# Localization in graphs and sequential metric dimension 

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## Outline

(1) Metric dimension

## (2) Sequential localization of an immobile target

## (3) Metric dimension in oriented graphs

## Metric Dimension of graphs



Precisely locate using few information

Fix any three points $A, B$ and $C$ in the plane. For any point $v$, $(\operatorname{dist}(A, v), \operatorname{dist}(B, v), \operatorname{dist}(C, v))$ is sufficient to locate $v!!$

How to generalize to graph metric?

## Metric Dimension of graphs

A target is hidden at some (unknown) vertex $t$ of a graph $G=(V, E)$ Probing a vertex $v \in V(G) \Rightarrow$ the distance $\operatorname{dist}_{G}(t, v)$ between $v$ and $t$.

## Resolving set : set of vertices to probe s.t. the target is uniquely located <br> Set $R=\left\{v_{1}, \cdots, v_{i}\right\} \subseteq V$ s.t. $\left(\operatorname{dist}_{G}\left(v, v_{i}\right)\right)_{j \leq i}$ pairwise distinct $\forall v \in V$.



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Metric Dimension $M D(G)$ : min. size of a resolving set in $G . \quad(M D(G) \leq|V|)$ example: for any tree $T, M D(T)=$ \#leaves - \#" branching nodes"

Computing $\operatorname{MD}(G)$ [Harary, Melter 76, Slater 75] is NP-c in planar graphs [Díaz et al. 17], W[2]-hard [Hartung,Nichterlein 13], FPT in tree-length [Belmonte et al. 17]...

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Each turn brings some new information

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Target found in $<n$ turns in any $n$-node graph :
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Goal : Minimize \# of turns to locate an immobile target hidden in $G$.

## Sequential Metric Dimension \& Game of Guess Who?



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What if more than one vertex can be probed per turn?

## Sequential Metric Dimension of $G$

Given $k, \ell, G$, is it possible to locate the immobile target in $G$ in at most $\ell$ turns by probing at most $k \geq 1$ vertices each turn.
$\lambda_{k}(G):$ min. \# turns to locate an immobile target, probing $k$ vertices per turn.

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$\lambda_{k}(G): \min$. \# turns to locate an immobile target, probing $k$ vertices per turn. Remark: for any $G, k \geq 1, \lambda_{k}(G) \leq\left\lceil\frac{M D(G)}{k}\right\rceil$
(at each turn, probe $k$ vertices of an optimal resolving set)

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But...

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In one turn, only five locations remain possible

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$\lambda_{4}(G)=2<\left\lceil\frac{19}{4}\right\rceil$.

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Lemma : for any $k \geq 1$
$\lambda_{k}(G)$ may be arbitrary smaller than $\left\lceil\frac{M D(G)}{k}\right\rceil$

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## Our contribution in general graphs :

Computational complexity
[Bensmail et al. 2018]

- Let $k \geq 1$ be a fixed integer.

The problem that takes any graph $G$ with diameter 2 and an integer $\ell \geq 1$ as inputs and decides if $\lambda_{k}(G) \leq \ell$ is NP-complete.

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Polynomial-time algorithm

- Let $k, \ell \geq 1$ be two fixed integers. The problem of deciding if $\lambda_{k}(G) \leq \ell$, for any $n$-node graph $G$, can be solved in time $n^{O(k \ell)}$.


## Sequential Metric Dimension

$\lambda_{k}(G):$ min. \# turns to locate an immobile target, probing $k$ vertices per turn.

## Our contribution in TREES :

Computational complexity
[Bensmail et al. 2018]

- The problem that takes any tree $T$ and two integers $k, \ell \geq 1$ as inputs and decides if $\lambda_{k}(T) \leq \ell$ is NP-complete.


## Polynomial-time algorithms

[Bensmail et al. 2018]

- There exists a polynomial-time +1 -approximation to compute $\lambda_{k}(T)$.

Precisely, there exists an algorithm that computes, in time $O(n \log n)$, a localization strategy using $\ell$ turns, probing $k$ vertices per turn in any $n$-node tree $T$, with $\lambda_{k}(T) \leq \ell \leq \lambda_{k}(T)+1$.

- Let $k \geq 1$ be a fixed integer. The problem of deciding if $\lambda_{k}(T) \leq \ell$, for any $n$-node tree $T$ and any $\ell \geq 1$, can be solved in time $O\left(n^{k+2} \log n\right)$.


## 

Sketch : Reduction from Hitting Set: Given $k \geq 1$, a set $\mathcal{B}=\left\{b_{1}, \cdots, b_{n}\right\}$ of elements and a set of subsets $\mathcal{S}=\left\{S_{1}, \cdots, S_{m}\right\} \subseteq 2^{\mathcal{B}}$ with $\left|S_{i}\right|=\sigma$ for any $1 \leq i \leq m$, is there a set $F \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ with $F \cap S_{i}$ for all $i \leq m$ and $|F| \leq k$ ?

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Tree $T_{\gamma}(\gamma$ depends on $n, k)$ s.t. $\lambda_{k}\left(T_{\gamma}\right) \leq 1+\left\lceil\frac{\sigma-1}{k}\right\rceil+\left\lceil\frac{\gamma-1}{k}\right\rceil$ iff such a set $F$ exists


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$i^{\text {th }}$ branch $\sim$ element $b_{i}$
"level" $2 j \sim$ set $S_{j}$
$b_{i} \in S_{j} \Leftrightarrow b_{2 j}^{i}$ center of star ( $\gamma$ leaves)

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\text { e.g., } b_{i}, b_{i^{\prime \prime}} \in S_{j}, b_{1}, b_{i^{\prime}}, b_{n} \notin S_{j}
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\Rightarrow \sigma \text { stars/level }
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Recall that locating in "big" stars is "long"

## Deciding $\lambda_{k}(T)$ NP-hard in trees

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Probing (the last vertex of) some Branch i identifies (in worst case) some level $j$.

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Probing a Hitting set at first turn $\Rightarrow$ remove one star in each level

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> The difficulty only comes from the FIRST turn!

## +1-approximation in trees

After the first turn, it becomes "easy".
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So, after this first turn, the instance becomes:
A rooted tree, with all leaves at same distance from the root, and the target on some leaf.


## +1-approximation in trees

Theorem : In a rooted tree with all leaves at same distance from the root and the target at some leaf, an optimal strategy can be computed in time $O(n \log n)$
(1) Find in which subtree the target hide (2) recursively search in this subtree.


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$1^{\text {th }}$ approach : Probe one vertex per subtree until finding the "good" one. Question : In which order to probe the subtrees? $\Rightarrow$ by non-increasing order of their $\lambda_{k}^{*}$ : probe first the subtrees that are long to search

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Subtelty : what is the difference between these two graphs?

possible locations are the leaves

## +1-approximation in trees

Theorem : In a rooted tree with all leaves at same distance from the root and the target at some leaf, an optimal strategy can be computed in time $O(n \log n)$
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$\Rightarrow$ During Phase (1) : probing more than one vertex in some subtrees may "accelerate" the search in these subtrees.

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Theorem : In a rooted tree with all leaves at same distance from the root and the target at some leaf, an optimal strategy can be computed in time $O(n \log n)$
(1) Find in which subtree the target hide (2) recursively search in this subtree.

Optimal approach : Probe one or some vertices per subtree (in non-increasing order of their $\lambda_{k}^{*}$ ) until finding the "good" one.

The number of vertices to probe in each subtree in Phase (1) is decided by the (a bit) technical part of our Dynamic Programming algorithm.

## Further work on sequential metric dimension

## Open questions

- Can we compute $\lambda_{k}(T)$ in FPT time in trees (i.e., in time $f(k) * \operatorname{poly}(n)) ?$
- Complexity of deciding if $\lambda_{k}(G) \leq \ell$ in other graph classes (interval graphs, chordal graphs, bounded treewidth, etc.)


## Other variant : when the target can move

At each turn, after $k$ vertices have been probed, the target may move to a neighbor of its current position

- Already many results on this variant
- but also many open questions
...sorry, no time to go further on it


## Outline

## (1) Metric dimension

## (2) Sequential localization of an immobile target

(3) Metric dimension in oriented graphs

## Metric Dimension in Oriented Graphs

Orientation of $G$ : each edge $\{u, v\}$ becomes exactly one arc among $u v$ or $v u$. Probing a vertex $v \in V(G) \Rightarrow$ the distance $\operatorname{dist}_{G}(v, t)$ FROM $v$ TO $t$. Resolving set : set of vertices to probe s.t. the target is uniquely located Set $R=\left\{v_{1}, \cdots, v_{i}\right\} \subseteq V$ s.t. $\left(\operatorname{dist}_{D}\left(v_{i}, v\right)\right)_{j \leq i}$ pairwise distinct $\forall v \in V$.

Remark : A priori, $\operatorname{dist}_{D}(v, t)$ may be $\infty$.
$\rightarrow$ ONLY strongly connected orientations.

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Remark : A priori, $\operatorname{dist}_{D}(v, t)$ may be $\infty$. $\rightarrow$ ONLY strongly connected orientations.
$M D(D)$ : min. size of a resolving set in a strong oriented graph $D$.

## Few related work

- upper bounds [Chartrand et al 00]
- NP-complete in strong oriented graphs [Rajan et al. 14]
- complete graphs [Lozano 13], Cayley digraphs [Fehr et al. 06], de Bruijn and Kautz [Rajan et al. 14]


## Worst/Best Oriented Metric Dimension (WOMD/BOMD)

Given a class $\mathcal{G}$ of undirected $n$-node graphs,

- $\operatorname{WOMD}(\mathcal{G})=\sup _{D \text { strong orientation of } G \in \mathcal{G}} \frac{M D(D)}{n}$
- $B O M D(\mathcal{G})=\inf _{D \text { strong orientation of } G \in \mathcal{G}} \frac{M D(D)}{n}$


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- tournaments: $\operatorname{WOMD}\left(K_{n}\right)=1 / 2$
- $\mathcal{H}_{n}$, class of Hamiltonian $n$-node graphs: $\operatorname{BOMD}\left(\mathcal{H}_{n}\right)=1 / n$. Every Hamiltonian graph has an orientation $D$ with $M D(D)=1$.



## Our contributions

Focus on Worst Orientations (WOMD) for various graph classes.
$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta}$ : class of graphs with maximum degree $\leq \Delta$.

- $\frac{2}{5} \leq W O M D\left(\mathcal{G}_{3}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2}$
- $\frac{1}{2} \leq W O M D\left(\mathcal{G}_{4}\right) \leq \frac{6}{7}$
- $\lim _{\Delta \rightarrow \infty} \operatorname{WOMD}\left(\mathcal{G}_{\Delta}\right)=1$


## Grids : class of cartesian grids.

- $\frac{1}{2} \leq W O M D($ Grids $) \leq \frac{2}{3}$

WOMD* defined as WOMD but over Eulerian orientations
(in-degree=out-degree).

## Tori : class of cartesian tori.

- WOMD $^{*}($ Tori $)=\frac{1}{2}$


## Easy lemmas but very useful

## Lower bound

$S$ set of vertices with exactly same in-neighbors
$\Rightarrow$ Every resolving set contains $\geq|S|-1$ vertices in $S$.


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## Upper bound : $D=(V, A)$ be any strong oriented graph

$G_{a u x}$ undirected graph with vertex-set $V$

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\{u, v\} \in E\left(G_{a u x}\right) \Leftrightarrow N_{D}^{-}(u) \cap N_{D}^{-}(v) \neq \emptyset \text { (intersecting in-neighborhoods). }
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Lemma : Every (non-empty) vertex cover of $G_{\text {aux }}$ is a resolving set for $D$
Application : If $G_{a u x}$ has max. degree $\Delta^{\prime}$, then $\chi\left(G_{a u x}\right) \leq \Delta^{\prime}+1$ (chromatic number), so $\alpha\left(G_{a u x}\right) \leq \frac{\Delta^{\prime}}{\Delta^{\prime}+1} n$, and so $M D(D) \leq \frac{\Delta^{\prime}}{\Delta^{\prime}+1} n$ for every strong orientation $D$ of $G$.

## Lower Bounds for $\mathcal{G}_{\Delta}$

Lower bound : $S$ set of vertices with exactly same in-neighbors
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Maximum degree $\Delta=d+1 \geq 3$

- "Complete" $d$-ary tree depth $k$ (Force a "large" resolving set)


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## Do the maths :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M D}{|V|} \geq \frac{2}{5} \text { for } \Delta=3 \\
& \lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M D}{|V|} \geq \frac{1}{2} \text { for } \Delta=4 \\
& \lim _{\Delta \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M D}{|V|}=1
\end{aligned}
$$

## Lower Bounds for Grids and Tori

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$\Rightarrow$ Every resolving set contains $\geq|S|-1$ vertices in $S$.
Lemma: For $\mathcal{G} \in\{$ Grids, Tori $\}, \operatorname{WOMD}(\mathcal{G}) \geq \frac{1}{2}$


## Upper Bound for Tori : ad-hoc proof

Thm : Eulerian orientation $\vec{T}$ of the torus $\left(d^{+}=d^{-}=2\right) \Rightarrow M D(\vec{T}) \leq n / 2$
Start with a MIS $X$ (in black), local modifications till resolving set of same size.


While $X$ is not a resolving set, problems in vertex-disjoint "bad squares" $u$ and $v$ have same in-neighbours.

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Replace $n_{v}$ by $u$ in $X$, sequentially in all "bad squares", makes $X$ a resolving set (proof by case analysis).


## Upper Bound for Grid : another ad-hoc proof :(

Thm : Any orientation $\vec{G}$ of a grid $\Rightarrow M D(\vec{G}) \leq 2 n / 3$
Start with a set $X$ (in black), local modifications till resolving set of same size.


Again, proof by case analysis...

## Further work on Directed Metric Dimension

This is a preliminary work.

- Many bounds to be tightened (Grids, subcubic graphs...)
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Thank you, 谢谢, Merci!

