# Lower bounds for the parameterized complexity of Minimum Fill-in and other completion problems 

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Simons Institute,
November $4^{\text {th }}, 2015$

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- Our answer: We corroborate the suspicion that $k^{1 / 2}$ is optimum.
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- Personal opinion: $\log k$ in the exponent can be shaved off.
- Goal: Prove a $2^{\circ(n)}$ lower bound for Minimum Fill-in.


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- Under stronger assumptions:
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- Under stronger assumptions:
- no $2^{o(n)}$ algorithm for Minimum Fill-in;
- consequently, no $\mathcal{O}^{\star}\left(2^{o\left(k^{1 / 2}\right)}\right)$ FPT algorithm.
- Same lower bounds for all the other completion problems.


## Known reductions

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n^{\prime} & =\mathcal{O}(n+m) & n^{\prime \prime}=\mathcal{O}\left(\left(n^{\prime}\right)^{3}\right) \quad n^{\prime \prime \prime}=\mathcal{O}\left(\Delta \cdot n^{\prime \prime}\right) \\
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- Note: It can be as large as cubic.


## Reduction MaxCut $\rightsquigarrow O L A$

- Complement the graph.



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- We want to maximize the number of non-edges flying over $K$.
- Every edge flying over $K$ has to gain more than the total noise on the sides.
- Hence $K$ must be large to make this work.


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- Maximum noise is smaller than $n m$, so the gap amortizes the noise.


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Under ETH, there exists constants $r<1$ and $c$ such that there is no $2^{\mathcal{O}\left(m / \log ^{c} m\right)}$ algorithm for GAP $3 \mathrm{SAT}_{[r, 1]}$.

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- Cor: Under ETH, there is no $2^{\mathcal{O}\left(n / \log ^{c} n\right)}$ algorithm for OLA, for some $c$.


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Fill-IN

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- Plan 1: Show hardness of OLA on bounded degree graphs.
- Plan 2: Find a better reduction from OLA to Minimum Fill-in.
- Let's look at the reduction OLA $\rightsquigarrow$ Minimum Fill-in first.


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- Chain Completion: Add at most $k$ edges to a given bipartite graph with a fixed bipartition to obtain a chain graph.


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- Cor: Suffices to get reduction OLA $\rightsquigarrow$ Chain Completion


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- Ergo: Minimization of the number of fill edges is equivalent to minimization of the OLA cost.


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- Introduce a new hypothesis about approximability of Minimum Bisection.
- Prove that starting with this hypothesis we can make this plan work.


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- Intuition: MinBisection on bounded degree graphs does not admit a subexponential-time approximation scheme.


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- Do the maths to make sure that the gap swallows the possible noise.



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- Thanks for your attention!

