# MaxCut is hard when restricted to geometric intersection model graph classes 

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## Based on

Maximum cut on interval graphs of interval count four is NP-complete with Alexsander A. de Melo, Fabiano S. Oliveira, Ana Silva arxiv.org/abs/2012.09804


MaxCut on Permutation Graphs is NP-complete with Alexsander A. de Melo, Fabiano S. Oliveira, Ana Silva arxiv.org/abs/2202.13955

## The Guide - Computers and Intractability

COMPUTERS AND INTRACTABILITY
A Guide to the Theory of NP-Completeness

Michael R. Garey / David S. Johnson

"Despite that 23 years have passed since its publication, I consider Garey and Johnson the single most important book on my office bookshelf. Every computer scientist should have this book on their shelves as well. NP-completeness is the single most important concept to come out of theoretical computer science and no book covers it as well as Garey and Johnson."

Lance Fortnow, "Great Books: Computers and Intractability: A Guide to the Theory of NP-Completeness"

## Ongoing Guide - Graph Restrictions and Their Effect

| Graph Class | Member |  | IndSET |  | Clique |  | CLIPAR |  | ChrNum |  | ChrInd |  | HamCir |  | DomSet |  | MaxCut |  | StTree |  | Graiso |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trees/Forests | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] |
| Almost Trees (k) | P |  | P | [24] | P | [T] | P ? |  | P ? |  | P? |  | P ? |  | P | [45] | P ? |  | P ? |  | P ? |  |
| Partial $k$-Trees | P | [2] | P | [1] | P | [T] | P ? |  | P | [1] | O? |  | P | [3] | P | [3] | P ? |  | P ? |  | O? |  |
| Bandwidth- $k$ | P | [68] | P | [64] | P | [T] | P? |  | P | [64] | P? |  | P? |  | P | [64] | P | [64] | P? |  | P | [58] |
| Degree-k | P | [T] | N | [GJ] | $P$ | [T] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [49] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [58] |
| Planar | P | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [10] | N | [GJ] | O |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [GJ] | N | [35] | P | [GJ] |
| Series Parallel | P | [79] | P | [75] | P | [T] | P? |  | P | [74] | P | [74] | P | [74] | P | [54] | P | [GJ] | P | [82] | P | [GJ] |
| Outerplanar | P |  | P | [6] | P | [T] | P | [6] | P | [67] | P | [67] | P | [T] | P | [6] | P | [GJ] | P | [81] | P | [GJ] |
| Halin | P |  | P | [6] | P | [T] | P | [6] | P | [74] | P | [74] | P | [T] | P | [6] | P | [GJ] | P ? |  | P | [GJ] |
| $k$-Outerplanar | P |  | P | [6] | P | [T] | P | [6] | P | [6] | O? |  | P | [6] | P | [6] | P | [GJ] | P? |  | P | [GJ] |
| Grid | P |  | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | N | [51] | N | [55] | P | [T] | N | [35] | P | [GJ] |
| $K_{3,3}$-Free | P | [4] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [10] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [5] | N | [GJ] | O? |  |
| Thickness-k | N | [60] | N | [GJ] | $P$ | [T] | N | [10] | N | [GJ] | N | [49] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [7] | N | [GJ] | O? |  |
| Genus-k | P | [34] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [10] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | P | [61] |
| Perfect | O! |  | P | [42] | P | [42] | P | [42] | $P$ | [42] | O? |  | N | [1] | N | [14] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | I | [GJ] |
| Chordal | P | [76] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | $P$ | [40] | O? |  | N | [22] | N | [14] | O? |  | N | [83] | I | [GJ] |
| Split | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | $P$ | [40] | P | [40] | O? |  | N | [22] | N | [19] | O? |  | N | [83] | I | [15] |
| Strongly Chordal | P | [31] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | $P$ | [40] | O? |  | O? |  | P | [32] | O? |  | P | [83] | O? |  |
| Comparability | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | $P$ | [40] | O? |  | N | [1] | N | [28] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | I | [GJ] |
| Bipartite | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | $P$ | [T] | P | [GJ] | N | [1] | N | [28] | P | [T] | N | [GJ] | I | [GJ] |
| Permutation | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | O? |  | O |  | P | [33] | O? |  | P | [23] | P | [21] |
| Cographs | P | [T] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | O? |  | P | [25] | P | [33] | O? |  | P | [23] | P | [25] |
| Undirected Path | P | [39] | P | [40] | P | [40] | $P$ | [40] | $P$ | [40] | O? |  | O? |  | N | [16] | O? |  | O? |  | I | [GJ] |
| Directed Path | P | [38] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | P | [40] | O? |  | O? |  | P | [16] | O? |  | P | [83] | O? |  |
| Interval | P | [17] | P | [44] | P | [44] | $P$ | [44] | $P$ | [44] | O? |  | P | [53] | P | [16] | O? |  | P | [83] | P | [57] |
| Circular Arc | P | [78] | P | [44] | P | [50] | P | [44] | N | [36] | O? |  | O? |  | P | [13] | O? |  | P | [83] | O? |  |
| Circle | P | [71] | P | [GJ] | P | [50] | O ? |  | N | [36] | O? |  | P | [12] | O? |  | O? |  | P | [70] | O? |  |
| Proper Circ. Arc | P | [77] | P | [44] | P | [50] | P | [44] | P | [66] | O? |  | P | [12] | P | [13] | O? |  | P | [83] | O? |  |
| Edge (or Line) | P | [47] | P | [GJ] | $P$ | [T] | N | [GJ] | N | [49] | O? |  | N | [11] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [70] | I | [15] |
| Claw-Free | P | [T] | P | [63] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | N | [49] | O? |  | N | [11] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [70] | I | [15] |

## The updated NP-Completeness Column: An Ongoing Guide table 35 years later

| Graph Class | Member |  | IndSet |  | Clique |  | CliPar |  | ChrNum |  | Chrind |  | HamCir |  | DomSet |  | MaxCut |  | StTree |  | Graphiso |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trees/Forests | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [G]] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] |
| Almost Trees (k) | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [5] | P | [20] | P | [76] | P | [17] |
| Partial k-trees | P | [OG] | P | [5] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [5] | P | [20] | P | [76] | P | [17] |
| Bandwidth-k | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [5] | P | [OG] | P | [76] | P | [OG] |
| Degree-k | P | [T] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [29] | N | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [OG] |
| Planar | P | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | 0 |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [GJ] | N | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| Series Parallel | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| Outerplanar | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| Halin | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [118] | P | [GJ] |
| k-Outerplanar | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [76] | P | [GJ] |
| Grid | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [32] | P | [T] | N | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| K 3,3-Free ${ }^{*}$ | P | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [40] |
| Thickness-k | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [119] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [RJ] |
| Genus-k | P | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | P | [OG] |
| Perfect | P | [34] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [84] |
| Chordal | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [93] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [OG] | 1 | [84] |
| Split | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [93] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [OG] | 1 | [108] |
| Strongly Chordal | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [93] | P | [OG] | N | [109] | P | [OG] | 1 | [111] |
| Comparability | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [94] | N | [102] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [22] |
| Bipartite | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [94] | P | [T] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [22] |
| Permutation | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | 0 ? |  | P | [44] | P | [OG] | N | [120] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] |
| Cographs | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [20] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] |
| Undirected Path | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [13] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [RJ] | 1 | [22] |
| Directed Path | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [99] | P | [OG] | N | [1] | P | [OG] | P | [7] |
| Interval | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | 0 ? |  | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [1] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] |
| Circular Arc | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [OG] | O? |  | P | [106] | P | [OG] | N | [1] | P | [11] | P | [80] |
| Circle | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [OG] | N | [73] | N | [OG] | 0 ? |  | N | [39] | N | [71] | N | [26] | P | [OG] | P | [68] |
| Proper Circ. Arc | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | P | [11] | P | [82] |
| Edge (or Line) | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [95] | N | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [59] | N | [19] | 1 | [OG] |
| Claw-Free | P | [T] | P | [OG] | N | [103] | N | [85] | N | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | N | [20] | N | [19] | 1 | [OG] |

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## The updated NP-Completeness Column: An Ongoing Guide table 35 years later

| Graph Class | Member |  | IndSet |  | Clique |  | CliPar |  | ChrNum |  | Chrind |  | HamCir |  | DomSet |  | MaxCut |  | StTree |  | Graphiso |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trees/Forests | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [G]] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] |
| Almost Trees (k) | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [5] | P | [20] | P | [76] | P | [17] |
| Partial k-trees | P | [OG] | P | [5] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [5] | P | [20] | P | [76] | P | [17] |
| Bandwidth-k | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [5] | P | [OG] | P | [76] | P | [OG] |
| Degree-k | P | [T] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [29] | N | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [OG] |
| Planar | P | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | 0 |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [GJ] | N | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| Series Parallel | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [105] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [5] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| Outerplanar | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| Halin | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [118] | P | [GJ] |
| k-Outerplanar | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [5] | P | [17] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [76] | P | [GJ] |
| Grid | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [32] | P | [T] | N | [OG] | P | [GJ] |
| K 3,3-Free ${ }^{*}$ | P | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | P | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [40] |
| Thickness-k | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | N | [119] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [RJ] |
| Genus-k | P | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [78] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | N | [GJ] | O? |  | N | [GJ] | P | [OG] |
| Perfect | P | [34] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [84] |
| Chordal | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [93] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [OG] | 1 | [84] |
| Split | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [93] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [OG] | 1 | [108] |
| Strongly Chordal | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [93] | P | [OG] | N | [109] | P | [OG] | 1 | [111] |
| Comparability | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [94] | N | [102] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [22] |
| Bipartite | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | P | [GJ] | N | [OG] | N | [94] | P | [T] | N | [GJ] | 1 | [22] |
| Permutation | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | P | [44] | P | [OG] | N | [120] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] |
| Cographs | P | [T] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [20] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] |
| Undirected Path | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [13] | N | [OG] | N | [20] | N | [RJ] | I | [22] |
| Directed Path | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | N | [99] | P | [OG] | N | [1] | P | [OG] | P | [7] |
| Interval | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | 0 ? |  | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [1] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] |
| Circular Arc | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | N | [OG] | O? |  | P | [106] | P | [OG] | N | [1] | P | [11] | P | [80] |
| Circle | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [OG] | N | [73] | N | [OG] | 0 ? |  | N | [39] | N | [71] | N | [26] | P | [OG] | P | [68] |
| Proper Circ. Arc | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | P | [OG] | P | [OG] | O? |  | P | [11] | P | [82] |
| Edge (OR Line) | P | [OG] | P | [GJ] | P | [T] | N | [95] | N | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | P | [59] | N | [19] | 1 | [OG] |
| Claw-Free | P | [T] | P | [OG] | N | [103] | N | [85] | N | [OG] | N | [28] | N | [OG] | N | [GJ] | N | [20] | N | [19] | 1 | [OG] |

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## Containment relations for classes



## MaxCut problem

Given a graph $G$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{0}^{+}$, MaxCuT asks whether

$$
\operatorname{mc}(G)=\max _{[A, B]}\left|E_{G}(A, B)\right| \geq k
$$



Classical NP-complete problem
(Garey, Johnson, Stockmeyer, 1976).

## The key gadget to the NP-completeness

An (x,y)-grained gadget is a split graph $H\langle K, S\rangle$, such that

- $S=S^{\prime} \cup S^{\prime \prime},\left|S^{\prime}\right|=\left|S^{\prime \prime}\right|=x$;
- $K=K^{\prime} \cup K^{\prime \prime},\left|K^{\prime}\right|=\left|K^{\prime \prime}\right|=y$;
- $N_{H}\left(K^{\prime}\right)=K \cup S^{\prime} ;$
- $N_{H}\left(K^{\prime \prime}\right)=K \cup S^{\prime \prime}$.



## Possible intersections with a grained gadget

A graph $G$ respects the structure of $H$ if, $\forall u \in V(G) \backslash V(H)$, $N_{G}(v) \cap V(H)=\emptyset$ or $u$ satisfies


Covering intersection


Weak intersection


Strong intersection

## The key property of grained gadgets

Let $G$ be a graph and $[A, B]$ be a maximum cut of $G$.
If $G$ respects the structure of an $(x, y)$-grained gadget $H$, then, for suitable $x$ and $y$,

- either $H$ is $A$-partitioned by $[A, B]$;
- or $H$ is $B$-partitioned by $[A, B]$.



## Adhikary, Bose, Mukherjee, and Roy's reduction

Polynomial-time reduction from MaxCut on cubic graphs.
Let $G$ be a cubic graph, $\pi_{V}=\left(u_{1}, \ldots, u_{n}\right)$ and $\pi_{E}=\left(e_{1}, \ldots, e_{m}\right)$.

For suitable $x, y, \quad \mathrm{mc}\left(\mathbb{G}_{\mathcal{M}}\right) \geq \phi(n, k)$ iff $\mathrm{mc}(G) \geq k$.

(Complexity of maximum cut on interval graphs. Adhikary, Bose, Mukherjee, Roy, 2021)

## Our reduction: Interval count 4

$[A, B]$ is a max-cut of $\mathbb{G}_{\mathcal{M}}$


## Our reduction: Permutation

$[A, B]$ is a max-cut of $\mathbb{G}_{\mathcal{M}}$



Figura 1. A hierarchy of graph classes

## Main open questions

- Is MaxCut polynomial-time solvable on unit interval graphs?
- Is MaxCut polynomial-time solvable on interval permutation graphs?

