# A tamed family of triangle-free graphs with unbounded chromatic number

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## Joint work with Édouard Bonnet, Julien Duron, Colin Geniet, Stéphan Thomassé and Nicolas Trotignon

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### Definition (Chromatic Number, Clique Number)

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#### Theorem

There exist triangle-free graphs with arbitrarily large  $\chi$ .

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- Zykov (1952)
- Blanche Descartes (1954)
- Mycielski (1955)
- Erdős (1959)
- Burling (1965)
- ...



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• If  $G_1, \ldots, G_k$  are triangle-free then  $Z(G_1, \ldots, G_k)$  too.

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- If  $G_1, \ldots, G_k$  are triangle-free then  $Z(G_1, \ldots, G_k)$  too.
- If  $\chi(G_i) \geq i$  for every *i* then  $\chi(Z(G_1, ..., G_k)) \geq k + 1.$

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- If  $\chi(G_i) \geq i$  for every *i* then  $\chi(Z(G_1, \ldots, G_k)) > k+1.$

Zykov sequence:  $Z_1 = K_1, Z_{k+1} = Z(Z_1, \ldots, Z_k)$ .

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G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_k \longrightarrow \mathcal{T}(G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_k)
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## Properties of the Twincut operator

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## Properties of the Twincut operator

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 $T_4$ :

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## **Proposition**

Every  $T_k$  is edge-critical: for every edge e of  $T_k$ ,  $\chi(T_k - e) = k - 1$ .

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#### Theorem [Bonnet, Geniet, Kim, Thomassé, Watrigant '21]

Every triangle-free graph of chromatic number  $k$  has twin-width at least  $k - 2$ .

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Thank you!