

## A Appendix

**Lemma 1** (Correctness of GETCAND2NDFDC). *GETCAND2NDFDC( $\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{R}$ ) generates a set of variables  $\mathbf{R}'$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{R}' \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  such that  $\mathbf{R}'$  consists of all and only variables  $v$  that satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . Further, every subset  $\mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ , and every set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  that satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  must be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}'$ .*

*Proof.* GETCAND2NDFDC iterates through every node  $v \in \mathbf{R}$ . For each  $v$ , the function TESTSEP( $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{X}}, \mathbf{X}, v, \emptyset$ ) is called in line 5 to check if  $\emptyset$  is a separator of  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $v$  in  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{X}}$ , i.e., whether there exists an open BD path from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $v$  or not. If TESTSEP returns True, then there is no open BD path from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $v$  and  $v$  satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . In this case,  $v$  is kept in  $\mathbf{R}'$ . Otherwise, if TESTSEP returns False, then there exists an open BD path from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $v$ . By definition, for every set  $\mathbf{Z}$  that includes  $v$ , there exists an open BD path from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Z}$ .  $\mathbf{Z}$  violates the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ , and thus  $v$  is removed from  $\mathbf{R}'$ . A special case is when  $v \in \mathbf{I}$ . GETCAND2NDFDC returns  $\perp$  because  $\mathbf{R}'$  will not include any subset  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z}$  that satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ .

At the end of the function, GETCAND2NDFDC has generated a set  $\mathbf{R}'$  that includes all and only variables  $v$  that satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . By definition, there exists no BD path from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Z}$  if and only if there exists no BD path from every  $x \in \mathbf{X}$  to every  $v \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Hence, every subset  $\mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ , and  $\mathbf{R}'$  contains all and only sets  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  that satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ .  $\square$

**Proposition A.1** (Complexity of GETCAND2NDFDC). *GETCAND2NDFDC runs in  $O(n(n+m))$  time where  $n$  and  $m$  represent the number of nodes and edges in  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* GETCAND2NDFDC iterates through all variables in  $\mathbf{R}$  of size  $O(n)$ . For each variable  $v \in \mathbf{R}$ , the function TESTSEP is called, which takes  $O(n+m)$  time [42].  $\square$

**Proposition A.2** (Correctness of GETNEIGHBORS). *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be an undirected graph and  $v$  a variable in  $\mathcal{G}$ . GETNEIGHBORS correctly outputs all observed neighbors  $\mathbf{N}$  of  $v$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . GETNEIGHBORS runs in  $O(n+m)$  time where  $n$  and  $m$  represent the number of nodes and edges in  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* GETNEIGHBORS computes  $\mathbf{N}$ , all adjacent nodes of  $v$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  that are observed. Also, all latent adjacent nodes  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $v$  need to be considered because there might exist some observed adjacent nodes  $\mathbf{O}$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  where  $\mathbf{O}$  belongs to observed neighbors of  $v$ . If  $\mathbf{L}$  is empty, then all adjacent nodes of  $v$  are observed, and thus GETNEIGHBORS returns  $\mathbf{N}$ . Otherwise, GETNEIGHBORS performs BFS from  $\mathbf{L}$ , searching for all observed neighbors of  $\mathbf{L}$ . The nodes  $v$ ,  $\mathbf{N}$  and  $\mathbf{L}$  are marked as visited to guarantee that the nodes will not be visited more than once.

When BFS is performed, one latent node  $u$  is popped from  $\mathbf{Q}$  at a time. Then, all observed adjacent nodes  $\mathbf{O}$  of  $u$  (that have not been visited before) are computed and added to  $\mathbf{N}$ . Further, there may exist some latent adjacent nodes  $\mathbf{L}'$  of  $u$  that have not been visited, and then there may exist some observed neighbors of  $\mathbf{L}'$  as well. Hence,  $\mathbf{L}'$  is inserted into  $\mathbf{Q}$  and all nodes in  $\mathbf{L}'$  is marked as visited. The procedure continues until  $\mathbf{Q}$  becomes empty.

At the end of while loop,  $\mathbf{N}$  must include all and only observed neighbors of  $v$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  because all observed adjacent nodes of  $v$  are added to  $\mathbf{N}$ , and for all latent adjacent nodes  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $v$ , all observed neighbors of  $\mathbf{L}$  are also added to  $\mathbf{N}$ .

GETNEIGHBORS runs in  $O(n+m)$  time because, while performing BFS, every node and edge in  $\mathcal{G}$  will be visited at most once.  $\square$

**Proposition A.3** (Correctness of GETDEP). *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a causal graph,  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{R}'$  disjoint sets of variables, and  $\mathbf{T}$  a set of variables where  $\mathbf{T} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ . If there exists a set of variables  $\mathbf{Z}' \subseteq \mathbf{R}' \setminus \mathbf{T}$  such that  $\mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{Z}'$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ , GETDEP outputs  $\mathbf{Z}'$ , or outputs  $\perp$  if none exists, in  $O(n^2(n+m))$  time where  $n$  and  $m$  represent the number of nodes and edges in  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

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1: function GETNEIGHBORS( $v, \mathcal{G}$ )
2:   Output:  $\mathbf{N}$  all observed neighbors of  $v$  in an undirected graph  $\mathcal{G}$ .
3:    $\mathbf{N} \leftarrow$  observed adjacent nodes of  $v$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ , mark  $v$  and all  $w \in \mathbf{N}$  as visited
4:    $\mathbf{L} \leftarrow$  latent adjacent nodes of  $v$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ , mark all  $w \in \mathbf{L}$  as visited
5:    $\mathbf{Q} \leftarrow \mathbf{L}$ 
6:   while  $\mathbf{Q} \neq \emptyset$  do
7:      $u \leftarrow \mathbf{Q}.\text{POP}()$ 
8:      $\mathbf{O} \leftarrow$  observed adjacent nodes of  $u$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  that have not been visited
9:      $\mathbf{N} \leftarrow \mathbf{N} \cup \mathbf{O}$ , mark all  $w \in \mathbf{O}$  as visited
10:     $\mathbf{L} \leftarrow$  latent adjacent nodes of  $u$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  that have not been visited
11:     $\mathbf{Q}.\text{INSERT}(\mathbf{L})$ , mark all  $w \in \mathbf{L}$  as visited
12:  end while
13:  return  $\mathbf{N}$ 
14: end function

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Figure 8: A function that outputs all observed neighbors of a given variable.

*Proof.* GETDEP constructs the graph  $\mathcal{G}'$  by starting from the subgraph over  $An(\mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{X} \cup \mathbf{Y})$ , and then converting all bidirected edges  $A \leftrightarrow B$  into a single latent node  $L_{AB}$  and two edges  $L_{AB} \rightarrow A$  and  $L_{AB} \rightarrow B$ . All outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{T}$  are removed from  $\mathcal{G}'$  to create  $\mathcal{G}''$ , which is then moralized to construct an undirected graph  $\mathcal{M}$ . After,  $\mathbf{X}$  is removed from  $\mathcal{M}$ . The construction of  $\mathcal{M}$  is based on the property that  $\mathbf{T}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  are  $d$ -separated by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  if and only if  $\mathbf{X}$  is a  $\mathbf{T}$  -  $\mathbf{Y}$  node cut (i.e., removing  $\mathbf{X}$  disconnects  $\mathbf{T}$  from  $\mathbf{Y}$ ) in  $\mathcal{G}_0 = \text{MORALIZE}(\mathcal{G}_{An(\mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{X} \cup \mathbf{Y})})$  [21]. The two tweaks: 1) removing all outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{T}$  from  $\mathcal{G}'$  before moralization, and 2) removing  $\mathbf{X}$  from  $\mathcal{M}$  after moralization are added to ensure that all paths from  $\mathbf{T}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  are the BD paths from  $\mathbf{T}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ .

GETDEP performs BFS from  $\mathbf{T}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Whenever a node  $u$  is visited, GETDEP obtains the non-visited, observed neighbors  $\mathbf{NR}$  of  $u$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  that belong to  $\mathbf{R}'$ . All observed neighbors of  $u$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  are obtained by calling the function GETNEIGHBORS( $u, \mathcal{M}$ ) (by Prop. A.2). Then,  $\mathcal{M}$  is reconstructed by moralizing the graph  $\mathcal{G}'' = \mathcal{G}'_{\mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{Z}' \cup \mathbf{NR}}$  that removes all outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{Z}' \cup \mathbf{NR}$  from  $\mathcal{G}'$ , and then removing  $\mathbf{X}$  from  $\mathcal{M}$  after. All outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{NR}$  are removed (in addition to those of  $\mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{Z}'$ ) to check if removing all outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{NR}$  contributes to disconnecting BD paths from  $\mathbf{T}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . In other words,  $\mathbf{NR}$  may belong to  $\mathbf{Z}'$  such that  $\mathbf{Z}$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . Hence,  $\mathbf{NR}$  is added to  $\mathbf{Z}'$ .

However, there might exist some BD path  $\pi$  from  $w \in \mathbf{NR}$  to  $y \in \mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . If  $\pi$  cannot be disconnected from  $w$  to  $y$ , then  $\mathbf{Z}$  will violate the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . We need to check if there exists such  $\pi$ . GETDEP constructs a set  $\mathbf{NR}'$ , a set of all variables  $w$  in  $\mathbf{NR}$  such that there exists an incoming arrow into  $w$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . Also, there might exist some observed neighbors  $\mathbf{N}'$  of  $u$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  that are still reachable from  $u$ , even after removing all outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{Z}' \cup \mathbf{NR}$  (which is reflected by the construction of  $\mathcal{M}$ ). Hence, the union  $\mathbf{N}$  of two sets,  $\mathbf{N}'$  and  $\mathbf{NR}'$ , are inserted into  $\mathbf{Q}$  to check if any node in  $\mathbf{N}$  is reachable to  $\mathbf{Y}$ .

The BFS continues until either a node  $y \in \mathbf{Y}$  is visited, or no more node can be visited. We explain further by each case.

1. A node  $y \in \mathbf{Y}$  is visited. There exists no set  $\mathbf{Z}'$  such that  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{T} \cup \mathbf{Z}'$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . Let  $\pi$  be a BD path from  $t \in \mathbf{T}$  to  $y$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  where all nodes in  $\pi$  are visited by performing BFS from  $t$  to  $y$ . Since all nodes in  $\pi$  are visited, for all variables  $w \in \mathbf{R}'$  that intersect  $\pi$ , all outgoing edges of  $w$  must have been removed in  $\mathcal{G}''$  and  $\mathcal{M}$  was constructed based on  $\mathcal{G}''$ . However,  $y$  was still reached, which implies that removing all outgoing edges of  $w$  did not disconnect  $\pi$  from  $t$  to  $y$ . Removing all outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{R}'$  will not disconnect  $\pi$  from  $t$  to  $y$  either. Thus, there exists no set  $\mathbf{Z}'$  such that all BD paths from  $\mathbf{Z}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  are blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . GETDEP returns  $\perp$ .
2. No more node is left to be visited. All BD paths from  $\mathbf{T}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  have been disconnected by removing all outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{Z}$  while ensuring that there exists no BD path from  $\mathbf{Z}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . All BD paths from  $\mathbf{Z}$  to

$\mathbf{Y}$  are blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$ , and thus  $\mathbf{Z}$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . GETDEP returns the set  $\mathbf{Z}'$ .

For the time complexity, MORALIZE runs in  $O(n^2)$  time. MORALIZE checks over every pair of nodes (of size  $O(n^2)$ ) and adds an undirected edge between each non-adjacent pair if both nodes share a common child. Then, MORALIZE converts all directed edges into undirected edges where the number of edges may be of  $O(n^2)$  in the worst case scenario. The BFS takes  $O(n^2(n+m))$  time in total since all nodes and edges may be visited at most once (i.e.,  $O(n+m)$  entities) where visiting a single node takes  $O(n^2)$  time where the dominating factor is the runtime of MORALIZE. By Prop. A.2, GETNEIGHBORS runs in  $O(n+m)$  time. Hence, GETDEP runs in  $O(n^2(n+m))$  time.  $\square$

**Lemma 2** (Correctness of GETCAND3RDFDC). *GETCAND3RDFDC( $\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{I}, \mathbf{R}'$ ) in Step 2 of Alg. 1 generates a set of variables  $\mathbf{R}''$  where  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'' \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ .  $\mathbf{R}''$  consists of all and only variables  $v$  such that there exists a subset  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  and  $v \in \mathbf{Z}$  that satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . Further, every set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  that satisfies both the second and the third conditions of the FD criterion must be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}''$ .*

*Proof.* The proof consists of two parts.

1.  $\mathbf{R}''$  consists of all and only variables  $v$  such that there exists a subset  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  and  $v \in \mathbf{Z}$  that satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ .

GETCAND3RDFDC iterates through all variables  $v$  in  $\mathbf{R}'$ . By Lemma 1, every set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  that satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  must be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}'$ . For each  $v$ , if GETDEP returns  $\perp$ , then for every set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  and  $v \in \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $\mathbf{Z}$  violates the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  (by Prop. A.3). Hence,  $v$  is removed from  $\mathbf{R}''$ . All such  $v$ 's (i.e.,  $v$  such that GETDEP had returned  $\perp$ ) will be removed from  $\mathbf{R}''$ . If  $v \in \mathbf{I}$ , then GETCAND3RDFDC returns  $\perp$  as no  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  and  $v \in \mathbf{Z}$  will satisfy the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . At the end of for loop, we have that  $\mathbf{R}''$  consists all and only variables  $v$  such that there exists a subset  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  and  $v \in \mathbf{Z}$  that satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ .

2. Every set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  that satisfies both the second and the third conditions of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  must be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}''$ .

By Lemma 1, every set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  that satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  must be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}'$ . We restrict the scope of  $\mathbf{Z}$  into  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  and show that every  $\mathbf{Z}$  that satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  must be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}''$ .

When GETCAND3RDFDC iterates through all variables in  $\mathbf{R}'$ , every  $u \in \mathbf{Z}$  must have been checked since  $\mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ . For each  $u \in \mathbf{Z}$ , GETDEP must have returned a set of variables since there exists a subset  $\mathbf{Z}' = \mathbf{Z} \setminus \{u\} \subseteq \mathbf{R}' \setminus \{u\}$  such that  $\mathbf{Z}$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  (by Prop. A.3). GETCAND3RDFDC removes all and only variables  $v$  from  $\mathbf{R}'$  such that there exists no set  $\mathbf{Z}'$  with  $\mathbf{I} \subseteq \mathbf{Z}' \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$  and  $v \in \mathbf{Z}'$  that satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . If  $\mathbf{Z}$  includes any such  $v$ , then it is a contradiction as  $\mathbf{Z}$  will violate the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . Hence,  $\mathbf{Z}$  must be a subset of  $\mathbf{R}''$ .  $\square$

**Proposition A.4** (Complexity of GETCAND3RDFDC). *GETCAND3RDFDC runs in  $O(n^3(n+m))$  time where  $n$  and  $m$  represent the number of nodes and edges in  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* GETCAND3RDFDC iterates through all variables  $v$  in  $\mathbf{R}'$  of size  $O(n)$ . The function GETDEP will be called once per loop. By Prop. A.3, GETDEP runs in  $O(n^2(n+m))$  time. In total, the running time of GETCAND3RDFDC is  $O(n^3(n+m))$ .  $\square$

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1: function GETCAUSALPATHGRAPH( $\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}$ )
2:   Output:  $\mathcal{G}'$  a causal path graph relative to  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ .
3:    $\mathcal{G}'' \leftarrow \mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{X} \cup \mathbf{Y} \cup \text{PCP}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})}$ 
4:    $\mathcal{G}' \leftarrow \mathcal{G}''_{\overline{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}}$ 
5:   Remove all bidirected edges from  $\mathcal{G}'$ 
6:   return  $\mathcal{G}'$ 
7: end function

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Figure 9: A function that constructs a causal path graph.

**Lemma 3.**  $\mathbf{R}''$  generated by GETCAND3RDFDC (in Step 2 of Alg. 1) satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion, that is, all BD paths from  $\mathbf{R}''$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  are blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2, for every variable  $v \in \mathbf{R}''$ , there exists a subset  $\mathbf{Z}' \subseteq \mathbf{R}' \setminus \{v\}$  such that  $\mathbf{Z} = \{v\} \cup \mathbf{Z}'$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . In other words, there is no BD path from  $\mathbf{Z}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . All BD paths from  $v$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  are disconnected in  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{Z}}$  by removing all outgoing edges of  $v$  and  $\mathbf{Z}'$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . Consider the graph  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{R}''}$  where all outgoing edges of  $\mathbf{Z}$  as well as those of  $\mathbf{R}'' \setminus \mathbf{Z}$  are removed ( $\mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}''$  holds by Lemma 2). Removing more outgoing edges (i.e., in  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{R}''}$ ) will not re-connect the BD paths that have already been disconnected in  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{Z}}$ . Hence, all BD paths from  $v$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  will be disconnected in  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{R}''}$ . Then, for every variable  $v \in \mathbf{R}''$ , all BD paths from  $v$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  will be disconnected in  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{R}''}$ . All BD paths from  $\mathbf{R}''$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  that cannot be blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  are disconnected in  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{R}''}$ . All BD paths from  $\mathbf{R}''$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  are blocked by  $\mathbf{X}$  and thus  $\mathbf{R}''$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ .  $\square$

**Proposition A.5.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a causal graph and  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}$  disjoint sets of variables. GETCAUSALPATHGRAPH constructs a causal path graph  $\mathcal{G}'$  relative to  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  in  $O(n + m)$  time where  $n$  and  $m$  represent the number of nodes and edges in  $\mathcal{G}$ .

*Proof.* The construction of a causal path graph is immediate from Def. 2. Constructing a subgraph  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{X} \cup \mathbf{Y} \cup \text{PCP}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})}$ , performing graph transformation  $\mathcal{G}''_{\overline{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}}$ , and removing all bidirected edges take  $O(n + m)$  time.  $\square$

**Definition 3.** (Proper Causal Path [35]) Let  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}$  be set of nodes. A causal path from a node in  $\mathbf{X}$  to a node in  $\mathbf{Y}$  is called proper if it does not intersect  $\mathbf{X}$  except at the end point.

**Lemma 4.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a causal graph and  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}$  disjoint sets of variables. Let  $\mathcal{G}'$  be the causal path graph relative to  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . Then,  $\mathbf{Z}$  satisfies the first condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  if and only if  $\mathbf{Z}$  is a separator of  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{G}'$ .

*Proof.* We prove the statement in both directions.

- *If case:* We show that  $\mathbf{Z}$  satisfies the first condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ . By the construction of  $\mathcal{G}'$ , all paths from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  comprise of all and only proper causal paths from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$ . It is only necessary to check for all proper causal paths from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  since every non-proper causal path from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  must include a proper causal path from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  as a subpath. To witness, consider any non-proper causal path  $\pi = x_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow y$  from a node  $x_1 \in \mathbf{X}$  to a node  $y \in \mathbf{Y}$ . Since  $\pi$  is not proper, there must exist a node  $x_k \in \mathbf{X}$  that intersects  $\pi$  at non-endpoint and there exists a subpath  $\pi' = x_k \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow y$  such that  $\pi'$  is proper. Since  $\mathbf{Z}$  is a separator of  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{G}'$ ,  $\mathbf{Z}$  intercepts all causal paths from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ .
- *Only if case:* We show that  $\mathbf{Z}$  is a separator of  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{G}'$ . By assumption,  $\mathbf{Z}$  intercepts all causal paths from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ . By the construction of  $\mathcal{G}'$ , all and only paths from  $\mathbf{X}$  to  $\mathbf{Y}$  must be causal. Thus,  $\mathbf{Z}$  must be a separator of  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{G}'$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.** *There exists a set  $Z_0$  satisfying the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$  with  $I \subseteq Z_0 \subseteq R$  if and only if  $R''$  generated by GETCAND3RDFDC (in Step 2 of Alg. 1) satisfies the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$ .*

We prove the statement in both directions.

- *If case:* It is automatic with  $Z_0 = R''$ .
- *Only if case:* We prove the contrapositive of the statement: if  $R''$  is not a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$ , then there does not exist any FD adjustment set  $Z_0$  relative to  $(X, Y)$  with  $I \subseteq Z_0 \subseteq R$ . On the following three items, we show that there does not exist any FD adjustment set  $Z_0$  relative to  $(X, Y)$  with three disjoint intervals,  $I \subseteq Z_0 \subseteq R''$ ,  $R'' \subset Z_0 \subseteq R'$ , and  $R' \subset Z_0 \subseteq R$ , respectively.
  1. Since  $R''$  is not a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$ ,  $R''$  must be violating the first condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$ . That is because, by the construction of  $R''$ ,  $R''$  must satisfy the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$  (by Lemma 1) and the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$  (by Lemma 3). Then,  $R''$  does not intercept all causal paths from  $X$  to  $Y$ . No subset  $Z_0$  with  $I \subseteq Z_0 \subseteq R''$  will intercept all causal paths from  $X$  to  $Y$ .  $Z_0$  violates the first condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$ , and thus  $Z_0$  is not a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$ .
  2. Consider a collection of sets  $Z_0$  with  $R'' \subset Z_0 \subseteq R'$ . By the construction of  $R''$  generated by GETCAND3RDFDC (with  $R'' \subseteq R'$ ), for all  $v \in R' \setminus R''$ , there does not exist any set  $Z$  with  $I \subseteq Z \subseteq R'$  and  $v \in Z$  that satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$  (by Lemma 2).  $Z_0$  must include some  $v$ , and thus  $Z_0$  violates the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$ .  $Z_0$  is not a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$ .
  3. Consider a collection of sets  $Z_0$  with  $R' \subset Z_0 \subseteq R$ . By the construction of  $R'$  generated by GETCAND2NDFDC (with  $R' \subseteq R$ ), for all  $v \in R \setminus R'$ , there exists an open BD path from  $X$  to  $v$  (By Lemma 1).  $Z_0$  must be including some  $v$ , and by definition, there exists an open BD path from  $X$  to  $Z_0$ .  $Z_0$  violates the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$  and  $Z_0$  is not a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$ .

Combining together the three items, we have that for all  $Z_0$  with  $I \subseteq Z_0 \subseteq R$ ,  $Z_0$  is not a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$ .

**Theorem 1** (Correctness of FINDFDSET). *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a causal graph,  $X, Y$  disjoint sets of variables, and  $I, R$  sets of variables such that  $I \subseteq R$ . Then,  $\text{FINDFDSET}(\mathcal{G}, X, Y, I, R)$  outputs a set  $Z$  with  $I \subseteq Z \subseteq R$  that satisfies the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$ , or outputs  $\perp$  if none exists, in  $O(n^3(n+m))$  time, where  $n$  and  $m$  represent the number of nodes and edges in  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 2, every set  $Z$  with  $I \subseteq Z \subseteq R$  that satisfies both the second and the third conditions of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$  must be a subset of  $R''$ . By Lemma 1,  $R''$  satisfies the second condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$ . By Lemma 3,  $R''$  satisfies the third condition of the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$ . Let  $Z = R''$ . Then, By Lemma 4,  $Z$  is a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$  if and only if  $Z$  is a separator of  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $\mathcal{G}'$ , a causal path graph relative to  $(\mathcal{G}, X, Y)$ . FINDFDSET outputs  $Z$  if and only if  $Z$  is a separator of  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $\mathcal{G}'$  (by calling  $\text{TESTSEP}(\mathcal{G}', X, Y, Z)$  at line 11 and verifying  $\text{TESTSEP}$  is returning True). Hence, the outputted set  $Z$  is a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$  where  $I \subseteq Z \subseteq R$ . If  $\text{TESTSEP}$  returns False, then  $Z$  is not a FD adjustment set relative to  $(X, Y)$  and FINDFDSET outputs  $\perp$ . By Lemma 5, there does not exist any FD adjustment set  $Z_0$  relative to  $(X, Y)$  with  $I \subseteq Z_0 \subseteq R$ .

For the running time, constructing  $R'$  takes  $O(n(n+m))$  time (by Prop. A.1), and generating  $R''$  takes  $O(n^3(n+m))$  time (by Prop. A.4). By Prop. A.5, creating a causal path graph  $\mathcal{G}'$  relative to  $(\mathcal{G}, X, Y)$  (by calling  $\text{GETCAUSALPATHGRAPH}$ ) takes  $O(n+m)$  time.  $\text{TESTSEP}$  takes  $O(n+m)$  time. The dominant factor is  $O(n^3(n+m))$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2** (Correctness of LISTFDSETS). *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a causal graph,  $X, Y$  disjoint sets of variables, and  $I, R$  sets of variables.  $\text{LISTFDSETS}(\mathcal{G}, X, Y, I, R)$  enumerates all and only sets  $Z$  with  $I \subseteq Z \subseteq R$  that satisfy the FD criterion relative to  $(X, Y)$  in  $O(n^4(n+m))$  delay where  $n$  and  $m$  represent the number of nodes and edges in  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* Consider the recursion tree for LISTFDSETS. By induction on tree nodes, we show that when a tree node  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{I}', \mathbf{R}')$  is visited, LISTFDSETS will output all and only FD adjustment sets  $\mathbf{Z}$  relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  where  $\mathbf{I}' \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ .

- *Base case:* Consider any leaf tree node  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{I}', \mathbf{R}')$ . The recursion stops when  $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{R}$ , so  $\mathbf{I}' = \mathbf{R}'$  must hold.  $\mathcal{L}$  contains a node  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{I}' = \mathbf{R}'$  if  $\mathbf{Z}$  is a valid FD adjustment set relative to  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ , or empty otherwise. Indeed, LISTFDSETS will output a FD adjustment set  $\mathbf{Z}$  if and only if FINDFDSET in line 3 does not output  $\perp$  (by Thm. 1).
- *Inductive case:* Let  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{I}', \mathbf{R}')$  be any non-leaf tree node. Assume the claim holds for two children of  $\mathcal{N}$ . We show that  $\mathcal{N}$  contains all FD adjustment sets  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I}' \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ , which can also be expressed as the union of two collections of sets: 1) the collection of FD adjustment sets  $\mathbf{Z}_1$  with  $\mathbf{I}' \cup \{v\} \subseteq \mathbf{Z}_1 \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ , and 2) the collection of FD adjustment sets  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  with  $\mathbf{I}' \subseteq \mathbf{Z}_2 \subseteq \mathbf{R}' \setminus \{v\}$ . The two collections are disjoint as every set in the first collection contains  $v$ , and none in the second collection does. By assumption, each child contains the collection of respective FD adjustment sets. If FINDFDSET in line 3 outputs  $\perp$ , then there does not exist a FD adjustment set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I}' \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ . Otherwise, each child outputs a respective collection of FD adjustment sets.

For the runtime, consider the recursion tree for LISTFDSETS. Every time a tree node  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{I}', \mathbf{R}')$  is visited, the function FINDFDSET is called, which takes  $O(n^3(n+m))$  time (by Thm. 1). If FINDFDSET outputs  $\perp$ , then LISTFDSETS does not search further from  $\mathcal{N}$  because there exists no FD adjustment set  $\mathbf{Z}$  with  $\mathbf{I}' \subseteq \mathbf{Z} \subseteq \mathbf{R}'$ . Otherwise, recursion continues until a leaf tree node is visited. In each level of the tree, a single node  $v$  is removed from the set  $\mathbf{R} \setminus \mathbf{I}$ . The depth of the tree is at most  $n$ , and the time required to output a set  $\mathbf{Z}$  is  $O(n^4(n+m))$ . In the worst case scenario,  $n$  branches will be aborted (i.e., FINDFDSET outputs  $\perp$  on every level of the tree) before reaching the first leaf. It takes  $O(n^4(n+m))$  time to produce either the first output or halt. Thus, LISTFDSETS runs with  $O(n^4(n+m))$  delay.  $\square$