



# Minimum-Cost Bounded-Degree Spanning Tree

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# Problem Overview

## Given

- Graph  $G = (V, E)$
- Edge costs  $c_e$
- Degree bounds  $b_v$
- Find a spanning tree minimizing cost while keeping  $\text{degree}(v) \leq b_v$ .

## Research Goals

Remove reliance on time-consuming Linear Programming and adapt combinatorial local search techniques.

# Local Search Algorithm - Unweighted Graphs

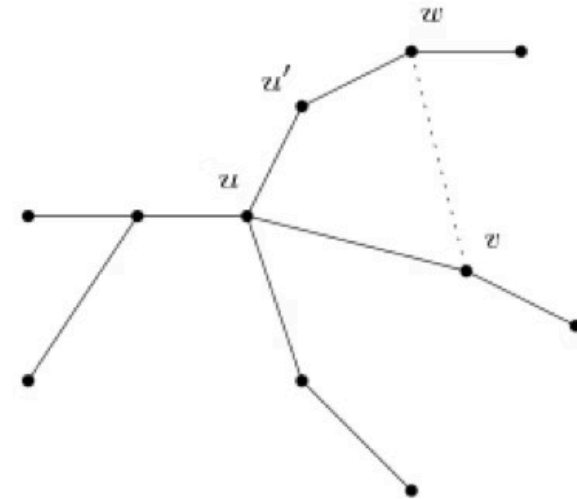
**Problem:** Find a spanning tree  $T$  that minimizes the maximum degree of any vertex  $v$  in  $T$ .

## Local Move Definition

- Let  $d_T(u)$  = degree of node  $u$  in current tree  $T$ .
- Consider all edges  $(v, w)$  not in  $T$  that create cycle  $C$  containing  $u$ .
- Select edge where  $\max(d_T(v), d_T(w)) \leq d_T(u) - 2$

## Move Properties

- Algorithm targets nodes with degree at least  $\max d_T - \lceil \log_2 n \rceil$ , and terminates if no local move is possible on any such node.
- finds tree  $T$  with maximum degree at most  $2\text{OPT} + \lceil \log_2 n \rceil$

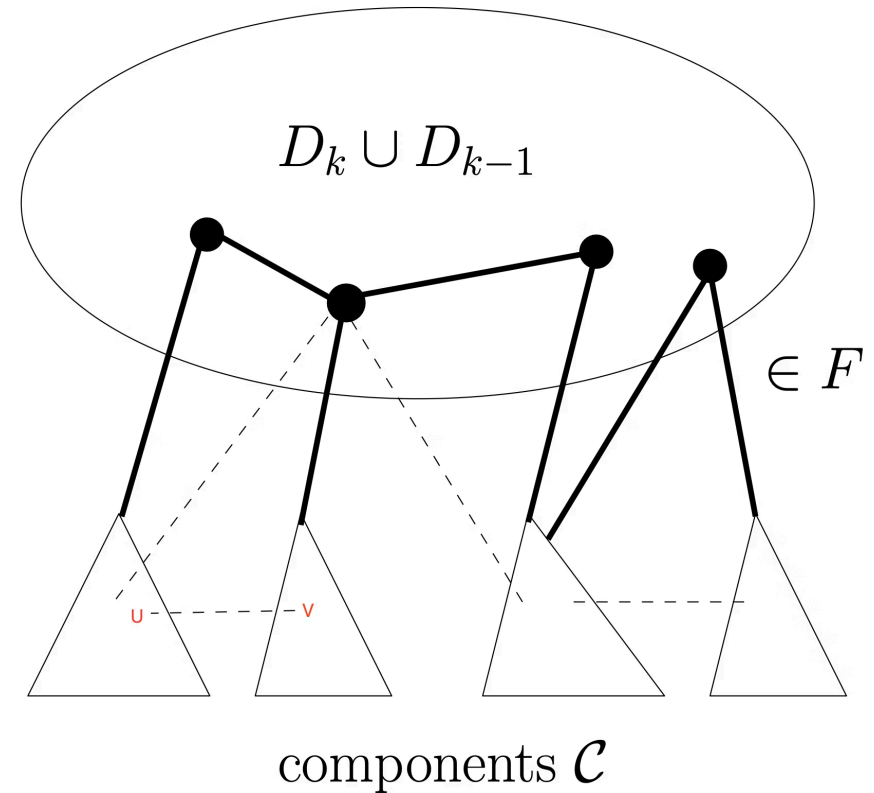


# OPT + 1 Local Search Framework

- Let  $k$  be the maximum degree in  $T$
- Let  $D_k$  = all degree- $k$  vertices in tree  $T$
- Define  $F$  as edges incident to  $D_k \cup D_{k-1}$
- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be components of  $T$  formed when  $F$  is removed

## Approach

- Identify degree  $(k - 1)$  vertices for local moves
- Mark nodes as reducible
- Remove marked nodes from  $D_{k-1}$  and update  $F$  and  $\mathcal{C}$



# Linear Program Algorithm - Weighted Graph

Given  $G = (V, E)$ , costs  $c_e \geq 0$  for all  $e \in E$ , set  $W \subseteq V$ , Integer bounds  $b_v \geq 1$  for all  $v \in W$

## LP Formulation Overview -

Objective Function:

$$\text{Minimize } \sum_e c_e x_e$$

Subject to:

$$\sum_e x_e = |V| - 1 \quad (\text{spanning tree constraint})$$

$$\sum_{e \in E(S)} x_e \leq |S| - 1, \quad \forall S \subseteq V, |S| \geq 2 \quad (\text{acyclicity})$$

$$x(\delta(v)) \leq b_v \quad (\text{degree bounds})$$

$$x_e \geq 0 \quad (\text{non-negativity})$$

# Flow-Based Constraint Reduction

## Motivation

Replace exponential number of cycle constraints with polynomial-sized flow formulation

## Idea

- Supply exactly 1 unit of flow from each node (except  $root$ ) to the  $root$
- Apply Conservation of flow (from each node( $v$ )) at each node ( $u$ ) of the graph
- Flow value ( $f$ ) should not exceed the capacity of the edge ( $x_e$ )

$$\sum_{w:(v,w) \in A} f_{vw} - \sum_{w:(w,v) \in A} f_{vw} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } v = a \text{ (source)} \\ -1 & \text{if } v = r \text{ (sink/root)} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Deterministic Rounding

- Solve LP

Work with support  $E(x) = \{e : x_e > 0\}$

If vertex  $v$  has exactly one incident edge in  $E(x)$ :  $(u, v) \in E(x)$

- Add to solution  $(u, v) \rightarrow F$
- Remove  $v$  and decrement  $b_u$  if  $u \in W$

Else if  $v \in W$  has  $\leq 3$  incident edges in  $E(x)$ : remove  $v$  from  $W$

## Guaranteed Outcome:

The algorithm ensures that degree of any vertex ' $v$ ' in the final spanning tree will not exceed its specified bound ' $b_v$ ' by more than two.

$$\deg(v) \leq b_v + 2$$

# Improved +1 Algorithm

- **Any basic feasible solution (when  $W \neq \emptyset$ ) contains some  $v \in W$  with at most  $b_v + 1$  edges in  $E(x)$ .**
  1. Repeatedly solve LP relaxation
  2. Remove vertex  $v \in W$  guaranteed by lemma (if support  $\leq b_v + 1$  edges)
  3. When  $W$  becomes empty, compute ordinary minimum-cost spanning tree on remaining support

**Guaranteed Outcome:** This improved algorithm ensures a tighter bound on vertex degrees.

$$\deg(v) \leq b_v + 1$$

The degree of any vertex ' $v$ ' in the final spanning tree will not exceed its specified bound ' $b_v$ ' by more than one.



# Feedback Vertex Set (FVS)

- A set  $F \subseteq V$  is an FVS if removing  $F$  makes the graph acyclic (every cycle intersects  $F$ ).
- Goal: find  $F$  of minimum total cost  $c(F) = \sum_{v \in F} c(v)$ .
- Problem is NP-hard, so we use approximation algorithms.

## Approach:

- **Compute  $\alpha$ :**  $\alpha = \min_{v \in V} c(v) / (d(v) - 1)$ , where  $d(v)$  is the degree of  $v$  (assume  $d(v) \geq 2$ ).
- **Reduce costs:** For every vertex set:  $c'(v) = c(v) - \alpha(d(v) - 1)$ . (By choice of  $\alpha$ , at least one  $v$  has  $c'(v) = 0$ .)
- **Select & remove:** Let  $F_0 = \{v \in V : c'(v) = 0\}$ . Add  $F_0$  to the solution and remove them from the graph:  $G' \leftarrow G \setminus F_0$ .
- **Recurse:** Run the same procedure on  $(G', c'|_{V(G')})$  to get  $F'$ .
- **Combine:** The final FVS is  $F = F_0 \cup F'$ .

Our Contribution:

# Local Search - Bounded Spanning Tree

Problem :

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected undirected graph, and for each vertex  $v \in V$  let  $b_v \geq 1$  be an integer upper bound on its degree

We define exceedance by :

$$e_T(v) = \deg_T(v) - b_v$$

Algorithm goal:

$$\text{Minimize } \max_v (e_T(v))$$

# Algorithmic Framework: Local Search

→ Idea is similar to the algorithm for minimising the maximum degree of spanning Tree  $T$

## Iterative Process Flow:

1

**Compute  $k$**

Max exceedance

2

**Identify  $D_k, D_{k-1}, F$  and  $C$**

for decreasing the exceedance  $k$

3

**Mark  $D_{k-1}$  nodes reducible for Local moves and Update  $F, C$**

Used to decrease the exceedance of  $D_k$

4

**Stop if no local move is possible**

It is guaranteed that  $k \leq OPT_{exc} + 1$

## Proof Sketch - $OPT \geq k - 1$

$$S = D_k \cup D_{k-1}$$

$$\sum_{v \in S} d_T(v) \geq |F|$$

$$\sum_{v \in S} e_T(v) \geq |F| - \sum_{v \in S} b_v$$

$$|F| \geq \sum b_v + k|D_k| + (k-1)|D_{k-1}| - (|S| - 1)$$

$$OPT_{exc} \geq k - 1$$

- any spanning tree must add  $\geq |F|$  edges touching  $S$
- Subtract degree bounds
- Nodes in  $S$  contribute degrees  $b_v + k$  or  $b_v + k - 1$ , which counts edges inside  $S$  twice and edges leaving  $S$  once.
- Since edges inside  $S$  form a forest ( $\leq |S| - 1$ ), the remaining counted edges give a **lower bound on**  $|F|$ .

**Thank you**