

CHARACTERIZING CIRCULAR-ARC GRAPHS¹

BY ALAN TUCKER

Communicated by V. L. Klee, April 16, 1970

Given a finite family S of nonempty sets, the *intersection graph* $G = G(S)$ has vertices associated with the sets of S and two distinct vertices of G are adjacent if and only if the corresponding sets of S intersect (S is called an *intersection model for G*). If S is a family of arcs on a circle, G is called a *circular-arc graph*. See the example in Figure 1. If, in addition, no arc of S contains another arc, G is called a *proper circular-arc graph* (the graph in Figure 1 is not a proper cir-

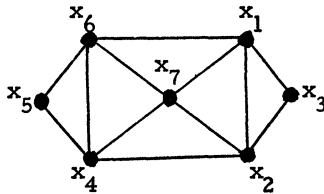


Figure 1a: G

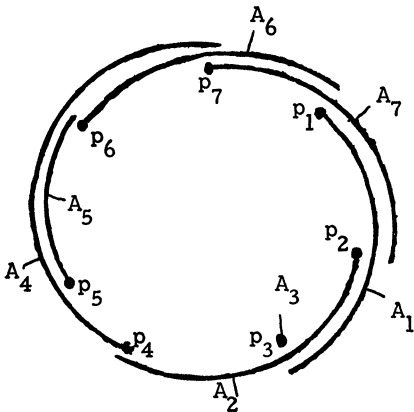


Figure 1b: Circular-arc Model of G

	x_1	x_2	x_3	x_4	x_5	x_6	x_7
x_1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
x_2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
x_3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
x_4	0	1	0	1	1	1	1
x_5	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
x_6	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
x_7	1	1	0	1	0	1	1

Figure 1c: $M^*(G)$ with U_i 's and V_i 's circled

FIGURE 1

AMS 1969 subject classifications. Primary 0525, 0540; Secondary 1548, 9210.

Key words and phrases. Interval graph, proper circular-arc graph, intersection graph, circular 1's property, consecutive 1's property.

¹ Sponsored by the Mathematics Research Center, United States Army, Madison, Wisconsin, under Contract No. DA-31-124-ARO-D-462.