Computing Treewidth

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• Measures how close a graph is to a tree



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[Robertson & Seymour '84, Arnborg & Proskurowski '89, Bertele & Brioschi '72, Halin '76]



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Need the tree decomposition!



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Robertson-Seymour FPT-approximation

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Balanced separator X with components C_1 and C_2

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 - ► [Fomin, Lokshtanov, Pilipczuk, Saurabh & Wrochna'18]: $\mathcal{O}(k)$ -approximation in time $k^{\mathcal{O}(1)} n \log n$

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 - [Belbasi & Fürer '21]: 5-approximation in time 2^{7k} n log n

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 - FPT-approximation of cliquewidth/rankwidth [Oum&Seymour'06], [Oum'08], matroid branchwidth [Hlinený '05], [Oum&Seymour'06], *H*-treewidth [Jansen, de Kroon & Wlodarczyk '21]

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 - XP-approximation of hypertreewidth [Adler, Gottlob, Grohe '07], fractional hypertreewidth [Marx '10], and minor-matching hypertreewidth [Yolov '17]

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 - And many more...

2. Classic exact FPT algorithms

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Issue: Non-uniform, non-constructive (at the time)

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- Typical sequences applied to branchwidth [Bodlaender & Thilikos '97], cutwidth and carving-width [Thilikos, Serna & Bodlaender '00], rankwidth and matroid branchwidth [Jeong, Kim & Oum '18], and more...

New FPT algorithms based on local improvement

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- Improves the $2^{\mathcal{O}(k)}$ from $\approx 2^{40k}$ to 2^{11k}
- Techniques extended also to 2-approximating branchwidth in time $2^{\mathcal{O}(k)}n$ and rankwidth in time $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(k)}}n^2$ [Fomin & K. '22]

By the recursive compression technique of [Bodlaender '93] we can focus on:

Input: Graph *G* and a tree decomposition of *G* of width *w* **Output:** A tree decomposition of *G* of width < w or conclusion that $w \le 2 \cdot tw(G) + 1$ **Time complexity:** $2^{\mathcal{O}(w)}n$

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1. If $w > 2 \cdot tw(G) + 1$ then T can be improved by a certain improvement operation

• Decreases the number of bags of size w + 1 and does not increase the width

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- Inspired by a proofs on Lean Tree Decompositions [Thomas '90, Bellenbaum & Diestel '02]
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 - Efficient implementation by amortizatized analysis of the improvements and dynamic programming over the tree decomposition

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Except that vertices in X may violate the connectedness condition

• Fix the connectedness condition by inserting vertices of X to bags

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Example: Let $(X, C_1, C_2, C_3) = (\{x_1, x_2\}, \{a, b, h\}, \{c, d, f\}, \{e, g, k\})$ be the partition:



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Insert x₁ to B¹, A¹, and W¹
Insert x₂ to A¹ and W¹

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- $|B^i| = |B|$ holds only in a degenerate case where we can throw B^j for $j \neq i$ away
- For the bag W, |W'| < |W| is ensured by the definition of the balanced separator
- \Rightarrow The number of bags of size |W| decreases

Below 2-approximation with local improvement

• Barrier at approximation ratio 2 when using balanced separators

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 Same idea of improving a tree decomposition by decreasing the number of largest bags

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Want to find:

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Want to find:

• a set X with $W \subseteq X \subseteq V(G)$, and

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Want to find:

- a set X with $W \subseteq X \subseteq V(G)$, and
- a tree decomposition of torso(X) of width $\leq |W| 2$

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SUBSET TREEWIDTH

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Torso?



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SUBSET TREEWIDTH

Want to find:

- a set X with $W \subseteq X \subseteq V(G)$, and
- a tree decomposition of torso(X) of width $\leq |W| 2$

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• Make neighborhoods of components of *G* – *X* into cliques

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Make neighborhoods of components of G – X into cliques
Delete V(G) \ X

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Observations:

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Subset treewidth for exact FPT algorithms

SUBSET TREEWIDTH

Input: Graph *G*, integer *k*, set of vertices $W \subseteq V(G)$ with |W| = k + 2

Output: Set $X \subseteq V(G)$ with $W \subseteq X$ and tree decomposition of torso(X) of width $\leq k$ or that the treewidth of G is > k

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Theorem

If there is an $f(k) \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ time algorithm for subset treewidth, then there is an $f(k) \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ time algorithm for treewidth with the same function *f*.

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 $2^{\mathcal{O}(k^2)}n^2$ time algorithm for subset treewidth $\rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{O}(k^2)}n^4$ time algorithm for treewidth

Subset treewidth for FPT-approximation

PARTITIONED SUBSET TREEWIDTH

Input: Graph *G*, integer *k*, set of vertices $W \subseteq V(G)$ with |W| = k+2 that is partitioned into *t* cliques W_1, \ldots, W_t

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Theorem

If there is an $f(k, t) \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ time algorithm for partitioned subset treewidth, then there is a $f(\mathcal{O}(k), \mathcal{O}(1/\varepsilon)) \cdot k^{\mathcal{O}(k)} n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ time $(1 + \varepsilon)$ -approximation algorithm for treewidth with the same function f.

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 $k^{\mathcal{O}(kt)}n^2$ time algorithm for partitioned subset treewidth $\rightarrow k^{\mathcal{O}(k/\varepsilon)}n^4$ time $(1 + \varepsilon)$ -approximation algorithm for treewidth

Techniques:

Recursive branching algorithm



- Recursive branching algorithm
- Greedy selection of safe separators



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- Branching on important separators [Marx '06]



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Solving Subset Treewidth

• $2^{\mathcal{O}(k^2)}n^2$ time algorithm for Subset Treewidth and $k^{\mathcal{O}(kt)}n^2$ time algorithm for Partitioned Subset Treewidth

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Classic approaches for computing width parameters:

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New approach: Local improvement of the decomposition

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• Prove $2^{\Omega(k)}$ lower bound for treewidth under ETH ($2^{\Omega(\sqrt{k})}$ known)

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- Treewidth 1.9-approximation in $2^{\mathcal{O}(k)} n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ time?
- Improve either dependence on k or n in the $2^{\mathcal{O}(k^2)}n^4$ exact treewidth algorithm

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