Resolving Sets in Temporal Graphs

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🞯 IWOCA, July 2nd. 2024 🞯

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Funded by: ANR GRALMECO, I-SITE CAP 20-25, ERC Synergy Grant POCOCOP (GA 101071674), Business Finland Project 6GNTF





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GPS, GLONASS, Galileo, Beidou, IRNSS, QZSS: use of at least four satellites



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How many "satellites" would I need in a given graph? ⇒ Well-studied Metric Dimension



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What if the graph changes over time?

 $\mathcal{G} = (V, E_1, E_2, \dots, E_{t_{max}})$ [Ferreira & Viennot, 2002]





Well-studied in distributed algorithms and dynamic networks (biological, transportation...) [Casteigts, 2018] for a thorough introduction

 $\mathcal{G} = (V, E_1, E_2, \dots, E_{t_{max}})$ [Ferreira & Viennot, 2002] $\mathcal{G} = (V, E, \lambda)$ [Kempe, Kleinberg & Kumar, 2000]



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Useful terms

- The static graph G = (V, E) is the **underlying graph**
- λ is the **time labeling**
- A journey is a path in the underlying graph with strictly increasing time-steps

Three possible variables to minimize in a journey



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Shortest: Number of edges in the underlying graph



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- **Shortest:** Number of edges in the underlying graph
- **Fastest:** Duration of the journey



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Temporal distance

The **temporal distance** from u to v is the last time-step of a **foremost** journey from u to v.

Resolving Set

Definition $R \subseteq V \text{ s.t., } \forall u, v \in V, u \neq v, \exists r \in R \text{ with } dist(r, u) \neq dist(r, v).$



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► All vertices must be reached from some vertex of *R*

- If λ(e) = {1,...,diam(G)} for every edge e, then we get the standard resolving set → Generalization
- ► TEMPORAL RESOLVING SET: find a minimum-size set

Previous work on resolving sets

Resolving set

- Defined by [Harary & Melter, 1976] and [Slater, 1975], well-studied since
- ▶ NP-hard, even on restricted classes (bipartite...)
- ▶ W[2]-hard (wrt solution size) on subcubic graphs
- Polynomial algorithms for trees and complete graphs

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k-truncated resolving set

 $dist_k(u, v) = min(dist(u, v), k + 1)$

- Defined by [Estrada-Moreno et al., 2021], generalizing adjacency resolving sets for any k
- NP-hard on trees, but XP (wrt k) algorithm
- Polynomial algorithms for subdivided stars and complete graphs

Our results: complexity of $\operatorname{TEMPORAL}$ Resolving Set

	Standard resolving set	<i>k</i> -truncated resolving set	Temporal resolving set
Trees	poly	NP-hard XP wrt <i>k</i>	NP-hard (2 consecutive time labels per edge)
Subdivided stars	poly	poly	NP-hard (2 time labels per edge) poly (time labels 1 and 2, one per edge)
Stars, Paths	poly	poly	poly (1 time label per edge)
Complete graphs	poly	poly	NP-hard (time labels 1 and 2, one per edge)

Theorem [B., Dailly & Lehtilä, 2024]

 $Temporal Resolving Set is \mbox{NP-hard}, even if the underlying graph is a tree and each edge appears at most twice.$

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Proof idea: reduction from $3\text{-}\mathrm{DIMENSIONAL}$ MATCHING



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• First vertex in the set for every triple **not** in the matching

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- A few more details for edge cases
- Proof of optimality: technical analysis

Subdivided stars

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TEMPORAL RESOLVING SET can be solved in **polynomial** time if the underlying graph is a **subdivided star**, each edge appears **once** and the time-steps are 1 or 2.



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Algorithm idea



Apply the path algorithm on every branch

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- Apply the path algorithm on every branch
- Manage the center and the link with the branches (lots of cases to consider carefully!)

Our results: periodic time labelings



 \rightarrow 4-periodic time labeling

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ightarrow 4-periodic time labeling

Results for 1 time label per edge

- Combinatorial results (bounds) for paths, cycles, complete graphs, subdivided stars, and complete binary trees
- ► XP algorithm (wrt **period**) for subdivided stars

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Any leaf is a temporal resolving set of a path with a periodic time labeling.

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TEMPORAL RESOLVING SET can be solved in time $\mathcal{O}(n^{p+1})$ on a **subdivided star** of order **n** if the time labeling is **p-periodic** and each edge appears **once in every period**.

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Proof idea

- Lemma: for a tree in this setting, there is a minimum-size temporal resolving set containing only leaves
- At least ℓp leaves are necessary ($\ell =$ number of leaves)
- ▶ Test every set of ℓp , $\ell p + 1$, ..., ℓ leaves

Final words

Our contributions

- Introducing temporal resolving sets
- ► NP-hard even on subdivided stars and complete graphs
- ▶ Poly-time algorithms for paths, stars (under constraints)
- ► XP on subdivided stars for periodic labelings (wrt period)

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Future work

- Other parameters: number of time-steps, ...
- Large number of labels per edge might help!
- Other notions of distance (shortest and fastest journey)

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