

Flexibility of Planar Graphs

Sharpening the Tools to Get Lists of Size Four

Ilkyoo Choi, Felix Christian Clemen, Michael Ferrara,
Paul Horn, Fuhong Ma, Tomáš Masařík

Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
University of Warsaw, Poland
Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada

JMM 2020
Denver, CO, USA



Related Definitions

List coloring

A **list assignment** for a graph G is a function that to each vertex $v \in V(G)$ assigns a set $L(v)$ of colors. An **L -coloring** ϕ is proper if $\phi(v) \in L(v)$ for all $v \in V(G)$ and $\phi(u) \neq \phi(v)$ for an edge u, v .

Related Definitions

List coloring

A **list assignment** for a graph G is a function that to each vertex $v \in V(G)$ assigns a set $L(v)$ of colors. An **L -coloring** ϕ is proper if $\phi(v) \in L(v)$ for all $v \in V(G)$ and $\phi(u) \neq \phi(v)$ for an edge u, v .

Choosability

The **choosability** of graph G is the minimum integer k such that G has an L -coloring for every assignment L of lists of size at least k .

Related Definitions

List coloring

A **list assignment** for a graph G is a function that to each vertex $v \in V(G)$ assigns a set $L(v)$ of colors. An **L -coloring** ϕ is proper if $\phi(v) \in L(v)$ for all $v \in V(G)$ and $\phi(u) \neq \phi(v)$ for an edge u, v .

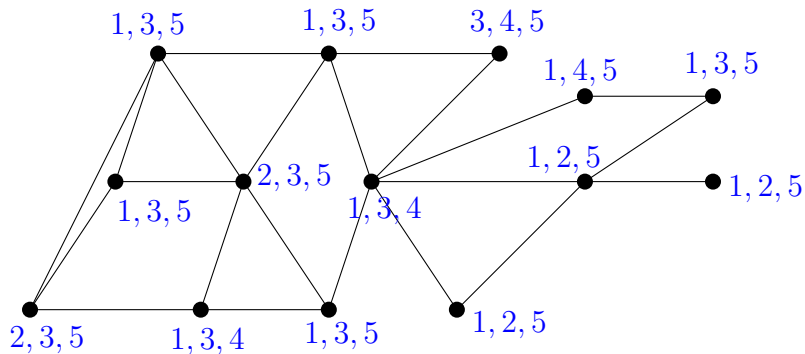
Choosability

The **choosability** of graph G is the minimum integer k such that G has an L -coloring for every assignment L of lists of size at least k .

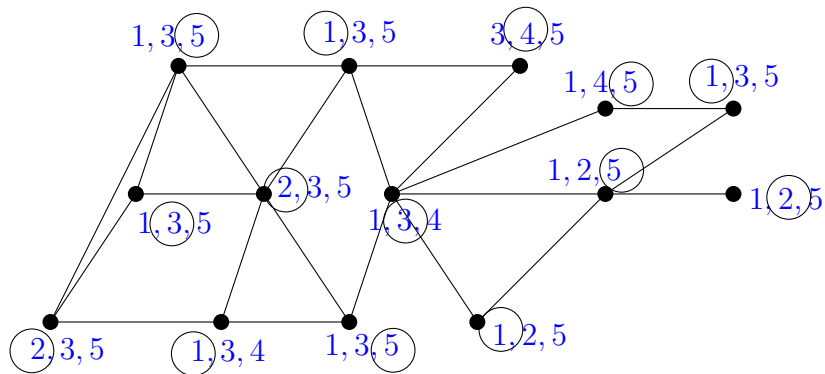
Precoloring Extension

The **precoloring extension** of graph G is a decision problem of extending a (pre)coloring of a subset of the vertices of a graph to a proper coloring of the whole graph.

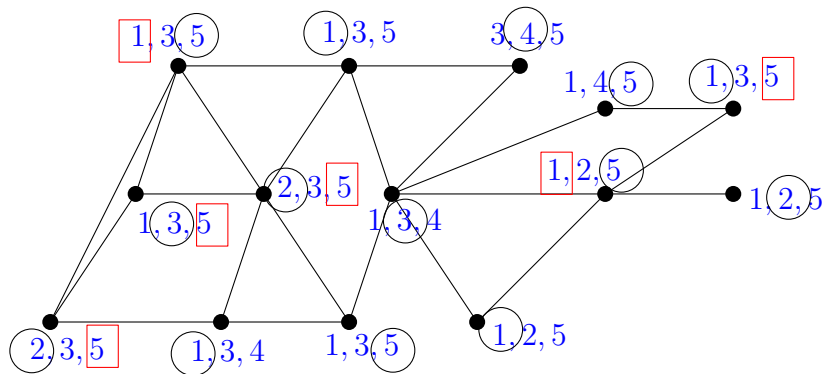
Flexibility—sketch



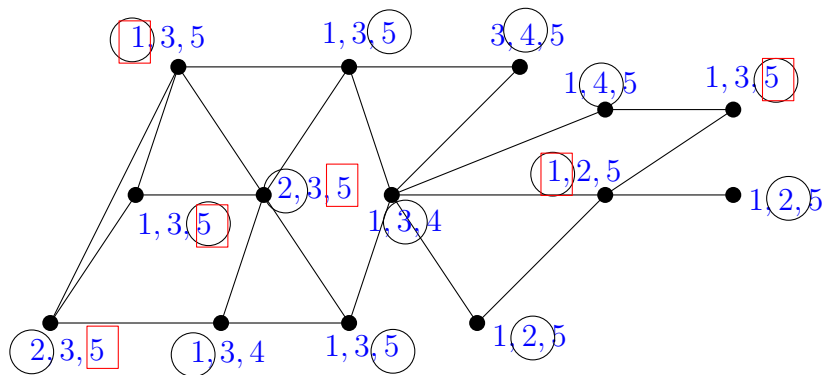
Flexibility—sketch



Flexibility—sketch



Flexibility—sketch



Flexibility

Request

A **request** for a graph G with a list assignment L is a function r with $\text{dom}(r) \subseteq V(G)$ such that $r(v) \in L(v)$ for all $v \in \text{dom}(r)$.

Flexibility

Request

A **request** for a graph G with a list assignment L is a function r with $\text{dom}(r) \subseteq V(G)$ such that $r(v) \in L(v)$ for all $v \in \text{dom}(r)$.

ε -satisfiable request

For $\varepsilon > 0$, a request r is **ε -satisfiable** if there exists an L -coloring ϕ of G such that $\phi(v) = r(v)$ for at least $\varepsilon|\text{dom}(r)|$ vertices $v \in \text{dom}(r)$.

Flexibility

Request

A **request** for a graph G with a list assignment L is a function r with $\text{dom}(r) \subseteq V(G)$ such that $r(v) \in L(v)$ for all $v \in \text{dom}(r)$.

ε -satisfiable request

For $\varepsilon > 0$, a request r is **ε -satisfiable** if there exists an L -coloring ϕ of G such that $\phi(v) = r(v)$ for at least $\varepsilon|\text{dom}(r)|$ vertices $v \in \text{dom}(r)$.

ε -flexibility

We say that G with the list assignment L is **ε -flexible** if **every request** is ε -satisfiable.

Weighted flexibility

Weighted request

Let L be a list assignment for a graph G . A **weighted request** is a function w that to each pair (v, c) with $c \in L(v)$ assigns a nonnegative real number.

Weighted flexibility

Weighted request

Let L be a list assignment for a graph G . A **weighted request** is a function w that to each pair (v, c) with $c \in L(v)$ assigns a nonnegative real number.

ε -satisfiable weighted request

Let $w(G, L) = \sum_{v \in V(G), c \in L(v)} w(v, c)$. For $\varepsilon > 0$, we say that w is **ε -satisfiable** if there exists an L -coloring ϕ of G such that

$$\sum_{v \in V(G)} w(v, \phi(v)) \geq \varepsilon w(G, L).$$

Weighted flexibility

Weighted request

Let L be a list assignment for a graph G . A **weighted request** is a function w that to each pair (v, c) with $c \in L(v)$ assigns a nonnegative real number.

ε -satisfiable weighted request

Let $w(G, L) = \sum_{v \in V(G), c \in L(v)} w(v, c)$. For $\varepsilon > 0$, we say that w is **ε -satisfiable** if there exists an L -coloring ϕ of G such that

$$\sum_{v \in V(G)} w(v, \phi(v)) \geq \varepsilon w(G, L).$$

Weighted ε -flexibility

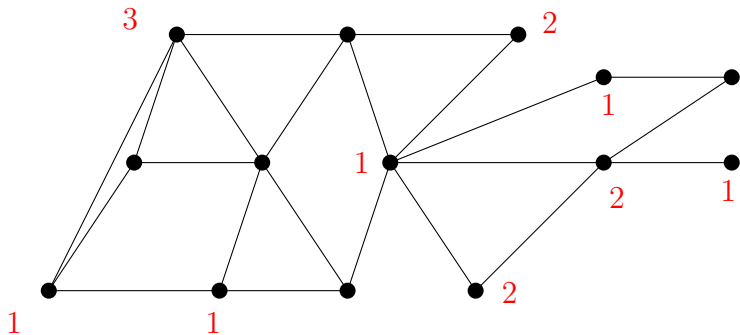
We say that G with the list assignment L is **weighted ε -flexible** if every weighted request is ε -satisfiable.

Lists are Necessary!

Any k -colorable graph with any precoloring of size k is $1/k^2$ -flexible.

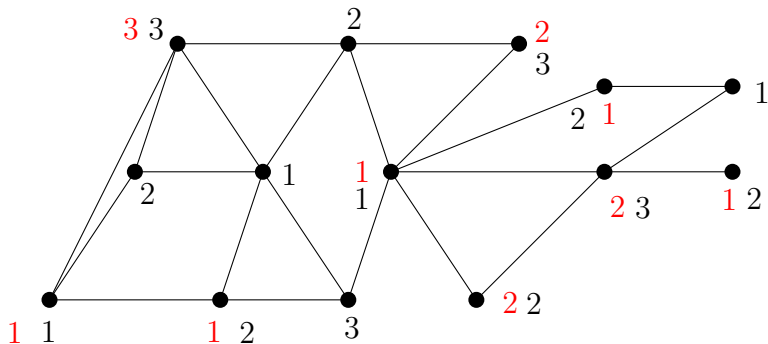
Lists are Necessary!

Any k -colorable graph with any precoloring of size k is $1/k^2$ -flexible.



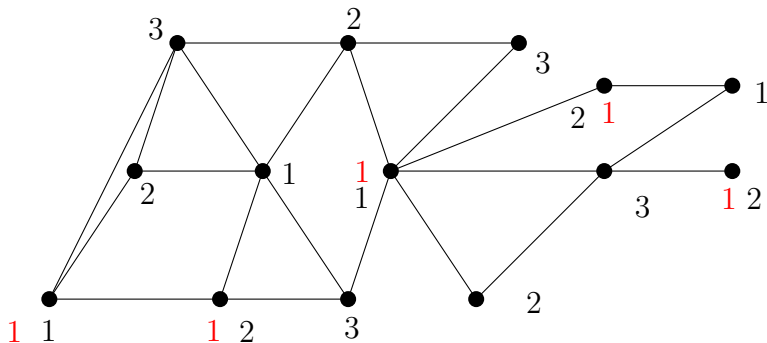
Lists are Necessary!

Any k -colorable graph with any precoloring of size k is $1/k^2$ -flexible.



Lists are Necessary!

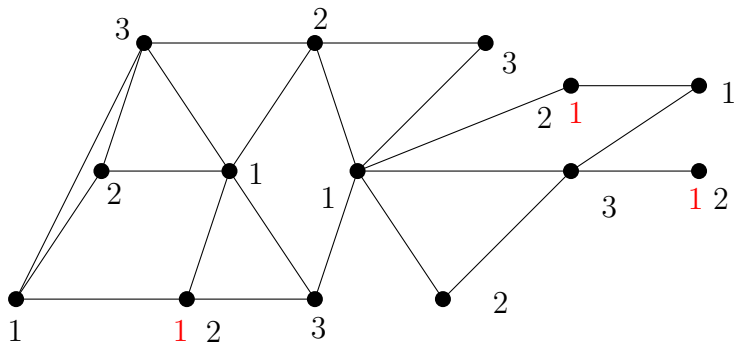
Any k -colorable graph with any precoloring of size k is $1/k^2$ -flexible.



$\frac{1}{k}$ fraction of the request is preserved.

Lists are Necessary!

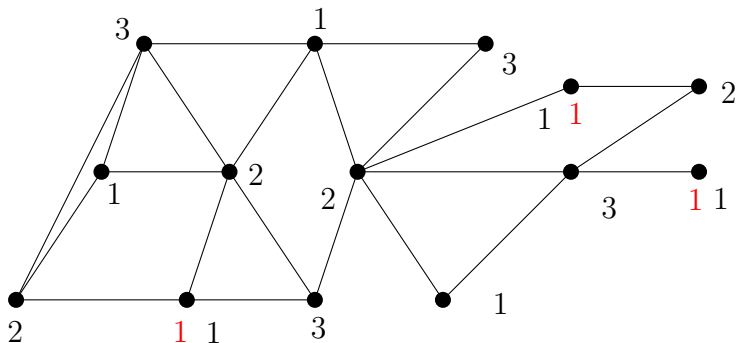
Any k -colorable graph with any precoloring of size k is $1/k^2$ -flexible.



$\frac{1}{k}$ fraction of the remaining request is preserved.

Lists are Necessary!

Any k -colorable graph with any precoloring of size k is $1/k^2$ -flexible.



Questions

Meta-question

When choosability and flexibility bound coincide.

Conjecture (Dvořák, Norin, Postle JGT 2019)

There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every planar graph with assignment of lists of size 5 is weighted ε -flexible.

Theorem (T1 CCFHMM20+)

There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every K_4^- -free planar graph is weighted ε -flexible for lists of size 5.

Theorem (T1 CCFHMM20+)

There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every K_4^- -free planar graph is weighted ε -flexible for lists of size 5.

Theorem (T2 CCFHMM20+)

There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every C_4 -free planar graph with triangle distance at least 2 is weighted ε -flexible for lists of size 4.

Theorem (T1 CCFHMM20+)

There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every K_4^- -free planar graph is weighted ε -flexible for lists of size 5.

Theorem (T2 CCFHMM20+)

There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every C_4 -free planar graph with triangle distance at least 2 is weighted ε -flexible for lists of size 4.

Theorem (T3 CCFHMM20+)

There exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every C_4 -free, C_5 -free, C_6 -free planar graph is **weakly** ε -flexible for lists of size 4.

Related Results

Greedy algorithm gives choosability at most **degeneracy +1**. For flexibility [2] showed weighted ε -flexibility is at most **degeneracy +2**

		C_3	C_4	C_3C_4	$C_3C_4C_5$	C_4C_3d2	$C_4C_5 C_6$	K
Deg.	5	3	4	3	3		3	4
Ch. lb.	5	4	4	3	3		4	4
Ch	5 [1]	4	4 [6]	3	3	4	4	5
W Fl.	6	4	5	4	3	4	4 T3	5
Fl.	6 [2]	4	5	4	3	4	5	5
w Fl	7 [2]	4 [3]	5 [5]	4	3 [4]	4 T2	5	5

1 Thomassen 94

2 Dvořák, Norin, Postle 19

Related Results

Greedy algorithm gives choosability at most **degeneracy + 1**. For flexibility [2] showed weighted ε -flexibility is at most **degeneracy + 2**

		C_3	C_4	C_3C_4	$C_3C_4C_5$	C_4C_3d2	$C_4C_5 C_6$	K
Deg.	5	3	4	3	3		3	4
Ch. lb.	5	4	4	3	3		4	4
Ch	5 [1]	4	4 [6]	3	3	4	4	5
W Fl.	6	4	5	4	3	4	4 T3	5
Fl.	6 [2]	4	5	4	3	4	5	5
w Fl	7 [2]	4 [3]	5 [5]	4	3 [4]	4 T2	5	5

2 Dvořák, Norin, Postle 19

3 Dvořák, TM, Musílek, Pangrác 19

4 Dvořák, TM, Musílek, Pangrác 19

Related Results

Greedy algorithm gives choosability at most **degeneracy + 1**. For flexibility [2] showed weighted ε -flexibility is at most **degeneracy + 2**

		C_3	C_4	C_3C_4	$C_3C_4C_5$	C_4C_3d2	$C_4C_5 C_6$	K
Deg.	5	3	4	3	3		3	4
Ch. lb.	5	4	4	3	3		4	4
Ch	5 [1]	4	4 [6]	3	3	4	4	5
W Fl.	6	4	5	4	3	4	4 T3	5
Fl.	6 [2]	4	5	4	3	4	5	5
w Fl	7 [2]	4 [3]	5 [5]	4	3 [4]	4 T2	5	5

2 Dvořák, Norin, Postle 19

5 TM 19

6 Lam, Xu, Liu 99

Linearity of Expectation

Lemma (DNP 19)

Let G be a graph and let L be a list assignment for G . Suppose G is L -colorable and there exists a probability distribution on L -colorings φ of G such that for every $v \in V(G)$ and $c \in L(v)$, $\text{Prob}[\varphi(v) = c] \geq \varepsilon$. Then G with L is **weighted ε -flexible**.

$$\geq \varepsilon w(G, L).$$

Linearity of Expectation

Lemma (DNP 19)

Let G be a graph and let L be a list assignment for G . Suppose G is L -colorable and there exists a probability distribution on L -colorings φ of G such that for every $v \in V(G)$ and $c \in L(v)$, $\text{Prob}[\varphi(v) = c] \geq \varepsilon$. Then G with L is **weighted ε -flexible**.

Proof

$$E \left[\sum_{v \in V(G)} w(v, \phi(v)) \right] = \sum_{v \in V(G), c \in L(v)} \text{Prob}[\phi(v) = c] \cdot w(v, c) \geq$$

Linearity of Expectation

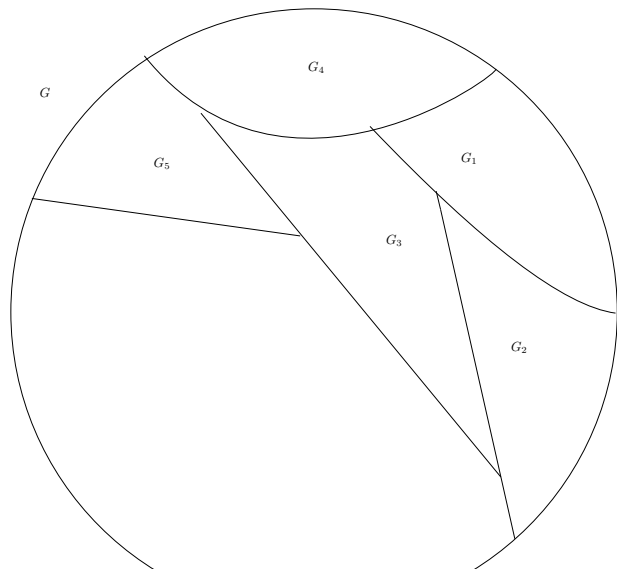
Lemma (DNP 19)

Let G be a graph and let L be a list assignment for G . Suppose G is L -colorable and there exists a probability distribution on L -colorings φ of G such that for every $v \in V(G)$ and $c \in L(v)$, $\text{Prob}[\varphi(v) = c] \geq \varepsilon$. Then G with L is **weighted ε -flexible**.

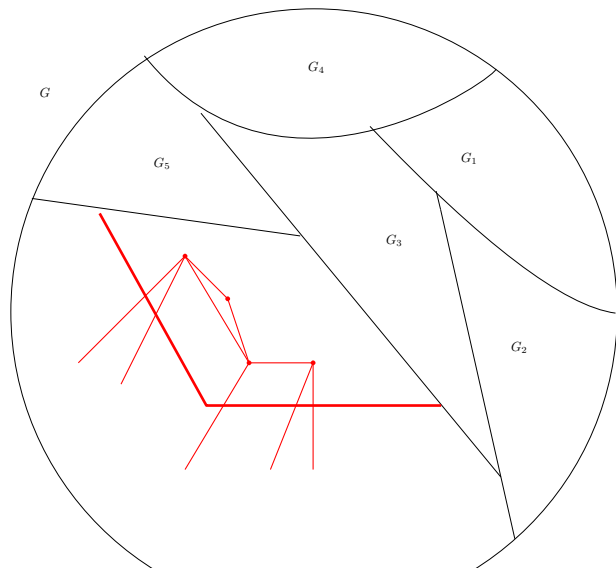
Proof

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[\sum_{v \in V(G)} w(v, \phi(v)) \right] &= \sum_{v \in V(G), c \in L(v)} \text{Prob}[\phi(v) = c] \cdot w(v, c) \geq \\ &\geq \varepsilon w(G, L). \end{aligned}$$

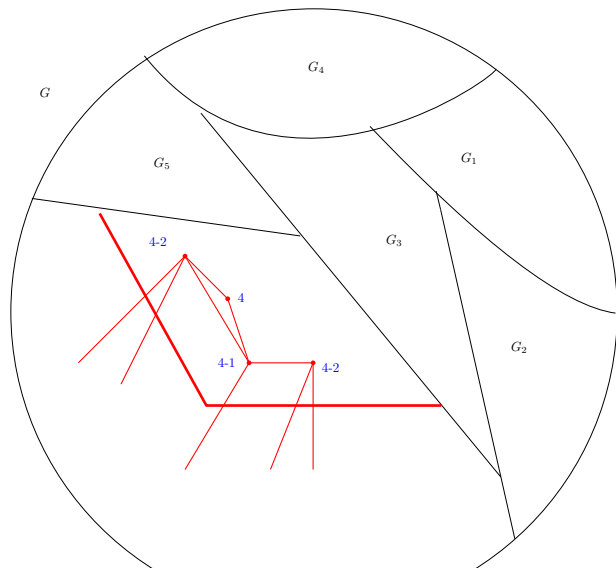
Main Tool—sketch



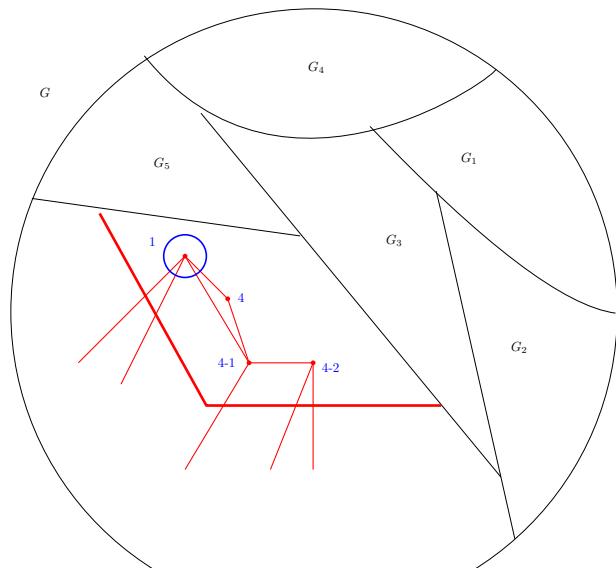
Main Tool—sketch



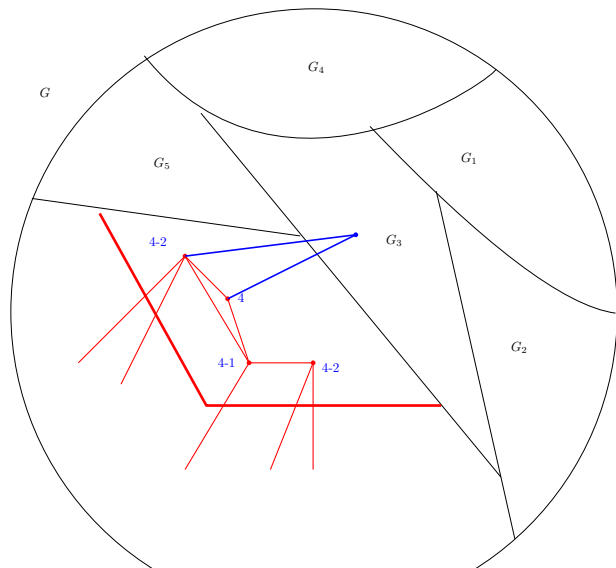
Main Tool—sketch



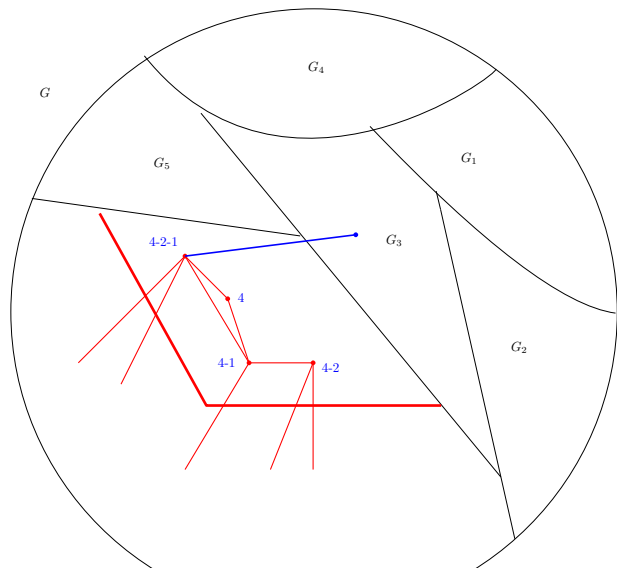
Main Tool—sketch



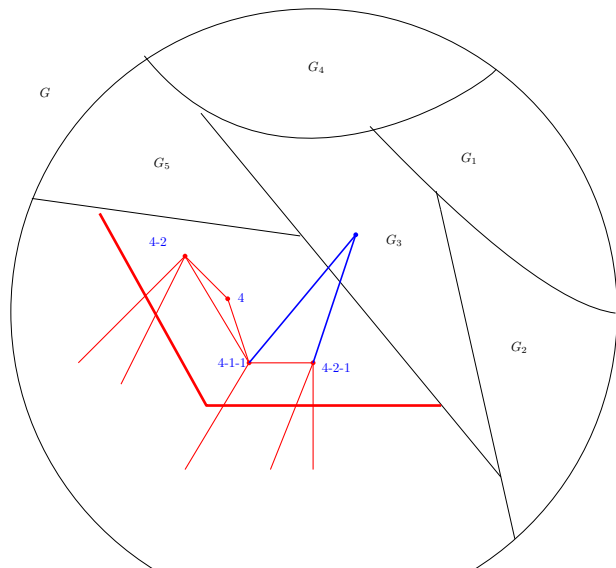
Main Tool—sketch



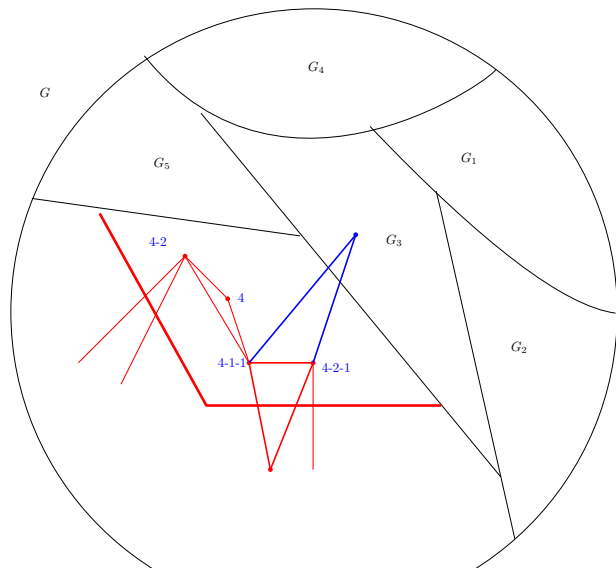
Main Tool—sketch



Main Tool—sketch



Main Tool—sketch



Reducible Configuration

Discharging. . .

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- 1 General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5** are weighted ε -flexible?

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- ① General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- ② Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**

are weighted ε -flexible?

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- ① General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- ② Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**
- ③ Planar graph **without C_4** with assignment of lists of size **4**

are weighted ε -flexible?

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- ① General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- ② Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**
- ③ Planar graph **without C_4** with assignment of lists of size **4**
- ④ **2-degenerate** graphs with lists of size **3**

are weighted ε -flexible?

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- ① General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- ② Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**
- ③ Planar graph **without C_4** with assignment of lists of size **4**
- ④ **2-degenerate** graphs with lists of size **3**
- ⑤ **Outerplanar** graphs with lists of size **3**

are weighted ε -flexible?

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- 1 General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- 2 Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**
- 3 Planar graph **without C_4** with assignment of lists of size **4**
- 4 **2-degenerate** graphs with lists of size **3**
- 5 **Outerplanar** graphs with lists of size **3**
- 6 ...

are weighted ε -flexible?

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- ① General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- ② Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**
- ③ Planar graph **without C_4** with assignment of lists of size **4**
- ④ **2-degenerate** graphs with lists of size **3**
- ⑤ **Outerplanar** graphs with lists of size **3**
- ⑥ ...

are weighted ε -flexible?

Lower bounds

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- 1 General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- 2 Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**
- 3 Planar graph **without C_4** with assignment of lists of size **4**
- 4 **2-degenerate** graphs with lists of size **3**
- 5 **Outerplanar** graphs with lists of size **3**
- 6 ...

are weighted ε -flexible?

Lower bounds, **algorithms...**

Open cases

Is there $\varepsilon > 0$ such that every

- 1 General **planar** graph with assignment of lists of size **5**
- 2 Planar graph of **girth 5** with assignment of lists of size **3**
- 3 Planar graph **without C_4** with assignment of lists of size **4**
- 4 **2-degenerate** graphs with lists of size **3**
- 5 **Outerplanar** graphs with lists of size **3**
- 6 ...

are weighted ε -flexible?

Lower bounds, **algorithms...**

Thank you for your attention!