

# Independent Set Reconfiguration

**Nicolas Bousquet**

4 septembre 2024



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*A one-player game is a puzzle : one player makes a series of moves, trying to accomplish some goal.*



### **Question :**

Giving my current position, can I reach a fixed target position ?

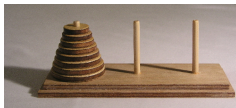
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Colorings, independent sets, dominating sets, cliques, list colorings, bases of matroids, CSP and boolean formulas...

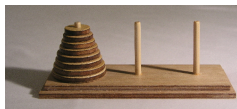
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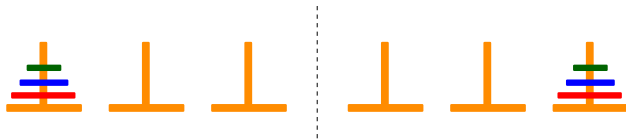
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- Important problems in random sampling, bioinformatics, discrete geometry, games...etc... for decades.

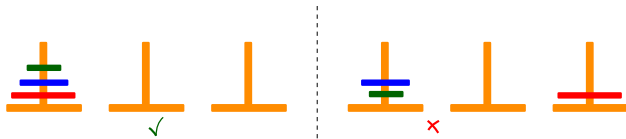
## Focus on Hanoi tower



### Goal :

Move disks from the first to the last rod moving one disk at every step.

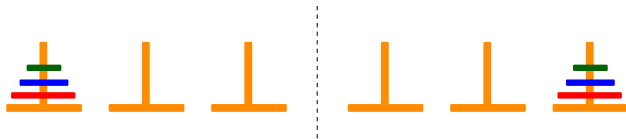
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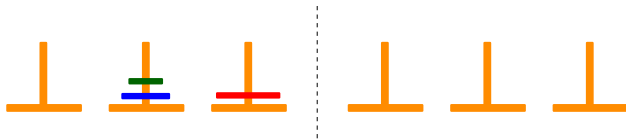


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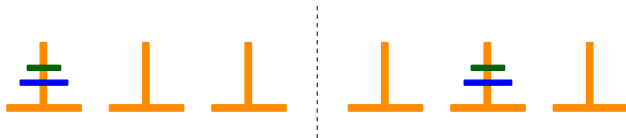
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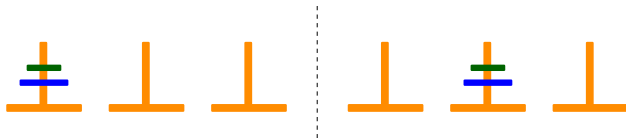
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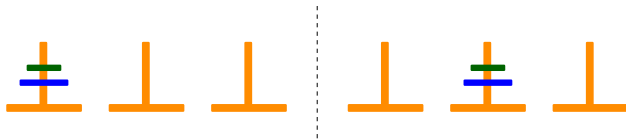
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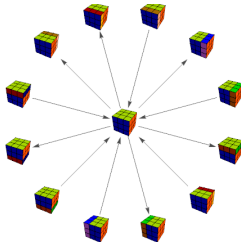
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- Understandable because of symmetry.  
In what follows, symmetry / structure will vanish.

# Configuration graph

**Definition** (Configuration graph  $\mathcal{C}(I)$  of  $I$ )

- Vertices : Valid solutions of  $I$ .
- Create an edge between any two solutions if we can transform one into the other in one elementary step.



Reconfiguration diameter =  
Diameter of  $\mathcal{C}(I)$  (when connected)

## Main questions

- **Reachability problem.** Given two configurations, is it possible to **transform** the first into the other?  
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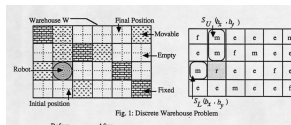


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- **Algorithmics.** Can we efficiently solve these questions? (In polynomial time, FPT-time...).

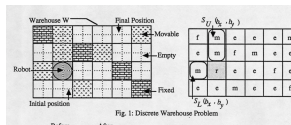
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- [Hopcroft, Schwartz, Sharir '83] Warehouseman's problem - Motion of rectangular robots in a grid.  
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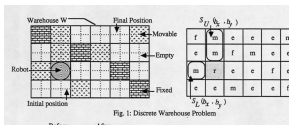
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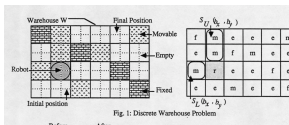
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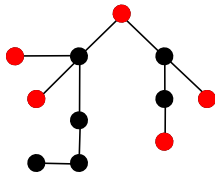


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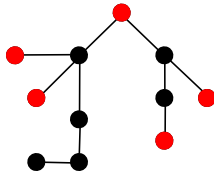
**Theorem** [Hearn, Demaine '04]

The problem is PSPACE-complete.

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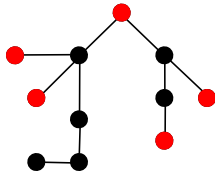


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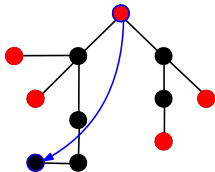
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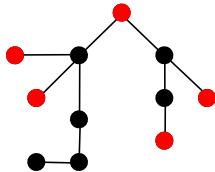
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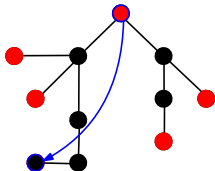


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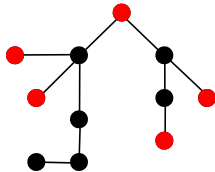
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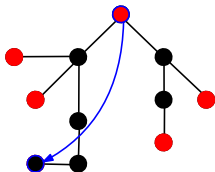
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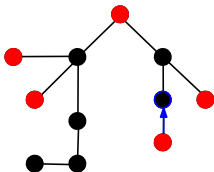
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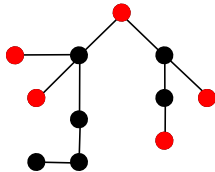


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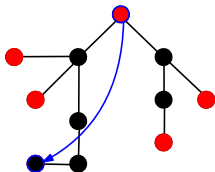


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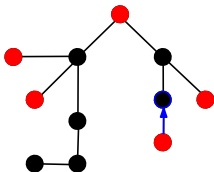
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**Question :** What is the complexity of TS / TJ-REACHABILITY ?

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TS/TJ-REACHABILITY :

**Input** : A graph  $G$ , two independent sets  $I, J$ .

**Input** : YES iff there exists a TS (resp. TJ)-transformation from  $I$  to  $J$ .

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**Today** :

Focus on parameterized algorithms.

## Parameterized complexity

A problem  $\Pi$  parameterized by  $k$  is **FPT** if it can be decided in  $f(k) \cdot \text{Poly}(n)$ .

**In this talk :**

Parameter = size of the IS.

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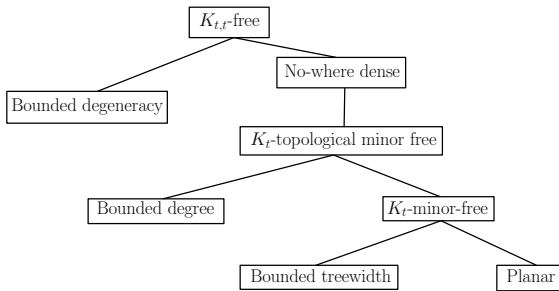
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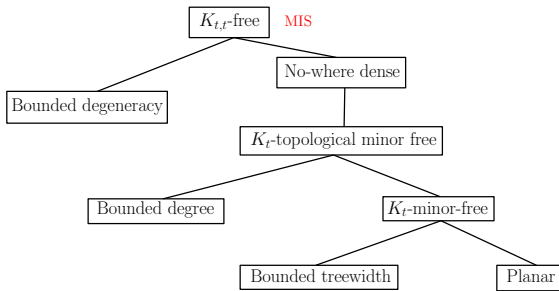
### Theorem (Bodlaender, Groenland, Swennenhuis '21)

TS and TJ-REACHABILITY are **XL**-complete.

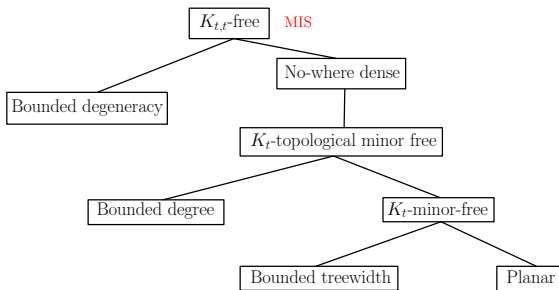
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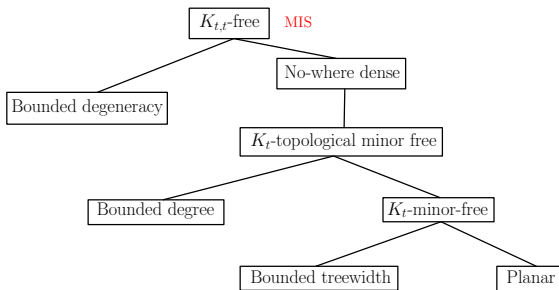
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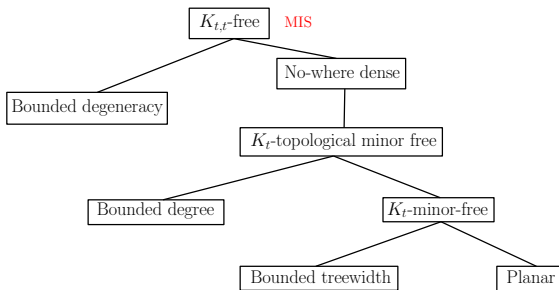
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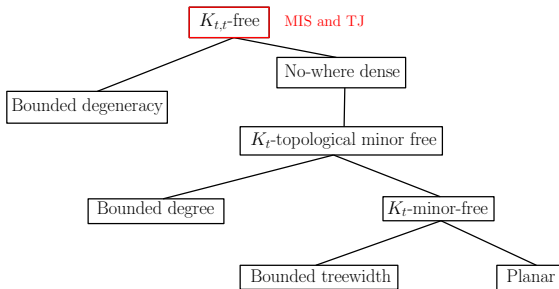
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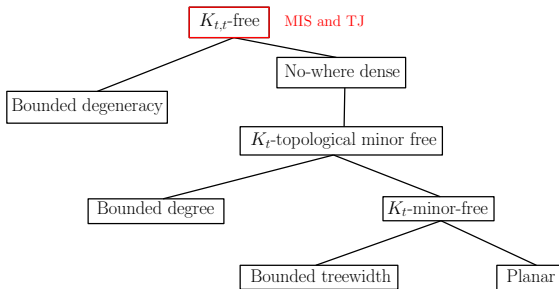
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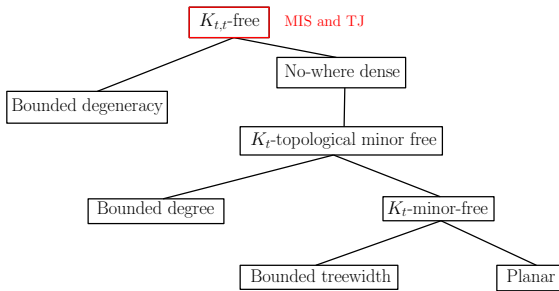
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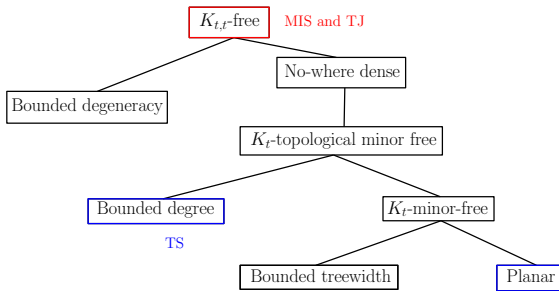
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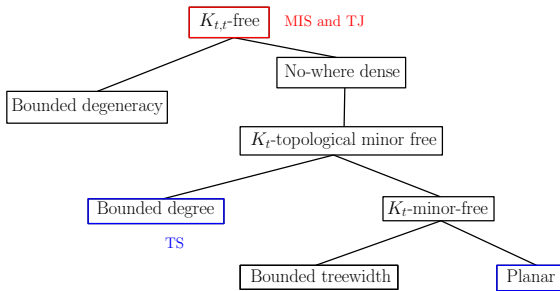
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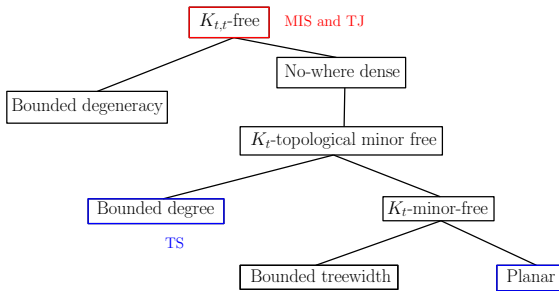
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- Graphs of girth  $\geq 5$ .

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A **galactic graph** is a graph with special vertices called **black holes** that :

- might contain several tokens,
- might contain tokens even if they have tokens in their neighborhoods.

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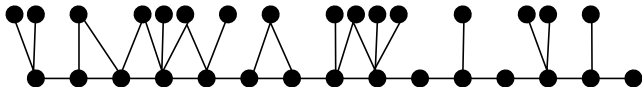


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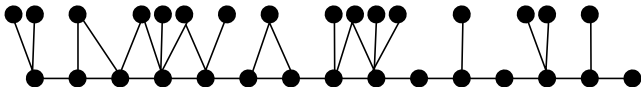


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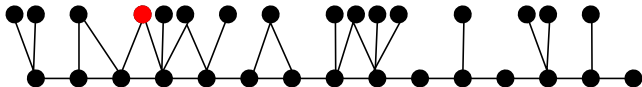


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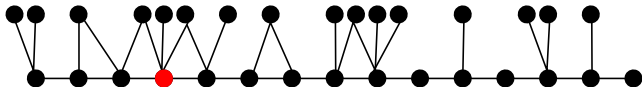


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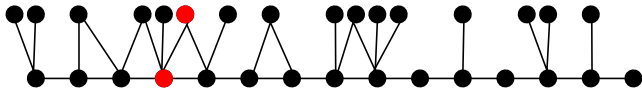


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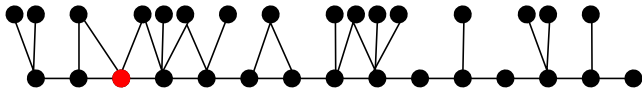


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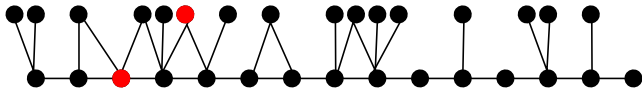


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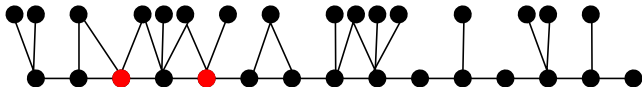


A **galactic graph** is a graph with special vertices called **black holes** that :

- might contain several tokens,
- might contain tokens even if they have tokens in their neighborhoods.

### Reduction rule

If  $G$  admits a long enough **geodesic path**  $P$  with no token on it nor its neighborhood, then  $P$  can be collapsed into a single black hole vertex.



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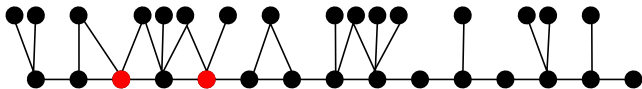


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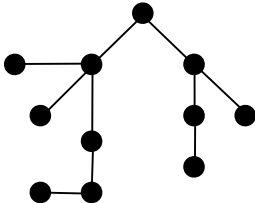


### Consequences :

- FPT on bounded degree graphs.
- FPT on planar graphs.

## Dominating Set Reconfiguration

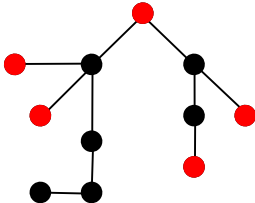
A **dominating set** is a subset  $X$  of vertices such that  $N[X] = V$ .  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  A set of tokens whose (closed) neighborhood is  $V$ .



## Dominating Set Reconfiguration

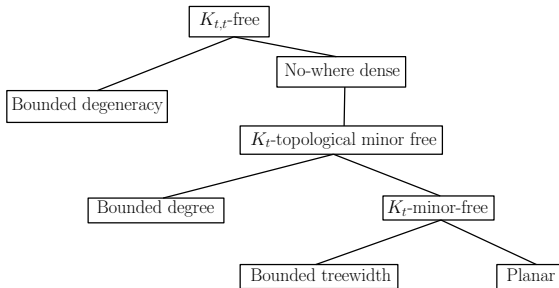
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$S, T$  are **TS-adjacent** (resp. **TJ-adjacent**) if  $T$  can be obtained from  $S$  by sliding a token along an edge (resp. jumping a token).



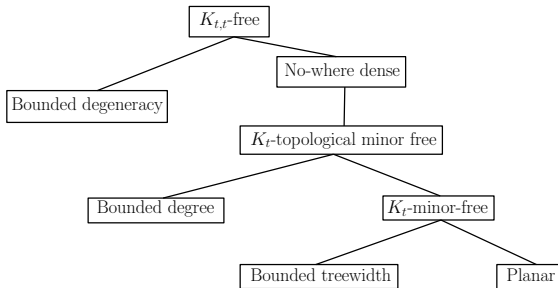


## Parameterized results



- [Mouawad et al.'18] TJ-DSR is **FPT** on nowhere dense graphs.
- [BDMMP'24+] TS-DSR is **XL**-complete on bounded treewidth graphs!

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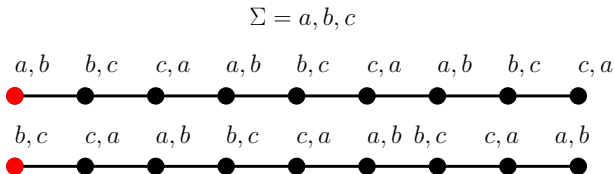
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- [BDMMP'24+] TS-DSR is **XL**-complete on bounded treewidth graphs!

### Remark :

- First reconfiguration problem hard on bounded treewidth graphs.
- First TS/TJ difference of behavior on sparse graphs.

## Key ingredient - Tape Reconfiguration

- An alphabet  $\Sigma$
- A collection of **tapes** where cells are labeled by  $\subseteq \Sigma$ .
- Lecture heads



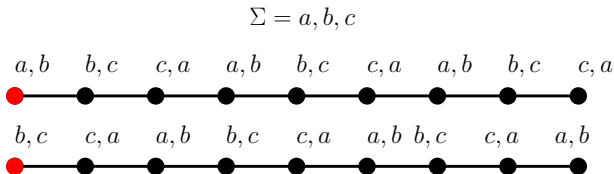
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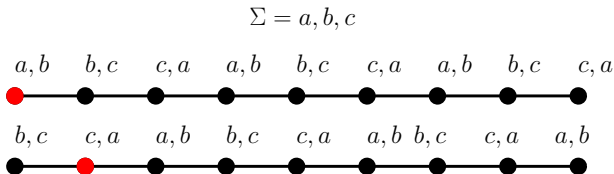
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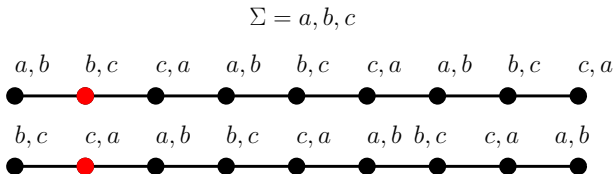
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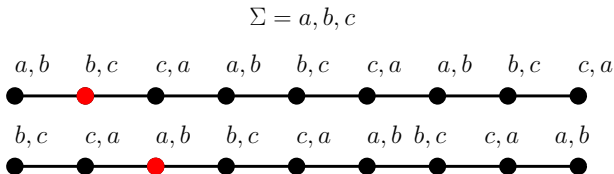
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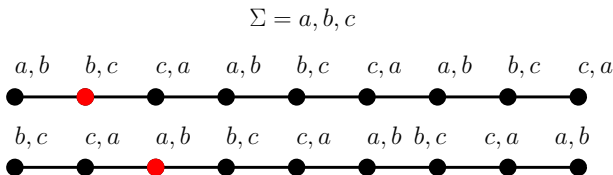


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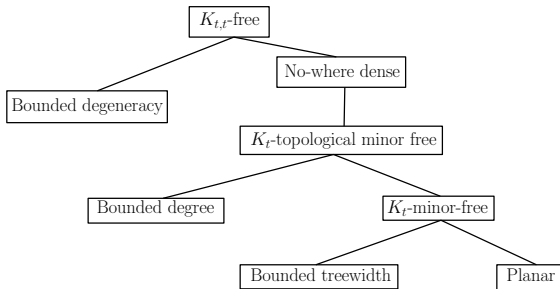


### Theorem [BDMMP'24+] :

Tape Reconfiguration is **XL-complete** even on bounded treewidth instances.



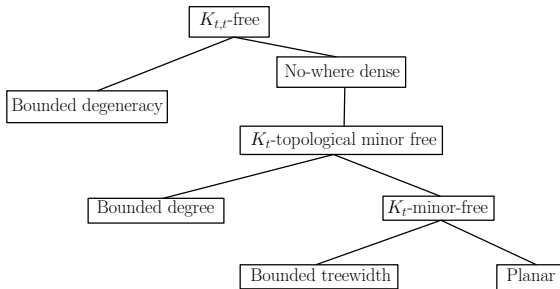
# Shortest path reconfiguration



**Theorem** [BGLM'24]

$W[1]$ -hard even on bounded degenerate graphs (for TS and TJ).

# Shortest path reconfiguration



## Theorem [BGLM'24]

$W[1]$ -hard even on bounded degenerate graphs (for TS and TJ).

## Questions :

- What about bounded treewidth ?
- Planar graphs ? (polytime for TJ).

## What next?

- Understand deeper the behavior of TS.
- Are TS locality and shortest path locality similar?

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**Thanks for your attention !**