

# Towards a provably resilient scheme for graph-based watermarking

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➡ Vinícius Gusmão Pereira de Sá

Jayme Luiz [Szwarcfiter](#)



UNIVERSIDADE  
FEDERAL DO  
RIO DE JANEIRO

UFRJ



# Watermarks



# Watermarks



# Watermarks



# Software watermarking



?!

*What for?*

*How?*

# Software watermarking

```
int fibonnaci (int n) {  
    int a = 1, b = 1;  
  
    for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {  
        int sum = a + b;  
        a = b;  
        b = sum;  
    }  
  
    return b;  
}
```

# Software watermarking

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        int sum = a + b;  
        a = b;  
        b = sum;  
    }  
    // author: Vinícius  
    return b;  
}
```

# Software watermarking

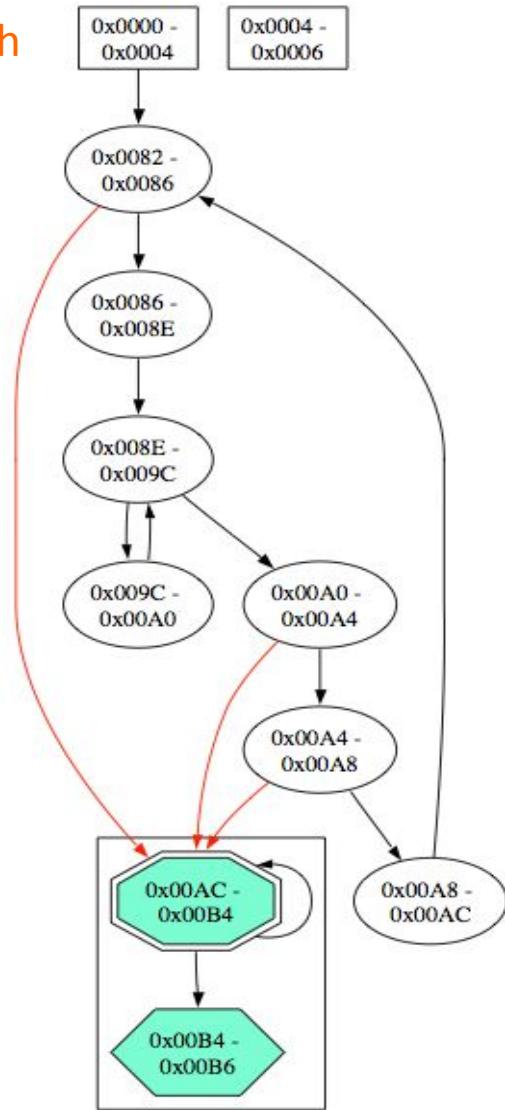
```
int fibonnaci (int n) {  
    int a = 1, b = 1;  
    string author = "Vinícius";  
    for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {  
        int sum = a + b;  
        a = b;  
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    }  
  
    return b;  
}
```

# Graph-based software watermarking

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Davidson and Myrvold (1996)  
Venkatesan, Vazirani and Sinha (2001)  
Collberg et al. (WG 2003)

Control flow graph



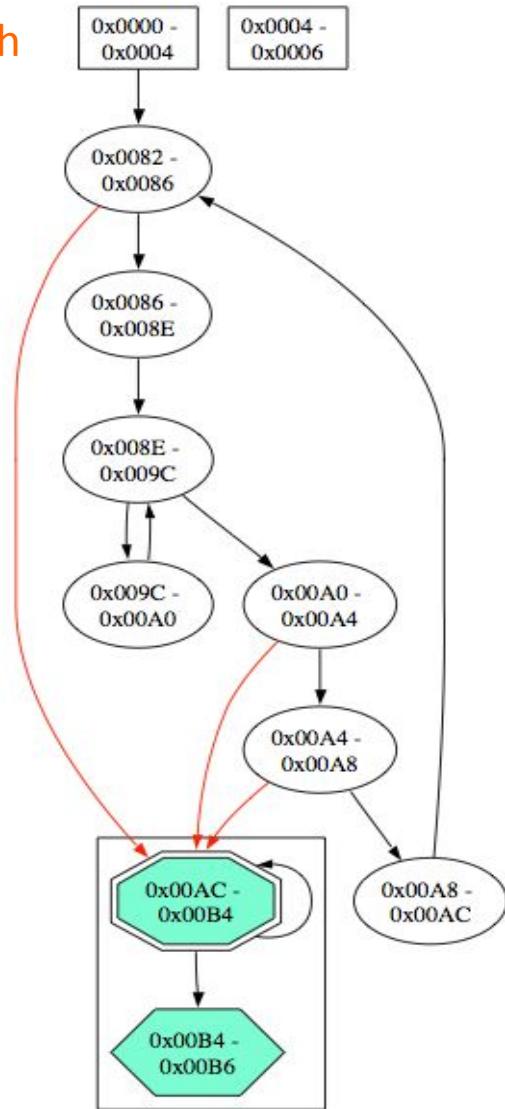
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Control flow graph



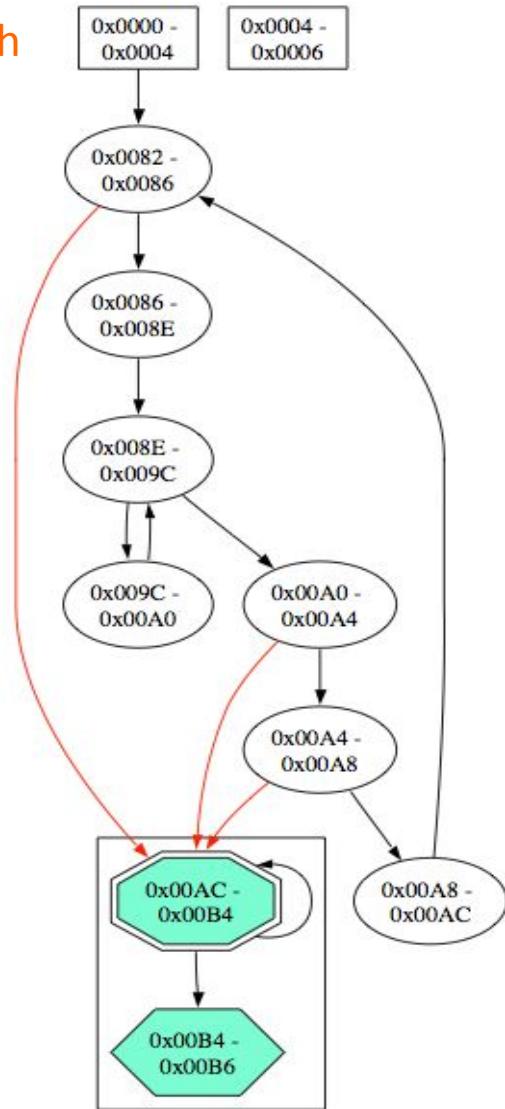
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(10010101000111010101001101011)

Control flow graph



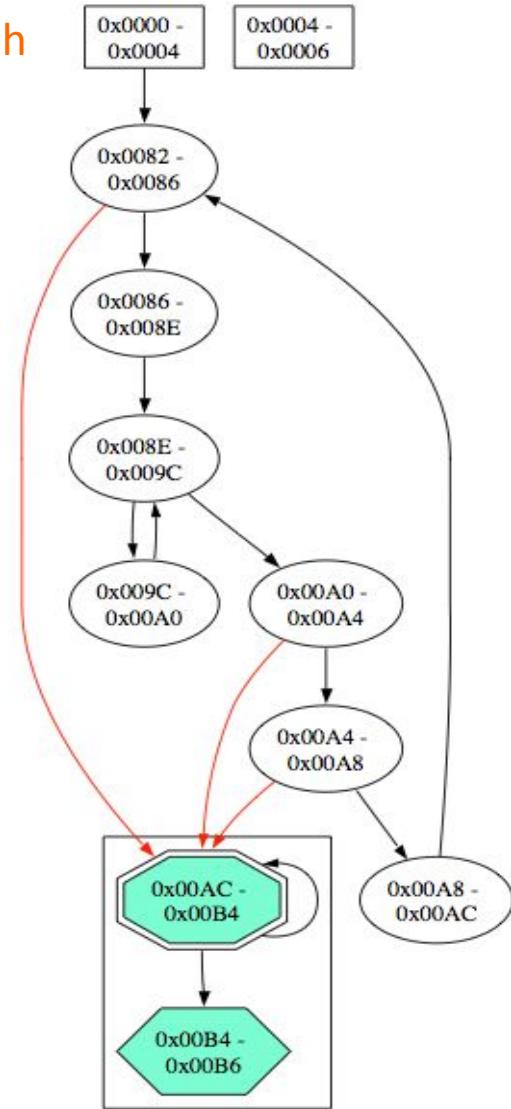
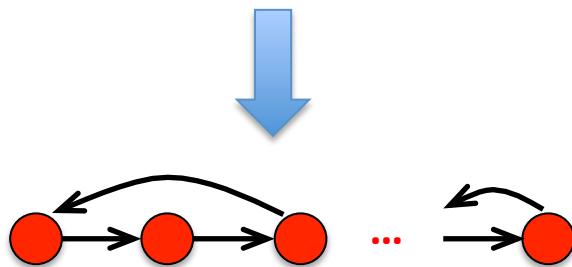
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Control flow graph

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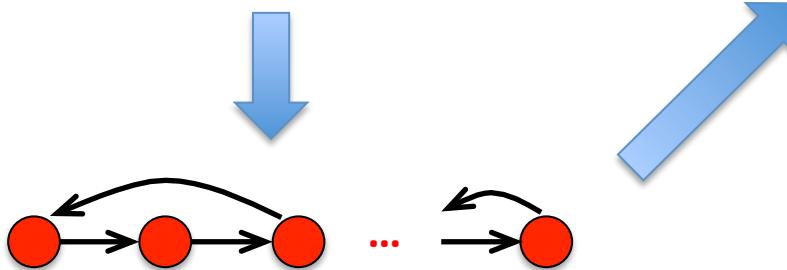
“author: Vinícius”  
**(10010101000111010101001101011)**



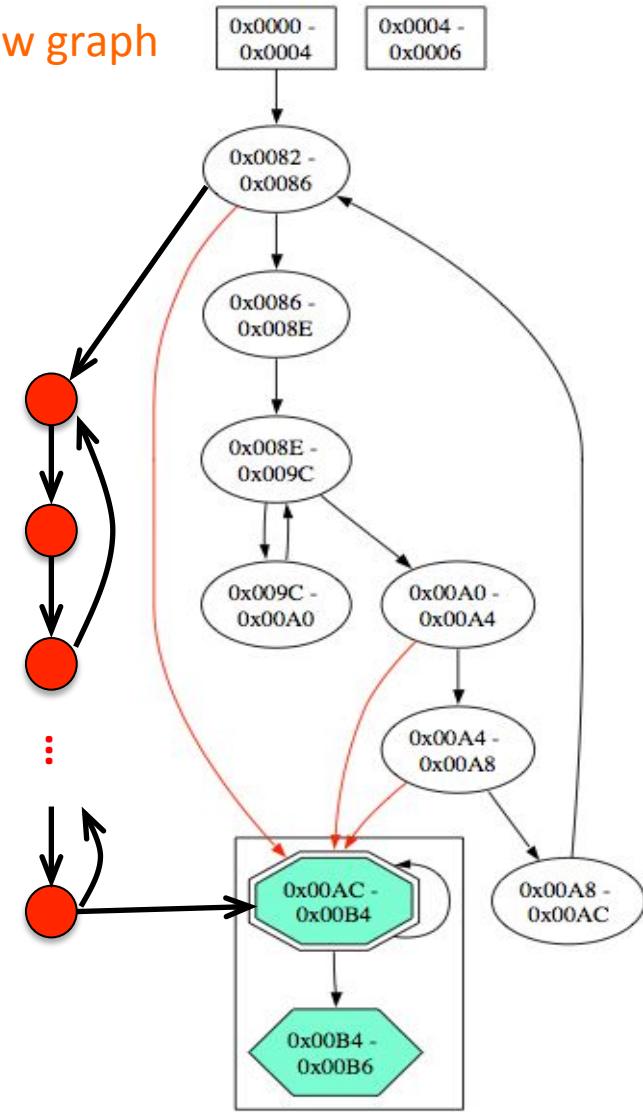
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Control flow graph



# Graph-based software watermarking

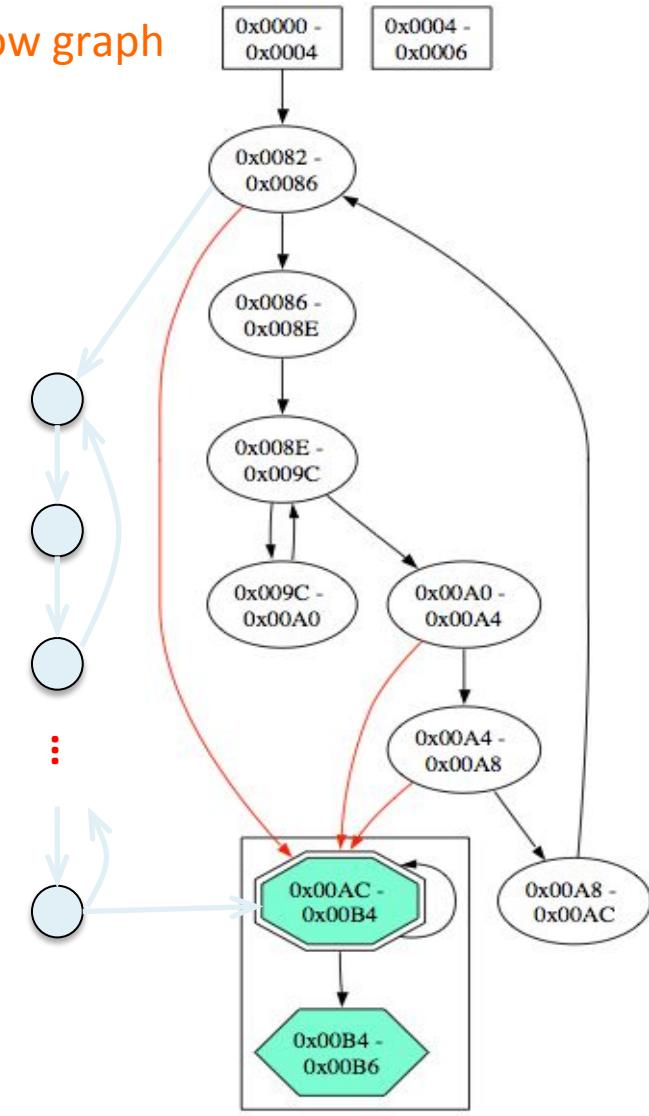
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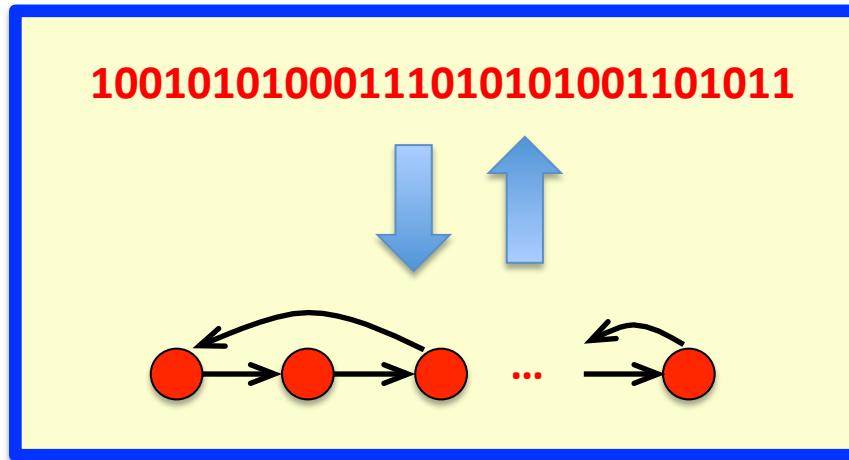
Control flow graph



# Graph-based software watermarking

Chroni and Nikolopoulos (2011)

Encoding



Decoding



# The codec from Chroni and Nikolopoulos

Chroni and Nikolopoulos (2011)

key  $\omega = 29$

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$B = 11101$        $n = 5$

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$B = 11101 \quad n = 5$

$\bar{B} = \textcolor{blue}{00010}$

$B^* = \underbrace{\textcolor{red}{11111}}_{n \text{ 1's}} \textcolor{blue}{00010} \textcolor{red}{0}$

$n$  1's

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$Z_0 = 6, 7, 8, 10, 11$

$Z_1 = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9$

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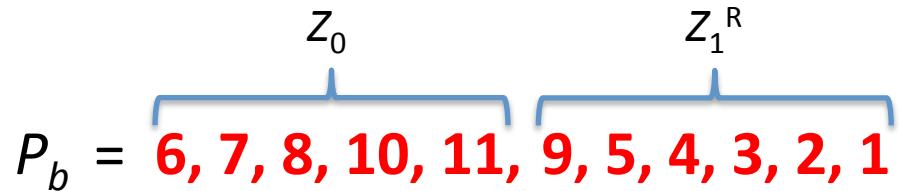
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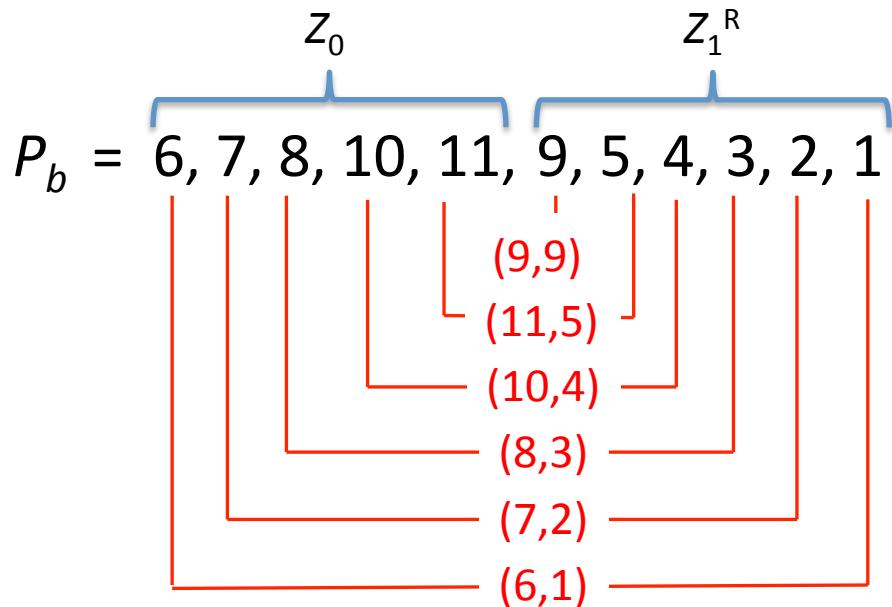
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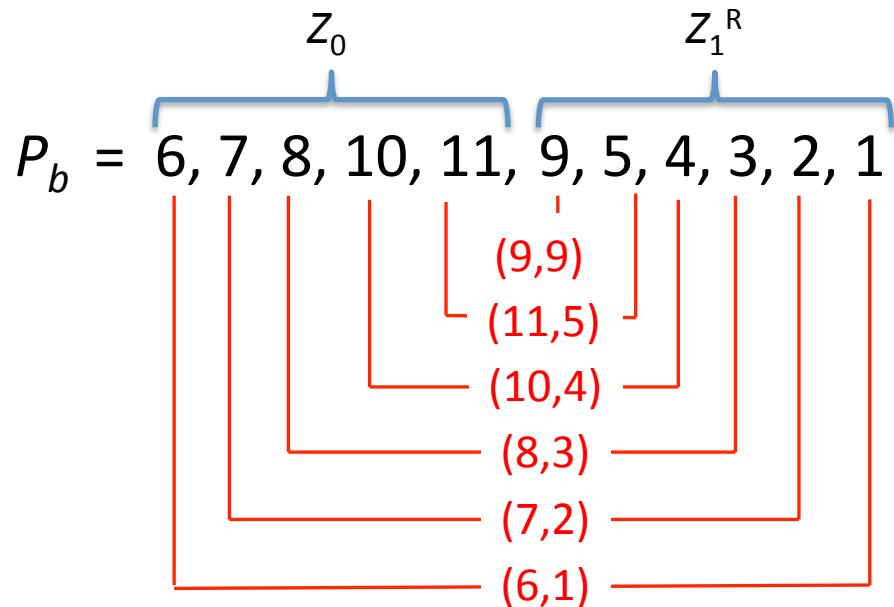
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$P_s = 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, 9, 4, 5$

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

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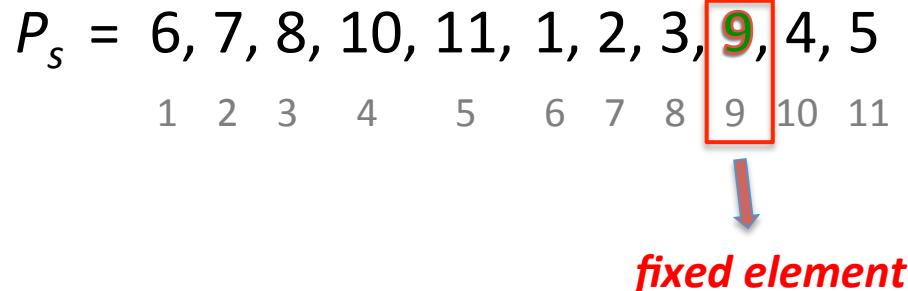
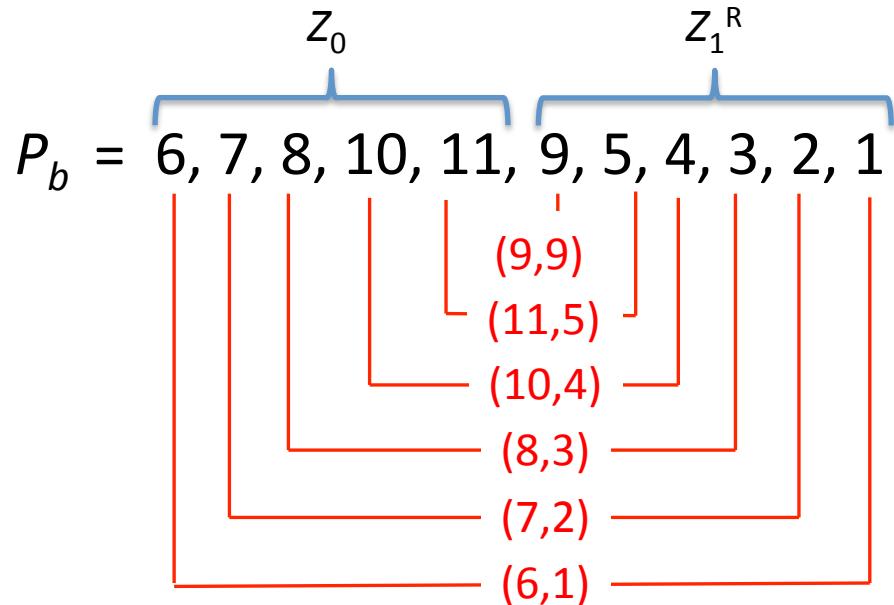
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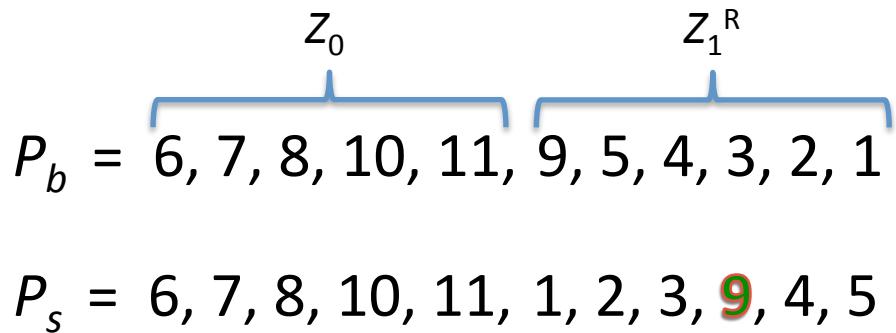
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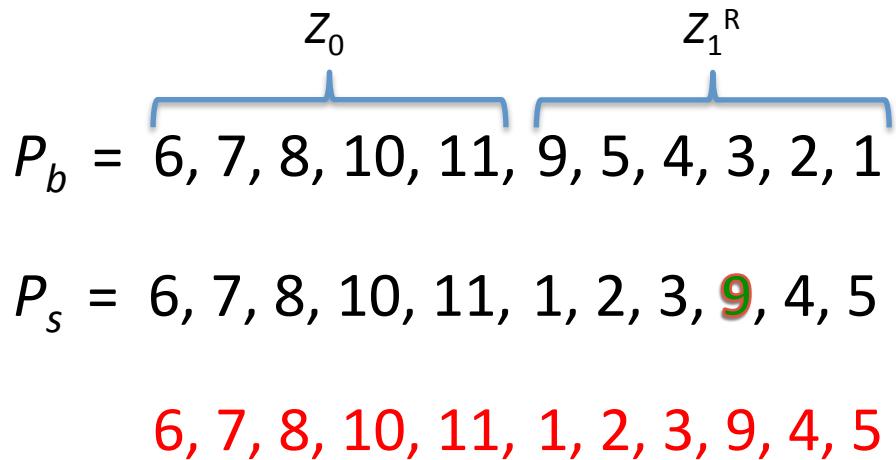
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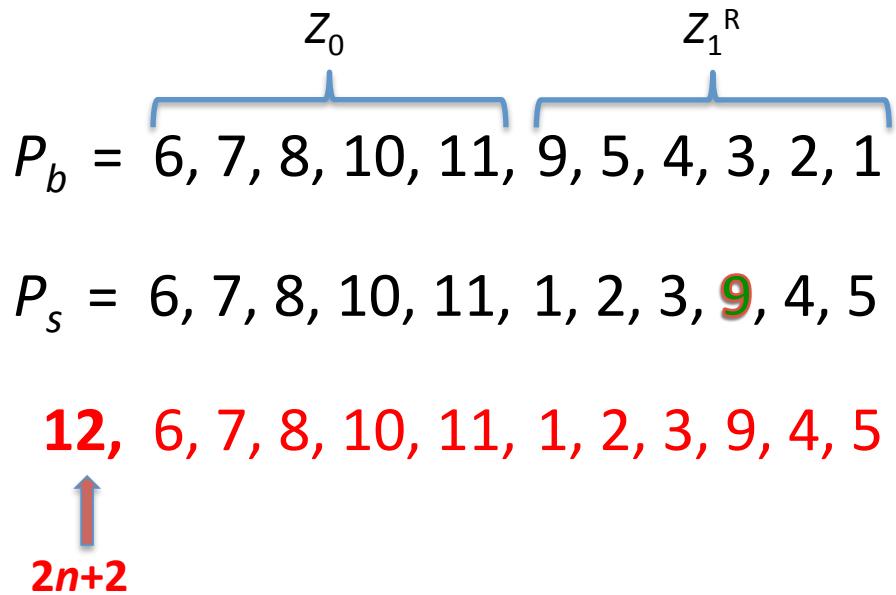
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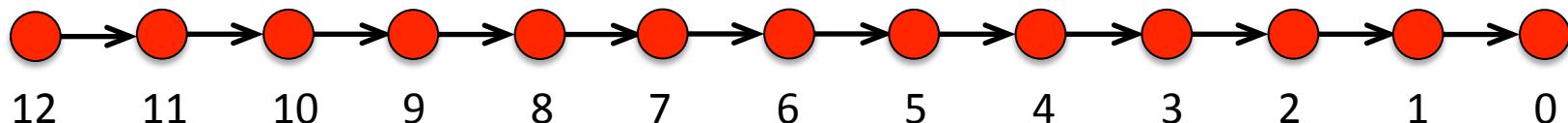
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$$P_b = \underbrace{6, 7, 8, 10, 11}_{Z_0}, \underbrace{9, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1}_{Z_1^R}$$
$$P_s = 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, \color{red}{9}, 4, 5$$

**12, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, 9, 4, 5**

# The codec from Chroni and Nikolopoulos

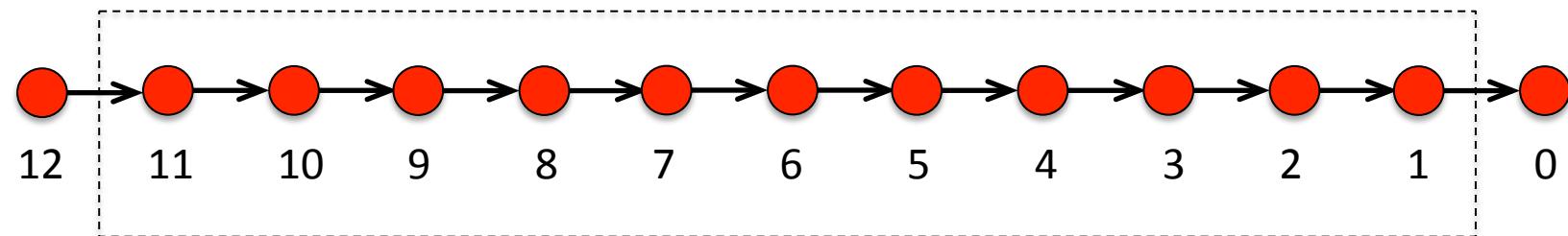
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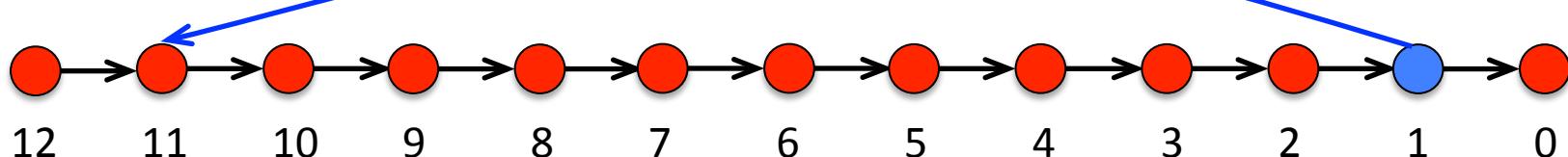
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# The codec from Chroni and Nikolopoulos

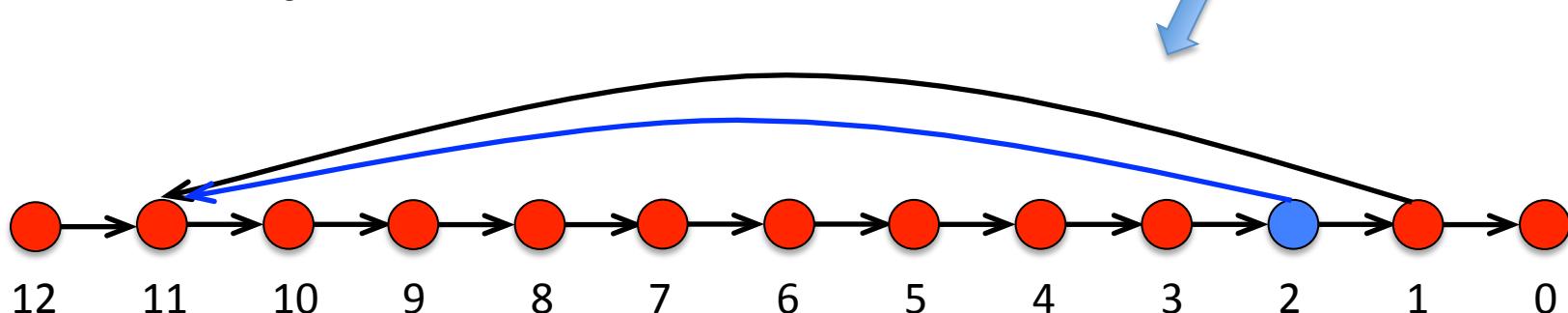
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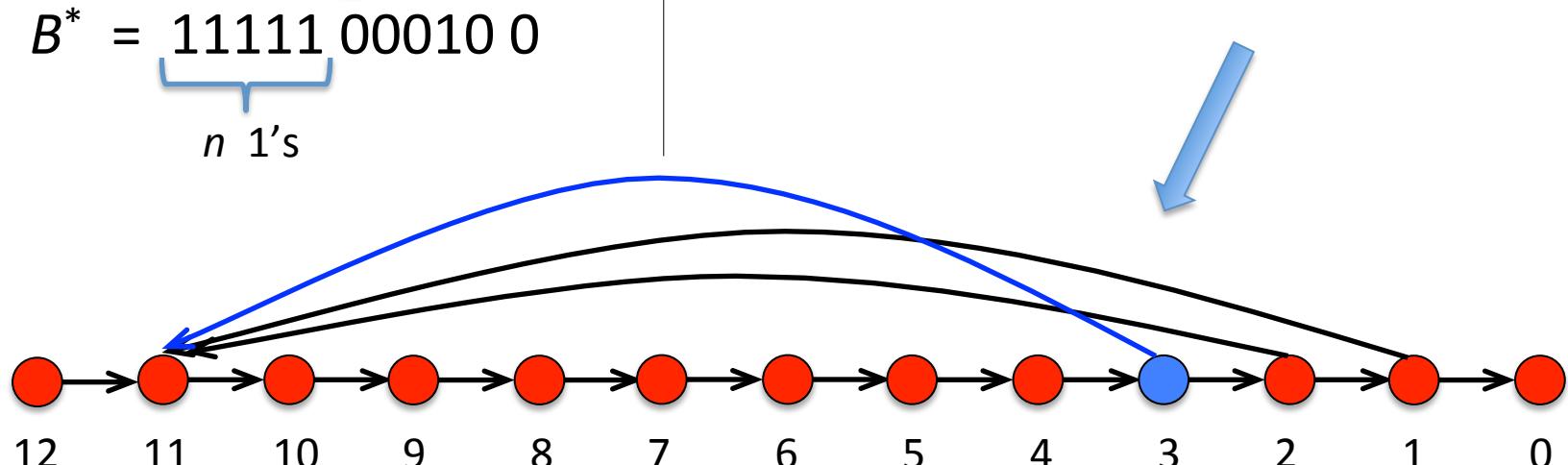
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12    11    10    9    8    7    6    5    4    3    2    1    0

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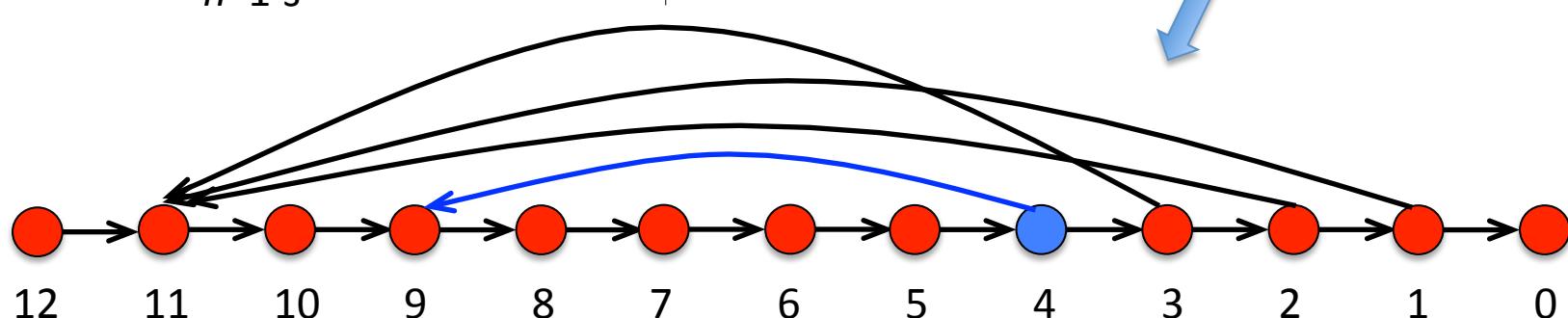
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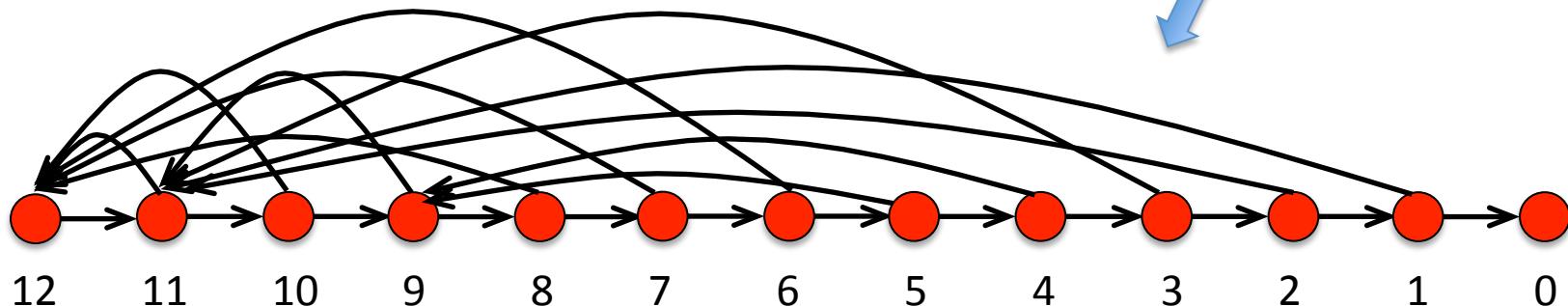
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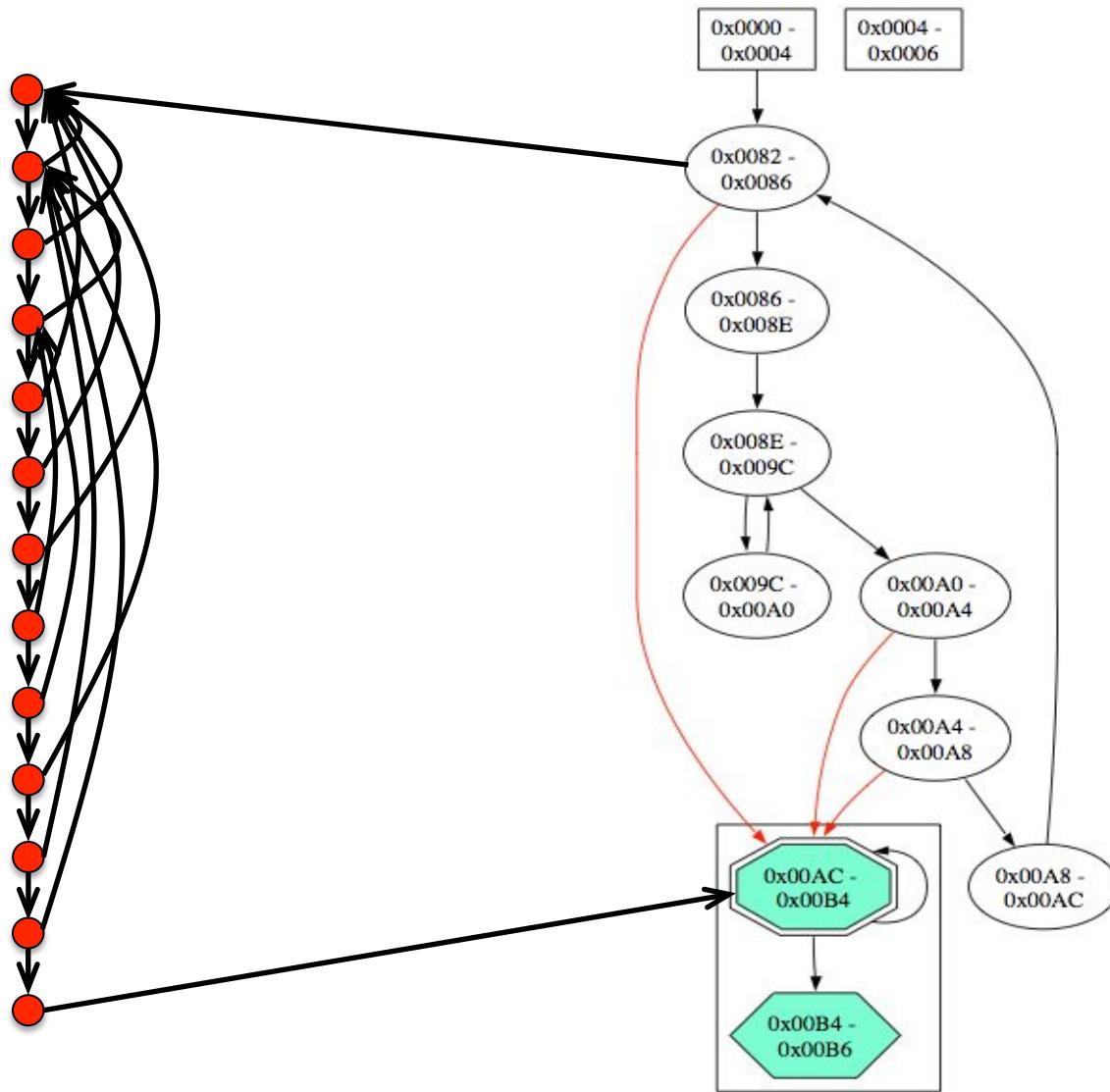
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# The codec from Chroni and Nikolopoulos



# The codec from Chroni and Nikolopoulos

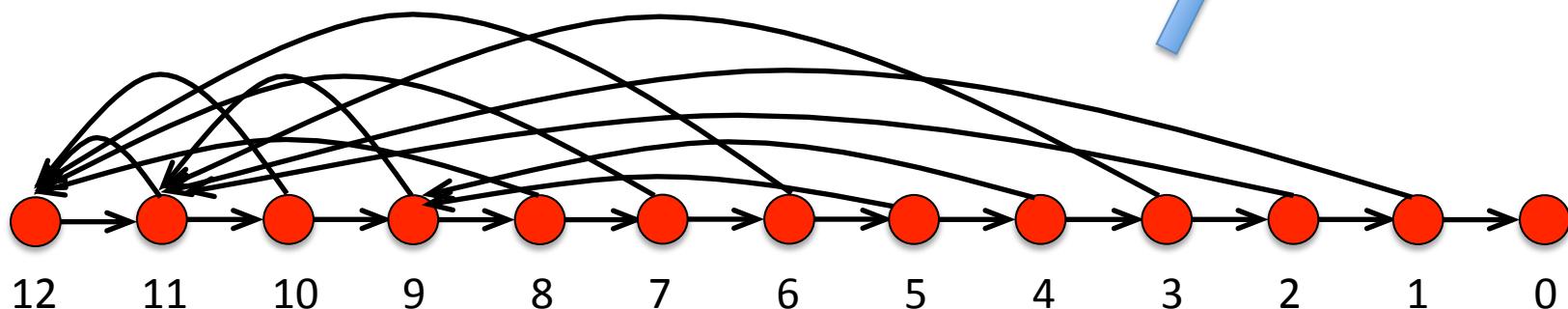
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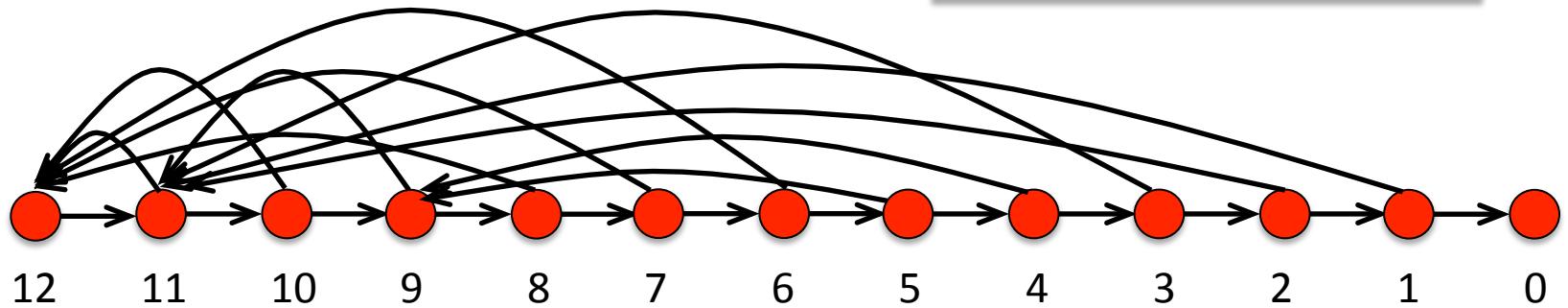


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# Our contribution

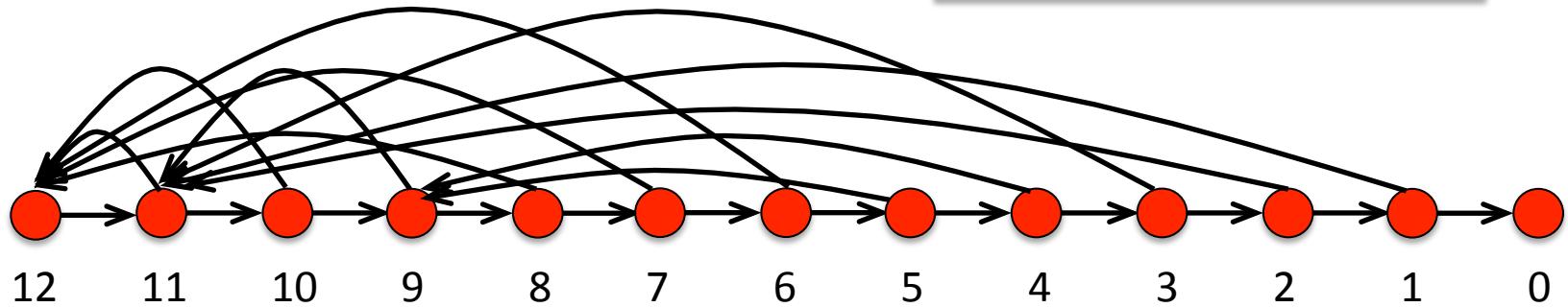
B., B., M., S., S. (WG 2013)



1. full characterization of the class of *canonical reducible permutation graphs* (the graphs produced by Chroni and Nikolopoulos's encoding algorithm)
2. a linear-time recognition algorithm for such graphs
3. a new linear-time decoding algorithm (graph → integer key)  
simpler, marginally faster and able to retrieve the correct key even after the malicious removal of  $k \leq 2$  edges
4. a tight bound for the resilience of the codec against edge removals

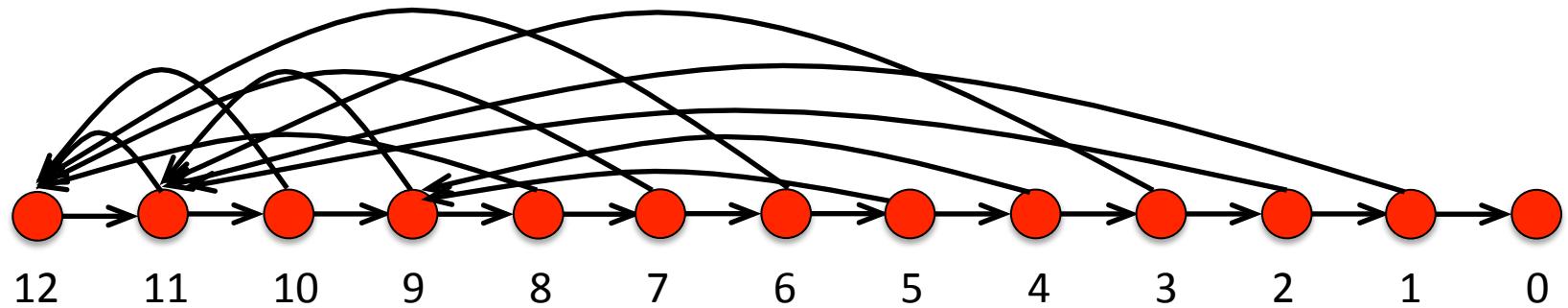
# Our contribution

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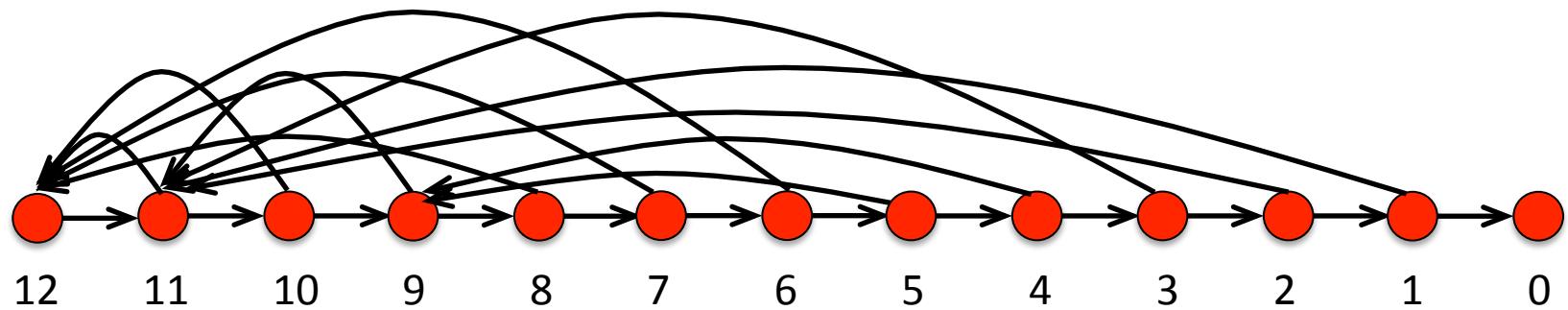
1. **formal definition of the class** of *canonical reducible permutation graphs*  
(precisely the graphs produced by Chroni and Nikolopoulos's encoding algorithm)
2. **characterization and linear-time recognition algorithm** for such graphs
3. **a new linear-time decoding algorithm** ( $\text{graph} \rightarrow \text{integer key}$ )  
simpler, marginally faster and able to retrieve the correct key even after the malicious removal of  $k \leq 2$  edges
4. **a tight bound for the resilience of the codec** against edge removals

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



canonical  
reducible  
permutation

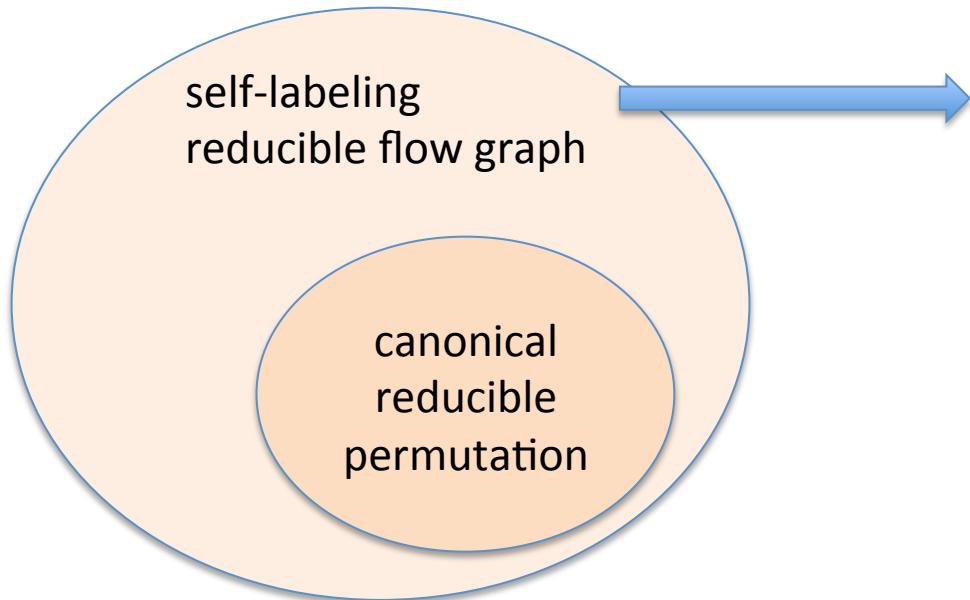
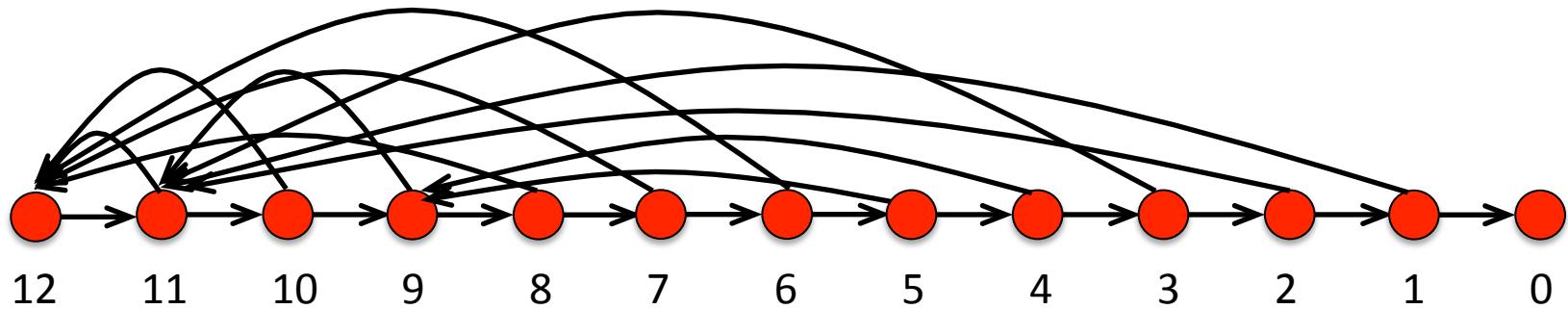
# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



self-labeling  
reducible flow graph

canonical  
reducible  
permutation

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



## Definition

*Self-labeling reducible flow graph  $G(V,E)$ :*

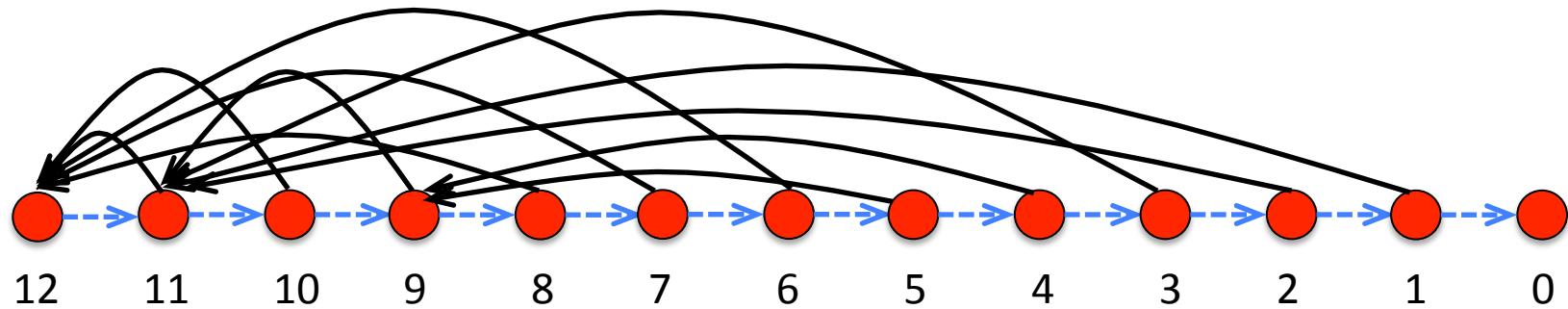
- vertices  $0, \dots, |V|-1$
- exactly one Hamiltonian path
- $v \in V \setminus \{0, |V|-1\} \Rightarrow N^+(v) = \{v-1, w\}$ ,  
for some  $w > v$

$$v = 0 \Rightarrow N^+(v) = \{ \ }$$

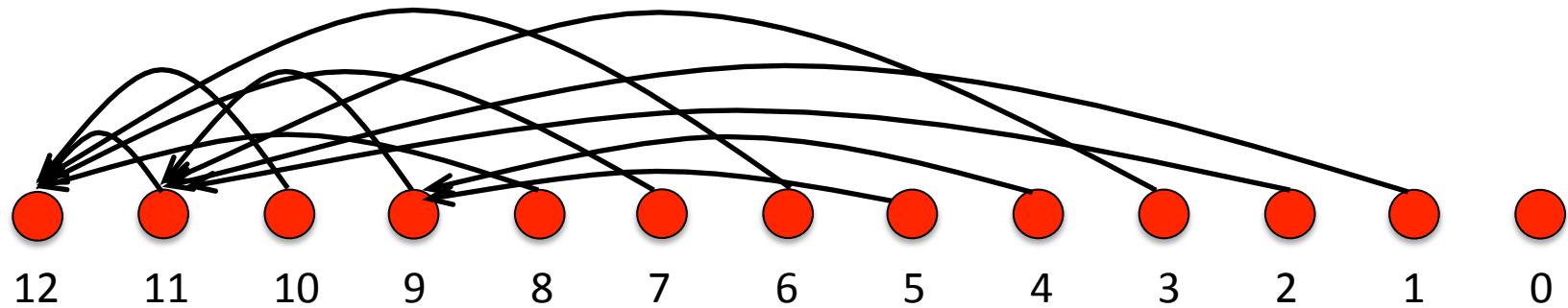
$$N^-(v) = \{1\}$$

$$v = |V|-1 \Rightarrow N^+(v) = \{|V|-2\}$$
$$|N^-(v)| \geq 2$$

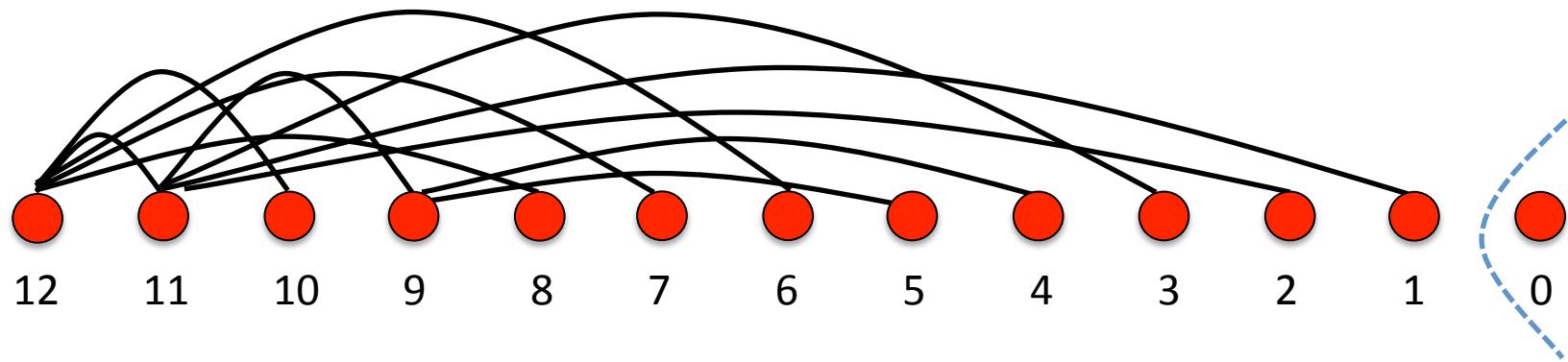
# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



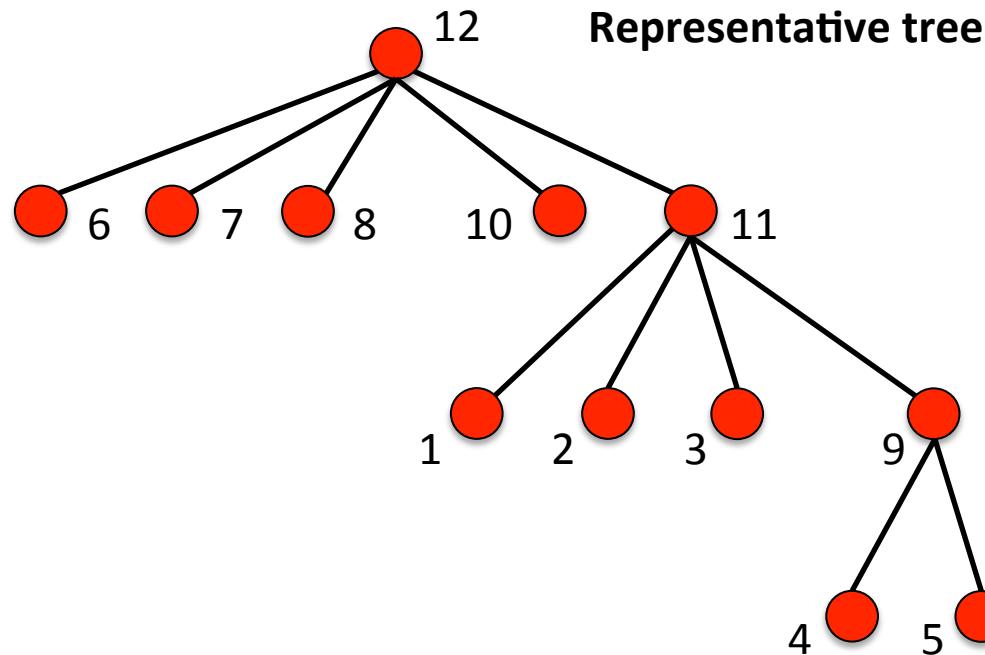
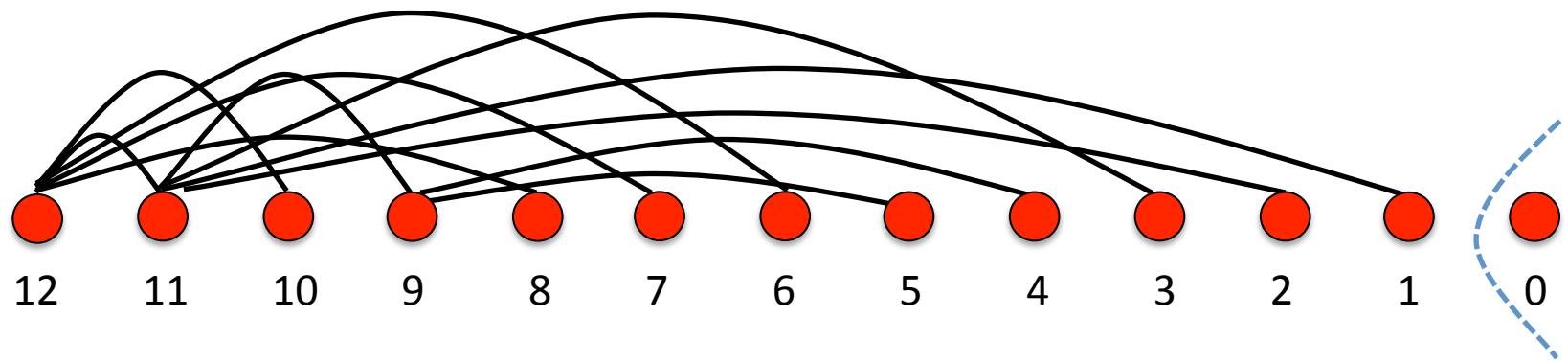
# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



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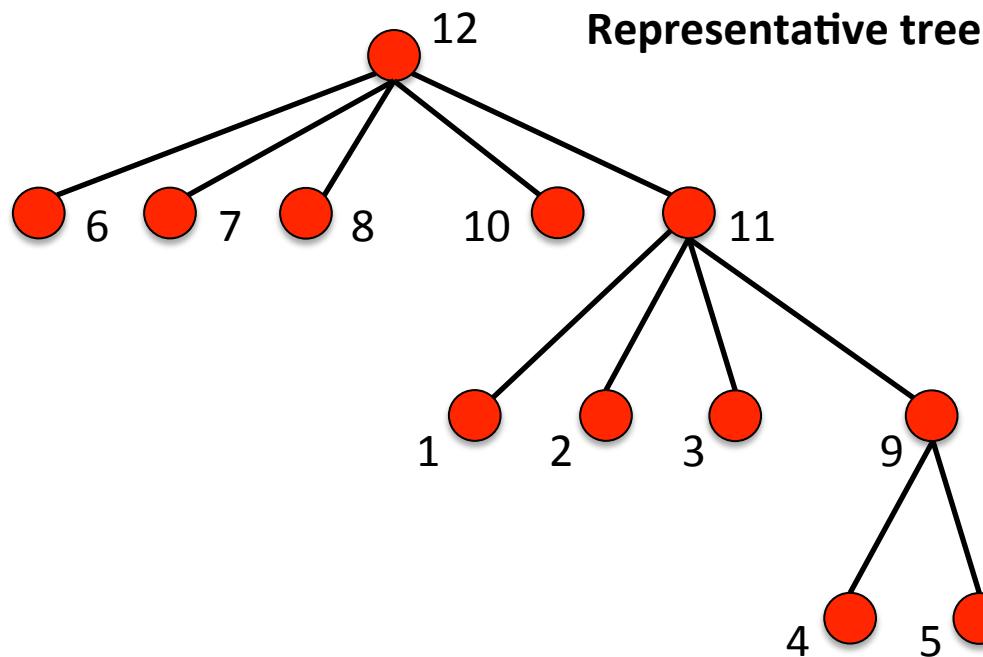
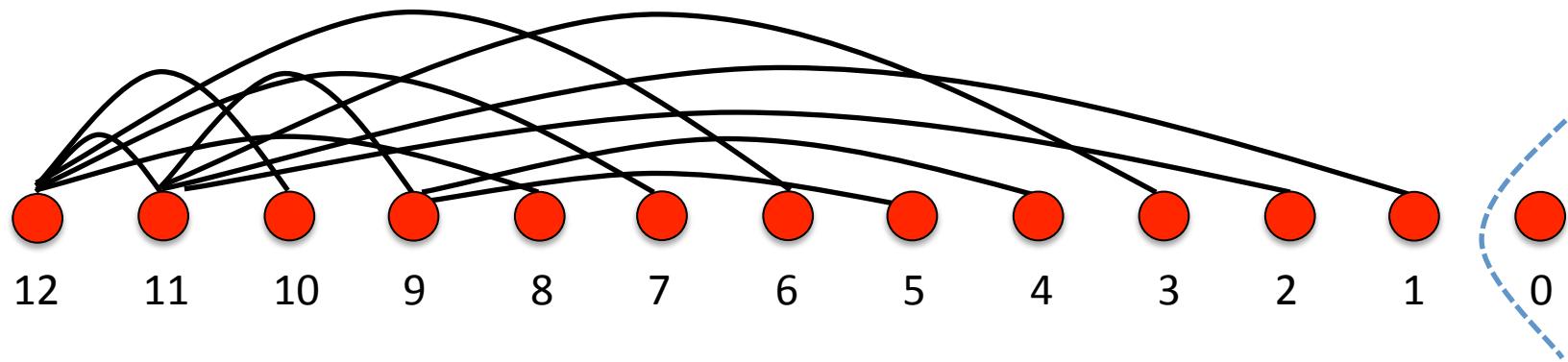


# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



- children in ascending order
- max-heap property

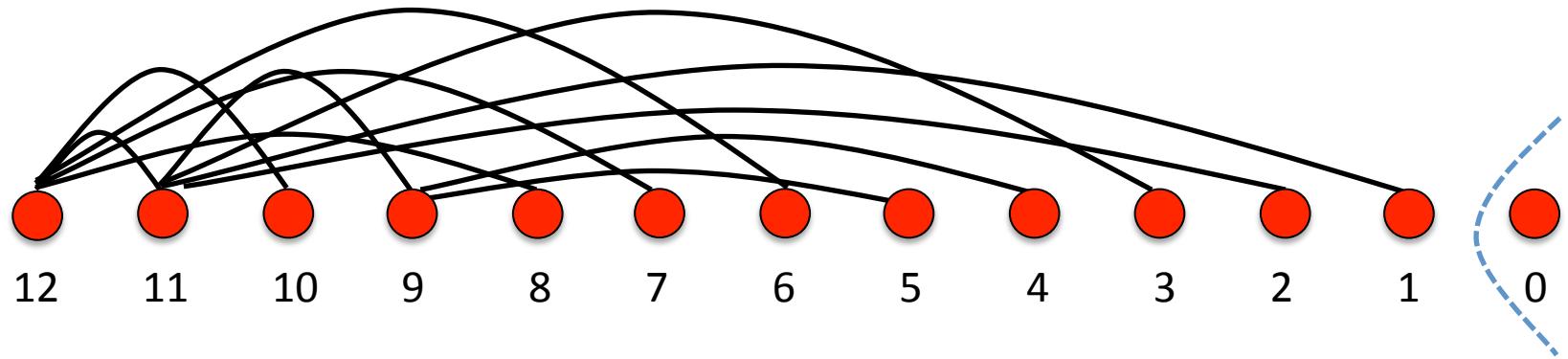
# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



- children in ascending order
- max-heap property

*root-free preorder traversal:*  
6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, 9, 4, 5

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



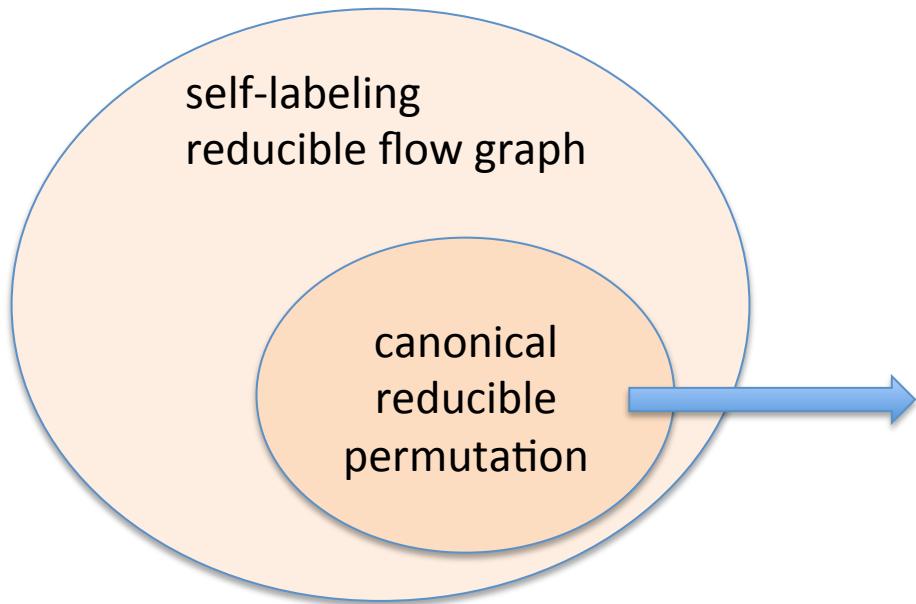
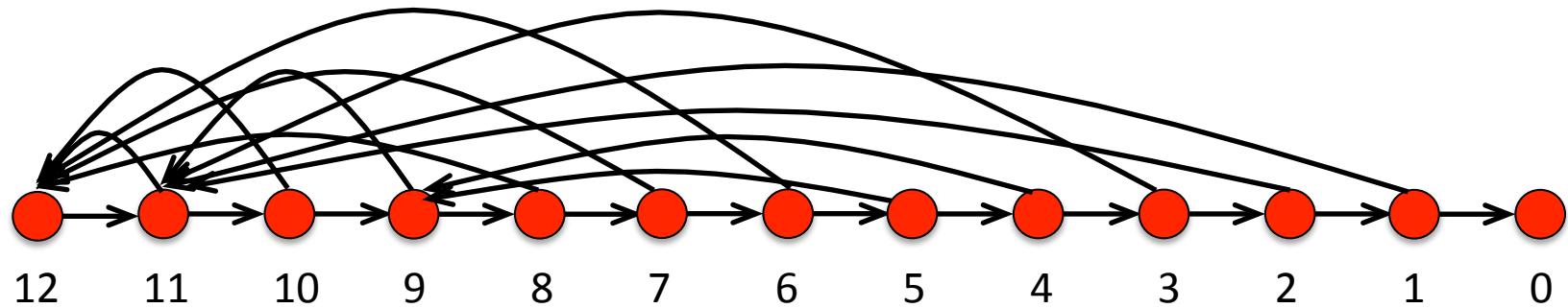
## Definition

*Canonical self-inverting permutation*

- a self-inverting permutation
- elements  $s_i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n+1$
- exactly one fixed element
- each 2-cycle  $(s_i, s_j)$  satisfies

$$1 \leq i \leq n, s_i > s_j$$

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs

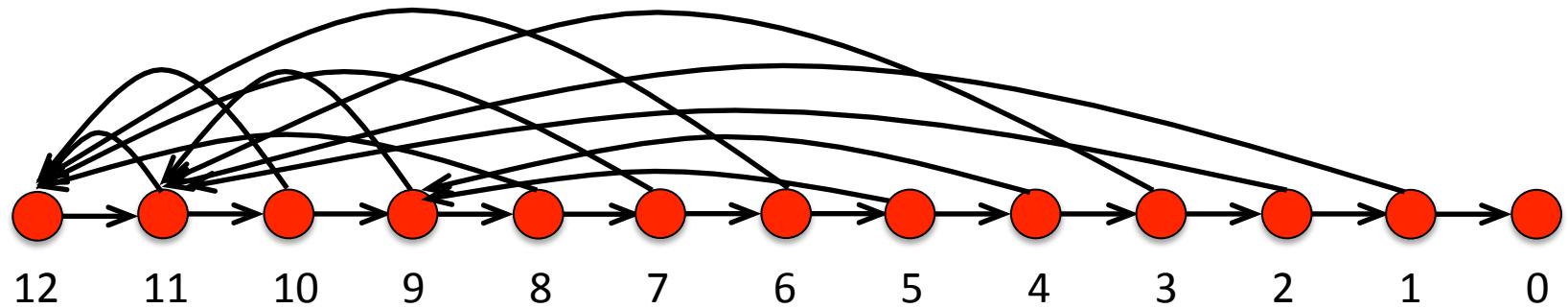


## Definition

*Canonical reducible permutation graph:*

- a self-labeling reducible flow graph
- $2n+3$  vertices
- its *representative tree* has a (root-free) preorder traversal which is a canonical self-inverting permutation

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



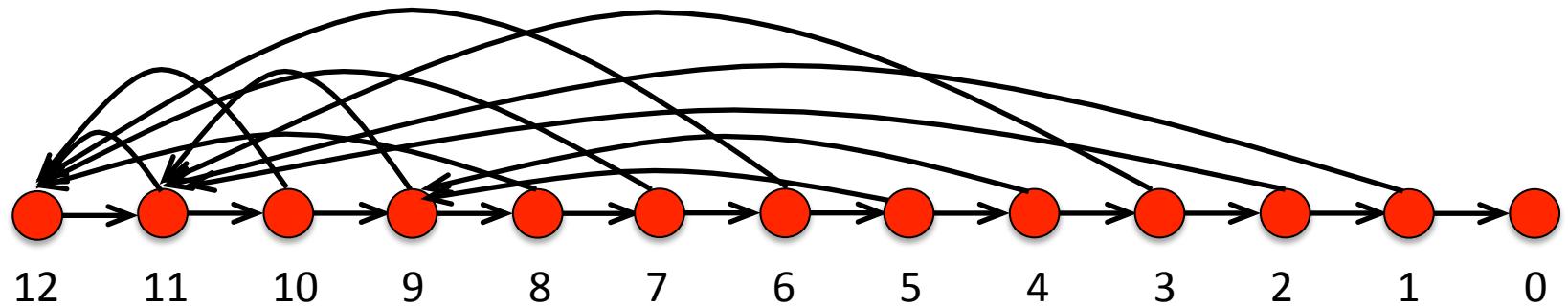
**Theorem**

*Watermark from Chroni and Nikolopoulos*



*Canonical reducible permutation graph*

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



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(Proof by “we don’t want to know the details” argument)

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs

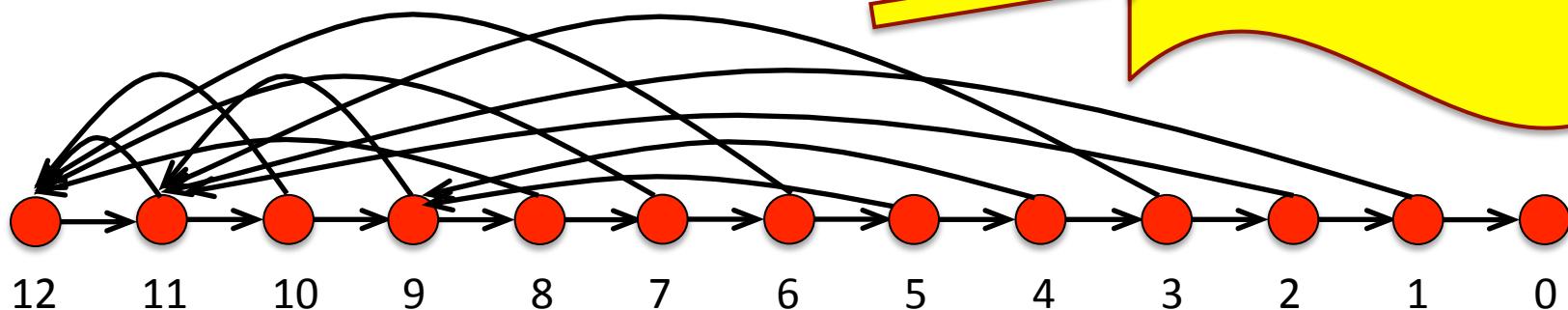
Chroni and Nikolopoulos (2011)

key  $\omega = 29$

$B = 11101 \quad n = 5$

$\bar{B} = 00010$

$B^* = \underbrace{11111}_{n \text{ 1's}} \underbrace{00010}_{} 0$



$Z_0$

$P_b = 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 9, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1$

$Z_1^R$

$P_s = 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, 9, 4, 5$

several structural properties

# Codec properties

**Property 1** For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , element  $b_{n+i+1}$  in  $P_b$  is equal to  $n - i + 1$ , that is, the  $n$  rightmost elements in  $P_b$  are  $1, 2, \dots, n$  when read from right to left.

**Property 2** The elements whose indexes are  $1, 2, \dots, n$  in  $P_s$  are all greater than  $n$ .

**Property 3** The fixed element  $f$  satisfies  $f = n + f_0$ , unless the key  $\omega$  is equal to  $2^k - 1$  for some integer  $k$ , whereupon  $f = n^* = 2n + 1$ .

**Property 4** In self-inverting permutation  $P_s$ , elements indexed  $1, 2, \dots, f - n - 1$  are respectively equal to  $n + 1, n + 2, \dots, f - 1$ , and elements indexed  $n + 1, n + 2, \dots, f - 1$  are respectively equal to  $1, 2, \dots, f - n - 1$ .

**Property 5** The first element in  $P_s$  is  $s_1 = n + 1$ , and the central element in  $P_s$  is  $s_{n+1} = 1$ .

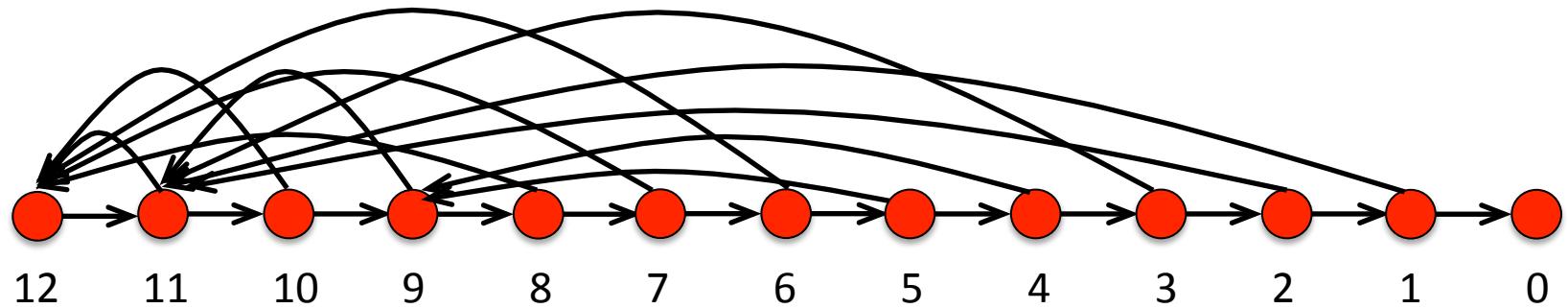
**Property 6** If  $f \neq n^*$ , then the index of element  $n^*$  in  $P_s$  is equal to  $n_1 + 1$ , and vice-versa. If  $f = n^*$ , then the index of element  $n^*$  in  $P_s$  is also  $n^*$ .

**Property 7** The subsequence of  $P_s$  consisting of elements indexed  $1, 2, \dots, n + 1$  is bitonic.

**Property 8** For  $u \neq 2n + 1$ ,  $(u, 2n + 2)$  is a tree edge of watermark  $G$  if, and only if,  $u - n$  is the index of a digit 1 in the binary representation  $B$  of the key  $\omega$  represented by  $G$ .

**Property 9** If  $(u, k)$  is a tree edge of watermark  $G$ , with  $k \neq 2n + 2$ , then (i) element  $k$  precedes  $u$  in  $P_s$ ; and (ii) if  $v$  is located somewhere between  $k$  and  $u$  in  $P_s$ , then  $v < u$ .

# Canonical reducible permutation graphs



**Theorem**

*Watermark from Chroni and Nikolopoulos*



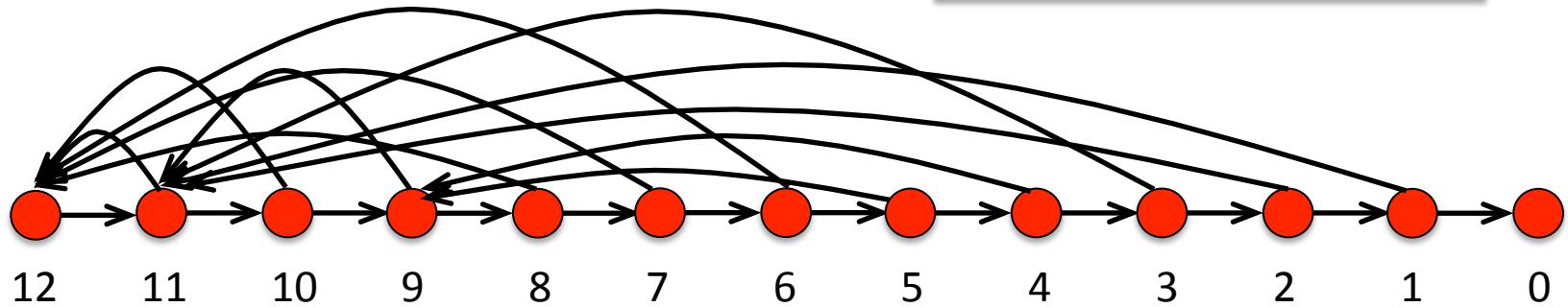
*Canonical reducible permutation graph*

(Proof by “we don’t want to know the details” argument)



# Our contribution

B., B., M., S., S. (WG 2013)



1. **formal definition of the class** of *canonical reducible permutation graphs*  
(precisely the graphs produced by Chroni and Nikolopoulos's encoding algorithm)
2. **characterization and linear-time recognition algorithm** for such graphs
3. **a new linear-time decoding algorithm** ( $\text{graph} \rightarrow \text{integer key}$ )  
simpler, marginally faster and able to retrieve the correct key even after the malicious removal of  $k \leq 2$  edges
4. **a tight bound for the resilience of the codec** against edge removals

# Characterizing the watermark graphs

(canonical reducible permutation graphs)

## Theorem (characterization)

*Canonical reducible permutation graph*



*Self-labeling reducible flow graph such that:*

- *its fixed element is  $2n+1$ , and  
its representative tree is a “type-1” tree*
- or
- *its fixed element belongs to  $[n+2, 2n]$ , and  
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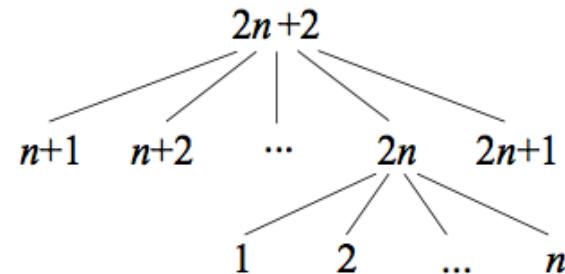
Canonical reducible permutation graph



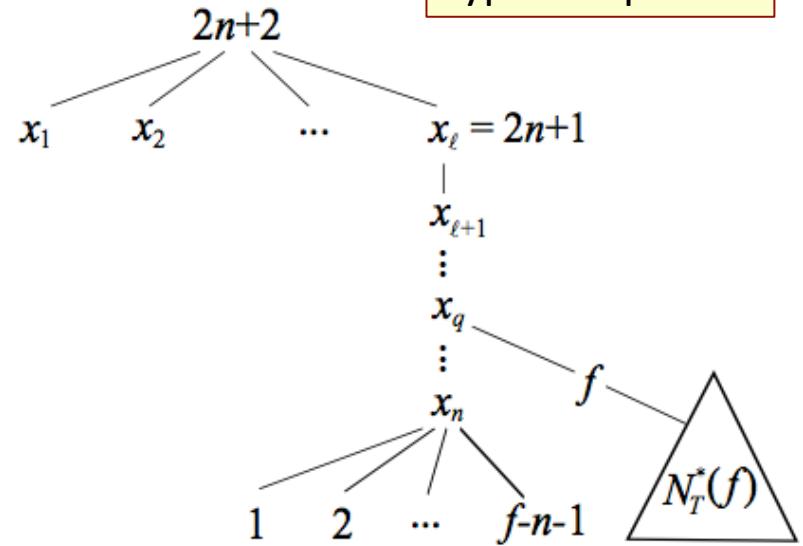
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type-1 rep. tree



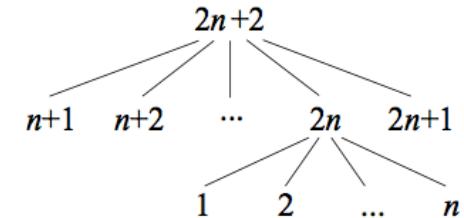
type-2 rep. tree



# Types of representative trees

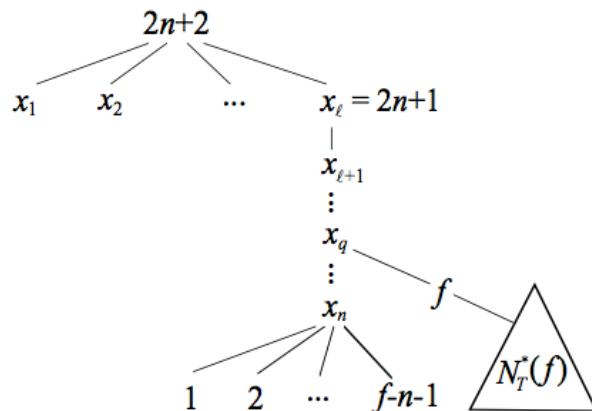
*type-1*

- (i)  $n+1, n+2, \dots, 2n+1$  are children of the root  $2n+2$  in  $T$ ; and
- (ii)  $1, 2, \dots, n$  are children of  $2n$ .



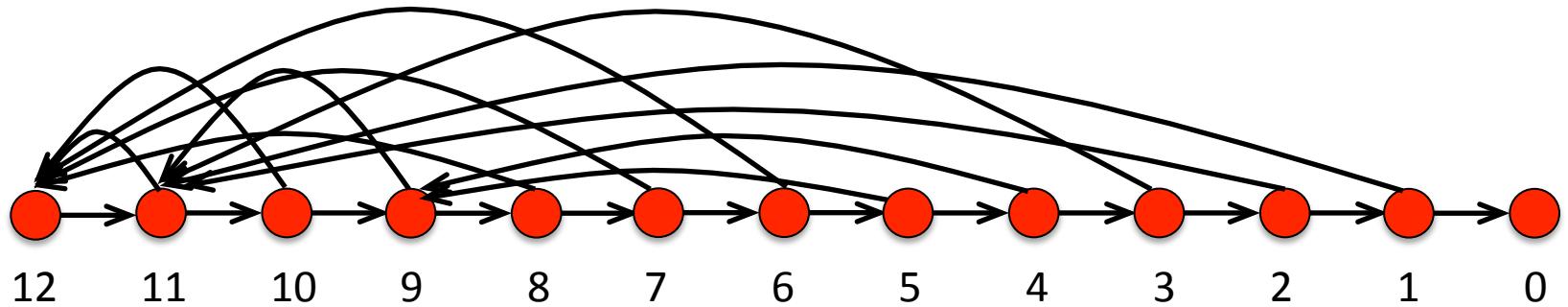
*type-2*

- (i)  $n+1 = x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_\ell = 2n+1$  are the children of  $2n+2$ , for some  $\ell \in [2, n-1]$ ;
- (ii)  $x_i > x_{i+1}$  and  $x_i$  is the parent of  $x_{i+1}$ , for all  $i \in [\ell, n-1]$ ;
- (iii)  $1, 2, \dots, f-n-1$  are children of  $x_n$ ;
- (iv)  $x_i = n+i$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq f-n-1$ ;
- (v)  $f$  is a child of  $x_q$ , for some  $q \in [\ell, n]$  satisfying  $x_{q+1} < f$  whenever  $q < n$ ; and
- (vi)  $N_T^*(f) = \{f-n, f-n+1, \dots, n\}$  and  $y_i \in N_T^*(f)$  has index  $x_{y_i} - f + 1$  in the preorder traversal of  $N_T^*[f]$ .



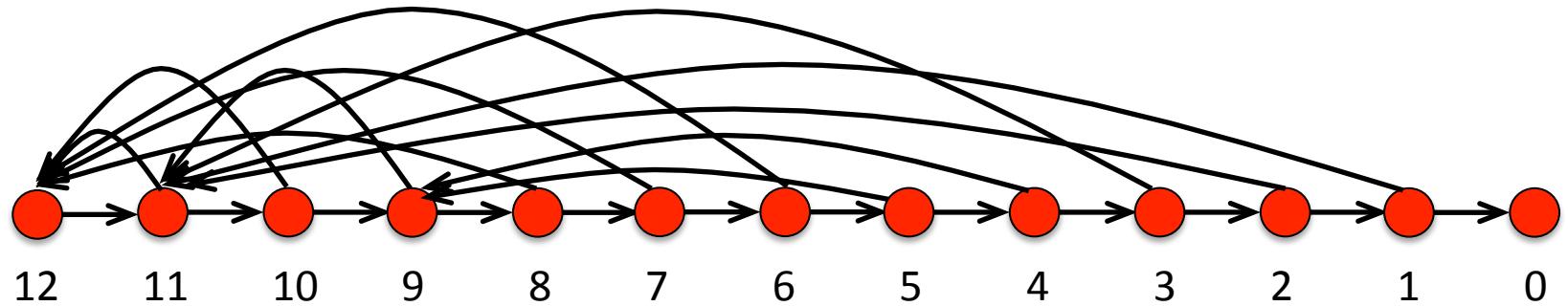
( $f$  denotes the unique fixed element)

# Linear-time recognition



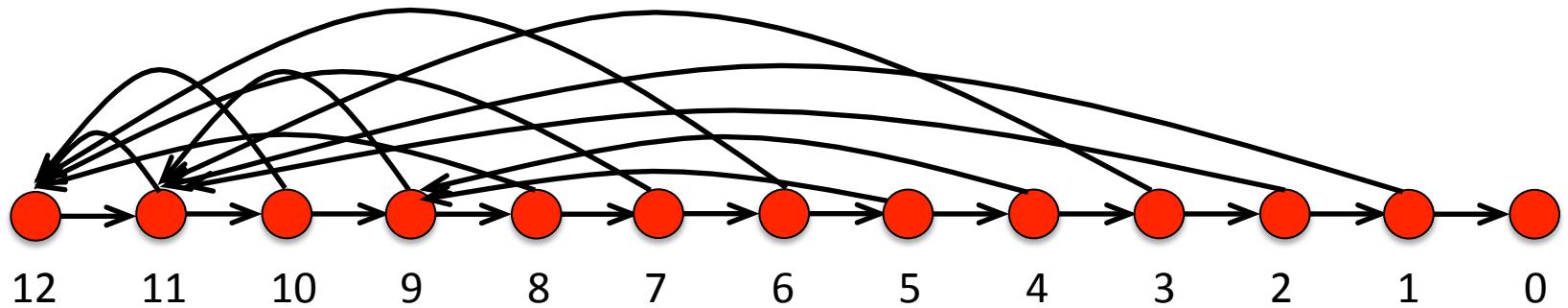
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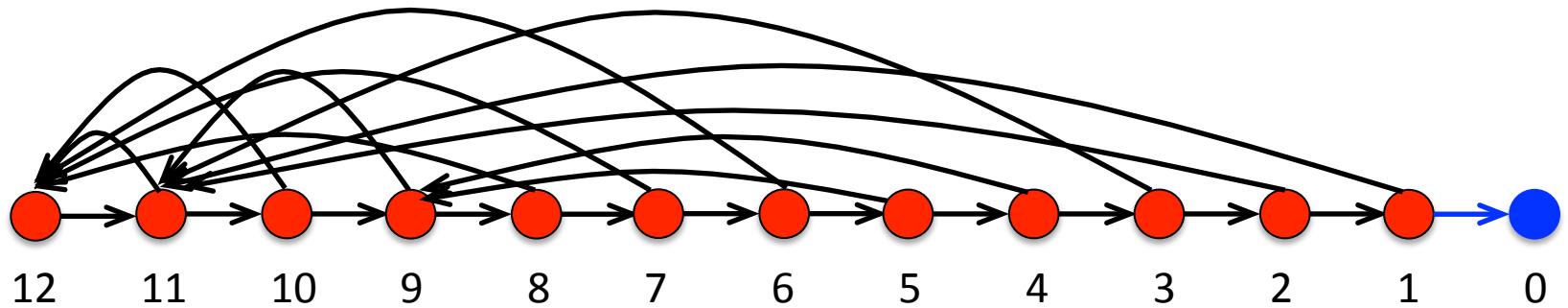


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**Linear-time algorithm to find the unique Hamiltonian path**

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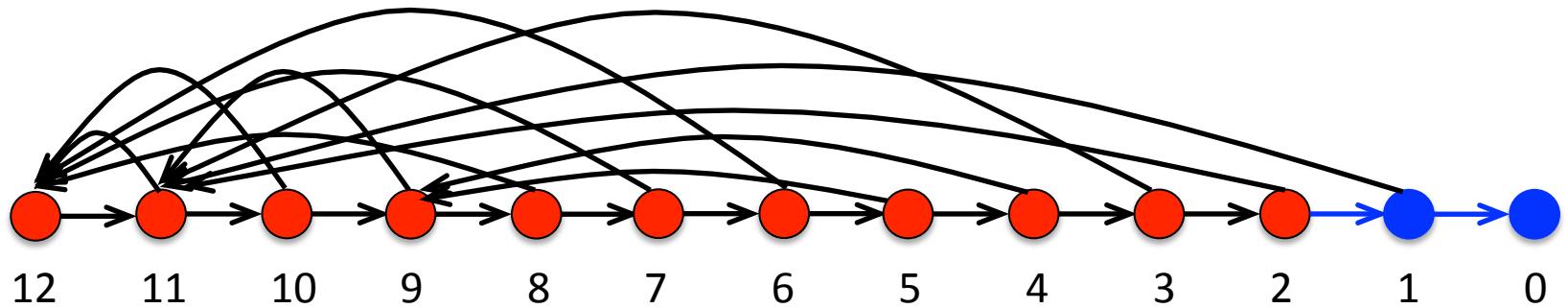


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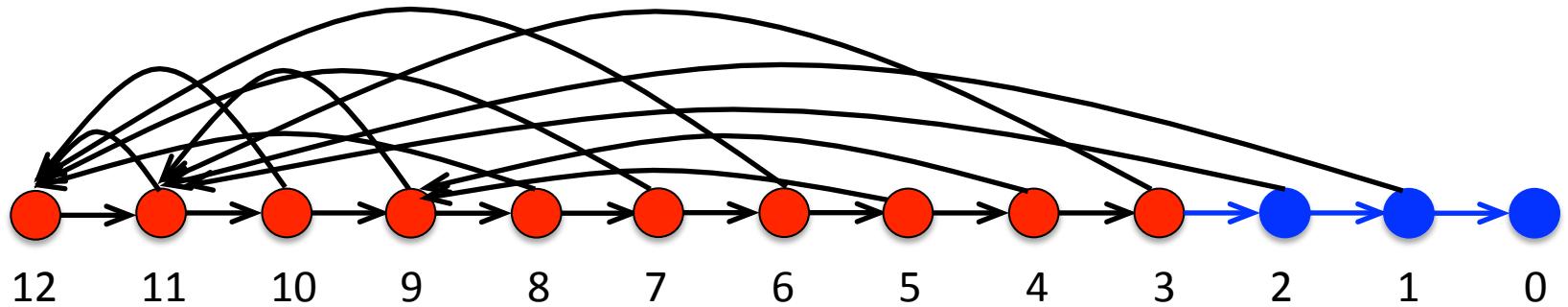


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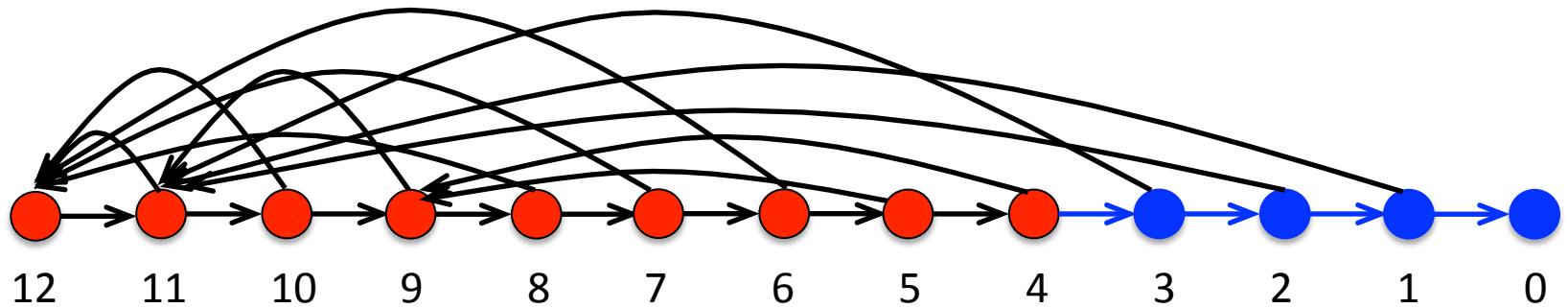
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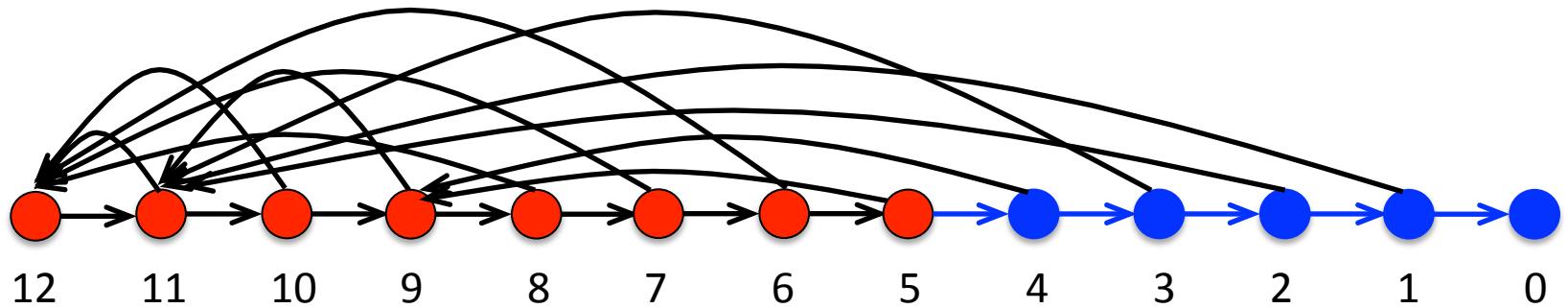
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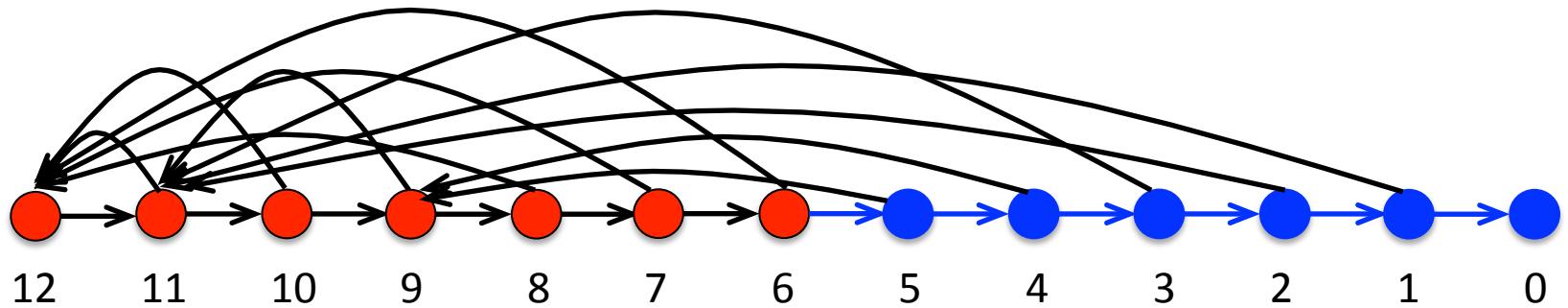


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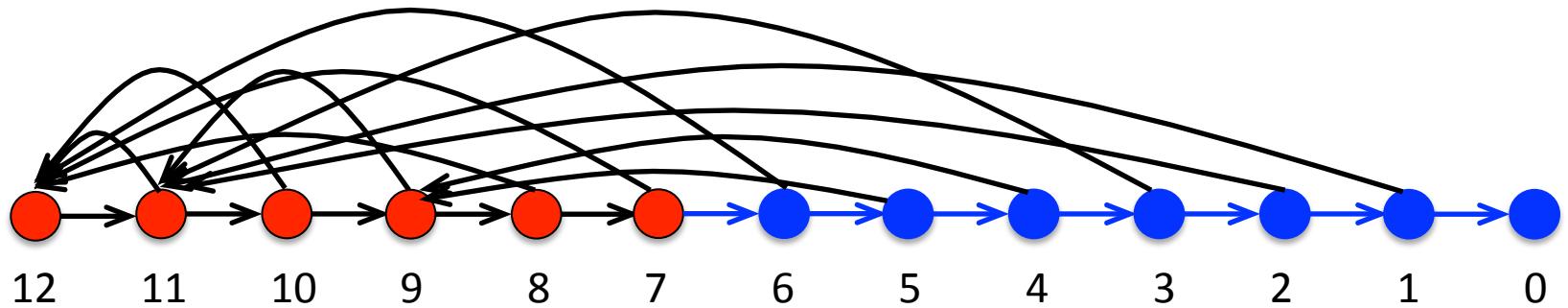


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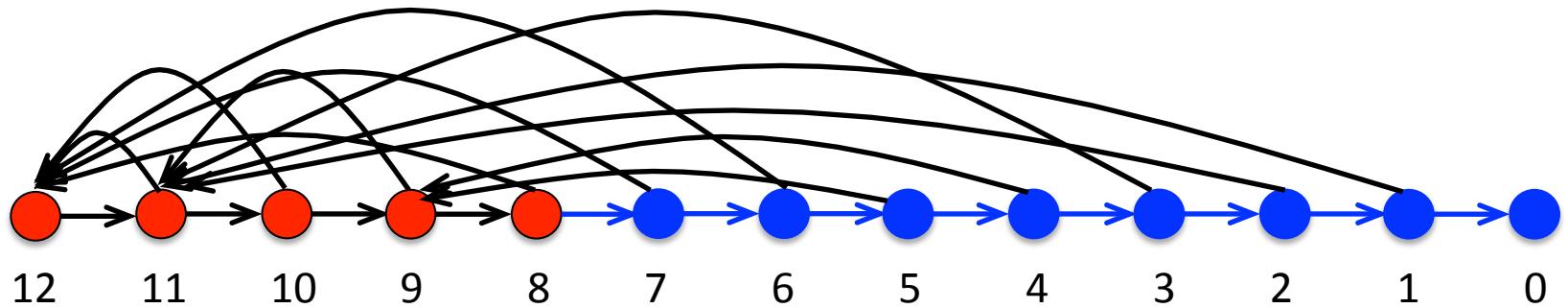
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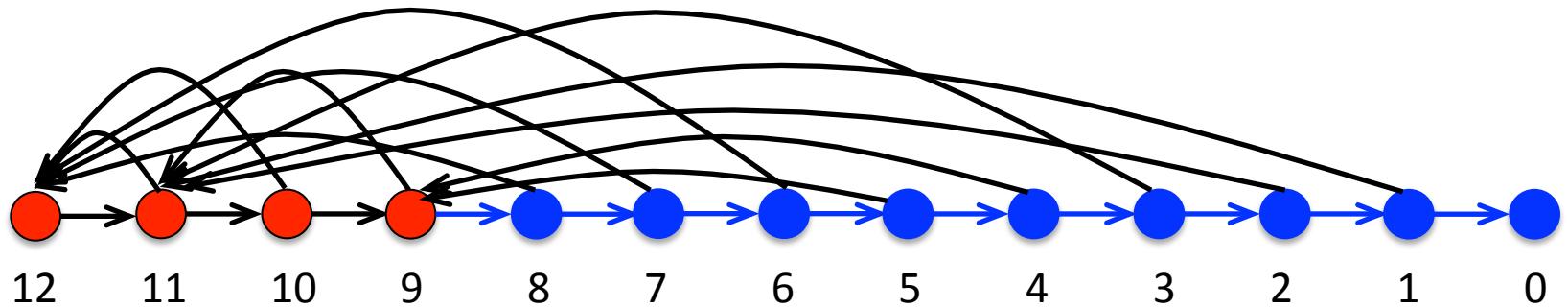


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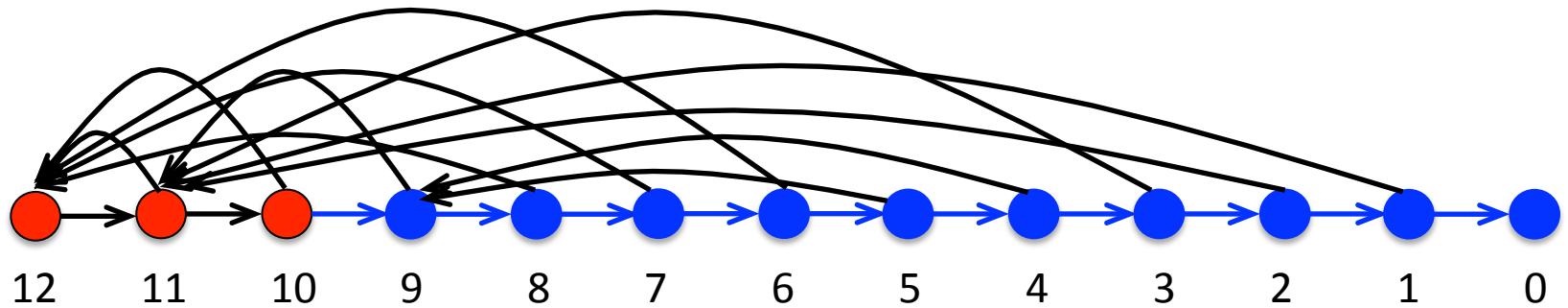
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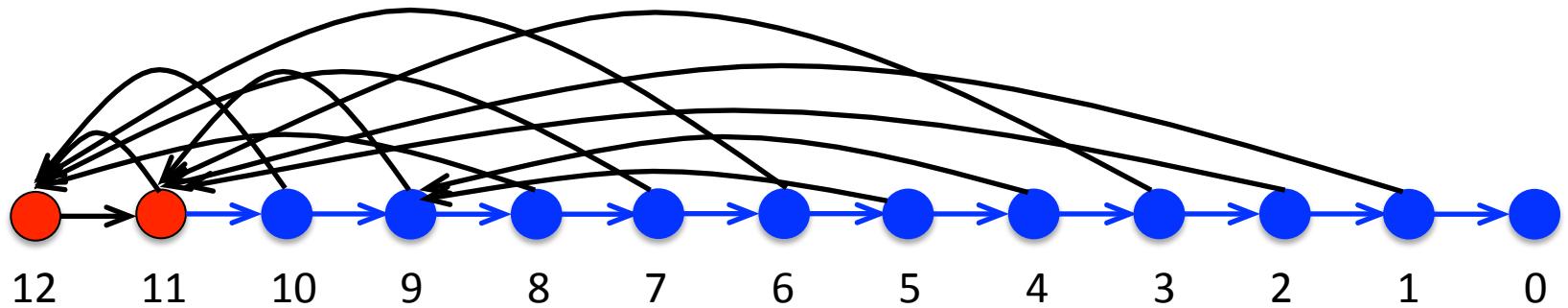
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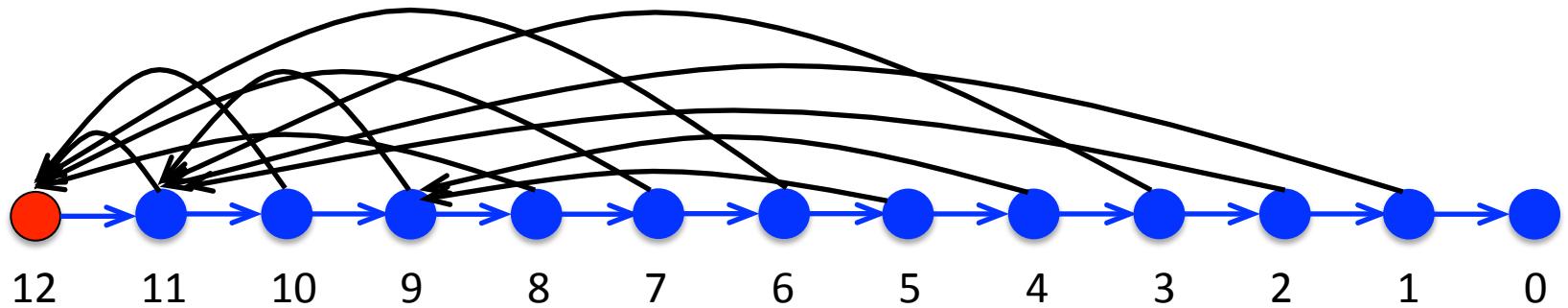


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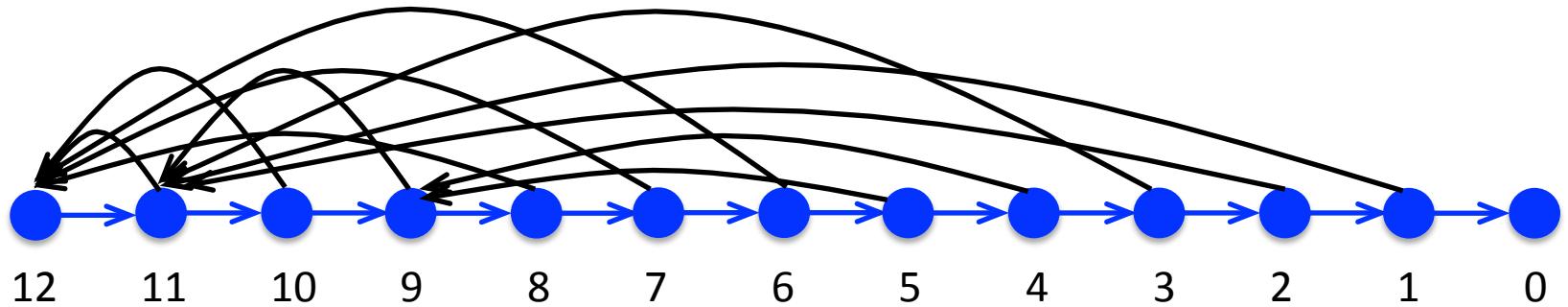


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→ Linear-time algorithm to find the unique Hamiltonian path

# Linear-time recognition

## Procedure 1: Reconstructing the Hamiltonian path

$V_0 \leftarrow \{v \in V(G') \text{ s.t. } |N_{G'}^+| = 0\}; \quad V_1 \leftarrow \{v \in V(G') \text{ s.t. } |N_{G'}^+| = 1\}$

**if**  $|V_0| = 1$  **then**

**let**  $v_0$  be the unique element in  $V_0$

**if**  $|H(v_0)| = 2n + 3$  **then**  $H \leftarrow H(v_0)$ , **return**  $H$

**else if**  $\exists v_1 \in V_1$  such that  $|H(v_0)| + |H(v_1)| = 2n + 3$  **then**

$H \leftarrow H(v_1) \parallel H(v_0)$ , **return**  $H$

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**let**  $v_1, v'_1 \in V_1$  be such that

$|H(v_0)| + |H(v_1)| + |H(v'_1)| = 2n + 3$  and  $N_{G'}^+(first(H(v_1))) \cap H(v'_1) \neq \emptyset$

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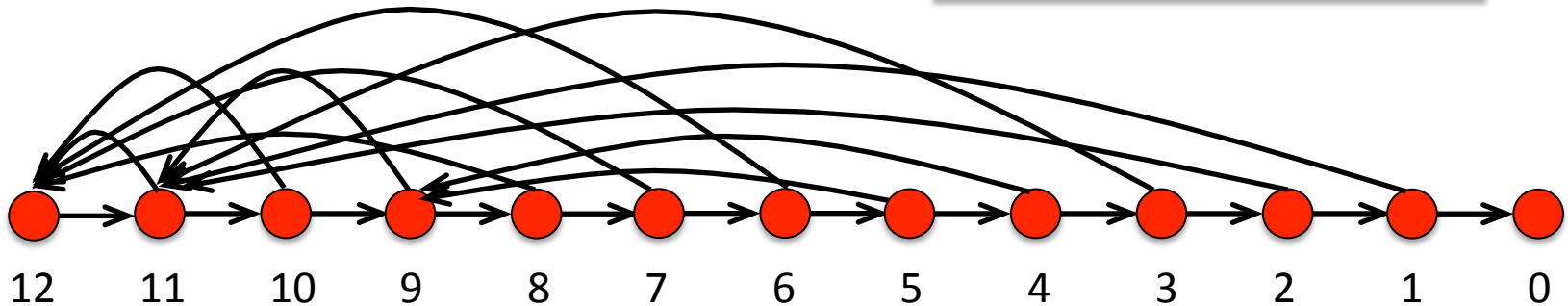
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with  $k \leq 2$   
missing edges

# Our contribution

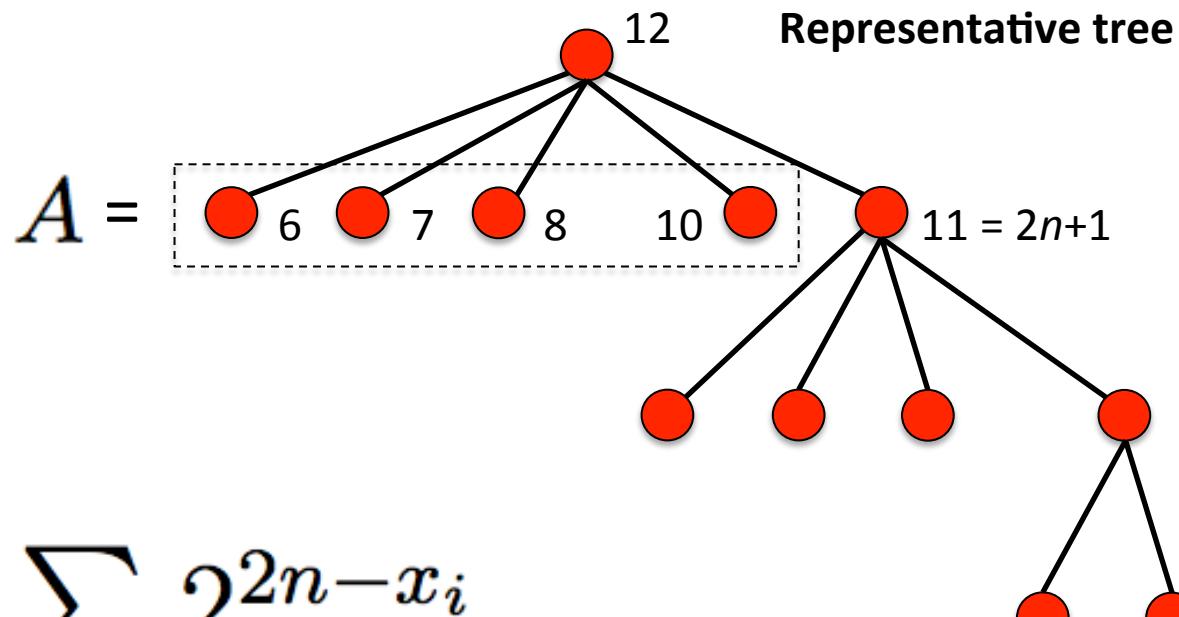
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# A new decoding algorithm

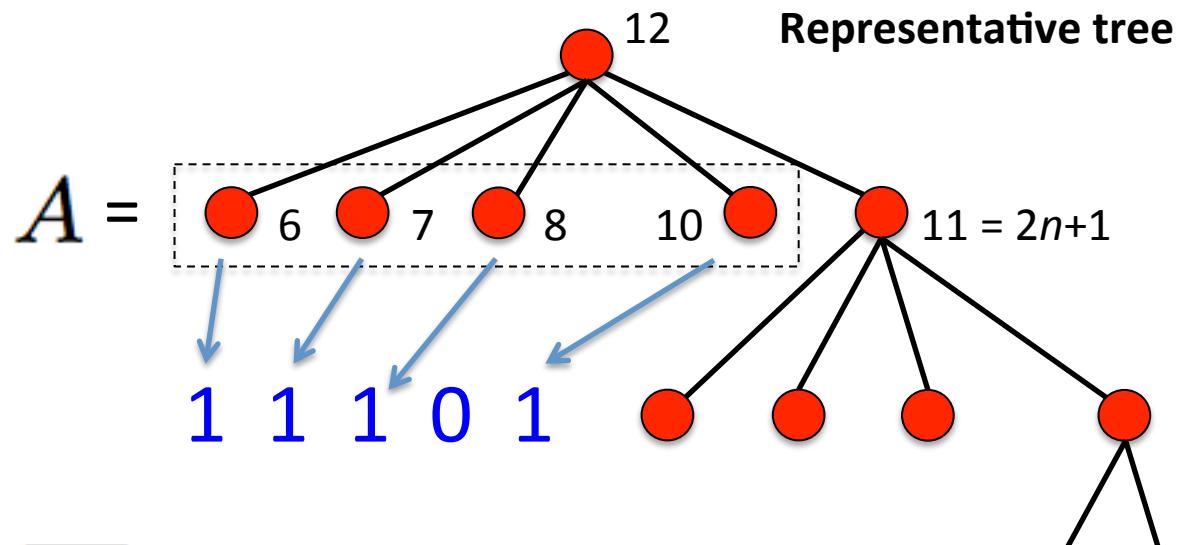
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## Procedure 3: Constructing the set of large ascending vertices

1. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  is connected then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2)$  and terminate the algorithm. Otherwise,
2. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  contains no isolated vertices then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{2n + 1\}$  and terminate the algorithm. Otherwise,
3. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  contains two isolated vertices  $x, x'$  then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{x, x'\}$  and terminate the algorithm. Otherwise,
4. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  contains a unique isolated vertex  $x$  then
  - if  $|N_F^*(f)| = 2n - f + 1$  then
    - let  $y_r$  be the rightmost vertex of  $N_F^*(f)$
    - if  $|N_F(2n + 2)| < y_r$  then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{x, 2n + 1\}$
    - else  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2)$
  - else  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{x\}$

# A new decoding algorithm

1. find the unique Hamiltonian path and label the vertices accordingly
2. find the fixed element  $f$
3. find the set  $A$  of the child nodes of the root of the representative tree that are different from  $2n+1$
4. calculate the key as follows



with  $k \leq 2$   
missing edges

## Procedure 3: Constructing the set of large ascending vertices

1. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  is connected then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2)$  and terminate the algorithm. Otherwise,
2. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  contains no isolated vertices then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{2n + 1\}$  and terminate the algorithm. Otherwise,
3. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  contains two isolated vertices  $x, x'$  then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{x, x'\}$  and terminate the algorithm. Otherwise,
4. If  $F[X_c] \cup \{2n + 2\}$  contains a unique isolated vertex  $x$  then
  - if  $|N_F^*(f)| = 2n - f + 1$  then
    - let  $y_r$  be the rightmost vertex of  $N_F^*(f)$
    - if  $|N_F(2n + 2)| < y_r$  then  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{x, 2n + 1\}$
    - else  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2)$
  - else  $A \leftarrow N_F(2n + 2) \cup \{x\}$

# A new decoding algorithm

1. find the unique Hamiltonian path and label the vertices accordingly
2. find the fixed element  $f$
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# A new decoding algorithm

1. find the unique Hamiltonian path and label the vertices accordingly
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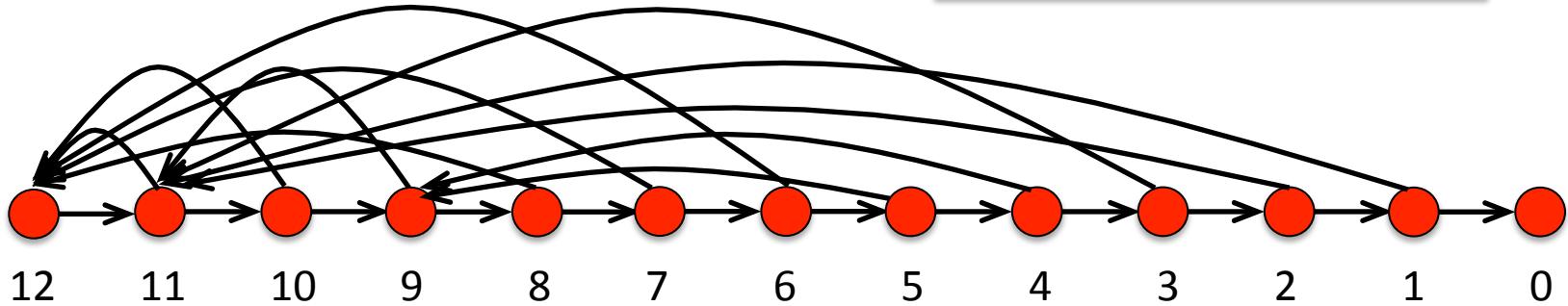
## Experimental results

$n$ bits	former alg.	our alg.	our alg. (-1 edge)	our alg. (-2 edges)
5	82.2 (4.4) $\mu$ s	56.5 (3.2) $\mu$ s	63.9 (6.7) $\mu$ s	78.0 (16.4) $\mu$ s
10	132.3 (9.3) $\mu$ s	95.7 (5.8) $\mu$ s	104.2 (9.4) $\mu$ s	122.8 (24.8) $\mu$ s
20	240.9 (11.8) $\mu$ s	177.5 (9.7) $\mu$ s	190.7 (17.4) $\mu$ s	219.9 (44.9) $\mu$ s
30	357.7 (14.4) $\mu$ s	268.9 (13.2) $\mu$ s	281.3 (18.2) $\mu$ s	328.1 (66.0) $\mu$ s
100	1406.7 (45.7) $\mu$ s	1135.4 (39.5) $\mu$ s	1151.2 (89.8) $\mu$ s	1248.5 (260.4) $\mu$ s

average time (standard deviation)

# Our contribution

B., B., M., S., S. (WG 2013)

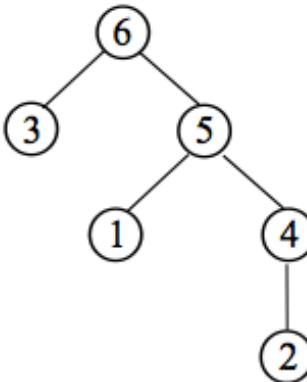
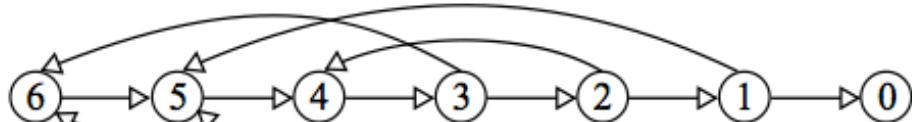


1. **formal definition of the class of *canonical reducible permutation graphs***  
(precisely the graphs produced by Chroni and Nikolopoulos's encoding algorithm)
2. **characterization and linear-time recognition algorithm** for such graphs
3. a **new linear-time decoding algorithm** (graph  $\rightarrow$  integer key)  
simpler, marginally faster and able to retrieve the correct key even after the malicious removal of  $k \leq 2$  edges
4. a **tight bound for the resilience of the codec** against edge removals

# Resilience against edge modifications

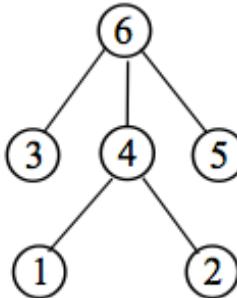
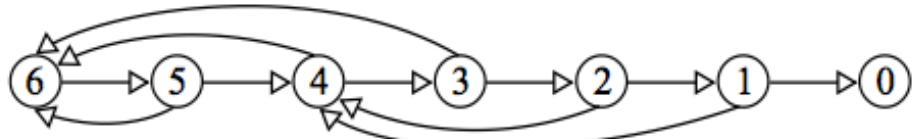
$\omega = 2$

( $B = 10$ )



$\omega = 3$

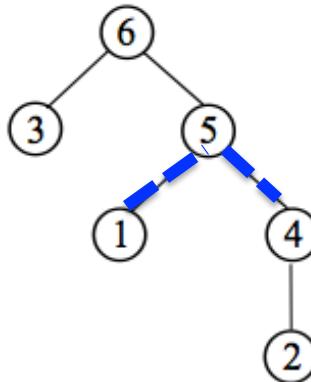
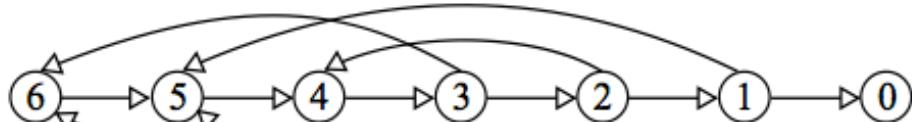
( $B = 11$ )



# Resilience against edge modifications

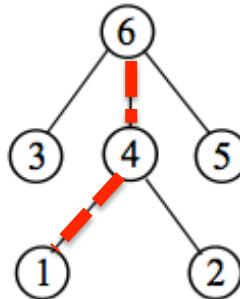
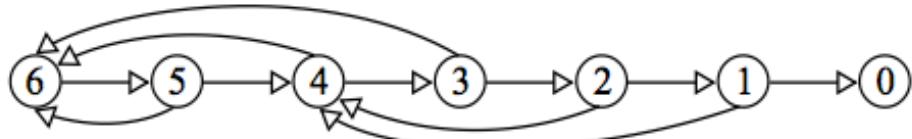
$\omega = 2$

( $B = 10$ )



$\omega = 3$

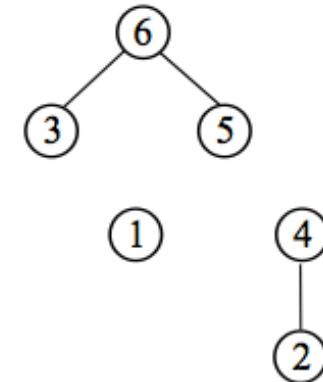
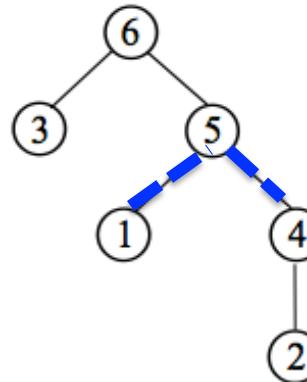
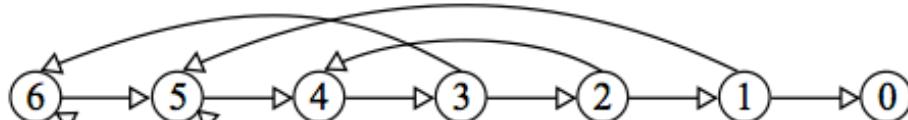
( $B = 11$ )



# Resilience against edge modifications

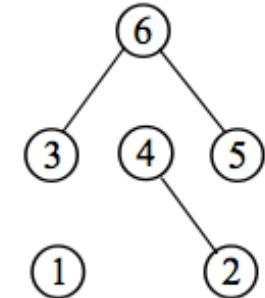
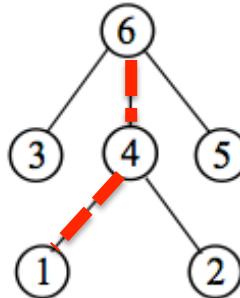
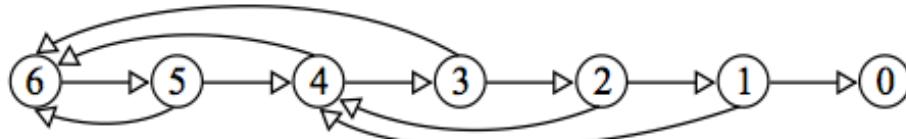
$\omega = 2$

( $B = 10$ )



$\omega = 3$

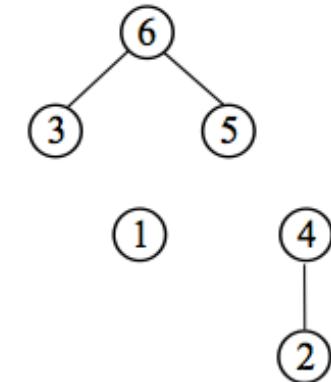
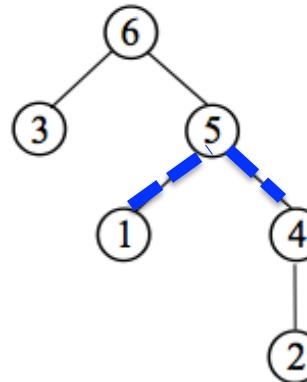
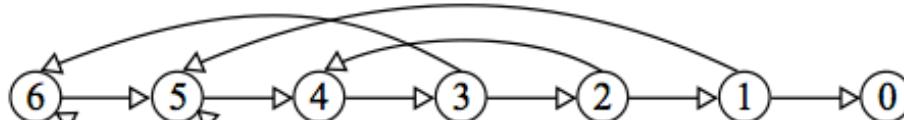
( $B = 11$ )



# Resilience against edge modifications

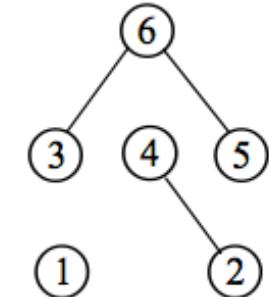
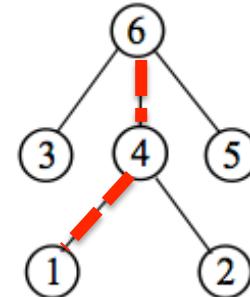
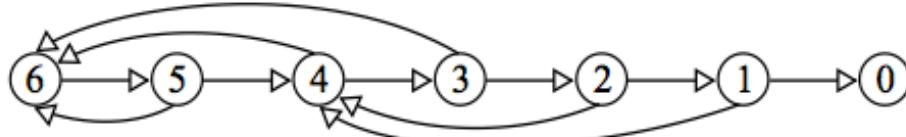
$$\omega = 2$$

$$(B = 10)$$

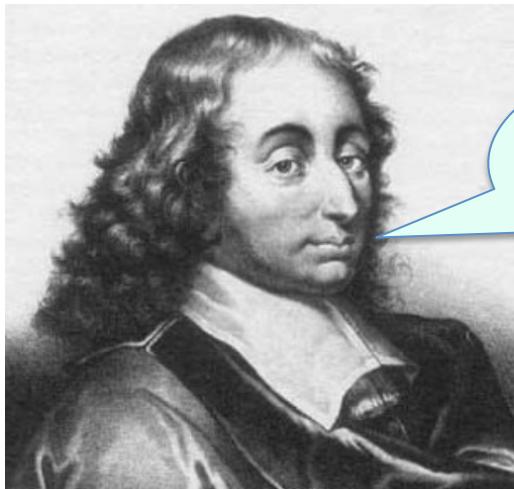


$$\omega = 3$$

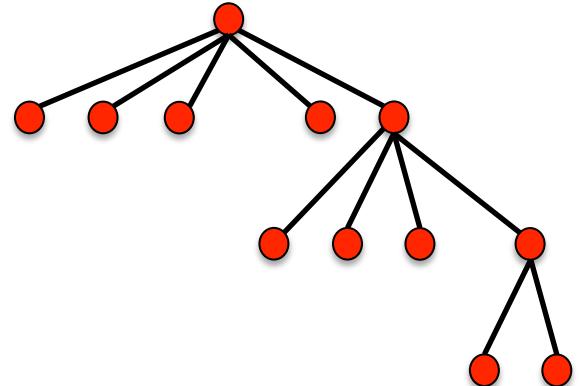
$$(B = 11)$$



For  $n > 2$  bits, it is possible to detect up to 5 edge insertions/deletions in polynomial time.  
**This bound is tight.**



Danke schön!



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# Towards a provably resilient scheme for graph-based watermarking

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Raphael Carlos Santos Machado

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