

# Canonical decompositions in bounded treedepth and bounded shrubdepth graphs

Wojciech Przybyszewski

Joint work with Pierre Ohlmann, Michał Pilipczuk, Szymon Toruńczyk

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## Treedepth game

The treedepth game is played on a graph  $G_1$ . In round  $i$

1. **Splitter** chooses a vertex  $v$  to delete
2. **Connector** chooses  $G_{i+1}$  as a connected component in  $G_i - v$ .

Splitter wins once  $G_i$  has size 1.

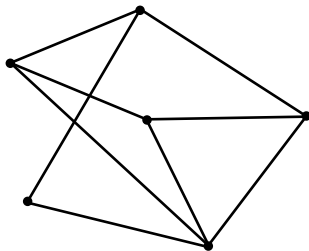
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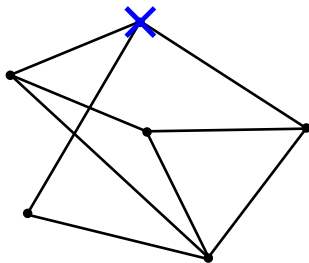
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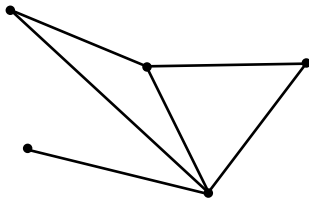
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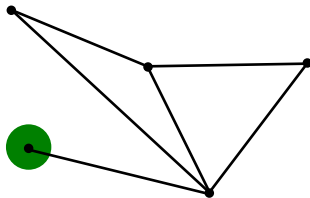
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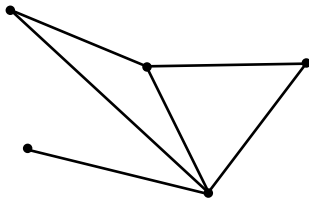
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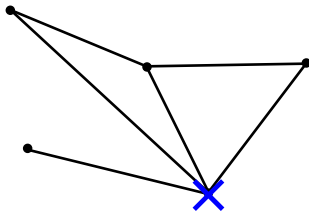
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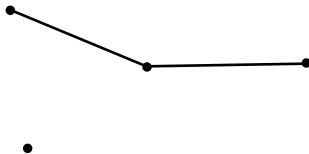
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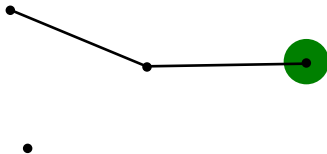
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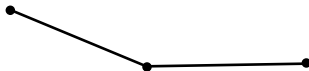
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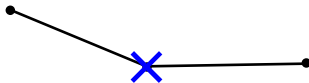
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**Observation:** We don't need to assume that  $G$  is a finite graph for this definition to make sense.

# Progressing moves in the treedepth game

## Theorem.

There exists a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that if a graph  $G$  has treedepth  $d$  then Splitter has at most  $f(d)$  progressing moves<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup>A vertex  $v$  is a progressing move for Splitter if every connected component  $C$  of  $G - \{v\}$  has strictly smaller treedepth than  $G$ .

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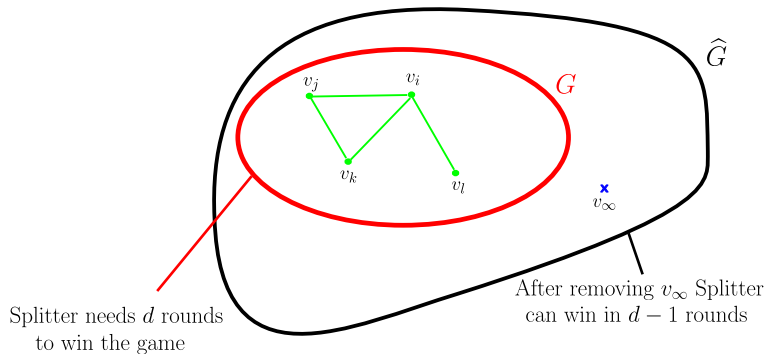
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- $v_\infty$  is a progressing move.



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## Progressing moves in infinite graphs

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There exists a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that if a graph  $G$  has treedepth  $d$  then Splitter has at most  $f(d)$  progressing moves.

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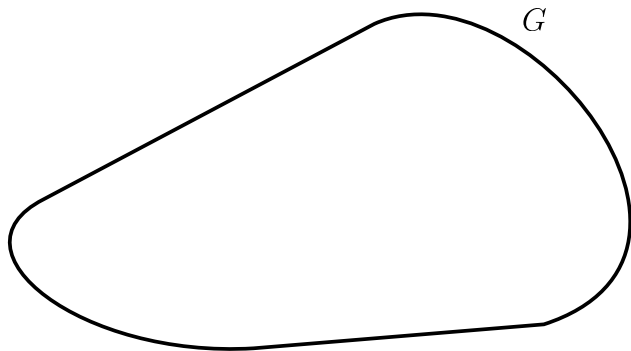
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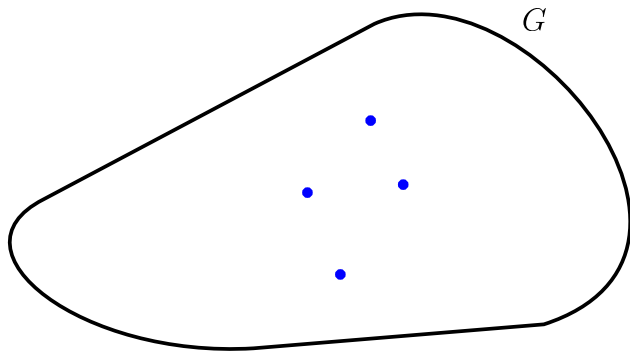
Compactness yields a model that contradicts the previous lemma. □

## Canonical decomposition of graphs of bounded treedepth

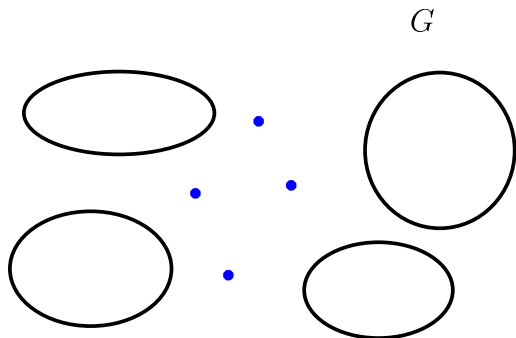




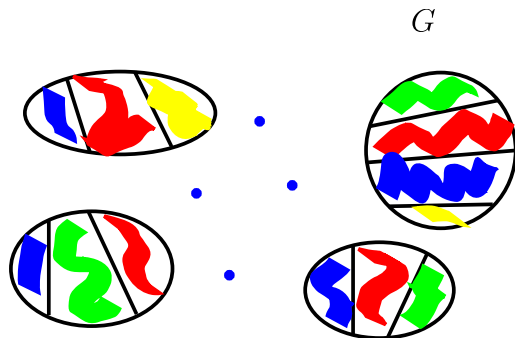
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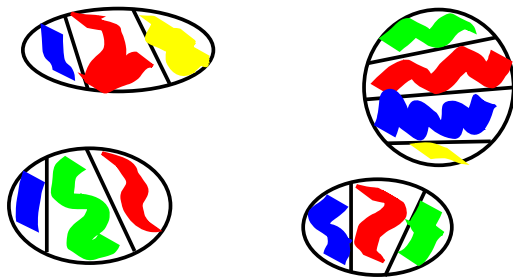
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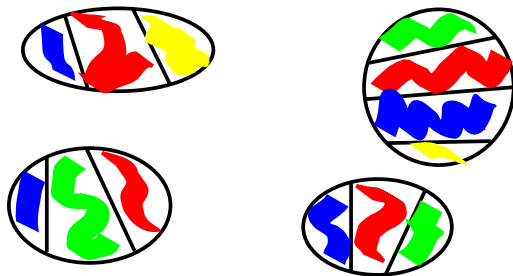
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**Observation:** This yields a decomposition algorithm working in time  $f(d) \cdot n^2$  on graphs of treedepth at most  $d$ .

# Graph isomorphism for bounded treedepth

Theorem. [Bouland, Dawar, Kopczyński, 2012]

Graph isomorphism can be solved on graphs of treedepth at most  $d$  in time  $f(d) \cdot n^3 \cdot \log n$ .

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**Remark:** The running time can be further improved to  $f(d) \cdot n \cdot \log^2 n$ .

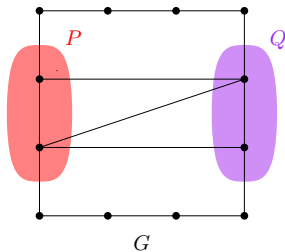
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Denote by  $G \oplus (P, Q)$  the graph obtained from  $G$  by complementing edges between pairs of vertices from  $P \times Q$ .



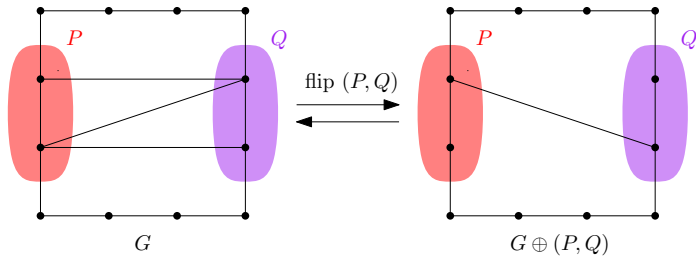
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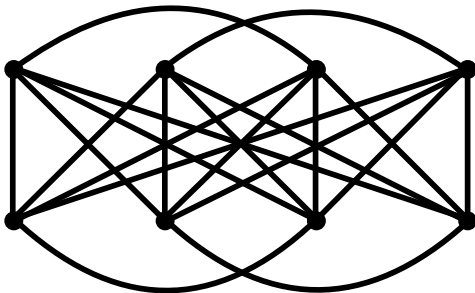
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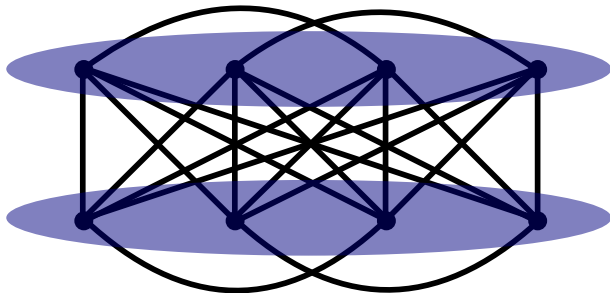
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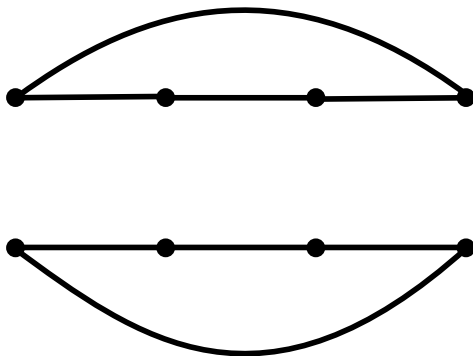
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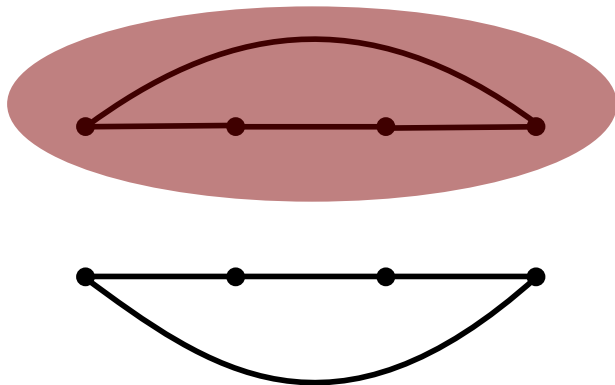
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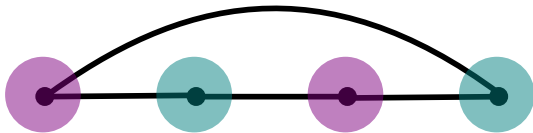
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Defintion. [Ganian, Hliněný, Nešetřil, Obdržálek, Ossona de Mendez, 2017]

A graph  $G$  has *shrubdepth* at most  $d$  if Flipper can win the *shrubdepth* game on  $G$  in at most  $d$  rounds.

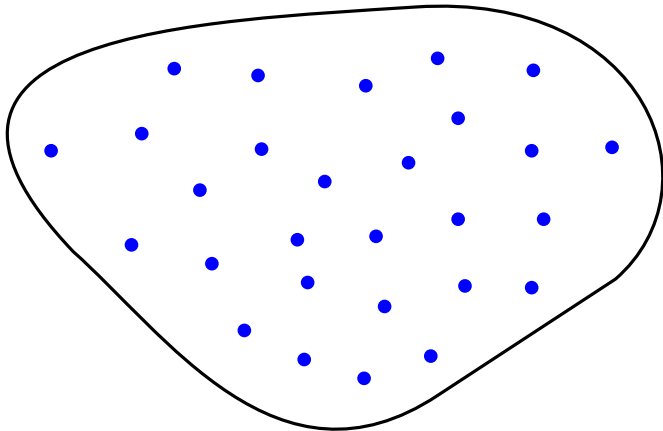


# Finitary Substitute Lemma

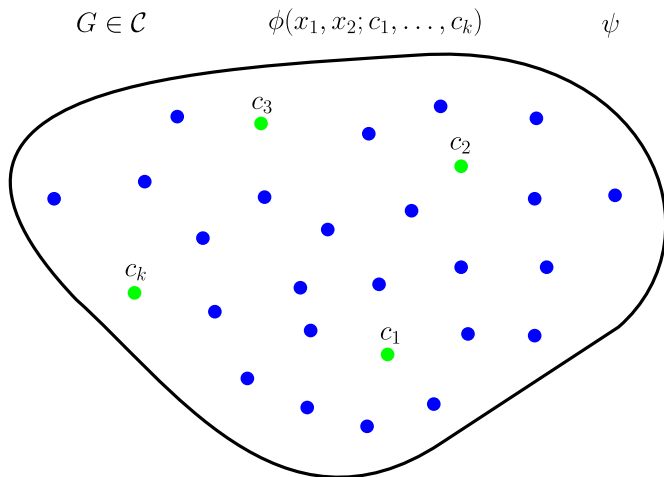
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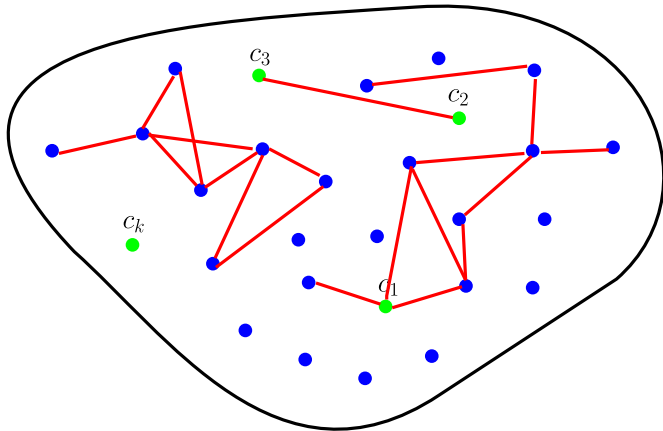


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$\phi(x_1, x_2; c_1, \dots, c_k)$

$\psi$

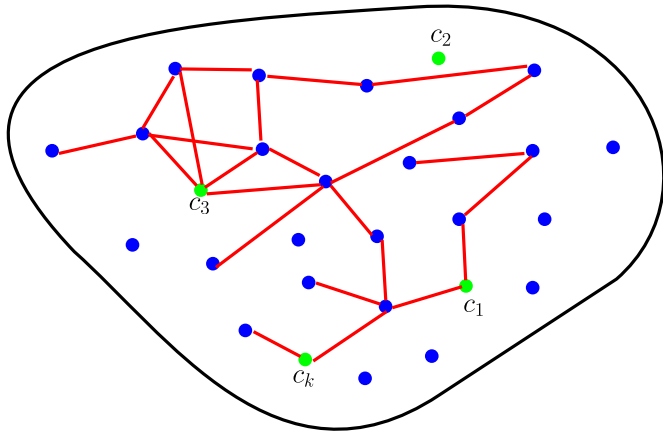


# Finitary Substitute Lemma

$G \in \mathcal{C}$

$\phi(x_1, x_2; c_1, \dots, c_k)$

$\psi$

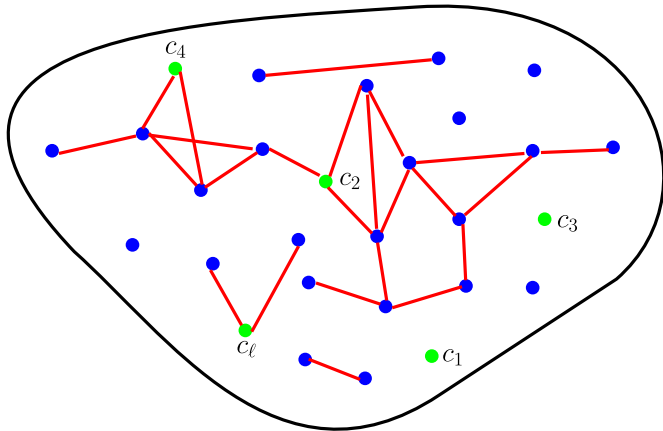


# Finitary Substitute Lemma

$G \in \mathcal{C}$

$\phi'(x_1; x_2; y_1, \dots, y_\ell)$

$\psi$

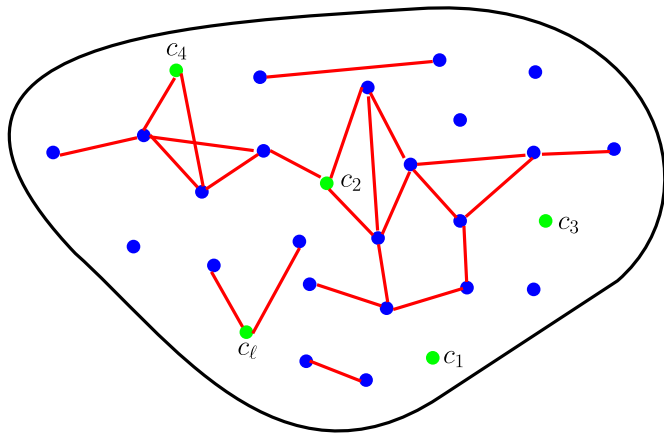


# Finitary Substitute Lemma

$$G \in \mathcal{C}$$

$$\phi'(x_1; x_2; y_1, \dots, y_\ell)$$

$$\psi$$



Proof uses a number of tools from stability theory [Shelah], most importantly properties of forking independence in stable theories.

## Graph isomorphism on bounded shrubdepth

Theorem. [Ohlmann, Pilipczuk, Przybyszewski, Toruńczyk, 2023]

Graph isomorphism can be solved on graphs of shrubdepth at most  $d$  in time  $f(d) \cdot n^2$ .