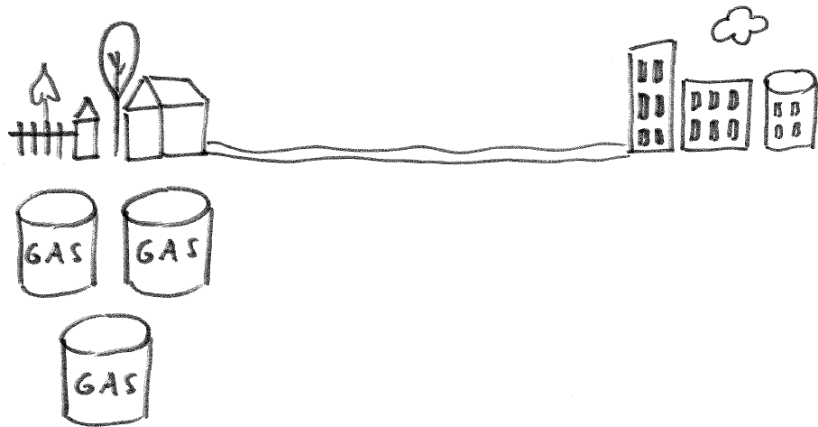
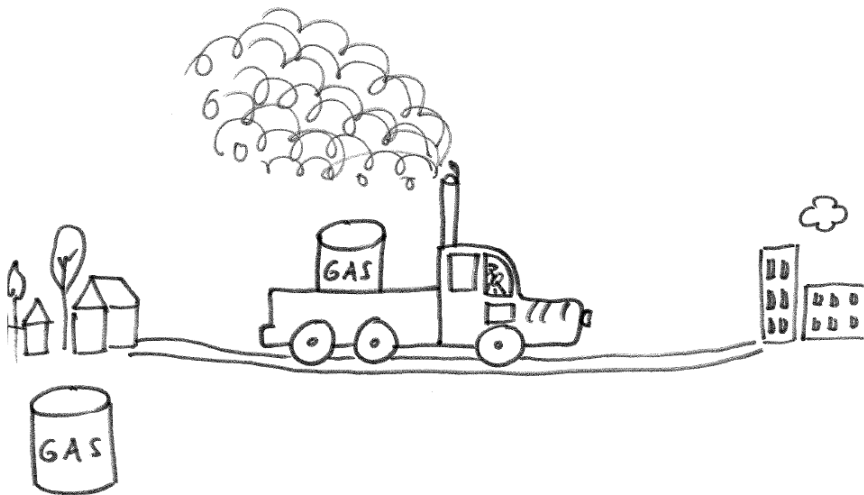


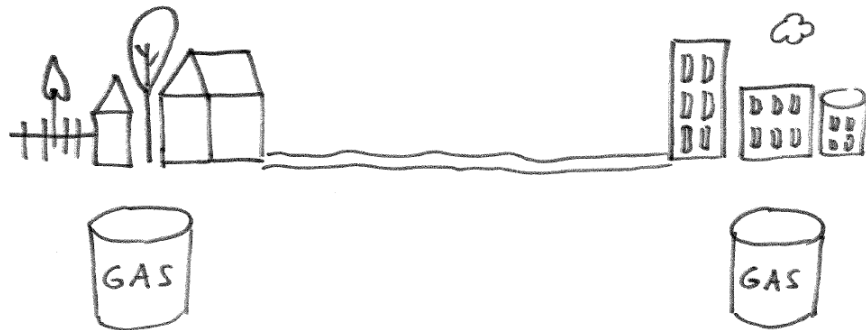
# Graph Rubbling

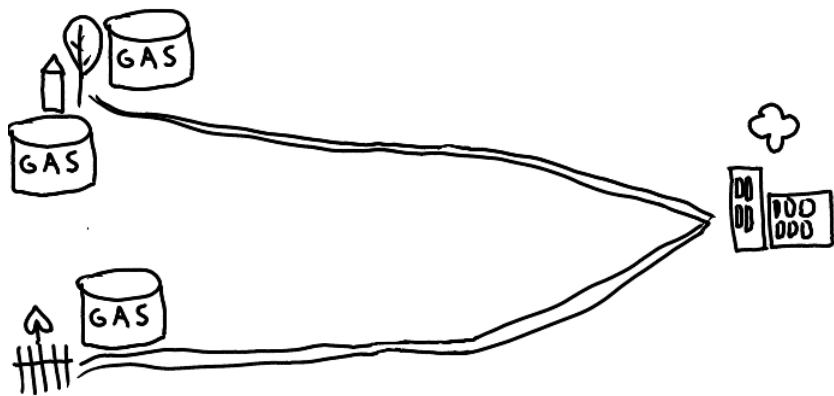
Nándor Sieben

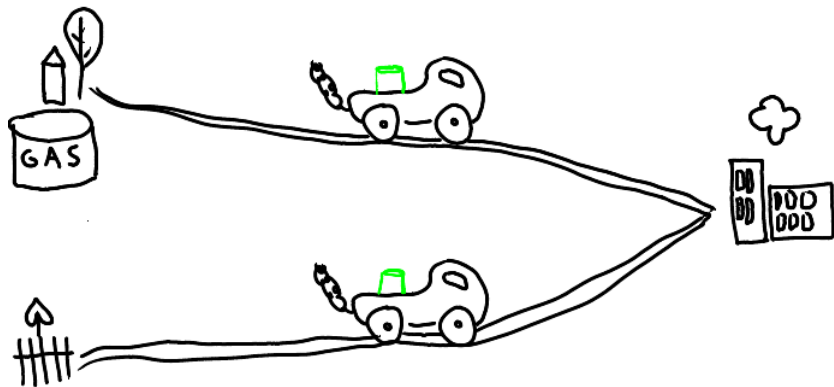
Northern Arizona University

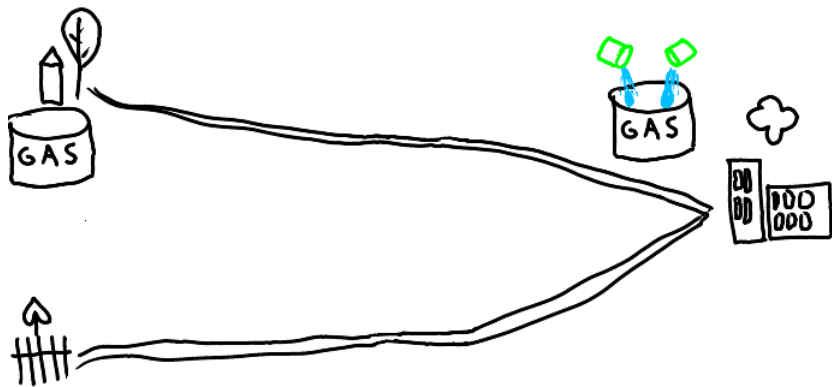






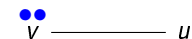






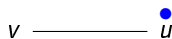
# Rubbling moves

pebbling move  $(v, v \rightarrow u)$ :



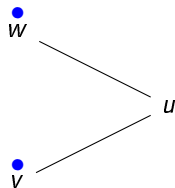
$$p(v, u) = (2, 0)$$

$\rightsquigarrow$



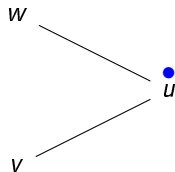
$$p_{(v, v \rightarrow u)}(v, u) = (0, 1)$$

strict rubbling move  $(v, w \rightarrow u)$ :



$$p(v, w, u) = (1, 1, 0)$$

$\rightsquigarrow$



$$p_{(v, w \rightarrow u)}(v, w, u) = (0, 0, 1)$$

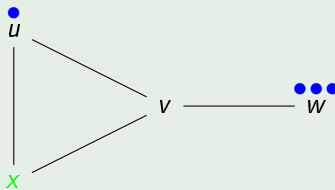
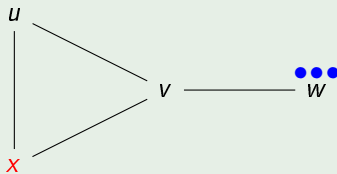


## Definition

Minimum number of pebbles to make any vertex reachable no matter how the pebbles are distributed on the vertices.

## Example

$$\rho(G) = 4$$



Note:  $\pi(G) = 5$

<http://www.cefns.nau.edu/~ns46/pebbling/census.html>

$d$  = diameter,  $n$  = number of vertices

## Fact

①  $\rho(G) \leq \pi(G)$

②  $2^d \leq \rho(G)$

$\rho(G) < n$  possible

## Theorem

$$\rho(G) \leq (n - d + 1)(2^{d-1} - 1) + 2$$

Recall [Chan, Godbole]

$$\pi(G) \leq (n - d)(2^d - 1) + 1$$

## Theorem

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \rho(P_n) = 2^{n-1}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \rho(K_{m,n}) = 4$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad \rho(\textit{Lemke}) = 8$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \rho(K_n) = 2$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \rho(Q_n) = 2^n$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \rho(W_n) = 4$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad \rho(\textit{Petersen}) = 5$$

## Recall

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \pi(P_n) = 2^{n-1}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \pi(K_{m,n}) = m + n$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad \pi(\textit{Lemke}) = 8$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \pi(K_n) = n$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \pi(Q_n) = 2^n$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \pi(W_n) = n$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad \pi(\textit{Petersen}) = 10$$

## Question

What property of  $G$  makes  $\pi(G) = \rho(G)$ ?

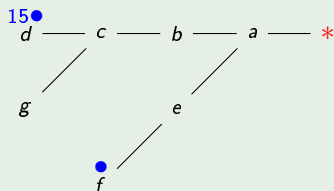
## Theorem

$(p_1, \dots, p_m)$  length sequence of maximum path partition for  $T$

$$\rho(T) = 2^{p_1} + \sum_{i=2}^m 2^{p_i-1} - m + 1$$

## Example

$$\rho(T) = (2^4 - 1) + (2^1 - 1) + (2^0 - 1) + 1 = 17$$



$(4, 2, 1)$  length sequence

## Definition

Transition digraph:

pebbling move  $(v, v \rightarrow u)$  adds the edges:  $v \implies u$

strict rubbing move  $(v, w \rightarrow u)$  adds the edges:  $v \longrightarrow u \longleftarrow w$

Rubbling sequence (multiset) acyclic if no cycle in graph

## Theorem

*TFAE*

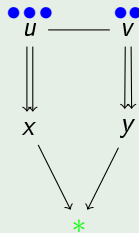
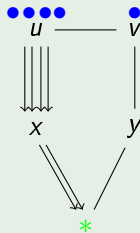
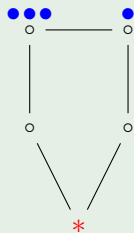
- ①  $v$  is reachable from pebble distribution  $p$
- ②  $\exists$  multiset  $S$  of moves such that  $p_S \geq 0$  and  $p_S(v) \geq 1$
- ③  $\exists$  acyclic multiset  $R$  such that  $p_R \geq 0$  and  $p_R(v) \geq 1$
- ④  $v$  is reachable from  $p$  through an acyclic rubbing sequence

## Theorem

$$\rho(C_{2k}) = 2^k \text{ and } \rho(C_{2k+1}) = \lfloor \frac{7 \cdot 2^{k-1} - 2}{3} \rfloor + 1.$$

## Example

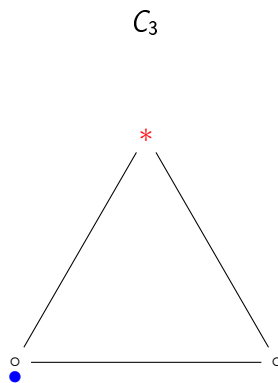
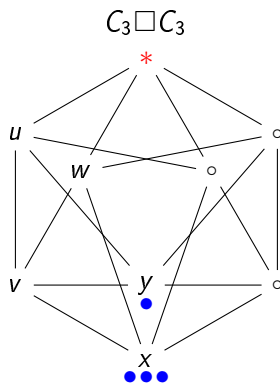
$$\rho(C_5) = 5$$




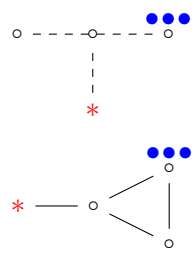
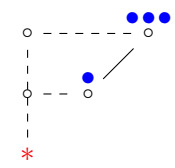
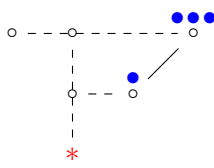
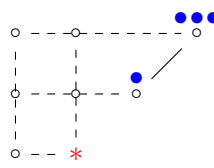
# Graham's conjecture fails for rubbing

## Example

$$\rho(C_3 \square C_3) = 5 > 4 = 2 \cdot 2 = \rho(C_3)\rho(C_3)$$

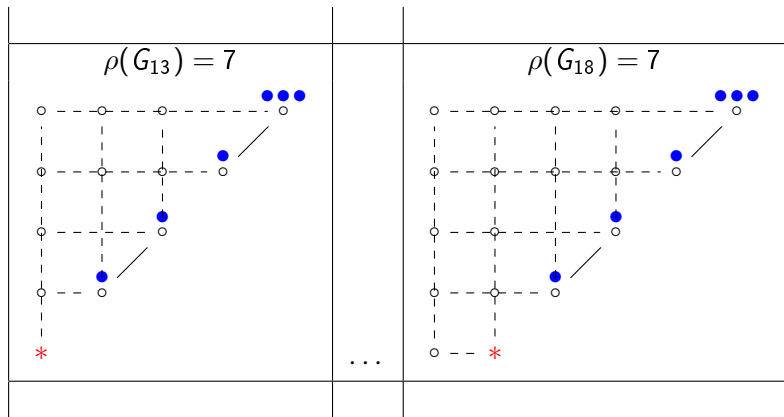


# Diameter two graph family $\rho(G_n) = \lfloor \sqrt{2n-1} \rfloor + 2$

$\rho(G_3) = 4$ 	$\rho(G_4) = 4$ 		
$\rho(G_5) = 5$ 	$\rho(G_6) = 5$ 	...	$\rho(G_8) = 5$ 
$\rho(G_9) = 6$	$\rho(G_{10}) = 6$	...	$\rho(G_{12}) = 6$



# Diameter two graph family $\rho(G_n) = \lfloor \sqrt{2n-1} \rfloor + 2$



# Diameter two graph family $\rho(G_n) = \lfloor \sqrt{2n-1} \rfloor + 2$

## Definition

$$f(n, k) := \max\{\rho(G) : \text{diam}(G) = k \text{ and } |V(G)| = n\}$$

## Fact

$$f(n, 2) = \rho(G_n) \text{ for } n \in \{3, \dots, 9\}$$

## Question

$$\text{Is } f(n, 2) = \rho(G_n) \text{ for } n \geq 10?$$

## Question

$$f(n, k) = ?$$

## Recall

$$\text{diam}(G) = 2 \text{ implies } \pi(G) \in \{n, n+1\}$$

## Definition

Minimum number of pebbles in a chosen pebble distribution from which any vertex is reachable.

## Example

$$\rho_{\text{opt}}(P_6) = 4$$



$$\pi_{\text{opt}}(P_6) = 4$$



## Theorem

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(P_n) = \lceil \frac{n+1}{2} \rceil$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(C_n) = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(K_n) = 2$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(W_n) = 2$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(K_{m,n}) = 3$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(\textit{Petersen}) = 4$$

## Recall

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \pi_{\text{opt}}(P_n) = \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \pi_{\text{opt}}(C_n) = \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \pi_{\text{opt}}(K_n) = 2$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \pi_{\text{opt}}(W_n) = 2$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \pi_{\text{opt}}(K_{m,n}) = 3$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad \pi_{\text{opt}}(\textit{Petersen}) = 4$$

## Question

$\rho_{\text{opt}}(Q_2) = 2$ ,  $\rho_{\text{opt}}(Q_3) = 3$ ,  $\rho_{\text{opt}}(Q_4) = 4$ ,  $\rho_{\text{opt}}(Q_5) = 6$ ,  
 $\rho_{\text{opt}}(Q_n) = ?$

- Lisa Danz: Optimal  $t$ -rubbling of complete  $m$ -ary trees (REU project with Gallian, Duluth)
- László Papp: Optimal rubbling of caterpillars (thesis with Katona, Budapest )
- László Papp:  $\rho_{\text{opt}}(P_{3k+r} \square P_2) = 2k + 1 + \lceil \frac{r}{3} \rceil$  Optimal rubbling of prisms and ladders (project with Katona, Budapest)

## Question

$$\rho_{\text{opt}}(P_n \square P_m) = ?, \quad \rho_{\text{opt}}(C_n \square C_m) = ?$$

## Question

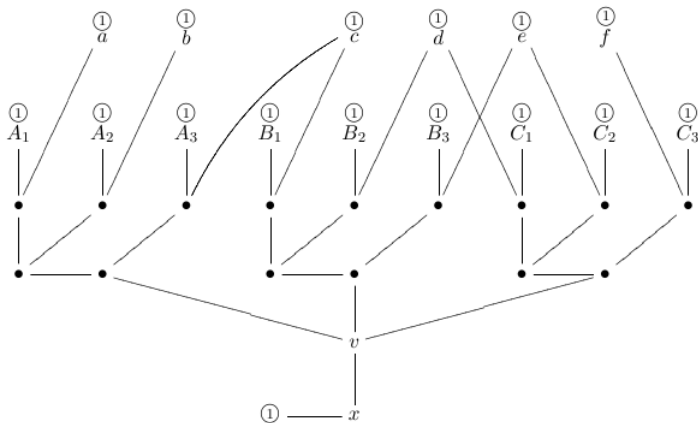
How does optimal rubbling change if we only allow strict rubbling moves?

## Conjecture

The cover pebbling and cover rubbing numbers are the same for all graphs. Stacking Lemma remains true.

## Theorem

*Decision problem whether a vertex is reachable from a given configuration is NP-complete.*



## Conjecture

Finding the rubbing number is  $\Pi_2^P$ -hard.

A natural approach for a proof would be to use the corresponding pebbling results.

## Question

How to reduce pebbling to rubbing?



## Definition

Minimum number of pebbles to make any vertex reachable with  $t$  pebbles no matter how the pebbles are distributed.

## Theorem

$\rho_t(T) = t2^{p_1} + \sum_{i=2}^m 2^{p_i-1} - m + 1$  for a tree  $T$ .

## Question

What is  $\rho_t(G)$  for  $G = C_n$  and other simple graphs?

## Conjecture

$t \mapsto \rho_t(G)$  is linear for  $t \geq t_0$ .

Is there a  $t_0$  that works for all  $G$ ?



Christopher Belford and Nándor Sieben.  
Rubbling and optimal rubbling of graphs.  
*Discrete Math.*, 309(10):3436–3446, 2009.



Lisa Danz.  
Optimal  $t$ -rubbling of complete  $m$ -ary trees.  
REU project report, University of Minnesota Duluth, Department of  
Mathematics and Statistics, 2010.



Gyula Y. Katona and Nándor Sieben.  
Bounds on the rubbling and optimal rubbling numbers of graphs.  
*Graphs and Combinatorics*, (to appear).



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László Papp.  
Optimal rubbling numbers of prisms and ladders (in Hungarian).  
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Computer Science and Information Theory, 2011.