## Identification problems in graphs

selected topics

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## Locating a burglar



## Locating a burglar



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Detectors can detect movement in their room and adjacent rooms


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## Separating sets in hypergraphs

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Definition - Separating set (Rényi, 1961 )
Hypergraph $(X, \mathscr{E})$. A separating set is a subset $C \subseteq X$ such that each edge $e \in \mathscr{E}$ contains a distinct subset of $C$.


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Also known as Separating system, Distinguishing set, Test cover, Distinguishing transversal, Discriminating code...

## Applications

- network-monitoring, fault detection (burglar)
- medical diagnostics: testing samples for diseases (test cover)
- biological identification (attributes of individuals)
- learning theory: teaching dimension
- machine learning: V-C dimension (Vapnik, Červonenkis, 1971)
- graph isomorphism: canonical representation of graphs (Babai, 1982)
- logic definability of graphs (Kim, Pikhurko, Spencer, Verbitsky, 2005)


## General bounds, Bondy's theorem

## Proposition

For a hypergraph $(X, \mathscr{E})$, a separating set $C$ has size at least $\log _{2}(|\mathscr{E}|)$.
Proof: Must assign to each edge, a distinct subset of $C:|\mathscr{E}| \leq 2^{|C|}$.

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Which are the "problematic" vertices?


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$\square$
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$\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{m}}$
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If an edge labeled $x$ appears multiple times, keep only one of them.

This destroys all cycles in $G!\quad \rightarrow$ forest
So, at most $|\mathscr{E}|-1$ "problematic" vertices.
$\rightarrow$ Find "non-problematic vertex", omit it.

## Some example problems

Special cases of separating sets in hypergraphs (graph-based):

- identifying codes
- open identifying codes
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Distance-based identification:

- resolving sets (metric dimension)
- strongly resolving sets
- centroidal locating sets
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Coloring-based identification

- Adjacent vertex-distinguishing edge-coloring
- locally identifying coloring
- locating coloring
- neighbor-locating coloring


# Open identifying codes in graphs 

(a.k.a. open locating-dominating sets)

## Open identifying codes

$G$ : undirected graph $\quad N(u)$ : set of neighbours of $v$
Definition - open identifying code (Seo, Slater, 2010 会)
Subset $D$ of $V(G)$ such that:

- $D$ is a total dominating set: $\forall u \in V(G), N(u) \cap D \neq \emptyset$, and
- $D$ is a separating code: $\forall u \neq v$ of $V(G), N(u) \cap D \neq N(v) \cap D$

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## Proposition

A graph is locatable if and only if it has no isolated vertices and open twins.

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## Upper bound on $\operatorname{OID}(G)$ ?

Definition - Half-graph $H_{k}$ (Erdős, Hajnal, 1983 )
Bipartite graph on vertex sets $\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{k}\right\}$ and $\left\{w_{1}, \ldots, w_{k}\right\}$, with an edge $\left\{v_{i}, w_{j}\right\}$ if and only if $i \leq j$.

## $\underbrace{v_{1}}_{w_{1}}$


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Proposition
For every half-graph $H_{k}$ of order $n=2 k, O I D\left(H_{k}\right)=n$.

## Characterizing "bad graphs" for open identifying codes

Theorem (F., Ghareghani, Roshany Tabrizi, Sharifani, 2021 (inin
Let $G$ be a connected locatable graph of order $n$.
Then, $\operatorname{OID}(G)=n$ if and only if $G$ is a half-graph.

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- We have $\operatorname{OID}\left(G^{\prime}\right)=n-2$ : By contradiction, if $O I D\left(G^{\prime}\right)<n-2$, we could add two vertices to a solution and obtain $\operatorname{OID}(G)<n$, a contradiction.


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- By induction, $G^{\prime}$ is a half-graph. We can conclude that $G$ is a half-graph too, after some case analysis.


## Location-domination in graphs

## Location-domination

Definition - Locating-dominating set (Slater, 1980's)
$D \subseteq V(G)$ locating-dominating set of $G$ :

- for every $u \in V, N[v] \cap D \neq \emptyset$ (domination).
- $\forall u \neq v$ of $V(G) \backslash D, N(u) \cap D \neq N(v) \cap D$ (location).

Notation. location-domination number $L D(G)$, smallest size of a locating-dominating set of $G$


## Upper bounds

Theorem (Domination bound, Ore, 1960's $\mathbf{\text { ili }}$ )
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Proof: Consider an inclusionwise minimal dominating set $D$ of $G$.
$\rightarrow$ its complement set $V(G) \backslash D$ is also a dominating set!
Thus, either $D$ or $V(G) \backslash D$ has size at most $\frac{n}{2}$.

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Theorem (Location-domination bound, Slater, 1980's
$G$ graph of order $n$, no isolated vertices. Then $L D(G) \leq n-1$.

Tight examples:


Remark: tight examples contain many twin-vertices!!

## Upper bound: a conjecture

Theorem (Domination bound, Ore, 1960's iil )
$G$ graph of order $n$, no isolated vertices. Then $\operatorname{DOM}(G) \leq \frac{n}{2}$.
Theorem (Location-domination bound, Slater, 1980's
$G$ graph of order $n$, no isolated vertices. Then $L D(G) \leq n-1$.

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## Remark:

- twins are easy to detect
- twins have a trivial behaviour w.r.t. location-domination


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If true, tight: 1. domination-extremal graphs


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If true, tight: 2. a similar construction


## Upper bound: a conjecture

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If true, tight: 3. a family with domination number 2


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If true, tight:
4. family with dom. number 2: complements of half-graphs


## Upper bound: a conjecture - special graph classes

Conjecture (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 图 (1)
$G$ graph of order $n$, no isolated vertices, no twins. Then $L D(G) \leq \frac{n}{2}$.

Theorem (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 201410 IV)
Conjecture true if $G$ has independence number $\geq n / 2$. (e.g. bipartite)

Proof: every vertex cover of a twin-free graph is a locating-dominating set


## Upper bound: a conjecture - special graph classes

Conjecture (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 国 (P)
$G$ graph of order $n$, no isolated vertices, no twins. Then $L D(G) \leq \frac{n}{2}$.
$\alpha^{\prime}(G)$ : matching number of $G$
Theorem (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 (3)
If $G$ has no 4 -cycles, then $L D(G) \leq \alpha^{\prime}(G) \leq \frac{n}{2}$.

## Proof:

- Consider special maximum matching $M$
- Select one vertex in each edge of $M$



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## Upper bound: a conjecture - special graph classes

Conjecture (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 国 (P)

$$
G \text { graph of order } n \text {, no isolated vertices, no twins. Then } L D(G) \leq \frac{n}{2} \text {. }
$$

Theorem (F., Henning, 2016 (供)
Conjecture true if $G$ is cubic.

Proof: Involved argument using maximum matching and Tutte-Berge theorem.

$$
\alpha^{\prime}(G)=\min _{X \subseteq V(G)} \frac{1}{2}(|V(G)|+|X|-o c(G-X))
$$

## Upper bound: a conjecture - special graph classes

Conjecture (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 国 PV)
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Theorem (F., Henning, 2016 (t)
Conjecture true if $G$ is cubic.
Bound is tight for cubic graphs:


Question
Do we have $L D(G)=\frac{n}{2}$ for other cubic graphs?

## Upper bound: a conjecture - special graph classes

Conjecture (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 图 (P)
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Theorem (F., Henning, 2016 )
Conjecture true if $G$ is cubic.
$\alpha^{\prime}(G)$ : matching number of $G$
Question
Are there twin-free (cubic) graphs with $L D(G)>\alpha^{\prime}(G)$ ?
(if not, conjecture is true)

## Upper bound: a conjecture - special graph classes

Theorem (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 圈 (V)
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Theorem (F., Henning, 2016 会)
Conjecture true if $G$ is cubic.

Theorem (F., Henning, Löwenstein, Sasse, 2016 (a)
Conjecture true if $G$ is split graph or complement of bipartite graph.

Theorem (Chakraborty, F., Parreau, Wagler, 2023 ? (?)
Conjecture true if $G$ is a block graph.

## Upper bound: a conjecture - general bound

Conjecture (Garijo, González \& Márquez, 2014 B)
$G$ graph of order $n$, no isolated vertices, no twins. Then $L D(G) \leq \frac{n}{2}$.

Theorem (F., Henning, Löwenstein, Sasse, 2016 )
$G$ graph of order $n$, no isolated vertices, no twins. Then $L D(G) \leq \frac{2}{3} n$.

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- there is a LD-set of size $n-n_{1}-n_{2}$



## Upper bound: a conjecture - general bound

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- there is a LD-set of size $|D|+n_{1}$ because $D$ is maximal



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- there is a LD-set of size $n-n_{1}-n_{2}$
- there is a LD-set of size $|D|+n_{1}$ because $D$ is maximal
- $\min \left\{|D|+n_{1}, n-n_{1}-n_{2}\right\} \leq \frac{2}{3} n$



# Lower bounds <br> (neighbourhood complexity) 

## Lower bounds

## Proposition

$G$ graph, $n$ vertices, $L D(G)=k$. Then, $n \leq 2^{k}+k-1$.

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Tight example $(k=4)$ :


## Lower bounds

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Theorem (Slater, 1980's reis)

$$
G \text { tree of order } n, L D(G)=k . \text { Then } n \leq 3 k-1 \rightarrow L D(G) \geq \frac{n+1}{3} .
$$



Tight examples:
FIG. 2. Tree T2

## Lower bounds

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Theorem (Rall \& Slater, 1980's \&
$G$ planar graph, order $n, L D(G)=k$. Then $n \leq 7 k-10 \rightarrow L D(G) \geq \frac{n+10}{7}$.

Tight examples:

## Neighbourhood complexity

## Neighbourhood complexity of a graph $G$ :

maximum number $|\{N(v) \cap X\}|$ of neighbourhoods inside any set $X$ of $k$ vertices, as a function of $k$


## Neighbourhood complexity

Neighbourhood complexity of a graph G:
maximum number $|\{N(v) \cap X\}|$ of neighbourhoods inside any set $X$ of $k$ vertices, as a function of $k$


$$
|\{N(v) \cap X\}|=9
$$

- General graphs : exponential neighbourhood complexity $2^{k}$
- Trees/planar graphs: linear neighbourhood complexity $O(k)$


## Interval graphs

Definition - Interval graph
Intersection graph of intervals of the real line.


## Lower bound for interval graphs


$G$ interval graph of order $n, L D(G)=k$.

$$
\text { Then } n \leq \frac{k(k+1)}{2} \text {, i.e. } L D(G)=\Omega(\sqrt{n}) \text {. }
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- Identifying code $D$ of size $k$.
- Define zones using the right points of intervals in $D$.


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- Define zones using the right points of intervals in $D$.
- Each vertex intersects a consecutive set of intervals of $D$ when ordered by left points.

$$
\rightarrow n \leq \sum_{i=1}^{k}(k-i)=\frac{k(k+1)}{2} .
$$

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Tight:


## Vapnik-Červonenkis dimension



Measure of intersection complexity of sets in a hypergraph ( $X, \mathscr{E}$ ) (initial motivation: machine learning, 1971)

A set $S \subseteq X$ is shattered:
for every subset $S^{\prime} \subseteq S$, there is an edge $e$ with $e \cap S=S^{\prime}$.


V-C dimension of H : maximum size of a shattered set in H

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V-C dimension of $H$ : maximum size of a shattered set in $H$

Typically bounded for geometric hypergraphs:


## Vapnik-Červonenkis dimension - graphs

V-C dimension of a graph: V-C dimension of its open/closed neighbourhood hypergraph


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Typically bounded for geometric intersection graphs:
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Theorem (Sauer-Shelah Lemma, 1972 国 웁)
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## Corollary

$G$ graph of order $n, L D(G)=k, \mathrm{~V}-\mathrm{C}$ dimension $\leq d$. Then $n=O\left(k^{d}\right)$.

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$$

$O\left(k^{2}\right)$ : interval, permutation, line...
$O(k)$ : cographs, unit interval, bipartite permutation, block...

## Sparse/structured graphs

Graph classes of bounded expansion: all shallow minors of its members have bounded average degree $\quad \rightarrow$ e.g. planar graphs, minor-closed classes, bounded degree...

Theorem (Reidl, Sánchez-Villaamil, Stavropoulos, 2019 이 ( A)
Let $\mathscr{C}$ be a graph class of bounded expansion. Let $G$ in $\mathscr{C}$, order $n$, and $L D(G)=k$. Then, $n \leq f(\mathscr{C}) k$.

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Recently introduced structural measure: twin-width.

Theorem (Bonnet, F., Lehtilä, Parreau, 2024
Let $G$ be a graph of twin-width at most $d$ and order $n$, and $L D(G)=k$.
Then, $n \leq(d+2) 2^{d+1} k$.


# Metric dimension 

## Determination of Position in 3D euclidean space

GPS/GLONASS/Galileo/Beidou/IRNSS:
need to know the exact position of 4 satellites + distance to them


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need to know the exact position of 4 satellites + distance to them


## Question

Does the "GPS" approach also work in undirected unweighted graphs?

## Metric dimension

Now, $w \in V(G)$ distinguishes $\{u, v\}$ if $\operatorname{dist}(w, u) \neq \operatorname{dist}(w, v)$
Definition - Resolving set (Slater, 1975 - Harary \& Melter, 1976) 1
$R \subseteq V(G)$ resolving set of $G$ :
$\forall u \neq v$ in $V(G)$, there exists $w \in R$ that distinguishes $\{u, v\}$.

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& R=\left\{r_{1}, r_{2}\right\} \\
& M D(G)=2
\end{aligned}
$$

Every vertex receives a unique distance-vector w.r.t. to the solution vertices.

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```
R\subseteqV(G) resolving set of G:
    \forallu\not=v in V(G), there exists w}\inR\mathrm{ that distinguishes {u,v}.
```



$$
R=\left\{r_{1}, r_{2}\right\}
$$

$$
M D(G)=2
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Every vertex receives a unique distance-vector w.r.t. to the solution vertices. $M D(G)$ : metric dimension of $G$, minimum size of a resolving set of $G$.

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Every vertex receives a unique distance-vector w.r.t. to the solution vertices. $M D(G)$ : metric dimension of $G$, minimum size of a resolving set of $G$.

## Remark

- Any locating-dominating set is a resolving set, hence $M D(G) \leq L D(G)$.
- A locating-dominating set can be seen as a "distance-1-resolving set".


## Examples



## Examples



Proposition

$$
M D(G)=1 \Leftrightarrow G \text { is a path }
$$

## Examples



Proposition

$$
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## Proposition

For any square grid $G, M D(G)=2$.

## Trees

Leg: path with all inner-vertices of degree 2 , endpoints of degree $\geq 3$ and 1 .


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## Observation

$R$ resolving set. If $v$ has $k$ legs, at least $k-1$ legs contain a vertex of $R$.

Simple leg rule: if $v$ has $k \geq 2$ legs, select $k-1$ leg endpoints.

## Trees

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Simple leg rule: if $v$ has $k \geq 2$ legs, select $k-1$ leg endpoints.
Theorem (Slater, 1975 园)
For any tree, the simple leg rule produces an optimal resolving set.

## Trees

Leg: path with all inner-vertices of degree 2 , endpoints of degree $\geq 3$ and 1 .


## Observation

$R$ resolving set. If $v$ has $k$ legs, at least $k-1$ legs contain a vertex of $R$.

Simple leg rule: if $v$ has $k \geq 2$ legs, select $k-1$ leg endpoints.

Theorem (Slater, 1975 园)
For any tree, the simple leg rule produces an optimal resolving set.


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G \text { of order } n \text {, diameter } D, M D(G)=k . \text { Then } n \leq D^{k}+k
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(diameter $D$ : maximum distance between two vertices)
Proof: Every vertex not in the solution $R$ is assigned to a unique vector of length $k$, with values in $\{1, \ldots, D\}: D^{k}$ possibilities, plus the $k$ ones in $R$.

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$\rightarrow$ Proof is similar as that for locating-dominating sets.

Theorem (Beaudou, Dankelmann, F., Henning, Mary, Parreau, 2018 是 园)
$T$ a tree with diameter $D$ and $M D(T)=k$, then

$$
n \leq\left\{\begin{array}{cc}
\frac{1}{8}(k D+4)(D+2) & \text { if } D \text { even, } \\
\frac{1}{8}(k D-k+8)(D+1) & \text { if } D \text { odd. }
\end{array}=\Theta\left(k D^{2}\right)\right.
$$

Bounds are tight.


## Planar graphs

Using the concept of distance-VC-dimension:
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Tight? Planar example with treewidth 2 and $n=\Theta\left(k D^{3}\right)$ :


## Selected open questions

- Characterize graphs $G$ of order $n$ with $\operatorname{OID}(G)=n-1$ ?
- Conjecture: $L D(G) \leq n / 2$ in the absence of twins
- Analogue of $L D(G) \leq n / 2$ conjecture for digraphs?
- Find tight bounds for Metric Dimension of planar graphs of diameter $D$ (and other classes)
- Neighbourhood complexity at distance $r$
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- Algorithms : efficient algorithms for unit interval graphs?


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## THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



