

# Facility Location Problem in a Network



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## Median Problem

minimizing the sum of weighted  
shortest path lengths



## Center Problem

minimizing the maximum of (possibly)  
weighted shortest path lengths

## The p-Median Problem

Given a network with nodes  $j=1,2,\dots,n$   
where  $w_j$  = "weight" of node  $j$   
(e.g., volume of shipments)

Let  $d(X,j)$  = distance from node  $j$  to  
the nearest point in the set  $X$

Find  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\}$  which

minimizes  $\tau(X) = \sum_{j=1}^n w_j d(X,j)$

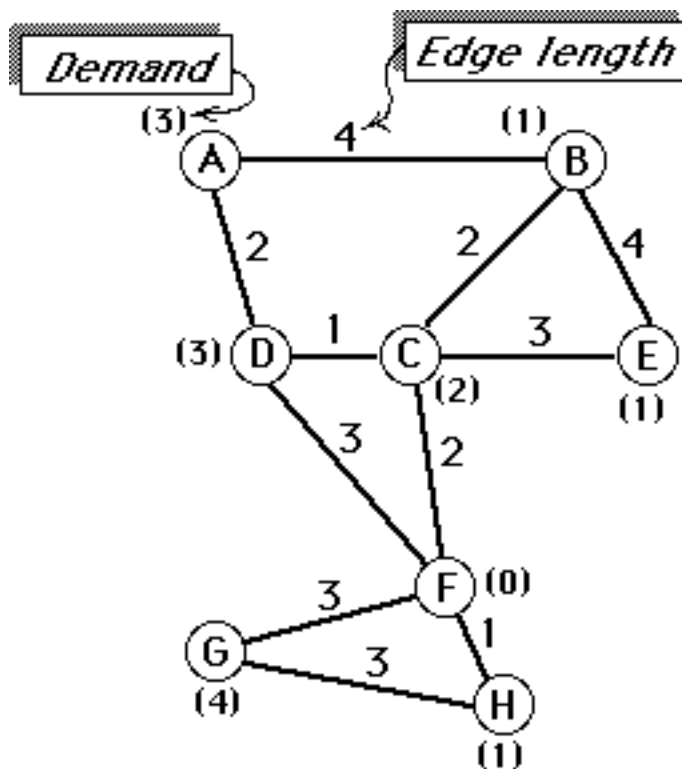


*The points in  $X$  are  
called p-medians.*

## Hakimi's Theorem

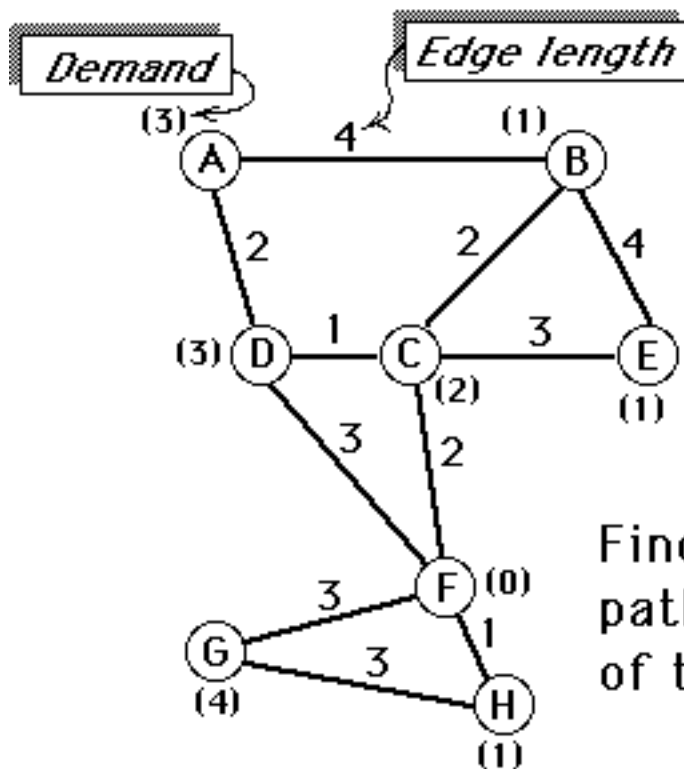
At least one set of  $p$ -medians  
exist solely on the nodes of  
the network.

*That is, we need search only among the nodes  
for the  $p$ -medians!*



*Where should a single facility be located to serve the eight cities?*

*Objective:  
Minimize the sum of the distances to the cities weighted by their demands*



		<i>TO</i>							
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
<i>FROM</i>	A	0	4	3	2	6	5	8	6
	B	4	0	2	3	4	4	7	5
	C	3	2	0	1	3	2	5	3
	D	2	3	1	0	4	3	6	4
	E	6	4	3	4	0	5	8	6
	F	5	4	2	3	5	0	3	1
	G	8	7	5	6	8	3	0	3
	H	6	5	3	4	6	1	3	0

Find the matrix of shortest path lengths between nodes of the network (e.g., by Floyd's algorithm)

*TO*

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
A	0	4	3	2	6	5	8	6
B	4	0	2	3	4	4	7	5
C	3	2	0	1	3	2	5	3
D	2	3	1	0	4	3	6	4
E	6	4	3	4	0	5	8	6
F	5	4	2	3	5	0	3	1
G	8	7	5	6	8	3	0	3
H	6	5	3	4	6	1	3	0

$W_j$  3 1 2 3 1 0 4 1

*shortest paths*

*TO*

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
A	0	4	6	6	6	0	32	6	60
B	12	0	4	9	4	0	28	5	62
C	9	2	0	3	3	0	20	3	40
D	6	3	2	0	4	0	24	4	43
E	18	4	6	12	0	0	32	6	78
F	15	4	4	9	5	0	12	1	50
G	24	7	10	18	8	0	0	3	70
H	18	5	6	12	6	0	12	0	59

*weighted shortest paths*

$$\sum_j W_j d_{ij}$$

		<i>TO</i>								
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
<i>FROM</i>	A	0	4	6	6	6	0	32	6	60
	B	12	0	4	9	4	0	28	5	62
	C	9	2	0	3	3	0	20	3	40
	D	6	3	2	0	4	0	24	4	43
	E	18	4	6	12	0	0	32	6	78
	F	15	4	4	9	5	0	12	1	50
	G	24	7	10	18	8	0	0	3	70
	H	18	5	6	12	6	0	12	0	59

 **Minimum**


*The optimal location for a single facility to serve the 8 cities is at city C*

*weighted shortest paths*  $\sum_j W_j d_{ij}$

*What if two facilities were to be used?*



Consider all pairs of potential facility sites:

Examples:  *select minimum shipping cost in each column*

A	0	4	6	6	6	0	32	6
B	12	0	4	9	4	0	28	5

$$47 = \sum_j \text{minimum}_{i=A,B} \{W_j d_{ij}\}$$

D	6	3	2	0	4	0	24	4
E	18	4	6	12	0	0	32	6

$$39 = \sum_j \text{minimum}_{i=D,E} \{W_j d_{ij}\}$$

A	0	4	6	6	6	0	32	6
G	24	7	10	18	8	0	0	3

$$25 = \sum_j \text{minimum}_{i=A,G} \{W_j d_{ij}\}$$

There are  $\binom{8}{2} = 28$  such combinations to evaluate!

How might one find the 3-median set?

Requires considering  $\binom{8}{3} = 56$  combinations!

A	0	4	6	6	6	0	32	6
B	12	0	4	9	4	0	28	5
C	9	2	0	3	3	0	20	3

$$29 = \sum_j \text{minimum}_{i=A,B,C} \{w_j d_{ij}\}$$

A	0	4	6	6	6	0	32	6
B	12	0	4	9	4	0	28	5
D	6	3	2	0	4	0	24	4

$$34 = \sum_j \text{minimum}_{i=A,B,D} \{w_j d_{ij}\}$$

etc.

APL evaluation of  $\sum_j \text{minimum}_{i \in S} \{w_j d_{ij}\}$

**+ / L ≠ (D × (ρ D) ρ W) [ S ; ]**

## Math Programming Model of the $p$ -Median Problem

### *Variables*

$X_{ij}$  = fraction of demand of customer  $j$  supplied  
by facility at location  $i$

$$Y_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if a facility is located at site } i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Math Programming Model  
of the p-Median Problem**

$$\text{Min } \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n W_j D_{ij} X_{ij}$$

subject to

$$\sum_{i=1}^m X_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall j=1, \dots, n$$

$$X_{ij} \leq Y_i \quad \forall i=1, \dots, m; j=1, \dots, n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m Y_i = p$$

$$X_{ij} \geq 0 \quad \forall i=1, \dots, m; j=1, \dots, n$$

$$Y_i \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall i=1, \dots, m$$

## Heuristic Algorithm for the p-Median Problem

### 1. Initialization:

Let  $k=1$ . Find the 1-median (the set  $S=X_1$ )

### 2. Facility Addition:

Evaluate the  $(n-k)$  combinations of  $S$  with a node  $r$  not in  $S$ , i.e.,

$$\sum_j \text{minimum}_{i \in S \cup \{r\}} \{w_j d_{ij}\} \quad \forall r \notin S$$

Add to  $S$  the node yielding the lowest objective function and set  $k=k+1$ .

### 3. Facility Substitution:

Evaluate each of the  $k \times (n-k)$  sets obtained by substituting a node not in  $S$  for a node in  $S$ , i.e.

$$\sum_j \text{minimum} \{W_j d_{ij}\} \quad \forall r \notin S \ \& \ s \in S$$

Replace  $S$  by the best set evaluated.

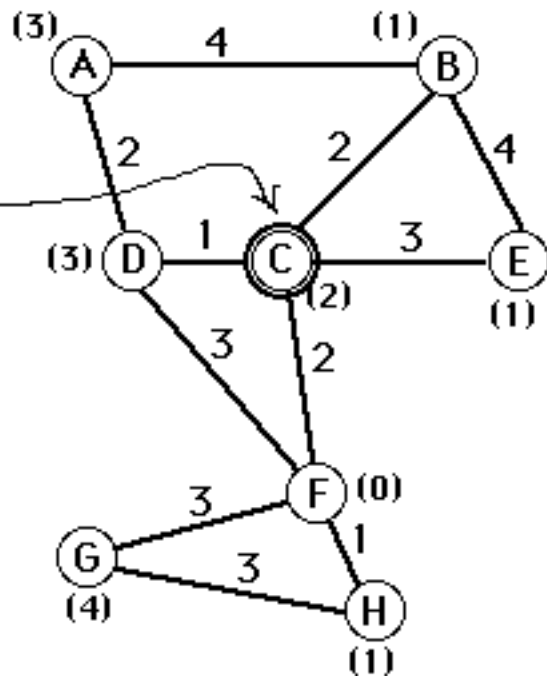
4. If  $S$  contains  $p$  nodes, i.e.,  $k=p$ , STOP.  
Otherwise, return to step 2.

K-median  
Facility Location  
Problem

1-Median

Cost = 40

*the one-median*





... beginning with 1-median set {C}

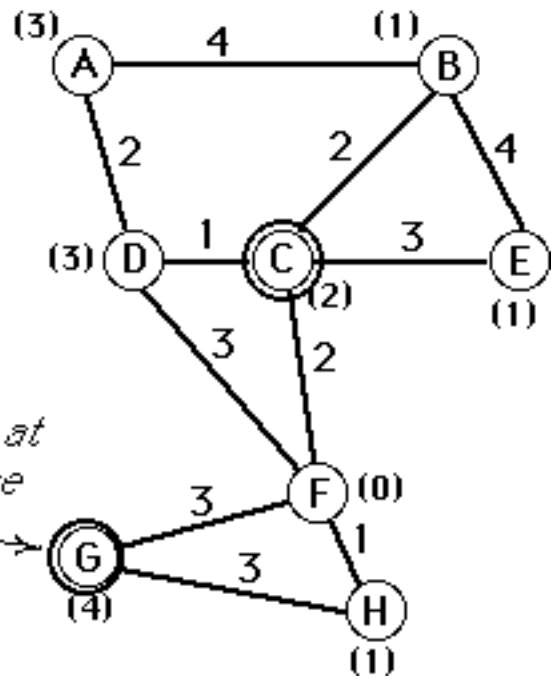
**2-Median**

Trial additions:

Add	1	2	4	5	6	7	8
cost	31	38	34	37	30	20	29

Addition result: Locations 3 7  
 Cost: 20

*Add facility at node G to the set*

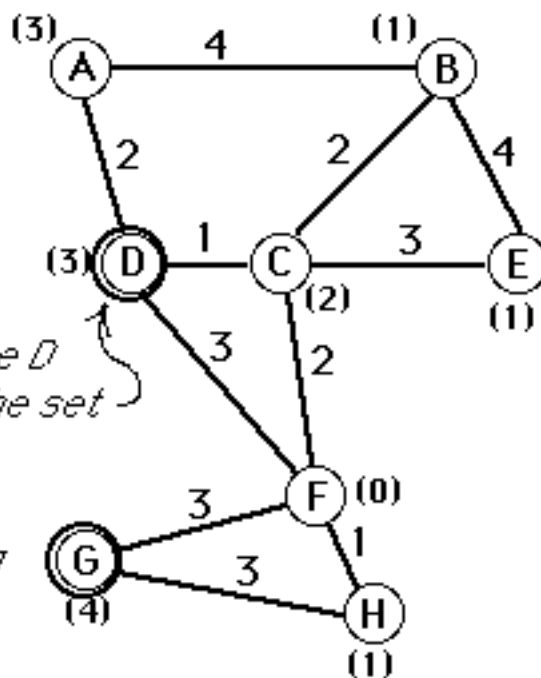


Substitution Step

Cost	Locations
25	1 7
31	3 1
32	2 7
38	3 2
18	4 7
34	3 4
43	5 7
37	3 5
38	6 7
30	3 6
47	8 7
29	3 8



Substitution result: Locations 4 7  
 Cost: 18



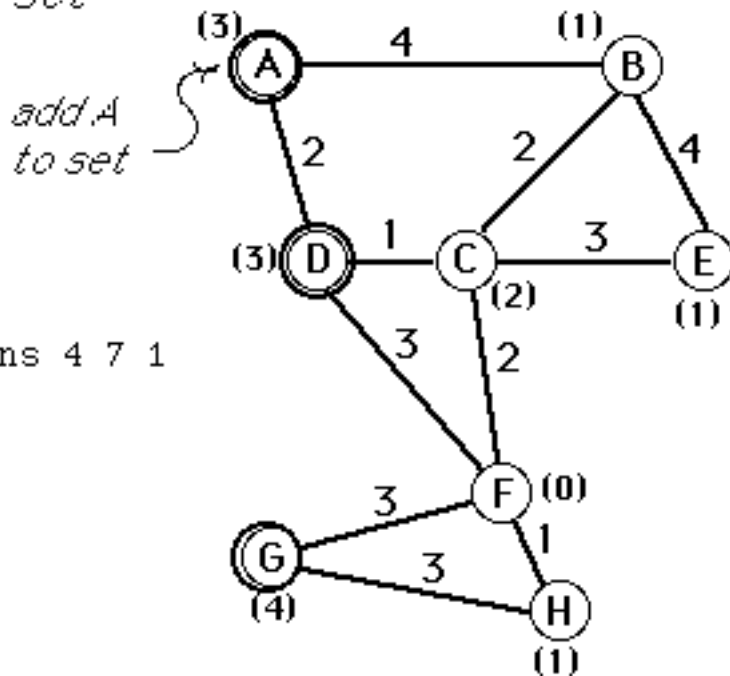
*... begin with D & G in set*

**3-Median**

Trial additions:

Add	1	2	3	5	6	8
cost	12	15	14	14	16	15

Addition result: Locations 4 7 1  
 Cost: 12

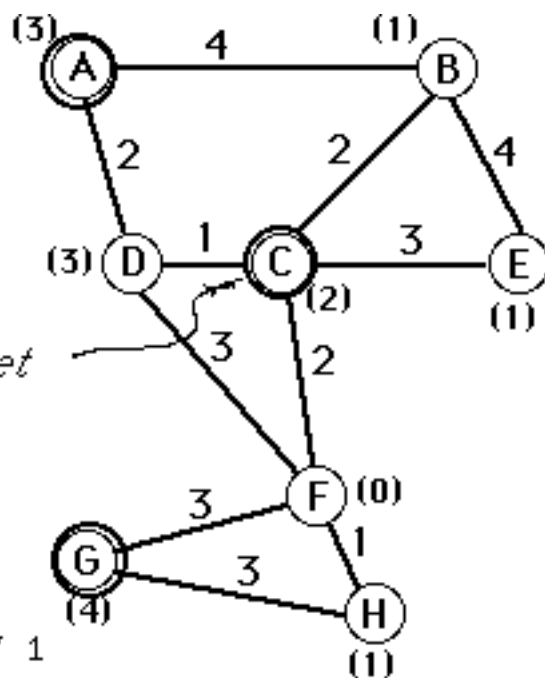


Substitution Step

Cost	Locations
17	2 7 1
34	4 2 1
15	4 7 2
11	3 7 1
28	4 3 1
14	4 7 3
19	5 7 1
33	4 5 1
14	4 7 5
20	6 7 1
22	4 6 1
16	4 7 6
22	8 7 1
21	4 8 1
15	4 7 8



*substitute C  
for D in the set*



Substitution result: Locations 3 7 1  
Cost: 11

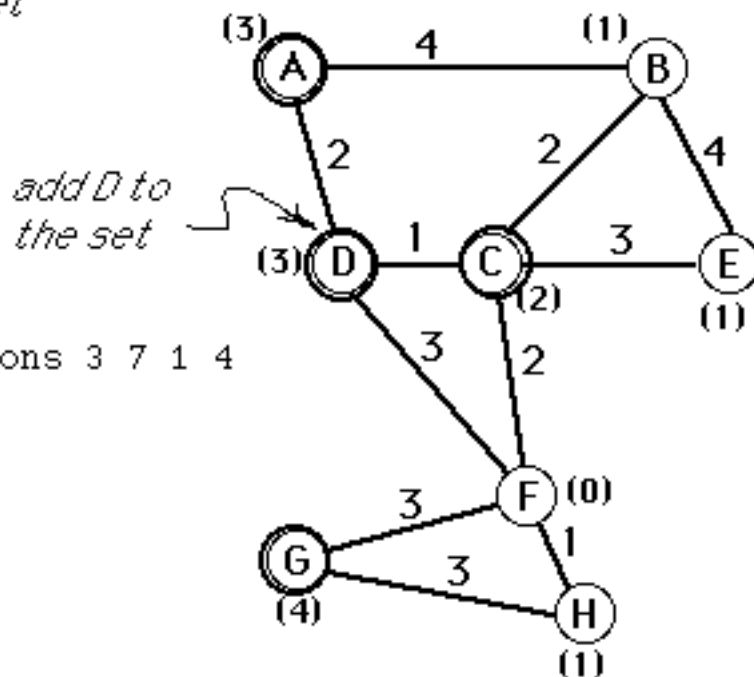
... begin with A, C, & G in set

### 4-Median

Trial additions:

Add	2	4	5	6	8
cost	9	8	8	9	8

Addition result: Locations 3 7 1 4  
Cost: 8



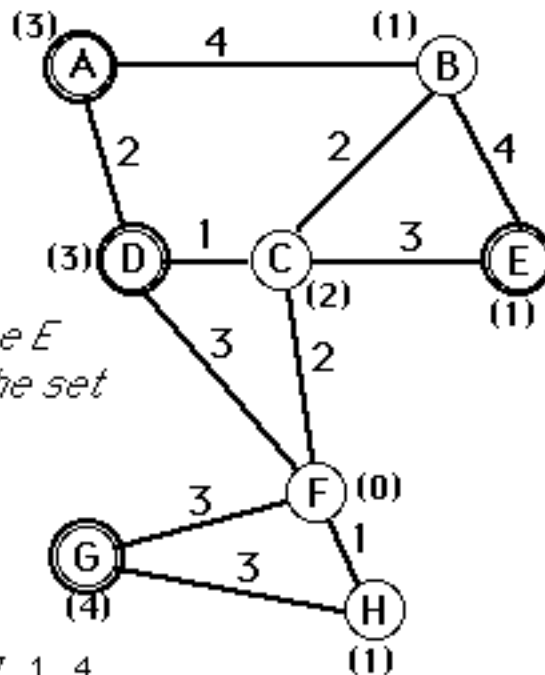
*begin with A, C, D, & G (1,3,4,7)*

Substitution Step

Cost	Locations
9	2 7 1 4
26	3 2 1 4
12	3 7 2 4
9	3 7 1 2
8	5 7 1 4
25	3 5 1 4
11	3 7 5 4
8	3 7 1 5
10	6 7 1 4
18	3 6 1 4
12	3 7 6 4
9	3 7 1 6
9	8 7 1 4
17	3 8 1 4
11	3 7 8 4
8	3 7 1 8



*substitute E  
for C in the set*

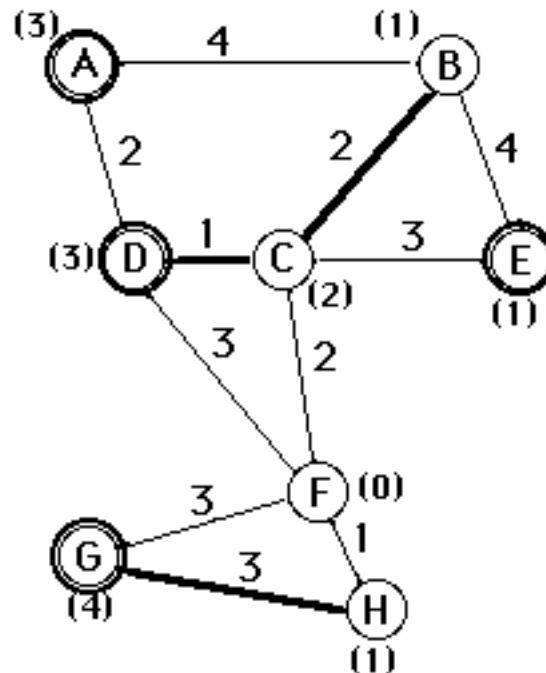


Substitution result: Locations 5 7 1 4

Cost: 8

# Allocation of Customers to Warehouses

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
F	0	4	6	6	6	0	32	6
R	6	3	2	0	4	0	24	4
O	18	4	6	12	0	0	32	6
M	24	7	10	18	8	0	0	3



## 1-Median of a Tree

For any set  $C$  of vertices, define  $W(C) = \sum_{i \in C} w_i$

### Theorem

Let  $[a,b]$  be any edge of a tree, and

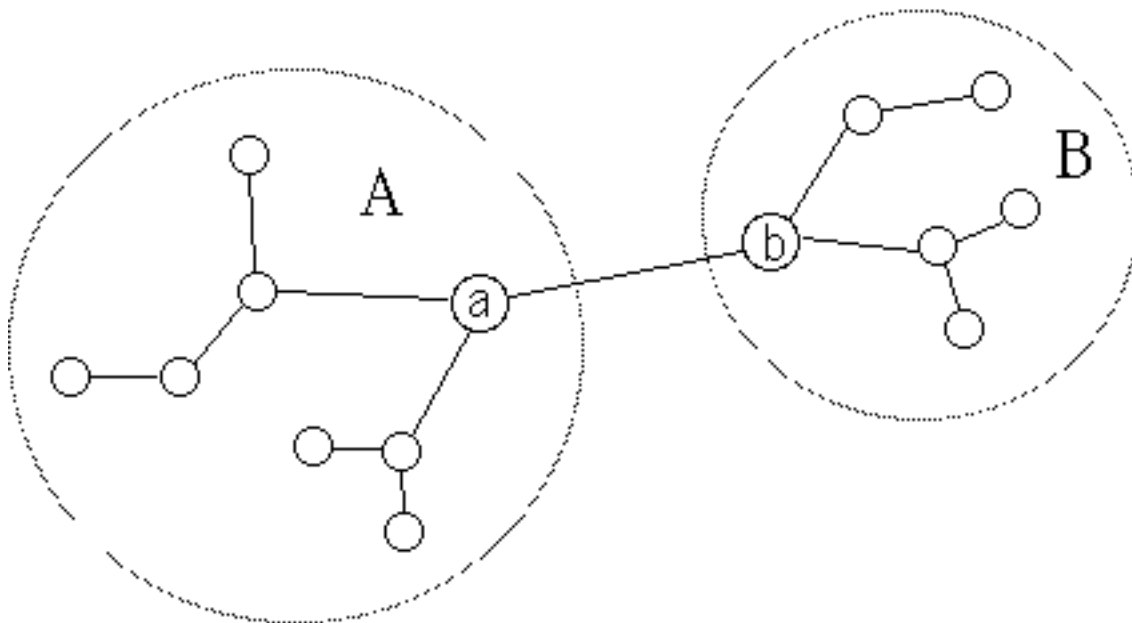
let  $A$  = set of vertices reachable from  $a$  without passing through  $b$

$B$  = set of vertices reachable from  $b$  without passing through  $a$ .

Then  $W(A) \geq W(B)$  implies  $\tau(a) \leq \tau(b)$



$W(A) \geq W(B)$  implies  $\tau(a) \leq \tau(b)$



To find the 1-median of a tree:

0. Let  $W = \sum_{i \in N} w_i$ . Select any vertex  $j$ .
1. If  $w_j \geq \frac{1}{2} W$ , then stop;  $j$  is a 1-median.
2. If  $j$  has degree 1, let  $k$  be its neighbor, i.e.,  $[k, j]$  will be an edge.

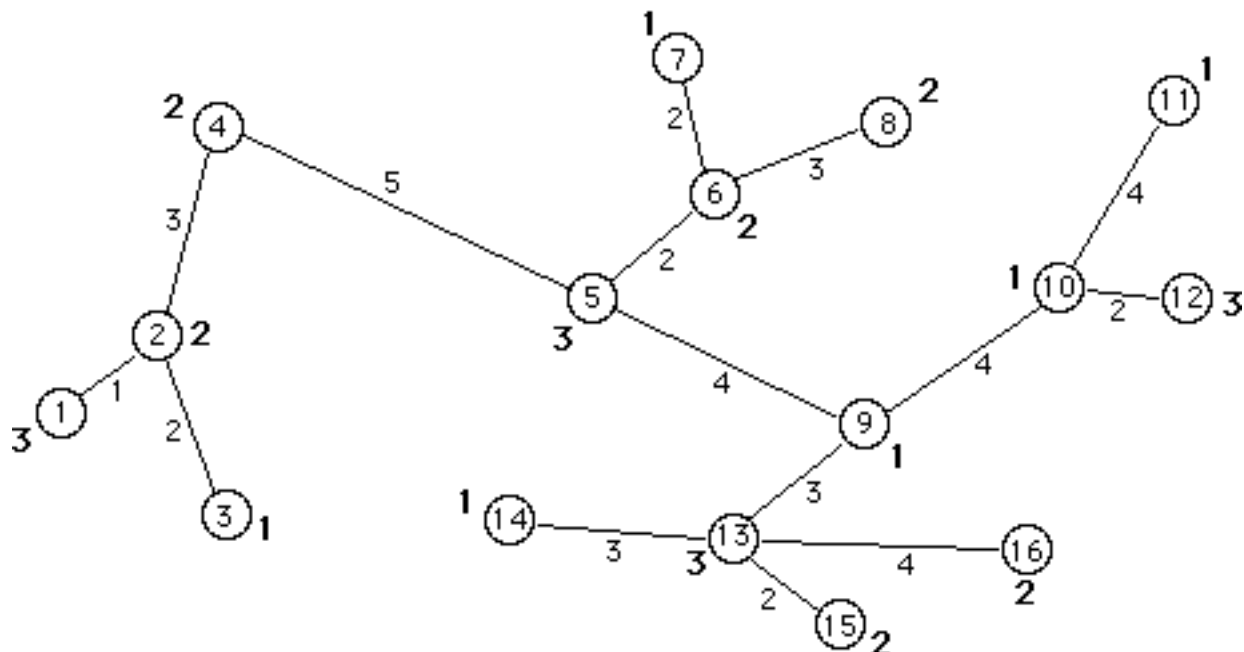
Replace  $w_k$  with  $w_k + w_j$ , and delete vertex  $j$  from the tree.

Else find an elementary chain from vertex  $j$  to a vertex  $k$  with degree 1 (preferably using previously unused edges.)

Let  $j=k$  and return to step 1.

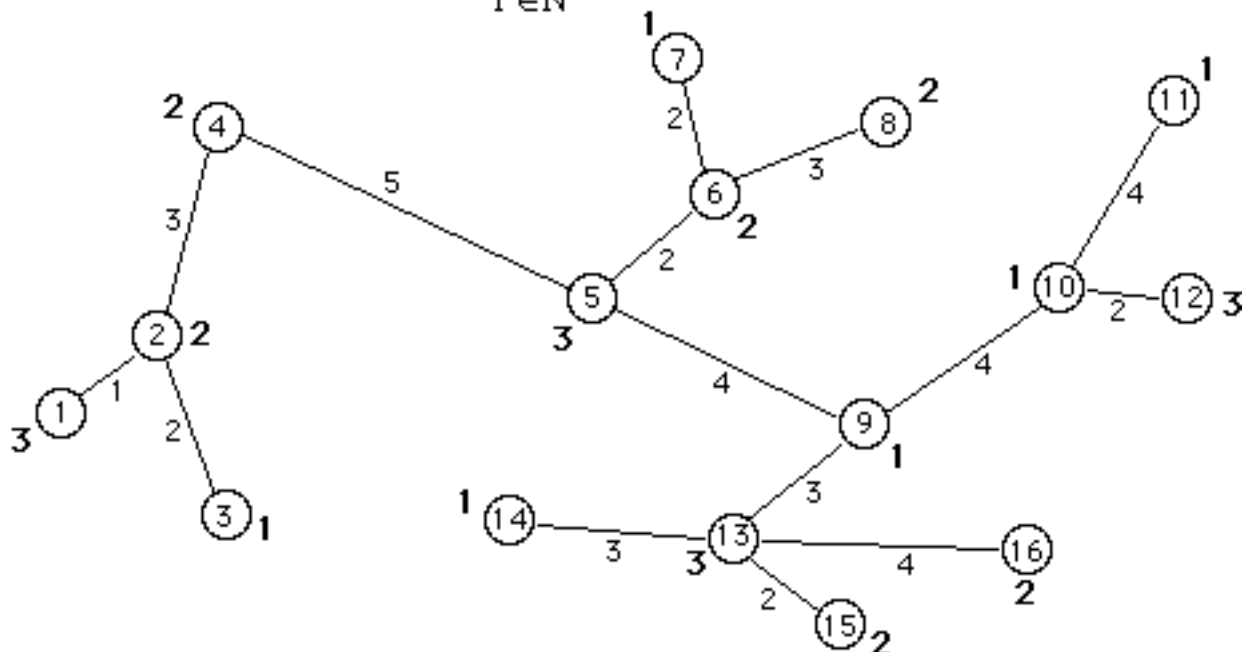
**Example**

Find the 1-median of the tree:

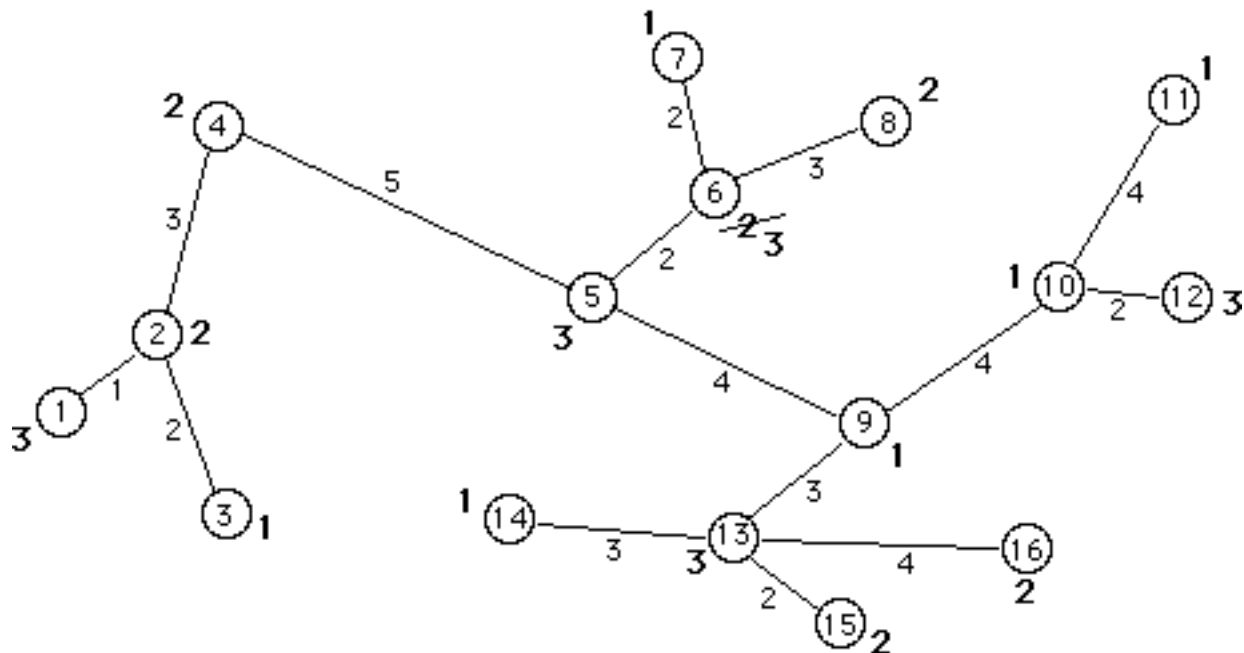


Let's choose to begin with vertex #7.

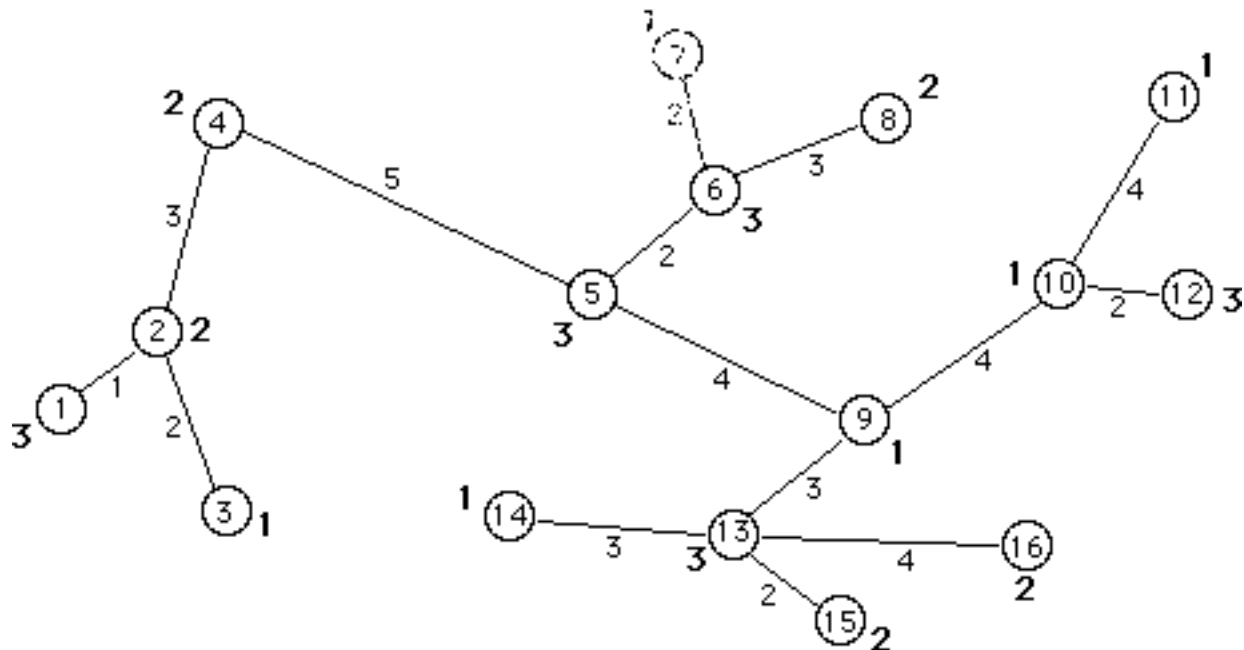
Total "demand"  $W = \sum_{i \in N} w_i$  is 30.



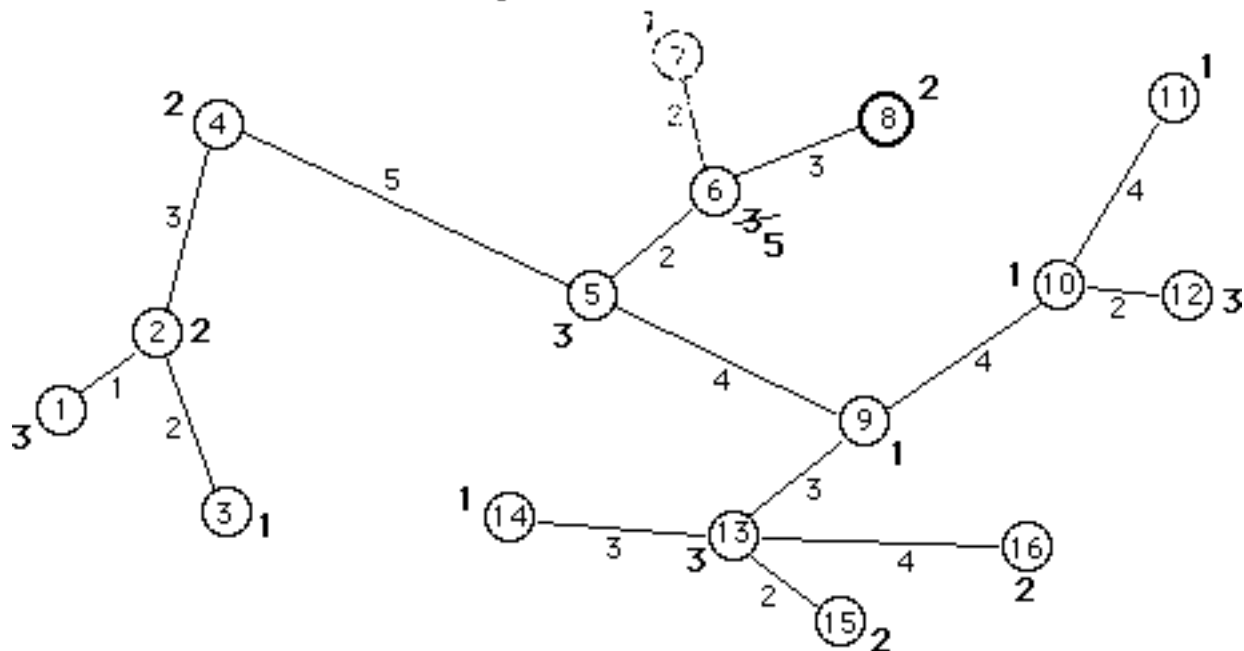
$w_7 < \frac{16}{2} = 8$ . Select neighbor (vertex #6), and replace  $w_6$  with  $w_6 + w_7 = 3$ . Delete vertex #7.



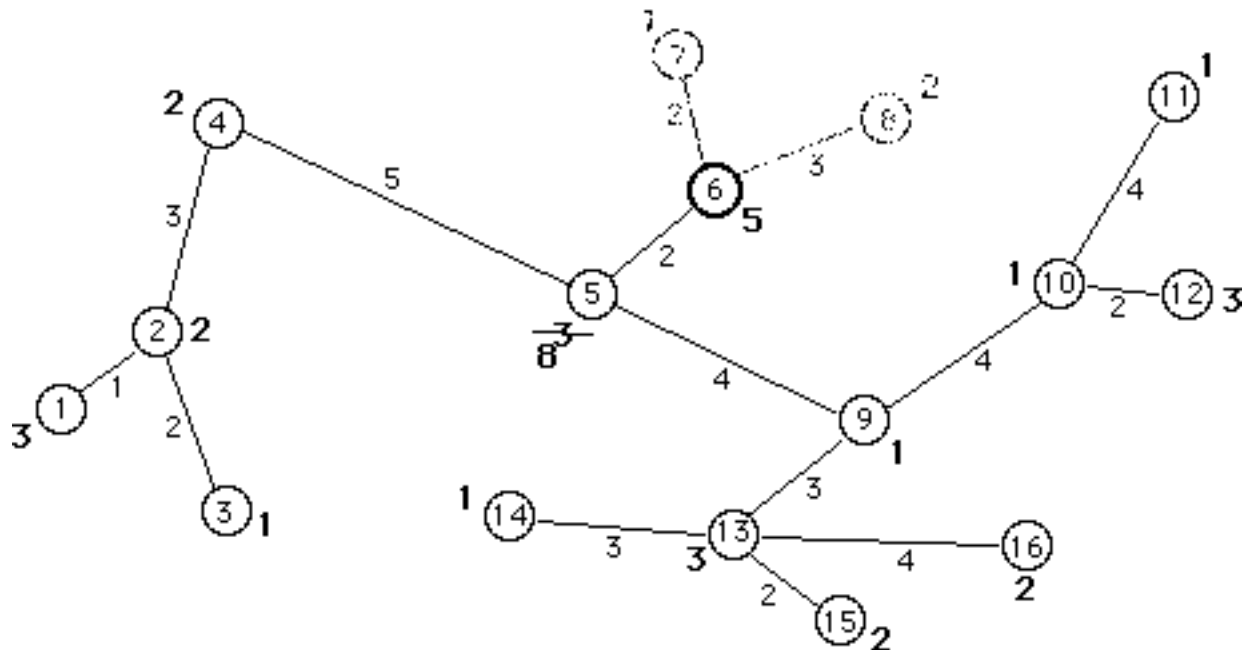
$w_6 < \frac{117}{2} = 15$ . Find a path 6→8 to a vertex (#8) with degree 1:



$w_8 < \frac{117}{2} = 15$ . Select neighbor (vertex #6),  
 update  $w_6$ , and delete vertex #8:

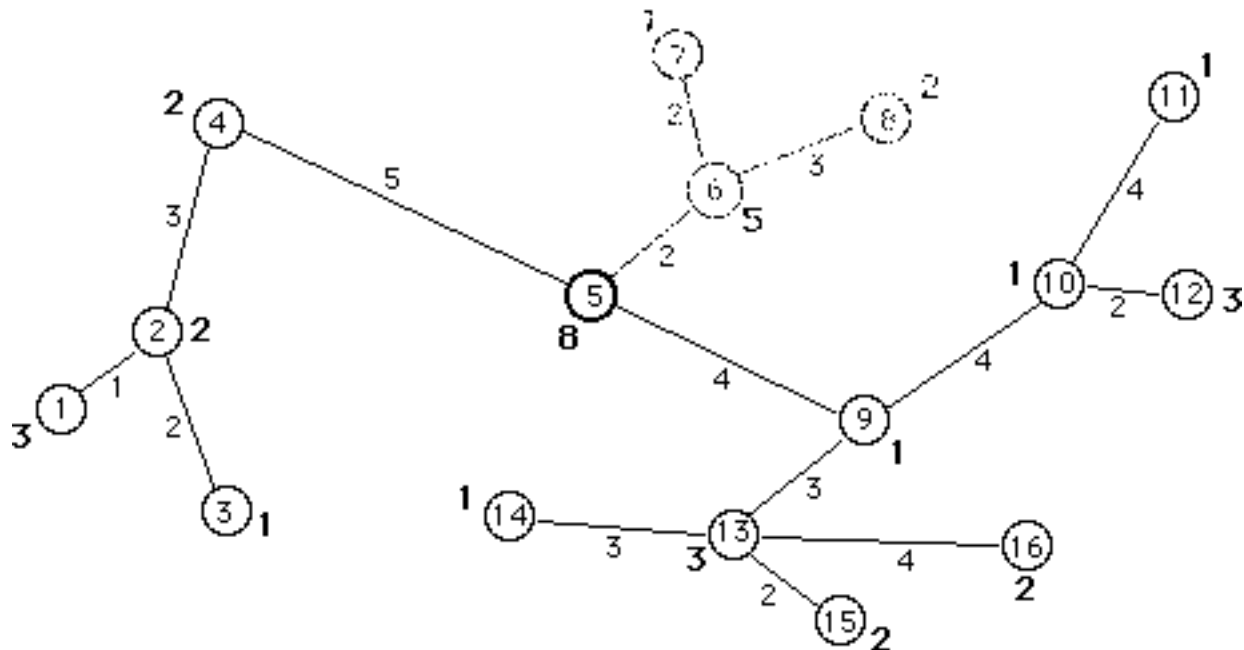


$w_6 < \frac{117}{2} = 15$ . Select neighbor (vertex #5),  
 update  $w_5$ , and delete vertex #6:

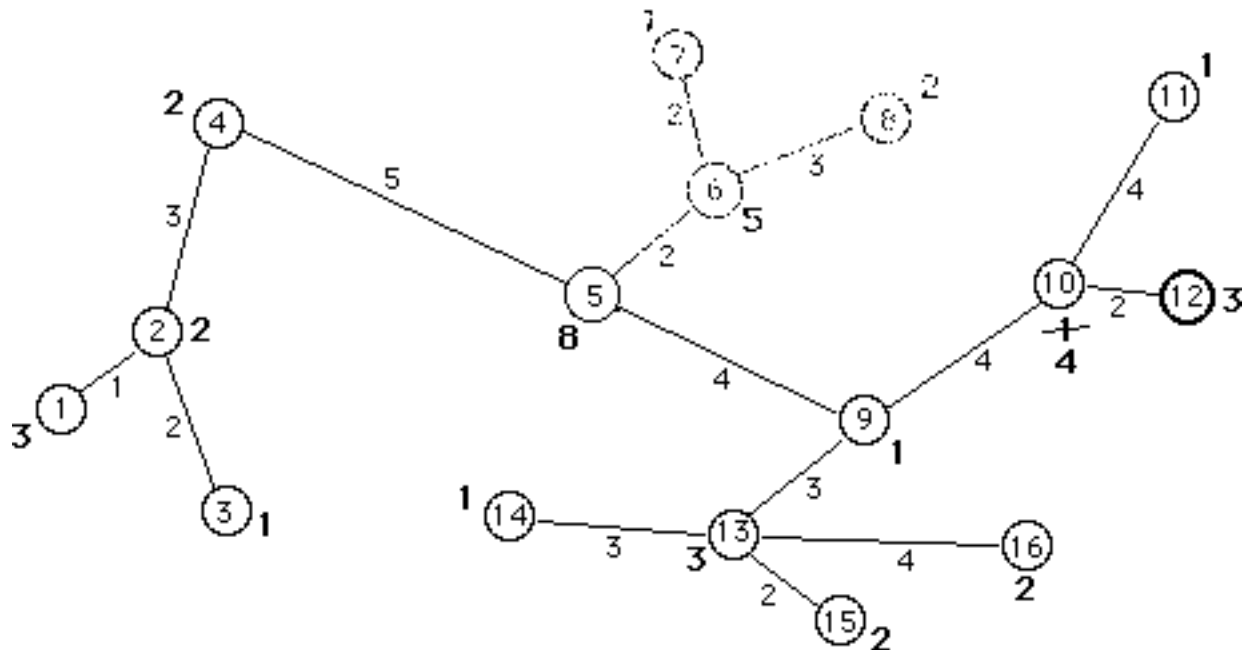




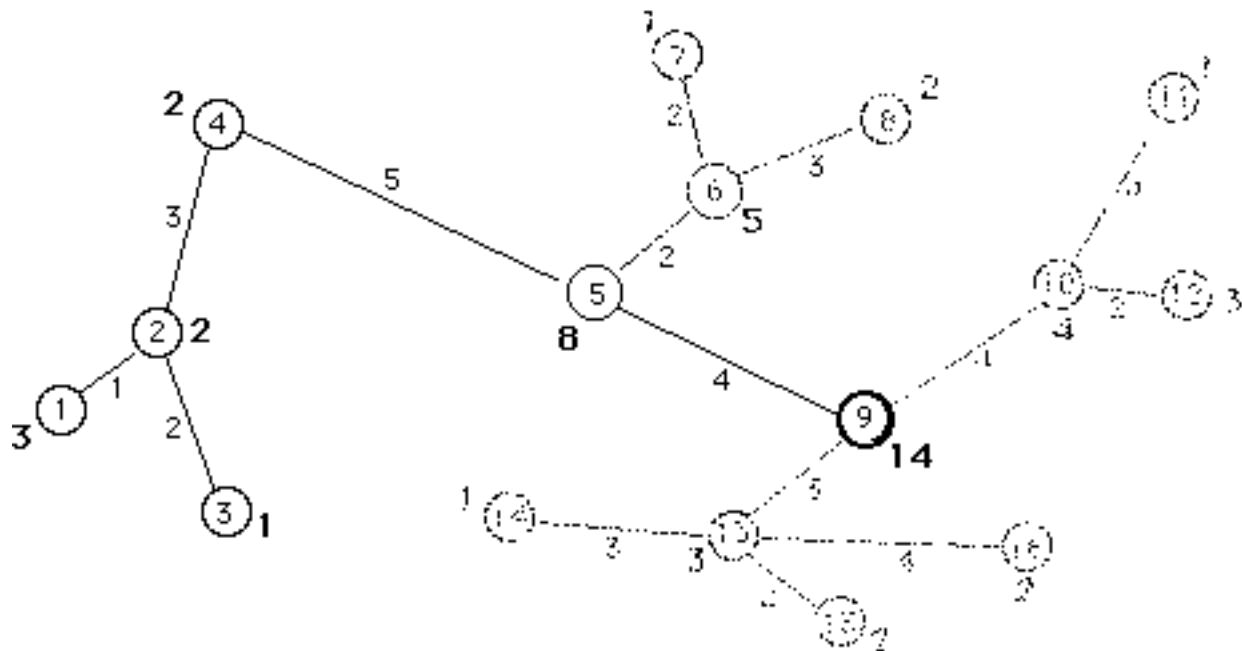
$w_5 < \frac{117}{2} = 15$ . Select chain  $5 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 12$   
to vertex # 12, which has degree 1.



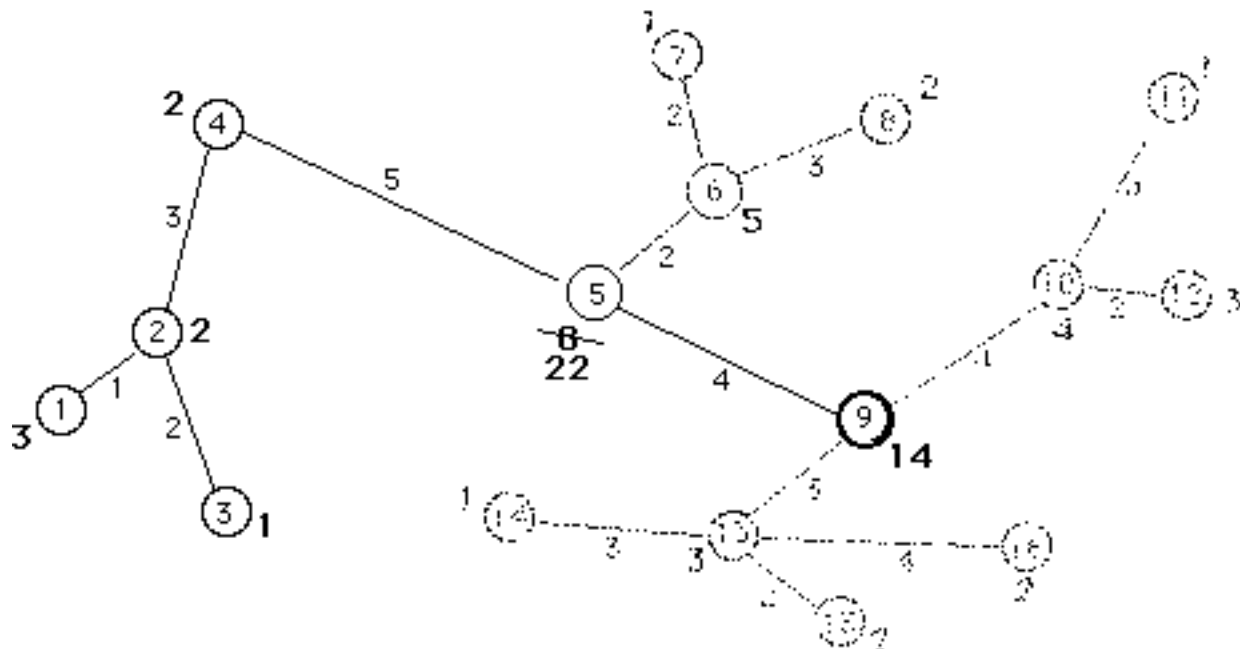
$w_{12} < \frac{117}{2} = 58.5$ . Select neighbor (vertex #10),  
 update  $w_{10}$ , and delete vertex #12



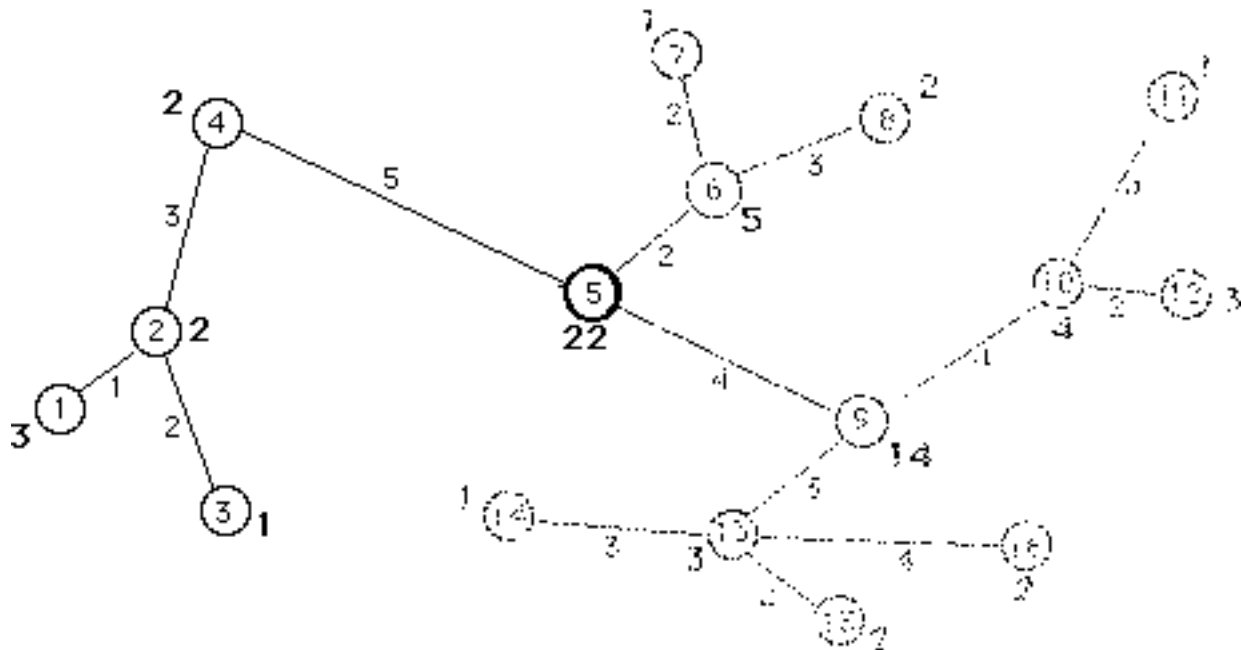
... after several more iterations, the tree is as shown, where vertex #9 is being considered.



$w_9 < \frac{117}{2} = 58.5$ , so we select its neighbor (vertex #5), update  $w_5$ , and delete vertex #9.

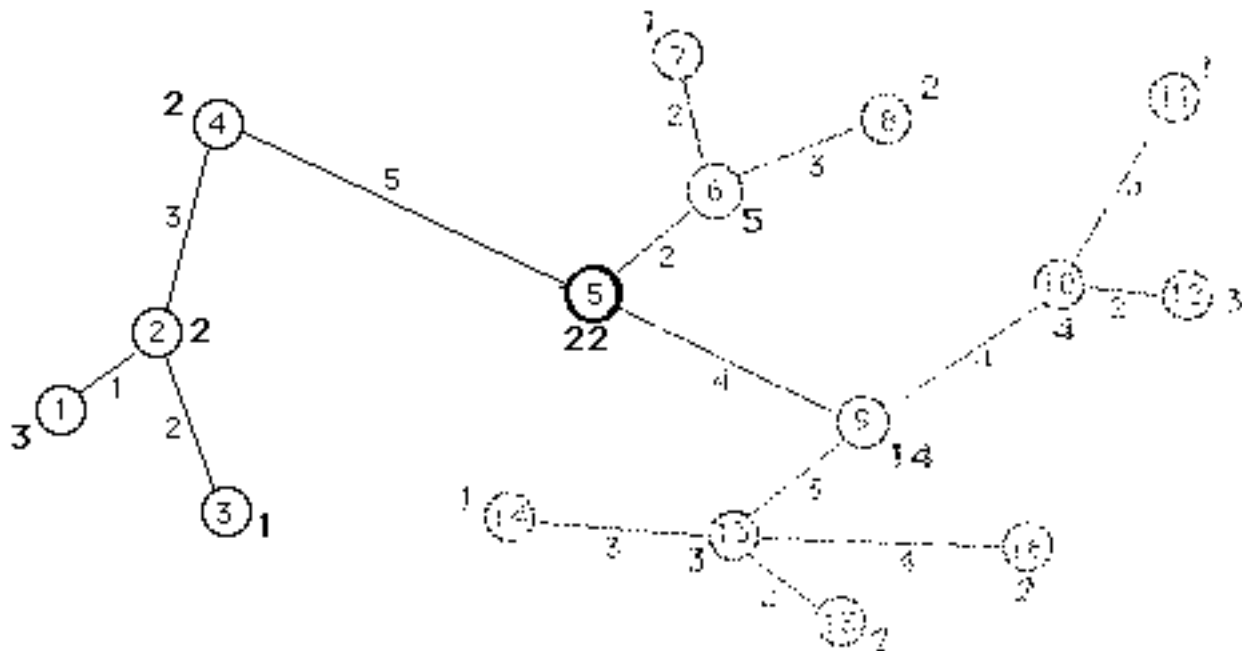


$w_5 > \frac{17}{2} = 8.5$ , so we stop; Vertex #5 is the 1-median.



$W(A) \geq W(B)$  implies  $\tau(a) \leq \tau(b)$

Edge (5,9):  $W(9) = 14 < 16 = W(5)$  implies  $\tau(9) > \tau(5)$



$W(A) \geq W(B)$  implies  $\tau(a) \leq \tau(b)$

Edge [5,4]:  $W(5) = 22 > 8 = W(4)$  implies  $\tau(4) > \tau(5)$

