

# Final In-Class Exam

( 7:05 PM – 8:20 PM : 75 Minutes )

- This exam will account for either 15% or 30% of your overall grade depending on your relative performance in the midterm and the final. The higher of the two scores (midterm and final) will be worth 30% of your grade, and the lower one 15%.
- There are three (3) questions, worth 75 points in total. Please answer all of them in the spaces provided.
- There are 16 pages including four (4) blank pages and one (1) page of appendix. Please use the blank pages if you need additional space for your answers.
- The exam is *open slides* and *open notes*. But *no books* and *no computers* (no laptops, tablets, capsules, cell phones, etc.).

**GOOD LUCK!**

Question	Pages	Score	Maximum
1. The Lazy Deletion Filter	2–5		30
2. Randomized $\frac{3}{2}$ -Approximate 3-way Max-Cut	7–11		35
3. Exam Scores	13		10
Total			75

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

$\text{INIT}^{(Q)}()$ 1. $Q.\text{queue} \leftarrow \emptyset, Q.\text{filter} \leftarrow \emptyset$		{ $Q.\text{queue}$ and $Q.\text{filter}$ are basic priority queues}	
$\text{INSERT}^{(Q)}(x)$ 1. $\text{INSERT}^{(Q.\text{queue})}(x)$	{insert key $x$ into $Q$ }	$\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$ 1. $\text{INSERT}^{(Q.\text{filter})}(x)$	{delete key $x$ from $Q$ }
$\text{MINIMUM}^{(Q)}()$ 1. $x \leftarrow \text{MINIMUM}^{(Q.\text{queue})}(), x' \leftarrow \text{MINIMUM}^{(Q.\text{filter})}()$ 2. <b>while</b> $x \neq \text{NIL}$ <b>and</b> $x = x'$ <b>do</b> 3. $\text{EXTRACT-MIN}^{(Q.\text{queue})}()$ 4. $\text{EXTRACT-MIN}^{(Q.\text{filter})}()$ 5. $x \leftarrow \text{MINIMUM}^{(Q.\text{queue})}(), x' \leftarrow \text{MINIMUM}^{(Q.\text{filter})}()$ 6. <b>return</b> $x$			
$\text{EXTRACT-MIN}^{(Q)}()$ 1. $x \leftarrow \text{MINIMUM}^{(Q)}()$ 2. $\text{EXTRACT-MIN}^{(Q.\text{queue})}()$ 3. <b>return</b> $x$		{ $x$ is the smallest key in $Q$ , and $x'$ is the smallest key with a pending $\text{DELETE}$ request} { $x = x' \neq \text{NIL}$ means that $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$ was issued for $x$ } {remove $x$ from $Q.\text{queue}$ } {remove $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$ from $Q.\text{filter}$ } {next smallest key and pending $\text{DELETE}$ } { $x$ is the smallest key in $Q$ for which $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}()$ was not issued}	
{extract and return the smallest key in $Q$ } { $x$ is the smallest key in $Q$ for which $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$ was not issued} {remove $x$ from $Q$ }			

Figure 1: Using two instances ( $Q.\text{queue}$  and  $Q.\text{filter}$ ) of the given basic priority queue to create a new priority queue  $Q$  that supports INSERT, DELETE, MINIMUM and EXTRACT-MIN operations.

**QUESTION 1. [ 30 Points ] The Lazy Deletion Filter.** I have a basic priority queue implementation that supports only INSERT, MINIMUM and EXTRACT-MIN operations in  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  worst-case time, respectively, where  $n$  is the number of items currently in it. If the queue is empty both MINIMUM and EXTRACT-MIN return NIL.

I have an application that requires a DELETE operation in addition to the three operations mentioned above, but unfortunately, I cannot change the given priority queue implementation to add the DELETE operation<sup>1</sup>.

Figure 1 shows how I have used the given basic priority queue implementation as a blackbox to create a new priority queue  $Q$  that supports all four operations I need. The trick is to use one basic priority queue  $Q.\text{queue}$  to perform INSERT and EXTRACT-MIN operations as usual, and another basic priority queue  $Q.\text{filter}$  to store all pending DELETE operations. Whenever I access a key  $x$  from  $Q.\text{queue}$ , I check  $Q.\text{filter}$  to see if a  $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$  operation was issued, and if so, I discard  $x$ . Thus  $Q.\text{filter}$  acts as a filter to lazily remove deleted keys from  $Q.\text{queue}$ .

Priority queue  $Q$  assumes that for any given key value  $x$ :

- (i)  $\text{INSERT}^{(Q)}(x)$  will not be performed more than once during  $Q$ 's lifetime,
- (ii)  $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$  will not be issued more than once during  $Q$ 's lifetime, and
- (iii)  $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$  operation will not be issued unless  $x$  already exists in  $Q.\text{queue}$ .

<sup>1</sup>I only have a pre-compiled library, not the source code.

Suppose my application first initializes  $Q$  by calling  $\text{INIT}^{(Q)}()$  and then performs an intermixed sequence of INSERT, DELETE, MINIMUM and EXTRACT-MIN operations among which exactly  $N$  ( $\geq 1$ ) are INSERT operations. Then answer the following questions.

- 1(a) [ **8 Points** ] What is the worst-case cost of each of the following operations: (i)  $\text{INSERT}^{(Q)}(x)$ , (ii)  $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$ , (iii)  $\text{MINIMUM}^{(Q)}()$  and (iv)  $\text{EXTRACT-MIN}^{(Q)}()$ ? Justify your answers.

**Hint:** Think of a sequence of INSERT and DELETE operations that will force the loop in lines 2–5 of  $\text{MINIMUM}^{(Q)}()$  to be executed the maximum number of times when a  $\text{MINIMUM}^{(Q)}()$  or  $\text{EXTRACT-MIN}^{(Q)}()$  operation is performed afterwards. Please keep in mind that there will not be more than  $N$  INSERT operations. Then what is the maximum number of DELETE operations one can perform on  $Q$ ?

1(b) [ **4 Points** ] In order to find the amortized costs of the operations performed on  $Q$  we will use the following potential function:

$$\Phi ( Q_i ) = c \log N \times \text{number of items in } Q.\textit{queue} \text{ after the } i\text{-th operation,}$$

where,  $Q_i$  is the state of  $Q$  after the  $i$ -th ( $i \geq 0$ ) operation is performed on it assuming that  $Q$  was initially empty, and  $c$  is a positive constant.

Argue that this potential function guarantees that the total amortized cost will always be an upper bound on the total actual cost.

- 1(c) [ **18 Points** ] Use the potential function given in part 1(b) to find the amortized cost of each of the following operations: (i)  $\text{INSERT}^{(Q)}(x)$ , (ii)  $\text{DELETE}^{(Q)}(x)$ , (iii)  $\text{MINIMUM}^{(Q)}()$  and (iv)  $\text{EXTRACT-MIN}^{(Q)}()$ .

Use this page if you need additional space for your answers.

**QUESTION 2. [ 35 Points ] Randomized  $\frac{3}{2}$ -Approximate 3-way Max-Cut.** Suppose you are given an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with vertex set  $V$  and edge set  $E$ , where  $|V| = n$  and  $|E| = m$ . Now you divide  $V$  into three pairwise disjoint subsets  $V_1, V_2$  and  $V_3$  such that  $V_1 \cup V_2 \cup V_3 = V$ . For any edge  $(u, v) \in E$ , let  $u \in V_i$  and  $v \in V_j$  for some  $i, j \in [1, 3]$ . Then we say that  $(u, v)$  is a *cut edge* provided  $i \neq j$ . Let  $E_c \subseteq E$  be the set of all cut edges of  $G$ , and let  $m_c = |E_c|$ . We will call  $E_c$  the *cut set*. Figure 2 shows an example.

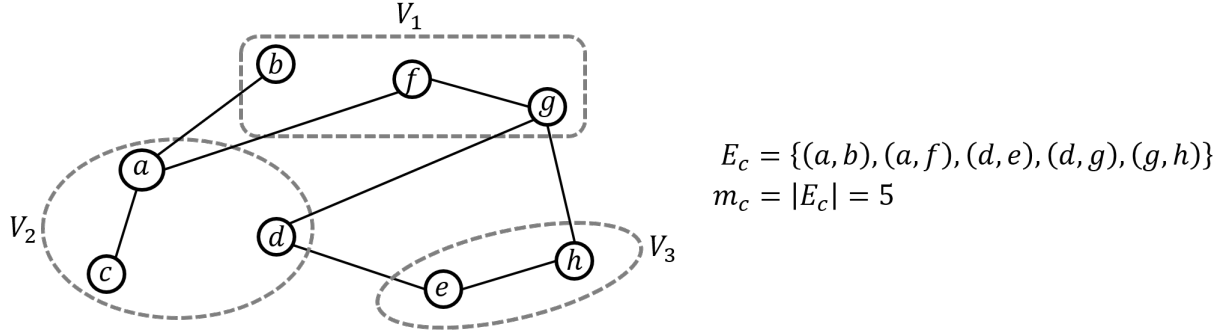


Figure 2: A 3-way cut example.

The *3-way Max-Cut* problem asks one to find subsets  $V_1, V_2$  and  $V_3$  to maximize  $m_c$ . A randomized approximation algorithm for solving the problem is given in Figure 3 below.

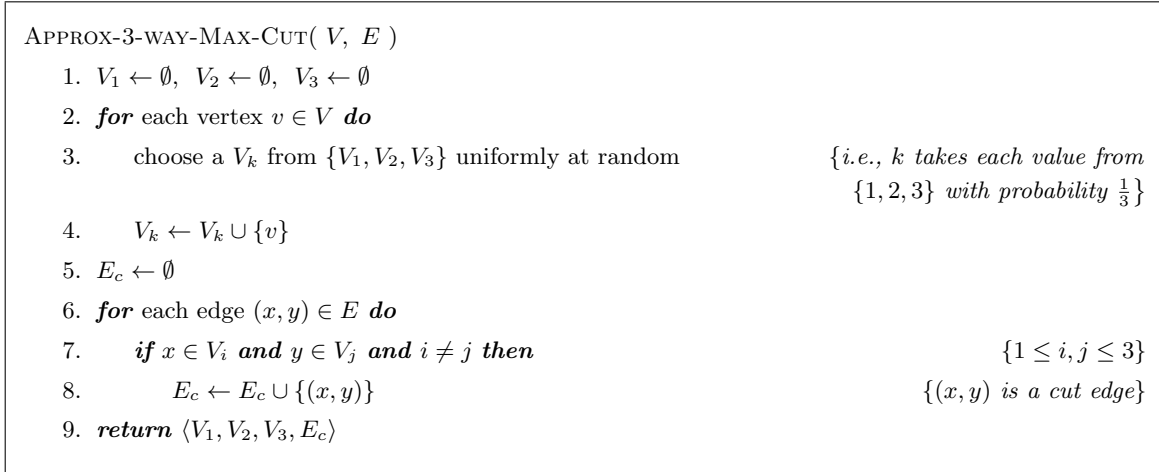


Figure 3: Approximating 3-way Max-Cut.

2(a) [ **7 Points** ] Show that the expected approximation ratio of APPROX-3-WAY-MAX-CUT given in Figure 3 is  $\frac{3}{2}$ .

**Hint:** *What is the probability that any given edge is a cut edge? What is the expected value of  $m_c$  implied by that probability? What is the maximum possible value of  $m_c$ ?*



2(b) [ 8 Points ] Show that for the cut set  $E_c$  returned by APPROX-3-WAY-MAX-CUT:

$$\Pr \left\{ m_c \geq \frac{2m}{3} \right\} \geq \frac{3}{m+3}.$$

**Hint:** You have already computed the expected value of  $m_c$  in part (a). Let that expected value be  $\bar{m}_c$ . Then  $\bar{m}_c = \sum_{k=0}^m k \Pr\{m_c = k\} = \sum_{k=0}^{\frac{2m}{3}-1} k \Pr\{m_c = k\} + \sum_{k=\frac{2m}{3}}^m k \Pr\{m_c = k\} \leq \sum_{k=0}^{\frac{2m}{3}-1} \left(\frac{2m}{3} - 1\right) \Pr\{m_c = k\} + \sum_{k=\frac{2m}{3}}^m m \Pr\{m_c = k\} = \left(\frac{2m}{3} - 1\right) \sum_{k=0}^{\frac{2m}{3}-1} \Pr\{m_c = k\} + m \sum_{k=\frac{2m}{3}}^m \Pr\{m_c = k\}$ . Use this inequality to find a lower bound for  $\Pr\{m_c \geq \frac{2m}{3}\}$ .

2(c) [ **10 Points** ] Explain how you will use APPROX-3-WAY-MAX-CUT as a subroutine to design an approximation algorithm with

$$\Pr \left\{ m_c \geq \frac{2m}{3} \right\} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{e},$$

where,  $m_c$  is the size of the cut set returned by the algorithm.

You must describe your algorithm (briefly in words) and prove the probability bound.

**Hint:** *We did something similar in the class.*

- 2(d) [ **10 Points** ] Explain how you will use your algorithm from part (c) as a subroutine to design another approximation algorithm that returns a cut set of size at least  $\frac{2m}{3}$  with high probability in  $m$ . You must describe your algorithm (briefly in words) and prove the probability bound.

Use this page if you need additional space for your answers.

**QUESTION 3. [ 10 Points ] Exam Scores.** After grading the last midterm exam I made a sorted list of  $n$  anonymous scores public. That was, indeed, a complete list of the scores obtained by all  $n$  students of the class. This time I plan to release a smaller list  $L$ . I will use the algorithm shown in Figure 4 for constructing  $L$ .

1.  $L \leftarrow \emptyset$
2. **for** each student  $x$  in the class **do**
3.     include  $x$ 's score in  $L$  with probability  $\frac{1}{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}$

Figure 4: Making the list  $L$  of scores to release.

3(a) [ 10 Points ] Show that  $Pr \left\{ |L| < n^{\frac{2}{3}} + n^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{e^{\frac{n^{\frac{1}{3}}}{3}}}$ .

**Hint:** Use an appropriate Chernoff bound.

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## APPENDIX I: USEFUL TAIL BOUNDS

**Markov's Inequality.** Let  $X$  be a random variable that assumes only nonnegative values. Then for all  $\delta > 0$ ,  $Pr[X \geq \delta] \leq \frac{E[X]}{\delta}$ .

**Chebyshev's Inequality.** Let  $X$  be a random variable with a finite mean  $E[X]$  and a finite variance  $Var[X]$ . Then for any  $\delta > 0$ ,  $Pr[|X - E[X]| \geq \delta] \leq \frac{Var[X]}{\delta^2}$ .

**Chernoff Bounds.** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be independent Poisson trials, that is, each  $X_i$  is a 0-1 random variable with  $Pr[X_i = 1] = p_i$  for some  $p_i$ . Let  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  and  $\mu = E[X]$ . Following bounds hold:

Lower Tail:

- for  $0 < \delta < 1$ ,  $Pr[X \leq (1 - \delta)\mu] \leq \left(\frac{e^{-\delta}}{(1-\delta)^{(1-\delta)}}\right)^\mu$
- for  $0 < \delta < 1$ ,  $Pr[X \leq (1 - \delta)\mu] \leq e^{-\frac{\mu\delta^2}{2}}$
- for  $0 < \gamma < \mu$ ,  $Pr[X \leq \mu - \gamma] \leq e^{-\frac{\gamma^2}{2\mu}}$

Upper Tail:

- for any  $\delta > 0$ ,  $Pr[X \geq (1 + \delta)\mu] \leq \left(\frac{e^\delta}{(1+\delta)^{(1+\delta)}}\right)^\mu$
- for  $0 < \delta < 1$ ,  $Pr[X \geq (1 + \delta)\mu] \leq e^{-\frac{\mu\delta^2}{3}}$
- for  $0 < \gamma < \mu$ ,  $Pr[X \geq \mu + \gamma] \leq e^{-\frac{\gamma^2}{3\mu}}$