

# Metric Dimension Parameterized by FVS and Other Structural Parameters

by E. Galby, **L. Khazaliya**, F. Mc Inerney, R. Sharma, P. Tale

---

August 22, 2022

# Introduction

---

# Metric Dimension

An invisible immobile target  $t$  is hidden at a vertex of a graph  $G$ .

Probe a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ : returned  $d(v, t)$ .

# Metric Dimension

An invisible immobile target  $t$  is hidden at a vertex of a graph  $G$ .

**Probe** a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ : returned  $d(v, t)$ .

# Metric Dimension

An invisible immobile target  $t$  is hidden at a vertex of a graph  $G$ .

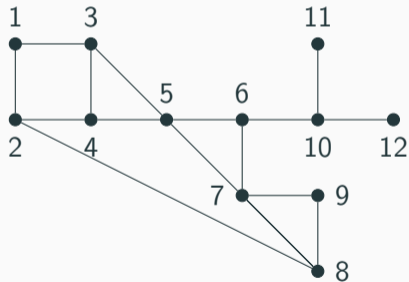
**Probe** a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ : returned  $d(v, t)$ .

**Question.** How many probes do we need?

# Metric Dimension

An invisible immobile target  $t$  is hidden at a vertex of a graph  $G$ .

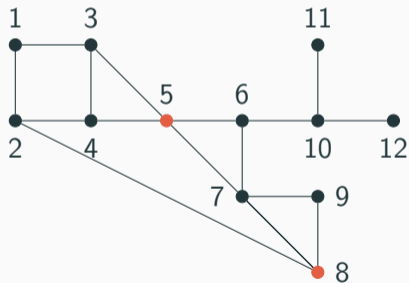
**Probe** a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ : returned  $d(v, t)$ .



# Metric Dimension

An invisible immobile target  $t$  is hidden at a vertex of a graph  $G$ .

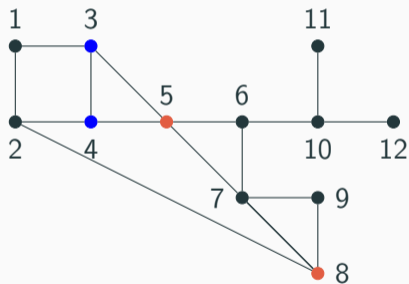
**Probe** a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ : returned  $d(v, t)$ .



# Metric Dimension

An invisible immobile target  $t$  is hidden at a vertex of a graph  $G$ .

**Probe** a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ : returned  $d(v, t)$ .



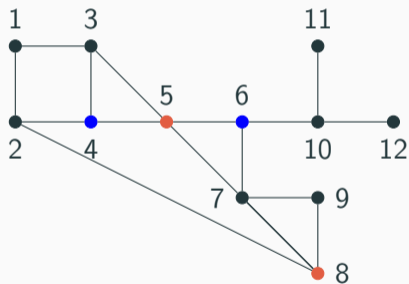
Vertices 3 and 4 are resolved by 8<sup>th</sup> vertex.



# Metric Dimension

An invisible immobile target  $t$  is hidden at a vertex of a graph  $G$ .

**Probe** a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ : returned  $d(v, t)$ .



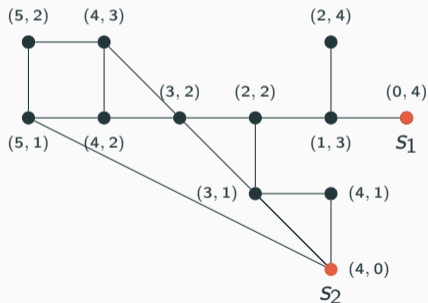
Vertices 4 and 6 are resolved by neither 5<sup>th</sup> nor 8<sup>th</sup> vertex.

# Metric Dimension

Def. A **resolving set** is an ordered set  $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k\} \subseteq V(G)$  s.t.

$\forall v, u \in V(G), v \neq u$

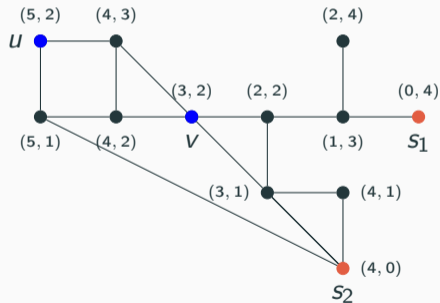
$\langle \text{dist}(v, s_1), \dots, \text{dist}(v, s_k) \rangle \neq \langle \text{dist}(u, s_1), \dots, \text{dist}(u, s_k) \rangle$ .



# Metric Dimension

Def. A **resolving set** is an ordered set  $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k\} \subseteq V(G)$  s.t.  
 $\forall v, u \in V(G), v \neq u$

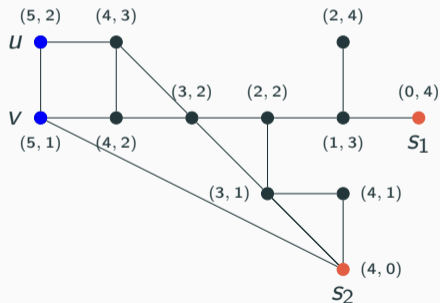
$$\langle \text{dist}(v, s_1), \dots, \text{dist}(v, s_k) \rangle \neq \langle \text{dist}(u, s_1), \dots, \text{dist}(u, s_k) \rangle.$$



# Metric Dimension

Def. A **resolving set** is an ordered set  $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k\} \subseteq V(G)$  s.t.  
 $\forall v, u \in V(G), v \neq u$

$$\langle \text{dist}(v, s_1), \dots, \text{dist}(v, s_k) \rangle \neq \langle \text{dist}(u, s_1), \dots, \text{dist}(u, s_k) \rangle.$$



# Metric Dimension [Slater, 1975; Harary and Melter, 1976]

Def. **Metric dimension** ( $\text{md}(G)$ ) is the size of a smallest resolving set of  $G$ .

## Metric Dimension

**Input:** an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ , integer  $k$

**Question:** Is  $\text{md}(G) \leq k$ ?

# Overview of what is known

---

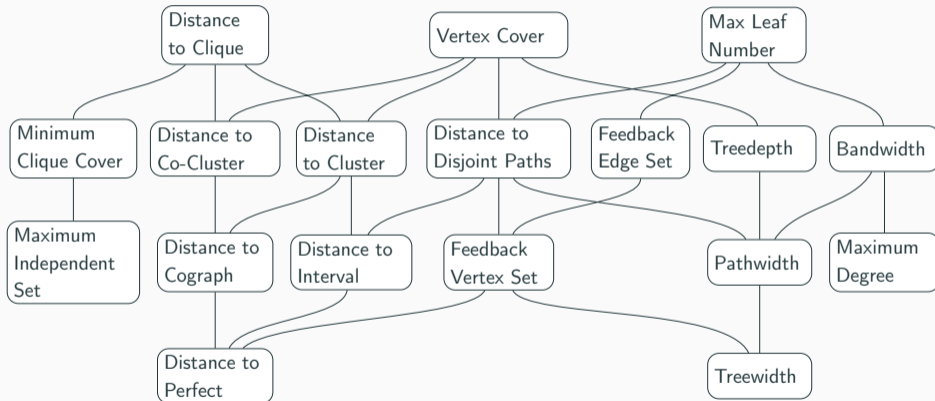
# Known results

## METRICDIMENSION

NP-complete	Linearly solvable
split graphs	cographs
bipartite	trees
co-bipartite	cactus block graphs
line graphs of bipartite graphs	
planar with bounded degree	Polynomially solvable
interval	outerplanar graphs
permutation graphs of diam 2	

# Hasse diagram

■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



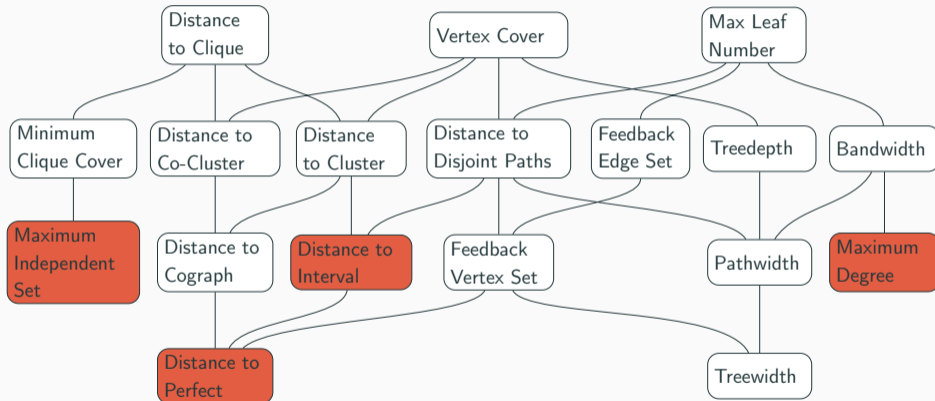
W[2]-hard when parameterized by the natural parameter.

An edge from a lower parameter to a higher parameter indicates that the lower one is upper bounded by a function of the higher one.



# Known results

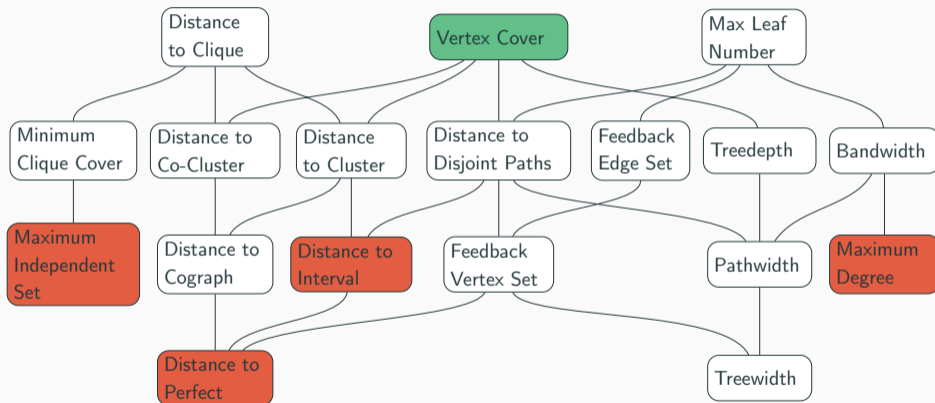
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



From NP-hard cases that were listed above.

# Known results

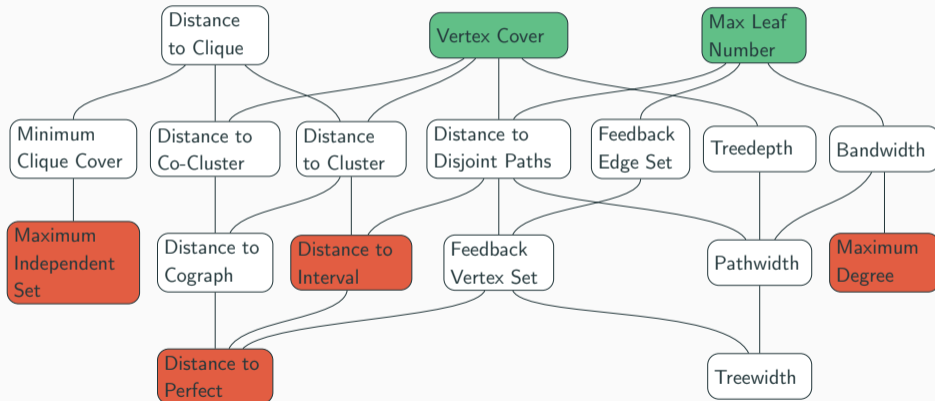
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



Hartung and Nichterlein, 2013: W[2]-hard for natural parameterization even for bipartite and  $\maxdeg \leq 3$ ;  
FPT when parameterized by the VC;  
Stated as an open: on planar graphs; for tree-width parameterization; complexity for FVS.

# Known results

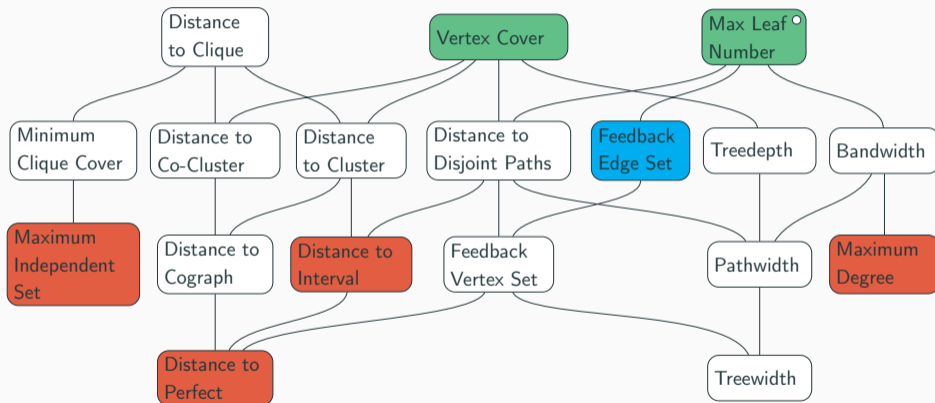
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



Eppstein, 2015: FPT when parameterized by the max leaf number;

# Known results

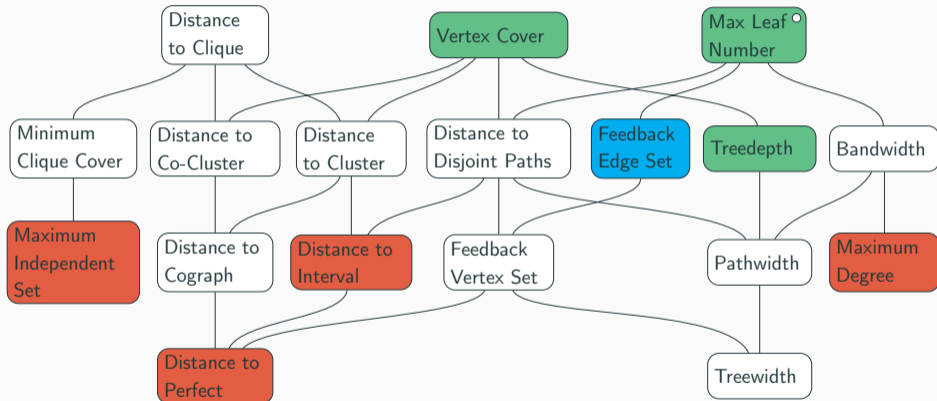
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



Epstein, et al, 2015: XP when parameterized by the feedback edge set;  
White circle means that METRICDIMENSION admits a polynomial size kernel under the parameter marked.

# Known results

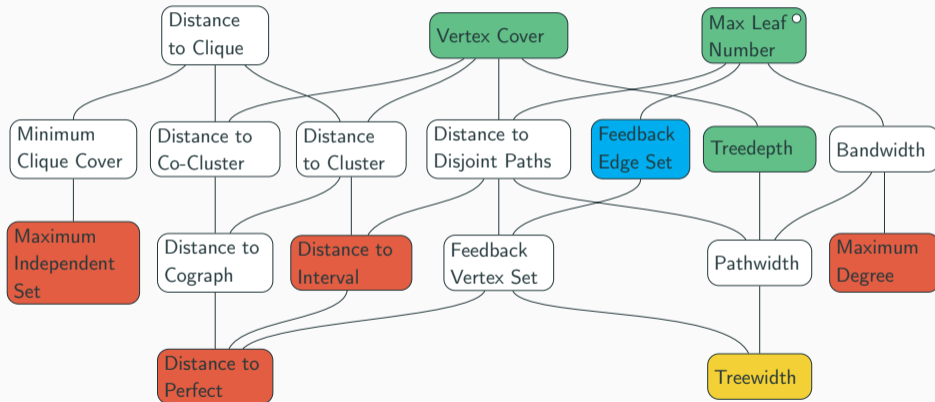
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



Gima et al, 2021: FPT when parameterized by the treedepth;

# Known results

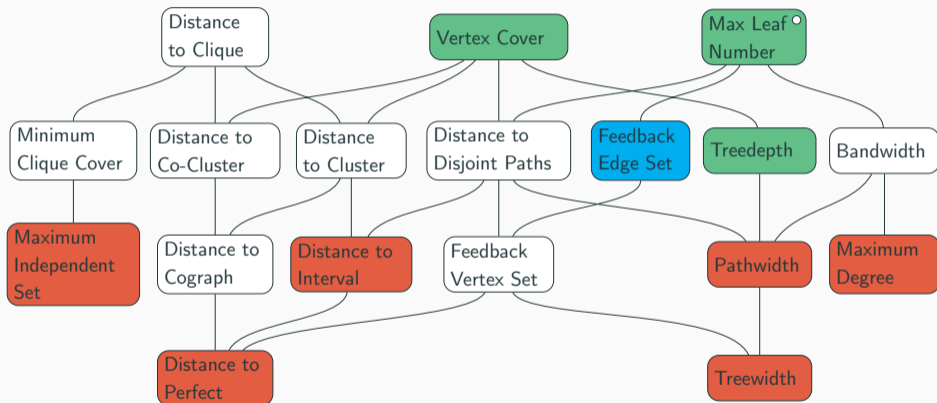
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



Bonnet and Purohit, 2019: W[1]-hard when parameterized by the tw;

# Known results

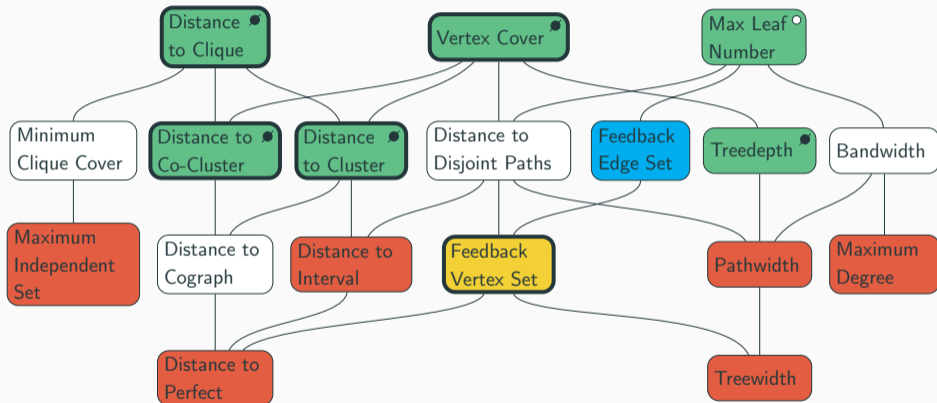
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



Li and Pilipczuk, 2021: NP-hard in graphs of  $pw \leq 24$ ;

# Our results

■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



Black circle means that METRICDIMENSION does not admit a polynomial size kernel under the parameter marked.



# Observation

Def. Any two vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$  are **true twins** if  $N[u] = N[v]$ , and are **false twins** if  $N(u) = N(v)$ .

## Observation.

For any (true or false) twins  $u, v \in V(G)$ , for any resolving set  $S$  of a graph  $G$ ,  $S \cap \{u, v\} \neq \emptyset$ .

# [No] Polynomial Kernels

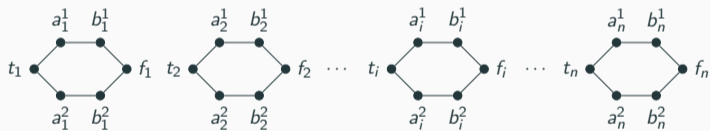
---

## Theorem

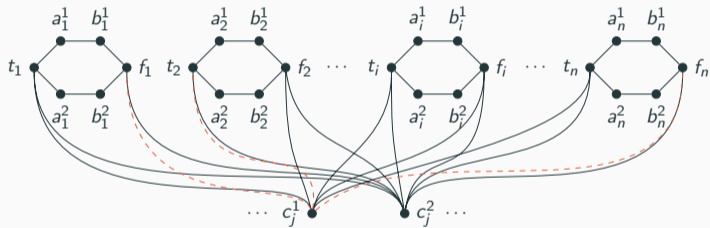
METRIC DIMENSION parameterized by the minimum size of a vertex cover of the graph does not admit a polynomial kernel unless  $NP \subseteq coNP/poly$ .

Reduction from SAT parameterized by the number of variables.

# No Poly Kernel, VC

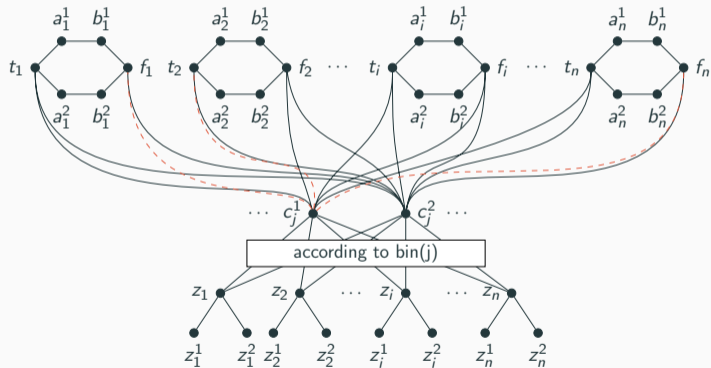


# No Poly Kernel, VC

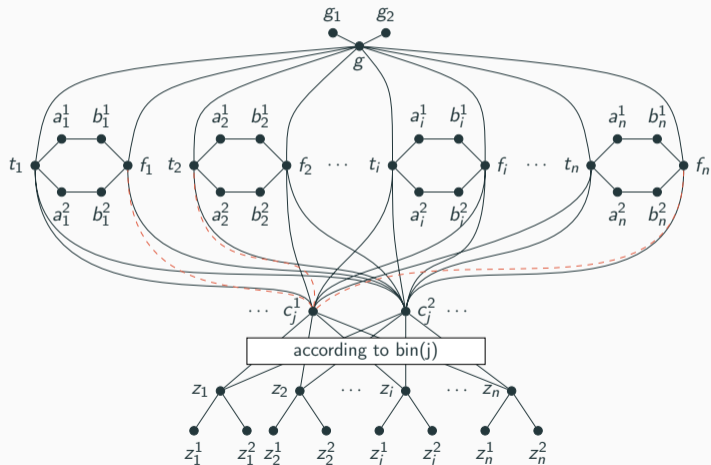


$$C_j = (\overline{x_1} \vee x_2 \vee \overline{x_n})$$

# No Poly Kernel, VC

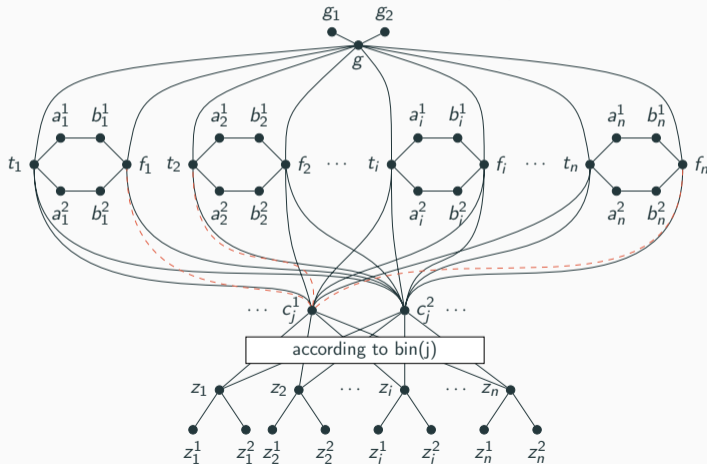


# No Poly Kernel, VC



# No Poly Kernel, VC

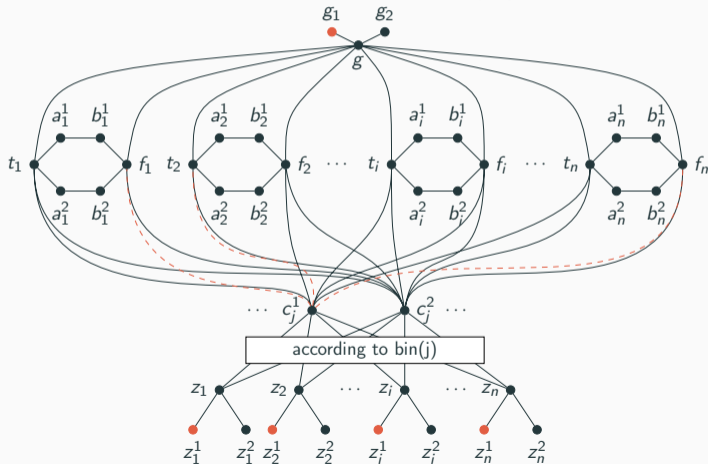
$\exists$  a satisfying assignment iff  $\text{md}(G) = 2n + 1$ .





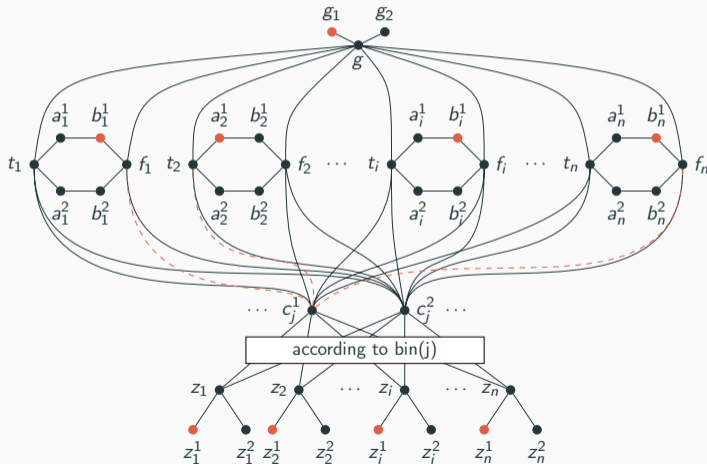
# No Poly Kernel, VC

$\exists$  a satisfying assignment iff  $\text{md}(G) = 2n + 1$ .



# No Poly Kernel, VC

$\exists$  a satisfying assignment iff  $\text{md}(G) = 2n + 1$ .



# No Poly Kernel, Dist. to clique

By making the vertices of  $\{C_j \mid j \in [m]\}$  into a clique, the distance to clique of the resulting graph is at most  $9n + 3$ .

Then, for this modified  $G$ :

## Theorem

METRIC DIMENSION parameterized by the distance to clique does not admit a polynomial kernel unless  $\text{NP} \subseteq \text{coNP}/\text{poly}$ .

W[1]-hardness, FVS

---

NAE-Integer-3-Sat,  $W[1]$ -hard param. by the number of variables

**Input:** a set  $X$  of variables, a set  $C$  of clauses, and an integer  $d$ .

- Each variable  $x \in X$  takes a value in  $\{1, \dots, d\}$ ;
- Each clause is of the form  $(x \leq a_x, y \leq a_y, z \leq a_z)$ ,  $a_x, a_y, a_z \in [d]$ ;
- A clause is satisfied if not all three inequalities are true and not all are false.

**Question:** Does a satisfying assignment of the variables exist?

**NAE-Integer-3-Sat**,  $W[1]$ -hard param. by the number of variables

**Input:** a set  $X$  of variables, a set  $C$  of clauses, and an integer  $d$ .

- Each variable  $x \in X$  takes a value in  $\{1, \dots, d\}$ ;
- Each clause is of the form  $(x \leq a_x, y \leq a_y, z \leq a_z)$ ,  $a_x, a_y, a_z \in [d]$ ;
- A clause is satisfied if not all three inequalities are true and not all are false.

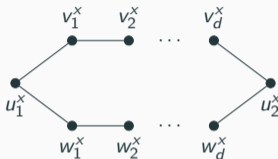
**Question:** Does a satisfying assignment of the variables exist?

## Theorem

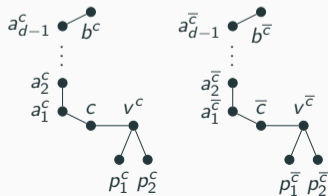
METRIC DIMENSION param. by the feedback vertex set number is  $W[1]$ -hard.

# $W[1]$ -hardness

The variable gadget  $G_x$ :

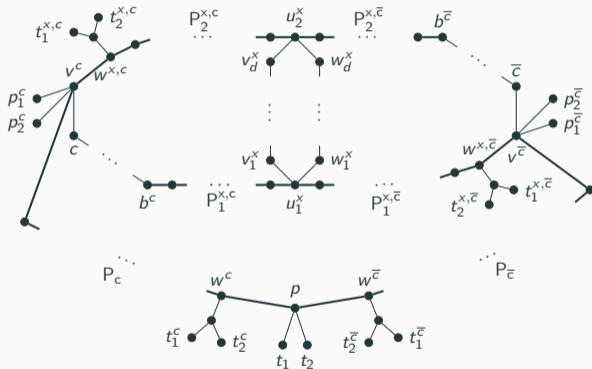


The clause gadget  $G_c$ : a disjoint union of  $H_c$  and  $H_{\bar{c}}$



# $W[1]$ -hardness

Complete construction:



$(X, C, d)$  is satisfiable iff  $(G, k)$  is a yes-instance for  $k = |X| + 10|C| + 1$ .

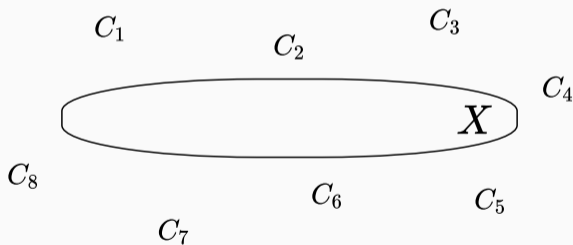


FPT, the dist to cluster

---

# FPT, the dist to cluster

Def. The distance to  $\mathcal{F}$  of graph  $G$  is the size of minimum set  $X \subseteq V(G)$  such that  $G - X \in \mathcal{F}$ .



## Theorem

METRIC DIMENSION is FPT parameterized by the distance to cluster.

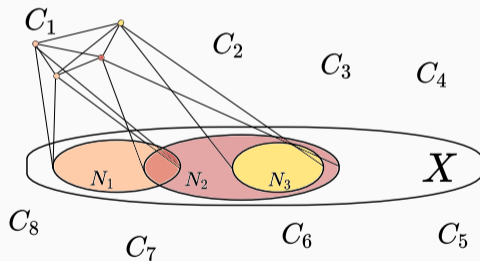
**Red. Rule 1.** If there exist  $u, v, w \in V(G)$  s.t.  $u, v, w$  are true (or false) twins, then remove  $u$  from  $G$  and decrease  $k$  by one.

So,  $\forall C \in \mathcal{G} \setminus X$ , at most 2 of its vertices have the same neighborhood in  $X$ .  
Thus,  $|C| \leq 2^{|X|+1}$ .

# FPT, the dist to cluster

Def. For every clique  $C$  of  $G - X$ , define the **signature**  $sign(C)$  of  $C$

$$sign(C) = \{N(u) \cap X : u \in C\}.$$

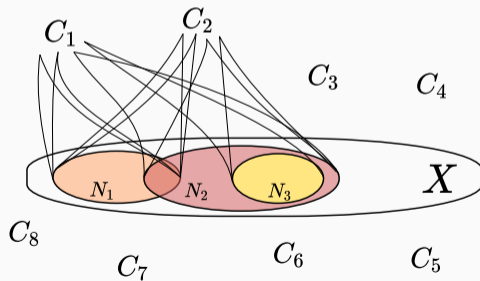


$$sign(C_1) = \{N_1, N_2, N_3\}.$$

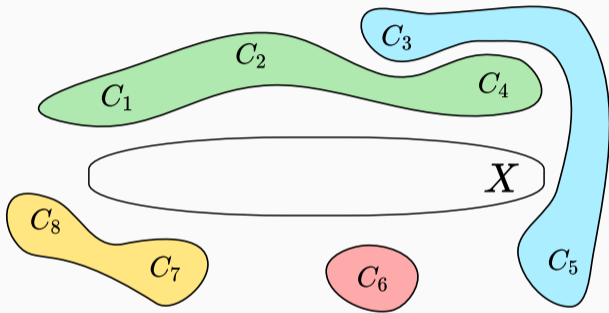
# FPT, the dist to cluster

Def. For any two cliques  $C_1, C_2 \in G - X$ , let  $C_1 \sim C_2$ , if and only if

$$\text{sign}(C_1) = \text{sign}(C_2).$$



# FPT, the dist to cluster



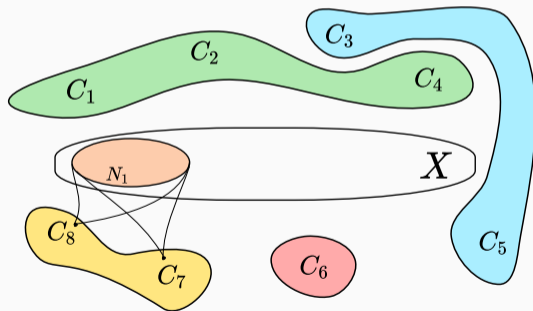
Thus, there are at most  $2^{2^{|X|+1}}$  equivalence classes.

# FPT, the dist to cluster

$\mathcal{C}$ : an equivalence class of  $\sim$ .

$C_7, C_8$ : cliques from the same  $\mathcal{C}$ .

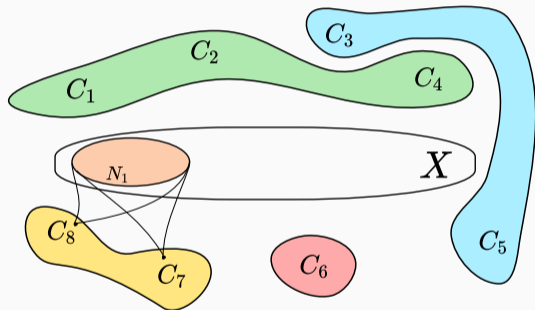
Def. Two vertices  $u \in C_7$  and  $v \in C_8$  are clones if  $N(u) \cap X = N(v) \cap X$ .



# FPT, the dist to cluster

$\mathcal{C}$ : an equivalence class of  $\sim$ .

$C_7, C_8$ : cliques from the same  $\mathcal{C}$ .



**Claim.** Let  $u \in C_7$  and  $v \in C_8$  be clones. Then, for any resolving set  $S$  of  $G$ ,

$$S \cap (V(C_7) \cup V(C_8)) \neq \emptyset.$$



Red. Rule 2. If there exists  $\mathcal{C}$  such that

$$|\mathcal{C}| \geq 2^{|\mathcal{X}|+2} + |\mathcal{X}| + 2,$$

remove a clique  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  from  $G$  and reduce  $k$  by  $\max\{1, t(C)\}$ .

Thus,  $|V(G)| \leq 2^{2^{|\mathcal{X}|+1}} \cdot (2^{|\mathcal{X}|+2} + |\mathcal{X}| + 1) \cdot 2^{|\mathcal{X}|+1} + |\mathcal{X}|$ :

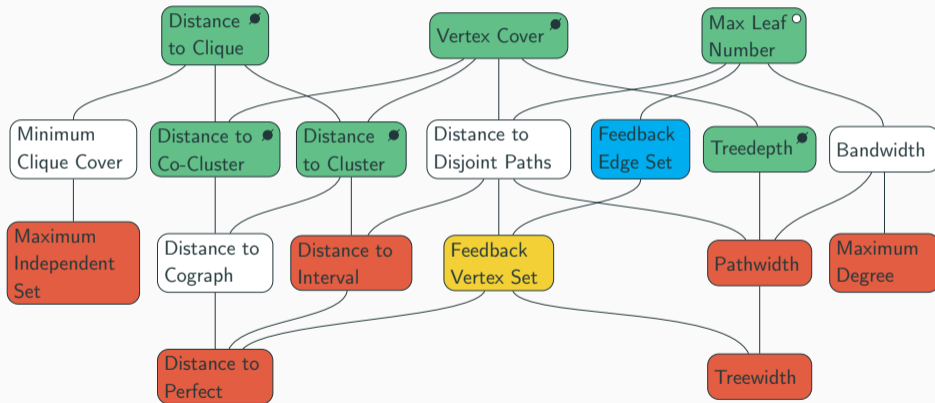
- $2^{2^{|\mathcal{X}|+1}}$  equivalence classes;
- each  $\mathcal{C}$  contains at most  $2^{|\mathcal{X}|+2} + |\mathcal{X}| + 1$  cliques;
- for each clique  $C \in G - \mathcal{X}$ ,  $|V(C)| \leq 2^{|\mathcal{X}|+1}$ .

## Further directions

---

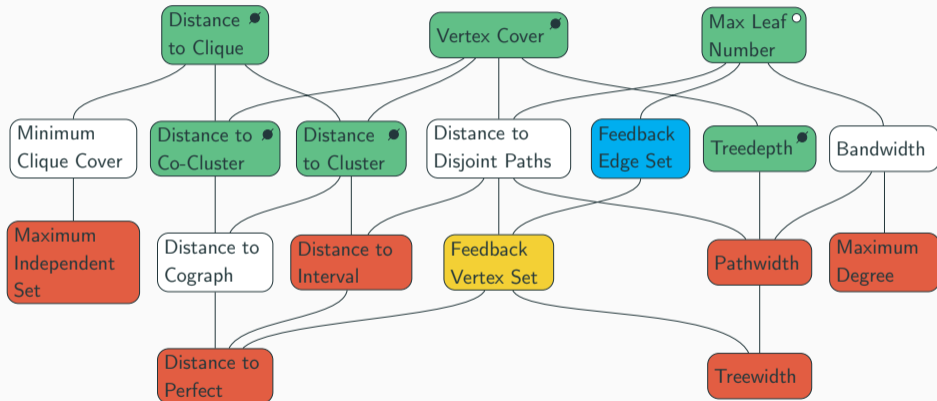
# Further

■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



# Further

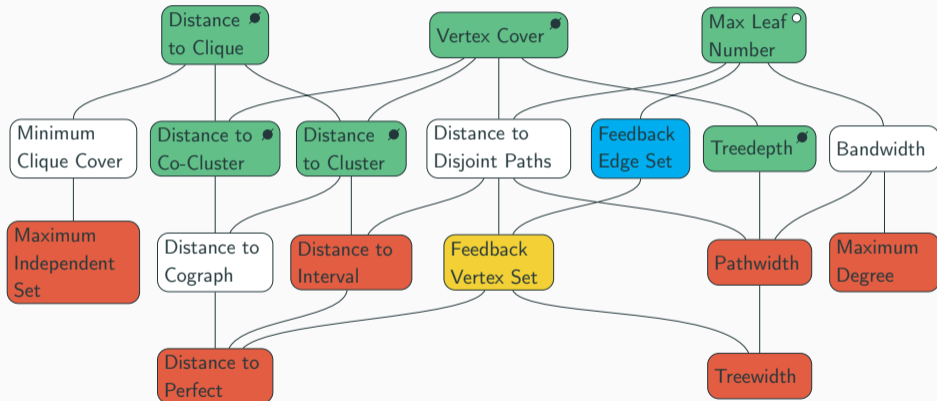
■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



? FPT with the feedback edge set.

# Further

■ — FPT; ■ — XP; ■ — W[1]; ■ — para-NP.



? Parameterization with the distance to cograph.

- Structural parameterization by:
  - the feedback edge set;
  - the distance to cograph;
  - dist to disjoint paths;
  - bandwidth;
  - the fvs + solution-size.

# Thanks for attention!

## Further directions

- Structural parameterization by:
  - the feedback edge set;
  - the distance to cograph;
  - dist to disjoint paths;
  - bandwidth;
  - the fvs + solution-size.

## Contents

Introduction

Overview of what is known

[No] Polynomial Kernels

W[1]-hardness, FVS

FPT, the dist to cluster