

Connectivity Augmentation for Planar and Beyond-Planar Graphs

Michael Kaufmann

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GD 2025

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Therese Biedl, Goos Kant, MK: On triangulating planar graphs under the four-connectivity constraints, *Algorithmica* 19(4), 427-446, 1997.

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Still very often:

- assume triangulated planar graph

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- assume 4-connectivity ...

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Nowadays ..

- go beyond-planar $\rightarrow$ 1-planar, 2-planar, etc.
- consider higher connectivity than 4

Models

Distinguish

geometric model (straight-line drawing)

topological model (embedding)

abstract model

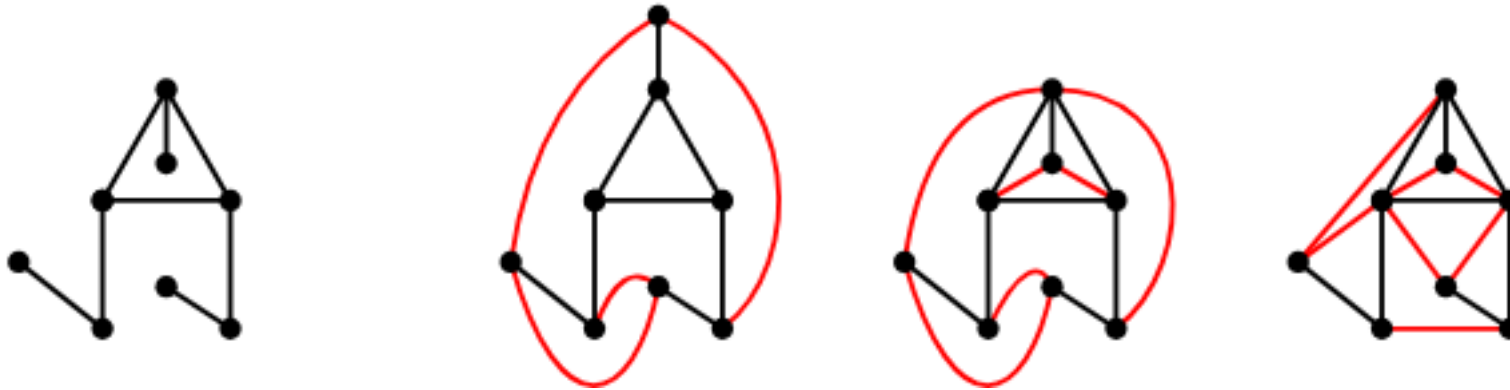
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Minimum augmentation to 3-connectivity (4,6,7 edges)

General remarks

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$\Rightarrow \exists$ edge with $\Omega(cr(G)/m) = \Omega\left(\frac{m^2}{n^2}\right) \geq \Omega(k^2)$ crossings

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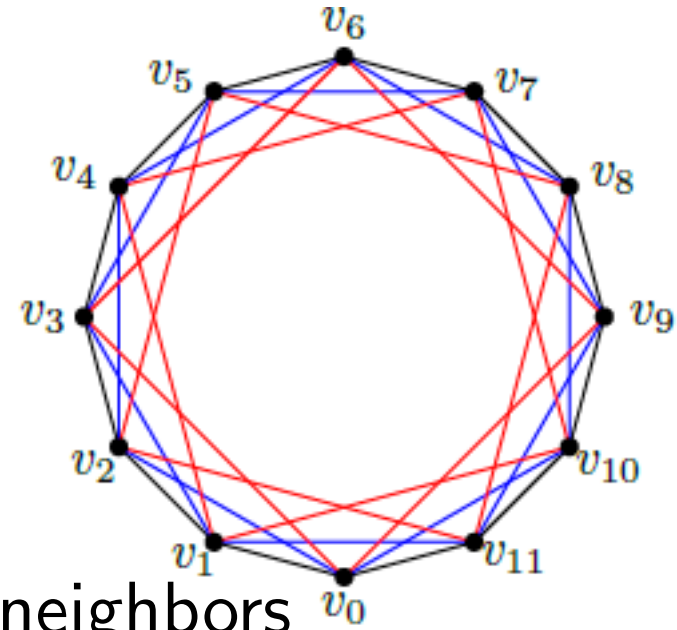
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Open: Precise dependency, say for 2-planarity

Geometric setting

n points in convex position:

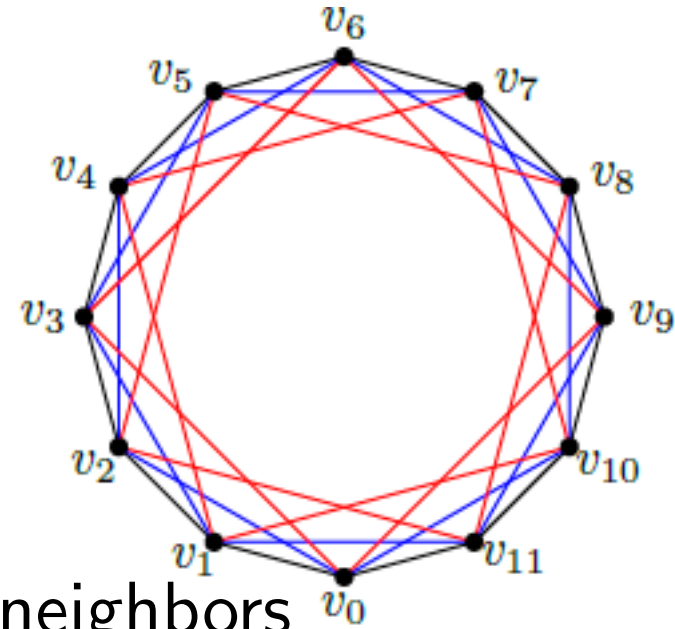


k -circulant graph:

vertices connected to their k next neighbors

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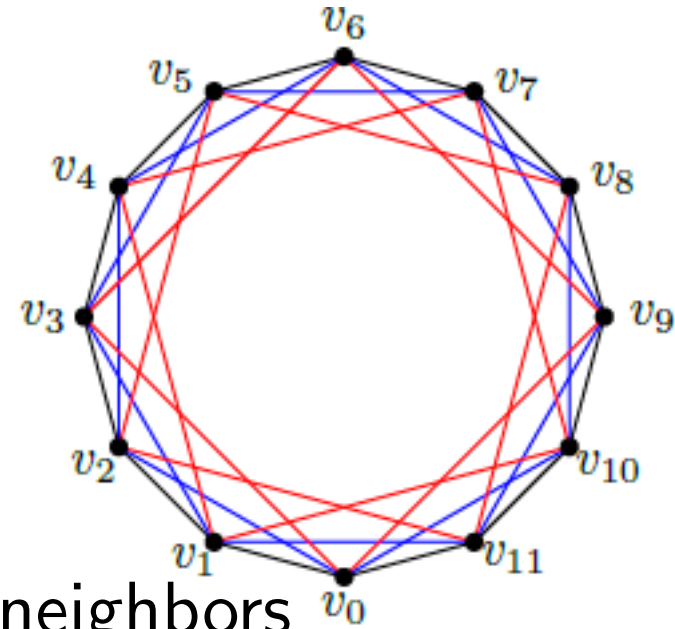
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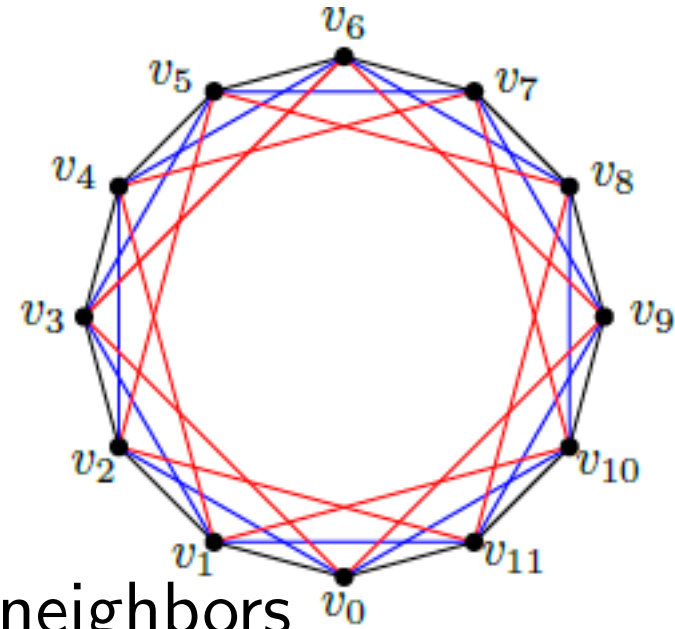
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Graphs with mindeg $2k$ have local crossing number $\ell \geq k^2 - k$

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Proof idea: Let $v_0, \dots, v_n$ be vertices in ccw order

Consider edge (v_0, v_ℓ) .

Estimate how many edges start at $v_1, \dots, v_\ell$ and end outside!

This gives lower bound for lcr

topological graphs

Task: Augment 3-connected planar graph to 4-connectivity

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Apply a known result about flipping triangles:

Bose et al. Triangulation can be converted into a 4-connected triangulation by a single simult. flip of $\leq \frac{2}{3}n$ edges.

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both problems NP-complete

Some complexity results

Theorem: The min. augmentation problem for a c -connected planar graph G to a k -connected planar graph G' is NP-hard, for $2 \rightarrow 3, 3 \rightarrow 4, 4 \rightarrow 5$.

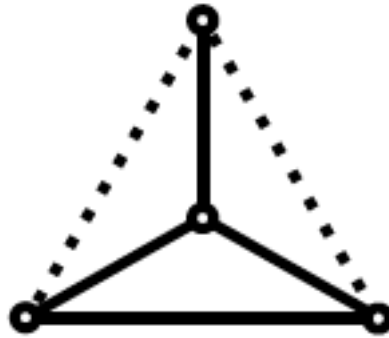
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Problem stays hard if G' might be 1-planar (topol./geometric)

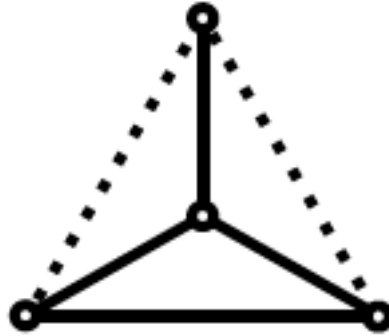
Some ideas for $3 \rightarrow 4$

The building block

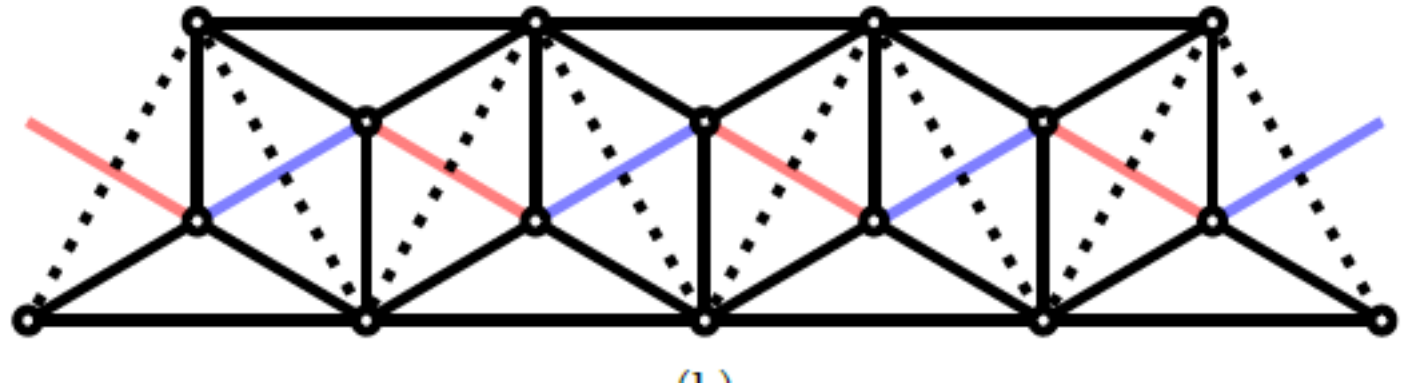


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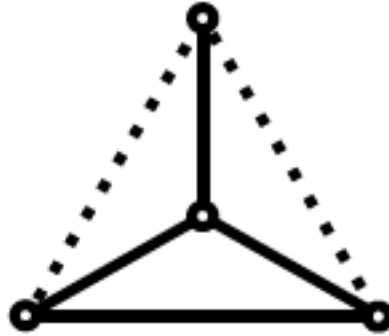


The variable gadget

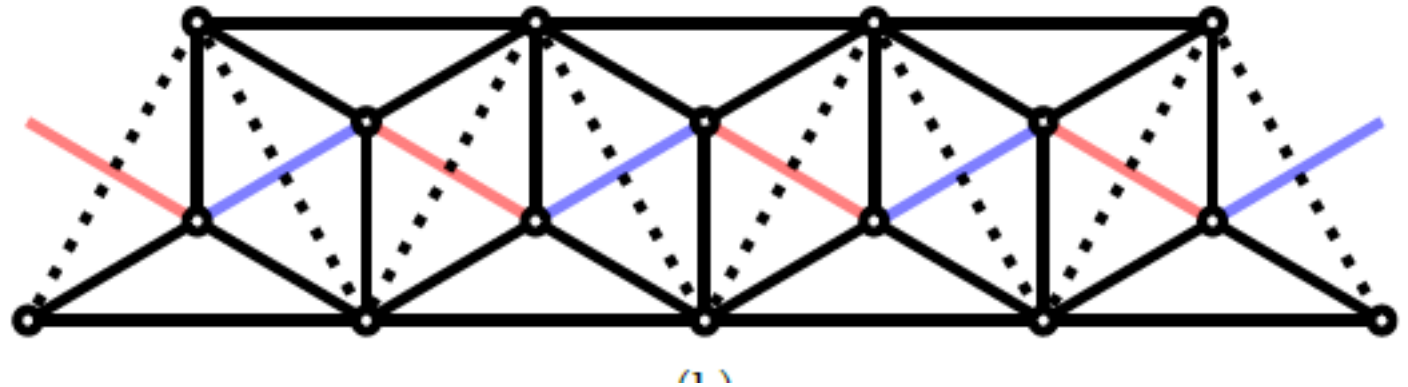


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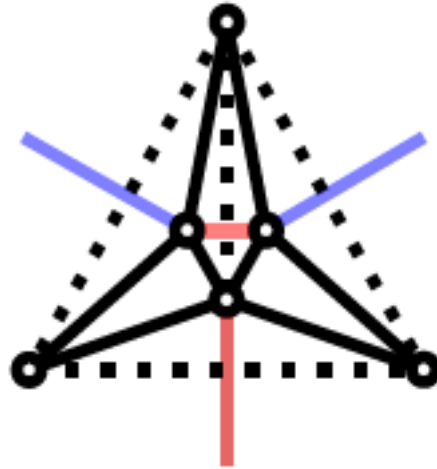
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min. augmentation by either red or blue edges !

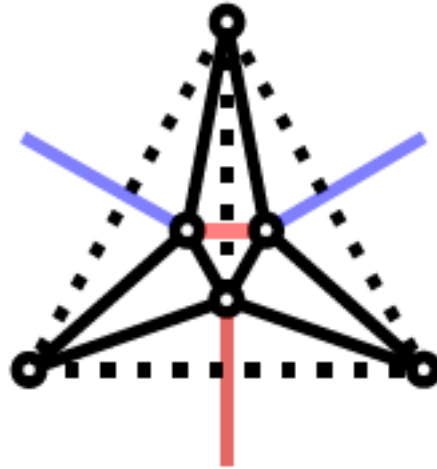
$$3 \rightarrow 4(2)$$

A positive literal gadget

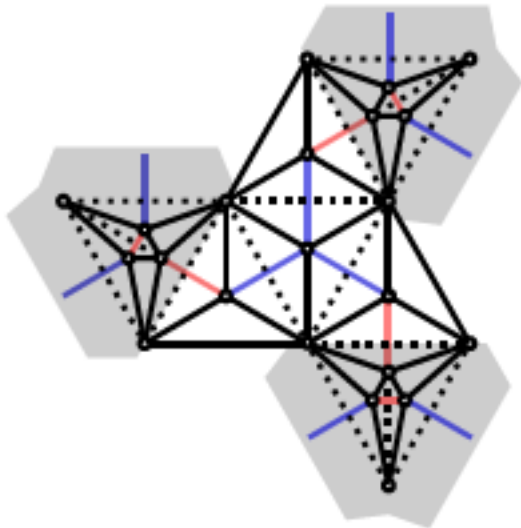


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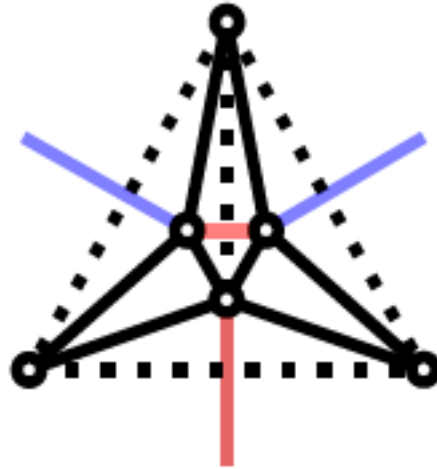


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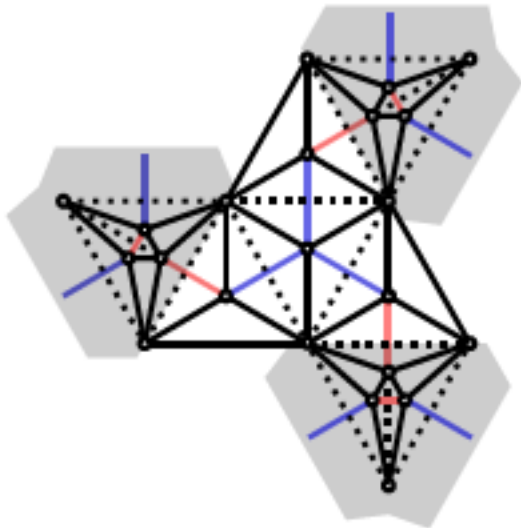


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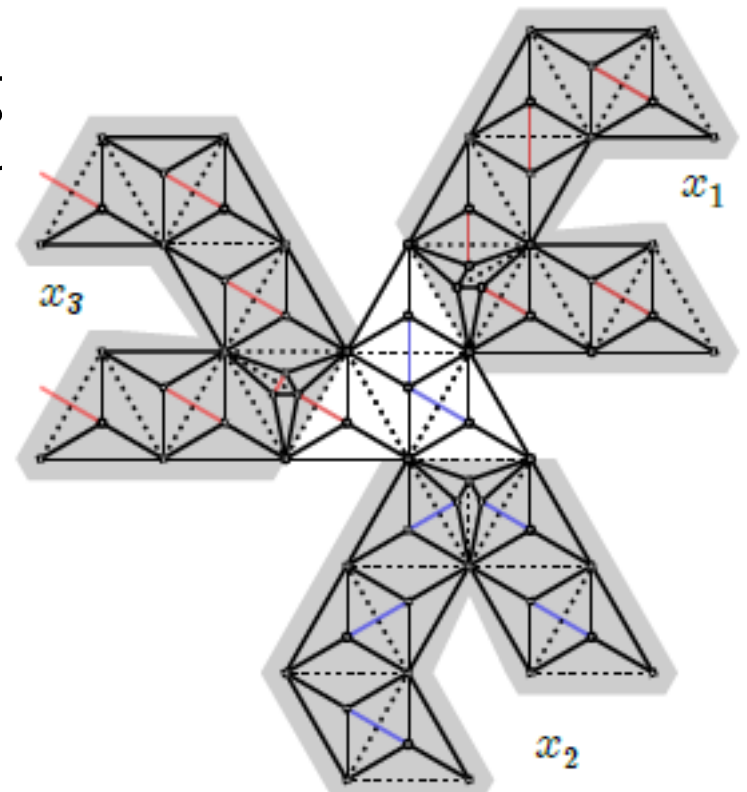
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Satisfying
assignment



Doable cases

Theorem: Given a plane tree T , we can compute a minimum augmentation to a plane 3-connected graph G , where T is spanning for G .

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Theorem: Any planar straight-line graph of n points in convex position can be augmented to a 3-connected 5-planar graph. '5' is best possible.

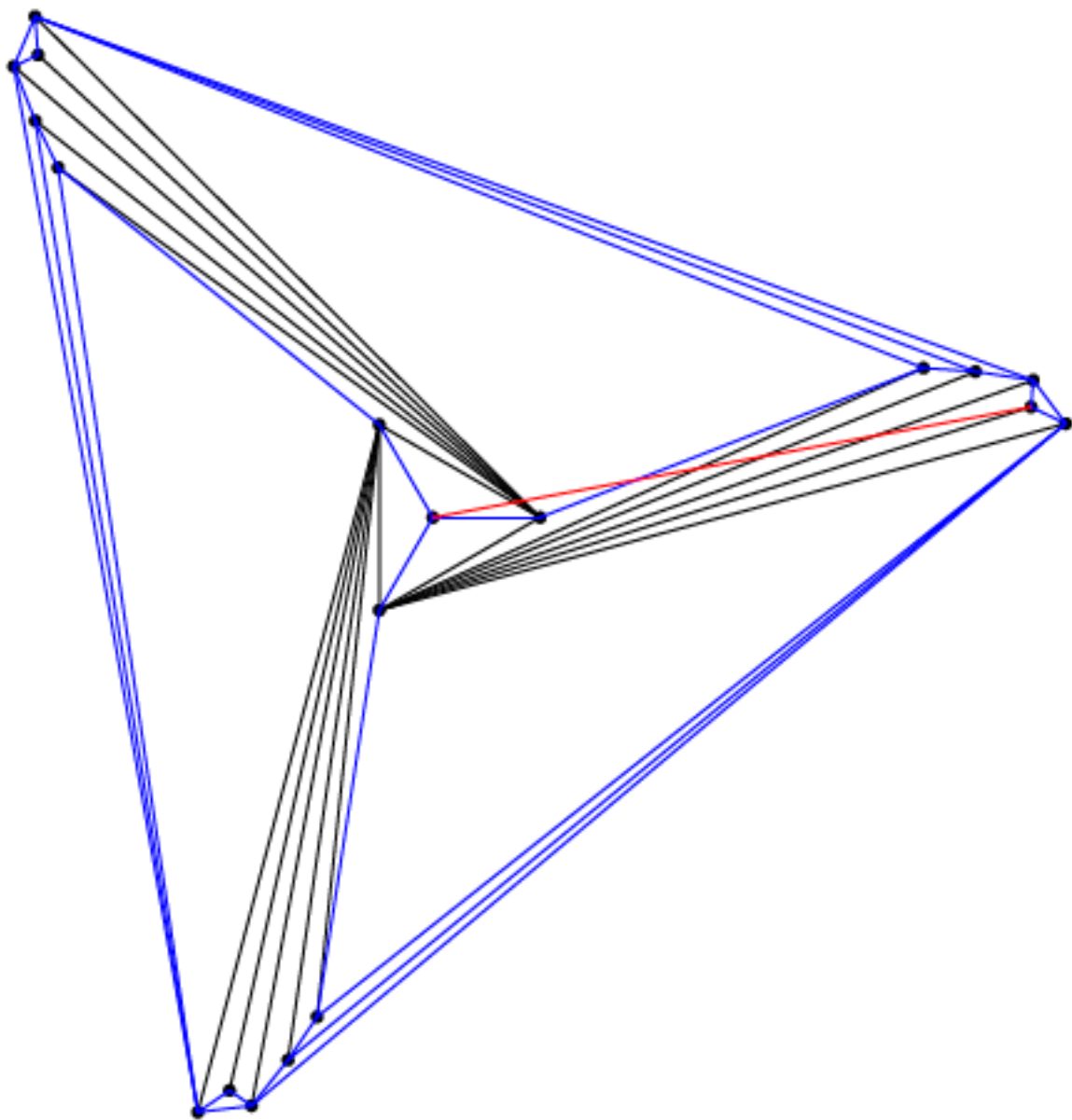
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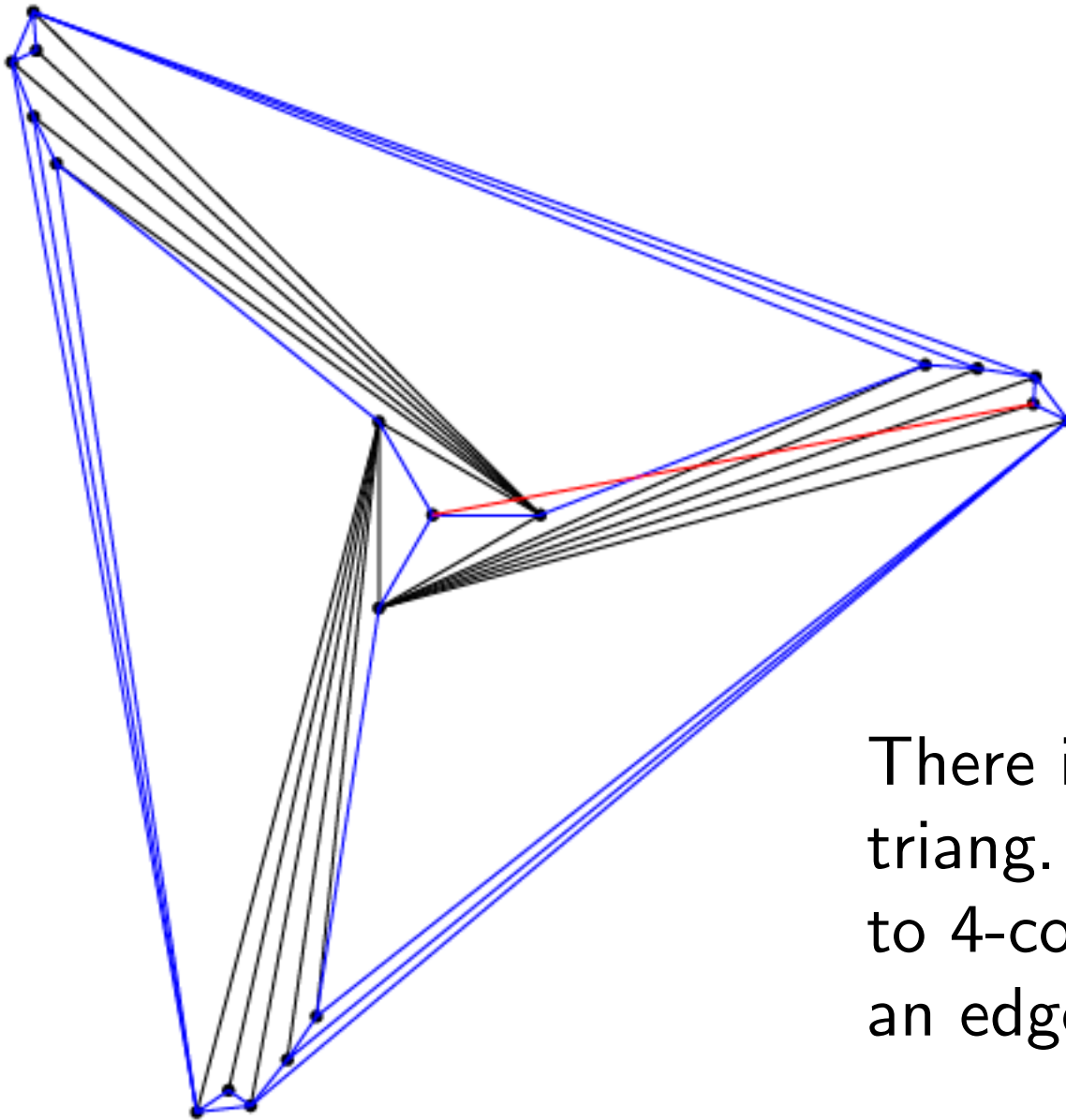
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Theorem: Any PSLG of n points in convex position can be augmented to a k -connected $O(k^2)$ -planar graph. This is best possible.

One last remarkable result



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There is a geometric triang. s.t. any augmentation to 4-connect. has an edge with $\Omega(n)$ crossings