

Lecture 19:

LCAs for spanners

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# Graph Spanners:

Given  $G = (V, E)$

• same nodes  
•  $E' \subseteq E$

def.  $k$ -spanner is subgraph  $H = (V, E')$  st.

$$\forall u, v \text{ dist}_H(u, v) \leq k \cdot \text{dist}_G(u, v)$$

Known  $\forall G, \exists (2k-1)$ -spanner with  $O(n^{1+\frac{1}{k}})$  edges } e.g.  $k=2$   
 $\exists$  3-spanner with  $O(n^{3/2})$  edges

Optimal? yes for  $k=2, 3, 5$   
 Erdos girth conjecture  $\Rightarrow$  yes for all  $k$

## Equivalent Characterization:

$\forall (u, v) \notin H, \exists$  path from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $H$  of length  $\leq k$  } So, whenever we omit an edge  $(u, v)$  we will make sure a path of length  $\leq k$  remains between  $u$  &  $v$

Question: LCA which given graph  $G$  provides queries to spanner  $H$ ?

How is  $G$  given? Assume following probes:

neighbor: given  $u, i$  output  $i$ th nbr of  $u$

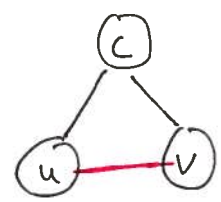
adjacency: given  $(u, v)$  output whether  $(u, v) \in G$   
 or output  $j$  if  $(u, v) \in G$  + "no" if  $(u, v) \notin G$

degree: given  $u$  output  $\text{deg}(u)$

LCA for 3-spanner with  $\tilde{O}(n^{3/2})$  edges +  $O(n^{3/4})$  time/query :

First, a thought:

Pick centers randomly  
if  $u, v$  both connected  
to same center, can  
delete edge  $(u, v)$



$\text{dist}_G(u, v) = 1$  but  $\text{dist}_H(u, v) = 2$  (ok, since  $k=3$ )

but: will we delete enough edges this way?  
Can we figure out that  $u, v$  connected to same center  
in sublinear time?

Today: will assume max degree is  $n^{3/4}$

- still nontrivial
- general case builds on ideas today

Global construction of 3-spanners with  $\tilde{O}(n^{3/2})$  edges  
[Baswana Sen 07]

↑  
note: ave degree  $\approx n^{1/2}$

Construction of  $H$ : (not sublinear time)

- Pick  $S \subseteq V$  s.t.  $|S| = \Theta(\sqrt{n} \cdot \log n)$  ← each node tosses coin with prob  $\Theta(\frac{\log n}{\sqrt{n}})$
- "cluster centers" ← each one defines a "cluster"
- whp,  $\forall u \in V$  s.t.  $u$  has degree  $\geq \sqrt{n}$ , then  $u$  adjacent to at least one center  $v \in S$  } useful observation \*
- $u$  chooses one  $v \in S$  (arbitrarily?) to be its "cluster center"

#edges  
 $< n \cdot \sqrt{n}$   
 $< n \cdot 1$

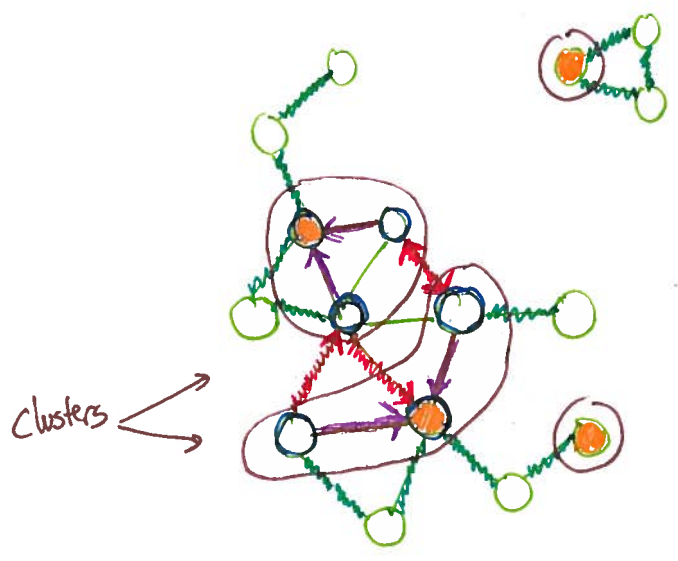
$< n \cdot \sqrt{n} \cdot \log n$   
# clusters

$\tilde{O}(n^{3/2})$  total

• Constructing  $H$ :

- (1) if  $u$  low degree ( $< \sqrt{n}$ ), add all edges  $(u, v)$
- (2) if  $u$  high degree ( $\geq \sqrt{n}$ ), add edge to its cluster center
- (3) if  $u$  high degree ( $\geq \sqrt{n}$ ), add one edge to every adjacent cluster

Example:



- █ low degree
- █ high degree
- █ cluster center

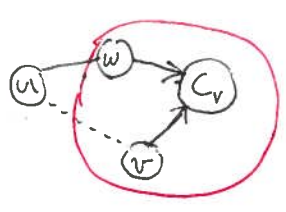
edges added due to

- rule 1: low degree
- rule 2: cluster center
- rule 3: adjacent cluster

(directed edges only indicate who made the choice, actual edges are all undirected)

Stretch?

- for  $u, v$  in same cluster, both  $u, v$  keep edge to center  $c$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{dist}_H(u, v) = 2$
- for  $u, v$  in different clusters:



if  $(u, v) \notin H$  then must have kept some other edge  $(u, w)$  st.  $w$  in  $v$ 's cluster.

so either  $w = c_v$  or  $(w, c_v) \in H$

$\Rightarrow (u, w), (w, c_v), (c_v, v) \in H$

$\Rightarrow \text{dist}_H(u, v) = 3$

# Local Algorithm for constructing $H$ :

given  $(u,v) \in G$ , is  $(u,v) \in H$ ?

Rule (1): if  $u$  or  $v$  low degree, yes! 2 degree probes ✓

Rule (2): if  $v$  is  $u$ 's center (or if  $u$  is  $v$ 's center)

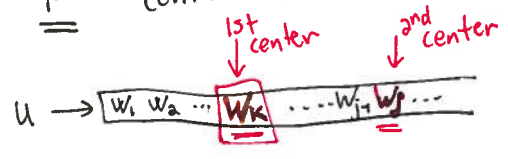
Rule (3): if  $(u,v)$  is "chosen" edge from  $u$  to  $v$ 's cluster (or  $v$  to  $u$ 's cluster)



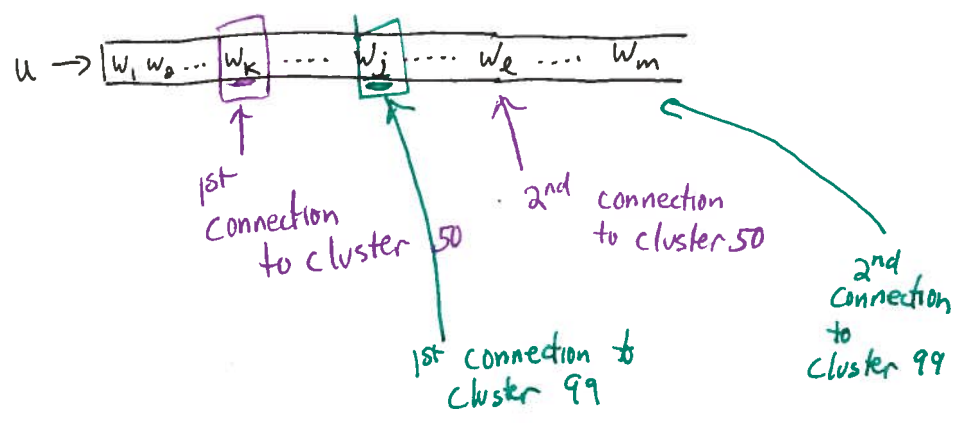
How do we know?

## Naive idea: "First center Attempt"

$u$  chooses 1st center on its incidence list



$u$  chooses 1st connection to each cluster in incidence list



Implementing rule 2:

on query  $(u, v)$ : if  $v$  the chosen center of  $u$ ?

- check if  $v$  is a center  
(check  $v$ 's coin toss)
- check if any node preceding  $v$  on  $u$ 's incidence list is a center

need to also check if  $u$  is chosen center of  $v$

runtime:  $O(\text{max degree})$

better runtime:  $O(\sqrt{n})$  by observation \*'

Implementing rule 3:

on query  $(u, v)$ : does  $v$  introduce  $u$  to a new cluster?

- find  $v$ 's cluster center  $C_v$   $O(\sqrt{n})$

- check all nbrs of  $C_v$  + check if come earlier in  $u$ 's incidence list?

need to make sure  $C_v$  is  $w$ 's center  
 $O(\Delta \cdot (\Delta + \sqrt{n}))$

$\uparrow \forall w \in N(C_v)$   
adjacency probe  $(u, w)$   
returns locn in  $u$ 's list

Not sublinear for

$\Delta = \Omega(\sqrt{n})$  (regime of interest)

# Improved Plan: "Multiple Centers"

Rule 2:  $u$  chooses all centers in first  $\sqrt{n}$  locns of incidence list

$$C_u = \{v \mid v \text{ is in 1st } \sqrt{n} \text{ locns of } u\text{'s incidence list \& } v \text{ is a center}\}$$

Observation WHP,  $\forall u$  s.t.  $\deg(u) \geq \sqrt{n}$ ,  $1 \leq |C_u| \leq \log n$

check this!

How does this change things?

- degree from rule 2 "keep all edges between  $u$  &  $C_u$ " is  $O(\log n)$  per node  $\Rightarrow O(n \log n)$  total [before it was  $O(n)$  total]

- Verifying if  $v \in C_u$ :

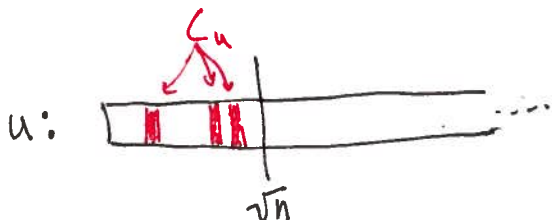
- adjacency probe  $(u, v)$  returns  $v$ 's locn in  $u$ 's list in one step
- check if  $v$  is a center by looking at random  $\oplus$ 's

SAVINGS!!  $\Rightarrow$

1 adjacency probe

- computing  $C_u$ :

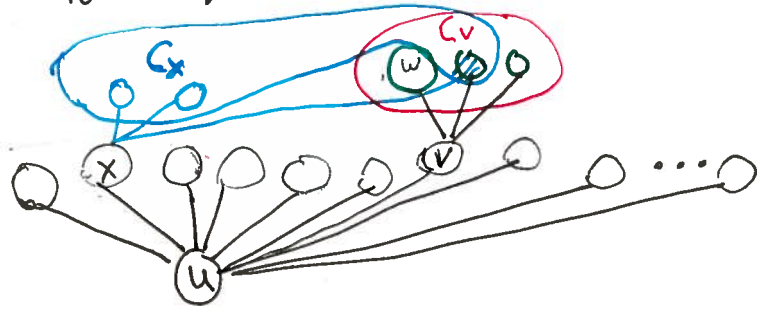
- check 1st  $\sqrt{n}$  locns in  $u$ 's list to see which are centers



$\sqrt{n}$  neighbor probes



Rule 3:  $u$  chooses first edge  $v$  which introduces  $u$  to  $v$ 's cluster



How to determine?

- compute  $C_v$   $\sqrt{n}$  neighbor probes
- for each  $w \in C_v$ , test if  $v$  "introduces"  $w$  to  $u$ :

1st attempt

For each nbr  $x$  of  $u$  until reach  $v$ :  $\deg(u)$   
 Find  $C_x$   $\sqrt{n}$  nbr probes  
 cross off  $C_x \cap C_v$   $O(\log n)$   
 If any  $w \in C_v$  not crossed off  
 then keep  $(u, v)$  in  $H$   
 else discard  $(u, v)$

Total:  $O(\Delta \cdot \sqrt{n} \cdot \log n)$   
 bad!!

Smarter method to determine if  $v$  "introduces" cluster to  $u$ :

• Compute  $C_v$   $\sqrt{n}$  nbr probes

• For each nbr  $x$  of  $u$  sep to  $v$ :  $\deg(u)$

For each  $w \in C_v$ ,  $O(\log n)$   
 if  $w$  is center of  $x$  | adjacency probe  
 cross  $w$  off

If any  $w \in C_v$  not crossed off  
 keep  $(u, v)$  in  $H$   
 else discard.

Total:  
 $\sqrt{n} + \deg(u) \times \log n \times 1$   
 $= O(\deg(u) \cdot \log n)$

If  $\max_u \deg(u) \leq n^{3/4}$ , we are done !!