# **Counting Euler tours?**

# Qi Ge Daniel Štefankovič

**University of Rochester** 

# **Euler tour**

every edge exactly once
end where started





# **Euler tour**

every edge exactly once
end where started



FIGURE 98. Geographic Map: The Königsberg Bridges.



#### not an Euler tour

#### **Basic facts**

There exists one if and only if all vertices have even degree (Eulerian graph)

an Euler tour in an Eulerian graph can be found in linear time.

Can we find a random one? Can we count their number? (efficiently)

#### Can we count their number?





polynomial time algorithm Can we count their number? undirected graphs #P-complete (Brightwell-Winkler'05)

#### directed graphs polynomial-time algorithm known (using spanning trees)

# Can we count their number? approximately

polynomial time algorithm

#### → 264±10%

(open question, listed, e.g., in Approximation algorithms (V.Vazirani))

self-reducible ⇒ approximate counting ⇔ approximate sampling (Jerrum, Valiant, V.Vazirani'86)



(exactly 2 of these are valid)

#### Can we find a random one? Markov chain $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_t, \dots$ $V_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_t, \dots$ OPEN: is the mixing time polynomial?

#### Can we find a random one?

4-regular graphs

#### **Markov chain**

pick a random vertex v locally change the tour at v L<sub>1</sub> distance to uniform distribution

$$\sum_{a} |P(X_t=a) - \frac{1}{M}|$$

mixing time = t to get  $L_1$  distance  $\leq \epsilon/2$ 

(exactly 2 of these are valid)



(exactly 2 of these are valid)



#### vertices with "rotations"



#### map

vertices with "rotations" and a graph







#### Can we (approximately) count their number?

#### for planar maps yes (Kotzig'68)



#### for general maps?

#### Our results: A-trails in 4-reg enough

approximate sampling/counting of A-trails in 4-regular maps

approximate sampling/counting of Euler tours in Eulerian graphs

(AP-reduction (Goldberg, Dyer, Greenhill, Jerrum'04))

# A-trails in 4-reg enough

approximate sampling/counting of A-trails in 4-regular maps

approximate sampling/counting of Euler tours in 4-regular graphs



approximate sampling/counting of A-trails in 4-regular maps

approximate sampling/counting of Euler tours in 4-regular graphs



### A-trails in 4-reg enough

approximate sampling/counting of A-trails in 4-regular maps

approximate sampling/counting of Euler tours in Eulerian graphs



# 123456 <u>213465</u> 231465 324165 342615

#### A-trails in 4-reg enough

approximate sampling/counting of A-trails in 4-regular maps

approximate sampling/counting of Euler tours in Eulerian graphs



even-odd sweeping MC

Theorem (Wilson'04): in O(d<sup>3</sup> ln<sup>2</sup>d ln(1/ $\epsilon$ )) steps get  $\epsilon$ /2 L<sub>1</sub> distance from uniform on permutations.

#### Exact: A-trails in 4-reg enough

#### exact counting of A-trails in 4-regular maps

#### exact counting of Euler tours in Eulerian graphs

# (corollary: counting A-trails in 4-regular graphs #P-complete)

### Exact: A-trails in 4-reg enough





(a)

(b)

### Exact: A-trails in 4-reg enough





#### Our results: A-trails in 4-reg enough

approximate sampling/counting of A-trails in 4-regular maps

approximate sampling/counting of Euler tours in Eulerian graphs

(AP-reduction (Goldberg, Dyer, Greenhill, Jerrum'04))

#### **Questions:**

AP reduction from Euler tours in Eulerian graps to Euler tours in 4-regular graphs?

Approximate sampling/counting of Euler tours/A-trails?

Which subsets of the hypercube can be sampled from?

