# Unit Interval Graphs \& Maximum c-Independent Sets Maximizing the Number of Isolated Vertices 

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## Machine conflicts and unit interval graphs



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blocking intervals

processing interval

2-independent sets are crucial!


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Maximizing isolated vertices is crucial!


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## To find: Max-iso $c$-independent set ( $c$-IS)

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1. $c$-independent set: Union of $c$ independent sets $I_{1}, \ldots, I_{c}$.
2. Maximum: No other $c$-independent set contains more vertices.
3. Max-iso: No other maximum $c$-independent set contains more isolated vertices.

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- Theorem 1.1. There exists an algorithm that computes a max-iso c-IS for every unit interval graph on $n$ vertices with a running time in $O(n)$, even if $c$ is part of the input.


## Recap: Greedy for maximum $c$-IS in unit interval graphs

$\qquad$
[29] Mihalis Yannakakis and Fanica Gavril. The maximum k-colorable subgraph problem for chordal graphs. Information Processing Letters, 24(2):133-137, 1987.

## Recap: Greedy for maximum $c$-IS in unit interval graphs

1. Start with $I=\varnothing$.
2. Consider the vertices in left-right-order and add them respectively to $I$ if this maintains a $c$-IS.

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Example for $c=2$ :


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## Identifying candidates

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For every valid candidate, it holds that:

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## We should always isolate the leftmost candidate!

Example for $c=2$ :


## Crucial Lemma:

For the leftmost candidate $v, G-N(v)$ contains a max-iso $c$-independent set in $G$.

## Quadratic algorithm

Example for $c=2$ :


1. Consider the vertices in left-right-order until a vertex $v$ with $\alpha_{c}(G-N(v))=\alpha_{c}(G)$ is found.
2. Delete $N(v)$ from $G$ and repeat 1. with the next vertex.
3. Return a maximum $c$-IS in the modified graph.

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## Linear-time implementation: Greedy from both sides!

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## Summary

- Max-iso $c$-ISs are crucial for scheduling with machine conflicts.
- For unit interval graphs, a max-iso c-IS can be computed in linear time.
- Surprisingly, the algorithm does not even yield an approximation for general interval graphs (open question!).


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- Surprisingly, the algorithm does not even yield an approximation for general interval graphs (open question!).


## Thank You!

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