# Parallel Graph Decompositions Using Random Shifts

Gary L. Miller, Richard Peng, and Shen Chen

# The Problem

**Background Information** 

### Decomposing

Breaking a graph into smaller pieces such that the two sub-graphs share no edges

### Undirected

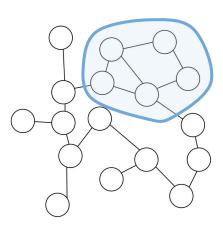
None of the edges in the graph have directions

### Unweighted

None of the edges in the graph have weights (all have weight 1)

### Diameter

The length of the shortest path between the farthest nodes



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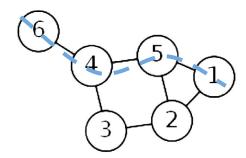
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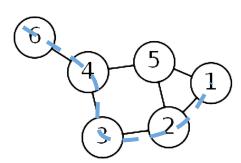
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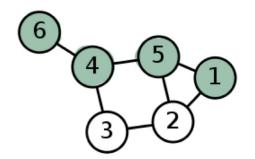
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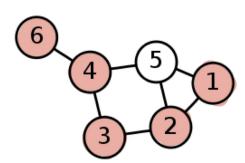
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- Decomposing
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- Diameter
  - The length of the shortest path between the farthest nodes





- Why use diameter as a parameter?
  - A variety of other measures are used
  - More intricate measures such as conductance have proven to be more useful in many applications
  - However, even algorithms that use conductance, as well as many others,
     use simpler low diameter decompositions as a subroutine

- How to compute the diameter of a graph?
  - Strong diameter
    - Restricts the shortest path between two vertices in S to only use vertices S (S being the sub-graph)
    - Parallelized with nearly-linear work
  - Weak diameter
    - Allows for shortcuts through vertices outside of S
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# Why?

# **Applications**

- Generally
  - Decompositions form critical subroutines in a number of graph algorithms.
- Low Diameter Decompositions
  - Approximations to sparsest cut
  - Construction of spanners
  - Parallel approximations of shortest path in undirected graphs
  - Generating low-stretch embedding of graphs into trees
  - Construction of low-stretch spanning trees
  - Computing separators in minor-free graphs
  - Nearly linear work parallel solvers for SDD linear systems

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# SDD Linear Systems

- Low diameter graph decompositions using strong diameter as a measure are particularly useful for solving symmetric diagonally dominant linear systems
- Computing maximum flow and negative length shortest paths
- Used in many applications
  - $\circ$  Symmetric matrix where one where  $|a_{ii}| \geq \sum_{j 
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# SDD Linear Systems

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  - o Symmetric matrix where one where  $|a_{ii}| \geq \sum_{j \neq i} |a_{ij}|$  for all i

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & -3 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{array}{l} |+3| \geq |+2| + |+1| \\ |-3| \geq |+2| + |0| \\ |+5| \geq |+1| + |0| \end{array}$$

# SDD Linear Systems

Algorithms solving symmetric diagonally dominant linear systems created by authors of this paper

Richard Peng M.I.T. rpeng@mit.edu

https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/2 591796.2591832 Gary L. Miller
Carnegie Mellon University
glmiller@cs.cmu.edu

Richard Peng M.I.T. rpeng@mit.edu

https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~glmiller/Publicatio ns/Papers/CKMPPRX14.pdf

Previous Approaches

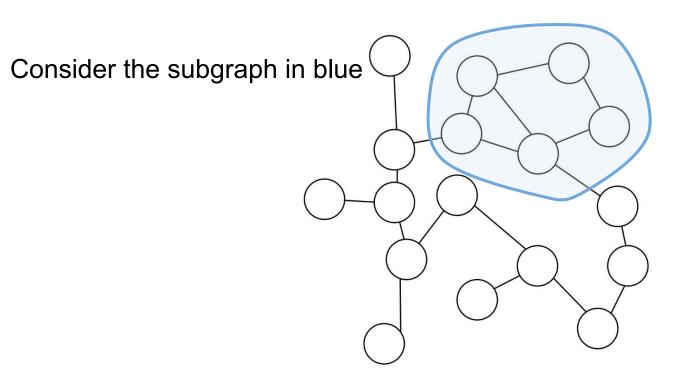
### Relevant Research

- Previous algorithms based upon conductance rather than diameters have studied
  - This algorithm could be used as a subroutine for them
- Others have used diameters but their work was either serial or measuring diameters weakly
- Shifted shortest path approach introduced in [Blelloch, Gupta, Koutis, Miller, Peng, Tangwongsan, SPAA 2011]
  - This algorithm is largely based on this work and mainly seeks to simply it while maintaining the same asymptotic runtimes

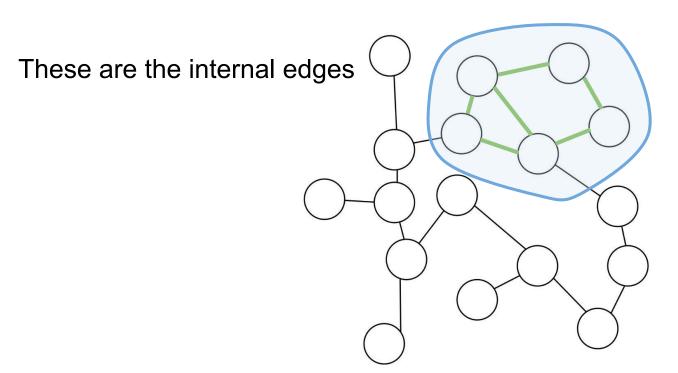
# Overview of Algorithm

# Ball Growing

# Internal Edges vs External Edges



### Internal Nodes vs External Nodes



### Internal Nodes vs External Nodes

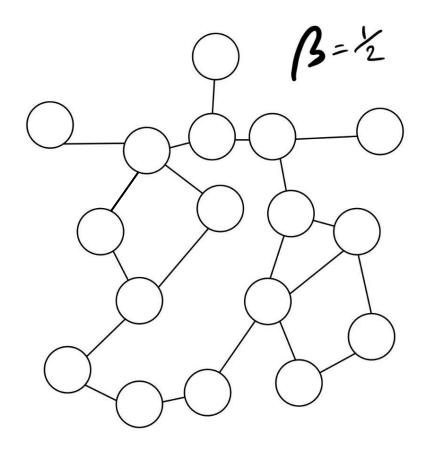
These are the external edges

Constriction is defined as =  $\frac{\text{the number of external edges}}{\text{the number of internal edges}}$ 

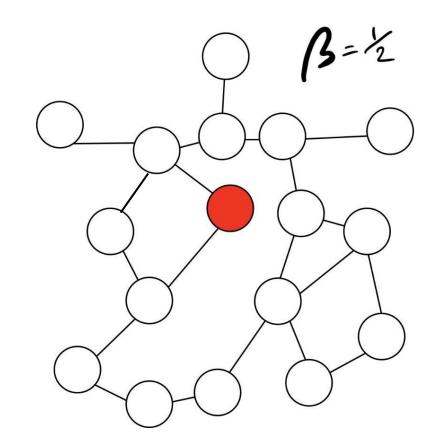
Starts with a single vertex, and repeatedly adds the

neighbors similarly to BFS.

It terminates when the constriction is less than  $\beta$ .

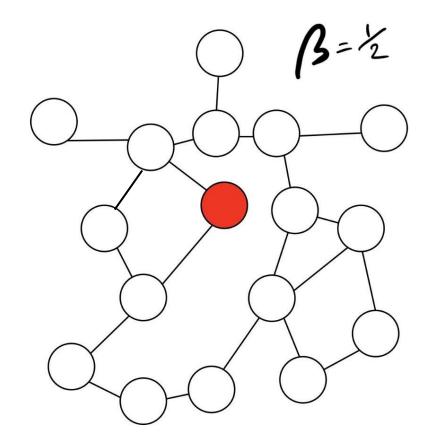


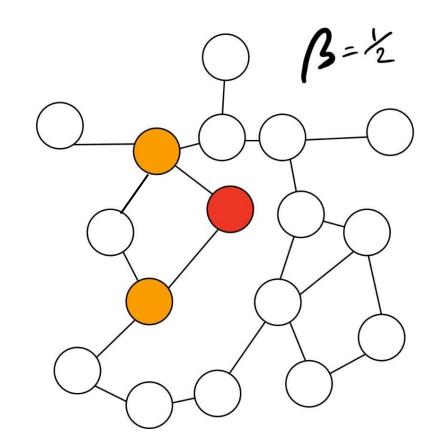
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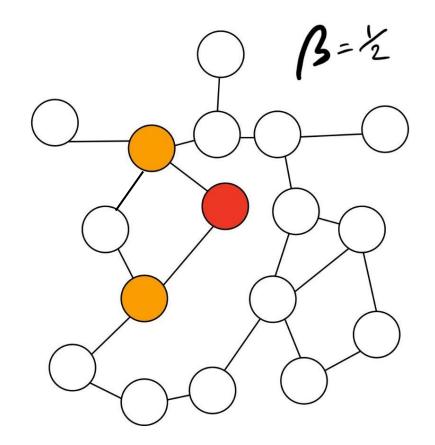
External edges: 2 Internal edges: 0 Constriction: 2/0

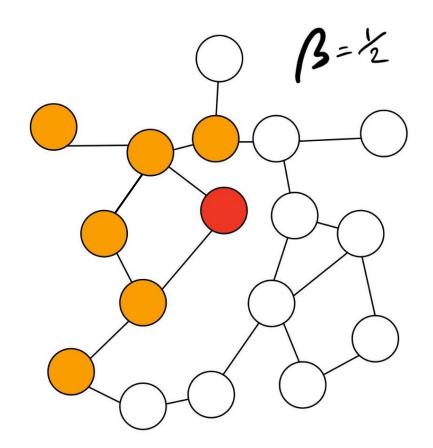




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External edges: 5 Internal edges: 2 Constriction: 5/2

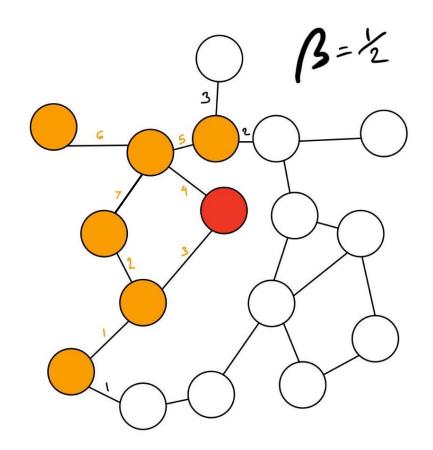




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External edges: 3 Internal edges: 7

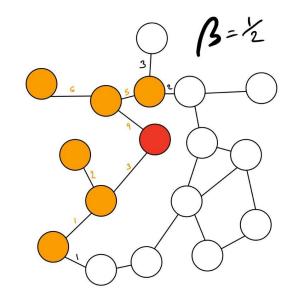
**Constriction: 3/7 < 1/2** 

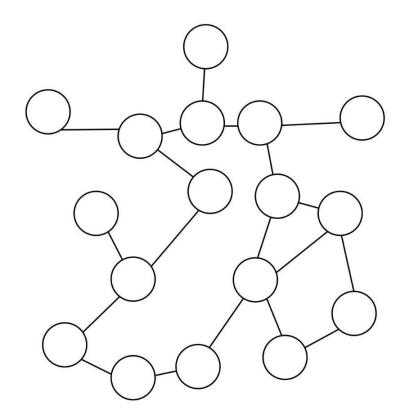


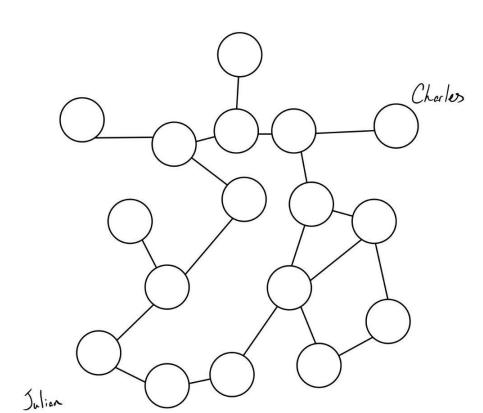
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# **Ball Growing**

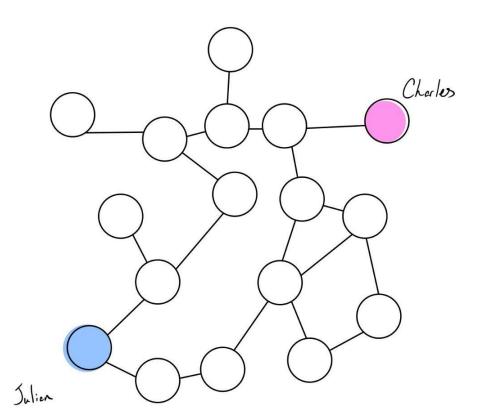
- Diameter of a piece is bounded by  $O(\frac{\log n}{\beta})$
- Easy to run serially
  - Find the second subgraph after we are done finding the first
- However, if we parallelize then we get problems with overlapping



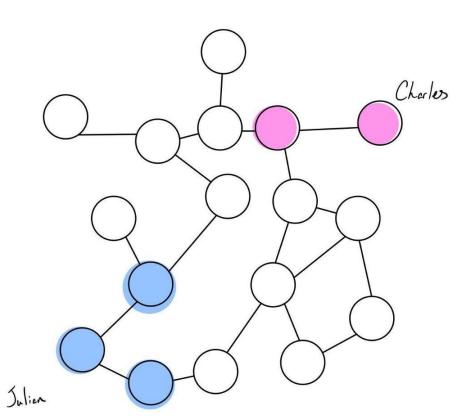


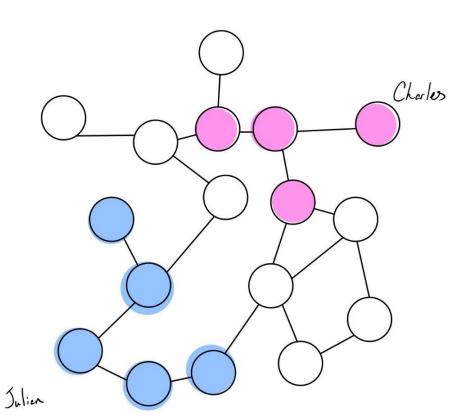


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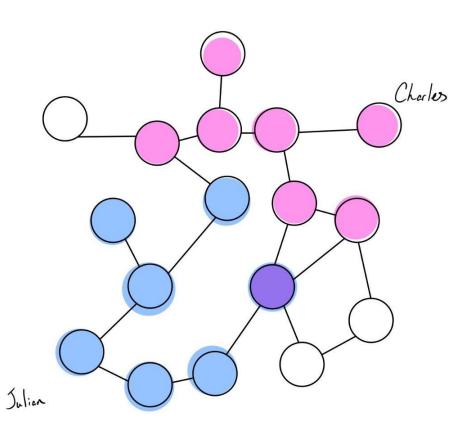


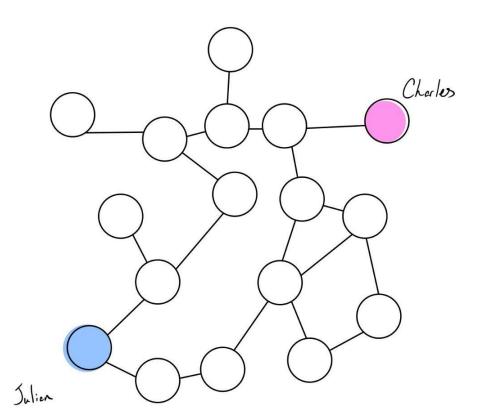
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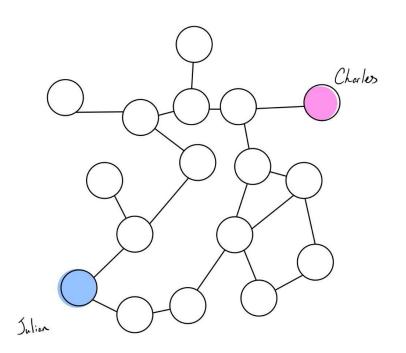


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# Shifting

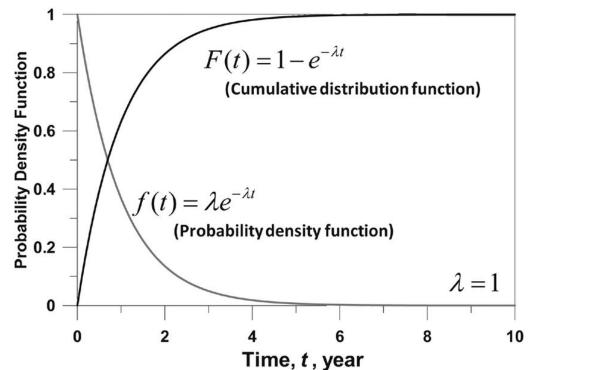
# Dealing with Overlaps

```
Decompose(V):
  cilk_for(u in V):
    ball_growing(u, rand_time(node))
ball_growing(u, start_time):
  if time == start_time:
    if !u.cluster:
      u.cluster = u
      BFS(u)
BFS(u):
  cilk_for(v in u.neighbors):
    if !v.cluster:
      v.cluster = u.cluster
      BFS(v)
```



# **Distances not Times**

 $\operatorname{dist}_{-\delta}(u,v) = \operatorname{dist}(u,v) - \delta_u$ 



 $F_{Exp}(x,\gamma) = \mathbf{Pr}\left[Exp(\gamma) \le x\right] = \begin{cases} 1 - \exp(-\gamma x) & \text{if } x \ge 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

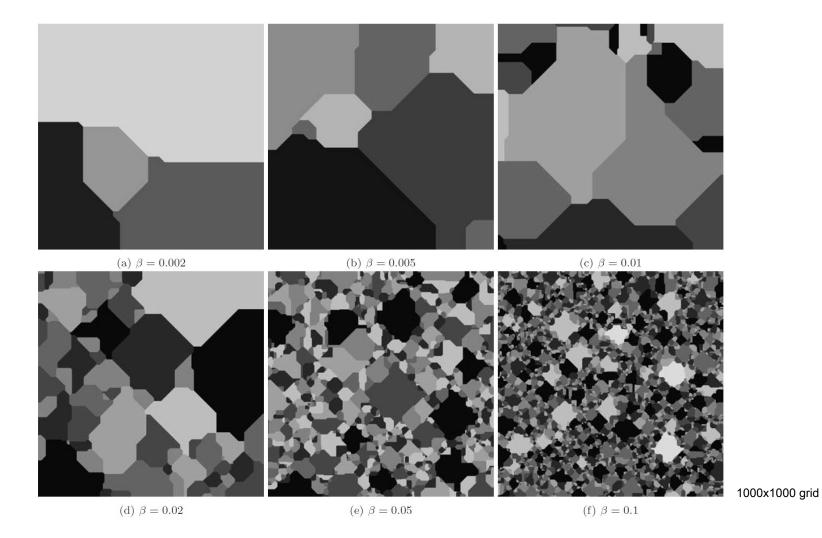
#### Algorithm 1 Parallel Partition Algorithm

PARALLEL PARTITION

Input: Undirected, unweighted graph G = (V, E), parameter  $0 < \beta < 1$ 

Output:  $(\beta, O(\log n/\beta))$  decomposition of GWHP

- 1: IN PARALLEL each vertex u picks  $\delta_u$  independently from an exponential distribution with mean  $1/\beta$ .
- 2: IN PARALLEL compute  $\delta_{\max} = \max\{\delta_u \mid u \in V\}$
- 3: Perform  $PARALLEL\ BFS$ , with vertex u starting when the vertex at the head of the queue has distance more than  $\delta_{\text{max}} \delta_u$ .
- 4:  $IN \ PARALLEL$  Assign each vertex u to point of origin of the shortest path that reached it in the BFS.



### Impact and Analysis

- By picking shifts uniformly from a sufficiently large range, a  $(\beta, O(\frac{\log^c n}{\beta}))$  decomposition can be obtained.
- A common algorithmic routine is to partition a graph into O(log n) blocks such that each connected piece in a block has diameter O(log n)
  - This can be obtained using this algorithm by running a (1/2, O(log n)) low diameter decomposition O(log n) times as the number of edges not in a block decreases by a factor of 2 per iteration
- As a sequential algorithm, it can also lead to similar guarantees on weighted graphs to Bartal's decomposition scheme as well as generalizations needed for improved low stretch spanning tree algorithms
- Parallel performance with weighted graph has not been analyzed

# Future Steps

- Obtaining similar parallel guarantees in the weighted setting
- Showing clustering-based properties