

Q: Is it possible to design the streets without crossing?

## I. Planar Graphs

**Def** A graph is called planar if it can be drawn in the plane without any edges crossing. Such a drawing is called a planar representation of the graph.

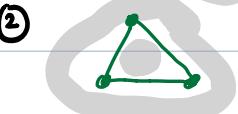
E.g. ①



$$v \quad e \quad f.$$

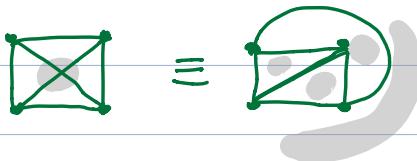
$$3 - 2 + 1 = 2$$

②



$$3 - 3 + 2 = 2$$

③



$$4 - 6 + 4 = 2$$

**Thm.** (Euler's Formula)  $G$  is a connected planar graph.

Let  $v = \# \text{ vertices}$ ,  $e = \# \text{ edges}$ ,

$f = \# \text{ faces in a planar representation of } G$ .

Then  $v - e + f = 2$ .

Pf: We'll do induction on  $e$

Base case:  $e = 0$ . •  $1 - 0 + 1 = 2$ . ✓

Inductive Step: Consider  $G$  connected, has  $e$  edges.

• If  $G$  is tree, then  $v = e + 1$ ,  $f = 1$ .

Since  $(e+1) - e + 1 = 2$ , the formula holds.

- If  $G$  is not a tree, there's a cycle.



Take any cycle and remove an edge from it.

The resulting graph has  $v$  vertices,  $e-1$  edges, and  $f-1$  faces.

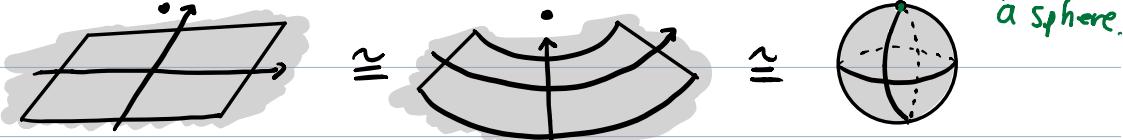
$$\text{By IH, } v - (e-1) + (f-1) = v - e + f = 2$$

□.

Rem.  $"(-1)^0 \cdot (\# 0\text{-dim things}) + (-1)^1 \cdot (\# 1\text{-dim things}) + (-1)^2 \cdot (\# 2\text{-dim things}) = 2"$

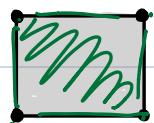
Does 2 feel unnatural?

It comes from the "shape" of  $\mathbb{R}^2 \cup \{\infty\}$



Similarly, different integers can be assigned to different surfaces.

For example, take a square,



$$v = 4, e = 4, f = 1 \Rightarrow v - e + f = 4 - 4 + 1 = 1. \quad \text{(:)}$$

Or take a "donut surface", torus.



$$v = 1, e = 2, f = 1 \Rightarrow v - e + f = 1 - 2 + 1 = 0 \quad \text{(:)}$$

And!! This notion generalizes to higher dimensional objects:

$$X = b_0 - b_1 + b_2 - b_3 + \dots$$

↑ Euler characteristic.

## 1.1 Sparsity

$$v - e + f = 2.$$

**Cor.** For a connected planar graph with  $v \geq 3$ , we have  $e \leq 3v - 6$ .

Pf: Define the degree of a face to be the # edges on the boundary of the face.

e.g.



$$\deg(F_1) = 3$$



$$\deg(F_2) = 5$$



$$\text{Then } \sum_{i=1}^f \deg(F_i) = 2e$$

Since  $\deg(F_i) \geq 3$  for any  $i$ ,  $2e \geq 3f$ .

$$\Rightarrow f \leq \frac{2}{3}e. \quad \textcircled{1}$$

By planarity,  $v - e + f = 2 \Rightarrow f = 2 + e - v$ .

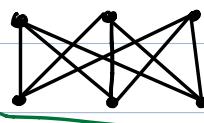
$$\stackrel{\textcircled{1}}{\Rightarrow} 2 + e - v \leq \frac{2}{3}e$$

$$\Rightarrow e \leq 3v - 6.$$

□.

Rem. This corollary says planar graph has "few" edges.

E.g. ① Is  $K_{3,3}$  planar?  $\text{planar} \Rightarrow e \leq 3v - 6$ .

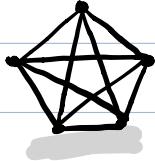


$$e = 9. \quad 3v - 6 = 3 \times 6 - 6 = 12.$$

$$e \leq 3v - 6.$$

We don't know...

② Is  $K_5$  planar?



$$e = 10. \quad 3v - 6 = 3 \times 5 - 6 = 9.$$
$$e \neq 3v - 6.$$

non planar!

**Cor** For a connected nonplanar bipartite graph with  $v \geq 3$ , we have  $e \leq 2v - 4$

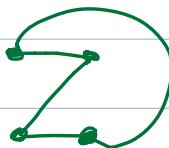
Pf: Similarly,  $\sum_{i=1}^f \deg(F_i) = 2e$ .

Now,  $\deg(F_i) \geq 4$  for all  $i$ .

$$\Rightarrow 2e \geq 4f = 4(2 + e - v) = 8 + 4e - 4v$$

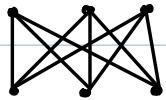
$$\Rightarrow 4v - 8 \geq 2e.$$

$$\Rightarrow e \leq 2v - 4.$$



□.

E.g. Is  $K_{3,3}$  nonplanar?



$$e = 9. \quad 2v - 4 = 2 \times 6 - 4 = 8.$$

$$e \neq 2v - 4.$$

$K_{3,3}$  is nonplanar!!

## 1.2 Kuratowski's Theorem

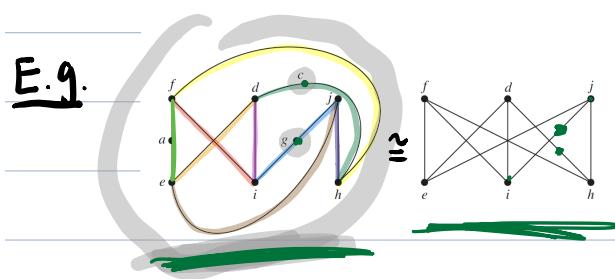
**Def** An operation on  $G$  by removing an edge  $\{u, v\}$  and adding a new vertex  $w$  together with edges  $\{u, w\}, \{v, w\}$  is an elementary subdivision.



**Rem.** If  $G$  is planar, after performing an elementary subdivision on  $G$ ,  $G$  remains planar.

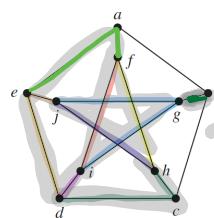
**Def**  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are homeomorphic if they can be obtained from the same graph by a sequence of elementary subdivisions.

E.g.



**Thm** A graph is nonplanar if and only if it contains a subgraph homeomorphic to  $K_{3,3}$  or  $K_5$ .

E.g.



The Peterson Graph is nonplanar.

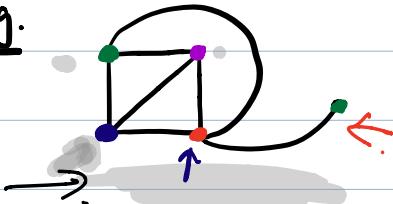
## 2. Graph Coloring

e.g. vertices: students  
edges: friends. coloring: breakout rooms.

**Def** A coloring of a graph  $G$  is the assignment of a color to each vertex such that no two adjacent vertices are assigned the same color.

The chromatic number  $\chi(G)$  is the least number of colors needed for a coloring of this graph.

E.g.



$$\chi(G) = 4.$$

**Prop.**

$G$  is a planar graph  $\Rightarrow \chi(G) \leq 6 \quad // \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)$ .

Pf: Since  $e \leq 3v - 6$ , total degree  $2e \leq 6v - 12$ .

$$\Rightarrow \text{average degree } \frac{6v - 12}{v} = 6 - \frac{12}{v} < 6.$$

$\Rightarrow \exists v \in V$  s.t.  $\deg(v) \leq 5$ .

We'll now do induction on  $|V|$ .

Base case:  $|V| = 1 \cdot \chi(G) = 1 \cdot \checkmark$ .

Inductive Step: Remove a vertex  $v$  with degree  $\leq 5$ .

By IH, the resulting subgraph  $G'$  has  $\chi(G') \leq 6$ .

Color  $G'$  using  $\leq 6$  colors  $\{C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5, C_6\}$ .

Now color  $v$ .

Since  $\deg(v) \leq 5$ , there's an available color among  $C_1, \dots, C_6$ .  $\square$ .

**Thm.** (5-color Theorem)  $G$  is a planar graph  $\Rightarrow \chi(G) \leq 5$ .

**Pf:** Again, we'll do induction on  $|V|$ .

Base case:  $|V|=1$ .  $\chi(G)=1$ .

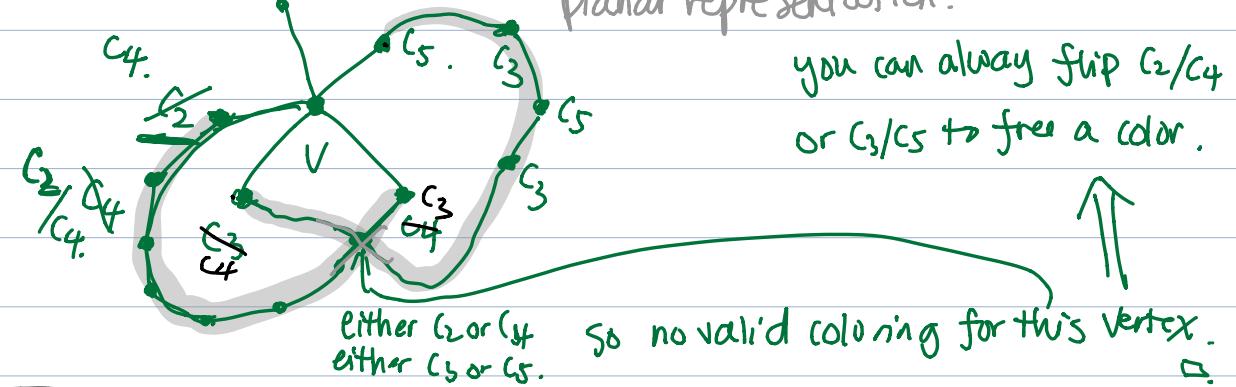
Inductive Step: Remove a vertex  $v$  with  $\deg v \leq 5$ .

By IH, color the resulting  $G'$  using  $\{c_1, \dots, c_5\}$ .

Now need to color  $v$ .

If neighbors of  $v$  don't use up all five colors, color  $v$  using a remaining color.

If neighbors of  $v$  use up  $\{c_1, \dots, c_5\}$ ,  
planar representation.

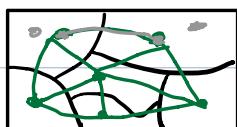


**Thm** (4-color Theorem)  $G$  is a planar graph  $\Rightarrow \chi(G) \leq 4$ .

Rem. 5-color theorem was proven in 1800s.

4-color theorem was proven in 1976.

Rem. 4 color theorem tells us 4 colors are enough to color maps.



map  $\longrightarrow$  graph.