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Nicolas Trotignon*, 106–112 boulevard de l’Hopital, 75013 Paris, France, and **Kristina Vuskovic**. *On graphs that do not contain a cycle with a unique chord.*

We give a structural description of the class \mathcal{C} of graphs that do not contain a cycle with a unique chord as an induced subgraph. Our main theorem states that any graph in \mathcal{C} is either in some simple basic class (namely is a clique, some graph arising by subdividing every edge of a given graph, or is isomorphic to an induced subgraph of the famous Heawood or Petersen graph), or has a cutset consisting in one or two nodes, or has what we call a 1-join. Note that our theorem works in two directions: a graph is in \mathcal{C} if and only if it can be constructed by gluing basic graphs along our decompositions.

This has several consequences: an $O(n^4)$ time algorithm to decide whether a graph is in \mathcal{C} , an $O(n+m)$ time algorithm that finds a maximum clique of any graph in \mathcal{C} and an $O(n^4)$ time coloring algorithm for graphs in \mathcal{C} . We hope faster algorithms, but this is still on progress. We prove that every graph in \mathcal{C} is either 3-colorable or has a coloring with ω colors where ω is the size of a largest clique. The problem of finding a maximum stable set for a graph in \mathcal{C} is known to be NP-hard. (Received January 11, 2008)