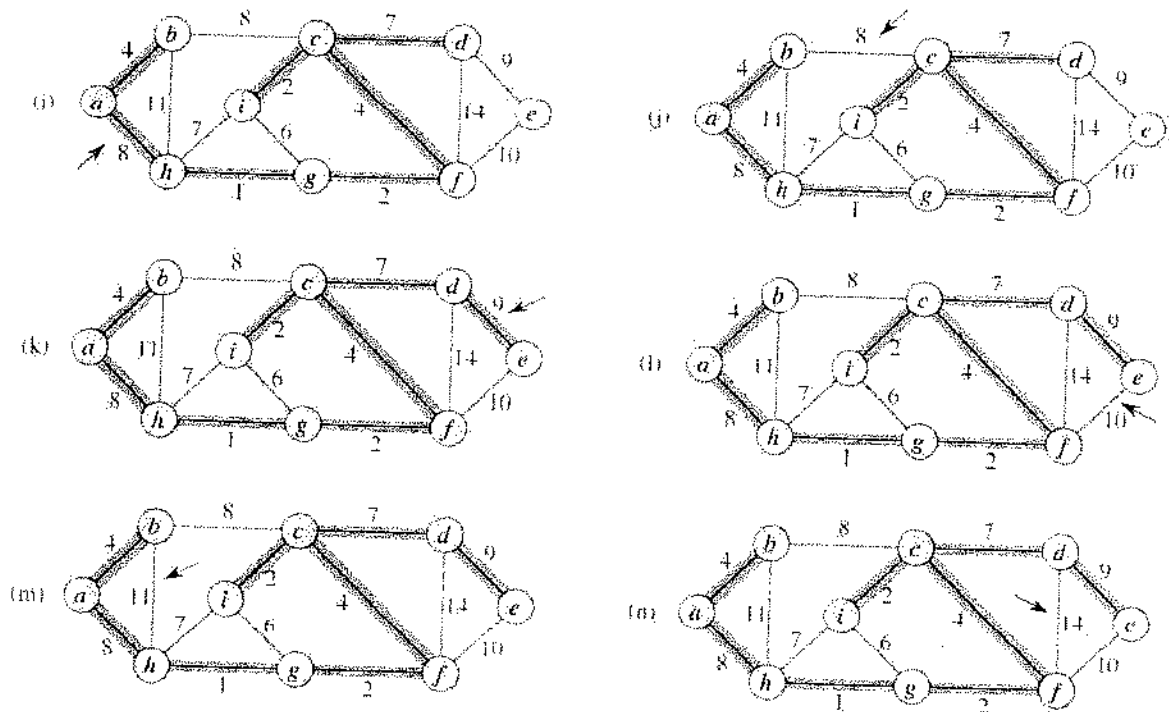


**Figure 23.4** The execution of Kruskal's algorithm on the graph from Figure 23.1. Shaded edges belong to the forest  $A$  being grown. The algorithm considers each edge in sorted order by weight. An arrow points to the edge under consideration at each step of the algorithm. If the edge joins two distinct trees in the forest, it is added to the forest, thereby merging the two trees.



**Figure 23.4, continued** Further steps in the execution of Kruskal's algorithm.