

An Optimal Bound for the MST Algorithm to
Compute Energy Efficient Broadcast Trees in
Wireless Networks

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1 Introduction

A wireless network is a collection of autonomous mobile nodes that communicate with each other over a wireless channel. Such a wireless network without any central administration is called an ad-hoc network, which we will use in the rest of the paper. The nodes in an ad-hoc network are mobile and may cooperate in routing each other's data packets. The transmitted signal from the sender s to the receiver t decays with distance $dist(s, t)$ as $\frac{1}{dist(s, t)^\alpha}$, where α can vary from 1 to more than 6 depending on the environment of the transmission. In vacuum is $\alpha = 2$. The transmitted signal is an electromagnetic wave of power P_s that is emitted in all directions. In order for the receiver t to receive the signal successfully, the arrived signal at t must satisfy the following inequality

$$\frac{P_s}{dist(s, t)^\alpha} > \gamma \quad (1)$$

where γ is the *transmission-quality* parameter, that enables the receiver to reconstruct the arrived signal (we are ignoring here the influence of the ambient noise).

Each node is assigned a power level P that determines according to (1) its **transmission range**, in which other nodes receive the signal successfully. Let $G = (S, A)$ be the **transmission graph**, where S is the set of the nodes or vertices from 1 to n , and the directed edge from s to t is in A if and only if t is within the transmission-range of s . Let ω be the weight function of the graph which is equal to the Euclidean distance between the incident vertices of each edge. Let $r_G(i)$ be the maximal length of the outgoing edges from node i , then every node within $r_G(i)$ can also receive data sent by node i . Let

$$power(G) = \sum_{i \in S} \gamma \cdot r_G(i)^\alpha \quad (2)$$

be the total power needed to establish all connections in G . The value of γ does not influence our results so we will set it to one [1]. We describe now the main problem and the goal of this summary.

The Energy Efficient Broadcast Tree Problem (EEBT): Let S be a set of nodes represented by points from the Euclidean plane. That is, the distance function becomes $dist(s, t) := |st|$, where $|st|$ is the Euclidean distance between s and t . One of the nodes is called the source node s . The **goal** is to find the transmission graph G which minimizes $power(G)$ and contains a directed spanning tree rooted at s .

The importance of this problem is because that **broadcasts** are often used in real life, i.e. between base stations of the Telekom in Germany. The source node initiates the transmission and sends a message to all other nodes in the graph. The EEBT problem is NP-hard [2, 3], and if the distance function is arbitrary, then the problem can not be approximated with a logarithmic factor. The currently best approximation algorithm for the EEBT problem is as follows:

The MST Algorithm (MSTALG): The input of the algorithm is a set of nodes S represented by points in the Euclidean plane. One of the nodes is designated as the source. The algorithm first computes the Euclidean minimum

spanning tree (EMST) of the point set S . Then the MST is turned into a directed EMST by directing all the edges such that there exists a directed path from the source node to all other stations.

This summary shows in section 3 that MSTALG is a 6-approximation algorithm for every $\alpha \geq 2$ and then offers in section 4 a faster distributed protocol for constructing a MST, the **Fast_MST Protocol**.

In the network model in section 4 the communication is synchronous and occurs in discrete pulses, called **rounds**, which will be used as a measure of efficiency. All vertices are synchronized and start working at round 1. The distributed computation works in the **CONGEST(B)** model, in which each vertex is allowed to send a message of maximum size B . We also assume that each station has unlimited capacity of computation.

Each vertex v of the graph should accept the input graph itself (G, ω) and its MST-radius, which we will define later, and should return as output the set of edges that are adjacent to v and belong to the MST of the graph (assuming that the latter is unique; otherwise, the outputs of all the vertices should be consistent, and form an MST). So we would first apply *Protocol Fast_MST* on the input Graph (G, ω) to construct the MST, then the MST is turned into a directed MST by directing all the edges such that there exists a directed path from the source node to all other stations. Then each node would send the message received from s to its neighbors nodes.

In the next section we give the main results of the paper. In section 3 we sketch the proof that the MSTALG is a 6-approximation algorithm of the problem mentioned above. Section 4 offers a faster distributed algorithm for constructing a MST.

2 Main Results

Theorem 1 *Let S be a set of points from the unit disk around the origin, with the additional property that the origin is in S . Let $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{|S|-1}$ be the edges of the Euclidean minimum spanning tree of S . Then*

$$\mu(S) := \sum_{i=1}^{|S|-1} |e_i|^2 \leq 6 \quad (3)$$

Theorem 1 and the next Lemma prove that MSTALG is a 6-approximation algorithm for the EEBT problem.

Lemma 1.1 *A bound on $\mu(S)$ automatically implies the same bound on the approximation ratio of **MSTALG** for $\alpha \geq 2$. [4]*

The next theorem gives an upper bound on the protocol Protocol Fast_MST

Theorem 2 *Protocol Fast_MST computes the MST of an n -vertex graph $(G = (V, E), \omega)$ assuming that every vertex v accepts as input the maximum MST-radius $\mu(G, \omega)$ of the graph in $O(\mu \cdot \log^3 n + \sqrt{n/B} \cdot \log^{3/2} n \cdot \sqrt{\log^* n})$ rounds of distributed computation with success probability $1 - O(1/\text{poly}(n))$.*

The next section proves theorem 1. Section 4 proves theorem 2 and introduces how the Fast_MST works.

3 An Optimal bound on the Approximation Ratio of MSTALG

We assume here that *Fast_MST* has already constructed the Euclidean minimum spanning tree of the given transmission graph $G = (S, A)$ with the Euclidean distance as the weight function ω of the graph, that is $\omega(e) = \text{dist}(u, v)$, where $e \in A$, and u, v are the incident vertices of e .

The MST is normalized to fit into a unit disk around the origin and one of the vertices in S is the origin of the unit disk. Let $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{|S|-1}$ be the edges of the constructed Euclidean minimum spanning tree of S . The total power of the normalized MST of G is then as follows:

$$\mu(S) = \sum_{i=1}^{|S|-1} |e_i|^2. \quad (4)$$

We set here $\alpha = 2$, but the results of this section are correct for any $\alpha \geq 2$. We will find now an optimal upper bound on $\mu(S)$, which is according to Lemma 1.1 the same upper bound on the approximation ratio of **MSTALG**.

The proof's idea is similar to the one in [4]. In [4] it was proved that the **MSTALG** is an 12.15-approximation algorithm. The cost of each edge e was represented by a *diamond*, that is, two isosceles triangles with an angle of $\frac{2\pi}{3}$. All the diamonds around the edges of a MST do not intersect, and the sum of their areas is equal to $\lambda \cdot \mu(S)$, $\lambda = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}$ and is bounded by the area of some polygon of area 12.15. Thus, 12.15 is an upper bound on the approximation ratio of **MSTALG**.

To get a lower upper bound we use a larger geometric shape, but we must then deal with intersection of the shapes. Let the cost of each edge e of the MST be represented by a pair of equilateral triangles of side length $|e|$. The area of this pair is equal to $|e|^2 \cdot \sin 60 = \lambda \cdot |e|^2$, with $\lambda = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$. We need now to find an upper bound of the total area generated by all such pairs of equilateral triangles. Consider the MST of S and the Delaunay triangulation of the convex hull of S . Consider the unique cycle of the convex set that is formed by adding a **door** edge. This cycle with its interior is called a **pocket** P . Each triangle in the Delaunay triangulation is called a **pocket triangle**. All MST edges of the cycle are called **border edges**. The rest are called **interior edges**. Each interior edge e generates two MST-triangles of the pocket P , which are equilateral triangles with side length $|e|$. Each border edge generates a MST-triangle towards the center of the pocket P . The MST-area of the pocket P is the sum of all MST-triangles.

In Figure 1 on the left the dashed line is the only door of the pocket. Each border edge generates one MST-triangle and each interior edge generates 2 MST-triangles. On the right side one can see the Delaunay triangulation of the MST.

We prove now that the number of MST-triangles is equal to the number of pocket-triangles plus one.

Let n, e, b, t , be the number of nodes, edges, border edges and the pocket triangles of a pocket. The following equations hold.

$$\begin{aligned} n + (t + 1) - e &= 2 \\ 2e &= 3t + (b + 1) \end{aligned}$$

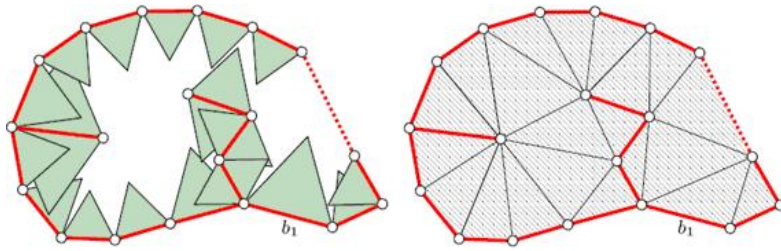


Figure 1: A pocket with its MST-triangles on the left and the pocket triangles on the right. Note that there are 22 MST-triangles and 21 pocket triangles.

The first formula is the Descartes-Euler polyhedral formula. The second formula represents the number of edges of all facets. Solving for t , we get that $t = 2n - 2 - b - 1$. The number of MST-triangles is equal to $2n - 2 - b$ because each interior edge generates two MST-triangles while each border edge generates only one. So we get that the number of MST-triangles is equal to the number of pocket-triangles plus one.

Let the **extended pocket area(EP-area)** of a pocket be the area of the pocket plus an additional equilateral triangle with side length b , where b is the longest edge of the pocket. Then the difference between the EP-area and the MST-area of the pocket is always positive.(see [1] for the proof). By using the next Lemma we can prove theorem 1.

Lemma 2.1 *Consider a pocket formed by an edge e . Then its MST-area can be bounded by the area of the pocket plus the area of a set of equilateral triangles whose side lengths are bounded by 1 and add up to $|e|$.*

Proof of Theorem 1. Consider the pockets whose doors are the edges of the convex hull T of S . The entire MST-area of G is equal to the sum of all MST-areas of all pocktes.

By using Lemma 2.1 we conclude that the entire MST-area is upper bounded by the area of the convex hull plus, for each edge e of T , the area of an equilateral triangle with side length $|e|$. The latter shape is called a **sun**. By moving all the points in T towards the unit circle, the area of its sun will increase and will reach the maximum if all points of T are on the unit circle.

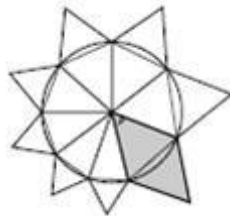


Figure 2: A sun

Figure 2 shows the sun of T with maximum area. The area of each part of

the sun (the dashed part) can be expressed in terms of the angle ρ .

$$f(\rho) = 0.5\sin(\rho) + \sqrt{3} \cdot \sin^2(\rho/2).$$

Since we have assumed in Lemma 2.1 that each edge of the convex hull is bounded by one, the angle ρ must be between 0 and $\pi/3$. It follows that the maximum area of the dashed part is achieved when $\rho = \pi/3$. the MST-area of the pockets = $\sin 60 \cdot \mu(S) = \sin 60 \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{|S|-1} |e_i|^2 \leq 6 \cdot f(60) = 6 \cdot \sin 60 \rightarrow \mu(S) \leq 6$.

4 A Faster Distributed Protocol for constructing a MST

The *Protocol Fast_MST* consists of two parts. First it constructs a MST-forest, then it execute a sub-procedure in parallel through each tree τ of an appropriate collection of trees that satisfy certain properties. This sub-procedure removes unnecessary edges in τ that do not belong to the MST-forest. We need to define some parameters, that we will need later on. The distance between a vertex u and an edge $e = (v, w)$, denoted $dist_G(u, e)$, is defined as the minimum of the distances between u and v , or between u and w . The *vertex-edge radius* of the cycle C w.r.t. the vertex u , denoted $VxEdgRad_u(C)$. Let $Z(e)$ denote the set of the cycles C in which the edge e is the heaviest edge. Let $e = (u, v)$, we define $VxEdgElimRad(u, e) = \min\{VxEdgRad_u(C) | C \in Z(e)\}$ (The minimum of an empty set is 0). The *MST-radius* of (G, ω) w.r.t. the vertex u , denoted $\mu_u(G, \omega)$, is defined by $\mu_u(G, \omega) = \max\{VxEdgElimRad(u, e) | e \in E, u \in e\}$. The *MST-radius* of (G, ω) is the maximum of the set $\{\mu_1(G, \omega), \dots, \mu_n(G, \omega)\}$, where $V = 1 \dots n$.

A k -MST forest F of a Graph $(G = (V, E), \omega)$ is a collection of vertex disjoint trees of depth $O(k)$ and the number of vertices in each tree T is $\Omega(k)$. Each Tree $T \in F$ is a fragment of the MST of (G, ω) , that is, a connected subtree of G with minimal cost w.r.t. the restriction of G to $V(T)$. A k -MST forest can be constructed in $O(k \log^* n)$ rounds of distributed computation, where τ is an auxiliary tree that contains each $e \in \hat{E}$.

We define the multigraph $\hat{G} = (\hat{V}, \hat{E})$ with \hat{V} is the set of the fragments of the constructed k -MST forest, and \hat{E} is the set of the inter-fragment edges. The acyclic subset of the edge set of \hat{G} forms a matroid of rank $|\hat{V}| - 1$, where \hat{E} is the universe of the matroid. The distributed *Protocol Pipeline* [5] computes a maximum independent set with minimum weight of a matroid with universe \hat{E} under the *CONGEST(B)* model in running time of $O(depth(\tau) + |\hat{V}|/B \cdot \log n)$ rounds. The aim now is to construct a MST of \hat{G} by computing a maximum independent set of the matroid of minimal weight. This is done by applying the *Protocol Pipeline* on a collection C of auxiliary trees that satisfy the following properties:

1. Each tree τ of $depth(O(W \cdot \kappa))$, with $W = \mu(G, \omega)$ and $\kappa = \log n$.
2. Each $v \in V$ appears in at most $O(\kappa \cdot polylog(\kappa))$ different trees of C .
3. For Each $v \in V$ there exists a tree in C that contains the entire W -neighborhood of v .

We call such a collection the (κ, W) -neighborhood cover or shortly (κ, W) -cover of G . Let the *cover-degree* of a vertex v be the number of clusters of C that contains the vertex v . In [5] a **Protocol Cover** was devised to construct a (κ, W) -cover with maximum *cover-degree* $O(\kappa \cdot n^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} \log n)$ with running time $O(\kappa^2 \cdot \log n \cdot n^{\frac{1}{\kappa}} \cdot W)$ with probability $1 - O(1/\text{poly}(n))$.

Recall that the algorithm first constructs a k -MST forest F , then it constructs $(\log n, \mu)$ -cover C . The *Protocol Pipeline* is applied in each tree τ in C so that at the end we get the MST of G .

For each $\tau \in C$ let G^τ and F^τ be a restriction of G and F to the vertex set of τ respectively. Observe that the fragments T_1, \dots, T_p of F will not be necessarily connected after the restriction of F to the vertex set of τ . Let T_i^τ denote the resulting forest by restriction $V(T_i)$ to $V(\tau)$ with the edge set $\{e = (u, w) \in E(T) \mid u, w \in V(\tau)\}$. Consider the multigraph \hat{G}^τ with T^τ serving as vertex for each fragment T^τ . For each inter-fragment edge (u, v) with $u \in V(T_1^\tau)$, $v \in V(T_2^\tau)$, there is an edge between T_1^τ and T_2^τ in \hat{G}^τ .

Next, *Protocol Pipeline* is invoked on each tree τ in C to compute the MST of \hat{G}^τ . Let *Protocol Pipe_MST* denote the computation till this stage. Observe that the number of supervertices of \hat{G}^τ is at most $O(n/k)$, because each fragment of F yields at most one not necessarily connected supervertices of \hat{G}^τ . Hence, the number of the MST edges of \hat{G}^τ is also $O(n/k)$. Therefore, *Protocol Pipeline* computes the MST of \hat{G}^τ in $O(\text{depth}(\tau) + \frac{n \cdot \log n}{k \cdot B}) = O(\mu \cdot \log n + \frac{n \cdot \log n}{k \cdot B})$ rounds if no node terminates while the computation.

Since each vertex v may participate in $O(\log^2 n)$ trees in C , $O(\log^2 n)$ trees will try to access the vertex v . Hence, the running time of *Pipeline_MST* will increase at most by factor $O(\log^2 n)$, that is, $O(\mu \cdot \log^3 n + \frac{n \cdot \log^3 n}{k \cdot B})$.

We are constructing now by a new protocol called *Cover_MST* the MST of the original Graph out of the k -MST forest F , and the MSTs of the multigraphs \hat{G}^τ for all trees in C .

Each vertex v decides locally for each incident edge e , if e belongs to the MST of G . The edge e belongs to the MST of G if e belongs to the k -MST forest F or e is an inter-fragment edge and also belongs to the MST of each multigraph \hat{G}^τ . In other words, let C be a cover that coarsens the (κ, μ) -cover, then there exists a tree τ in C with $u, w \in V(\tau)$, so that e does not belong to the MST of \hat{G}^τ .

We sketch now the proof of the last statement.

Consider an edge $e = (u, w)$ that does not belong to the MST of G . By definition $\mu \geq \text{VxEdgElimRad}(u, e) = \text{VxEdgRad}_u(C_0)$ for some cycle C_0 , in which the edge e is the heaviest edge. By definition of the (κ, W) -cover (Property 3) there exists a tree t in the (κ, W) -cover that contains the whole μ -neighborhood of each vertex, here vertex u . It follows that the whole μ -neighborhood of u is included in some tree τ in C (that follows from the definition of a coarsen). Recall that e is an inter-fragment edge. This implies that there exists a cycle C_0^τ in the multigraph \hat{G}^τ , in which e is the heaviest edge. It follows that the edge e does not belong to the MST of \hat{G}^τ .

Thus, Theorem 2 is proved.

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