# Compact representation of distances in a graph : a tour around 2-hop labelings 

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## The beginning of the story

SODA 2017 :

- Chepoi, Dragan, Vaxès : Core congestion is inherent in hyperbolic networks.
- Kosowski, V. : Beyond highway dimension : small distance
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## Encoding distances in a graph

We are given a (weighted) (di-) graph $G=(V, E)$ with $n$ nodes and $m$ edges.

Make any useful pre-computation to answer efficiently online distance queries: what is distance $\mathrm{d}\left(\mathrm{u}_{1}, \mathrm{v}_{1}\right)$ ?, $d\left(u_{2}, v_{2}\right) ? d\left(u_{3}, v_{3}\right) ?$

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## Encoding a graph metric: distance oracles



Encoding a graph metric : distance labelings


## Encoding a graph metric : 2-hop labelings

A 2-hop labelings is a very simple kind of distance labeling.

The main idea is to associate a set $H_{u} \subseteq V$ of "hubs" to each node $u$ and to store the distances $\mathrm{d}(\mathrm{u}, \mathrm{v})$ for all $\mathrm{v} \in \mathrm{H}_{u}$.

Also known as hub labeling, or landmark labeling.

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## Hub sets

Covering property :
A collection of hub sets $H_{u} \subseteq V$ for all $u \in V$ is said to cover graph $G$ if for all $u, v$, there exists $w \in H_{u} \cap H_{v}$ with $d(u, v)=d(u, w)+d(w, v)$.


Distance labels : $L_{u}=\left\{(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w})): \mathbf{w} \in H_{u}\right\}$
Distance query: $\operatorname{Dist}\left(L_{u}, L_{v}\right)=\min _{w \in H_{u} \cap H_{v}} d(u, w)+d(w, v)$
Introduced by [Gavoille et al. '04; Cohen et al. 2003],
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Equivalently, for all $u, v, H_{u} \cap H_{v} \cap I(u, v) \neq \emptyset$ where the interval $I(u, v)$ is the union of shortest paths from $u$ to $v$.

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Note that using Sergio Cabello framework:
$V \times V=\bigcup_{w \in V} H_{w}^{-1} \times H_{w}^{-1}$ where $H_{w}=\left\{u: w \in H_{u}\right\}$.

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A similar construction works for trees and bounded-treewidth graphs.

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## This talk is about

What graphs do have small hubsets?

No hope for dense graphs:

- average hub-set size is at least $\frac{m}{2 n}$ as :
- for each edge uv $\in E$, we must have $u \in H_{v}$ or $v \in H_{u}$.

Planar graphs have covering hub sets of size $O(\sqrt{n})$, with a best known lower bound of $\Omega\left(\mathrm{n}^{1 / 3}\right)$ (unweighted). [Gavoille, Peleg, Pérennes, Raz '04].

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## Part I : Do sparse graphs have covering hub sets with o(n) size?

Can we have sublinear size for sparse graphs $(m=O(n)$ ?

Or even constant degree graphs?

## Best known upper bound is $O\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right)$.

 Knudsen, Porah '16] [Gawrychowski, Kosowski, Uznanski '16]
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Theorem (Kosowski, Uznański, V. '19)
(1) There exists graphs of degree at most 3 where any collection of covering hub sets has average size $\frac{n}{20(\sqrt{\log n})}$. (2) Any graph has a collection of hub sets of $O\left(\frac{n}{R Q(n)^{1 / 7}}\right)$ size where $2^{\Omega\left(\log ^{*} n\right)} \leq R S(n) \leq 2^{O(\sqrt{\log n})}$ is a number related to Ruzsa-Szemerédi graphs.

Proof: cov. hub sets of this graph have size $\frac{n}{2^{0(\sqrt{\log n})}}$



Each $V_{i}$ is a regular $2 \ell \times \cdots \times 2 \ell$ lattice of dim. $\ell \approx 2^{\sqrt{\log n}}$ (here $\ell=2$ ). Edges from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{i}-1}$ to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{i}}$ connect nodes differing on ith coordinate.

Metric graph theory 2021

## Ruzsa-Szemerédi



A graph is an RS-graph if it can be decomposed into $n$ induced matchings.

Ruzsa-Szemerédi

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## What are the densest RS-graphs?

Theorem ([Ruzsa, Szemerédi '78]) Any RS-graph has at most $\frac{n^{2}}{20\left(10^{* n)}\right.}$ eclges.

Define RS( $n$ ) is the largest integer such that there exists an RS-graph with $n$ nodes and $\frac{n^{2}}{R S(n)}$ edges.

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$$
G_{y}^{D}=\left\{x_{0} z_{2 \ell} \left\lvert\, y=\frac{x+z}{2}\right. \text { and } d_{G}(x, z)=D\right\} \quad \exists D \text { s.t. }\left|\cup_{y} G_{y}^{D}\right| \geq \frac{n^{2}}{2^{0(\sqrt{\log n})}}
$$

## Converse

Any cst. deg. graph $G$ has hub sets of av. size $O\left(\frac{n}{\operatorname{RS}(n)^{1 / 7}}\right)$.

Idea: use a vertex cover of each $G_{y}^{D}(V C \leq 2 M M)$.

Connection with SumIndex problem (comm. complexity)

$\operatorname{SUMINDEX}(n)=\min _{\text {Encoder }} \max _{X}\left|M_{A}\right|+\left|M_{B}\right|$

$\boldsymbol{G}_{X}=\boldsymbol{G} \backslash\left\{\boldsymbol{y}_{\ell} \mid X_{y}=0\right\}$, send $x=2 \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{L}_{x_{0}}, \mathbf{z}=2 b, L_{\mathbf{z}_{2 \ell}}$, check $d\left(x_{0}, \mathbf{z}_{2 \ell}\right)$.

## Part II : what about practical graphs?

Yes! practical graphs tend to have small covering hub sets. [Akiba et al. '13] [Delling et al. 14 ]

## What kind of property they have enables that?

Small highway dimension. [Abraham, Fiat, Goldberg, Werneck

More generally, small skeleton dimension. [Kosowski, V. '17]

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## Skeleton dimension

The skeleton dimension $k$ of $G$ is the maximum "width" of a "pruned" shortest path tree.

## Barcelona shortest path tree



## Barcelona tree skeleton : prune last third



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## Tree skeleton



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Theorem (Kosowski, V. 2017)
Given a graph $G$ with skeleton dimension $k$ and diameter $D, a$ simple random sampling technique allows to find in polynomial time hub sets with size $O(k \log \mathrm{D})$ on average and maximum size $O(k \log \log k \log D)$ with high probability.

## Hub set selection : random sampling



The probability to select a node $x$ is $\propto \frac{1}{d(u, x)}$.

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The probability to select a node $x$ is $\propto \frac{1}{\mathrm{~d}(\mathrm{u}, \mathrm{x})}$.

## Road networks: two tree skeletons



## What ...maps do?



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## Highway vs skeleton in Brooklyn



Packing of 172 paths


Skeleton width 48

## Skeleton dimension of grids



## Skeleton dimension of grids


$k=\Theta(\log n)$

## Skeleton dimension of grids


$k=\Theta(\log n)$

## Open : random grid



Related to first-passage percolation [Licea, Newman, Piza '96] [Aldous '14].

## Part III : what about 3 hops?

## 3-hopset of a path

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## 3-hopset distance oracle

Store $x, d_{G}(u, x)$ for $x \in N_{13}(u)$ (2 log log $n$ per node).

Store midle links in a hashtable $\mathrm{H}_{2}(\mathrm{O}(\mathrm{n} \log \log n)$ size $)$.

Query for $\mathrm{d}_{G}(\mathrm{u}, \mathrm{v})$ : best 3-hop path length is

( $0\left((\log \log n)^{2}\right)$ time $)$.

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$$
\min _{x \in N_{13}(u), y \in N_{13}(v), x y \in H_{2}} d_{G}(u, x)+d_{G}(x, y)+d_{G}(y, v)
$$

( $0\left((\log \log n)^{2}\right)$ time $)$.

Theorem (Kosowski, Gupta, V. '19)
For a unique-shortest-path graph with skeleton dimension $k$ and average link length $L \geq 1$, there exists a randomized construction of a 3 -hopset distance oracle of size $|H|=O(n k \log k(\log \log n+\log L))$, which performs distance queries in expected time $O\left(k^{2} \log ^{2} k\left(\log ^{2} \log n+\log ^{2} L\right)\right)$.

## End of the story?

What is the skeleton dimension of a random grid?

Improve lower-bounds on sparse graphs for general distance oracles.

What graphs have covering hub sets of size $O$ (1)?

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Thanks.

