Q1. In the Charging Station Placement Problem, we have discussed the variant FINDNCS that finds the minimum number and placement of the charging stations, given a battery threshold. We have also discussed the Max-3-CNF problem and a randomized approximation algorithm for solving Max-3-CNF.

Full marks: 15

Design a randomized approximation algorithm for solving the FINDNCS problem.

Hint: Formulate the FINDNCS problem as the MAX-K-CNF problem.

Q1. We are given a directed graph G = (V, E) on which each edge  $(u, v) \in E$  has an associated value r(u, v) which is a real number in the range  $0 \le r(u, v) \le 1$  that represents the reliability of a communication channel from vertex u to vertex v. We interpret r(u, v) as the probability that the channel from u to v will not fail, and we assume that these probabilities are independent. Give an efficient algorithm to find the most reliable path between two given vertices.