Solving Evacuation Problems in Polynomial Space

Miriam Schlöter & Martin Skutella







Flows over Time Definition



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- logistic - public transport - evacuation problems



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Flows over time are like...

...like classical (static) network flows + *time component*:

- flow needs time to travel through an arc *a*: arc *a* has a *transit time* τ_a (length)
- a bounded amount of flow can enter an arc a per time unit: arc a has a capacity u_a (width)

Flows over Time Definition







































single source / single sink

Given: $\mathcal{N} = (G = (V, A), u, \tau, s, t)$ and time horizon T

Aim: Flow over time f in \mathcal{N} s.t. at each point in time $\theta \leq T$ as much flow as possible has reached the sink

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multiple sources / single sink

Given: $\mathcal{N} = (G = (V, A), u, \tau, S^+, t)$ with supplies v on the sources

Aim: Flow over time f in \mathcal{N} that respects the supplies such that at each point in time as much flow as possible has reached the sink

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→ Earliest Arrival Flows can be used to model *evacuation scenarios*

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Baumann & Skutella, (2006), No explicit time-expansion:
1. Construct *earliest arrival pattern p*2. Compute the earliest arrival flow *f* using *p*

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multiple sources / single sink - our results, SODA 2017

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New strongly polynomial time algorithm for the **Quickest Transshipment Problem**

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• A quickest transshipment problem can be solved as a *convex combination of lex-max flows over time.*

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- A quickest transshipment problem can be solved as a *convex combination of lex-max flows over time*.
- The convex combination can be computed via one submodular function minimization

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A polynomial space algorithm for a generalization of lex-max flows over time

multiple sources / single sink - our results, SODA 2017

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Earliest arrival flow problems can be solved as convex combinations of generalization of lexmax flows over time which can be computed using only polynomial space Thank You!