

# Vertex Partitions into an Independent Set and a Forest with Each Component Small

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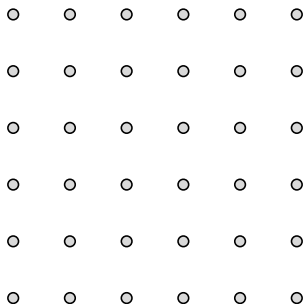
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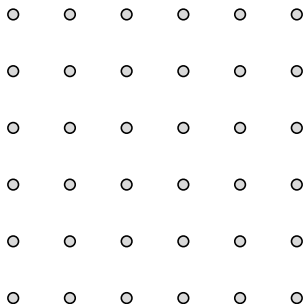
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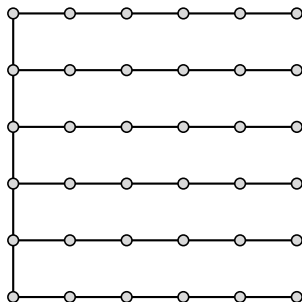
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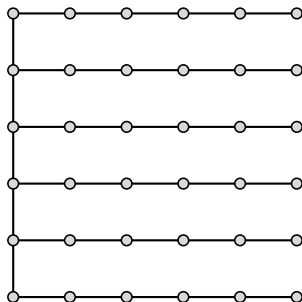
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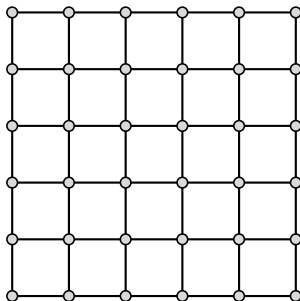
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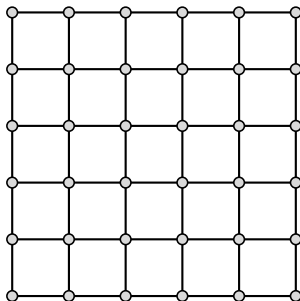
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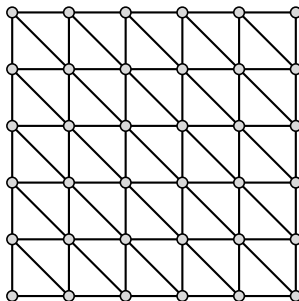
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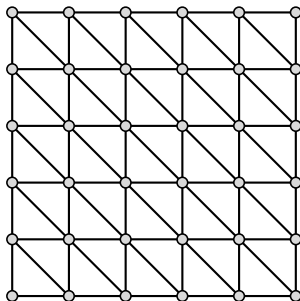
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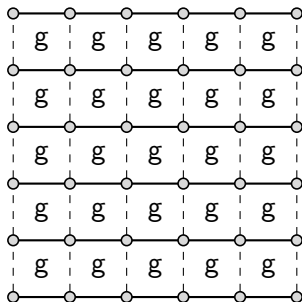
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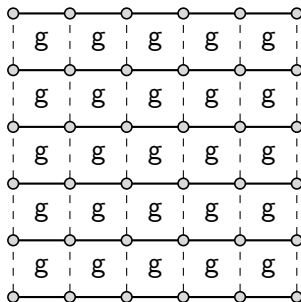
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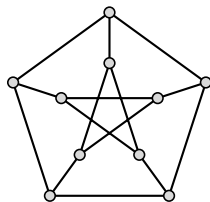
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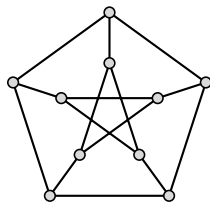


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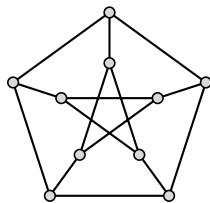


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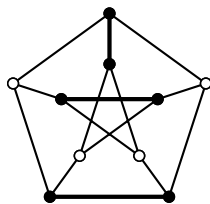


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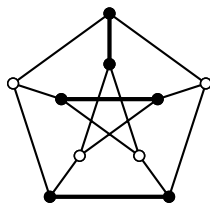


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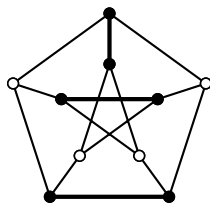
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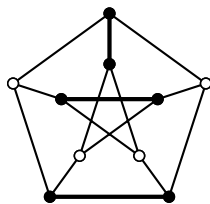
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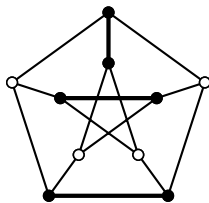


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**Defn:** An  $(I, F_k)$ -coloring of  $G$  is partition of  $V(G)$  into  $I, F_k$  where  $I$  is ind. set and  $G[F_k]$  is forest with each tree of order  $\leq k$ .

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## Main Theorem:

For each integer  $k \geq 2$ , let

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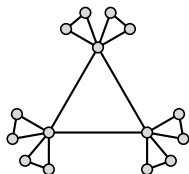
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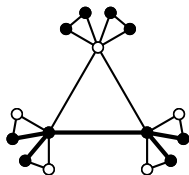
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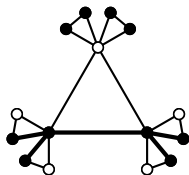
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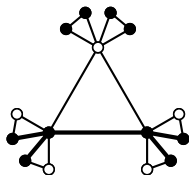
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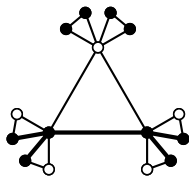
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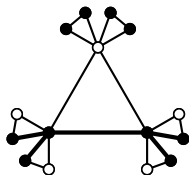
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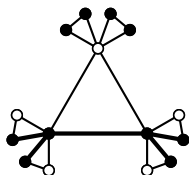


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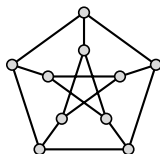
**Rem:** Also sharp if we only require that each component of  $G[F_k]$  has order at most  $k$  (but we allow cycles).

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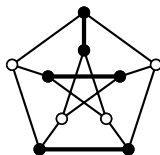
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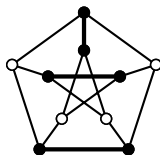
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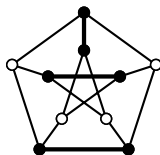
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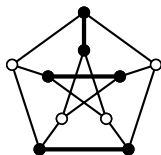
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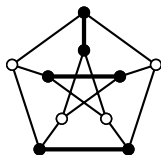
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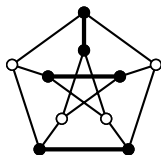
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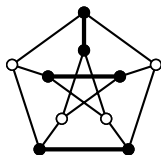
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## Various results subsumed by Main Theorem

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- ▶ Choi–Dross–Ochem '20 DM

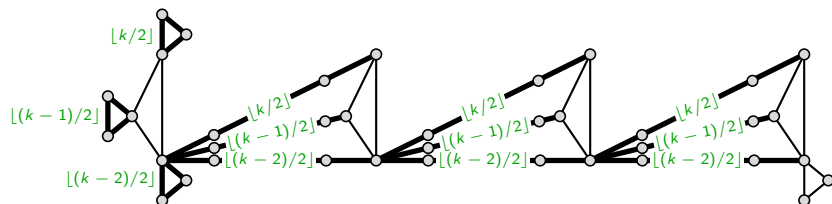
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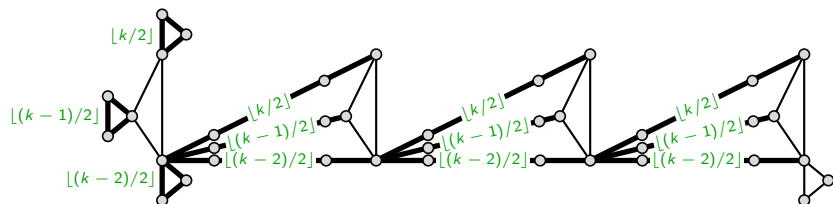
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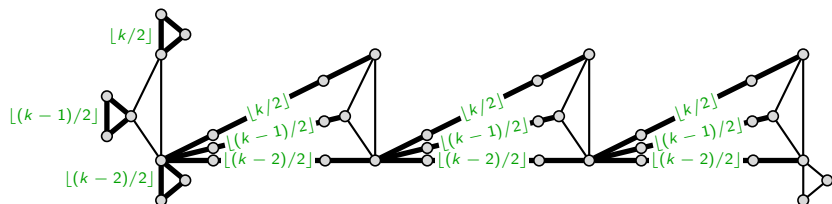


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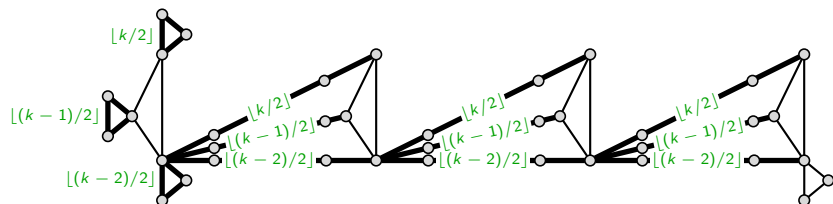


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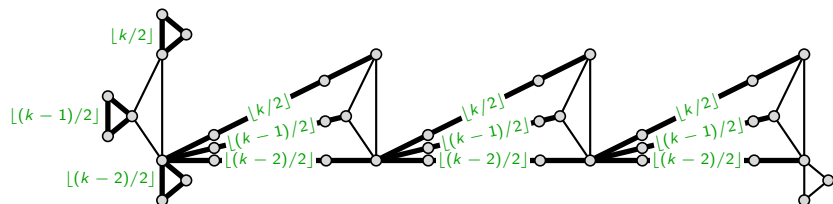
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**Thm:** Let  $\rho^4(R) := 15|R| - 11|E(G[R])|$  for each  $R \subseteq V(G)$ .  
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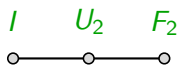
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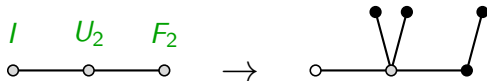
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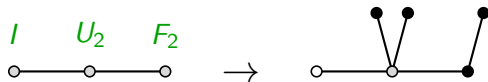
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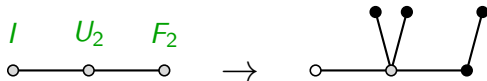
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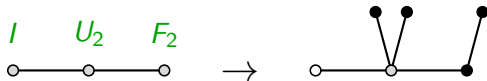
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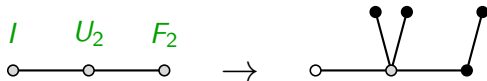
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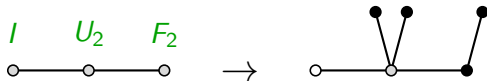
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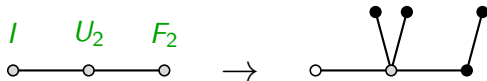
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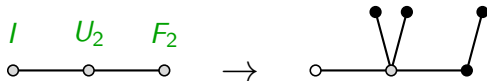
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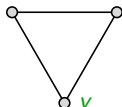
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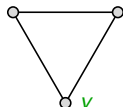


$$U_j \rightarrow U_{j+1} \text{ (always)}$$

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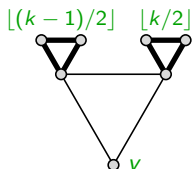
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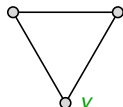


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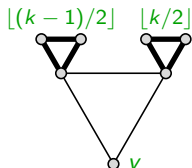


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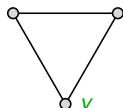
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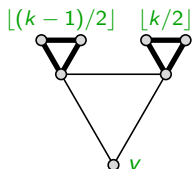
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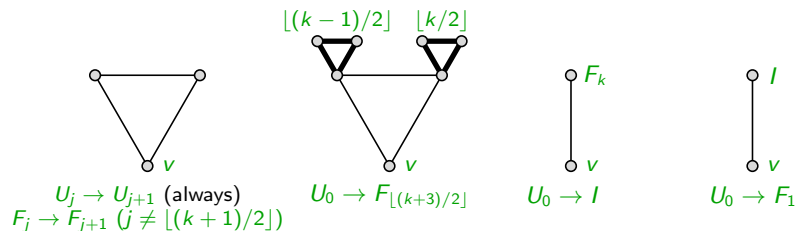
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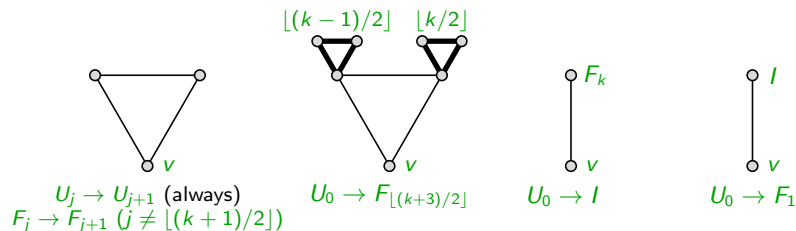
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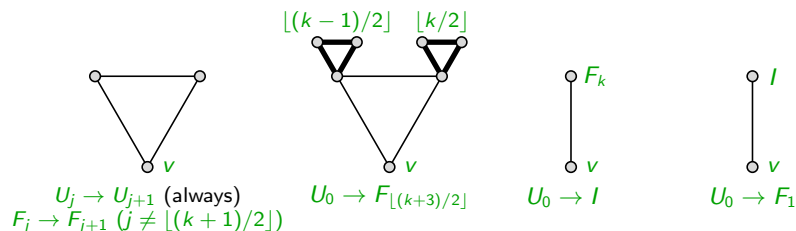


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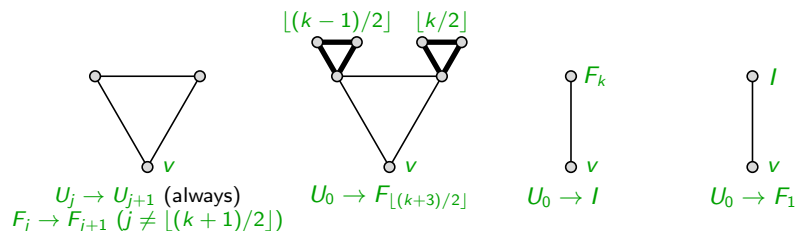
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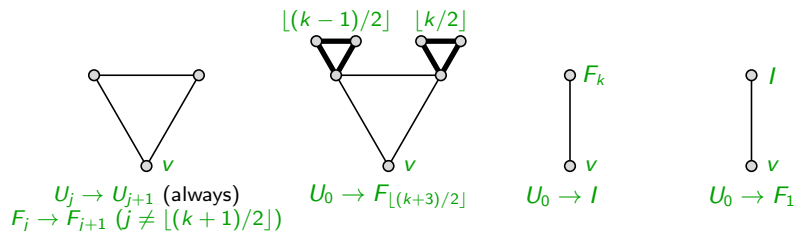
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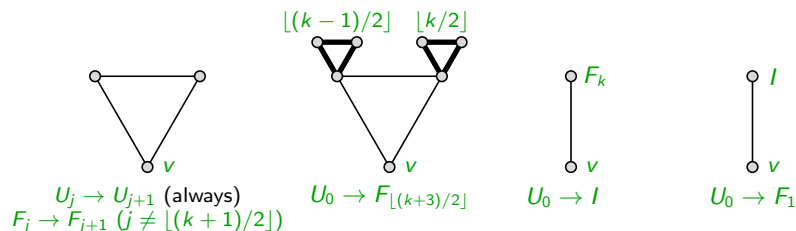
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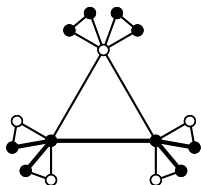
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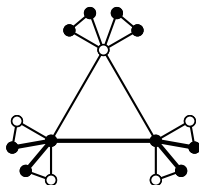
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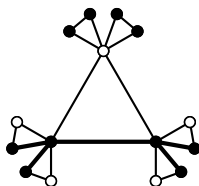
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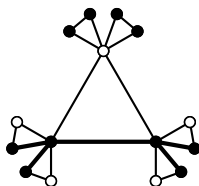
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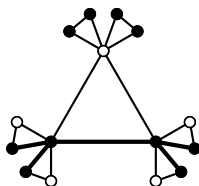
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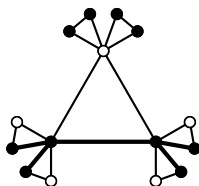
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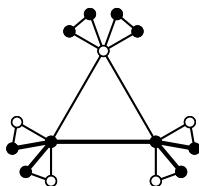
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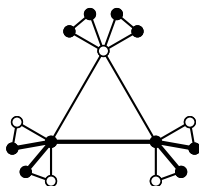
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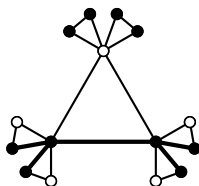
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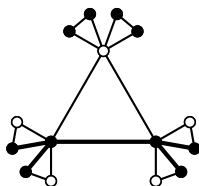
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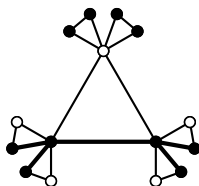
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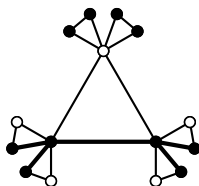
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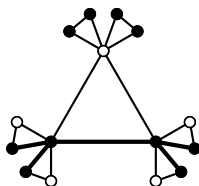
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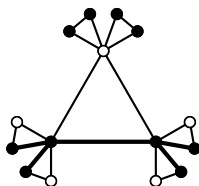
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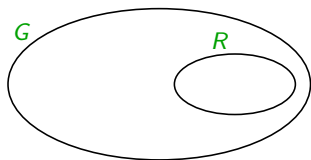
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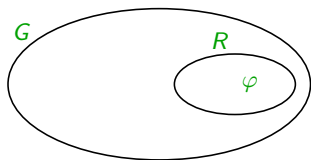
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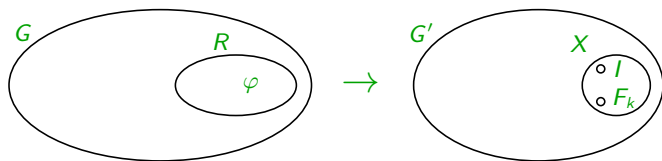


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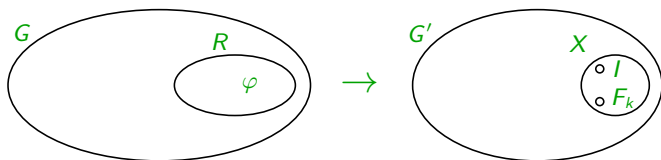


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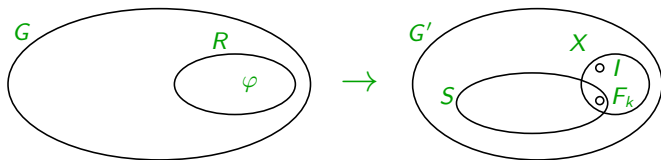


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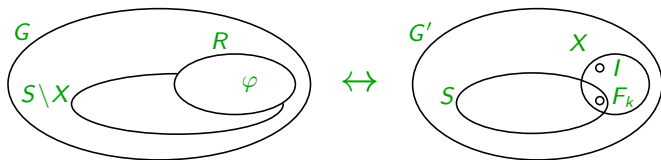


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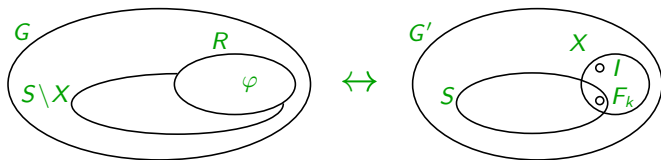


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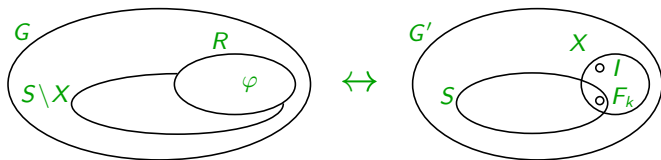
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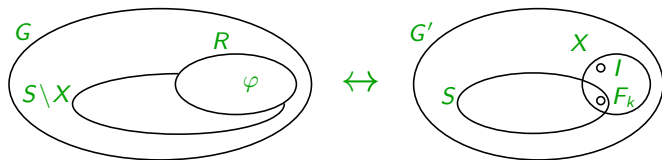
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**Pf:** Choose  $R$  minimizing  $\rho^k(R)$ ; further, maximize  $|R|$ .



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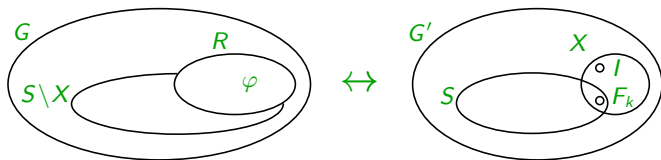
$$\begin{aligned}\rho_G^k(S') &\leq \rho_{G'}^k(S) - \rho_{G'}^k(S \cap X) + \rho_G^k(R) \\ &\leq -3 + \rho_G^k(R) < \rho_G^k(R).\end{aligned}$$

If  $S' \neq V(G)$ , then  $S'$  contradicts our choice of  $R$ .

## Bonus: Weak Gap Lemma

**Weak Gap Lemma:** If  $R \subsetneq V(G)$  and  $R \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\rho^k(R) \geq 1$ .

**Pf:** Choose  $R$  minimizing  $\rho^k(R)$ ; further, maximize  $|R|$ .



$G[R]$  has coloring  $\varphi$  by criticality. If  $G'$  has coloring  $\varphi'$ , then  $\varphi' \cup \varphi$  is coloring of  $G$ , contradiction. So  $G'$  has critical subgraph  $G''$ ; let  $S = V(G'')$ . Let  $S' = (S \setminus X) \cup R$ . Note that  $S \cap X \neq \emptyset$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_G^k(S') &\leq \rho_{G'}^k(S) - \rho_{G'}^k(S \cap X) + \rho_G^k(R) \\ &\leq -3 + \rho_G^k(R) < \rho_G^k(R). \end{aligned}$$

If  $S' \neq V(G)$ , then  $S'$  contradicts our choice of  $R$ .

If  $S' = V(G)$ , then  $\rho^k(V(G)) \leq -3$ , contradiction.