

Degree Sequences, Forced Adjacency Relationships, and Weakly Threshold Graphs

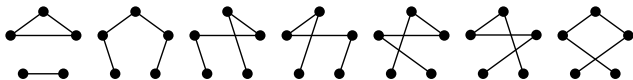
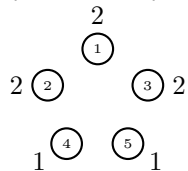
Michael D. Barrus

Department of Mathematics, University of Rhode Island

Discrete Math Seminar
November 20, 2015

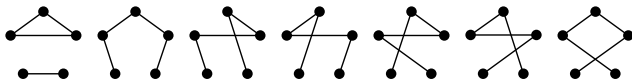
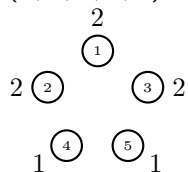
Realizations and Properties

$(2, 2, 2, 1, 1)$



Realizations and Properties

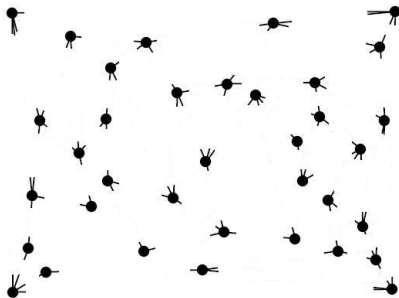
$(2, 2, 2, 1, 1)$



Given a graph property \mathcal{P} , a degree sequence d is

- **potentially \mathcal{P} -graphic** if at least one realization of d has property \mathcal{P} .
- **forcibly \mathcal{P} -graphic** if **every** realization of d has property \mathcal{P} .

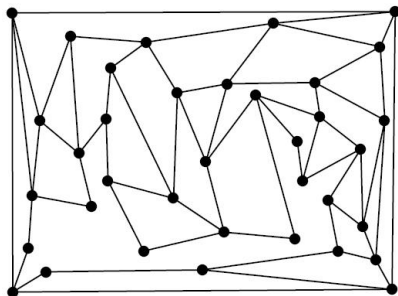
Forcible adjacency relationships



$$d(G) = (4, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2)$$

Forcible adjacency relationships

\mathcal{P}_{ij} : ij is an edge (non-edge)

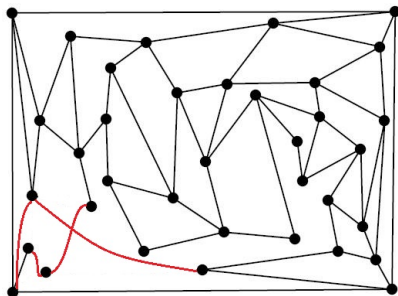


$$d(G) = (4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2)$$

Are there any **forcible edges/non-edges**?

Forcible adjacency relationships

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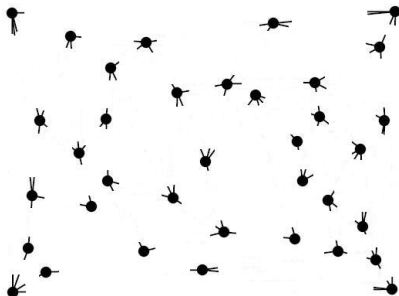


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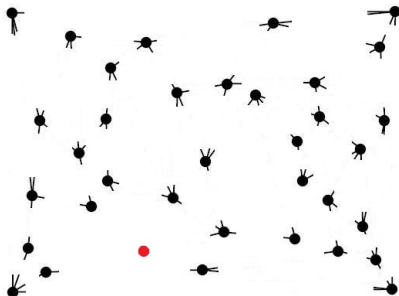


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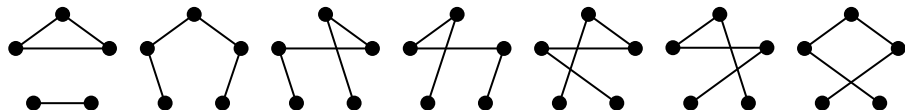


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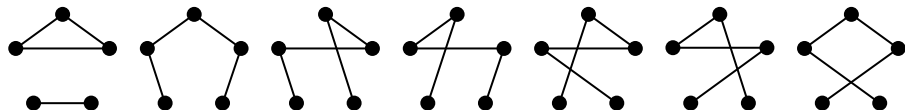
Forcible adjacency relationships: Envelope graphs

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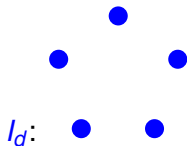
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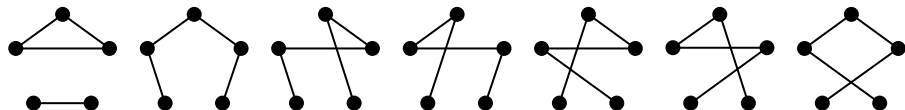
Intersection envelope graph I_d

$$E(I_d) = \bigcap_{d(G)=d} E(G)$$



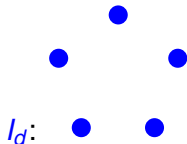
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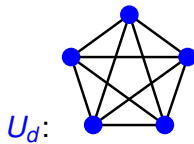
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Union envelope graph U_d

$$E(U_d) = \bigcup_{d(G)=d} E(G)$$



A key graph class: Threshold graphs

Chvátal–Hammer, 1973; many others

Many equivalent characterizations...

threshold sequence: a degree sequence having exactly one (labeled) realization.

threshold graph: a realization of a threshold sequence.

A key graph class: Threshold graphs

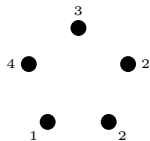
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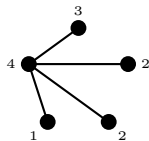
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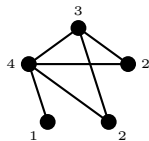
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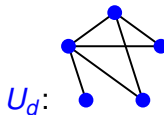
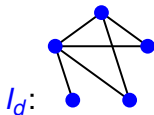
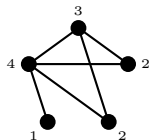
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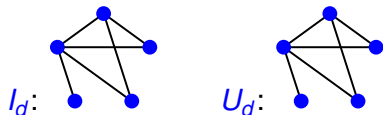
All edges and non-edges are forced by the degree sequence.

Forcible adjacency relationships: Envelope graphs

$(2, 2, 2, 1, 1)$



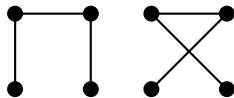
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No edges or non-edges are forced by the degree sequence.

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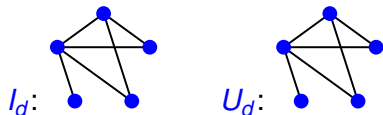


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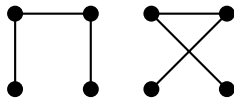
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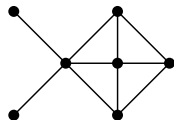


Questions

- How can we recognize forcible adjacency relationships from a **degree sequence**?

$$d = (5, 4, 3, 3, 3, 1, 1)$$

- How can we recognize forcible adjacency relationships from a **graph**?



- What connections are there to interesting **graph classes**?

How can we recognize forcible adjacency relationships from a
degree sequence?

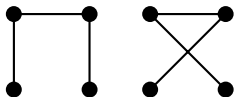
A beginning

For graphic d and $1 \leq i < j \leq n$, define

$$d^+(i, j) = (d_1, \dots, d_{i-1}, d_i + 1, d_{i+1}, \dots, d_{j-1}, d_j + 1, d_{j+1}, \dots, d_n) \quad \text{and}$$

$$d^-(i, j) = (d_1, \dots, d_{i-1}, d_i - 1, d_{i+1}, \dots, d_{j-1}, d_j - 1, d_{j+1}, \dots, d_n).$$

$$d = (2, 2, 1, 1)$$



$$d^+(1, 3) = (3, 2, 2, 1)$$

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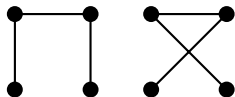
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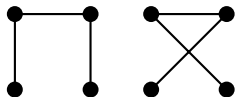
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$$d = (2, 2, 1, 1)$$



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Lemma

The pair i, j is a forcible $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{edge} \\ \text{non-edge} \end{array} \right\}$ for d iff $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} d^+(i, j) \\ d^-(i, j) \end{array} \right\}$ is not graphic.

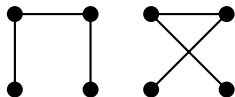
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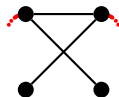
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Erdős–Gallai inequalities

A list (d_1, \dots, d_n) of nonnegative integers in descending order with even sum is a degree sequence if and only if

$$\underbrace{\sum_{i \leq k} d_i}_{\text{LHS}_k(d)} \leq \underbrace{k(k-1) + \sum_{i > k} \min\{k, d_i\}}_{\text{RHS}_k(d)}$$

for all $k \leq m = \max\{i : d_i \geq i - 1\}$.

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Theorem (Hammer–Ibaraki–Simeone, 1978)

d is a threshold sequence if and only if $\text{LHS}_k(d) = \text{RHS}_k(d)$ for all $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$.

Erdős–Gallai differences

A list (d_1, \dots, d_n) of nonnegative integers in descending order with even sum is a degree sequence if and only if

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$$\Delta_k(d) = \text{RHS}_k(d) - \text{LHS}_k(d)$$

for all $k \leq m = \max\{i : d_i \geq i - 1\}$.

Theorem

Given $1 \leq i < j \leq n$,

$\{i, j\}$ is a **forced edge** iff $\exists k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that either

$\Delta_k(d) = 0$, $i \leq k < j$, and $k \leq d_j$; OR $\Delta_k(d) \leq 1$ and $j \leq k$.

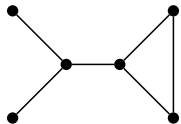
$\{i, j\}$ is a **forced non-edge** iff $\exists k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that either

$\Delta_k(d) = 0$, $k < i$, and $d_j < k \leq d_i$; OR $\Delta_k(d) \leq 1$ and $d_i < k < i$.

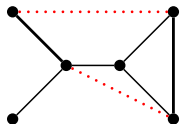
$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} (7, & \mathbf{6}, & \underline{3}, & \underline{3}, & \underline{3}, & \underline{3}, & 1, & 1, & 1) \\ & & (4, & \mathbf{4}, & 3, & 3, & 3, & 1) \end{array}$$

How can we recognize forcible adjacency relationships from a
graph?

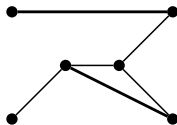
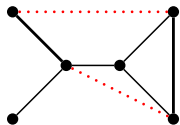
A switching result?



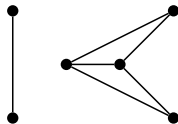
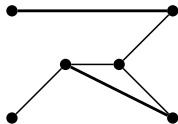
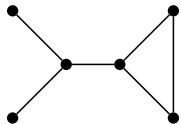
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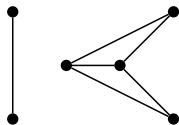
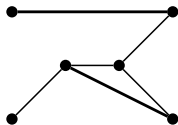
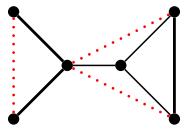
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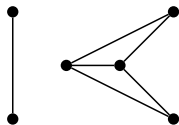
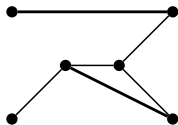
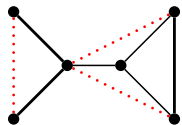
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Proposition

The pair $\{i, j\}$ in G is a forcible edge or non-edge for $d(G)$ if and only if $\{i, j\}$ belongs to no alternating circuit in G .

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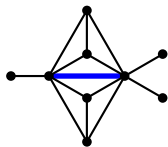
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Lots to check...

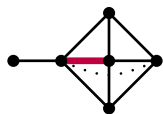
A structural characterization

A clique is **demanding** if every vertex outside the clique has as many neighbors as possible in the clique.

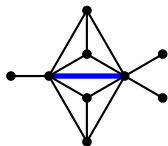


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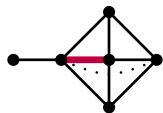
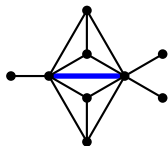


A clique is **weakly demanding** if changing one neighbor of a single vertex outside the clique makes the clique demanding.



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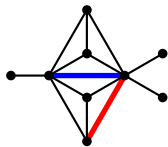
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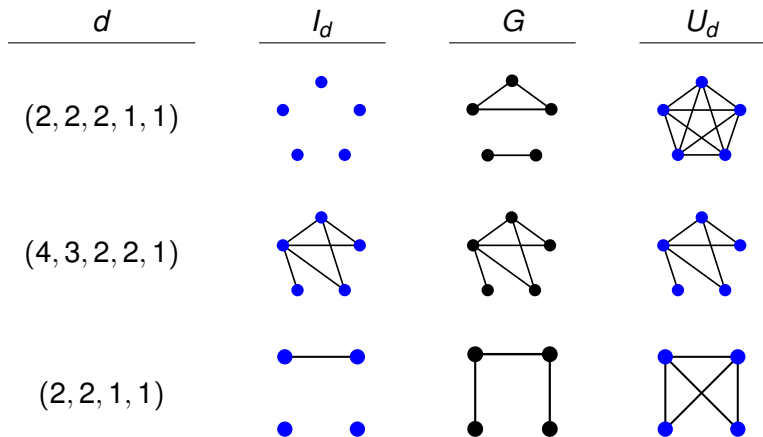
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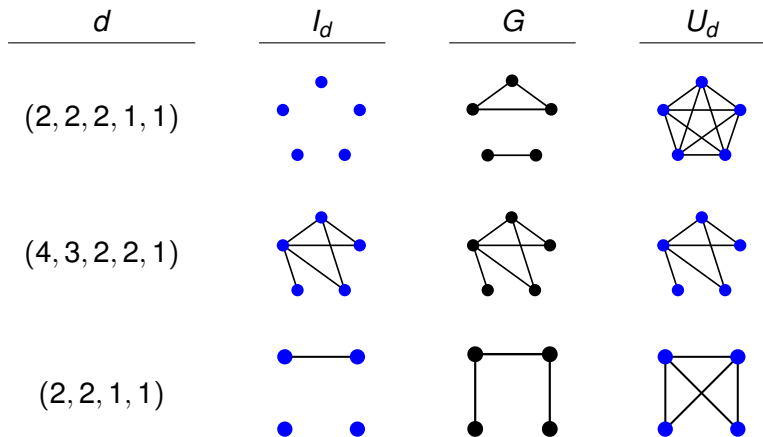
A realization edge is forced for d iff it lies in a demanding or weakly demanding clique or it joins a demanding clique vertex to an external vertex that dominates the clique.



Overall structure of forced relationships



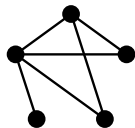
Overall structure of forced relationships



Theorem

For any degree sequence d , both I_d and U_d are threshold graphs.

Threshold graphs and canonical decomposition



Threshold graphs and canonical decomposition



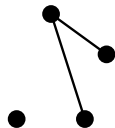
Threshold graphs and canonical decomposition



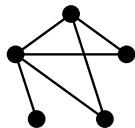
Threshold graphs and canonical decomposition



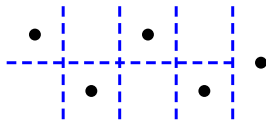
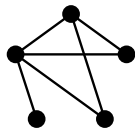
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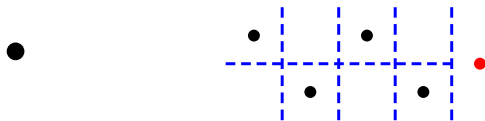
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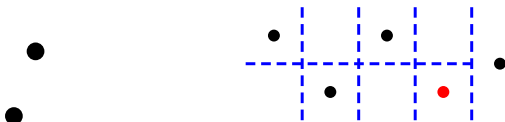
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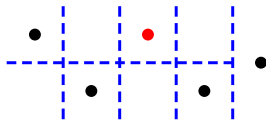
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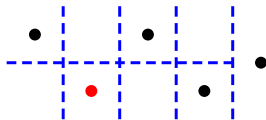
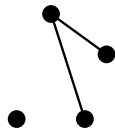
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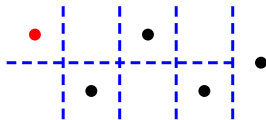
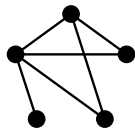
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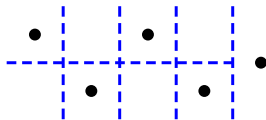
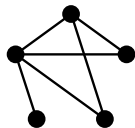
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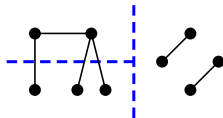
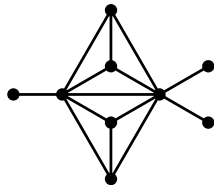
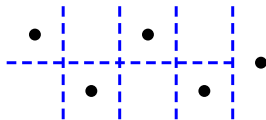
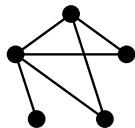
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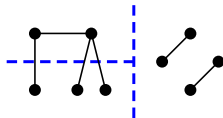
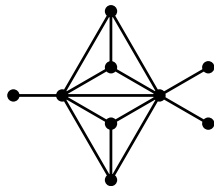
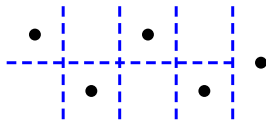
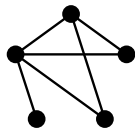
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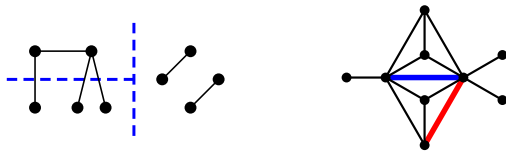


Threshold graphs and canonical decomposition



Canonical decomposition [Tyshkevich et al., 1980's, 2000]: Indecomposable split components hooked to each other and an indecomposable “core” following the rightwards dominating/isolated rule; every graph has a unique decomposition, up to isomorphism of canonical components.

Canonical decomposition and forced adjacency relationships



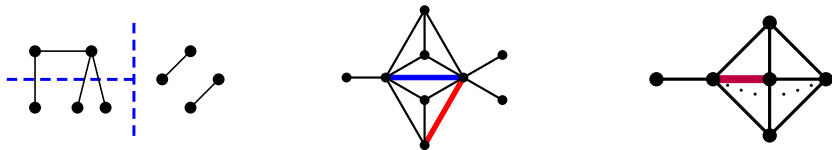
Theorem

For $k \leq m$, the following are equivalent:

- $\text{LHS}_k(d) = \text{RHS}_k(d)$;
- Vertices $1, \dots, k$ comprise a demanding clique;
- Vertices $1, \dots, k$ comprise an initial segment of upper cells in a canonical decomposition.

Hence all adjacency relationships between vertices in distinct canonical components are forced.

Canonical decomposition and forced adjacency relationships



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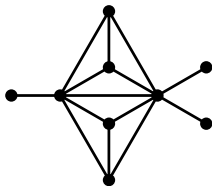
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Overall structure of forced relationships

Theorem

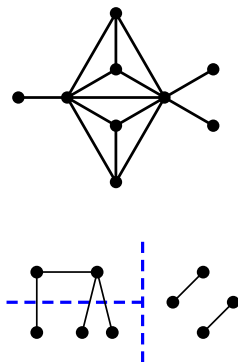
For any degree sequence d , both I_d and U_d are threshold graphs.



Overall structure of forced relationships

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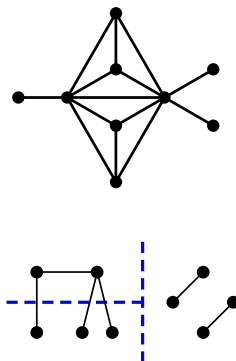
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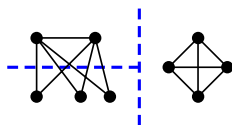
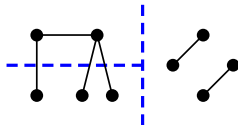
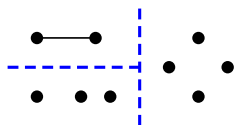
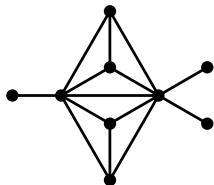


Composing the appropriate envelopes of the individual canonical components, we obtain I_d and U_d .

Overall structure of forced relationships

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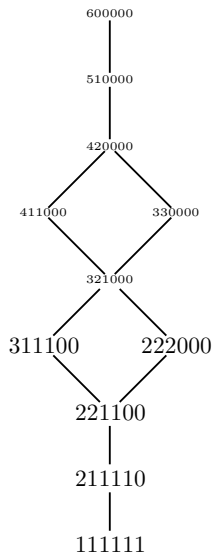
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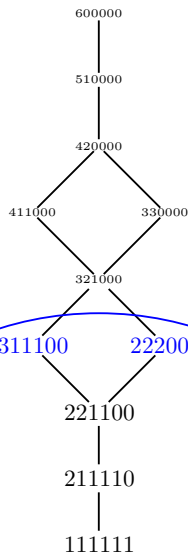
What connections are there to interesting **graph classes**?

Forced relationships and the dominance order



Nonnegative partitions of $2m$ of a fixed length, under the dominance order

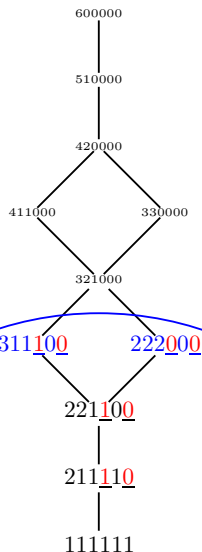
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Threshold sequences: maximal graphic elements

Forced relationships and the dominance order



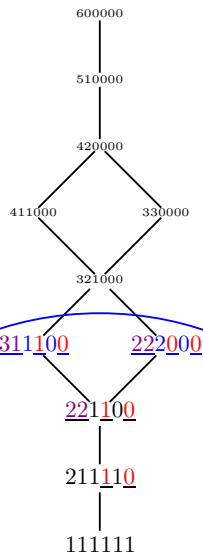
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Theorem

If vertices i and j have a forcible adjacency relationship in realizations of d , then i and j have the same adjacency relationship for all degree sequences that majorize d .

Forced relationships and the dominance order



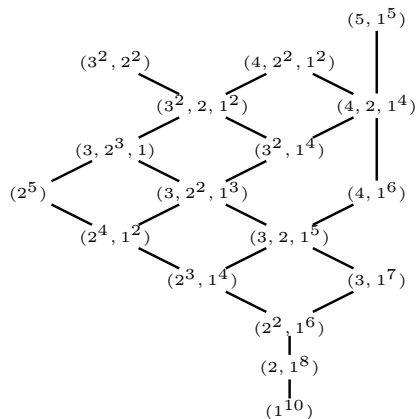
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Majorization-closed classes

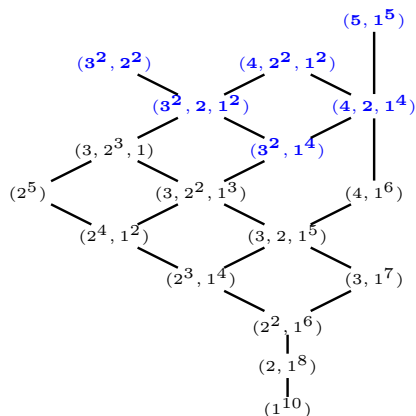


Corollary

Degree sequences for the following classes are “upwards closed” in the poset:

- [Merris, 2003] Split graphs
- Canonically decomposable graphs

Majorization-closed classes

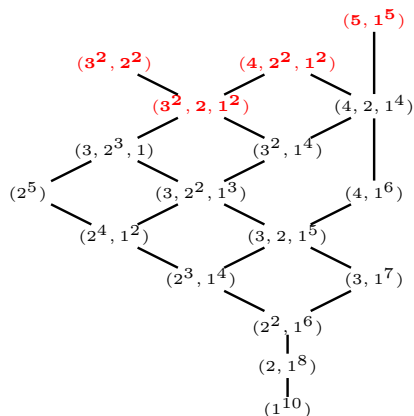


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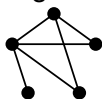
Properties of threshold graphs

(Chvátal, Hammer, others, 1973+)

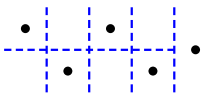
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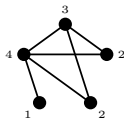
- Iterative construction via dominating/isolated vertices



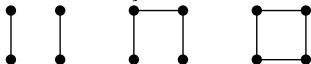
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- Unique realization of degree sequence



- $\{2K_2, P_4, C_4\}$ -free



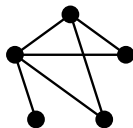
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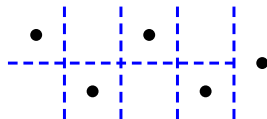
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Construction one vertex at a time



Canonical decomposition



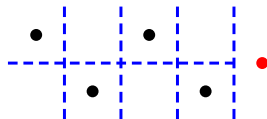
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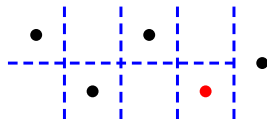
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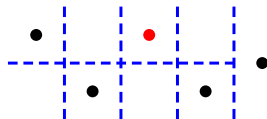
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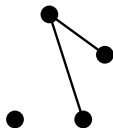
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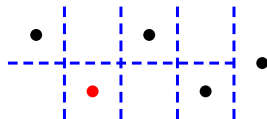
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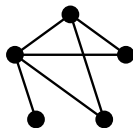
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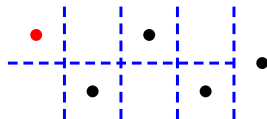
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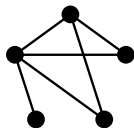
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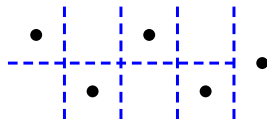
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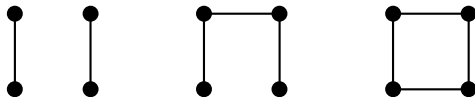
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Forbidden subgraphs

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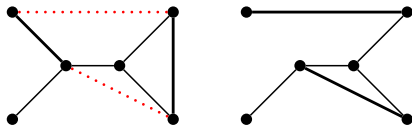
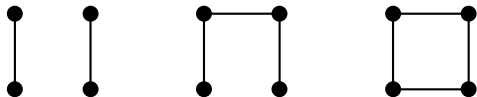


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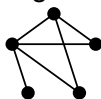
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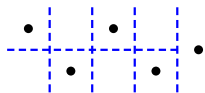
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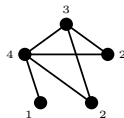
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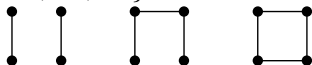
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- Unique realization of degree sequence



- $\{2K_2, P_4, C_4\}$ -free



- Threshold sequences majorize all other degree sequences

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Erdős–Gallai differences

Which adjacency relationships are forced by d ?

$$\underbrace{\sum_{i \leq k} d_i}_{\text{LHS}_k(d)} \leq \underbrace{k(k-1) + \sum_{i > k} \min\{k, d_i\}}_{\text{RHS}_k(d)}$$

$$\Delta_k(d) = \text{RHS}_k(d) - \text{LHS}_k(d)$$

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$$\Delta_k(d) = \text{RHS}_k(d) - \text{LHS}_k(d)$$

Theorem

Given $1 \leq i < j \leq n$,

$\{i, j\}$ is a **forced edge** iff $\exists k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that either $\Delta_k(d) = 0$, $i \leq k < j$, and $k \leq d_j$; or $\Delta_k(d) \leq 1$ and $j \leq k$.

$\{i, j\}$ is a **forced non-edge** iff $\exists k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that either $\Delta_k(d) = 0$, $k < i$, and $d_j < k \leq d_i$; or $\Delta_k(d) \leq 1$ and $d_j < k < i$.

Forcible edges can be determined by examining when $\Delta_k(d) \leq 1$.

Properties of threshold graphs

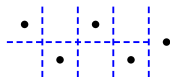
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- The first $m(d)$ Erdős–Gallai differences equal 0.

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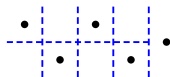
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What if $\Delta_k(d) \leq 1$?

Weakly threshold graphs

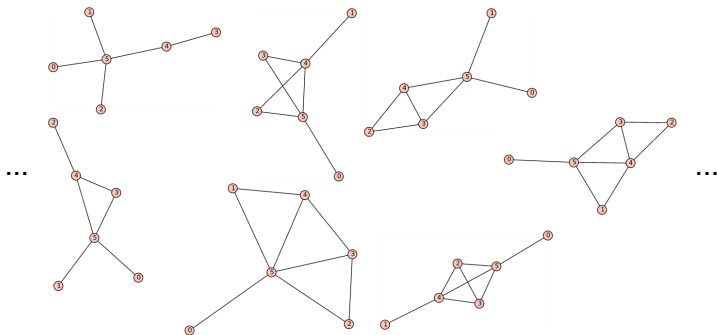
A **weakly threshold sequence** is a **graphic** list $d = (d_1, \dots, d_n)$ of nonnegative integers in descending order having even sum and satisfying $0 \leq \Delta_k(d) \leq 1$ for all $k \leq \max\{i : d_i \geq i - 1\}$.

A **weakly threshold graph** is a graph having a weakly threshold sequence as its degree sequence.

Weakly threshold graphs

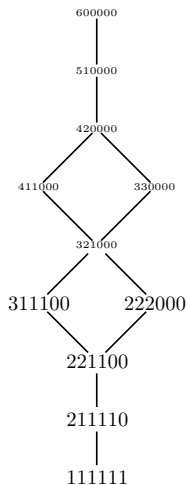
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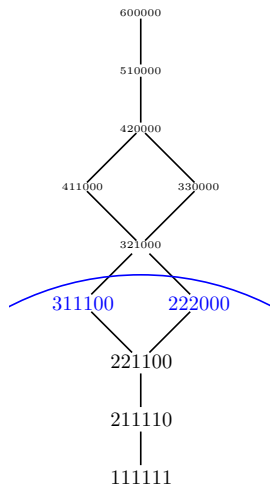
Near the threshold

Threshold sequences majorize all other degree sequences



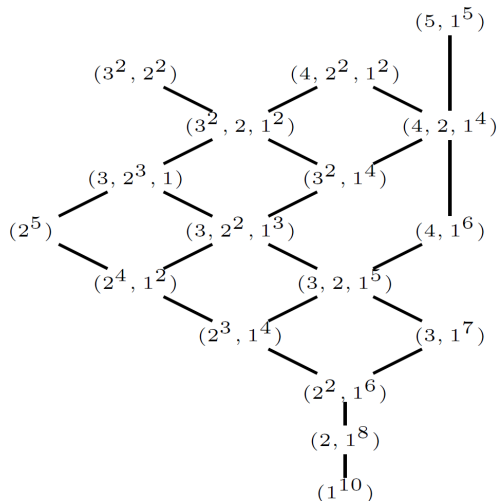
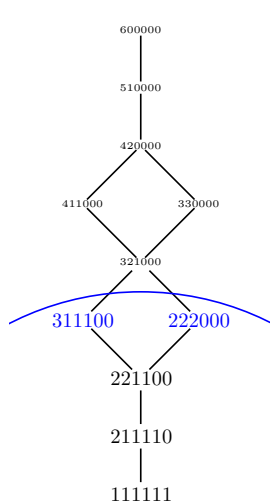
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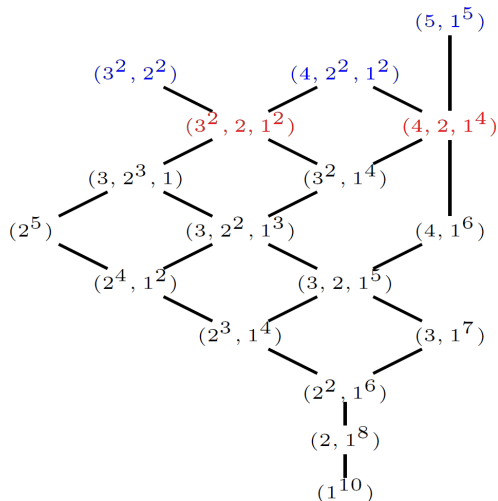
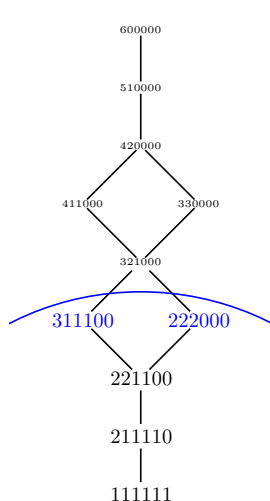
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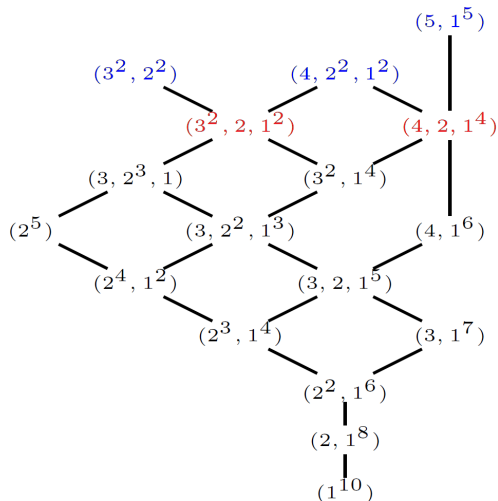
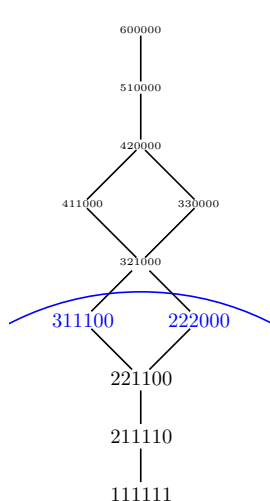
Near the threshold

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Near the threshold

Threshold sequences majorize all other degree sequences



WT sequences are upwards-closed, continue to majorize.

A forbidden subgraph characterization

G is a threshold graph iff G is $\{2K_2, P_4, C_4\}$ -free



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The class of weakly threshold graphs is **hereditary** (i.e., closed under taking induced subgraphs).

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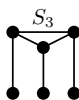
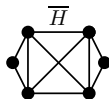
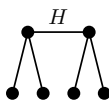
G is a threshold graph iff G is $\{2K_2, P_4, C_4\}$ -free



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A graph G is weakly threshold if and only if it is $\{2K_2, C_4, C_5, H, \overline{H}, S_3, \overline{S_3}\}$ -free.



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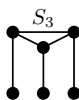
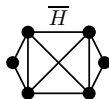
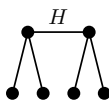
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The class is closed under complementation.
Weakly threshold graphs are all **split** graphs.

A forbidden subgraph characterization

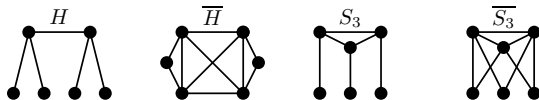
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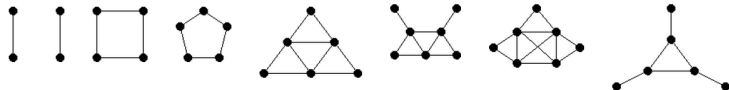
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They form a large subclass of **interval** \cap **co-interval**.

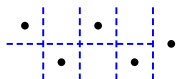
(This class's forbidden induced subgraphs:)



Structural characterization

Threshold iff constructed from K_1 via dominating/
isolated vertices.

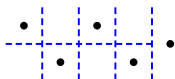
Exactly 2^{n-1} threshold graphs on n vertices.



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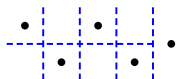
A graph is weakly threshold iff it is constructed by canonically composing special graphs, where

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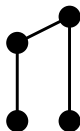
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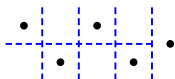
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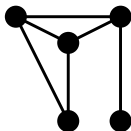
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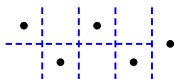
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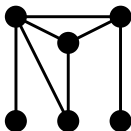
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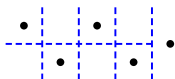
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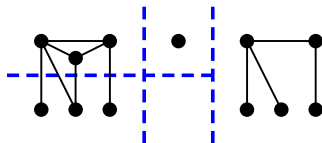
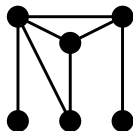
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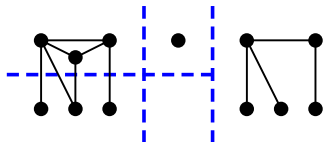
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Iterative construction

Threshold iff constructed from K_1 via dominating/isolated vertices.
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Theorem

A graph is weakly threshold iff it is constructed from K_1 or P_4 by iteratively adding one of

- a dominating vertex,
- an isolated vertex,
- a weakly dominating vertex,
- a weakly isolated vertex, or
- a P_4 with its midpoints dominating all previous vertices.

Enumeration

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A graph is weakly threshold iff it is constructed from K_1 or P_4 by iteratively adding one of

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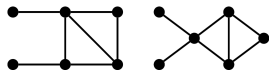
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Subtleties in direct counting.

Difference between counting degree sequences / isomorphism classes.



Enumeration

Exactly 2^{n-1} threshold graphs on n vertices.

a_n = number of weakly threshold **sequences** of length n

(1,)1, 2, 4, 9, 21, 50, 120, 289, 697, 1682, 4060, ...

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OEIS.org sequences A024537, A171842

Theorem

$\{a_n\}_n$ satisfies the following recurrences:

- For all $n \geq 4$,
$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} + \sum_{k=0}^{n-4} 2^k a_{n-4-k}.$$
- For all $n \geq 4$,
$$a_n = 4a_{n-1} - 4a_{n-2} + a_{n-4}.$$
- For all $n \geq 3$,
$$a_n = 3a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} - a_{n-3}.$$
- For all $n \geq 2$,
$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} + a_{n-2} - 1.$$

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$$a_n = \frac{2 + (1 + \sqrt{2})^n + (1 - \sqrt{2})^n}{4} \approx \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2.4^n$$

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From OEIS.org:

- Binomial transform of 1, 0, 1, 0, 2, 0, 4, 0, 8, 0, 16, . . .
- Number of nonisomorphic n -element interval orders with no 3-element antichain.
- Top left entry of the n th power of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ or of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.
- Number of $(1, s_1, \dots, s_{n-1}, 1)$ such that $s_j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $|s_j - s_{j-1}| \leq 1$.
- Partial sums of the Pell numbers prefaced with a 1.
- The number of ways to write an $(n - 1)$ -bit binary sequence and then give runs of ones weakly incrementing labels starting with 1, e.g., 0011010011022203003330044040055555.
- Lower bound of the order of the set of equivalent resistances of $(n - 1)$ equal resistors combined in series and in parallel.

Properties of weakly threshold graphs

- The first $m(d)$ Erdős–Gallai differences equal 0 or 1.
- Iterative construction via (weakly) dominating vertices/(weakly) isolated vertices/half-dominating P_4 s.
- There are exactly
- Constrained realizations of degree sequences
- $\{2K_2, C_4, C_5, H, \bar{H}, S_3, \bar{S}_3\}$ -free
- Weakly threshold sequences at the top of the majorization poset

$$\frac{2 + (1 + \sqrt{2})^n + (1 - \sqrt{2})^n}{4}$$

weakly threshold sequences of length n .

- ?