# A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON MULTICUT AND INTEGER MULTIFLOW PROBLEMS 

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#### Abstract

We present a bibliography about the maximum integral multiflow and the minimum multicut problems and their subproblems, such as the multiterminal cut and the unsplittable flow problems. Some references also concern related problems, such as the integer multiflow problem with demands or the minimum cost multiflow problem. Papers are relative to unrestricted graphs as well as special graphs (trees, meshes, rings, trees of rings, bipartite and planar graphs, ...) Most of the results are very recent, and a table summarizes the most important ones.


Keywords: integer multicommodity flow, minimum multicut, multiway cut, complexity, approximation.

Remark 1. We try to keep this bibliography as complete as possible. Please let us know any comment or suggestion, mistake or missing paper, by sending us an e-mail (costa@cnam.fr or cedric.bentz@cnam.fr).

Remark 2. IMFP and IMCP respectively denote the maximum integer multiflow problem and the minimum multicut problem. For the exact definition of all the terms used in Table 1, see [1].

Remark 3. Each paper belongs to exactly one of the five categories used in this bibliography:

- Existence of disjoint paths and integer multiflow problems with demands (decision problems): see [2] to [25];
- IMFP and subproblems: see [26] to [69];
- IMCP and subproblems: see [70] to [98];
- Both IMFP and IMCP: see [99] to [112];
- Minimum cost integer multiflow: see [113] to [117].

Almost half of the references listed in this document can be found in [1].

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|  | IMFP | IMCP | UnSplitFlow | CapPath | EdgeDisjPath | Multiterm. Cut | Multiterm. Flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Undirected Graphs | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { NP-Hard if } \\ & K=2[4] \\ & \text { NP-Hard to ap- } \\ & \text { prox. within } \\ & (\log m)^{\frac{1}{3}-\varepsilon}[29] \\ & O(1)-\text { approx. } \\ & \text { algo. if capaci- } \\ & \text { ties are } \\ & \Omega(\log n)[65] \end{aligned}$ | Max SNPHard [79] $O(\log K)-$ approx. algo. [83] <br> Not in APX if Unique Games Conjecture is true [74] | NP-Hard to approx. within $(\log m)^{\frac{1}{3}-\varepsilon}$ [29] $O(\sqrt{n})-$ approx. algo. [40] | NP-Hard if $K=2[4]$ NP-Hard to approx. within $(\log m)^{\frac{1}{3}-\varepsilon}$ [29] $O(\sqrt{n})-$ approx. algo. [40] | NP-Hard if $K=2[4]$ NP-Hard to approx. within $(\log m)^{\frac{1}{3}-\varepsilon}[29]$ $O(\sqrt{n})$ approx. algo. [40] | Max SNP- <br> Hard for $K=3$ <br> [79] <br> 1.3438- <br> approx. <br> algo. [89] | Polyn. if inner degrees are even [47] $\log K-$ approx. algo. [106] |
| Directed Graphs | NP-Hard if $K=2[4]$ NP-Hard to approx. within $m^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon}[48]$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Max SNP- } \\ & \text { Hard }[79] \\ & C^{*} \leq 39 F^{* 2} \\ & \ln (K+1) \text { and } \\ & C^{*} \leq 108 F^{* 3} \\ & {[76]} \\ & O(\sqrt{n})- \\ & \text { approx. algo. } \\ & {[86]} \end{aligned}$ | NP-Hard if $K=2[5]$ $O(\sqrt{n})-$ approx. algo. [40] NP-Hard to approx. within $m^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon}[48]$ | NP-Hard if $K=2[4]$ $O(\sqrt{n})-$ approx. algo. [40] NP-Hard to approx. within $m^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon}[48]$ | NP-Hard if $K=2[4]$ $O(\sqrt{n})-$ approx. algo. [40] NP-Hard to approx. within $m^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon}[48]$ | Max SNPHard for $K=2$ [106] 2-approx. algo. [94] Polyn. if acyclic $O\left(n^{3}\right)[1]$ | NP-Hard if $K=2$ [102] $2 \log K-$ approx. algo. [106] Polyn. if acyclic $O\left(n^{3}\right)[1]$ |
| Directed <br> (Rooted) Trees | Polyn. $O\left(K^{2} \log n\right.$ $\left.+n^{2} \log ^{2} n\right)$ [105] $(O(\min (K, n) n))$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Polyn. [105] } \\ & (O(\min (K n, \\ & \left.\left.\left.n^{2}\right)\right)\right) \end{aligned}$ | Polyn. $\begin{aligned} & {[105]} \\ & (O(\min (K n, \\ & \left.\left.\left.n^{2}\right)\right)\right) \end{aligned}$ | Polyn. $\begin{aligned} & {[105]} \\ & (O(\min (K n, \\ & \left.\left.\left.n^{2}\right)\right)\right) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Polyn. [105] } \\ & (O(\min (K n, \\ & \left.\left.\left.n^{2}\right)\right)\right) \end{aligned}$ | Polyn. <br> $O\left(n^{3}\right)$ [1] <br> ( $O(n)$ <br> [104]) | Polyn. <br> $O\left(n^{3}\right)[1]$ <br> ( $O$ (height( T ) <br> K) [104]) |
| Bidirected Trees | Max SNP-Hard [43] |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Max SNP- } \\ & \text { Hard [43] } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Max SNP- } \\ & \text { Hard [43] } \end{aligned}$ | Max SNP-Hard $\left(\frac{5}{3}+\varepsilon\right)$-approx. algo. [43] |  |  |
| Undirected <br> Trees (Gr. <br> with cy- <br> clomatic <br> numb. $\gamma$ ) | Max SNP-Hard 2-approx. algo. [107] $(2(\gamma+1)-$ approx. [100]) | Max SNPHard 2-approx. algo. [107] $(2(\gamma+1)-$ appr. [100]) | Max SNP- Hard 2-approx. algo. $[107]$ $(2(\gamma+1)-$ appr. $[100])$ | Max SNP- Hard 2-approx. algo. $[107]$ $(2(\gamma+1)-$ appr. $[100])$ | Polyn. [107] (Polyn. for fixed $\gamma$ [100]) | Polyn. $\mathrm{O}(\mathrm{n})[104]$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Polyn. } \\ & O\left(n^{2}\right) \end{aligned}$ |
| Augmented <br> Bipartite <br> Graphs | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { NP-Hard for } \\ & K \geq 3[1] \\ & \text { Open for } K=2 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Planar Graphs | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Max SNP-Hard } \\ & {[107]} \\ & O(\log n) / O(1)- \\ & \text { approx. algo. } \\ & \text { if capacities } \geq \\ & 2 / 4[38,39,41] \\ & O\left(\log ^{2} n\right)- \\ & \text { approx. if even } \\ & \text { degrees }[53] \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | Max SNPHard [107] $O(1)$-approx. algo. [97] Polyn. for fixed $K$ [101] | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Max SNP- } \\ & \text { Hard [107] } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Max SNP- } \\ & \text { Hard [107] } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Max SNP-Hard } \\ & {[107]} \\ & 4 k \text {-approx. } \\ & \text { algo. for } \\ & k \text {-edge- } \\ & \text { outerplanar } \\ & \text { graphs [100] } \end{aligned}$ | NP-Hard Polyn. for fixed $K$ [79] |  |
| Rings |  | Polyn. [1] |  | Polyn. [26] | Polyn. [61] | Polyn. [1] | Polyn. [1] |
| Trees Of <br> Rings | Max SNP-Hard [44] 4-approx. algo. [101] | Max SNP- <br> Hard [107] <br> 4-approx. <br> algo. [101] | Max SNP- <br> Hard [44] <br> 4-approx. <br> algo. [101] | Max SNP- <br> Hard [44] <br> 4-approx. <br> algo. [101] | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Max SNP-Hard } \\ & \text { 3-approx. } \\ & \text { algo. [44] } \end{aligned}$ | Polyn. [75] |  |
| Meshes (Grids) | NP-hard [13] | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NP-hard } \\ & {[103]} \end{aligned}$ | NP-Hard [13] | NP-hard [13] | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NP-hard [13] } \\ & O(1) \text {-approx. } \\ & \text { algo. [51] } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |

TABLE 1. Main results for $I M F P, I M C P$ and their subproblems.

