

Locally plane graphs  
and  
excluded submatrices

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GEOMGRAPH is  $k$ -locally plane  
if it has no self-intersecting  
path of length  $\leq k$ .

= exclude all patterns of  
self-intersecting  $P_{k+1}$

=  $\frac{k}{2}$ -neighborhood is plane

3-locally plane

$$\text{ex}(n, \text{self-int. } P_3) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

[J. Pach  
R. Pinchasi  
T. Toth]

5-locally plane

$$\text{ex}(n, \text{self-int. } P_5) = O\left(\frac{n \log n}{\log \log n}\right) \in [PPTT]$$

↓

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \# \text{ of edges} \\ \text{crossed by line} \\ \text{in } 2k\text{-locally plane} \end{array}\right) = O(n \log^{1/k} n)$$

Argument for  
a linear bound for  
10-locally plane graphs  
(false)

Assume  $G$  has min degree  $> 1000$   
 $G$  10-locally plane

Assume all edges  $\approx$  same length  
?

Find vertex  $v$  with 20 closest  
neighbors



Construction of  
Locally plane graphs  
with more than linear  
# of edges

- ① Direct construction for 3-locally plane  $G$
- ② Identify longer self-intersecting paths
- ③ Get rid of them by thinning  $G$



① Project (middle layer of)  
 $l$ -hypercube to plane

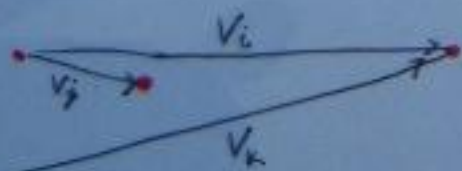
# of vertices  
# of edges

$$n \approx 2^l$$
$$e \approx l \cdot 2^l \approx n \log n$$

Edges of hypercube  
project to



No self intersecting  $P_4$

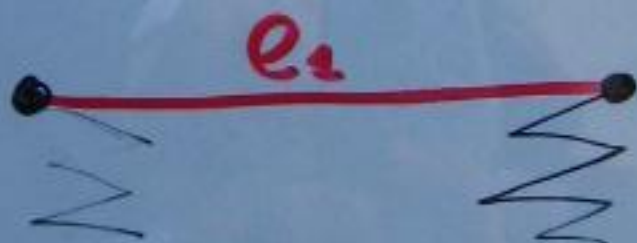


$j < i < k$

$P =$  short self intersect.  
path in  $G_0$

— first & last edges  
cross

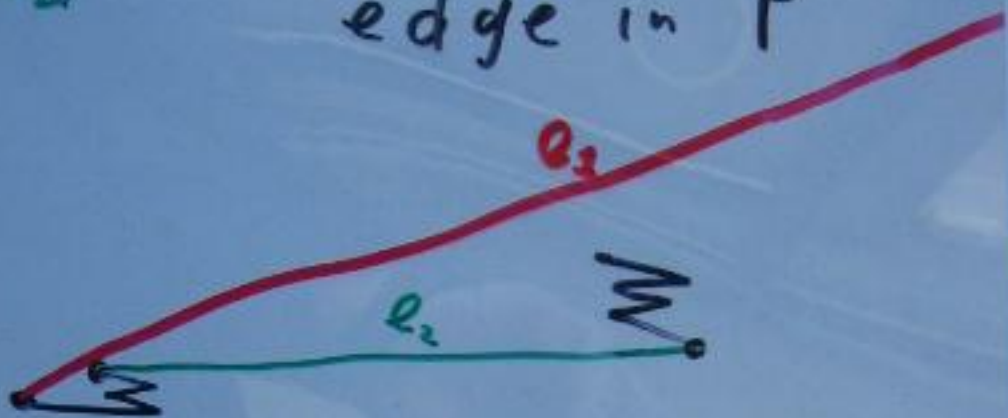
—  $e_1 :=$  Longest  
edge in  $P$



— Other edges much  
shorter

$\Rightarrow e_1$  first edge  
in  $P$

$e_2 :=$  second longest  
edge in  $P$



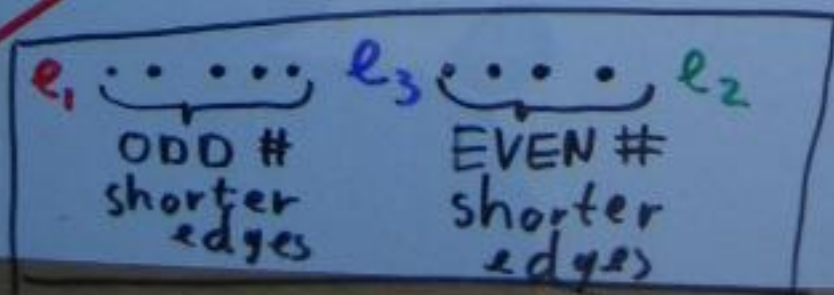
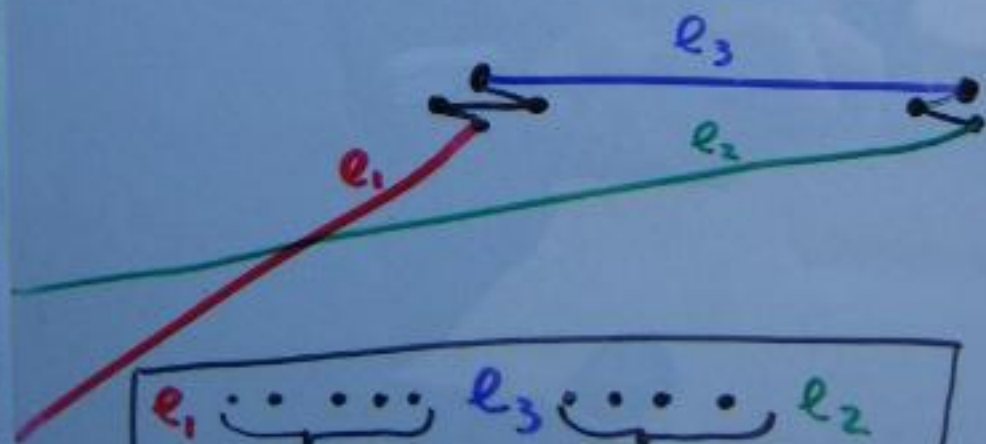
- other edges  
much shorter

$\Rightarrow e_2$  last  
edge in  $P$

$e_3$  := third longest edge in  $P$

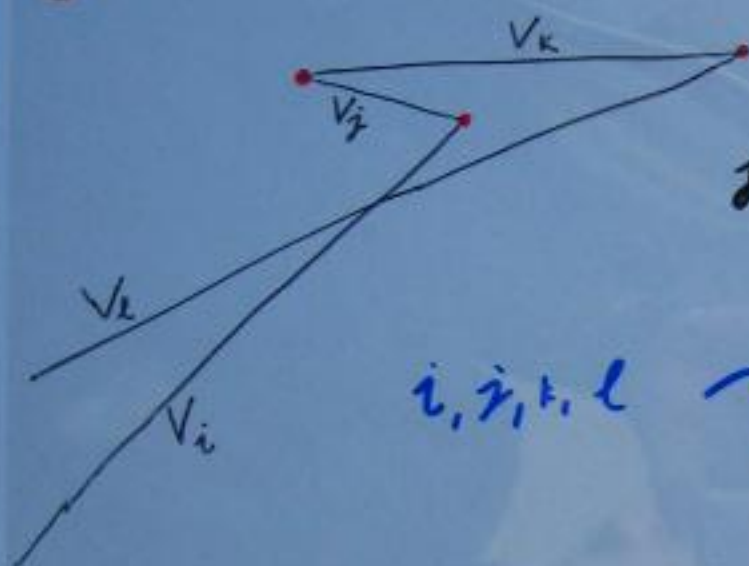
- other edges much shorter

ONLY way for crossing:





② Identify all self-intersecting  $P_5$



$$j < k < l < i$$

$i, j, k, l \sim$  edge coloring

Need to get rid of



if

$$j < k < l < i$$

### ③ THINNING LEMMA

$G$  (abstract) graph

- edge-colored with  $\{1, \dots, d\}$

- Average degree =  $\Theta(d)$

$\Rightarrow \exists$  subgraph  $G' \subseteq G$

no path with  $j < k < l < i$



The diagram shows a horizontal path of five vertices. The vertices are labeled from left to right as  $i$ ,  $j$ ,  $k$ ,  $l$ , and  $i$  in  $G'$ . The edges between them are labeled with the vertex labels:  $i$  between the first and second vertices,  $j$  between the second and third,  $k$  between the third and fourth, and  $l$  between the fourth and fifth. The text 'no path with  $j < k < l < i$ ' is written below the path.

- Average degree =  $\Theta(\log d)$

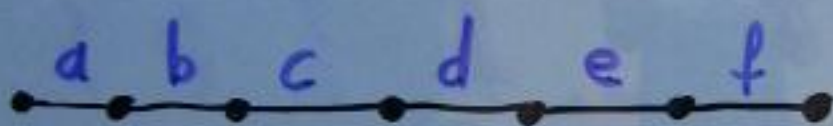
-  $G'$  comes with nice edge-coloring with  $\log d$  colors

①+②+③ Exist 4-locally plane  
graphs with  
 $\Omega(n \log \log n)$  edges

Luck: Graph constructed is  
5-locally plane  
 $\Omega(n \log \log n)$  edges

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Self-intersecting  $P_7$



$a > b > c < d < e < f < a$





$G \xrightarrow{\text{thinning}} G'$   
 $n \log n$  edges  
 $\log n$  colors  
 3-locally plane

$G'$   
 $n \log \log n$  edges  
 5-locally plane

REPEAT!

$G' \xrightarrow{\text{thinning}} G''$   
 $n \log \log n$   
 edges  
 $\log \log n$  colors  
 5-locally planar

$G''$   
 $n \log \log \log n$   
 edges  
 7-locally planar

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In general  $2k+1$ -locally planar graphs

$n$  vertices

$\Omega_k(n \log^{(k)} n)$  edges

0-1 matrices  $A, B$

$A$  contains  $B$

if  $\exists$  (submatrix of  $A$ )  $\supseteq B$

delete rows/columns  
don't PERMUTE  
!ORDER!

has 1 where  
 $B$  has 1

Extremal problem

$f(n, B) = \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{max \# of 1} \\ \text{in } n \times n \text{ matrix} \\ \text{not containing } B \end{array} \right)$   
↑  
0-1 matrix

Example

1	1		
	1	1	1
1		1	1
	1	1	1
1		1	1
	1	1	1

contains

1	1	1
1	1	

$$f(n, \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * \\ * & * & * \end{bmatrix}) = \Theta(n \log n) \quad \boxed{\text{Z. Füredi}}$$

$$f(n, \begin{bmatrix} & & x \\ & x & \\ x & & \end{bmatrix}) = \Theta(n \alpha(n)) \quad \boxed{\text{P. Hajnal - Z. Füredi}}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x & x \\ x & x \end{bmatrix}$$

↑  
inverse Ackermann

P permutation matrix

$$f(n, P) = O(n)$$

recent  
A Marcus  
T.

⇒ Stanley-Wilf conjecture on permutations

Now:

$$f(n, \begin{bmatrix} x & x \\ x & x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x & x \\ x & x \end{bmatrix}) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$$

Construction

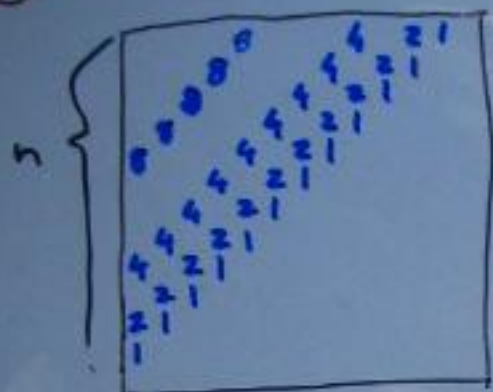
① direct for  $f(n, \begin{bmatrix} x & x \\ x & x \end{bmatrix})$

② identify submatrices  $\begin{bmatrix} x & x \\ x & x \end{bmatrix}$

③ remove them by THINKING



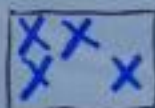
# ① Direct Construction



A

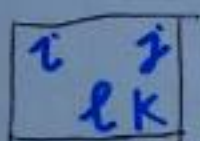
$\Theta(n \log n)$  entries

Doesn't contain



or 

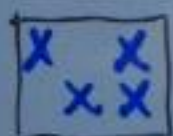
# ②



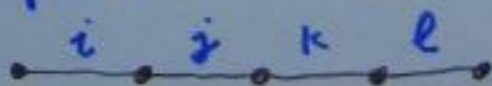
$$i > j > k < l < i$$

G bipartite graph with a discrepancy matrix A

edge colored with  $\log n$  colors



path in G



$$i > j > k < l < i$$

—  $j < l, j > l$  possible

+ path starts on given SIDE



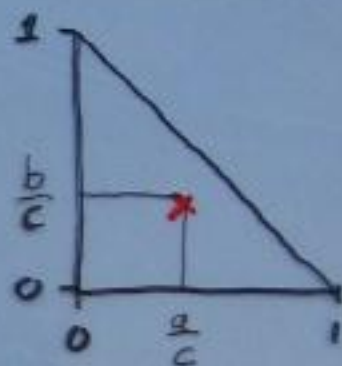
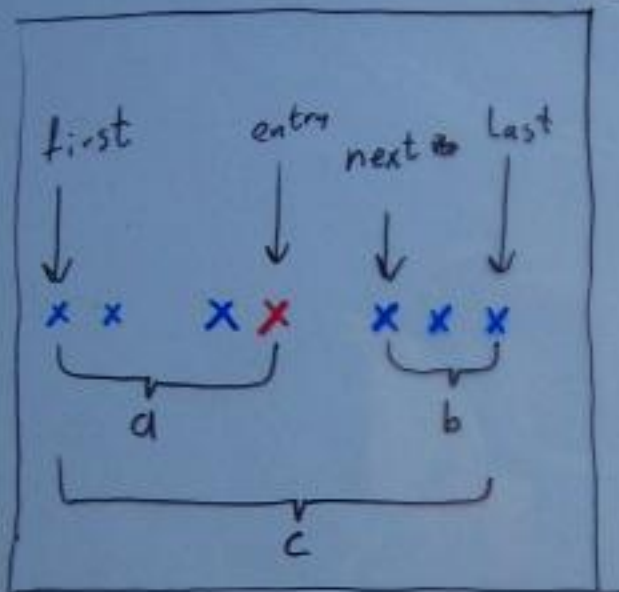
③ Very similar THINNING  
LEMMA

$$\Rightarrow f(n, \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \times & \times \\ \hline \times & \times \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \times & \times \\ \hline \times & \times \\ \hline \end{array}) = \Omega(n \log \log n)$$

Tight result

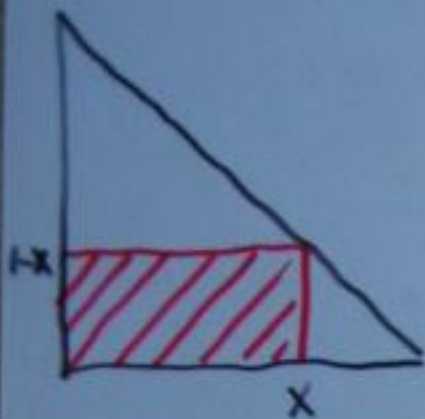
(not known for locally-plane  
construction)

map each entry  
in matrix to  
point in  $[0, 1]^2$

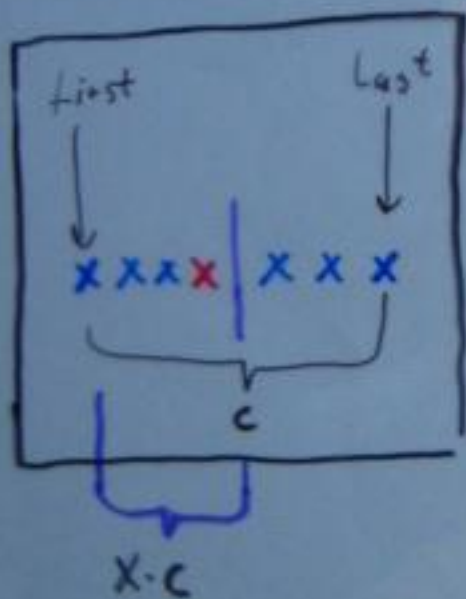


distances

points with multiplicities  
OK



Exactly 1 entry  
From each ROW  
mapped to  
region



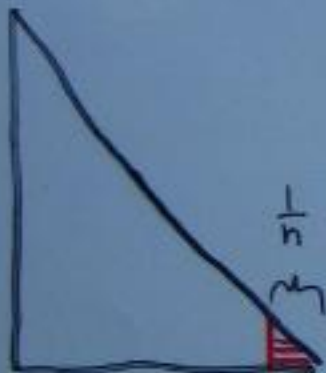
No excluded  
submatrices  
needed



At most  
1 entry  
from each column  
mapped to region

if  and  excluded

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Empty



Can be covered by  
 $\log \log n$  of each

