

Is it hard to color a graph as a 4 years old child?

Édouard Bonnet¹, Florent Foucaud², Eunjung Kim³, and
Florian Sikora³.

¹ Hungarian Academy of Sciences

²LIMOS – France

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JGA 2015

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(Wrote most of these slides)

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Outline

Warm Up

Exact algorithms

Weak Grundy Coloring

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Exact algorithms

Weak Grundy Coloring

Grundy Colorings – Definition(s)

The worst way of reasonably coloring a graph.

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The **worst way** of reasonably coloring a graph.

- ▶ Order the vertices $v_1, v_2 \dots v_n$ to *maximize* the number of colors used by the greedy coloring: the **Grundy Number** (GN).
- ▶ That is, v_i is colored with $c(v_i)$ the first color that is **not** in its neighborhood (first-fit).

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- ▶ **Connected version:** $\forall i, G[v_1 \cup \dots \cup v_i]$ is **connected**.

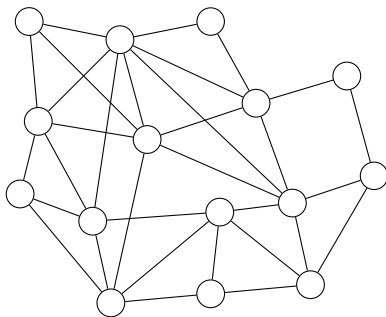
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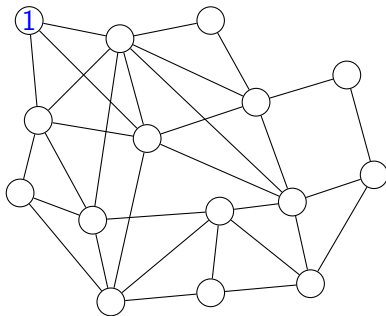
- ▶ Order the vertices $v_1, v_2 \dots v_n$ to *maximize* the number of colors used by the greedy coloring: the **Grundy Number** (GN).
- ▶ That is, v_i is colored with $c(v_i)$ the first color that is **not** in its neighborhood (first-fit).
- ▶ **Connected version:** $\forall i, G[v_1 \cup \dots \cup v_i]$ is **connected**.
- ▶ **Weak version:** v_i can be colored with any color in $\{1, \dots, c(v_i)\}$.

Algorithmic motivations

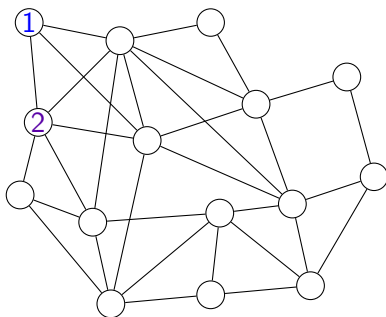
- ▶ $GN(G)$ **upper bounds** the number of colors used by any greedy heuristic for MIN COLORING.
- ▶ $GN(G) \leq C \cdot \chi(G)$ on some classes of graphs gives a **C-approximation** for MIN COLORING.
- ▶ See Sampaio's PhD thesis for further motivations.



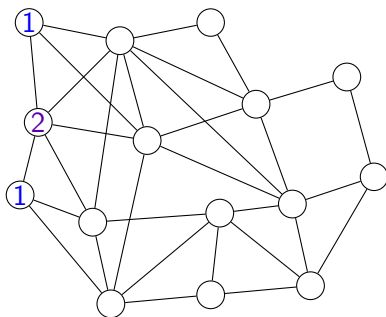
Can you achieve color 6?



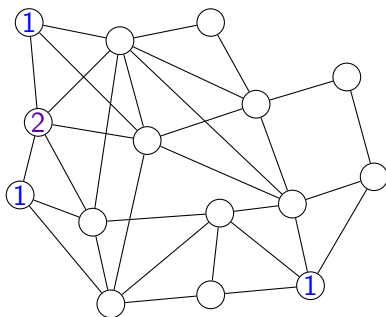
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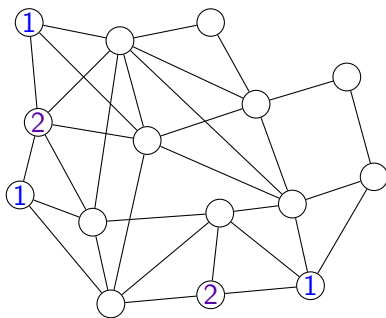
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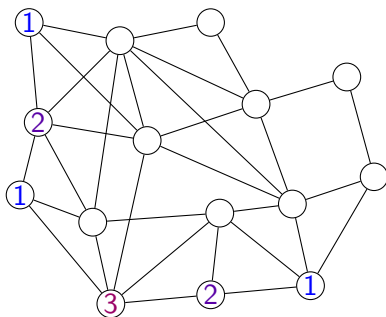
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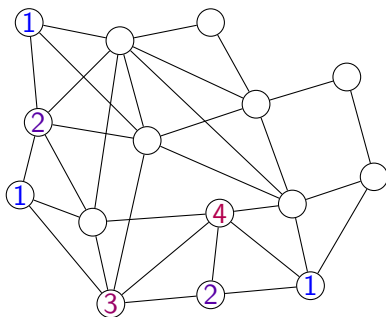
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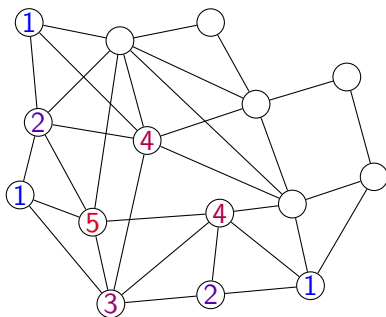
Can you achieve color 6?



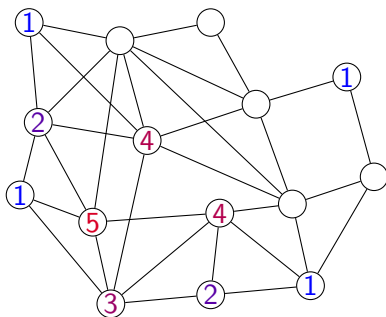
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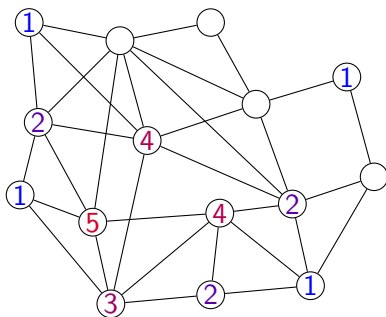
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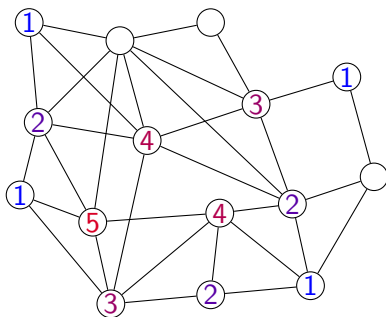
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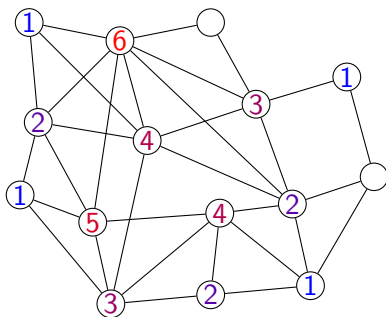
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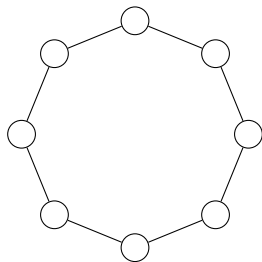


Can you achieve color 6?



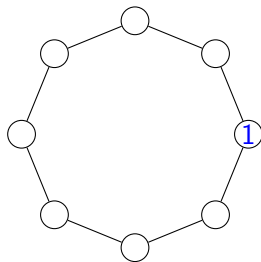
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Cycles



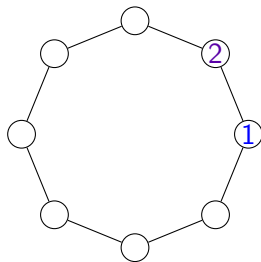
Grundy number =?

Cycles



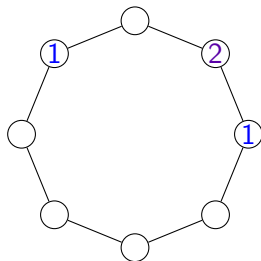
Grundy number = ?

Cycles



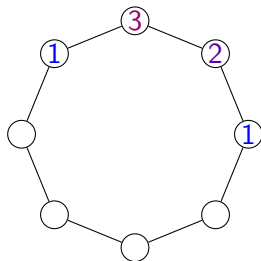
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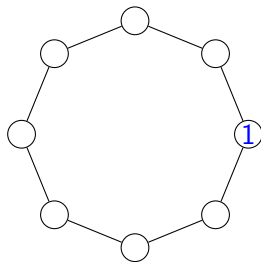
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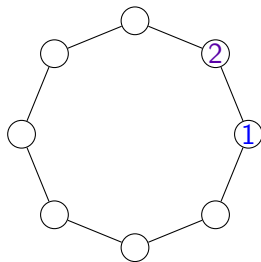
Grundy number = 3

(even) Cycles



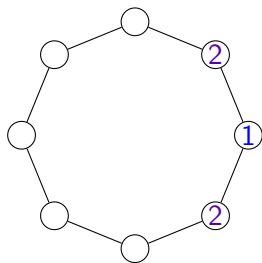
Connected Grundy number =?

(even) Cycles



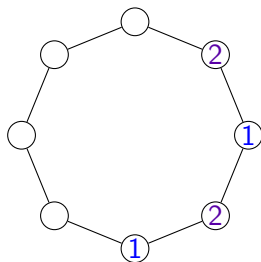
Connected Grundy number =?

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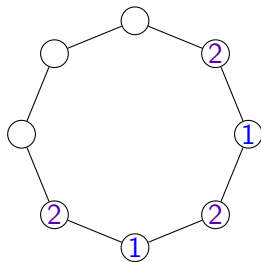
Connected Grundy number =?

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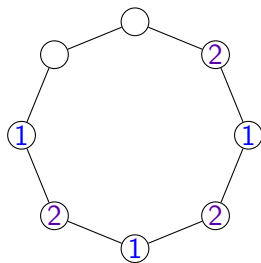
Connected Grundy number =?

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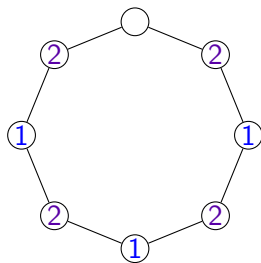
Connected Grundy number =?

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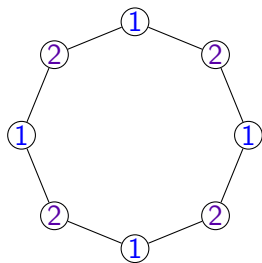
Connected Grundy number =?

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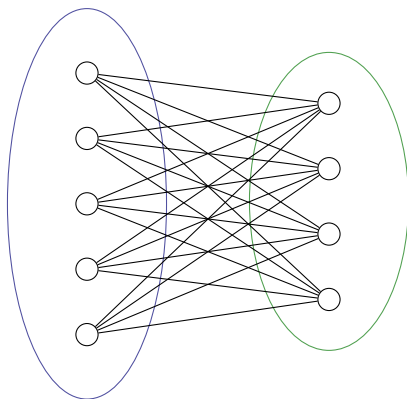


Connected Grundy number =?

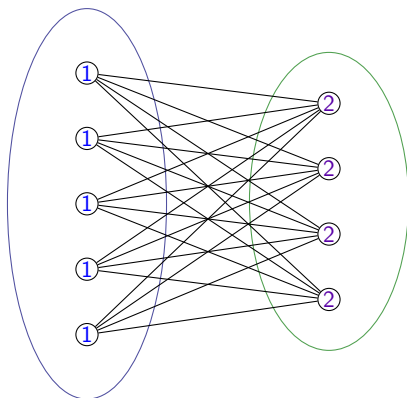
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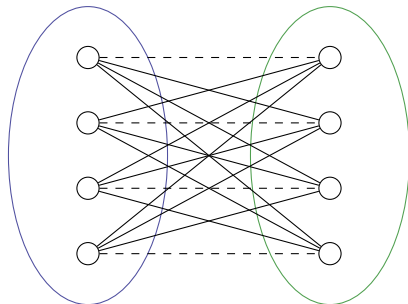
Connected Grundy number = 2

$K_{n,m}$ 

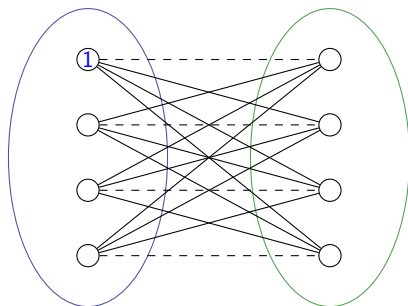
Grundy number =?

$K_{n,m}$ 

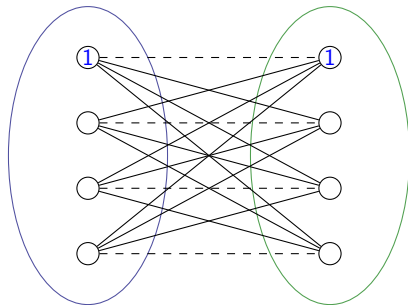
Grundy number = 2

$K_{p,p}$ minus a perfect matching

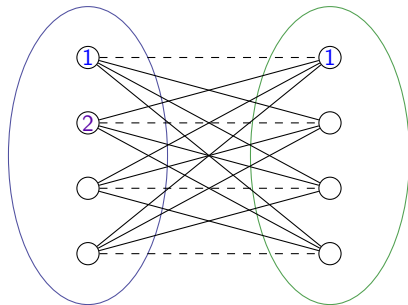
Grundy number =?

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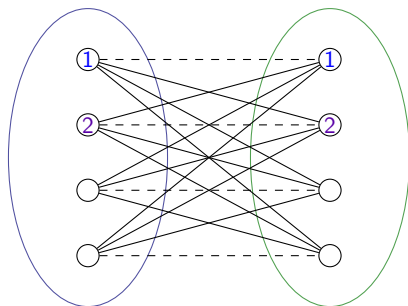
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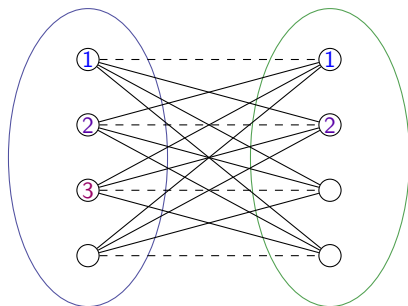
Grundy number =?

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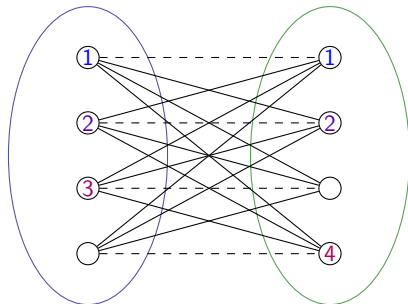
Grundy number =?

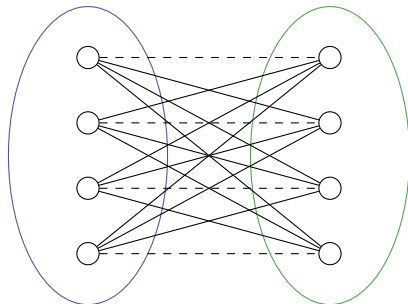
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Grundy number =?

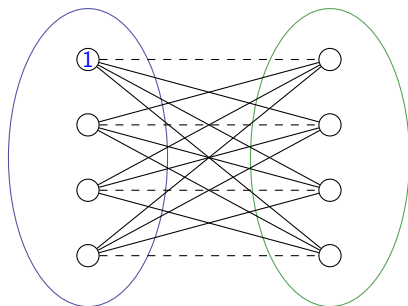
$K_{p,p}$ minus a perfect matching

Grundy number =?

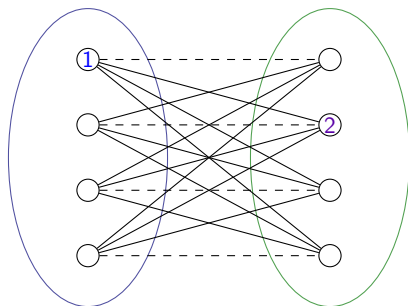
$K_{p,p}$ minus a perfect matchingGrundy number = p

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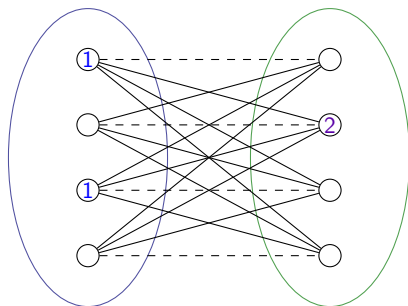
Connected Grundy number =?

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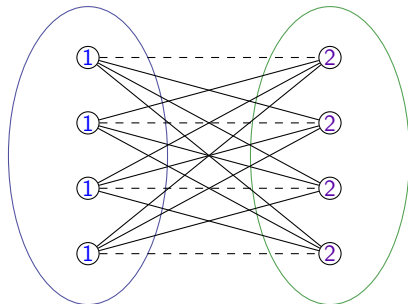
Connected Grundy number =?

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(minimal) Witnesses

How many vertices (at least) did we need to achieve color k ?
(easy)

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k (Clique of size k).

(minimal) Witnesses

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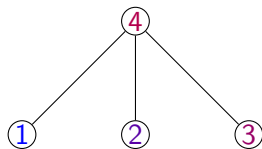
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④

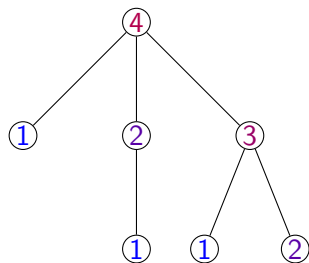
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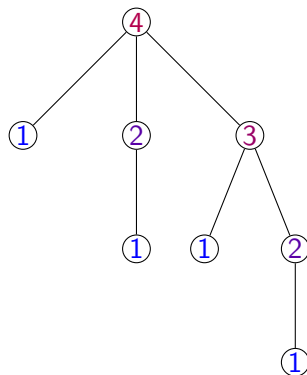
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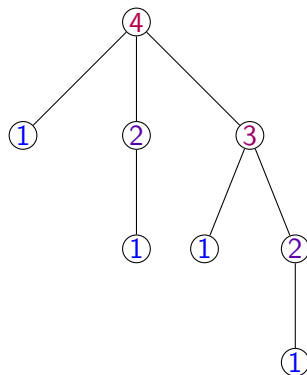
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Binomial tree T_4 .

(minimal) Witnesses

How many vertices (at most) did we need to achieve color k ?



- ▶ $|T_k| = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq k-1} |T_i|$, $|T_1| = 1$.
- ▶ So $|T_k| = 2^{k-1}$

Binomial tree T_4 .

(minimal) Witnesses – Consequences

- ▶ Algorithm:
 - ▶ For every subset of 2^{k-1} vertices, check if there is a witness.

Theorem (Zaker '05)

The Grundy number can be computed in $O(f(k)n^{2^{k-1}})$.

XP algorithm: $O(f(k)n^{g(k)})$: polynomial for fixed values of k .

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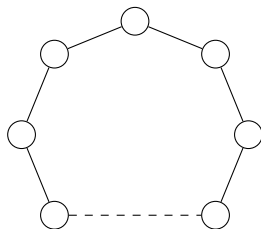
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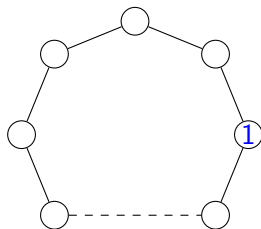
XP algorithm: $O(f(k)n^{g(k)})$: polynomial for fixed values of k .

Can we do the same for the connected Grundy number?

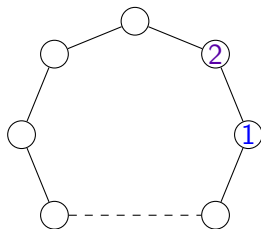
Witness for the connected version



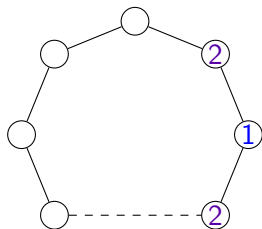
Witness for the connected version



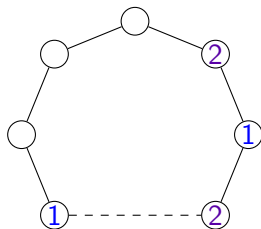
Witness for the connected version



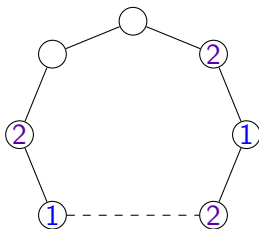
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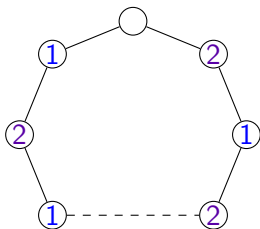
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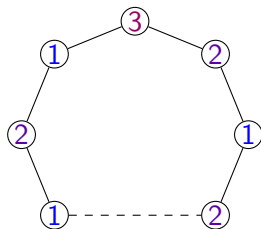
Witness for the connected version



Witness for the connected version

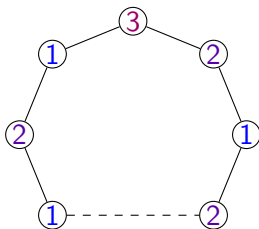


Witness for the connected version



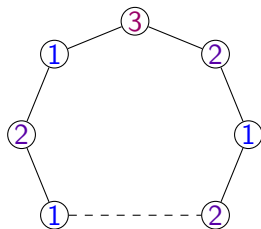
Connected Grundy number = 3 but unbounded witness.

Witness for the connected version



Connected Grundy number = 3 but unbounded witness.
Can't do the previous trick!

Witness for the connected version

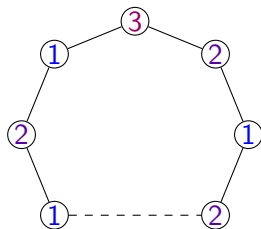


Connected Grundy number = 3 but unbounded witness.
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Theorem

CONNECTED GRUNDY COLORING *is NP-complete*

Witness for the connected version



Connected Grundy number = 3 but unbounded witness.
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Theorem

CONNECTED GRUNDY COLORING is NP-complete
even for $k = 7$.

Outline

Warm Up

Exact algorithms

Weak Grundy Coloring

Solving Grundy Coloring

Try all possible ordering of the vertices and check if at least k colors are used by the greedy coloring: $\Theta(n!)$ -time.

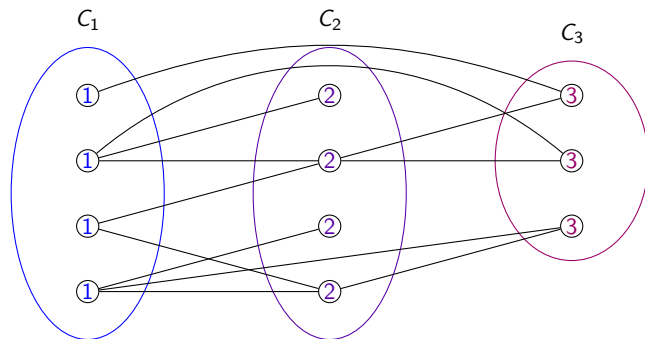
Solving Grundy Coloring

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We can have a $O(c^n)$ algorithm.

Solving Grundy Coloring

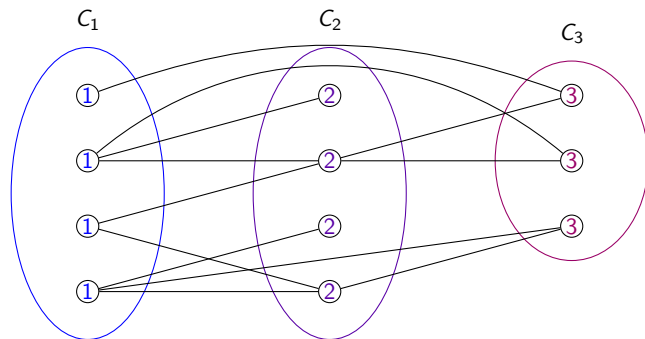
In a witness:



- ▶ Any color class is an **independent dominating set** in the graph induced by the next classes.

Solving Grundy Coloring

In a witness:



- ▶ Any color class is an **independent dominating set** in the graph induced by the next classes.
- ▶ $GN(S) = \max\{GN(S \setminus X), X \text{ ind. dom. set of } G[S]\} + 1.$

Solving Grundy Coloring

- ▶ A minimal independent dominating set is a maximal independent set.
- ▶ One can enumerate all maximal independent sets in $O(1.45^n)$ time.
 - ▶ Filling a cell in the table takes $O(1.45^i)$ time for a subset of size i .

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Theorem

One can solve Grundy coloring in $\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} 1.45^i = (1 + 1.45)^n$.

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Theorem

One can solve Grundy coloring in $\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} 1.45^i = (1 + 1.45)^n$.

Cannot replace the n by the treewidth (even feedback vertex set).

Theorem

Under the ETH, Grundy Coloring cannot be solved in $O^(c^{tw})$ for any constant c (even $O^*(2^{o(tw \log tw)})$).*

Outline

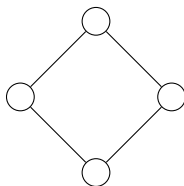
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Exact algorithms

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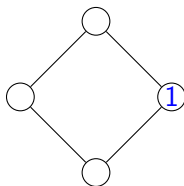
Are there graphs where weak Grundy exceeds Grundy number?

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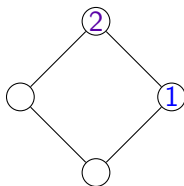
Weak Grundy number = 3, (connected) Grundy number = 2.

Are there graphs where weak Grundy exceeds Grundy number?



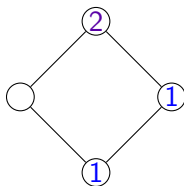
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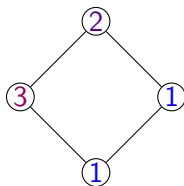
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- ▶ Do a function of k tries to have a small probability of failure.

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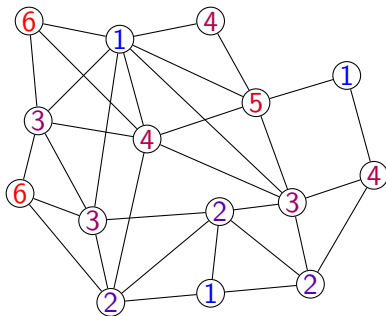
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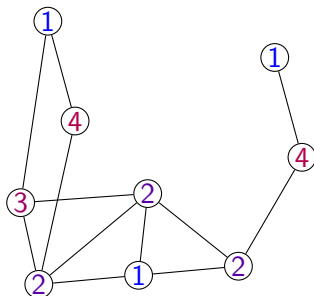
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 - ▶ A witness is of size at most 2^{k-1} .
 - ▶ This witness is well colored with probability is $\frac{1}{k^{2^k-1}}$.
 - ▶ After $\log(\frac{1}{\varepsilon})k^{2^k-1}$ tries, the probability of success is at least $1 - \varepsilon, \forall \varepsilon > 0$.

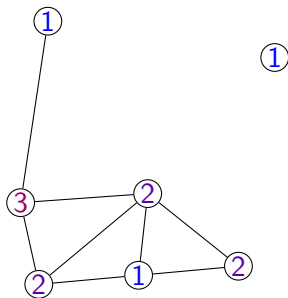
Guess #1



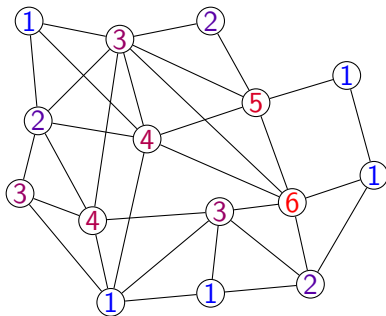
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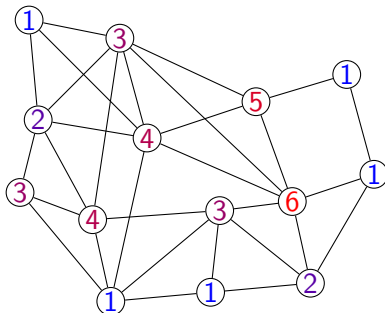
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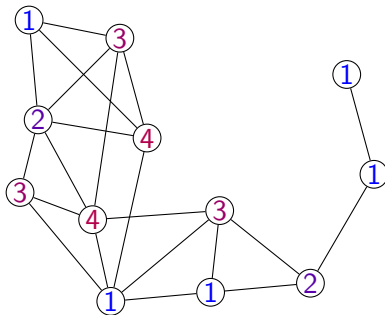
Guess #2



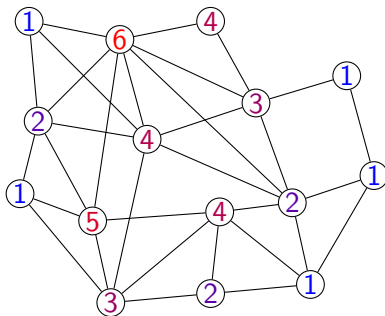
Guess #2



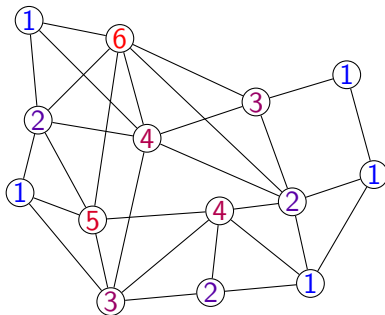
Guess #2



... $O(k^{2^k})$ unsuccessful guesses later ...



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Open Problems

- ▶ Is GRUNDY COLORING solvable in $O(2^n)$?
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- ▶ Is GRUNDY COLORING solvable in $O(f(k)n^c)$? Even for bipartite graph?
 - ▶ True for chordal, claw-free and bounded degree graphs or graph excluding a fixed graph as a minor.
 - ▶ ETH fails if GRUNDY COLORING is solvable in $O^*(2^{2^{o(k)}} 2^{o(n+m)})$.

Merci !