# Single-Source Shortest Paths: Towards Optimality

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# How can this be an open problem??

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- To be fair: non-negative weights also not fully understood in RAM model

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- Synchronous rounds (global clock)
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- Message size  $O(\log n)$
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- Communication network: unweighted undirected graph of diameter D
- Edges are "annotated" with (non-negative) weights and directions
- Weights represent costs (not time)
- This talk: integer edge weights bounded by  $n^{O(1)}$

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#### Distributed problem statement:

- Initial knowledge: incident edges, source
- Terminal knowledge: distance to the source, parent on shortest path tree

















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Our goal: efficient algorithms for weighted graphs

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Bellman-Ford [Elkin '17]

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 $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate SSSP:  $\tilde{O}((\sqrt{n}D^{1/4} + D)/\epsilon^{O(1)})$   $\tilde{O}((\sqrt{n} + D)n^{o(1)})^{-1}$   $\tilde{O}((\sqrt{n} + D)/\epsilon^{O(1)})$  Bellman-Ford [Elkin '17] [Ghaffari/Li '18] [Ghaffari/Li '18] [F/Nanongkai] [F/Nanongkai]

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$$1\epsilon \ge 1/\log^{O(1)} n$$

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# **Common Lower Bound:** $\tilde{\Omega}(\sqrt{n} + D)$

 $\epsilon \geq 1/\log^{O(1)} n$ 

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[Peleg/Rubinovich '99] [Elkin '04] [Das Sarma et al. '11]

# More Related Work

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- [Holzer/Wattenhofer '12]
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#### **Congested Clique:**

- [Censor-Hillel et al. '15]
- [Holzer/Pinsker '15]



# **Basic Tools**



# Broadcasting

#### Lemma

Suppose k pieces of information (of size  $O(\log n)$  each) are distributed among the nodes of the network. All this information can be made known to all nodes in O(k + D) rounds.

Need to respect bounded message size!



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"Pipelining"



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# Bellman-Ford

### Algorithm:

Initialize 
$$\delta_0(s) = 0$$
 and  $\delta(v) \neq$ for  $v \neq s$ 

3 In round *i*, set 
$$\delta_i(v) = \min_{(u,v) \in E} (\delta_{i-1}(u) + w(u,v))$$

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#### Intuition

SSSP is easy if shortest path has only few edges (hops)!

## Hopsets

## Definition ([Cohen '00])

An  $(h, \epsilon)$ -hopset is a set of weighted edges F such that, for every pair of nodes u and v, there is a path from u to v with *at most* h *edges* of weight at most  $(1 + \epsilon) \operatorname{dist}_G(u, v)$  in  $G \cup F$ .



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Attention: Hopset edges cannot literally be "added" to network!

# Skeleton Graph: Intuition



#### **Randomized skeleton** *H*:

- Sample  $\tilde{O}(n/h)$  skeleton nodes uniformly at random (+ source s)
- Set  $w_H(x, y) = \text{dist}_G^h(x, y)$  (*h*-hop distance)

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## **Proof of hopset property:**



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# **Skeleton Shortcuts: Intuition**



- Suppose we could compute SSSP on skeleton *H*
- Shortcut edges *F* from *s* to skeleton nodes:  $w_F(s, x) = \text{dist}_H(s, x)$

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**Recall proof:** 



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• Cannot literally "add" shortcuts to network, but can run Bellman-Ford on  $G \cup F$ 

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- If each skeleton node knows shortcut to s, simulate first iteration in O(D) rounds

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# A First Idea

## Algorithm 1:

- Determine skeleton nodes: random sample of  $\tilde{O}(n/h)$  nodes + s (repeat sampling if too large)
- Compute *h*-hop distances from all skeleton nodes (such that dist<sup>h</sup><sub>G</sub>(x, v) is known to v)
- Make skeleton known to every node
- Determine set of shortcut edges F (Internally compute SSSP on skeleton H for every node)
- Some compute h-hop distances from s in  $G \cup F$ (h Bellman-Ford iterations)

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  Time: O(D)
- Compute *h*-hop distances from all skeleton nodes (such that dist<sup>h</sup><sub>G</sub>(x, v) is known to v)
- Solution Make skeleton known to every node Time:  $O(n^2/h^2 + D)$
- Determine set of shortcut edges F (Internally compute SSSP on skeleton H for every node) Time: 0
- Compute *h*-hop distances from *s* in *G* ∪ *F* (*h* Bellman-Ford iterations) Time: *O*(*h*)

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  Time: Õ(h · n/h) = Õ(n) (sequential)
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- Bandwidth-friendly: at most one message per node
- Pseudopolynomial: *h*-hop shortest paths in time  $O(hW_{max})$

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- But: Each edge traversal gives additive error of  $\varphi$
- Choice of  $\varphi_i = \epsilon 2^i / h$  deals with range  $2^i \leq \text{dist}^h(s, v) \leq 2^{i+1}$

## Lemma ([Nanongkai '14])

Can compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate h-hop shortest paths from given source in  $\tilde{O}(h/\epsilon)$  rounds such that each node sends  $\tilde{O}(1/\epsilon)$  messages
Efficient parallelization: Random start delays [Leighton/Maggs/Rao '94]

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#### **Remarks**:

• Alternative: Weight rounding + source detection [Lenzen/Peleg '13]

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- Approximate skeleton is  $(\tilde{O}(n/h + h), \epsilon)$  hopset

# **Refined Algorithm**

### Algorithm 2:

- Determine skeleton nodes: random sample of Õ(n/h) nodes + s (repeat sampling if too large)
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   Time: O(D)
- Compute (1 + ε)-approximate h-hop distances from all skeleton nodes (such that dist<sup>h</sup><sub>G</sub>(x, v) is known to v)
  Time: Õ(h/ε + n/h)
- Solution Make skeleton known to every node Time:  $O(n^2/h^2 + D)$
- Determine set of shortcut edges F (Internally compute SSSP on skeleton H for every node) Time: 0
- Solution Compute *h*-hop distances from *s* in  $G \cup F$ Time: O(h)

# **Refined Algorithm**

Algorithm 2:

- Determine skeleton nodes: random sample of Õ(n/h) nodes + s (repeat sampling if too large)
  Time: O(D)
- Compute (1 + ε)-approximate h-hop distances from all skeleton nodes (such that dist<sup>h</sup><sub>G</sub>(x, v) is known to v)
  Time: Õ(h/ε + n/h)
- Solution Make skeleton known to every node Time:  $O(n^2/h^2 + D)$
- Determine set of shortcut edges F (Internally compute SSSP on skeleton H for every node) Time: 0
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### Theorem

*Can compute*  $(1 + \epsilon)$ *-approximate SSSP in time*  $\tilde{O}(n^{2/3}/\epsilon + D)$  *with*  $h = n^{2/3}$ 

### Computing on Skeleton via Broadcast

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**Idea:** Simulate a round with total of k messages on skeleton by making all messages global knowledge in time O(k + D)





# Reduction to Blackboard model

### Blackboard model:

- Communication in synchronized rounds
- Write messages on "blackboard" to make them global knowledge
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### Lemma ([Nanongkai '14])

Any algorithm with R(k) rounds and messages of total size M(k) in blackboard model, can be simulated on skeleton of k nodes in  $\tilde{O}(M(k) + R(k)D)$  rounds in the CONGEST model.

# Back to Our Algorithm

Algorithm 3:

- **O** Determine skeleton nodes: random sample of  $\tilde{O}(n/h)$  nodes + s
- **2** Compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate *h*-hop distances from all skeleton nodes
- Compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate shortest paths from *s* on skeleton Simulate Algorithm 2 with  $R(k) = \tilde{O}(h'/\epsilon)$  and  $M(k) = k^2/(h\epsilon)$  where  $k = \tilde{O}(n/h)$ .
- Oetermine set of shortcut edges F
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Algorithm 3:

- Determine skeleton nodes: random sample of  $\tilde{O}(n/h)$  nodes + s Time: O(D)
- Compute (1 + ε)-approximate *h*-hop distances from all skeleton nodes Time: Õ(h/ε + n/h)
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### Theorem ([F/Nanongkai '18])

Can compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate SSSP in time  $\tilde{O}((\sqrt{n}D^{1/4} + D)/\epsilon)$  with  $h = \sqrt{n}D^{1/4}$  and  $h' = \sqrt{n}/D^{3/4}$ 



# **Exact SSSP**



Two scaling techniques [Gabow '85]:

- **Bitwise scaling:** In each iteration read next bit of weights
- Recursive scaling: Reduce maximum distance by potential transformation with approximate distances

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- Additional constraint:  $\hat{d}(s, v) \leq \hat{d}(s, u) + w_G(u, v)$

### Theorem ([Klein/Subramanian '97])

Suppose auxiliary algorithm computes distance estimate  $\hat{d}(s, \cdot)$  such that

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  - $\rightarrow$  Reduction to positive edge weights

# Auxiliary Algorithm

- **)** Determine skeleton nodes: random sample of  $\tilde{O}(n/h)$  nodes + s
- Compute <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-approximate *h*-hop distances from all skeleton nodes (Compute 2-approximation and scale down)
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#### Theorem

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#### Proof idea:

• Shortest path in  $G \cup F$  has the following structure: at most one shortcut edge to skeleton node followed by a shortest path  $\pi$  in G

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- Now: remainder of  $\pi$  has < h edges

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**Two Variants:** 

Dijkstra's algorithm on skeleton

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#### **Two Variants**:

- Dijkstra's algorithm on skeleton
  - $\tilde{O}(n/h)$  iterations
  - Time O(D) per iteration
  - Total running time:  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{nD})$
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Total running time:  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{nD})$ 

- Recurse on skeleton using our new algorithm Blackboard model:
  - $R(k) = \tilde{O}(h)$  rounds
  - $M(k) = \tilde{O}(nh + n^2/h)$  messages

Total running time:  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n}D^{1/4} + n^{3/5} + D)$ 

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New trade-off for directed graphs in PRAM model:

- Klein and Subramanian: work  $\tilde{O}(m\sqrt{n})$  and depth  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$
- Our approach: work  $\tilde{O}((n^3/h^3 + mh + mn/h))$  and depth  $\tilde{O}(h)$



# **Faster Approximation**



- Network topology is a clique
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#### Lemma

Any broadcast congested clique algorithm with R(k) rounds can be simulated on skeleton of k nodes in O((k + D)R(k)) rounds in the CONGEST model.

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#### Theorem ([Nanongkai '14])

In directed graphs, can compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate skeleton with  $k = \tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$  nodes in  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$  rounds. The algorithm is correct with high probability.

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#### Theorem ([Henzinger/K/Nanongkai '16])

In undirected graphs, can compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate skeleton with  $k = \tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$  nodes deterministically in  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$  rounds.

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Can compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate SSSP on undirected Broadcast Congested Clique deterministically in  $n^{o(1)}$  rounds for any given  $\epsilon \ge 1/\log^{O(1)}$ .

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- Hopset is obtained after sufficiently many hop reductions

# Theorem ([Henzinger/K/Nanongkai '16])

Can compute  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate SSSP on undirected Broadcast Congested Clique deterministically in  $n^{o(1)}$  rounds for any given  $\epsilon \ge 1/\log^{O(1)}$ .

**Recall:** Given  $(h, \epsilon)$ -hopset,  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate SSSP can be computed in O(h) rounds.

Ideas:

- Observation: distance oracle of [Thorup/Zwick '05] gives (n<sup>o(1)</sup>, ε) hopset in undirected graphs [Bernstein '09]
- Vanilla Thorup/Zwick already requires SSSP computation
- Iterative Approach: Bounded-hop SSSP allows hop reduction
- Hopset is obtained after sufficiently many hop reductions

Remarks:

- Hopset lower bound indicates  $n^{o(1)}$  barrier [Abboud/Bodwin/Pettie '17]
- Tight hopsets exist [Huang/Pettie '17] [Elkin/Neiman '17]

Theorem ([Becker/Karrenbauer/K/Lenzen '17])

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#### Linear Programming Formulation

Primal:minimize  $||Wx||_1$ s.t. Ax = bDual:maximize  $b^Ty$ s.t.  $\left\|W^{-1}A^Ty\right\|_{\infty} \leq 1$ 

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- Solution Is  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n})$  rounds tight on *Broadcast* Congested Clique?

# Thank you!

slides: https://www.cosy.sbg.ac.at/~forster/