# Matroid-based packing of spanning arborescences 

Zoltán Szigeti

Combinatorial Optimization Group, G-SCOP
Univ. Grenoble Alpes, Grenoble INP, CNRS, France

2017 April 25

## Joint work with :

| Quentin Fortier | (G-SCOP, Grenoble), |
| :--- | :--- |
| Csaba Király $\quad$ (EGRES, Budapest), |  |
| Shin-ichi Tanigawa (University of Tokyo). |  |

## Outline

- Motivation
- Definitions
- Problem
- Results
- Proofs
- Conclusion


## Motivation

## Definition

Packing subgraphs : a set of arc-disjoint subgraphs in a directed graph.

## Application of path packings

- Telecommunication
- Transportation
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Storing of path packings
Suppose $D$ has a packing of $k(s, t)$-paths from $s$ to each vertex $t$ in $V$.

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A packing of $k$ spanning $s$-arborescences in $D$.

## Packing of spanning s-arborescences

## Definition

(1) $s$-arborescence: directed tree, in-degree of every vertex except $s$ is 1 ,
(2) spanning subgraph of $D$ : subgraph that contains all the vertices of $D$.

## Theorem (Edmonds $1973+$ Menger 1927)

Let $D=(V+s, A), k \in \mathbb{Z}_{+}$.

- D has a packing of $k$ spanning $s$-arborescences
- $D$ has a packing of $k$ paths from $s$ to each vertex in $D$.



## Motivation

## Questions

(1) Packing $k(s, t)$-paths means sending $k$ distinct commodities from $s$ to $t$ by assuming that each arc can transmit at most one commodity.
(2) What if commodities have a more involved independence structure?
(3) Suppose that every vertex can receive a sufficient amount of independent commodities to understand the whole structure. Does there exist a compact certificate for such packings of paths?


## Matroids

## Definition

For $\emptyset \neq \mathcal{I} \subseteq 2^{E}, \mathcal{M}=(E, \mathcal{I})$ is a matroid if
(1) If $X \subseteq Y \in \mathcal{I}$, then $X \in \mathcal{I}$,
(2) If $X, Y \in \mathcal{I}$ with $|X|<|Y|$ then $\exists y \in Y \backslash X$ such that $X \cup y \in \mathcal{I}$.

## Examples

(1) Free : all subsets of a set,
(2) Graphic: edge-sets of forests of a graph,
(3) Transversal : end-vertices in $S$ of matchings of bipartite graph ( $S, T ; E$ )
(9) Fano: subsets of sets of size 3 not being a line in the Fano plane.


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## Definition

(1) matroid-rooted digraph $(D=(V+s, A), \mathcal{M})$ : a matroid $\mathcal{M}$ is given on the set of root arcs (arcs leaving the special vertex $s$ ).


Figure: a matroid-rooted digraph

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Figure: an $\mathcal{M}$-based packing of $(s, t)$-paths

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Figure: Not an $\mathcal{M}$-based packing of $(s, t)$-paths

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Figure: an $\mathcal{M}$-based packing of $s$-arborescences

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Figure: an $\mathcal{M}$-based packing of spanning $s$-arborescences

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## Remark

Let $(D=(V+s, A), \mathcal{M})$ be matroid-rooted digraph.

- There exists an $\mathcal{M}$-based packing of $(s, t)$-paths for all $t \in V$
- $r(\partial(s, X))+|\partial(V-X, X)| \geq r(\mathcal{M})$ for all $\emptyset \neq X \subseteq V$.


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## Question

Can Edmonds' theorem be extended for $\mathcal{M}$-based packings ?

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## Conjecture (Bérczi-Frank 2015)

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(3) transversal matroids.

## Counterexample

Digraph : acyclic, in-degree 3 for all $v \in V, 46$ vertices and 135 arcs, Matroid : parallel extension of Fano with 64 elements, Remark : matroid-based packing of $(s, t)$-paths exists for all $t$.


## Operation 1



## Operation 2



## Operation 3



## Operation 4



## Operation 5



## Counterexample



## Graphic matroids

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## Remark

A packing of $k$ spanning $s$-arborescences in $D=(V+s, A)$ can be obtained as an $\mathcal{M}$-based packing of $s^{\prime}$-arborescences in $D^{\prime}=\left(V+s+s^{\prime}, A \cup A^{\prime}\right)$, where $A^{\prime}=\left\{k \times s^{\prime} s\right\}$ and free matroid $\mathcal{M}$ on $A^{\prime}$.

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(2) If $=0$, then $\partial(s, v)$ is a base of $\mathcal{M}$; done.
(3) If $>0$, then apply shifting operation.
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(i) $r(\partial(s, X))+|\partial(V-X, X)| \geq r(\mathcal{M})$ for all $\emptyset \neq X \subseteq V$,
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## Proof

(1) Induction on $\sum_{v \in V}(r(\mathcal{M})-|\partial(s, v)|) \geq 0$.
(2) If $=0$, then $\partial(s, v)$ is a base of $\mathcal{M}$; done.
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## Example concerning parallel elements

## Remark

It cannot be required that parallel elements be contained in the same spanning $s$-arborescence.


## Graphic matroids

## Idea

Let $(D, \mathcal{M})$ be a matroid-rooted digraph where $\mathcal{M}$ is a graphic matroid of rank $k$ and $G=(\{0,1, \ldots, k\}, E)$ a graph representing $\mathcal{M}$.
( $\star$ ) A root arc $\vec{e}$ of $D$ (that corresponds to an edge $e=i j$ of $G$ ) may belong only to the $i^{\text {th }}$ or to the $j^{\text {th }}$ spanning arborescence.


## Base case for induction

## Remark

(1) $\partial(s, v)$ is a base of $\mathcal{M}$ for all $v \in V$.
(2) In $G$, corresponding edge set $E_{V}$ forms a spanning tree $T_{V}$
(3) Orient $T_{v}$ to get a spanning 0 -arborescence $\vec{T}$
(a) $\vec{T}_{v}$ provides a bijection from $\partial(s, v)$ to $\{1, \ldots, r(\mathcal{M})\}$ satisfying $(*)$.
(5) These bijections provide the $\mathcal{M}$-based packing of $s$-arborescen. in $D$.


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## Induction step

## To be able to apply shifting

We need $p q \in A(D)$ and $x \in \partial(s, p)$ such that $\left(D^{\prime}, \mathcal{M}^{\prime}\right)$ satisfies
(i) $r^{\prime}\left(\partial^{\prime}(s, X)\right)+\left|\partial^{\prime}(V-X, X)\right| \geq r^{\prime}\left(\mathcal{M}^{\prime}\right)$ for all $\emptyset \neq X \subseteq V$,
(ii) $\partial^{\prime}(s, v) \in \mathcal{I}^{\prime}$ for all $v \in V$,
(iii) $x$ and $x^{\prime}$ belong to the same spanning arborescence of any matroidbased packing of spanning arborescences of $\left(D^{\prime}, \mathcal{M}^{\prime}\right)$ satisfying $(\star)$.
We show how to find one ( $p q, x$ ) satisfying (ii) and (iii), one can show that one of them satisfies (i) as in DdG-N-Sz.

## Unique arborescence

## Remark: By ( $\star$ ),

- root arcs may belong to 2 arborescences,
- some of them may belong only to 1 arborescence.

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## Remark: By ( $\star$ ),

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## How to find ( $p q, x$ ) satisfying (ii) and (iii) ?

## Proof

(1) It is enough to find $p q \in A(D)$ such that $C_{p} \backslash C_{q} \neq \emptyset$.
(2) $v^{*} \in V(D)$ that minimizes $\left|C_{v}\right|, C_{v^{*}} \subsetneq V(G)$ since not base case.
(3) $W:=\left\{v \in V(D): C_{v}=C_{v^{*}}\right\}, C_{W}=C_{v^{*}}$ so $r(\partial(s, W))<r(\mathcal{M})$
(9) pq exists in $\partial(V \backslash W, W)$, by $|\partial(V-W, W)| \geq r(\mathcal{M})-r(\partial(s, W))$
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## Conclusion

## Summary

(1) Compact certificate of the existence of a matroid-based packing of paths :
(1) a matroid-based packing of arborescences and
(2) not a matroid-based packing of spanning arborescences;
(3) a matroid-based packing of spanning arborescences if the matroid is rank 2 or graphic or transversal.
(2) The decision problem whether a matroid-rooted graph has a matroid-based packing of spanning arborescences is NP-complet.

## Thank you for your attention!

