## 3連結グラフと3辺連結グラフに対する3分割アルゴリズム

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#### 概要

グラフの 3 分割問題は、(1) n 点無向グラフ G=(V,E)、(2) 互いに異なる V の 3 個の点  $a_1,a_2,a_3$ 、(3)  $n_1+n_2+n_3=n$  となる自然数  $n_1,n_2,n_3(n_1\leq n_2\leq n_3)$  の 入力に対して、V の 3 つの互いに素な点集合  $V_1,V_2,V_3$  で各  $V_i$  が  $a_i$  を含み、その点数が  $n_i$  となりそれから誘導される部分グラフが連結となるものを求める問題である。 グラフの 3 分割問題は入力グラフを制限しない一般の場合は NP- 困難であるが、入力グラフ G が 3 連結である場合、常に解が存在し、 $O(n^2)$  時間で求めるアルゴリズムが知られている。 本稿では、3 連結グラフに対して分割を点の部分集合に一般化した問題に対して  $O(n^2)$  時間のアルゴリズムを与え、このアルゴリズムは元のグラフの 3 分割問題を  $O(m+(n_1+n_2)\cdot n)$  時間で解くことを示す。ここで、m は G の辺数である。 さらに、そのアルゴリズムを利用すると 3 辺連結グラフ G=(V,E) に対して V の 3 つの互いに素な点集合  $V_1,V_2,V_3$  で各  $V_i$  が  $a_i$  を含み、その点数が  $n_i$  となり  $V_i$  を含む部分グラフ  $G_i$  がそれそれ互いに 辺を共有しないものを  $O(n^2)$  時間で求まることを示す。

# Efficient Algorithms for Tripartitioning Triconnected Graphs and 3-edge-connected Graphs

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#### Abstract

This paper describes an efficient algorithm for partitioning a triconnected graph into three disjoint connected subgraphs, each of which contains a specified vertex and has a specified number of vertices. By using the algorithm, this paper also shows an algorithm for partitioning a 3-edge-connected graph into three edge-disjoint connected subgraphs which satisfy the conditions same as the case of triconnected graphs.

## 1 Introduction

The k-partition problem is described as follows.

#### Input:

- (1) an undirected graph G = (V, E) with n = |V| vertices;
- (2) k distinct vertices  $a_i (1 \le i \le k) \in V$ ,  $a_i \ne a_j (1 \le i < j \le k)$ ; and
- (3) k natural numbers  $n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_k$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^k n_i = n$ .

**Output:** a partition  $V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \ldots \cup V_k$  of vertex set V such that for each  $i(1 \le i \le k)$ 

- (a)  $a_i \in V_i$ ;
- (b)  $|V_i| = n_i$ ; and
- (c) each of  $V_i$  induces a connected subgraph of G.

We extend the k-partition problem in the following and we call it the vertex-subset k-partition problem.

#### Input:

- (1) an undirected graph G = (V, E) with n = |V| vertices;
- (2) a vertex subset  $V'(\subseteq V)$  with  $n' = |V'| \ge k$ ;
- (3) k distinct vertices  $a_i (1 \le i \le k) \in V'$ ,  $a_i \ne a_j (1 \le i < j \le k)$ ; and
- (4) k natural numbers  $n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_k$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^k n_i = n'$ .

**Output:** a partition  $V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \ldots \cup V_k$  of vertex set V and a partition  $V_1' \cup V_2' \cup \ldots \cup V_k'$  of vertex set V' such that for each  $i(1 \le i \le k)$ 

- (a)  $a_i \in V_i'$ ;
- (b)  $|V_i'| = n_i$ ;
- (c)  $V_i' \subseteq V_i$  and
- (d) each of  $V_i$  induces a connected subgraph of G.

This problem is extended in the sense that a specified vertex subset is partitioned. If V' = V then it coincides with the original k-partition problem.

The k-partition problem is NP-hard in general even if k is limited to 2 [2]. Györi and Lovász independently showed that the k-partition problem has a solution if the input graph is k-connected [5, 8]. The bipartition problem (k = 2) can be solved in O(m) time [10] and the tripartition problem (k = 3) can be solved in  $O(n^2)$  time [11]. Throughout this paper, n and m denote the number of vertices in G and the number of edges in G, respectively. It is an open problem whether or not we can solve the k-partition problem for  $k \ge 4$  in polynomial time if the input graph is k-connected [11].

In this paper, we present an algorithm to solve the vertex-subset tripartition problem for triconnected graphs. Our algorithm utilizes a nonseparating ear decomposition for a triconnected graph and it runs in  $O(n^2)$  time. We also show that this algorithm solves the tripartition problem for triconnected graphs in  $O(m + (min_1 < i < j < n)) \cdot n)$  time.

Furthermore, we characterize k-edge-connected graphs by using a vertex-partition. In general the k-partition problem does not have a solution for k-edge-connected graphs. However by using Györi and Lovász's result the following edge-partition can be done[5]:

Given a k-edge-connected graph G = (V, E), k edges  $e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_k \in E$  and k positive integers  $m_1, m_2, \ldots, m_k$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^k m_i = |E|$ , there exists an edge-partition  $E = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \ldots \cup E_k$ 

such that  $e_i \in E_i$ ,  $|E_i| = m_i$  and  $G_i = (V(E_i), E_i)$  is connected for each  $i(1 \le i \le k)$ , where V(E') denotes the set of vertices incident with at least one member of E'.

In this paper, we propose the k-partition problem obtained by replacing the condition (c) with the following condition (c-v)((c-e)).

(c-v)((c-e)) For any pair  $(v_i, u_i)$  of vertices in any  $V_i$  and any pair  $(v_j, u_j)$  of vertices in any  $V_j (1 \le i < j \le k)$ , there exist a path  $P_i$  between  $v_i$  and  $u_i$  and a path  $P_j$  between  $v_j$  and  $u_j$  such that  $P_i$  and  $P_j$  are vertex-disjoint(edge-disjoint).

We refer to this problem as the k-partition problem with respect to vertex-disjointness (edge-disjointness). Since a solution for the k-partition problem is also a solution for the k-partition problem with respect to vertex-disjointness from the definition, the k-partition problem with respect to vertex-disjointness has a solution if the input graph is k-connected. Although we conjecture that the k-partition problem with respect to edge-disjointness for k-edge-connected graphs has a solution for any  $k(\geq 2)$ , it is not known so far in general. We show that if we can solve the vertex-subset k-partition problem for k-connected graphs, we can solve the k-partition problem with respect to edge-disjointness. By using the result and the algorithms shown here, we also show the cases in which k=2 and k=3 can be solved in O(m) and  $O(n^2)$  time, respectively.

## 2 Preliminary

We deal with an undirected graph G = (V, E) with vertex set V and edge set E. For a graph G, the vertex set is denoted by V(G). A graph G is k-connected(k-edge-connected) if there exist k node-disjoint(edge-disjoint) paths between every pair of distinct nodes in G. Usually 2-connected graphs are called biconnected graphs and 3-connected graphs are called triconnected graphs. The distance between nodes x and y in G is the length of the shortest path between x and y and is denoted by  $dis_G(x,y)$ . For a graph G = (V,E) and a vertex subset V', the induced subgraph is denoted by G[V']. For two graphs G = (V,E) and G' = (V',E'), the graph  $(V \cup V', E \cup E')$  is denoted by  $G \cup G'$ .

# 3 Nonseparating Ear Decomposition and s-t Numbering

In order to solve the tripartition problem efficiently, we utilize the concepts of a nonseparating ear decomposition which characterizes triconnected graphs and an s-t numbering for biconnected graphs.

#### 3.1 Nonseparating Ear Decomposition

An ear decomposition of a biconnected graph G = (V, E) is a decomposition  $G = P_0 \cup P_1 \cup \ldots \cup P_k$ , where  $P_0$  is a cycle and  $P_i (1 \le i \le k)$  is a path whose end vertices are distinct and only end vertices are in common with  $P_0 \cup \ldots \cup P_{i-1}$ . Each  $P_i$  is called an open ear.

Given an ear decomposition  $P_0 \cup P_1 \cup \ldots \cup P_k$  of G, let  $V_i = V(P_0) \cup \ldots \cup V(P_i)$ , let  $G_i = G[V_i]$  and let  $\overline{G_i} = G[V - V_i]$  for each  $i(1 \le i \le k)$ .

We say that  $G = P_0 \cup P_1 \cup \ldots \cup P_k$  is an ear decomposition through edge (a, b) and avoiding vertex c, if the cycle  $P_0$  contains the edge (a, b) and the last ear of length greater than one, say  $P_a$ , has c as its only internal vertex.

An ear decomposition  $P_0 \cup P_1 \cup ... \cup P_k$  of a graph G through edge (a,b) and avoiding vertex c is a nonseparating ear decomposition if for all  $i(1 \leq i < m)$ , each graph  $\overline{G_i}$  is connected and each internal vertex of the ear  $P_i$  has a neighbour in  $\overline{G_i}$ .

**Proposition 1** [1] For a triconnected graph G = (V, E), any edge  $(a, b) \in E$  and any vertex  $c(\neq a, b) \in V$ , a nonseparating ear decomposition  $P_0 \cup P_1 \cup \ldots \cup P_q$  through edge (a, b) and avoiding vertex c can be constructed in  $O(|V| \cdot |E|)$ , where the path  $P_q$  has the vertex c as its only internal one. In particular, the cycle  $P_0$  and each path  $P_i(1 \leq i \leq q)$  can be constructed in O(|E|).

#### 3.2 s-t Numbering

Given an edge (s,t) of a biconnected graph G=(V,E), a bijective function  $g:V\to\{1,2,\ldots,|V|=n\}$  is called an s-t numbering if the following conditions are satisfied:

- g(s) = 1, g(t) = n and
- Every node  $v \in V \{s, t\}$  has two adjacent nodes u and w such that g(u) < g(v) < g(w).

**Proposition 2** [3] Let G = (V, E) be a biconnected graph. For any edge  $(s, t) \in E$ , an s-t numbering can be computed in O(|E|) time.

The following lemma holds from the definition of the s-t numbering.

**Lemma 1** Let g be an s-t numbering for a biconnected graph G = (V, E) and an edge (s, t). For any  $i(1 \le i \le |V|)$ , the two induced subgraphs  $G[\{g^{-1}(j)|1 \le i\}]$  and  $G[\{g^{-1}(j)|i+1 \le j \le |V|\}]$  are connected, where  $g^{-1}$  is the inverse function of g.

The following theorem is easily shown from Lemma 1 and Proposition 2.

**Theorem 1** The vertex-subset bipartition problem can be solved in O(m).

# 4 Tripartition of Triconnected Graphs

In this section, we present an efficient algorithm PART3 for solving the vertex-subset tripartition problem for a triconnected graph G. We may assume without loss of generality that  $n_1 \leq n_2 \leq n_3$  for a given input.

The algorithm is as follows:

**Algorithm PART3** $(G = (V, E); V'; a_1, a_2, a_3; n_1, n_2, n_3)$ 

#### begin

if  $(a_1, a_2) \not\in E$  then  $E \leftarrow E \cup \{(a_1, a_2)\};$ 

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Let P_0 \cup P_1 \cup \ldots \cup P_q be a nonseparating ear decomposition
through edge (a_1, a_2) and avoiding vertex a_3 for the graph G;
{Note that this algorithm does not construct all paths of the ear decomposition.}
i \leftarrow 1;
while |V(G_i) \cap V'| < n_1 + n_2 \text{ do } i \leftarrow i + 1;
if |V(G_i) \cap V'| = n_1 + n_2 then
     begin
         Let g be an a_1-a_2 numbering of G_i and
         let n'_1 satisfy n_1 = |\{g^{-1}(j)|1 \le j \le n'_1\} \cap V'| and g^{-1}(n'_1) \in V';
         V_1 \leftarrow \{g^{-1}(j)|1 \le j \le n_1'\};
         V_2 \leftarrow \{g^{-1}(j)||G_i| = n_1 + n_2 \ge j \ge n_1' + 1\};
         V_3 \leftarrow V(\overline{G_i}):
         return(V_1, V_2, V_3)
     end
     else \{|V(G_i) \cap V'| > n_1 + n_2 > |V(G_{i-1}) \cap V'|\}
         begin
             Let g be an a_1-a_2 numbering of G_{i-1},
             let P_i = (x_0, \ldots, x_r) such that g(x_0) < g(x_r),
            let n'_1 satisfy n_1 = |\{g^{-1}(j)|1 \le j \le n'_1\} \cap V'| and g^{-1}(n'_1) \in V' and
             let n'_2 satisfy n_2 = |\{g^{-1}(j)||G_{i-1}| \ge j \ge |G_{i-1}| - n'_2 + 1\} \cap V'| and
             g^{-1}(|G_{i-1}| - n_2' + 1) \in V';
             U_1 \leftarrow \{g^{-1}(j)|1 \leq j \leq n_1'\};
             U_2 \leftarrow \{g^{-1}(j)||G_{i-1}| \ge j \ge |G_{i-1}| - n_2' + 1\};
             I \leftarrow U_1 \cap U_2;
            if x_0 \in U_1 - I then
                 begin
                     Let j = |I \cap V'| and
                    let j' satisfy j = |\{x_1, \ldots, x_{j'}\} \cap V'| and x_{j'} \in V';
                    V_1 \leftarrow (U_1 - I) \cup \{x_1, \ldots, x_{i'}\};
                    V_2 \leftarrow U_2;
                     V_3 \leftarrow V(\overline{G_i}) \cup \{x_{i'+1}, \dots, x_{r-1}\};
                    return(V_1, V_2, V_3)
                end
            else if x_r \in U_2 - I then
                begin
                    Let j = |I \cap V'| and
                    let j' satisfy j = |\{x_{r-j'}, \dots, x_{r-1}\} \cap V'| and x_{r-j'} \in V';
                    V_1 \leftarrow U_1;
                    V_2 \leftarrow (U_2 - I) \cup \{x_{r-j'}, \dots, x_{r-1}\};
                    V_3 \leftarrow V(\overline{G_i}) \cup \{x_1, \dots, x_{r-i'-1}\};
                    return(V_1, V_2, V_3)
                end
```

```
else \{x_0, x_r \in I\}

begin

Let I = \{z_1, \dots, z_{|I|}\} and let x_0 = z_s and x_r = z_t (1 \le s < t \le |I|), let j_1 = |\{z_{s+1}, \dots, z_{|I|}\} \cap V'|, let j_2 = |\{z_1, \dots, z_s\} \cap V'|, let j_1' satisfy j_1 = |\{x_1, \dots, x_{j_1'}\} \cap V'| and x_{j_1'} \in V' and let j_2' satisfy j_2 = |\{x_{r-j_2'}, \dots, x_{r-1}\} \cap V'| and x_{r-j_2'} \in V'; V_1 \leftarrow (U_1 - I) \cup \{z_1, \dots, z_s\} \cup \{x_1, \dots, x_{j_1'}\}; V_2 \leftarrow (U_2 - I) \cup \{z_{s+1}, \dots, z_{|I|}\} \cup \{x_{r-1}, \dots, x_{r-j_2'}\}; V_3 \leftarrow V(\overline{G_i}) \cup \{x_{j_1'+1}, \dots, x_{r-j_2'-1}\}; return(V_1, V_2, V_3) end
```

end

The correctness of the algorithm is derived from the definition of the nonseparating ear decomposition and Lemma 1. Since a spanning triconnected subgraph G' = (V, E') with |E'| = O(|V|) can be computed in O(|E|) time for a triconnected graph G = (V, E) [9, 11], the next theorem is obtained from Propositions 1 and 2.

**Theorem 2** The vertex-subset tripartition problem for triconnected graphs can be solved in  $O(m+i\cdot n)$ , where i denotes the number of ears constructed in PART3.

The next corollaries are easily obtained from the construction of the algorithm.

Corollary 1 The vertex-subset tripartition problem for triconnected graphs can be solved in  $O(n^2)$ .

**Corollary 2** The tripartition problem for triconnected graphs can be solved in  $O(m+(n_1+n_2)\cdot n)$ , where  $n_1 \leq n_2 \leq n_3$  for the given input.

Corollary 3 If  $n_1 + n_2 = O(1)$  or  $dis_G(a_1, a_2) \ge n_1 + n_2$  then the tripartition problem for triconnected graphs can be solved in linear time.

# 5 The k-partition with respect to Edge-disjointness

In this section, instead of solving the k-partition problem with respect to edge-disjointness directly, we compute mutually k edge-disjoint subgraphs  $G_i = (U_i, E_i)(1 \le i \le k)$  such that

- (a)  $a_i \in V_i$ ,
- (b)  $V_i \subseteq U_i$  and
- (c)  $G_i$  is connected.

If we can find the mutually k edge-disjoint subgraphs stated above, we can easily show that the vertex-partition  $V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \ldots \cup V_k$  is a solution for the k-partition problem with respect to edge-disjointness.

We utilize the method transforming k-edge-connected graphs into k-connected graphs [4].

Let  $k \geq 2$ . Given a graph G = (V, E), define the graph  $\varphi_k(G) = (\varphi(V), \varphi(E))$  as follows. For every vertex  $v \in V$ , there are k-2 vertices  $\varphi(v_1), \varphi(v_2), \ldots, \varphi(v_{k-2})$  in  $\varphi(V)$ . These vertices are called *node-vertices* of  $\varphi_k(G)$ . For every edge  $e \in E$ , there is a vertex  $\varphi(e)$  in  $\varphi(V)$ . This vertex is called *arc-vertex* of  $\varphi_k(G)$ . Note that if k = 2, there is no node-vertex in  $\varphi(V)$ .

The edge set  $\varphi(E)$  is defined as follows: Let v be any vertex in V and  $u_0, u_1, \ldots, u_{d-1}$  be the vertices adjacent to v. Let  $e_i = (v, u_i)(0 \le i \le d-1)$ . Then there are edges  $(\varphi(e_i), \varphi(e_{(i+1) \mod d}))(0 \le i \le d-1)$  and  $(\varphi(e_i), \varphi(v_j))(0 \le i \le d-1, 1 \le j \le k-2)$  in  $\varphi(E)$ . Note that if d=2, there is an edge  $(\varphi(e_0), \varphi(e_1))$  in  $\varphi(E)$ .

From the definition  $\varphi_k(G)$  has (k-2)|V|+|E| vertices and O(k|E|) edges and it can be computed in O(k(|V|+|E|)).

**Proposition 3** [4] For any  $k \geq 2$ , G is k-edge-connected if and only if  $\varphi_k(G)$  is k-connected.

Let U be a vertex subset of  $\varphi_k(G)$ . The subgraph  $\varphi^{-1}(U) = (\varphi_v^{-1}(U), \varphi_e^{-1}(U))$  of G = (V, E) is defined to be

 $\varphi_v^{-1}(U) = \{v | \varphi(v) \in U \text{ and } v \in V\} \cup \{\text{ endpoints of } e | \varphi(e) \in U \text{ and } e \in E\} \text{ and } \varphi_e^{-1}(U) = \{e | \varphi(e) \in U \text{ and } e \in E\}.$ 

The next lemma can be easily shown.

**Lemma 2** If the induced subgraph  $\varphi_k(G)[U]$  is connected, then the graph  $\varphi^{-1}(U)$  is connected.

From the Proposition 3 and Lemma 2, the following theorem can be proved.

**Theorem 3** If the vertex-subset k-partition problem can be solved, the k-partition problem with respect to edge-disjointness can be solved.

Combining Theorem 3 with Theorem 1 and Corollary 1, we can prove the following theorems.

**Theorem 4** The bipartition problem with respect to edge-disjointness can be solved in O(m) time.

**Theorem 5** The tripartition problem with respect to edge-disjointness can be solved in  $O(n^2)$  time.

## 6 Concluding Remarks

We present an algorithm which solves the vertex-subset tripartition problem for triconnected graphs. This algorithm solves the tripartition problem for triconnected graphs efficiently. Compared with the previous result, the worst case of our algorithm is the same as that in [11], since there is a case that  $n_1+n_2=\Omega(n)$ . However, we have applications which satisfies  $n_1+n_2=o(n)$ . For example, the tripartition is necessary in order to define efficient fault-tolerant routings for triconnected graphs and in that case it satisfies that  $n_1+n_2=O(1)$  or  $n_1+n_2=O(\log n)$  [6, 7]. Thus, the tripartition can be solved in O(m) or  $O(m+n\log n)$  time.

The k-partition problem with respect to edge-disjointness is related to fault-tolerant routings for k-edge-connected graphs [12].

It still remains as a further study to solve the k-partition problem  $(k \ge 4)$  for k-connected graphs in polynomial time and to solve the vertex-subset k-partition problem and/or the k-partition problem with respect to edge-disjointness (k > 4).

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