## Canonical decompositions of 3-connected graphs



Joint work with Johannes Carmesin
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Theorem (Tutte 66), SPQR-trees
Every 2-con'd $G$ decomposes along its totally-nested 2-separators into 3-con'd graphs, cycles and $K_{2}$ 's.

## Guess

Every 3-con'd $G$ decomposes along its totally-nested 3-separators into 4-con'd graphs, wheels and $K_{3}$ 's.


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Every 3-con'd $G$ decomposes along its totally-nested 3-separators into quasi 4-con'd graphs, wheels and $K_{3}$ 's.
$\downarrow$
3-con'd, $>4$ vertices, every 3-separator has form


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mixed-separation of $G: \quad\{A, B\}$ with $A \cup B=V(G)$ and both $A \backslash B$ and $B \backslash A$ nonempty
separator of $\{A, B\}: \quad(A \cap B) \cup E(A \backslash B, B \backslash A)$
tri-separation of $G$ : mixed-sep'n $\{A, B\}$ with $\mid$ sep'r| $\mid=3$ and every vx in $A \cap B$ has two neighb's in $G[A]$ and in $G[B]$

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## Decomposing along a tri-separation




## Main result (Carmesin \& K. 23)

Every 3-con'd $G$ decomposes along its totally-nested nontrivial tri-separations into minors of $G$ that are

- quasi 4 -con'd
- wheels
- thickened $K_{3, m}$

or $G=K_{3, m}(m \geqslant 0)$.


3
$m$

|  | Grohe 16 | Carmesin \& K. 23 |
| ---: | :---: | :---: |
| method | recursive | Tutte (totally nested) |
| decomposition | 3-separations | tri-separations |
| torsos | $K_{4}$, | wheels, |
|  | quasi 4-con'd, $K_{3}$ | quasi 4-con'd, thickened $K_{3, m}$ |
| canonical | no | yes |
| algorithm | $O\left(n^{2}(n+m)\right)$ | ??? |

Application: Connectivity Augmentation from 0 to 4


Theorem (Carmesin \& Sridharan 23+)
$\exists$ FPT-algorithm with runtime $C(\ell) \cdot \operatorname{Poly}(|V(G)|)$ and
Input: $\quad G r a p h ~ G, \ell \in \mathbb{N}$ and $F \subseteq E(\bar{G})$
Output: $\quad$ No, or $\leqslant \ell$-sized $X \subseteq F$ such that $G+X$ is 4 -con'd

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Open: Extend the main result to $k$-separations for $k \geqslant 4$.


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Thank you!

