A strengthening of the Murty-Simon Conjecture on diameter 2 critical graphs

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... and many others!

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A triangle-free graph of order *n* and size *m* verifies $m \leq \lfloor \frac{n^2}{4} \rfloor$. The extremal graph is $\mathcal{K}_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor, \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil}$.

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A non-bipartite D2C graph of order $n \ge n_0$ and size *m* verifies $m \le \lfloor \frac{(n-1)^2}{4} \rfloor + 1 \approx \lfloor \frac{n^2}{4} - \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$. The extremal graph is obtained by subdividing an edge of $K_{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor, \lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \rceil}$.



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Theorem (Balbuena et al., 2015)

A triangle-free non-bipartite D2C graph of order *n* and size *m* verifies $m \leq \lfloor \frac{(n-1)^2}{4} \rfloor + 1$. The extremal graphs are some inflations of C_5 .

Conjecture: linear strengthening (Balbuena *et al.*, 2015) A non-bipartite D2C graph of order n > 6 and size m verifies $m \le \lfloor \frac{(n-1)^2}{4} \rfloor + 1$. If $n \ge 10$, the extremal graphs are some inflations of C_5 .

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Conjecture: constant strengthening (D., Foucaud, Hansberg, 2018)

Let *c* be a positive integer, then there is a rank n_0 such that any non-bipartite D2C graph of order $n \ge n_0$ and size *m* verifies $m < \lfloor \frac{n^2}{4} \rfloor - c$.

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$$H_5 = \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \qquad n = 6 \\ m = 8 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad m > \lfloor \frac{(n-1)^2}{4} \rfloor + 1 = 7 \\ m \ge \lfloor \frac{n^2}{4} \rfloor - c = 9 - c \text{ if } c \ge 1$$

Our main result

Theorem (D., Foucaud, Hansberg, 2018) Let *G* be a non-bipartite D2C graph with a dominating edge of order *n* and size *m*. If $G \neq H_5$ then $m < \lfloor \frac{n^2}{4} \rfloor - 1$.



Sketch of the proof

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- 2. Assign every edge in A or B to a non-edge between A and B.
- 3. Find two non-assigned non-edges between A and B.



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 \Rightarrow In a D2C graph, every edge is critical for some pair of vertices

Lemma Let xy be an edge in A.



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Let xy be an edge in A. It is not critical for x and y since they have v as a common neighbour.



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Let xy be an edge in A. It is not critical for x and y since they have v as a common neighbour. Thus it is critical for y and z with $z \in B \cap N(x)$.



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A non-edge between A and B with no preimage by f is called f-free. Let free(f) be the number of f-free non-edges. There are $\frac{n^2 - ||A| - |B||^2}{4} - \text{free}(f) \text{ edges in the graph.}$



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Lemma

- 1. $N(u) \cap N(v) = \emptyset$
- 2. uv is critical for u and v only
- 3. There is at least one edge in A or B

Defining an orientation of the internal edges

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Definition If $f(xy) = \overline{yz}$, we orient xy from x to y. This defines an f-orientation.



Lemma

There is no directed cycle.

Lemma



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Lemma Let \overrightarrow{xy} be an arc in A such that no f-free non-edge is incident with x or y.



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Properties of the *f*-orientation

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Let \overrightarrow{xy} be an arc in A such that no f-free non-edge is incident with x or y. Then $\exists ! z \in B$ such that $N(x) \cap B = (N(y) \cap B) \cup \{z\}$. Proof by contradiction.



Lemma

1. Let s be a source. There is at least one f-free non-edge incident with a vertex in $N^+[s]$.

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Lemma

- 1. Let s be a source. There is at least one f-free non-edge incident with a vertex in $N^+[s]$.
- Let t be a sink. There is at least one f-free non-edge incident with a vertex in N⁻[t].

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- 2. There is only one source.

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The last steps

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- 5. z is a successor of s and a predecessor of r: contradiction!



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