Tuza's Conjecture for Threshold Graphs

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Easy:
$$\tau(G) \leq 3\mu(G)$$
 True

$$\tau(G) \leq 2\mu(G)$$
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- confirmed in some graph classes:
 - planar graphs, [Tuza '90]
 - cliques, [Feder, Subi '12]
 - graphs of treewidth at most 6, [Botler, Fernandes, and Gutiérrez '21]
 - 4-colorable graphs, [Aparna Lakshmanan, Bujtás, Tuza '11]
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- $\tau(G) \leq 2\mu(G) + o(|V(G)|^2)$ for any graph G [Haxell, Rödl '01]

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Only confirmed for a few hereditary classes.

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Confirmed in no superclass of cliques.

- interesting herediary classes & superclasses of cliques:

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 - split graphs

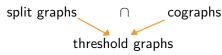
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split graphs \(\cap \) cographs threshold graphs

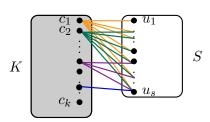
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G=(V,E) is a **threshold graph** if its vertices can be partitioned into a clique $K=\{c_1,\ldots,c_k\}$ and an independent set $S=\{u_1,\ldots,u_s\}$:

- $N[c_{i+1}] \subseteq N[c_i]$ for all $1 \le i < k$ and
- $N(u_i) \subseteq N(u_{i+1})$ for all $1 \le i < s$.

nested neighborhood



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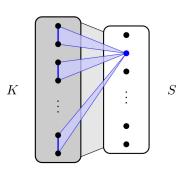
Our result

G threshold graph: $\tau(G) \leq 2\mu(G)$

Tools

K clique, S independent set such that they have all the edges in between

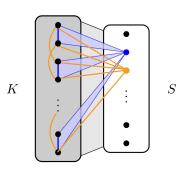
- $\textbf{1} \ \, \text{If} \, \, |S|<|K|, \, \text{then we can find a triangle packing of size} \, \, |S|\cdot \lfloor \tfrac{1}{2}|K| \rfloor.$
- 2 If $|S| \ge |K|$, then we can find a triangle packing of size $\binom{|K|}{2}$.



Tools

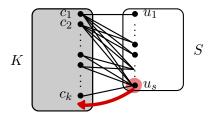
K clique, S independent set such that they have all the edges in between

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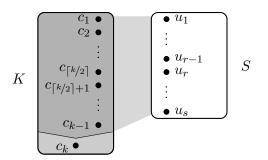
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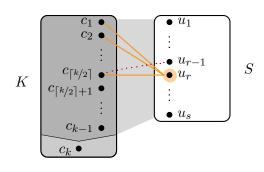
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 a threshold representation of $G,$ \exists $v\in K,$ $N(v)\cap S=\emptyset$
$$k:=|K| \qquad s:=|S|$$



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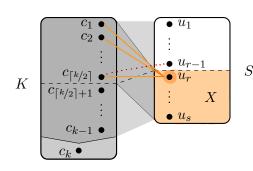
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$$r:= \underline{\mathsf{minimal}} \ \mathsf{such} \ \mathsf{that} \ \{c_1, \dots, c_{\lceil k/2 \rceil}\} \subseteq N(u_r)$$

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$$S \qquad X := \{u_r, \dots, u_s\}$$

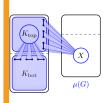
Proof Sketch: Cases

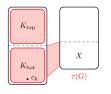
$$|X| \ge k/2$$







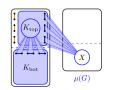


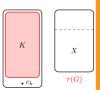


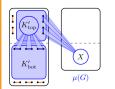
$$|X| \ge k+1/2$$

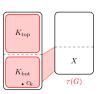


$$|X| < k+1/2$$





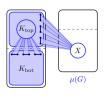


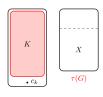


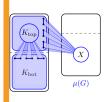
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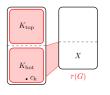
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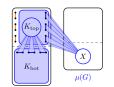


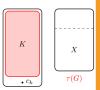


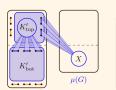
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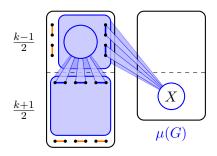
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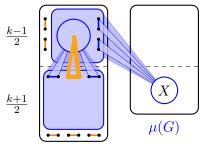




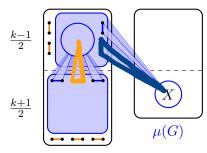




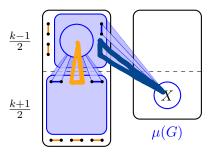




$$\bullet \ \lfloor \tfrac{(k+1)/2}{2} \rfloor \cdot \tfrac{k-1}{2}$$

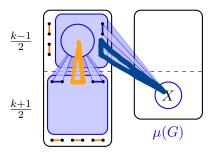


- $\bullet \ \lfloor \tfrac{(k+1)/2}{2} \rfloor \cdot \tfrac{k-1}{2}$
- $\bullet \min\{|X|\cdot \lfloor \tfrac{k-1}{4}\rfloor, {(k-1)/2 \choose 2}\}$



$$\bullet \lfloor \tfrac{(k+1)/2}{2} \rfloor \cdot \tfrac{k-1}{2} \geq \tfrac{k-1}{4} \cdot \tfrac{k-1}{2}$$

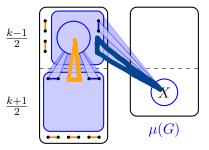
$$\begin{aligned} & \min\{|X|\cdot \lfloor \frac{k-1}{4}\rfloor, {\binom{(k-1)/2}{2}}\} \\ & \geq |X| \frac{k-3}{4} \end{aligned}$$



$${\color{red}\bullet} \; \lfloor \tfrac{(k+1)/2}{2} \rfloor \cdot \tfrac{k-1}{2} \geq \tfrac{k-1}{4} \cdot \tfrac{k-1}{2}$$

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$$\mu(G) \ge \frac{k-1}{2} \cdot \frac{k-1}{4} + |X| \frac{k-3}{4}$$



$$\frac{k+1}{2}$$

$$\frac{k-1}{2}$$

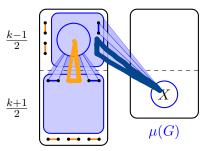
$$\cdot c_k$$

$$\tau(G)$$

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$$\frac{k+1}{2}$$
 $\frac{k-1}{2}$
 X
 $\tau(G)$

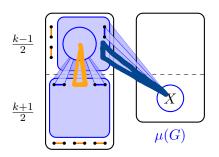
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$$\begin{aligned} & \bullet \min\{|X| \cdot \lfloor \frac{k-1}{4} \rfloor, {\binom{(k-1)/2}{2}}\} \\ & \geq |X|^{\frac{k-3}{4}} \end{aligned}$$

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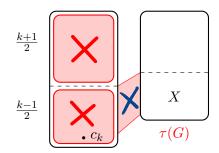
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 $\binom{(k+1)/2}{2} + \binom{(k-1)/2}{2}$

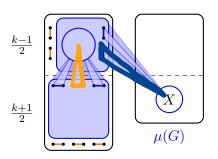


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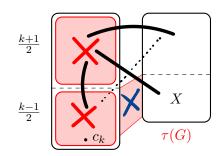


- $\bullet \binom{(k+1)/2}{2} + \binom{(k-1)/2}{2}$
- $\bullet |X|^{\frac{k-3}{2}}$



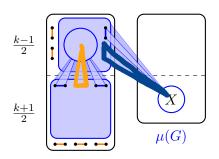
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- $\bullet \binom{(k+1)/2}{2} + \binom{(k-1)/2}{2}$
- \bullet $|X| \frac{k-3}{2}$

$$\binom{(k+1)/2}{2} + \binom{(k-1)/2}{2} + |X| \frac{k-3}{2} \ge \tau(G)$$



$$\lfloor \frac{(k+1)/2}{2} \rfloor \cdot \frac{k-1}{2} \ge \frac{k-1}{4} \cdot \frac{k-1}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
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\geq |X| \frac{k-3}{4}
\end{array}$$

$$\frac{k+1}{2}$$

$$\frac{k-1}{2}$$

$$c_k$$

$$\tau(G)$$

$$\bullet \binom{(k+1)/2}{2} + \binom{(k-1)/2}{2}$$

$$\bullet |X|^{\frac{k-3}{2}}$$

$$\mu(G) \ge \frac{k-1}{2} \cdot \frac{k-1}{4} + |X| \frac{k-3}{4}$$

$$\binom{(k+1)/2}{2} + \binom{(k-1)/2}{2} + |X| \frac{k-3}{2} \ge \tau(G)$$

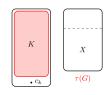
$$2\mu(G) \geq \tau(G)$$

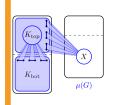
Proof Sketch: Cases

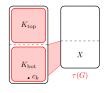
$$|X| \ge k/2$$

k even



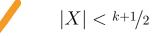


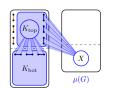




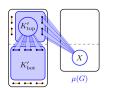
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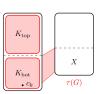












Conclusion

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- interval graphs
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Thank you for your attention.