

The complexity of homomorphisms of signed graphs

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joint work with Reza Naserasr
(CR CNRS at LRI, Orsay)

GT Graphes + Séminaire CPU-WP6

LaBRI, March 2013

Graph homomorphisms

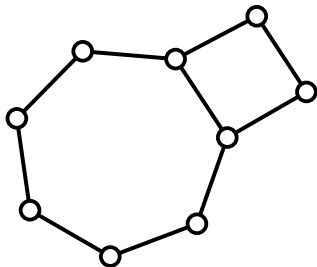
Definition - Graph homomorphism from G to H

Mapping from $V(G)$ to $V(H)$ which **preserves adjacency**.
If it exists, we note $G \rightarrow H$.

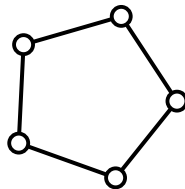
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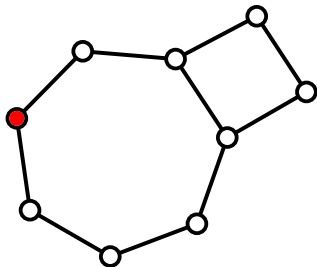
Target graph: $H = C_5$



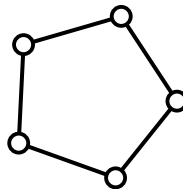
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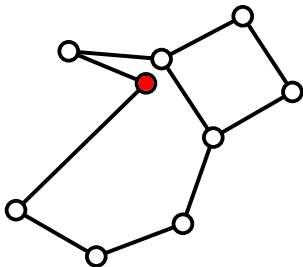
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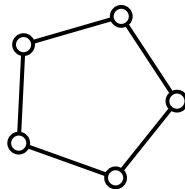
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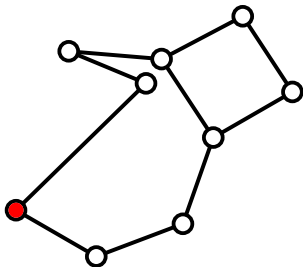
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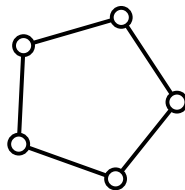
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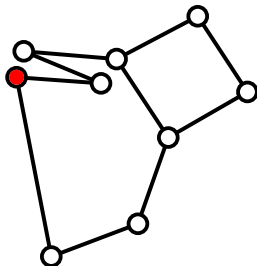
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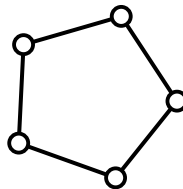
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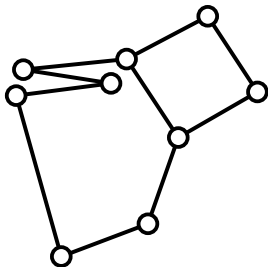
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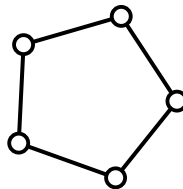
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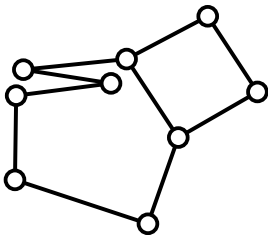
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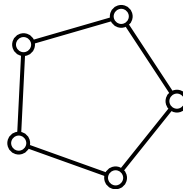
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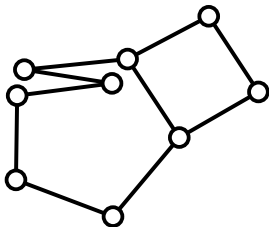
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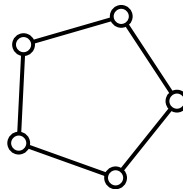
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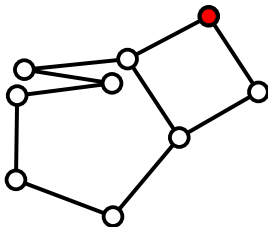
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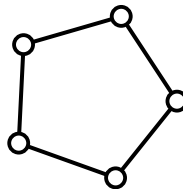
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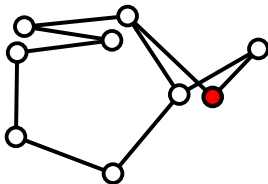
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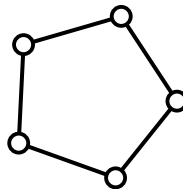
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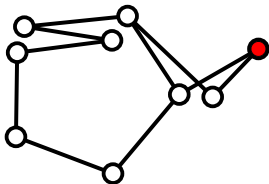
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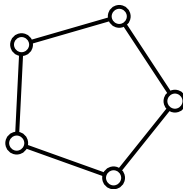
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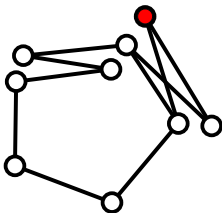
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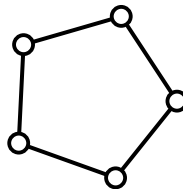
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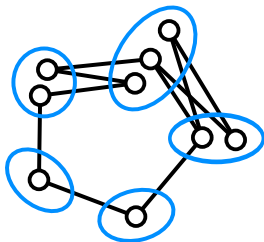
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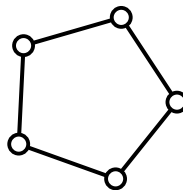
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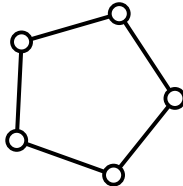
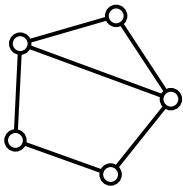


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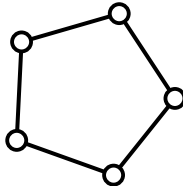
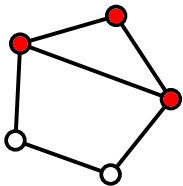


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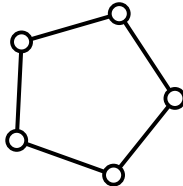
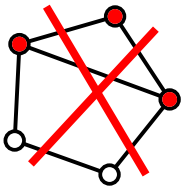


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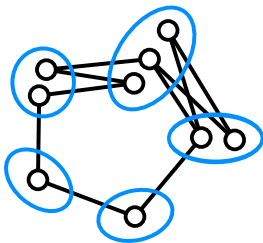
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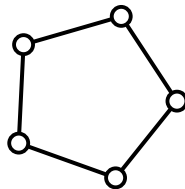
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Equivalently: Sequence of **identifying non-adjacent vertices** of G to create subgraph of H .

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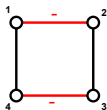
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Remark: Homomorphisms generalize proper colourings

$$G \rightarrow K_k \iff \chi(G) \leq k$$

Signed graphs: definitions

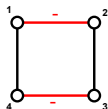
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 Σ : set of $-$ edges.



$$\Sigma = \{12, 34\}$$

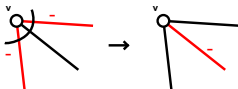
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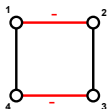
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Re-signing operation at v : switch sign of each edge incident to v



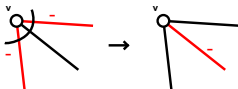
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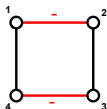
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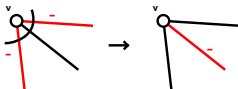
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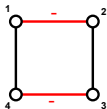


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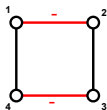


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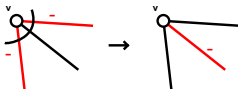
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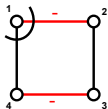


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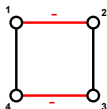


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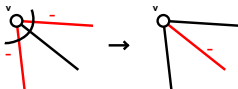
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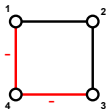
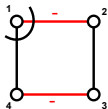


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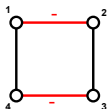


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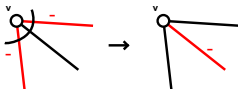
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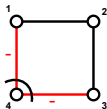
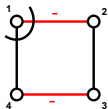


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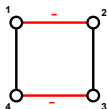


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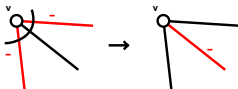
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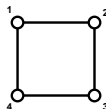
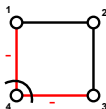
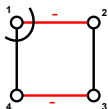


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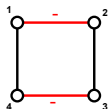


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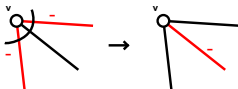
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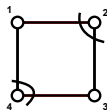
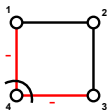
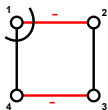


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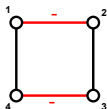


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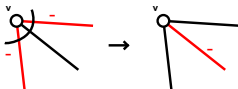
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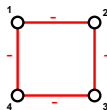
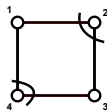
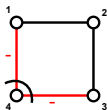
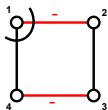


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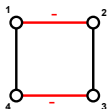


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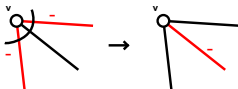
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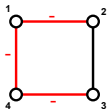


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Re-signing operation at v : switch sign of each edge incident to v

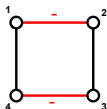


Signatures Σ, Σ' are **equivalent** if one can be obtained from the other with **re-signings**



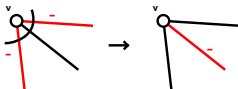
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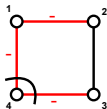


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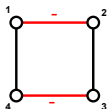


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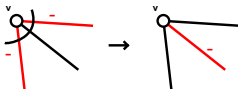
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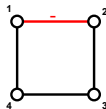
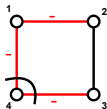


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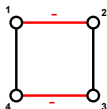


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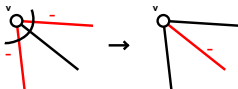
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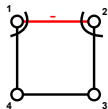
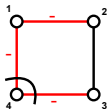


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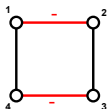


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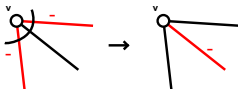
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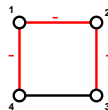
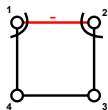
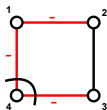


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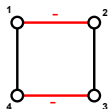


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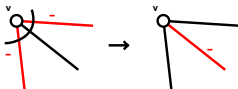
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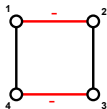
Signed graph: Graph G with an equivalence class \mathcal{C} of signatures.

Notation: (G, Σ) with any $\Sigma \in \mathcal{C}$.

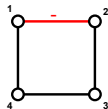
Signed graphs: (un)balanced cycles

Definition - Unbalanced cycle

Cycle with an odd number of negative edges.



balanced C_4

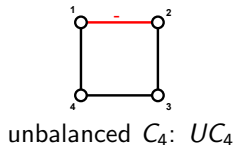
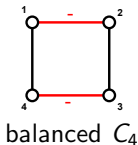


unbalanced C_4 : UC_4

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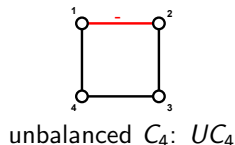
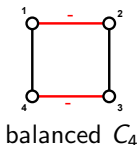
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Re-signing always preserves the balance of a cycle.

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Theorem (Zaslavsky)

Two signatures are equivalent if and only if they induce the same set of unbalanced cycles.

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Introduced by Harary (1953): notion of **balanced** signed graphs (each cycle is balanced)

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Graph theory - minors and colourings: extension of Hadwiger's conjecture

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Conjecture (Hadwiger, 1943)

If G has no K_k as a minor, $\chi(G) \leq k - 1$.

minor: deletions + edge contractions

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- proof for $k = 5$: Wagner, 1937 with Appel and Haken, 4CT, 1976
- $\chi(G) = O(k\sqrt{\log k})$ (Kostochka, 1984; Thomason, 1984)
- proof for $k = 6$: Robertson, Seymour and Thomas, 1993

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- $k = 3$: $(K_3, E(K_3))$ -minor-free graphs $(G, E(G))$ are exactly those where G is bipartite (to compare with K_3 -minor free graphs)
- proof for $k = 4$: Catlin, 1979

Signed graph homomorphisms

Definition - Signed graph homomorphism from (G, Σ_G) to (H, Σ_H)

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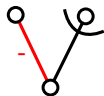


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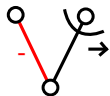


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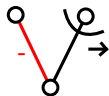


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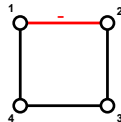
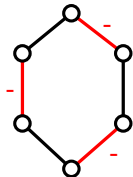
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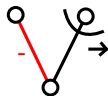


Target:
 UC_4

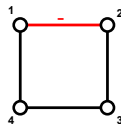
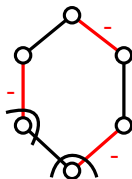
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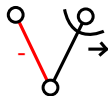


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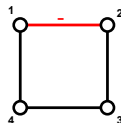
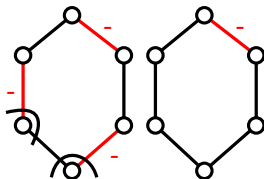
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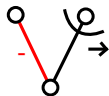


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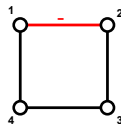
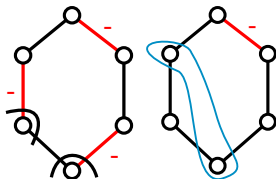
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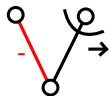


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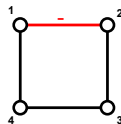
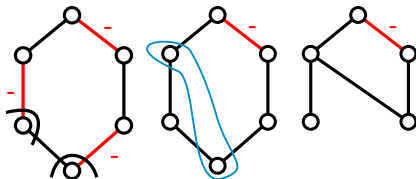
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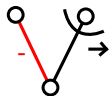


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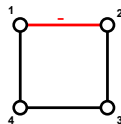
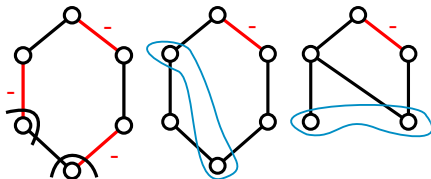
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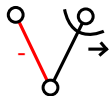


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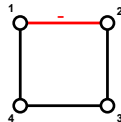
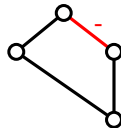
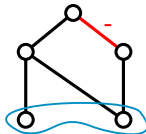
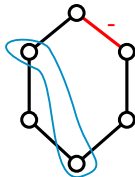
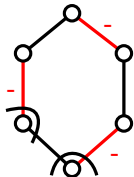
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Remarks, concepts, known results (1)

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$\chi(G, \Sigma)$: smallest integer k s.t. $(G, \Sigma) \rightarrow (H, \Sigma_H)$ with $|V(H)| = k$

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Remark

$$G \rightarrow H \Leftrightarrow (G, \emptyset) \rightarrow (H, \emptyset) \Leftrightarrow (G, E(G)) \rightarrow (H, E(H)).$$

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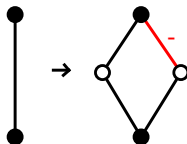
(G, Σ) is an **S-clique** if $\chi(G, \Sigma) = |V(G)|$

Theorem (Naserasr, Rollova and Sopena, 2012+)

(G, Σ) is an S-clique \Leftrightarrow between each pair of vertices, there is an edge or an UC_4 .

Remarks, concepts, known results (2)

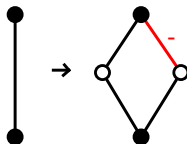
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→ gives a very special bipartite signed graph

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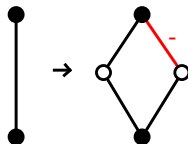
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$$G \rightarrow K_k \Leftrightarrow S(G) \rightarrow (K_{k,k}, M) \text{ with } M \text{ a perfect matching.}$$

Complexity: classical homomorphisms

Definition - H -COLOURING

INSTANCE: A graph G .

QUESTION: does $G \rightarrow H$?

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Theorem (MacGillivray, Siggers, 2009 + Hell, Naserasr, Tardiff)

C_{2k+1} -COLOURING is NP-complete for every $k \geq 1$, even when the input graph is planar.

Complexity: questions for signed graphs

Definition - (H, Σ_H) -COLOURING

INSTANCE: A signed graph (G, Σ) .

QUESTION: does $(G, \Sigma) \rightarrow (H, \Sigma_H)$?

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Remark

If $(H, \Sigma_H) = (H, \emptyset)$ or $(H, \Sigma_H) = (H, E(H))$, same complexity as H -COLOURING.

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What can we say about the complexity of (H, Σ_H) -COLOURING?
First interesting cases: S-cliques, bipartite unbalanced cycles,...

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First interesting cases: S-cliques, bipartite unbalanced cycles,...

Question

True that (H, Σ_H) -COLOURING is NP-complete unless $\chi(H, \Sigma_H) \leq 2$?

Reduction from NAE-3SAT

Definition - UC_{2k} -COLOURING

INSTANCE: A (bipartite) signed graph (G, Σ) .

QUESTION: does $(G, \Sigma) \rightarrow UC_{2k}$?

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Theorem (F., Naserasr, 2012+)

UC_{2k} -COLOURING is NP-complete for every $k \geq 2$.

Definition - MONOTONE NOT-ALL-EQUAL-3SAT

INSTANCE: A set of clauses of 3 Boolean variables from set X .

QUESTION: Is there a truth assignment $X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ s.t. each clause has variables with different values?

Theorem (Schaefer, 1978; Moret, 1998)

MONOTONE NOT-ALL-EQUAL-3SAT is NP-complete.

Polynomial-time reduction: principle

Polynomial-time reduction from SAT to H -Colouring

Procedure to build for each SAT-formula F a graph $G(F)$ s.t.

- it takes time polynomial in $|F|$
- F is satisfiable $\Leftrightarrow G(F) \rightarrow H$

Polynomial-time reduction: principle

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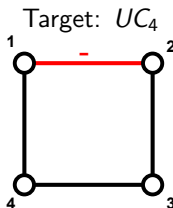
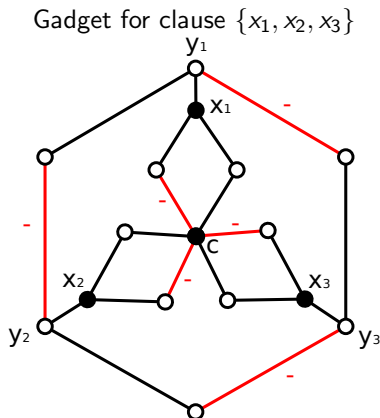
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Consequence

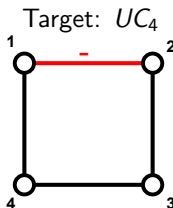
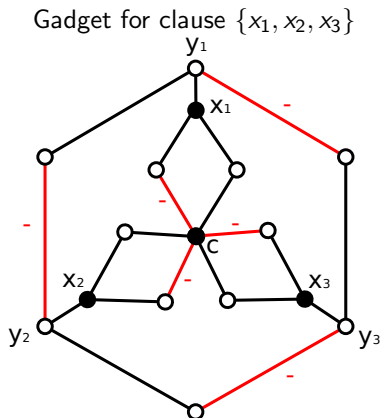
If H -COLOURING is solvable in polynomial time:

1. given F , construct $G(F)$
2. solve H -COLOURING in time $\text{poly}(|G(F)|) = \text{poly}(|F|)$
3. Hence SAT is solvable in polynomial time: **Contradiction**

NAE-3SAT \leq_R UC₄-COLOURING: clause gadget

Construction of $G(F)$: one clause gadget per clause of F .
All vertices with same labels (c or x_i) identified with each other.

NAE-3SAT \leq_R UC_4 -COLOURING: clause gadget

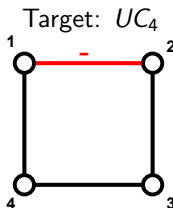
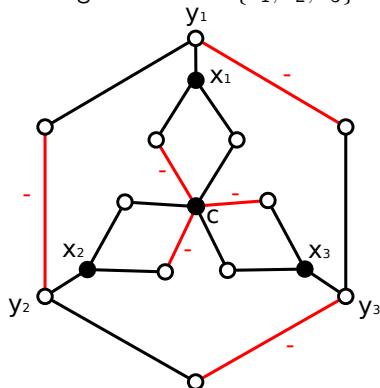


We want: Formula NAE-satisfied $\Leftrightarrow G(F)$ maps.

Main idea: In a mapping, re-signing at $x_i \Leftrightarrow x_i = \text{TRUE}$

NAE-3SAT \leq_R UC_4 -COLOURING: clause gadget

Gadget for clause $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$

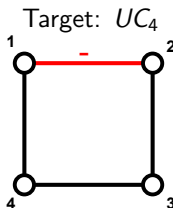
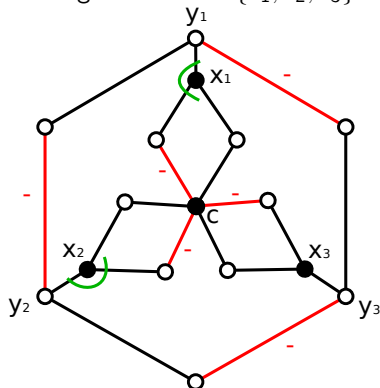


1. (\Rightarrow) Consider a NAE-truth assignment.

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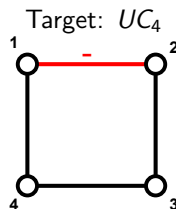
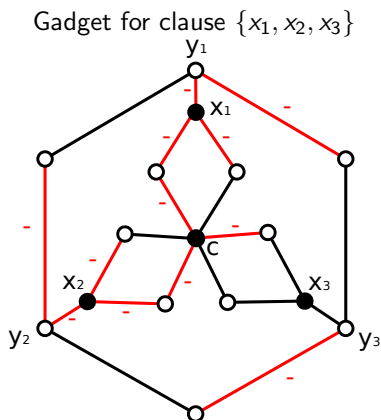


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Example: x_1, x_2 TRUE; x_3 FALSE.

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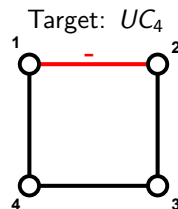
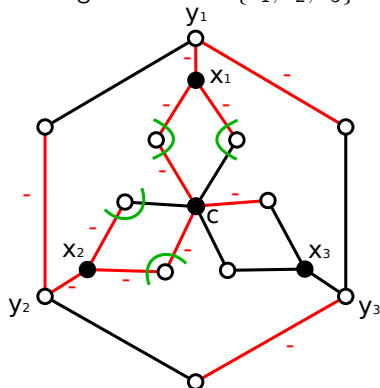
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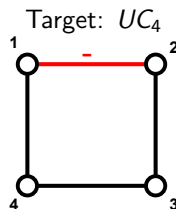
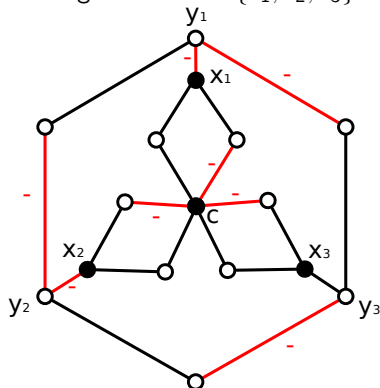
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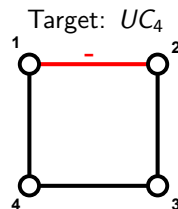
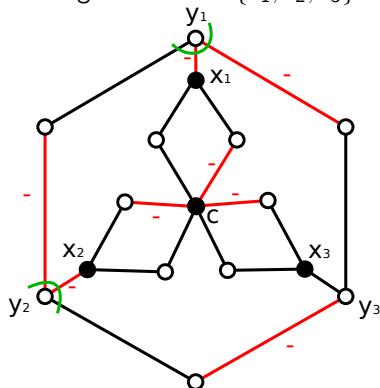
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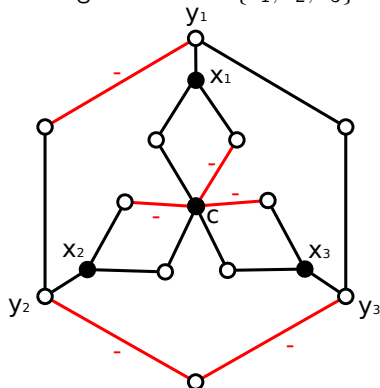
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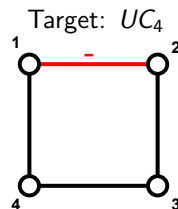
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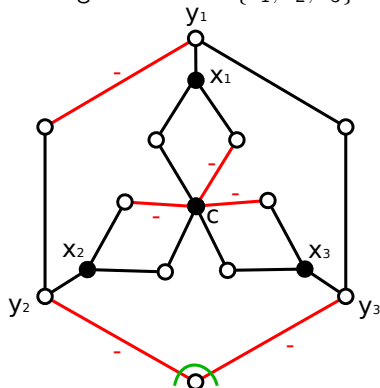


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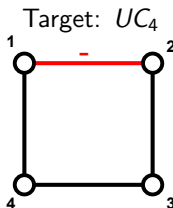
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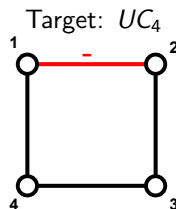
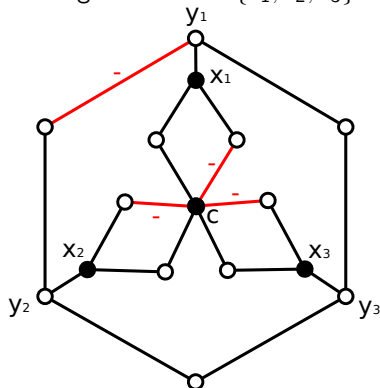


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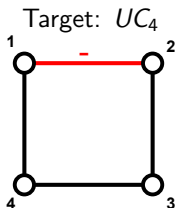
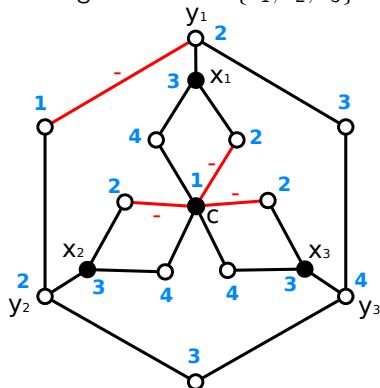
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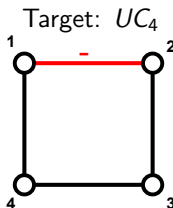
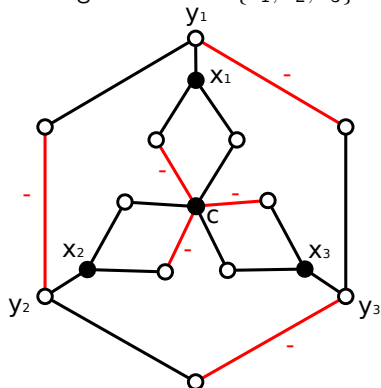
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Remark: all x_i 's must map to 4

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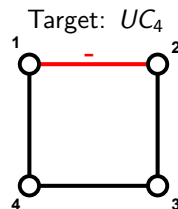
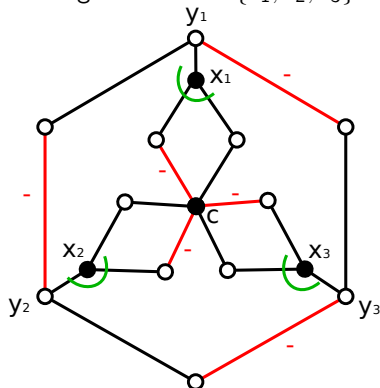


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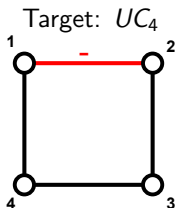
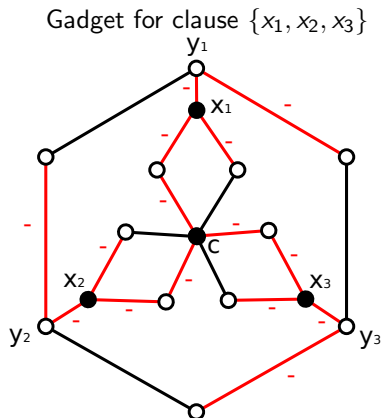


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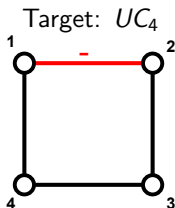
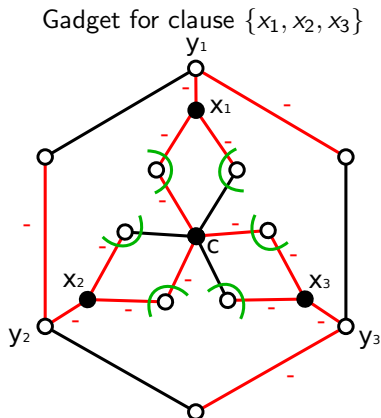


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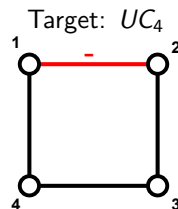
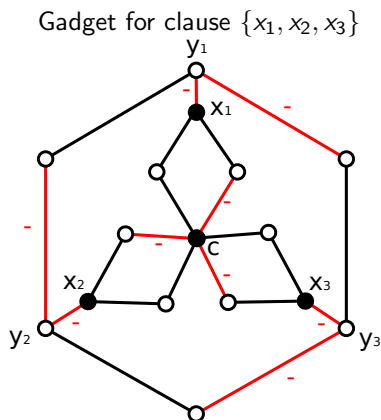


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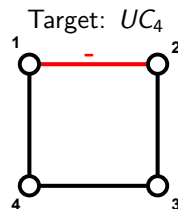
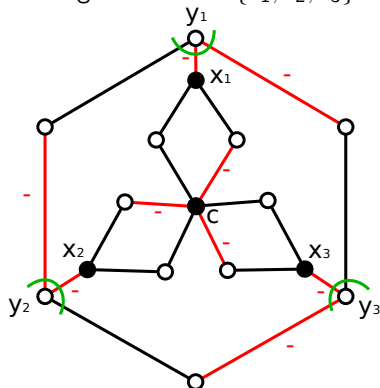
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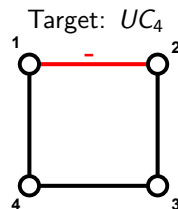
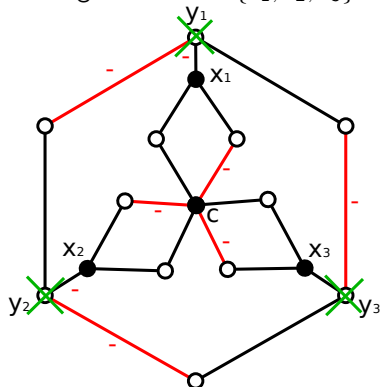
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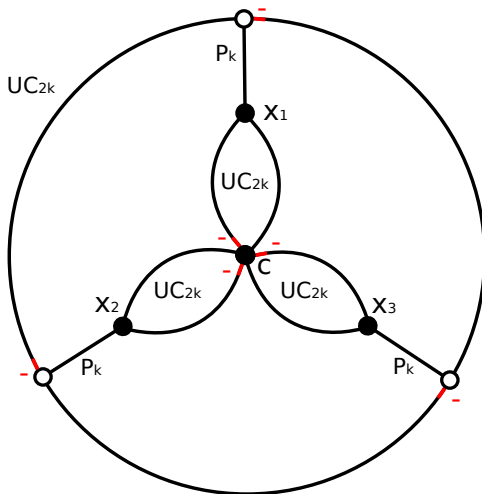
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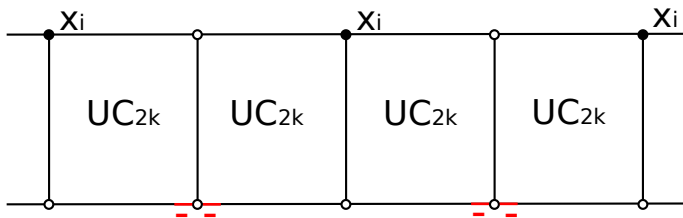
Mapping is impossible!

NAE-3SAT \leq_R UC_{2k} -COLOURING: clause gadget



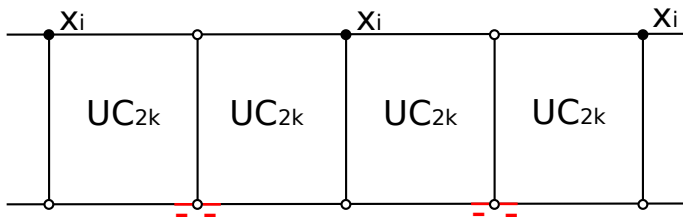
(where P_k has length $k - 1$)

Bounding the maximum degree



One replicating gadget for each x_i and for c .

Bounding the maximum degree



One replicating gadget for each x_i and for c .

Corollary

UC_{2k} -COLOURING is NP-complete even for graphs of max. degree 6.

What about planar graphs?

Remark

NAE-3SAT is polynomial-time solvable when the bipartite incidence graph of the formula is planar (Moret, 1988).

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Question

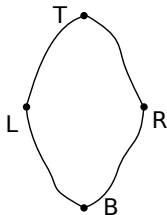
Is UC_{2k} -COLOURING NP-complete for planar graphs?

Planar instances: crossover gadgets

Definition - Crossover gadget for H

Planar (signed) graph C_H with vertices L, T, R, B on outer face and:

- $C_H \rightarrow H$
- in each mapping f to H , $f(L) = f(R)$ and $f(T) = f(B)$
- for any pair $x, y \in V(H)$ (possibly $x = y$), there is a mapping f with $f(L) = x$ and $f(T) = y$

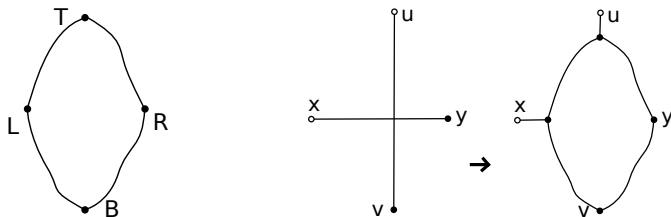


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Proposition

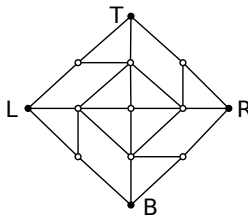
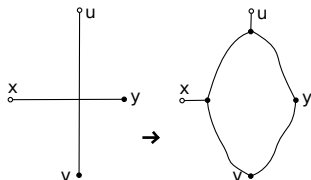
If H has a crossover gadget, then $H\text{-COLOURING} \leq_R H\text{-COLOURING}$ for planar instances

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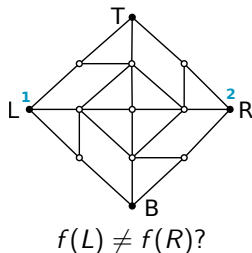
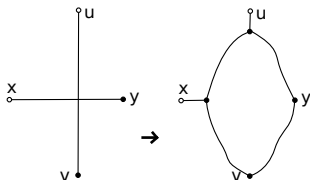
Example: crossover for K_3
(Garey and Johnson, 1979)

Planar instances: crossover gadgets

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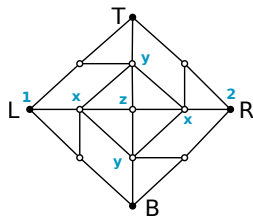
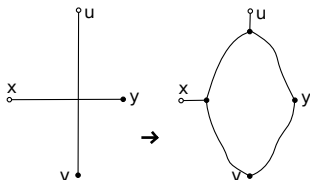
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Planar instances: crossover gadgets

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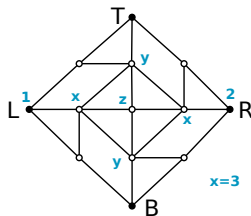
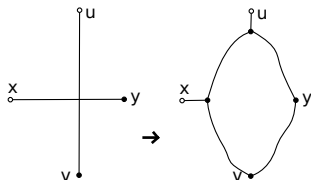
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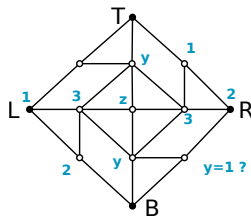
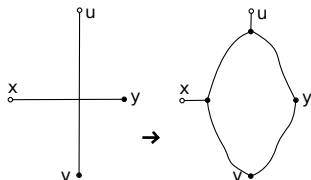
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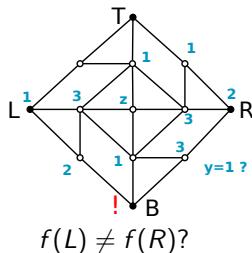
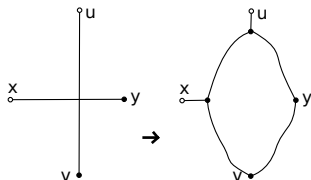
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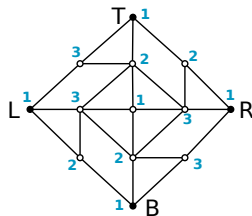
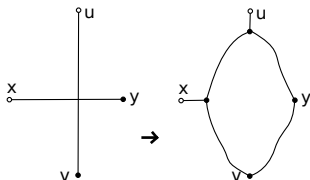
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$$f(L) = f(T) = 1$$

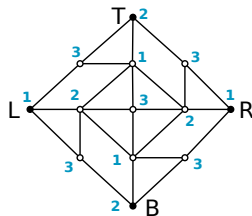
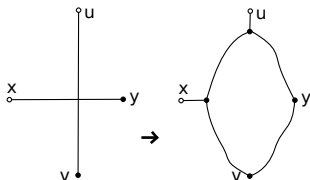
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$$f(L) = 1, f(T) = 2$$

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There is a crossover gadget for any odd cycle C_{2k+1} .

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Remark

For many H , it is open whether H -COLOURING is NP-hard for planar instances.

Crossover gadget for UC_{2k}

Theorem (F., Naserasr, 2012+)

For every $k \geq 2$, UC_{2k} has a crossover gadget (of bounded max. degree). Hence, UC_{2k} -COLOURING is NP-complete even for planar graphs (of bounded max. degree).

Crossover gadget for UC_4

Definition - Crossover gadget for **bipartite** H

Planar (signed) graph C_H with vertices L, T, R, B on outer face and:

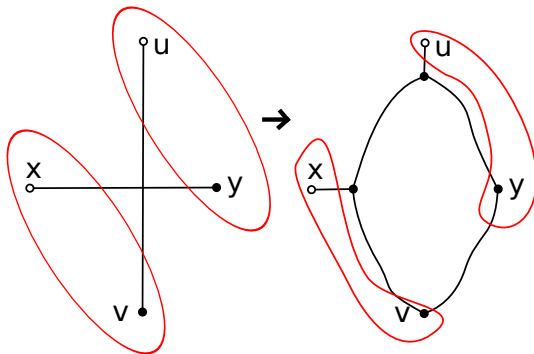
- $C_H \rightarrow H$
- in each mapping f to H , $f(L) = f(R)$ and $f(T) = f(B)$
- for any pair $x, y \in V(H)$ **in different parts**, there is a mapping f with $f(L) = x$ and $f(T) = y$.

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Definition - Crossover gadget for bipartite H

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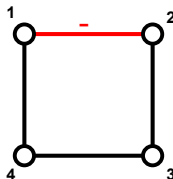
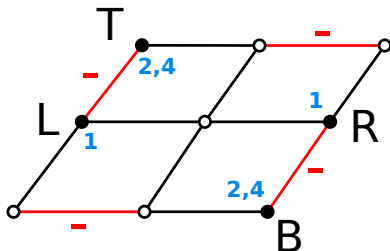
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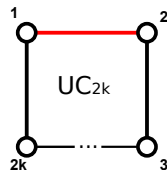
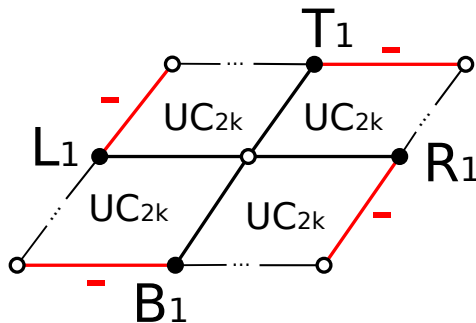
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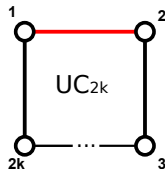
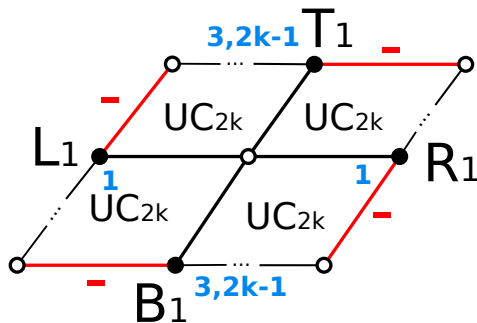
Crossover gadget for UC_{2k}

Crossover gadget for UC_{2k} : step 1



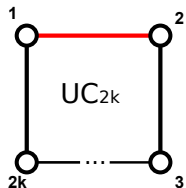
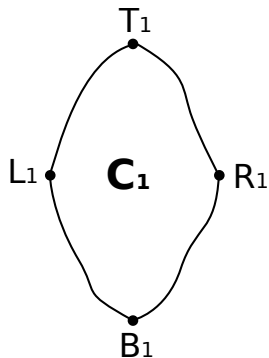
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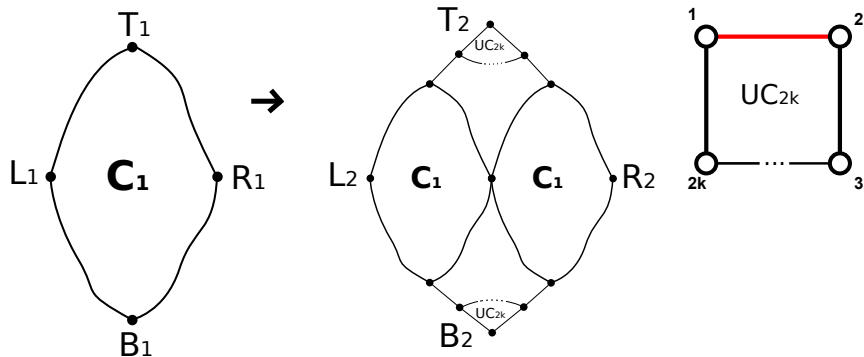
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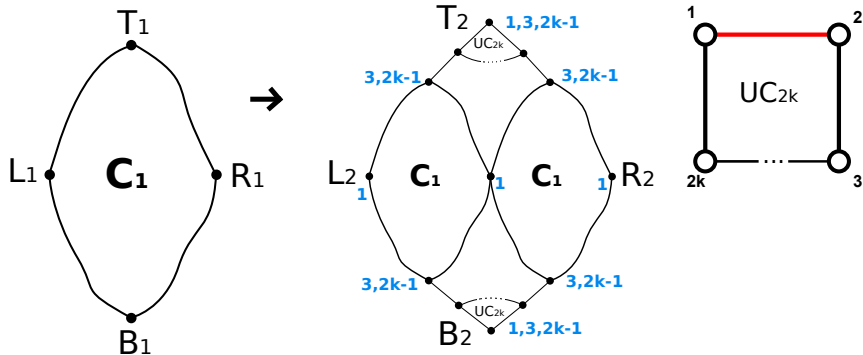
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Crossover gadget for UC_{2k} : step 2



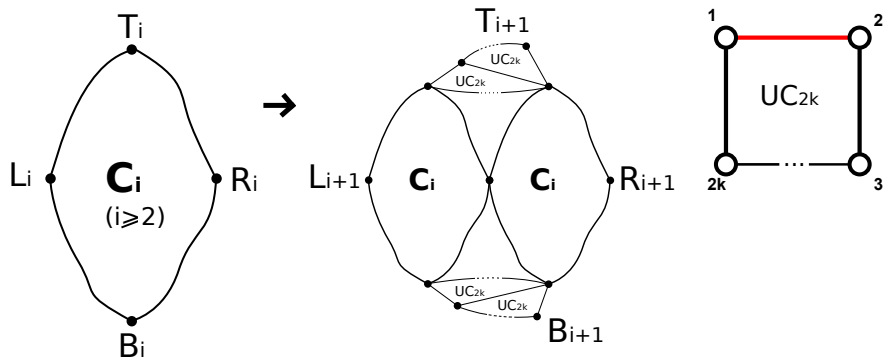
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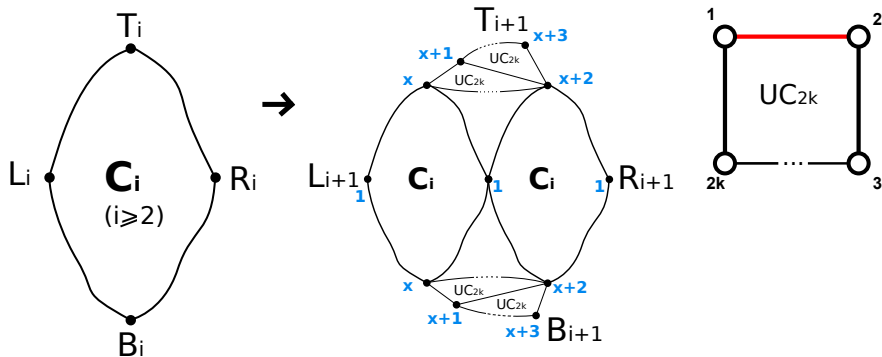
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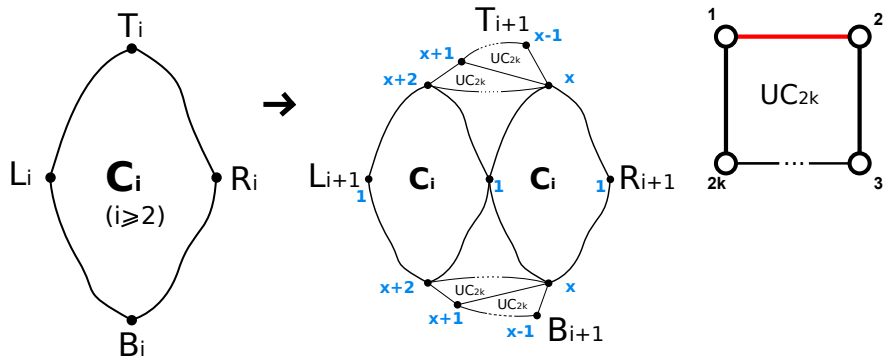
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At step $i = 2j$:

$$f(T_i) \in S_{2i} = \{2\ell + 1 \mid 0 \leq \ell \leq i\} \cup \{2k - (2\ell + 1) \mid 0 \leq \ell \leq i\}$$

At step $i + 1 = 2j + 1$: $f(T_{i+1}) \in S_{2i} \pm 1$

Planar graphs of large unbalanced girth

Conjecture (Jaeger, 1988 - Stockmeyer, Zhang, 2000)

If G is a planar graph with odd-girth at least $4k + 1$, then $G \rightarrow C_{2k+1}$.

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Theorem (F., Naserasr, 2012+)

Either every planar bipartite signed graph with unbalanced-girth at least 6 maps to UC_4 , or UC_4 -COLOURING is NP-complete for planar graphs with unbalanced-girth at least 6.

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Proof: inspired by Esperet, Montassier, Ochem, Pinlou, 2013.

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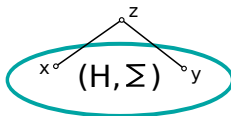


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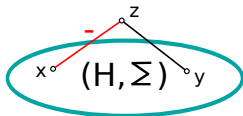


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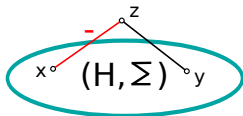


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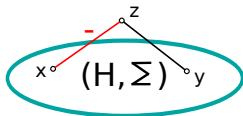


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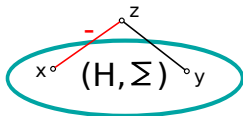
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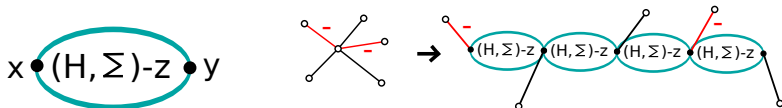


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6. UC_4 -COLOURING $\leq_R UC_4$ -COLOURING:



- Prove dichotomy for (H, Σ_H) -COLOURING. $\rightarrow H$ bipartite
- Extension of Feder-Vardi's dichotomy conjecture to signed CSPs via signed digraphs?