

# Containers - an overview

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A collection of containers for a hypergraph is a collection of vertex subsets, called containers, such that every independent set is a subset of one of the containers. The collection is useful if each container is not far from independent, and the number of containers is small. It was discovered in the last few years that such useful collections exist.

We aim to indicate how containers might be used by describing briefly one or two standard applications, including colouring. We shall endeavour also to indicate some principles underlying the construction of containers, with examples.