## Upper clique transversals in graphs: Complexity and algorithms

Martin Milani $\check{c}^a$ , Yushi Uno<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>FAMNIT and IAM, University of Primorska, Koper, Slovenia, martin.milanic@upr.si Graduate School of Informatics, Osaka Metropolitan University, Sakai,

Osaka, Japan, yushi.uno@omu.ac.jp

A clique transversal in a graph is a set of vertices intersecting all maximal cliques. The problem of determining the minimum size of a clique transversal has received considerable attention in the literature. We initiate the study of the "upper" variant of this parameter, the upper clique transversal number, defined as the maximum size of a minimal clique transversal. We investigate this parameter from the algorithmic and complexity points of view, with a focus on various graph classes. We show that the corresponding decision problem is NP-complete in the classes of chordal graphs, chordal bipartite graphs, and line graphs of bipartite graphs, but solvable in linear time in the classes of split graphs and proper interval graphs.

Acknowledgements: The work of the first named author is supported in part by the Slovenian Research Agency (I0-0035, research program P1-0285 and research projects N1-0102, N1-0160, J1-3001, J1-3002, J1-3003, J1-4008, and J1-4084) and by the research program CogniCom (0013103) at the University of Primorska. The second named author is partially supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number JP17K00017, 20H05964, and 21K11757, Japan.

## References

 Martin Milanič, Yushi Uno, Upper clique transversals in graphs, Proceedings of the 49th International Workshop on Graph-Theoretic Concepts in Computer Science (WG 2023), Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 14093, 432–446 (2023).