### Exploration of Dynamic Graphs

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# Graph exploration by a mobile agent

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- The mobile entity, called agent, has to visit every node at least once and then terminate.
- Well studied classical problem.
- Focus on the time and space complexity, on the impact of a priori knowledge, on fault-tolerance, etc.

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- Assume that the number of fault occurences is small

In fact, these models become insufficient for very dynamic networks.

# The models we consider

### Periodically-varying graphs (PV-graphs)

 PV-graphs model in particular various types of public transportation systems (bus, subway systems, ...).

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### Periodically-varying graphs (PV-graphs)

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- PV-graphs model in particular various types of public transportation systems (bus, subway systems, ...).
- A PV-graph consists of a set of routes and a set of carriers, each following periodically its respective route among the sites of the system.

### Evolving graphs

- One of the first developed models, and also one of the most standard.
- An evolving graph is a (possibly infinite) sequence  $\mathcal{G}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_3$ , ... of static graphs based on the same set of nodes.

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# Some related work (on mobile agents)

- [FKMS10] P. Flocchini, M. Kellett, P. C. Mason, and N. Santoro. Mapping an unfriendly subway system. FUN 2010
- [FKMS12a] P. Flocchini, M. Kellett, P. C. Mason, and N. Santoro. Searching for black holes in subways. Theory of Computing Systems 2012
- [FKMS12b] P. Flocchini, M. Kellett, P. C. Mason, and N. Santoro. Finding Good Coffee in Paris. FUN 2012
  - [FMS13] P. Flocchini, B. Mans, and N. Santoro. On the exploration of time-varying networks. Theoretical Computer science 2013 (ISAAC 2009)
  - [IYK12] T. Izumi, Y. Yamauchi, and S. Kamei. BA: Mobile Agent Rendezvous on Edge Evolving Rings. SSS 2012



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### The model of PV-graphs

• A PV-graph is defined by the tuple (*S*, *C*, Id, *R*).

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- $C = \{c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k\}$  is the set of carriers.
- Each carrier c has an identifier Id(c) and follows a finite sequence R(c) = (s<sub>i1</sub>, ..., s<sub>ip(c)</sub>) of sites, called its route, in a periodic manner.

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• An entity, called agent, is operating on these PV-graphs.

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  - its computational capabilities
- We say that an agent explores a PV-graph if and only if, starting at time 0 on the starting site, the agent eventually visits all sites of the PV-graph and switches afterwards to a terminal state.

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• anonymous if the nodes don't have any identities, or the agent is not able to see them.

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- labeled if the nodes have distinct identities and the agent can see and memorize them.

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- anonymous if the nodes don't have any identities, or the agent is not able to see them.
- labeled if the nodes have distinct identities and the agent can see and memorize them.
- homogeneous if all its carriers have the same period.

# [Paola Flocchini, Bernard Mans and Nicola Santoro, TCS 2013]

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### Anonymous PV-Graphs

The knowledge of an upper bound on the longest period is necessary and sufficient.

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### Anonymous PV-Graphs

The knowledge of an upper bound on the longest period is necessary and sufficient.

### Labeled PV-Graphs

The knowledge of the number of nodes or an upper bound on the longest period is necessary and sufficient.

# Previous result (2/2)

[Paola Flocchini, Bernard Mans and Nicola Santoro, TCS 2013]

- k: number of carriers
- p: longest period
- B: upper bound on p given to the agent

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### General case

- $\Omega(kp^2)$  moves and time steps.
- O(kB<sup>2</sup>) moves and time steps.

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#### Homogeneous PV-graphs

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- O(kB) moves and time steps.

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#### Motivation

Not being able to stay on a site is particularly legitimate in low earth orbiting satellite systems for example, where the sites do not correspond to any physical station.

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Not being able to stay on a site is particularly legitimate in low earth orbiting satellite systems for example, where the sites do not correspond to any physical station.

#### Remark

In most public transportation systems, it is possible for the agent (human or not) to stay on a site in order to wait for a (possibly different) carrier.

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# Our contribution on PV-graphs

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We extend the study of Flocchini, Mans and Santoro to the case when the agent can leave a carrier to stay at a site.

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We extend the study of Flocchini, Mans and Santoro to the case when the agent can leave a carrier to stay at a site.

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We extend the study of Flocchini, Mans and Santoro to the case when the agent can leave a carrier to stay at a site.

#### We prove that this new ability allows

- to explore PV-graphs that are less connected over time.
- to reduce the move and time complexities in the general case.
- the agent to completely map the PV-graph, in addition to just explore it.

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## Definition: notions of connectivity



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## Definition: notions of connectivity



#### Highly-connected PV-graph



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- In this table we assume that B = O(p)
- [FMS13] (the agent cannot leave the carrier)
- Our results (the agent can leave the carrier )

	Connected	Highly-connected
General case	Impossible	$\Theta(kp^2)$ moves and
		time steps
	$\Theta(\min\{kp, np, n^2\})$ moves	$\Theta(\min\{kp, np, n^2\})$ moves
	$\Theta(np)$ time steps	$\Theta(np)$ time steps
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#### The model of evolving graphs (definition)

Given a static graph G, called the underlying graph, an evolving graph based on G is a (possibly infinite) sequence  $\mathcal{G}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_3$ ,... of spanning but not necessarily connected subgraphs of G.

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# The model of evolving graphs

#### Advantages

- This model is particularly well adapted for modeling synchronous dynamic networks.
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#### Remark

Note that, to obtain interesting results, it is often required to make assumptions that reduce the possibilities of dynamic graphs generated by the model.

#### The assumption of connectivity over time

There is a journey (path over time) from any vertex to any other vertex.

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The assumption of constant connectivity The graph must be connected at all times.

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Exploration of Dynamic Graphs

[Kuhn, Lynch and Oshman (STOC 2010)]

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## [Kuhn, Lynch and Oshman (STOC 2010)]

#### Definition

Given an integer  $T \ge 1$ , a dynamic graph is *T*-interval-connected if, for any window of *T* consecutive time steps, there exists a connected spanning subgraph which is stable throughout the period.

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#### Some interesting results [KLO10]

• In 1-interval-connected graphs it is possible for nodes to determine the size of the network and compute any computable function of their initial inputs in  $O(n^2)$  rounds.

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- In 1-interval-connected graphs it is possible for nodes to determine the size of the network and compute any computable function of their initial inputs in  $O(n^2)$  rounds.
- If the graph is T-interval-connected, for T > 1, the computation can be sped up by a factor of T.



• We carry on the study of these *T*-interval-connected dynamic graphs by considering the problem of exploration.

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- The traversal of an edge takes one time unit.

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#### Goal

Calculate the (worst-case) time complexity of this problem.

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We consider the problem in two scenarios.

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#### Scenario 1

The agent does not know the dynamics of the graph, that is the times of appearance and disappearance of the edges.

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The agent does not know the dynamics of the graph, that is the times of appearance and disappearance of the edges.

#### Scenario 2

The agent knows entirely and exactly the dynamic graph it has to explore.

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Networks whose changes are related to frequent and unpredictable failures.

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#### Scenario 2

The agent knows entirely and exactly the dynamic graph it has to explore.

Predictable dynamic networks, such as transportation networks for example.

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# In the first scenario (the agent does not know the dynamics of the graph)

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• The exploration problem is impossible to solve [KLO10]

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• The temporal diameter is bounded by n - 1 [KLO10]

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- The exploration time is thus at most  $(n-1)^2$

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- Can we improve these bounds?
- We focus here on the study of *n*-node
   *T*-interval-connected dynamic graphs whose underlying graph is a ring A<sub>n</sub>.

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#### Result (1)

When the agent knows the dynamics of the graph,  $2n - T - \Theta(1)$  time units are necessary and sufficient.

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When the agent knows the dynamics of the graph,  $2n - T - \Theta(1)$  time units are necessary and sufficient.

#### Result (2)

When the agent does not know the dynamics of the graph,  $n + \frac{n}{\max\{1, T-1\}} (\delta - 1) \pm \Theta(\delta)$  time units are necessary and sufficient.

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#### Theorem (Upper bound)

For every integer  $n \ge 3$ ,  $T \ge 1$  and  $\delta \ge 1$ , and for any direction dir, Algorithm STUBBORN-TRAVERSAL(dir) explores any  $\delta$ -recurrent T-interval-connected dynamic graph based on  $A_n$  in time at most

$$n-1+\left\lceil\frac{n-1}{\max\{1,T-1\}}\right\rceil(\delta-1)$$

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#### Theorem (Lower bound)

For every integer  $n \ge 3$ ,  $T \ge 1$ , and  $\delta \ge 1$ , and for every agent (algorithm), there exists a  $\delta$ -recurrent *T*-interval-connected dynamic graph based on  $A_n$  such that this agent needs at least

$$n-1+\left\lfloor\frac{n-3}{\max\{1,T-1\}}\right\rfloor(\delta-1)$$

We obtain this complexity  $n + \frac{n}{\max\{1, T-1\}} (\delta - 1) \pm \Theta(\delta)$  because

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 An edge cannot be absent for more than δ − 1 consecutive time steps (δ-recurrent)

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We obtain this complexity  $n + \frac{n}{\max\{1, T-1\}} (\delta - 1) \pm \Theta(\delta)$  because

- An edge cannot be absent for more than δ 1 consecutive time steps (δ-recurrent)
- The agent can traverse at least max{1, T 1} edges between two consecutive blocks at different nodes (*T*-interval-connectivity)

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#### Theorem

For every integer  $n \ge 3$  and  $T \ge 1$ , the worst-case exploration time of a *T*-interval-connected dynamic graph based on  $A_n$  is

$$\begin{cases} 2n-3 & \text{if } T = 1\\ 2n-T-1 & \text{if } 2 \le T < (n+1)/2\\ \lfloor \frac{3(n-1)}{2} \rfloor & \text{if } T \ge (n+1)/2 \end{cases}$$





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For every integer  $n \ge 3$  and T = 1, there exists a 1-interval-connected dynamic graph based on  $A_n$  such that any agent (algorithm) needs at least 2n - 3 time units to explore it.

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For every integer  $n \ge 3$  and T = 1, and for every 1-interval-connected dynamic graph based on  $A_n$ , there exists an agent (algorithm) exploring this dynamic graph in time at most 2n - 3 time units.

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For every integer  $n \ge 3$  and T = 1, and for every 1-interval-connected dynamic graph based on  $A_n$ , there exists an agent (algorithm) exploring this dynamic graph in time at most 2n - 3 time units.



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We consider two algorithms (A<sub>L</sub>, A<sub>R</sub>).

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- At each time step, at least one of them progresses.

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For every integer  $n \ge 3$  and T = 1, and for every 1-interval-connected dynamic graph based on  $A_n$ , there exists an agent (algorithm) exploring this dynamic graph in time at most 2n - 3 time units.



- We consider two algorithms (A<sub>L</sub>, A<sub>R</sub>).
- At each time step, at least one of them progresses.
- At least one of them performs exploration within 2n time units.

#### Summary

• The time complexity of exploration of *T*-interval-connected dynamic graphs whose underlying graph is a ring

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## Further work

To study *T*-interval-connected dynamic graphs whose underlying graph belong to a family of graphs larger than rings.

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## Thank you for your attention

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