

# Reconstruction from the Subgraphs Obtained by Deleting $\ell$ Vertices

Douglas B. West

Departments of Mathematics  
Zhejiang Normal University and  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
[dwest@illinois.edu](mailto:dwest@illinois.edu)

slides and papers on preprint page from  
<https://faculty.math.illinois.edu/>

Joint work with

Alexandr V. Kostochka, Mina Nahvi, Dara Zirlin  
(and earlier with) Hannah Spinoza

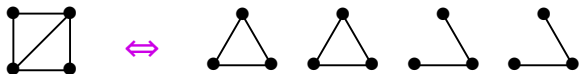
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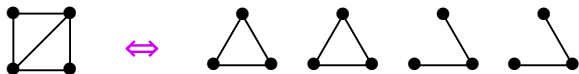


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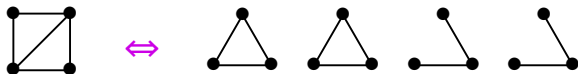
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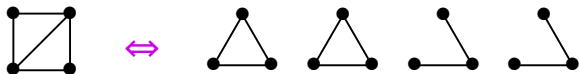
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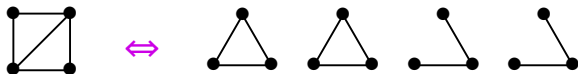
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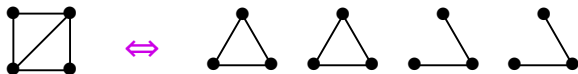
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**Pf.** Each member of  $\mathcal{D}_{k-1}$  arises  $n - k + 1$  times by deleting one vertex from a graph in  $\mathcal{D}_k(G)$ . ■



## A More General Conjecture

If the **RC** holds, then for every graph  $G$  there is a least  $k$  such that  $G$  is determined by  $\mathcal{D}_k(G)$ , meaning that every graph with  $k$ -deck  $\mathcal{D}_k(G)$  is isomorphic to  $G$ .

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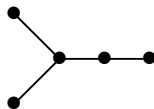
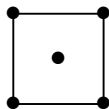
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3-deck of each: four of  $P_3$ , four of  $P_2 + P_1$ , two of  $3K_1$ .



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**Sharpness?**  $\mathcal{D}_3(K_{7,4,3}) = \mathcal{D}_3(K_{6,6,1,1})$ , so  $\mathcal{D}_r$  does not suffice when  $r=3$ , but what about larger  $r$ ?

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Generalizes Chinn '71, Müller '76, Bollobás '90 for  $\ell = 1$ :  
Almost every  $G$  is **1**-reconstr'bl from **any three** cards.



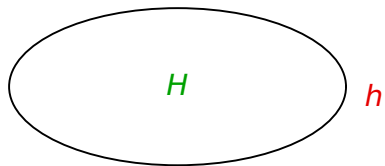
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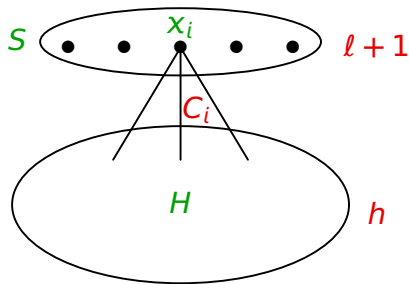


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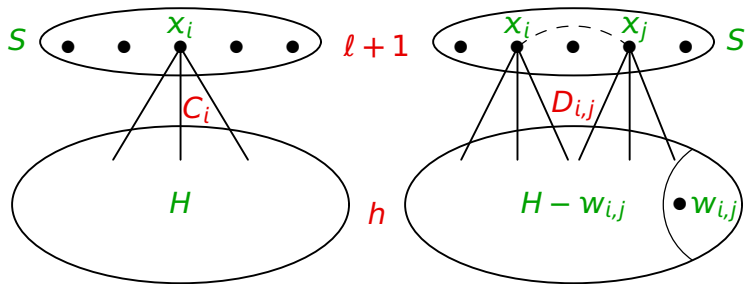


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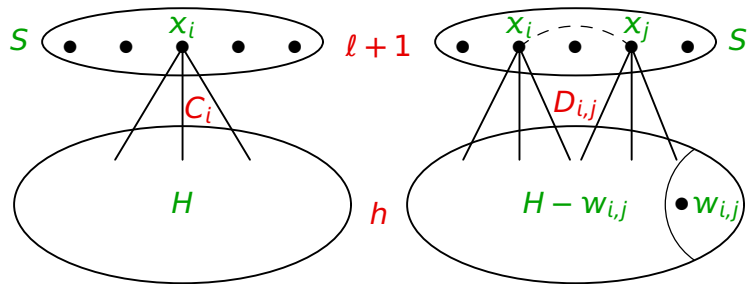
For  $x_i, x_j \in S$ , let  $D_{i,j} = G - (S - \{x_i, x_j\}) - w_{i,j}$ ,  
where  $w_{i,j} \in V(H)$ . Let  $D = \{D_{i,j} : x_i, x_j \in S\}$ .

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Let  $C_i = G - (S - \{x_i\})$  (deleting  $l$ ) and  $C = \{C_i : x_i \in S\}$ .



For  $x_i, x_j \in S$ , let  $D_{i,j} = G - (S - \{x_i, x_j\}) - w_{i,j}$ ,  
where  $w_{i,j} \in V(H)$ . Let  $D = \{D_{i,j} : x_i, x_j \in S\}$ .

**Claim:**  $G$  is reconstructible from  $C \cup D$ .

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**Sharpness?** GJST observe that when  $k \in \Omega(\sqrt{\log n})$  there are more degree lists than possible  $k$ -decks.



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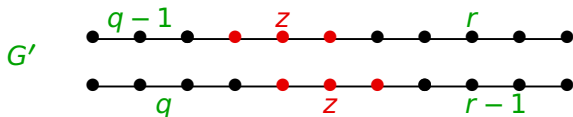
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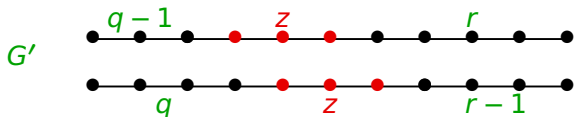
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In fact, (1,2,3) suffice to prove the theorem, because:

**Lem.** If  $G$ ,  $G'$ , and  $H$  are graphs, then  
 $\mathcal{D}_k(G) = \mathcal{D}_k(G')$  if and only if  $\mathcal{D}_k(G + H) = \mathcal{D}_k(G' + H)$ .

**Idea:** Let  $s(G, H) = \#$ induced copies of  $H$  in  $G$ .



Let  $s'(G', H) = \#$ induced copies of  $H + K_1$  in  $G'$  having a named vertex  $z$  of  $G'$  as an isolated vertex.

- Show  $s'(P_n, H)$  is indep of  $z$  when  $z$  is far from ends.

## Independent of the Named Vertex

**Lem.** Let  $L$  be the linear forest  $\sum_{i=1}^p m_i P_{\ell_i}$  with  $k$  vertices, and let  $P_n = \langle w_1, \dots, w_n \rangle$ . For all  $z = w_h$  with  $k+1 \leq h \leq n-k$ , the value  $s'(P_n, L)$  is the same.

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$$s'(P_n, L) = s'(C_n, L) + \sum_{i,j} s'(P_{n-l_i-l_j-2}, L - P_{l_i} - P_{l_j}) \\ - \sum_i (l_i - 1) s'(P_{n-l_i-2}, L - P_{l_i})$$

$w_h$  is far enough from the ends to use induction hyp. ■



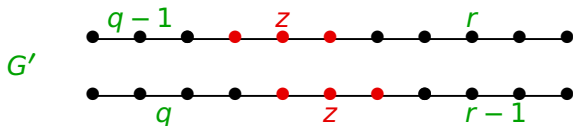
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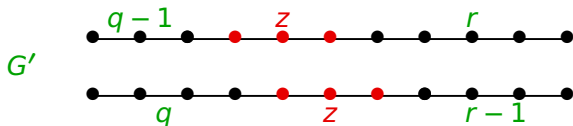
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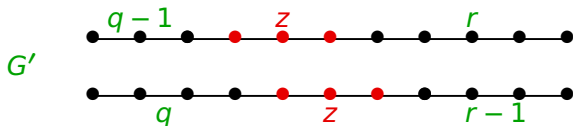
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Full solution for maxdegree 2:

**Thm.** If  $\Delta(G) = 2$ , and two largest components have  $m$  and  $m'$  vertices, then  $G$  is reconstructible from  $\mathcal{D}_k(G)$  iff  $k \geq \max\{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor + \epsilon, m' + \epsilon'\}$ , where  $\epsilon \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $\epsilon' \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . ( $\epsilon = 1$  if largest component is  $P_m$ .)

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Now  $s(F, G) = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{F}} s(F, H)m(H, G)$ , solve for  $m(F, G)$ . ■

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Counting Lemma yields #max'l stars of degrees  $\geq 2$ . ■

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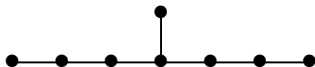
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**Conj.** Nýdl [1981]: Trees with  $n \geq 2\ell + 1$  are weakly  $\ell$ -reconstructible.

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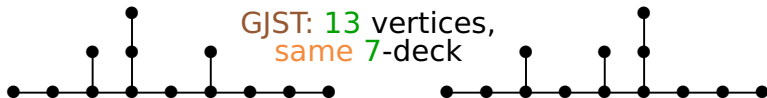
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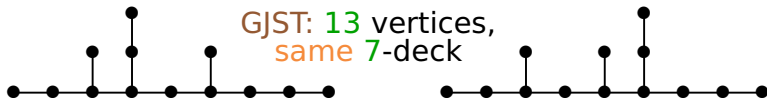
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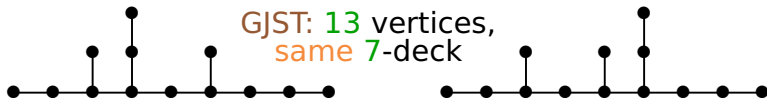


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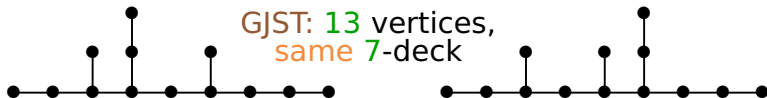
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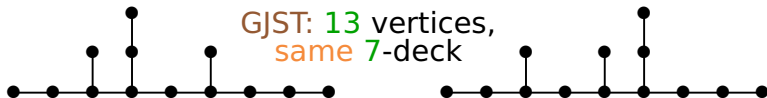
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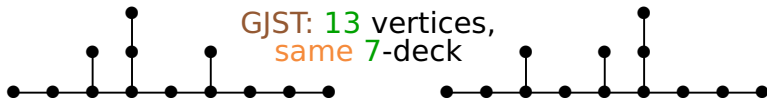
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Ours, only for  $\ell = 3$ , takes 48 pages (uses rooted trees).

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**Pf.** Girth  $\geq 2j + 2 \Rightarrow$  a  $j$ -vine  $B$  is an induced subgraph.  
Diameter  $2j \Rightarrow B$  has unique center  $v$ .

No  $j$ -vine with another center contains  $B$ .

$\therefore$  unique maximal  $j$ -vine containing  $B$  is the  $j$ -ball at  $v$ . ■

## Counting the $j$ -Centers

**Lem.** (restated) If  $G$  has girth  $\geq 2j + 2$ , then  $\{j\text{-vines}\}$  is absorbing for  $G$  and  $j\text{-centers} \Leftrightarrow \text{maximal } j\text{-vines}$ .



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These correspond bijectively to  $j$ -centers. ■

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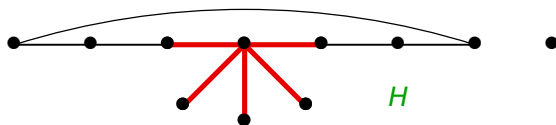
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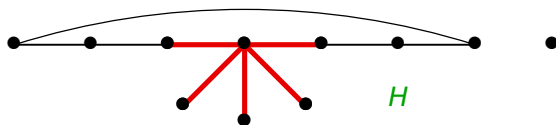
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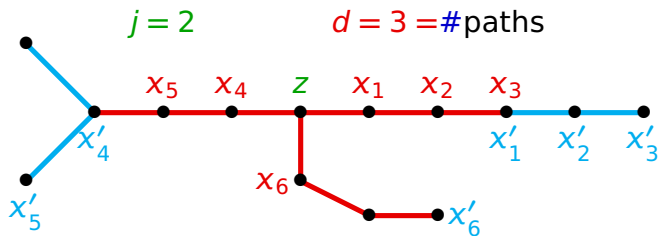
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Now  $(n - \ell + 1) + (n - \ell) - 3 \leq n - 1 \Rightarrow n \leq 2\ell + 1$ . ■

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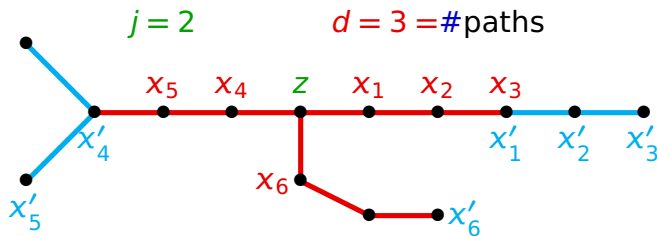
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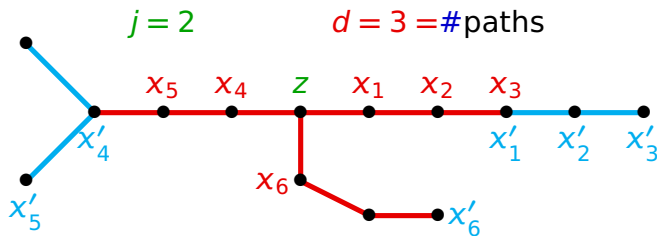
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**Pf.**  $j$ -centers not adj. to  $z$  mark vertices outside  $C$ , and each outside vert. (at most  $\ell$ ) is marked at most once. ■

## Cards of Diameter $2k + 1$

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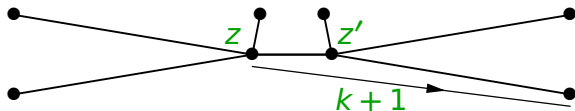
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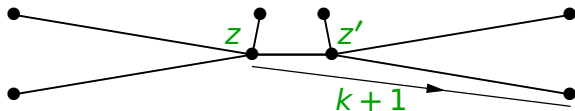
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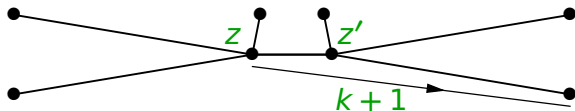
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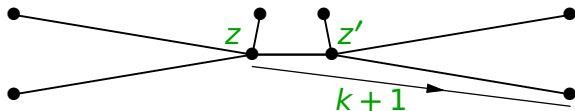
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**Prob.** Find thresholds on  $n$  for  $l$ -reconstructibility of connectivity, matching number,  $\chi(G)$ , planarity, etc.