# Recognizing $k$-Clique Extendible Orderings 

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WG 2020, June 25

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It was observed that finding a maximum clique in a $k-C-E$ graph can be done in time $n^{O(k)}$ (when given the ordering).

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- $n^{O(k)}$ algorithm for finding maximum clique is optimal assuming ETH (even when the ordering is given)
- If $k$ is given as input, the problem is also coNP-hard.
- Verification problem is coNP-hard and W[1]-hard in general but FPT when treewidth is bounded.


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Given: Universe $U$, family of triples $T=\left\{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{m}\right\}$ where each $t_{i}=$ $\left(a_{i}, b_{i}, c_{i}\right)$ is an ordered triple of elements of $U$
Output: Does there exist an ordering of $U$ such that for each $t_{i} \in T$, $b_{i}$ comes between $a_{i}$ and $c_{i}$ in the ordering?

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"comes between":= either $a_{i}<b_{i}<c_{i}$ or $c_{i}<b_{i}<a_{i}$.
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l.e. gadget will 'prune' out all the 'bad' orderings, keeping all the other orderings intact.

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- On the other hand, if there exists a valid betweenness ordering on $U$, then that ordering will carry over to the final graph $G^{*}$.


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Take disjoint union of $G$ and $F$ and then identify (contract) the vertices a with $x, b$ with $y$, and $c$ with $z$.

Since the new graph $G^{\prime}$ contains $F$ as a subgraph, it must be the case that $b$ comes between $a$ and $c$ in $G^{\prime}$ also.

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## Separator Lemma

Let $V_{1}, V_{2}$ be a covering of $V(G)$ such that $S=V_{1} \cap V_{2}$ is a separator. Given orderings $\sigma_{1}$ and $\sigma_{2}$ of $V_{1}$ and $V_{2}$ respectively, one can construct an ordering $\phi$ of $V_{1} \cup V_{2}=V(G)$, if the following conditions hold:

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This lemma allows us to create an ordering of $G^{\prime}$ when given orderings of $G$ and $F$.

Since $|S|=|V(G) \cap V(F)|=|\{a, b, c\}|=3$, the lemma can be used only when $k \geq 4$. This is why we need a different reduction for $k=3$.

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Property of $F$ : $F$ has a $k$-C-E ordering and there exists $x, y, z \in V(F)$ such that in $k$-C-E ordering of $F, y$ comes between $x$ and $z$.

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## Property 1

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## Proof

Since $F$ is a subgraph of $G^{\prime}$, and since either $x<y<z$ or $z<y<x$ must hold in $F$, this follows that either $a<b<c$ or $c<b<a$ holds in $G^{\prime}$.

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## Property 2

If $G$ has an $k$-C-E ordering such that $a<b<c$ or $c<b<a$ then the same ordering is a $k-C-E$ ordering for $G^{\prime}$ also.

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## Proof.

Recall that we are working with $k \geq 4$. Let $\sigma_{1}$ be an ordering of $G$ such that $a<b<c$ and let $\sigma_{2}$ be an ordering $F$ such that $x<y<z$. Since $S=|V(G) \cap V(F)|=|\{a, b, c\}|=3$. By the separator lemma, there exists an $\phi$ ordering of $G^{\prime}$ such that $\left.\phi\right|_{s}=\left.\sigma_{1}\right|_{s}=\left.\sigma_{2}\right|_{s}=(a, b, c)$.

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Both properties of the gadget are satsified and we have our reduction.

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- Remove vertex $u_{1,2}$.


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Construction of $F$.

- Start with a clique $K=\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{2 k-1}\right\}$ of size $2 k-1$.
- For every distinct pair $(i, j) \in[2 k-1]$, add a vertex $u_{i, j}$ such that $u_{i, j}$ is adjacent to all vertices of $K$ except the $i$-th and $j$-th vertex.
- Remove vertex $u_{1,2}$.



## Claim

For every $k$-C-E ordering $\phi$ of $F$, all other vertices of $K$ come between $v_{1}$ and $v_{2}$ in $\phi$.

## Proof

Suppose not, let $v_{i}$ and $v_{j}$ be the first and last vertices of $K$ in $\phi$.

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Let $m$ be the middle vertex of $K$ in $\phi$.

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Let $m$ be the middle vertex of $K$ in $\phi$.
If $u_{i, j}<m$ then there exists an induced ordered $K_{k+1}^{-}$(See Figure). Symmetrically, for $u_{i, j}>m$.


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- Can we find a $n^{O(k)}$ algorithm for maximum clique when the $k-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{E}$ ordering is not given?
- Is the recognition problem FPT when paramaterized by treewidth?


## Thank You

