

# Metric Dimension and a Puzzle on a Chessboard

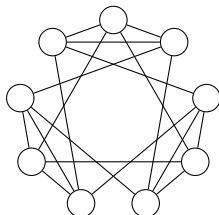
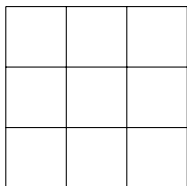
Briana Foster-Greenwood  
Christine Uhl

Cal Poly Pomona  
St. Bonaventure University

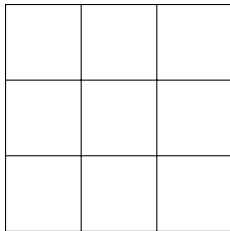
CSU Mathematical Conference  
Northridge, California  
November 11 - 12, 2022

# Chapter 1: The Puzzle

*in which a puzzle on a chessboard is seen to be equivalent to a problem on a graph*

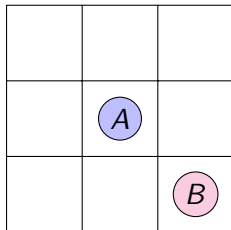


## Puzzle: Location on a Chessboard



$3 \times 3$  board

## Puzzle: Location on a Chessboard



*Place landmarks in some of the cells*

## Puzzle: Location on a Chessboard

|   |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|
|   | A        | B        |
| A | <b>A</b> | A, B     |
| B | A, B     | <b>B</b> |

*Label each remaining cell with list of landmarks seen from that cell, i.e., appearing in the same row or column*

## Puzzle: Location on a Chessboard

|          |             |             |
|----------|-------------|-------------|
|          | <i>A</i>    | <i>B</i>    |
| <i>A</i> | <i>A</i>    | <i>A, B</i> |
| <i>B</i> | <i>A, B</i> | <i>B</i>    |

*Is the board resolved?*

## Puzzle: Location on a Chessboard

|   |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|
|   | A        | B        |
| A | <b>A</b> | A, B     |
| B | A, B     | <b>B</b> |

*Is the board resolved? No! Some cells see the same set of landmarks.*




## Puzzle: Location on a Chessboard

|          |             |             |
|----------|-------------|-------------|
|          | <i>A</i>    | <i>B</i>    |
| <i>A</i> | <i>A</i>    | <i>A, B</i> |
| <i>B</i> | <i>A, B</i> | <i>B</i>    |

*How many landmarks are needed to resolve the board?*

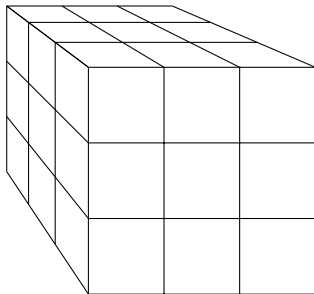


## Puzzle: Location on a Chessboard

|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
|      | A   | B, C  |
| A, C |  |  |
| B    | A, B  |  |

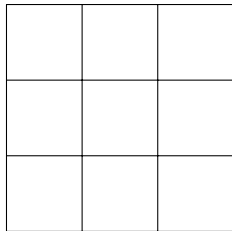
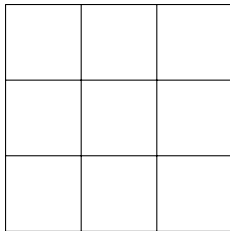
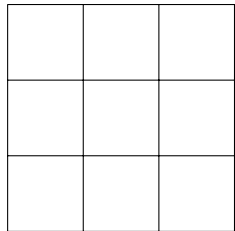
*We can resolve the  $3 \times 3$  board with 3 landmarks, and no fewer.*

## Puzzle: Location on a 3D-Chessboard



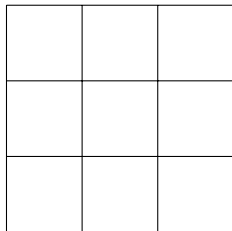
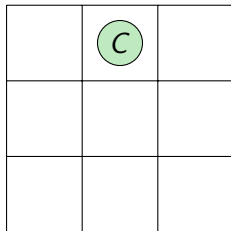
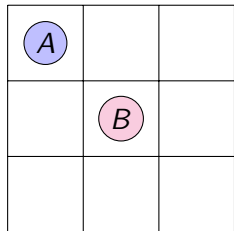
$3 \times 3 \times 3$  board

## Puzzle: Location on a 3D-Chessboard



$3 \times 3 \times 3$  board

## Puzzle: Location on a 3D-Chessboard



*Place landmarks in some of the cells*

## Puzzle: Location on a 3D-Chessboard

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| A | A | A |
| A | A | A |
| A | A | A |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| A | A | A |
| A |   |   |
| A |   |   |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| A | A | A |
| A |   |   |
| A |   |   |

*Label each remaining cell with list of landmarks seen from that cell,  
i.e., appearing in the same row, column, or layer*

## Puzzle: Location on a 3D-Chessboard

|          |          |         |
|----------|----------|---------|
| <b>A</b> | A, B, C  | A, B, C |
| A, B     | <b>B</b> | A, B    |
| A, B     | A, B, C  | A, B    |

|         |          |      |
|---------|----------|------|
| A, C    | <b>C</b> | A, C |
| A, B, C | B, C     | B, C |
| A, C    | B, C     | C    |

|      |         |      |
|------|---------|------|
| A, C | A, B, C | A, C |
| A, B | B, C    | B    |
| A    | B, C    |      |

*Is the board resolved?*

## Puzzle: Location on a 3D-Chessboard

|          |          |         |
|----------|----------|---------|
| <b>A</b> | A, B, C  | A, B, C |
| A, B     | <b>B</b> | A, B    |
| A, B     | A, B, C  | A, B    |

|         |          |      |
|---------|----------|------|
| A, C    | <b>C</b> | A, C |
| A, B, C | B, C     | B, C |
| A, C    | B, C     | C    |

|      |         |      |
|------|---------|------|
| A, C | A, B, C | A, C |
| A, B | B, C    | B    |
| A    | B, C    |      |

*Is the board resolved? No! Some cells see the same set of landmarks.*

## Puzzle: Location on a 3D-Chessboard

|          |          |         |
|----------|----------|---------|
| <b>A</b> | A, B, C  | A, B, C |
| A, B     | <b>B</b> | A, B    |
| A, B     | A, B, C  | A, B    |




|         |          |      |
|---------|----------|------|
| A, C    | <b>C</b> | A, C |
| A, B, C | B, C     | B, C |
| A, C    | B, C     | C    |

|      |         |      |
|------|---------|------|
| A, C | A, B, C | A, C |
| A, B | B, C    | B    |
| A    | B, C    |      |

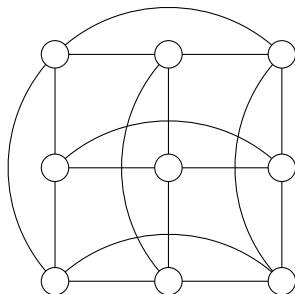
*How many landmarks are needed to resolve the board?*



## 2D Puzzle and Metric Dimension of a Graph

|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
|      | A   | B, C  |
| A, C |  |  |
| B    | A, B  |  |

$3 \times 3$  puzzle



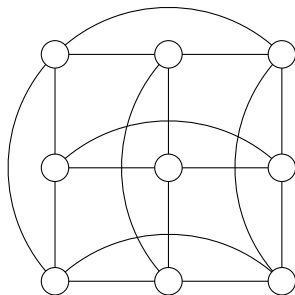
$K_3 \square K_3$

*How many landmarks are needed to resolve the graph?*

## 2D Puzzle and Metric Dimension of a Graph

|     |          |          |
|-----|----------|----------|
| 222 | 122      | 211      |
| 121 | <b>A</b> | <b>C</b> |
| 212 | 112      | <b>B</b> |




$3 \times 3$  puzzle



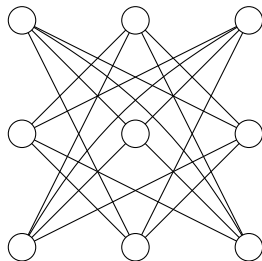
$K_3 \square K_3$

*How many landmarks are needed to resolve the graph?*

## 2D Puzzle and Metric Dimension of a Graph

|     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 111 | 211   | 122   |
| 212 |  |  |
| 121 | 221   |  |

$3 \times 3$  puzzle



$K_3 \times K_3$

*How many landmarks are needed to resolve the graph?*

## Metric Dimension of $K_m \square K_n$

Theorem (Cáceres, et.al., 2007)

*The metric dimension of  $K_m \square K_n$  is*

$$\dim(K_m \square K_n) = \begin{cases} \lfloor \frac{2}{3}(m+n-1) \rfloor & \text{if } m \leq n \leq 2m-1 \\ n-1 & \text{if } n \geq 2m-1 \end{cases}$$



**Note:** For  $m, n \geq 3$ , the Cartesian product  $K_m \square K_n$  and the direct product  $K_m \times K_n$  have the same minimum resolving sets and metric dimension.




## Metric Dimension of $K_m \square K_n$

### Theorem (Cáceres, et al., 2007)

For  $m, n \geq 2$ , a placement of landmarks resolves the  $m \times n$  board iff

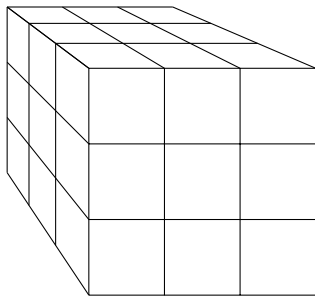
- ▶ there is at most one empty row and at most one empty column
- ▶ there is at most one lonely landmark
- ▶ if there is an empty row and an empty column, then there is no lonely landmark

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   | A   | B   |
| A |  | A, B  |
| B | A, B  |  |

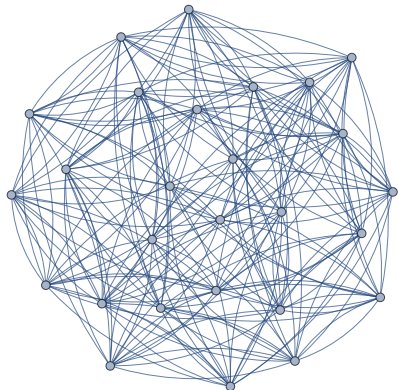
|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
|      | A   | B, C  |
| A, C |  |  |
| B    | A, B  |  |

# 3D Puzzle and Metric Dimension of a Graph

*What is the metric dimension of a direct product of three complete graphs?*



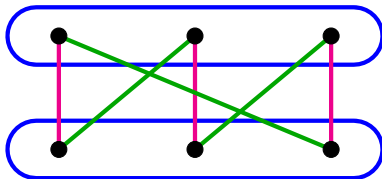
$3 \times 3 \times 3$  board



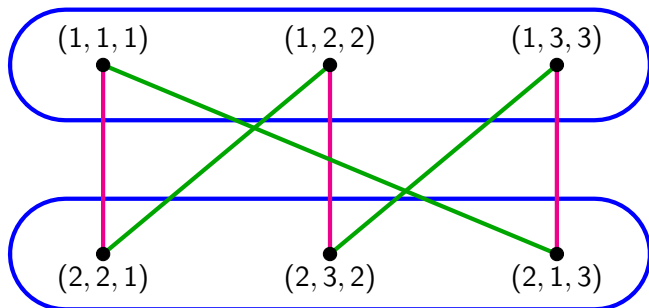
$K_3 \times K_3 \times K_3$

## Chapter 2: The Landmark Hypergraph

*in which we graph relationships between landmarks and use edge coloring to characterize resolving sets*



# Defining the Landmark Hypergraph

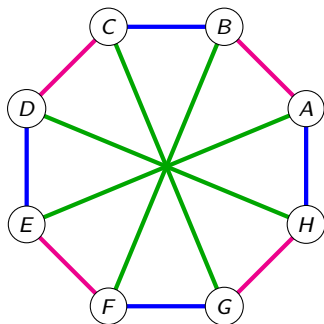
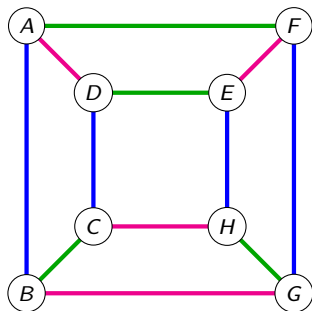


*Landmark hypergraph of  $W \subseteq V(K_3^3)$*

*Hyperedges group landmarks with a common coordinate:  
blue (1st coordinate), green (2nd coordinate), pink (3rd coordinate)*



# Make a Guess!

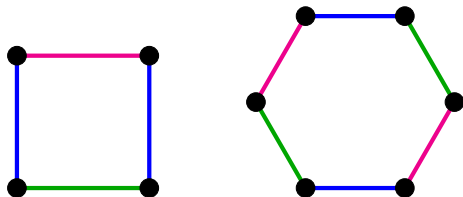


*Which could be the landmark graph of a resolving set for  $K_4^3$ ?*

# Forbidden Subgraph Theorem

## Theorem (F-G., Uhl, 2022)

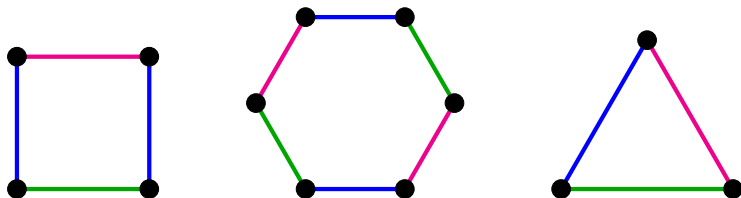
*Suppose the landmark graph of  $W \subseteq V(K_n^3)$  is a simple graph with  $n$  edges of each color. Then  $W$  resolves  $K_n^3$  if and only if the landmark graph of  $W$  avoids forbidden 4-cycles and forbidden 6-cycles.*



# Forbidden Subgraph Theorem

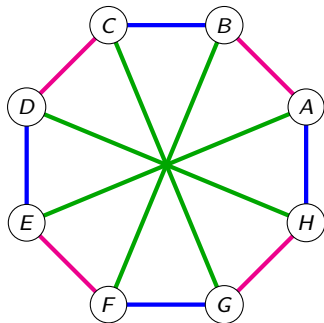
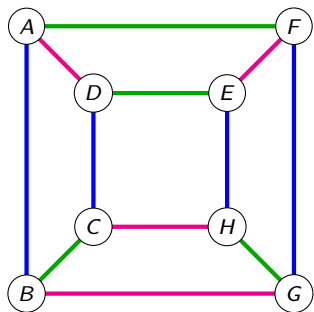
## Theorem (F-G., Uhl, 2022)

*Suppose the landmark graph of  $W \subseteq V(K_n^3)$  is a simple graph with  $n$  edges of each color. Then  $W$  resolves  $K_n^3$  if and only if the landmark graph of  $W$  avoids forbidden 4-cycles and forbidden 6-cycles.*



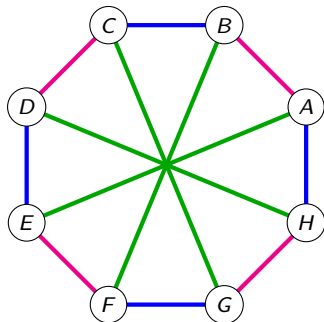
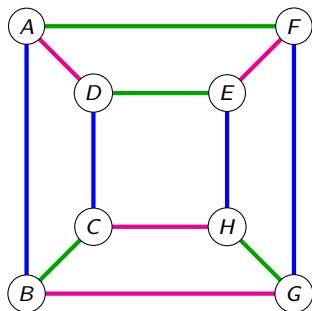
Bonus! If the landmark graph also avoids rainbow triangles, then  $W \cup \{(n+1, n+1, n+1)\}$  resolves  $K_{n+1}^3$ .

# Forbidden Subgraphs



*Which could be the landmark graph of a resolving set for  $K_4^3$ ?*

# Forbidden Subgraphs

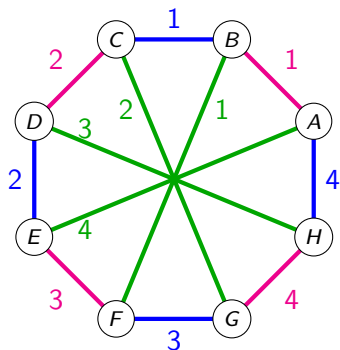


*Which could be the landmark graph of a resolving set for  $K_4^3$ ?  
Not the cube. The Möbius graph!*

## Chapter 3: Metric Dimension of $K_n^3$

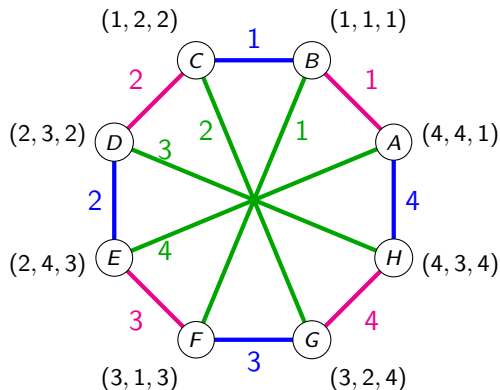
*in which we construct minimum resolving sets of  $K_n^3$   
and show the metric dimension is  $2n - 1$  (usually)*

# Solving the $4 \times 4 \times 4$ Puzzle



*Given graph that avoids forbidden 4-cycles and forbidden 6-cycles. . .  
Number edges of each color 1–4 and determine coordinates of landmarks.*

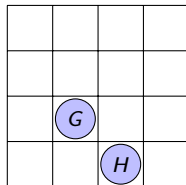
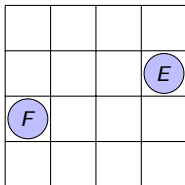
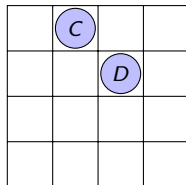
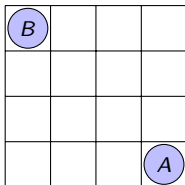
# Solving the $4 \times 4 \times 4$ Puzzle



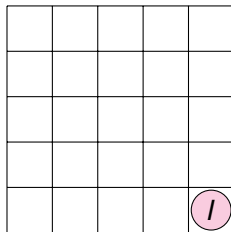
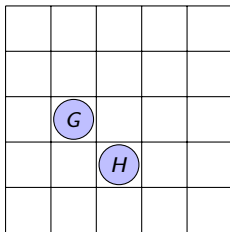
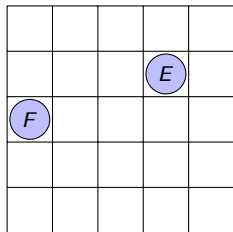
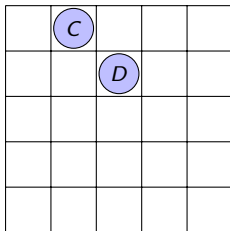
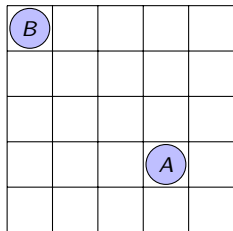
*Given graph that avoids forbidden 4-cycles and forbidden 6-cycles. . .  
Number edges of each color 1–4 and determine coordinates of landmarks.*



# Puzzle Solution ( $4 \times 4 \times 4$ board)



# Puzzle Solution (5 × 5 × 5 board)

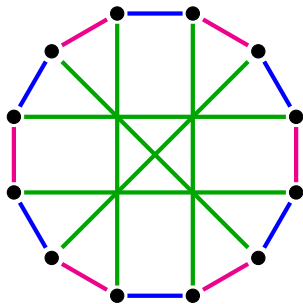


# Metric Dimension of $K_n \times K_n \times K_n$

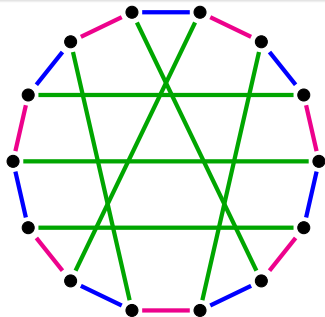
Theorem (F-G., Uhl, 2022)

The metric dimension of the direct product  $K_n^3 = K_n \times K_n \times K_n$  is

$$\dim(K_n^3) = \begin{cases} 2n & \text{if } n \in \{3, 4\} \\ 2n - 1 & \text{if } n \geq 5 \end{cases}$$

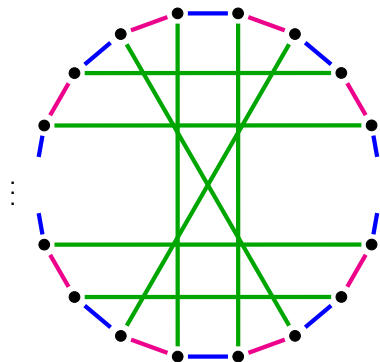


$n = 6$  (bonus  $n = 7$ )

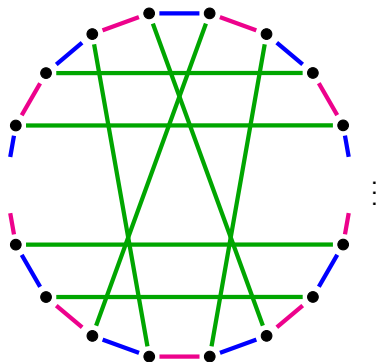


$n = 7$  (bonus  $n = 8$ )

# Landmark Graphs of Resolving Sets



$$n = 2k \text{ (bonus } n = 2k + 1)$$



$$n = 2k + 1 \text{ (bonus } n = 2k + 2)$$

*Infinite family of graphs avoiding forbidden 4-cycles,  
forbidden 6-cycles, and rainbow triangles*

## Further Exploration

Current work on  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3$  puzzle

- ▶ generalization of Forbidden Subgraph Theorem
- ▶ constructions of resolving sets

Questions

- ▶ What other equivalent combinatorial problems are there?
- ▶ Which graphs achieve lower bound  $2 \max(n_1, n_2, n_3) - 1$ ?
- ▶ What if we vary constraints on landmark hypergraph?
- ▶ What about direct product of more than three complete graphs?

Thanks!