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Characterizing minimal interval completions: Towards better understanding of profile and pathwidth

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STACS 2007, Aachen

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Problems: minimum fill-in and tree-width

- Both problems are NP-hard
- The solution can be found among the Minimal triangulations
- Characterizations of minimal triangulations can be used to bound the search space.
- Several characterizations exist.

Problems: profile and path-width

- Both problems are NP-hard
- The solution can be found among the Minimal *interval* completions
- We will now have a look at the first characterization of a minimal interval completion.

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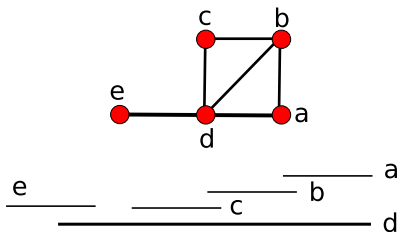
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Interval graphs



Definition

- A **graph** is an **interval graph** if every vertex can be assigned an interval on the real line, such that two lines only intersect if the corresponding vertices are adjacent.
- An interval graph $H = (V, E \cup F)$ where $E \cap F = \emptyset$ is called an interval **completion** of $G = (V, E)$ if $E \subseteq F$.
- The edge set F is called **fill-edges**.



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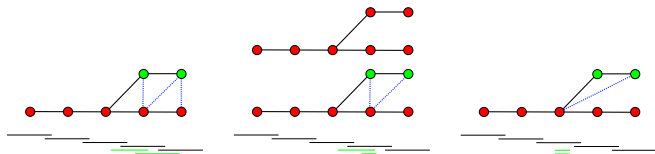
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Minimum and minimal interval completion



Definitions

- An interval graph $H = (V, E \cup F)$ is a **minimum** interval completion of $G = (V, E)$ if $E \cap F = \emptyset$ and $H' = (V, E \cup F')$ is not an interval graph for every edge set F' such that $|F'| < |F|$.
- An interval graph $H = (V, E \cup F)$ is a **minimal** interval completion of $G = (V, E)$ if $E \cap F = \emptyset$, and $H' = (V, E \cup F')$ is not an interval graph for every edge set F' such that $F' \subset F$.



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The questions

Given a graph $G = (V, E)$ and an interval completion $H = (V, E \cup F)$ of G where $E \cap F = \emptyset$.

We answer the following question in polynomial time:

- Is H a minimal interval completion of G ?
- **Alternatively**
Do there exist an edge set $F' \subset F$ such that $H' = (V, E \cup F')$ is an interval graph?
- **Finally**
If H is not a minimal interval completion, can an edge set F' , such that $F' \subset F$ and $H' = (V, E \cup F')$ is an interval graph be found?

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Removing a single edge

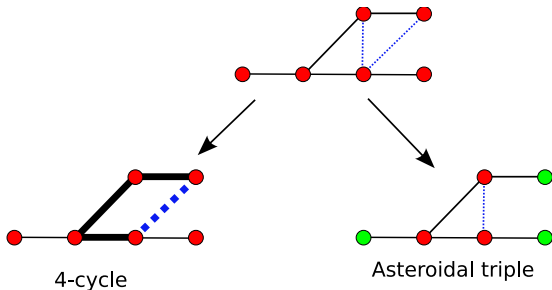


First step

If there exists a single edge $e \in F$ such that $H' = (V, E \cup F \setminus \{e\})$ is an interval graph, then we have the answer.

Observation

Removing a single edge will not always be sufficient.



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Definition

A path-decomposition of a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a sequence $P = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_r)$ of subsets of V called bags, such that

- Each vertex $u \in V$ appears in some bag X_i ,
- For every edge $xy \in E$ some bag X_i contains both x and y .
- The set of bags that contains a vertex x appears consecutively in P .

Definition

A path decomposition P is called a **clique path** of the given graph G if the vertices in every bag induces a **maximal** clique in G .
There exists a clique path P of a graph G if and only if G is an interval graph.

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Graphs

We need some graphs to work with:

- Let $G = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E})$ be an **arbitrary** graph.
- Let $H_2 = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E} \cup \mathbf{F}_2)$ be an **interval completion** of G ($E \cap F_2 = \emptyset$).
- Let $H_0 = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E} \cup \mathbf{F}_0)$ be a **minimal** interval completion of G ($E \cap F_0 = \emptyset$ and $F_0 \subset F_2$).
- Let $H_1 = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E} \cup \mathbf{F}_1)$ be an interval completion of G , where $F_0 \subset F_1 \subset F_2$.

By slightly abusing notation, we have:

$$G \subset H_0 \subseteq H_1 \subset H_2.$$

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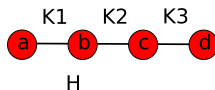
Defining foldings



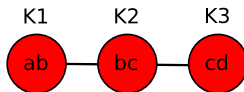
Definition of folding

Let H be an interval graph, let Q be any permutation of the set of maximal cliques of H , and let P be a clique path of H . We say that (H, Q, P) is a **folding** of H .

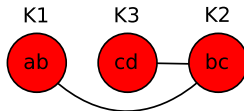
Graph H



Clique path P



Folding Q



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Algorithm FillFolding

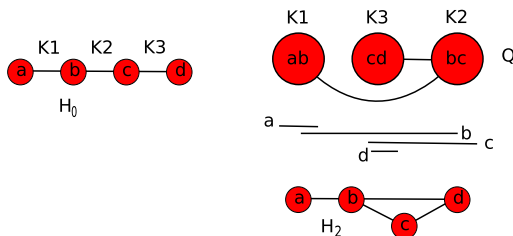


Algorithm FillFolding

Input: A folding (H_0, Q, P) of an interval graph H_0

Input: An interval completion H_2 of H_0

(Basic idea) For each vertex x , let Q_l and Q_r be the left most and right most maximal clique in Q that contains the vertex x . H_2 is obtained by adding x to every maximal clique between Q_l and Q_r .



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No single fill edge



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Theorem 1

Let H_2 be a an interval completion of an interval graph H_0 , where the removal of any single fill edge results in a graph that is not an interval graph.

Then there exists a folding (H_0, Q, P) , such that $H_2 = \text{FillFolding}(H_0, Q, P)$.

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Definition of pivot

Let (H_0, Q_0, P_0) be a folding. A clique $K \in Q$ is called a **pivot** in (H_0, Q_0, P_0) if both cliques just next to K (one to the left, the other to the right) in P_0 are on the same side of K in Q_0 .

Theorem 2

Let $H_2 = \text{FillFolding}(H_0, Q_0, P_0)$ be a an interval completion of H_0 , where the removal of any single fill edge result in a non interval graph.

Then there exists an interval graph H_1 such that $E(H_0) \subseteq E(H_1) \subseteq E(H_2)$, and $H_2 = \text{FillFolding}(H_1, Q_1, P_1)$ where every pivot of the folding H_1, Q_1, P_1 contains a **simplicial** vertex of H_1 .

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One or two unfolding

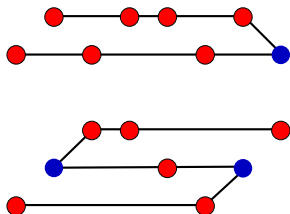


Theorem 3

Let H_2 be a non minimal interval completion of G , where the removal of any single fill edge result in a non interval graph.

Then there exists a folding (H_1, Q_1, P_1) where

- $E(G) \subset E(H_1) \subset E(H_2)$,
- $H_2 = \text{FillFolding}(H_1, Q_1, P_1)$,
- every pivot of (H_1, Q_1, P_1) contains a simplicial vertex in H_1 ,
- the folding (H_1, Q_1, P_1) contains one or two pivots.



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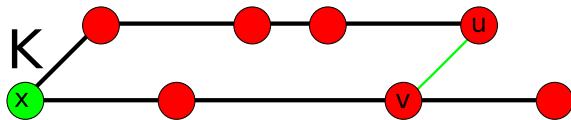


End pivot

Let (H_0, Q_0, P_0) be a 1-folding and let $H_2 = \text{FillFolding}(H_0, Q_0, P_0)$. Then its pivot is a maximal clique in H_2 . Moreover, there is a clique path of H_2 such that this pivot corresponds to a leaf.

One unfolding

Guess the right pair (K, u) , where K is a maximal clique in H_2 and u is a vertex.



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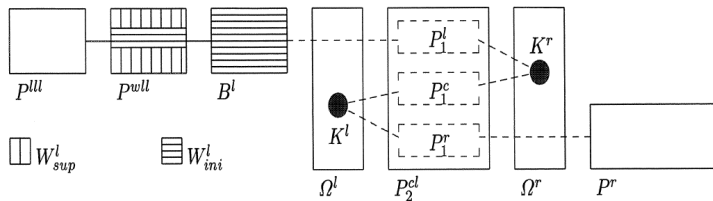
Solving the two unfolding



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Two unfolding

Guess the right tuple $(\Omega^l, \Omega^r, S^l, S^r, C^l, C^r, u, v)$, in H_2 .



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Extracting a minimal interval completion



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Algorithm ExtractMinimalIntervalCompletion

Input: A graph $G = (V, E)$, and an int. comp. $H_2 = (V, E \cup F)$.

Output: A minimal interval completion H_1 of G . [$E(H_1) \subseteq E(H_2)$].

$H_1 = H_2$

$H = G$

while ($H \neq H_1$)

$H = H_1$

if $H_1 - e$ is an int. graph for an edge $e \in E(H_1) \setminus E(G)$ **then**

$H_1 = H_1 - e$

else if $H_1 \neq \text{OneUnfolding}(G, H_1)$ **then**

$H_1 = \text{OneUnfolding}(G, H_1)$

else

$H_1 = \text{TwoUnfolding}(G, H_1)$

return H_1

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The end.

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