

# Ordering Metro Lines by Block Crossings

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Joint work with Sergey Pupyrev

# Metro Maps – Vienna



## Metro Maps – Paris



3/18

# Metro Maps – Metro Lines



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Previous work, e.g. [Nöllenburg and Wolff, 2011]

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Focus on drawing underlying graph



Insert all lines L into embedded graph G = (V, E) such that ...

• the number of crossings is minimized.

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NP-hard [Bekos et al., 2007] & [Fink, Pupyrev, 2013]

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additional restriction: two lines intersect in a path



4 single crossings



4 single crossings

1 block crossing



4 single crossings



1 block crossing

#### 4 single crossings



1 block crossing



12 single crossings



#### 4 single crossings



1 block crossing



12 single crossings



3 block crossings

# Block Crossing Minimization

New problem variants:

• **BCM**: Minimize the number of block crossings

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- **MBCM**: Minimize the number of *monotone* block crossings

# **Block Crossing Minimization**

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no double crossings!






















• Equivalent to *Sorting by Transpositions* for permutations



Equivalent to Sorting by Transpositions for permutations
NP-hard [Bulteau et al., 2012]



- Equivalent to Sorting by Transpositions for permutations
- NP-hard

[Bulteau et al., 2012]

simple 3-approximation

[Bafna, Pevzner, 1998]

# Single Edge – 3-approximation



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|L| + 1 good pairs



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|L| + 1 good pairs













no good pair for *simple* permutation







no good pair for *simple* permutation



|L| + 1 good pairs

3-approx.



 $\leq$  3 good pairs can be created per crossing









# 

















• Redefine good pairs:













- treat edges from left to right
- identify good pairs








- treat edges from left to right
- bring ending lines to top/bottom keeping good pairs together



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- optimum creates up to 3
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- treat edges from left to right
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- create 1 good pair per block crossing crossing
- optimum creates up to 3
- 3-approximation
  - algorithm can be adjusted for monotone block crossings





root at some leave

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- after treating edge recursively order subtrees

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- insert lines between subtrees
- $\circ$   $\leq$  2 crossings per line
- right insertion order needed for:
  - avoiding vertex
    crossings avoiding
    double crossings





### Upward Trees



# Upward Trees

- simplification
- use tree algorithm
- 6-approximation
   for monotone
   block crossings



• Process edges in arbitrary order

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- Completely sort lines on an edge

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Process edges in arbitrary order

Completely sort lines on an edge



lines *I*, *I'* seen together on edge
 will never cross (again)

Process edges in arbitrary order

Completely sort lines on an edge



Ines I, I' seen together on edge

🔶 will never cross (again)

Iines I, I' seen together for the first time

information gain





#### follow lines



#### follow lines



follow lines



- follow lines
- find cut edges



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- follow lines
- find cut edges
- identify groups of lines



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- identify groups of lines
- group stays parallel



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- consider pairs of groups



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# General Graphs – Sorting an Edge



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 sort by insertion into largest group

# General Graphs – Sorting an Edge



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- merge lines if possible

- sort by insertion into largest group
- o undo merging



finally: all edges
ordered



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- pairs of lines cross at most once
  monotone block crossings



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(bc(e))<sup>2</sup> ≤ I(e)
information gain
block crossings on edge

monotone block crossings



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(bc(e))<sup>2</sup> ≤ I(e)
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∑<sub>e∈E</sub>(bc(e))<sup>2</sup> ≤ |L|<sup>2</sup>



- finally: all edges ordered
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monotone block crossings

•  $(bc(e))^2 \leq I(e)$ • information gain

block crossings on edge

• 
$$\sum_{e \in E} (\operatorname{bc}(e))^2 \leq |L|^2$$

• Using Cauchy-Schwarz:  
$$\sum_{e \in E} bc(e) \le |L| \sqrt{|E'|}$$



- finally: all edges ordered
- pairs of lines cross at most once
  worst-case instances:

 $\Omega(|L|\sqrt{|E'|})$  block crossings necessary •  $(bc(e))^2 \le I(e)$ • information gain

block crossings on edge

• 
$$\sum_{e \in E} (\operatorname{bc}(e))^2 \leq |L|^2$$

• Using Cauchy-Schwarz:  $\sum_{e \in E} bc(e) \leq |L| \sqrt{|E'|}$ 

# Conclusion

- new model for counting crossings
- approximations for paths and upward trees
- tight upper bound for trees
- algorithm for general graphs
- upper bound asymptotically tight

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Open Questions:

- Complexity of monotone block crossings on a single edge?
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# Thank you!