

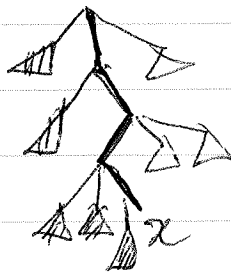
I 1. Yes In $n^3 + 10n^2$, the dominant term is n^3
 In $\frac{1}{10}n^3 + 100n$, the dominant term is n^3 .
 Hence the equality holds.

2. Yes $n^3 \log n$ grows faster than $n^{2.5} \log^5 n$.
~~clearly~~ $n^{0.5}$ beats any $\log^k n$.

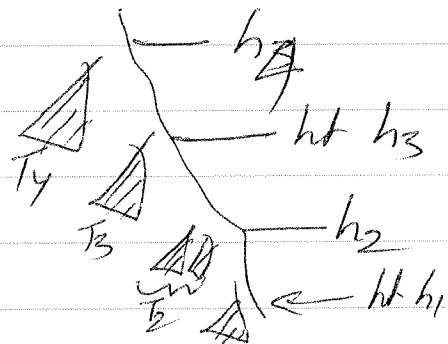
3. Yes 3^n grows much faster than $n^{3.5}$
 $3^n = 2^n (1.5)^n$; 1.5^n grows faster than n^3 .
 exponential polynomial

II As a typical example, consider ~~red~~ 2,3,4 trees.

Locate x , as shown below & we need combine the hatched subtrees.



Typical



First combine ~~with~~ T_1 with T_2 in $c(h_2 - h_1)$ steps.
 Results in depth h_2 or $h_2 + 1$.

Combine the resulting tree with T_3 in $c(h_3 - h_2)$ steps.
 Results in depth h_3 or $h_3 + 1$.

then combine ~~with~~ T_4 in $c(h_4 - h_3)$ steps.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total \# of steps} &= c(h_2 - h_1) + c(h_3 - h_2) + c(h_4 - h_3) \\ &\leq ch_4 \\ &= O(\log n) \end{aligned}$$

III

Yes.

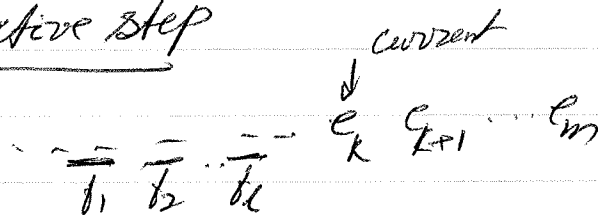
Proof: $w(e_1) > w(e_2) > \dots > w(e_m)$

By induction, we prove that the edges retained must be in the MST, and the edges deleted cannot be in the MST.

Base: when e_1 is considered, if deletion of e_1 disconnects G , then e_1 is in every spanning tree & hence it has to be in the MST of G .

If deletion of e_1 doesn't disconnect G , let T be any MST of G which includes e_1 . Then include any edge in G which forms a cycle that includes e_1 (otherwise deletion of e_1 disconnects G) & remove e_1 . The new tree is of weight less than the wt of T - hence T cannot ~~be~~ be an MST.

Inductive step



At any stage, when e_k is being considered, assume that edges $\overline{e_1}, \overline{e_2}, \dots, \overline{e_k}$ ^{have} already been chosen to be in the MST. If e_k disconnects the graph, then e_k has to be

in the MST (as above). If e_k doesn't disconnect and if e_k is in the MST, argue that inclusion of another edge from e_{k+1}, \dots, e_m forms a cycle ~~with~~ that includes e_k (and some $\overline{e_i}$'s). Then include that edge & remove e_k ~~too~~ --- resulting in a smaller wt spanning tree.

IV

At any time, let $f(h)$ be the min size of a tree of depth h .

When $\text{UNION}(A, B, C)$ results in T_C of height h & is of min size, then



$$\text{size}(T_A) = \frac{1}{2} f(h-1) \text{ and } \text{size}(T_B) = f(h-1).$$

$$\text{Hence } f(h) = f(h-1) + \frac{1}{2} f(h-1) = \frac{3}{2} f(h-1)$$

$$\text{Also } f(0) = 1.$$

$$\text{Then } f(h) = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^h.$$

If we define \hat{F} & \hat{G} as:

$$\hat{F}(h) = 1.5^{\hat{F}(h-1)}$$

& \hat{G} is the inverse of \hat{F} .

We can show that $\hat{G}(n) = O(\hat{G}(n)) = O(\log^* n)$.

Replace F by \hat{F} in the standard proof, resulting in $O(n \log^* n)$ -speed.