# Graph classes and forbidden patterns on three and four vertices 

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Based on

Graph classes and forbidden patterns on three vertices

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { (to appear in SIDMA) } \\
& \text { and on on-going work. }
\end{aligned}
$$

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Interval graphs : geometry


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## Interval graphs : geometry



Definition : A graph is an interval graph if it is the intersection graph of a set of intervals.

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## Interval graphs : with an ordering

Characterization : A graph is an interval graph if and only if, there exists an ordering of its vertices such that for every $u<v<w$, if $(u, w)$ is an edge then $(u, v)$ is also an edge.

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## Pattern characterization

Characterization : A graph is a XXX if and only if, there exists an ordering of its vertices such that the following pattern does not appear :


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Bipartite

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Already noted by Skrien in 82 and Damashke in 90 .

## Example : bipartite graphs

Definition: A GRAPH is bipartite if it can be split into two iNDEPENDENT SETS

CHARACTERIZATION: A GRAPH is BiPARTITE IF THERE EXISTS A VERTEX ORDERING WITHOUT:



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Example : trees

DEFINITION : A GRAPH is A TREE if it is ACYCLic (*)


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(*) LET's NOT WORRY ABOUT CONNECTivity

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## Theorem

Theorem : Up to a few simple operations, the non-trivial classes defined by a set of pattern (on three nodes) are :

| 1. forests | 10. permutation | 18. augmented |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 2. linear forests | 11. threshold | clique |
| 3. stars | 12. proper interval | 19. bipartite |
| 4. interval | 13. caterpillar | permutation |
| 5. split 14. trivially perfect | 20. $\cap$ co-chordal |  |
| 6. bipartite | 15. bipartite chain | 21. clique |
| 7. chordal | 16. 2 -star | 22. complete |
| 8. comparability | 17. -split | bipartite |
| 9. triangle-free | 17. |  |

Structure

- Mirror patterns

$$
\{\therefore 0, \infty 0\} \stackrel{\text { ivan }}{=}\{000,600\}
$$

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- Complementary patterns



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- Inclusions of patterns $\rightarrow$ classes inclusions


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Structure

- Mirror patterns
- Complementary patterns
- Inclusions of patterns $\rightarrow$ classes inclusions
- Intersections
- "Splitting patterns"



## Structure



## Complexity and algorithms

An ordering can be checked in polytime $\rightarrow$ Recognition is in NP.

Theorem (Hell, Mohar and Rafiey) : Every class defined by a set of patterns on three nodes can be recognized in time $O\left(n^{3}\right)$.

New theorem : Every class defined by patterns on three nodes can be recognized in linear time except two of them (in time $O\left(n^{2,37}\right)$ ), and mostly thanks to graph traversals.

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$$
\text { COGRAPHS }=P_{4}-\text { FREE }
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- Grounded intersection graphs


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## Open problems

A few concrete open problems:

- Clarify the interplay between grounded intersection model and patterns.
- Complexity of recognition of grounded rectangle graphs: P or NP ?
- Find a criterion for deciding the complexity of the class based on its patterns.

