

Zero Forcing

Dieter Rautenbach

Universität Ulm

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Joint work with M. Gentner, L.D. Penso, and U.S. Souza

Graphs and Matrices

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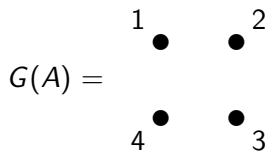
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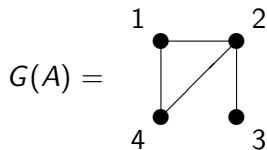
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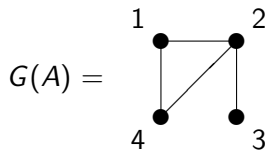
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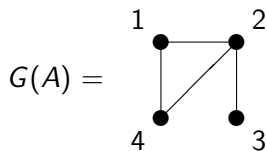
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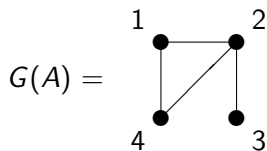
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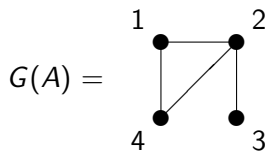
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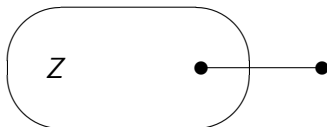
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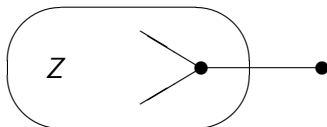
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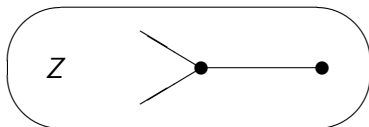
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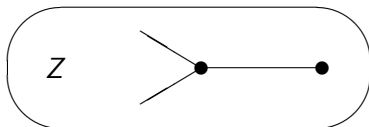
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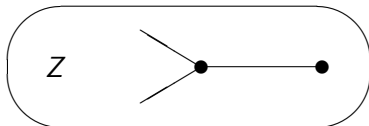
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$$Z(G) = \min\{|Z| : \mathcal{F}(Z) = V(G)\}$$

is the **zero forcing number** of G .

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AIM Minimum Rank - Special Graphs Work Group

*Barioli, Barrett, Butler, Cioaba, Cvetkovic, Fallat, Godsil,
Haemers, Hogben, Mikkelsen, Narayan, Pryporova, Sciriha, So,
Stevanovic, van der Holst, Meulen, Wehe*

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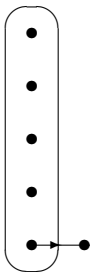
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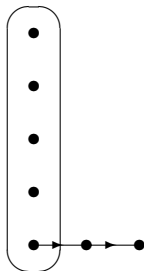
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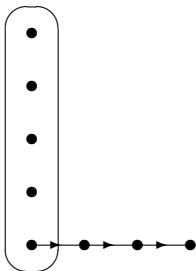
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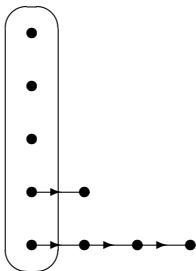
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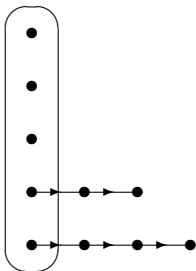
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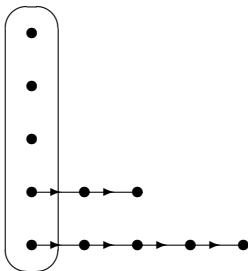
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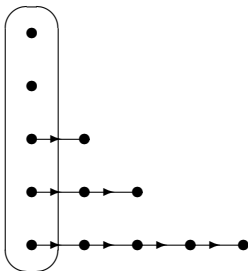
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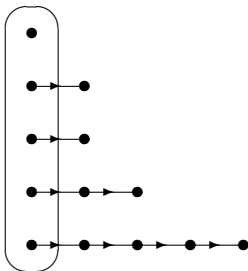
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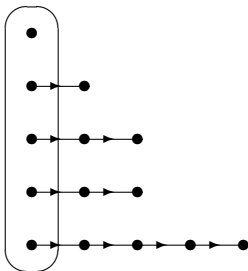
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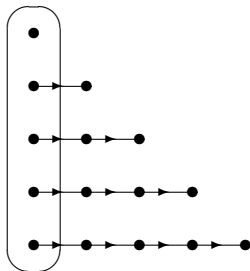
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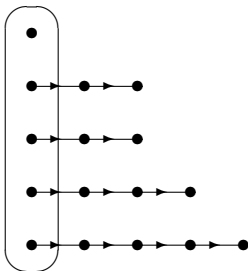
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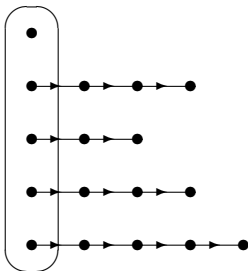
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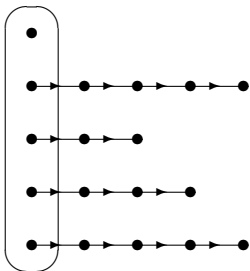
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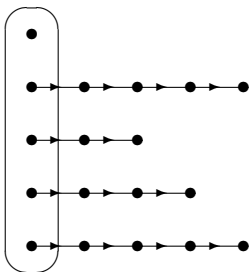
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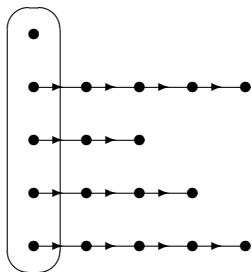
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Definition

For a graph G , let $P(G)$ be the minimum number of disjoint induced paths P_1, \dots, P_k in G with $V(G) = V(P_1) \cup \dots \cup V(P_k)$.

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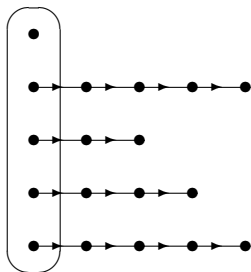


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with equality for forests (AIM group) and cacti (Row '11).
- Both parameters are computationally hard
(Aazami '08, Fallat et al. '16, Le, Le, and Müller '03).

Upper Bounds

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Theorem (Amos, Caro, Davila, and Pepper '15)

Let G be a graph of order n , maximum degree Δ , and minimum degree at least 1.

(i) $Z(G) \leq \frac{\Delta n}{\Delta + 1}$.

(ii) If G is connected and $\Delta \geq 2$, then $Z(G) \leq \frac{(\Delta - 2)n + 2}{\Delta - 1}$.

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This conjecture is true.

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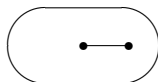
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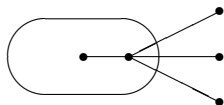
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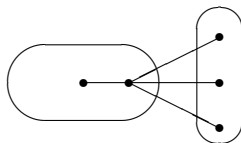
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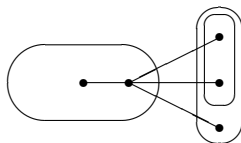
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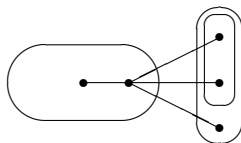
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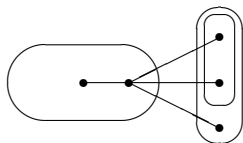
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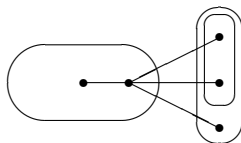
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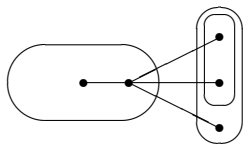
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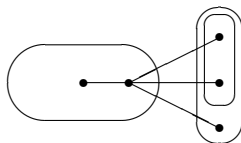
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- (ii) of the Theorem of Amos et al. implies (i), because

$$\frac{(\Delta - 2)n + 2}{\Delta - 1} \leq \frac{\Delta n}{\Delta + 1}$$

for $n \geq \Delta + 1$.

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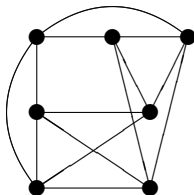
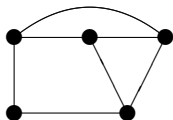
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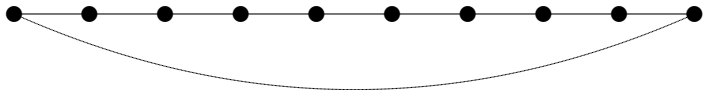
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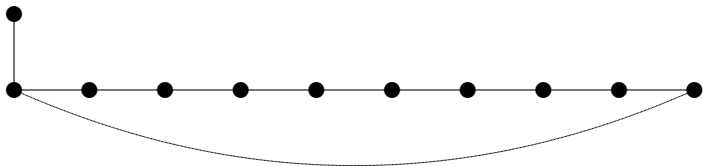


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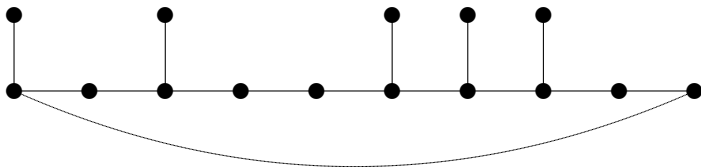


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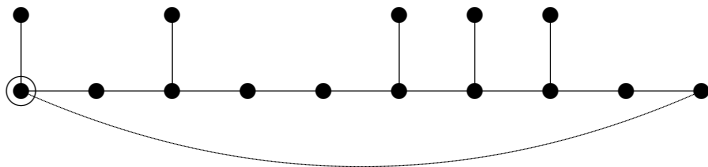


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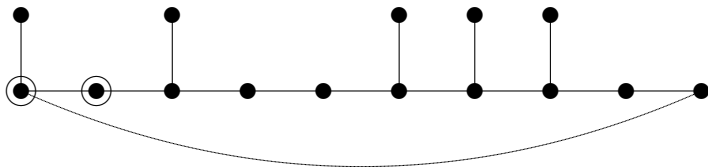


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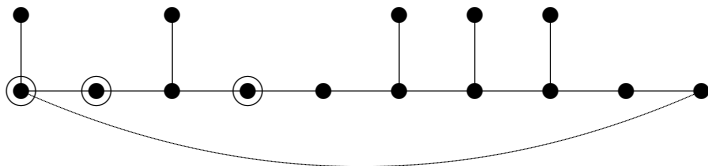


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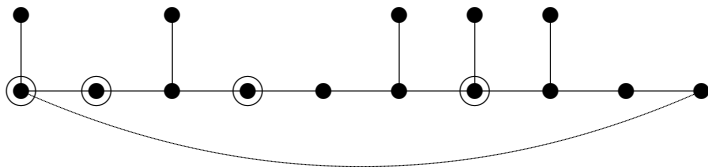


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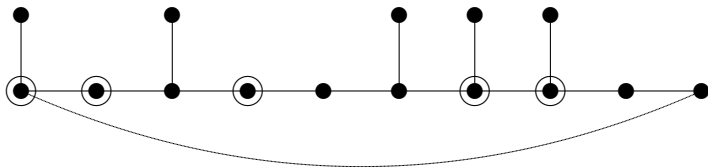


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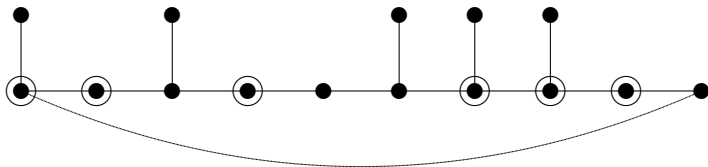


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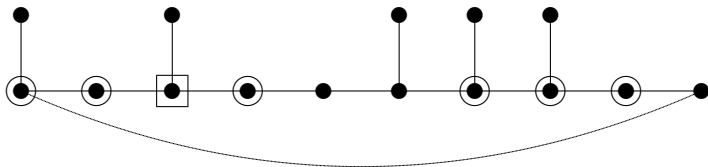


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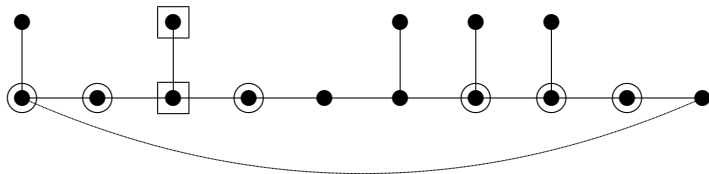


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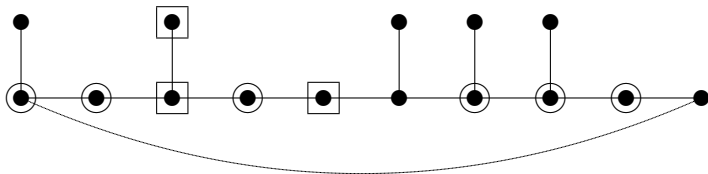


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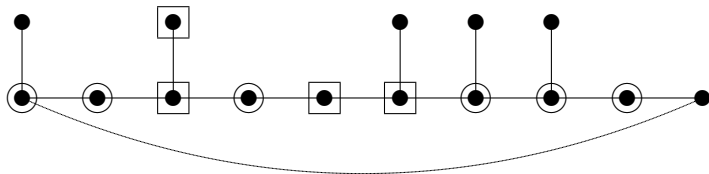


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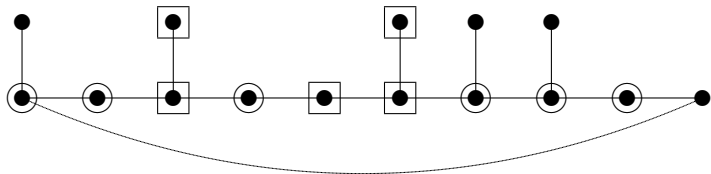


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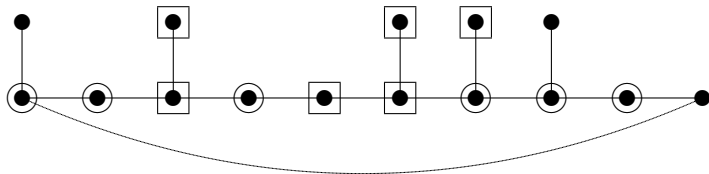


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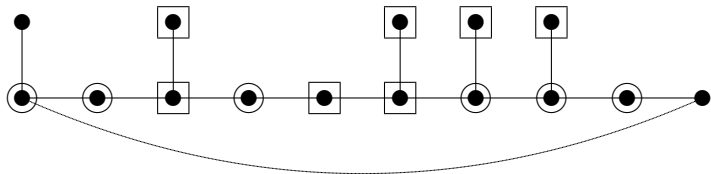


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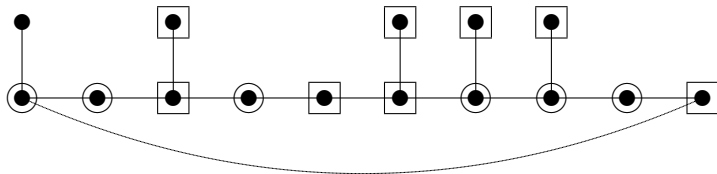


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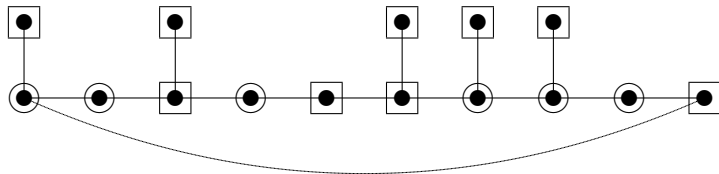


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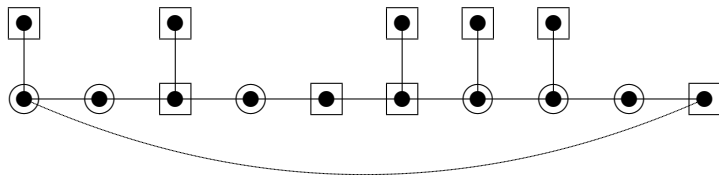


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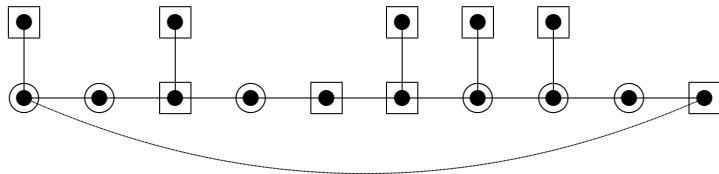
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$\delta(G) \geq 2$.



$$\#\bigcirc \leq \#\square$$

□

Upper Bounds

Conjecture (GR '16)

If G is a connected graph of order n and maximum degree 3, then

$$Z(G) \leq \frac{1}{3}n + 2.$$

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Theorem (GR '16)

If G is a connected graph of order n , maximum degree 3, and girth at least 5, then

$$Z(G) \leq \frac{n}{2} - \Omega\left(\frac{n}{\log n}\right).$$

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Proof (sketch):

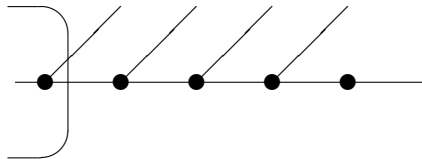
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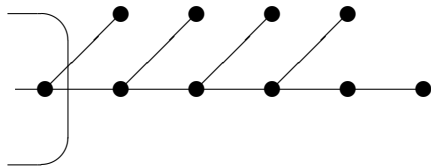
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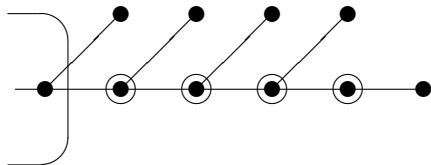
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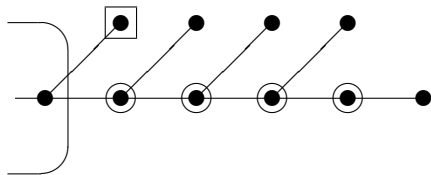
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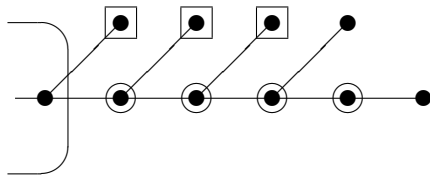
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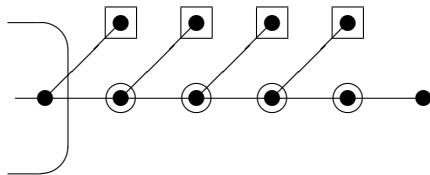
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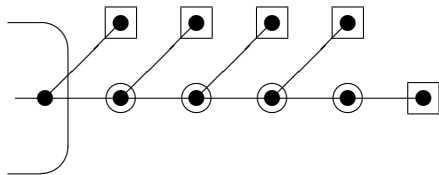
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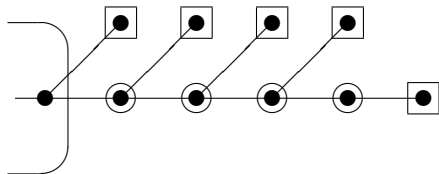
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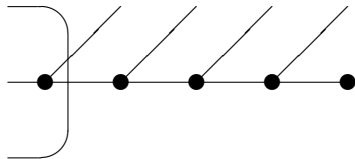
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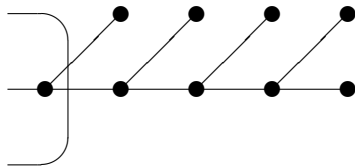
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Proof (sketch):



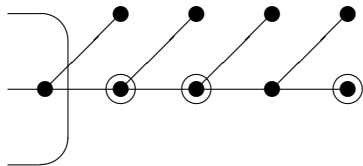
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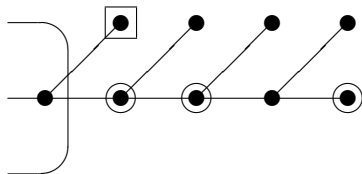
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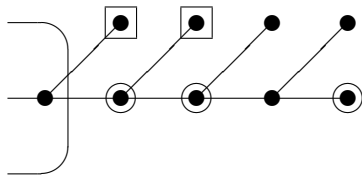
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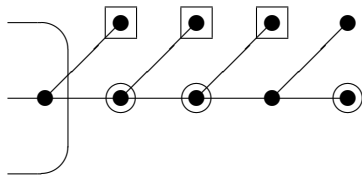
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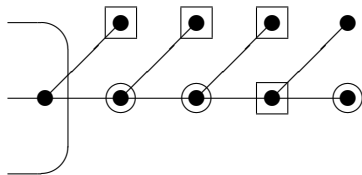
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Proof (sketch):



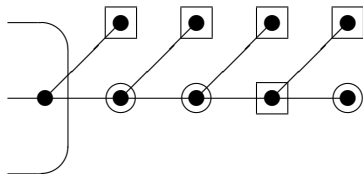
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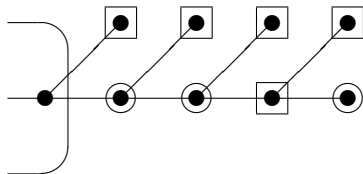
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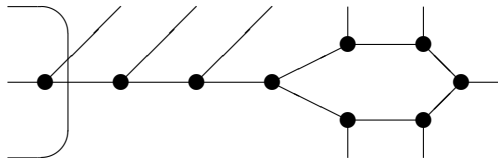
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Proof (sketch):



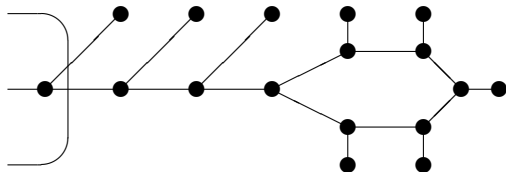
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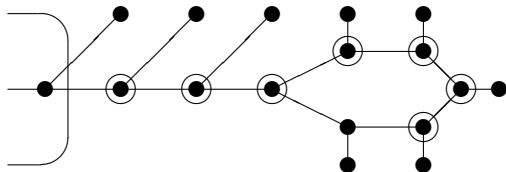
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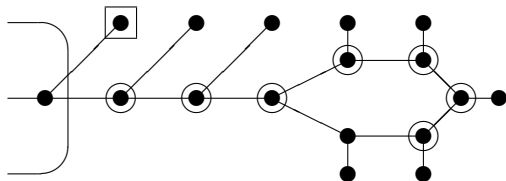
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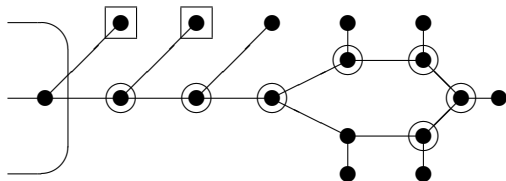
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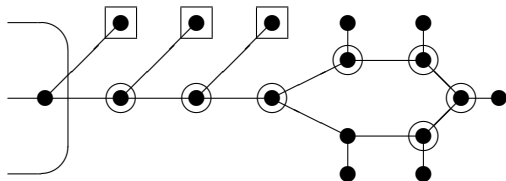
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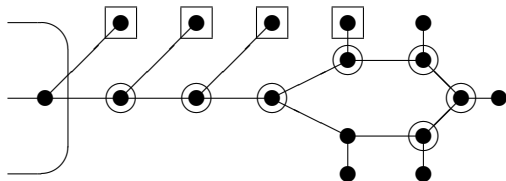
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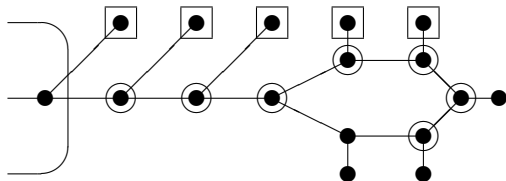
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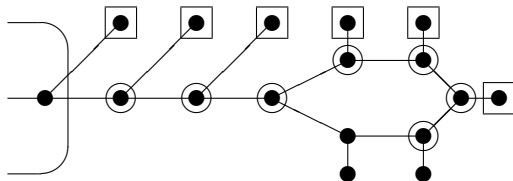
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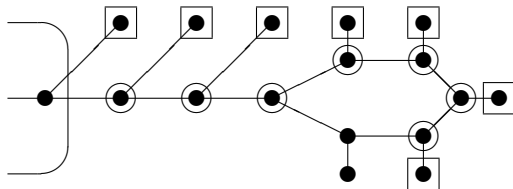
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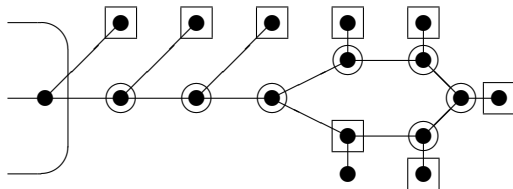
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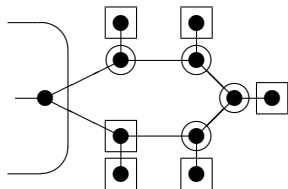
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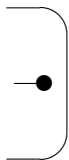
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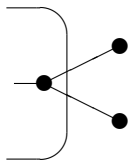
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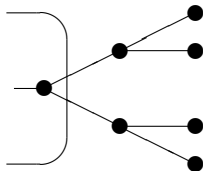
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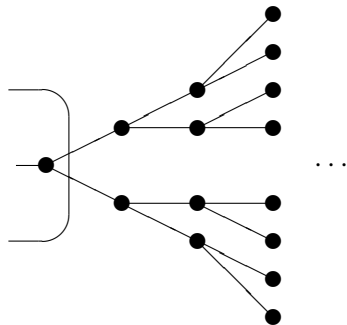
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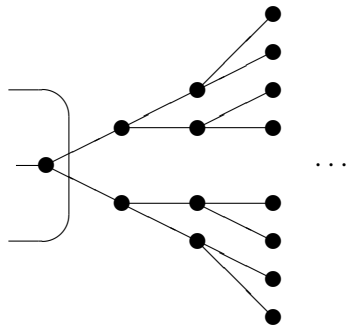
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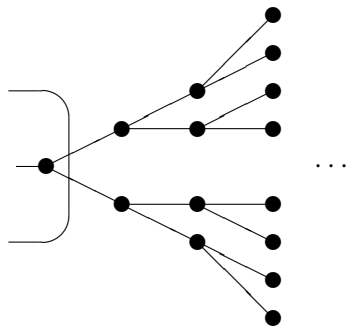
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If G is a graph, then

$$Z(G) \leq \sum_{u \in V(G)} \sum_{i=0}^{d_G(u)} (-1)^i \sum_{I \in \binom{N_G(u)}{i}} \left| \{u\} \cup \bigcup_{v \in I} N_G[v] \right|^{-1}.$$

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Corollary (GR '16)

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$$Z(G) \leq \left(\prod_{i=1}^r \left(1 - \frac{1}{ri+1} \right) \right) n = \left(1 - \frac{H_r}{r} \right) n + O \left(\left(\frac{H_r}{r} \right)^2 \right) n.$$

$$H_r = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{r} \sim \ln r$$

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Conjecture (Kenter and Davila '14)

If $\delta \geq 2$ and $g \geq 3$, then

$$Z(G) \geq (g - 2)(\delta - 2) + 2.$$

Lower Bounds

For $g \geq 7$ and $\delta \geq \delta_g$, the conjecture follows using

- $Z(G) \geq tw(G)$ and
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The conjecture holds for $g \in \{4, 5, 6\}$.

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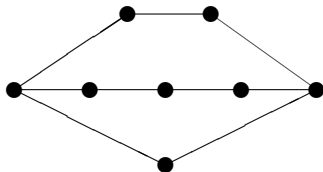
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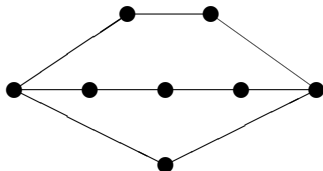


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$\Theta(2, 3, 4)$

Folklore

A graph is a cactus if and only if it is \mathcal{F} -free for

$$\mathcal{F} = \{K_4\} \cup \{\Theta(\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3) : \ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3 \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } \ell_2, \ell_3 \geq 2\}.$$

Hereditary Equality with $P(G)$

Theorem (GPRS '16)

If G is a graph such that every cycle of G is induced, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) $G \in \mathcal{ZP}$.
- (ii) G is a cactus.
- (iii) G is \mathcal{F} -free.

The end

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Thank you for your attention!