Cross-cap drawings and signed reversal distance Niloufar Fuladi

Joint work with: Arnaud de Mesmay Alfredo Hubard

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Mohar's Conjecture 1 ('07)

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

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- The non-orientable genus g(G) of a graph G is the minimum number of cross-caps that it needs to be embedded on a surface.
- Graph embeddings are hard to visualize on a surface.











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This localization of cross-caps is not "canonical"!

Question: How much can we control the complexity of the drawing?

From crossing numbers to non-orientable genus

Theorem (Mohar '07)

For any graph G, gcr(G) = non-orientable genus of G.

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A cross-cap drawing is **perfect** if each edge enters each cross-cap at most once.

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For every graph G, dcr(G) = gcr(G) = g(G). \Downarrow
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Every graph G admits a **perfect** cross-cap drawing with g(G) cross-caps.

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→ Schaefer and Štefankovič disproved this.

Theorem (Schaefer, Štefankovič '22)

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

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Theorem (F., Hubard, de Mesmay '23)

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

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- the cyclic ordering of the edges around the vertex
- (in the non-orientable case) a signature +1 or -1 associated to each edge



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- I consider cross-cap drawings for an embedding scheme that "respect" the signatures of the edges.
- → If an edge has signature +1 (resp. -1), it enters an even (resp. odd) number of cross-caps.

Main tool: Signed reversal distance algorithm





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Signed reversal distance

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



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Properties of Hannenhali-Pevzner algorithm

- The algorithm imposes an order on the cross-caps
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Their algorithm uses more cross-caps/ reversals than the non-orientable genus/ gcr of the graph.

Niloufar Fuladi

Cross-cap drawings and signed reversal distance

Blocks in Signed reversal distance

- 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.

Sketch of proofs

The counter example

Mohar's (stronger) Conjecture 2 ('07)

Every loopless graph <u>embedded</u> on a non-orientable surface admits a **perfect** cross-cap drawing.

Conjecture 2 does not hold:

Theorem (F., Hubard, de Mesmay '23)

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



Theorem (F., Hubard, de Mesmay '23)

Apart from two exceptional families of graphs, all the 2-vertex loopless graphs embedded on non-orientable surfaces admit a **perfect** cross-cap drawing.

Sketch of the proof:

→ reduce the scheme.



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- \rightarrow **reduce** the scheme.
- \rightarrow apply Hannenhali-Pevzner algorithm.



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- → reduce the scheme.
- \rightarrow apply Hannenhali-Pevzner algorithm.
- \rightarrow **blow up** the cross-caps.



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- reduce the scheme.
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- \rightarrow complete the drawing.



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Theorem (F., Hubard, de Mesmay '23)

Apart from two exceptional families of graphs, all the 2-vertex loopless graphs embedded on non-orientable surfaces admit a **perfect** cross-cap drawing.

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











 Our algorithm for perfect cross-cap drawings can be extended to the case of loopless bipartite embedding schemes.



Mohar's Conjecture 1 ('07)

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

→ Allowing the graph to have more vertices, increases the possibility of having a **perfect** cross-cap drawing.



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