Star-coloring planar graphs with high girth

Daniel W. Cranston

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Thm. [Fetin-Raspaud-Reed 2001] Every planar *G* has star chromatic number $\chi_s(G)$, at most 80.

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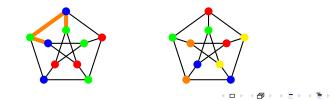
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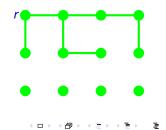
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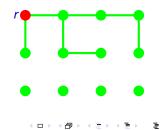
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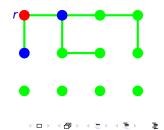
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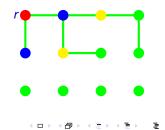
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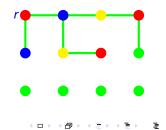
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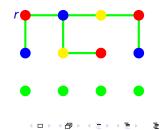
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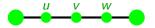
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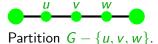


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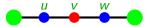


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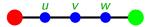
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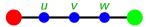
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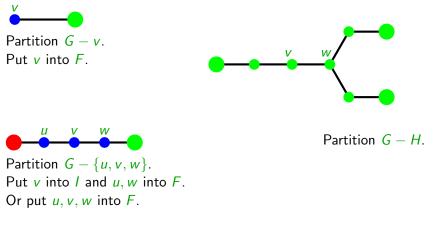
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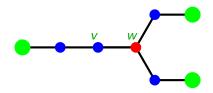
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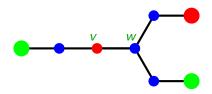
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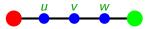
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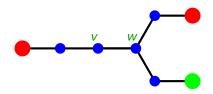
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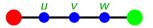
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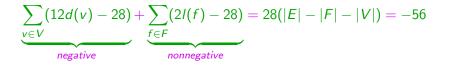
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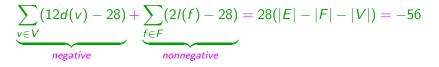


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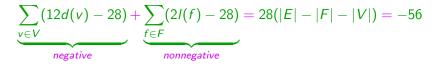
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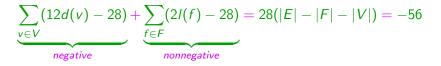
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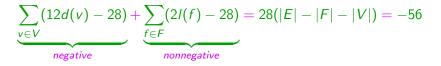
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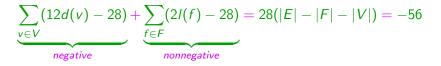
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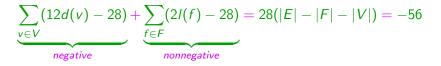
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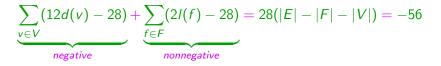
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Give charge 2l(f) - 26 to each face f and charge 11d(v) - 26 to each vertex v.

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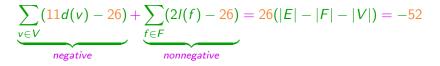
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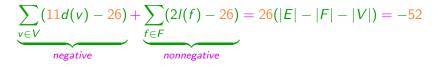
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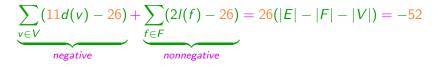
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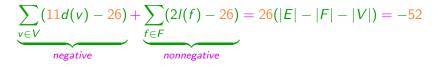
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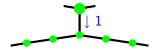
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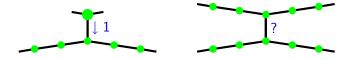
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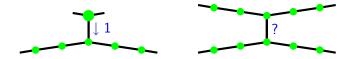
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2-vert: 11(2) - 26 + 2(2) = 03-vert: 11(3) - 26 - 4(2) = -14⁺-vert: 11d(v) - 26 - 2d(v)2 = 7d(v) - 26 > 0Contradiction! So *G* contains a reducible configuration.





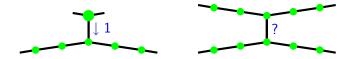




Let $A = \{2(1) \text{-verts and } 3(2) \text{-verts adj. to two } 2(1) \text{-verts}\}; H = G[A].$

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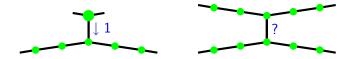


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Claim $mad(H) \le 2$.

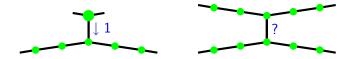


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Jac.

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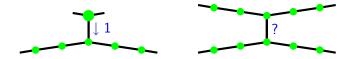
Claim $mad(H) \le 2$. Pf. Idea Every component of H is a cycle or a tree.



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Obs. Every leaf v of H is a 2(1)-vert, adjacent to a 3^+ -vert u, and u can afford to give 1 to the bank for v.



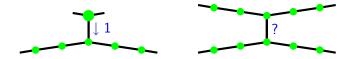
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5⁺-vertex: 11d(v) - 26 - 2d(v)2 - d(v) = 6d(v) - 26 > 0



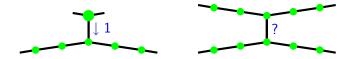
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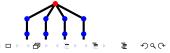


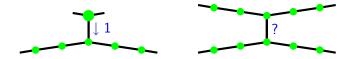
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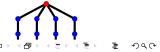


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Give charge 2l(f) - 26 to each face f and charge 11d(v) - 26 to each vertex v.

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$$\sum 11d(v)-26<0$$

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$$\sum 11d(v) - 26 < 0 \Rightarrow mad(G) < \frac{26}{11}$$

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Thm. If $mad(G) < \frac{26}{11}$, then we can partition V(G) into sets *I* and *F* s.t. G[F] is a forest and *I* is a 2-independent set in *G*.

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▶ What is the minimum girth g s.t. G planar and girth ≥ g implies an I, F-partition?

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- What is the minimum girth g s.t. G planar and girth ≥ g implies an I, F-partition? We know that 8 ≤ g ≤ 13
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$\sum 11d(v) - 26 < 0 \Rightarrow mad(G) < rac{26}{11}$

Thm. If $mad(G) < \frac{26}{11}$, then we can partition V(G) into sets *I* and *F* s.t. G[F] is a forest and *I* is a 2-independent set in *G*.

Open Questions

- What is the minimum girth g s.t. G planar and girth ≥ g implies an I, F-partition?
 We know that 8 ≤ g ≤ 13
- What is the minimum girth g s.t. G planar and girth ≥ g implies χ_s(G) ≤ 4?
- For an arbitrary surface S, what is the minimum γ_S s.t. girth ≥ γ_S and G embedded in S implies an I, F-partition?