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## Abstract

In this article, we describe ‘HALG2PACE’, a solver for the one-sided crossing minimization problem on graphs given together with a low-cutwidth linear arrangement. This solver was developed as part of the PACE challenge 2024 - parameterized track. The solver is based on a dynamic programming scheme over the given linear arrangement, and admits FPT running time with single-exponential dependence on the cutwidth of the given linear arrangement. The solver is implemented in C++ and meets the requirements presented by PACE challenge. The solver was submitted on optil.io under the user name ‘narekb95’ and is available on github at <https://github.com/narekb95/ocr-ctw>

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## 1 Preliminaries

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we denote by  $[n]$  the set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . A *Permutation*  $\pi$  of a set  $S$  is a bijective mapping from  $S$  to  $[|S|]$ . For  $i \in [S]$  we denote by  $\pi_i$  the element  $\pi^{-1}(i)$  of  $S$ . Each permutation  $\pi$  of a set corresponds (bijectively) to a linear ordering  $\leq_\pi$ , where for  $u, v \in S$  it holds that  $u \leq_\pi v$  if  $\pi(u) \leq \pi(v)$ . We will use these two terms interchangeably. In particular, we will call  $\pi$  an ordering, when we mean the ordering  $\leq_\pi$  underlying the permutation  $\pi$ .

A two-layered drawing of a bipartite graph  $G = (A, B, E)$  is a drawing that maps its vertices into two different horizontal lines, such that the vertices of  $V^1$  are mapped to one line, and the vertices of  $V^2$  are mapped to the other. Edges are drawn as straight-line segments between the points corresponding to their endpoints. A two-layered is given as a mapping  $\mu: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^2$ . Implicitly,  $\mu$  maps each edge  $\{u, v\} \in E$  to the line segment between  $\mu(u)$  and  $\mu(v)$ . For  $i \in [2]$ ,  $V^i$ , given an ordering  $\pi$  over  $V_i$ , a two-layered drawing of  $G$  respects  $\pi$  if the order of the points corresponding to the images of the vertices of  $V_i$  on the underlying horizontal line matches the order of the vertices themselves given by  $\pi$ .

In a two-layered drawing  $\mu$ , and for two edges  $e_1, e_2 \in E$ , we say that  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  cross in  $\mu$ , if  $\mu(e_1)$  and  $\mu(e_2)$  intersect in a point that is not an endpoint of either line segments. The *number of crossings* of  $\mu$  is the number of unordered pairs of edges  $\{e_1, e_2\} \in \binom{E}{2}$  such that  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  cross in  $\mu$ . The following observations are Folklore. We refer to [2] for more information.

► **Lemma 1.** *Given a bipartite graph  $G = (V^1, V^2, E)$ , together with two orderings  $\pi_1, \pi_2$  over  $V^1$  and  $V^2$  respectively, the number of crossings of any two-layered drawing of  $G$  that respects  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  is invariant of the drawing itself, and determined solely by  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ . We call this number of crossings of any such map as the crossings number of  $(\pi_1, \pi_2)$ .*

► **Definition 2.** *The one-sided crossing minimization problem is defined as follows: Given a bipartite graph  $G = (V^1, V^2, E)$  together with a fixed ordering  $\pi_1$  over  $V^1$ , asked is a permutation  $\pi_2$  over  $V^2$  that minimizes the crossing number of  $(\pi_1, \pi_2)$ .*

A linear arrangement of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is linear ordering  $\ell = v_1 \leq \dots \leq v_n$  over the vertices of the graph. Let  $V_i = \{v_1, \dots, v_i\}$ . For  $v_i \in V$ , we define the cut of  $\ell$  at  $v_i$  as the set



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of edges having one endpoint in  $V_i$  and the other in  $V \setminus V_i$ , and call it the  $i$ th cut of  $\ell$ . The cut-graph  $H_i = (L_i, R_i, E_i)$  is given by the edges of the  $i$ th cut together with their endpoints, where  $L_i \subseteq V_i$  are the endpoints in  $V_i$ , and  $R_i \subseteq V \setminus V_i$  are the other endpoints.

## 2 The algorithm

Finally, we introduce some notation for our algorithm. Along this work, we assume  $G = (V^1, V^2, E)$  is the input graph, and  $\ell$  a linear arrangement of  $G$ . Let  $k$  be the largest size of a cut of  $\ell$ . Let  $n = |V|$  and  $m = |E|$ . Let  $\pi_1$  be the give fixed ordering over  $V^1$ , and  $\pi_2$  be the asked ordering. Finally, for two different vertices  $v_1, v_2 \in V^2$ , we define  $c(v_1, v_2)$  as

$$c(v_1, v_2) = |\{(w_2, w_1) \in N(v_2) \times N(v_1) : w_2 <_{\pi_1} w_1\}|.$$

For two disjoint sets of vertices  $X, X' \subseteq V_2$ , we define

$$c(X, X') = \sum_{(v_1, v_2) \in X \times X'} c(v_1, v_2).$$

Moreover, for a set  $X \subseteq V^2$  we define  $c(X)$  as the minimum crossing number of  $(\pi_1, \pi')$  of  $G[V_1, X]$  over all orderings  $\pi'$  of  $X$ .

► **Algorithm 1.** *We start a subroutine to compute  $c(X)$  for a small set  $X$  in time  $2^n \text{poly}(n)$ . The algorithm follows a similar approach to the well-known dynamic programming algorithm for the Hamiltonian Cycle given by Held and Karp [3] and independently by Bellman [1]. The subroutine iterates over all subsets of  $X$  in increasing order (given by the subset relation), and computes an optimal ordering induced by each subset, by the recursive formula*

$$c(X) = \min\{c(X \setminus \{v\}) + c(X \setminus \{v\}, v) : v \in X\}.$$

► **Definition 3.** *Given a bipartite graph  $G = (V_1, V_2, E)$  together with a permutation  $\pi_1$  over  $V_1$ , a pair of vertices  $(v_1, v_2) \in V_2^2$  is called suited (in respect to  $\pi_1$ ), if  $w_1 \leq_{\pi_1} w_2$  for each  $w_1 \in N_G(v_1)$  and  $w_2 \in N_G(v_2)$ .*

We call a pair of vertices  $v_1, v_2$  suited, if  $c(v_1, v_2) \cdot c(v_2, v_1) = 0$ . Our algorithm is based on the following lemma:

► **Lemma 4** ([2, Fact 5]). *Let  $u, v \in V^2$  be two suited vertices. In any optimal solution  $\pi_2$ , it holds that if  $u \leq_{\pi_2} v$  then  $c(u, v) = 0$ .*

Our algorithm follows a dynamic programming approach over the cuts of the linear arrangement  $\ell$ . For  $i \in [n]$ , we define the set  $S_i = V^2 \cap V(H_i)$  as the set of vertices of  $V^2$  that are incident to edges of the  $i$ th cut. The dynamic programming tables are indexed by subsets of  $S_i$ . Formally, for  $i \in [n]$  let  $\mathcal{S}_i = \mathcal{P}(S_i)$  the power-set of  $S_i$ . we define the dynamic programming tables as vectors  $T_i \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathcal{S}_i}$ , where for  $X \subseteq S_i$  we define  $T_i[X]$  as follows:

$$T_i[X] = c(V_i \cup X) + c(V_i, V \setminus (V_i \cup X)). \quad (1)$$

At each cut  $i$  our algorithm proceeds as follows: Let  $S'_i = S_{i-1} \cup S_i$ , and  $F = S_{i-1} \setminus S_i$ . We call  $F_i$  the set of forget vertices at the  $i$ th cut. The algorithm first computes both  $S'$  and  $F$ . Then for each subset  $X \subseteq S'_i$  that is a super set of  $X \supseteq F_i$ , let  $X' = X \setminus F_i$ . The algorithm computes  $T_i[X']$  as follows:

$$T_i[X'] = \min_{Y \subseteq X} c_1 + c_2 + c_3, \quad (2)$$

where

- 82 ■  $c_1 = T_{i-1}(Y)$ ,
- 83 ■  $c_2 = c(X \setminus Y)$ ,
- 84 ■  $c_3 = c(Y, X)$ ,
- 85 ■ and  $c_4 = c(F, S_i \setminus X')$ .

86 Intuitively, the algorithm fixes consider orderings with  $V_{i-1} \cup Y$  as a prefix, and append  
 87  $X \setminus Y$  to this prefix (using the best ordering for  $X \setminus Y$ ). Now we explain each summand in  
 88 the states sum:

- 89 ■  $c_1$  is the number of crossings induced by the prefix  $V_{i-1} \cup Y$ .
- 90 ■  $c_2$  is the number of crossings in induced by  $X \setminus Y$  and is computing using Algorithm 1.
- 91 ■  $c_3$  is the number of crossings introduced by appending  $X$  to the prefix ordering (edges  
 92 between  $V_{i-1}$  and  $X$  are accounted for in  $c_1$ ).
- 93 ■  $c_4$  is the number of edges between  $F$  and  $V \setminus V_i$ , since  $F = V_i \setminus V_{i-1}$ .

### 94 3 Implementation details

95 We use bit-masks to represent sets. To iterate over all supersets of  $F$  that are subsets of  $S'$   
 96 with constant time steps, we compute  $S'_i \setminus F_i$ , iterate over all its subsets  $X'$  and compute  
 97  $X = X' \cup F$  as the sets we are looking for.

98 In order to output the ordering we keep track of all sets  $S_i$ , and for each subset  $X \subset S_i$   
 99 we keep track of the set  $X \setminus Y$  that was appended to  $V_i \cup Y$  to compute an optimal ordering  
 100 at  $X$ . We use backtracking to generate each suffix at each step, and for each such suffix we  
 101 use an additional call to Algorithm 1 to output an optimal ordering for this set.

### 102 4 Sketch of Correctness

103 It follows from Lemma 4 that an optimal ordering has all vertices of  $V_i$  ordered before  
 104  $V \setminus (V_i \cup S_i)$ . Hence, the correctness and the optimality of the algorithm follow by induction  
 105 over  $T_i$  where we show that the recursive formula Equation (2) computes exactly the number  
 106 of edges presented in the definition of  $T_i$  Equation (1).

107 Since each cut-edge has at most one endpoint in  $V_1$ , it holds that  $|S_i| \leq k$ . The running  
 108 time of the algorithm can be bounded by  $3^k \text{poly}(k)n$ , since we iterate over all cuts  $i$ , and  
 109 for each we iterate over all subsets of  $S_i$ , and over each subset of these subsets. We spend  
 110 polynomial time at each such subset of a subset, so the running time can be bounded in

$$111 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{S \subseteq S_i} \sum_{X \subseteq S} \text{poly}(k) = n3^k \text{poly}(k).$$

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