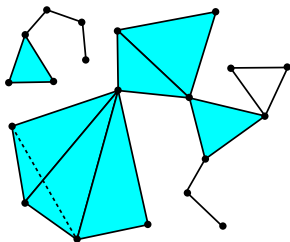


Embeddability of Graphs into 2-Dimensional Simplicial Complexes

Éric Colin de Verdière

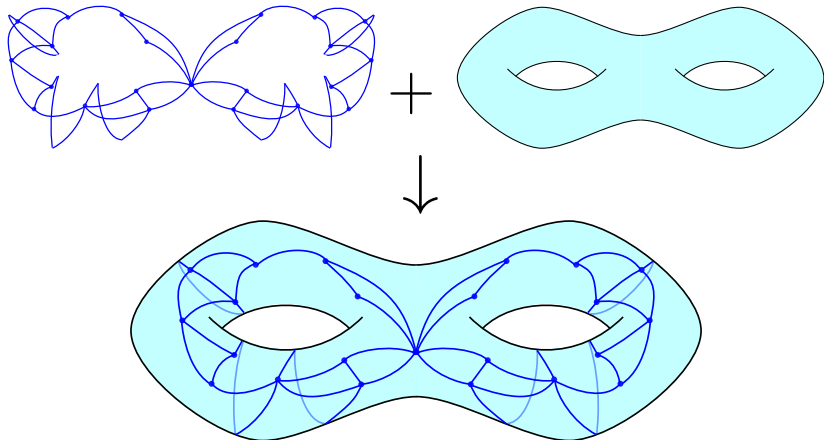
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Joint work with Thomas Magnard



Embedding graphs on surfaces

- Input: A graph G with n vertices and edges; a surface S specified by its genus g and its orientability
- Question: Decide whether G has a **topological embedding** (a crossing-free drawing) into S .



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Many problems can be solved faster for **graphs embedded on a fixed surface** than for general graphs (shortest paths, (multi)flows and (multi)cuts, disjoint paths, (sub)graph isomorphism, TSP, Steiner trees, etc.)

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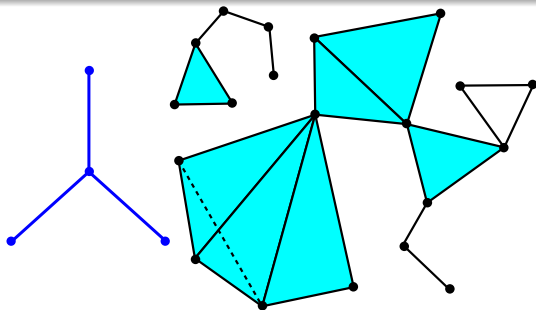
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Existing results

- [Thomassen, 1989]: NP-hard (when g is part of the input)
- [Mohar, 1999]: $f(g) \cdot n$ (very technical)
- [Kawarabayashi et al., 2008]: $2^{\text{poly}(g)} \cdot n$ (only appeared in extended abstract)
- Graph minor theory: $f(g) \cdot n^3$ [Robertson and Seymour, 1995]+[Adler et al., 2008].

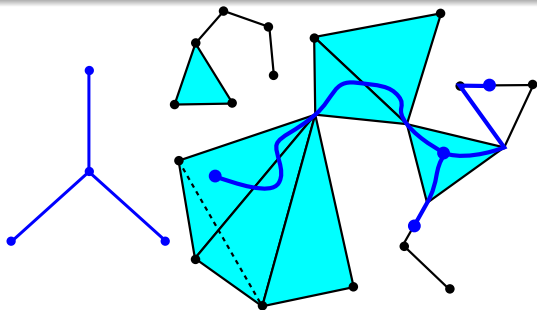
Our goal: beyond surfaces

- Input: A graph G ; a 2-dimensional simplicial complex C
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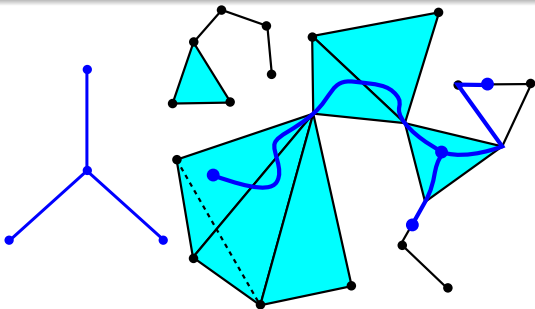
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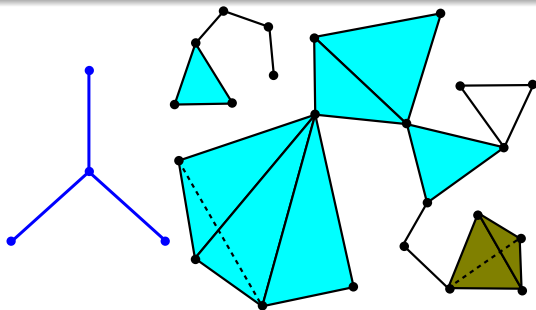
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- everything is topological: no constraint on the embedding;
- actually, “2-dimensional” is an unnecessary restriction;
- NP-hard (surfaces are 2-complexes);
- the set of graphs embeddable on C is not minor-closed;
- encompasses other known problems, e.g., crossing number.

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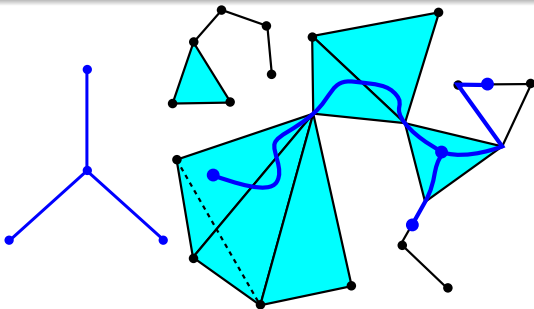
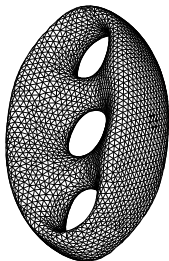
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An algorithm with running time $2^{\text{poly}(c)} \cdot n^2$ where

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- Our algorithm is independent from the existing algorithms for surfaces, and simpler...
- but quadratic in n instead of linear.
- Main strategy of the algorithm:
 - reduce to the case where G has branchwidth $\text{poly}(c)$ (*irrelevant vertex method*),
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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!