

# NEW RESULTS IN CIRCULAR NIM

Joint work with Silvia Heubach

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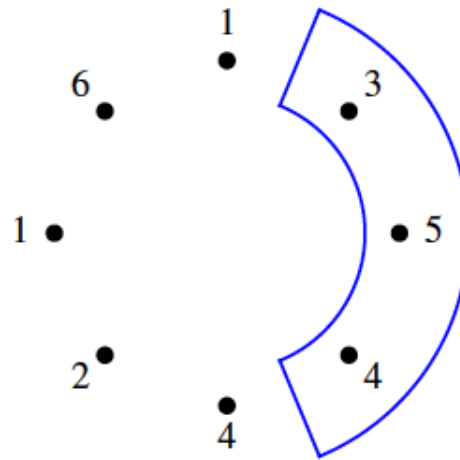
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# Definition of the Game CN(n,k)

- ▶  $n$  stacks of tokens arranged in a circle
- ▶ Select  $k$  **consecutive** stacks and remove at least one token from at least one of the stacks
- ▶ Last player to move wins



$k = 1$  corresponds to regular Nim

# General Results

Game	P-Positions
CN(n,1) = Nim	$\{(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) \mid p_1 \oplus p_2 \oplus \dots \oplus p_n = 0\}$
CN(n,n)	$\{(0, 0, \dots, 0)\}$
CN(n,n-1)	$\{(a, a, \dots, a) \mid a \geq 0\}$

- These cover all cases for  $n = 1, 2, 3$  and all but CN(4,2).
- The set of P-positions for CN(4,2) is given by  $\{(a, b, a, b) \mid a, b \geq 0\}$

# Results for $n = 5$

**Theorem** [D; Ehrenborg and Steingrímsson]

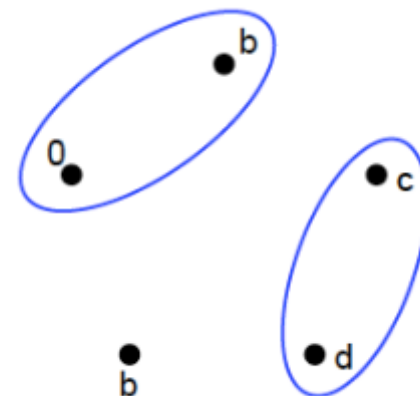
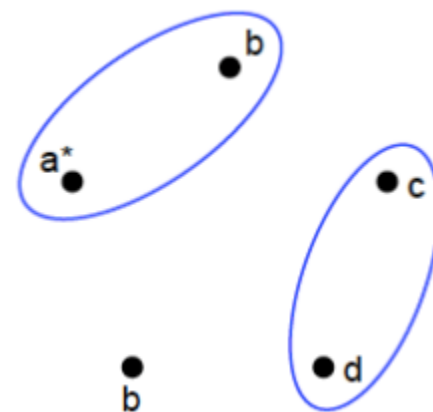
The P-positions of  $CN(5,2)$  are given by  $\{(a^*, b, c, d, b) \mid a^* + b = c + d, a^* = \max(\mathbf{p})\}$

Note that  $b = \min(\mathbf{p})$

**Theorem** [Ehrenborg and Steingrímsson]

The P-positions of  $CN(5,3)$  are given by  $\{(0, b, c, d, b) \mid b = c + d\}$

Note that  $b = \max(\mathbf{p})$



# Results for $n = 6$

## Theorem [DH]

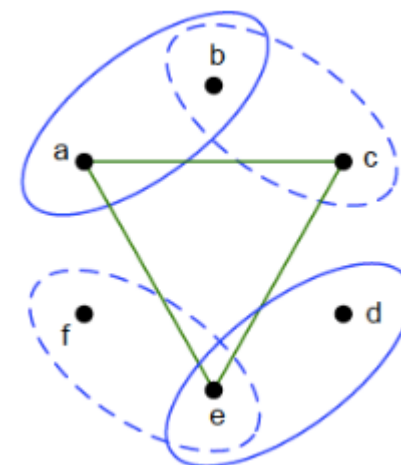
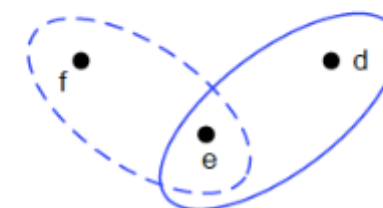
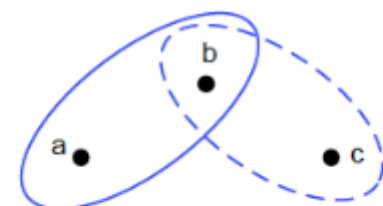
The P-positions of  $CN(6,3)$  are given by  $\{(a,b, c, d, e,f) \mid a + b = d + e, b + c = e + f\}$

Note that also  $c + d = f + a$

## Theorem [DH]

The P-positions of  $CN(6,4)$  are given by  $\{(a,b, c, d, e,f) \mid a + b = d + e, b + c = e + f, a \oplus b \oplus c = 0, a = \min(\mathbf{p})\}$

Note that also  $c + d = f + a$

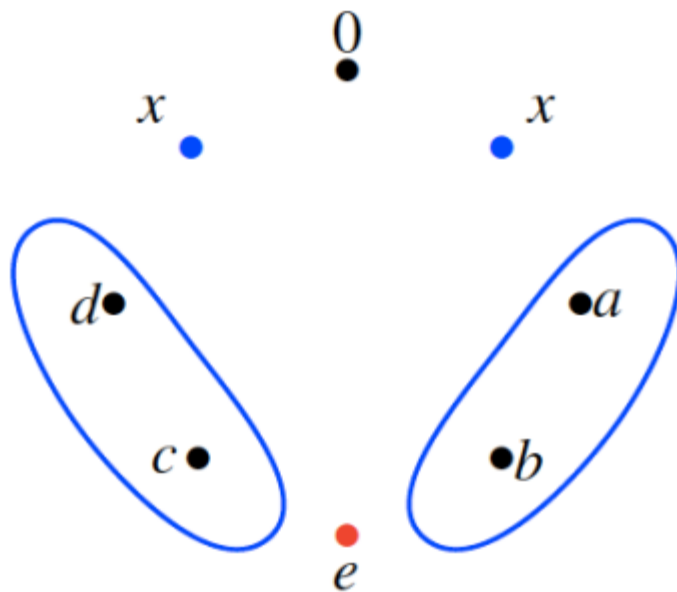


Results for  $n = 7$  (new)

# Results for $n = 8$

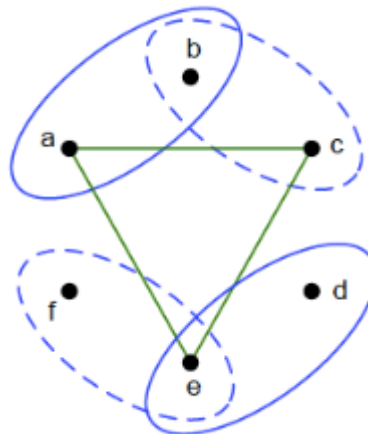
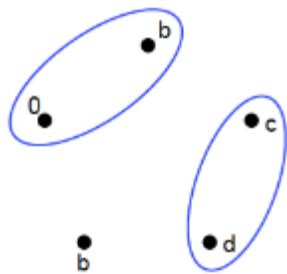
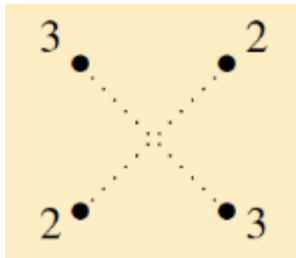
## Theorem [DH]

The P-positions of  $CN(8,6)$  are given by  $\{(0, x, a, b, e, c, d, x) \mid a + b = c + d = x, e = \min \{ x, a + d \}\}$



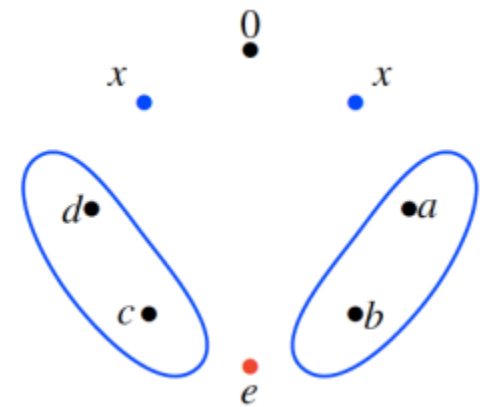
# Open Questions

- Missing cases are  $CN(6,2)$ ,  $CN(7,2)$ ,  $CN(7,5)$
- For  $n = 8$ , only  $CN(8,6)$  is known
- It seems that  $CN(n,2)$  are difficult to find
- Also,  $CN(n,n-2)$  do not show common structure



$a = \min(p)$

?





**Obrigado!**