

1125-05-226

**Sarah Loeb\*** (sloeb2@illinois.edu) and **Douglas B. West**. *Fractional Separation Dimension*.

Given a linear ordering  $\sigma$  of  $V(G)$ , say that a pair of nonincident edges is *separated* by  $\sigma$  if both vertices of one edge precede both vertices of the other. The *separation dimension*  $\pi(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the minimum size of a set of vertex orderings such that every pair of nonincident edges is separated in some ordering. The *fractional separation dimension*  $\pi_f(G)$  is the infimum of  $|\mathcal{F}|/l$  over all  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  and all lists  $\mathcal{F}$  of vertex orderings such that every pair of nonincident edges is separated in at least  $l$  orderings in  $\mathcal{F}$ .

We show that  $\pi_f(G) \leq 3$  for every graph  $G$ , with equality if and only if  $K_4 \subseteq G$ . On the other hand, there is no sharper upper bound even for triangle-free graphs; we show  $\pi_f(K_{m,m}) = \frac{3m}{m+1}$ . Additionally, we show that the fractional separation dimension of graphs without cycles is at most  $\sqrt{2}$ . (Received August 15, 2016)