

# Homework 5

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Team Member	Student Number
Ardavan Alaei Fard	1007934620
Rowan Honeywell	1007972945
Isaac Muscat	1007897135

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## Question 1

**Proof of  $\omega(T_{\text{approx}}) \leq 2(1 - \frac{1}{l})\omega(T_{\text{opt}})$ :**

Firstly, let us consider a clockwise traversal of an optimal Steiner tree,  $T_{\text{opt}}$ , with the minimum number of leaves. We will partition this traversal into sections denoted by  $C_i$  for the  $i$ th section. Let each section be the set of edges between two consecutive leaves in the order of traversal such that, for  $l$  total leaves:

$$C_i = \begin{cases} E \in (r_i \rightsquigarrow r_{i+1}) & i \leq l-1 \\ E \in (r_i \rightsquigarrow r_1) & i = l \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Where  $r_i$  refers to the  $i$ th visited leaf. From Eqn. 1, it is clear that this traversal forms a cycle through  $T_{\text{opt}}$  since the last section,  $C_l$ , connects the final and initial visited leaves. Finally, let  $A$  denote the concatenation of all  $C_i$  into one set.

**Lemma 1:** The set  $A$  contains exactly two instances of each edge in  $T_{\text{opt}}$ .

**Proof of Lemma 1 by induction:**

**Basis:** Let  $T_2$  be a Steiner tree with two nodes. Since the two nodes must be connected by a single edge, they will each be leaves. Because the clockwise traversal implies that there will be one section for each leaf,  $T_2$  will produce two sections ( $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ). Section  $C_1$  will travel along the edge from the first node to the second, and  $C_2$  will be the reverse. Therefore,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  each contain the same single edge with  $A_{T_2} = \{C_1, C_2\}$  containing the edge exactly twice. It has thus been shown that Lemma 1 holds for the basis.

**Hypothesis:** For a Steiner tree with  $n$  nodes,  $T_n$ , there will be exactly two instances of each edge (in  $T_n$ ) in  $A_{T_n}$ .

**Inductive Step:** Assuming the hypothesis is true, we must prove that this property will hold for  $T_{n+1}$ . To do this, we examine the different mechanisms in which a new node can be added to the Steiner tree  $T_n$ :

1. Adding a non-leaf node
2. Adding a leaf node connected to a non-leaf node
3. Adding a leaf node connected to leaf node

A ‘leaf node’ denotes a node that, when inserted, will only be connected to one other node in the tree. For **case 1**, we grow the tree by adding a new node that will not be a leaf. To preserve the properties of the tree, this must be done by bisecting an existing edge with the new node. Each instance of the edge in  $A_{T_n}$  will simply be split into two different edges, allowing  $A_{T_{n+1}}$  to obey the hypothesis. Next, for **case 2**, the tree is grown by connecting a new leaf node to a non-leaf node. By increasing the total number of leaves by one, this will bisect some section  $C_i$ , splitting it into two new sections. Each of these new sections will have exactly one instance of the edge that was added to support the new leaf node. Therefore, in this case the only change to  $A_{T_n}$  is adding exactly two instances of the new edge. It has thus been shown that case 2 respects the hypothesis. Finally, in **case 3** the tree grows from the addition of a new leaf node connected to an existing leaf node. By adding a new leaf in such a way, the existing leaf will have two adjacent nodes, thereby losing its leaf property. This addition then implies that the total number of leaves in the tree,  $l$ , will remain the same. Therefore, this addition simply extends two sections,  $C_i$  and  $C_{i+1}$ , by the same edge, adding two instances of this new edge to  $A_{T_n}$ . Since all three cases preserve the hypothesis,  $A_{T_{n+1}}$  will have exactly two instances of each edge in  $T_{n+1}$ .

**Q.E.D (Lemma 1)**

Now that it has been shown that  $A$  contains exactly two instances of each edge in  $T_{\text{opt}}$ , consider the largest section in  $A$ , denoted as  $C_{\text{max}}$ . Let us define the following set:

$$P = A \setminus \{C_{\text{max}}\}$$

In the **minimal** case,  $\omega(C_{\text{max}}) = \omega(C_i), \forall i \in [1, l]$ . By definition, this occurs when all  $C_i$  have the same weight. In this case, since each section takes up an equal fraction of the weight of  $A$ , an upper bound can be derived for the weight of  $P$ :

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\text{max}} &\geq \frac{\omega(A)}{l} \\ \omega(P) &\leq \omega(A) - \frac{\omega(A)}{l} \\ \omega(P) &\leq (1 - \frac{1}{l})\omega(A) \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by Lemma 1, the weight of  $A$  should be exactly double the weight of  $T_{\text{opt}}$ . This leads to an upper bound on the weight of  $P$  with respect to the weight of  $T_{\text{opt}}$ :

$$\omega(P) \leq 2(1 - \frac{1}{l})\omega(T_{\text{opt}}) \tag{2}$$

Let us now examine the Steiner tree approximation algorithm.

**Lemma 2:**  $\omega(T_{\text{approx}}) \leq \omega(G_2)$

**Proof of Lemma 2:** Since  $G_2$  is a minimum spanning tree of  $G_1$ , a complete graph, its total weight must be less than  $G_1$ . Next, the weight of  $G_2$  after being mapped back into  $G$  remains the same since the edges of  $G_2$  will be replaced by equally-weighted paths. With  $G_2$  being mapped into  $G$ , the minimum spanning tree  $G_4$  of  $G_3$  will have a weight less than

or equal to  $G_2$ . Finally, the weight of  $G_4$  may be further reduced in  $T_{\text{approx}}$  by removing any leaves that are not vertices in  $R$ . Therefore  $\omega(T_{\text{approx}}) \leq \omega(G_2)$ .

**Q.E.D (Lemma 2)**

The total path weight between any two required nodes (in  $R$ ) in  $P$  is **at minimum** the smallest path weight between them in  $G$ . Equivalently, the lightest path in  $G$  between two nodes in  $R$  has the weight of their connecting edge in  $G_1$ . Therefore, consider removing any connections in  $G_1$  whose equivalent connection in  $P$  requires passing through a separate node in  $R$ . The result is a graph  $G_1'$  that spans  $G_1$  and has a weight (by Inequality 2):

$$\omega(G_1') \leq \omega(P) \leq 2(1 - \frac{1}{l})\omega(T_{\text{opt}})$$

This is because, by removing the aforementioned connections in  $G_1$ , we now guarantee that any path from one required node to the next is as light as possible. Finally, since  $G_2$  is a minimum spanning tree of  $G_1$ ,  $\omega(G_2) \leq \omega(G_1')$ . Therefore, incorporating Lemma 2 and Inequality 2, we are left with the following relationship:

$$\omega(T_{\text{approx}}) \leq \omega(G_2) \leq \omega(G_1') \leq \omega(P) \leq 2(1 - \frac{1}{l})\omega(T_{\text{opt}})$$

Simplifying, we achieve the bound:

$$\omega(T_{\text{approx}}) \leq 2(1 - \frac{1}{l})\omega(T_{\text{opt}})$$

**Q.E.D**

## Question 2

(a)

Given two graphs  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ , the form of the certificate is  $n$  pairs of vertices  $v_1 \in V_1$  and  $v_2 \in V_2$  and  $m$  pairs of edges  $e_1 \in E_1$  and  $e_2 \in E_2$  representing the common subgraph and an integer  $k$ . The verification algorithm first affirms that the number of edge pairs is greater than  $k$ . Next, for each pair of edges  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$ , the verification algorithm checks that  $(u_1, u_2)$  and  $(v_1, v_2)$  are pairs in the set of vertices. The worst case runtime for this algorithm means that for each edge pair, every vertex pair needs to be traversed making the time complexity  $\mathcal{O}(VE)$  where  $V$  and  $E$  represent the maximum size between  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  of their vertices and edges respectively. Therefore, we can verify the certificate in polynomial time.

(b)

## Question 3

(a)

In order to prove that  $B \in \text{NP}$ , we need to show that it is verifiable with a given certificate.

The certificate for this question should have the following language:

$$\text{certificate} = \{\langle C, W, V \rangle : C = \text{a subset of } S, \quad W, V \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

We can see that this certificate is in polynomial-size as it has  $n$  elements. Given this certificate, we can go through the subset, calculate the sum of weights and values and compare them with  $W$  and  $V$  to check whether they meet the requirement or not. This simple algorithm has time complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  which means this problem is verifiable in polynomial-time, thus an NP.

(b)

For showing that  $A \leq_P B$ , we need a polynomial-time function that transform a problem in  $A$  language to  $B$  language. This way we can show that  $B$  is at least as hard as  $A$ . Given a set  $S$  and target  $k$  such that there is subset  $C \subseteq S$  with sum of values equal to  $k$ , we can construct our KNAPSACK language as:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KNAPSACK} = \{ \langle S', W, V \rangle : S' = \text{a set with elements } S'_i \text{ as } (w_i, v_i) \text{ where } w_i = v_i = S_i, \\ W = V = k \} \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

In other words, we set the elements of  $S$  for both the weights and values of  $S'$  and set  $k$  for both  $W$  and  $V$ . This reduction function is in polynomial-time as it has to go over the set  $S$  once (time complexity of  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ ). In order to show that our function works, we have to prove



that  $\langle S, k \rangle \in \text{SUBSET SUM}$  if and only if  $\langle S', W, V \rangle \in \text{KNAPSACK}$ :

**Equivalence Proof:** Suppose  $\exists C \subseteq S$  such that  $\sum C = k$ . Then, by setting  $S'$  with weights and values in the same order of  $S$  and the targets of them equal to  $k$ , there will be a  $C' \subseteq S'$  such that  $\sum_{C'} w_i = k \leq W$  and  $\sum_{C'} v_i = k \geq V$ .

Now suppose  $\exists C' \subseteq S'$  such that  $\sum_{C'} w_i \leq W$  and  $\sum_{C'} v_i \geq V$ . Note that the weights and values of every element in  $S'$  is the same and  $V = W$ . Thus, we can say that the list of weights is exactly the same as the list of values in  $C'$ . Since  $V = W$ , the only way that the sum of this list can be at most  $W$  and at least  $V$  is if it would be equal to them. By setting a new set  $S$  as  $S_i = v_i$  or  $w_i$ , there would be a subset  $C \subseteq S$  such that  $\sum C = V = W = k$ .

Now that we have proved  $B \in \text{NP}$  and  $A \leq_P B$ , we can conclude that the KNAPSACK problem is NP-Complete.

**Q.E.D**