

# Graduate Seminar on Discrete Optimization

## Graph Partitioning

### 1. **Approximating fractional multicommodity flow**

L. Fleischer [2000]: *Approximating fractional multicommodity flow independent of the number of commodities*.

SIAM Journal on Discrete Mathematics, 2000, 13, 505–520 (preliminary version: FOCS 1999)

### 2. **Multicommodity max-flow min-cut theorems and sparsest cuts**

T. Leighton and S. Rao [1999]: *Multicommodity Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorems and Their Use in Designing Approximation Algorithms*: section 1, 2, 3.1: as far as needed for sparsest cuts.

Journal of the ACM, 1999, 46, 787–832 (FOCS 1988)

### 3. **Approximation algorithms based on sparsest cuts**

T. Leighton and S. Rao [1999]: *Multicommodity Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorems and Their Use in Designing Approximation Algorithms*: rest of the paper

### 4. **Metric embedding and sparsest cuts**

D. Shmoys [1997]: *Cut Problems and Their Application to Divide-and-Conquer*: section 5.3.3, 5.3.4:  $O(\log n)$ -approximation for sparsest cut.

In: *Approximation Algorithms for NP-hard Problems*, (D.S. Hochbaum, ed.), 1997, 192–235

Based on: Y. Aumann and Y. Rabani: *An  $O(\log k)$  approximate min-cut max-flow theorem and approximation algorithm*. SIAM Journal on Computing, 1998, 7, 291–301 and N. Linial, E. London, and Y. Rabinovich: *The geometry of graphs and some of its algorithmic applications*. Combinatorica, 1995, 15, 215–246

### 5. **Applications to feedback arc sets and balanced cuts**

D. Shmoys [1997]: *Cut Problems and Their Application to Divide-and-Conquer*: section 5.4, 5.5

Based on: P. Seymour: *Packing directed circuits fractionally*. Combinatorica, 1995, 15, 281–288 and

G. Even, J. Naor, S. Rao, and B. Schieber: *Divide-and conquer approximation algorithms via spreading metrics*. Proceedings of the Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science, 1995, 62–71

### 6. **$O(\sqrt{\log n})$ -approximation for sparsest cut**

S. Arora, S. Rao, and U. Vazirani [2009]: *Expander Flows, Geometric Embeddings and Graph Partitioning*: section 2, 6

Journal of the ACM, 2009, 56, article 5 (STOC 2004)

7. **Finding well-represented sets in  $\ell_2^2$ -representations**  
S. Arora, S. Rao, and U. Vazirani [2009]: *Expander Flows, Geometric Embeddings and Graph Partitioning*: Proof of Theorem 1
8. **Expander Flows**  
S. Arora, S. Rao, and U. Vazirani [2009]: *Expander Flows, Geometric Embeddings and Graph Partitioning*: section 7: Expander Flows
9.  **$O(\sqrt{\log n})$  approximation to sparsest cut in  $\tilde{O}(n^2)$  time**  
S. Arora, E. Hazan, and S. Kale [2004]:  $O(\sqrt{\log n})$  approximation to SPARSEST CUT in  $\tilde{O}(n^2)$  time  
Proceedings of the Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science, 2004, 238–247
10. **Graph partitioning using single commodity flows**  
R. Khandekar, S. Rao, and U. Vazirani [2009]: *Graph partitioning using single commodity flows*  
Journal of the ACM, 2009, 56, article 19 (STOC 2006)
11. **Fast approximate graph partitioning algorithms**  
G. Even, J. Naor, S. Rao, and B. Schieber [1999]: *Fast approximate graph partitioning algorithms*: section 2, 3, 4  
SIAM Journal on Computing, 1999, 28, 2187–2214 (SODA 1999)
12. **Partitioning graphs into balanced components**  
R. Krauthgamer, J. Naor, and R. Schwartz [2009]: *Partitioning graphs into balanced components*  
Proceedings of the Symposium on Discrete Algorithms, 2009, 942–949
13.  **$O(\log n)$ -approximation of the graph bisection problem**  
H. Räcke [2008]: *Optimal Hierarchical Decompositions for Congestion Minimization in Networks*  
Proceedings of the Symposium on Theory of Computing, 2008, 385–390 and  
J. Fakcharoenpol, S. Rao, and K. Talwar [2003]: *A tight bound on approximating arbitrary metrics by tree metrics*,  
Journal of Computer and System Sciences, 2004, 69, 485–497 (STOC 2003)