

Planar graphs

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Faces with short boundary

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If $E(G) = \emptyset$, then the drawing of G contains one face of length 0.

Now on we assume that we have no isolated nodes.

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Furthermore, in a bipartite graph any closed walk has even length.

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- (i) If G is a simple connected plane graph on at least 3 nodes then each of its face-boundary has length at least 3.
- (ii) If G is a simple connected, bipartite, plane graph on at least 3 nodes then each of its face-boundary has length at least 4.

Euler's theorem

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Let G be a connected plane graph (λ is a nice drawing). Then

$$|T(G, \lambda)| - |E(G)| + |V(G)| = 2,$$

where $T(G, \lambda)$ is the set of faces.

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Let $G \rightarrow G^+ := G + e$:

$$|V(G^+)| = |V(G)|, |E(G^+)| = |E(G)| + 1, |T(G^+, \lambda^+)| = |T(G, \lambda)| + 1,$$

where λ^+ is the original drawing extended by the new edge.

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Theorem

F^* is the edge set of a spanning tree in G^* .

From the Theorem we know that

$|F^*| = |V(G^*)| - 1 = |T(G, \lambda)| - 1$ and Euler's theorem is proven.

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Corollary

Let G be a simple planar graph, and assume $|V(G)| \geq 3$. Then

- (i) $|E(G)| \leq 3|V(G)| - 6$,
- (ii) furthermore if G is bipartite, then $|E(G)| \leq 2|V(G)| - 4$.

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$$2|E(G)| \geq 3|T(G, \lambda)|.$$

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$$3|T(G, \lambda)| = 3|E(G)| - 3|V(G)| + 6.$$

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The rest is simple algebra.

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Corollary of Euler's Theorem

Theorem

K_5 and $K_{3,3}$ are non-planar graphs.

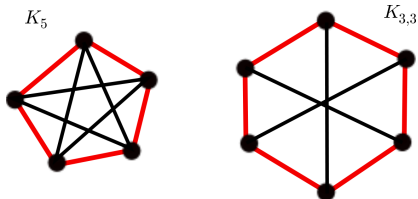
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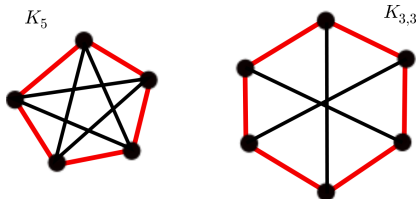
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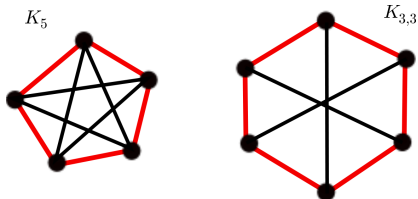


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Without the loss of generality we can assume that the majority of the black edges are drawn in the inner face.

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We get contradiction.

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$K_{3,3}$: Apply the second form of Euler's theorem. We obtain contradiction: $|E| = 9$ and $2|V| - 4 = 2 \cdot 6 - 4 = 8$.

Break



Operation: Deleting an edge

Definition

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Let G be a graph, $e = xy \in E$ is an edge of it.

$G - e$ (or $G \setminus e$) denotes the graph, that we obtain from G by deleting e .

Operation: Merging two edges

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Definition: $G(e \setminus f)$

Let G be a graph, and $e = xa, f = ay$ two edges of it, that meet in a , a vertex of degree 2.

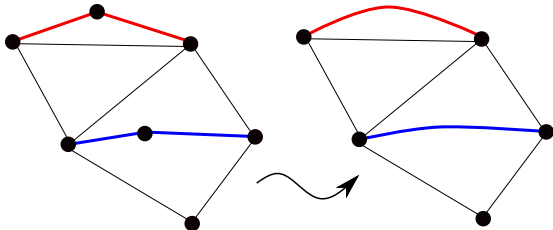
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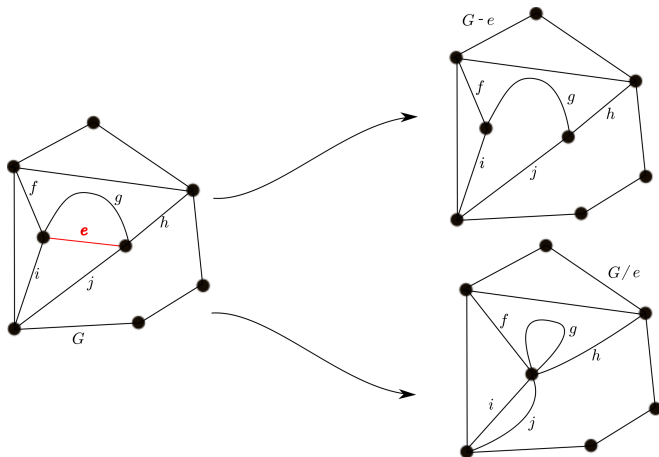
Definition

Let G/e denote the graph we obtain by contracting e in the graph G :

- $V(G/e) = (V(G) - \{x, y\}) \dot{\cup} \{[e]\}$,
- $E(G/e) = E(G) \setminus \{e\}$,
- $I(G/e)$ is the natural incidence.

The operations in pictures

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We emphasize an edge in G by coloring it red. We show the graphs we obtain by deleting the red edge and the graph we obtain by contracting it.

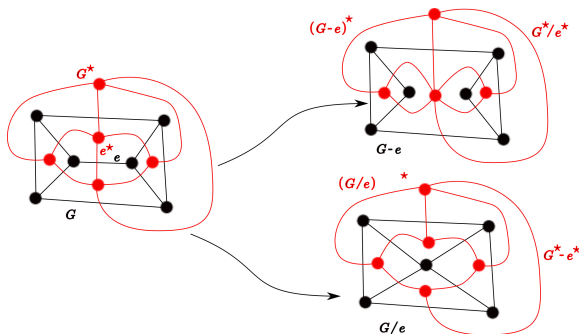
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The next two figures show two operations described above: deleting and contracting an edge. These two operations are illustrated on the graph G and its dual G^* .

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Observation

$$G(e \searrow e') \simeq G/e \simeq G/e'.$$

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- b) If T can be obtained from G by deleting edges/vertices and merging edges, then T is referred as a topological subgraph of G : $R \subseteq G$: $T \leq G$.

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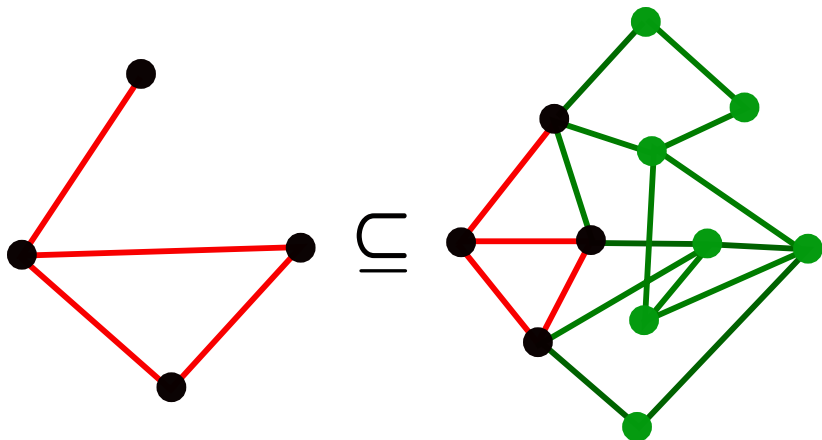
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- If T can be obtained from G by deleting edges/vertices and merging edges, then T is referred as a topological subgraph of G : $R \subseteq G$: $T \leq G$.
- If M can be obtained from G by deleting edges/vertices and contracting edges, then M is referred as a minor of G : $M \preceq G$.

Subgraph: example

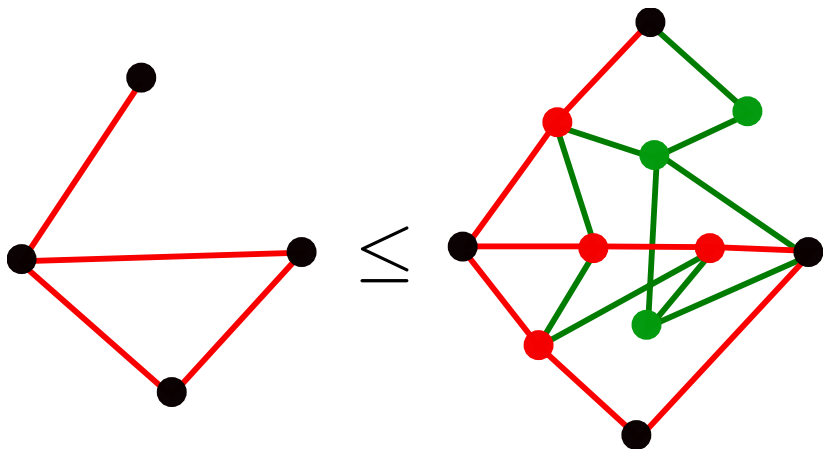
Subgraph: example



The red graph R is a subgraph of the graph G , since by deleting the green edges and vertices we get the graph R .

Topological subgraph: example

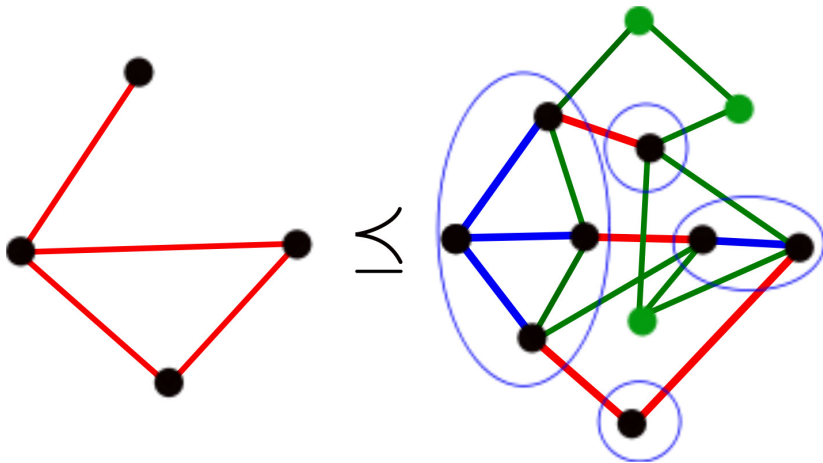
Topological subgraph: example



The red graph T is a topological subgraph of the graph G , since deleting the green edges and vertices, and merging the edges marked in red we get the graph T .

Minor: example

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The red graph M is a minor of the graph G , since deleting the green edges and vertices, and contracting the edges marked in blue we get the graph M .

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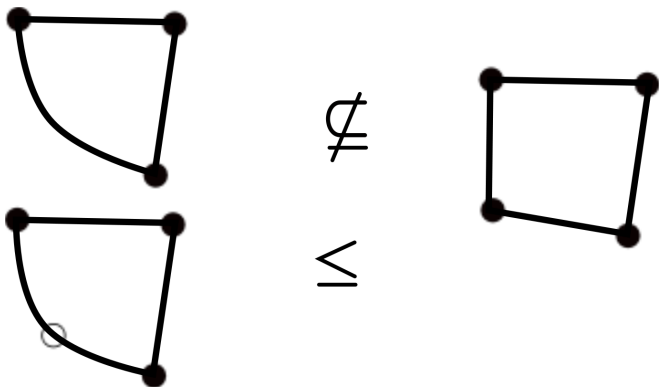
Formally

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The reverse directions are false.

Example for topological subgraph that is not a subgraph

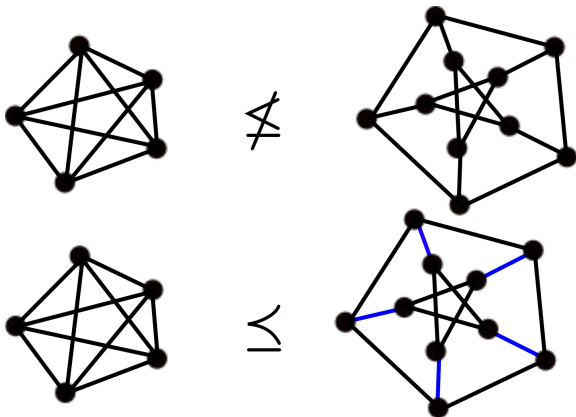
Example for topological subgraph that is not a subgraph



C_3 can be obtained from C_4 by merging e and e' , i.e. C_3 is the topological subgraph of C_4 .

C_4 has more vertices than C_3 . In the case of a subgraph one would have to use vertex deletion, which would result in a graph with a vertex of degree less than 2. So C_3 is not a subgraph of C_4 .

Example for a minor that is not a topological subgraph



K_5 can be obtained from the Petersen graph by contracting the edges marked in blue, so K_5 is minor in the Petersen graph.

K_5 is not a topological subgraph of the Petersen graph, since the Petersen graph has degree 3, but the degree of the vertices of K_5 is 4.

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Corollary

If G is planar, then

- (i) K_5 and $K_{3,3}$ cannot be a subgraph of G ,
- (ii) K_5 and $K_{3,3}$ cannot be a topological subgraph of G ,
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Many further examples of non-planar graphs.

Break



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Theorem

The following three properties are equivalent:

- (i) G is planar.
- (ii) G doesn't contain K_5 or $K_{3,3}$ as a topological subgraph ($G \not\cong K_5; K_{3,3}$).
- (iii) G doesn't contain K_5 or $K_{3,3}$ as a minor ($G \not\preceq K_5; K_{3,3}$).

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(i) \Leftrightarrow (ii) is Kuratowski's Theorem, and (i) \Leftrightarrow (iii) is Wagner's Theorem.

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Proof by contradiction: Assume that there exists a G non-planar graph, that has neither K_5 , nor $K_{3,3}$ minor. Assume that G is counterexample, where $|V| + |E|$ is minimal. If "we make G smaller", that it won't be a counterexample.

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G is 3-connected simple graph.

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If H is 3-connected and $|V(H)| > 4$, then for a suitable edge e the graph H/e remains 3-connected.

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We do not prove these technical tools.

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Corollary

Let G be the minimal counterexample. Then we can find an edge $xy \in E(G)$, that the graph G/e is 3-connected, and the graph $G - \{x, y\}$ is 2-connected.

We know that G/e is not a counterexample, it can be drawn nicely. $[e]$ is a vertex-point in a face of the plane graph $G - \{x, y\}$, that is bounded by a cycle C .

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We refer to the elements of P as red vertices and the elements of K as blue vertices.

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It is important to see that $P \cap K \neq \emptyset$ can also occur, i.e. the two colors are not two exclusive categories.

Corollaries of the Lemmas (continued)

Let $P = N(x) \cap V(C)$, $K = N(y) \cap V(C)$, where $N(x)/N(y)$ is the neighborhood of x/y in $G - e$.

We refer to the elements of P as red vertices and the elements of K as blue vertices.

It is important to see that $P \cap K \neq \emptyset$ can also occur, i.e. the two colors are not two exclusive categories.

The following two notions and a lemma help us to arrive at the to end of the proof.

Arcs, separability

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Definition: Arc of a cycle

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Definition: Separability on a cycle

Let A and B be two subsets of the vertex set of the cycle C . We say that A and B are separable iff there exist $u, v \in V(C)$ for which $A \subseteq [u, v]^{\curvearrowright}$ and $B \subseteq [v, u]^{\curvearrowright}$.

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- (i) There exist $a, a' \in A$ and $b, b' \in B$ four different vertices alternating on the cycle, i.e the arcs $(a, a')^{\curvearrowright}$ contains exactly one of the two points b and b' .

The Main Lemma

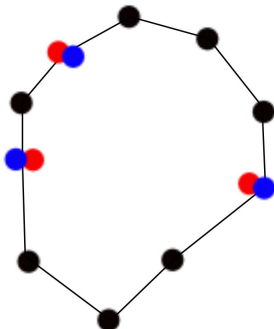
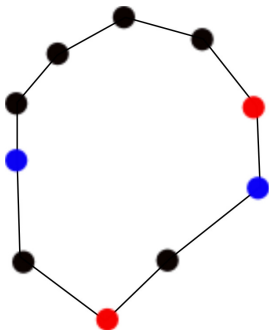
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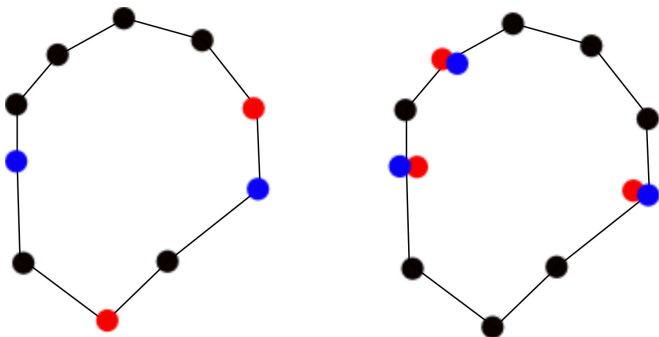
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- (ii) $A = B$ and $|A| = |B| = 3$.

The two obstructions of separability on picture

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The proof of the Main Lemma is elementary, the interested students can prove it.

Proof of Wagner's Theorem: The end I

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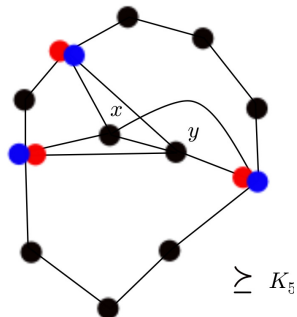
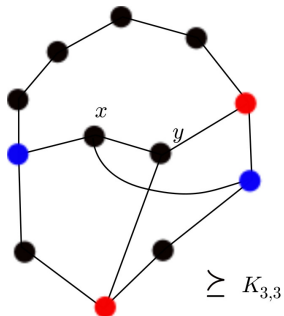
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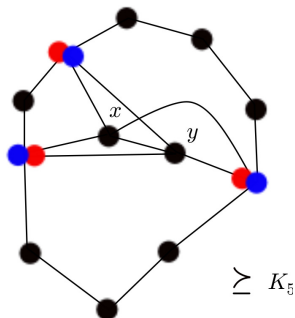
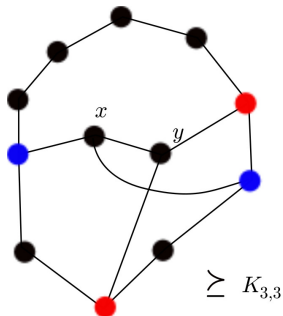
1st case: P and K are non-separable. By the Main Lemma we must see one of the obstructions.

Proof of Wagner's Theorem: The end II

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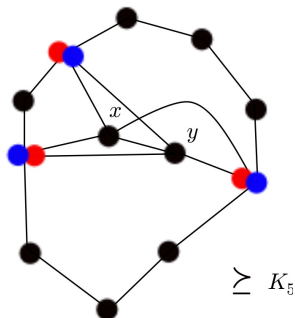
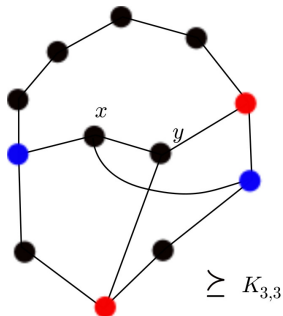


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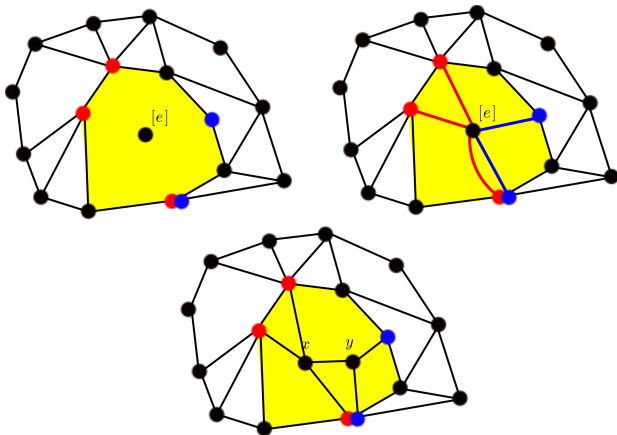
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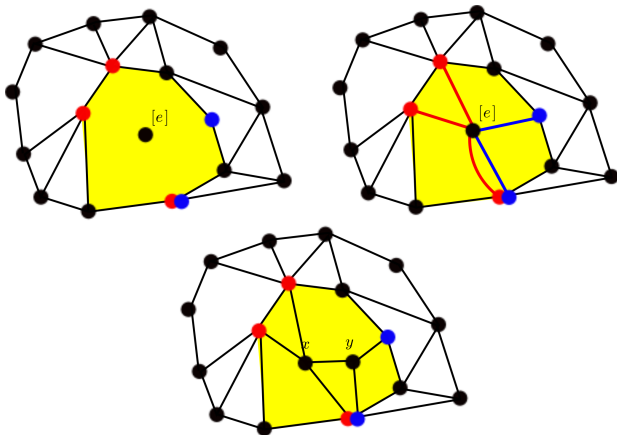
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In this case a nice drawing of G/e and later a nice drawing of G can be easily constructed, contraction.

Break



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Theorem (Steinitz's theorem)

A graph G is an edge graph of a convex polyhedron if and only if G is a 3-connected simple graph.

Wagner's structure theorem

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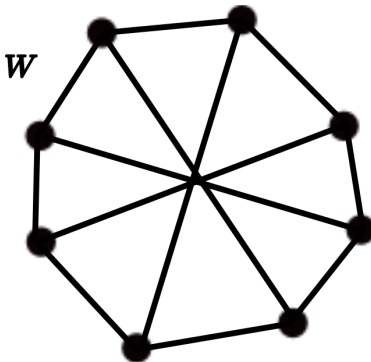
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Hadwiger's Conjecture

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The proof is based on 4CT, but still it is very complicated.

This is the end!

Thank you for your attention!