

Disproving the Normal Graph Conjecture

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Introduction

Normal Graphs

Main Result: Disproving the conjecture

Perfect Graphs

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- ▶ Example: K_k is perfect.

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- ▶ Theorem (SPGT, Chudnovsky, Robertson, Seymour, Thomas 2006)

*G is perfect iff G does not contain an **induced odd cycle of length at least 5** or the **complement of an induced odd cycle of length at least 5**.*

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- ▶ Co-normal product $G_1 * G_2$: vertices $V_1 \times V_2$,
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- ▶ **Co-normal product** $G_1 * G_2$: vertices $V_1 \times V_2$,
 $(v_1, v_2) \sim (u_1, u_2)$ if $u_1 \sim v_1$ or $v_2 \sim u_2$.
- ▶ For G perfect: $\omega(G^n) = \omega(G)^n$

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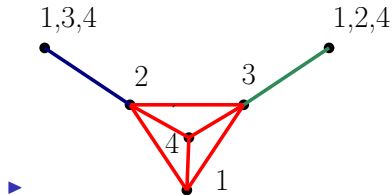
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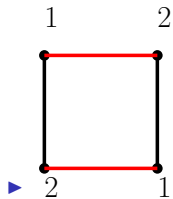
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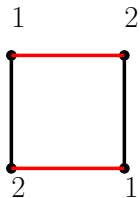
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- ▶ Perfect graphs are normal (Körner '73).
- ▶ Normal graphs are closed under co-normal products.

Cycles

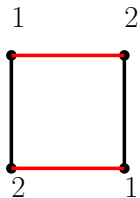


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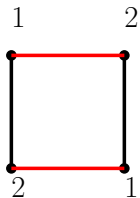
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- ▶ C_5 and C_7 are NOT normal.
- ▶ C_k is normal, if $k \neq 5, 7$.
- ▶ No other minimal non-normal graphs known.

Normal Graph Conjecture

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- ▶ Conjecture (DeSimone, Körner, '99)

A graph with no C_5 , C_7 , \bar{C}_7 as induced subgraph is normal.

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There exist graphs G of girth at least 8 which are not normal.

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- ▶ The proof is probabilistic.

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- ▶ X_k : number of cycles of length k .
$$\mathbb{E}[X_k] \leq \binom{n}{k} \frac{(k-1)!}{2} p^k < n^k p^k = n^{k/10} < n^{0.7}.$$

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- ▶ **Markov's Inequality:** $Pr[X_k > 2n^{0.7}] < 1/2$
- ▶ Remove one vertex from each of $2n^{0.7}$ cycles to destroy all cycles length < 8 .

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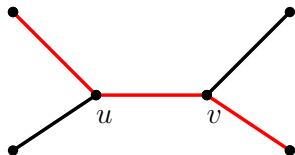
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- ▶ $\Pr[\alpha(G_{n,p}) \geq x] \leq \binom{n}{x} (1-p)^{\binom{x}{2}}$.
- ▶ **Whp** $\alpha(G_{n,p}) = O(n^{0.9} \log n)$.
- ▶ **Degrees: Whp** almost every vertex has degree $\Omega(n^{0.1})$

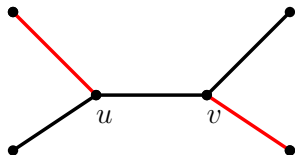
Overview of the proof

- ▶ G girth 8 and normal, then we may assume the clique cover induces vertex-disjoint stars.

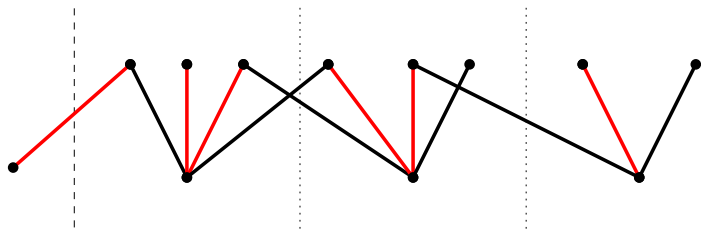


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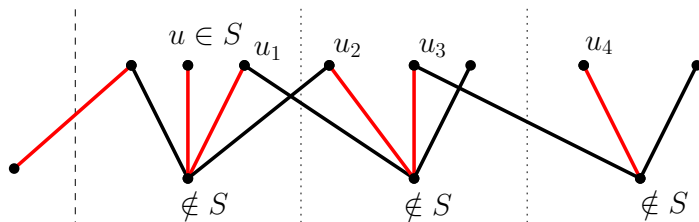
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Obtaining a large independent set



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Thank You