## A Faster Distributed Single-Source Shortest Paths Algorithm

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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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#### 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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**Approximation Algorithms:** [Nanongkai '14] [Holzer and Pinsker '15] [Henzinger/K/Nanongkai '16] [Elkin/Neiman '16] [Becker et al. '17]

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# The Scaling Approach

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- Inherent dependence on  $log(W_{max})$  due to maximum distance

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

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

- For every node  $v: \frac{1}{2} \cdot \text{dist}_G(s, v) \le \hat{d}(s, v) \le \text{dist}_G(s, v)$  (approximation)
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- Careful design to satisfy domination constraint





Omitted in this talk:

- Detailed running time analyis
- Dealing with 0-weight edges: Reduce to positive edge weights
- Faster approximation algorithm for directed graphs





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### Proof idea:

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

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Why is SSSP instance different?

Small size

# How to Solve on Skeleton

Recall: We need exact SSSP on skeleton

Two Variants:

- Dijkstra's algorithm Running time:  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{nD})$
- **2** Recurse Running time:  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n}D^{1/4} + n^{3/5} + D)$

Why is SSSP instance different?

- Small size
- Computation on skeleton via broadcasting in original network

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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  $\tilde{O}(h)$

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  - ★  $\tilde{O}(mh + h^4/n)$  work and  $\tilde{O}(n/h)$  depth [Ullman/Yannakakis '90]
  - \*  $\tilde{O}(m)$  work and  $\tilde{O}(n^{2/3})$  depth [Fineman '18]

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Oeterministic algorithms?

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2 Deterministic algorithms?

# Thank you for your attention!

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