

# Chapter 5: Planarity

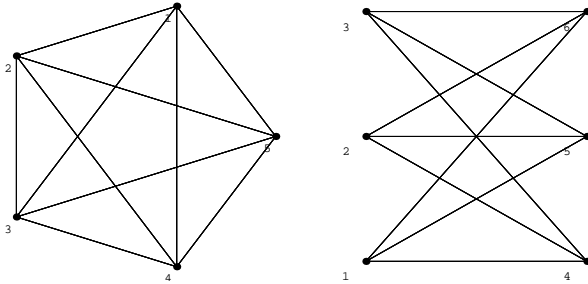
## 12 Planar Graphs

1. Definitions:

- **Planar graph** - a graph that can be drawn in the plane without crossings
- **Plane drawing** or **Plane graph** - a drawing of a graph for which two edges only intersect at a mutually incident vertex

2. Graphs of convex polytopes are planar.

3. **Theorem:**  $K_{3,3}$  and  $K_5$  are non-planar.



pf.  $K_{3,3}$

- $K_{3,3}$  has a 6-cycle  $1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 1$ . (Any plane drawing must have a hexagon.)
- The edge  $\{1, 5\}$  must lie inside or outside the hexagon. (Assume inside–outside similar)
- Since  $\{2, 6\}$  can't cross  $\{1, 5\}$ , it must lie outside.
- We can't draw  $\{3, 4\}$  as it would cross either  $\{2, 6\}$  or  $\{1, 5\}$ .

$K_5$

- $K_5$  has a 5-cycle  $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5$ . (Any plane drawing must have a pentagon.)
- Again, assume  $\{2, 5\}$  is inside, and  $\{1, 3\}$  and  $\{1, 4\}$  are outside. (Similar if switched)
- This implies that  $\{2, 4\}$  and  $\{3, 5\}$  must both lie inside (otherwise would cross  $\{1, 3\}$ ,  $\{1, 4\}$  respectively). **Contradiction!**

4. Two graphs are **homeomorphic** if both can be obtained from the same graph by inserting new vertices of degree 2 into its edges.

5. **Theorem** (Kuratowski, 1930): A graph is planar  $\Leftrightarrow$  it contains no subgraph homeomorphic to  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$ .

(Long proof.)

6. A graph  $H$  is **contractible** to  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  if we can obtain  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$  by successively contracting edges of  $H$ .

7. **Theorem:** A graph is planar  $\Leftrightarrow$  it contains no subgraph contractible to  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$ .  
(Sketch of proof in book.)

8. **Crossing number** ( $cr(G)$ ): minimum number of crossings that can occur in a plane drawing of  $G$ .

9. Example: (p. 64, pr. 12.6)

Prove that the Petersen graph is non-planar using each of the previous two theorems.

(Hint: For first theorem, remove the two 'horizontal' edges.)

## 14 Graphs on Other Surfaces

1. Definitions:

- **Torus:** doughnut or bagel; can be thought of as a sphere with one handle
- A surface has **genus**  $g$  if it is topologically homeomorphic to a sphere with  $g$  handles
- A graph that can be drawn without crossings on a surface of genus  $g$  but not on a surface of genus  $g - 1$  is a **graph of genus**  $g$ .

2. **Theorem:** (Proof in book.)

The genus of a graph does not exceed the crossing number.

3. Example: (p. 72, pr. 14.1)

The surface of a torus can be regarded as a rectangle in which opposite edges are identified. Using this representation, find drawings of  $K_5$  and  $K_{3,3}$  on the torus.

# 15 Dual Graphs

1.  $G^*$  (**geometric dual** of a plane drawing of  $G$ ):

- (i) Pick a point  $v^*$  inside each face of  $G$ . These are the vertices of  $G^*$ .
- (ii) Any edge  $e$  of  $G$  divides two faces of  $G$  and hence two vertices of  $G^*$ . Let  $e^*$  be the edge of  $G^*$  corresponding to the (dotted) line crossing  $e$ .

Notes:

- An end vertex or bridge of  $G$  corresponds to a loop of  $G^*$ .
- If two faces of  $G$  are divided by more than one edge, then  $G^*$  has parallel edges.

2. Example: (p. 74, pr. 15.2)

Show that the dual of the cube graph is the octahedron graph, and that the dual of the dodecahedron graph is the icosahedron graph.

3. **Lemma:** Given a graph  $G$  with  $f$ -vector  $(n, m, f)$  and its geometric dual  $G^*$ , with  $f$ -vector  $(n^*, m^*, f^*)$ , we have  $n^* = f$ ;  $m^* = m$ ,  $f^* = n$ .

pf. First two are clear from the construction of  $G^*$ . Last follows from Euler's formula.

4. **Theorem:** If  $G$  is a plane connected graph, then  $G^{**}$  is isomorphic to  $G$ .  
pf.

- Process forming  $G^*$  from  $G$  can be reversed to form  $G$  from  $G^*$ .
- We must only check that a face in  $G^*$  cannot contain more than one vertex of  $G$ .
- This follows since each face of  $G^*$  contains at least one vertex of  $G$ , and  $n^{**} = f^* = n$ .

5. We want a definition of duality that generalizes geometric dual and enables us to determine whether a given graph is planar. (Given a planar graph  $G$ , two plane drawings of  $G$  may have distinct geometric duals.)

6. **Theorem:** Let  $G$  be a planar graph, and let  $G^*$  be a geometric dual of  $G$ . Then a set of edges in  $G$  forms a cycle in  $G$  if and only if the corresponding edges in  $G^*$  form a cutset.

pf.

- $\Rightarrow$  Assume  $G$  is a connected plane graph.
- If  $C$  is a cycle of  $G$ , then  $C$  encloses one or more finite faces of  $G$  which correspond to a non-empty set  $S$  of vertices of  $G^*$ .
- The edges of  $G^*$  crossing  $C$  form a cutset of  $G^*$ , which disconnect  $G^*$  into two subgraphs, with vertex sets  $S$  and  $S$ -complement, respectively.
- $\Leftarrow$  Assume  $C$  is a cutset of  $G \Rightarrow$  removal of edges in  $C$  disconnects  $G$  into two components  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ .
- Edges in  $C$  connect a vertex in  $S_1$  to a vertex in  $S_2$ .
- Edges in  $C^*$  form a cycle. (Sketch)

7. **Corollary:** A set of edges of  $G$  forms a cutset if and only if the corresponding set of edges of  $G^*$  forms a cycle.

8.  $G^*$  is an **abstract dual** of  $G$  if there is a one-to-one correspondence between the edges of  $G$  and  $G^*$ , for which a set of edges of  $G$  forms a cycle if and only if the corresponding edges in  $G^*$  forms a cutset.

9. **Theorem:**  $G^*$  is an abstract dual of  $G \Leftrightarrow G$  is an abstract dual of  $G^*$ .  
Proof in book.

10. **Theorem:** A graph is planar  $\Leftrightarrow$  it has an abstract dual.  
Sketch of proof: ( $\Rightarrow$  geometric dual is an abstract dual.)

- $\Leftarrow$  Assume that  $G$  has an abstract dual  $G^*$ .
- Any subgraph of  $G$  also has an abstract dual, as removing an edge of  $G$  corresponds to contracting an edge of  $G^*$ .
- Inserting or removing a vertex of degree 2 in  $G$  results in the addition or deletion of a multiple edge of  $G^*$ . It follows that if  $G'$  is homeomorphic to  $G$ , then  $G'$  also has an abstract dual.
- Book shows that  $K_{3,3}$  does not have an abstract dual.
- Show that  $K_5$  does not have an abstract dual.
- For contradiction, assume that  $K_5^*$  is a dual of  $K_5 \Rightarrow K_5$  has 10 edges.
- Since  $K_5$  only has cycles of length 3, 4, and 5, it follows that every vertex of  $K_5^*$  has degree at least 3.
- Since every cutset of  $K_5$  has either 4 (isolated vertex) or 6 (edge and triangle) edges, every cycle of  $K_5^*$  must have either 4 or 6 edges.
- Let  $C$  be a cycle of  $K_5^*$  of length 6. If  $C$  contains all vertices of  $K_5^*$ , then since  $K_5^*$  has no triangles, it follows that  $K_5^*$  has at most 9 edges, which is a contradiction.
- If, however,  $K_5^*$  contains at least 7 vertices, then it also contains at least  $\frac{7 \cdot 3}{2} = 10.5$  edges, which is a contradiction.
- It follows that  $K_5$  does not have a dual.
- If  $G$  is a non-planar graph, then  $G$  has a subgraph homeomorphic to either  $K_5$  or  $K_{3,3}$ . This implies that  $K_{3,3}$  or  $K_5$  has an abstract dual, which is a contradiction.

11. Example: (p. 74, pr. 15.4)

Use duality to prove that there exists no plane graph with five faces, each pair of which share an edge in common.