

# Patrolling Games

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December 13, 2017

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# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

A Patrolling game,  $G = G(Q, T, m)$  is made of 3 major components

- A Graph,  $Q = (N, E)$ , made of nodes,  $N$  ( $|N| = n$ ), and a set of edges,  $E$ .
- A time horizon parameter,  $T$  (with set  $\mathcal{T} = \{0, 1, \dots, T - 1\}$ ).
- An attack time parameter,  $m$ .

The game involves two players, the patroller and the attacker.

- The patroller's strategy is a walk (with waiting) on the graph,  $W : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow N$ .
- The attacker's strategy is a node,  $i$  and starting time,  $\tau$ .

The strategies are collected into the sets,  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$ , for the patroller and attacker respectively, with some arbitrary labelling inside the set to form strategies  $W_i$  and  $A_j$ .

# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

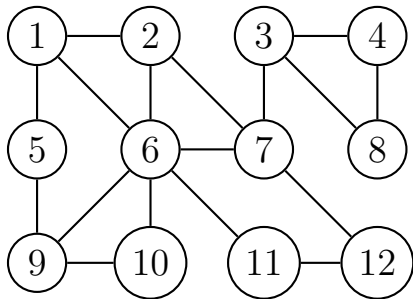
The game is formulated as win-lose (a zero-sum game) with a payoff for the patroller of

$$P(W, (i, \tau)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in \{W(\tau), W(\tau + 1), \dots, W(\tau + m - 1)\}, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \notin \{W(\tau), W(\tau + 1), \dots, W(\tau + m - 1)\}. \end{cases}$$

With a pure payoff matrix  $\mathcal{P} = (P(W_i, A_j))_{i \in \{1, \dots, |\mathcal{W}|\}, j \in \{1, \dots, |\mathcal{A}|\}}$

# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$



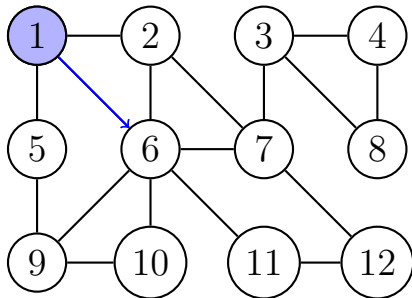
Patroller:  $W(0) = 1$  ,  $W(1) = 6$  ,  $W(2) = 7$  ,  $W(3) = 3$  ,  
 $W(4) = 3$  ,  $W(5) = 4$  ,  $W(8) = 8$

Attacker:  $(8, 2)$

# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$

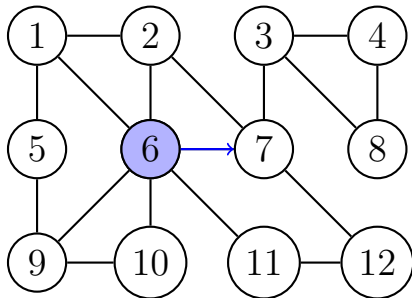
$$t = 0$$



# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

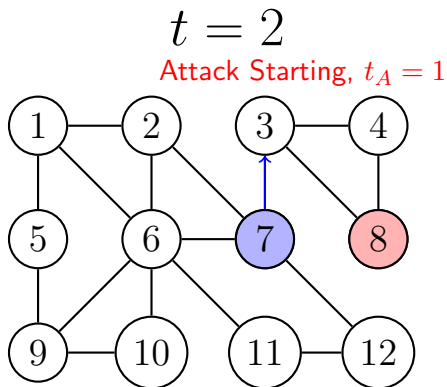
The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$

$$t = 1$$



# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

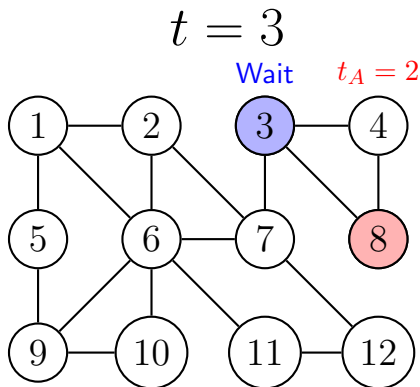
The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$





# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

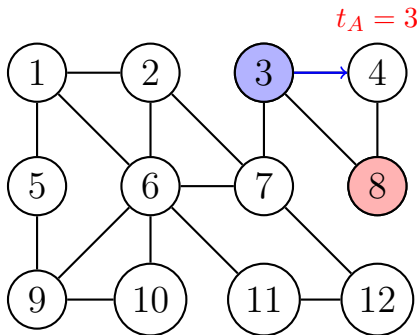
The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$



# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$

$$t = 4$$

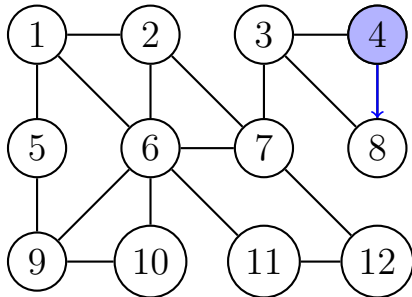


# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$

$$t = 5$$

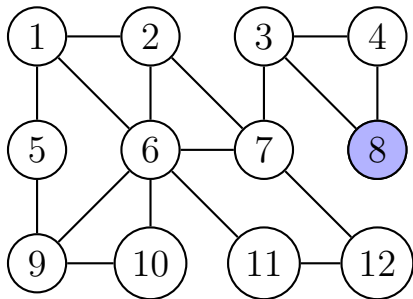
Attacker Done



# Introduction to Game: Pure Game

The game played on  $Q$  as below with  $m = 3$  and  $T = 7$

$$t = 6$$



The attacker fails to catch the patroller, therefore the patroller loses (and the attacker wins) meaning a payoff of 0 for the patroller (and  $-1$  for the attacker).

# Introduction to Game: Mixed Game

Both the patroller and attacker will play their pure(realised) strategies with certain probabilities, let  $\pi$  be a mixed strategy for the patroller and let  $\phi$  be a mixed strategy for the attacker. We collect these into the sets  $\Pi$  and  $\Phi$  for the patroller and attacker respectively.

Then the payoff for the patroller of this mixed game becomes

$$P(\pi, \phi) = \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{W}|} \sum_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{I}|} \mathcal{P}_{i,j} \pi_i \phi_j = \pi \mathcal{P} \phi$$

By using the pure payoff as 1 when capture occurs and 0 otherwise, the mixed payoff is equivalent to the probability of capture.

## Mixed Nash equilibrium

A choice of  $\pi^*$  and  $\phi^*$  is said to be in *Nash equilibrium* if

$$\begin{aligned}P(\pi^*, \phi^*) &\geq P(\pi, \phi^*) \quad \forall \pi \in \Pi, \\P(\pi^*, \phi^*) &\geq P(\pi^*, \phi) \quad \forall \phi \in \Phi.\end{aligned}$$

There will only be one Nash equilibrium, unless the patroller can guarantee capture.

We do this by searching for the games value,

$$V(G) \equiv \max_{\pi \in \Pi} \min_{\phi \in \Phi} P(\pi, \phi) = \min_{\phi \in \Phi} \max_{\pi \in \Pi} P(\pi, \phi)$$

This is done by achieving both upper and lower bounds on the value of the game.

# Solved graphs: Hamiltonian graphs

A graph is Hamiltonian if it is possible to find a cycle which visits every node exactly one (apart from the start/finish).

## Hamiltonian graphs

A Hamiltonian graph has the value  $V = \frac{m}{n}$

Two common Hamiltonian graphs are the Cyclic graph (of  $n$  nodes  $C_n$ ) and the Complete graph (of  $n$  nodes  $K_n$ ).

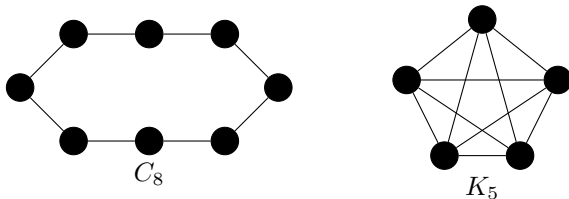


Figure: Examples of Cyclic and Complete graphs

# Solved graphs: Complete bipartite graphs

A bipartite graph is a graph made of two non-adjacent sets, the complete version has all connections.

## Complete bipartite graph

A complete bipartite graph,  $K_{a,b}$  as value  $V = \frac{m}{2 \max(a,b)}$

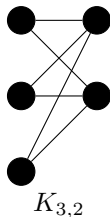


Figure: Example of a Complete bipartite graph



# Solved graphs: Star graph

The star graph,  $S_n$ , is  $n$  nodes adjacent only to the centre.

## Star graph

The star  $S_n \equiv K_{1,n}$  so has the value  $V = \frac{n}{2n}$

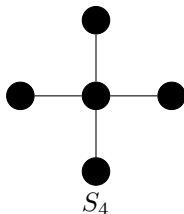


Figure: Example of a Star graph

## Line graph

The line graph,  $L_n$  made of  $n$  nodes has a value dependent on  $(n, m)$

- 1 If  $m > 2(n - 1)$  then  $V = 1$ .
- 2 If  $n - 1 \leq m \leq 2(n - 1)$  then  $V = \frac{m}{2(n-1)}$
- 3 If  $m = 2, n \geq 3$  then  $V = \lceil \frac{1}{2} \rceil$
- 4 If  $m = n - 1$  or  $m = n - 2$  and  $m = 2k$  for some  $k \geq 2$  then  $V = \frac{1}{2}$
- 5 If  $m \leq n - 3$  or  $m = n - 2$  and  $m = 2k + 1$  for some  $k \geq 1$  then  $V = \frac{m}{m+n-1}$

# Problem with line graph strategy

It was initially stated that in the region two  $n - 1 \leq m \leq 2(n - 1)$ , the value  $\frac{m}{2(n-1)}$  is achieved by the attacker attacking using the **diametric strategy**, which is to attack at opposite ends of the line with equal probability for all possible starting times. This is supposed to guarantee that  $V \leq \frac{m}{2(n-1)}$ .

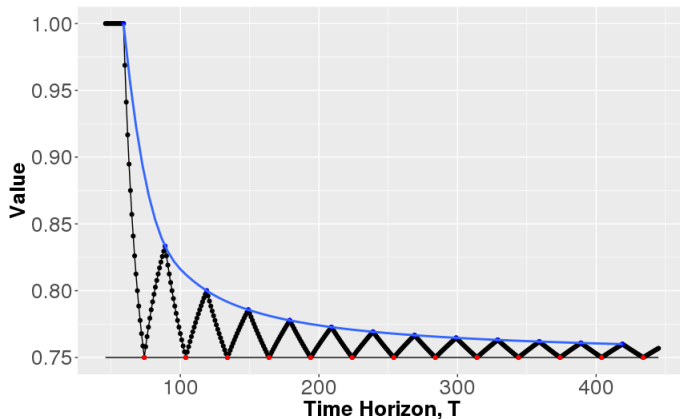
**Example.** Consider  $L_5$  with  $T = m = 5$ , then the patroller only needs to walk between the end nodes to win.



The walk  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  guarantee's the capture of all attacks made.

# Problem with line graph strategy

**Example.** Consider  $L_{31}$  with  $m = 45$



**Figure:** Best Upper Bound achievable under the diametric strategy

# Problem with the line graph strategy

The problem is under the diametric attack, a patroller can catch

$$m - \bar{d} + \left( m \times \left( \left\lfloor \frac{T - 2m + 1}{\bar{d}} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) \right)_+ + \left( T - (m - 1 + \left( \left\lfloor \frac{T - 2m + 1}{\bar{d}} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) \bar{d}) \right)_+ + \\ \left( T - (m - 1 + \left( \left\lfloor \frac{T - 2m + 1}{\bar{d}} \right\rfloor + 2 \right) \bar{d}) \right)_+$$

Attacks. From this we can get

**Lemma (Condition on  $T$  for bound to hold)**

*When  $T = m - 1 + (k + 1)(n - 1)$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$  then the diametric bound holds. Otherwise as  $T \rightarrow \infty$  then the diametric bound,  $V \leq \frac{m}{2(n-1)}$ , holds.*

# Correction of line graph strategy

We propose a solution to the problem, by limiting the time

## Definition (Time limited diametric attack)

When  $T \geq m + n - 2$  we have the *time limited diametric attack* (on the line) strategy is for the attacker to attack at both ends of the line with equal probability for starting times  $0, 1, \dots, n - 2$

This restriction to the attacking time guarantees to get the upper bound of  $V \leq \frac{m}{2(n-1)}$ .

This works due to the spacing of the attack times.

# Extension of correction strategy

Let  $\bar{d}$  be the diameter of the graph, i.e the distance between the furthest apart nodes then using

## Definition (Time limited diametric attack)

When  $T \geq m - 1 + \bar{d}$  we have the *time limited diametric attack* strategy is for the attacker to attack at both ends of the line with equal probability for starting times  $\tau, \tau + 1, \dots, \tau + \bar{d} - 1$  (for a chosen initial  $\tau$ ).

## Lemma (Time limited diametric bound)

When  $T \geq m - 1 + \bar{d}$  the attacker can get the bound

$$V \leq \frac{m}{2\bar{d}}.$$

# Extension of correction strategy

Using  $d(i, j)$  as the distance between nodes  $i$  and  $j$  we can get a more general type of attack.

## Definition (Polygonal attack)

A  $d$ -polygonal attack is an attack at a set of nodes  $D = \{i \in N \mid d(i, j) = d, \forall j \in D\}$  at the time intervals  $\tau, \tau + 1, \dots, \tau + d - 1$  (for a chosen initial  $\tau$ ) all equally probable.

## Lemma (Polygonal bound)

When  $T \geq m + d - 1$  and a set  $D$  as in the  $d$ -polygonal attack exists, the value has an upper bound of  $V \leq \max\{\frac{1}{|D|}, \frac{m}{|D|d}\}$ .



# Introduction to the elongated star

We now wish to integrate features of a star into a line. We will form the elongated star  $S_n^k$ . We will use the labelling as below

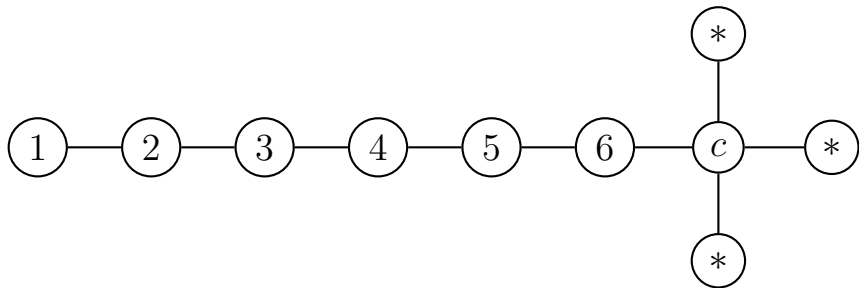


Figure: Labeling on the graph  $S_4^5$ .

# Future work