

Introduction to Parameterized Complexity

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Outline of the talk

1 Introduction

- Parameterized complexity
- Treewidth

2 FPT algorithms parameterized by treewidth

3 The \mathcal{F} -DELETION problem

Next section is...

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- Nowadays, literally **thousands** of problems are known to be **NP-hard**.
- But what does it mean for a problem to be **NP-hard**?

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- **Parameterized complexity:** Topic of this talk...

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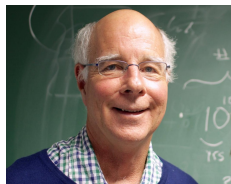
Message

In many applications, not only the **total size** of the instance matters, but also the value of an **additional parameter**.

The area of parameterized complexity

Idea Measure the complexity of an algorithm in terms of the **input size** and an **additional integer parameter**.

This theory started in the late 80's, by **Downey** and **Fellows**:



Today, it is a well-established area with **hundreds** of articles published every year in the most prestigious TCS journals and conferences.

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These three problems are **NP-hard**, but are they **equally hard**?

They behave quite differently...

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The problem is **para-NP-hard**

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Working hypothesis of parameterized complexity: k -CLIQUE is not FPT

(in classical complexity: SAT cannot be solved in poly-time)

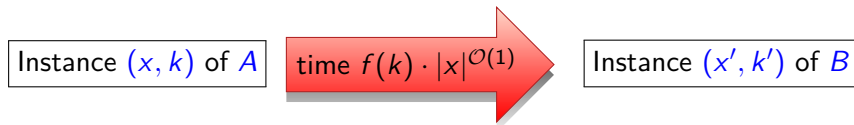
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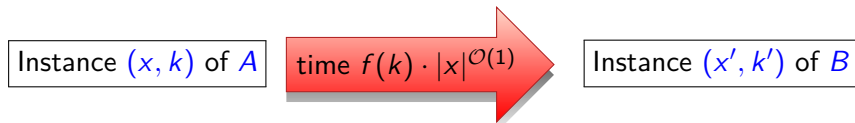
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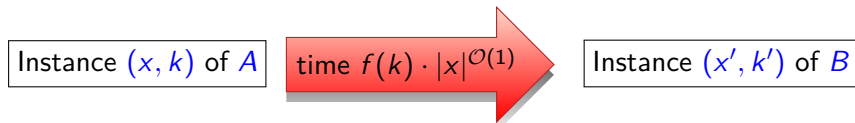


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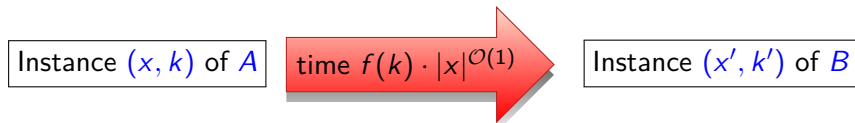
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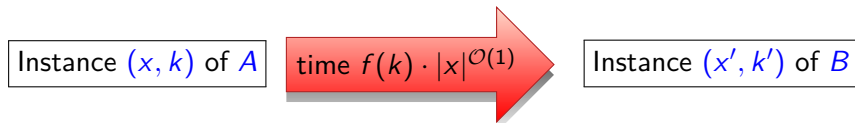
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NO!

Theorem (Bodlaender, Downey, Fellows, Hermelin. 2009)

*Deciding whether a graph has a PATH with $\geq k$ vertices is FPT but **does not admit a polynomial kernel**, unless $\text{NP} \subseteq \text{coNP/poly}$.*

Typical approach to deal with a parameterized problem

Parameterized problem L

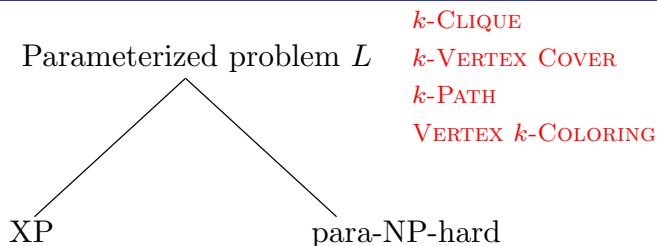
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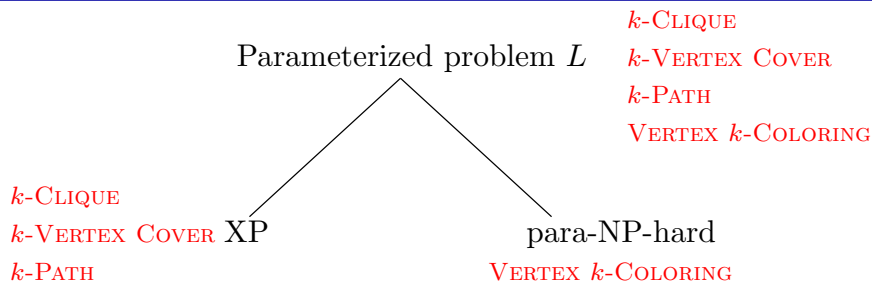
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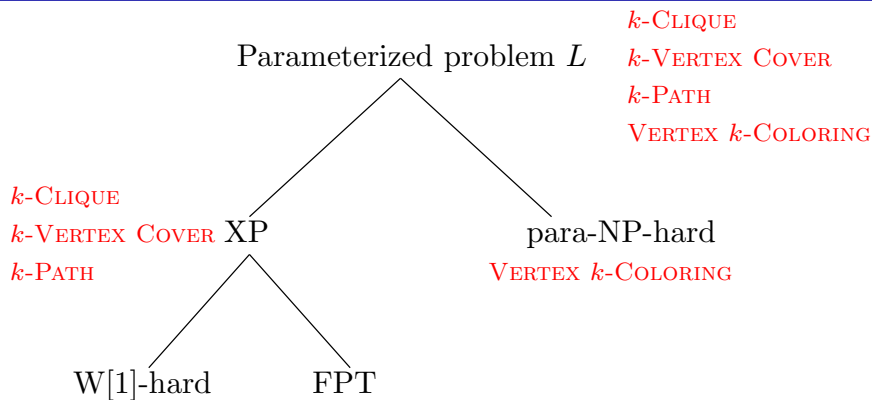
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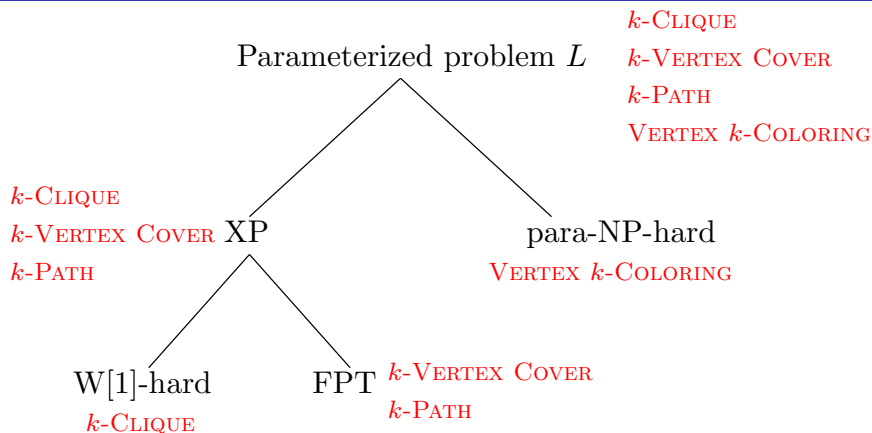
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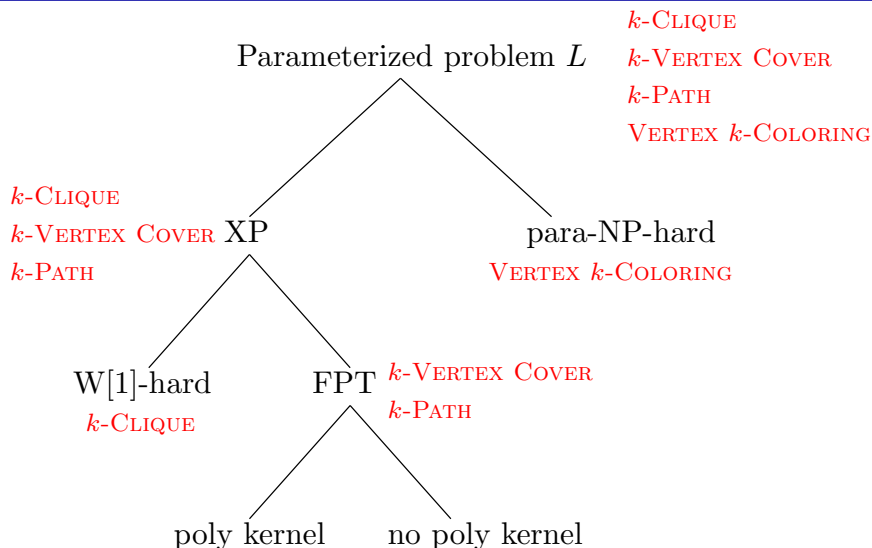
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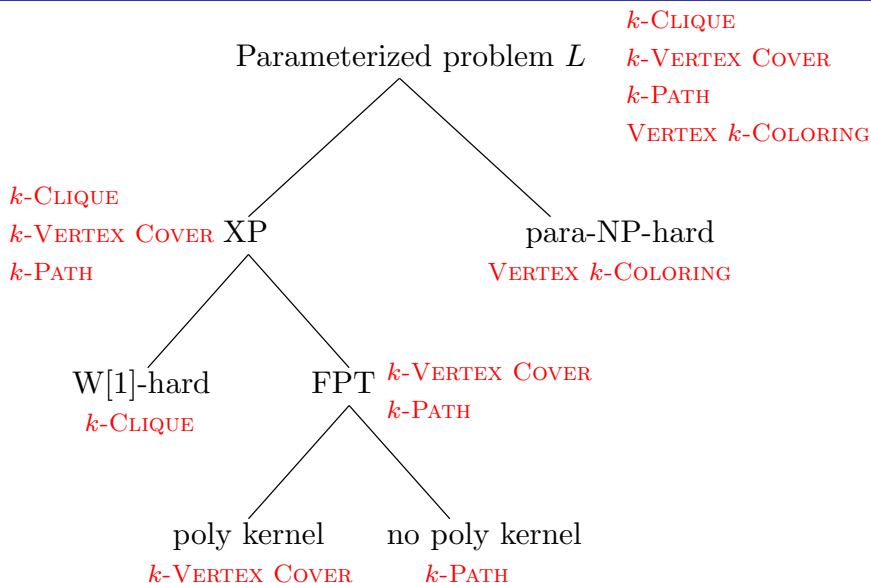
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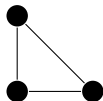
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Treewidth via k -trees

Example of a 2-tree:

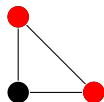


[Figure by Julien Baste]

A k -tree is a graph that can be built starting from a $(k + 1)$ -clique and then iteratively adding a vertex connected to a k -clique.

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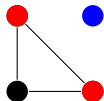


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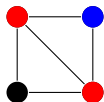


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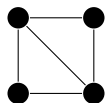


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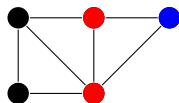


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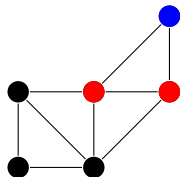


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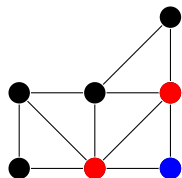


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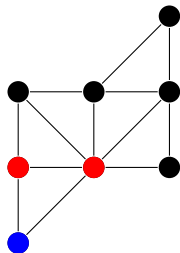


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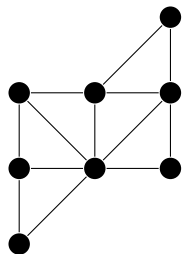


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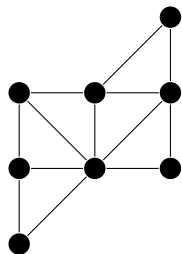


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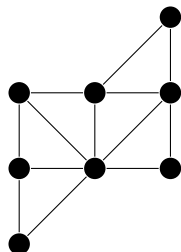
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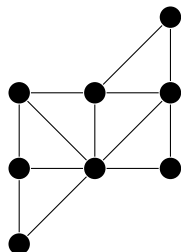
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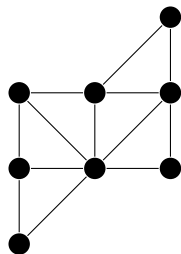
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Construction suggests the notion of tree decomposition: small separators.

An equivalent (and more common) definition of treewidth

- **Tree decomposition** of a graph G :

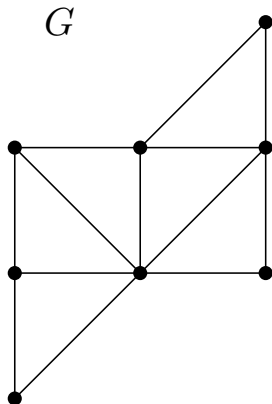
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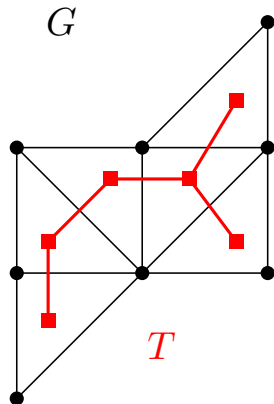
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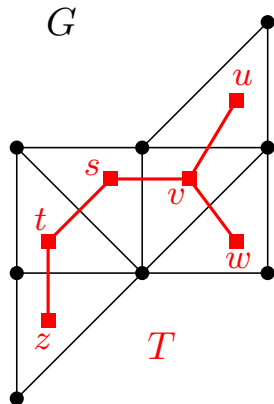
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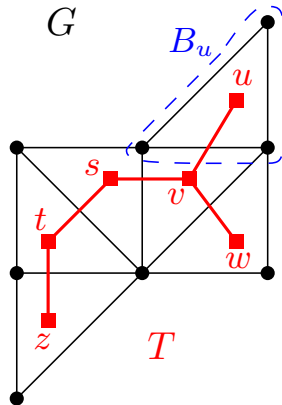
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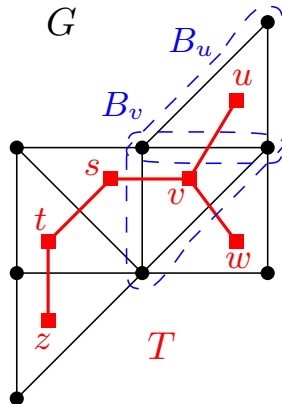
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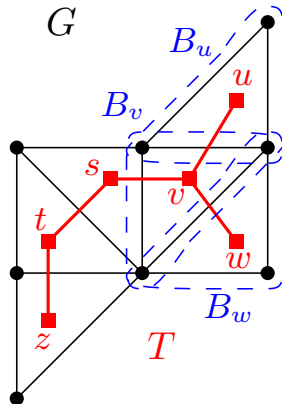
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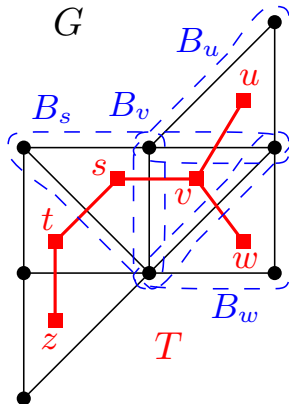
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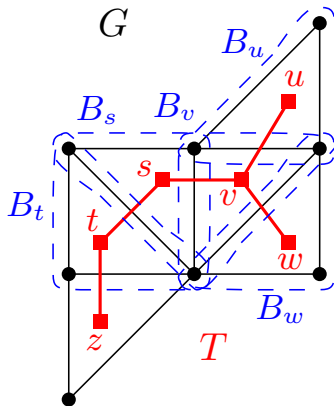
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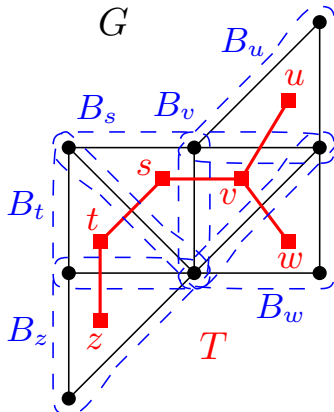
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- ③ In many **practical scenarios**, it turns out that the **treewidth** of the associated graph is **small** (programming languages, road networks, ...).

Next section is...

1 Introduction

- Parameterized complexity
- Treewidth

2 FPT algorithms parameterized by treewidth

3 The \mathcal{F} -DELETION problem

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- ② For the problems that are **FPT** parameterized by **treewidth**, what about the existence of **polynomial kernels**?

Most natural problems (VERTEX COVER, DOMINATING SET, ...) do **not** admit **polynomial kernels** parameterized by **treewidth**.

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ETH: The 3-SAT problem on n variables cannot be solved in time $2^{\mathcal{O}(n)}$

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ETH \Rightarrow k -VERTEX COVER cannot be solved in time $2^{o(k)} \cdot n^{O(1)}$.

ETH \Rightarrow PLANAR k -VERTEX COVER cannot be solved in time $2^{o(\sqrt{k})} \cdot n^{O(1)}$.

Dynamic programming on tree decompositions

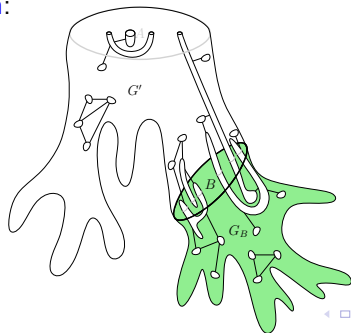
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- The way that these **partial solutions** are defined depends on each **particular problem**:

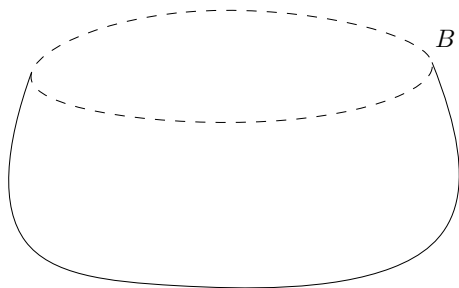


[Figure by Valentin Garnero]

Two behaviors for problems parameterized by treewidth

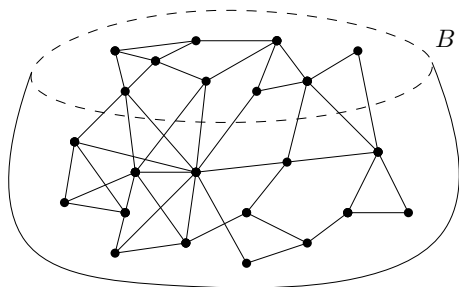
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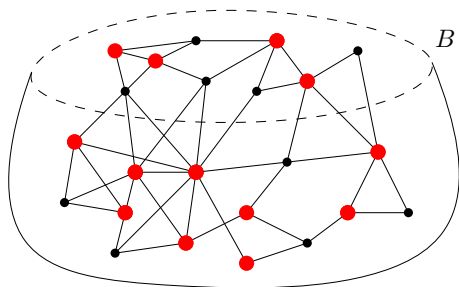
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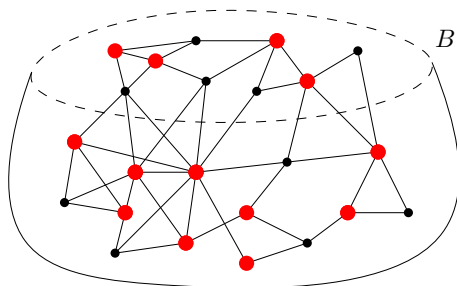
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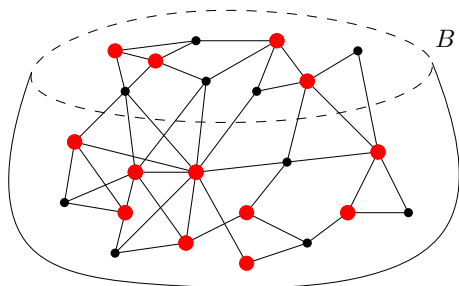
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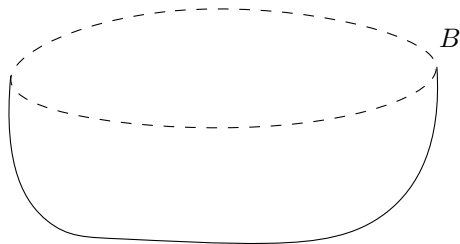
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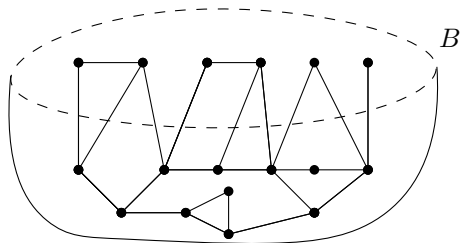
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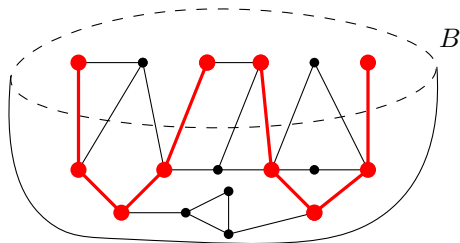
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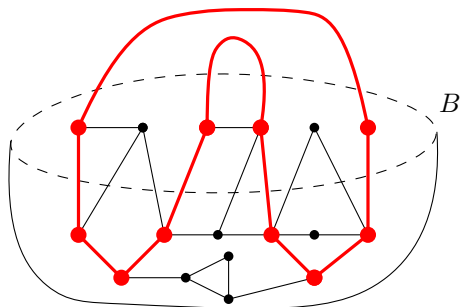
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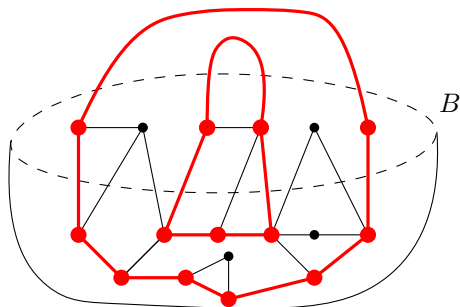
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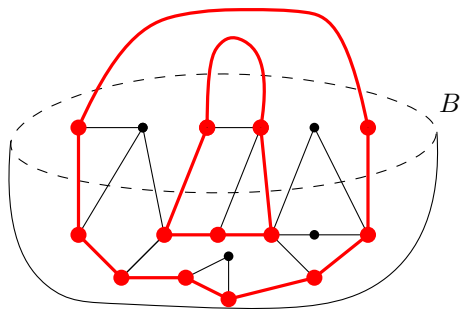
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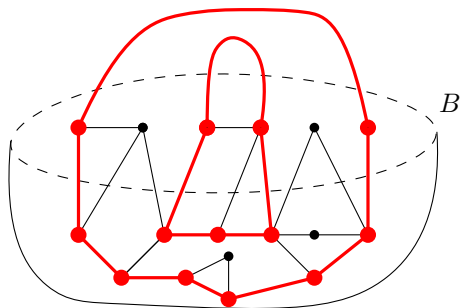
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$2^{\mathcal{O}(tw \cdot \log tw)}$ choices

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- The “natural” DP algorithms provide only time $2^{\mathcal{O}(tw \cdot \log tw)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

Two types of behavior

There seem to be **two behaviors** for problems parameterized by treewidth:

- **Local problems:**

$$2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$$

VERTEX COVER, DOMINATING SET, ...

- **Connectivity problems:**

$$2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw} \cdot \log \text{tw})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$$

LONGEST PATH, STEINER TREE, ...

The revolution of single-exponential algorithms

It was believed that, except on **sparse graphs** (**planar, surfaces**), algorithms in time $2^{\mathcal{O}(tw \cdot \log tw)} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ were **optimal** for **connectivity problems**.

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[Cygan, Nederlof, Pilipczuk², van Rooij, Woitaszczyk. 2011]

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- 1 Relax the connectivity requirement by considering a set of **cuts** that contain the relevant (connected) solutions.
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Deterministic algorithms with algebraic tricks:

[Bodlaender, Cygan, Kratsch, Nederlof. 2013]

Representative sets in **matroids**:

[Fomin, Lokshtanov, Saurabh. 2014]

End of the story?

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There are **other examples** of such problems...

Next section is...

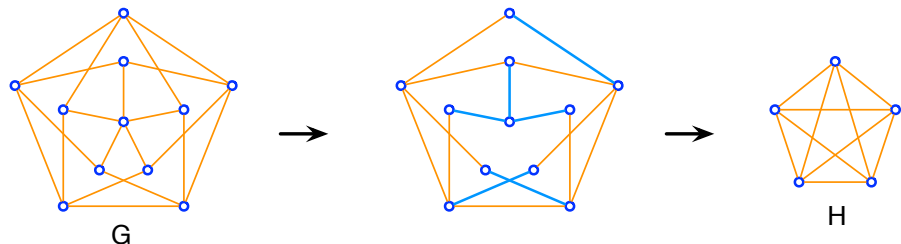
1 Introduction

- Parameterized complexity
- Treewidth

2 FPT algorithms parameterized by treewidth

3 The \mathcal{F} -DELETION problem

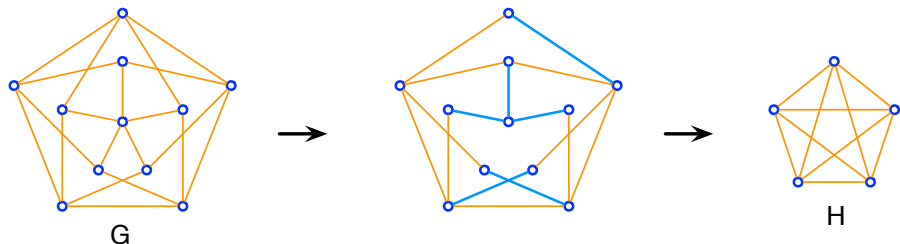
Minors and topological minors



[Figure by Gwenaël Joret]

- H is a **minor** of a graph G if H can be obtained from a subgraph of G by **contracting edges**.

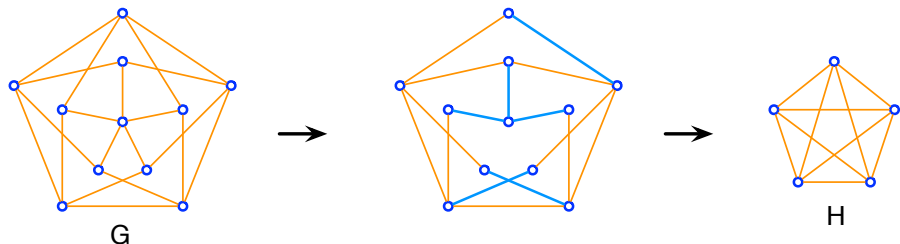
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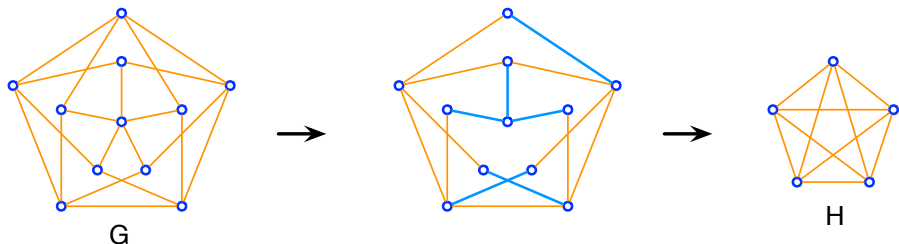
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Both problems are **NP-hard** if \mathcal{F} contains some edge.

[Lewis, Yannakakis. 1980]

FPT by Courcelle's Theorem.

Objective

Determine, for every fixed \mathcal{F} , the (asymptotically) smallest function $f_{\mathcal{F}}$ such that \mathcal{F} -M-DELETION/ \mathcal{F} -TM-DELETION can be solved in time

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- We do **not** want to optimize the **degree** of the polynomial factor.
- We do **not** want to optimize the **constants**.
- Our hardness results hold under the **ETH**.

- For every \mathcal{F} : \mathcal{F} -M/TM-DELETION in time $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw} \cdot \log \text{tw})}} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

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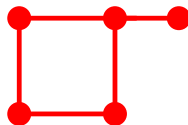
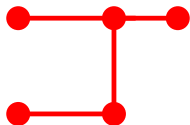
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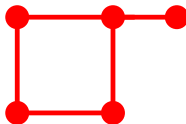
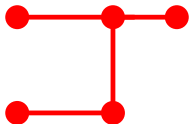
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A dichotomy for hitting a connected minor



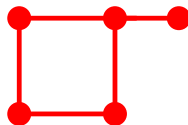
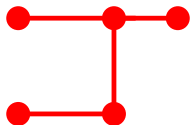
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
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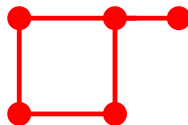
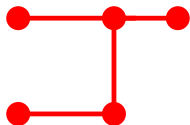
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

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

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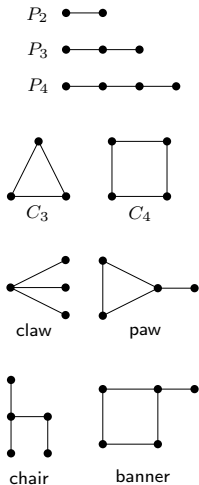
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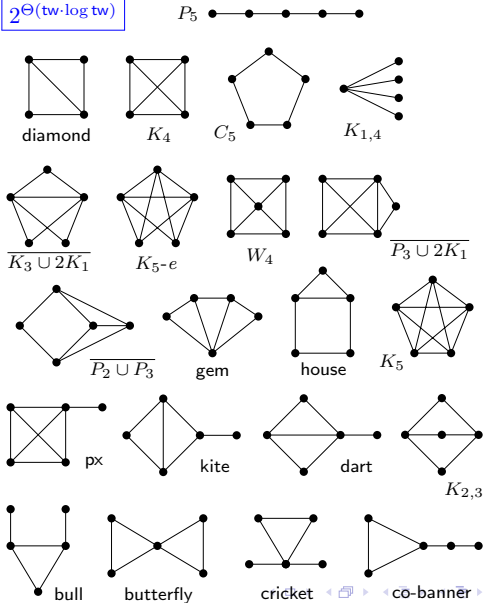
In both cases, the running time is asymptotically *optimal* under the ETH.

Complexity of hitting a single connected minor H

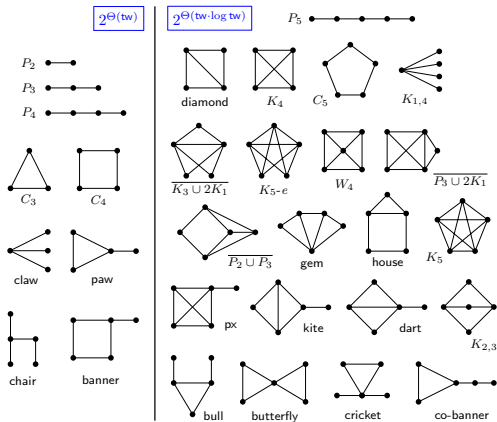
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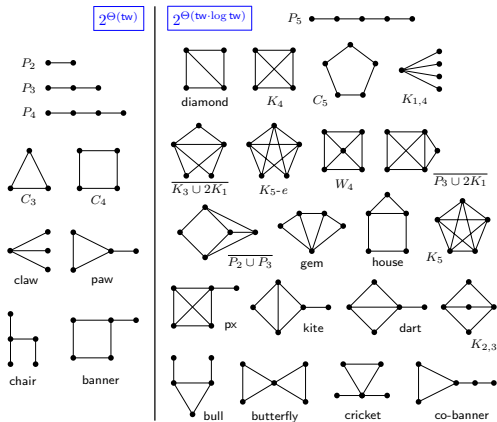


A compact statement for a single connected graph



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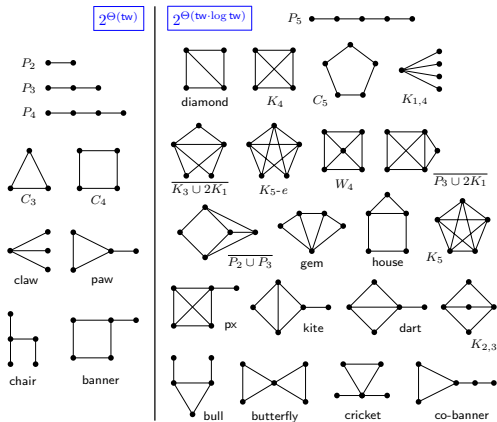
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3 Lower bounds under the ETH

- $2^{\mathcal{O}(tw)}$ is “easy”.
- $2^{\mathcal{O}(tw \cdot \log tw)}$ is much more involved and we get ideas from:

[Lokshtanov, Marx, Saurabh. 2011]

[Marcin Pilipczuk. 2017]

[Bonnet, Brettell, Kwon, Marx. 2017]

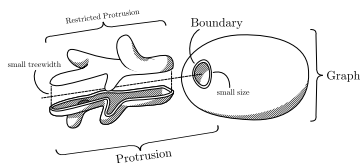
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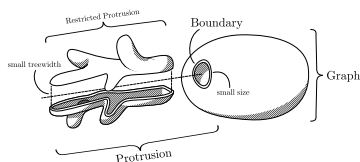
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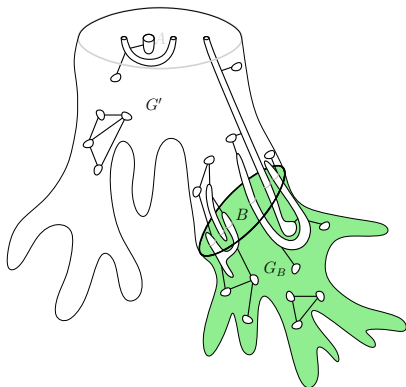
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Extra: Bidimensionality, irrelevant vertices, protrusion decompositions...

» skip

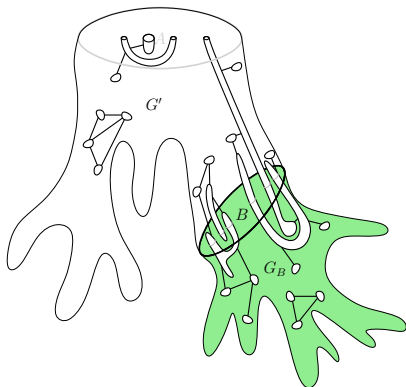
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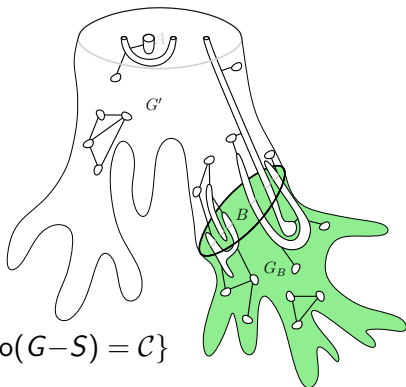
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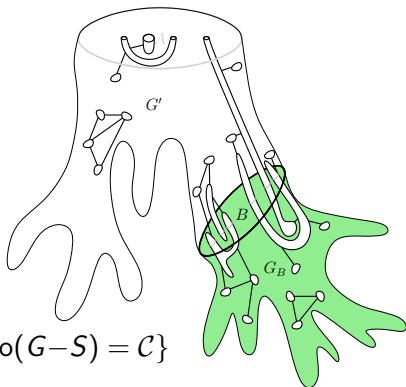
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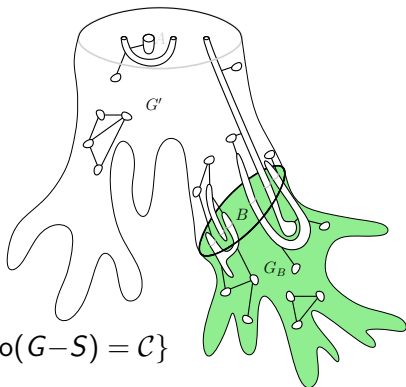
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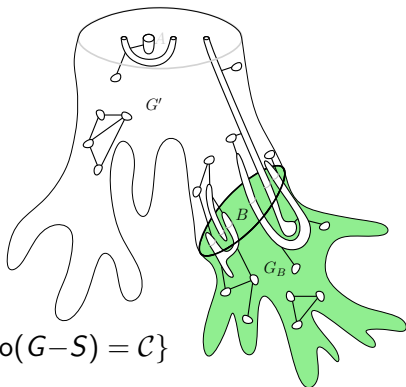
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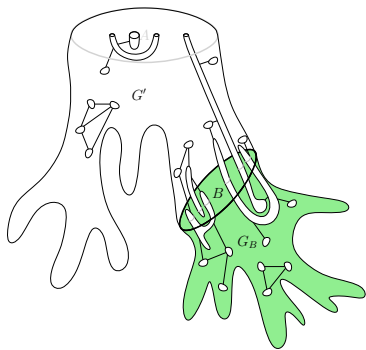
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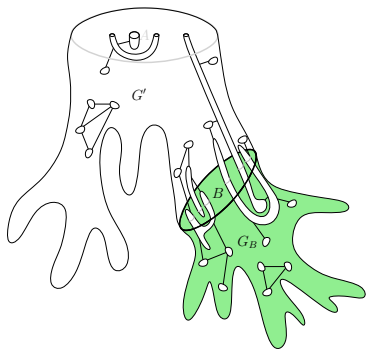
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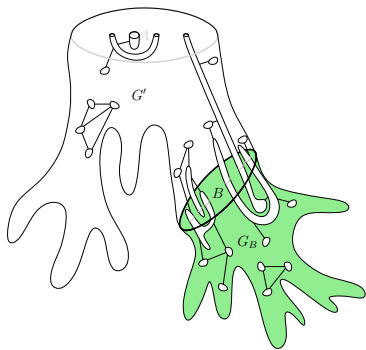


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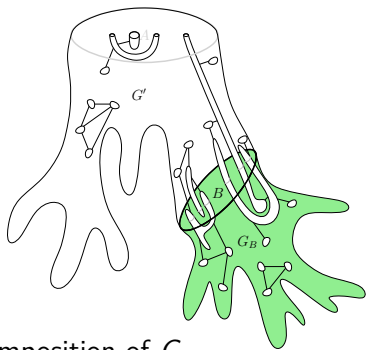
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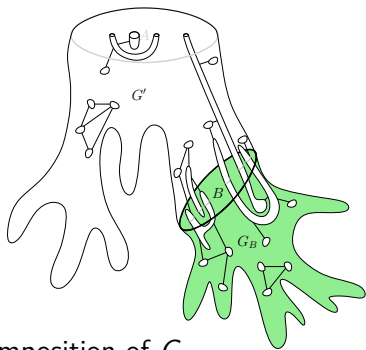
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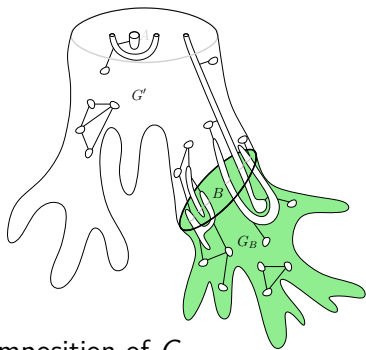
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[Baste, Noy, S. 2017]

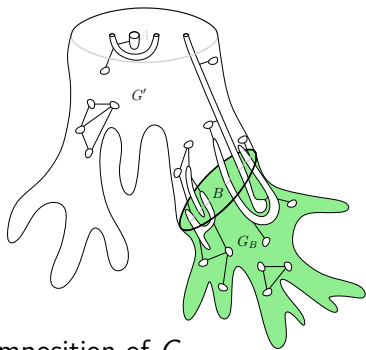


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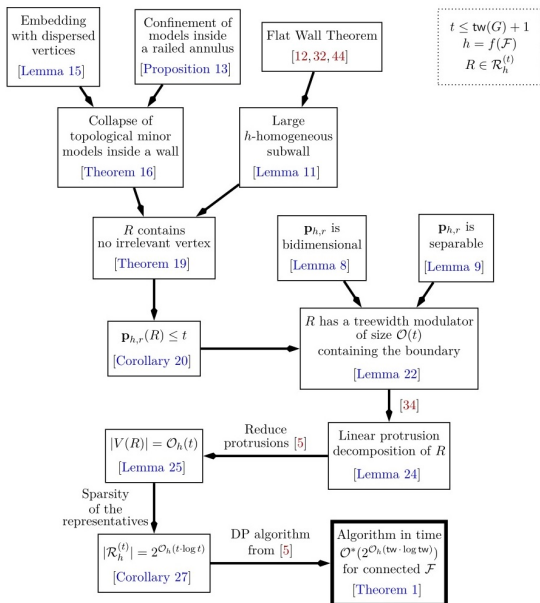
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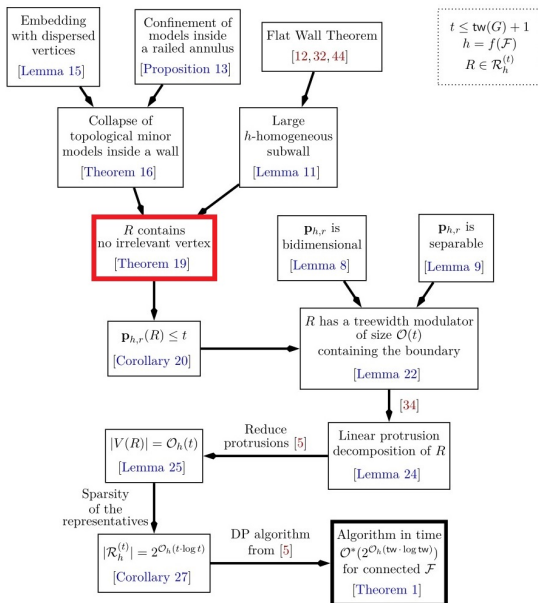
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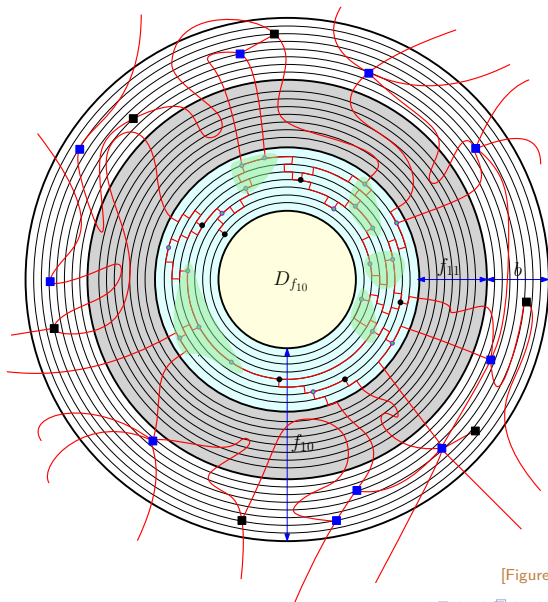


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Hard part: finding an irrelevant vertex inside a flat wall

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▶ skip

[Figure by Dimitrios M. Thilikos]

Algorithm when the input graph G is planar

- **Idea** get an **improved bound** on $|\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{F}, t)|$.

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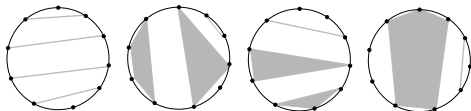
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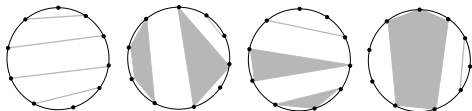
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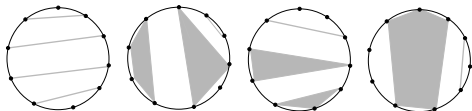
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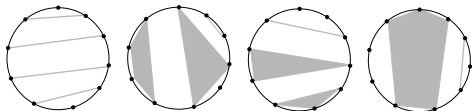
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- We can extend this algorithm to input graphs G embedded in **arbitrary surfaces** by using **surface-cut decompositions**. [Rué, S., Thilikos. 2014]

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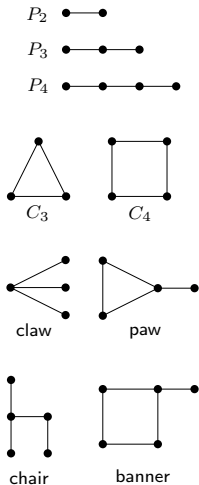
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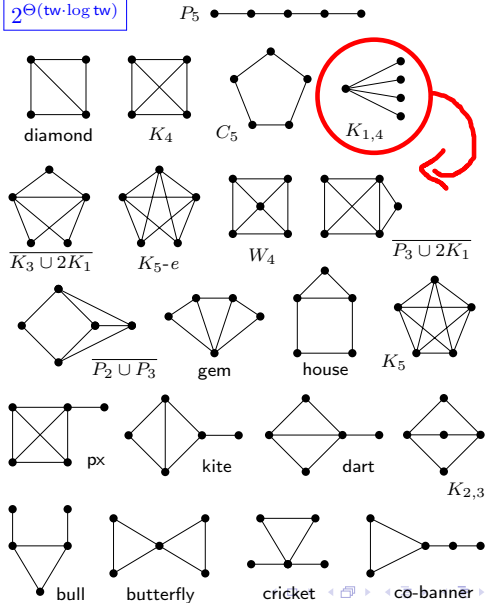
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 - **Conjecture** For every family \mathcal{F} , the \mathcal{F} -TM-DELETION problem is solvable in time $2^{\mathcal{O}(\text{tw} \cdot \log \text{tw})} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$.

For topological minors, there is (at least) one change

$2^{\Theta(\text{tw})}$



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Gràcies!

