Revolutionaries and Spies

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Slides available on my preprint page Joint with Jane Butterfield, Greg Puleo, Cliff Smyth, Doug West, and Reza Zamani

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**Obs 1:** If  $s \geq |V(G)|$ , then the spies win.



**Obs 2:** If  $s < |V(G)|$  and  $\lfloor r/m \rfloor > s$ , then rev's win. **Ex:** Say  $m = 2$ ,  $r = 8$ , and  $s = 3$ . So we assume  $|r/m| \leq s < |V(G)|$ .

**Def:**  $\sigma(G, m, r)$  is minimum number of spies needed to win on G

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**Conj:** As *m* grows:  $\sigma(G, m, r) \sim \frac{3}{2}$ 2 r m

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**Pf Sketch:** Write  $r(v)$  and  $s(v)$  for num. of rev's and spies at v;  $C(v)$  is children of v; and  $w(v)$  is num. of rev's at descendants.

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\xrightarrow{X: \text{ spies off } u} \underbrace{(x_1 \cdots x_k)}_{y_1 \cdots y_k} \underbrace{(x_{k+1} \cdots x_s)}_{y_k \cdots y_k}
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So spies have a stable position at time  $t + 1$ , and G is spy-good.

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Thm: Every webbed tree is spy-good. Pf Sketch: Same strategy as for trees:

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Cor: Every interval graph is spy-good. **Pf:** Interval graphs are webbed trees.

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**Main ideas:** Call the two parts  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

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- $\blacktriangleright$  To win, on each round the spies maintain an invariant.

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**Problem 2:** Improve upper bounds for  $m > 4$ .

## Main Results and Open Problems

- 1.  $|r/m|$  spies can win on: dominated graphs, trees, interval graphs, "webbed trees" also graph powers and "vertex blowups" Problem 1: Characterize spy-good graphs
- 2. For large complete bipartite graphs:

$$
\sigma(G, 2, r) = \frac{7}{10}r = \frac{7}{5}\frac{r}{2}
$$

$$
\sigma(G, 3, r) = \frac{1}{2}r = \frac{3}{2}\frac{r}{3}
$$

$$
\left(\frac{3}{2} - o(1)\right)\frac{r}{m} - 2 \le \sigma(G, m, r) < 1.58\frac{r}{m}, \quad \text{for } m \ge 4
$$

**Problem 2:** Improve upper bounds for  $m > 4$ . **Conj:** As *m* grows:  $\sigma(G, m, r) \sim \frac{3}{2}$ 2 r m