

# Algorithm Analysis & Design

## Problem Set 1

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### Question 1

Consider the following functions

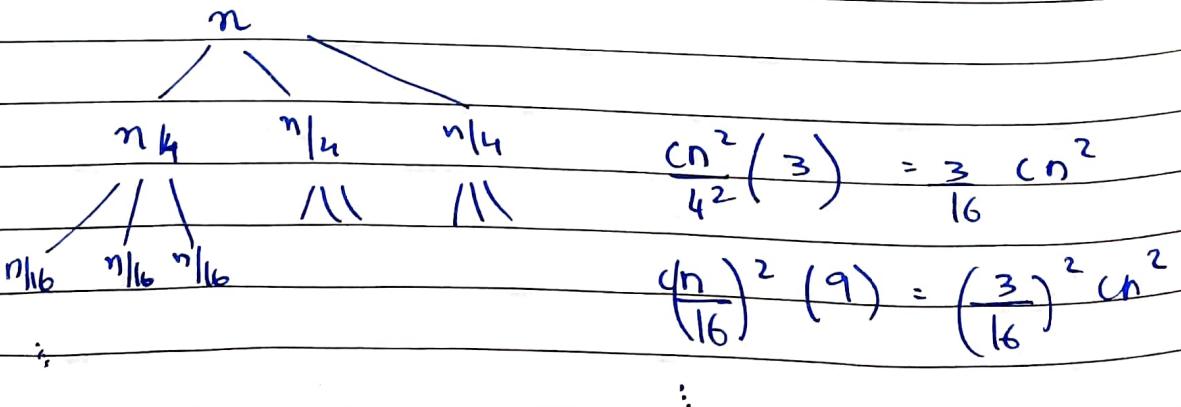
$$T_1(n) = a \cdot T_1(n/b) + b \cdot n$$

$$T_2(n) = b \cdot T_2(n/a) + a \cdot n$$

If  $a \geq b$  and  $T_1(1) = T_2(1) = 1$ ,  
how do these functions compare as  $n$  grows large.

What a recurrence relation implies algorithmically,  
suppose we had  $T(n) = 3T(n/4) + cn^2$ .

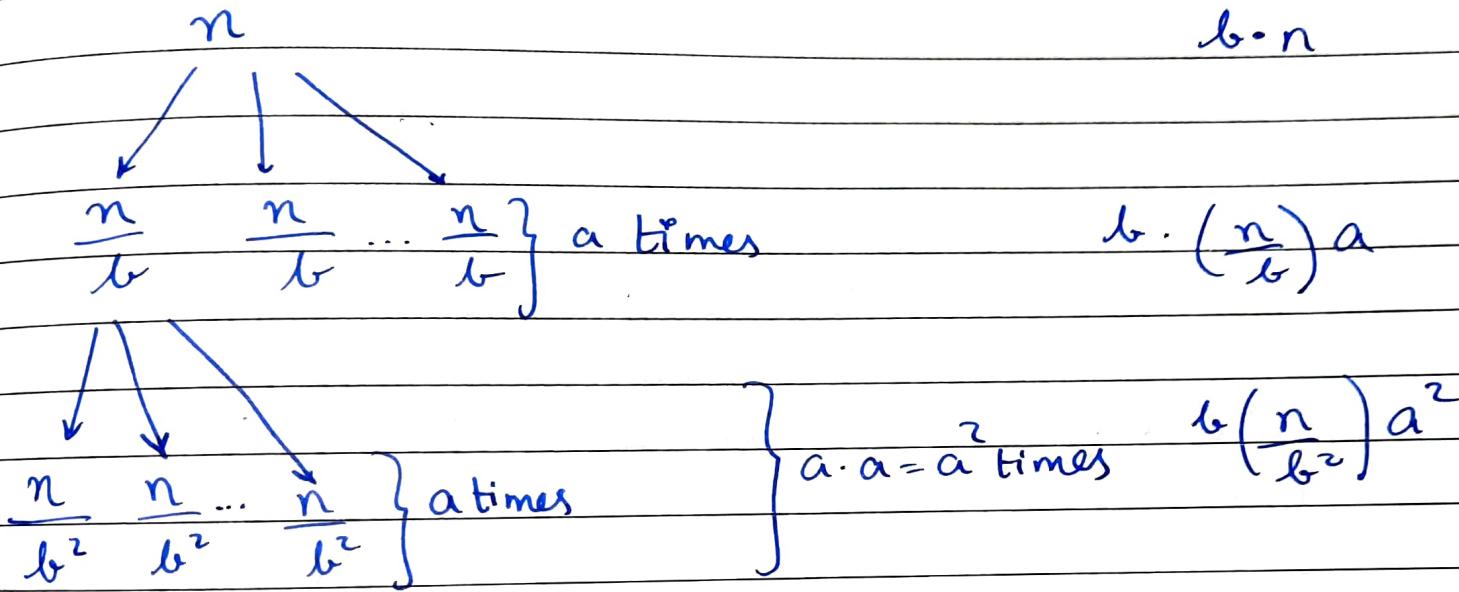
This means that our problem is being split into 3 instances of the subproblems with size  $n/4$  of the original size. The cost while computing this is  $cn^2$  for each branch.



For Coming back to the question, we want to see function takes lesser operations.

$$T_1(n) = a \cdot T_1\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + b \cdot n$$

lost  
 $b \cdot n$



$$\therefore \text{Series} = bn + ab\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + a^2b\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + \dots$$

$$\therefore T_1(n) = bn \left[ 1 + \frac{a}{b} + \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^k \right]$$

This series will terminate at the leaf nodes when  $n=1$  (subproblem has reached its base case).

$$\therefore \frac{n}{b^k} = 1 \Rightarrow k = \log_b n$$

Here  $k$  is the depth of our recurrence tree.

The cost is totalled till  $k-1$ , after which we reach the leaves.

$$T_1(n) = \ln \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k=\log_b n} (a/b)^i \right) \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{can do this} \\ \text{since } T_1(1)=1 \end{array}$$

$$= \ln \left( \frac{(a/b)^{\log_b n} - 1}{(a/b) - 1} \right) [1] \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{GP sum is} \\ a(b^n - 1)/b^n \end{array}$$

\* Take  $n$  as a very large number

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_1(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left[ \frac{(a/b)^{\log_b n} - 1}{a/b - 1} \right] * \text{ignored}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b^2 n}{a-b} \cdot \frac{a^{\log_b n}}{b^{\log_b n}}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b^2 n}{a-b} \cdot \frac{a^{\log_a n / \log_a b}}{n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b^2}{a-b} n^{\log_b a}$$

$$\left[ \text{since } a^{\log_b n} = a^{\log_a n / \log_a b} = (a^{\log_a n})^{\log_a b} = n^{\log_a b} \right]$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_1(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b^2}{a-b} n^{\log_b a},$$

$$\therefore T_1 \text{ is } O(n^{\log_b a})$$

$$* \text{for } b < 1, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_1(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln \left[ 0 - 1 \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b^2 n}{a-b - 1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b^2 n}{b-a}$$

$$\therefore T_1(n) < 0, \text{ which is not valid} \quad a > b$$

$$\therefore b > 1 \text{ for this problem.}$$

By Symmetry, we can use [1] for  $T_2$ .

$$T_2(n) = an \left[ \frac{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^{\log_a n} - 1}{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) - 1} \right]$$

Taking  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\log_a n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $b/a \leq 1$  since  $a \geq b$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^{\log_a n} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_2(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} an \left[ \frac{0 - 1}{b/a - 1} \right] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a^2 n}{a - b}$$

$\therefore T_2$  is  $O(n)$

Therefore,  $T_1$  grows faster than  $T_2$

(for  $a \geq b$ )  
(and  $b > 1$ )

Question 2

Give an algorithm to detect cycles in undirected graphs.

Approach 1 - using BFS

Start a BFS on some node  $s$

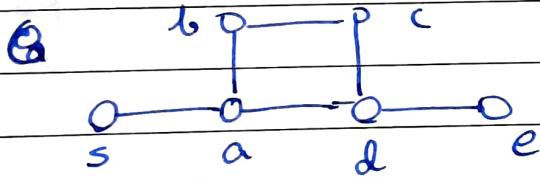
While exploring the neighbours of some node  $u$ , if we find a node that has already been visited, and if that node is not the parent of  $u$ , then a cycle exists.

Fig 1

Proof of correctness [By construction]

Consider a graph  $G_1 = (V, E)$

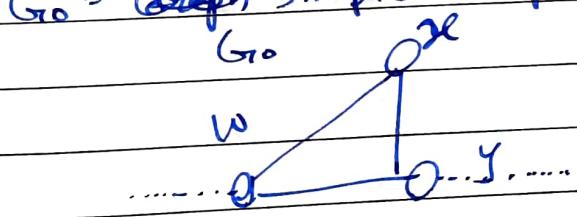
Example -



Example of graph with cycle:  $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow d \rightarrow a$

If a previously visited node (which is not  $u$ 's parent) is seen, then a cycle exists.

$G_0 = \text{Graph Simple Graph with smallest cycle.}$



After exploring  $w$ , we go to  $x$ .

After exploring  $x$ , we go to  $y$ . Since  $y$  is the second neighbor of  $w$ . Now, while exploring  $y$ ,

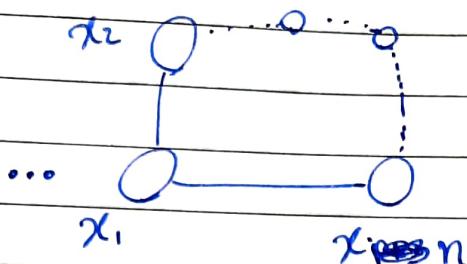
we come across  $x$ , which is not  $y$ 's parent

( $y$ 's parent =  $x$ )

During BFS, the search naturally closes the cycle (wraps around it)

$G_{ini}$  = Simple undirected graph with  $|V(G_{ini})| + |V_{cycle}(G_{ini})|$  nodes in the cycle

$$|V_{cycle}(G_{ini})| = 3$$



$$|V_{cycle}(G_{ini})| = 4$$

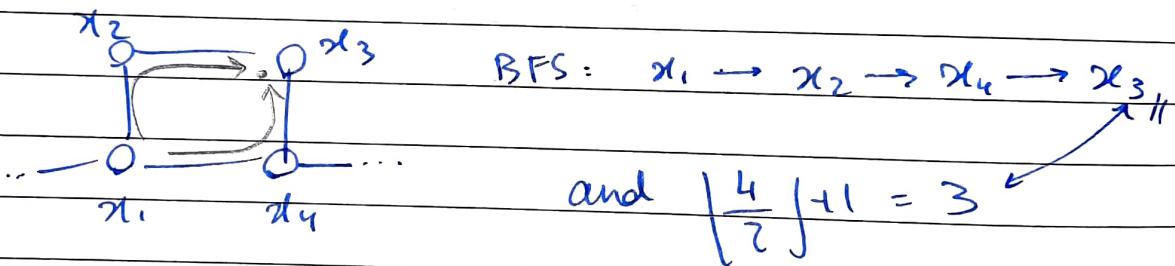
and so on.

$$n = i + 3$$

In node  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$ , the BFS will

encounter a node that has been traversed already.

Example.  $n = 4$



This proves that cycle detection works for any  $n \geq 3$

$\Theta(n^2)$

### Algorithm -

function cycleDetection( $G_i$ ):

$$V = V(G_i)$$

$$E = E(G_i)$$

$s = V[0]$  //choose any node as the starting point

let discovered be a list of length  $n$

$$\text{discovered}[s] = \text{True}$$

For all  $v \in V - \{s\}$ :

$$\text{discovered}[v] = \text{False}$$

Let parent be a list of length  $n$ , all initialised to NULL

Let  $Q$  be a queue data structure, which supports two operations : enqueue, dequeue

Initially,  $Q$

$$Q \leftarrow \emptyset$$

$Q \cdot \text{enqueue}(s)$ .

While  $Q$  is not empty :

$$u = Q \cdot \text{dequeue}()$$

For each edge  $(v, u) \in E$  :

if  $\text{discovered}[v] == \text{False}$  :

$\text{discovered}[v] = \text{True}$

$Q \cdot \text{enqueue}()$ ;  $\text{parent}[v] = u$

else if  $\text{discovered}[v] == \text{True}$

and  $\text{parent}[u] != v$  :

// cycle found

return True

// no cycle  
return False

//  $O(m+n)$  time . same as BFS

Approach 2 - using DFS.

If an undirected graph's DFS tree has a back edge, then it contains a cycle.

Simple proof of correctness -

A DFS tree consists of tree edges, forward edges, and cross edges, and back edges.

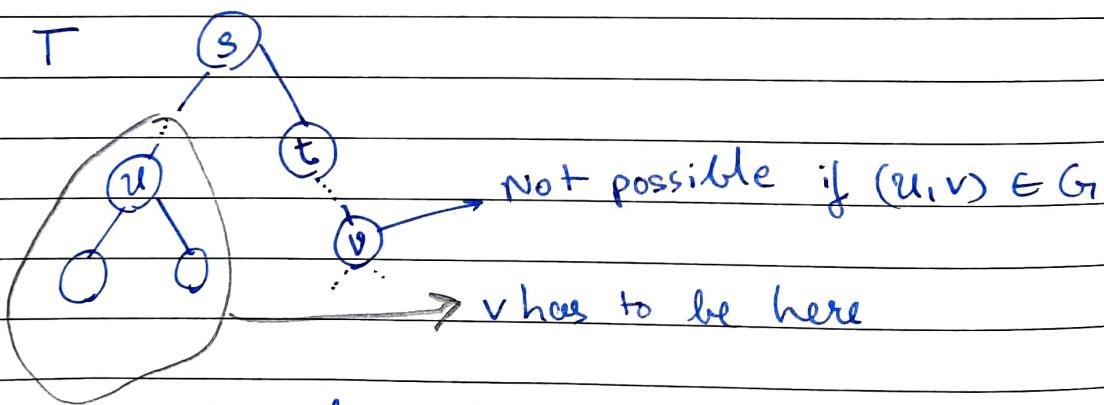
Claim: A DFS tree of an undirected graph contains no cross edges.

Proof -

For an undirected graph, forward edges and back edges are the same. (not directed, therefore ancestry is not well defined).

If edge  $e = (u, v) \in E(G)$ , but  $e \notin E(T)$ , then  $e$  must be a back edge, since we would have come across  $v$  while exploring  $u$ .

Basically, we can't get the case where  $v$  is found in a separate branch.



∴ An undirected graph's DFS tree can only contain tree edges and back edges.

Key Argument!

If a DFS tree has 0 back edges, then all edges explored are tree edges. This means that for  $|V(G)| = n$ , there are  $n$  vertices in  $T = \text{DFS}(\text{Tree}(G))$ , and  $n-1$  edges in  $T$ .

0 back edges implies that all

0 back edges implies that out of  $n-1$  edges in  $T$ , all  $n-1$  edges are in  $G_T$  (and are present in  $T$ ).

This implies that  $G_T$  is also a tree and we know that a graph is a tree iff it contains no cycles.

What it means if no. of back edges  $> 0$ .

This means that not all edges in  $G_T$  are tree edges, and  $G_T$  is not a tree (and therefore,  $G_T$  has a cycle)

(Q.E.D)

Algorithm

~~Recursion~~

~~Belongs DFS( $u$ )~~

~~explored[ $u$ ]  $\leftarrow$  True~~

Algorithm -

Stack  $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ ; parent is a list of  $n$  elements.; explored[ $n$ ]

DFS( $s$ ) :

$S.push(s)$

while  $S$  is not empty :

$u \leftarrow S.pop()$

if  $explored[u] == \text{False}$  :

$explored[u] = \text{True}$

$T \leftarrow T \cup \{\text{parent}[u], u\}\}$  //add edge to tree

for Each  $(u, v) \in E(G_T)$

$S.push(v)$

$\text{parent}[v] = u$

// Now check if there is a 1-1 correspondence b/w  $T, G$

if  $E(G) \neq E(T)$  :

There is a cycle

else :

No cycle in  $G$

Interestingly, we also ended up proving  
that  $\text{BFS Tree}(G) = G$  iff  $G$  is an  
acyclic undirected graph.

### Question 3

A binary tree is a rooted tree in which each node has at most two children. Show by any means possible that in any binary tree, the number of nodes with two children is exactly one less than the number of leaves.

Proof by construction:

Start with a graph  $G_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$G_1$  O.v. This graph is trivially a binary tree.

Number of leaves = 1 (trivially), root = leaf

Number of nodes with 2 children = 0

Number of children of  $v_1 = n_{child}(v_1) = 0 \quad \hookrightarrow n_{child2}(G_1) = 0$

$\therefore$  The statement holds for  $G_1$ .

To get  $G_2$ , add a node  $v_2$  to  $G_1$ . WLOG, let  $v_2$  be the left child of  $v_1$ .

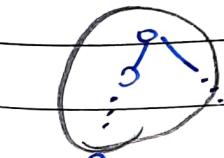
$v_1$  As we can see,  
 $v_2$        $n_{leaves}(G_2) = 1$

$n_{child}(v_1) = 1, n_{child}(v_2) = 0$

$\therefore n_{child2}(G_2) = 0 \quad \therefore$  The statement holds.

Consider some arbitrary binary tree  $T$ .

If we try to add a new node  $v_2$  to  $v_1$ , and if  $v_1$  initially has no children, then the number of leaf nodes in  $T$  will not change.



$v_1$   
 $\swarrow$  Add  $v_2$

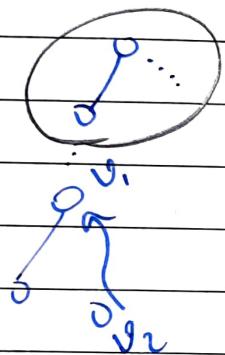
instead of set of leaf nodes  $L_i$ ,  
 $L_{i+1} \leftarrow L_i - \{v_1\} + \{v_2\}$

Note  $|L_i| = |L_{i+1}|$

Seeing what happens

On adding a child to a node with no children, the number of leaves will not change. Also, the number of nodes with 2 children will also not change.

Seeing what happens when we add a <sup>child ( $v_2$ )</sup> ~~node~~ to a node with 1 child ( $v_i$ )



Set of leaves  $L_i$  will turn to  $L_{i+1}$ , where  
 $L_{i+1} \leftarrow L_i + \{v_2\}$

$$\therefore |L_{i+1}| = |L_i| + 1$$

At the same time,  $v_i$  turns into a node with 2 children.

$$\therefore nchild_2(T_{i+1}) \leftarrow nchild_2(T_i)$$

### Cases : (operations)

- [1] Add a child to a node with no children [Covered]
- [2] Add a child to a node with 1 child [Covered]
- [3] Add a child to a node with 2 children - ~~as~~ not possible, as this would disrupt the binary tree.  
(same for adding a child to a node with  $> 2$  children).
- [3] Add no child - the tree remains the same.

In this way, we have covered all ways of creating a ~~best~~ binary tree from  $G_i$ .

The key argument is that the number of leaf nodes increases by 1 iff the number of nodes with 2 children increases by 1.

Since this the statement

$nchild2(T_0) = |L_0| + 1$  holds for  
the tree with 1 node ( $G_0$ ), it holds  
for any other tree  $T_i$ .

$\therefore nchild2(T_i) = |L_i| + 1$ , since any tree  
 $T_i$  can be constructed from  $T_0$  using  
operations [1], [2], [3]. Q.E.D

## Question 4

We have a connected graph  $E(G_i) = (V, E)$  and a specific vertex  $u \in V$ . Suppose we compute a depth-first search rooted at  $u$  and obtain a tree  $T$ , that includes all  $v \in V$ . Suppose then we compute a breadth first search tree rooted at  $u$  and obtain  $\Rightarrow$  the same tree  $T$ . Prove that  $G_i = T$ , i.e. if  $T$  is both a depth first tree and a breadth first tree rooted at  $u$ , then  $G_i$  cannot contain any more edges than in  $T$ .

### Assumption:

Tie breaking order is fixed (say lexicographical) and not arbitrary.

Then,  $\text{DFS tree}(G_i, u) = \text{BFS tree}(G_i, u)$  is possible.

### Proof by contradiction:

Assume that there is some edge  $e_0$  in  $E(G_i)$  such that  $e_0 = (s, t)$  for some  $s, t \in V(G_i)$ . Now, assume that this edge is not in  $E(T)$ .  $\therefore$  [Statement 0]

We know that

Statement 1 -

Claim If  $(s, t) \in E(G)$ , then <sup>in</sup> the BFS tree  $T$ , if  $\text{layer}(s) = L(s) = l_i$  and  $\text{layer}(t) = L(t) = l_j$  then  $|l_i - l_j| \leq 1$ . That is,  $s$  is either in the same layer as  $t$ , or one layer above  $t$ , or one layer below  $t$ .

Proof :

WLOG, assume  $i < j$

BFS guarantees that  $s$  is at a distance  $i$  from the root  $u$ , and  $t$  is at a distance  $j$  from  $u$ .

Suppose  $j - i > 1$

From BFS, after exploring  $s$  in  $L_i$ ,  $t$  is added to  $L_{i+1}$  as  $e_0 = (s, t) \in E(G)$ .

But this means that  $i+1 < j$  gets contradicted  
 $\therefore i \geq j-1$ , or  $i$  and  $j$  differ by 1 (at most).

S.E.P.

Statement 2 -

In BFS tree ( $G, u$ ), if ~~s and t~~  $(s, t) \in E(G)$ , then  $s$  and  $t$  ~~are~~ <sup>is</sup> an ancestor of  $t$ , or  $t$  is an ancestor of  $s$  in  $T$ .

WLOG assume  $s$  is an ancestor of  $t$ .

Now, ~~from~~ from statement 0, we can say that  $s$  cannot be a parent of  $t$  in  $T$ , since the edge  $e_0 = (s, t) \notin E(T)$ .

$\therefore$  In the BFS tree, if  $s \in L_i$  and  $t \in L_j$  then :

$i < j$  ( $s$  is an ancestor of  $t$ )

$i \neq j-1$  ( $s$  is not  $t$ 's parent).

$\therefore i < j-1$

$\Rightarrow i+1 < j$  But this contradicts statement 1.

∴ The initial assumption that such an edge exists in  $G_r$ , but not  $T$  was wrong.

$$\therefore \text{BFS tree}(G_r, u) = \text{BFS tree}(G_r, u) = T \rightarrow G_r = T$$

~~∴  $G_r$  is not a BFS tree~~

In fact, the question statement is even stronger.

If  $G_r$  is some tree  $T$ , then

④ BFS on  $G_r$  and BFS on  $G_r$  will both give the same tree rooted at  $u$ .

(imagine holding up the tree from the root, and letting the other nodes fall down).

More formally, since  $G_r$  is connected,

$$G_r = T \rightarrow \text{BFS tree}(G_r, u) = \text{BFS tree}(G_r, u)$$

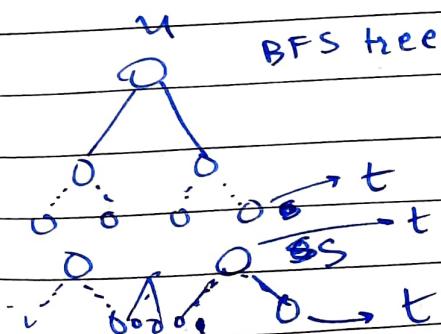
∴ We have proved that

$$\text{BFS tree}(G_r, u) = \text{BFS tree}(G_r, u) = T \iff G_r = T$$

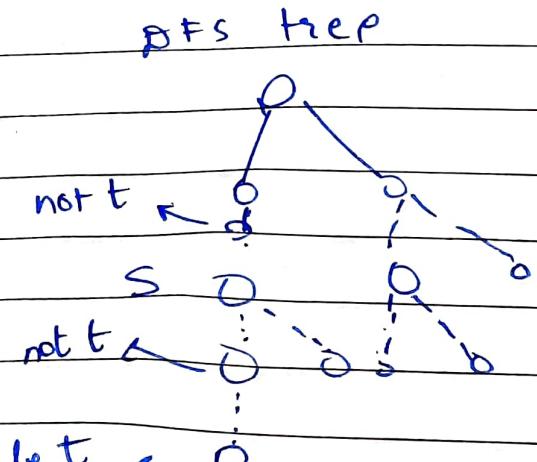
D.E.P

~~so programmatic~~

Visualization of the proof :



But



### Question 5 -

Prove or disprove the following claim.

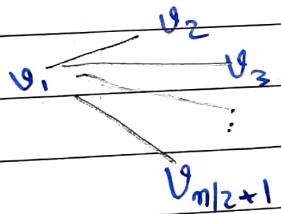
Let  $G_i$  be a graph on  $n$  nodes, where  $n$  is an even number. If every node of  $G_i$  has degree at least  $n/2$ , then  $G_i$  is connected.

Proof [By contradiction].

Let's assume that graph  $G_i$  can be constructed in such a way that  $\text{degree}(v) \geq \frac{n}{2} \quad \forall v \in V(G_i)$  and it is disconnected. ( $n$  is even).

Let's start with node  $v_1 \in V(G_i)$ .

If  $v_1$  is to be connected  $\exists$  no. of edges =  $n/2$ , then it will be connected to  $n/2$  vertices. ( $(n/2+1)^{\text{th}}$  vertex)

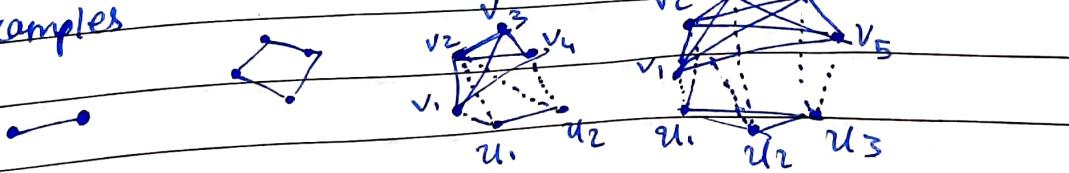


This means that we already have a component with  $n/2+1$  nodes.

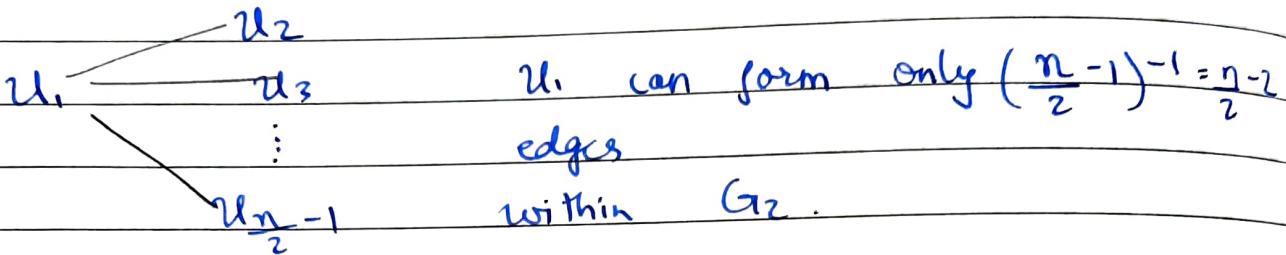
$$\text{Number of nodes left} = n - \left(\frac{n}{2} + 1\right) = \frac{n}{2} - 1.$$

Without loss of generality, it will be enough to prove that we can satisfy  $\text{degree}(v) \geq n/2 \quad \forall v \in V$  AND stay  $\Rightarrow$  within the leftover vertices to satisfy the assumption. That is, we're trying to split  $G_i$  into 2 components  $G_{i1}$  and  $G_{i2}$ , where  $G_{i1}$  consists of  $v_i$  from  $v_1$  to  $v_{\frac{n}{2}+1}$  and  $G_{i2}$  consists of  $v_i$  from  $v_1$  to  $v_{\frac{n}{2}-1}$ .

Some examples



Now, take  $u_1$  from  $V(G_2)$ .  
 To satisfy  $\deg(u_1) \geq \frac{n}{2}$ , we take the lower bound and show that  $u_1$  is only connected to  $u_i, i \neq 1$  and not any  $v_i \in V(G_1)$ . [Here,  $u_i \in V(G_2)$ ]



This means that to make  $\deg(u_1) \geq \frac{n}{2}$ , we need to form 2 more connections.

$(u_1, v_i), (u_1, v_j)$  where  $v_i \neq v_j, v_i, v_j \in V(G_1)$ . With this, the component  $G_1$  gets one more vertex  $v_{\frac{n}{2}+2} = u_1$ .

By applying this, Now  $u_2$  has only from  $u_3$  to  $u_{\frac{n}{2}-1}$  to make  $\deg(u_2) \geq \frac{n}{2}$ , which is again not possible.

Another way of thinking of this is by invoking the pigeonhole principle. Initially, if  $\deg(u_1) \geq \frac{n}{2}$ , then we have  $\frac{n}{2}$  edges, but  $n-2$  vertices to connect  $u_1$  with, which means that 2 nodes would have multi-edges with  $u_1$ , which is not allowed in a simple graph.

∴ To maintain  $\deg(u_i) \geq \frac{n}{2}$ , or at least  $\deg(u_i) \geq \frac{n}{2}$ , we will have to use edges from  $V_i \in V(G_1)$ , thus ~~passing that~~ contradicting our initial assumption that we can construct a disconnected graph satisfying the constraint  $\deg(v) \geq \frac{n}{2} \forall v \in V(G_1)$ .

D.E.P

Question 6 -

$G = (V, E)$ ,  $|V| = n$   $G$  is undirected.  
There are  $s, t \in V(G)$  such that the distance between  $s$  and  $t$  is strictly greater than  $n/2$ .

Show that there must exist some node  $v \in \text{eq}$ ,  $v \neq s, v \neq t$  such that deleting  $v$  from  $G$  destroys all  $s$  to  $t$  paths.

(The graph obtained from  $G$  by deleting  $v$  contains no paths from  $s$  to  $t$ ).  
give an algorithm in  $O(m+n)$  to find  $v$ .

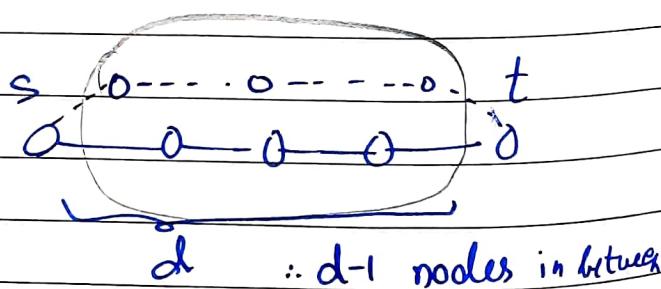
Proof by contradiction.

Assume that no such  $v$  exists in  $G$ .

Let the distance between  $s$  and  $t$  be  $d$ .

$$\text{Now, } d > \left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil$$

$$\Rightarrow d-1 \geq \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor$$



$$\Rightarrow 2(d-1) \geq n \quad [1]$$

Now, for some alternative path of at least length  $d$  to exist, we need to add ~~at least~~  $2(d-1)$  nodes (at least).

But from [1],  $2(d-1)$  is at least  $n$ .

This forms a contradiction, since if  $2(d-1)$  is  $n$ , the nodes  $s$  and  $t$  would not exist / ~~and~~<sup>or</sup> we would need  $n+2$  nodes in  $G_1$ . (But we have only  $n$ ).

Another line of thought is proof by construction.

Start with  $n=3$

$$G_2 \quad \begin{array}{c} s \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ a \quad o \end{array} \quad t \quad \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{3}{2} \right\rfloor = 1$$

$$\therefore d > 1 \rightarrow d = 2$$

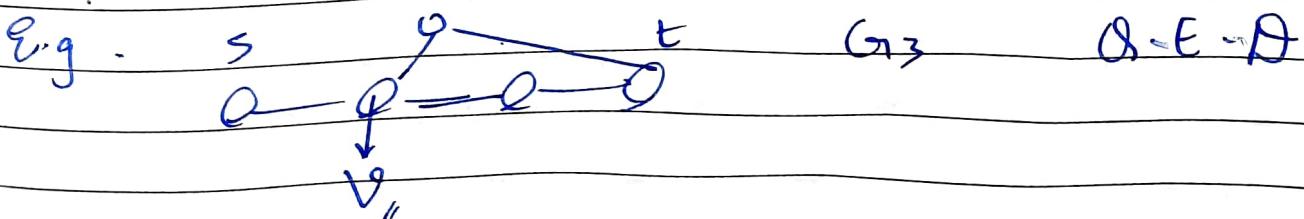
But if try to add a node to  $G_2$ , to form an alternate path, the number of nodes will change,  $n: 3 \rightarrow 4$  and

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n+1}{2} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{4}{2} \right\rfloor = 2 \quad \text{for which the } d > \frac{n}{2} \text{ property fails.}$$

This argument can be generalised for any  $n \geq 3$

Algorithm that gives

\*  $\therefore$  There must exist a node  $v$ , where the attempted alternate path meets the first path. On removing  $v$ , we get 2 connected components.



On looking at  $G_3$ , we can picture the existence of  $v$ . And since, we have proven that  $v$  exists under the given constraints, we can locate it by performing a BFS rooted at  $s$ .

Then we can look at the path from  $s$  to  $t$  in the BFS tree  $T$ .

The layer in  $T$  with only one node is }  
the one that can be cut off }  
 $\therefore$  if  $|L_i| = 1$  then ~~for~~  $v \in L_i$ . }  
BFS ~~algorithms~~ is a natural choice because of this property ↴

Algorithm -

$O(m+n)$  time.

locate- $V$  ( $G, s, t$ ) .

visited = list of length  $n$ , All  $\text{visited}[i] = \text{False}$ ,  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$   
~~also~~  $\text{visited}[s] = \text{True}$

$L$  = layers list

$L[0] = \{s\}$  //first layer

$i \leftarrow 0$

while  $L[i]$  is not empty :

$L[i+1] \leftarrow \{\}$

For each  $u \in L[i]$  :

For each edge  $(u, v) \in E$  incident on  $u$  :

if  $\text{visited}[v] = \text{False}$  :

$\text{visited}[v] = \text{True}$

$L[i+1].append(v)$

if length of  $L[i+1]$  is 1 :

return  $k$ , where  $k \in L[i+1]$  // $v$  found

$i \leftarrow i + 1$

return -1 // $v$  not found (not possible under given constraints)

## References -

- (Q1) - Harshit Aggarwal 202111015  
Found a mistake in my approach (finite series)  
Yatharth Gupta 2021101093  
Consider the case where  $b < 1$ .
- (Q2) - geeksforgeeks.org/tree-back-edge-and-cross-edges-in-dfs-of-graph  
Used to learn about back edge,  
forward edge, cross edge
- (Q4) - Referenced Prof Suryajith's lecture for statement 1
- (Q6) - Referenced Prof Suryajith's lecture for BFS details.