

# Geometric Spanning Trees and Hypergraphs that Minimizes the Wiener Index

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# Wiener Index in Graphs

- Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a weighted undirected graph and let  $\delta_G(u, v)$  denote the **shortest (minimum-weight) path** between vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in  $G$ .

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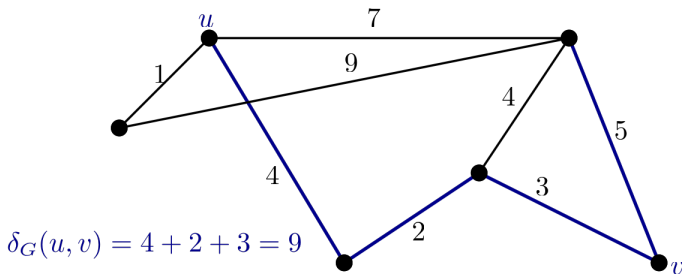
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- ③ The weight function is defined as the Euclidean distance between points.

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- When  $P$  is in convex position, this can be solved in polynomial time.
- The hamiltonian path of  $P$  that minimizes the Wiener index is not necessarily planar.
- Computing such a hamiltonian path is NP-Hard.

# Minimum Spanning Tree (MST)

## Minimum Spanning Tree (MST)

A **minimum spanning tree** of a weighted undirected graph is a spanning tree that has the minimum total edge weight.

- The MST connects all vertices with the minimum total edge weight.
- It is unique if all edge weights are distinct.

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The **Euclidean minimum spanning tree** (EMST) of a set of points in the Euclidean space is the minimum spanning tree where the edge weights are the Euclidean distances between points.

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- The EMST is unique if all points are distinct.

Note: It can be shown that the EMST is a subgraph of special geometric graphs called **Delaunay triangulations** which are a dual of **Voronoi Diagrams** [de Berg et al., 2000].

**Question:** Is the EMST a good approximation for the spanning tree that minimizes the Wiener index?

- **Answer:** No, see the code examples.

# Divide and Conquer Algorithm for Approximating Hamiltonian Paths

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**Algorithm 1** DivideAndConquerWiener( $P$ )

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```
1: procedure   DIVIDEANDCONQUERWIENER( $P$ ,    $depth$    =   0,
    $maxDepth$  = 10)
2:   if  $|P| \leq 4$  or  $depth > maxDepth$  then
3:     return BRUTEFORCEHAMILTONIANPATH( $P$ )
4:   end if
5:    $(a, b, c) \leftarrow \text{FINDBISECTINGLINE}(P)$ 
6:    $(P_L, P_R) \leftarrow \text{PARTITIONPOINTS}(P, a, b, c)$ 
7:    $\pi_L \leftarrow \text{DIVIDEANDCONQUERWIENER}(P_L, depth + 1)$ 
8:    $\pi_R \leftarrow \text{DIVIDEANDCONQUERWIENER}(P_R, depth + 1)$ 
9:   return CONNECTPATHS( $\pi_L, \pi_R$ )
10: end procedure
```

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**Algorithm 2** FindBisectingLine( $P$ )

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```
1: procedure FINDBISECTINGLINE( $P$ )
2:    $\min X \leftarrow \min_{p \in P} p.x$ ,  $\max X \leftarrow \max_{p \in P} p.x$ 
3:    $\min Y \leftarrow \min_{p \in P} p.y$ ,  $\max Y \leftarrow \max_{p \in P} p.y$ 
4:    $\text{width} \leftarrow \max X - \min X$ ,  $\text{height} \leftarrow \max Y - \min Y$ 
5:   if  $\text{width} \geq \text{height}$  then
6:      $\text{mid} X \leftarrow (\min X + \max X)/2$ 
7:     return  $(1.0, 0.0, -\text{mid} X)$   $\triangleright$  Vertical line:  $x = \text{mid} X$ 
8:   else
9:      $\text{mid} Y \leftarrow (\min Y + \max Y)/2$ 
10:    return  $(0.0, 1.0, -\text{mid} Y)$   $\triangleright$  Horizontal line:  $y = \text{mid} Y$ 
11:  end if
12: end procedure
```

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# Supporting Procedure: PartitionPoints

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**Algorithm 3** PartitionPoints( $P, a, b, c$ )

---

```
1: procedure PARTITIONPOINTS( $P, a, b, c$ )
2:    $L \leftarrow [ ], R \leftarrow [ ]$ 
3:   for each  $p \in P$  do
4:      $v \leftarrow ap.x + bp.y + c$ 
5:     if  $v \leq 0$  then
6:        $L \leftarrow L \cup \{p\}$ 
7:     else
8:        $R \leftarrow R \cup \{p\}$ 
9:     end if
10:  end for
11:  if  $L = \emptyset$  then
12:    Move one point from  $R$  to  $L$ 
13:  else if  $R = \emptyset$  then
14:    Move one point from  $L$  to  $R$ 
15:  end if
```

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**Algorithm 4** ConnectPaths( $\pi_1, \pi_2$ )

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```
1: procedure CONNECTPATHS( $\pi_1, \pi_2$ )
2:    $options \leftarrow$  empty list
3:   Append ( $\pi_1 + \pi_2, W(\pi_1 + \pi_2)$ ) to  $options$ 
4:   Append ( $\pi_1 + \text{reverse}(\pi_2), W(\pi_1 + \text{reverse}(\pi_2))$ ) to  $options$ 
5:   Append ( $\text{reverse}(\pi_1) + \pi_2, W(\text{reverse}(\pi_1) + \pi_2)$ ) to  $options$ 
6:   Append ( $\text{reverse}(\pi_1) + \text{reverse}(\pi_2), W(\text{reverse}(\pi_1) + \text{reverse}(\pi_2))$ )
   to  $options$ 
7:   return path with minimum Wiener index from  $options$ 
8: end procedure
```

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# Approximation Quality and Efficiency

#Pts	Approx Ratio	Range	D&C Time (s)	Speedup
6	$1.0206 \pm 0.0501$	[1.0000, 1.3021]	0.0001	72.4x
7	$1.0212 \pm 0.0480$	[1.0000, 1.3014]	0.0001	481.8x
8	$1.0427 \pm 0.0731$	[1.0000, 1.3307]	0.0002	2800.6x
9	$1.0625 \pm 0.0873$	[1.0000, 1.3318]	0.0003	6785.5x
10	$1.0520 \pm 0.0776$	[1.0000, 1.4271]	0.0003	80249.2x

Table 1: Approximation quality and speed comparison with optimal algorithm.

-  Abu-Affash, A. K., Carmi, P., Luwisch, O., and Mitchell, J. S. B. (2023).  
Geometric spanning trees minimizing the wiener index.
-  de Berg, M., van Kreveld, M., Overmars, M., and Schwarzkopf, O. (2000).  
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The end.  
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