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# Graph decompositions, Parse trees, and MSO properties

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- This theory started wide interest in tree-width in the CS community...

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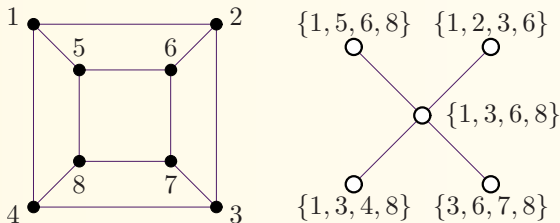
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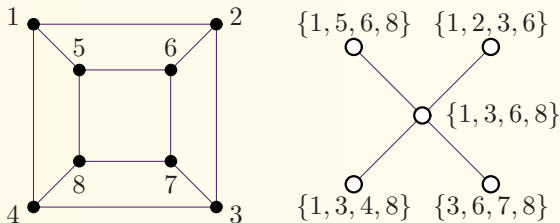


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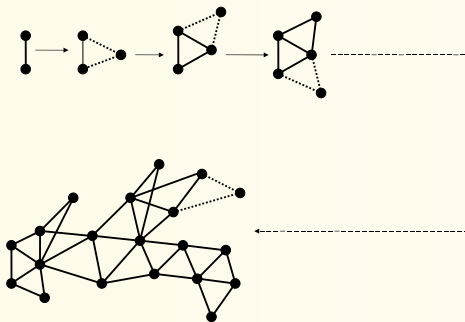
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## Alternative approach

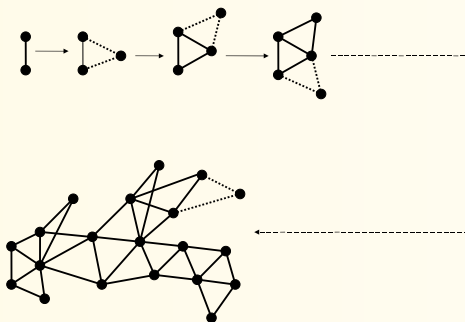
- Independently of R+S, tree-like decomposition have been approached via *k-trees*, see e.g. a 2-tree:



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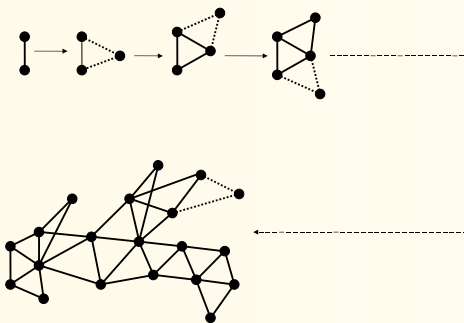


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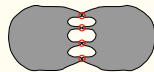
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- A graph  $G$  has **tree-width**  $\leq k$  iff  $G$  is a partial (subgraph of a) *k-tree*.
- Furthermore, *k-trees* easily relate tree-width to simplicial vertices and elimination orderings of chordal graphs.

## Related notion: Branch-Width

- We want to measure *connectivity* of a graph  $G$  via edges  $X \subseteq E(G)$ :

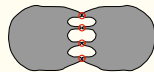
$\lambda_G(X) = \#$  vertices shared between  $X$  and  $E(G) - X$ .



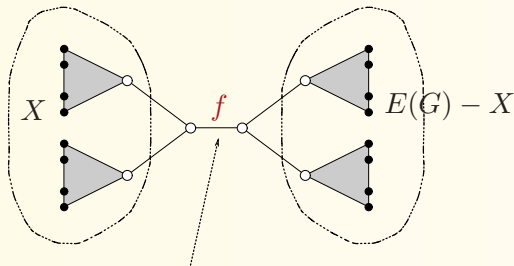


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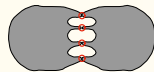
**Definition.** Decompose  $E(G)$  one-to-one into the leaves of a **subcubic** tree. Then:



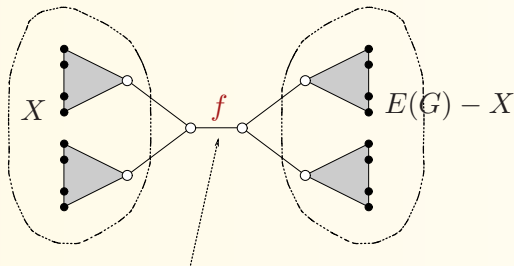
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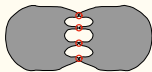


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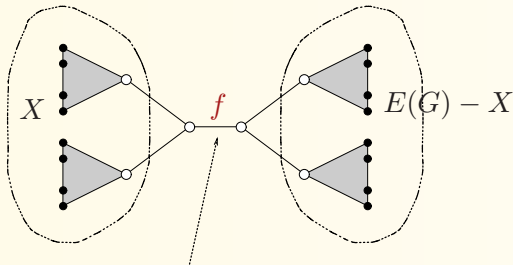
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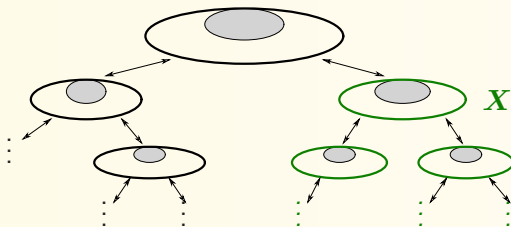
- Branch-width is within a constant factor of tree-width.

## Fast Dynamic Algorithms

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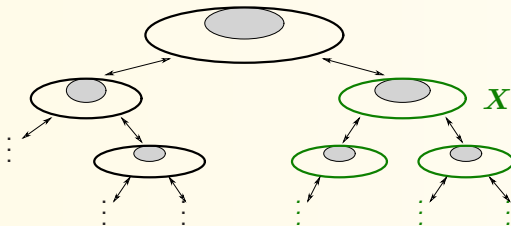


- In a bottom-up tree processing we collect this information:

$$\mathcal{I}_X : Y \subseteq \text{decomposition bag } X \rightarrow \max \left| \text{independent set } S \text{ "below" } X \text{ s.t. } S \cap X = Y \right|$$

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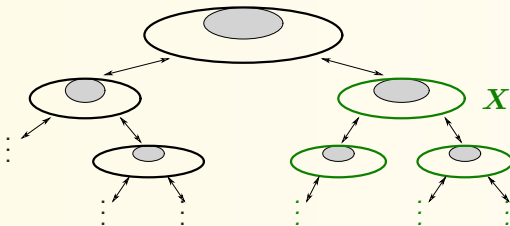
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- Total computing time:  $O(2^k)$  times  $O(n)$  nodes of the decomposition.

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Furthermore:

**Theorem.** [Courcelle 88], [Arnborg, Lagergren, and Seese, 88]

All graph properties expressible in *MSO logic* ( $MS_2$  – vertices and edges) on the graphs of bounded tree-width can be solved in FPT time  $O(f(k) \cdot n)$ .

## 2 Parse Trees, a not-much-known tool

Assume a graph  $G$  with a given rooted tree-decomposition of with  $k$ .

- A typical idea for a *dynamic algorithm* on a tree-decomposition:
  - Capture all relevant information about the problem on a subtree.
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- Combinatorial extensions of this right congruence appeared in the works [Abrahamson and Fellows, 93], [Downey and Fellows, 99], and [PH, 03].

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- Informally, the classes of  $\approx_{\mathcal{P},k}$  capture **all information** about the property  $\mathcal{P}$  that can “cross” our graph boundary of size  $k$   
(regardless of actual meaning of “boundary” and “join”).

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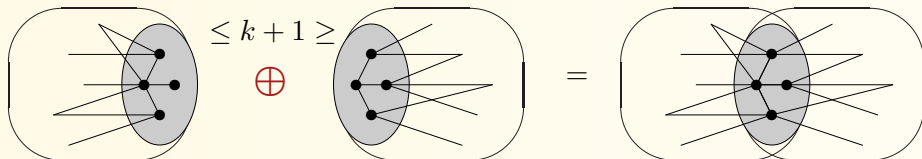
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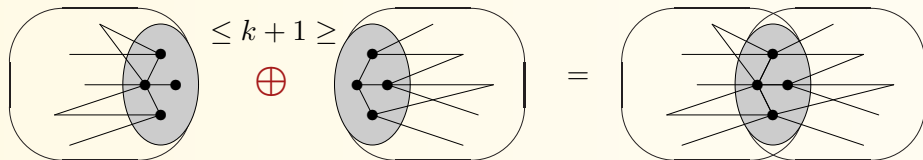
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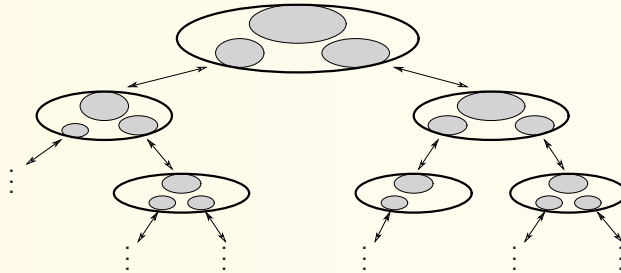
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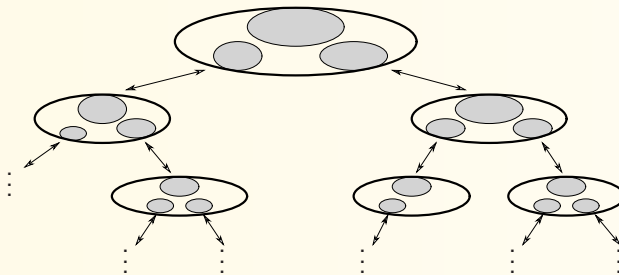


(Similarly for a branch-decomposition, but without sharing bd. edges.)

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- Now, mod. some technical assumptions on parse trees and  $\oplus$ , we can get:

**Theorem.** (Analogy of [Myhill–Nerode])

$\mathcal{P}$  is accepted by a **finite tree automaton** on parse trees of boundary size  $\leq k$   
 if and only if  $\approx_{\mathcal{P},k}$  has **finitely** many classes on  $\mathcal{U}_k$ .

**Example.**  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{C}_3$ : *3-colourability* of graphs of tree-width  $\leq k$ .

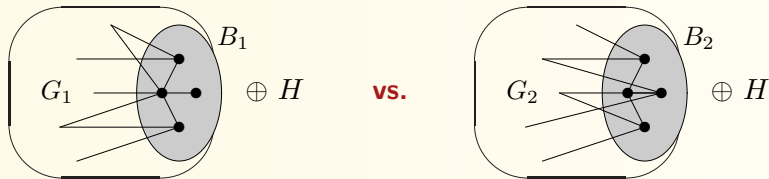


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- For  $G_i$  with boundary  $B_i \subseteq V(G_i)$  s.t.  $|B_i| \leq k + 1$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , we have

$(G_1, B_1) \approx_{\mathcal{C}_3, k} (G_2, B_2)$  if and only if

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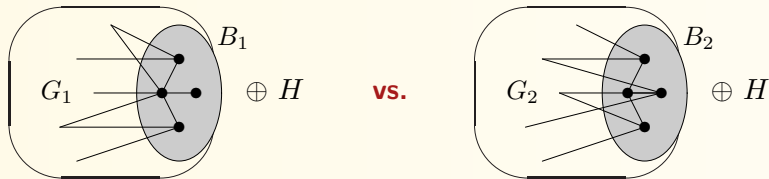


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- Then  $\approx_{\mathcal{C}_3, k}$  has finitely many classes, depending only on  $k$   
 – **information** “of size  $O(3^k)$ ”.

That easily results in an  $O(3^k n)$  FPT algorithm for 3-colourability!

## Dynamic Algorithms revisited

- How to capture **non-decision** problems in the previous framework?
  - allow *free variables* in the property  $Q(X)$ !

E.g.  $Q(X) \equiv \text{independent}(X)$ ,  $\text{dominating}(X)$ , or  $\text{matching}(X)$ .

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- like  $\approx_{P,k}$  on the univ.  $\mathcal{U}_k[X]$  of graphs *equipped* with **interpretation** of  $X$ .

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**LinEMSO properties** [Arnborg et al, 88], [Courcelle et al, 00].

- allowing MSO plus **optimization** and / or **enumeration**  
over *linear evaluational terms* in the free variables.
- E.g.  $\max |X| : \text{independent}(X)$ , or  $\#X : \text{matching}(X)$ .

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- How to capture **non-decision** problems in the previous framework?
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- E.g.  $Q(X) \equiv \text{independent}(X)$ ,  $\text{dominating}(X)$ , or  $\text{matching}(X)$ .

**Definition.** *Extended canonical equivalence*  $\approx_{Q(X),k}$

- like  $\approx_{P,k}$  on the univ.  $\mathcal{U}_k[X]$  of graphs *equipped* with **interpretation** of  $X$ .

**LinEMSO properties** [Arnborg et al, 88], [Courcelle et al, 00].

- allowing MSO plus **optimization** and / or **enumeration**  
over *linear evaluational terms* in the free variables.
- E.g.  $\max |X| : \text{independent}(X)$ , or  $\#X : \text{matching}(X)$ .

- Fitting into the *parse tree framework*:
  - In the dynamic programming paradigm, remember optimal representatives and / or partial enum. results for **each class** of the extended canonical equivalence.

**Corollary.** Besides, we get a straightforward **inductive** proof that:

All MSO formulas  $\phi$  (even with **free variables**) generate

**finitely many** classes of the ext. canonical equivalence  $\approx_{\phi,k}$ .

[Abrahamson and Fellows, 93], and [PH, 03].

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### 3 Rank-Width and Parse trees

Some other views of being “similar to trees” . . .

- *Clique-width* – another graph complexity measure [Courcelle and Olariu], defined by operations on vertex-labeled graphs:
  - create a new vertex with label  $i$ ,
  - take the disjoint union of two labeled graphs,
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- On the other hand, clique-width has some **drawbacks**, like we do not know how to test clique-width  $k$  if  $k \geq 3$ .

## Rank-Decompositions

- [Oum and Seymour, 03] Bringing the branch-decomposition approach to measure “complexity” of **vertex** subsets  $X \subseteq V(G)$  via *cut-rank*:

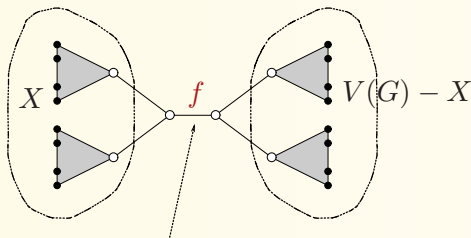
$$\rho_G(X) = \text{rank of } X \begin{matrix} V(G) - X \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \text{ modulo } 2$$

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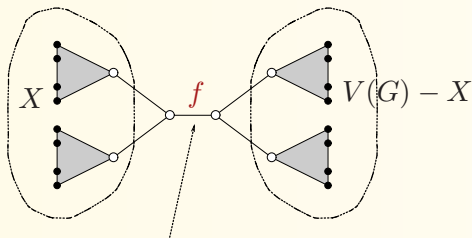
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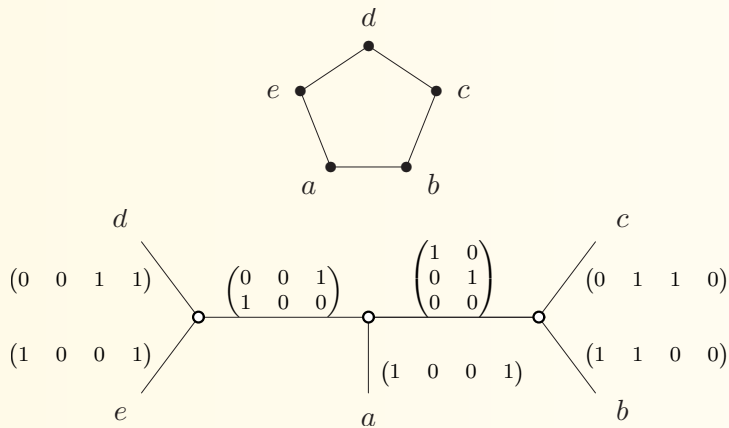
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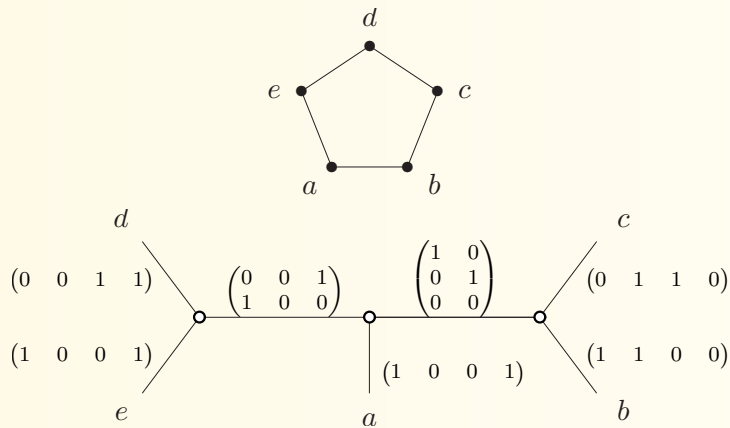
**Rank-width** =  $\min_{\text{rank-decs. of } G} \max \{ \text{width}(f) : f \text{ tree edge} \}$

- An example: cycle  $C_5$  and its *rank-decomposition* of width 2:



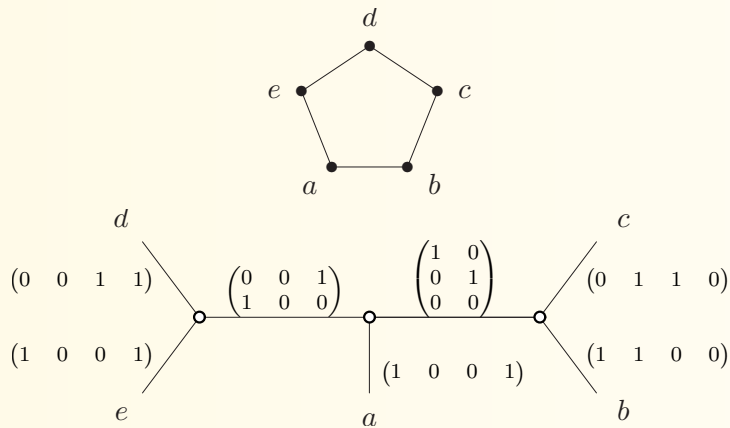


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- Rank-width  $t$  is related to clique-width  $k$ :  $k \leq t \leq 2^{k+1} - 1$
- [Oum and PH, 07] There is an FPT algorithm for computing an optimal rank-decomposition of a graph in time  $O(f(t) \cdot n^3)$ .

## Boundary and Join for rank-decompositions

Unlike branch- or tree-decompositions with obvious parse trees, what is the “**boundary**” and “**join**” operation for rank-width?

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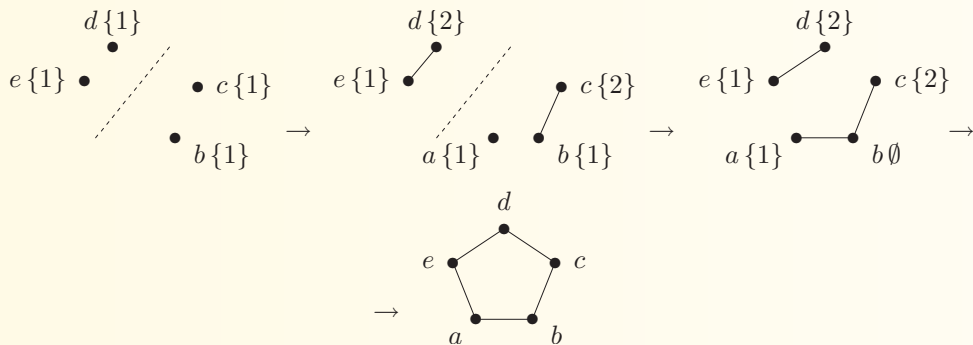
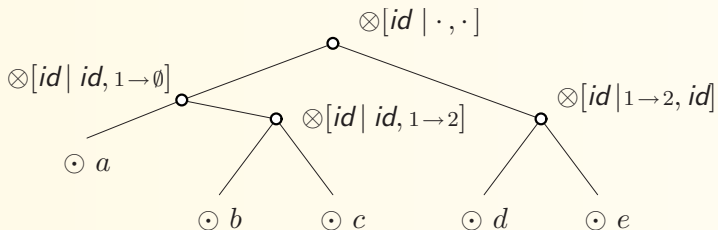
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- Independently considered related notion of  $R_k$ -*join* decompositions by [Bui-Xuan, Telle, and Vatshelle, 08].

**Parse tree.** An example generating the cycle  $C_5$  (of rank-width 2):





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This readily gives an FPT  $O(f(t) \cdot n)$  algorithm.

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