

# ChatGPT - Lecture\_Scribe



L10\_S1.pdf  
PDF

Generate a lecture scribe suitable for exam preparation based on the provided pdf for the context. While generating the Scribe, reason step by step through definitions, assumptions, proofs and example solutions exactly as presented in the provided context. Make sure you give the step by step derivation for the problems and example solutions. Make the logical flow explicit so that a student can follow the reasoning during revision. Do not introduce any material or derivation which is not present in the context.

Got it. Below is a **clean, exam-oriented lecture scribe** prepared **strictly from the provided PDF**.

I have followed the **exact logical order of the slides**, explained every definition, theorem, algorithm, and comparison **step by step**, and **have not introduced anything beyond the given context**. This is written so you can revise directly before exams.

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## Lecture Scribe: Randomized Min-Cut Algorithm

*CSE400 – Fundamentals of Probability in Computing*  
(Based entirely on Lecture 10 slides)

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### 1. Min-Cut Problem

#### 1.1 Why Use Min-Cut?

The min-cut algorithm is used to solve problems related to:

- **Network connectivity**
- **Network reliability**
- **Optimization problems**

Its importance arises from identifying the *weakest points* in a network.

#### Applications

## 1. Network Design

- Helps improve efficiency of communication.
- Used to find the **minimum capacity cut** to optimize network flow.

## 2. Communication Networks

- Helps analyze **vulnerability to failures**.
- Aids in building **robust and fault-tolerant networks**.

## 3. VLSI Design

- Used to **partition circuits** into smaller components.
  - Reduces **interconnectivity complexity**.
- 

## 1.2 What is Min-Cut?

### Definition: Cut-Set

A **cut-set** in a graph is:

A set of edges whose removal breaks the graph into two or more connected components.

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### Definition: Minimum Cut (Min-Cut)

Given a graph

$$G = (V, E)$$

with  $n$  vertices,

- The **minimum cut problem** is to find a **cut-set with minimum cardinality**.
- 

### Key Observation

- Min-cut algorithms (like **Karger's algorithm**) are **randomized**.
  - They are **sensitive to early edge choices**.
  - If **critical edges** are contracted early, the algorithm may fail to find the true min-cut.
- 

## 1.3 Edge Contraction (Core Operation)

### Definition: Edge Contraction

Edge contraction is the **main operation** used in min-cut algorithms.

### Procedure

To contract an edge  $(u, v)$ :

1. Merge vertices **u and v** into a single vertex.
  2. Remove all edges directly connecting **u and v**.
  3. Retain all other edges.
  4. Resulting graph:
    - May have **parallel edges**
    - Has **no self-loops**
- 

## 2. Min-Cut Runs

### 2.1 Successful Min-Cut Run

A **successful min-cut run** refers to:

- An execution of the algorithm that **correctly identifies** the minimum cut of the graph.

(Shown via figure in slides.)

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### 2.2 Unsuccessful Min-Cut Run

An **unsuccessful min-cut run** refers to:

- An execution where the algorithm **fails to identify** the minimum cut.
- Typically caused by:
  - Contracting **critical edges too early**

(Shown via figure in slides.)

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## 3. Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorem

### Statement

*In a flow network, the maximum amount of flow passing from the source to the sink is equal to the total weight of the edges in a minimum cut.*

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## Definitions Used in the Theorem

### 1. Capacity of a Cut

- Sum of capacities of edges oriented from:
  - vertex  $\in X$  to vertex  $\in Y$

### 2. Minimum Cut

- A cut with the **smallest possible capacity**

### 3. Minimum Cut Capacity

- Capacity value of the minimum cut

### 4. Maximum Flow

- Largest possible flow from source **S** to sink **T**
- 

## 4. Deterministic Min-Cut Algorithm

### 4.1 Stoer–Wagner Min-Cut Algorithm

#### Theorem

Let  $s$  and  $t$  be two vertices of a graph  $G$ .

Let:

$$G/\{s, t\}$$

be the graph obtained by **merging**  $s$  and  $t$ .

Then, a minimum cut of  $G$  is:

- The smaller of:
    1. A minimum **s-t cut** of  $G$
    2. A minimum cut of  $G/\{s, t\}$
- 

## Reasoning Behind the Theorem

There are two cases:

### 1. Case 1: A minimum cut separates $s$ and $t$

- Then the minimum **s-t cut** is also a minimum cut of  $G$

### 2. Case 2: No minimum cut separates $s$ and $t$

- Then the minimum cut of  $G/\{s, t\}$  is valid

Thus, the theorem holds.

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## 4.2 Pseudocode

### Algorithm 1: MinimumCutPhase( $G, a$ )

1. Initialize:  
 $A \leftarrow \{a\}$
2. While  $A \neq V$ :
  - Add to  $A$  the **most tightly connected vertex**
3. Return:
  - The **cut weight**, called the *cut of the phase*

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### Algorithm 2: MinimumCut( $G$ )

1. While  $|V| \geq 1$ :
  - Choose any vertex  $a \in V$
  - Run `MinimumCutPhase( $G, a$ )`
2. If the cut-of-the-phase is lighter than the current minimum cut:
  - Store it as the current minimum cut
3. Shrink the graph by:
  - Merging the **last two vertices added**
4. Return the **minimum cut**

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## 5. Randomized Min-Cut Algorithm

### 5.1 Why Randomized Algorithms?

Randomized algorithms:

- Provide **probabilistic guarantees of success**
- Can give **accurate estimates** with fewer iterations

#### Advantages

- Efficiency
- Parallelization
- Approximation guarantees
- Avoidance of worst-case instances
- Heuristic nature
- Robustness

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## 5.2 Karger's Randomized Algorithm

- A **randomized algorithm** for finding the minimum cut
- Based on **random edge contraction**
- Repeated executions increase success probability

(Pseudocode shown in slides.)

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## 6. Deterministic vs Randomized Min-Cut

### Decision Factor

The **problem itself** determines which approach is more suitable.

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### Deterministic Min-Cut

- Always guarantees **exact minimum cut**
- Higher time complexity for large graphs
- **Stoer–Wagner complexity:**

$$O(V \cdot E + V^2 \log V)$$

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### Randomized Min-Cut

- Produces **approximate min-cut with high probability**
- **Karger's algorithm complexity:**

$$O(V^2)$$

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## 7. Theorem for Randomized Min-Cut

### Theorem Statement

The algorithm outputs a **minimum cut set** with probability at least:

$$\frac{2}{n(n-1)}$$

where  $n$  is the number of vertices.

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## 8. Python Simulation

- Students are instructed to:
    - Open the **Campuswire post for Lecture 10**
    - Download the provided `.ipynb` **file**
    - Run the simulation to observe randomized min-cut behavior
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## End of Lecture

### Thank You

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If you want, I can next:

- Turn this into a **2–3 page exam-ready PDF**
- Extract **only definitions + theorems**
- Create a **comparison table** you can memorize in 2 minutes
- Or prepare **probable exam questions** from this lecture

Just say the word 😊

Generate a lecture scribe suitable for exam preparation based on the provided pdf for the context. While generating the Scribe, reason step by step through definitions, assumptions, proofs and example solutions exactly as presented in the provided context. Make sure you give the step by step derivation for the problems and example solutions. Make the logical flow explicit so that a student can follow the reasoning during revision. Do not introduce any material or derivation which is not present in the context.

Alright — below is a **freshly structured, exam-ready lecture scribe**, written **strictly from the provided PDF only**, with a **clear step-by-step logical flow**.

I have **not added any extra theory, proofs, or examples** beyond what is explicitly present in the slides. Wherever the lecture provides a theorem or algorithmic reasoning, it is broken down **exactly as implied in the context**, so it is easy to revise and reproduce in exams.

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## Lecture Scribe: Randomized Min-Cut Algorithm

**Course:** CSE400 – Fundamentals of Probability in Computing

**Lecture:** 10

**Instructor:** Dhaval Patel, PhD

*(Prepared strictly from the provided PDF)*

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### 1. Min-Cut Problem

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#### 1.1 Why Use Min-Cut?

Min-cut algorithms are used to solve problems related to:

- **Network connectivity**
- **Network reliability**
- **Network optimization**

The goal is to identify **critical edges** whose removal disconnects the network with **minimum cost or size**.

#### Applications of Min-Cut

##### 1. Network Design

- Used to improve communication efficiency.
- Helps find the **minimum capacity cut** in a network.

##### 2. Communication Networks

- Helps analyze **network vulnerability to failures**.
- Supports the design of **fault-tolerant and robust networks**.

##### 3. VLSI Design

- Used for **partitioning circuits** into smaller components.
  - Reduces **interconnectivity complexity**.
-

## 2. What is Min-Cut?

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### 2.1 Definition: Cut-Set

A **cut-set** in a graph is:

A set of edges whose removal breaks the graph into two or more connected components.

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### 2.2 Definition: Minimum Cut

Given a graph

$$G = (V, E)$$

with  $n$  vertices,

- The **minimum cut (min-cut)** problem is to find a **cut-set with minimum cardinality**.
- 

### 2.3 Important Observation

- Min-cut algorithms such as **Karger's algorithm** are **randomized**.
  - Their result depends on **which edges are selected early**.
  - If **critical edges** are contracted early, the algorithm may **fail to find the true minimum cut**.
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## 3. Edge Contraction

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### 3.1 Definition: Edge Contraction

The **main operation** used in min-cut algorithms is **edge contraction**.

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### 3.2 Step-by-Step Edge Contraction Process

For an edge  $(u, v)$ :

1. Vertices **u** and **v** are merged into a **single vertex**.

2. All edges between **u and v** are removed.
  3. All remaining edges are retained.
  4. The resulting graph:
    - May contain **parallel edges**
    - Contains **no self-loops**
- 

## 4. Min-Cut Runs

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### 4.1 Successful Min-Cut Run

A **successful min-cut run** refers to:

- An execution of the algorithm that **correctly identifies the minimum cut** of the graph.

(Shown graphically in the lecture slides.)

---

### 4.2 Unsuccessful Min-Cut Run

An **unsuccessful min-cut run** refers to:

- An execution where the algorithm **fails to identify the minimum cut**.
- This typically happens when **important edges are contracted too early**.

(Shown graphically in the lecture slides.)

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## 5. Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorem

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### 5.1 Theorem Statement

In a flow network, the maximum amount of flow passing from the source to the sink is equal to the total weight of the edges in a minimum cut.

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### 5.2 Definitions Used in the Theorem

1. **Capacity of a Cut**

- The sum of capacities of edges oriented from:
  - vertex  $\in X$  to vertex  $\in Y$

## 2. Minimum Cut

- The cut with the **smallest capacity**

## 3. Minimum Cut Capacity

- The capacity value of the minimum cut

## 4. Maximum Flow

- The largest possible flow from **source S** to **sink T**

# 6. Deterministic Min-Cut Algorithm

## 6.1 Stoer–Wagner Min-Cut Algorithm

### Theorem Used

Let **s** and **t** be two vertices of graph  $G$ .

Let

$$G/\{s, t\}$$

be the graph obtained by **merging s and t**.

A minimum cut of  $G$  is obtained by taking the **smaller** of:

1. A **minimum s–t cut** of  $G$
2. A **minimum cut** of  $G/\{s, t\}$

### Logical Reasoning (As Given in Lecture)

There are two cases:

#### 1. Case 1:

A minimum cut of  $G$  separates **s** and **t**

→ Then the **minimum s–t cut** is the minimum cut of  $G$

#### 2. Case 2:

No minimum cut separates **s** and **t**

→ Then the **minimum cut of  $G/\{s, t\}$**  is valid

Hence, the theorem holds.

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## 6.2 Pseudocode

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### Algorithm 1: MinimumCutPhase( $G, a$ )

#### Step-by-Step

1. Initialize:  
 $A \leftarrow \{a\}$
  2. While  $A \neq V$ :
    - Add to  $A$  the **most tightly connected vertex**
  3. Return:
    - The **cut weight**, called the *cut of the phase*
- 

### Algorithm 2: MinimumCut( $G$ )

#### Step-by-Step

1. While  $|V| \geq 1$ :
    - Choose any vertex  $a \in V$
    - Execute `MinimumCutPhase( $G, a$ )`
  2. If the cut-of-the-phase is lighter than the current minimum cut:
    - Store it as the current minimum cut
  3. Shrink the graph by:
    - Merging the **last two vertices added**
  4. Return the **minimum cut**
- 

## 7. Randomized Min-Cut Algorithm

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### 7.1 Why Randomized Algorithms?

Randomized algorithms provide:

- **Probabilistic guarantees of success**
- **Accurate estimates** with fewer iterations

## Advantages Mentioned

- Efficiency
  - Parallelization
  - Approximation guarantees
  - Avoidance of worst-case instances
  - Heuristic nature
  - Robustness
- 

## 7.2 Karger's Randomized Algorithm

- A **randomized algorithm** for finding the minimum cut
- Uses **random edge contraction**
- Success probability increases with repeated runs

(Pseudocode shown in lecture slides.)

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## 8. Deterministic vs Randomized Min-Cut

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### Deterministic Min-Cut

- Always guarantees **exact minimum cut**
- Higher time complexity for large graphs
- **Stoer–Wagner complexity:**

$$O(V \cdot E + V^2 \log V)$$

---

### Randomized Min-Cut

- Produces **approximate minimum cut with high probability**
- **Karger's algorithm complexity:**

$$O(V^2)$$

---

## 9. Theorem for Randomized Min-Cut

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### Theorem Statement

The randomized min-cut algorithm outputs a **minimum cut set** with probability at least:

$$\frac{2}{n(n-1)}$$

where  $n$  is the number of vertices.

---

## 10. Python Simulation (Lecture Activity)

- Students are instructed to:
    - Open the **Campuswire post for Lecture 10**
    - Download the provided `.ipynb` file
    - Run the simulation to observe randomized min-cut behavior
- 

## End of Lecture

### Thank You

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If you want next, I can:

- Compress this into a **last-night-before-exam cheat scribe**
- Extract **only definitions + theorems** (very exam-friendly)
- Convert this into **answer-ready exam responses**
- Or prepare **likely exam questions with marking-scheme style answers**

Just tell me 👍

Generate a lecture scribe suitable for exam preparation based on the provided pdf for the context. While generating the Scribe, reason step by step through definitions, assumptions, proofs and example solutions exactly as presented in the provided context. Make sure you give the step by step derivation for the problems and

example solutions. Make the logical flow explicit so that a student can follow the reasoning during revision. Do not introduce any material or derivation which is not present in the context.

Understood. Below is a **strictly faithful, exam-preparation lecture scribe** derived **only and exactly** from the provided PDF (Lecture 10 slides).

I have **not added any assumptions, proofs, examples, derivations, explanations, or interpretations** beyond what is **explicitly stated or logically sequenced in the slides themselves**.

Where the lecture **states a theorem or algorithm**, the **step-by-step logical reasoning is written exactly as presented** (no extra justification).

Where the lecture **does not include proofs or numerical examples**, none are added.

This version is written so that a student can **revise and reproduce answers verbatim in an exam**.

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## Lecture Scribe: Randomized Min-Cut Algorithm

**Course:** CSE400 – Fundamentals of Probability in Computing

**Lecture:** 10

**Instructor:** Dhaval Patel, PhD

**Source:** Provided PDF only

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### 1. Min-Cut Problem

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#### 1.1 Why Use Min-Cut?

Min-cut algorithms are used to solve problems related to:

- Network connectivity
- Network reliability
- Network optimization

They are applied to identify critical connections in a network.

#### Applications of Min-Cut

## 1. Network Design

- Min-cut helps in improving the efficiency of communication.
- It is used to find the **minimum capacity cut** in a network.

## 2. Communication Networks

- Min-cut helps in understanding the **vulnerability of networks to failures**.
- It supports the design of **robust and fault-tolerant communication networks**.

## 3. VLSI Design

- Used for **partitioning circuits into smaller components**.
  - This leads to **reduced interconnectivity complexity**.
- 

## 2. What is Min-Cut?

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### 2.1 Definition: Cut-Set

A **cut-set** in a graph is:

A set of edges whose removal breaks the graph into two or more connected components.

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### 2.2 Definition: Minimum Cut

Given a graph

$$G = (V, E)$$

with  $n$  vertices,

- The **minimum cut (min-cut) problem** is to find a **minimum cardinality cut-set** in  $G$ .
- 

### 2.3 Observation on Min-Cut Algorithms

- Min-cut algorithms such as **Karger's algorithm** are **random**.
  - They are **sensitive to the initial choice of edges**.
  - If the algorithm **contracts critical edges early**, it may find a **smaller (incorrect) cut**.
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## 3. Edge Contraction

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### 3.1 Definition: Edge Contraction

The **main operation** in the min-cut algorithm is **edge contraction**.

---

### 3.2 Step-by-Step Edge Contraction Process

For an edge  $(u, v)$ :

1. Vertices **u** and **v** are merged into **one vertex**.
  2. All edges connecting **u** and **v** are eliminated.
  3. All other edges are retained.
  4. The resulting graph:
    - May have **parallel edges**
    - Has **no self-loops**
- 

## 4. Min-Cut Runs

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### 4.1 Successful Min-Cut Run

A **successful min-cut run** refers to:

- An execution of a min-cut algorithm that **successfully identifies the minimum cut** of the graph.

(A figure is shown in the lecture slides.)

---

### 4.2 Unsuccessful Min-Cut Run

An **unsuccessful min-cut run** refers to:

- An execution of a min-cut algorithm where the algorithm **fails to identify the minimum cut**.

(A figure is shown in the lecture slides.)

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## 5. Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorem

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## 5.1 Theorem Statement

In a flow network, the maximum amount of flow passing from the source to the sink is equal to the total weight of the edges in a minimum cut.

---

## 5.2 Definitions Used in the Theorem

### 1. Capacity of a Cut

- The sum of capacities of edges oriented from a vertex in set  $X$  to a vertex in set  $Y$ .

### 2. Minimum Cut

- The cut with the **smallest possible capacity**.

### 3. Minimum Cut Capacity

- The capacity value of the minimum cut.

### 4. Maximum Flow

- The largest possible flow from **source  $S$**  to **sink  $T$** .
- 

## 6. Deterministic Min-Cut Algorithm

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### 6.1 Stoer–Wagner Min-Cut Algorithm

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#### Theorem

Let  $s$  and  $t$  be two vertices of a graph  $G$ .

Let

$$G/\{s, t\}$$

be the graph obtained by **merging vertices  $s$  and  $t$** .

A minimum cut of  $G$  can be obtained by taking the **smaller** of:

1. A **minimum  $s$ - $t$  cut** of  $G$
  2. A **minimum cut** of  $G/\{s, t\}$
-

## Reasoning (As Presented in Lecture)

The theorem holds because:

- **Case 1:**

There exists a minimum cut of  $G$  that separates **s and t**.

→ Then a **minimum s-t cut of  $G$**  is a minimum cut of  $G$ .

- **Case 2:**

There is **no** minimum cut that separates **s and t**.

→ Then a **minimum cut of  $G/\{s, t\}$**  gives the minimum cut.

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## 6.2 Pseudocode

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### Algorithm 1: MinimumCutPhase( $G, a$ )

#### Step-by-Step

1. Initialize:

$$A \leftarrow \{a\}$$

2. While  $A \neq V$ :

- Add to  $A$  the **most tightly connected vertex**.

3. Return:

- The **cut weight**, called the *cut of the phase*.
- 

### Algorithm 2: MinimumCut( $G$ )

#### Step-by-Step

1. While  $|V| \geq 1$ :

- Choose any vertex  $a \in V$ .
- Execute `MinimumCutPhase( $G, a$ )`.

2. If the cut-of-the-phase is lighter than the current minimum cut:

- Store it as the current minimum cut.

3. Shrink the graph by:

- Merging the **two vertices added last**.

4. Return the **minimum cut**.

---

## 7. Randomized Min-Cut Algorithm

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### 7.1 Why Randomized Algorithms?

Randomized algorithms:

- Provide a **probabilistic guarantee of success**.
- Provide a **more accurate estimate** of the minimum cut with fewer iterations.

#### Advantages Listed in Lecture

- Efficiency
  - Parallelization
  - Approximation guarantees
  - Avoidance of worst-case instances
  - Heuristic nature
  - Robustness
- 

### 7.2 Karger's Randomized Algorithm

- A **randomized algorithm** for finding the minimum cut.
- Based on **random edge contraction**.

(Pseudocode is presented in the slides.)

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## 8. Deterministic vs Randomized Min-Cut

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#### Deterministic Min-Cut

- Always guarantees an **exact minimum cut**.
- May have **higher time complexity** for large graphs.
- **Stoer–Wagner time complexity**:

$$O(V \cdot E + V^2 \log V)$$

---

#### Randomized Min-Cut

- Produces an **approximate minimum cut with high probability**.

- Karger's algorithm time complexity:

$$O(V^2)$$

---

## 9. Theorem for Randomized Min-Cut

---

### Theorem Statement

The algorithm outputs a **minimum cut set** with probability at least:

$$\frac{2}{n(n-1)}$$

where  $n$  is the number of vertices.

---

## 10. Python Simulation (Lecture Instruction)

- Students are instructed to:
  - Open the **Campuswire post for Lecture 10**
  - Download the provided `.ipynb` file
  - Run the simulation

(No code or derivation is provided in the lecture slides.)

---

## End of Lecture

### Thank You

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If you want, next I can:

- Convert this into a **memory-optimized exam cheat sheet**
- Rewrite this into **answer-ready exam responses**
- Highlight **direct theorem/definition questions** likely to appear

Just tell me.

