

Coloring graphs without fan vertex-minors and cycle pivot-minors

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A **clique** is a set of pairwise adjacent vertices in a graph.

The **clique number** $\omega(G)$ is the size of the **largest clique** in a graph G .

A graph G is **k -colorable** if the following is possible:

- each vertex receives a **color** from $\{1, \dots, k\}$
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Strong Perfect Graph Conjecture (1961 Berge)

Given a graph G , every induced subgraph H satisfies $\omega(H) = \chi(H)$ iff G contains no C_k and no $\overline{C_k}$ as induced subgraphs for any odd $k \geq 5$.

Theorem (2006 Chudnovsky–Robertson–Seymour–Thomas)

*The Strong Perfect Graph Conjecture is **true**.*

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For any k , there exists a graph G with *girth* at least 6 and $\chi(G) \geq k$.

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Definition

A class \mathcal{C} of graphs is χ -**bounded** if there is a function f where $\chi(G) \leq f(\omega(G))$ for all $G \in \mathcal{C}$.

Some questions about light versions of SPGT

Conjecture (1985 Gyárfás)

The following classes are χ -bounded:

1. The class of graphs with no induced cycles of odd length ≥ 5
2. Given k , the class of graphs with no induced cycles of length $\geq k$
3. Given k , the class of graphs with no induced cycles of odd length $\geq k$

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2013 Bonamy–Charbit–Thomassé: length divisible by 3

2015+ Lagoutte: length 3 and even length ≥ 6

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length 5 and length 3 and odd length $\geq k$

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3. implies both 1. and 2.!

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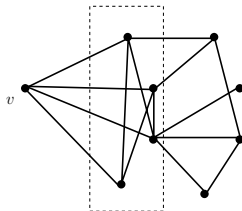
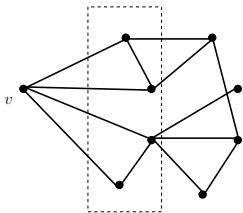
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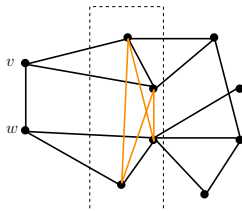
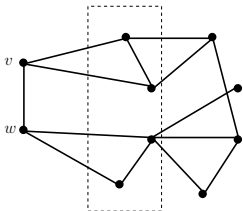
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H -vertex-minor free implies H -pivot-minor free implies H -free.

Local complementation



Pivoting edge



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Bipartite graph

Distance-hereditary

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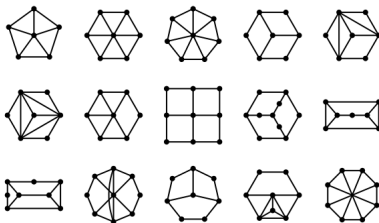
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Rank-width t graphs: well-decomposable

finite list of forbidden vertex-minors (2008 Oum)

Bipartite, distance-hereditary, parity graphs are **perfect**, thus χ -bounded.

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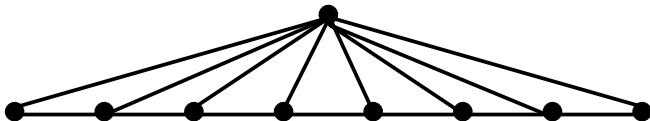
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(The class of graphs with no induced cycles of long length is χ -bounded)

Theorem (2015 Choi–K.–Oum)

For any fan F , the class of graphs with no F -vertex-minor is χ -bounded.



Conjecture (Stronger version)

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Excluding a cycle of length k as a pivot-minor is interesting, as it does not exclude all induced cycles of length at least k .

For odd k and even ℓ , C_k has no pivot-minor C_ℓ and vice versa.

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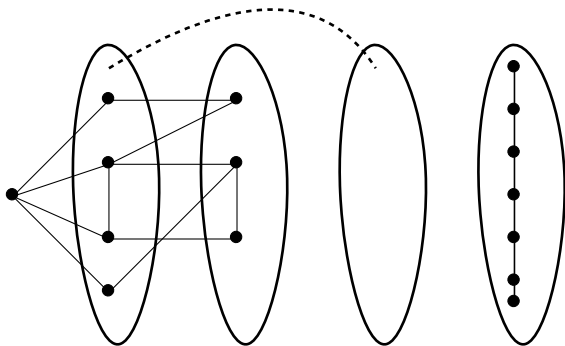
For any cycle C , the class of graphs with no C -pivot-minor is χ -bounded.

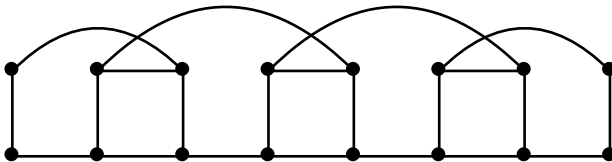
If Gyárfás's third conjecture (excluding odd cycles of length at least k) is true, then this theorem with odd cycle follows from the result.

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For any fan F , the class of graphs with no F -vertex-minor is χ -bounded.

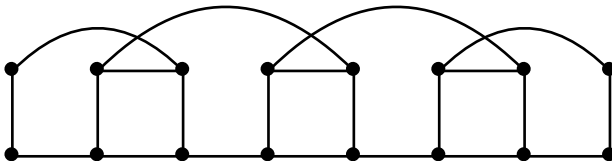
- We use a leveling technique; take a leveling from a vertex. We can say that there should be one level with large chromatic number.
- By Gyárfás's result, there exists a long induced path in this level.
- **You cannot do contractions!**





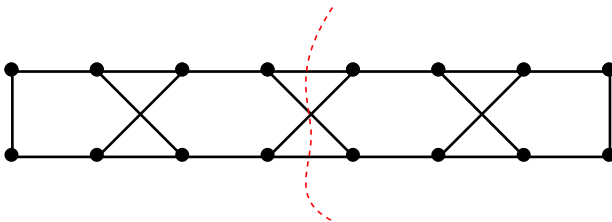
This graph does not contain fan F_6 as a vertex-minor.

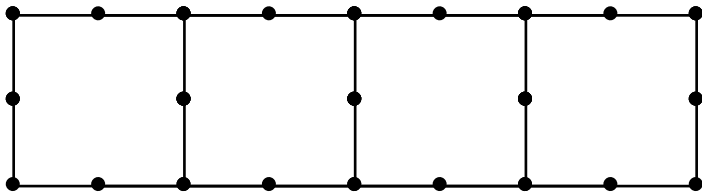
Why?



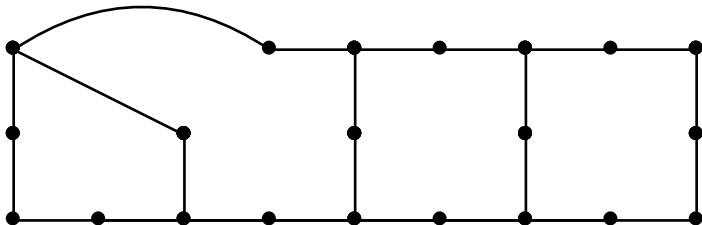
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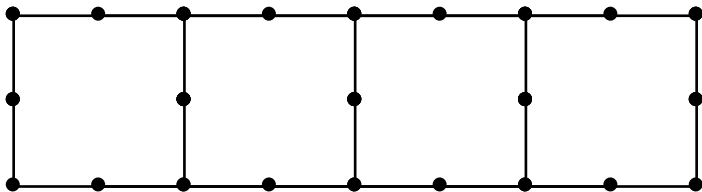
Why? Local complementations do not destroy **splits**.



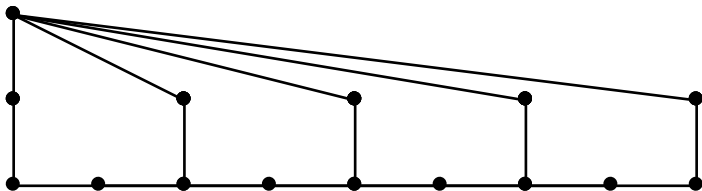


Pivoting edges





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Theorem (2015 Choi–K.–Oum)

For any fan F , the class of graphs with no F -vertex-minor is χ -bounded.

- 1 Refining level L_t containing the path and the previous levels L_{t-1}, L_{t-2} to well-structured ladder
 - Iteratively use Ramsey's type argument
- 2 From v , going down to this well-structured ladder
 - Use the property that for every graph either it is connected or its complement is connected.
 - We push a connected graph on L_{t-2} .

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Question

For any wheel W , is the class of graphs with no W -vertex-minor χ -bounded?

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