Deterministic Edge Connectivity in Near-Linear Time

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- Simple graph G = (V, E) (no parallel edges).
- Edge connectivity is smallest number of edges whose removal disconnects G.

- ► Cut defined by $U \subseteq V$, $\emptyset \neq U \neq V$. Two sides *U* and $T = V \setminus U$, cut edges $E(U, T) = \partial U = \partial T$ between sides.
- Result Find edge connectivity including minimum cut deterministically in near linear time.

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- A cut is trivial if one side is a single vertex.
- ► For simple graph with min-degree δ , in near-linear time, contract edges producing graph \overline{G} with $\overline{m} = \widetilde{O}(m/\delta)$ edges, preserving all non-trivial min-cuts of *G*.

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- Run Gabow's min-cut (or cactus) algorithm on *G* in $\widetilde{O}(\lambda \overline{m}) = \widetilde{O}(m)$ time.
- Check against δ to see if trivial min-cuts from *G* should be included.
- Gives min-cut (or cactus) for original G in O(m) total time.

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Involving cut conductance

• The volume of vertex set $U \subseteq V$ is # edge end-points in U:

$$\operatorname{vol}(U) = \sum_{v \in U} d(v).$$

- Recall $\partial U = E(U, V \setminus U)$.
- Conductance of cut around U is

$$\Phi(U) = \frac{|\partial U|}{\min\{\operatorname{vol}(U), \ 2m - \operatorname{vol}(U)\}} = \Phi(V \setminus U)$$

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Obs Any non-trivial min-cut *S* has conductance $\leq 1/\delta$.

- $|\partial S| \ge |S|(\delta (|S| 1)).$
- $\bullet \ |\partial S| \le \delta \text{ and } |S| > 1 \implies |S| \ge \delta.$
- so $\operatorname{vol}(S) \ge \delta^2$ and $\Phi(S) = |\partial S|/\operatorname{vol}(S) \le 1/\delta$.

We assume min-degree $\delta \ge \lg^6 n$; otherwise apply Gabow.

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Non-trivial min-cuts have low-conductance

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- We assume min-degree $\delta \geq \lg^6 n$; otherwise apply Gabow.
- Certify-or-cut(G) In near-linear time, we will either
 - (i) certify all min-cuts of G are trivial, or
- (ii) find cut *T* with conductance $o(1/\log m)$.
- Both (i) and (ii) alone are difficult deterministically.
 - (i) As hard as certifying edge connectivity k
 - (ii) Using PageRank, need to guess good vertex in S.

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Really, we need something more elaborate

Certify-or-cut(C, G) C subgraph of G with min-degree $\frac{2}{5}\delta$.

(i) certify no min-cut of *G* splits more than 2 vertices from *C*.
(ii) find a cut (*A*, *B*) of conductance o(1/log m) of *C*

Claim If *C* has been certified, we can contract a large "core" of *C* in *G* preserving all non-trivial cuts of *G*. No proof in this talk

▶ Set *H* = *G*.

▶ While some component *C* of *H* has not been certified.

• Contract cores of components C of H in G.

- charge cut edges as o(1/log m) per small-side edge.

Really, we need something more elaborate

Certify-or-cut(C, G) C subgraph of G with min-degree $\frac{2}{5}\delta$.

- (i) certify no min-cut of G splits more than 2 vertices from C.
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Claim If C has been certified, we can contract a large "core" of C in G preserving all non-trivial cuts of G. No proof in this talk

• Set H = G.

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• remove cut edges E(A, B) from H.

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Recall both (i) and (ii) alone are difficult.

(i) As hard as certifying edge connectivity *k*(ii) Using PageRank, need to guess good vertex in *S*

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initial mass distribution $p^{\circ}: V \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $p^{\circ}(V) = \sum_{v \in V} p^{\circ}(v) = 1$ teleportation constant $\alpha = 1/\lg^5 n$ slack $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$.

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Unique (abstract) limit mass distribution $p^* \leftarrow p$ for $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. PR_{α}(p°) = p^* linear transformation such that

$$\mathsf{PR}_{\alpha}(p^{\circ}) = p + \mathsf{PR}_{\alpha}(r)$$

Stationary mass distribution $q = PR_{\alpha}(q)$ iff all $v \in V$ have same density $q(v)/d(v) = \sigma_{co}, \sigma_{co}, \sigma_{co}, \sigma_{co}$

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- while $v \in V$ with $r(v)/d(v) \ge \varepsilon$
 - ▶ Push(*a*, *v*):

$$\blacktriangleright p(\mathbf{v}) = p(\mathbf{v}) + \alpha r(\mathbf{v})$$

► for $(v, w) \in E$ do $r(w) = r(w) + (1 - \alpha)r(v)/d(v)$

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Unique (abstract) limit mass distribution $p^* \leftarrow p$ for $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$. PR_{α}(p°) = p^* linear transformation such that

$$\mathsf{PR}_{\alpha}(p^{\circ}) = p + \mathsf{PR}_{\alpha}(r)$$

PageRank($p^{\circ}, \alpha, \varepsilon$)

initial mass distribution $p^{\circ}: V \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, $p^{\circ}(V) = 1$ teleportation constant $\alpha = 1/\lg^5 n$ slack $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$.

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Thm [ACL'06] If $S \subseteq V$ has $p^*(S) - \operatorname{vol}(S)/(2m) = \Omega(1)$ then PageRank finds *T* with conductance $\Phi(T) = o(1/\log m)$ with $\operatorname{vol}(T) = \widetilde{O}(\operatorname{vol}(S))$ in $\widetilde{O}(\operatorname{vol}(T))$ time.

In [ACL06], if $\Phi(S) \le 1/\lg^{10} m$ and we start with $p^{\circ}(v) = 1$ from random $v \in S$, we get $p^{*}(S) - \operatorname{vol}(S)/(2m) = \Omega(1)$ with good probability, but here we do not want to guess..

We will prove that if *S* non-trivial min-cut and we start with $p^{\circ}(v) = 1$ for any $v \in S$, we get $p^{*}(S) - \text{vol}(S)/(2m) = \Omega(1)$.

and if that fails we have

New analysis of end-game

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Push
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• We have min-degree $\delta \ge \lg^6 n$ and $\alpha = 1/\lg^5 n$.

- Let S with vol(S) ≤ m/2 be small side of min-cut.
- For arbitrary $v \in S$, start with $p^{\circ}(v) = 1$ and push from v

- At least half mass stays in S.
- On every vertex u, residual mass $r(u) \le 1/d(v) \le 1/d(v)$
- On every vertex *u*, residual density $r(u)/d(u) \le 1/\delta^2$.
- Henceforth pushing, netflow over any edge < 1/($lpha\delta^2$),
- ▶ so $\lambda/(\alpha\delta^2) \le 1/\lg m = o(1)$ flow over edges leaving S.
- Thus 1/2 o(1) mass remains in S, so

 $p^*(v) - \operatorname{vol}(S)/(2m) \ge 1/2 - o(1) - (m/2)/(2m) = \Omega(1).$

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- Suppose min-cut side *S* with $m/2 \le vol(S) \le 3m/2$.
- < 16 vertices incident to $\geq \delta/8$ cut edges.
- Trying 16 vertices separately.
- One v has 7/8 neighbors on same side.
- Pushing to limit from v, we get

 $p^*(S) - \operatorname{vol}(S)/(2m) \ge 7/8 - o(1) - (3m/2)/(2m) = \Omega(1).$

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$$p^*(S) - \operatorname{vol}(S)/(2m) \ge 7/8 - o(1) - (3m/2)/(2m) = \Omega(1).$$

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Any non-trivial min-cut

- For some $s \le m/2$, know vol(S) $\le s$ for any min-cut S.
- Look for min-cut *S* with $1 < s/2 \le vol(S) \le s$.
- ▶ Using ACL, in O(s) time, if $v \in S'$ for min-cut S' with $vol(S') \leq s$, find T with $\Phi(T) \leq o(1/\log m)$.
- Try $8m/(s\alpha)$ different v in O(m) time. None succeeds.
- Give each of them initial mass sα/(8m) and density ≤ sα/(8mδ). Apply page rank.

- ► Netflow over min-cut into $S \le \lambda(s\alpha/(8m\delta))/\alpha \le s/(8m)$.
- So average limit density in S is

 $p^*(S)/\mathrm{vol}(S) \leq (s/(8m))/(s/2) = 1/(4m).$

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- ► Certified: no min-cut of *G* splits > 2 vertices from *C*.
- Vertex $v \in C$ loose if $\leq d(v)/2 + 1$ neighbors in *C*.
- All other vertics of *C* in core.

Lemma Core of *C* can be contracted preserving all non-trivial cuts of *G*.

- ▶ Consider non-trivial min-cut (U, T) of G.
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- We can now give exact answer deterministically in near-linear time.

For more fun with algorithms, do PhD/Postdoc in Copenhagen.



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