

# Connected Dominating Set in Graphs with (no) Small Cycles

Fixed-Parameter Tractability  
Kernelization Complexity

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# Outline

## The Connected Dominating Set problem

- Introduction

- Parameterized Complexity

- Our Results

## CDS and Girth

- Graphs of Girth 3 or 4 : W-hard

- Graphs of Girth at least 5 : FPT

- Graphs of Girth 5 or 6 : No Polynomial Kernels

- Graphs of Girth at least 7 : Cubic Kernel

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# Dominating Set

## Definition (Dominating Set)

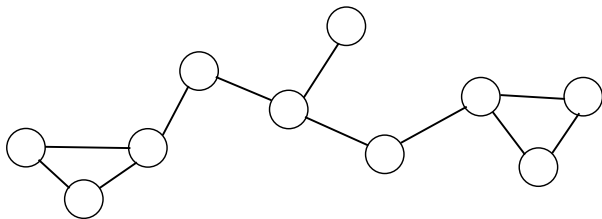
Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. A set  $S \subseteq V$  of vertices of  $G$  is said to be a *dominating set* of  $G$  if every vertex which is not in  $S$  has at least one neighbour in  $S$ .

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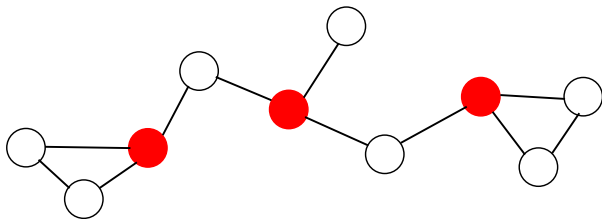


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Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. A set  $S \subseteq V$  of vertices of  $G$  is said to be a *connected* dominating set of  $G$  if

- $S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ , and,
- the subgraph  $G[S]$  induced by  $S$  is connected.

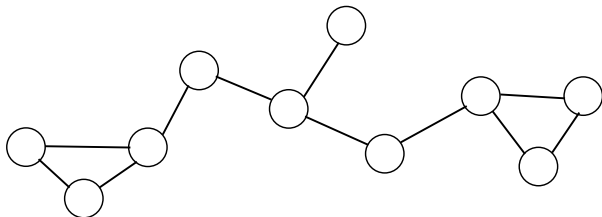
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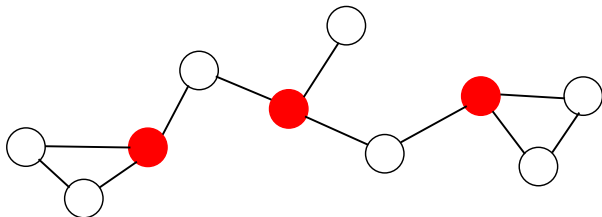
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## Definition (The CDS problem)

- Input: A graph  $G$  and a positive integer  $k$ .
- Question: Does  $G$  have a connected dominating set of size at most  $k$ ?

## Classical Complexity

- The problem is NP-complete, even in planar graphs.
- The best known polynomial-time approximation factor is  $\ln(\Delta) + 3$ .



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Graphs of Girth 3 or 4 : W-hard

Graphs of Girth at least 5 : FPT

Graphs of Girth 5 or 6 : No Polynomial Kernels

Graphs of Girth at least 7 : Cubic Kernel

# PC: Brief Overview 1/3

- Goal: Solve NP-hard problems in polynomial time . . .
  - . . . when some aspect (the *parameter*) of the input is bounded.
- A parameterized problem instance has two parts:
  - The input itself, and,
  - A *parameter*, usually a number denoted by  $k$ .

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- A parameterized problem is *fixed-parameter tractable (FPT)* if
  - It can be solved in time  $f(k) \cdot n^c$  time, where
  - $c$  is a constant,  $f()$  depends only on  $k$ .
- A *kernelization algorithm* for a parameterized problem
  - Runs in time polynomial in the input size, and
  - Outputs an **equivalent** instance — a *kernel* — of size bounded by  $g(k)$ .
- Fact: A parameterized problem is FPT if and only if it has a kernelization algorithm.

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# PC: Brief Overview 3/3

Given a parameterization of an NP-hard problem, we ask:

- Is the problem FPT?
  - Does it have an algorithm that runs in  $f(k) \cdot n^c$  time?
  - There is a hardness theory to show that certain problems are *unlikely* to be FPT.
- If YES, does it have a small kernel?
  - Polynomial-size kernels are good, linear-size even better.
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# The CDS problem

## Parameterized Version

- Input: A graph  $G$  and a positive integer  $k$ .
- Parameter:  $k$
- Question: Does  $G$  have a connected dominating set of size at most  $k$ ?

# The CDS problem

## Parameterized Complexity: Known Results

- $W[2]$ -hard on graphs in general:
  - $O(f(k) \cdot \text{poly}(n))$ -time algorithms are unlikely to exist.
- FPT on graphs of bounded degeneracy (Golovach, Villanger : WG 2008).
  - Planar graphs, graphs of bounded treewidth, ...
- Has a *linear* kernel in apex-minor-free graphs (Fomin, Lokshtanov, Saurabh, Thilikos : SODA 2010).
- *Unlikely* to have polynomial kernels in graphs of bounded degeneracy (Cygan, Pilipczuk, Pilipczuk, Wojtaszczyk : WG 2010).

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# The CDS problem

## Parameterized Complexity: Our Results

- We explore what happens when the *girth* of the input graph is bounded.
  - The girth of a graph  $G$  is the size (number of edges) of a smallest cycle in  $G$ .
  - “Orthogonal” to degeneracy:
    - There are graphs of fixed girth and arbitrarily large degeneracy, and vice versa.

# The CDS problem

## Parameterized Complexity: Our Results

- We completely characterize the parameterized complexity of CDS for different values of girth:
  - $W[2]$ -hard on graphs of girth 3 or 4.
  - FPT on graphs of girth at least 5.
  - Polynomial kernels unlikely in graphs of girth 5 or 6.
  - Cubic ( $O(k^3)$ ) kernel in graphs of girth at least 7.

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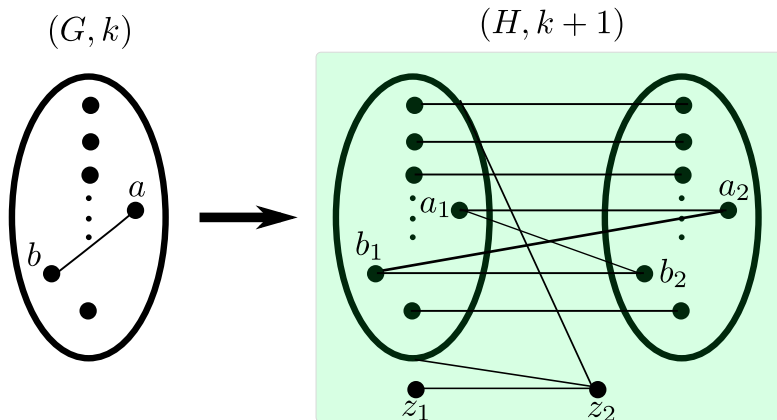
# CDS in Graphs of Girth 3 or 4

## W[2]-hardness Reduction

- Reduction from Dominating Set.
- Appears in earlier work of Raman and Saurabh.
- We merely observe that it works for CDS as well ... 😊

# CDS in Graphs of Girth 3 or 4

W[2]-hardness Reduction



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# CDS in Graphs of Girth at least 5

## FPT Algorithm: Outline

- The girth bound implies a degree-rule:
  - Every vertex of "high" degree must be in *any* small CDS (in fact, of any small *DS*).
- If there are too many high-degree vertices, then say NO.
- If the number of **undominated** vertices is too much, then say NO.
- The number of vertices that could possibly be part of a solution is bounded:
  - Guess a minimal DS from among these
  - Find a minimum-size Steiner tree for this DS.

# CDS in Graphs of Girth at least 5

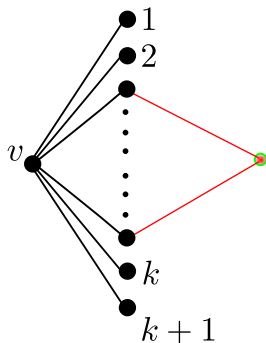
## FPT Algorithm: The Degree Rule

- If a vertex  $v$  has degree more than  $k$ , then  $v$  must be in every dominating set of size at most  $k$ .

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  - Vertices dominated by the red ones are **green**.
  - Undominated vertices are **blue**.
- **Reduction Rule 0**: Colour all vertices **blue**.

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## FPT Algorithm: The Degree Rule

- If a vertex  $v$  has degree more than  $k$ , then  $v$  must be in every dominating set of size at most  $k$ .
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- **Reduction Rule 2:** If there are more than  $k(k+1)$  **blue** vertices left, say **NO**:
  - $k$  vertices of degree at most  $k$  can dominate at most  $k(k+1)$  **blue** vertices.

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- **Reduction Rule 3:** If there are more than  $k$  **red** vertices, say **NO**.

# CDS in Graphs of Girth at least 5

## The FPT Algorithm

- There are at most
  - $k$  red vertices.
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- Every inclusion-minimal **dominating set** of size at most  $k$  is contained in these  $k + k(k + 1) + k^2(k + 1)$  vertices, say  $\mathcal{S}$ .

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- For each  $D$ , check if there is a Steiner tree on at most  $k$  vertices connecting  $D$ .
- This can be done in  $2^{O(k)}$  time (Nederlof, ICALP 2009).

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- For each  $D$ , check if there is a Steiner tree on at most  $k$  vertices connecting  $D$ .
- A CDS of the graph, of size at most  $k$ , if it exists, can thus be found in  $O^*(k^{O(k)})$  time.

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# Kernel Lower Bound Machinery

- We make use of kernel lower bound techniques developed by
  - Bodlaender, Downey, Fellows, Hermelin : *JCSS* 2009
  - Bodlaender, Thomassé, Yeo : *ESA* 2009
- These techniques allow us to conclude that a problem does not have polynomial kernels . . .
  - *unless*  $NP \subseteq CoNP/Poly$
  - or (weaker) PH collapses to the third level

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# Kernel Lower Bound Machinery

Tools : Composition

## Composition Algorithm

A composition algorithm for a parameterized problem

- takes as input a *sequence*  $\langle (x_1, k), (x_2, k), \dots, (x_t, k) \rangle$
- runs in time polynomial in  $\sum_{i=1}^t |x_i| + k$
- outputs an instance  $(y, k')$  :
  - $(y, k')$  is YES iff **at least one**  $(x_i, k)$  is YES,
  - $k'$  is polynomial in  $k$ .

The composition algorithm acts like an **OR** gate.

# Kernel Lower Bound Machinery

Tools : Composition

## Theorem

*If a parameterized NP-complete problem has a composition algorithm, then it does not have polynomial kernels*

*... unless  $NP \subseteq CoNP/Poly$ .*



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# Kernel Lower Bound Machinery

Tools : Reduction

- Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  be parameterized problems.

## Definition (Polynomial Parameter Transformation)

A *polynomial parameter transformation* (**PPT**) from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{B}$  is a function  $f$  such that:

- $f$  is polynomial-time computable.
- If  $f(x, k) = (x', k')$ , then
  - $(x, k) \in \mathcal{A} \iff (x', k') \in \mathcal{B}$ .
  - $k' \leq p(k)$  for some polynomial  $p$ .

# Kernel Lower Bound Machinery

Tools : Reduction

## Theorem

*Let  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  be parameterized problems where  $\mathcal{A}$  is NP-complete and  $\mathcal{B}$  is in NP. Suppose there is a PPT from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{B}$ . Then, if  $\mathcal{B}$  has a polynomial kernel, then  $\mathcal{A}$  also has a polynomial kernel.*



# Kernel Lower Bound Machinery

## Tools : Summary

- Composition: **OR**-like algorithm, implies no poly-kernel unless . . .
- Reduction: In polynomial time, and at most polynomial increase in the parameter. Helps propagate no-poly-kernel bounds.

# CDS in Graphs of Girth 5 or 6

## Kernel Lower Bound

- We could not devise a composition algorithm
  - A composition algorithm is sometimes *very* hard to find
  - ... and may be it doesn't exist (we don't know).
- We invented an intermediate problem, Fair Connected Colours (FCC).
  - It's a *snap* to compose FCC.
- We found a PPT (reduction) from FCC to CDS in graphs of girth 5 or 6.
  - Not easy either, but it could be done ☺.

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# CDS in Graphs of Girth 5 or 6

## Fair Connected Colours (FCC)

- Input: A graph  $G$  whose vertices are *properly* coloured with  $k$  colours such that all neighbours of each vertex have distinct colours.
- Parameter:  $k$
- Question: Does  $G$  contain a tree  $T$  on  $k$  vertices (as a subgraph) where all vertices in  $T$  have different colours?

# CDS in Graphs of Girth 5 or 6

## Fair Connected Colours (FCC)

- FCC is NP-complete
  - Reduction from SAT
- FCC is compositional
  - Just take disjoint union!
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# CDS in Graphs of Girth 5 or 6

## Reduction from FCC : Rough Picture

- Given an instance  $(G, k)$  of FCC, we construct an instance  $(H, k^2 + k)$  of CDS such that:
  - $H$  has girth 6.
  - A colourful tree in  $G$  becomes a connected dominating set in  $H$ :
    - The one vertex in each colour class dominates (well, sort of) all of that class.
    - The underlying tree provides connectivity.
  - And vice versa.
    - The  $+k^2$  is spent for increasing the girth, and for domination.
  - The modification for girth 5 is not difficult.

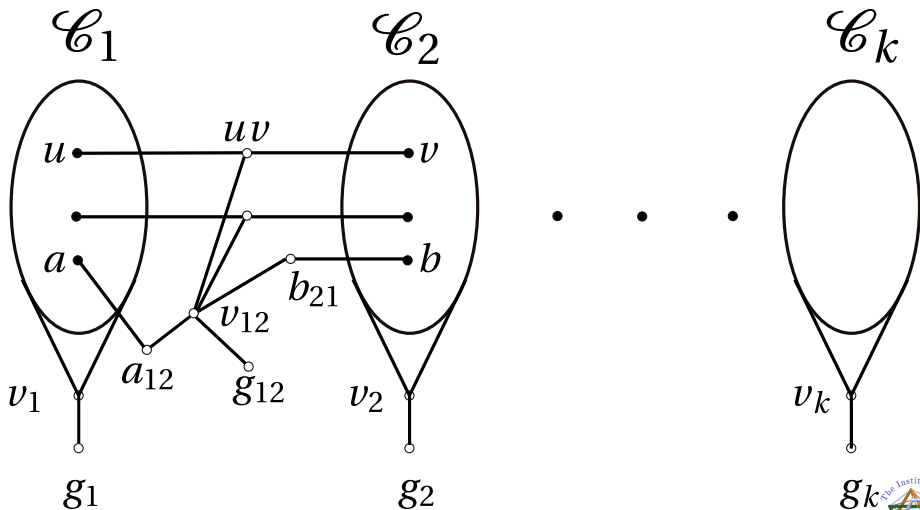
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Reduction from FCC : Rough Picture



# CDS in Graphs of Girth 5 or 6

## Summary

- Fair Connected Colours is NP-complete and compositional.
- Fair Connected Colours reduces to Connected Dominating Set
  - In polynomial time, and with polynomial increase in the parameter.
- These together imply that Connected Dominating Set is not likely to have polynomial kernels.

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# CDS in Graphs of Girth at Least 7

## Cubic Kernel: Outline

- The main reduction rule is the same degree rule as before.
- As before, we use colours for keeping track of the state:
  - **Red** vertices are in the dominating set that we construct.
  - Vertices dominated by the red ones are **green**.
  - Undominated vertices are **blue**.
- The larger girth (7) allows us to bound the number of **green** vertices as well.
  - In girth-5 graphs, we could only bound the number of **green** vertices *which were adjacent to blue* vertices.

# CDS in Graphs of Girth at Least 7

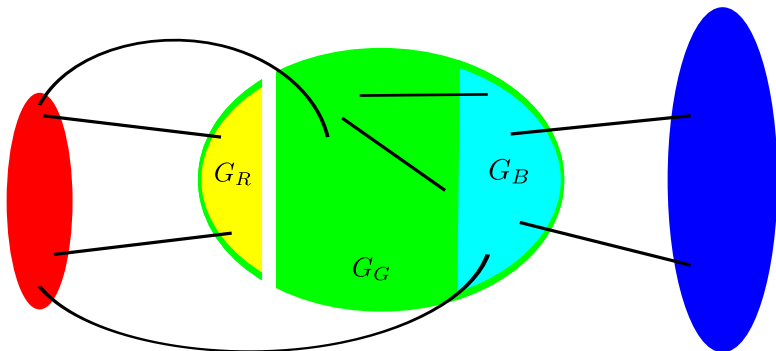
## Cubic Kernel: Reduction Rules

- **Reduction Rule 0:** Colour all vertices blue.
- **Reduction Rule 1:** If  $\deg(v) > k$ , colour  $v$  red and all neighbours of  $v$  green.
- **Reduction Rule 2:** If there are more than  $k$  red vertices or more than  $k(k + 1)$  blue vertices left, say **NO**.
- **Reduction Rule 3:** Say **NO** if there is an isolated blue vertex.
- **Reduction Rule 4:** If  $u$  is a pendant blue or green vertex adjacent to a vertex  $v$ :
  - Remove  $u$ .
  - Colour  $v$  red.
  - Colour all blue neighbours of  $v$  green.

# CDS in Graphs of Girth at Least 7

## Cubic Kernel: Bounding Green Vertices, Part 1

- Divide **green** vertices into three:
  - $G_B$  : has *at least one* **blue** neighbour.
  - $G_R$  : has *only* **red** neighbours.
  - $G_G$  : no **blue** neighbour, at least one **green** neighbour.



# CDS in Graphs of Girth at Least 7

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- $|G_B| \leq k \cdot |B| \leq k(k^2 + k)$ 
  - The degree rule.
- $|G_R| \leq \binom{|R|}{2} \leq \binom{k}{2}$ 
  - The pendant rule, and no two vertices have more than one common neighbour.

# CDS in Graphs of Girth at Least 7

## Cubic Kernel: Bounding Green Vertices, Part 2

- Bounding  $|G_G|$ 
  - Green vertices which have green neighbours.
  - Suffices to bound the number of edges  $E_G$  with both end points green.
    - $|G_G| \leq 2 \cdot |E_G|$
  - Each green vertex is adjacent to some red vertex.
  - For any pair  $x, y$  of red vertices, there is at most one edge  $\{u, v\} \in E_G$ .
    - Otherwise there is a 6-cycle!
  - $|G_G| \leq 2 \cdot |E_G| \leq 2 \cdot \binom{|R|}{2} \leq 2 \cdot \binom{k}{2}$

# CDS in Graphs of Girth at Least 7

## Cubic Kernel: Summary

- At most  $k$  red vertices.
- At most  $k(k + 1)$  blue vertices.
- At most  $k(k^2 + k) + 3 \cdot \binom{k}{2}$  green vertices.
- A coloured kernel on at most  $k^3 + \frac{7}{2}k^2 + \frac{k}{2}$  vertices.
- To get a “plain” kernel:
  - Attach a new pendant vertex to each red vertex.
  - Remove all colours.
  - A kernel for CDS on at most  $k^3 + \frac{7}{2}k^2 + \frac{3}{2}k$  vertices.

# Recapitulating ...

- Connected Dominating Set parameterized by solution size  $k$  is:
  - W[2]-hard on graphs in general.
  - W[2]-hard on graphs of girth at most 4.
  - FPT on graphs of girth at least 5.
  - No polynomial kernel (...) in graphs of girth 5 or 6.
  - A cubic ( $O(k^3)$ ) kernel in graphs of girth at least 7.

Thank You!