

Plane graphs and planar graphs. Part 2

Lecture 31

By $F(G, \varphi)$ we denote the set of faces of the plane graph (G, φ) .

Proposition 6.1: For each plane graph (G, φ) ,

$$\sum_{F_i \in F(G, \varphi)} \ell(F_i) = 2|E(G)|. \quad (1)$$

Theorem 6.2 (Euler's Formula): For every connected plane graph (G, φ) ,

$$|V(G)| - |E(G)| + |F(G, \varphi)| = 2.$$

Observation: A graph is planar if and only if it can be drawn on the sphere.

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$$\sum_{F_i \in F(G, \varphi)} \ell(F_i) = 2|E(G)|. \quad (2)$$

Corollary 6.3: For $n \geq 3$, every simple planar n -vertex graph G has at most $3n - 6$ edges. Moreover, if G is triangle-free, then G has at most $2n - 4$ edges.

Corollary 6.4: Graphs K_5 and $K_{3,3}$ are not planar.

Proof of Corollary 6.3

It is enough to prove the corollary for **connected planar simple graphs**.

Claim 1: For each **planar drawing** φ of G ,

$$3|F(G, \varphi)| \leq 2|E(G)|. \quad (3)$$

Proof: Since $\ell(F_i) \geq 3$ for each F_i , by Proposition 6.1,

$$2|E(G)| = \sum_{F_i \in F(G, \varphi)} \ell(F_i) \geq 3|F(G, \varphi)|.$$

Let φ be a **planar drawing** of G . By **Euler's Formula** and **Claim 1**,

$$2 = |V(G)| - |E(G)| + |F(G, \varphi)| \leq |V(G)| - |E(G)| + \frac{2}{3}|E(G)|.$$

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Again, let φ be a **planar drawing** of our **triangle-free** G . By **Euler's Formula** and **Claim 2**,

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Questions: 1. **What happens** for $|V(G)| \leq 2$?

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Proof of Corollary 6.4. $|V(K_5)| = 5$ and $|E(K_5)| = 10 = 3|V(K_5)| - 5$. So, by Cor. 6.3, K_5 is not planar.

Similarly, $K_{3,3}$ is triangle-free, $|V(K_{3,3})| = 6$ and $|E(K_{3,3})| = 9 = 2|V(K_{3,3})| - 3$.

Again, by Cor. 6.3, $K_{3,3}$ is not planar.

Subdivisions

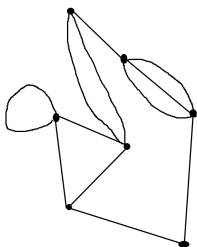
A **subdivision** of an edge e connecting vertices x and y is a replacement of e with the path x, z, y , where z is a **new vertex**.

A graph H is a **subdivision** of a graph G if H can be obtained from G by **series of subdivisions of edges**.

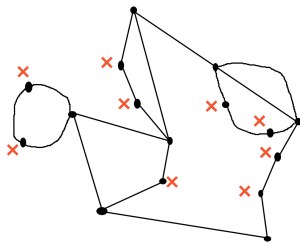
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Graph G



A subdivision of G.

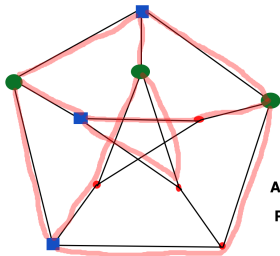
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A subdivision of $K_{3,3}$ in Petersen graph.

Note that even after deleting two edges from the Petersen graph, the remaining graph is not planar.

Contractions

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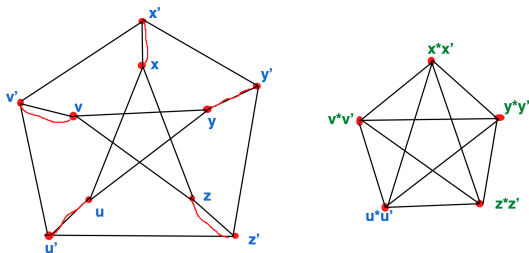
- (a) **deleting a vertex**,
- (b) deleting an edge,
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Contracting Petersen graph to K_5 .

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Proof. We use contrapositive in both directions. Assume first that G contains a minor H of K_5 or $K_{3,3}$. Since H is not planar, by the observation above, G is also not planar.

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Suppose now that G is not planar. Then by Theorem 6.5, G contains a subdivision G' of $H \in \{K_5, K_{3,3}\}$. But the fact that G' is a subdivision of H implies that H is a minor of G' . Since each subgraph of G is a minor of G , our graph $H \in \{K_5, K_{3,3}\}$ is a minor of G .

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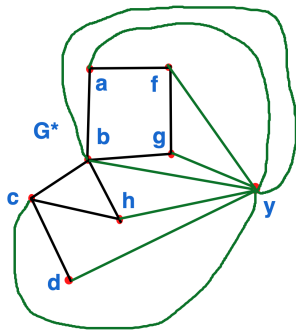
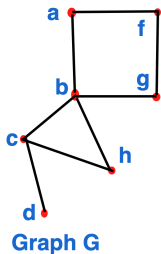
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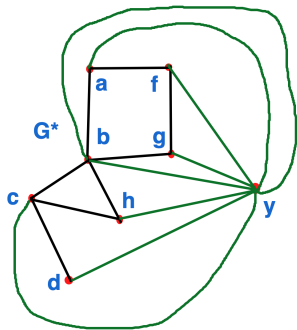
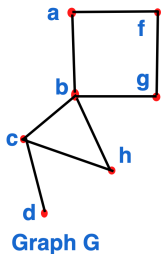
Proof of Claim 1. If G^* is **planar**, draw it so that y is on **the outer face**. Delete y . In the obtained drawing of G , all vertices are **on the outer face**.

If G is outerplanar, let φ be a drawing of G such that all vertices are on the boundary of the outer face. Then we can draw y in the outer face and connect it to all vertices of G so that we get a planar drawing of G^* . This proves the claim.

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Thus by Claim 1 and Kuratowski's Theorem, if G is outerplanar, then G^* does not contain subdivisions of K_5 and $K_{3,3}$. But then $G = G^* - y$ cannot contain a subdivision of K_4 or $K_{2,3}$.

On the other hand, by **the same claim** and the same theorem, if G is **not outerplanar**, then G^* contains a **subdivision** of K_5 or of $K_{3,3}$. In the first case, $G = G^* - y$ contains a subdivision of K_4 . In the second case, it contains a **subdivision** of $K_{2,3}$. This proves **Theorem 6.7**.

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Theorem 6.8: Let $n \geq 3$. For a simple n -vertex **plane graph**

(G, φ) , **TFAE:**

- (A) G has **$3n - 6$ edges**;
- (B) (G, φ) is a triangulation;
- (C) G is **maximal planar**.

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$$2 = n - |E(G)| + \frac{2}{3}|E(G)| = n - \frac{1}{3}|E(G)|,$$

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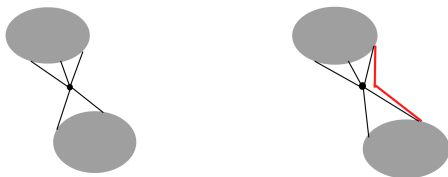
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which is equivalent to $|E(G)| = 3(n - 2) = 3n - 6$.

(C) \Rightarrow (B). Let G be maximal planar and φ be a drawing of G . As in the proof of Corollary 6.3. G is 2-connected.



Finishing proof of Theorem 6.8

Since G is 2-connected, the boundary of each face is a cycle.
Suppose the boundary of some face F_1 of (G, φ) is a cycle
 v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k for some $k \geq 4$.

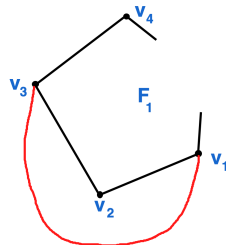
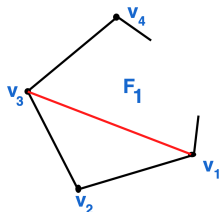
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Then we try to add the edge $v_1 v_3$ inside F_1 .



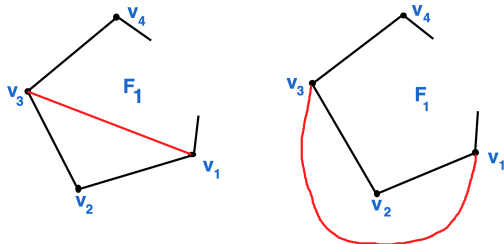
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The only possibility that we fail is that G already has edge $v_1 v_3$.

In this case, G has no edge $v_2 v_4$, and we can add this edge

inside F_1 , a contradiction to the maximality of G .

Main results in Chapter 6:

1. Euler's Formula.
2. Kuratowski's Theorem.