Lecture 2: Graph width notions, dynamical programming

An Introduction to Parameterized Complexity

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Ph.D. Program, Advanced Period

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L'Aquila, Italy

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Course overview

Monday, July 14 10.30 – 12.30	Tuesday, July 15 10.30 – 12.30	Wednesday, July 16 10.30 – 12.30	Thursday, July 17 10.30 – 12.30	Friday, July 18
Algorithmic Techniques		*Formal-Method & Algorithmic Techniques*		
Introduction & basic FPT results	**Notions of bounded graph width**	**Algorithmic Meta-Theorems**	**FPT-Intractability Classes & Hierarchies**	
motivation for FPT kernelization, Crown Lemma, Sunflower Lemma	path-, tree-, clique width, FPT-results by dynamic programming, transferring FPT results betw. width	1st-order logic, monadic 2nd-order logic, FPT-results by Courcelle's Theorems for tree and clique-width	motivation for FP-intractability results, FPT-reductions, class XP (slicewise polynomial), W- and A-Hierarchies, placing problems on these hierarchies	
				14.30 – 16.30
				examples, question hour

Overview

- comparing parameterizations

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- dynamical programming on trees, example:
  - WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET (and VERTEX-COVER)
- path-width
  - example: fpt-algorithm for bounded path-width
- tree-width
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- fpt-results for other problems, obtained similarly
- other notions of width
  - clique-width
  - using f-width to define:
    - carving-width (and cut-width)
    - branch-width
    - rank-width

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- comparing width-notions

Fixed-Parameter tractable

A *parameterized problem* is a triple $\langle Q, \Sigma, \kappa \rangle$ (short: $\langle Q, \kappa \rangle$) where:

- $Q \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is the set of *(classical) problem instances*,
- $\kappa : \Sigma^* \to \mathbb{N}$ is a (general) function, *the parameterization*.

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Parameterized problem $\langle Q, \Sigma, \kappa \rangle$

Instance: $x \in \Sigma^*$.

Parameter: $\kappa(x)$.

Problem: Is $x \in Q$?

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Definition

A parameterized problem $\langle Q, \Sigma, \kappa \rangle$ is *fixed-parameter tractable* (is in FPT) if:

$\exists f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ computable $\exists p \in \mathbb{N}[X]$ polynomial

$\exists \mathbb{A}$ algorithm, takes inputs in Σ^*

$\forall x \in \Sigma^* \big[\, \mathbb{A}$ decides whether $x \in Q$ holds in time $\leq f(\kappa(x)) \cdot p(|x|) \,\big]$

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$$\forall x \in \Sigma^* \big[\, \mathbb{A} \text{ decides whether } x \in Q \text{ holds in time } \le f(\kappa(x)) \cdot p(|x|) \, \big]$$

†) Assumptions for a robust fpt-theory

$\kappa(x)$ is polynomially computable, or itself fpt-computable: for all $x \in \Sigma^*$ in time $\le g(\kappa(x)) \cdot q(|x|)$ for g computable, $q \in \mathbb{N}[X]$.

Comparing parameterizations

Definition (computably bounded below)

Let $\kappa_1, \kappa_2 : \Sigma^* \to \mathbb{N}$ parameterizations.

- $\kappa_1 \succeq \kappa_2 \;:\Longleftrightarrow\; \exists g : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ computable $\forall x \in \Sigma^* \big[\, g(\kappa_1(x)) \geq \kappa_2(x) \,\big]$.
- $\kappa_1 \approx \kappa_2 \;:\Longleftrightarrow\; \kappa_1 \succeq \kappa_2 \;\wedge\; \kappa_2 \succeq \kappa_1$.
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Proposition

For all parameterized problems $\langle Q, \kappa_1 \rangle$ and $\langle Q, \kappa_2 \rangle$ with parameterizations $\kappa_1, \kappa_2 : \Sigma^* \to \mathbb{N}$ with $\kappa_1 \succeq \kappa_2$:

$$\langle Q, \kappa_1 \rangle \in \text{FPT} \quad \Longleftarrow \quad \langle Q, \kappa_2 \rangle \in \text{FPT}$$

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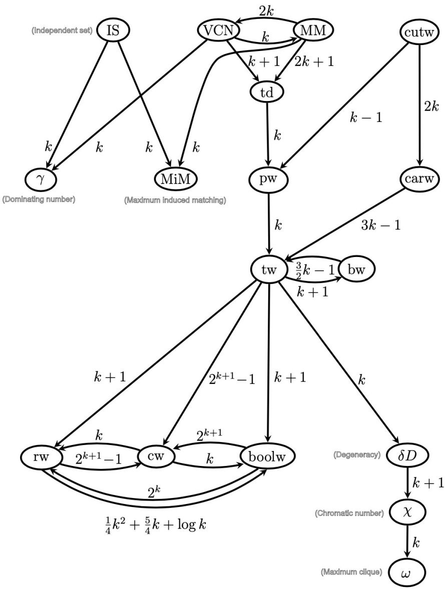
$$\langle Q, \kappa_1 \rangle \in \mathsf{FPT} \quad \Longleftarrow \quad \langle Q, \kappa_2 \rangle \in \mathsf{FPT}$$
$$\langle Q, \kappa_1 \rangle \notin \mathsf{FPT} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \langle Q, \kappa_2 \rangle \notin \mathsf{FPT}$$

Computably boundedness between notions of width

(from Sasák, [5])

$$wd_1 \geq wd_2 \;:\Leftrightarrow\; wd_1 \xrightarrow{g} wd_2$$



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  transfer upwards
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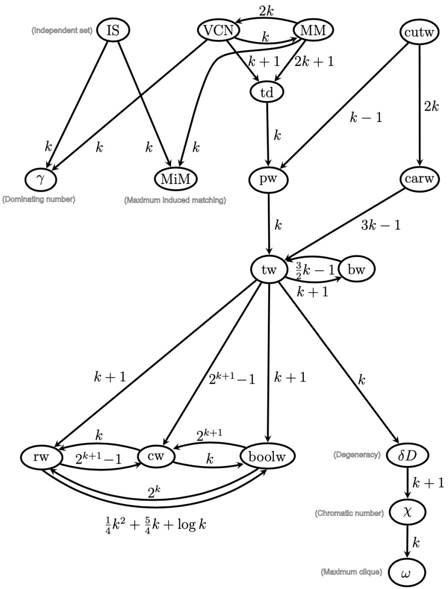

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- FPT-results
  transfer upwards
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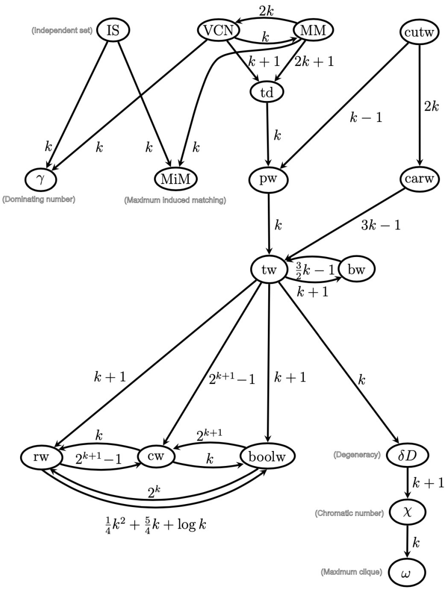
- ($\notin$ FPT)-results
  transfer downwards
  (and along $\overset{g}{\to}$)



You Always Walk Alone (with your children)

Attività motoria con i figli:

'la possibilità di uscire con i figli minori è consentita a un solo genitore per camminare purché questo avvenga in prossimità della propria abitazione'

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PHYSICAL-DISTANCE-WALKING

Instance: Graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ with V people who want to go for a walk in the next hour in a radius of 200m of their home, and edges in E between them if they live closer than 400m of each other. A number $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$.

Problem:

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corresponds to: INDEPENDENT-SET

Weighted Independent Set, and Vertex Cover

Let $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ a graph. For all $S \subseteq V$:

S is independent set in $\mathcal{G}$ $:\Longleftrightarrow \forall e = \{u, v\} \in E\ (\ \neg(u \in S \wedge v \in S)\ )$
$\Longleftrightarrow \forall e = \{u, v\} \in E\ (\ u \notin S \vee v \notin S)\ )$

WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET
Instance: A graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$, and a weight function $\boldsymbol{w} : V \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$.
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$S \subseteq V$ is *minimal* vertex cover $\Longleftrightarrow$ $V \smallsetminus S$ is *maximal* independent set
Hence: solution of WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET
$\Longrightarrow$ solution of VERTEX-COVER.

Weighted Ind. Set / Vertex Cover, width-parameterized

p^*-WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET

Instance: A graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$, and a weight function $\boldsymbol{w} : V \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$.

Parameter: path-width / tree-width k.

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Dynamical programming on trees (example)

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Solution: value of $A[r]$, can be computed bottom-up in linear time.

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Theorem

On trees with n nodes,

WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET $\in$ DTIME$(O(n))$.

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Corollary

On trees with n nodes,
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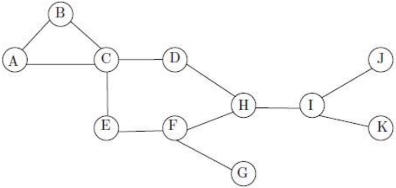
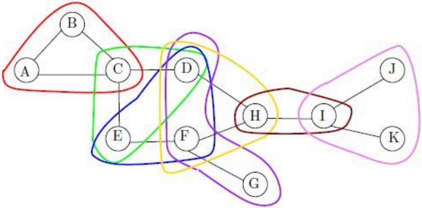
Path-decomposition (example)





Path decompositions, and path-width

Definition (Robertson–Seymour, 1983)

A *path decomposition* of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ is a sequence $\langle B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_r \rangle$ of bags $B_i \subseteq V$ such that:

(P1) $V = \bigcup_{i=1}^{r} B_i$ (every vertex of $\mathcal{G}$ is in some bag).

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(P2) $(\forall \{u, v\} \in E)\,(\exists i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, r\})\big[\,\{u, v\} \subseteq B_i\,\big]$
(every edge of $\mathcal{G}$ is realized in some bag).

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(every edge of $\mathcal{G}$ is realized in some bag).

(P3) $(\forall v \in V)\,(\exists i, k \in \{1, \ldots, r\}\,,\, i \le k)\big[\, \{j \mid v \in B_j\} = [i, k] \,\big]$
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Path decompositions, and path-width

Definition (Robertson–Seymour, 1983)

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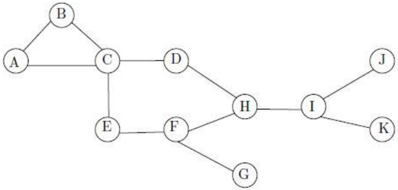
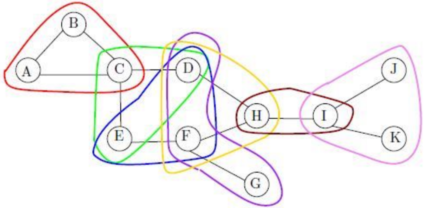
The *path-width* $pw(\mathcal{G})$ of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E\rangle$ is defined by:

$pw(\mathcal{G})$:= minimal width of a path decomposition of $\mathcal{G}$.

Path-decomposition (example)





Path decomposition defines separations

Lemma

Let $\langle B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_r \rangle$ *be a path decomposition of a graph* $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$*. Then for all* $i \in \{1, \ldots, r-1\}$ *it holds:*

- $\langle \bigcup_{j=1}^{i} B_j, \bigcup_{j=i+1}^{r} B_j \rangle$ *is a separation of* $\mathcal{G}$ *with separator* $B_i \cap B_{i+1}$*.*

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- A pair $\langle A, B \rangle$ of subsets $A, B \subseteq V$ is a *separation* of $\mathcal{G}$ if:
  - $V = A \cup B$
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  $A \cap B$ is called the *separator* of a separation $\langle A, B \rangle$, and $|A \cap B|$ is called its *order*.

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- $\partial(\bigcup_{j=1}^{i} B_j) \subseteq B_i \cap B_{i+1}$.

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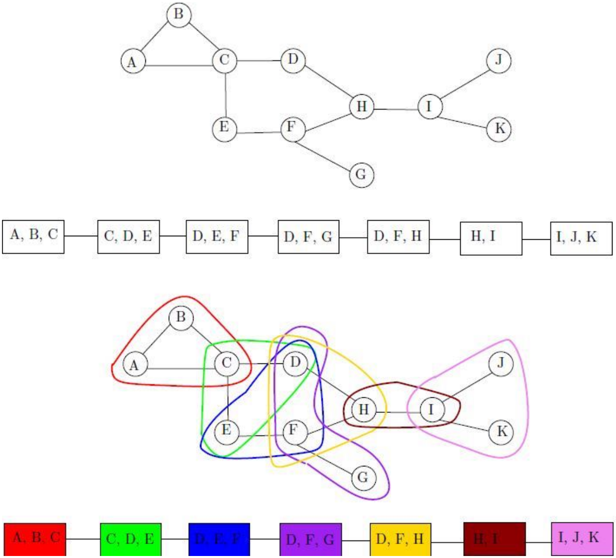
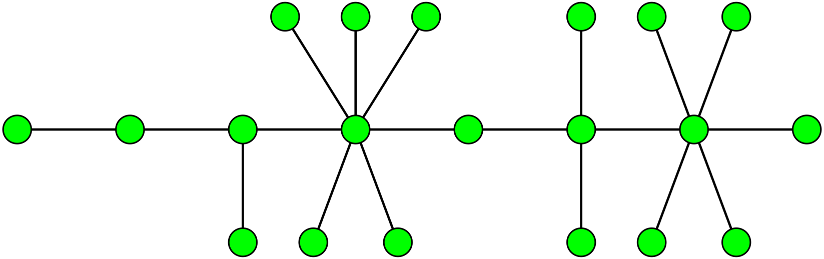
- The *border (set of border vertices)* $\partial(A)$ *of* a set $A \subseteq V$ of vertices consists of all vertices that have a neighbor in $V \setminus A$.
  Note that:
  - $\partial(A) = \partial(V \setminus A)$.
  - $\langle A, (V \setminus A) \cup \partial(A) \rangle$ is a separation of $\mathcal{G}$, for all $A \subseteq V$.

Path-decomposition (example)



Caterpillar

Path-width?



Nice path decomposition

Definition

A *path decomposition* $\langle B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_r \rangle$ of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ is *nice* if:

- $B_1 = B_r = \varnothing$
- Every index $i > 1$ is either of:
  - introduce index: there is $v \in V$ such that $B_{i+1} = B_i \cup \{v\}$ and $v \notin B_i$,
  - forget index: there is $v \in V$ such that $B_{i+1} = B_i \smallsetminus \{v\}$ and $v \in B_i$.

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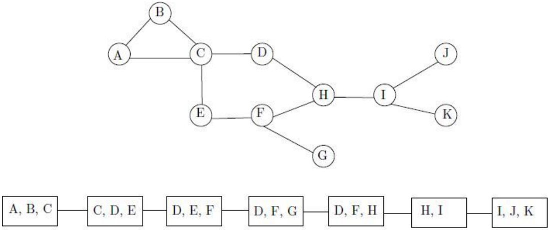

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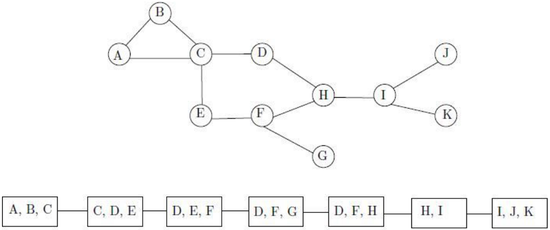

Nice path decomposition:

$\boxed{\varnothing}$ – $\boxed{\text{A}}$ – $\boxed{\text{A,B}}$ – $\boxed{\text{A,B,C}}$ – $\boxed{\text{B,C}}$ – $\boxed{\text{C}}$ – $\boxed{\text{C,D}}$ – $\boxed{\text{C,D,E}}$ – $\boxed{\text{D,E}}$ – $\boxed{\text{D,E,F}}$ –

– $\boxed{\text{D,F}}$ – $\boxed{\text{D,F,G}}$ – $\boxed{\text{D,F}}$ – $\boxed{\text{D,F,H}}$ – $\boxed{\text{F,H}}$ – $\boxed{\text{H}}$ – $\boxed{\text{H,I}}$ – $\boxed{\text{I}}$ – $\boxed{\text{I,J}}$ – $\boxed{\text{I,J,K}}$ – $\boxed{\text{J,K}}$ – $\boxed{\text{K}}$ – $\boxed{\varnothing}$

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Lemma

From every path decomposition $\langle B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_r \rangle$ of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ of width k a nice path decomposition $\langle B'_1, B'_2, \ldots, B'_{r'} \rangle$ of width k can be constructed in time $O(k^2 \cdot \max\{r, n\})$ where $n := |V|$.

$$\boxed{A,B,C} - \boxed{C,D,E} - \boxed{D,E,F} - \boxed{D,F,G} - \boxed{D,F,H} - \boxed{H,I} - \boxed{I,J,K}$$

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Weighted Independent Set

Let $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ a graph.

$S \subseteq V$ is independent set in $\mathcal{G}$ $:\Longleftrightarrow \forall e = \{u, v\} \big(\neg(u \in S \wedge v \in S) \big)$.

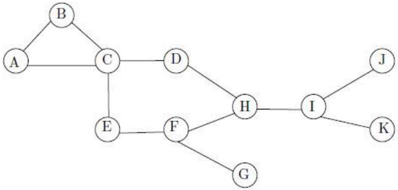
WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET

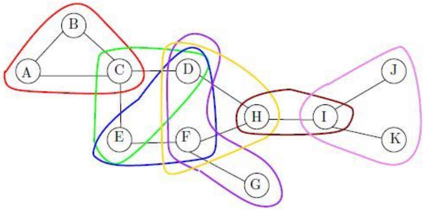
Instance: A graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$, and a weight function $\boldsymbol{w} : V \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$.

Parameter: path-width k.

Problem: What is the max. weight of an independent set of $\mathcal{G}$?

Path-decomposition (example)





Dyn. programming using path-width (Weigh. Ind. Set)

Let $\langle B_1, \ldots, B_r \rangle$ be a nice path decomposition of $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$.
Then for every $i \in \{1, \ldots, r\}$, and every $S \subseteq B_i$, we define:

$$c[i, S] := \begin{cases} -\infty & \text{if } S \text{ is not independent} \\ \text{maximum possible weight of a set } \hat{S} \text{ such that} & \\ \hat{S} \text{ is independent } \wedge\ S \subseteq \hat{S} \subseteq V_i = \bigcup_{j=1}^{i} B_j\ \wedge\ \hat{S} \cap B_i = S & \\ & \text{if } S \text{ is independent.} \end{cases}$$

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- time for comp. a value at i, using map of values at $i-1$: $\sim O(k)$

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Time Complexity: Based on the values of $c[i,S]$, the maximum possible weight of an independent set $S \subseteq V$ can be computed as:

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Then for all $i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$:

- $|B_i| \le k + 1$,
- $\Rightarrow$ number of values $c[i,S]$ at index i: $2^{|B_i|} = 2^{k+1}$,
- $\Rightarrow$ adjacency/independence check for $S \subseteq B_t$ possible in: $O(k^2)$ using a datastructure computable in time $O(k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$,
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$\Rightarrow$ the time for computing all values at r:

$$(2^{k+1} \cdot O(k^2)) \cdot r + O(k^{O(1)} \cdot n) \in O(2^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n), \text{ since } r = 2n.$$

Dynamical programming with path width (example)

Theorem

For every graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E\rangle$ with $|V| = n$ and path-width pw$(\mathcal{G}) = k$,

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Corollary

For every graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ *with* $|V| = n$ *and path-width* pw$(\mathcal{G}) = k$,

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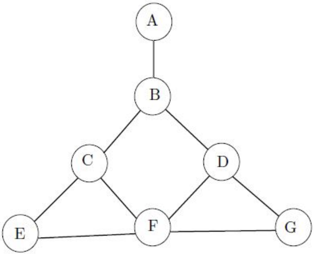

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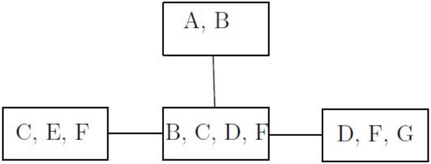
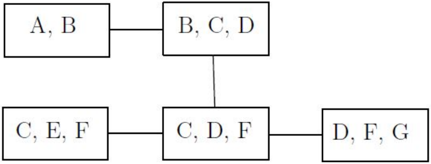


A tree-decompostion of width 3



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Tree decompositions, and tree-width

Definition (Bertelé–Brioschi, 1972, Halin, 1976, Robertson–Seymour, 1984)

A *tree decomposition* of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ is a pair $\langle \mathcal{T}, \{B_t\}_{t \in T} \rangle$ where $\mathcal{T} = \langle T, F \rangle$ a (undirected, unrooted) tree, and $B_t \subseteq V$ such that:

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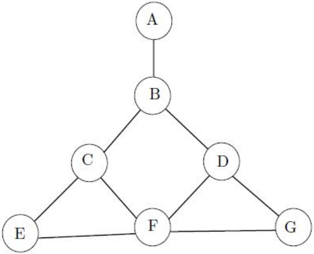
The *tree-width* $tw(\mathcal{G})$ of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ is defined by:

$tw(\mathcal{G})$:= minimal width of a tree decomposition of $\mathcal{G}$.

Tree decomposition (example)



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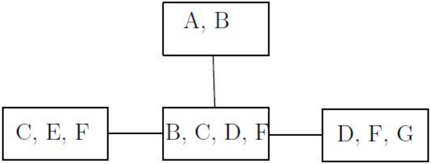

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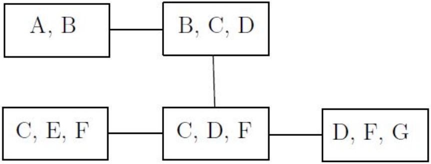

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Tree decomposition defines separations

Lemma

Let $\langle \mathcal{T}, \{B_t\}_{t \in T} \rangle$ be a tree decomposition of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$.
Let $e = \langle a, b \rangle$ be an edge of $\mathcal{T}$. The $\mathcal{T} \setminus e$ is the union of a tree $\mathcal{T}_a$ containing a, and a tree $\mathcal{T}_b$ containing b.
Then for $A := \bigcup_{t \in V(\mathcal{T}_a)} B_t$ and $B := \bigcup_{t \in V(\mathcal{T}_b)} B_t$ it holds:

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Recall, for a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E\rangle$:

- A pair $\langle A, B\rangle$ of subsets $A, B \subseteq V$ is a *separation* of $\mathcal{G}$ if:
  - $V = A \cup B$
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  $A \cap B$ is called the *separator* of a separation $\langle A, B\rangle$, and $|A \cap B|$ is called its *order*.

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- The *border (vertices)* $\partial(A)$ *of* a set $A \subseteq V$ of vertices consists of all vertices that have a neighbor in $V \setminus A$.

Computing tree-width

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Instance: A graph $\mathcal{G}$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

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Theorem

p-TREE-WIDTH *is fixed-parameter tractable,*
in time $2^{p(k)} \cdot n$ *where* $n := |V|$.

Nice tree decomposition

Definition

A *tree decomposition* $\langle \mathcal{T}, \{B_t\}_{t \in T} \rangle$ of graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ is *nice* if it is based on the choice of a leaf as *root* r and the parent–children relation away from r such that:

- $B_r = \varnothing$, and $B_\ell = \varnothing$ for every leaf $\ell \in T$.
- Every non-leaf node $t \in T$ is of one of three types:
  - introduce node: t has exactly one child t' such that $B_t = B_{t'} \cup \{v\}$; we say v is introduced at t.
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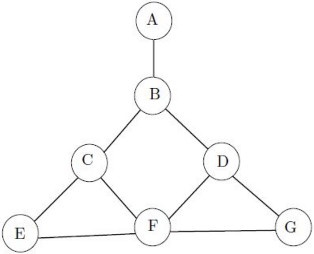
Lemma

From every tree decomposition $\langle \mathcal{T}, \{B_t\}_{t\in T}\rangle$ of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E\rangle$ of width k a nice tree decomposition $\langle \mathcal{T}', \{B'_t\}_{t\in T'}\rangle$ of width k and with $r := |V(\mathcal{T})| \in O(kn)$ vertices can be constructed in time $O(k^2 \cdot \max\{r, n\})$ where $n := |V|$.

Tree decomposition (example)



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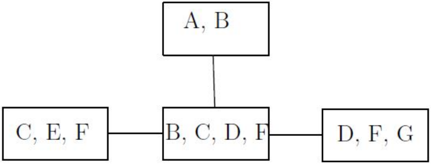

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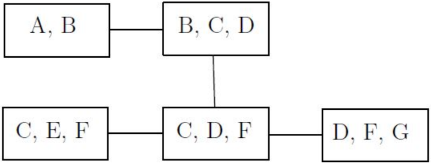

A tree-decompostion of width 2

Weighted Independent Set

Let $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ a graph.

$S \subseteq V$ is independent set in $\mathcal{G}$ $:\Longleftrightarrow \forall e = \{u, v\} \big(\neg(u \in S \wedge v \in S) \big)$.

WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET

Instance: A graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$, and a weight function $\boldsymbol{w} : V \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$.

Parameter: tree-width k.

Problem: What is the max. weight of an independent set of $\mathcal{G}$?

Dynamical programming using tree-width (example)

For every node t of a nice tree decomposition, and every $S \subseteq B_t$, we define:

$$c[t,S] := \begin{cases} -\infty & \text{if } S \text{ is not independent,} \\ \text{maximum possible weight of a set } \hat{S} \text{ such that} \\ \hat{S} \text{ is independent} \wedge S \subseteq \hat{S} \subseteq V_t \wedge \hat{S} \cap B_t = S \\ & \text{if } S \text{ is independent.} \end{cases}$$

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$\Rightarrow$ the time for computing all values at the root r :
$(2^{k+1} \cdot O(k^2)) \cdot |T| + O(k^{O(1)} \cdot n) \in O(2^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$, since $|T| \in O(k \cdot n)$.

Dynamical programming with tree width (example)

Theorem

For every graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ with $|V| = n$ and tree-width $tw(\mathcal{G}) = k$,

p^*-WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET $\in$ DTIME$(2^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$.

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Corollary

For every graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ with $|V| = n$ and tree-width tw$(\mathcal{G}) = k$,
p^*-VERTEX-COVER $\in$ DTIME$(2^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$.

Dyn. programming with tree-width: general strategy

We consider problem P for graphs $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ of size n and nice tree decompositions $\langle \mathcal{T} = \langle T, F, r \rangle, \{B_t\}_{t \in T} \rangle$ of tree width k.

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- Formulate a family of properties that can be restricted to subtrees of $\mathcal{T}$ such that
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- Obtain an estimate of the time needed to compute the properties in a node t depending on n and k.
- Sum up the time needed to compute the solution(s) at root r of $\mathcal{T}$.
- Add time needed to obtain the solution of P from properties at r.

Dynamical programming: similar results (I)

Theorem

For every graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ with $|V| = n$ and tw$(\mathcal{G}) = k$,

- p^*-Vertex-Cover, Independent-Set $\in$ DTIME$(2^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$,
- p^*-Dominating-Set $\in$ DTIME$(4^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$,
- p^*-Odd Cycle Traversal $\in$ DTIME$(3^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$,
- p^*-MaxCut $\in$ DTIME$(2^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$,
- p^*-q-Colorability $\in$ DTIME$(q^k \cdot k^{O(1)} \cdot n)$.

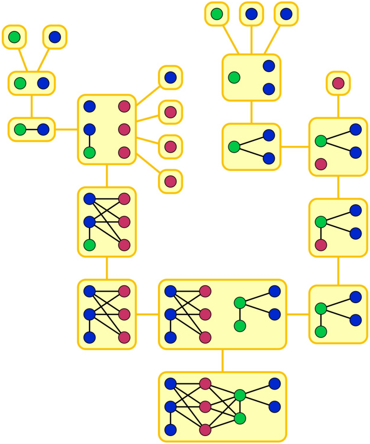
Dynamical programming: similar results (II)

Theorem

For every graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E\rangle$ with $|V| = n$ and tw$(\mathcal{G}) = k$, the following problems are in DTIME$(k^{O(k)} \cdot n)$ *:*

- p^*-STEINER-TREE,
- p^*-FEEDBACK-VERTEX-SET,
- p^*-HAMILTONIAN-PATH *and* p^*-LONGEST-PATH,
- p^*-HAMILTONIAN-CYCLE *and* p^*-LONGEST-CYCLE,
- p^*-CHROMATIC-NUMBER,
- p^*-CYCLE-PACKING,
- p^*-CONNECTED-VERTEX-COVER,
- p^*-CONNECTED-FEEDBACK-VERTEX-SET.

Clique width (example)



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For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, the *k-expressions* are defined by:

$$\varphi, \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \ ::= \ \boldsymbol{i} \mid \text{edge}_{i-j}(\varphi) \mid \text{recolor}_{i \to j}(\varphi) \mid (\varphi_1 \oplus \varphi_2)$$

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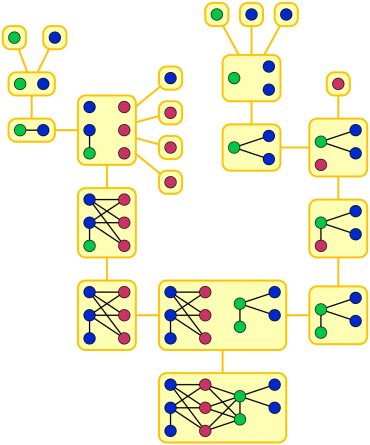
Definition (Courcelle, Engelfriet, Rozenberg, 1993, [2])

The *clique-width clw*$(\mathcal{G})$ of $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E\rangle$ is defined by:

clw$(\mathcal{G})$:= the least $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that, for some k-expression φ,
$\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}(\varphi)$ (when removing colors)

Clique width (example)

Building a graph $\mathcal{G}$ of clique-width $clw(\mathcal{G}) = 3$:



Clique-Width (examples, properties, computability)

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- Deciding whether $\mathit{clw}(\mathcal{G}) \leq k$ is NP-hard. With parameter k it is in XP (slice-wise polynomial), but unknown to be in FPT.
- Every graph property expressible in MSO (monadic second-order logic) can be decided in linear time w.r.t. the graph's clique-width.

f-Width (of sets)

By a *cut function* or a *connectivity function* we mean a function $f : 2^U \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$ such that:

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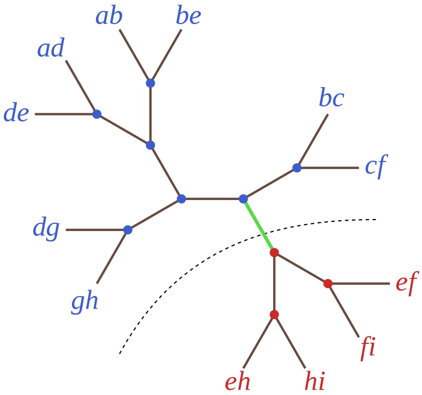

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Definition

Let U be a set, $f : 2^U \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$ a cut function.
A *branch decomposition* of U is a pair $\langle \mathcal{T}, \eta \rangle$ where:

- ▷ $\mathcal{T} = \langle T, F \rangle$ a tree.
- ▷ $\eta : U \to \textit{Leafs}(\mathcal{T})$ a bijective function.

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Let U be a set, $f : 2^U \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$ a cut function.
A *branch decomposition* of U is a pair $\langle \mathcal{T}, \eta \rangle$ where:

- $\mathcal{T} = \langle T, F \rangle$ a tree.
- $\eta : U \to \textit{Leafs}(\mathcal{T})$ a bijective function.

Every edge $e \in T$ splits the tree into two connected parts, and, via η, splits U into a partition $\langle X_e, Y_e \rangle$.

f-Width (of sets)

By a *cut function* or a *connectivity function* we mean a function $f : 2^U \to \mathbb{R}_0^+$ such that:

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Branch-Width

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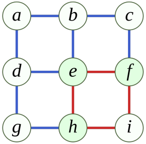
Let $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ be a graph. The *border (vertices)* of a set $X \subseteq E$ of edges is defined by:

$$\partial(X) := \{ v \in V \mid \exists e_1 \in X \; \exists e_2 \in E \setminus X \; [v \text{ is incident to } e_1 \text{ and } e_2] \}$$



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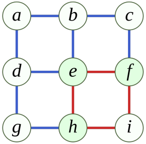

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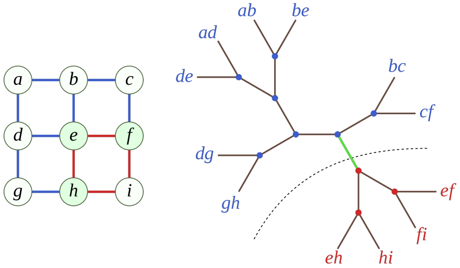

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Proposition

$\mathit{bw}(\mathcal{G}) \approx \mathit{tw}(\mathcal{G})$, for every graph; more precisely:

$$\mathit{bw}(\mathcal{G}) \le \mathit{tw}(\mathcal{G}) + 1 \le \tfrac{3}{2} \cdot \mathit{bw}(\mathcal{G})\,.$$

Rank-Width

Definition

Let $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ be a graph.
For $X \subseteq V$ we define the $GF(2)$-matrix:

$$B_{\mathcal{G}}(X) := (b_{x,y})_{x \in X, y \in V \smallsetminus X}\,, \text{ where, for all } x \in X, y \in V \smallsetminus X\text{:}$$

$$b_{x,y} = 1 \iff \{x, y\} \in E\,.$$

($B_{\mathcal{G}}(X)$ is the adjacency matrix of the bipartite graph induced by $\mathcal{G}$ between X and $V \smallsetminus X$.)

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The *rank-width rw*($\mathcal{G}$) of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle G, E \rangle$ is:

$$\mathit{rw}(\mathcal{G}) := w_{\rho_{\mathcal{G}}}(E) \quad \text{for} \quad \rho_{\mathcal{G}} : 2^V \to \mathbb{N}_0,\ X \mapsto \text{rank of } B_{\mathcal{G}}(X)$$

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Properties

- $rw(\mathcal{G}) \le tw(\mathcal{G})$.
- tree-width cannot be bounded functionally by rank-width:
  $rw(K_n) = 1$, but $tw(K_n) = n - 1$.

Carving-Width

Definition

Let $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ be a graph.
For $X \subseteq V$ the *edge-cut* of X is:

$$\textit{cut}_{\mathcal{G}}(X) := \{e = \{u, v\} \in E \mid u \in X, v \in V \setminus X\} .$$

The *carving-width* $\textit{carw}(\mathcal{G})$ of a graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle G, E \rangle$ is:

$$\textit{carw}(\mathcal{G}) := w_{\textit{cut}}(E) \quad \text{for} \quad \textit{cut} : 2^V \to \mathbb{N}_0,\ X \mapsto |\textit{cut}_{\mathcal{G}}(X)| .$$

Carving-Width and Cut-Width

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Definition

Let $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$ be a graph with $n = |V|$.
For a permutation $\pi : \{1, \ldots, n\} \to V$ on V we define:

$$\mathit{width}(\pi) := \max_{1 \le i \le n} \mathit{cut}_{\mathcal{G}}(\{\pi(j) \mid 1 \le j \le i\}) .$$

The *cut-width* $\mathit{cutw}(\mathcal{G})$ of $\mathcal{G}$ is:

$$\mathit{cutw}(\mathcal{G}) := \min_{\pi \text{ perm. of } V} \mathit{width}(\pi) .$$

Coverage in Multi-Interface Networks

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CMI(p) (for $p \in \mathbb{N}$)

Instance: A graph $\mathcal{G} = \langle V, E \rangle$, $W : V \to 2^{\{1,\dots,a\}}$ available-interface allocation, $c : \{1, \dots, a\} \to \mathbb{R}^+$ interface cost function.

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Problem: Obtain, if possible, a minimal solution with respect to the total cost of the interfaces that are activated, that is, $c(W_A) = \sum_{v \in V} \sum_{i \in W_A(v)} c(i)$.

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CMI(2) $\in$ NP-complete*, also for graphs with max. node degree* ≥ 4.

Coverage in Multi-Interface Networks (parameterized)

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Theorem (Aloisio, Navarra, 2020, [1])

- *For path-width* *pw*$(\mathcal{G}) = k$,
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Corollary

$(p^*)'$*-CMI*$(p) \in$ FPT.

Comparing parameterizations

Definition (computably bounded)

Let $\kappa_1, \kappa_2 : \Sigma^* \to \mathbb{N}$ parameterizations.

- $\kappa_1 \succeq \kappa_2 \; :\Longleftrightarrow \; \exists g : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ computable $\forall x \in \Sigma^* \big[\, g(\kappa_1(x)) \geq \kappa_2(x) \,\big]$.
- $\kappa_1 \approx \kappa_2 \; :\Longleftrightarrow \; \kappa_1 \succeq \kappa_2 \; \wedge \; \kappa_2 \succeq \kappa_1$.
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Proposition

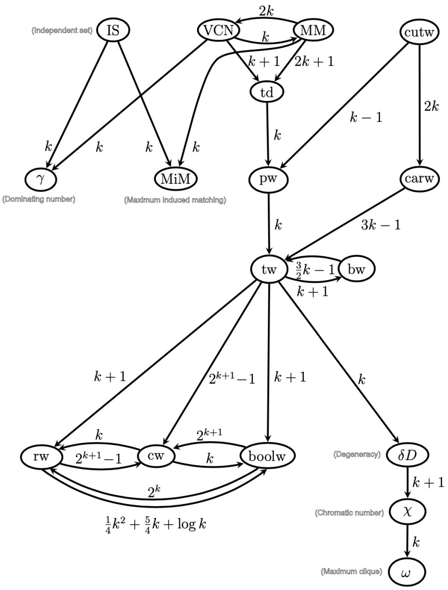
For all parameterized problems $\langle Q, \kappa_1\rangle$ and $\langle Q, \kappa_2\rangle$ with parameterizations $\kappa_1, \kappa_2 : \Sigma^* \to \mathbb{N}$ with $\kappa_1 \succeq \kappa_2$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Q, \kappa_1\rangle \in \text{FPT} \quad &\Longleftarrow \quad \langle Q, \kappa_2\rangle \in \text{FPT} \\ \langle Q, \kappa_1\rangle \notin \text{FPT} \quad &\Longrightarrow \quad \langle Q, \kappa_2\rangle \notin \text{FPT} \end{aligned}$$

Computably boundedness between notions of width

(from Sasák, [5])

$$wd_1 \succeq wd_2 \;:\Leftarrow\; wd_1 \xrightarrow{g(k)} wd_2$$



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- FPT-results
  transfer upwards
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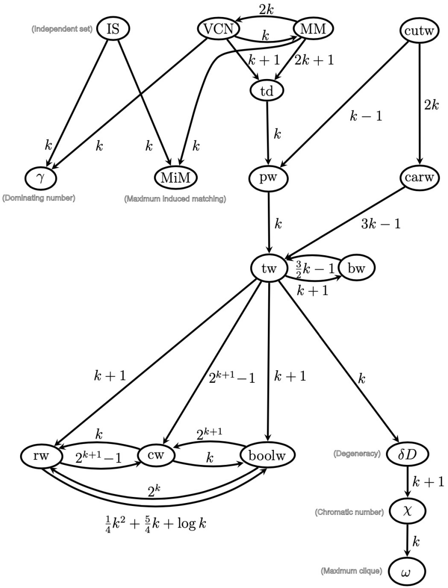

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  transfer upwards
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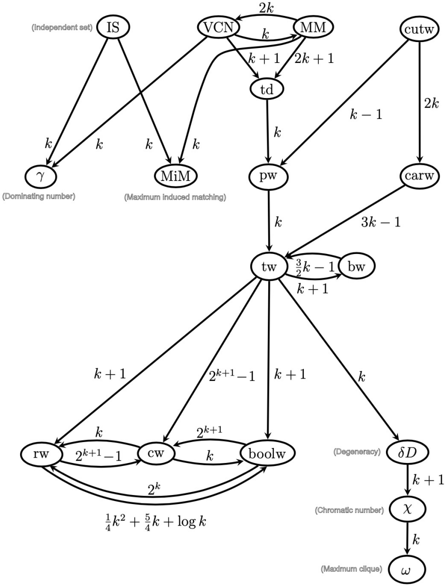
- ($\notin$ FPT)-results
  transfer downwards
  (and along $\xrightarrow{g}$)



Summary

- comparing parameterizations
- dynamical programming on trees, example:
  - WEIGHTED-INDEPENDENT-SET (and VERTEX-COVER)
- path-width
  - example: fpt-algorithm for bounded path-width
- tree-width
  - example: fpt-algorithm for bounded path-width
- fpt-results for other problems, obtained similarly
- other notions of width
  - clique-width
  - using f-width to define:
    - carving-width (and cut-width)
    - branch-width
    - rank-width
- example problem: coverage in multi-interface networks
- comparing width-notions

Wednesday

Monday, July 14 10.30 – 12.30	Tuesday, July 15 10.30 – 12.30	Wednesday, July 16 10.30 – 12.30	Thursday, July 17 10.30 – 12.30	Friday, July 18
Algorithmic Techniques		*Formal-Method* & *Algorithmic Techniques*		
Introduction & basic FPT results	**Notions of bounded graph width**	**Algorithmic Meta-Theorems**	**FPT-Intractability Classes & Hierarchies**	
motivation for FPT kernelization, Crown Lemma, Sunflower Lemma	path-, tree-, clique width, FPT-results by dynamic programming, transferring FPT results betw. width	1st-order logic, monadic 2nd-order logic, FPT-results by Courcelle's Theorems for tree and clique-width	motivation for FP-intractability results, FPT-reductions, class XP (slicewise polynomial), W- and A-Hierarchies, placing problems on these hierarchies	
				14.30 – 16.30
				examples, question hour

Thursday

- recalling notions from logic:
  - propositional, and first-order logic
  - monadic second-order logic (MSO)
- Courcelle's Theorem: obtaining FPT-results by
  - model-checking of MSO-properties
    on graphs and structures of bounded tree-/clique-width

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