

# Constructive algorithm for pathwidth of matroids

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**Background**

# Matroid: primer

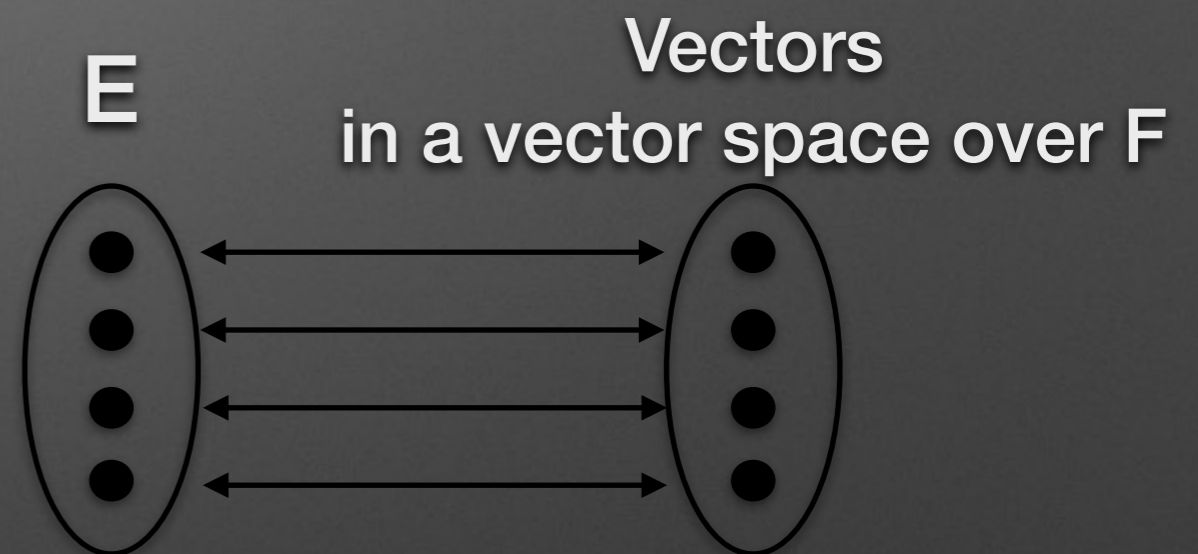
- $(E, \mathcal{I})$  - a ground set and a family of subsets of  $E$  called the independent sets - satisfying

A.  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{I}$

B.  $X \subset Y$  and  $Y \in \mathcal{I} \rightarrow X \in \mathcal{I}$

C.  $\forall X, Y \in \mathcal{I}$  with  $|X| < |Y|$ ,  
 $\exists y \in Y$  s.t.  $X \cup \{y\} \in \mathcal{I}$

- A matroid  $(E, \mathcal{I})$  is representable in  $F$  if



... such that  $X \in \mathcal{I}$  iff corresponding vectors are independent.

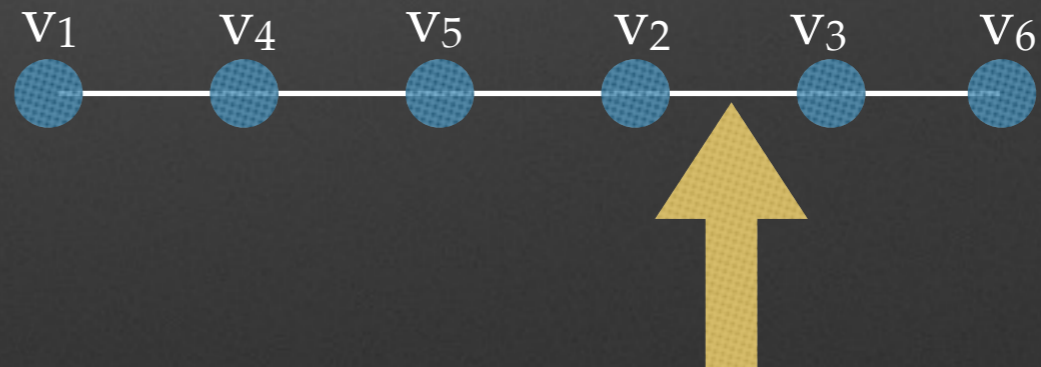
# Vectors Arrangement

$\mathbb{F}$  is a finite field

**Input:** vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{F}^r$ , a positive integer  $k$

**Goal:** find a permutation of  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  such that for every  $i$ ,  
 $\dim(\langle v_1 + \dots + v_i \rangle \cap \langle v_2, \dots, v_n \rangle) \leq k$ .

*linear layout*  
(or pathwidth)  
of width  $\leq k$ ,



$$\dim(\langle v_1, v_4, v_5, v_2 \rangle \cap \langle v_3, v_6 \rangle) \leq k$$

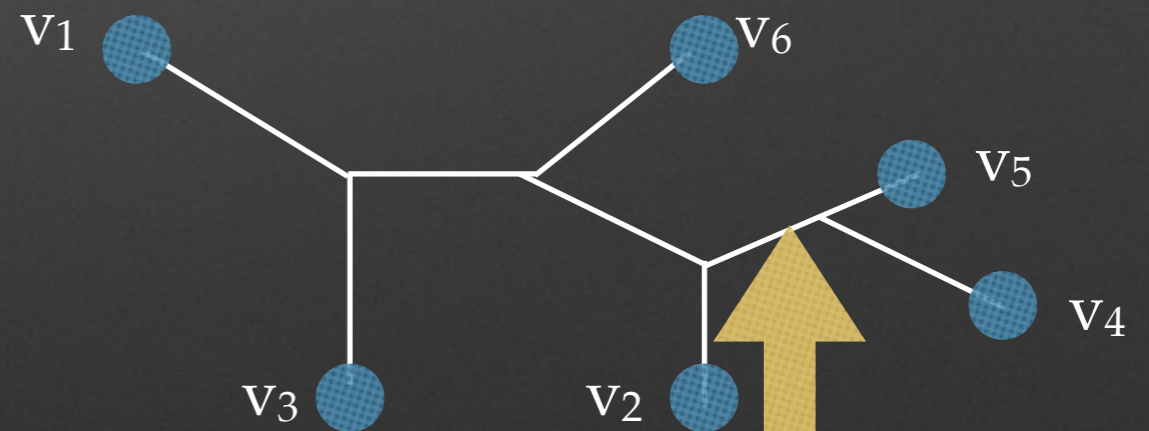
# Branchwidth of $\mathbb{F}$ -represented matroids

$\mathbb{F}$  is a finite field

**Input:** vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{F}^r$ , a positive integer  $k$

**Goal:** find a subcubic tree  $T$  with a bijection  $L: \{\text{leaves}\} \rightarrow \{\text{vectors}\}$  such that for every  $e$  in  $T$ ,

*branch decomposition*  
of width  $\leq k$

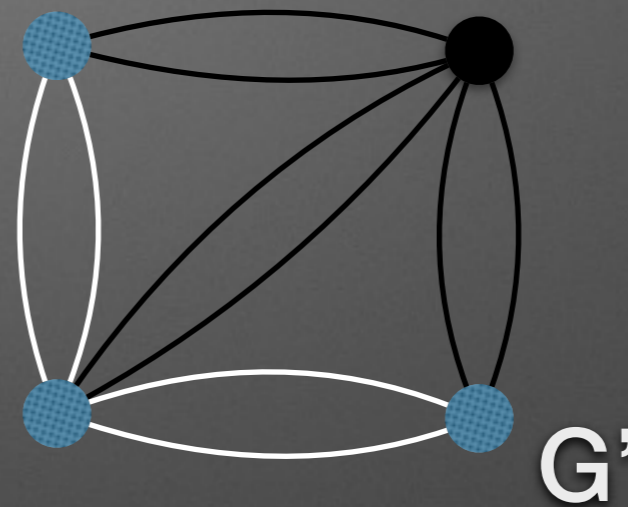
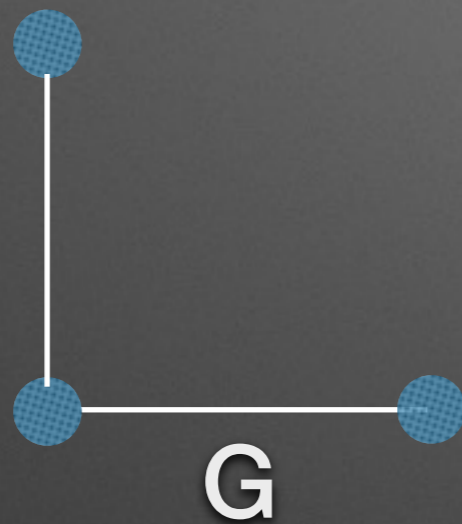


$$\dim(\langle v_1, v_3, v_6, v_2 \rangle \cap \langle v_4, v_5 \rangle) \leq k$$

# From graphs to matroids

**pw** (cycle matroid of  $G'$ ) = **pw** ( $G$ )

Kashap 2008



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When  $G$  is not a tree

**bw** (cycle matroid of  $G$ ) = **bw** ( $G$ )

Hicks, McMurray, Nolan 2007

Mazoit, Thomassé 2007

# XP algorithms

- When  $k$  is a fixed constant, polynomial-time algorithm exists for matroids in general (given an independence oracle)
- Pathwidth: Nagamochi 2012
- Branchwidth: Oum, Seymour 2007

What about FPT algorithms?

# $\text{pw}(G) \leq k$ via minor testing

$\mathcal{G}_k = \{ G: \text{pw}(G) \leq k \}$  is minor-closed

$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{minimal graphs, } \not\leq_m \mathcal{G}_k \}$

$G \in \mathcal{G}_k$   
 $\updownarrow$   
 $F \not\leq_m G, \forall F \in \mathcal{F}$

In time  $f(k) \cdot n^2$   
test if  $F \not\leq_m G$   
 $\forall F \in \mathcal{F}$

Under graph minor relation  $\leq_m$ ,  
any antichain is finite

$\mathcal{F}$  is finite

Testing if  $F \leq_m G$  in  $g(|F|) \cdot n^2$  time  
(Kawarabayashi, Kobayashi, Yusuke, Reed 2012)



# pw(**M**) ≤ k via minor testing

$\mathcal{M}_k = \{ M: \text{pw}(M) \leq k \}$  is minor-closed ✓

$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{minimal matroids, } \not\leq_m \mathcal{M}_k \}$  ✓

$M \in \mathcal{M}_k$   
↕  
 $N \not\leq_m M, \forall N \in \mathcal{F}$  ✓

In time  $f(k) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$   
test if  $N \not\leq_m M$   
 $\forall N \in \mathcal{F}$

Under matroid minor relation  $\leq_m$ ,  
any antichain is finite ✗

$\mathcal{F}$  is finite

Testing if  $N \leq_m M$  in  $g(|N|) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$  time ✗

# pw(**M**) ≤ k via minor testing

- Conjecture (RS): for each **finite field**  $F$ ,  $F$ -representable matroids are w.q.o under  $\leq_m$
- Geelen, Gerards, Whittle (2014) announced the proof.

- Infinite antichain is not difficult to construct.

- $M$  is binary  $\leftrightarrow U_{2,4} \not\leq_m M$
- Any algorithm (with independence oracle) requires exponential time (Seymour 1981)

Under matroid minor relation  $\leq_m$ , any antichain is finite ~~X~~

- Conjecture: for any **finite field**  $F$  and any  $F$ -representable  $N$ , testing  $N \leq_m M$  in time  $g(|N|) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$
- Probably GW taking care of it?

Testing if  $N \leq_m M$  in  $g(|N|) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$  ~~time~~ ~~X~~

# $\text{pw}(M) \leq k$ when $\mathbb{F}$ -represented

$\mathcal{M}_k = \{ M: \text{pw}(M) \leq k \text{ \& } \mathbb{F}\text{-represented} \}$  is minor-closed

$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{minimal } \mathbb{F}\text{-represented matroids, } \not\leq_m \mathcal{M}_k \}$

$M \in \mathcal{M}_k$   
 $\updownarrow$   
 $N \not\leq_m M, \forall N \in \mathcal{F}$

In time  $f(k) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$   
test if  $N \not\leq_m M$   
 $\forall N \in \mathcal{F}$

Under matroid minor relation  $\leq_m$ ,  
any antichain of  $\mathbb{F}$ -representable  
matroids is finite. ?

$\mathcal{F}$  is finite ?

Testing if  $N \leq_m M$  in  $g(|N|) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$  time ?

# $\text{pw}(M) \leq k$ when $\mathbb{F}$ -represented

$\mathcal{M}_k = \{ M: \text{pw}(M) \leq k \text{ \& } \mathbb{F}\text{-represented} \}$  is minor-closed

$\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{minimal } \mathbb{F}\text{-represented matroids, } \not\leq_m \mathcal{M}_k \}$

$M \in \mathcal{M}_k$   
 $\updownarrow$   
 $N \not\leq_m M, \forall N \in \mathcal{F}$

In time  $f(k) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$   
test if  $N \not\leq_m M$   
 $\forall N \in \mathcal{F}$

Under matroid minor relation  $\leq_m$ ,  
any antichain of  $\mathbb{F}$ -representable  
matroids bounded bw is finite. ✓

$\mathcal{F}$  is has branchwidth  $\leq k+1$

$\mathcal{F}$  is finite ✓

Testing if  $N \leq_m M$  in  $g(k) \cdot n^3$  time  
when  $\text{bw}(M) \leq k$  (Hliněný 2006) ✓

# Issues with the approach

- Too many obstructions - at least  $(k!)^2$   
(Koutsonas, Thilikos, Yamazaki 2014)
- No algorithm to generate all minor obstructions.
- Even if the complete obstruction list is known, minor testing algorithm (Hliněný 2006) hides gigantic function on  $k$  - relies on MSO checking.
- Only decision - no algorithm to actually produce a layout.

# Our result

$O(f(k) \cdot n^3)$ -time algorithm to decide a linear layout  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  of the input  $n$  vectors in  $\mathbb{F}^m$ , for any finite field  $\mathbb{F}$ , such that

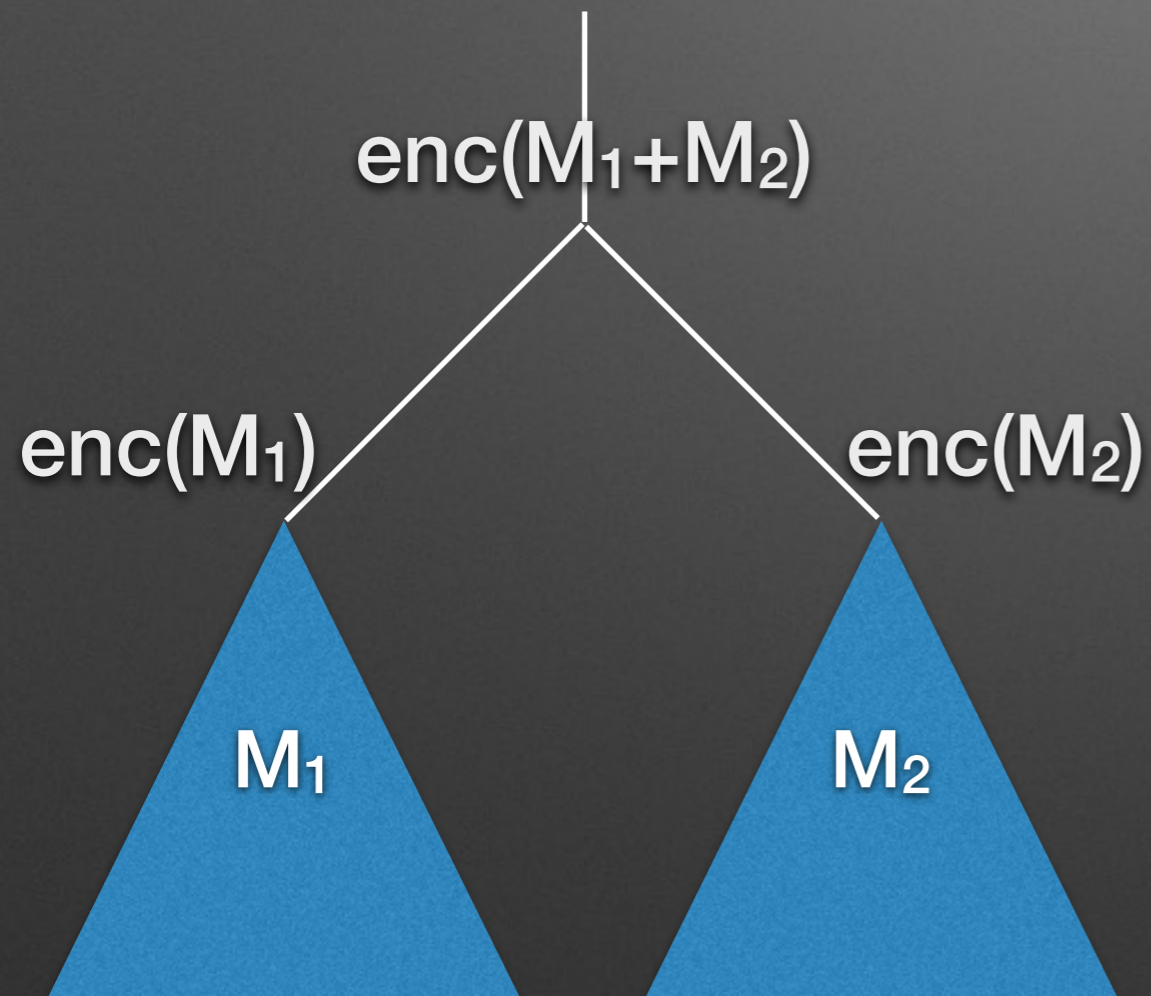
$$\dim (\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_i \rangle \cap \langle v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n \rangle) \leq k \text{ for all } i$$

and output one if exists.

- Dynamic programming for pathwidth (Bodlaender, Kloks 1996)
- Does not depend on a heavy machinery
- Constructive
- Uses 3-approximation for branch-decomposition and can be made self-contained with  $O(n)$  overhead

# **Algorithm for Vector Arrangement**

# Dynamic programming on a branch-decomposition

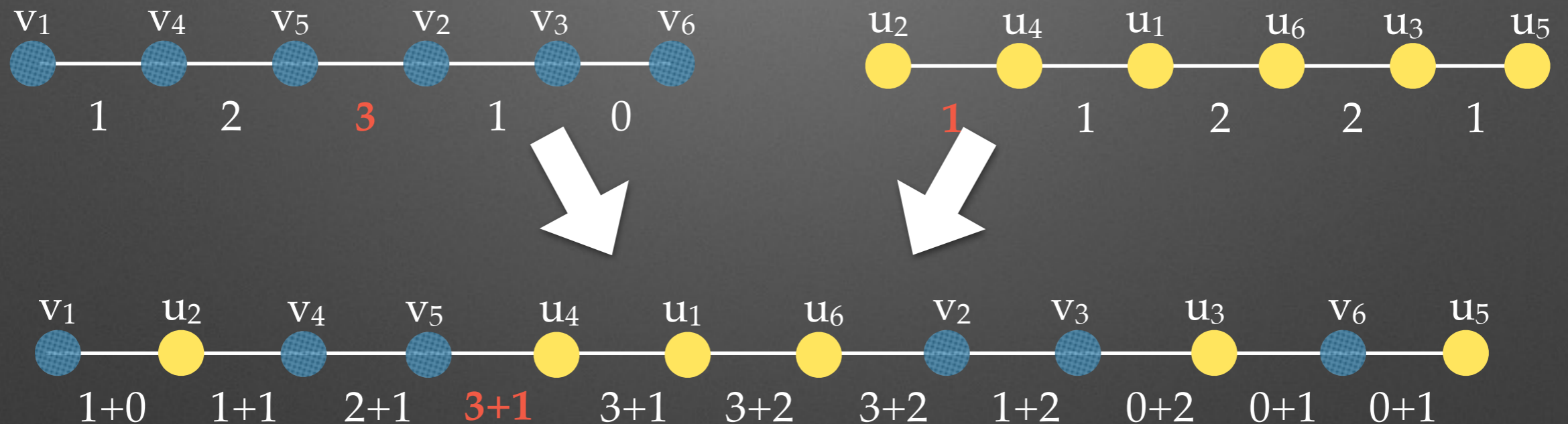


- Want to encode all feasible linear layouts of  $M_1$  &  $M_2$
- ...in a compact way
- ...in a way s.t. encoding for  $M_1 + M_2$  can be constructed from encodings for  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ .



# Encoding a linear layout

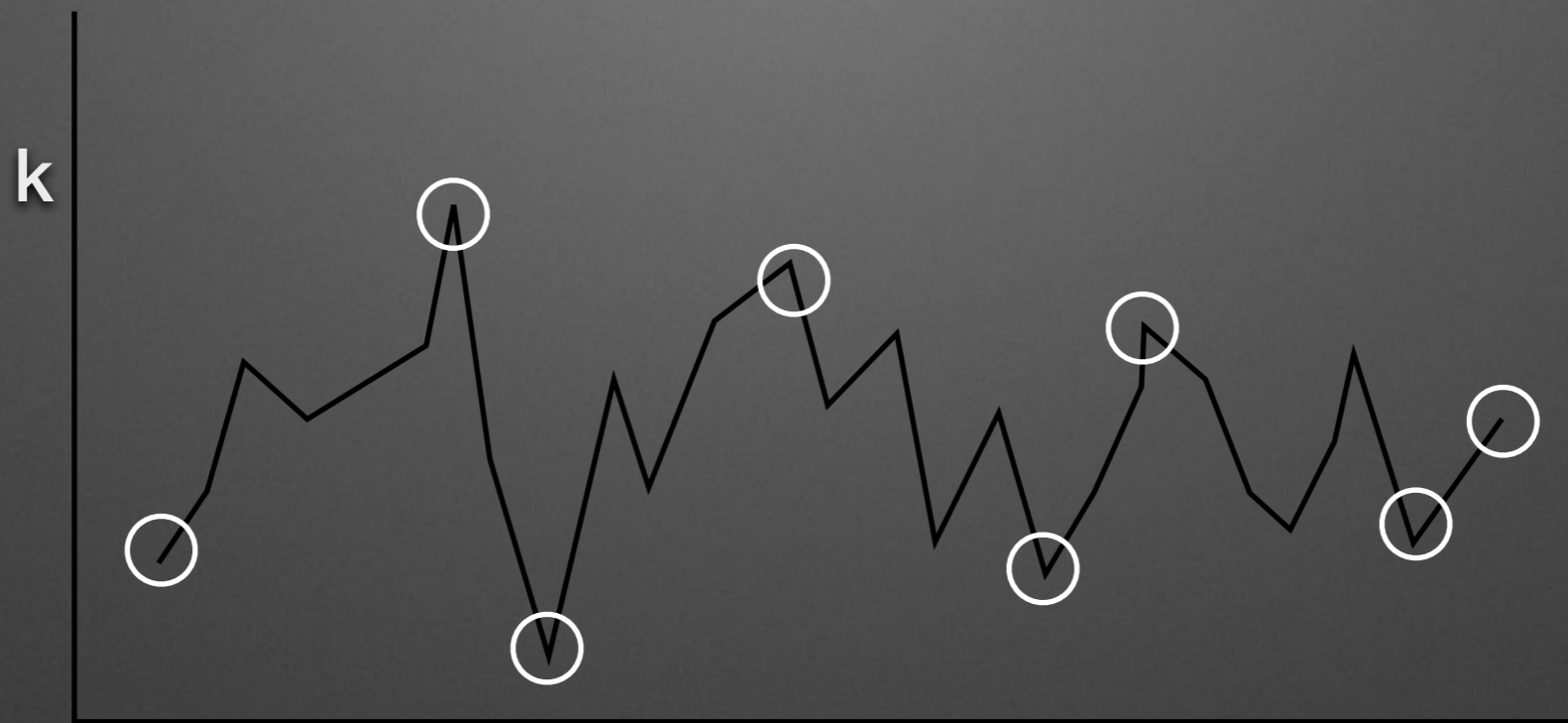
When  $\langle M_1 \rangle \cap \langle M_2 \rangle = \emptyset$



## Issues

1. How to shorten the length of the dimension sequence
2. How to handle the boundary space;  $\langle M_1 \rangle \cap \langle M_2 \rangle \neq \emptyset$

# Compressing a dimension sequence

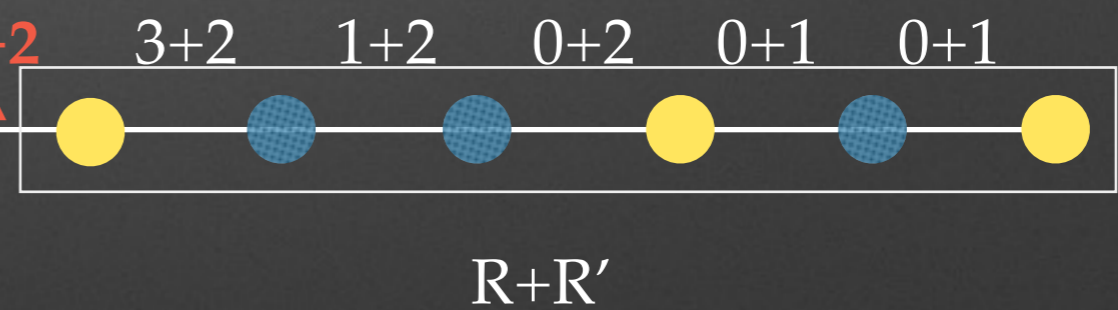
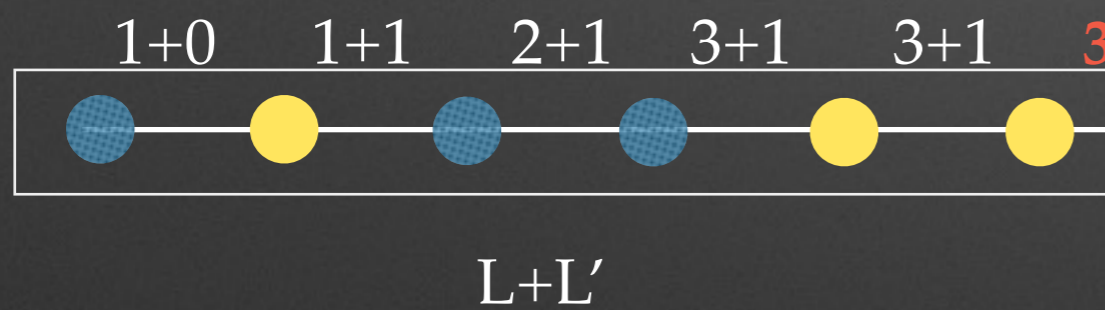
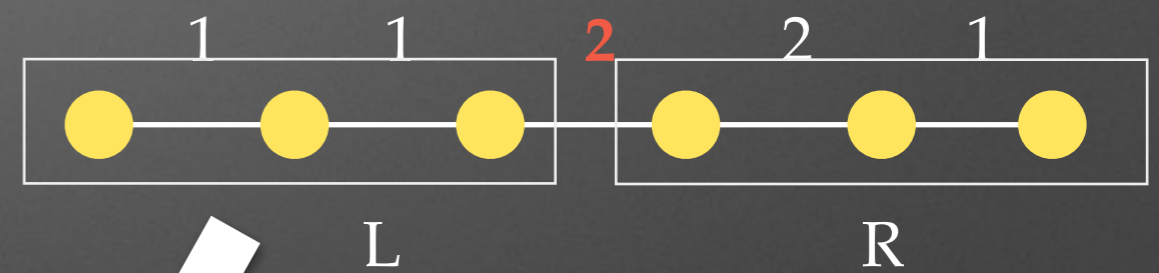
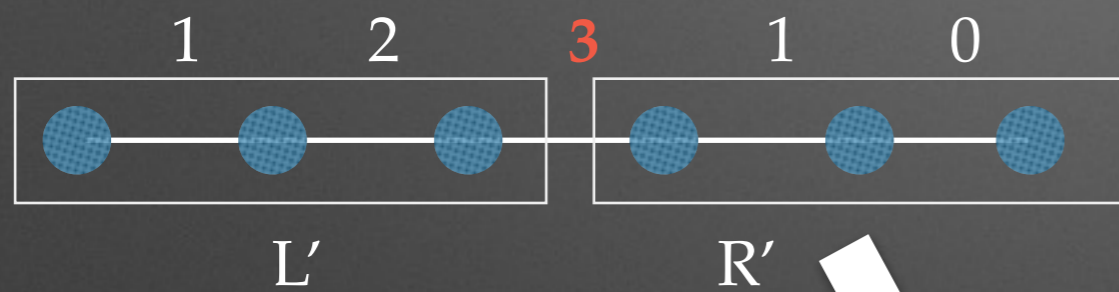


Typical sequence: idea from Bodlaender-Kloks (1996)  
#typical sequences consisting of  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, k\} \leq (8/3)2^{2k}$ .

# Handling a boundary space

When  $B := \langle M_1 \rangle \cap \langle M_2 \rangle \neq \emptyset$

$$\dim(L \cap R) - \dim(L \cap R \cap B)$$



$$\dim(L+L') \cap (R+R') - \dim(L+L') \cap (R+R') \cap B$$

# Encoding of a linear layout



For each “gap”, there is a triple  $(L,R,\lambda)$



L: “Left subspace”  
shown on B

$$L_3 = \langle v_1, v_4, v_5 \rangle \cap B$$

R: “Right subspace”  
shown on B

$$R_3 = \langle v_2 + v_3 + v_6 \rangle \cap B$$

$\lambda$ : Extra connectivity not shown in B

$$\lambda_3 = \dim \langle v_1, v_4, v_5 \rangle \cap \langle v_2 + v_3 + v_6 \rangle - \dim \langle v_1, v_4, v_5 \rangle \cap \langle v_2 + v_3 + v_6 \rangle \cap B$$

# Applications

# An alternative definition of pathwidth

- A path-decomposition of  $\mathbb{F}$   
:= a sequence  $\pi = (S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m)$  of **subspaces** of  $\mathbb{F}$   
with an **injective** function  $\mu: \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$  s.t.  
 $V_i \subseteq S_{\mu(i)}$ .
- Width of  $\pi := \max (S_1 + \dots + S_i) \cap (S_{i+1} + \dots + S_m)$

$\exists$  linear layout of width  $\leq k$



$\exists$  path-dec. of width  $\leq k$ .

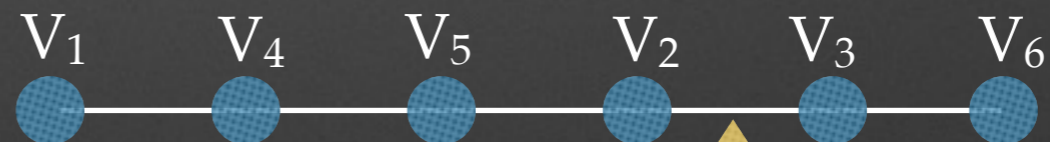
# Subspaces Arrangement

$\mathbb{F}$  is a finite field

**Input:** subspaces  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$  of  $\mathbb{F}^r$ , a positive integer  $k$

**Goal:** find a permutation of  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$  such that for every  $i$ ,  
 $\dim(\langle V_1 + \dots + V_i \rangle \cap \langle V_2, \dots, V_n \rangle) \leq k$ .

*linear layout of  
width  $\leq k$*



$$\dim(\langle V_1, V_4, V_5, V_2 \rangle \cap \langle V_3, V_6 \rangle) \leq k$$

# Application to Linear rank-width

- Find a linear ordering of vertices of  $G$  so that the rank of adjacency matrix between  $\{v_1, \dots, v_i\}$  and  $\{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}$  is at most  $k$ .



rank(

|       | $v_3$ | $v_6$ |
|-------|-------|-------|
| $v_1$ | 1     | 0     |
| $v_4$ | 0     | 1     |
| $v_5$ | 1     | 1     |
| $v_2$ | 1     | 1     |

)  $\leq k$

Set  $V_i := \{e_i, x_i\}$

Path-width of  $\{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n\}$   
 $= 2 \cdot (\text{linear rank-width of } G)$



# Application to Linear rank-width

For any fixed  $k$ ,  $O(n^3)$ -time algorithm to find a linear rank decomposition of width  $\leq k$  or confirms that linear rank-width  $> k$ .

# Application to linear clique-width

- Linear clique-width, “linearized version of clique-width”
- Linear rank-width  $\leq k \Rightarrow$  linear clique-width  $\leq 2^k + 1$ .

For any fixed  $k$ ,  $O(n^3)$ -time algorithm to find a linear clique-width expression of width  $\leq 2^k + 1$  or confirms that linear clique-width  $> k$ .

# Further questions

- FPT algorithms for pathwidth / branchwidth on general matroids? (given independence oracle)
- Can  $O(n^3)$  factor in the runtime improved? i.e.  $O(n^w)$

THANK YOU!