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M.Sc. Thesis in Electrical and Computer Engineering

**ON A GREEDY HEURISTIC FOR THE STEINER
FOREST PROBLEM**

by

Bilge Kağan DEDETÜRK

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**ON A GREEDY HEURISTIC FOR THE STEINER FOREST
PROBLEM**

by

Bilge Kağan DEDETÜRK

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APPROVAL PAGE

This is to certify that I have read the thesis entitled “On a Greedy Heuristic for the Steiner Forest Problem” by Bilge Kağan DEDETÜRK and that in my opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering, the Graduate Institute of Science and Engineering, Melikşah University.

July 3, 2014

Asst. Prof. Ali ÇİVRİL
Supervisor

I certify that this thesis satisfies all the requirements as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science.

July 3, 2014

Prof. Dr. Murat UZAM
Head of Department

Examining Committee Members

| Title and Name | | Approved |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Asst. Prof. Ali ÇİVRİL | July 3, 2014 | _____ |
| Assoc. Prof. Ahmet UYAR | July 3, 2014 | _____ |
| Asst. Prof. Aytekin VARGÜN | July 3, 2014 | _____ |
| Assoc. Prof Emel KIZILKAYA AYDOĞAN | July 3, 2014 | _____ |

It is approved that this thesis has been written in compliance with the formatting rules laid down by the Graduate Institute of Science and Engineering.

Prof. Dr. M. Halidun KELEŞTİMUR
Director

July 2014

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Bilge Kağan DEDETÜRK

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Supervisor: Assist. Prof. Dr. Ali ÇİVRİL

ABSTRACT

The Steiner forest problem is one of the important NP-Complete problems in the field of approximation algorithms and combinatorial optimization through decades. In this work, we develop three heuristics for Steiner forest problem inspired by the greedy algorithms for the problem of finding a minimum spanning tree. According to the experimental results on random geometric graphs and real-world geometric graphs, our algorithms yield solutions of comparable quality to that of the famous 2-approximate algorithm of Agrawal, Klein and Ravi, and a widely used greedy heuristic. Especially, for real-world geometric graphs they yield much better running time with similar costs.

Keywords: Steiner Forest, NP-Complete, Approximation Algorithms, Combinatorial Optimization, Greedy Algorithms

ON A GREEDY HEURISTIC FOR THE STEINER FOREST PROBLEM

Bilge Kağan DEDETÜRK

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ÖZ

Steiner ormanı problemi onlarca yıldır yaklaştırma algoritmaları ve kombinatoriyel optimizasyon alanındaki önemli NP-Tam problemlerden biridir. Bu çalışmada, Steiner ormanı problemi için minimum bir tarayan ağaç bulma problemini çözen açgözlü algoritmalarından esinlenen üç adet sezgisel algoritma geliştiriyoruz. Rastgele geometrik çizgeler ve gerçek dünya geometrik çizgeleri üzerindeki deneysel sonuçlara göre algoritmalarımız Agrawal, Klein ve Ravi'nin ünlü 2 yaklaşık algoritması ve geniş bir şekilde kullanılan açgözlü sezgisel algoritma ile karşılaştırılabilir kalitede çözümler veriyor. Özellikle, gerçek dünya geometrik çizgeleri için algoritmalarımız benzer maliyetlerle çok daha iyi çalışma zamanı veriyor.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Steiner Ormanı, NP-Tam, Yaklaştırma Algoritmaları, Kombinatoriyel Optimizasyon, Açgözlü Algoritmalar

DEDICATION

Dedicated to my parents for their endless support and patience during the forming phase of this thesis.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----|
| ABSTRACT | iii |
| ÖZ..... | iv |
| DEDICATION | v |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENT..... | vi |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | vii |
| CHAPTER 1..... | 1 |
| INTRODUCTION..... | 1 |
| 1.1 The Steiner Forest Problem | 2 |
| 1.2 Related Work | 3 |
| CHAPTER 2..... | 5 |
| PRELIMINARIES..... | 5 |
| 2.1 Dijkstra’s Algorithm | 5 |
| 2.2 Disjoint Set Operations | 6 |
| 2.3 Minimum Spanning Tree Algorithms..... | 6 |
| CHAPTER 3..... | 8 |
| ALGORITHMS FOR THE STEINER FOREST PROBLEM | 8 |
| 3.1 A Primal Dual Algorithm for the Steiner Forest Problem | 8 |
| 3.2 A Greedy Heuristic | 17 |
| CHAPTER 4..... | 23 |
| NEW ALGORITHMS FOR THE STEINER FOREST PROBLEM..... | 23 |
| 4.1 The New Algorithms | 23 |
| 4.2 The Equivalence of the Algorithms | 30 |

| | |
|---|----|
| 4.3 A Bad Example for Our Algorithms..... | 31 |
| CHAPTER 5..... | 33 |
| EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS | 33 |
| 5.1 Experiment 1..... | 34 |
| 5.2 Experiment 2..... | 45 |
| 5.3 Experiment 3..... | 55 |
| 5.4 Experiment 4..... | 63 |
| REFERENCES | 70 |

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE

| | | |
|--------|---|----|
| 3.1.1 | An example to explain when a set is active or not..... | 9 |
| 3.1.2 | An example to explain how AKR works | 11 |
| 3.1.3 | Illustration of union 1 and 7..... | 11 |
| 3.1.4 | Illustration of union 5 and 8..... | 12 |
| 3.1.5 | Union of the sets corresponding to 1, 2 and 5..... | 12 |
| 3.1.6 | Illustration of union 4 and 6..... | 13 |
| 3.1.7 | Illustration of the solution returned by AKR | 14 |
| 3.1.8 | Illustration of growing moats on the specific example..... | 15 |
| 3.1.9 | Bad example for AKR..... | 16 |
| 3.1.10 | Illustration of the solution returned by AKR | 16 |
| 3.1.11 | Illustration of the optimum solution..... | 17 |
| 3.2.1 | An instance for Greedy Heuristic..... | 18 |
| 3.2.2 | Illustration of the edges added into solution | 18 |
| 3.2.3 | Illustration of the solution returned by Greedy Heuristic | 19 |
| 3.2.4 | Bad example for Greedy Heuristic..... | 20 |
| 3.2.5 | Forest returned by Greedy Heuristic | 21 |
| 3.2.6 | Optimum solution | 21 |
| 3.2.7 | Forest returned by AKR..... | 22 |
| 4.1.1 | Illustration of the specific example..... | 24 |
| 4.1.2 | Illustration of the sets..... | 24 |
| 4.1.3 | Sorted shortest paths between terminals | 25 |
| 4.1.4 | Illustration of union 3 and 4..... | 25 |
| 4.1.5 | Illustration of union 1 and 3..... | 26 |
| 4.1.6 | Illustration of union 4 and 6..... | 26 |
| 4.1.7 | Illustration of union 6 and 11 | 26 |
| 4.1.8 | Illustration of union 6 and 9..... | 27 |

| | | |
|--------|---|----|
| 4.3.1 | Bad example for ÇDK-Kruskal..... | 31 |
| 4.3.2 | Illustration of the forest returned by ÇDK-Kruskal | 32 |
| 4.3.3 | Optimum forest | 32 |
| 5.1.1 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,1 | 36 |
| 5.1.2 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,1..... | 36 |
| 5.1.3 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,2 | 37 |
| 5.1.4 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,2..... | 37 |
| 5.1.5 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,3 | 38 |
| 5.1.6 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,3..... | 38 |
| 5.1.7 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,4 | 39 |
| 5.1.8 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,4..... | 39 |
| 5.1.9 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,5 | 40 |
| 5.1.10 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,5..... | 40 |
| 5.1.11 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,6 | 41 |
| 5.1.12 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,6..... | 41 |
| 5.1.13 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,7 | 42 |
| 5.1.14 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,7..... | 42 |
| 5.1.15 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,8 | 43 |

| | | |
|--------|---|----|
| 5.1.16 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,8..... | 43 |
| 5.1.17 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,9 | 44 |
| 5.1.18 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,9..... | 44 |
| 5.2.1 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,1 | 36 |
| 5.2.2 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,1..... | 36 |
| 5.2.3 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,2 | 37 |
| 5.2.4 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,2..... | 37 |
| 5.2.5 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,3 | 38 |
| 5.2.6 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,3..... | 38 |
| 5.2.7 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,4 | 39 |
| 5.2.8 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,4..... | 39 |
| 5.2.9 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,5 | 40 |
| 5.2.10 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,5..... | 40 |
| 5.2.11 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,6 | 41 |
| 5.2.12 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,6..... | 41 |
| 5.2.13 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0,7 | 42 |

| | | |
|--------|---|----|
| 5.2.14 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,7..... | 42 |
| 5.2.15 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,8 | 43 |
| 5.2.16 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,8..... | 43 |
| 5.2.17 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,9 | 44 |
| 5.2.18 | Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existance 0,9..... | 44 |
| 5.3.1 | The Map of Uruguay [20] | 56 |
| 5.3.2 | The Point Set of Uruguay [21] | 56 |
| 5.3.3 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1...57 | 57 |
| 5.3.4 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1... | 57 |
| 5.3.5 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2...58 | 58 |
| 5.3.6 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2... | 58 |
| 5.3.7 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4...59 | 59 |
| 5.3.8 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4... | 59 |
| 5.3.9 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6...60 | 60 |
| 5.3.10 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6... | 60 |
| 5.3.11 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8...61 | 61 |
| 5.3.12 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8... | 61 |

| | | |
|--------|---|----|
| 5.3.13 | Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0... | 62 |
| 5.3.14 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0... | 62 |
| 5.4.1 | Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1... | 64 |
| 5.4.2 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1... | 64 |
| 5.4.3 | Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2... | 65 |
| 5.4.4 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2... | 65 |
| 5.4.5 | Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4... | 66 |
| 5.4.6 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4... | 66 |
| 5.4.7 | Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6... | 67 |
| 5.4.8 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6... | 67 |
| 5.4.9 | Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8... | 68 |
| 5.4.10 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8... | 68 |
| 5.4.11 | Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0... | 69 |
| 5.4.12 | Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0... | 69 |

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE

| | |
|---|----|
| 5.1.1 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,1..... | 36 |
| 5.1.2 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,2 | 37 |
| 5.1.3 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,3 | 38 |
| 5.1.4 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,4 | 39 |
| 5.1.5 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,5 | 40 |
| 5.1.6 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,6 | 41 |
| 5.1.7 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,7 | 42 |
| 5.1.8 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,8 | 43 |
| 5.1.9 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,9 | 44 |
| 5.2.1 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,1..... | 46 |
| 5.2.2 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,2 | 47 |
| 5.2.3 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,3 | 48 |
| 5.2.4 Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,4 | 49 |

| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| 5.2.5 | Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,5 | 50 |
| 5.2.6 | Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,6 | 51 |
| 5.2.7 | Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,7 | 52 |
| 5.2.8 | Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,8 | 53 |
| 5.2.9 | Results of cost and running time of the three algorithms with probability of edge existence 0,9 | 54 |
| 5.3.1 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,1 times maximum distances | 57 |
| 5.3.2 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,2 times maximum distances | 58 |
| 5.3.3 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,4 times maximum distances | 59 |
| 5.3.4 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,6 times maximum distances | 60 |
| 5.3.5 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,8 times maximum distances | 61 |
| 5.3.6 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 1,0 times maximum distances | 62 |
| 5.4.1 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,1 times maximum distances | 64 |
| 5.4.2 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,2 times maximum distances | 65 |
| 5.4.3 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,4 times maximum distances | 66 |
| 5.4.4 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,6 times maximum distances | 67 |
| 5.4.5 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,8 times maximum distances | 68 |
| 5.4.6 | Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 1,0 times maximum distances | 69 |

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Many optimization problems are NP-hard which means that there is no polynomial time algorithm that exactly solves the problem unless $P = NP$. If $P \neq NP$, we can't find optimal solutions in polynomial time for NP hard problems. What can we do when we encounter with such NP hard problems? One approach is that we can try to find an approximate solution that runs in polynomial time instead of finding optimal solution. The goal is to find a solution in polynomial time which is as close as possible to the optimal solution under some objective function.

Definition 1.1: *An α -approximation algorithm for an optimization problem is a polynomial-time algorithm that for all instances of the problem produces a solution whose value is within a factor of α of the value of an optimal solution. [1]*

Here, α is the approximation ratio or approximation factor of the algorithm. $\alpha > 1$ for minimization problems while $\alpha < 1$ for maximization problems.

Based on this definition, note that an approximation algorithm has to guarantee the approximation factor for all instances of the problem. This requirement makes approximation algorithms hard and complicated to design and also they may need high running time to be implemented. However, very complicated instances (bad cases) are generally hard to be found in the real-world. Hence, to solve real-world problems, we can still benefit from other algorithms that even do not have proven approximation ratios, but can give reasonably good results in a reasonable running time.

In this thesis, we provide novel algorithms for the Steiner forest problem that are applicable to real-world data with better running time and comparable quality compared to the well known approximation algorithms which we briefly call AKR. We base our algorithms on the well-known minimum spanning tree algorithms of Kruskal, Prim, and Boruvka. We give an example in which our algorithms work worse than AKR in a specific case. However in real-world instances like the geometric graph representing the cities of specific countries, our algorithms work much faster than the primal dual algorithm AKR although they have similar costs. Also, our algorithms have very good running time for all instances and they are very simple compared to AKR.

1.1 The Steiner Forest Problem

In this thesis, we deal with the Steiner forest problem which is also known as the generalized Steiner tree problem. The Steiner forest problem is a natural generalization of the Steiner tree problem. So, we first mention about the Steiner tree problem.

In the Steiner tree problem, we are given a connected, undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ with nonnegative costs c_e for all edges $e \in E$ and a set of terminal vertices $T \subseteq V$. The vertices of $V - T$ are nonterminal vertices or Steiner vertices. The goal is to find a minimum cost tree which contains all terminal vertices in T .

In the Steiner forest problem, we are given an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$, nonnegative edge costs c_e for all edges $e \in E$. Also we are given a set of k terminal pairs $R = \{(s_1, t_1), \dots, (s_k, t_k)\}$. The object is to find minimum cost subset of edges $F \subseteq E$ such that there is at least one path between each terminal pair s_i and t_i for $1 \leq i \leq k$.

The Steiner tree problem is an NP hard problem [2]. Since the Steiner forest problem is the natural generalization of the Steiner tree problem, the Steiner Forest problem is also an NP hard problem. That is to say, if $t_i = s_{i+1}$ for $i = 1, \dots, k-1$ the Steiner Forest problem reduces to the Steiner tree problem. The Steiner forest problem is one of the major problems in the field of approximation algorithms. As we will see, there is a 2-approximate algorithm for this problem which is more than 2 decades old. A text written by Williamson and Shmoys [1] tells us that obtaining an algorithm having

approximation factor strictly less than 2 for the Steiner forest problem is one of the ten major open problems in the field.

1.2 Related Work

The well-known approximation algorithm for the Steiner Forest problem was introduced by Agrawal, Klein and Ravi [3]. Approximation ratio of this algorithm is $2 - \frac{1}{k}$, where k is the number of terminal pairs. Then, Goemans and Williamson [4] introduced an algorithm mimicking this algorithm by using the primal-dual method. The approximation ratio of this algorithm is still $2 - \frac{1}{k}$. Analogously, recent paper by Könemann, Leonardi, Schafer and Van Zwam [5] give us an algorithm having the same approximation ratio with this algorithm by using a slightly different LP relaxation.

Besides of the Steiner forest problem itself, there has been numerous works associated with it. Here, we mention about some of them which are popular.

The multicommodity rent-or-buy problem (MRoB) is a generalization of the Steiner Forest problem. In this problem, we are given a weighted graph $G = (V, E)$, nonnegative edge costs c_e for all edges $e \in E$, a set of k terminal pairs $R = \{(s_1, t_1), \dots, (s_k, t_k)\}$, and a parameter $M \geq 1$. We are also given a positive demand d_i for each terminal pair $(s_i, t_i) \in R$ for $1 \leq i \leq k$. The object is to install capacities on the edges of G such that for all $(s_i, t_i) \in R$, we can simultaneously route an amount of flow d_i from s_i to t_i . We can either buy infinite capacity on edge e at cost $M \cdot w(e)$ or we can rent capacity on an edge e at cost $f(e) \cdot w(e)$, where $f(e)$ is the flow on edge e . For $M = 1$ and unit demands, this problem reduces to the Steiner Forest problem. Kumar, Gupta and Roughgarden [6] gave first approximation algorithm for this problem. Later Gupta, Kumar, Pal and Roughgarden [7, 8] produced an algorithm whose approximation ratio is 12 (Actually, it can be tightened to 8-approximation). Then Becchetti, Könemann, Leonardi and Pal [9] gave the improved approximation ratio which is 6.828. Fleischer et al. [10] have given the best approximation ratio which is 5 for this problem so far.

Another well-known problem which is related with the Steiner Forest problem is the survivable network design problem. It is the natural generalization of the Steiner

forest problem, that is, if we require that there exists r_i edge-disjoint paths between s_i and t_i , we have the survivable network design problem. For this problem was given a $2k$ approximation algorithm by Williamson et al. [11]. Goemans et al. [12] gave a $2H_k$ approximation algorithm, where $H_k = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{k}$. Later, Jain [13] produced a 2 approximation algorithm for this problem.

CHAPTER 2

PRELIMINARIES

2.1 Dijkstra's Algorithm

In section 4.1 where we present our algorithms, we will need to compute all the shortest paths between terminals. In addition, in section 3.2 where we will talk about a well known greedy heuristic, we will need to compute all the shortest paths between all terminal pairs. There are several algorithms for finding shortest paths between vertices. Here, we consider Dijkstra's algorithm. Dijkstra's algorithm is an algorithm which solves the single source shortest paths problem on a weighted connected graph $G = (V, E)$ with nonnegative weights. This algorithm calculates all the shortest paths from a given vertex called the source to all other vertices. In the following, we give the pseudocode of Dijkstra's algorithm [14].

Algorithm 2.1.1: Dijkstra's Algorithm

```
1: Initialize minimum priority queue(Q)
2: for every vertex  $v$  in  $V$ 
3:      $d_v \leftarrow \infty$ 
4:      $p_v \leftarrow \text{null}$ 
5:     Enqueue( $v, d_v$ )
6:  $d_s \leftarrow 0$ 
7: DecreaseKey(Q,  $s, d_s$ ) //  $s$  is the element in the priority queue whose priority will be decreased
8:  $S = \emptyset$ 
9: while  $Q \neq \emptyset$ 
10:     $u \leftarrow \text{DequeueMin}(Q)$ 
11:     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{u\}$ 
12:    for every vertex  $v$  in  $V - S$  that is adjacent to  $u$ 
13:        if  $d_u + w(u, v) < d_v$ 
14:             $d_v \leftarrow d_u + w(u, v)$ 
15:             $p_v \leftarrow u$ 
16:            DecreaseKey(Q,  $u, d_u$ )
```

2.2 Disjoint Set Operations

We will use the disjoint set operations in section 3.1 and 4.1 while giving detailed descriptions of algorithms there in. MAKE-SET operation will be used to make a set for each terminal. We will use FIND-SET operation to check whether two nodes are in the same set and UNION operation to combine two different sets into one set. We usually use the definitions and notation from [15]. Below are the main functions that are used inside disjoint set operations.

- MAKE-SET(u): creates a new set whose only member and representative is u .
- UNION(u, v): combines the different two sets that contain u and v into a new set which is the union of these two sets.
- FIND-SET(u): finds and returns the representative of the set which contain u .

2.3 Minimum Spanning Tree Algorithms

Before we discuss our algorithms in section 4.1, it is of a great benefit to remember the well-known minimum spanning tree algorithms of Kruskal [16], Prim [17], and Boruvka [18]. We can choose any one of these algorithms as a basis to form our algorithms.

Kruskal's algorithm works by sorting the edges in non-decreasing order and sequentially processes all of them by starting from the smallest weight edge. The algorithm takes the next smallest weight edge and checks whether a cycle is formed. To check whether a cycle is formed, a disjoint set data structure is used. If a cycle is not formed, it includes the edge into the tree. It repeats this process until finally a tree that includes all nodes in graph is formed. Prim's algorithm achieves the same goal differently. It finds the smallest weight edge on the boundary of current set to connect this set to the rest of the nodes. This process continues until all of the nodes included to the tree. As for Boruvka's algorithm, it works similar to Kuruskal's algorithms. At each step, the cheapest edges that are going out of each set are considered. At the final iteration, algorithm merges the sets appropriately and continues until just one set remains which is the minimum spanning tree. The pseudocodes of the algorithms are provided as follows:

Algorithm 2.3.1: Kruskal's Algorithm

```

1:  $G=(V, E), w: E \rightarrow Q^+$ 
2:  $F \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
3: for each vertex  $v \in V$  do
4:   MAKE-SET( $v$ )
5: Sort the edges of  $E$  in non-decreasing order by  $w$ 
6: for each edge  $(u, v) \in E$ , taken in non-decreasing order by  $w$  do
7:   if FIND-SET( $u$ )  $\neq$  FIND-SET( $v$ ) then
8:      $F \leftarrow F \cup \{(u, v)\}$ 
9:     UNION( $u, v$ )
10: return  $F$ 

```

Algorithm 2.3.2: Prim's Algorithm

```

1:  $G=(V, E), w: E \rightarrow Q^+, r$ 
2:  $F \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
3:  $S \leftarrow$  MAKE-SET( $r$ )
4: while  $|S| < |V|$  do
5:    $F' \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
6:   for each vertex  $u$  in  $S$  do
7:      $F' \leftarrow F' \cup \{\text{the cheapest edge } (u,v) \text{ such that FIND-SET}(u) \neq \text{FIND-SET}(v)\}$ 
8:    $F \leftarrow F \cup \{\text{the cheapest edge } (u', v') \text{ in } F'\}$ 
9:   UNION( $u', v'$ )
10: return  $F$ 

```

Algorithm 2.3.3: Boruvka's Algorithm

```

1:  $G=(V, E), w: E \rightarrow Q^+$ 
2:  $F \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
3: for each vertex  $v \in V$  do
4:   MAKE-SET( $v$ )
5: while there are more than 1 set do
6:   for each set  $S$  do
7:      $F_S \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
8:     for each vertex  $u$  in  $S$  do
9:        $F_S \leftarrow F_S \cup \{\text{the cheapest edge } (u,v) \text{ such that FIND-SET}(u) \neq \text{FIND-SET}(v)\}$ 
10:     $F \leftarrow F \cup \{\text{the cheapest edge } (u_s, v_s) \text{ in } F_S\}$ 
11:   for each set  $S$  do
12:     UNION( $u_s, v_s$ )
13: return  $F$ 

```

CHAPTER 3

ALGORITHMS FOR THE STEINER FOREST PROBLEM

3.1 A Primal Dual Algorithm for the Steiner Forest Problem

We now return to the Steiner Forest problem. Recall that in this problem we are given an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ with nonnegative edge costs c_e for all edges $e \in E$ and a set of k terminal pairs $R = \{(s_1, t_1), \dots, (s_k, t_k)\} \subseteq V \times V$. The goal is to find a minimum cost subset of edges $F \subseteq E$ such that there is at least one path between each terminal pair s_i and t_i for $1 \leq i \leq k$.

Here, we consider the algorithm of Agrawal, Klein, and Ravi [1], which we briefly call AKR. AKR provides a $2 - \frac{1}{k}$ approximate solution for the Steiner Forest problem. This algorithm is a primal dual algorithm, that is to say, it performs both a feasible integral primal and a feasible dual solution. In the standard integer programming formulation of AKR, there is a binary variable x_e for all edges $e \in E$ such that this variable has value 1 if e is in the resulting forest $F \subseteq E$ and 0 otherwise. A subset $C \subseteq V$ is a Steiner cut if it separates at least one terminal pair in R . In other words, C is a Steiner cut iff there is a pair $(s, t) \in R$ that satisfies $|\{s, t\} \cap C| = 1$. Let S be the set of all Steiner cuts. Let also $\delta(C)$ include all the edges which is one endpoint in C and other endpoint not in C . In other words, we define $\delta(C)$ to denote the set of edges crossing the cut (C, \bar{C}) . Now, we can give the following integer linear programming formulation for the Steiner Forest problem.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sum_{e \in E} c_e x_e && (IP) \\ & \text{subject to} && \sum_{e \in \delta(C)} x_e \geq 1, && \forall C \subseteq S, \end{aligned}$$

$$x_e \in \{0, 1\}, \quad \forall e \in E$$

In the dual program, there is a variable y_C for each Steiner cut $C \in S$. The program tries to maximize the sum of the dual variables y_C subject to the condition that the cost of each edge e in $\delta(C)$ can not be smaller than the dual variable y_C . The dual of the linear programming relaxation (LP) of integer programming (IP) is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \sum_{C \in S} y_C && (D) \\ & \text{subject to} && \sum_{C \in S: e \in \delta(C)} y_C \leq c_e, \quad \forall e \in E, \\ & && y_C \geq 0, && \forall C \in S. \end{aligned}$$

At each iteration, the algorithm raises the dual variables y_C uniformly for each Steiner cut $C \in S$ until the some edge $e \in \delta(C)$ goes tight. It maintains the iterations until all terminal pairs are connected. After all iterations are completed and the resulting forest F is generated, the algorithm performs the reverse-delete operation. In this operation, the algorithm removes the edge or edges from the resulting forest F provided that the resulting forest remains feasible; that is, it excludes the edge or edges from the the resulting forest as long as all s_i and t_i pairs are connected.

Subsequently, we use the term of “active set” instead of the term of “Steiner Cut”. A set is an active set iff it includes a cut that separates at least one terminal pair in R . We give the following example to better explain when a set is active or not.

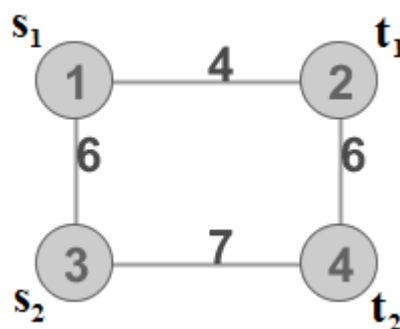


Figure 3.1.1: An example to explain when a set is active or not

Initially, the following four sets are active: $\{1\}$, $\{2\}$, $\{3\}$, and $\{4\}$ and each of these active sets has the dual variable $y_C = 0$. In the first iteration, the algorithm raises the dual variables by 2 for each active set and the edge between the nodes 1 and 2 goes tight. It then adds this edge to resulting forest F . The sets $\{1\}$ and $\{2\}$ replace $\{1,2\}$ as a set. However, the set $\{1,2\}$ isn't an active set any more because it doesn't separate any terminal pair. So, this set doesn't have the dual variable any longer. The active sets are $\{3\}$ and $\{4\}$. When the dual variables are raised by 1.5, edge between 3 and 4 goes tight and the sets $\{3\}$ and $\{4\}$ replace $\{3,4\}$ as a set. The algorithm adds this edge to resulting forest. We now have a feasible solution since all s_i and t_i pairs (1-2) and (3-4) are connected.

In the following, we give pseudocode of the primal dual algorithm for the Steiner forest problem [1].

Algorithm 3.1.1: Primal-dual Algorithm for the Steiner forest problem

```

1:  $y \leftarrow 0$ 
2:  $F \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
3:  $l \leftarrow 0$ 
4: while not all  $s_i - t_i$  pairs are connected in  $(V, F)$  do
5:    $l \leftarrow l + 1$ 
6:   Let  $S$  be the set of all connected components  $C$  of  $(V, F)$  such that  $|C \cap \{s_i, t_i\}| = 1$ 
7:   for some  $i$ 
8:   Increase  $y_C$  for all  $C$  in  $S$  uniformly until for some  $e_l \in \delta(C'), C' \in S$ ,
9:    $c_{e_l} = \sum_{S: e_l \in \delta(S)} y_S$ 
10:   $F \leftarrow F \cup \{e_l\}$ 
11:   $F' \leftarrow F$ 
12:  for  $k \leftarrow l$  down to 1 do
13:    if  $F' - e_k$  is a feasible solution then
14:      Remove  $e_k$  from  $F'$ 
15:  Return  $F'$ 

```

Line 1 initializes the dual variable to 0. Line 2 initializes the resulting forest F to empty set and line 3 initializes the variable l to 0. Until all terminal pairs ($s_i - t_i$) are

connected, the algorithm maintains the while loop of line 4-10. Each time through the “while” loop of lines 4-10, line 5 raises the variable l by 1, lines 8 and 9 increase the dual variable y_C uniformly for all connected components (active sets) C until the dual equality provide for some edge $e \in \delta(C)$ and line 10 adds this edge to resulting forest F . Each time through the “for” loop of lines 12-14, the algorithm removes the edge if the solution is still feasible when this edge is removed from the resulting forest F . Finally, line 15 returns the solution.

In the following, we give an example on which we explain how the primal-dual algorithm works.

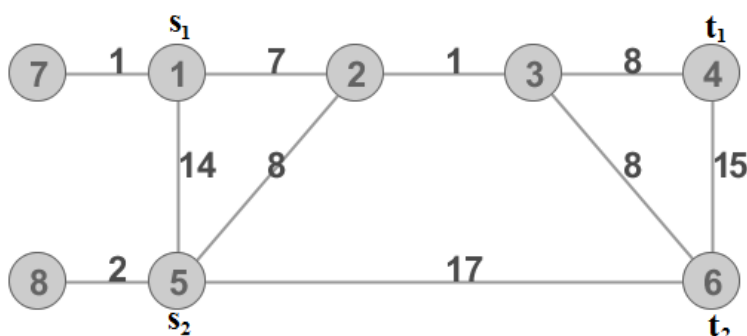


Figure 3.1.2: An example to explain how AKR works

Initially, the following four sets are active: $\{1\}$, $\{4\}$, $\{5\}$, and $\{6\}$ and each of these active sets has the dual variable $y_C = 0$. In the first iteration, the algorithm raises the dual variables by 1 for each active set and the edge between the nodes 1 and 7 goes tight. In the second iteration, it then adds this edge to resulting forest F and the active set $\{1\}$ and the set $\{7\}$ replace $\{1,7\}$ as an active set.

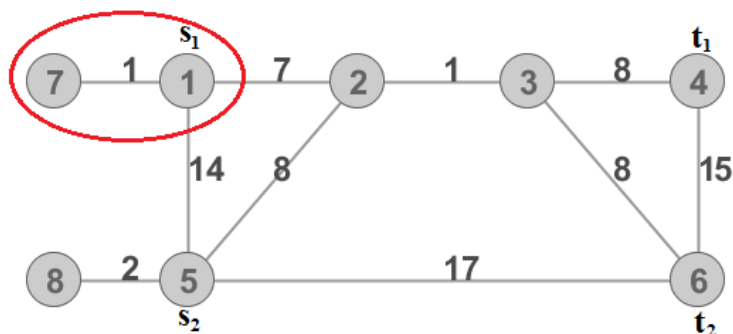


Figure 3.1.3: Illustration of union 1 and 7

The active sets are $\{1,7\}$, $\{4\}$, $\{5\}$ and $\{6\}$. When the dual variables are raised by 1, edge between 5 and 8 goes tight. The algorithm adds this edge into resulting forest and the active set $\{5\}$ and the set $\{8\}$ replace $\{5,8\}$ as an active set as follows:

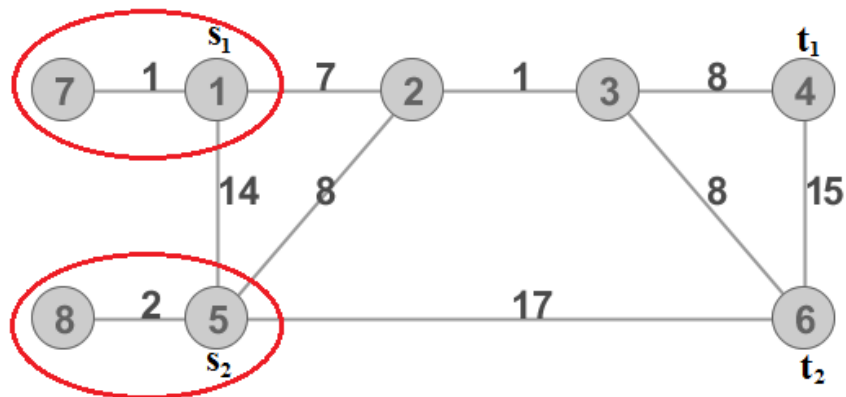


Figure 3.1.4: Illustration of union 5 and 8

The active sets are $\{1,7\}$, $\{4\}$, $\{5,8\}$ and $\{6\}$. When the dual variables are raised by 5, edges (1-2) and (1-5) go tight at same time. Let's assume that the algorithm select the edge between 1 and 2 first. In the next iteration, it adds this edge into resulting forest and the active set $\{1,7\}$ and the set $\{2\}$ replace $\{1,7,2\}$ as an active set. In the next iteration, it adds edge (1-5) into resulting forest and the active set $\{1,7,2\}$ and the active set $\{5,8\}$ replace $\{1,2,7,5,8\}$ as an active set as follows:

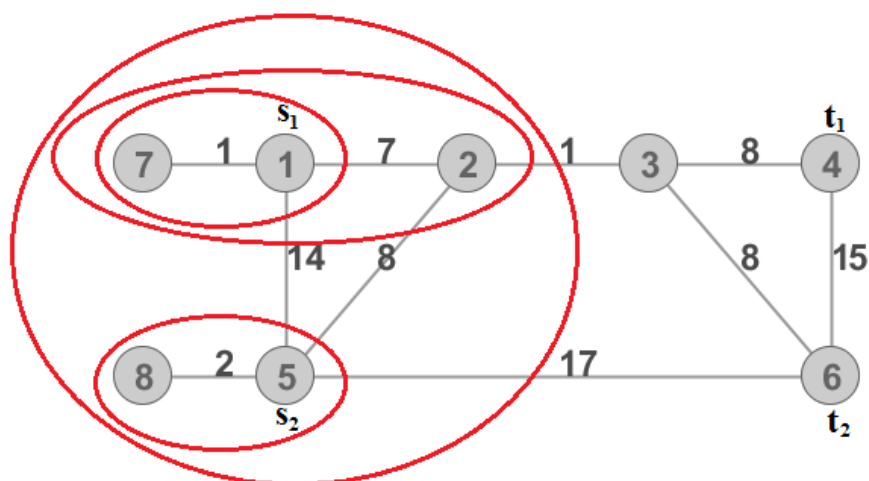


Figure 3.1.5: Union of the sets corresponding to 1, 2 and 5

The active sets are $\{1,2,7,5,8\}$, $\{4\}$, and $\{6\}$. When the dual variables are raised by 0.5, edge between 4 and 6 goes tight. The algorithm adds this edge into resulting forest and the active set $\{4\}$ and the active set $\{6\}$ replace $\{4,6\}$ as an active set as follows:

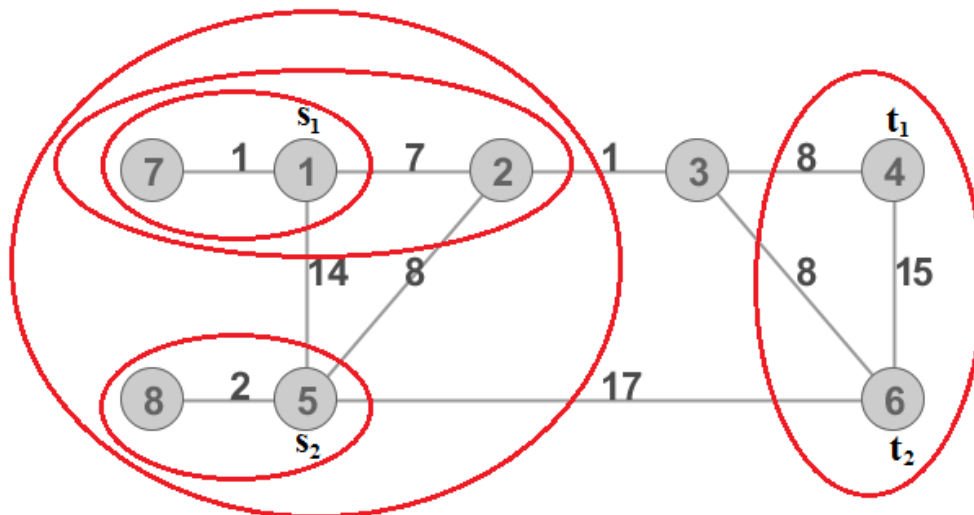


Figure 3.1.6: Illustration of union 4 and 6

The active sets are $\{1,2,7,5,8\}$ and $\{4,6\}$. When the dual variables are raised by 0.5, edges (2-3), (3-4) and (3,6) go tight at same time. Let's assume that the algorithm select the edge between 3 and 6 first. In the next iteration, it adds this edge into resulting forest and the active set $\{4,6\}$ and the set $\{3\}$ replace $\{4,6,3\}$ as an active set. Then, let the algorithm select the edge between 3 and 4. Since set 3 and set 4 are in same set, the algorithm can not add this edge into resulting forest. In the next iteration, it adds edge (2-3) into resulting forest. We now have a feasible solution since all s_i and t_i pairs (1-4) and (5-6) are connected. In the reverse-delete step, edges (1-7) and (5-8) are excluded from resulting forest. Finally, solution obtained by the algorithm includes edges (1-2), (2-3), (3-6), (1-5), (4-6). The cost of this solution is 45. Edges which the solution includes are marked thick:

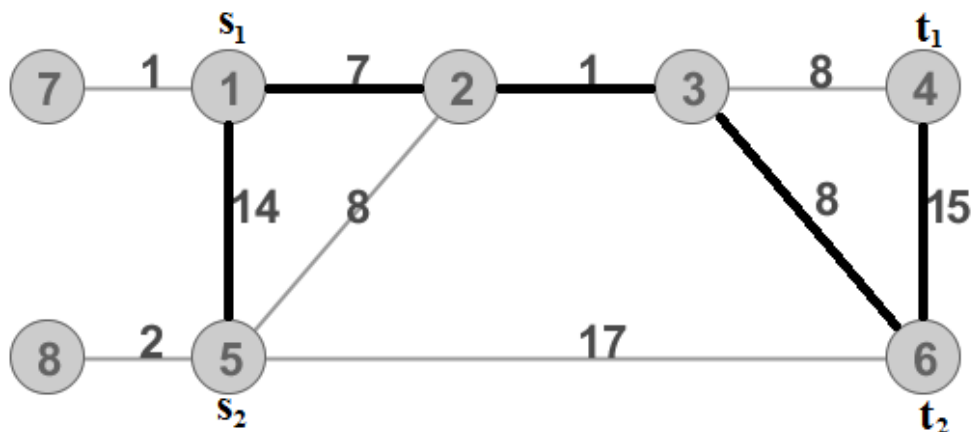


Figure 3.1.7: Illustration of the solution returned by AKR

The dual variables in the primal dual algorithm have a very nice geometric interpretation as growing moats. We can interpret the dual variables y_C as moats in order to better understand the primal dual algorithm for the Steiner forest problem. Initially each s_i and t_i considers as a component and each of them has a moat. At each iteration, moats are grown uniformly around the components and each time during the growing, if they cover an edge e , it is added to the solution F . Moats continue to grow until collision occurs. After the collision, these moats are considered as a single component. Figure 3.1.8 illustrates us how the idea of growing moats works on a specific example.

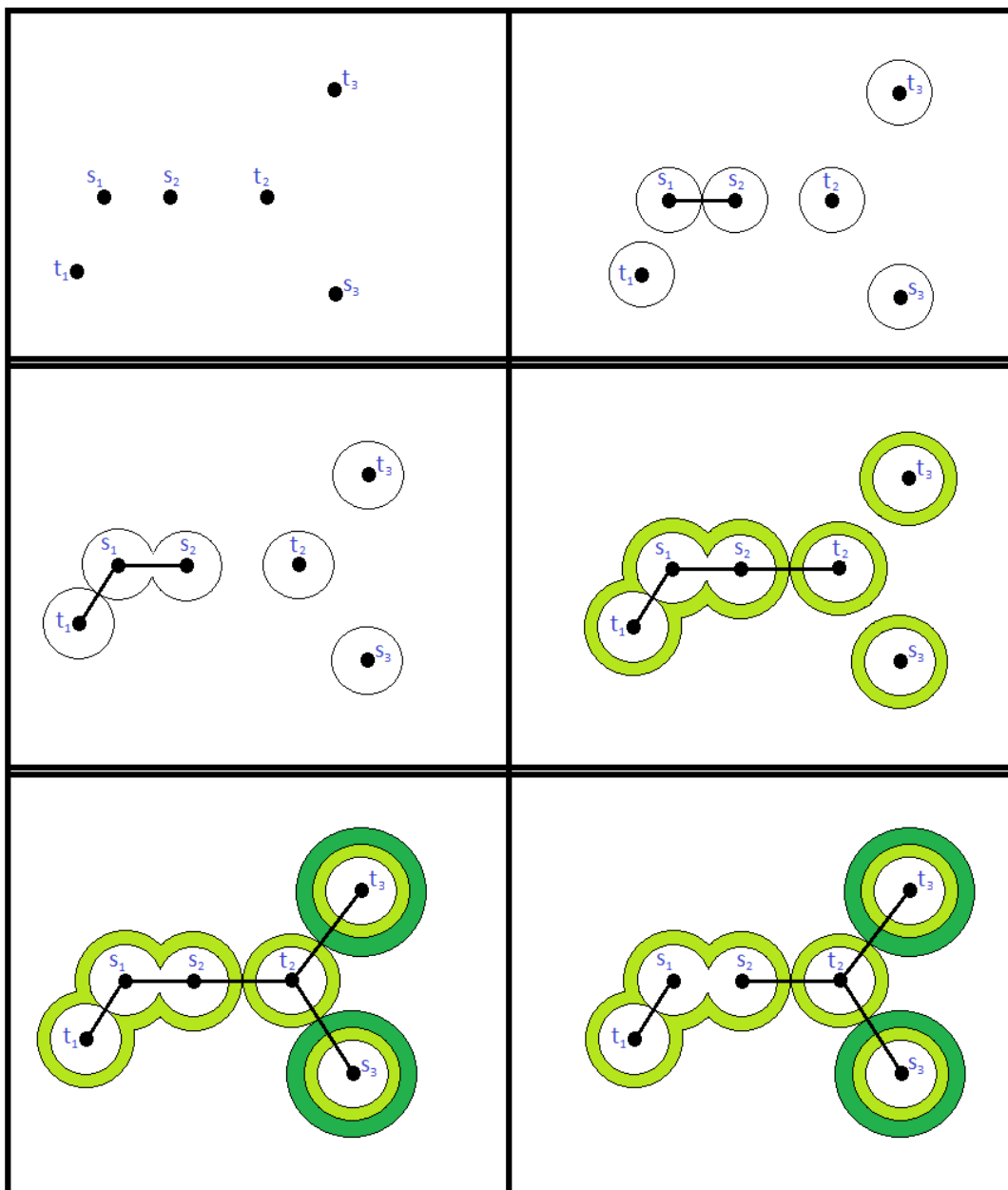


Figure 3.1.8: Illustration of growing moats on the specific example

In the following, we give a specific example for which the cost of the solution returned by AKR is as bad as $2 - \frac{1}{k}$ times the cost of the optimum solution. In this example, all terminal pairs s_i and t_i are adjacent to each other with cost of $1 + \epsilon$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$. Also the distances between both s_j, s_{j+1} and t_j, t_{j+1} are 1 for $j = 1, \dots, k - 1$. The example is shown in Figure 3.1.9.

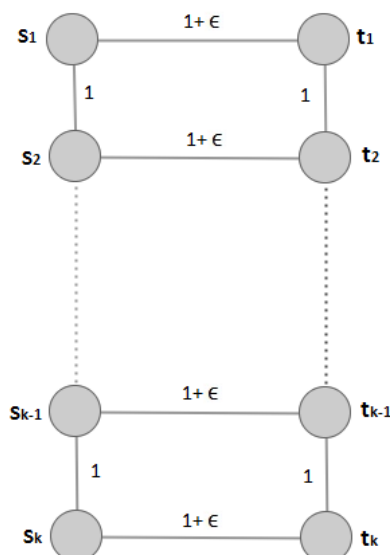


Figure 3.1.9: Bad example for AKR

AKR first takes all the edges with cost of 1, a total of $2k$. Then it takes one of the edges whose costs are $1 + \epsilon$. Therefore, the total cost of the solution returned by AKR is $2k + 1 + \epsilon$. However, the cost of the optimum solution is $k(1 + \epsilon)$; where k is the number of terminal pairs and $(1 + \epsilon)$ is the distance between each of them. The solution returned by AKR and the optimum solution is shown in Figure 3.1.10 and Figure 3.1.11, respectively.

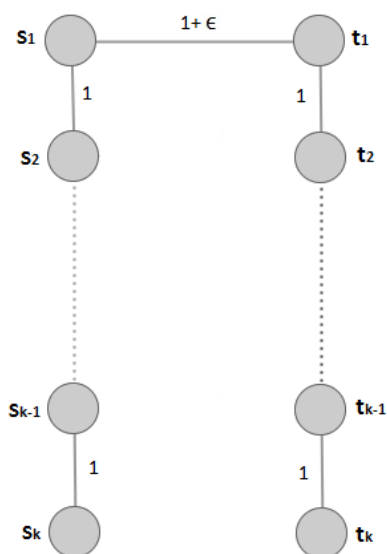


Figure 3.1.10: Illustration of the solution returned by AKR

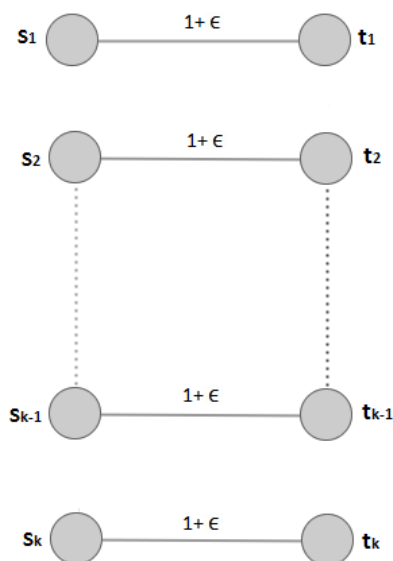


Figure 3.1.11: Illustration of optimum solution

3.2 A Greedy Heuristic

In this section, we give a greedy heuristic for the Steiner Forest problem. This algorithm is a well known algorithm which has 2-approximation factor for the Steiner tree problem. It is fairly simple algorithm compared to AKR. Also, running time of this algorithm is in practice much better than AKR. However, this algorithm is not a 2-approximation algorithm for the Steiner forest problem. We will give a specific example for which the cost of the solution returned by this algorithm is as bad as 4 times the cost of the optimum.

In this algorithm, we first compute the shortest path between s_1 and t_1 . In the next iteration, we add all the edges on this shortest path whose weighted lengths are not equal to zero into solution and zero out these edges. Then we compute the shortest path between s_2 and t_2 , and so on. The iterations are performed for all terminal pairs from 1 to k .

In what follows, we give an example on which we explain how the algorithm works.

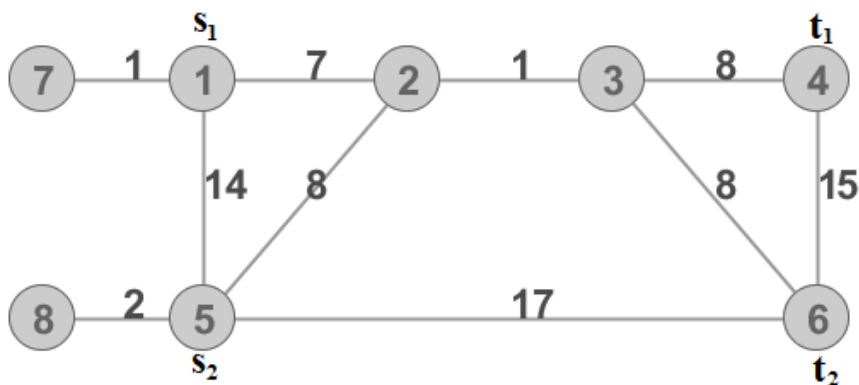


Figure 3.2.1: An instance for Greedy Heuristic

In the first iteration, we compute the shortest path between 1 and 4 (s_1 and t_1). This shortest path includes the edges (1-2), (2-3), and (3-4). In the second iteration, we add the edge (1-2) into the solution since this edge is not equal to zero. In the third iteration, we change the cost of this edge into zero. In the next iterations, we add the edges (2-3) and (3-4) into the solution since the costs of these edges are not equal to zero and we change the costs of these edges into zero. The edges included into the solution up to this point are shown in Figure 3.2.2, with selected edges and the new costs of these edges marked red:

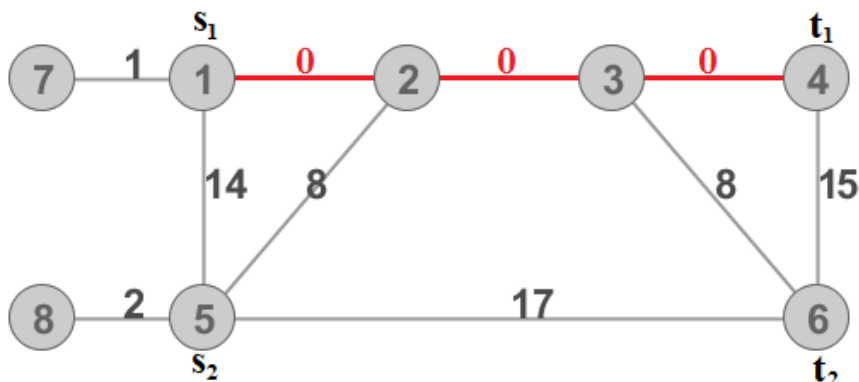


Figure 3.2.2: Illustration of the edges added into solution

In the next iteration, we compute the shortest path between 5 and 6 (s_2 and t_2). This shortest path includes the edges (5-2), (2-3), and (3-6). In the next iterations, we add all the edges on this shortest path into solution except the edge (2-3) since the cost

of this edge is equal to zero and change the costs of these edges into zero as shown in the figure below:

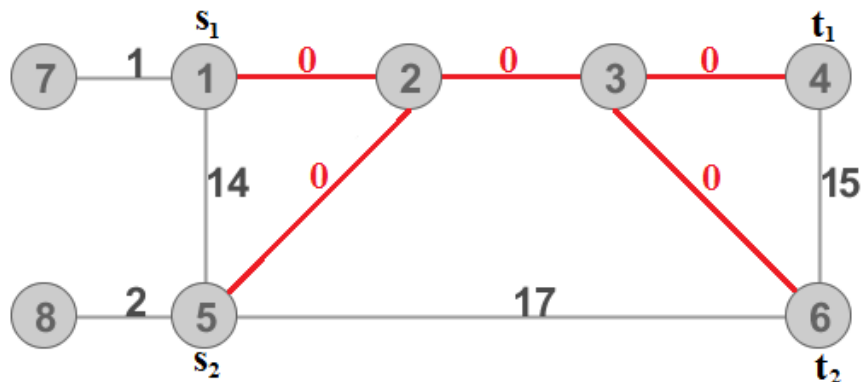


Figure 3.2.3: Illustration of the solution returned by Greedy Heuristic

Finally, we obtain the same solution with optimal which total cost is 32. The solution includes the edges (1-2), (2-3), (3-4), (5-2), and (3-6).

Following is the pseudocode of the algorithm.

| Algorithm 3.2.1: Greedy Heuristic for Steiner Forest Problem | |
|---|---|
| 1: | $G=(V, E), \{s_1, t_1, s_2, t_2, \dots, s_k, t_k\}, w: E \rightarrow Q^+$ |
| 2: | $F \leftarrow \emptyset$ //Initialize Forest to empty |
| 3: | for $i \leftarrow 1$ to k do |
| 4: | $p \leftarrow$ shortest path between s_i and t_i |
| 5: | for edge e : all the edges on the path p do |
| 6: | if $e.cost \neq 0$ then |
| 7: | $F \leftarrow F \cup \{e\}$ |
| 8: | $e \leftarrow 0$ |
| 9: | return F |

Line 2 initializes the resulting forest F to empty. Each time through the “for” loop of lines 3-8, line 4 computes the shortest path between s_i and t_i and lines 5-8 add all the edges on this path into F if the cost of each edge is not equal to zero and change the cost of the edge into zero. Finally, line 9 returns the solution.

In the following, we provide a specific example which shows that the greedy heuristic we mention above is worse than AKR with respect to approximation ratio. In this example, every terminal pairs are adjacent to each other with a cost of $4 - \epsilon$ as shown in Figure 3.2.4. The cost of the solution that greedy algorithm finds is worse than the twice of the cost of the optimum solution.

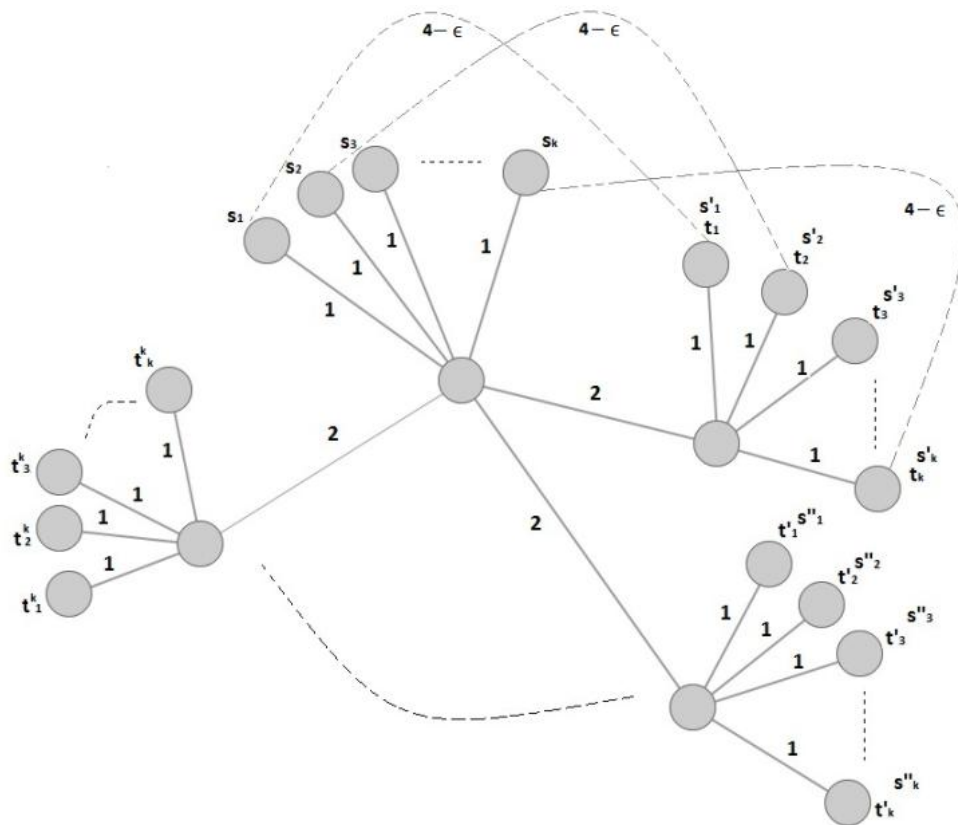


Figure 3.2.4: Bad example for Greedy Heuristic

Greedy algorithm takes all the shortest paths between terminal pairs with distance $4 - \epsilon$. The cost of the solution is $(4 - \epsilon)k^2$ (see Figure 3.2.5). However, the cost of the optimum solution is $k^2 + 2k$ (see Figure 3.2.6). Also the cost of the solution given by AKR is $k^2 + (k - 1)(4 - \epsilon)$ as shown in Figure 3.2.7. So, the cost of the solution given by greedy algorithm is 4 times as large as the cost of the optimum solution.

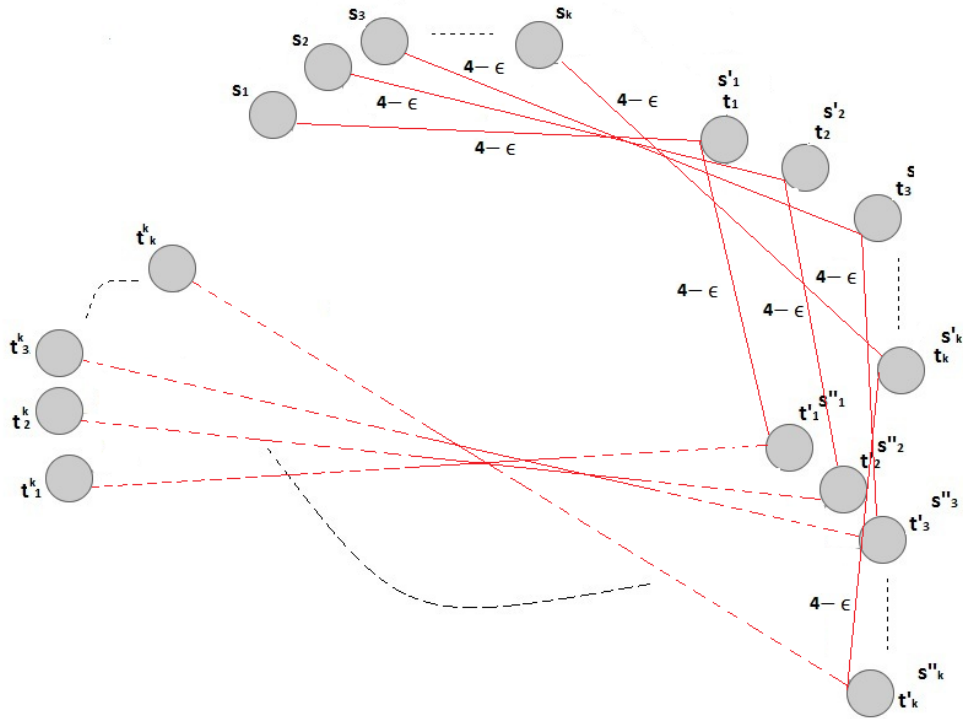


Figure 3.2.5: Forest returned by Greedy Heuristic

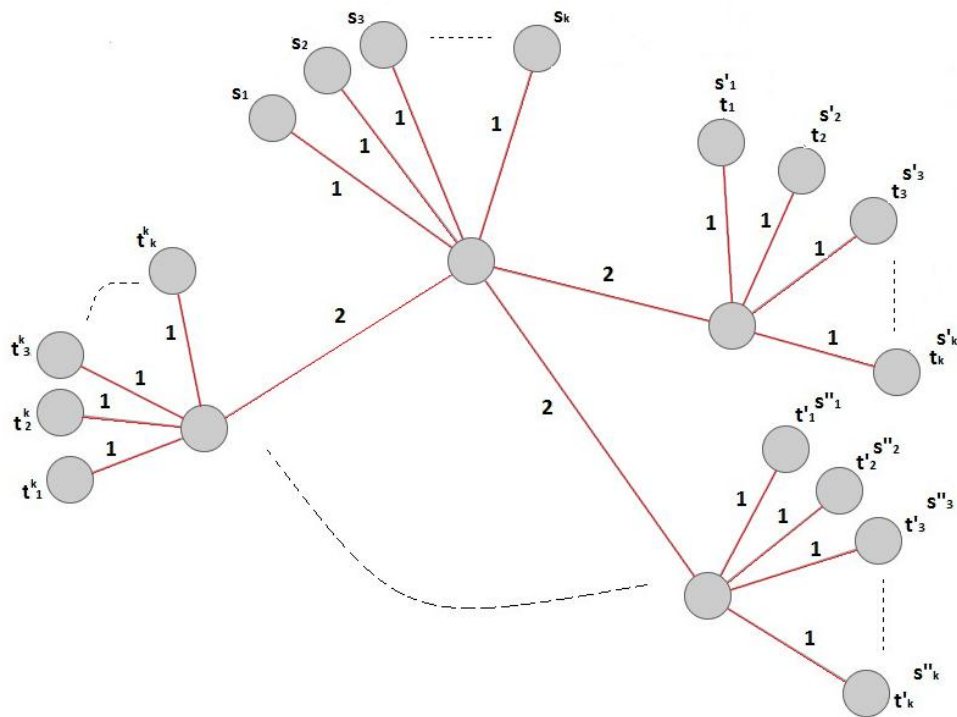


Figure 3.2.6: Optimum solution

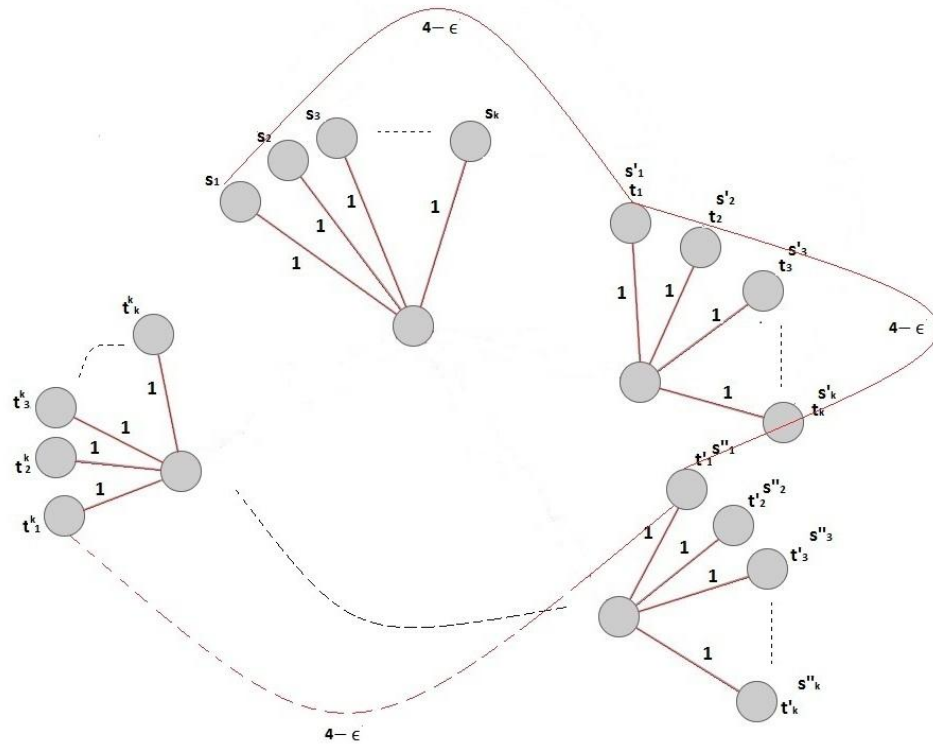


Figure 3.2.7: Forest returned by AKR

CHAPTER 4

NEW ALGORITHMS FOR THE STEINER FOREST PROBLEM

4.1 The New Algorithms

In this section, we provide three equivalent greedy algorithms for the Steiner forest problem, which we appropriately name ÇDK-Kruskal, ÇDK-Prim and ÇDK-Boruvka.

All these algorithms are equivalent and in this section we mainly talk about ÇDK-Kruskal. In this algorithm, firstly, we make a different set for each terminal, a total of $2k$ sets. Then, we compute all the shortest paths between terminals. That is, for the number of k terminal pairs $(s_1-t_1, s_2-t_2, \dots, s_k-t_k)$ we compute a total of $\binom{2k}{2}$ shortest paths between terminals. Then we sort them in non-decreasing order. After this step, we iteratively check whether the endpoints of the paths are in the same set or not. If they are not in the same set, we include the path into the solution and combine them into one set by using the union operation. If they are in the same set, we skip this path and continue to the next iteration. This iterations continue until all terminal pairs are connected. After all terminal pairs are connected, we perform a reverse-delete operation. In this operation, if there are unnecessary paths which do not violate the feasibility of the solution, we remove these paths by starting from the last element of array (resulting forest) that contains the selected paths. Following is an example which explains the execution of our algorithms in more detail.

:

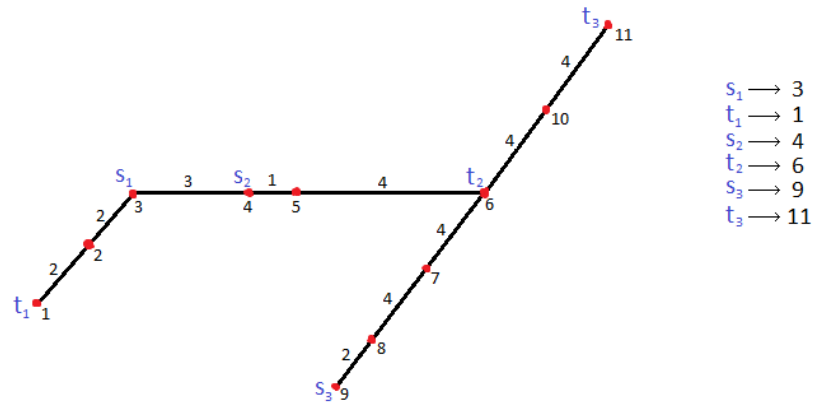


Figure 4.1.1: Illustration of the specific example.

For this example, $k = 3$ and we have terminal pairs (s_1, t_1) , (s_2, t_2) and (s_3, t_3) .

For each terminal, the algorithm creates a set indicated by the node number as shown in the figure below.

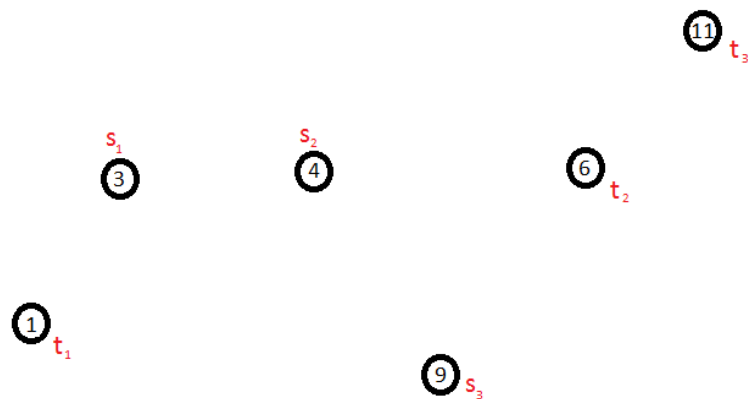


Figure 4.1.2: Illustration of sets.

Then, it computes all the shortest paths between terminals and then sorts them in non-decreasing order. Following is the result of this computation.

| | Node1 | Node2 | Distance |
|----|-------|-------|----------|
| 1 | 3 | 4 | 3.0 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 4.0 |
| 3 | 4 | 6 | 5.0 |
| 4 | 4 | 1 | 7.0 |
| 5 | 3 | 6 | 8.0 |
| 6 | 6 | 11 | 8.0 |
| 7 | 6 | 9 | 10.0 |
| 8 | 1 | 6 | 12.0 |
| 9 | 4 | 11 | 13.0 |
| 10 | 4 | 9 | 15.0 |
| 11 | 3 | 11 | 16.0 |
| 12 | 3 | 9 | 18.0 |
| 13 | 9 | 11 | 18.0 |
| 14 | 1 | 11 | 20.0 |
| 15 | 1 | 9 | 22.0 |

$\binom{6}{2} = 15$

Figure 4.1.3: Sorted shortest paths between terminals

The algorithm first checks whether 3 and 4 sets are in the same set. They are not in the same set, so it adds this path into solution and combines 3 and 4 into one set by using the union operation which can be seen in the following illustration (Figure).

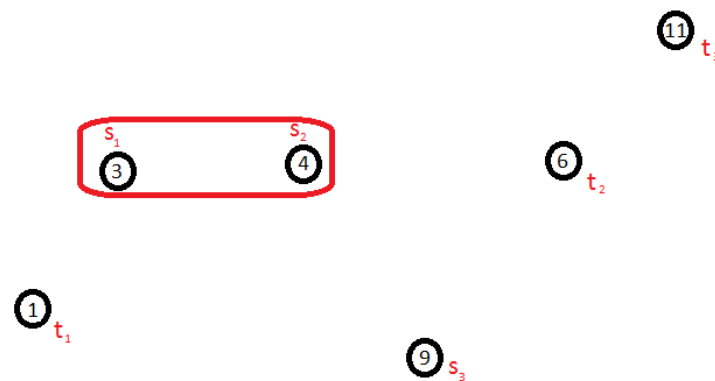


Figure 4.1.4: Illustration of union 3 and 4

Then, it checks whether 3 and 1 sets are in the same set. Since they are not in the same set, it adds this path into solution and combines 3 and 1 into one set by using the union operation as shown in the following figure:

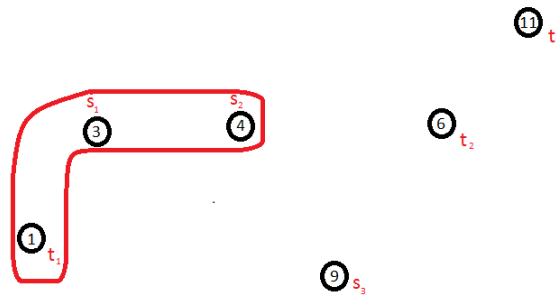


Figure 4.1.5: Illustration of union 1 and 3

Then, it checks 4 and 6. Since they are not in the same set, it adds this path into the solution and combines into one set as follows:

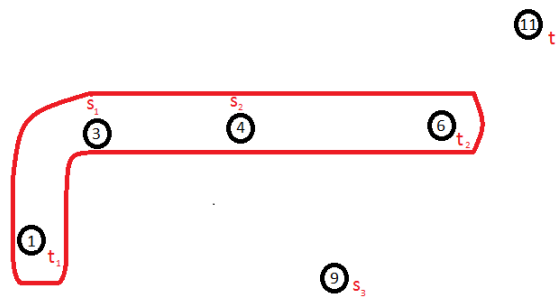


Figure 4.1.6: Illustration of union 4 and 6

Then, it does not add the paths 4-1 and 3-6 since they are already in the same set. Because 6 and 11 are different sets, it adds 6-11 path into the solution and combines them into one set as follows:

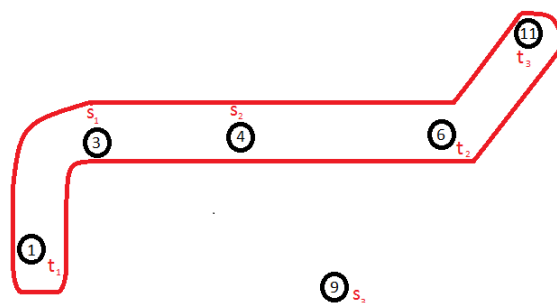


Figure 4.1.7: Illustration of union 6 and 11

Eventually, it adds 6-9 path into the solution since 6 and 9 sets are not in the same set. It then combines them into one set by using the union operation as shown in the figure below:

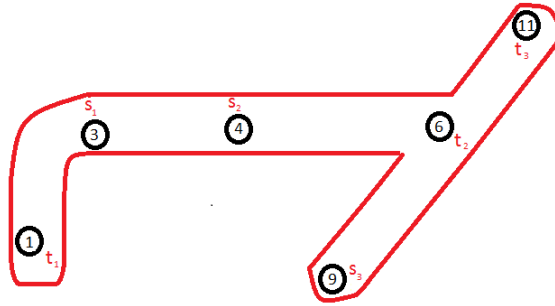


Figure 4.1.8: Union of the sets 6 and 9

Since all terminal pairs are connected at this point, the algorithm terminates. So far, the paths taken by the algorithm are (3-4), (3-1), (4-6), (6-11), (6-9).

Then, in order to exclude unnecessary paths from solution, the algorithm performs a reverse-delete operation. In this operation, it excludes the paths as long as the solution remains feasible, that is, if all terminal pairs are still connected. It tries to remove the paths in the reverse order in which they were added into the solution. We sequentially exclude the paths from the solution and then check whether k pairs $(s_1-t_1, s_2-t_2, \dots, s_k-t_k)$ are still in the same set. If even only one terminal pair is not in the same set, it means that the excluded path is necessary for the solution so we can not remove this path. If all of the terminal pairs are still connected, it means that the excluded path is unnecessary and we can remove it from the solution.

For this example, we first check 6-9 path which is added last into the solution. If we remove this path, there is no connection between s_3-t_3 so we can't remove this path. We then check whether 6-11 path is removed from the solution and we see that we can not remove this path since there is no connection between s_3-t_3 when we remove this path. We then check whether third path 4-6 is removed, and so on. Only 3-4 path is unnecessary because when we exclude it, each terminal pair s_i-t_i for $1 \leq i \leq 3$ are still connected. So, we remove this path. If any of the remaining paths (3-1, 4-6, 6-11, 6-9) is removed, all of terminal pairs will still not be connected, so we don't remove any of

them. For this example, our algorithm finds the solution which includes the paths 3-1, 4-6, 6-11, and 6-9.

We now provide the pseudocodes of the algorithm ÇDK-Kruskal, ÇDK-Prim and ÇDK-Boruvka.

Let H be an adjunct graph derived from the input graph G. H represents all the shortest paths between all terminals. It includes $2k$ vertices and $\binom{2k}{2}$ edges, that is, it is a complete graph. In the following, we give a procedure named ComputeAdjunct. This procedure forms the adjunct graph H. We will use this procedure in all of our algorithms.

Algorithm 4.1.1: ComputeAdjunct

```

1:  $G=(V, E), R = \{s_1, t_1, s_2, t_2, \dots, s_k, t_k\}, w: E \rightarrow Q^+$ 
2:  $H = (V', E', w')$ 
3: for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $k$  do
4:   for  $j \leftarrow i+1$  to  $k$  do
5:      $c \leftarrow$  compute the cost of the shortest path between  $s_i$  and  $s_j$ 
6:      $H.AddEdge(s_i, s_j, c)$ 
7:      $c \leftarrow$  compute the cost of the shortest path between  $t_i$  and  $t_j$ 
8:      $H.AddEdge(t_i, t_j, c)$ 
9:   for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $k$  do
10:     $c \leftarrow$  compute the cost of the shortest path between  $s_i$  and  $t_j$ 
11:     $H.AddEdge(s_i, t_j, c)$ 
12: return H

```

We give pseudocodes of our algorithms ÇDK-Kruskal, ÇDK-Prim and ÇDK-Boruvka as follows:

Algorithm 4.1.2: ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithm

```

1:  $G=(V, E)$ ,  $R = \{s_1, t_1, s_2, t_2, \dots, s_k, t_k\}$ ,  $w: E \rightarrow Q^+$ 
2:  $F \leftarrow \emptyset$  //Initialize Forest to empty
3:  $l \leftarrow 0$ 
4: for each  $r \in R$  do
5:   MAKE-SET( $r$ )
6:  $H = (V', E', w') \leftarrow \text{ComputeAdjunct}(G, R, w)$ 
7:  $\Sigma[1.. \binom{2k}{2}] \leftarrow$  sort the edges of  $E'$  in non-decreasing order by  $w'$ 
8: for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $\binom{2k}{2}$  do
9:    $p \leftarrow \Sigma[i]$  //Let  $\Sigma[i]$  be the path between  $u \in R$  and  $v \in R$ 
10:  if FIND-SET( $p.u$ )  $\neq$  FIND-SET( $p.v$ ) then
12:     $l \leftarrow l + 1$ 
13:     $F \leftarrow F \cup \{p_l\}$ 
14:    UNION( $u,v$ )
15:    if all  $s_i$  and  $t_i$  are connected via  $F$  then
16:      break
17: for  $k \leftarrow l$  down to 1 do //Reverse-Delete Step
18:   if  $F' - p_k$  is a feasible solution then
19:     Remove  $p_k$  from  $F$ 
20: return  $F$ 

```

Algorithm 4.1.3: ÇDK-Prim Algorithm

```

1:  $G=(V, E)$ ,  $R = \{s_1, t_1, s_2, t_2, \dots, s_k, t_k\}$ ,  $w: E \rightarrow Q^+$ ,  $r$ 
2:  $F \leftarrow \emptyset$  //Initialize Forest to empty
3:  $l \leftarrow 0$ 
4:  $S \leftarrow \text{MAKE-SET}(r)$ 
5:  $H = (V', E', w') \leftarrow \text{ComputeAdjunct}(G, R, w)$ 
6:  $\Sigma[1.. \binom{2k}{2}] \leftarrow$  sort the edges of  $E'$  in non-decreasing order by  $w'$ 
7: while not all  $(s_i, t_i)$  pairs are connected via  $F$  do
8:    $F' \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
9:   for each vertex  $u$  in  $S$  do
10:     $F' \leftarrow F' \cup \{\text{the cheapest edge } (u,v) \text{ in } \Sigma \text{ such that } \text{FIND-SET}(u) \neq \text{FIND-SET}(v)\}$ 
11:    $l \leftarrow l + 1$ 
12:    $p_l \leftarrow$  the cheapest edge  $(u', v')$  in  $F'$ 
13:    $F \leftarrow F \cup \{p_l\}$ 
14:   UNION( $u', v'$ )
15: for  $k \leftarrow l$  down to 1 do //Reverse-Delete Step
16:   if  $F' - p_k$  is a feasible solution then
17:     Remove  $p_k$  from  $F$ 
18: return  $F$ 

```

Algorithm 4.1.4: ÇDK-Boruvka Algorithm

```

1:  $G=(V, E), R = \{s_1, t_1, s_2, t_2, \dots, s_k, t_k\}, w: E \rightarrow Q^+$ 
2:  $F \leftarrow \emptyset$  //Initialize Forest to empty
3:  $l \leftarrow 0$ 
4: for each  $r \in R$  do
5:   MAKE-SET( $r$ )
6:  $H = (V', E', w') \leftarrow \text{ComputeAdjunct}(G, R, w)$ 
7:  $\Sigma[1.. \binom{2k}{2}] \leftarrow$  sort the edges of  $E'$  in non-decreasing order by  $w'$ 
8: while not all  $(s_i, t_i)$  pairs are connected via  $F$  do
9:   for each set  $S$  do
10:     $F_S \leftarrow \emptyset$ 
11:     $F' \leftarrow F' \cup \{ \text{the cheapest edge } (u,v) \text{ in } \Sigma \text{ such that } \text{FIND-SET}(u) \neq \text{FIND-SET}(v) \}$ 
12:     $l \leftarrow l + 1$ 
13:     $p_l \leftarrow$  the cheapest edge  $(u', v')$  in  $F'$ 
14:     $F \leftarrow F \cup \{p_l\}$ 
15:    UNION( $u', v'$ )
16: for  $k \leftarrow l$  down to 1 do //Reverse-Delete Step
17:   if  $F' - p_k$  is a feasible solution then
18:     Remove  $p_k$  from  $F$ 
19: return  $F$ 

```

4.2 The Equivalence of the Algorithms

In this section, we give a proof that our algorithms are equivalent.

Let $E' = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{\binom{2k}{2}}\}$ be the set of edges in increasing order. We argue by induction on l , the number of edges selected by ÇDK-Kruskal throughout its execution. For $l = 1$, ÇDK-Kruskal selects e_1 . Let $e_1 = (u, v)$. Consider ÇDK-Boruvka and ÇDK-Prim at a stage in which u and v are not in the same set, and the edges that are adjacent to u and v are considered. Since e_1 is the smallest weight edge, it will be included in the forests that the aforementioned two algorithms compute by their very definition. This settles the base case of the induction. Assume, as the induction hypothesis that, before ÇDK-Kruskal selects the $(l + 1)$ st edge, it has already selected the set $F_l = \{e_1, e_{i_2}, \dots, e_{i_l}\}$ and all the other edges up to e_{i_l} excluding F_l are not selected, and the set of selected edges and unselected edges are the same for ÇDK-Boruvka and ÇDK-Prim. If there is an edge between e_{i_l} and $e_{i_{l+1}}$ in the ordering, say $e = (u, v)$, then this edge is not selected by ÇDK-Kruskal because it creates a cycle, i.e. u and v are in the same set.

Consider the execution of \mathcal{C} DK-Boruvka and \mathcal{C} DK-Prim when this edge is considered. Since we know by induction hypothesis that u and v will be in the same set for these algorithms via the edges in F_l , e will not be selected. Otherwise, we get that one of the edges in F_l will not be selected by these algorithm which contradicts the induction hypothesis. All that remains is to show that $e_{i_{l+1}}$ is selected \mathcal{C} DK-Boruvka and \mathcal{C} DK-Prim. Let $e_{i_{l+1}} = (u, v)$ and consider the stage in which these algorithms consider the edges adjacent to u and v (clearly, u and v are not in the same set). Since, $e_{i_{l+1}}$ is the smallest weight edge which does not create a cycle by the choice of \mathcal{C} DK-Kruskal, it will also be selected by the other two algorithms. Finally, note that the termination condition of all the algorithms is equivalent: all the terminal pairs are connected.

4.3 A Bad Example for Our Algorithms

In this section, we give a particular example on which our algorithms do not even give a constant factor approximation. Suppose that we have a graph with nodes $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k$. The distances between u_i and u_{i+1} are 1 for $i = 1, \dots, k - 2$ and u_k has distance 2 from all other nodes. Then, replace $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k$ with $s_i - t_i$ pairs with distance epsilon between them except u_k which should be replaced with $s_k - t_k$ with distance 3. The example is shown below:

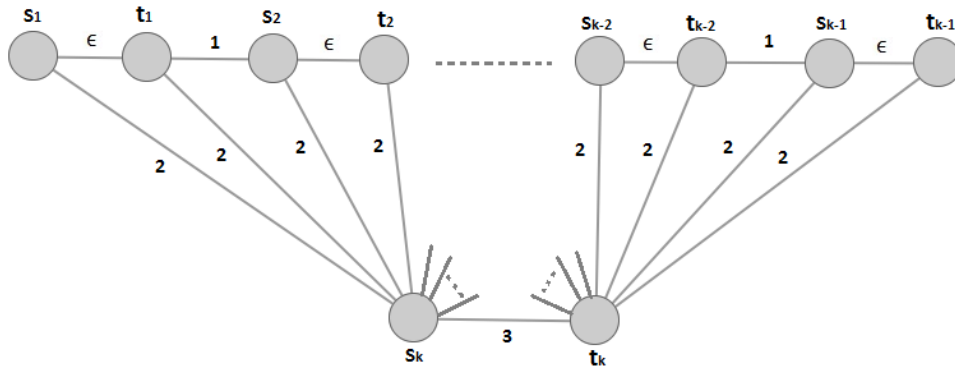


Figure 4.3.1: Bad example for \mathcal{C} DK-Kruskal

For this example, our algorithms take all paths ($k-1$ paths) with distance epsilon. Then it takes all paths ($k-2$ paths) with distance 1. Then, it takes 2 paths with distance 2. The solution found by our algorithms is shown below:

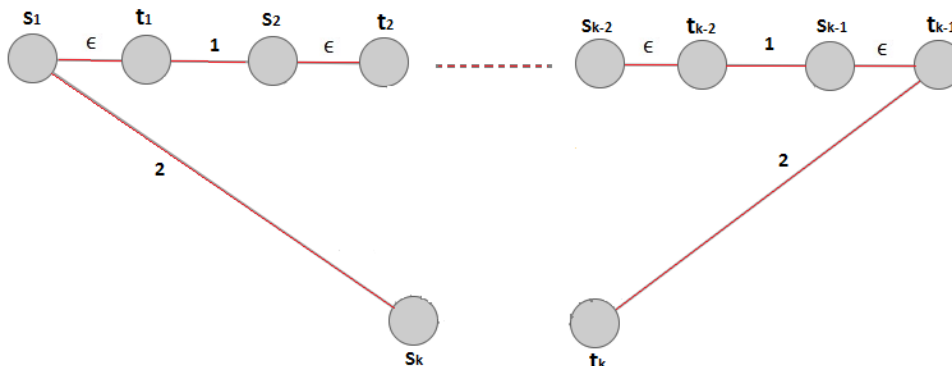


Figure 4.3.2: Illustration of the forest returned by ÇDK-Kruskal

The cost of the solution found by our algorithms is $(k - 1) * \epsilon + (k - 2) + 2 * 2 = (k - 1) * \epsilon + (k + 2)$. However; the optimum solution is $3 + (k - 1) * \epsilon$. The optimum solution is shown below:

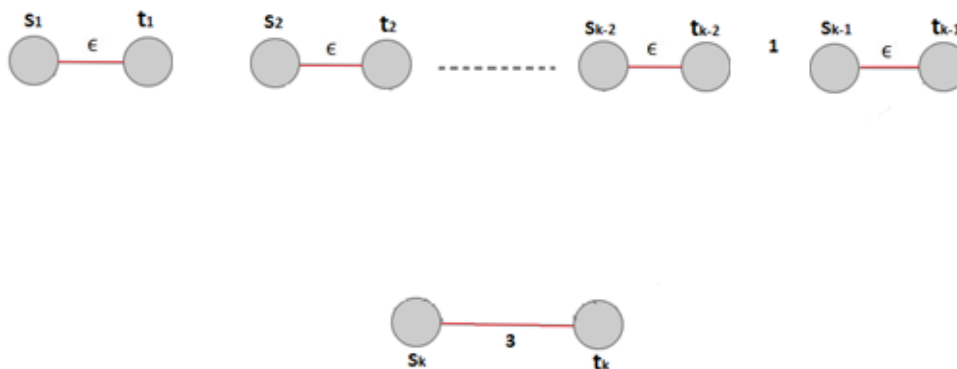


Figure 4.3.3: Optimum forest

CHAPTER 5

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

In this section, we discuss experiments that we have conducted by running Greedy Heuristic, ÇDK-Kruskal and AKR. The experiments are performed on a computer with specifications as listed below:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Processor | : Intel Core i5=3470 CPU @ 3.20GHz |
| Ram | : 4 GB |
| System type | : 64 bit operating system |
| Operating System | : Windows 7 64 bit |

The implementations of the algorithms are done on Java NetBeans IDE 7.4 platform. In the following, we first summarize these three algorithms and then discuss the condition in which AKR work slower.

How does ÇDK-Kruskal work?

Firstly, it makes a set for each terminal and then calculates the shortest paths between all the terminals. There are $C\binom{2k}{2}$ shortest paths that need to be calculated. Then it sequentially checks all the paths from the smallest weight to the largest. If the endpoints of the path checked are not in the same set, it includes the path into the forest and combines these two sets into one set. This process is continuously done until all s-t pairs are connected.

How does AKR work?

At the beginning, it forms active sets for all the terminals. Then it determines the shortest edge that comes out from the active sets since the smallest edge will become tight first. If nodes that are at the endpoints of this edge are not in the same set, the edge

is included to the forest and the nodes of this edge is included to the active set. Then, the edges are updated by subtracting the weight of the selected edge from the weights of all the edges. This process is performed iteratively until all s-t pairs are connected.

How does Greedy Heuristic works?

In the first iteration, it calculates the shortest path between s_1 and t_1 . In the next iteration, the cost of the edges that are not zero are included to the resulting forest. Then, it changes the value of the selected edges to zero, that is, it contracts the s_1-t_1 pair. In the next iteration, it applies the same procedure to the s_2-t_2 pair. These iterations are performed up to $s_k - t_k$.

5.1 Experiment 1

In all of our experiments, we compare the solution costs and the running times of the three algorithms, showing them on a table and also providing a figure for ease of resrepresentation.

In this specific experiment

- We created a random graph in the Erdős-Renyi model with 1000 nodes.
- The probabilities of having an edge between two nodes are 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8 and 0.9. For each probability value, a graph with 1000 nodes is created. Hence, using the probability values, we created 9 different random graphs.
- Edge weights are integers and randomly chosen between 1 and 10000.
- We formed k random s-t pairs for $k=\{2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40 \text{ and } 50\}$. For instance, for $k=2$, we selected 2 s-t pairs (4 terminals) randomly from the nodes in the graph.

Greedy Heuristic, ÇDK-Kruskal, and AKR have fairly similar costs with AKR being slightly better. However, if we take a look at their running time, we can see that Greedy Heuristic and ÇDK-Kruskal are closer to each other than they are to AKR. Greedy Heuristic is faster than ÇDK-Kruskal since it does not compute an adjunct graph. As for AKR, it works much slower than these two

algorithms. The reason is that, when edge weights span on wide interval, which in this case 1-10000, causes AKR to execute too many iterations. Recall that, AKR updates every node and edge by subtracting the weight of the newly added edge from their weights. So, the more varied the edge weights, the larger the number of updates, which slows down the algorithm.

Table 5.1.1: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.1 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.1 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 1058 | 1091 | 1086 | 156 | 103 | 1290 |
| 3 | 2653 | 3687 | 3313 | 59 | 97 | 727 |
| 5 | 4072 | 5258 | 5041 | 83 | 195 | 3521 |
| 10 | 6870 | 7626 | 7127 | 162 | 324 | 2822 |
| 20 | 13758 | 14423 | 13373 | 208 | 681 | 18516 |
| 30 | 18341 | 19494 | 17946 | 429 | 1135 | 3660 |
| 40 | 24283 | 26415 | 24655 | 427 | 1312 | 18225 |
| 50 | 25585 | 25810 | 23821 | 722 | 1646 | 6631 |

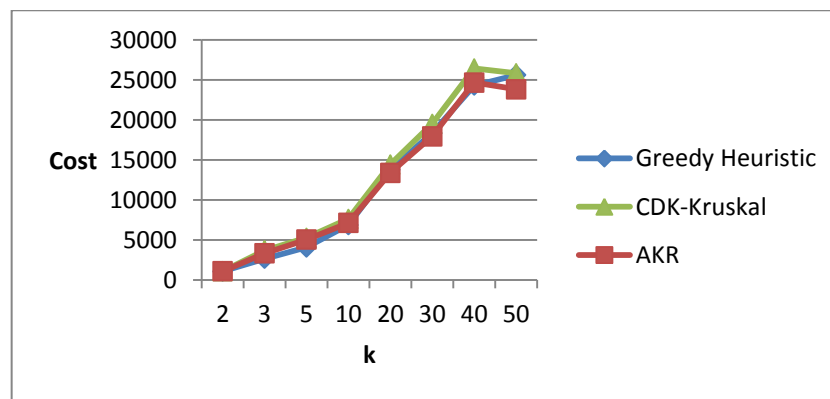


Figure 5.1.1: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.1

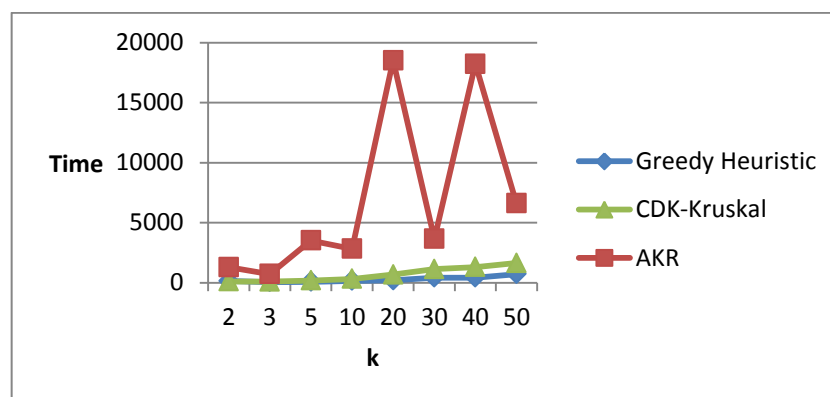


Figure 5.1.2: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.1

Table 5.1.2: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.2 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.2 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 506 | 506 | 506 | 53 | 76 | 123 |
| 3 | 1186 | 1273 | 1483 | 91 | 214 | 582 |
| 5 | 1926 | 2179 | 1975 | 122 | 361 | 3588 |
| 10 | 3385 | 3779 | 3509 | 298 | 600 | 1756 |
| 20 | 7614 | 7855 | 7169 | 353 | 975 | 11391 |
| 30 | 8412 | 9132 | 8355 | 552 | 2011 | 4939 |
| 40 | 10176 | 10221 | 9505 | 769 | 2509 | 11042 |
| 50 | 11842 | 12443 | 11718 | 965 | 2919 | 30617 |

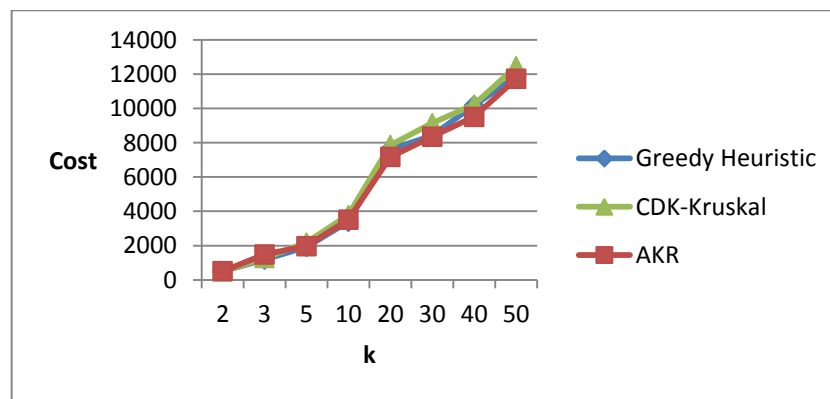


Figure 5.1.3: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.2

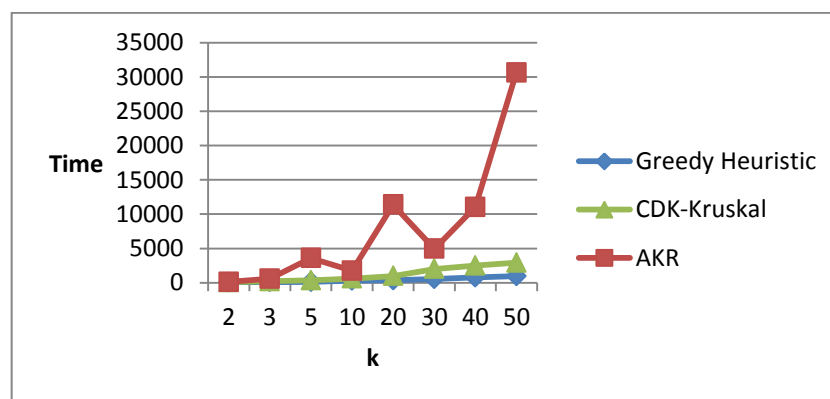


Figure 5.1.4: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.2

Table 5.1.3: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.3 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.3 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 466 | 471 | 466 | 68 | 140 | 4181 |
| 3 | 849 | 1134 | 1134 | 125 | 241 | 787 |
| 5 | 1216 | 1560 | 1341 | 203 | 352 | 4179 |
| 10 | 2988 | 3464 | 3024 | 265 | 912 | 4184 |
| 20 | 4611 | 4683 | 4325 | 560 | 2090 | 4946 |
| 30 | 6263 | 6720 | 6243 | 689 | 2848 | 14917 |
| 40 | 7174 | 7285 | 6709 | 1109 | 3170 | 6153 |
| 50 | 10031 | 10234 | 9572 | 1273 | 3967 | 31722 |

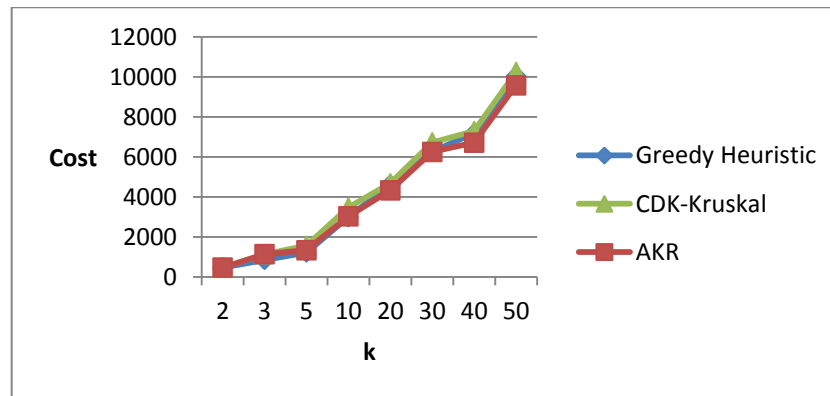


Figure 5.1.5: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.3

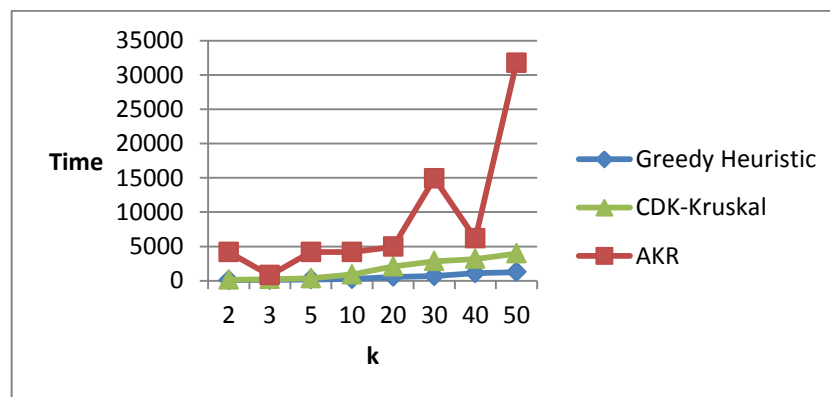


Figure 5.1.6: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.3

Table 5.1.4: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.4 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.4 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 327 | 353 | 325 | 208 | 188 | 590 |
| 3 | 502 | 628 | 502 | 144 | 359 | 804 |
| 5 | 976 | 1338 | 1198 | 174 | 529 | 3653 |
| 10 | 2128 | 2561 | 2323 | 327 | 1206 | 5216 |
| 20 | 2983 | 3114 | 2803 | 655 | 2406 | 4479 |
| 30 | 4504 | 5114 | 4532 | 1745 | 3278 | 6892 |
| 40 | 5632 | 5715 | 5330 | 1315 | 3922 | 20575 |
| 50 | 6396 | 6490 | 6028 | 1669 | 5228 | 11751 |

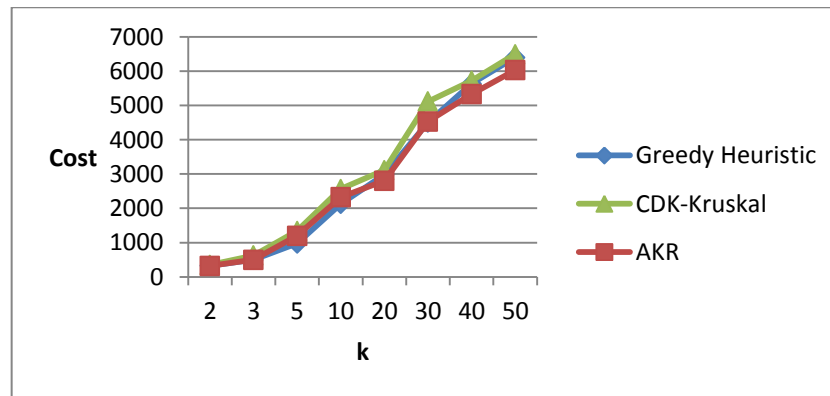


Figure 5.1.7: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.4

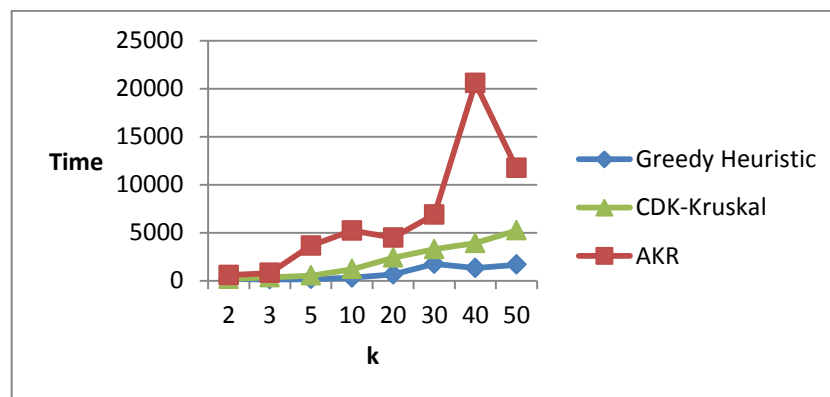


Figure 5.1.8: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.4

Table 5.1.5: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.5 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.5 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 324 | 399 | 351 | 111 | 289 | 460 |
| 3 | 510 | 583 | 503 | 146 | 429 | 633 |
| 5 | 719 | 864 | 759 | 213 | 664 | 3332 |
| 10 | 1687 | 2092 | 1904 | 380 | 1332 | 6559 |
| 20 | 3032 | 3068 | 2819 | 903 | 2889 | 7527 |
| 30 | 4157 | 4513 | 4226 | 1863 | 3684 | 18653 |
| 40 | 4819 | 5071 | 4722 | 1331 | 4956 | 24492 |
| 50 | 5851 | 5989 | 5470 | 1818 | 6414 | 17499 |

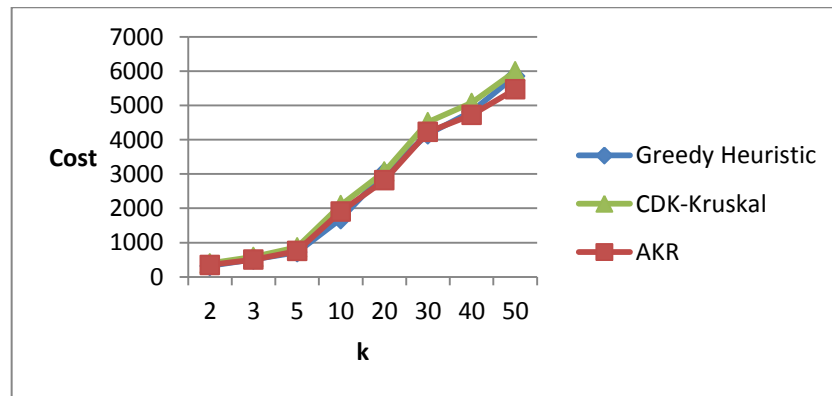


Figure 5.1.9: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.5

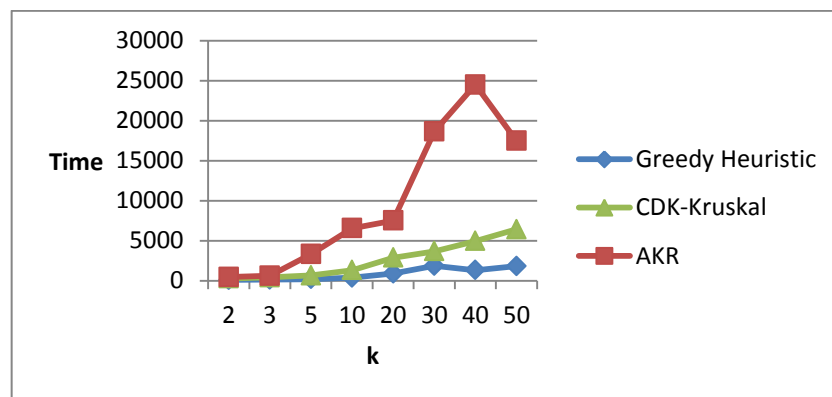


Figure 5.1.10: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.5

Table 5.1.6: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.6 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.6 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 294 | 435 | 405 | 117 | 289 | 1058 |
| 3 | 349 | 460 | 418 | 163 | 480 | 1119 |
| 5 | 607 | 725 | 688 | 342 | 743 | 2877 |
| 10 | 1322 | 1362 | 1230 | 493 | 1797 | 3439 |
| 20 | 2185 | 2327 | 2151 | 1034 | 3792 | 6977 |
| 30 | 3138 | 3493 | 3172 | 1467 | 5180 | 9271 |
| 40 | 3955 | 4157 | 3696 | 1804 | 7193 | 23761 |
| 50 | 4257 | 4311 | 3994 | 2519 | 7946 | 6069 |

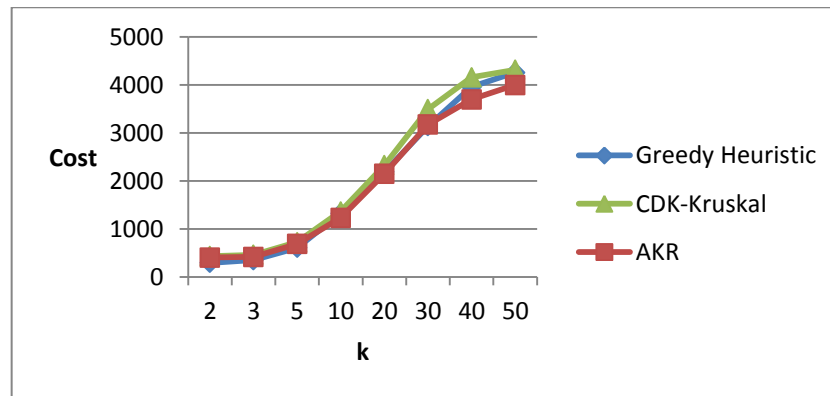


Figure 5.1.11: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.6

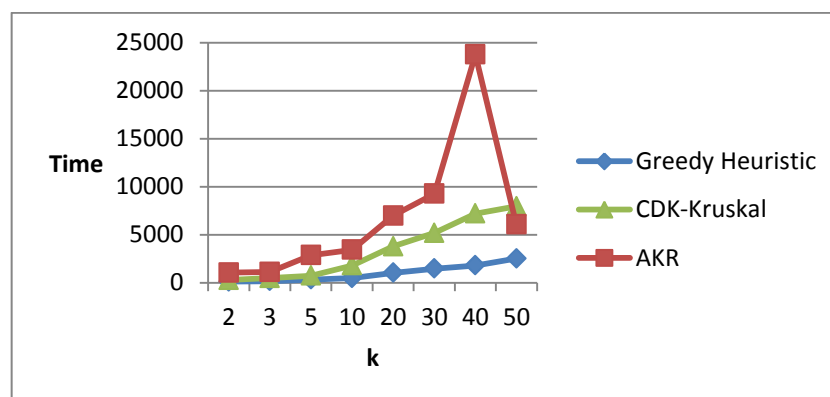


Figure 5.1.12: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.6

Table 5.1.7: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.7 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.7 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 169 | 169 | 169 | 1382 | 291 | 858 |
| 3 | 372 | 426 | 394 | 176 | 493 | 1164 |
| 5 | 406 | 546 | 482 | 339 | 858 | 699 |
| 10 | 1004 | 1199 | 1133 | 585 | 2156 | 2511 |
| 20 | 1796 | 1888 | 1702 | 1085 | 3782 | 4483 |
| 30 | 2645 | 2870 | 2581 | 1618 | 5828 | 8980 |
| 40 | 3386 | 3485 | 3214 | 1951 | 7237 | 16816 |
| 50 | 4203 | 4335 | 4004 | 2736 | 9424 | 20525 |

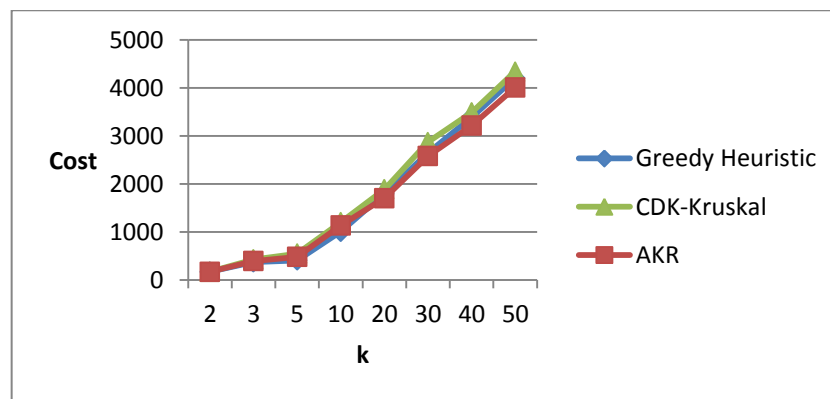


Figure 5.1.13: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.7

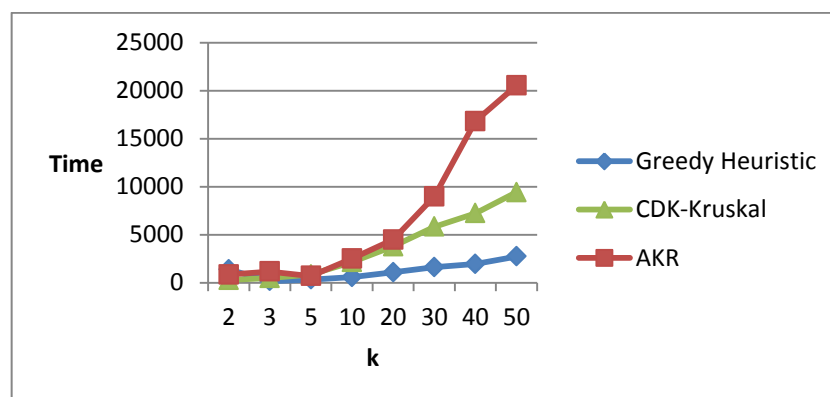


Figure 5.1.14: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.7

Table 5.1.8: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.8 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.8 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 204 | 272 | 261 | 147 | 415 | 1064 |
| 3 | 233 | 288 | 282 | 274 | 467 | 2327 |
| 5 | 507 | 585 | 557 | 402 | 993 | 2224 |
| 10 | 849 | 978 | 920 | 663 | 2377 | 7722 |
| 20 | 1874 | 2048 | 1861 | 1275 | 4714 | 6753 |
| 30 | 2300 | 2434 | 2261 | 1868 | 6502 | 27047 |
| 40 | 2882 | 2915 | 2641 | 2470 | 8607 | 9482 |
| 50 | 3458 | 3423 | 3199 | 2894 | 10606 | 9738 |

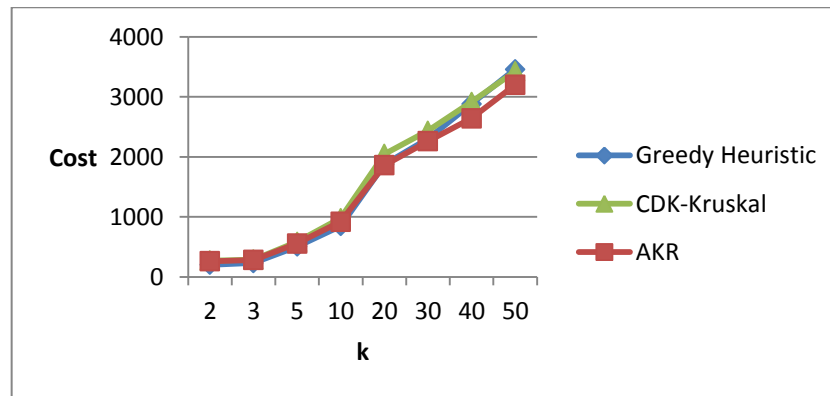


Figure 5.1.15: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.8

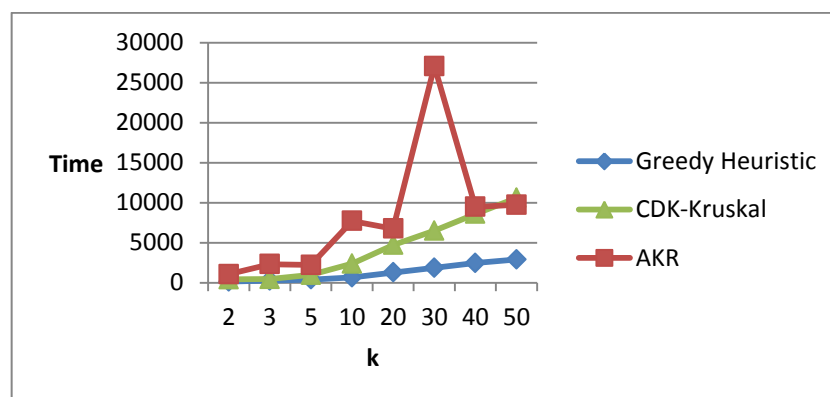


Figure 5.1.16: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.8

Table 5.1.9: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.9 and Edge Weights 1-10000

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.9 Edge weights: 1-10000 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 136 | 201 | 136 | 147 | 410 | 551 |
| 3 | 240 | 324 | 254 | 194 | 608 | 252 |
| 5 | 479 | 659 | 593 | 359 | 1127 | 3858 |
| 10 | 890 | 950 | 887 | 632 | 2348 | 6145 |
| 20 | 1498 | 1658 | 1496 | 1279 | 4796 | 14068 |
| 30 | 1967 | 2203 | 2005 | 1684 | 6464 | 14657 |
| 40 | 2428 | 2528 | 2335 | 2373 | 9074 | 22726 |
| 50 | 2472 | 2638 | 2447 | 3082 | 11750 | 15493 |

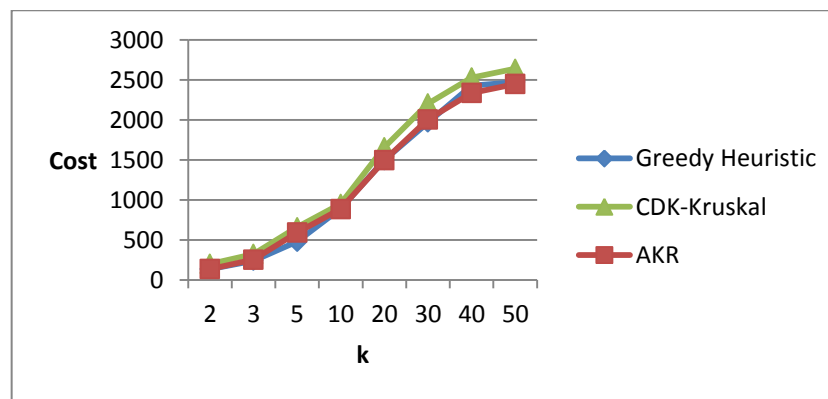


Figure 5.1.17: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.9

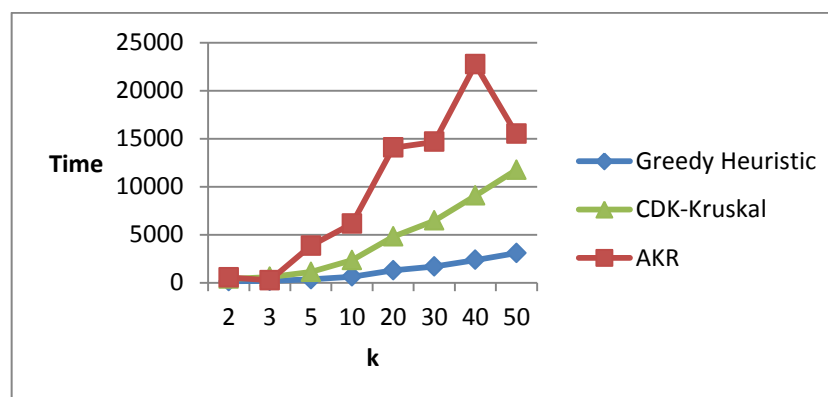


Figure 5.1.18: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.9

5.2 Experiment 2

In this experiment

- We created a random graph in the Erdős-Renyi model with 1000 nodes.
- The probabilities of having an edge between two nodes are 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8 and 0.9. For each probability value, a graph with 1000 nodes is created. Hence, using the probability values, we created 9 different random graphs.
- Edge weights are integers and randomly chosen between 1 and 100.
- We formed k random s-t pairs for $k=\{2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40$ and 50. For instance, for $k=2$, we selected 2 s-t pairs (4 terminals) randomly from the nodes in the graph.

Specifications of this experiment are the same with first experiment except the edge weight interval. In this case, while the cost results of the three algorithms are still similar, the running times are significantly different. In this experiment AKR is the fastest algorithm. While the edge weight interval is smaller, AKR does a smaller number of updates, which makes its running time better compared to the previous experiment. In general, we see that ÇDK-Kruskal is not well suited for these type of graphs.

Table 5.2.1: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.1 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.1 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 22 | 26 | 24 | 163 | 99 | 141 |
| 3 | 35 | 40 | 37 | 57 | 97 | 464 |
| 5 | 39 | 48 | 43 | 101 | 126 | 105 |
| 10 | 106 | 108 | 105 | 126 | 297 | 229 |
| 20 | 176 | 198 | 179 | 230 | 592 | 146 |
| 30 | 271 | 306 | 280 | 272 | 818 | 182 |
| 40 | 331 | 356 | 327 | 483 | 1053 | 333 |
| 50 | 399 | 387 | 365 | 565 | 1302 | 219 |

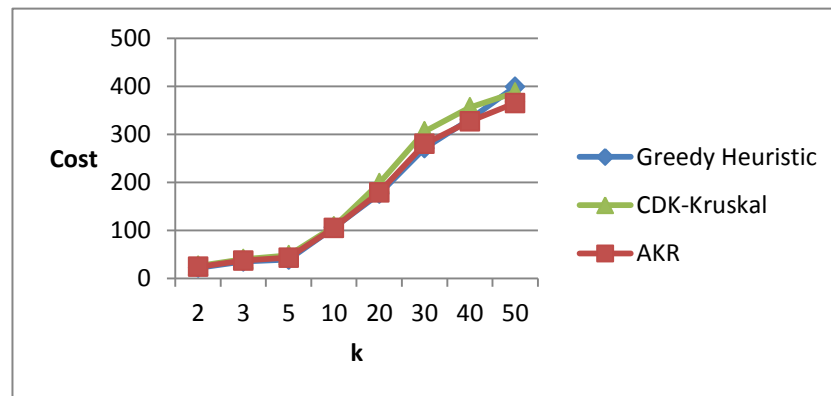


Figure 5.2.1: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.1

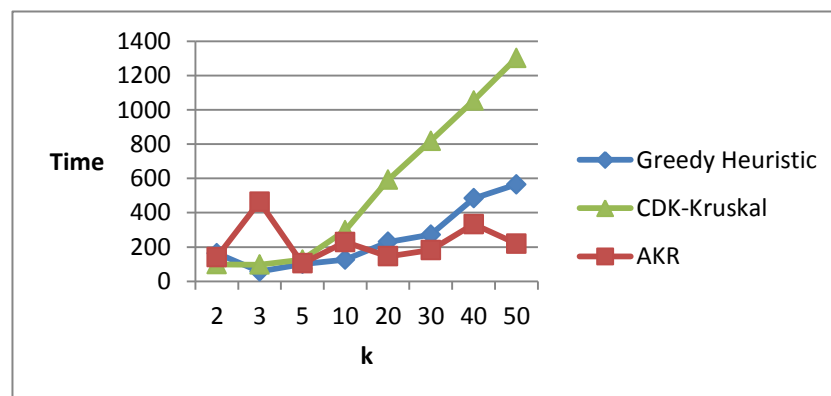


Figure 5.2.2: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.1

Table 5.2.2: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.2 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.2 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 118 | 77 | 87 |
| 3 | 21 | 31 | 27 | 97 | 259 | 135 |
| 5 | 31 | 37 | 35 | 136 | 411 | 114 |
| 10 | 64 | 71 | 66 | 218 | 707 | 182 |
| 20 | 112 | 118 | 112 | 380 | 1350 | 182 |
| 30 | 168 | 173 | 159 | 594 | 2006 | 289 |
| 40 | 227 | 232 | 217 | 1040 | 1950 | 282 |
| 50 | 270 | 257 | 241 | 869 | 2917 | 209 |

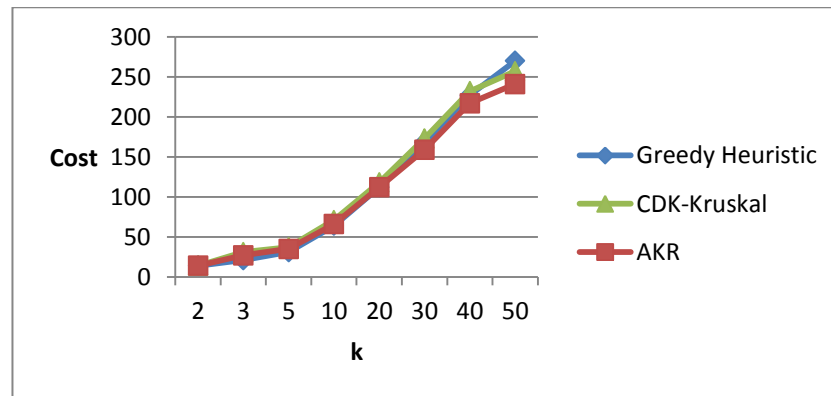


Figure 5.2.3: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.2

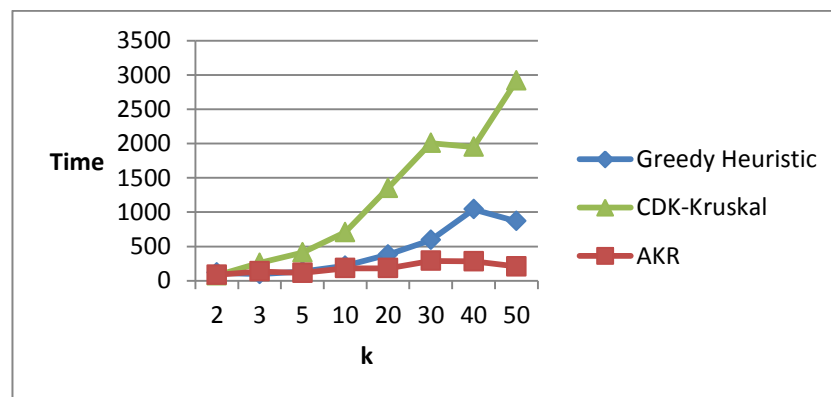


Figure 5.2.4: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.2

Table 5.2.3: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0. and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.3 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 9 | 14 | 14 | 75 | 163 | 67 |
| 3 | 14 | 17 | 14 | 99 | 232 | 83 |
| 5 | 29 | 34 | 32 | 159 | 487 | 96 |
| 10 | 51 | 55 | 50 | 324 | 1147 | 166 |
| 20 | 103 | 107 | 99 | 409 | 1481 | 298 |
| 30 | 146 | 148 | 137 | 593 | 2134 | 293 |
| 40 | 176 | 164 | 153 | 745 | 2779 | 336 |
| 50 | 223 | 212 | 202 | 1317 | 3413 | 419 |

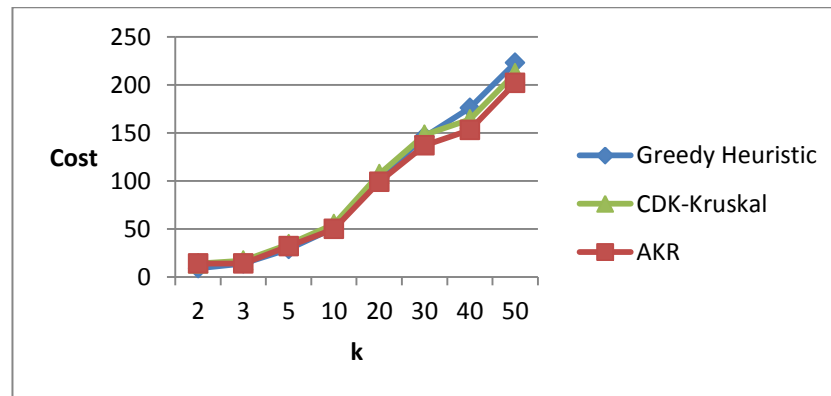


Figure 5.2.5: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.3

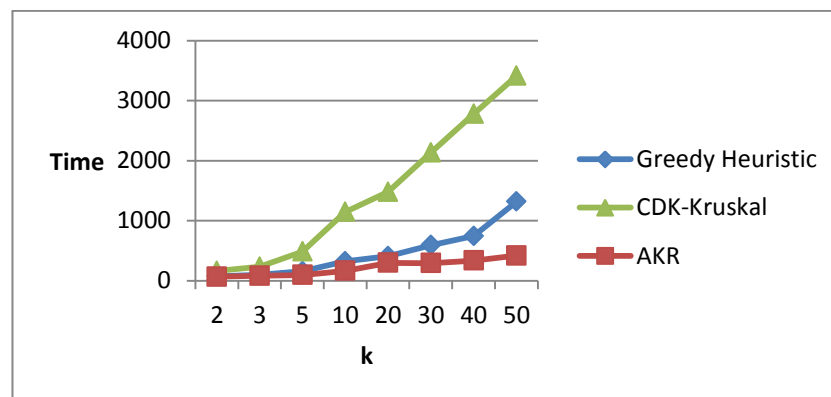


Figure 5.2.6: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.3

Table 5.2.4: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.4 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.4 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 104 | 263 | 538 |
| 3 | 14 | 17 | 14 | 144 | 413 | 685 |
| 5 | 20 | 31 | 30 | 207 | 676 | 194 |
| 10 | 46 | 54 | 51 | 413 | 1313 | 89 |
| 20 | 95 | 98 | 90 | 1096 | 2042 | 279 |
| 30 | 124 | 132 | 127 | 980 | 3401 | 179 |
| 40 | 155 | 148 | 140 | 1167 | 4364 | 211 |
| 50 | 209 | 188 | 181 | 1270 | 4959 | 543 |

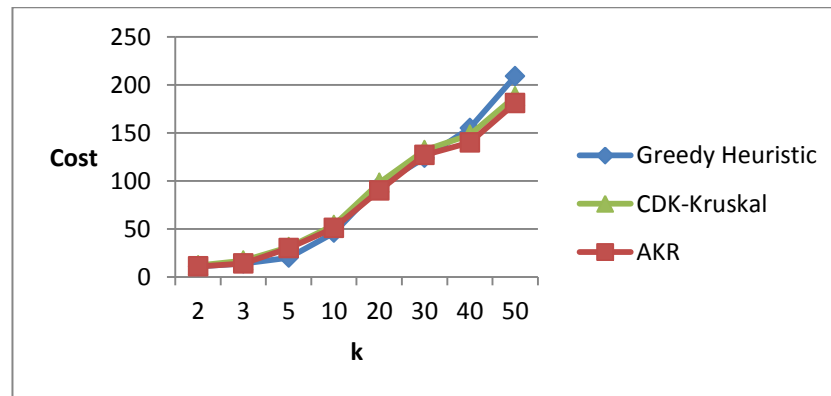


Figure 5.2.7: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.4

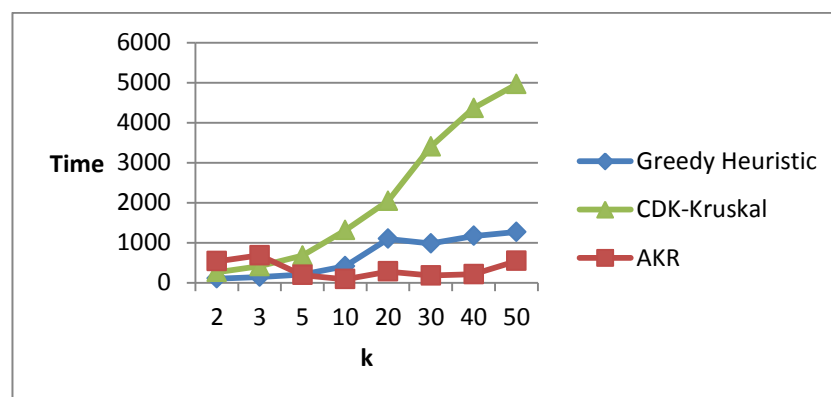


Figure 5.2.8: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.4

Table 5.2.5: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.5 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.5 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 103 | 254 | 95 |
| 3 | 14 | 16 | 16 | 170 | 504 | 195 |
| 5 | 18 | 27 | 26 | 222 | 724 | 85 |
| 10 | 38 | 44 | 45 | 438 | 1447 | 423 |
| 20 | 80 | 90 | 88 | 923 | 3385 | 149 |
| 30 | 121 | 117 | 111 | 1393 | 4577 | 213 |
| 40 | 160 | 159 | 154 | 1620 | 4940 | 364 |
| 50 | 195 | 179 | 173 | 2188 | 7126 | 395 |

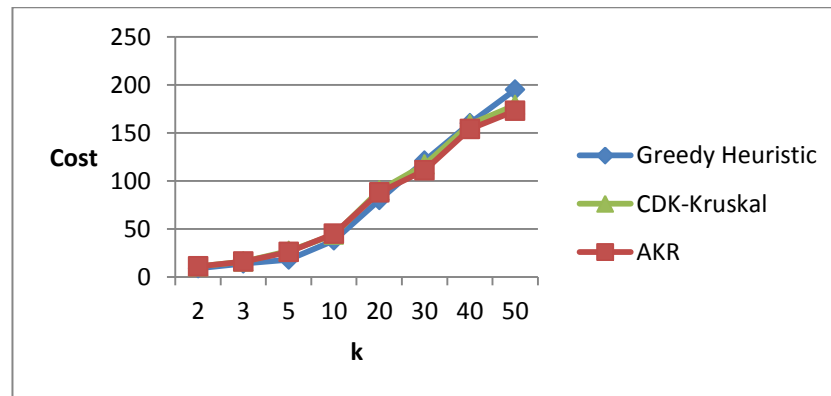


Figure 5.2.9: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.5

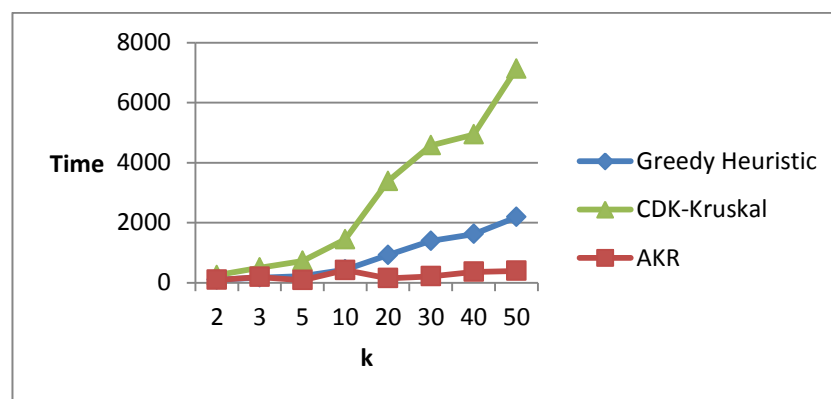


Figure 5.2.10: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.5

Table 5.2.6: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.6 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.6 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 112 | 287 | 111 |
| 3 | 11 | 14 | 14 | 169 | 511 | 162 |
| 5 | 22 | 26 | 23 | 292 | 997 | 296 |
| 10 | 33 | 43 | 37 | 431 | 1576 | 113 |
| 20 | 76 | 77 | 76 | 958 | 3565 | 302 |
| 30 | 109 | 113 | 108 | 1292 | 4658 | 297 |
| 40 | 135 | 141 | 132 | 1592 | 5491 | 410 |
| 50 | 176 | 157 | 153 | 2302 | 8643 | 415 |

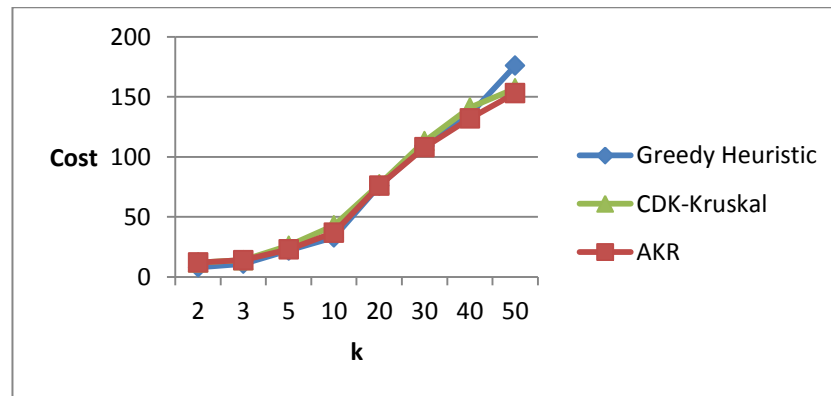


Figure 5.2.11: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.6

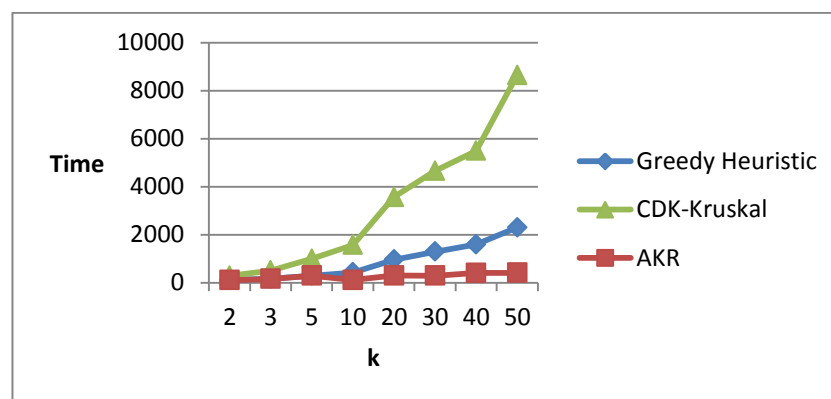


Figure 5.2.12: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.6

Table 5.2.7: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.7 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.7 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 8 | 11 | 8 | 128 | 346 | 127 |
| 3 | 11 | 17 | 16 | 172 | 522 | 186 |
| 5 | 17 | 23 | 21 | 342 | 1093 | 107 |
| 10 | 31 | 37 | 37 | 606 | 2257 | 275 |
| 20 | 66 | 75 | 74 | 1077 | 3974 | 362 |
| 30 | 100 | 107 | 102 | 1605 | 6223 | 451 |
| 40 | 135 | 133 | 129 | 2311 | 8056 | 453 |
| 50 | 159 | 154 | 149 | 2462 | 9240 | 534 |

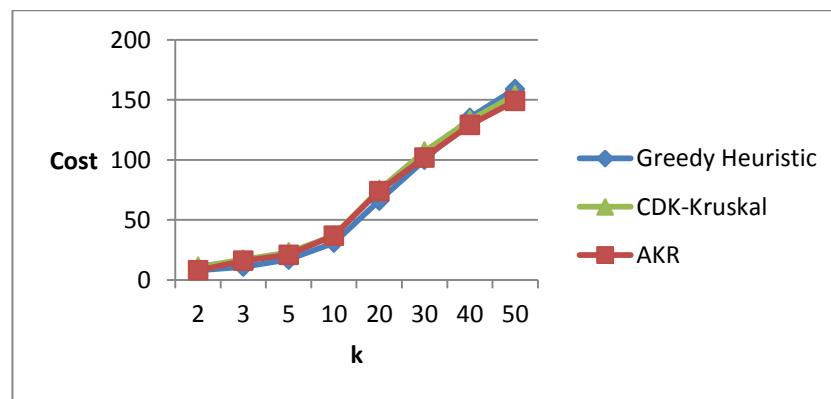


Figure 5.2.13: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.7

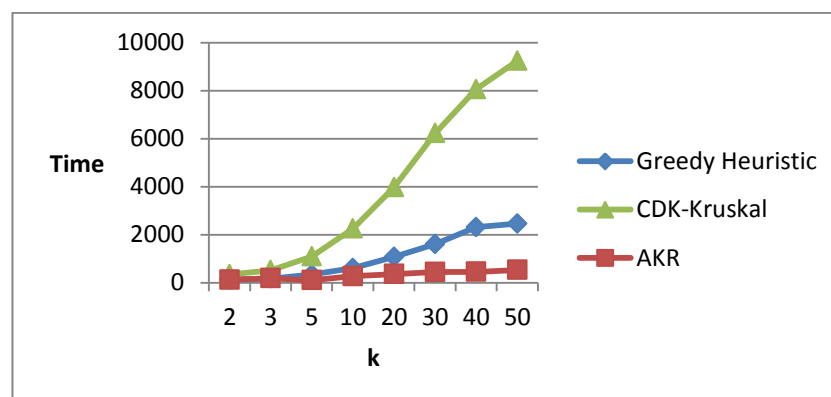


Figure 5.2.14: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.7

Table 5.2.8: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.8 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.8 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|-----|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 128 | 346 | 76 |
| 3 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 218 | 616 | 336 |
| 5 | 16 | 27 | 25 | 302 | 1031 | 107 |
| 10 | 35 | 46 | 42 | 620 | 2208 | 164 |
| 20 | 68 | 75 | 73 | 1380 | 3615 | 304 |
| 30 | 98 | 106 | 101 | 1991 | 5914 | 401 |
| 40 | 125 | 126 | 120 | 2012 | 7123 | 394 |
| 50 | 153 | 146 | 145 | 2982 | 10982 | 399 |

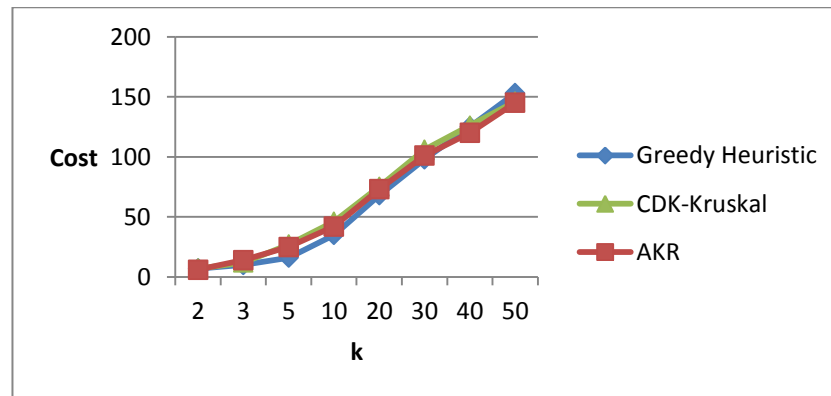


Figure 5.2.15: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.8

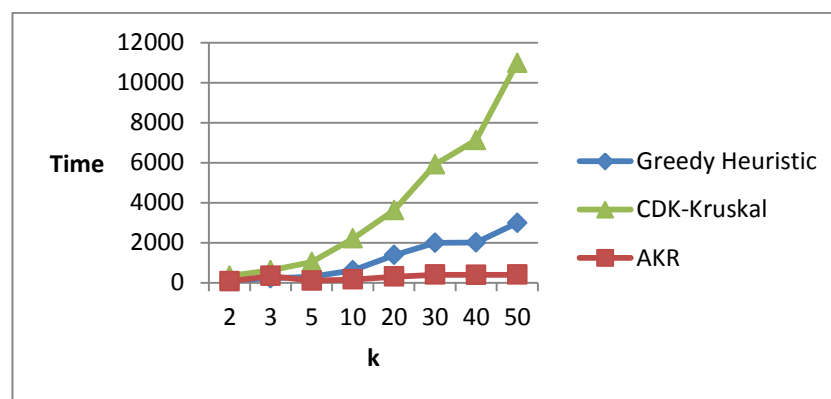


Figure 5.2.16: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.8

Table 5.2.9: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms with Probability of Edge Existence 0.9 and Edge Weights 1-100

| k | Probability of edge existence: 0.9 Edge weights: 1-100 | | | | | |
|----|---|-------------|-----|------------------|-------------|------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 148 | 413 | 224 |
| 3 | 11 | 15 | 15 | 204 | 636 | 266 |
| 5 | 13 | 19 | 19 | 305 | 1047 | 129 |
| 10 | 32 | 43 | 40 | 720 | 2175 | 203 |
| 20 | 65 | 78 | 76 | 1292 | 4380 | 346 |
| 30 | 90 | 100 | 97 | 1766 | 6816 | 1200 |
| 40 | 126 | 122 | 117 | 2429 | 8984 | 476 |
| 50 | 157 | 147 | 143 | 3490 | 10872 | 510 |

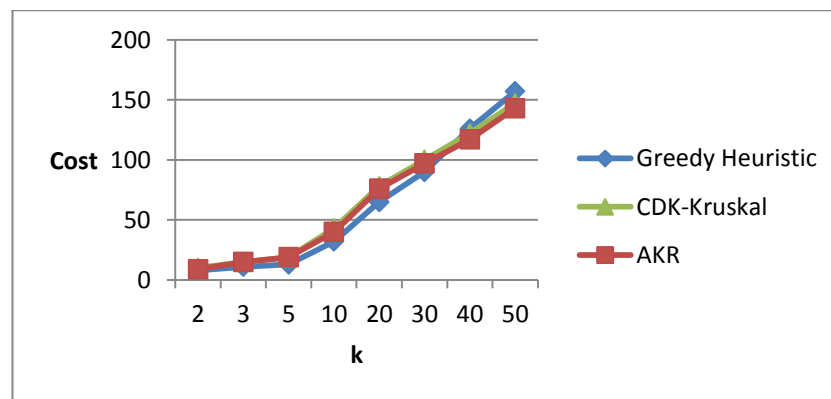


Figure 5.2.17: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.9

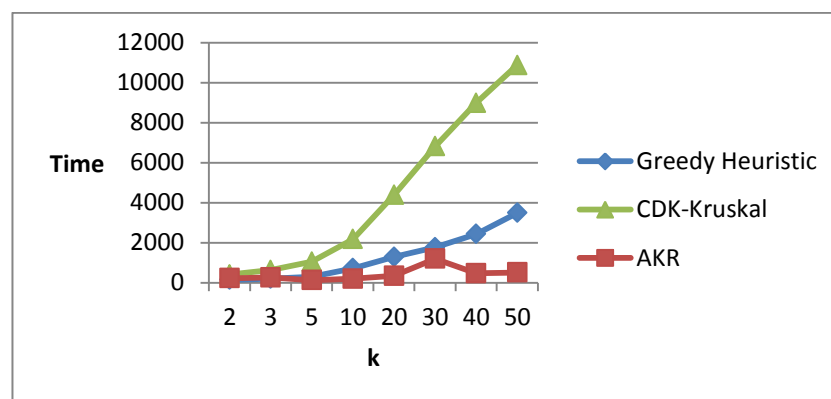


Figure 5.2.18: Running Time Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on Random Graph with Probability of Edge Existence 0.9

5.3 Experiment 3

In this experiment, we test the algorithms on a real-world geometric graph.

- We have obtained our data from the National TSP Collection website [19]. In this website, there exist TSP data of 25 different countries. Among these countries, we have chosen Uruguay that has 734 cities. We would like to note that the results that we have derived from several other countries are similar to the one we present here. So, we have decided that it is sufficient to give results for a single country.
- We created a geometric graph in the usual sense. First, we calculated the maximum distance between any two cities. Then, we multiply the maximum distance with 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, and 1.0. If the distance between two cities is less than the result of this multiplication, we include the edge into the graph. Note that for multiplication with 1.0, we have a complete graph.
- The data that we get from the website is fractional, but here while creating the graph, we round them to the nearest whole number.

We see from the results that our algorithm ÇDK-Kruskal has a very good running time compared to AKR albeit they have almost identical costs. Also ÇDK-Kruskal and AKR give better cost results than Greedy Heuristic.

The reason of high running time of AKR is the same as the reason we have mentioned in Experiment 1: the edge weights span a wide interval in real-world geometric graphs. In general, we see that ÇDK-Kruskal is a very good alternative to AKR in real-world geometric graphs since it gives comparable solution costs, but its running time is much better.



Figure 5.3.1: The Map of Uruguay [20]

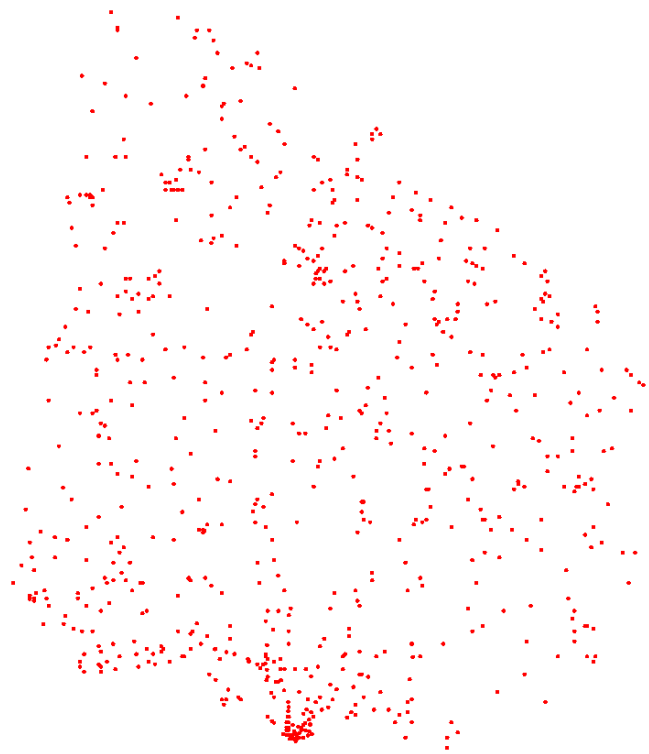


Figure 5.3.2: The Point Set of Uruguay [21]

Table 5.3.1: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,1 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.1 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 3525 | 3525 | 3525 | 286 | 72 | 2302 |
| 3 | 6387 | 7309 | 7309 | 31 | 51 | 4081 |
| 5 | 7065 | 6710 | 6710 | 38 | 85 | 1756 |
| 10 | 15520 | 14632 | 14632 | 71 | 167 | 6035 |
| 20 | 20360 | 17729 | 17729 | 101 | 292 | 3677 |
| 30 | 25529 | 21116 | 21116 | 135 | 474 | 3300 |
| 40 | 31431 | 25409 | 25409 | 196 | 718 | 3420 |
| 50 | 34753 | 27183 | 27183 | 217 | 635 | 5219 |

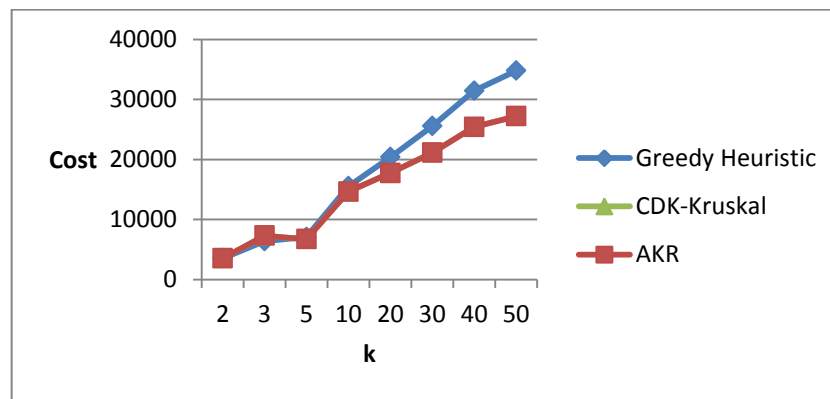


Figure 5.3.3: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1

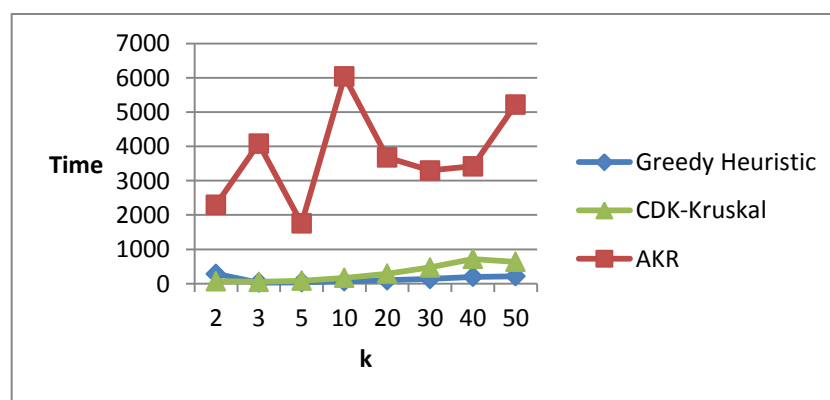


Figure 5.3.4: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1

Table 5.3.2: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,2 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.2 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 6687 | 6845 | 6845 | 44 | 99 | 27969 |
| 3 | 4932 | 4973 | 4973 | 61 | 172 | 10533 |
| 5 | 8219 | 6897 | 6897 | 86 | 263 | 11889 |
| 10 | 14913 | 11964 | 11964 | 164 | 585 | 22107 |
| 20 | 20798 | 16641 | 16641 | 308 | 1092 | 26068 |
| 30 | 25405 | 19186 | 19186 | 443 | 1685 | 14505 |
| 40 | 34036 | 26815 | 26815 | 602 | 2259 | 24731 |
| 50 | 34858 | 27091 | 27091 | 784 | 2970 | 27661 |

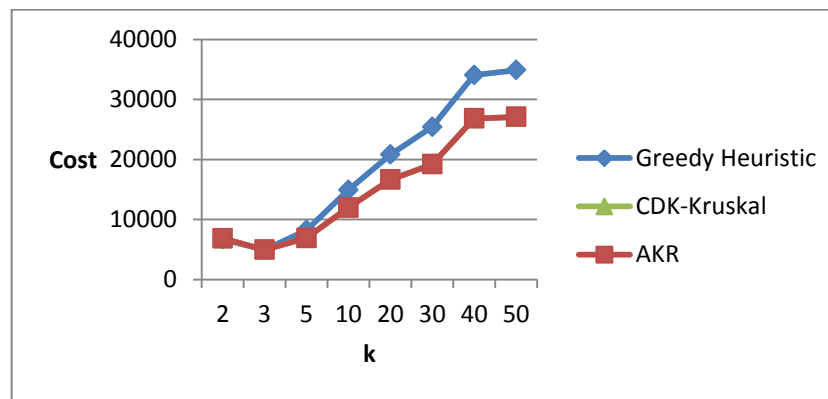


Figure 5.3.5: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2

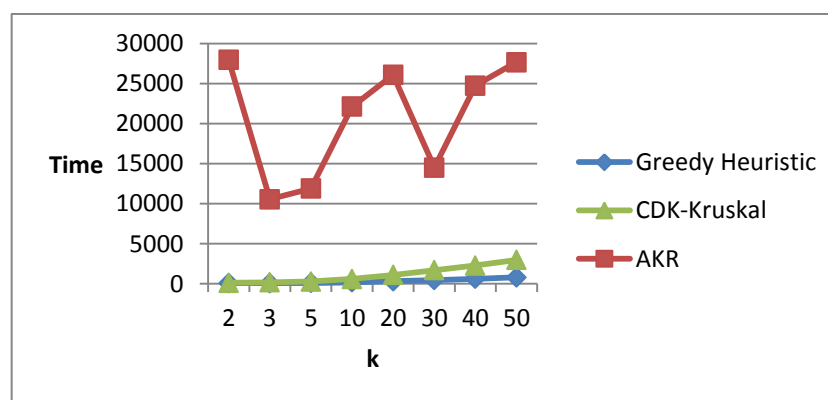


Figure 5.3.6: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2

Table 5.3.3: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,4 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.4 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 4876 | 5410 | 5410 | 66 | 159 | 155856 |
| 3 | 6185 | 6283 | 6467 | 107 | 310 | 90351 |
| 5 | 7745 | 6748 | 6748 | 173 | 535 | 147420 |
| 10 | 13681 | 11756 | 11756 | 250 | 915 | 67835 |
| 20 | 19037 | 16151 | 16151 | 684 | 2515 | 78827 |
| 30 | 27353 | 22401 | 22401 | 643 | 2159 | 88209 |
| 40 | 33068 | 24000 | 24000 | 1520 | 3652 | 49592 |
| 50 | 35003 | 26569 | 26569 | 1359 | 4681 | 84602 |

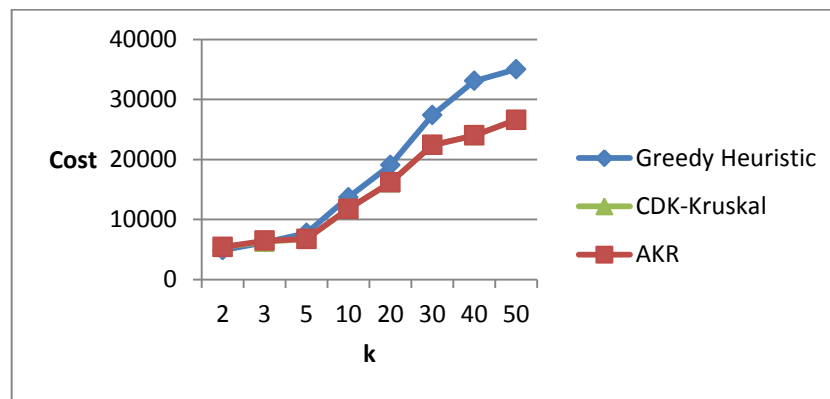


Figure 5.3.4: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4

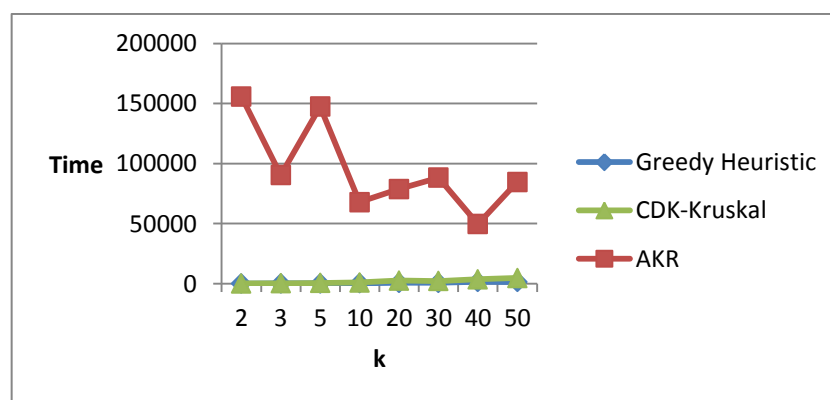


Figure 5.3.8: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4

Table 5.3.4: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,6 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.6 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 1651 | 1707 | 1707 | 99 | 253 | 2405 |
| 3 | 5153 | 5124 | 5124 | 206 | 693 | 56888 |
| 5 | 7739 | 7286 | 7286 | 259 | 892 | 170808 |
| 10 | 15296 | 11857 | 11857 | 612 | 2284 | 69025 |
| 20 | 22411 | 17693 | 17693 | 655 | 2137 | 124553 |
| 30 | 27970 | 19848 | 19848 | 1294 | 5163 | 80048 |
| 40 | 29842 | 22701 | 22701 | 2765 | 9873 | 116657 |
| 50 | 35897 | 26800 | 26800 | 3344 | 12775 | 110849 |

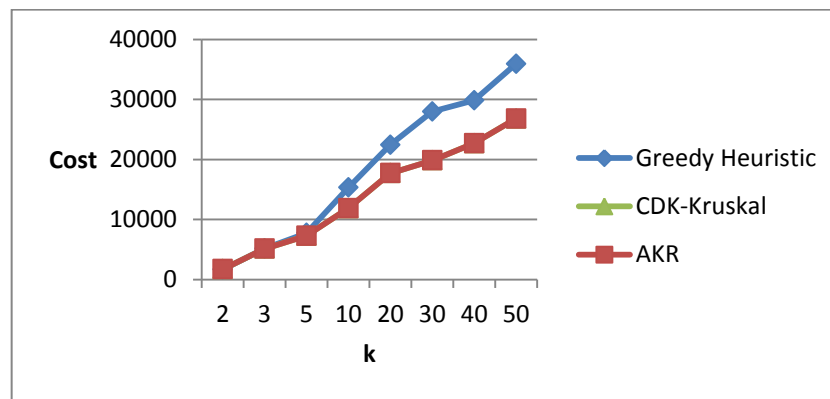


Figure 5.3.9: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6

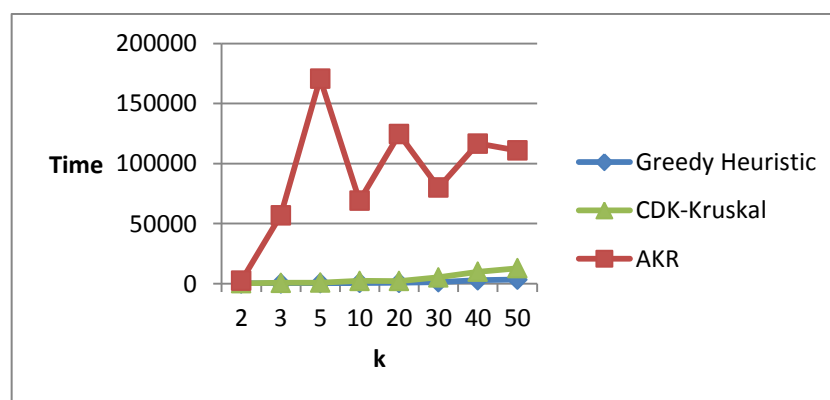


Figure 5.3.10: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6

Table 5.3.5: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,8 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.8 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 4140 | 4487 | 4487 | 101 | 286 | 98610 |
| 3 | 5305 | 5879 | 4936 | 245 | 839 | 61061 |
| 5 | 9323 | 8414 | 8414 | 169 | 612 | 268368 |
| 10 | 16664 | 13736 | 13736 | 657 | 2476 | 210610 |
| 20 | 22708 | 18032 | 17638 | 1219 | 4511 | 238231 |
| 30 | 27719 | 21100 | 21100 | 1767 | 6802 | 166786 |
| 40 | 38726 | 26709 | 26709 | 2443 | 7611 | 140340 |
| 50 | 37633 | 25992 | 26027 | 2717 | 9969 | 133018 |

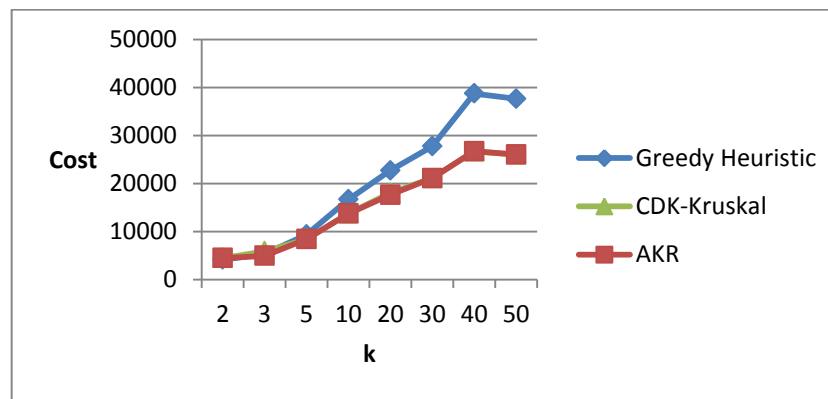


Figure 5.3.11: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8

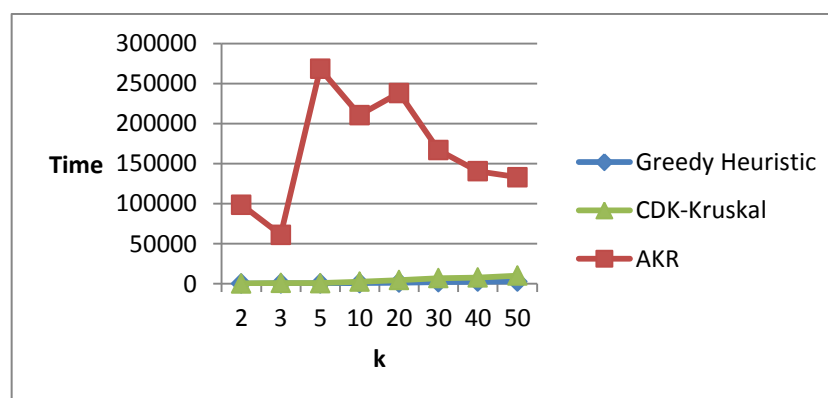


Figure 5.3.12: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8

Table 5.3.6: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on TSP-Uruguay Graph with Edge Weights less than 1,0 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 1.0 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|-------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 2489 | 3205 | 3205 | 141 | 447 | 47499 |
| 3 | 6248 | 5875 | 5875 | 151 | 462 | 159850 |
| 5 | 10608 | 10750 | 10750 | 240 | 867 | 205106 |
| 10 | 15976 | 14331 | 14331 | 553 | 2143 | 124357 |
| 20 | 22304 | 18269 | 18269 | 1310 | 4917 | 113558 |
| 30 | 29026 | 22790 | 22790 | 1364 | 4806 | 142498 |
| 40 | 33763 | 23600 | 23600 | 2892 | 6681 | 125293 |
| 50 | 40540 | 26979 | 26979 | 2944 | 9480 | 120993 |

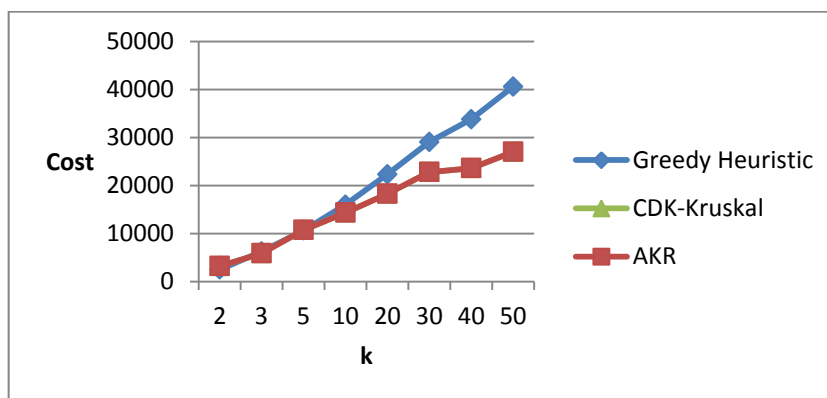


Figure 5.3.13: Cost Comparison of AKR, Greedy and ÇDK-Kruskal Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0

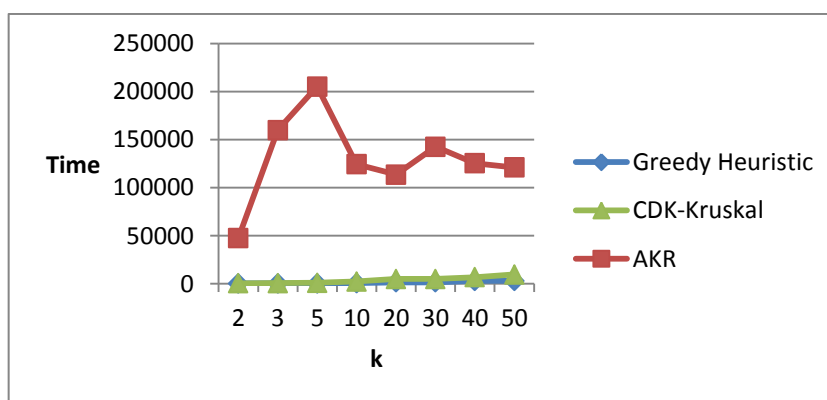


Figure 5.3.14: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on TSP Uruguay Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0

5.4 Experiment 4

In this experiment, we test the algorithms on a random geometric graph.

- We form a graph with 1000 nodes.
- We determine by selecting from the interval 0-1000 x and y coordinates of a node which the graph will include.
- The distance between two nodes is specified by their Euclidean distance.
- To determine whether an edge exist between two nodes, first we calculate the maximum distance between all the nodes in the graph. Then, we multiply the maximum distance with 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 and 1.0. If the distance of two nodes is less than the result of this multiplication, we include the edge into the graph.

The result of this section are very similar to those of previous section except the fact that for the multiplication factor 1 (where we have a complete graph), the running time of AKR gets closer to ÇDK-Kruskal. Overall, ÇDK-Kruskal turns out to be a very good alternative to AKR especially on sparse random geometric graphs and real-world geometric graphs.

Table 5.4.1: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,1 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.1 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 1078 | 1099 | 1099 | 184 | 61 | 2924 |
| 3 | 1690 | 1611 | 1611 | 60 | 105 | 1589 |
| 5 | 1939 | 1624 | 1624 | 75 | 165 | 1764 |
| 10 | 3169 | 2730 | 2730 | 112 | 328 | 1335 |
| 20 | 5078 | 4217 | 4217 | 204 | 633 | 1795 |
| 30 | 6386 | 5379 | 5379 | 296 | 745 | 2076 |
| 40 | 7815 | 6086 | 6086 | 375 | 703 | 3007 |
| 50 | 8200 | 6639 | 6639 | 443 | 1493 | 1969 |

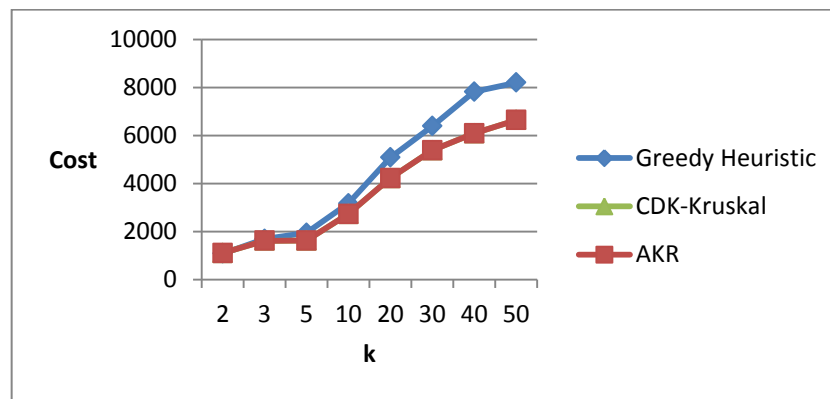


Figure 5.4.1: Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1

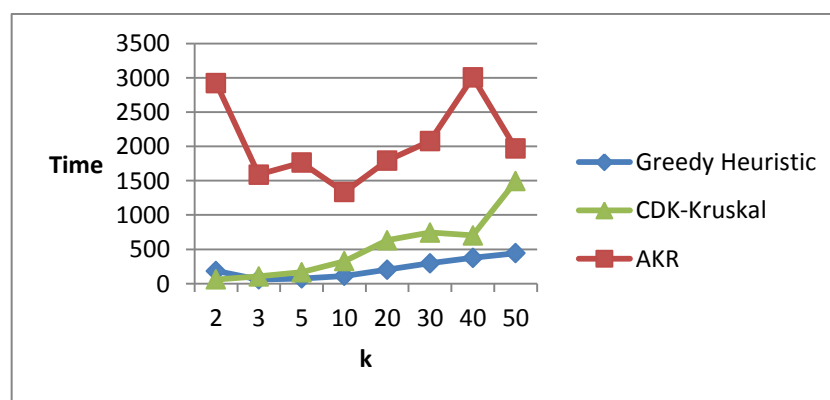


Figure 5.4.2: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,1

Table 5.4.2: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,2 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.2 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 1068 | 1147 | 1147 | 90 | 212 | 11014 |
| 3 | 1848 | 1848 | 1848 | 126 | 354 | 18951 |
| 5 | 2073 | 1828 | 1828 | 187 | 541 | 12366 |
| 10 | 3053 | 2568 | 2568 | 332 | 1184 | 8221 |
| 20 | 5692 | 4215 | 4215 | 404 | 1376 | 11204 |
| 30 | 6753 | 5269 | 5269 | 941 | 1789 | 12350 |
| 40 | 7470 | 5930 | 5930 | 1274 | 3422 | 7805 |
| 50 | 9078 | 6655 | 6655 | 1525 | 3807 | 8323 |

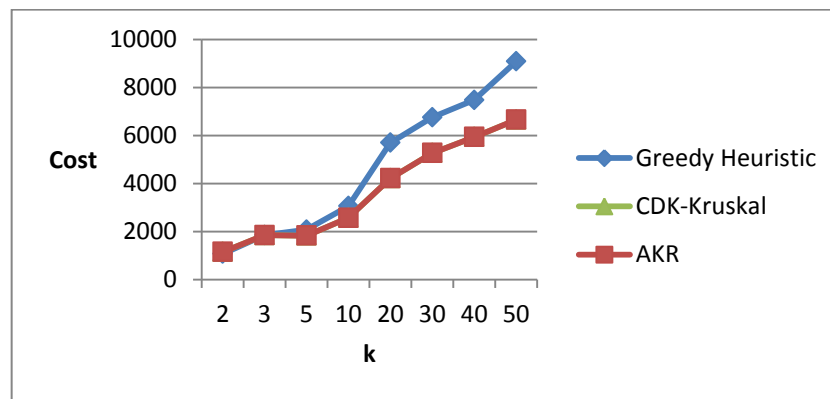


Figure 5.4.3: Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2

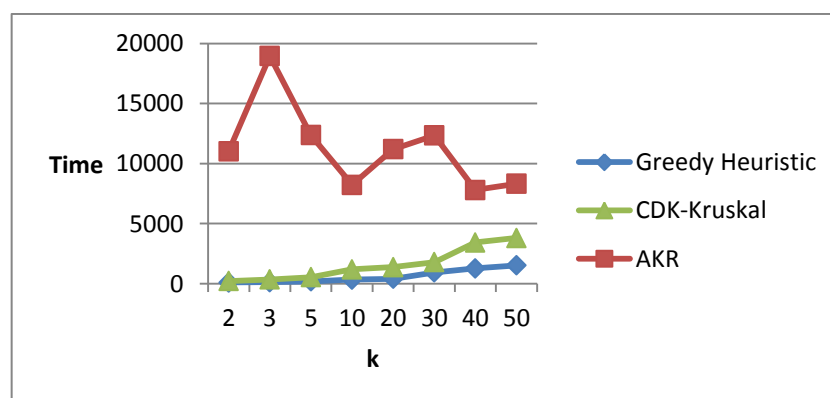


Figure 5.4.4: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,2

Table 5.4.3: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,4 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.4 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|-------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 145 | 376 | 25464 |
| 3 | 1241 | 1251 | 1251 | 154 | 509 | 32494 |
| 5 | 1940 | 2013 | 1946 | 291 | 899 | 66867 |
| 10 | 3865 | 3244 | 3183 | 732 | 2912 | 41165 |
| 20 | 4694 | 4017 | 4017 | 893 | 2694 | 26140 |
| 30 | 6889 | 5134 | 5134 | 2019 | 3941 | 24370 |
| 40 | 7808 | 6101 | 6101 | 1546 | 6423 | 21898 |
| 50 | 8558 | 6257 | 6257 | 2745 | 10181 | 28652 |

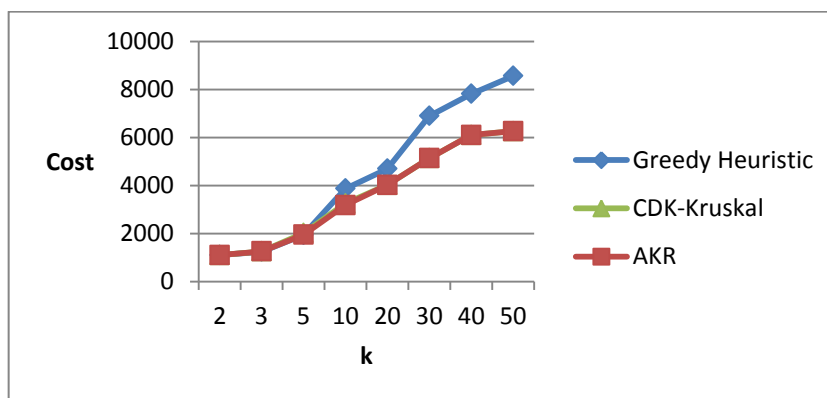


Figure 5.4.5: Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4

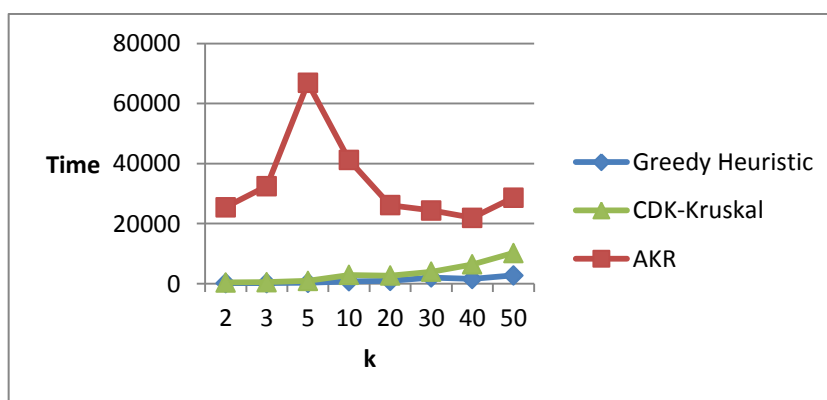


Figure 5.4.6: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,4

Table 5.4.4: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,6 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.6 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 1199 | 1225 | 1225 | 176 | 503 | 113857 |
| 3 | 1803 | 1466 | 1466 | 252 | 848 | 36524 |
| 5 | 2269 | 2156 | 2156 | 508 | 1278 | 73105 |
| 10 | 3455 | 2727 | 2727 | 946 | 3803 | 91906 |
| 20 | 5397 | 4003 | 4003 | 1439 | 5440 | 63906 |
| 30 | 6970 | 5342 | 5342 | 2216 | 9040 | 32943 |
| 40 | 7884 | 5993 | 5993 | 3029 | 9141 | 31322 |
| 50 | 8259 | 6157 | 6157 | 3863 | 14517 | 82427 |

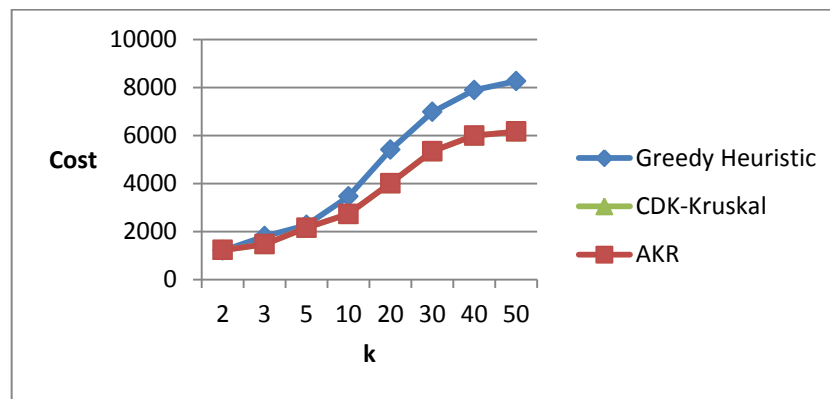


Figure 5.4.7: Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6

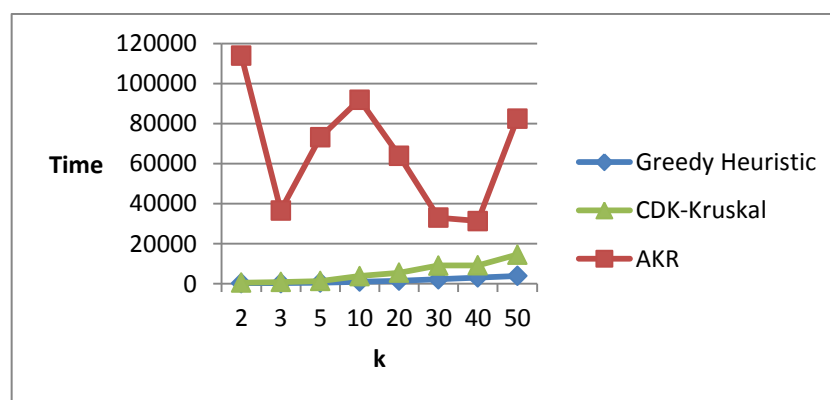


Figure 5.4.8: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,6

Table 5.4.5: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 0,8 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 0.8 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 208 | 514 | 1732 |
| 3 | 1722 | 1695 | 1695 | 288 | 910 | 65194 |
| 5 | 2424 | 2376 | 2376 | 496 | 1766 | 143164 |
| 10 | 3299 | 3054 | 3054 | 991 | 4024 | 83026 |
| 20 | 5330 | 4374 | 4374 | 1620 | 6625 | 38187 |
| 30 | 6296 | 5145 | 5155 | 2226 | 8600 | 55763 |
| 40 | 7653 | 5956 | 5956 | 4594 | 13307 | 35233 |
| 50 | 8597 | 6313 | 6313 | 4448 | 12292 | 49798 |

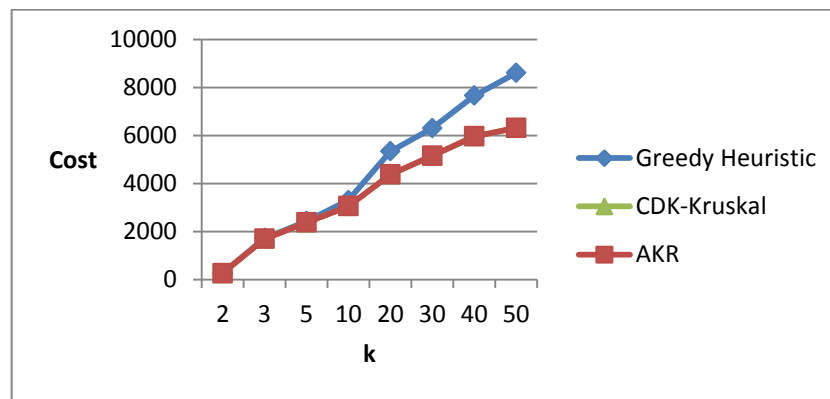


Figure 5.4.9: Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8

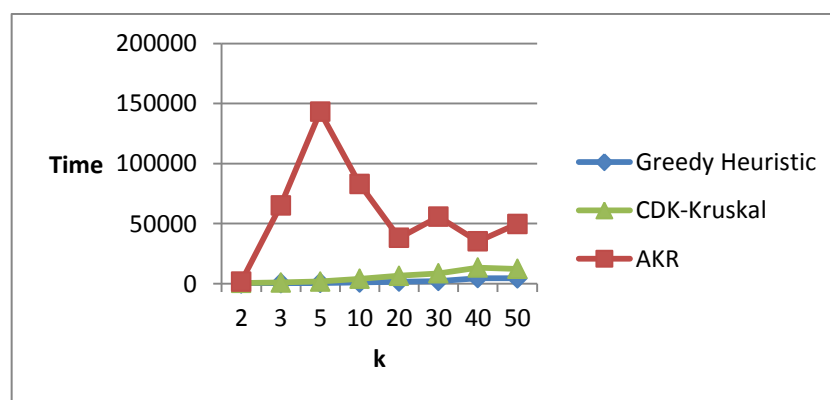


Figure 5.4.10: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 0,8

Table 5.4.6: Results of Cost and Running Time of Three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with Edge Weights less than 1,0 times maximum distances

| k | The biggest weight x 1.0 | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | COST | | | RUNNING TIME(ms) | | |
| | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR | Greedy Heuristic | ÇDK-Kruskal | AKR |
| 2 | 1134 | 1412 | 1412 | 265 | 805 | 54279 |
| 3 | 2105 | 2153 | 2153 | 306 | 1084 | 174682 |
| 5 | 3012 | 2840 | 2840 | 607 | 2139 | 127667 |
| 10 | 3366 | 2978 | 2978 | 849 | 3233 | 66796 |
| 20 | 5082 | 4298 | 4298 | 1712 | 6174 | 48771 |
| 30 | 6225 | 4711 | 4711 | 2708 | 8953 | 59389 |
| 40 | 8366 | 6326 | 6326 | 4132 | 14385 | 52029 |
| 50 | 8797 | 6743 | 6743 | 4060 | 15759 | 29929 |

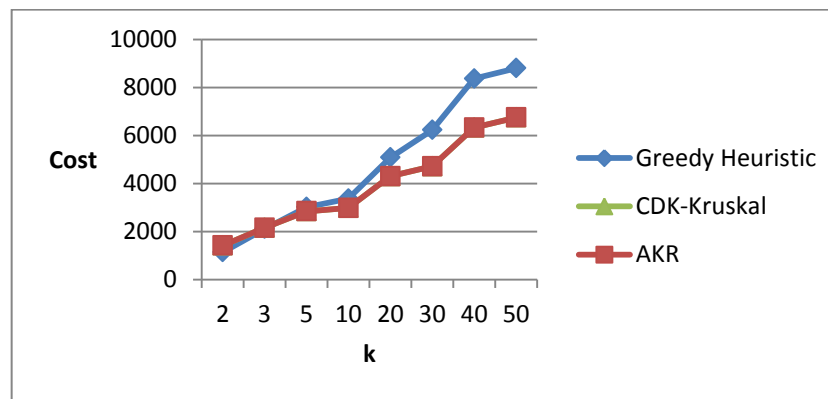


Figure 5.4.11: Cost Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0

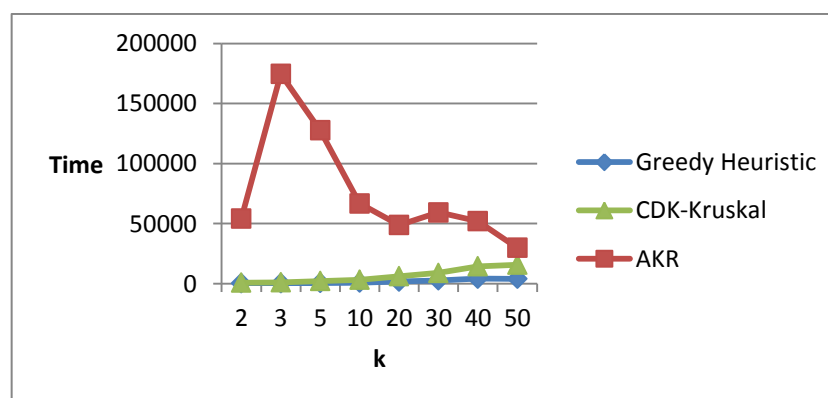


Figure 5.4.12: Running Time Comparison of the three Algorithms on Geometric Random Graph with edge weights which are smaller than the biggest distance x 1,0

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