

# Polynomial $\chi$ -Boundedness of Bounded Twin-Width Classes

Romain Bourneuf  
Joint work with Stéphan Thomassé

1st Twin-Width Workshop, Aussois, 2023

## Definition ( $\chi$ -bounded)

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs,  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\chi$ -bounded if  $\forall G \in \mathcal{C}, \chi(G) \leq f(\omega(G))$  for some function  $f$ .

If  $f$  is a polynomial,  $\mathcal{C}$  is *polynomially*  $\chi$ -bounded.

## Definition ( $\chi$ -bounded)

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs,  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\chi$ -bounded if  $\forall G \in \mathcal{C}, \chi(G) \leq f(\omega(G))$  for some function  $f$ .

If  $f$  is a polynomial,  $\mathcal{C}$  is *polynomially*  $\chi$ -bounded.

## Theorem [Twin-Width III]

The class of graphs of twin-width at most  $t$  is  $\chi$ -bounded with function  $f_t(\omega) = (t + 2)^{\omega - 1}$ .

## Definition ( $\chi$ -bounded)

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs,  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\chi$ -bounded if  $\forall G \in \mathcal{C}, \chi(G) \leq f(\omega(G))$  for some function  $f$ .

If  $f$  is a polynomial,  $\mathcal{C}$  is *polynomially*  $\chi$ -bounded.

## Theorem [Twin-Width III]

The class of graphs of twin-width at most  $t$  is  $\chi$ -bounded with function  $f_t(\omega) = (t + 2)^{\omega - 1}$ .

## Theorem [BBDGTT'23]

For every  $t$ , there exists a triangle-free graph with twin-width  $t$  and chromatic number  $t + 1$ .

## Theorem [Pilipczuk, Sokołowski '22]

For every  $t$ , the class of graphs with twin-width at most  $t$  is quasi-polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

## Theorem [Pilipczuk, Sokołowski '22]

For every  $t$ , the class of graphs with twin-width at most  $t$  is quasi-polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

## Theorem

For every  $t$ , the class of graphs with twin-width at most  $t$  is polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

## Theorem [Pilipczuk, Sokołowski '22]

For every  $t$ , the class of graphs with twin-width at most  $t$  is quasi-polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

## Theorem

For every  $t$ , the class of graphs with twin-width at most  $t$  is polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

- Gives an efficient coloring algorithm.

# How to prove $\chi$ -boundedness?



# How to prove $\chi$ -boundedness?

- Main tool: Decompose a graph into some simpler graphs, while preserving  $\chi$ -boundedness.

# How to prove $\chi$ -boundedness?

- Main tool: Decompose a graph into some simpler graphs, while preserving  $\chi$ -boundedness.
- Vertex partition:  $V(G) = V_1 \cup V_2$  s.t.  $G[V_1]$  and  $G[V_2]$  are simpler.

# How to prove $\chi$ -boundedness?

- Main tool: Decompose a graph into some simpler graphs, while preserving  $\chi$ -boundedness.
- Vertex partition:  $V(G) = V_1 \cup V_2$  s.t.  $G[V_1]$  and  $G[V_2]$  are simpler.  
With 2 different palettes:  $\chi(G) \leq \chi(G[V_1]) + \chi(G[V_2])$ .

# How to prove $\chi$ -boundedness?

- Main tool: Decompose a graph into some simpler graphs, while preserving  $\chi$ -boundedness.
- Vertex partition:  $V(G) = V_1 \cup V_2$  s.t.  $G[V_1]$  and  $G[V_2]$  are simpler. With 2 different palettes:  $\chi(G) \leq \chi(G[V_1]) + \chi(G[V_2])$ .
- Edge partition:  $E(G) = E_1 \cup E_2$  s.t.  $(V(G), E_1)$  and  $(V(G), E_2)$  are simpler.

# How to prove $\chi$ -boundedness?

- Main tool: Decompose a graph into some simpler graphs, while preserving  $\chi$ -boundedness.
- Vertex partition:  $V(G) = V_1 \cup V_2$  s.t.  $G[V_1]$  and  $G[V_2]$  are simpler. With 2 different palettes:  $\chi(G) \leq \chi(G[V_1]) + \chi(G[V_2])$ .
- Edge partition:  $E(G) = E_1 \cup E_2$  s.t.  $(V(G), E_1)$  and  $(V(G), E_2)$  are simpler. With the product coloring:  $\chi(G) \leq \chi(G_1) \cdot \chi(G_2)$ .

## Definition (Module)

If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph, we say that  $X \subseteq V$  is a *module* if  $\forall v \in V \setminus X$ , either  $v$  is complete to  $X$  or  $v$  is anti-complete to  $X$ .

## Definition (Module)

If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph, we say that  $X \subseteq V$  is a *module* if  $\forall v \in V \setminus X$ , either  $v$  is complete to  $X$  or  $v$  is anti-complete to  $X$ .

If  $X = \emptyset, \{v\}$  or  $V$ , then  $X$  is a *trivial module*.

## Definition (Module)

If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph, we say that  $X \subseteq V$  is a *module* if  $\forall v \in V \setminus X$ , either  $v$  is complete to  $X$  or  $v$  is anti-complete to  $X$ .

If  $X = \emptyset, \{v\}$  or  $V$ , then  $X$  is a *trivial module*.

A graph is *prime* if it has no non-trivial module.



## Definition (Module)

If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph, we say that  $X \subseteq V$  is a *module* if  $\forall v \in V \setminus X$ , either  $v$  is complete to  $X$  or  $v$  is anti-complete to  $X$ .

If  $X = \emptyset, \{v\}$  or  $V$ , then  $X$  is a *trivial module*.

A graph is *prime* if it has no non-trivial module.

If  $X$  is a module of  $G$ , we can define  $G/X$ , the *quotient graph*.

## Definition (Module)

If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph, we say that  $X \subseteq V$  is a *module* if  $\forall v \in V \setminus X$ , either  $v$  is complete to  $X$  or  $v$  is anti-complete to  $X$ .

If  $X = \emptyset, \{v\}$  or  $V$ , then  $X$  is a *trivial module*.

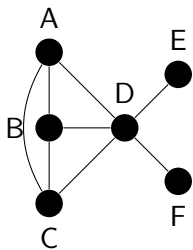
A graph is *prime* if it has no non-trivial module.

If  $X$  is a module of  $G$ , we can define  $G/X$ , the *quotient graph*.

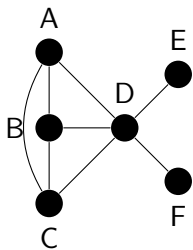
## Theorem [Gallai '67]

If  $G$  and its complement are connected, the maximal proper modules of  $G$  form a partition of  $V$ , and the quotient graph is prime.

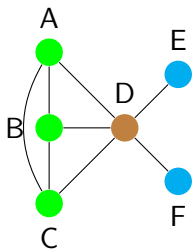
# Tree for modular decomposition



# Tree for modular decomposition



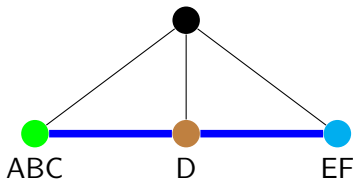
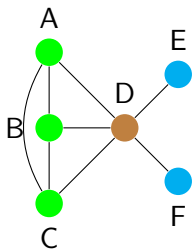
# Tree for modular decomposition



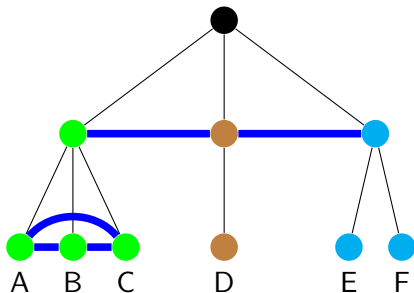
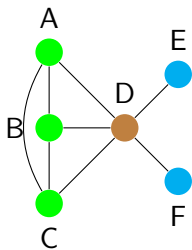
ABCDEF



# Tree for modular decomposition



# Tree for modular decomposition



## Definition (Substitution closure)

Given a *structured tree*  $(T, g)$ , we can define its *realization*  $R(T, g)$ .



## Definition (Substitution closure)

Given a *structured tree*  $(T, g)$ , we can define its *realization*  $R(T, g)$ .  
If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs, the *substitution closure*  $\mathcal{C}_s$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of all  $R(T, g)$  where all  $g(x) \in \mathcal{C}$ .

## Definition (Substitution closure)

Given a *structured tree*  $(T, g)$ , we can define its *realization*  $R(T, g)$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs, the *substitution closure*  $\mathcal{C}_s$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of all  $R(T, g)$  where all  $g(x) \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Equivalently, its the set of graphs we can obtain by starting from graphs in  $\mathcal{C}$  and iteratively substituting their vertices by graphs from  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## Definition (Substitution closure)

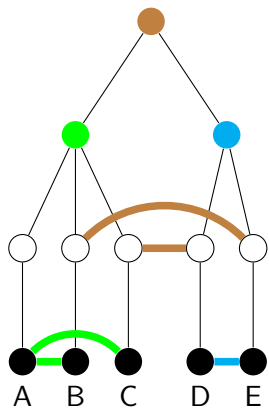
Given a *structured tree*  $(T, g)$ , we can define its *realization*  $R(T, g)$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs, the *substitution closure*  $\mathcal{C}_s$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of all  $R(T, g)$  where all  $g(x) \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Equivalently, its the set of graphs we can obtain by starting from graphs in  $\mathcal{C}$  and iteratively substituting their vertices by graphs from  $\mathcal{C}$ .

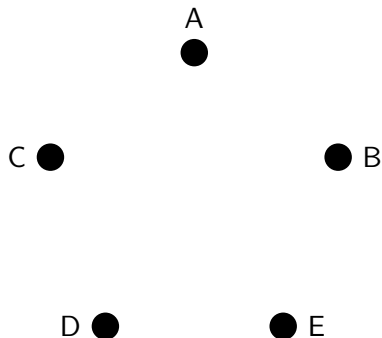
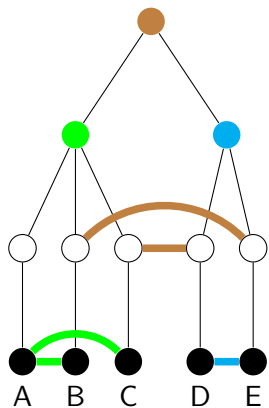
## Theorem (Chudnovsky, Penev, Scott, Trotignon '13)

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded, so is  $\mathcal{C}_s$ .

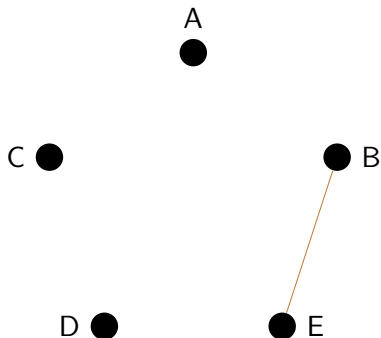
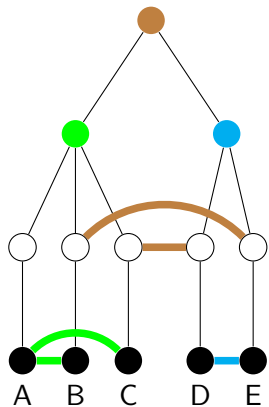
# Delayed substitution



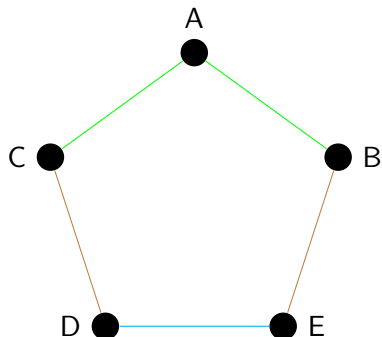
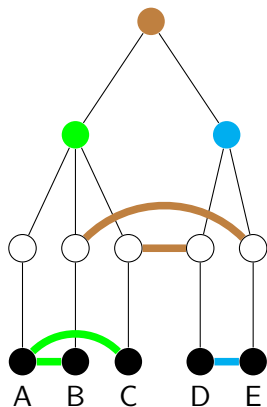
# Delayed substitution



# Delayed substitution



# Delayed substitution



## Definition (Delayed extension)

Given a *delayed structured tree*  $(T, g)$ , we can define its *delayed realization*  $R_d(T, g)$ .



## Definition (Delayed extension)

Given a *delayed structured tree*  $(T, g)$ , we can define its *delayed realization*  $R_d(T, g)$ .

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs, the *delayed extension*  $\mathcal{C}_d$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of all  $R_d(T, g)$  where all  $g(x) \in \mathcal{C}$ .

## Definition (Delayed extension)

Given a *delayed structured tree*  $(T, g)$ , we can define its *delayed realization*  $R_d(T, g)$ .

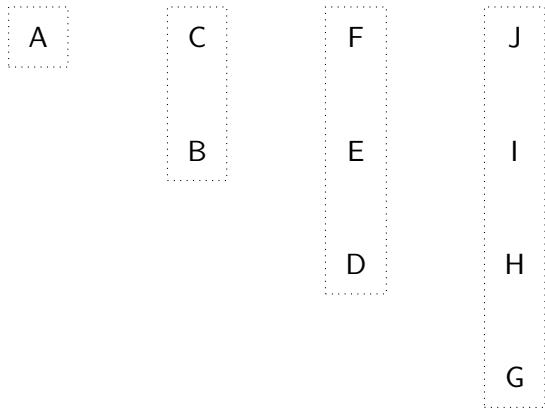
If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a class of graphs, the *delayed extension*  $\mathcal{C}_d$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of all  $R_d(T, g)$  where all  $g(x) \in \mathcal{C}$ .

## Theorem

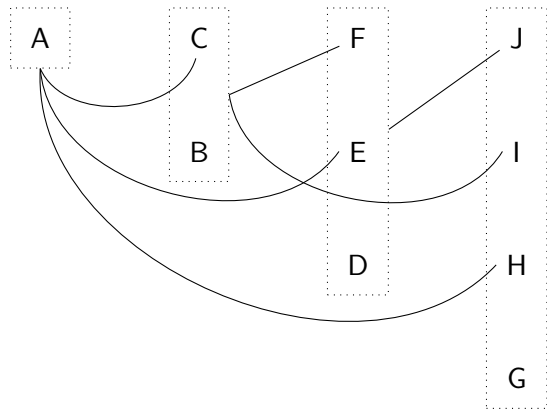
If  $\mathcal{C}$  is polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded, so is  $\mathcal{C}_d$ .

## Second operation: Right Module Partition

## Second operation: Right Module Partition



## Second operation: Right Module Partition



# Right Module Partition & Transversals

# Right Module Partition & Transversals

- With this definition, the right extension of the class of all forests is not  $\chi$ -bounded.

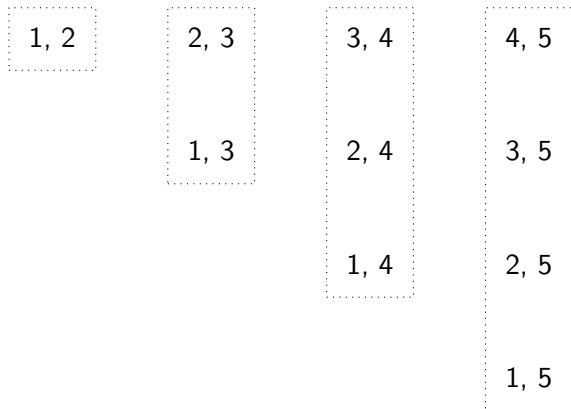
# Right Module Partition & Transversals

- With this definition, the right extension of the class of all forests is not  $\chi$ -bounded.
- Shift graphs: triangle-free, unbounded  $\chi$ .



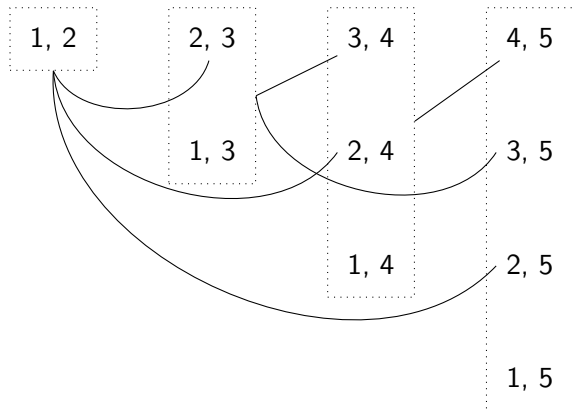
# Right Module Partition & Transversals

- With this definition, the right extension of the class of all forests is not  $\chi$ -bounded.
- Shift graphs: triangle-free, unbounded  $\chi$ .



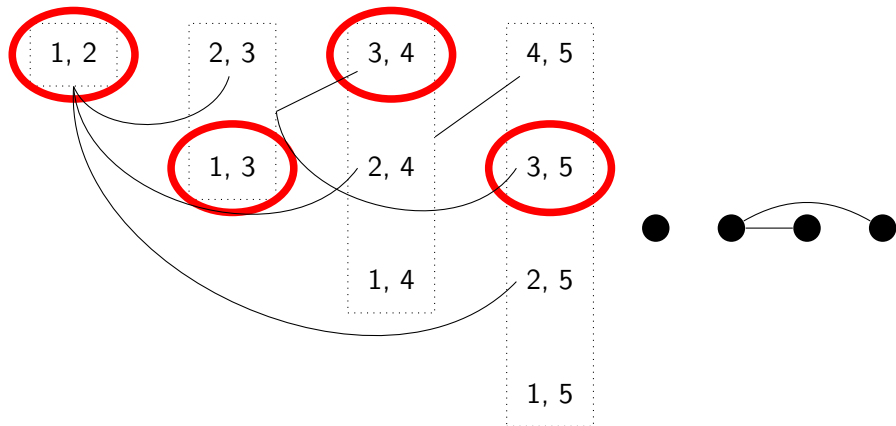
# Right Module Partition & Transversals

- With this definition, the right extension of the class of all forests is not  $\chi$ -bounded.
- Shift graphs: triangle-free, unbounded  $\chi$ .

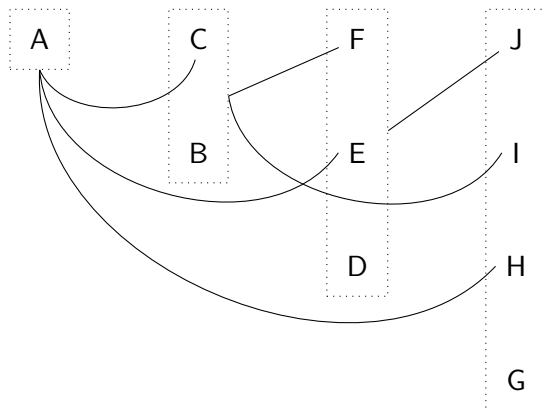


# Right Module Partition & Transversals

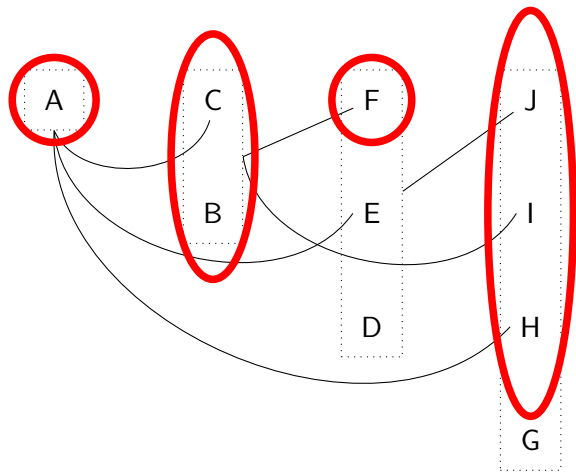
- With this definition, the right extension of the class of all forests is not  $\chi$ -bounded.
- Shift graphs: triangle-free, unbounded  $\chi$ .



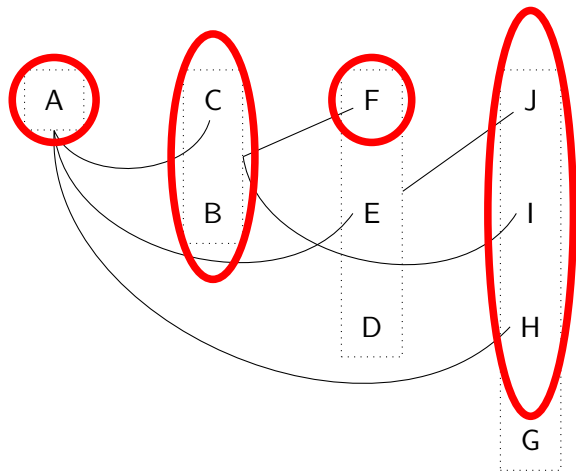
# Transversal minor



# Transversal minor



# Transversal minor



## Definition (Right extension)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a class of graphs. The *right extension*  $RM(\mathcal{C})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of graphs  $G$  that have an RMP where all transversal minors are in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## Definition (Right extension)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a class of graphs. The *right extension*  $RM(\mathcal{C})$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the set of graphs  $G$  that have an RMP where all transversal minors are in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## Theorem

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is  $\chi$ -bounded, then so is  $RM(\mathcal{C})$ .



## Definition

An RMP  $\mathcal{P}$  of a graph  $G$  is *d-nice* if there does not exist an ordered coarsening of  $\mathcal{P}$  into  $d$  parts such that every two distinct parts are mixed.

## Definition

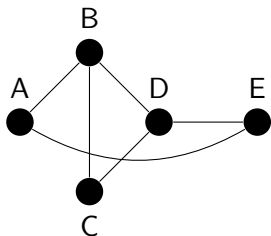
An RMP  $\mathcal{P}$  of a graph  $G$  is  $d$ -nice if there does not exist an ordered coarsening of  $\mathcal{P}$  into  $d$  parts such that every two distinct parts are mixed.

## Theorem (from [PS'22])

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded, the set of graphs with a  $d$ -nice  $\mathcal{C}$ -RMP is also polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

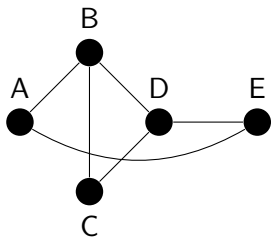
# How to obtain a delayed decomposition?

Start from an ordered graph  $G$ .



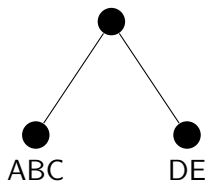
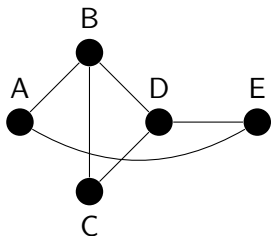
# How to obtain a delayed decomposition?

Start from an ordered graph  $G$ .



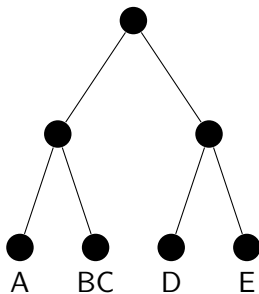
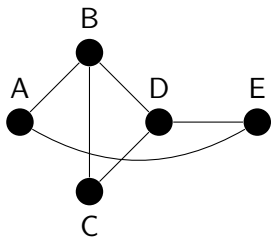
# How to obtain a delayed decomposition?

Start from an ordered graph  $G$ .



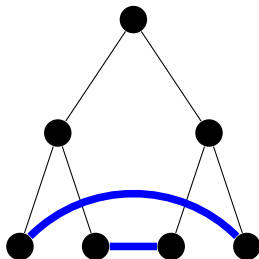
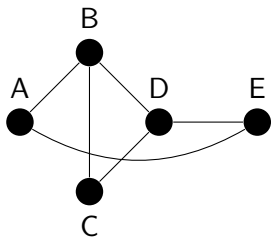
# How to obtain a delayed decomposition?

Start from an ordered graph  $G$ .



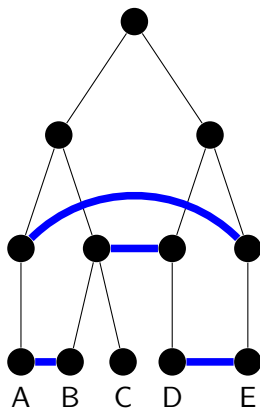
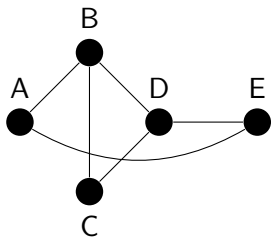
# How to obtain a delayed decomposition?

Start from an ordered graph  $G$ .



# How to obtain a delayed decomposition?

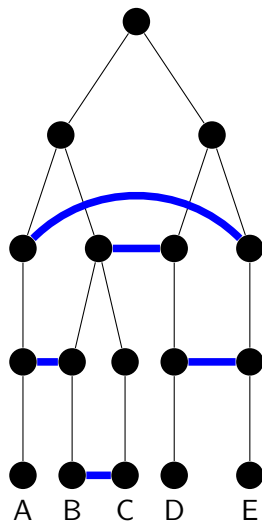
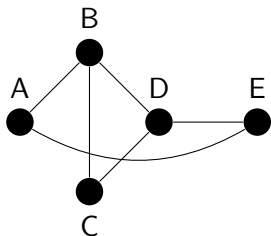
Start from an ordered graph  $G$ .





# How to obtain a delayed decomposition?

Start from an ordered graph  $G$ .



# Sketch of the proof

By induction, we show that  $t$ -almost mixed-free graphs are polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

# Sketch of the proof

By induction, we show that  $t$ -almost mixed-free graphs are polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

$G$ ,  $t$ -almost mixed-free.

# Sketch of the proof

By induction, we show that  $t$ -almost mixed-free graphs are polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

$G$ ,  $t$ -almost mixed-free.

- Do the delayed decomposition, look at the quotient graphs.

# Sketch of the proof

By induction, we show that  $t$ -almost mixed-free graphs are polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

$G$ ,  $t$ -almost mixed-free.

- Do the delayed decomposition, look at the quotient graphs.
- Apply the Marcus-Tardos theorem to vertex partition into a constant number of graphs.

# Sketch of the proof

By induction, we show that  $t$ -almost mixed-free graphs are polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

$G$ ,  $t$ -almost mixed-free.

- Do the delayed decomposition, look at the quotient graphs.
- Apply the Marcus-Tardos theorem to vertex partition into a constant number of graphs.
- Find a suitable RMP.

# Sketch of the proof

By induction, we show that  $t$ -almost mixed-free graphs are polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

$G$ ,  $t$ -almost mixed-free.

- Do the delayed decomposition, look at the quotient graphs.
- Apply the Marcus-Tardos theorem to vertex partition into a constant number of graphs.
- Find a suitable RMP.
- Prove that the *RMP* is  $2t$ -nice.

# Sketch of the proof

By induction, we show that  $t$ -almost mixed-free graphs are polynomially  $\chi$ -bounded.

$G$ ,  $t$ -almost mixed-free.

- Do the delayed decomposition, look at the quotient graphs.
- Apply the Marcus-Tardos theorem to vertex partition into a constant number of graphs.
- Find a suitable RMP.
- Prove that the *RMP* is  $2t$ -nice.
- Prove that all transversal minors are  $t - 1$ -almost mixed-free.



- What can we get by iterated delayed extensions starting from  $\{K_2, \overline{K_2}\}$ ?

- What can we get by iterated delayed extensions starting from  $\{K_2, \overline{K_2}\}$ ?
- Does the right extension preserve polynomial  $\chi$ -boundedness in general?

- What can we get by iterated delayed extensions starting from  $\{K_2, \overline{K_2}\}$ ?
- Does the right extension preserve polynomial  $\chi$ -boundedness in general?
- For triangle-free graphs of twin-width  $t$ , do we have  $\chi \leq t + 1$ ?