

# Highly linked tournaments with large minimum out-degree

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Given a positive integer  $k$ , a directed graph is said to be  $k$ -linked if for any two disjoint sets of vertices  $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$  and  $\{y_1, \dots, y_k\}$  there are vertex disjoint directed paths  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  such that  $P_i$  joins  $x_i$  to  $y_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Clearly,  $k$ -linkedness is a stronger notion than the usual notion of strong  $k$ -connectivity. But how much stronger is it? Thomassen constructed directed graphs with arbitrarily large connectivity that are not even 2-linked. It is natural, therefore, to address this question in the restricted setting of tournaments. Resolving a conjecture of Kühn, Lapinskas, Osthus, and Patel, Pokrovskiy showed that any  $452k$ -strongly-connected tournament is  $k$ -linked. He further conjectured, in analogy with the situation for undirected graphs, that there is a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that any  $2k$ -strongly-connected tournament with minimum in and out-degree at least  $f(k)$  is  $k$ -linked. In this talk, I shall present some recent progress made on this conjecture.