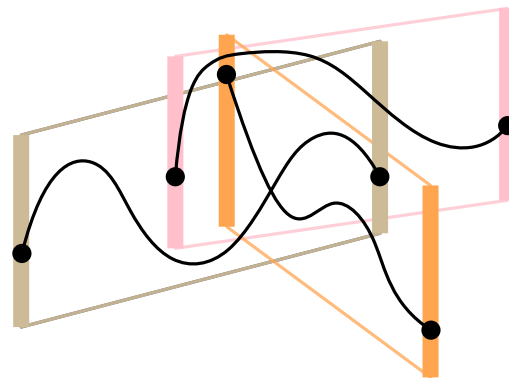


# Non-crossing paths with geographic constraints

Rodrigo I. Silveira

UPC Barcelona

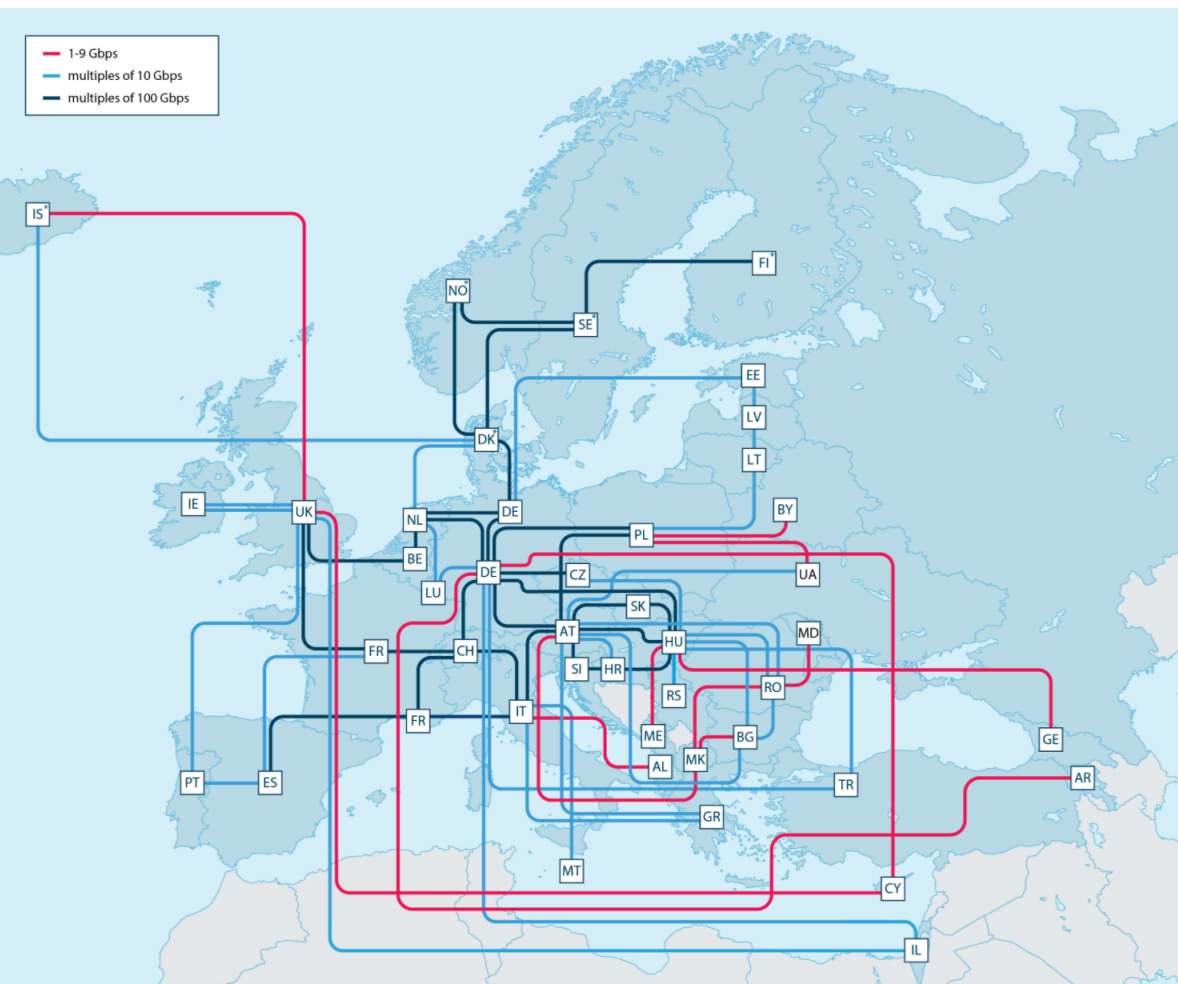


Bettina Speckmann

Kevin Verbeek

TU Eindhoven

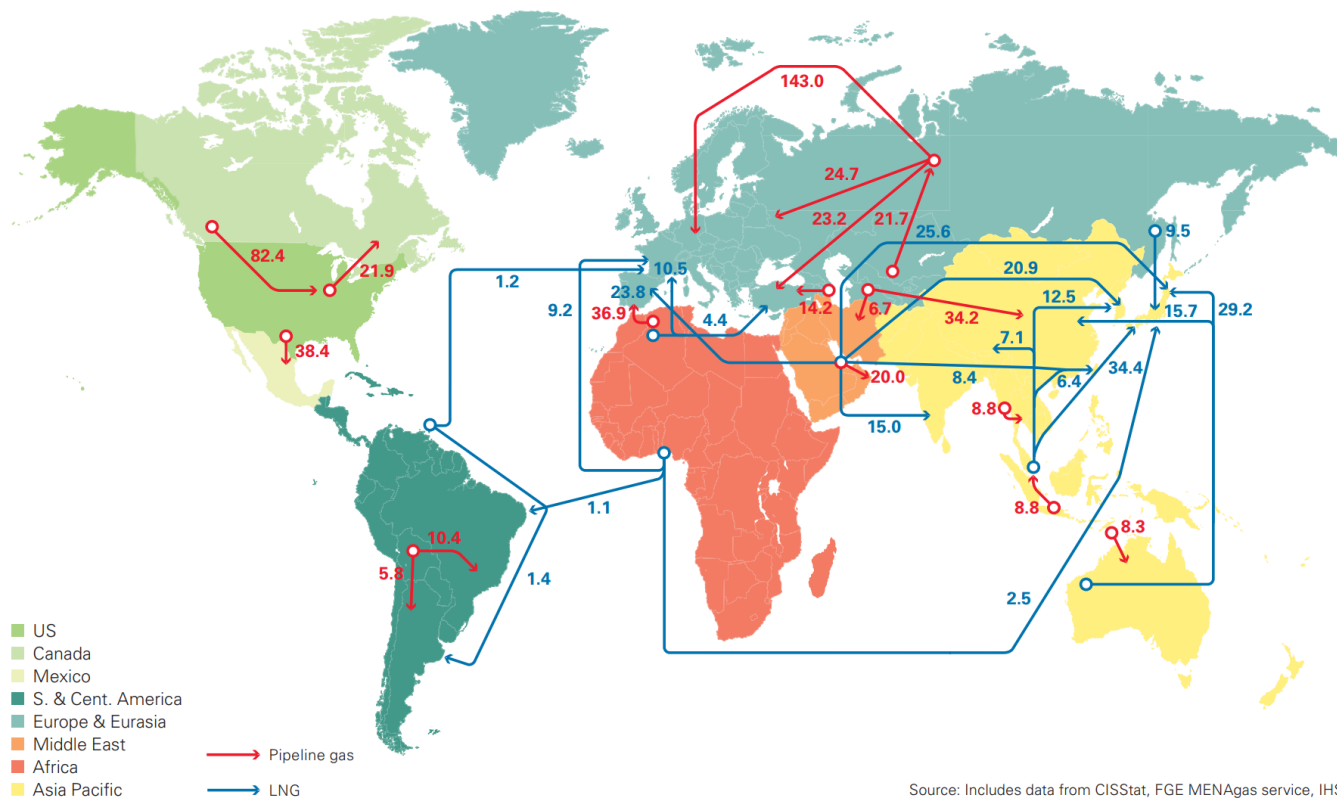
# Geographic networks



Topology map of GÉANT (pan-European research and education network) [geant.org]

## Major trade movements 2016

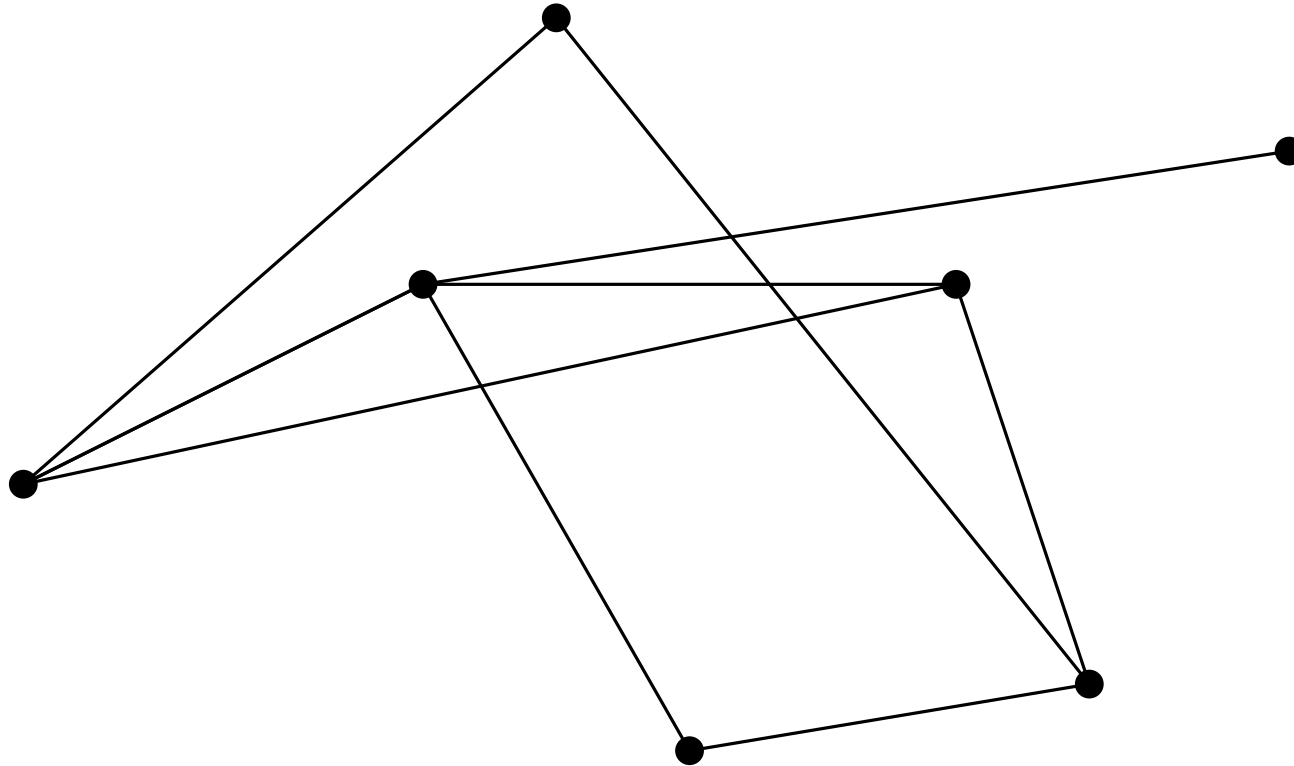
Trade flows worldwide (billion cubic metres)



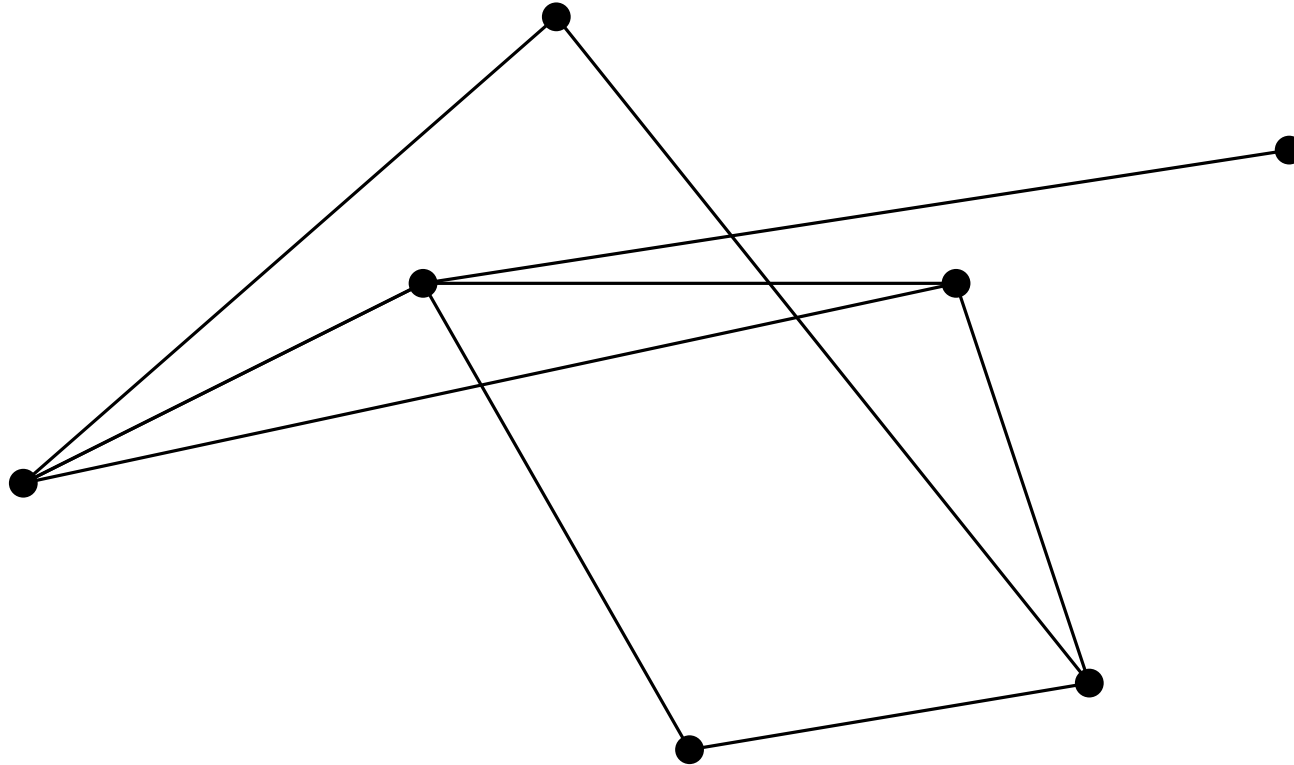
Gas trade map [BP Statistical Review of World Energy '17]

# Drawing geographic networks

# Drawing geographic networks

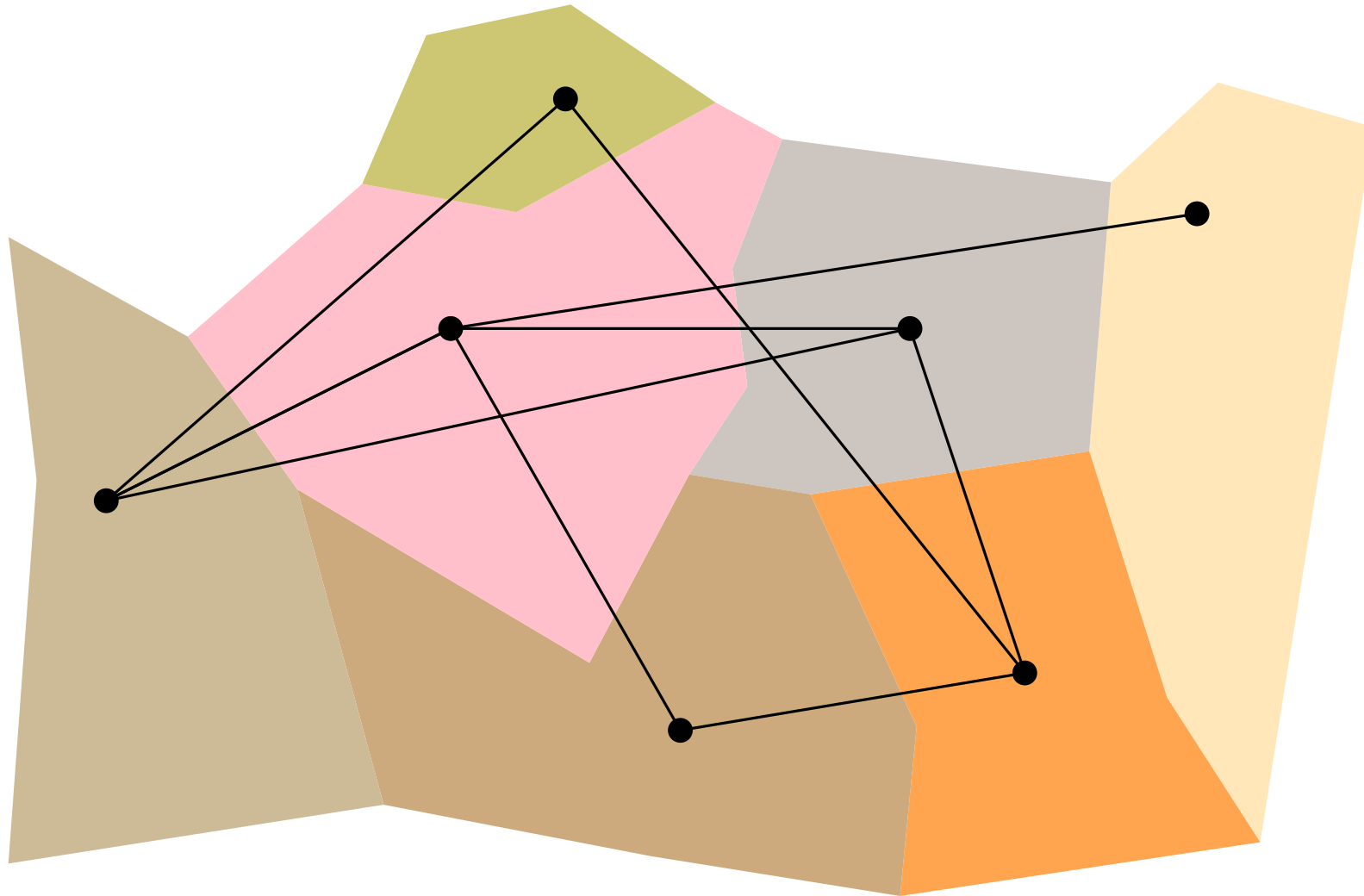


# Drawing geographic networks



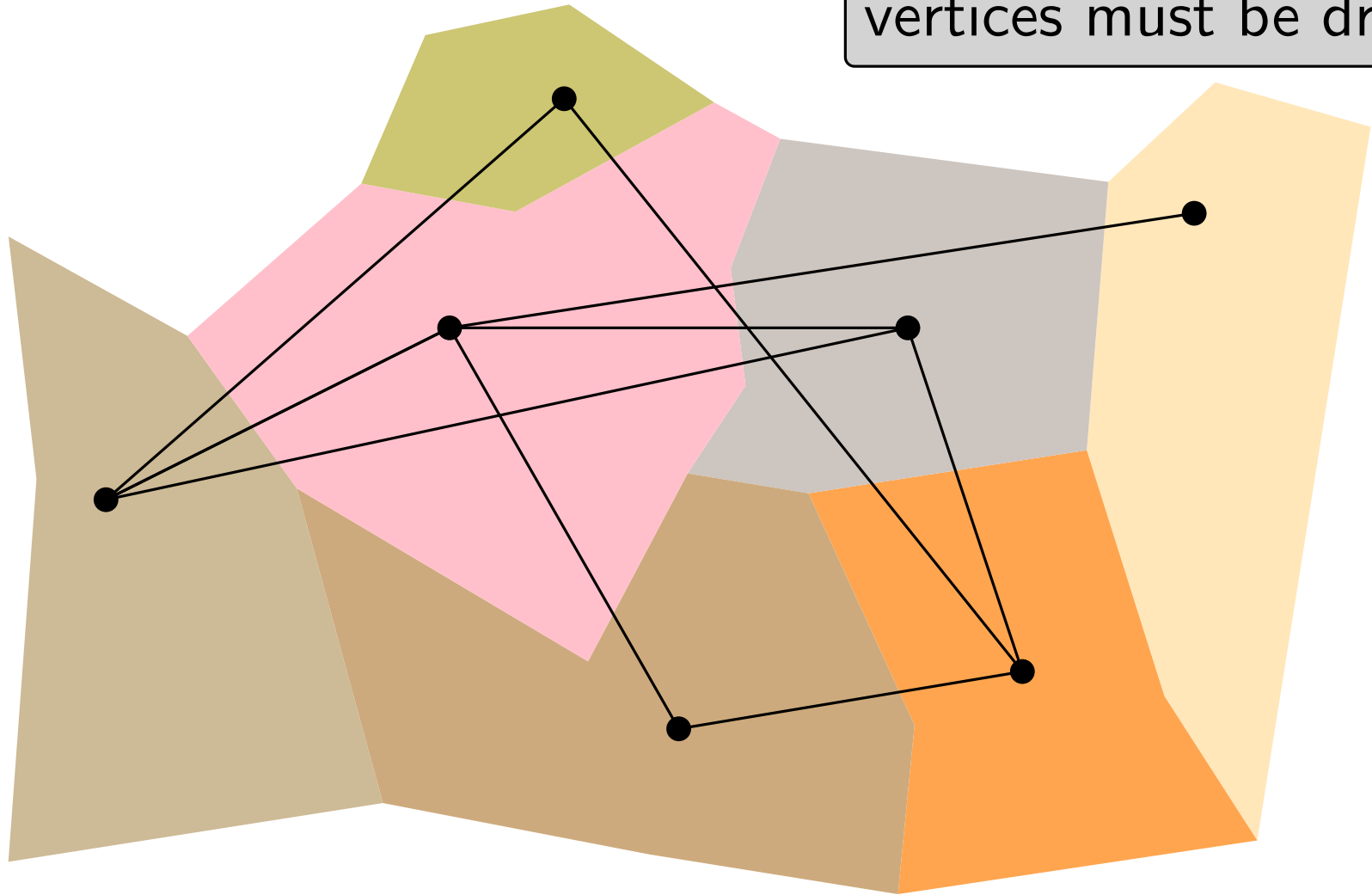
vertices: geographical regions

# Drawing geographic networks

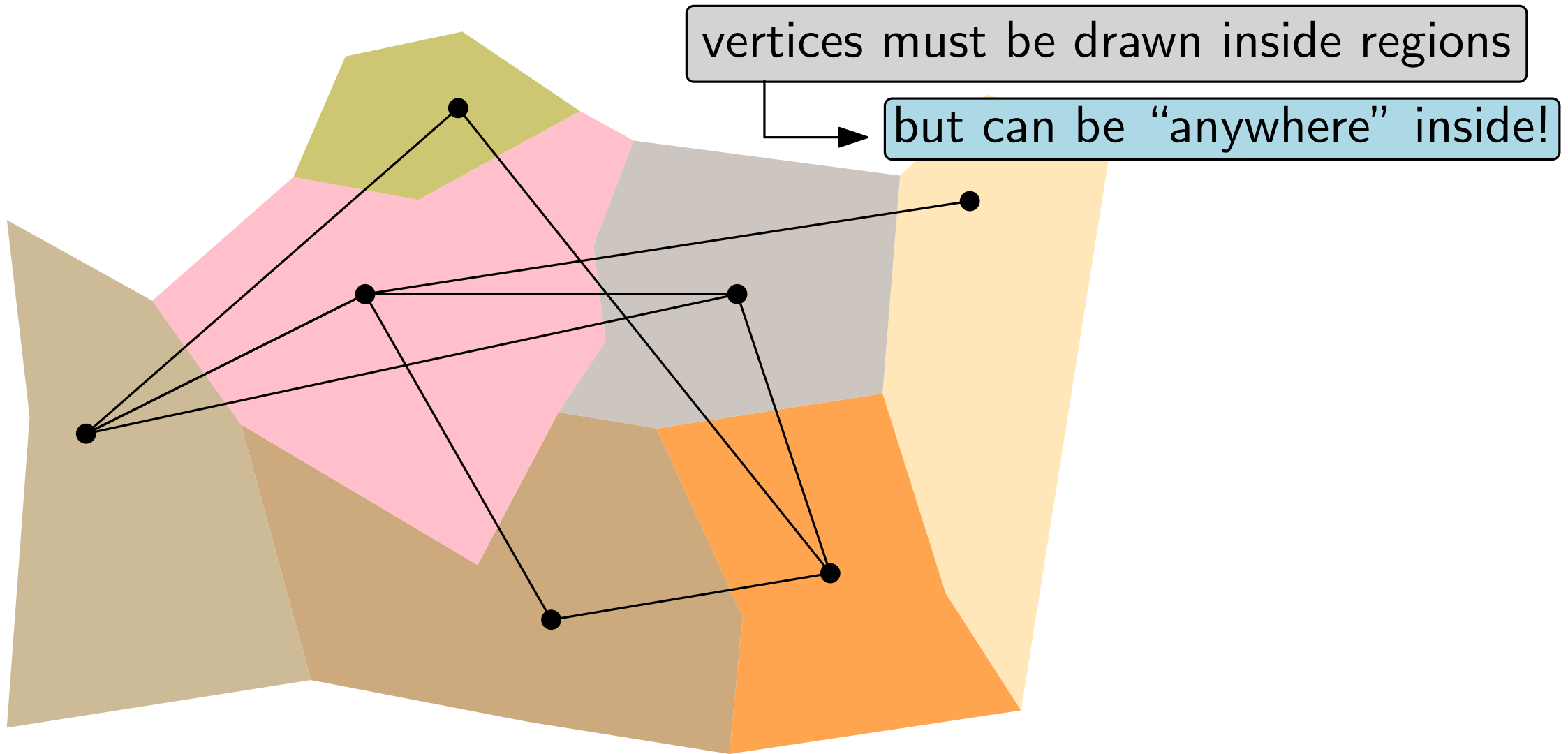


# Drawing geographic networks

vertices must be drawn inside regions

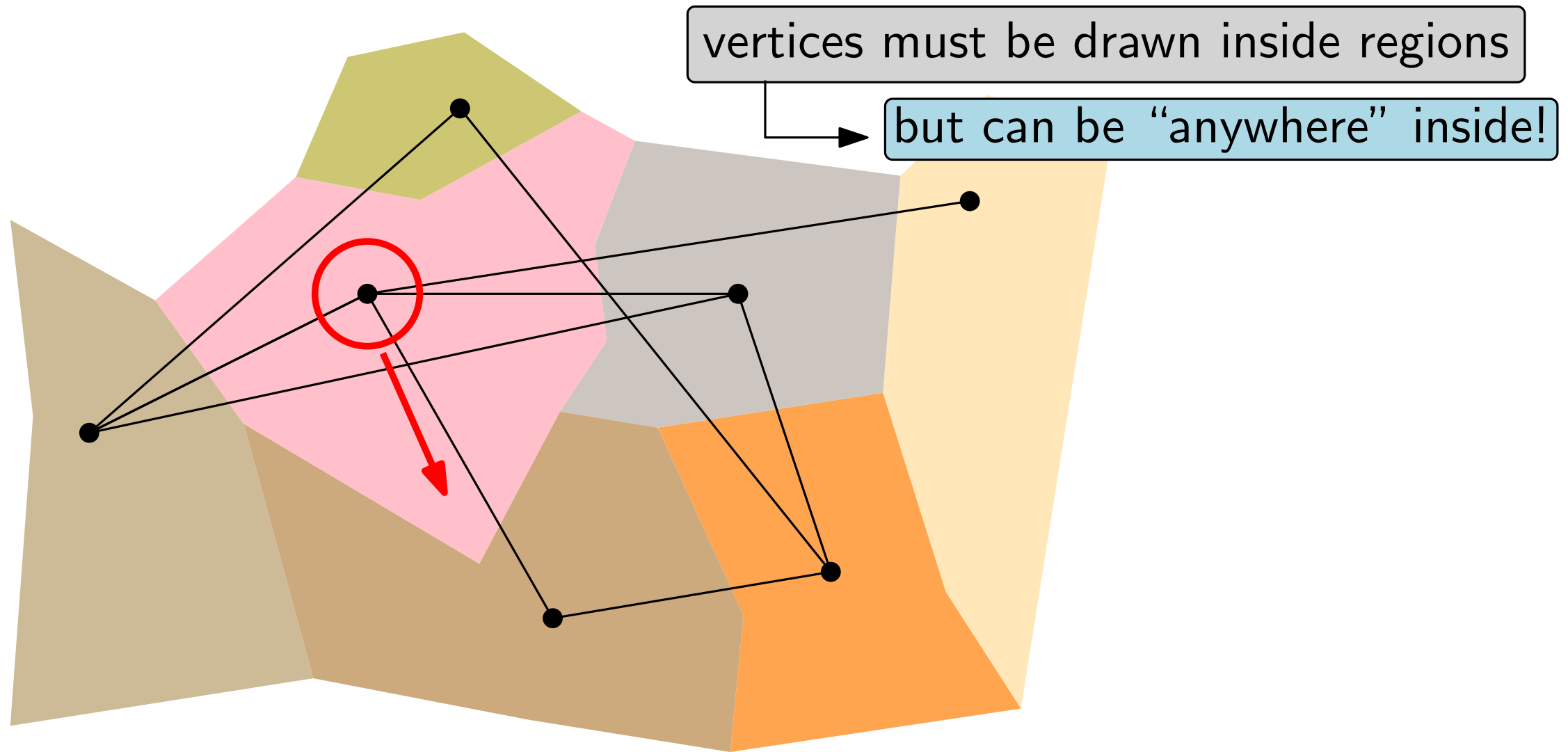


# Drawing geographic networks

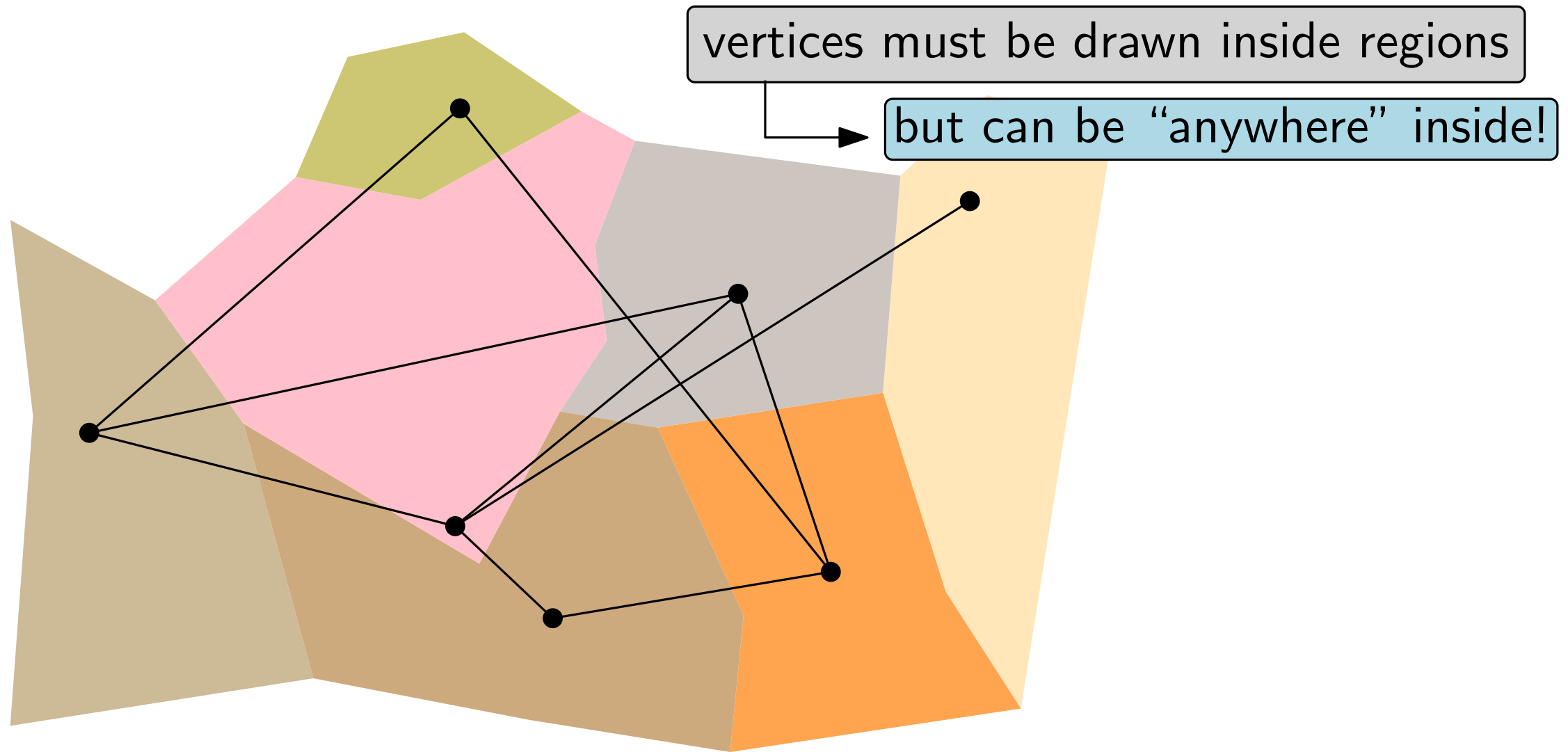




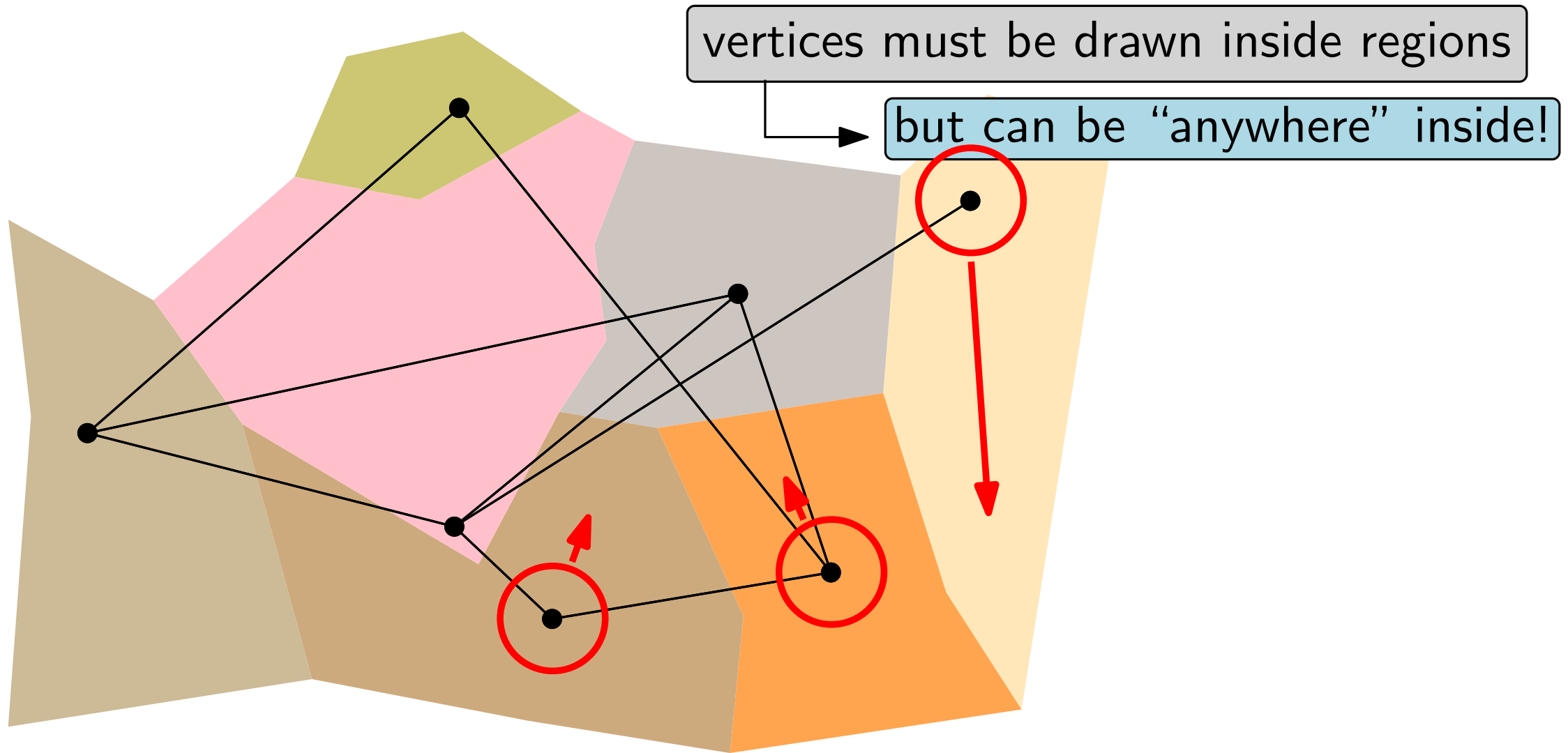
# Drawing geographic networks



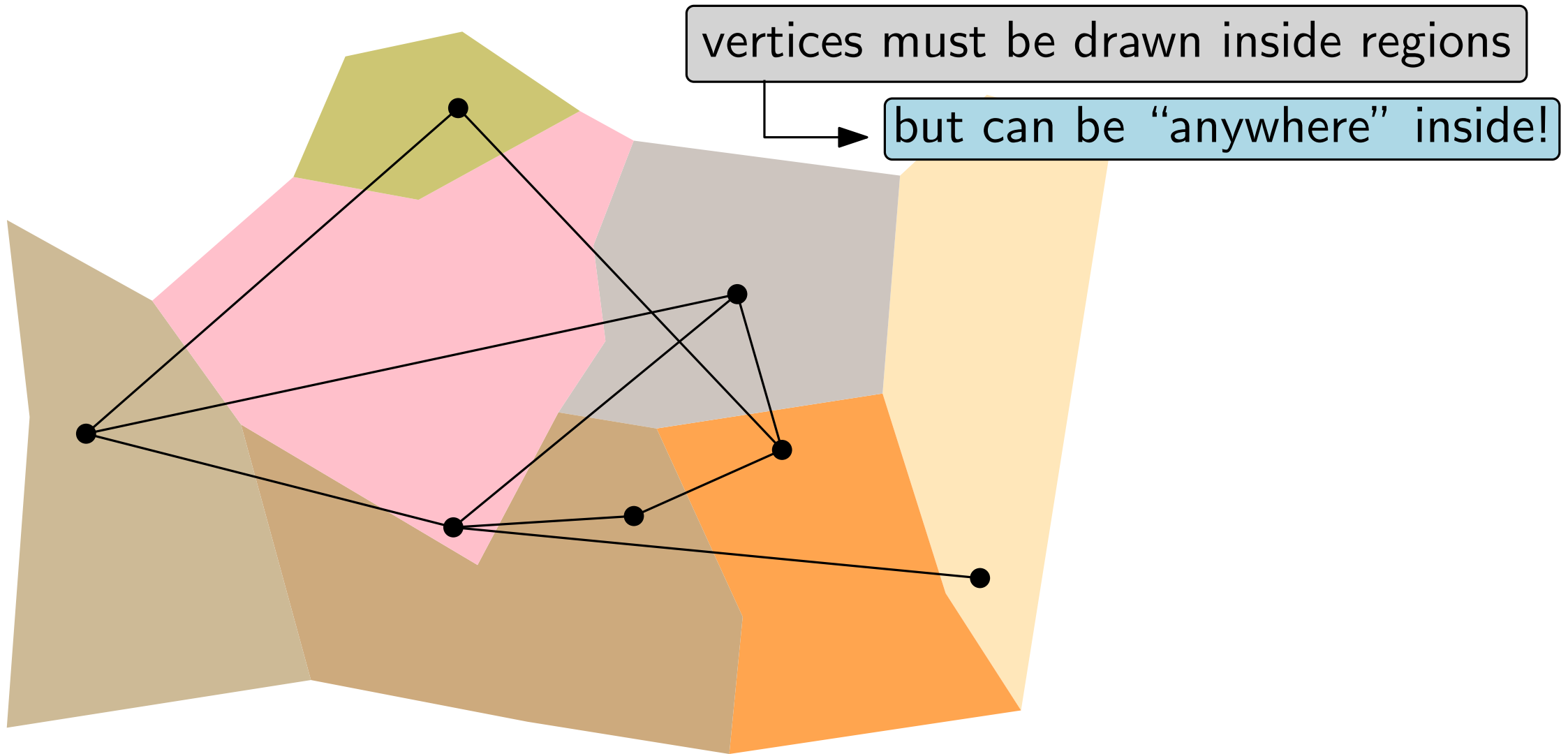
# Drawing geographic networks



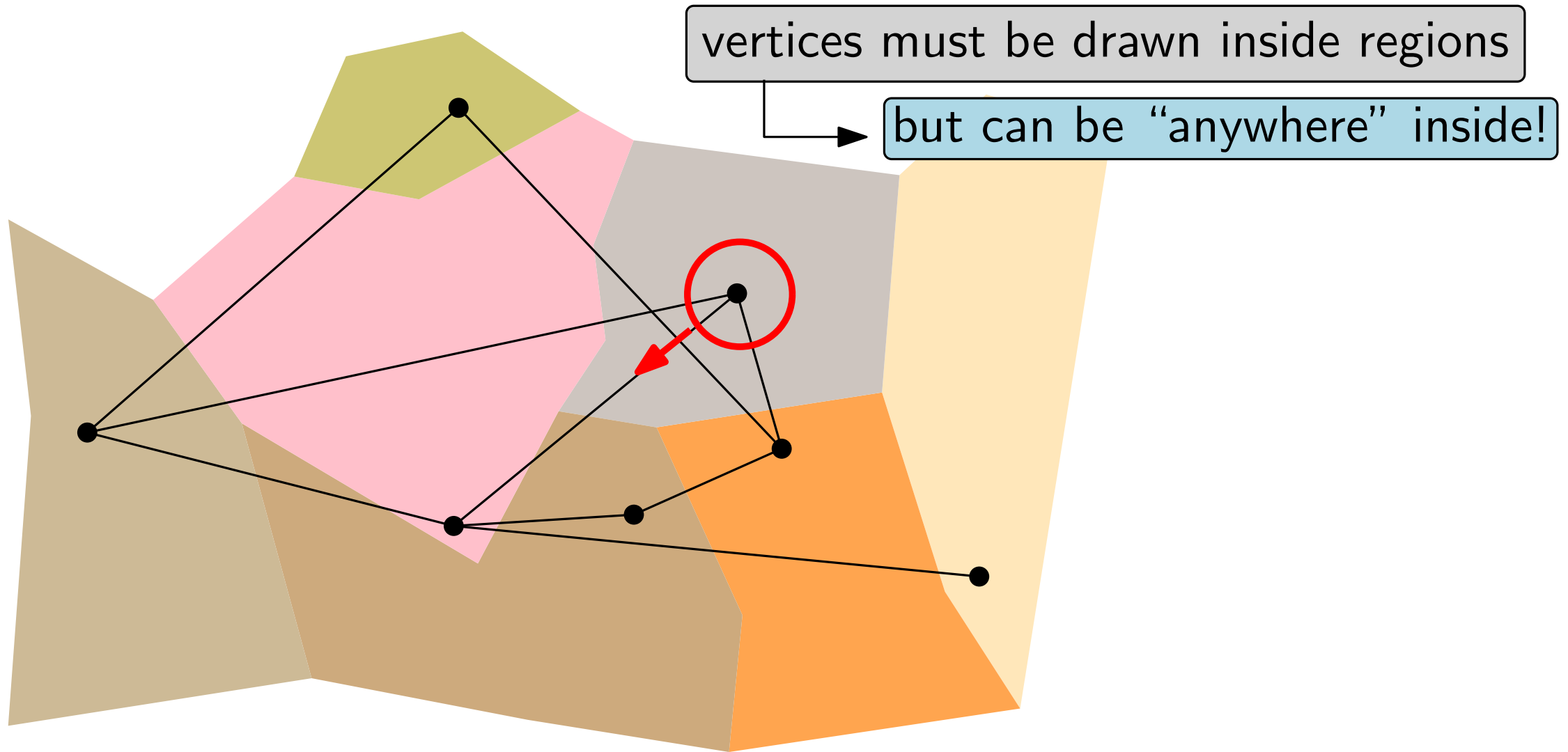
# Drawing geographic networks



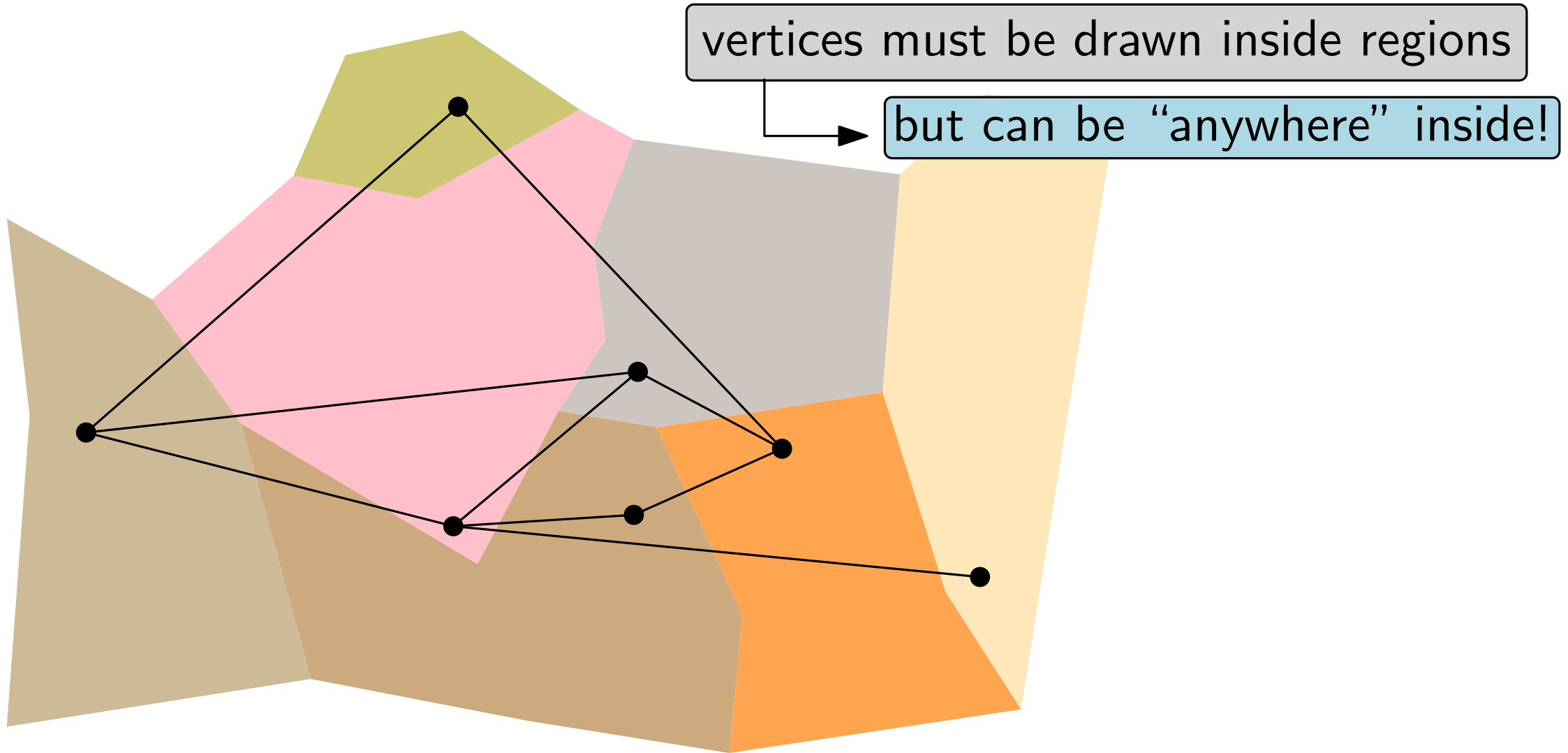
# Drawing geographic networks



# Drawing geographic networks



# Drawing geographic networks



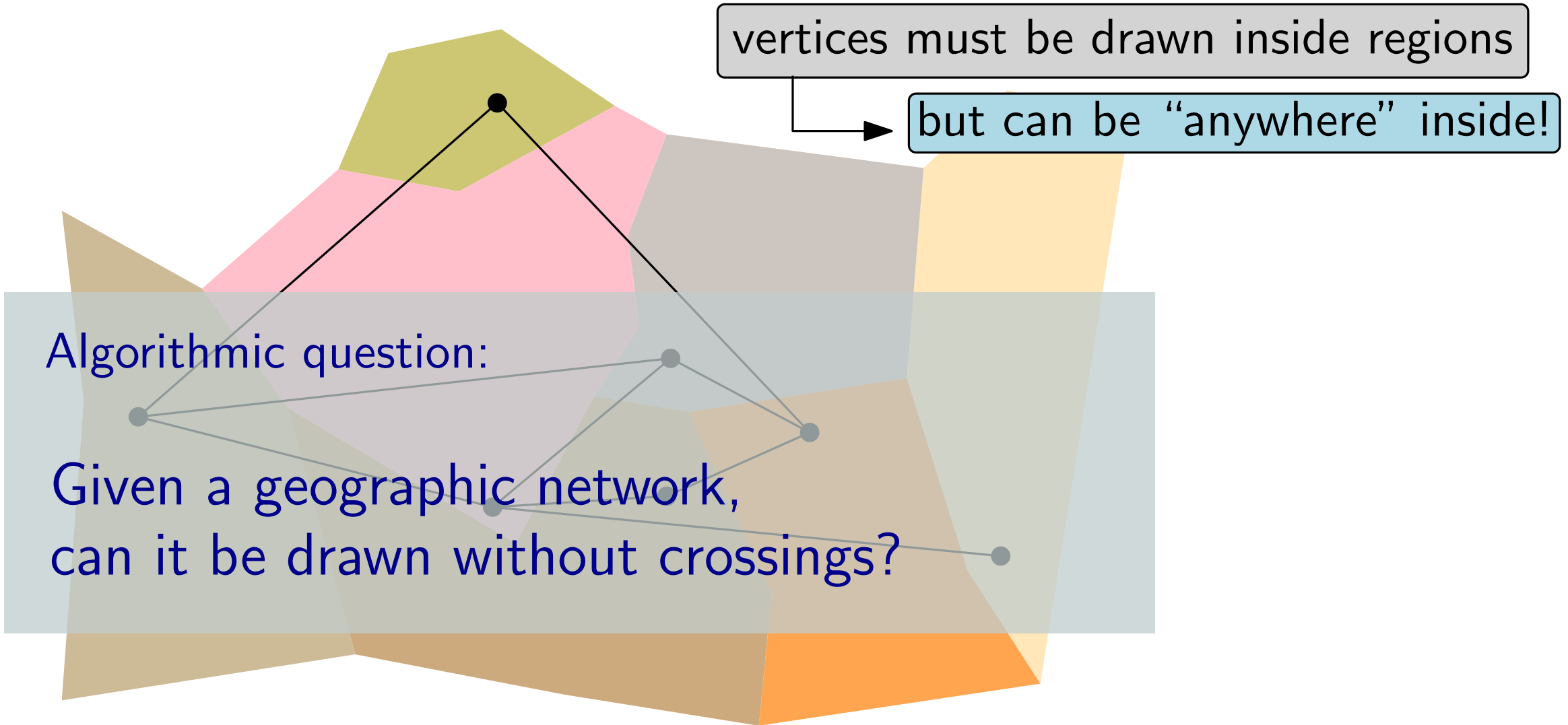
# Drawing geographic networks

vertices must be drawn inside regions

but can be “anywhere” inside!

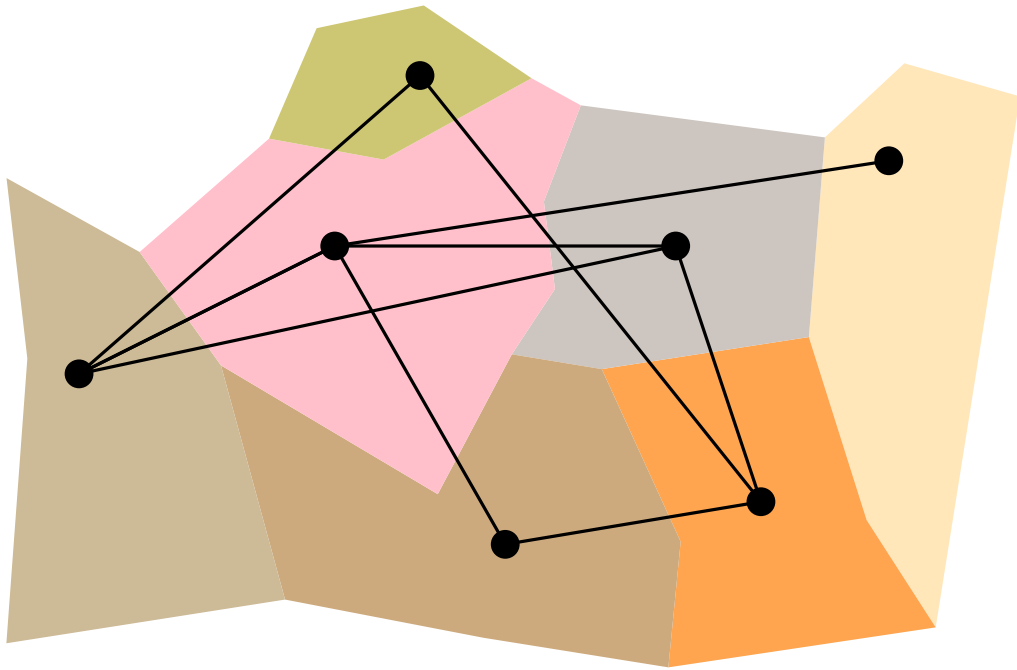
Algorithmic question:

Given a geographic network,  
can it be drawn without crossings?



# The big problem

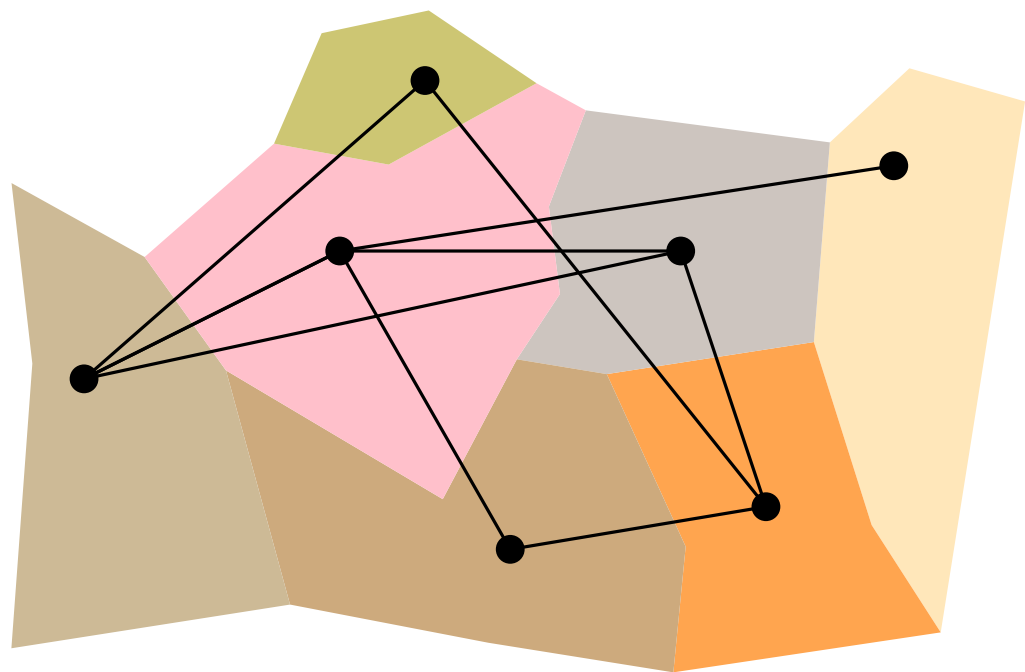
Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?





# The big problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

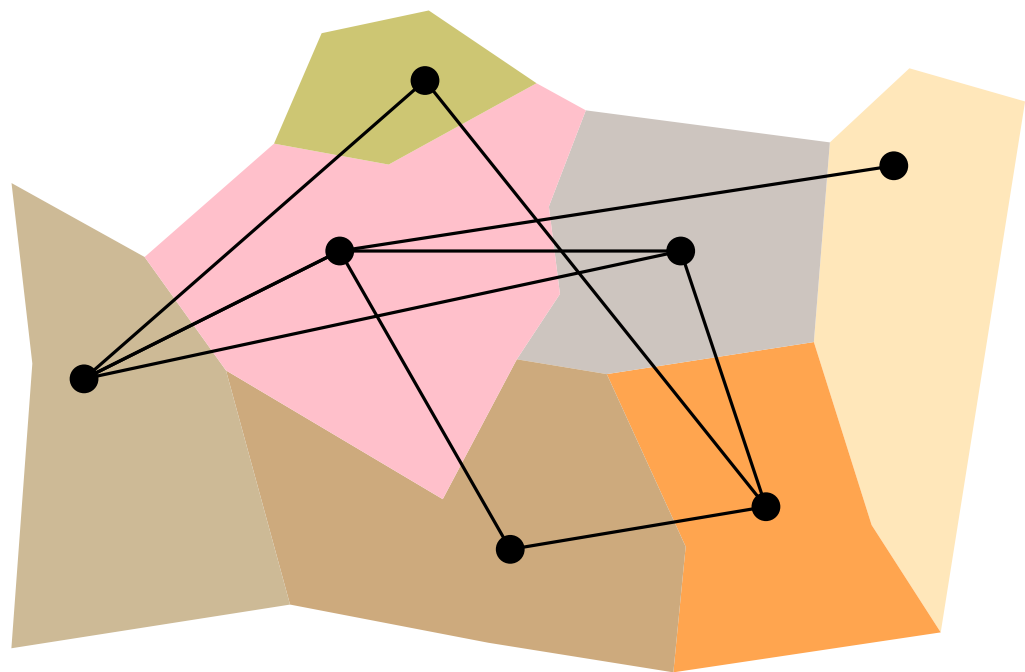


Need to precise:

- Type of graph
- Regions
- Curves to draw edges

# Our problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

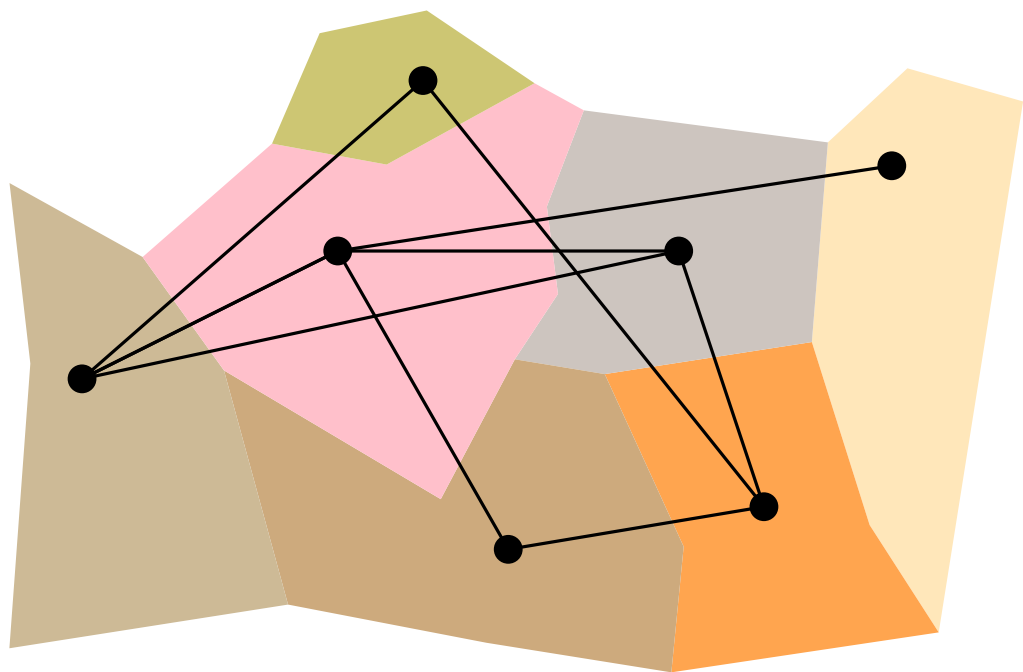


Need to precise:

- Type of graph
- Regions
- Curves to draw edges

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Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

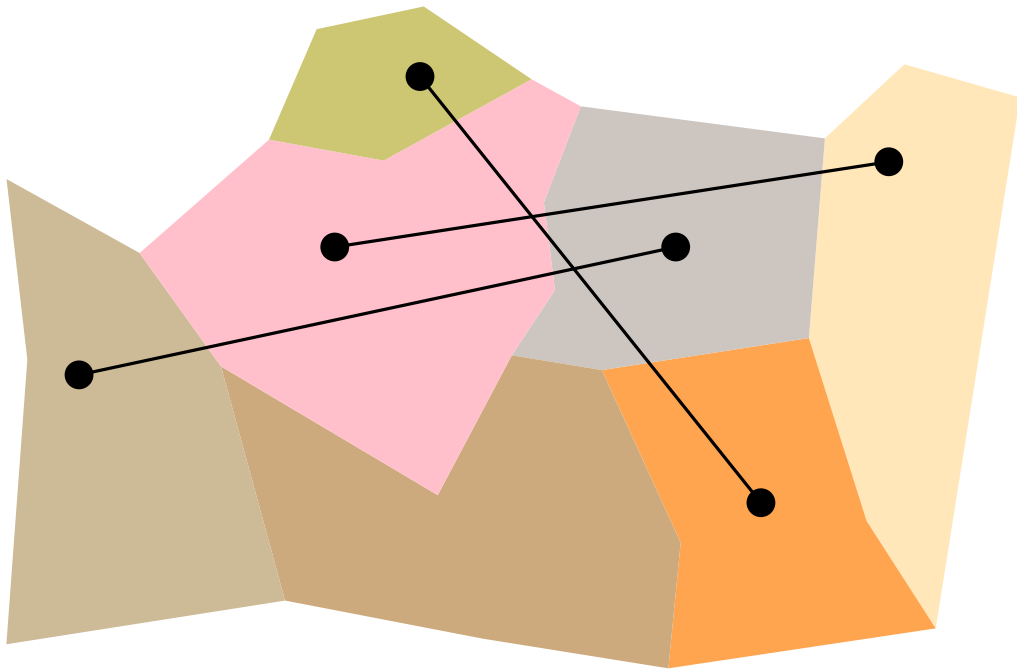


Need to precise:

- Type of graph ← matching
- Regions
- Curves to draw edges

# Our problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

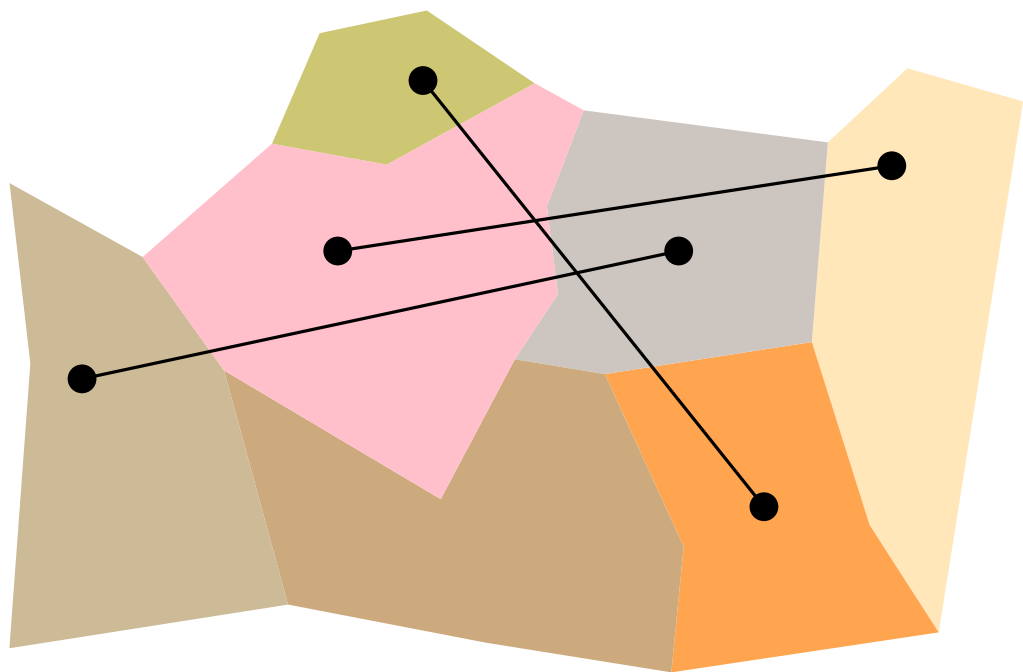


Need to precise:

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# Our problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

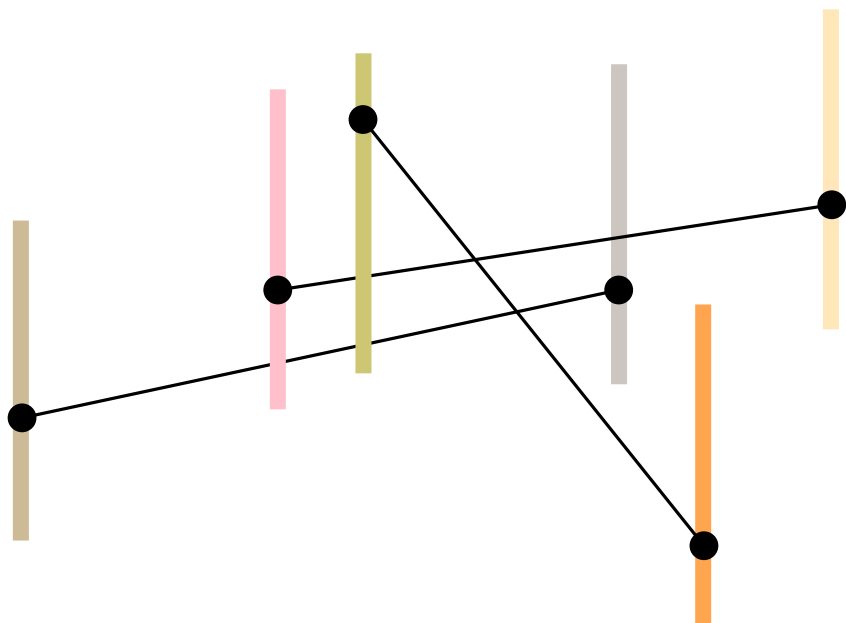


Need to precise:

- Type of graph ← matching
- Regions ← unit vertical segments
- Curves to draw edges

# Our problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

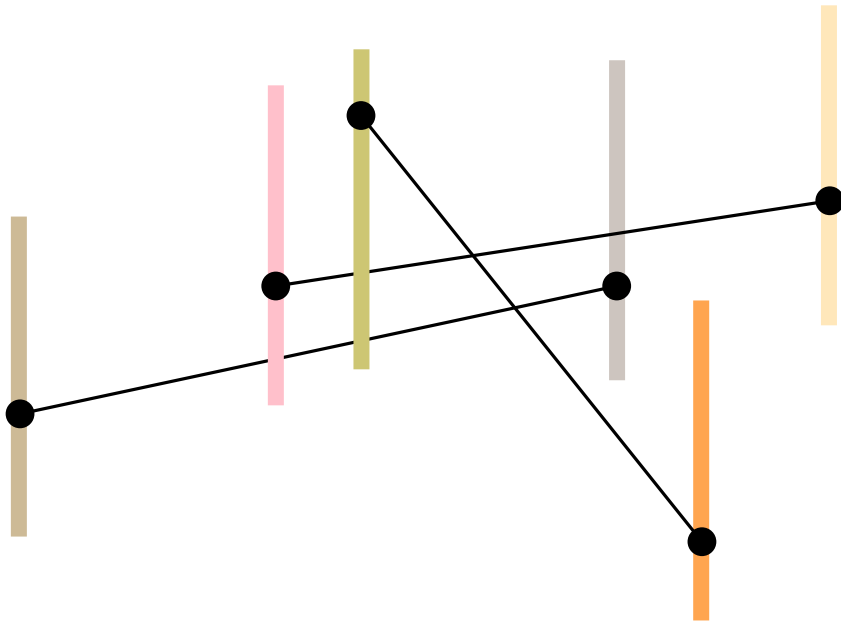


Need to precise:

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Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

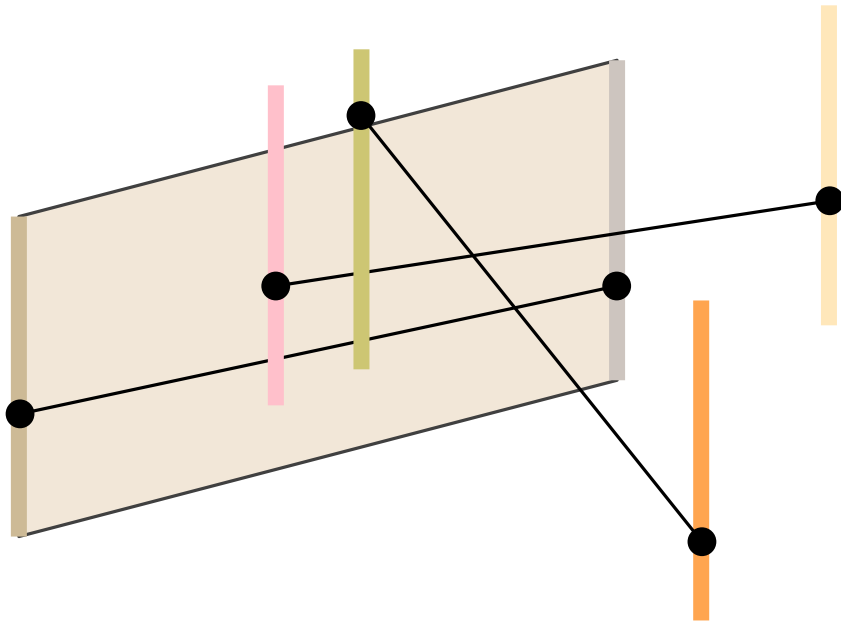


Need to precise:

- Type of graph ← matching
- Regions ← unit vertical segments
- Curves to draw edges  
← drawn inside convex hulls of edge vertical segments (*tubes*)

# Our problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?



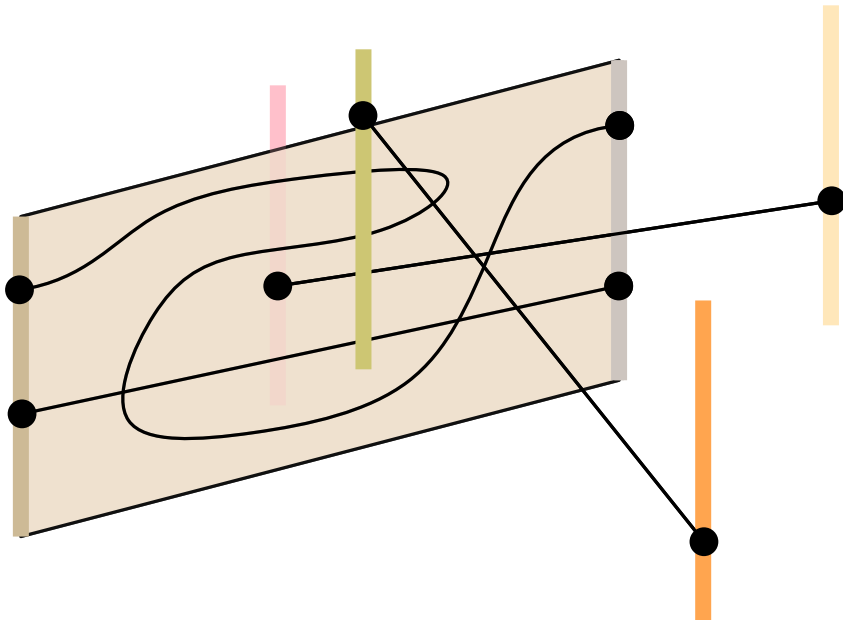
Need to precise:

- Type of graph ← matching
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# Our problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

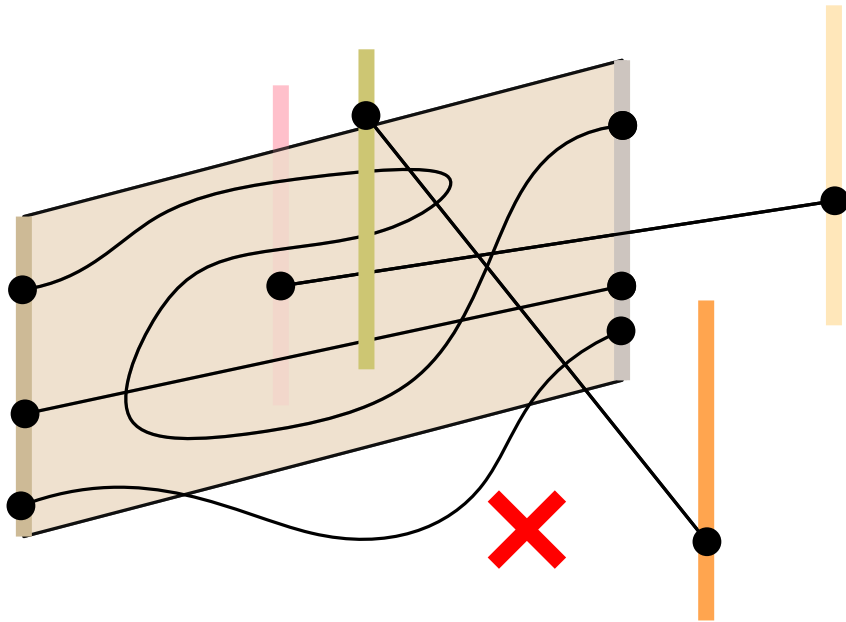


Need to precise:

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Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

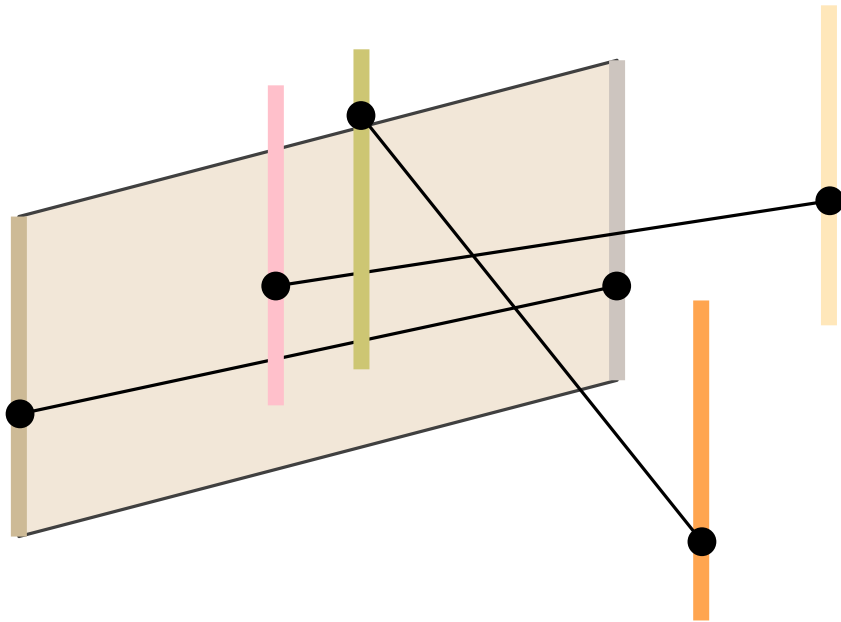


Need to precise:

- Type of graph ← matching
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Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

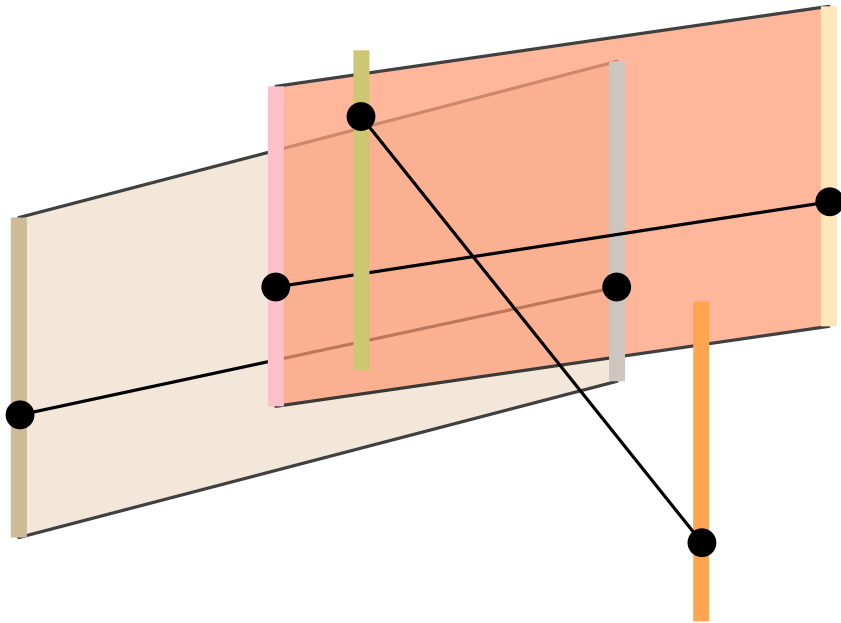


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- Type of graph ← matching
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Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

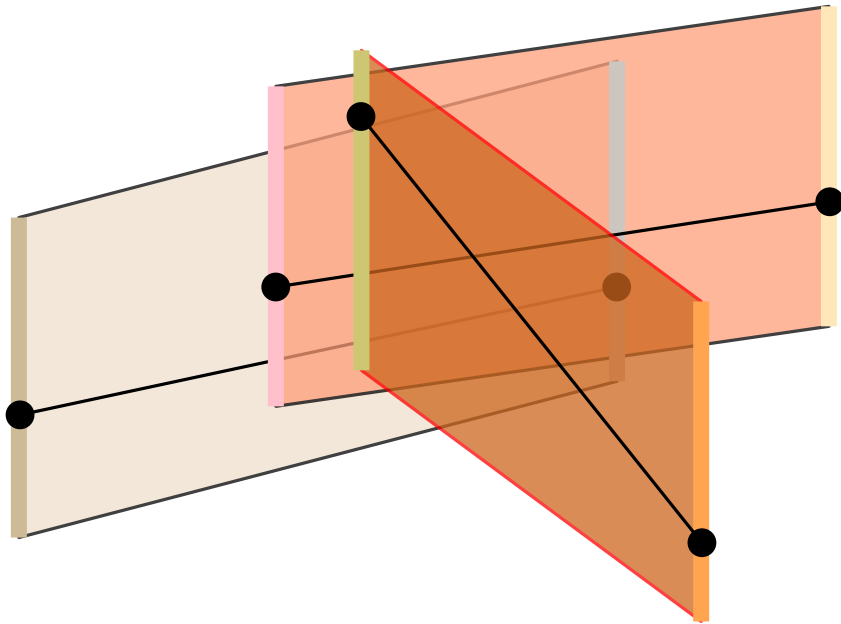


Need to precise:

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- Regions ← unit vertical segments
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Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?

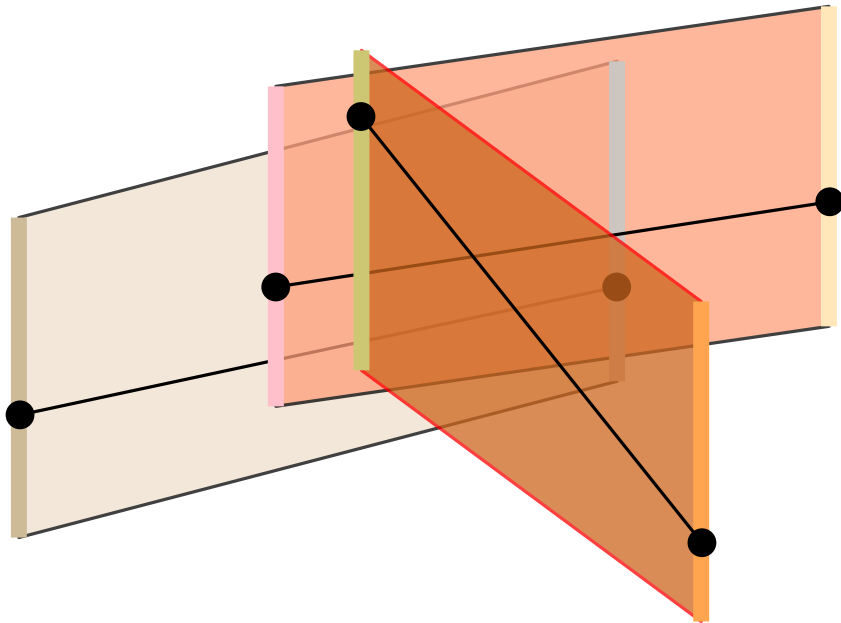


Need to precise:

- Type of graph ← matching
- Regions ← unit vertical segments
- Curves to draw edges  
← drawn inside convex hulls of edge vertical segments (*tubes*)

# Our problem

Given a geographic network, can it be drawn without crossings?



Need to precise:

- Type of graph ← matching
- Regions ← unit vertical segments
- Curves to draw edges
  - ← drawn inside convex hulls of edge vertical segments (*tubes*)
  - ← three ways to draw edges

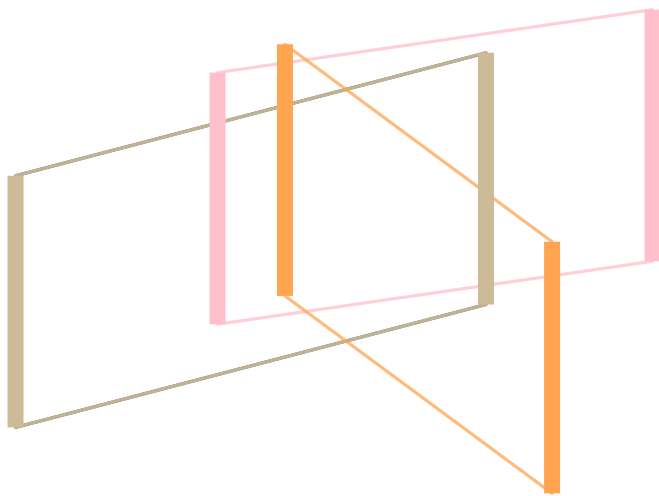
# Our problem

Given a matching, where the endpoint of each edge must lie on a unit vertical segment, can it be drawn without crossings?

# Our problem

Given a matching, where the endpoint of each edge must lie on a unit vertical segment, can it be drawn without crossings?

Three ways to draw edges inside tubes:



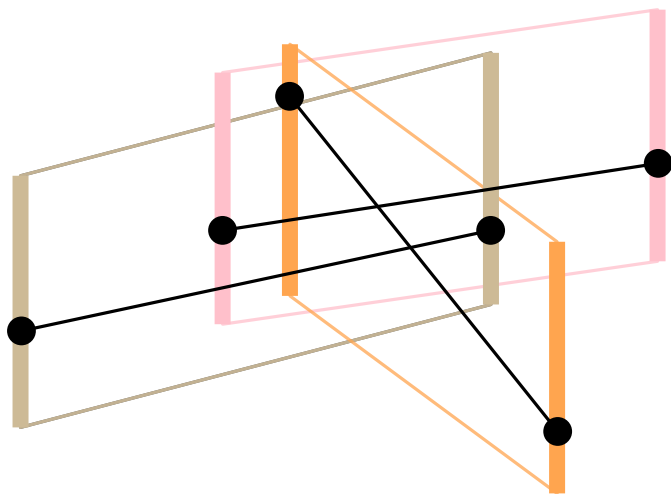


# Our problem

Given a matching, where the endpoint of each edge must lie on a unit vertical segment, can it be drawn without crossings?

Three ways to draw edges inside tubes:

straight-line segment

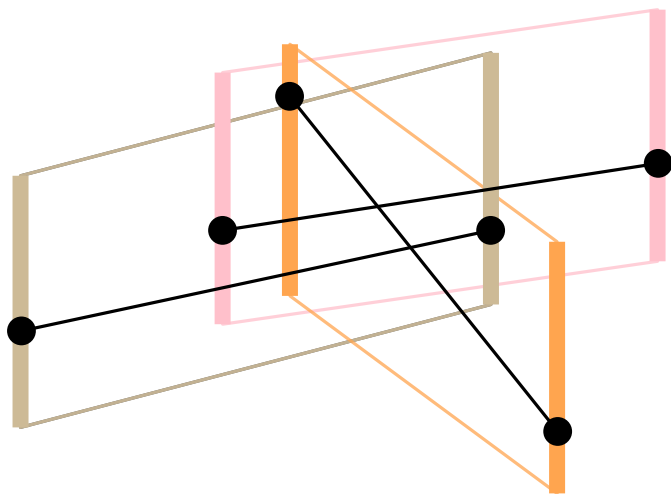


# Our problem

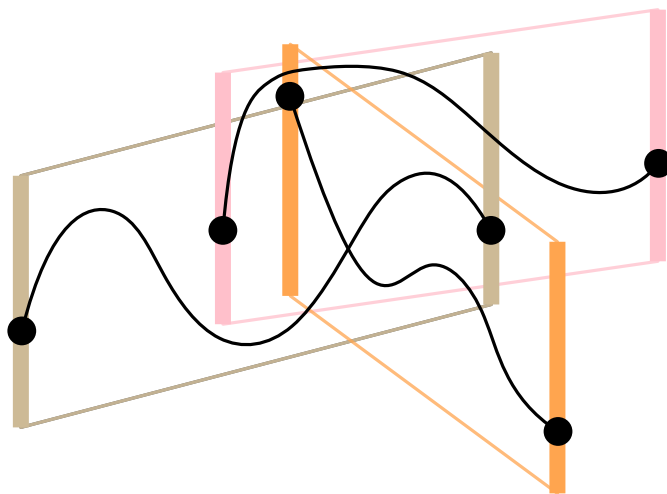
Given a matching, where the endpoint of each edge must lie on a unit vertical segment, can it be drawn without crossings?

Three ways to draw edges inside tubes:

straight-line segment



$(x-)$ monotone paths

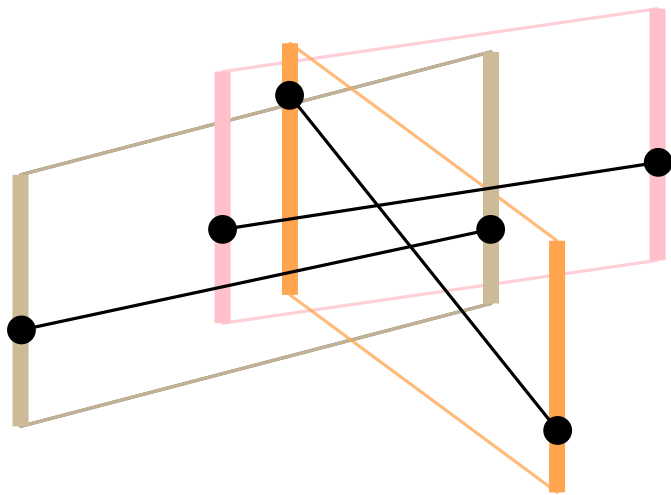


# Our problem

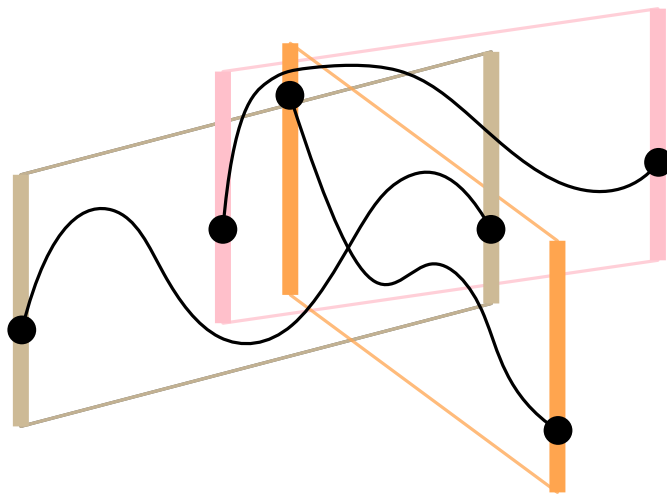
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Three ways to draw edges inside tubes:

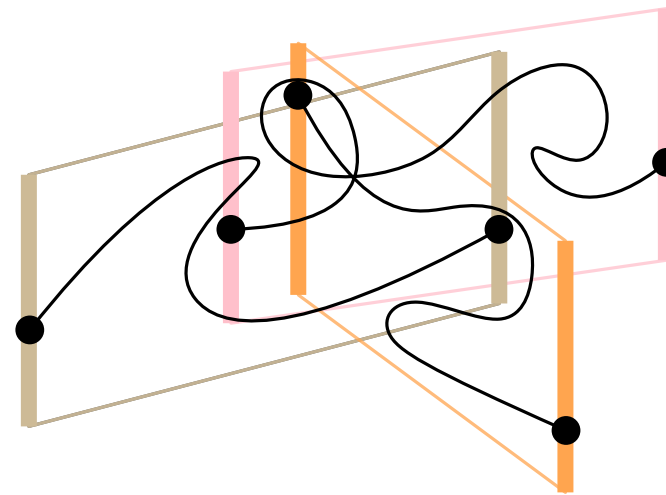
straight-line segment



$(x-)$ monotone paths



arbitrary paths

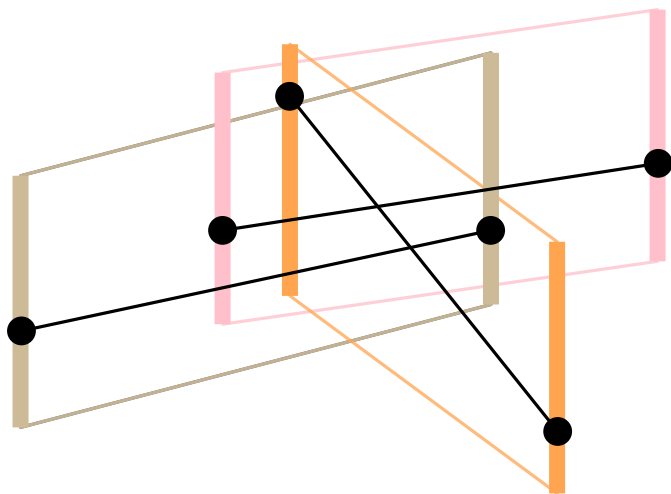


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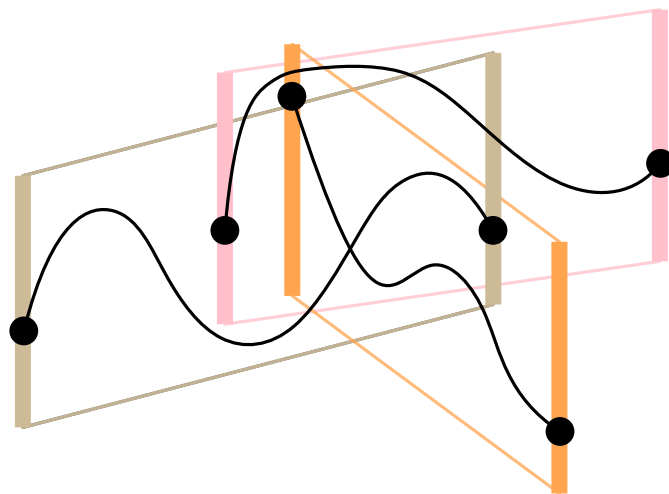
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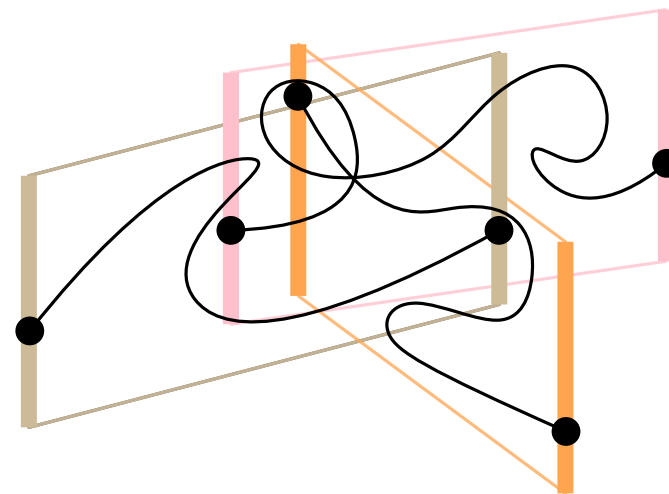
straight-line segment



$(x-)$ monotone paths



arbitrary paths

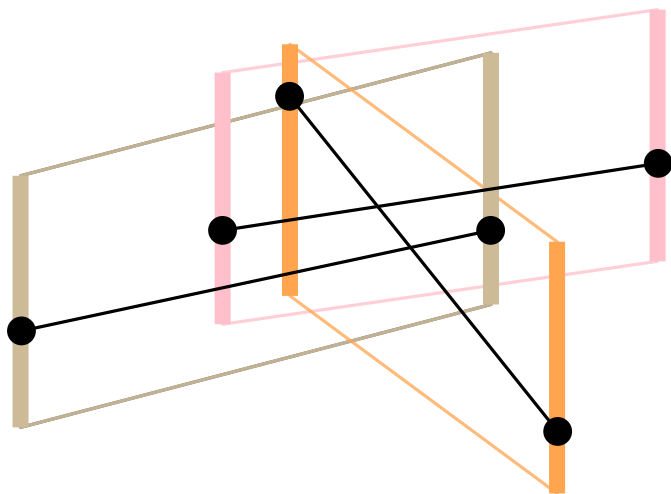


Recall: endpoints can be anywhere on the vertical line segments

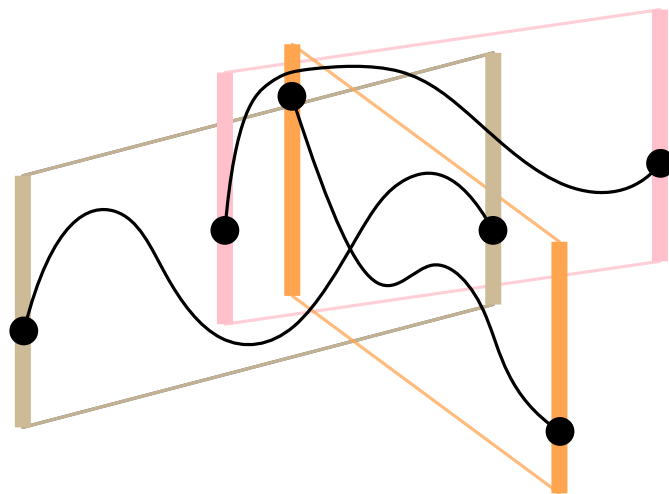
# Our results

Given a matching, where the endpoint of each edge must lie on a unit vertical segment, can it be drawn without crossings?

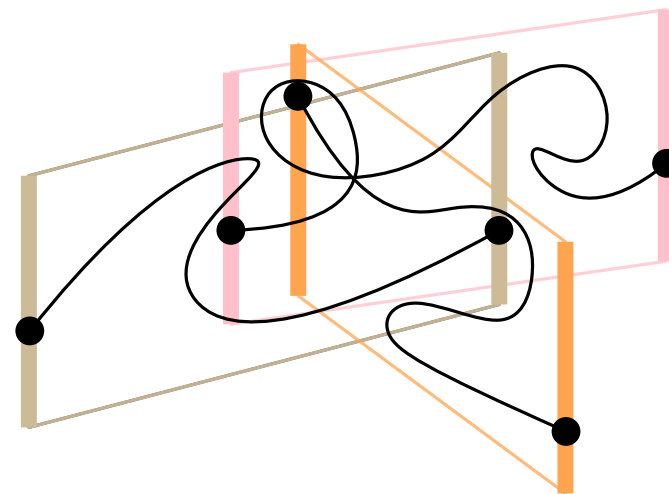
straight-line paths



( $x$ -)monotone paths



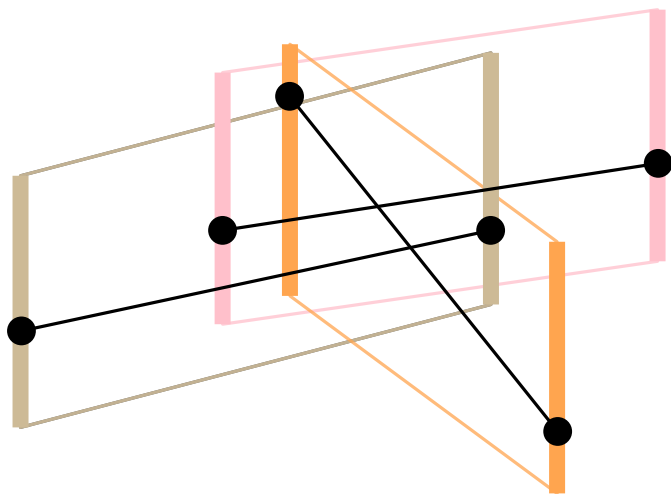
arbitrary paths



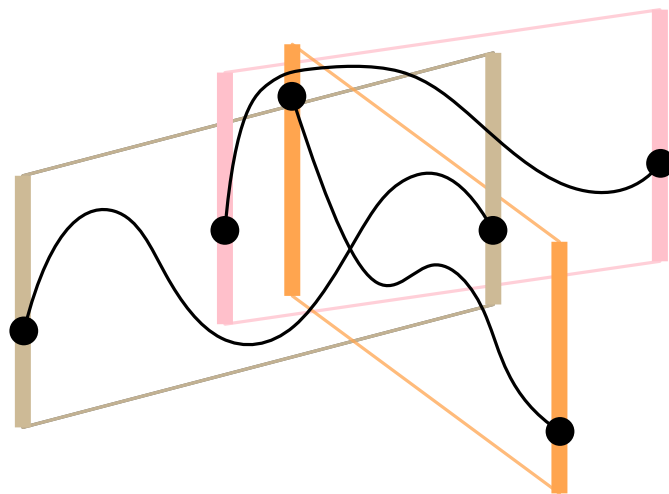
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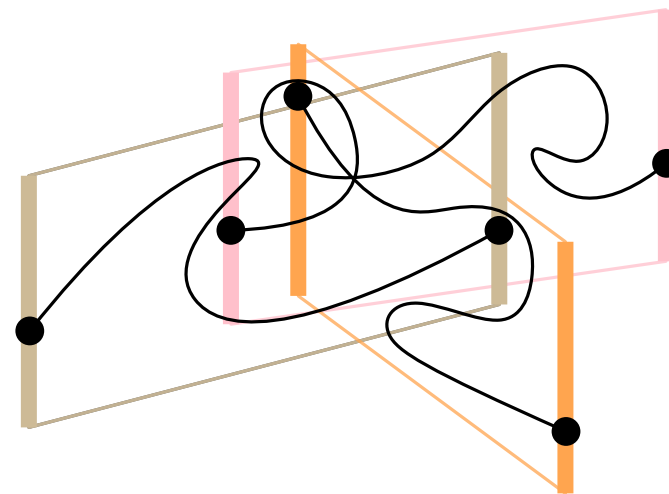
straight-line paths



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arbitrary paths

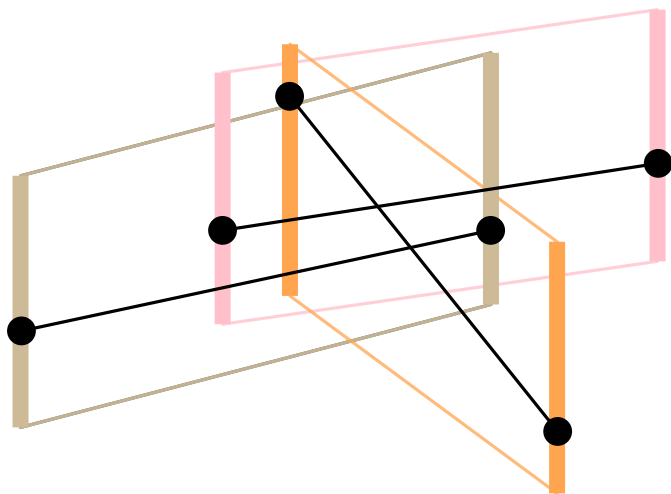


NP-complete

# Our results

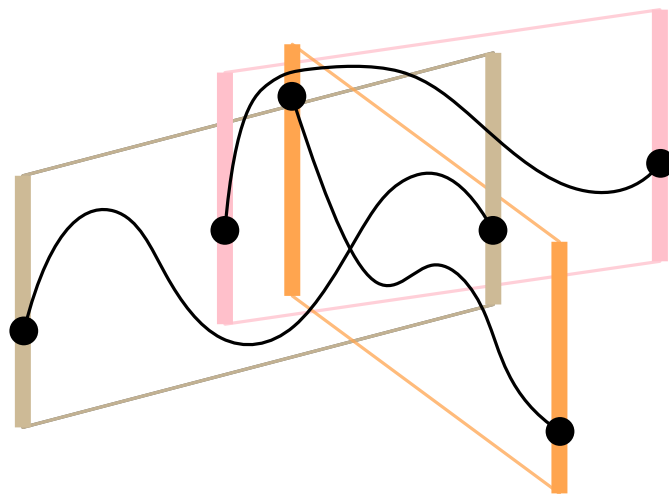
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straight-line paths



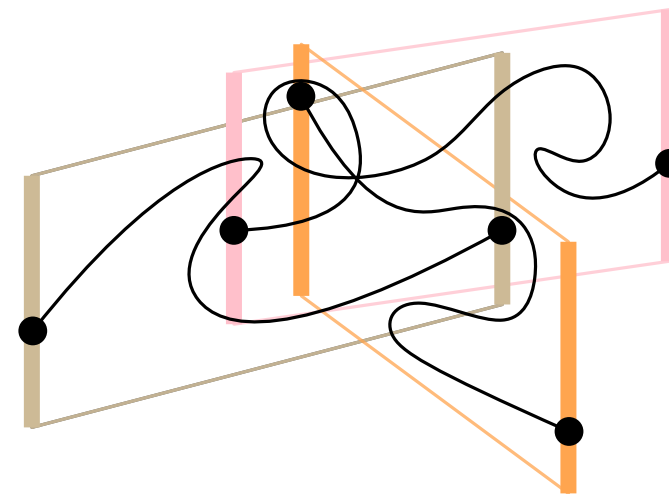
NP-complete

( $x$ -)monotone paths



Polynomial

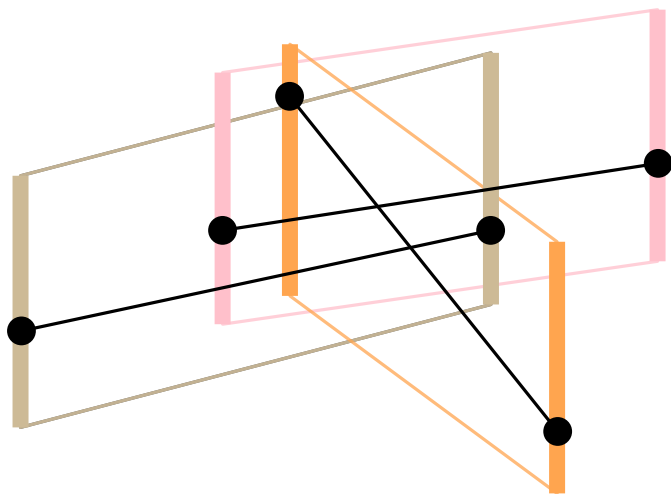
arbitrary paths



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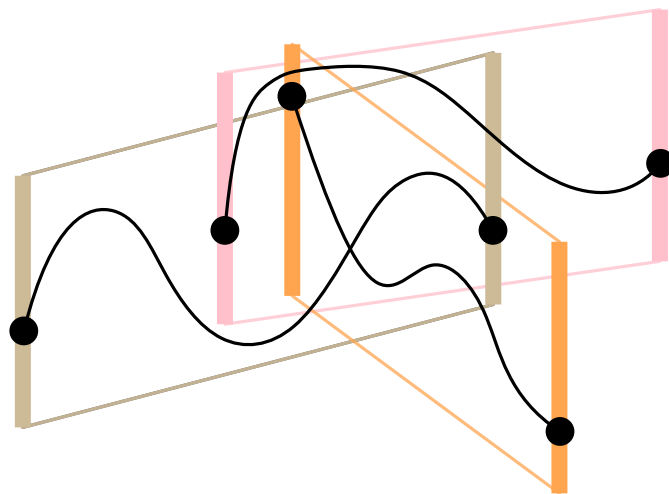
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straight-line paths



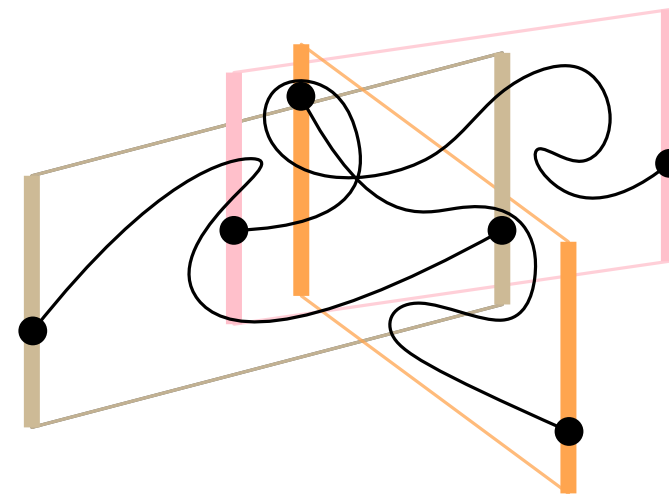
NP-complete

$(x-)$ monotone paths



Polynomial

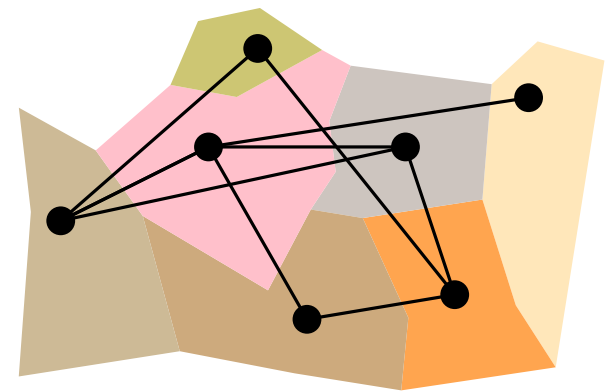
arbitrary paths



Polynomial under  
certain assumptions

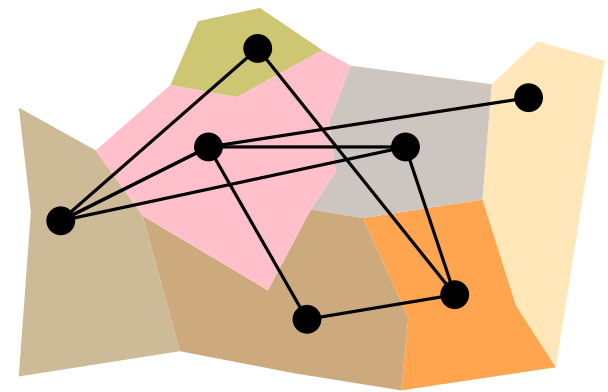


# Related work



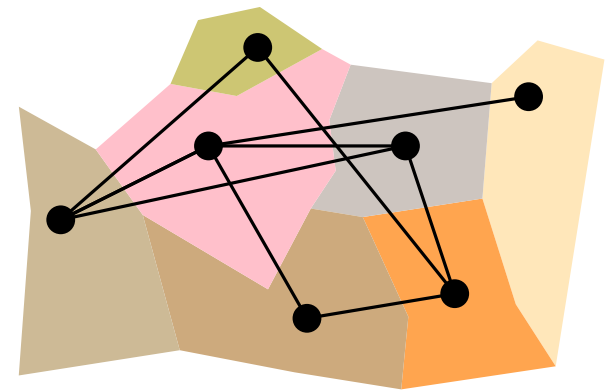
# Related work

- Force-directed approach for general problem [[Abellanas et al., 2005](#)]



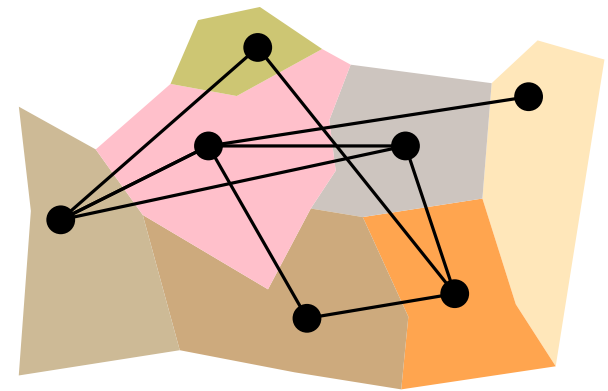
# Related work

- Force-directed approach for general problem [Abellanas et al., 2005]
- Straight-line case shown NP-hard for:
  - Cycle graphs when regions are vertical segments [Löffler, 2011]
  - Matchings when regions are vertical segments [Aloupis et al., 2015; Verbeek, 2008]
  - General graphs when regions are unit squares [Angelini et al., 2014]



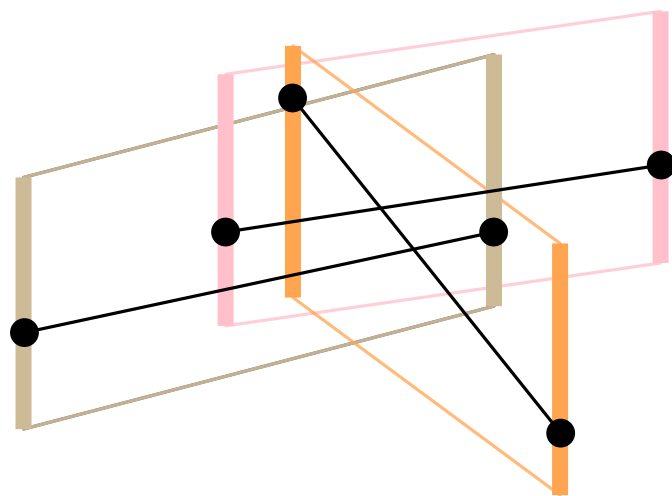
# Related work

- Force-directed approach for general problem [Abellanas et al., 2005]
- Straight-line case shown NP-hard for:
  - Cycle graphs when regions are vertical segments [Löffler, 2011]
  - Matchings when regions are vertical segments [Aloupis et al., 2015; Verbeek, 2008]
  - General graphs when regions are unit squares [Angelini et al., 2014]
- Several other related problems:
  - Fitting planar graphs to planar maps [Alam et al., 2015]
  - $c$ -planarity / ordered-level planarity [Feng et al., 1995, Klemz and Rote, 2017]
  - Manhattan geodesic planarity [Katz et al., 2009]
  - Non-crossing connectors in the plane [Kratochvíl and Ueckerdt, 2013]



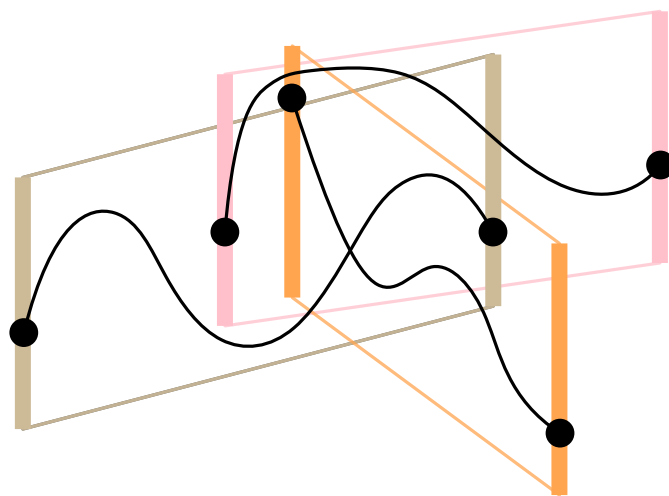
# Our results

straight line paths



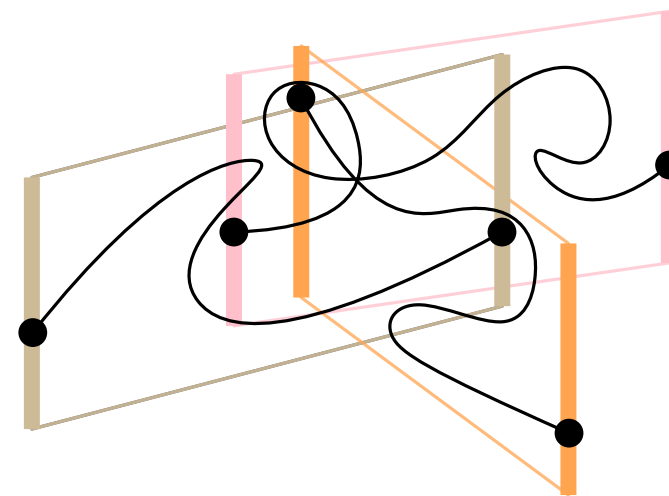
NP-complete

$(x-)$ monotone paths



Polynomial

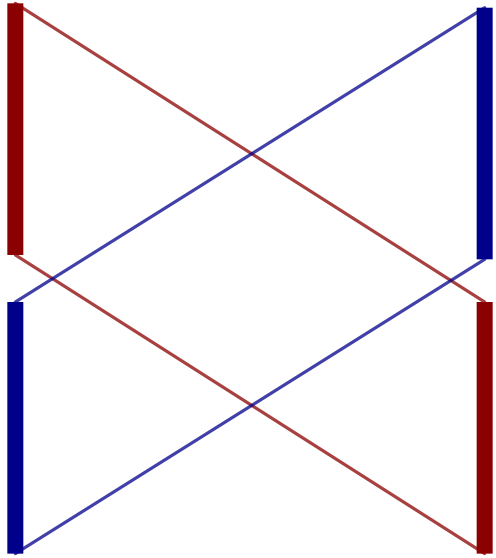
arbitrary paths



Polynomial under  
certain assumptions

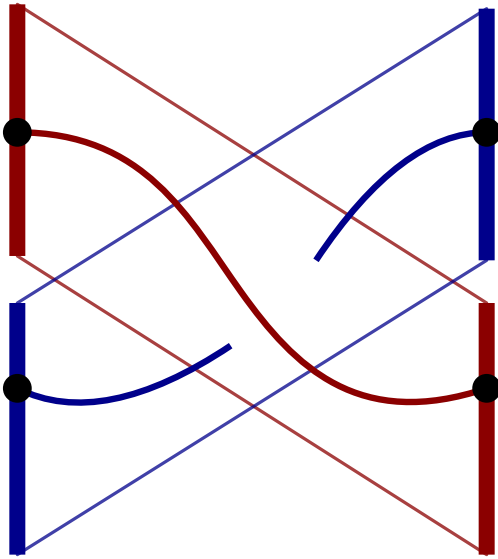
How can two tubes intersect?

# How can two tubes intersect?



full crossing  
(no solution)

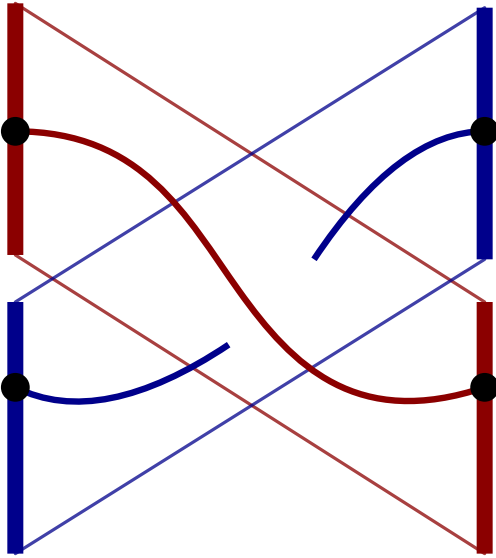
# How can two tubes intersect?



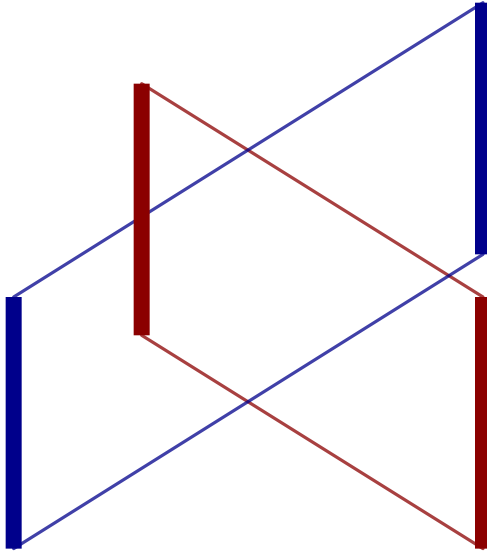
full crossing  
(no solution)



# How can two tubes intersect?

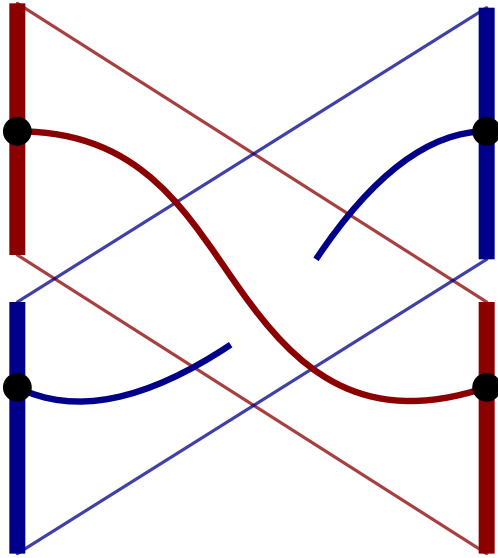


full crossing  
(no solution)

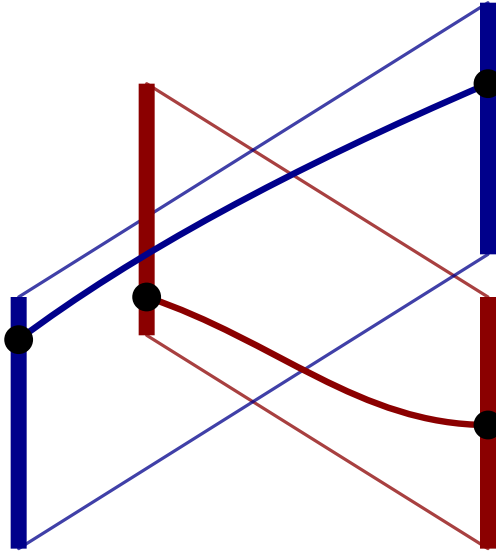


single intersection

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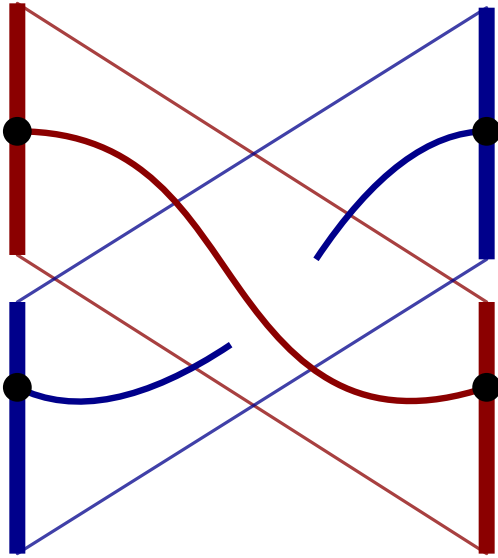


full crossing  
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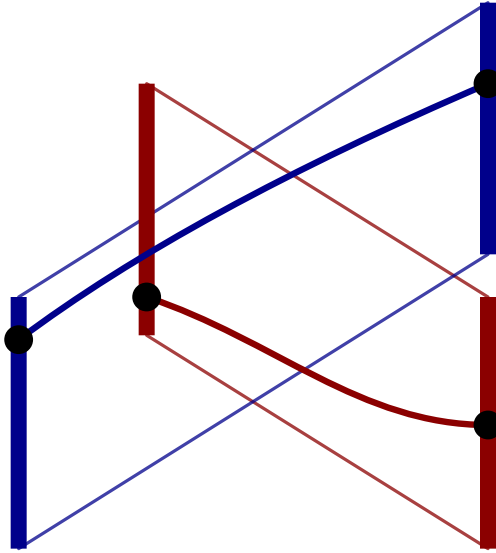


single intersection

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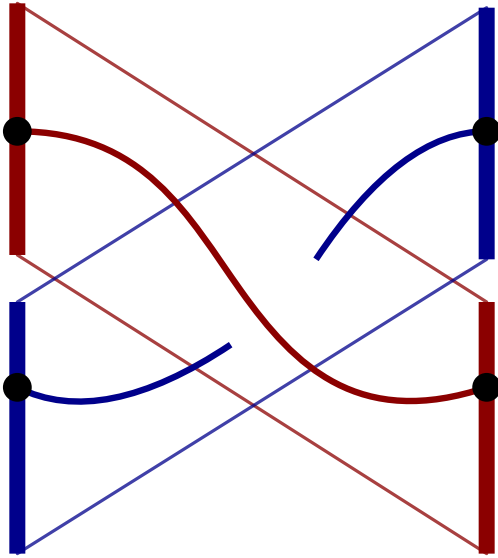


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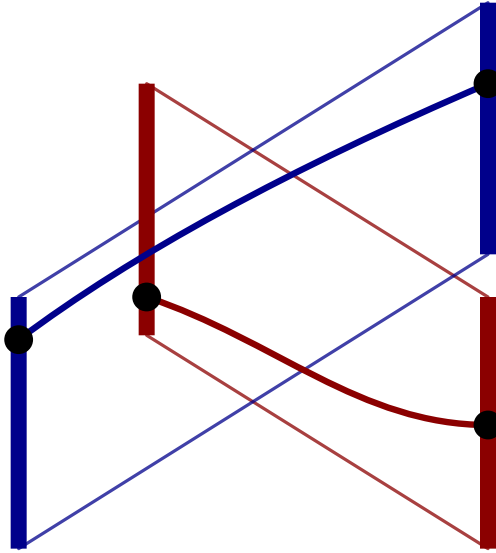


single intersection  
induces vertical order  
between paths  
*e.g., blue path is  
"above" red*

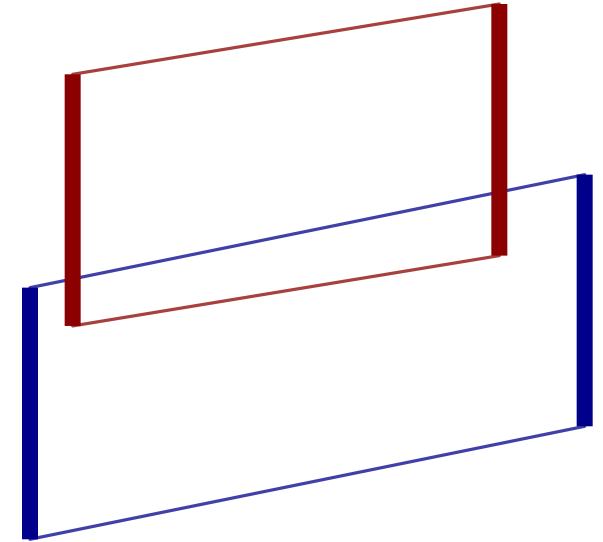
# How can two tubes intersect?



full crossing  
(no solution)

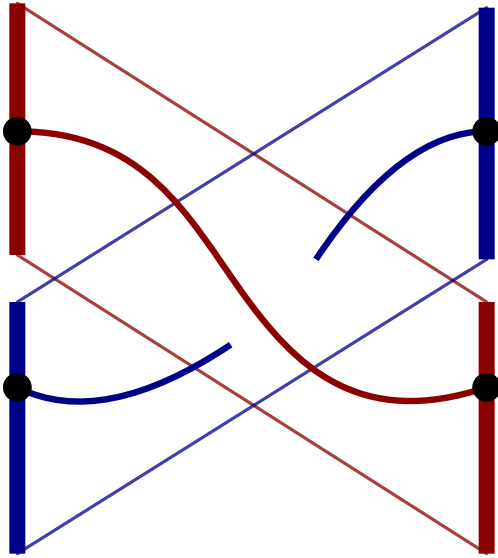


single intersection  
induces vertical order  
between paths  
*e.g., blue path is  
"above" red*

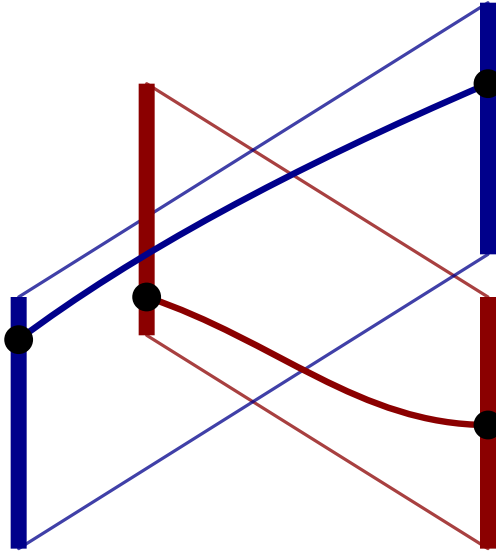


double intersection

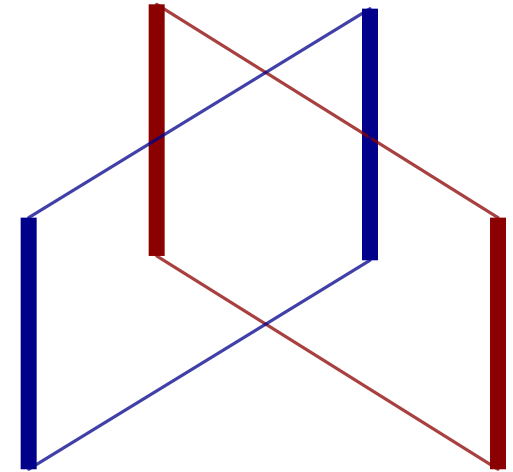
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full crossing  
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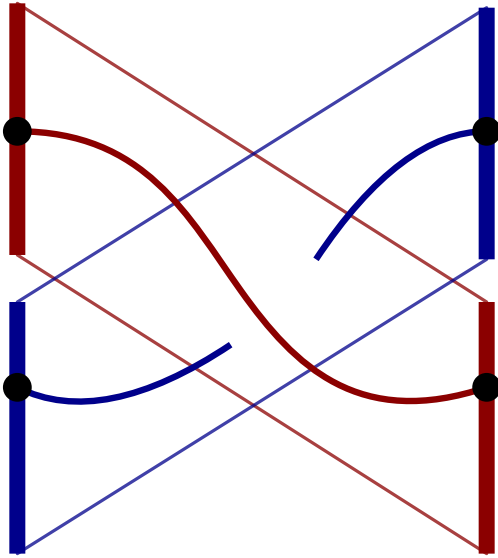


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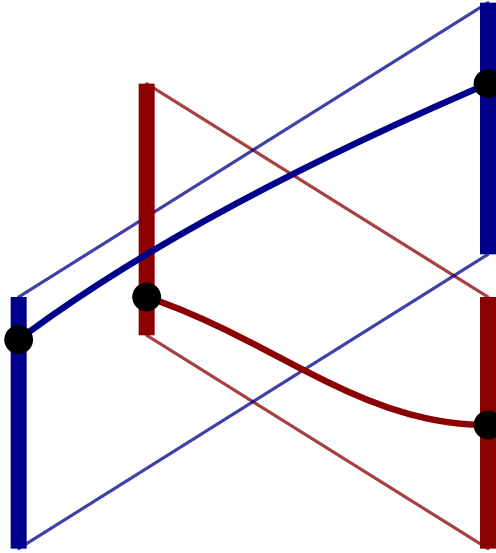


double intersection

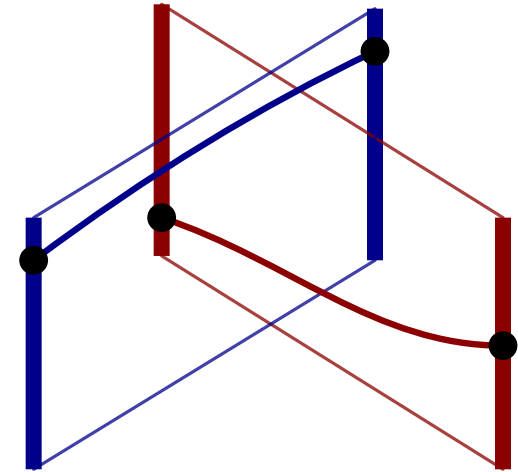
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full crossing  
(no solution)

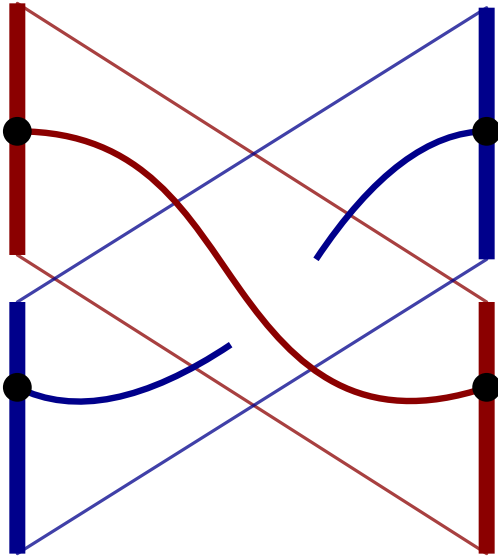


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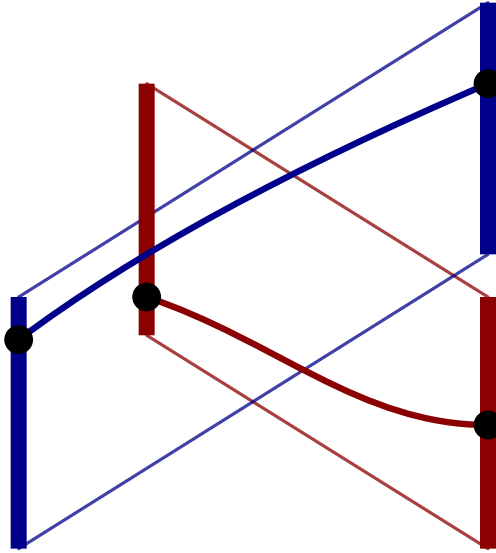


double intersection

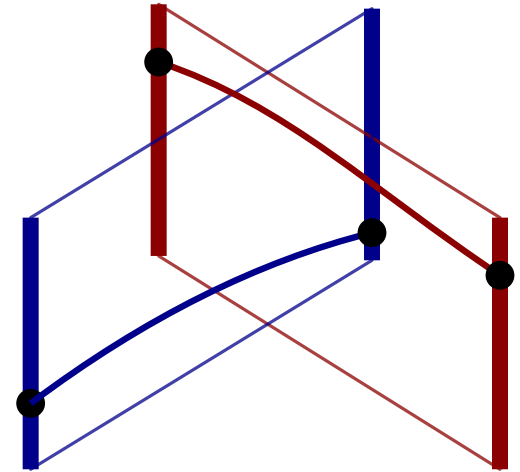
# How can two tubes intersect?



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(no solution)

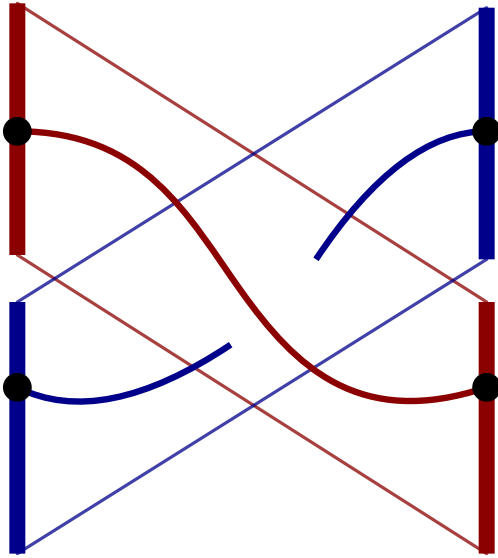


single intersection  
induces vertical order  
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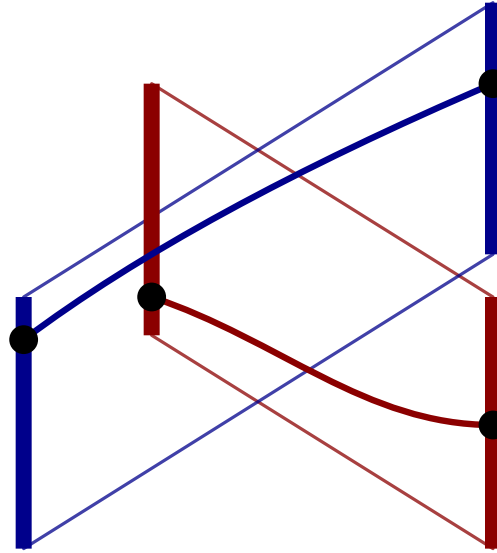


double intersection

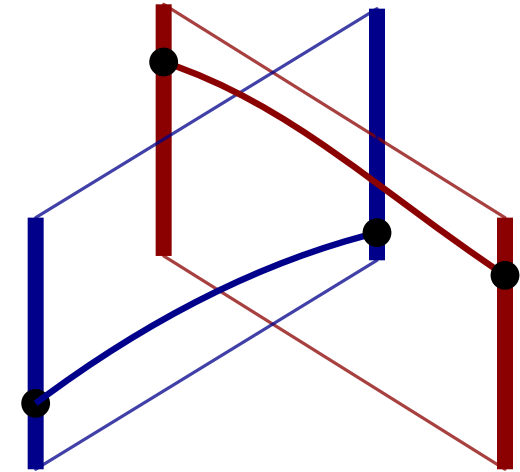
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(no solution)



single intersection  
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e.g., blue path is  
"above" red



double intersection

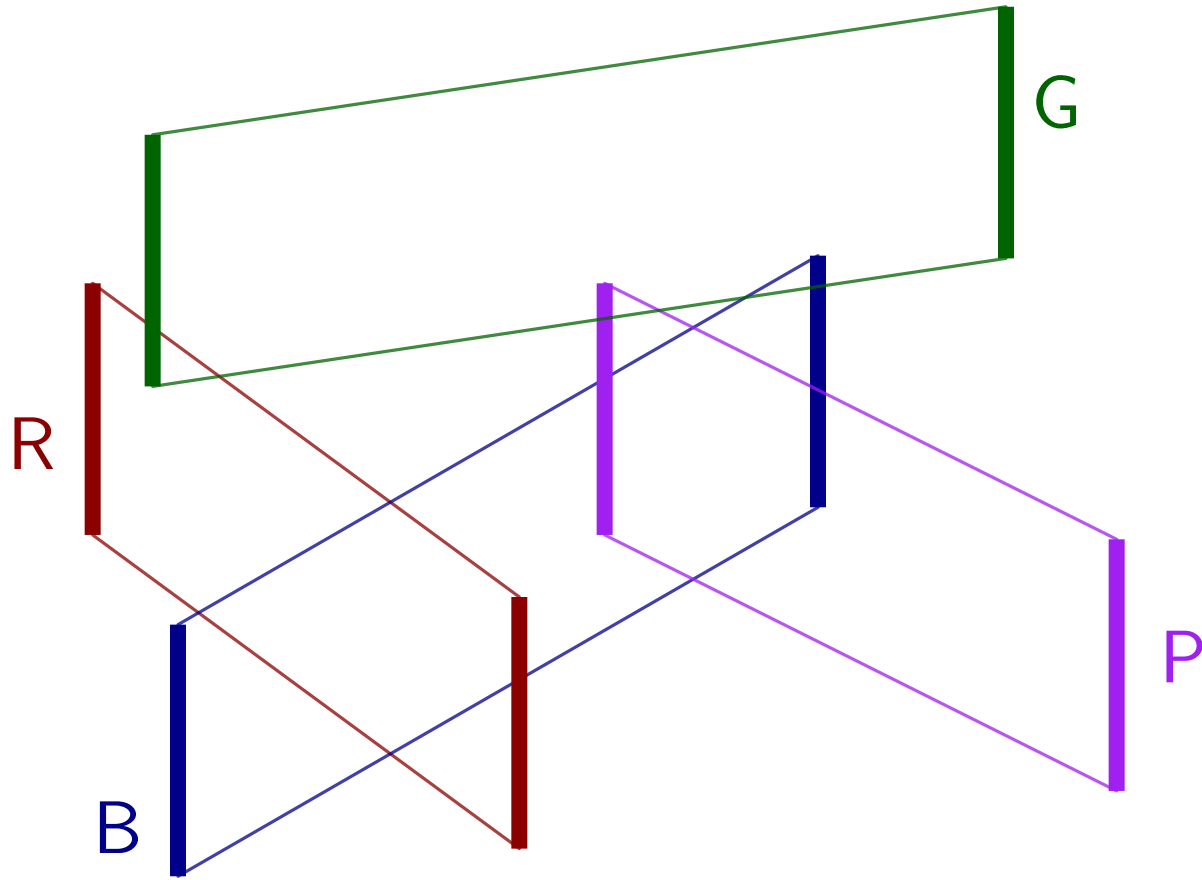
→ we can define an  
*order graph*



# Order graph

# Order graph

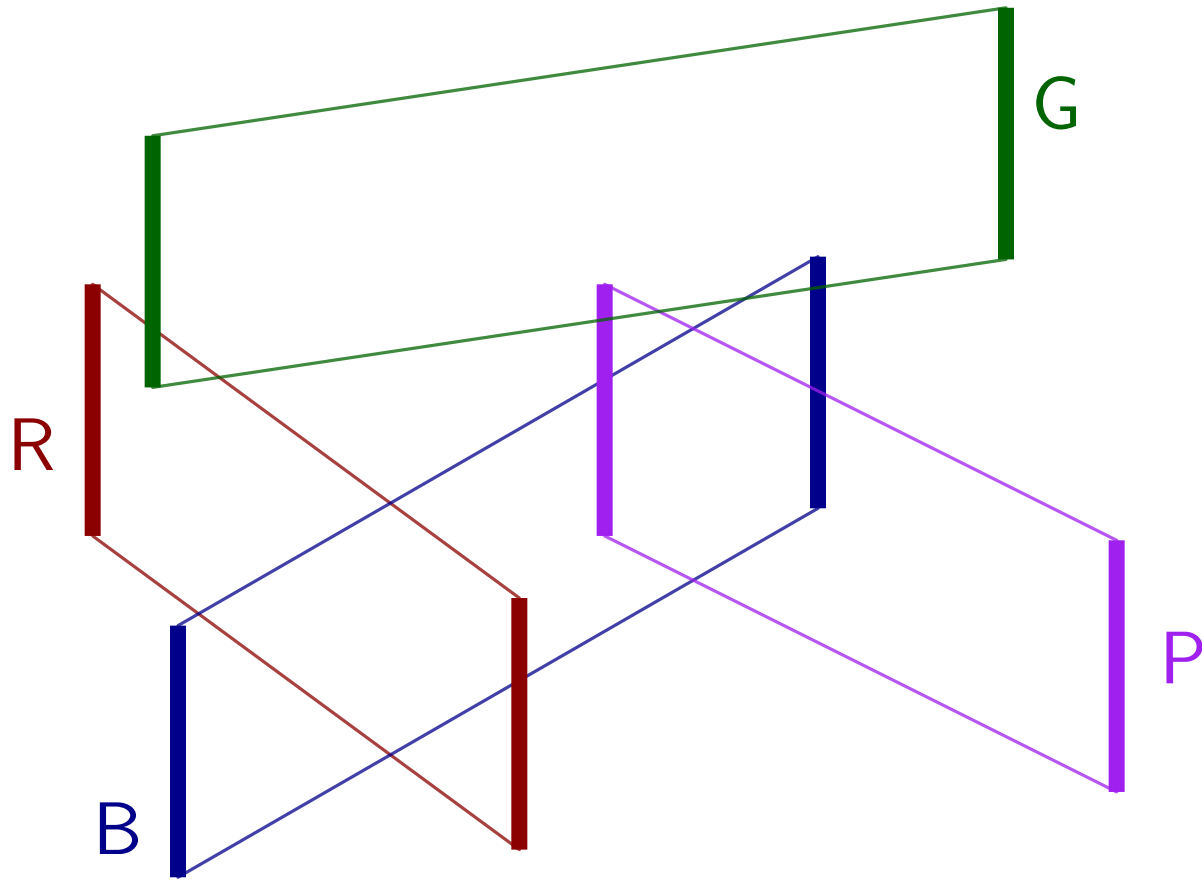
Tubes



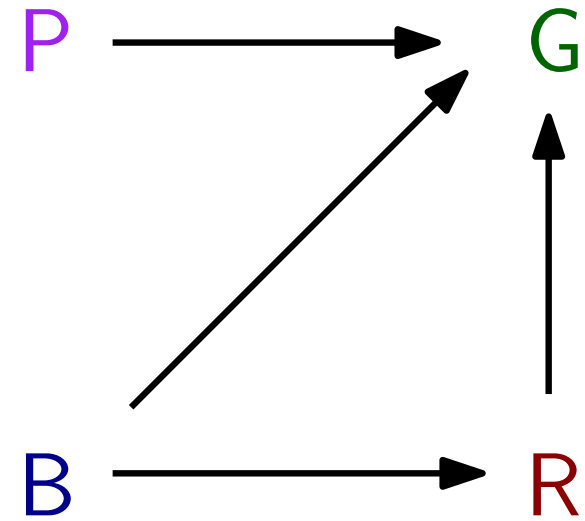
Order graph

# Order graph

Tubes

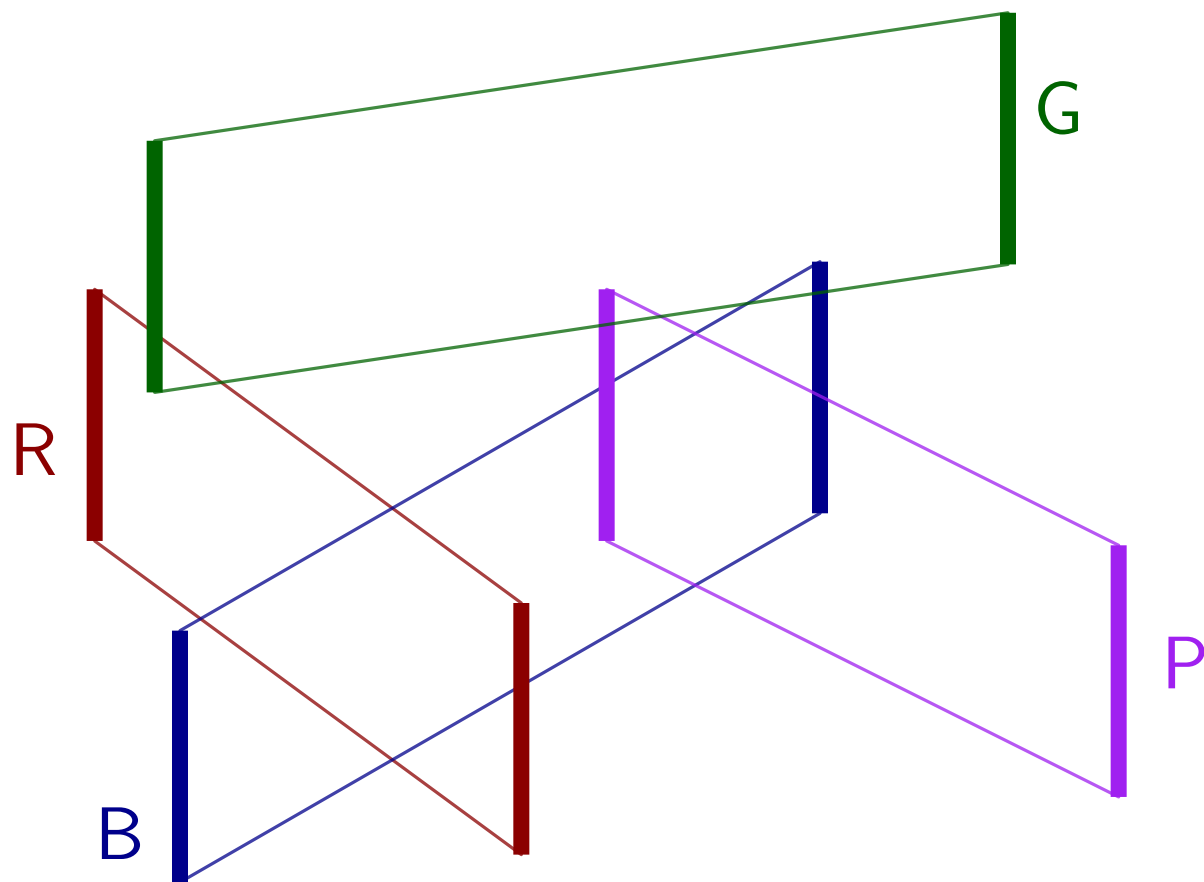


Order graph

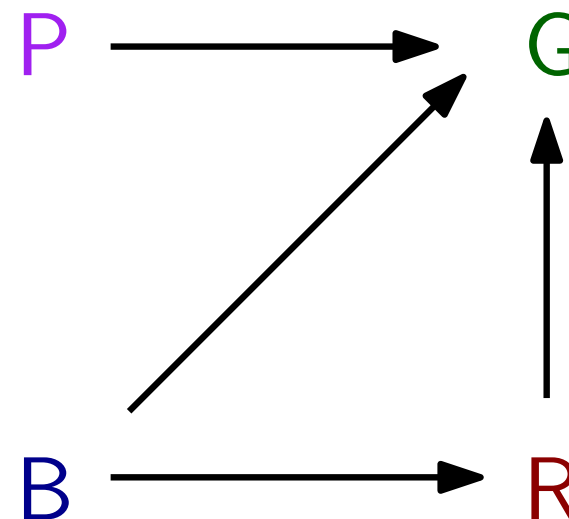


# Order graph

Tubes



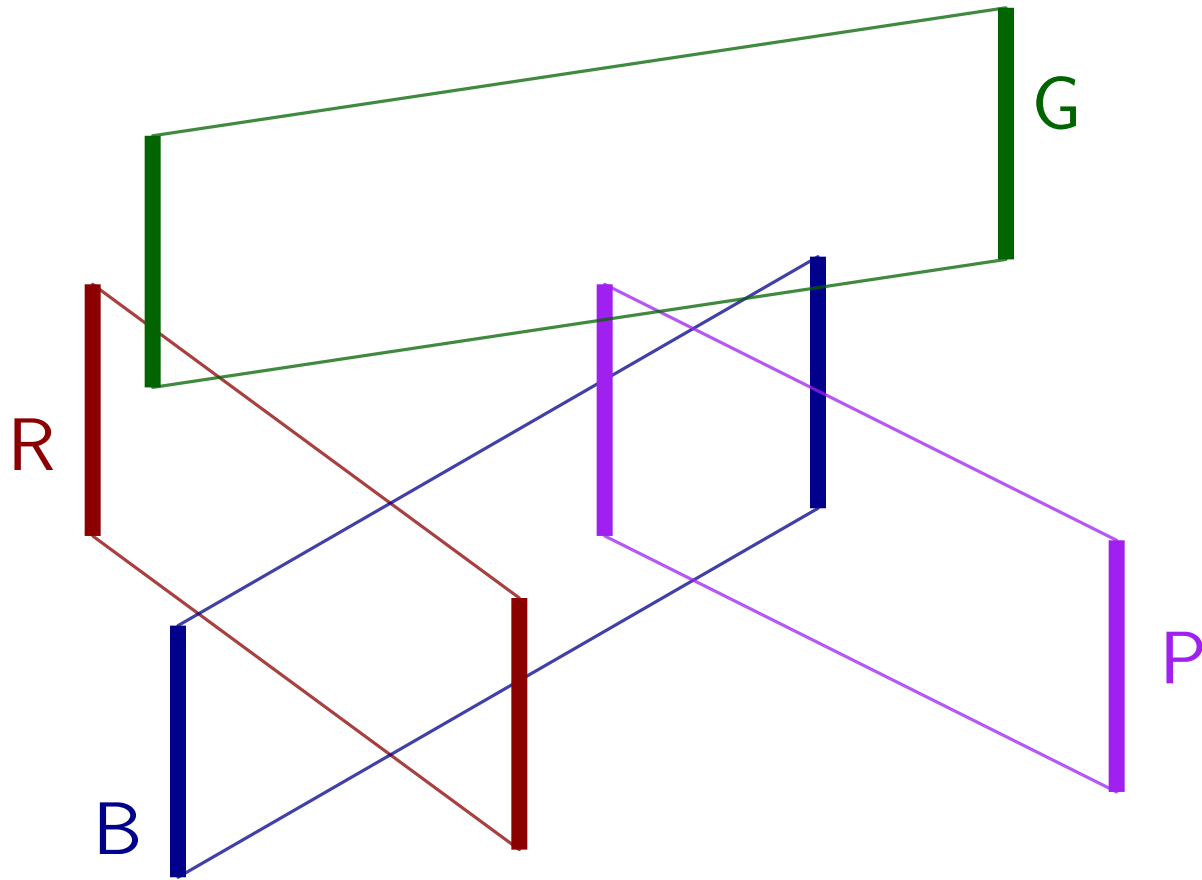
Order graph



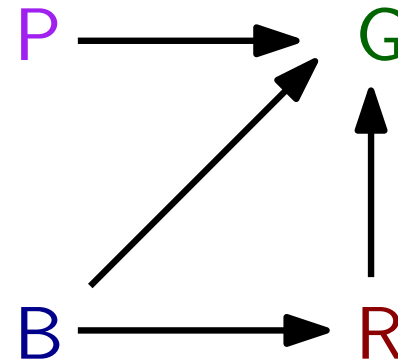
There is a solution if and only if the order graph has no directed cycles

# Drawing the tubes in order

Tubes

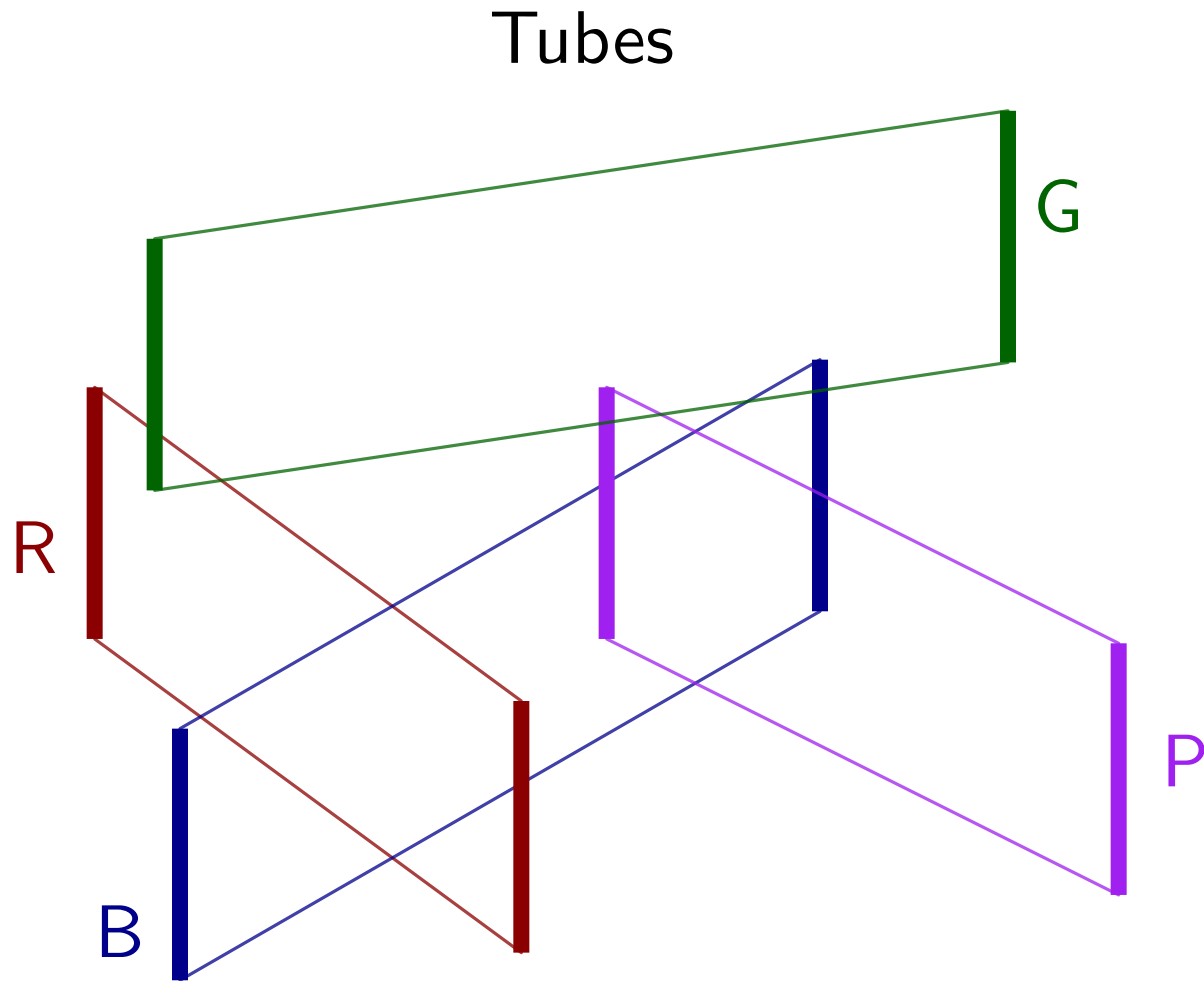


Order graph

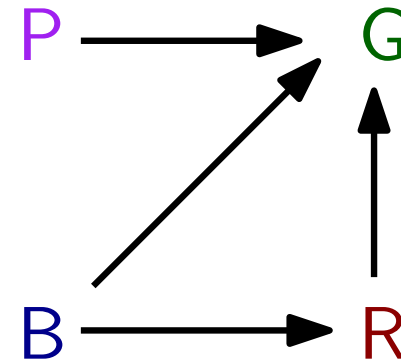


If no directed cycles:

# Drawing the tubes in order



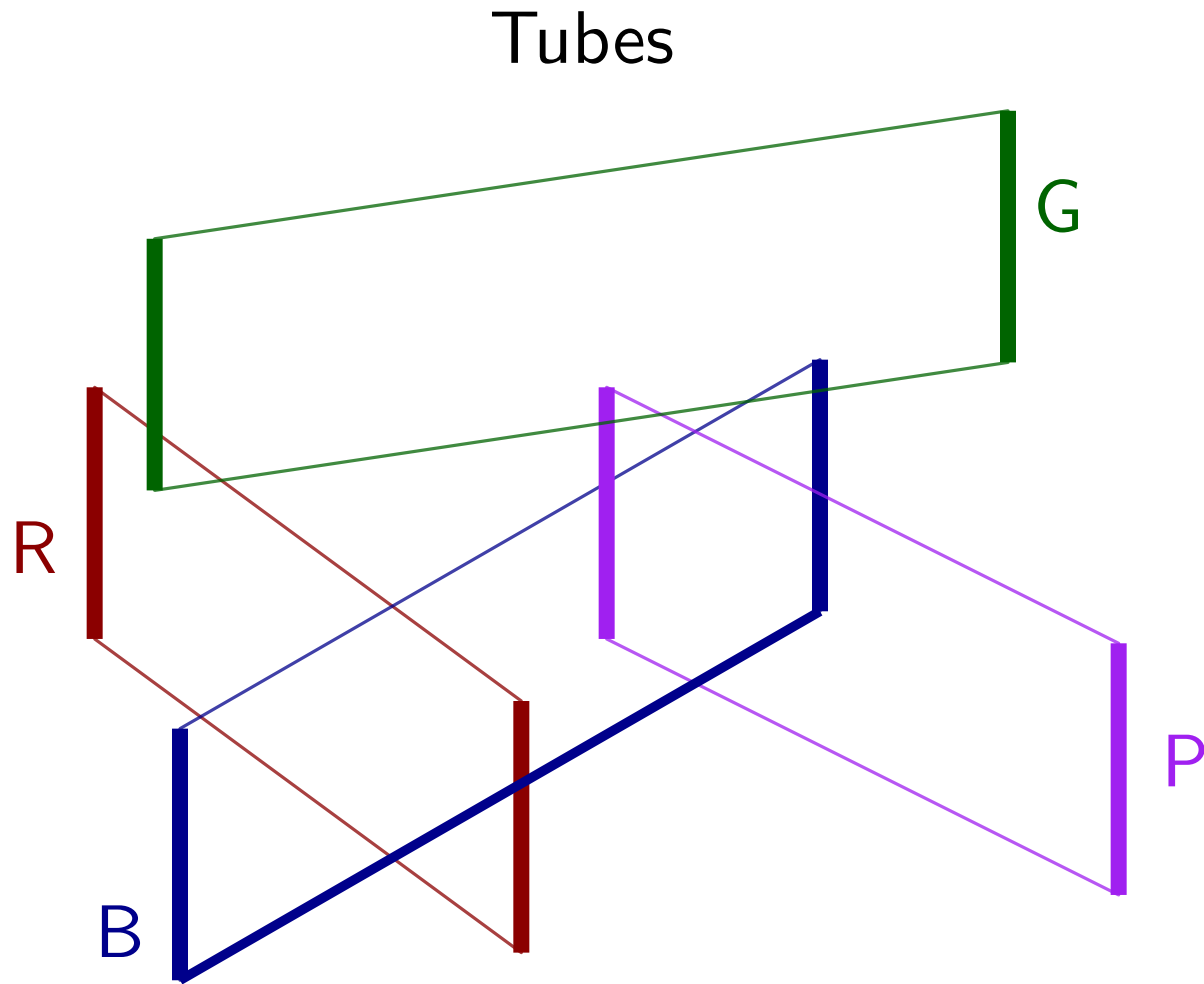
Order graph



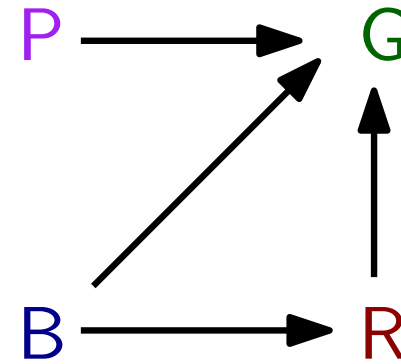
If no directed cycles:

- extract total order  
e.g., B R P G
- follow that order, drawing paths as low as possible

# Drawing the tubes in order



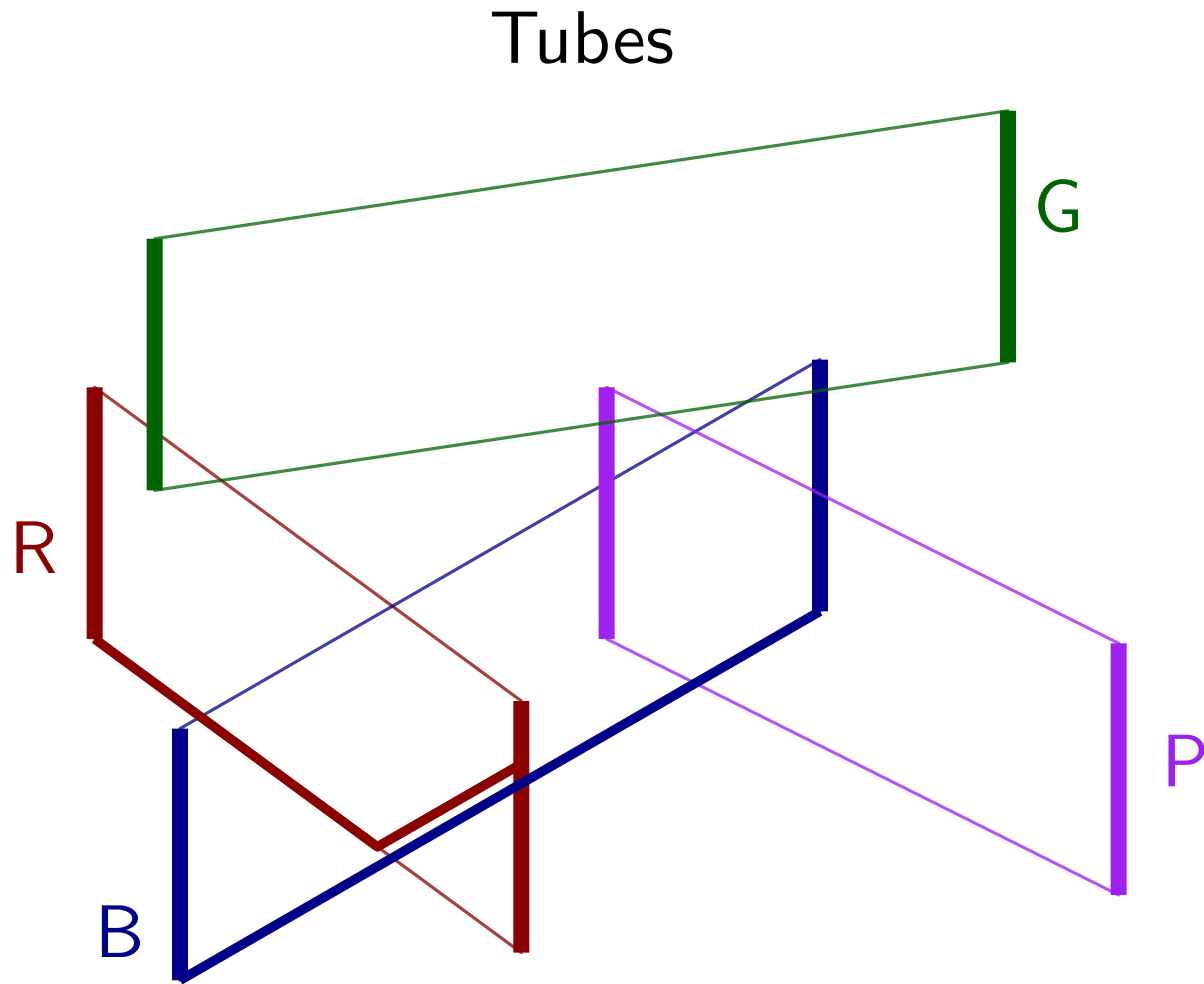
Order graph



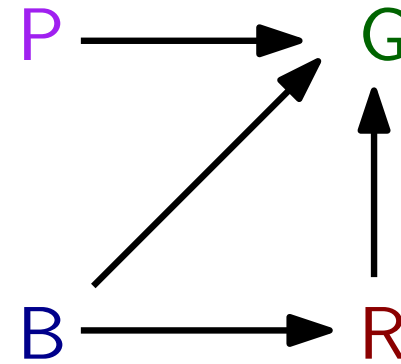
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# Drawing the tubes in order



Order graph

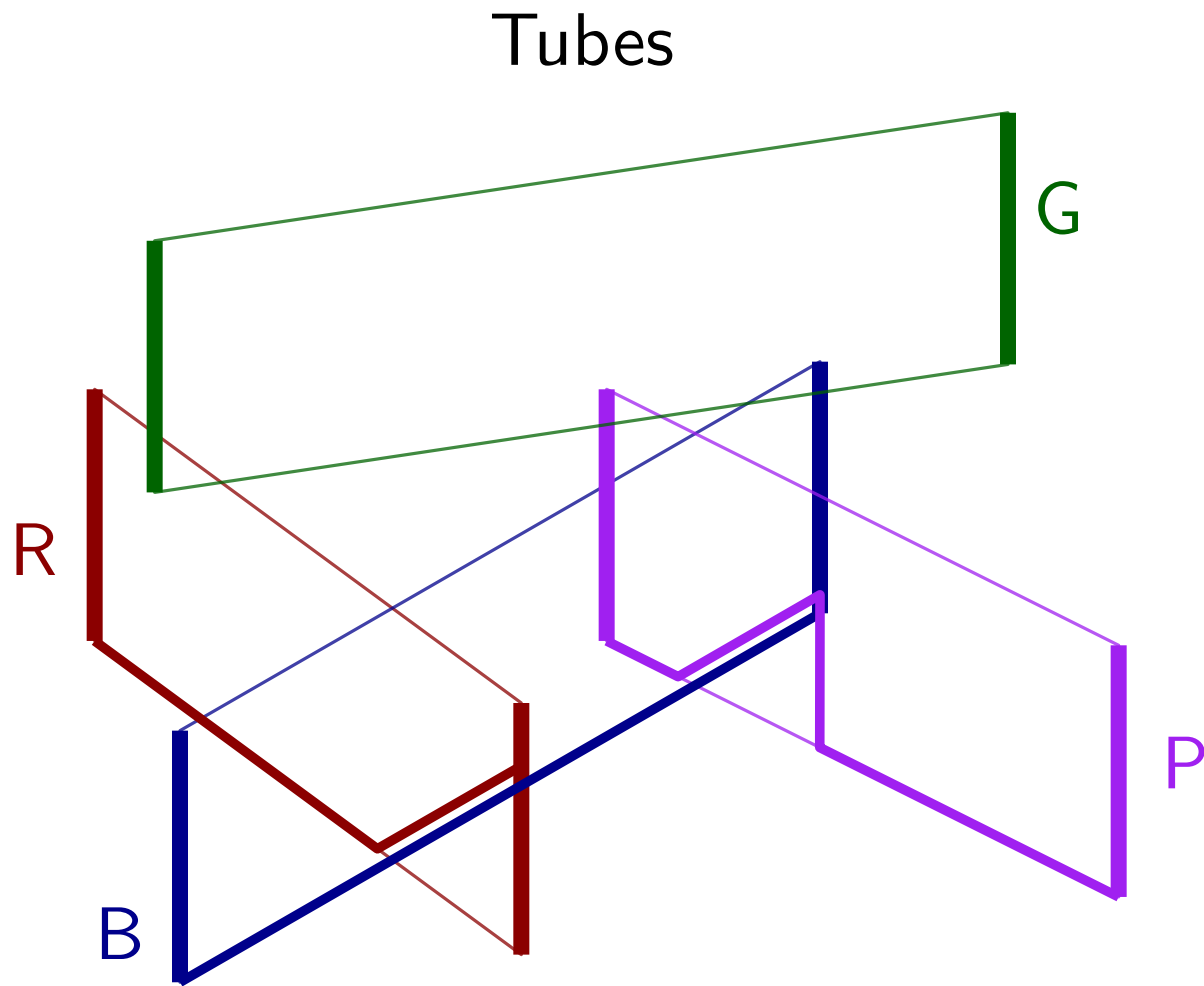


If no directed cycles:

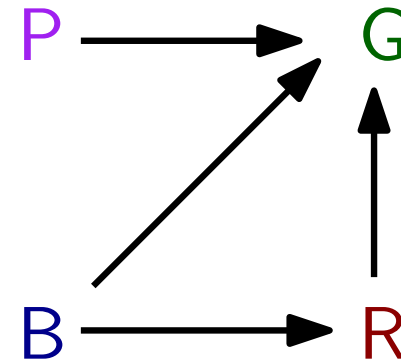
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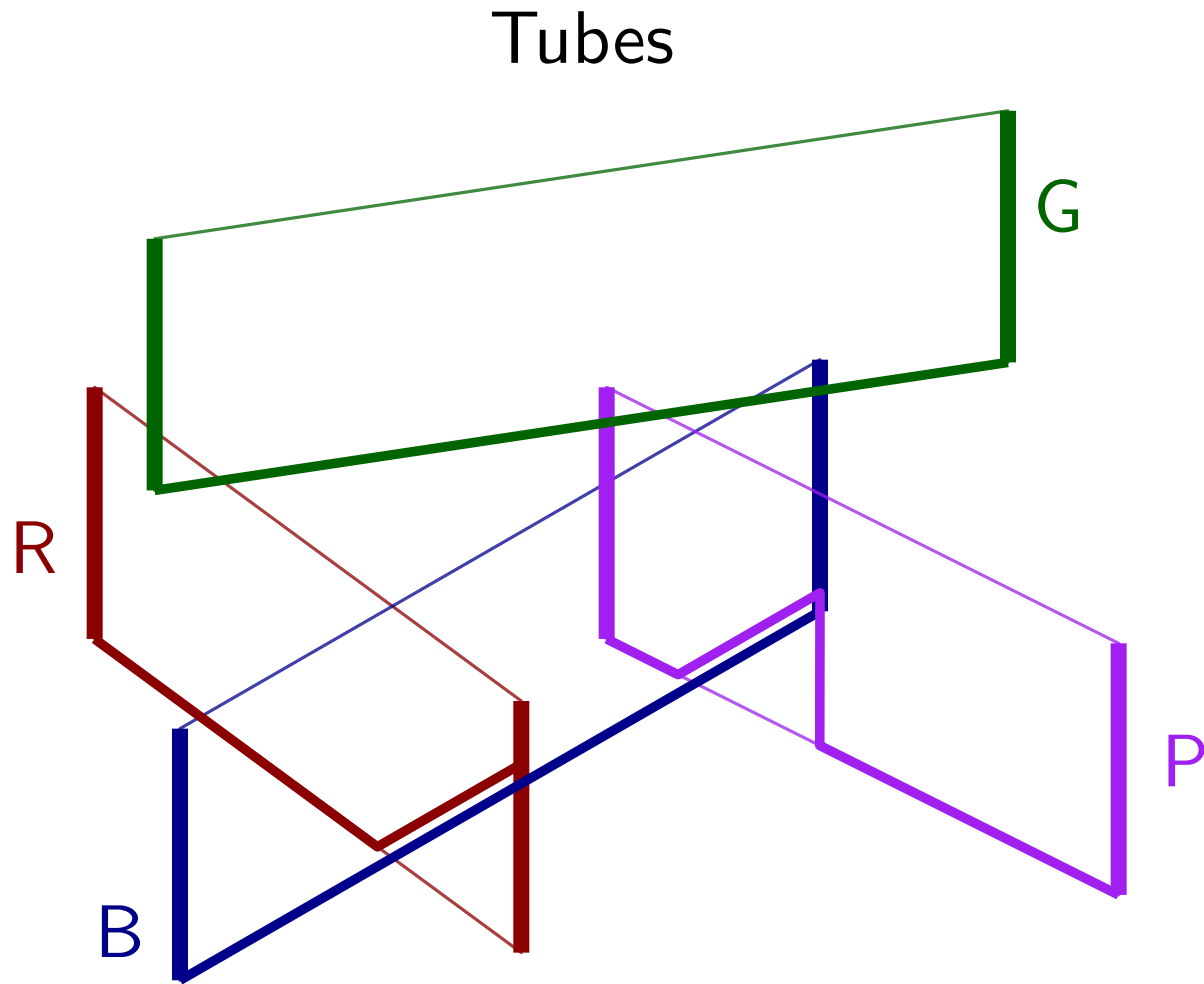
Order graph



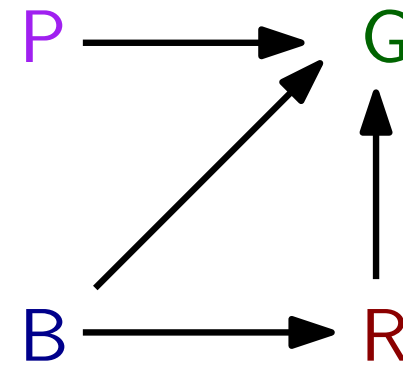
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# Drawing the tubes in order



Order graph

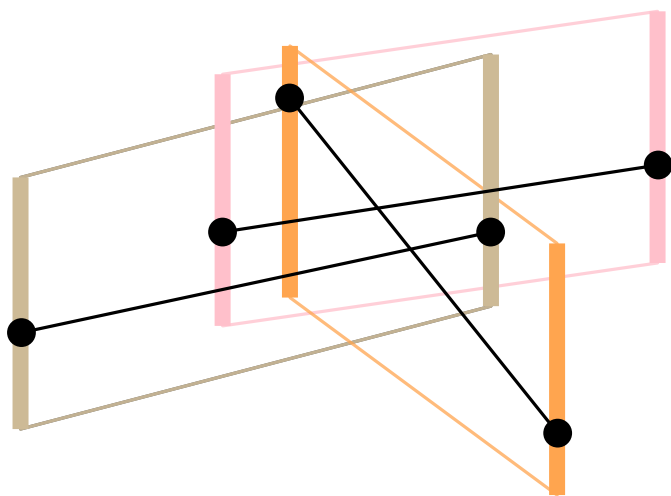


If no directed cycles:

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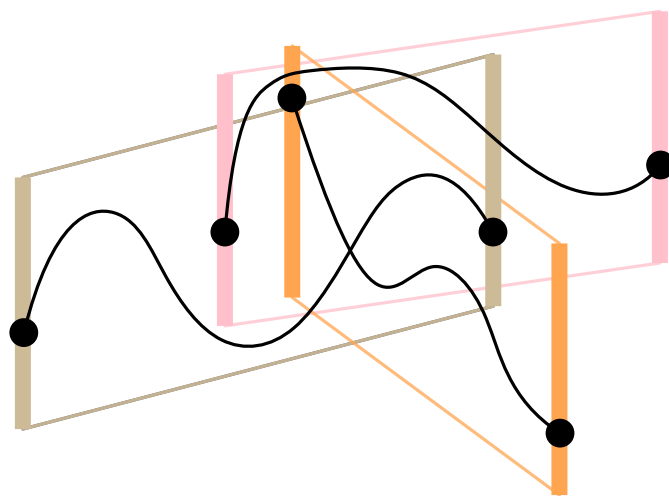
# Our results

straight line paths



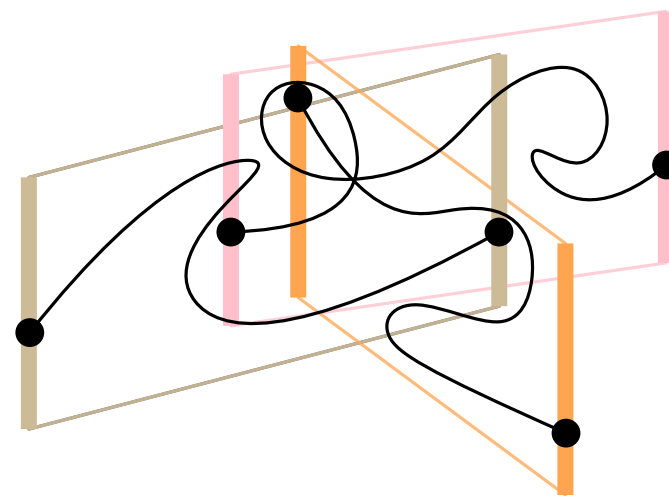
NP-complete

$(x-)$ monotone paths



Polynomial

arbitrary paths

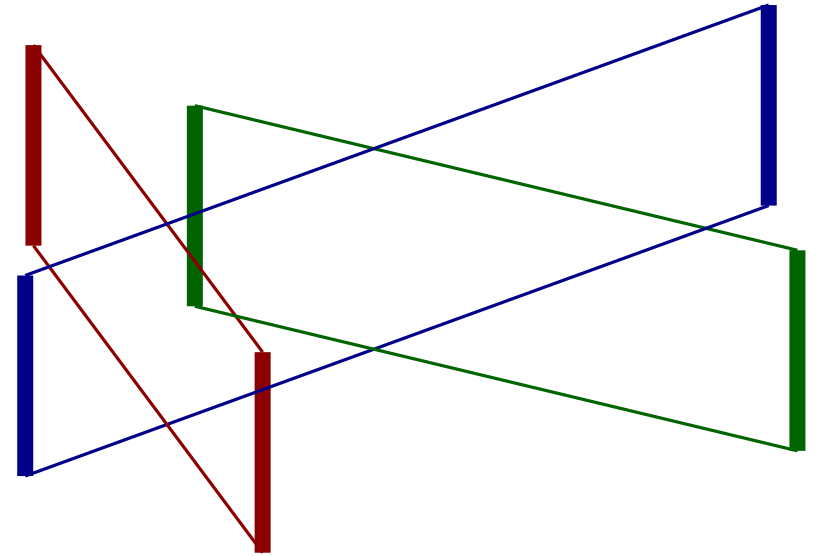
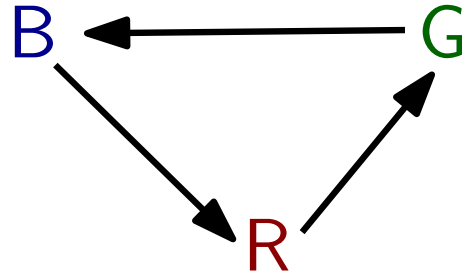


Polynomial under  
certain assumptions

# Arbitrary paths

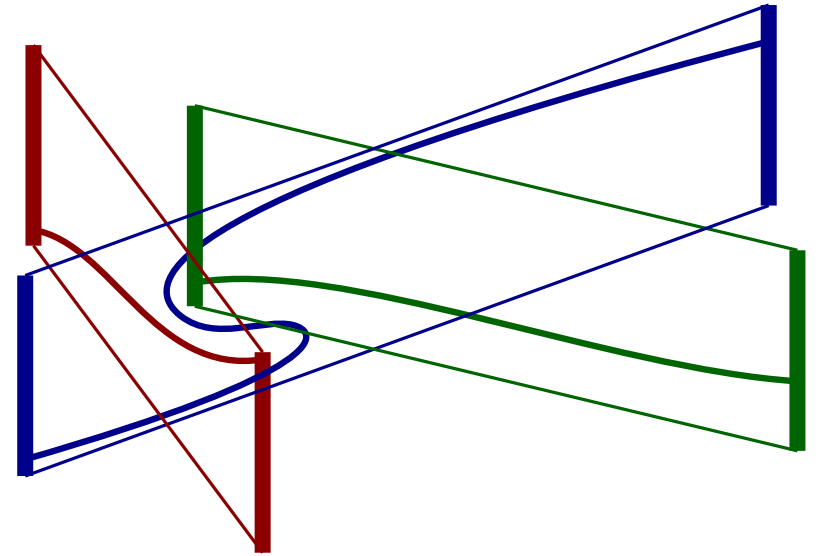
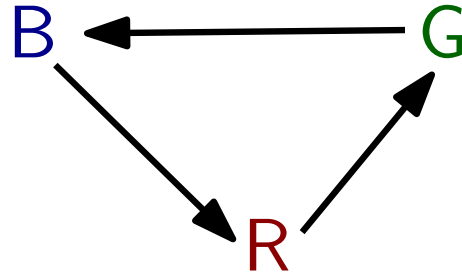
# Arbitrary paths

Now, some cycles of directed edges  
can be solved:



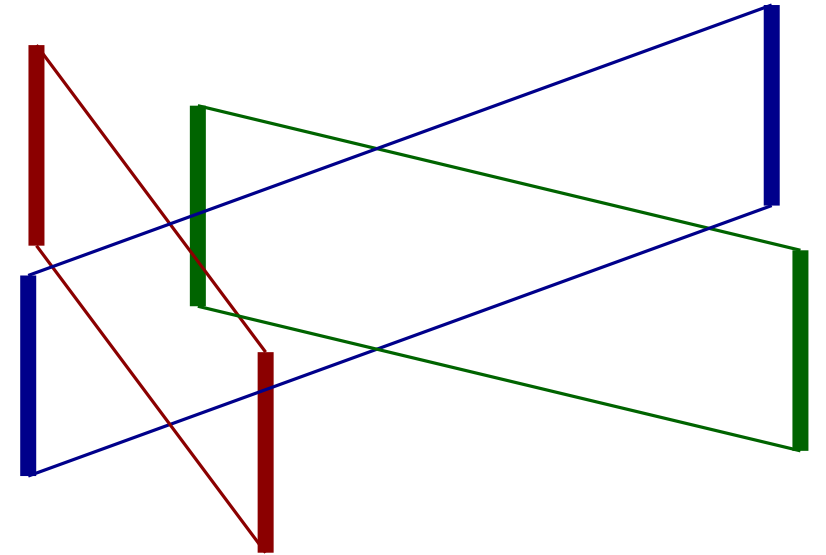
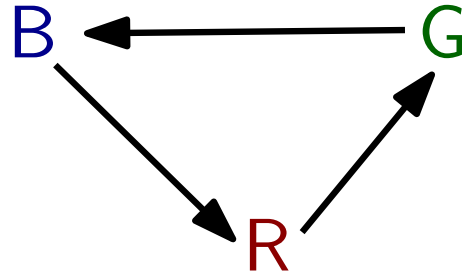
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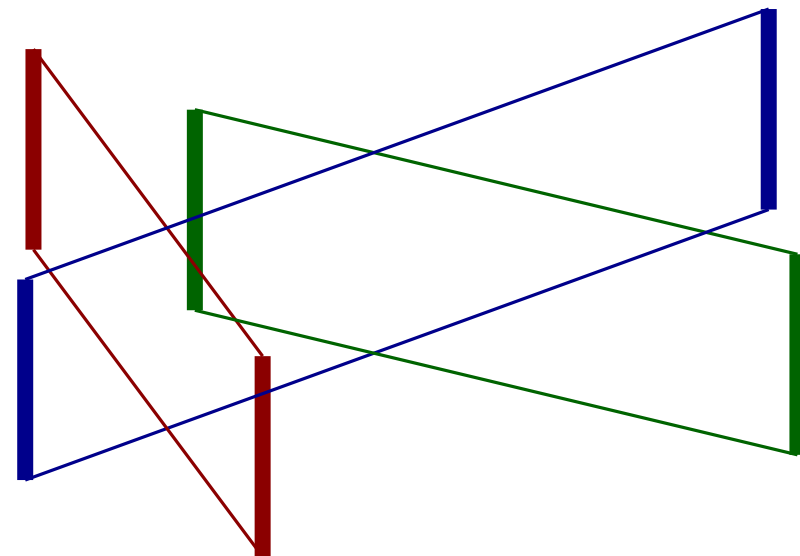
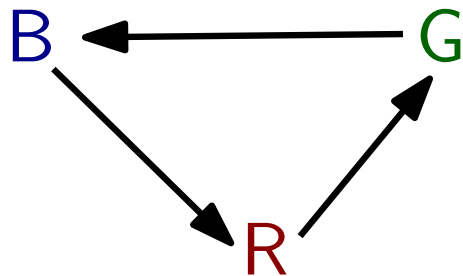
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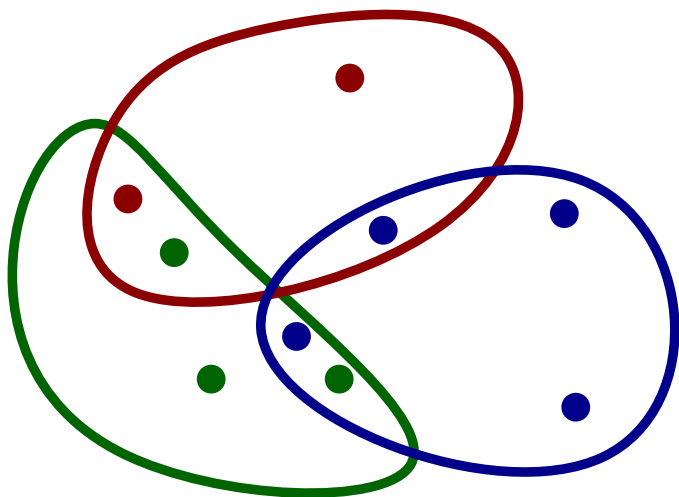
Related problem: *Non-crossing connectors* [Kratochvíl and Ueckerdt, 2013]

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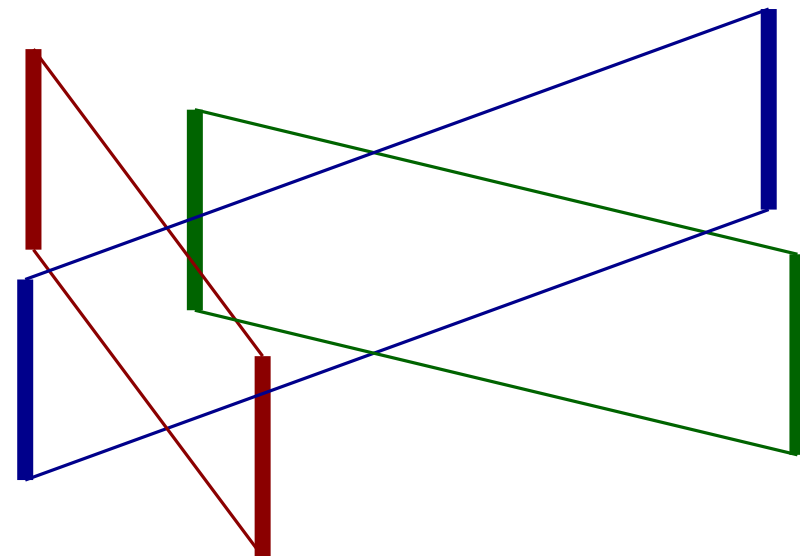
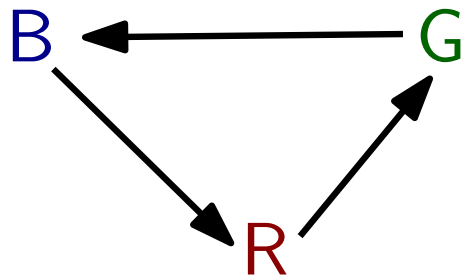
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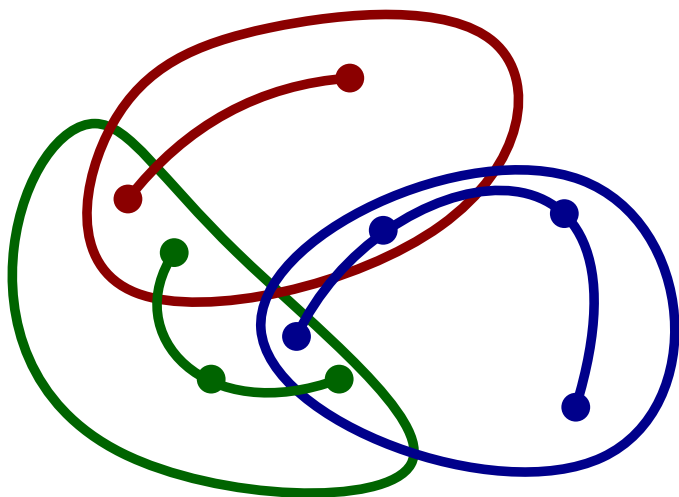


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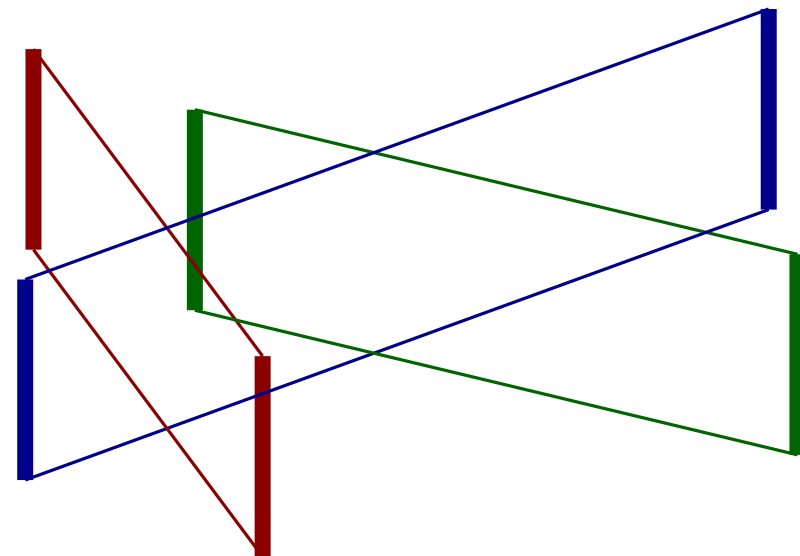
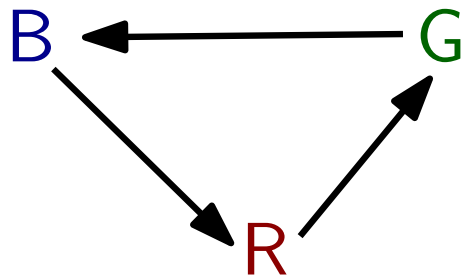


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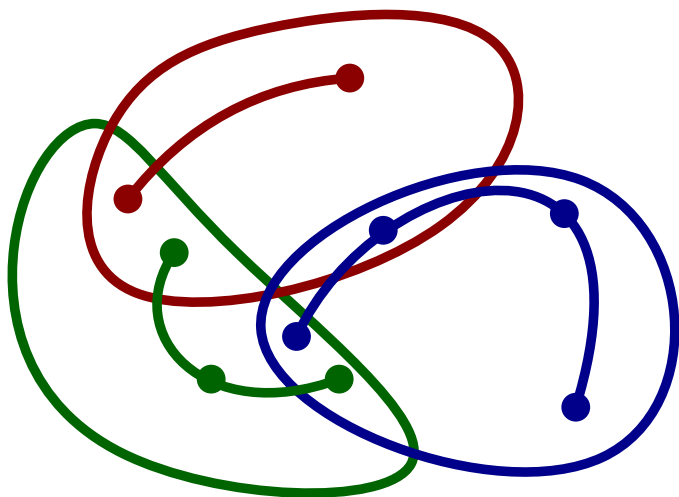


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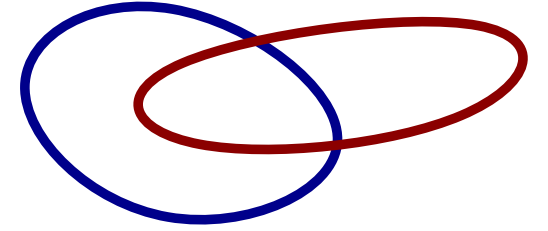


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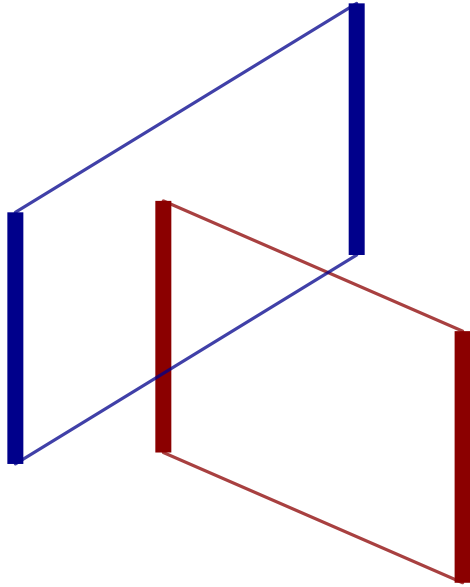
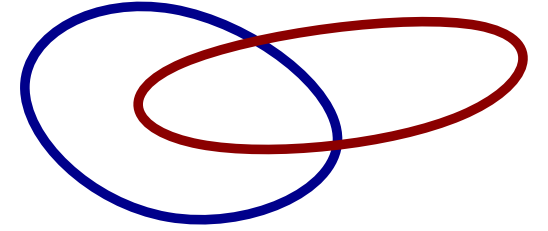


They prove: If the regions are pseudo-disks, there is always a solution

Are our tubes pseudo-disks?

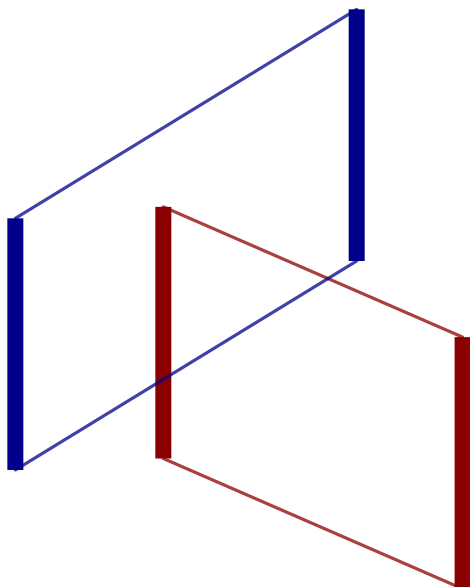
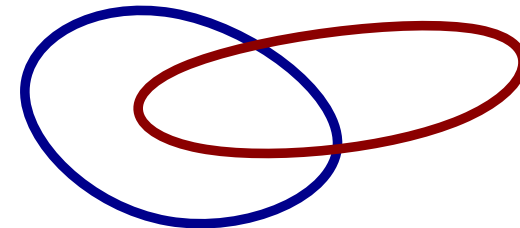


# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

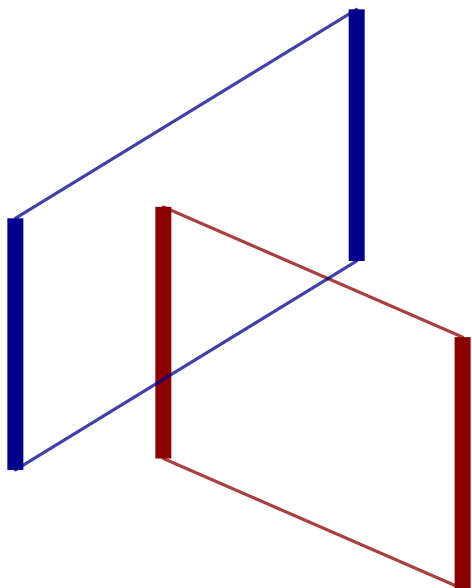
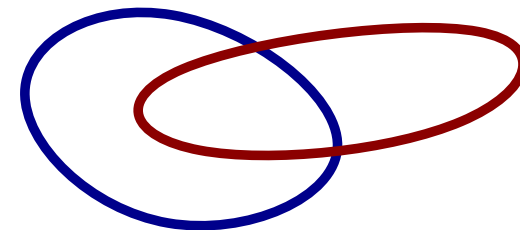
# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

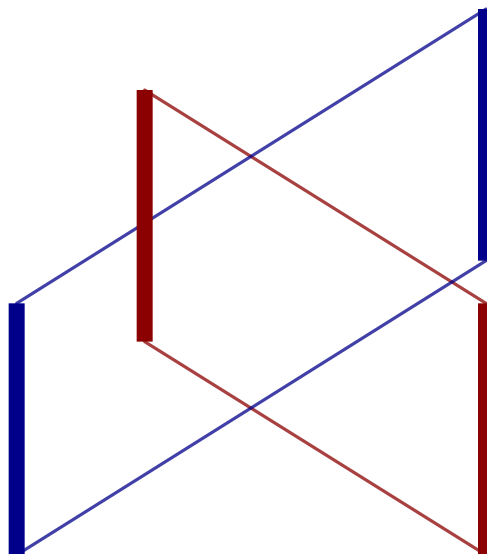
pseudo-disks!

# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



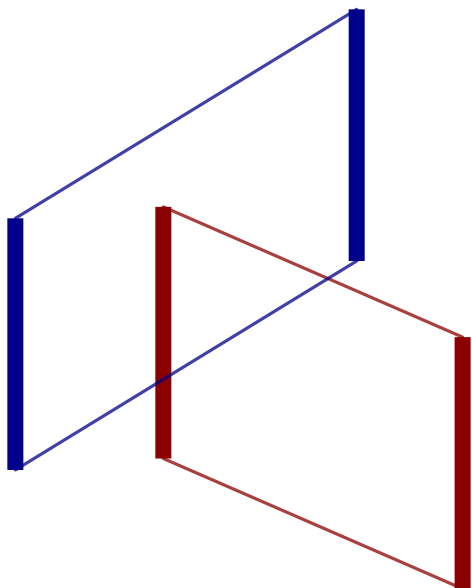
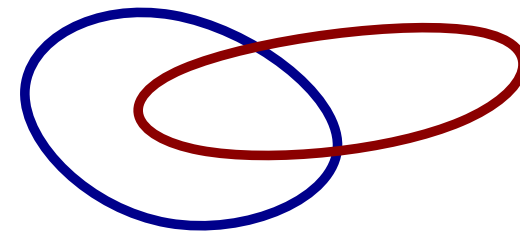
single intersection

pseudo-disks!



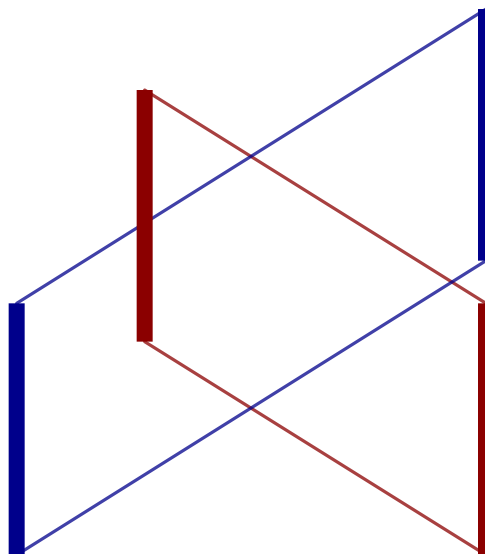
single intersection

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single intersection

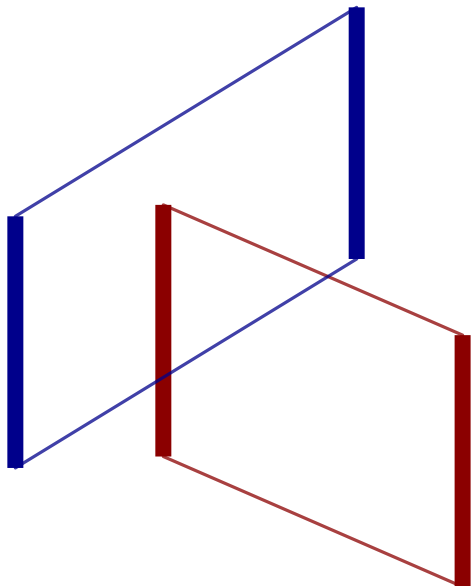
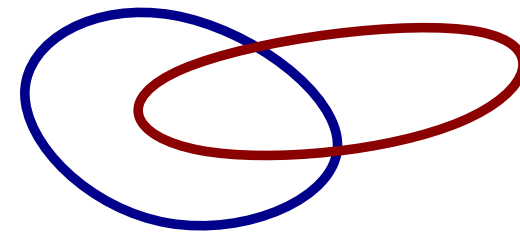
pseudo-disks!



single intersection

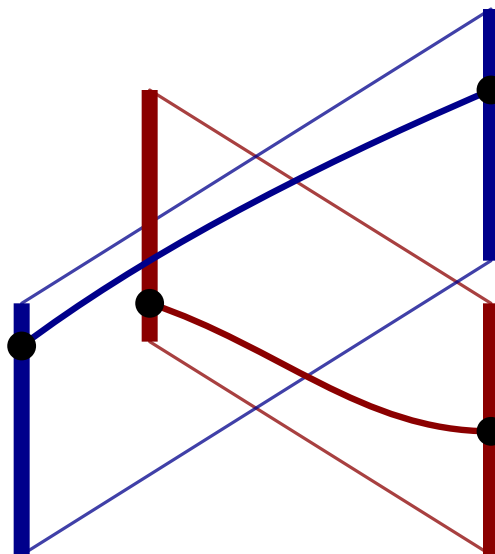
not pseudo-disks

# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

pseudo-disks!

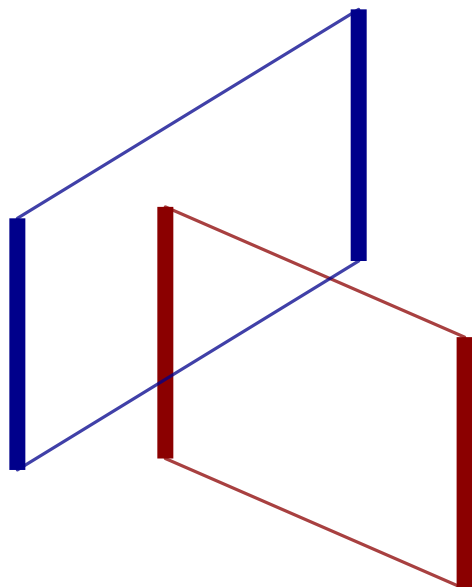
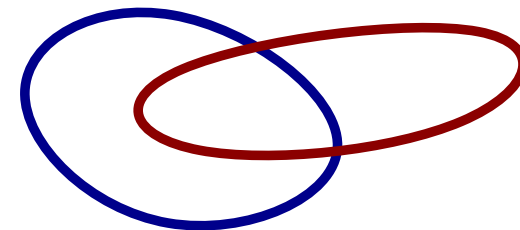


single intersection

not pseudo-disks

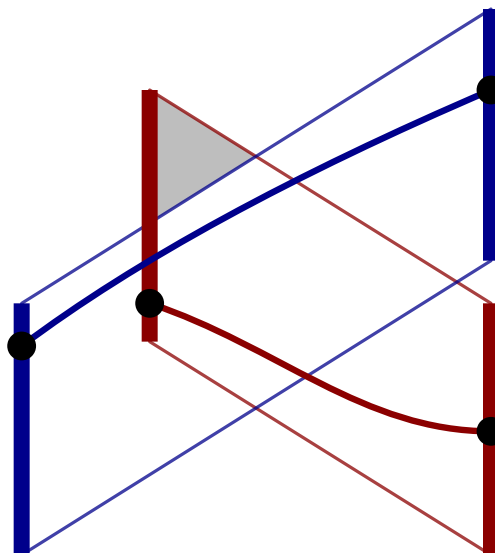


# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

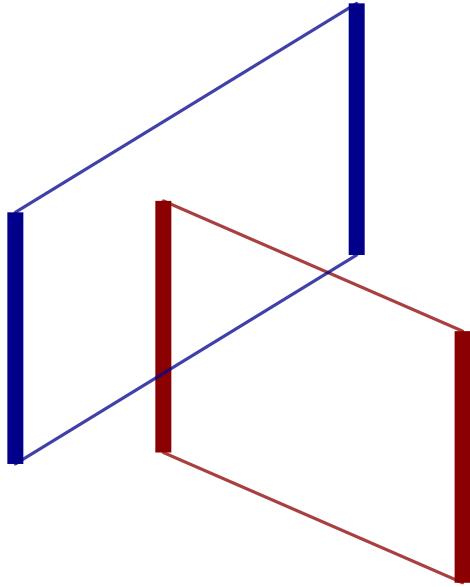
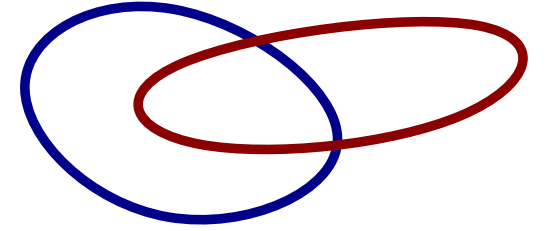
pseudo-disks!



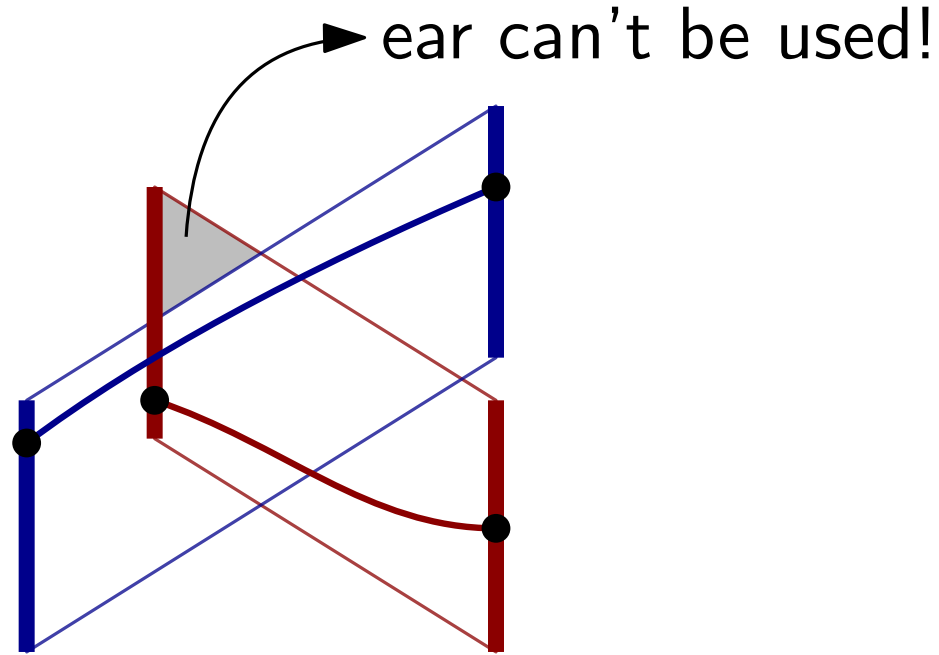
single intersection

not pseudo-disks

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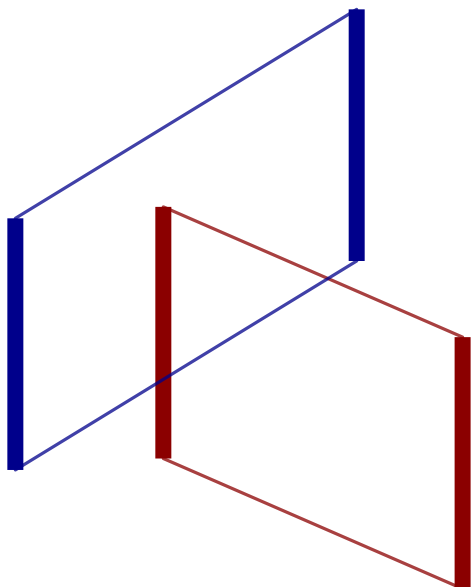
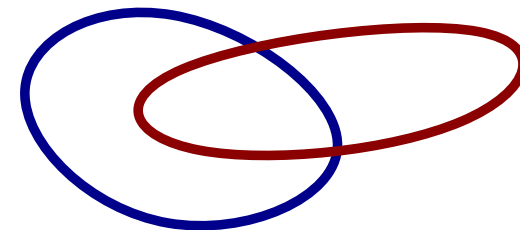


single intersection  
pseudo-disks!



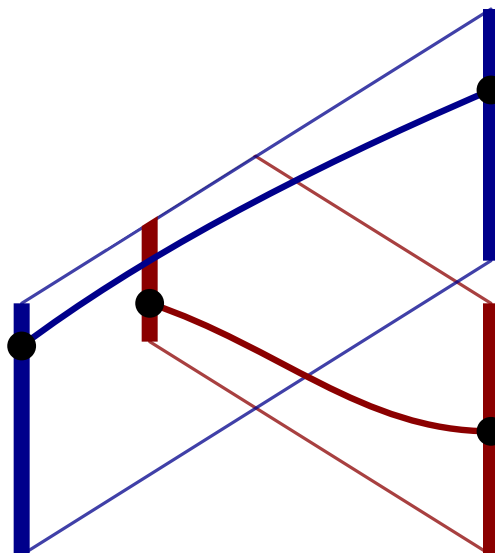
single intersection  
not pseudo-disks

# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

pseudo-disks!

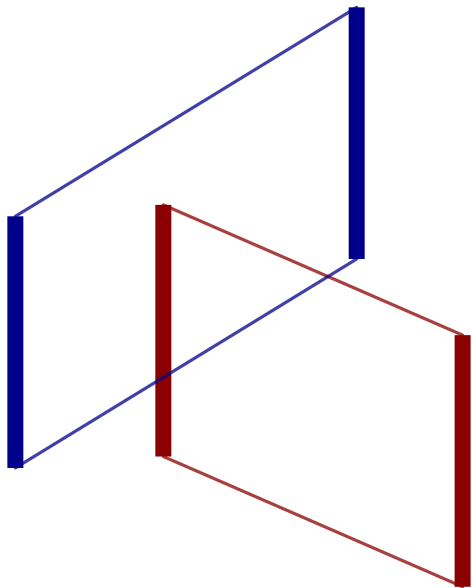


single intersection

~~not pseudo-disks~~

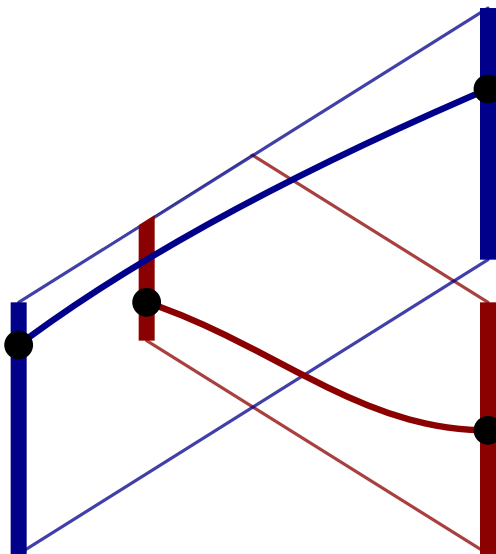
pseudo-disks!

# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

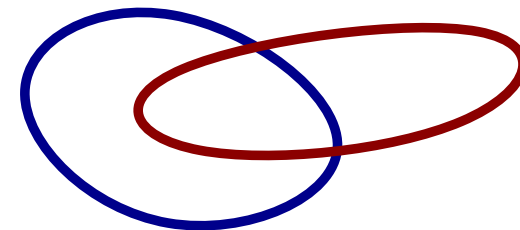
pseudo-disks!



single intersection

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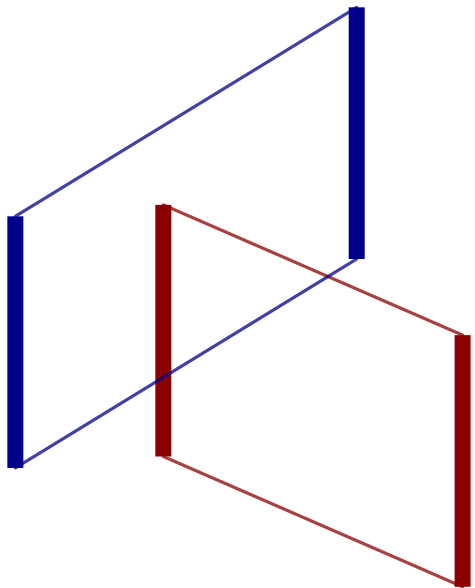
pseudo-disks!



double intersection

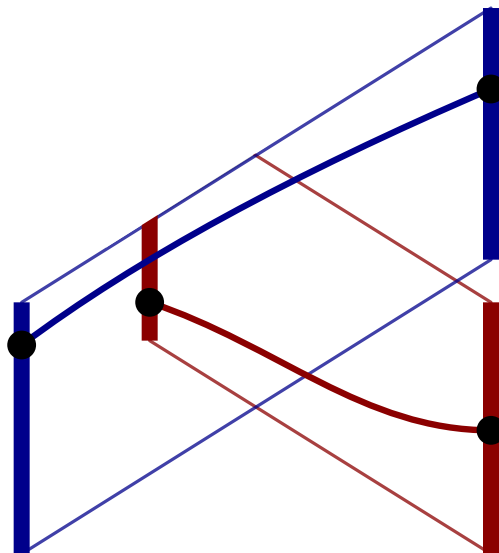
not pseudo-disks

# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

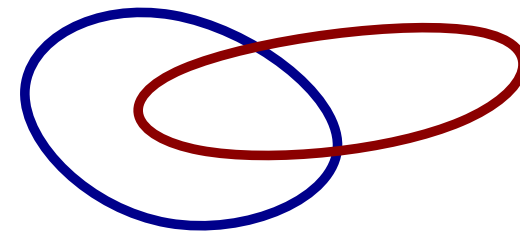
pseudo-disks!



single intersection

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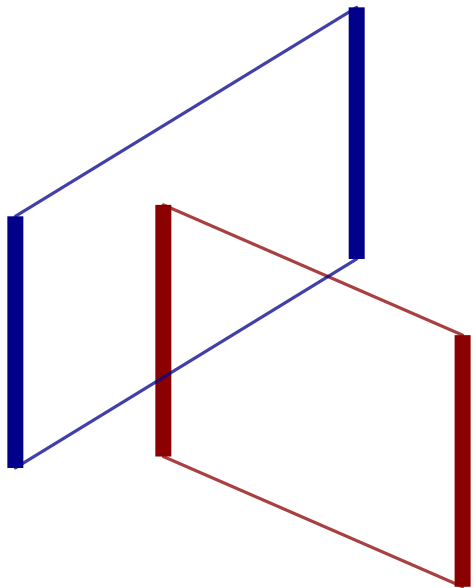
pseudo-disks!



double intersection

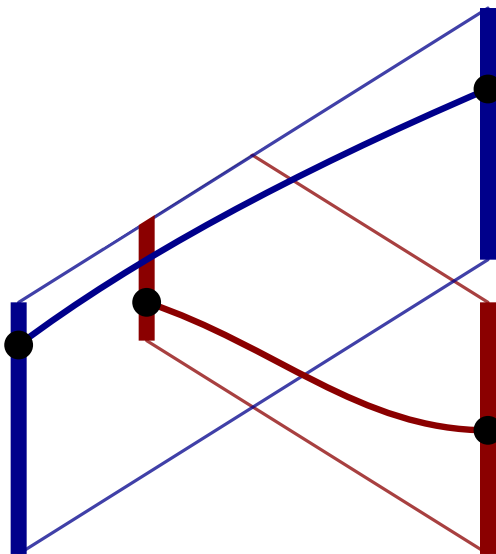
not pseudo-disks

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single intersection

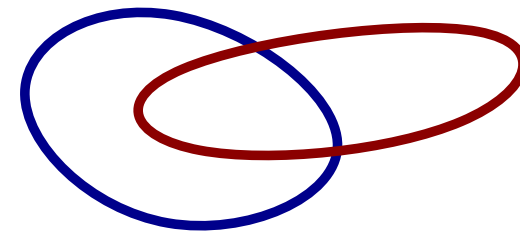
pseudo-disks!



single intersection

~~not pseudo-disks~~

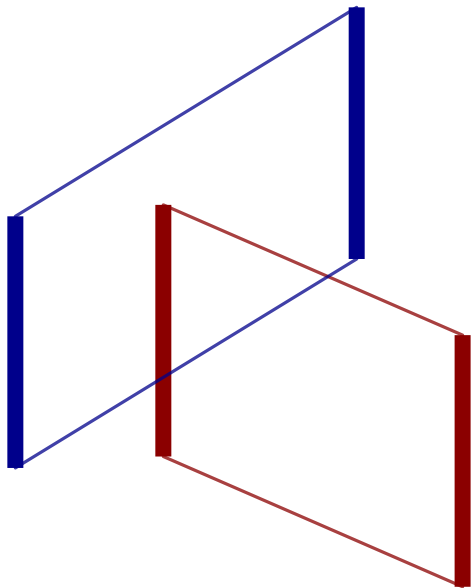
pseudo-disks!



double intersection

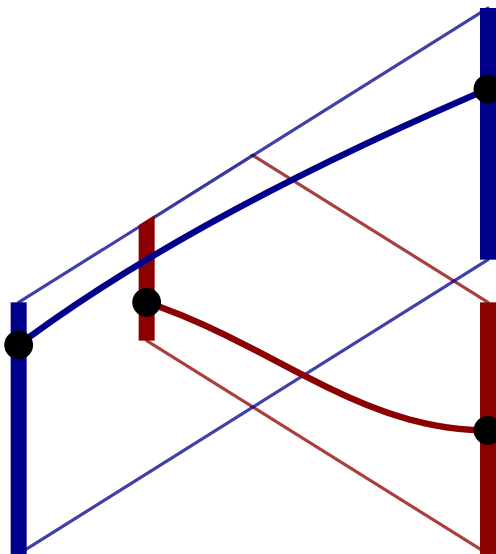
not pseudo-disks

# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

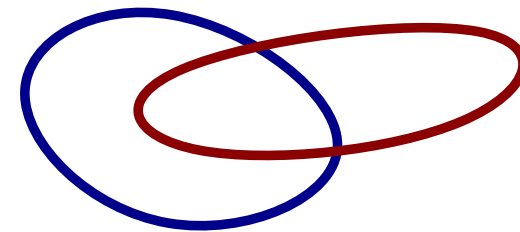
pseudo-disks!



single intersection

~~not pseudo-disks~~

pseudo-disks!

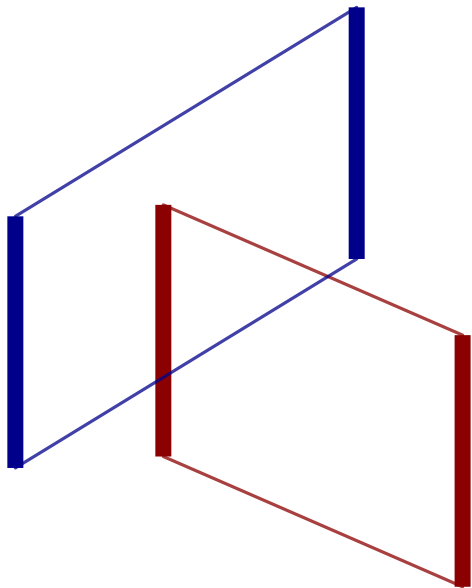


double intersection

not pseudo-disks

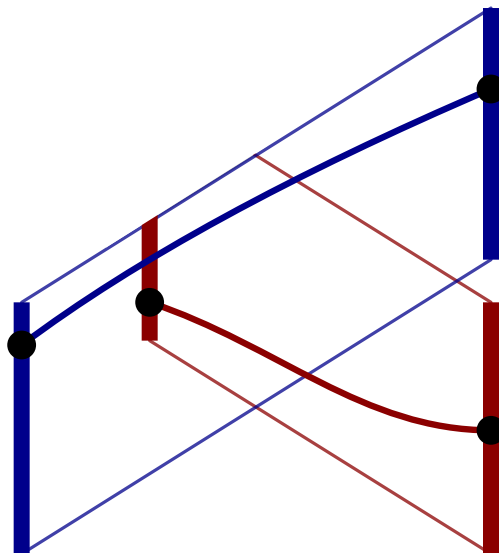
can't cut off ears

# Are our tubes pseudo-disks?



single intersection

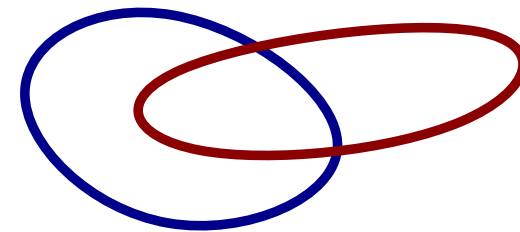
pseudo-disks!



single intersection

~~not pseudo-disks~~

pseudo-disks!



double intersection

We assume there are no double intersections



# If no double intersections

Algorithm: while there is pair of tubes not pseudo-disks, cut off ear.

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Result: set of pruned tubes that are pseudo-disks

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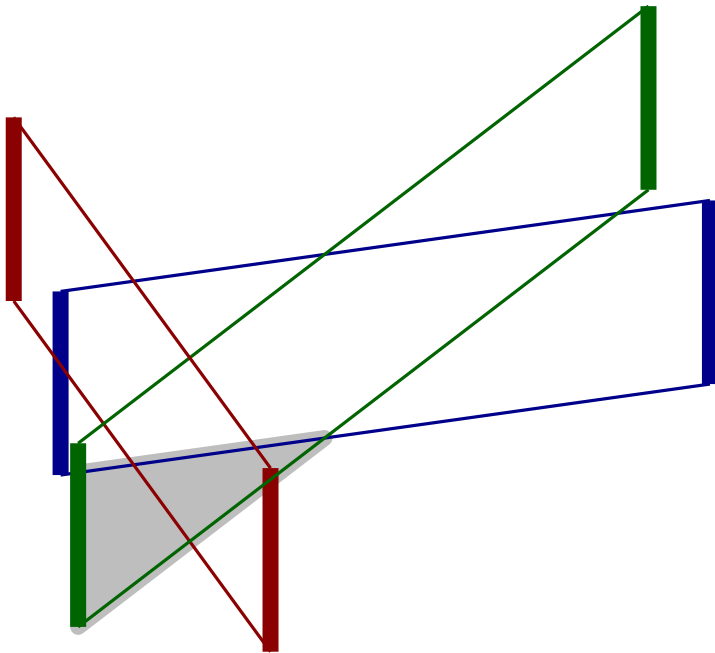
... then there is always a solution?

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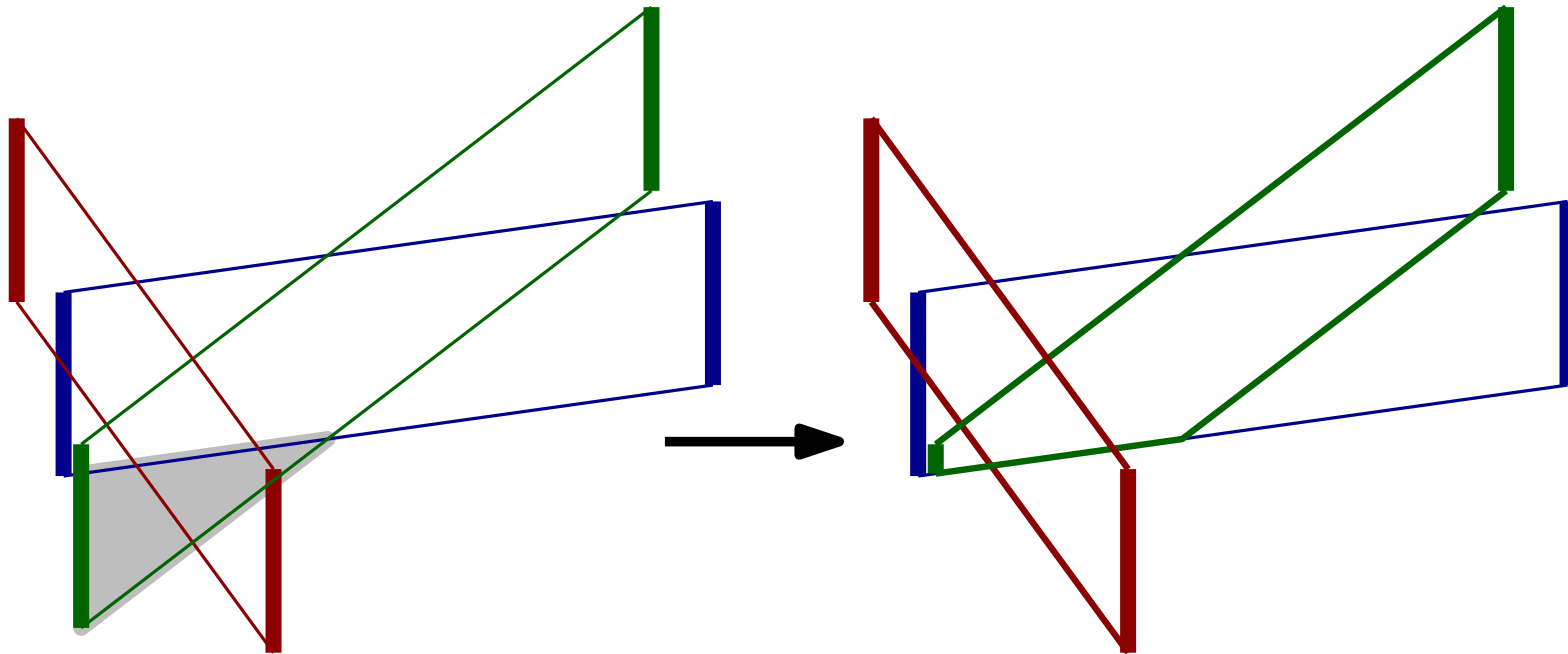


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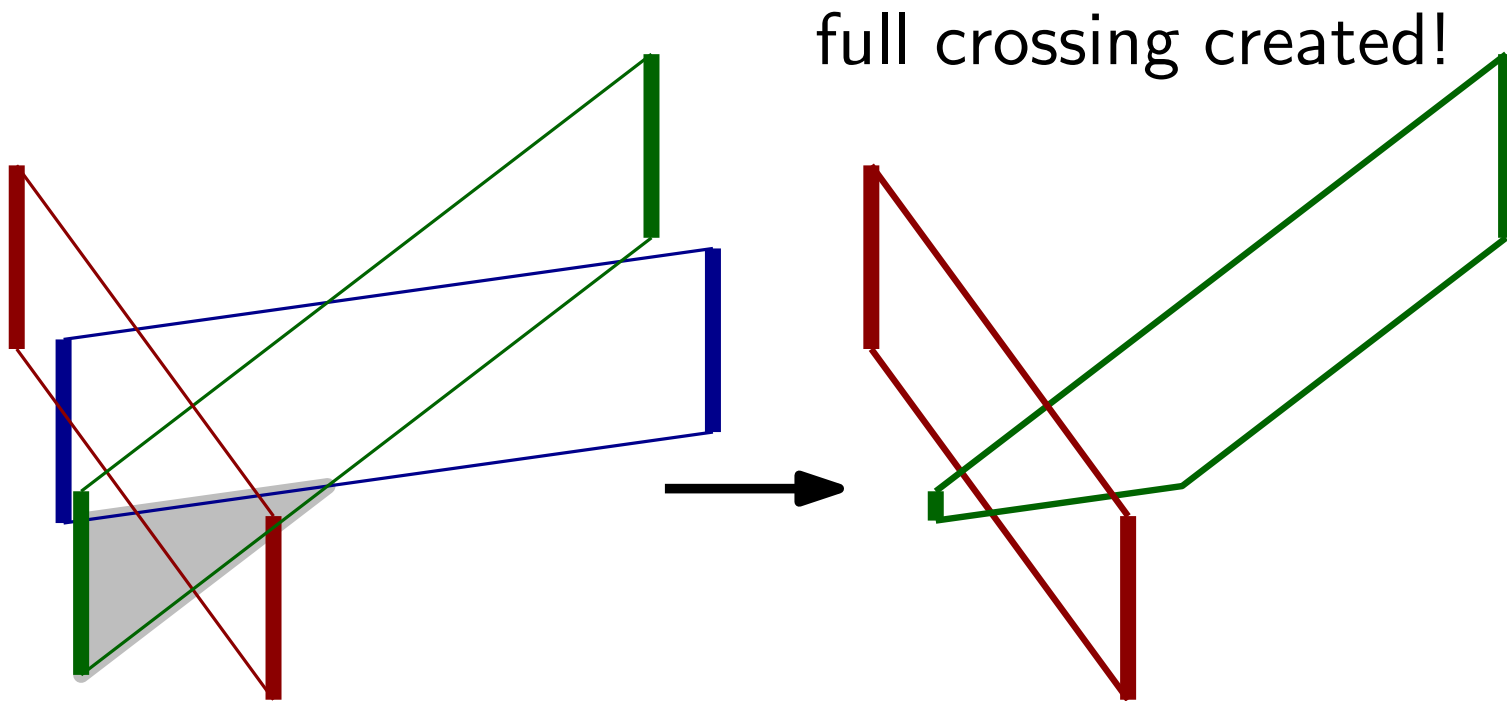


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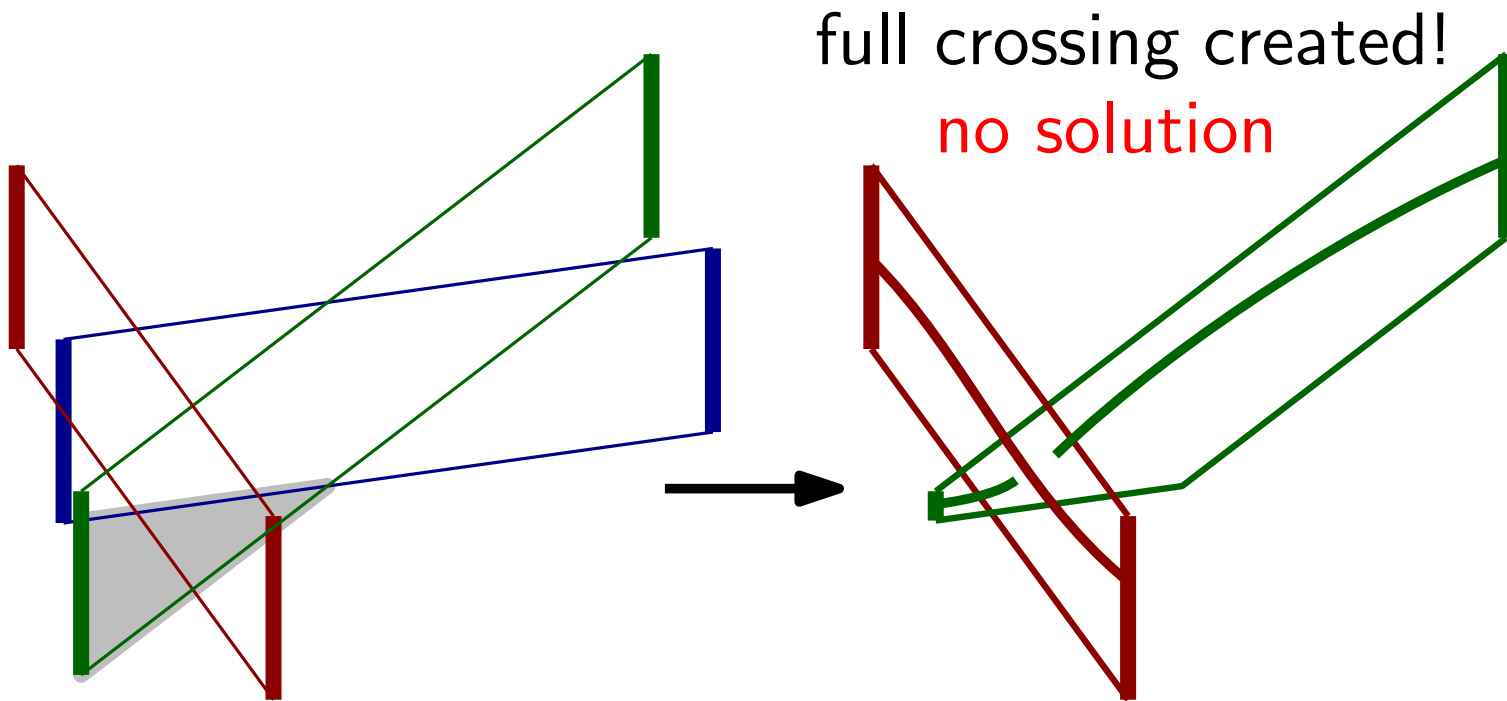


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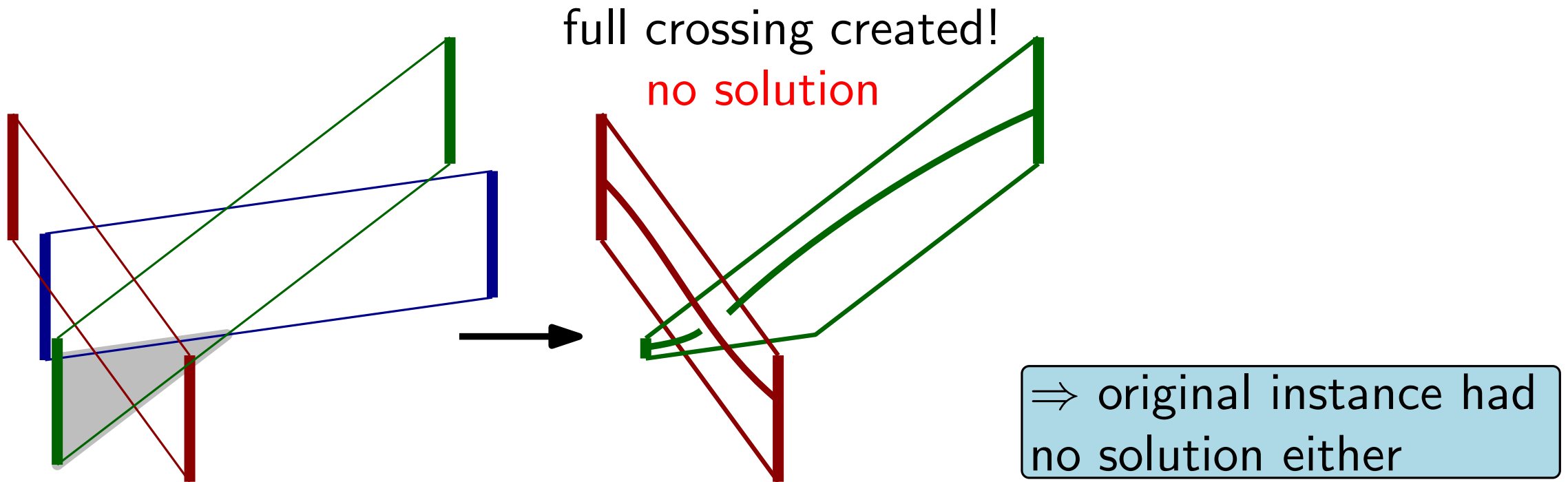


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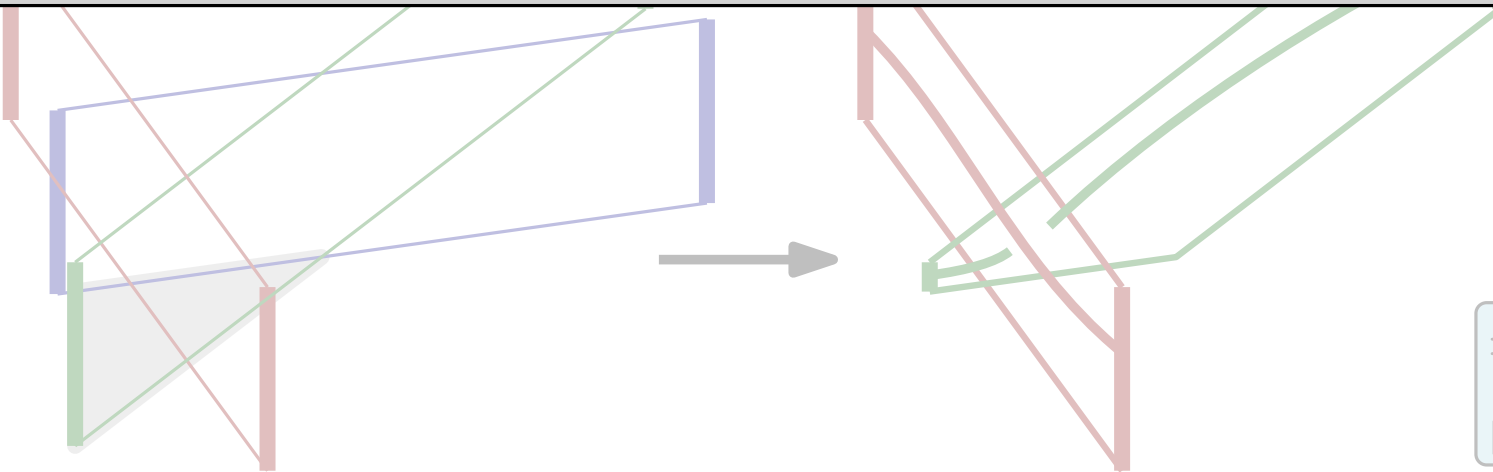
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Algorithm: while there is pair of tubes not pseudo-disks, cut off ear.

Result: set of pruned tubes that are pseudo-disks

... then there is always a solution?

If there are no double intersections, one can determine if all the tubes can be connected using arbitrary paths in polynomial time

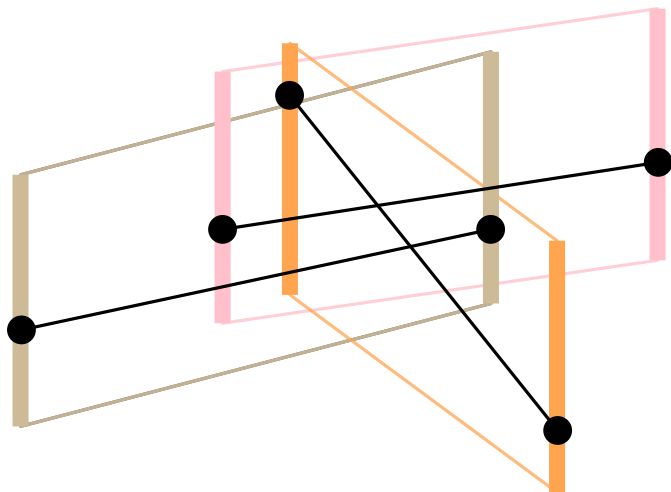


⇒ original instance had no solution either

# Summary

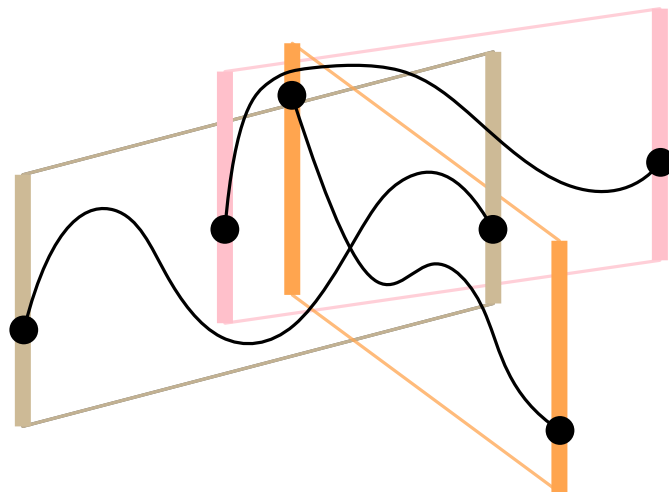
# Summary

straight-line paths



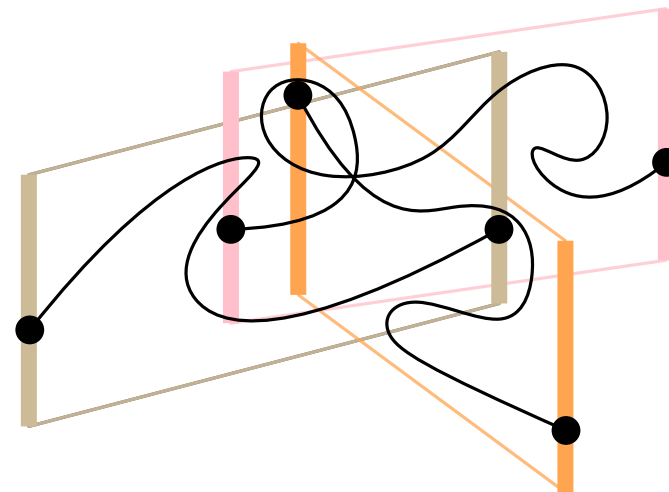
NP-complete

( $x$ -)monotone paths



Polynomial

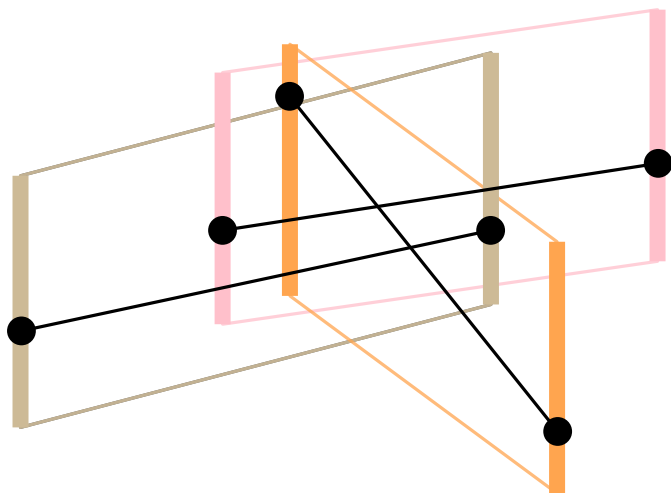
arbitrary paths



Polynomial if no  
double intersections

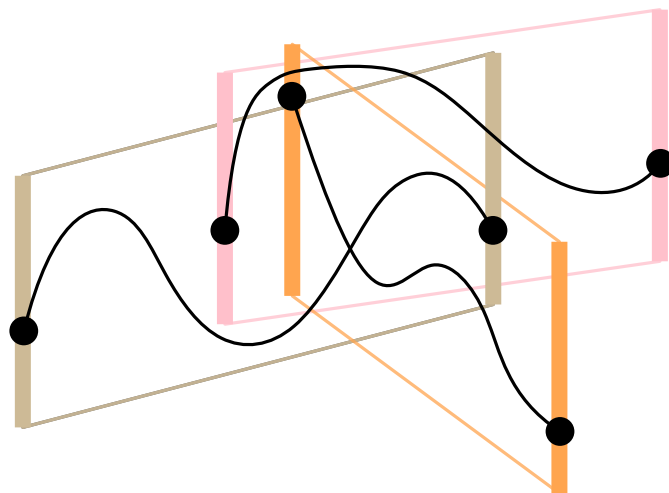
# Summary

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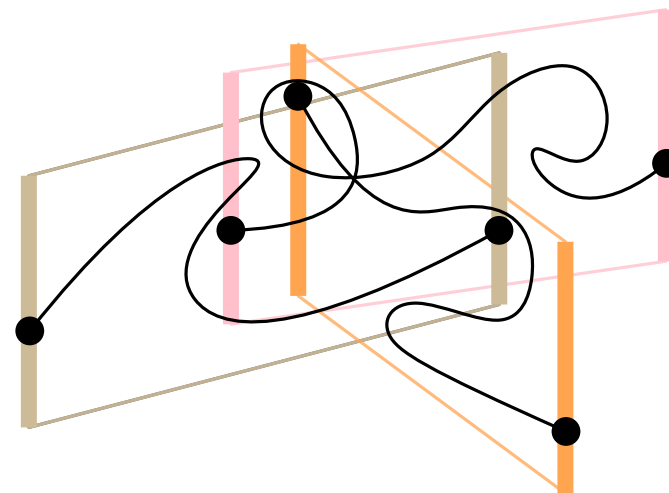
NP-complete

$(x-)$ monotone paths



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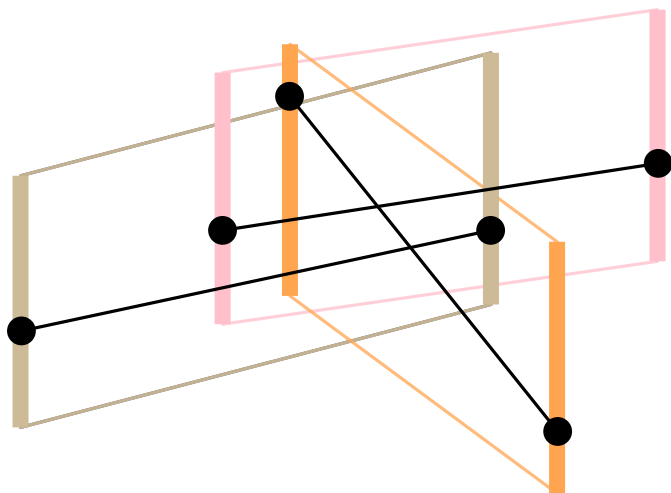
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Polynomial if no  
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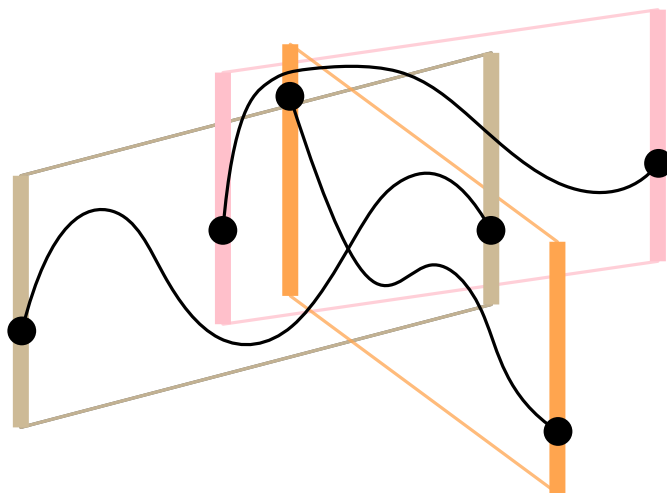
# Summary

straight-line paths



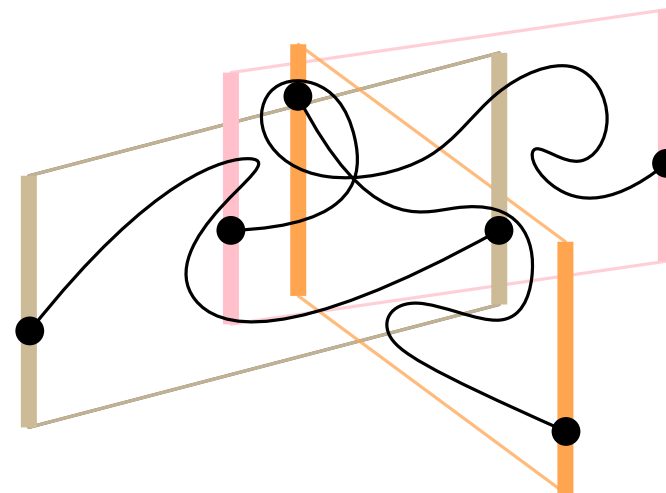
NP-complete

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Polynomial

arbitrary paths

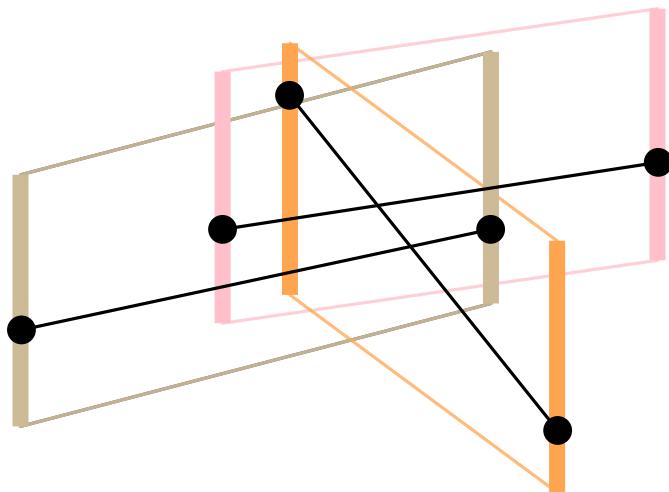


Polynomial if no  
double intersections

Is it also polynomial if there are double intersections?

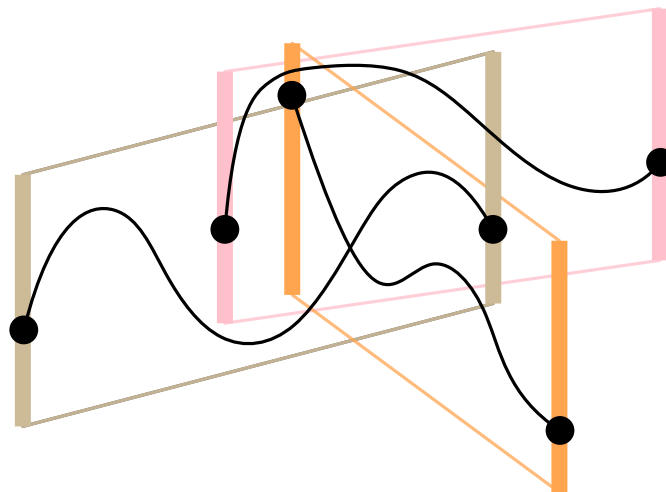
# Summary

straight-line paths



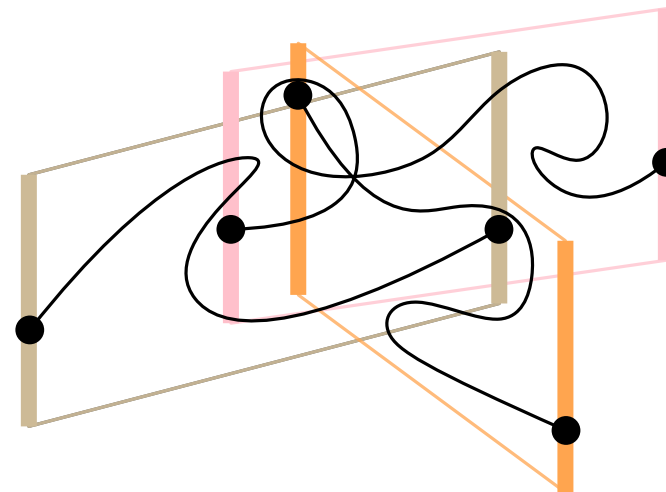
NP-complete

( $x$ -)monotone paths



Polynomial

arbitrary paths



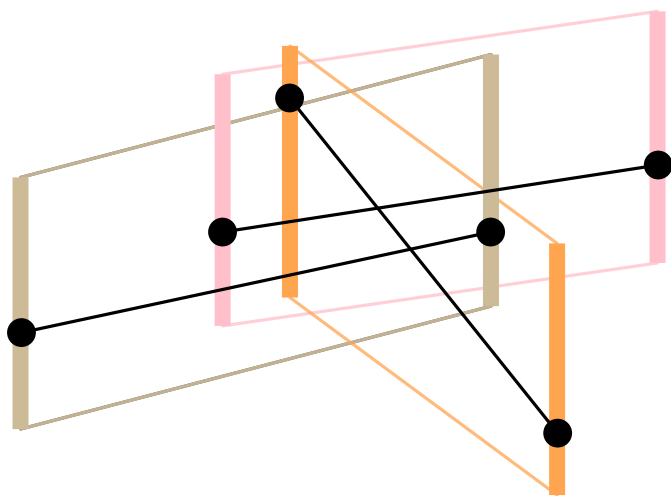
Polynomial if no  
double intersections

Is it also polynomial if there are double intersections?

We conjecture the answer is **Yes**

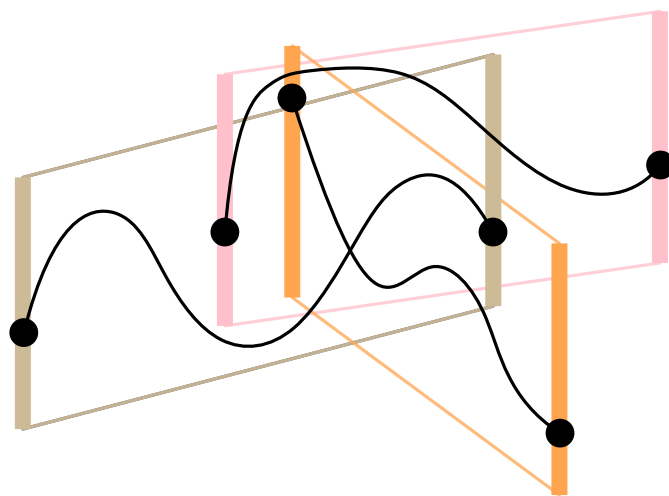
# Our results

straight line paths



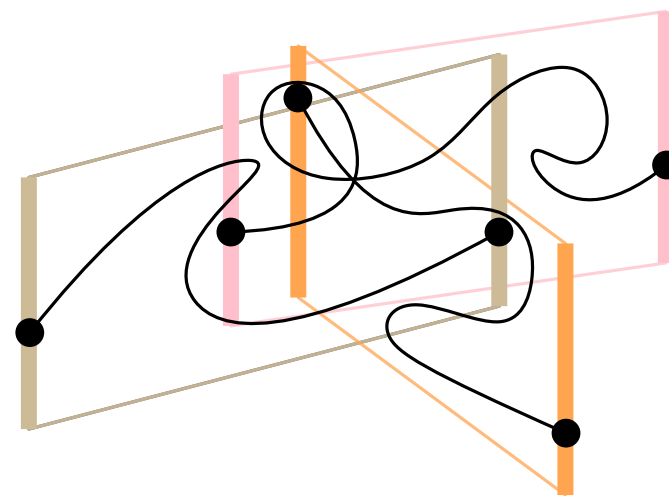
NP-complete

$(x-)$ monotone paths



Polynomial

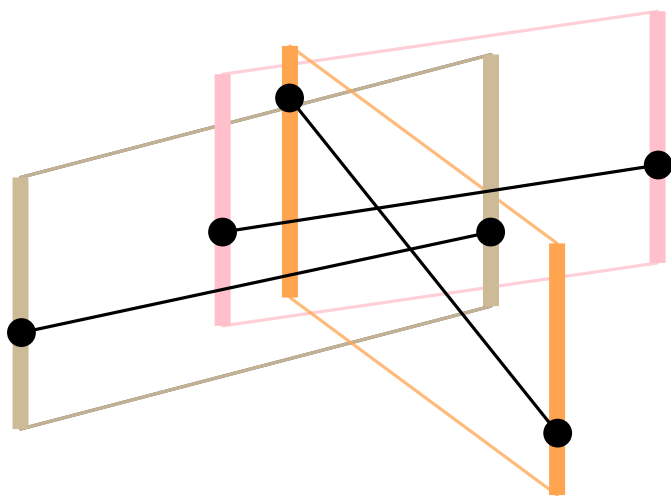
arbitrary paths



Polynomial under  
certain assumptions

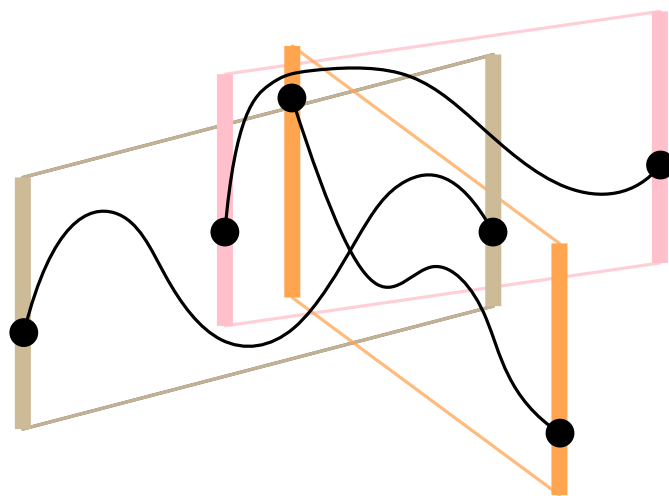
# Our results

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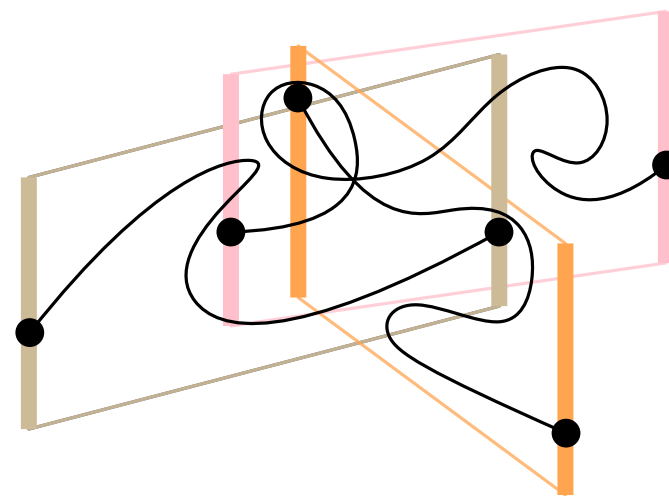
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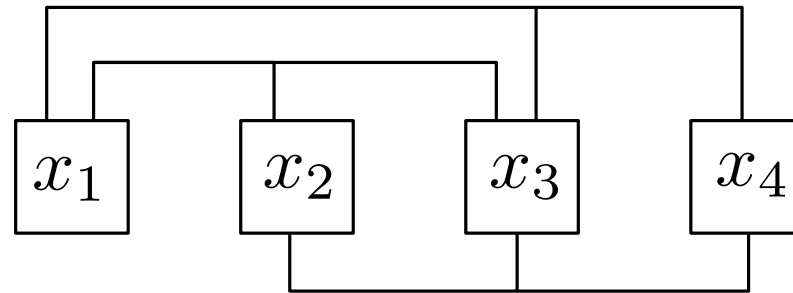


# Straight line paths

Given  $n$  tubes defined by unit vertical segments, deciding if the tubes can be connected with straight line segments is NP-Complete

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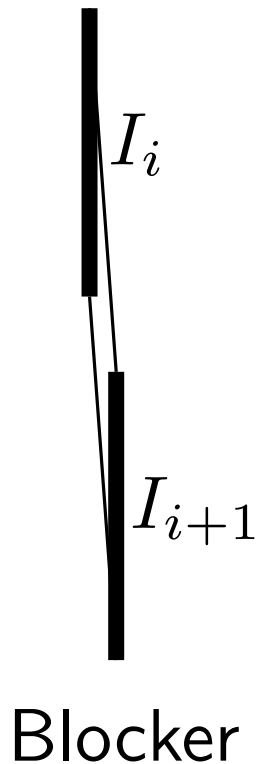


Reduction from RECTILINEAR PLANAR 3-SAT

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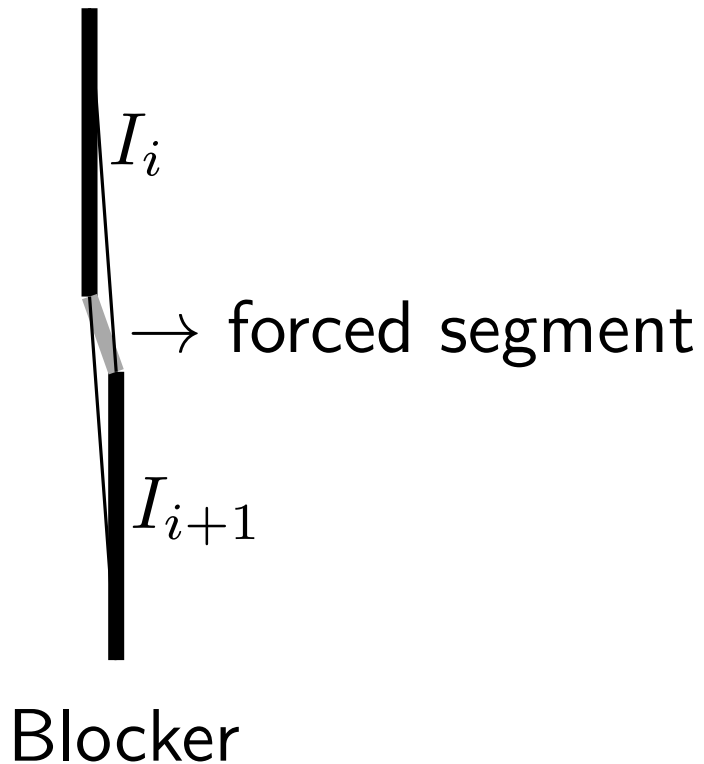
Two useful gadgets:



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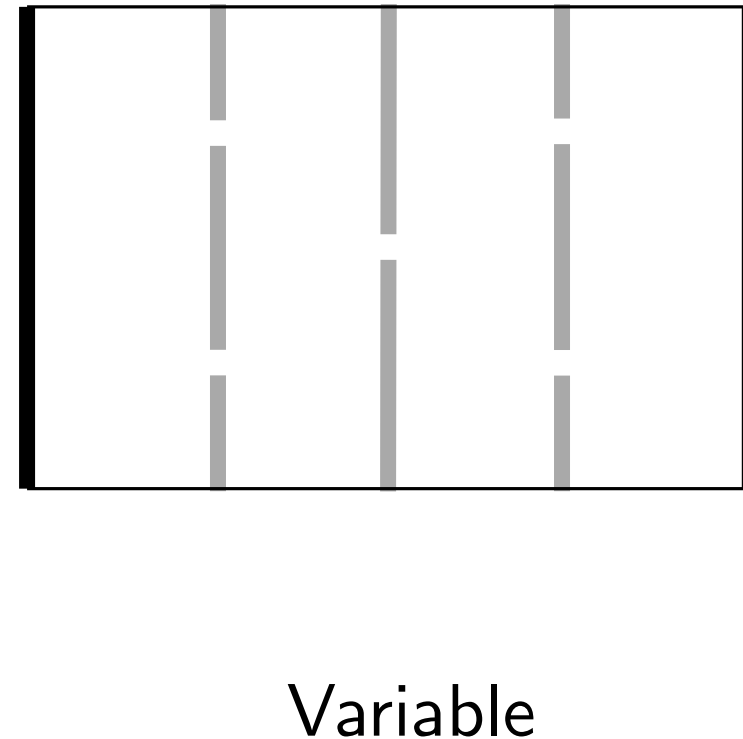
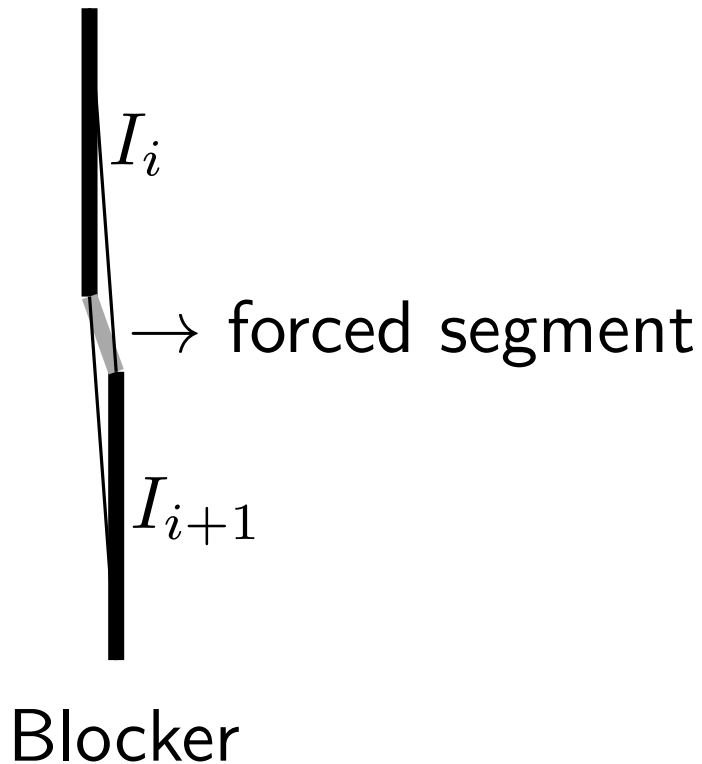
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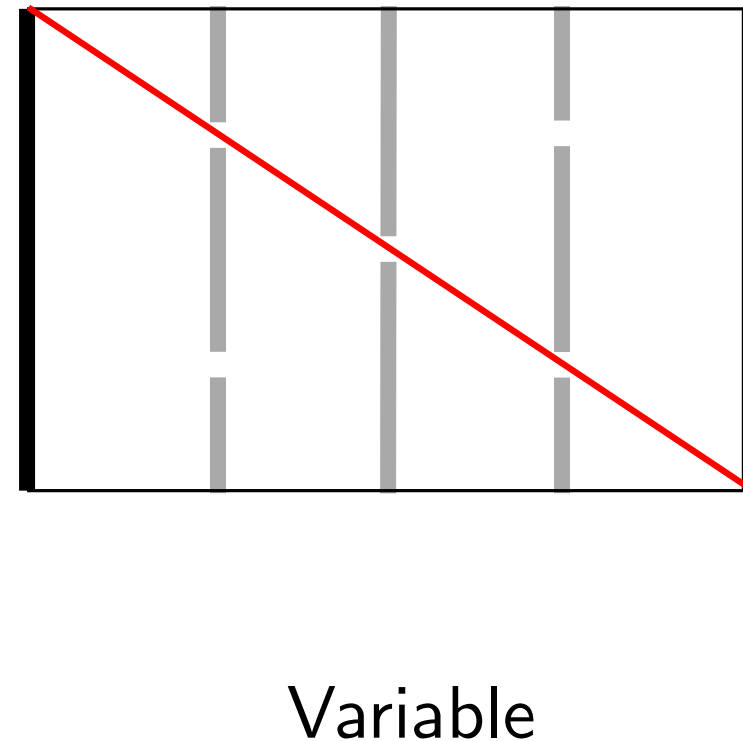
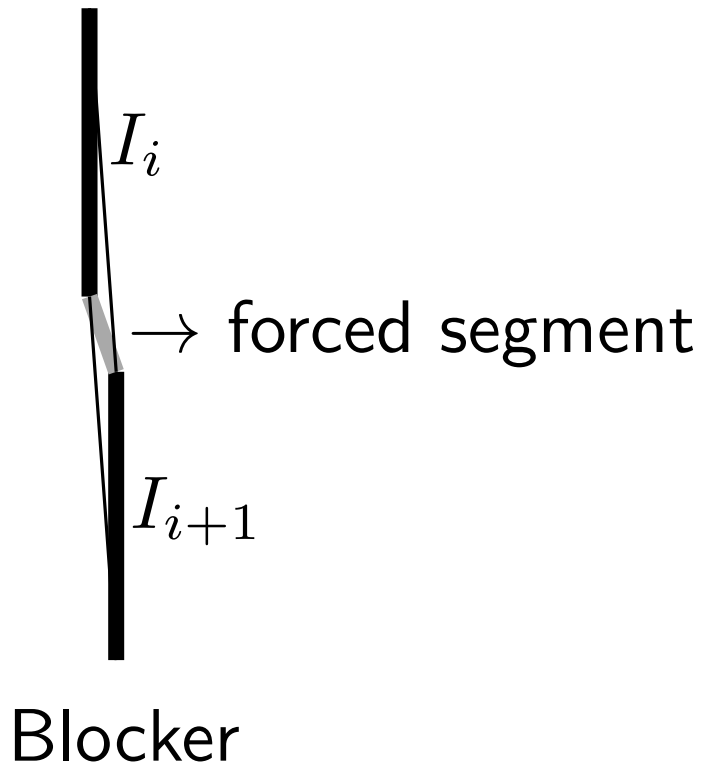
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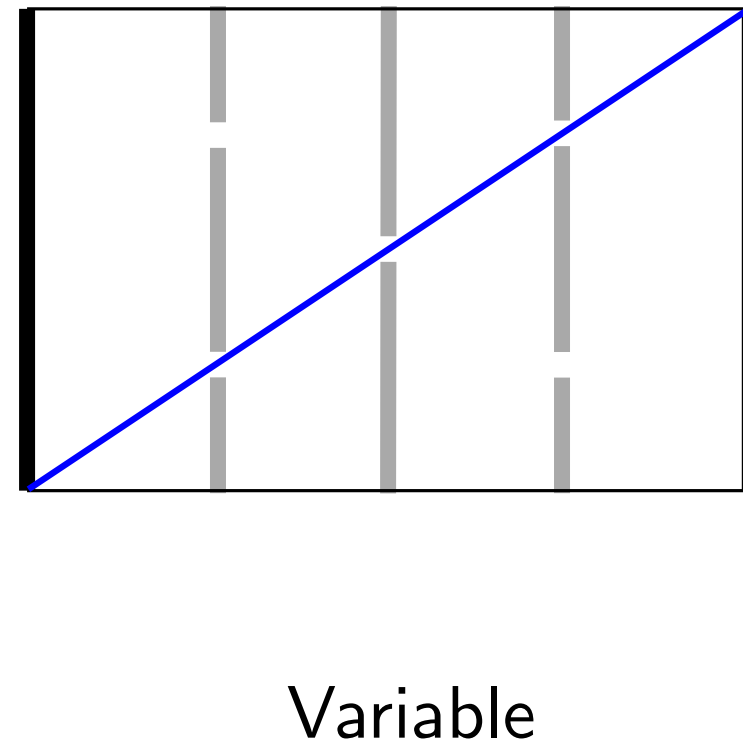
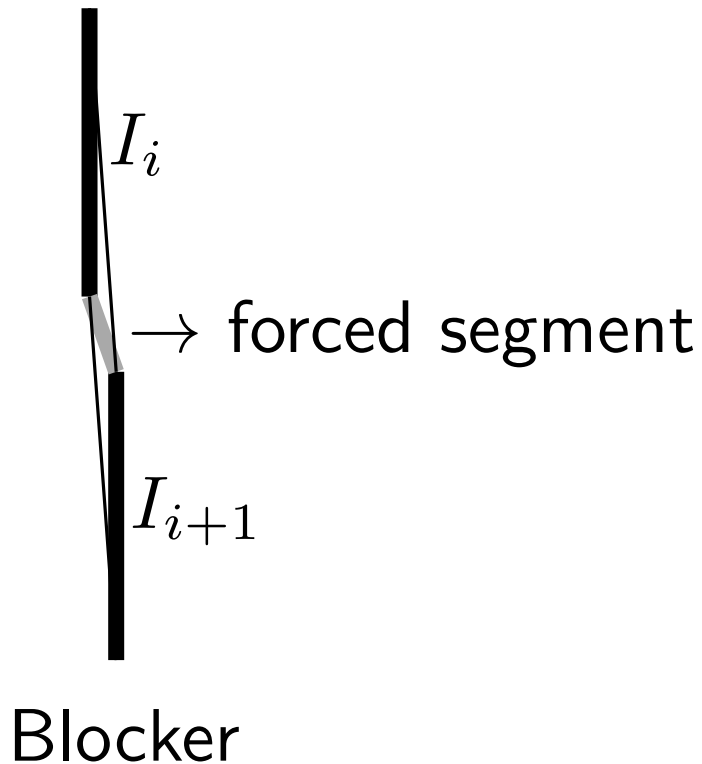
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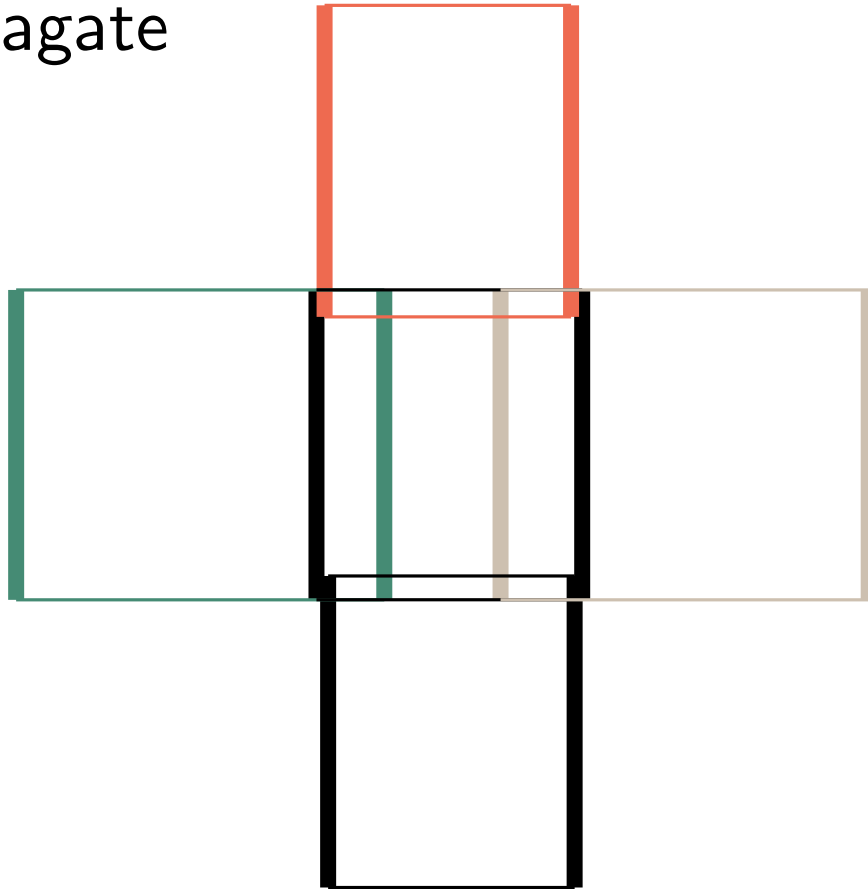
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# Straight line paths

Given  $n$  tubes defined by unit vertical segments, deciding if the tubes can be connected with straight line segments is NP-Complete

We can now propagate truth values...

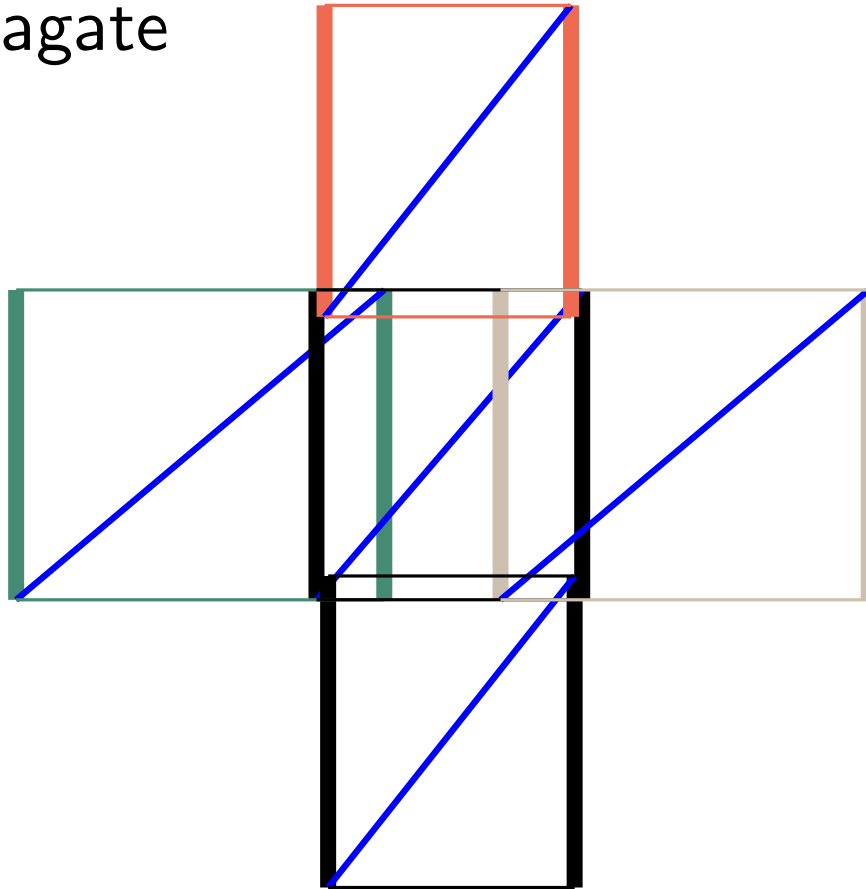




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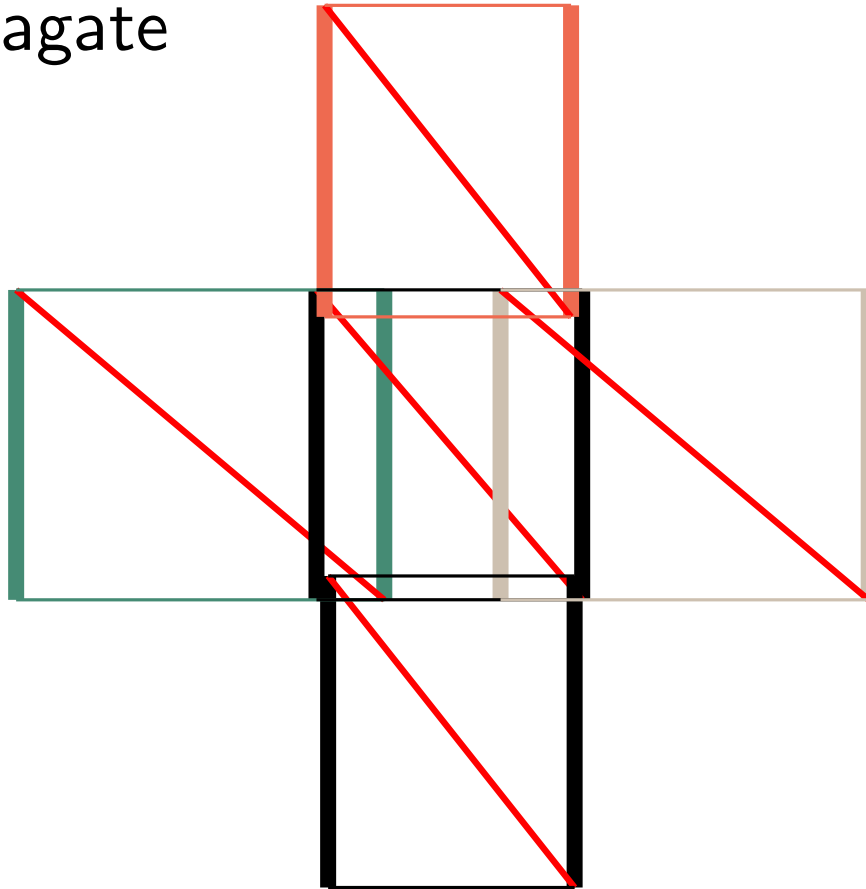
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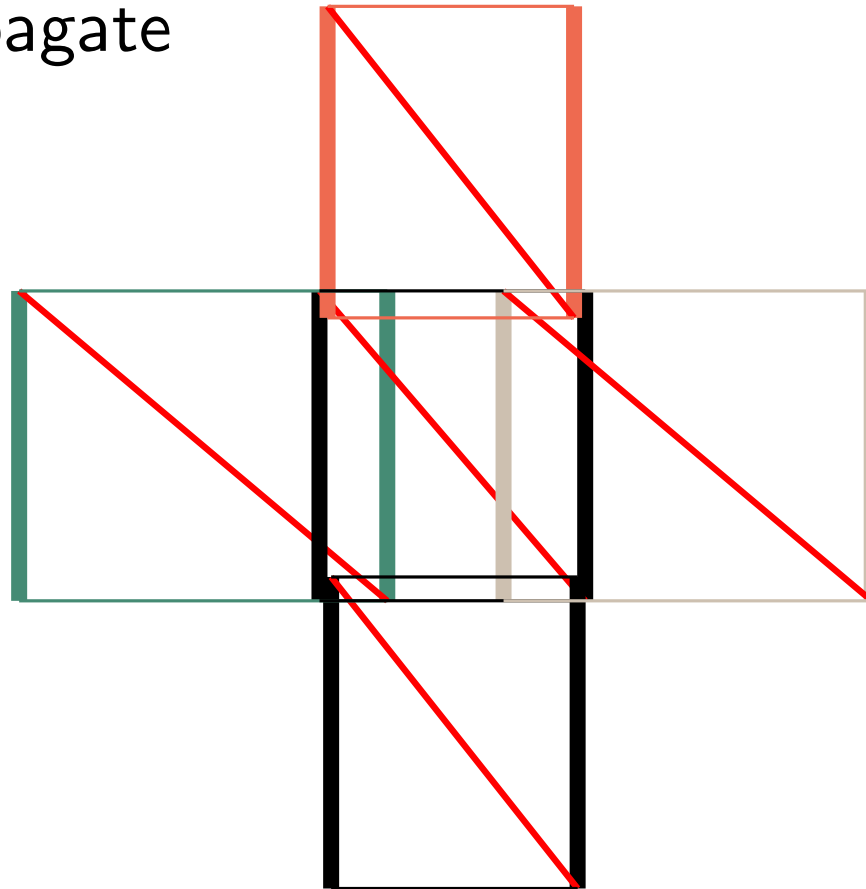
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# Straight line paths

Given  $n$  tubes defined by unit vertical segments, deciding if the tubes can be connected with straight line segments is NP-Complete

We can now propagate truth values...



...as well as representing negations and clauses, so that the reduction works