

Similarity of treewidth and MM-width by a cops and robber game

Jan Arne Telle
presenting results of Martin Vatshelle and Sigve H. Sæther

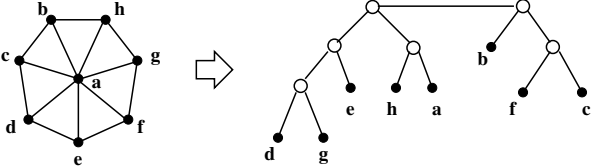
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Branch decompositions

Branch decomposition (rooted) of graph G is a pair (T, δ)

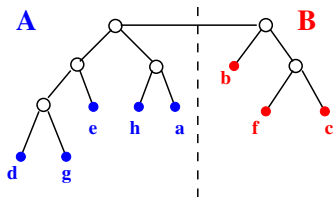
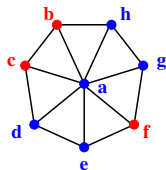
- T is a **ternary** tree (binary) and

- δ is a **bijection** between leaves of T and vertices of G (or $E(G)$)



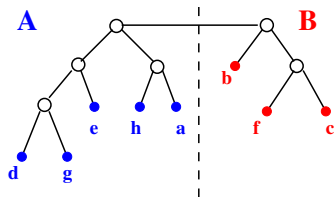
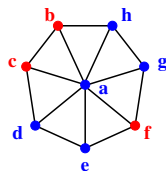
- one **cut** of G for each **edge** of T

Defining a width parameter using a cut function



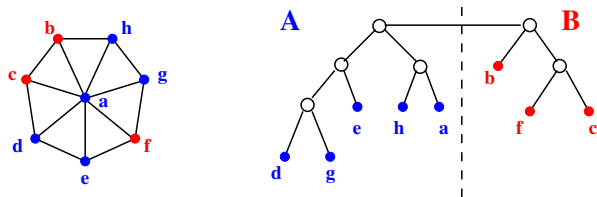
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- ▶ $fwidth(T, \delta) = \max_{uv \in E(T)} \{f(A_u)\} = \max_{u \in V(T)} \{f(A_u)\}$

Defining a width parameter using a cut function



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- ▶ $fwidth(T, \delta) = \max_{uv \in E(T)} \{f(A_u)\} = \max_{u \in V(T)} \{f(A_u)\}$
- ▶ $fwidth(G) = \min_{(T, \delta)} \{fwidth(T, \delta)\}$

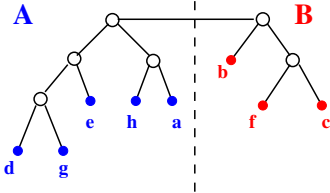
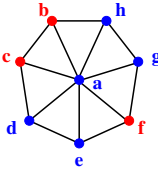
Examples

Carving-width

Rank-width

Boolean-width

MM-width $mmw(G)$:
cut function $mm(A) =$ size of Maximum Matching of $G(A, \bar{A})$



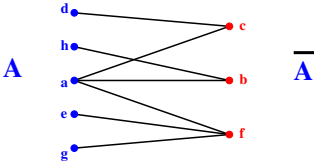
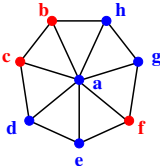
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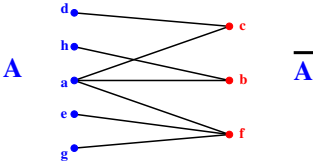
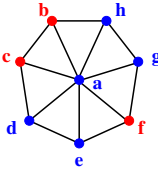
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Example:

$mmw(K_n) = n/3$ (ternary tree and max matching of $K_{a,b}$ is $\min(a, b)$).

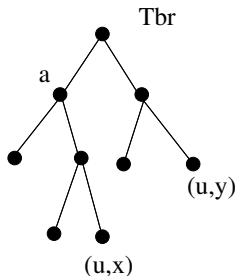
Rest of talk

1. $mmw(G) \leq tw(G) + 1$ [Vatshelle'12]
2. $tw(G) \leq 3mmw(G)$ by non-monotone cop strategy [Vatshelle'12]
3. This strategy can be made monotone [Sæther'13]
4. mm cut function is submodular [Sæther'13]

$$mmw(G) \leq brw(G)$$

Branchwidth

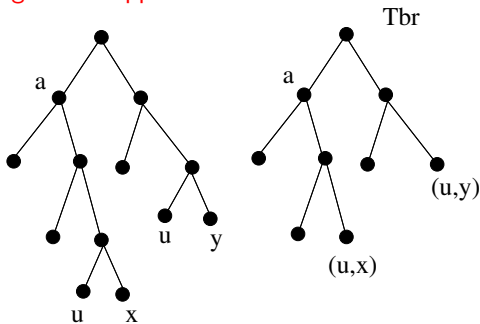
$brw(G)$ defined by cut function $br : 2^{E(G)} \rightarrow N$, with
 $br(E_a) = |\text{midset}(E_a, \overline{E_a})| =$ number of vertices both in **edge mapped**
to a -subtree and in **edge not mapped** to a -subtree.



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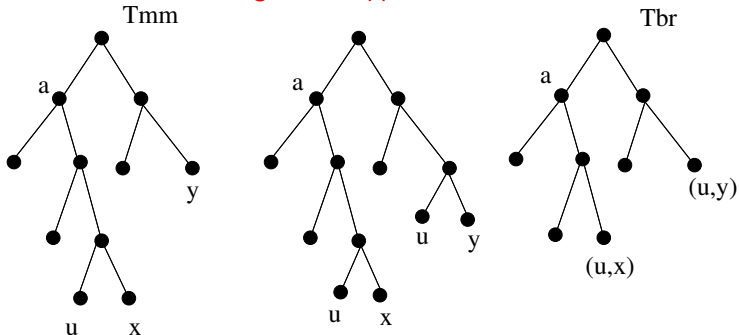
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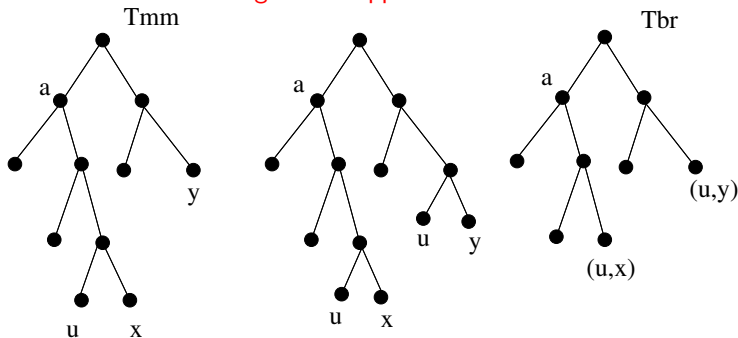
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- ▶ Assume (u, y) in matching M of $G(A_a, \overline{A_a})$ of Tmm .
Then either u or y in mid-set of $(E_a, \overline{E_a})$ of Tbr .
Thus $mmw(G) \leq brw(G) \leq tw(G) + 1$

$$tw(G) \leq 3mmw(G) - 1$$

Treewidth $tw(G)$ is number of cops (-1) needed to capture robber when:

- ▶ Robber is visible and moves fast along cop-free paths
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For G , given (Tmm, δ) of MM-width k , here is **3k-cop strategy** on G :

- ▶ Start at root of Tmm and move down:

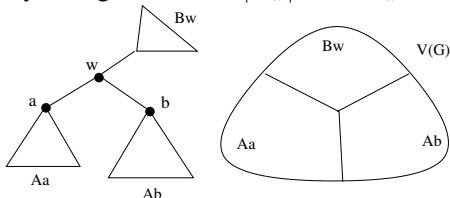
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By König's Theorem $|C_w| \leq k$. C_w is a separator.



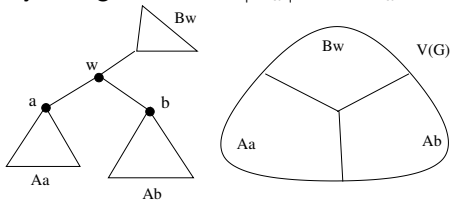
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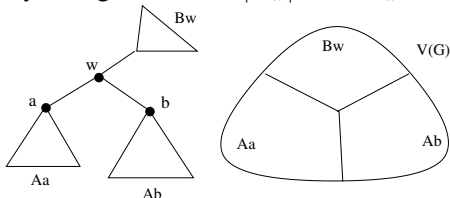
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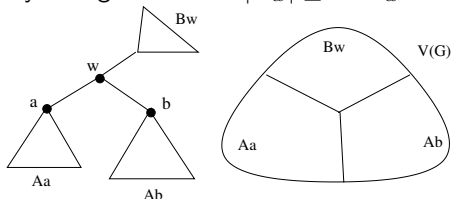
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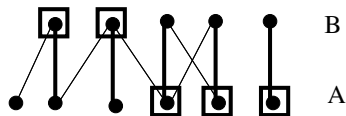


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Non-monotone since vertex x could go **in/out/in** of the Vertex Covers.

Monotone strategy [Sæther]

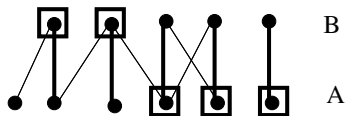
Given max matching M of $G(A, B)$ define **König Vertex Cover** $C(M)$:
-For every edge in M put A -vertex in $C(M)$; unless robber can then escape from A , i.e. unless there is an alternating path containing the edge and starting in an unsaturated A -vertex; if so put B -vertex in $C(M)$.



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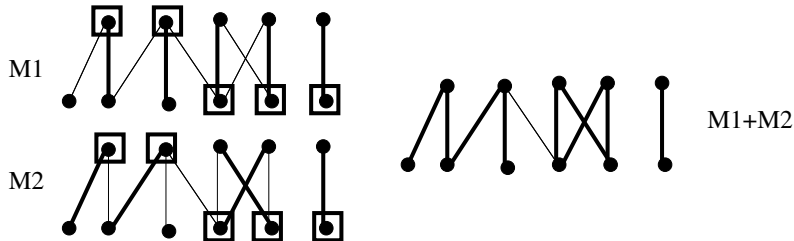
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Fact

If M_1, M_2 are max matchings then $C(M_1) = C(M_2)$



Using König Vertex Covers $3k$ -cops strategy is monotone

Robber is always on A -side, and A -side shrinks as we move down Tmm .

Cop movement **legal** if we keep all cops on old A -side and add no new cops on old B -side.

Combining legal movements gives **monotone** strategy.

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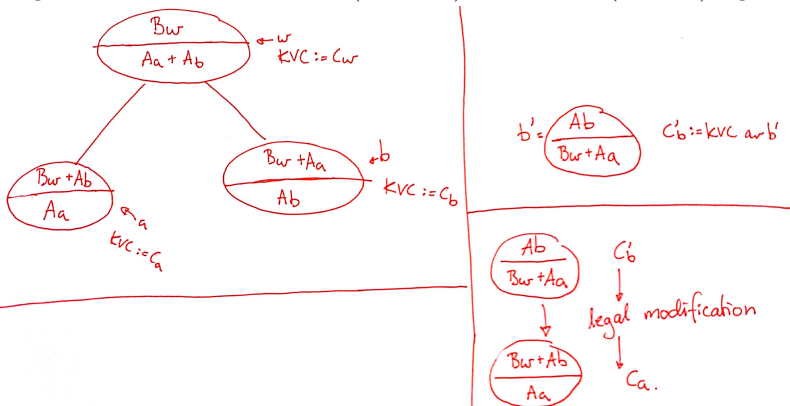
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Lemma

Moving cops from C_w to $C_w \cup C_a \cup C_b$ for $G(A_w, B_w)$ is legal.

Moving from $C_w \cup C_a \cup C_b$ for $G(A_w, B_w)$ to C_a for $G(A_a, B_a)$ legal.



Max matching is a submodular cut function

Recall: for $A \subseteq V(G)$ define $mm(A)$ =size of max matching of $G(A, \bar{A})$

Lemma

For $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ have $mm(A) + mm(B) \geq mm(A \cup B) + mm(A \cap B)$

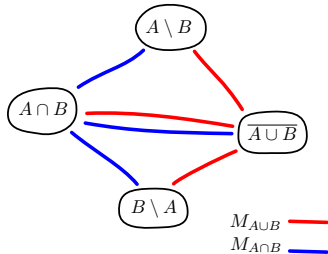
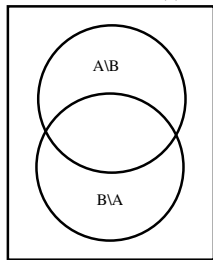
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For any matchings $M_{A \cup B}$ and $M_{A \cap B}$ there exists matchings M_A and M_B such that $M_A \dot{\cup} M_B = M_{A \cup B} \dot{\cup} M_{A \cap B}$ (as multisets). Note $M_{A \cup B} \dot{\cup} M_{A \cap B}$ forms vertex-disjoint paths and cycles. Let P be such. Show matchings N_A and N_B on the same edges as P , then take disjoint union of these to get M_A and M_B . Edges of P alternate Blue and Red, so at most one vertex v of P in $A \setminus B \cup B \setminus A$, say wlog $v \in B \setminus A$. Then $P \cap M_{A \cap B}$ is a matching of A and $P \cap M_{A \cup B}$ is a matching of B .



Use of MM-width

MM-width has been used to define a parameter between treewidth and clique-width [ST'14]

Graphs of MM-width at most k are **closed under minors**.

For $k = 1$ the set of Minimal Forbidden Minors is $\{C_4\}$.

What about larger k ?

Other uses of MM-width?

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