

On RAC Drawings of Graphs with Two Bends per Edge

Csaba D. Tóth

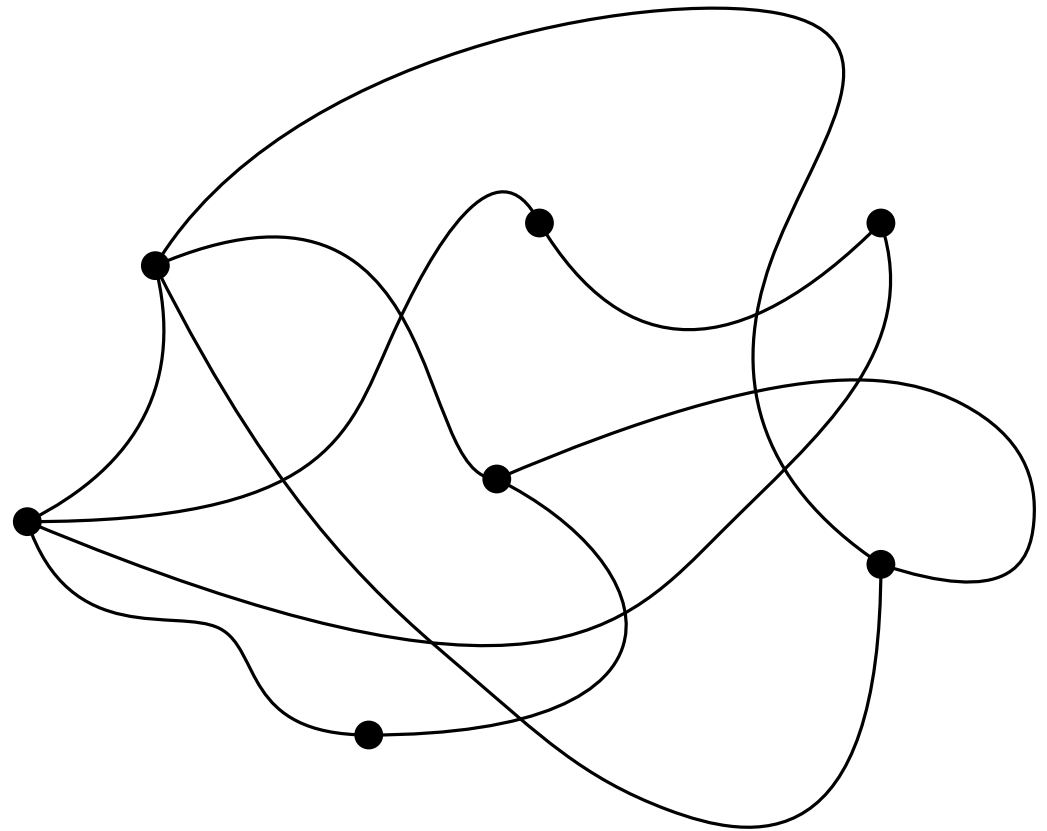
**31st International Symposium on
Graph Drawing and Network Visualization**

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Right Angle Crossing (RAC) Drawings

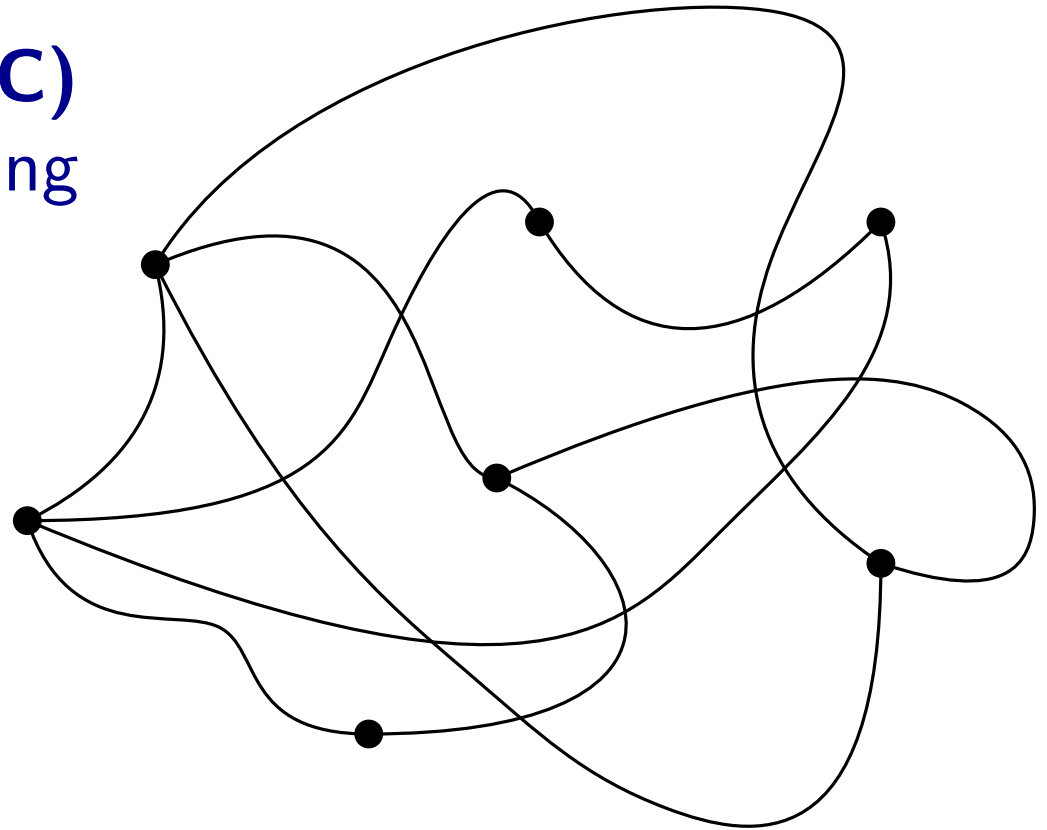
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A topological graph is a **Right Angle Crossing (RAC) drawing** if every pair of crossing edges meet at 90° angle.



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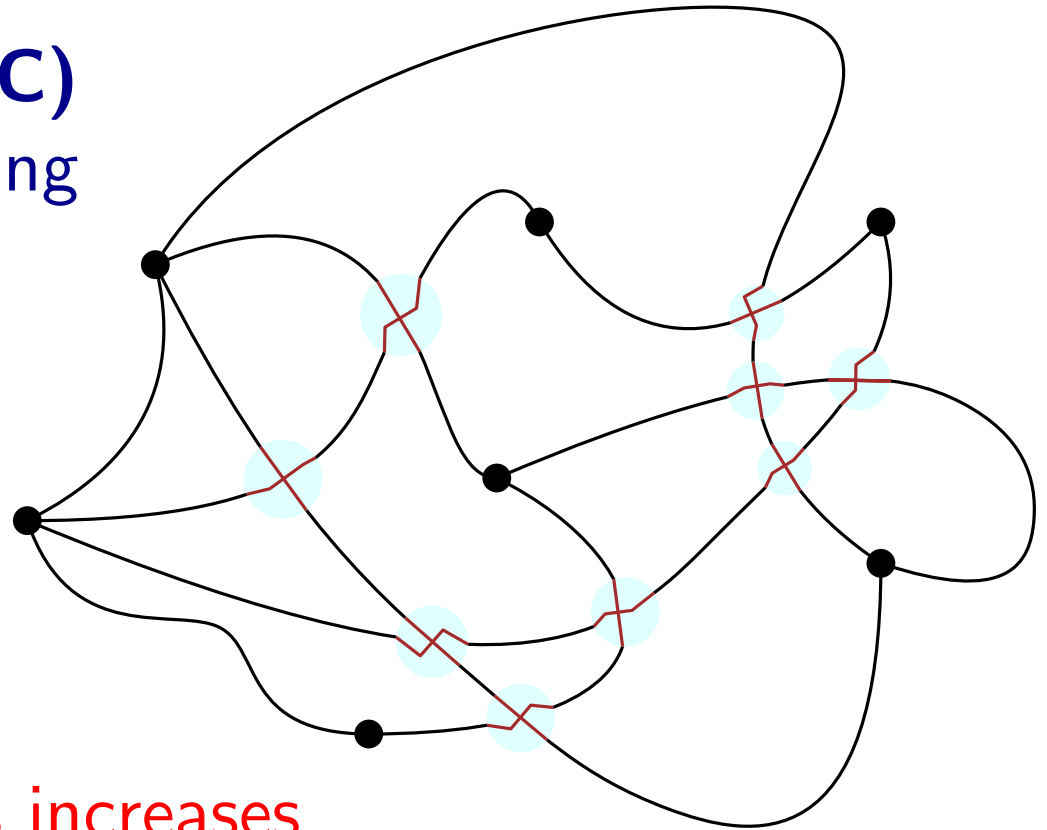
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Observation. Every good drawing can be perturbed into a RAC drawing, by modifying the edges in the neighborhood of crossings.

...the complexity of the edges increases...



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Right Angle Crossing (RAC) Drawings

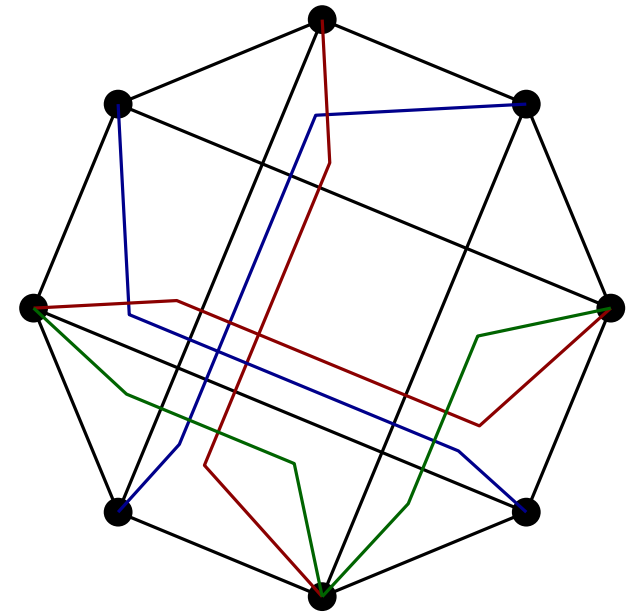
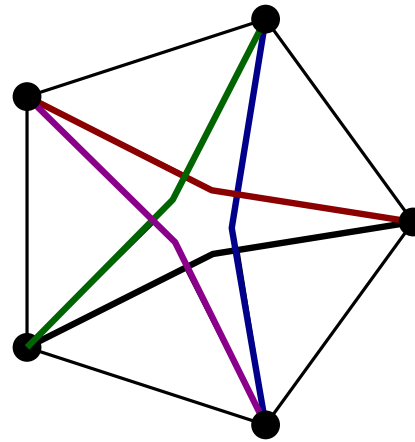
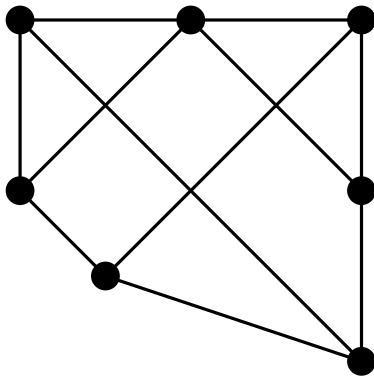
For $b \geq 0$, a **RAC_b drawing** is a RAC drawing in which every edge is a polygonal path with at most b interior vertices (bends).

RAC₀: straight-line RAC drawing,

RAC₁: one-bend RAC drawing,

RAC₂: two-bend RAC drawing,

RAC₃: three-bend RAC drawing.



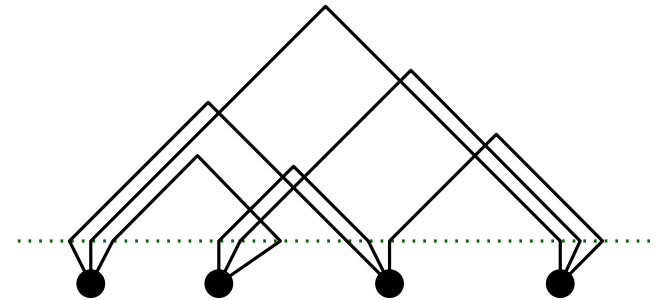
An (abstract) graph is a **RAC_b graph** if it admits a RAC_b drawing.

Right Angle Crossing (RAC) Drawings

How many edges can an n -vertex RAC_b graph have?

Theorem (Didimo, Eades, and Liotta, 2009).

Every graph is RAC_3 . This yields an upper bound of $\binom{n}{2}$.



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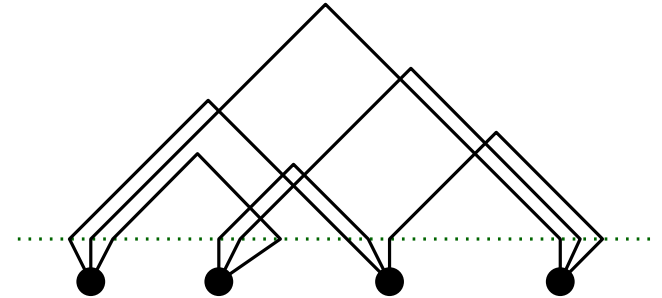
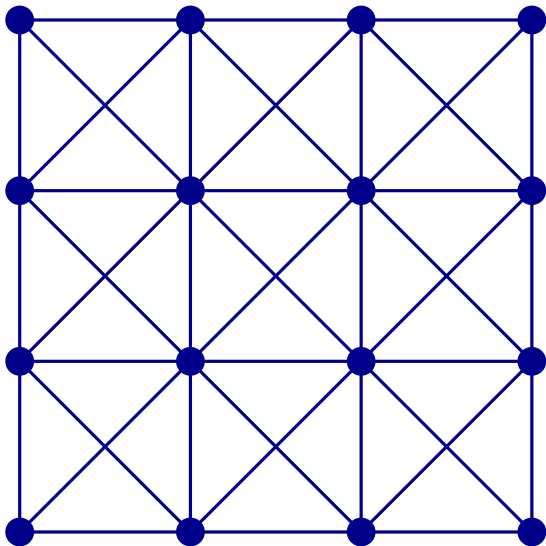
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Every RAC_0 graph on $n \geq 4$ vertices has at most $4n - 10$ edges, and this bound is the best possible.



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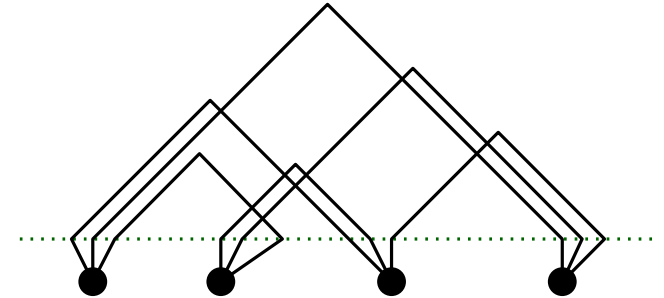
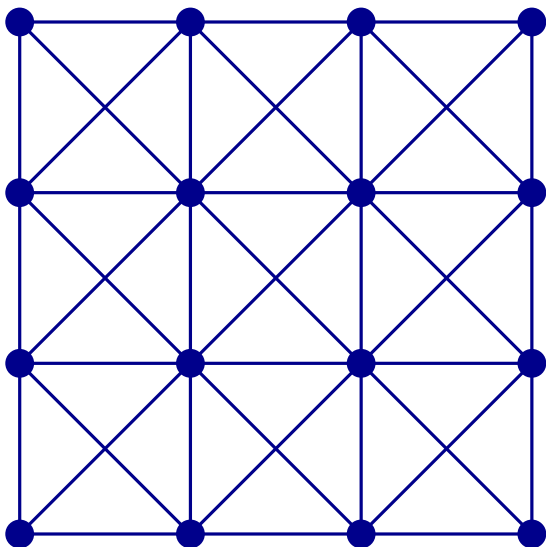
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Theorem (Angelini, Bekos, Förster, and Kaufmann, 2020).

Every RAC_1 graph on n vertices has at most $5.5n - O(1)$ edges, and this bound is the best possible.

Right Angle Crossing (RAC) Drawings

How many edges can an n -vertex RAC_2 graph have?

$\leq 74.2n$ (Arikushi, Fulek, Keszegh, Moric, and Tóth, 2010)

$\geq 7.83n - O(\sqrt{n})$ (Arikushi, Fulek, Keszegh, Moric, Tóth, 2010)

$\geq 10n - O(1)$ (Angelini, Bekos, Katheder, Kaufmann, Pfister, and Ueckerdt, ESA 2023)

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—new result in this short paper—

Theorem. Every RAC_2 graph on $n \geq 3$ vertices has at most $24n - 26$ edges.

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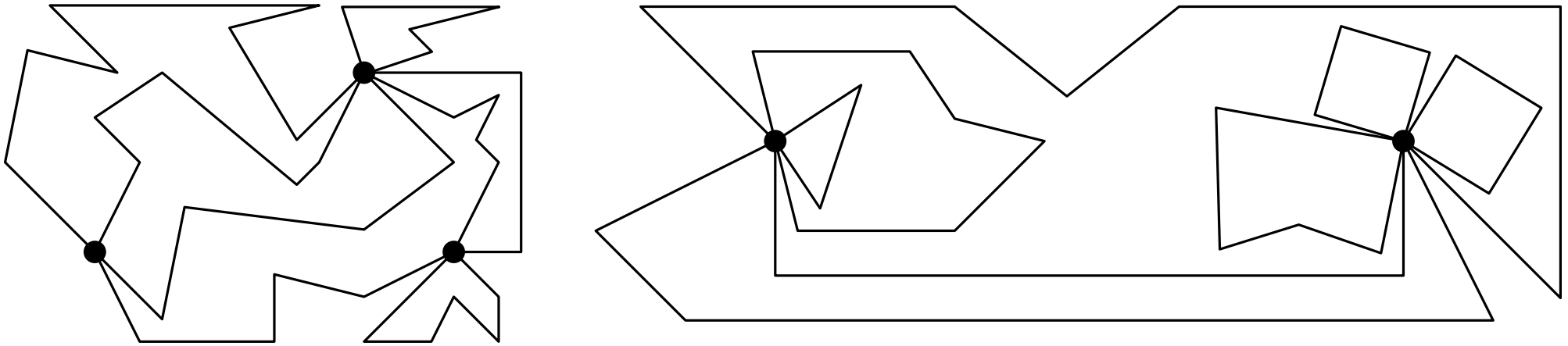
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Theorem. Every RAC_2 graph on $n \geq 3$ vertices has at most ~~$24n - 26$~~ edges.

$20n - 24$

Multigraphs with Angle-Constrained End Segments

In a **plane multigraph**, the vertices are distinct points, and the edges are Jordan arcs between the corresponding vertices (not passing through any other vertex), and any pair of edges may intersect only at vertices.

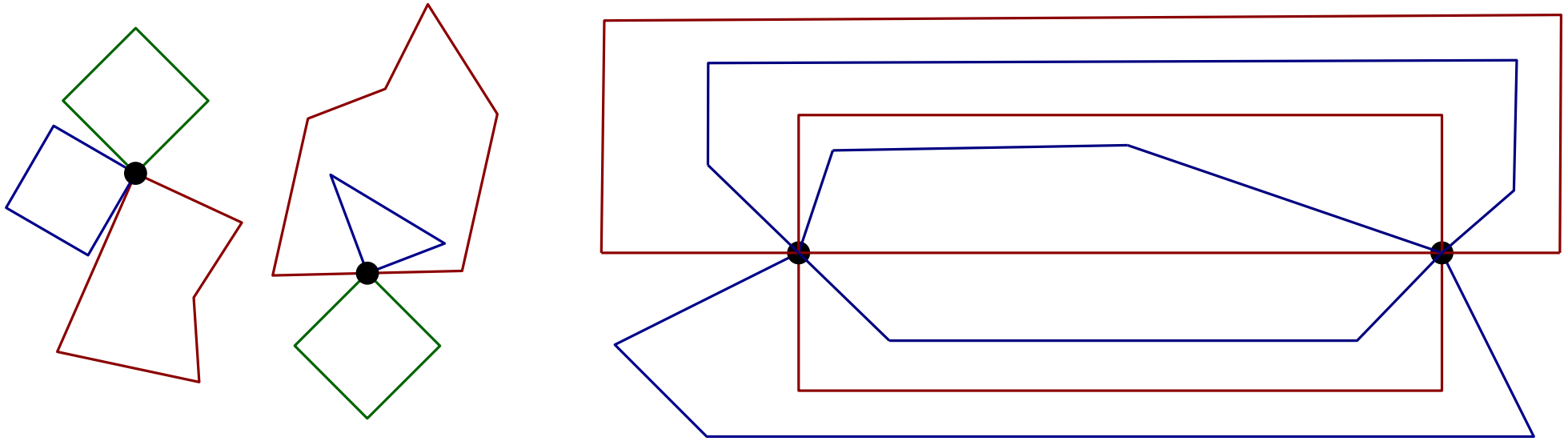


A **plane ortho-fin multigraph** is a plane multigraph such that every edge is a polygonal path (p_0, p_1, \dots, p_k) where the first and last edge segments are either parallel or orthogonal, that is, $p_0p_1 \parallel p_{k-1}p_k$ or $p_0p_1 \perp p_{k-1}p_k$.

Multigraphs with Angle-Constrained End Segments

How many edges can an n -vertex plane ortho-fin multigraph have?

- Every vertex has at most 3 loops.
- Every edge uv has multiplicity at most 8.
- Euler's formula yields $3n + 8(3n - 6) = 27n - 48$ for $n \geq 3$.

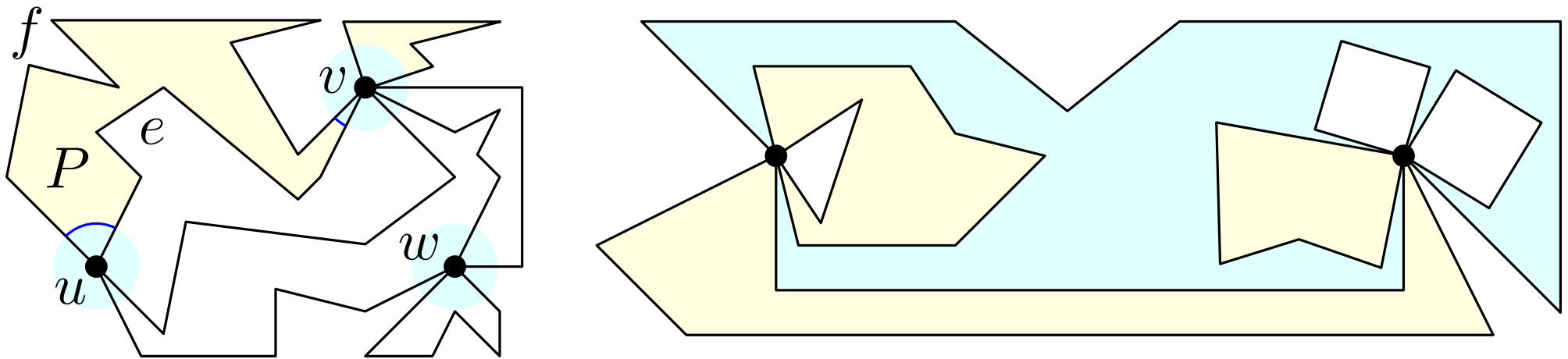


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Multigraphs with Angle-Constrained End Segments

- The **potential** $\Phi(P)$ of a face P is the sum of interior angles of P over all vertices in V incident to P .

Lemma. For every face P of an ortho-fin multigraph, $\Phi(P)$ is a multiple of $\pi/2$, in particular, $\Phi(P) \geq \pi/2$.



Theorem. A weak ortho-fin multigraph has at most $5n - 2$ edges, and this bound is the best possible.

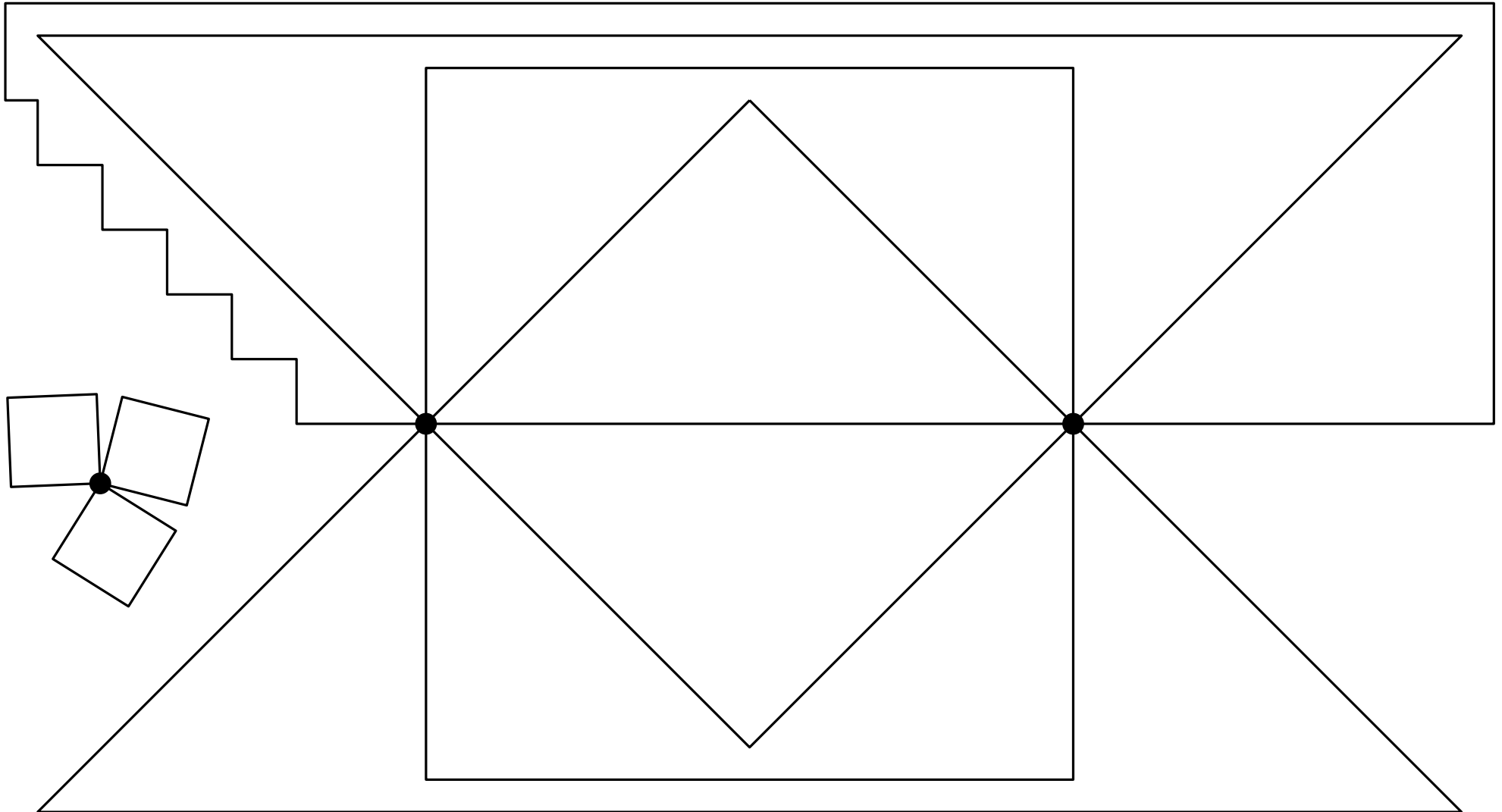
Summation over all faces yields $\sum_P \Phi(P) \leq 2\pi \cdot n$.

Consequently, the number of faces is at most $f \leq \frac{2\pi \cdot n}{\pi/2} = 4n$.

Combined with Euler's formula, $m = n + f - 2 \Rightarrow m \leq 5n - 2$.

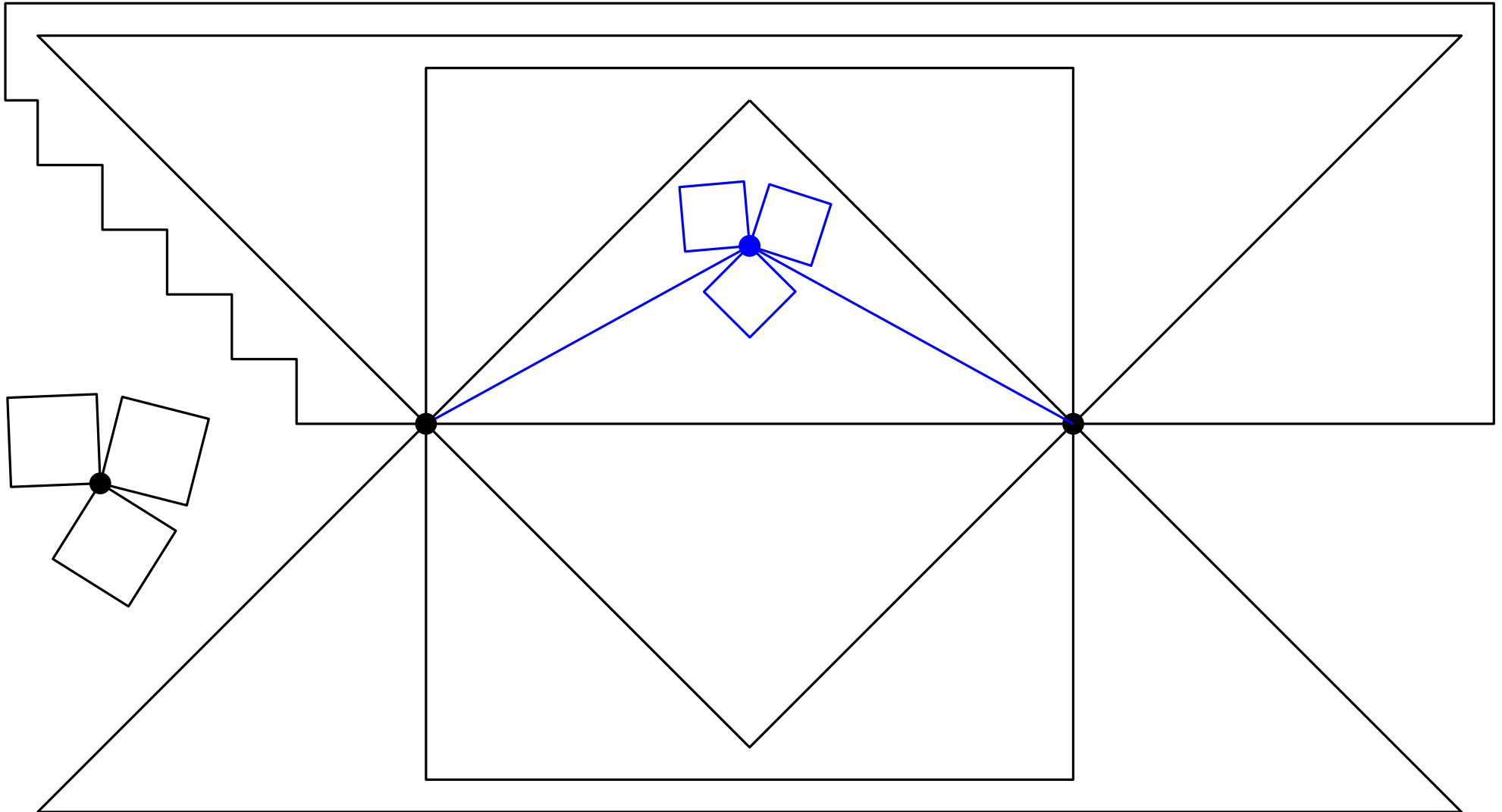
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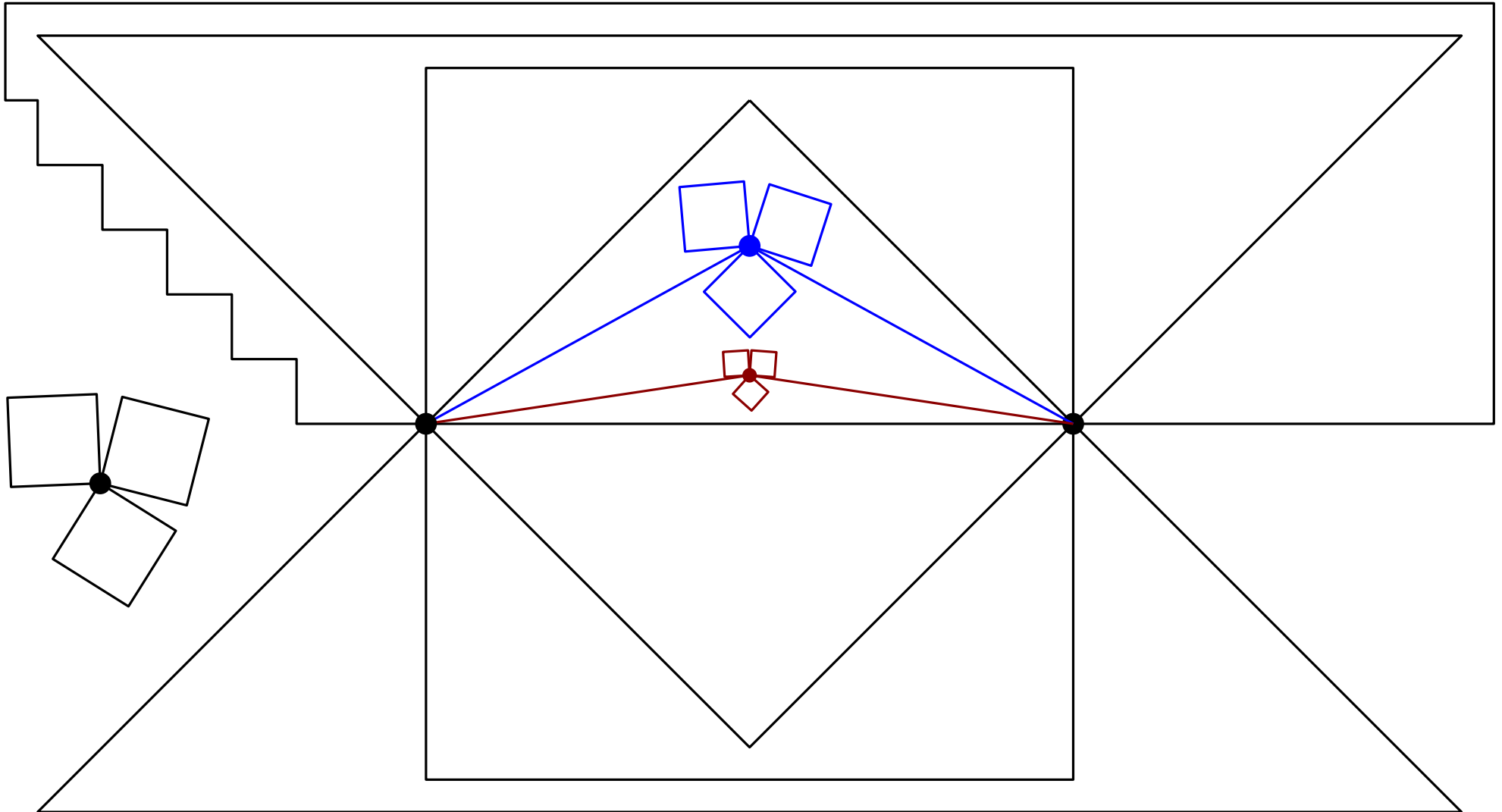
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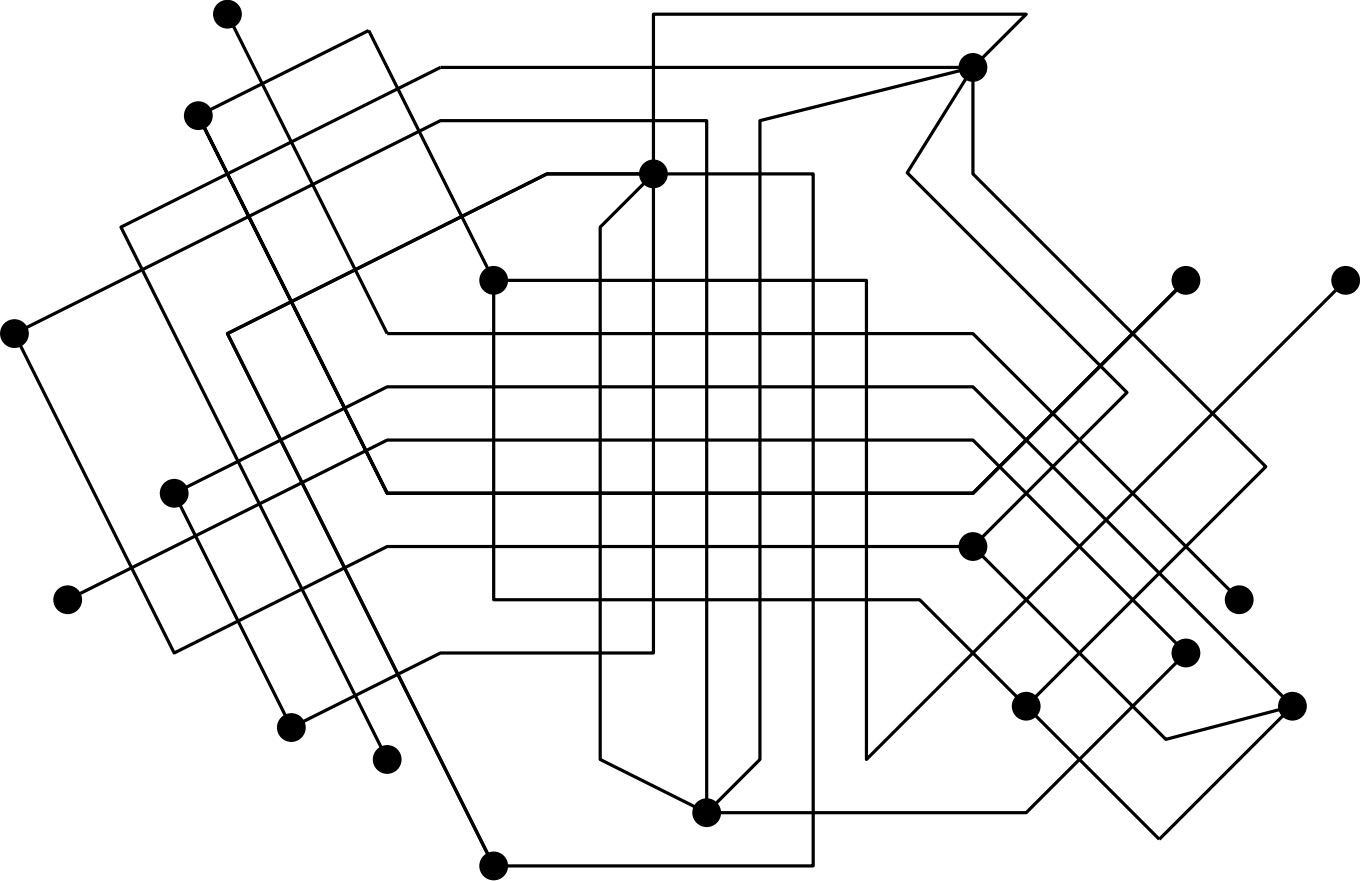
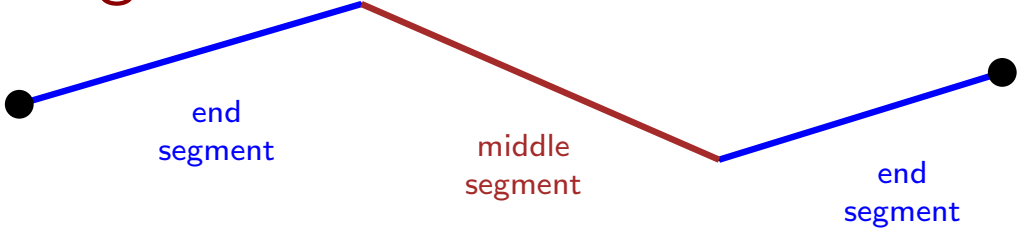
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The density of RAC_2 graphs

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a RAC_2 drawing.

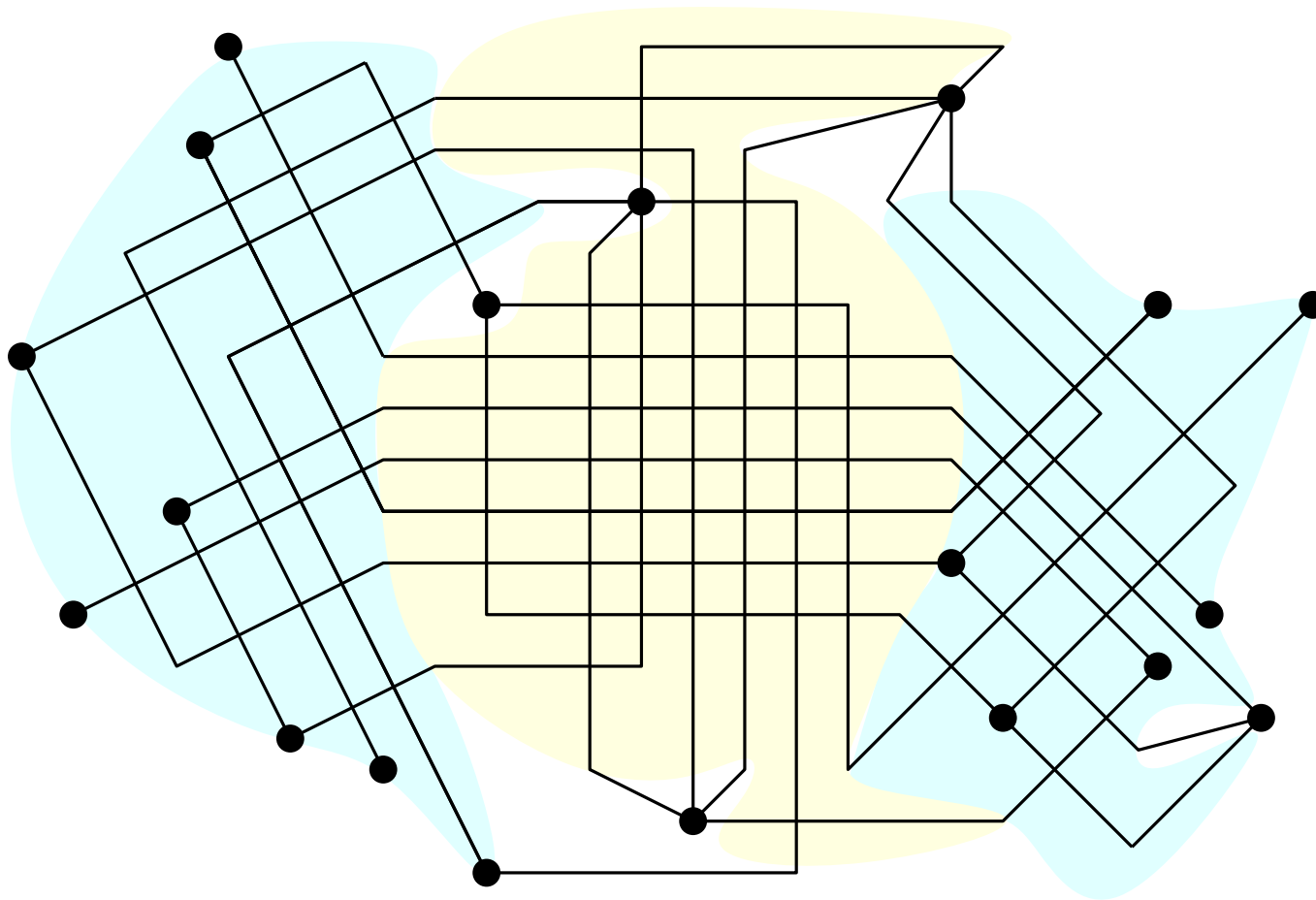
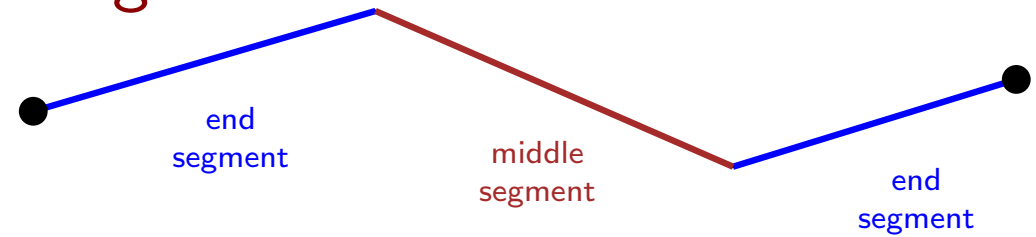
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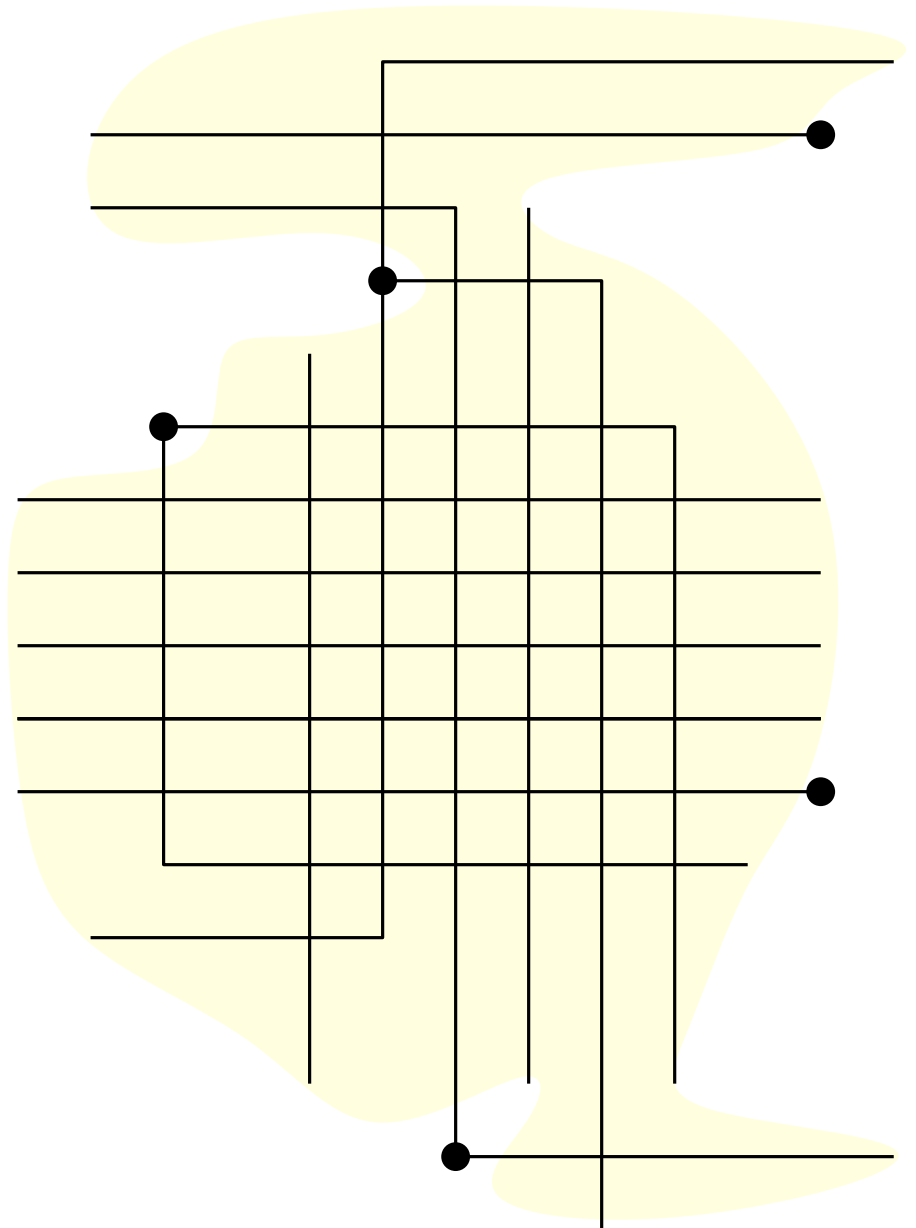


- *crossings* form a symmetric relation on the segments.
- Its transitive closure is an equivalence relation.
- A **block** is the set of segments in an equivalence class.

The density of RAC_2 graphs

Consider one block of the RAC_2 drawing $G = (V, E)$.

- Every end segment is incident to a vertex,
- A vertex is incident to at most four end segments.

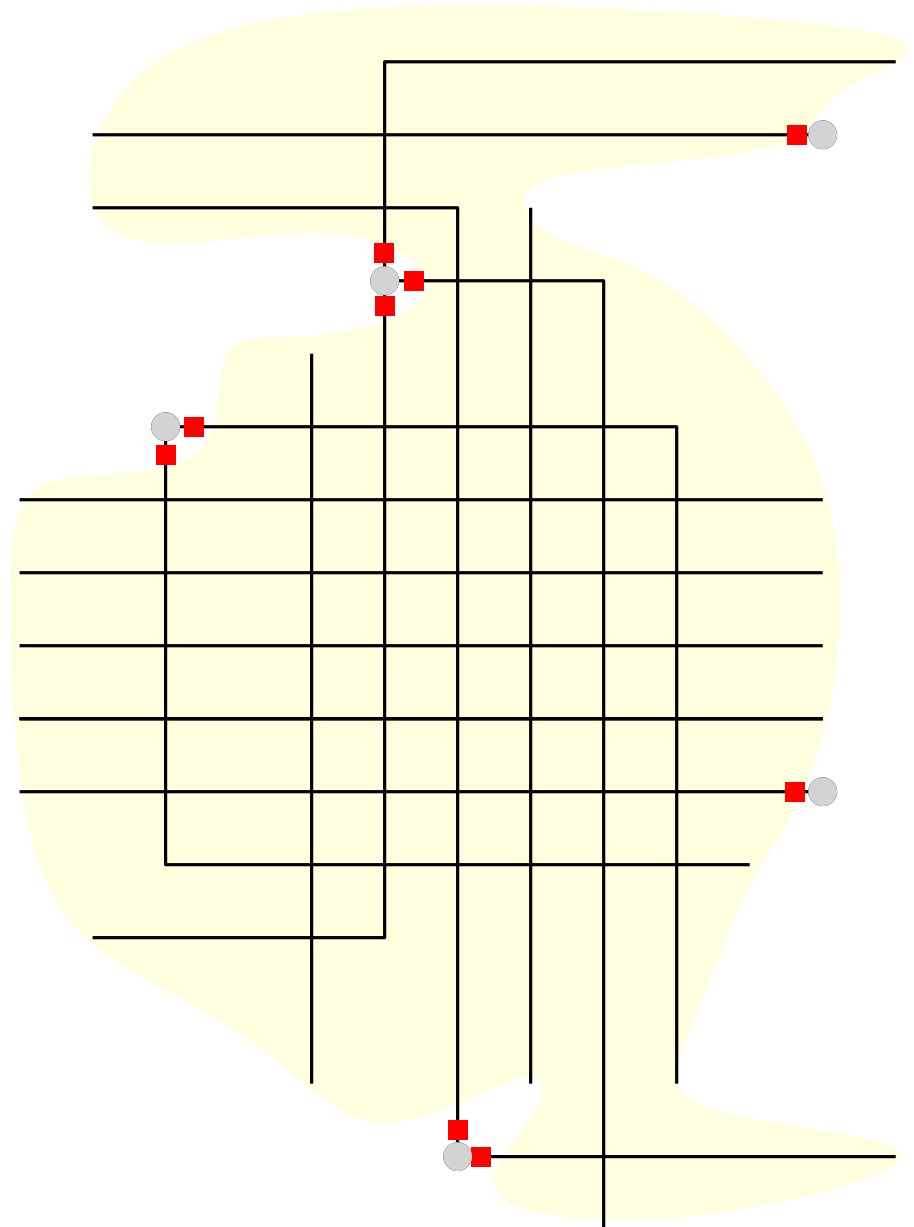


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Truncate the neighborhood of vertices to create a unique **terminal** on each end segment.



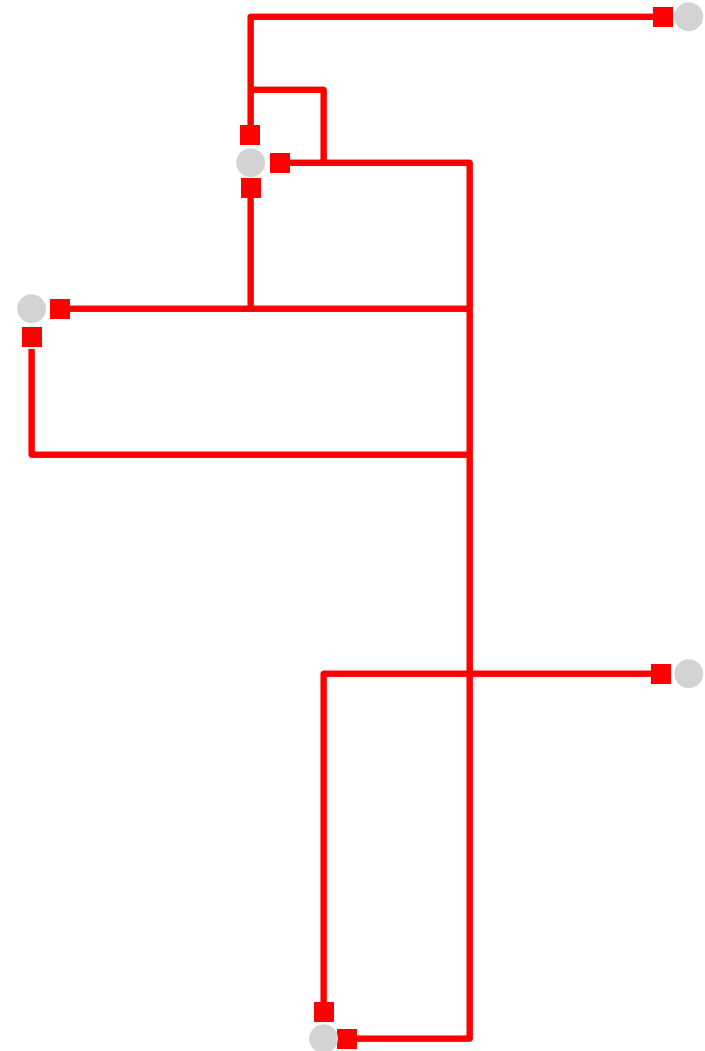
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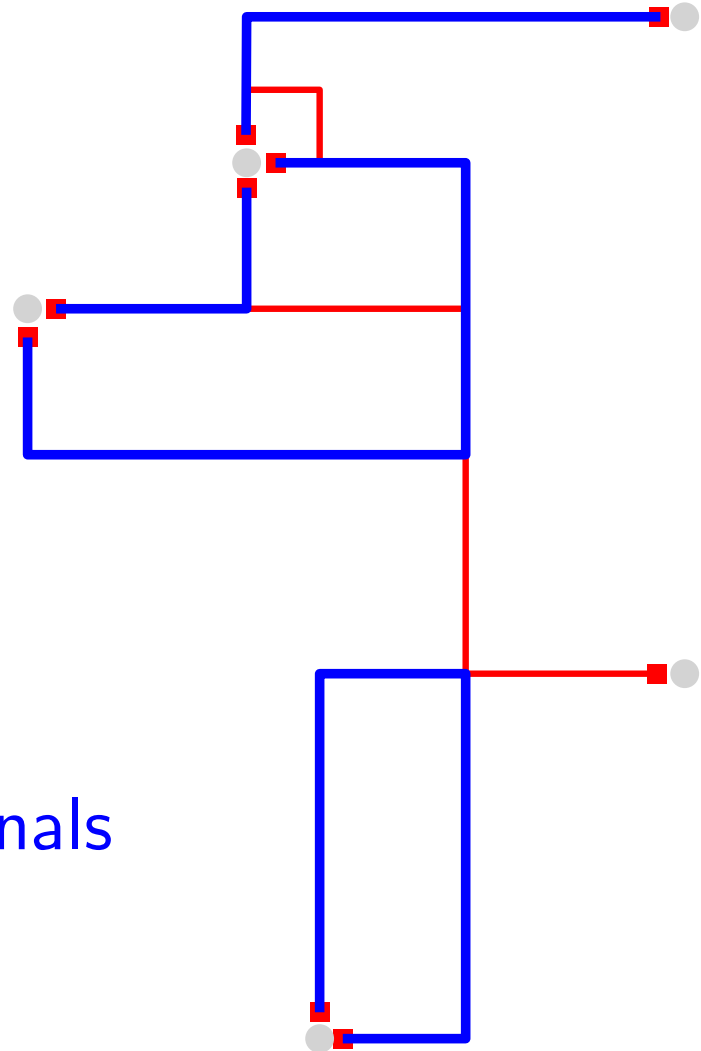
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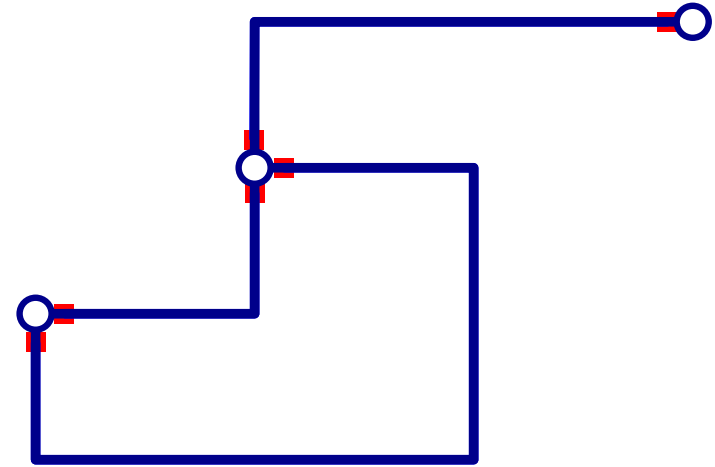


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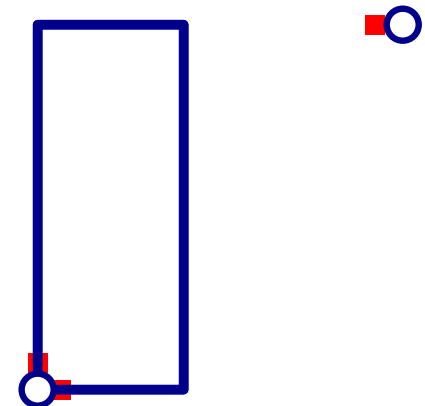
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Extend the edges to the original vertices.

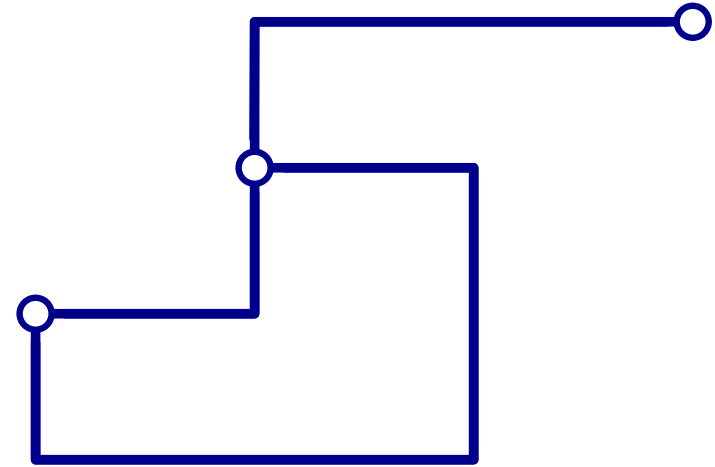
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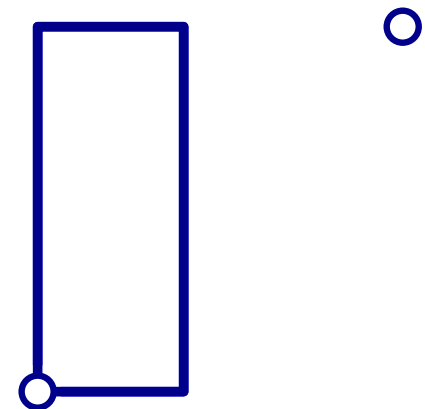


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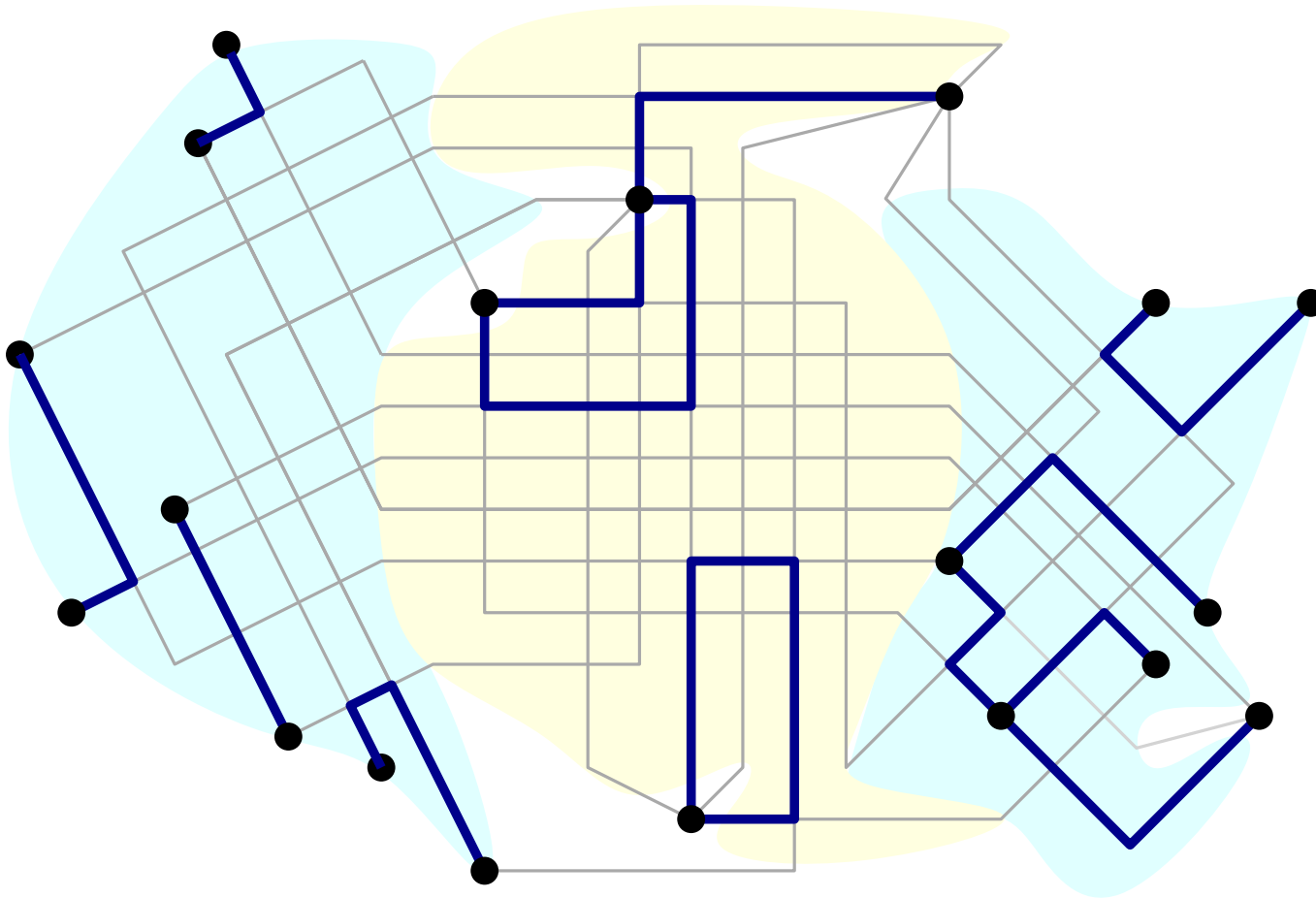


The density of RAC_2 graphs

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a RAC_2 drawing.

The union of these "matchings" over all blocks is a plane ortho-fin multigraph H , with at most $5n - 2$ edges.

An edge e of H **represents** an edge f of the RAC_2 drawing if an end segment of e overlaps with an end segment of f .



The density of RAC_2 graphs

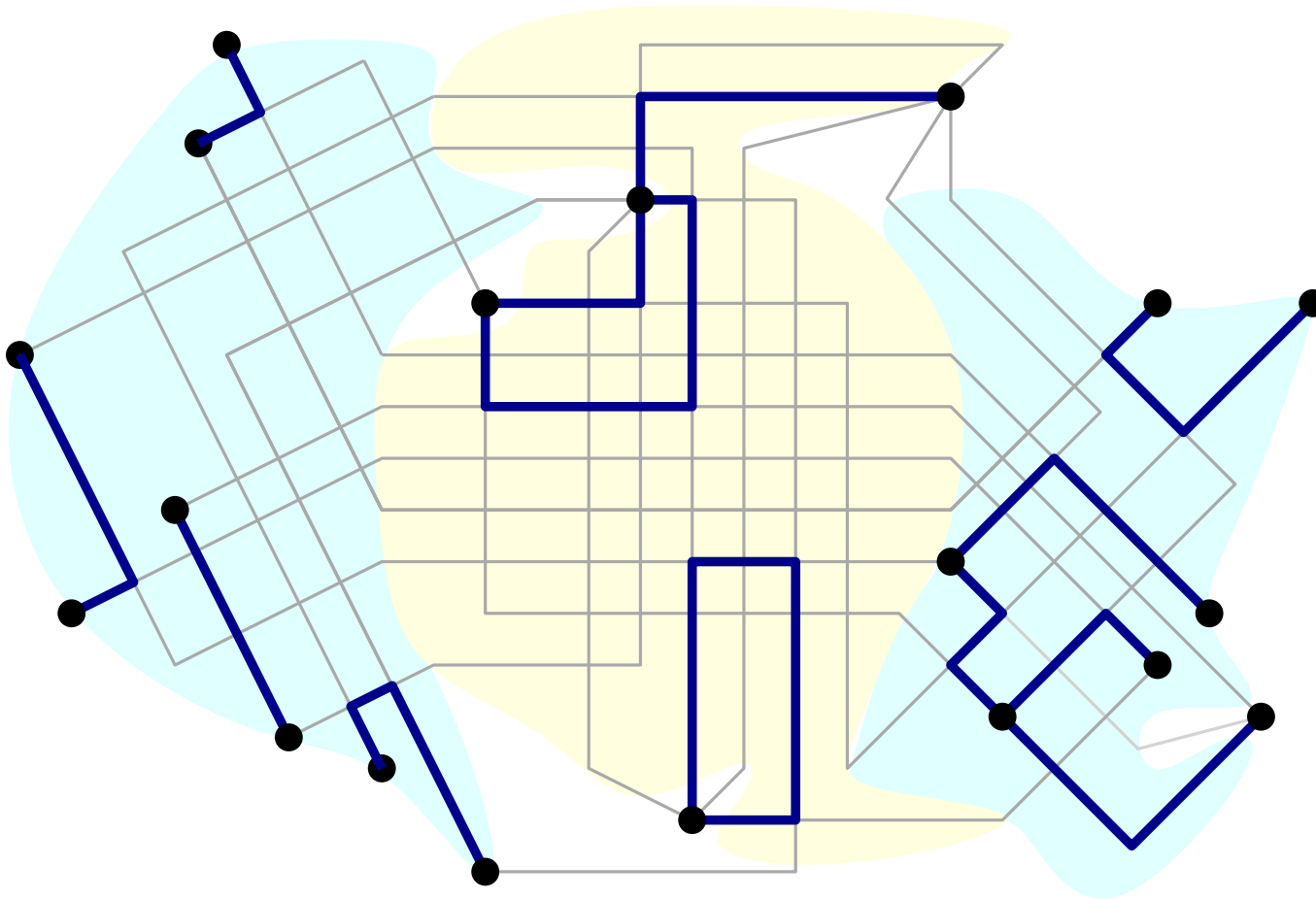
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The H represents $\leq 2(5n - 2) = 10n - 4$ edges of G .

Consider the remaining edges of G (that are not represented).



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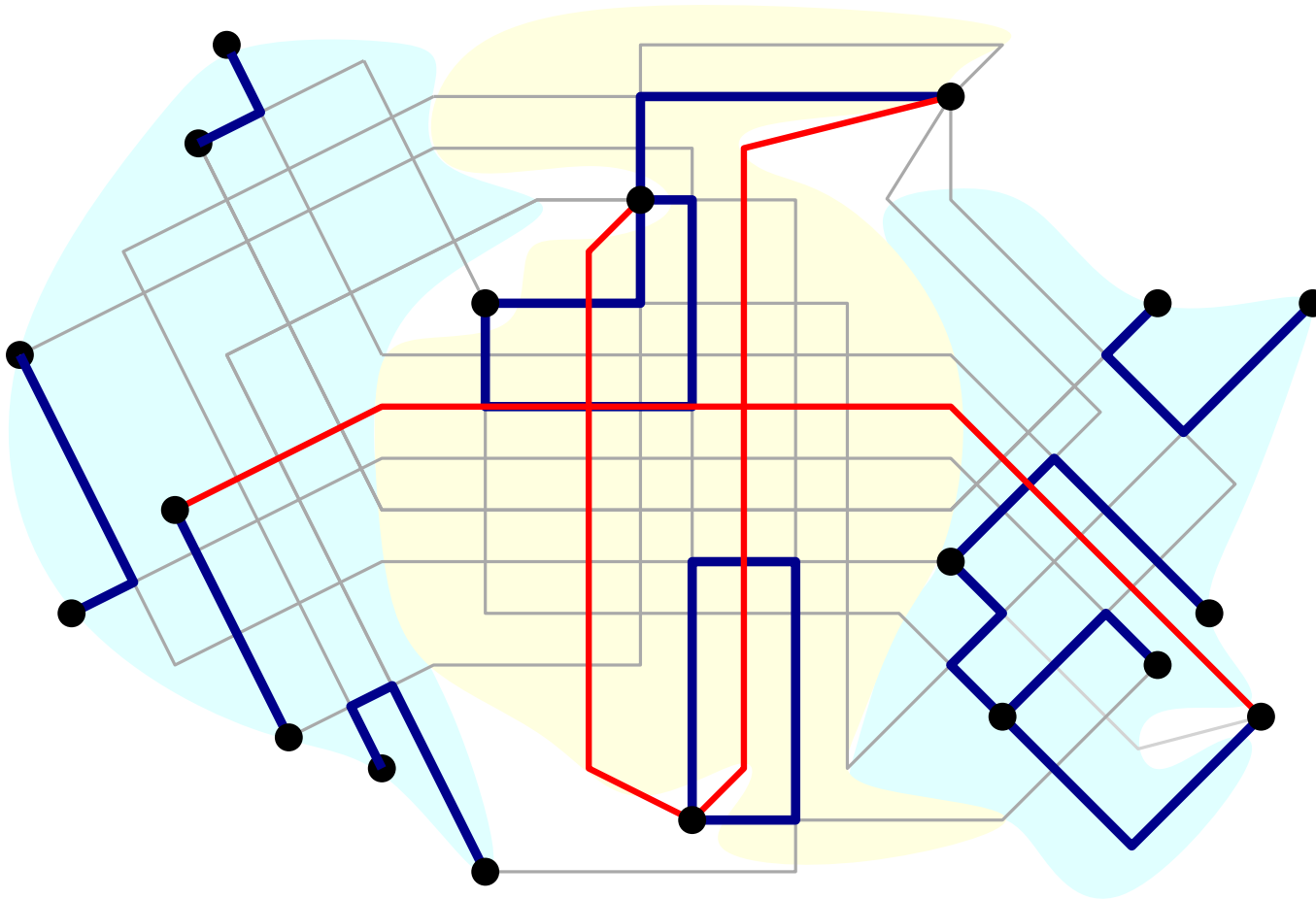
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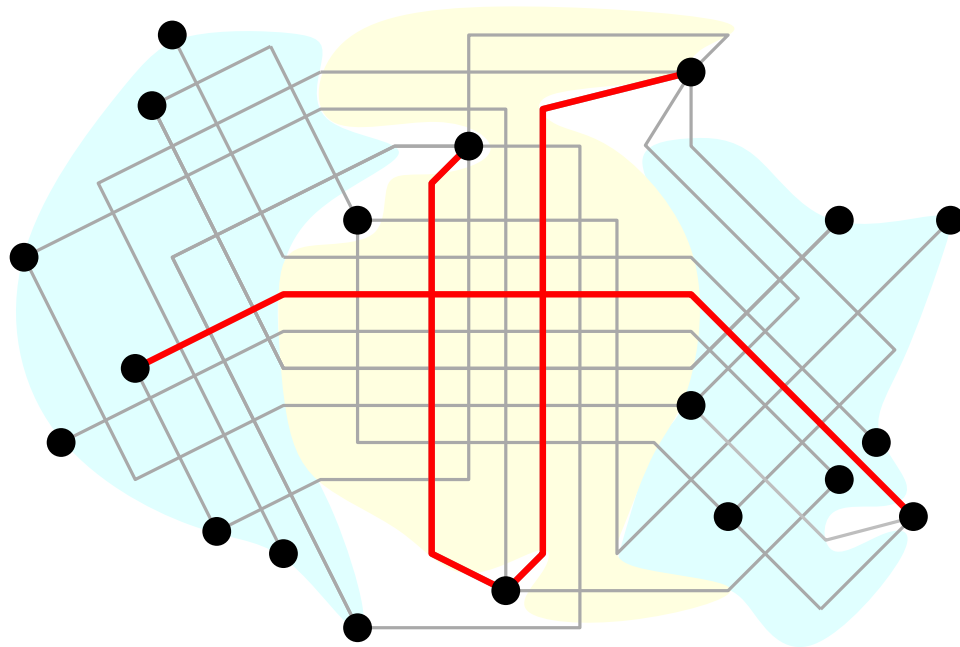
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The density of RAC_2 graphs

Let $G_0 = (V, E_0)$ be the graph of all edges not represented by H .

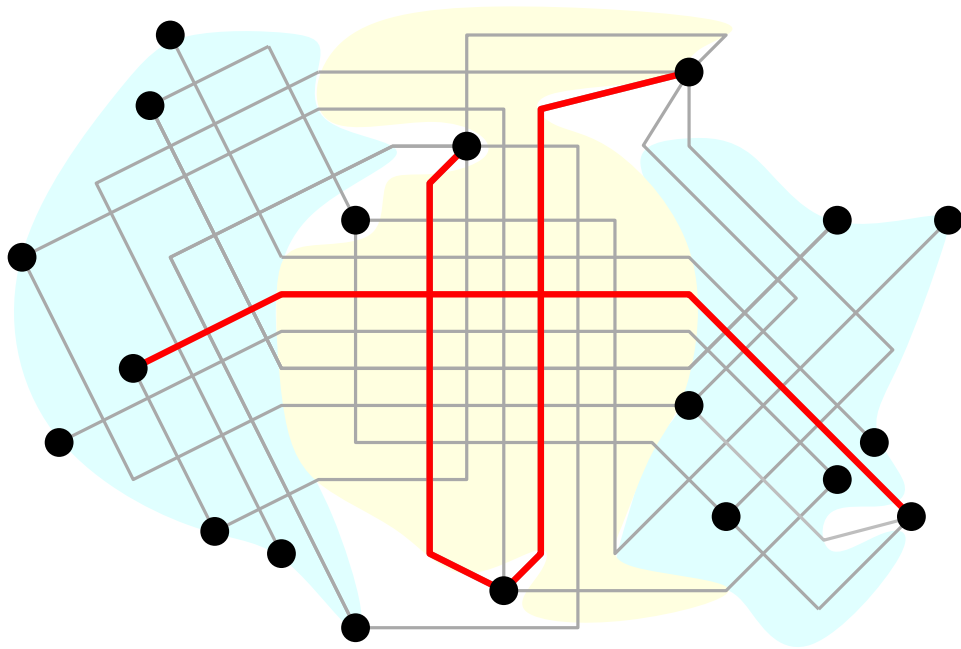
Lemma. In G_0 , there is no end-end crossing, and each middle segment is crossed by at most one end segment.



The density of RAC_2 graphs

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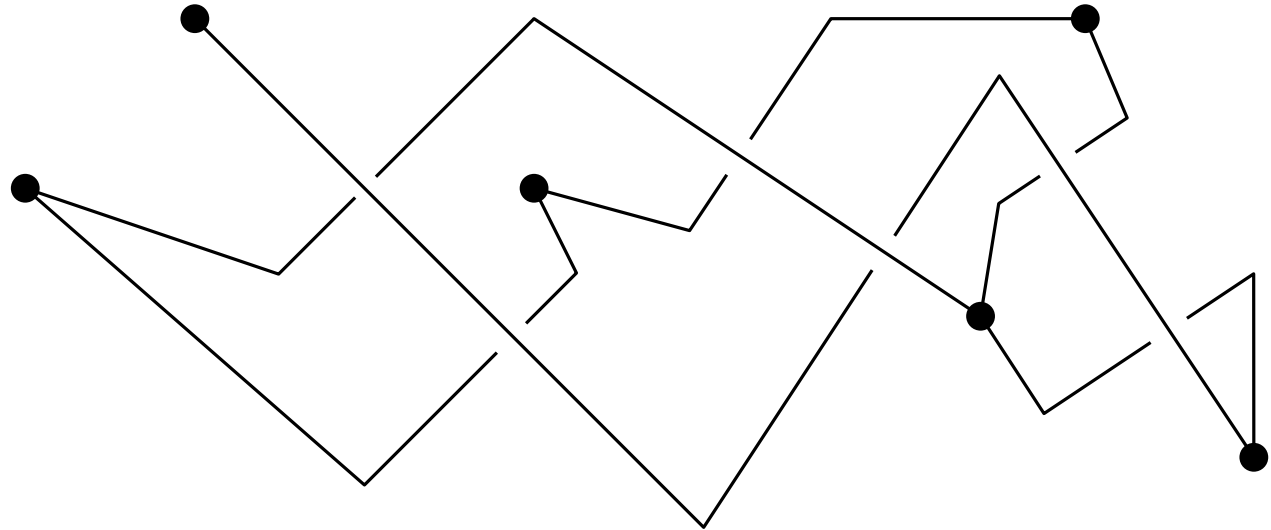


Partition G_0 into two subgraphs: $G_1 = (V, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V, E_2)$, where $E_1 = \{e \in E : \text{the middle segment of } e \text{ has negative slope}\}$, and $E_2 = E_0 \setminus E_1$.

Lemma. In each of $G_1 = (V, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V, E_2)$, all crossings are end-middle crossings, and every middle segment has at most one crossing.

The density of RAC_2 graphs

Lemma. In each of $G_1 = (V, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V, E_2)$, all crossings are end-middle crossings, and every middle segment has at most one crossing.



A graph is **k -gap planar** if it can be drawn such that

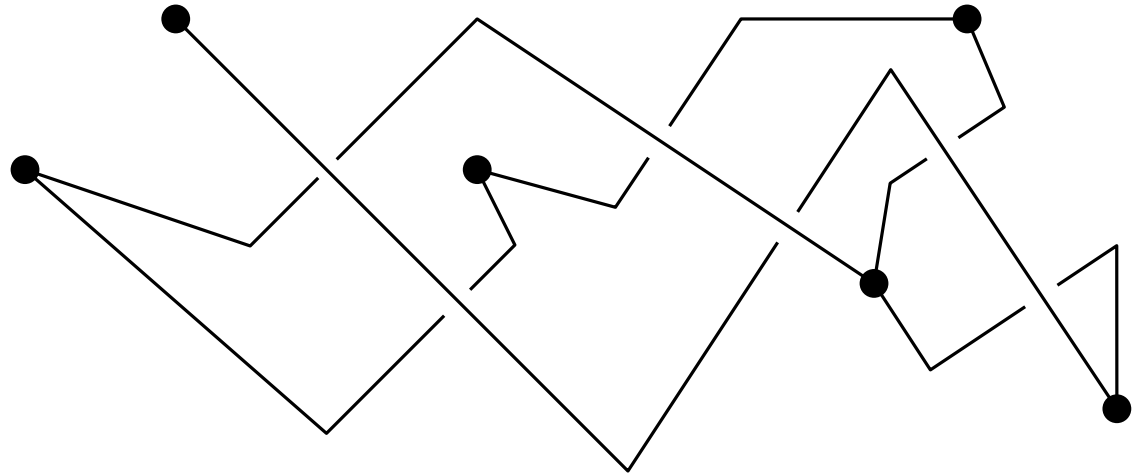
- (1) exactly two edges of G cross in any point,
- (2) each crossing is *assigned* to one of its two crossing edges, and
- (3) each edge is assigned with at most k of its crossings.

Lemma. Both $G_1 = (V, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V, E_2)$ are 1-gap planar.

The density of RAC_2 graphs

Theorem (Bae, Baffier, Chun, Eades, Eickmeyer, Grilli, Hong, Korman, Montecchiani, Rutter, and Tóth, GD 2017).

Every 1-gap planar graph on $n \geq 3$ vertices has at most $5n - 10$ edges, and this bound is the best possible.



- H represents at most $2(5n - 2)$ edges of G
- G_1 and G_2 each has at most $5n - 10$ edges.
- Overall, G has at most $2(5n - 2) + 2(5n - 10) = 20n - 24$ edges. □

Open Problems

- How many edges can a RAC_2 graph on n vertices have? The maximum is between $10n - O(1)$ and $20n - 24$.
- How many edges can a RAC_2 drawing have if we require **simple** topological drawings, where any two edges meet at most once (at a common endpoint or a crossing)?
- Can RAC_1 or RAC_2 graphs be recognized efficiently? Can they be recognized if all crossing edge pairs are given? It is known that recognizing RAC_0 graphs is NP-hard (Argyriou, Bekos, and Symvonis, SOFSEM 2011).

