

29th Annual European Symposium on Algorithms

ESA 2021, September 6–8, 2021, Lisbon, Portugal
(Virtual Conference)

Edited by

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■ Contents

Preface	
<i>Petra Mutzel, Rasmus Pagh, and Grzegorz Herman</i>	0:xi
Program Committees	
.....	0:xiii
List of External Reviewers	
.....	0:xv

Invited Talks

Network Planning and Routing Problems over Time: Models, Complexity and Algorithms	
<i>Lukas Glomb, Benno Hoch, Frauke Liers, and Florian Rösel</i>	1:1–1:3
A User Friendly Power Tool for Deriving Online Learning Algorithms	
<i>Aaron Roth</i>	2:1–2:1

Regular Papers

Bi-Objective Search with Bi-Directional A*	
<i>Saman Ahmadi, Guido Tack, Daniel Harabor, and Philip Kilby</i>	3:1–3:15
A Unified Approach for All Pairs Approximate Shortest Paths in Weighted Undirected Graphs	
<i>Maor Akav and Liam Roditty</i>	4:1–4:18
The Voronoi Diagram of Rotating Rays With applications to Floodlight Illumination	
<i>Carlos Alegría, Ioannis Mantas, Evanthia Papadopoulou, Marko Savić, Hendrik Schrezenmaier, Carlos Seara, and Martin Suderland</i>	5:1–5:16
Parallel Computation of Combinatorial Symmetries	
<i>Markus Anders and Pascal Schweitzer</i>	6:1–6:18
Graph Connectivity and Single Element Recovery via Linear and OR Queries	
<i>Sepehr Assadi, Deeparnab Chakrabarty, and Sanjeev Khanna</i>	7:1–7:19
Fully Dynamic Set Cover via Hypergraph Maximal Matching: An Optimal Approximation Through a Local Approach	
<i>Sepehr Assadi and Shay Solomon</i>	8:1–8:18
The Randomized Competitive Ratio of Weighted k -Server Is at Least Exponential	
<i>Nikhil Ayyadevara and Ashish Chiplunkar</i>	9:1–9:11
Orienting (Hyper)graphs Under Explorable Stochastic Uncertainty	
<i>Euripidis Bampis, Christoph Dürr, Thomas Erlebach, Murilo Santos de Lima, Nicole Megow, and Jens Schlöter</i>	10:1–10:18
k -Distinct Branchings Admits a Polynomial Kernel	
<i>Jørgen Bang-Jensen, Kristine Vitting Klinkby, and Saket Saurabh</i>	11:1–11:15

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Incremental Edge Orientation in Forests <i>Michael A. Bender, Tsvi Kopelowitz, William Kuszmaul, Ely Porat, and Clifford Stein</i>	12:1–12:18
k -Center Clustering with Outliers in the Sliding-Window Model <i>Mark de Berg, Morteza Monemizadeh, and Yu Zhong</i>	13:1–13:13
Incremental SCC Maintenance in Sparse Graphs <i>Aaron Bernstein, Aditi Dudeja, and Seth Pettie</i>	14:1–14:16
Lyndon Words Accelerate Suffix Sorting <i>Nico Bertram, Jonas Ellert, and Johannes Fischer</i>	15:1–15:13
Online Euclidean Spanners <i>Sujoy Bhore and Csaba D. Tóth</i>	16:1–16:19
Distant Representatives for Rectangles in the Plane <i>Therese Biedl, Anna Lubiw, Anurag Murty Naredla, Peter Dominik Rabovsky, and Graeme Stroud</i>	17:1–17:18
Near-Optimal Deterministic Single-Source Distance Sensitivity Oracles <i>Davide Bilò, Sarel Cohen, Tobias Friedrich, and Martin Schirneck</i>	18:1–18:17
Synchronized Planarity with Applications to Constrained Planarity Problems <i>Thomas Bläsius, Simon D. Fink, and Ignaz Rutter</i>	19:1–19:14
Efficiently Approximating Vertex Cover on Scale-Free Networks with Underlying Hyperbolic Geometry <i>Thomas Bläsius, Tobias Friedrich, and Maximilian Katzmann</i>	20:1–20:15
Efficiently Computing Maximum Flows in Scale-Free Networks <i>Thomas Bläsius, Tobias Friedrich, and Christopher Weyand</i>	21:1–21:14
Asymptotically Optimal Welfare of Posted Pricing for Multiple Items with MHR Distributions <i>Alexander Braun, Matthias Buttkus, and Thomas Kesselheim</i>	22:1–22:16
Covert Computation in Staged Self-Assembly: Verification Is PSPACE-Complete <i>David Caballero, Timothy Gomez, Robert Schweller, and Tim Wylie</i>	23:1–23:18
An Instance-Optimal Algorithm for Bichromatic Rectangular Visibility <i>Jean Cardinal, Justin Dallant, and John Iacono</i>	24:1–24:14
Worst-Case Efficient Dynamic Geometric Independent Set <i>Jean Cardinal, John Iacono, and Grigorios Koumoutsos</i>	25:1–25:15
Balanced Crown Decomposition for Connectivity Constraints <i>Katrin Casel, Tobias Friedrich, Davis Issac, Aikaterini Niklanovits, and Ziena Zeif</i>	26:1–26:15
All-Pairs Shortest Paths for Real-Weighted Undirected Graphs with Small Additive Error <i>Timothy M. Chan</i>	27:1–27:9
Dynamic Colored Orthogonal Range Searching <i>Timothy M. Chan and Zhengcheng Huang</i>	28:1–28:13

ℓ_p -Norm Multiway Cut <i>Karthekeyan Chandrasekaran and Weihang Wang</i>	29:1–29:15
Faster Algorithms for Longest Common Substring <i>Panagiotis Charalampopoulos, Tomasz Kociumaka, Solon P. Pissis, and Jakub Radoszewski</i>	30:1–30:17
Feature Cross Search via Submodular Optimization <i>Lin Chen, Hossein Esfandiari, Gang Fu, Vahab S. Mirrokni, and Qian Yu</i>	31:1–31:16
An FPT Algorithm for the Embeddability of Graphs into Two-Dimensional Simplicial Complexes <i>Éric Colin de Verdière and Thomas Magnard</i>	32:1–32:17
Efficient Sequential and Parallel Algorithms for Multistage Stochastic Integer Programming Using Proximity <i>Jana Cslovjecssek, Friedrich Eisenbrand, Michał Pilipczuk, Moritz Venzin, and Robert Weismantel</i>	33:1–33:14
Modular Counting of Subgraphs: Matchings, Matching-Splittable Graphs, and Paths <i>Radu Curticapean, Holger Dell, and Thore Husfeldt</i>	34:1–34:17
Minimum Common String Partition: Exact Algorithms <i>Marek Cygan, Alexander S. Kulikov, Ivan Mihajlin, Maksim Nikolaev, and Grigory Reznikov</i>	35:1–35:16
An Accelerated Newton–Dinkelbach Method and Its Application to Two Variables per Inequality Systems <i>Daniel Dadush, Zhuan Khye Koh, Bento Natura, and László A. Végh</i>	36:1–36:15
Faster 3-Coloring of Small-Diameter Graphs <i>Michał Dębski, Marta Piecyk, and Paweł Rzążewski</i>	37:1–37:15
Stability Yields Sublinear Time Algorithms for Geometric Optimization in Machine Learning <i>Hu Ding</i>	38:1–38:19
Data Structures Lower Bounds and Popular Conjectures <i>Pavel Dvořák, Michal Koucký, Karel Král, and Veronika Slívová</i>	39:1–39:15
Approximation Schemes for Bounded Distance Problems on Fractionally Treewidth-Fragile Graphs <i>Zdeněk Dvořák and Abhiruk Lahiri</i>	40:1–40:10
Modular and Submodular Optimization with Multiple Knapsack Constraints via Fractional Grouping <i>Yaron Fairstein, Ariel Kulik, and Hadas Shachnai</i>	41:1–41:16
Differentially Private Algorithms for Graphs Under Continual Observation <i>Hendrik Fichtenberger, Monika Henzinger, and Lara Ost</i>	42:1–42:16
Experimental Comparison of PC-Trees and PQ-Trees <i>Simon D. Fink, Matthias Pfretzschner, and Ignaz Rutter</i>	43:1–43:13

Boundary-Sensitive Approach for Approximate Nearest-Neighbor Classification <i>Alejandro Flores-Velazco and David M. Mount</i>	44:1–44:15
Compression by Contracting Straight-Line Programs <i>Moses Ganardi</i>	45:1–45:16
Space Efficient Two-Dimensional Orthogonal Colored Range Counting <i>Younan Gao and Meng He</i>	46:1–46:17
Computing the 4-Edge-Connected Components of a Graph in Linear Time <i>Loukas Georgiadis, Giuseppe F. Italiano, and Evangelos Kosinas</i>	47:1–47:17
Deep Multilevel Graph Partitioning <i>Lars Gottesbüren, Tobias Heuer, Peter Sanders, Christian Schulz, and Daniel Seemaier</i>	48:1–48:17
Faster $(1 + \epsilon)$ -Approximation for Unsplittable Flow on a Path via Resource Augmentation and Back <i>Fabrizio Grandoni, Tobias Mömke, and Andreas Wiese</i>	49:1–49:15
Quantum Sub-Gaussian Mean Estimator <i>Yassine Hamoudi</i>	50:1–50:17
Improved Approximation Algorithms for Tverberg Partitions <i>Sariel Har-Peled and Timothy Zhou</i>	51:1–51:15
Near-Linear-Time, Optimal Vertex Cut Sparsifiers in Directed Acyclic Graphs <i>Zhiyang He, Jason Li, and Magnus Wahlström</i>	52:1–52:14
Closing the Gap for Single Resource Constraint Scheduling <i>Klaus Jansen and Malin Rau</i>	53:1–53:15
Certified Approximation Algorithms for the Fermat Point and n -Ellipses <i>Kolja Junginger, Ioannis Mantas, Evanthia Papadopoulou, Martin Suderland, and Chee Yap</i>	54:1–54:19
Parameterized Algorithms for Diverse Multistage Problems <i>Leon Kellerhals, Malte Renken, and Philipp Zschoche</i>	55:1–55:17
Fast and Space-Efficient Construction of AVL Grammars from the LZ77 Parsing <i>Domènec Kempa and Ben Langmead</i>	56:1–56:14
Convex Drawings of Hierarchical Graphs in Linear Time, with Applications to Planar Graph Morphing <i>Boris Klemz</i>	57:1–57:15
QCSP on Reflexive Tournaments <i>Benoît Larose, Petar Marković, Barnaby Martin, Daniël Paulusma, Siani Smith, and Stanislav Žitný</i>	58:1–58:15
Learnable and Instance-Robust Predictions for Online Matching, Flows and Load Balancing <i>Thomas Lavastida, Benjamin Moseley, R. Ravi, and Chenyang Xu</i>	59:1–59:17
Telescoping Filter: A Practical Adaptive Filter <i>David J. Lee, Samuel McCauley, Shikha Singh, and Max Stein</i>	60:1–60:18

Finding an Approximate Mode of a Kernel Density Estimate <i>Jasper C.H. Lee, Jerry Li, Christopher Musco, Jeff M. Phillips, and Wai Ming Tai</i>	61:1–61:19
An Efficient Reduction of a Gammoid to a Partition Matroid <i>Marilena Leichter, Benjamin Moseley, and Kirk Pruhs</i>	62:1–62:13
Efficient Algorithms for Least Square Piecewise Polynomial Regression <i>Daniel Lokshantov, Subhash Suri, and Jie Xue</i>	63:1–63:15
Bidirectional String Anchors: A New String Sampling Mechanism <i>Grigorios Loukides and Solon P. Pissis</i>	64:1–64:21
The Visibility Center of a Simple Polygon <i>Anna Lubiw and Anurag Murty Naredla</i>	65:1–65:14
Extension of Additive Valuations to General Valuations on the Existence of EFX <i>Ryoga Mahara</i>	66:1–66:15
FPT and FPT-Approximation Algorithms for Unsplittable Flow on Trees <i>Tomás Martínez-Muñoz and Andreas Wiese</i>	67:1–67:15
A Simple Algorithm for Graph Reconstruction <i>Claire Mathieu and Hang Zhou</i>	68:1–68:18
Generalized Max-Flows and Min-Cuts in Simplicial Complexes <i>William Maxwell and Amir Nayyeri</i>	69:1–69:16
Hypersuccinct Trees – New Universal Tree Source Codes for Optimal Compressed Tree Data Structures and Range Minima <i>J. Ian Munro, Patrick K. Nicholson, Louisa Seelbach Benkner, and Sebastian Wild</i>	70:1–70:18
Determining 4-Edge-Connected Components in Linear Time <i>Wojciech Nadara, Mateusz Radecki, Marcin Smulewicz, and Marek Sokółowski</i>	71:1–71:15
Isomorphism Testing Parameterized by Genus and Beyond <i>Daniel Neuen</i>	72:1–72:18
Restricted t -Matchings via Half-Edges <i>Katarzyna Paluch and Mateusz Wasylkiewicz</i>	73:1–73:17
Beating Random Assignment for Approximating Quantum 2-Local Hamiltonian Problems <i>Ojas Parekh and Kevin Thompson</i>	74:1–74:18
Additive Sparsification of CSPs <i>Eden Pelleg and Stanislav Žitný</i>	75:1–75:15
Faster Deterministic Modular Subset Sum <i>Krzysztof Potepa</i>	76:1–76:16
Hardness of Detecting Abelian and Additive Square Factors in Strings <i>Jakub Radoszewski, Wojciech Rytter, Juliusz Straszynski, Tomasz Waleń, and Wiktor Zuba</i>	77:1–77:19

0:x **Contents**

On Approximate Compressions for Connected Minor-Hitting Sets <i>M. S. Ramanujan</i>	78:1–78:16
Restricted Adaptivity in Stochastic Scheduling <i>Guillaume Sagnol and Daniel Schmidt genannt Waldschmidt</i>	79:1–79:14
A General Framework for Enumerating Equivalence Classes of Solutions <i>Yishu Wang, Arnaud Mary, Marie-France Sagot, and Blerina Sinimeri</i>	80:1–80:14
Engineering MultiQueues: Fast Relaxed Concurrent Priority Queues <i>Marvin Williams, Peter Sanders, and Roman Dementiev</i>	81:1–81:17
Evidence for Long-Tails in SLS Algorithms <i>Florian Wörz and Jan-Hendrik Lorenz</i>	82:1–82:16

■ Preface

This volume contains the extended abstracts selected for presentation at ESA 2021, the 29th European Symposium on Algorithms. The event was planned by an organizing committee from University of Lisbon, Portugal as part of ALGO 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ALGO was organized as an on-line event, rather than as a physical or hybrid event as originally planned, September 6–8, 2021.

The scope of ESA includes original, high-quality, theoretical and applied research on algorithms and data structures. Since 2002, it has had two tracks: the Design and Analysis Track (Track A), intended for papers on the design and mathematical analysis of algorithms, and the Engineering and Applications Track (Track B), for submissions that also address real-world applications, engineering, and experimental analysis of algorithms. Information on past symposia, including locations and proceedings, is maintained at <http://esa-symposium.org>.

In response to the call for papers for ESA 2021, 320 papers were submitted, 274 for Track A and 46 for Track B (these are the counts after track changes and withdrawals). Paper selection was based on originality, technical quality, exposition quality, and relevance. Each paper received at least three reviews. The program committees selected 80 papers for inclusion in the program, 68 from track A and 12 from track B, yielding an acceptance rate of about 1/4 for both tracks.

The presentations of the accepted papers together with two invited talks resulted in a very exciting program. Frauke Liers presented recent work on the complexity of and algorithms for network optimization tasks with a timing component, and Aaron Roth about a user-friendly framework for deriving online learning algorithms.

The European Association for Theoretical Computer Science (EATCS) sponsored best paper and best student paper awards. The best paper award for track A was given to Zhiyang He, Jason Li and Magnus Wahlström for the paper *Near-linear-time, Optimal Vertex Cut Sparsifiers in Directed Acyclic Graphs*. For track B, the best paper award was given to Simon D. Fink, Matthias Pfretzschner and Ignaz Rutter for the paper *Experimental Comparison of PC-Trees and PQ-Trees*. A submission was eligible for the best student paper award if all authors were doctoral, master, or bachelor students at the time of submission. The best student paper award for track A was given to Wojciech Nadara, Mateusz Radecki, Marcin Smulewicz and Marek Sokołowski for the paper *Determining 4-edge-connected Components in Linear Time*. For track B, the best student paper award was given to Florian Wörz and Jan-Hendrik Lorenz for the paper *Evidence for Long-Tails in SLS Algorithms*.

We wish to thank all the authors who submitted papers for consideration, the invited speakers, the members of the program committees for their hard work, and the nearly 500 external reviewers who assisted the program committees in the evaluation process. Special thanks go to the organizing committee, who helped us with the organization of the conference.



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