

# Burning Number

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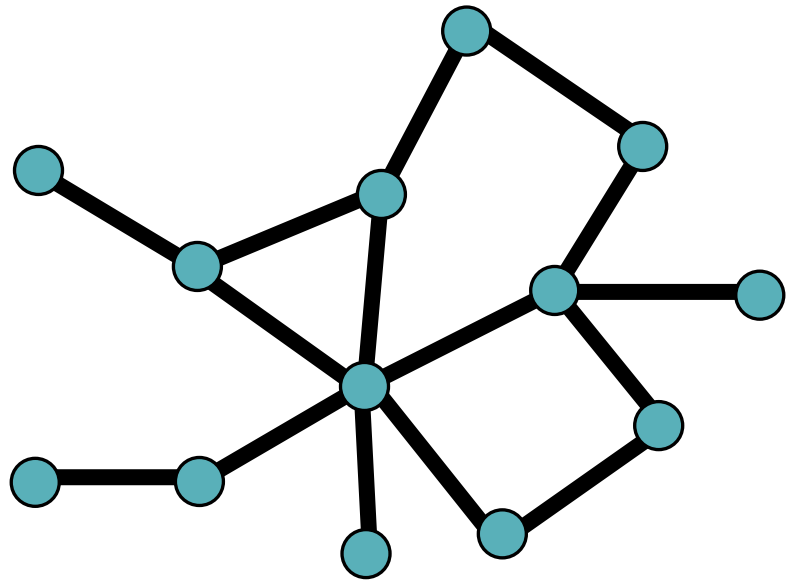
Computer Science Institute of Charles University in Prague



# How to burn a graph

## Burning process

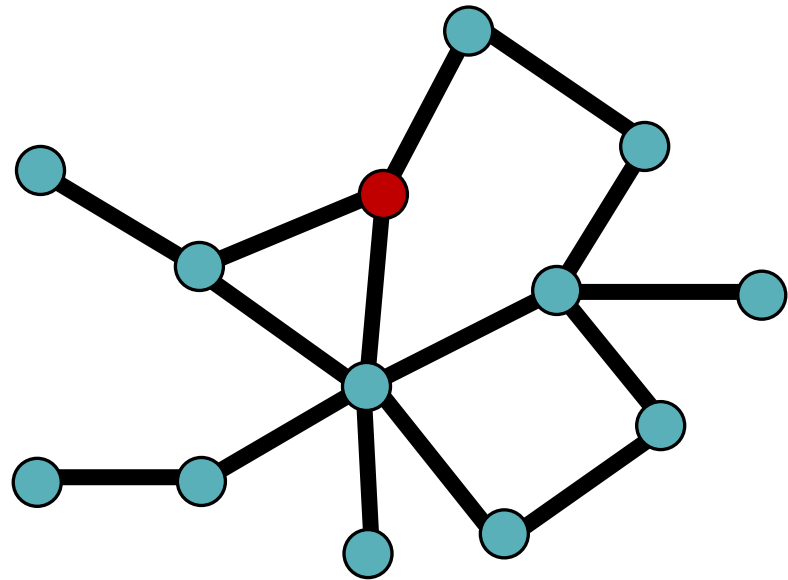
1) All vertices are unburnt



# How to burn a graph

## Burning process

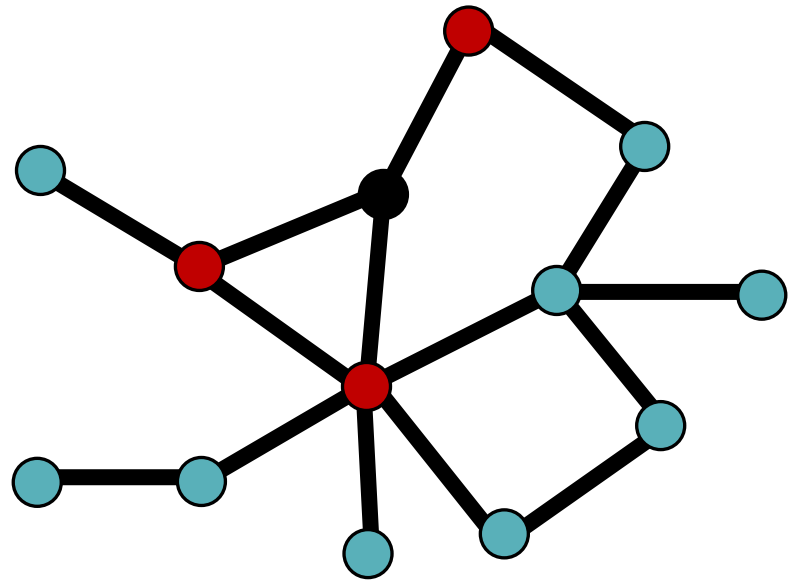
- 1) All vertices are unburnt
- 2) Choose a vertex to burn



# How to burn a graph

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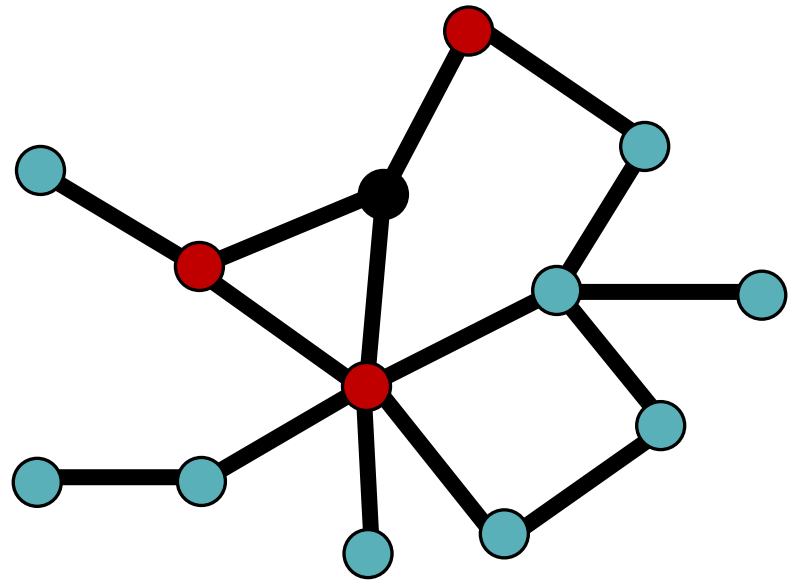
- 1) All vertices are unburnt
- 2) Choose a vertex to burn
- 3) Every burning vertex burns its neighbors



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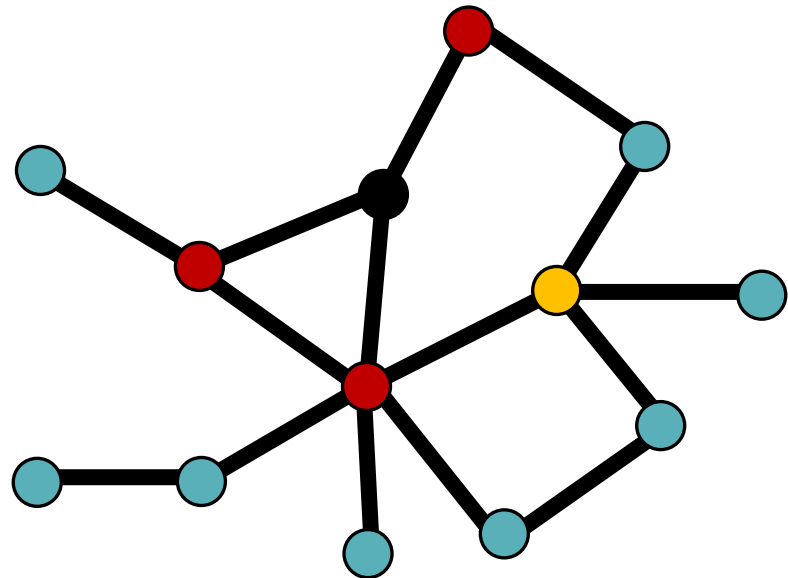
- 1) All vertices are unburnt
- 2) Choose a vertex to burn
- 3) Every burning vertex burns its neighbors
- 4) Repeat until all the vertices are burnt



# How to burn a graph

## Burning process

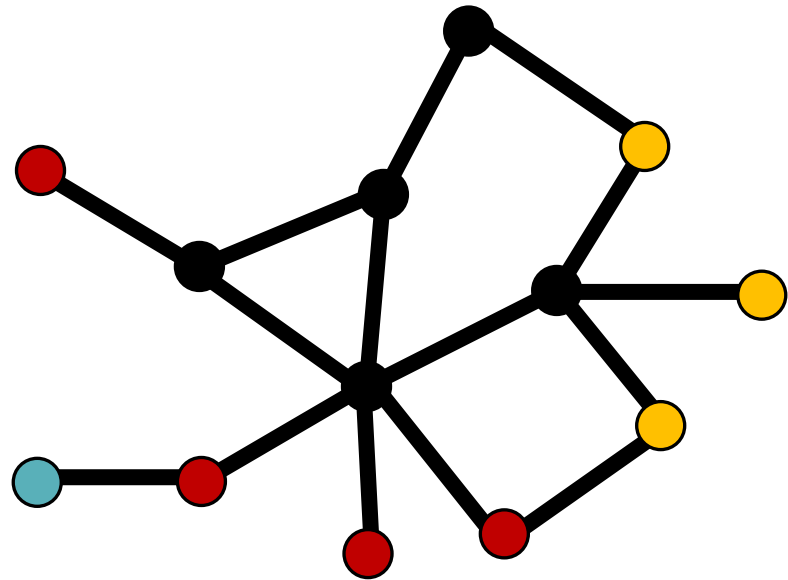
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## Burning process

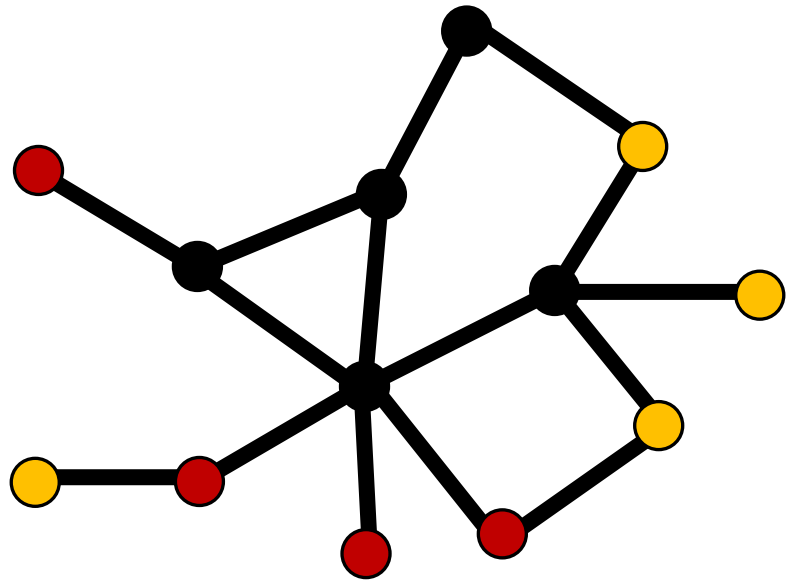
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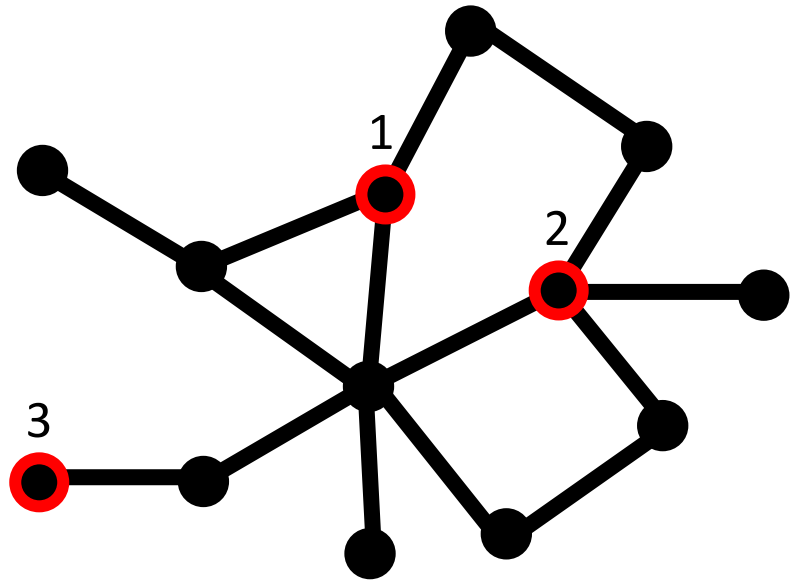




# How to burn a graph

## Burning process

- 1) All vertices are unburnt
- 2) Choose a vertex to burn
- 3) Every burning vertex burns its neighbors
- 4) Repeat until all the vertices are burnt



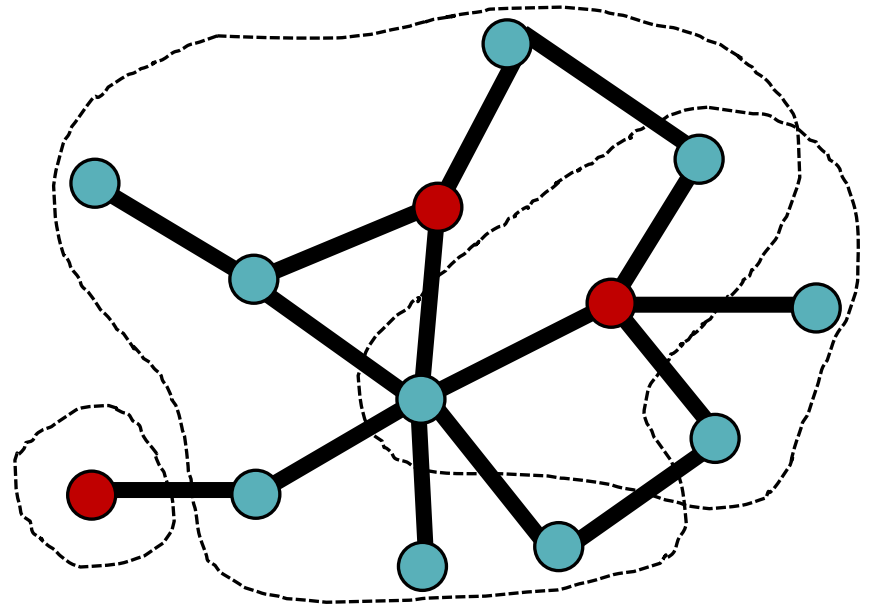
This graph can be burnt in 3 steps  
using marked sequence of vertex choices

# Burning number

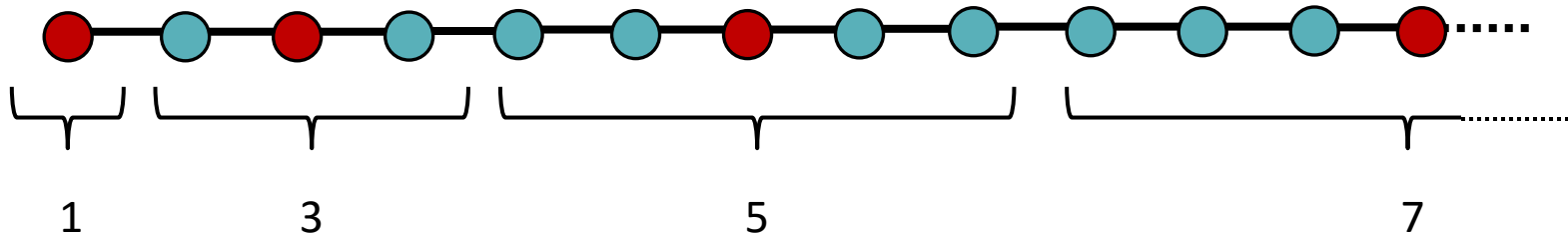
Definition: Burning number of a graph  $G$  is the minimum number of burning steps required to burn a graph.

Definition: Burning number of a graph  $G$  is the length of the shortest burning sequence.

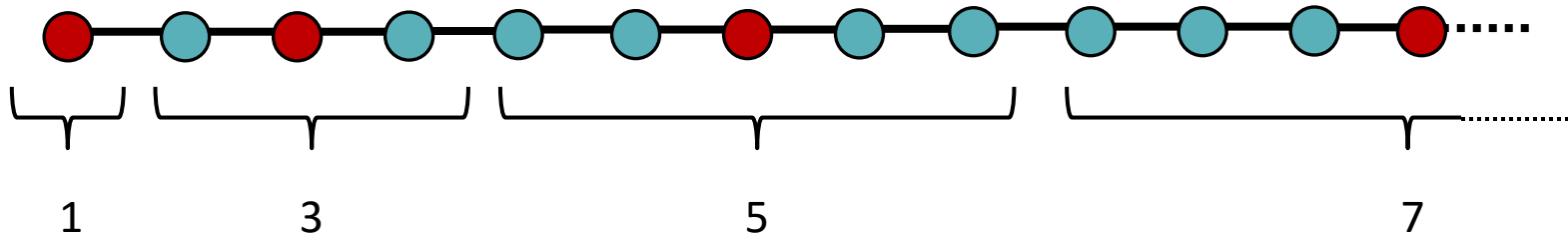
Definition: Burning number of a graph  $G$  is the size of minimum dominating set with increasing radius of dominance



# Burning a path

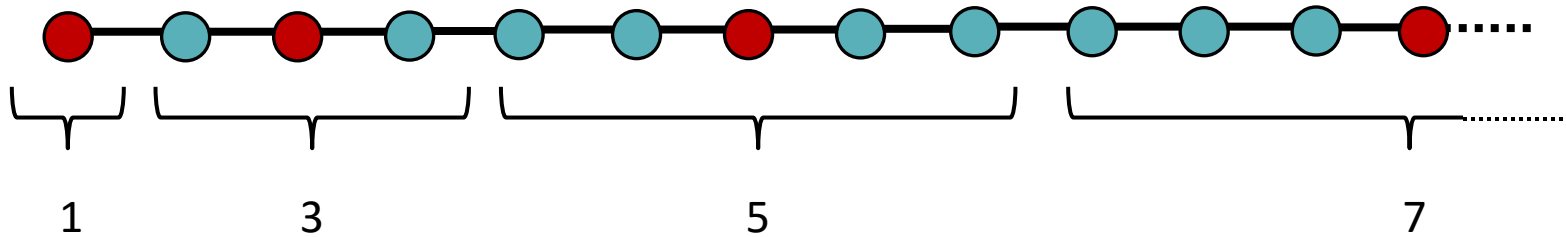


# Burning a path



$$\sum_{i=1}^k (2i - 1)$$

# Burning a path



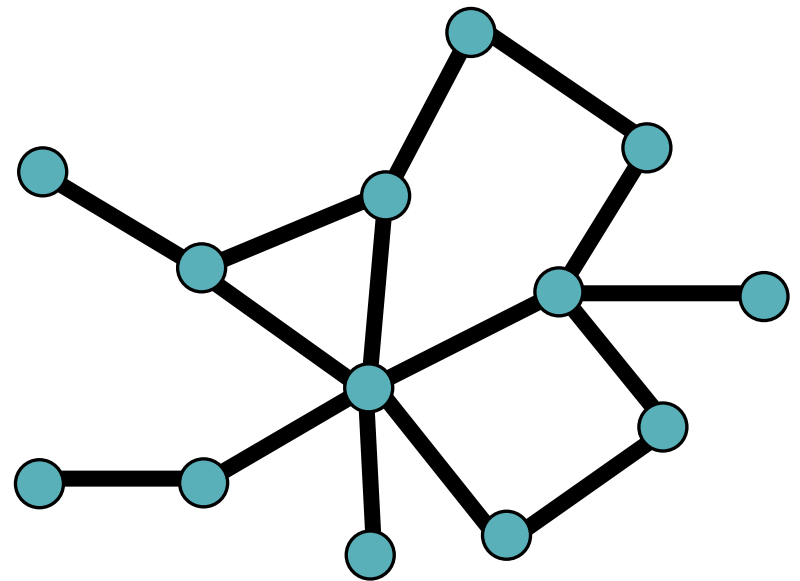
$$\sum_{i=1}^k (2i - 1) = k^2$$

Observation: Burning number of a path (or cycle) on  $n$  vertices is  $\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$ .

Hypothesis: Burning number of any graph on  $n$  vertices is at most  $\lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$ .

# Simple upper bound

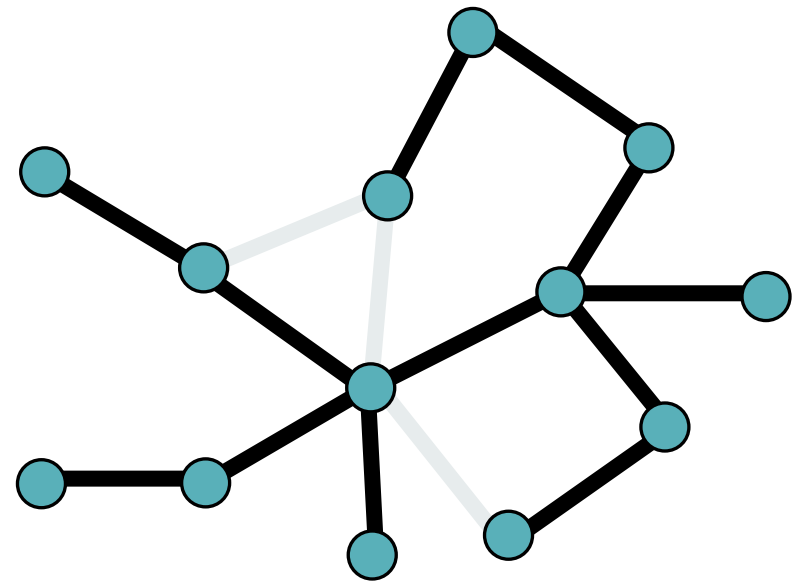
Theorem: Burning number of any graph is at most  $\lceil \sqrt{2n} \rceil$ .



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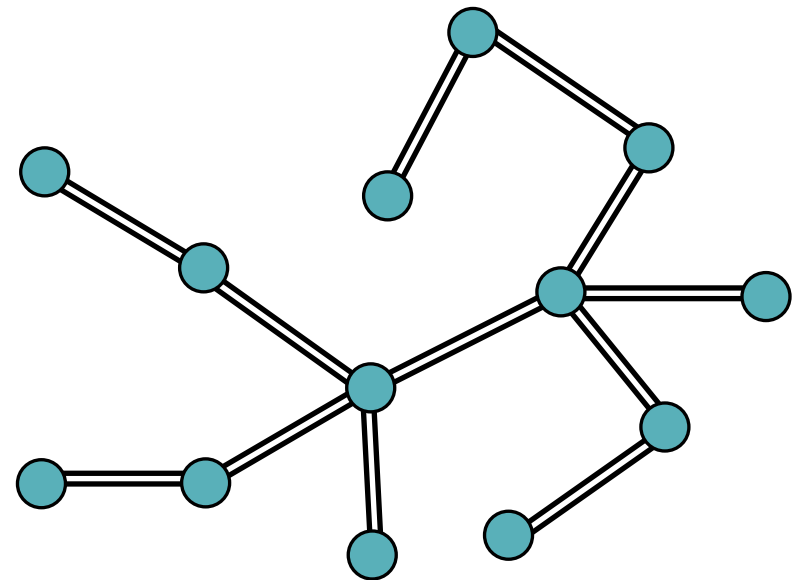
1) Take a spanning tree of a graph



# Simple upper bound

Theorem: Burning number of any graph is at most  $\lceil \sqrt{2n} \rceil$ .

- 1) Take a spanning tree of a graph
- 2) Double all edges

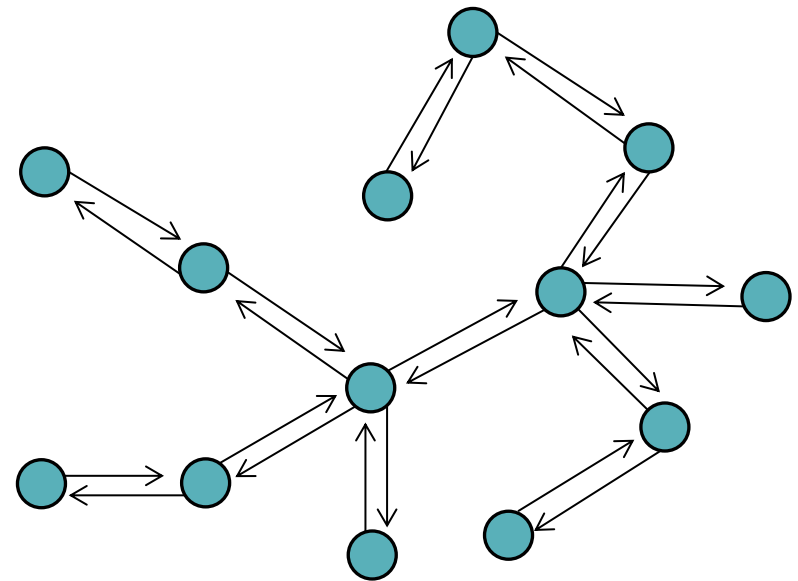




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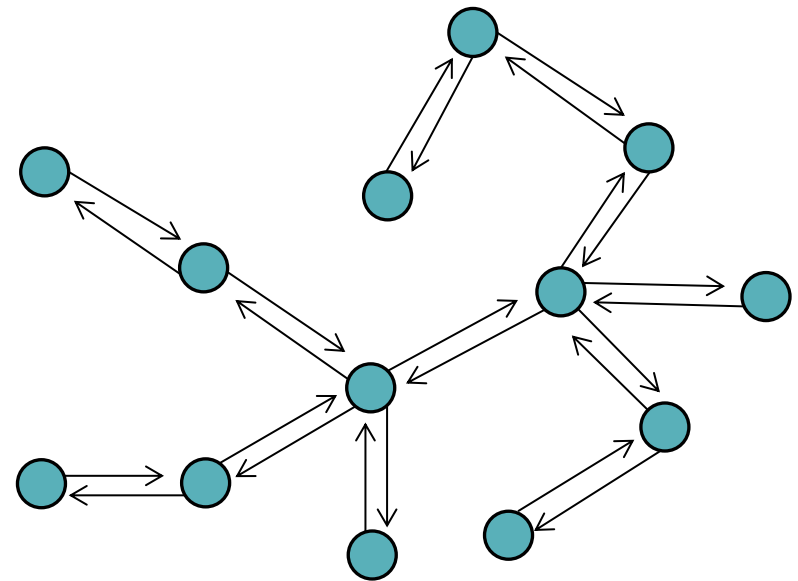
- 1) Take a spanning tree of a graph
- 2) Double all edges
- 3) Find an Eulerian cycle
- 4) Cycle has  $2n-2$  vertices



# Simple upper bound

Theorem: Burning number of any graph is at most  $\lceil \sqrt{2n} \rceil$ .

- 1) Take a spanning tree of a graph
- 2) Double all edges
- 3) Find an Eulerian cycle
- 4) Cycle has  $2n-2$  vertices
- 5) Resulting cycle can now be burned same as on the previous slide using  $\lceil \sqrt{2n-2} \rceil$  vertices



## Known upper bounds

$$bn(G) \leq \sqrt{\frac{32}{19} \frac{n}{1-\varepsilon}} + \sqrt{\frac{27}{19\varepsilon}} \quad \text{for any } 0 < \varepsilon < 1$$

$$bn(G) \leq \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil + n_{\geq 3} \quad n_{\geq 3} \text{ is the number of vertices of degree at least 3}$$

$$bn(G) \leq \left\lceil \sqrt{n + n_2 + \frac{1}{4}} + \frac{1}{2} \right\rceil \quad n_2 \text{ is the number of vertices of degree 2}$$

# Sources

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Burning a graph is hard, Preprint 2015

A. Bonato, J. Janssen, E. Roshanbin,  
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Approximation, and Hardness for the Burning Number, arXiv:1511.06023

## Thank You