Relating complex network theory metrics with discolouration activity in water distribution networks

Greg Kyritsakas et al.





Overview

- Drinking water distribution networks management
- Drinking Water quality monitoring programs
- Discolouration of the drinking water
- Aim of research
- Methodology
- Results, Conclusions and Future Work



Water Distribution Networks (WDN) management



Source: Ferrari, G. et al.(2014). "Graph-Theoretic Approach and Sound Engineering Principles for Design of District Metered Areas." Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management, Volume 140, Issue 12.





Drinking water quality monitoring program



Source: Ferrari, G. et al.(2014). "Graph-Theoretic Approach and Sound Engineering Principles for Design of District Metered Areas." Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management, Volume 140,Issue 12.





Discolouration of Drinking water

Accumulation and subsequent mobilisation of organic and inorganic materials

- Accumulation: Corroding iron pipes - Treatment processes – Biofilm

- **Mobilisation:** changes in normal hydraulic conditions i.e.. burst, valve operation
- Inorganic material: metals (iron, manganese etc.)
- Organic material: pipe biofilm
- High Turbidity: indicator of discolouration
- Manganese & Iron: Metals related to discolouration
- Main subject of consumers complaints (CC) in the water sector







Aim of research

- 1. Investigate correlations between discolouration parameters and Complex Network Theory (CNT) centrality metrics
- 2. Explore which centrality metric could be useful for analysing distributed water quality
- **3**. Find if network complexity could be informative for DMA and pipe discolouration risk





Methodology



IN THESPASSIRK







Data & Data pre-processing

- Yorkshire Water (YW) serving with water more than 5 million people
- 14 years of regulatory tap water quality samples (2009-2022) collected
- Samples distributed in more than 2700 different DMAs
- 8 main regulatory parameters, i.e. total chlorine, iron, manganese, turbidity etc.
- GIS asset data information including pipe characteristics and systems' connectivity: Treatment →WSZs →DMAs
- Discolouration Customer Contact (CC) data





Complex Network Theory (CNT)



- Complex network theory (CNT) is based on the idea that human-made systems work as networks containing nodes connected with edges
- CNT is applied in WDN using pipes as edges and pipe ending points as nodes
- Main aim to understand WDN structure complexity, and to identify vulnerable points using centrality metrics
- CNT centrality metrics: node and edge
 betweenness and degree

Source: Giustolisi et al. (2019). Tailoring centrality metrics for water distribution networks. Water Resources Research 55,2348-2369



CNT – edge betweenness



CNT centrality metrics processing

- Centrality metrics for both nodes and pipes for the entire YW network
- Assumption made: Each DMA is a different DWDS
- Different metrics generated:
 - a) Edge Btw: The edge betweenness of each pipe of YW network
 - b) Edge_Btw_30DMA_ normalised : Edge betweenness 30th percentile per DMA weighted by the number of pipes per DMA.
 - c) Edge_Ndegree_30DMA_ normalised : Edge N-degree 30th percentile per DMA weighted by the number of nodes per DMA.





Advantages of Self Organising Maps (SOMs)



- An Artificial Neural Network
 unsupervised ML technique
- Good for visualizing correlations between various parameters
- Good for understanding correlations between qualitative parameters
- Robust with input vectors with missing data – main advantage comparing to PCA
- SOM MATLAB toolbox is available online (Helsinki University of Technology)



SOMs using discolouration parameters









TUDelft







SOMs using discolouration parameters and edge betweenness





Delft

Higher water **circulation** in a pipe **lower** discolouration risk



SOMs using iron, pipe characteristics & edge betweenness





U-matrix

Short and small diameter pipes with low edge betweenness (possible dead ends) have higher discolouration risk



SOMs for DMA characteristics and DMA edge betweenness and N-Degree



- DMAs with low edge betweenness have higher iron concentrations
- DMA N-Degree could be used as an edge betweenness replacement metric





SOMs using CC data and DMA and pipe edge betweenness



Delft



CC appear in DMAs with low edge betweenness



Conclusions

- 1. SOMs outputs showed:
 - a) Reverse correlation between iron, manganese, turbidity and edge betweenness in the pipe serving the tap
 - b) Reverse correlation between iron, the number of Dead ends per DMA, and the 30th percentile DMA edge betweenness
 - c) High Iron mostly appears in short & small diameter pipes with low edge betweenness.
- 2. 30th percentile DMA edge N-Degree, 30th percentile DMA edge betweenness and Edge Betweenness have the potential to be a good metric for analysing the water quality in DWDS
- 3. A Discolouration risk ranking list (pipes and DMAs) based on CNT metrics
- 4. Future work: One direction (short paths) and pipe loop effect metrics, optimal design of the WDNs





Acknowledgments

Department of Civil and Structural Engineering Water Distribution Research Group









The University Of Sheffield.





19