

# Approximations for $\lambda$ -colorings of graphs

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# Introduction

**Article:** “Approximations for  $\lambda$ -colorings of graphs” by Bodlaender et al. (2004)

**Focus:** Upper and lower bounds for  $L(2,1)$ ,  $L(1,1)$  and  $L(0,1)$  labelings in graph classes





# Introduction

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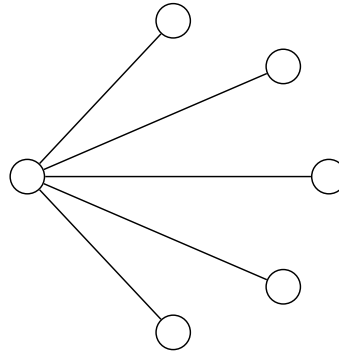
## Summary of the presentation:

- Upper bound on graphs with treewidth  $k$
- Upper bound on outerplanar graphs
- Lower bound on split graphs



# Recall

General lower bounds for  $L(p,q)$ -labeling are given by the tree graph  $K_{1,\Delta}$



$$\Delta + 1 \leq \lambda_{2,1}$$

$$\Delta \leq \lambda_{1,1}$$

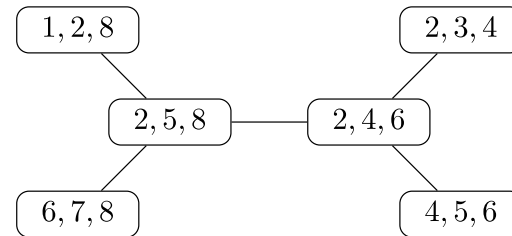
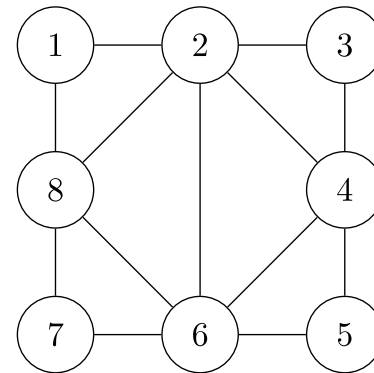
$$\Delta - 1 \leq \lambda_{0,1}$$



# Tree decomposition

Given a graph  $G$ , a **tree decomposition** of  $G$  is a tree  $T$  whose vertices  $X_1, \dots, X_k$  are subsets of  $V(G)$  that satisfy the following properties:

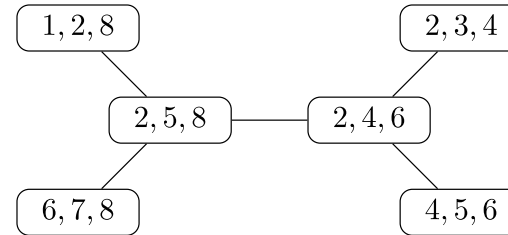
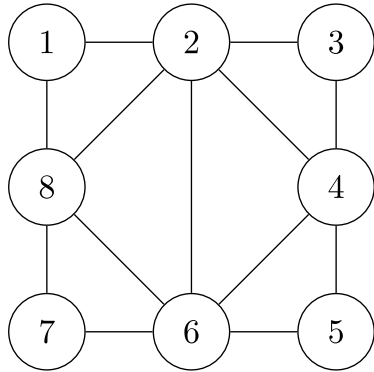
- 1)  $X_1, \dots, X_k$  are a cover of  $V(G)$
- 2) If  $v \in X_i \cap X_j$  then each subset  $X_h$  in the path from  $X_i$  to  $X_j$  contains  $v$
- 3) For each edge  $(u,v)$  of  $G$  at least one subset  $X_i$  contains  $u$  and  $v$



# Treewidth

**Width of a tree decomposition:** size of the largest vertex of  $T$ , minus 1

**Treewidth of a graph:** smallest width of all the tree decompositions





# k-Trees

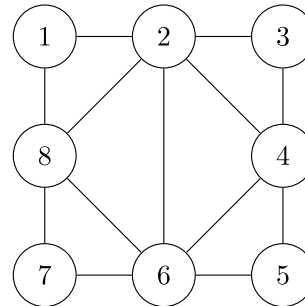
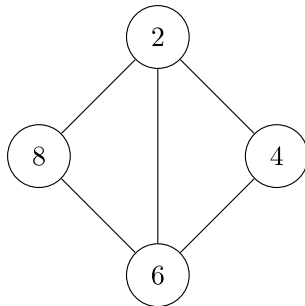
## Inductive definition:

- The complete graph  $K_{k+1}$  is a k-tree
- A k-tree with  $n > k+1$  nodes can be built from a k-tree  $G'$  with  $n-1$  nodes by adding a new node and connecting it to  $k$  vertices that form a  $k$ -clique in  $G'$



### Inductive definition:

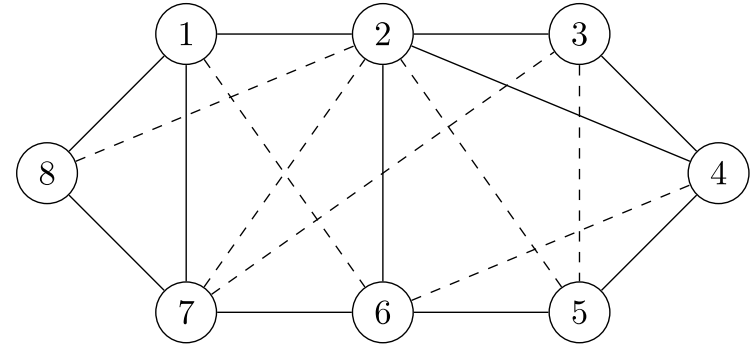
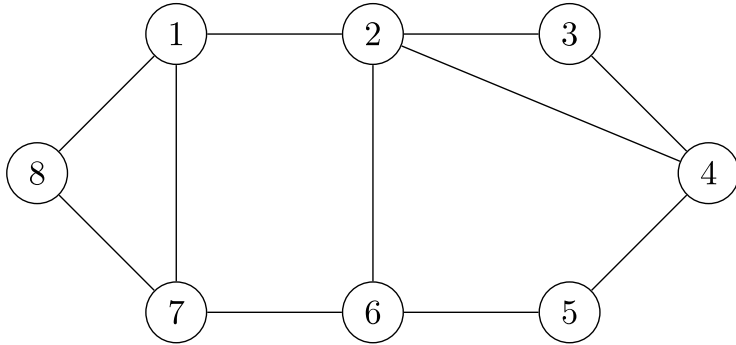
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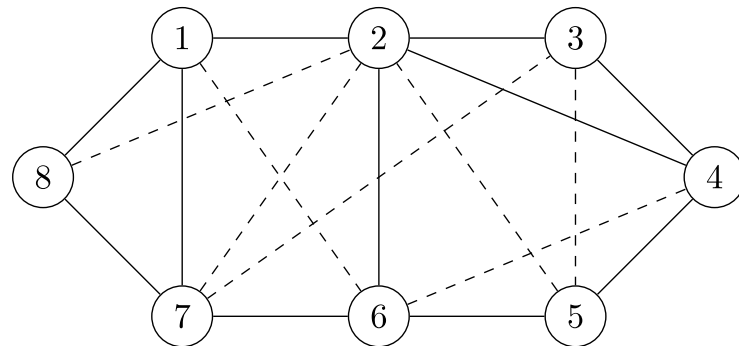
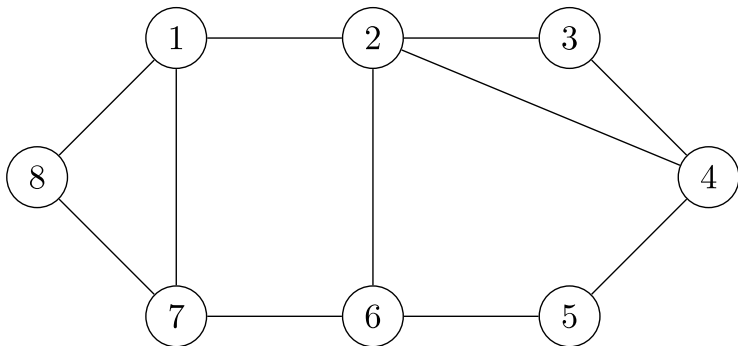
# Partial k-tree

**Partial k-tree:** any graph that is a subgraph of a k-tree



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**(Thm)**  $G$  has treewidth  $\leq k$  if and only if  $G$  is a partial  $k$ -tree

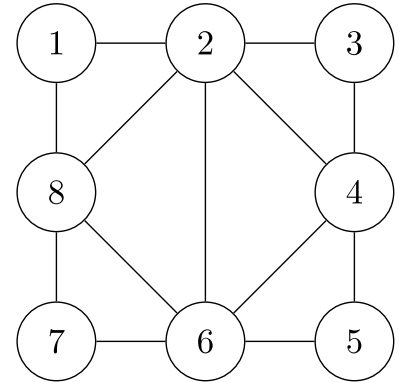
**(Cor)**  $G$  has treewidth  $k$  if and only if  $k$  is the smallest integer such that  $G$  is a partial  $k$ -tree



# Cordal graphs

K-trees are a special type of **cordal (or triangulated)** graph.

A graph is **chordal** when all cycles of 4+ vertices have a **chord**, i.e. an edge that is not part of the cycle but connects two vertices of the cycle.

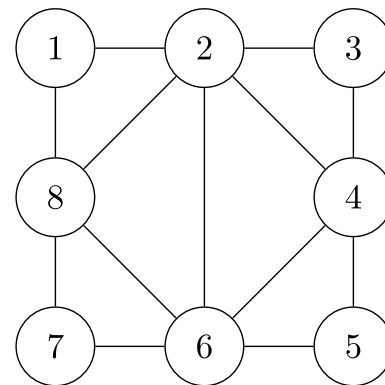


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Equivalently, a chordal graph can be defined as a graph in which every induced cycle in the graph has **exactly three vertices** (hence the alternative name).





# Perfect elimination sequence

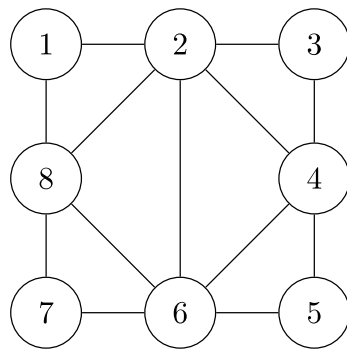
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A **perfect elimination sequence** is an ordering of the vertices such that for each node all of its neighbors that occur after it in the sequence form a clique with it.



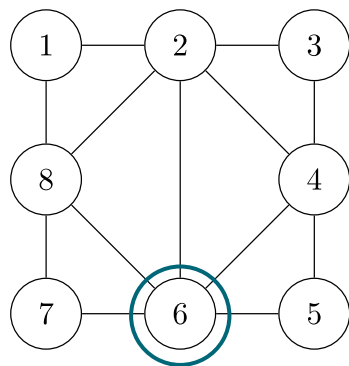
(1,3,5,7,4,2,8,6)



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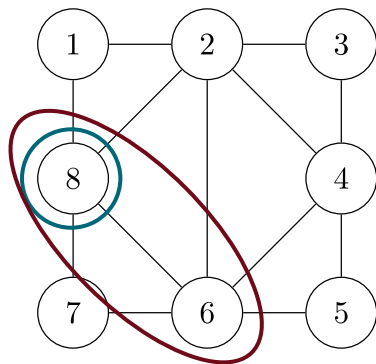
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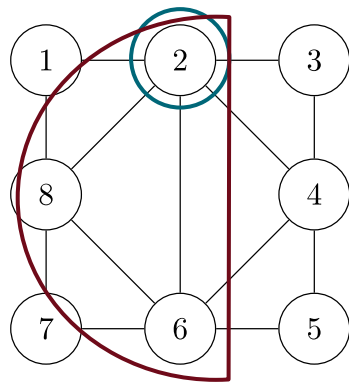
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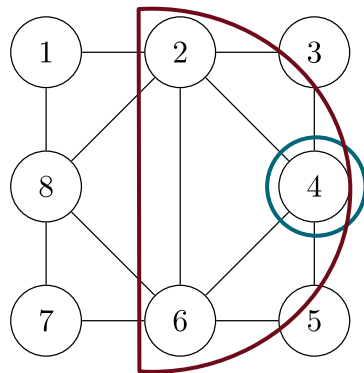


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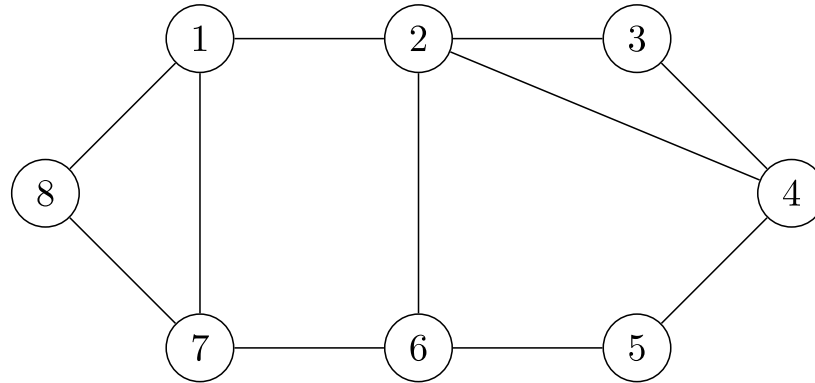
# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Given  $(G, \lambda, p, q)$  in input:**

- 1) Build a  $k$ -tree  $H$  that contains  $G$
- 2) Construct a perfect elimination sequence  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  on  $H$
- 3) For  $i = n, \dots, 1$ :  
Color  $v_i$  using the smallest color in  $\{0, \dots, \lambda\}$  that satisfies the  $L(p,q)$ -constraints in  $G$



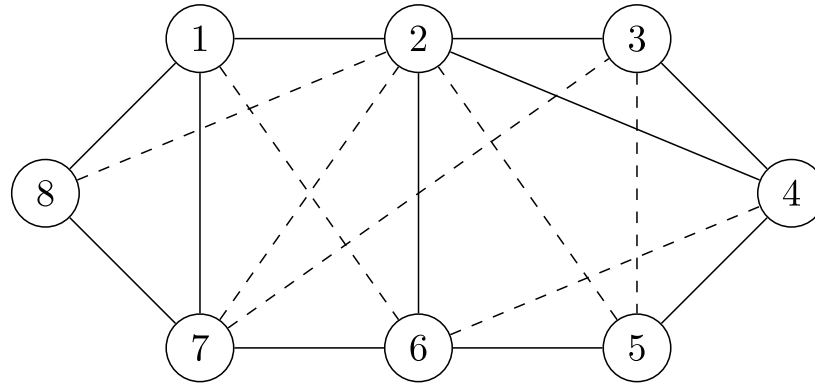
# Example of (2,1)-labeling



**Treewidth: 3**



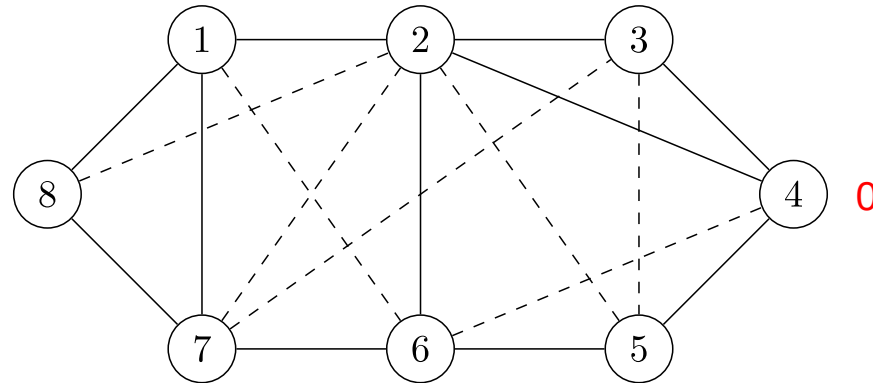
# Example of (2,1)-labeling



**Sequence: (8,1,7,2,6,5,3,4)**



# Example of (2,1)-labeling

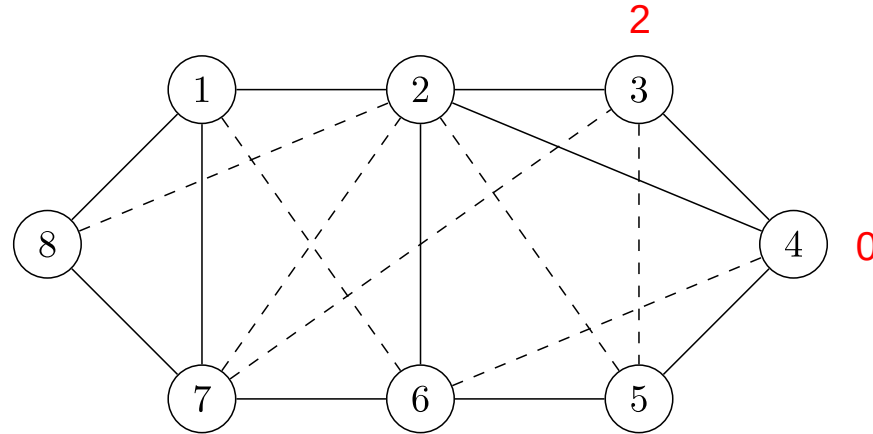


Sequence: (8,1,7,2,6,5,3,4)

Forbidden Colors: ---



# Example of (2,1)-labeling

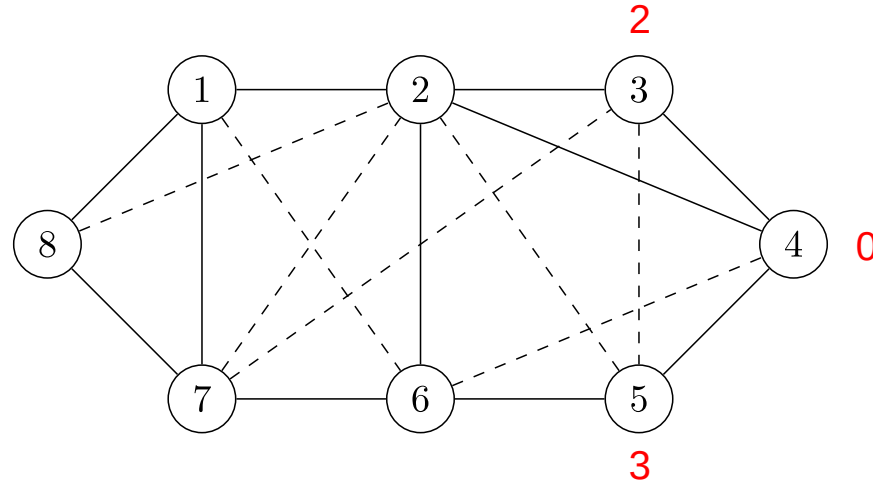


Sequence: (8,1,7,2,6,5,3,4)

Forbidden Colors: {0,1}



# Example of (2,1)-labeling



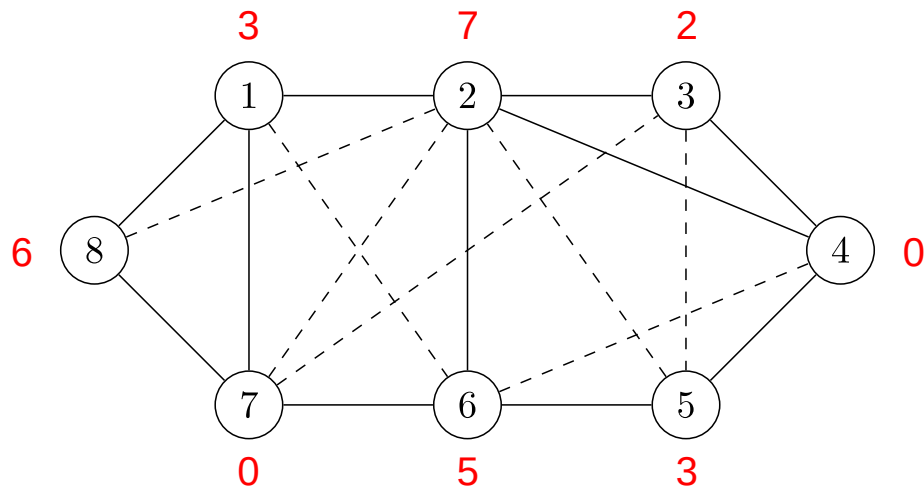
Sequence: (8,1,7,2,6,5,3,4)

Forbidden Colors: {0,1,2}





# Example of (2,1)-labeling



Sequence: (8,1,7,2,6,5,3,4)

$\lambda \geq 7$  in order to work



# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**(Thm)** Given any graph  $G$  of treewidth  $k$ , the previous algorithm finds:

- An  $L(2, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, k\Delta + 2k\}$ .
- An  $L(1, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, k\Delta\}$ .
- An  $L(0, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, k\Delta - k\}$ .

**(Cor)** Given any graph  $G$  of treewidth  $k$  it holds that:

$$\lambda_{2,1} \leq k\Delta + 2k$$

$$\lambda_{1,1} \leq k\Delta$$

$$\lambda_{0,1} \leq k\Delta - k$$





# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Dim.** For each  $v_i$  there are 3 types of already-colored nodes that forbid colors to  $v_i$ :

- 1)  $\alpha$  vertices at distance 1 from  $v_i$  in  $G$
- 2)  $\beta$  vertices at distance 2 from  $v_i$  in  $G$  that have a common neighbor with  $v_i$  in  $G$  that has not yet been colored
- 3)  $\gamma$  vertices at distance 2 from  $v_i$  in  $G$  that have a common neighbor with  $v_i$  in  $G$  that has already been colored

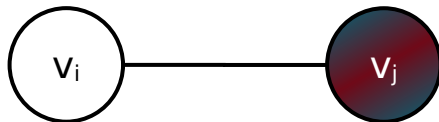


# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Dim. (cont.)**

Let  $v_j$  be a node with  $i < j$ :

- 1) If  $v_j$  is a type 1 node then it is one of such at most  $k$  clique-neighbors

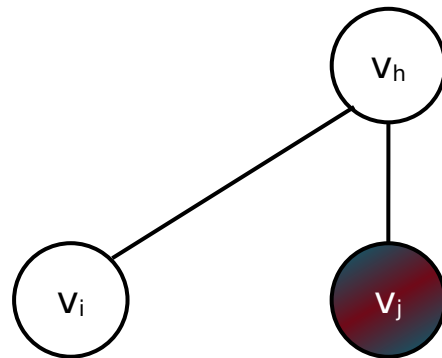


# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Dim. (cont.)**

2) If  $v_j$  is a type 2 node and  $v_h$  is the common neighbor that has not yet been colored

$\Rightarrow h < i < j$  and  $v_i \sim v_h \sim v_j$



# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

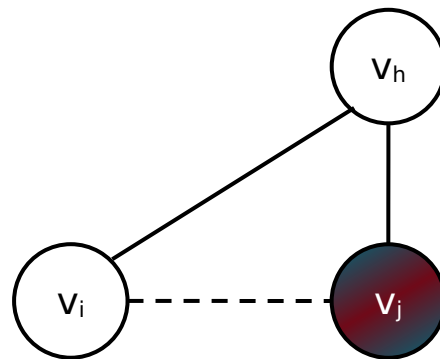
**Dim. (cont.)**

2) If  $v_j$  is a type 2 node and  $v_h$  is the common neighbor that has not yet been colored

$\Rightarrow h < i < j$  and  $v_i \sim v_h \sim v_j$

$\Rightarrow v_i, v_j$  are in  $v_h$ 's at most  $k$  clique-neighbors

$\Rightarrow v_j$  is one of  $v_i$ 's at most  $k$  clique-neighbors

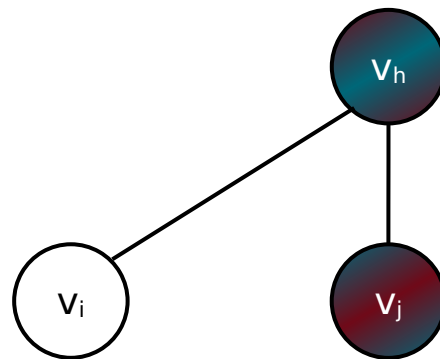


# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Dim. (cont.)**

3) If  $v_j$  is a type 3 node and  $v_h$  is the common neighbor that has not yet been colored

$\Rightarrow v_i, v_h$  are adjacent in  $H$



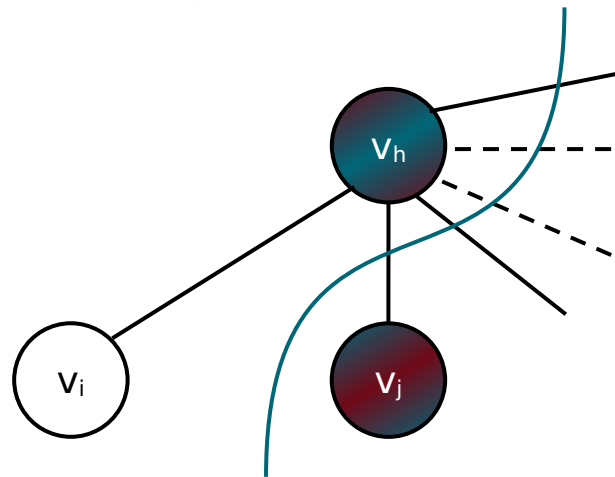
# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

## Dim. (cont.)

3) If  $v_j$  is a type 3 node and  $v_h$  is the common neighbor that has not yet been colored

$\Rightarrow v_i, v_h$  are adjacent in  $H$

$\Rightarrow i < h$  hence  $v_h$  may have at most  $\Delta - 1$  already colored neighbors







# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Dim. (cont.)** Each case has at least one of  $v_i$ 's at most  $k$  clique-neighbors  $\implies \alpha + \beta + \gamma \leq k$





# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Dim. (cont.)** Each case has at least one of  $v_i$ 's at most  $k$  clique-neighbors  $\implies \alpha + \beta + \gamma \leq k$

Let  $x_{p,q}$  denote the number of colors needed to color  $v_i$  for  $L(p,q)$ .



# Algorithm for graphs with treewidth $k$

**Dim. (cont.)** Each case has at least one of  $v_i$ 's at most  $k$  clique-neighbors  $\Rightarrow \alpha + \beta + \gamma \leq k$

Let  $x_{p,q}$  denote the number of colors needed to color  $v_i$  for  $L(p,q)$ . Then:

$$X_{2,1} \leq 1 + 3\alpha + \beta + \gamma(\Delta-1) \leq 1 + k\Delta + 2k \quad \Rightarrow \{0, \dots, k\Delta + 2k\} \text{ suffices for } L(2,1)$$

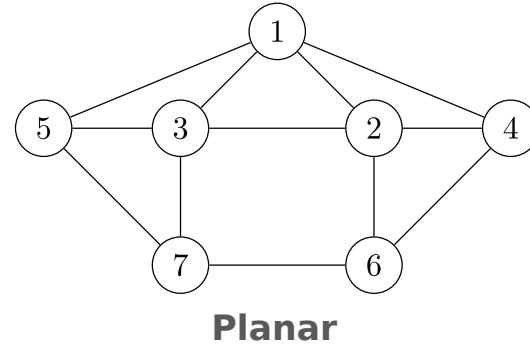
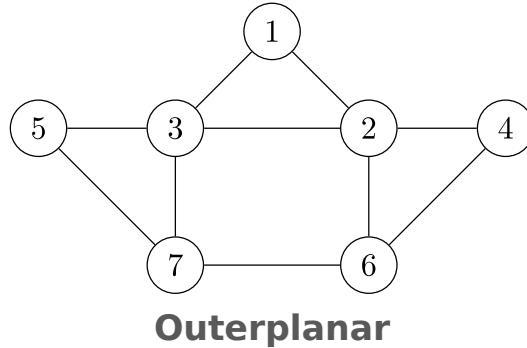
$$X_{1,1} \leq 1 + \alpha + \beta + \gamma(\Delta-1) \leq 1 + k\Delta \quad \Rightarrow \{0, \dots, k\Delta\} \text{ suffices for } L(1,1)$$

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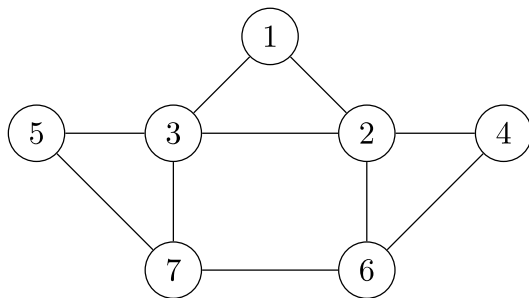
# Outerplanar graphs

**Outerplanar:** the graph has a planar embedding where all the vertices on the exterior face.

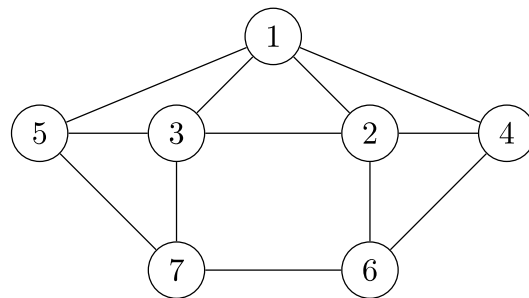


# Outerplanar graphs

**Outerplanar:** the graph has a planar embedding where all the vertices on the exterior face.



**Outerplanar**



**Planar**

**(Lem)** Any outerplanar graph has either a node with degree at most 1 or a node with degree at most 2 who has a neighbor of degree at most 4



# Algorithm for outerplanar graphs

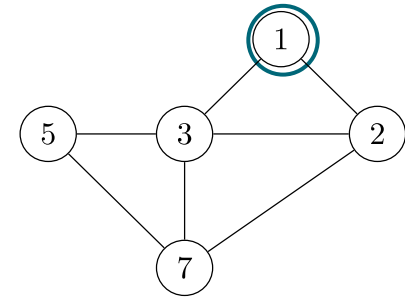
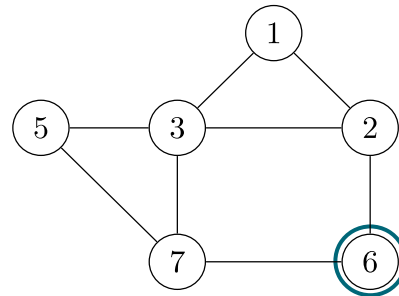
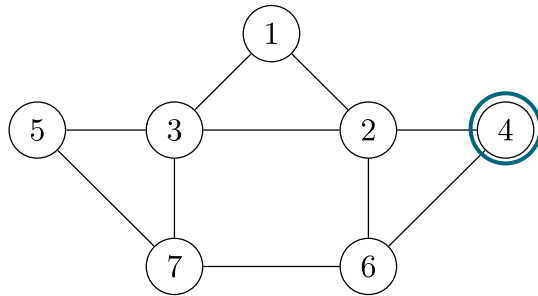
**Given  $(G, \lambda, p, q)$  in input:**

- 1) Let  $H = G$ , let  $S = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$
- 2) For  $i = 1, \dots, n$ :
  - 1) Let  $u$  be a vertex s.t.  $\deg(u) \leq 1$  or  $[\deg(u) \leq 2$  and  $u \sim v$  where  $\deg(v) \leq 4]$
  - a) If  $u$  has two neighbors  $x, y$  not adjacent in  $H$  then add the edge  $(x, y)$  in  $H$
  - b) Set  $v_i = u$  and remove  $u$  from  $H$
- 3) For  $i = n, \dots, 1$ :

Color  $v_i$  using the smallest color in  $\{0, \dots, \lambda\}$  that satisfies the  $L(p, q)$ -constraints in  $G$



# Example of Sequence Construction



**Final Sequence: (3,5,7,2,6,1,4)**



# Algorithm for outerplanar graphs

**(Thm)** Given any outerplanar graph  $G$ , the previous algorithm finds:

- An  $L(2, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, \Delta + 8\}$ .
- An  $L(1, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, \Delta + 4\}$ .
- An  $L(0, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, \Delta + 2\}$ .

**(Cor)** Given any outerplanar graph  $G$  it holds that:

$$\lambda_{2,1} \leq \Delta + 8$$

$$\lambda_{1,1} \leq \Delta + 4$$

$$\lambda_{0,1} \leq \Delta + 2$$







# Algorithm for outerplanar graphs

**(Dim)** In each iteration,  $H$  is always outerplanar  $\implies$  The lemma always works





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We have at most  $3 + \Delta - 1$  already-colored neighbors at distance 2 from  $v_i$



# Algorithm for outerplanar graphs

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$$X_{2,1} \leq 1 + 6 + (3 + \Delta - 1) = 1 + \Delta + 8 \quad \Rightarrow \{0, \dots, \Delta + 8\} \text{ suffices for } L(2,1)$$

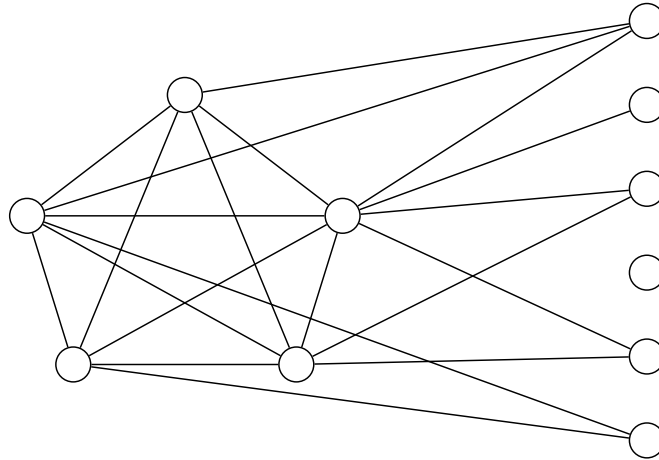
$$X_{1,1} \leq 1 + 2 + (3 + \Delta - 1) = 1 + \Delta + 4 \quad \Rightarrow \{0, \dots, \Delta + 4\} \text{ suffices for } L(1,1)$$

$$X_{0,1} \leq 1 + (3 + \Delta - 1) = 1 + \Delta + 2 \quad \Rightarrow \{0, \dots, \Delta + 2\} \text{ suffices for } L(0,1)$$



# Split graphs

A split graph is a graph whose node set can be partitioned into two sets  $K$  and  $S$  such that  $K$  is a clique and  $S$  is an independent set in  $G$ .



# Upper bounds for split graphs

**(Thm)** Given any graph  $G$  of treewidth  $k$ , there is an algorithm that finds:

- An  $L(2, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5} + 2\Delta\}$ .
- An  $L(1, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5} + \Delta\}$ .
- An  $L(0, 1)$ -labeling using the set  $\{0, \dots, \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5}\}$ .

**(Cor)** Given any split graph  $G$  it holds that:

$$\lambda_{2,1} \leq \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5} + 2\Delta \qquad \lambda_{1,1} \leq \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5} + \Delta \qquad \lambda_{0,1} \leq \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5}$$





# Lower bounds for split graphs

**(Thm)** For any  $\Delta > 0$ , there is a split graph with maximum degree  $\Delta$  such that:

$$\lambda_{2,1} \geq \lambda_{1,1} \geq \lambda_{0,1} \geq \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \Delta^{1.5}$$

**Note:** a lower value may suffice for some split graphs

**Authors' Conjecture:** for all split graphs we have that  $\lambda_{2,1}, \lambda_{1,1}, \lambda_{0,1} = \Omega(\Delta^{1.5})$



# Lower bounds for split graphs

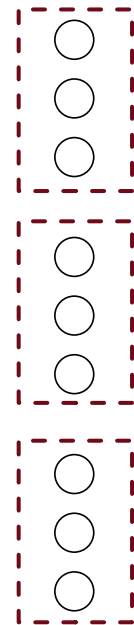
**Dim.**

Take an independent set  $S$  with  $k = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\Delta$  groups of  $\frac{1}{3}\Delta$  nodes

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\Delta^{1.5}$  total nodes in  $S$

$\Rightarrow \frac{k(k-1)}{2} \leq \frac{1}{3}\Delta$  distinct pairs of groups

$$\Delta = 10$$



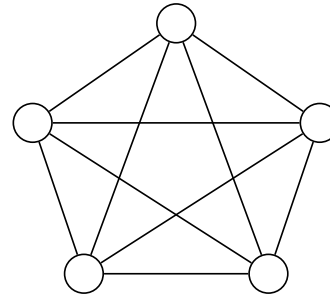


# Lower bounds for split graphs

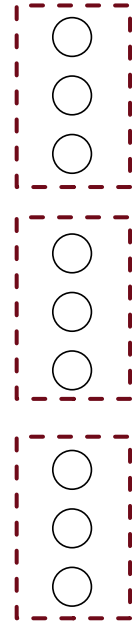
**Dim.**

Add a clique with  $\frac{1}{3}\Delta+1$  nodes

Connect each pair with an unique node



$$\Delta = 10$$



# Lower bounds for split graphs

**Dim.**

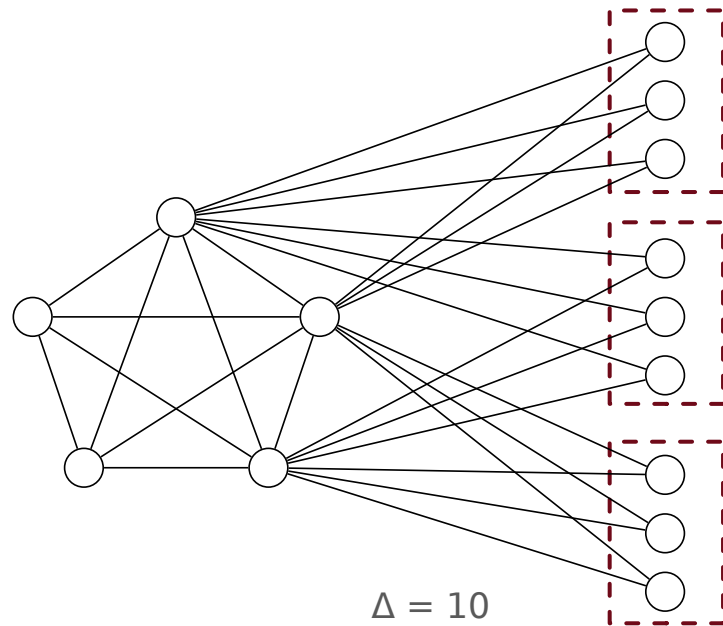
Add a clique with  $\frac{1}{3}\Delta+1$  nodes

Connect each pair with an unique node

⇒ Each node of the clique has degree  $\Delta$

⇒ Each pair of nodes in  $S$  has distance 2

⇒ We need  $\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\Delta^{1.5}$  colors for  $S$



# Recap

## Graphs with Treewidth $k$ :

$$\Delta + 1 \leq \lambda_{2,1} \leq k\Delta + 2k$$

$$\Delta \leq \lambda_{1,1} \leq k\Delta$$

$$\Delta - 1 \leq \lambda_{0,1} \leq k\Delta - k$$

## Outerplanar graphs:

$$\Delta + 1 \leq \lambda_{2,1} \leq \Delta + 8$$

$$\Delta \leq \lambda_{1,1} \leq \Delta + 4$$

$$\Delta - 1 \leq \lambda_{0,1} \leq \Delta + 2$$

## Split graphs:

$$\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\Delta^{1.5} \leq \lambda_{2,1} \leq \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5} + 2\Delta$$

$$\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\Delta^{1.5} \leq \lambda_{1,1} \leq \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5} + \Delta$$

$$\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\Delta^{1.5} \leq \lambda_{0,1} \leq \frac{1}{2}\Delta^{1.5}$$





# Main references

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**Thank you for the  
attention!**

