

Clustered Coloring of Graphs Excluding a Subgraph and a Minor

Chun-Hung Liu, David R. Wood

[2019+]

H is a *minor* of G if:

G can be divided into connected groups forming H

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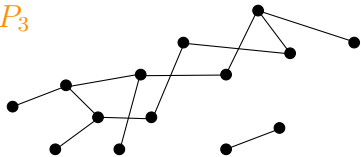
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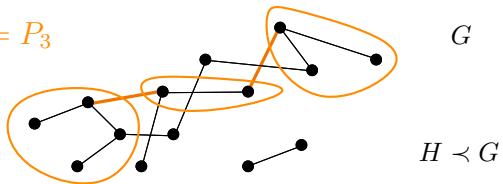


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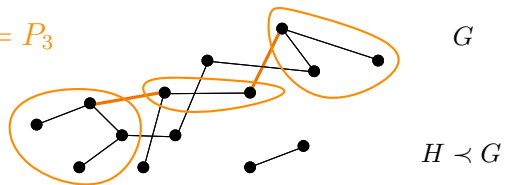
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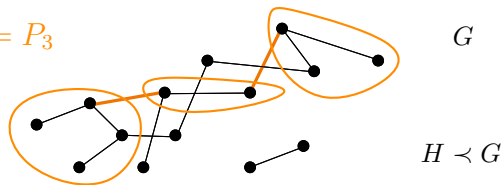


$c : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is a *coloring* of G

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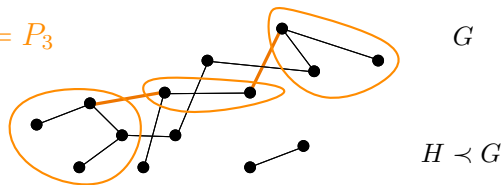
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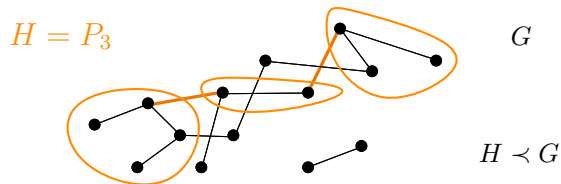
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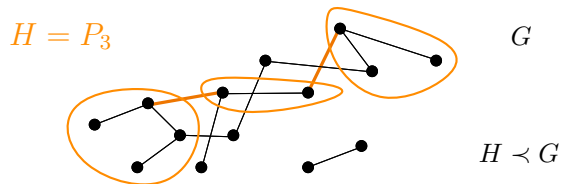
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Hadwiger's conjecture:

$$K_{t+1} \not\prec G \Rightarrow \chi(G) \leq t$$

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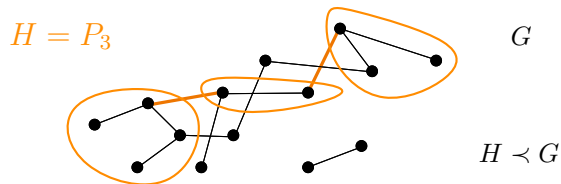
$t \leq 5$ - OK

$$\chi(G) \leq C \cdot t \cdot (\log \log t)^6$$

[Norin, Song, Postle 2020]

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Relax the notion of properness?

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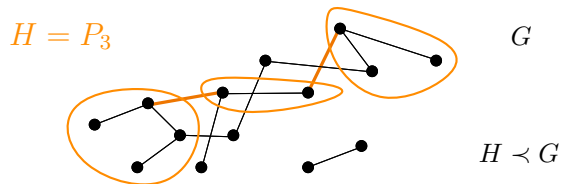
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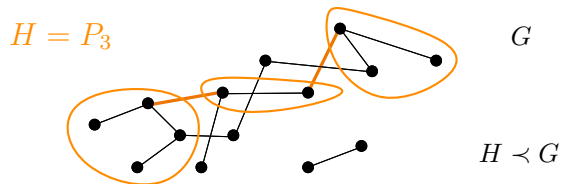
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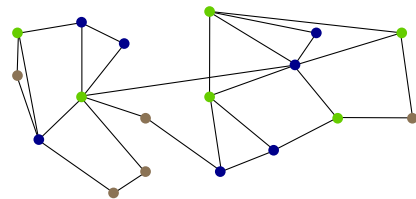
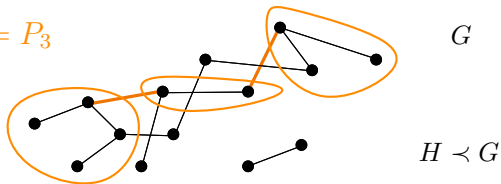
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2-clustered 3 coloring

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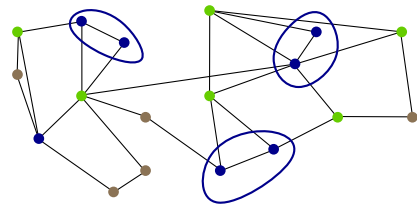
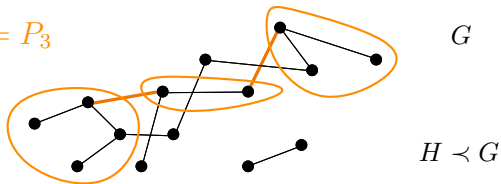
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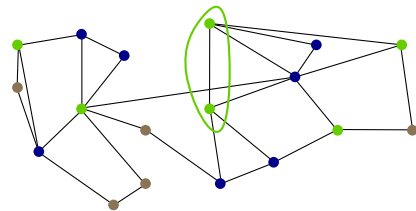
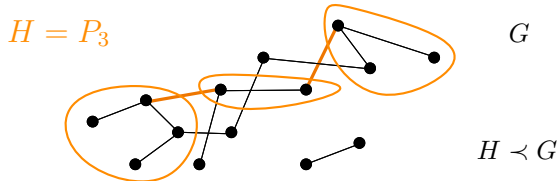
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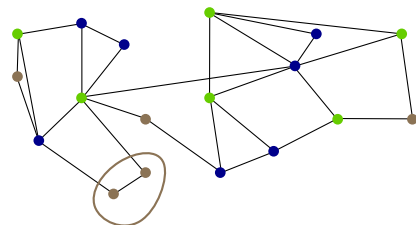
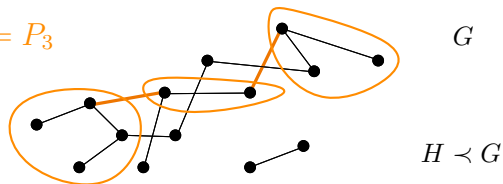
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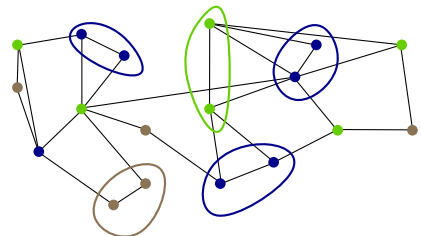
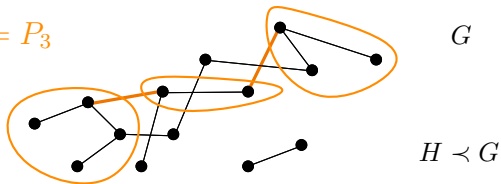
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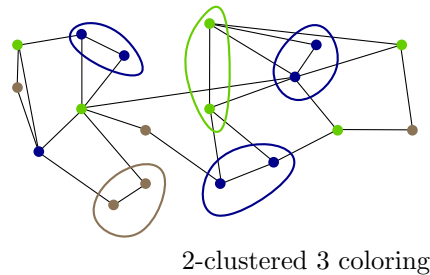
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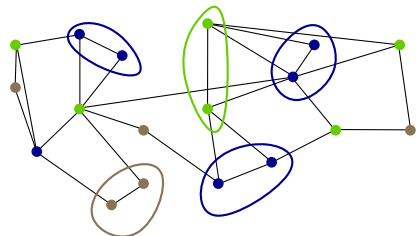
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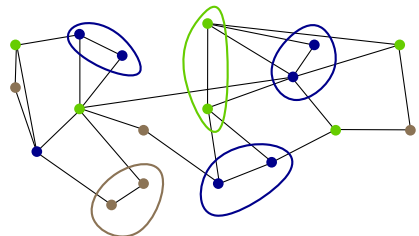
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Hadwiger's clustered conjecture:

$\mathcal{G}_s = K_{s+1}$ minor free graphs

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Kawarabayashi, Mohar [2007]

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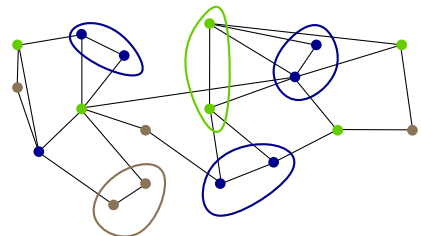
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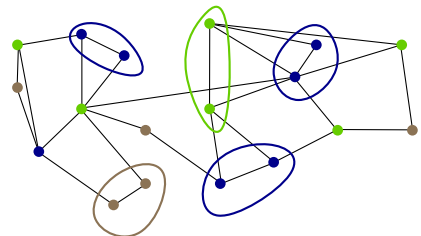
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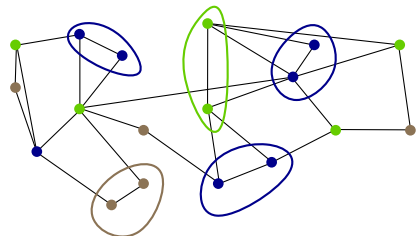
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$$\chi(G) \leq s + 2 \quad \text{Liu, Wood [2019+]}$$

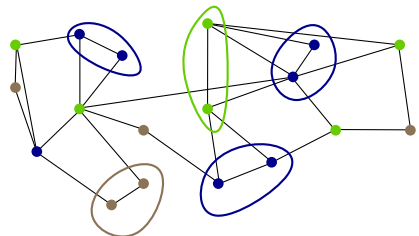
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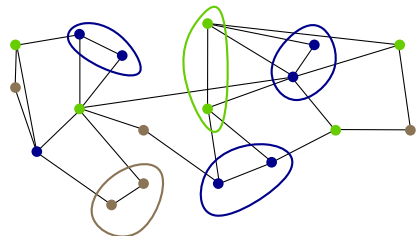
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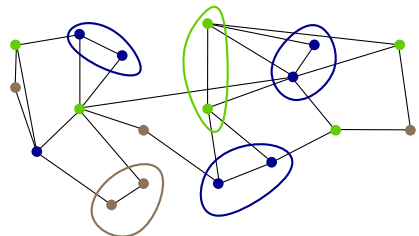
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$$\forall s, t, H \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, H) \forall G$$

G has no H -minor

G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph

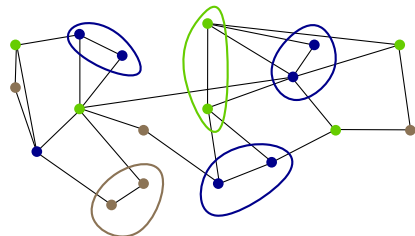
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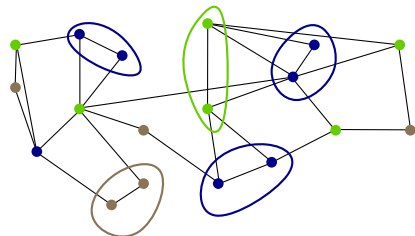
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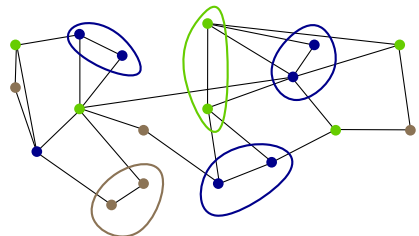
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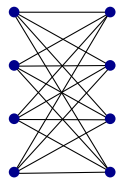


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$K_{s,s}$ has K_{s+1} minor

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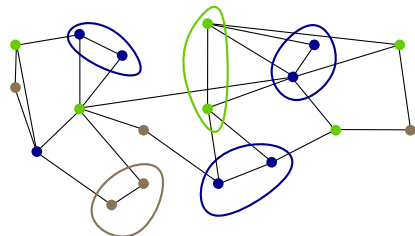
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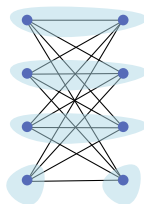
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$$\chi_c(\mathcal{G}_s) \leq s + 2$$



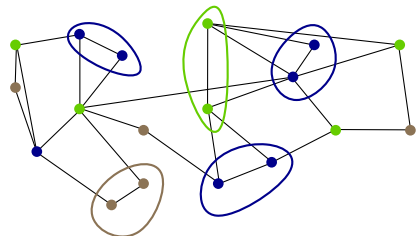
$K_{s,s}$ has K_{s+1} minor

c is η -clustered if the size of each monochromatic component is bounded by η

\mathcal{G} - graph class

$\chi_c(\mathcal{G}) =$ size of minimal η -clustered coloring

absolute $\eta = \eta(s)$



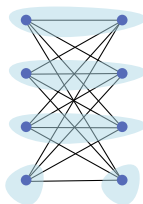
2-clustered 3 coloring

Hadwiger's clustered conjecture:

$\mathcal{G}_s = K_{s+1}$ minor free graphs

$\chi_c(\mathcal{G}_s) \leq s$

$$\chi_c(\mathcal{G}_s) \leq s + 2$$



$K_{s,s}$ has K_{s+1} minor

We will prove

Technical statement: (optimal)

$$\forall s, t, H \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, H) \forall G$$

G has no H -minor

G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph

planar

$(s+1)$

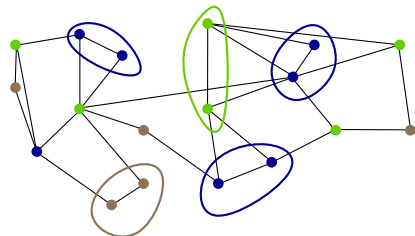
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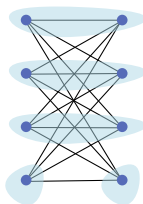


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We will prove

Technical statement: (optimal)

$\forall s, t, H \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, H) \forall G$ ~~$\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$~~
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 G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph
~~planar~~
 $\Rightarrow G$ is ~~$(s+2)$~~ -colorable with clustering η

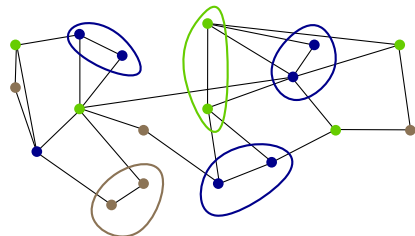
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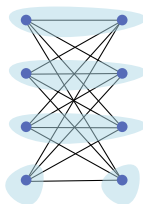


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We will prove

Technical statement: (optimal)

$\forall s, t, H \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, H) \forall G$
 $\begin{matrix} \text{tw}(G) \leq \omega \\ G \text{ has no } H\text{-minor} \\ G \text{ has no } K_{s,t}\text{-subgraph} \end{matrix}$

~~planar~~ $(s+1)$ choosable $\Rightarrow G$ is ~~$(s+2)$~~ -colorable with clustering η



$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$
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$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

$\forall_{s,t,\omega} \exists_{\eta=\eta(s,t,\omega)} \forall G$

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???

$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$

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(A, B) is a **Separation** if $A \cup B = G$ and $E(A) \cap E(B) = \emptyset$.

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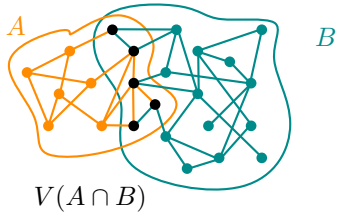
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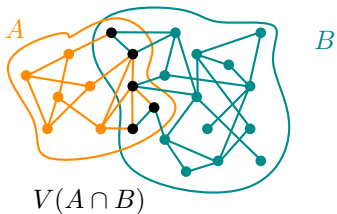
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\mathcal{T} - set of some separation of order $< \theta$



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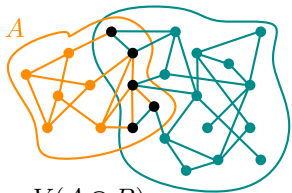
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B

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$V(A \cap B)$

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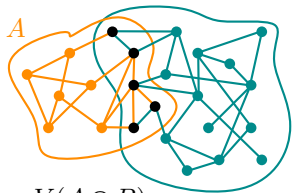
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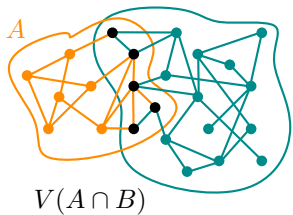
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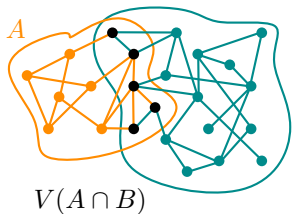
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Example: C fixed cycle in G

$$\mathcal{T} = \{(A, B) : \text{ord} = 1, C \subset B\}$$

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

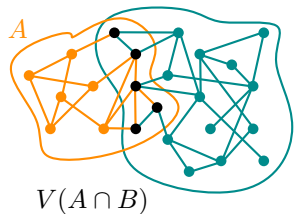
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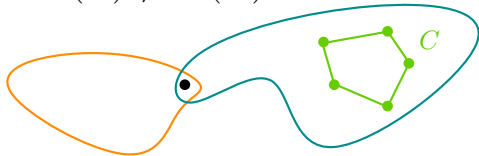
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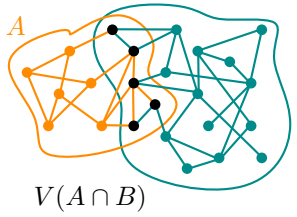
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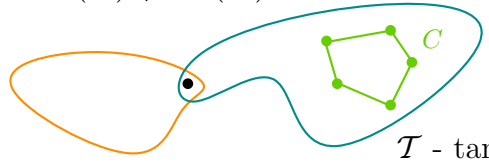


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Example: C fixed cycle in G

$\mathcal{T} = \{(A, B) : \text{ord} = 1, C \subset B\}$



\mathcal{T} - tangle of order 2

$$\forall_{s,t,\omega} \exists_{\eta=\eta(s,t,\omega)} \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph

???

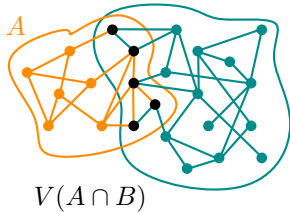
Advanced example: $G = \boxplus_k$
 $\mathcal{T} = \{(A, B) : \text{ord} < k, \text{full row} \subset B\}$

$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

(A, B) is a **Separation** if $A \cup B = G$ and $E(A) \cap E(B) = \emptyset$.

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\mathcal{T} - set of some separation of order $< \theta$



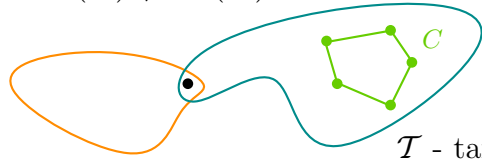
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Example: C fixed cycle in G

$$\mathcal{T} = \{(A, B) : \text{ord} = 1, C \subset B\}$$



\mathcal{T} - tangle of order 2

$$\forall s,t,\omega \exists \eta = \eta(s,t,\omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ←
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph

$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

???

$$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$$



\mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$

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(T3) $V(A) \neq V(G)$

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph

$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$

$:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$

???

$$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$$



\mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$

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$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η



$\text{ord}(A, B)$
 $:= |V(A \cap B)|$

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$$X \subset V(G)$$



$$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$$

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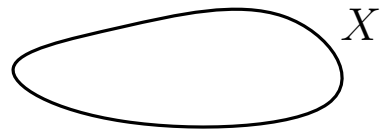


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$$X \subset V(G)$$



X



$N^{\geq s}(X)$

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
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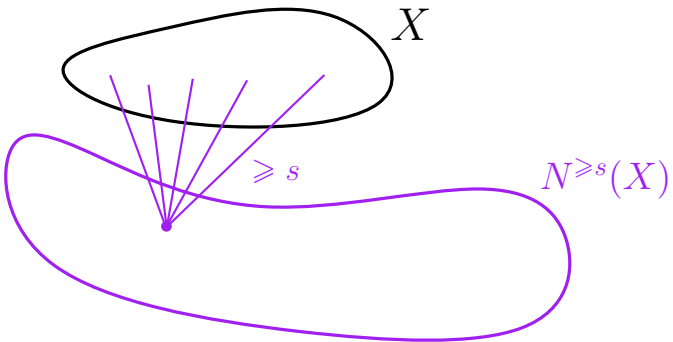


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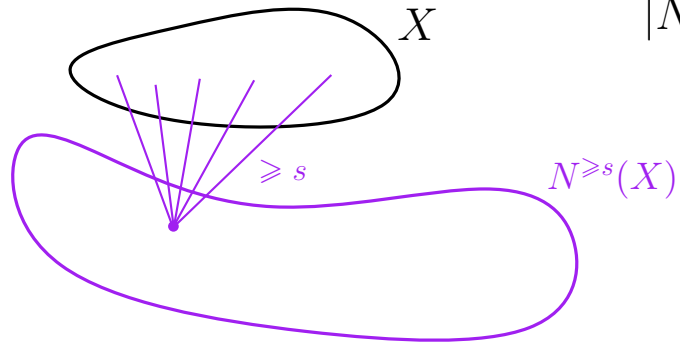


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$$X \subset V(G)$$



$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq (t - 1) \cdot \binom{|X|}{s} + 1$$

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

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We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$



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$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

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We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)



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Invariant:



$$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$$

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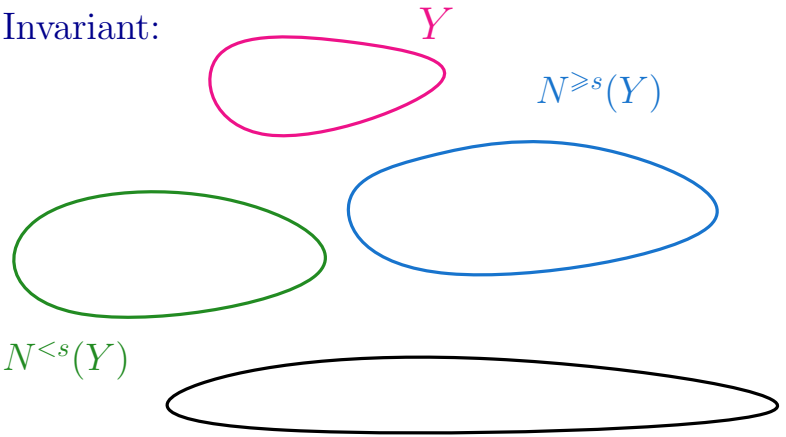
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We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

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Invariant:



$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

$$\forall_{s,t,\omega} \exists_{\eta=\eta(s,t,\omega)} \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph



$$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$$

\mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$

- (T1) $(A, B) \in \mathcal{T}$ or $(B, A) \in \mathcal{T}$
- (T2) $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \neq G$
- (T3) $V(A) \neq V(G)$

$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

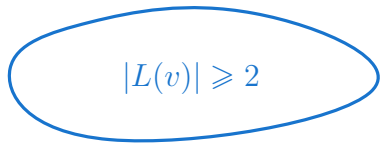
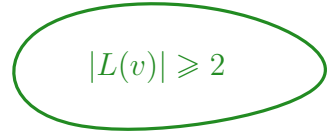
We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)

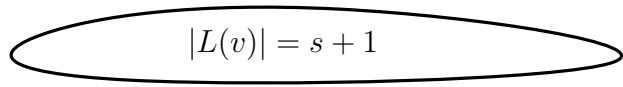
Invariant:



removed nbrs colors!



$N^{<s}(Y)$



$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph



$$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$$

\mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$

(T1) $(A, B) \in \mathcal{T}$ or $(B, A) \in \mathcal{T}$

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$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)

Invariant:

$|L(v)| = 1$ Y

$N^{\geq s}(Y)$

Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

removed nbrs colors!

$|L(v)| \geq 2$

$|L(v)| \geq 2$

$N^{< s}(Y)$

$|L(v)| = s + 1$

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph

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$$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$$

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(T3) $V(A) \neq V(G)$

$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)

Invariant:

$$|L(v)| = 1$$

Y

$$N^{\geq s}(Y)$$

removed nbrs colors!

$$|L(v)| \geq 2$$

$$|L(v)| \geq 2$$

Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

$$N^{< s}(Y)$$

$$|L(v)| = s + 1$$

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
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We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)

Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

Otherwise:

$$\forall_{s,t,\omega} \exists_{\eta=\eta(s,t,\omega)} \forall G$$

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$\text{ord}(A, B) := |V(A \cap B)|$

\mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$

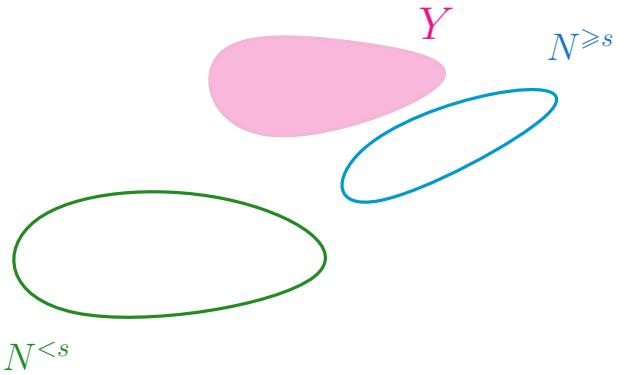
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Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

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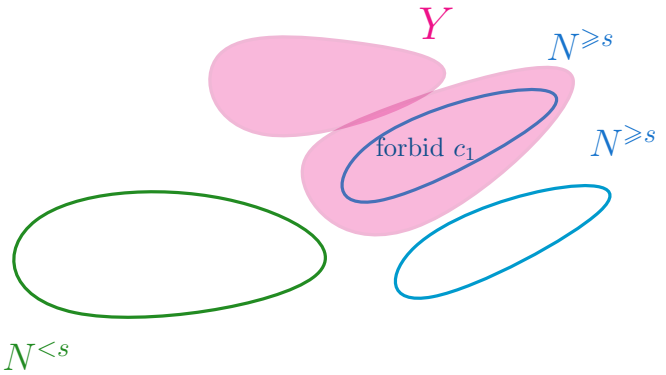
(T3) $V(A) \neq V(G)$

$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

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We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)



Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

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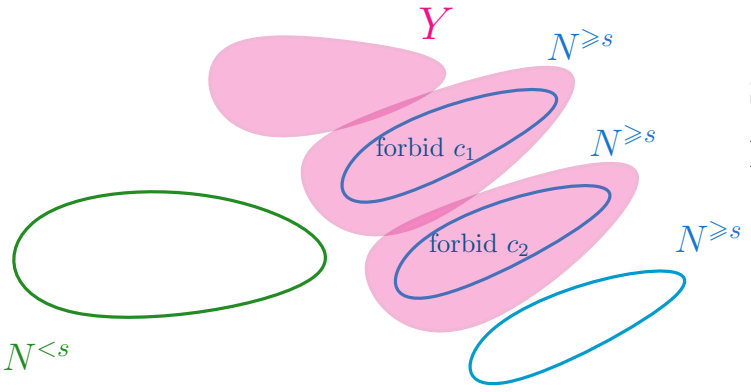
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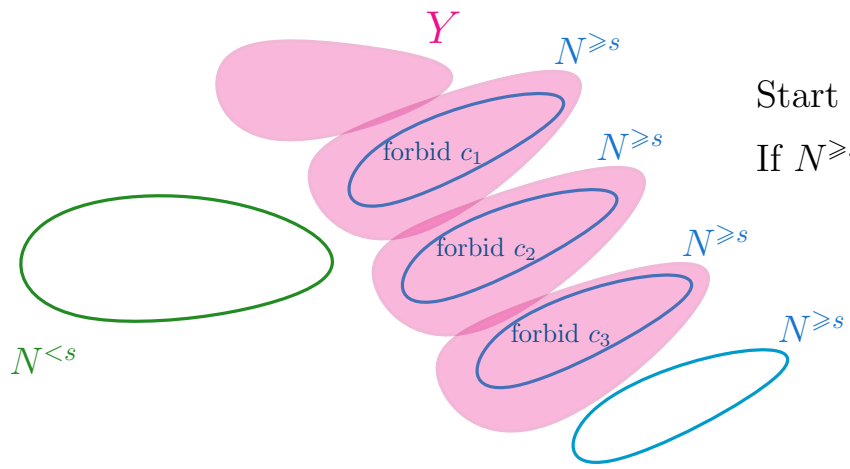
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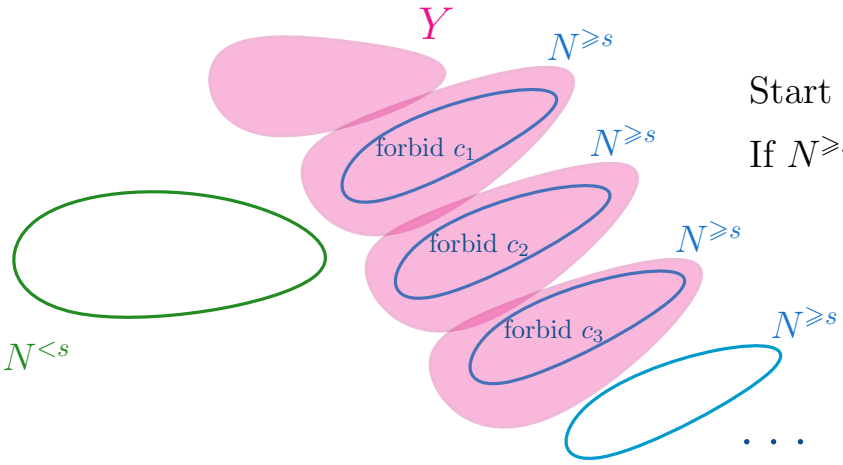
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Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)



Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

Otherwise:

Invariant preserved

Size of new Y controlled

Monochromatic components

in Y controlled

$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph



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$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

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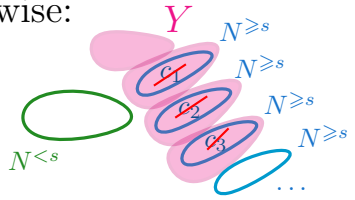
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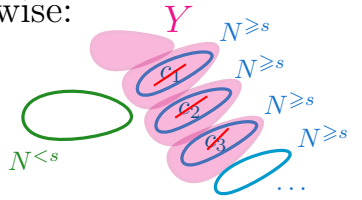
$$\mathcal{T}_\theta := \{(A, B)_\theta : |V(A) \cap Y| \leq 3\theta\} \quad |Y| > 9\theta \quad \theta := \omega + 2$$

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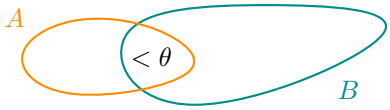
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$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

is not a tangle!

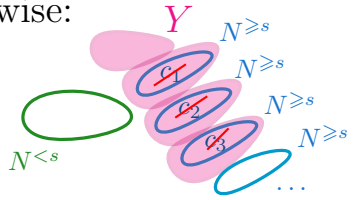
But:



Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

Otherwise:



$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

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$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

\mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$

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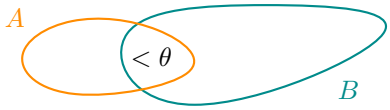
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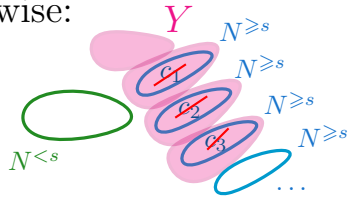
Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

But: (T2), (T3) - OK



Otherwise:



$$\forall_{s,t,\omega} \exists_{\eta=\eta(s,t,\omega)} \forall G$$

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$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

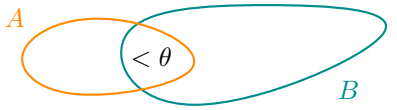
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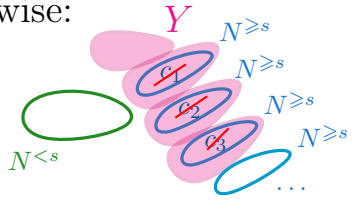
But: (T2), (T3) - OK $\Rightarrow \sim$ (T1)



Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

Otherwise:



$$\forall s, t, \omega \exists \eta = \eta(s, t, \omega) \forall G$$

- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
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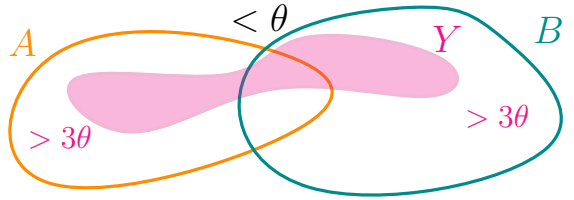
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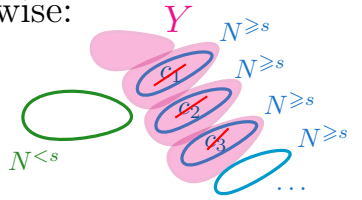
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- \mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$
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We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

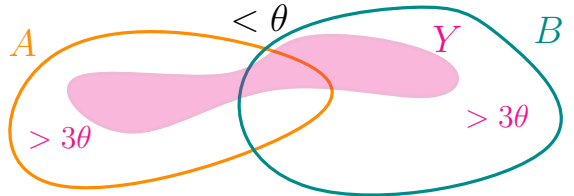
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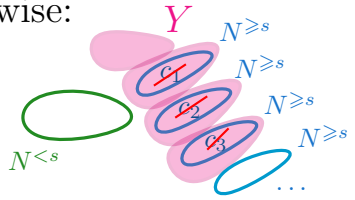


Do this starting from $Y \cup (A \cap B)$

Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

Otherwise:



$$\forall_{s,t,\omega} \exists_{\eta=\eta(s,t,\omega)} \forall G$$

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$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

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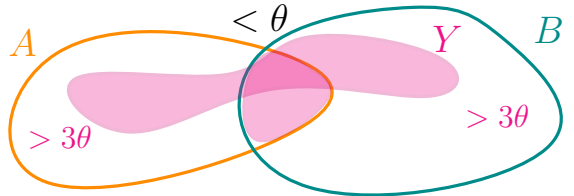
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- \mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$
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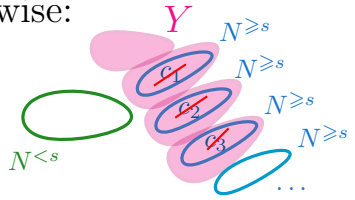


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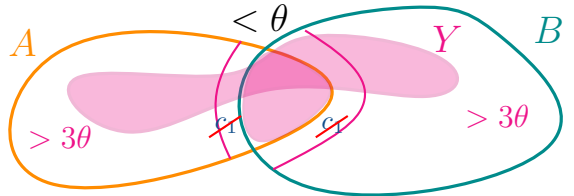
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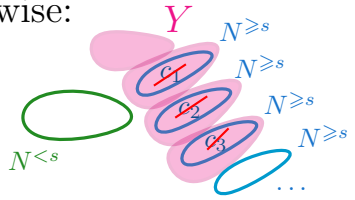


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Otherwise:



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- $\text{tw}(G) \leq \omega$ ($:=$ no tangle of order $\omega + 2$)
- G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph



- \mathcal{T} - ...order $< \theta$
- (T1) $(A, B) \in \mathcal{T}$ or $(B, A) \in \mathcal{T}$
 - (T2) $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \neq G$
 - (T3) $V(A) \neq V(G)$

$\Rightarrow G$ is $(s + 1)$ -choosable with clustering η

We start with $|L(v)| = s + 1$

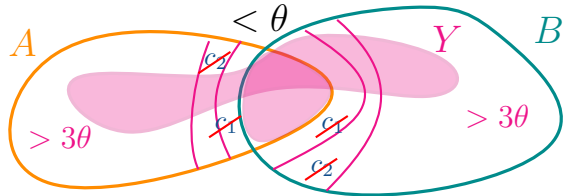
Iteratively we enlarge colored set Y (until not too big)

$$\mathcal{T}_\theta := \{(A, B)_\theta : |V(A) \cap Y| \leq 3\theta\} \quad |Y| > 9\theta \quad \theta := \omega + 2$$

$$|N^{\geq s}(X)| \leq f(|X|, s, t)$$

is not a tangle!

But: (T2), (T3) - OK $\Rightarrow \sim$ (T1)

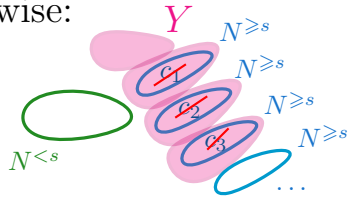


Do this starting from $Y \cup (A \cap B)$

Start with $Y = \{v\}$ and any color

If $N^{\geq s}(Y) = \emptyset$ color some $z \in N^{< s}(Y)$

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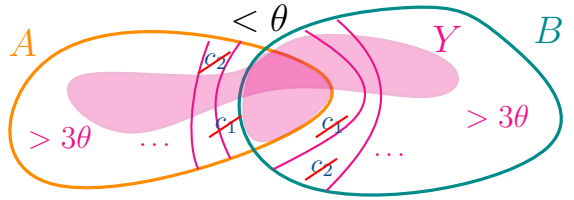
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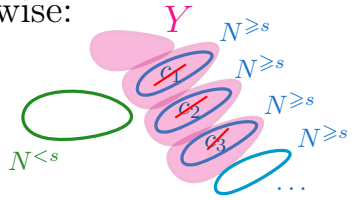


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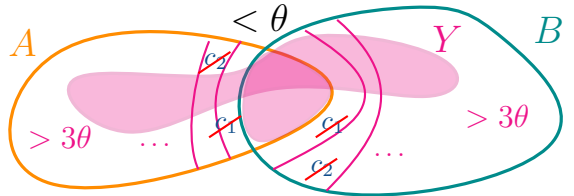
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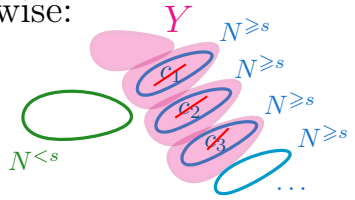
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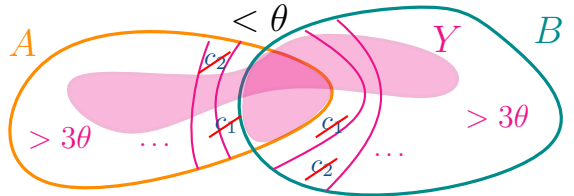
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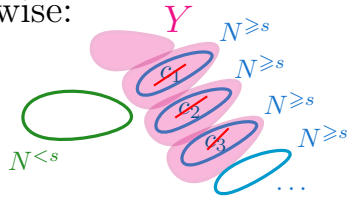
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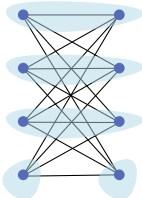
Monochromatic components can't glue!

Hadwiger's clustered conjecture:

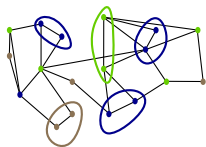
$\mathcal{G}_s = K_{s+1}$ minor free graphs

$$\chi_c(\mathcal{G}_s) \leq s$$

$$\chi_c(\mathcal{G}_s) \leq s + 2$$



$K_{s,s}$, has K_{s+1} minor



We proved

Technical statement: (optimal)

$$\forall s, t, H \stackrel{\omega}{\exists} \eta = \eta(s, t, H) \stackrel{\omega}{\forall} G \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{tw}(G) \leq \omega \\ \text{G has no } H\text{-minor} \\ \text{G has no } K_{s,t}\text{-subgraph} \end{array}$$

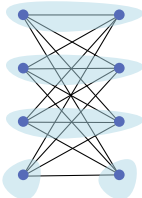
~~planar~~ (s + 1) choosable
 $\Rightarrow G$ is ~~(s + 2)~~-colorable with clustering η

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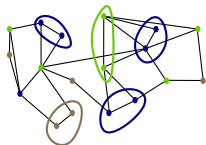
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$$tw(G) \leq \omega$$

~~G has no H -minor~~

G has no $K_{s,t}$ -subgraph

planar

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How to do the general case?

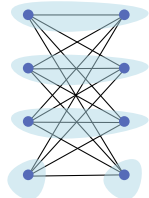
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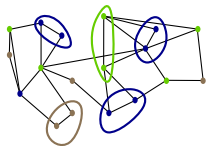
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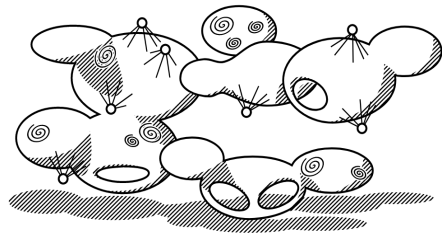
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How to do the general case?

- All tools we already used
- Graph structure theorem



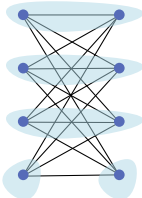
source: Felix Reidl's website

Hadwiger's clustered conjecture:

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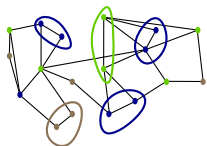
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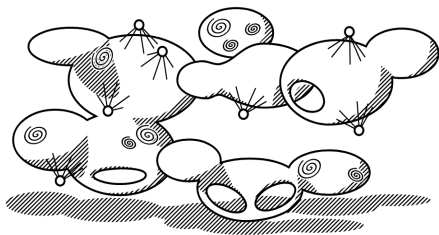
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How to do the general case?

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source: Felix Reidl's website

- Results from ~100 pages

long companion paper

Claim 21.58.

$$(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q+1)} - \mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)}) \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)} \subseteq N_G[W_0^{(s-1,k)}] \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)} \subseteq N_G[\bigcup_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|-1} S_j] \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|-1} \mathcal{T}_j^* \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|-1} \mathcal{I}_j.$$

So for every $k \in [0, w_0 - 1]$ and $q \in [0, s + 1]$,

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q+1)} - \mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)}) \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)} - \mathcal{X}_i &\subseteq \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{I}_j^{(s-1,k,q)}}(\mathcal{Y}_1^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{T}_j^*) \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)} - \mathcal{X}_i \\ &\subseteq N_G^{(s)}(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{T}_j^*) \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)} - \mathcal{X}_i \\ &\subseteq N_G^{(s)}(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{T}_j^* \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence for every $k \in [0, w_0 - 1]$ and $q \in [0, s + 1]$, $|(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q+1)} - \mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)}) \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)} - \mathcal{X}_i| \leq |N_G^{(s)}(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{T}_j^* \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})| \leq f(|(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})|)$, so

$$|(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q+1)} - \mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)}) \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)}| \leq |(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q+1)} - \mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)}) \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)} - \mathcal{X}_i| + |\mathcal{X}_i \cap \mathcal{I}_j| \leq f(|(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})|) + w_0.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} |(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q+1)} \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})| &\leq |(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q+1)} - \mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)}) \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)}| + |(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})| \\ &\leq f(|(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})|) + w_0 + |(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})| \\ &= f_1(|(\mathcal{Y}^{(s-1,k,q)} \cap \mathcal{I}_j \cap \mathcal{X}_{V(\tau)})|) + w_0. \end{aligned}$$