

# CS561 HW10

Ryan Scherbarth

November 2024

1. **Prove the following fact, from Slide 114, amortized lecture, about the Union-Find data structure using PC-UNION:**

- **For any set  $X$ ,  $\text{size}(X) \geq 2^{\text{rank}(\text{leader}(X))}$**

**Prove this by induction on the size of  $X$ . Don't forget to include the BC, IH, and IS.**

## **Base Case:**

If  $x = 0$ , then  $S$  is a single element. For any set  $S$  with  $\text{rank}(\text{leader}(S)) = 0$ , then  $\text{size}(S) = 2^0 = 1$ , so the base case holds true.

## **Inductive Hypothesis:**

Assume that for any  $J$  s.t  $\text{size}(J) < x$ , it holds that  $\text{size}(J) \geq 2^{\text{rank}(\text{leader}(J))}$ .

## **Inductive Step:**

There are two cases that can occur when performing a UNION on two sets,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , each satisfying the inductive hypothesis;

**Case 1:**  $\text{size}(S_1) = \text{size}(S_2)$

If  $\text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_1)) = \text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_2))$ , the union of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  will increase the rank by exactly 1.

We will now have  $\text{rank}(\text{leader}(S)) = \text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_1)) + 1$ ,  
therefore  $\text{size}(S) \geq 2^{\text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_1)) + 2^{\text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_2))}} \geq 2^{\text{rank}(\text{leader}(S))}$ .

We can then confirm the case holds that  $\text{size}(S) \geq 2^{\text{rank}(\text{leader}(S))}$ .

**Case 2:**  $\text{size}(S_1) \neq \text{size}(S_2)$

Let  $x_1 = \text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_1))$  and  $x_2 = \text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_2))$  and let's define them s.t.  $S_1 \geq S_2$ .

When performing a union on two equal height sets, the rank will remain the same. Since  $x_1 > x_2$ , we can confirm that the result will be equal to the size of  $x_1$ .

Therefore  $\text{size}(S) = \text{size}(S_1) \geq 2^{x_1}$  and  $x_1 = \text{rank}(\text{leader}(S_1))$ .

2. **Professor Moe conjectures that for any connected graph  $G$ , the set of edges  $\{(u, v) : \text{there exists a cut } (S, V - S) \text{ such that } (u, v) \text{ is a light edge crossing } (S, V - S)\}$  always forms a minimum spanning tree. Give a simple example of a connected graph that proves him wrong.**

Say we have the graph  $V$  s.t. we have 4 vertexes;  $A, B, C, D$ , and 4 edges;  $\{(A, B), (B, C), (C, D), (D, A), (B, D)\}$  with corresponding weights as 1, 2, 3, and 4. Our graph is in the form of a straight line containing the 4 vertexes, each of which are connected and then we have a final connection looping around between  $A$  and  $D$ , and an edge between  $B$  and  $D$  with weight 1.

In this case,  $\{(u, v) : \text{there exists a cut } (S, V - S) \text{ such that } (u, v) \text{ is a light edge crossing } (S, V - S)\}$  results in the set  $\{(A, B), (B, C), (C, D), (B, D)\}$ . We define the minimum spanning tree  $M$  as a subset of some larger graph,  $T$ , s.t.  $M$  includes all vertices of  $T$ , and forms a connected, acyclic sub-graph with the minimal value to the weight function,  $w(T) = \sum_{e \in E_T} w(e)$ .

Given our definition we can trivially prove that the sub-graph generated from Professor Moe's conjecture does not satisfy the criteria for a minimum spanning tree. With this example, our graph returned does meet the first criteria of a minimum spanning tree by minimizing the weight function,  $w$ , however it contains a cycle between  $A, C, D$ . This fails the first condition of a MST in that it is not an acyclic sub-graph of  $T$ , and therefore disproves Professor Moe's conjecture by counter example.

3. **Consider a connected graph  $G = (V, E)$ . Call a subset of edges,  $F$ , a *cycle cover* if every cycle in  $G$  contains at least one edge in  $F$ . In other words, removing the edges of  $F$  from  $G$  results in an acyclic graph. You want to find a cycle cover,  $F$  of  $G$ , with minimum weight, i.e., the sum of the weight of all edges in  $F$  is minimized over all cycle covers. Give an efficient algorithm to solve this, and give the runtime of your algorithm as a function of  $n = |V|$ , and  $m = |E|$ . Hint: Think about the maximum-weight spanning tree problem.**

Our algorithm will start by finding the *MST* of  $G$  using Kruskal's algorithm. After we've created the *MST*, the set of nodes that is not included in this *MST* will give us our cycle cover for  $F$ . We can get this by taking the set difference  $G - \text{MST}$ .

When we form the *MST* we are selecting the maximum weight edges at each iteration. A side-effect of this is that the remaining edges satisfy the requirements as defined in the problem as a cycle cover, having the minimum total weight. Removing any edge from the *MST* also creates a cycle, so we can conclude that the remaining edges cover all cycles in the graph.

The runtime of this algorithm is determined by how long it takes to find the *MST* of the set of nodes. To run Kruskal's algorithm we will spend  $O(E \log(E))$  time to sort the edges, which will ultimately bound our runtime to  $O(m \log(m))$ .

4. **Professor Matsumoto conjectures the following converse of the safe edge theorem:**  
**Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected, undirected, weighted graph, with weight function  $w$ . Let  $A$  be a subset of  $E$  that is included in some minimum spanning tree of  $G$ . Let  $(S, V - S)$  be any cut of  $G$  that respects  $A$ , and let  $(u, v)$  be a safe edge for  $A$  that crosses  $(S, V - S)$ . Then  $(u, v)$  is a light edge for the cut. Is this conjecture true? If so, prove it. If not, give a counterexample.**

Let us define a graph,  $G$ , consisting of vertexes;  $V = \{a, b, c\}$ , and edges  $E = \{(a, b), (b, c), (c, a)\}$  with corresponding weights 1, 2, and 3.

Creating the MST for this graph will use the edges  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, c)$  with a total weight of 3. If we let  $A = \{(a, b)\}$  which is a part of our MST, we can then make a cut  $(S, V - S) = (\{a\}, \{b, c\})$ , which respects  $A$  since  $(a, b) \in A$  crosses this cut.

In this case, our safe edge becomes  $(b, c)$ . This is the only possible safe edge that crosses  $(S, V - S)$ . We see this to be a counter-example as the edge  $(b, c)$  is not the lightest edge crossing the cut, the lightest is actually edge  $(a, b)$ . Therefore, this conjecture is not valid.

5. **Prove that if an edge  $(u, v)$  is in some minimum spanning tree for a graph,  $G$ , then  $(u, v)$  is a light edge crossing some cut in  $G$ .**

Let  $T$  be a MST containing the edge  $(u, v)$ . We define a cut  $(S, V - S)$  s.t.  $u \in S$  and  $v \in V - S$  separating  $u$  and  $v$ .

The safe edge theorem tells us that an edge  $e$  is safe for set  $A$ , where  $A$  is a subset of edges forming an MST, if it is a light edge crossing a cut that respects  $A$ . Since  $T$  is an MST, every edge in  $T$  must be a safe edge for some set of edges  $A$  with respected to  $T$ .

Since the cut  $(S, V - S)$  is defined to have separated  $u$  and  $v$ , then edge  $(u, v)$  must be the lightest edge across this cut that does not violate any of the rules of a MST.

Therefore, using the safe edge theorem we can prove that any edge in a MST satisfies the property of being a light edge for some cut in  $G$ .