

## Lecture 4 :

Distributed Algorithms vs. Sublinear time Algorithms

- Vertex Cover

Simulating Greedy Algorithms in Sublinear time

- maximal matching

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Distributed Algorithms vs. sublinear time algorithms on SPARSE graphs  
 max deg  $\leq d$

Again, sparse graphs: max degree:  $d$   
 adj list representation

A problem to solve:

Vertex Cover

$V' \subseteq V$  is "Vertex Cover" (VC) if  $\forall (u,v) \in E$

either  $u \in V'$  or  $v \in V'$

VC Question: What is min size of VC?

Note: in  $\text{deg} \leq d$  graph,  $|VC| \geq \frac{m}{d}$  since each node can cover  $\leq d$  edges

(VC is NP-complete but there is a polytime 2-multiplicative approximation)

Can you approximate V.C. in sublinear time?

multiplicative? no!  
 graph with  $n$  edges  $|VC|=0$   
 graph with 1 edge  $|VC|=1$   $\Rightarrow$  can't distinguish these cases in sublinear time but must answer 0 in first case &  $>0$  in second.

additive? hard! need some mult error  
 computationally hard to approx to better than 1.36 factor (maybe even 2)

Combination?

def.  $\hat{y}$  is  $(\alpha, \epsilon)$ -approximation of soln value  $y$  for minimization problem if

$$y \leq \hat{y} \leq \alpha y + \epsilon$$

allows mult + additive error

(analogous defn for maximization problems)

## Some Background on distributed Algorithms

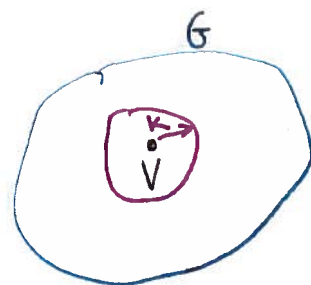
- Network
  - processors  $\rightarrow$  max degree  $d$  known to all
  - links
- Communication round
  - nodes perform computation on (input bits, history of received msgs, random bits)
  - nodes send messages to neighbors
  - nodes receive messages from nbrs

def. Vertex Cover problem for distributed networks:

- Network graph = input graph (i.e. network computes on itself)  $\downarrow$  not some other graph
- at end, each node knows if in or out of VC (doesn't know about others necessarily)

Main insight on why fast distributed  $\Leftrightarrow$  sublinear time:

in k-round algorithm, output of node  $v$  only depends on nodes at distance at most  $k$  from  $v$ . **At most  $d^k$  of these!**



⇒ Can <sup>sequentially</sup> simulate  $V$ 's view of distributed computation in  $\leq d^k$  time  
 + figure out if  $v$  in or out of VC \* see next page

Comment: if algorithm is randomized,  $v$  needs to know random bits (or be able to construct) of all  $d^k$  nodes. ← must be consistent

∴ fast distributed alg ⇒ "oracle" which tells you if  $v$  is in VC

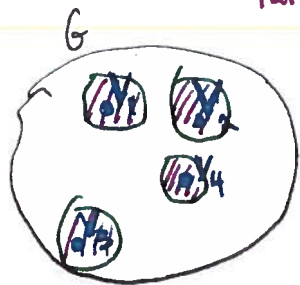
But are there fast VC distributed algorithms?

YES, will see some soon

↑ often called "local distributed algorithms"

How do you use this to approximate VC in sublinear time?

**Parnas-Ron framework:**



Sample nodes of graph  $v_1, \dots, v_r$

for each  $v_i$ , simulated distributed algorithm to see if  $v_i \in VC$

Output  $\frac{\#v_i's \text{ in VC}}{r}$  on

gives  $\epsilon \cdot n$  additive approx of VC which in turn is a  $c$ -multiplicative approx of  $c$

Runtime  $O(r \cdot d^{k^2}) \approx O(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2} d^{k^2})$  (where  $k = \#$  rounds of distributed alg,  $d = \max$  degree of network)  
 Proof of correctness Chernoff/Hoeffding bnds

# Simulating v's view of a k-round distributed computation:

round 0:

each node sends msg based on input + random bits

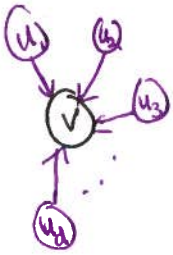
each node gets msg from each nbr which is based on their input, random bit

(2)

round 1:

each node sends msg based on { input, random bits,  $\leq d$  nbrs + what they saw for input, random bit:

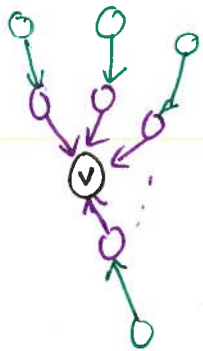
each node gets up to msg based on nbrs info round 1,



round 2:

each node send msg based info of self + nbrs

each node receives msg based on nbrs + nbrs-of-nbrs



⋮

# fast distributed algorithm for VC:

$i \leftarrow 1$

While edges remain:

- remove vertices of degree  $\geq d/2^i$  + adjacent edges
- update degrees of remaining nodes
- increment  $i$

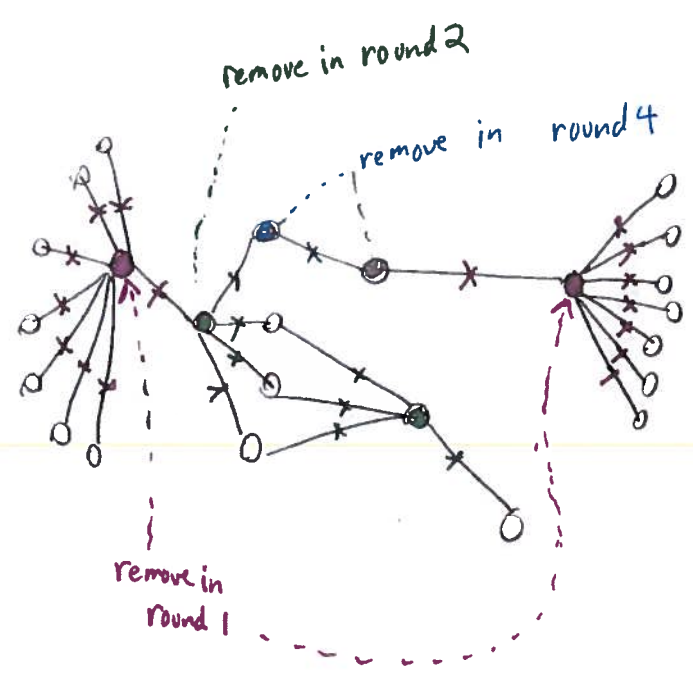
put these in vertex cover

Output all removed nodes as VC

#rounds:  $\log d$

example:

$d=8$



is it a VC?

no edges remain at end

all removed along with some adjacent vertices

Is it a good approximation?

Let  $\Theta$  be <sup>optimal</sup> any min VC of graph

Thm  $|\Theta| \leq \text{output} \leq (2 \log d + 1) |\Theta|$

↑ since output is VC

↑ to prove

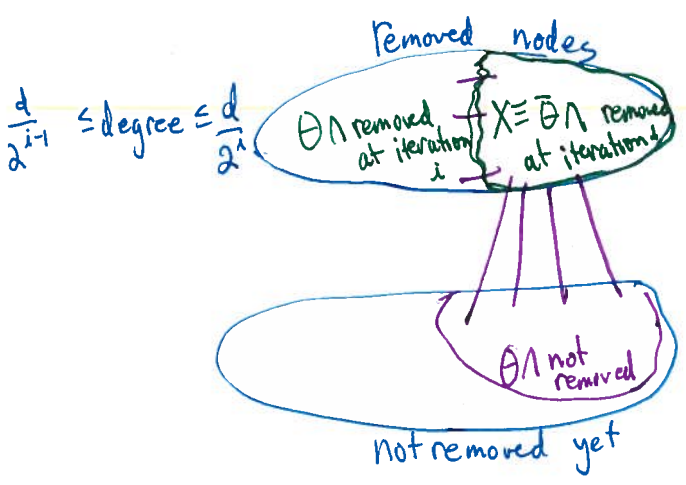
Proof

Claim: each iteration adds  $\leq 2|\Theta|$  new nodes to output VC.

Why?

Observation: at  $i$ th iteration

- 1) all nodes in graph have degree  $\leq \frac{d}{2^{i-1}}$  ↙ anything bigger was removed earlier
- 2) all removed nodes have degree  $\geq \frac{d}{2^i}$  ↗ by algorithm design



Let  $X =$  removed at iteration  $i$  but not in  $\Theta$

note all edges touching  $X$  must also touch  $\Theta$  at other end  
 why?  $\Theta$  is a V.C.

dist(6)

# edges touching  $X$ :

$$\geq \frac{d}{2^i} \cdot |X|$$

since  $\text{deg} \geq \frac{d}{2^i}$

$$\leq \frac{d}{2^{i-1}} |\Theta|$$

since each edge has endpt in  $\Theta$ ,  
+ each node in  $\Theta$   
has  $\text{deg} \leq \frac{d}{2^{i-1}}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{2^i} |X| \leq \frac{d}{2^{i-1}} |\Theta|$$

$$\Rightarrow |X| \leq 2|\Theta|$$

▣ end - pf - of - claim

since  $\leq \log d$  rounds,

$$\text{output} \leq |\Theta| + (2 \log d) |\Theta| = (2 \log d + 1) |\Theta|$$

▣ end - pf - of - 7

Gives  $(O(\log d), \epsilon)$ -approx in  $d^{O(\log d)}$  queries.

Can get  $(2\epsilon)$ -approx in  $d^{O(\log d/\epsilon)}$  queries.

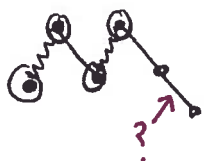


## Sublinear Time Approximation Algorithms:

Estimating size of maximal matching in degree bounded graph

Why?

• relation to Vertex Cover



-  $VC \geq MM$  ← for each edge in matching,  $\geq 1$  endpoint must be in VC  
these are disjoint

-  $VC \leq 2MM$  ← put all MM nodes in VC  
if an edge not covered, then violates maximality

• a step towards approx maximum matching

Note: if  $\text{deg} \leq d$ , Maximal matching  $\geq \frac{n}{d}$  ← to see this, run greedy algorithm

### Greedy Sequential Matching Algorithm:

$M \leftarrow \emptyset$

$\forall e = (u, v) \in E,$

if neither  $u$  or  $v$  matched,  
add  $e$  to  $M$

output depends only on ordering of input edges

Output  $M$

Observe:

$M$  maximal, since if  $e \notin M$  either  $u$  or  $v$  already matched earlier  
( $u, v$ )

## Oracle reduction Framework

assume given deterministic "oracle"  $O(e)$   
which tells you if  $e \in M$  or not in one step

•  $S \leftarrow S = \frac{n}{\epsilon^2}$  nodes chosen iid.

•  $\forall v \in S$   

$$X_v = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if any call to } O((v,w)) \text{ for } w \in N(v) \\ & \text{returns "yes"} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

• Output  $\frac{n}{2s} \sum_{v \in S} X_v + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n$   
 Since 2 nodes matched for each edge in  $M$   
 makes an underestimate unlikely

Behavior of output: Why does it work?

$$|M| = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{v \in V} X_v$$

$$E[\text{output}] = E\left[\frac{n}{2s} \sum_{v \in S} X_v\right] + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n$$

fraction of  
matched  
nodes  
↓

$$= \frac{n}{2s} \sum_{v \in S} E[X_v] + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n \quad \leftarrow \text{but } E[X_v] = \frac{2|M|}{|V|} = \frac{2|M|}{n}$$

$$= \frac{n}{2s} \cdot s \cdot \frac{2|M|}{n} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n = |M| + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n$$

$$\Pr\left[\left|\frac{n}{2s} \sum_{v \in S} X_v + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n\right| - E[\text{output}] \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n\right]$$

||

$$\Pr\left[\left|\frac{n}{2s} \sum_{v \in S} X_v - |M|\right| \geq \frac{\epsilon}{2} \cdot n\right] \leq \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{by additive Chernoff-Hoeffding}$$

Implementing the oracle:

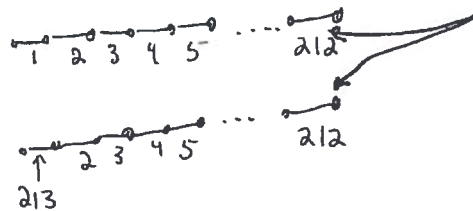
Main idea: figure out "what would greedy do on  $(\tau, w)$ ?"

how? according to which input order?  
do we need to figure out greedy decisions on all earlier nodes?

Problem: Greedy is "sequential"

Can have long dependency chains

Example:



even if you know the graph is a line, how do you know if edge is odd or even in the order?

How to implement oracle based on greedy?

To decide if  $e$  in matching,

- need to know decisions for adjacent edges that came before  $e$  in ordering

- do not need to know anything about

any edge that comes after  $e$  in ordering since not considered by greedy algorithm before  $e$

so, if any <sup>adjacent</sup> edge before  $e$  in ordering matched,

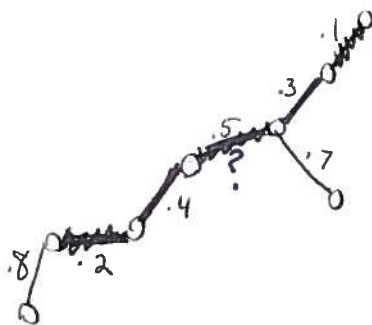
$e$  is not matched

otherwise  $e$  is matched

How to break length of dependency chains?

assign random ordering to edges

example



is edge 5 in  $M$ ?

- recurse on .3

- recurse on .1

- no other adjacent edges so

- .1 is matched

- therefore .3 is not matched

- no need to recurse on .7 since  $.5 < .7$

- don't know yet about .5 so recurse on .4

- recurse on .2

- .8 comes after .2 in order so doesn't affect Greedy's behavior

- same for .4

- so .2 is matched

- .4 is not matched

- .5 is matched

Implementation of oracle: assume ranks  $r_e$  assign to each edge  $e$

to check if  $e \in M$ :

$\forall e'$  neighboring  $e$ ,

• if  $r_{e'} < r_e$ , recursively check  $e'$   $\dagger$

if  $e' \in M$ , return " $e \notin M$ " + halt

else continue

return " $e \in M$ "

$\uparrow$  since no  $e'$  of lower rank than  $e$   
is in  $M$

Correctness: follows from correctness of greedy

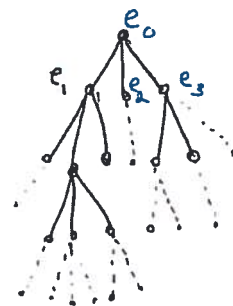
Query complexity:

Claim expected # queries to graph per  
oracle query is  $2^{O(d)}$

Claim  $\Rightarrow$  total query complexity is  $\frac{2^{O(d)}}{\epsilon^2}$

## Pf of Claim

- Consider Query Tree where root node labelled by original query edge, children of each node are edges adjacent to it.



- will only query paths that are monotone decreasing in rank
- $\Pr[\text{given path of length } k \text{ explored}] = \frac{1}{(k+1)!}$
- $\# \text{ edges in original graph at dist } \leq k \text{ in tree} \leq d^k$
- $E[\# \text{ edges explored at dist } \leq k] \leq \frac{d^k}{(k+1)!}$
- $E[\text{total } \# \text{ edges explored}] \leq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{d^k}{(k+1)!} \leq \frac{e^d}{d}$
- $E[\text{query complexity}] \leq d \cdot \frac{e^d}{d} = e^d = 2^{O(d)}$

■