

Parameterizations of Locating-Dominating Sets

Dipayan Chakraborty^{a,b}, Florent Foucaud^a, Diptapriyo Majumdar^c
and Prafullkumar Tale^d

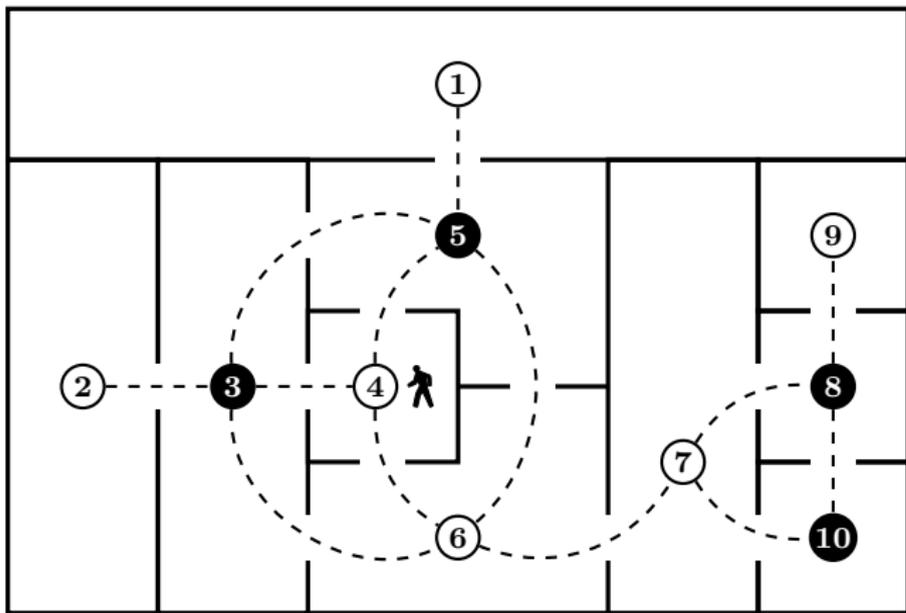
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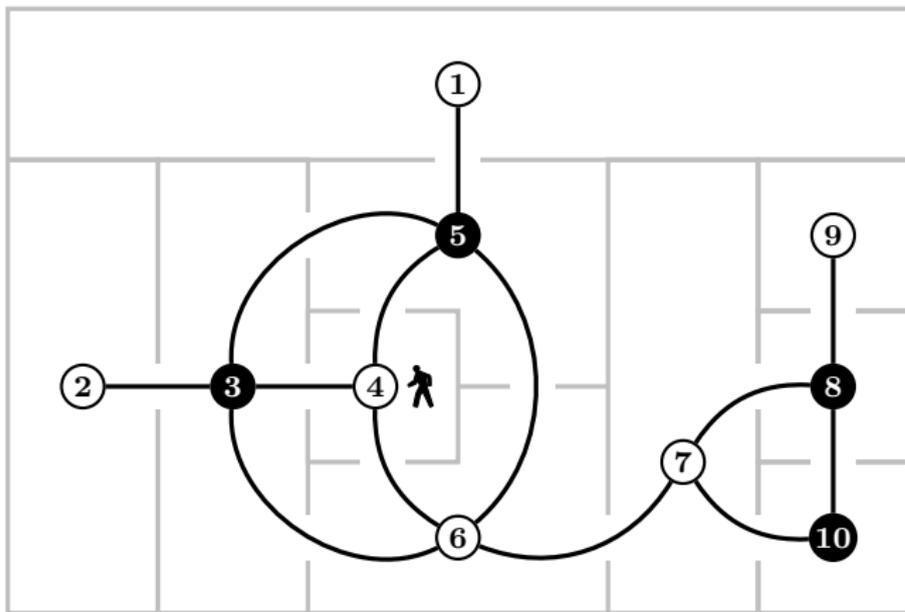
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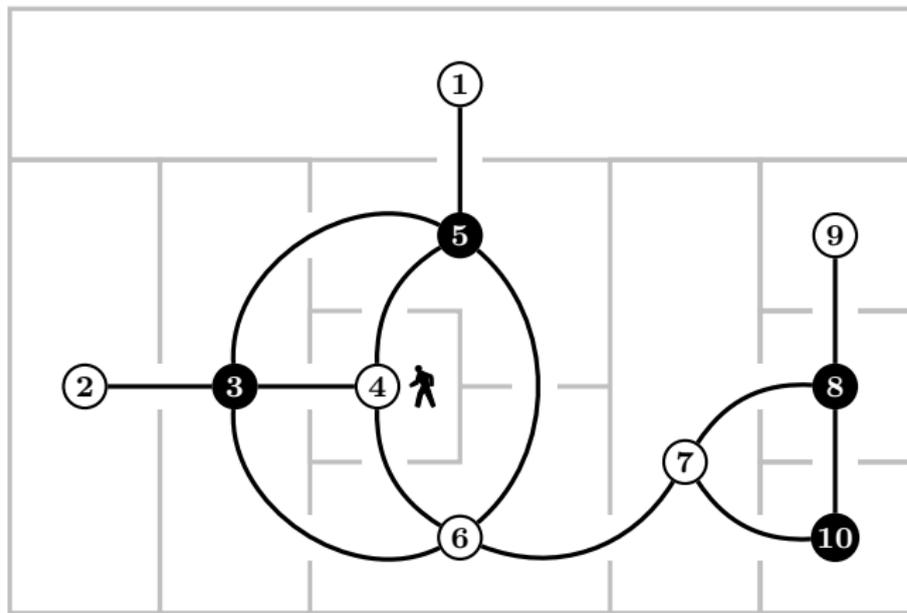
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Introduction: Locating dominating sets in graphs







Graph $G = (V, E)$

Open neighborhood:

$$N(v) = \{u : uv \in E\}$$

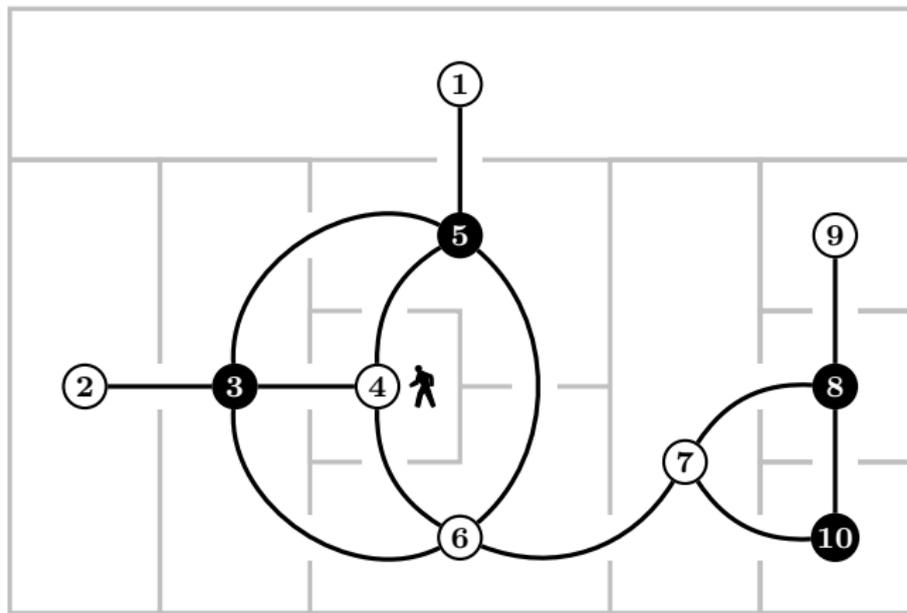
$$N(7) = \{6, 8, 10\}$$

Closed neighborhood:

$$N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$$

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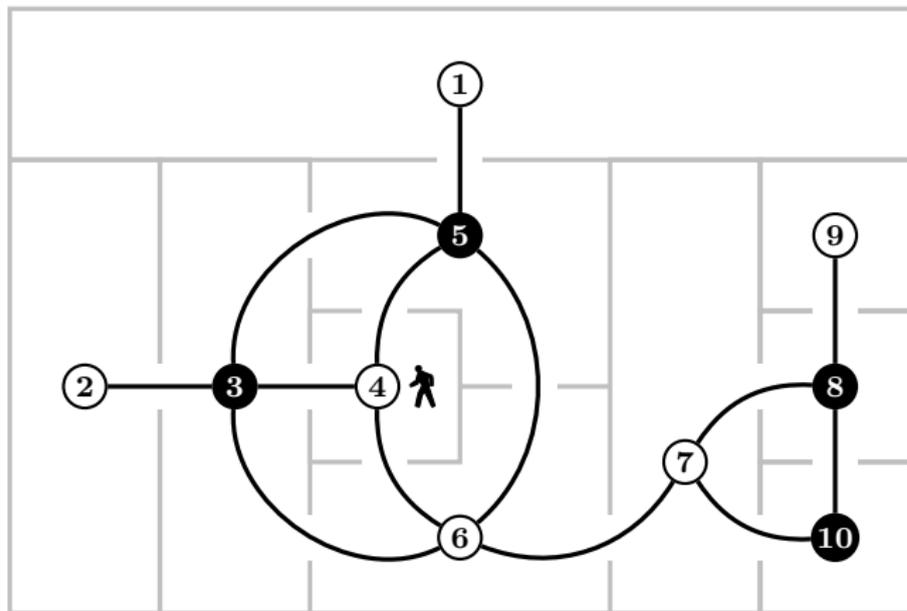
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(1) A detector can monitor upto distance 1



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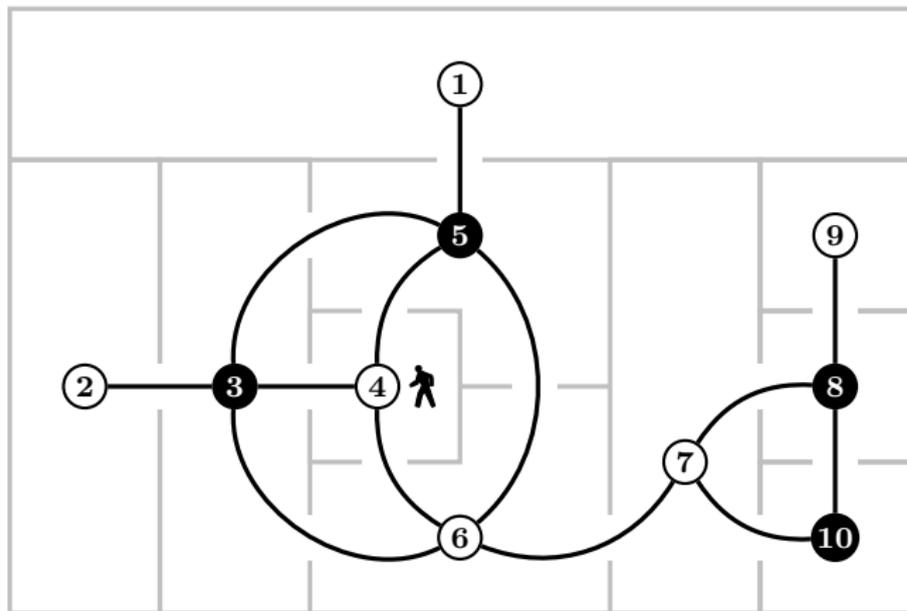
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Dominating set: A set $C \subseteq V$ such that $N[v] \cap C \neq \emptyset$ for all $v \in V$



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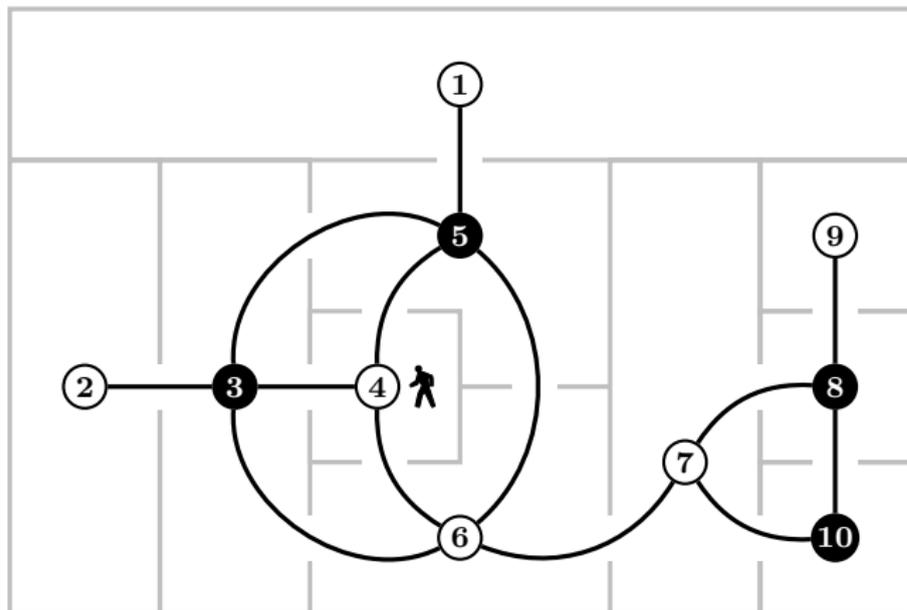
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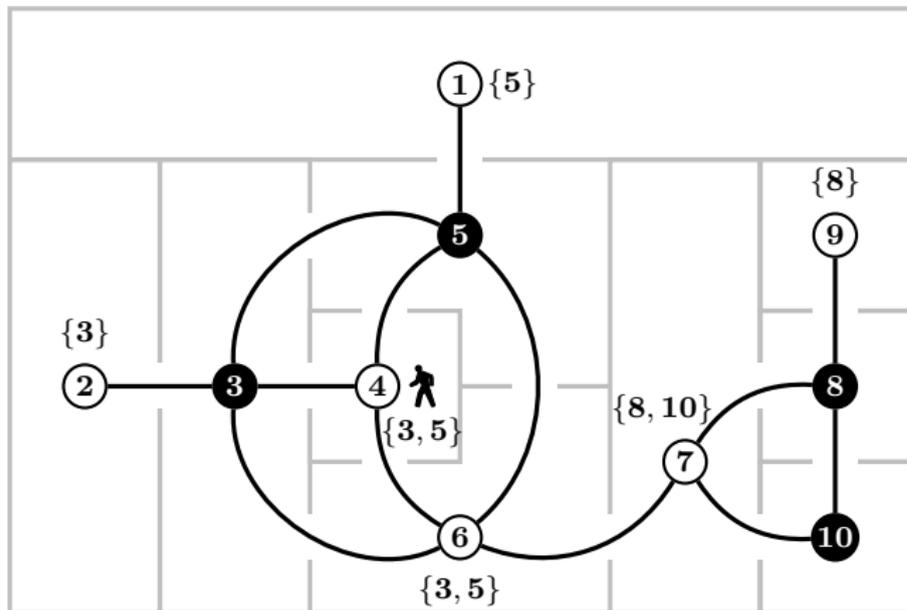
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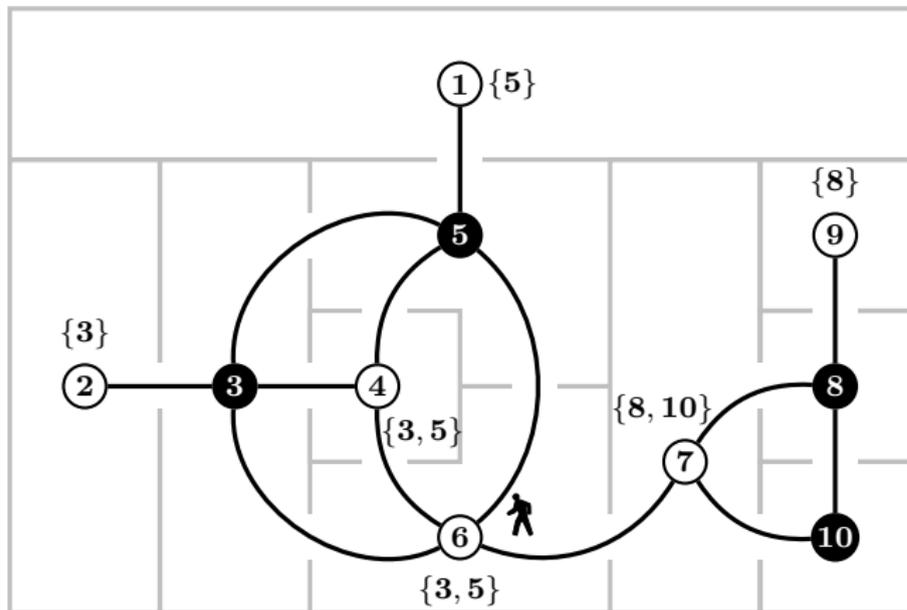
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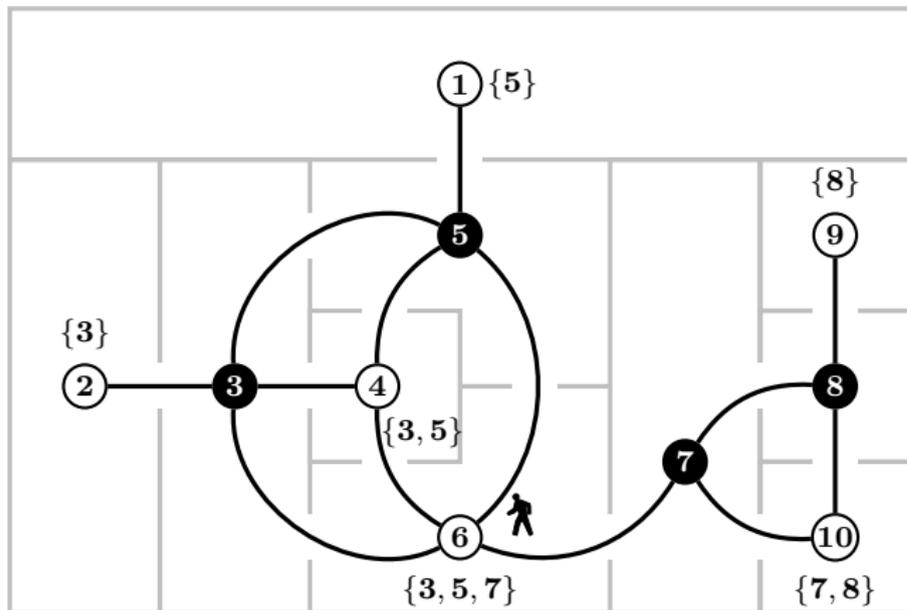
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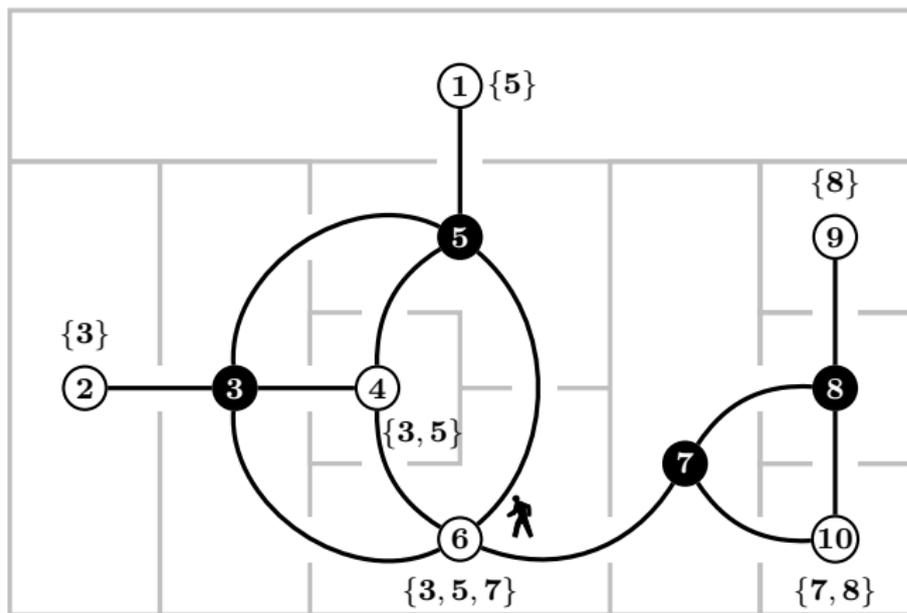
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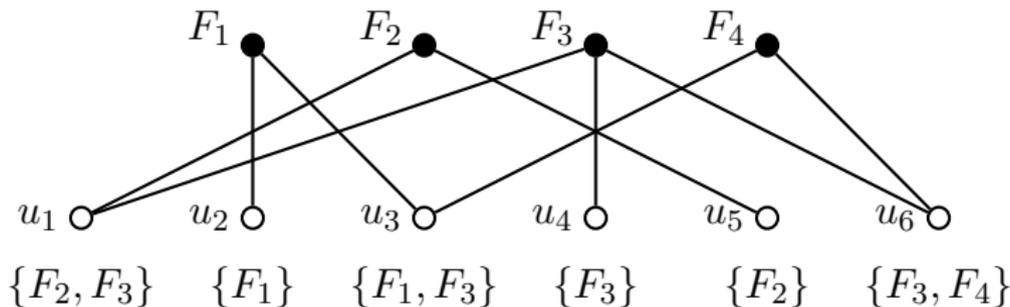
Dominating set: A set $C \subseteq V$ such that $N[v] \cap C \neq \emptyset$ for all $v \in V$

Locating set: A set $C \subseteq V$ such that $N(u) \cap C \neq N(v) \cap C$ for all $u, v \in V \setminus C$

Definition

Locating dominating (LD) set [Slater, 1988]: is a set $C \subseteq V$ of a graph $G = (V, E)$ such that C is

- (i) a dominating set of G ; and
- (ii) $N(u) \cap C \neq N(v) \cap C$ for all $u, v \in V \setminus C$.



Decision version of finding the minimum LD-set in a graph:

MINIMUM LD-SET

Input: (G, k) : A graph G and a positive integer k .

Question: Does there exist an LD-set C of G such that $|C| \leq k$?

MINIMUM LD-SET is NP-hard!

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What about *Fixed Parameter Tractable (FPT)* algorithms?

i.e. given a graph parameter k , can we find an algorithm to find a minimum code in time $f(k) \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$? e.g. $f(k) = 2^k, 2^{k^2}, 2^{2^k} \dots$

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Note [Slater, 1988]: MINIMUM LD-SET is FPT when parameterized by solution size k .

Reason: $|V(G)| = \mathcal{O}(2^k)$. Thus brute force gives $2^{\mathcal{O}(k^2)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ runtime.

Our contribution (Part I) : MINIMUM LD-SET wrt solution size (k)

Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, ISAAC 2024)

Unless the ETH fails, MINIMUM LD-SET does not admit an algorithm running in time $2^{o(k^2)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

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Theorem (Slater, 1988)

MINIMUM LD-SET has an algorithm with running time $2^{\mathcal{O}(k^2)}$.

Our contribution (Part I) : MINIMUM LD-SET wrt treewidth (tw)

Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, ISAAC 2024)

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Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, ISAAC 2024)

MINIMUM LD-SET admits an algorithm with running time $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(tw)}} \cdot n$.

Examples of problems with at least double-exponential FPT algorithms with respect to treewidth (tw)

- CHOOSABILITY PROBLEM: $\mathcal{O}(2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw})}}) \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$... unless ETH fails [D. Marx & V. Mitsou (2016); I. Bliznets & M. Hecher (2024)]
- PROJECTIVE MODEL COUNTING: $\mathcal{O}(2^{2^{\text{tw}+4}} \cdot n^2)$... unless ETH fails [J.K. Fichte et al. (2018)]
- QSAT: $\text{tow}(\ell, \text{tw}) \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)} = 2^{2^{\dots^{2^{\text{tw}}}}} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$... unless ETH fails [J.K. Fichte et al. (2020)]
- Etc...

 All the above problems are either #NP-complete or Σ_2^P -complete or Π_2^P -complete.

Foucaud et al. [ICALP 2024]: Problems in class $\text{NP} = \Sigma_1^p$ with double-exponential lower bounds in tw.

METRIC DIMENSION : $2^{f(\text{diam})^{o(\text{tw})}} \cdot n^{O(1)}$... unless ETH fails

Input: A graph G and a positive integer k .

Question: Does there exist $S \subseteq V(G)$ such that $|S| \leq k$ and, for any pair of vertices $u, v \in V(G)$, there exists a vertex $w \in S$ with $d(w, u) \neq d(w, v)$?

STRONG METRIC DIMENSION : $2^{2^{o(\text{tw})}} \cdot n^{O(1)}$... unless ETH fails

Input: A graph G and a positive integer k .

Question: Does there exist $S \subseteq V(G)$ such that $|S| \leq k$ and, for any pair of vertices $u, v \in V(G)$, there exists a vertex $w \in S$ with either u lies on some shortest path between v and w , or v lies on some shortest path between u and w ?

GEODETTIC SET : $2^{f(\text{diam})^{o(\text{tw})}} \cdot n^{O(1)}$... unless ETH fails

Input: A graph G and a positive integer k .

Question: Does there exist $S \subseteq V(G)$ such that $|S| \leq k$ and, for any pair of vertices $u, v \in V(G)$, there are two vertices $s_1, s_2 \in S$ such that a shortest path from s_1 to s_2 contains u ?

Our contribution (Part I) : MINIMUM LD-SET wrt treewidth (tw)

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Unless the ETH fails, MINIMUM LD-SET does not admit an algorithm running in time $2^{2^{o(\text{tw})}} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

... motivated by results on metric dimension by Foucaud et al. [ICALP 2024] since

identification problems = metric dimension problems at “distance 1”.

Our contribution (Part II) : MINIMUM LD-SET wrt vertex cover number (vc), distance to clique (dc) and twin cover number (tc)

Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, CIAC 2025)

MINIMUM LD-SET admits an algorithm with running time $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{vc} \log \text{vc})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

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... the above result is extended to:

Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, 2025)

MINIMUM LD-SET admits an algorithm with running time $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{dc} \log \text{dc})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

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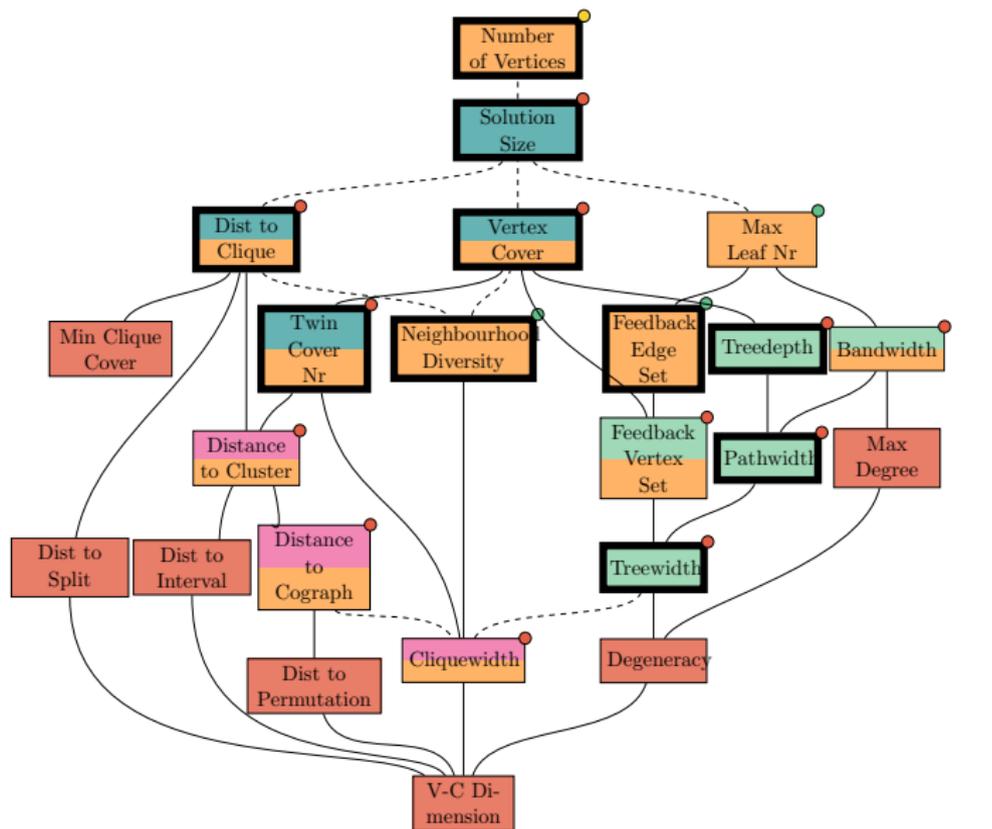
Our contribution (Part II) : MINIMUM LD-SET wrt neighborhood diversity (nd) and feedback edge set number (fes)

Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, CIAC 2025)

MINIMUM LD-SET admits a kernel with $\mathcal{O}(nd)$ vertices in time $\mathcal{O}(mn)$.

Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, CIAC 2025)

MINIMUM LD-SET admits a kernel with $\mathcal{O}(fes)$ vertices and edges.



single-exp FPT
 slightly super-exp FPT
 double-exp FPT
 FPT
 para-NP-h.

● linear kernel

● (tight) quadratic kernel

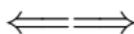
● no polynomial kernel

Theorem (C., Foucaud, Majumdar, Tale, ISAAC 2024)

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(3,3)-SAT [Tovey, 1984]

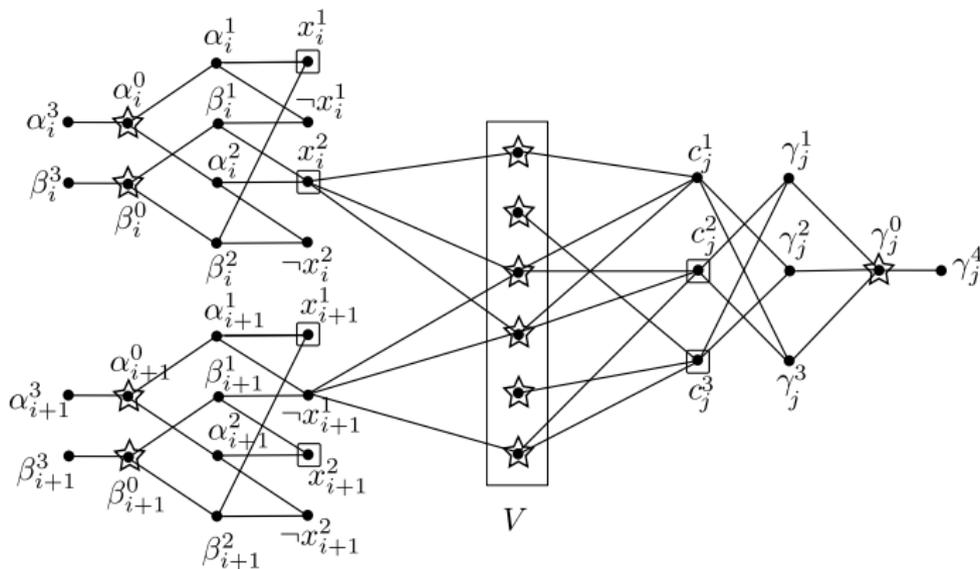
- Boolean formula ψ in 3-CNF
- Each variable x appears at most 3 times
- (Assume) both any x , both x and $\neg x$ exists in ψ
- Unless ETH fails, (3,3)-SAT does not admit a $2^{o(m+n)}$ -time algorithm



MINIMUM LD-SET

- (Assume) every support vertex is in an LD-set
- A dominating set C is an LD-set if $N(u) \cap C \neq N(v) \cap C$ for all $u, v \in V \setminus C$ and $d(u, v) \leq 2$

Unless the ETH fails, MINIMUM LD-SET does not admit an algorithm running in time $2^{2^{o(\text{tw})}} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.



$$k = 4n + 3m + 4|V|; \quad \text{where } |V| = 2p \text{ with } p \text{ smallest integer with } 4n \leq \binom{2p}{p} \sim \frac{4^p}{\sqrt{\pi \cdot p}} \leq \frac{4^p}{2^p} = 2^p \implies p = \mathcal{O}(\log n) \implies |V| = \mathcal{O}(\log n) \implies \text{tw}(G) = \mathcal{O}(\log n)$$

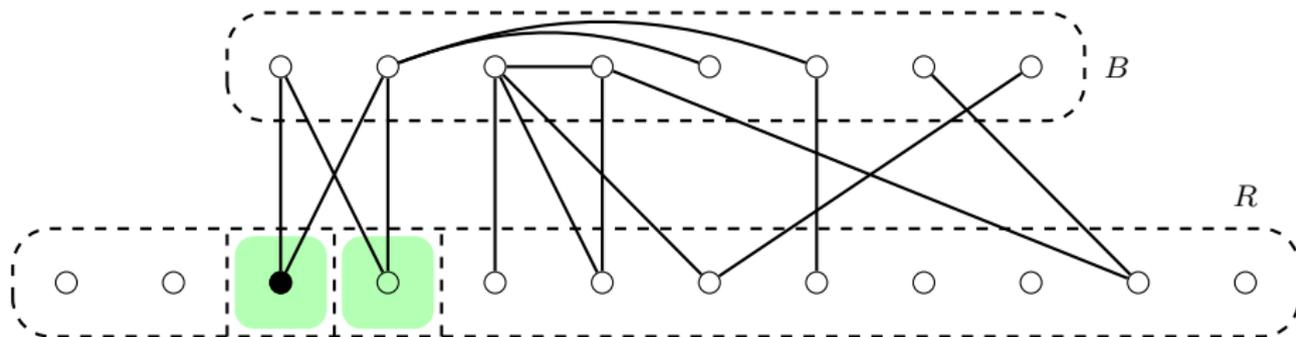
MINIMUM LD-SET admits an algorithm with running time $2^{O(vc \log vc)} \cdot n^{O(1)}$.

- Find a minimum vertex cover in time $1.2528^{vc} \cdot n^{O(1)}$ [Harris et al., 2024].
- Build optimum solution by the **dynamic programming**:

$$\text{opt}[i, \mathcal{P}, S] = \min \begin{cases} \text{opt}[i-1, \mathcal{P}, S], \\ 1 + \min_{\substack{\mathcal{P}' \cap \mathcal{P}(r_i) = \mathcal{P}, \\ S' \cup N(r_i) = S}} \text{opt}[i-1, \mathcal{P}', S']. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{opt}[i, \mathcal{P}, S] &= \min |C|, \\ C &\subset \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_i\}, \\ C &\rightsquigarrow (\mathcal{P}, S) \end{aligned}$$

- Algorithm **brute forces** all partitions of vertex cover.



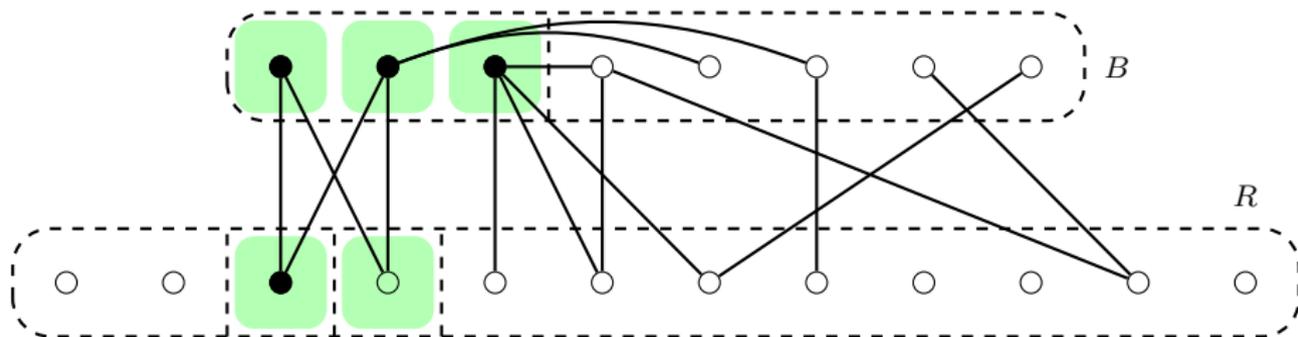
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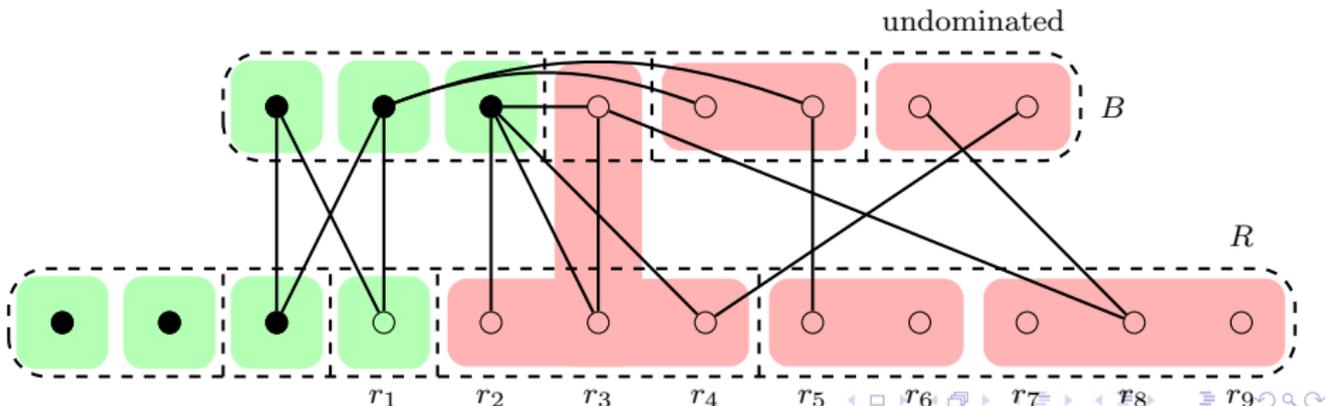
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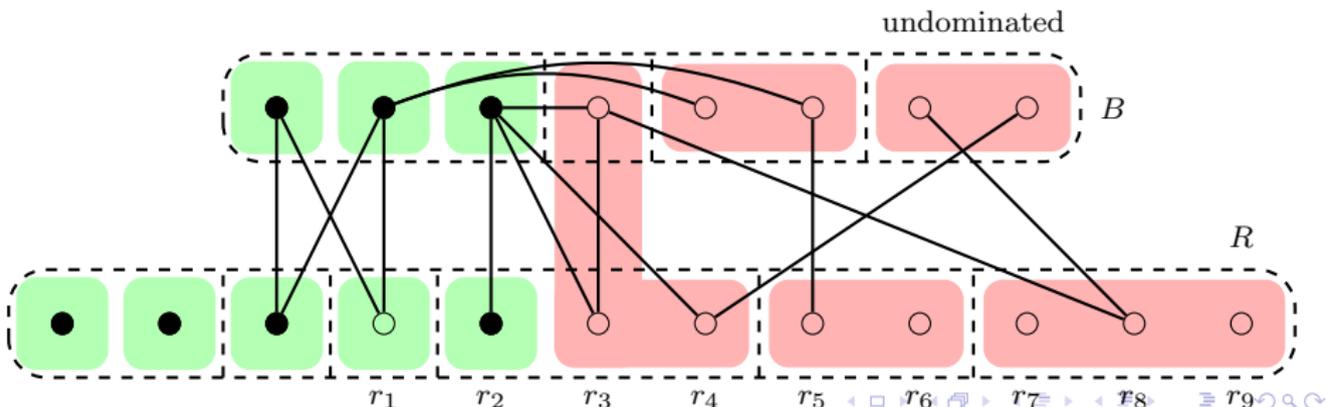
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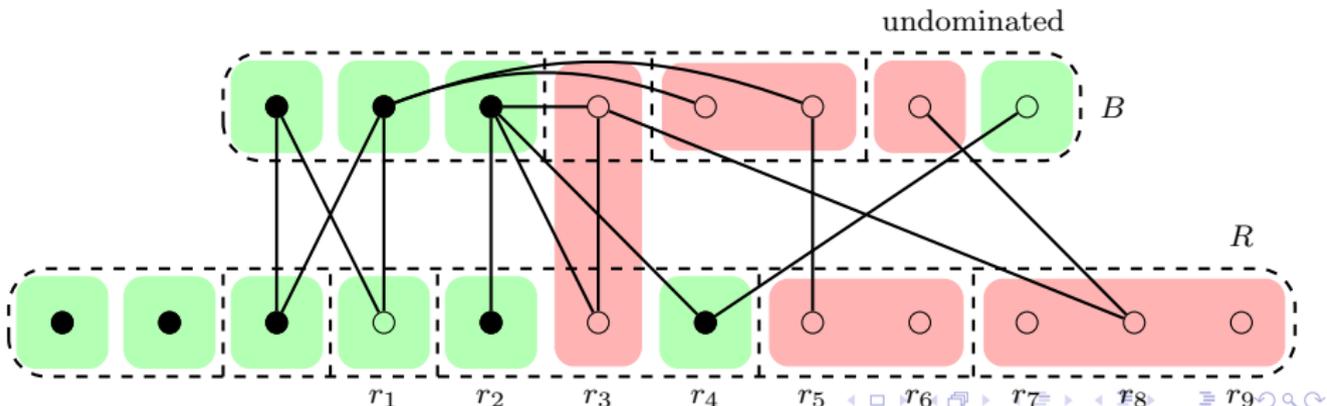
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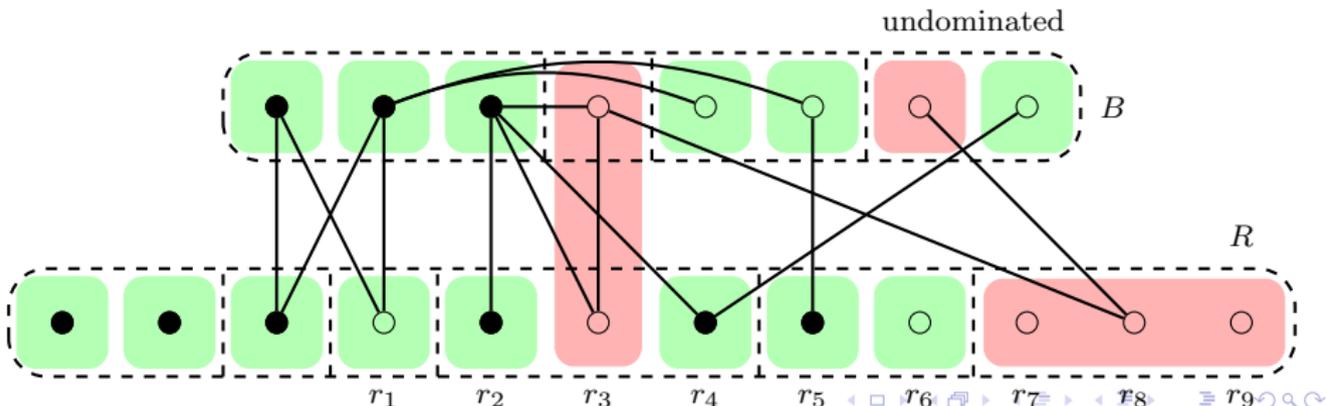
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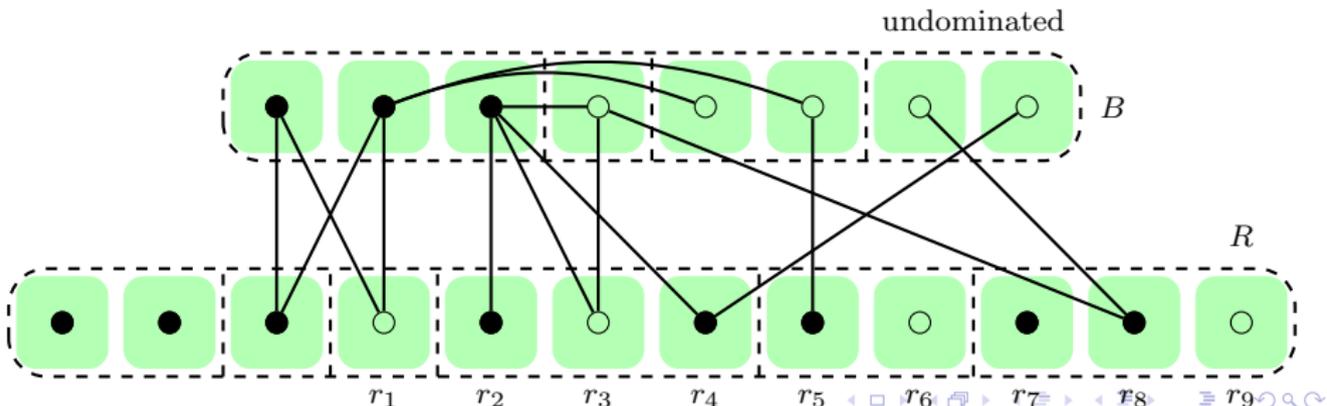
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- Find a minimum vertex cover in time $1.2528^{\text{vc}} \cdot n^{O(1)}$ [Harris et al., 2024].
- Build optimum solution by the **dynamic programming**:

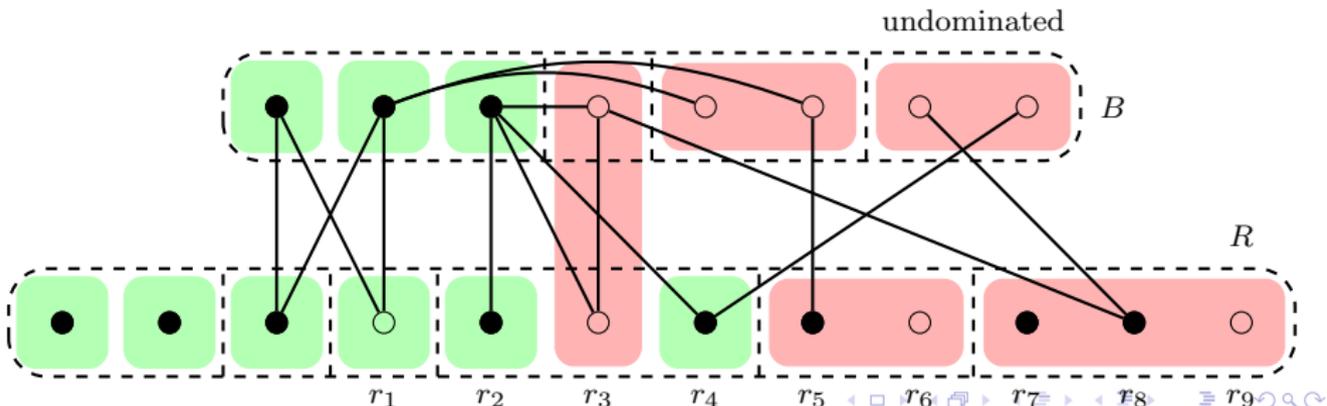
$$\text{opt}[i, \mathcal{P}, S] = \min \begin{cases} \text{opt}[i-1, \mathcal{P}, S], \\ 1 + \min_{\substack{\mathcal{P}' \cap \mathcal{P}(r_i) = \mathcal{P}, \\ S' \cup N(r_i) = S}} \text{opt}[i-1, \mathcal{P}', S']. \end{cases}$$

Running time:

$\mathcal{P} : 2^{\text{vc} \log \text{vc}} \cdot |R|$

$S : 2^{\text{vc}}$

- Algorithm **brute forces** all partitions of vertex cover.



Some questions...

- Can our double-exponential lower bound reduction with respect to treewidth be adapted to feedback vertex set?
- Can the running time of the slightly super-exponential FPT algorithm with respect to vertex cover number be reduced to a single exponential running time?
- Can the FPT algorithm with respect to vertex cover number be adapted for distance to cluster?

Thank You!