

Approximate Maximum Cliques in Disk and Unit Ball Graphs

Nicolas Bousquet with M. Bonamy, E. Bonnet¹, P. Charbit, S. Thomassé

Séminaire OC

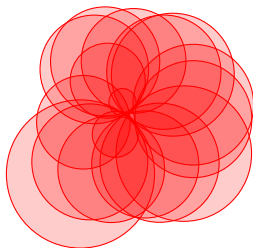


1. Thanks to Édouard Bonnet for most of the figures.

Disk graphs

A **disk graph** is the intersection graph of disks in the plane.

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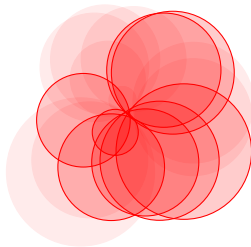


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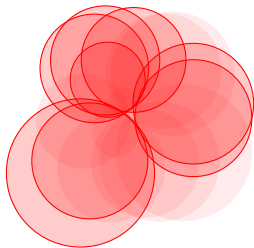


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MAXIMUM CLIQUE in unit disk graphs is in P .

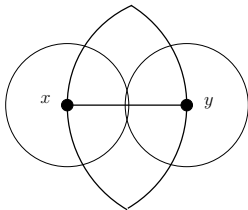
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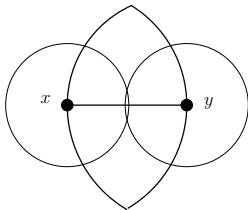
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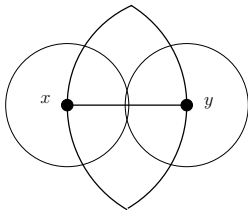
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- MAX CLIQUE in a co-bipartite graph
 \Leftrightarrow MAX INDEPENDENT SET in a bipartite graph.



What about disk graphs?

Open problem :

Complexity status of **MAXIMUM CLIQUE** on disk graphs.

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2-approximation algorithm (observed by [Ambuhl, Wagner]).

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Question :

Can we at least improve the approximation ratio?

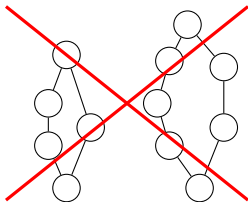
Can we obtain a 1.99-approximation algorithm if there are only two radii? [\[Cabello\]](#)

Breakthrough : forbidden structure

Complement \overline{G} of $G = uv \in E(\overline{G})$ iff $uv \notin E(G)$.

Theorem (Bonnet et al.)

The complement of a disk graph does not contain two anticomplete odd cycles.

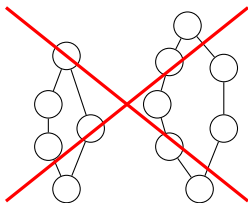


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Remark : False for even cycles, false for ellips (with arbitrarily small excentricity).

Corollaries [Bonnet et al.]

There exist a subexponential algorithm and a QPTAS.

An EPTAS for Disk Graphs

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Find a partition of G in many parts where each part is an OCT.

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- Compute an MIS on a bipartite graph.

Independent Set of linear size

Piercing number of geometric objects \mathcal{C} = Min. number of points intersecting \mathcal{C} .

Theorem (Danzer)

Any clique in disk graphs has piercing number at most 4.
(And this bound is tight)

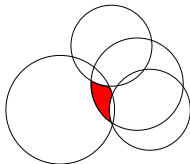
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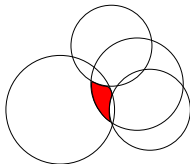
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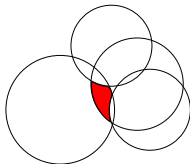
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 \Leftrightarrow The complement has an IS of size $\geq n/4$.



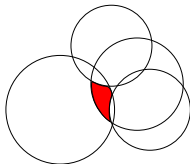
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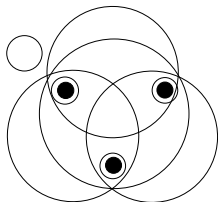
Remark : It is the classical 2-approximation algorithm.

VC-dimension

A set $Y \subseteq X$ is a **trace** on X if there exists $e \in E$ such that $e \cap X = Y$.

A set $X \subseteq V$ is **shattered** iff all the traces on X exist.

The **VC-dimension** of a hypergraph is the maximum size of a shattered set.

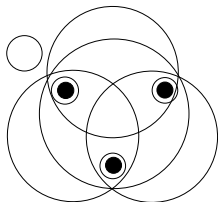


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Theorem (Haussler, Welzl '73)

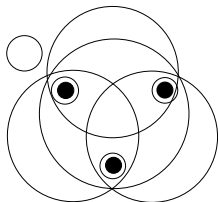
Every hypergraph H of VC-dimension d has an ϵ -net of size at most $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{d}{\epsilon} \log\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)\right)$. Furthermore, any set of size at least $\frac{10d}{\epsilon} \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}$ is an ϵ -net w.h.p.

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Hypergraph for us : **closed neighborhood hypergraph**.

MIS, iocp and VC-dimension

$iocp(G)$ = maximum number of anticomplete odd cycles.

$VC(G)$ = VC-dimension of G .

$\alpha(G)$ = size of a maximum MIS.

Main Theorem (Bonamy, Bonnet, B., Charbit, Thomassé)

- If
- $\alpha(G) = \Omega(n)$;
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There exists a $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximation algorithm for MIS.

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Disks graphs satisfy

- $\alpha(G) \geq n/4$ (restricted to the set of candidates)
- VC-dimension ≤ 4 [Aronov, Donakonda, Ezra, Pinchasi]
- $iocp(G) = 1$ [Bonnet et al.]

What about higher dimension ?

A *k*-ball graph = intersection graph of balls in \mathbb{R}^k .

A unit *k*-ball graph = intersection graph of unit balls in \mathbb{R}^k .

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Only known to be hard if $k \geq \log n$ [Afshani, Hatami].

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- Approximation algorithms ?
2.553-approximation algorithm for unit 3-ball graphs. [Afshani, Chan]
No known approximation in general.

Hardness results

Theorem (Bonamy, Bonnet, B., Charbit, Thomassé)

- No $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximation algorithms in time $2^{0.99n}$ for k -ball graphs for $k \geq 3$ (under ETH).
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Sketch of the proof :

- If a class \mathcal{G} contains all the 2-subdivisions, then \mathcal{G} has no $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximation algorithm in time $2^{0.99n}$ for MIS (under ETH) [Bonnet et al.].
- Unit ≥ 4 -ball graphs and ≥ 3 -ball graphs contain all the co-2-subdivisions.

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- Apply the Main Theorem.

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How can we find X algorithmically?

- Enumerate all the sets of size $\frac{10d}{\epsilon^3} \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon^3})$ in G (PTAS).
- Sample $\frac{10d}{\epsilon^3} \log(\frac{1}{\epsilon^3})$ vertices at random (rand. EPTAS).

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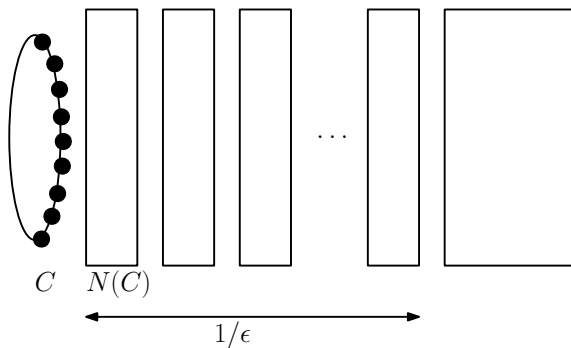
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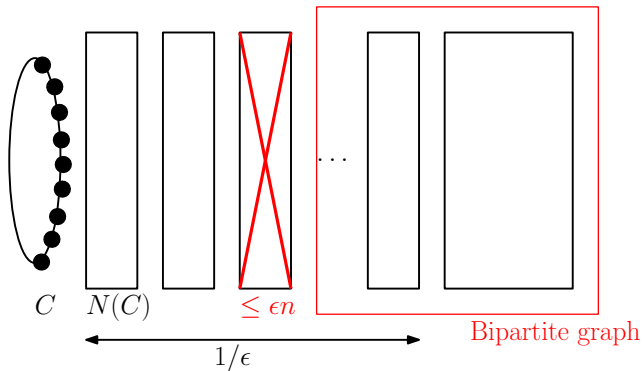
- $|N(C) \cap I| \leq \epsilon|I|$ (since $|N(v) \cap I| \leq \epsilon^3|I|$)
- Delete $C \cup N(C)$.
- It remains a bipartite graph with $\alpha \geq (1 - \epsilon)|I|$.
since there is no two anticomplete odd cycles.

Odd cycles of length $\geq \frac{1}{\epsilon^2}$



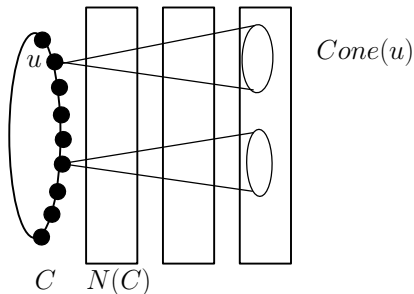
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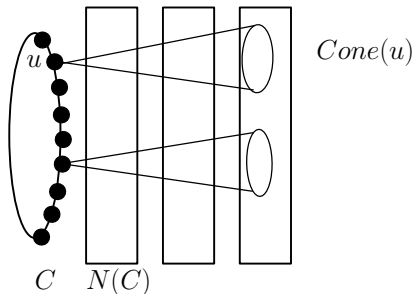
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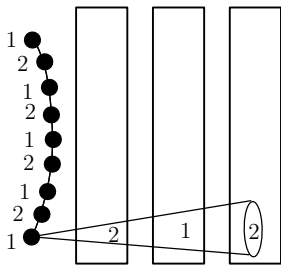
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- After the deletion of this cone, the resulting graph is bipartite.

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