

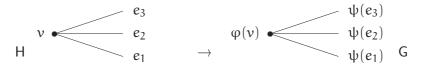
1 Definitions

Motivation: Exploring the two graphs locally, we cannot see any difference...

A graph H is a *cover* of a graph G if there exists a pair of onto mappings

(a projection)
$$\phi: V(H) \rightarrow V(G), \quad \psi: E(H) \rightarrow E(G)$$

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{such that } \psi \mbox{ maps the edges incident with each vertex } \nu \mbox{ in } H \\ \mbox{ bijectively} & \mbox{onto the edges incident with } \phi(\nu) \mbox{ in } G. \end{array}$



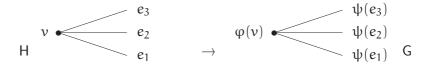
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Remark. The edge $\psi(uv)$ has always ends $\varphi(u), \varphi(v)$, and hence only

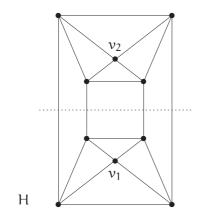
 $\phi: V(H) \rightarrow V(G)$, the vertex projection,

is enough to be specified for simple graphs.

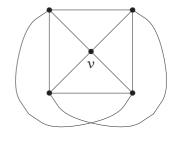
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Planar covers

• We speak about a *planar cover* if H is a finite planar graph.



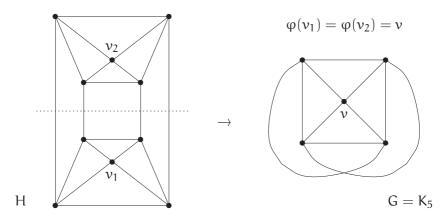
 $\phi(\nu_1)=\phi(\nu_2)=\nu$





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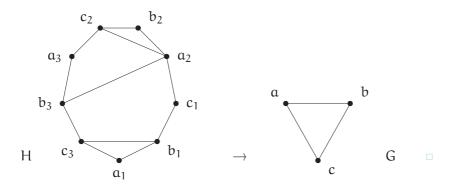


• Graph embedded in the *projective plane* has a double planar cover, via the universal covering map from the sphere onto the projective plane.

Planar emulators

• $\phi: V(H) \rightarrow V(G)$, an *emulator* vs. a cover:

... map the edges inc. with v in H surjectively onto the edges inc. with $\varphi(v)$ in G.



• Can a planar emulator be "more than" a planar cover?

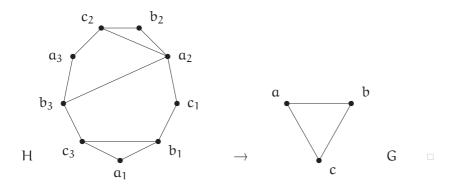
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- Can a planar emulator be "more than" a planar cover?
- Not many remarkable results until 2008... Interesting at all?

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Fact. A planar cover is also a planar emulator.

Why a planar emulator should be "more than" a planar cover?

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Conjecture 1 (Fellows, 1989)

A connected graph has a finite planar emulator if and only if it has a finite planar cover.

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Conjecture 1 (Fellows, 1989)

A connected graph has a finite planar emulator if and only if it has a finite planar cover.

And via Negami's planar cover conjecture...

Conjecture 2 (Kitakubo, 1991) A connected graph has a finite planar emulator if and only if it embeds in the projective plane.

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3 Some useful properties

• If G has a planar cover, then so does every minor of G.



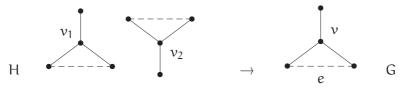
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Consider e between two neighbours of a cubic vertex. If G - e has a planar cover, then so does G.



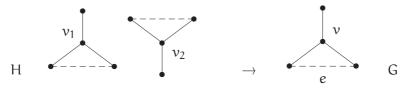
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• Therefore, if G has a planar cover, and G' is obtained from G by $Y\Delta$ -transformations, then G' has a planar cover, too.

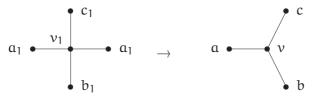
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ew Development in Planar Emulators

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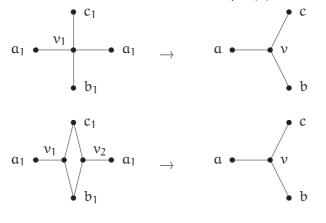
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- If G has a *planar emulator*, then so does every minor of G.
- If G has a planar emulator, and ν is a cubic vertex of G, then some planar emulator H of G has all vertices in φ⁻¹(ν) also cubic.



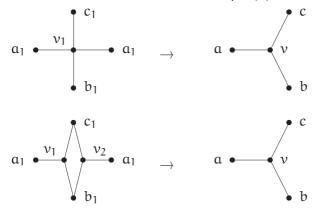
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New Development in Planar Emulators

4 Approaching the conjectures

A connected graph has a finite planar cover / emulator if and only if it embeds in the projective plane.

We recall the above basic properties...

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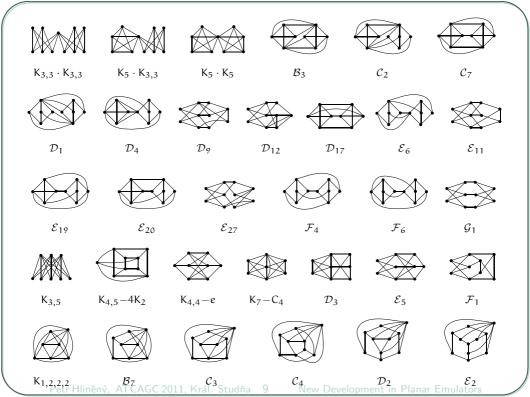
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- Conversely, assume connected G is not projective.
 Then G contains some F of the *forbidden minors* for the projective plane.
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- Conversely, assume connected G is not projective.
 Then G contains some F of the *forbidden minors* for the projective plane.
 We just have to show that this F has no finite planar cover / emulator.
- Furthermore, it is enough to consider only those F which are $Y\Delta$ -transforms of some forbidden minor in G.



Long-term development around Negami's conjecture led to...

Theorem 3 (since 1998)

If K_{1,2,2,2} had no finite planar cover, then Negami's conjecture would be proved.

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... and then... Suddenly, Fellows' conjecture falls down...

Fact. The graph $K_{4,5}-4K_2$ has no finite planar cover.

Theorem 4 (Rieck and Yamashita 2008) The graphs $K_{1,2,2,2}$ and $K_{4,5}-4K_2$ do have finite planar emulators!!!

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- Now we know that the class of graphs having finite planar emulators
 - is different from the class of graphs having finite planar covers,
 - and different from the class of *projective planar* graphs, too.
- So, let us study this class...!

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Compared to planar covers, the situation suddenly get very rich.

 $\ensuremath{\text{NO}}$ emulators

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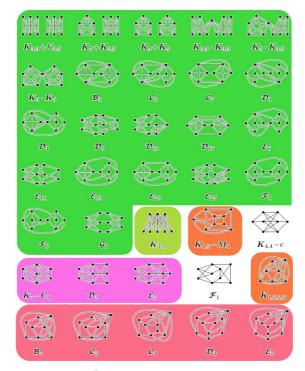
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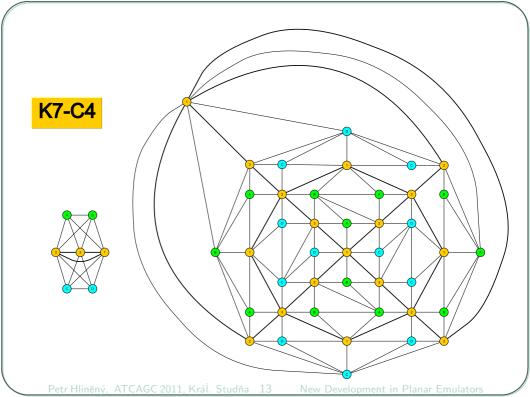
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- C₄ and E₂ by [PH and Chimani], hence consequently the whole "rich family of K_{1,2,2,2}",
- and NEW $K_7 C_4$ and (most of??) its family! by [Klusáček, 2011].



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6 Conclusion

• Give ordinary students difficult exercises (without saying how hard it is?).

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- Give ordinary students difficult exercises (without saying how hard it is?).
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 - Though the class originally looked quite similar to the projectiveplanar graphs, now ("after Klusáček") all has changed.
 - Any idea for a *new hypothesis*?
 - Any idea for a general structural result saying that the class of graphs having no minor in the "green picture" and possessing certain connectivity (*internally* 4-connected enough? / maybe even (5,3)-connectivity would work?) is finite?