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# Advanced clique algorithms for protein product graphs\*

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## Abstract

In this paper, we give a comprehensive overview of the development of clique algorithms and their use for drug design based on the search for cliques in protein product graphs. The maximum clique problem is a computational problem of finding largest subsets of vertices in a graph that are all pairwise adjacent. A related problem is the maximum weight clique problem and the highest weight k-clique problem, which both extend the algorithm to weighted graphs. The review covers our developed algorithms, starting with our improved branch-and-bound algorithm for finding maximum cliques in undirected graphs from 2007 up to the recent developments of algorithms for weighted graphs in 2024. We show the application of these algorithms to early stages of drug discovery, in particular to protein binding site detection based on protein similarity search in large protein databases and to protein-ligand molecular docking.

*Keywords:* Cliques, protein product graphs, applications.

*Math. Subj. Class.:* 05C69

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\*Dedicated to Professor Dragan Marušič on the occasion of the 70th birthday.

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# Napredni algoritmi za iskanje klik v grafih beljakovinskih izdelkov\*

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## Povzetek

V tem prispevku podajamo obsežen pregled razvoja algoritmov za iskanje klik in njihove uporabe za načrtovanje zdravil na podlagi iskanja klik v grafih beljakovinskih izdelkov. *Problem največje klike* je računski problem iskanja največjih podmnožic točk danega grafa, v katerih sta si vsaki dve točki sosednji. Sorodna problema sta *problem najtežje klike* in *problem najtežje k-klike*, ki oba razširjata algoritmom na utežene grafe. Pregled zajema naše algoritme, ki smo jih razvili, začenši z našim izboljšanim algoritmom razveji-in-omeji za iskanje največjih klik v neusmerjenih grafih od leta 2007 do nedavnega razvoja algoritmov za utežene grafe leta 2024. Prikažemo uporabo teh algoritmov v zgodnjih fazah odkrivanja zdravil, zlasti pri odkrivanju mesta vezave na beljakovine, ki temelji na iskanju podobnosti beljakovin v velikih zbirkah podatkov o beljakovinah, in pri molekularnem povezovanju beljakovin z ligandom.

*Ključne besede:* Klike, grafi beljakovinskih izdelkov, aplikacije.

*Math. Subj. Class.:* 05C69

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