

Simple realizability of complete abstract topological graphs simplified

Jan Kynčl

Charles University, Prague

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Topological graph: drawing of an (abstract) graph in the plane

vertices = points

edges = simple curves

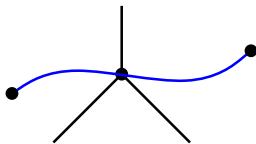
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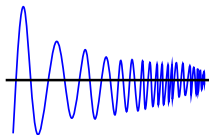
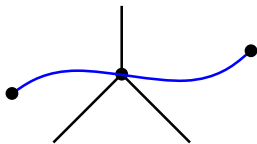
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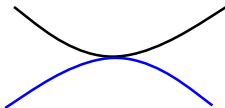
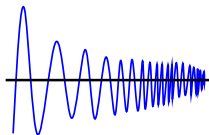
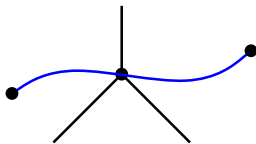
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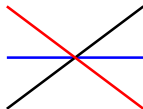
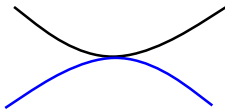
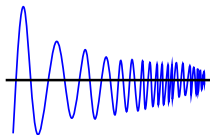
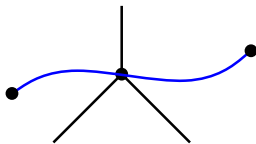
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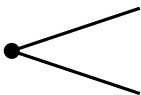
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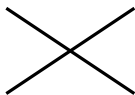
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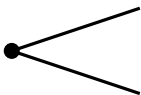
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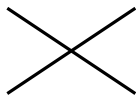
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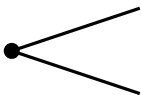


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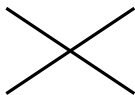


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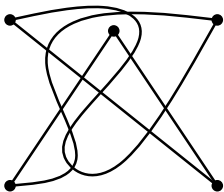
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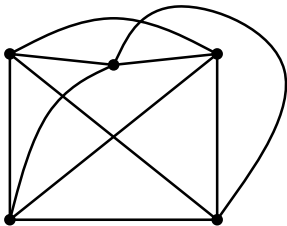
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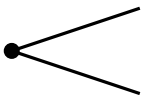


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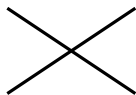


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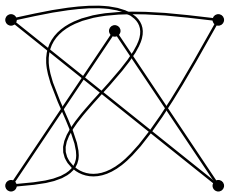
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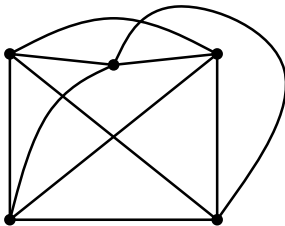
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topological graph
drawing



simple complete topological graph
simple drawing of K_5

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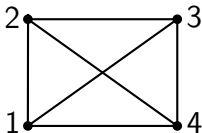
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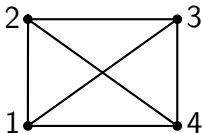
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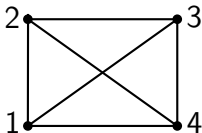


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Simple realizability

instance: AT-graph A

question: is A simply realizable?

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Previously known:

Theorem: (Kratochvíl and Matoušek, 1989)

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“The proof in [...] only gives a highly complex testing procedure, but no description in terms of forbidden minors or crossing configurations.”

— M. Chimani, 2011

Main result

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- Ábrego, Aichholzer, Fernández-Merchant, Hackl, Pammer, Pilz, Ramos, Salazar and Vogtenhuber (2015) generated a list of simple drawings of K_n for $n \leq 9$

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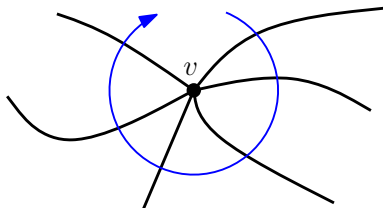
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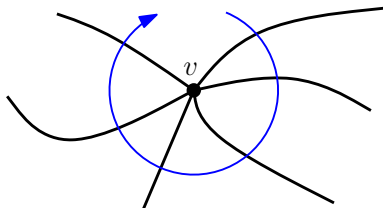
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- 3) computing the **minimum crossing numbers** of pairs of edges

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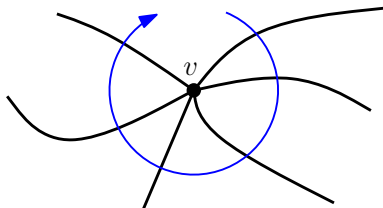


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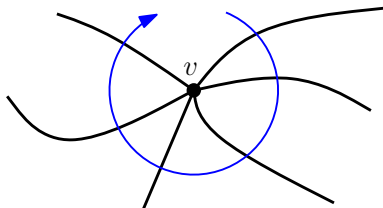
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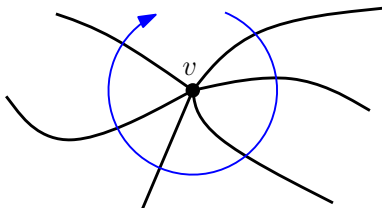
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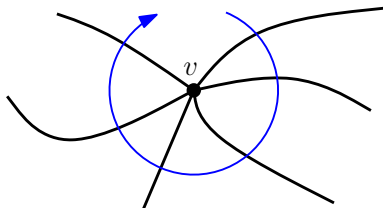


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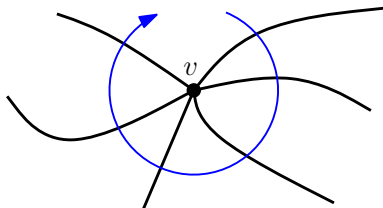
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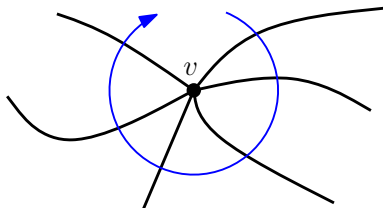
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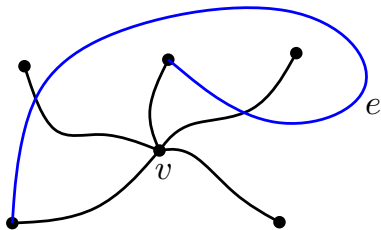
Ábrego et al. (pers. com.) verified that an **abstract rotation system (ARS)** of K_9 is **realizable** if and only if the ARS of every 5-tuple is realizable, and conjectured that this is true for any K_n .

Step 2: computing the homotopy classes of edges

- Fix a vertex v and a topological spanning star $S(v)$, drawn with the rotation computed in Step 1

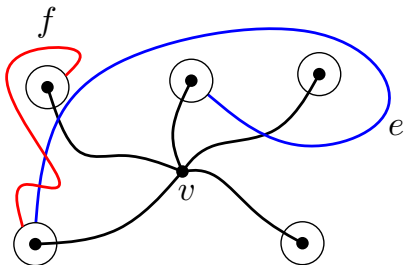
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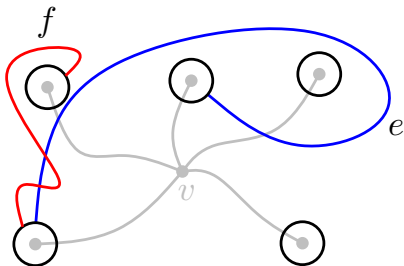
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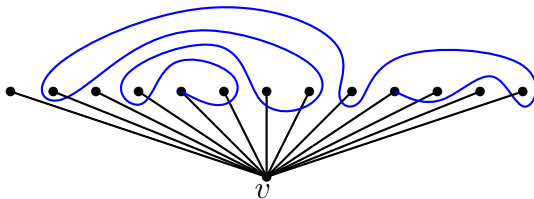
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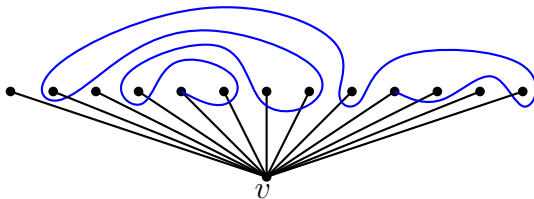
We need to verify that

- $cr(e) = 0$,
- $cr(e, f) \leq 1$, and
- $cr(e, f) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \{e, f\} \in \mathcal{X}$.

3a) characterization of the homotopy classes

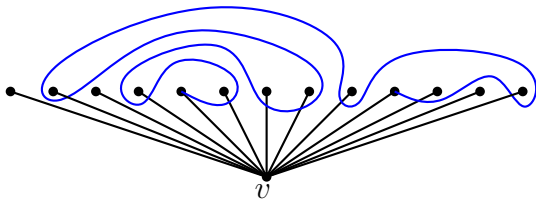


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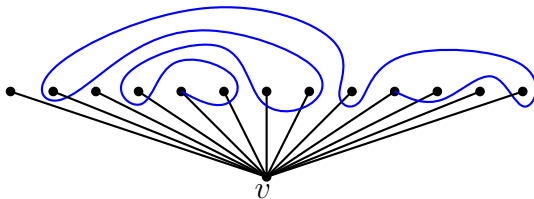
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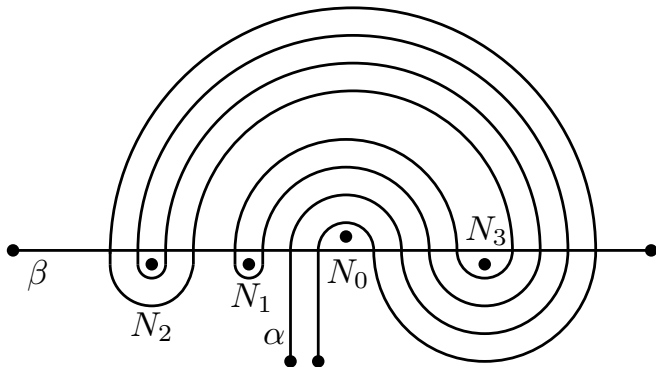
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3d) multiple crossings of independent edges (5-tuples)

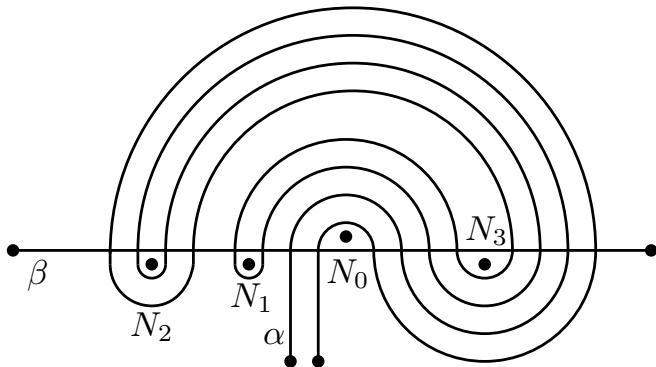
Picture hanging without crossings

remove one nail:



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similar concept with crossings:

Demaine et al., [Picture-hanging puzzles](#), 2014.

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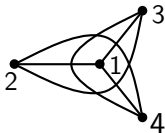
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Example:

$$A = (K_4, \{\{\{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}\}, \{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}\}, \{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}\}\})$$

independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realization of A :



Independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizability

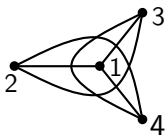
- T is an **independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realization** of (G, \mathcal{X}) if
 - T is a drawing of G and
 - \mathcal{X} is the set of pairs of independent edges that cross an odd number of times in T
- AT-graph A is **independently \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizable** if it has an independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realization

Obs.: simple realization \Rightarrow independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realization

Example:

$$A = (K_4, \{\{\{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}\}, \{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}\}, \{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}\}\})$$

independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realization of A :



$$A = (K_5, \emptyset)$$

Independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizability

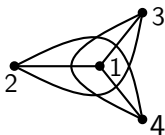
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Example:

$$A = (K_4, \{\{\{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}\}, \{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}\}, \{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}\}\})$$

independent \mathbb{Z}_2 -realization of A :



$A = (K_5, \emptyset)$ is not independently \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizable (Hanani–Tutte)

def.: Call an AT-graph (G, \mathcal{X}) **even** (or an **even G**) if $|\mathcal{X}|$ is even, and **odd** (or an **odd G**) if $|\mathcal{X}|$ is odd.

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Theorem 3: Every complete AT-graph that is not independently \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizable has an AT-subgraph on at most six vertices that is not independently \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizable.

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Theorem 3: Every complete AT-graph that is not independently \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizable has an AT-subgraph on at most six vertices that is not independently \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizable.

More precisely, a complete AT-graph is independently \mathbb{Z}_2 -realizable if and only if it contains no even K_5 and no odd $2K_3$ as an AT-subgraph.