

# 2IT80 Discrete Structures

2023-24 Q2

Lecture 12: Double Counting

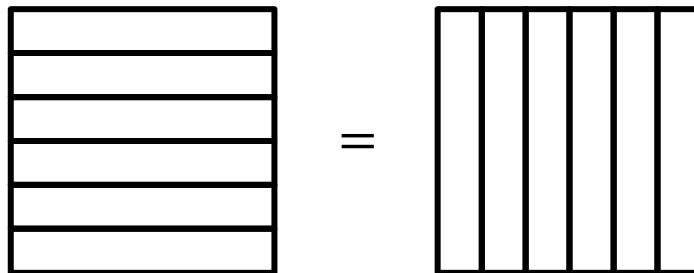
# Double Counting as a Technique

Count the same thing in two different ways.

This yields two different formulas, but since they count the same things, they are equal.

For example, if  $A$  is a  $n$  by  $m$  matrix then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} = \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij}$$



Main difficulty: what exactly should be double counted??

# Example: Density of planar graphs

**Theorem:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a planar graph with at least 3 vertices. Then  $|E| \leq 3|V| - 6$ .

**Proof:** W.l.o.g. assume  $G$  is connected.

Consider a planar drawing of  $G$  with  $k$  faces.

Denote the faces by  $F_1, \dots, F_k$ .

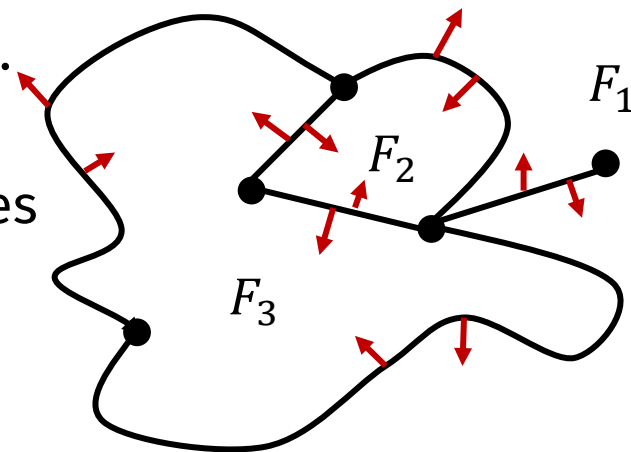
Denote by  $f_i$  the number of edge adjacencies that face  $F_i$  has.

$$\text{We have } \sum_{i=1}^k f_i = 2 \cdot |E|.$$

Observe that  $f_i \geq 3$  since we do not allow parallel edges.

Therefore  $3k \leq 2|E|$ .

Euler's formula:  $|V| - |E| + k = 2$ .



# Recap: Orderings

# Ordering relation

An **ordering relation** on a set  $X$  is a reflexive, antisymmetric, transitive relation on  $X$ .

A **partially ordered set (poset)** is a pair  $(X, R)$  where  $X$  is a set and  $R$  is an ordering relation on  $X$ .

We often use notation  $\leq$  and  $\preceq$ .

A relation  $R$  is a **linear** or **total order** if for every two elements  $x, y$  we have  $xRy$  or  $yRx$ .

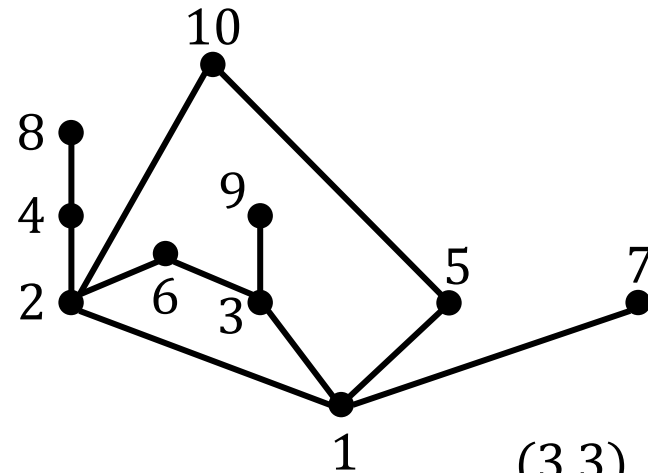
**Reflexive**, if  $xRx$  for all  $x \in X$

**Antisymmetric** if,  $xRy$  and  $yRx$  implies  $x = y$

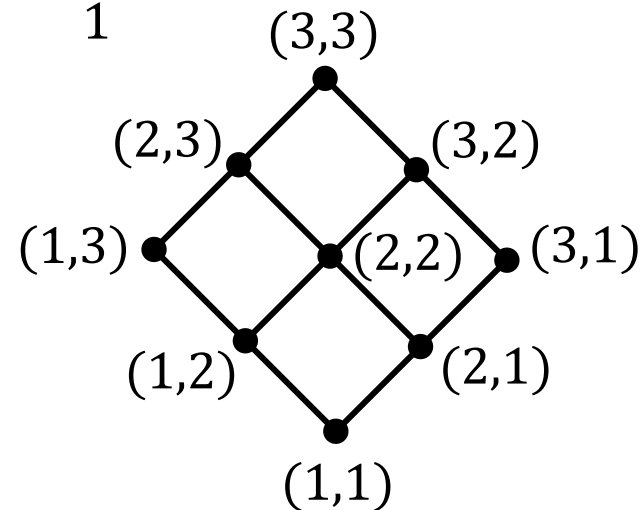
**Transitive**, if  $xRy$  and  $yRz$  implies  $xRz$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$

# Hasse diagrams

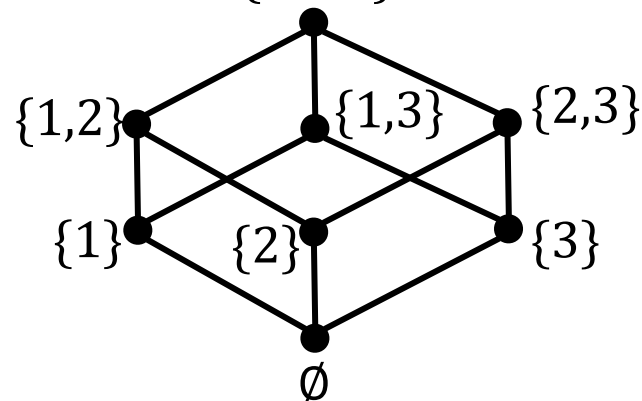
Divisibility relation:  $(\{1, 2, \dots, 10\}, |)$ :



Set  $\{1, 2, 3\} \times \{1, 2, 3\}$  where  $(a_1, b_1) \preceq (a_2, b_2)$  if and only if  $a_1 \leq a_2$  and  $b_1 \leq b_2$ :



Subsets of  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  ordered by inclusion:



# Counting sets

# Independent sets

Given a set  $N$  of  $n$  elements, how many subsets are there?

**Independent:** Two different sets  $A, B$  are independent we do not have  $A \subseteq B$  or  $B \subseteq A$ .

Example:

$\{1,2,3,4\}$  and  $\{1,2,5,6\}$  are independent

$\{1,2,3,4\}$  and  $\{1,3\}$  are not

**Independent system of subsets:** Set of subsets that are pairwise independent.

Example

$N = \{1,2,3,4\}$

$\{\{1,2\}, \{2,3\}, \{2,4\}, \{1,4\}\}$  is an independent system of subsets of  $N$

How large can an independent system of subsets be?



# Independent sets

- What is a largest system of independent subsets of
  - $\{1,2\}$
  - $\{1,2,3\}$
  - $\{1,2,3,4\}$
  
- Which sets cannot be included in a large system of independent subsets?

# Sperner's Theorem

**Theorem:** Any independent system of subsets of an  $n$ -element set contains at most  $\binom{n}{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}$  subsets.

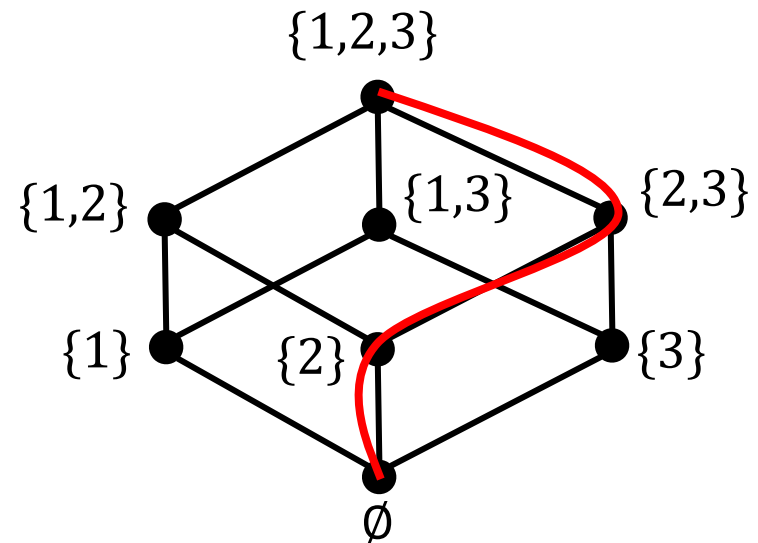
**Proof:** By double counting with partially ordered sets.

Let  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$

Consider the poset  $(2^X, \subseteq)$

*Maximal chain:* a sequence of subsets  $A_0, \dots, A_n$  with  $A_0 = \emptyset$  and  $A_{i+1} = A_i \cup \{x_j\}$ , where  $x_j \in X$  is not in  $A_i$ .

For example:  $\emptyset \subseteq \{2\} \subseteq \{2,3\} \subseteq \{1,2,3\}$



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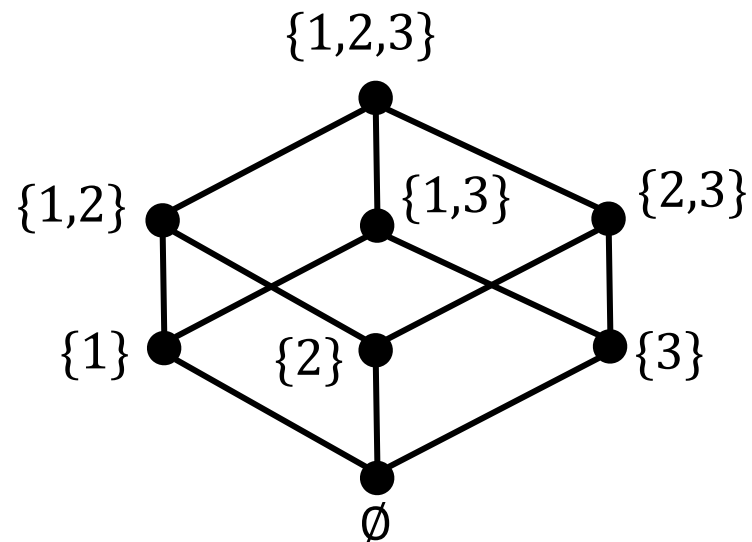
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Let  $I$  a set of  $m$  independent subsets of  $X$   
How large can  $I$  be?

Count pairs  $(S, R)$  where  $S \in I$ ,  
 $R$  a maximal chain, and  $S$  is in  $R$ .



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**Proof (continued):** Let  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$

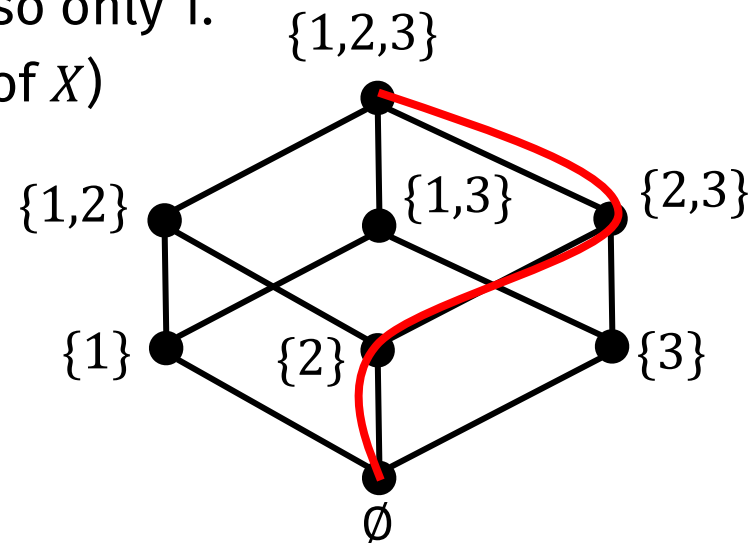
Let  $I$  a set of  $m$  independent subsets of  $X$

Count pairs  $(S, R)$  where  $S \in I$ ,  $R$  a maximal chain, and  $S$  is in  $R$ .

How many pairs can a maximal chain  $R$  appear in?

Two sets in a chain are not independent, so only 1.

$\#pairs \leq n!$  (each chain is a permutation of  $X$ )



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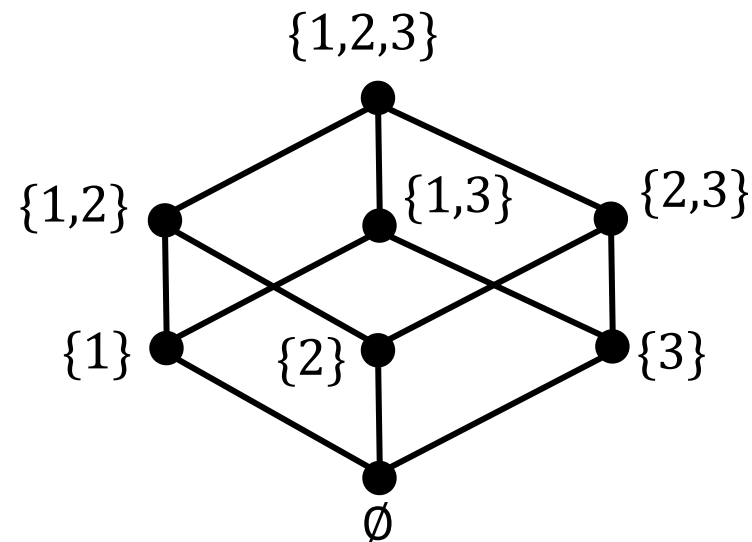
How many pairs (or maximal chains) can a subset  $S$  appear in?

If  $|S| = k$  then  $A_k = S$ ,  $A_i \subseteq A_k$  for  $i < k$ ,

$A_j \supseteq A_k$  for  $j > k$

So any  $R$  that represents a permutation where the first  $k$  elements are exactly those of  $S$ . So  $S$  appears  $k! (n - k)!$  times

$$\#pairs = \sum_{S \in I} |S|! (n - |S|)!$$



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Count pairs  $(S, R)$  where  $S \in I$  and  $R$  a maximal chain!

$$\#pairs \leq n!$$

$$\#pairs = \sum_{S \in I} |S|! (n - |S|)!$$

$$\sum_{S \in I} |S|! (n - |S|)! \leq n!$$

$$\sum_{S \in I} \frac{|S|! (n - |S|)!}{n!} \leq 1$$

$$\sum_{S \in I} \frac{1}{\binom{n}{|S|}} \leq 1$$

$$\sum_{S \in I} \frac{1}{\binom{n}{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}} \leq \sum_{S \in I} \frac{1}{\binom{n}{|S|}} \leq 1$$

$$|I| \frac{1}{\binom{n}{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}} \leq 1$$

$$|I| \leq \binom{n}{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}$$

A game: HEX

# HEX

Game on a graph as follows:

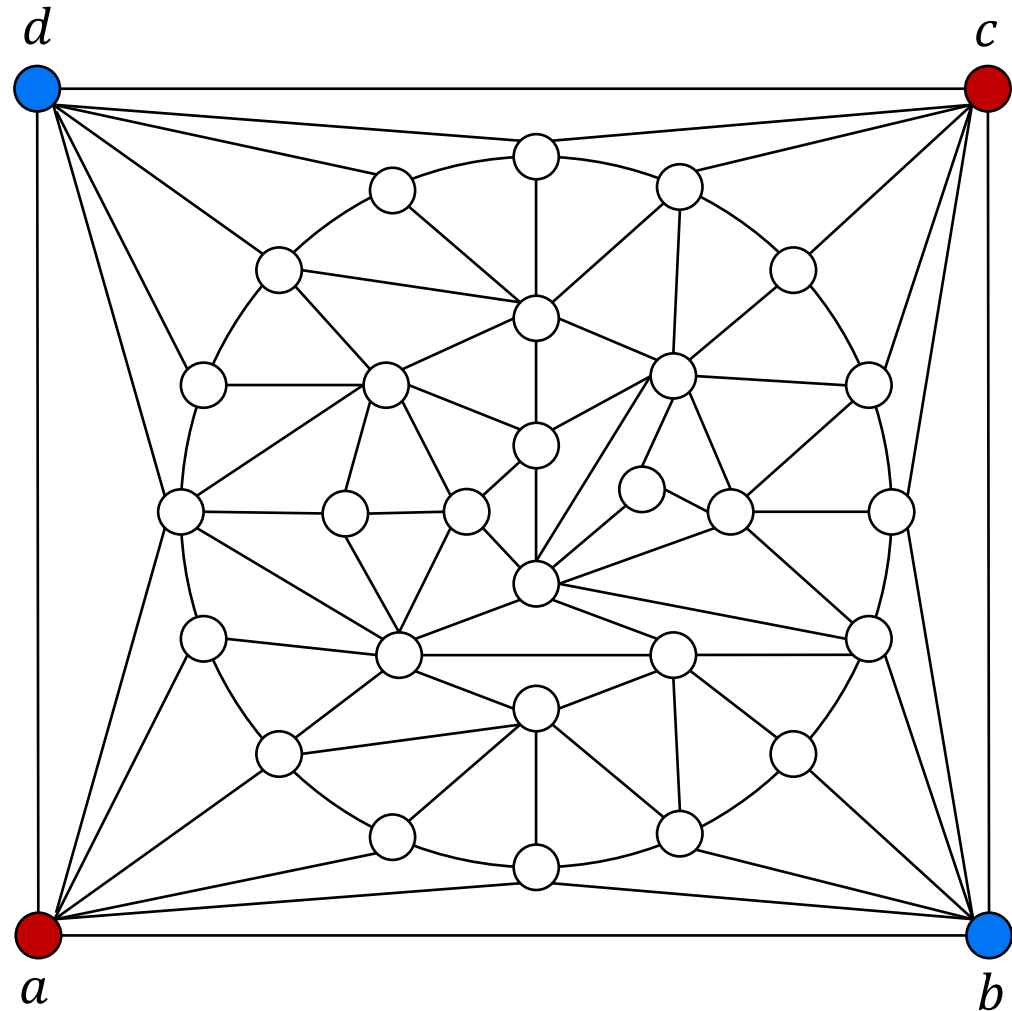
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- Outer face is a square
- Inner faces are triangles

Two players move alternately:

- Alice marks nodes  $\bigcirc \Rightarrow \bullet$
- Betty marks nodes  $\bigcirc \Rightarrow \bigcirc$

Winning conditions:

- Alice wins if she marks all nodes on a path from  $a$  to  $c$
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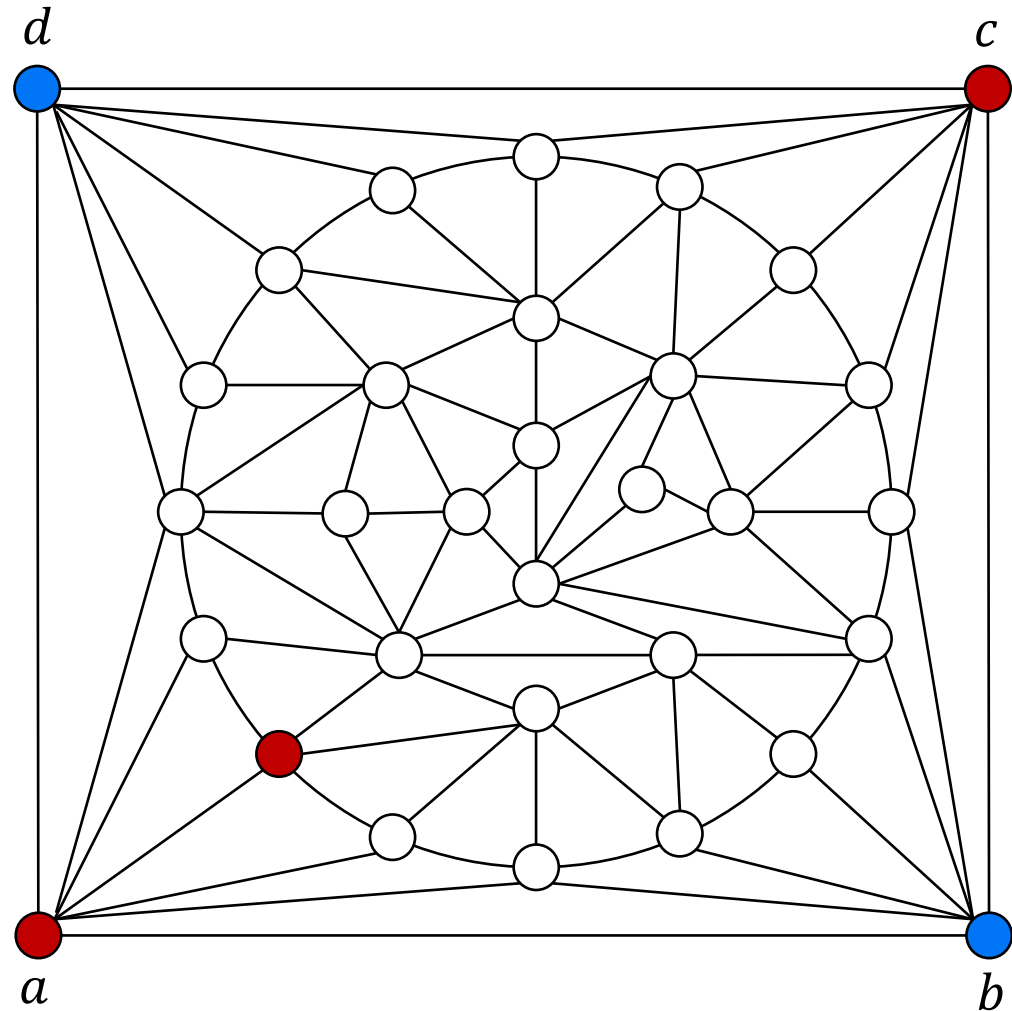
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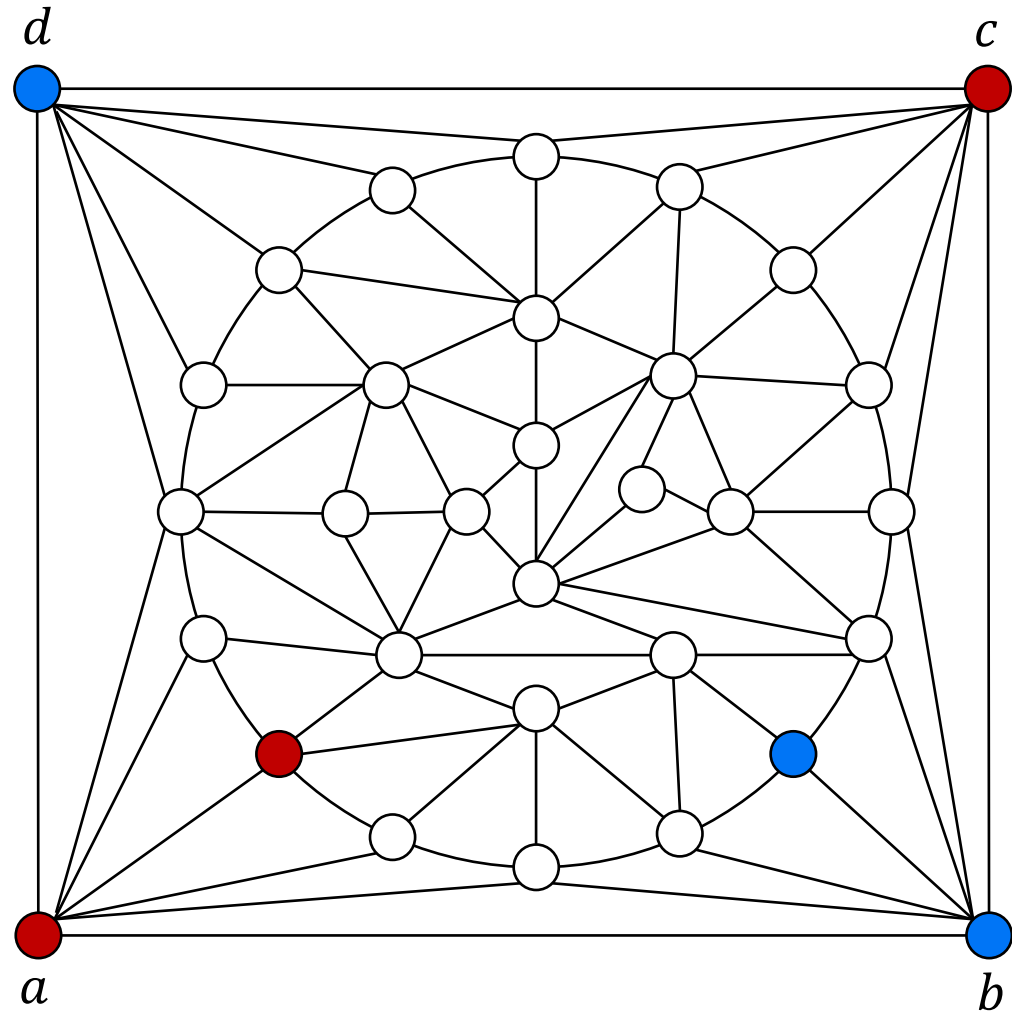
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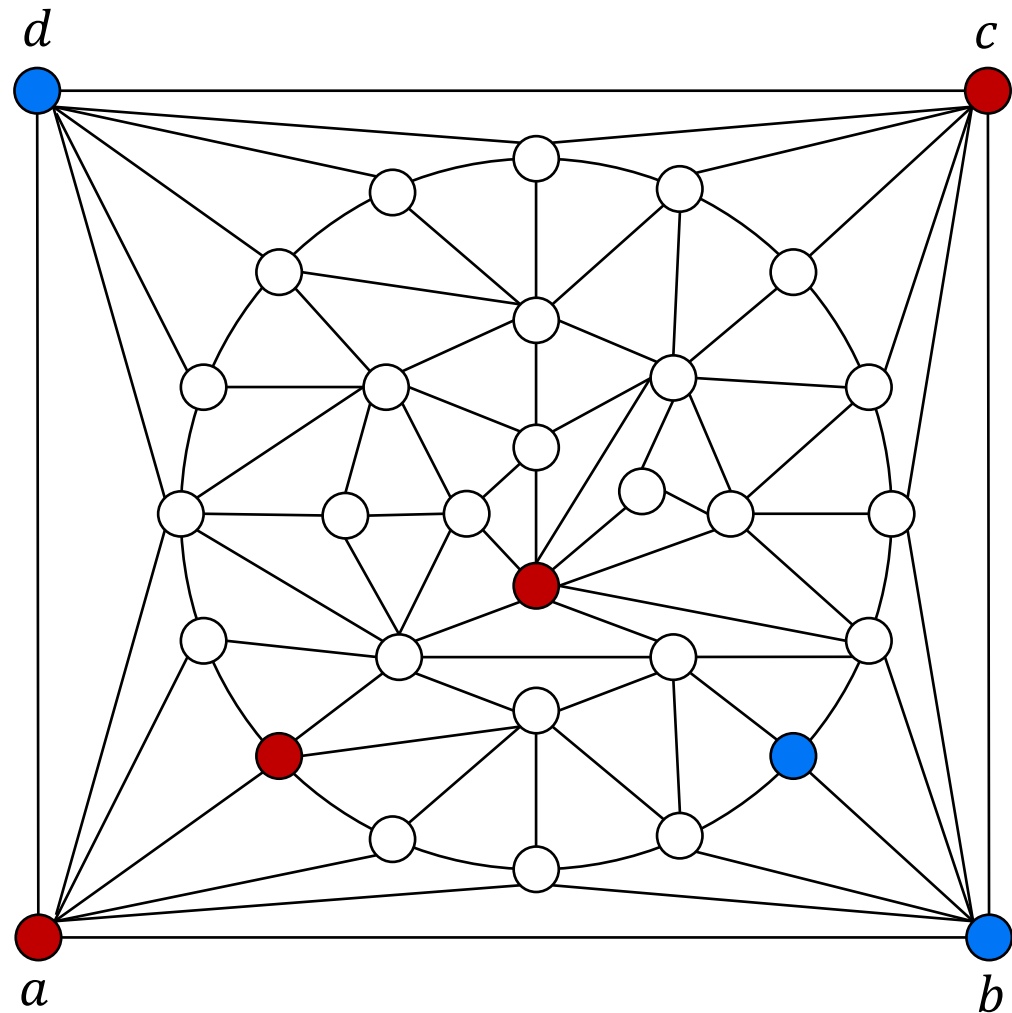
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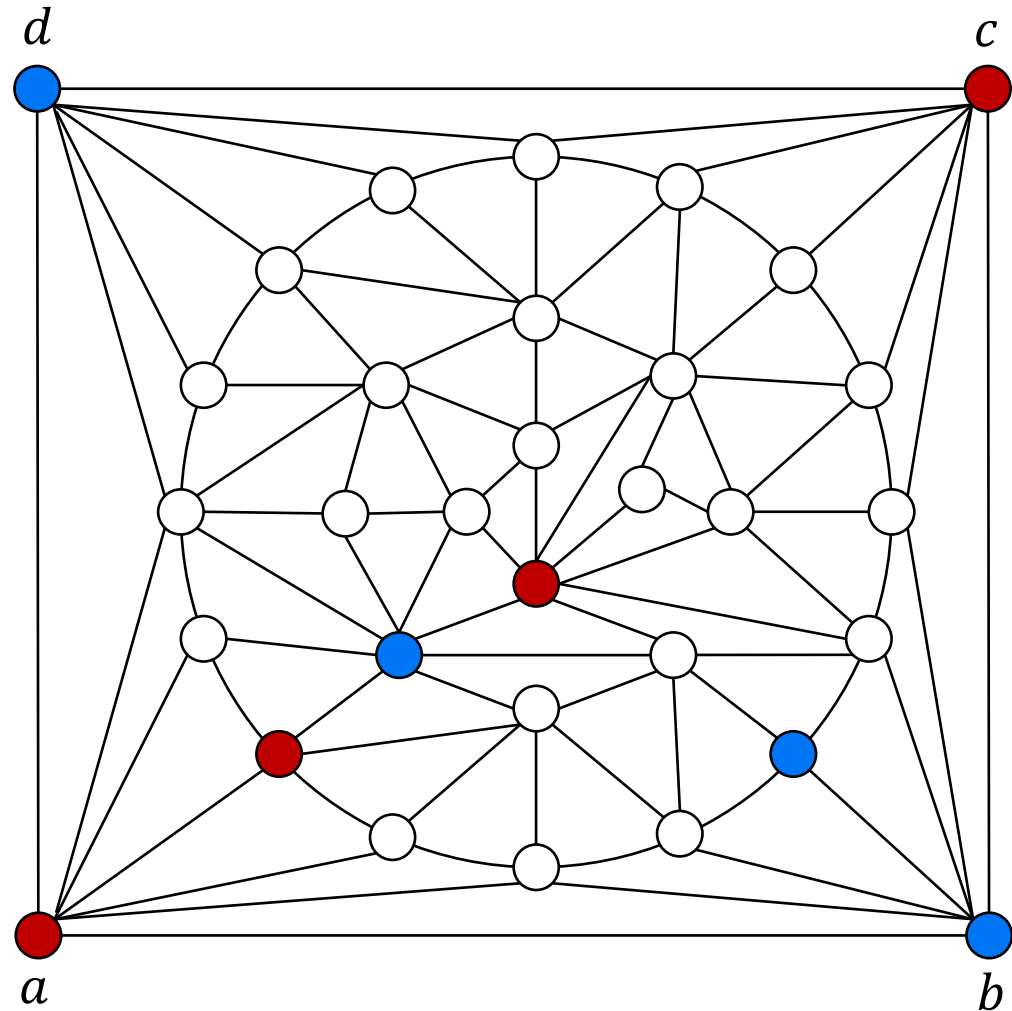
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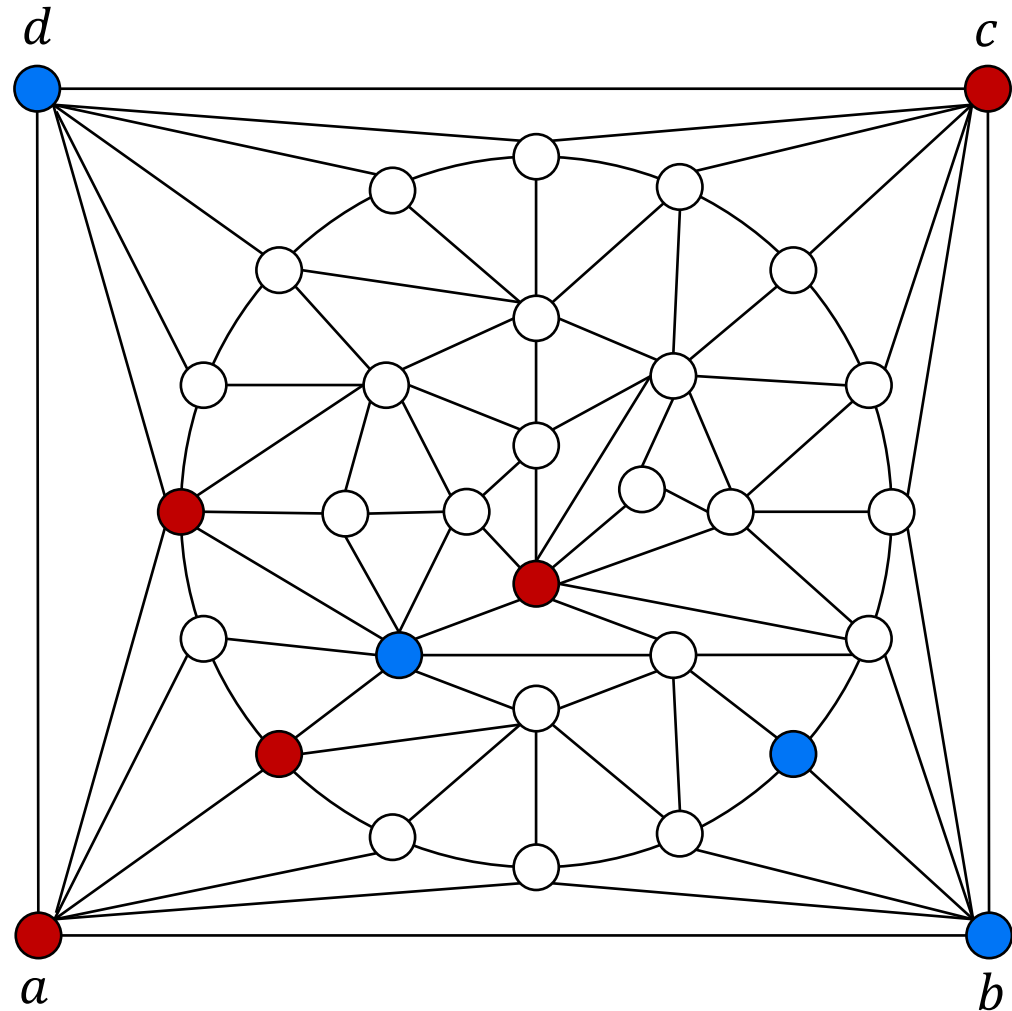
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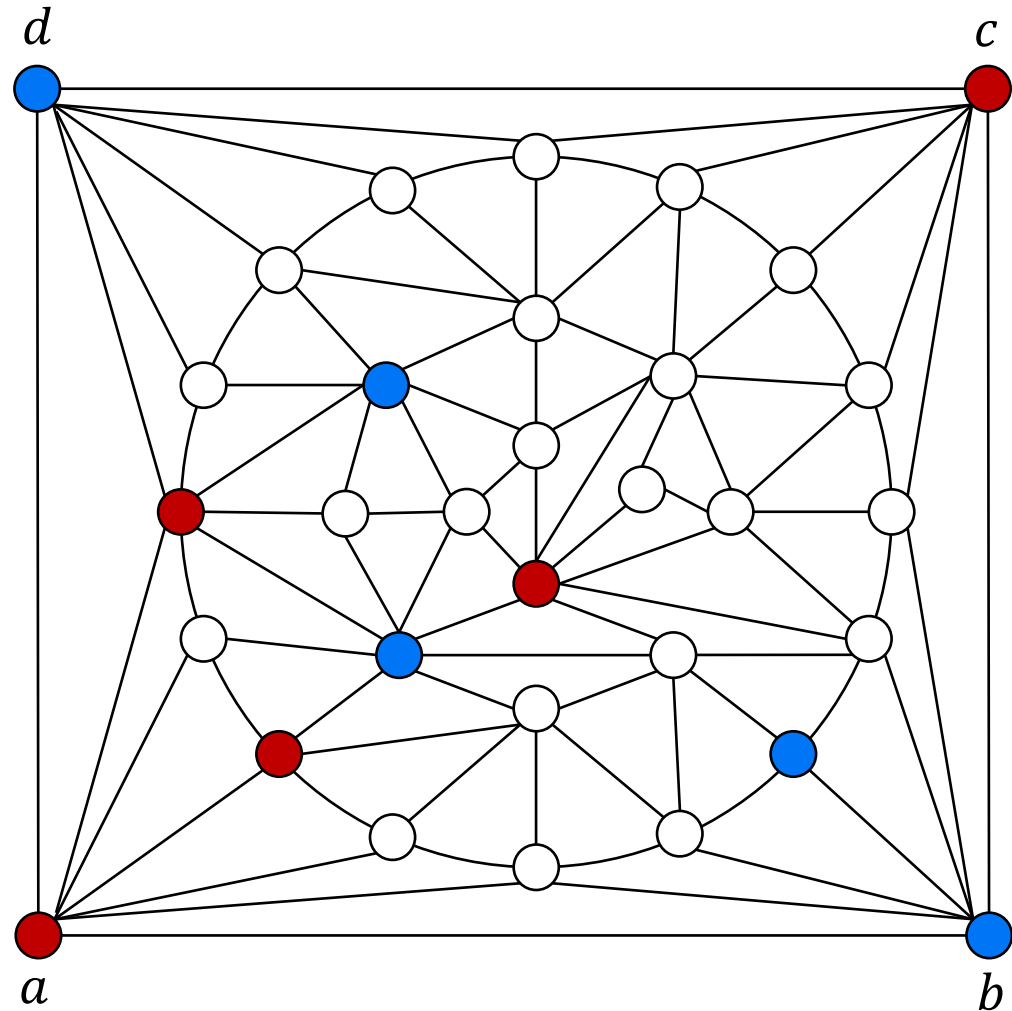
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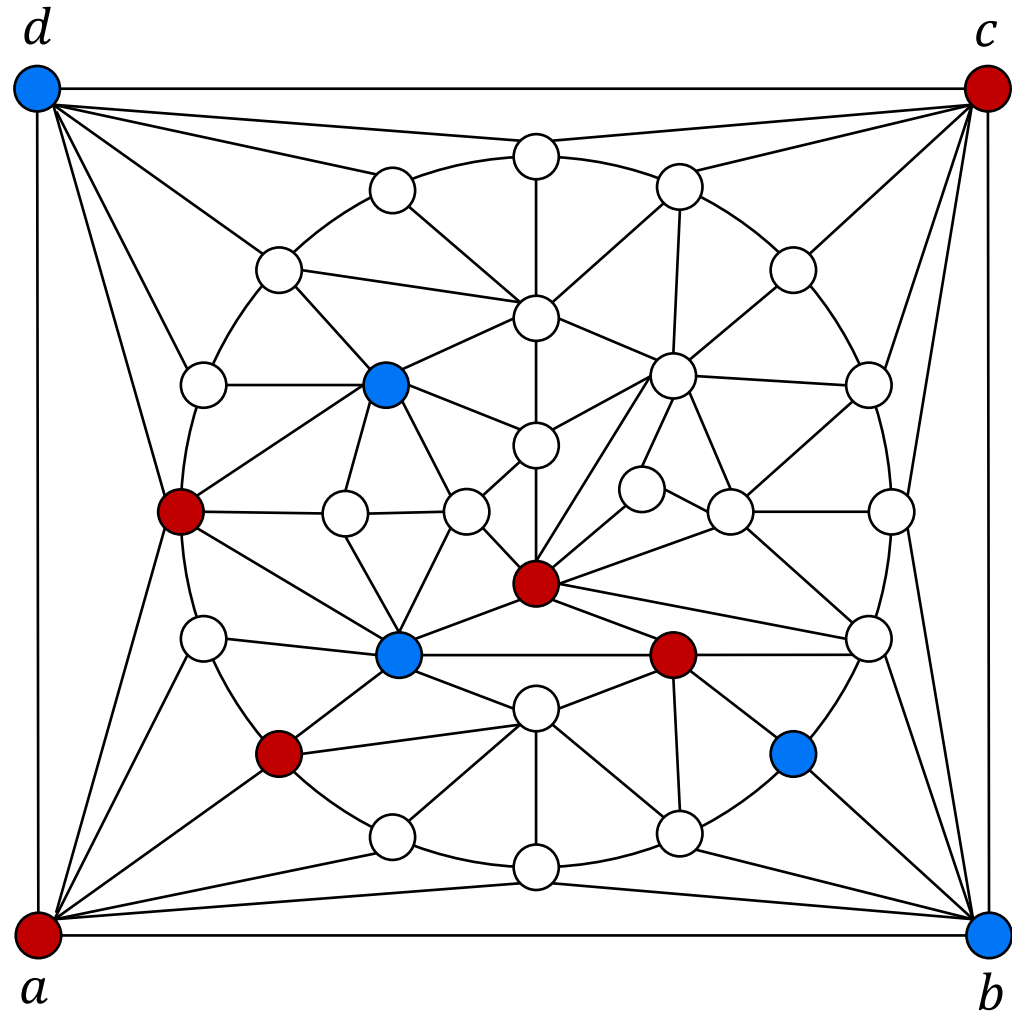
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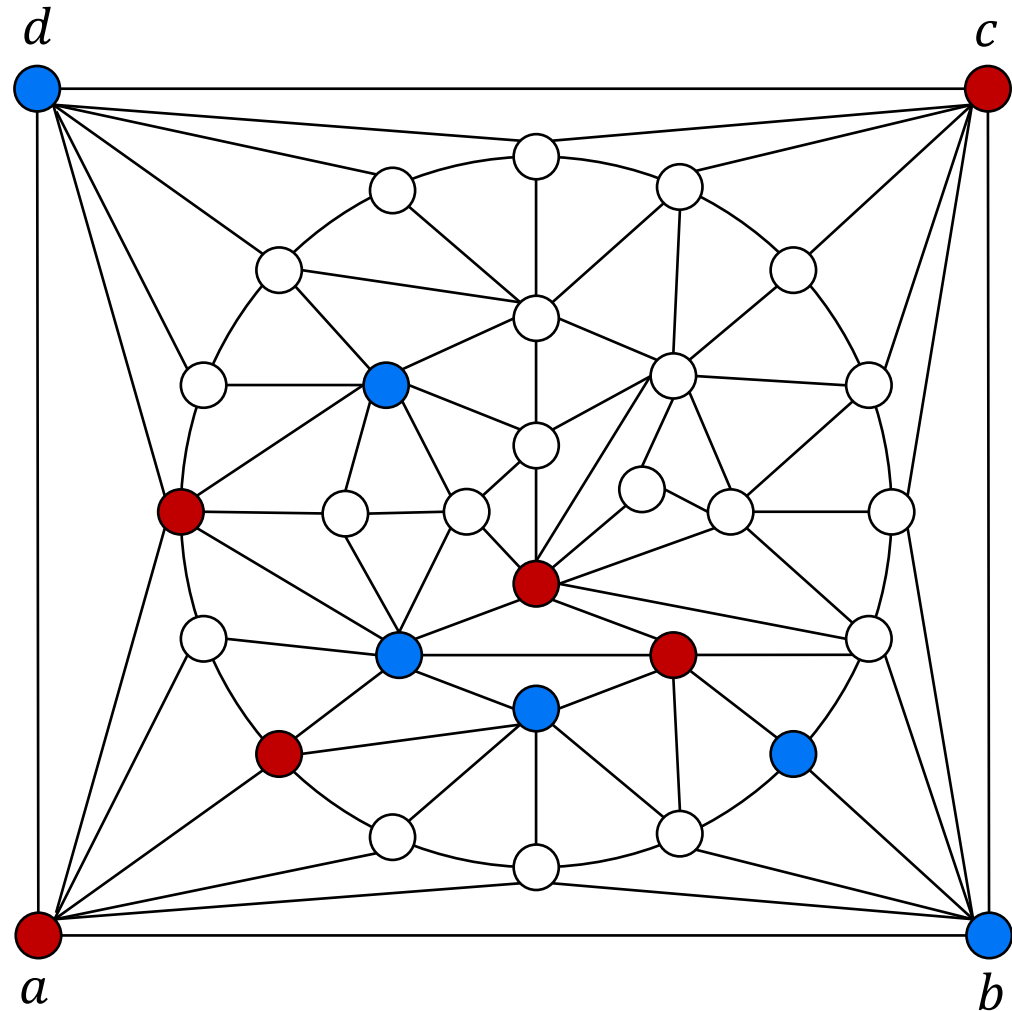
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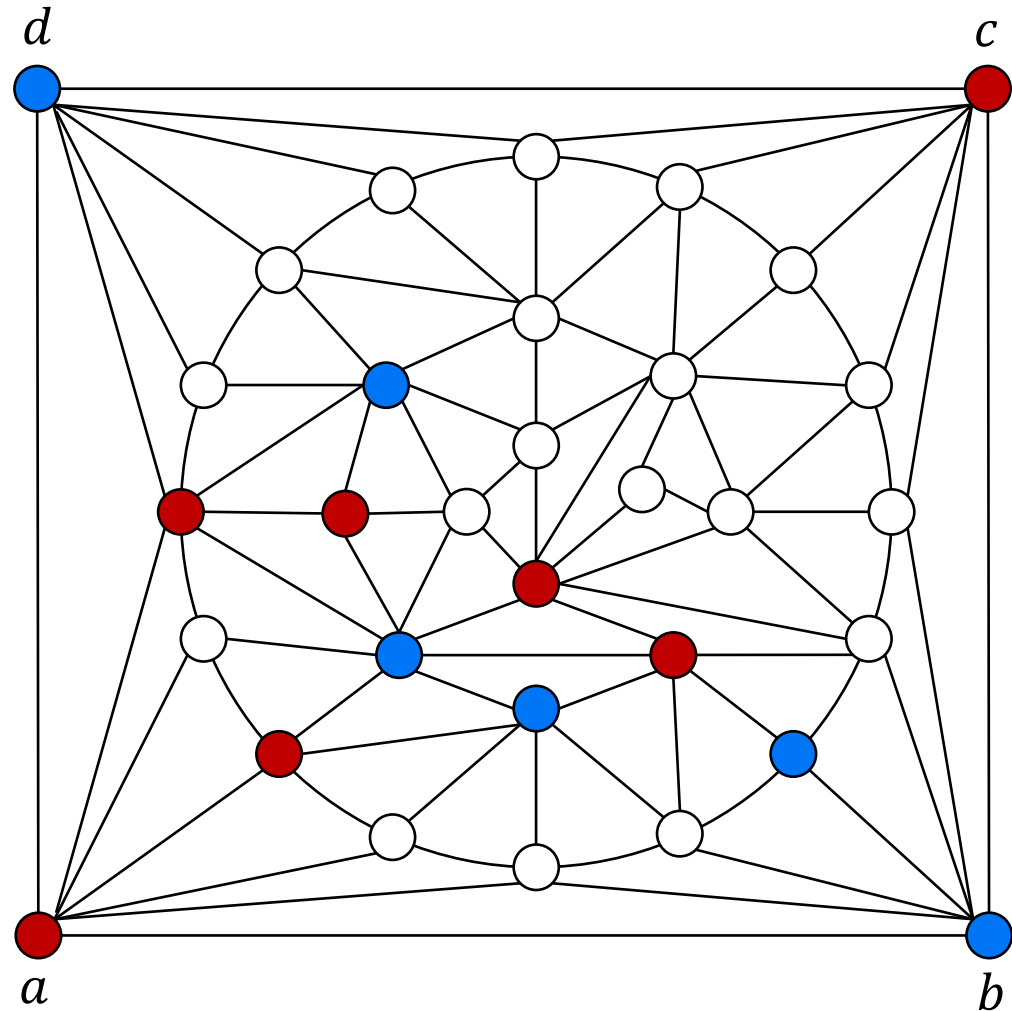
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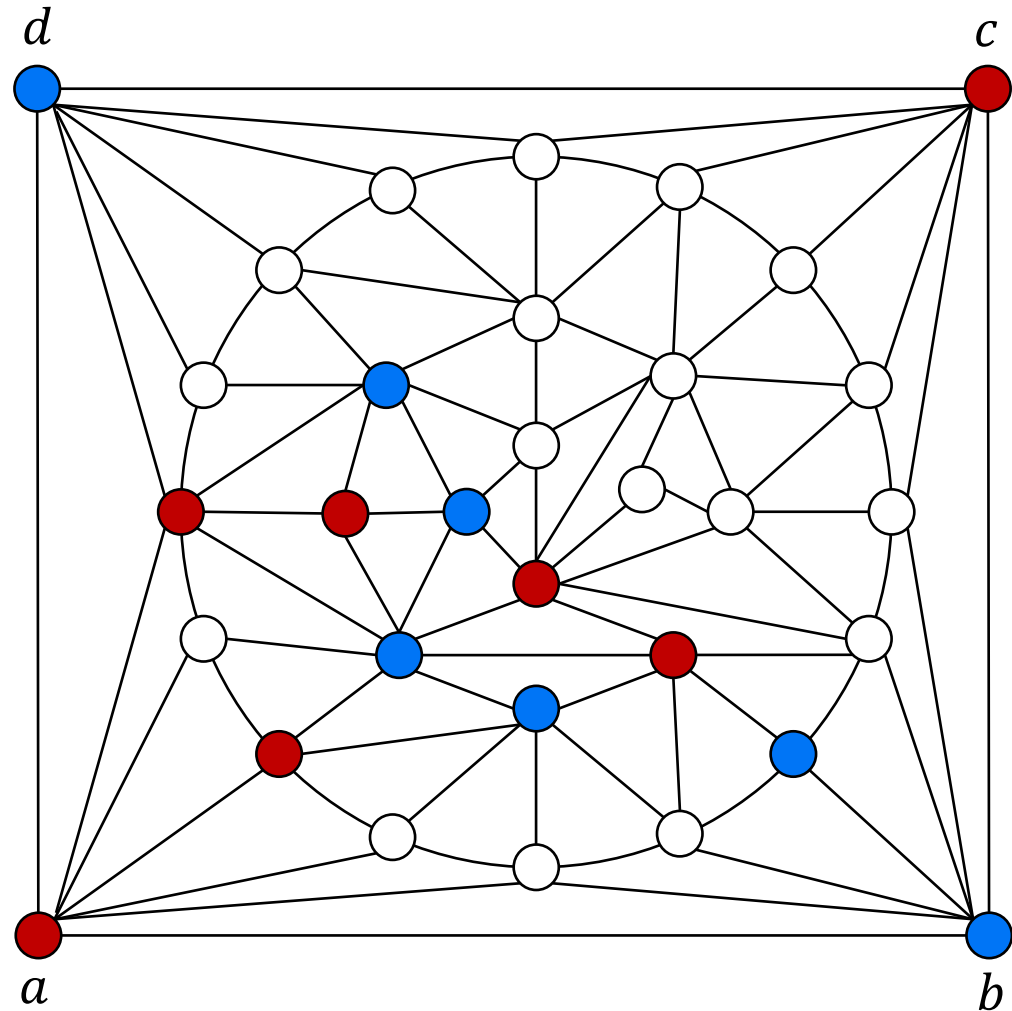
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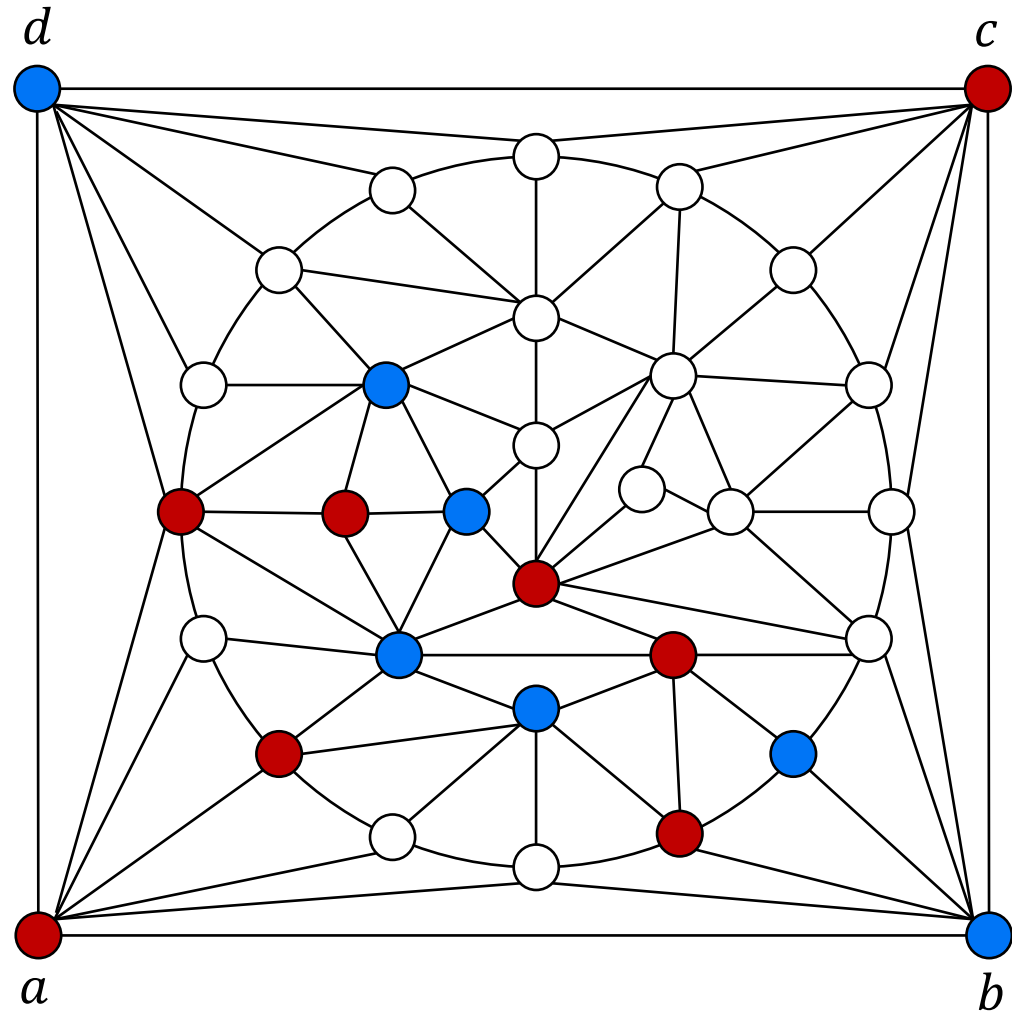
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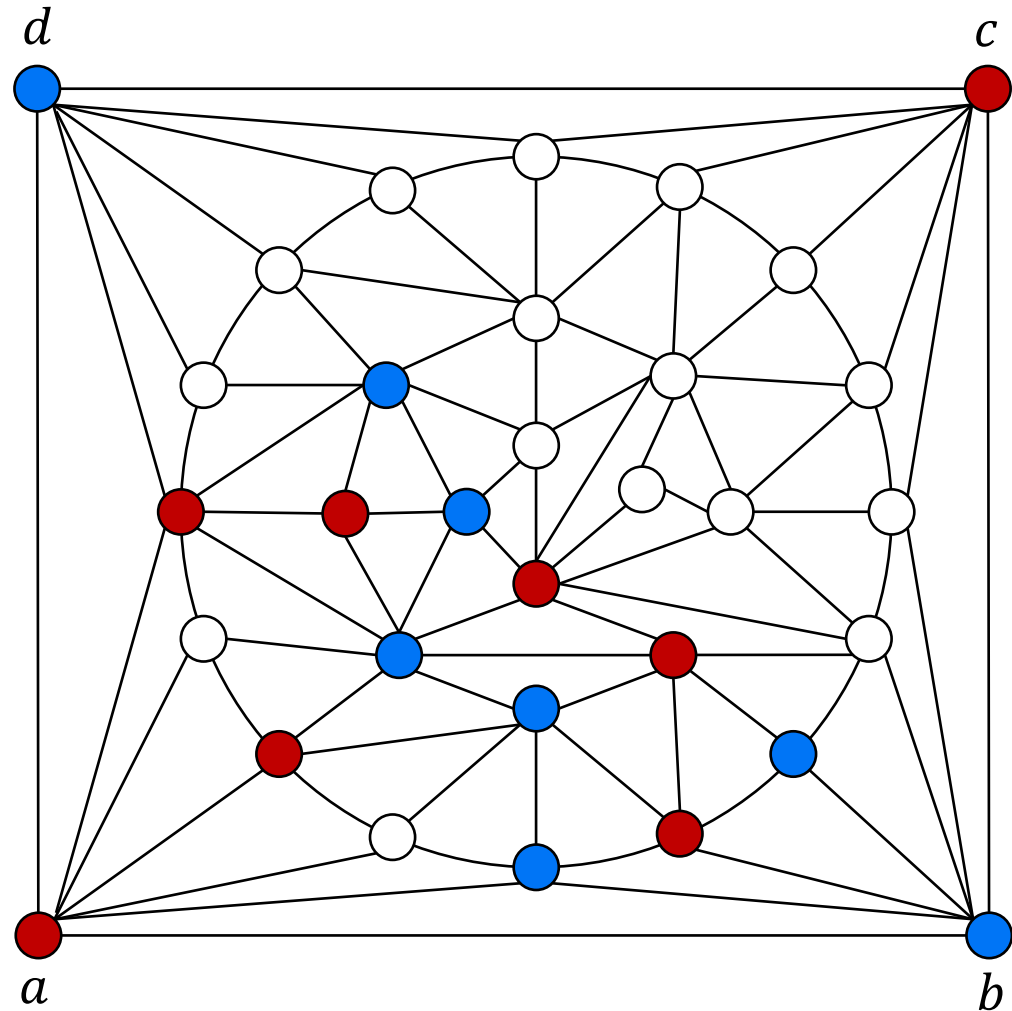
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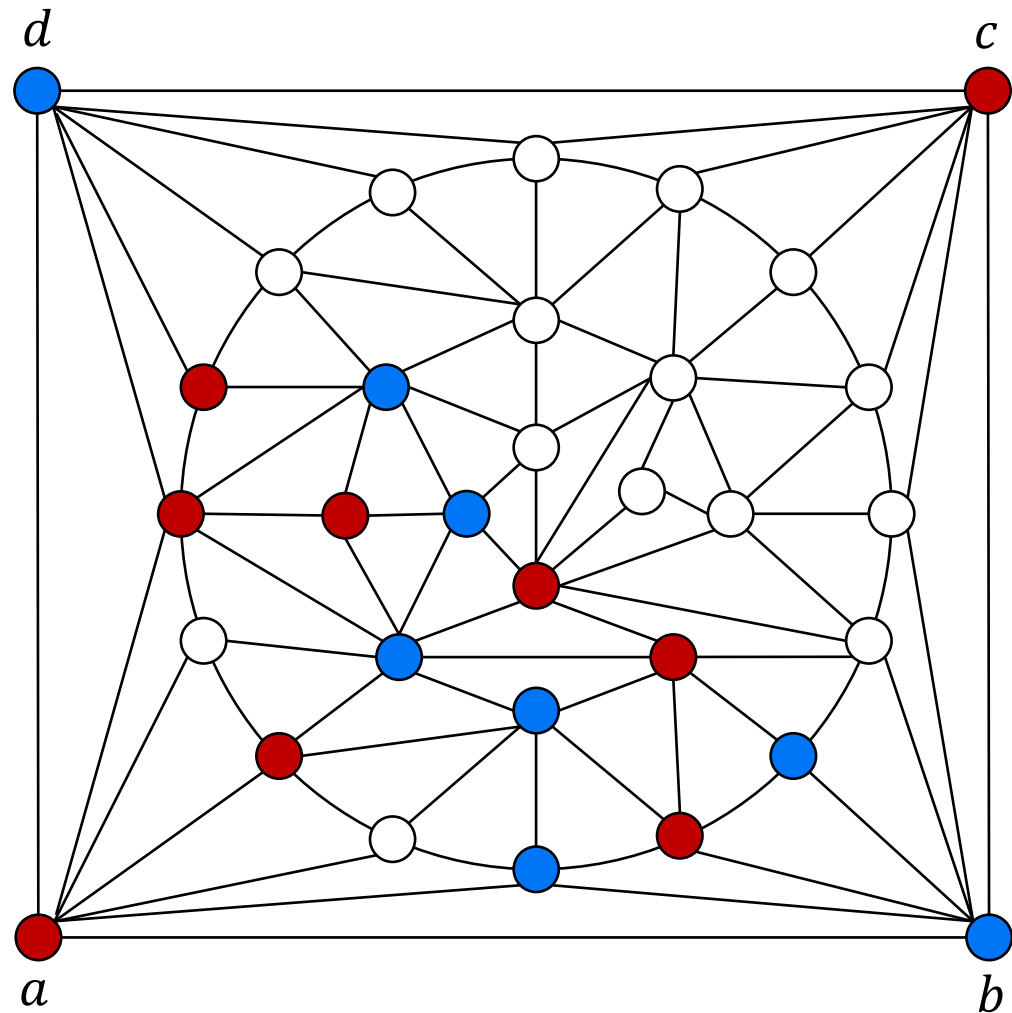
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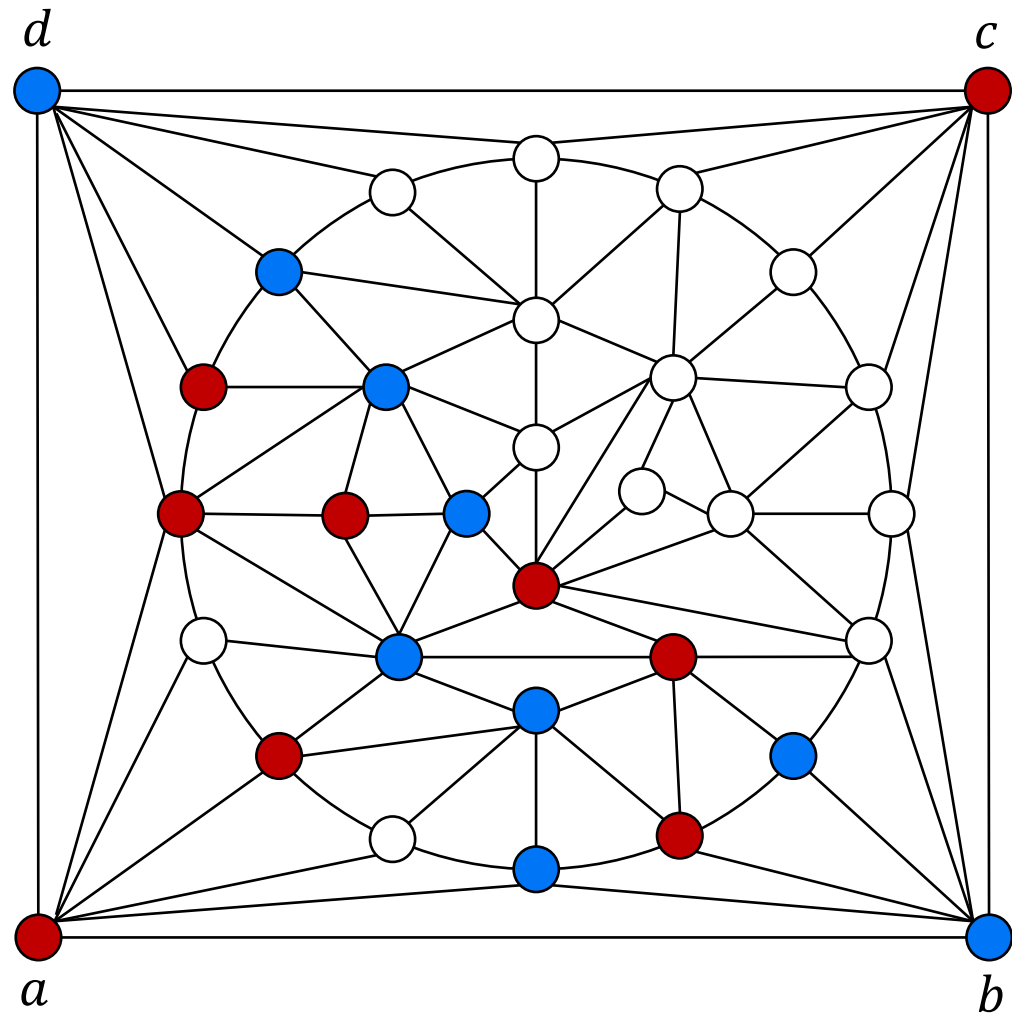
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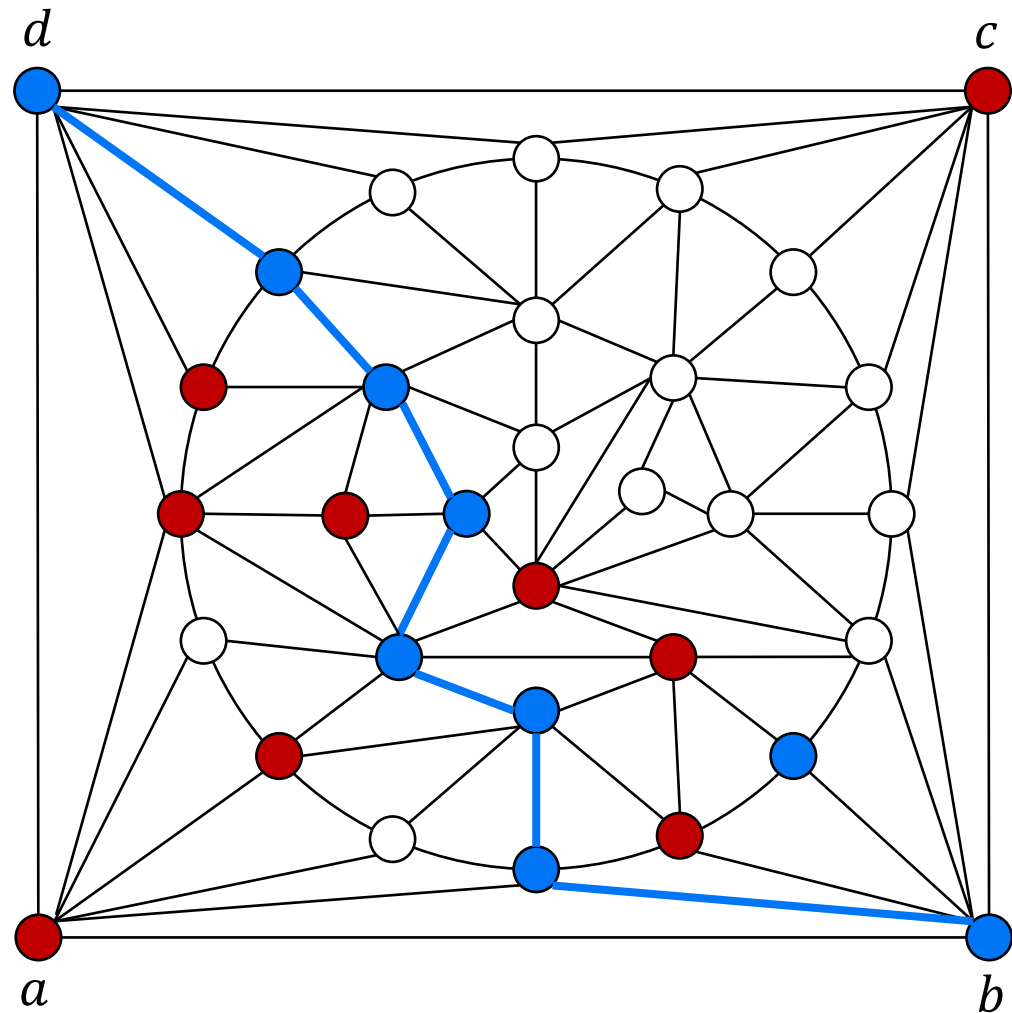
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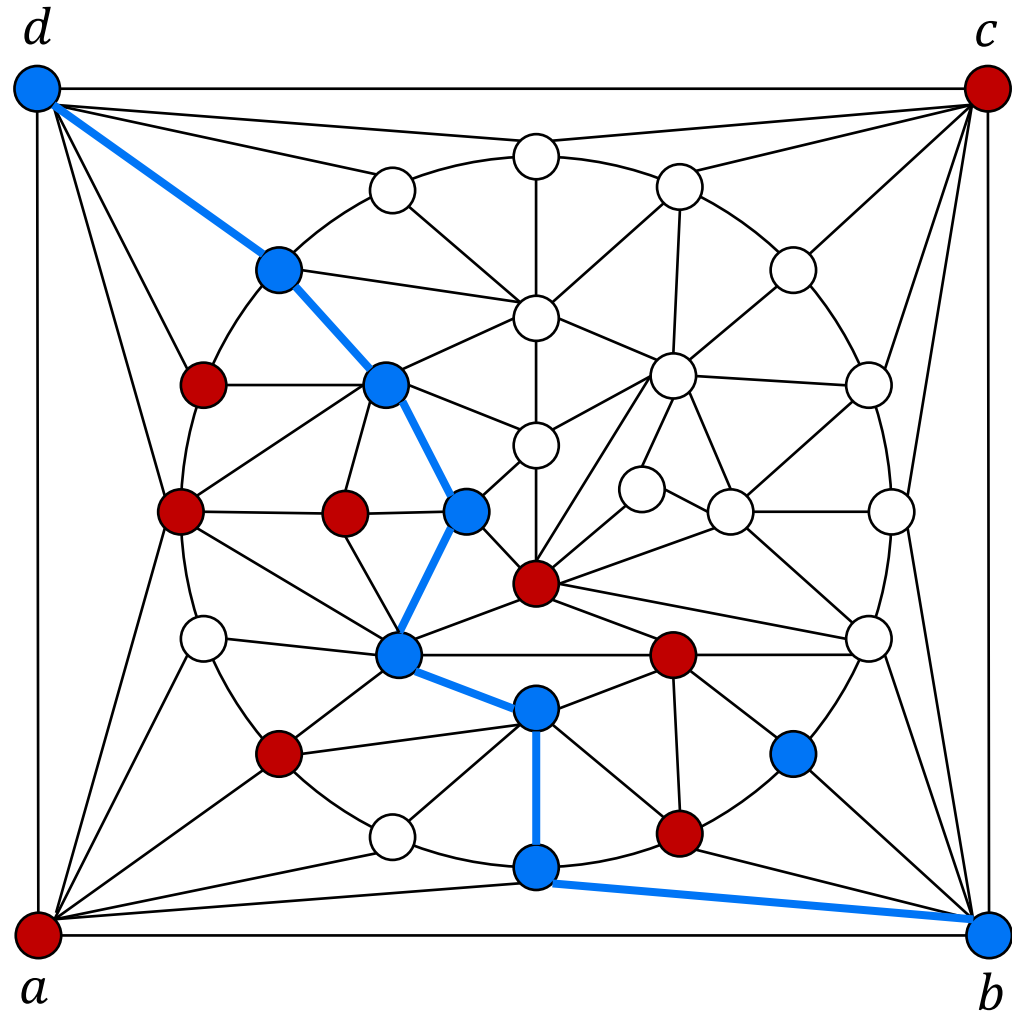
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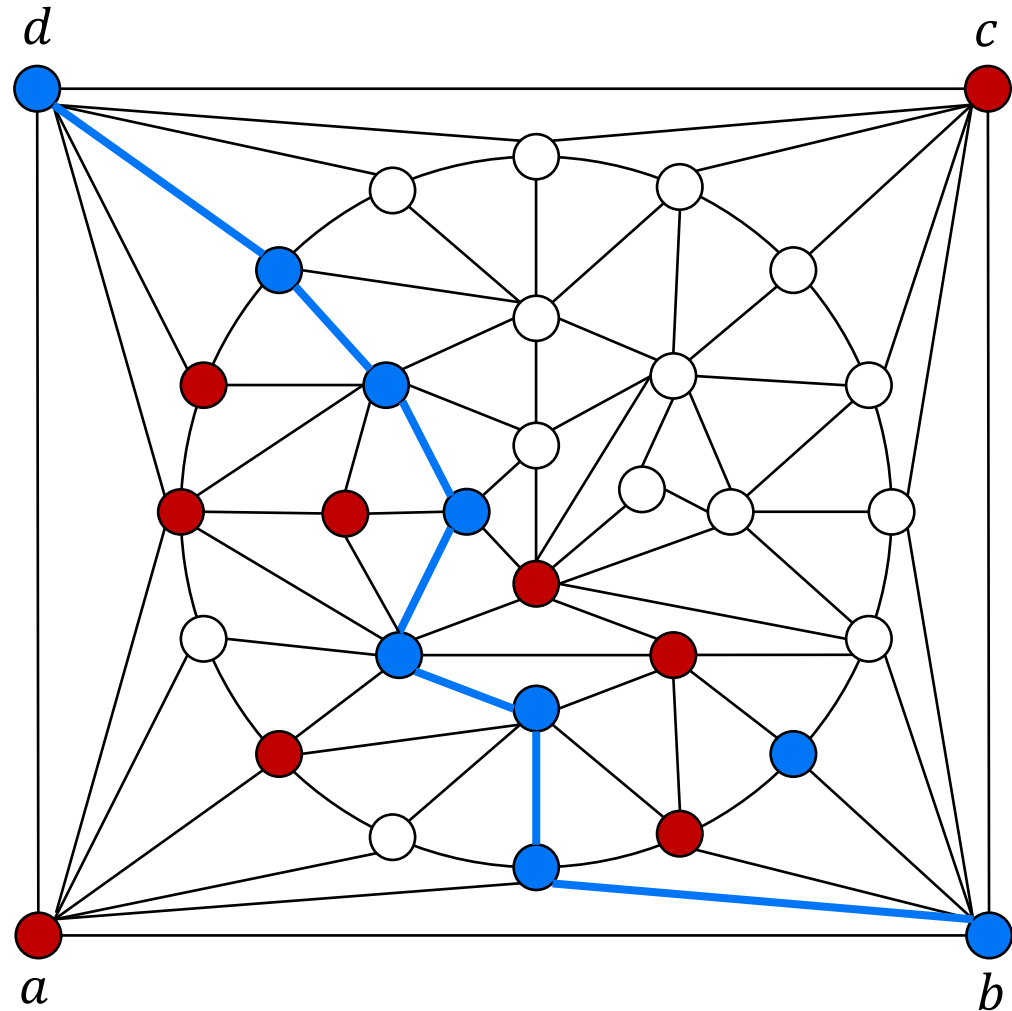
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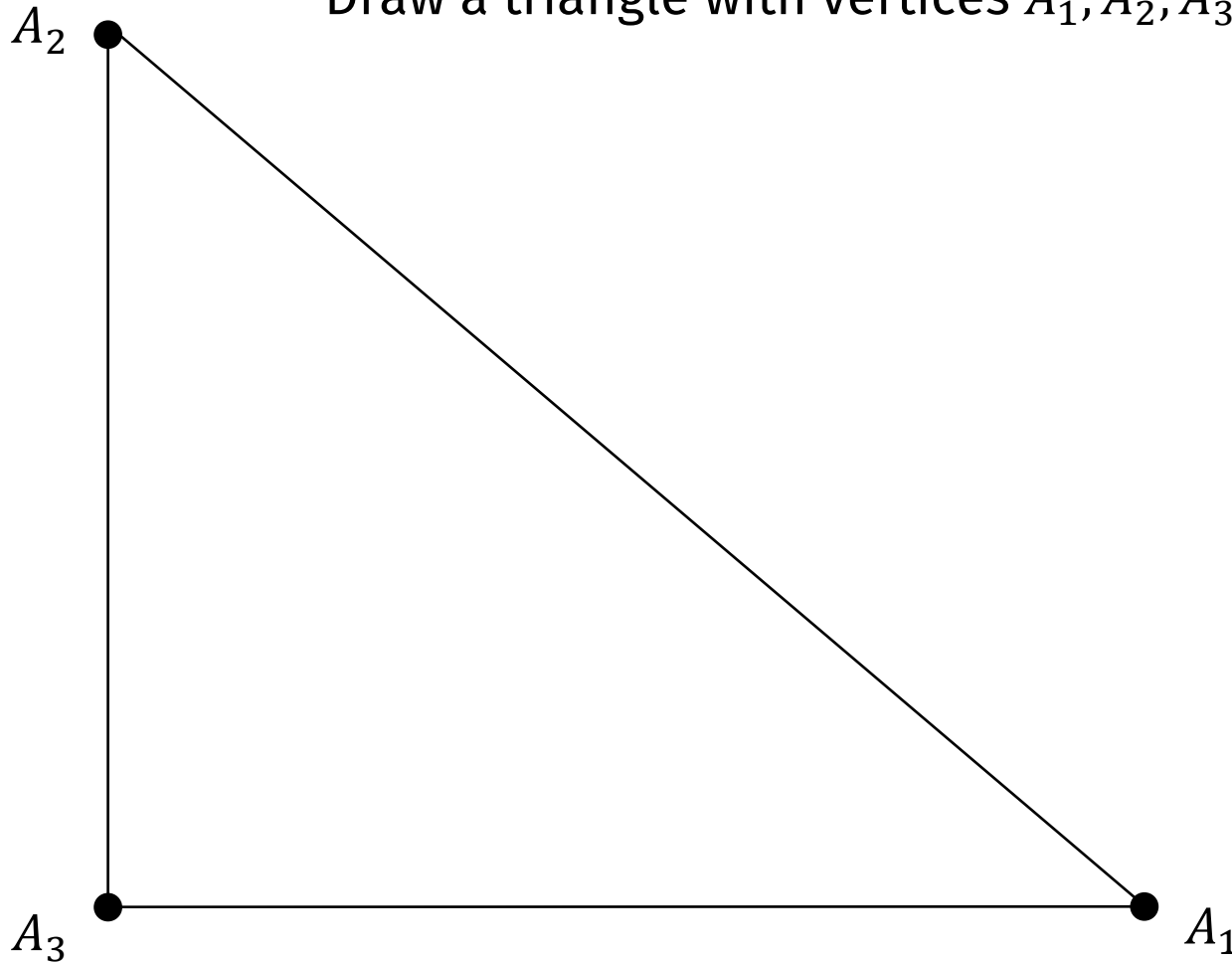
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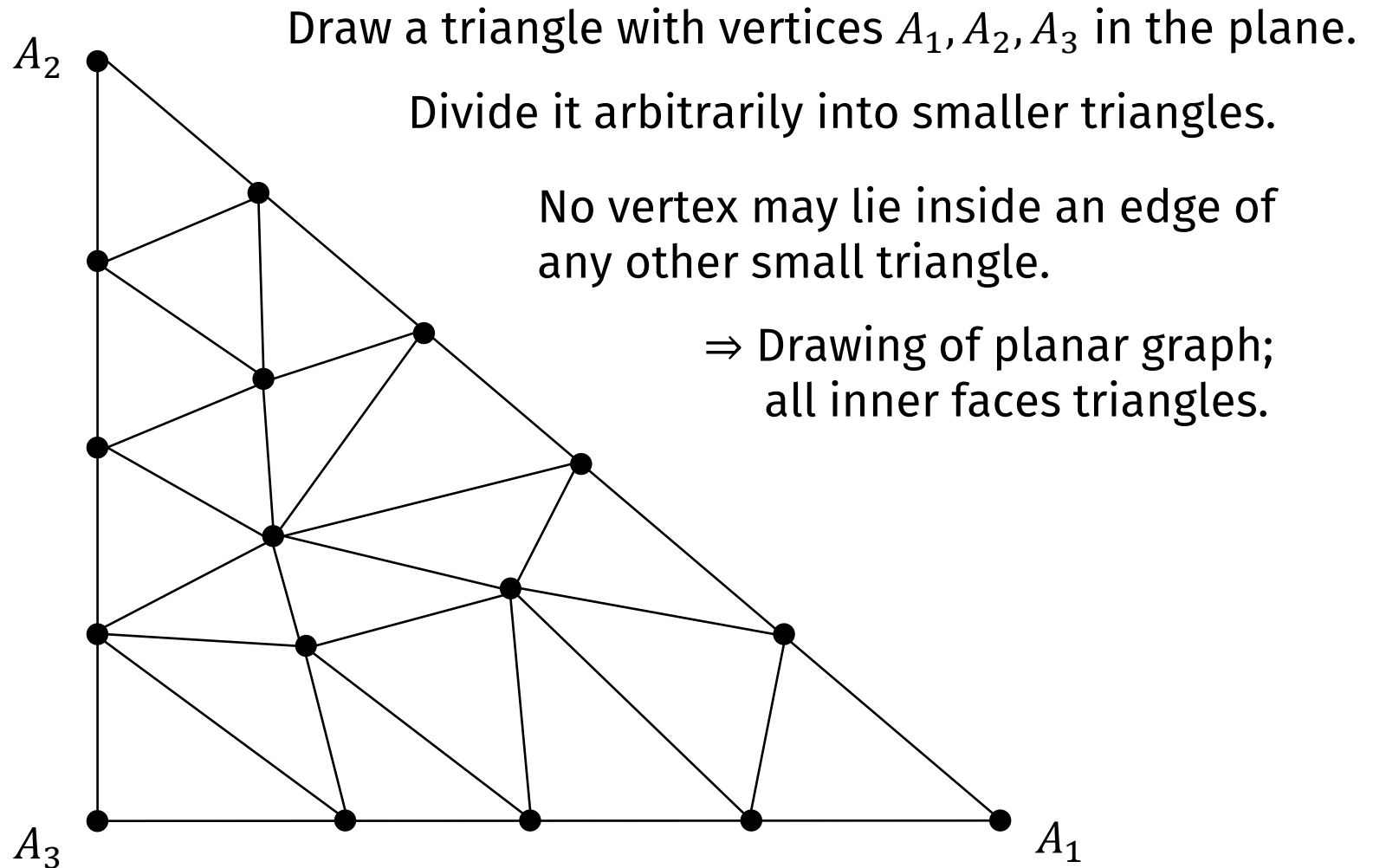
**Proposition:** On a board of the given type (the outer face is a square, all inner faces are triangles), a draw is impossible.

# Sperner's Lemma

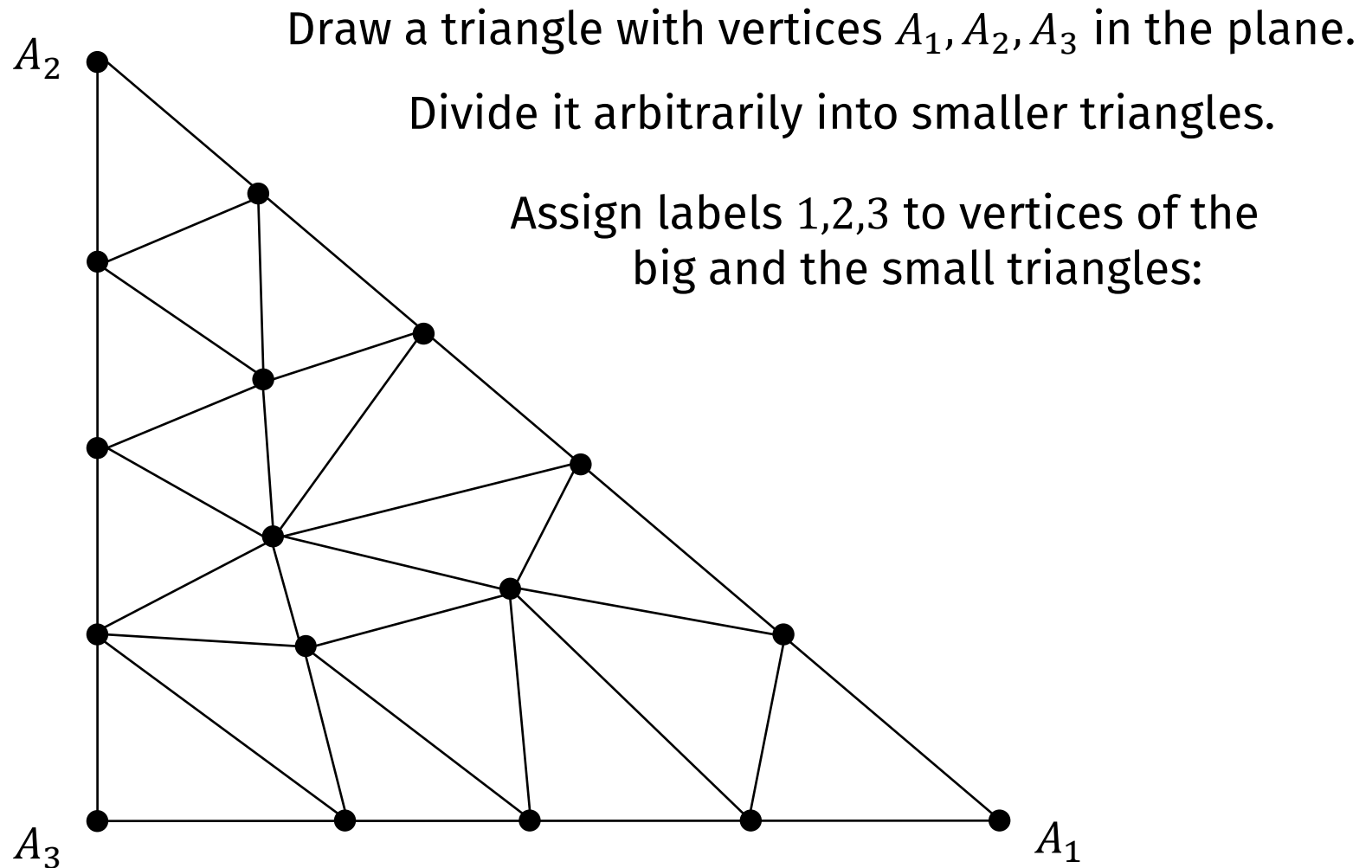
Draw a triangle with vertices  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  in the plane.



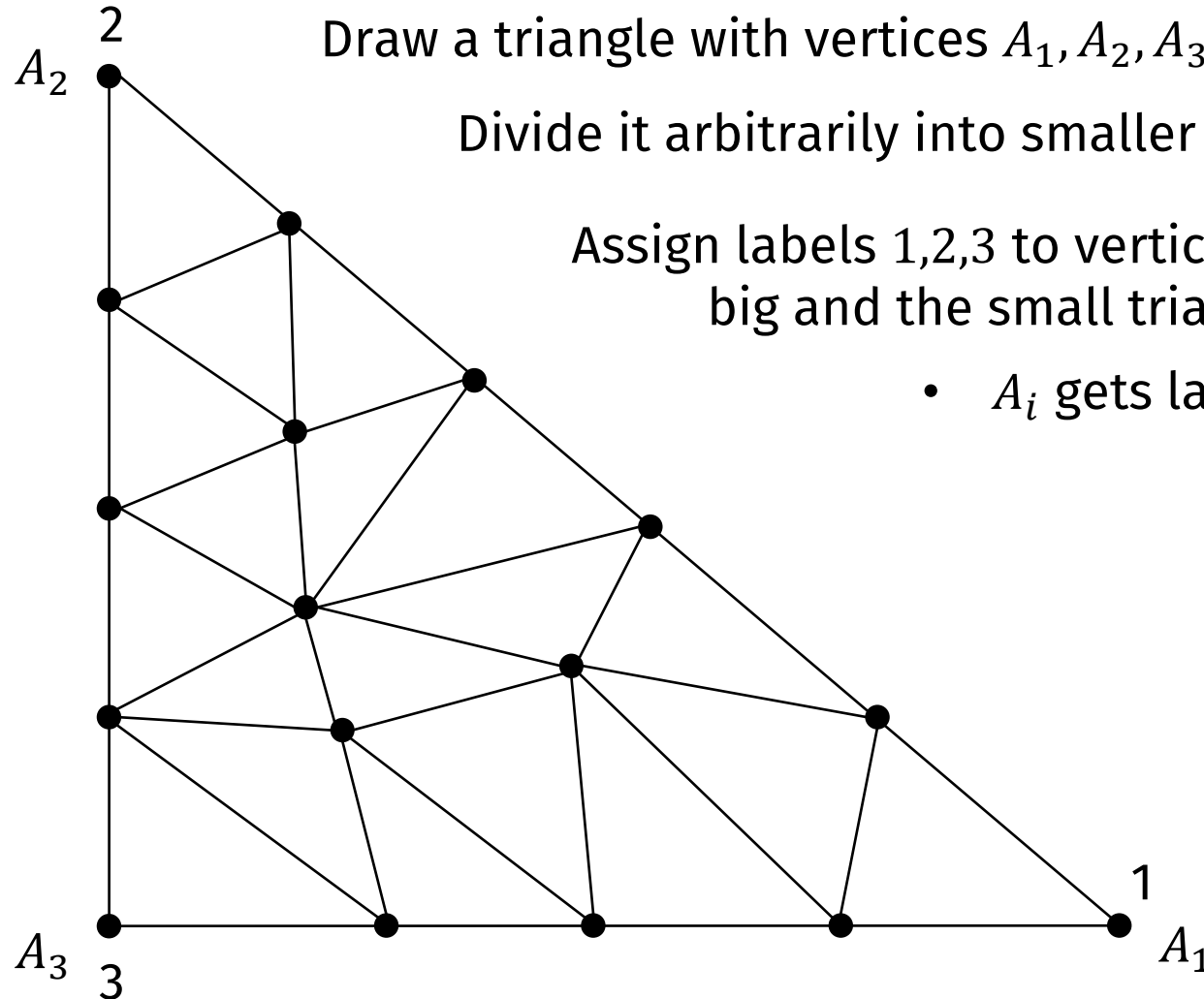
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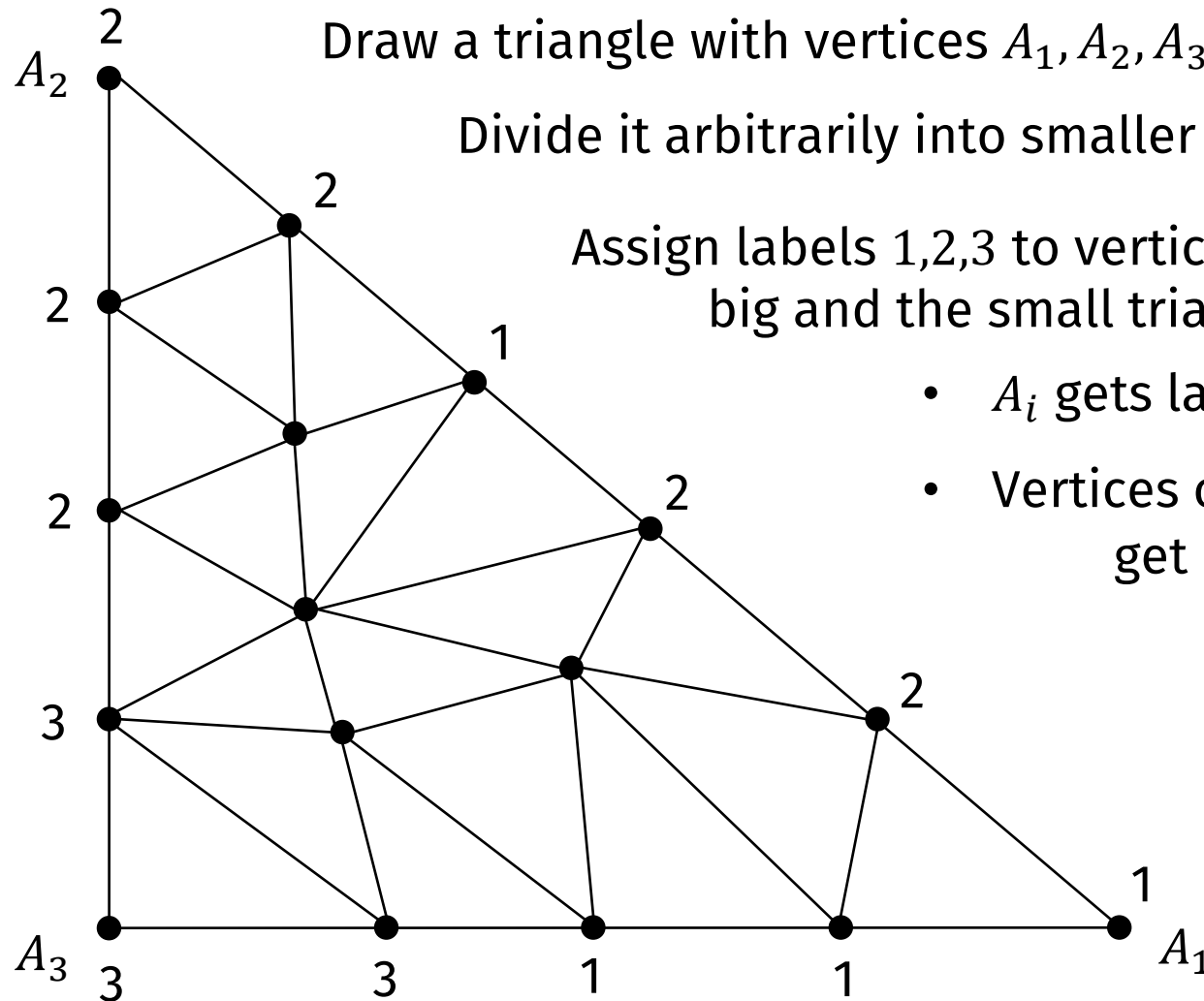
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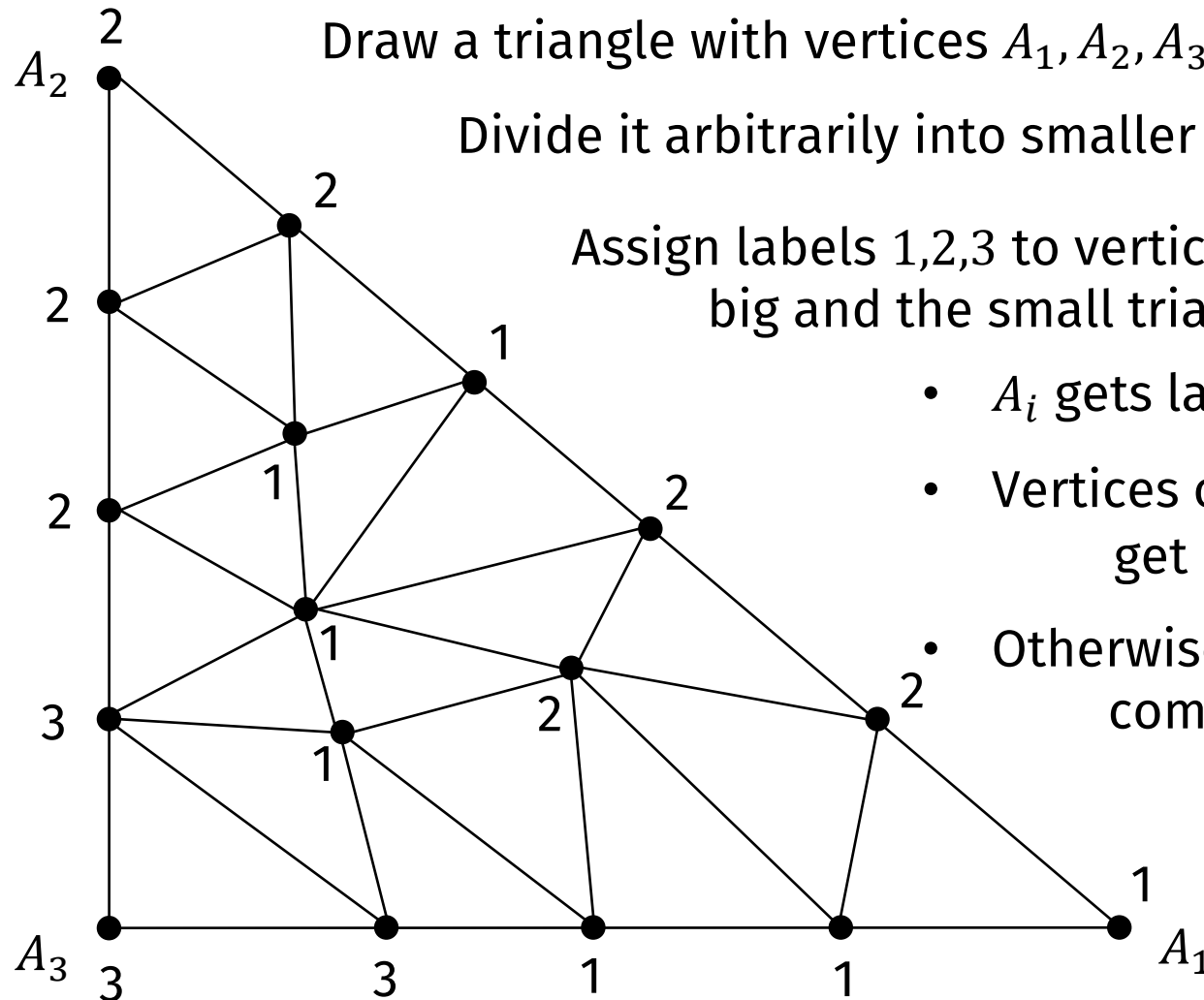
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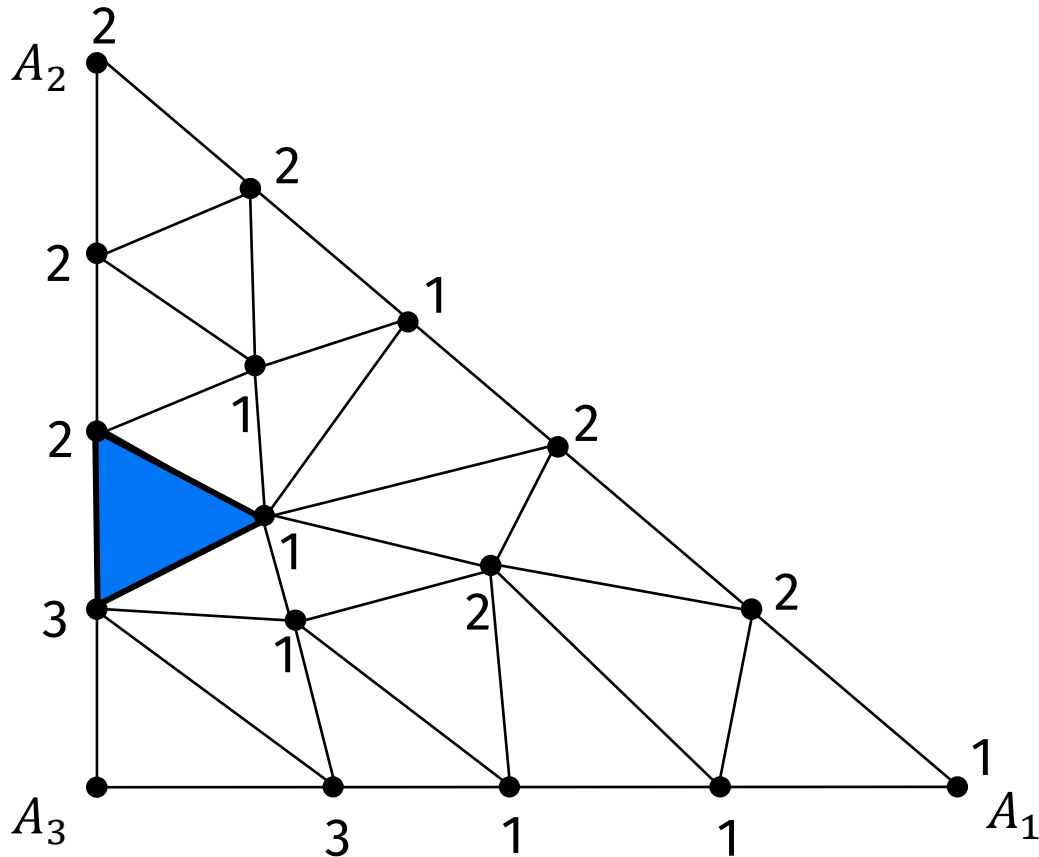


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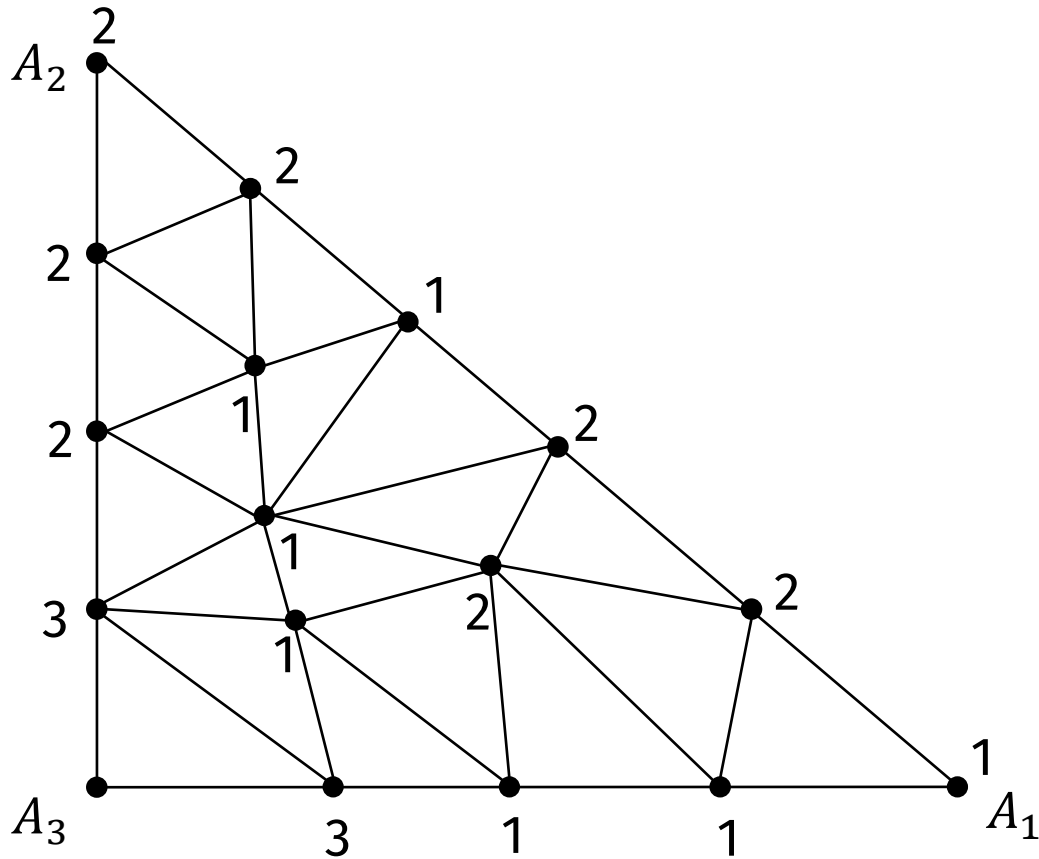
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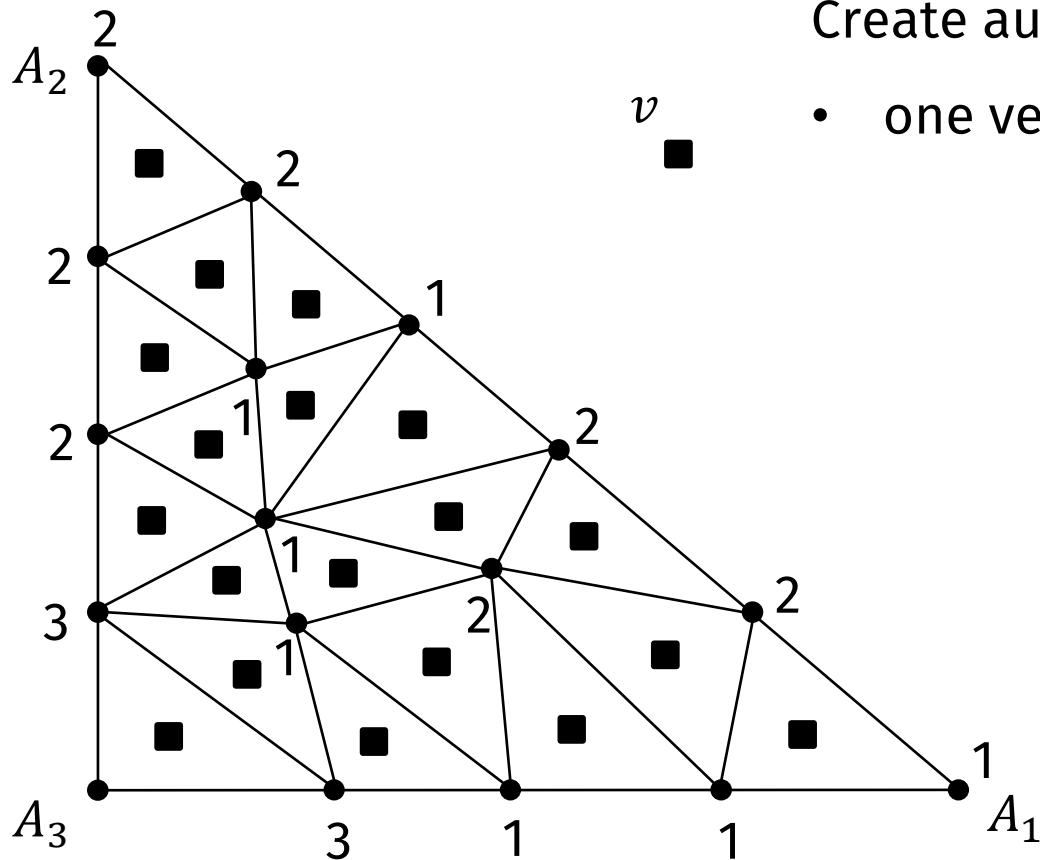
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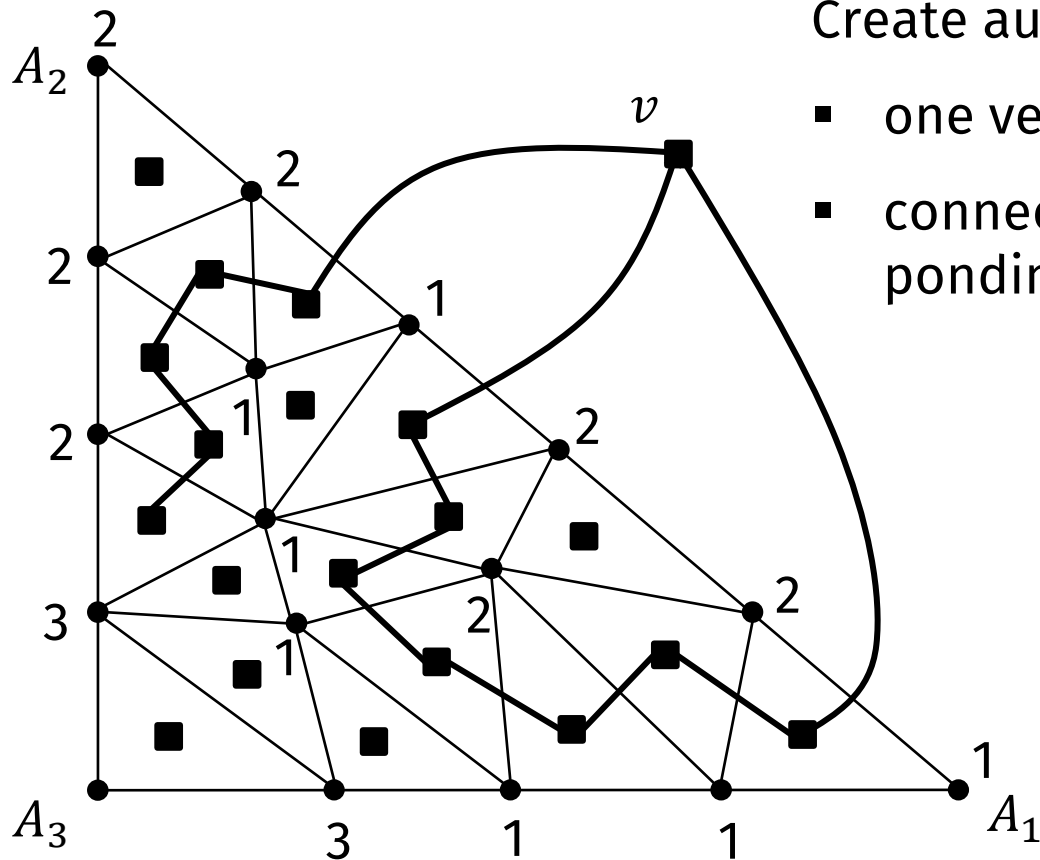


Create auxiliary graph  $G$ :

- one vertex per face of the triangulation

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## Create auxiliary graph $G$ :

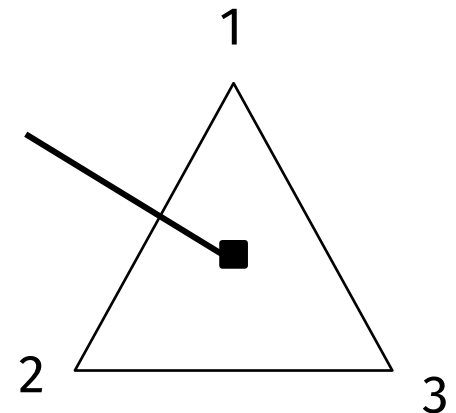
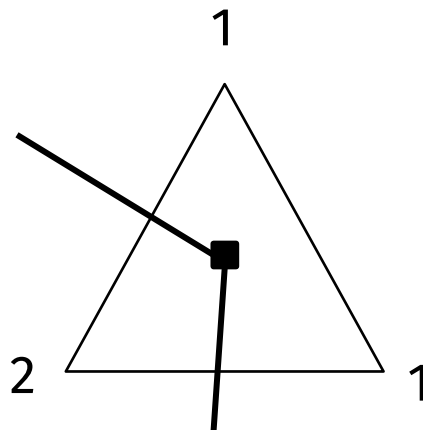
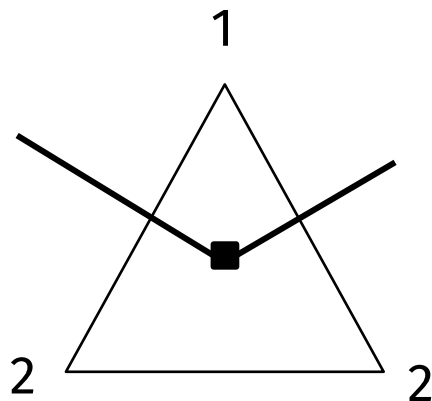
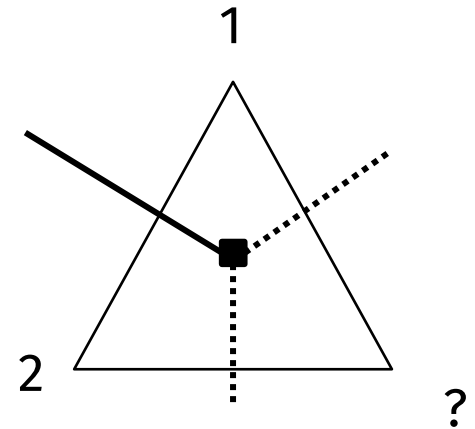
- one vertex per face of the triangulation
- connect two vertices if the corresponding faces share a  $\{1,2\}$ -edge

# Degrees of Triangles

A small triangle is connected to some of its neighbors in  $G$  if and only if one of its vertices is labelled by 1 and another one by 2.

If the remaining vertex has label 3, then the considered triangle is adjacent to exactly one neighbour.

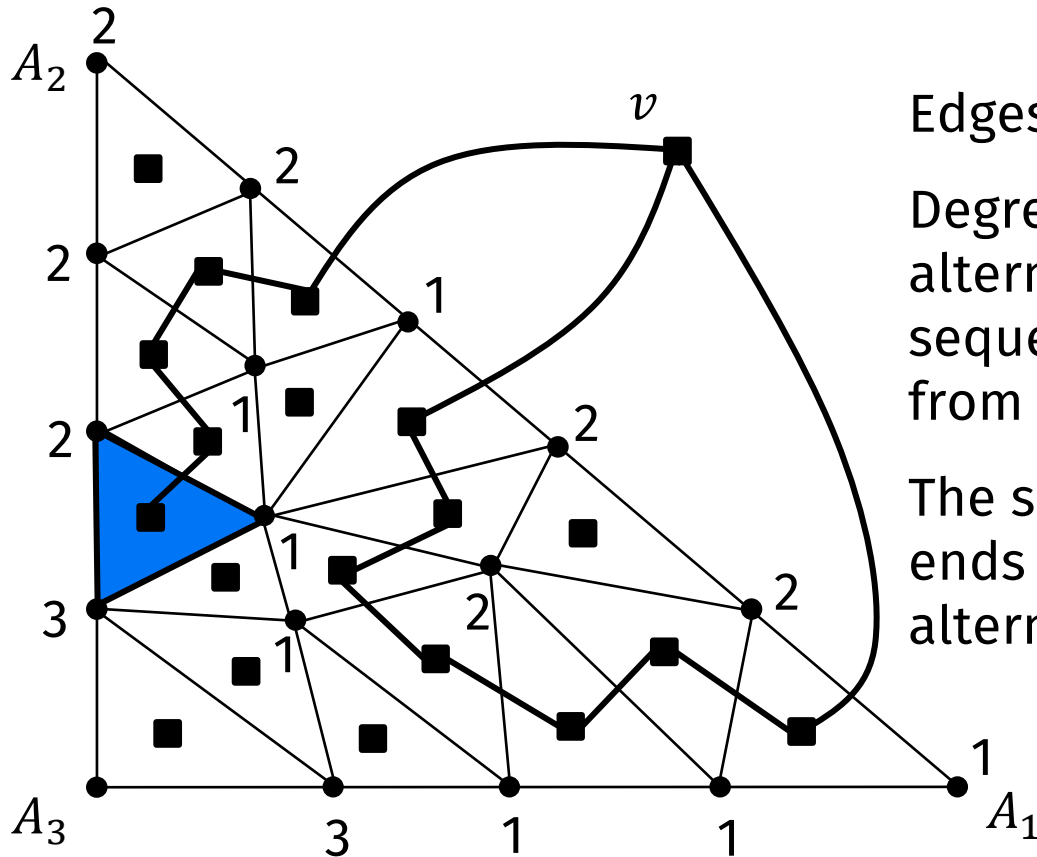
This is the only case where the degree of a small triangle in the graph  $G$  is odd.



# Finishing the proof

Know: Inner face of odd degree corresponds to desired face.

Show:  $v$  has odd degree, then existence of odd inner face follows from the handshake lemma.



Edges of  $v$  only cross the side  $A_1A_2$ .

Degree of  $v$  is the number of alternations between 1 and 2 of the sequence of labels when moving from  $A_1$  to  $A_2$ .

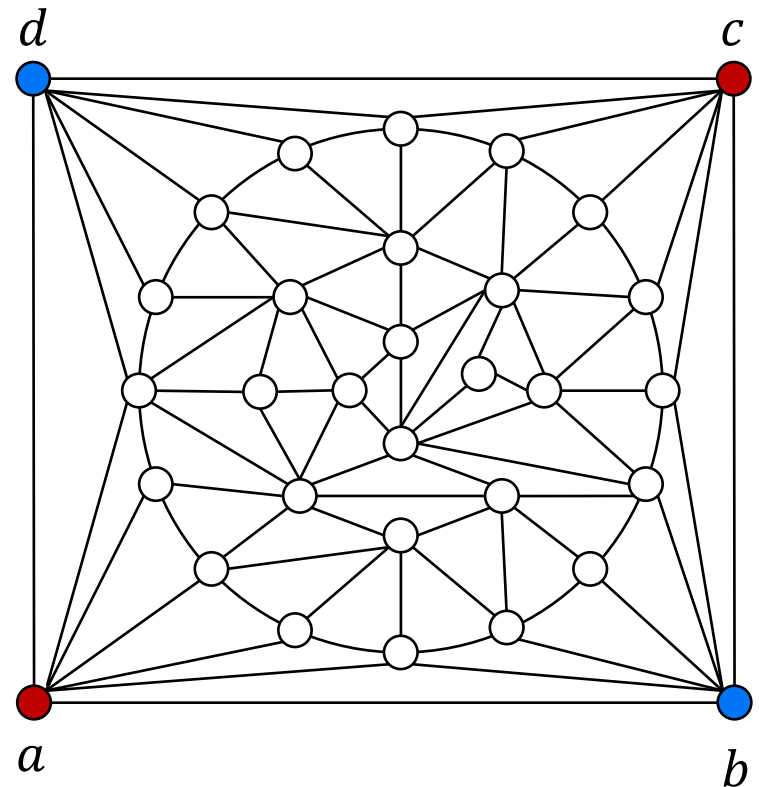
The sequence begins with 1 and ends with 2, so the number of alternations must be odd.

Hence  $v$  has odd degree.

# No draws!

**Proposition:** On a board of the given type (the outer face is a square, all inner faces are triangles), a draw is impossible.

**Proof:** Assume for contradiction that a draw occurred.



# No draws!

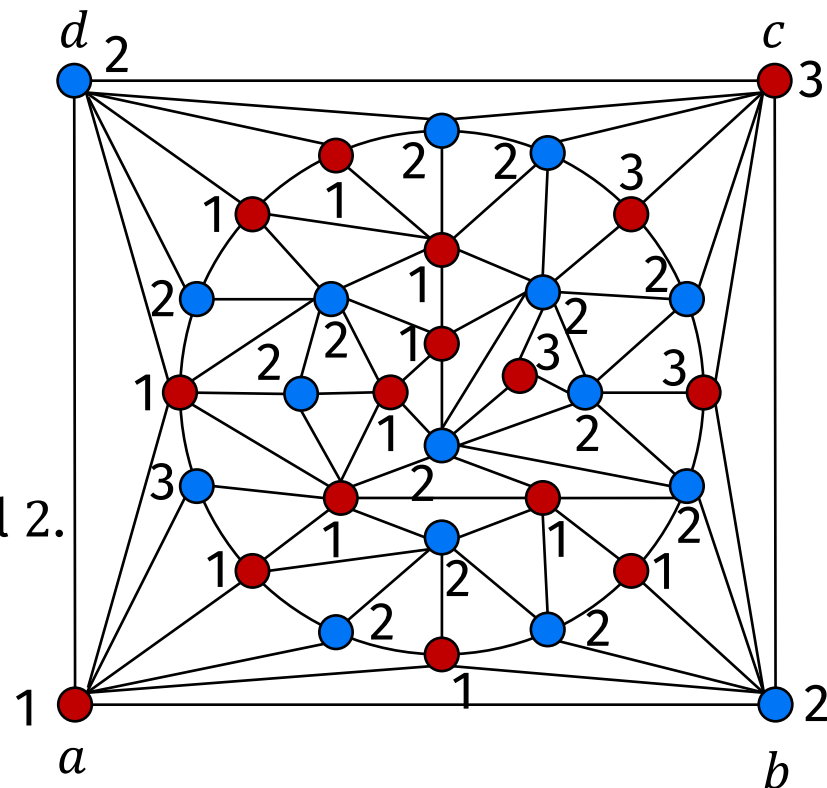
**Proposition:** On a board of the given type (the outer face is a square, all inner faces are triangles), a draw is impossible.

**Proof:** Assume for contradiction that a draw occurred.

- $A$ : set of nodes marked by Alice (●)
- $B$ : set of nodes marked by Betty (●)

Assign labels 1,2,3 as follows:

- Node in  $A$  gets label 1 if it can be connected to  $a$  by a path with all vertices belonging to  $A$ .
- Similarly, nodes in  $B$  connected to  $b$  by a path entirely lying in  $B$  get label 2.
- Remaining nodes get label 3.

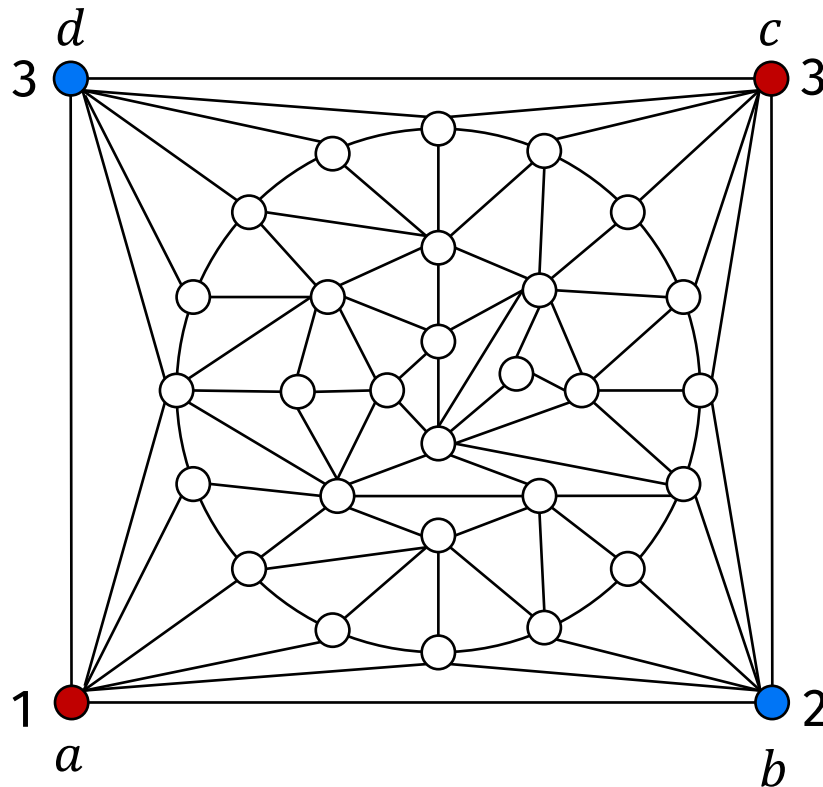


# No draws!

**Proposition:** On a board of the given type (the outer face is a square, all inner faces are triangles), a draw is impossible.

**Proof (continued):**

Assume for a contradiction that  $c, d$  receive label 3.



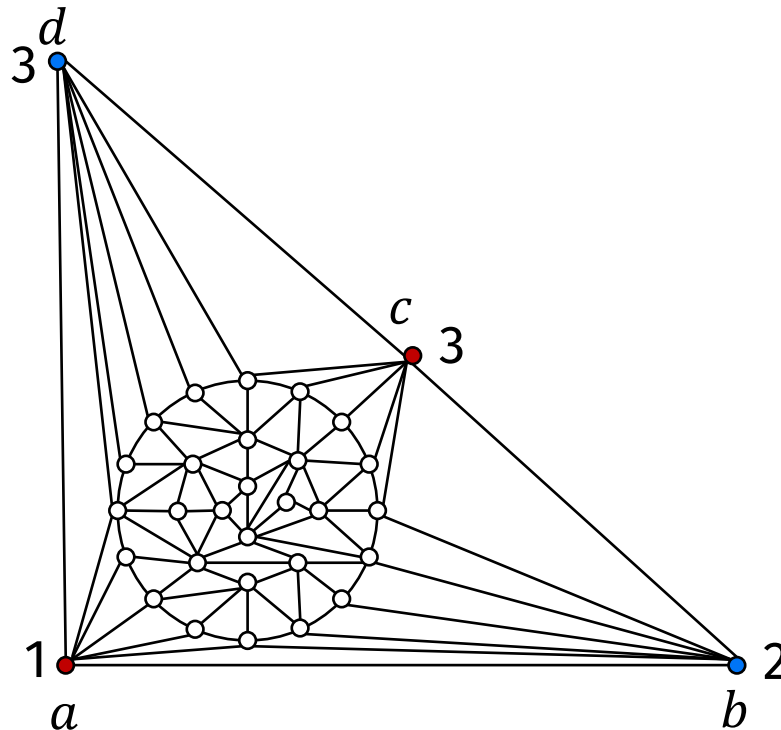


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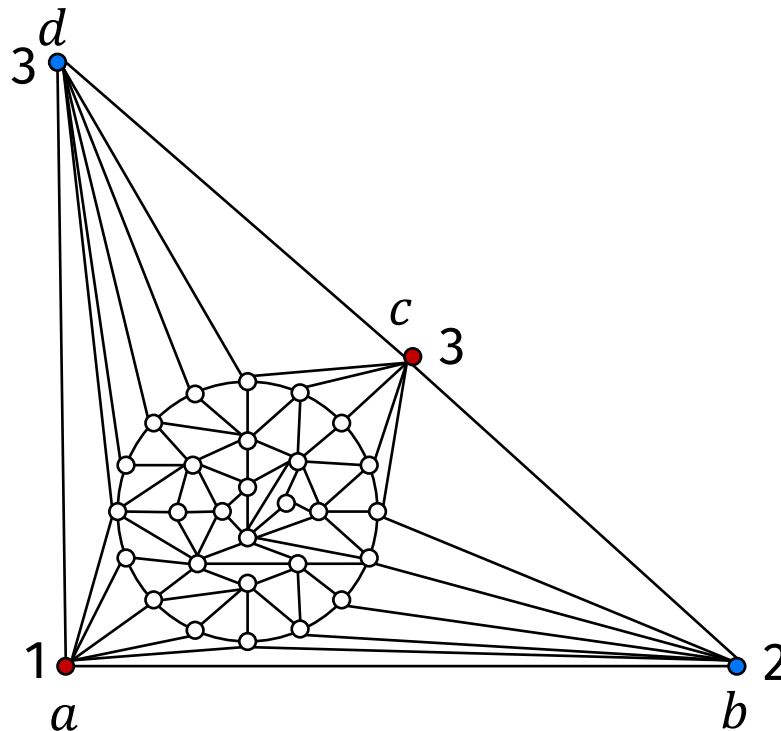
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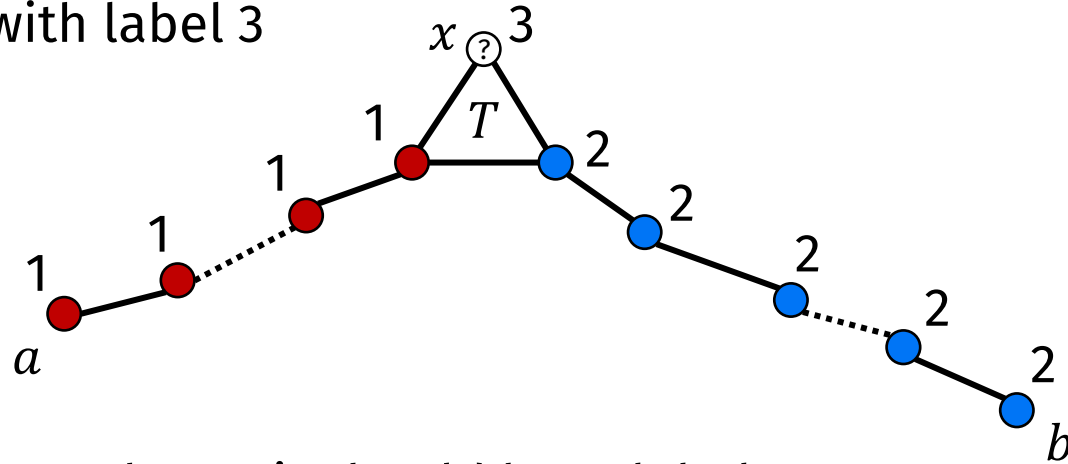
Assume for a contradiction that  $c, d$  receive label 3.

Sperner's Lemma  $\Rightarrow$  there is a triangle  $T$  with all three labels.



# Finishing the proof.

□  $x$ : node of  $T$  with label 3



- If  $x$  belongs to  $A$ , then  $x$  it should have label 1, so  $x \notin A$
- If  $x$  belongs to  $B$ , then  $x$  it should have label 2, so  $x \notin B$
- So  $x$  must be uncolored, but then the game has not ended.  
A contradiction, to our assumption that  $c, d$  have label 3.

# The real HEX



How does this relate to the game discussed above?  
→ see Practice!

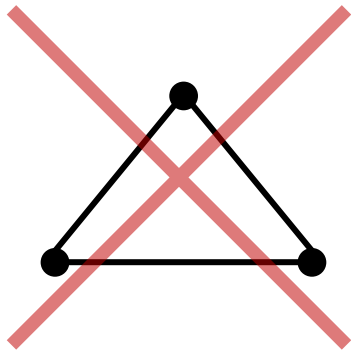
# Two Results in Extremal Graph Theory

# Extremal Graph Theory

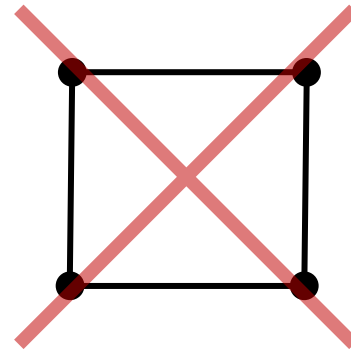
Extremal Graph Theory asks (and answers) questions of the following type:

How many edges can a graph have if it does not contain the following substructure?

Examples:



No (non-induced) subgraph isomorphic to  $K_3$ .



No (non-induced) subgraph isomorphic to  $K_{2,2}$ .

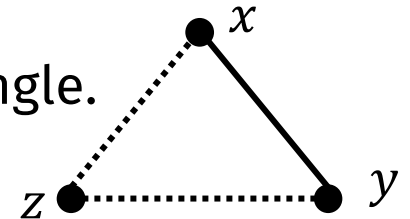
# Triangle-free graphs

**Proposition:** if  $G = (V, E)$  is a triangle-free graph with  $n$  vertices, then  $G$  has at most  $\frac{n^2}{4}$  edges.

**Proof:** We double count the degrees on the endpoints of edges.

□ For each edge  $\{x, y\}$  it is  $\deg(x) + \deg(y) \leq n$ .

Otherwise: find  $z$  adjacent to both  $x, y$  giving a triangle.



$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2 = \sum_{\{x, y\} \in E} (\deg(x) + \deg(y)) \leq |E|n$$

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2 \cdot |E|$$

???

# One more ingredient

The Cauchy-Schwarz inequality:

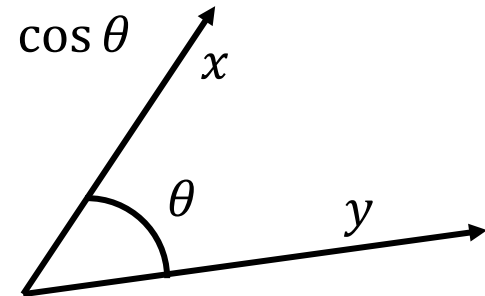
**Proposition:** For arbitrary real numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i \leq \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2}$$

No proof, but motivation:

scalar product of vectors  $x, y \leq$  product of lengths of  $x, y$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \cdot (y_1, \dots, y_n) = \|x\| \|y\| \cos \theta$$



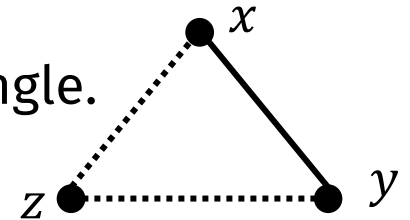


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$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2 = \sum_{\{x, y\} \in E} (\deg(x) + \deg(y)) \leq |E|n$$

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) \cdot 1 = 2 \cdot |E|$$

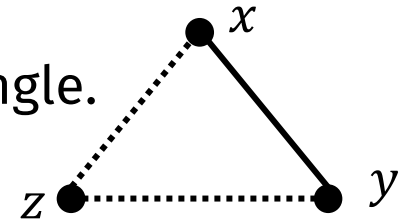
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Otherwise: find  $z$  adjacent to both  $x, y$  giving a triangle.



$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2 = \sum_{\{x, y\} \in E} (\deg(x) + \deg(y)) \leq |E|n$$

Cauchy-Schwarz:

$$\sqrt{\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{v \in V} 1^2} \geq \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) \cdot 1 = 2 \cdot |E|$$
$$\Rightarrow \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2 \cdot n \geq 4 |E|^2$$

# Triangle-free graphs

**Proposition:** if  $G = (V, E)$  is a triangle-free graph with  $n$  vertices, then  $G$  has at most  $\frac{n^2}{4}$  edges.

Proof (continued):

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2 \leq n \cdot |E|$$

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2 \cdot n \geq 4 |E|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 |E|^2 \leq \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)^2 \cdot n \leq n^2 |E| \Leftrightarrow |E| \leq \frac{n^2}{4}$$

# Four-cycle-free graphs

**Proposition:** if  $G = (V, E)$  is an  $n$ -vertex graph without  $K_{2,2}$  as a (non-induced) subgraph, then  $G$  has at most  $\frac{1}{2}(n^{3/2} + n)$  edges.

**Proof (sketch):** We double count the set  $M$  of pairs  $(\{u, u'\}, v)$ , where  $v \in V$  and  $\{u, u'\} \in \binom{V}{2}$  and  $v$  has an edge to both  $u$  and  $u'$ .

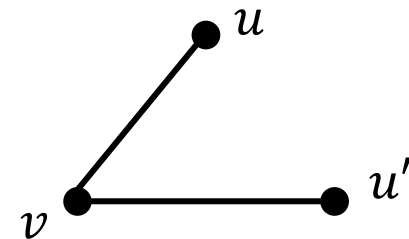
- For a fixed pair  $\{u, u'\}$  at most one vertex  $v$  may be joined to both: otherwise we get  $K_{2,2}$ .

$$\Rightarrow |M| \leq \binom{n}{2}$$

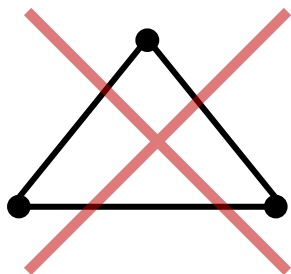
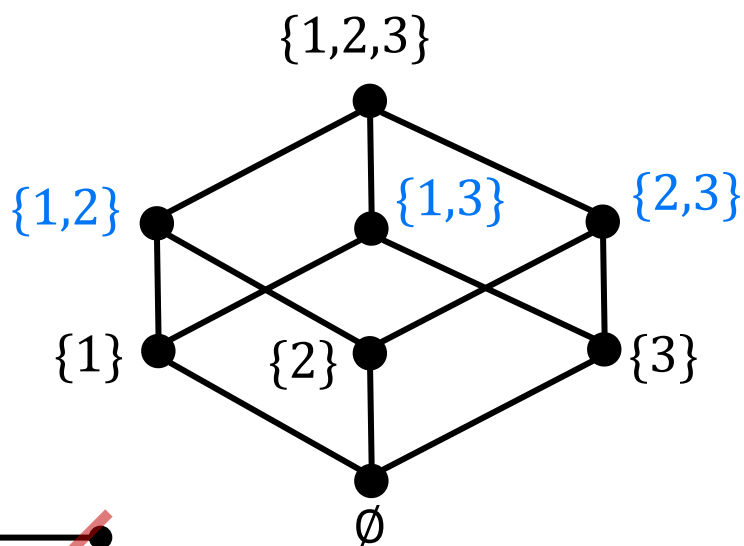
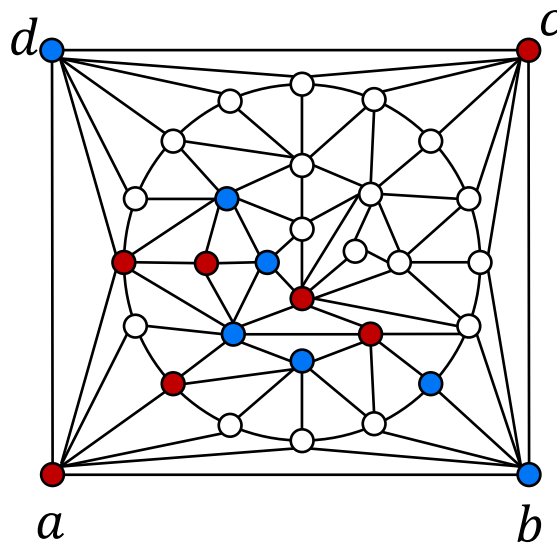
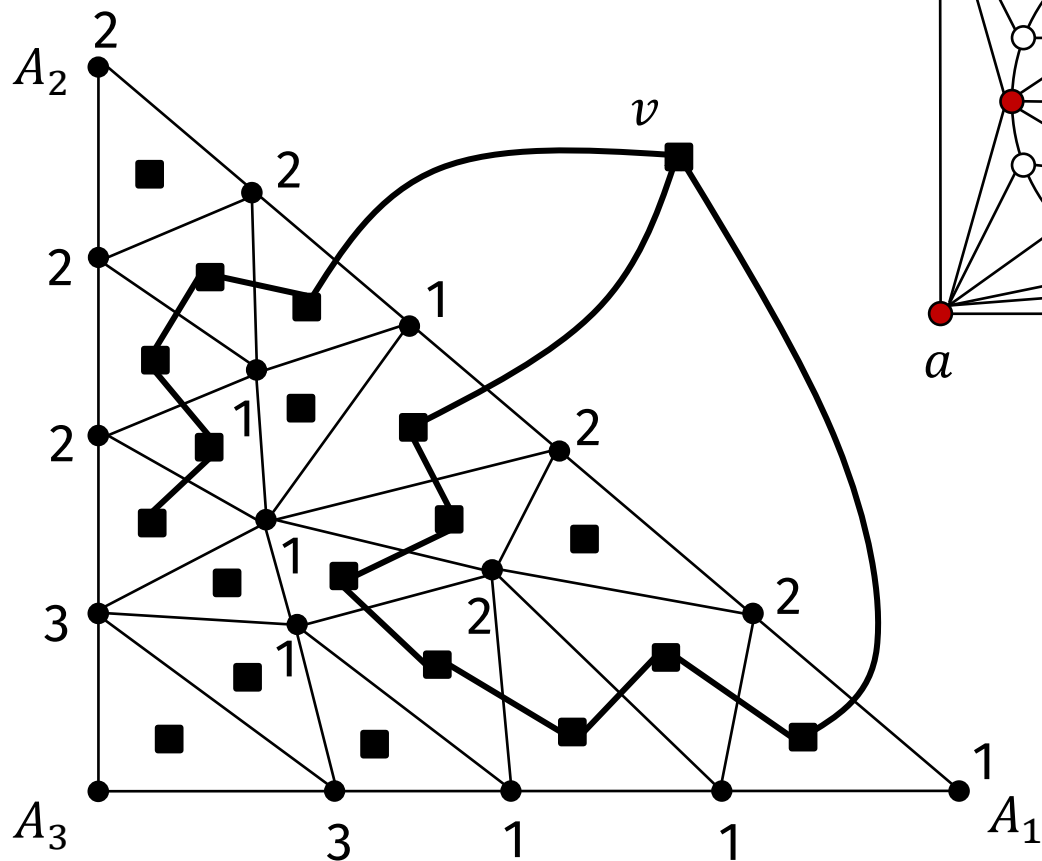
- A fixed vertex  $v$  contributes exactly  $\binom{\deg(v)}{2}$  pairs.

$$\begin{aligned} |M| &= \sum_{v \in V} \binom{\deg(v)}{2} \\ \Rightarrow \sum_{v \in V} \binom{\deg(v)}{2} &\leq \binom{n}{2} \end{aligned}$$

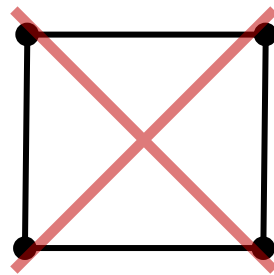
Then result follows from Cauchy-Schwarz (see book).



# Summary



$$\Rightarrow \leq \frac{1}{4}n^2 \text{ edges}$$



$$\Rightarrow \leq \frac{1}{2}(n^{\frac{3}{2}} + n) \text{ edges}$$

# Organizational

- ❑ Exam prep lecture
  - Short summary of course topics
  - What to expect for the exam
  - Questions
- ❑ Discussion group
  - Practice exams will be available soon

## Timeline

- ❑ Test on Monday 15th
- ❑ graded before Friday 19<sup>th</sup>
- ❑ discussions until Sunday night
- ❑ final grades on Monday
- ❑ Will be deregistered from exam if you did not make the 5.5 threshold after that