

# Traveling Salesman

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$$c_{\pi(1)\pi(n)} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_{\pi(i)\pi(i+1)}$$

is minimized.

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## Theorem 2

There does not exist an  $O(2^n)$ -approximation algorithm for TSP.

### Hamiltonian Cycle:

For a given undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  decide whether there exists a simple cycle that contains all nodes in  $G$ .

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- ▶ There exists a Hamiltonian Path iff there exists a tour with cost  $n$ . Otw. any tour has cost strictly larger than  $n2^n$ .
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# Metric Traveling Salesman

In the metric version we assume for every triple

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### Lemma 3

The cost  $\text{OPT}_{\text{TSP}}(G)$  of an optimum traveling salesman tour is at least as large as the weight  $\text{OPT}_{\text{MST}}(G)$  of a minimum spanning tree in  $G$ .

Proof:

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## TSP: Greedy Algorithm

- ▶ Start with a tour on a subset  $S$  containing a single node.
- ▶ Take the node  $v$  closest to  $S$ . Add it  $S$  and expand the existing tour on  $S$  to include  $v$ .
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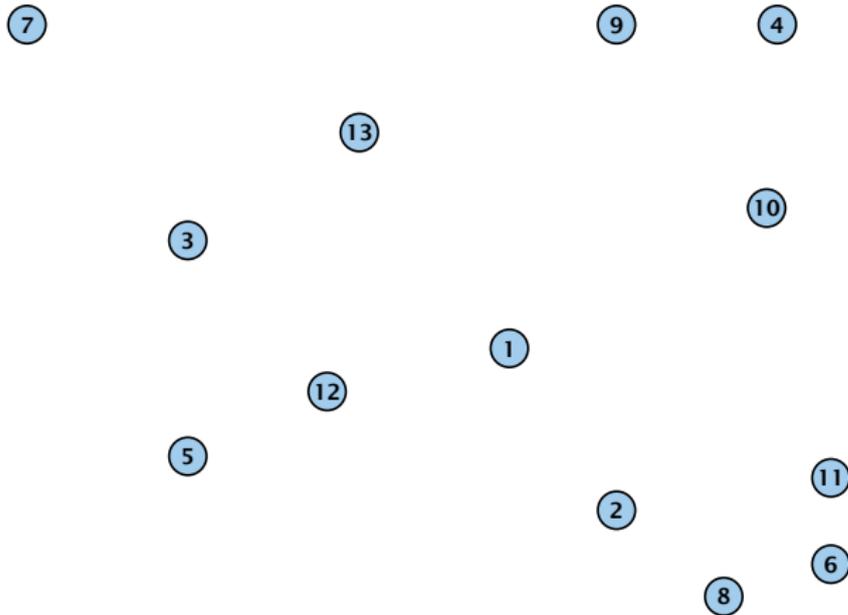
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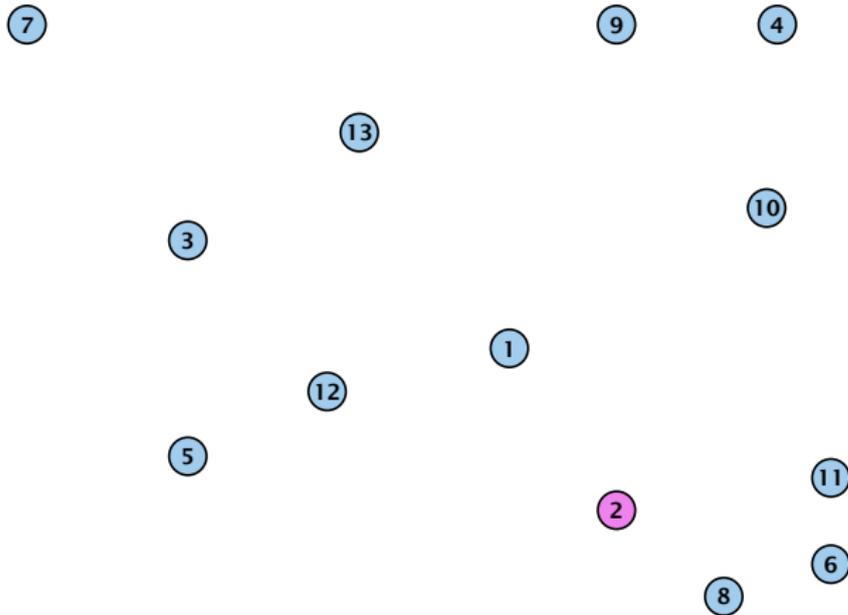


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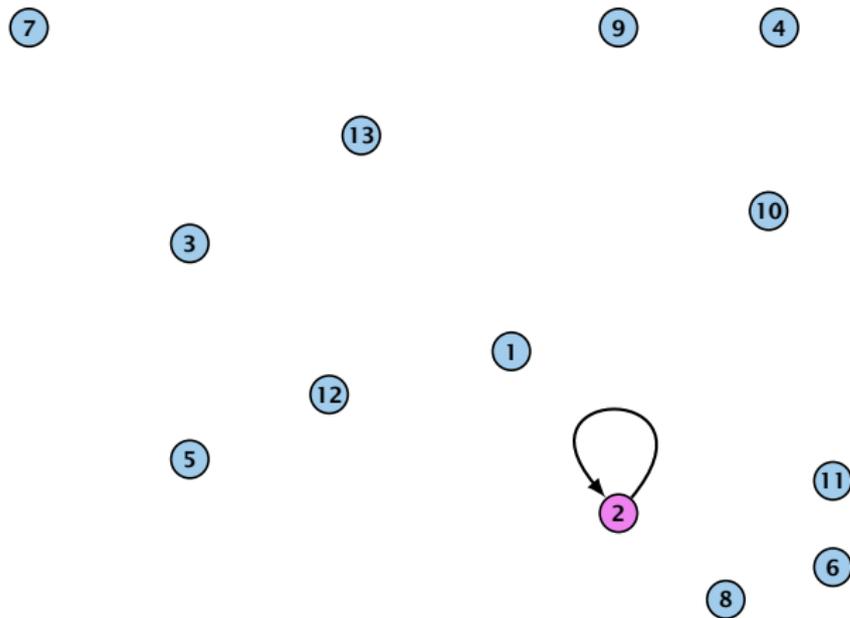


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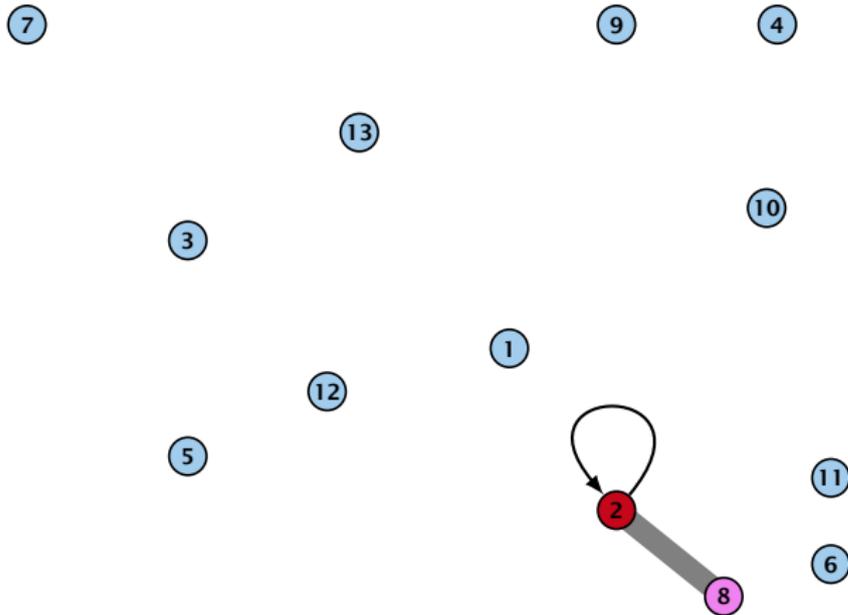


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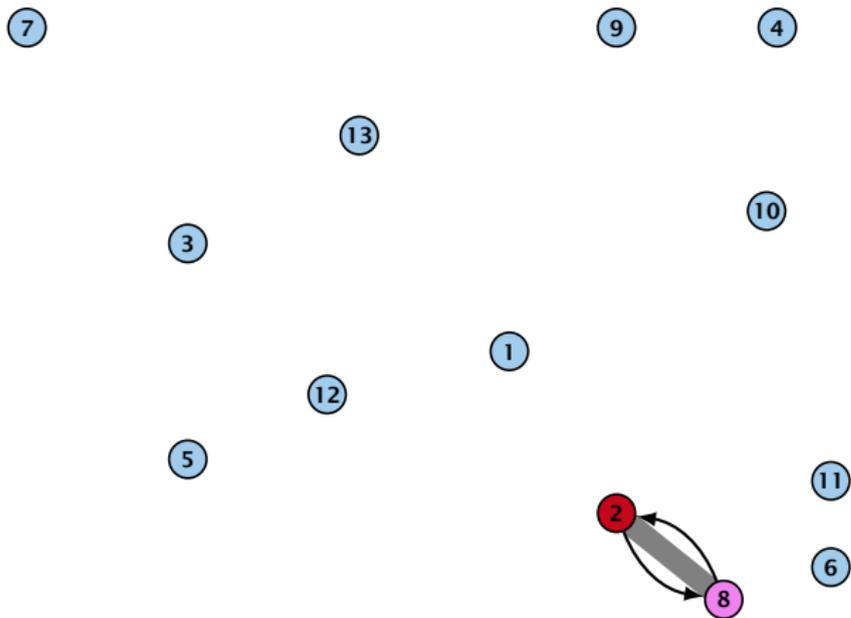


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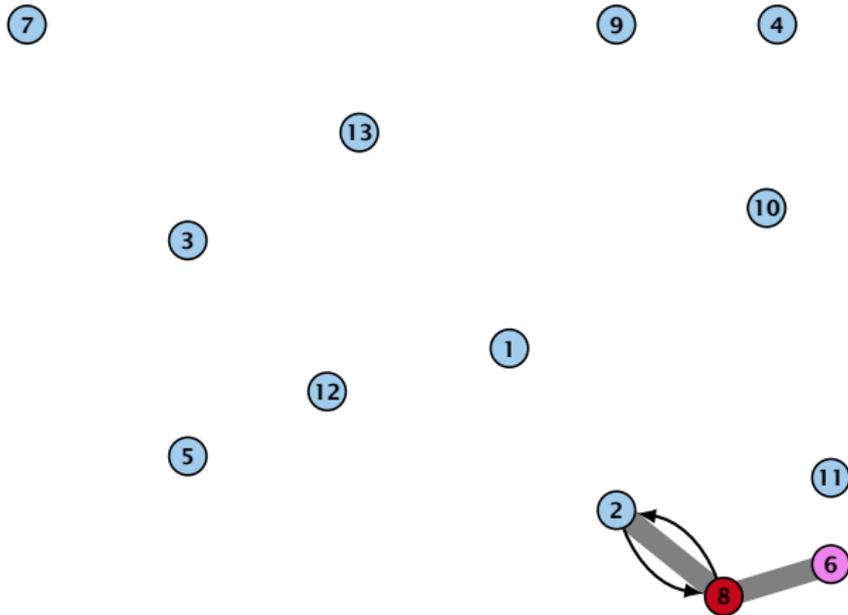


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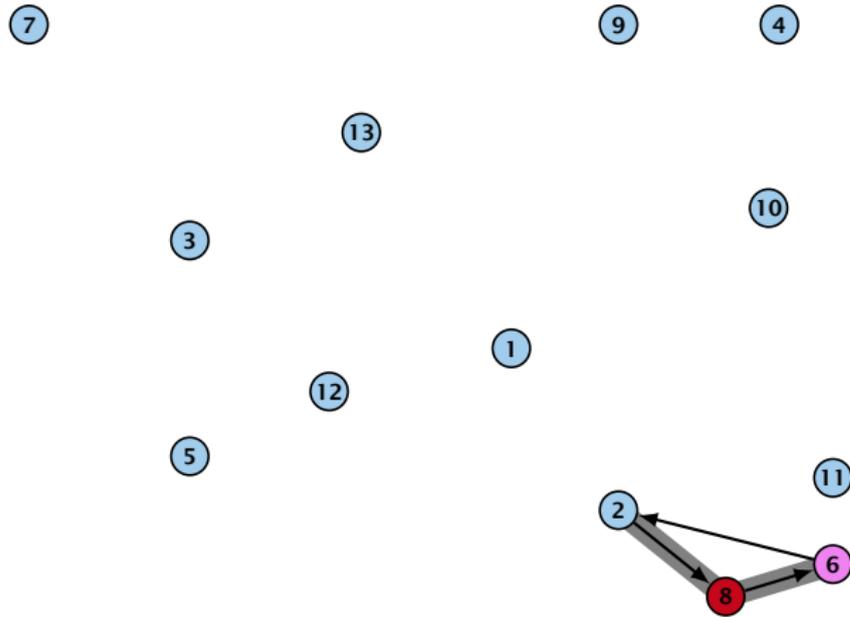


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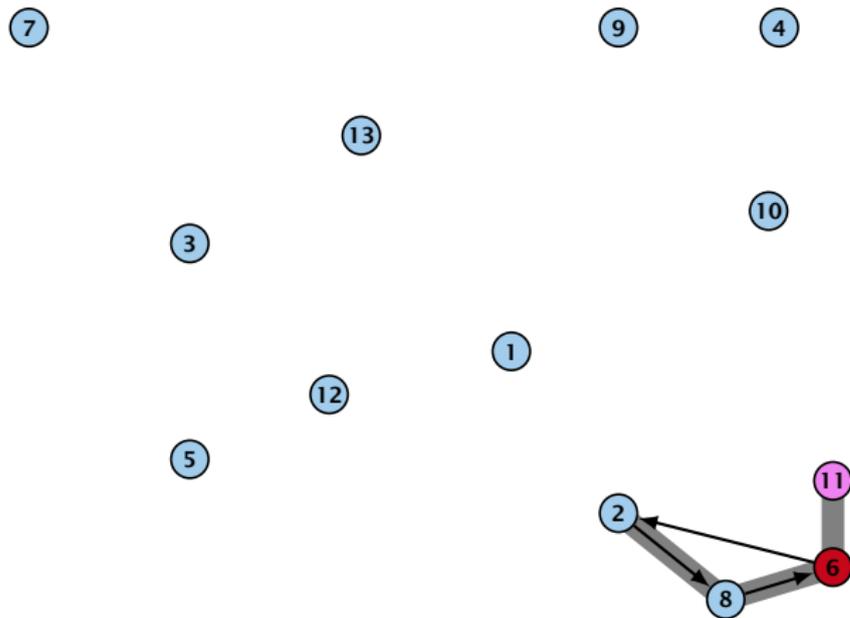


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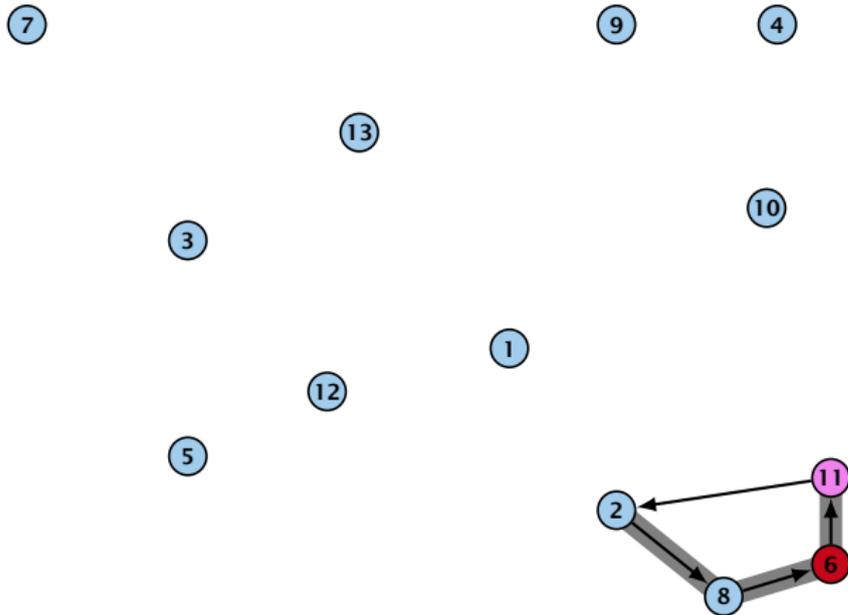


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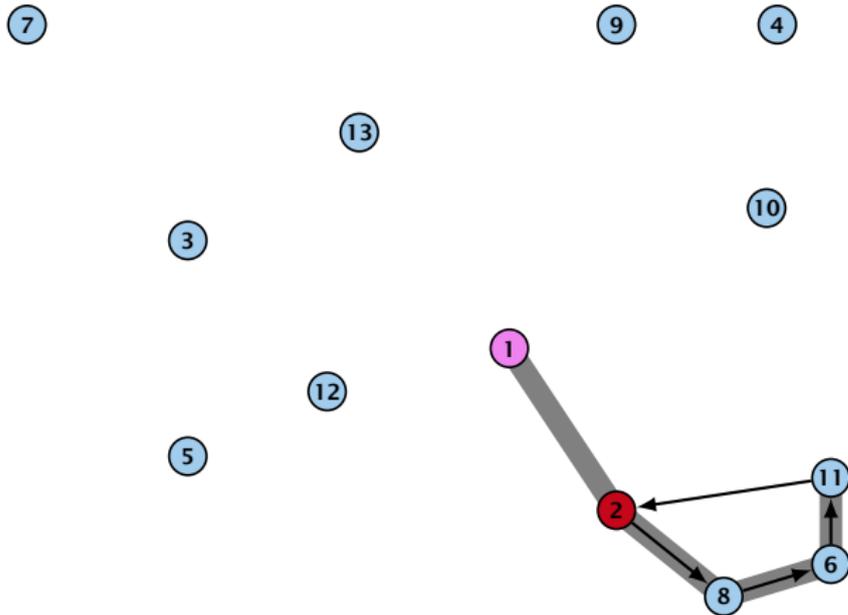


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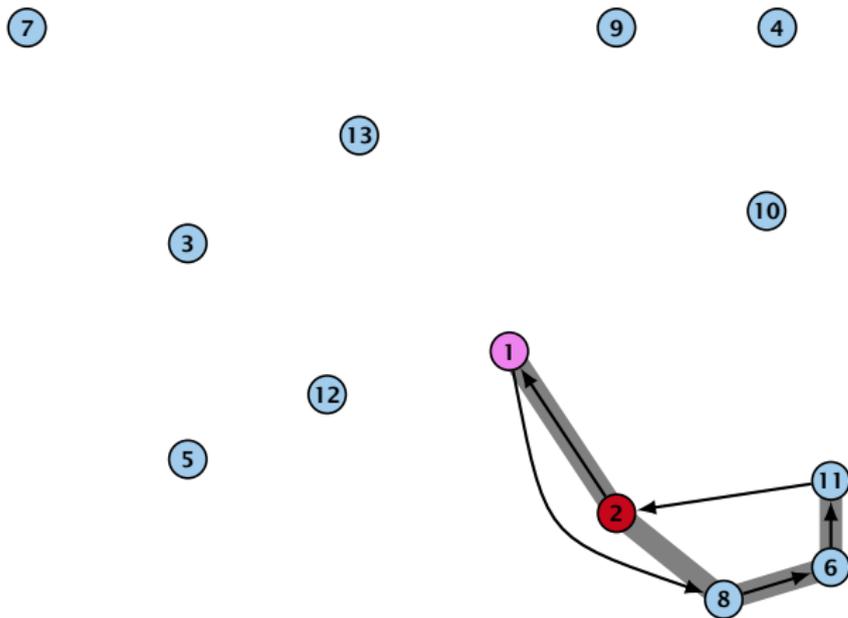


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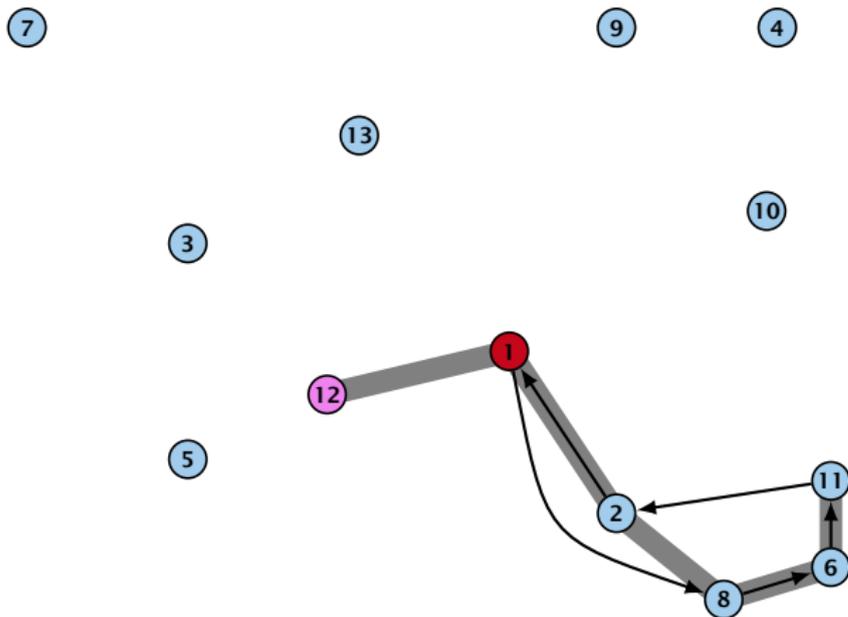


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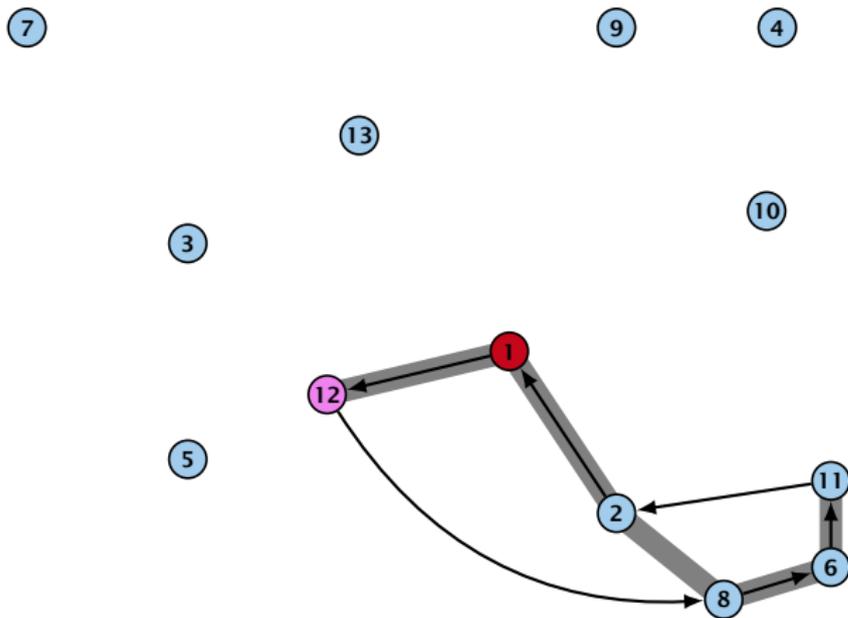


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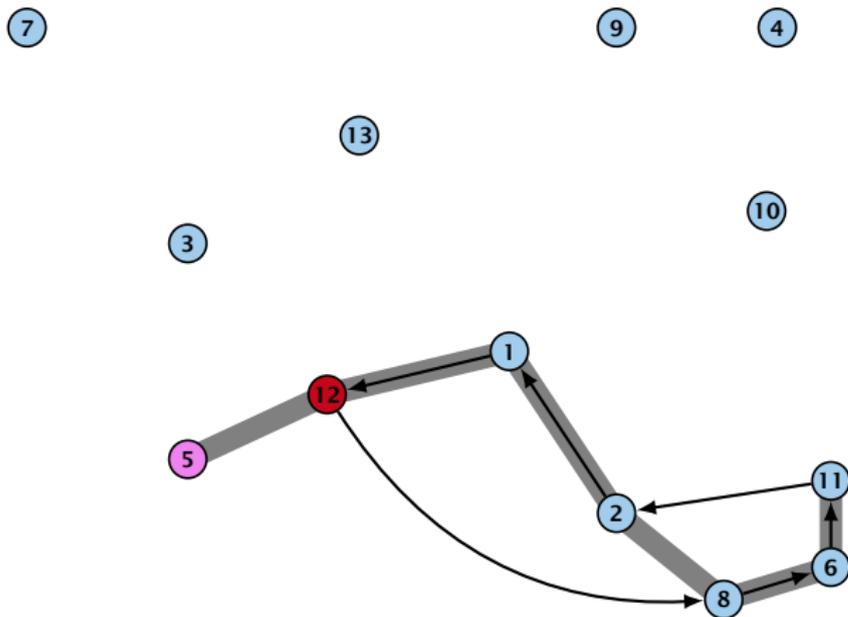


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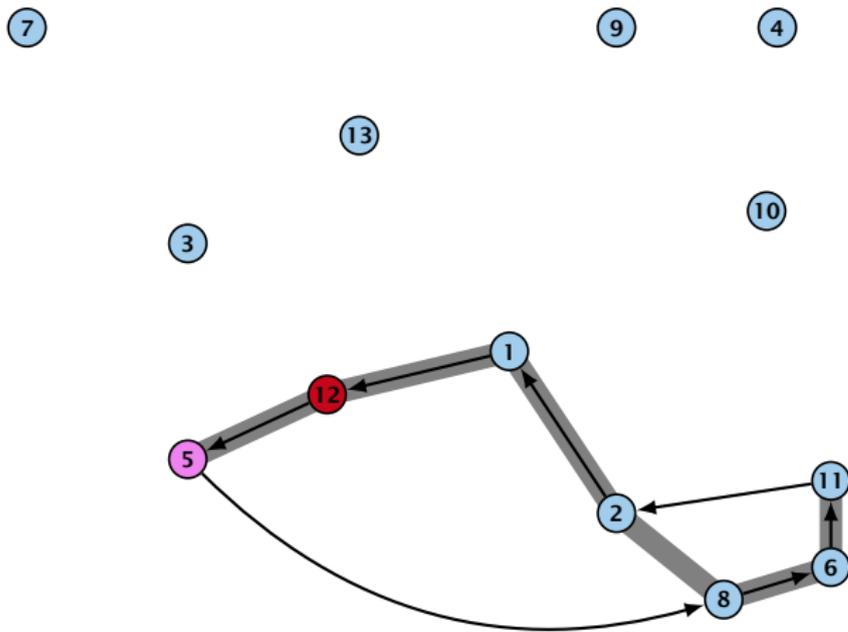


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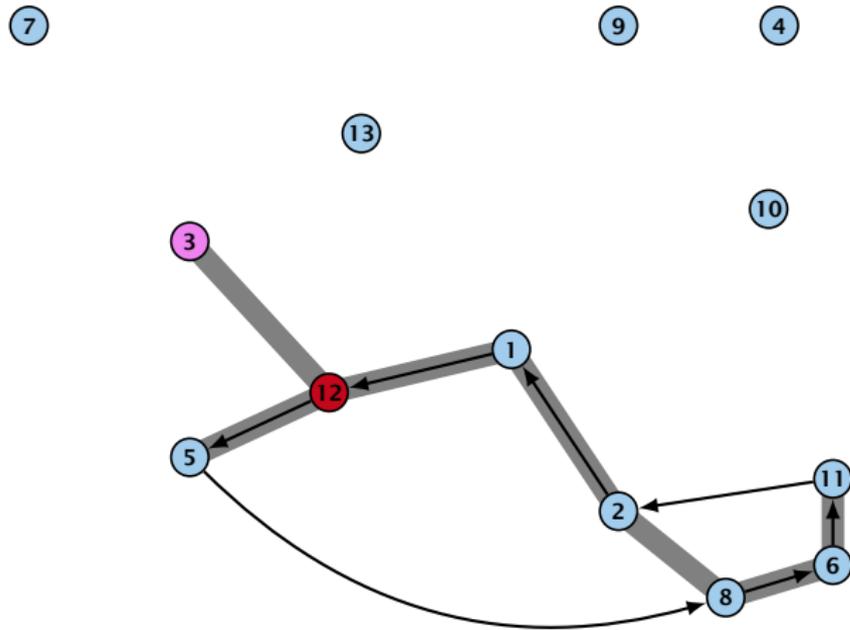


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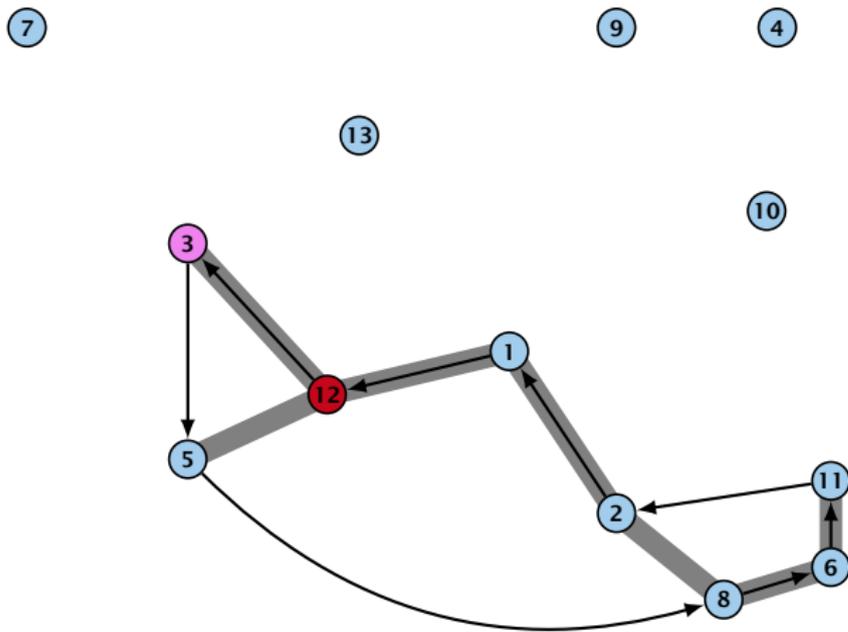


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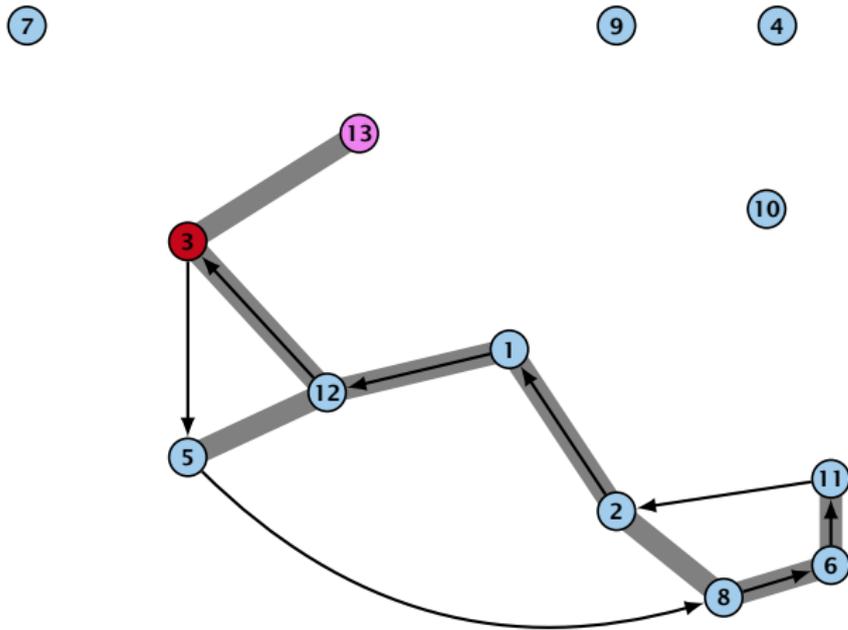


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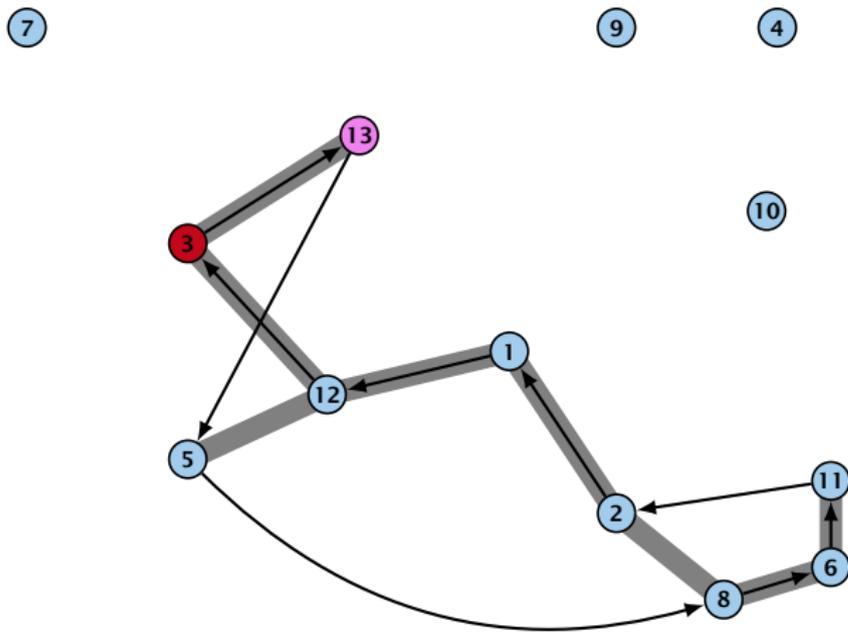


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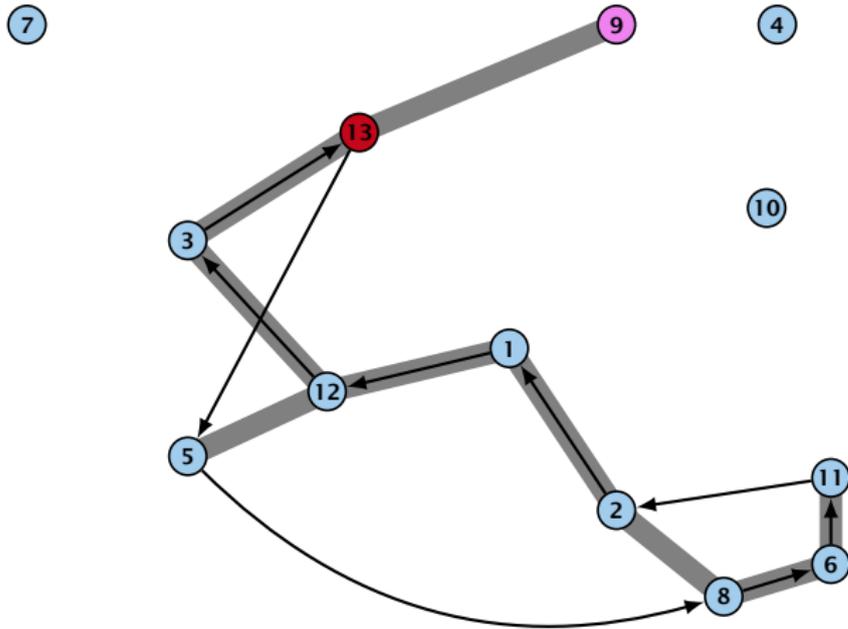


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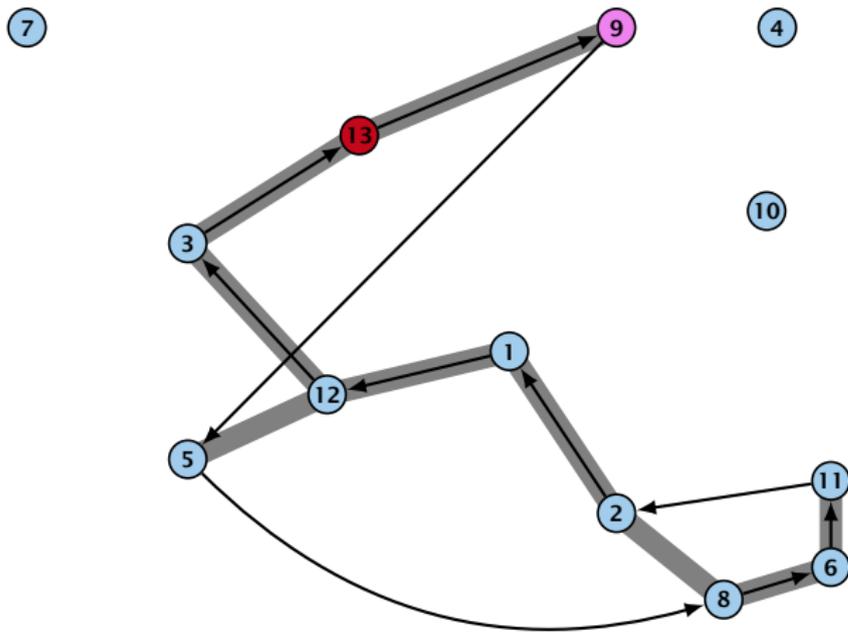


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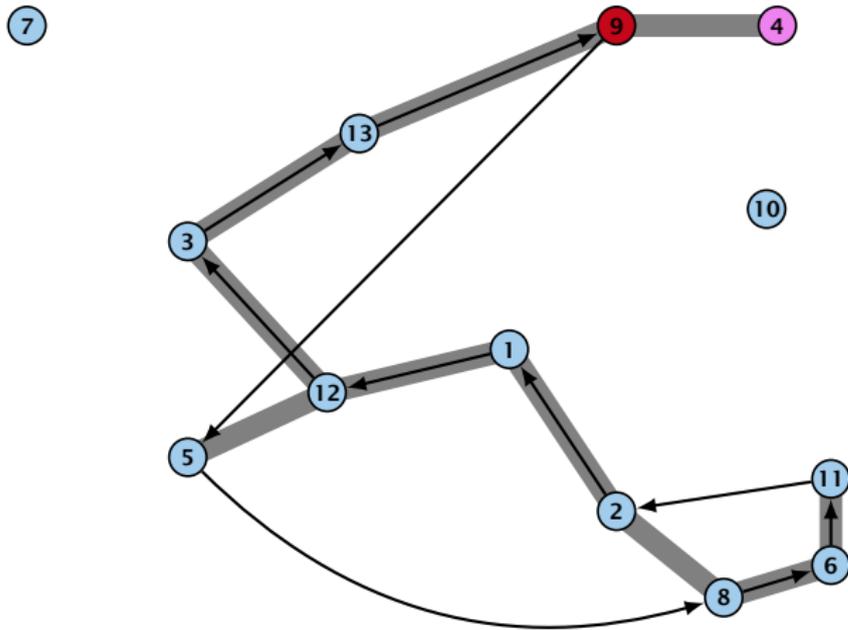


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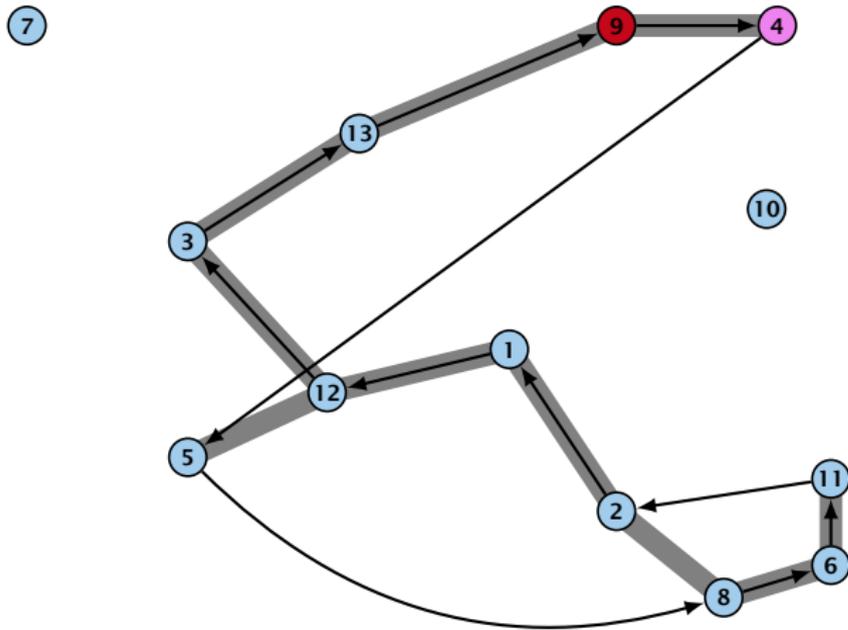


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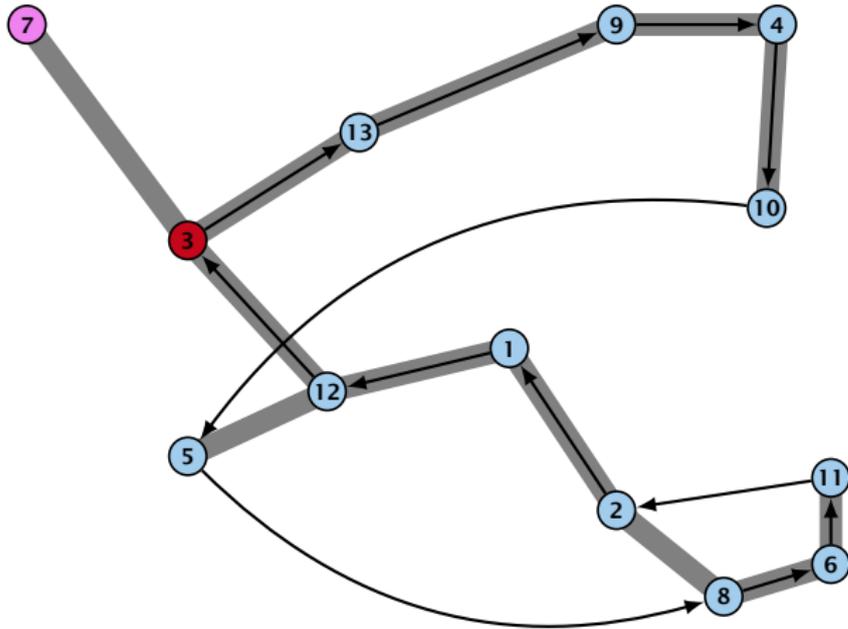
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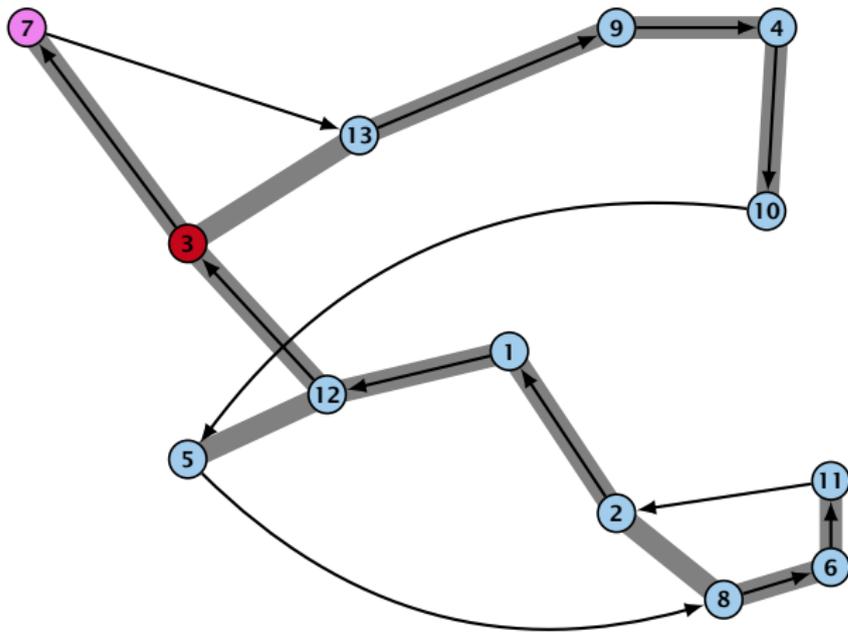


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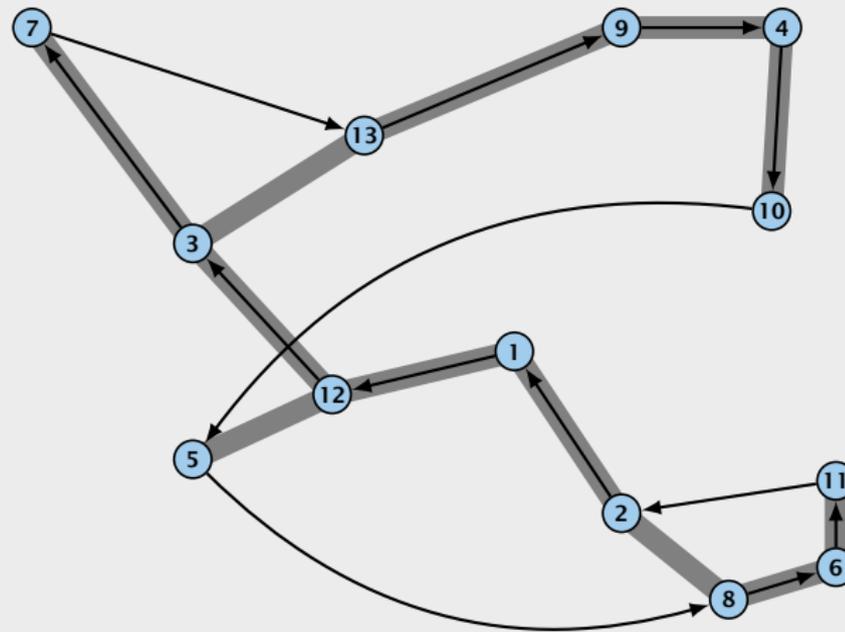
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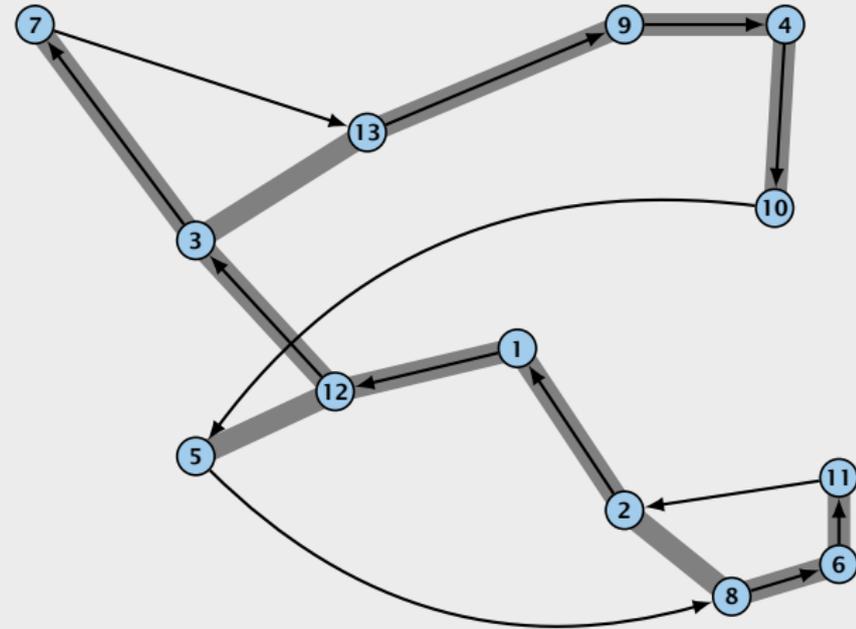
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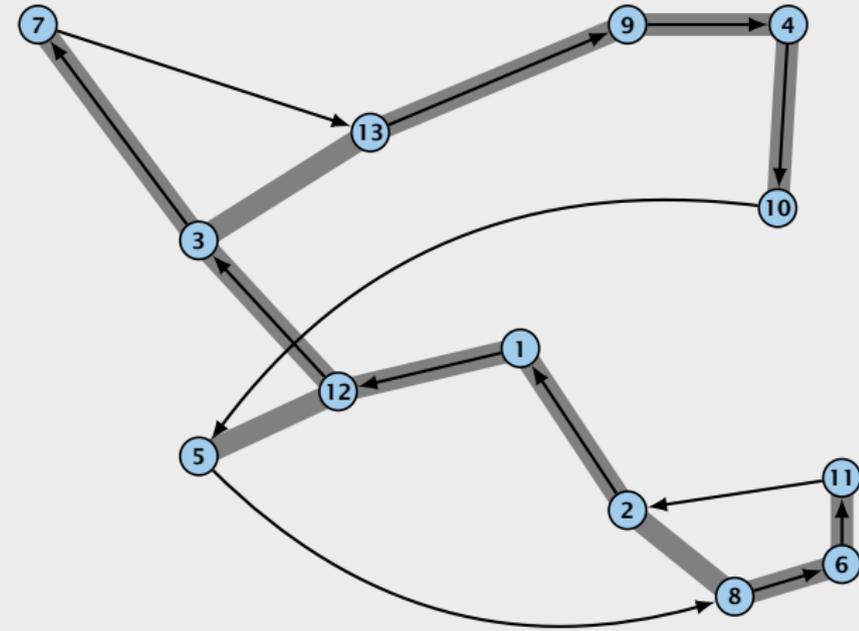
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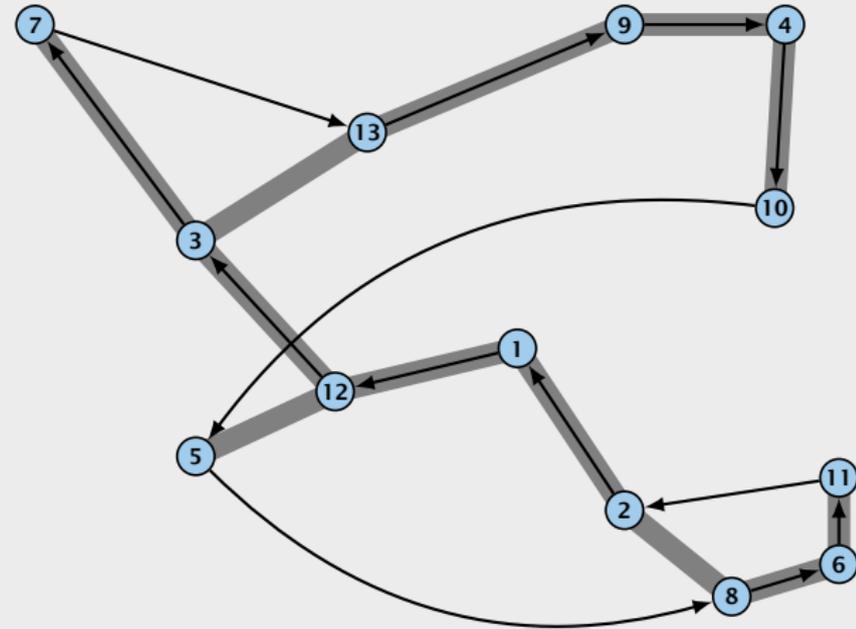
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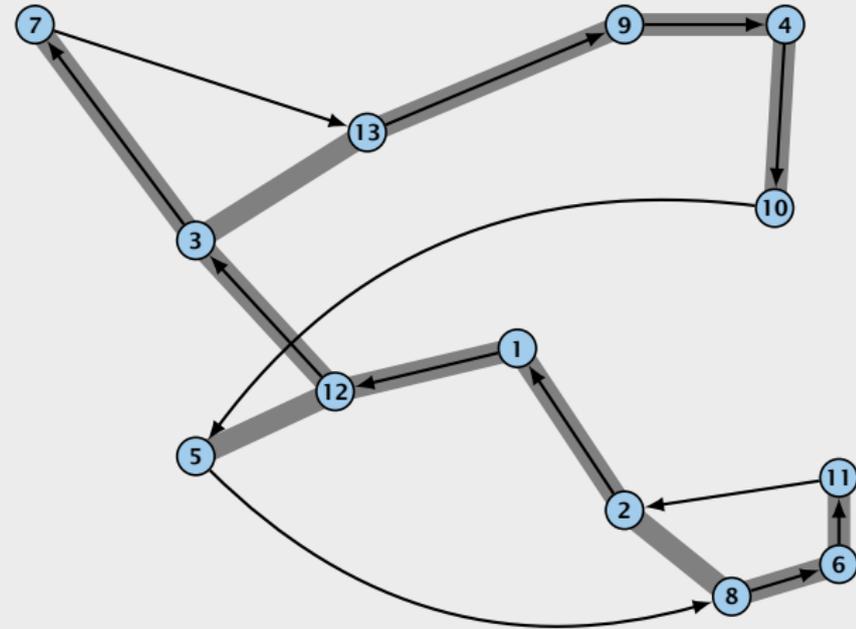
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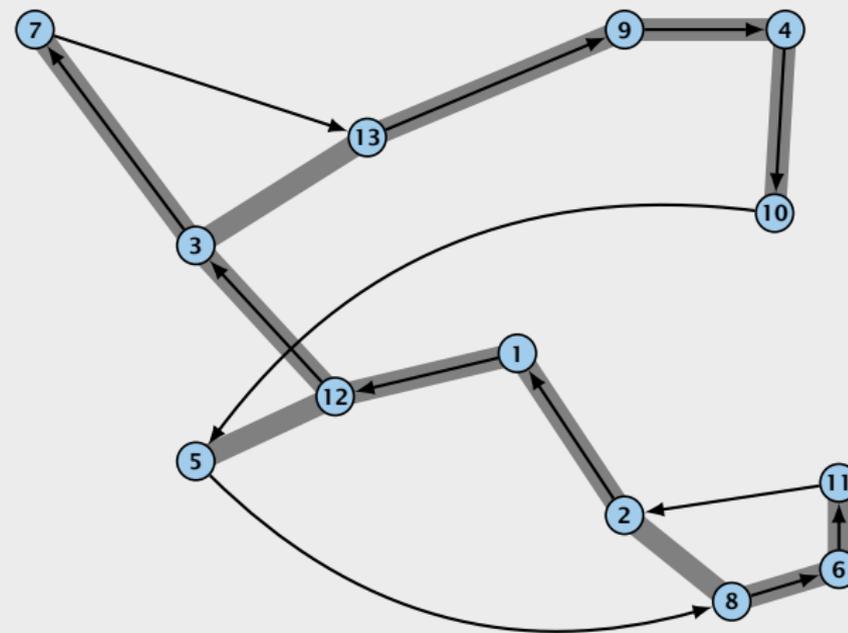
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Suppose that we are given an Eulerian graph  $G' = (V, E', c')$  of  $G = (V, E, c)$  such that for any edge  $(i, j) \in E'$   $c'(i, j) \geq c(i, j)$ .

Then we can find a TSP-tour of cost at most

$$\sum_{e \in E'} c'(e)$$

Let  $T$  be an Euler tour of  $G'$ .

We can transform  $T$  into a TSP-tour by traversing the Euler tour and only make the first occurrence of a city.

The cost of this TSP-tour is at most the cost of the Euler tour because of triangle inequality.

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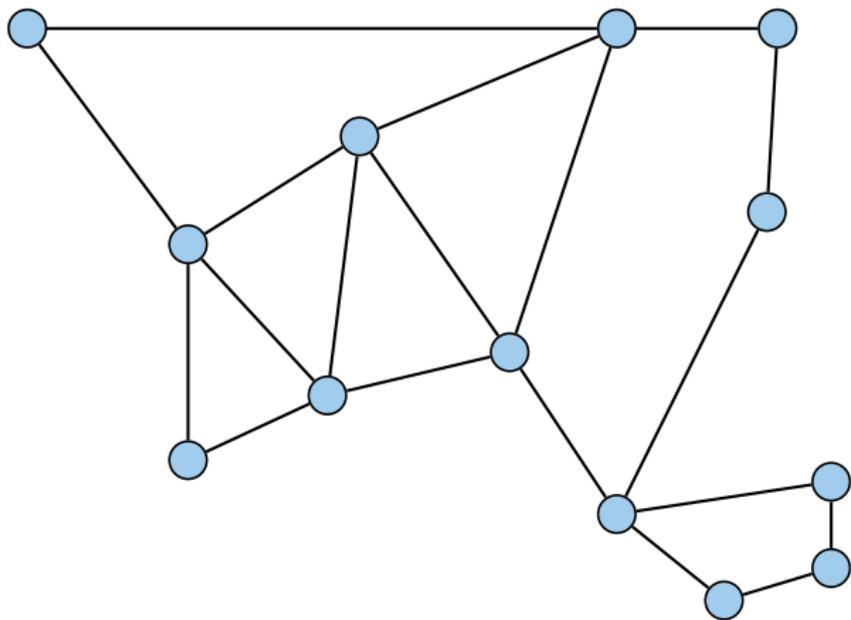
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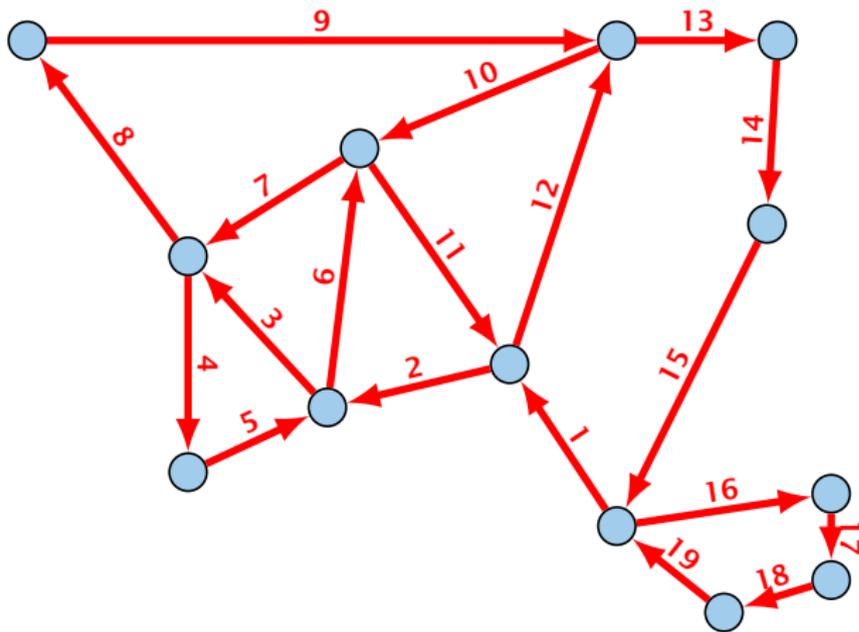
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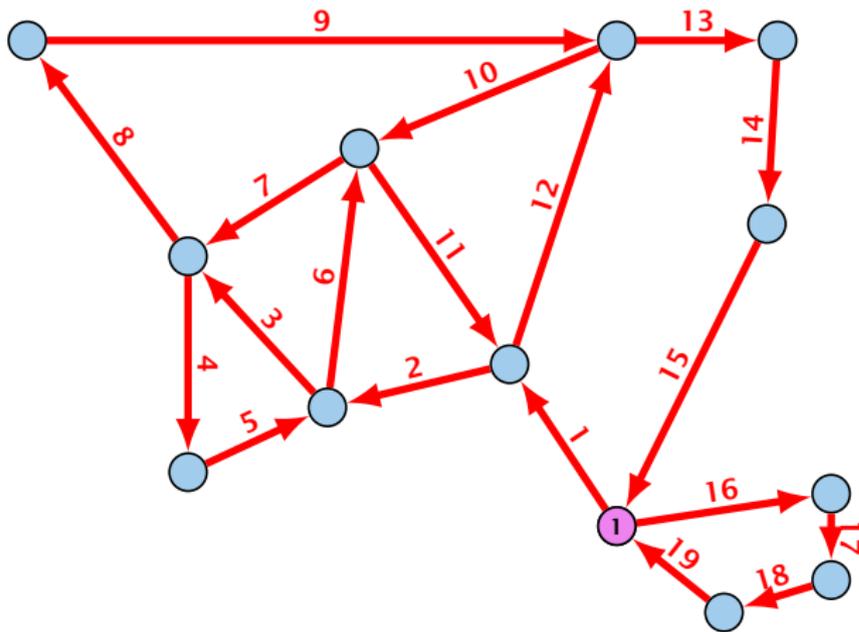
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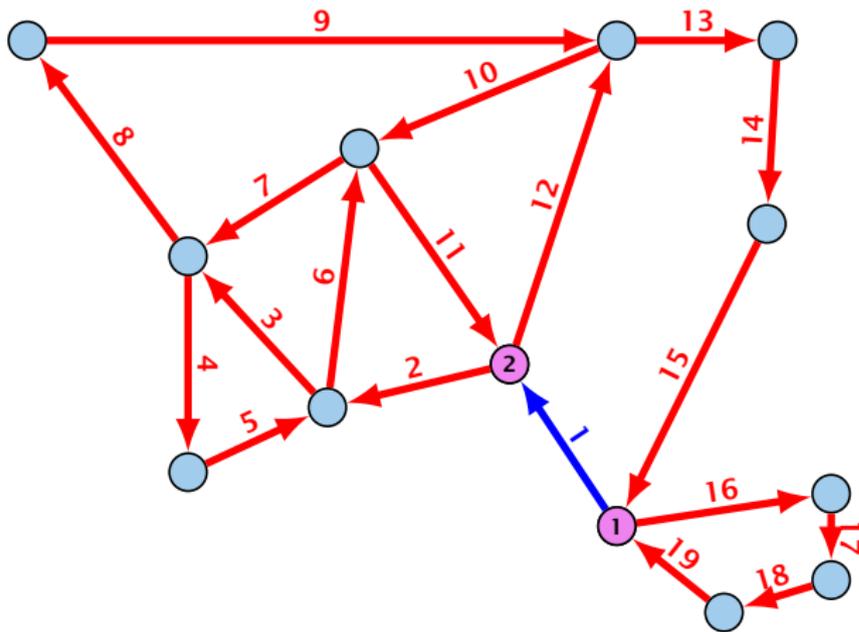
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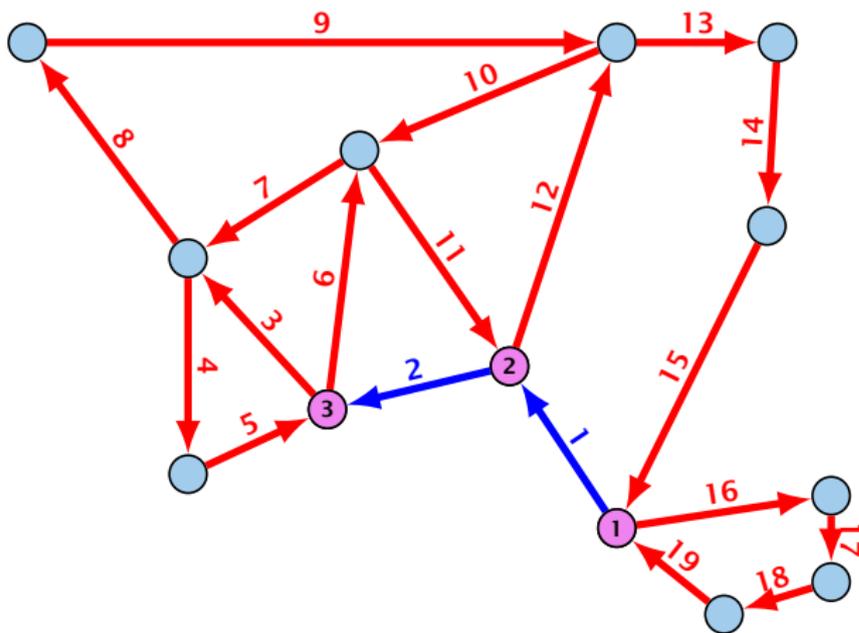
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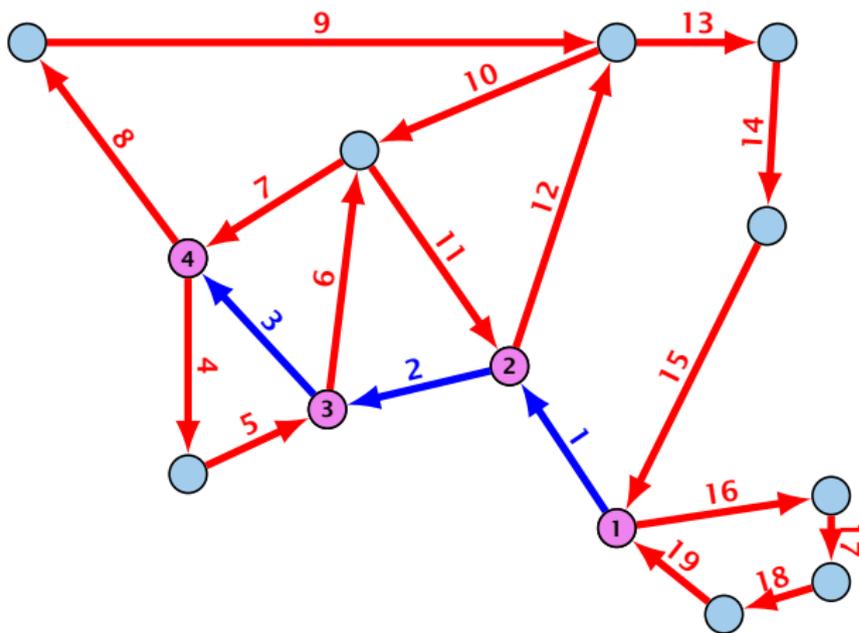
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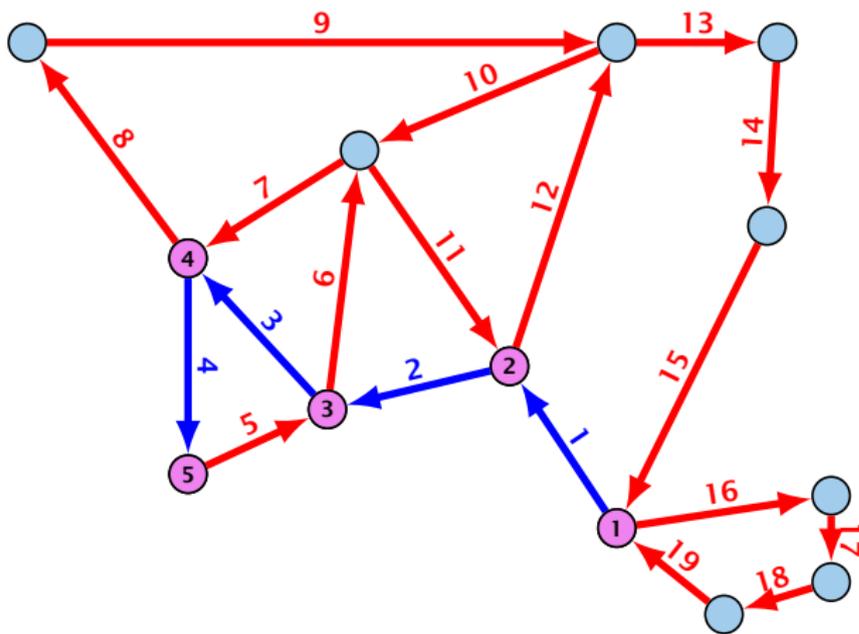
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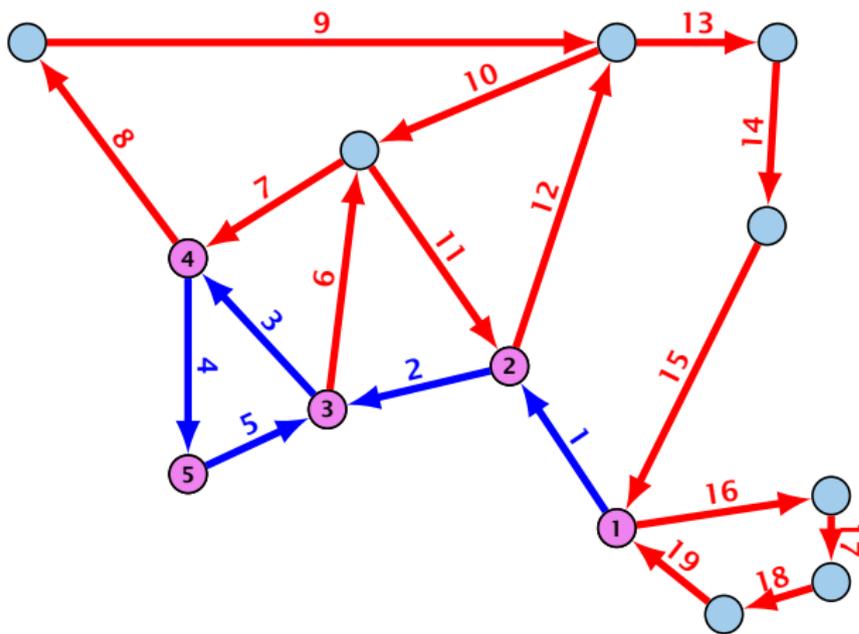
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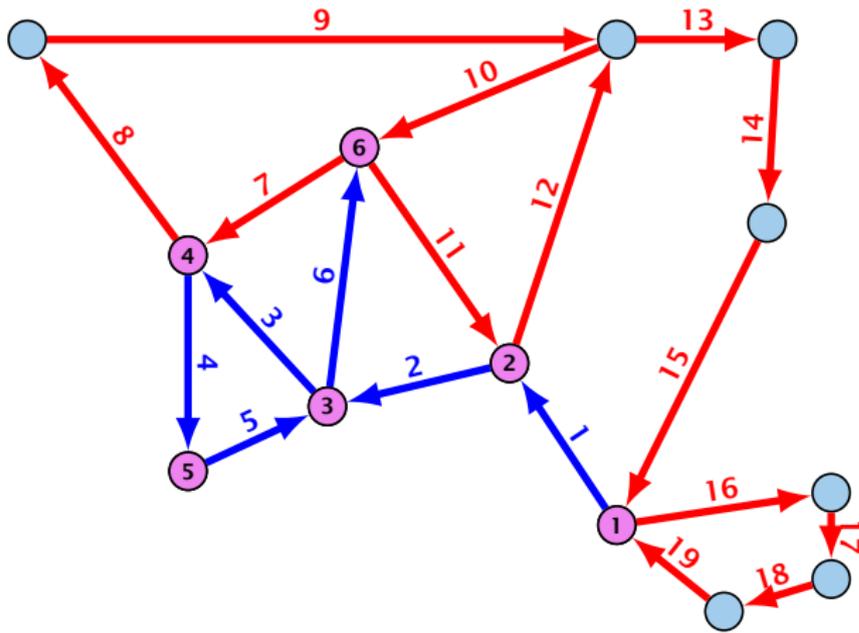
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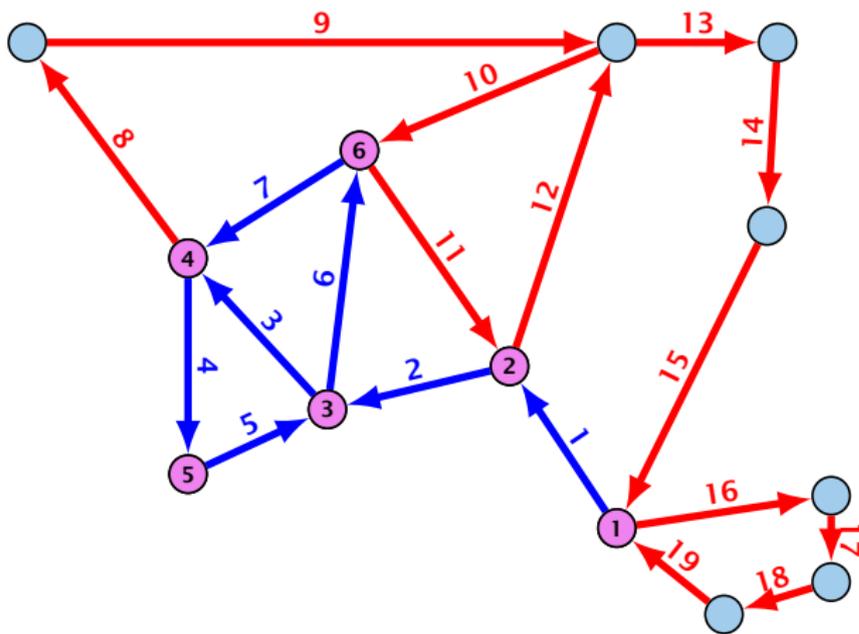
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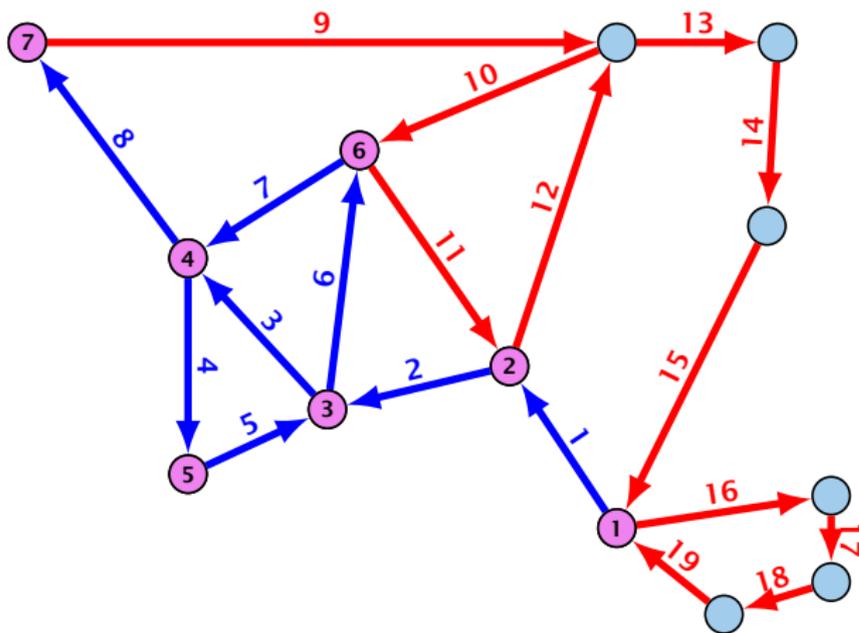
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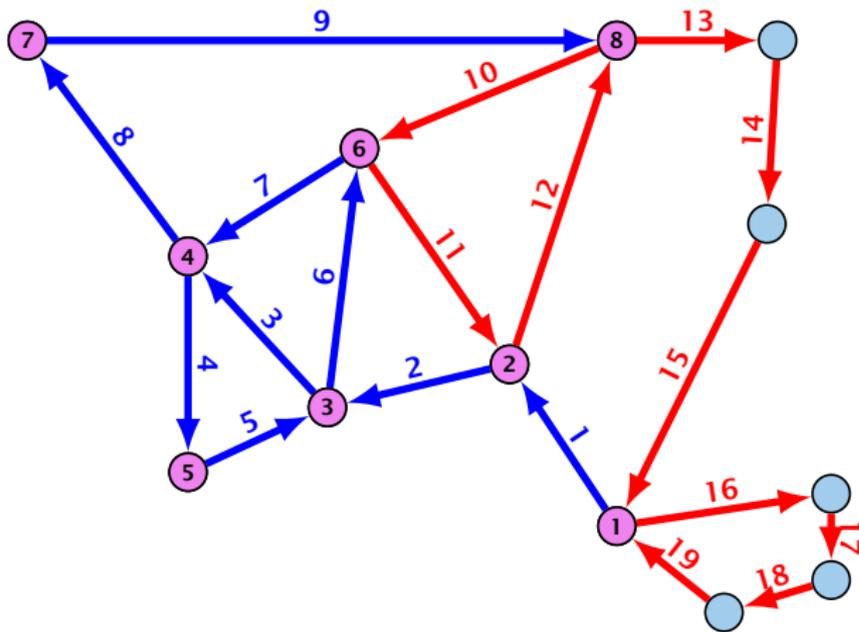
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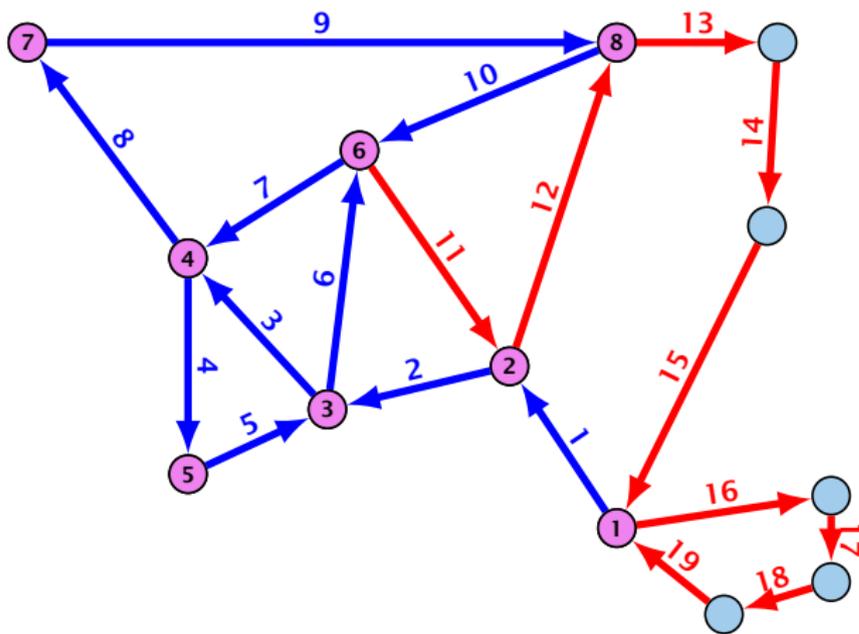
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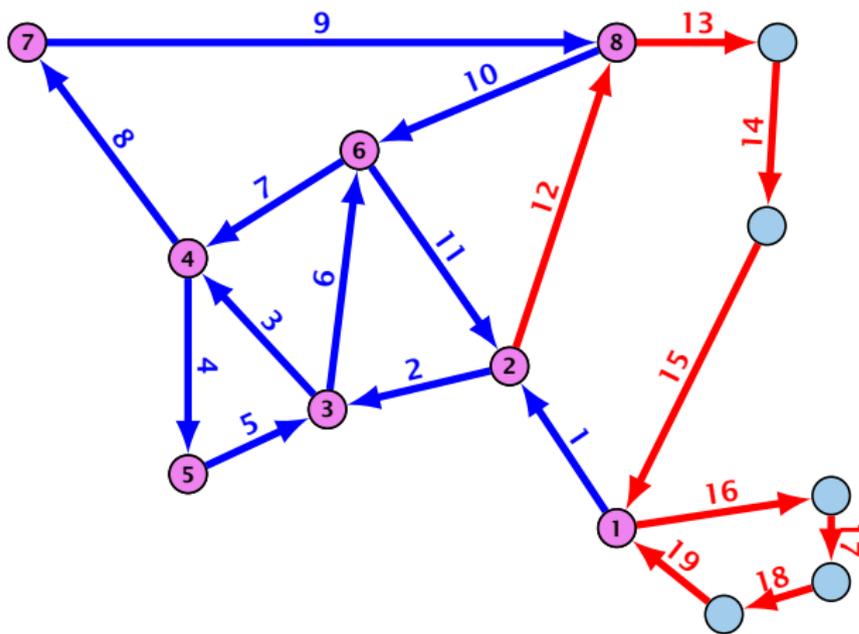
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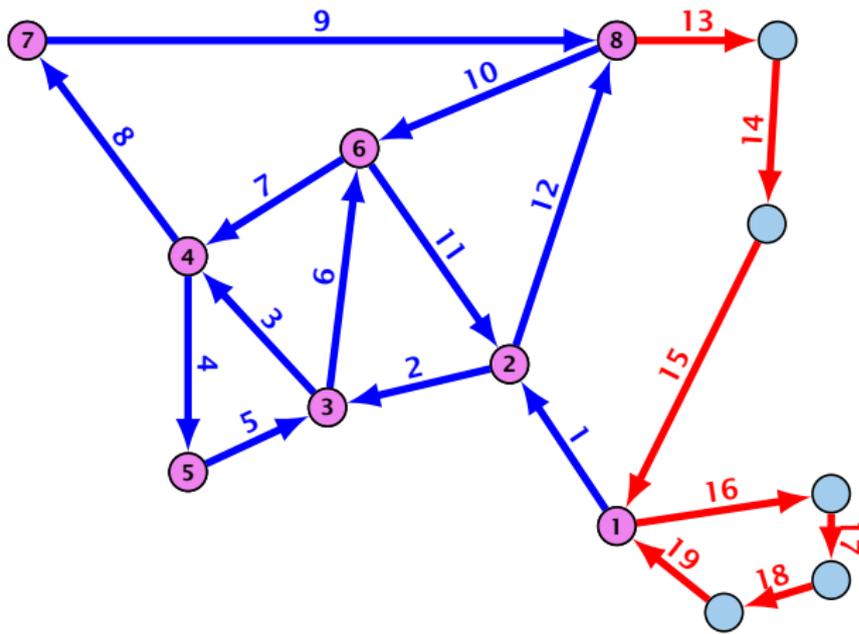
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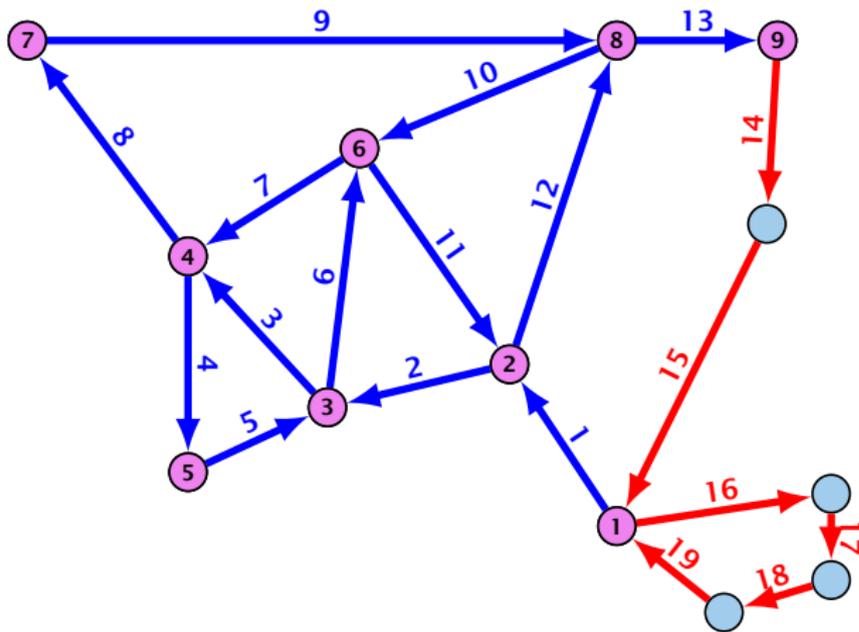
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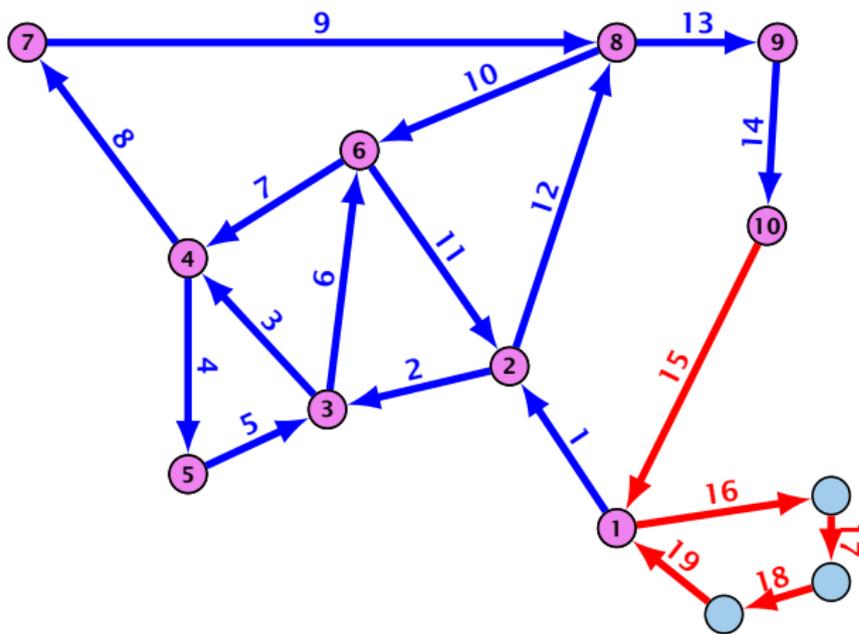
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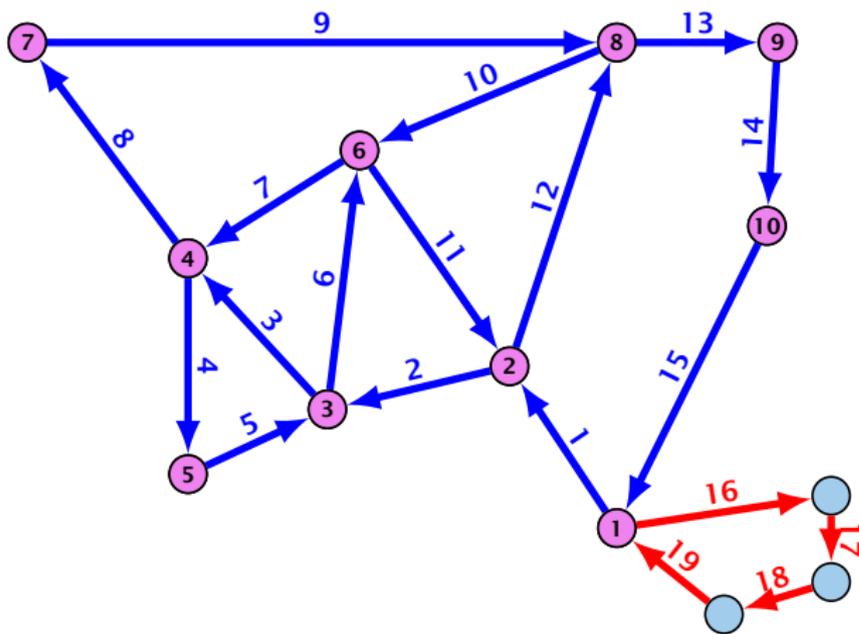
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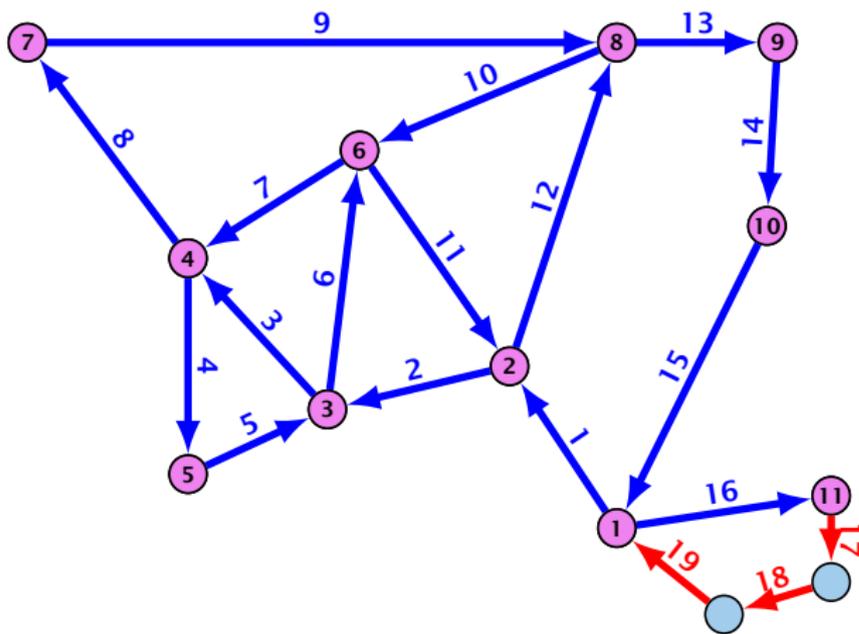
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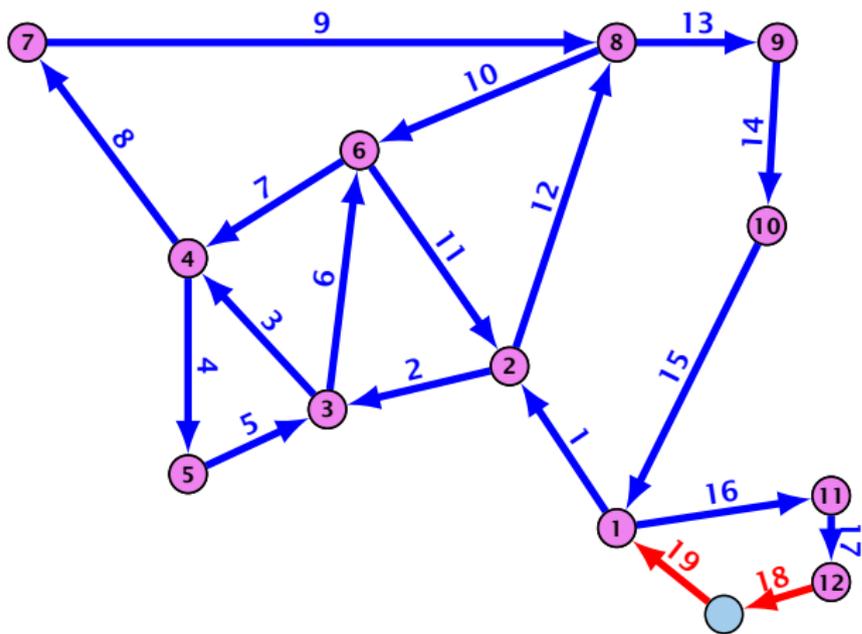
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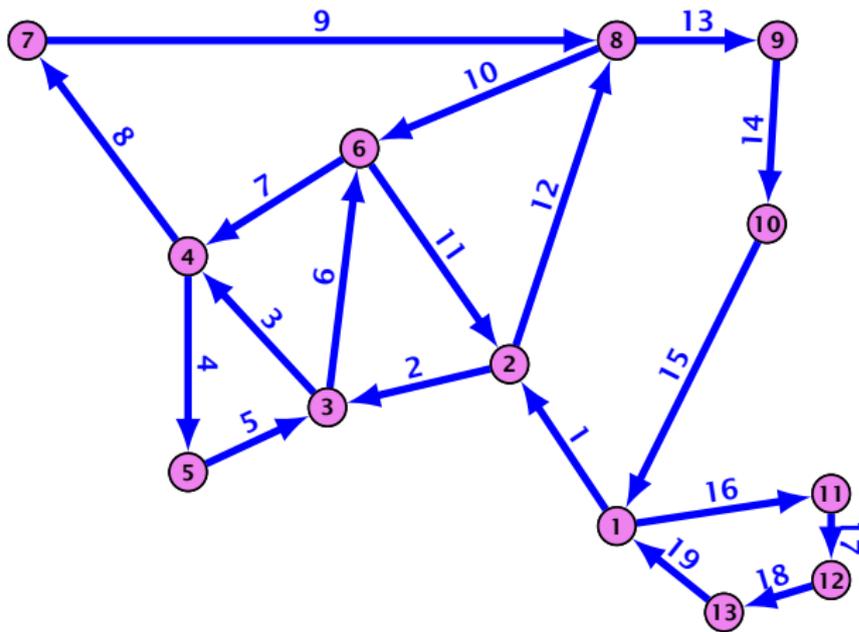
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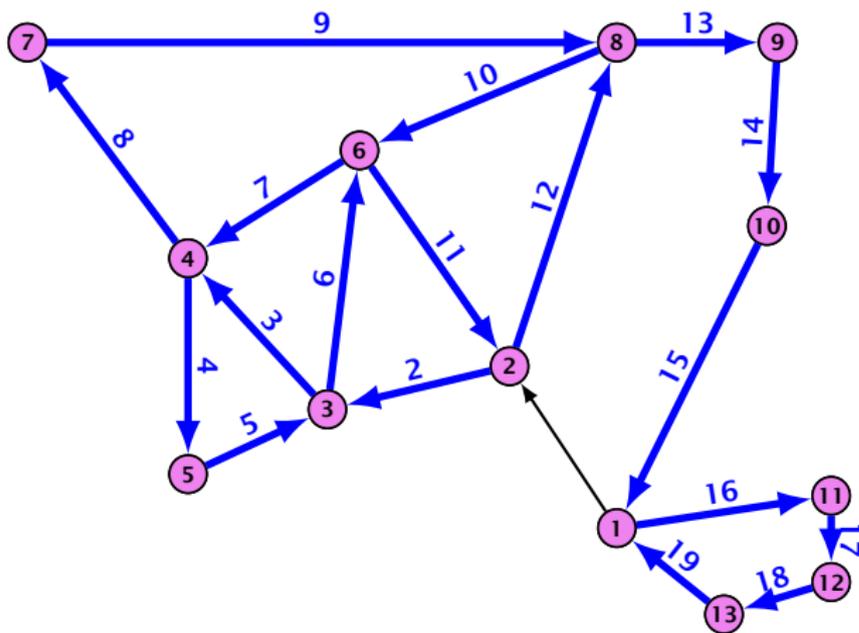
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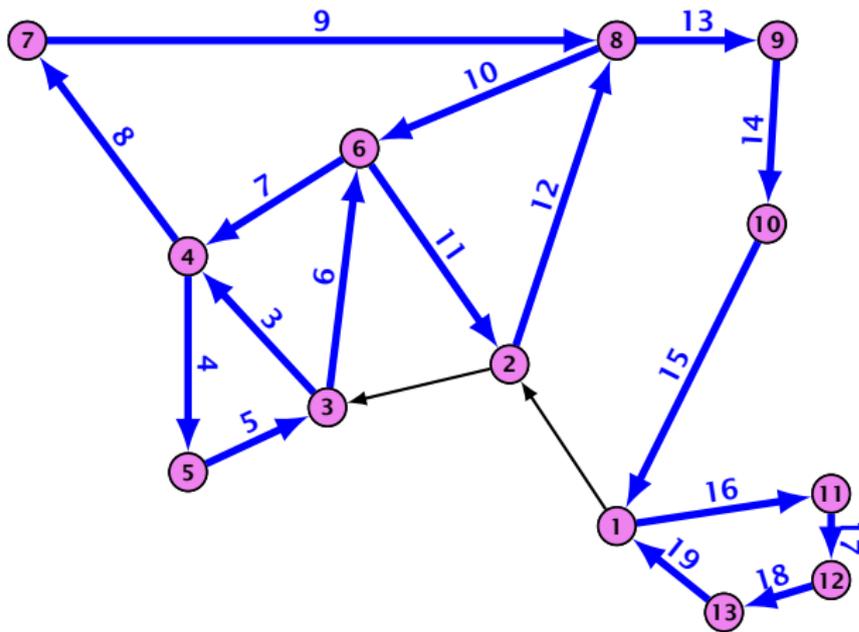
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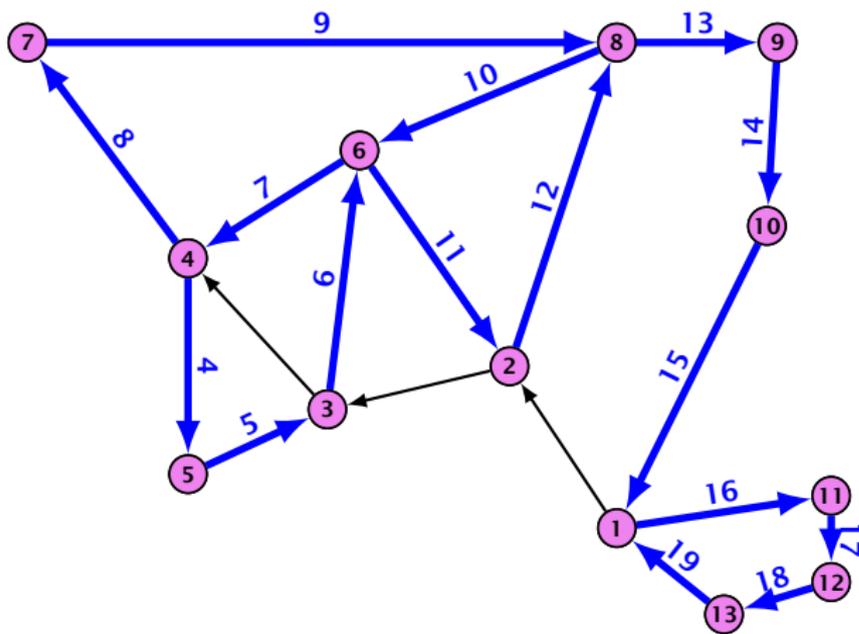
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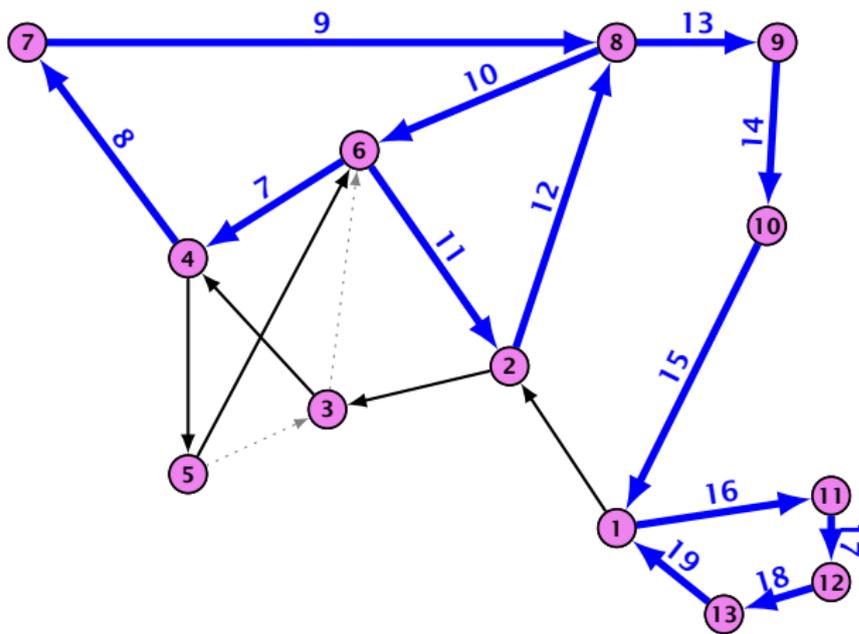
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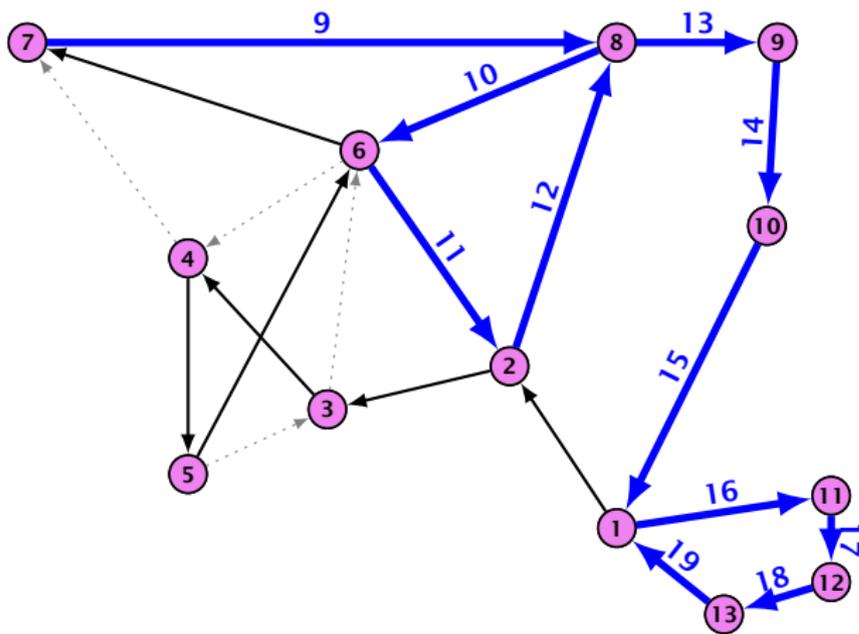
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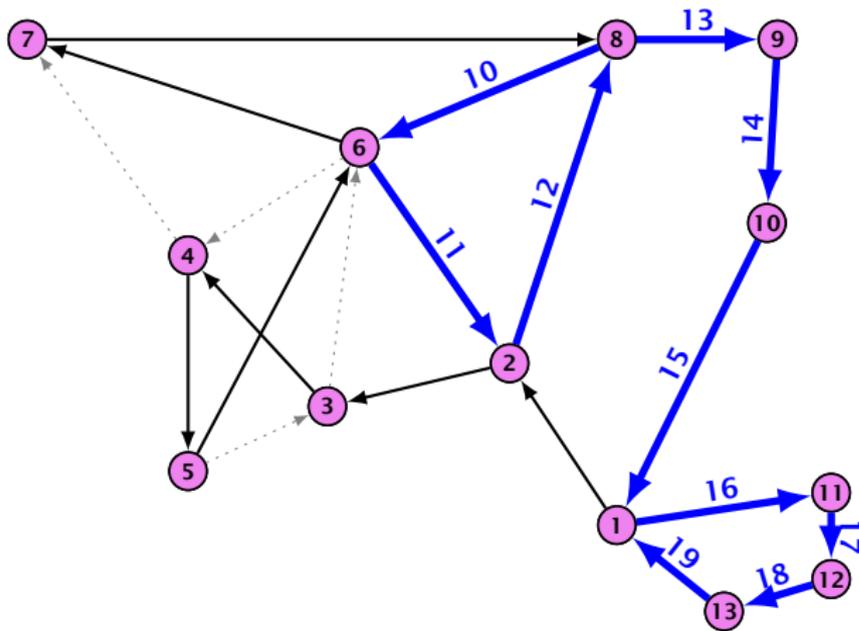
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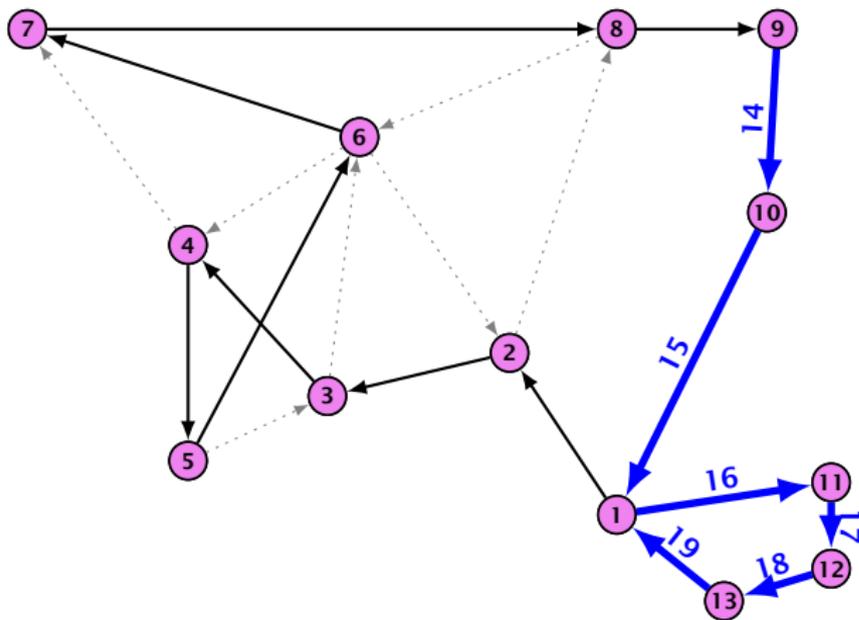
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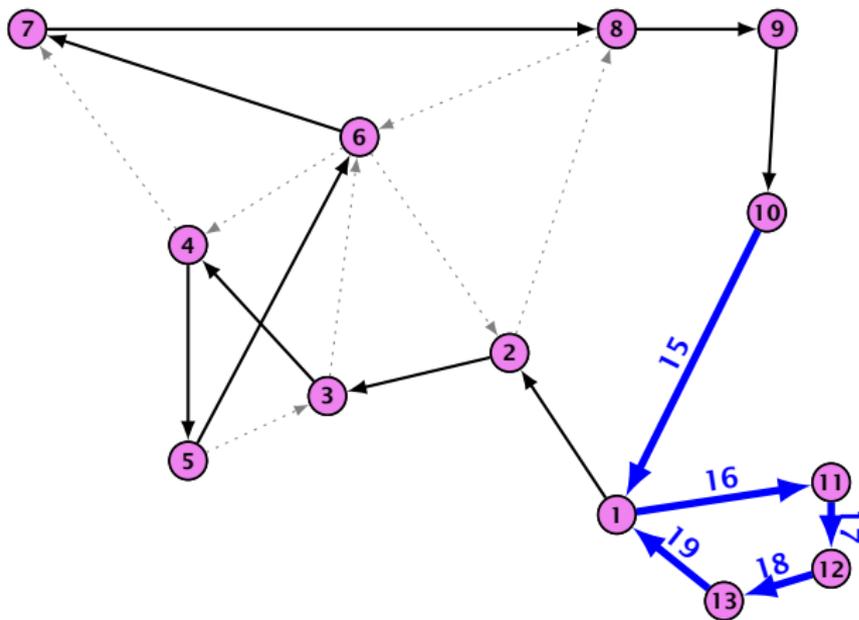
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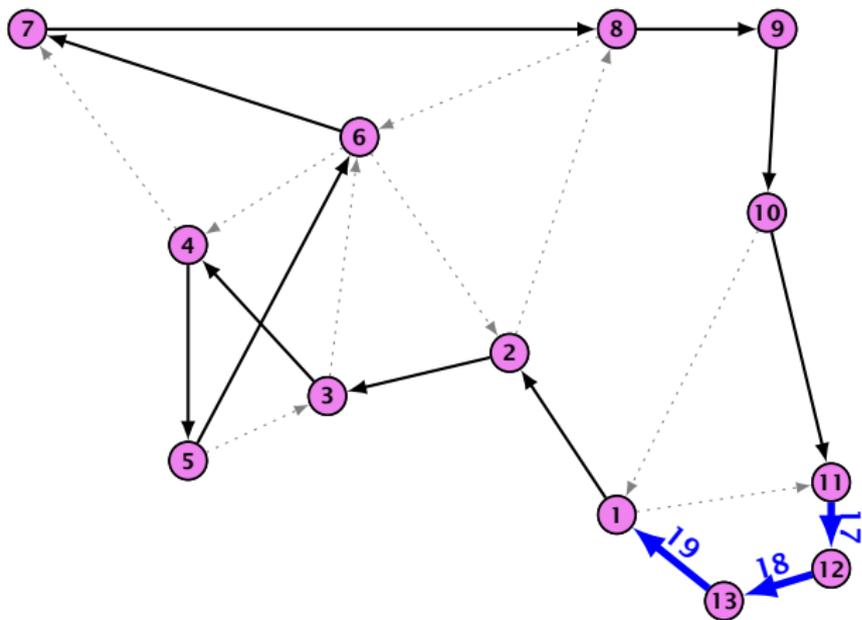
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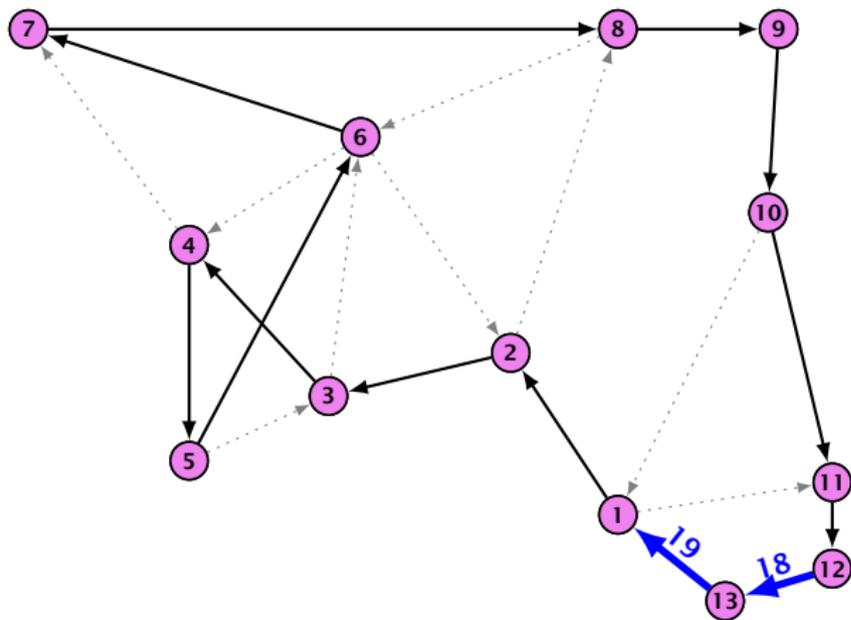
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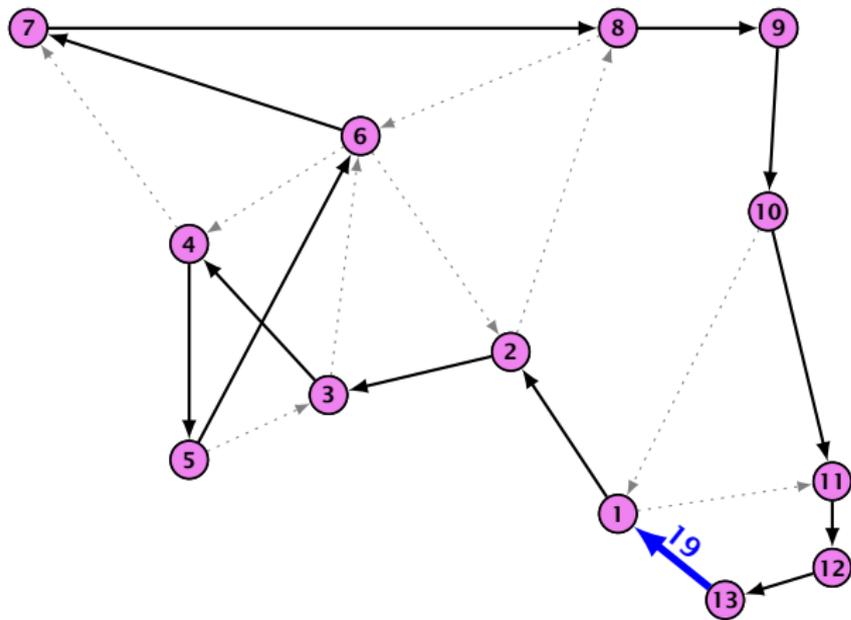
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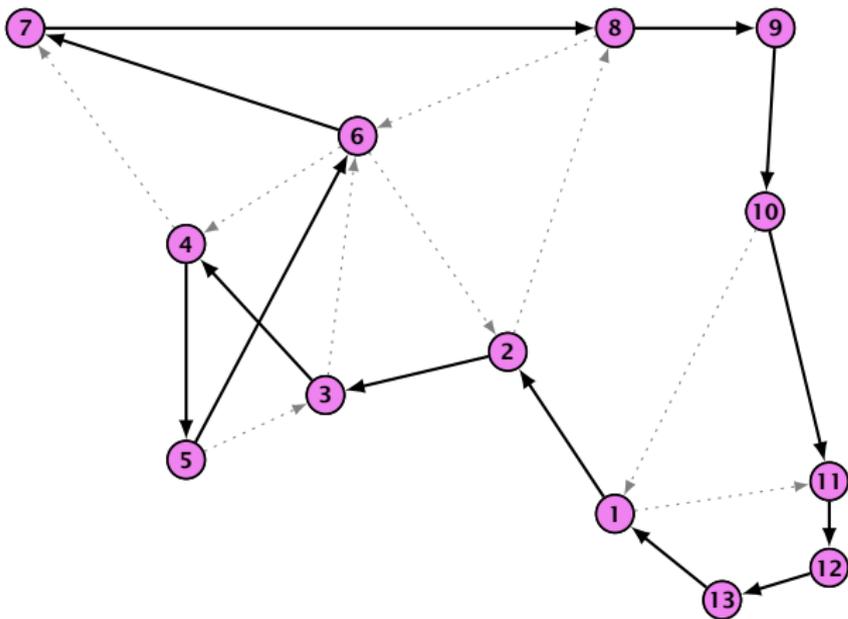
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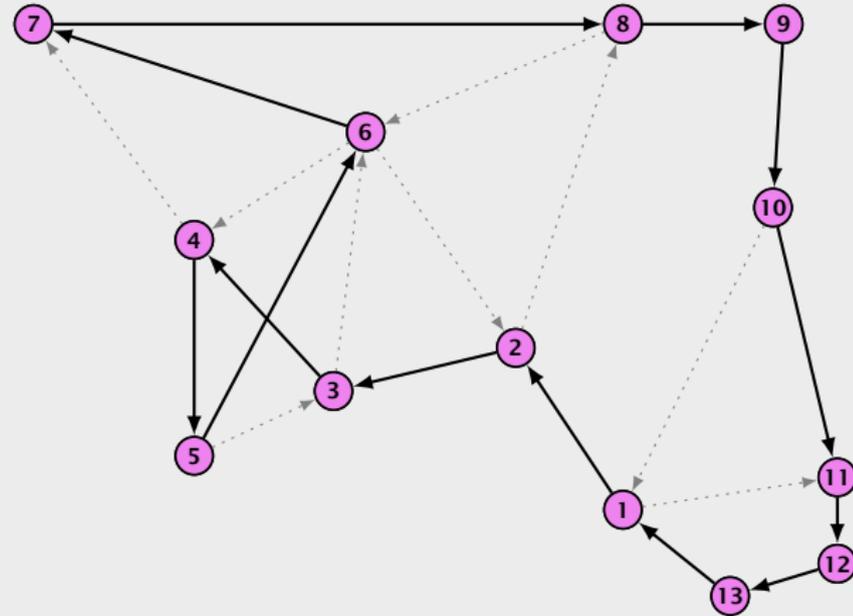
Consider the following graph:

- ▶ Compute an MST of  $G$ .
- ▶ Duplicate all edges.

This graph is Eulerian, and the total cost of all edges is at most  $2 \cdot \text{OPT}_{\text{MST}}(G)$ .

Hence, short-cutting gives a tour of cost no more than  $2 \cdot \text{OPT}_{\text{MST}}(G)$  which means we have a 2-approximation.

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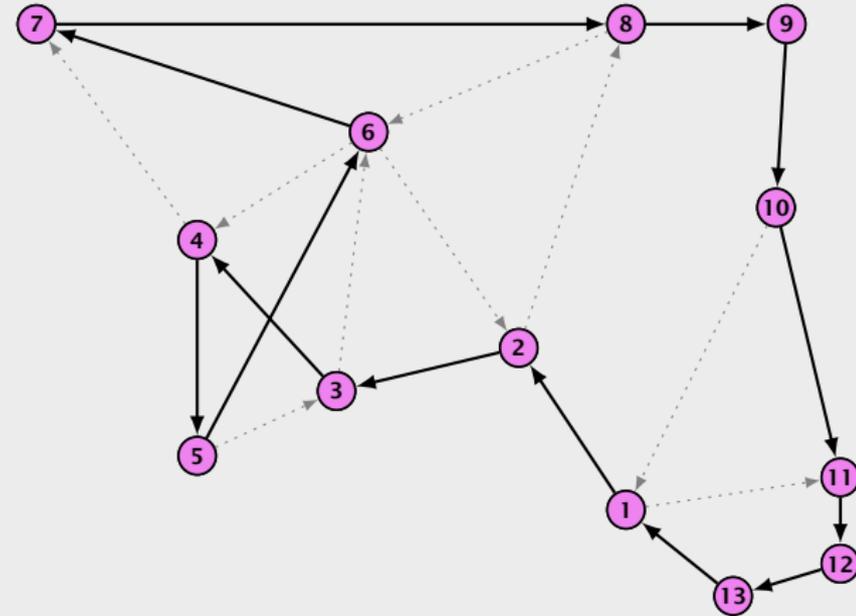
Consider the following graph:

- ▶ Compute an MST of  $G$ .
- ▶ Duplicate all edges.

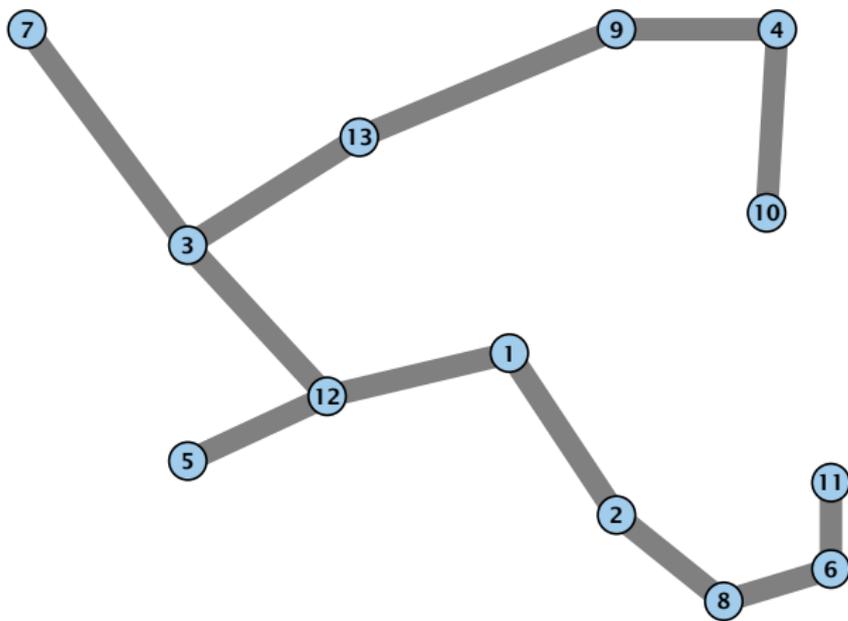
This graph is Eulerian, and the total cost of all edges is at most  $2 \cdot \text{OPT}_{\text{MST}}(G)$ .

Hence, short-cutting gives a tour of cost no more than  $2 \cdot \text{OPT}_{\text{MST}}(G)$  which means we have a 2-approximation.

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## TSP: Can we do better?



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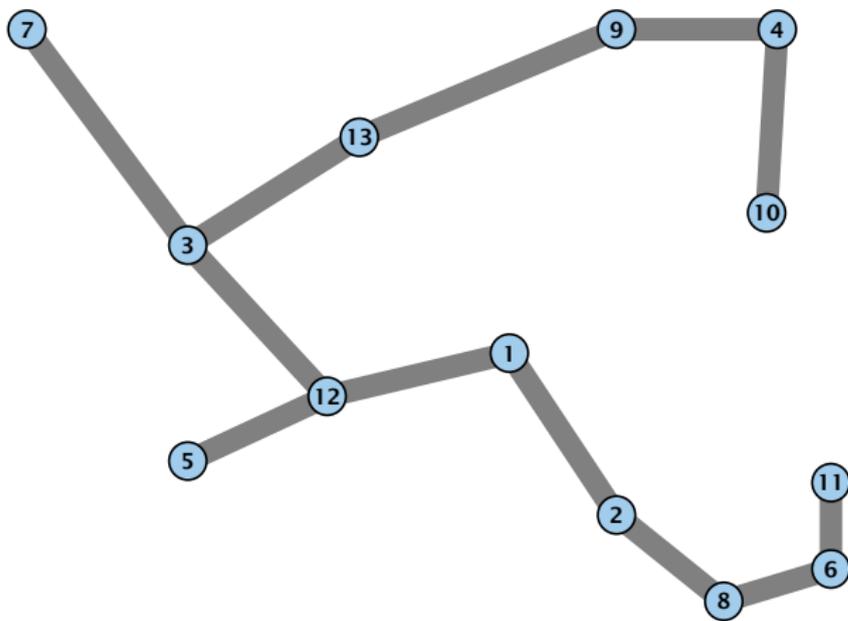
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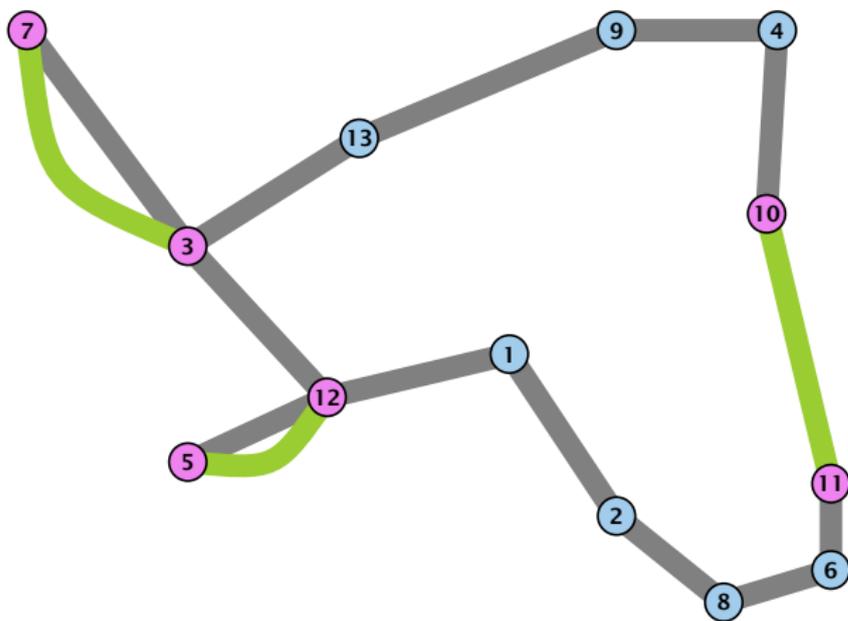
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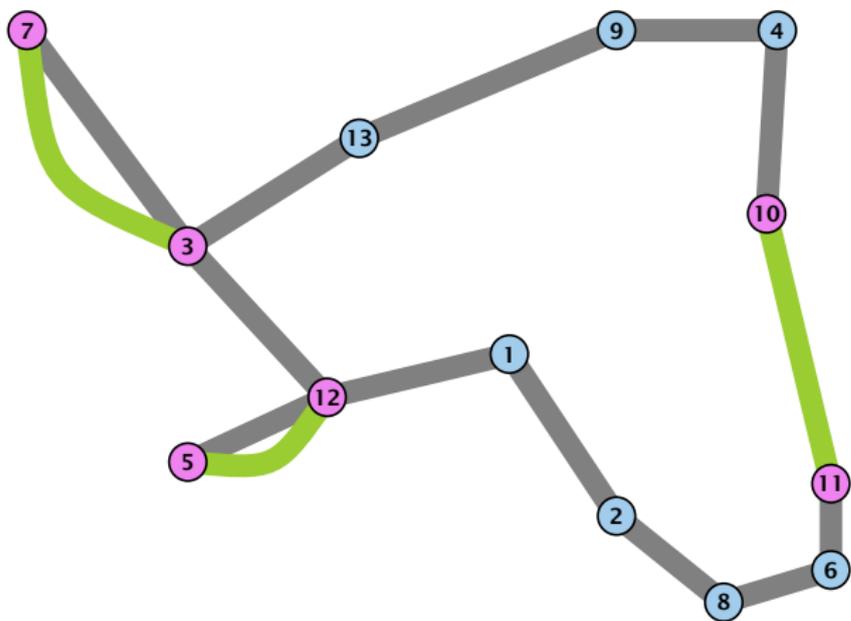
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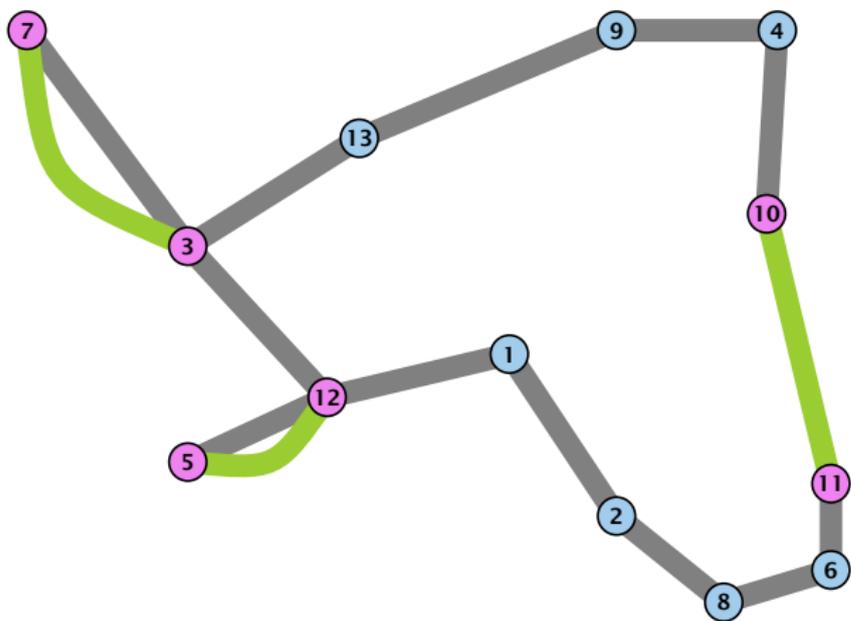
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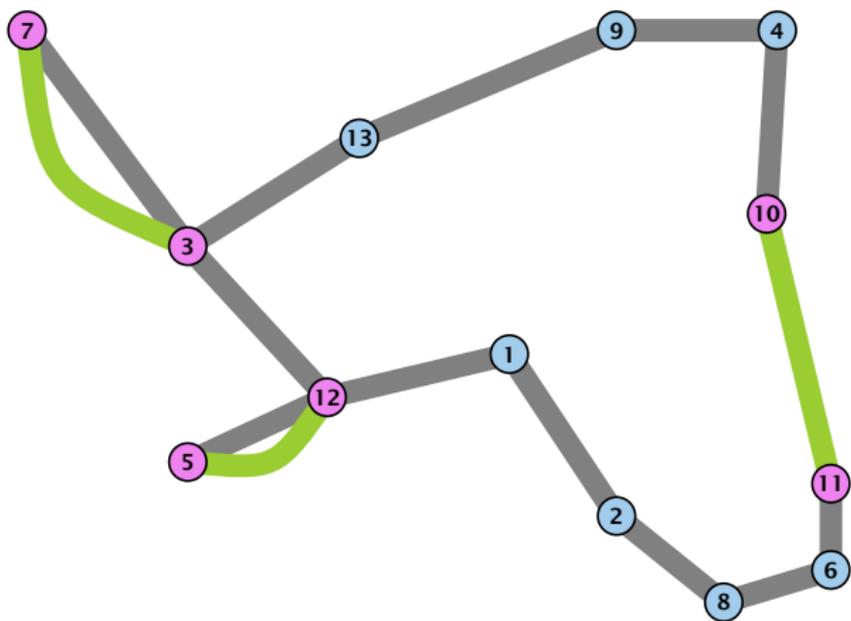
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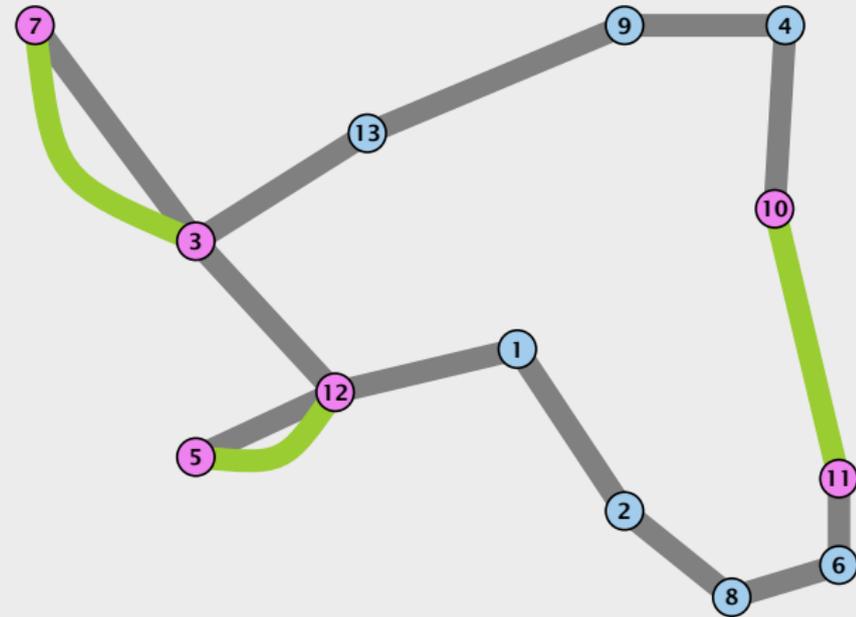
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Duplicating all edges in the MST seems to be rather wasteful.

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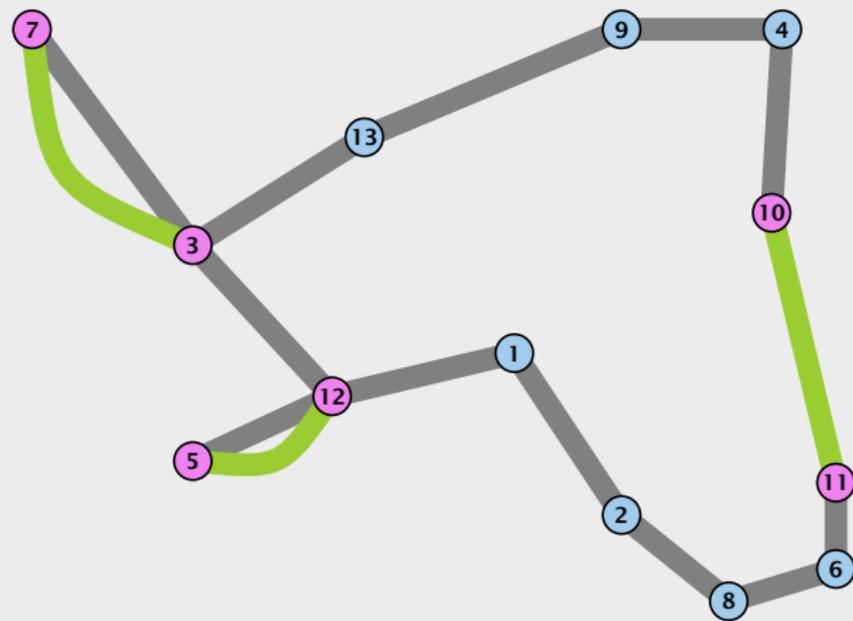
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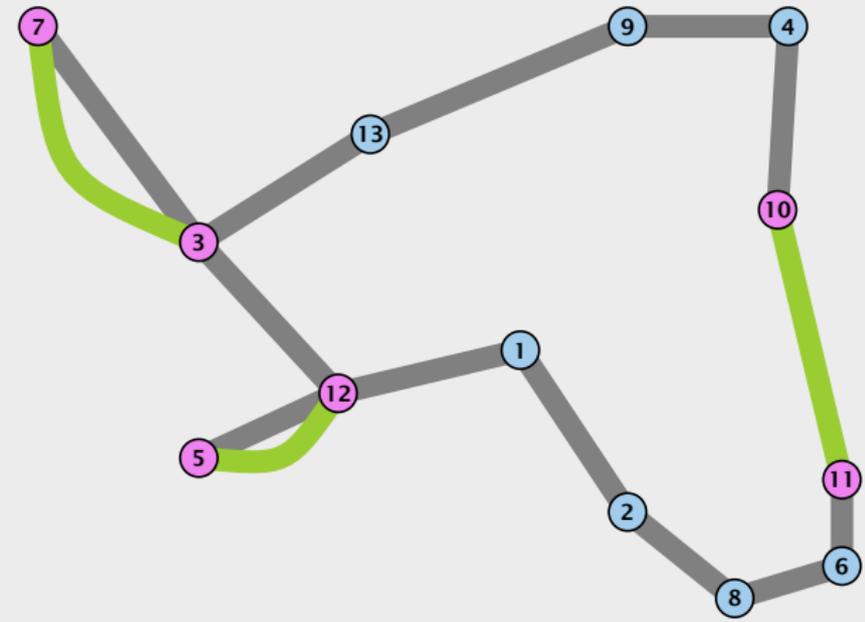
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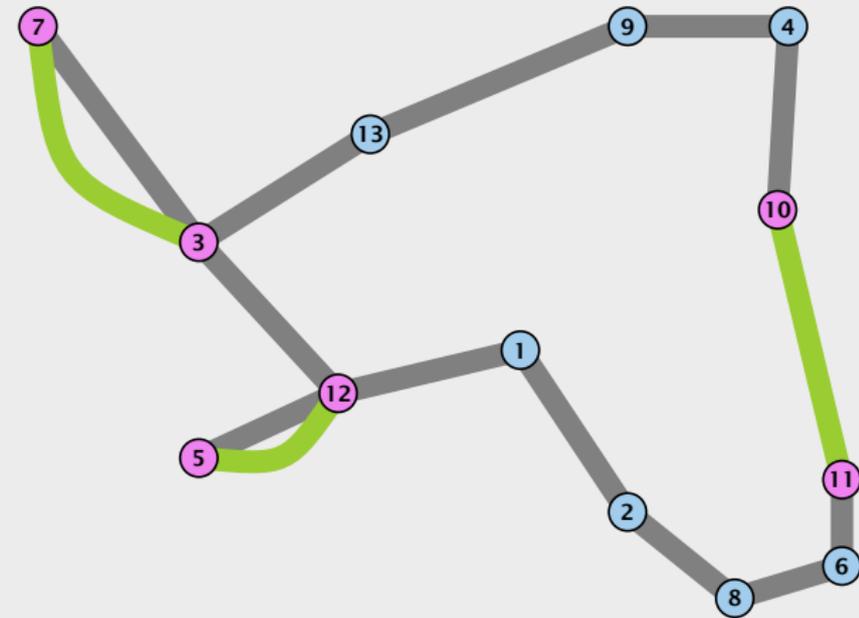
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However, the edges of this tour give rise to two disjoint matchings. One of these matchings must have weight less than  $\text{OPT}_{\text{TSP}}(G)/2$ .

Adding this matching to the MST gives an Eulerian graph with edge weight at most

$$\text{OPT}_{\text{MST}}(G) + \text{OPT}_{\text{TSP}}(G)/2 \leq \frac{3}{2} \text{OPT}_{\text{TSP}}(G) ,$$

Short cutting gives a  $\frac{3}{2}$ -approximation for metric TSP.

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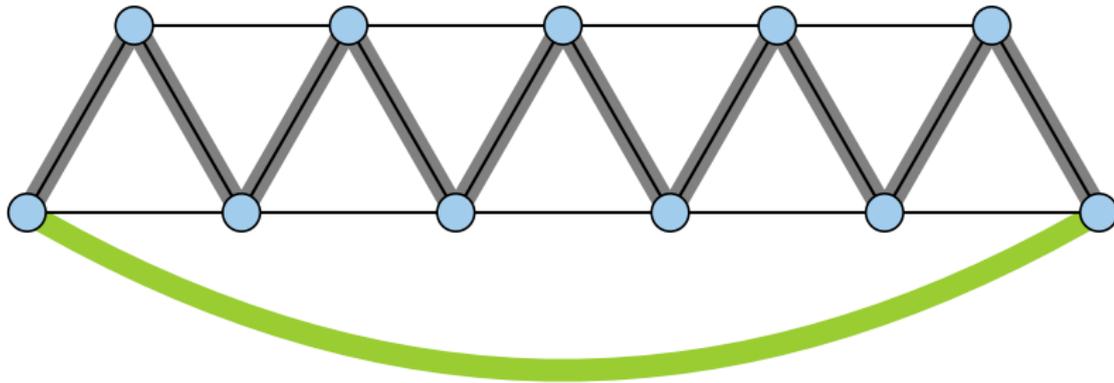
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## Christofides. Tight Example



- ▶ optimal tour:  $n$  edges.
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- ▶ weight of matching  $(n + 1)/2 - 1$
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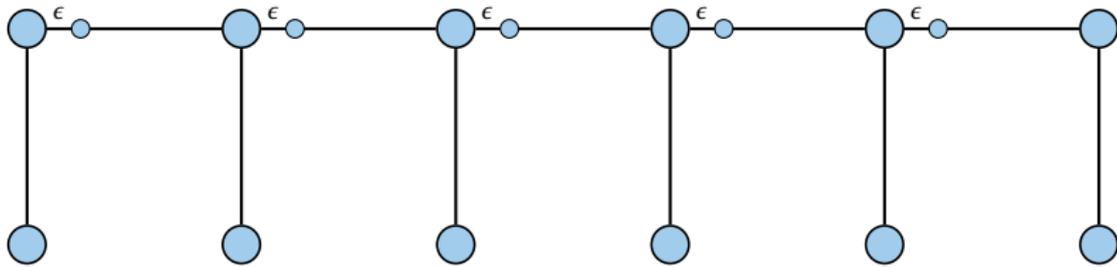
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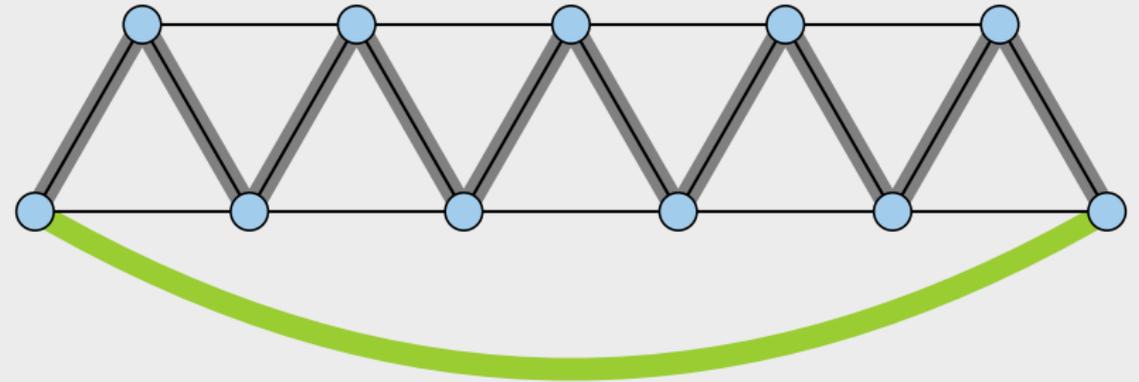
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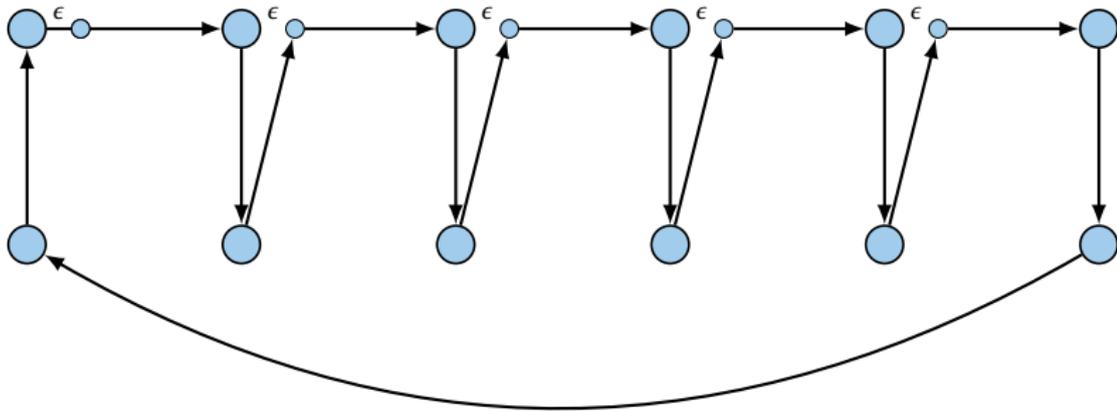
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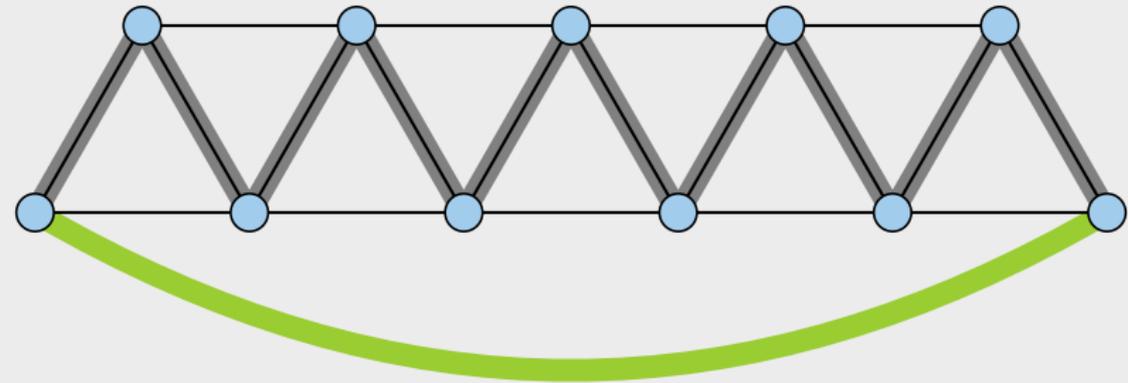
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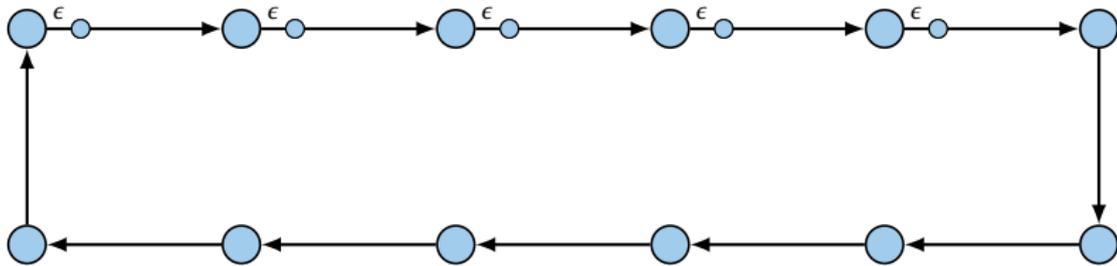
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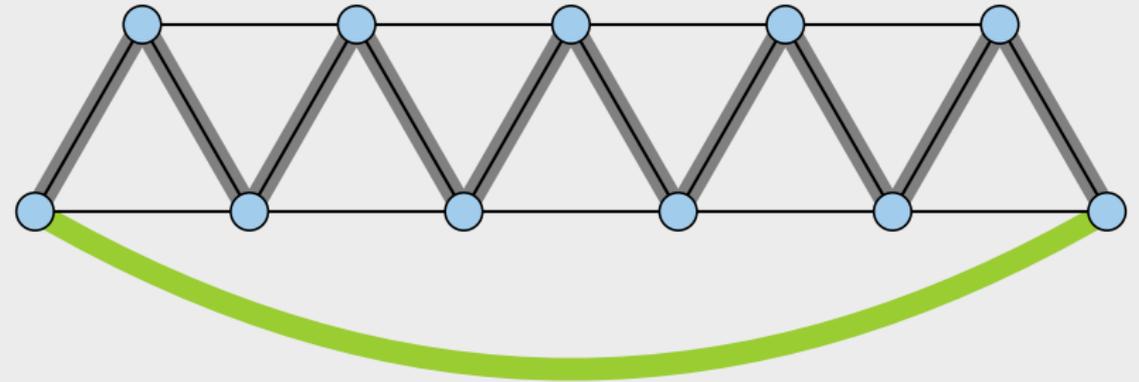
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