

# Selected results in temporal graph theory

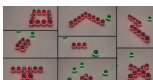
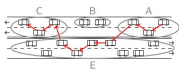
Arnaud Casteigts  
CS Dept.  
University of Geneva

December 4, 2023

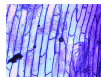
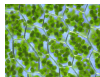
Séminaire “Groupes et Géométrie”,  
Section de mathématiques (UNIGE)

# The world is dynamic...

## In technologies



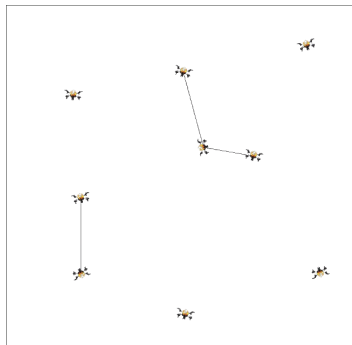
## In nature



## (Highly) dynamic networks?



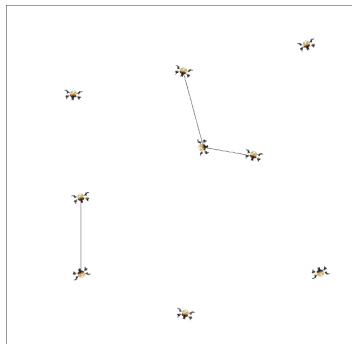
Example of scenario



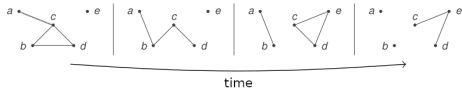
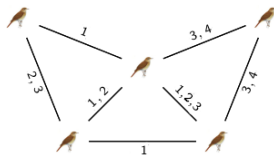
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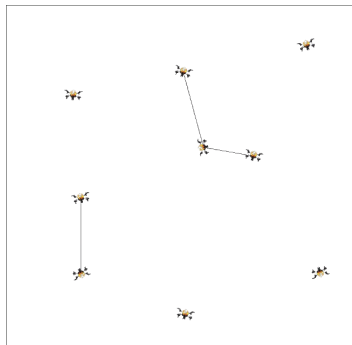
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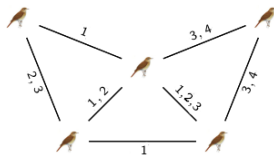
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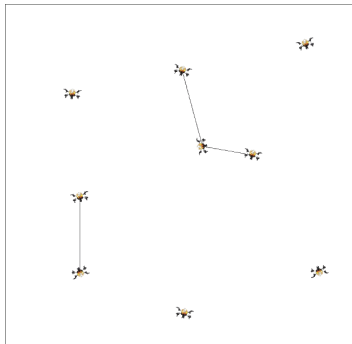
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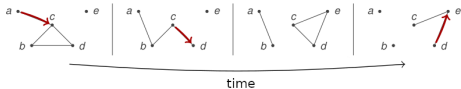
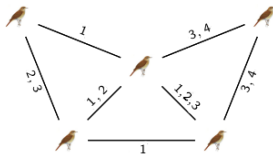
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Example of scenario



## Modeling



### Properties:

- ▶ Temporal connectivity?
- ▶ Repeatedly?
- ▶ Recurrent links?
- ▶ In bounded time?
- ▶ ...

$TC$

$TC^{\mathcal{R}}$

$\mathcal{E}^{\mathcal{R}}$

$\mathcal{E}^{\mathcal{B}}$

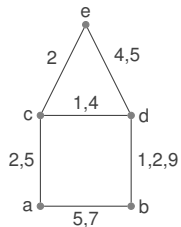
→ Classes of temporal graphs

# Temporal graphs

(a.k.a. time-varying, time-dependent, evolving, dynamic,...)

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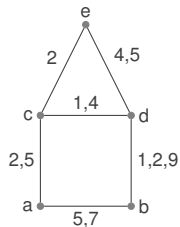


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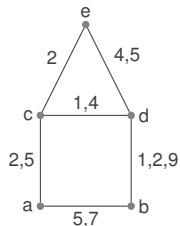
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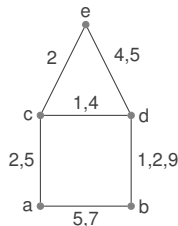
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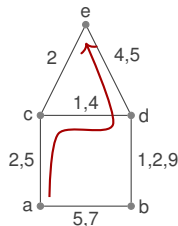
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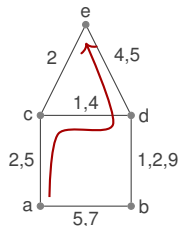
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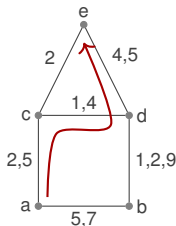
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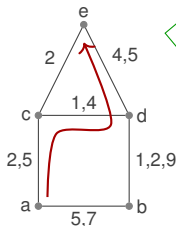
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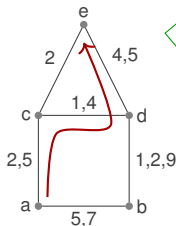
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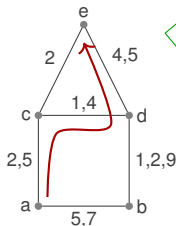
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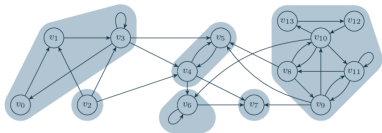
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# Impact of non-transitivity

(Example: CONNECTED COMPONENTS)

## In static graphs



- Components define a partition
- Easy to compute

## In temporal graphs

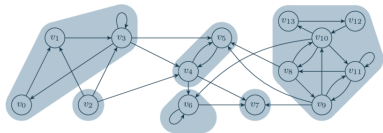


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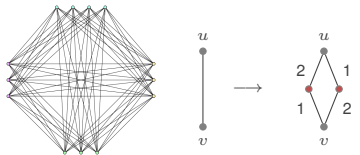
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- Maximal components may overlap
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COMPONENT is NP-hard! (from CLIQUE)

[Bhadra, Ferreira, 2003]



- Replace edges with semaphore gadgets
- Cliques  $\iff$  temporal components

# Spanning trees

In static graphs



- Existence is guaranteed
- Size is always  $n - 1$

# Spanning trees

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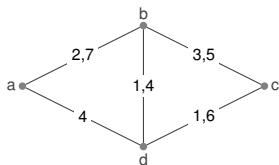


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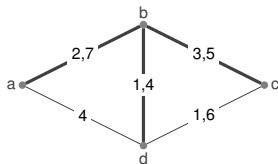


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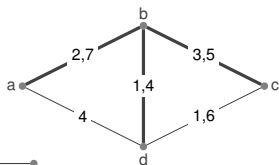


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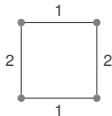
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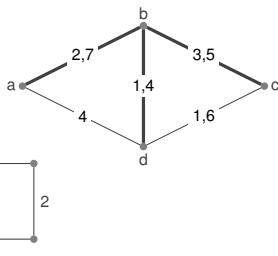


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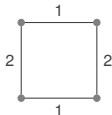
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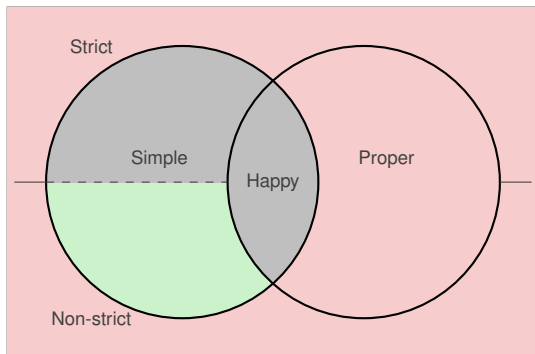
Does not always exist:



In fact, **NP-hard** to decide!

[C., Corsini, 2024]

## Landscape of hardness for SPANNING TREE



NP-Hard / Polynomial / Always no

## Searching for the lost tree

What to replace trees?

## Searching for the lost tree

What to replace trees?

→ Small reachability substructures (*temporal spanners*).

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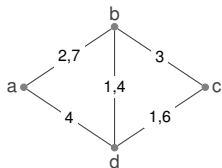
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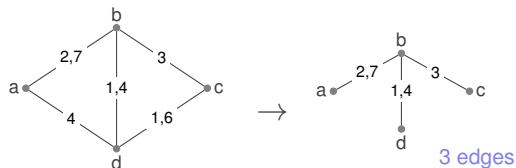
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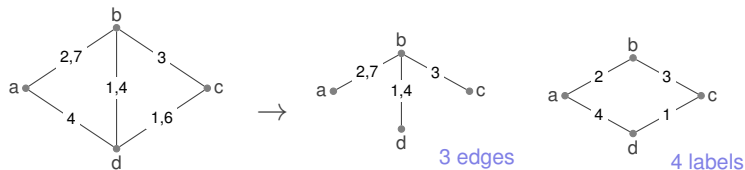
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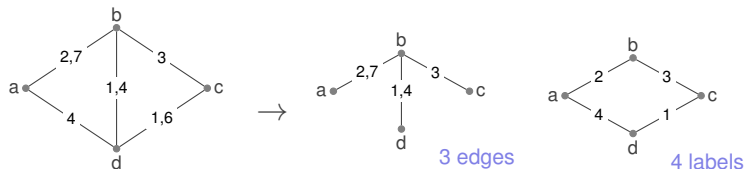
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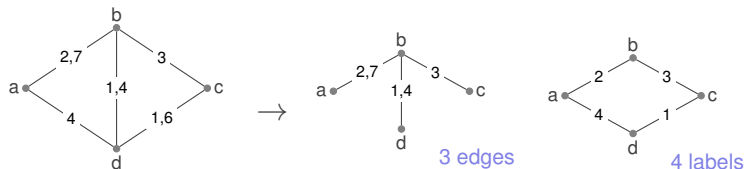
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**Open for happy graphs** (i.e. both simple and proper), could be polynomial.

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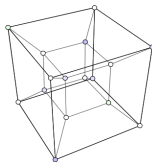
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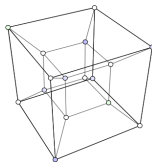


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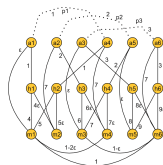
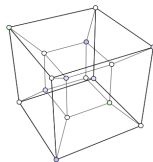


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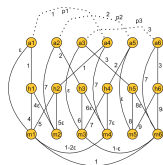
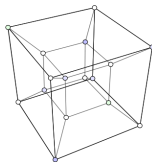


# Structural results

Given a temporal graph  $\mathcal{G}$  that is temporally connected ( $\mathcal{G} \in \text{TC}$ ), is there any guarantee on the size of a minimum spanner  $\mathcal{G}' \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ ?

Note: The absolute minimum is  $2n - 4$  [Bumby, 1979 (gossip theory)]

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## Any positive results?

Good news 1 (probabilistic): [C., Raskin, Renken, Zamaraev, FOCS 2021]:

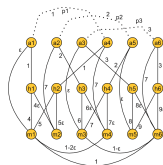
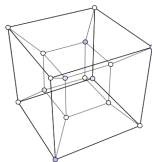
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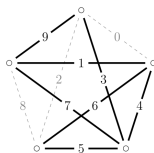
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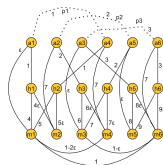
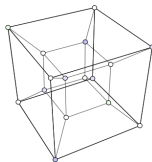


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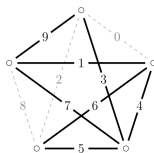
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**Open:**  $O(n)$  in temporal cliques?



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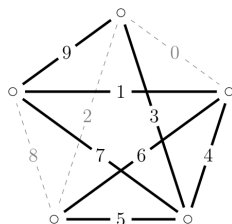
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(with)

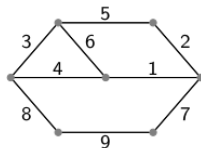


# Connectivity in random temporal graphs

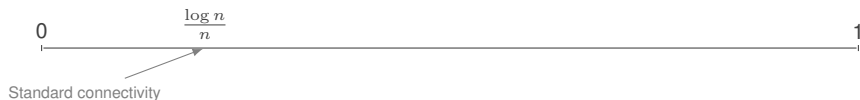
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Random happy temporal graphs:

1. Pick an Erdős-Rényi  $G \sim G_{n,p}$
2. Permute the edges randomly, interpret as (unique) presence time



Timeline for  $p$  (as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ):

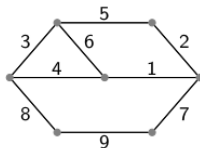


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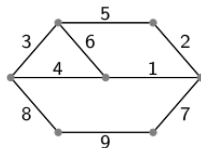


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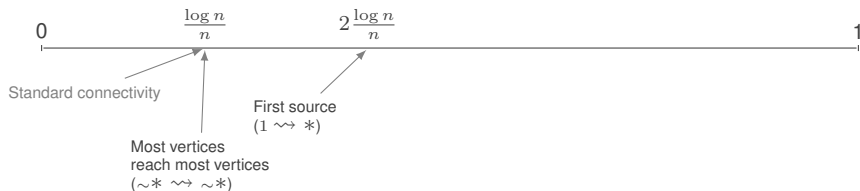


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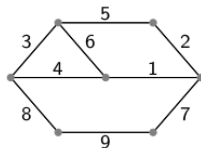


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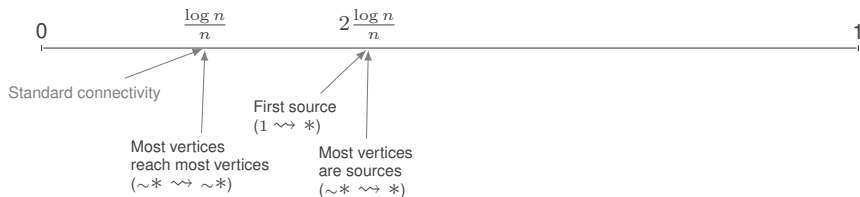
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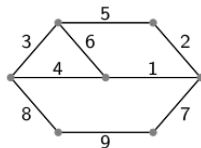


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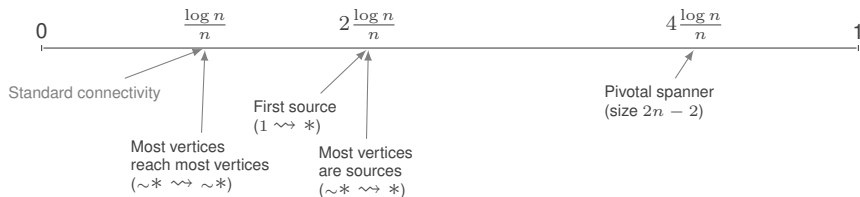
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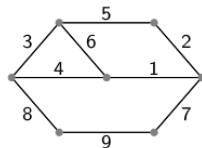


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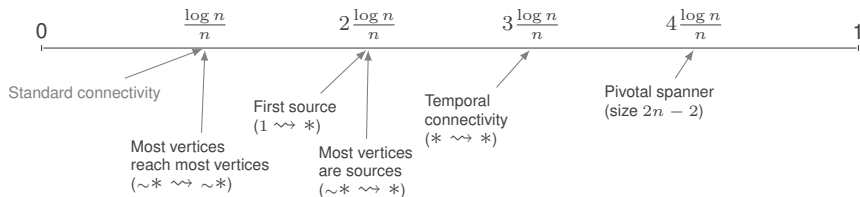
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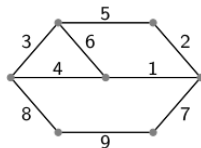


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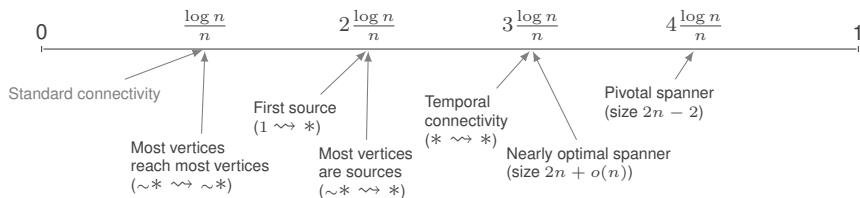


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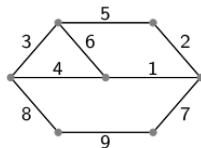


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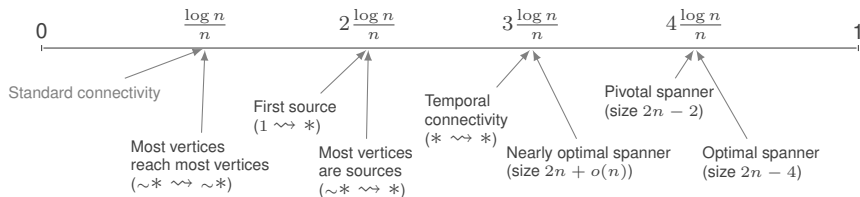


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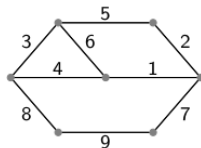


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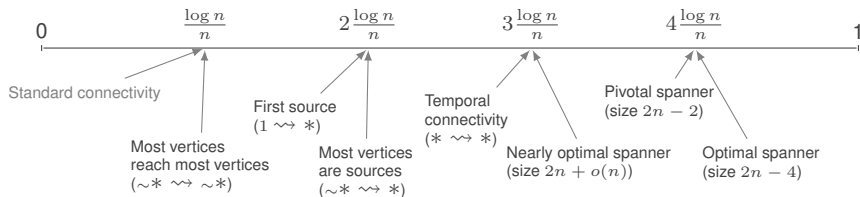


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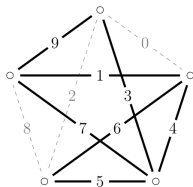


All the thresholds are sharp.

(sharp:  $\exists \epsilon(n) = o(1)$ , not true at  $(1 - \epsilon(n))p$ , true at  $(1 + \epsilon(n))p$ )

## Good news 2:

Temporal cliques admit sparse spanners



(with)



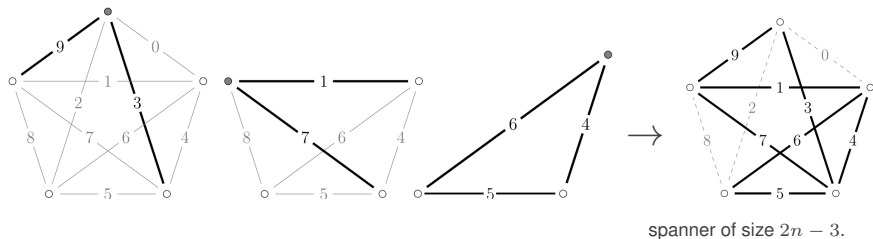
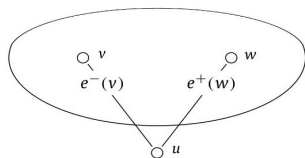
# Dismountability

Find a node  $u$  s.t. :

- ▶  $uv = \min$  edge of  $v$
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Then  $\text{spanner}(\mathcal{G}) := \text{spanner}(\mathcal{G}[V \setminus u]) + uv + uw$

→ Recurse.



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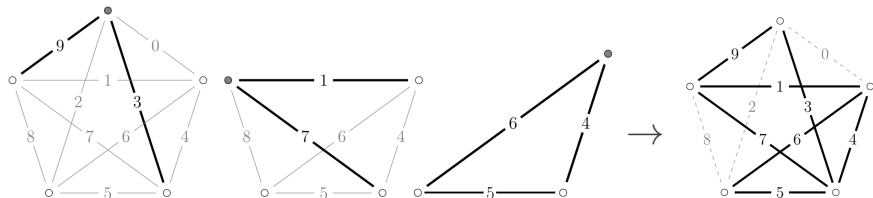
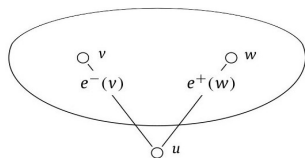
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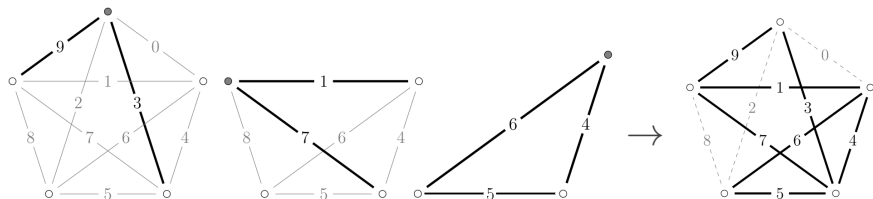
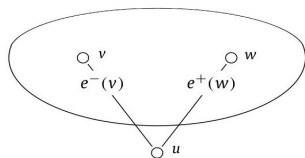
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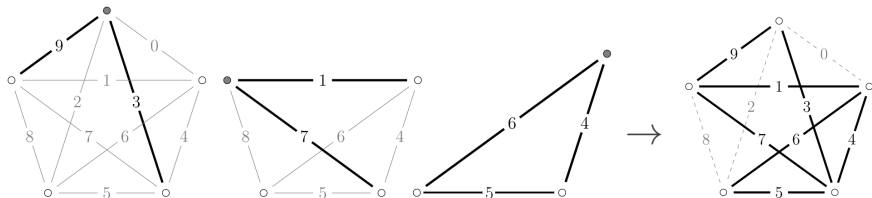
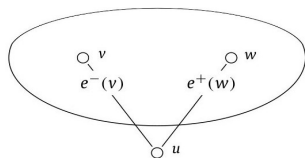
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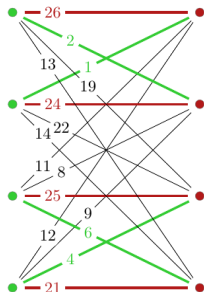
Not always feasible, but...

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If  $\mathcal{G}$  is neither 1-hop nor 2-hop dismantlable, then the following is guaranteed:

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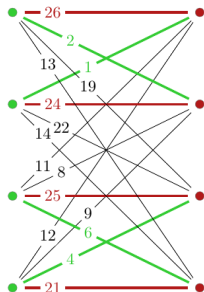


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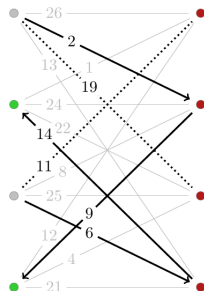
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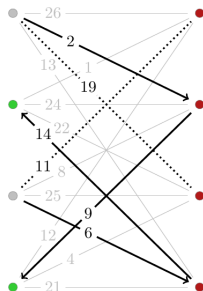
**Main lemma:**

**Half** of the green nodes can be iteratively removed, at **doubling** cost.  
Repeat  $\log n$  times.

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$\rightarrow$  Spanners of size  $O(n \log n)$  always exist.

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# Summary and open questions

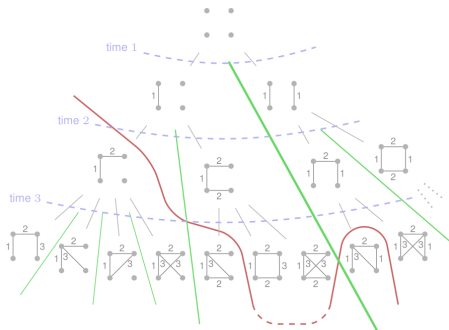
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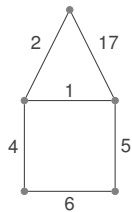
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## Enumeration of happy temporal graphs

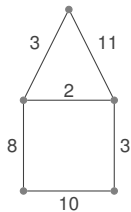


## Equivalence based on reachability



$\mathcal{G}_1$

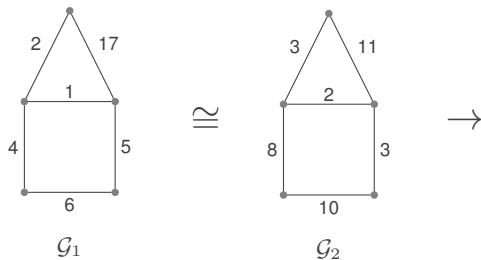
$\equiv$



$\mathcal{G}_2$

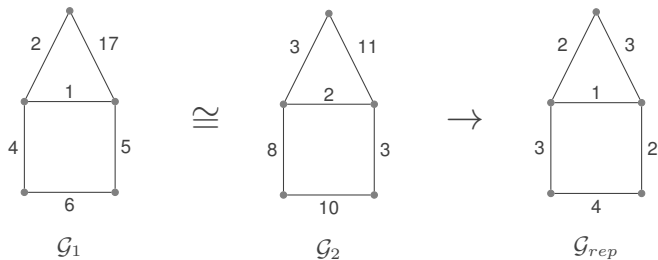


## Equivalence based on reachability



How to capture this equivalence?

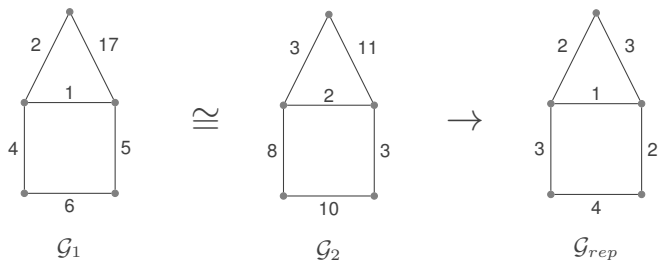
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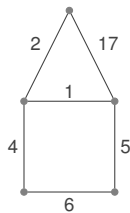
Good news:

- ▶ Finite number
- ▶ Canonization, isomorphism testing, and generators of the automorphism group all computable in *polynomial time*.

# Properties of representatives

## Canonization

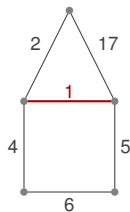
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# Properties of representatives

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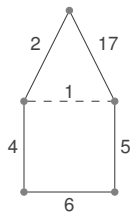
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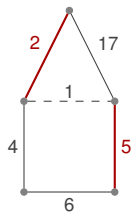
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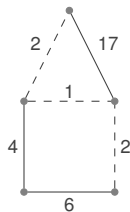
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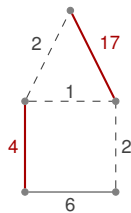
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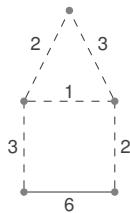
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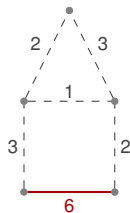
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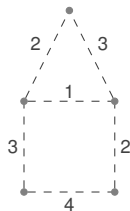
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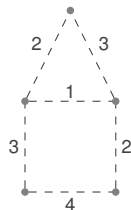
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**Contiguity Lemma:** If an edge is labeled  $t > 1$ , then an adjacent edge is labeled  $t - 1$ .

# Isomorphism testing

**Input:** Two happy graphs  $\mathcal{G}_1$  and  $\mathcal{G}_2$

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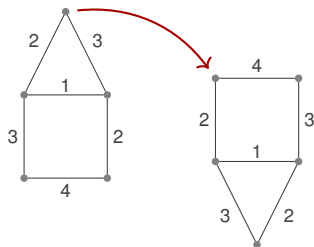
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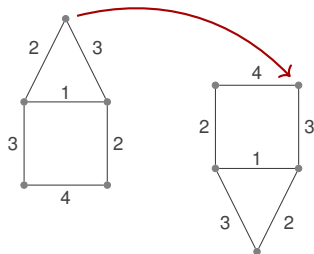
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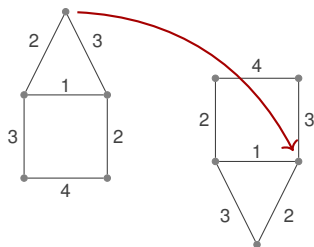
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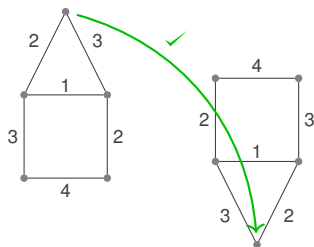
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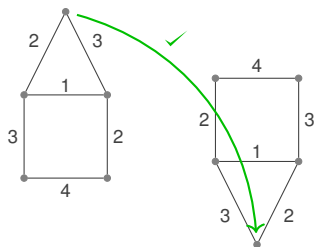
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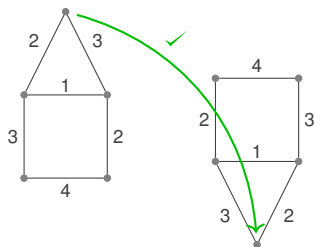
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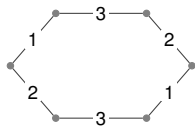
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*Remark: Also feasible using Babai & Luks machinery (1983)*

# Automorphisms

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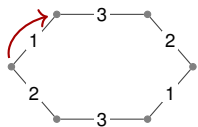
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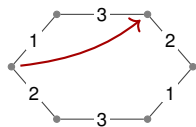
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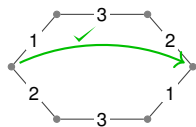
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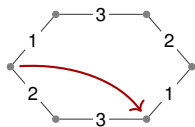
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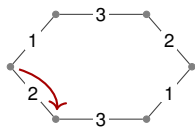
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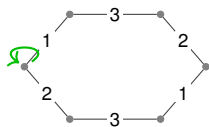
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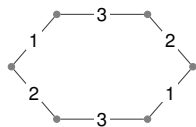


At most  $n$  automorphisms!

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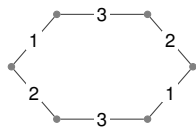
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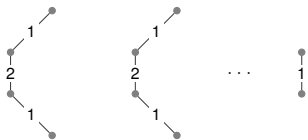
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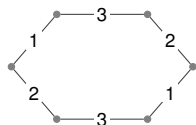


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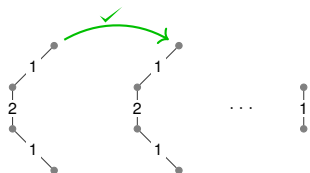
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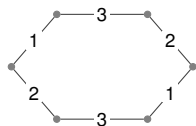


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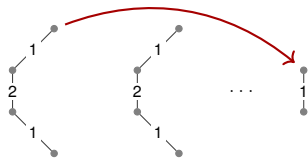
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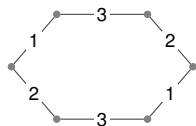


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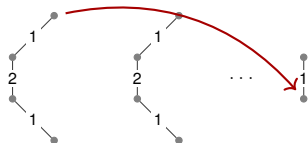
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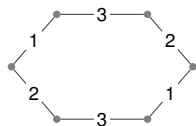


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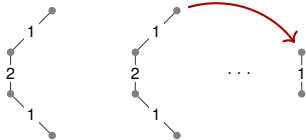
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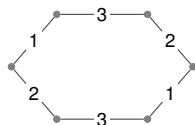


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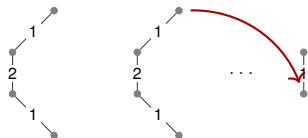
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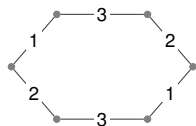


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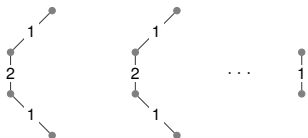
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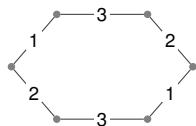


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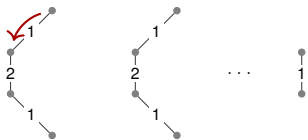
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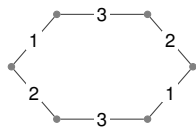


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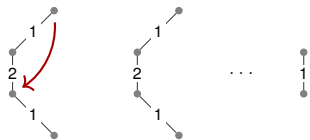
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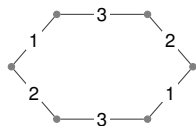


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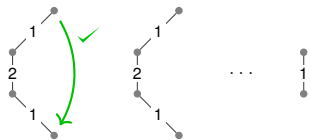
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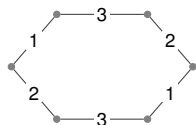


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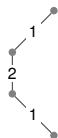
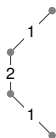
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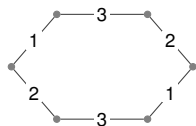


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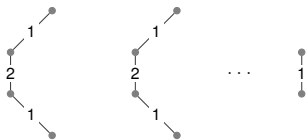
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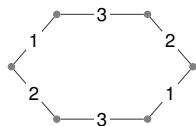
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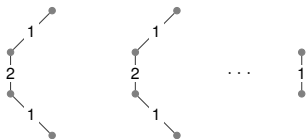
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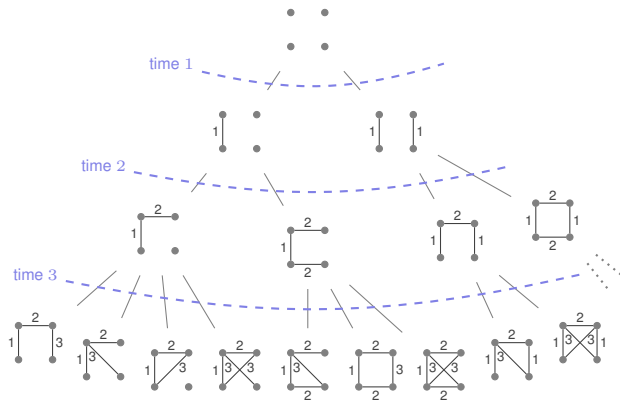
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→ *Generators in polynomial time!*

# Generation tree

Principle: One level = one time

→ successors = all possible ways to add the *next time*



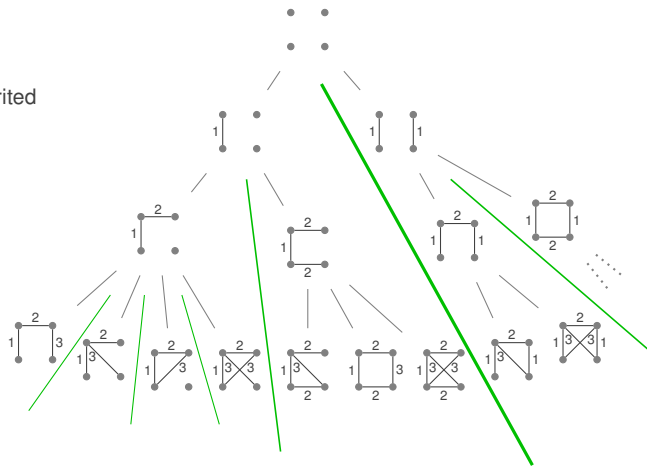
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## Key properties

1. Dissimilarity is inherited



↓ Isomorphism types separated (forever)

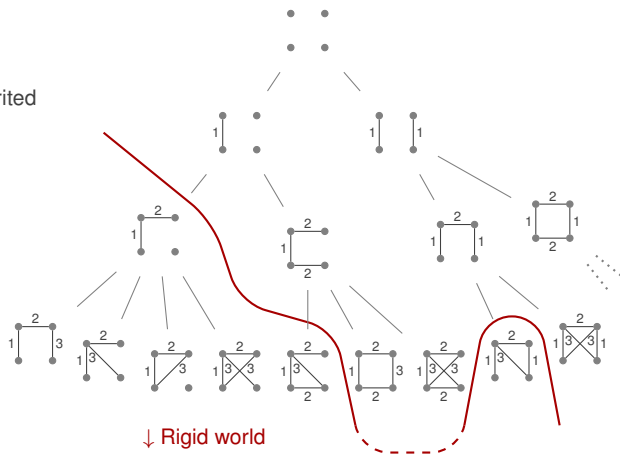
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## Key properties

1. Dissimilarity is inherited
2. Rigidity is inherited



## How to compute successors?

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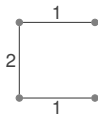
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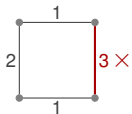


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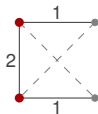
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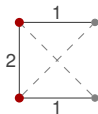
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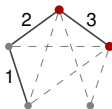
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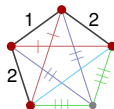
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$\mathcal{G}$  is rigid



Two cases

$\mathcal{G}$  has symmetries

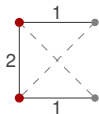


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**Input:** A happy representative  $\mathcal{G}$ , max time  $t$

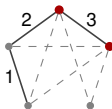
**Output:** Happy representatives extending  $\mathcal{G}$  with time  $t + 1$ .

First, find eligible *non-edges* (E.g. here, for time 3)



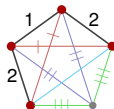
*Contiguity lemma:*  $t+1$  must be adjacent to  $t$

$\mathcal{G}$  is rigid



Two cases

$\mathcal{G}$  has symmetries



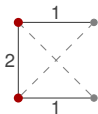
→ Enumerate matchings among eligible *non-edges*.

# How to compute successors?

**Input:** A happy representative  $\mathcal{G}$ , max time  $t$

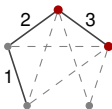
**Output:** Happy representatives extending  $\mathcal{G}$  with time  $t + 1$ .

First, find eligible *non-edges* (E.g. here, for time 3)



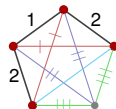
*Contiguity lemma:*  $t+1$  must be adjacent to  $t$

$\mathcal{G}$  is rigid



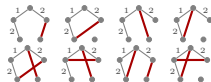
Two cases

$\mathcal{G}$  has symmetries



→ Enumerate matchings among eligible *non-edges*.

→ Enumerate matchings of eligible *non-edges* whose *multisets of orbits* are distinct



## Back to the $2n-3$ conjecture

Various implementations of the generator (Python, Java, Julia, Rust, C++)

<https://arnaudcasteigts.net/blog/stgen.html>

Do spanners of size  $2n - 3$  always exist in happy cliques?

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→ True for  $n \leq 8$ .

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→ True for  $n \leq 8$ .

### Some numbers

n	# Happy graphs (representatives)	# Happy cliques (representatives)
3	4	1
4	62	20
5	15378	4524
6	89769096	23218501
7	13725757879376	3106952711040

Thanks!



(Battelle, Dec 3, 2023)