

# *2<sup>nd</sup> Parameterized Algorithms & Computational Experiments Challenge*

*Where it came from, how it went, who won, and what's next*



NET  
WORKS

## ***Program committee track A, treewidth***

Holger Dell

Saarland University & Cluster of Excellence

## ***Program committee track B, minimum fill-in***

Christian Komusiewicz\*

Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena

Nimrod Talmon

Weizmann Institute of Science

Mathias Weller

LIRMM Montpellier

## ***Steering committee***

Holger Dell

Saarland University & Cluster of Excellence

Bart M. P. Jansen

Eindhoven University of Technology

Thore Husfeldt

ITU Copenhagen and Lund University

Petteri Kaski

Aalto University

Christian Komusiewicz

Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena

Frances A. Rosamond\*

University of Bergen

**WHERE PACE CAME FROM**

# History of PACE

- PACE was conceived in fall 2015 when many FPT researchers gathered at the Simons institute
- Born from a feeling that parameterized algorithmics should have a greater impact on practice
- Partially inspired by the success of SAT-solving competitions in neighboring communities
- First iteration in 2015-2016
  - Track A: Treewidth (heuristically & exact)
  - Track B: Feedback Vertex Set

# Goals

Investigate the applicability of algorithmic ideas from parameterized algorithmics

1. provide bridge between algorithm design&analysis theory and algorithm engineering practice
2. inspire new theoretical developments
3. investigate the competitiveness of analytical and design frameworks developed in the communities
4. produce universally accessible libraries of implementations and repositories of benchmark instances
5. encourage dissemination of the findings in scientific papers

# Publications following the first PACE

## **htd – A Free, Open-Source Framework for (Customized) Tree Decompositions and Beyond**

Michael Abseher<sup>(✉)</sup>, Nysret Musliu, and Stefan Woltran

Institute of Information Systems, TU Wien,  
184/2, Favoritenstraße 9–11, 1040 Vienna, Austria  
{abseher,musliu,woltran}@dbai.tuwien.ac.at

# Publications following the first PACE

**htd – A Free, Open-Source Framework  
for (Constraint) Theory Decision Problems**

Answer Set Solving with Bounded Treewidth Revisited\*

Johannes K. Fichte<sup>†</sup>, Michael Morak, Markus Hecher and Stefan Woltran

TU Wien, Austria  
lastname@dbai.tuwien.ac.at

{absener, muslu, woltran}@dbai.tuwien.ac.at

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DynASP2.5: Dynamic Programming on  
Tree Decompositions in Action\*

Johannes K. Fichte, Markus Hecher, Michael Morak, Stefan Woltran  
TU Wien, Vienna, Austria  
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TU Wien, Austria  
lastname@dbai.tuw

## SAT-Encodings for Special Treewidth and Pathwidth

Neha Lodha, Sebastian Ordyniak<sup>(✉)</sup>, and Stefan Szeider  
Algorithms and Complexity Group, Tu Wien, Vienna, Austria  
{neha,ordyniak,sz}@ac.tuwien.ac.at

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Network  
Decompositions

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TU Wien, Austria  
lastname@dbai.tuwien.ac.at

## SAT-Encodings for Special Treewidth and Pathwidth

## Linear-time Kernelization for Feedback Vertex Set

Yoichi Iwata  
National Institute of Informatics  
yiwata@nii.ac.jp

Ordyniak<sup>(✉)</sup>, and Stefan Szeider  
University Group, Tu Wien, Vienna, Austria  
{ak,sz}@ac.tuwien.ac.at

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## SAT-Encodings for Special Treewidth and Pathwidth

Communication

Linear-time

## ToTo: An open database for computation, storage and retrieval of tree decompositions

Rim van Wersch\*, Steven Kelk\*

Department of Data Science and Knowledge Engineering (DKE), Maastricht University, P.O. Box 616, 6200 MD Maastricht, The Netherlands

# Publications following the first PACE

DynASP2.5: Dynamic Programming on  
Tree Decompositions in Action\*

Johannes K. Fichte, Michael  
Lasnik

framework

## Jdrasil: A Modular Library for Computing Tree Decompositions

Max Bannach<sup>1</sup>, Sebastian Berndt<sup>2</sup>, and Thorsten Ehlers<sup>3</sup>

- 1 Institute for Theoretical Computer Science, Universität zu Lübeck, Lübeck, Germany  
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- 2 Institute for Theoretical Computer Science, Universität zu Lübeck, Lübeck, Germany  
berndt@tcs.uni-luebeck.de
- 3 Department of Computer Science, Kiel University, Kiel, Germany  
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Answer Set Solving w

Johannes K. Fichte†, Michael

lastna

Communicat

Linear-ti

ToTo: An  
retrieval

Rim van W

Department of Dat  
The Netherlands

## The First Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge

Holger Dell<sup>1</sup>, Thore Husfeldt<sup>2</sup>, Bart M. P. Jansen<sup>3</sup>, Petteri Kaski<sup>4</sup>,  
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<sup>1</sup> Institute for Theoretical Computer Science, Universität zu Lübeck, Lübeck,  
Germany

bannach@tcs.uni-luebeck.de

**Positive-instance driven dynamic programming for treewidth**

Hisao Tamaki

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Tama, Kawasaki, Japan, 214-8571  
tamaki@cs.meiji.ac.jp

**Rim van W**

Department of Dat  
The Netherlands

Holger Dell<sup>1</sup>, Thore Husfeldt<sup>2</sup>, Bart M. P. Jansen<sup>3</sup>, Petteri Kaski<sup>4</sup>,  
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Tree Decompositions in Action\*

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**Jdrasil: A Modular Library for Computing Tree**

## Acknowledgment

The author thanks Hiromu Ohtsuka for his help in implementing the block sieve data structure. He also thanks Yasuaki Kobayashi for helpful discussions and especially for drawing the author's attention to the notion of safe separators. This work would have been non-existent if not motivated by the timely challenges of PACE 2016 and 2017. The author is deeply indebted to their organizers, especially Holger Dell, for their dedication and excellent work.

Hisao Tamaki

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# PACE timeline in 2016-2017

1. Treewidth track
2. Track for computing minimum fill-in (chordal completion)

## ***Time schedule***

- November 1<sup>st</sup> 2016: Announcement of problems and inputs
- March 1<sup>st</sup> 2017: Submission of prototype program
- May 1<sup>st</sup> 2017: Submission of final program
- June 1<sup>st</sup> 2017: Result are communicated to participants
- September 6<sup>th</sup> 2017: Award ceremony at IPEC



# Sponsor for prizes & travel

**NETWORKS** is a project of  
University of Amsterdam  
Eindhoven University of Technology  
Leiden University  
Center for Mathematics and  
Computer Science (CWI)

The logo for NETWORKS features the word "NET" stacked above "WORKS". The letters are rendered in a bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is composed of two overlapping shapes: a teal-colored shape and a grey-colored shape, creating a 3D effect. The teal shapes are positioned in front of the grey shapes, and they overlap each other and the letters below them.

The NETWORKS project generously sponsors PACE with € 4000  
1<sup>st</sup> prize (€ 500), 2<sup>nd</sup> prize (€ 300) and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize (€ 200)

Three subcategories in the competition, with €1000 travel award

[thenetworkcenter.nl](http://thenetworkcenter.nl)

# PACE timeline in 2017-2018

- PACE will focus on a single challenge problem next year

## ***Time schedule***

- Today: Announcement of the problem
- November 1<sup>st</sup> 2017: Detailed problem setting and inputs
- March 1<sup>st</sup> 2018: Submission of prototype program
- May 1<sup>st</sup> 2018: Submission of final program
- June 1<sup>st</sup> 2018: Result are communicated to participants
- August 20-24 2018: Award ceremony at IPEC

# The third iteration of PACE

## *PACE 2017-2018 program committee*

Édouard Bonnet  
Florian Sikora

Middlesex University, London  
University Paris Dauphine

# Steiner Tree

How it went and who won

## **TRACK A: TREEWIDTH**

PACE 2017

# Track A: Treewidth

Holger Dell

# Treewidth Applications (outside of FPT)

- Register allocation in compilers  
(e.g., Thorup 1998)
- Preprocessing for shortest path  
(e.g., Chatterjee Ibsen-Jensen Pavlogiannis 2016)
- Treewidth of specific graph families  
(e.g., Kiyomia Okamoto Otachi 2015)
- Preprocessing for probabilistic inference  
(e.g., Otten Ihler Kask Dechter 2011)

# PACE: submission requirements

- repository on [github.com](https://github.com)
- “edge list” input format
- Output: tree decomposition

# Heuristic treewidth competition



# Benchmark instances

100 public + 100 secret instances:

35% graphs from the **UAI 2014 competition** (probabilistic inference)

35% incidence graphs of **SAT competition** instances

16% graphs from **treedecomposition.com**

7% **road graphs**

7% **transit networks**

	number of edges	treewidth (upper bound)
median	<b>14k</b>	<b>93</b>
mean	<b>991k</b>	<b>13k</b>

# Ranking by Preferential Voting

Instances=Voters

“Ballot” for instance he166.gr:

submission	width after 30 minutes
B	672
E	957
A	994
C	33279

→ Use Schulze method to combine votes

# Participants

6 submissions:

3 new teams

3 teams from last year

# Honorable mentions

**Rank 4** Max Bannach (University of Lübeck),  
Sebastian Berndt (University of Lübeck),  
Thorsten Ehlers (University of Kiel)

**Rank 5** Philippe Jégou  
Hanan Kanso (Aix-Marseille Université, LSIS)  
Cyril Terrioux

**Rank 6** Lukas Larisch (King-Abdullah University of Science and Engineering)  
Felix Salfelder (University of Leeds)

# 2nd Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge

## PACE

**Uniting FPT and practice**

ALGO/IPEC 2017 September 4 – 8 Vienna, Austria

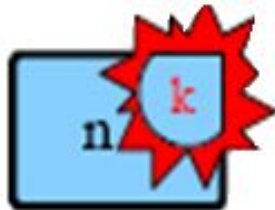
This is to certify that the 2017 PACE Program Committee has selected

**Michael Abseher, Nysret Musliu, Stefan Woltran**

TU Wien, Institute of Information Systems

as the

**Third Place Winners in Heuristic Treewidth Decomposition**



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Holger Dell, Saarland University. Track A Chair

---

Christian Komusiewicz, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena. Track B Chair

**2017 PACE Programme Committee Co-chairs**

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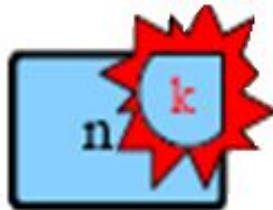
This is to certify that the 2017 PACE Program Committee has selected

## Ben Strasser

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

as the

## Second Place Winner in the Heuristic Treewidth Decomposition Challenge



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Holger Dell, Saarland University. Track A Chair

---

Christian Komusiewicz, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena. Track B Chair

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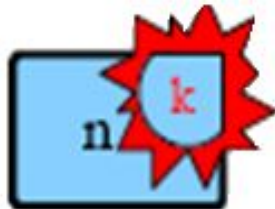
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**Keitaro Makii, Hiromu Ohtsuka, Takuto Sato, Hisao Tamaki**

Meiji University

as the

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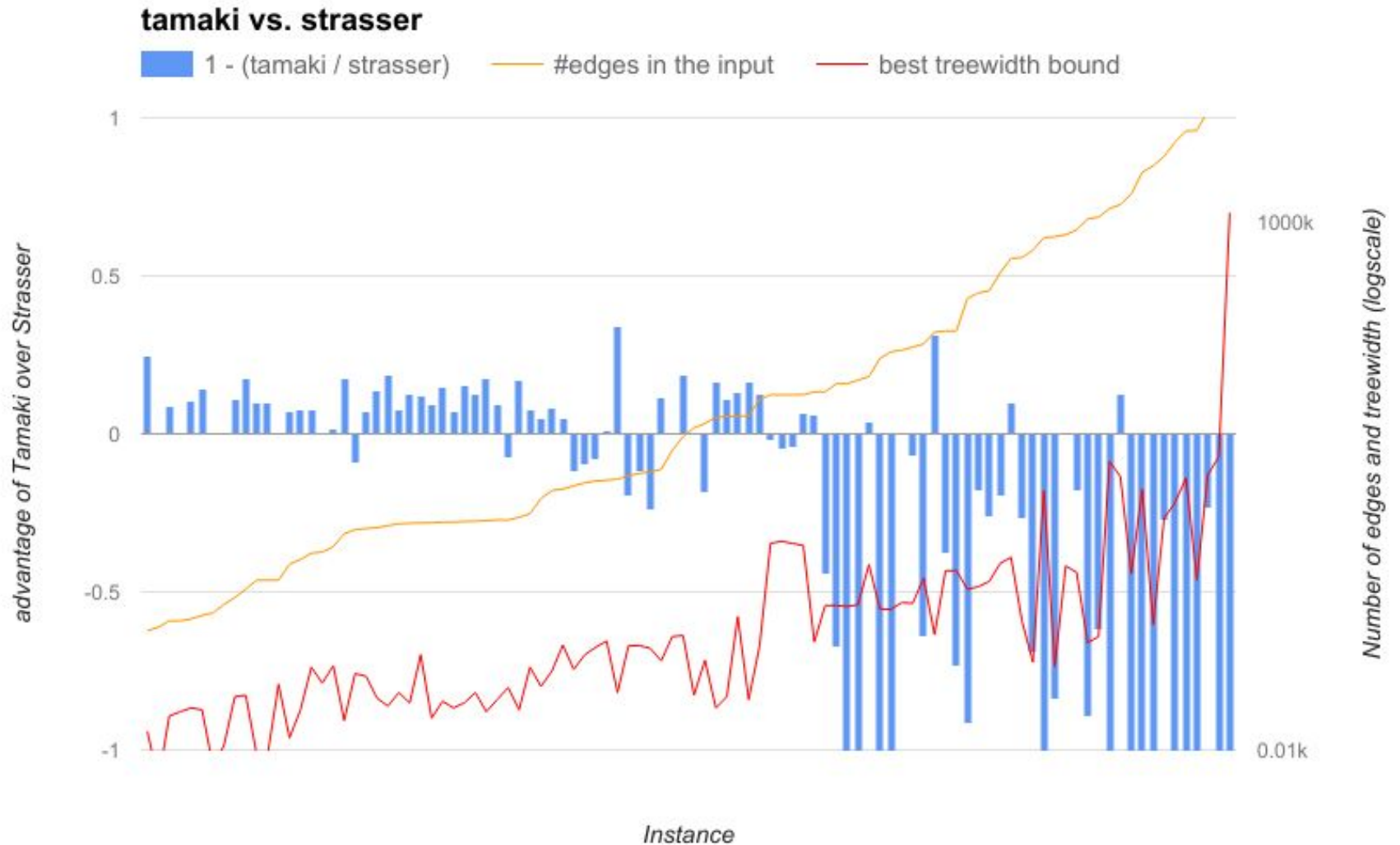
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Christian Komusiewicz, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena. Track B Chair

2017 PACE Programme Committee Co-chairs

# Plot: Winner vs. Second





Exact treewidth competition

# Benchmark instances

100 public + 100 secret instances

Grow balls in graphs from heuristic challenge

Use CPU months to test “instance difficulty” by running last year’s winning solver

	number of edges	treewidth
median	<b>730</b>	<b>11</b>
mean	<b>7300</b>	<b>31</b>

# Outcome

3 submissions:

1 new team

2 teams from last year

Running time on input `ex196.gr` (in seconds)

winner of PACE 2016  4,921

third place of PACE 2017  71

second place of PACE 2017  27

winner of PACE 2017  17

**Everyone was 100x faster than last year!**

# 2nd Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge

## PACE

### Uniting FPT and practice

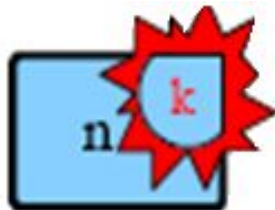
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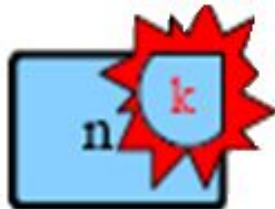
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# 2nd Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge

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**Lukas Larisch**

and

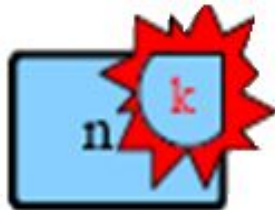
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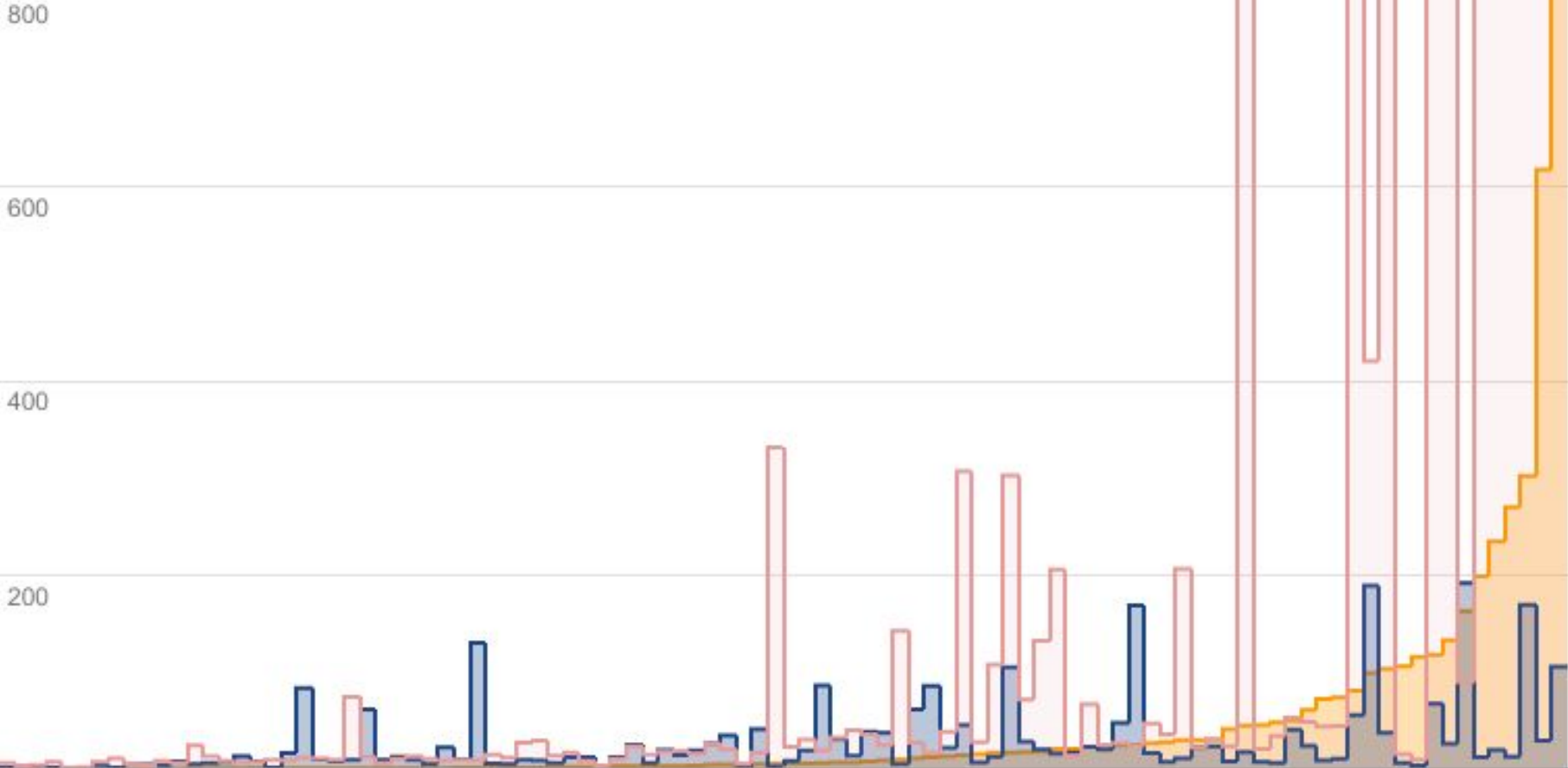
Christian Komusiewicz, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena. Track B Chair

2017 PACE Programme Committee Co-chairs

# Exact treewidth: Plot

Running Time per instance

larisch    tamaki    bannach



# Treewidth competition future

## **New instance set for exact treewidth:**

- Supports 1000x speed improvements over PACE 2017
- Persistent competition on optil.io



# tdlib – PACE 2017

Lukas Larisch, Felix Salfelder

IPEC 2017



## About tdlib, goals

- ▶ Tree decomposition (and related) algorithms
  - ▶ Free (libre) heuristic/exact implementations
  - ▶ Pre/post processing
  - ▶ As C++ library

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  - ▶ Register allocation (sdcc)  
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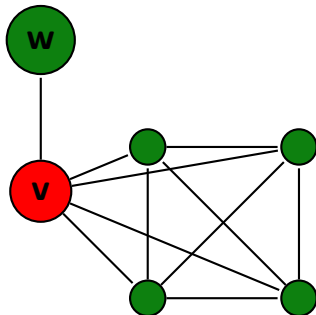
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  - ▶ Treewidth bounds in large instances  
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  - ▶ Python bindings
  - ▶ A Sagemath package

## Preprocessing

- ▶ Rule based complete reduction for treewidth 4  
islet, twig, buddy, series, cube. c.f. tdlib  
documentation

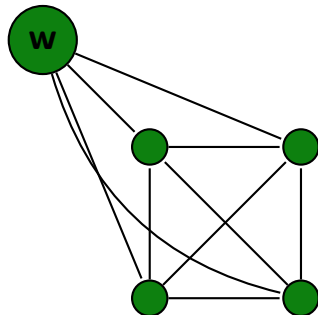
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- ▶ Rule based complete reduction for treewidth 4
- ▶ (Almost) simplicial vertex elimination rules



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## tdlib and PACE'16

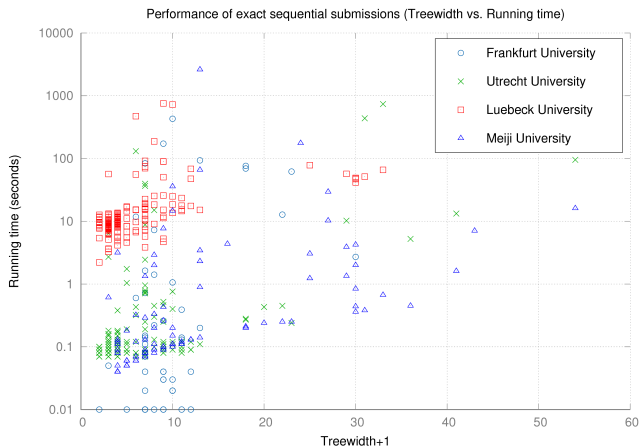
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## tdlib and PACE'16

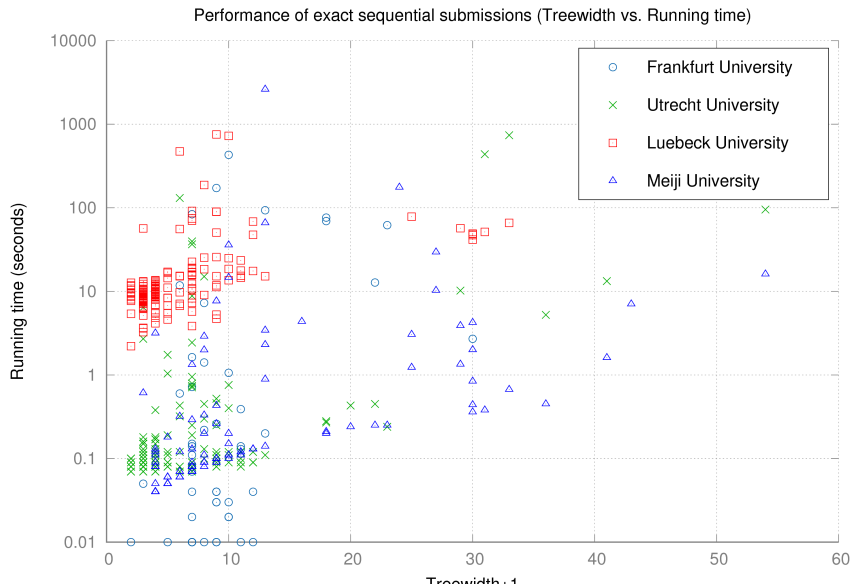
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# tdlib and PACE'16

- ▶ refactoring: C++11, generic programming
- ▶ structural/algorithmic improvements
- ▶ reference implementations, exact & heuristic



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### Heuristic "anytime" algorithm

- ▶ Guided elimination order brute forcing
- ▶  $\rightsquigarrow$  interruptible exact algorithm
- ▶ Postprocessing

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  - ▶ .. implementing Arnborg, Corneil, Proskurowski + more ideas.

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  - ▶ .. implementing Arnborg, Corneil, Proskurowski + more ideas.
  - ▶ Restructured, object oriented
  - ▶ Ported to tdlib/gala
- ▶ Optimised for speed
- ▶  $\rightsquigarrow$  pretty fast on small instances

Thank You.

How it went and who won

## **TRACK B: MINIMUM FILL-IN**

# The 2nd Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge: Track B Minimum Fill-In

Christian Komusiewicz

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena

Nimrod Talmon

Weizmann Institute of Science

Mathias Weller

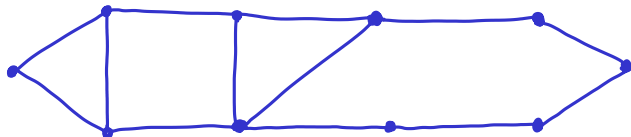
LIRMM, Université de Montpellier II

# Challenge Problem

## Minimum Fill-In

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

**Task:** Find a minimum-size edge set  $F$  such that  $(V, E \cup F)$  is chordal.

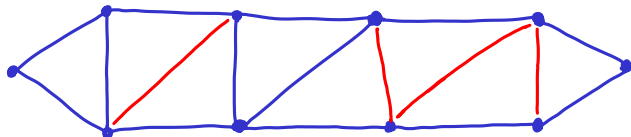


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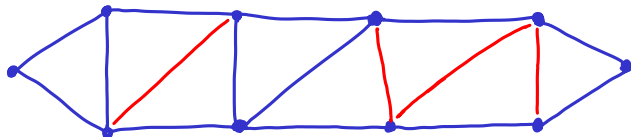


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**Task:** Find a minimum-size edge set  $F$  such that  $(V, E \cup F)$  is chordal.



**Minimum Fill-In is**

- fixed-parameter tractable e.g. parameterized by solution size  $|F|$ ,
- admits subexponential-time algorithms



## Challenge Setup

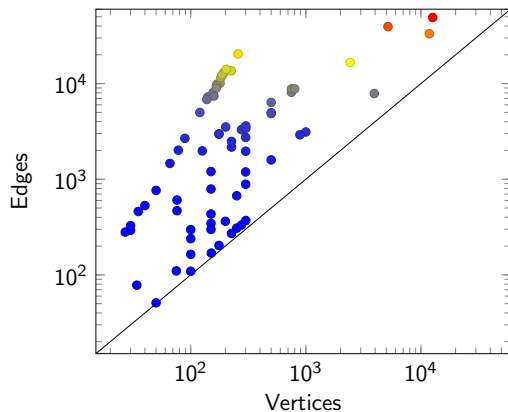
**Benchmark Instances:** 100 public + 100 hidden instances

**Instance origin:** Systems of linear equations, phylogenetic networks, social networks, molecular interaction networks

## Challenge Setup

**Benchmark Instances:** 100 public + 100 hidden instances

**Instance origin:** Systems of linear equations, phylogenetic networks, social networks, molecular interaction networks



**Ranking:** # solved hidden instances within 30 minutes (each)



## MINIMUM FILL IN: PACE 2017 B

By Christian Komusiewicz<sup>1</sup>

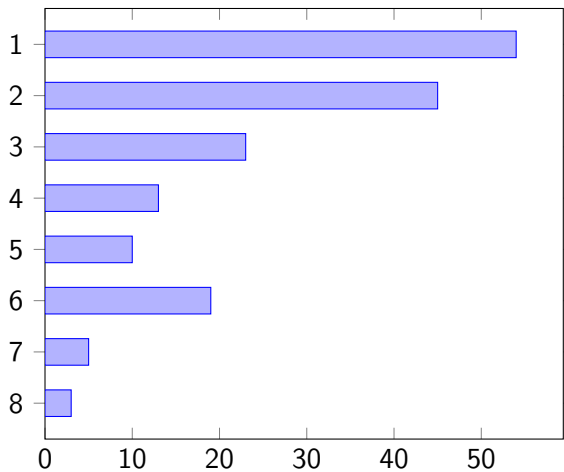
DESCRIPTION RUNS MY RUNS STANDING PRIVATE STANDING SUBMIT DISCUSS

TLE = Time Limit Exceeded, WA = Wrong Answer, RTE = Runtime Error, MLE = Memory Limit Exceeded, OLE = Output Limit Exceeded, PLE = Processes Limit Exceeded, [more help...](#)

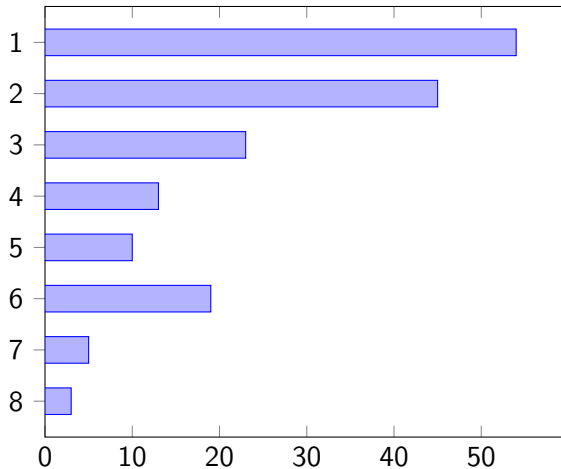
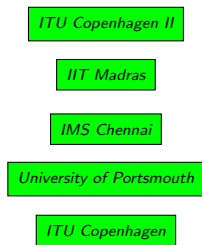
	First	1	Last																																					
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40																			
3.00	WA	527.00	1,017.00	1,652.00	79.00	3.00	16.00	578.00	1,754.00	63.00	320.00	WA	134.00	144.00	WA	439.00	426.00	712.00	WA	101.00																				
3.00	TLE	521.00	965.00	1,408.00	78.00	3.00	15.00	559.00	1,570.00	63.00	307.00	TLE	122.00	144.00	2,278.00	423.00	387.00	654.00	TLE	100.00																				
3.00	MLE	521.00	965.00	1,408.00	78.00	3.00	15.00	559.00	1,570.00	63.00	307.00	TLE	122.00	144.00	2,278.00	423.00	387.00	TLE	TLE	100.00																				
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WA	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE	TLE																		
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# Results



# Results



# Results

Paris-Dauphine & MTA Hungary

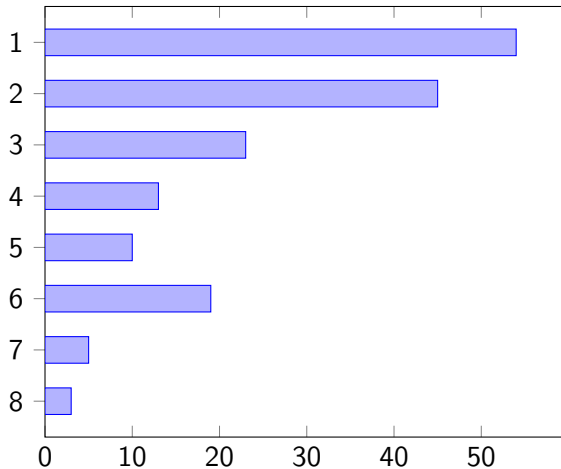
ITU Copenhagen II

IIT Madras

IMS Chennai

University of Portsmouth

ITU Copenhagen



## 2nd Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge

# PACE

### Uniting FPT and practice

This is to certify that the 2017 PACE Program Committee has selected

**Édouard Bonnet, R.B. Sandeep, Florian Sikora**

University Paris-Dauphine Hungarian Academy of Sciences University Paris-Dauphine

as the

### Third Place Winners in the Minimum Fill-In Challenge



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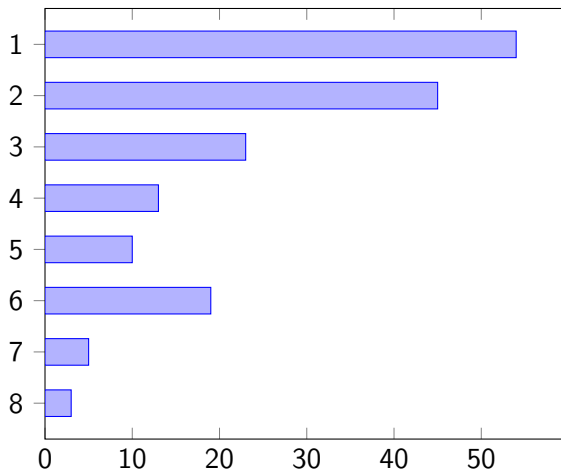
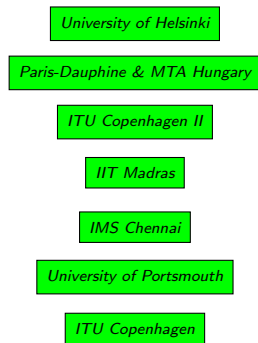
Holger Dell, Saarland University, Track A Chair

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Christian Komusiewicz, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Track B Chair

2017 PACE Programme Committee Co-chairs

# Results





# 2nd Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge

## PACE

### Uniting FPT and practice

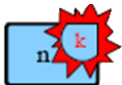
ALGO/IPEC 2017, September 4 – 8, Vienna, Austria  
This is to certify that the 2017 PACE Program Committee has selected

**Jeremias Berg, Matti Järvisalo, Tuukka Korhonen**

University of Helsinki

as the

**Second Place Winners in the Minimum Fill-In Challenge**



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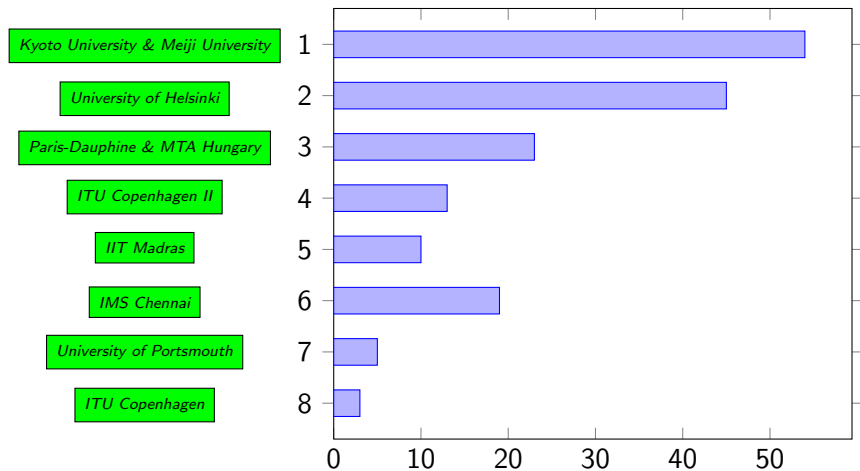
Holger Dell, Saarland University, Track A Chair

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Christian Komusiewicz, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Track B Chair

2017 PACE Programme Committee Co-chairs

# Results



## 2nd Parameterized Algorithms and Computational Experiments Challenge

# PACE

## Uniting FPT and practice

ALGO/IPEC 2017 September 4 – 8 Vienna, Austria

This is to certify that the 2017 PACE Program Committee has selected

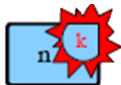
## Yasuaki Kobayashi, Hisao Tamaki

Kyoto University

Meiji University

as the

## First Place Winners in the Minimum Fill-In Challenge



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Holger Dell, Saarland University, Track A Chair

---

Christian Komusiewicz, Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Track B Chair

2017 PACE Programme Committee Co-chairs

# About our submission (Track B)

**Yasuaki Kobayashi**

Hisao Tamaki

# Minimum Fill-In Problem

Given: undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$

Task: find a smallest  $F$  such that  $G' = (V, E \cup F)$  is chordal

# Techniques

- A sufficient condition for edges that can be safely added.
- A modified version of “Positive-instance driven dynamic programming for treewidth”.

# Edges that can be safely added

Lemma [Bodlaender et al. 2011]:

Let  $S$  be a minimal separator of  $G$  such that  $S \subseteq N(v)$  for some  $v \in V$ .  
Suppose  $|\text{miss}(S)| = 1$ , where  $\text{miss}(S)$  is the set of missing edges in  $G[S]$ .  
Then, there is an optimal solution that contains  $\text{miss}(S)$ .

- If  $G$  has a minimal separator  $S$  that satisfies the above condition, we can decompose  $G$  by using  $S$ .
- We can generalize this lemma for minimal separators that have more than one missing edges (with some additional conditions).

# Positive-Instance Driven DP

- The treewidth and minimum fill-in problem can be solved by DP algorithms based on minimal separators and potential maximal cliques [Bouchitté & Todinca 2011].
- Tamaki developed a positive-instance driven DP for treewidth [Tamaki 2017].
  - applicable to the min fill-in problem with some non-trivial modifications.

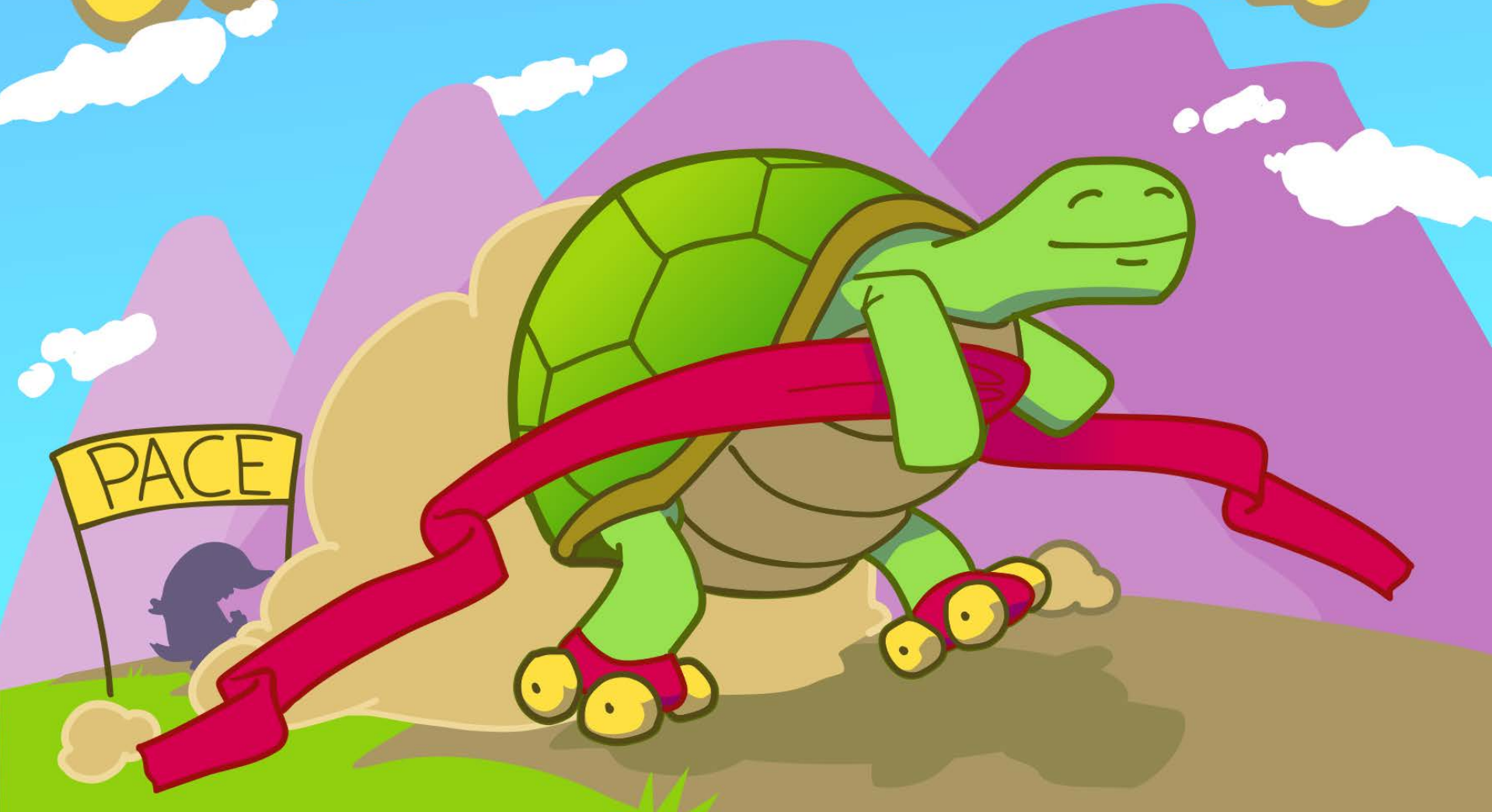


Thank you!

<https://github.com/TCS-Meiji/PACE2017-TrackB/>

# CHANGING ROLES

# GOODBYE, FRAN!



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University of Amsterdam  
Eindhoven University of Technology  
Leiden University  
Center for Mathematics and  
Computer Science (CWI)

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