

## Problem 2.

a. Use Inductive method.

Inductive Hypothesis: Assume  $G$  be a weighted undirected graph  $(V, E)$ ,  $T$  be a MST of  $G$ , if  $e$  is an edge in  $T$ , then  $T - \{e\}$  has exactly two connected components.

Base: If there is one edge  $e$  in  $T$ ,  $T - \{e\}$  will be empty, i.e., exist two individual nodes, absolutely two connected part.

Maintenance:

hypothesis: if  $e$  is an edge in  $T$ ,  $|T| = k$ ,  $T - \{e\}$  has two connected components.

Let's prove,  $|T| = k+1$ ,  $T - \{e\}$  has two connected components.

As the "cut" defined in textbook, cut on  $T$ , thus  $T = \{x\} + \{T - x\}$ . ( $x$  is a node of  $T$ ). According to textbook,  $\{x\}$ ,  $\{T - x\}$  are two connected components separately. (1) if  $e = x$ , thus  $\{e\}$ ,  $\{T - e\}$  are two separately connected components (2) if  $e \neq x$ , according to our hypothesis,  $\{T - e\}$  and  $\{e\}$  are two connected components, however,  $x$  must connects to one of  $\{T - e\}$ ,  $\{e\}$ , thus there are still two connected components.

b. ~~Assume  $T_1, T_2$  are two connected components of  $T - \{e\}$ . (according to cut in textbook).  $V_1, V_2$  are the node set of  $T_1, T_2$ .~~

Assume  $C$  and  $C'$  are two connected components of  $T - \{e\}$ . (according to what proved in a, there only exist two part).

Because  $e'$  is an edge that crosses the cut  $C$ , which means the other one vertex of  $e'$  must be in  $C'$ , for there are only two connected components of  $T - \{e\}$  exists (conclusion a.). Besides,  $e'$  and  $e$  has the same weight, so  $T - \{e\} \cup \{e'\}$  is also a MST.