On Efficient Domination for Some Classes of *H*–Free Chordal Graphs

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Problem X3C [SP2] of [Garey, Johnson, Computers and Intractability, 1979]: **INSTANCE:** Set *X* with |X| = 3q and a collection C of 3-element subsets of X. **QUESTION:** Does *C* contain an *exact cover* for X, i.e., a subcollection $D \subset C$ such that every element of X occurs in exactly one member of *D*?





Exact Cover by 3-Sets (X3C)

Theorem [Karp 1972]
X3C is NP-complete.
(transformation from 3DM)
Remark. Exact Cover for 2-element subsets
(i.e., X2C) corresponds to Perfect Matching.

- Let G = (V, E) be a finite undirected graph. A vertex *v* dominates itself and its neighbors, i.e., *v* dominates N[v].
- [Biggs 1973, Bange, Barkauskas, Slater 1988]:
- *D* is an *efficient dominating set* (*e.d.s.*) in *G* if
- *D* is dominating in *G*, and
- each $v \in V$ is dominated exactly once by D.



Not every graph has an e.d.s.!



- Efficient dominating sets were introduced as *perfect codes* by Biggs in 1973; they also appear as *independent perfect dominating sets*. Let N(G) = closed neighborhood hypergraph of *G*.
- **Fact.** *G* has an e.d.s. $\Leftrightarrow N(G)$ has an exact cover for *V*.

- Efficient Domination (ED) problem: **INSTANCE**: A finite graph G = (V, E). **QUESTION**: Does *G* have an e.d.s.? **Theorem** [Bange, Barkauskas, Slater 1988]
- ED is NP-complete.

The Weighted Efficient Domination (WED) problem asks for an e.d.s. of minimum vertex weight.

- [Grinstead, Slater, Sherwani, Holmes, 1993]: $M \subseteq E$ is an *efficient edge dominating set* (*e.e.d.s.*) in *G* (also called *dominating induced matching*) if
- M is dominating in L(G), and
- each $e \in E$ is dominated exactly once in L(G) by M,

that is, M is an e.d.s. in L(G).

- Efficient Edge Domination (EED) problem: INSTANCE: A finite graph G = (V, E). QUESTION: Does G have an e.e.d.s.?
- **Theorem** [Grinstead, Slater, Sherwani, Holmes 1993]
- EED is NP-complete.

Corollary. ED is NP-complete for line graphs, and thus for claw-free graphs.

Not every graph (not every tree !) has an e.e.d.s.:







- **Theorem** [Smart, Slater 1995, Yen, Lee 1996] ED is NP–complete for bipartite graphs and for $2P_3$ –free chordal graphs.
- **Corollary.** If *H* contains a cycle or claw then ED is NP–complete on *H*–free graphs.
- If *H* is cycle– and claw–free then *H* is a *linear forest* (= disjoint union of paths).

- G is a *split graph* if V(G) is partitionable into a clique and an independent set. Clearly,
- *G* is a split graph \Leftrightarrow *G* and its complement are chordal.
- **Theorem** [Főldes, Hammer 1977] *G* is a split graph \Leftrightarrow *G* is $(2P_2, C_4, C_5)$ —free. **Theorem** [M.-S. Chang, Liu 1993] WED in time O(n + m) for split graphs.

Theorem [B., Milanič, Nevries, MFCS 2013] WED in linear time for $2P_2$ —free graphs. **Theorem** [B. 2015] WED in linear time for P_5 —free graphs. (based on modular decomposition)



 $(2P_3, K_3+P_3, 2K_3, butterfly, extended butterfly, extended co-$ *P*, extended chair, double-gem)–free chordal graphs represent a generalized version of split graphs called*satgraphs*in [Zverovich 2006].

Theorem. ED is NP–complete for satgraphs. (simple standard reduction from X3C)











ED based on *clique-width*:

- **Fact.** ED can be formulated in (a special kind of) Monadic Second Order Logic.
- **Theorem** [Golumbic, Rotics 2000]
- Clique-width of gem–free chordal graphs is at most 3.
- **Corollary.** ED in linear time for gem–free chordal graphs.

Theorem [B., Dabrowski, Huang, Paulusma, Bounding the clique-width of *H*-free chordal graphs, MFCS 2015] ... There are only two open cases for clique-width of *H*-free chordal graphs ...

For ED, we focus on *H*–free chordal graphs with unbounded clique-width.

Efficient domination via G^2

- Let $G^2 = (V, E^2)$ with $xy \in E^2$ if $d_G(x,y) \le 2$. N(G) = closed neighborhood hypergraph of *G*. **Fact.**
- $G^2 = L(N(G)).$
- *D* is an e.d.s. in $G \Leftrightarrow D$ is dominating in *G* and independent in G^2 .

- Let w(v) := |N[v]|.
- Fact [Leitert; Milanič 2012]
- *D* is an e.d.s. in $G \Leftrightarrow D$ is a maximum weight independent set in G^2 with w(D) = |V|.
- Theorem [Friese 2013]
- GP_6 -free with e.d.s. $\Rightarrow G^2$ hole-free.

Conjecture [Friese 2013]

- GP_6 -free with e.d.s. $\Rightarrow G^2$ odd-antihole-free (and thus, by the Strong Perfect Graph Theorem, G^2 would be perfect).
- **Theorem** [B., Eschen, Friese WG 2015]
- GP_6 -free chordal with e.d.s. $\Rightarrow G^2$ chordal.

Corollary. ED in polynomial time for P_6 -free chordal graphs (but NP-complete for P_7 -free chordal graphs).

- Theorem [B., Mosca WG 2016]
- WED in polynomial time for P_6 -free graphs. (direct approach)



Theorem [B., Mosca 2017]

If G is net–free chordal or extended-gem-free chordal with e.d.s. then G^2 is chordal.

(interval graphs \subset net–free chordal)

Proof. Let G be net–free chordal with e.d.s. First suppose to the contrary that G^2 contains a C_4 , say with vertices v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 such that $d_G(v_i, v_{i+1}) \le 2$ and $d_G(v_i, v_{i+2}) \ge 3$. By the chordality of G, $d_G(v_i, v_{i+1}) = 2$. Let x_i be the common neighbor of v_i and v_{i+1} . Clearly, $x_i \neq x_i$ for $i \neq j$.





































Theorem [B., Mosca 2017] WED in polynomial time for $S_{1,2,3}$ -free chordal graphs. (This generalizes the result for P_6 -free chordal

graphs.)



Theorem [B., Giakoumakis 2014] If WED is solvable in polynomial time for *H*free graphs then WED is solvable in polynomial time for $(H + kP_2)$ -free graphs for every fixed *k*.

All graphs with four vertices:





Theorem [B., Mosca 2017]

(i) For every chordal graph *H* with at most four vertices, WED is solvable in polynomial time for *H*–free chordal graphs.

(ii) For chordal graphs *H* with exactly five vertices, there are exactly four open cases for the complexity of WED on *H*–free chordal graphs:





Thank you for your attention!

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thin spider



Efficient domination

Lemma [B., Milanič, Nevries MFCS 2013] A prime $2P_2$ -free graph has an e.d.s. \Leftrightarrow it is a *thin spider*. Thm. [B., Milanič, Nevries MFCS 2013]

ED in linear time for $2P_2$ -free graphs.

Thm. [B. 2015] ED in linear time for P_5 -free graphs.



