



Stockholm
University

Explicit Modular Decomposition

Marc Hellmuth

Department of Mathematics
Faculty of Science
Stockholm University

WU Wien, 2024

Research

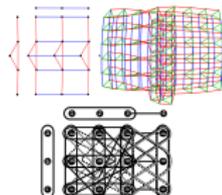
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Discrete Mathematics

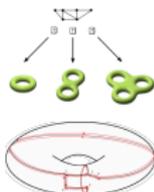
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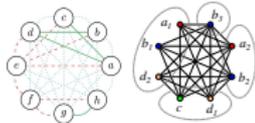
- Graph and Hypergraph Theory
- Discrete Optimization and Matroid Theory
- Combinatorics and Geometric Graph Theory



Products of Graphs and Hypergraphs



Planarity and 1-Face Embeddings
(= particular planar drawing
on orientable manifolds)



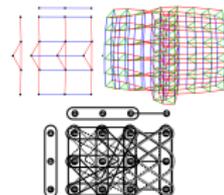
Packings, Edge- and Vertex-Colorings

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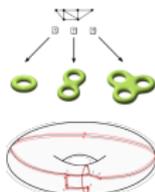
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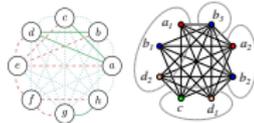
Computer Science



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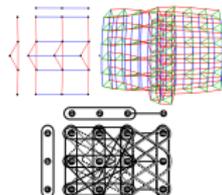
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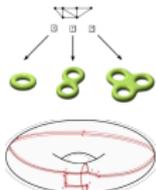
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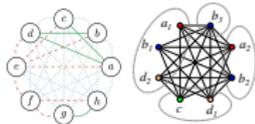
- Complexity Theory
(Co)NP-completeness, Fixed-Parameter Tractability (FPT)
- Algorithm Design
*Exact algorithms, Heuristics, Integer Linear Programming (ILP),
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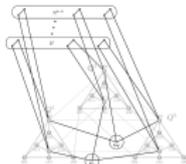
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Packings, Edge- and Vertex-Colorings



Reductions, NP-hardness,
ILP, FPT, approx. algorithms

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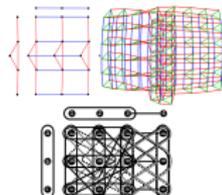
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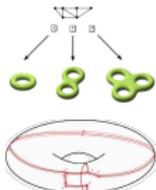
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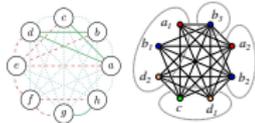
Applied Mathematics & Math. Data Science



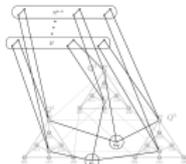
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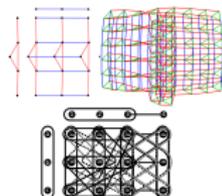
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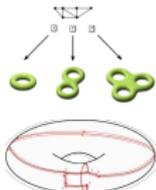
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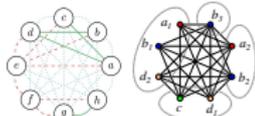
- General Focus: mathematical characterization of discrete data and structures that naturally occur in Life Sciences or Engineering



Products of Graphs and Hypergraphs



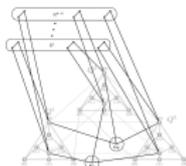
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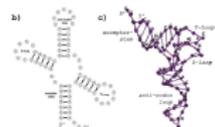
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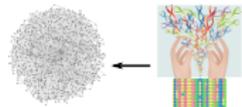
Graph Grammars, Cayley Graphs,
Chemical Reaction Networks



Reductions, NP-hardness,
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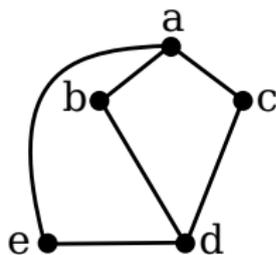
Combinatorics of RNA structures



Genomics and Evolutionary Biology

Basics: Graphs and their Representation

undirected, simple graph G



Aim:

find efficient representation
that provides deep structural insights
and helps to understand complexity of certain problems

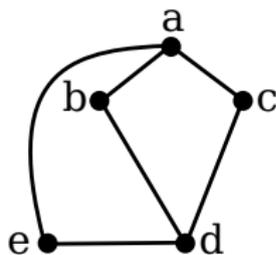
Basics: Graphs and their Representation

Representation

$$A(G) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \\ e \end{matrix}$$

$$A_{\text{list}}(G) = \begin{array}{l|lll} a & b & c & e \\ b & a & d & \\ c & a & d & \\ d & b & c & e \\ e & a & d & \end{array}$$

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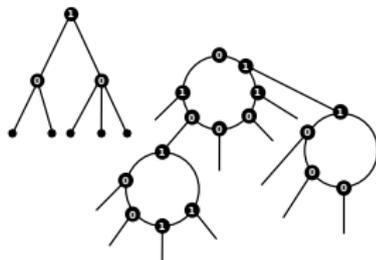
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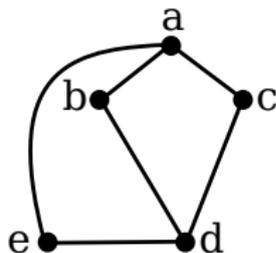
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Use other discrete structures as a way to present graphs



undirected, simple graph G

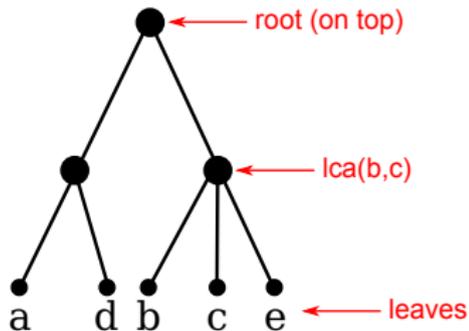


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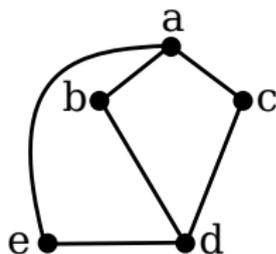
Basics: Graphs and their Representation

Representation via (T, t)



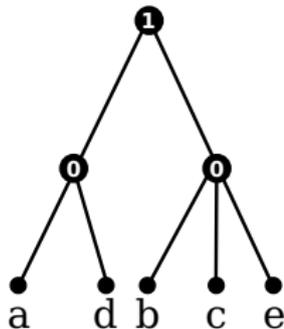
lca = last common ancestor

undirected, simple graph G



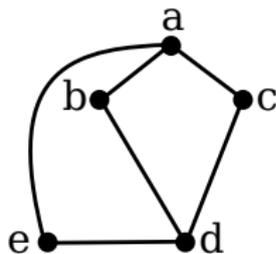
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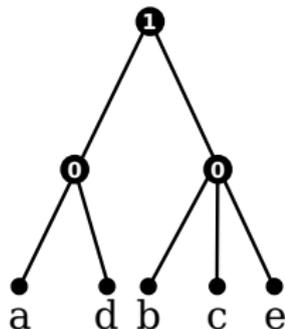
lca = last common ancestor
rooted tree T with 0/1-labeling t

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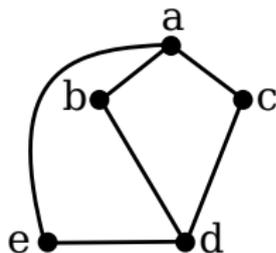
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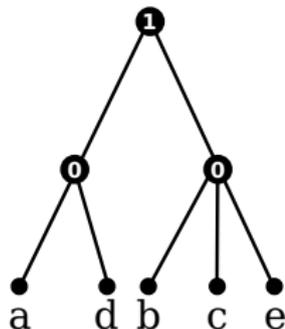


In this example, (T, t) contains all structural information of G and can be used to recover G , i.e.,

$$G \text{ is explained by } (T, t): t(lca_T(x, y)) = 1 \iff \{x, y\} \in E$$

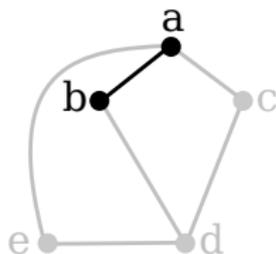
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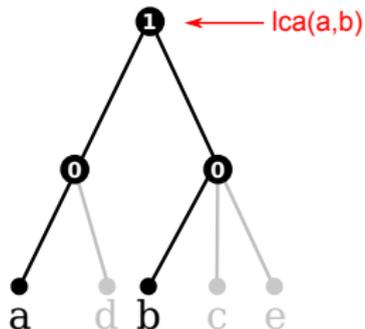


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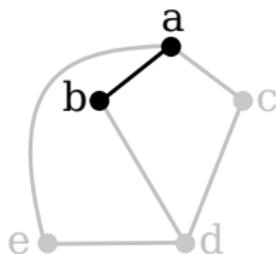
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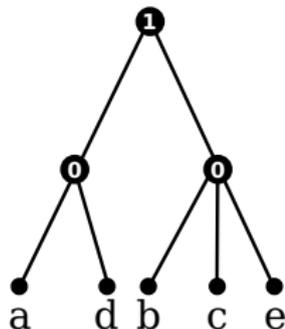


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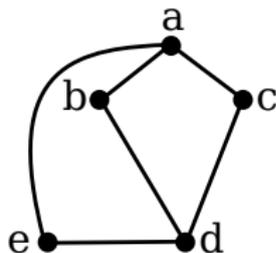
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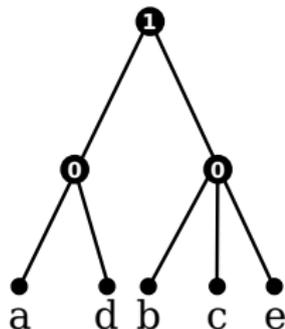


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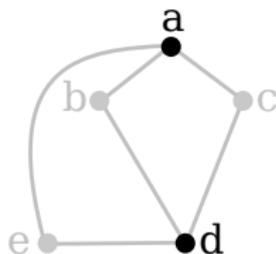
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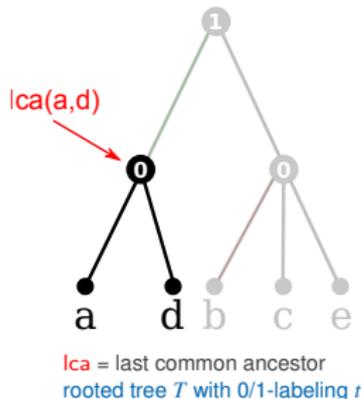


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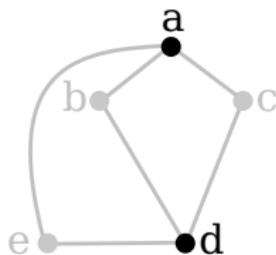
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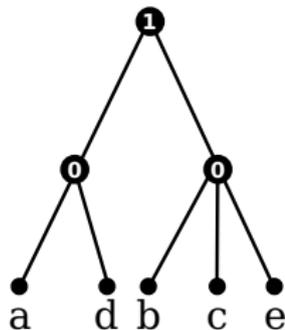


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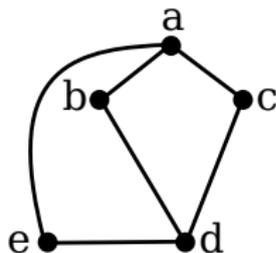
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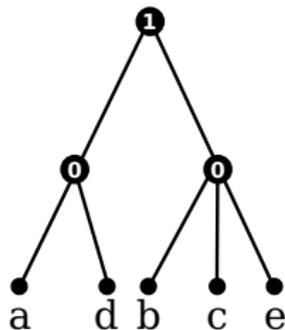


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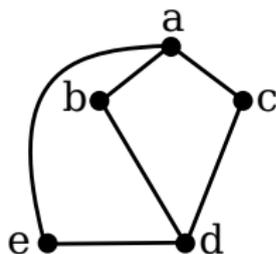
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The subclass of graphs that can be explained by (T, t) are precisely the **cographs**

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Cographs ?

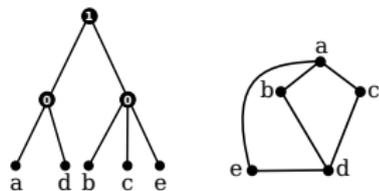
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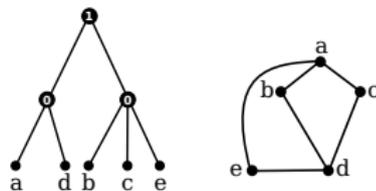


Cotree (T, t) explains cograph G

Cographs

Cographs ...

- ... form an extremely well-known graph class

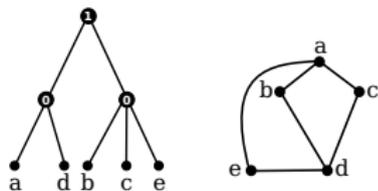


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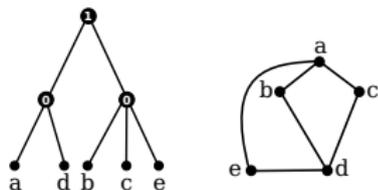


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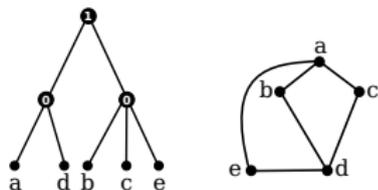


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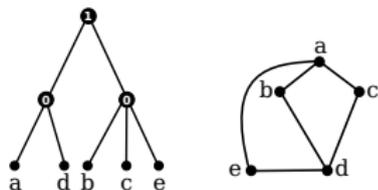
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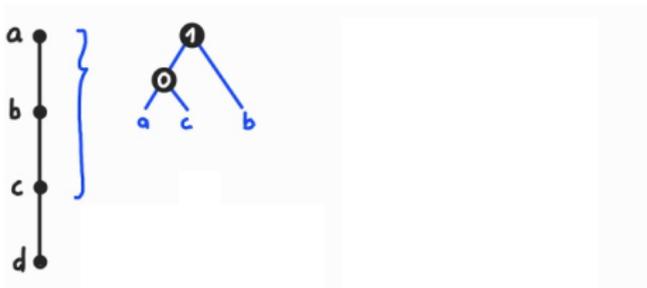
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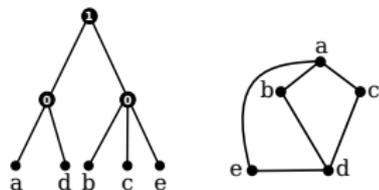
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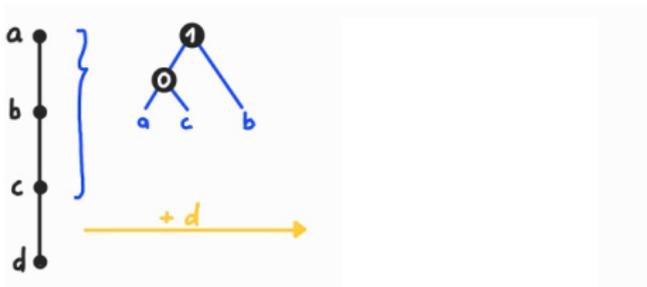
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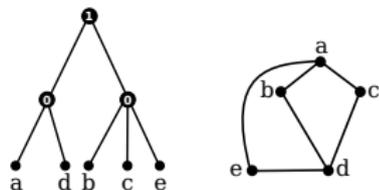


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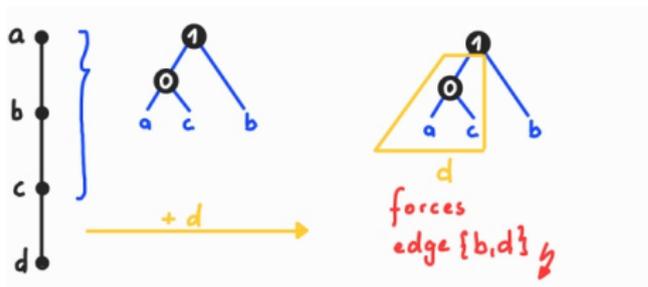
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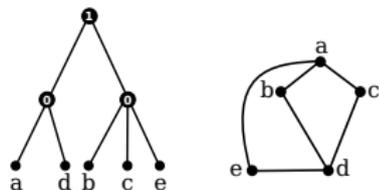
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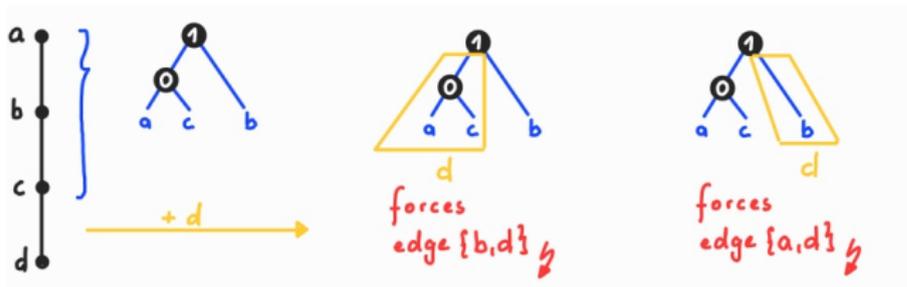
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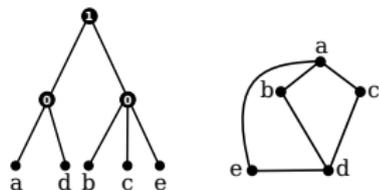


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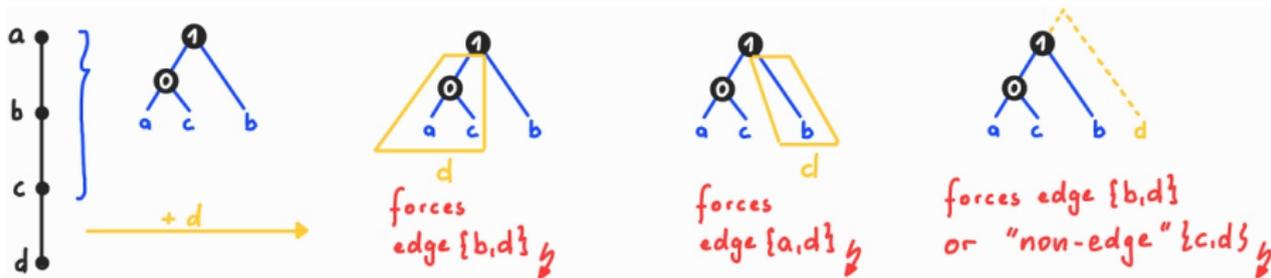
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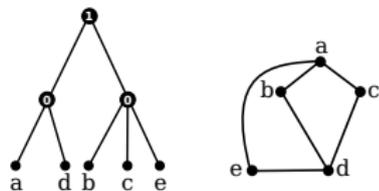


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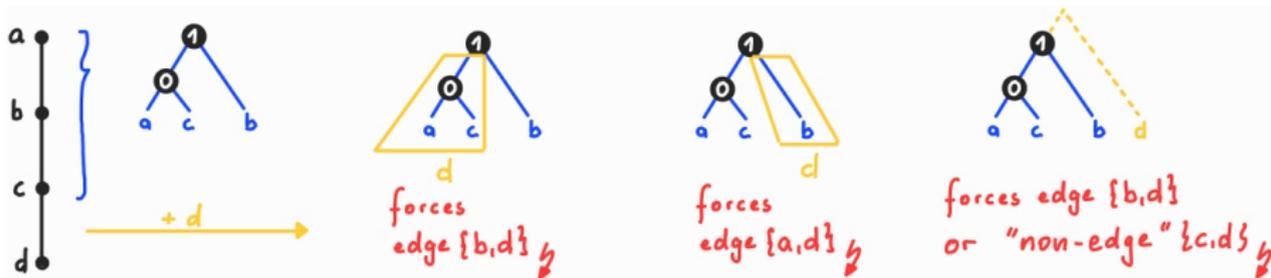
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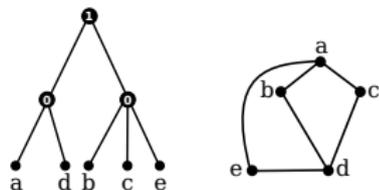


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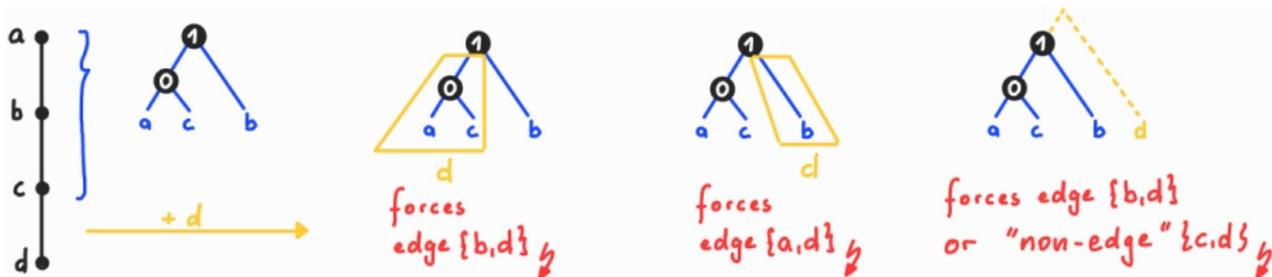
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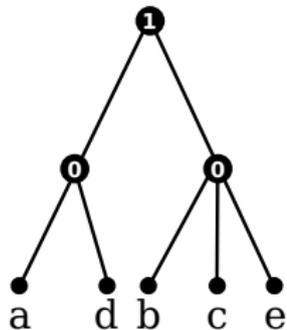
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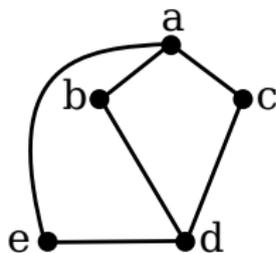
Basics: Graphs and their Representation

Representation via (T, t)



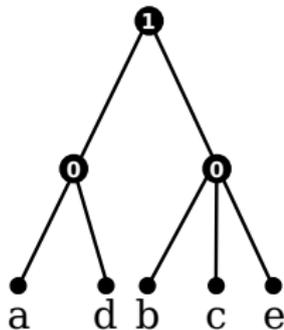
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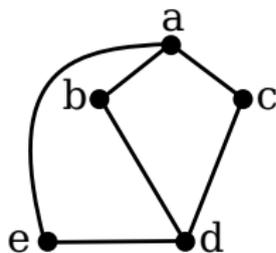
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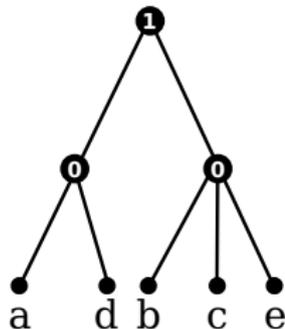
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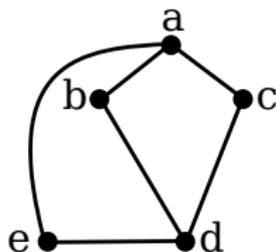
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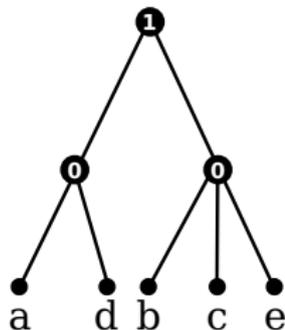


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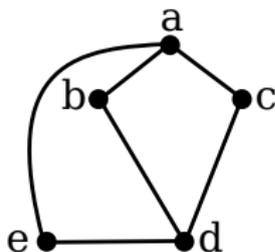
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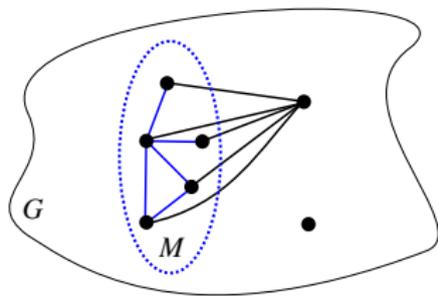
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GOOD news: Every graph G has a unique **Modular Decomposition Tree**
that at least to some extent provides structural information of G

Basics: Modular Decomposition (MD)*

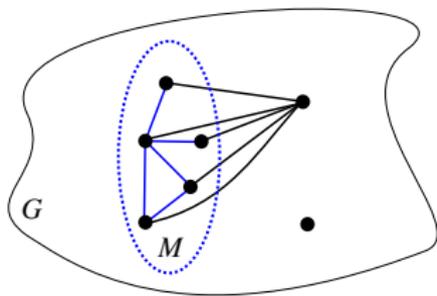
$M \subseteq V(G)$ is a **module** in G if $N(x) \setminus M = N(y) \setminus M$ for all $x, y \in M$



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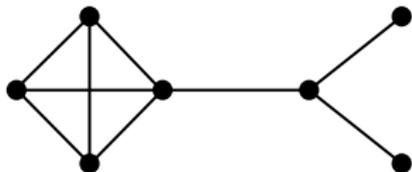
Every graph has a **unique decomposition into non-overlapping modules** that can be computed in *linear-time*.

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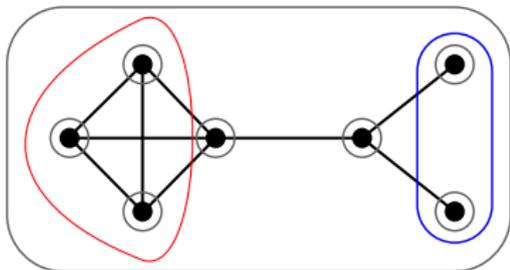
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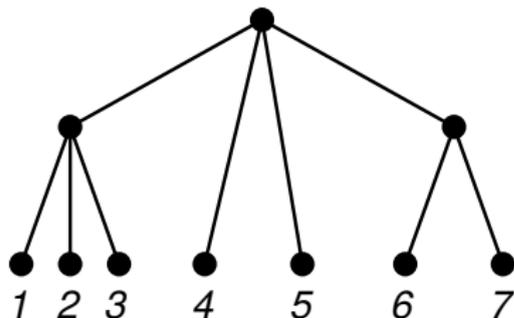
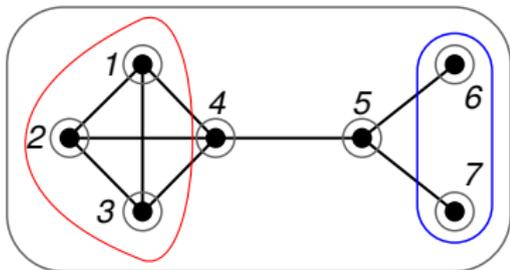
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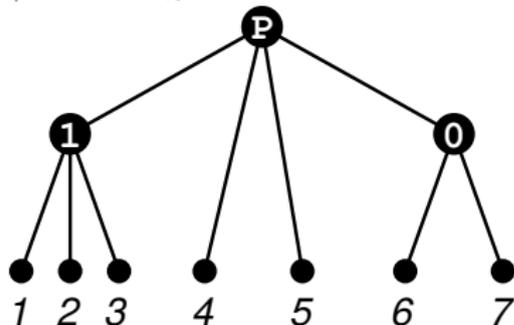
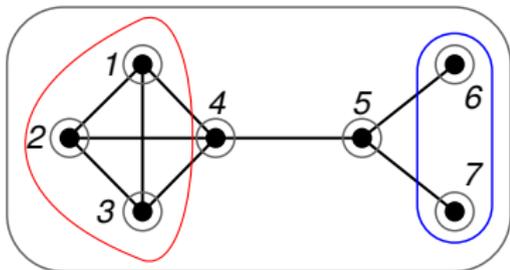
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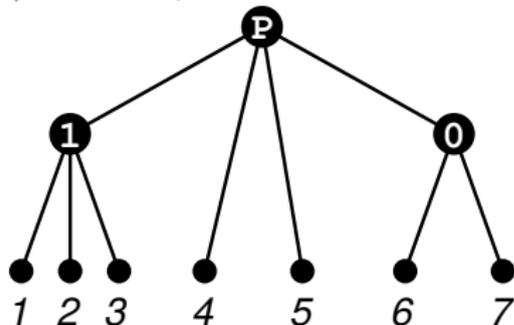
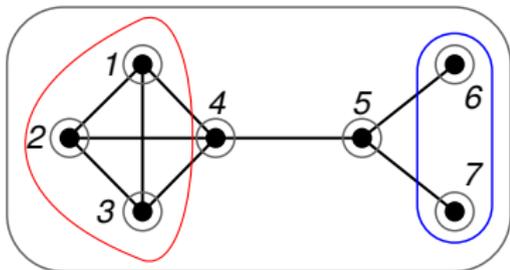
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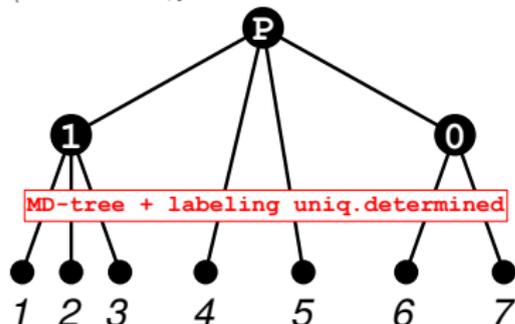
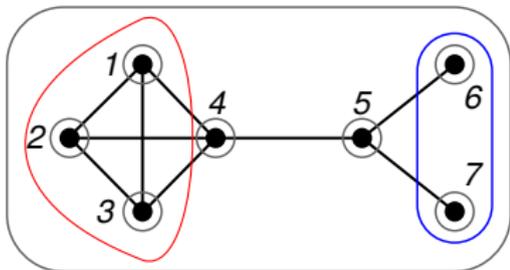
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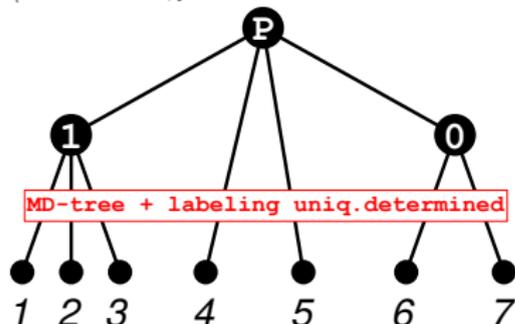
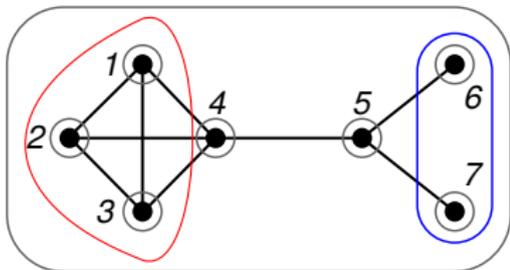
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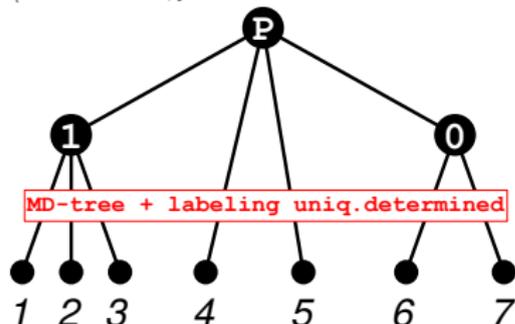
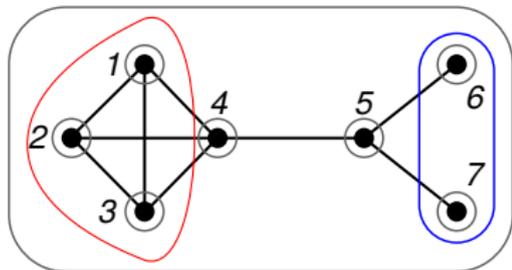


0- and 1-vertices in MD-tree are good:

$$t(\text{lca}(x,y)) = 0 \implies \{x,y\} \notin E(G) \quad \text{and} \quad t(\text{lca}(x,y)) = 1 \implies \{x,y\} \in E(G)$$

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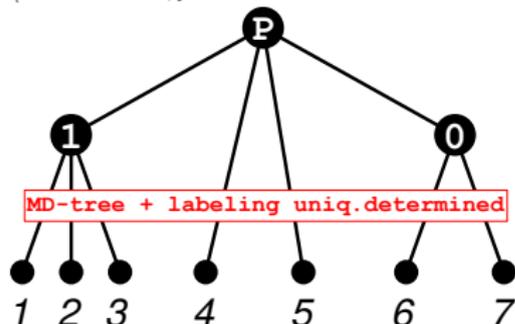
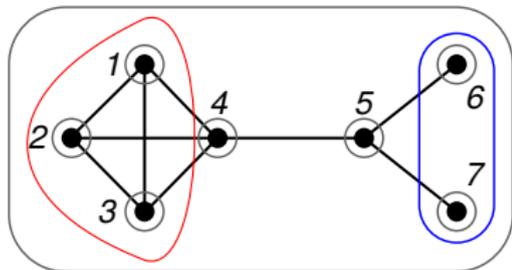
BUT, not all structural information of G is provided by the MD-tree if it contains P -vertices.

$$t(\text{lca}(3,4)) = P \text{ and } \{3,4\} \in E(G)$$

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Full information of G is provided only if MD-tree does not contain P -vertices (**cographs**)

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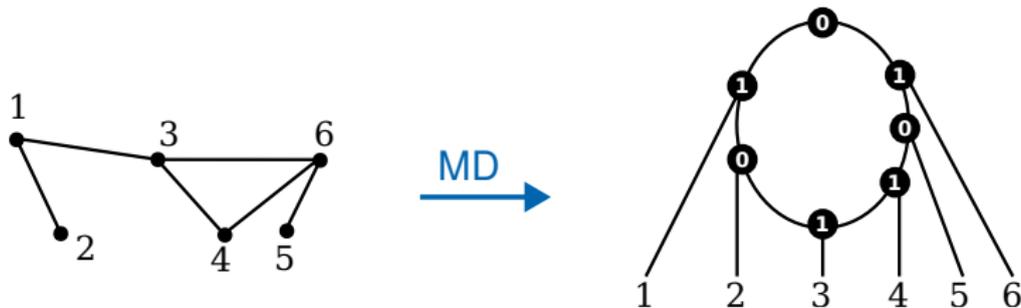
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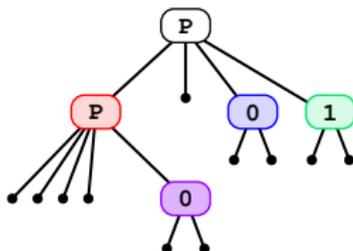
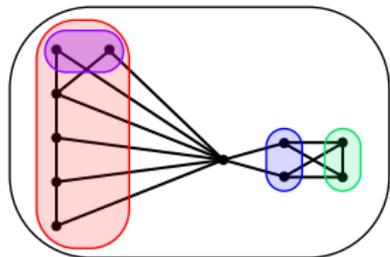
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\implies Explicit Modular Decomposition

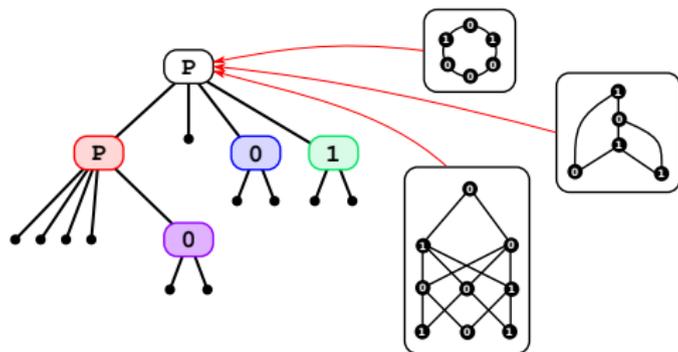
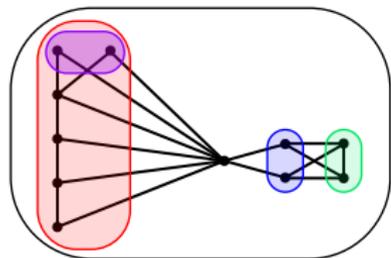
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General Aim:

- Preserve the main features of the MD-tree, try to modify only the P -vertices to obtain 0/1-labeled rooted networks to explain graphs

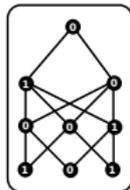
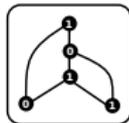
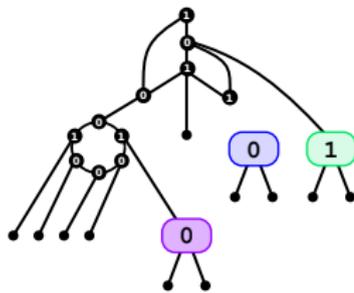
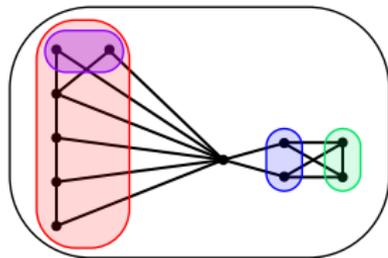
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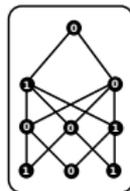
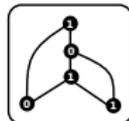
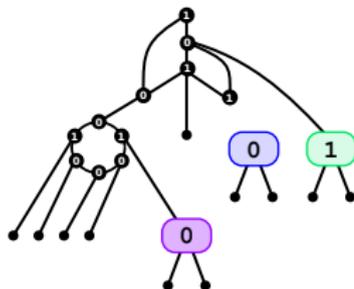
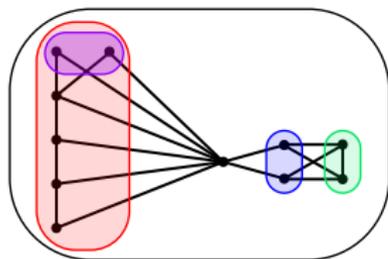
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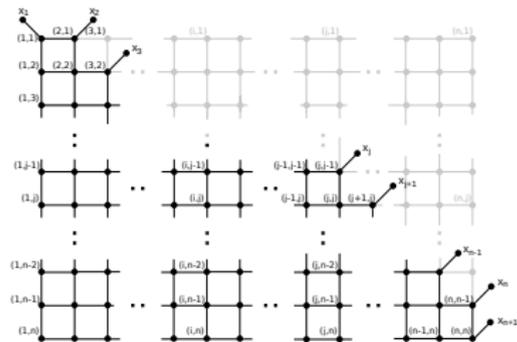


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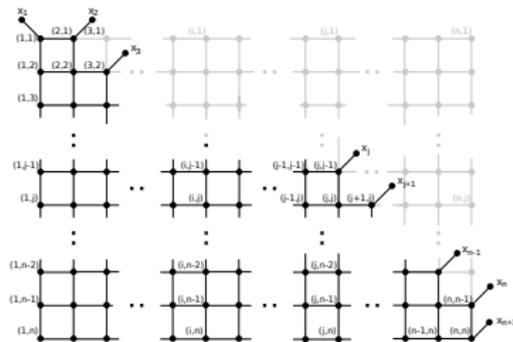
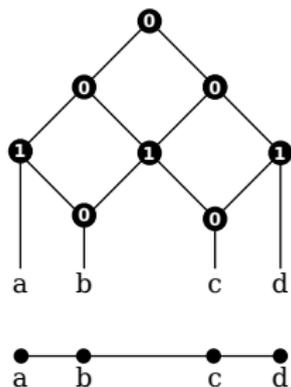
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Proof of Concept: Half-grid networks.

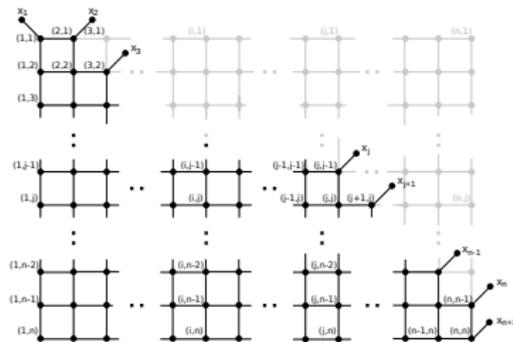
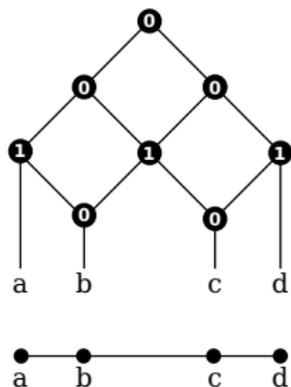
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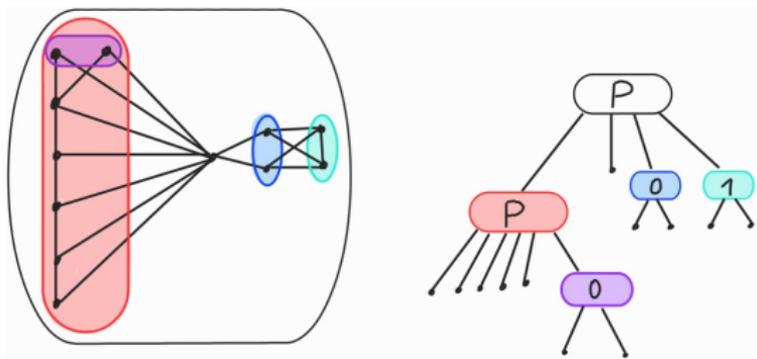


Theorem (2021)

Every graph G can be explained by a 0/1-labeled half-grid and thus, by a network obtained from MDT by locally replacing "P"-vertices by half-grids = **median graphs**.

Proof: In half-grids we have $\text{lca}(x,y) \neq \text{lca}(x',y')$ for distinct pairs x,y and x',y' .

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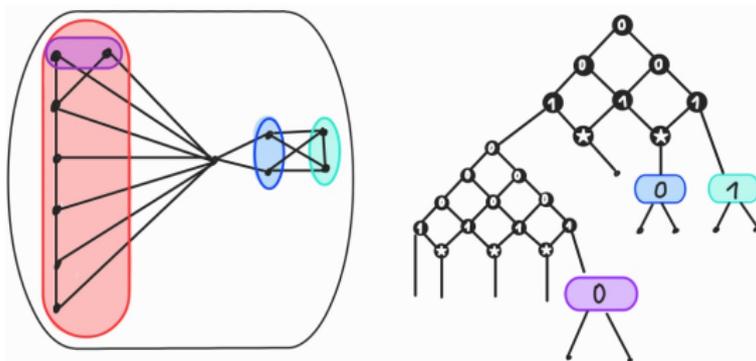


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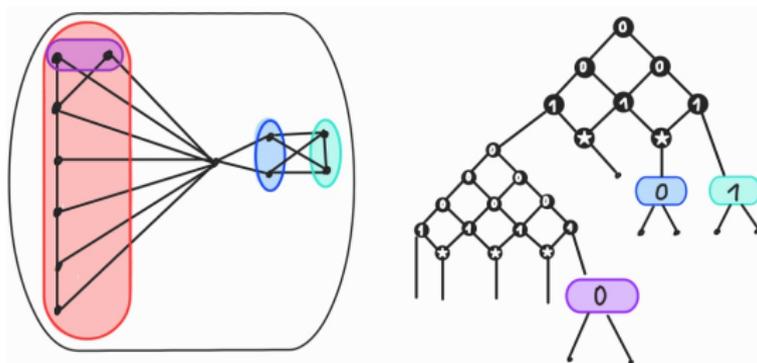


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Every graph G can be explained by a 0/1-labeled half-grid and thus, by a network obtained from MDT by locally replacing "P"-vertices by half-grids = *median graphs*.

Proof: In half-grids we have $\text{lca}(x, y) \neq \text{lca}(x', y')$ for distinct pairs x, y and x', y' .

Explicit Modular Decomposition: Half-grids



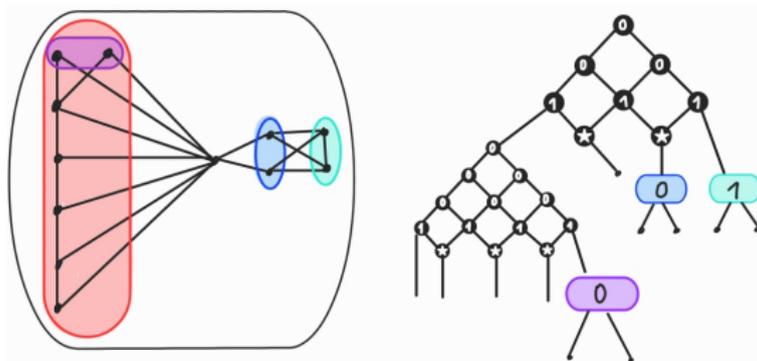
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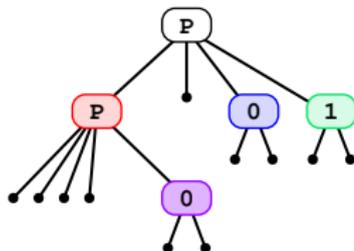
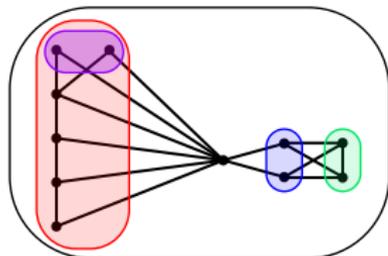
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But half-grids are only as suitable as representing G with its adjacency matrix
(no deep structural insights)

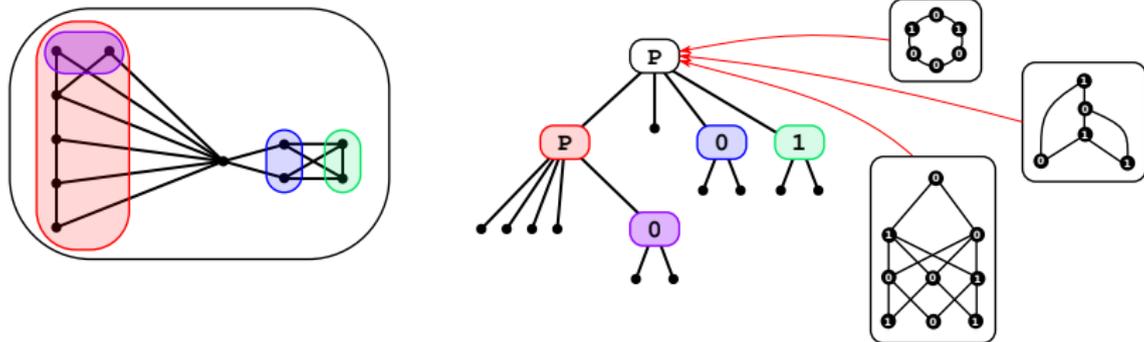
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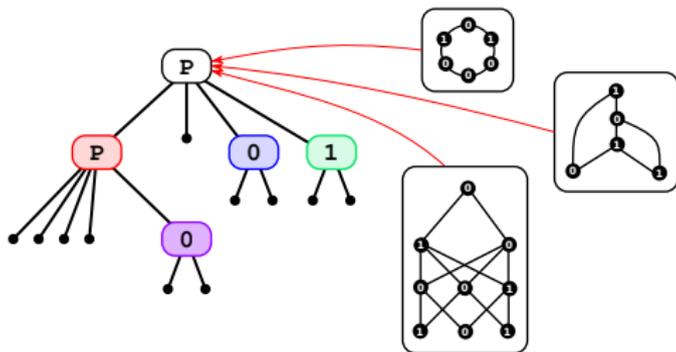
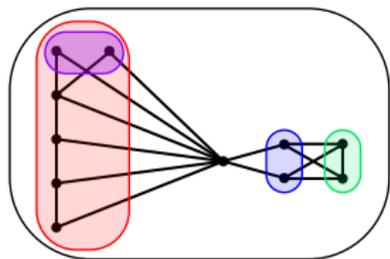
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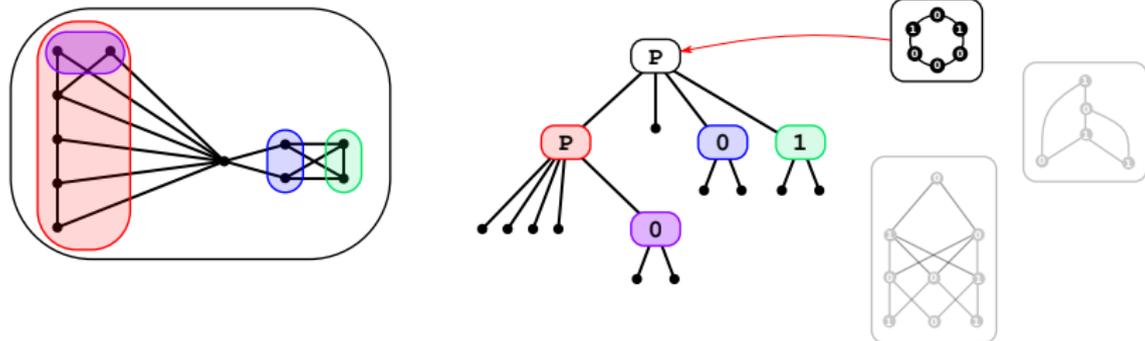
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Instead of using "dense" half-grids let's look at the other extreme:
Use the most-simplest non-tree structure to replace P -vertices.

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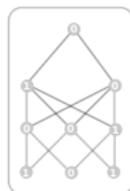
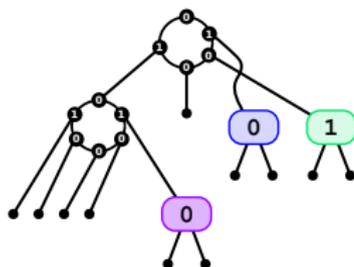
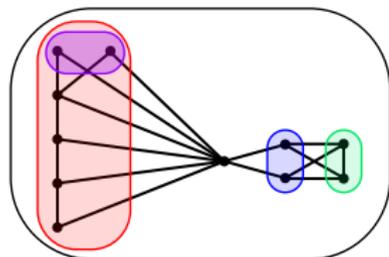


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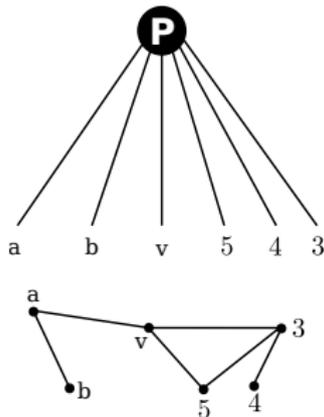
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Question: Which type of graphs can be explained by such networks (N, t) ?

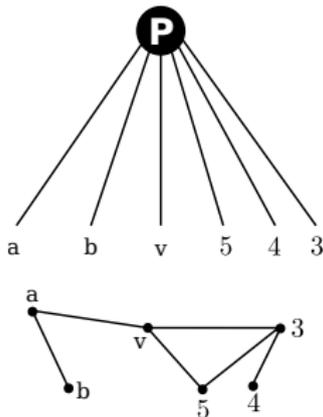
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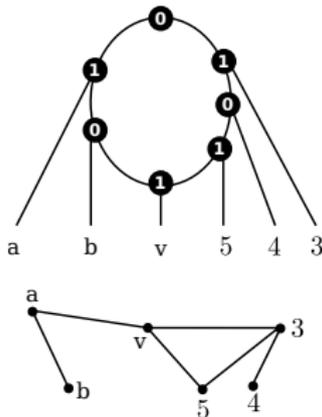


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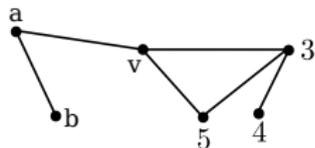
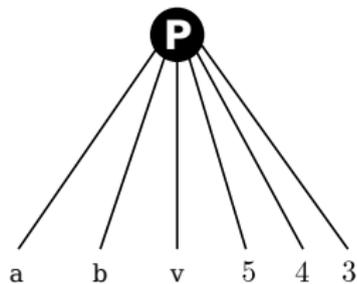
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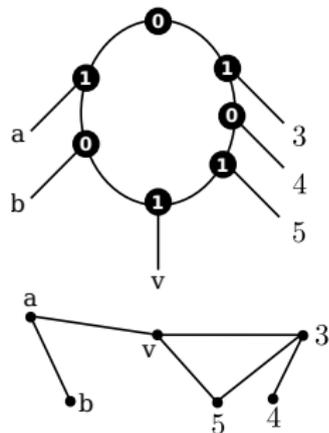
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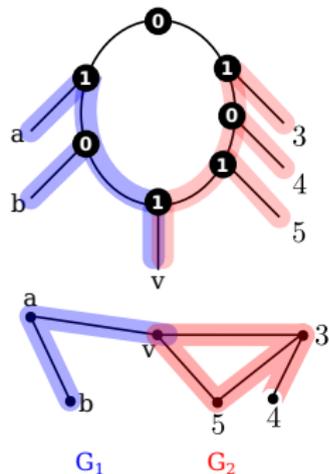
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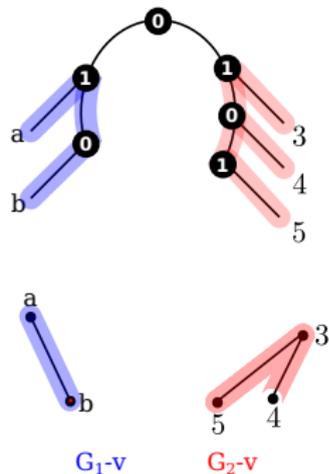
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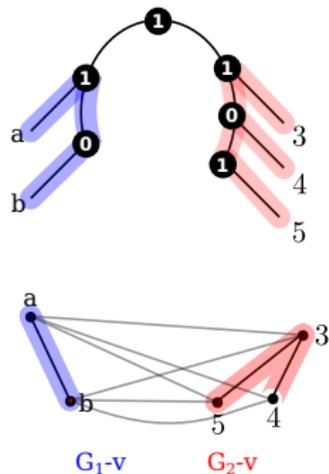
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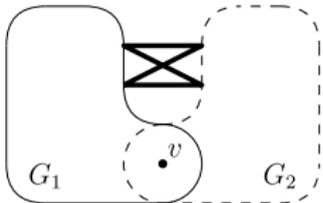
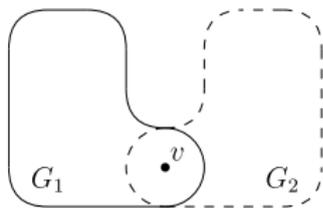
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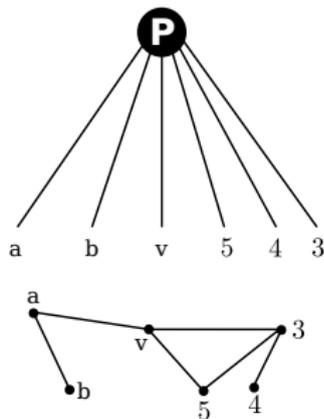
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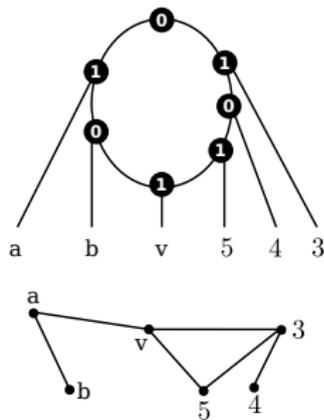
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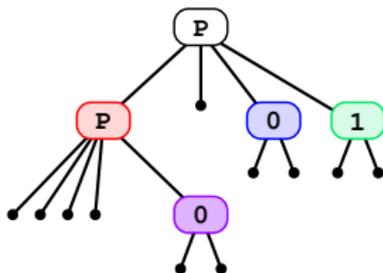
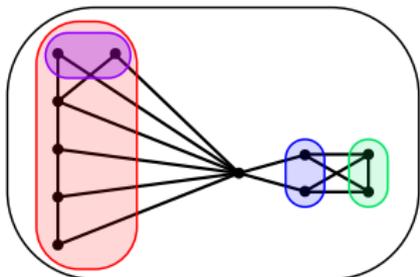


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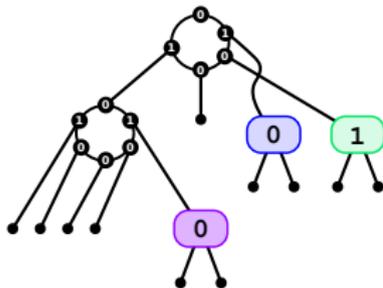
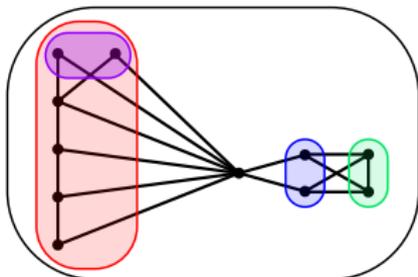
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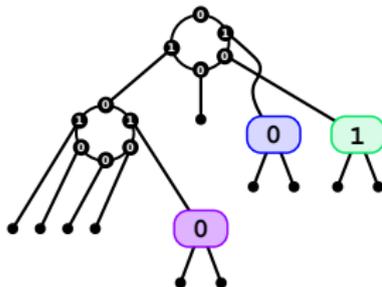
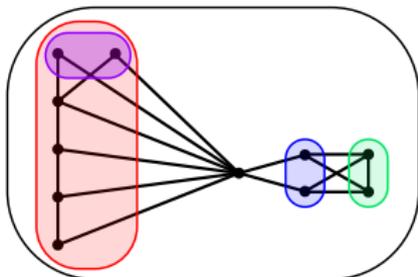
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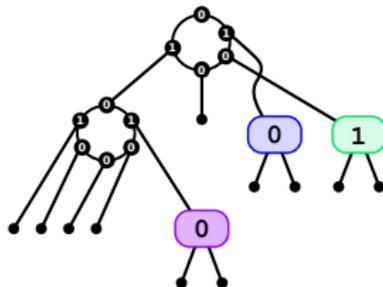
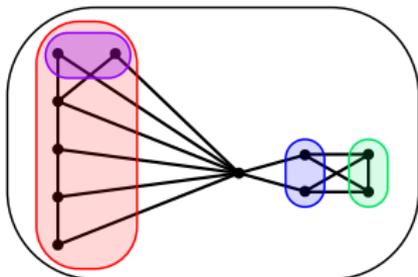
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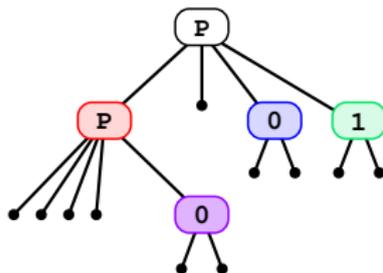
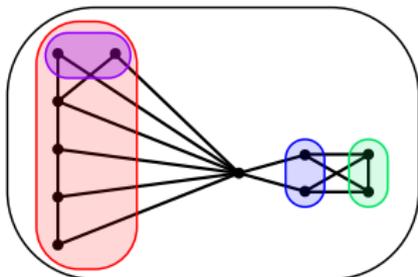
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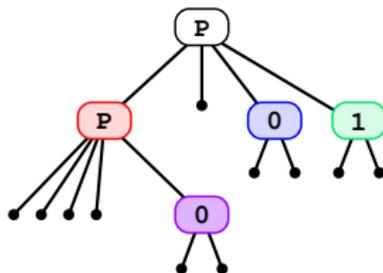
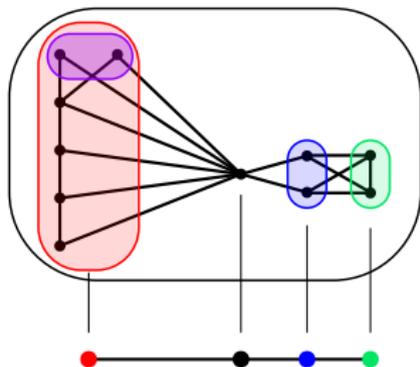
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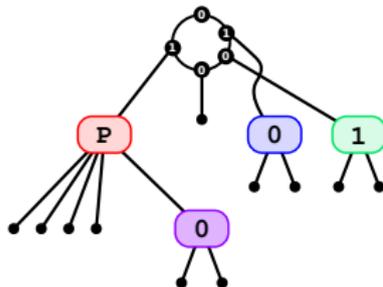
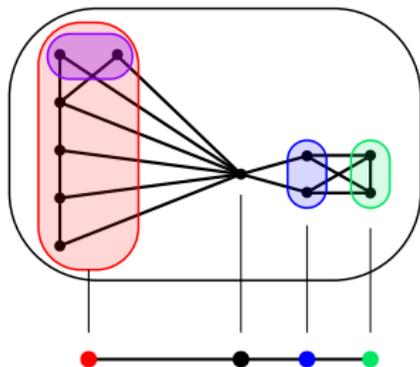
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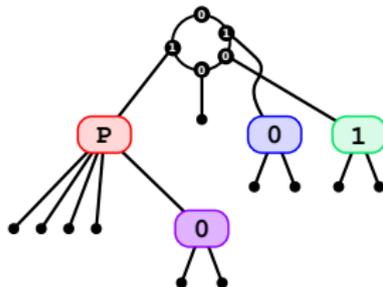
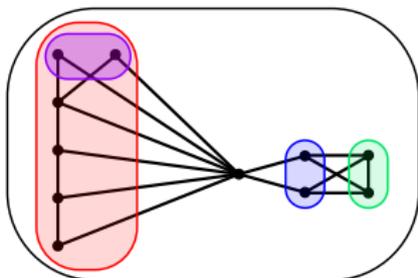
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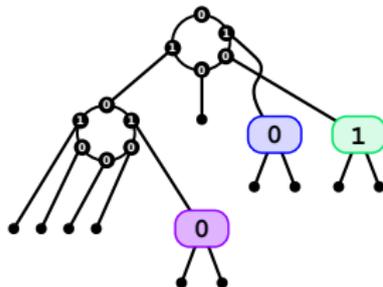
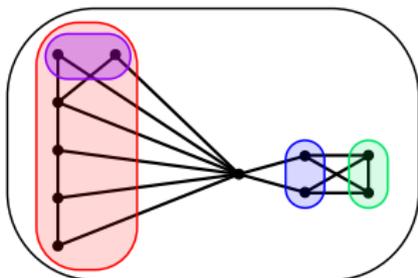
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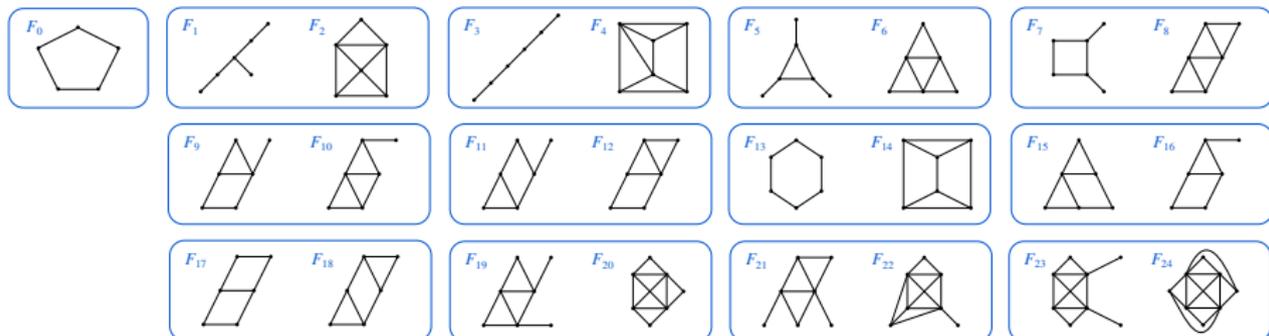
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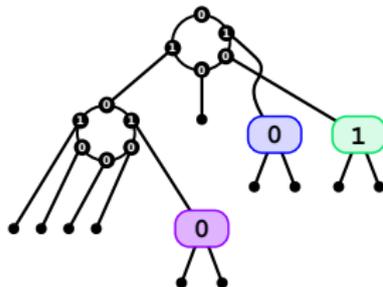
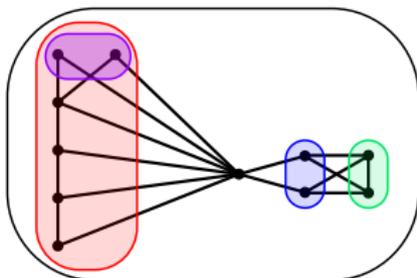
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\iff G is \mathcal{F} -free (leads to a brute-force $O(n^8)$ -time recognition algorithm).

GATEX graphs can be recognized and construction of (N, t) can be done in **linear time**.

GATEX graphs can have $O(|n|^2)$ edges, but can be stored using only **linear space**.

Scholz & Hellmuth, **From Modular Decomposition Trees to Level-1 networks: Pseudo-Cographs, Polar-Cats and Prime Polar-Cats**, *Discr. Appl. Math*, 2022

Scholz & Hellmuth, **Resolving Prime Modules: The Structure of Pseudo-cographs and Galled-Tree Explainable Graphs**, *Discr. Appl. Math*, 2024

Consequences

GATEX graphs form a novel and interesting class of graphs that is closely related to many other well-known and famous graph classes.

Among other results, GATEX graphs are:

- **perfect graphs**

Chromatic number of every induced subgraph = size of the largest clique of that subgraph

- **comparability (=transitive orientable) graphs**

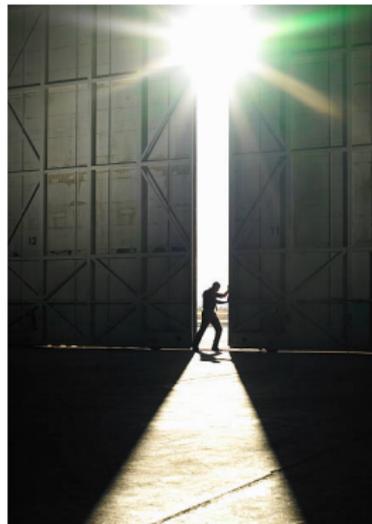
There exists a transitive orientation on this graphs = represents partial orders in where two elements are connected by an edge if they are comparable to each other in the partial order.

- **permutation graphs**

used to represent permutations

- **perfectly orderable**

there is an ordering of the vertices of G such that a greedy coloring algorithm with that ordering optimally colors every induced subgraph of the given graph



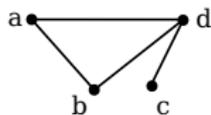
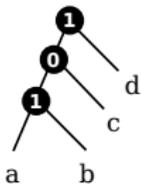
Every cograph and every graph whose vertices are contained in at one most induced P_4 are GATEX

NP-hard Problems that become easy ...

Example: Find optimal vertex coloring.

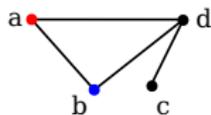
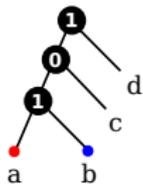
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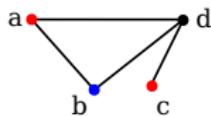
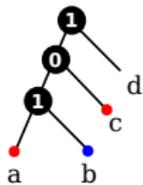
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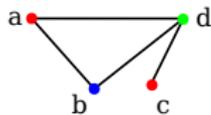
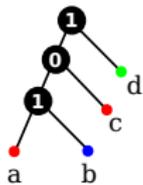
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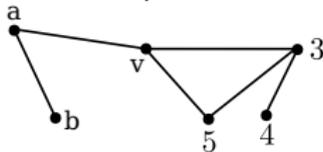
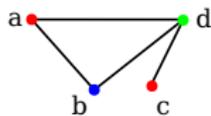
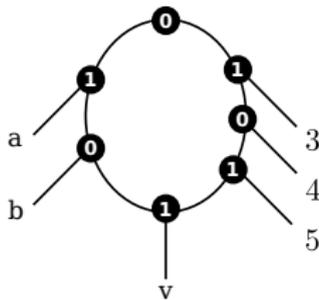
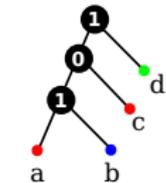
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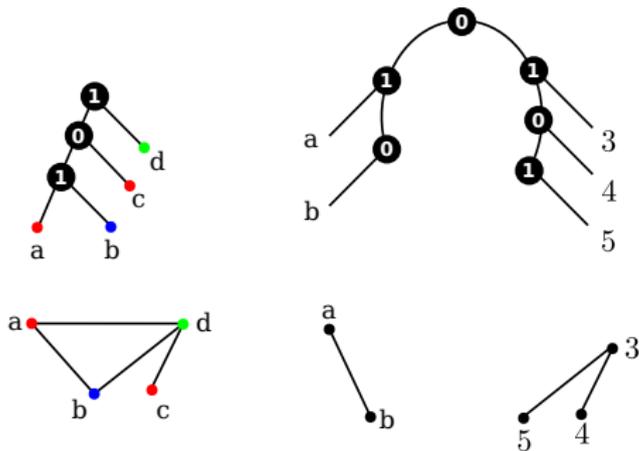
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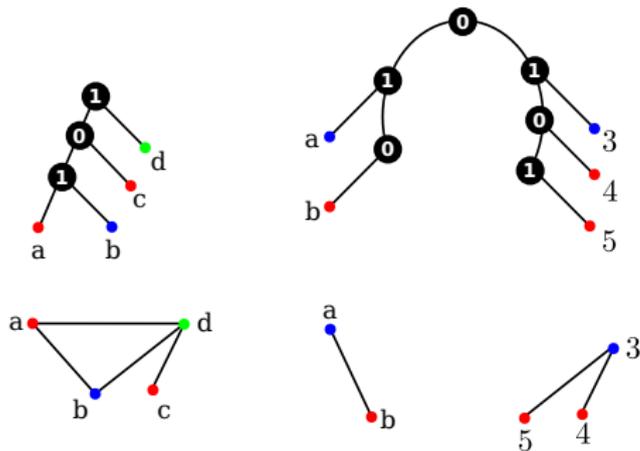
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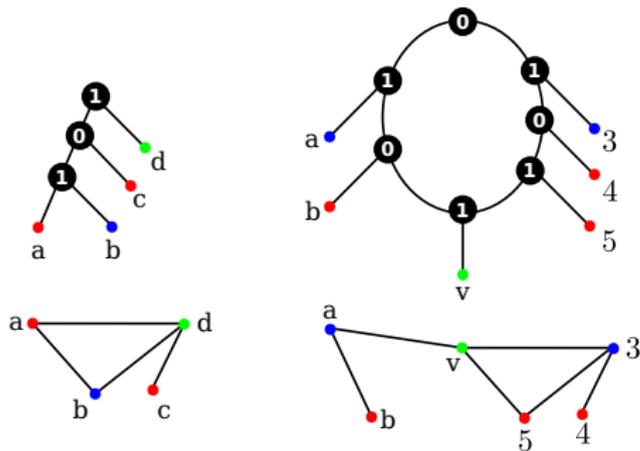
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Theorem (2023)

The following NP-hard problems can be solved in linear-time on GATEX graphs.

- *Finding a minimum vertex coloring*
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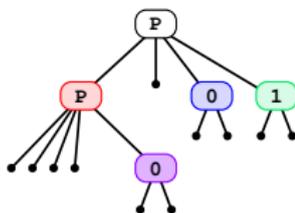
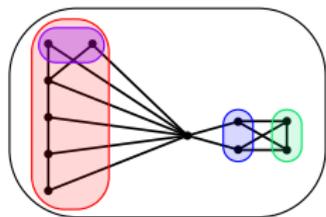
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Explicit modular decomposition provides an essential tool-box for solving discrete optimization problems!

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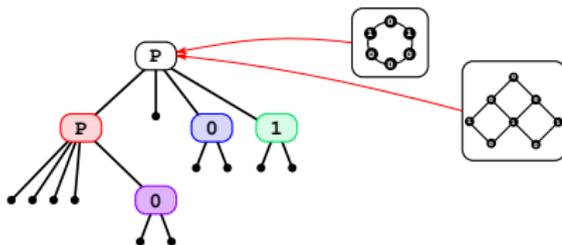
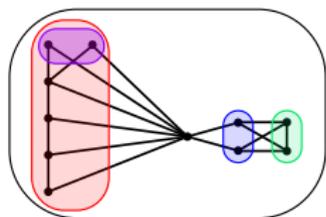
Summary - Explicit Modular Decomposition



General Aim:

- Preserve the main features of the MD-tree, try to modify only the P -vertices to obtain 0/1-labeled rooted networks to explain graphs

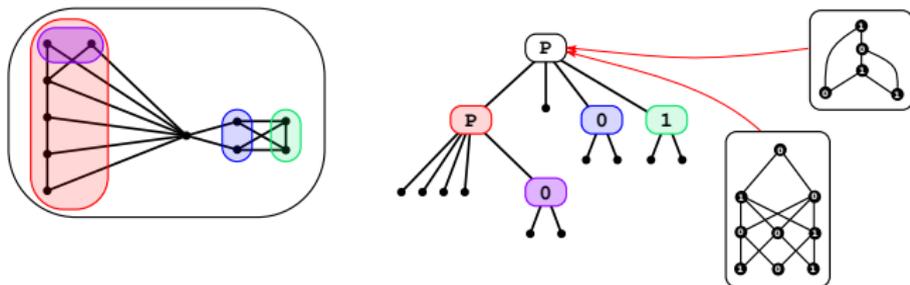
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This is only a snapshot of what is possible!

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- **Here:** replace " P " vertices in MD tree by simple cycles or half-grids
This is only a snapshot of what is possible!
- we are not restricted to resolving P -vertices in the MD-tree by simple cycles or half-grids only
For generalizations, we can draw on nearly unlimited resources from phylogenetic networks.

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= proof of concept

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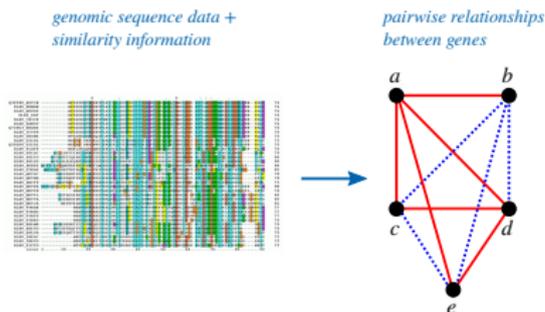
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- Explicit Modular Decomposition is a very novel concept and a great playground
(generalizations e.g. edge-colored di-graphs or matroids are coming)!

Applications

The initial motivation to investigate "explicit modular decomposition" is based on the fact that we want understand in more detail pairwise relationships between genes (e.g horizontal gene transfer and orthology)

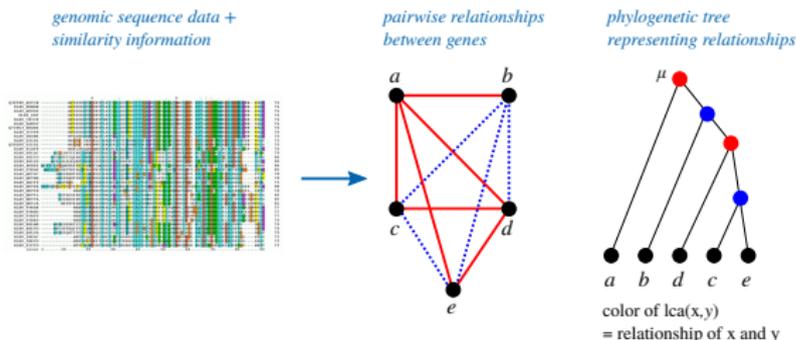
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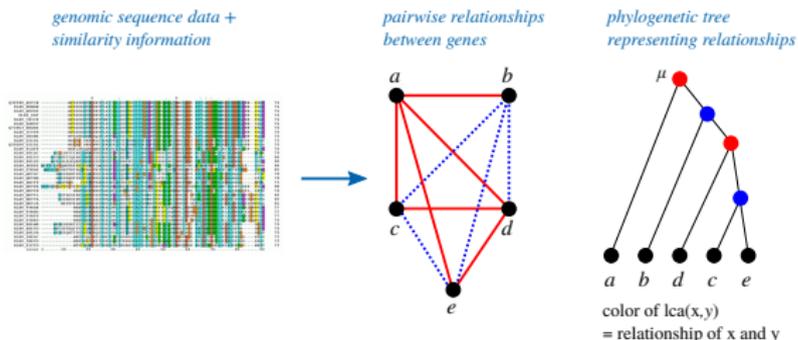
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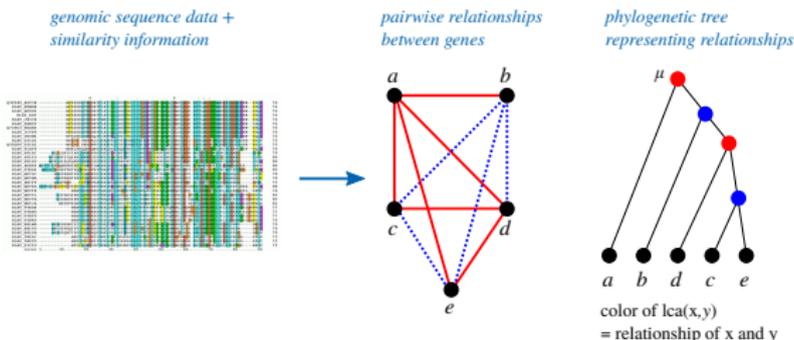


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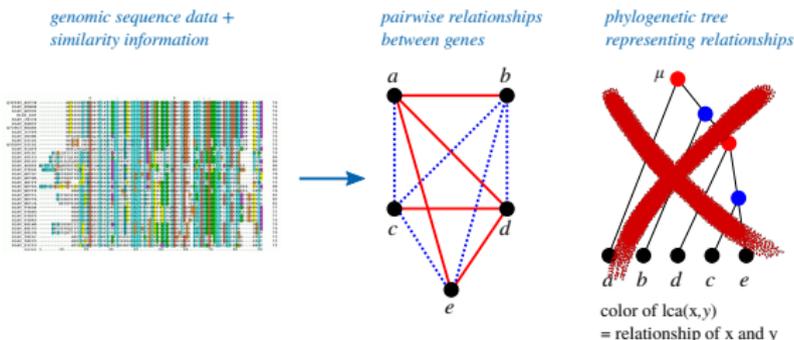
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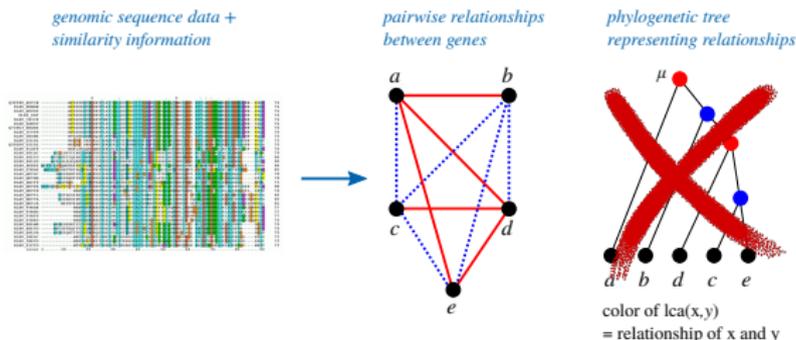
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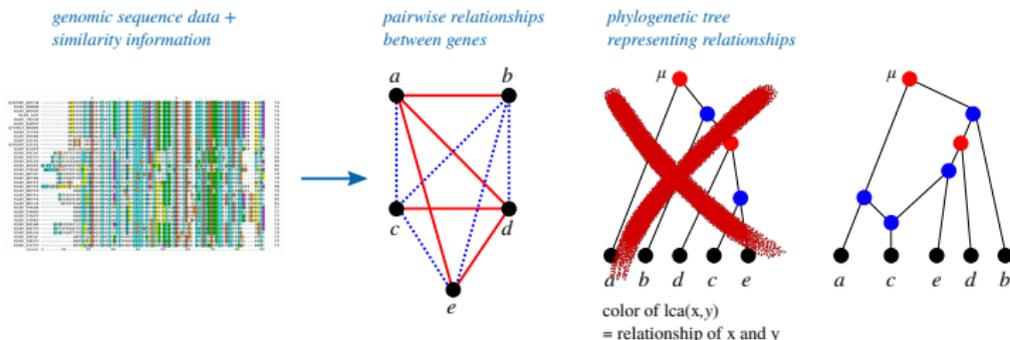
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Collaborations



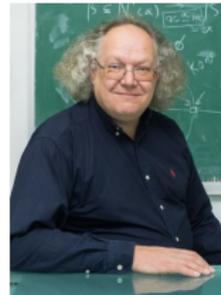
Anna Lindeberg



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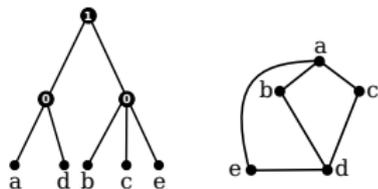
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THANK YOU!

Appendix

Cographs : Graphs without prime modules

Cographs ...



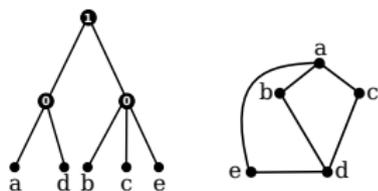
Cotree (T, t) explains cograph G

Cographs : Graphs without prime modules

Cographs ...

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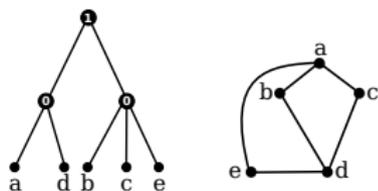


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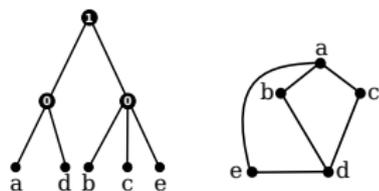


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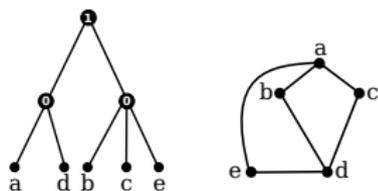
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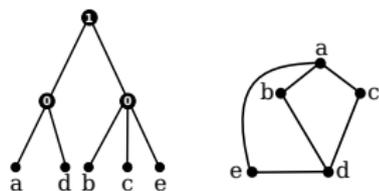
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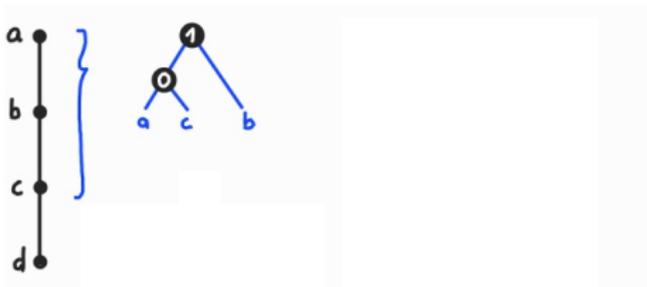
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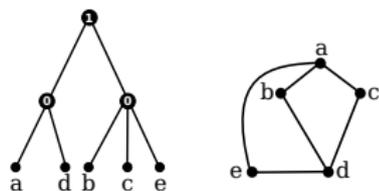
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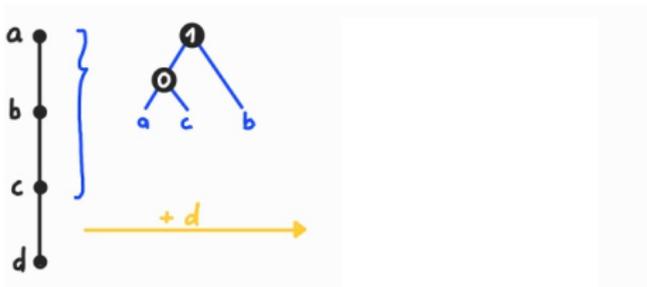
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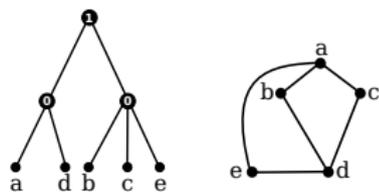
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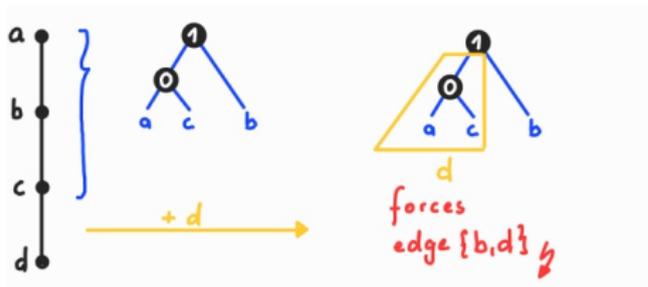
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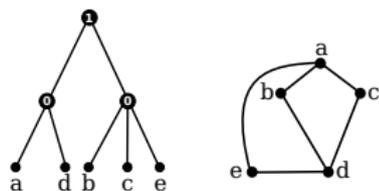
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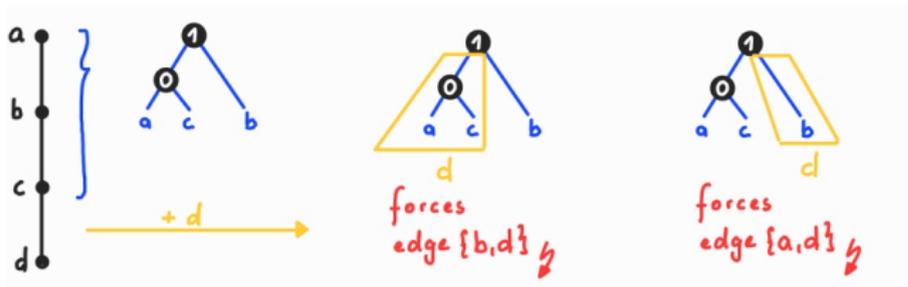
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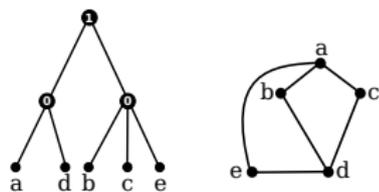
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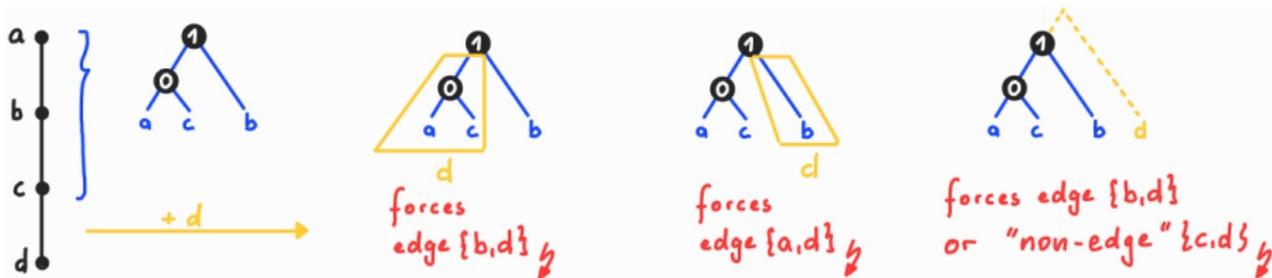
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Pseudo-cographs: Algorithms

Recognition - The Basic Idea

If G cograph - done

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Else find one P_4

For all $v \in P_4$

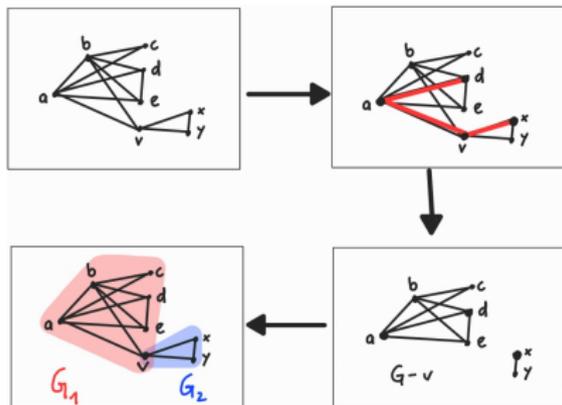
If $G - v$ or $\overline{G - v}$ disconnected
take one connected component C

Put $V(G_1) = C \cup \{v\}$

Put $V(G_2) = (V \setminus C) \cup \{v\}$

If G_1 and G_2 are cographs

return (v, G_1, G_2)



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For all $v \in P_4$

If $G - v$ or $\overline{G - v}$ disconnected

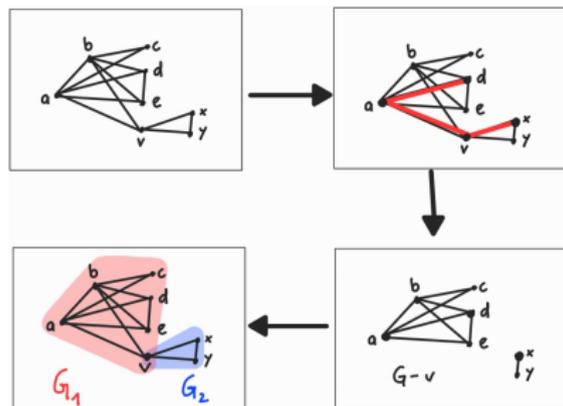
take one connected component C

Put $V(G_1) = C \cup \{v\}$

Put $V(G_2) = (V \setminus C) \cup \{v\}$

If G_1 and G_2 are cographs

return (v, G_1, G_2)



Theorem (2022)

Pseudo-cographs can be recognized in linear time and a corresponding 0/1-labeled network can be constructed within the same time complexity.

Pseudo-cographs and galled-tree explainable graphs

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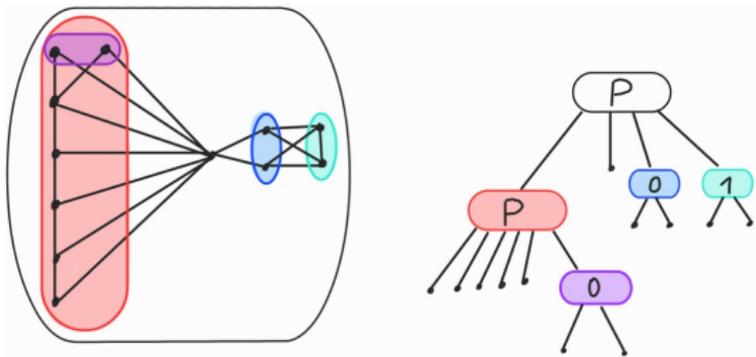
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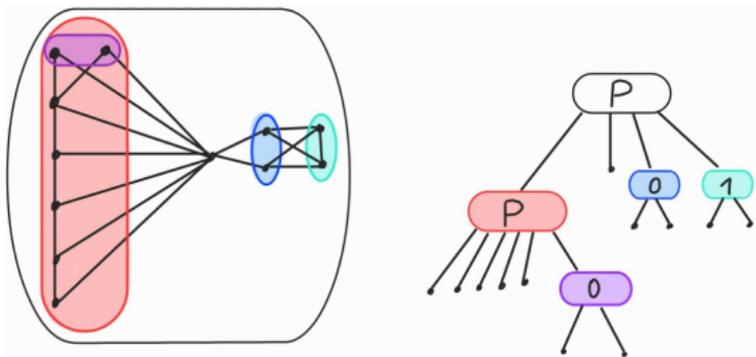
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This looks like a very interesting, novel graph class !!

Explicit Modular Decomposition



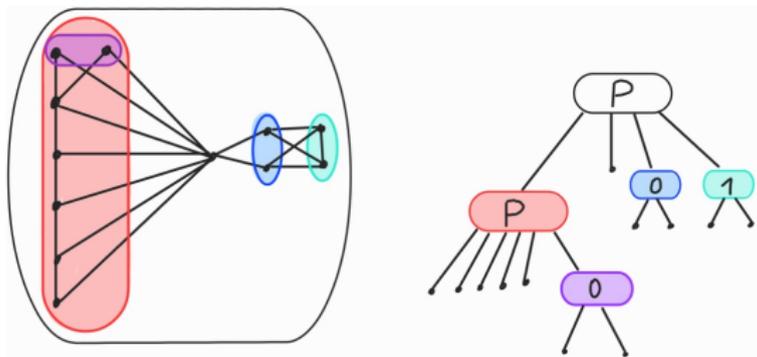
Explicit Modular Decomposition



General Aim:

- Preserve the main feature of the MD-tree, try to modify only the prime-vertices "P" to obtain 0/1-labeled rooted networks to explain graphs
- "unbox" the structure of prime modules

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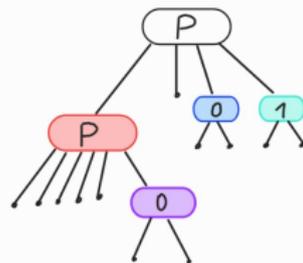
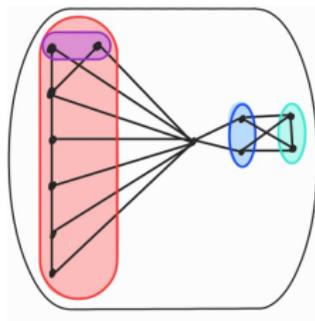
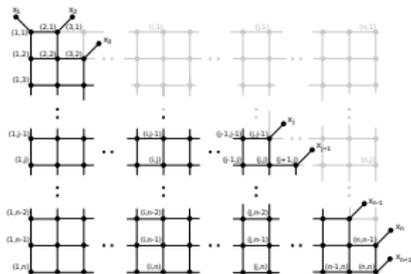
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As a first attempt we may ask:

Is there a 0/1-labeled network that can explain EVERY given graph?

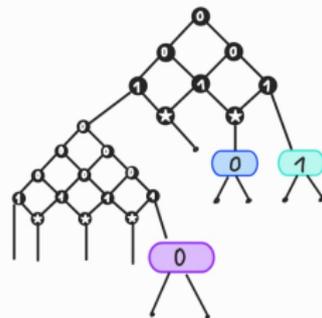
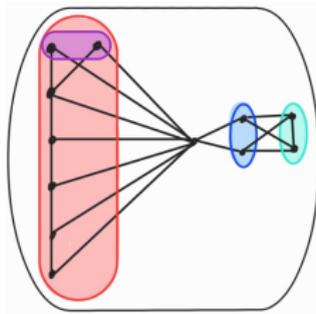
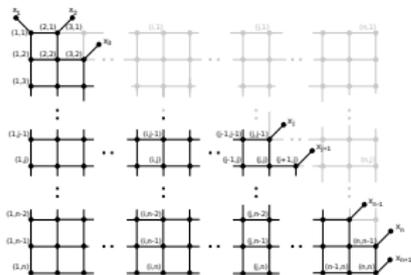
Explicit Modular Decomposition: Half-grids



Theorem (2021)

Every graph G can be explained by a 0/1-labeled half-grid and thus, by a network obtained from the MD-tree by locally replacing "P"-vertices by half-grids = median graphs.

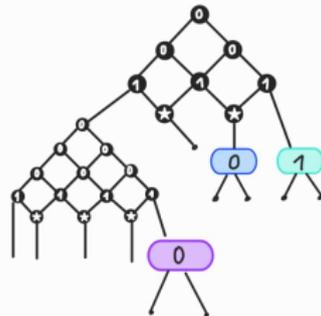
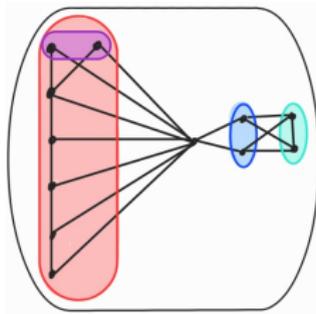
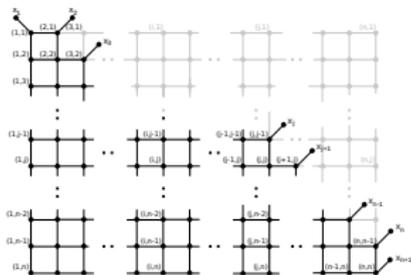
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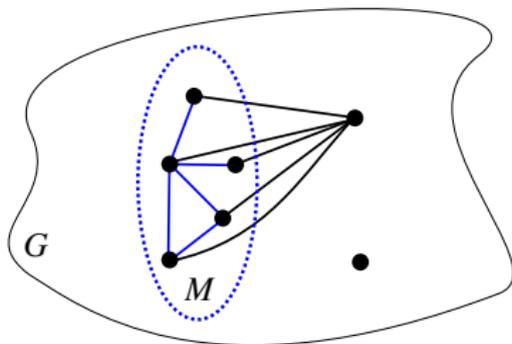
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Half-grids are rather "heavy" ($O(|V(G)|^2)$ edges and vertices) and of less interest from the structural point and biological point of view.

⇒ Can we go simpler?

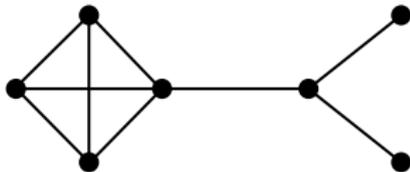
Basics: Modular Decomposition (MD)

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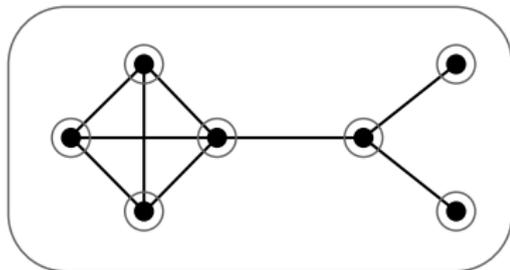
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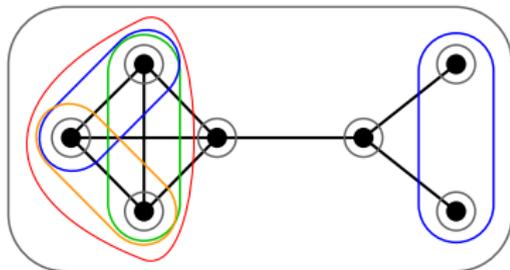
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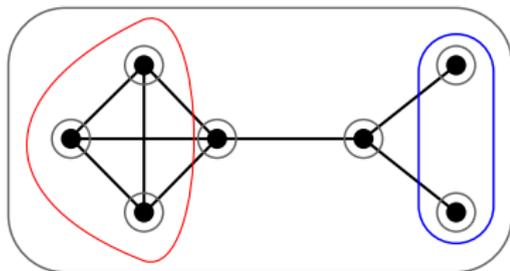
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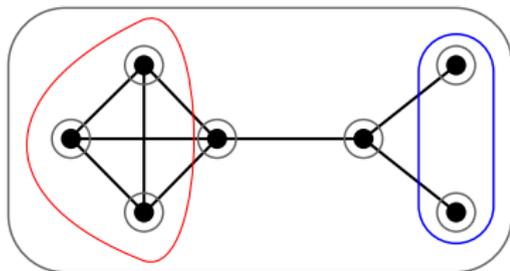
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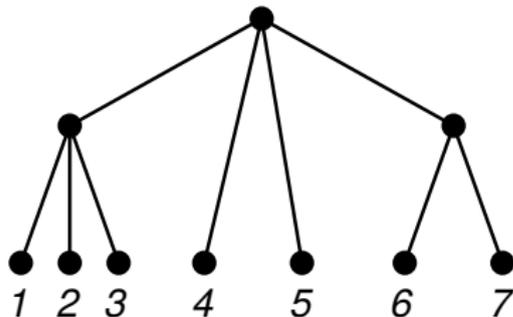
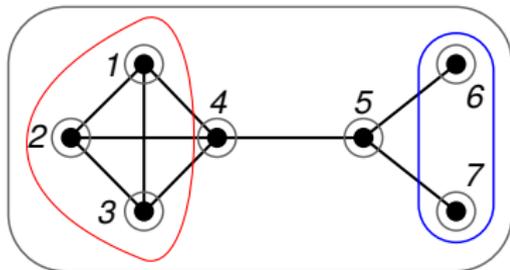


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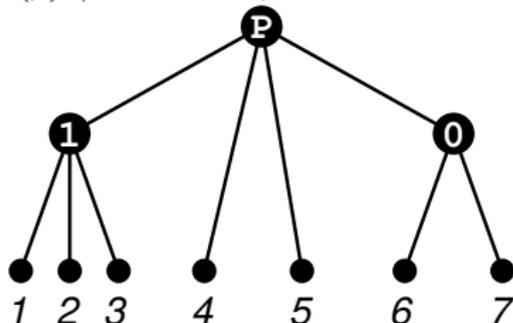
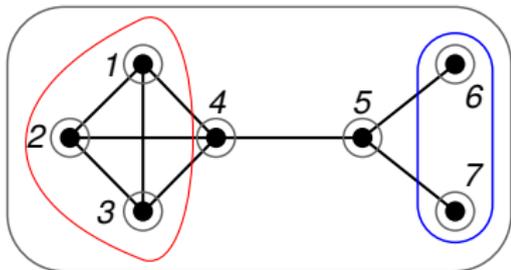
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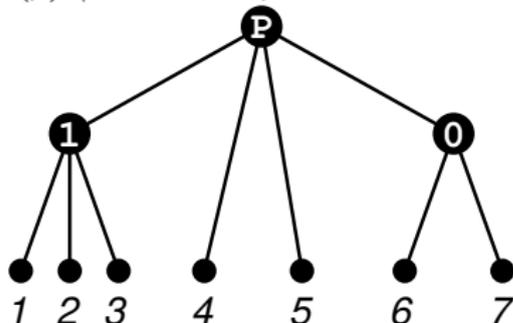
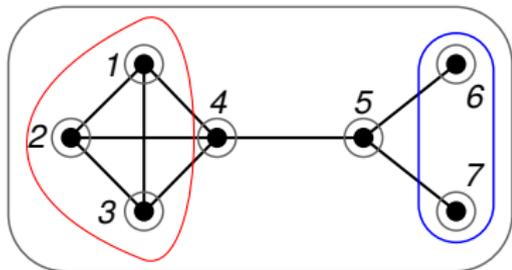
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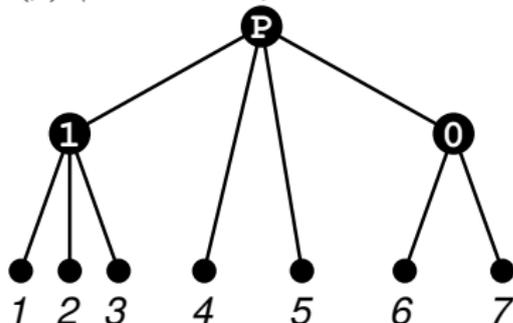
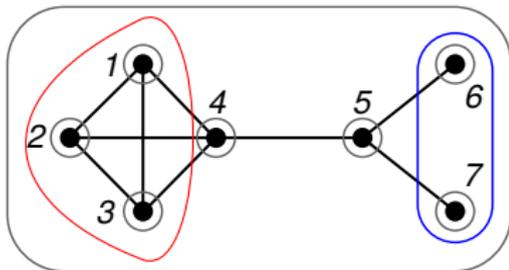
There are different type of modules:

Parallel (0), **Series (1)** and **Prime (P)** modules

defined in terms of connectedness conditions (omitted).

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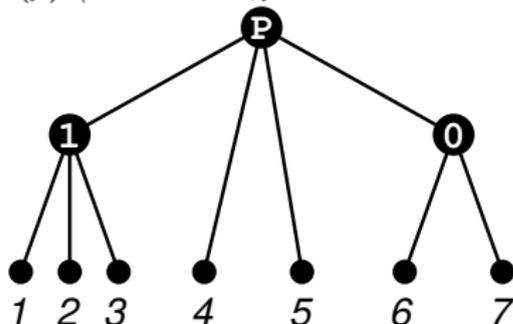
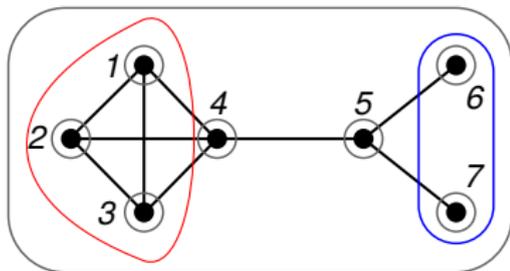


BUT, full information of G is provided only if G does not contain prime modules.

- $t(\text{lca}(3,4)) = \mathbf{P}$ and $\{3,4\} \in E(G)$
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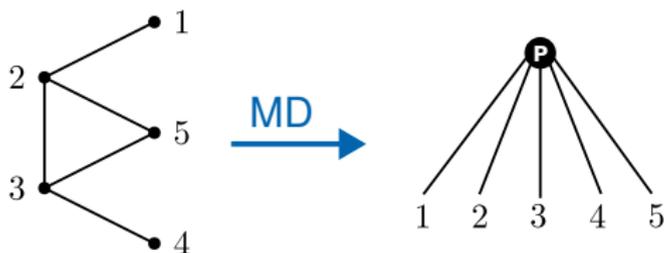
For cographs:

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- $\{x,y\} \in E \iff t(\text{lca}(x,y)) = 1$

Thus, full information about cographs is provided by MD

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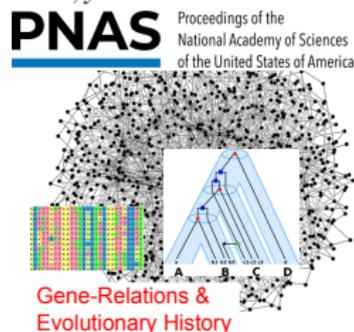
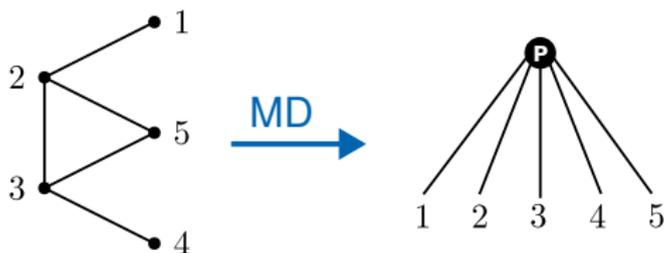
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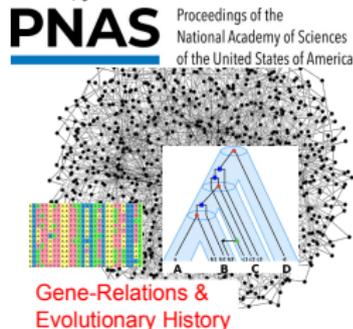
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We used MD and cographs for studies in the context of evolutionary biology

Milestone: How to use “noise” in the data as an additional source of information!

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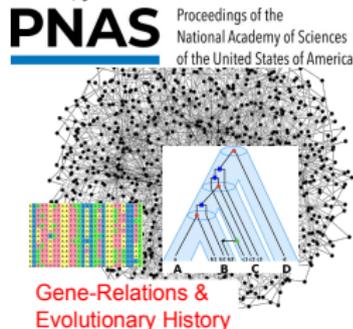
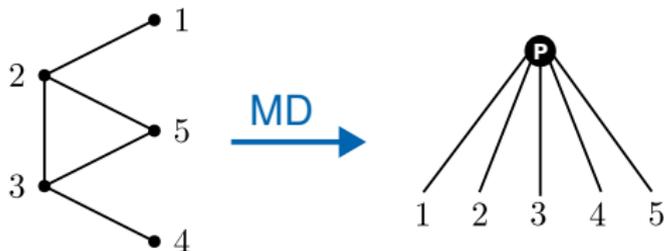
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We observed:

- It is crucial to understand the structure of subgraphs induced by prime modules!
- Evolution is not always tree-like and often better explained by networks!

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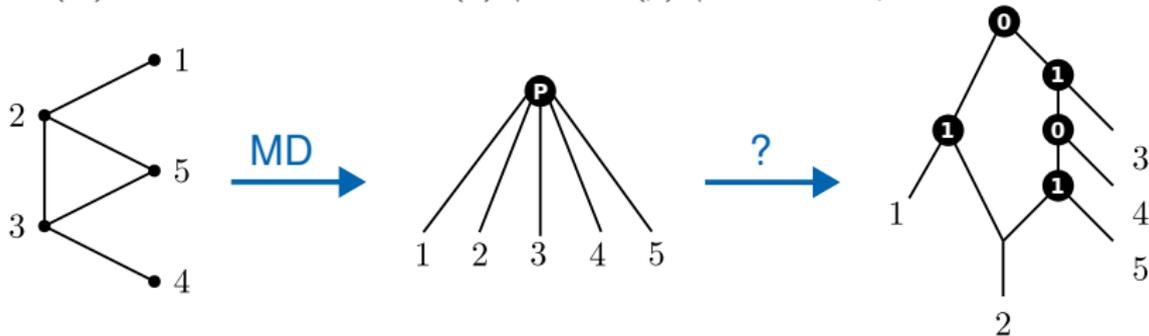


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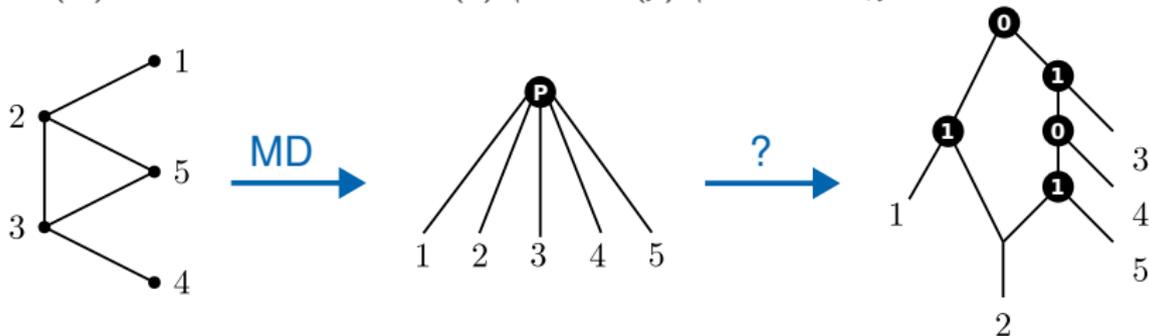


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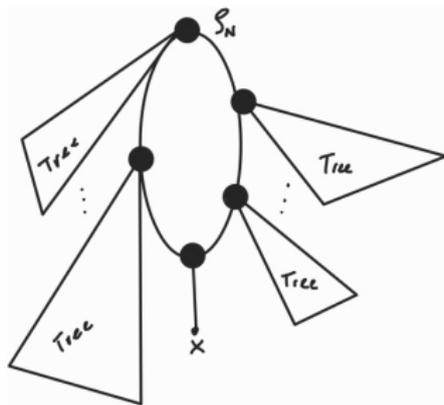


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Aim: Understand graph classes that can be explained by 0/1-labeled networks.

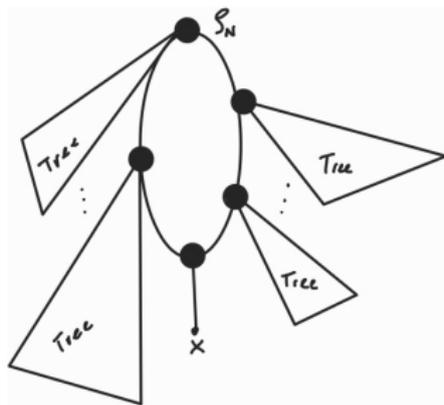
Pseudo-cographs: Characterization



Theorem (2022)

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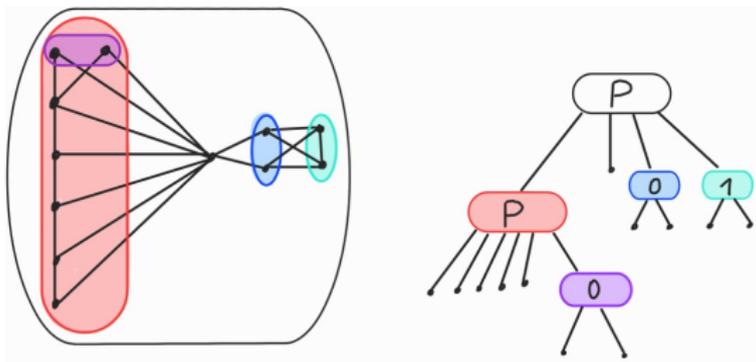


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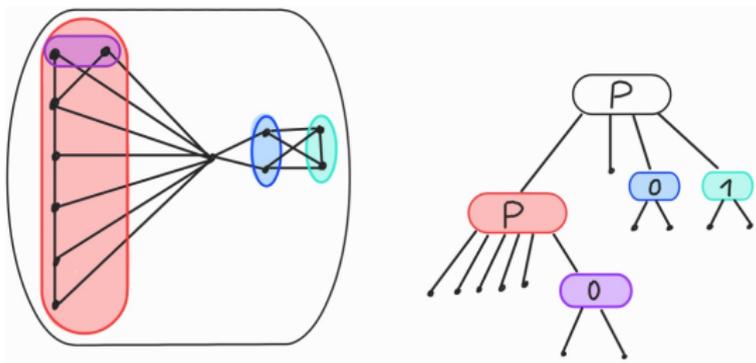
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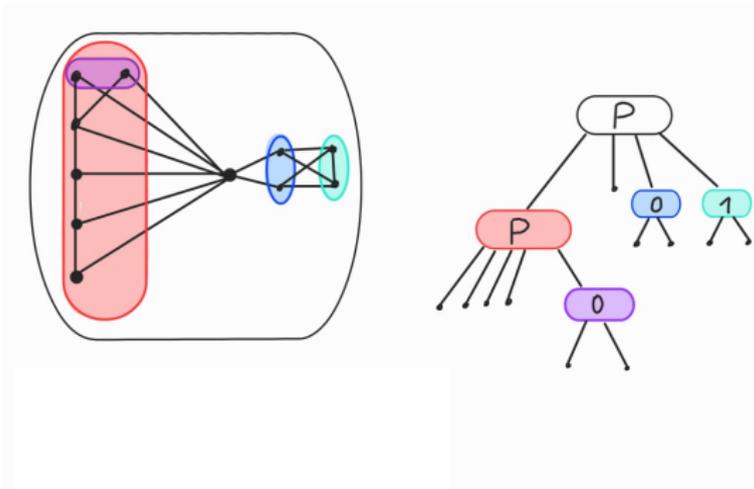
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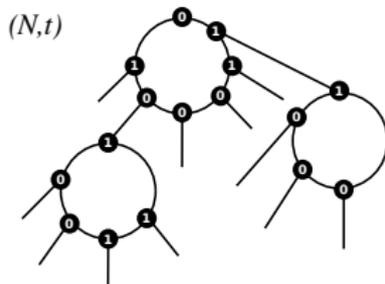
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MD and simple cycles

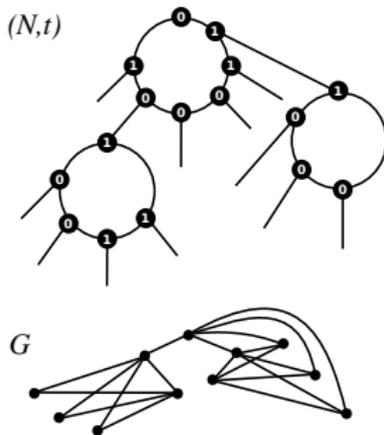


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Galled-tree: = 0/1-labeled network “consisting” of edges and simple cycles

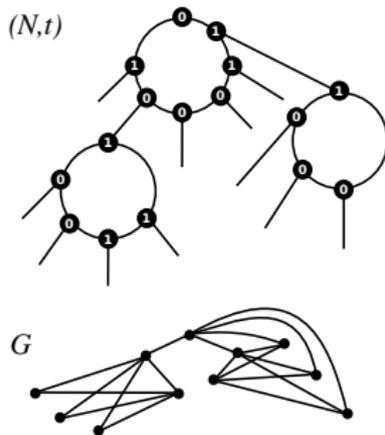
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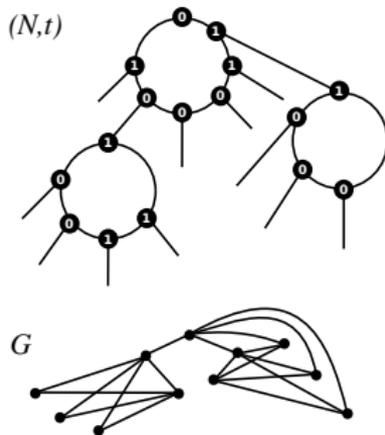


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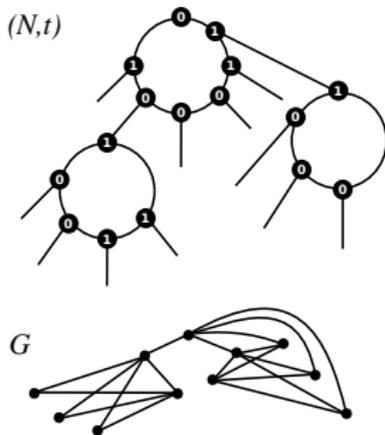
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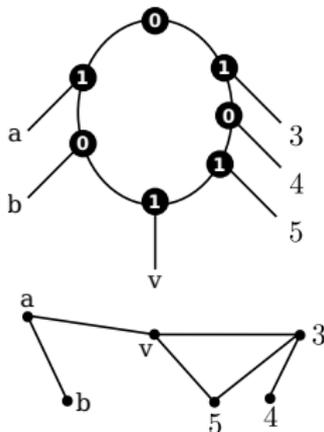
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- GATEX graphs are closely related to other famous graph classes
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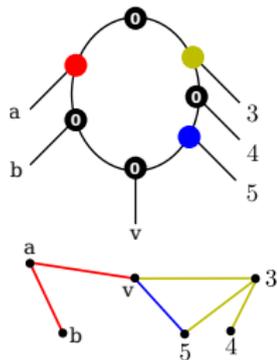
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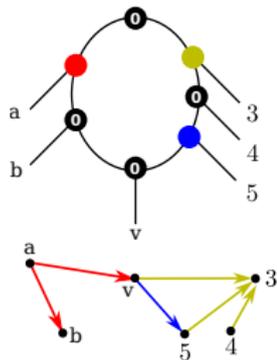
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- What if we have directed graphs that we want to explain by labeled networks?

Can we use ordered networks to explain them?



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- we characterized GATEX graphs (=graphs that can be explained by 0/1 galled trees)
- GATEX graphs are closely related to other famous graph classes
- Several NP-hard problems become easy on GATEX graphs

Open Questions:

- 0/1/.../n-labeled networks to explain edge-colored graphs.

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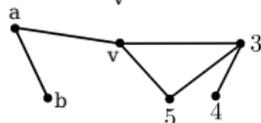
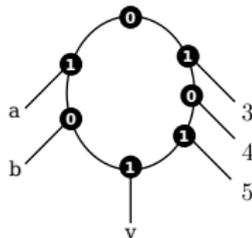
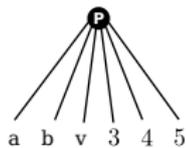
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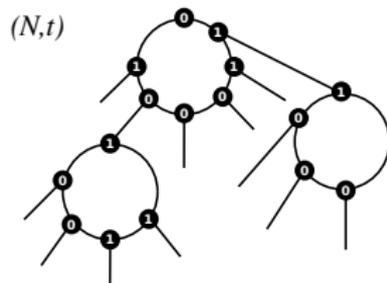
In (N, t) , the modules of G form a subset of the clusters in (N, t)

\implies generalization of modules!



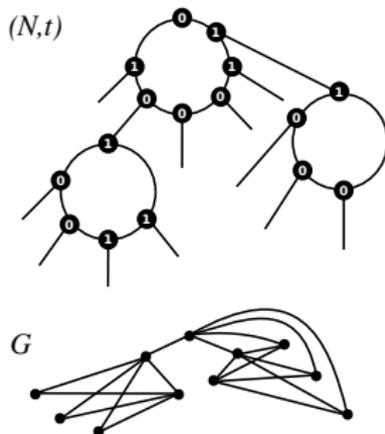
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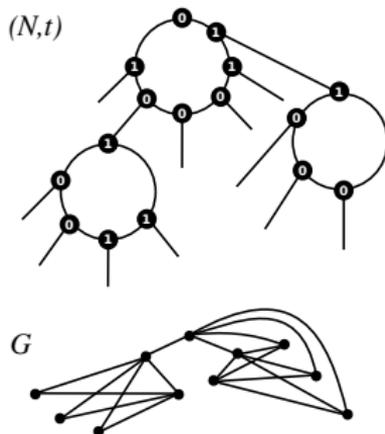
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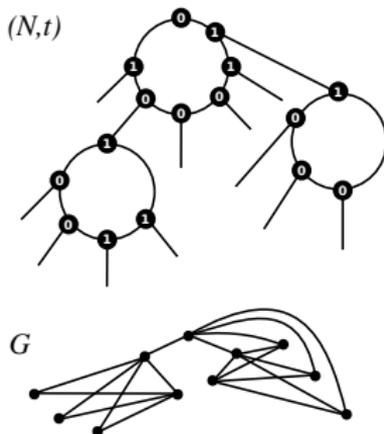


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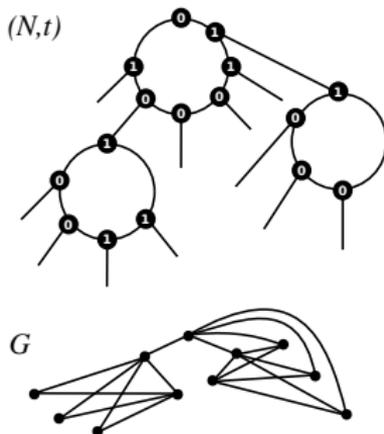
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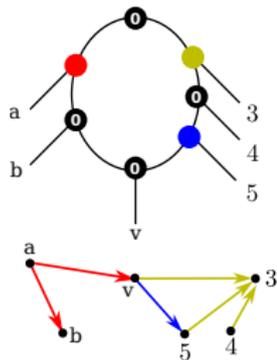
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