

CS 173 (B), Spring 2015, Examlet 4, Part A

NAME:

NETID:

Discussion Section: BDA:1PM BDB:2PM BDC:3PM BDD:4PM BDE:5PM

1. Below is a proof by strong induction that, for any $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, any connected graph with n nodes has at least $n - 1$ edges. The induction variable is n .

Fill in the blanks below to complete the proof. [25 points]

- (a) The base case claim, which is clearly true, is that

every connected graph with 1 node has at least 0 edges.

- (b) The induction step. We claim that:

(range for k :) $\forall k \geq \underline{2}$, if

(induction hypothesis:) $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $n \leq k - 1$, it holds that any connected graph G with n nodes has _____ at least $n - 1$ edges,

(to prove:) then any connected graph G with k nodes has at least $k - 1$ edges.

- (c) To prove the above claim, consider an arbitrary connected graph G with _____ k nodes. Let m denote the number of edges in G . We need to prove that m _____ $\geq k - 1$.

Let u be an arbitrary node in G . Let d be the degree of u . From G , if we remove u and the d edges connected to it, we obtain a subgraph H of G .

Let t denote the number of connected components in H . Then (give an upper bound)

$$t \leq d \tag{1}$$

(Justification omitted.)

For each $i = 1, \dots, t$, let n_i denote the number of vertices in the i^{th} connected component of H , and m_i be the number of edges in it. Clearly,

$$\sum_{i=1}^t n_i = \underline{\hspace{1.5cm} k - 1 \hspace{1.5cm}} \quad (2)$$

Also, for each $i = 1, \dots, t$, since $n_i \leq k - 1$, by the induction hypothesis (relate n_i and m_i):

$$\underline{\hspace{1.5cm} m_i \geq n_i - 1 \hspace{1.5cm}} \quad (3)$$

Finally, the number of edges in G , $m = \underline{\hspace{1.5cm} d + \sum_{i=1}^t m_i \hspace{1.5cm}}$ (relate it to m_i). Hence, by equations (1), (2) and (3), (complete the proof)

$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{\hspace{1.5cm} m \geq d + \sum_{i=1}^t (n_i - 1) \hspace{1.5cm}} \\ & \underline{\hspace{1.5cm} = d + (k - 1) - t \geq k - 1 \hspace{1.5cm}}. \end{aligned}$$

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every connected graph with 1 node has at least 0 edges.

- (b) The induction step. We claim that:

(range for k :) $\forall k \geq \underline{1}$, if

(induction hypothesis:) $\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $n \leq k$, it holds that any connected graph G with n nodes has at least $n - 1$ edges,

(to prove:) then any connected graph G with $k + 1$ nodes has at least k edges.

- (c) To prove the above claim, consider an arbitrary connected graph G with $k + 1$ nodes. Let m denote the number of edges in G . We need to prove that m $\geq k$.

Let u be an arbitrary node in G . Let d be the degree of u . From G , if we remove u and the d edges connected to it, we obtain a subgraph H of G .

Let t denote the number of connected components in H . Then (give an upper bound)

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$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{\hspace{2cm} m \geq d + \sum_{i=1}^t (n_i - 1) \hspace{2cm}} \\ & \underline{\hspace{2cm} = d + k - t \geq k \hspace{2cm}}. \end{aligned}$$