

## T-graphs

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### ABSTRACT

A T-graph is a graph with two disjoint maximal stable sets. The notions  $r$ -T-graph and edge-T-graph are introduced, the implications

$$2\text{-T-graph} \rightarrow \text{edge-T-graph} \rightarrow 1\text{-T-graph} \rightarrow \text{T-graph}$$

are true but the converse of each is false.

The main result is that if in a graph  $G$ ,  $2 \leq \deg(v) \leq 3$  for every vertex  $v$ , then  $G$  is a 2-T-graph.

We follow the terminology of Berge (1973). A graph is called a T-graph if it has two disjoint maximal stable sets.

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is said to be an  $r$ -T-graph if for every  $S \subset V$  with  $|S| = r$  and with no odd cycle in  $G/S$  there exist two maximal disjoint stable sets,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $S \subset S_1 \cup S_2$ .

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is called an edge-T-graph if for every pair of adjacent vertices  $u$  and  $v$  there exist two maximal disjoint stable sets,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , such that  $u, v \in S_1 \cup S_2$ .

It can be seen that the following implications are true:

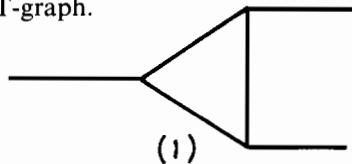
$$n\text{-T-graph} \rightarrow (n-1)\text{-T-graph}, n \geq 2.$$

$$2\text{-T-graph} \rightarrow \text{edge-T-graph} \rightarrow 1\text{-T-graph} \rightarrow \text{T-graph}.$$

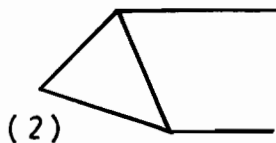
We shall give examples to show that each one of the reverse implications is false.

#### Examples

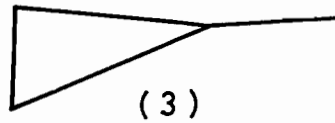
(1) The graph (1) is not a T-graph.



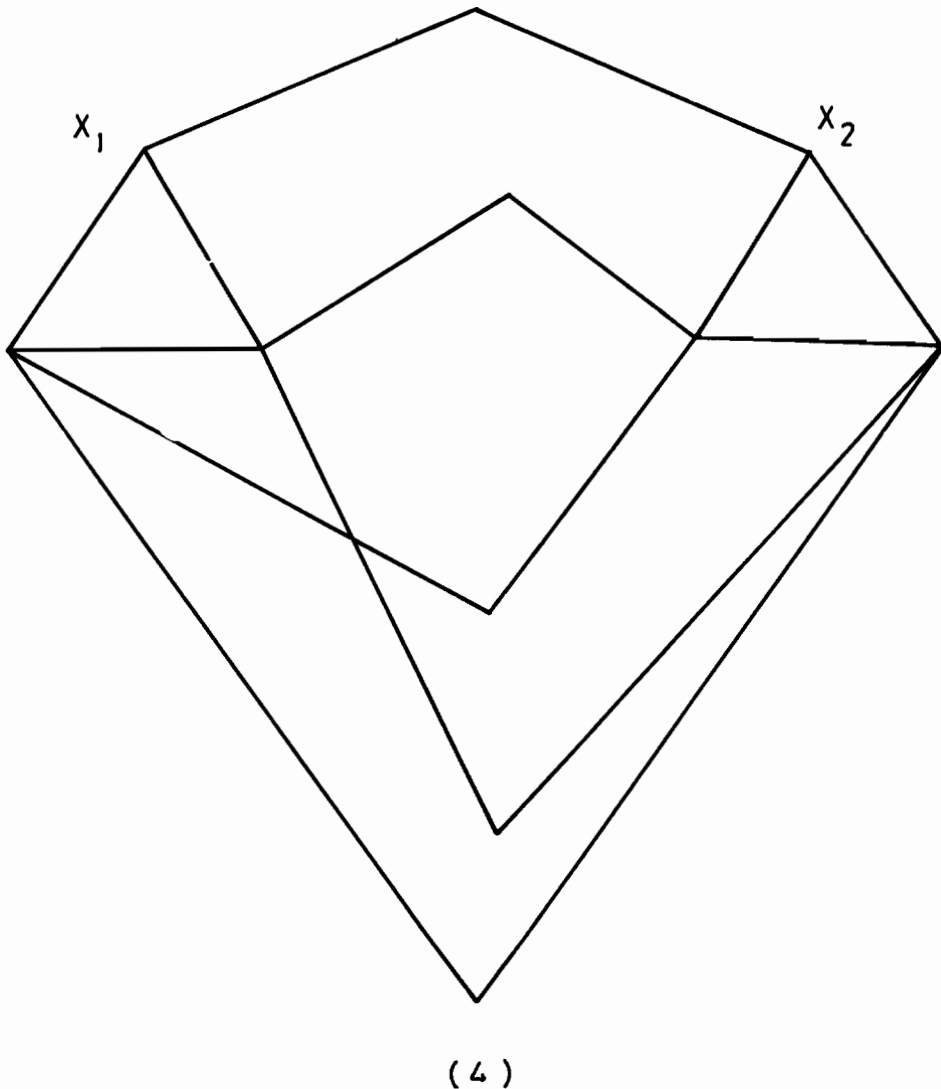
(2) The graph (2) is a T-graph which is not a 1-T-graph.



(3) The graph (3) is a 1-T-graph but it is not an edge-T-graph.



(4) The graph (4) is an edge-T-graph but it is not a 2-T-graph, since  $\{x_1, x_2\}$  cannot be included in the union of two disjoint maximal stable sets.



*Theorem 1.* Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph of order  $n$  with  $2 \leq \deg(x) \leq 3$  for every  $x \in V$ , then  $G$  is an edge-T-graph.

*Proof.* Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two adjacent vertices of  $G$ , we will prove that there exist two

disjoint maximal stable sets, 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  with  $u, v \in S_1US_2$ . The proof is by induction on the order of  $G$ .

There are two main cases:

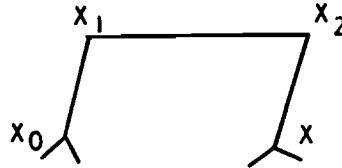
Case 1:  $G$  has a chain of length  $m \geq 1$  of vertices of degree 2.

Case 2:  $G$  has no adjacent vertices of degree 2.

Case 1 can be divided into the following cases:

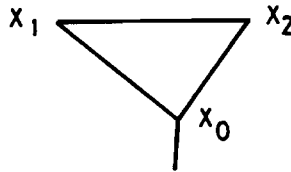
Case 1.1:  $m = 1$ , let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be the two adjacent vertices of degree 2.

Case 1.1.1:  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are not adjacent to the same vertex.



Case 1.1.1

Case 1.1.2:  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are adjacent to the same vertex  $x_0$ .



Case 1.1.2

*Proof of case 1.1.*

Case 1.1.1: Remove  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  (and of course all edges incident to them) and join  $x_0$  to  $x$  (if they are not adjacent). We see that the reduced graph satisfies the hypothesis.

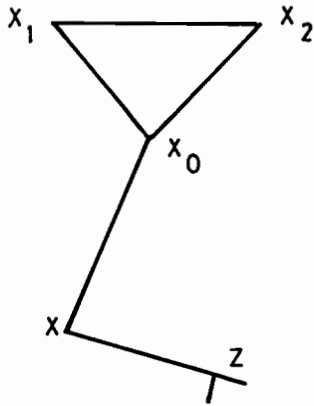
If  $u, v \in V - \{x_1, x_2\}$ , then by the induction hypothesis there are 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u, v \in S_1US_2$  in the reduced graph. Vertices of  $S_1$  will be called circles and those of  $S_2$  boxes. Now delete the added edge and extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by handling  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  as follows:

If  $x_0$  or  $x$  is a box (or a circle), say  $x_0$ , we make  $x_1$  a circle and  $x_2$  a box (or a circle), since  $x$  cannot be a box (or a circle). And, if  $x_0, x \notin S_1US_2$ , then make  $x_1$  a circle and  $x_2$  a box. The remaining two cases  $v, u \in \{x_1, x_2\}$  and  $u \in \{x_0, x\}, v \in \{x_1, x_2\}$  can be handled in a similar way.

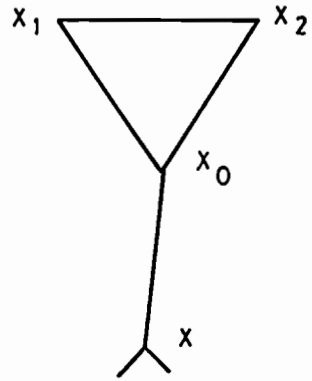
Case 1.1.2: In case (i) we remove  $x_1, x_2, x_0$ , and  $x$  (also  $z$  if degree ( $z$ ) = 2). Now, if  $u, v \in \{x_1, x_2, x_0, x\}$ , then there are 2DMSS  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  with  $z$  a circle. Extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x$  a box and putting the ends of a suitable edge of the triangle  $x_0x_1x_2$  in  $S_1US_2$ , so that  $u, v \in S_1US_2$ . This includes also the case  $u = x, v = z$ . The case degree ( $x$ ) = 3 can be handled in a similar manner. Also the case in which  $u$  and  $v$  are not in  $\{x_1, x_2, x_0, x\}$  can be handled similarly. Case (ii) is again similar to case (i).

Case 1.2:  $G$  has a chain of vertices of degree 2 of order  $m \geq 2$ . After removing  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in case (i), join  $x_3$  and  $x_0$  and handle it as in case 1.1.1.

Case (ii) can be handled in a way similar to 1.1. If in (ii),  $x_0$  is of degree 2 then

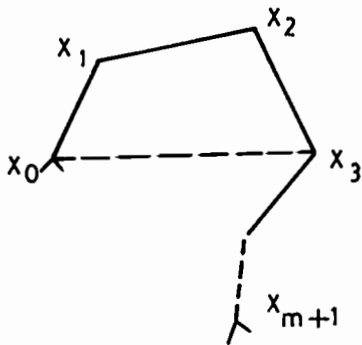


(i) degree of  $x$  is 2.

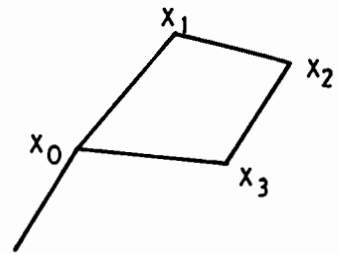


(ii) degree of  $x$  is 3.

**Case 1.1.2**



(i)



(ii)

**Case 1.2**

$x_0, x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$  form a component of the graph, this case can be handled easily. This concludes case 1.

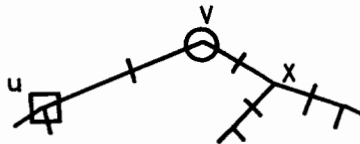
In handling the remaining cases, we remove vertices and join some vertices to others so that we get a graph with reduced order which satisfies the hypothesis.

Case 2:  $G$  does not have adjacent vertices of degree 2.

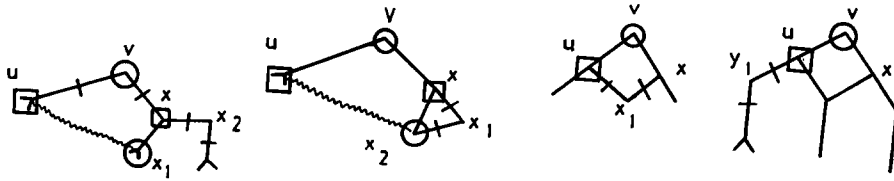
Case 2.1: degree ( $u$ ) = 3, degree ( $v$ ) = 2.

Case 2.1.1:  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent to the same vertex. The subcases of 2.1.1 depend on the other vertex  $x$  adjacent to  $v$ .

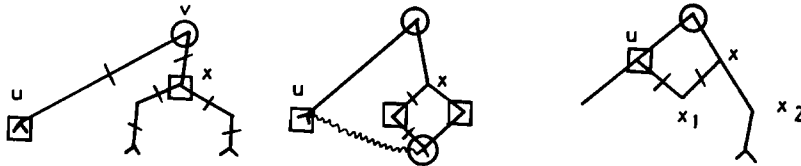
Case 2.1.1.1:  $x$  is adjacent to two vertices of degree 3.



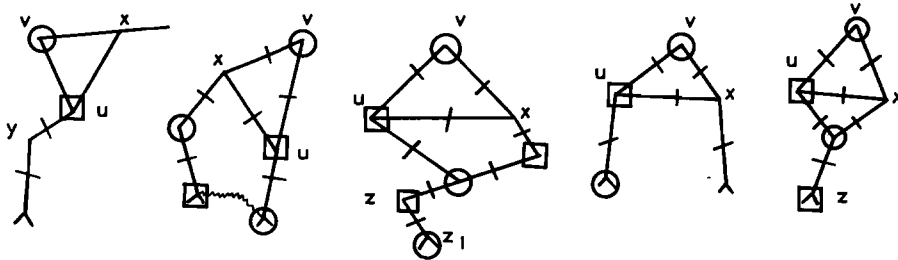
Case 2.1.1.2:  $x$  is adjacent to one vertex of degree 3.



Case 2.1.1.3:  $x$  is not adjacent to a vertex of degree 3.

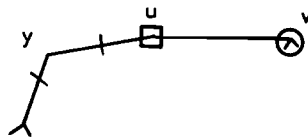


Case 2.1.2:  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent to the same vertex  $x$ . Let  $y$  be the third vertex adjacent to  $u$ .



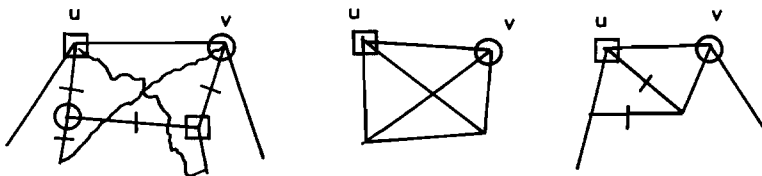
Case 2.2. degree( $u$ ) = 3, degree( $v$ ) = 3.

Case 2.2.1: One of the vertices  $u$  and  $v$  is adjacent to a vertex of degree 2.

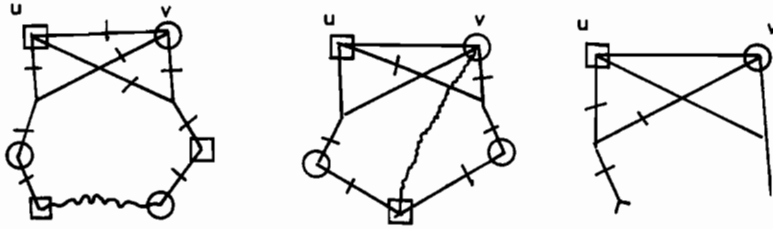


Case 2.2.2: Neither  $u$  nor  $v$  is adjacent to a vertex of degree 2. Let  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  be the two vertices adjacent to  $u$  and let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be adjacent to  $v$ .

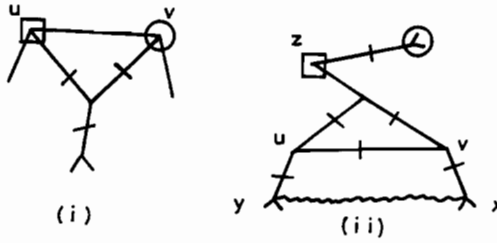
Case 2.2.2.1:  $x_1$  is adjacent to  $y_2$ .



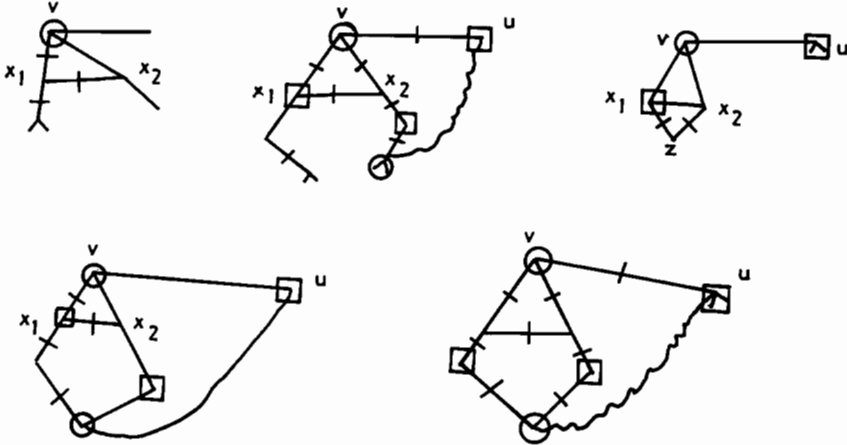
Case 2.2.2.2:  $u$  is adjacent to  $x_1$  and  $v$  is adjacent to  $y_1$ .



Case 2.2.2.3:  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent to the same vertex.

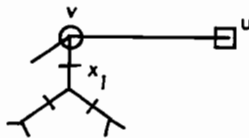


Case 2.2.2.4:  $x_1$  is adjacent to  $x_2$ .

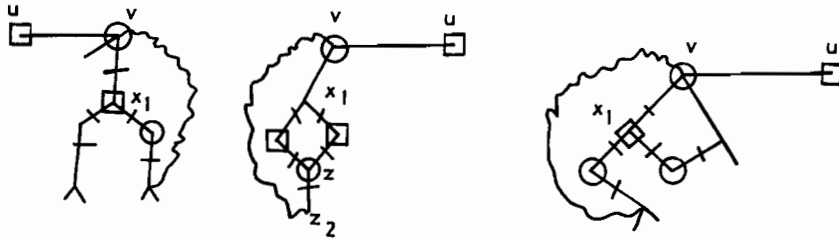


Case 2.2.2.5:  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are not adjacent.

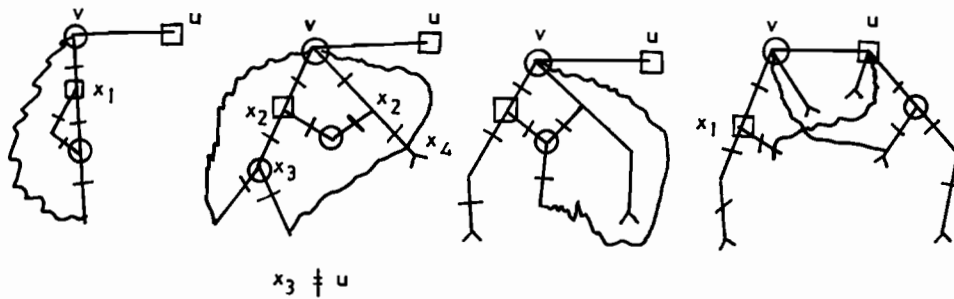
Case 2.2.2.5.1:  $x_1$  is not adjacent to a vertex of degree 2.



Case 2.2.2.5.2:  $x_1$  is adjacent to two vertices of degree 2.



Case 2.2.2.5.3: Either or both of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  is adjacent to only one vertex of degree 2.



Now we handle each of the listed cases.

We handle each case by removing the vertices with dashed edges and joining the curly edges if they are not already existing to get a reduced order graph satisfying the hypothesis. So we find in the reduced graph two disjoint maximal stable sets with one of the vertices a box or one vertex a box and an adjacent vertex a circle. Then those sets are extended to the whole of  $G$ , by removing the extra edges (if there are any) and making boxes and circles as indicated in the figures of each case. There might remain a vertex from the removed ones which is adjacent to a box (or a circle) in the reinstalled portion of the graph and adjacent at the same time to a vertex which has not been removed. Such a vertex, we make a circle (or a box) in case it is not already adjacent to a circle (or a box). This concludes the proof.

*Theorem 2:* If  $G = (E, V)$  is a graph of order  $n$  with  $2 \leq d(x) \leq 3, x \in V(G)$ , then for any two non-adjacent vertices  $u, v$ , there exist two disjoint maximal stable sets  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  with  $u, v \in S_1 \cup S_2$ .

*Proof:* The proof is by induction on the order of  $G$ .

In the proof of the different cases the general procedure is to remove some vertices, and add some new edges and vertices to get a graph satisfying the hypothesis with order less than  $n$  for which we find 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , either by the induction hypothesis (or by Theorem 1), and then we remove the extra vertices or edges and extend the 2DMSS to the whole graph  $G$  according to the hypothesis. Each case has three different subcases:

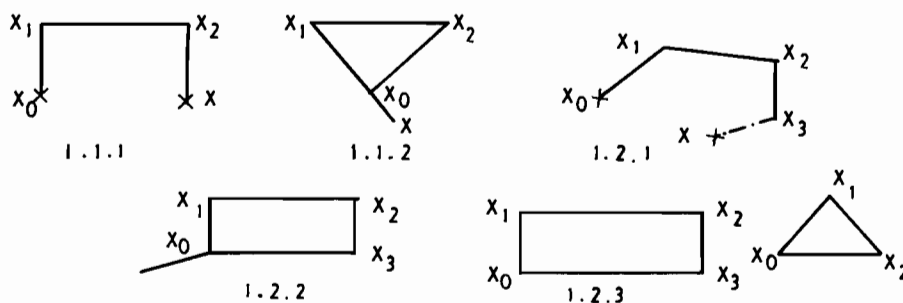
- (i)  $u$  and  $v$  are not removed
- (ii)  $u$  or  $v$  is removed
- (iii)  $u$  and  $v$  are removed

We usually leave one or two of these cases because they can be handled in a way similar to the case we proved.

Case 1: There is a chain of length  $m \geq 1$  of vertices of degree 2.

Case 2:  $G$  has no adjacent vertices of degree 2.

Case 1: Let  $x_1 x_2 \dots x_{m+1}$  be a chain of length  $m \geq 1$  of vertices of degree 2.



Case 1.1.

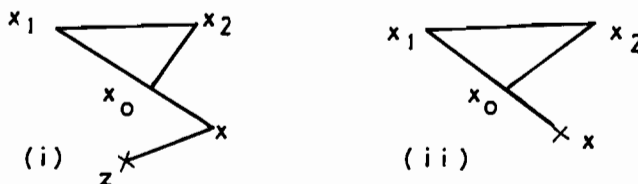
Case 1.1.1:  $m = 1$  and  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are not adjacent to the same vertex.

Remove  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  and join  $x_0$  to  $x$  if  $(x_0, x) \notin E$ , then the new graph is of reduced order.

If  $u, v \in V - \{x_1, x_2\}$ , then by induction hypothesis there are 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u, v \in S_1 \cup S_2$ , in the reduced graph. Then remove the edge  $(x, x_0)$  (if  $(x_0, x) \notin E$ ), and extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by handling  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  as follows:

If  $x_0$  or  $x$  is a box (or a circle), say  $x_0$ . Make  $x_1$  a circle (or a box) and  $x_2$  a box (or a circle) and if  $x_0, x \notin S_1 \cup S_2$  make  $x_1$  a circle and  $x_2$  a box. The remaining two cases:  $u \in \{x_1, x_2\}$  and  $v \in V - \{x_1, x_2\}$  and  $\{u, v\} = \{x_1, x_2\}$  can be handled in a similar way.

Case 1.1.2: If  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are adjacent to the same vertex  $x$



- (i)  $x$  is of degree 2
- (ii)  $x$  is of degree 3

In (i) Remove  $x_1, x_2, x_0$  and  $x$  to get a reduced graph satisfying the hypothesis.

(a) If  $u, v \notin \{x, x_0, x_1, x_2\}$ , then by induction hypothesis there are 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u, v \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x_1$  a circle and  $x_0$  a box and then handling  $x$  (making it a circle if  $z$  is not a circle).

(b) If  $u \in \{x, x_0, x_1, x_2\}$  and  $v \in V - \{x, x_0, x_1, x_2\}$ , then by induction hypothesis there are



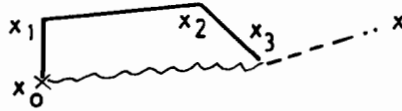
2DMSS with  $v \in S_1US_2$  and  $z$  a circle. Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  by making  $x$  a box,  $x_0$  a circle and  $x_1$  (or  $x_2$ ) a box (if  $u = x_1$  (or  $x_2$ )).

(c) The case  $u, v \in \{x, x_0, x_1, x_2\}$  can be handled as in case (b).

Case (ii) can be handled in a similar way.

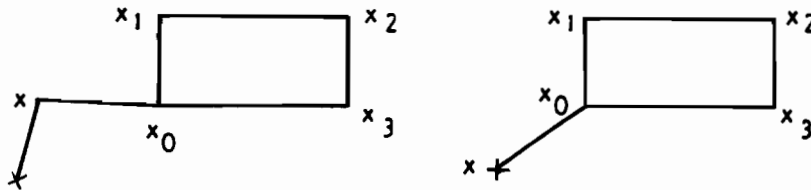
Case 1.2:  $m \geq 2$ .

Case 1.2.1:  $m \geq 2$ ,  $x_1$  and  $x_3$  are not adjacent to the same point other than  $x_2$ .



Remove  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  and join  $x_3$  to  $x_0$ , then this case is similar to case 1.1.1.

Case 1.2.2:  $m = 2$ ,  $x_1$  and  $x_3$  are adjacent to the same point  $x_0$ ; this case is similar to case 1.1.2.



Case 1.2.3: A cycle of order 4 is a component of the graph and it can be handled easily. The same for the triangle.

Case 2:  $G$  has no adjacent vertices of degree 2.

The different cases will be classified according to the degree of  $v$ , and the position of  $u$ .

Case 2.1: degree of  $v = 2$ .

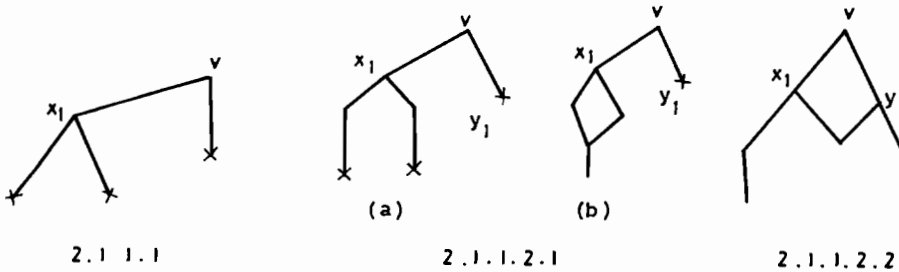
Let  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  be the two vertices adjacent to  $v$ .

Case 2.1.1:  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  are not adjacent.

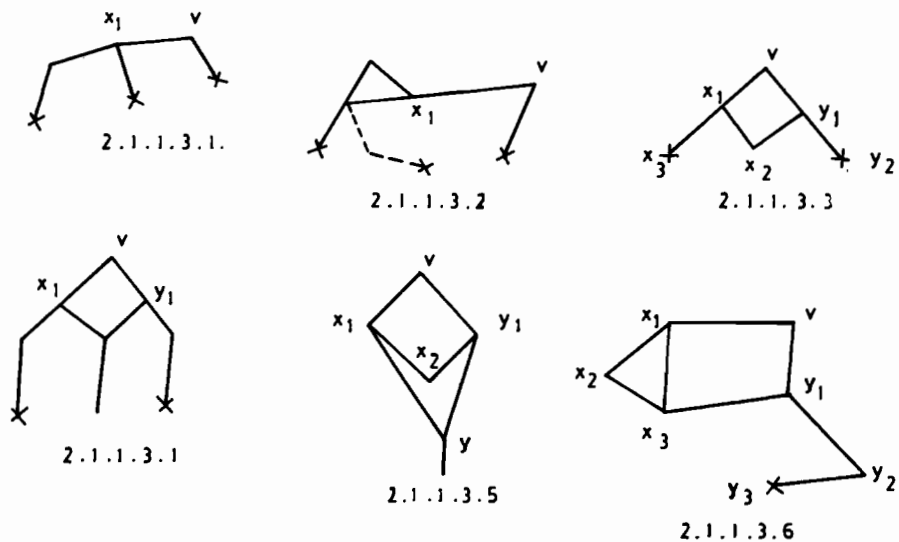
Case 2.1.2:  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  are adjacent.

Case 2.1.1.1: One of  $x_1, y_1$  is adjacent to two vertices of degree 3.

Case 2.1.1.2: One of  $x_1, y_1$  is not adjacent to a vertex of degree 3.

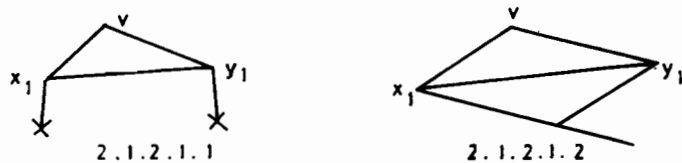


Case 2.1.1.3: Each of  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  is adjacent to only one vertex of degree 3.



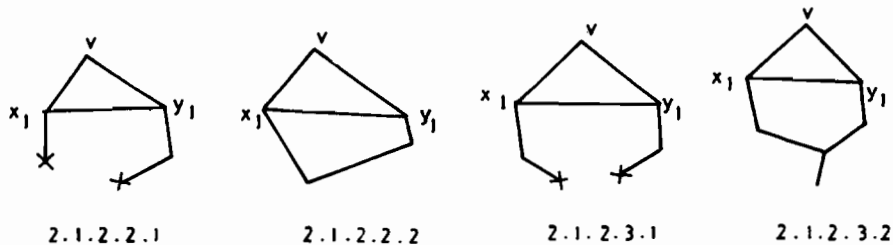
Case 2.1.2:  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  are adjacent.

Case 2.1.2.1:  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  are not adjacent to a vertex of degree 2 other than  $v$ .



Case 2.1.2.2: One of  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  is adjacent to a vertex of degree 2 other than  $v$ .

Case 2.1.2.3: Both of  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  are adjacent to vertices of degree 2.



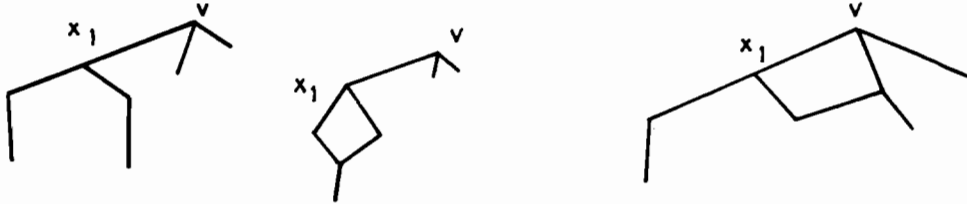
Case 2.2: Degree of  $v = 3$ .

Case 2.2.1:  $v$  is adjacent to a vertex of degree 2.

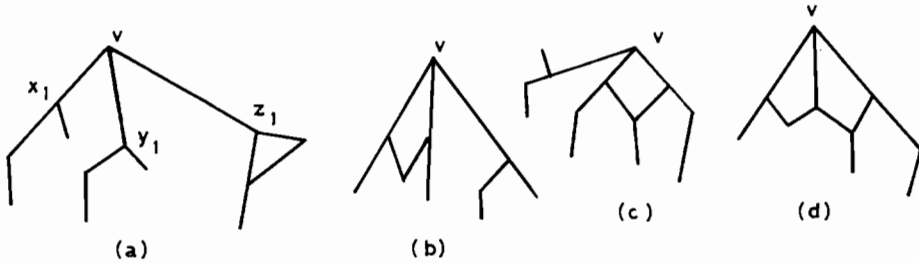
Case 2.2.2:  $v$  is not adjacent to a vertex of degree 2.

Case 2.2.2.1: One of the three vertices which are adjacent to  $v$  is adjacent to two vertices of degree 3.

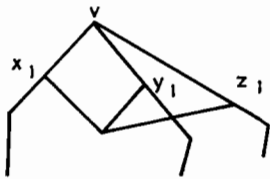
Case 2.2.2.2: One of the three vertices which are adjacent to  $v$  is adjacent to two vertices of degree 2.



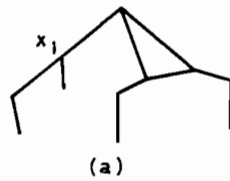
Case 2.2.2.3: Each of the vertices adjacent to  $v$  is adjacent to only one vertex of degree 3.



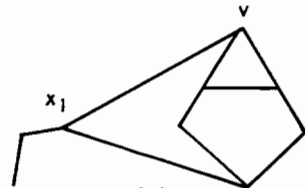
2.2.2.3.1



2.2.2.3.2



(a)

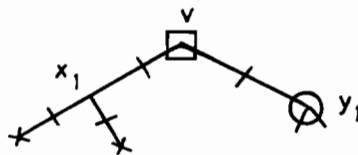


(b)

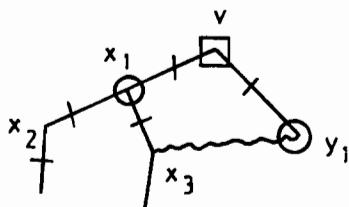
2.2.2.3.3

Now we want to handle each of the preceding listed subcases.

Case 2.1.1.1: Remove  $v$  and  $x_1$ , the order of the new graph is less than  $n$ . By the induction hypothesis, this graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  and  $y_1$  a circle. Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $v$  a box and handling  $x_1$ .

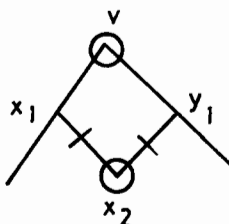


Case 2.1.1.2.1:  $x_3$  and  $x_2$  are not adjacent to  $y_1$ .



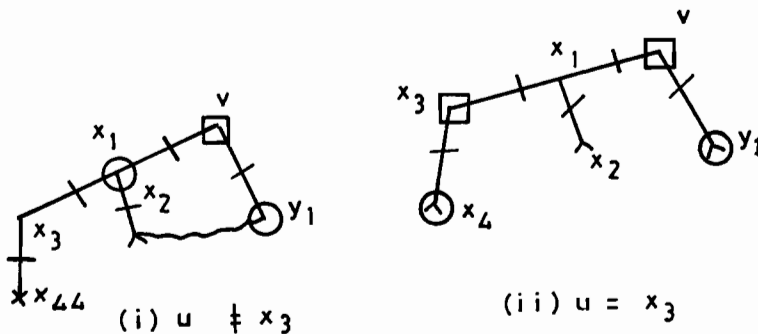
Remove  $v, x_1$  and  $x_2$  (or  $x_3$ ) ( $x_2 \neq u$ ) and join  $x_3$  (or  $x_2$ ) to  $y_1$ ; then the new graph is of reduced order and satisfies the hypothesis. So there are 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  (if  $u$  is not removed) and  $y_1$  a circle. Extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x_1$  a circle and  $v$  a box then handling  $x_2$  (or  $x_3$ ).

Case 2.1.1.2.2:  $x_2$  is adjacent to  $y_1$ .



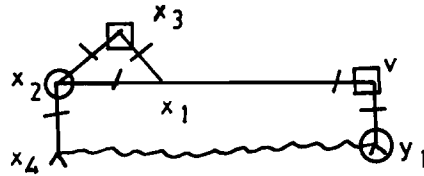
Remove  $x_2$ , then the graph  $G/V - \{x_2\}$  has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $v$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x_2$  a circle, since either  $x_1$  or  $y_1$  must be a box.

Case 2.1.1.3.1: In (i) remove  $v, x_1$  and  $x_3$  and join  $x_2$  to  $y_1$  (if  $(x_2, y_1) \notin E$ ) to get a graph of reduced order which satisfies the hypothesis. So it has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  and  $y_1$  a circle. Now remove  $(x_2, y_1)$  (if  $(x_2, y_1) \notin E$ ) and extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $v$  a box and  $x_1$  a circle and handling  $x_3$ .



In (ii) remove  $v, x_1, x_3$ , so that the resulting graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $y_1$  a circle and  $x_4 \in S_1 \cup S_2$ , i.e.  $x_4$  is a circle (or a box). Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $v$  a box,  $x_3$  a box (or a circle) and handling  $x_1$ .

Case 2.1.1.3.2: Remove  $v, x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$  and join  $x_4$  to  $y$  (if  $(x_4, y_1) \notin E$ ), then the new graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  (if  $u \neq x_2, x_3$ ) and  $y_1$  a circle. Now remove  $(x_4, y_1)$  if it is not originally in  $E$  and extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x_2$  a circle and both of  $v$  and  $x_3$  boxes. We see that this also solves the case  $u = x_2, x_3$ .



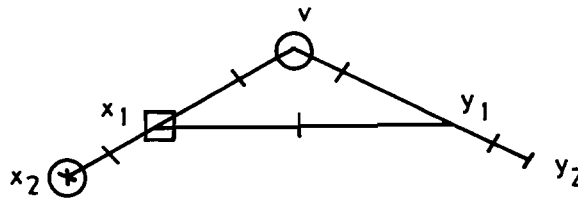
Cases 2.1.1.3.3 and 2.1.1.3.5: Can be handled in a way similar to 2.1.1.2.2.

Case 2.1.1.3.4: Was handled in 2.1.1.3.1.

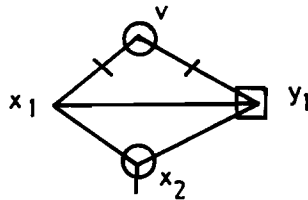
Case 2.1.1.3.6: Is handled by removing  $v, x_1, x_2, x_3, y_1$  and  $y_2$ , then finding 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , of the reduced graph with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$ , if it is not removed and  $y_3$  a circle. The extension to  $G$  can be done easily.

Case 2.1.2.

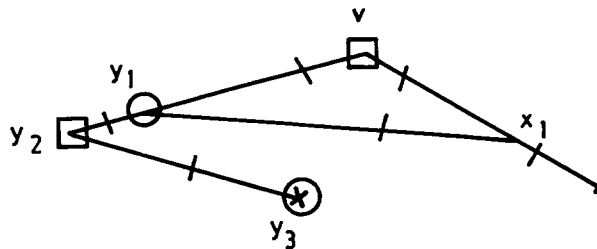
Case 2.1.2.1.1: Remove  $v, x_1$  and  $y_1$ , then the resulting graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  and  $x_2$  a circle. Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x_1$  a box and  $v$  a circle, and handling  $y_1$ .



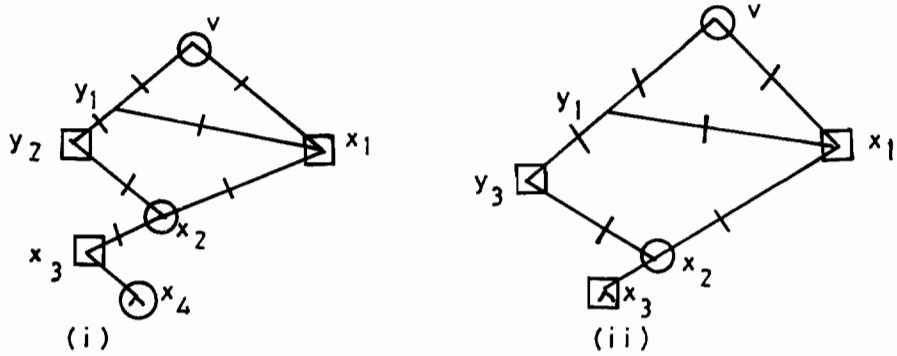
Case 2.1.2.1.2: Remove  $v$ , then  $G/V - \{v\}$  has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $x_2$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  by making  $v$  a box (note that one of  $x_1, y_1$  must be a box).



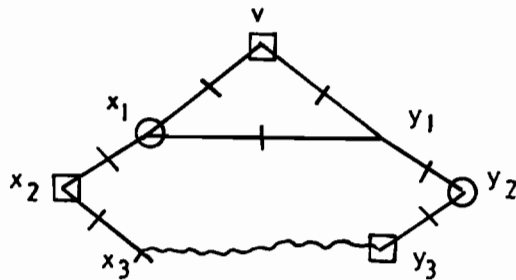
Case 2.1.2.2: Remove  $v, x_1, y_1$  and  $y_2$ , then  $G/V - \{y_1, y_2, x_1, v\}$  has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $y_3$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$ , if  $u$  is not removed. Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $y_2$  a box,  $y_1$  a circle and  $v$  a box, and handling  $x_1$ .



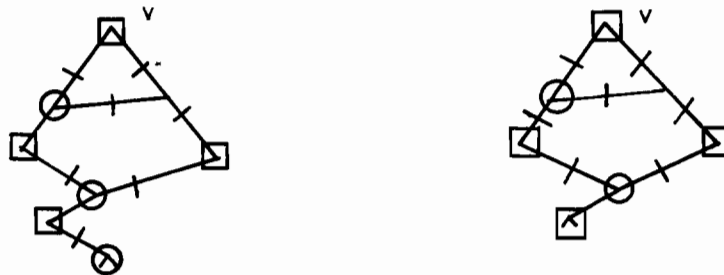
Case 2.1.2.2.2: In (i) remove  $v, y_1, x_1, y_2, x_2$  and  $x_3$ , then the resulting graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $x_4$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  (if  $u$  is not removed). Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x_3$  a box,  $x_2$  a circle,  $y_2$  a box,  $v$  a circle and  $x_1$  a box. Case (ii) is similar to case (i).



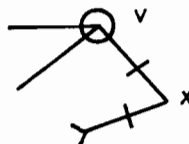
Case 2.1.2.3.1: Remove  $v, x_1, x_2, y_1$  and  $y_2$  and join  $x_3$  to  $y_3$  (if  $(x_3, y_3) \notin E$ ), then the new graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  and  $y_3$  a box. Now remove  $(x_3, y_3)$  (if it is not in  $E$ ) and extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making both of  $x_2$  and  $v$  boxes and both of  $x_1$  and  $y_2$  circles.



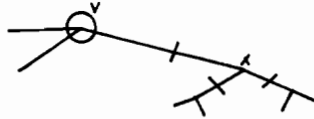
Case 2.1.2.3.2: This case can be handled similar to case 2.1.2.2.2.



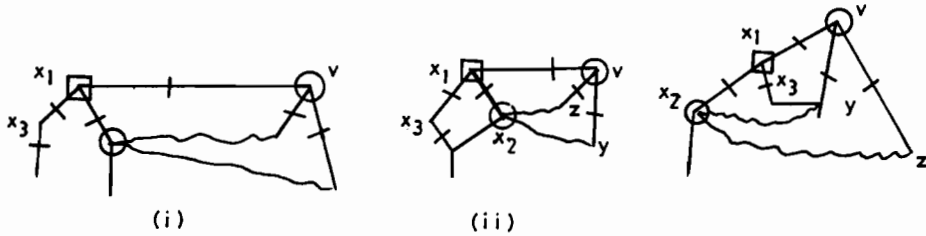
Case 2.2.1: Let  $x$  be a vertex of degree 2 which is adjacent to  $v$ ; remove  $x$ , then  $G/V - \{x\}$  has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $v, u \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by handling  $x$ .



Case 2.2.2.1: Can be handled in a way similar to case 2.2.1.



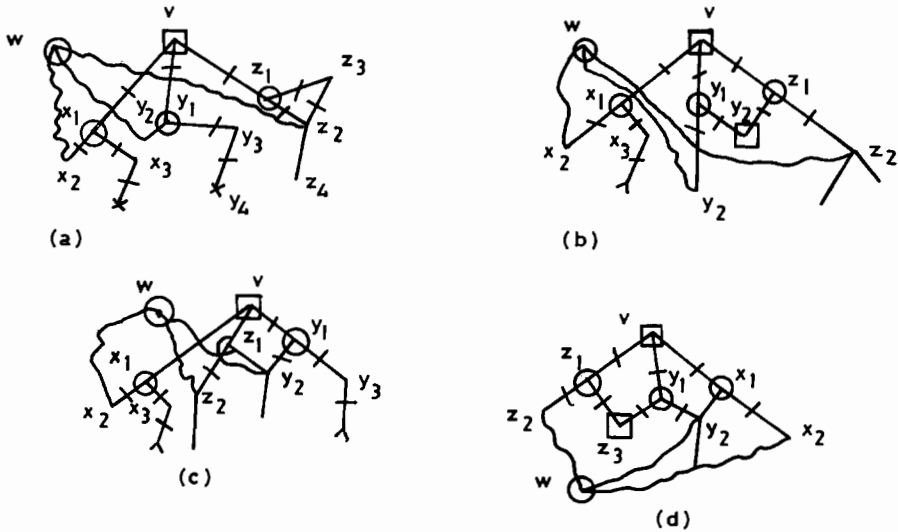
Case 2.2.2.2: In cases (i) and (ii) assume  $x_3 \neq u$ .



Remove  $v, x_1, x_3$  and join  $y$  and  $z$  to  $x_2$ , then the resulting graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $x_2$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Now remove the additional edges and extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $v$  a circle and  $x_1$  a box and then handling  $x_3$ . In case (iii)  $x_3$  is a circle.

Case 2.2.2.3.1:

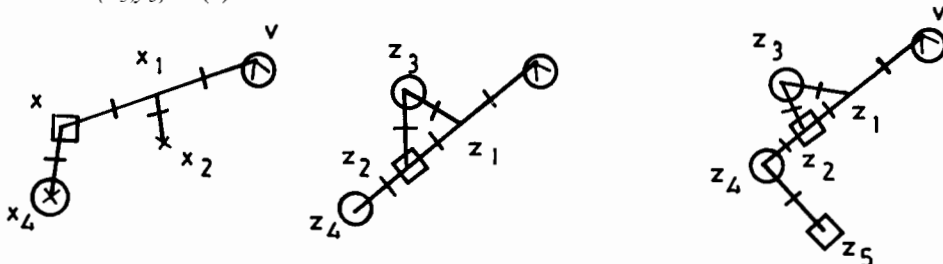
- (i)  $u \notin \{x_3, y_3, z_3\}$  in (a)
- $u \neq x_3$  in (b)
- $u \notin \{x_3, y_3\}$  in (c)



Remove  $v, x_1, y_1, z_1, x_3$  and  $y_3$  (also  $z_3$  in (a)). Add a new vertex  $w$  and join each of  $x_2, y_2$  and  $z_2$  to  $w$ , then the new graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  (if  $u$  is not

removed) and  $w$  a circle. Now remove the vertex  $w$  and, of course, all edges incident to  $w$ , then extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making each of  $x_1, y_1, z_1$  a circle and  $v$  a box, then handling  $x_3$  and  $y_3$  (also  $z_3$  in case (a)).

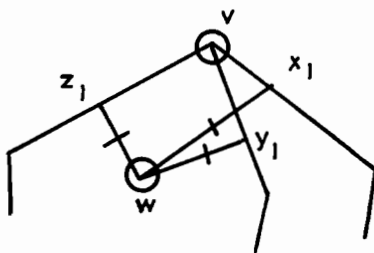
- (ii)  $u \in \{x_3, y_3, z_3\}$  in (a)
- $u = x_3$  in (b)
- $u \in \{x_3, y_3\}$  in (c)



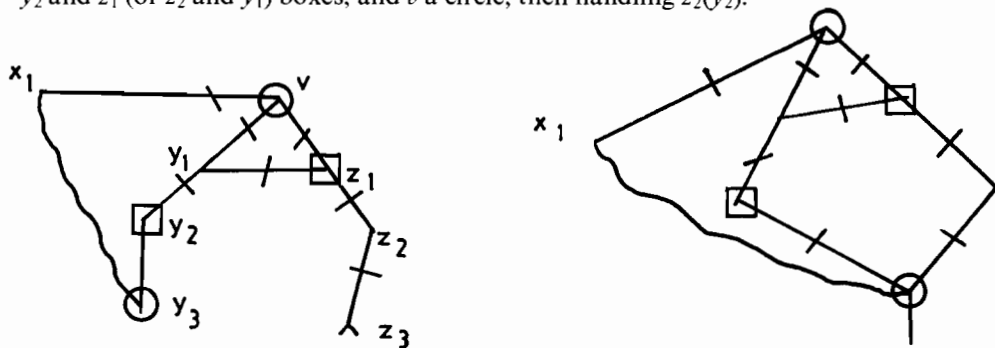
For  $u = x_3$  (or  $y_3$  in (a) and (c)), remove  $x_1$  and  $x_3$ , then the new graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $x_4$  a circle and  $v \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $x_3$  a box and handling  $x_1$ .

In (a) if  $u = z_3$ , remove  $z_1, z_2$  and  $z_3$  (also  $z_4$  if  $d(z_4) = 2$ ), then the resulting graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $v$  a circle and  $z_4 \in S_1 \cup S_2$  (or  $z_5$  in  $S_1 \cup S_2$ ). Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $z_1$  a box,  $z_3$  a circle and  $z_4$  a circle (or a box), if  $z_5$  is a box (or a circle).

Case 2.2.2.3.2: Remove  $w$ , then  $G/V - \{w\}$  has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $v$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  if  $u \neq w$ . Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $w$  a circle; it is clear that this will solve also the case  $u = w$ .

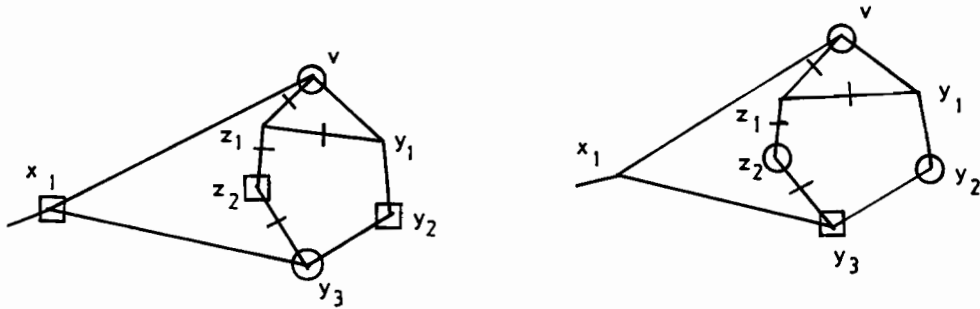


Case 2.2.2.3.2: (a)  $(y_3, x_1) \notin E$ . Remove  $v, y_1, y_2, z_1$  and  $z_2$ , and join  $x_1$  to  $y_3$  (or  $z_3$  if  $u = z_2$ ), then the resulting graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $y_3(z_3)$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  if  $u$  is not removed. Now extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making both of  $y_2$  and  $z_1$  (or  $z_2$  and  $y_1$ ) boxes, and  $v$  a circle, then handling  $z_2(y_2)$ .





(b)  $(y_3, x_1) \in E$ . Remove  $z_1, z_2$ , then the new graph has 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $v$  a circle and  $u \in S_1 \cup S_2$  if  $u$  is not removed. Now  $x_1$  is either a box or adjacent to a box. If  $x_1$  is a box then  $y_3$  can be a circle and  $y_2$  can be a box so we can extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $z_2$  a box. If  $x_1$  is adjacent to a box, then  $y_3$  can be a box,  $y_2$  can be a circle and  $y_1$  a box, so we can extend  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  to 2DMSS of  $G$  by making  $z_2$  a circle.



This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

**Theorem 3.** If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph of order  $n$  with  $2 \leq d(x) \leq 3 \forall x \in V$ , then  $G$  is a 2-T-graph.

*Proof.* In Theorem 1 we have shown that for any two adjacent vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $V(G)$ , there are 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $u, v \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Also in Theorem 2 we have proved for any two non-adjacent vertices  $x, y$  of  $V(G)$ , there are 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $x, y \in S_1 \cup S_2$ . Therefore for any two vertices  $z$  and  $w$  of  $V(G)$  there are 2DMSS,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , with  $z, w \in S_1 \cup S_2$ .  $G$  is a 2-T-graph.

**Corollary.** A 3-regular graph is a 2-T-graph.

We state now some conjectures.

**Conjecture 1.** Let  $G = (V, E)$ , if  $2 \leq \deg(v) \leq 3$  for every  $v$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq R \leq |V|$ , where  $R$  is the largest integer for which there is  $S \subset V$ ,  $|S| = R$  and  $G/S$  has no odd cycle.

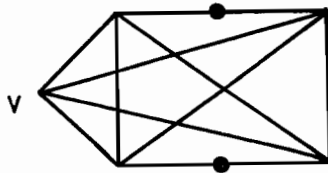
In particular,  $G$  is a 3-T-graph, if  $G$  is not a complete graph.

**Conjecture 2.** Every planar graph with  $2 \leq \deg(v)$  for every vertex  $v$ , is a T-graph.

**Conjecture 3.** Hamiltonian graphs are T-graphs.

**Conjecture 4.** If  $2 \leq \deg v \leq 4$  for every vertex of a graph  $G$ . Then  $G$  is a T-graph.

J.A. Bondy (private communication) gave the following example:



which shows that in Conjectures 3 and 4 we cannot have 1-T-graphs, since  $v$  cannot be included in the union of any 2DMSS.

**REFERENCE**

**Berge, C. 1973.** Graphs and hypergraphs. North-Holland.

*(Received 15 April 1979)*

## بيانات - ت

آمنة الأسعد و فؤاد الملا  
قسم الرياضيات بجامعة الكويت

### خلاصة

يسمى البيان بيان - ت إذا احتوى على مجموعتين مستقلتين عظيمين غير متقاطعتين . وفي هذا البحث نقدم مفاهيم بيان - ت - ر و بيان - ت - حد حيث ر عدد صحيح موجب . إن العبارات الآتية صحيحة :

بيان - ت - ٢ ← بيان - ت - حد .. ←  
بيان - ت - ١ ← بيان - ت

ولكن عكس كل من هذه العبارات غير صحيح .  
إن أهم نتائج هذا البحث هي النظرية القائلة بأنه إذا كانت درجة كل رأس من رؤوس البيان بين ٢ ، ٣ فإن البيان هو بيان - ت - ٢ .

