# 3-Coloring ( $C_{4}, C_{s}$ )-free Diameter Two Graphs <br>  

Presented by: Prahlad Narasimhan Kasthurirangan

Authors: Tereza Klimošová (Charles University), Vibha Sahlot (University of Cologne)

## 3-Coloring ( $C_{4}, C_{s}$ )-free Diameter Two Graphs

Given: An undirected diameter two graph $G(V, E)$ with no induced $C_{4}$ and $C_{s}$ for some fixed $s \geq 10$.

Aim: Decide if $G$ is 3-colorable?

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Given: An undirected diameter two graph $G(V, E)$ with no induced $C_{4}$ and $C_{f}$ for some fixed $s \geq 10$.

Aim: Decide if $G$ is 3-colorable?

- Distance between two vertices is the length of the shortest path between then (number of edges in the shortest path).
- Diameter of a graph is the distance between any two most distanced vertices.


Graph with diameter two

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Given: An undirected diameter two $\left(C_{4}, C_{4}\right)$-free graph $G(V, E)$ for some fixed $s \geq 10$.

Aim: Decide if $G$ is 3-colorable?

- A graph G is H-free if it does not contain H as an induced subgraph


Graph with no induced $C_{4}$

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Given: An undirected diameter two $\left(C_{4}, C_{3}\right)$-free graph $G(V, E)$ for some fixed $s \geq 10$.

Aim: Decide if $G$ is 3-colorable?

- A graph $G$ is $k$-colorable if we can assign $k$ colors to the vertices of $G$ such that endpoints of every edge is coloured distinctly.


A 3-colorable graph

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

- The 3-Coloring is NP-hard even on planar graphs [Garey,Jonson,Stockmeyer 1976]
- Lots of research has been done on hereditary classes of graphs, i.e., classes that are closed under vertex deletion.
- However, many natural classes of graphs are not hereditary, for example, graphs with bounded diameter.


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- Lots of research has been done on hereditary classes of graphs, i.e., classes that are closed under vertex deletion.
- However, many natural classes of graphs are not hereditary, for example, graphs with bounded diameter.
- 3-Coloring on graphs with diameter two has been posed as an open problem in several papers.


## Previous Results

-3-Coloring is NP-complete for the class of graphs with diam. 3, even for triangle-free graphs [Mertzios and Spiraki 2016].

Subexponential algorithm for 3-Coloring diam. 2 graph with runtime $2^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n \log n})}$.

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- Improved algorithm for 3-Coloring diam. 2 graph with runtime $2^{\mathcal{O}\left(n^{\frac{1}{3}} \log ^{2} n\right)}$ [Debski et al.2022].
- 3-Coloring diam. 2 graph is solvable in polynomial time for:
- graphs that have at least one articulation neighborhood [Mertzios,Spirakis 2016].
- (C3, C4)-free graphs [Martin et al. 2019].
${ }_{-} C_{5}$-free or $C_{6}$-free graphs , $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free graphs where $s \in\{7,8,9\}$ [Martin et al. 2021].
$-K_{1, r}^{2}-$ free or $S_{1,2,2}$-free graphs, where $\mathrm{r} \geq 1$ [Martin et al. 2019]


## Our Results

Theorem 1. List 3-Coloring is solvable in polynomial time on ( $C_{4}, C_{s}$ )-free graphs with diameter two for any constant $\mathrm{s} \geq 10$.
Theorem 2. List 3-Coloring is solvable in polynomial time on ( $C_{3}, C_{7}$ )-free graphs with diameter two.

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Theorem 1. List 3-Coloring is solvable in polynomial time on ( $C_{4}, C_{s}$ )-free graphs with diameter two for any constant $\mathrm{s} \geq 10$.

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Given: An undirected diameter two graph $G(V, E)$ with no induced
$C_{4}$ and $C_{f}$ for some fixed $s \geq 10$.
Aim: Decide if $G$ is 3-colorable?
Technique

- 2-List Coloring is polynomial time solvable[Edward 1986].
- Convert given instance into instance of List-3-Coloring.
- Use polynomial time reductions to convert G into polynomially many instances of 2-List Coloring.


## Some simple reductions

- If $G$ contains a diamond $(v, w, x, y)$ then assign $L(v) \cap L(x)$ to both $x$ and $v$.



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## Some simple reductions

- If $G$ contains a triangle $(v, w, x)$ where $|L(v)|=2$ and $L(v)=L(w)$, then assign $L(x) \backslash L(v)$ to x .


Colors in $L(v)$ are used to color $v$ and $w$

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

- If G contains contains an induced $C_{5}$ colour it as follows (upto cyclic ordering). Otherwise polynomial time solvable.


## $C_{5}$


$N_{1}$

$N_{2}$


## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. If there are at most k connected components in some $N_{1}(i)$ for $i \in$ [5], then polynomial time by resolving $2^{k}$ instances of 2-List Coloring.
$C_{5}$

$N_{1}$


## 3-Coloring ( $C_{4}, C_{S}$ )-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. If there are at most k connected components in some $N_{1}(i)$ for $i \in$ [5], then polynomial time by resolving $2^{k}$ instances of 2-List Coloring.

$N_{1}$

| $N_{1}(1)$ | $N_{1}(2)$ | $N_{1}(3)$ | $N_{1}(4)$ | $N_{1}(5)$ | Col |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

No odd cycle in $N_{1}(i)$ and thus all connected components are bipartite

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Each vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ is not adjacent to any $j \neq i$ for $i, j \in$ [5] in $C_{5}$.


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## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Each vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ is not adjacent to any $j \neq i$ for $i, j \in[5]$ in $C_{5}$.

## $C_{5}$ <br> $N_{1}$



No induced $C_{4}$ (by assumption) and $(w, 2),(w, 4),(w, 5) \notin E(G)$ (otherwise $\left.w \in \operatorname{Col}\right)$

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Each vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ has at most one neighbor in $N_{1}(j)$ for $i, j \in$ [5].
$C_{5}$

$N_{1}$

| $N_{1}(1)$ | $N_{1}(2)$ | $N_{1}(3)$ | $N_{1}(4)$ | $N_{1}(5)$ | Col |
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## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Each vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ has at most one neighbor in $N_{1}(j)$ for $i, j \in$ [5].
$C_{5}$


Vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ is not adjacent to vertex in $N_{1}(i+1)$

## 3-Coloring ( $C_{4}, C_{S}$ )-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Eachvertex in $N_{1}(i)$ has at most one neighbor in $N_{1}(j)$ for $i, j \in[5]$.


Vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ is not adjacent to vertex in $N_{1}(i+1)$
No induced $C_{4}$ (by assumption) and no $K_{4}$ (otherwise not 3-colorable) No diamond as otherwise v or w belongs to Col

## 3-Coloring ( $C_{4}, C_{S}$ )-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Eachvertex in $N_{1}(i)$ has at most one neighbor in $N_{1}(j)$ for $i, j \in[5]$.


Vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ is adjacent to at most one vertex in $N_{1}(i+2)$ and $N_{1}(i+3)$

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Eachvertex in $N_{1}(i)$ has at most one neighbor in $N_{1}(j)$ for $i, j \in[5]$.


Vertex in $N_{1}(i)$ is adjacent to at most one vertex in $N_{1}(i+2)$ and $N_{1}(i+3)$ $(v, 3) \notin E(G)$ (previous lemma) and $(w, x) \notin E(G)$ (otherwise ( $v) \notin C o l$ ) Similarly for ( $1+3$ )

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. $\left|N_{1}(1)\right|=\left|N_{1}(3)\right|,\left|N_{1}(2)\right|=\left|N_{1}(4)\right|$ and $G\left[N_{1}(1), N_{1}(3)\right]$, $G\left[N_{1}(2), N_{1}(4)\right]$, are perfect matchings.
$C_{5}$

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$N_{1}$


If $v$ is not adjacent to any vertex in $N_{1}(3)$, then distance between $v$ and 3 is more than 2 (Contrad.) and $v$ is adjacent to at most one vertex in $N_{1}(3)$ (by previous lemma)

## 3-Coloring ( $C_{4}, C_{S}$ )-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. All $v \in N_{2} \backslash$ Col has at most one neighbor in each $N_{1}(i), i \in[5]$ and all $v \in L_{3}$ has exactly one neighbor in each $N_{1}(i), i \in[5]$.

$N_{1}$

| $N_{1}(1)$ | $N_{1}(2)$ | $N_{1}(3)$ | $N_{1}(4)$ | $N_{1}(5)$ | Col |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

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## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{S}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Any $v \in N_{1}(1)$ and $w \in N_{1}(3)$ such that $(v, w) \in E(G)$, then v and w don't share common neighbor in $L_{2}$ or $L_{3}$. Similarly for vertices in $N_{1}(2)$ and $N_{1}(4)$.


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## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{S}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. If $z \in L_{3}$ and $u \in N_{1}(i), i \in[5]$ such that $(z, u) \notin E(G)$, then there is at most one vertex $z^{\prime} \in L_{3} \cup L_{2}, z \neq z^{\prime}$ such that $\left(z, z^{\prime}\right),\left(u, z^{\prime}\right) \in E(G)$.


## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{S}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. If $z \in L_{3}$ and $u \in N_{1}(i), i \in$ [5] such that $(z, u) \notin E(G)$, then there is at most one vertex $z^{\prime} \in L_{3} \cup L_{2}, z \neq z^{\prime}$ such that $\left(z, z^{\prime}\right),\left(u, z^{\prime}\right) \in E(G)$.


## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Lemma. Either $G\left[L_{2} \cup L_{3}\right]$ contains an induced path $P_{\ell^{*}}=\left(p_{1}, p_{2}, \ldots p_{\ell}\right)$ \{neighbors of $p_{1}$ and $p_{\ell}$ in $N_{1}$ is disjoint from neighbors of $\left.p_{2}, p_{3}, \ldots p_{\ell-1}\right\}$, or 3Coloring can be decided by solving at most $\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right) 2$-List Coloring instances.


## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{S}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs



Contruction of $P_{\ell^{*}}$
Else $\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right) 2$-List

Pick $p_{1} \in L_{3}$. Set $\mathrm{j}=0$. For $\mathrm{i}=2 \mathrm{j}+1$

1. Color $p_{i}$ and its 5 neighbors in $N_{1}$

We are not modifying $N_{1}, L_{3}$, etc

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{S}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs



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Contruction of $P_{\ell^{*}}$
Else $\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right)$ 2-List

Pick $p_{1} \in L_{3}$. Set $\mathrm{j}=0$. For $\mathrm{i}=2 \mathrm{j}+1$

1. Color $p_{i}$ and its 5 neighbors in $N_{1}$
2. If $\exists x \in L_{3}, y \in N_{2}$ s.t.
i. $|L(x)|=3$
ii. $y \in N(x) \cap p_{i}$ and $|L(y)|=2$
iii. $N(y) \cap\left(N_{1} \backslash C o l\right)$ not adjacent to $p_{1}$.

Set $p_{i+1}=y, p_{i+2}=x$.

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs



We are not modifying $N_{1}, L_{3}$, etc

## Contruction of $P_{\ell *}$

Else $\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right) 2$-List Coloring instances

Pick $p_{1} \in L_{3}$. Set $\mathrm{j}=0$. For $\mathrm{i}=2 \mathrm{j}+1$

1. Color $p_{i}$ and its 5 neighbors in $N_{1}$
2. If $\exists x \in L_{3}, y \in N_{2}$ s.t.
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ii. $y \in N(x) \cap p_{i}$ and $|L(y)|=2$
iii. $N(y) \cap\left(N_{1} \backslash C o l\right)$ not adjacent to $p_{1}$.

Set $p_{i+1}=y, p_{i+2}=x$. Color $p_{i+1}$ and its at most 5 neighbours in $N_{1} \cdot j \leftarrow j+1$.

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Else $\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right)$ 2-List

$\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right)$ instances

Contruction of $P_{\ell^{*}}$ Coloring instances

Pick $p_{1} \in L_{3}$. Set $\mathrm{j}=0$. For $\mathrm{i}=2 \mathrm{j}+1$

1. Color $p_{i}$ and its 5 neighbors in $N_{1}$
2. If $\exists x \in L_{3}, y \in N_{2}$ s.t.
i. $|L(x)|=3$

If fails then 2-List Coloring instances
ii. $y \in N(x) \cap p_{i}$ and $|L(y)|=2$
iii. $N(y) \cap\left(N_{1} \backslash C o l\right)$ not adjacent to $p_{1}$.

Set $p_{i+1}=y, p_{i+2}=x$. Color $p_{i+1}$ and its at most 5 neighbours in $N_{1} . j \leftarrow j+1$.

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{S}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs



## Contruction of $P_{\ell^{*}}$

Else $\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right)$ 2-List Coloring instances

Pick $p_{1} \in L_{3}$. Set $\mathrm{j}=0$. For $\mathrm{i}=2 \mathrm{j}+1$

1. Color $p_{i}$ and its 5 neighbors in $N_{1}$
2. If $\exists x \in L_{3}, y \in N_{2}$ s.t.
i. $|L(x)|=3$
ii. $y \in N(x) \cap p_{i}$ and $|L(y)|=2$

If $\exists x$, then $\exists y$ (diam 2).

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{S}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs



## Contruction of $P_{\ell^{*}}$

Else $\mathcal{O}\left(3^{6 \ell}\right)$ 2-List

Pick $p_{1} \in L_{3}$. Set $\mathrm{j}=0$. For $\mathrm{i}=2 \mathrm{j}+1$

1. Color $p_{i}$ and its 5 neighbors in $N_{1}$
2. If $\exists x \in L_{3}, y \in N_{2}$ s.t.
i. $|L(x)|=3$
ii. $y \in N(x) \cap p_{i}$ and $|L(y)|=2$
ii
$p_{i}$ and its neighbours in $N_{1}$ are coloured, thus $y \in N_{2},|L(y)|=2$

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

## Contruction of $P_{\ell^{*}}$

## Pick $p_{1} \in L_{3}$. Set $\mathrm{j}=0$. For $\mathrm{i}=2 \mathrm{j}+1$

1. Color $p_{i}$ and its 5 neighbors in $N_{1}$
2. If $\exists x \in L_{3}, y \in N_{2}$ s.t.
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iii. $N(y) \cap\left(N_{1} \backslash C o l\right)$ not adjacent to $p_{1}$.

Set $p_{i+1}=y, p_{i+2}=x$.

## 3-Coloring ( $C_{4}, C_{s}$ )-free Diameter Two Graphs

Theorem 1. List 3-Coloring is solvable in polynomial time on $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free graphs with diameter two for any constant $\mathrm{s} \geq 10$.


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { If } \mathrm{G} \text { contains } P_{\ell *} \text {, for } \\
& \ell=s-4 \text {, then we can } \\
& \text { construct } C_{s} \text { which is a } \\
& \text { contradiction. }
\end{aligned}
$$

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Theorem 1. List 3-Coloring is solvable in polynomial time on $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free graphs with diameter two for any constant $s \geq 5$.


Thus, FPT in $s$ :

## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Some open problems:

- 3-Coloring $C_{4}$-free diameter two graphs.


## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Some open problems:

- 3-Coloring $C_{4}$-free diameter two graphs.
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## 3-Coloring $\left(C_{4}, C_{s}\right)$-free Diameter Two Graphs

Some open problems:

- 3-Coloring $C_{4}$-free diameter two graphs.
- 3-Coloring $C_{3}$-free diameter two graphs.
- 3-Coloring diameter two graphs.



## Parameterized problems

- A parameterized problem is a decision problem where we associate an integer parameter to each instance
- The parameter measures some aspect of the instance
- Formally, $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \Sigma^{*} \times \mathbb{N}$ contains the YES-instances $(x, k)$


Problem Instance
Parameterized problem Instance

## Fixed-parameter tractability

- A parameterized problem is fixed-parameter tractable (FPT) if: there is an algorithm that decides
- inputs of size $n$,
- with parameter value $k$,
in time $f(k) \cdot n^{c}$ for some constant $c$ and function $f$
FPT: $f(k) \cdot n^{c}$



Parameterized time complexity: $\mathrm{g}(\mathrm{n}, \mathrm{k})$

