

Disjointness Graphs

János Pach

**Rényi Institute, Budapest
and EPFL, Lausanne**

PRICE \$8.99

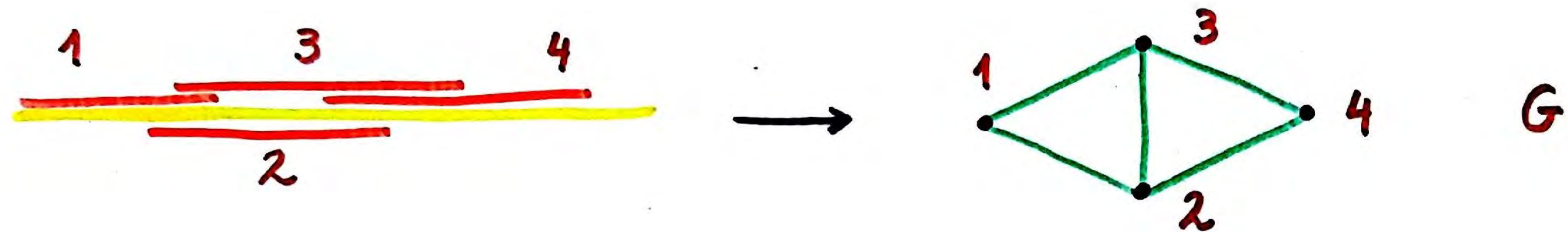
MAY 8, 2017

THE NEW YORKER



BEIC

INTERSECTION GRAPHS



chromatic number $\chi(G)$ = minimum # of colors
needed to color the vertices with no monochr. edge

clique number $\omega(G)$ = maximum # of vertices
in a complete subgraph of G

G is perfect : $\chi(G') = \omega(G')$
for every induced subgraph $G' \subseteq G$

Theorem (Gallai, Hajós)

The intersection graph of any set of intervals along a line is perfect.

Theorem (Asplund-Grünbaum 1960)

The intersection graph of any set of axis-parallel rectangles in the plane satisfies $\chi(G) \leq 8(\omega(G))^2$.

A class of graphs \mathcal{G} is called χ -bounded if there exists a function f such that

$$\chi(G) \leq f(\omega(G)) \quad \text{for every } G \in \mathcal{G}.$$

(Gyárfás-Lehel 1985)

Theorem (Pawlik - Kozik - Krawczyk - Lason - Micek - Trotter - Walczak 2014)

There exist triangle-free intersection graphs of segments in the plane with arbitrarily large chromatic numbers.

⇒ segment intersection graphs are **not** χ -bounded

Definition

The disjointness graph of a system of objects (sets) is the complement of its intersection graph.

SEGMENT DISJOINTNESS GRAPHS

Theorem (Larman-Matoušek - P.-Töröcsik, 1994)

For the disjointness graph G of any system of segments in \mathbb{R}^2 , we have $\chi(G) \leq (\omega(G))^4$.

Corollary

For the disjointness graph G of any system of n segments in \mathbb{R}^2 , we have $\max(\alpha(G), \omega(G)) \geq n^{1/5}$.

$$\alpha(G) \geq \frac{n}{\chi(G)} \geq \frac{n}{(\omega(G))^4}$$

Károlyi - P.-Tóth, 1997

Kynčl, 2012 $\exists G$ with $\alpha(G), \omega(G) \leq n^{0.405\dots}$

SEGMENT DISJOINTNESS GRAPHS IN \mathbb{R}^d , $d > 2$

Theorem (P.-Tardos-Tóth 2017)

For the disjointness graph G of any system of segments in \mathbb{R}^d , $d > 2$, we have

$$\chi(G) \leq (\omega(G))^4 + (\omega(G))^3$$

Lemma

Given any system of segments in \mathbb{R}^d ($d > 2$) that lie in k 2-dimensional planes Π_1, \dots, Π_k , their disjointness graph G satisfies

$$\chi(G) \leq (k-1)\omega(G) + (\omega(G))^4$$

DISJOINTNESS GRAPH

= complement of intersection graph

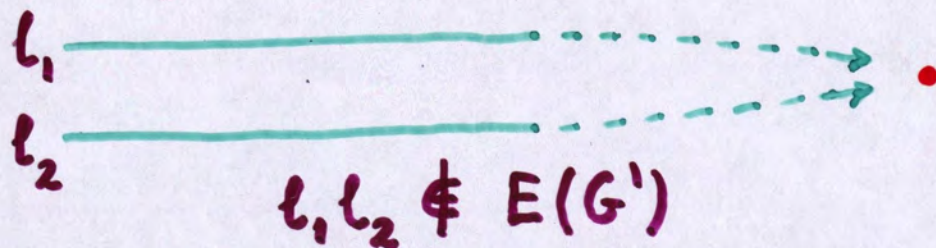
Theorem (P.-Tardos-Tóth 2017)

Given a system of lines in \mathbb{R}^d (or in the projective space \mathbb{P}^d), let G (and G' , resp.) denote their disjointness graph. For any $d=3$,

$$(i) \quad \chi(G) \leq (\omega(G))^3$$

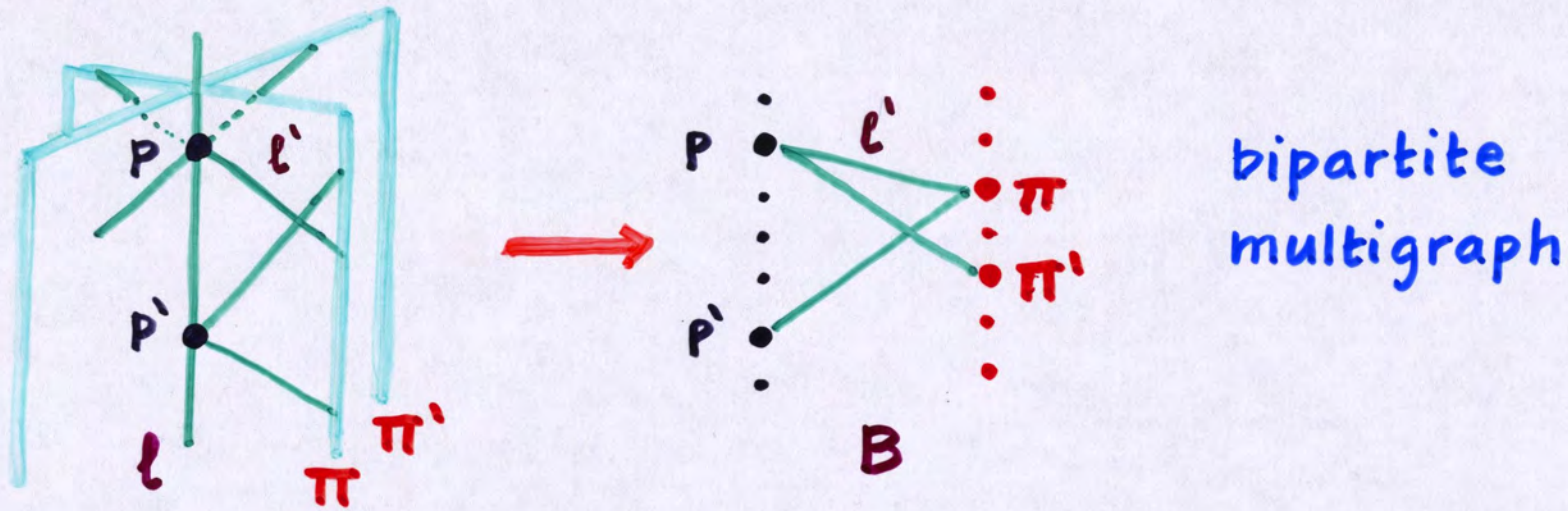
$$(ii) \quad \chi(G') \leq (\omega(G'))^2$$

Clearly, $G' \subseteq G$



PROOF OF $\chi(G) \leq (\omega(G))^3$

- If G has an isolated vertex l , $\chi(G) \leq (\omega(G))^2$



By König-Hall theorem,

$$\nu(B) = \tau(B)$$

max matching min vertex cover

$$\nu(B) \leq \omega(G) \implies$$

$$\tau(B) \leq \omega(G)$$

If $l' = p\pi \in E(B)$ is covered by $\begin{cases} P & \text{color it by } P \\ \pi & \text{color it by } \leq \omega(G) \\ & \text{new colors (perfect!)} \end{cases}$

PROOF OF $\chi(G) \leq (\omega(G))^3$ - GENERAL CASE

- $C \subseteq V(G)$ induces a maximal clique in G , $|C| = \omega(G)$
→ for every $v \in V(G) - C$, there exists $c \in C : cv \notin E(G)$
- $V(G) = \bigcup_{c \in C} V_c$, where c is an isolated vertex in $G[V_c]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } \chi(G) &\leq \sum_{c \in C} \chi(G[V_c]) \\ &\leq \sum_{c \in C} (\omega(G[V_c]))^2 \\ &\leq \sum_{c \in C} (\omega(G))^2 \\ &= (\omega(G))^3 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1

Is the family of disjointness graphs of polygonal paths of length 2 χ -bounded?

Problem 2

Is the family of intersection graphs of lines in \mathbb{R}^3 χ -bounded?