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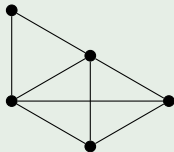
Characterising structure in classes with unbounded clique-width

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KAIST, 11th November 2015

- **Graph** $G = (V, E)$, undirected, simple (no loops, or multiple edges).
- **Induced subgraph**: $H \leq_{\text{ind}} G$.

Example (Graphs and induced subgraphs)



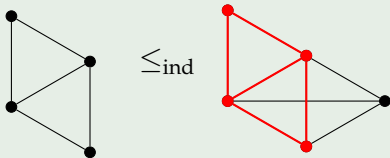
- **Class**: \mathcal{C} , a hereditary property of graphs:

$$G \in \mathcal{C} \text{ and } H \leq_{\text{ind}} G \implies H \in \mathcal{C}.$$

(Example: set of all planar graphs.)

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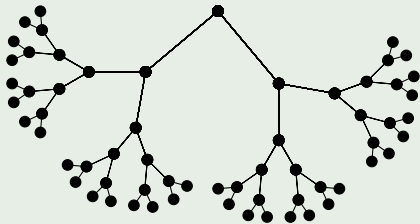
(Example: set of all planar graphs.)

Build-a-graph

Set of labels Σ . You have 4 operations to build a labelled graph:

1. **Create** a new vertex with a label $i \in \Sigma$.
2. **Disjoint union** of two previously-constructed graphs.
3. **Join** all vertices labelled i to all labelled j , where $i, j \in \Sigma, i \neq j$.
4. **Relabel** every vertex labelled i with j .

Example (Binary trees need at most 3 labels)



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- **Clique-width**, $cw(G) =$ size of smallest Σ needed to build G .
- If $H \leq_{\text{ind}} G$, then $cw(H) \leq cw(G)$.
- Clique-width of a class \mathcal{C}

$$cw(\mathcal{C}) = \max_{G \in \mathcal{C}} cw(G)$$

if this exists.

Theorem (Courcelle, Makowsky and Rotics (2000))

If $cw(\mathcal{C}) < \infty$, then any property expressible in monadic second-order (MSO_1) logic can be determined in polynomial time for \mathcal{C} .

- MSO_1 includes many NP-hard algorithms: e.g. k -colouring ($k \geq 3$), graph connectivity, maximum independent set,...
- Generalises **treewidth**, critical to the proof of the Graph Minor Theorem (see next slide)
- Unlike treewidth, clique-width can cope with dense graphs

Diversion: treewidth, $tw(G)$

- $tw(G)$ measures ‘how like a tree’ G is ($tw(G) = 1$ iff G is a tree).
- Bounded treewidth \implies all problems in MSO_2 in polynomial time.

Theorem (Robertson and Seymour, 1986)

For a minor-closed family of graphs \mathcal{C} , $tw(\mathcal{C})$ bounded if and only if \mathcal{C} does not contain all *planar graphs*.

- Planar graphs are the unique “minimal” family for treewidth.

Question

Can we get a similar theorem for clique width?

Plan for the rest of today

- Bounded vs unbounded clique-width
- Look at **minimal** classes with unbounded clique-width
- See how permutations can help here
- Compare clique-width with *linear* clique-width
- Look at connections with well-quasi-ordering

Question

Given a class \mathcal{C} , is $cw(\mathcal{C})$ bounded?

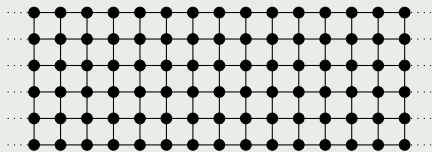
- $cw(G) \leq 3 \cdot 2^{tw(G)-1}$ (Corneil and Rotics, 2005).
- Rank-width: $rw(G) \leq cw(G) \leq 2^{rw(G)+1} - 1$ (Oum and Seymour, 2006) – critical for algorithmic consequences.

Example (Classes of bounded clique-width)

- \mathcal{F} = the class of all forests. $cw(\mathcal{F}) = 3$.
- \mathcal{C} = all **cographs**
= $\{G : G \text{ built from } \bullet \text{ by disjoint union and join}\}$
 $cw(\mathcal{C}) = 2$.

What has unbounded clique-width?

Graphs from grids

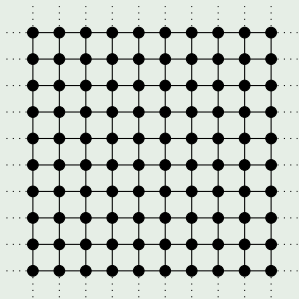


$n \times k$ grids, fixed k : $cw = O(k)$

- Intuition: Unbounded clique width needs two dimensions of complexity.

What has unbounded clique-width?

Graphs from grids



$n \times n$ grids: $cw = n + 1$ (Golumbic and Rotics, 1999)

- Intuition: Unbounded clique width needs two dimensions of complexity.

Plenty of examples:

- Unit interval graphs (intersection graph of unit-length intervals)
- Split graphs (partition into clique and independent set)
- Bipartite permutation graphs (see later)
- Any class with **superfactorial speed**
(\sim more than n^{cn} labelled graphs of order n , for any c)
- Modifications to the $n \times n$ grid gives many more...

Question

*Which classes of graphs are **minimal** with unbounded clique-width?*

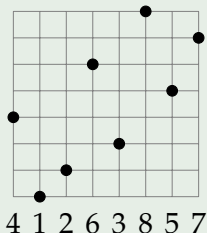
These are rarer (there's more to prove). Four known:

- Unit interval graphs [Lozin, 2011]
- Bipartite permutation graphs [Lozin, 2011]
- Split permutation graphs [Atminas, B., Lozin, Stacho, 2015+]
- Bichain graphs [Atminas, B., Lozin, Stacho, 2015+]

General method to prove minimality of \mathcal{C}

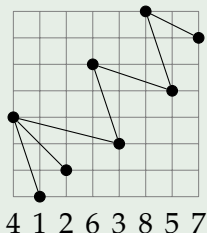
1. Get a structural characterisation of \mathcal{C}
2. Find **universal** graphs U_n : contain all graphs in \mathcal{C} on n vertices
3. Show $cw(U_n) = f(n)$, for some suitably-growing f .
4. Technical lemma: forbidding some $U_n \in \mathcal{C}$ bounds cw .

Permutations and permutation graphs



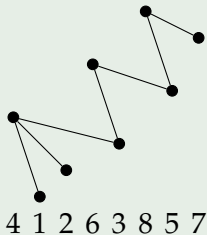
- Permutation $\pi = \pi(1) \cdots \pi(n)$
- Make a graph G_π : for $i < j$, $ij \in E(G_\pi)$ iff $\pi(i) > \pi(j)$.
- Note: $n \cdots 21$ becomes K_n .

Permutations and permutation graphs



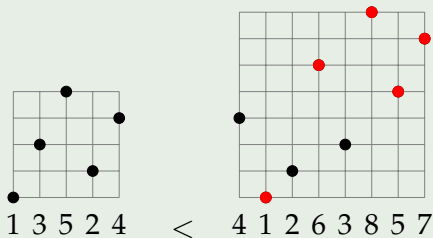
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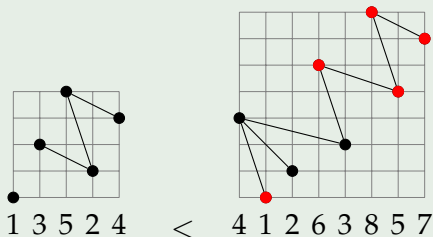
- Permutation graph = can be made from a permutation

Ordering permutations: containment



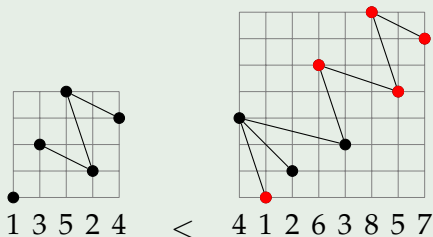
- **Pattern containment:** a partial order, $\sigma \leq \pi$.

Ordering permutations: containment



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- Draw the graphs: $G_\sigma \leq_{\text{ind}} G_\pi$.

Ordering permutations: containment



- **Pattern containment:** a partial order, $\sigma \leq \pi$.
- Draw the graphs: $G_\sigma \leq_{\text{ind}} G_\pi$.
- **Permutation class:** hereditary collection

$$\pi \in \mathcal{C} \text{ and } \sigma \leq \pi \text{ implies } \sigma \in \mathcal{C}.$$

- **Avoidance:** minimal forbidden permutation characterisation:

$$\mathcal{C} = \text{Av}(B) = \{\pi : \beta \not\leq \pi \text{ for all } \beta \in B\}.$$

Av(321) vs Bipartite permutation graphs

Theorem (Lozin, 2011)

Bipartite permutation graphs are a minimal class with unbounded clique-width.

Permutations

$$\pi = 321$$

Graphs

$$G_\pi = \text{triangle}$$

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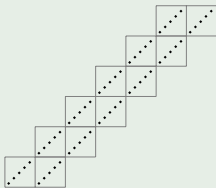
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Structure:



$Av(321)$ vs Bipartite permutation graphs

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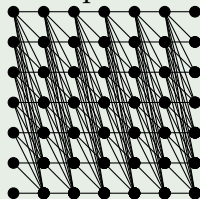
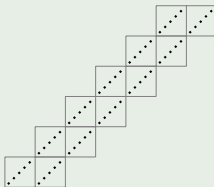
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Bipartite permutation

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Split permutation graphs

Theorem (Atminas, B., Lozin, Stacho, 2015+)

Split permutation graphs are a minimal class with unbounded clique-width.

Split graph = partition vertices into clique and independent set.

Permutations

Merge of $1 \dots k, j \dots 1$

Graphs

Indep set + clique

Split permutation graphs

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Class: $\text{Av}(2143, 3412)$

Graphs

Indep set + clique
Split permutation

Split permutation graphs

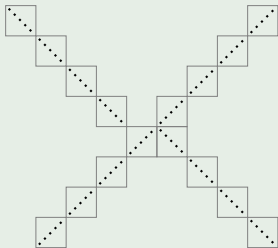
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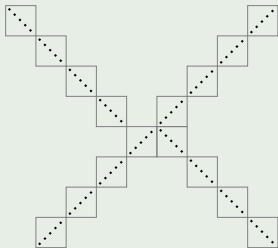
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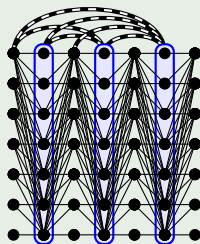
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Structure:

Graphs

Indep set + clique
Split permutation



Bichain graphs

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Bichain graphs are a minimal class with unbounded clique-width.

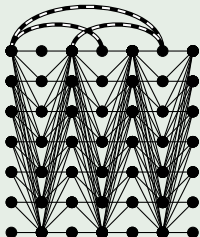
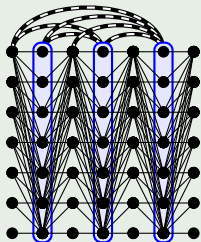
Bichain graph = union of two **chains** (whatever that means).

Flip edges from split permutation graphs

Split permutation

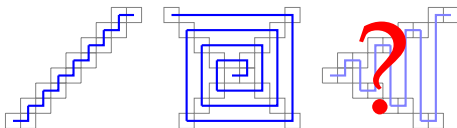


bichain



More minimal classes?

- Permutation class structure is a long 'path':



- Could find minimal classes of **permutation graphs**.
- Carry out **edge flipping** to make other graph classes.

The bad news

It looks like there are going to be lots of minimal classes with unbounded clique-width.

Linear clique-width

Set of labels Σ . You have **3** operations to build a labelled graph:

1. **Create** a new vertex with a label $i \in \Sigma$.
2. ~~**Disjoint union** of two previously-constructed graphs.~~
3. **Join** all vertices labelled i to all labelled j , where $i, j \in \Sigma, i \neq j$.
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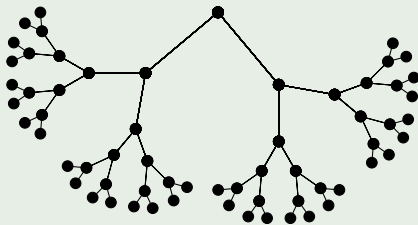
- Can only add vertices **one at a time**.
- **Linear clique-width**, $lcw(G) =$ size of smallest Σ to build G .

Linear clique-width

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Example (Binary trees need lots of labels)



Minimal *linear* clique-width

- Clear: unbounded cw \implies unbounded lcw.
- Recent results about $\text{Av}(321)$ proves the following:

Corollary (of Albert, B., Ruškuc, Vatter, 201?)

The class of bipartite permutation graphs is a minimal class with unbounded **linear** clique-width.

- Likely that the three other minimal unbounded cw classes have the same property.

Question

Do there exist classes that are minimal of unbounded clique-width, but not minimal of unbounded linear clique-width?

Question

When does a class have unbounded lcw, but bounded cw?

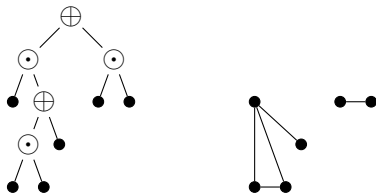
Two examples:

- Binary trees ($cw \leq 3$)
- Cographs ($cw = 2$): lcw is unbounded (Gurski and Wanke, 2005)

Heuristic connection

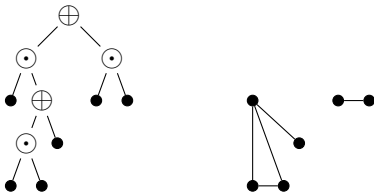
Classes which admit a tree structure of arbitrary height and width have unbounded linear clique-width.

- Cographs: build from \bullet by disjoint union and join
- Construct using binary trees (\oplus = union, \odot = join):



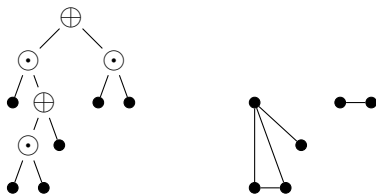
- Trees can be arbitrarily high and wide, so lcw is unbounded.

- Quasi-threshold graphs: build from \bullet by disjoint union and **joining 1 new vertex**



- Can use \oplus freely: trees still arbitrarily high and wide, lcw unbounded.
- Any further restriction: width or height gets bounded. lcw bounded.

- Quasi-threshold graphs: build from \bullet by disjoint union and joining 1 new vertex



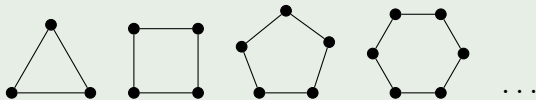
Theorem (B., Korpelainen, Vatter, 2015+)

A subclass of cographs has unbounded lcw if and only if it contains all quasi-threshold graphs, or the complement of this class.

Diversion: Infinite antichains

- **Antichain**: set of pairwise incomparable graphs

The set of cycles forms an antichain



Paths form a *labelled* antichain



A class is:

- **well-quasi-ordered**: contains no infinite antichain.
- **labelled well-quasi-ordered**: contains no labelled infinite antichain.

Well-quasi-order and clique-width



Conjecture (Daligault, Rao, Thomassé, 2010)

If \mathcal{C} is labelled well-quasi-ordered, then \mathcal{C} has bounded clique-width.

They also asked...

Question

If \mathcal{C} is well-quasi-ordered, must it have bounded clique-width?

Well-quasi-order and clique-width

Conjecture (Daligault, Rao, Thomassé, 2010)

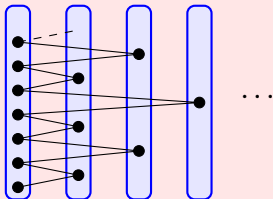
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Question

If \mathcal{C} is well-quasi-ordered, must it have bounded clique-width?

Answer is no (Lozin, Razgon, Zamaraev, 2015)



wqo, but not labelled wqo

- The four known minimal unbounded clique-width classes satisfy:

Property

\mathcal{C} contains a *canonical* labelled infinite antichain \mathfrak{A} :

If $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{C}$ is a subclass with $|\mathcal{D} \cap \mathfrak{A}| < \infty$, then \mathcal{D} is labelled well-quasi-ordered.

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Property

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If $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{C}$ is a subclass with $|\mathcal{D} \cap \mathfrak{A}| < \infty$, then \mathcal{D} is labelled well-quasi-ordered.

- In each case, at most **two** labels are needed, so we propose:

Conjecture

Every minimal class of graphs of unbounded clique-width contains a canonical infinite antichain that uses at most two labels.

Thanks!

Main references:

- Atminas, B., Lozin & Stacho, *Minimal classes of graphs of unbounded clique-width and well-quasi-ordering*, arXiv 1503:01628
- B., Korpelainen & Vatter, *Linear clique-width for classes of cographs*, arXiv 1305:0636
- Albert, B., Ruškuc & Vatter, *Rationality for subclasses of Catalan families*, in preparation