

# Depth-Robust Graphs and Their Cumulative Memory Complexity

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- Password Based Cryptography
  - Password Hashing (E.g. Login Server)
  - Key Derivation Functions
- Proofs-of-Effort
  - Distributed PoW for Consensus (E.g. Ethereum, Lightcoin, Dogecoin, etc.)
  - Against SPAM [ABMW05, DGN03, DNW05]
  - Against Sybil attacks.

# Why “Memory” Hard?

In practice cost-effective brute-forcing often uses GPUs, FPGAs & ASICs.

- Bitcoin miners, DES Cracker [EFF98], Sagitta Password Cracker, etc.
- Why? ASICs provide a financial incentive.
  - Specifically: Computation is cheaper for custom hardware (e.g. ASICs) than general purpose CPUs.
- Want: More egalitarian notion of “hardness” than computation.

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  - Yes: data-dependent MHF (dMHF). Example: scrypt, Argon2d.

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iMHF advantage: Implementations easier to secure against certain cache-timing attacks.

- Important for some password based crypto applications.

# iMHFs

- Password Hashing Competition
  - Winner: Argon2i [BDK15]
  - Finalists: Catena[FLW15], Lyr2 [SAASB15], Pomelo [W15],...
  - Other contestants: Rig-v2 [CJMS14], Gambit [P14], TwoCats [C14],...
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- Since PHC: Balloon Hashing [BCGS16], Alwen-Serbinenko[AS15]
- Usually designed based on intuition and verified via cryptanalysis.
- Exceptions: Catena, Balloon Hashing, AS15
  - Balloon Hashing has security proof for sequential adversaries in ROM.
  - AS15 has proof for parallel adversaries in ROM.

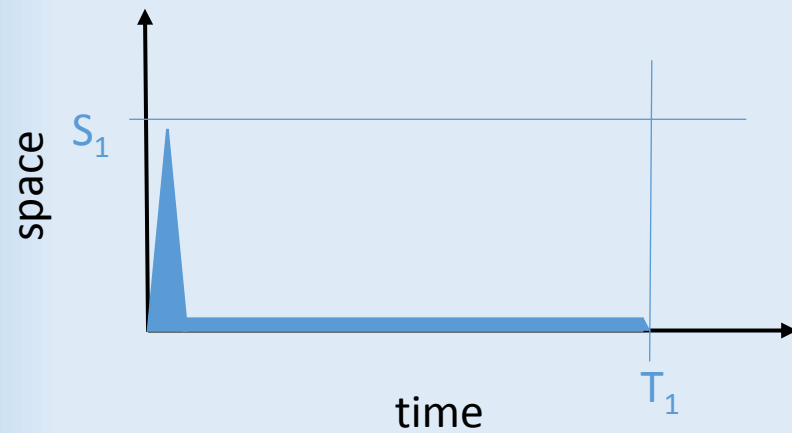
# Amortization and Parallelism

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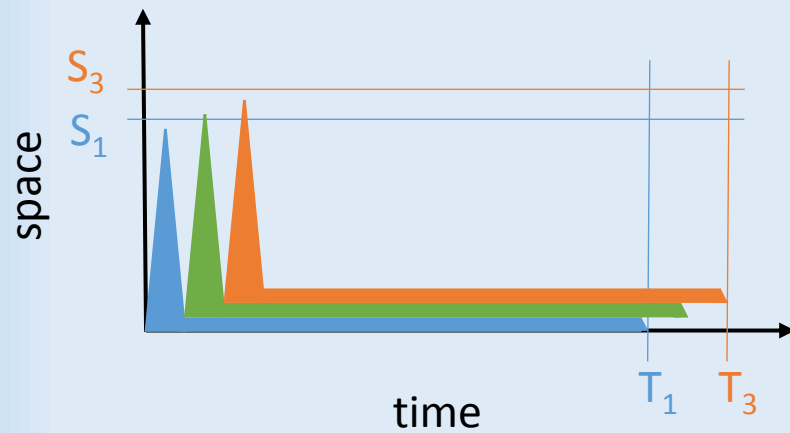


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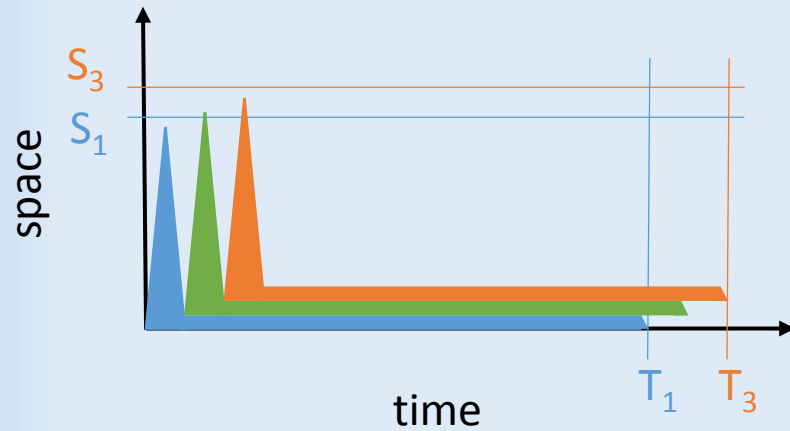


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$$ST_1 = S_1 \times T_1 \approx S_3 \times T_3 = ST_3$$

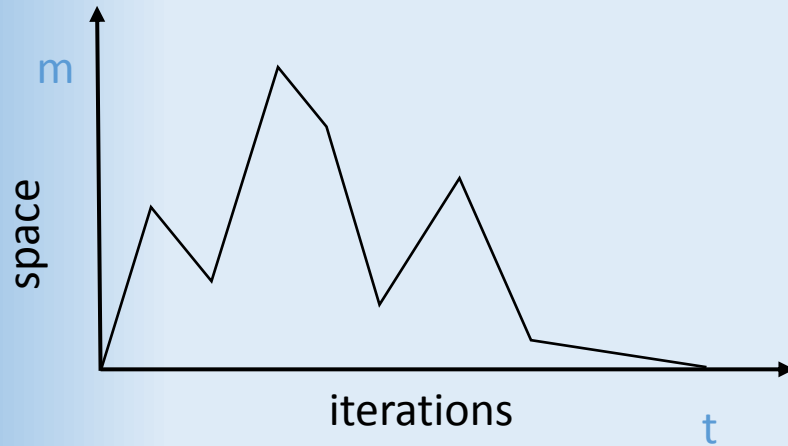
cost of computing  $f$  once

cost of computing  $f$  three times



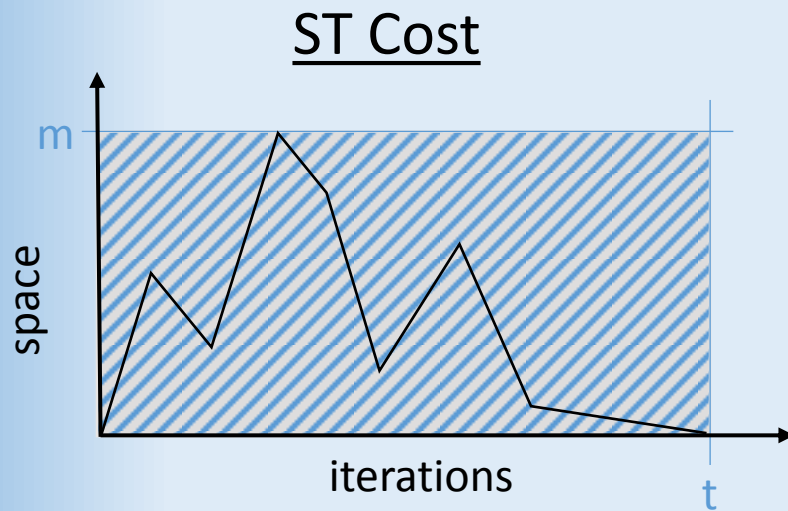
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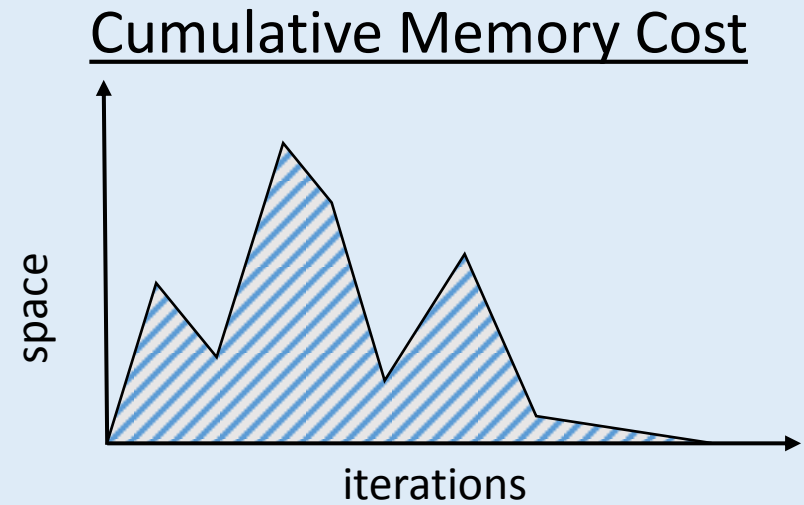
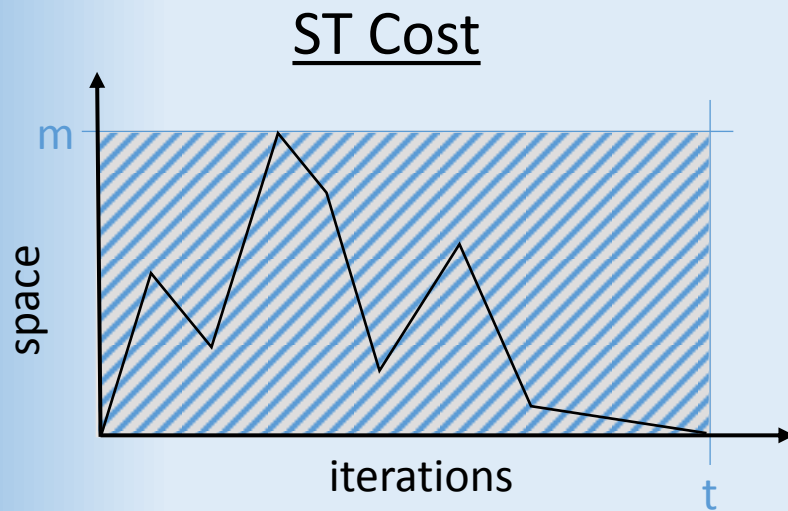
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- Idea: Define the cost to be area under the “memory curve”.



# Parallel Pebbling Game

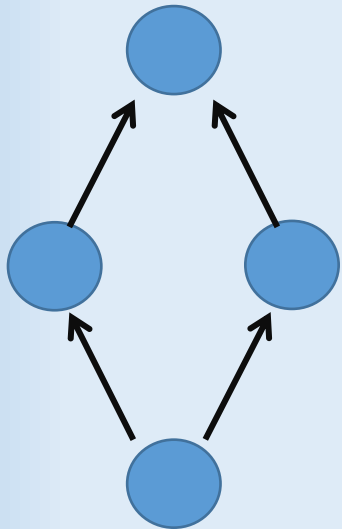
- Intuition: Models Parallel Computation
- Iteratively place pebbles on the nodes of DAG  $G$ .
  - Initially no pebbles on  $G$ . Each node can have at most one pebble.
- Goal: Place a pebble on sink node(s) of  $G$ .
- Rules:
  1. Can place a pebble on  $v$  only if all of parents of  $v$  currently have a pebble.  
⇒ can always place a pebble on source nodes
  2. Can remove any pebble at any time.



# A New Parallel Pebbling Game

**Parallel Pebbling Game:** Same as Black Pebbling, except **can touch many pebbles per iteration.**

Complexity: Cumulative Pebbling Complexity (CPC).

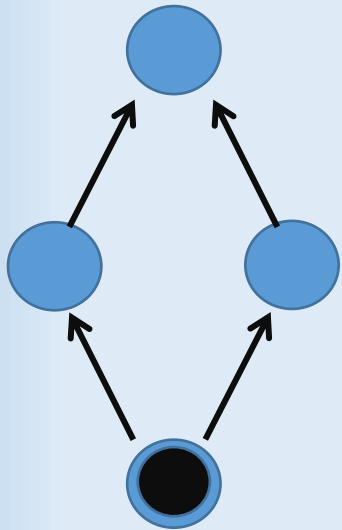


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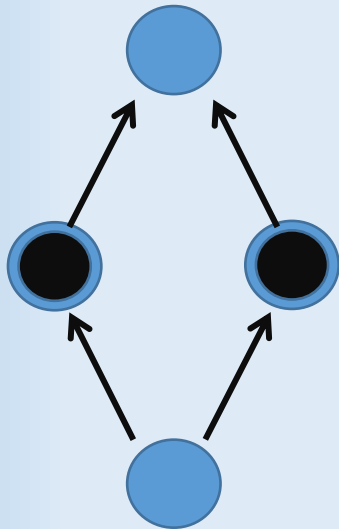


CPC-cost = 1+

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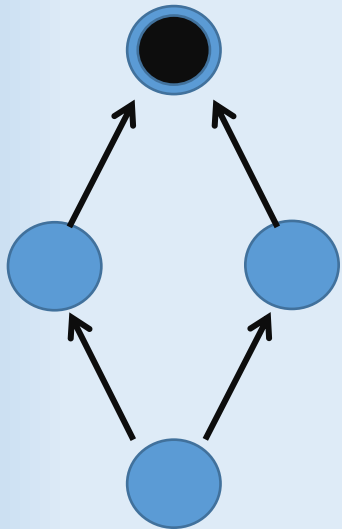


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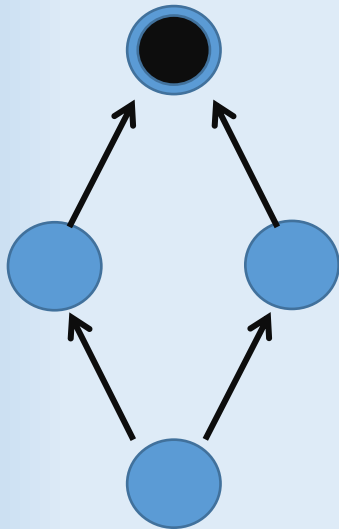


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$$\text{CPC}(\text{Graph } G) := \min \text{CPC}(\text{Pebbling of } G)$$

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  - Theorem [AS15]
    - Let  $\mathcal{H}: \{0,1\}^{2w} \rightarrow \{0,1\}^w$  be a RO and  $G$  be a DAG.
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- New Goals:
    - Security Proofs: find constant indegree graph with high CPC.
    - Attacks: find low CPC pebbling strategies.



# Some Previous Results About CPC

MHF	Upper Bound	Lower Bound
Argon2i-A Balloon Hashing	$\tilde{O}(n^{1.75})$ [AB16]	—
Argon2i-B	$O(n^{1.8})$ [AB17]	—
Catena	$O(n^{1.67})$ [AB16]	—
AS15	—	$\Omega(n^2 / \log^{10}(n))$ [AS15]
Any iMHF	$O\left(\frac{n^2 \log \log(n)}{\log(n)}\right)$ [AB16]	—
SCRYPT (dMHF)	$O(n^2)$	—

# New Results

MHF	Upper Bound	Lower Bound
Argon2i-A Balloon Hashing	$\tilde{O}(n^{1.71})$ [This Work] <del><math>\tilde{O}(n^{1.75})</math> [AB16]</del>	$\tilde{\Omega}(n^{1.6})$ [This Work]
Argon2i-B	$O(n^{1.8})$ [AB17]	$\tilde{\Omega}(n^{1.6})$ [This Work]
Catena	$\tilde{O}(n^{1.618})$ [This Work] <del><math>\theta(n^{1.67})</math> [AB16]</del>	$\tilde{\Omega}(n^{1.5})$ [This Work]
AS15	—	$\Omega(n^2 / \log^{10}(n))$ [AS15]
<b>This Work</b>	—	$\Omega(n^2 / \log(n))$
Any iMHF	$O\left(\frac{n^2 \log \log(n)}{\log(n)}\right)$ [AB16]	—
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# Depth-Robust Graphs

A directed  $(\alpha(n), \Omega(n))$ -depth-robust with indegree  $O(\log(n))$ .

- $G$  called “ $(e,d)$  -reducible” iff  $G$  is not  $(e,d)$ -depth-robust.

## History:

- First considered: Erdős, Graham, Szemerédi [EGS77]
- EGS graph:  $(\Omega(n), \Omega(n))$ -depth-robust with indegree  $O(\log(n))$ .

# New Construction: Technique

**Lemma** “Indegree Reduction”: If  $G$  has indegree  $\delta$  and is  $(e,d)$ -depth-robust then there exists  $H$  with indegree 2 and:

$$\text{size}(H) \leq 2\delta * \text{size}(G)$$

$H$  is  $(e,d\delta)$ -depth-robust

**heorem:** Let  $G=(V,E)$  be  $(e,d)$ -depth-robust then  $\text{CPC}(G) > ed$ .

**Corollary:** There is a DAG  $G$  with maximum indegree  $\delta = 2$  and  $E_R(G) = \Omega\left(\frac{n^2}{\log n}\right)$ . Furthermore, there is a sequential pebbling algorithm  $N$  with cost  $E_R(N) = O\left(\frac{n^2}{\log n}\right)$ .

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$$\binom{n^2}{n^2}$$



# New Bounds For Known Constructions

- New Lower Bounds
  - Lower bound Depth-Robustness of Balloon Hashing and Argon2i- $\{A,B\}$
  - Second Technique: “Dispersal” Property of a DAG
    1. Lower Bound  $CPC(G)$  in terms of Dispersal properties of  $G$
    2. Analyze Dispersal properties of Catena (Dragonfly and Butterfly versions)
- New Upper Bounds
  - Idea: Recursive version of AB16 Algorithm
  - Analyze Depth-Robustness “curves” for Argon2i, Catena & Balloon Hashing

# The CPC of Depth-Robust Graphs

- **Theorem:** Let  $G=(V,E)$  be  $(e,d)$ -depth-robust then  $CPC(G) > ed$ .

“The proof of this result is really an incredibly simple and beautiful two-line argument....I generally view simplicity as a positive, and this is the right proof. But there is such a thing as too simple...”

# Proof by Picture

Given: DAG  $G = (V, E)$   
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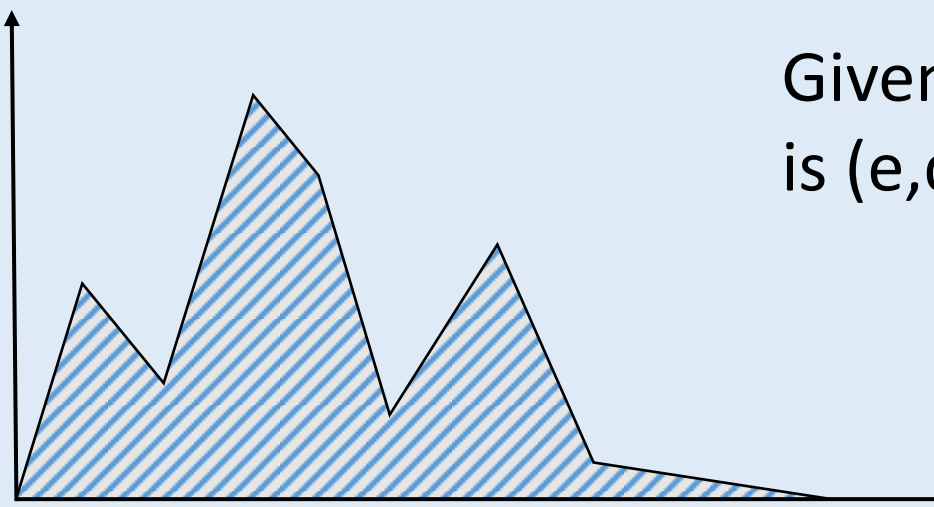
Given: DAG  $G = (V, E)$   
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Fix an optimal pebbling of  $G$ :  $P = (P_1, P_2, P_3, \dots)$

$$P_i \subseteq V$$

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Number of  
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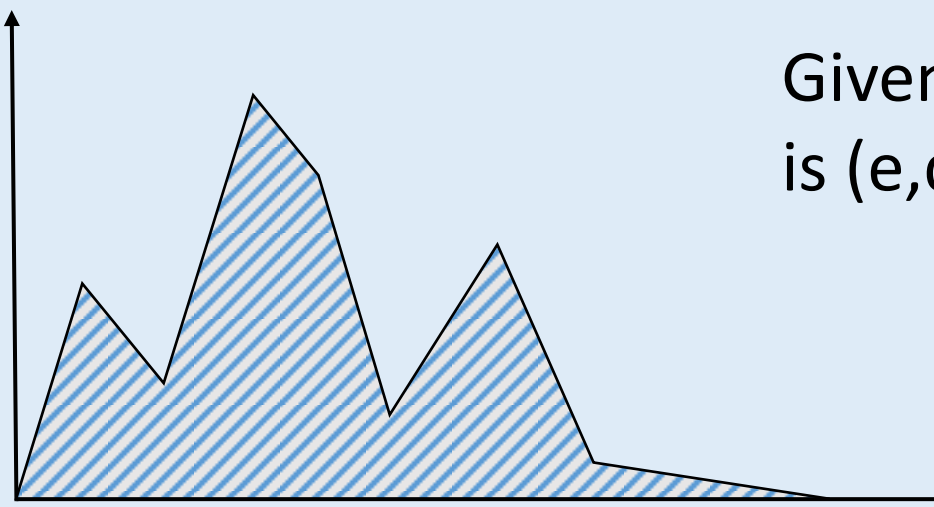
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Fact 1: Area under curve  
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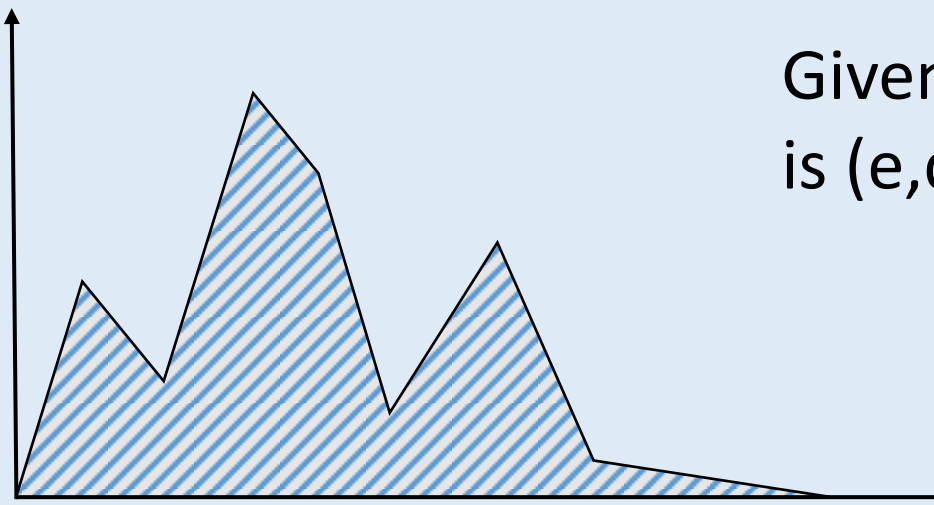
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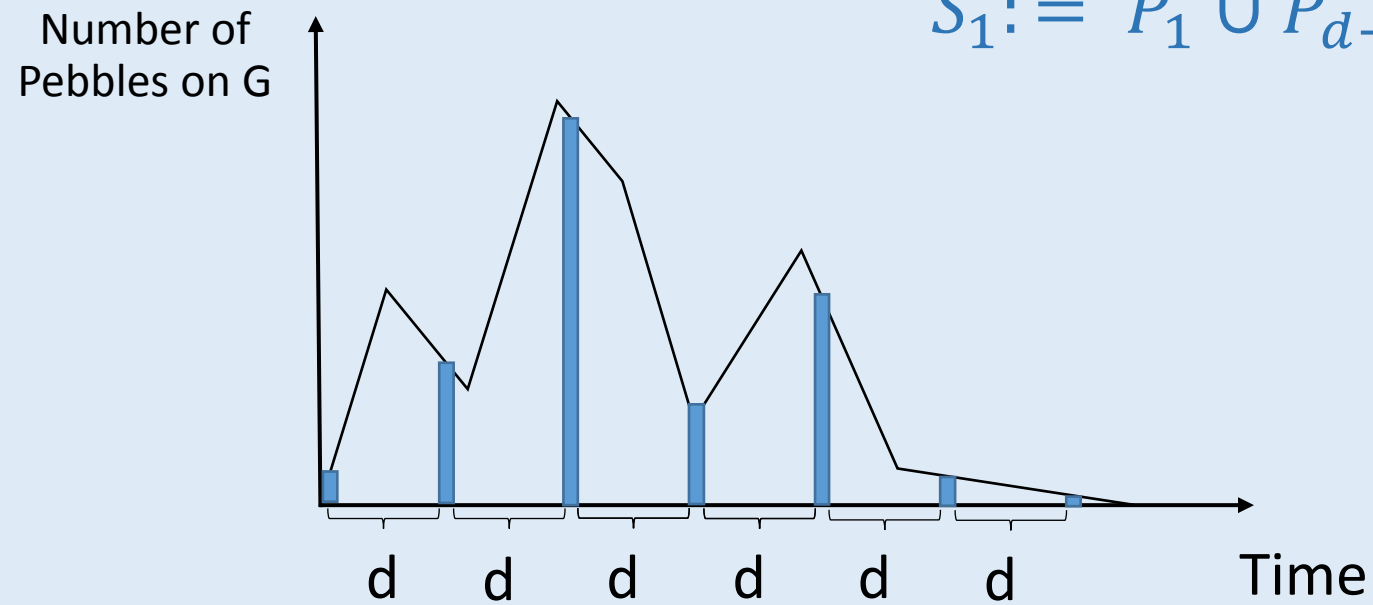
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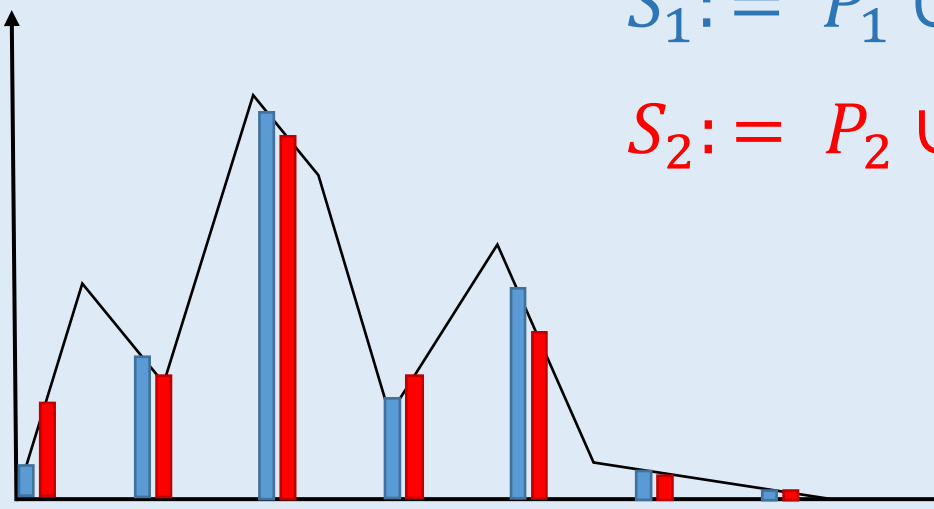
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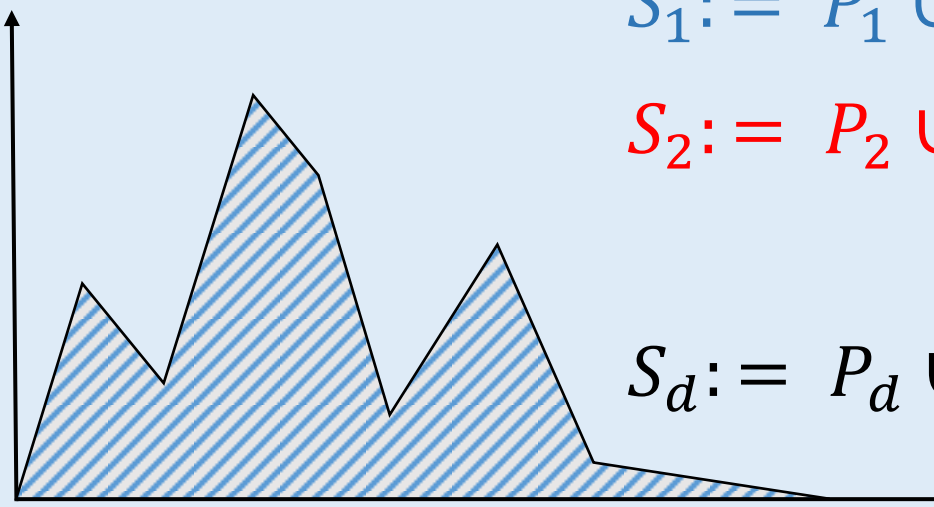
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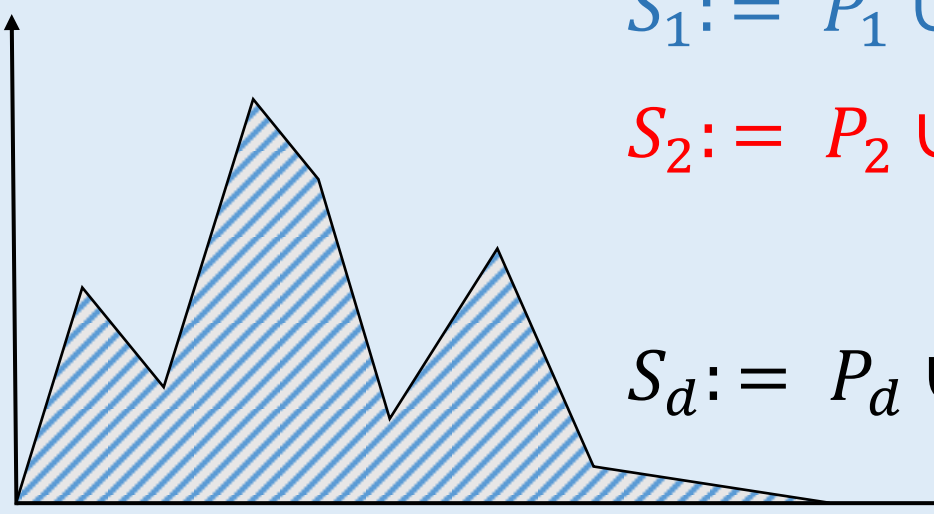
$$S_d := P_d \cup P_{2d} \cup P_{3d} \cup \dots \subseteq V$$

Time

$$\sum_{i=1}^{i=d} |S_i| \leq CPC(G)$$

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$$\Rightarrow \exists i \text{ such that } |S_i| \leq \frac{CPC(G)}{d}$$

# Proof by Picture

Let graph  $G' = G$  with nodes in  $S_i$  removed.

- Let pebbling  $P' = P$  but with  $P_{i+jd} = \emptyset \quad \forall j$ .

$P'$  legally pebbles every node in  $G'$  at least once.

Notice: Every  $d$  steps  $P'$  has no pebbles on  $G'$ .

$\Rightarrow$  No path in  $G'$  is longer than  $d-1$ .

$$\Rightarrow e < |S_i| \leq \frac{CPC(G)}{d}$$

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$\Rightarrow ed < CPC(G)$ .

Fact 3: Pebbling a path of length  $d$  takes at least  $d$  time.

# Proof by Picture

$P'$  legally pebbles every node in  $G'$  at least once.

Let graph  $G' = G$  with nodes in  $S_i$  removed.

- Let pebbling  $P' = P$  but with  $P_{i+jd} = \emptyset \quad \forall j$ .

Notice: Every  $d$  steps  $P'$  has no pebbles on  $G'$ .

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$ee < S_i \ S_i \ SS \ S_i \ ii \ S_i \ S_i \leq CPC(G) \ d \ CCPCC(GG) \ CPC(G) \ d \ d$   
 $d \ CPC(G) \ d$

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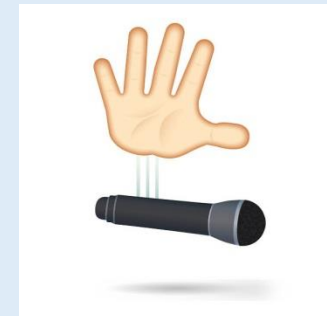
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Thank You