

Approximation Algorithms for Minimum-Cost k -Vertex Connected Subgraphs

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 - 2 $O(\sqrt{n/\epsilon})$ -approximation algorithm on directed or undirected graphs for any $\epsilon > 0$ and $k \leq (1 - \epsilon)n$

Setpair Definition

Definition (Setpair $W = (W_t, W_h)$)

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Definition ($\delta(W) = \delta(W_t, W_h)$)

The set of edges with one end-vertex in W_t and the other in W_h .

Setpair Formulations and Relaxation

Setpair Formulation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & \sum_{e \in E} c_e x_e \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \sum_{e \in \delta(W)} x_e \geq f(W) \quad \forall W \in S \\
 & x_e \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall e \in E
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where S is all possible combinations of setpairs.

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 k -VCSS

$$f(W) = \begin{cases} \max\{0, k - |V \setminus (W_h \cup W_t)|\}, & \text{if } W_t \neq \emptyset \text{ and } W_h \neq \emptyset \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

An $\log(k)$ Approximation Algorithm for Undirected Graphs

Theorem (Frank and Tardos)

Let $G = (V, E)$, r , and $c : E \rightarrow R_+$ be as above. There is a 2-approximation algorithm for the mincost k -outconnected problem. Moreover, the subgraph found by this algorithm has cost at most $2z(k)$, where $z(k)$ the optimal solution of LP.

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Definition (3-Critical Graph)

A graph $G = (V, E)$ is called 3-critical if the vertex connectivity decreases by $|S|$ on removing the vertices in any set S of at most three vertices, that is, if $\kappa(G - S) = \kappa(G) - |S|$, $S \in V, |S| \leq 3$, where $\kappa(G)$ denote the vertex connectivity.

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Theorem (Mader)

A 3-critical graph with vertex connectivity k has less than $6k^2$ vertices.

$\log(k)$ Approximation Algorithm (Cont.)

Approximation Algorithm

- 1 $H_1 \leftarrow$ minimum spanning tree on G
- 2 Find three vertices r_1, r_2, r_3 by exhaustively checking for each vertex set such that $\kappa(H_i - S) > l - 3$, $l = \kappa(H_i)$
- 3 Apply Frank-Tardos algorithm with each root r_j to find a supergraph $H_{i,j}$ on H_i which is $(l + 1)$ -outconnected from r_j
- 4 H_{i+1} is the union of $H_{i,1} + H_{i,2} + H_{i,3}$

$\log(k)$ Approximation Algorithm (Cont.)

Lemma

At every iteration $i = 1, 2, \dots$, we have $\kappa(H_{i+1}) \geq \kappa(H_i) + 1$.

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Theorem

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a k -vertex connected graph with at least $6k^2$ vertices. Then the algorithm terminates with a k -VCSS that has cost at most $6 \log kz(k)$, where $z(k)$ is the optimal value of the LP relaxation. The algorithm runs in time $O(k^2 n^4 (n + k^{2.5}))$.

Structure of a Basic Solution (Extreme Point Optimum Solution)

- Crossing Setpairs
- Bisubmodular Functions, Crossing Bisupermodular Functions
- Skew Bisupermodular Functions

Cont.

Theorem

Let the requirement function f of (LP) be skew bisupermodular, and let x be a feasible solution to (LP) such that $x_e > 0$ for all edges $e \in E$.

Suppose that the setpairs W and Y have $f(W) > 0$, $f(Y) > 0$, and moreover, W and Y overlap, and are tight (also, note that W is tight, it overlaps Y , and $f(W) > 0$). Then one of the following holds:

- The setpairs $W \otimes Y$ and $W \oplus Y$ are tight, and $\chi_W + \chi_Y = \chi_{W \otimes Y} + \chi_{W \oplus Y}$.
- The setpairs $\bar{W} \otimes Y$ and $\bar{W} \oplus Y$ are tight, and $\chi_W + \chi_Y = \chi_{\bar{W} \otimes Y} + \chi_{\bar{W} \oplus Y}$.

where χ_W denote the edge incidence vector of $\delta(W)$ and a setpair W is called tight if $x(\delta(W)) = f(W)$ given a feasible solution x to (LP).

Cont.

Theorem

Let the requirement function f of (LP) be skew bisupermodular, and let x be a basic solution to (LP) such that $0 < x_e < 1$ for all edges $e \in E$. Then there exists a non-overlapping family \mathcal{L} of tight setpairs such that:

- Every setpair $W \in \mathcal{L}$ has $f(W) \geq 1$.
- $|\mathcal{L}| = |E|$.
- The vectors χ_W , $W \in \mathcal{L}$, are linearly independent.
- x is the unique solution to $\{x(\delta(W)) = f(W), \forall W \in \mathcal{L}\}$.

Cont.

Theorem

Let k and n be positive integers, and let $\epsilon < 1$ be a positive number such that k is at most $(1 - \epsilon)n$. There is a polynomial-time algorithm that, given an n -vertex (directed or undirected) graph, finds a solution to the k -vertex connectivity problem of cost at most $O(\sqrt{n/\epsilon})$ times the optimal cost.

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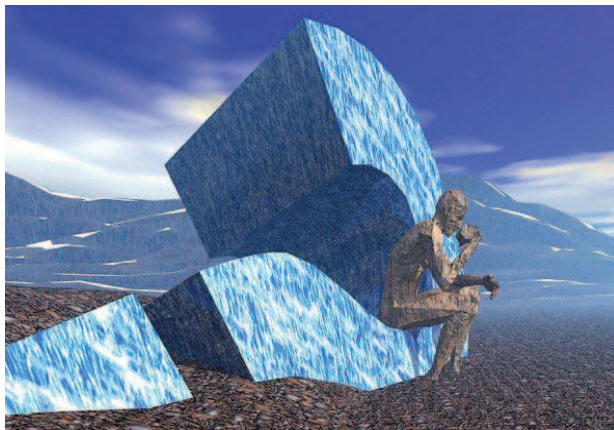
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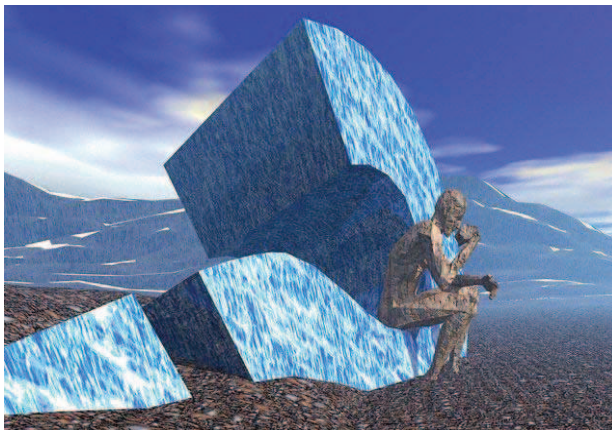
Theorem

Suppose that the requirement function f for the linear program (LP-VC) is crossing (or, skew) bisupermodular. Let x be a nonzero basic solution of (LP-VC), and let \mathcal{L} be a non-crossing family of setpairs characterizing x . Then there exists an edge e with $x_e \geq 1/\Omega(\sqrt{|\mathcal{L}|})$.

Questions?



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Thank you !