

Complexity Landscape for Local Certification



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(Joint work with Laurent Feuilloley, Sébastien Zeitoun)



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LACIM

Laboratoire d'algèbre, de combinatoire et
d'informatique mathématique

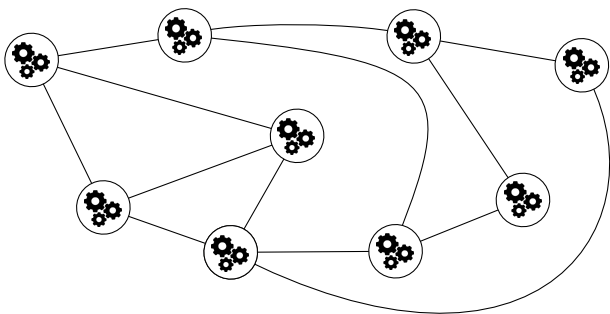


Local certification

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Context : distributed computing

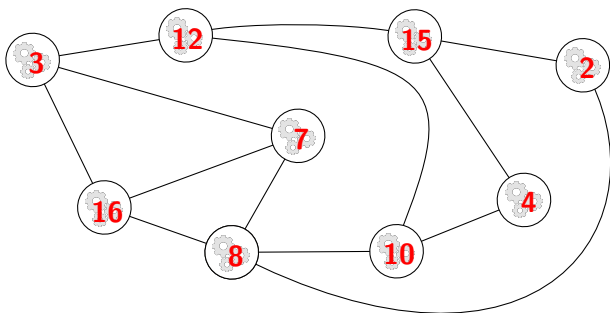
Model : graph, $\begin{cases} \text{vertices} = \text{comp. units} \\ \text{edges} = \text{com. channels} \end{cases}$



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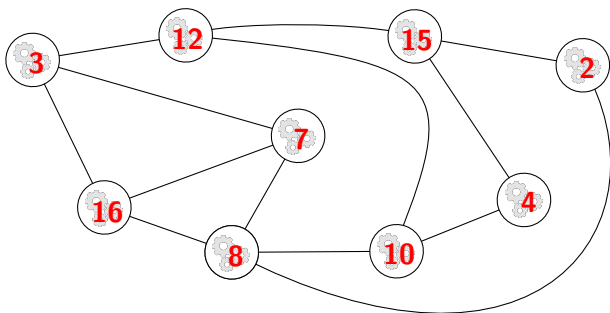


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Goal : verify **locally** a graph property $\mathcal{P}$, thanks to **certificates**

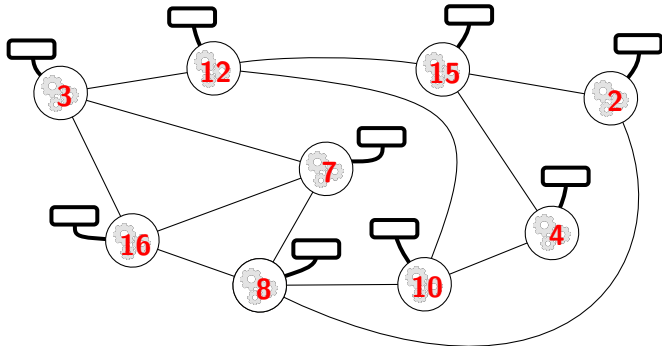


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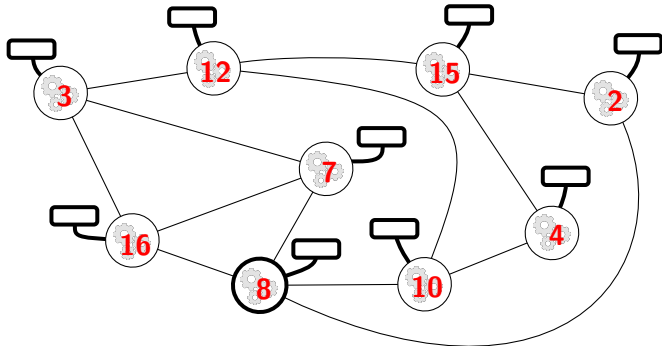


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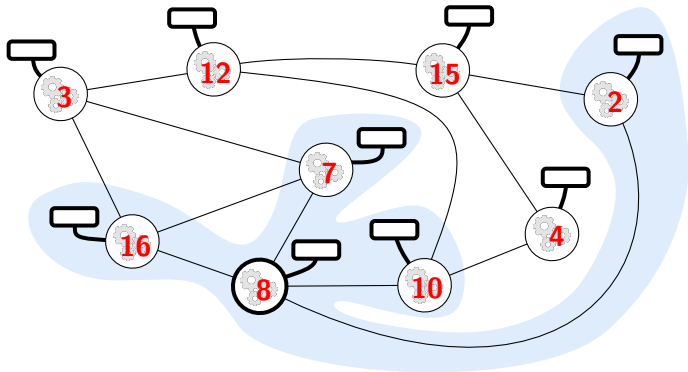


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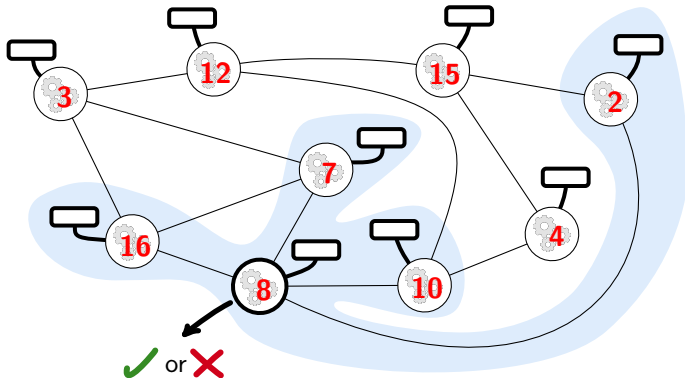


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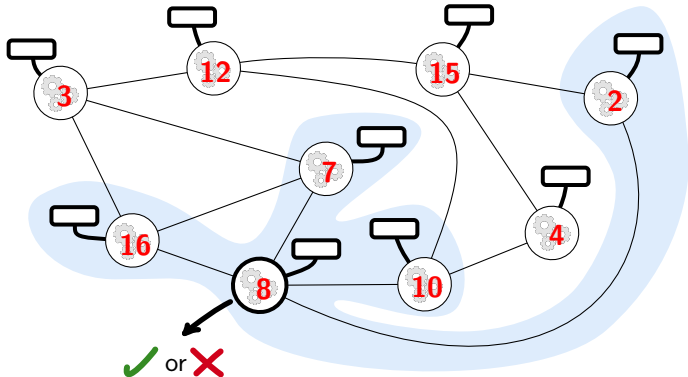


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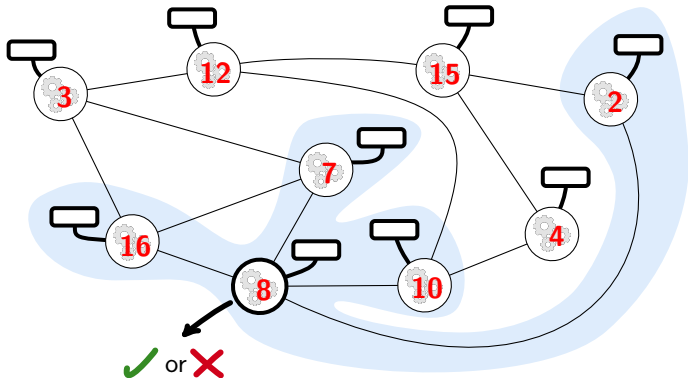
Graph (globally) accepted $\iff$ all the vertices accept (**consensus**)

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Goal : verify **locally** a graph property $\mathcal{P}$, thanks to **certificates**



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G satisfies $\mathcal{P} \iff$ there exists an assignment of the certificates such that G is accepted

Certifying paths

Certifying paths



Certifying paths

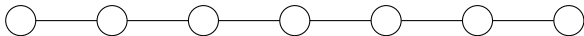


Certificate : distance to a fixed endpoint.

Certifying paths



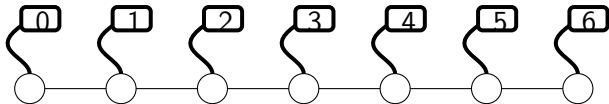
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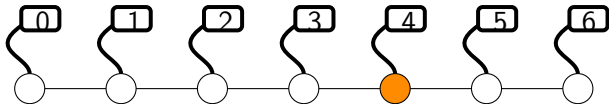
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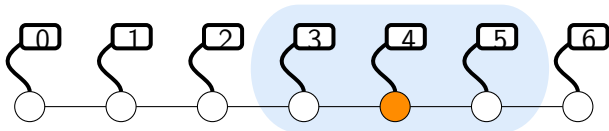
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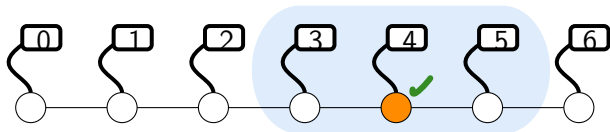
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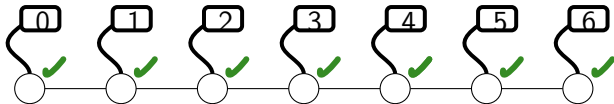
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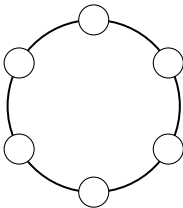
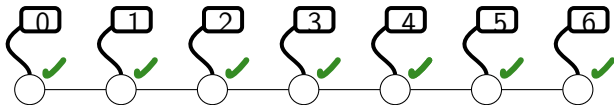
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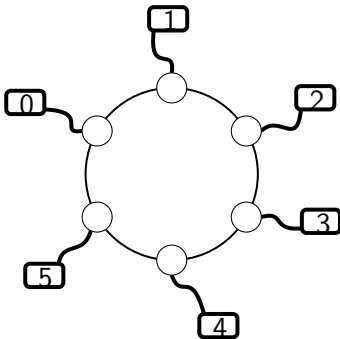
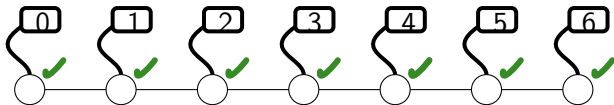
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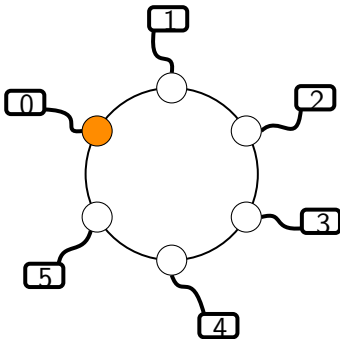
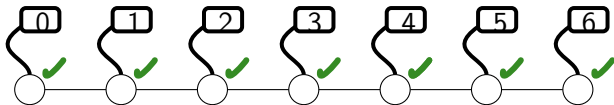
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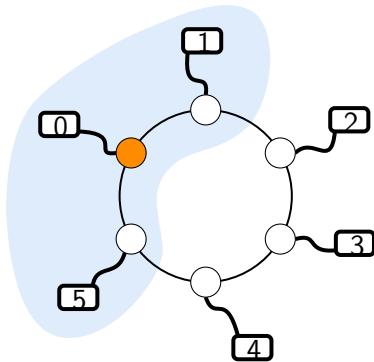
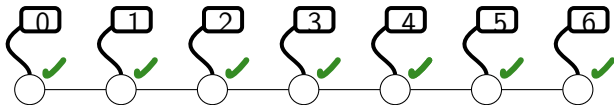
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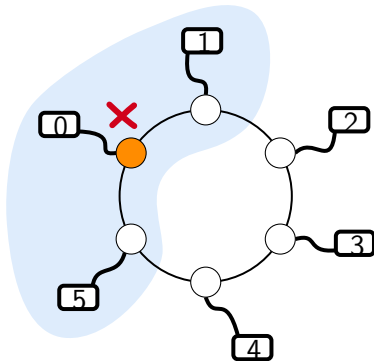
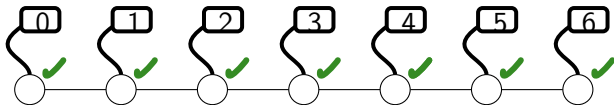
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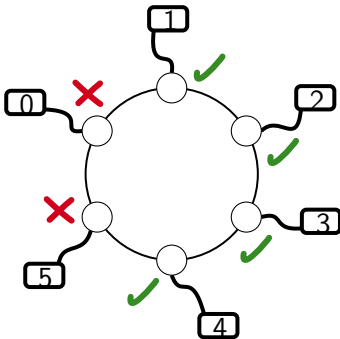
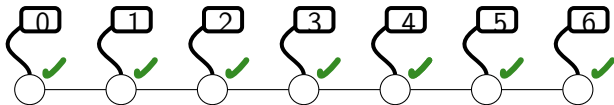
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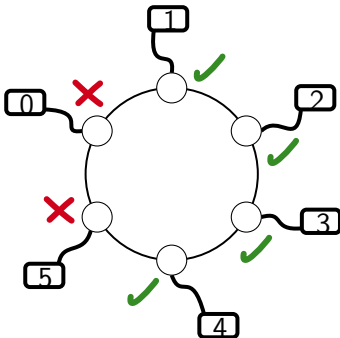
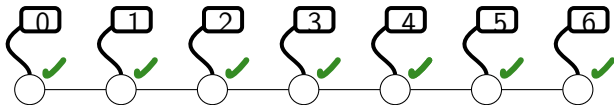
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Size of the certificates : $\lceil \log n \rceil$

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Lemma :

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Bd treewidth		

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Question : What happens below $\log n$?

Our main results

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Paths & Automata

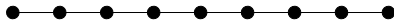
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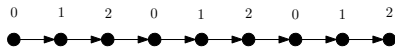


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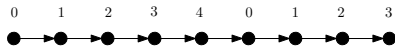


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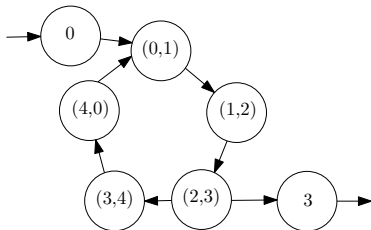
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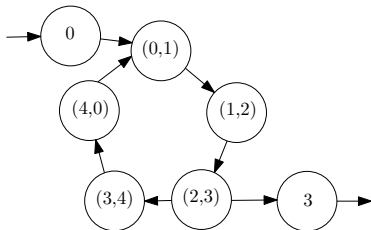
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Informal statement

Certification with r bits $\Leftrightarrow$ Automaton with 2^{2r} states.

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Sketch of the proof :

$\mathcal{A}_k$: Automaton that recognizes all the paths using $\leq k$ bits.

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$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{A}_k \setminus (\cup_i^{k-1} \mathcal{A}_i)$

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Remark : Constant can be improved using Chrobak's theorem

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Fact :

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False good idea :

1. k : smallest integer such that

$p_k \mid n$ and $p_{k-1} \nmid n$.

2. Certify $n \bmod p_k$ and p_{k-1} .



Tightness

Theorem

$S = \{n \mid n \text{ is the product of the } i \text{ first prime (for some } i)\}$ can be certified with $O(\log \log n)$ bits.

Sketch of the proof :

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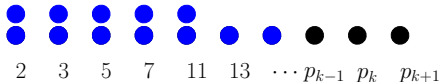
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e.g. $p_k \approx \sqrt{n}$.

Problem 2 : Might not exist.

Main lemma

Lemma :

For $n \geq 3$, $n \notin S$ iff :

1. n is odd or,
2. $\exists p_k \leq p_{k+1} \leq c \log n$ such that $p_{k+1} | n$ and $p_k \nmid n$ or,

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2. $\exists p_k \leq p_{k+1} \leq c \log n$ such that $p_{k+1} | n$ and $p_k \nmid n$ or,
3. $\exists p_k \leq c \log n$ and $m \leq \log n$ such that $p_k | n$, $p_{k+1} \nmid n$ and $n \neq a_k := \prod_{i=1}^k p_i \bmod m$

(Chinese remainder theorem)

Gap for cycles

Theorem (B., Feuilloley, Zeitoun '25+)

Certification with $o(\log n)$ bits on anonymous cycles $\Rightarrow$ Certification with $O(1)$ bits.

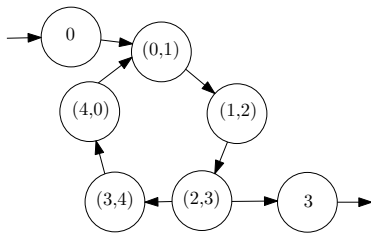
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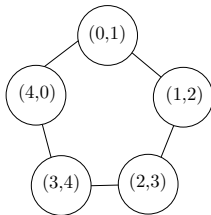
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What is different ?

Paths



Cycles



Graph of certification

S : a property $\Leftrightarrow$ Subset of $\mathbb{N}$

S_k : Subset of S recognized with $\leq k$ bits.

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$\mathcal{G}_k$ defined by

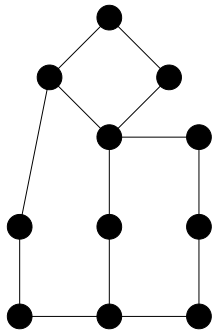
- Vertices : pairs of certificates of $\leq k$ bits $\Leftrightarrow \leq 2^{2k}$ vertices
- Edges : $(a, b) - (b, c)$ if there exists an accepting run where two adjacent vertices receive these certificates.

Remark :

n accepted with $\leq k$ bits ($n \in S_k$) $\Leftrightarrow$ Cycle length n in $\mathcal{G}_k$.

Sketch of the proof

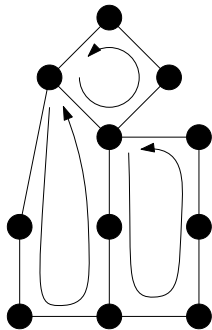
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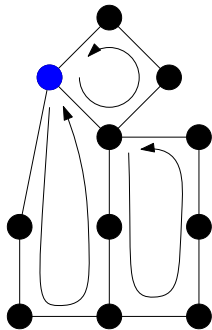
$\Rightarrow \exists$ closed walk of length $\leq O(2^{O(k)})$
passing through all the cycles



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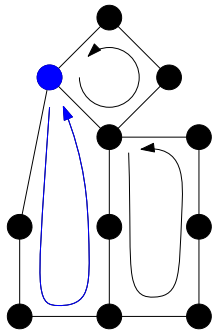
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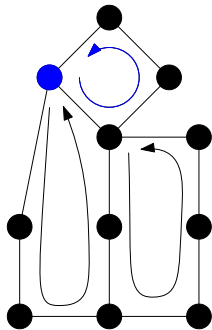
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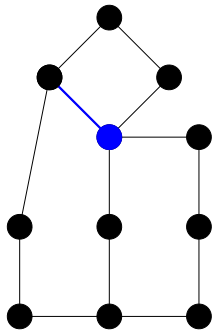
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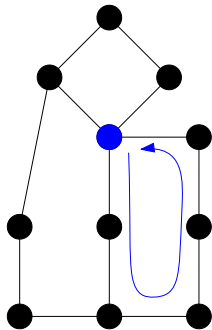
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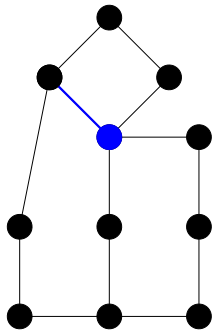
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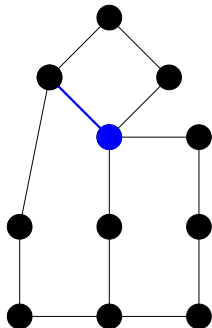
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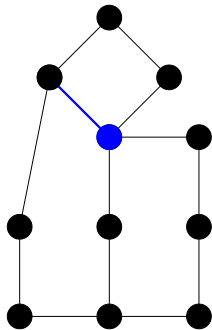


Tool 1. (Generalized Bezout theorem) $d = \text{gcd}(n_1, \dots, n_k)$. If $n \geq \max(n_i)^2$ and $d|n$ then, $n = \sum a_i n_i$ where $a_i \geq 0$

Classic version : $\forall n, m \in \mathbb{N}, \exists a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $na + mb = \text{gcd}(n, m)$.

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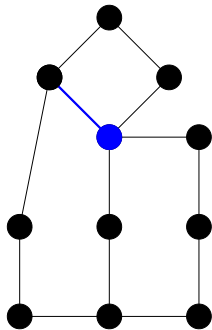


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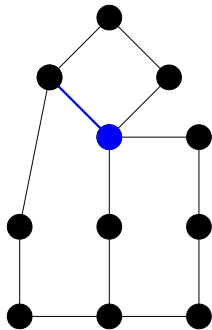
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No gap for caterpillar

Theorem (B., Feuilloley, Zeitoun 25+)

No gap for caterpillars (in terms of n).

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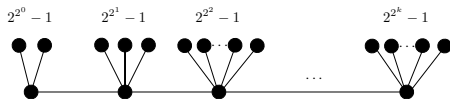
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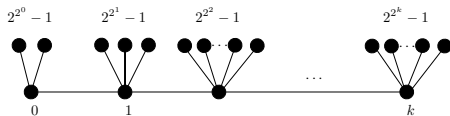
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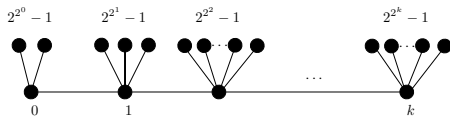
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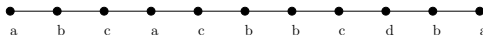
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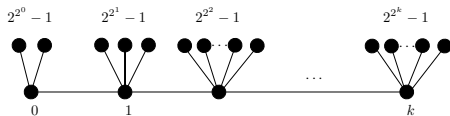
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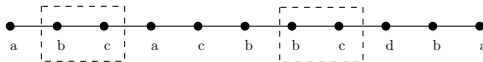
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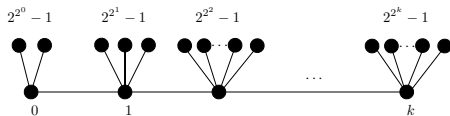
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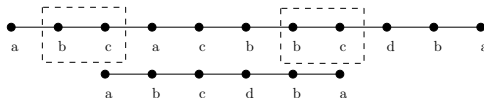
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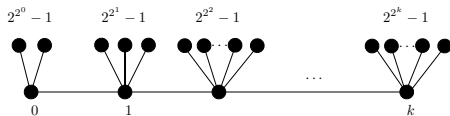
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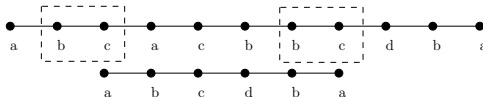
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Remark : We can close the gap between lower and upper bound.

Open problems

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Thanks for your attention !