

# Parameterized Complexity of the Spanning Tree Congestion Problem

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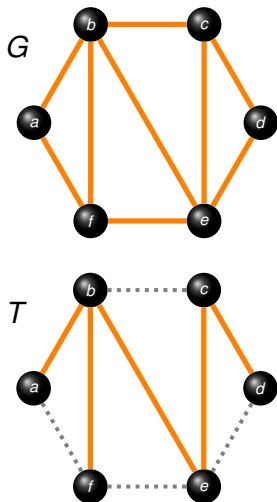
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- 1 Introduction
  - Definition of the problem
  - Previous work & Our results
  - Related problems
- 2 Sketch of proofs
  - $k$ -STC for  $k \leq 3$
  - $k$ -STC for bounded degree graphs
- 3 Conclusion
  - Conclusion & Open problems

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# Definition: Spanning Tree Congestion

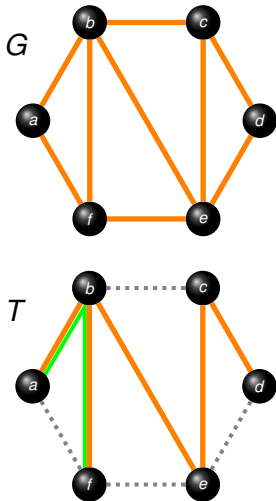


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$T$ : a spanning tree of a graph  $G$ .

- The *detour* of  $\{u, v\} \in E(G)$  is the unique  $u-v$  path in  $T$ .
- The *congestion of  $e \in E(T)$* ,  $cng_{G,T}(e)$  is the number of edges in  $G$  whose detours contain  $e$ .
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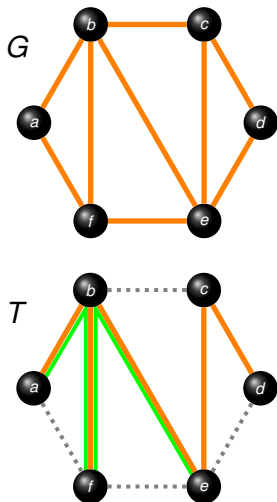


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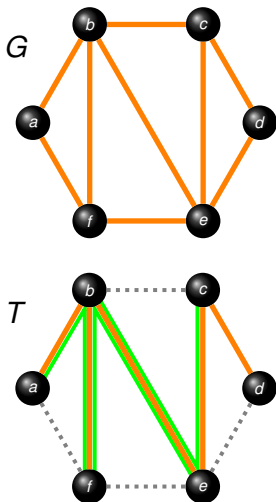


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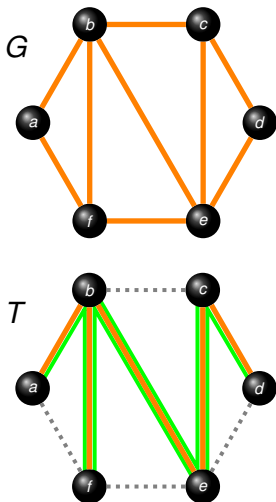


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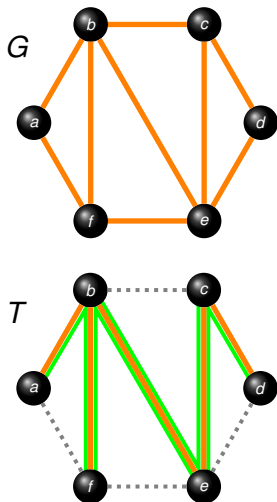
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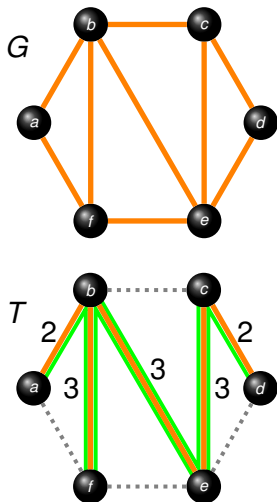


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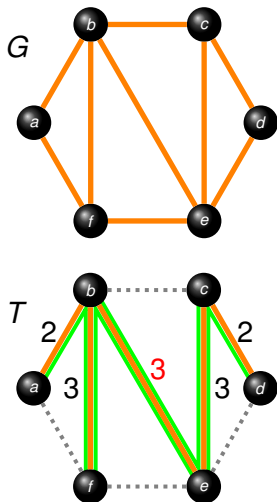


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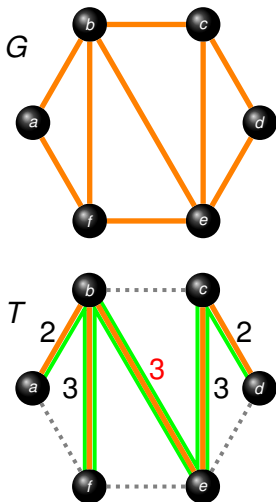


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# The problems

## Problem: STC

**Instance:** Connected graph  $G$ , positive integer  $k$ .

**Question:**  $stc(G) \leq k$ ?

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# Previous work

S.T.C. is a relatively new graph parameter.

## History

Simonson '87 (implicitly) Bounds for outerplanar graphs

1990's (implicitly) in papers on Tree Spanner problems

Ostrovskii '04 named the parameter S.T.C.

2008–2010 Bounds or exact values for some graphs such as grids, complete  $k$ -partite graphs, and hypercubes.

No complexity result (to the best of my knowledge).



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# Our results

## Theorem (Positive results)

$k$ -STC is *linear time solvable* for each of the following cases:

- 1  $k \leq 3$ .
- 2 input graphs are *apex-minor-free*.
- 3 input graphs have bounded maximum degree.

## Theorem (Negative results)

$k$ -STC is *NP-complete* even if the following conditions hold:

- $k \geq 8$ ,
- input graphs are  $K_6$ -minor-free, and
- input graphs have only one vertex of unbounded degree.

STC is NP-complete for planar graphs.

No PTAS, unless  $P = NP$ .

# Apex-minor-free graphs

## Definition (Apex graphs)

An *apex graph* is a graph that can be made planar by the removal of a single vertex.

## Examples of apex graphs

$K_5$ ,  $K_{3,n}$  for any  $n$  (and of course all planar graphs).

## Definition (Apex-minor-free graphs)

A graph class is *apex-minor-free* if it excludes a fixed apex graph as a minor.

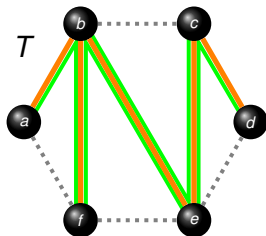
## Examples of apex-minor-free graphs

Planar graphs, bounded genus graphs, and graphs of bounded treewidth.

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# Related problems



stretch = 2  
congestion = 3

*stretch*: the length of the longest detour.

Tree spanner problem

Minimize the *stretch*.

Bandwidth & Cutwidth problems

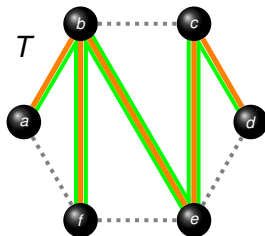
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	line	spanning tree
stretch	Bandwidth	Tree Spanner
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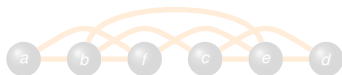
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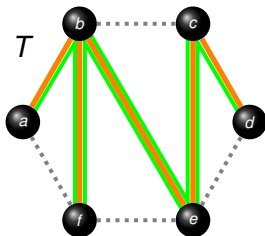
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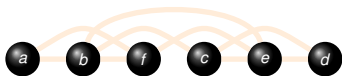
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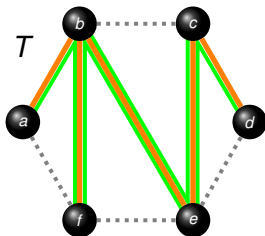
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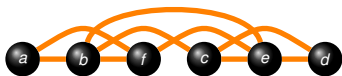
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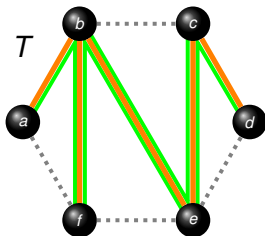
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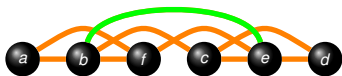
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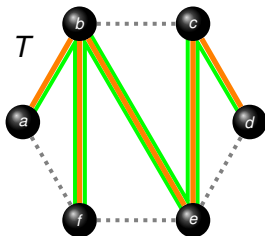
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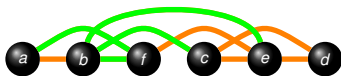
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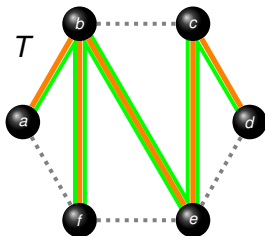
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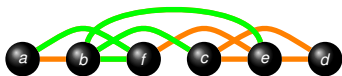
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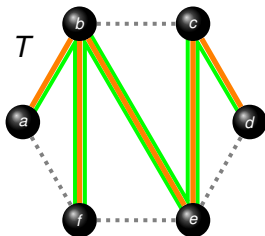
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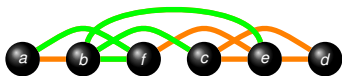
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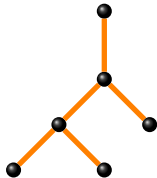
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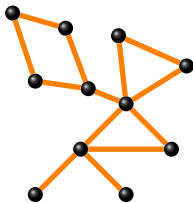
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# $k$ -STC for $k \leq 3$ (1 of 2)



Tree



Cactus

## Theorem

$stc(G) = 1 \iff G$  is a tree

$stc(G) \leq 2 \iff G$  is a cactus

Good characterization for “ $stc(G) \leq 3$ ” ?

## Lemma

If  $stc(G) \leq 3$ , then  $G$  is planar.

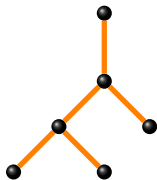
## Proof.

①  $K_n$  subdivision  $\implies stc \geq n - 1$

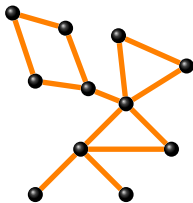
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Nonplanarity  $\implies K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  subdivision  
 $\implies stc \geq 4$ . □

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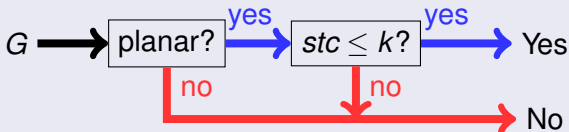
# $k$ -STC for $k \leq 3$ (2 of 2)

## Theorem

$k$ -STC is solvable in linear time if  $k \leq 3$ .

## Proof.

- 1 Check the planarity of  $G$  in linear time.
- 2 If the answer is NO, then  $stc(G) \geq 4$ .
- 3 Otherwise, use our linear time algorithm for planar graphs. (Or, we can use another *practical* algorithm.)





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# $k$ -STC for graphs of bounded degree (1 of 2)

We need the following two lemmas. ( $\Delta(G)$  is the max degree)

## Lemma

$$tw(G) \leq \Delta(G)(stc(G) - 1)/2.$$

## Lemma

*$k$ -STC is linear time solvable for graphs of bounded treewidth.*

## Proof of the second lemma.

$k$ -STC can be expressed in MSO logic. Courcelle's Theorem implies the lemma. □

# MSO logic expression for $k$ -STC

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Deg1}(v_1, E_1) &:= (\exists e_1 \in E_1)(\forall e_2 \in E_1)(e_1 = e_2 \iff \mathbf{inc}(v_1, e_2)) \\
 \text{Part}(V_1, V_2, V_3) &:= V_2 \neq \emptyset \wedge V_3 \neq \emptyset \wedge (V_2 \cup V_3 = V_1) \wedge (V_2 \cap V_3 = \emptyset) \\
 \text{Adj}(v_1, v_2, E_1) &:= v_1 \neq v_2 \wedge (\exists e_1 \in E_1)(\mathbf{inc}(v_1, e_1) \wedge \mathbf{inc}(v_2, e_1)) \\
 E_1 = \text{Ind}(V_1) &:= (\forall e_1)(e_1 \in E_1 \iff (\exists v_1, v_2 \in V_1)(v_1 \neq v_2 \wedge \mathbf{inc}(v_1, e_1) \wedge \mathbf{inc}(v_2, e_1))) \\
 E_1 = \text{Inc}_E(V_1) &:= (\forall e_1)(e_1 \in E_1 \iff \mathbf{inc}(v_1, e_1)) \\
 V_1 = \text{Inc}_V(E_1) &:= (\forall v_1)(v_1 \in V_1 \iff (\exists e_1 \in E_1)(\mathbf{inc}(v_1, e_1))) \\
 \text{Conn}(E_1) &:= (\forall V_2, V_3)(\text{Part}(\text{Inc}_V(E_1), V_2, V_3) \implies (\exists v_2 \in V_2, v_3 \in V_3)(\text{Adj}(v_2, v_3, E_1))) \\
 \text{BiConn}(E_1) &:= (\exists v_1, v_2, v_3 \in \text{Inc}_V(E_1))(v_i \neq v_j)(1 \leq i < j \leq 3) \wedge (\forall v_4)(\text{Conn}(E_1 \setminus \text{Inc}_E(v_4))) \\
 \text{Forest}(E_1) &:= (\forall V_1 \subseteq \text{Inc}_V(E_1))(\neg \text{BiConn}(\text{Ind}(V_1) \cap E_1)) \\
 \text{Tree}(E_1) &:= \text{Forest}(E_1) \wedge \text{Conn}(E_1) \\
 \text{Path}(v_1, v_2, E_1) &:= \text{Tree}(E_1) \wedge (\forall v_3 \in \text{Inc}_V(E_1))(\text{Deg1}(v_3, E_1) \iff v_3 = v_1 \vee v_3 = v_2) \\
 \text{SpnTree}(E_1) &:= \text{Tree}(E_1) \wedge (\forall v)(v \in \text{Inc}_V(E_1)) \\
 \text{Detour}(e_1, E_1) &:= (\exists v_1, v_2)(v_1 \neq v_2 \wedge \mathbf{inc}(v_1, e_1) \wedge \mathbf{inc}(v_2, e_1) \wedge \text{Path}(v_1, v_2, E_1)) \\
 \text{Cong}_k(e_0, E_0) &:= \neg(\exists e_1, \dots, e_k)((e_i \notin E_0)(1 \leq i \leq k) \wedge e_i \neq e_j(1 \leq i < j \leq k) \\
 &\quad \wedge (\exists E_i)(e_0 \in E_i \wedge E_i \subseteq E_0 \wedge \text{Detour}(e_i, E_i))(1 \leq i \leq k))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{stc}(G) \leq k \iff G \models (\exists E_0)(\text{SpnTree}(E_0) \wedge (\forall e_0 \in E_0)(\text{Cong}_k(e_0, E_0))).$$

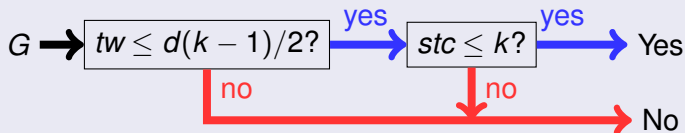
# $k$ -STC for graphs of bounded degree (2 of 2)

## Theorem

$k$ -STC is linear time solvable on graphs of bounded degree.

## Proof.

- 1 Check  $tw(G) \leq d(k-1)/2$  in linear time. ( $d := \Delta(G)$ )
- 2 If the answer is NO, then  $stc(G) > k$ .
- 3 O.w., use a linear time algorithm for bounded treewidth.



We use Bodlaender's algorithm to check bounded  $tw$ . □

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
  - Definition of the problem
  - Previous work & Our results
  - Related problems
- 2 Sketch of proofs
  - $k$ -STC for  $k \leq 3$
  - $k$ -STC for bounded degree graphs
- 3 Conclusion
  - Conclusion & Open problems

# Our results

## Theorem (Positive results)

$k$ -STC is *linear time solvable* for each of the following cases:

- 1  $k \leq 3$ .
- 2 input graphs are *apex-minor-free*.
- 3 input graphs have bounded maximum degree.

## Theorem (Negative results)

$k$ -STC is *NP-complete* even if the following conditions hold:

- $k \geq 8$ ,
- input graphs are  $K_6$ -minor-free, and
- input graphs have only one vertex of unbounded degree.

STC is NP-complete for planar graphs.

No PTAS, unless  $P = NP$ .

# Open problems

- Complexity of  $k$ -STC for  $k \in \{4, 5, 6, 7\}$ .
  - I think 4-STC might be NP-complete.
- Complexity of STC and  $k$ -STC for some graph classes.
  - Recent progress with Y. Okamoto, R. Uehara, and T. Uno: STC is **NP-complete for split graphs and chordal bipartite graphs**, and **linear time solvable for trivially perfect graphs**.
- Approximation. ( $O(\log n)$ -factor approximation?)
  - Constant factor approximation might be NP-hard.
- Is STC  $\in$  **FPT** for  $k$ -outerplanar graphs? (parameter is  $k$ )
  - If  $k = 1$ , i.e., for outerplanar graphs, STC can be solved in linear time. (with Bodlaender, Kozawa, Matsushima)

*Thank you for your attention!*

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