

HQ 22

To prove  $\text{thinMST}$  is NP complete we need to prove that  $\text{thinMST}$  is NP and NP hard.

Proof that ~~thinMST~~  $\text{thinMST}$  is NP

with the help of verification algorithm we will prove that  $\text{thinMST}$  is NP.

Proof P :  $\text{MST}$  of graph  $G(V, E)$

input instance : a weighted undirected graph  $G(V, E)$   
and an integer  $d$ .

verification algorithm : def verifythnmst prob (Proof P,  
graph G, d) :

$O(V)$  — for all vertices  $v$  in  $P$  :

$O(V+E)$  — if (degree( $v$ ) > d)

return ~~True~~ False

return True.

running time : Proof  $P$  is a MST of the graph  $G(V, E)$ .  
here we choose Kruskal's algorithm and hence complexity  
will be  $O(E \log E)$  or  $O(E \log V)$ . The algorithm  
takes  $O(V(V+E))$  as shown above. Thus total  
complexity =  $O(E \log V) + O(V(V+E))$

Lemma 1

If  $G$  has a Yes instance then there must be a proof  
 $P$ , for which verifythnmst gives true.

If  $G$  has a Yes instance i.e. there exist a minimum  
spanning tree  $T$ , s.t. degree of every node in  $T$  is  
atmost  $d$ ; then according to our proof we have taken  
one such MST of  $G$  using Kruskal's algorithm. Then  
in the algorithm, if degree of such vertices in the  
MST is within/atmost  $d$  then only we are returning  
True else if any one vertex also exceeds degree  $d$   
we are returning False. Thus if  $G$  has a Yes instance  
then one such MST must exist as proof  $P$  whose  
degree constraint we are checking in the verification algorithm.



## Lemma 2

If  $G$  has a NO instance, then for every  $P$  verify-  
-thin mst proof will give False

If  $G$  has a NO instance, i.e.  $G$  do not have a  
mst s.t. degree of all vertices in  $G$  mst is at most  $d$   
then our proof will generate a mst ~~but~~ <sup>i</sup> of  
the graph  $G$  but our verification algorithm will give  
False as degree of that mst (any mst which  
 $P$  takes as proof from Kruskal's algorithm) has  
~~a~~ at least 1 vertex will exceed  $d$ . Thus for  
every  $P$  ~~the~~ verifythinmst proof will give false.

proof that  $\text{thnMST}$  is ~~at~~ NP Hard.

To proof that  $\text{thnMST}$  is NP Hard we will reduce a known NP Hard problem to ~~at~~  $\text{thnMST}$ .

we can reduce Steiner Tree to  $\text{thnMST}$  but Steiner Tree is not a decision problem.

we can convert Steiner Tree to a decision problem with the help of following  $\text{SteinerTreeExist}()$  which simply returns True if there exist a minimum weight subtree which contains every marked vertices else False.



def SteinerTreeExist ( graph  $G$ , marked vertices  $v'$  ) :

~~if~~

$T = \text{SteinerTree}(G, v')$

~~if (  $T$  has  $|V|$  vertices and  $T$  is MST of  $V'$  )~~

~~if ( all vertices in  $T$  are same as  $v'$  and  $|V'| = |V|$  and  $T$  is MST of  $G$  )~~

return True

return False.

now SteinerTreeExist ( ) will be no hard as we are running SteinerTree ( ) inside the function.

So now we can reduce SteinerTreeExist ( ) to MST ( ).

reduction algorithm :

def reduce (  $G(V, E)$ , marked vertices  $v'$  ) :

~~if~~  $G' \leftarrow$  new empty graph.

for all vertices  $v$  in  $G$  :  $\rightarrow O(V)$   
add  $v'$  in  $G'$

for all edges  $E$  in  $G$  :  $\rightarrow O(E)$   
add  $E'$  (with weights) in  $G'$

if (  $|V'| = |V|$  )

$d \leftarrow |V| - 1$

else  $d \leftarrow 0$ .

return (  $G'$ ,  $d$  ).

## explanation

given a graph  $G(V, E)$  with marked vertices  $v'$  we are forming a new graph  $G'(V', E')$  which is a copy of  $G$  and setting  $d = |V| - 1$  when <sup>number of</sup> vertices are equal to ~~the~~ number of marked vertices and else  $d = 0$ .

## running time

As shown above running time of above algorithm is  $O(V + E)$  rest all are constant time; polynomial time reduction.

## lemma

we will get yes instance of Steiner Tree Exist ~~iff~~ iff we get yes instance of ~~thin~~ MST.

If we get a yes instance of Steiner Tree Exist i.e. there exist a minimum weight subtree of  $G$  that contains  $v'$  marked vertices then - in the reduce algorithm we are ~~setting~~ copying the same graph  $G'$  and now if all vertices are marked then only we are setting  $d$  as  $|V| - 1$  else 0. This is because in any MST of a graph maximum edges that we need is  $|V| - 1$ , by setting  $d = |V| - 1$  we can ensure that whenever



all vertices are marked in Steiner Tree i.e. it basically gives the MST of the graph then our thin MST also gives a the MST of the same graph and returns a Yes instance as  $d \geq |V| - 1$  will ~~automati~~ trivially be true for any vertices. If maximum edges are  $|V| - 1$  then degree of each vertex will never exceed  $|V| - 1$  i.e. in a MST the edges will never exceed  $|V| - 1$  and degree of a vertex means the number of edges incident on ~~the~~ any edge. (If multi edges or self loops are considered then setting  $d = |V| + 1$  will return a Yes instance as degree of a vertex can never exceed number of vertices + 1.)

If we get a No instance of Steiner Tree Exist i.e. all vertices of Steiner Tree are not marked as a MST so, formed is not a MST of graph  $G$  then in the reduction algorithm  $d$  will be set to 0. i.e. if we ~~get~~ don't have all vertices marked in Steiner Tree then it might not return a MST of the entire graph and thus setting  $d = 0$  will ensure that in the reduced graph as well even though we will get a MST but degree of each vertex being almost 0 will always cause the MST as well to return a No instance.