Odd Cycle Games and Connected Rules

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Definition (Positional Games)

Positional games are two-player games of perfect information played on a finite **board** *X* equipped with a family of **winning sets** $\mathcal{F} \subset 2^X$.

Introduction

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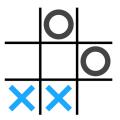
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Variants of Positional Games

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Every round Waiter offers Client $1 \le t \le b + 1$ elements. Client claims one of these and Waiter the rest. Client wins if she claims a winning set and Waiter wins otherwise.

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For what values of b do Breaker and Waiter win?

The point where the winner switches is referred to as the **bias threshold**, denoted by b_{mh} and b_{cw} .

Let the board X be given by all edges of the complete graph on n vertices.

Example (Connectivity and Hamiltonicity Games)

The winning sets of the **connectivity game** consist of all spanning trees of K_n . Gebauer and Szabó showed that $b_{mb} \approx n / \ln n$.

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Theorem 1 (Corsten, Mond, Pokrovskiy, S. and Szabó '19+)

In the Maker-Breaker odd cycle game

$$b_{mb} \ge \left(\frac{4-\sqrt{6}}{5}-o(1)\right)n \approx 0.3101n.$$

Observations

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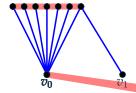
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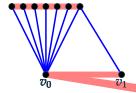


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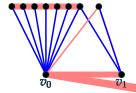


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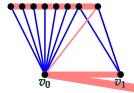


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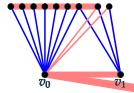


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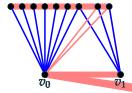


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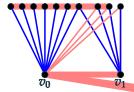


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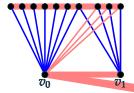


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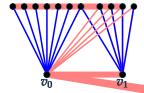


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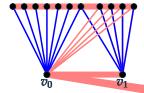


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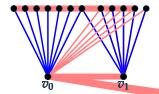


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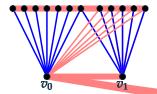


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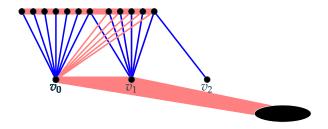


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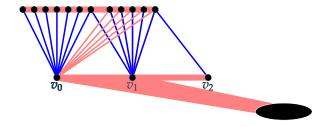




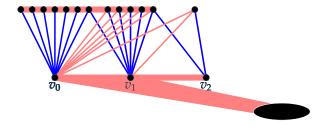
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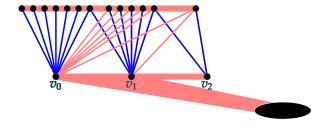
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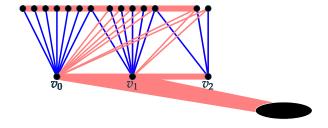
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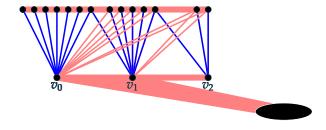
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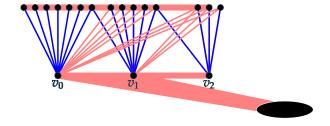
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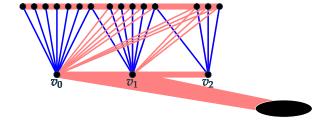
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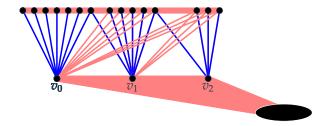
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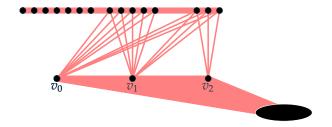
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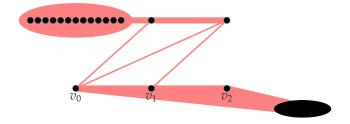
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Definition (Connected Maker-Breaker Games)

Maker has to claim edges incident to her previously claimed edges.

Theorem (Bednarska and Pikhurko 2008)

In the Maker-Breaker odd cycle game $b_{mb} \geq 0.2928n$.

Theorem 1 (Corsten, Mond, Pokrovskiy, S. and Szabó '19+)

In the Maker-Breaker odd cycle game $b_{mb} \geq 0.3101n$.

Question (Bednarska and Pikhurko)

Do we have $b_{mb} = n/2 - o(n)$ in the odd cycle Maker-Breaker game?

Definition (Connected Maker-Breaker Games)

Maker has to claim edges incident to her previously claimed edges.

Theorem 2 (Corsten, Mond, Pokrovskiy, S. and Szabó '19+)

In the **connected** *Maker-Breaker odd cycle game* $b_{mb}^c \leq 0.47n$.

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Proof Idea

1. Maker's graph will again be bipartite as long as she hasn't won the game.

Theorem 2 (Corsten, Mond, Pokrovskiy, S. and Szabó '19+) *In the* **connected** *Maker-Breaker odd cycle game* $b_{mb}^c \le 0.47n$.

- 1. Maker's graph will again be bipartite as long as she hasn't won the game.
- 2. Besides blocking any immediate threats of Maker creating an odd cycle, Breaker's goal will be to connect the vertices not yet touched by Maker in as even a way as possible to the two parts.

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- 1. Maker's graph will again be bipartite as long as she hasn't won the game.
- Besides blocking any immediate threats of Maker creating an odd cycle, Breaker's goal will be to connect the vertices not yet touched by Maker in as even a way as possible to the two parts.
- 3. This way Breaker minimises the number of edges ending up between the two parts of Maker's graph.

CLIENT-WAITER CYCLE GAMES

Client-Waiter Cycle Games

Theorem (Hefetz, Krivelevich, and Tan 2016)

In the Client-Waiter cycle game $b_{cw} = \lceil n/2 \rceil - 1$.

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In the Client-Waiter cycle game $b_{cw} = \lceil n/2 \rceil - 1$.

In the Client-Waiter **odd** *cycle game* $b_{cw} \ge n/(4 \log 2) - o(n) \approx 0.3606n$.

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Conjecture (Hefetz, Krivelevich and Tan)

We have $b_{cw} = n/2 - o(n)$ in the odd cycle Client-Waiter game.

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Waiter has to offer edges incident to Client's previously claimed edges.

Theorem 3 (Corsten, Mond, Pokrovskiy, S. and Szabó '19+)

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Proof Idea

1. Client's graph will again be bipartite as long as she hasn't won the game.

Theorem 3 (Corsten, Mond, Pokrovskiy, S. and Szabó '19+) *In the* **connected** *Client-Waiter odd cycle game* $b_{cro}^c = \lceil n/2 \rceil - 1$.

CLIENT-WAITER CYCLE GAMES

- 1. Client's graph will again be bipartite as long as she hasn't won the game.
- 2. If at any point there is an unclaimed edge inside either of the two parts, Waiter will loose.

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- 2. If at any point there is an unclaimed edge inside either of the two parts, Waiter will loose.
- 3. Whenever offering an edge incident to a vertex not yet in Client's graph, Waiter must either offer all unclaimed edges between that vertex and Client's graph or he must have previously claimed all edges between that vertex and one part of the bipartition.
- 4. Client tries to reduce the number of times the later occurs.

Open Question

- **Q1.** What is the threshold bias for other variants of the odd cycle games, for example Avoider-Enforcer or Waiter-Client?
- What is the threshold bias for the connected Maker-Breaker *H*-game?
- One can view the odd cycle game as the non-2-colourability game. It was proved by Hefetz et al. that the threshold bias for the Maker-Breaker non-k-colourability game satisfies $b_{mb} = \Theta_k(n)$. Do we have $b_{mb} \approx b_{mb}^c$?

Thank you for your attention!