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In this paper we are settling a long-standing open problem. We prove that it is NP-hard to recognize T -tenacious graphs for any fixed positive rational number T .

The concept of tenacity of a graph G was introduced by Cozzens, Moazzami and Stueckel in 1992, as a useful measure of the "vulnerability" of G . The tenacity of a graph G , $T(G)$, is defined by $T(G) = \min\{\frac{|S| + \tau(G-S)}{\omega(G-S)}\}$, where the minimum is taken over all vertex cutsets S of G . We define $\tau(G-S)$ to be the number of vertices in the largest component of the graph $G-S$, and $\omega(G-S)$ be the number of components of $G-S$. A connected graph G is called T -tenacious if $|S| + \tau(G-S) \geq T\omega(G-S)$ holds for any subset S of vertices of G with $\omega(G-S) > 1$. If G is not complete, then there is a largest T such that G is T -tenacious ; this T is the tenacity of G . On the other hand, a complete graph contains no vertex cutset and so it is T -tenacious for every T .

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