

# Optimal Solutions for Hard Network Problems in Bioinformatics

Falk Hüffner

joint work with

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# Outline

- 1 Signaling pathways
  - Protein interaction networks
  - Color-coding
  - Speedups
  - Simulations
- 2 Balanced subsystems
  - Applications
  - Data reduction
  - Iterative compression
- 3 Isolated Clique enumeration











# Graph model

Protein interaction network:

- Proteins are nodes
- Interactions are undirected edges
- Edges are annotated with interaction probability (obtained e. g. by two-hybrid screening)

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- Interactions are undirected edges
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## Definition

A **linear signaling pathway** is a sequence of distinct proteins, where each interacts strongly with the previous one.



# Graph model

## MOST PROBABLE PATH [SCOTT et al., J. Comp. Biol. 2006]

**Input:** Graph  $G = (V, E)$ , interaction probabilities  $p : E \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , integer  $k > 0$ .

**Task:** Find a non-overlapping path  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  of length  $k$  in  $G$  that maximizes  $p(v_1, v_2) \cdot \dots \cdot p(v_{k-1}, v_k)$ .

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Setting  $w(e) := -\log(p(e))$ :

## MINIMUM-WEIGHT PATH

**Input:** Graph  $G = (V, E)$ , weights  $w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ , integer  $k > 0$ .

**Task:** Find a non-overlapping path  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  of length  $k$  in  $G$  that minimizes  $w(v_1, v_2) + \dots + w(v_{k-1}, v_k)$ .



# Minimum-Weight Path

## Theorem

MINIMUM-WEIGHT PATH *is NP-hard* [GAREY & JOHNSON 1979].

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## Idea

Exploit the fact that the paths sought for are rather short ( $\approx 5-15$ ): restrict the exponential part of the runtime to  $k$  (**parameterized complexity**).

# Fixed-parameter tractability

**Parameterized complexity** is an approach to finding exact solutions to NP-hard problems by confining the combinatorial explosion to a **parameter**.

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## Definition

A problem is called **fixed-parameter tractable** with respect to a parameter  $k$  if an instance of size  $n$  can be solved in  $f(k) \cdot n^{O(1)}$  time for an arbitrary function  $f$ .

# Color-coding

**Color-coding** is a method for solving MINIMUM-WEIGHT PATH that is fast for short path lengths.

**Color-coding** [ALON, YUSTER & ZWICK, J. ACM 1995]

- randomly color each vertex of the graph with one of  $k$  colors
- hope that all vertices in the subgraph searched for obtain different colors (**colorful**)
- solve the MINIMUM-WEIGHT PATH under this assumption (which is much quicker)
- repeat these **trial** until it is reasonably certain that the path was colorful at least once

Result: exponential part of the runtime depends only on  $k$

# Dynamic programming for Minimum-Weight Colorful Path

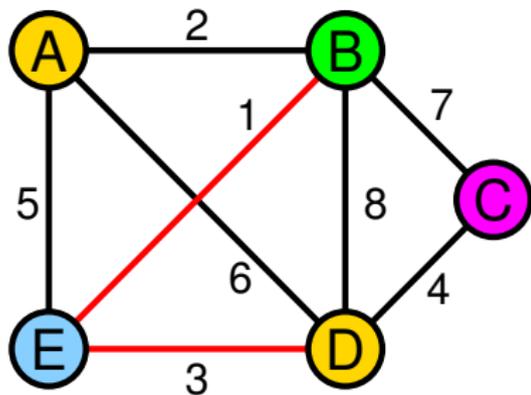
## Idea

Table entry  $W[v, C]$  stores the minimum-weight path that ends in  $v$  and uses exactly the colors in  $C$ .

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$$W[B, \{\text{blue}, \text{green}, \text{yellow}\}] = 4$$

# Dynamic programming for Minimum-Weight Colorful Path

Coloring  $c : V \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\}$

Recurrence

$$W[v, C] = \min_{u \in N(v)} (W[u, C \setminus \{c(v)\}] + w(u, v))$$

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## Recurrence

$$W[v, C] = \min_{u \in N(v)} (W[u, C \setminus \{c(v)\}] + w(u, v))$$

- Each table entry can be calculated in  $O(n)$  time
- $n \cdot 2^k$  table entries

$\rightsquigarrow$  Running time per trial:  $O(2^k \cdot n^2)$

# Color-coding running time

- $O(2^k \cdot n^2)$  time per trial
- To obtain error probability  $\varepsilon$ , one needs  $O(-\ln \varepsilon \cdot e^k)$  trials

Theorem ([ALON et al., JACM 1995])

MINIMUM-WEIGHT PATH *can be solved in  $O(-\ln \varepsilon \cdot 5.44^k |G|)$  time.*

# Implementations of color-coding

- Find minimum-weight paths of length 10 in the yeast protein interaction networks within 3 hours ( $n = 4\,400$ ,  $k = 10$ )  
[SCOTT et al., J. Comp. Biol. 2006]
- Pathway queries  
[SHLOMI et al., BMC Bioinformatics 2006]
- Tree queries  
[DOST et al., RECOMB 2007]
- Protein docking  
[MAYROSE et al., Nucleic Acids Research 2007]
- Balanced paths  
[CAPPANERA & SCUTELLÀ, INOC 2007]
- Automated text headline generation  
[DESHPANDE et al., NAACL HLT 2007]

# Increasing the number of colors

## Idea

Use  $k + x$  colors instead of  $k$  colors.

Trial runtime:

$$O(2^k |G|) \rightarrow O(2^{k+x} |G|)$$

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Probability  $P_c$  for colorful path ( $k = 8$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.001$ ):

$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5
$P_c$	0.0024	0.0084	0.0181	0.0310	0.0464	0.0636
trials	2871	816	378	220	146	106

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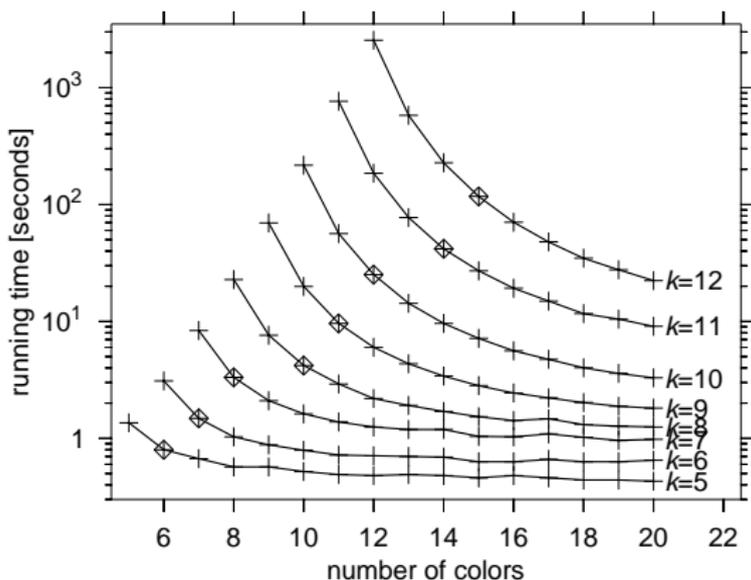
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MINIMUM-WEIGHT PATH *can be solved in*  $O(-\ln \varepsilon \cdot 4.32^k |G|)$  *time by choosing*  $x = 0.3k$ .

**But:** Higher memory usage

# Increasing the number of colors



Running times for the yeast protein interaction network  
(highlighted point of each curve marks worst-case optimum)

# State space search

## Idea

Consider the dynamic programming as a state space search problem (shortest path problem in an implicitly defined graph).

From a state  $(u, C)$ , we can go to  $(v, C \cup \{c(v)\})$  for  $v \in N(u)$  with  $c(v) \neq c(u)$ , at cost  $w(u, v)$ .

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## Lower bounds

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- can guide the search ( $A^*$ )

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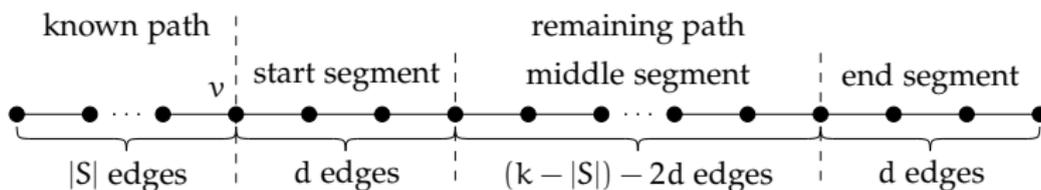
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Simple lower bound:

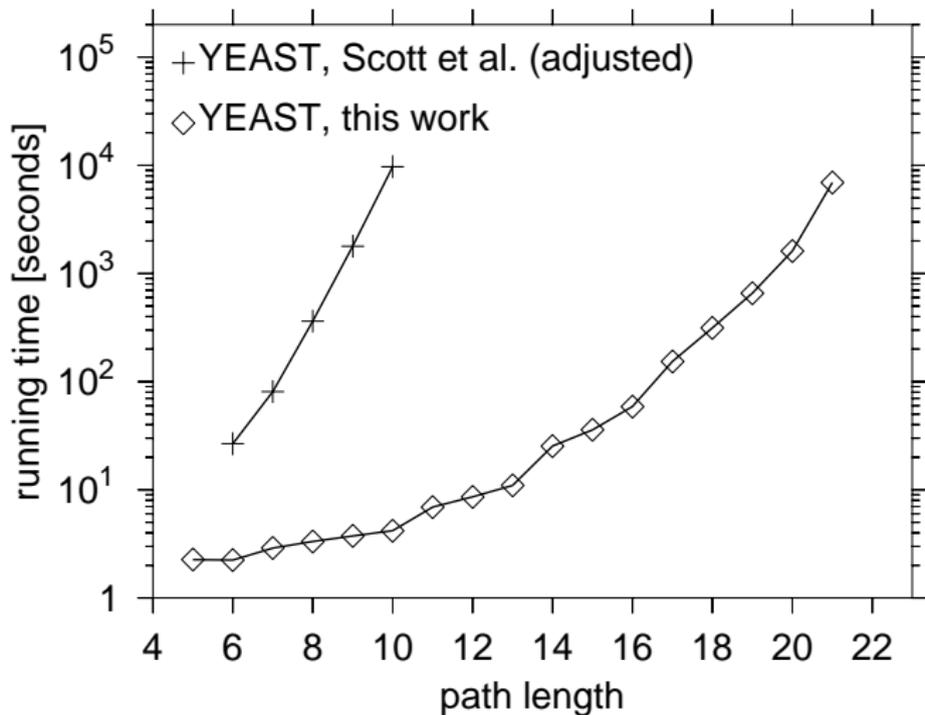
$$\text{weight} + (\text{minimum edge weight} \cdot \text{edges left})$$

# Precalculated lower bounds

For each vertex  $u$  and a range of lengths  $1 \leq i \leq d$ , determine the minimum weight of a path of  $i$  edges that starts at  $u$ .



# Yeast network

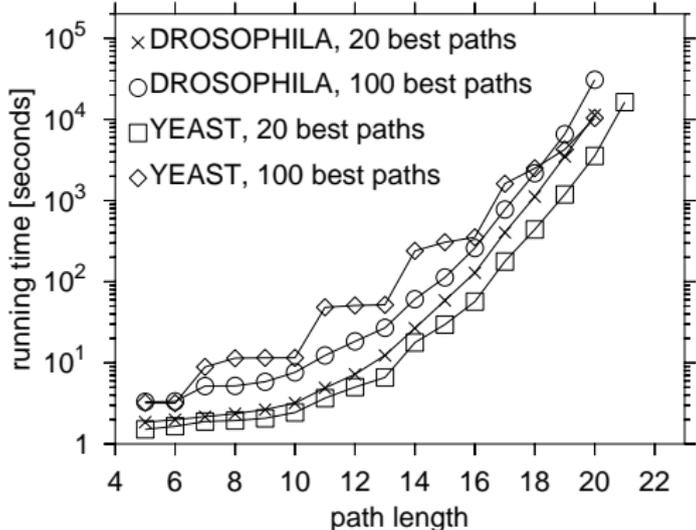


# Network Comparison

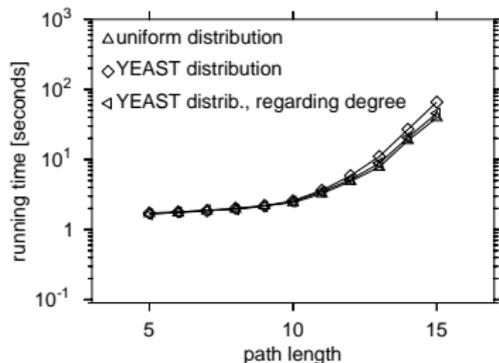
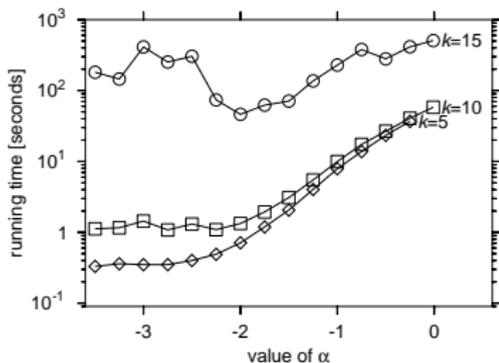
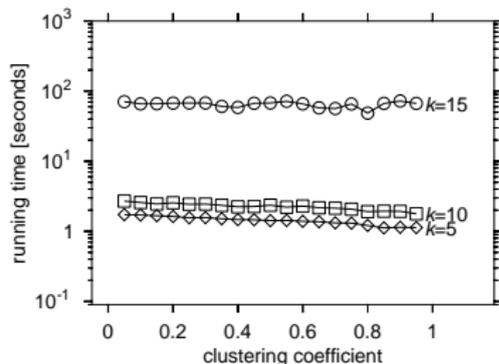
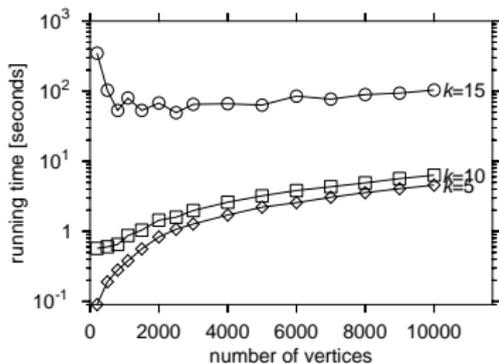
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	7 009	20 440	0.030	5.8	175

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# Simulations: Robustness of Algorithm



# Pathway Query

## Queries of *S. cerevisiae* pathways in the *D. melanogaster* network

Path length	Avg. Time [s]	Max. Time [s]	Successful Queries
4	2.24	2.57	98%
5	2.33	3.61	93%
6	3.00	23.02	81%
7	4.52	93.32	52%
8	7.49	225.61	31%
9	11.38	245.78	13%

# Graphical user interface: FASPAD

Fast Signaling Pathway Detection

File View Help

Options Information

Main Start nodes End nodes

Load Graph

/home/tzsnoopy/jurirepository/colorcod

Pathlength 8

Number of paths 50

Filter 70 %

Success probability 99.9 %

Search Stop Del tab

Graph 1 Graph 2 Graph 3 Graph 4 Graph 5 Graph 6 Graph 7

Result list 1 Result list 2 Result list 3

	Weight	Prot 1	Prot 2	Prot 3	Prot 4	Prot 5	Prot 6	Prot 7	Prot 8	Selected
1	0.317429	CG6998	CG3227	CG5450	CG32130	CG18743 CG7945	CG11761	CG5063		<input type="checkbox"/>
2	0.323947	CG1871	CG8929	CG13030	CG10108	CG1856	CG7057	CG13811	CG3779	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	0.339116	CG32130	CG18743 CG7945	CG11761	CG17599	CG9740	CG4622	CG11454		<input type="checkbox"/>
4	0.368402	CG5450	CG32130	CG18743 CG7945	CG11761	CG1435	CG2774	CG8282		<input type="checkbox"/>
5	0.373798	CG15293	CG14169	CG7224	CG13630	CG1856	CG7057	CG13811	CG2774	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	0.391802	CG15468	CG14818	CG9951	CG8856	CG17599	CG9740	CG4622	CG11454	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	0.416075	CG18591	CG16792	CG13277	CG6610	CG1249	CG8282	CG2774	CG1138	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	0.433175	CG6425	CG5203	CG18743 CG32130	CG5450	CG3183	CG6998	CG3227		<input type="checkbox"/>

Free software, available at

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# Conclusion & Outlook

Color-coding, with some algorithm engineering, is a practical method for finding signaling pathways in protein interaction networks.

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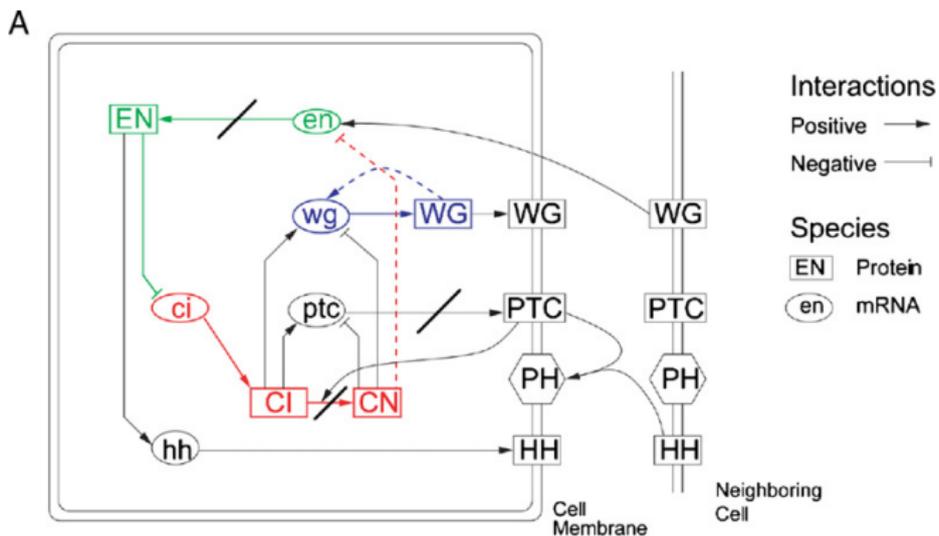
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Future work:

- Richer motifs (cycles, trees, ...)
- “Divide-and-color” [KNEIS et al., WG 2007; Chen et al., SODA 2007]:  
Improvement from  $4.32^k$  to  $4^k$ . But: “ $\Theta(4^k)$ ”

# Balanced subsystems

# Drosophila regulatory network



[DASGUPTA et al., Biosystems 2007]

# Balanced graphs

## Definition

An undirected graph with edges labeled by  $=$  or  $\neq$  (**signed graph**) is **balanced** iff it contains no cycle with an odd number of  $\neq$ -edges.

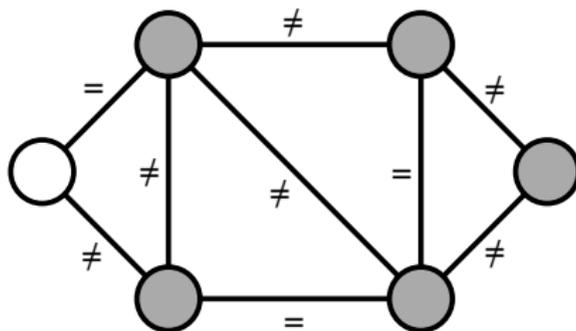
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## Theorem (König 1936)

*A signed graph is balanced iff the vertices can be colored with two colors such that the relation on each edge holds.*



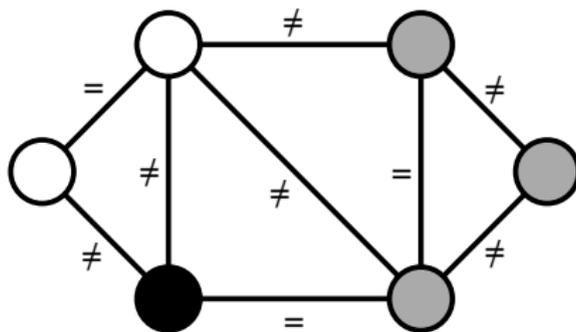
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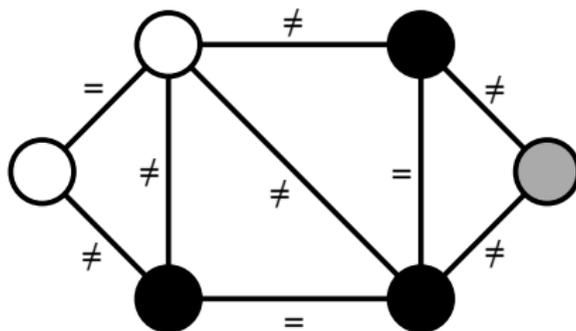
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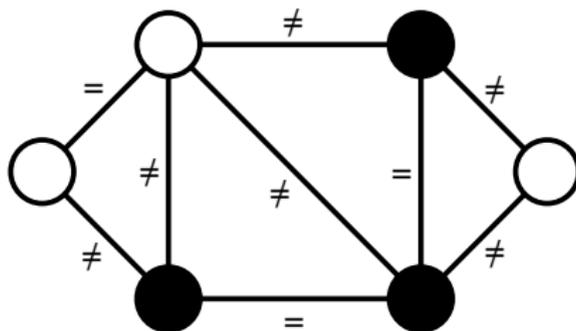
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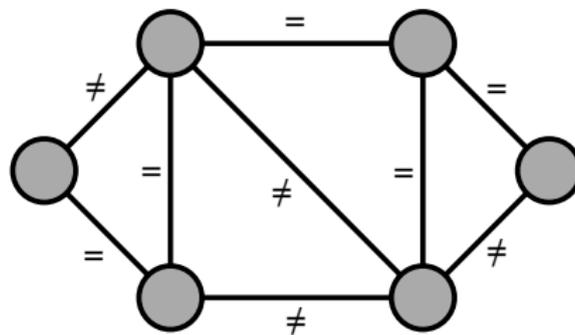
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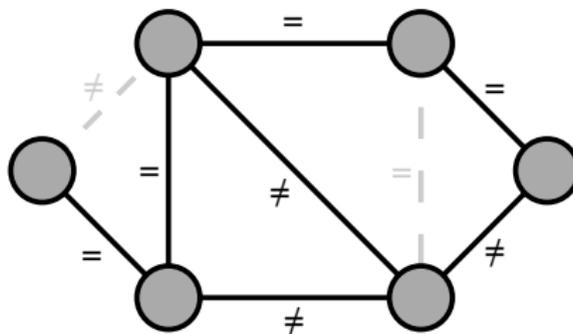
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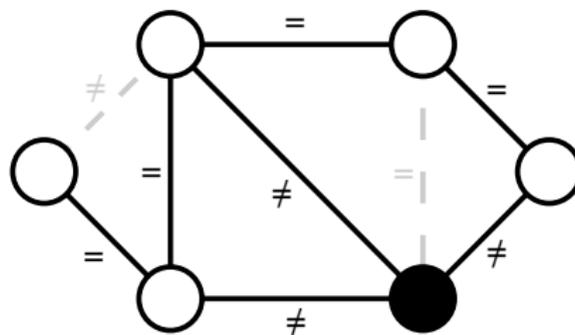
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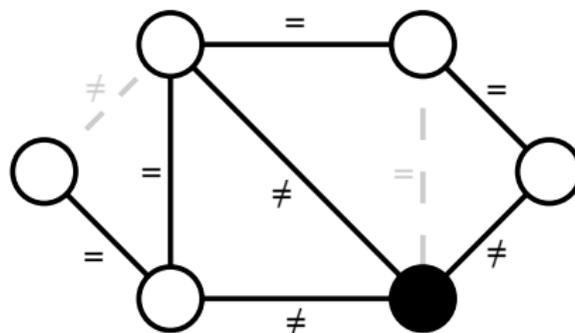
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# Balanced Subgraph



## Definition (BALANCED SUBGRAPH)

**Input:** A graph with edges labeled by  $=$  or  $\neq$ .

**Task:** Find a minimum set of edges to delete such that the graph becomes balanced.

# Applications of Balanced Subgraph

- “Monotone subsystems” in gene regulatory networks  
[DASGUPTA et al., WEA 2006]
- Balance in social networks  
[HARARY, Mich. Math. J. 1953]  
e. g. Harary: *A structural analysis of the situation in the Middle East in 1956*, J. Conflict Resolution 1961
- Minimum energy state of magnetic materials (spin glasses)  
[KASTELEYN, J. Math. Phys. 1963]
- Stability of fullerenes  
[DOŠLIĆ & VUKIČEVIĆ, Discr. Appl. Math. 2007]
- Integrated circuit design  
[CHIANG et al., IEEE Trans. CAD of IC & Sys. 2007]

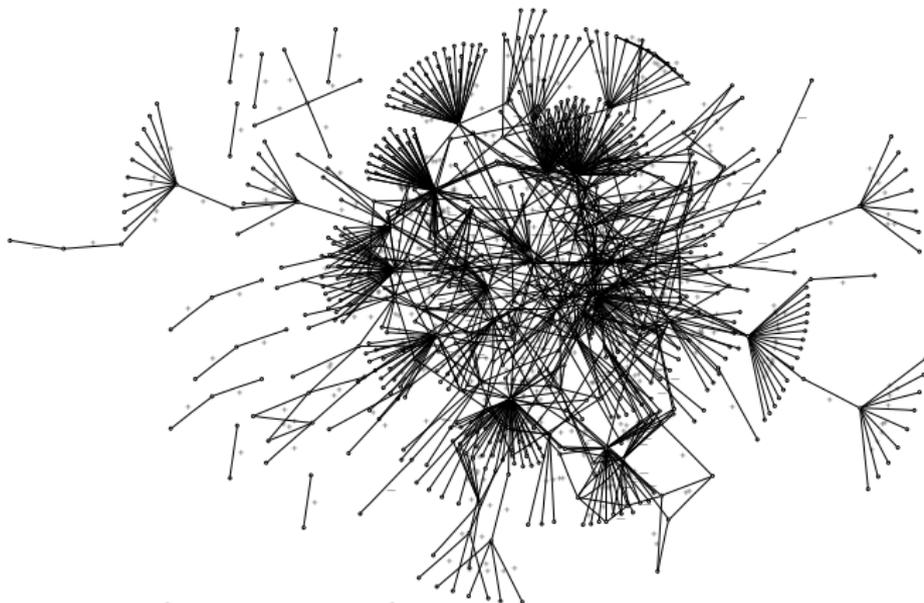
# Balanced Subgraph: known results

- BALANCED SUBGRAPH is NP-hard, since it is a generalization of MAX-CUT (MAX-CUT is the special case where all edges are  $\neq$ )
- A solution that keeps at least 87.8 % of the edges can be found in polynomial time  
[THAGARD & VERBEURGT, Cogn. Sci. 1998]
- A solution that deletes at most  $c$  times the edges that need to be deleted can probably not be found in polynomial time  
[KHOT, STOC 2002]

# Graph structure

## Idea

Exploit the structure of the relevant networks



Yeast gene regulatory network

# Data reduction

## Data reduction

Replace the instance in polynomial time by a simpler, equivalent one.

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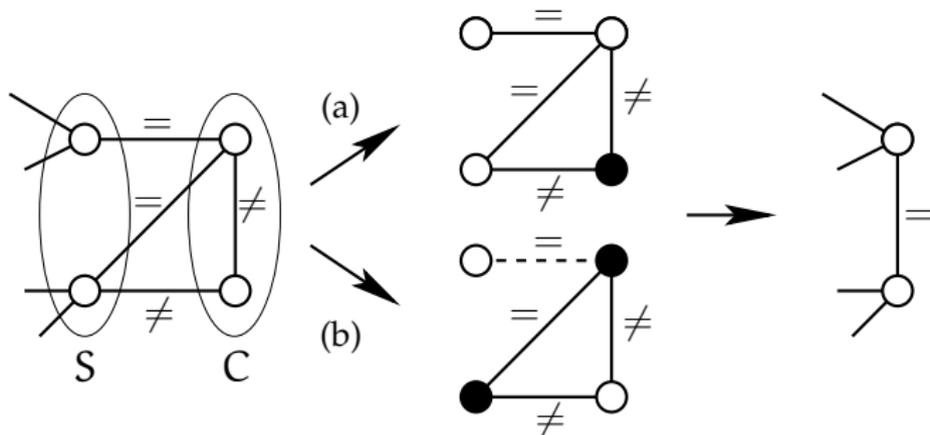
## Data reduction

Replace the instance in polynomial time by a simpler, equivalent one.

## Example

Delete all degree-1 vertices.

# Vertex cut-based data reduction



# Data reduction scheme

## Data reduction scheme

- Find cut  $S$  that cuts off small component  $C$
- For each of the (up to symmetry)  $2^{|S|-1}$  colorings of  $S$ , determine the size of an optimal solution for  $G[S \cup C]$
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Subsumes all 8 data reduction rules given by [WERNICKE, 2003] for  
EDGE BIPARTIZATION

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- Need to restrict both  $|S|$  and  $|C|$ : we use  $|S| \leq 4$  and  $|C| \leq 32$

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- Need to restrict both  $|S|$  and  $|C|$ : we use  $|S| \leq 4$  and  $|C| \leq 32$
- How to construct gadgets that behave equivalently to  $S \cup C$ ?

# Gadget construction

## Idea

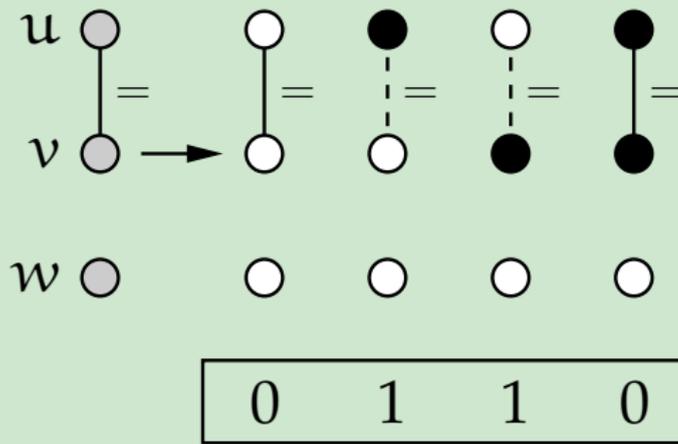
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*With 10 atomic gadgets, we can emulate the behavior of any component behind a 3-vertex cut.*

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*All cuts with  $|S| = 2$  and  $|C| \geq 1$  and all cuts with  $|S| = 3$  and  $|C| \geq 2$  are subject to data reduction.*

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- 4-cuts: 2948 atomic gadgets

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Given a set  $S$  of  $n$  vectors of length  $l$  with nonnegative integer components and a target vector  $t$  of length  $l$ , find a sub-(multi)-set of vectors from  $S$  that sums to  $t$ .

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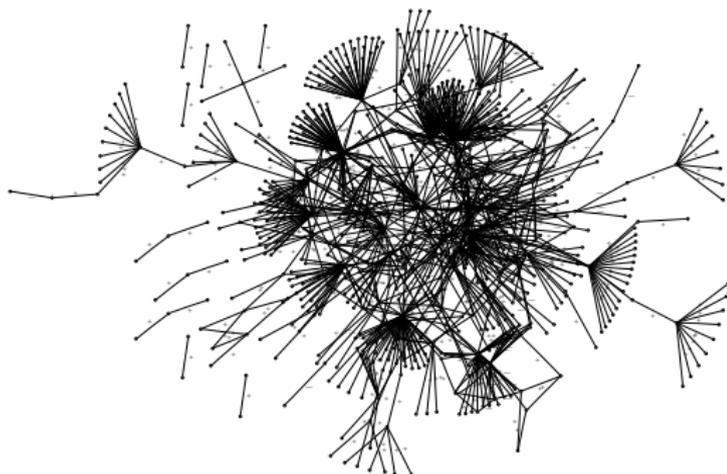
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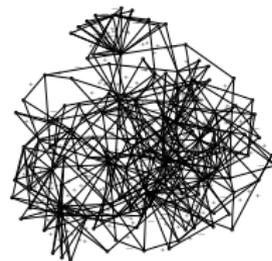
- “Equality-constrained multidimensional knapsack”
- In our implementation: simple branch & bound
- Sometimes this is a bottleneck!



# Reduction... and then?



$n = 690, m = 1082$



$n = 144, m = 405$

After data reduction, a hard “core” remains.

## Idea

Exploit the fact that only few edges need to be deleted.

# Fixed-parameter tractability

## Theorem

BALANCED SUBGRAPH *can be solved in  $O(2^k \cdot m)$  time by a reduction to EDGE BIPARTIZATION and using an algorithm based on iterative compression* [Guo et al. 2006].

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A heuristic speedup trick can give large speedups over this worst-case running time.



# Experimental results

Data set	$n$	$m$	Approximation			Exact alg.	
			$k \geq$	$k \leq$	$t$ [min]	$k$	$t$ [min]
EGFR	330	855	196	219	7	210	108
Yeast	690	1082	0	43	77	41	1
Macr.	678	1582	218	383	44	374	1

- Yeast is not solvable without reducing 4-cuts
- A real-world network with 688 vertices and 2208 edges could not be solved

# Outlook

- Directed case of BALANCED SUBGRAPH (delete minimum number of edges to remove all unbalanced cycles): FPT?
    - Problem: Characterization by two-coloring does not work
  - The data reduction scheme is applicable to all graph problems where a coloring or a subset of the vertices is sought. For example:
    - VERTEX COVER
    - DOMINATING SET
    - 3-COLORING
    - FEEDBACK VERTEX SET
- but: need small cuts (e. g., small-world networks)

# Protein complexes

# Clique Enumeration

## Application

- Analysis of biological, social, and other networks
- Finding complexes in protein interaction networks
- Clustering in data mining

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- Simple model
- NP-hard
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# Clique Enumeration

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- Analysis of biological, social, and other networks
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## Maximal clique enumeration

- Simple model
- NP-hard
- up to  $3^{n/3}$  cliques

## Isolated cliques

- More specific model
- More efficient enumeration algorithms (FPT)

# c-Isolation

## Definition (Ito, Iwama & Osumi, ESA 2005)

A vertex set  $S$  is called  $c$ -isolated if on average the vertices in  $S$  have less than  $c$  neighbors outside of  $S$ .

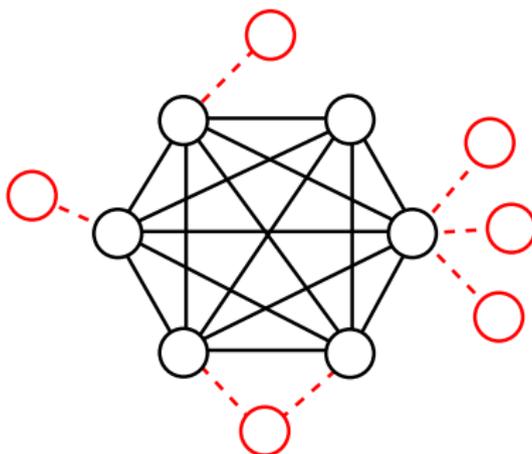
Example: 2-isolation

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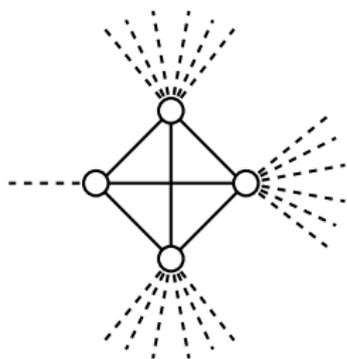
# Enumerating maximal $c$ -isolated cliques

## Theorem

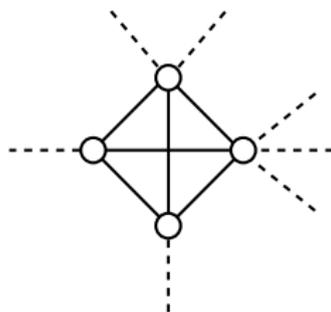
*All maximal  $c$ -isolated cliques in a graph  $G$  can be enumerated in  $O(2.89^c \cdot c^2 m)$  time.*

# Comparison of isolation concepts

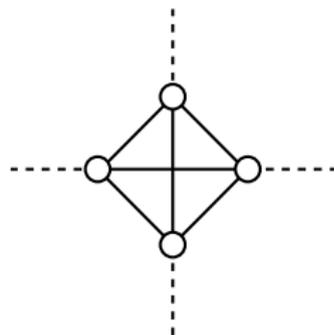
min-2-isolated



2-isolated



max-2-isolated



## Running times for enumeration of maximal cliques

min- $c$ -isolation  $O(2^c \cdot cm + nm)$

$c$ -isolation  $O(4^c \cdot c^4 m)$

max- $c$ -isolation  $O(2.44^c \cdot cm)$

# Finding complexes: Experimental setup

## Question

Are isolated cliques a good model for complexes?

## Experiment

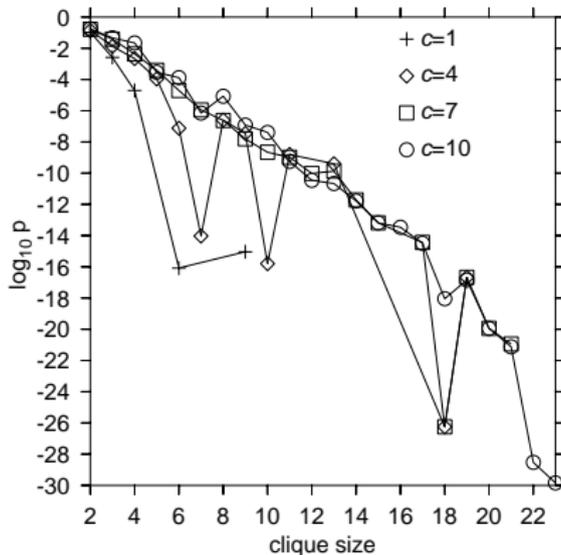
- We retrieved a protein interaction network from BioGRID: *S. cerevisiae*: 5 195 nodes, 70 911 edges.
- We retrieved annotation data for each protein from the Saccharomyces Genome Database (SGD).
- For each enumerated clique, we calculated the  $p$ -values for the enrichment of annotation terms with the GO Termfinder software, and chose the annotation term with the lowest  $p$ -value.

# Finding complexes: Experimental results

## General observations

- running time: few seconds
- maximal isolated cliques show more significant enrichment of annotation terms than maximal cliques

# Finding complexes: Experimental results



Comparison of mean  $p$ -values of the enumerated maximal min- $c$ -isolated cliques and different values of  $c$ .



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