CSE 250
Data Structures

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Lec 21: Shortest Path

Announcements

- PA2 testing due on Sunday @ 11:59PM
  - No late submissions or grace days accepted

Depth-First Search Complexity

In summary…

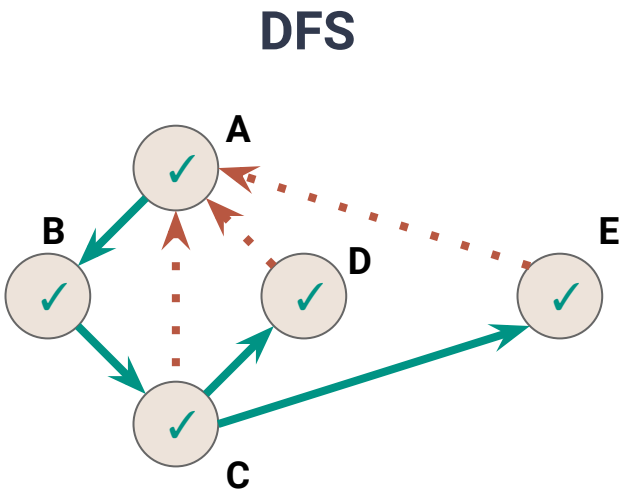
1. Mark the vertices **`UNVISITED`**	$O(\|V\|)$
2. Mark the edges **`UNVISITED`**	$O(\|E\|)$
3. `DFS` vertex loop	$O(\|V\|)$ **iterations**
4. All calls to **`DFSOne`**	$O(\|E\|)$ **total**
	$O(\|V\| + \|E\|)$

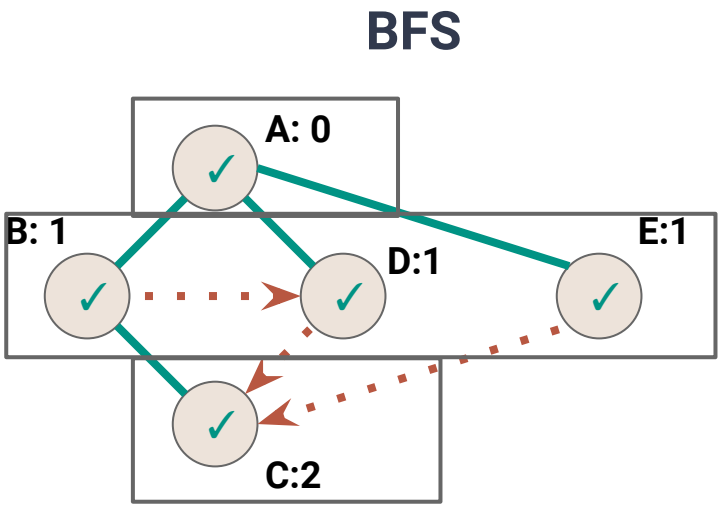
Breadth-First Search Complexity

In summary…

1.	Mark the vertices `UNVISITED`	$O(\|V\|)$
2.	Mark the edges `UNVISITED`	$O(\|E\|)$
3.	Add each vertex to the work queue	$O(\|V\|)$
4.	Process each vertex	$O(\|E\|)$ **total**
		$O(\|V\| + \|E\|)$

DFS vs BFS





BACK Edge(*v*,*w*): ***w*** is an ancestor of ***v*** in the discovery tree

CROSS Edge(*v*,*w*): ***w*** is at the same or next level as ***v***

DFS Traversal vs BFS Traversal

Application	DFS	BFS
Spanning Trees	✓	✓
Connected Components	✓	✓
Paths/Connectivity	✓	✓
Cycles	✓	✓
Shortest Paths		✓
Articulation Points	✓	

Getting the Actual Paths

So far we can label the whole graph…but what if we want the actual paths?

Option #1 - Store the Paths as We Go

What if we store the paths in addition to the Vertices?

```
1  public class TodoEntry {
2    public Vertex vertex;
3    public List<Edge> path;
4  }
```

```
1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
2    Queue<Vertex> todo = new Queue<>();
3    v.setLabel(VISITED);
4    todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(v, new LinkedList<Edge>()));
5    while (!todo.isEmpty()) {
6      TodoEntry curr = todo.dequeue();
7      for (Edge e : curr.vertex.outEdges) {
8        if (e.label == UNEXPLORED) {
9          Vertex w = e.to;
10         if (w.label == UNEXPLORED) {
11           w.setLabel(VISITED);
12           e.setLabel(SPANNING);
13           List path = curr.path.clone();
14           path.add(e);
15           todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(w, path));
16         } else {
17           e.setLabel(BACK);
18 }}}}}
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15           todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(w, path));
16         } else {
17           e.setLabel(BACK);
18 }}}}}
```

Begin our search at the starting vertex with an empty path

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14           path.add(e);
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18 }}}}}
```

When we find an unexplored node, copy our current path and add the edge we took to get to the new node

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1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
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3    v.setLabel(VISITED);
4    todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(v, new LinkedList<Edge>()));
5    while (!todo.isEmpty()) {
6      TodoEntry curr = todo.dequeue();
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```

What's the problem with this solution?

```
1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
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18 }}}}}
```

We have to copy the path every time!
This can get expensive

What's the problem with this solution?

Option #2 - Create an "Edge To" Map

Let's store information about which edge we took to get to each vertex

If we know how we got to each vertex, we can rebuild paths in reverse

```
1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
2    Queue<Vertex> todo = new Queue<>();
3    Map<Vertex, Edge> edgeTo = new HashMap<>();
4    v.setLabel(VISITED);
5    todo.enqueue(v);
6    while (!todo.isEmpty()) {
7      Vertex curr = todo.dequeue();
8      for (Edge e : curr.outEdges) {
9        if (e.label == UNEXPLORED) {
10         Vertex w = e.to;
11         if (w.label == UNEXPLORED) {
12           w.setLabel(VISITED);
13           e.setLabel(SPANNING);
14           edgeTo.put(w, e);
15           todo.enqueue(w);
16         } else {
17           e.setLabel(BACK);
18 }}}}}
```

```
1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
2    Queue<Vertex> todo = new Queue<>();
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```

Create a map to store the necessary info

```
1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
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13           e.setLabel(SPANNING);
14           edgeTo.put(w, e);
15           todo.enqueue(w);
16         } else {
17           e.setLabel(BACK);
18 }}}}}
```

When we find an edge that goes to vertex w, put that information into our map

Rebuilding the Paths

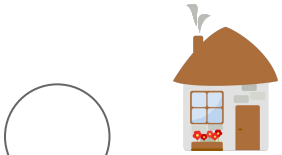
Now that we have our edgeTo map, we can rebuild a path from our starting vertex to any other vertex

1. Set our **`current`** vertex to the vertex we want to find a path to
2. While the **`current`** vertex is not our starting vertex:
    a. Use our **`edgeTo`** map to lookup the edge that led to the **`current`** vertex
    b. Prepend that edge to our path
    c. Set **`current`** to the edges origin vertex

Now we can use BFS to find the "Shortest Paths" from any starting vertex…or can we???

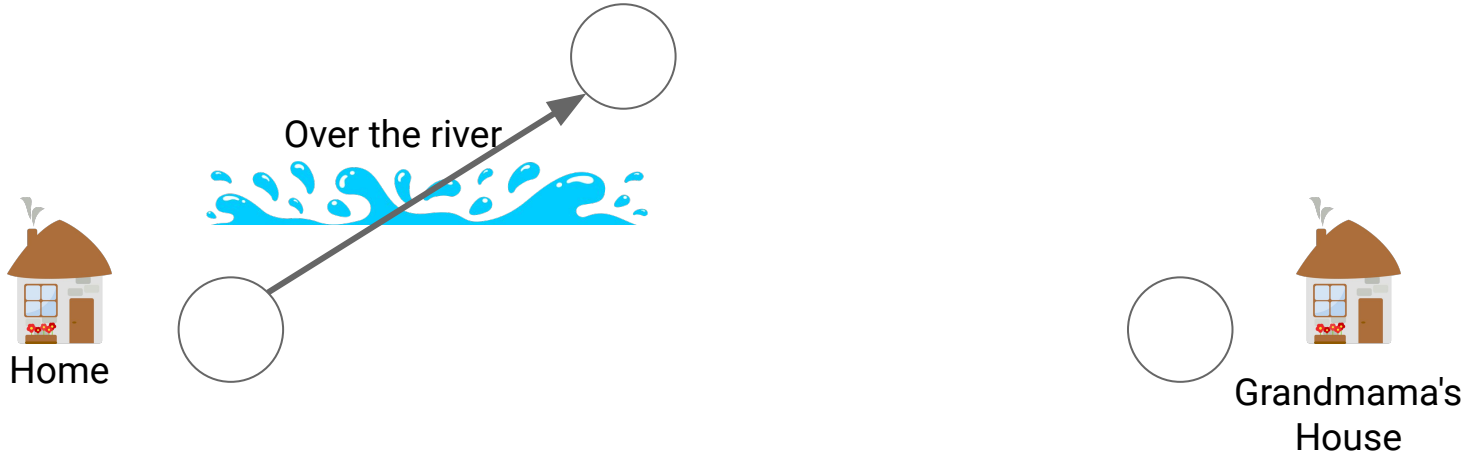
Shortest Paths

Home

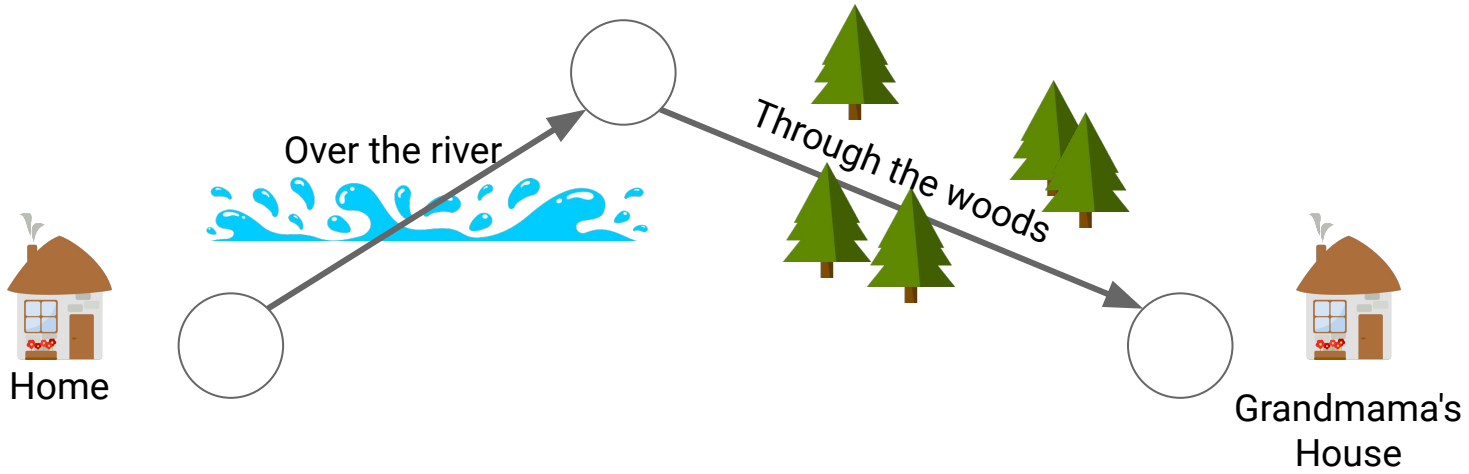


Grandmama's House

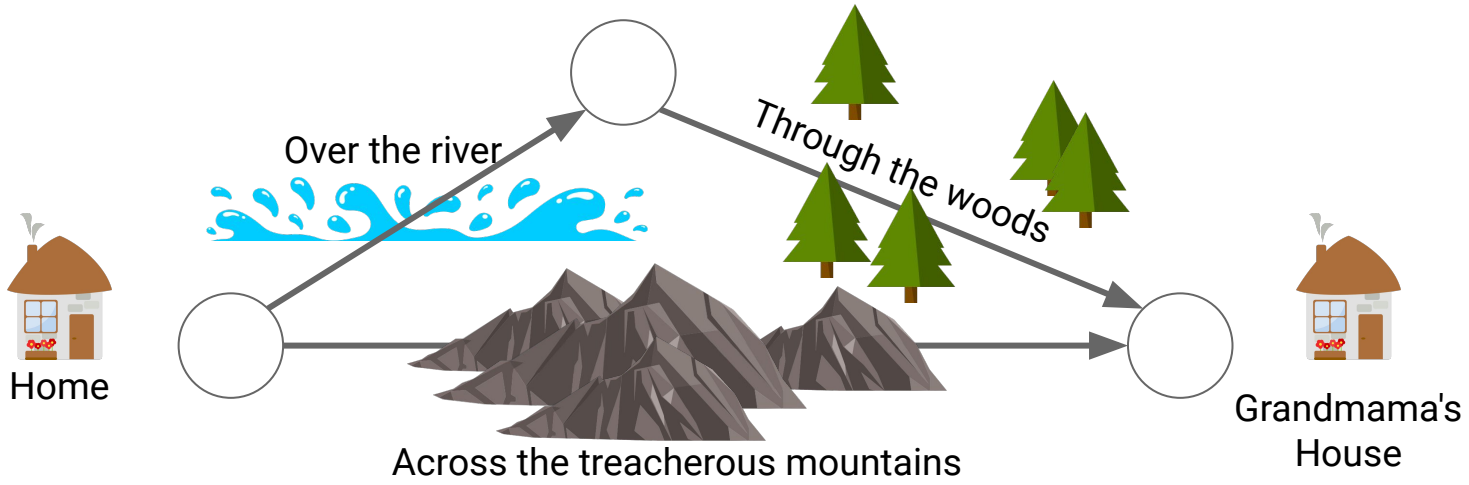
Shortest Paths



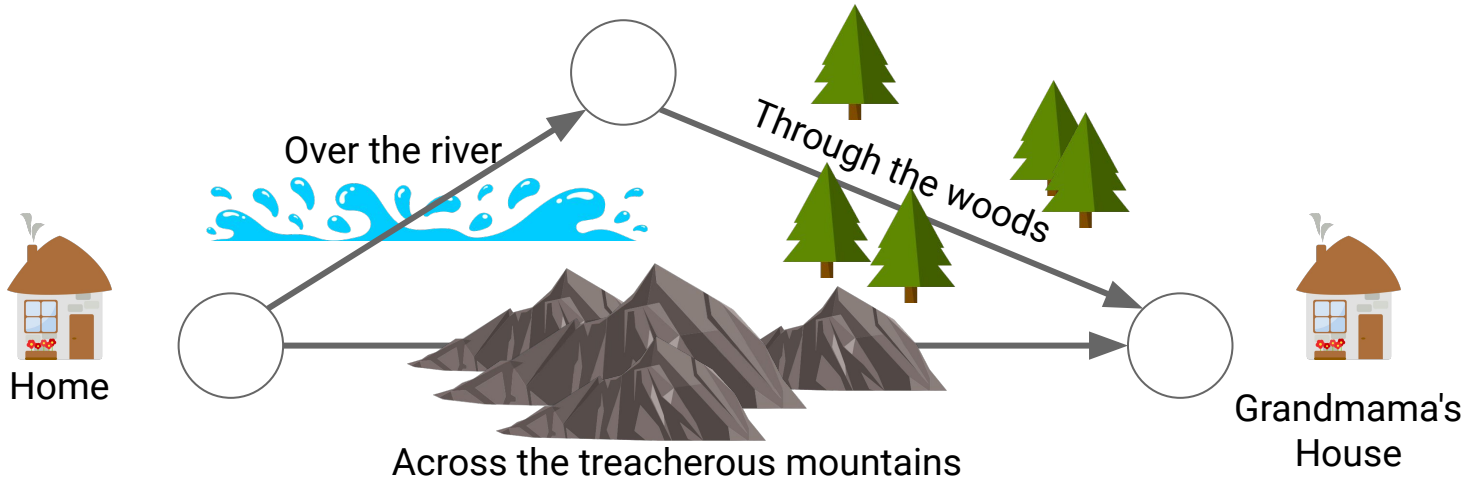
Shortest Paths



Shortest Paths

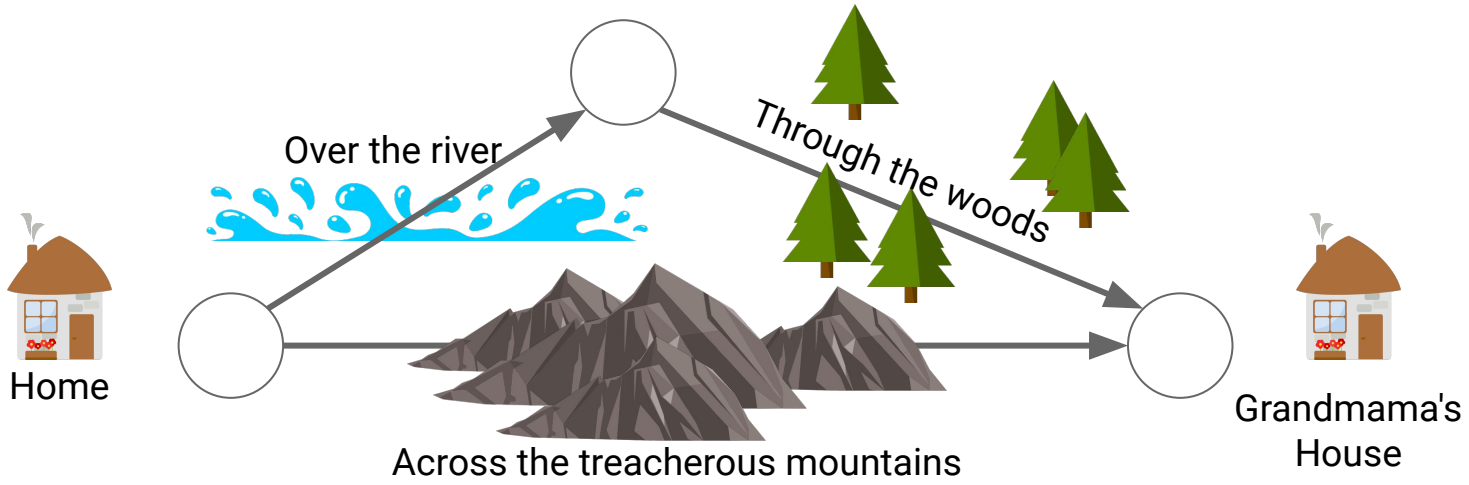


Shortest Paths



BFS will always find the path with the **fewest edges**...

Shortest Paths



BFS will always find the path with the **fewest edges**...

Not all edges in a real world graph are necessarily created equal!

Which path is actually the best/shortest?

Weighted Graphs

A **weighted graph** is a pair of:

- a graph $G = (V,E)$
- A weight function $\omega(e)$ that assigns a real number (called an **edge weight**) to each edge $e \in E$

Examples of Weights:

- Latency of a network connection
- Distance between two cities
- Time between two metro stops
- Flow capacity between two points in a series of tubes

Shortest Path

Given:

- A weighted graph $G = (V,E,\omega)$
- A start vertex ***start*** in V
- An end vertex ***end*** in V

Shortest Path

Given:

- A weighted graph $G = (V,E,\omega)$
- A start vertex ***start*** in V
- An end vertex ***end*** in V

Goal:

- Produce a simple path P from ***start*** to ***end***…
- …that minimizes the sum of edge weights in the P

BFSOne - Adding Level

What if we track the "level" of each vertex in BFS?

(level in this case means the number of edges from our start vertex)

```
1 public class TodoEntry {
2   public Vertex vertex;
3   public Integer level;
4 }
```

```
1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
2    Queue<Vertex> todo = new Queue<>();
3    v.setLabel(VISITED);
4    todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(v,0));
5    while (!todo.isEmpty()) {
6      TodoEntry curr = todo.dequeue();
7      for (Edge e : curr.vertex.outEdges) {
8        if (e.label == UNEXPLORED) {
9          Vertex w = e.to;
10         if (w.label == UNEXPLORED) {
11           w.setLabel(VISITED);
12           e.setLabel(SPANNING);
13           todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(w, curr.level + 1));
14         } else {
15           e.setLabel(BACK);
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```

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Our starting vertex is at level 0 (0 edges from itself)

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```

Our starting vertex is at level 0 (0 edges from itself)

When we discover a new vertex, we add 1 to the level (because we just went one more edge)

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12           e.setLabel(SPANNING);
13           todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(w, curr.level + 1));
14         } else {
15           e.setLabel(BACK);
16 }}}}}
```

Because Queue is FIFO, we will dequeue in ascending order of level

Therefore, when we discover a new vertex, it is by the shortest number of edges

BFS and Shortest Path

Observation: Breadth-First Search finds paths with the fewest number of edges. This is equivalent to finding the shortest path with $\omega(e) = 1$ for all e

What changes if we allow $\omega(e)$ to vary?

Detailed Example

UNEXPLORED

START

TARGET

VISITED

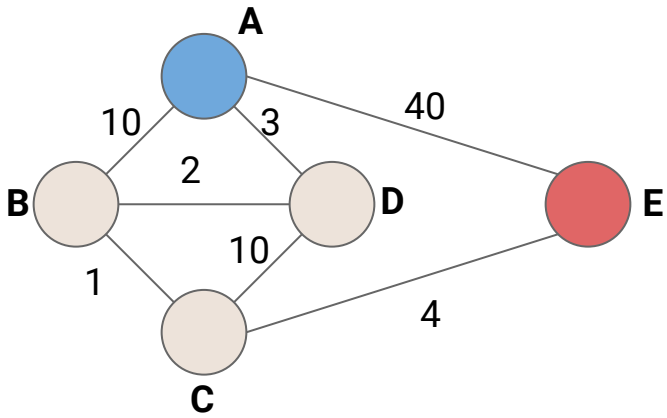
UNEXPLORED

SPANNING

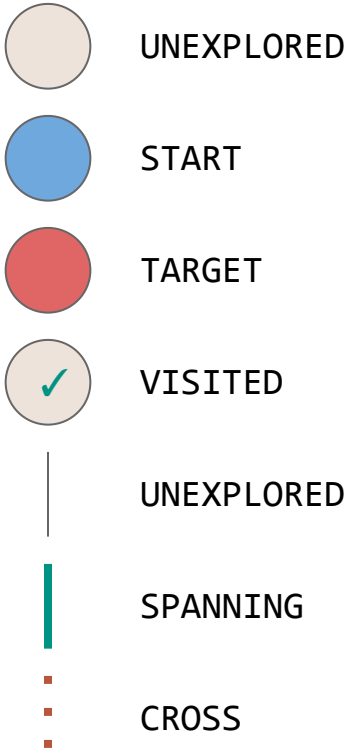
CROSS

Call Stack

Work Queue



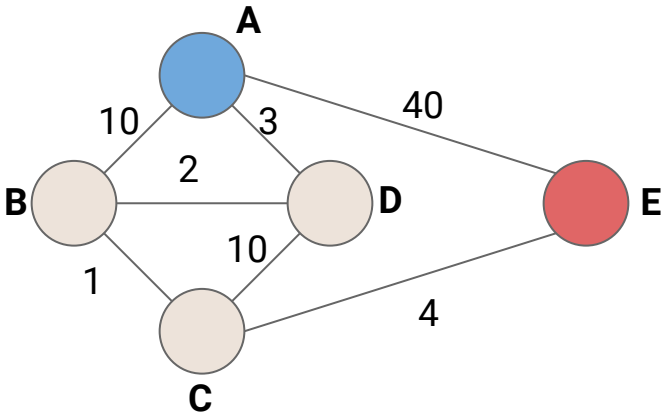
Detailed Example



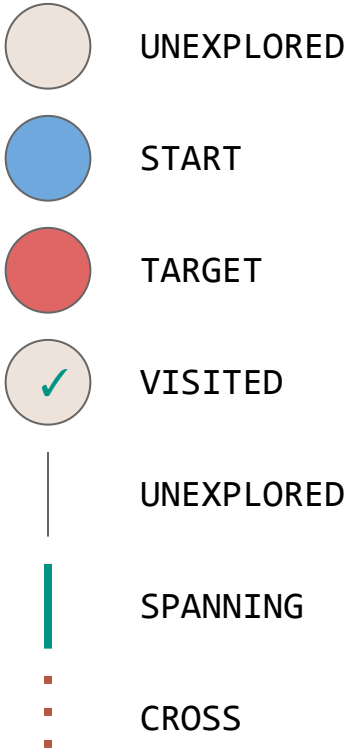
Call Stack

BFS(G)

Work Queue

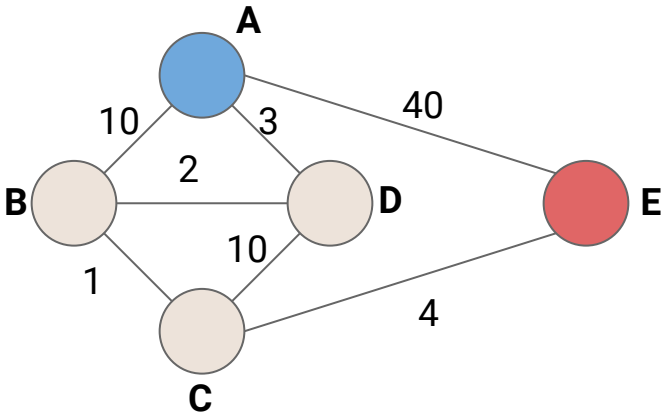


Detailed Example



Call Stack
BFS(G)
BFSOne(G,A)

Work Queue



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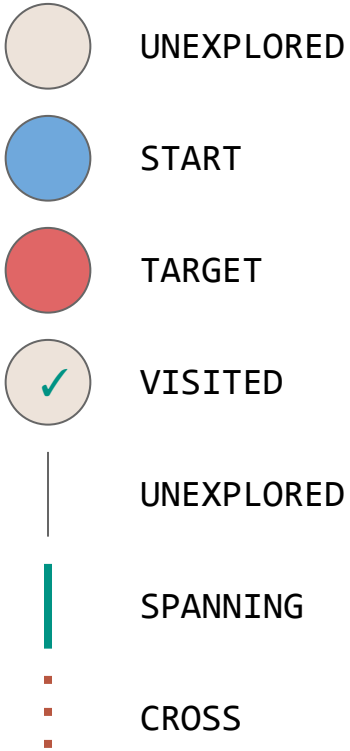
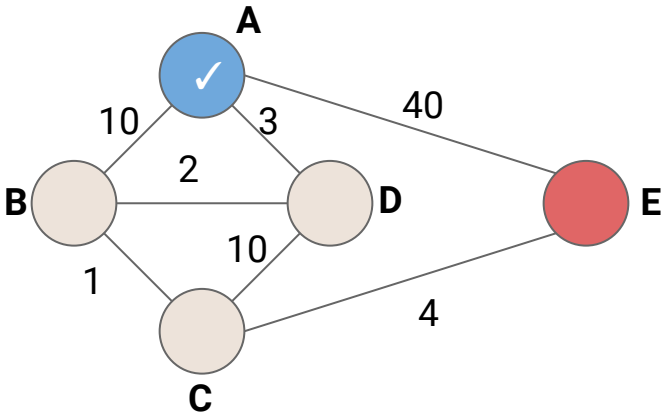


Call Stack
BFS(G)
BFSOne(G,A)

Work Queue
A



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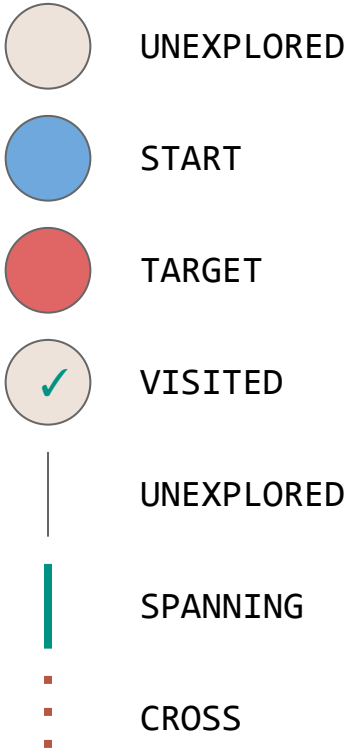
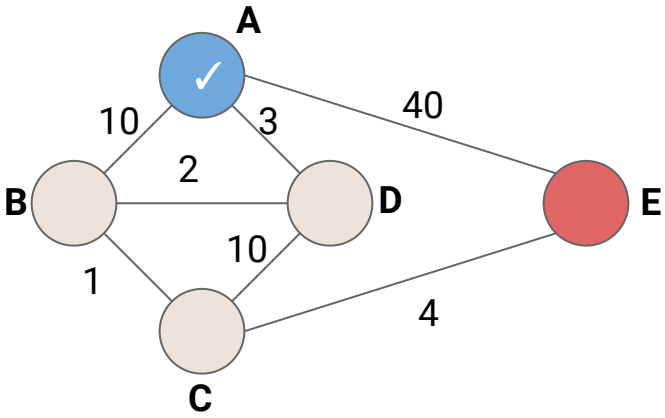


Call Stack
BFS(G)
BFSOne(G,A)

Work Queue
~~A~~



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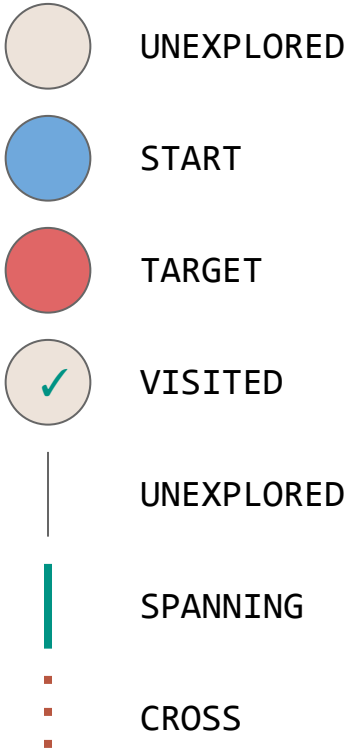
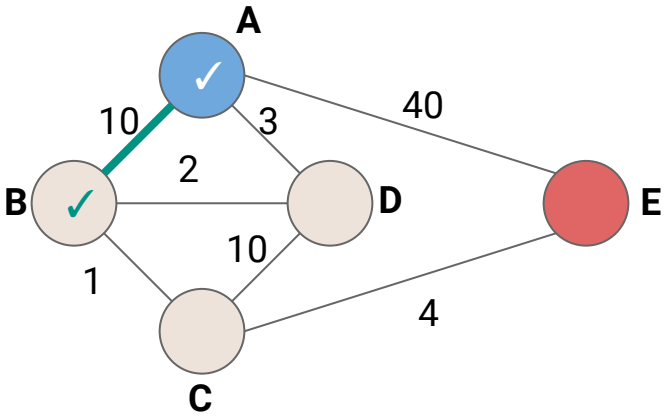


Call Stack
BFS(G)
BFSOne(G,A)

Work Queue
~~A~~
B



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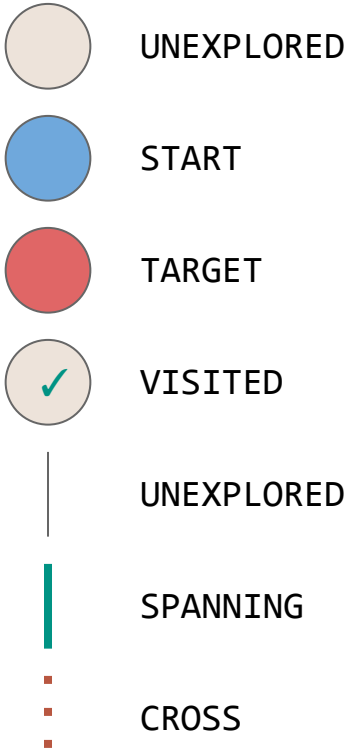
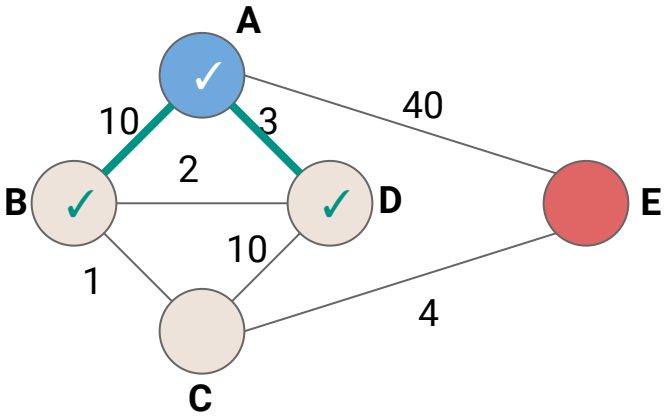
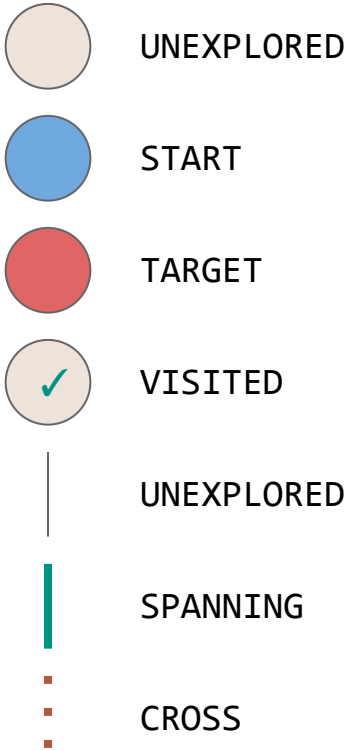




Call Stack
BFS(G)
BFSOne(G,A)

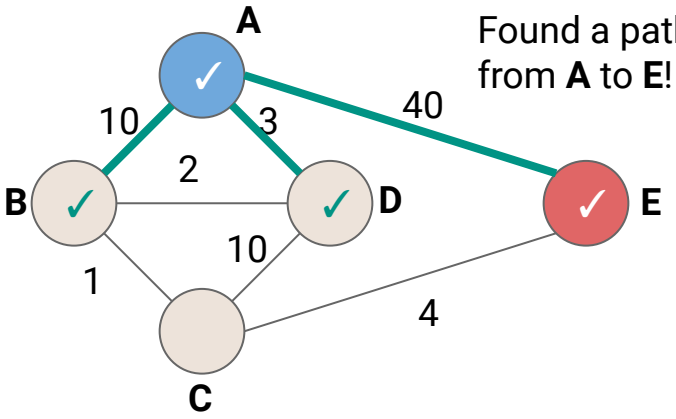
Work Queue
~~**A**~~
B
D

Detailed Example



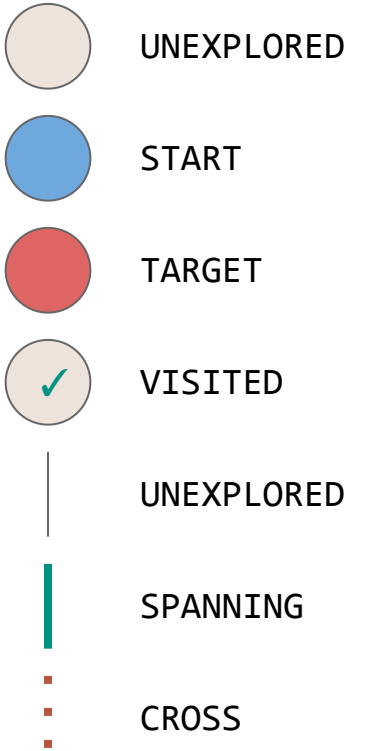
Call Stack
BFS(G)
BFSOne(G,A)

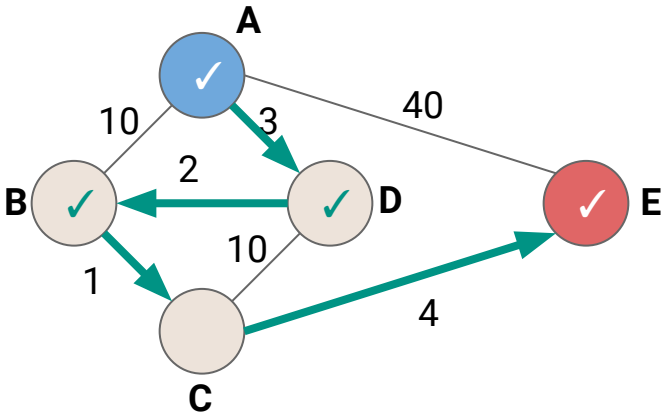
Work Queue
~~**A**~~
B
D
E



Found a path from **A** to **E**!

Detailed Example - Desired Path





How do we find this path?

Shortest Path

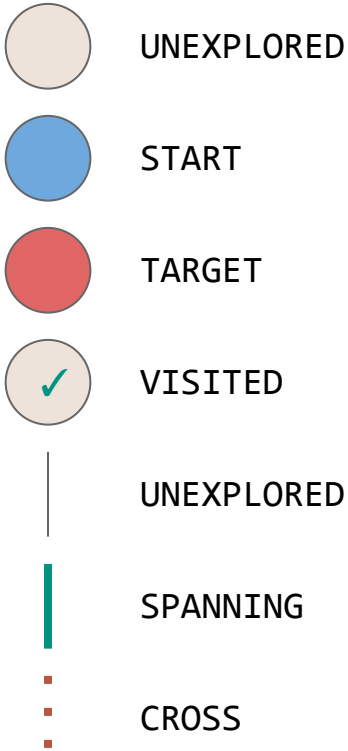
Thought Experiment: How can we find the shortest path when not all edges are created equal?

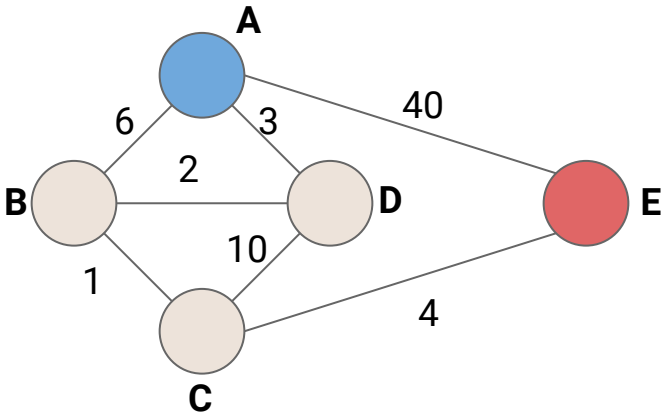
Shortest Path

Thought Experiment: How can we find the shortest path when not all edges are created equal?

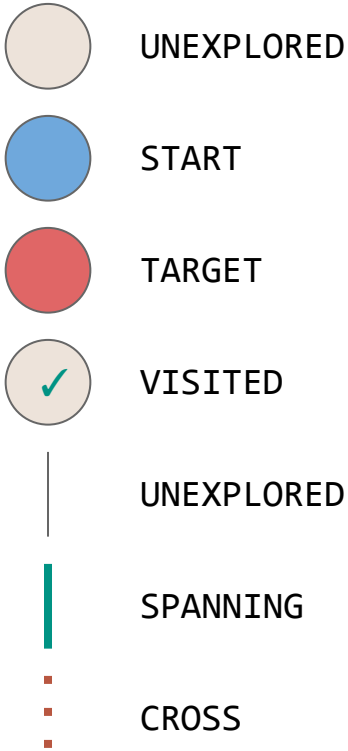
At any given point, what vertex should we explore next?

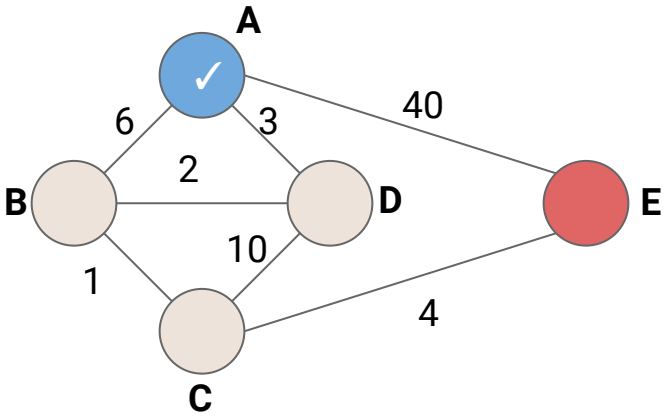
Attempt #1: Explore Smallest Edge





Attempt #1: Explore Smallest Edge





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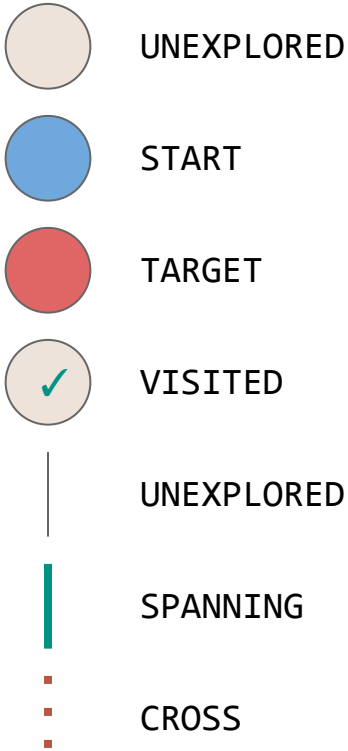

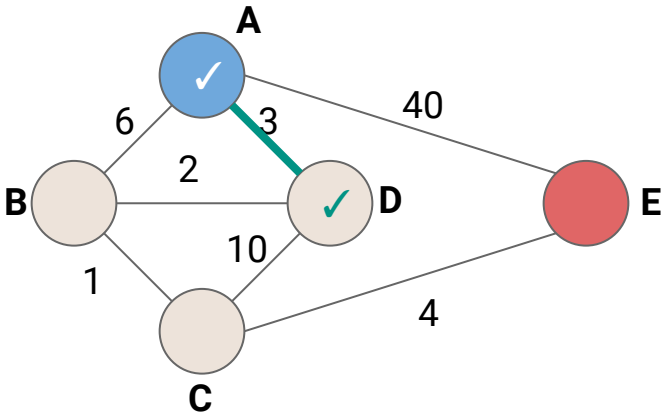

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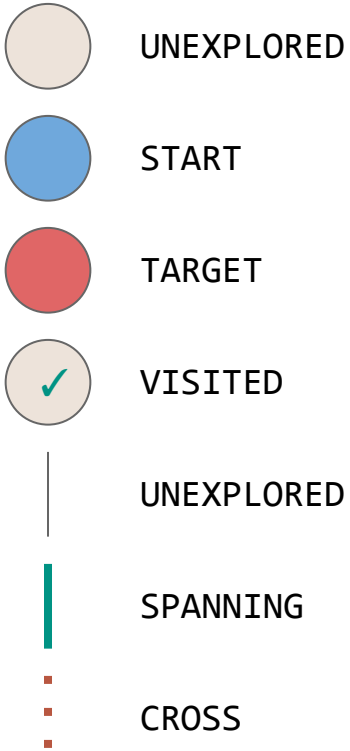

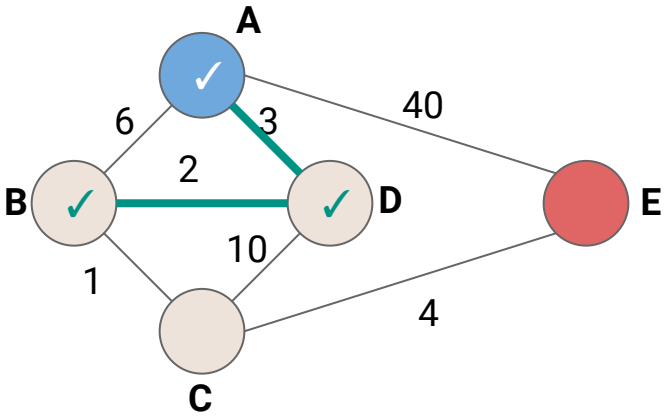

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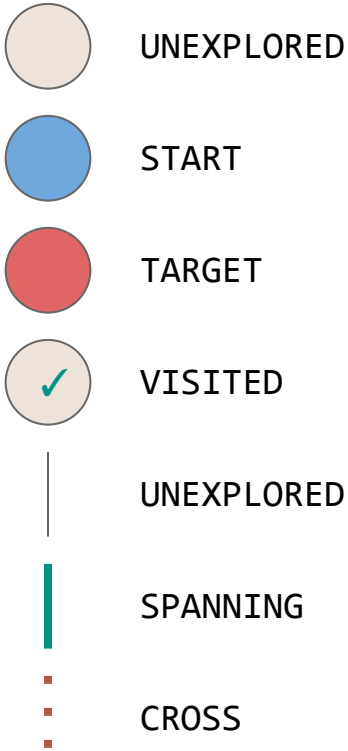
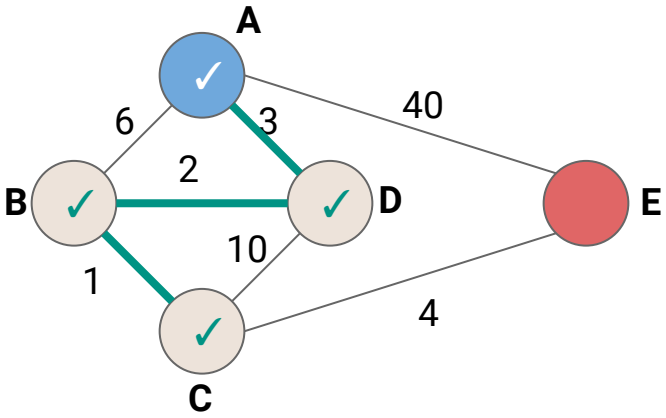
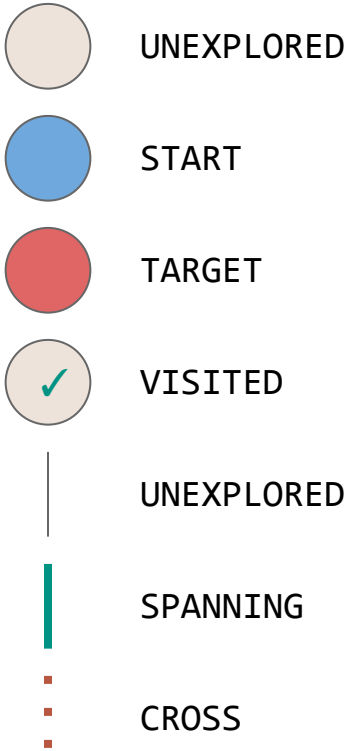
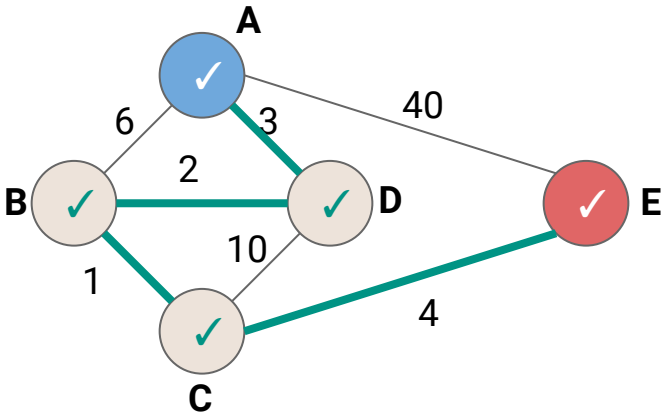


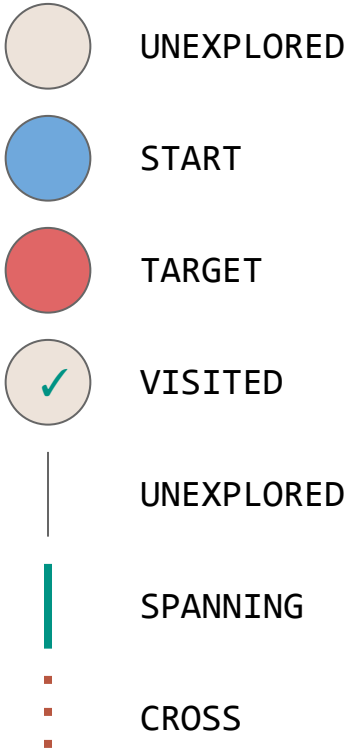


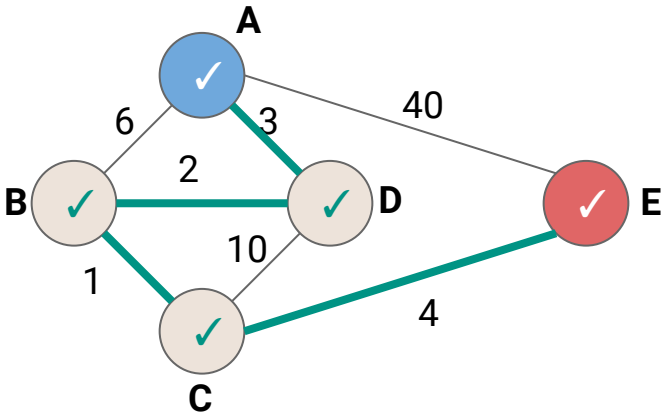
Attempt #1: Explore Smallest Edge





Attempt #1: Explore Smallest Edge

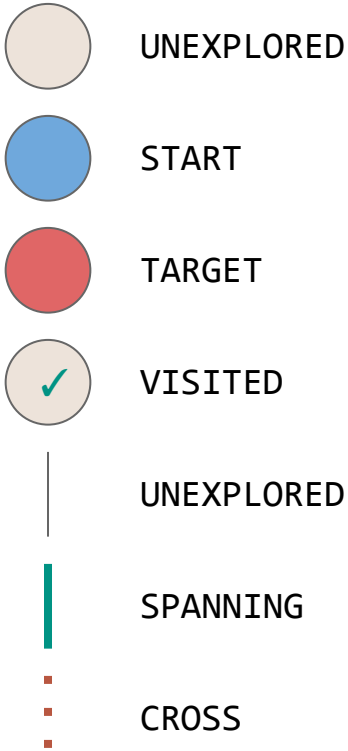


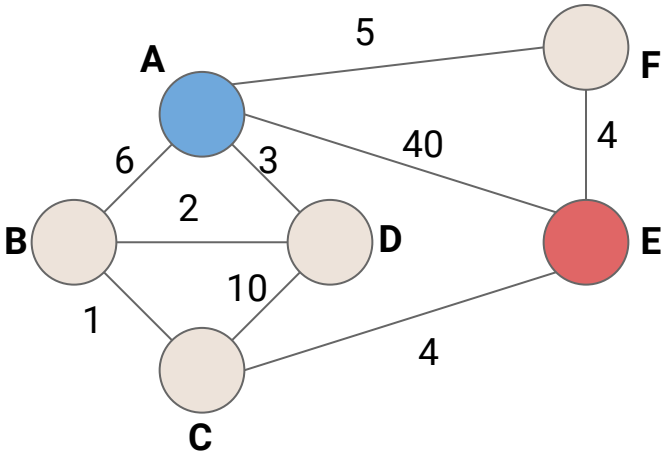


Attempt #1: Explore Smallest Edge

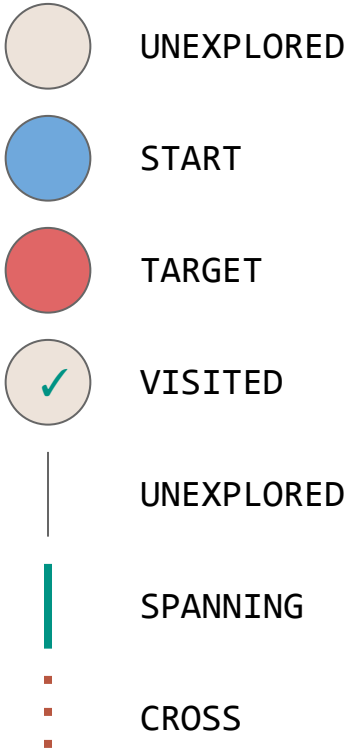
Will exploring the smallest available edge always work?

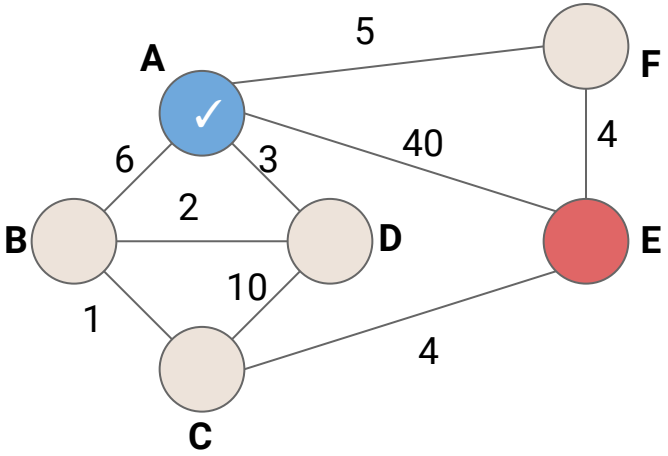
Desired Exploration Order



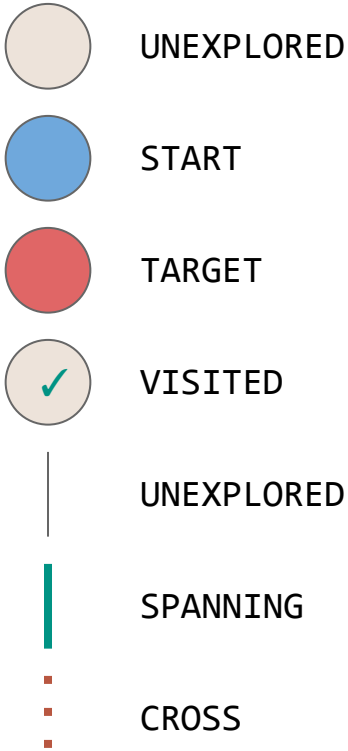


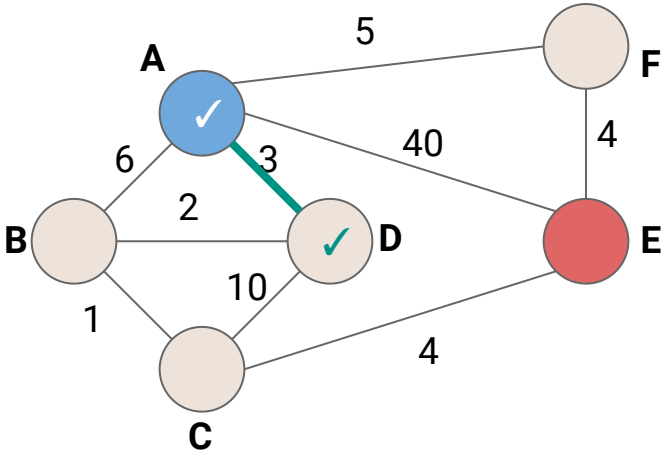
Desired Exploration Order



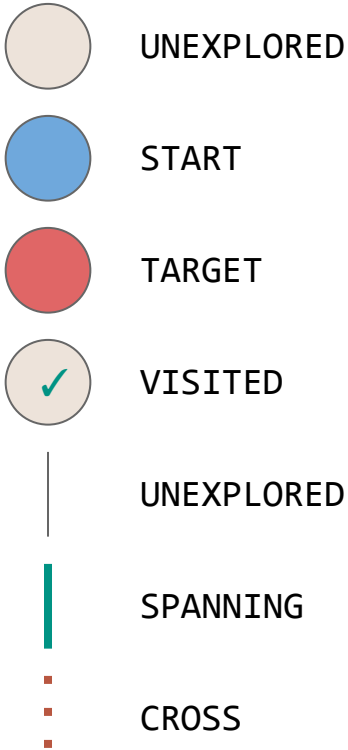


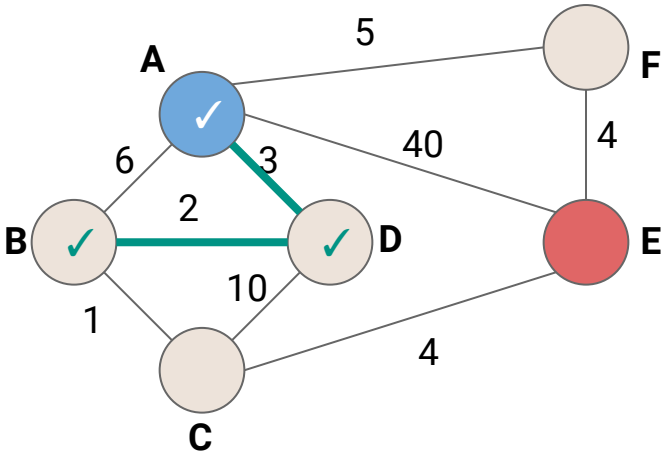
Desired Exploration Order



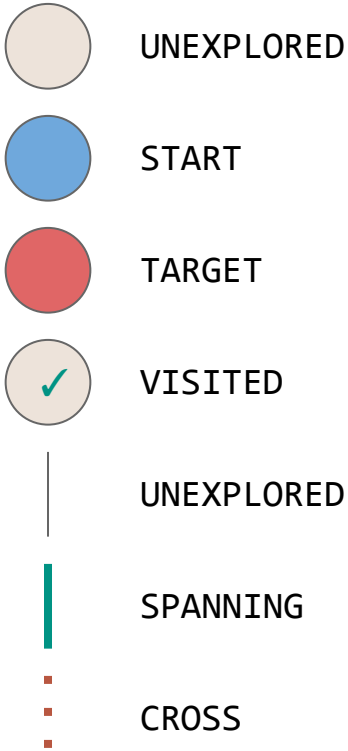


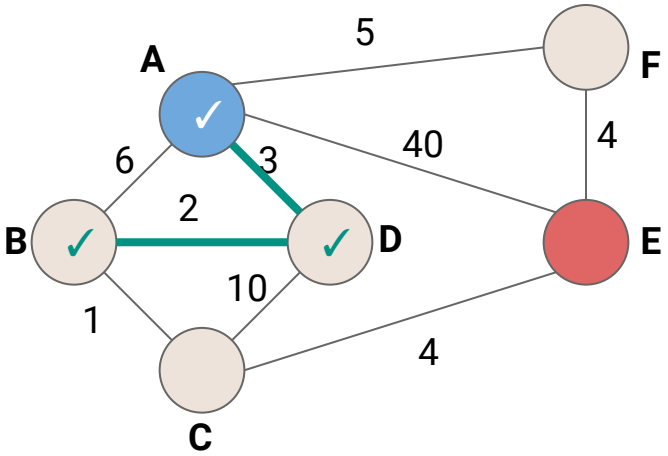
Desired Exploration Order





Desired Exploration Order





If we follow the smallest edge, we will explore **C** next.
But how far is **C** from **A**?
Are there any unexplored vertices that are closer to **A**?

Desired Exploration Order - Closest Vertex

UNEXPLORED

START

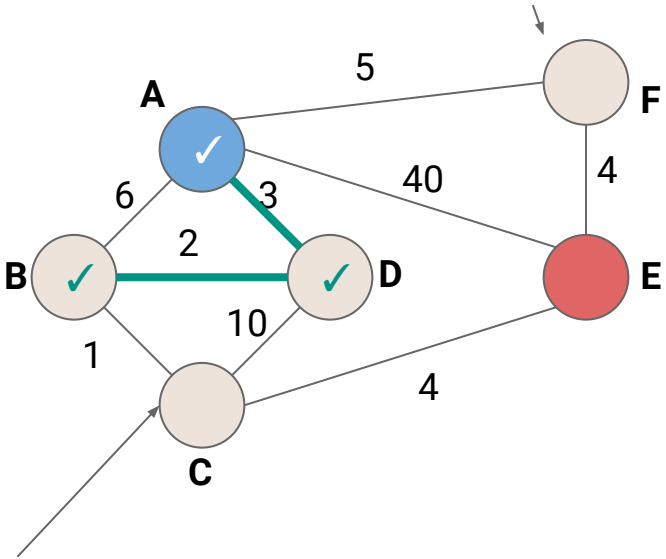
TARGET

VISITED

UNEXPLORED

SPANNING

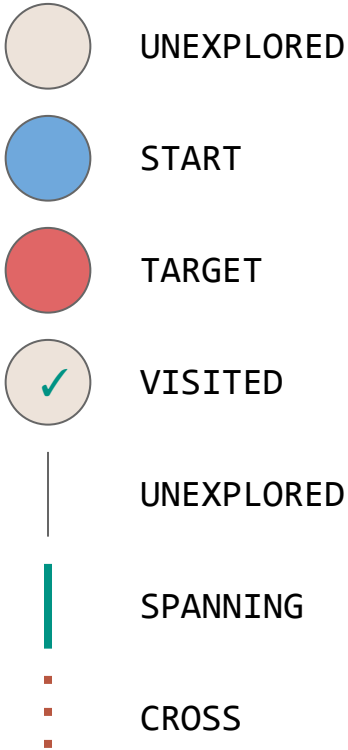
CROSS

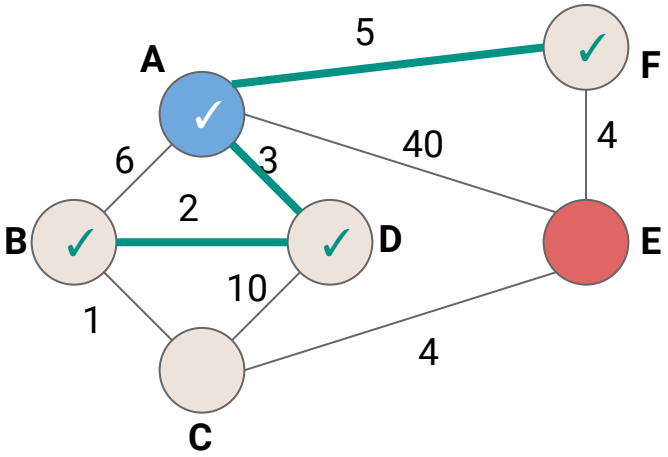


F is only 5 away...it is the closest unexplored vertex to **A**

C is 6 away from **A**

Desired Exploration Order





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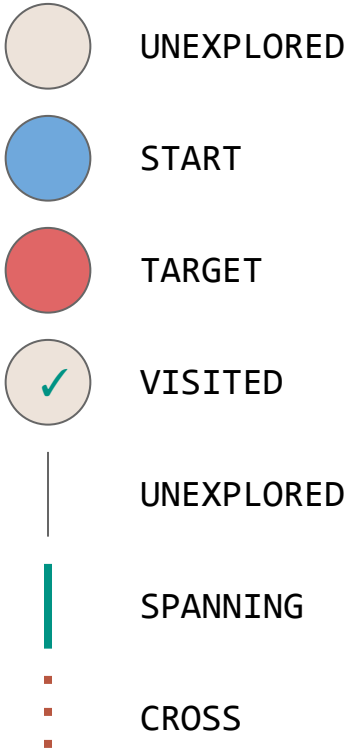
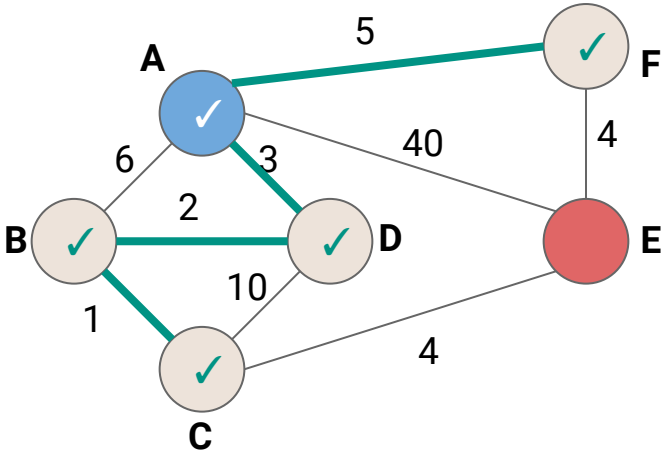
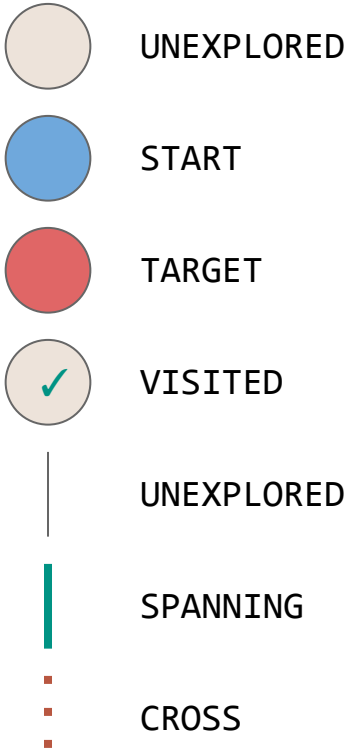
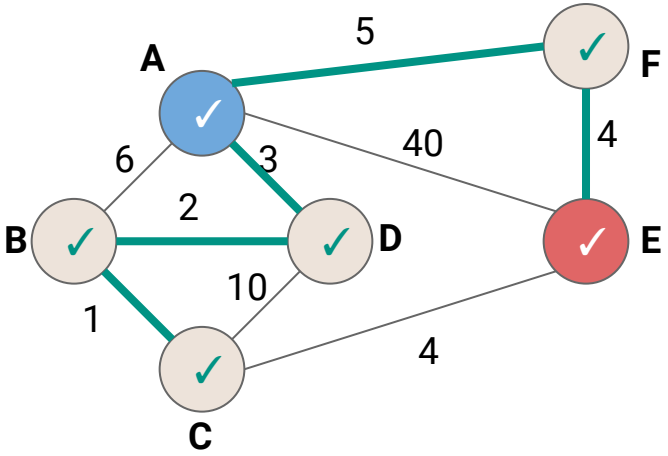




Desired Exploration Order





Path Found!

```
1  public void BFSOne(Graph graph, Vertex v) {
2    Queue<Vertex> todo = new Queue<>();
3    v.setLabel(VISITED);
4    todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(v,0));
5    while (!todo.isEmpty()) {
6      TodoEntry curr = todo.dequeue();
7      for (Edge e : curr.vertex.outEdges) {
8        if (e.label == UNEXPLORED) {
9          Vertex w = e.to;
10         if (w.label == UNEXPLORED) {
11           w.setLabel(VISITED);
12           e.setLabel(SPANNING);
13           todo.enqueue(new TodoEntry(w, curr.weight + e.weight));
14         } else {
15           e.setLabel(BACK);
16 }}}}}
```

We want to be able to dequeue in order of weight…but how?

A New ADT...`PriorityQueue`

`PriorityQueue<T>`

`void add(T value)`

Insert **`value`** into the priority queue

`T poll()`

Remove the highest priority value in the priority queue

`T peek()`

Peek at the highest priority value in the priority queue

A New ADT...`PriorityQueue`

`PriorityQueue<T>`

`void add(T value)`

Insert `value` into the priority queue

Next class: What is priority? How do we define it?

`T poll()`

Remove the **highest priority** value in the priority queue

`T peek()`

Peek at the **highest priority** value in the priority queue

A New ADT...`PriorityQueue`

`PriorityQueue[A:Ordering]`

`enqueue(v: A)`

Insert value ***v*** into the priority queue

`head: A`

Peek at the **highest priority** value in the priority queue

`dequeue: A`

Remove the **highest priority** value in the priority queue