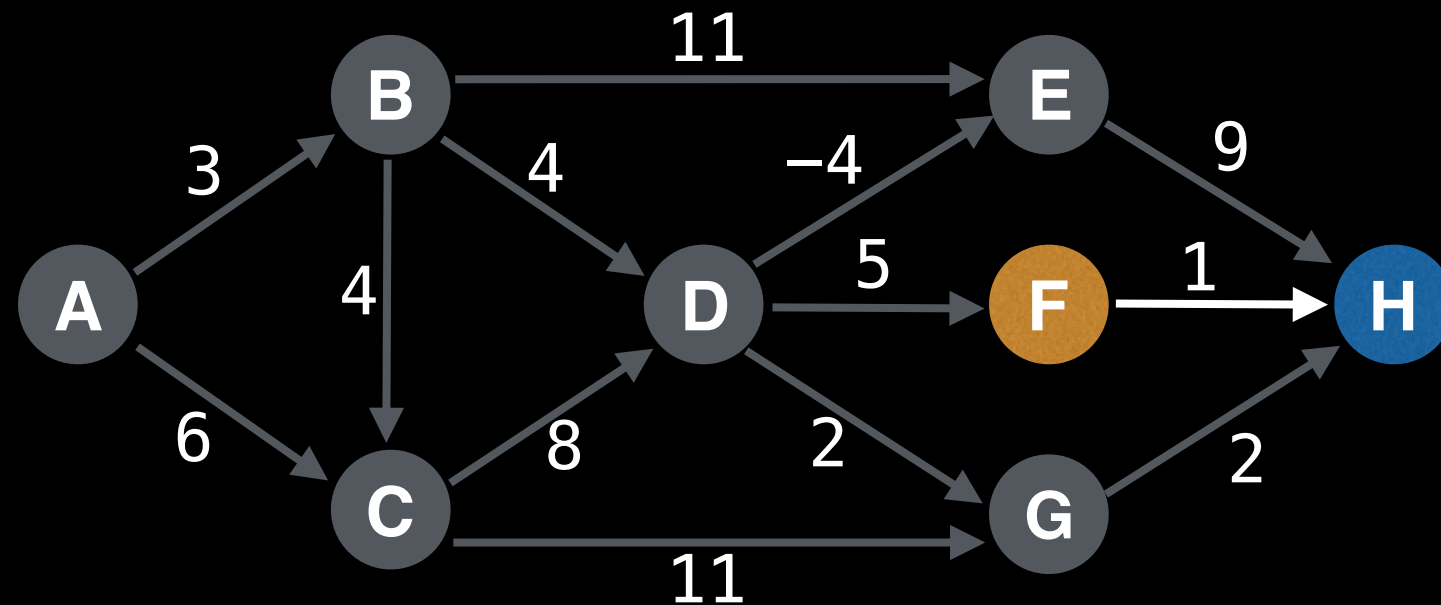


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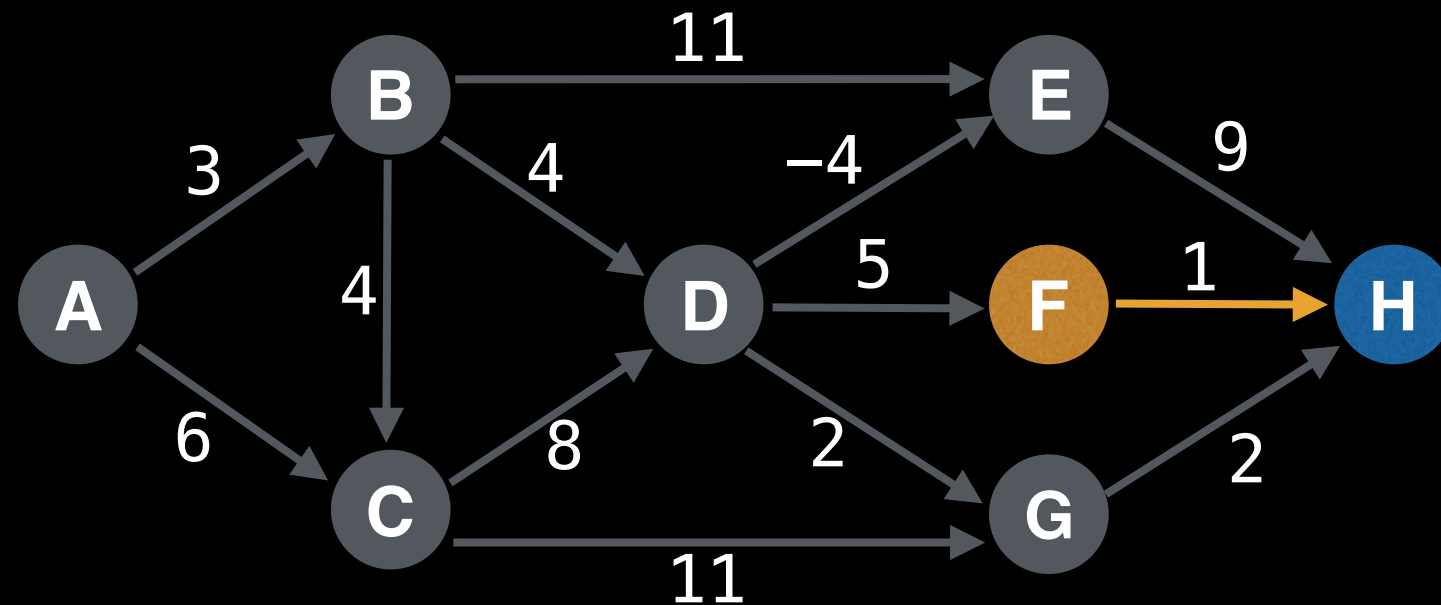


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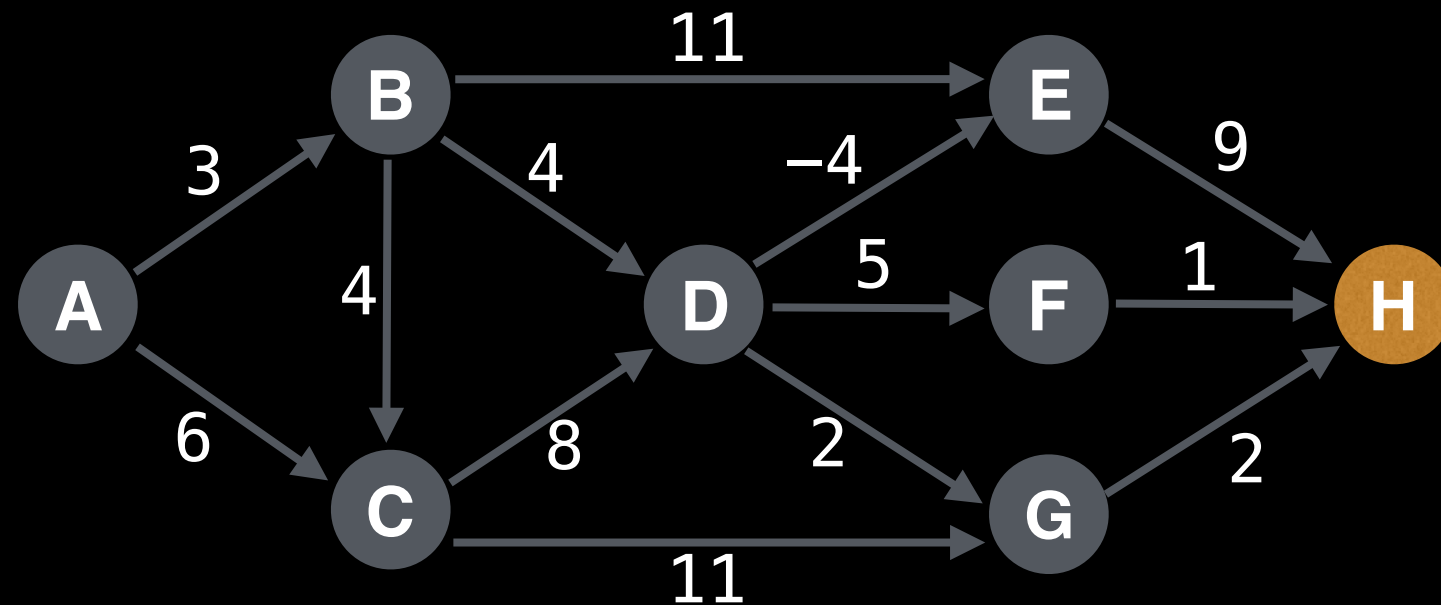


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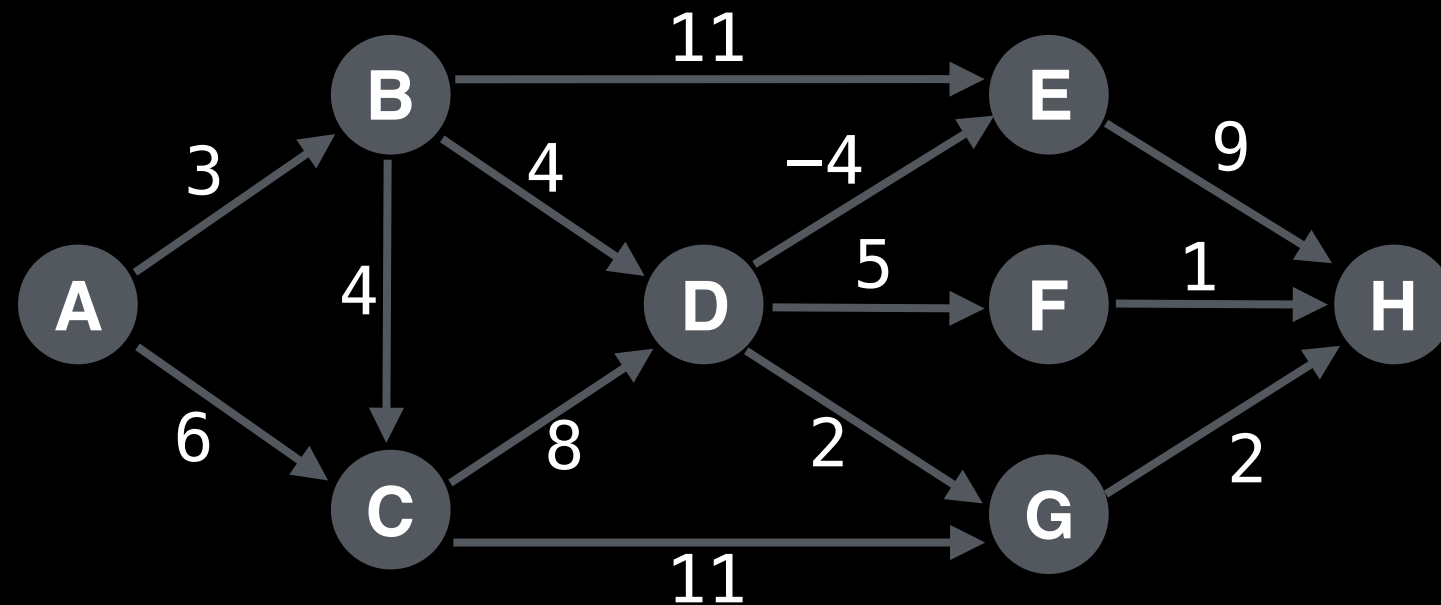


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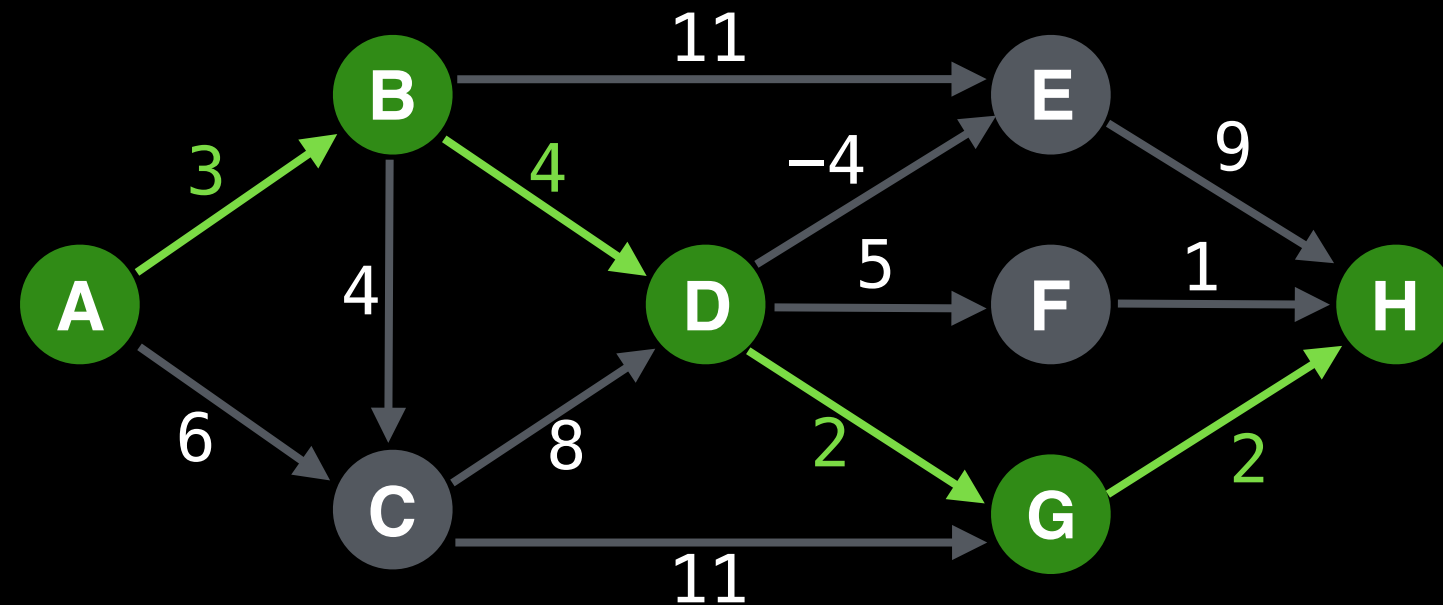


**Arbitrary topological order: A, B, C, D, G, E, F, H**

<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>

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What about the longest path? On a general graph this problem is **NP-Hard**, but on a DAG this problem is solvable in  **$O(V+E)$** !

# Longest path on DAG

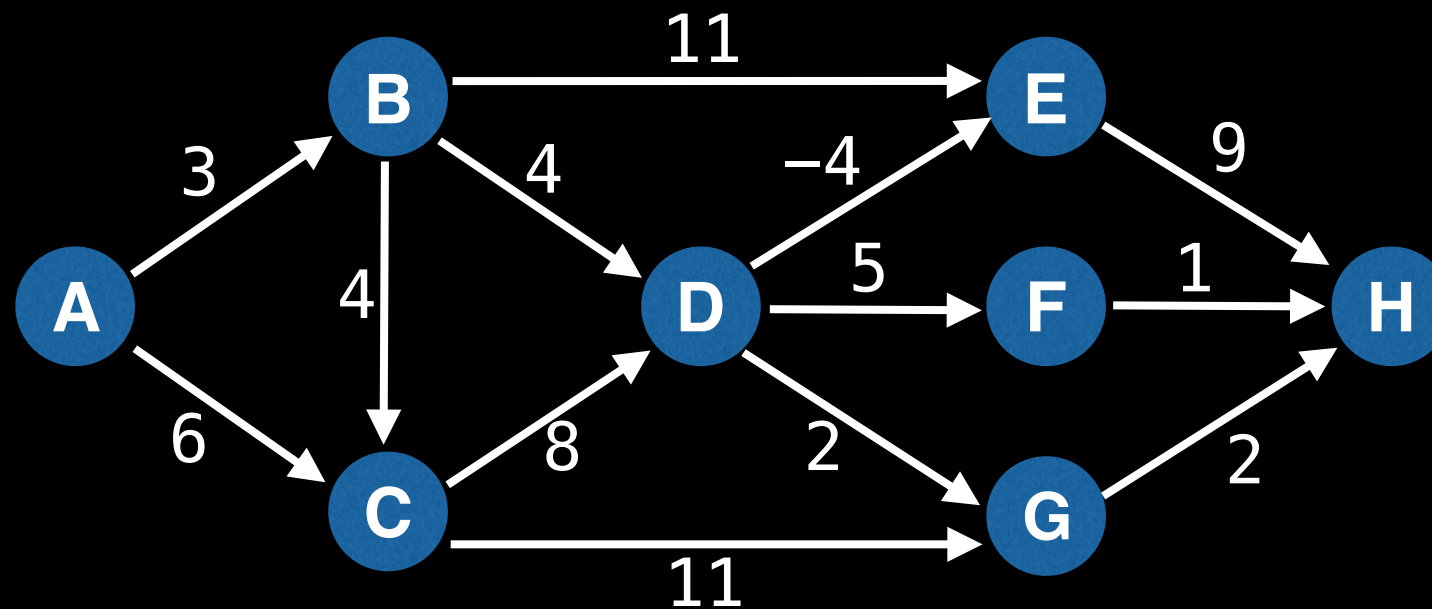
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The trick is to multiply all edge values by  $-1$  then find the shortest path and then multiply the edge values by  $-1$  again!

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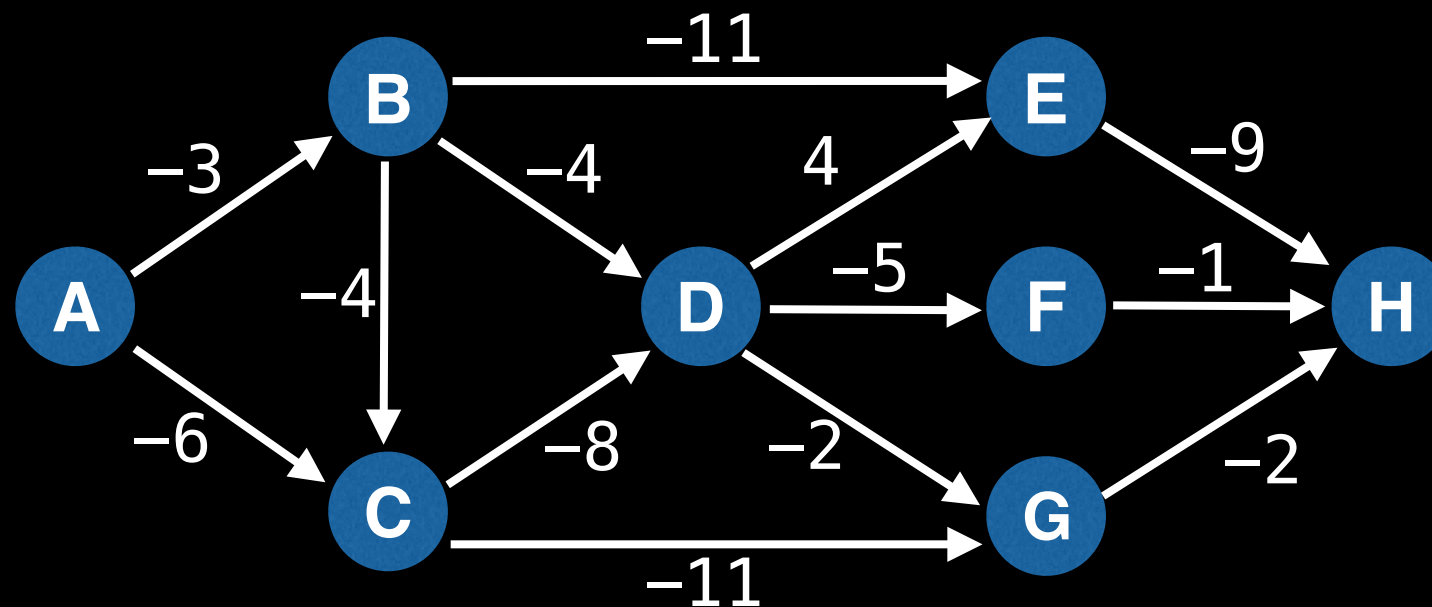
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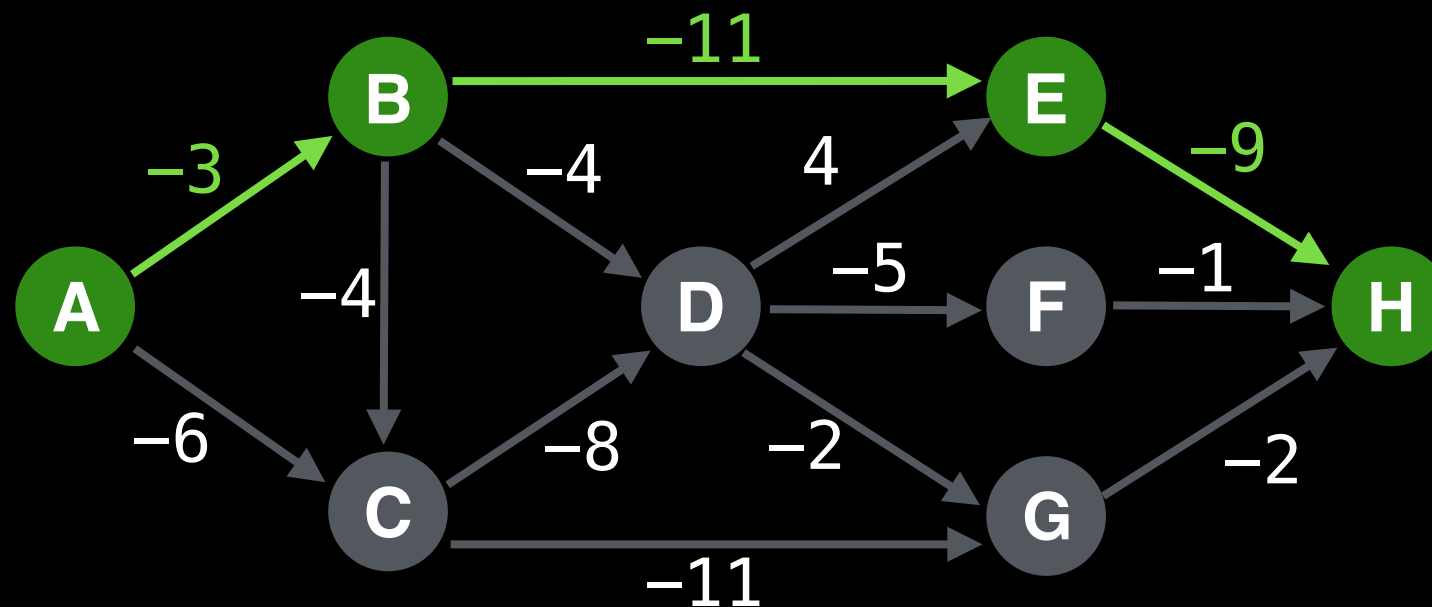
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$$(-3 + -11 + -9) * -1 = 23$$

# Source Code Link

Implementation source code can be found at the following link:

[github.com/williamfiset/algorithms](https://github.com/williamfiset/algorithms)

Link in the description:

