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**MADALGO seminar by Lasse Kosetski Deleuran, Aarhus University**

**Computing Homotopic Simplification in a Plane**

**Abstract:**

We study a variant of the line-simplification problem where we are given a polygonal path  $P = p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$  and a set  $O$  of  $m$  point obstacles in a plane, and the goal is to find the optimal homotopic simplification, that is, a minimum subsequence  $Q = q_1, q_2, \dots, q_k$  ( $q_1 = p_1$  and  $q_k = p_n$ ) of  $P$  defining a polygonal path which approximates  $P$  within the given error  $\epsilon$  and is homotopic to  $P$ . We present a general method running in time  $O(m(m+n) \log(nm))$  for identifying every shortcut  $p_i p_j$  that is homotopic to the sub-path  $p_i, \dots, p_j$  of  $P$ , called a homotopic shortcut.

Under any desired measure, this method can be simply combined with Imai and Iri' framework to obtain the optimal homotopic simplification.

**Joint work with Shervin Daneshpajouh, Mohammad Ali Abam, and Mohammad Ghodsi**