

# Greedy Spanners in Euclidean Spaces Admit Sublinear Separators

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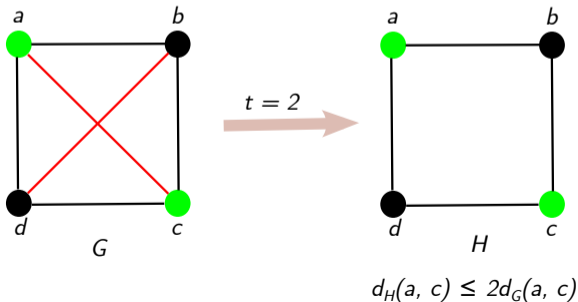
# Spanner

## Definition

A  $t$ -spanner of a graph  $G = (V, E, w)$  is a subgraph  $H = (V, E_H, w)$  such that for every pair  $(u, v) \in V^2$ :

$$d_G(u, v) \leq d_H(u, v) \leq t \cdot d_G(u, v)$$

Parameter  $t$  is called the **stretch** of the spanner.



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Given a set of point  $P$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . In our paper, we focus on the spanner of the graph  $G = (P, \binom{P}{2}, \|\cdot\|_2)$ .

# Applications

## Complexity of Network Synchronization

BARUCH AWERBUCH

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts*

### (a) Distributed Computing

EXPLORING PROTEIN FOLDING TRAJECTORIES USING  
GEOMETRIC SPANNERS

D. RUSSEL and L. GUIBAS

### (c) Computational Biology

On Light Spanners, Low-treewidth Embeddings and Efficient  
Traversing in Minor-free Graphs

Vincent Cohen-Addad<sup>1</sup>, Arnold Filtser<sup>2</sup>, Philip N. Klein<sup>3</sup>, and Hung Le<sup>4</sup>

### (b) Approximation Algorithm

Near Optimal Multicriteria Spanner Constructions  
in Wireless Ad-Hoc Networks

Hanan Shpungin, *Member, IEEE*, and Michael Segal, *Senior Member, IEEE*

### (d) Wireless Sensor Network

Figure: Applications of spanners

# Separator

## Definition

A (balanced) separator  $S$  is a subset of the vertex set of the graph  $G = (V, E)$  such that each connected component of  $G[V/S]$  has at most  $\frac{2}{3}n$  vertices.

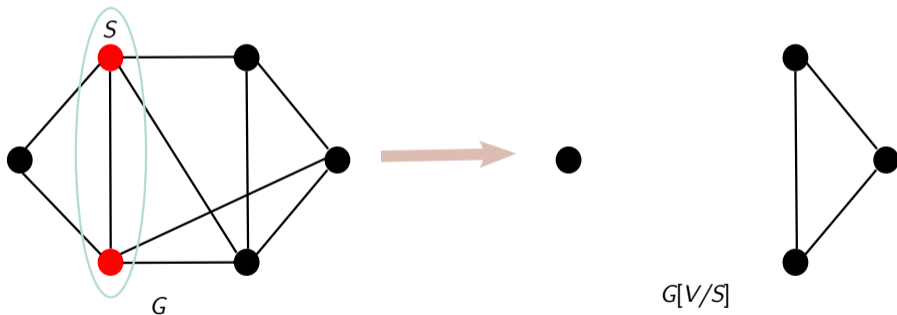


Figure: A separator  $S$  of  $G$

## Greedy Spanner

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**Algorithm** Greedy( $G = (V, E, w), t$ )

---

- 1: sort edges in  $E$  in **increasing order**
  - 2:  $H = (V, \emptyset, w)$
  - 3: **for**  $e = (u, v) \in E$  in sorted order **do**
  - 4:   **if**  $d_H(u, v) > t \cdot w(u, v)$  **then**
  - 5:      $E_H = E_H \cup \{e\}$
  - 6:   **end if**
  - 7: **end for**
  - 8: **return**  $H$
-

## Results on Separators of Spanners

- ▶ Abam and Har-Peled (2010) constructed a  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -spanner with a separator of size  $O(n^{1-1/d})$  for point set in Euclidean space with maximum degree  $O(\log^2 n)$ .
  - ▶ **Open question:** Constructing a spanner with a sublinear separator and a constant maximum degree in metrics of constant doubling dimensions.

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- ▶ Recently, Eppstein and Khodabandeh (2021) showed that the greedy spanner for point sets in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  admits a separator of size  $O(\sqrt{n})$ .
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## Definition (Informal)

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  in a  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is  $\tau$ -lanky if any ball  $\mathbf{B}(x, r)$  of radius  $r$  is cut by **at most**  $\tau$  edges of length at least  $r$ .

## Contributions

- ▶ Introduce  $\tau$ -lanky - a criterion of graphs admitting sublinear separators and bounded degree.
- ▶  $\tau$ -lanky implies bounded degree and sublinear separator **in strong sense**, i.e. every subgraph admits sublinear separator.

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## Theorem

*Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an  $n$ -vertex graph in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $G$  is  $\tau$ -lanky. Then,  $G$  has a balanced separator  $S$  such that  $|S| = O(\tau n^{1-1/d})$  when  $d \geq 2$  and the maximum degree of  $G$  is  $\tau$ .*

## Contributions

- ▶ Introduce  $\tau$ -lanky - a criterion of graphs admitting sublinear separators and bounded degree.
- ▶  $\tau$ -lanky implies bounded degree and sublinear separator **in strong sense**, i.e. every subgraph admits sublinear separator.
- ▶ The criterion is simple, can be applied to non-spanner graphs.

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  - ▶ Greedy spanner has separator of size  $O(n^{1-1/d})$ . This resolves the open question in Eppstein and Khodabandeh (2021).
- ▶ Prove that a spanner in Chan et al. (2016) is  $\epsilon^{-O(d)}$ -lanky, resolve the open question in Abam and Har-Peled (2010).

# Outline

$\tau$  – lanky

Spanners in Euclidean Spaces

Spanners in Doubling Metrics

Conclusion

## $\tau$ -lanky

### Definition

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is  $\tau$ -lanky if for any non-negative  $r$ , and for any ball  $\mathbf{B}(x, r)$  of radius  $r$  centered at a vertex  $x \in V$ , there are at most  $\tau$  edges of length at least  $r$  that are cut by  $\mathbf{B}(x, r)$ .

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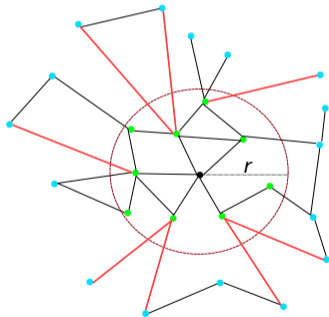


Figure: A ball with radius  $r$  is cut by 8 edges with length at least  $r$

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There is nothing special about the length  $r$ . In fact, any length  $cr$  with  $c$  is a positive constant does the trick.

# Implications

## Lemma

*A  $\tau$ -lanky graph  $G$  has maximum degree  $\tau$ .*

Prove by looking at a ball  $(u, d_{min}/2)$  for every vertex  $u$  of  $G$ .

# Implications

## Theorem

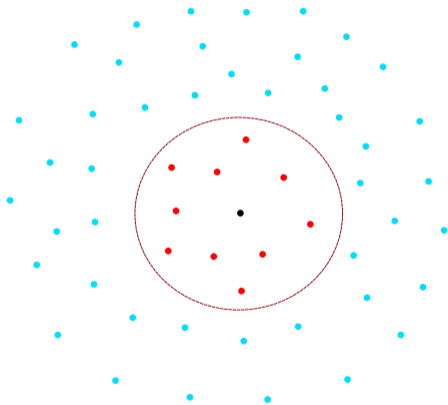
*Let  $G$  be an  $n$ -vertex graph in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $G$  is  $\tau$ -lanky. Then,  $G$  has a balanced separator  $S$  such that  $|S| = O(\tau n^{1-1/d})$  when  $d \geq 2$  and  $|S| = O(\tau \log n)$  when  $d = 1$ . Furthermore,  $S$  can be found in  $O(\tau n)$  expected time.*

## Proof Sketch



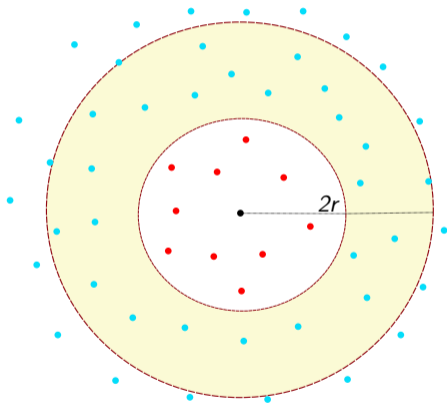
## Proof Sketch

- ▶ Find a smallest ball  $\mathbf{B}(v, r)$  that contains  $\frac{n}{2^{d+1}}$  vertices. Hence,  $\mathbf{B}(v, 2r)$  contains at most  $\frac{n}{2}$  vertices.



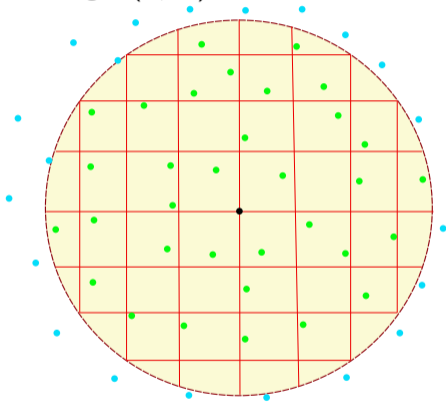
## Proof Sketch

- ▶ Choose a random radius  $r^*$  uniformly in  $[r, 2r]$ . The expected number of edges with length  $rn^{-1/d}$  cutting  $\mathbf{B}(v, r^*)$  is  $O(n^{1-1/d})$ .



## Proof Sketch

- ▶ For edges with length in  $[rn^{-1/d}, 2r]$ , partition  $\mathbf{B}(v, 2r)$  into smaller balls accordingly. Each edge cutting  $\mathbf{B}(v, r^*)$  must also cut one small ball.

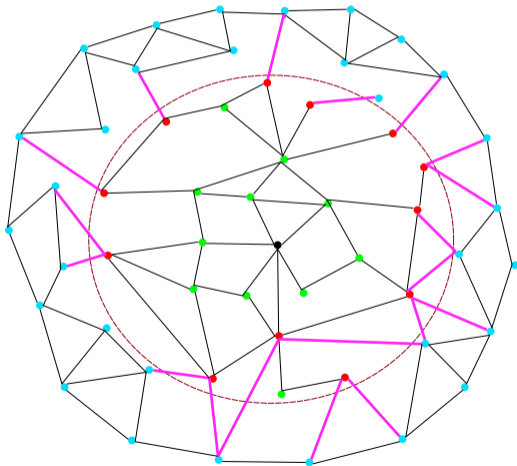


$$\# \text{ edges cut } \mathbf{B}(v, r^*) \leq \tau \times (\# \text{ balls}).$$

- ▶ Number of edges with length larger than  $2r$  cutting  $\mathbf{B}(v, r^*) \leq \tau$ .

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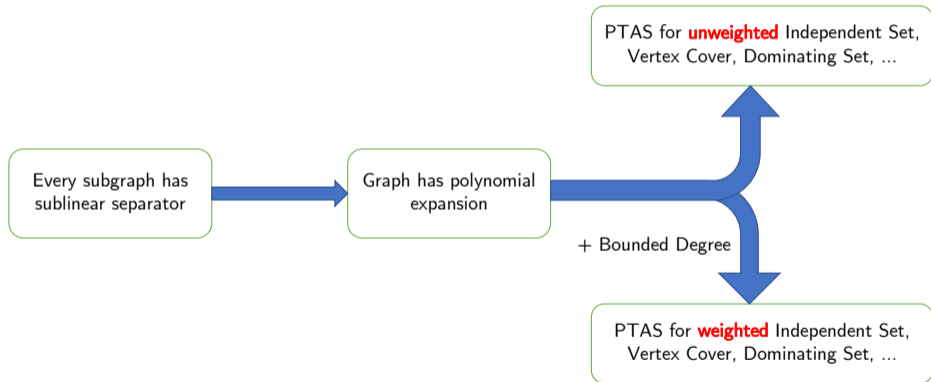
- ▶ The separator is the set of vertices inside  $\mathbf{B}(v, r^*)$  that incident to any edge cutting  $\mathbf{B}(v, r^*)$ .



## Algorithmic Implications

- ▶ Unweighted optimization problems such as independent set, vertex cover, dominating set, connected dominating set, packing problems, admit a polynomial-time approximation scheme (PTAS) in a graph has polynomial expansion.
- ▶ If the  $G$  has bounded degree, then the vertex-weighted version of those problems admit a PTAS.

# Algorithmic Implications



# Euclidean Spaces

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- ▶ For any two subsets  $X$  and  $Y$  of  $P$  such that  $\text{dist}(X, Y) \geq \frac{12}{\epsilon} \text{diam}(X)$ , there are  $O(\epsilon^{1-d})$  edges in  $G$  between  $X$  and  $Y$ .

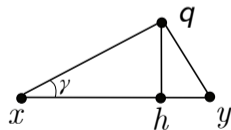
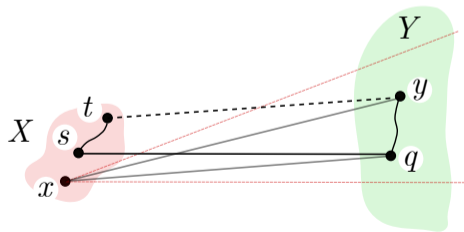
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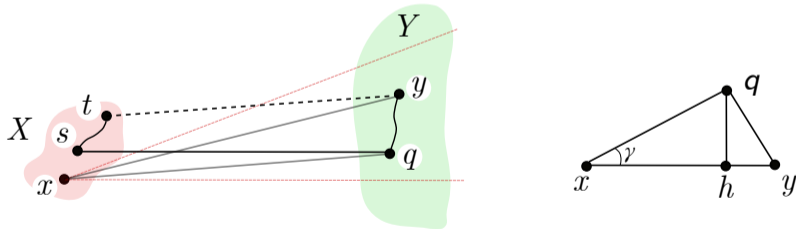
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- ▶ For any ball  $\mathbf{B}$  of radius  $r$ , partition  $\mathbf{B}$  into smaller balls of radius  $\epsilon r/48$ , then each ball is cut by at most  $O(\epsilon^{1-d})$  edges.

## Extended Results

### Theorem (Bounded fractal dimension)

*Let  $P$  be a given set of  $n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  that has fractal dimension  $d_f$ , and  $G$  be the greedy  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -spanner of  $P$ . Then  $G$  has a separator  $S$  of size  $O(n^{1-1/d_f})$ .*

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### Theorem (Unit ball graphs)

*Let  $G$  be the greedy  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -spanner of a unit ball graph in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Then  $G$  has a separator  $S$  of size  $O(|V(G)|^{1-1/d})$ .*

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A metric  $(X, \delta)$  is  $(\eta, d)$ -packable if for any ball with radius 1, there are at most  $\frac{\eta}{r^d}$  points inside such that the distance between any two points is at least  $r$ .



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The Euclidean Space  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is  $(\eta, d)$  packable with a constant  $\eta$ . Moreover, the metric space with bounded doubling dimension  $d$  is also  $(2^{O(d)}, d)$  packable.

## Lankiness in Metric Spaces

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## Spanners in Doubling Metrics

Chan, Gupta, Maggs and Zhou (CGMZ) constructed a  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -spanner with a maximum degree of  $\epsilon^{-O(d)}$  for points in doubling metrics of dimension  $d$ .

- ▶ We prove their spanner is  $\epsilon^{-O(d)}$ -lanky.

## Construction

- ▶ Construct a net tree  $N$ . In each level  $i$ , put all edges with length at most  $(4 + \frac{32}{\epsilon})r_i$  to the spanner.

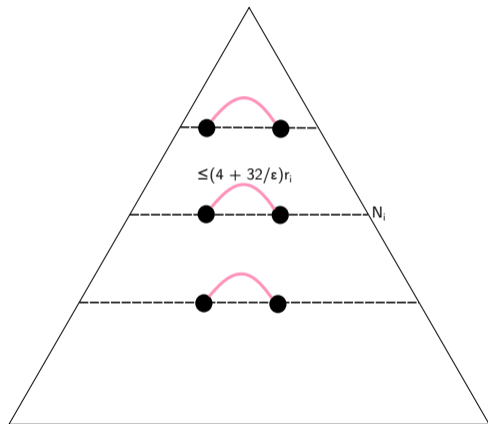


Figure: Net tree spanner

## Construction

- ▶ Reroute some edges of the spanner such that each edge connects vertices whose levels differ  $1/\epsilon$ .

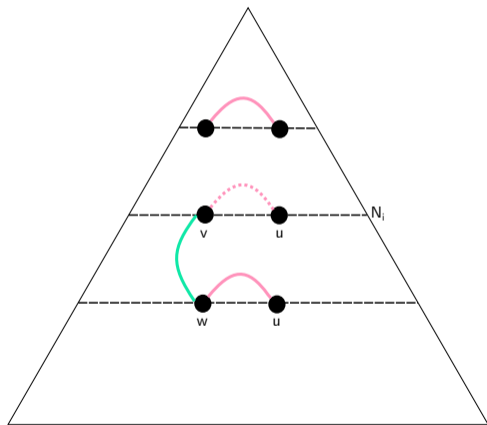


Figure: Net tree spanner after rerouting

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- ▶ Given a ball  $\mathbf{B}(p, r)$ , there are  $\epsilon^{-O(d)}$  edges with length  $[r, (4 + 32/\epsilon)r]$  cutting  $\mathbf{B}(p, r)$ . This is proven by partitioning  $\mathbf{B}(p, r)$  into smaller balls.

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- ▶ For the edges with length more than  $(4 + 32/\epsilon)r$ , there are  $\epsilon^{-O(d)}$  endpoints of those edges inside  $\mathbf{B}(p, r) \implies$  there are  $\epsilon^{-O(d)}$  edges cutting  $\mathbf{B}(p, r)$  by the bounded degree.

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- ▶ The bounded degree spanner in Chan et al. (2016) is  $\epsilon^{-O(d)}$ -lanky.
- ▶ Using the same technique, we proved that the greedy spanner in doubling metric admit separator of size  $O(n^{1-1/d} + \log(\text{spread}))$  with  $\text{spread} = \frac{d_{\max}}{d_{\min}}$ .

## Open question

Do greedy spanners admit sublinear separators (not depend on *spread*) in doubling metrics?



## References

- Abam, M. A. and Har-Peled, S. (2010). New constructions of SSPDs and their applications. SoCG'10.
- Chan, T. H., Gupta, A., Maggs, B. M., and Zhou, S. (2016). On hierarchical routing in doubling metrics. *ACM Trans. Algorithms*.
- Eppstein, D. and Khodabandeh, H. (2021). On the edge crossings of the greedy spanner. SoCG' 2021.

Thank you for listening!

Question?