

# Efficient Solutions for the $\lambda$ -coloring Problem on Classes of Graphs

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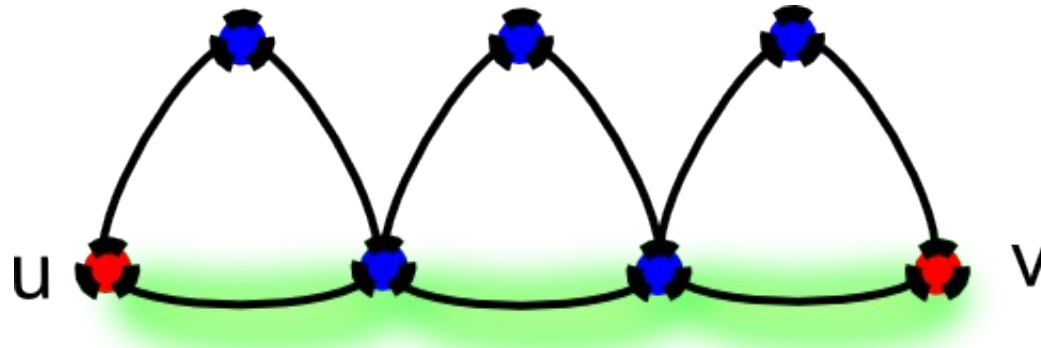
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**LIPN – Université Paris-Nord**  
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## distance

▶  $d(u, v)$  = **distance** between **u** and **v**.

▶ **diameter** =  $\max\{d(u, v) \mid u, v \in V(G)\}$



▶ Ex:  $d(u, v) = 3$ ; **diameter** of the graph is **3**.

# coloring

**coloring** of a graph  $G = (V, E)$

$f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^*$  , such that

if  $uv \in E$  , then  $f(u) \neq f(v)$

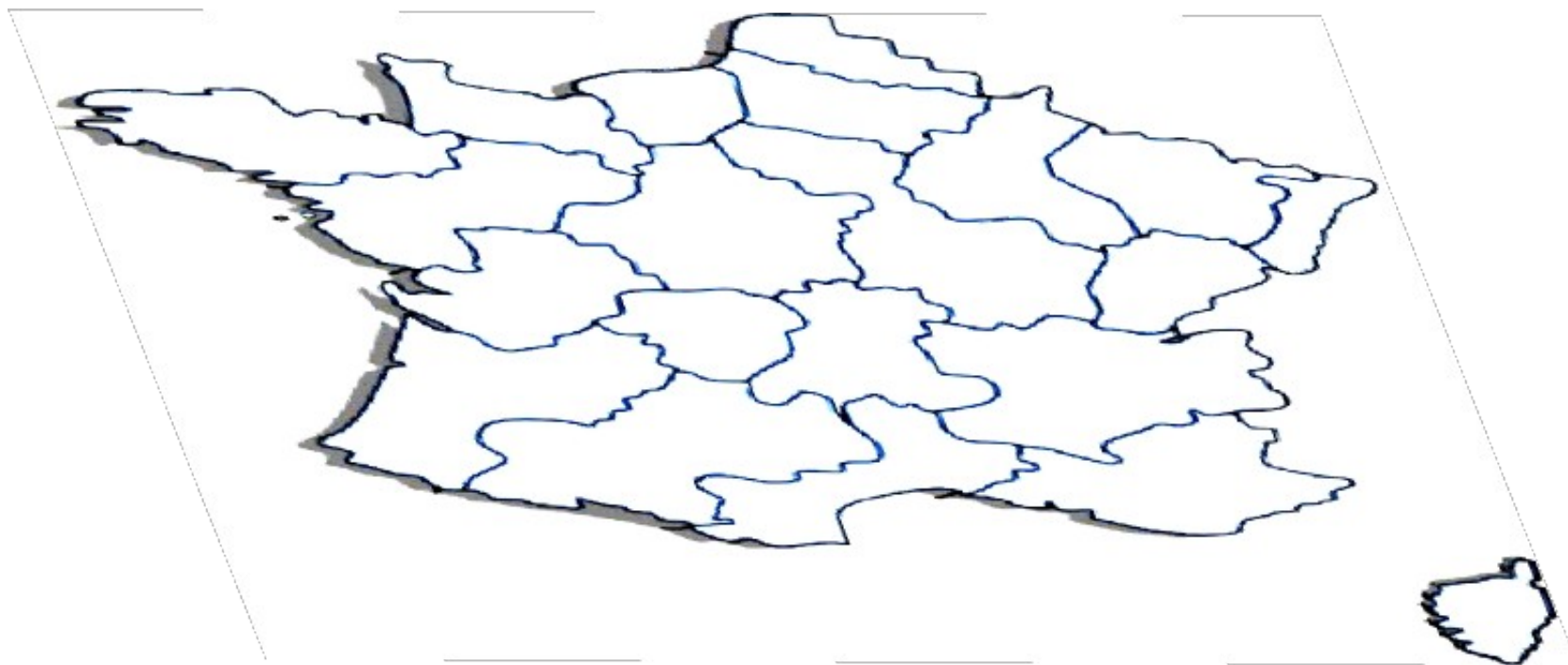
# $\lambda$ -coloring

$\lambda$ -coloring of a graph  $G = (V, E)$

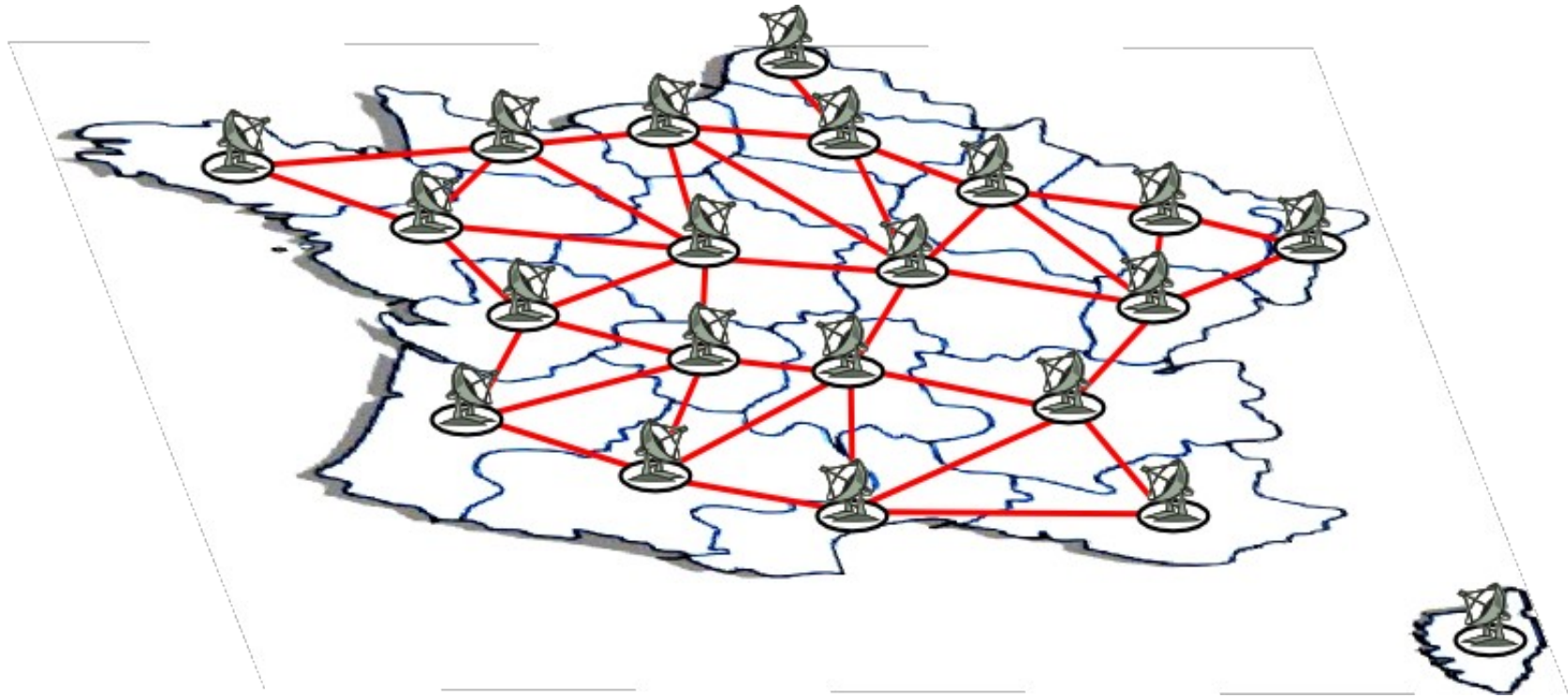
$f: V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  , such that

- ▶ if  $uv \in E$ , then  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 2$  ,
- ▶ if  $\text{dist}(u, v) = 2$ , then  $f(u) \neq f(v)$

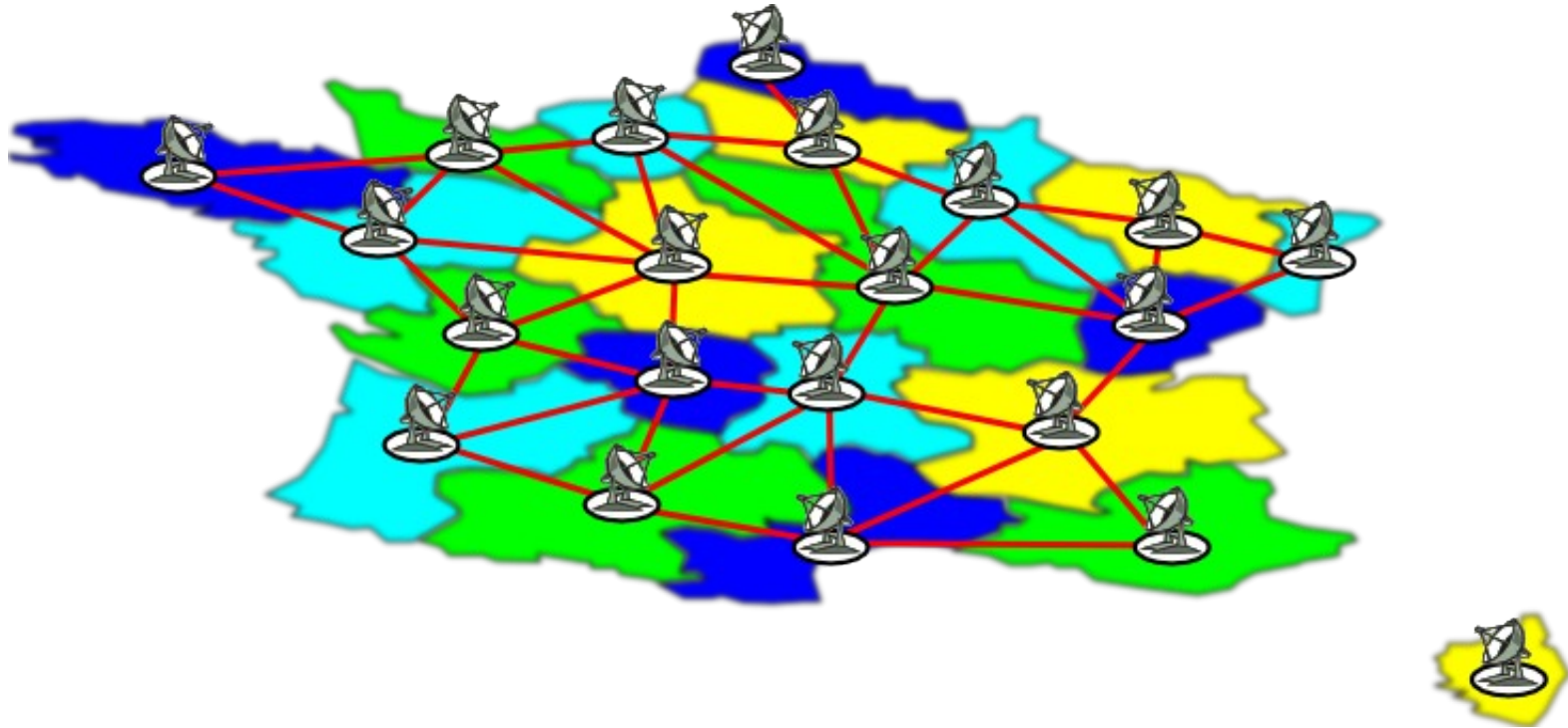
# Motivation



# Motivation

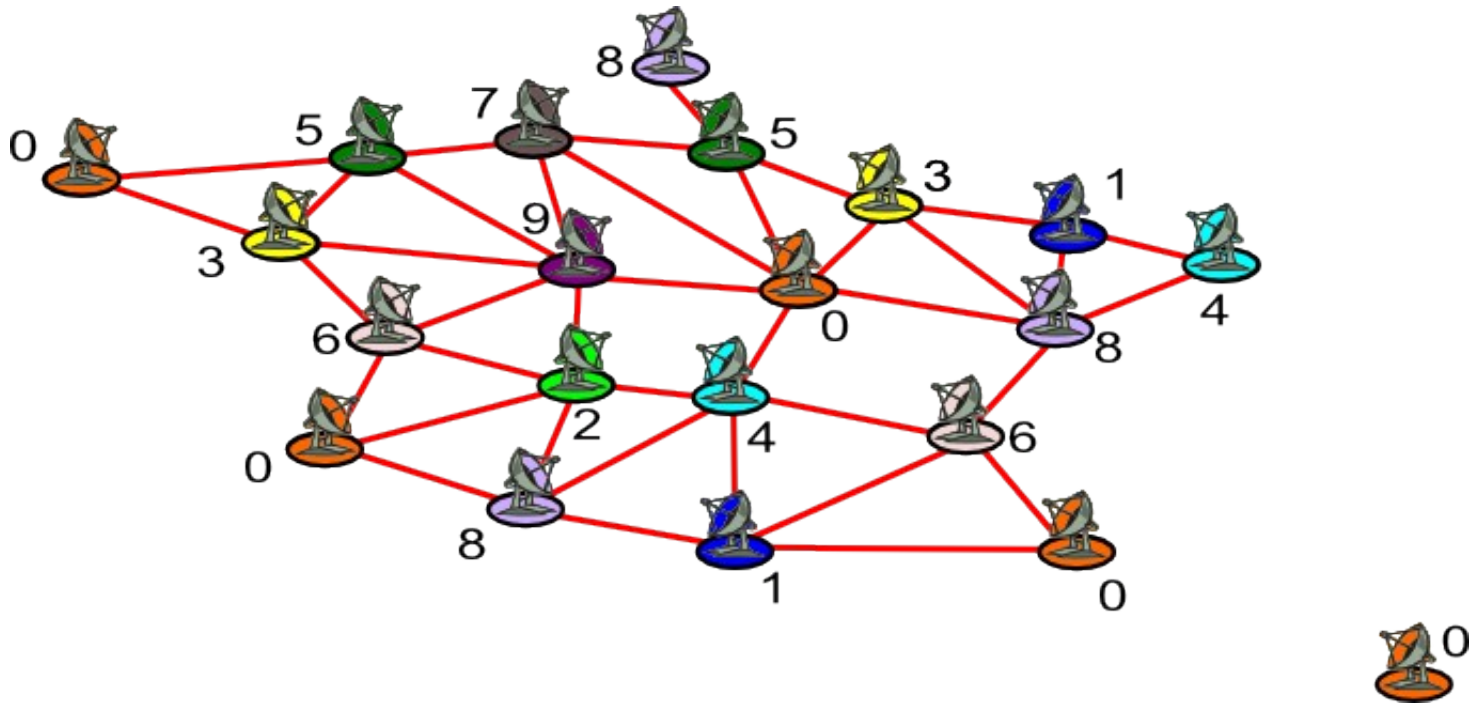


# Motivation



$$\chi(G) = 4$$

# Motivation



$$\lambda(G) = 9$$



## Decision version

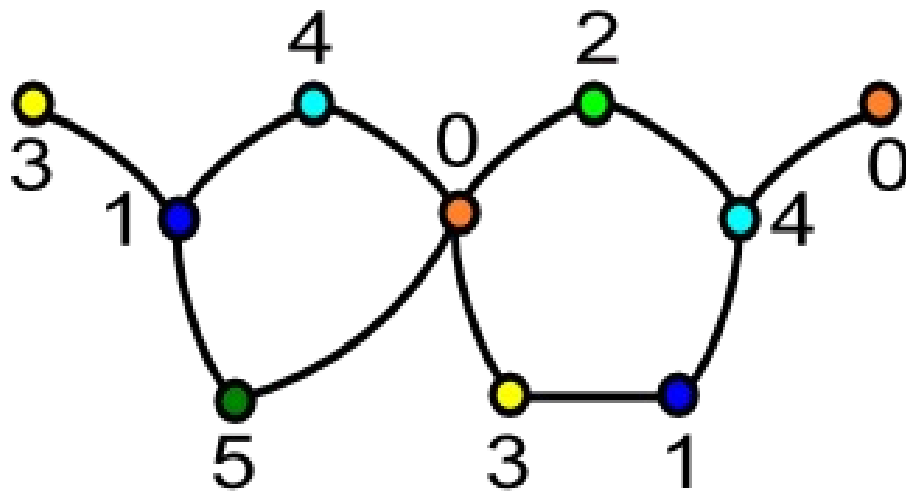
### L(2,1)-coloring Problem

Instance:  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$

Question: Is there an  $\lambda$ -coloring  $f$  of  $G$  with  
 $f: V \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$  ?

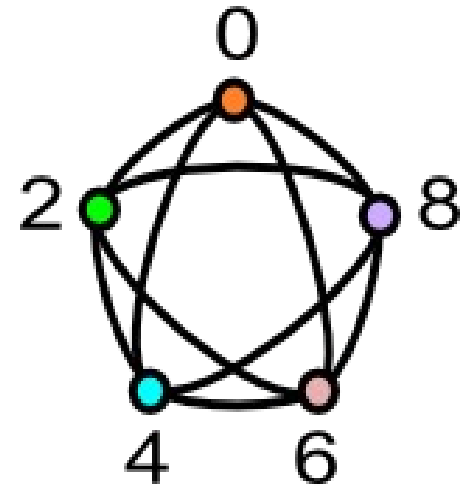
the minimum **span** is denoted  $\lambda$

# Examples



$$\lambda = 5$$

$$\lambda \geq \Delta + 1$$

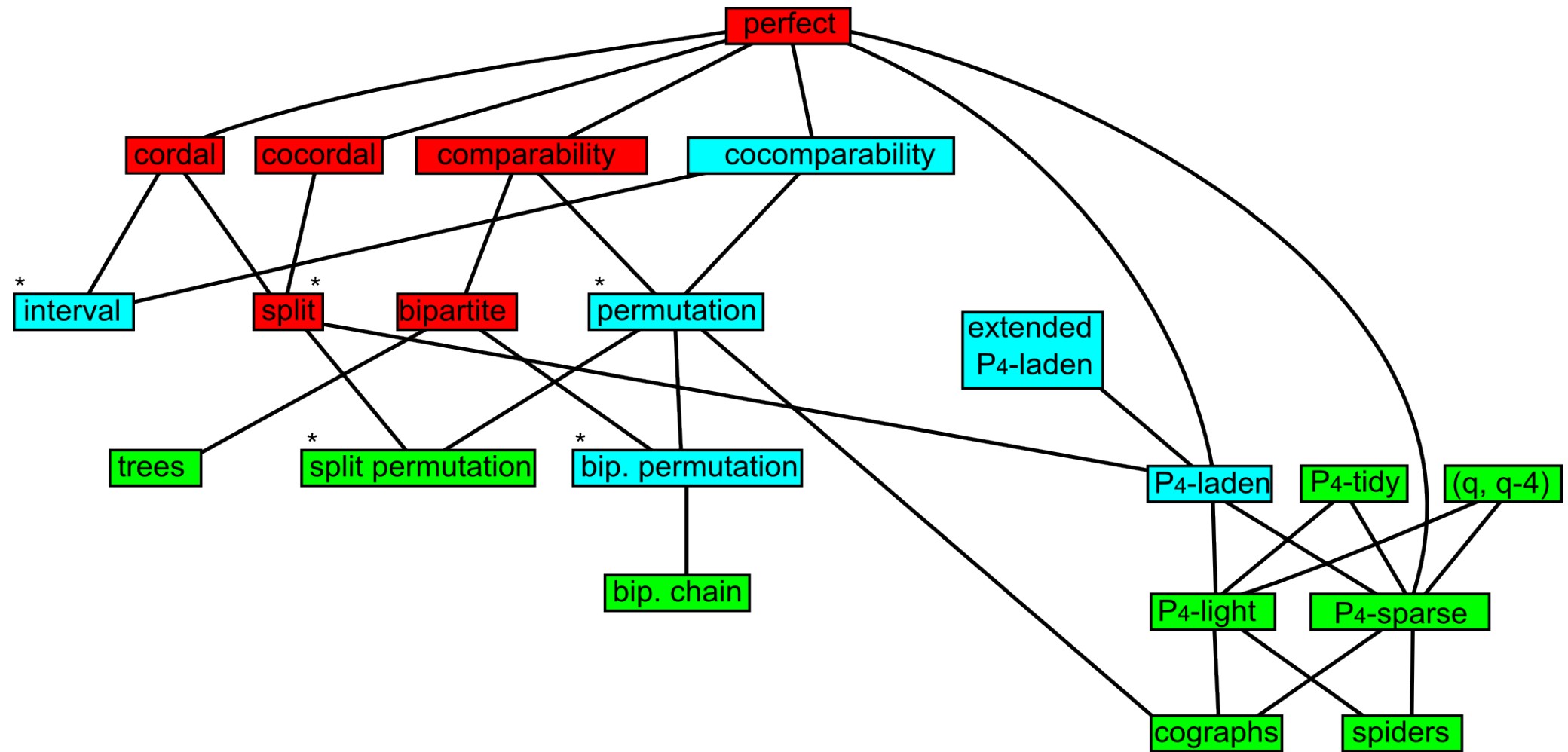


$$\lambda(K_n) = 2n - 2$$

## Known results

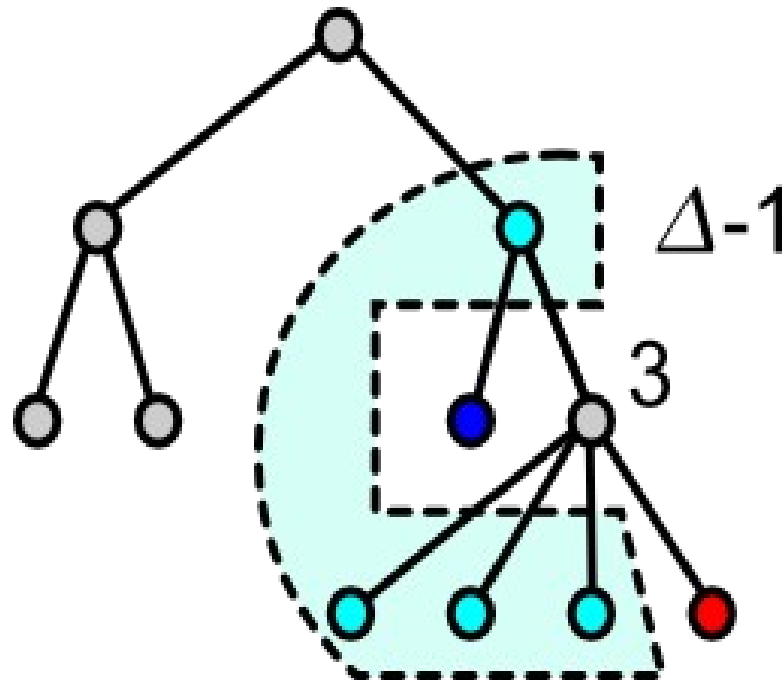
Class	Comp.	Class	Comp.
trees	<b>P</b>	diameter 2	<b>NP-c</b>
p-quasi trees	<b>P</b>	k fixed	<b>NP-c</b>
		proper interval	<b>Open</b>
bipartite chain	<b>P</b>	permutation	<b>Open</b>
bipartite planar	<b>NP-c</b>	regular grids	<b>P</b>
bipartite permutation	<b>Open</b>		
		cographs	<b>P</b>
split	<b>NP-c</b>	P4-tidy	<b>P</b>
split permutation	<b>P</b>	graphs (q, q-4), q fixed	<b>P</b>

# Known results



# Trees

►  $\lambda = \Delta + 1$  or  $\Delta + 2$

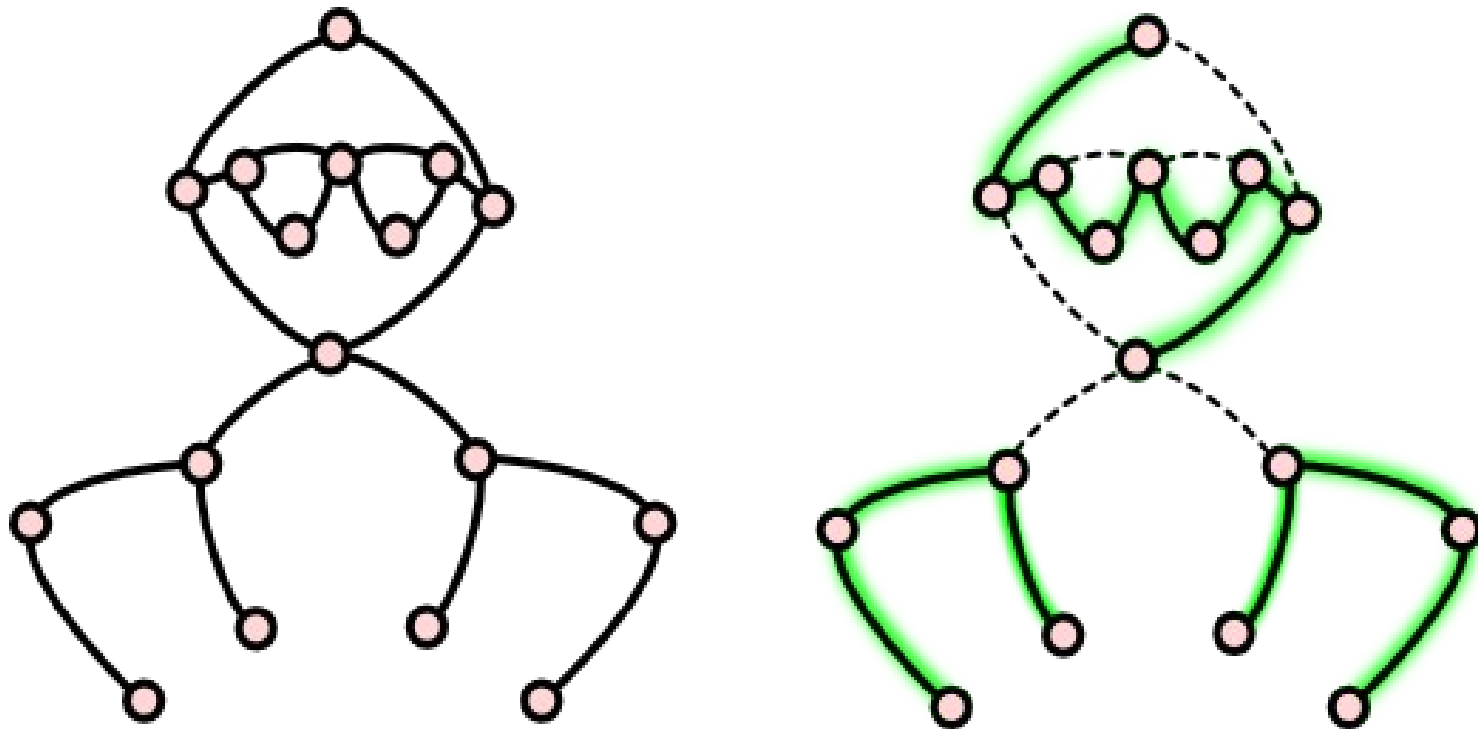


# Trees

- ▶ [Griggs e Yeh 92] **conjectured**  $\lambda$ -col. of trees was **NP-complete**.
- ▶ [Chang e Kuo 96] showed an  **$O(n\Delta^{4.5})$**  algorithm.
- ▶ [Hasunuma et al. 09] gave a **linear time** algorithm.
- ▶ It is still **open** a **structural characterization** of trees.

# $pv(G)$

- ▶  $pv(G)$  = minimum number of disjoint paths



$$pv(G) = 3$$

## $\lambda(G)$ and $pv(G)$

[Griggs e Yeh 92]

▶  $\lambda(G \wedge K_1) = n \iff G^c$  is hamiltonian

[Georges et al. 94]

▶  $pv(G^c) \geq 2 \iff \lambda = n + pv(G^c) - 2$

▶  $pv(G^c) = 1 \iff \lambda \leq n - 1$



## $(q, q-4)$ graphs

A graph  $G$  is  $(q, q-4)$  if **each set** of  **$q$  vertices** induces at most  **$q - 4$   $P_4$ 's**. [Babel e Olariu]

Ex.:  $q = 4$  a.k.a. **cografos** ( $G$  is cograph  $\Leftrightarrow P_4$ -free)

$q = 5$  a.k.a.  **$P_4$ -sparse**

$q = 7$  superclass of  **$P_4$ -lite** ( $P_4$ -tidy and perfect)

## p-componente separável

Teo (Jamison e Olariu): If  $G$  is  $(q, q-4)$ , then:

- (i) **union** of two  $(q, q-4)$  graphs or;
- (ii) **join** of two  $(q, q-4)$  graphs or;
- (iii) **spider** where the head is a  $(q, q-4)$  graph or;
- (iv) it has a **separable p-component**  $H = (H_1, H_2)$ ,

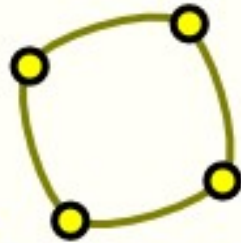
$$|H| \leq q,$$

$$G[V \setminus H_2] = G[V \setminus H] \wedge G[H_1],$$

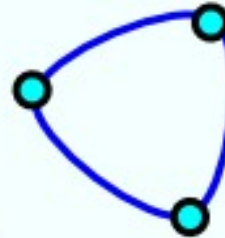
$$G[V \setminus H_1] = G[V \setminus H] \cup G[H_2].$$

# Union and Join

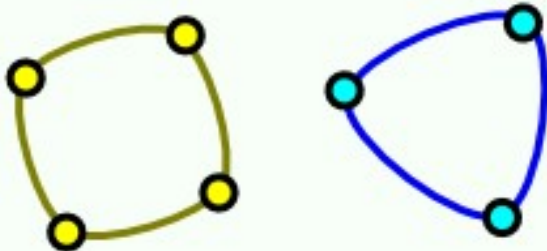
G



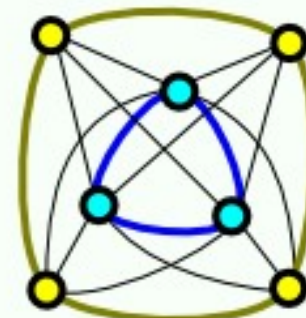
H



$G \cup H$



$G \wedge H$

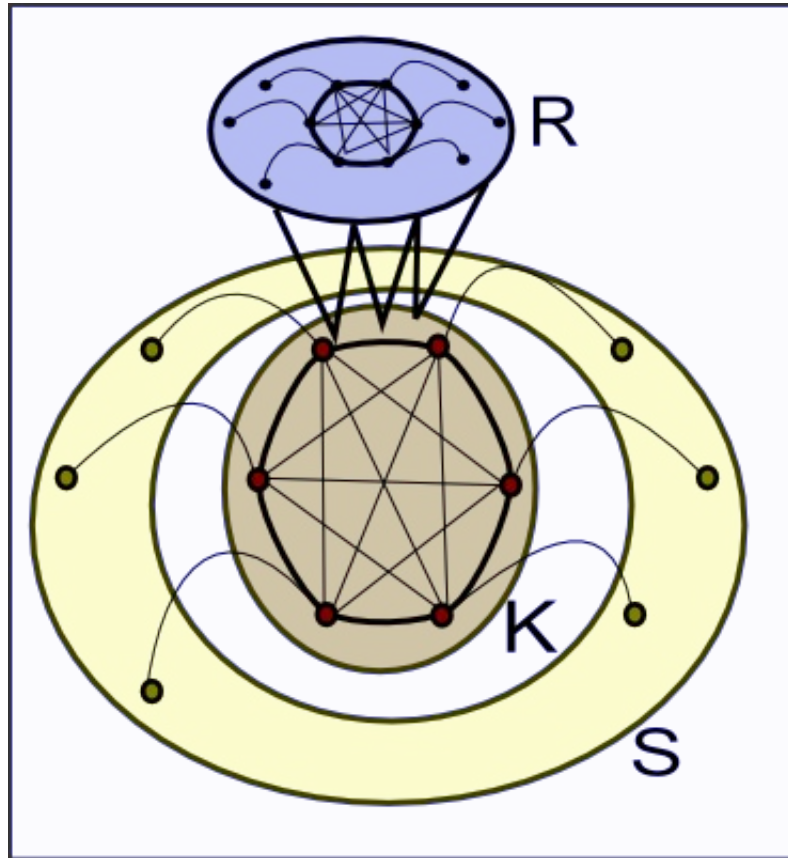


# Spider graph

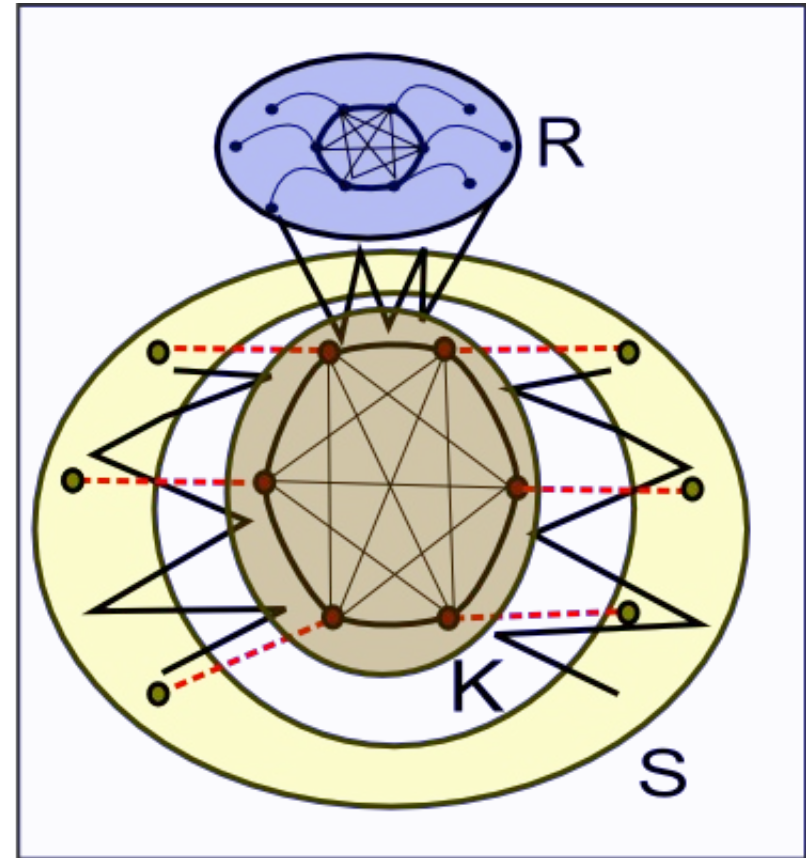
If  $G = (V, E)$  is a **spider**, then

- ▶  $V = S \cup K \cup R$ .  
 $S$  is a stable set.  
 $K$  is a clique,  
 $|S| = |K|$
- ▶  $G[R \cup K] = G[R] \wedge G[K]$
- ▶ bijective function  $f: S \rightarrow K$ 
  - (a) edges: **thin spider**
  - (b) no edges: **thick spider**

# Thin spider and Thick spider

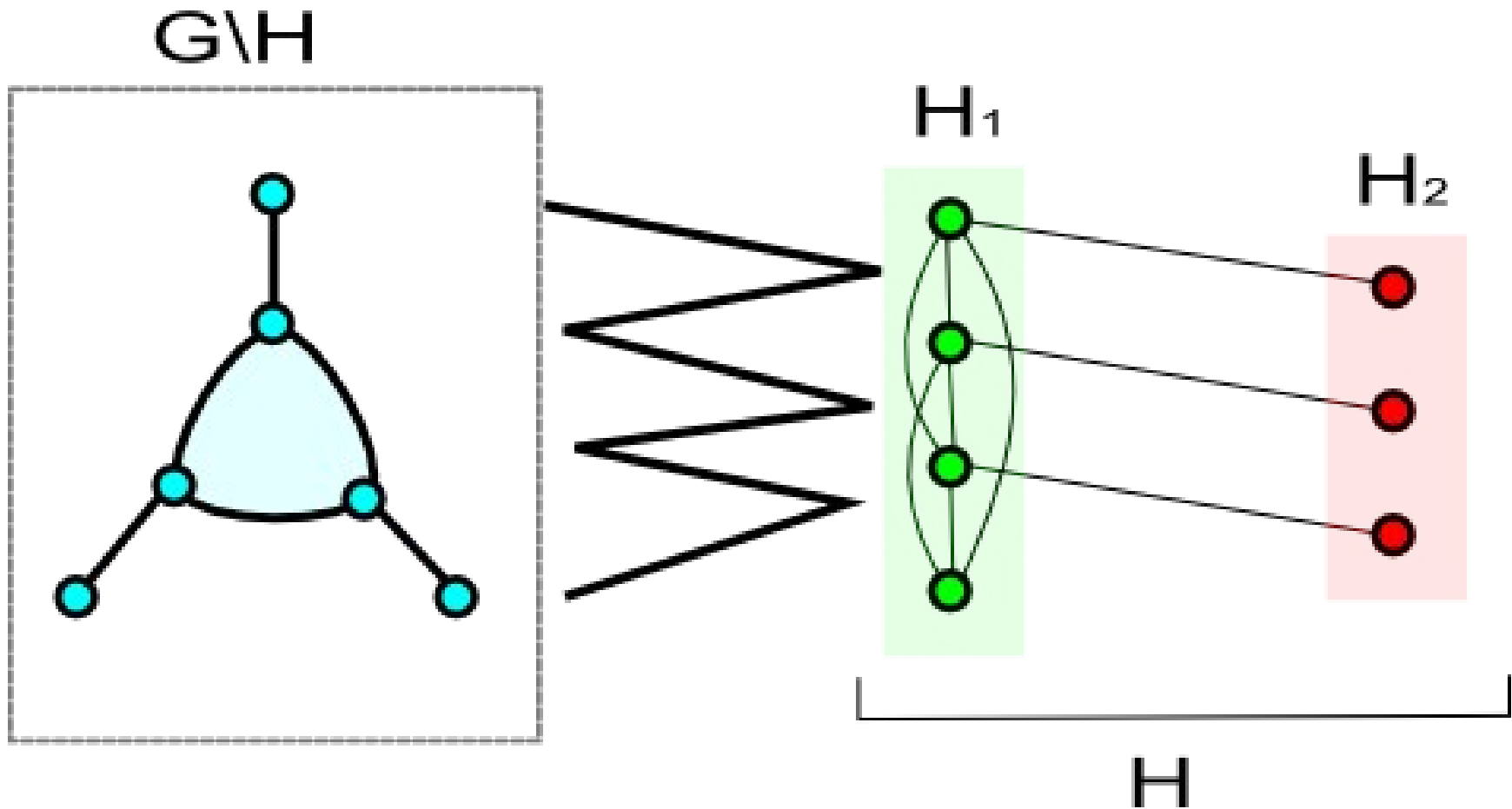


(a)



(b)

# Separable p-component



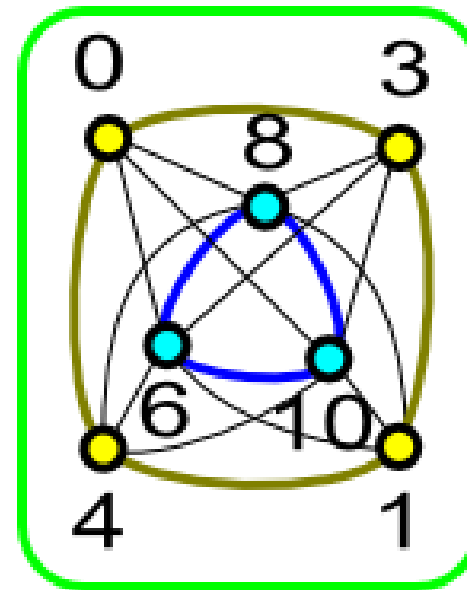
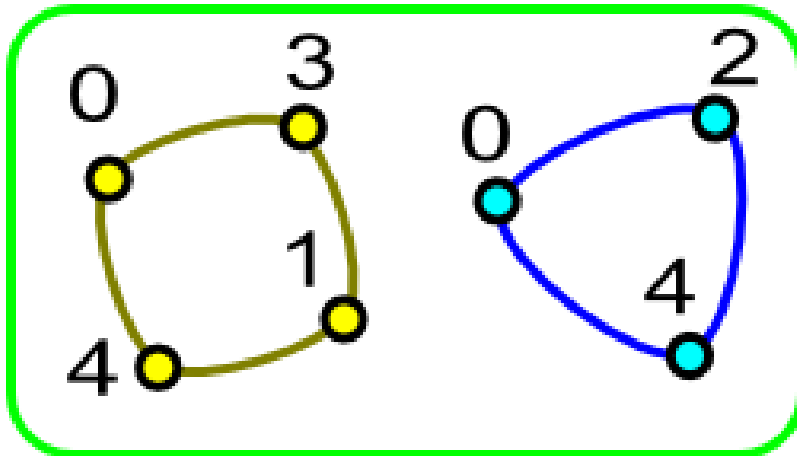
## $\lambda$ -coloring of union and join

►  $\lambda$ -coloring of  $G \cup H$

$$\lambda = \max\{ \lambda(G), \lambda(H) \}$$

►  $\lambda$ -coloring  $G \wedge H$

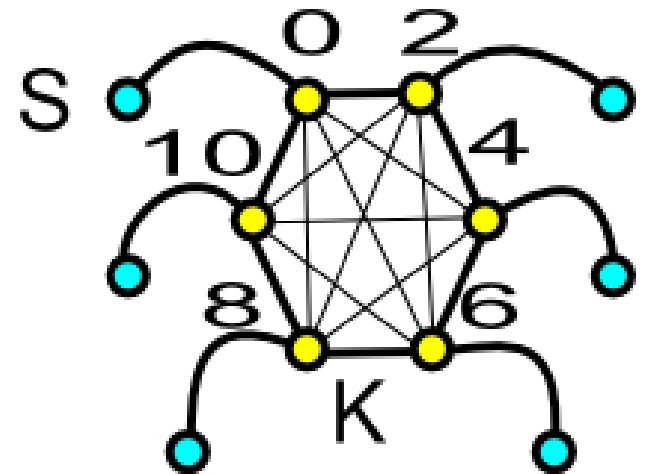
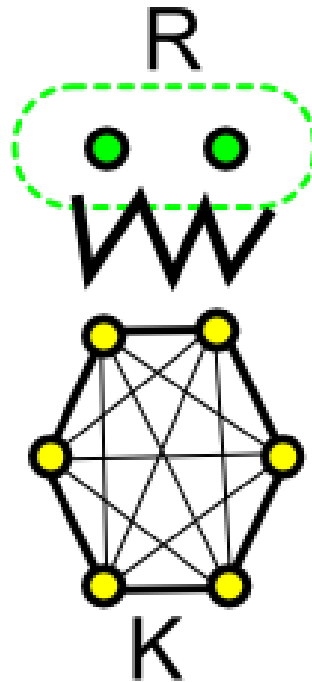
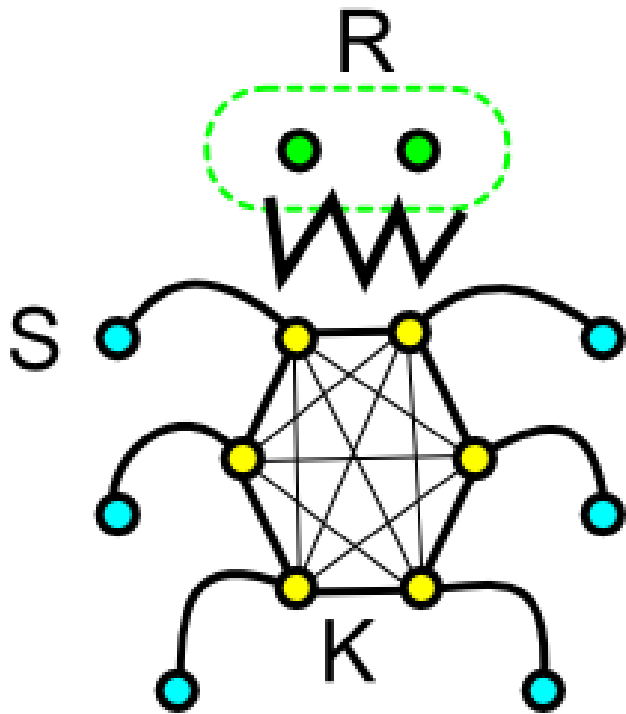
$$\lambda = \lambda'(G) + \lambda'(H) + 2$$



# $\lambda$ -coloring of thin spider

Teo If  $G$  is thin spider with  $|K| > 3$ .

$$\text{then } \lambda = \max\{|R| - 1, \lambda(G[R])\} + 2|K|$$



$$|K| - 1 \text{ em } \{0, \dots, 2|K| - 2\}$$



## $\lambda$ -coloring of thick spider

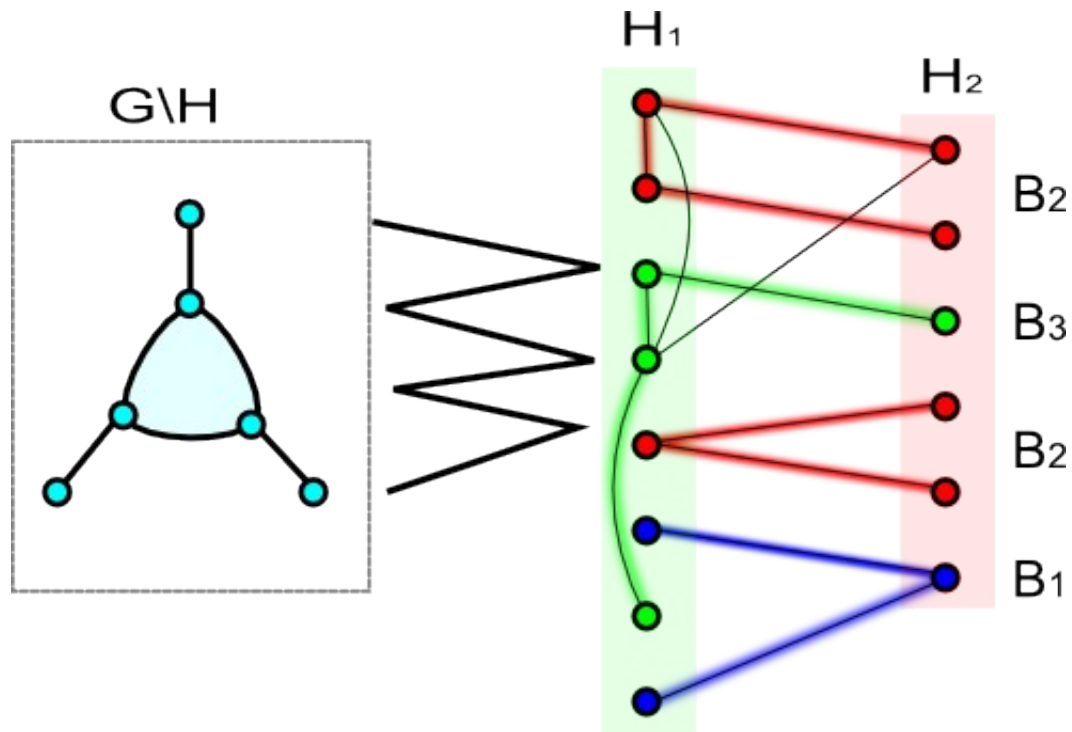
**Teo** If  $G$  is thick spider with  $|K| \geq 3$

$$\lambda = \begin{cases} \lambda(G[R]) + 2|K| & \text{if } \lambda(G[R]) \geq |R| + \left\lceil \frac{|K|}{2} \right\rceil - 2 \\ n + \left\lceil \frac{|K|}{2} \right\rceil - 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## pv(G) in separable p-component

**Teo** If **G** has a **separable p-component**  $H = (H_1, H_2)$ , then

$$pv(G) = \min_{\psi \in CH} \left\{ \max \left\{ pv(G \setminus H) - |B_1(\psi)|, \left\lceil \frac{|B_3(\psi)|}{2} \right\rceil, 1 \right\} + |B_2(\psi)| \right\}$$



# FPT

**FPT**(fixed parameter tractable) in  $q(G)$

$q(G)$  = smallest  $q$  for which  $G$  is  $(q, q-4)$  graph

## Algorithm FPT in $q(G)$

Linear algorithms for  $(q, q-4)$  graphs with  $q$  fixed

Ex:  $O(2^q n)$  or  $O(q^q n)$

## $\lambda$ -coloring of separable $p$ -component

Teo If  $G$  is  $(q, q-4)$  graph,  $q$  fixed, with a **separable  $p$ -component** then  $\lambda$  can be obtained in **linear time**.

proof.

$G^c$  is  $(q, q-4)$  graph and  $H^c$  is a separable  $p$ -component.

If  $G$  has less than  $2q$  vertices, one can obtain  $\lambda$  in  $O(2q^{4q})$ .

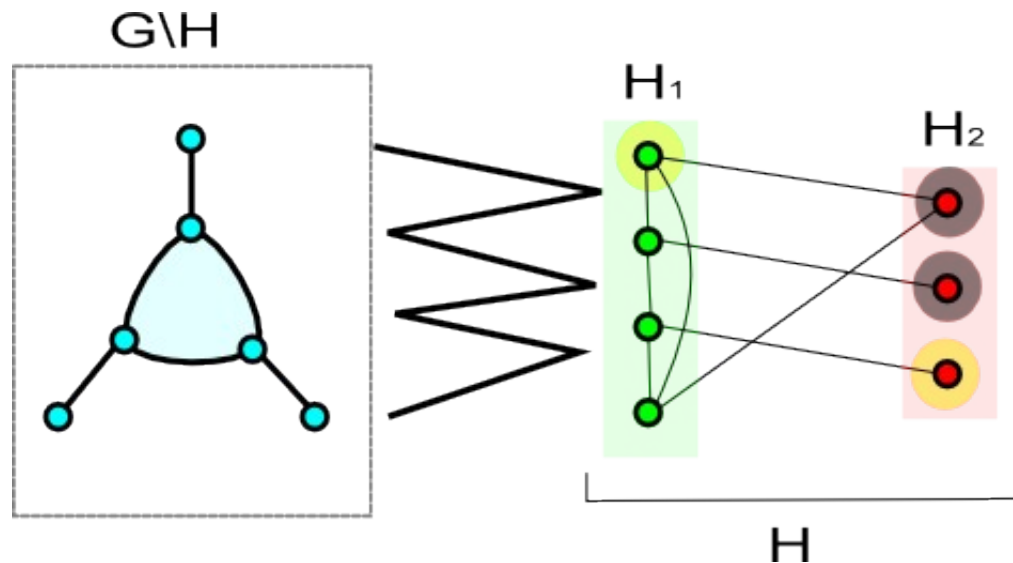
Otherwise,  $pv(G^c)$  can be obtained in  $O(n)$ , as  $|CH| \leq q^q$

## $\lambda$ -coloring of separable $p$ -component

**Teo** If  $G$  is  $(q, q-4)$  graph,  $q$  fixed, with a **separable  $p$ -component** then  $\lambda$  can be obtained in **linear time**.

proof.

If  $d(u,v) \geq 3$ , then  $u, v \in H_1 \cup H_2$ .



## $\lambda$ -coloring of separable $p$ -component

Teo If  $G$  is  $(q, q-4)$  graph,  $q$  fixed, with a **separable  $p$ -component** then  $\lambda$  can be obtained in **linear time**.

proof.

Let  $G'$  be obtained from  $G$  merging vertices in the same class.

If  $pv(G'^c) > 1$ , then  $\lambda(G') = n' + pv(G'^c) - 2$  (Georges et al.)

If  $pv(G'^c) = 1$ , then  $\lambda(G') = n' - 1$  (use hamiltonian path.)

## $\lambda$ -coloring of separable $p$ -component

Teo If  $G$  is  $(q, q-4)$  graph,  $q$  fixed, with a **separable  $p$ -component** then  $\lambda$  can be obtained in **linear time**.

proof.

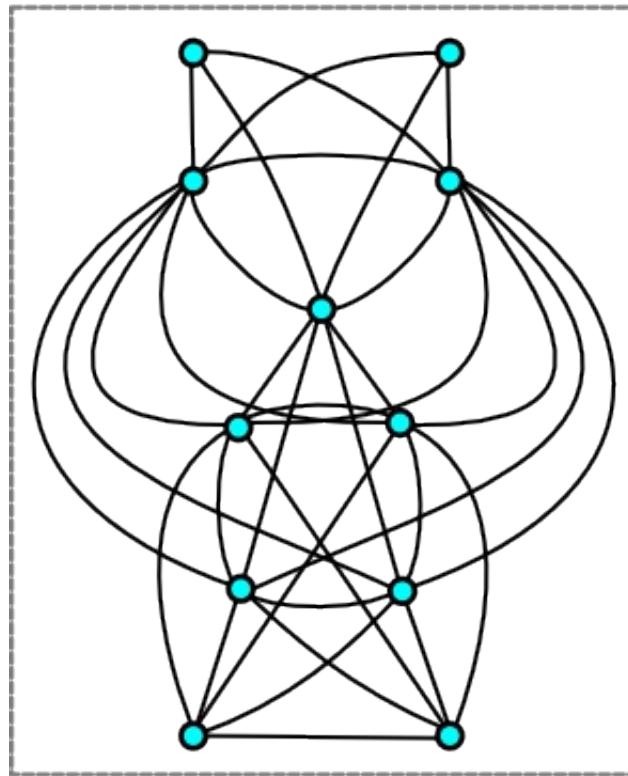
Assign the **same color** to the **merged vertices**

For each  $O(q^q)$  possible  $G'$  one can obtain  $\lambda'$ .

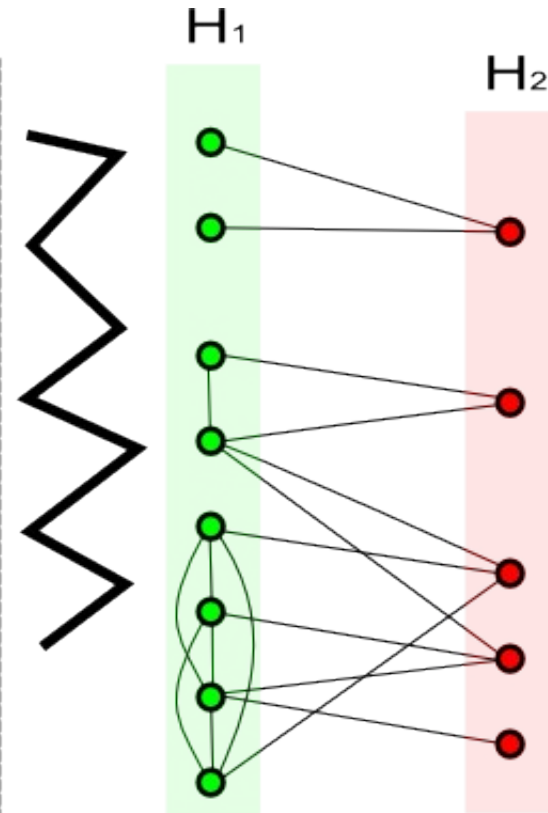
$\lambda$  will be the **minimum** among all these  $\lambda'$

**Complexity:**  $O(n 2q^{5q})$

# Example

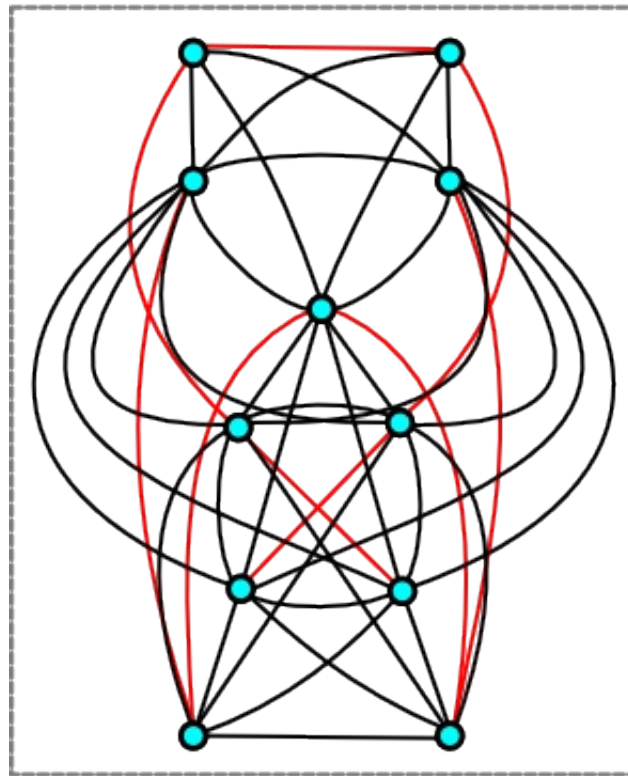


$G/H$

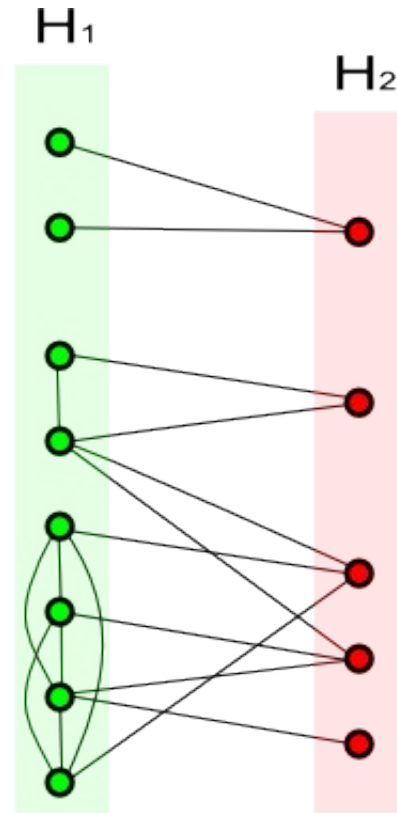




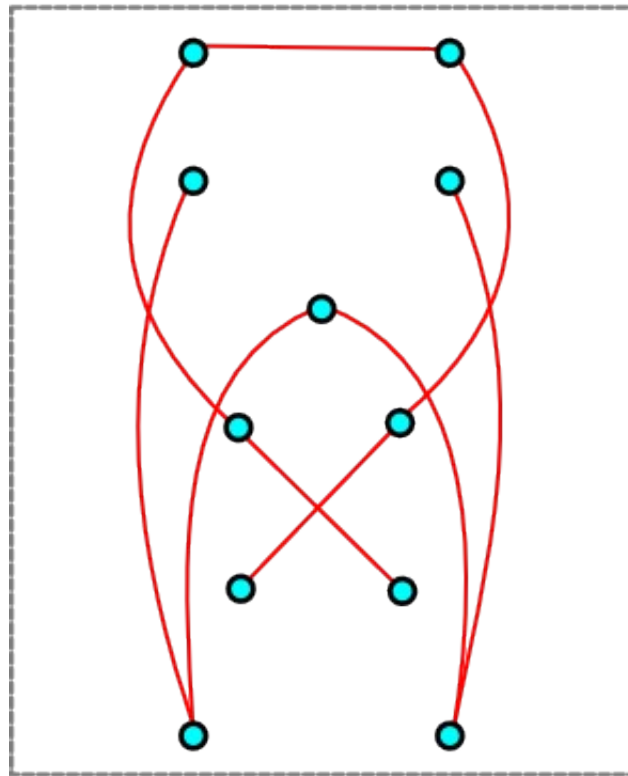
# Example



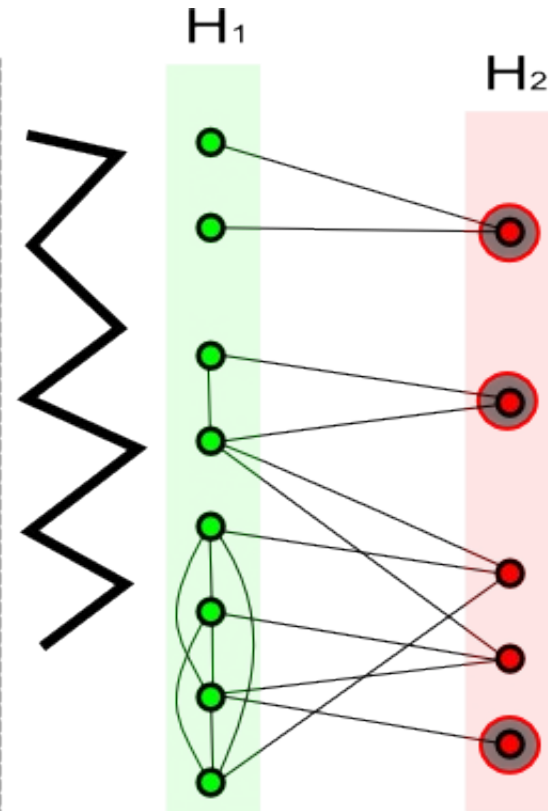
$G/H$



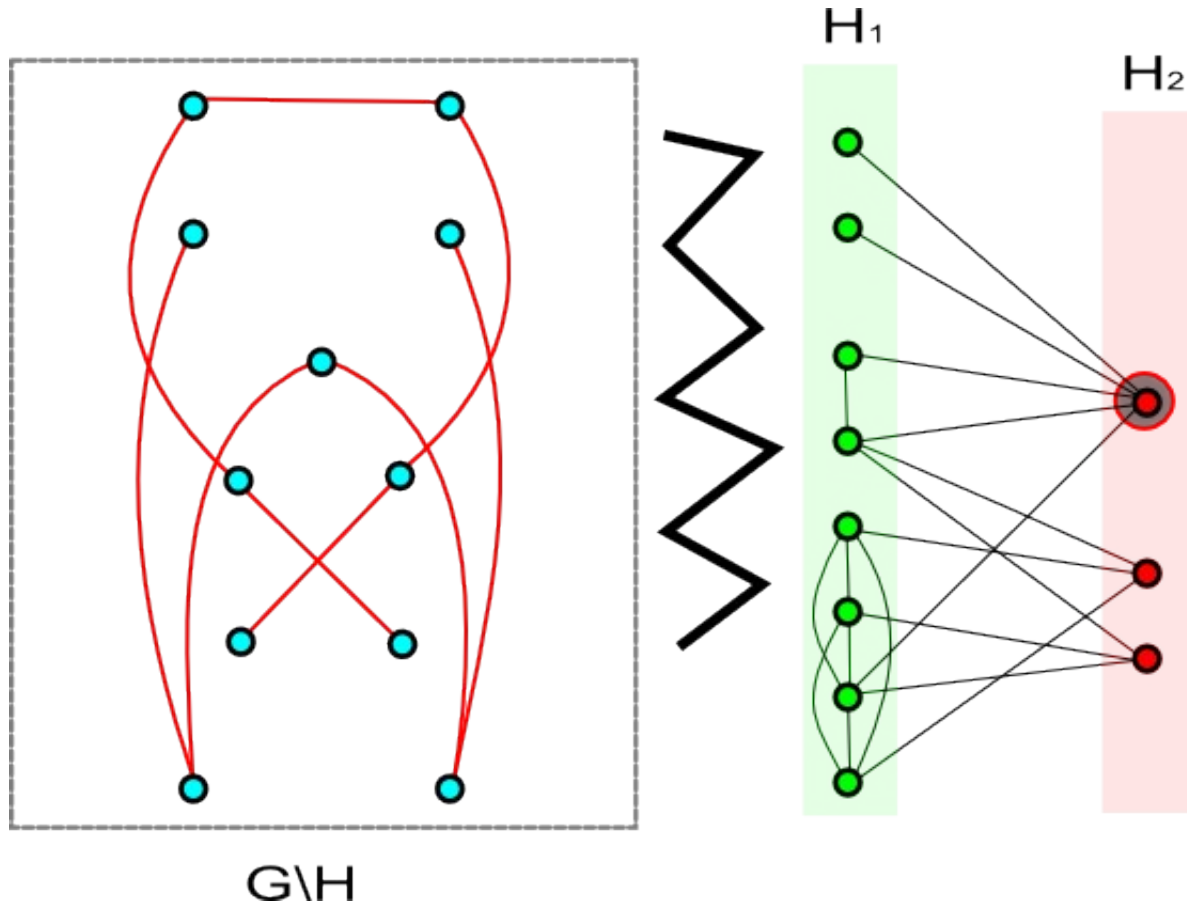
# Example



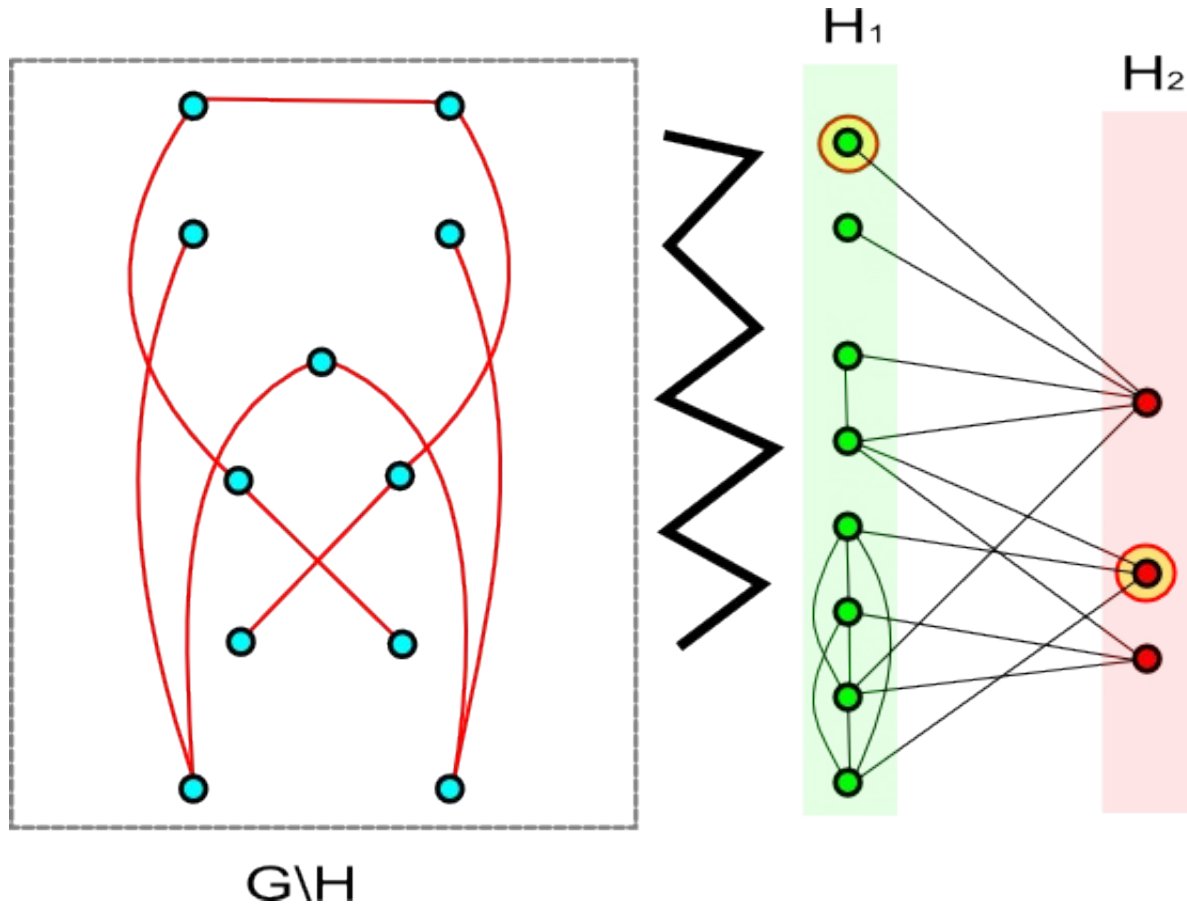
$G \setminus H$



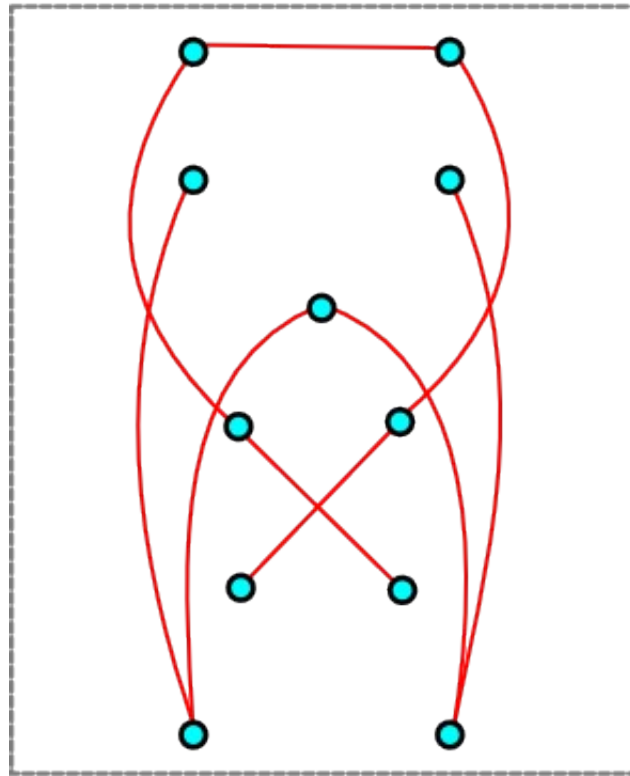
# Example



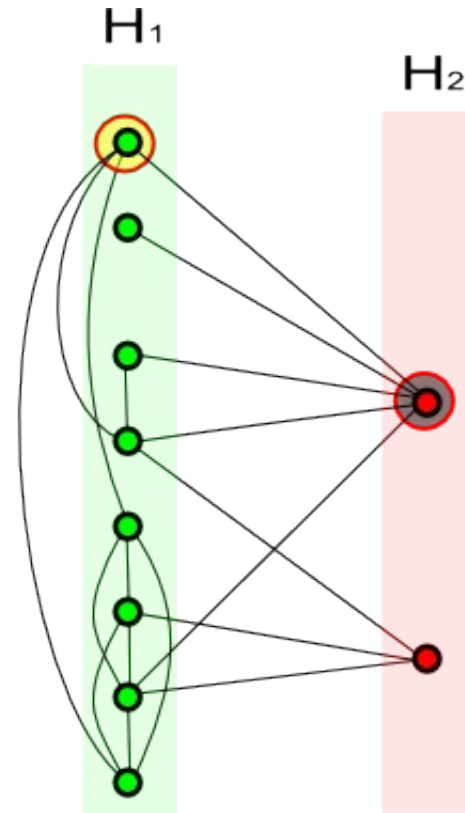
# Example



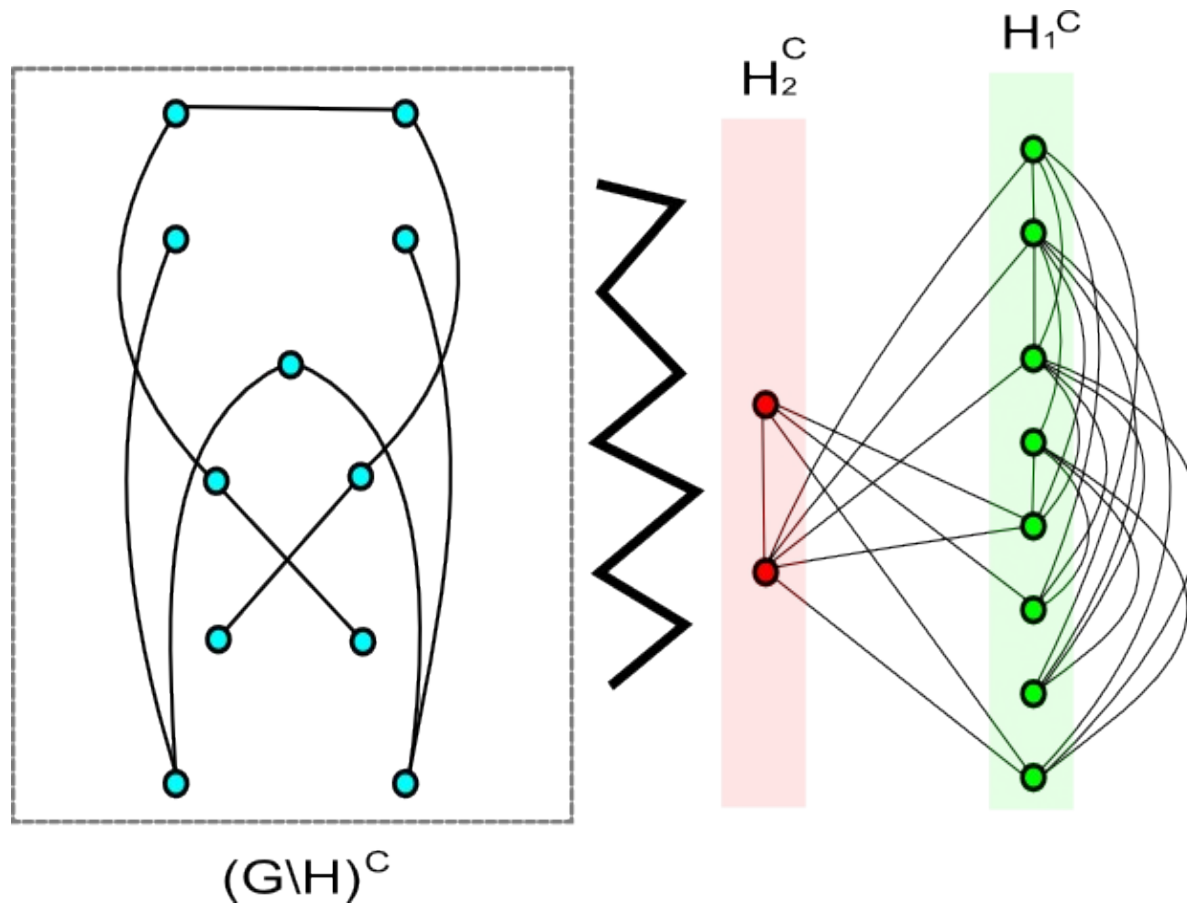
# Example



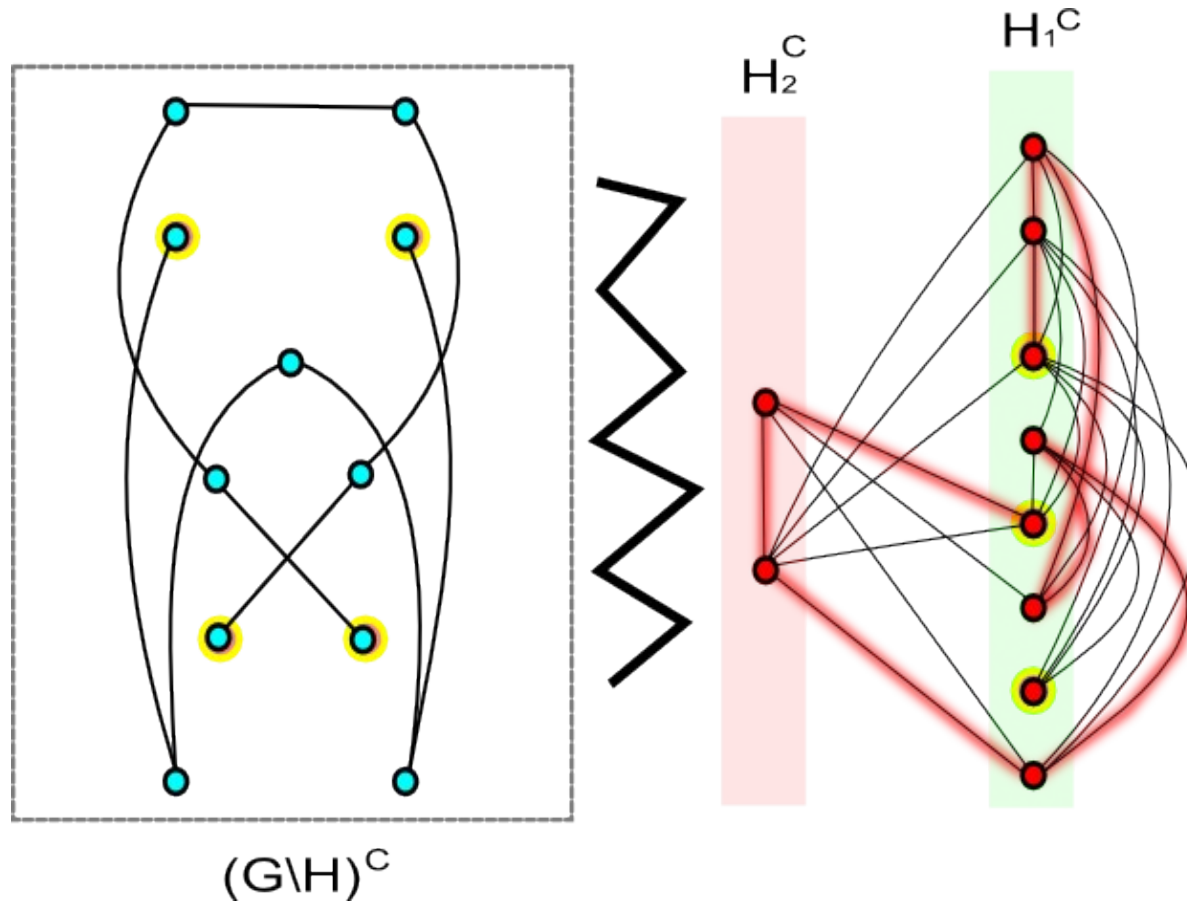
$G/H$



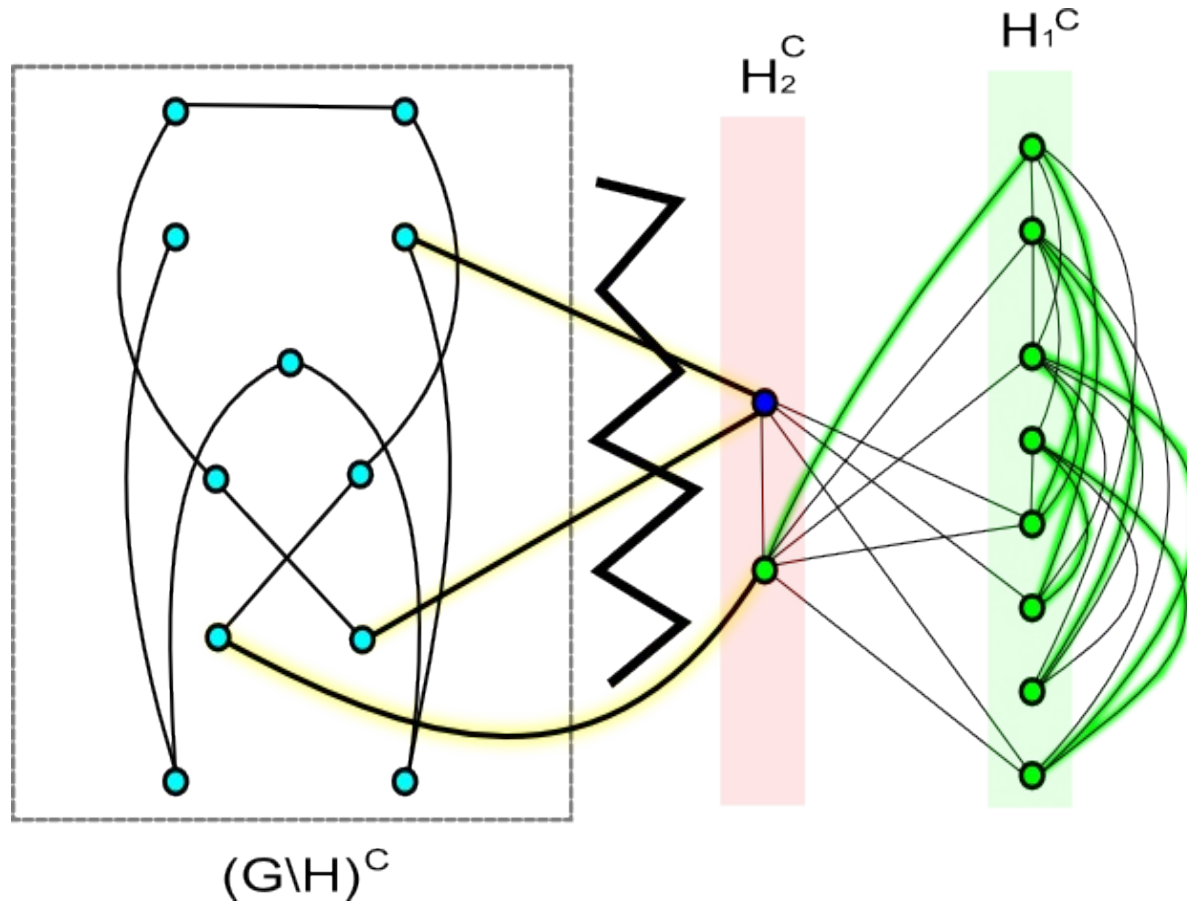
# Example



# Example

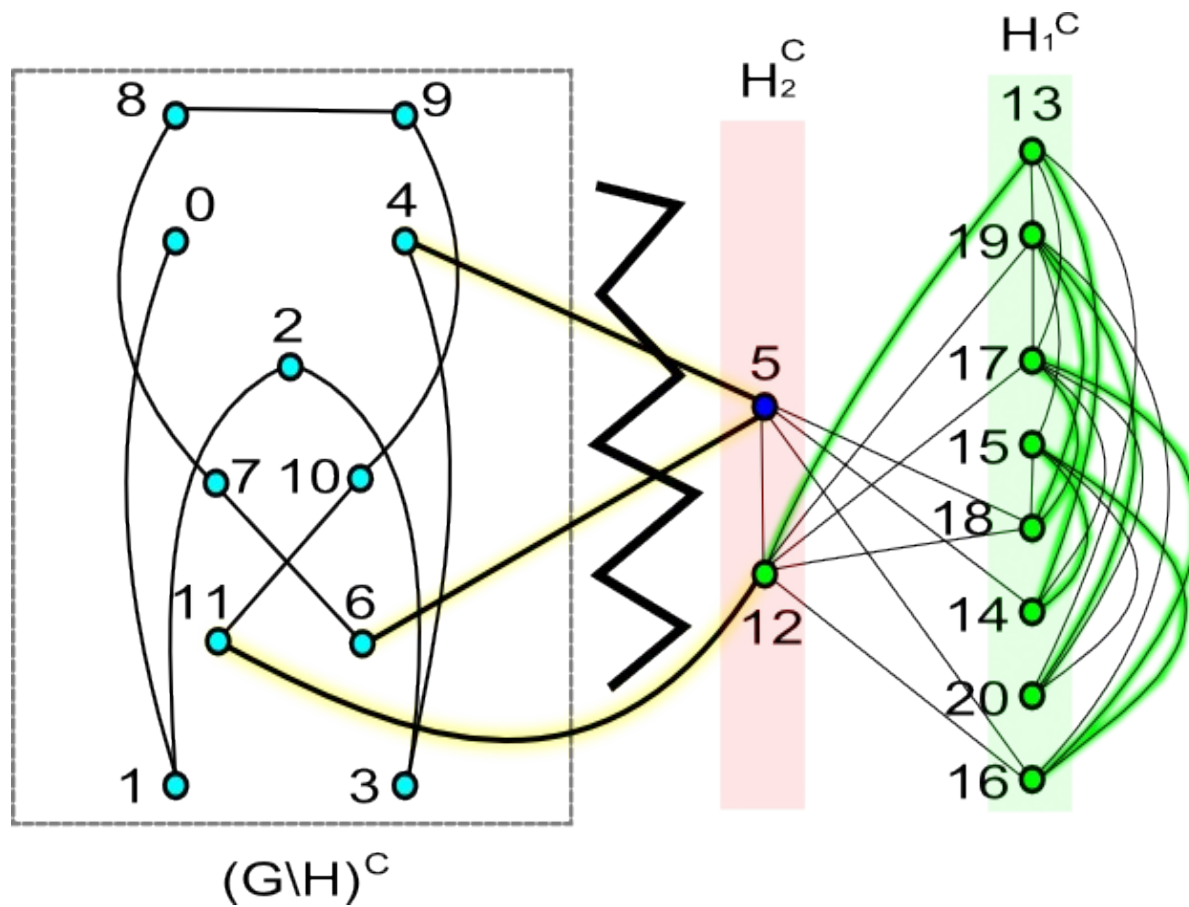


# Example

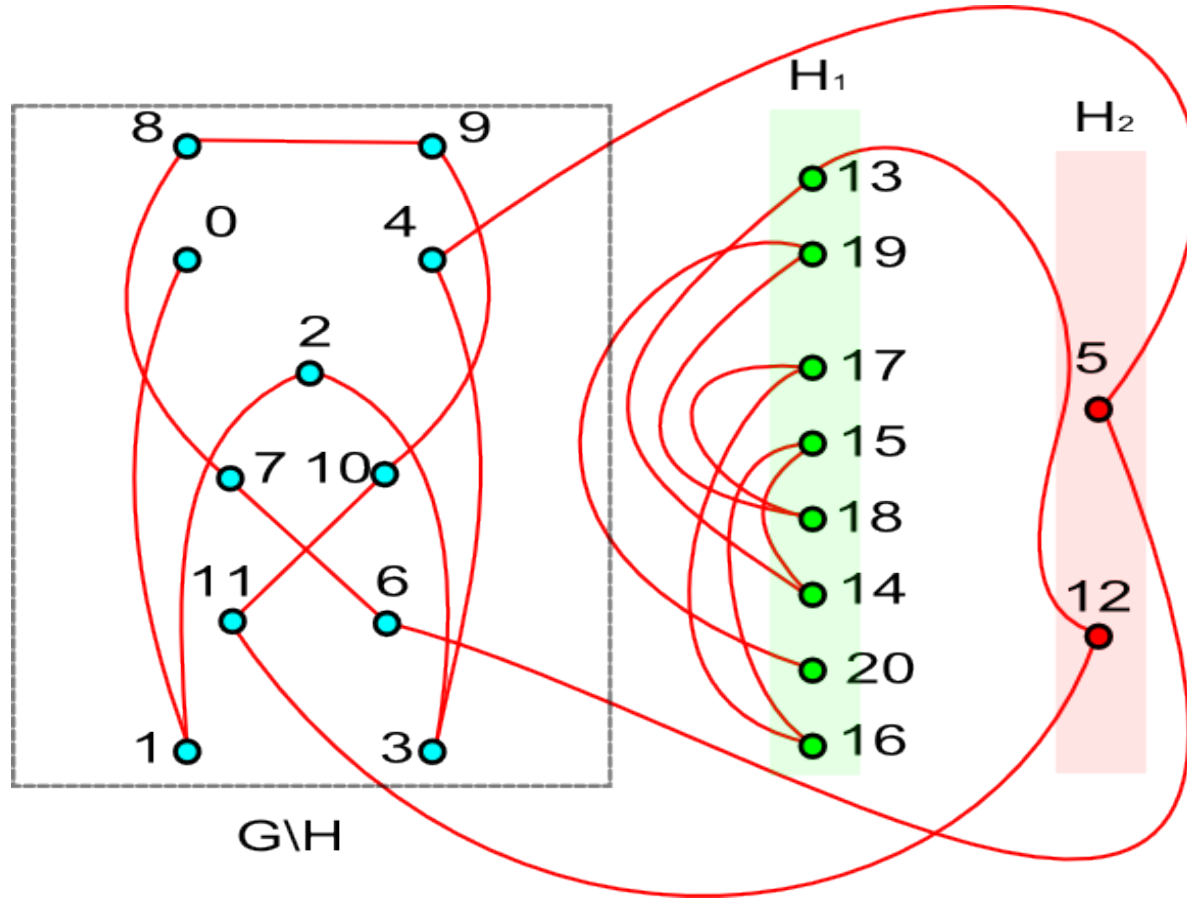




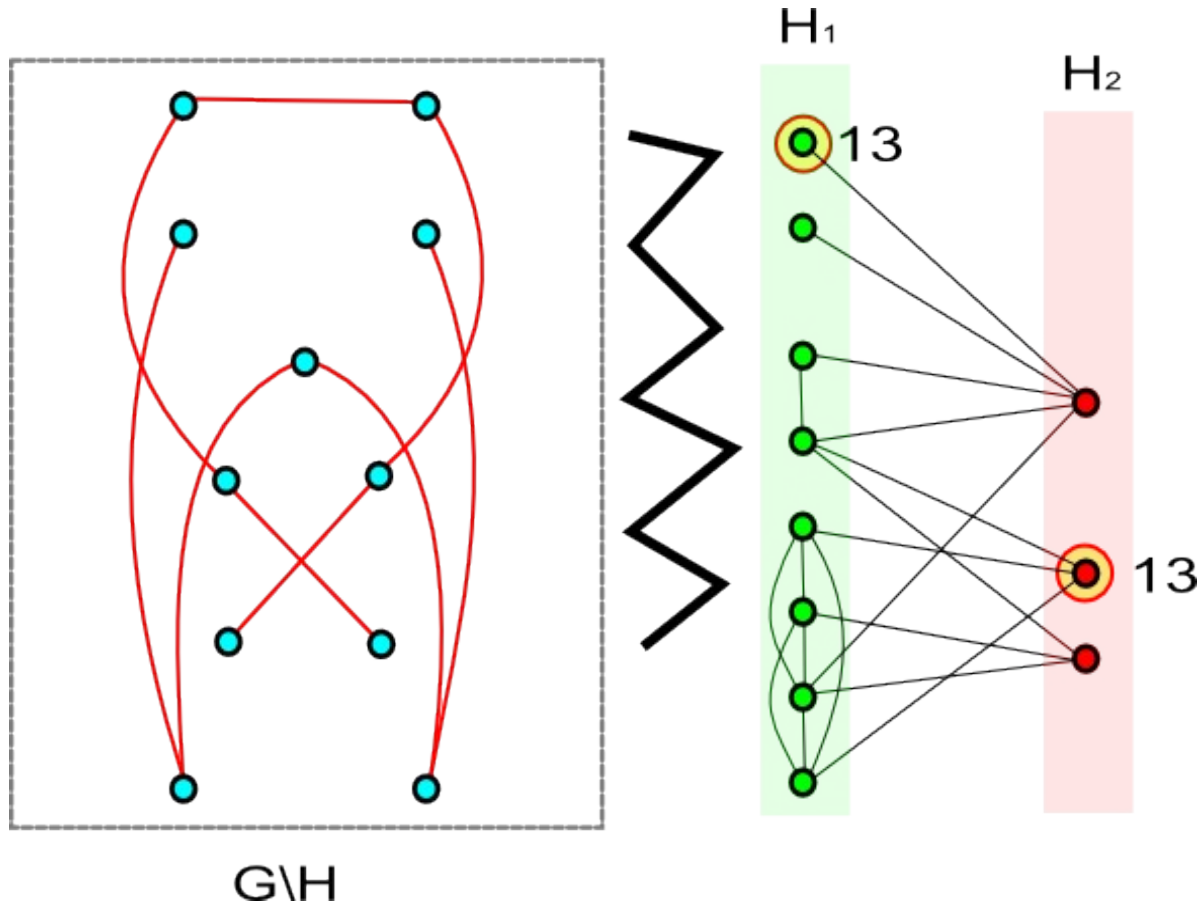
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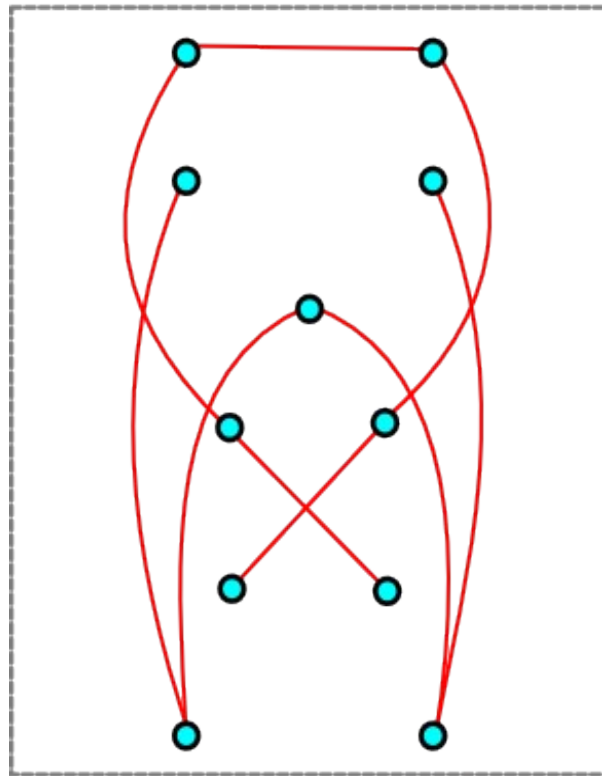
# Example



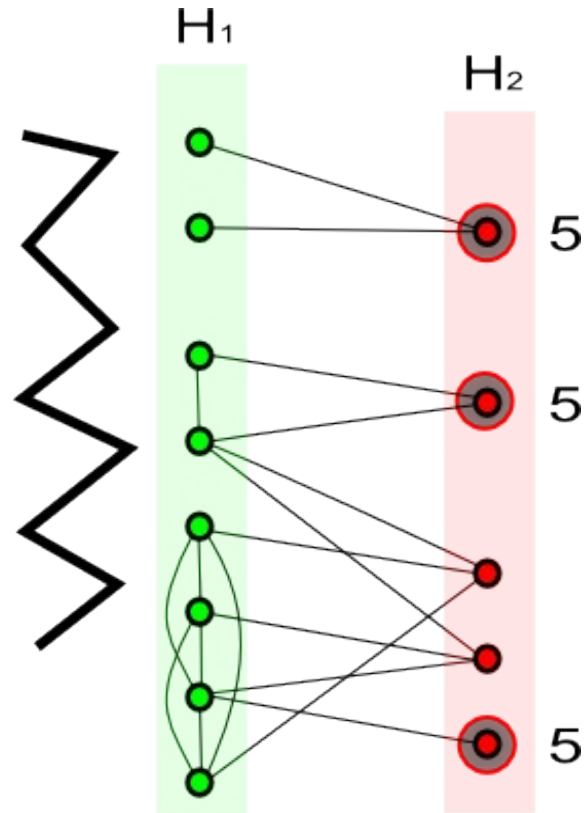
# Example



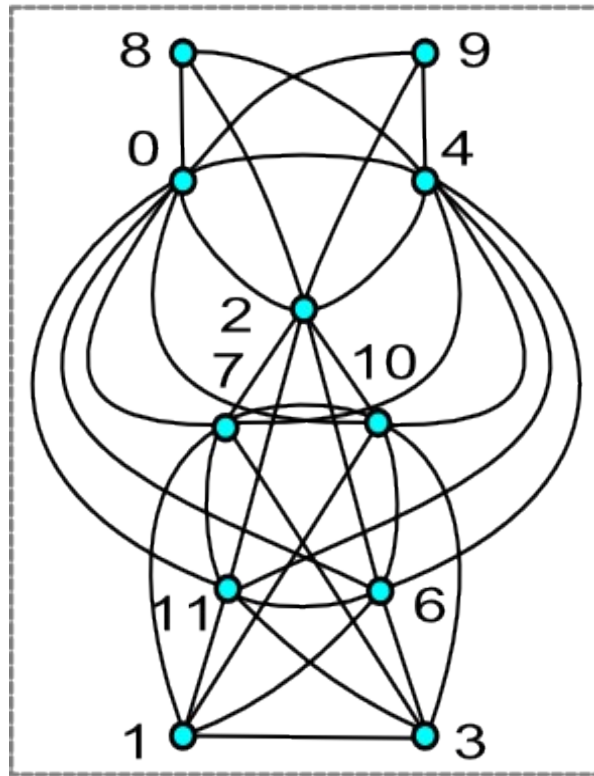
# Example



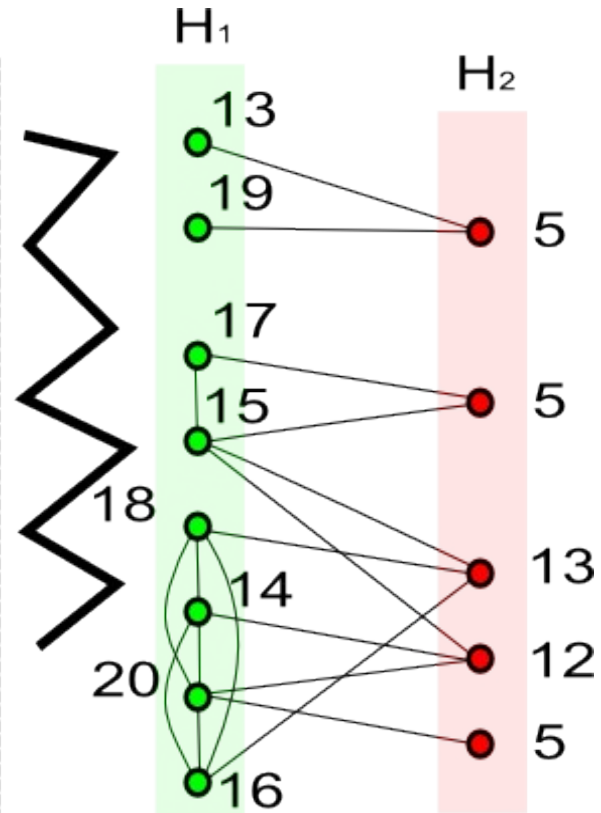
$G \setminus H$



# Example

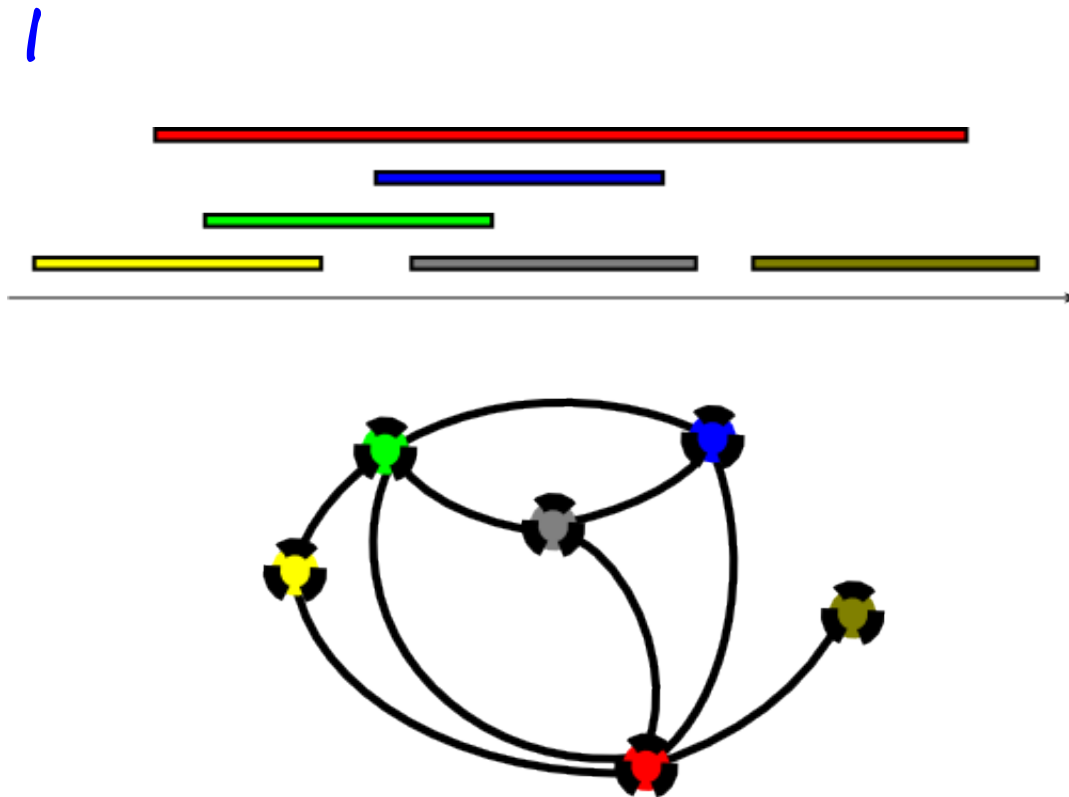


$G/H$



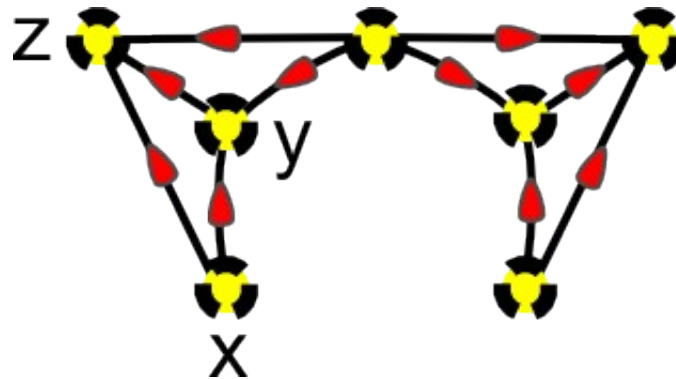
# interval graph

▶ **Interval graph:**  $G = \Omega(I)$



## comparability graph

- ▶ **Comparability graph:**  $\exists$  transitive orientation of the edges of the graph.

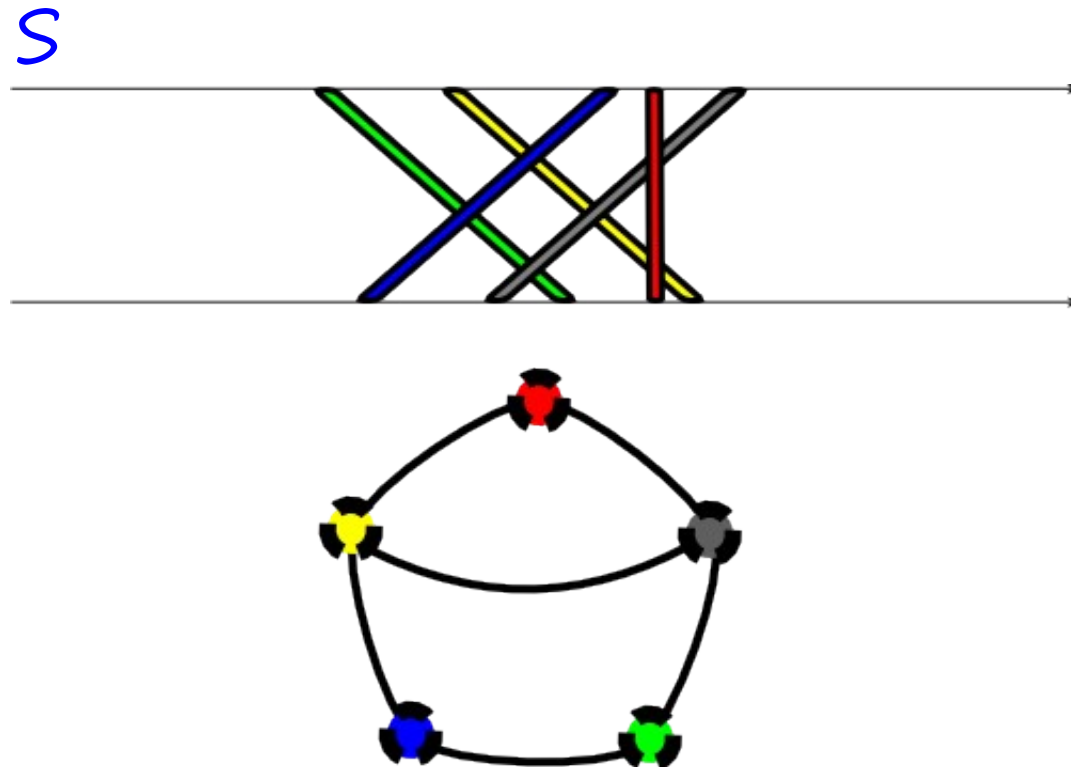


$$\begin{array}{ccc} \longrightarrow & \longrightarrow & \longrightarrow \\ \mathbf{xy} & , \mathbf{yz} & \Rightarrow \mathbf{xz} \end{array}$$

- ▶ **Cocomparability graph:**  $G^c$  is a comparability graph.

# permutation graph

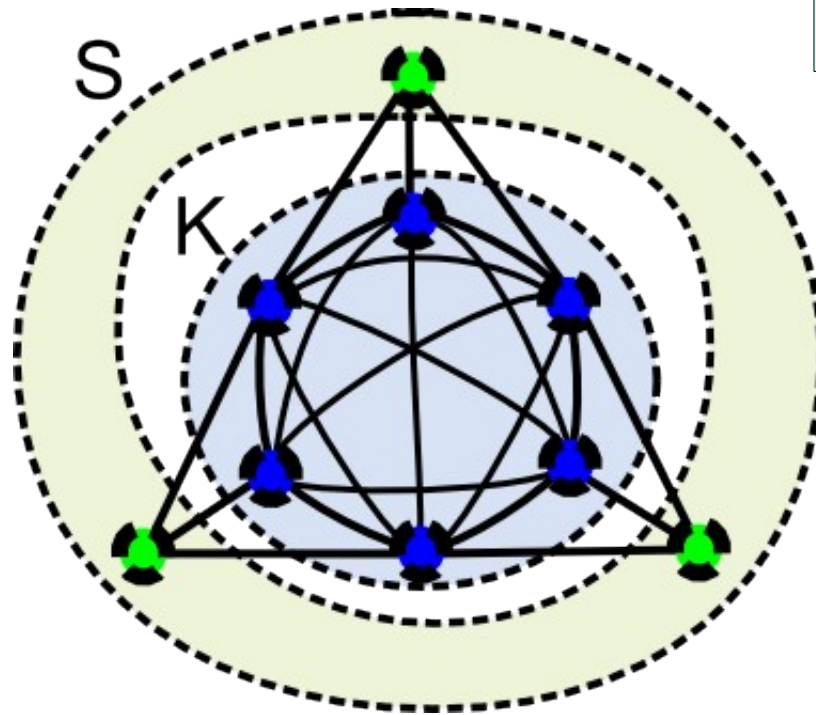
► **Permutation graph:**  $G = \Omega(S)$





# split graph

► **Split graph:**  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $V = S \cup K$ .

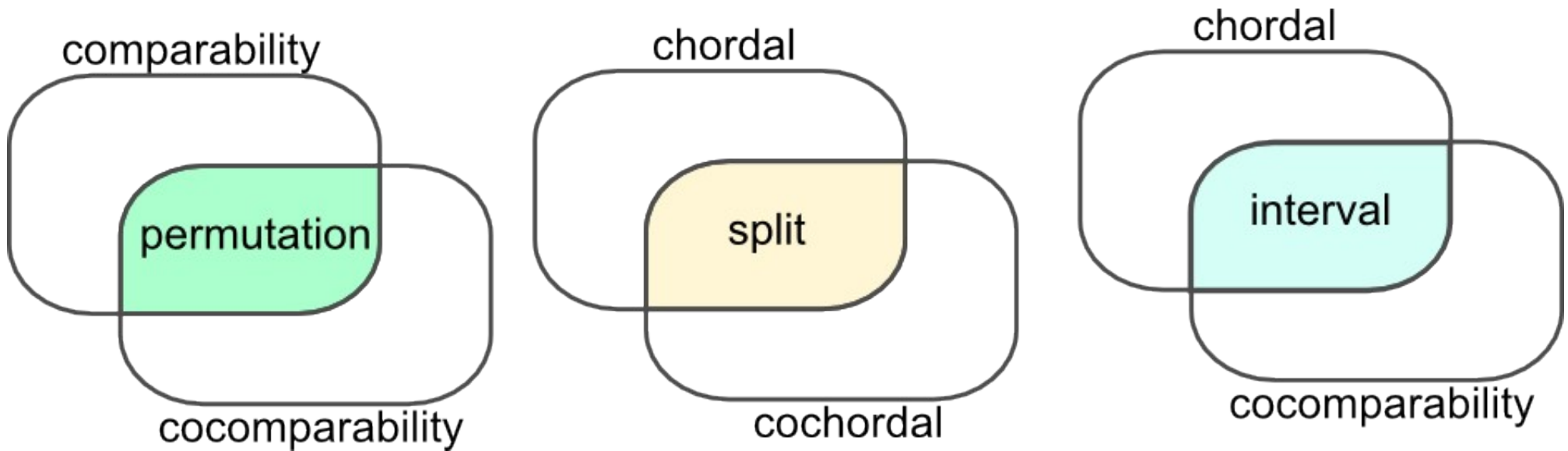


**K** is a **clique**

**S** is a **stable set**

# split permutation graphs

► **Split permutation graph:**  $G$  is **split** and **permutation**.



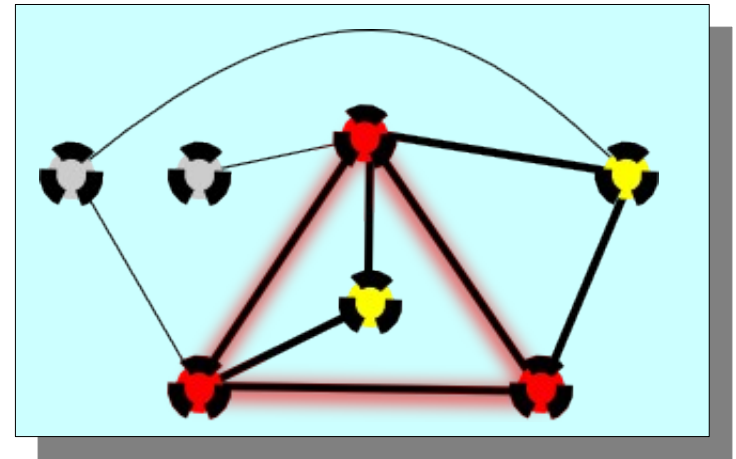
► **[Brandstädt, Bang Le and Spinrad-99]**

# split permutation graphs

- ▶ There are  $\theta\left(\frac{4^n}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$  split permutation graphs.  
[Guruswami-99]

- ▶ Split permutation  $\subset$  clique Helly  
[ISGCI]

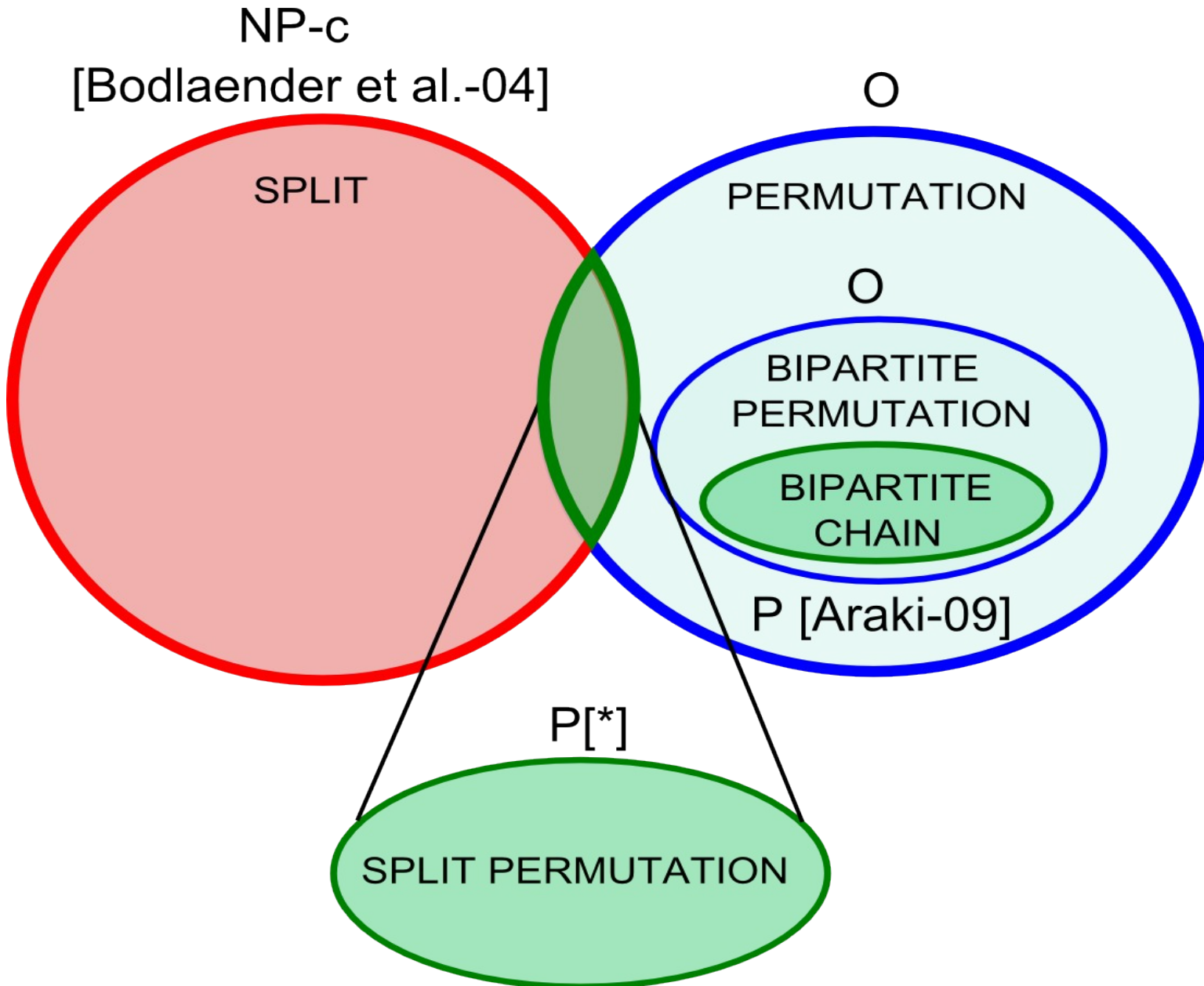
- ▶ **Extended triangle**



- ▶  $G$  is clique-Helly  $\Leftrightarrow$  every **extended triangle** of  $G$  has an **universal vertex**

[Szwarcfiter-97]

# split permutation graphs



# split permutation graphs

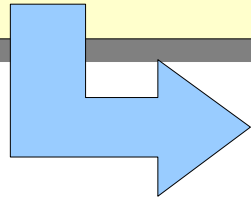
## ► Our work:

For a **split permutation** graph  $G$ ,

$$\lambda(G) = \max\{ \lambda(G_R), \lambda(G_L) \}$$

$$G_L = G \setminus S_R$$

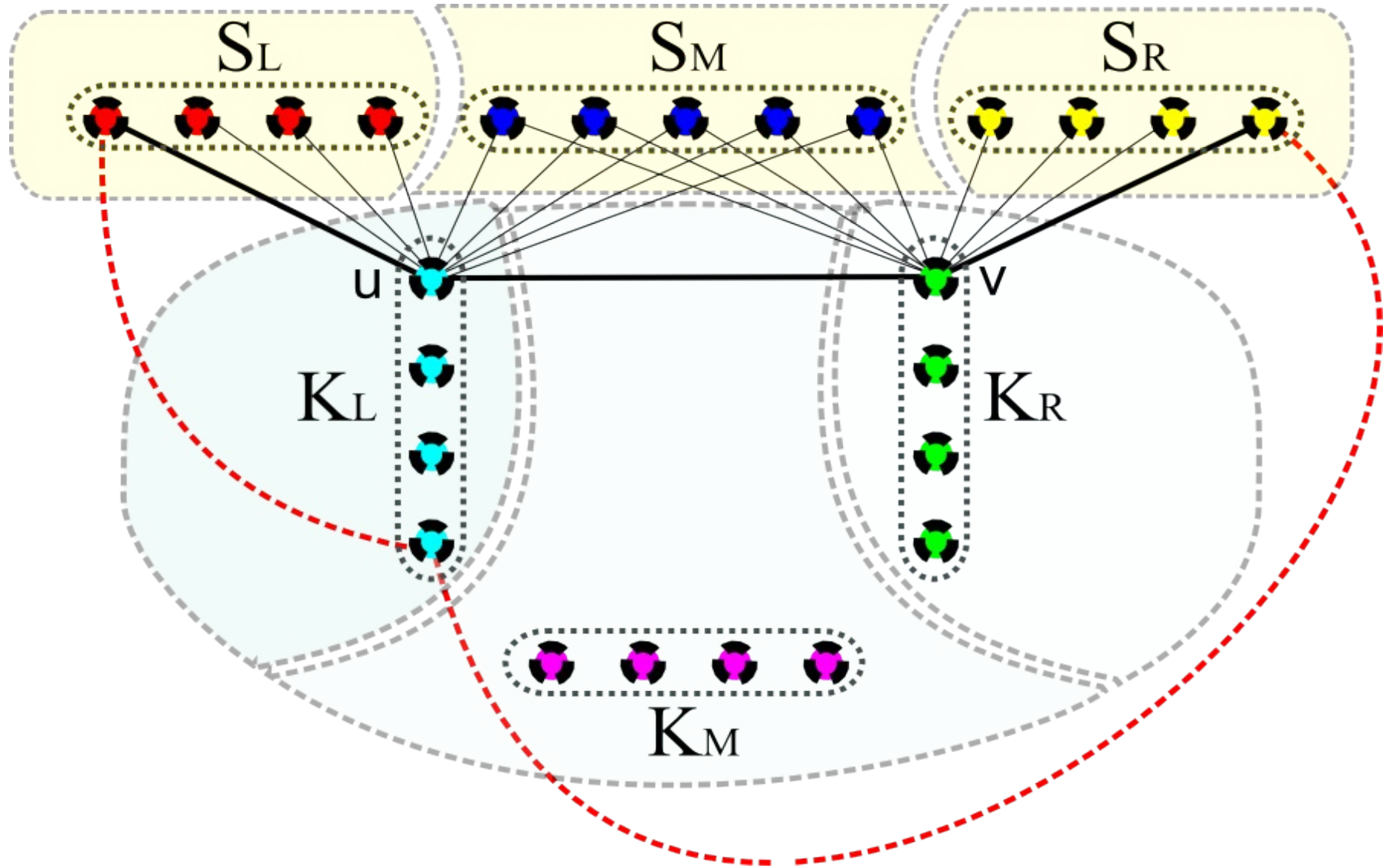
$$G_R = G \setminus S_L$$



$\lambda(G)$  can be **computed** in linear time.

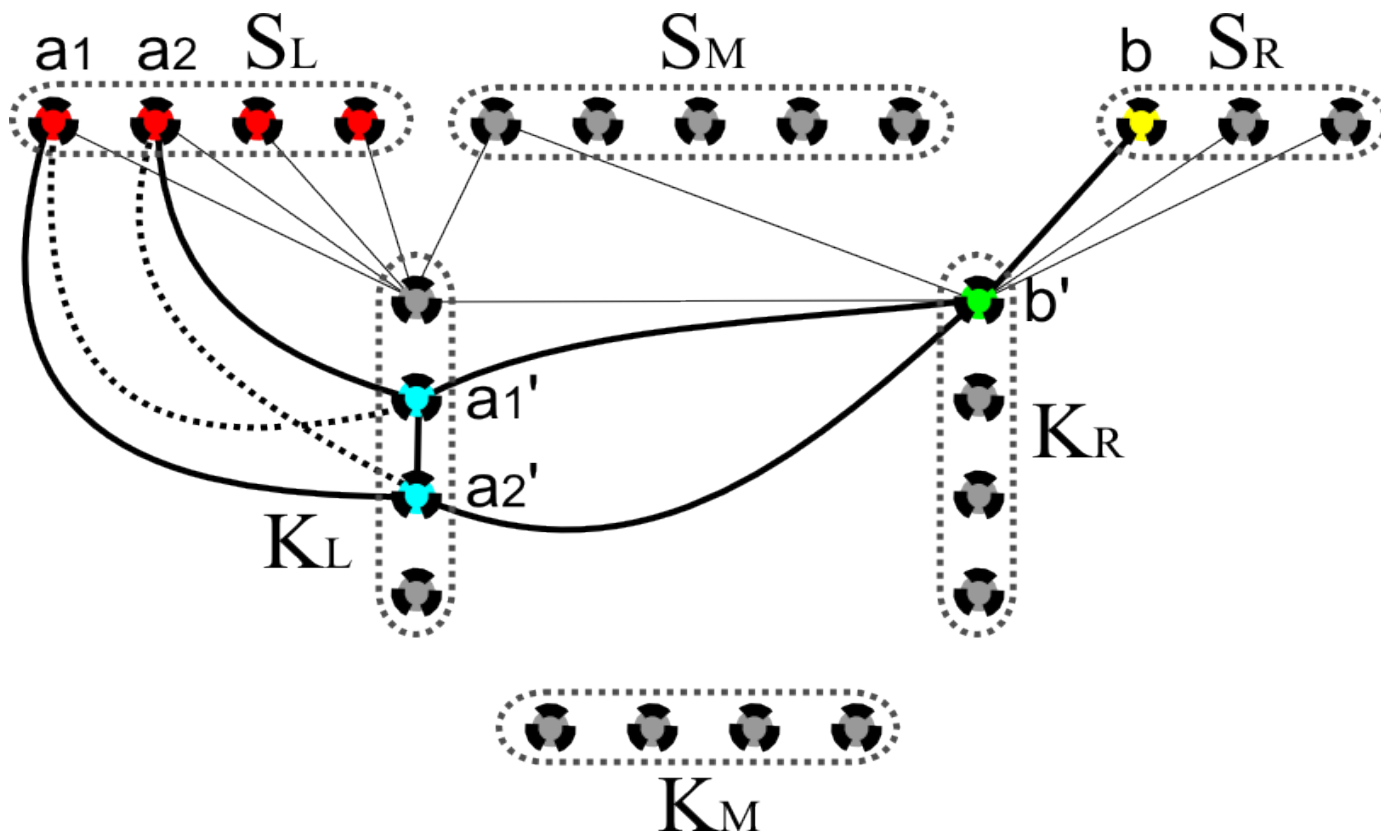
$O(n^2)$  algorithm that obtain  
an  $\lambda$ -coloring with **this span**

# split permutation graphs

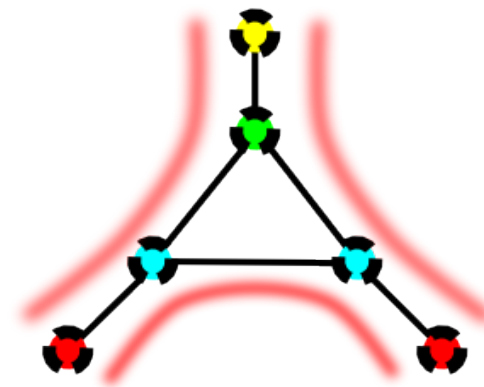


# split permutation graphs

$\exists$  Chain ordering  $a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_{L+M}$   
 such that:  $N(a_1) \subseteq N(a_2) \subseteq \dots \subseteq N(a_{L+M})$



Asteroidal  
triple (AT)

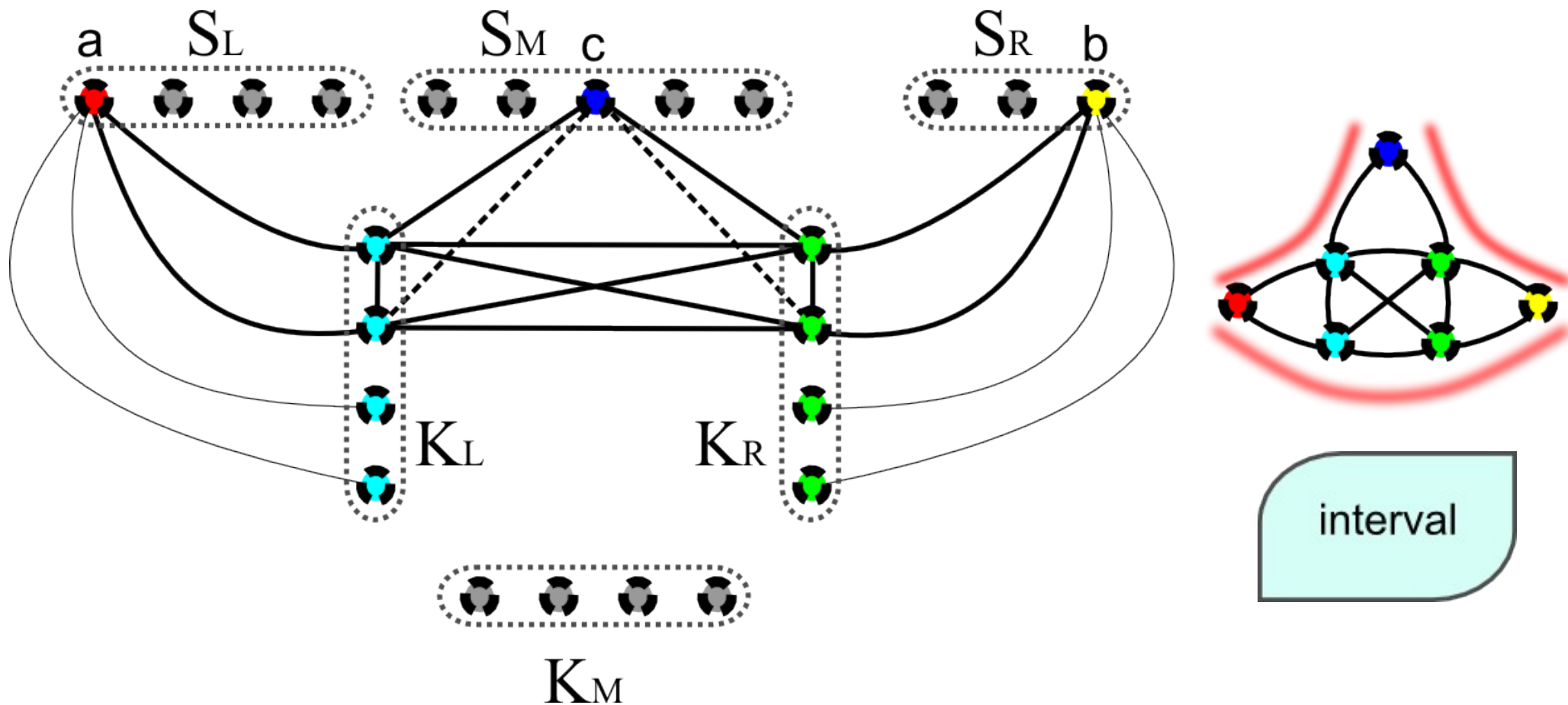


interval

(AT-free)

# split permutation graphs

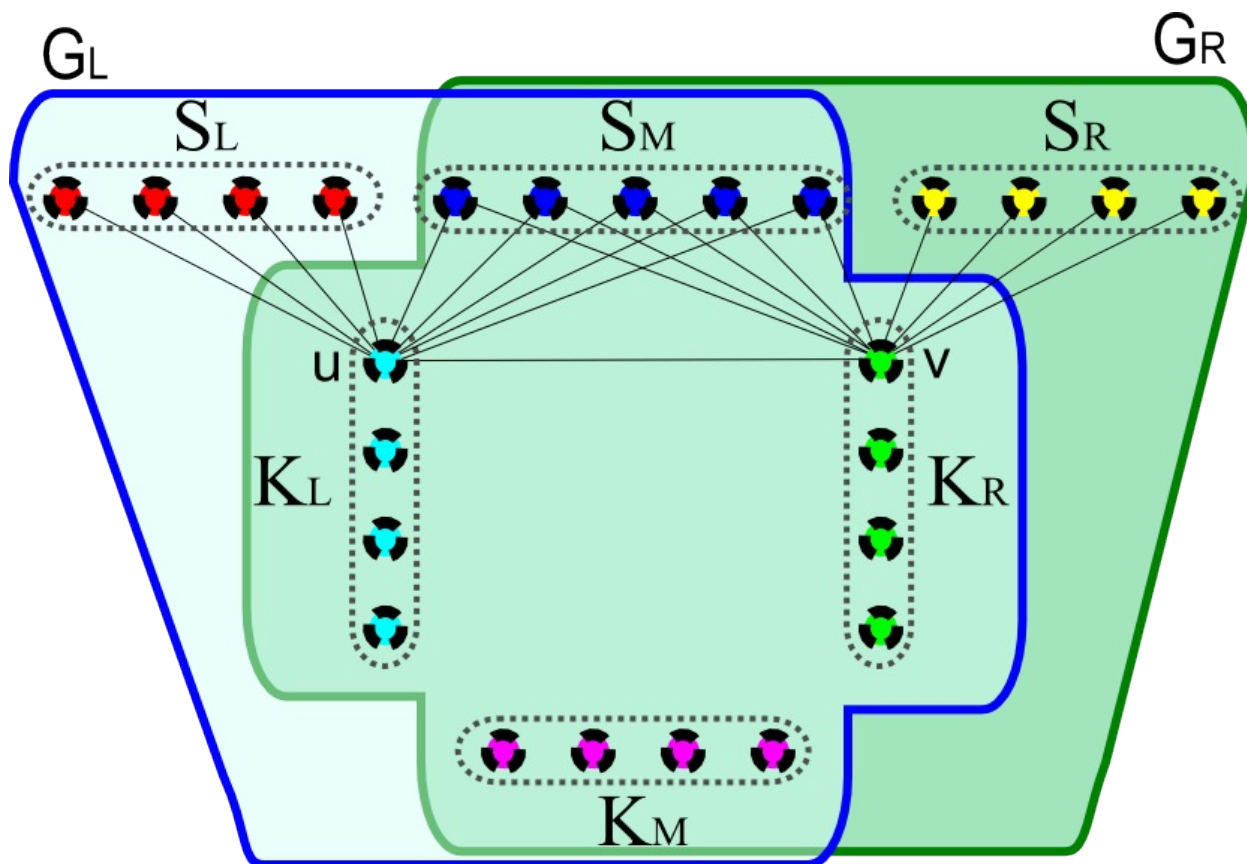
$\forall c \in S_M \Rightarrow K_L \subseteq N(c)$  or  $K_R \subseteq N(c)$ .





# split permutation graphs

For a split permutation graph  $G$ ,  
 $\lambda(G) \geq \max\{\lambda(G_R), \lambda(G_L)\}$



diameter of  $G_L$  is 2



$$\lambda(G_L) = n_L + pv(G_L^c) - 2$$

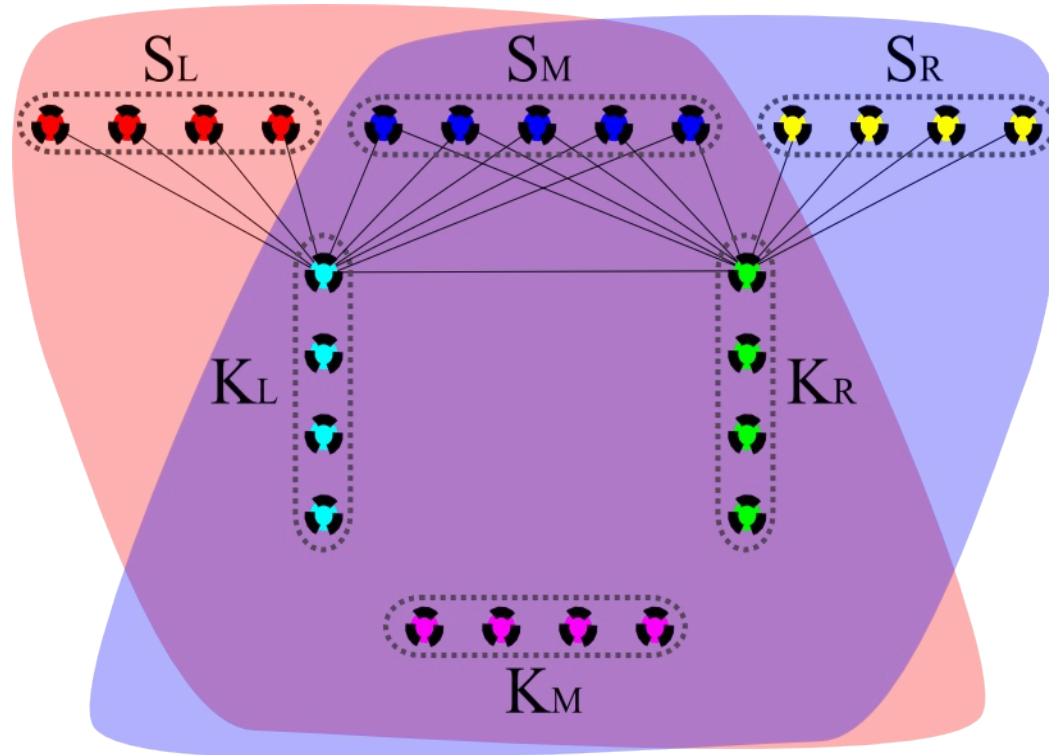
$G_L$  subgraph of  $G$



$$\lambda(G) \geq \lambda(G_L).$$

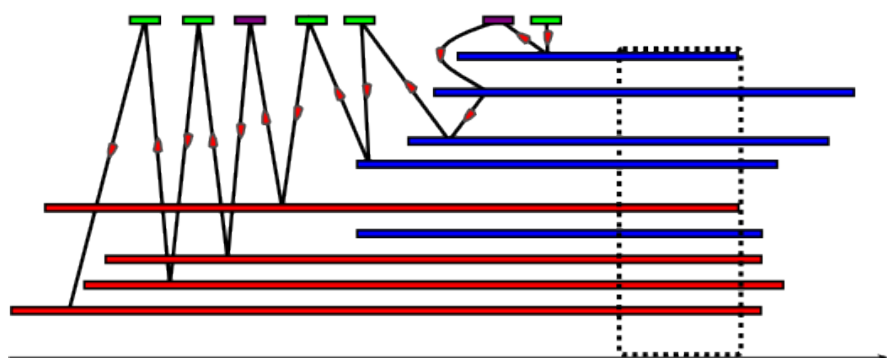
# split permutation graphs

▶  $P(R)$  ?



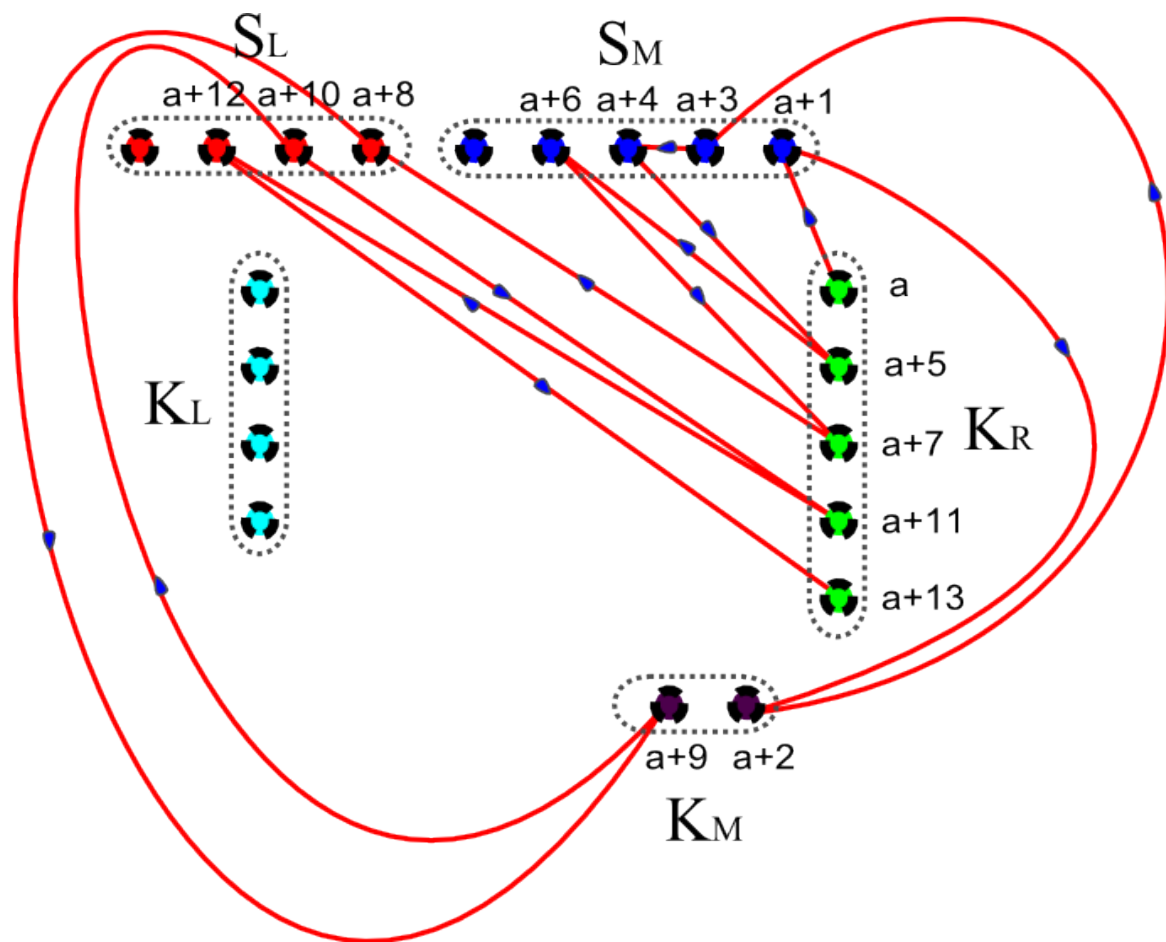
$$\lambda(G_R) \geq P(R)$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$\lambda(G) = \max\{\lambda(G_R), \lambda(G_L)\}$$

# split permutation graphs



$G^c$

cointerval



# split permutation graphs

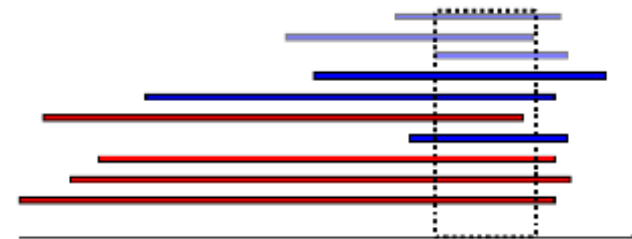
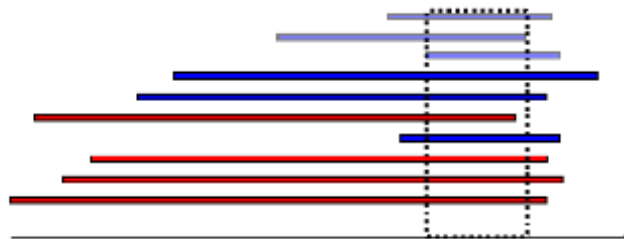
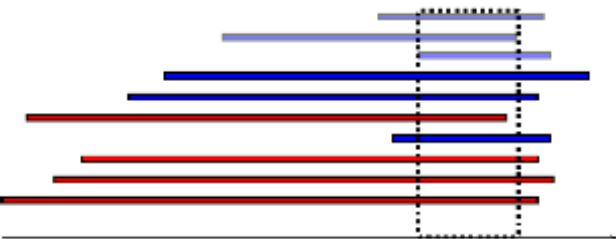
► **Interval model** has to be **modified**:



(a)

(b)

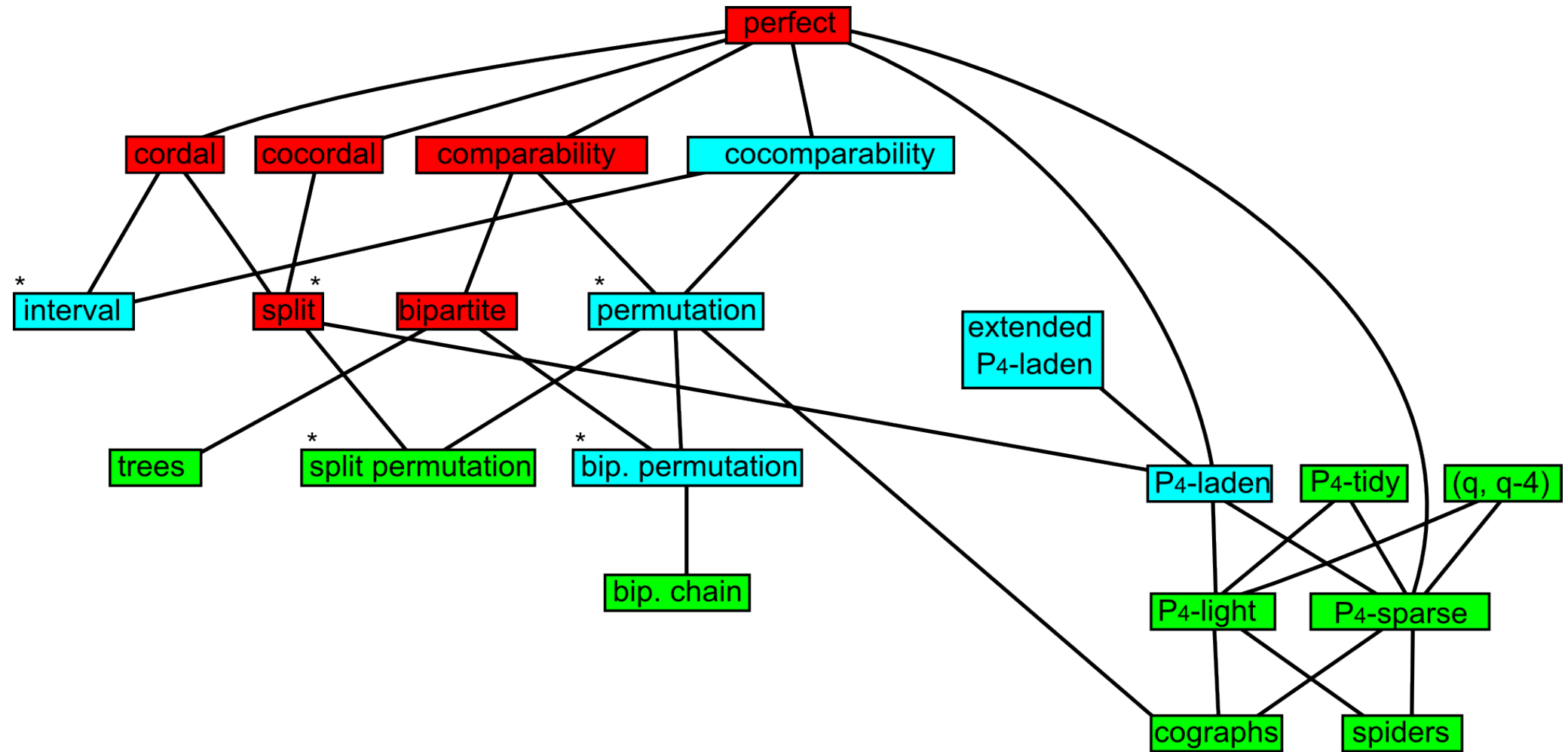
(c)



## split permutation graphs

- ▶ A **linear-time algorithm** to find  $\lambda(\mathbf{G}_R)$  and  $\lambda(\mathbf{G}_L)$
- ▶ For split permutation graphs  $\lambda(\mathbf{G}) = \max\{\lambda(\mathbf{G}_R), \lambda(\mathbf{G}_L)\}$ .
- ▶ This proof also gives a  $\mathbf{O}(n^2)$  algorithm to find an **optimum  $\lambda$ -coloring** of graphs on this class.

# Open Problems



## Open Problems

### ▶ Griggs and Yeh Conjecture:

$$\lambda \leq \Delta^2$$

only proved for a few classes of graphs,

and it is still open for bipartite graphs.

### ▶ $\lambda \leq \Delta^2 + \Delta - 2$ [Gonçalves 06]

## Upper bounds in $\lambda$

Class	Upper bound
diameter 2	$\Delta^2$ [Griggs and Yeh]
regular grids	$\Delta + 2$ [Calamoneri et al.]
cocomparability	$4\Delta - 1$ [Calamoneri et al.]
cograph	$n + pv(G^c) - 2$ [Chang e Kuo], $2\Delta$ [C. and P.]
planar	$2\Delta + 25$ [van den Heuvel and McGuinness]
bipartite permutation	$wb(G) + 1$ [Araki]
weakly chordal	$\Delta^2$ [C. and P.]
split	$0.385\Delta^{1.5} + 2\Delta + \Delta^{0.5} - 2$ [C. and P.]
interval	$2\Delta$ [Calamoneri et al.]