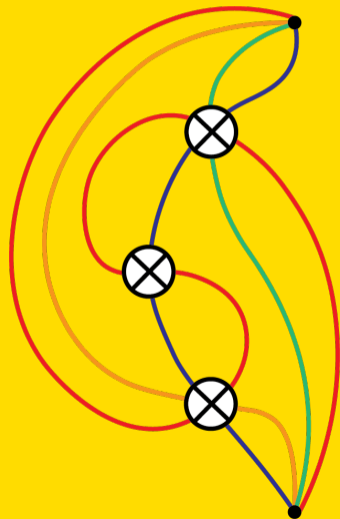


Cross-cap drawings and signed reversal distance

Niloufar Fuladi

Joint work with:
Arnaud de Mesmay
Alfredo Hubard

Journée-séminaire de combinatoire
Université Sorbonne Paris Nord
10 Dec 2024

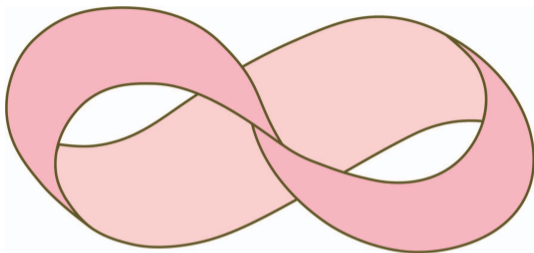


Möbius band



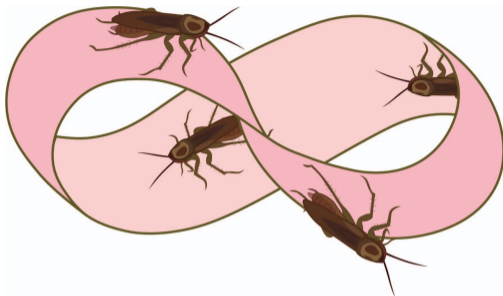
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Möbius band



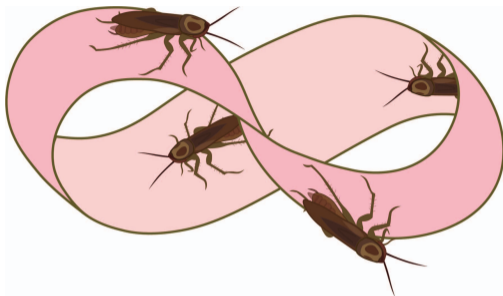
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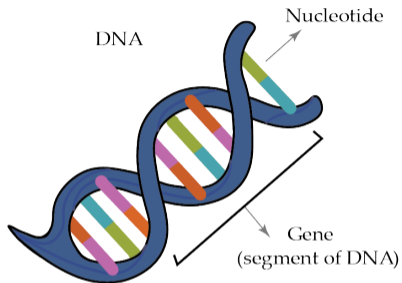
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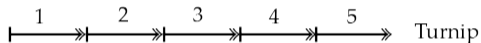
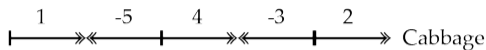
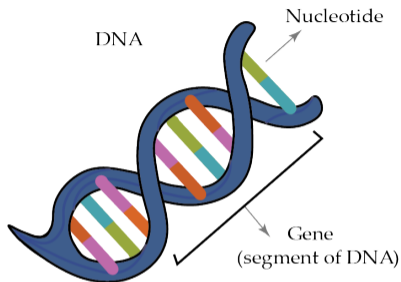


- The surface we obtain after gluing two ends of a strip of paper after a **half-twist** is a **Möbius band**.
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- Simplest example of a **non-orientable surface**.

A "twist" in biology: Genome rearrangement

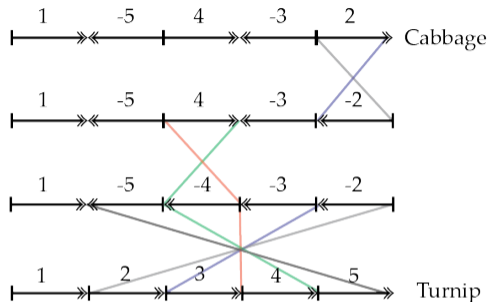
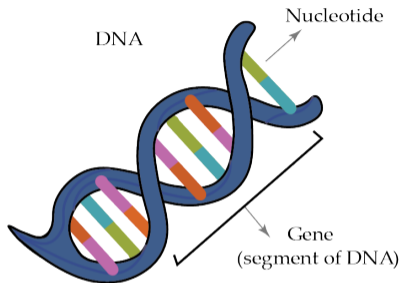


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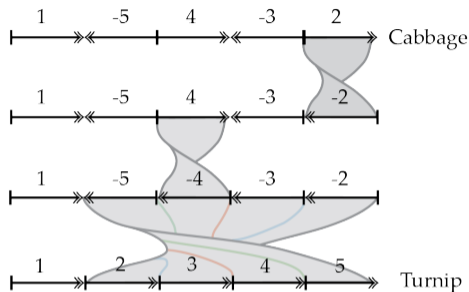
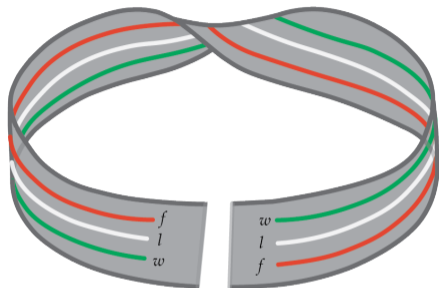
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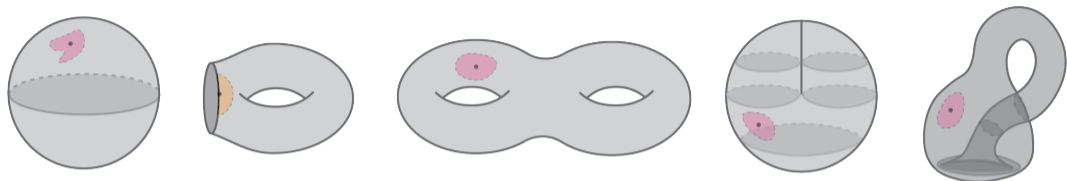
- The DNA of some species only differ by their gene sequences.
- The evolutionary distance between two species can be approximated by the number of **reversals** needed to transform one gene sequence into another.

A "twist" in biology: Genome rearrangement



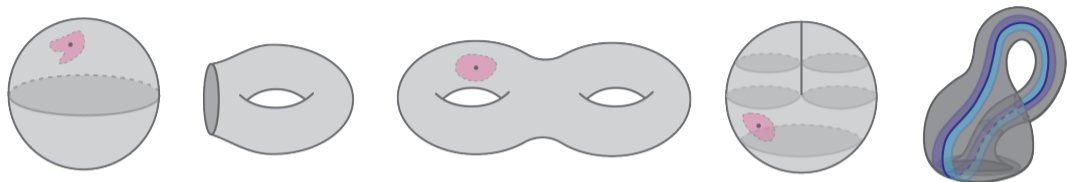
- The DNA of some species only differ by their gene sequences.
- The evolutionary distance between two species can be approximated by the number of **reversals** needed to transform one gene sequence into another.
- We use the similarity between reversals and Möbius band to solve two problems.

Surface



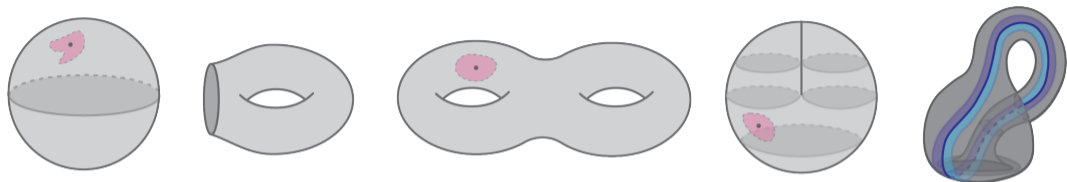
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- The points that locally look like the half plane comprise the **boundary** of the surface.

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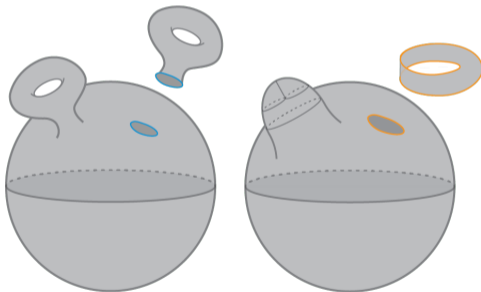
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- Two surfaces are **homeomorphic** if one can be transformed continuously to the other without cutting or gluing.

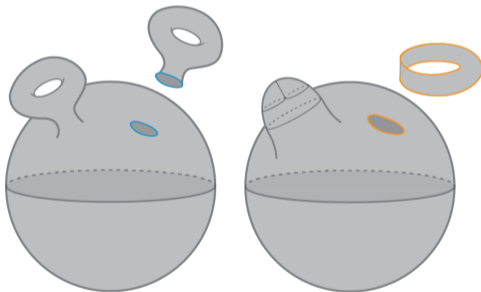
Surface

- We can obtain all surfaces by cutting disks from a sphere and attaching **handles** and **cross-caps**.
- A surface obtained by only attaching handles is **orientable**.



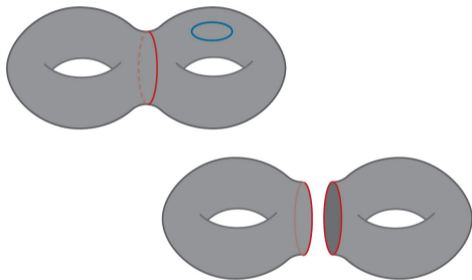
Surface

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- All surfaces can be classified by:
 - 1 genus
 - 2 number of boundaries
 - 3 orientability



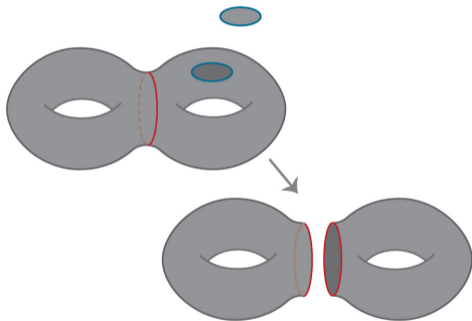
Types of curves on a surface

- Two curves are of the **same type** if there exists a homeomorphism of the surface that maps one to the other.
- A curve is **separating** if it cuts the surface into two connected components.



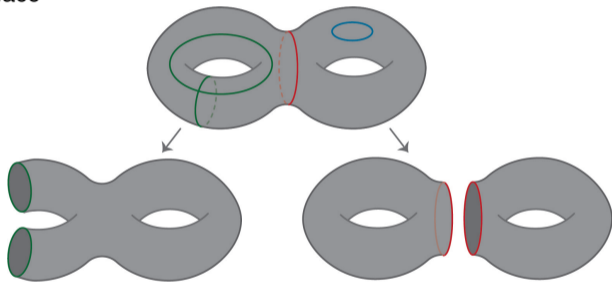
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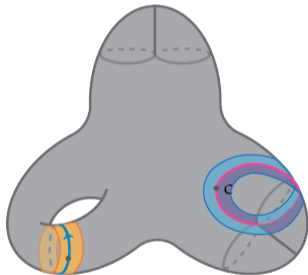
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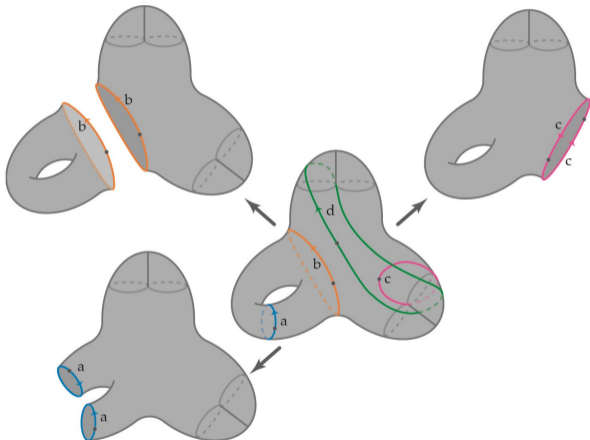
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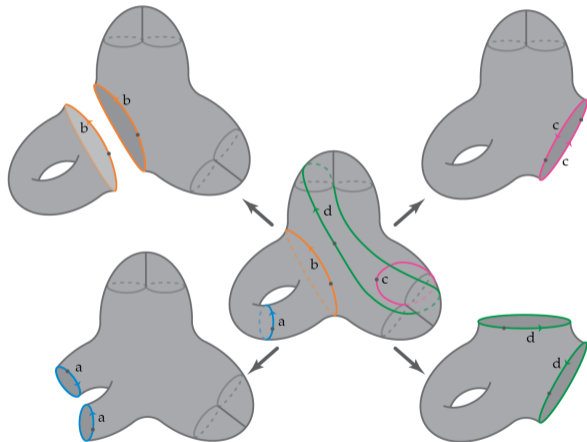
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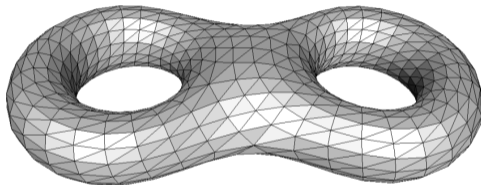
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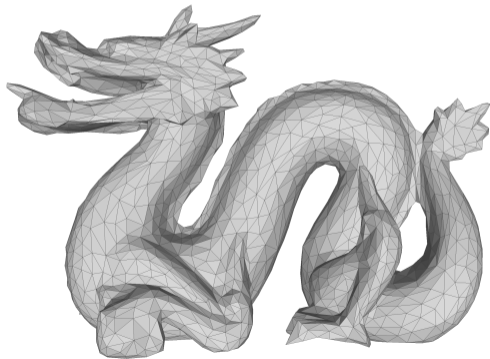
A discrete model

- Our surfaces are obtained by gluing polygonal disks.
- This can be seen as an **embedded graph** on the surface: An injective map $G \hookrightarrow S$ from a graph G to the surface S .



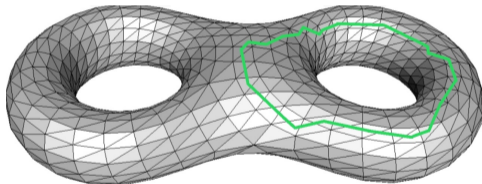
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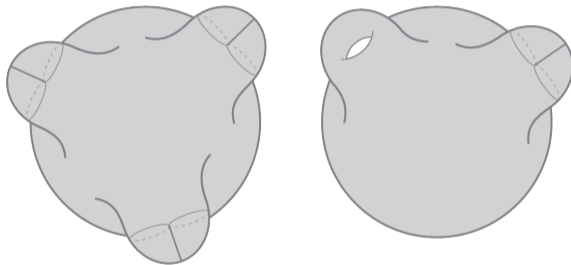
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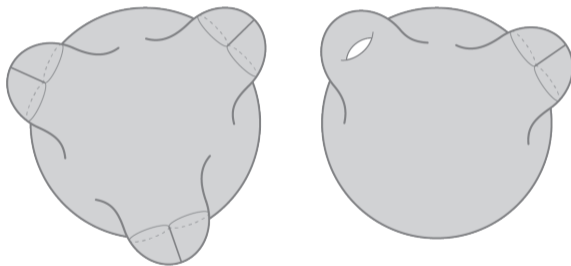
- A graph embedding induces a **discrete metric** on the surface.
- The **length** of a curve is the number of times it **crosses** the graph embedded.

Computing a homeomorphism



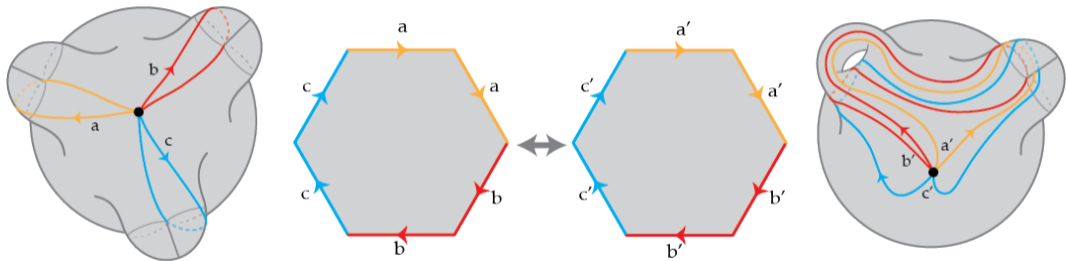
Computing a homeomorphism

- Visualizing the homeomorphism between these surfaces is not easy.



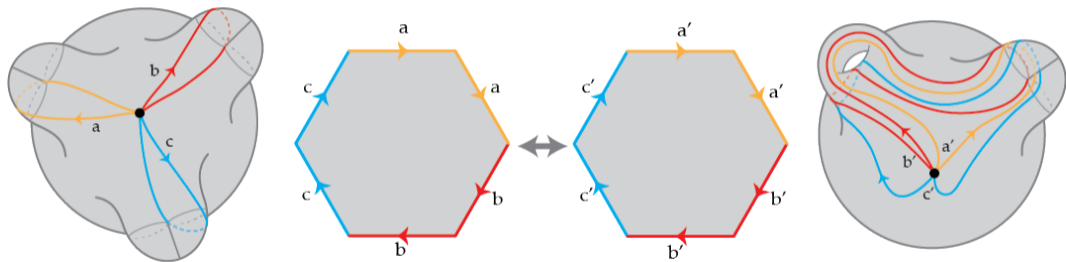
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Computing a homeomorphism

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- Such a graph that cuts the surface into simpler pieces is called a **decomposition** of the surface.

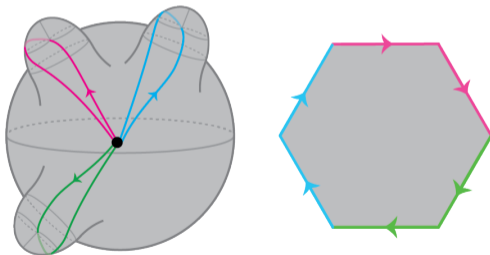
Question: How much can we control the **length** of a decomposition?

Overview

- 1 Two technical tools:
 - A model to represent non-orientable embeddings: [Cross-cap drawing](#)
 - An algorithm in genome rearrangement: [Signed reversal distance](#)
- 2 A short topological decomposition for non-orientable surfaces
- 3 Degenerate crossing number and Mohar's conjecture

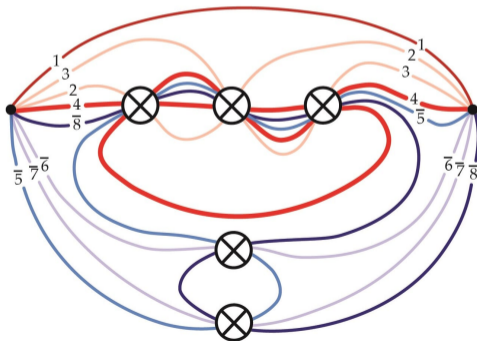
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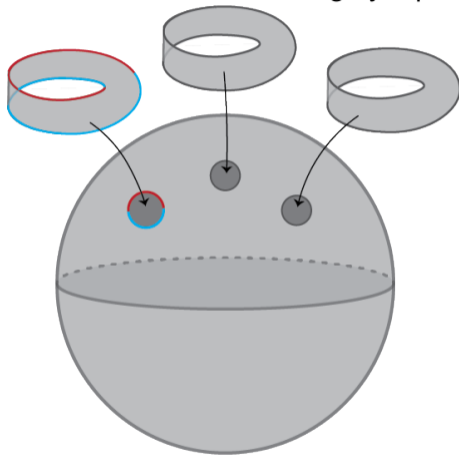
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Two technical tools

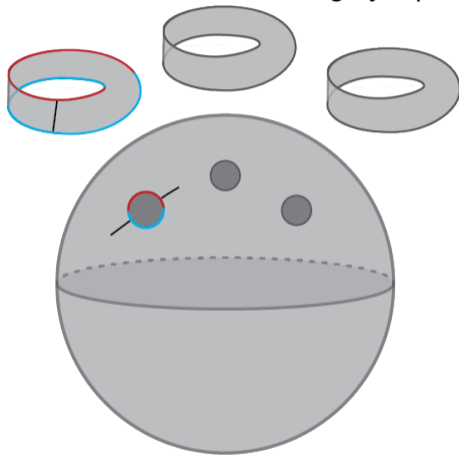
1) Cross-cap drawings

- One can represent a non-orientable embedding by a planar drawing.



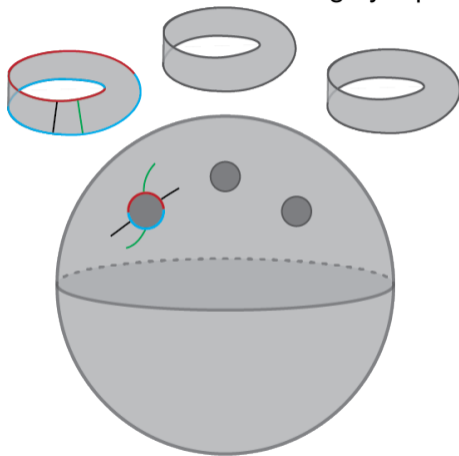
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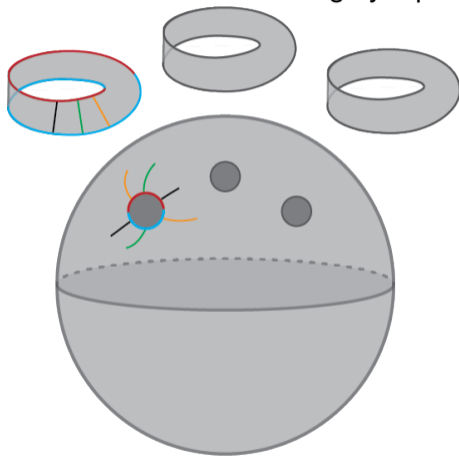
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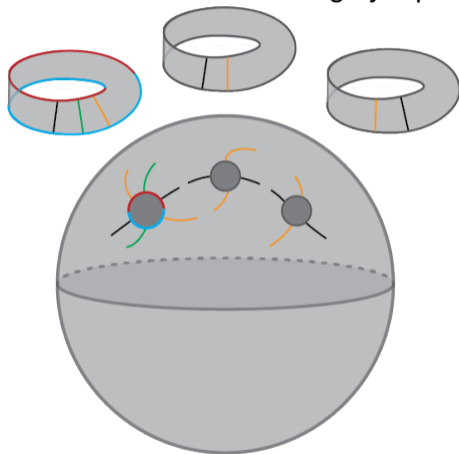
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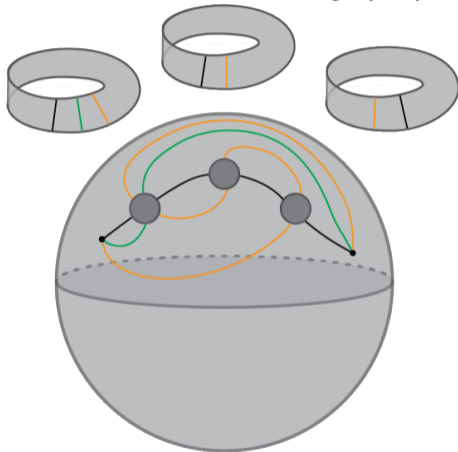
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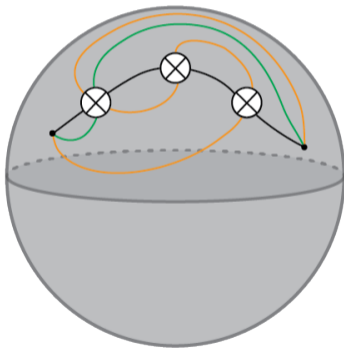
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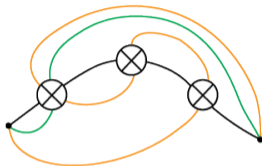
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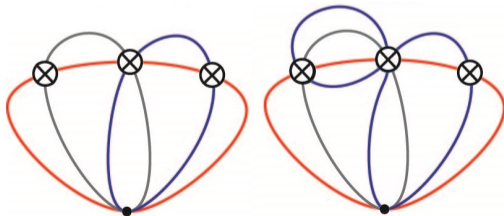


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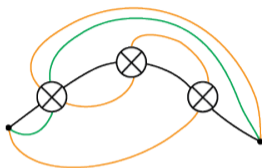


- A **cross-cap drawing** is a planar drawing with such transverse crossings at cross-caps.
- This **localization** of cross-caps is not "canonical"!



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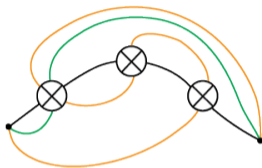


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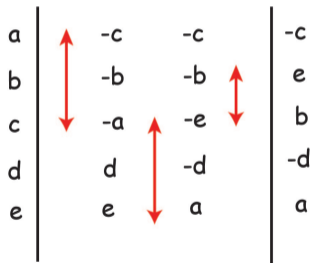
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Theorem (Schaefer, Štefankovič '22)

*A graph G embedded on a non-orientable surface admits a cross-cap drawing in which each edge enters each cross-cap **at most twice**.*

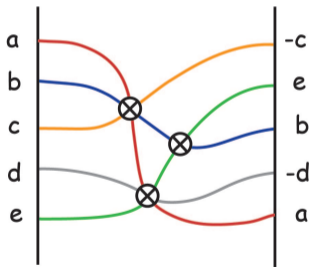
2) Genome rearrangement

- The **signed reversal distance** between two signed permutations is the minimum number of **reversals** to go from one to the other.
- It is computable in **polynomial time** [Hannenhali-Pevzner '99].
- This has strong similarities with crosscap drawings.



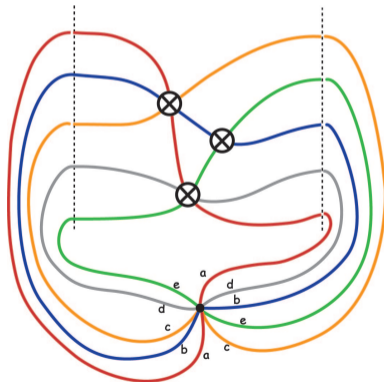
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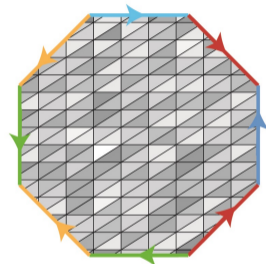
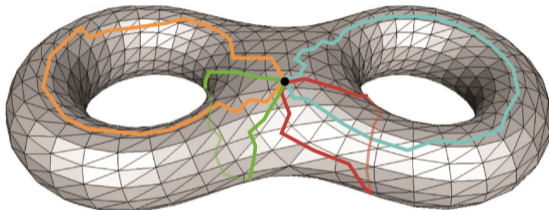
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**A short topological
decomposition for non-orientable
surfaces**

Canonical decompositions

- **Orientable canonical decomposition**: a one-vertex graph with the fixed rotation system $a_1 b_1 a_1 b_1 a_2 b_2 a_2 b_2 \dots$

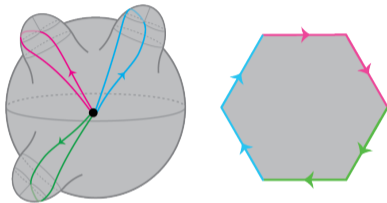


Theorem (Lazarus, Pocchiola, Vegter, Verroust '01)

Given a graph cellularly embedded on an **orientable** surface of genus g , there exists an **orientable canonical decomposition**, so that **each** loop crosses **each** edge of the graph at most **4 times** (total length $O(gn)$).

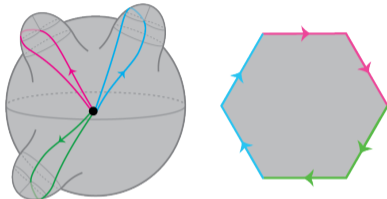
Canonical decompositions

- Can I cut along the **non-orientable canonical decomposition**? the one vertex graph with rotation system $aabbcc \dots$



Canonical decompositions

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Theorem (F., Hubard, de Mesmay '21)

Given a graph cellularly embedded on a non-orientable surface, there exists a **non-orientable canonical decomposition** such that **each** loop in the system crosses **each** edge of the graph at most in **30 points** (total length $O(gn)$).

- Best previous bound is $O(g^2n)$ (Lazarus '14).
- We use a new approach combining the Schaefer, Štefankovič algorithm and the Hannenhali-Pevzner algorithm.

Other cutting shapes

A more general question on finding short decompositions:

Negami's conjecture ('01)

Let G_1 and G_2 be two graphs cellularly embedded on a surface S of genus g . G_1 and G_2 can be embedded on S **simultaneously** such that each pair of their edges cross at most a **constant number of times**? (total of $O(n_1 n_2)$ crossings)

→ If true, any shape of decomposition can be computed with total length at most $O(n_1 n_2)$.

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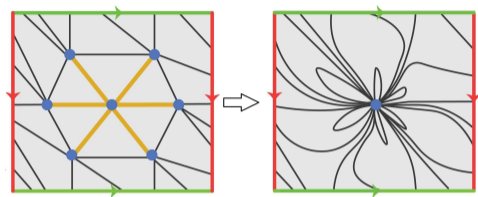
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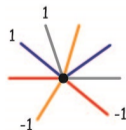
Reduction to the one-vertex case

- By contracting a **spanning tree**, our problem reduces to the case of one-vertex graphs.



- An embedding for a one-vertex graph, is entirely described by the cyclic ordering of the edges around the vertex, and, in the non-orientable case, the sidedness of the curves, an **embedding scheme**.

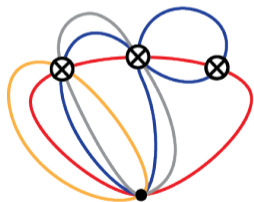
1 \rightarrow Two-sided
-1 \rightarrow One-sided



Short non-orientable canonical decomposition/ A different approach

Theorem (Schaefer-Štefankovič '15)

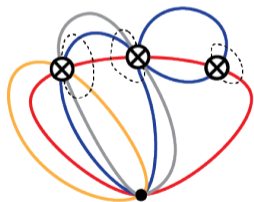
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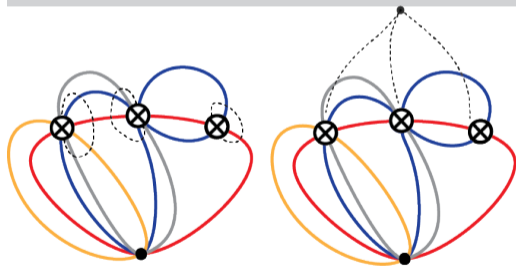
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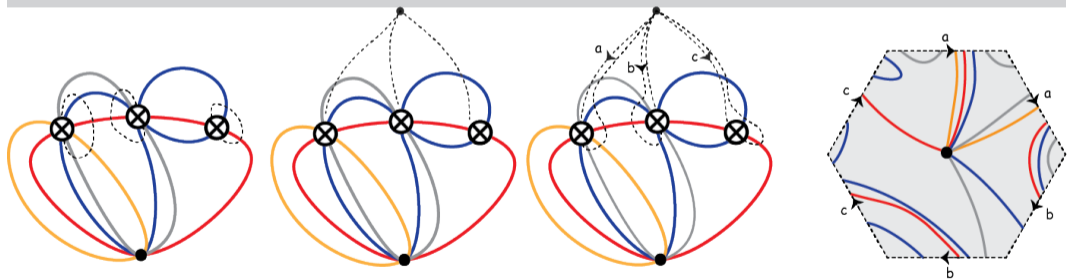
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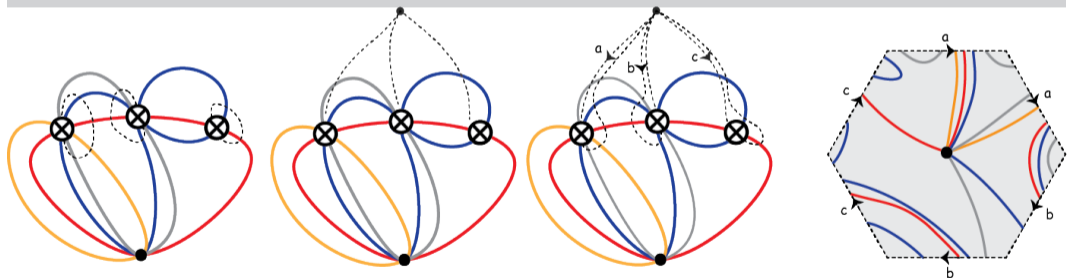
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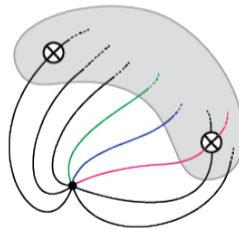
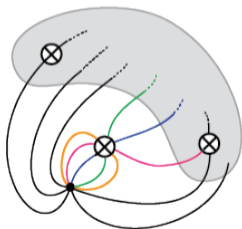
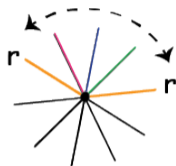


- If we can control the diameter of this cross-cap drawing, we can control the length of the canonical system of loops.

Sketch of the proof

- The proof is by induction on the number of edges.

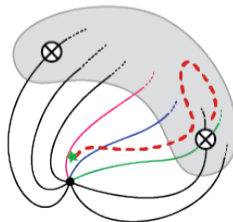
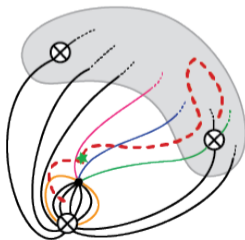
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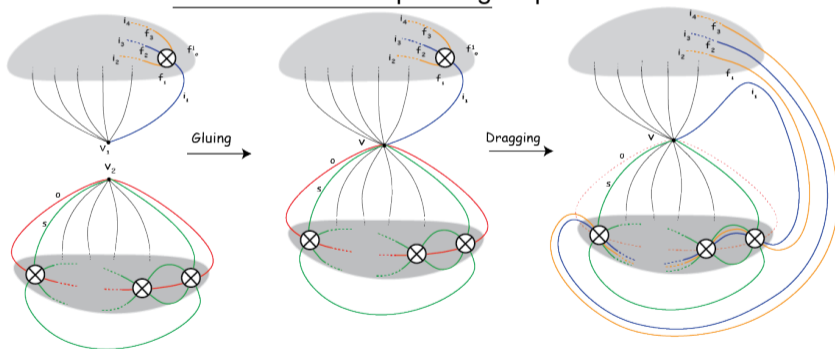
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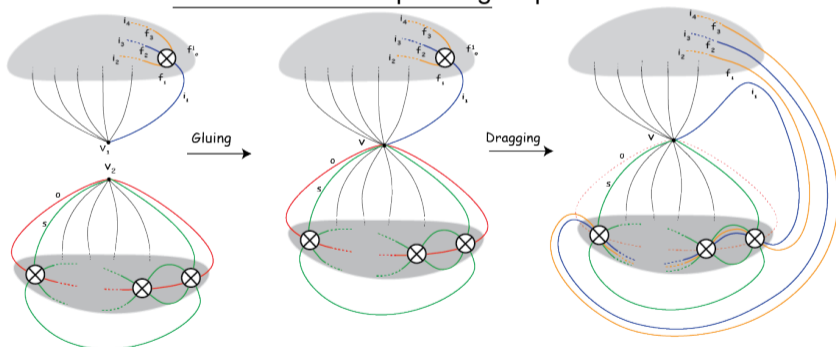
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- We have to deal with non-contractible separating loops:



- To avoid cascading, we make sure to deal with all the separating loops at once, using ideas from the Hannenhali-Pevzner algorithm.

Other decompositions?

A similar approach lets us compute other short decompositions:

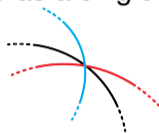
- An alternative computation of a short orientable canonical decomposition.
- Different short decompositions for non-orientable surfaces with rotation system:

$$a_1 a_1 \cdots a_k a_k b_1 c_1 \bar{b}_1 \bar{c}_1 \cdots b_m c_m \bar{b}_m \bar{c}_m.$$

Degenerate crossing number

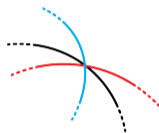
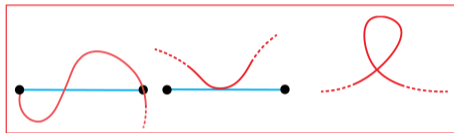
Crossing numbers for graphs

- Pach and Tóth: The **degenerate crossing number** of G , $dcr(G)$, is the minimum number of edge-crossings taken over all proper drawings of G in the plane in which multiple crossings at a point are counted as a single crossing.



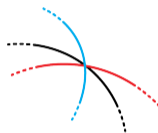
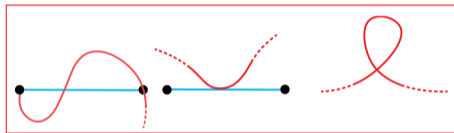
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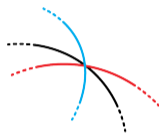
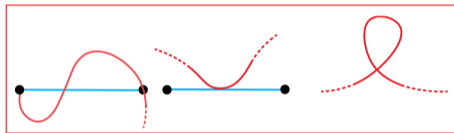
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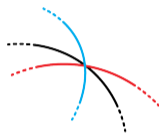
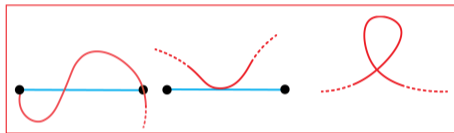


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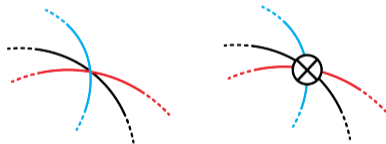
From crossing numbers to non-orientable genus

- The minimum cross-caps needed to draw a graph on a surface is called **non-orientable genus** $g(G)$ of the graph.

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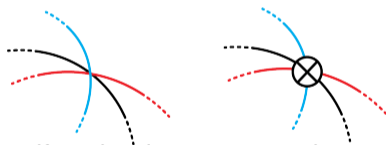
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For every graph G , $dcr(G) = gcr(G) = g(G)$.



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→ We provide a 2-vertex counter example.

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Apart from two exceptional families of graphs, all 2-vertex loopless graphs embedded on non-orientable surfaces satisfy Conjecture 2.

The counter example

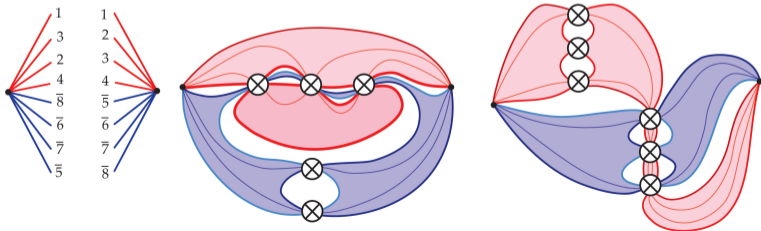
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Conjecture 2 does not hold:

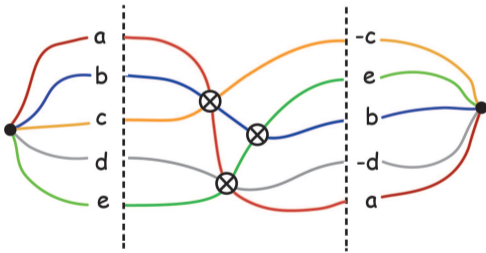
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*There exists a 2-vertex loopless graph embedded on a non-orientable surface that does not admit a **perfect** cross-cap drawing.*



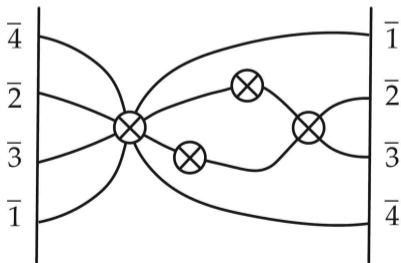
Signed reversals distance vs. Degenerate crossing

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- The algorithm imposes an order on the cross-caps \rightarrow each edge enters each cross-cap **at most once**.



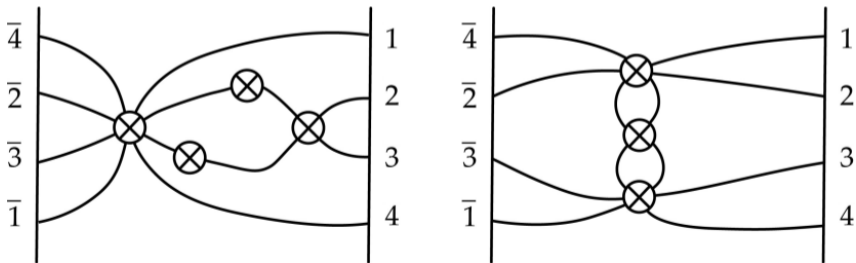
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- There are sub-words that cost them extra cross-caps called **blocks**.



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- We prove that **almost** all of these cases can be handled in a topological setting.



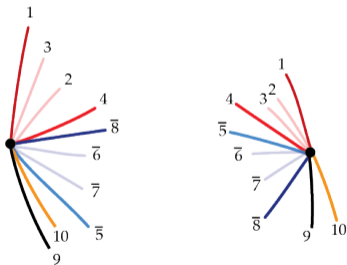
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→ **reduce** the scheme.



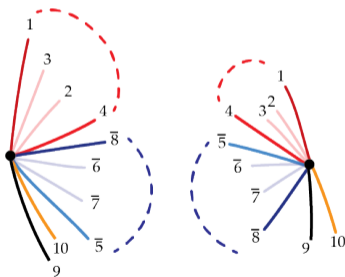
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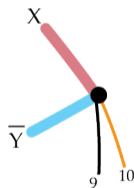
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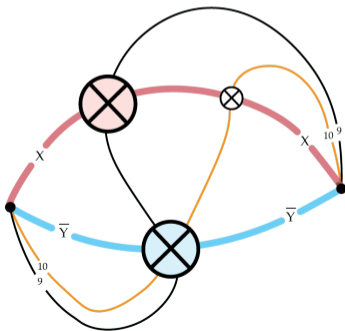
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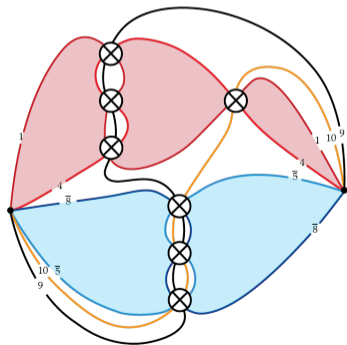
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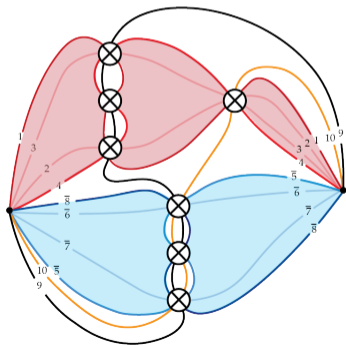
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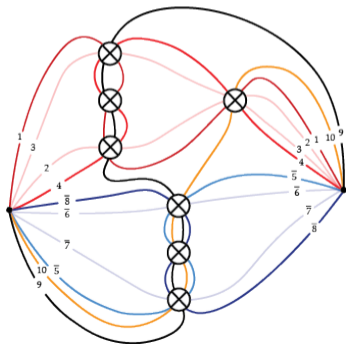
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- In particular under standard models of random maps, **almost all** 2-vertex loopless embedded graphs satisfy Conjecture 2.

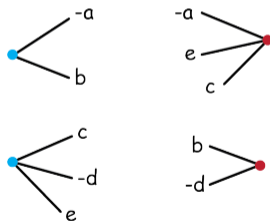


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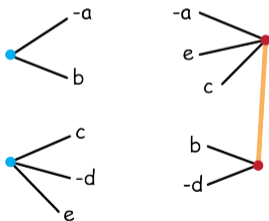


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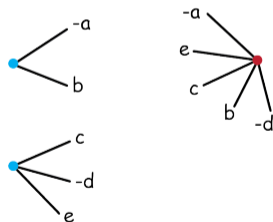


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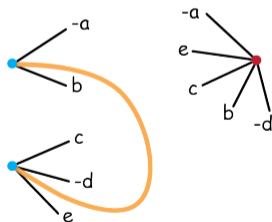


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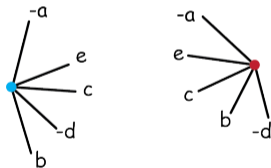


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Negami's conjecture ('01)

Let G_1 and G_2 be two graphs cellularly embedded on a surface S of genus g . G_1 and G_2 can be embedded on S **simultaneously** such that each pair of their edges cross at most a **constant number of times**? (total of $O(n_1 n_2)$ crossings)

→ Any shape of decomposition can be computed shortly.

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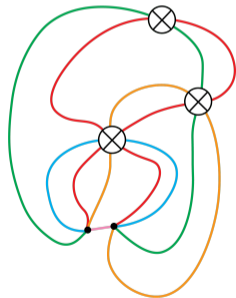
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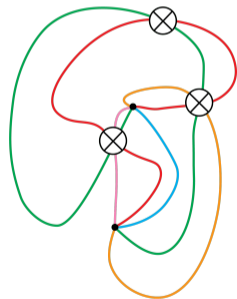
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