

Low-Stretch Trees and Low-Diameter Decompositions

Recall APSP Conjecture: no $n^{3-\epsilon}$ time algo for APSP.

This lecture: $O(\log n)$ -approx APSP on undir. graphs in $\tilde{O}(n^2)$ time

Main idea: approximate pairwise distances by trees. Then solve APSP on trees

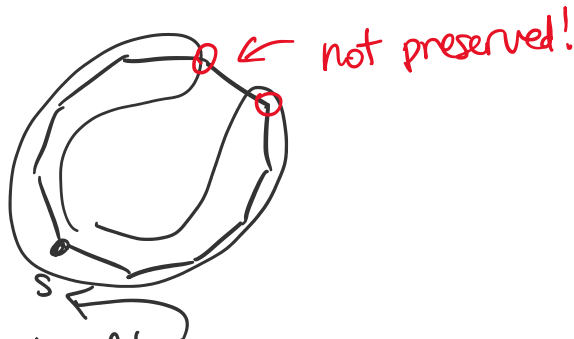
Ideal statement: for any graph G , there is a tree T on V s.t.
 $d_G(u,v) \approx d_T(u,v)$ for all $u,v \in V$.

(Then compute APSP on T in $O(n^2)$ time.)

Remark: true for single-source:

the SSSP tree satisfies $d_G(s,v) = d_T(s,v) \forall v \in V$.

Consider a cycle:



Shortest path tree looks like

Idea: Randomized low-stretch tree, preserve distances in expectation

Def: A (randomized) low-stretch tree of stretch α for a graph $G=(V,E)$ is a probability distribution $\mathcal{D}$ over spanning trees of G s.t.

$d_G(x,y) \leq d_T(x,y)$ for all T in the support of $\mathcal{D}$

$\mathbb{E}[d_T(x,y)] \leq \alpha d_G(x,y)$ for all $x,y \in V$.

($\Leftrightarrow \forall (x,y) \in E$)

$$\mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}} [d_T(x, y)] \leq \alpha d_G(x, y) \text{ for all } x, y \in V. \quad (\Leftrightarrow \forall (x, y) \in E)$$

Example: cycle. Sample T by dropping a random edge.
($\approx$ run SSSP from a random source)

Claim: is randomized low-stretch tree with stretch $\alpha=2$.

Proof: $d_G(x, y) \leq d_T(x, y)$ since $T \subseteq G$ (distances only increase)

Fix $(x, y) \in E$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_T [d_T(x, y)] &= \Pr[\text{don't delete edge } (x, y)] \cdot 1 \\ &\quad + \Pr[\text{delete edge } (x, y)] \cdot (n-1) \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{n-1}{n} \cdot 1}_{\leq 1} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \cdot (n-1)}_{\leq 1} \leq 2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } \mathbb{E}_T [d_T(x, y)] \leq 2 d_G(x, y) \quad \forall (x, y) \in E.$$

Now consider general $x, y \in V$.

Let $x = v_0 - v_1 - v_2 - \dots - v_k = y$ be shortest $x-y$ path.

$$\text{Know } \mathbb{E}_T [d_T(v_i, v_{i+1})] \leq 2 d_G(v_i, v_{i+1}) \quad \forall i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_T [d_T(x, y)] &\leq \mathbb{E}_T [d_T(v_0, v_1) + d_T(v_1, v_2) + \dots + d_T(v_{k-1}, v_k)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_T [d_T(v_0, v_1)] + \dots + \mathbb{E}_T [d_T(v_{k-1}, v_k)] \\ &\leq 2 d_G(v_0, v_1) + \dots + 2 d_G(v_{k-1}, v_k) \\ &= 2 d_G(x, y). \end{aligned}$$

APSP algo: Sample $10 \log n$ trees $T \sim \mathcal{D}$: $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_{10 \log n}$
Compute APSP on each tree T_i in $O(n^2)$ time.

11.01.17

Compute APSP on each tree T_i in $O(n^2)$ time.

For each x, y , output $\widetilde{\text{dist}}_G(x, y) = \min_i \text{dist}_{T_i}(x, y)$ as estimate of $\text{dist}_G(x, y)$.

Claim: $\widetilde{\text{dist}}(x, y) \geq \text{dist}_G(x, y)$

Proof: $\text{dist}_{T_i}(x, y) \geq \text{dist}_G(x, y) \forall i$ by definition.

Claim: With prob $\geq 1 - n^{-8}$, $\widetilde{\text{dist}}(x, y) \leq 2\alpha \text{dist}_G(x, y) \forall u, v \in V$.

Proof: Fix $u, v \in V$. $\mathbb{E} \text{dist}_T(x, y) \leq \alpha \text{dist}_G(x, y)$ by definition

$$\Rightarrow \Pr[\text{dist}_T(x, y) > 2\alpha \text{dist}_G(x, y)] \leq 1/2.$$

The event $\widetilde{\text{dist}}(x, y) > 2\alpha \text{dist}_G(x, y)$ happens iff

$$\text{dist}_{T_i}(x, y) > 2\alpha \text{dist}_G(x, y) \forall i,$$

$$\text{happens w.p.} \leq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{10 \log n} = n^{-10}.$$

$$\text{So } \widetilde{\text{dist}}(x, y) > 2\alpha \text{dist}_G(x, y) \text{ w.p. } n^{-10}.$$

By union bound over all $x, y \in V$,

$$\widetilde{\text{dist}}(x, y) > 2\alpha \text{dist}_G(x, y) \text{ for some } x, y \in V \text{ w.p. } n^{-8}$$

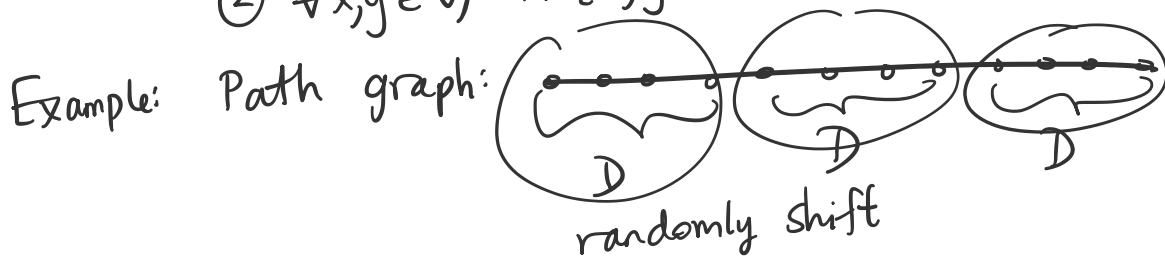
Bartal's Low-Stretch Tree construction.

Def: A Low-Diameter Decomposition scheme with approximation β and diameter D on graph G is a randomized algorithm that partitions the vertex set V into clusters $V_1, \dots, V_k$ st

① $\forall i = 1, \dots, k$, the diameter of $G[V_i]$ is $\leq D$

② $\forall x, y \in V$, $\Pr[x, y \text{ in different clusters}] \leq \beta \cdot \frac{d(x, y)}{D}$.

② $\forall x, y \in V$, $\Pr[x, y \text{ in different clusters}] \geq 1 - D$



Algorithm: $p \leftarrow \min(1, \frac{4 \log n}{D})$

while $\exists$ unclustered vertex $v \in V$:

sample $R_v \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$

take cluster $C_v = \{\text{unclustered } u: d(v, u) \leq R_v\}$

Claim: with prob $1 - 1/n$, diam of each cluster is $\leq D$.

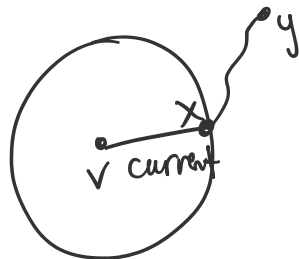
Proof: $\Pr[R_v \leq D/2] \leq (1 - \frac{4 \log n}{D})^{D/2} \leq e^{-\frac{4 \log n}{D} \cdot \frac{D}{2}} = n^{-2}$.

Union bound over all selected v .

Claim: any pair $x, y \in V$ separated w.p. $\geq p \cdot d(x, y)$.

Proof: View clustering C_v as: start at v , flip coin w.p. p , if tails grow ball by 1, else stop Memoryless.

Consider first time x or y enters current ball.



If flip tails $d(x, y)$ more times then cluster y :

$$d(v, y) \leq d(v, x) + d(x, y).$$

In order to separate x, y must flip a head in next $d(x, y)$ times. Union bound: $p \cdot d(x, y)$.

Assume that G is a metric: complete graph with $w_G(x,y) = \text{dist}_G(x,y)$
 $\forall x,y \in V$

Algorithm $\text{LST}(G=(V,E), 2^\delta)$

Invariant: $\text{diameter}(G) \leq 2^\delta$

If $|U|=1$, return empty graph on U .

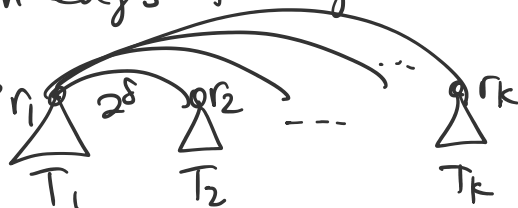
Run LDD on G with $D=2^{\delta-1}$, get clusters $V_1 \dots V_k$

For each $i=1, \dots, k$

$T_i \leftarrow \text{LST}(G[V_i])$

Connect the roots of T_i with edges of length 2^δ :

Return tree rooted at $r_1 \rightarrow$



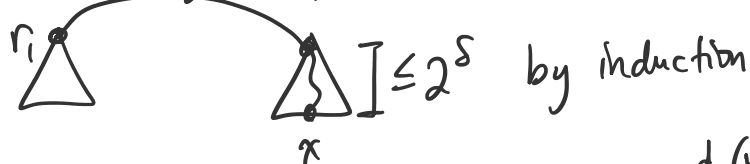
Lemma: If output $T \leftarrow \text{LST}(G, 2^\delta)$ has root r , then

① every vertex x in T has $d_T(x,r) \leq 2^{\delta+1}$

② $\mathbb{E}_T[d_T(x,y)] \leq 8\delta \beta d_G(x,y)$.

Proof: by induction on δ . Base case trivial.

①



② x,y separated by LDD w.p. $\beta \cdot \frac{d_G(x,y)}{2^{\delta-1}}$, in which case distance $\leq d_T(x,r) + d_T(r,y) \leq 2 \cdot 2^{\delta+1} = 4 \cdot 2^\delta$

Else, they lie in same cluster V_i , so by induction,

$$d_{T_i}(x,y) \leq 8(\delta-1) d_G(x,y)$$

$$d_{T_i}(x, y) \leq 8(\delta-1) d_G(x, y)$$

$$\text{So } d_T(x, y) = d_{T_i}(x, y) = 8(\delta-1) d_G(x, y)$$

$$\text{Overall, } \mathbb{E}_T[d_T(x, y)] \leq \underbrace{\beta \cdot \frac{d_G(x, y)}{2^{\delta-1}}}_{\text{separated}} \cdot 4 \cdot 2^\delta + \underbrace{1 \cdot 8(\delta-1) d_G(x, y)}_{\text{not sep.}}$$

$$= 8\delta d_G(x, y).$$

So, stretch $\alpha = 8\delta\beta$ where $\delta = \log(\text{diameter}(G)) = O(\log n)$
and $\beta = O(\log n)$.

[FRT'04]: Low-stretch trees with $\alpha = O(\log n)$,
also optimal.