

The well-covered dimension of a graph

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(joint work with I. Birnbaum)

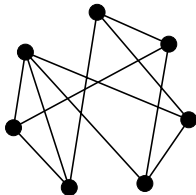
Mathematics Department Seminar. CSU, Fresno. March 10th, 2010.

Definitions.

- A graph is a pair $G = (V, E)$, where V (or $V(G)$) is a set of vertices and E (or $E(G)$) a set edges. Edges can be thought of as segments that contain exactly two vertices.

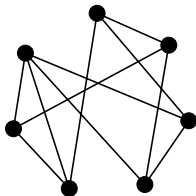
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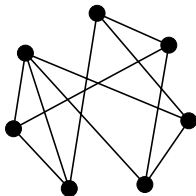
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- We will assume there is at most one edge joining two vertices, and that a vertex cannot be adjacent to itself. i.e. No multigraphs and no loops.

Maximal independent sets.

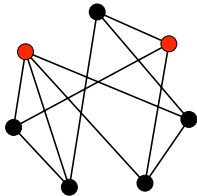
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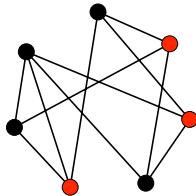
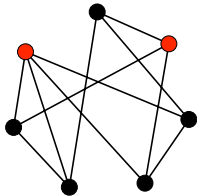
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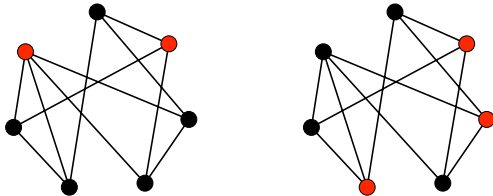
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- A graph such that every maximal independent has the same cardinality is said to be a well-covered graph.

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- A weight function w of G such that $\sum_{v \in M} w(v)$ takes the same value for all maximal independent sets M of G is called a well-covered weighting of G .

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If A is the matrix associated to this system then

$$wcdim(G, \mathbb{F}) = |V(G)| - rank(A)$$

Basic results.

- (Brown & Nowakowski) Let $G = C_1 \cup \dots \cup C_k$, be a graph partitioned into k connected components. Then, for all fields \mathbb{F} ,

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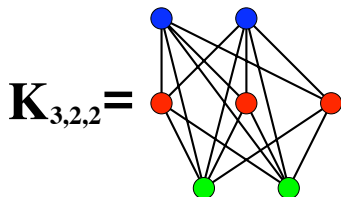
- $wcdim(\overline{K_n}, \mathbb{F}) = n$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all fields \mathbb{F} .
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Not so basic results.

- (B & V) Complete multipartite graphs:

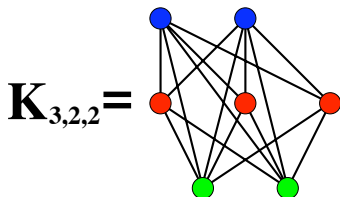
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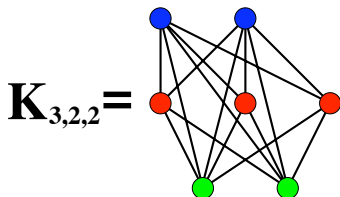


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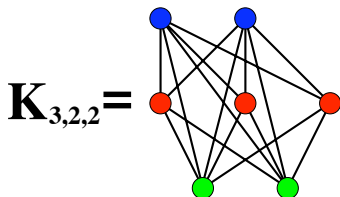
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$$wcdim(T(n, r), \mathbb{F}) = (n \bmod r) \lceil n/r \rceil + (r - (n \bmod r)) \lfloor n/r \rfloor - (r - 1)$$

Crown graphs.

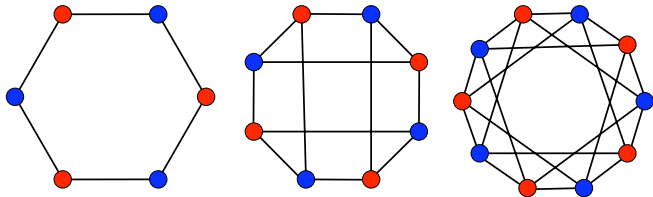
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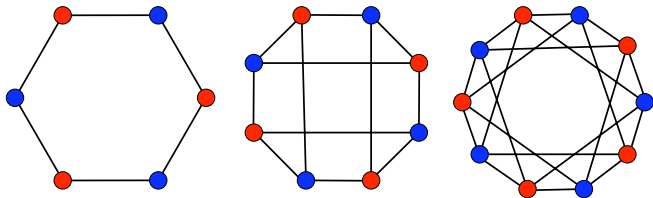
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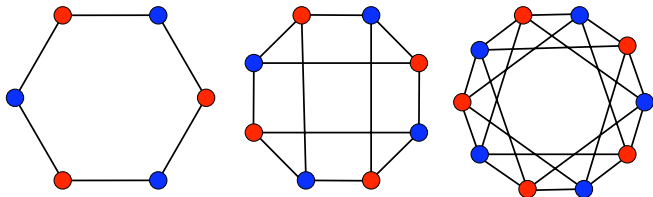
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- (B & V) Let \mathbb{F}_p be a field with characteristic p (p could be zero).

$$\text{wcdim}(S_n^0, \mathbb{F}_p) = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } p|(n-2) \\ n-1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Paths and cycles.

- The behavior of paths and cycles is very similar. In fact, we used results on paths to find the well-covered dimension of all cycles.

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 - (i) $wcdim(C_n, \mathbb{F}) = 0$, if $n \geq 8$,
 - (ii) $wcdim(C_n, \mathbb{F}) = 1$, if $n = 3, 5, 7$,
 - (iii) $wcdim(C_6, \mathbb{F}) = 2$,
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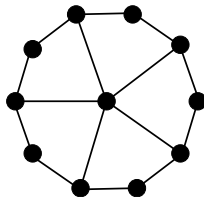
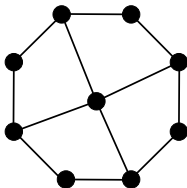
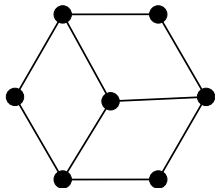
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- The well-covered dimension of paths had been already computed by Caro & Yuster using methods different from the ones we used.

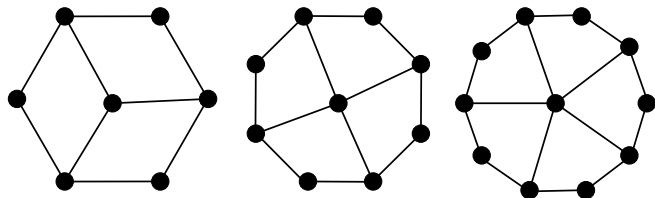
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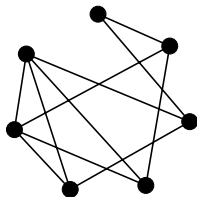
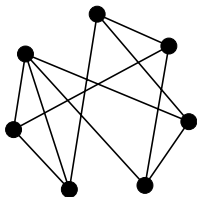
- (B & V) Let G_n be the gear graph in $2n + 1$ vertices, then

$$wcdim(G_n, \mathbb{F}) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n = 3 \\ 0 & \text{if } n > 3 \end{cases}$$

for all fields \mathbb{F} .

Two special graphs.

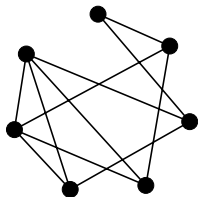
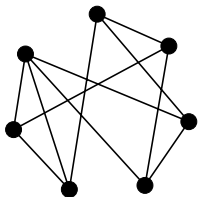
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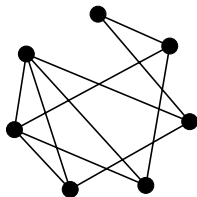
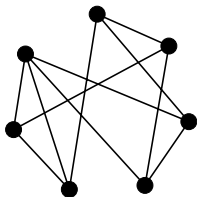


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- (B & V) The graph SG_2 (right picture above) is the 'smallest' graph known to have well-covered dimension equal to zero for all fields \mathbb{F} .

Blowups of graphs I

- Let G be a graph and $t \in \mathbb{N}$. A t -blowup of a vertex $v_i \in V(G)$ is an independent set $V_{v_i} = \{v_{i1}, v_{i2}, \dots, v_{it}\}$ that 'takes the place' of v_i .

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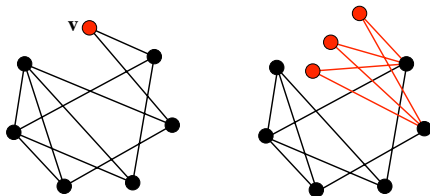


Figure: G and $G(3v)$.

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- (B & V) Let G be a graph with $V(G) = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ and $m = \text{wcdim}(G, \mathbb{F})$. Let $H = G(t_1 v_1, t_2 v_2, \dots, t_n v_n)$, where $t_i \in \mathbb{N}$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

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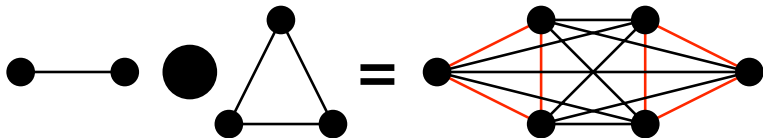
$$wcdim(H, \mathbb{F}) = (m - n) + \sum_{i=1}^n t_i$$

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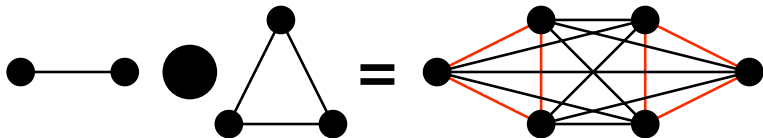
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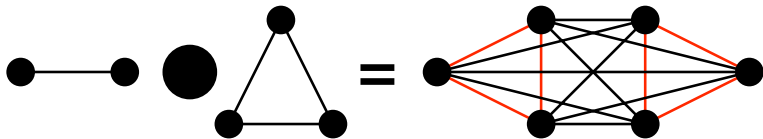
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$$wcdim(G \bullet \overline{K_t}, \mathbb{F}) = m + n(t - 1)$$

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$$wcdim(G \bullet H, \mathbb{F}) = nb + am - nm + \delta_{m-b+1, i}(n-a) + \delta_{n-a+1, j}(m-b)$$

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Generalized quadrangles I

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- (iii) If x is a point and L is a line not incident with x , then there is a unique pair $(y, M) \in \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{B}$ for which $x \mathcal{I} M \mathcal{I} y \mathcal{I} L$.

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The integers s and t are called the parameters of the GQ. Also, \mathcal{S} is said to have order (s, t) .

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