# Bounding the broadcast domination number by the multipacking number 

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## Covering and packing: domination

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Packing: pack as many structures as possible without interference
Example (1): independent set: packing 1-balls without overlap at centers $\rightarrow$ independence number $\alpha(G)$


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Example (2): dist. 3-independent set / 2-packing: packing 1-balls without overlap $\rightarrow$ 2-packing number $\rho_{2}(G)$


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Packing: pack as many structures as possible without interference
Example (2): dist. 3-independent set / 2-packing: packing 1-balls without overlap $\rightarrow$ 2-packing number $\rho_{2}(G)$


These problems are dual (in the sense of LP) and $\rho_{2}(G) \leq \gamma(G)$.

## Broadcast domination

Definition - Dominating broadcast of graph G (Erwin, 2001)
A function $f: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ s.t. for every $v \in V(G)$, there exists $x \in V(G)$ with

$$
\text { - } f(x)>0 \text { and } \quad \bullet f(x) \geq d_{G}(x, v)
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The cost of $f$ is $\sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v)$.
Broadcast number $\gamma_{b}(G)$ : smallest cost of a dominating broadcast of $G$.


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Theorem (Heggernes-Lokshtanov, 2006)
We can find a minimum-cost dominating broadcast in polynomial time $O\left(n^{6}\right)$.

## Proof idea:

- find an efficient dominating broadcast (Erwin, 2001)
- The structure of covering balls is a path or a cycle
- Dynamic programming on this structure

Definition - Multipacking of graph G (Brewster-Mynhardt-Teshima, 2014)
A set $S$ of vertices s.t. for every $v \in V(G)$ and every $d \in \mathbb{N}$, the $d$-ball $B_{d}(v)$ contains at most $d$ vertices of $S$.

Multipacking number $\operatorname{mp}(G)$ : largest size of a multipacking of $G$.


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The two problems are dual (in the sense of LP). Proposition

For every graph $G$, we have $m p(G) \leq \gamma_{b}(G)$.

Equality holds for:

- trees (Mynhardt-Teshima, 2017)
- more generally, strongly chordal graphs (Brewster-MacGillivray-Yang, 2019)
- square grids (Beaudou-Brewster, 2018)


## A chain of inequalities

Proposition (Erwin, 2001 + Hartnell-Mynhardt, 2014)
For any $G,\left\lceil\frac{\operatorname{diam}(G)+1}{3}\right\rceil \leq m p(G) \leq \gamma_{b}(G) \leq \operatorname{rad}(G) \leq \operatorname{diam}(G)$.

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$\gamma_{b}(G) \leq \operatorname{rad}(G):$ consider a radial vertex $v$. Set $f(v)=\operatorname{rad}(G)$.


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$\left\lceil\frac{\operatorname{diam}(G)+1}{3}\right\rceil \leq m p(G)$ : consider a diametral path $P$, select every third vertex.


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$$

Corollary
For any $G$, we have $\gamma_{b}(G)<3 m p(G)$, hence $\frac{\gamma_{b}(G)}{m p(G)}<3$.

Question (Hartnell-Mynhardt, 2014)
What is the largest possible ratio $\frac{\gamma_{b}(G)}{m p(G)}$ ?

## Our theorem

Theorem (Beaudou, Brewster, F., Mitchell)
For any $G$, we have $\gamma_{b}(G) \leq 2 m p(G)+2$, hence $\frac{\gamma_{b}(G)}{m p(G)} \leq 2+\epsilon$.
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## Lemma

## Proof sketch

Let $u, v, x, y$ be 4 vertices with:

- $d(u, v)=6 k$
- $d(x, u)=d(x, v)=3 k$
- $d(x, y)=3 k+3 \ell$.

Then, $m p(G) \geq 2 k+\ell$.


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Let $\operatorname{diam}(G)=6 k+i$ and $\operatorname{rad}(G)=3 k+3 \ell+j$
Apply the lemma with $x$, a vertex of eccentricity $\operatorname{rad}(G)$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
m p(G) & \geq 2 k+\ell \\
& \geq \frac{\operatorname{diam}(G)}{3}+\frac{\operatorname{rad}(G)}{3}-\frac{\operatorname{diam}(G)}{6}-c \\
& \geq \frac{\operatorname{rad}(G)}{2}-c \\
& \geq \frac{\gamma_{b}(G)}{2}-c
\end{aligned}
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Conjecture would be tight — infinitely many graphs $G$ s.t. $\gamma_{b}(G)=2 m p(G)$ :


$$
m p(G)=2 \text { and } \gamma_{b}(G)=4
$$

## Connected graphs, general case

Question
What happens for connected graphs?

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Closest known connected family: $\gamma_{b}(G)=\frac{4}{3} m p(G)$
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## Connected graphs, small case

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For any $G$, we have $\gamma_{b}(G) \leq 2 m p(G)$.

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What happens for connected graphs?

## Proposition

There is a connected graph $G$ of order 24 with $m p(G)=3$ and $\gamma_{b}(G)=5$.


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For any $G$, we have $\gamma_{b}(G) \leq 2 m p(G)$.

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What happens for connected graphs?

## Proposition

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Question
Is there a connected graph $G$ with $m p(G)=3$ and $\gamma_{b}(G)=6$ ?

