

Restricted Types of Matchings

Dieter Rautenbach

Universität Ulm

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Joint with Baste, Fürst, Leichter, Lima, Sau, Souza, Szwarcfiter

Matchings in Graphs

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Definition

A **matching** in a graph G is a set M of pairwise disjoint edges. A matching M in G is **perfect** if the set $V(M)$ of vertices of G incident with an edge in M equals $V(G)$. The **matching number** $\nu(G)$ of G is the maximum order of a matching in G .

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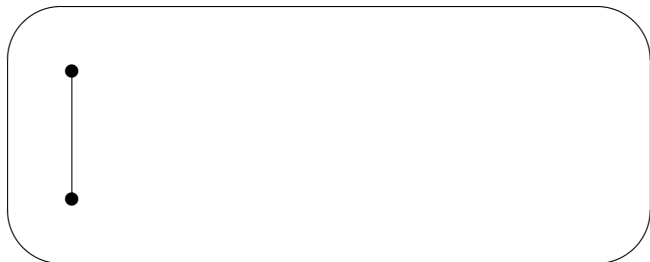
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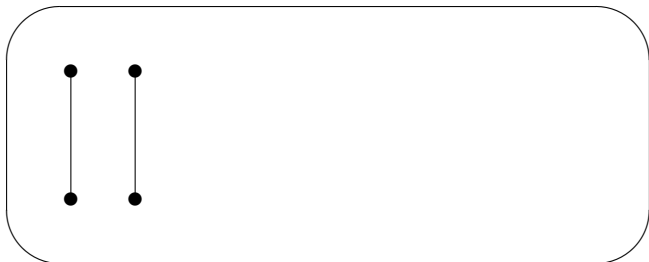
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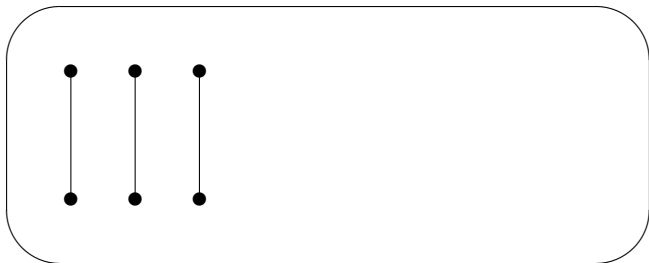
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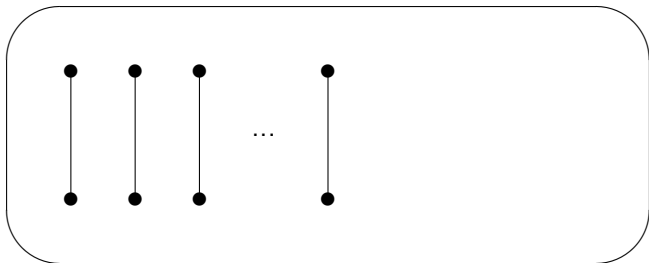
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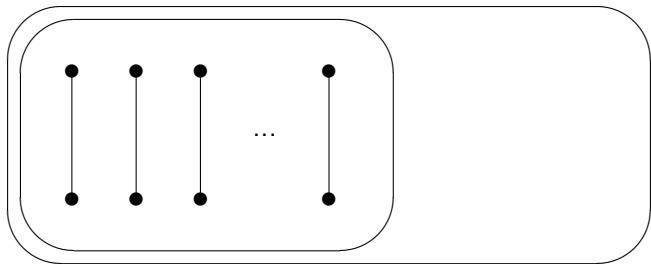
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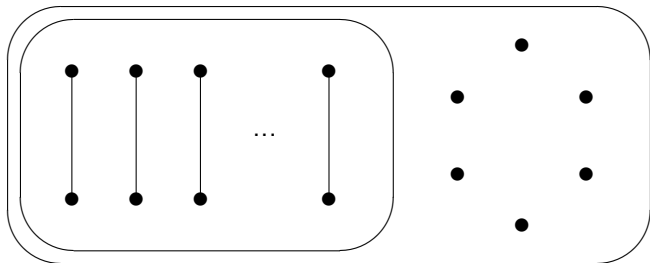
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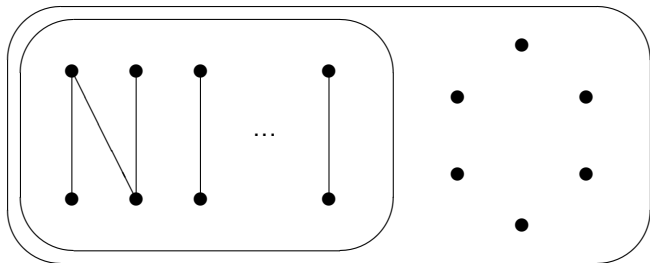
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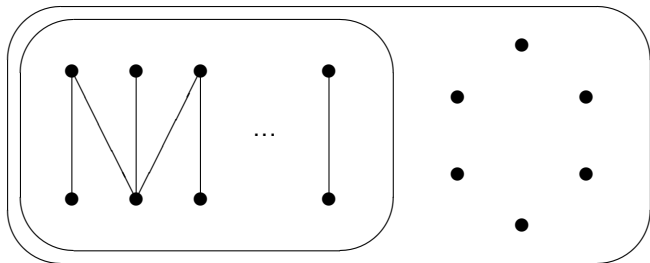
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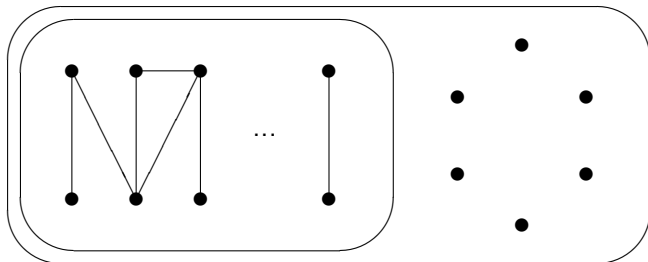
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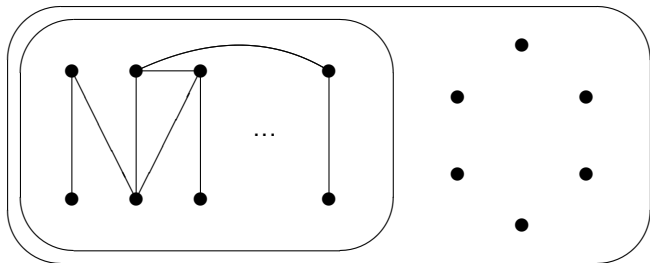
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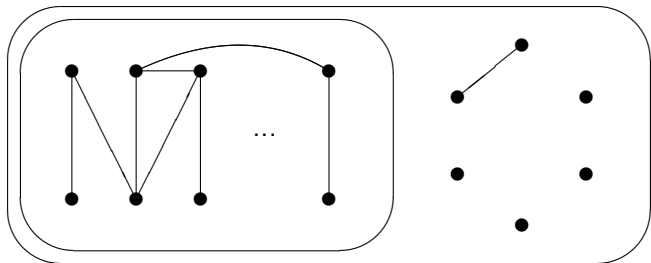
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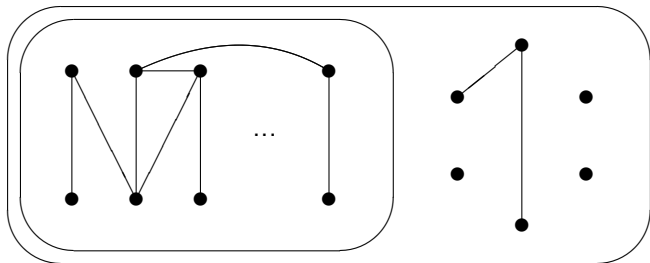
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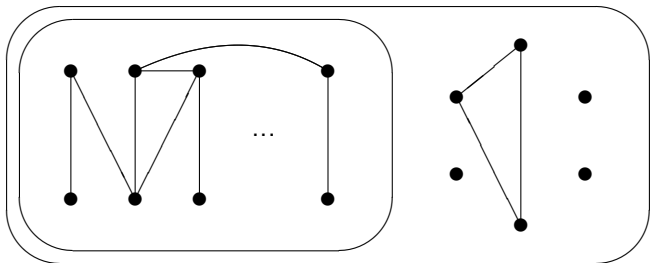
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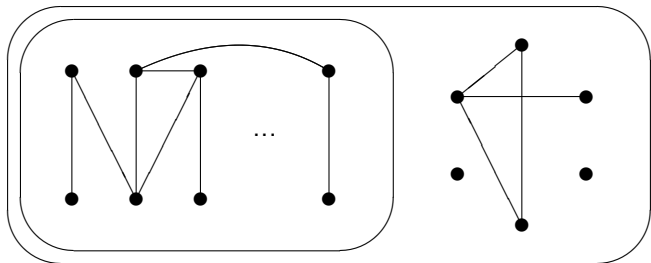
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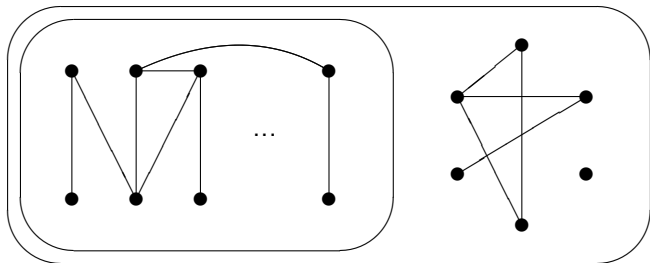
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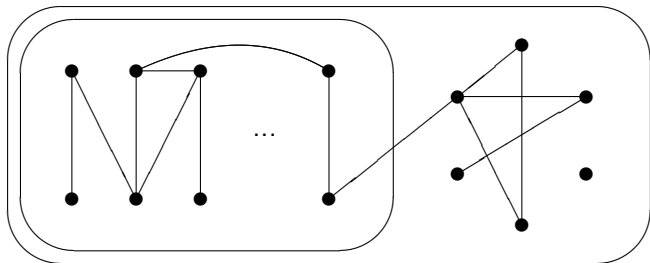
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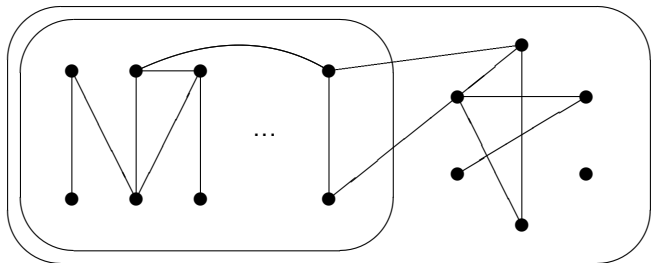
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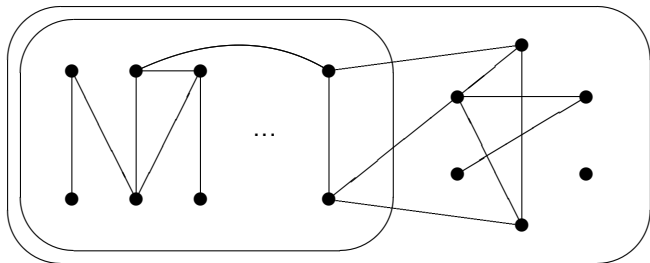
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An **edge coloring** of a graph G is a partition of its edge set $E(G)$ into matchings. The **chromatic index** $\chi'(G)$ of G is the minimum number of matchings/colors needed for such a partition.

$$\nu(G)\chi'(G) \geq m(G)$$

Matchings in Graphs

- Petersen 1891
 - ▶ cubic bridgeless graphs have a perfect matching
- König and Egerváry 1930ies
 - ▶ $\nu(G) \stackrel{G \text{ bip.}}{=} \tau(G) \rightsquigarrow$ LP duality, tum matrices, integral polyhedra
 - ▶ Hungarian method \rightsquigarrow Ford-Fulkerson 1956
- Tutte 1947
 - ▶ $2\nu(G) = n(G) \Leftrightarrow \forall S \subseteq V(G) : q(S) \leq |S| \rightsquigarrow$ good characterization
- Vizing 1964
 - ▶ $\Delta(G) \leq \chi'(G) \leq \Delta(G) + 1$
- Edmonds 1965
 - ▶ maximum matching algorithm
 - ▶ Gallai-Edmonds structure theorem
 - ▶ ...
- Holyer 1981
- ...

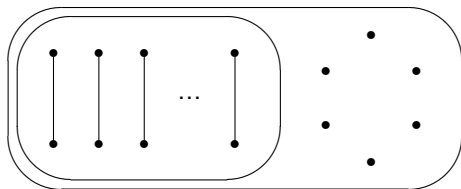
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A matching M in a graph G is **strong/induced** if $G[V(M)]$ is 1-regular.

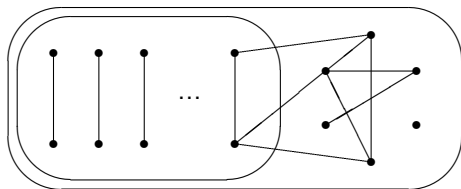
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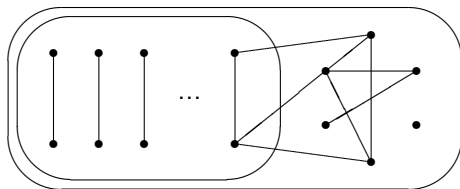
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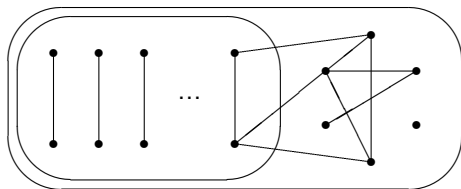
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- **strong/induced chromatic index** $\chi'_s(G)$
Erdős and Nešetřil 1985: $\chi'_s(G) \stackrel{?!}{\leq} \frac{5}{4} \Delta(G)^2$
Molloy and Reed 1997: $\chi'_s(G) \leq (1.998 + o(\Delta(G))) \Delta(G)^2$

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Baste and R 2017

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$$\nu_1(G) \leq \nu_2(G) \leq \nu_3(G) \leq \dots \leq \nu_{\Delta(G)}(G) = \nu(G)$$

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Fürst, Leichter, and R 2017

- Locally searching for large induced matchings

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Theorem (Kobler and Rotics 2003)

The maximum induced matching problem is NP-hard for line graphs.

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$$\frac{2d^2 - 2d + 1}{2d - 1} = d - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4d - 2}$$

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Theorem (R 2016)

...for $\{C_3, C_5\}$ -free graphs the factor can be improved to $0.708\bar{3}d + 0.425$.

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Definition (Conflict edges)

For an edge e of a graph G , let

$$C_G(e) = \{e\} \cup N_{L(G)^2}(e) = \{f \in E(G) : \text{dist}_{L(G)}(e, f) \leq 2\},$$

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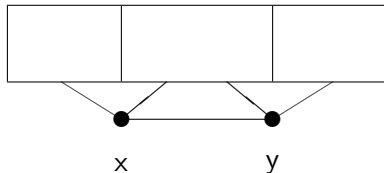
For a set M of edges of G and an edge e in M , let

$$PC_G(M, e) = C_G(e) \setminus \bigcup_{f \in M \setminus \{e\}} C_G(f),$$

and let $p_{C_G}(M, e) = |PC_G(M, e)|$.

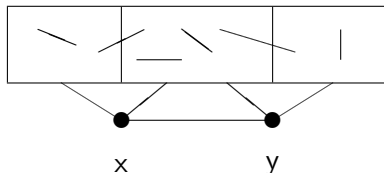
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If $n_{xy} = |N_G(x) \cap N_G(y)|$ and $m_{xy} = m_G((N_G(x) \cup N_G(y)) \setminus \{x, y\})$ for an edge xy of G , then



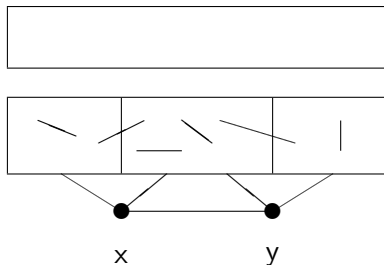
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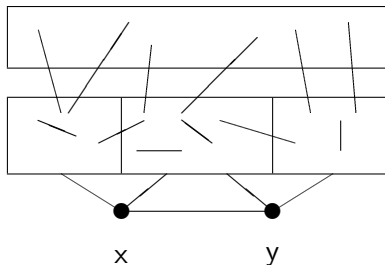
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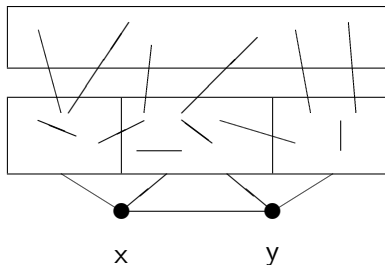
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Approximating $\nu_s(G)$

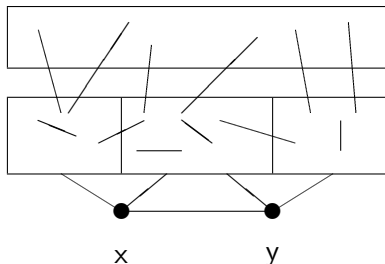
If $n_{xy} = |N_G(x) \cap N_G(y)|$ and $m_{xy} = m_G((N_G(x) \cup N_G(y)) \setminus \{x, y\})$ for an edge xy of G , then



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$$\begin{aligned}c_G(xy) &\leq |\{xy\}| + d \left| (N_G(x) \cup N_G(y)) \setminus \{x, y\} \right| - m_{xy} \\ &= 2d^2 - 2d + 1 - (dn_{xy} + m_{xy}).\end{aligned}$$

Approximating $\nu_s(G)$

GREEDY(α)

Input: A graph G .

Output: A pair (M, G') such that M is an induced matching of G ,
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 Choose an edge e_i of G_{i-1} with $c_{G_{i-1}}(e_i) \leq \alpha$;

$M \leftarrow M \cup \{e_i\}$;

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$i \leftarrow i + 1$;

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if $M \cup \{e\}$ *is an induced matching of G for some edge $e \in E(G) \setminus M$*

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if $(M \setminus \{e\}) \cup \{e', e''\}$ *is an induced matching of G for some three distinct edges $e \in M$ and $e', e'' \in E(G) \setminus M$* **then**

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until $|M|$ *does not increase during one iteration*;

return M ;

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If (M, G') is the output of $\text{GREEDY}(\alpha)$ applied to G , then

$$c_{G'}(e) > \alpha \text{ for every edge } e \text{ of } G'.$$

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then

$$2m(G) - \sum_{e \in M} p c_G(M, e) \leq p \leq \sum_{e \in M} c_G(e)$$

Approximating $\nu_s(G)$

Theorem (Fürst, Leichter, and R 2017)

LOCAL SEARCH is an approximation algorithm for the *maximum induced matching problem* that has approximation factor

- $\frac{9}{16}d + \frac{33}{80}$ for d -regular C_4 -free graphs,
- $\frac{1}{2}d + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8d-4}$ for d -regular $\{C_3, C_4\}$ -free graphs,
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Approximating $\nu_s(G)$

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Approximating $\nu_s(G)$

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- $\frac{1}{2}d + \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{8d-4}$ for d -regular claw-free graphs.

Theorem (Fürst, Leichter, and R 2017)

For claw-free d -regular graphs, choosing any maximal induced matching yields a $\left(\frac{7}{12}d + \frac{31}{24} + \frac{55}{48d-24}\right)$ -factor approximation algorithm.

Approximating $\nu_s(G)$

Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$

Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$ in bipartite graphs

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$\nu_{ur}(G)$ is hard for bipartite graphs and split graphs.

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Theorem (Mishra 2011)

$\nu_{ur}(G)$ is APX-complete for subcubic bipartite graphs but can be approximated within a factor of 2 for cubic bipartite graphs.

Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$ in bipartite graphs

Theorem (Baste, R, and Sau 2016)

For a given connected subcubic bipartite graph G , one can find in polynomial time a uniquely restricted matching of G of size at least

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Theorem (Baste, R, and Sau 2016)

Let $\Delta \geq 3$ be an integer.

For a given connected C_4 -free bipartite graph G of maximum degree at most Δ , one can find in polynomial time a uniquely restricted matching M of G of size at least

$$\frac{(\Delta - 1)^2 + (\Delta - 2)}{(\Delta - 1)^3 + (\Delta - 2)}\nu_{ur}(G).$$

Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$ in bipartite graphs

Lemma (Baste, R, and Sau 2016)

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Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$ in bipartite graphs

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then G has a uniquely restricted matching M of size at least

$$\frac{(\Delta - 1)^2 + (\Delta - 2)}{(\Delta - 1)^3 + (\Delta - 2)} |A|.$$

Furthermore, such a matching can be found in polynomial time.

Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$ in bipartite graphs

Proof:

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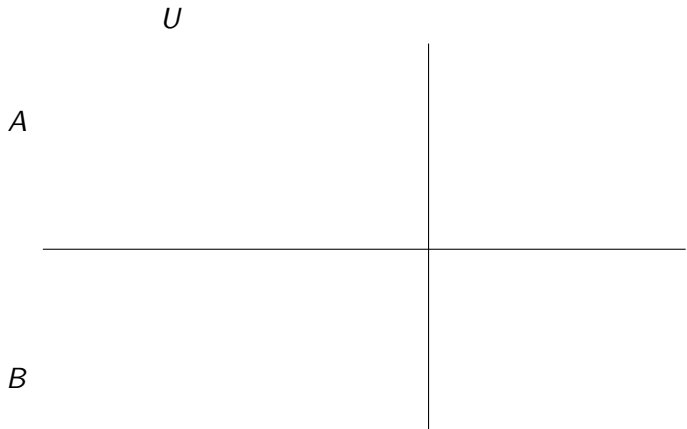
A



B

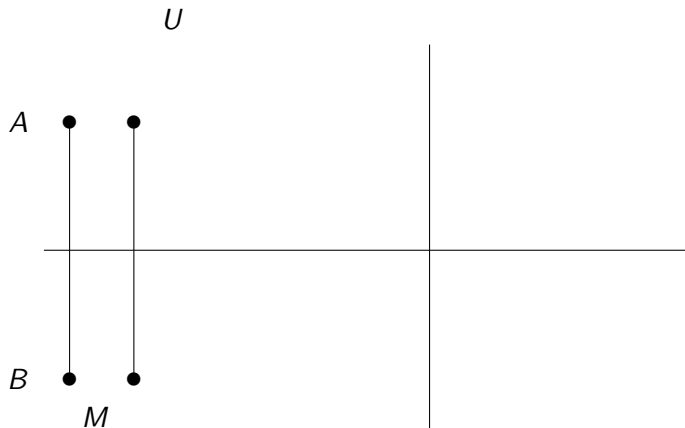
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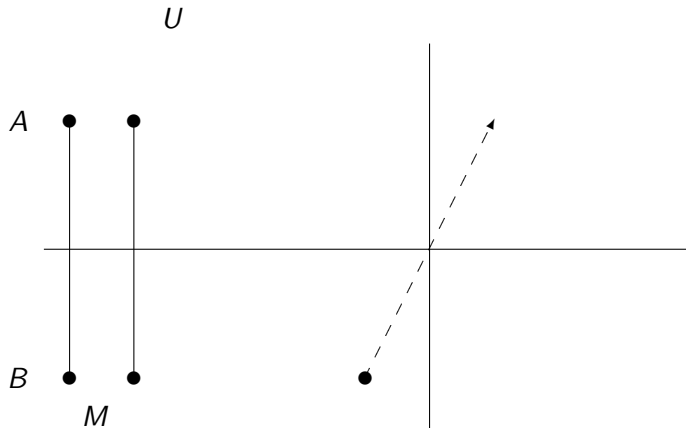
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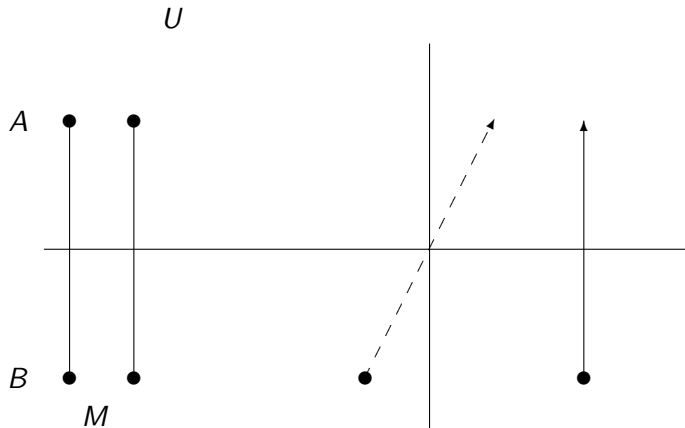
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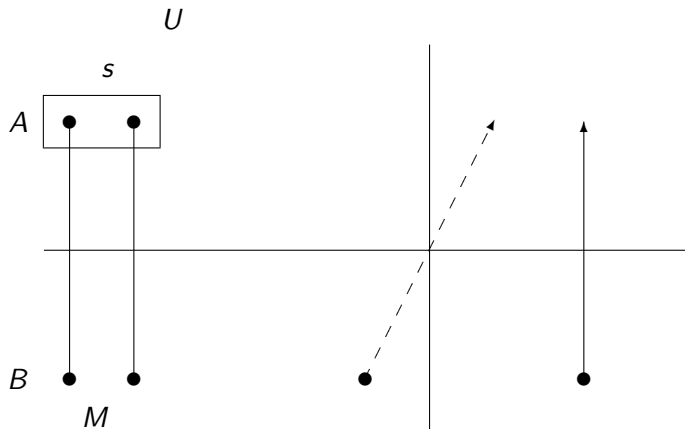
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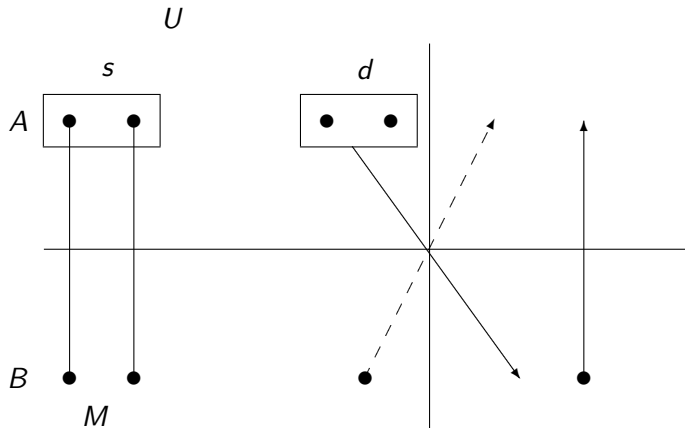
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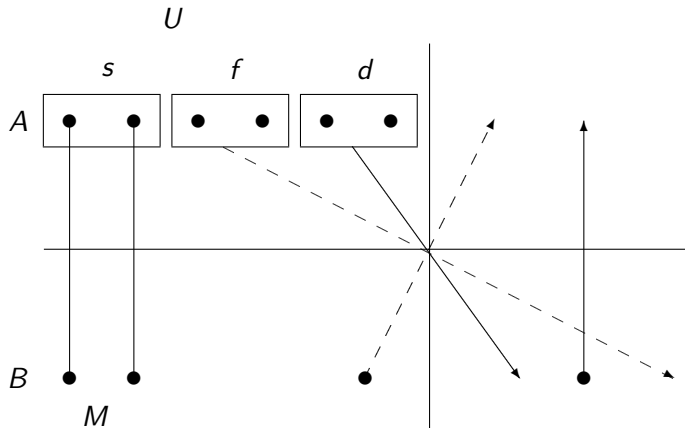
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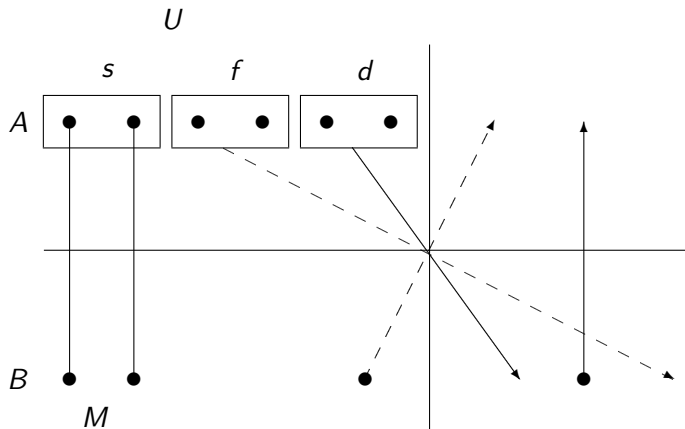
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$$(\Delta - 1)^2 \left((\Delta - 2)s - (d + f) \right) \geq (\Delta - 2)f$$

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Initially, $(U, M) = (\emptyset, \emptyset)$.

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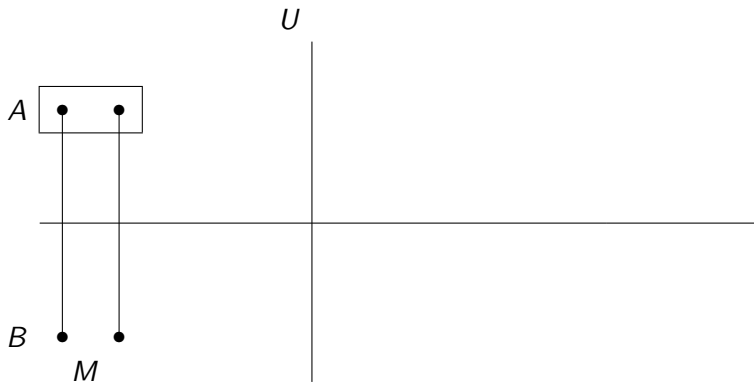
Choose u minimizing $d_{A \setminus U}(u)$.

Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$ in bipartite graphs

Case 1 $d_{A \setminus U}(u) = 1$.

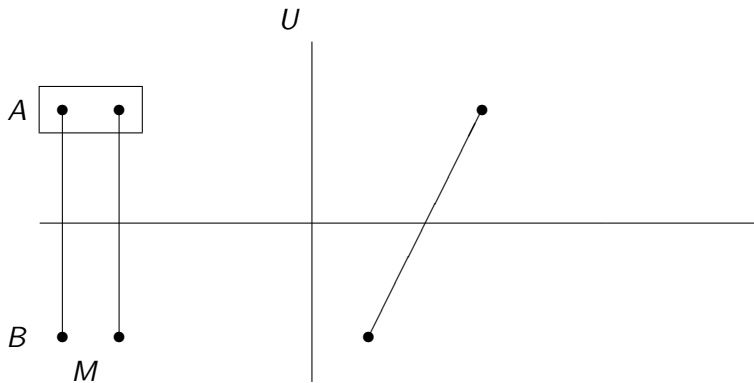
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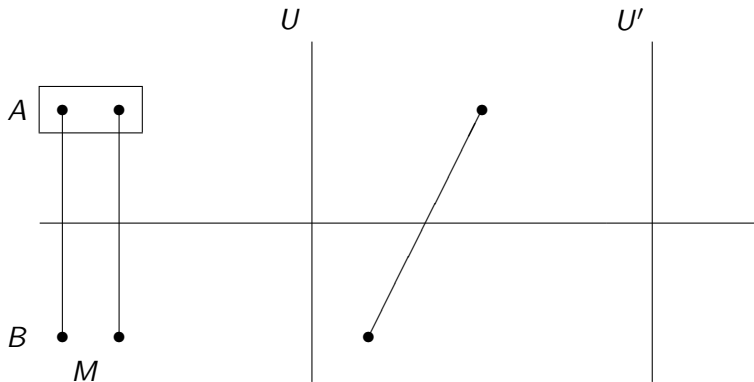
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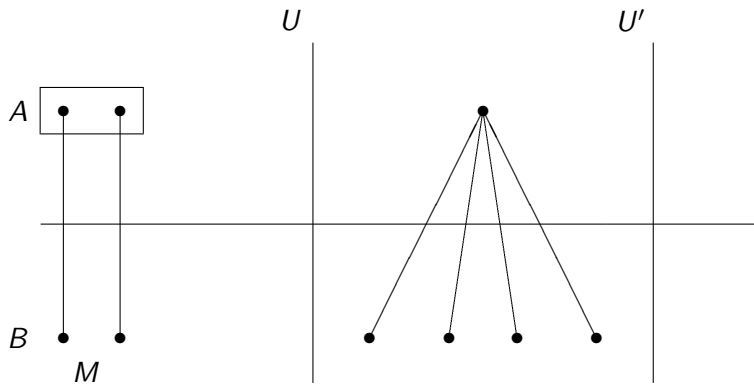
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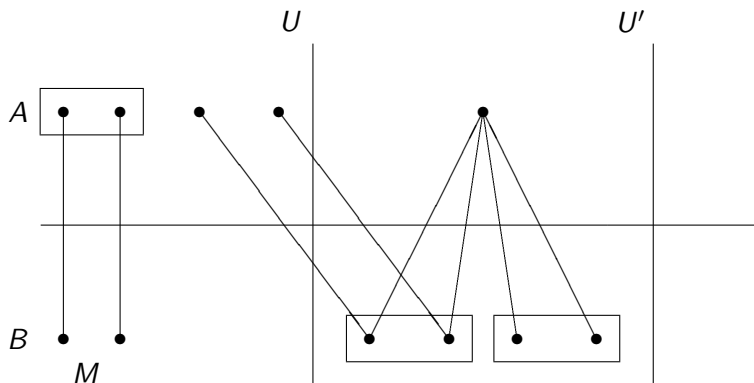
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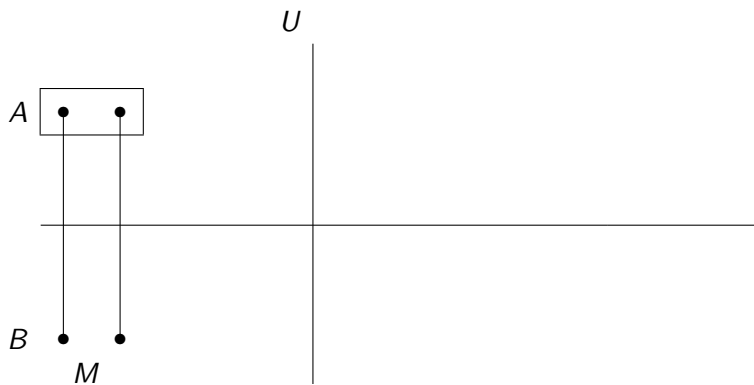


Approximating $\nu_{ur}(G)$ in bipartite graphs

Case 2 $d_{A \setminus U}(u) \geq 2$.

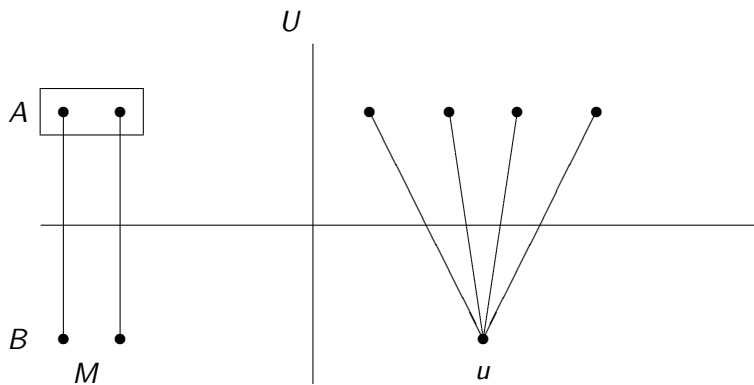
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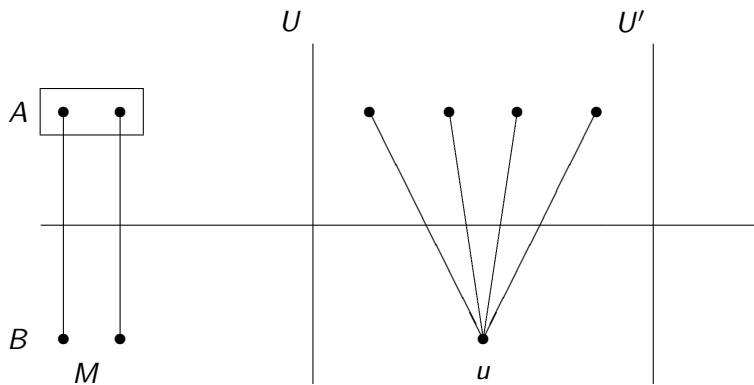
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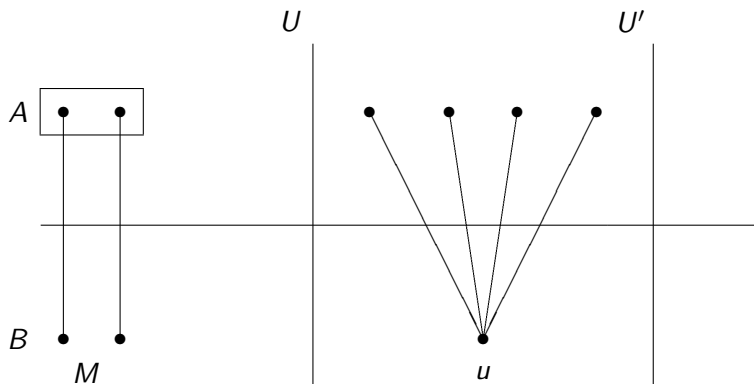
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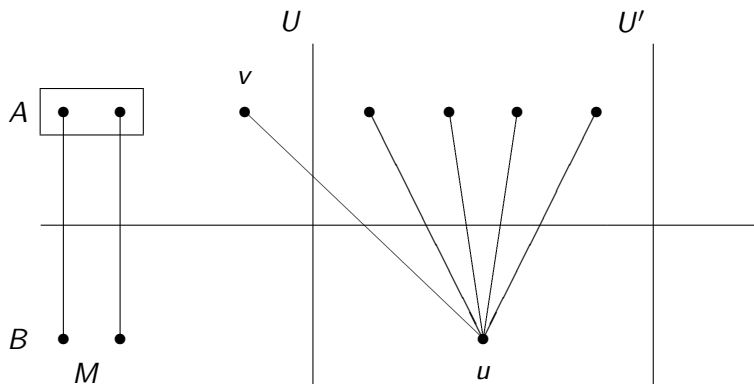
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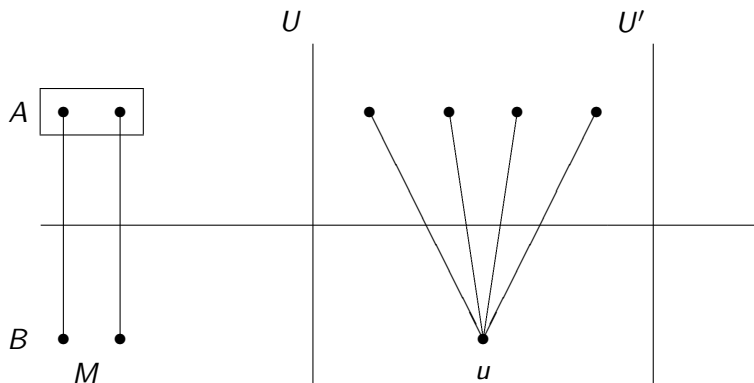
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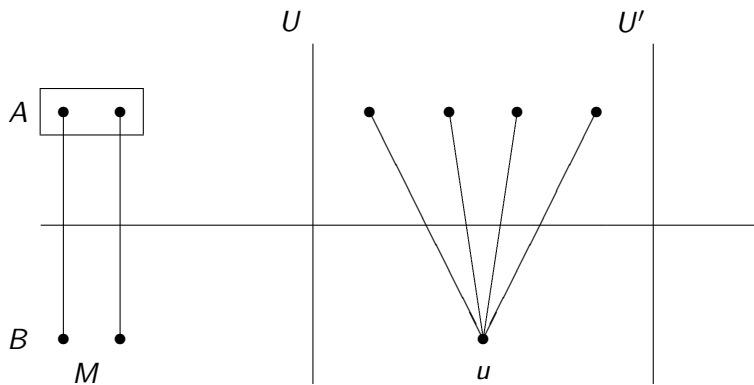
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Upper bounds on $\chi'_{ur}(G)$

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- using distinct colors, and

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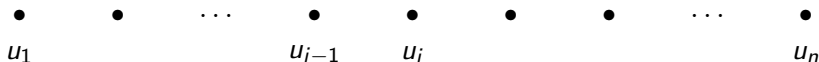
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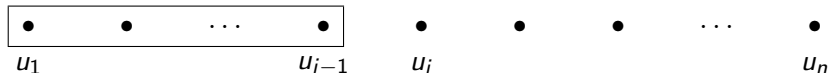
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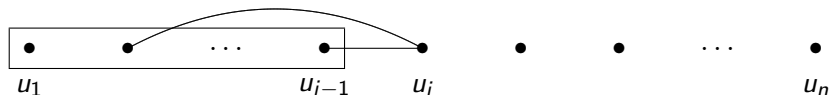
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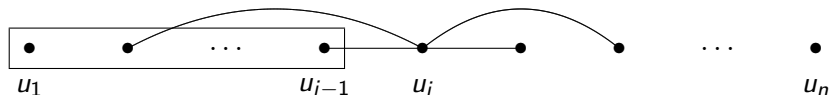
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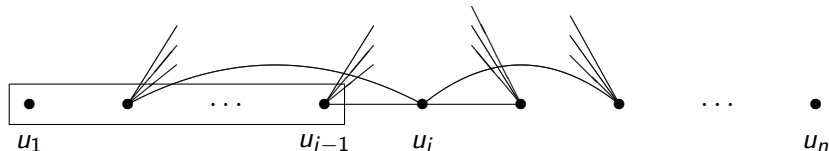
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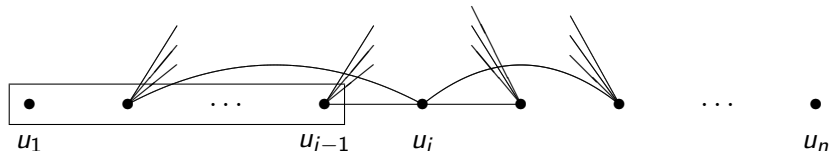
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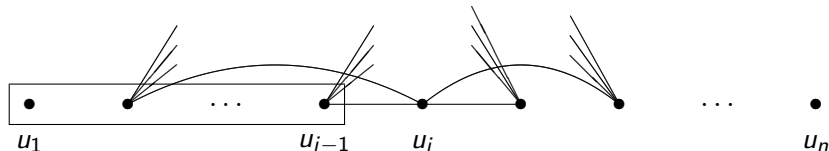
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For $\Delta = 3$ or G non-bipartite, the lemma fails.

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Proposition (Baste and R 2017)

If r is an integer at least 2, then no graph G of maximum degree at most Δ satisfies (1) with equality.

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Consider a nice tree decomposition

$$(T, (X_t)_{t \in V(T)})$$

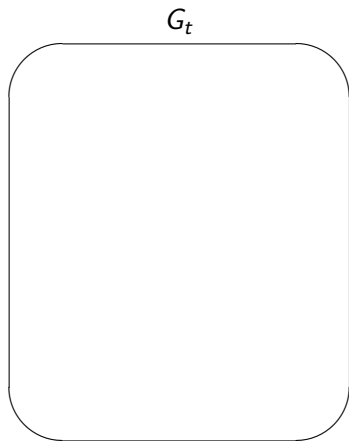
of G with complete bags X_t .

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For every node t of T , generate the set \mathcal{R}_t of all triples (S, N, k) such that...

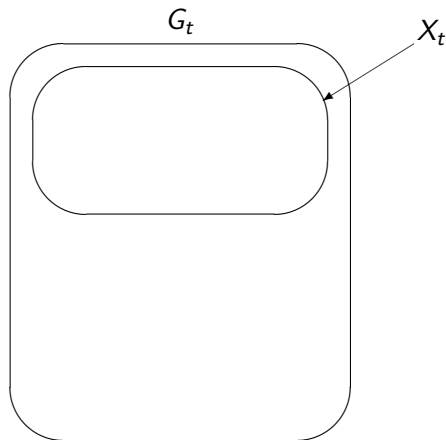
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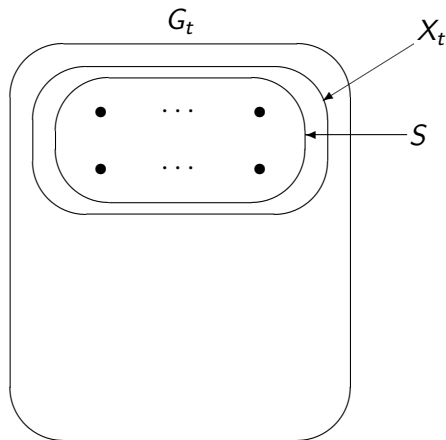
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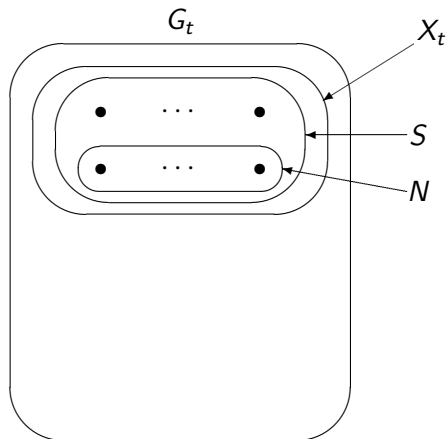
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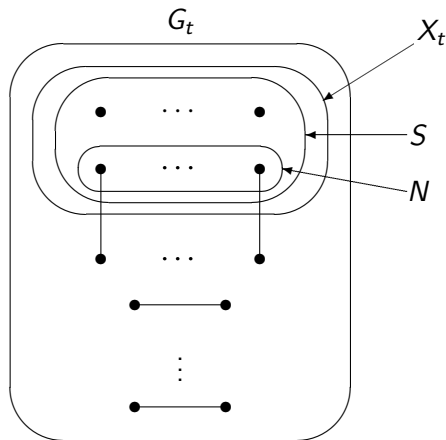
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...where M has size k and $G[V(M) \cup S]$ is r -degenerate.

Efficient algorithm for $\nu_r(G)$ in chordal graphs

Lemma (Baste and R 2017)

Let G , $(T, (X_t)_{t \in V(T)})$, and $(\mathcal{R}_t)_{t \in V(T)}$ be as above.

- (a) If t is a leaf of T , then $\mathcal{R}_t = \{(\emptyset, \emptyset, 0)\}$.
- (b) If t is an introduce node, t' is the child of t , and $\{x\} = X_t \setminus X_{t'}$, then $(S, N, k) \in \mathcal{R}_t$ if and only if
- ▶ either $(S, N, k) \in \mathcal{R}_{t'}$
 - ▶ or $(S, N, k) = (S' \cup \{x\}, N, k)$ for some $(S', N, k) \in \mathcal{R}_{t'}$ with $|S'| \leq r$.
- (c) If t is a forget node, t' is the child of t , and $\{x\} = X_{t'} \setminus X_t$, then $(S, N, k) \in \mathcal{R}_t$ if and only if
- ▶ either $(S, N, k) \in \mathcal{R}_{t'}$ and $x \notin S$,
 - ▶ or $(S, N, k) = (S' \setminus \{x\}, N' \cup \{y\}, k' + 1)$ for some $(S', N', k') \in \mathcal{R}_{t'}$ with $x \in S' \setminus N'$ and some $y \in S' \setminus (N' \cup \{x\})$,
 - ▶ or $(S, N, k) = (S' \setminus \{x\}, N' \setminus \{x\}, k')$ for some $(S', N', k') \in \mathcal{R}_{t'}$ with $x \in N'$.
- (d) If t is a join node, and t' and t'' are the children of t , then $(S, N, k) \in \mathcal{R}_t$ if and only if $(S, N, k) = (S, N' \cup N'', k' + k'')$ for some $(S, N', k') \in \mathcal{R}_{t'}$ and $(S, N'', k'') \in \mathcal{R}_{t''}$ with $N' \cap N'' = \emptyset$.

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Theorem (Baste and R 2017)

For a fixed positive integer r , and a given chordal graph G , the maximum size of an r -degenerate matching can be determined in polynomial time.

Decycling/bipartizing matchings

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Let \mathcal{FM} be the set of all graphs G that have a matching M such that $G - M$ is a forest.

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Let G be a graph.

- (i) If $G \in \mathcal{FM}$ is connected, then G has a matching M for which $G - M$ is a tree.

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- (iii) If G is subcubic and connected, then $G \in \mathcal{FM}$ if and only if G has a spanning tree T such that all endvertices of T are of degree at most 2 in G .

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Thank you for the attention!