



ALBERT-LUDWIGS-
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

Algorithm Theory

18 Minimum Spanning Trees

Christian Schindelhauer

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
Institut für Informatik
Rechnernetze und Telematik
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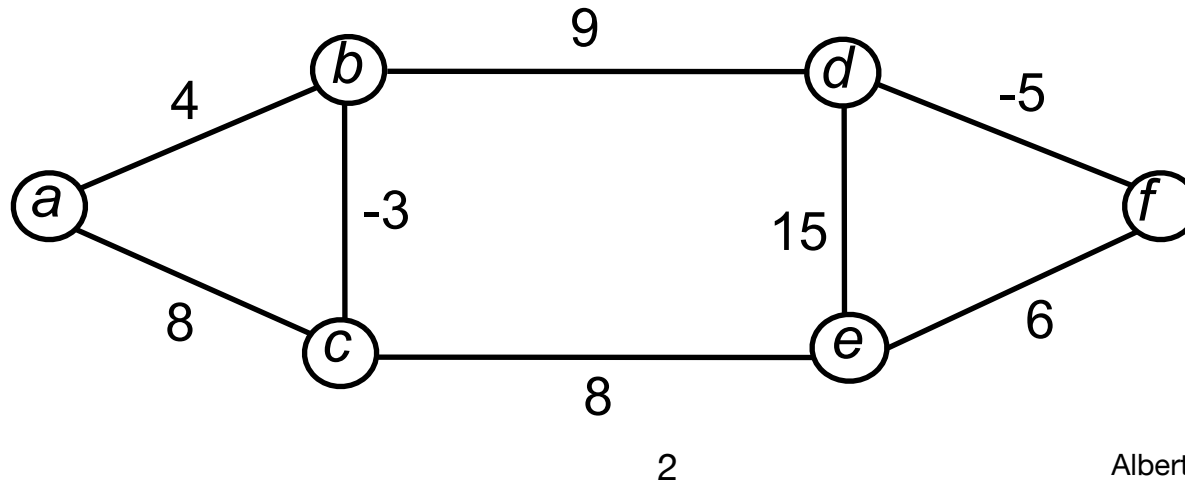
Minimum Spanning Trees

Undirected graph $G = (V, E)$

Weight function $c: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

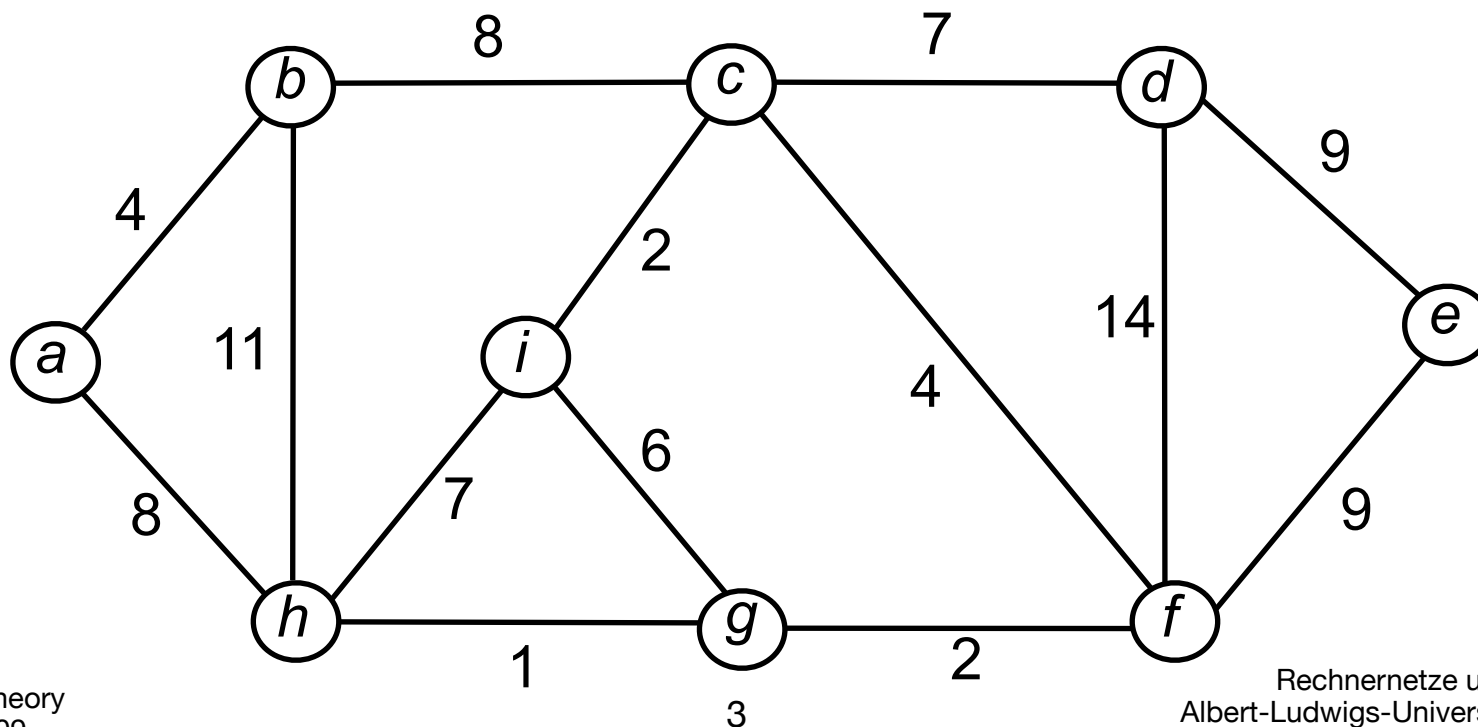
Let $T \subseteq E$ be a tree (connected acyclic subgraph)

Total weight of T : $c(T) = \sum_{(u,v) \in T} c(u,v)$



Minimum Spanning Trees

A tree $T \subseteq E$ connecting all nodes in V with minimum weight is called a **minimum spanning tree**



Growing a MST

▶ **Invariant:**

- Maintain a set $A \subseteq E$ that is a subste of some minimum spanning tree

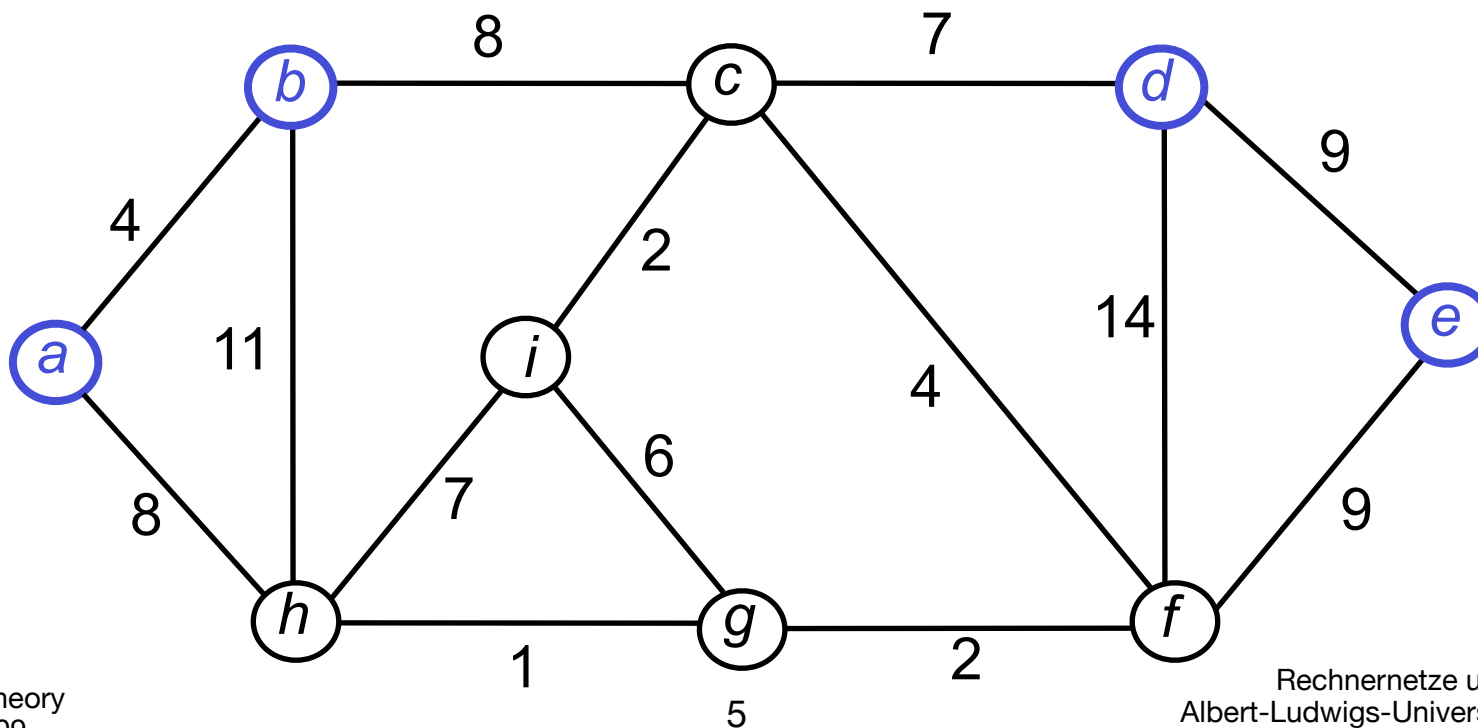
▶ **Definition:**

- An edge $(u,v) \in E \setminus A$ is a **safe edge for A** if $A \cup \{(u,v)\}$ is also a subset of some minimum spanning tree

Cuts

A cut $(S, V \setminus S)$ is a partition of V .

An edge (u,v) crosses $(S, V \setminus S)$, if one of its endpoints is in S and the other is in $V \setminus S$.



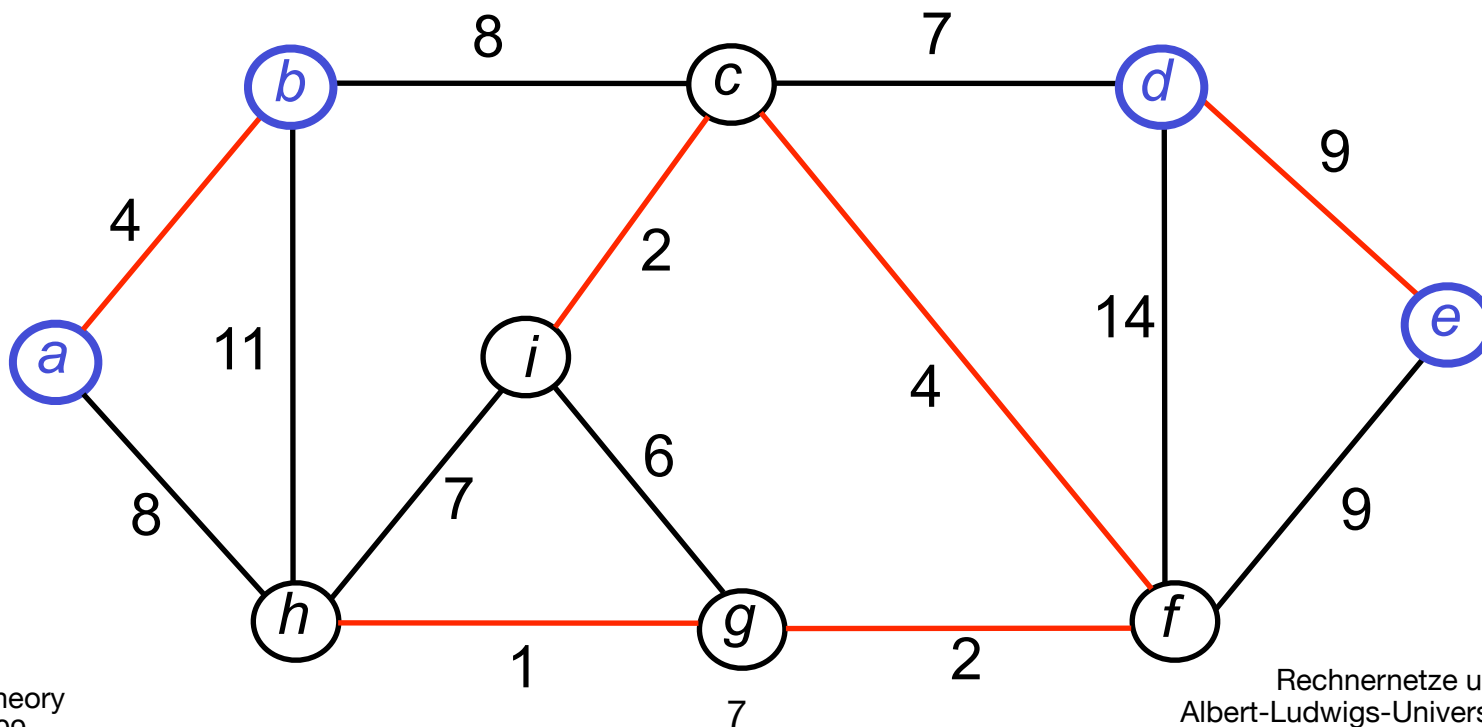
Greedy Approach

Algorithm Generic-MST(G, w)

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

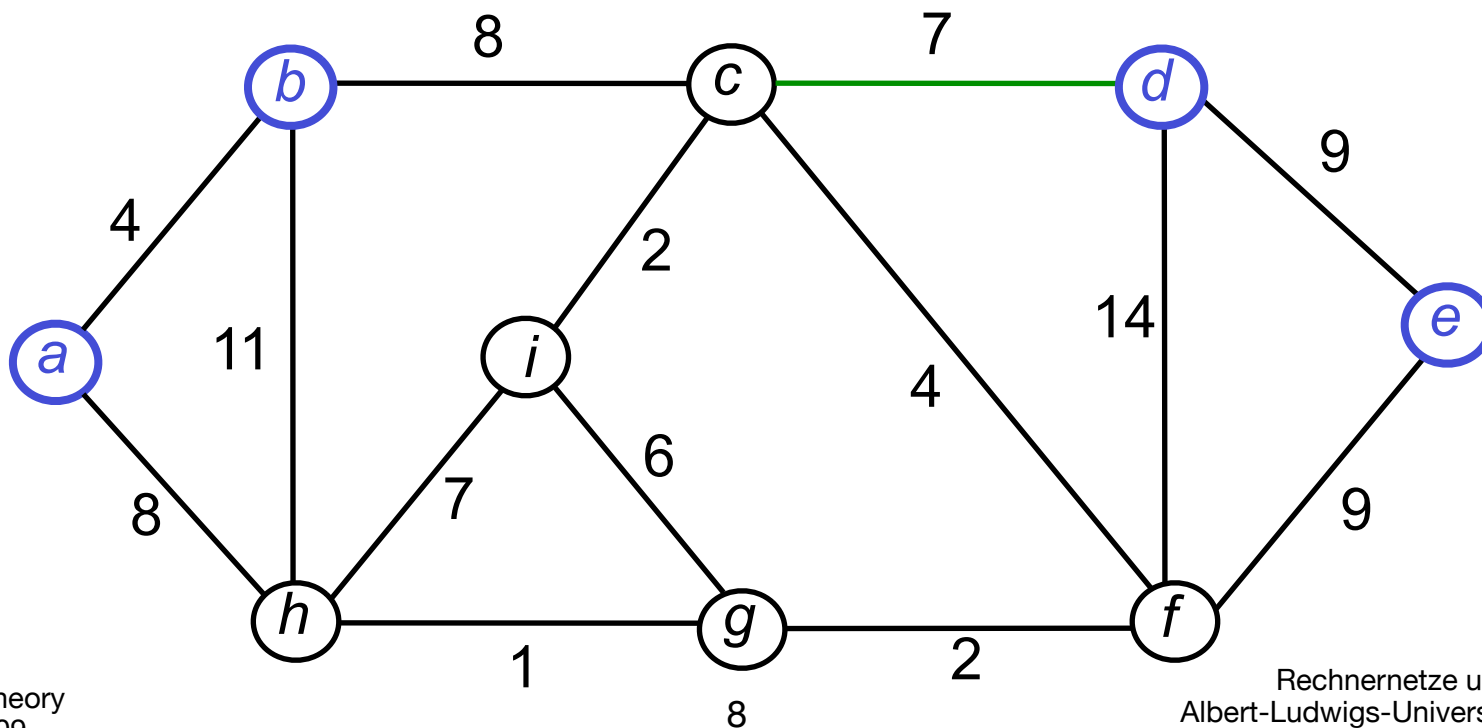
Cuts

- ▶ A **cut respects** a set **A** of edges if no edges in **A** crosses the cut



Cuts

An edge is a **light edge crossing a certain cut** if its weight is the minimum of any edge crossing the cut



Safe Edges

Theorem:

Let A be a subset of some minimum spanning Tree T ,
and let $(S, V \setminus S)$ be a cut that respects A , If (u,v) is a
light edge crossing $(S, V \setminus S)$ then (u,v) is safe for A .

Proof

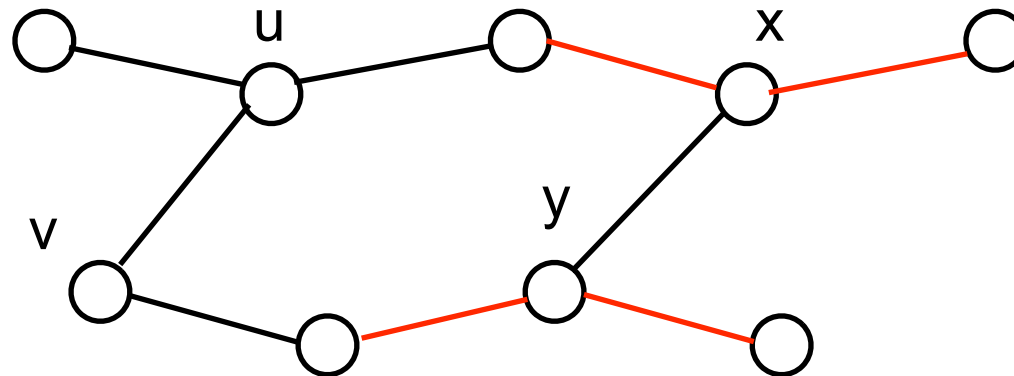
Case 1: $(u,v) \in T$: o.k.

Case 2: $(u,v) \notin T$:

We construct another minimum spanning tree T' with
 $(u,v) \in T'$ and $A \subseteq T'$.

Safe Edges

- ▶ **Adding (u,v) to T yields a cycle.**
 - On this cycle, there is at least one edge (x,y) in T that also crosses the cut



- ▶ $T' = T \setminus \{(x,v)\} \cup \{(u,v)\}$ is a minimum spanning tree, since
 - $w(T') = w(T) - w(x,y) + w(u,v) \leq w(T)$

The Graph G_A

▶ $G_A=(V,A)$

- is a **forest**, i.e. a collection of trees
- at the beginning, when $A = \emptyset$, each tree consists of a single vertex
- any safe edge for A connects **distinct trees**

▶ **Corollary**

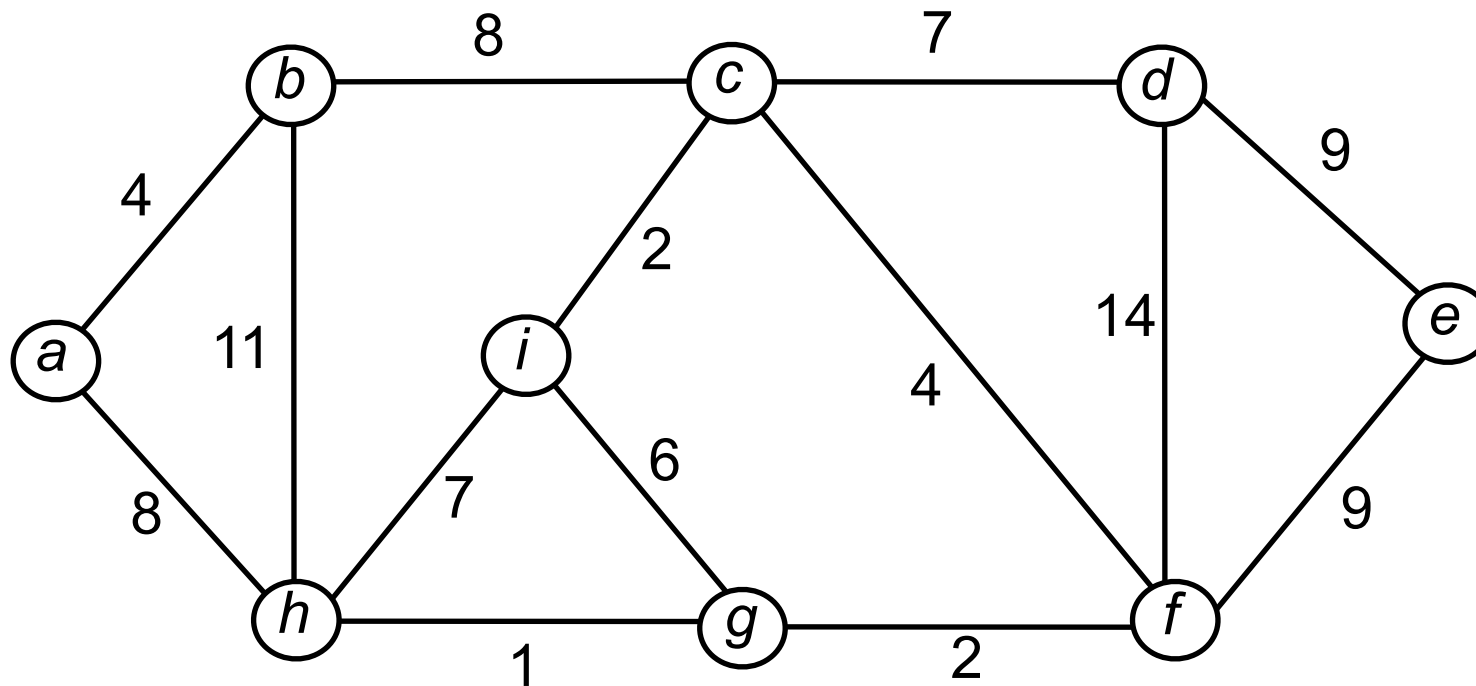
- Let B be a tree in $G_A=(V,A)$, If (u,v) is a light edge connecting B to some other tree in G_A , then (u,v) is safe for A .

▶ **Proof:**

- $(B, V \setminus B)$ respects A and (u,v) is a light edge for this cut

Kruskal's Algorithm

Always choose an edge of smallest weight that connects two trees B_1 and B_2 in G_A



Algorithm of Kruskal

1. $A \leftarrow \emptyset$;
2. **for all** $v \in V$ **do** $B_v \leftarrow \{v\}$; **endfor**;
3. Generate a list L of all edges in E , sorted in non-decreasing order of weight
4. **for all** (u,v) in L **do**
5. $B_1 \leftarrow \text{FIND}(u)$; $B_2 \leftarrow \text{FIND}(v)$;
6. **if** $B_1 \neq B_2$ **then**
7. $A \leftarrow A \cup \{(u,v)\}$; **UNION** (B_1, B_2, B_1);
8. **endif**;
9. **endfor**;

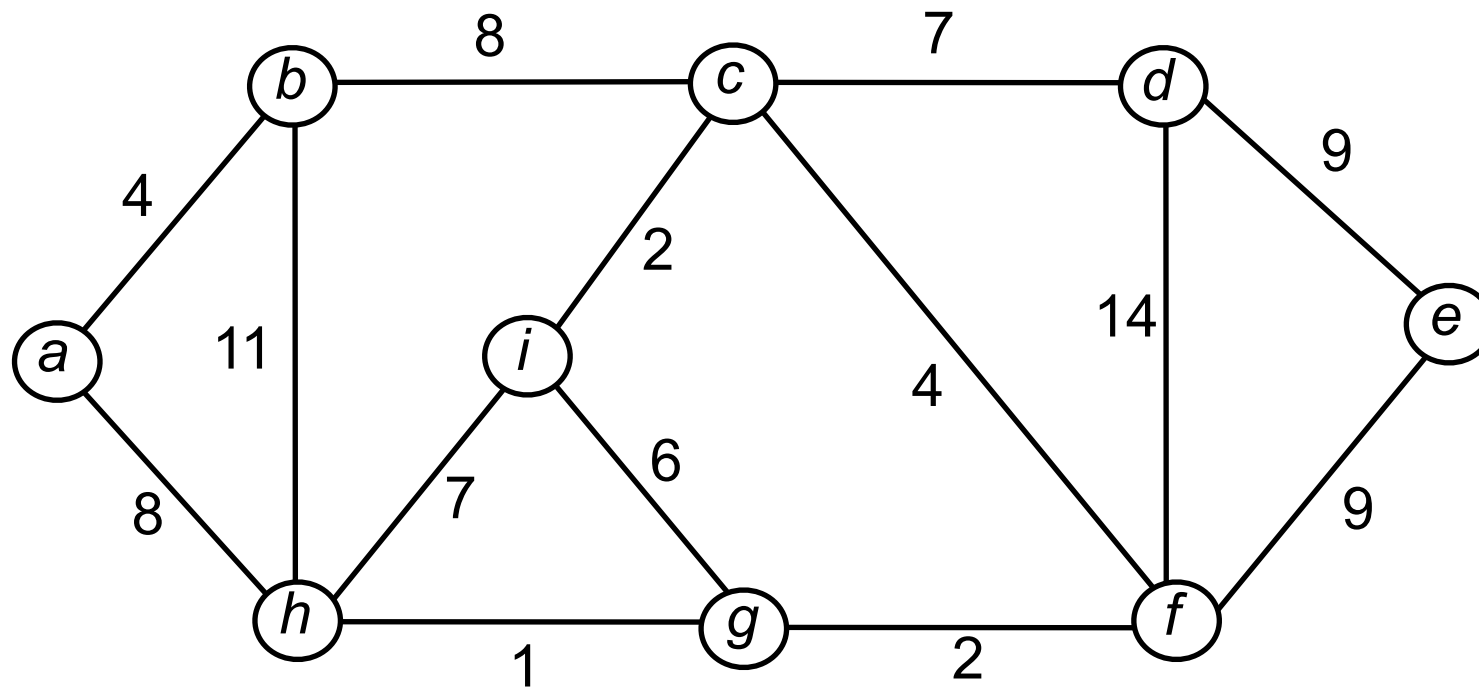
Running time: $O(m \alpha(m,n) + m + m \log m) = O(m \log m)$

Prim's Algorithm

A is always a **single tree**.

Start from an arbitrary root vertex r .

In each step, add a **light edge** to A that connects A to a **vertex in $V \setminus A$**



Implementation

Q : Priority Queue containing all vertices $v \in V \setminus A$.

key of vertex v : minimum weight of any edge connecting v to a vertex in A

For a node v , let $p[v]$ denote **the parent** of v in the tree.

$A = \{(v, p[v]) : v \in V \setminus (\{r\} \cup Q)\}$

r = root vertex

Prim's Algorithm

1. **for all** $v \in V$ **do** Insert(Q , ∞ , v); **endfor**;
2. Choose a root vertex $w \in V$;
3. DecreaseKey(Q , 0, w); $p[w] \leftarrow \text{nil}$;
4. **while** $\neg \text{Empty}(Q)$ **do**
5. $(d, u) \leftarrow \text{DeleteMin}(Q)$;
6. **for all** $(u, v) \in E$ **do**
7. **if** $v \in Q$ and $w(u, v) < \text{key of } v$ **then**
8. DecreaseKey(Q , $w(u, v)$, v); $p[v] \leftarrow u$;
9. **endif**;
10. **endfor**;
11. **endwhile**;

Running time: $O(n \log n + m)$



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