Math 154 Homework 2

Spring 2020

This homework is due on gradescope by Sunday April 19th at 11:59pm pacific time. Remember to justify your work even if the problem does not explicitly say so. Writing your solutions in LAT_EX is recommend though not required.

Please cite any other students with whom you collaborated on any problems.

Question 1 (Bipartite Graphs and Spanning Trees, 30 points). Suppose that G is a connected bipartite graph and T a spanning tree. Show that the partition of the vertices of G that make it a bipartite graph can be determined uniquely from T.

Question 2 (Trees of Order 6, 30 points). Two graphs G and H are isomorphic if there is a bijection $f: V_G \to V_H$ between their vertices so that there is an edge between vertices u and v in G if and only if there is an edge between f(u) and f(v) in H. In other words G and H are isomorphic if they are the same up to the way that they are drawn and the names given to the edges/vertices.

Determine all of the isomorphism types of trees on 6 vertices (in other words, give a list of 6-vertex trees no two of which are isomorphic so that any other 6-vertex tree is isomorphic to one on your list). Make sure to justify that your list is correct.

Hint: It may be useful to consider the degrees of the vertices with degree more than 2 in your graph. By the Handshake Lemma, there cannot be many of them. The full list should contain 6 trees.

Question 3 (Road Capacities and Maximum Spanning Trees, 40 points). Rayla runs a shipping company. The roads of the city in which she operates are represented by a connected graph G. Unfortunately, some of her trucks are too large to fit on all of the roads. Each road (represented by an edge e in G) has a weight w_e giving the largest size of a truck that can be supported on that road. Rayla wants an easy way to determine for any two vertices v and u in G what the maximum size of a truck would be that could be driven from v to u only on roads without going over the size limit of any road on the path.

Let T be a maximum spanning tree of G (that is a spanning tree whose total weight is as large as possible). Show that the largest truck that can make it from v to u is always the same as the minimum edge weight on the unique path from v to u in T.

Question 4 (Extra credit, 1 point). Approximately how much time did you spend on this homework?