

Name: _____

Roll Number: _____

Answer all questions.

1. (10 points) Consider a variant \mathcal{A} of the Karger Stein Algorithm:

Input: G

If $n \geq 6$, do 2 runs of the following and output the best of the 2:

Step 1. Use Karger's algorithm to contract vertices until $\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}} + 1$ vertices are left, in the resultant graph G'

Step 2. Recurse \mathcal{A} on G' .

If $n < 6$, run Karger's algorithm.

Answer the following questions:

1. Write a recurrence relation for the running time function and derive an upper bound on the running time of 1 run of the algorithm.
2. Write a recurrence relation for the success probability of the algorithm and derive a lower bound on the success probability of 1 round of the algorithm.
3. Analyse the running time of (possibly multiple runs of) this algorithm if we need the success probability to be a constant.

2. (a) (2 points) Define the 3-Dimensional Matching and Set Cover problems.
(b) (2 points) Prove that both the 3-Dimensional Matching and Set Cover problems are in NP.
(c) (6 points) Show a many-to-one Karp reduction from the 3-Dimensional Matching to Set Cover.
1. Answer to Question 1 Part 1 (6 marks): Recurrence for running time is $T(n) \leq 2T(\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}}) + O(n^2)$.
Base case is when $n \leq 6$ as $\frac{6}{\sqrt{2}} \leq 2$. When only 2 vertices are left, Karger's Algorithm returns all edges remaining as the minimum cut in $O(m) = O(n^2)$ time.
By Master's Theorem, $T(n) = O(n^2 \log n)$.
2. Answer to Question 1 Part 2 (2 marks): By choice of contracting till $\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}} + 1$ vertices, the probability of success to contract from n vertices to $\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}} + 1$ vertices is at least $1/2$.
Recurrence for probability of success if $P(n) \geq 1 - (1 - \frac{1}{2}P(\frac{n}{\sqrt{2}}))^2$.
Use induction method to show that $P(n) = c \frac{1}{\log n}$.
3. Answer to Question 1 Part 3 (2 marks): For the success probability to be at least a constant, we need to have $O(\log n)$ runs of the algorithm and report the minimum cut amongst the results from each of the runs, and therefore the total running time shall be $O(n^2 \log^2 n)$.
4. Answer to Question 2 part 3: Given an instance $(X \uplus Y \uplus Z, \mathcal{F})$ of 3D Matching (size of each set X, Y, Z is n) we construct the instance $(X \cup Y \cup Z, \mathcal{F}, n)$ for Set Cover. It needs to be checked that the universe $X \cup Y \cup Z$ can be covered with at most n sets of \mathcal{F} if and only if $X \uplus Y \uplus Z$ has a 3D matching in \mathcal{F} .
First suppose F' is a 3D matching, then F' is also a set cover of $X \cup Y \cup Z$ with n sets.
On the other hand, suppose F' is a subfamily of at most n covering all elements of $X \cup Y \cup Z$. Since X, Y, Z are three disjoint sets and each set in \mathcal{F} can cover exactly 3 items, we need at least n sets in F' to cover all elements. Thus, F' must have exactly n elements and we can only afford to cover each of the $3n$ universe elements exactly once - hence F' is a 3D matching for $X \uplus Y \uplus Z$.

