# Trees in tournaments 

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## Tournament

tournament $=$ Orientation of a complete graph.

transitive tournament $=$ tournament with no directed cycle $T T_{k}=$ transitive tournament of order $k$.


## Unavoidability

$n$-unavoidable $=$ contained in every tournament of order $n$ $\operatorname{unvd}(D):$ unavoidability $=\operatorname{minimum} n$ s.t. $D$ is $n$-unavoidable.

$$
\operatorname{unvd}(D)<+\infty \text { if and only if } D \text { is acyclic. }
$$

- unavoidable $\Rightarrow$ contained in $T T_{n} \Rightarrow$ no directed cycle
$\longleftarrow$ every acyclic digraph of order $k$ is contained in $T T_{k}$.


## Upper bounds on unvd $\left(T T_{k}\right)$

$$
\operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{k}\right) \leq 2 \operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{k-1}\right)
$$

[[ Proof: A tournament of order 2 unvd $\left(T T_{k-1}\right)$ contains a vertex with $\left.\left.d^{+} \geq \operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{k-1}\right).\right]\right]$

Corollary unvd $\left(T T_{k}\right) \leq 2^{k-1}$.
$\operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{1}\right)=1, \operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{2}\right)=2, \operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{3}\right)=4$, and $\operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{4}\right)=8$ (because of Paley tournament).
Reid and Parker, $1970: \operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{5}\right)=14, \operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{6}\right)=28$.
Sanchez-Flores, 1994: unvd $\left(T T_{7}\right)=54$.

Corollary unvd $\left(T T_{k}\right) \leq 54 \times 2^{k-7}($ for $k \geq 7)$.

## Lower bounds on unvd $\left(T T_{k}\right)$

Theorem (Erdős and Moser, 1964) unvd $\left(T T_{k}\right)>2^{(k-1) / 2}$.
[[ Proof: Random tournament $T$ on $n=2^{(k-1) / 2}$ vertices.
Probability that $T\left\langle v_{1}, \ldots, v_{k}\right\rangle$ is transitive with hamiltonian dipath $\left(v_{1}, \ldots, v_{k}\right)$ is $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\binom{k}{2}}$.
Expected number of transitive tournaments : $\frac{n!}{(n-k)!}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\binom{k}{2}}$

$$
<n^{k}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\binom{k}{2}} \leq 1 .
$$

Simple Moment Method, $n$-tournament with no $T T_{k}$.
Theorem For every $C>1, C \times \operatorname{unvd}\left(T T_{k}\right)>2^{(k+1) / 2}$ if $n$ is large enough.
[[ Use Local Lemma ]]

## Oriented paths in tournament

$\vec{P}_{n}$ : directed path on $n$ vertices.
Theorem (Redei, 1934) Every tournament has a directed Hamiltonian path. $\operatorname{unvd}\left(\vec{P}_{n}\right)=n$.


Theorem (H. and Thomassé, 2000). unvd $(P)=|P|$ if $|P| \geq 8$.
$T$ tournament, $P$ oriented path with $|T|=|P|$.
$T$ contains $P$ unless $T \in\left\{C_{3}, R_{5}, P_{7}\right\}$ and $P$ is antidirected.

## Oriented cycles in tournament

Theorem (Thomason, 1986).
If $C$ is a non-directed cycle with $|C| \geq \mathbf{2}^{\mathbf{1 2 8}}$, then $\operatorname{unvd}(C)=|C|$.

Theorem (H. , 2000).
If $C$ is an non-directed cycle with $|C| \geq \mathbf{6 8}$, then $\operatorname{unvd}(C)=|C|$.

Conjecture
If $C$ is an non-directed cycle with $|C| \geq \mathbf{9}$, then $\operatorname{unvd}(C)=|C|$.

## Oriented trees in tournament

Conjecture (Sumner, 1972).
If $T$ is an oriented tree or order $n$, then $\operatorname{unvd}(T) \leq 2 n-2$.


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## Universal digraphs

Theorem (Gallai 1968, Hasse 1964, Roy 1967, Vitaver 1962)
If $\chi(D) \geq n$, then $D$ contains a directed path of order $n$.
$n$-universal $=$ contained in every digraph $D$ with $\chi(D) \geq n$.
Theorem (Erdős, 1959)
For all $k, g$, there are graphs with $\chi \geq k$ and girth $\geq g$.
universal digraph must be the orientation of a forest.
Theorem (Burr, 1980)
Every oriented forest of order $n$ is $n^{2}$-universal.
Addario-Berry et al. 2013 improved to $\frac{1}{2} n^{2}-\frac{1}{2} n+1$-universal.
Conjecture (Burr, 1982)
Every oriented forest of order $n$ is $(2 n-2)$-universal.

## Oriented trees in tournament

Conjecture (Sumner, 1972).
If $T$ is an oriented tree or order $n$, then $\operatorname{unvd}(T) \leq 2 n-2$.

If $T$ is an oriented tree of order $n$, then $\operatorname{unvd}(T) \leq$
(Häggkvist and Thomason, 1991) $12 n \quad(4+o(1)) n$
(H. and Thomassé, 2000) $\quad \frac{7}{2} n-\frac{5}{2}$
(El Sahili, 2004)
$3 n-3$
(Kühn, Mycroft and Osthus, 2011)
$2 n-2$ for $n$ large.

Theorem (H. and Thomassé, 2000).
If $A$ is an arborescence, then $\operatorname{unvd}(A) \leq 2|A|-2$.

## Beyond Sumner's conjecture

Conjecture (H. and Thomassé, 2000).
If $T$ is an oriented tree of order $n$ with $k$ leaves, then

$$
\operatorname{unvd}(T) \leq n+k-1
$$

Evidences : True for $k \leq 3 . \quad$ (Ceroi and H., 2004).

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { True for a large class of trees. } \\
\operatorname{unvd}(T) \leq n+2^{512 k^{3}} . \text { (Häggkvist and Thomason, 1991) }
\end{gathered}
$$

## Our results

Theorem (Dross and H. , 2018).
If $A$ is an out-arborescence of order $n$ with $k$ out-leaves, then $\quad \operatorname{unvd}(A) \leq n+k-1$.

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If $T$ is a tree of order $n$ with $k$ leaves, then

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\operatorname{unvd}(T) \leq\left\{\begin{array}{lc}
\frac{3}{2} n+\frac{3}{2} k-2 & \Rightarrow \text { Sumner holds } \\
& \text { when } k \leq n / 3 \\
&
\end{array}\right.
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n+144 k^{2}-280 k+124
\end{array}\right\} \Longrightarrow \frac{21}{8} n-\frac{47}{16}
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## Median orders

median order : $\left(v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{n}\right)$ s.t. $\left|\left\{\left(v_{i}, v_{j}\right): i<j\right\}\right|$ is maximum.
Proposition : If $\left(v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{n}\right)$ is a median order of $T$, then
(M1) $\left(v_{i}, v_{i+1}, \ldots, v_{j}\right)$ is a median order of $T\left\langle\left\{v_{i}, v_{i+1}, \ldots, v_{j}\right\}\right\rangle$;
(M2) $v_{i}$ dominates at least half of the vertices $v_{i+1}, \ldots, v_{j}$, and $v_{j}$ is dominated by at least half of the vertices $v_{i}, \ldots, v_{j-1}$.

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## Arborescences: the greedy procedure

A out-arborescence with root $r, n$ nodes, $k$ out-leaves.
$\left(v_{1}, \ldots, v_{m}\right)$ median order of $T$ with $|T|=m=n+k-1$.
Set $\phi(r)=v_{1}$.
For $i=1$ to $m$, do

- if $v_{i}$ is not hit, skip; $\quad v_{i}$ is failed $\left(v_{i} \in F\right)$
- if $v_{i}$ is hit, let $a_{i}=\phi^{-1}\left(v_{i}\right)$;
assign the $\left|N^{+}\left(a_{i}\right)\right|$ first not yet hit out-neighbours of $v_{i}$ in $\left\{v_{i+1}, \ldots, v_{m}\right\}$ to the sons of $a_{i}$ (according to some predefined order);


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## Arborescences : analysis

node $a$ is active for $i$ if $\phi(a) \in\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{i}\right\}$ and it has a son $b$ that is not embedded in $\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{i}\right\}$.
For $v_{i} \in F$, let $\ell_{i}$ be the largest index such that $a_{\ell_{i}}$ is active for $i$. Set $I_{i}=\left\{v_{\ell_{i+1}}, \ldots, v_{i}\right\}$.

Claim 1: If $v_{i} \in F$, then $\left|I_{i} \cap F\right| \leq\left|I_{i} \cap \phi(L)\right| . \quad L=$ \{out-leaves $\}$.

Claim 2: If $v_{i}, v_{j} \in F$, then either $I_{i} \cap I_{j}=\emptyset$, or $I_{i} \subseteq l_{j}$, or $I_{j} \subseteq I_{i}$.
$M$ : the set of indices $i$ such that $v_{i} \in F$ and $I_{i}$ is maximal for inclusion.
$|F|=\sum_{i \in M}\left|I_{i} \cap F\right| \leq \sum_{i \in M}\left|I_{i} \cap \phi(L)\right| \leq|\phi(L)|=|L| \leq k-1$.
$\operatorname{unvd}(A) \leq \frac{3}{2} n+\frac{3}{2} k-2$ : the downward forest
A : tree rooted in $r$ with $n$ nodes and $k$ leaves.

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A : tree rooted in $r$ with $n$ nodes and $k$ leaves.
upward arcs : arcs directed away from the root downward arcs : arcs directed towards the root downward forest : subdigraph induced by the downward arcs

$\operatorname{unvd}(A) \leq \frac{3}{2} n+\frac{3}{2} k-2$ : the lemma
$\mathcal{C}_{r}^{\downarrow}$ : set of components of the downward forest

$$
\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow}=\sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}_{r}^{\downarrow}}\left(|V(C)|+\left|L^{-}(C)\right|-2\right)
$$

Lemma If $r$ is a source, then $A$ is $\left(n+k-1+\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow}\right)$-unavoidable.
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Lemma If $r$ is a source, then $A$ is $\left(n+k-1+\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow}\right)$-unavoidable.

$n_{i}$ vertices; $k_{i}$ in-leaves
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Lemma If $r$ is a source, then $A$ is $\left(n+k-1+\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow}\right)$-unavoidable.

$n_{i}$ vertices; $k_{i}$ in-leaves $k_{i}-1$ new vertices
unvd $(A) \leq \frac{3}{2} n+\frac{3}{2} k-2$ : concluding
$A$ : tree rooted in $r$ with $n$ nodes and $k$ leaves.
$\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow}=\sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}_{r}^{\downarrow}}\left(|V(C)|+\left|L^{-}(C)\right|-2\right)$

Pick $r$ such that $\min \left(\gamma_{r}^{\uparrow}, \gamma_{r}^{\downarrow}\right)$ is minimum.
W. I. o. g. this minimum is attained by $\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow}$.
$\gamma_{r}^{\uparrow}+\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow} \leq n+k-2$, so $\gamma_{r}^{\downarrow} \leq \frac{1}{2}(n+k)-1$
$r$ is source.

So, by the Lemma, $A$ is $\left(\frac{3}{2} n+\frac{3}{2} k-2\right)$-unavoidable.
unvd $(A) \leq n+O\left(k^{2}\right)$ : cutting the tree

Theorem (Thomason, 1986)
$P$ non-directed path of order $n$ with first and last block of length 1.
$T$ tournament of order $n+2$ and $X, Y \subseteq V(T),|X|,|Y| \geq 2$. If $P \neq \pm(1,1,1)$, then there is a copy of $P$ in $T$ with origin in $X$ and terminus in $Y$.
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unvd $(A) \leq n+O\left(k^{2}\right):$ reduction to stubs
stub : tree such that
(i) every inner segment has at most three blocks; moreover, if it has three blocks then its first and third block have length 1 , and if it has two blocks then one of them has length 1.
(ii) every outer segment has length 1.

## Lemma

Every stub of order $n$ with $k$ leaves is $(n+f(k))$-unavoidable,

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Downarrow \\
\text { every tree of order } n \text { with } k \text { leaves is } \\
(n+\max \{f(2 k-2 b)+b \mid 0 \leq b \leq k-3\}) \text {-unavoidable. }
\end{gathered}
$$

## unvd $(A) \leq n+O\left(k^{2}\right)$ : organizing the stubs



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## Stubs: the rabbit hop

Lemma: $m \geq 4 k,\left(v_{1}, \ldots, v_{m}\right)$ median order of $T$. There are $k$ internally disjoint 2-dipaths from $v_{1}$ to $\left\{v_{m}-4 k+2, \ldots, v_{m}\right\}$.

