Dominating orders, vertex pursuit games and computability theory

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1 Introduction

Dominating orders on graphs play a significant role in the study of vertex pursuit games. Here, a graph consists of a vertex set V and a symmetric reflexive edge relation $E \subseteq V \times V$. Although the definitions below make sense for a wider class of graphs, we are primarily interested in connected countable graphs for which $V \subseteq \mathbb{N}$. The restriction to $V \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is convenient for studying computability theoretic properties. We are interested in connected graphs because connectedness is a necessary condition for a reflexive graph to have a dominating order.

Let G = (V, E) be a graph. We say $x, y \in V$ are *neighbors* if E(x, y) and we define $N_G[x] = \{v \in G \mid E(x, v)\}$. The vertex x dominates y if $x \neq y$ and $N_G[y] \subseteq N_G[x]$. Because our graphs are reflexive, $x \in N_G[x]$, and so if x dominates y, then x and y are connected by an edge. Given an ordering \prec of V and $x \in V$, let $V_{\preceq x} = \{v \in G \mid v \preceq x\}$, and let $G_{\preceq x}$ be the induced subgraph on $V_{\prec x}$.

Definition 1.1. A dominating order of G is a well ordering \prec of V such that for all $x \in V$, if x is not the \prec -least element of V, then x is dominated in $G_{\preceq x}$. G is called *constructible* if it admits a dominating order.

Note that this notion of constructibility from the graph theory literature is unrelated to the notion of constructibility in set theory.

Definition 1.2. Let \prec be a dominating order on G with least element v. A function $\delta: V \to V$ is called a *dominating map* if for every $x \neq v$, $\delta(x) \prec x$ and $\delta(x)$ dominates x in $G_{\preceq x}$.

Example 1.3. Let G be the graph illustrated by

 $v_0 - v_1 - v_2 - v_3 - v_3$

In this (and future) diagrams, we will not draw the reflexive edges. G has a dominating order $v_0 \prec v_1 \prec v_2 \prec \cdots$. Each vertex v_{n+1} is dominated by v_n in $G_{\preceq v_{n+1}}$ because $N_{G_{v_{n+1}}}[v_{n+1}] =$

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 $\{v_n, v_{n+1}\} \subseteq N_{G_{v_{n+1}}}[v_n]$. However, v_{n+1} is not dominated by v_n in the full graph G because there is an edge between v_{n+1} and v_{n+2} , but no edge between v_n and v_{n+2} . For this order \prec , $\delta(v_{n+1}) = v_n$ is a dominating map. G has other dominating orders, including orders of type $\omega + n$, for example $v_n \prec v_{n+1} \prec \cdots \prec v_{n-1} \prec v_{n-2} \prec \cdots \prec v_0$.

Example 1.4. Let K_{ω} be the complete graph on $V = \{v_n \mid n \in \omega\}$. Any well ordering of the vertices of K_{ω} is a dominating order. Therefore, K_{ω} has dominating orders of every infinite countable order type. Furthermore, if \prec is a well order of V, then any map δ such that $\delta(v) \prec v$ is a domination map.

Definition 1.5. For a constructible graph G, the least ordinal α such that G has a dominating order of type α is the *minimal dominating order type of* G.

The only result we are aware of that gives nontrivial bounds on the minimal dominating order type of countable infinite graphs is from Lehner [4]. G is *locally finite* if $N_G[x]$ is finite for all $x \in V$.

Proposition 1.6 (Lehner [4]). A countable locally finite graph is constructible if and only if admits a dominating order of type $\leq \omega$.

Bonato and Nowakowski [2] is an excellent introduction to the game of cops and robbers, which is probably the most well studied vertex pursuit game on graphs. We abbreviate this game by C&R and imagine it more benignly as a game of cats and rats. C&R is played in rounds by two players. In round 0, Player C chooses an initial vertex to occupy, then Player R chooses an initial vertex. In subsequent rounds, Player C moves to any vertex adjacent to her current position, followed by Player R moving to a vertex adjacent to his current position. Because G is reflexive, each player has the option to remain on their current vertex. If the players are ever on the same vertex, then the game ends and Player C wins. Otherwise, if the game continues through ω many rounds, Player R wins.

A strategy for Player C consists of a node $c_0 \in V$ and a function $f_C : V \times V \to V$ such that for all $x, y \in V$, $f_C(x, y) \in N_G[x]$. Player C follows the strategy f_C if Player C chooses c_0 as her initial position and whenever it is her turn, if she is on vertex x, and if Player R is on vertex y, then Player C moves to vertex $f_C(x, y)$. The strategy f_C is winning if Player C wins the game on G by following f_C no matter what moves Player R makes. A strategy for Player R is defined similarly. Because C&R is an open game, for any graph G, one of the two players has a winning strategy. G is C-win if Player C has a winning strategy and G is R-win otherwise (i.e. if Player R has a winning strategy). Stahl [9] has numerous results about effective strategies for this game.

For finite graphs, the existence of dominating orders and C-win strategies are equivalent. **Theorem 1.7** (Nowakowski and Winkler [5]; Quilliot [6]). A finite graph is C-win if and only if it is constructible.

This equivalence breaks down for infinite graphs, primarily because it is too easy for the robber to win by running away. For example, let G be as in Example 1.3. Suppose Player C chooses v_n as her initial position. Player R can choose v_{n+2} as his initial position, and in round k, he can move from $v_{(n+2)+k}$ to $v_{(n+2)+(k+1)}$. Player C will never be able to catch Player R under these conditions. A more general result of this form is proved in Stahl [9].

Theorem 1.8 (Stahl [9]). Every infinite locally finite graph is R-win.

Several variations of C&R have been proposed in the literature that reestablish some relationship between constructibility and C-winning strategies for infinite graphs. These variations typically weaken the conditions under which Player C wins the game. Chastand, Laviolette and Polat proposed a version of C&R for infinite graphs in which Player C wins if she lands on the vertex occupied by Player R, or if after some initial finite number of rounds, Player R never occupies the same vertex more than once. That is, if Player R is eventually forced to run away along a straight path, then Player C wins. We say G is *CLP-weakly C-win* if Player C has a winning strategy in this variant. For example, the graph in Example 1.3 is CLP-weakly C-win.

Chastand, Laviolette and Polat [3] proved a connection between CLP-weakly C-win graphs and the existence of dominating orders, which allowed them to conclude that a large class of graphs is CLP-weakly C-win. In the statement of their theorem, a function $f: V \to V$ is a *self-contraction of* G if f preserves edges in the sense that E(x, y) implies E(f(x), f(y)), which allows the possibility that f(x) = f(y) since G is reflexive.

Theorem 1.9 (Chastand, Laviolette and Polat [3]). Let G be a graph that admits a dominating order \prec and an associated dominating map δ such that δ is a self-contraction of G. Then G is CLR-weakly C-win.

Chastand, Laviolette and Polat asked whether the hypothesis that δ is a self-contraction could be removed and whether the converse of this theorem was true. Lehner [4] proved the hypothesis on δ is necessary by building a constructible graph that is not CLP-weakly C-win. He proposed a further weakening of the requirement for Player to C to win this game. In Lehner's version of C&R, Player C wins if either she occupies the same vertex as Player R, or she forces Player R to only occupy each vertex finitely often. For Player R to win in this variant, he must escape capture indefinitely while returning to some vertex infinitely often.

Definition 1.10. A graph G is *weakly C-win* if Player C has a winning strategy in Lehner's variant of C&R.

Lehner lifted various desirable properties from finite graphs to infinite graphs using this definition, such as proving that retracts of weakly C-win graphs are weakly C-win. Most significantly, he proved the following implication between dominating orders and weakly C-win graphs, but he left open the question of whether every weakly C-win graph has a dominating order.

Theorem 1.11 (Lehner [4]). If G is constructible, then G is weakly C-win.

We answer Lehner's open question in Section 2 using an effective transformation from trees to graphs. Before describing this transformation, we fix some terminology and notation. A tree $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ is a set of finite strings which is closed under taking initial segments. For finite strings $\sigma, \tau \in \omega^{<\omega}$, we write $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$ to denote that σ is an initial segment of τ and we let $|\sigma|$ denote the length of σ . We let λ denote the empty string and we say τ is an *immediate* successor of σ if $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$ and $|\tau| = |\sigma| + 1$. A node $\sigma \in T$ is a *leaf* if it has no immediate extensions. A tree T is well founded if it does not contain an infinite path. There is a natural notion of rank for a well founded tree (which we define in Section 2) such that for every $\alpha < \omega_1$, there is a well founded tree T with rank α .

In Section 2, we describe an effective method to transform any tree T into a graph G_T such that G_T admits a dominating order if and only if T is well founded. We prove that G_T is always weakly C-win, regardless of whether T is well founded or not. Therefore, for any non-well founded tree T, G_T provides a negative answer to Lehner's question.

Because this transformation is computable, it follows that the index set of computable constructible graphs is Π_1^1 -hard. Writing out the definition of this index set shows it is Σ_2^1 at worst. We leave open the question of which (if either) bound is tight. However, in Section 2, we use Proposition 1.6 to show the index set of computable locally finite constructible graphs is Σ_1^1 , and hence these index sets are not the same. By way of comparison, Stahl [9] used a characterization from Nowakowski and Winkler [5] to prove the index set for computable C-win graphs (in the original game) is Π_1^1 -complete. For background on index sets and computability theory, see Ash and Knight [1], Sacks [7] and Soare [8].

Another property of the transformation is that for a well founded tree T, the minimal dominating order type of G_T is at least as large as the rank of T. It follows that the minimal dominating order types of countable constructible graphs are cofinal in ω_1 , so Proposition 1.6 cannot be extended to give a nontrivial upper bound on the minimal dominating order type of a general countable constructible graph. However, this transformation appears to be too coarse to characterize the ordinals $\alpha < \omega_1$ that can be realized as the minimal dominating order type of a constructible graph.

In Section 3, we turn to the question of how difficult it is to build dominating orders for computable graphs which are constructible. We describe a convenient framework for building constructible computable graphs. Using this framework, we build a locally finite constructible computable graph G such that every dominating order on G computes 0' and we investigate some subtleties in giving an effective version of Proposition 1.6.

In Section 4, we give a second general construction method and use it to prove two results. First, there is a locally finite constructible computable graph G for which every dominating order computes 0". Second, the index set of locally finite constructible computable graphs is Π_4^0 -hard. Although these results seems to exhaust our particular construction method, we do not see any reason to suppose they are optimal.

2 Trees and graphs

The main result of this section is a transformation from tree to graphs. Whenever we describe the edge relation for a graph, we implicitly assume we take the reflexive and symmetric closure of the described relation so we end up with an undirected reflexive graph.

Theorem 2.1. There is a computable functional that uniformly transforms trees $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ into graphs G_T such that G_T is constructible if and only if T is well founded.

Proof. Let H denote the graph with vertices $V_H = \{x_i \mid i \leq 6\} \cup \{y_i \mid i \leq 6\}$ and with the edge relation defined by $E_H(x_0, y_i)$ for $i \leq 6$, $E_H(x_i, y_j)$ for $1 \leq i \leq 6$ and j even, and both

 $E(x_i, x_{i+1})$ and $E(y_i, y_{i+1})$ for $i \leq 5$. See the picture below.



This graph H will be the key building block in several constructions.

Fix a tree $T \subseteq \omega^{\omega}$. The following construction uses the graph H if you visualize the tree growing downward (i.e. the immediate successors of σ sit below σ). The vertices of G_T are $V_T = \{v_i^{\sigma} \mid i \leq 6 \text{ and } \sigma \in T\}$. For each $\sigma \in T$, we define $E_T(v_i^{\sigma}, v_{i+1}^{\sigma})$ for $\sigma \in T$ and $i \leq 5$. When τ is an immediate successor of σ , we connect the nodes v_i^{σ} and v_j^{τ} as the nodes x_i and y_j are connected in H. That is, $E_T(v_0^{\sigma}, v_i^{\tau})$ holds for $i \leq 6$, and $E_T(v_i^{\sigma}, v_j^{\tau})$ holds for $1 \leq i \leq 6$ and j even. This completes the description of G_T .

It is clear that G_T is uniformly computable from T. We prove that G_T is constructible if and only if T is well founded in a series of lemmas. To simplify the notation, we fix T and drop the subscript T from G_T .

Lemma 2.2. For any dominating order \prec on G, any immediate successor pair $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$ in T, and any $k \leq 3$, there can be at most three nodes of the form v_i^{σ} such that $v_i^{\sigma} \prec v_{2k}^{\tau}$.

Proof. Suppose four nodes $v_{j_0}^{\sigma}$, $v_{j_1}^{\sigma}$, $v_{j_2}^{\sigma}$ and $v_{j_3}^{\sigma}$ satisfy $v_{j_\ell}^{\sigma} \prec v_{2k}^{\tau}$. Consider which node dominates v_{2k}^{τ} in $G_{\leq v_{2k}^{\tau}}$. We have $\{v_{j_0}^{\sigma}, v_{j_1}^{\sigma}, v_{j_2}^{\sigma}, v_{2k}^{\sigma}\} \subseteq N_{\leq v_{2k}^{\tau}}[v_{2k}^{\tau}]$. By the construction of G, the only nodes which connect to four v_i^{σ} nodes are of the form:

- (1) v_{2u}^{τ} , or
- (2) v_w^{ρ} for the unique node ρ such that $\rho \sqsubseteq \sigma$ is an immediate successor pair in T, or
- (3) v_{2u}^{μ} for any node $\mu \neq \tau$ such that $\sigma \sqsubseteq \mu$ is an immediate successor pair in T.

For (1), v_{2u}^{τ} cannot dominate v_{2k}^{τ} in $G_{\leq v_{2k}^{\tau}}$ because v_{2u}^{τ} is connected to v_{2k}^{τ} if and only if u = k. For (2), v_w^{ρ} is not connected to v_{2k}^{τ} because $\rho \sqsubset \sigma \sqsubset \tau$ and hence τ is not an immediate successor of ρ in T. For (3), v_{2u}^{μ} is not connected to v_{2k}^{τ} because $|\mu| = |\tau|$ and $\mu \neq \tau$. Therefore, none of these nodes can dominate v_{2k}^{τ} in $G_{\leq v_{2k}^{\tau}}$, contradicting the fact that \prec is a dominating order.

For a dominating order \prec on G and a node $\sigma \in T$, let m_{\prec}^{σ} denote the \prec -greatest vertex in $\{v_{2\ell}^{\sigma} \mid \ell \leq 3\}$. That is, m_{\prec}^{σ} is the greatest even index vertex in G with superscript σ .

Lemma 2.3. For any dominating order \prec on G and any immediate successor pair $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$, $v_{2k}^{\tau} \prec m_{\prec}^{\sigma}$ for all $k \leq 3$. In particular, $m_{\prec}^{\tau} \prec m_{\prec}^{\sigma}$.

Proof. Fix a dominating order \prec on G and a successor pair $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$. Suppose there is a node v_{2k}^{τ} such that $m_{\prec}^{\sigma} \prec v_{2k}^{\tau}$. Since $v_{2\ell}^{\sigma} \preceq m_{\prec}^{\sigma} \prec v_{2k}^{\tau}$ for all $\ell \leq 3$, there are four nodes of the form v_i^{σ} such that $v_i^{\sigma} \prec v_{2k}^{\tau}$, contradicting Lemma 2.2.

Lemma 2.4. If T has an infinite path, then G does not have a dominating order.

Proof. Let f be an infinite path in T. Assume for a contradiction that G has a dominating order \prec . Let $\sigma_n = f \upharpoonright n$. For each $n, \sigma_n \sqsubseteq \sigma_{n+1}$ is an immediate successor pair. By Lemma 2.3, $m_{\prec}^{\sigma_{n+1}} \prec m_{\prec}^{\sigma_n}$ for all n, so \prec contains an infinite descending chain, contradicting the fact that \prec is a well order.

It remains to show that if T is well-founded, then G has a dominating order. We construct the dominating order using two different decompositions of T. The first decomposition of Tis by levels, where the level of a node $\sigma \in T$ is the finite ordinal $|\sigma|$. For $n \in \omega$, let $L_n = \{\sigma \in T \mid |\sigma| = n\}$. For $\sigma, \tau \in L_n, \sigma <_{L_n} \tau$ (σ is *left of* τ) if $\sigma \neq \tau$ and $\sigma(i) < \tau(i)$ for the least i < n such that $\sigma(i) \neq \tau(i)$. For each n, $(L_n, <_{L_n})$ is a well order. We combine these orders on L_n to get a well order $<_L^*$ on T defined by

$$\sigma <_L^* \tau$$
 if and only if $|\sigma| < |\tau|$ or $(|\sigma| = |\tau|$ and $\sigma <_{L|\sigma|} \tau)$.

The second decomposition of T uses the standard notion of ordinal rank on a well-founded tree. For a leaf $\sigma \in T$, rank_T(σ) = 0. For a non-leaf node $\sigma \in T$,

 $\operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma) = \sup \{ \operatorname{rank}_T(\tau) + 1 \mid \tau \text{ is an immediate successor of } \sigma \}.$

Because T is well-founded, every node in T is assigned an ordinal rank by transfinite recursion and the largest rank is assigned to the root node λ . Let $R_{\alpha} = \{v \in T \mid \operatorname{rank}_{T}(v) = \alpha\}$ be the set of nodes in T of rank α . Each set R_{α} countable, so we can fix well orders $<_{\alpha}$ such that $(R_{\alpha}, <_{\alpha})$ has order type $\leq \omega$ for each $\alpha \leq \operatorname{rank}_{T}(\lambda)$. We combine these orders on R_{α} to get a well order $<_{T}^{*}$ on T defined by

$$v_i^{\sigma} <_r^* v_j^{\tau}$$
 if and only if $\operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma) < \operatorname{rank}_T(\tau)$ or $(\operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma) = \operatorname{rank}_T(\tau) = \alpha$ and $\sigma <_\alpha \tau)$.

We make use of the both the well orders $<_L^*$ and $<_r^*$ in the next lemma.

Lemma 2.5. If T does not contain an infinite path, then G has a dominating order.

Proof. Fix T with no infinite paths. We define a dominating order \prec on G. The nodes of the form v_0^{σ} will form an initial segment of the dominating order, so $v_0^{\sigma} \prec v_i^{\tau}$ for all $\sigma, \tau \in T$ and $i \geq 1$. For nodes of the form v_0^{σ} , set $v_0^{\sigma} \prec v_0^{\tau}$ if and only if $\sigma <_L^* \tau$. Before defining the order on the remaining elements, we verify that \prec has the dominating property on this initial segment. The least element under \prec is v_0^{λ} since λ is the only node with length 0. For $\tau \neq \lambda$, let σ be such that $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$ is an immediate successor pair. Since $|\sigma| = |\tau| - 1$, we have $\sigma <_L^* \tau$ and hence $v_0^{\sigma} \prec v_0^{\tau}$.

We claim that v_0^{σ} dominates v_0^{τ} in $G_{\leq v_0^{\tau}}$. To prove this claim, it suffices to show that the only vertices connected to v_0^{τ} in $G_{\leq v_0^{\tau}}$ are v_0^{τ} and v_0^{σ} . Let v_0^{μ} be a vertex such that $v_0^{\mu} \prec v_0^{\tau}$ and $\mu \neq \sigma, \tau$. Since $v_0^{\mu} \prec v_0^{\tau}$, we know that $|\mu| \leq |\tau|$. We split into two cases.

First, suppose $|\mu| = |\tau|$. In this case, neither μ nor τ is an immediate successor of the other. Since $\mu \neq \tau$, it follows that there is no edge between v_0^{μ} and v_0^{τ} in G.

Second, suppose $|\mu| < |\tau|$. Obviously, in this case, μ is not an immediate successor of τ . Because $\mu \neq \sigma$, τ is also not an immediate successor of μ . Therefore, again, there is no edge in G between v_0^{μ} and v_0^{τ} , completing the proof of the claim. We order the remaining elements v_i^{σ} with $\sigma \in T$ and $1 \leq i \leq 6$ as follows. Set $v_0^{\tau} \prec v_i^{\sigma}$ for all $\tau, \sigma \in T$ and $i \geq 1$. For $\tau, \sigma \in T$ and $i, j \geq 1$, set

 $v_i^{\sigma} \prec v_j^{\tau}$ if and only if $(\sigma = \tau \text{ and } i < j)$ or $(\sigma \neq \tau \text{ and } \sigma <_r^* \tau)$.

If the order type of $(T, <_r^*)$ is β , then the order type of $(\{v_i^{\sigma} \mid \sigma \in T \text{ and } 1 \leq i \leq 6\}, \prec)$ is $6 \cdot \beta$ because each node $\sigma \in T$ corresponds to an element of β , and the node σ splits into vertices $v_1^{\sigma}, \ldots, v_6^{\sigma}$ which are ordered as a discrete interval $v_1^{\sigma} \prec \ldots \prec v_6^{\sigma}$ of length 6. In particular, \prec well orders $\{v_i^{\sigma} \mid \sigma \in T \text{ and } 1 \leq i \leq 6\}$. Since \prec also well orders the initial segment $\{v_0^{\sigma} \mid \sigma \in T\}$, it follows that \prec well orders G.

It remains to prove that each vertex v_i^{σ} with $i \geq 1$ is dominated in $G_{\leq v_i^{\sigma}}$. Fix v_i^{σ} with $i \geq 1$. If $\sigma \neq \lambda$, let $\mu = \sigma \upharpoonright (|\sigma| - 1)$, so σ is the immediate successor of μ . Note that $\operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma) < \operatorname{rank}_T(\mu)$, so $v_i^{\sigma} \prec v_j^{\mu}$ for $j \geq 1$, although $v_0^{\mu} \prec v_i^{\sigma}$. If τ is an immediate successor of σ , then $\operatorname{rank}_T(\tau) < \operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma)$ and so $v_j^{\tau} \prec v_i^{\sigma}$ for all $j \leq 6$. With these observations in mind, the neighbors of v_i^{σ} in $G_{\leq v_i^{\sigma}}$ are

- (1) v_{i-1}^{σ} ,
- (2) v_{2k}^{τ} for each $\tau \in T$ which is an immediate successor of σ and each $k \leq 3$, and
- (3) v_0^{μ} (if $\sigma \neq \lambda$).

We claim that v_{i-1}^{σ} dominates v_i^{σ} in $G_{\leq v_i^{\sigma}}$. (1) is handled because v_{i-1}^{σ} is connected to itself. (2) is handled because τ is an immediate predecessor of σ , so v_{i-1}^{σ} either is connected to all v_j^{τ} vertices (if i-1=0) or is connected to all v_{2k}^{τ} vertices (if i-1>0). In either case, it is connected to all the vertices in (2). Finally, if $\sigma \neq \lambda$, then since σ is an immediate successor of μ in T, v_0^{μ} is connected to every vertex of the form v_j^{σ} . In particular, v_0^{μ} is connected to v_{i-1}^{σ} , so (3) is handled, completing the proof that v_{i-1}^{σ} dominates v_i^{σ} in $G_{\leq v_j^{\sigma}}$.

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Theorem 2.1 gives us some information about the index set of computable graphs that are constructible. From its definition, this index set is Σ_2^1 since G is constructible if and only if there is a binary relation \prec on G such that \prec is a well order that satisfies the domination condition. The domination condition is arithmetical, but to say \prec is a well order is Π_1^1 , and hence the definition is Σ_2^1 . Since the index set of well founded computable trees in $\omega^{<\omega}$ is Π_1^1 complete and the functional in Theorem 2.1 is computable, we get the following corollary.

Corollary 2.6. The index set of computable constructible graphs is Π_1^1 -hard.

We contrast this situation with the index set of computable locally finite graphs that are constructible.

Proposition 2.7. The index set of computable locally finite constructible graphs is Σ_1^1 .

Proof. By Proposition 1.6, to say a locally finite graph is constructible, it suffices to say it has a dominating order of type ω . An infinite linear order has type ω if and only if every element has finitely many predecessors. Therefore, a locally finite graph G is constructible if there is a binary relation \prec on G such that \prec is a linear order in which every vertex has finitely many predecessors and which satisfies the domination condition. Saying \prec is a linear order in which each vertex has finite many predecessors is arithmetical, so the entire statement is Σ_1^1 .

We return to the question of proving a lower bound on the complexity of this index set in Section 4. The next theorem shows there is no upper bound in the countable ordinals for the minimal dominating order types of countable constructible graphs. Thus, there is no analog of Proposition 1.6 for countable constructible graphs.

Theorem 2.8. Let $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ be a well-founded tree. The minimal dominating order type of G_T is greater than or equal to $\operatorname{rank}_T(\lambda)$.

Proof. Fix T with $\operatorname{rank}_T(\lambda) = \alpha$. Let \prec be an arbitrary dominating order on G. It suffices to show the order type of (G_T, \prec) is at least α . Recall that for $\sigma \in T$, m_{\prec}^{σ} is the \prec -greatest element of $\{v_{2k}^{\sigma} \mid k \leq 3\}$. We drop the subscripts on G_T and m_{\prec}^{σ} . By Lemma 2.3, if $\sigma \sqsubset \tau$, then $m^{\tau} \prec m^{\sigma}$. For $\sigma \in T$, let β_{σ} be the order type of $(G_{\preceq m^{\sigma}}, \prec)$.

Claim. For every $\sigma \in T$, rank_T(σ) $\leq \beta_{\sigma}$.

The theorem follows from the claim because $\alpha = \operatorname{rank}_T(\lambda) \leq \beta_{\lambda} \leq \operatorname{order-type}(G, \prec)$. Therefore, to complete the theorem, it suffices to prove the claim.

We prove the claim by induction on $\operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma)$. When $\operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma) = 0$, the claim follows because $0 \leq \beta_{\sigma}$ trivially. For the induction case, assume $\operatorname{rank}_T(\sigma) = \gamma$. If τ is an immediate successor of σ , then $\operatorname{rank}_T(\tau) \leq \beta_{\tau}$ by induction, and $m^{\tau} \prec m^{\sigma}$ by Lemma 2.3. It follows that $\beta_{\tau} < \beta_{\sigma}$ because $G_{\leq m^{\tau}} \subsetneq G_{\leq m^{\sigma}}$. Therefore,

$$\operatorname{rank}_{T}(\sigma) = \sup \{ \operatorname{rank}_{T}(\tau) + 1 \mid \tau \text{ is immediate successor of } \sigma \}$$

$$\leq \sup \{ \beta_{\tau} + 1 \mid \tau \text{ is immediate successor of } \sigma \}$$

$$\leq \beta_{\sigma}$$

completing the proof of the claim.

Corollary 2.9. The set of minimal dominating order types is cofinal in ω_1 .

The last theorem in this section shows that the graphs G_T for non-well founded trees T provide examples of weakly C-win graphs that are not constructible.

Theorem 2.10. For every tree $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$, G_T is weakly C-win.

Proof. We describe Player C's strategy and then verify the strategy is weakly winning. When describing the strategy, we let v_i^{σ} denote Player C's position and v_j^{τ} denote Player R's position. We maintain a list of inductive hypotheses depending on which player's turn it is to move.

• If it is Player R's turn, then $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$. If $\sigma = \tau$, then i < j, and if $|\sigma| < |\tau|$, then i = 0.

• If it is Player C's turn, then σ and τ are comparable. If $\sigma = \tau$, then i < j, and if $|\tau| < |\sigma|$, then $|\tau| = |\sigma| - 1$.

Player C starts at vertex v_0^{λ} . For subsequent rounds, assume Player C is at v_i^{σ} and Player R is at v_i^{τ} . Player C moves as follows.

- (1) If $\tau \sqsubset \sigma$, then by the inductive hypothesis, $|\tau| = |\sigma| 1$. If j = 0 or i is even, then there is an edge from v_i^{σ} to v_j^{τ} . In this case, she moves to v_j^{τ} and wins. Otherwise, j > 0 and i is odd. In this case, she moves to v_0^{τ} .
- (2) If $\sigma = \tau$, then by the inductive hypothesis, i < j. She moves to v_{i+1}^{σ} (and wins if j = i + 1).
- (3) If $|\sigma| + 1 = |\tau|$, we break into two cases. If i = 0 or j is even, there is an edge between v_i^{σ} and v_j^{τ} . In this case, she moves to v_j^{τ} and wins. Otherwise, i > 0 and j is odd. In this case, she moves to v_{j-1}^{τ} .
- (4) If $|\sigma| + 1 < |\tau|$, then she moves to $v_0^{\sigma^{\gamma}\tau(|\sigma|)}$.

This completes the description of Player C's strategy. It is straightforward to check that the induction hypotheses for Player R's move hold in each case. Next, we verify that the inductive hypotheses for Player C's move hold after Player R moves. Assume it is Player R's turn to move and we break into two cases.

First, suppose $\sigma = \tau$. By the inductive hypothesis, i < j, so in particular, $j \neq 0$. Player R's options are: (i) move to v_{j-1}^{τ} , v_j^{τ} or v_{j+1}^{τ} (assuming j < 6); (ii) move to a vertex of the form $v_k^{\tau \upharpoonright (|\tau|-1)}$ (assuming $\tau \neq \lambda$); or (iii) move to a vertex of the form v_{2k}^{μ} where μ is an immediate successor of τ on T. In each case, the induction hypothesis for Player C's move holds.

Second, suppose $|\sigma| < |\tau|$. By the inductive hypothesis, $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$ and i = 0. Player R's options are: (iv) move to v_{j-1}^{τ} (assuming j > 0), v_j^{τ} or v_{j+1}^{τ} (assuming j < 6); (v) move to a vertex of the form $v_k^{\tau \upharpoonright (|\tau|-1)}$; or (vi) move to a vertex of the form v_k^{μ} where μ is an immediate successor of τ in T (where the index k must be even if j > 0). Again, the induction hypothesis for Player C's move holds in each case.

It remains to prove Player C's strategy is weakly winning. Assume for a contradiction that Player R has a strategy that allows him to avoid losing in a finite round and to occupy a fixed vertex v_n^{ν} infinitely often. Let $v_{i_m}^{\sigma_m}$ denote Player C's position after her move in the *m*-th round, and let $v_{j_m}^{\tau_m}$ denote Player R's position after his move in the *m*-th round. The inductive relationship between σ_s and τ_s is given by the hypotheses for Player C's move, and the inductive relationship between σ_{s+1} and τ_s is given by the hypotheses for Player R's move.

Claim. There is a value u such that either $\sigma_u = \tau_u$ or $\sigma_{u+1} = \tau_u$.

Assume for a contradiction there is no such value u. The proof proceeds in several small steps. First, we claim $|\sigma_{s+1}| < |\tau_s|$ for all s. By the induction hypothesis, $\sigma_{s+1} \sqsubseteq \tau_s$ for all s. By the assumption that $\sigma_{s+1} \neq \tau_s$, we must have $|\sigma_{s+1}| < |\tau_s|$ for all s.

Second, we claim $|\sigma_s| \leq |\tau_s|$ for all s. Since $\sigma_0 = \lambda$, this holds trivially for s = 0. For s > 0, $|\sigma_s| < |\tau_{s-1}|$ by the first claim. Since the difference in the values of $|\tau_s|$ and $|\tau_{s-1}|$ is at most 1, we have $|\sigma_s| \leq |\tau_s|$.

Third, we claim $|\sigma_s| < |\tau_s|$ for all s. By the induction hypothesis, σ_s and τ_s are comparable. By the second claim, $|\sigma_s| \le |\tau_s|$, so $\sigma_s \sqsubseteq \tau_s$. Since $\sigma_s \ne \tau_s$ by assumption, it follows that $|\sigma_s| < |\tau_s|$.

Fourth, we claim $|\sigma_s| + 1 < |\tau_s|$ for all s. Suppose this inequality fails for a fixed s. Since $|\sigma_s| < |\tau_s|$, it follows that $|\sigma_s| + 1 = |\tau_s|$. Player C acts in (3) to set $\sigma_{s+1} = \tau_s$ (since we have assumed she cannot win in a finite round), contradicting our assumption the claim is false.

Finally, having established that $|\sigma_s| + 1 < |\tau_s|$ for all s, we know Player C acts in (4) at every round. In particular, $|\sigma_{s+1}| = |\sigma_s| + 1$. Since $|\tau_s| > |\sigma_s|$, it follows that $\lim_s |\tau_s| = \infty$, contradicting our assumption that Player R occupies the vertex v_n^{ν} infinitely often.

Claim. There is a value u for which $\sigma_{u+1} = \tau_u$.

Fix *u* from the previous claim. If $\sigma_{u+1} = \tau_u$, then we are done. Otherwise, $\sigma_u = \tau_u$ and it is Player C's turn. She acts in (2) to keep $\sigma_{u+1} = \tau_u$ since we assume she cannot win in a finite round.

Claim. For each $t \ge u$, $\sigma_{t+1} = \tau_t$.

We prove this claim by induction on t. When t = u, it follows from the previous claim. For the induction case, assume that $\sigma_{t+1} = \tau_t$. By the inductive hypotheses on Player R's turn to move, we know $i_{t+1} < j_t$ and hence $j_t \neq 0$. Player R's possible moves are described in (i)-(iii) above. In (i), Player R maintains $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t$, so Player C acts in (2) to set $\sigma_{t+2} = \sigma_{t+1} = \tau_t = \tau_{t+1}$. In (ii), Player R sets $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t \upharpoonright (|\tau_t| - 1)$, so Player C acts in (1) to set $\sigma_{t+2} = \tau_{t+2} = \tau_{t+1}$ (since we assume she does not win in a finite round).

In (iii), Player R would set $\tau_{t+1} = \mu$ for some immediate successor μ of τ_t in T. We prove this case cannot occur. Since $j_t \neq 0$, the value of j_{t+1} must be even. Therefore, there is an edge between $v_{i_{t+1}}^{\sigma_{t+1}}$ and $v_{j_{t+1}}^{\tau_{t+1}}$. Player C acts in (3) to win by moving to $v_{j_{t+1}}^{\tau_{t+1}}$, contradicting our assumption that she does not win in a finite round.

Claim. At each round $t \ge u$, Player R sets $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t$ or $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t \upharpoonright (|\tau_t| - 1)$. Moreover, he can only set $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t$ for finitely many rounds before setting $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t \upharpoonright (|\tau_t| - 1)$.

The first sentence follows directly from the proof of the previous claim. To prove the second sentence, notice that if Player R sets $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t$, then $\sigma_{t+1} = \tau_{t+1}$ by the previous claim. Player C acts in (2) to set $\sigma_{t+2} = \tau_{t+1}$ and $i_{t+2} = i_{t+1} + 1$. That is, she chases Player R down the finite chain $v_0^{\tau_{t+1}}, \ldots, v_6^{\tau_{t+1}}$. Since we assume he does not lose in a finite round, Player R must eventually set $\tau_{t+1} = \tau_t \upharpoonright (|\tau_t| - 1)$. This completes the proof of the claim.

By the last claim, once we reach the stage u, Player R can only maintain a given value of τ_t for finitely many rounds before setting $|\tau_{t+1}| < |\tau_t|$. Therefore, there is a round s at which $\tau_s = \lambda$. Player C sets $\sigma_{s+1} = \lambda$ and wins in finite many more moves by chasing Player R down the finite chain $v_0^{\lambda}, \ldots, v_6^{\lambda}$, contradicting our assumption that she doesn't win in a finite round and completing the verification that Player C's strategy is weakly winning.

Corollary 2.11. For any tree $T \subseteq \omega^{<\omega}$ that is not well-founded, the graph G_T is weakly C-win but not constructible.

Corollary 2.12. There is a locally finite graph G that is weakly C-win but not constructible.

Proof. Let T consist of a single infinite path, such as $T = \{0^n \mid n \in \omega\}$. G_T is weakly C-win by Theorem 2.10, is locally finite because T is finitely branching, and is not constructible by Theorem 2.1.

3 Tree-form graphs and coding one jump

In this section, we develop a general framework for constructing graphs which we can use to code information into dominating orders.

Lemma 3.1. Let \prec be a dominating order on G. For every $v \in G$, the induced subgraph $G_{\preceq v}$ is connected.

Proof. For a contradiction, suppose v is \prec -least such that $G_{\preceq v}$ is not connected. Since any singleton subgraph is connected, v is not the \prec -least element of G. Fix $u \prec v$ such that u dominates v in $G_{\preceq v}$, and so E(u, v) holds. $G_{\preceq v} = (\bigcup_{w \prec v} G_{\preceq w}) \cup \{v\}$ and $u \in \bigcup_{w \prec v} G_{\preceq w}$, so it suffices to prove $\bigcup_{w \prec v} G_{\preceq w}$ is connected. By the minimality of $v, \bigcup_{w \prec v} G_{\preceq w}$ is the union of a chain of connected subgraphs and hence is connected. \Box

Definition 3.2. Let $G_i = (V_i, E_i)$, $i \in \omega$, be a sequence of disjoint connected graphs, each with a designated node a_i . The tree-form graph G = (V, E) with spine x_i , connectors a_i and graph branches G_i is the graph defined by

$$V = \bigcup_{i \in \omega} (V_i \cup \{x_i\}) \text{ and } E = \bigcup_{i \in \omega} (E_i \cup \{\langle x_i, x_{i+1} \rangle, \langle x_{i+1}, x_i \rangle, \langle x_i, a_i \rangle, \langle a_i, x_i \rangle\}).$$

A tree-form graph looks like



where the notation $\begin{bmatrix} \overline{G_i} & a_i \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{} x_i$ indicates that the graph G_i is attached to G by connecting x_i to a_i , but making no other connections between x_i and nodes in G_i .

Lemma 3.3. Let G be a tree-form graph with graph branches G_i and let \prec be a dominating order on G. Let \prec_i be the restriction of \prec to G_i . For all i, \prec_i is a dominating order on G_i , and for all i except possibly one, \prec_i has least element a_i .

Proof. Fix a dominating order \prec of G. Let v_0 be the \prec -least element of G. Let i_0 be such that either $v_0 = x_{i_0}$ or $v_0 \in G_{i_0}$. We claim x_{i_0} is the \prec -least element of the form x_j for $j \in \omega$. The claim is clear if $v_0 = x_{i_0}$, so suppose $v_0 \in G_{i_0}$. Let w be the \prec -least vertex such that

 $w \notin G_{i_0}$. By Lemma 3.1, $G_{\preceq w}$ is connected, so the node w must be connected to some node in G_{i_0} . The only node with this property is x_{i_0} , so we must have $w = x_{i_0}$.

Fix an index $i \in \omega$ such that $i \neq i_0$ and let w_i be the \prec -least element of G_i . We claim that $w_i = a_i$ and $x_i \prec a_i$. Since $i \neq i_0$ and $G_{\preceq w_i}$ is connected, there must be an edge between w_i and some node $v \in G \setminus G_i$ with $v \prec w_i$. The only edge connecting an element of G_i with an element of $G \setminus G_i$ is $E(a_i, x_i)$. Therefore, $w_i = a_i$, $v = x_i$ and $x_i \prec a_i$.

Continuing with our fixed index $i \neq i_0$, let \prec_i be the restriction of \prec to G_i . We show \prec_i is a dominating order on G_i with least element a_i . The relation \prec_i is a well-order of G_i , and by the second claim, a_i is the least element of G_i . Let $v \in G_i$ with $v \neq a_i$. It suffices to show there is a node $u \in G_i$ such that $u \prec_i v$ and u dominates v in $G_{i, \preceq v}$. Since \prec is a dominating order of G, we fix $u \in G$ such that $u \prec v$ and u dominates v in $G_{\preceq v}$. Therefore, $u \in N_{G \prec_v}[v] \subseteq N_{G \prec_v}[u]$. Because $v \in G_i$ and $v \neq a_i$, $N_G[v] \subseteq G_i$. Therefore, $u \in G_i$ and

$$N_{G_{i, \preceq v}}[v] = N_{G_{\preceq v}}[v] \cap G_i \subseteq N_{G_{\preceq v}}[u] \cap G_i \subseteq N_{G_{i, \preceq v}}[u]$$

showing that u dominates v in $G_{i, \leq v}$.

It remains to show \prec_{i_0} is a dominating order of G_{i_0} . When $v_0 = x_{i_0}$ or $v_0 = a_{i_0}$, this fact follows from the argument in the preceding paragraph. Assume $v_0 \in G_{i_0}$ and $v_0 \neq a_{i_0}$. We need to show each $v \in G_{i_0}$ with $v \neq v_0$ is dominated in $G_{i_0, \leq v}$ by some $u \prec_{i_0} v$. For $v \neq a_{i_0}$, this follows as in the preceding paragraph. However, in this case, we need an argument for a_{i_0} . Suppose $b \prec a_{i_0}$ dominates a_{i_0} in $G_{\leq a_{i_0}}$, so $N_{G_{\leq a_{i_0}}}[a_{i_0}] \subseteq N_{G_{\leq a_{i_0}}}[b]$. By the first claim above, each $v \prec x_{i_0}$ is in G_{i_0} , and $a_{i_0} \prec x_{i_0}$. Therefore, $b \in G_{i_0}$, $N_{G_{i_0, \leq a_{i_0}}}[a_{i_0}] = N_{G_{\leq a_{i_0}}}[a_{i_0}]$ and $N_{G_{i_0, \leq a_{i_0}}}[b] = N_{G_{\leq a_{i_0}}}[b]$. It follows that $N_{G_{i_0, \leq a_{i_0}}}[a_{i_0}] \subseteq N_{G_{i_0, \leq a_{i_0}}}[b]$, and hence b dominates a_{i_0} in $G_{i_0, \leq a_{i_0}}$.

Lemma 3.4. Let G be a tree-form graph with graph branches G_i such that each G_i has a dominating order with least element a_i . Let \prec_i be a sequence of dominating orders for the graphs G_i with least element a_i . There is a dominating order \prec of G such that for every i, the restriction of \prec to G_i is \prec_i . In particular, if each G_i admits a dominating order with least element a_i , then G admits a dominating order.

Proof. Fix the sequence of dominating orders \prec_i with least elements a_i . Define an order \prec on G by setting $u \prec v$ if and only if (i) $u \in G_i \cup \{x_i\}, v \in G_j \cup \{x_j\}$ and i < j, (ii) $u = x_i$ and $v \in G_i$, or (iii) $u, v \in G_i$ and $u \prec_i v$. The order \prec can be visualized as

$$x_0 \prec (G_0, \prec_0) \prec x_1 \prec (G_1, \prec_1) \prec \cdots \prec x_i \prec (G_i, \prec_i) \prec x_{i+1} \prec \cdots$$

where $x_i \prec (G_i, \prec_i) \prec x_{i+1}$ denotes that x_i comes before all the elements of G_i , that all the elements of G_i come before x_{i+1} , and that the elements of G_i are ordered among themselves by \prec_i . It is straightforward to verify that \prec is a well order of G using the fact that each \prec_i is a well order of G_i . Furthermore, it is clear that the restriction of \prec to G_i is \prec_i .

To show that \prec is a dominating order, it suffices to show that for each $v \neq x_0$, there is a $u \prec v$ such that u dominates v in $G_{\prec v}$. We break into three cases.

First, suppose that $v = x_i$ for some i > 0. By the definition of a tree-form graph, $N_G[x_i] = \{x_{i-1}, x_i, a_i, x_{i+1}\}$. Since $x_{i-1} \prec x_i \prec a_i \prec x_{i+1}$, it follows that $N_{G_{\preceq x_i}}[x_i] = \{x_{i-1}, x_i\}$, and therefore, $x_{i-1} \prec x_i$ dominates x_i in $G_{\preceq x_i}$.

Second, suppose that $v = a_i$ for some *i*. Since a_i is the \prec_i -least element of G_i and $N_G[a_i] \subseteq G_i \cup \{x_i\}$, we have that $N_{G_{\leq a_i}}[a_i] = \{x_i, a_i\}$. Therefore, $x_i \prec a_i$ dominates a_i in $G_{\leq a_i}$.

Third, suppose that $v \in G_i$ and $v \neq a_i$. In this case, $N_G[v] = N_{G_i}[v]$. Let $u \in G_i$ be such that $u \prec_i v$ and u dominates v in $G_{i, \preceq_i v}$. By the definition of \prec , we have $u \prec v$. Furthermore, $N_{G_{\preceq v}}[v] = N_{G_{i, \preceq v}}[v] \subseteq N_{G_{i, \preceq v}}[u] \subseteq N_{G_{\preceq v}}[u]$, so u dominates v in $G_{\preceq v}$ as required. \Box

Lemma 3.5. Let G be a tree-form graph with finite graph branches G_i such that each G_i has a dominating order with least element a_i . G has a dominating of order of order type ω .

Proof. Since each G_i is finite, the dominating order defined in the proof of Lemma 3.4 has order type ω . Alternately, since G is finitely branching, it has a dominating order of type ω by Proposition 1.6.

Lemma 3.6. For any uniform computable sequence of connected graphs G_i with distinguished elements a_i , the tree-form graph G with graph branches G_i is computable.

Proof. Fix a uniform computable construction of the sequence G_i and let $G_{i,s}$ be the finite portion of G_i built at the end of stage s. Without loss of generality, we can assume that the first element to appear in $G_{i,s}$ is a_i . We build G in stages with the approximation at stage s consisting of the spine nodes x_0, \ldots, x_s with attached graph branches $G_{0,s}, \ldots, G_{s,s}$.

We end this section with two results using this framework for constructing graphs. The first application, given in the following theorem, will be improved in Theorem 4.9.

Theorem 3.7. There is a computable graph G such that G is constructible and every dominating order computes 0'.

Proof. We build G as a tree-form graph in which each branch graph G_i will have one of two isomorphism types. Let X_i have domain $\{a_i, b_i, c_i, d_i\}$ and edges E_{X_i} given by

 $a_i - b_i - c_i - d_i$

and let Y_i have domain $\{a_i, b_i, c_i, d_i, e_i, f_i, g_i, h_i\}$ and edges E_{Y_i} given by



Because $X_i \subseteq Y_i$ and $E_{X_i} = E_{Y_i} \cap X_i^2$, there is a uniformly computable sequence of graphs G_i such that if $i \notin 0'$, then $G_i \cong X_i$, and if $i \in 0'$, then $G_i \cong Y_i$. Therefore, there is a computable tree-form graph G with branches G_i .

By Lemma 3.1, the only dominating order of X_i starting with a_i is $a_i \prec b_i \prec c_i \prec d_i$. Therefore, in every dominating order of X_i starting with a_i , we have $c_i \prec d_i$.

There are several dominating orders of Y_i that start with a_i , for example $a_i \prec f_i \prec g_i \prec h_i \prec b_i \prec e_i \prec d_i \prec c_i$. However, we claim that $d_i \prec c_i$ in each such dominating order. Since Y_i is finite, the last element in any dominating order must be dominated in the full graph Y_i . Therefore, because only a_i and c_i are dominated in Y_i , every dominating order on Y_i that starts with a_i must end with c_i . In particular, $d_i \prec c_i$.

Each G_i has a dominating order starting with a_i , so by Lemma 3.4, G admits a dominating order. Fix any dominating order \prec on G and let \prec_i be the restriction to G_i . By Lemma 3.3, \prec_i is a dominating order of G_i starting with a_i , with the possible exception of one index i_0 . Let $K_{\prec} = \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid d_i \prec c_i\}$. For any $i \neq i_0$, $i \in K_{\prec}$ if and only if $i \in 0'$, and therefore, 0' is computable from an arbitrary dominating order of G.

For the second application of this method, we distinguish two ways that a computable dominating order on a locally finite graph could have order type ω .

Definition 3.8. Let G be a computable locally finite graph and let \prec be a computable dominating order of G. We say \prec is a computable dominating order of type ω if the classical order type of (G, \prec) is ω . We say \prec is a computable dominating order of strong type ω if there is a computable order preserving bijection $f : (\omega, \leq) \to (G, \prec)$.

Theorem 3.9. There is a computable locally finite graph G such that G has a computable dominating order of type ω but not a computable dominating order of strong type ω .

Proof. We build our computable graph G with domain ω . For each index e, if φ_e is a permutation of ω (and hence could be a bijection $\omega \to G$), then we let \prec_e be the binary relation defined on G by $v \prec_e w$ if and only if $\varphi_e^{-1}(v) < \varphi_e^{-1}(w)$. To ensure that G does not have a computable order of strong type ω , it suffices to meet the following requirements.

 R_e : If $\varphi_e : \omega \to G$ is a bijection, then \prec_e is not a dominating order on G

We build G as a tree-form graph with graph branches G_e and we use G_e to satisfy the requirement R_e .

As in the proof of Theorem 3.7, G_e will have one of two isomorphism types. We start with G_e equal to the graph X_e with vertices $\{a_e, b_e, c_e, d_e\}$ and edge relation E_{X_e} given by

$$a_e - b_e - c_e - d_e$$

Our construction of G_e proceeds in stages.

(1) Wait for a stage s_0 such that $\{a_e, b_e, c_e, d_e\} \subseteq \operatorname{range}(\varphi_{e,s_0})$. If there is no such stage, we stay in (1) forever and $G_e = X_e$.

- (2) Set $n_e = \max\{x \mid \varphi_{e,s_0}(x) \in \{a_e, b_e, c_e, d_e\}\}$. Wait for a stage $s_1 > s_0$ such that $\varphi_{e,s_1}(x)$ converges for all $x \leq n_e$. If there is no such stage (or if we see φ_e is not injective), we stay in (2) forever and $G_e = X_e$.
- (3) At stage $s_1 + 1$, we add one vertex y_e to G_e to form the graph Z_e with vertices $\{a_e, b_e, c_e, d_e, y_e\}$ and edge relation E_{Z_e} given by



 G_e is not changed again, so the final value of G_e is Z_e .

Since $X_e \subseteq Z_e$, $E_{X_e} = E_{Z_e} \cap X_e^2$ and the switch from $G_e = X_e$ to $G_e = Z_e$ is determined by a Σ_1^0 event, the sequence of graphs G_e is uniformly computable. Therefore, there is a computable tree-form graph G with graph branches G_e . Furthermore, we can assume that Gis constructed with domain ω and such that $\varphi_e(x) \neq y_e$ for all $x \leq n_e$ in (3).

Since each G_e is finite, G is locally finite. We have already seen that X_e has a unique dominate order starting with a_e given by $a_e \prec b_e \prec c_e \prec d_e$. Z_e has several dominating orders starting with a_e , for example, $a_e \prec b_e \prec y_e \prec c_e \prec d_e$. However, no dominating order of Z_e can end with y_e because y_e is not dominated in the graph Z_e .

By Lemma 3.5, G has a dominating order of type ω . In fact, we can define a computable dominating order of type ω for G in stages as follows. At stage 0, we start with the empty order. At stage s+1, we first attach $x_s \prec a_s \prec b_s \prec c_s \prec d_s$ to the end of the order determined at stage s. Second, we check if for any $e \leq s$, the graph G_e changed from X_e to Z_e at stage s. If so, then for each such e, we add y_e to the order so that $b_e \prec y_e \prec c_e$. Although the addition of the element y_e is delayed until we see G_e change from X_e to Z_e , the order \prec (in the end) has the form

$$x_0 \prec G_0 \prec x_1 \prec G_1 \prec \cdots$$

as in the proof of Lemma 3.4. Therefore, \prec is a computable dominating order of type ω .

To finish the proof of the theorem, we need to show that G does not have a computable dominating order of strong type ω . For a contradiction, suppose \prec is a computable dominating order on G of strong type ω . Fix an index e such that $\varphi_e : \omega \to G$ is a bijection with $i < j \Leftrightarrow \varphi_e(i) \prec \varphi_e(j)$. Consider the construction of G_e . Since φ_e is a bijection, we will find stages $s_0 < s_1$ and define the parameter n_e in Steps (1) and (2). Therefore, G_e is isomorphic to Z_e . Fix m such that $\varphi_e(m) = y_e$. By construction, we know $\varphi_e(x) \neq y_e$ for all $x \leq n_e$, so $n_e < m$. It follows that for all $v \in \{a_e, b_e, c_e, d_e\}, v \prec y_e$. Therefore, $N_{\preceq y_e}[y_e] = \{a_e, b_e, c_e, d_e, y_e\}$. However, no other node in G contains this set within its neighbors, and so no node can dominate y_e in $G_{\preceq y_e}$, giving the desired contradiction.

4 Second computability construction

To prove additional computability theoretic results about dominating orders, we use a family of graphs K(X), parameterized by a set $X \subseteq \omega$. We begin with the graph formed by applying

Theorem 2.1 to a tree which consists of a single infinite path. The resulting graph consists of ω many rows v_i^{ℓ} , $0 \leq i \leq 6$, in which v_i^{ℓ} is connected to v_{i+1}^{ℓ} . The rows are connected by adding edges from v_0^{ℓ} to every $v_j^{\ell+1}$, and from v_i^{ℓ} to $v_j^{\ell+1}$ when i > 0 and j even.



We refer to this graph as L. It consists of the rows in a larger graph K. To form K, for each ℓ , we add an auxiliary node c_{ℓ} connecting the elements of row ℓ and $\ell + 1$, and we connect c_{ℓ} and $c_{\ell+1}$ as shown below.



K is the graph consisting of v_i^{ℓ} and c_{ℓ} for all $\ell \in \omega$ and $0 \leq i \leq 6$. The nodes v_i^{ℓ} , $0 \leq i \leq 6$ form the ℓ -th row of the graph, and the nodes c_{ℓ} are called auxiliary nodes. The induced subgraph L is not constructible by Theorem 2.1. However, because of the auxiliary nodes, K is constructible.

Lemma 4.1. K has a dominating order with least element v_0^0 .

Proof. The dominating order starts with the initial segment

$$v_0^0 \prec c_0 \prec v_1^0 \prec v_2^0 \prec v_3^0 \prec v_4^0 \prec v_5^0 \prec v_6^0.$$

Each of these elements is dominated by the preceding element in the appropriate initial subgraph. We continue to construct the dominating order row by row, with row ℓ and the auxiliary element c_{ℓ} ordered as

$$v_0^\ell \prec c_\ell \prec v_1^\ell \prec v_2^\ell \prec v_3^\ell \prec v_4^\ell \prec v_5^\ell \prec v_6^\ell.$$

Each of these elements is dominated by $c_{\ell-1}$ in the appropriate initial subgraph because $c_{\ell-1}$ is connected to all of these elements and to all the elements in row $\ell - 1$, and because none of the elements in row $\ell + 1$ have entered the dominating order yet.

Definition 4.2. For $X \subseteq \omega$, K(X) is the induced subgraph of K containing the nodes v_i^{ℓ} for $\ell \in \omega$ and $0 \leq i \leq 6$ and the auxiliary nodes c_k for $k \notin X$.

The set X specifies the nodes c_k to remove from K to form K(X). For example, $K(\emptyset) = K$, and $K(\omega) = L$. We will generalize the fact that K is constructible, while L is not, by showing that K(X) has a dominating order if and only if X is finite.

If X is co-c.e., then \overline{X} is the c.e. set of auxiliary nodes we need to add to L to form K(X), so we can build a computable copy of K(X) uniformly in a c.e. index for \overline{X} . In fact, K(X) has a computable copy if and only if X is co-c.e.

Definition 4.3. Let \prec be a dominating order on K(X). For each row r, let g_r be such that $v_{g_r}^r$ is the \prec -greatest element of row r. Row r is \prec -special (or special if \prec is clear from context) if there is an index $j \neq 0$ such that $v_0^r \prec v_{g_{r+1}}^{r+1}$ and $v_j^r \prec v_{g_{r+1}}^{r+1}$. That is, row r is special if both v_0^r and another element of row r enter the dominating order before the last element of row r+1.

Lemma 4.4. For every dominating order \prec on K(X), there is a \prec -special row.

Proof. Let r be the \prec -least element of $\{v_{g_{\ell}}^{\ell} : \ell \in \omega\}$. All elements of row r enter the dominating order before $v_{g_{r+1}}^{r+1}$, so row r is special. \Box

The following lemma will be the main tool we use to classify when K(X) is constructible and to recover information that is coded in a dominating order for K(X).

Lemma 4.5. Let $X \subseteq \omega$ be nonempty. For every dominating order \prec on K(X) and for every $k \in X$, if row r is \prec -special, then r > k.

Proof. Fix \prec and k. We prove by downward induction that each row $\ell \leq k$ is not special. Suppose for a contradiction that row k is special. Fix $j \neq 0$ such that $v_0^k, v_j^k \prec v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$.

We claim that either $v_0^{k+2} \prec v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$ or $c_{k+1} \prec v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$. Note that c_{k+1} may not be in K(X), in which case, this claim should be read as stating that $v_0^{k+2} \prec v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$. References below to other auxiliary vertices which may not be in K(X) should be read in the same manner.

To prove this claim, suppose neither inequality holds and suppose $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1} \prec v_0^{k+2} \prec c_{k+1}$. Consider which node dominates v_0^{k+2} in $K(X)_{\leq v_0^{k+2}}$. Because $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1} \prec v_0^{k+2}$, v_0^{k+2} is connected to every node in row k + 1 in $K(X)_{\leq v_0^{k+2}}$. The only other nodes in K(X) (or that could be in K(X)) that are connected to every node in row k + 1 are v_0^k and c_{k+1} . However, v_0^k is not connected to v_0^{k+2} in K(X), and c_{k+1} is not in $K(X)_{\leq v_0^{k+2}}$ by our assumption that $v_0^{k+2} \prec c_{k+1}$. Therefore, neither of these nodes dominates v_0^{k+2} in $K(X)_{\leq v_0^{k+2}}$. The argument when $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1} \prec c_{k+1} \prec v_0^{k+2}$ is similar.

Having established the claim, we derive a contradiction by considering which node dominates $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$ in $K(X)_{\leq v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}}$. All references to domination in the next two paragraphs are relative to the subgraph $K(X)_{\leq v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}}$. By the claim, at least one of c_{k+1} and v_0^{k+2} is in this subgraph. Therefore, no vertex in row k dominates $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$. Since v_0^k is in this subgraph, neither c_{k+1} nor any vertex in row k+2 dominates $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$. Finally, since c_k is not in the subgraph (because $k \in X$, so c_k is not even in K(X)), the only vertices left that could dominate $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$ are in row k+1.

We eliminate the vertices in row k + 1 in two cases. First, if $1 \leq g_{k+1} \leq 5$, then $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$ is connected to both $v_{g_{k+1}-1}^{k+1}$ and $v_{g_{k+1}+1}^{k+1}$, so neither of these nodes dominates it, ruling out this case. Second, if $g_{k+1} = 0$ or $g_{k+1} = 6$, then $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$ is connected to v_j^k , while neither v_1^{k+1} nor v_5^{k+1} are connected to v_j^k . Therefore, v_1^{k+1} does not dominate $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$ when $g_{k+1} = 0$, and v_5^{k+1} does not dominate $v_{g_{k+1}}^{k+1}$ when $g_{k+1} = 6$. This completes the proof that row k is not special.

We proceed by downward induction. Assume $0 < \ell \leq k$ and row ℓ is not special. We show row $\ell - 1$ is not special. Assume for a contradiction that row $\ell - 1$ is special and fix $j \neq 0$ such that $v_0^{\ell-1}, v_j^{\ell-1} \prec v_{g_\ell}^{\ell}$. Since row ℓ is not special, every vertex in row $\ell + 1$ is in $K(X)_{\leq v_{g_\ell}^{\ell}}$. We derive a contradiction by considering which vertex dominates $v_{g_\ell}^{\ell}$ in $K(X)_{\leq v_{g_\ell}^{\ell}}$. The references to domination in the next paragraph are relative to this subgraph.

Since $v_{g_{\ell}}^{\ell}$ is connected to $v_0^{\ell+1}$, it is not dominated by $c_{\ell-1}$ or by a vertex in row $\ell-1$. Also, because $v_{g_{\ell}}^{\ell}$ is connected to $v_0^{\ell-1}$, it is not dominated by c_{ℓ} or by a vertex in row $\ell+1$. Therefore, the only vertices left that could dominate $v_{g_{\ell}}^{\ell}$ are in row ℓ . These vertices do not dominate $v_{g_{\ell}}^{\ell}$ by the same argument given in the proof that row k is not special.

Lemma 4.6. K(X) is constructible if and only if X is finite. Furthermore, if X is finite, K(X) admits a dominating order with least element v_0^0 .

Proof. For a contradiction, assume X is infinite and \prec is a dominating order on K(X). By Lemma 4.5, there is no \prec -special row since if row r is \prec -special, then r > k for all $k \in X$. Since every dominating order on K(X) has a special row, we have a contradiction.

For the other direction, assume X is finite. The case when $X = \emptyset$ follows from Lemma 4.1, so assume X is nonempty. Let k be the largest element X and let $y_0 < y_1 < \cdots < y_i$ be the numbers y < k that are in \overline{X} . The auxiliary nodes in K(X) are $\{c_{y_0}, \ldots, c_{y_i}\} \cup \{c_{\ell} : \ell > k\}$. We construct a dominating order starting with the initial segment

$$v_0^0 \prec v_0^1 \prec \cdots \prec v_0^{k+1} \prec c_{y_0} \prec c_{y_1} \prec \cdots \prec c_{y_i} \prec c_{k+1}.$$

This initial segment satisfies the dominating conditions because $v_0^{\ell+1}$ is dominated by v_0^{ℓ} in $K(X)_{\leq v_0^{\ell+1}}$, c_{y_j} is dominated by $v_0^{y_j}$ in $K(X)_{\leq c_{y_j}}$, and c_{k+1} is dominated by v_0^{k+1} in $K(X)_{\leq c_{k+1}}$.

We next add the remaining elements from rows 0 through k + 1, starting with row k + 1and working down to row 0.

$$v_1^{k+1} \prec v_2^{k+1} \prec v_3^{k+1} \prec v_4^{k+1} \prec v_5^{k+1} \prec v_6^{k+1} \prec v_1^k \prec v_2^k \prec \cdots$$

The domination property is satisfied because each of these vertices v_j^{ℓ} is dominated by v_{j-1}^{ℓ} in $K(X)_{\prec v_j^{\ell}}$. We order the rest of K(X) row by row starting with the remainder of row k+1.

$$v_1^{k+1} \prec v_2^{k+1} \prec v_3^{k+1} \prec v_4^{k+1} \prec v_5^{k+1} \prec v_6^{k+1} \prec c_{k+2} \prec v_0^{k+2} \prec v_1^{k+2} \prec \cdots$$

The remaining elements of row k + 1 and c_{k+2} are dominated by c_{k+1} in the appropriate subgraph. Following this pattern, the elements of each row ℓ for $\ell > k + 1$, as well as the vertex $c_{\ell+1}$ are dominated by c_{ℓ} in the appropriate subgraph. \Box

Lemma 4.7. Let A_k , $k \in \omega$, be a uniformly c.e. sequence of sets. There is a computable presentation of the tree-form graph G with graph branches $G_k = K(\overline{A_k})$ and distinguished elements $a_k = v_0^0$. Furthermore, G is constructible if and only if every set A_k is cofinite.

Proof. We can uniformly construct a computable copy of $K(\overline{A_k})$ from an enumeration of A_k by building a computable copy of the graph L and adding auxiliary nodes c_n as n is enumerated into A_k . Therefore, by Lemma 3.6, we can build a computable copy of G.

By Lemma 4.6, if A_k is infinite, then $K(\overline{A_k})$ is not constructible, and hence by Lemma 3.3, G is not constructible. If each A_i is finite, then each graph branch $K(\overline{A_k})$ has a dominating order with least element v_0^0 , and hence G has a dominating order.

Our first application of these graphs is to show the index set of computable locally finite constructible graphs is Π_4^0 -hard. Recall from Proposition 2.7 that this index set is Σ_1^1 .

Theorem 4.8. The index set of computable locally finite constructible graphs is Π_4^0 -hard.

Proof. Let R be an arbitrary Π_4^0 relation on ω . It suffices to build a uniform computable sequence of locally finite graphs G_k such that for all k, R(k) holds if and only if G_k admits a dominating order.

The index set $\text{Cof} = \{e : W_e \text{ is cofinite}\}\$ is Σ_3^0 -complete, so we can fix a uniform c.e. sequence of sets A_e^k for $e, k \in \omega$ such that for all k

$$R(k)$$
 holds $\Leftrightarrow \forall e (A_e^k \text{ is cofinite}).$

For each k, let G_k be the tree-form graph with graph branches $K(\overline{A_e^k})$ for $e \in \omega$. By Lemma 4.7, we can uniformly construct the sequence of computable graphs G_k . G_k is constructible if and only if for all $e, \overline{A_e^k}$ is finite. Therefore, R(k) holds if and only if G_k is constructuble. \Box

Our second application of these graphs improves the result in Theorem 3.7.

Theorem 4.9. There is a computable locally finite constructible graph G such that every dominating order on G computes 0''.

Proof. It suffices to build G such that for every dominating order computes the index set $Inf = \{e : W_e \text{ is infinite}\}$. G will be a tree-form graph with graph branches $K(\overline{A_k})$, where A_k is a uniformly c.e. family of sets.

We enumerate the family A_k in stages with $A_{k,s}$ denoting the set at the end of stage s. While s < k, we set $A_{k,s} = \emptyset$. For each k, we keep a parameter $m_{k,s}$ such that for s < k, $m_{k,s}$ is undefined, $m_{k,k} = k$, and for $s \ge k$, $m_{k,s} \le s$ and $m_{k,s} \le m_{k,s+1}$. The limit $\lim_{s} m_{k,s}$ may be infinite, but we let $m_k = \lim_{s} m_{k,s}$ when the limit is finite. For each index k and stage $s \ge k$, we define $A_s = \{0, \ldots, s\} - \{m_{k,s}\}$. It follows that if $\lim_{s} m_{k,s} = \infty$, then $A_k = \omega$, and if $\lim_{s} m_{k,s} = m_k$, then $A_k = \omega - \{m_k\}$. It remains to describe the definition of the markers $m_{k,s}$. Although $A_{k,s}$ is completely determined by $m_{k,s}$, we will specify $A_{k,s}$ for clarity. At stage 0, set $m_{0,0} = 0$ and $A_{0,0} = \emptyset$. At stage s > 0, set $m_{s,s} = s$ and $A_{s,s} = \{0, \ldots, s-1\}$. For k < s, break into two cases.

For k = 2e, if $e \in 0'_s - 0'_{s-1}$, then set $m_{2e,s} = s$ and enumerate $m_{2e,s-1}$, into A_{2e} so $A_{2e,s} = \{0, \ldots, s-1\}$. Otherwise, set $m_{2e,s} = m_{2e,s-1}$ and enumerate s into A_{2e} , so $A_{2e,s} = \{0, \ldots, s\} - \{m_{2e,s}\}$.

For k = 2e + 1, if there is an $x > m_{2e+1,s-1}$ such that $x \in W_{e,s}$, then set $m_{2e+1,s} = s$ and enumerate $m_{2e+1,s-1}$ into A_{2e+1} , so $A_{2e+1,s} = \{0, \ldots, s-1\}$. Otherwise, set $m_{2e+1,s} = m_{2e+1,s-1}$ and enumerate s into A_{2e+1} , so $A_{2e+1,s} = \{0, \ldots, s\} - \{m_{2e+1,s}\}$.

This completes the construction of the uniform c.e. sequence A_k . By Lemma 4.7, let G be a computable copy of the tree-form graph with graph branches $K(\overline{A_k})$.

Lemma 4.10. For k = 2e, $\lim_{s} m_{k,s} = m_k$ exists, and $e \in 0'$ if and only if $e \in 0'_{m_k}$.

Proof. After the initial definition $m_{k,k} = k$, the value of $m_{k,s}$ can change at most once. This change occurs if e enters $0'_{s+1}$ at a stage $s+1 \ge k$. Therefore, the limit m_k exists. To prove the second property, assume e enters 0' at stage s+1. If $s+1 \le k$, then $s+1 \le m_{k,k} = m_k$. If k < s+1, then at stage s+1, we set $m_{k,s+1} = s+1$ and hence $s+1 = m_{k,s+1} = m_k$. In either case, we have $s+1 \le m_k$ as required.

Lemma 4.11. For k = 2e + 1, $\lim_{s} m_{k,s} = m_k$ exists if and only if W_e is finite. Furthermore, if W_e is finite, then for all $x \in W_e$, $x < m_k$.

Proof. Suppose W_e is infinite. We definite a sequence of stages $t_0 < t_1 < \cdots$ such that $m_{k,t_i} = t_i$, and hence $\lim_s m_{k,s} = \infty$. Let $t_0 = k$ and note that $m_{k,k} = k$ as required. Assume $m_{k,t_i} = t_i$. Since W_e is infinite, there is a least stage $t_{i+1} > t_i$ at which an element $x > t_i$ enters W_e . At stage t_{i+1} , we set $m_{k,t_{i+1}} = t_{i+1}$.

Suppose W_e is finite. Since we only change the value of $m_{k,s}$ when a new element enters $W_{e,s}$, the parameter $m_{k,s}$ must reach a finite limit m_k . Let t be the stage at which we set $m_{k,t} = t = m_k$. No element $x \ge t$ can enter W_e after stage t or else we would increase the value of $m_{k,s}$. Since $x \in W_{e,t}$ implies x < t, we have $x < m_k$ for all $x \in W_e$.

Lemma 4.12. G is constructible.

Proof. If $\lim_{s} m_{k,s} = m_k$, then $A_k = \omega - \{m_k\}$, and if $\lim_{s} m_{k,s} = \infty$, then $A_k = \omega$. In either case, $\overline{A_k}$ is finite, and hence by Lemma 4.6, each graph branch $K(\overline{A_k})$ admits a dominating order with least element v_0^0 . Therefore, by Lemma 3.4, G is constructible.

Lemma 4.13. For any dominating order \prec on G, $0'' \leq_T \prec$.

Proof. Let $f_{\prec}(k) =$ the least ℓ such that row ℓ is \prec -special in G_k . Note that f_{\prec} is computable from \prec since each row is finite. To show $0'' \leq_T f_{\prec}$, we prove two claims.

First, we claim $0' \leq_T f_{\prec}$. It suffices to show that $e \in 0'$ if and only if $e \in 0'_{f_{\prec}(2e)}$. By Lemma 4.10, $e \in 0'$ if and only if $e \in 0'_{m_{2e}}$. However, since $G_{2e} = K(\{c_{m_{2e}}\})$, it follows from Lemma 4.5 that $m_{2e} \leq f_{\prec}(2e)$. This inequality proves the claim.

Second, we claim W_e is infinite if and only if there is an $x \in W_e$ such that $x \ge f_{\prec}(2e+1)$. The forward direction is obviously true. For the backward direction, assume W_e is finite. By Lemma 4.11, W_e does not contain an element $x \ge m_{2e+1}$. Furthermore, since $G_{2e+1} = K(\{c_{m_{2e+1}}\})$, it follows from Lemma 4.5 that $m_{2e+1} \le f_{\prec}(2e+1)$. Therefore, W_e cannot contain an element $x \ge f_{\prec}(2e+1)$.

To see that 0" is computable from the dominating order \prec , it suffices to show that f_{\prec} can compute the index set Inf. Note that f_{\prec} can determine if $e \in$ Inf by using the oracle 0' to decide whether there is an $x \in W_e$ with $x \geq f_{\prec}(2e+1)$. Since $0' \leq_T f_{\prec}$, this process is computable in f_{\prec} .

This completes the proof of Theorem 4.9.

5 Open questions

By Corollary 2.9, the set of minimal dominating order types for countable graphs is cofinal in ω_1 . Is every $\alpha < \omega_1$ the minimal dominating order type for some countable graph? If not, is there some characterization of these ordinals?

On the computability side, it follows from Theorems 2.1 and 2.8 that the minimal dominating order types of computable constructible graphs are cofinal in ω_1^{CK} . Is there a computable constructible graph without a hyperarthmetic dominating order?

There are large gaps in the index set results. It remains open to close the gap between Π_1^1 and Σ_2^1 for the index set of computable constructible graphs, and to close the gap between Π_4^0 and Σ_1^1 for the index set of computable locally finite constructible graphs.

Finally, we see no reason to believe Theorem 4.9 is optimal. For which computable ordinals α is it possible to construct a computable graph G such that every dominating order computes $0^{(\alpha)}$?

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