

# Notes of the Introduction To Algorithms

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**Part I**

**Foundations**



## **Chapter 1**

# **The Role of Algorithms in Computing**

## 1.1 Algorithms

### Exercises

1.1-1 Give a real-world example that requires sorting or a real-world example that requires computing a convex hull.

**Answer:** One example that requires sorting is that teachers will sort our scores after the exam.

1.1-2 Other than speed, what other measures of efficiency might one use in a real-world setting ?

**Answer:** cost, space, manpower, material resources. In different cases, each can be the key of measures of efficiency.

**Reference:** <https://www.quora.com/Other-than-speed-what-other-measures-of-efficiency-might-one-use-in-a-real-world-setting>

1.1-3 Select a data structure that you have seen previously, and discuss its strengths and limitations.

**Answer:** Array

strengths: access directly

limitations: costs lot when insert or delete

1.1-4 How are the [shortest-path](#) and [traveling-salesman](#) problems given [similar](#)? How they are [different](#)?

**Answer:**

1.1-5 Come up with a real-world problem in which only the best solution will do. Then come up with one in which a solution that is "approximately" the best is good enough.

**Answer:**



## **1.2 Algorithms as a technology**



## **Chapter 2**

# **Getting Started**



## **Chapter 3**

# **Growth of Functions**



## **Chapter 4**

# **Divide-and-conquer**





## **Chapter 5**

# **Probabilistic Analysis and Randomized Algorithms**



## **Part II**

# **Sorting and Order Statistics**



## **Chapter 6**

# **Heapsort**



## **Part III**

# **Data Structures**





## **Part IV**

# **Advanced Design and Analysis Techniques**



## **Part V**

# **Advanced Data Structures**



## **Part VI**

# **Graph Algorithms**



## **Chapter 7**

# **Minimum Spanning Tree**

## 7.1 Notes

- (i) There may be more than one MST in a forest.
- (ii) The number of all the edges in the MST is equal to  $V - 1$ .

## 7.2 Growing a minimum spanning tree

### 7.2.1 Definition

**A**

A is a subset of some minimum spanning tree.

### Safe edge

Safe edge is an edge that can be added to A and A is also a subset of some minimum spanning tree.

### 7.2.2 Generic-MST

**GENERIC-MST**(G,  $w$ )

```

1  $A = \emptyset$ 
2 while A does not form a spanning tree
3   find an edge  $(u, v)$  that is safe edge for A
4    $A = A \cup \{(u, v)\}$ 
5 return A
```

**Initialization:** After line 1, the set A trivially satisfies the loop invariant.

**Maintenance:** The loop in lines 2-4 maintains the invariant by adding only safe edges.

**Termination:** All edges added to A are in a minimum spanning tree, and so the set A returned in line 5 must be a minimum spanning tree.



### 7.2.3 Theorem 1.

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected, undirected graph with a real-valued weight function  $\omega$  defined on  $E$ . Let  $A$  be a subset of  $E$  that is included in some minimum spanning tree for  $G$ , let  $(S, V - S)$  be any cut of  $G$  that respects  $A$ , and let  $(u, v)$  be a light edge crossing  $(S, V - S)$ . Then, edge  $(u, v)$  is **safe** for  $A$ . **Namely,  $A \cup (u, v)$  is also included in some minimum spanning tree for  $G$ .**

**Proof** Let  $T$  be a minimum spanning tree that includes  $A$ , and **assume that  $T$  does not contain the light edge  $(u, v)$** , since if it does, the edge is obviously **safe** for  $A$ . We shall construct another minimum spanning tree  $T'$  that includes  $A \cup (u, v)$  by using cut-and-paste technique, thereby showing that  $(u, v)$  is a **safe** edge for  $A$ .

The edge  $(u, v)$  forms a **cycle** with the edges on the simple path  $p$  from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ . Since  $u$  and  $v$  are on opposite sides of the cut  $(S, V - S)$ , at least one edge in  $T$  lies on the simple path  $p$  and also crosses the cut. Let  $(x, y)$  be any such edge. The edge  $(x, y)$  is not in  $A$ , because the cut respects  $A$ . Since  $(x, y)$  is on the unique simple path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $T$ , removing  $(x, y)$  breaks  $T$  into two components. Adding  $(u, v)$  reconnects them to form a new spanning tree  $T' = T - \{(x, y)\} \cup \{(u, v)\}$ .

We next show that  $T'$  is a minimum spanning tree. Since  $(u, v)$  is a light edge crossing  $(S, V - S)$  and  $(x, y)$  also crosses this cut,  $w(u, v) \leq w(x, y)$ . Therefore,  $w(T') = w(T) - w(x, y) + w(u, v) \leq w(T)$ .

When  $w(T') = w(T)$ , we know that  $T'$  is also a minimum spanning tree, so the edge  $(u, v)$  is **safe** for  $A$ .

When  $w(T') < w(T)$ , since we let  $T$  be a minimum spanning tree and **assume** that  $T$  does not contain the light edge  $(u, v)$ . Therefore, the **assume** is false, so  $T$  must contain the light edge  $(u, v)$ , and the edge  $(u, v)$  is **safe** for  $A$ .

### 7.2.4 Exercises

#### 23.1-1

Let  $(u, v)$  be a minimum-weight edge in a connected graph  $G$ . Show that  $(u, v)$  belongs to some minimum spanning tree of  $G$ .

**Solution**

Let  $E_u$  be all the edges that connected to the point  $u$ .

- a. If there is only one edge connected to the point  $u$ , the edge belongs to **all** the minimum spanning tree of  $G$ .
- b. If there is more than one edge connected to the point  $u$ , we assume that  $(u, v)$  is not in any minimum spanning trees of  $G$ . There must be one edge  $(u, x)$   $x \neq v$  that is in some minimum spanning tree of  $G$ , since  $w(u, v) < w(u, x)$ , therefore, the edge  $(u, x)$  can not be in some minimum spanning tree of  $G$ . So there is conflict and the assume is false. So, the  $(u, v)$  belongs to some minimum spanning tree of  $G$ .

### 23.1-2

Professor Sabatier conjectures the following converse of Theorem 1. in Minimum Spanning Tree. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected, undirected graph with a real-valued weight function  $w$  defined on  $E$ . Let  $A$  be a subset of  $E$  that is included in some minimum spanning tree for  $G$ , let  $(S, V - S)$  be any cut of  $G$  that respects  $A$ , and let  $(u, v)$  be a safe edge for  $A$  crossing  $(S, V - S)$ . Then,  $(u, v)$  is a light edge for the cut. Show that the professor's conjecture is incorrect by giving a counterexample.

#### Solution

- a. Here is a special case, the point  $v$  of  $(u, v)$  only has one edge, and  $w(u, v)$  is the largest, let  $(x, y)$  be any other edge that crosses the cut, obviously,  $(u, v)$  is not a light edge for the cut.
- b. Here is a generic case, assume that there is a light edge  $(u', v')$  crossing the cut and the edge has no common point with  $(u, v)$ , so  $w(u', v') < w(u, v)$ . After combine  $A$  with  $(u', v')$ , there is another cut  $cut'$  that crossing  $(u, v)$ , and it is a light edge for  $cut'$ . The previous case shows that  $(u, v)$  is not a light edge for any cut but some cut when  $(u, v)$  is a safe edge for  $A$ .

### 23.1-3

Show that if an edge  $(u, v)$  is contained in some minimum spanning tree, then it is a light edge crossing some cut of the graph.

#### Solution

Let  $T$  be the minimum spanning tree that contains the edge  $(u, v)$ , if we remove the edge from  $T$ , and the other edges are  $A$ , obviously there is some cut that crosses the edge  $(u, v)$  which respects  $A$ . Then we are going to show that the edge  $(u, v)$  is a light edge crossing these cut.

If there is only one edge crossing the cut, obviously the edge  $(u, v)$  is a light edge crossing the cut.

If there is more than one edge crossing the cut, let  $(x, y)$  be any edges crossing the cut other than  $(u, v)$ . Assume that  $w(x, y) < w(u, v)$ , there will another minimum spanning tree  $T'$  and  $w(T') = w(T) - \{(u, v)\} + \{(x, y)\} < w(T)$  which is impossible since the  $T$  is a minimum spanning tree. So the assume is contradiction and  $w(x, y) \geq w(u, v)$ , so the edge  $(u, v)$  is a light edge crossing some cut of the graph.

#### 23.1-4

Give a simple example of a connected graph such that the set of edges  $\{(u, v): \text{there exists a cut } (S, V - S) \text{ such that } (u, v) \text{ is a light edge crossing } (S, V - S)\}$  does not form a minimum spanning tree.

#### Solution

There is a quadrangle:  $V = A, B, C, D, E = (A, B), (A, C), (B, C), (B, D), (C, D)$ ,  $w(A, B) = w(A, C) = w(B, C) = 1, w(B, D) = w(C, D) = 2$ . Obviously,  $(A, B), (A, C)$  and  $(B, C)$  are lights edges crossing some cut. So the tree edges can join the set. And they construct a circle, so the set can not form a minimum spanning tree.

I think if we add **respect** to the set, then the set will form a minimum spanning tree. Such as,  $\{(u, v): \text{there exists a cut } (S, V - S) \text{ which respects this set such that } (u, v) \text{ is a light edge crossing } (S, V - S)\}$ , and the set will form a minimum spanning tree.

#### 23.1-5

Let  $e$  be a maximum-weight edge on some cycle of connected graph  $G = (V, E)$ . Prove that there is a minimum spanning tree of  $G' = (V, E - e)$  that is also a minimum spanning tree of  $G$ . That is, there is a minimum spanning tree of  $G$  that does not include  $e$ .

**Solution**

Assume that there is a minimum spanning tree  $T$  of  $G$  including the edge  $e$ . Firstly, we construct a tree  $T'$  same as  $T$ , and remove the edge  $e$  from  $T'$ . There is another edge  $e'$  on the same cycle of  $G$  with  $e$ , and  $T'$  does not have a cycle after add  $e'$  to  $T'$ . Since  $w(e) \geq w(e')$ , so  $w(T) \geq w(T')$ . Therefore, there is a minimum spanning tree  $T'$  that does not include  $e$ .

**23.1-6**

Show that a graph has a unique minimum spanning tree if, for every cut of the graph, there is a unique light edge crossing the cut. Show that the converse is not true by giving a counterexample.

**Solution****1. Proof**

Let  $T$  be the minimum spanning tree that is constructed by the unique light edges crossing each cut. Assume that  $T'$  is another minimum spanning tree which is different from  $T$ . We are going to show that the assume is contradiction that  $T'$  can not be a minimum spanning tree.

Let  $x$  be the vertex which has different edges in  $T$  and  $T'$ . Let edge  $(x, y_1)$  be the edge in  $T$  but not in  $T'$ . Let edge  $(x, y_2)$  be the edge in  $T'$  but not in  $T$ .

**Now we are going to show that  $w(x, y_1) < w(x, y_2)$ .** If we add the edge  $(x, y_2)$  into the  $T$ , there will be an cycle including the edge  $(x, y_1)$  and  $(x, y_2)$ . Since there is a unique light edge for each cut, so  $w(x, y_1) \leq w(x, y_2)$ . Assume  $w(x, y_1) > w(x, y_2)$ , so we will get a better minimum spanning tree after replace  $(x, y_1)$  with  $(x, y_2)$ . Since  $T$  is a minimum spanning tree, so there can not be a better minimum spanning tree. So the assume that  $w(x, y_1) > w(x, y_2)$  is contradiction. So  $w(x, y_1) < w(x, y_2)$ .

If we add the edge  $(x, y_1)$  into the  $T'$ , there will an cycle including the edge  $(x, y_1)$  and  $(x, y_2)$ . Since  $w(x, y_1) < w(x, y_2)$ , we can get a better minimum spanning tree if we replace  $(x, y_2)$  with  $(x, y_1)$ . So the  $T'$  is not a minimum spanning tree. Therefore, the assume that  $T'$  is another minimum spanning tree which is different from  $T$  is contradiction.

**2. Counterexample**

$G = (V, E)$  has three vertex:  $A, B, C$  and two edges  $(A, B), (A, C)$  which  $w(A, B) =$

$w(A, C)$ . There is a unique minimum spanning tree. However, the cut of  $\{A\}, \{B, C\}$  does not have a unique light spanning tree.

**23.1-7**

Argue that if all edge weights of a graph are positive, then any subset of edges that connects all vertices and has minimum total weight must be a tree. Give an example to show that the same conclusion does not follow if we allow some weights to be nonpositive.

**Solution**

Firstly, we prove that the subset is a graph. Secondly, we prove that the subset does not contain a cycle.

- 1) Since the subset of edges connect all vertices, the subset must be a graph.
- 2) Assume there is a cycle in the subset, since all the weights are positive, if we remove one edge in the cycle, we will get a lesser total weight. However, the subset has minimum total weight, so the assume is contradiction. So, there is no cycle in the subset.

So the subset must be a tree.

**Counterexample**

$G = (V, E), V = \{A, B, C, D\}, E = \{(A, B), (B, C), (C, A), (A, D), (B, D), (C, D)\}$ ,  
 $w(A, B) = w(B, C), w(C, A) = -1, w(A, D) = 1, w(B, D) = 2, w(C, D) = 3$ ,  
 the minimum total weight is  $w(A, B) + w(B, C) + w(C, A) + w(A, D) = -2$   
 but it has a cycle.

**Corollary**

All edge weights are positive, then any that connects all vertices and has minimum total weight must be a minimum spanning tree.

**23.1-8**

Let  $T$  be a minimum spanning tree of a graph  $G$ , and let  $L$  be the sorted list of the edge weights of  $T$ . Show that for any other minimum spanning tree  $T'$  of  $G$ , the list  $L$  is also the sorted list of edge weights of  $T'$ .

**Solution-1**

We are going to replace different edges in  $T'$  with the same weight edges in  $T$ . If finally  $T'$  is the same as  $T$ , then we are done.

- 1 **while** find a vertex  $u$  in  $T'$  which only in two different edges in  $T'$  and  $T$
- 2 Let  $(u, x)$  in  $T'$  but not in  $T$
- 2 Let  $(u, y)$  in  $T$  but not in  $T'$
- 2 There is a cut  $(S, V - S)$  which  $S$  includes  $x, y$  and excludes  $u$ . Since both the  $T$  and  $T'$  are minimum spanning tree, so  $w(u, x) == w(u, y)$ , so we can replace  $(u, x)$  with  $(u, y)$ .
- 3 The final  $T'$  is the same as  $T$ , since each edge replaced in  $T'$  has the same weight as in  $T$ , so we are done.

### Solution-2

#### Reference

Let list  $A = a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{(i-1)}, a_i, a_{(i+1)}, \dots, a_n$  be the sorted weights of  $T$  in ascending order.

Let list  $B = b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{(i-1)}, b_i, b_{(i+1)}, \dots, b_n$  be the sorted weights of  $T$  in ascending order.

Assume there is a difference weight between  $A$  and  $B$  which is the  $i$ th, so  $a_i \neq b_i$ . We are going to show that the assume is contradiction. We are going to prove when the  $a_i > b_i$ , and it is also applied to  $a_i < b_i$ .

(1) If  $b_i$  in the list  $A$ , then there is  $a_j$  in the list  $A$  and  $a_j == b_i$ . Since  $a_x == b_x$  when  $x$  is from 1 to  $(i-1)$ ,  $j \geq i$ , so  $b_i == a_j \geq a_i$ , so  $b_i \geq a_i$ , so the assume is contradiction.

(2) If  $b_i$  does not in the list  $A$ , there will a cycle in  $T$  when we add the edge of  $b_i$ . And  $b_i$  is not less than any other weights in the cycle. There is must a edge in the cycle which does not exist in  $T'$ . Let the edge be  $a_x$  and  $b_i \geq a_x$ . Since  $b_i \geq a_x \geq a_i$ , the assume is contradiction.

Therefore, the assume is contradiction, so there is not a difference weight between  $A$  and  $B$ .

### 23.1-9

Let  $T$  be a minimum spanning tree of a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , and let  $V'$  be a subset of  $V$ . Let  $T'$  be the subgraph of  $T$ , and let  $G'$  be the subgraph of  $G$  induced by  $V'$ . Show that if  $T'$  is connected, then  $T'$  is a minimum spanning tree of  $G'$ .

**Solution**

Firstly, we will prove that **when  $T'$  is connected, if we replace  $T'$  with another tree  $T'_1$  that connects all the  $V'$  in  $G'$ , the  $T$  of  $G$  will be  $T_1$ , and  $T_1$  is also a tree.** Assume that there is cycle in  $T_1$  after replace  $T'$  with  $T'_1$ . Let  $A, B, A', B'$  in the cycle, and  $A, B$  is in  $V$  not in  $V'$ ,  $A', B'$  is in  $V'$ , and  $A'$  is the first vertex that  $A$  connects  $T'$ ,  $B'$  is the first vertex that  $B$  connects  $T'$ . Since  $A, B$  is in the cycle, there must be several edges that connect  $A$  and  $B$ . Also, there must be several edges connect  $A'$  and  $B'$ . For all the trees in  $G'$  which connects all the  $V'$ ,  $A'$  connects  $B'$ , so does the  $T'$ , so there is also a cycle in  $T$  which is a minimum spanning tree. So the assume is contradiction.

Secondly, assume that there is a lesser weight tree than  $T'$  in  $G'$ , then replace  $T'$  with it, we will get a lesser weight tree in  $G$ . Obviously, the assume is contradiction. So there is not a lesser weight tree in  $G'$  than  $T'$ . So  $T'$  is a minimum spanning tree of  $G'$ .

**23.1-10**

Given a graph  $G$  and a minimum spanning tree  $T$ , suppose that we decrease the weight of one of the edges in  $T$ . Show that  $T$  is still a minimum spanning tree for  $G$ . More formally, let  $T$  be a minimum spanning tree for  $G$  with edge weights given by weight function  $w$ . Choose one edge  $(x, y) \in T$  and a positive number  $k$ , and define the weight function  $w'$  by

$$w'(u, v) = \begin{cases} w(u, v) & \text{if } (u, v) \neq (x, y), \\ w(x, y) - k & \text{if } (u, v) = (x, y). \end{cases}$$

Show that  $T$  is a minimum spanning tree for  $G$  with edge weights given by  $w'$ .

**Solution**

Let  $(u, v)$  be the edge whose weight is decreased. If we remove the  $(u, v)$  in  $T$ , we can get two subtrees of  $T$ . Since only the weight of  $(u, v)$  is changed, the subtrees of  $T$  is also minimum spanning trees of its sub graph which is proved in 23.1-9. So we should find a safe edge to connect to two subtrees which was  $(u, v)$ . Obviously, the old weight of  $(u, v)$  is less or equal than any edges that connects the two subtrees. Since the new weight is less than the old weight, the  $(u, v)$  is also the safe edge for the two subtrees. So  $T$  is also a minimum spanning tree.

**23.1-11**

Give a graph  $G$  and a minimum spanning tree  $T$ , suppose that we decrease the weight of one of the edges not in  $T$ . Give an algorithm for finding the minimum spanning tree in the modified graph.

**Solution**

Add the decreased edge to the  $T$ , then there must be a cycle and remove the edge whose weight is the largest. DFS traverse the  $T$  whose time complexity is  $O(V)$ .

**TODO**

TODO: Prim  $\rightarrow$  Kruskal

TODO: Kruskal  $\rightarrow$  Prim



**Part VII**

**Selected Topics**



## **Part VIII**

# **Appendix: Mathematical Background**

