Forbidden Tournaments and the Orientation (Completion) Problem

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28th SEG workshop on Combinatorics, Graph Theory, and Algorithms



Santiago G.P. Forbidden Tournaments and the Orientation Problem



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k-COL: On input graph *G* decide if there is a *k*-vertex colouring without monochromatic edges





H-COL: On input graph *G* decide if there is a homomorphism $f: G \rightarrow H$





D-COL: On input digraph (hypergraph) *G* decide if there is a homomorphism $f: G \rightarrow D$







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Feder-Vardi (1999)



Forbid homomorphically

P vs. NP-complete dichotomy Feder-Vardi (1999) + Bulatuv, Zhuk (2017) Bodirsky-Madelain-Mottet (2021)

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Example 1 (Robbins 1939)

A graph G is 2-edge-connected if and only if it admits a strongly connected orientation.

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Example 2 (definition)

A graph G is a comparability graph if and only if it admits a transitive orientation.

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Example 3 (Roy-Gallai-Hasse-Vitaver Theorem)

A graph G is k-colourable if and only if it admits an orientation with no directed walk of length k.

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Example 2 (Definition)

A graph G is a comparability graph if and only if it admits an \mathcal{F} -free orientation.



Further examples

Proper circular-arc graphs

- Proper Helly circular-arc graphs
- 3-colourable comparability graphs
- Star forests
- Unicyclic graphs
- k-colourable graphs
- C_{2k+1}-colourable graphs

$\mathcal F\text{-}\mathsf{free}$ orientation problem:

On input graph G decide if there is an \mathcal{F} -free orientation of G







$\mathcal F\text{-}\mathsf{free}$ orientation completion

problem (Bang-Jensen, Huang, Zhu (2017)): On input partially oriented graph G decide if there is an \mathcal{F} -free orientation completion of G



Example 1: Every tournament in \mathcal{F} has a directed cycle



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Remark: \mathcal{F} -free orientation problem is trivial

But: Orientation completion not necessarily trivial.

Example 2: *T*₃-free orientation (completion) problem.





Code orientations of *G* as solutions to the sys. lin. eq. over \mathbb{Z}_2

$$x_{ij} + x_{ji} = 0$$
 for $ij \in E$

Example 2: *T*₃-free orientation (completion) problem.





Code orientations of *G* as solutions to the sys. lin. eq. over \mathbb{Z}_2

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Example 2: *T*₃-free orientation (completion) problem.





$$x_{12} = 1, x_{13} = 1, x_{23} = 1, x_{24} = 1, x_{34} = 1$$

 $x_{21} = 0, x_{31} = 0, x_{32} = 0, x_{42} = 0, x_{43} = 0$



For each triangle i, j, k the following equality holds:

$$x_{ij}+x_{jk}=0.$$

There exists a triangle i, j, k such that the following equality holds:

$$x_{ij} + x_{jk} = 1$$
 for instance $x_{23} + x_{31} = 1$.



For each triangle i, j, k the following equality holds:

$$x_{ij}+x_{jk}=0$$



Code T_3 -free orientation of G as solutions to

$$x_{ij} + x_{ji} = 0$$
 for $ij \in E$
 $x_{ij} + x_{jk} = 0$ for $ijk \in T$



For each triangle i, j, k the following equality holds:

$$x_{ij}+x_{jk}=0.$$



Code T_3 -free orientation completions of G as solutions to

$$\begin{aligned} x_{ij} + x_{ji} &= 0 \text{ for } ij \in E \\ x_{ij} + x_{jk} &= 0 \text{ for } ijk \in T \\ x_{ij} &= 1 \text{ for } ij \in A \end{aligned}$$



For each i, j, k, l in C_3^- and in C_3^+ $x_{ij} + x_{jk} + x_{kl} + x_{li} = 1.$



$$x_{12} + x_{24} + x_{43} + x_{31} = 0$$
 in T_4
 $x_{12} + x_{24} + x_{43} + x_{31} = 0$ in TC_4

Example 3: The $\{T_4, TC_4\}$ -free orientation (completion) problem is in P

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Example 3: The $\{T_4, TC_4\}$ -free orientation (completion) problem is in P

Question: For which finite sets of tournaments \mathcal{F} the \mathcal{F} -free does this method work?

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\$\vec{C}_3\$-free tournaments are not preserved by the minority operation.
\$\vec{T}_3\$-free tournaments are preserved by the minority operation.



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Lemma

Let \mathcal{F} be a finite set of tournaments. The \mathcal{F} -free orientations of a graph G correspond to the solution space of some system of linear equations if and only if the \mathcal{F} -free tournaments are preserved by the minority operation.

Example 4: The \overrightarrow{C}_3 -free orientation completion problem is NP-complete

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Is that all?

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Theorem (Bodirsky, G.P., 24+)

For every finite set of finite tournaments $\ensuremath{\mathcal{F}}$ one of the following cases holds.

- 1. \mathcal{F}_f is preserved by the minority operation. In this case, the \mathcal{F} -free orientation completions of a partially oriented graph G correspond to the solution space of a system of linear equations over \mathbb{Z}_2 .
- 2. Otherwise, $\mathcal{F}\text{-}\mathsf{free}$ orientation completion problem is NP-complete.

In the first case, the \mathcal{F} -free orientation completion problem is in P.

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Corollary

If every tournament in ${\cal F}$ contains a directed cycle, then the ${\cal F}\mbox{-free}$ orientation completion problem is NP-complete.



Theorem (Bodirsky, G.P., 24+)

For every finite set of finite tournaments $\ensuremath{\mathcal{F}}$ one of the following cases holds.

- 1. ${\cal F}$ contains no transitive tournament. In this case, every graph admits an ${\cal F}\text{-}{\rm free}$ orientation.
- 2. \mathcal{F}_f is preserved by the minority operation. In this case, the \mathcal{F} -free orientations of a graph G correspond to the solution space of a system of linear equations over \mathbb{Z}_2 .
- 3. Otherwise, \mathcal{F} -free orientation problem is NP-complete.

In cases 1 and 2, the \mathcal{F} -free orientation problem is in P.

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Corollary

The T_k -free orientation problem is NP-complete for each $k \ge 4$.



If the \mathcal{F} -free orientation problem is NP-hard, then it is still NP-hard for $K_{\rm f}$ -free graphs.



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