# PLANARITY TESTING IN PARALLEL\*

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# Planarity Testing in Parallel

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#### **ABSTRACT**

We present a parallel algorithm based on open ear decomposition to construct an embedding of a graph onto the plane or report that the graph is non-planar. Our parallel algorithm runs on a CRCW PRAM in logarithmic time with a number of processors bounded by that needed for testing graph connectivity and for performing bucket sort.

A sequential implementation of our algorithm gives a new linear-time sequential algorithm for planarity testing.

#### 1. Introduction

### 1.1. The Planarity Problem

Informally, a graph is planar if it can be embedded onto the plane so that the edges do not cross (see section 2.1 for formal definition). Euler first defined this fundamental concept in 1736 and stated the Euler formula for planar embeddings.

Planar graphs appear naturally in many applications, -- for example, in the solution of 2 dimensional PDEs and in VLSI layout. Many difficult graph problems can be solved in polynomial time in the case of planar graphs.

The planarity problem is the following: given a graph G, test if G has a planar embedding and, if so, construct an embedding of G onto the plane. A planarity algorithm is one that solves the planarity problem. There has been a considerable amount of research on this problem, beginning with the characterization theorems for planarity of Whitney [Wh30], Kuratowski [Ku30] and Edmonds [Ed60] which led to exponential time planarity algorithms, followed by the first

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polynomial time planarity algorithm of Tutte [Tu63] and culminating with the linear time sequential planarity algorithm of Hopcroft & Tarjan [HT74], which used depth first search and built on techniques developed in a triconnectivity algorithm [HT73]. Another planarity algorithm developed by Lempel, Even & Cederbaum [LEC67] was made to run in linear time by results in Booth & Lueker [BL76] for manipulating PQ trees and by the algorithm of Even & Tarjan [ET76] for computing an st-numbering.

### 1.2. Previous Parallel Algorithms for Planarity

Considerable previous work has been devoted to developing parallel planarity algorithms with respect to the Parallel Random Access Machine (PRAM). Ja'Ja' & Simon [JS82] first showed that testing planarity can be done in NC. Miller & Reif [MR85] later gave a parallel planarity algorithm with similar resource bounds that also gave a planar embedding of an arbitrary planar graph. Reif [Re84] gave a randomized logarithmic time NC algorithm for graphs of valence 3. Klein & Reif [KR88] gave the best previously known polylog time planarity algorithm in terms of processor efficiency, which required time  $O(\log^2 n)$  using a linear number of processors; this algorithm is a parallelization of the sequential algorithm in [LEC67].

### 1.3. Our Parallel Planarity Algorithm

Our parallel planarity algorithm is a deterministic algorithm that runs in logarithmic time on a Concurrent Read Concurrent Write (CRCW) PRAM while performing almost linear work. (See Karp & Ramachandran [KR90] for a discussion of parallel algorithms on various PRAM models.) More precisely, let C(n,m) be the bound on the work done by a parallel algorithm that finds the connected components of an n-node, m-edge graph in logarithmic time on a CRCW PRAM when the graph is represented by adjacency lists; currently the best bound is  $C(n,m) = O((n+m) \cdot \alpha(n,m))$  [CV86], where  $\alpha$  is the inverse Ackermann's function, which grows very slowly with n and m. Let B(n) be the bound on the work to perform bucket sort on n  $O(\log n)$  bit numbers in logarithmic time on a CRCW PRAM; currently  $B(n) = O(n \cdot \log \log n)$ . Finally, let  $A(n,m) = \max(C(n,m),B(n))$ . Our planarity algorithm runs in logarithmic time on a CRCW PRAM while performing A(n,n) work. We will refer to such a performance bound as 'logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.'

Our algorithm uses a variety of techniques found in previous parallel graph algorithms. We search the graph using a parallel algorithm for open ear decomposition [MR86, MSV86, Ra90]. Open ear decomposition has proved to be a very useful technique in the efficient parallel solution of several problems on undirected graphs (see, e.g., [FRT89, KR87, KR90, MSV86, Ra90]). To further order our parallel searches, we make use of the parallel algorithm of [MSV86] for st-numbering. We use the local replacement graph and the bridges of ears computed in the parallel triconnectivity algorithm of Fussell, Ramachandran & Thurimella [FRT89]; for this material we will follow the treatment in the chapter [Ra90]. We extend the interlacing parity algorithm of Ramachandran & Vishkin [RV88] in order to obtain the planar embedding of the input graph; again, for this material, we will follow the treatment in the chapter [Ra90]. We also make use of

optimal logarithmic time algorithms for computing tree functions [TV84, CV86, KD88] and for computing least common ancestors (lca) of pairs of vertices in a rooted tree [SV88].

Our algorithm differs from all previous planarity algorithms in its use of a general open ear decomposition for graph searching. However, it is somewhat similar in spirit to the algorithm of Hopcroft & Tarjan [HT74] in that it embeds paths rather than vertices; as in the case of the algorithm in [HT74], our algorithm makes extensive use of techniques developed in a triconnectivity algorithm, i.e., the parallel algorithm in Fussell, Ramachandran & Thurimella [FRT89] to find the triconnected components of a graph. At the same time, since our algorithm uses *st*-numbering to direct the embedding, it has some similarity to the Lempel, Even & Cederbaum algorithm [LEC67]. Our algorithm makes no use of parallel PQ tree techniques to represent planar embeddings, but instead makes a reduction to finding a 2 coloring of an undirected graph, a special case of which is used in Ramachandran & Vishkin [RV88] to find a planar embedding for a graph with a known Hamiltonian cycle. Similar, though less efficient, approaches have been used by Ja'Ja' & Simon [JS82] who gave an NC reduction of planarity testing to 2-SAT (satisfiability with 2 literals per clause) and by Reif [Re84] who gave a randomized NC reduction of trivalent planarity testing to 2-SAT with the two literals in exclusive-or form; this latter problem is equivalent to 2 coloring an associated undirected graph.

All of the steps in our algorithm can be performed in linear sequential time. Hence it gives a new linear time sequential algorithm for planarity.

# 1.4. Algorithmic Notation

The algorithmic notation in this paper is from Tarjan [Ta83]. We enclose comments between a pair of double curly brackets ('{{' and '}}'). We incorporate parallelism by use of the following statement that augments the **for** statement.

for iterator in parallel  $\rightarrow$  statement list rof

The effect of this statement is to perform the for loop in parallel for each value of the iterator.

# 1.5. Organization of the Paper

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 gives definitions and relevant earlier results. Section 3 gives a high-level description of our algorithm. Section 4 describes bunches, their hooks and the bunch graphs. Section 5 defines the constraint graph. Section 6 relates 2-colorings of the constraint graph to planar embeddings of the input graph, and gives a placement of each bunch on one side of its fundamental cycle. Section 7 refines this placement to obtain a combinatorial embedding of the graph. Finally, Section 8 gives the full algorithm.

#### 2. Preliminaries

In this section we provide major definitions and previous results from the literature that we will need in later sections. Several other graph-theoretic definitions are given in the Appendix.

### 2.1. Planar Embeddings

### 2.1.1. Planar Topological Embeddings

We define here a planar topological embedding of an undirected graph G = (V, E) (see, e.g., White [Wh73]). In such a topological embedding, each edge is associated with a simple segment on the plane, where the vertices of the edge are at the two distinct endpoints of the segment, and where no two such edges intersect except at endpoints in the case of common vertices. The faces of the embedding are the connected boundaries of the maximum connected regions obtained by deleting the embedding of G from the plane. Euler's formula gives n-m+f=2c, where m,n,f and c are the numbers of edges, vertices, faces, and connected components, respectively.

### 2.1.2. Planar Combinatorial Embeddings

The topological definition of planar embedding given above presents difficulties for computer algorithms and their proofs. Given an undirected graph G=(V,E) with |V|=n, we will represent an embedding of graph G by a combinatorial representation that is attributed to Edmonds [Ed60] (see also White [Wh73]); this representation has size O(n). Let D(G) be the directed graph derived from G by substituting in place of each undirected edge (u,v), a pair of directed edges (u,v) and (v,u). A combinatorial graph embedding I(G) of the graph G is an assignment of a cyclic ordering to the set of directed edges departing each vertex in D(G). The faces of this combinatorial embedding are the orbits of a certain permutation of the directed edges; this permutation orders (w,v) before (v,u) if and only if the combinatorial embedding orders (v,u) immediately before (v,w) in the cyclic order around vertex v. The combinatorial embedding is planar if it satisfies the Euler's formula n-m+f=2c, calculated from the numbers of (undirected) edges m, vertices n, faces f, and connected components c. Edmonds [Ed60] showed that combinatorial embeddings onto the plane can be put in 1-1 correspondence to topological embeddings onto the plane.

Given a directed simple cycle  $C = \langle v_0, v_1, \cdots, v_k = v_0 \rangle$  in G, and an edge  $(v_i, x)$  where  $v_i$  is in C but x is not, we will define  $(v_i, x)$  to be embedded *inside* C (and otherwise *outside* C) if in the cyclic order defined by I(G) on directed edges departing vertex  $v_i$ , directed edge  $(v_i, x)$  appears after directed edge  $(v_i, v_{i+1})$  and before directed edge  $(v_i, v_{i-1})$ . Hereafter, we will use the term planar embedding to denote a combinatorial embedding onto the plane.

We extend the above definition to the embedding of an edge relative to a directed path. Given a directed path  $P = \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k \rangle$  in G, and an edge  $(v_i, x)$  where x is not in P and  $v_i$  is an internal vertex on P, we will define  $(v_i, x)$  to be embedded *inside* P (and otherwise *outside* P) if in the cyclic order defined by I(G) on directed edges departing vertex  $v_i$ , directed edge  $(v_i, x)$  appears after directed edge  $(v_i, v_{i+1})$  and before directed edge  $(v_i, v_{i-1})$ .

### 2.2. Bridges of a Subgraph

Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph, and let Q be a subgraph of G. We define the *bridges* of Q in G as follows: Let V' be the vertices in G - Q, and consider the partition of V' into classes such that two vertices are in the same class if and only if there is a path connecting them which does not use any vertex of Q. Each such class K defines a *nontrivial bridge*  $B = (V_B, E_B)$  of Q, where B is the subgraph of G with  $V_B = K \cup \{ \text{vertices of } Q \text{ that are connected by an edge to a vertex in } K \}$ , and  $E_B$  containing the edges of G incident on a vertex in K. The vertices of Q which are connected by an edge to a vertex in K are called the *attachments* of B on Q; the connecting edges are called the *attachment edges*. An edge (u,v) in G-Q, with both u and v in Q, is a *trivial bridge* of Q, with attachments u and v. The nontrivial and trivial bridges of Q together form the *bridges* of Q.

Let G = (V, E) be a graph and let  $V' \subseteq V$  with the subgraph of G induced on V' being connected. The operation of *collapsing the vertices in* V' consists of replacing all vertices in V' by a single new vertex v, deleting all edges in G whose two endpoints are in V' and replacing each edge (x,y) with x in V' and y in V-V' by an edge (v,y). In general the resulting graph is a multigraph even if the original graph G is not a multigraph.

Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph, and let Q be a subgraph of G. The *bridge graph of* Q,  $S = (V_S, E_S)$  is obtained from G by collapsing the nonattachment vertices in each nontrivial bridge of Q and by replacing each trivial bridge b = (u, v) of Q by the two edges  $(x_b, u)$  and  $(x_b, v)$  where  $x_b$  is a new vertex introduced to represent the trivial bridge b. Note that in general the bridge graph is a multigraph.

#### 2.3. Interlacing Bridges

Let  $P = <0,1,2,\dots,k>$  be a simple path in a graph G. A pair of bridges *interlace* on P if one of the following two holds:

- 1. There exist four distinct vertices a,b,c,d with a < b < c < d such that a and c are attachments of one of the bridges on P and d are attachments of the other bridge on P; or
- 2. There are three distinct vertices of P that are attachments of both bridges.

If bridges S and T interlace on P, then they cannot be placed on the same side of P in a planar embedding. If S and T do not interlace, then they can be placed in a planar embedding on the same (opposite) side of P if and only if there exists no sequence of bridges  $\langle S=S_0,S_1,\cdots,S_r=T\rangle$ , with r odd (even) such that  $S_i$  interlaces with  $S_{i+1}$ ,  $0\leq i\leq r-1$ . If there is such a sequence with r even then S and T have even interlacing parity and if there is such a sequence with r odd, then S and T have odd interlacing parity. If no such sequence exists for r either odd or even, then S and T have null interlacing parity: in this case S and T can be placed either in the same side or in opposite sides of P in a planar embedding (provided G is planar). It is possible for S and T to have both odd and even parity, — in this case, no planar embedding of G is possible if every star is to be placed completely on one side of P.

### 2.4. The Star Graph and Its Interlacing Parity Graph

Let P be a simple path in a graph G=(V,E). If each bridge of P in G contains exactly one vertex not on P, then we call G the star graph of P and denote it by G(P). We denote the bridges of G(P) by stars, i.e., a star is a connected graph in which at most one vertex has degree greater than 1. The unique vertex of a star that is not contained in P is called its center. If  $P=<0,1,\cdots,n>$  then given a star S of G(P) with attachments  $v_0< v_1<\cdots< v_r$  on P, we will call  $v_0$  and  $v_r$  the end attachments of S and the remaining attachments the internal attachments of S; the vertex  $v_0$  is the leftmost attachment of S, and the vertex  $v_r$  is its rightmost attachment.

Note that, in a connected graph G, the bridge graph of any simple path in G is a star graph. We will sometimes refer to a star graph G(P) by G if the path P is clear from the context.

We now define the *interlacing parity graph*  $G_I$  of a star graph G(P). Let  $P = <0,1, \dots, n>$ . We replace each star S on G(P) by a collection of edges as follows: Let the attachments of S on P be  $a_0,a_1,\dots,a_k$  with  $a_0 < a_1 < \dots < a_k$ . We replace S by the edges  $(a_0,a_i),i=1,\dots,k$  and the edges  $(a_i,a_k),i=1,\dots,k-1$  (see figure 1a). We will refer to these edges as the *chords of* S.

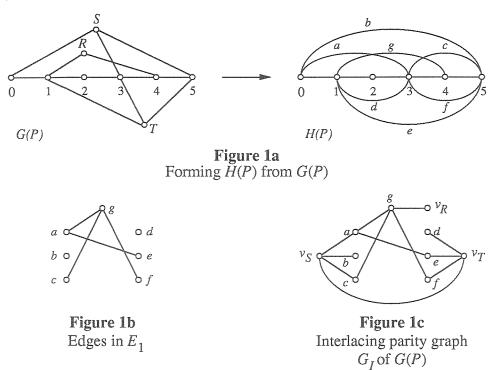


Figure 1
Constructing the interlacing parity graph of a star graph.

Let H(P) be the graph obtained from G(P) by replacing each star in G(P) by its chords. We will say that chords c and d in H(P) are related if they are chords of the same star S in G(P) and are unrelated otherwise. We construct  $G_I = (V', E')$ , the interlacing parity graph of G(P) as follows:

 $V' = V_1 \cup J V_2$ , where

 $V_1 = \{v_e \mid e \text{ is a chord in } H(P)\}$  and

 $V_2 = \{v_S \mid S \text{ is a star in } G(P)\}$ ; we will refer to a vertex in  $V_2$  as a star vertex.

 $E' = \{(v_S, u_e) \mid S \text{ is a star in } G(P) \text{ and } u_e \text{ is a vertex in } V' \text{ representing a chord } e \text{ of } S\}$ 

where  $E_1$  and F is defined as follows:

### DEFINITION OF $E_1$ :

For each chord c in H(P) we first define its *left chord*  $l_c$  and its *right chord*  $r_c$ . Let c = (u, v), u < v and let c be a chord of star S in G(P).

Left chord of c: Let  $u_l$  be the minimum numbered vertex on P such that c interlaces with an unrelated chord d incident on  $u_l$ . If  $u_l < u$  then choose an unrelated chord  $(u_l, v_l)$  with maximum  $v_l$  that interlaces with c to be the left chord  $l_c$  of c.

Right chord of c: Let  $v_r$  be the maximum numbered vertex on P such that c interlaces with an unrelated chord incident on  $v_r$ . If  $v_r > v$  then choose an unrelated chord  $(u_r, v_r)$  with minimum  $u_r$  that interlaces with c to be the right chord  $r_c$  of c.

Then  $E_1 = \{(v_c, v_{l_c}) \mid c \text{ is a chord of } H(P) \text{ and } l_c \text{ is its left chord (if it exists)}\} \cup \{(v_c, v_r) \mid c \text{ is a chord of } H(P) \text{ and } r_c \text{ is its right chord (if it exists)}\}$ . (See figure 1b)

#### **DEFINITION OF F:**

For each vertex i on P let

 $F_i = \{(v_S, v_T) \mid S \text{ is a star in } G(P) \text{ with an internal attachment on } i \text{ and } T \text{ ranges over all other stars in } G(P) \text{ with an internal attachment on } i \}$ 

Then 
$$F = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} F_i$$
.

Figure 1c give the interlacing parity graph  $G_I$  of the graph G(P) in figure 1a.

It is shown in [Ra90, RV88] that a two-coloring of  $G_I$  exists if and only if there exists a planar embedding of G(P) with each star in G(P) being embedded entirely on one side on P. Further, a planar embedding of G(P) can be obtained by embedding all stars corresponding to star vertices of one color inside P and all stars corresponding to star vertices of the other color outside P.

### 2.5. Open Ear Decomposition and st-Numbering

An ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, P_1, \dots, P_{r-1}]$  of an undirected graph G = (V, E) is a partition of E into an ordered collection of edge disjoint simple paths  $P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}$  such that  $P_0$  is an edge,  $P_0 \cup P_1$  is a simple cycle, and each endpoint of  $P_i$ , for i > 1, is contained in some  $P_j, j < i$ , and none of the internal vertices of  $P_i$  are contained in any  $P_j, j < i$ . The paths in D are called ears. A trivial ear is an ear containing a single edge. An ear  $P_i, i > 1$ , is open if it is noncyclic and is closed otherwise. D is an open ear decomposition if all of its ears are open.

Let  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}]$  be an ear decomposition for a graph G = (V, E). For a vertex v in V, we denote by ear(v), the index of the lowest-numbered ear that contains v; for an edge e = (x, y) in E, we denote by ear(e) (or ear(x, y)), the index of the unique ear that contains e. A vertex v will belong to  $P_{ear(v)}$ .

Let G be a biconnected graph with an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}]$ . Two ears are *parallel to each other* if they have the same endpoints; an ear  $P_i$  is a *parallel ear* if there exists another ear  $P_j$  such that  $P_i$  and  $P_j$  are parallel to each other.

An open ear decomposition can be obtained in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance [MR86, MSV86, Ra90]. The parallel open ear decomposition algorithm constructs a collection of auxiliary graphs in order to ensure that all ears are open. This construction is used several times in our planarity algorithm. We present the construction below. It will be used in sections 4 and 7.

```
set function auxgraphs (graph G = (V, E), spanning tree T = (V, D)) of graphs;
      vertex v, y, z, z', z''; edge e, e', e'', f;
      for each vertex v in parallel \rightarrow
      \{\{\text{Construct a graph } H_{\nu}\}\}
             create a vertex for each edge of G incident on v;
             for each fundamental cycle C of T with v as the lca of the nontree edge in C in
             parallel \rightarrow
                   if C has two base edges e', e'' \rightarrow create an edge (z',z'') in H_v where z' and z''
                   are the vertices created to represent e' and e" respectively
                    \{\{\text{Recall that the } base \ edges \ \text{of } C \ \text{ are the edges in } C \ \text{that share the } \ \text{vertex } v\}\}
                    | C has only one base edge e \rightarrow create an edge in H_v between y and z, where
                   y and z are the vertices created to represent edges e and f respectively, f being
                   the nontree edge in C
                   fi
             rof
      rof;
      return \{H_v \mid v \in V\}
end;
```

An *st-numbering* of a graph G is a numbering of the n vertices of G from s=1 to t=n, such that every vertex v other than s and t has adjacent vertices u,w with u < v < w. Given an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \cdots, P_{r-1}]$  for a biconnected graph G = (V, E) with  $P_0 = (s, t)$ , it is possible to direct each ear in D from one endpoint to the other in such a way that the edge (s, t) is directed from s to t, the resulting directed graph is acyclic, and every vertex lies on a path

from s to t [MSV86]. Let  $G_{st}$  be this graph, which we will call the st-graph of G. The graph  $T_{st}$ , the st-tree of G, is the directed spanning tree obtained from  $G_{st}$  by deleting the last edge in each ear except  $P_0$ . We can similarly construct  $G_{ts}$  and its directed spanning tree  $T_{ts}$  by considering  $P_0$  to be directed from t to s. We will refer to  $G_{ts}$  as the reverse directed graph of  $G_{st}$  and vice versa. These graphs can be obtained in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance using the algorithm in [MSV86].

The following two facts are well-known [Wh30, Ev79]:

- 1. A graph has an open ear decomposition if and only if it is biconnected.
- 2. A graph has an st-numbering if and only if it is biconnected.

## 2.6. The Local Replacement Graph

We describe a transformation of a biconnected graph G with an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}]$  into a new graph  $G_l$ , called the *local replacement graph* of (G;D) [FRT89]. In the graph  $G_l$ , each ear  $P_i$  in D is converted into a path  $P'_i$  with  $P_i$  being  $P'_i$  with its end edges deleted. This treatment is from [Ra90].

Consider any vertex v in G. Let the degree of v be d ( $d \ge 2$ ). Of the d edges incident on v, two belong to  $P_{ear}(v)$ . Each of the remaining d-2 edges incident on v is an end edge of some ear  $P_j$ , with j > ear(v). In the local replacement graph  $G_l$  we will replace v by a rooted tree with d-1 vertices, with one vertex for each ear containing v. The root of this tree will be the copy of v for the ear containing v. The actual form of the tree is computed from  $T_{st}$  and  $T_{ts}$  as in the algorithm below. The tree representing vertex v will be called the *local tree of* v and will be denoted by  $T_v$ .

# Algorithm 2.1: Constructing the Local Replacement Graph

### Input:

```
A biconnected graph G = (V, E); an open ear decomposition D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}] for G, with P_0 = (s, t); the st-graph G_{st} with its spanning tree T_{st} and the ts-graph G_{ts} with its spanning tree T_{ts}. Output: The local replacement graph G_l of (G; D).

integer i,j; {{These integers range in value from 0 to r-1.}} vertex a,q,u,v,w; {{q,u,v$ and $w$ may be subscripted by an integer.}}} edge <math>a,e,f,n; {{e and f will be subscripted by an integer.}} rename each vertex v in G by v_j, where ear(v)=j; {{We will refer to the vertex v_{ear(v)} interchangeably as either v or v_{ear(v)}.}}
```

- 10 for each outgoing ear  $P_i$  at each vertex v in  $G_{st}$  in parallel  $\rightarrow$ 1. let the edge in  $P_i$  incident on v be  $e_i$  and let the nontree edge in  $P_i$  be  $f_i$ ; detach edge  $e_i$  from v and label the detached endpoint as  $v_i$ ; let a be a base edge of the fundamental cycle created by  $f_i$  in  $T_{st}$  with  $ear(a) \neq i$ ; if  $ear(a) \le ear(v) \rightarrow v_{ear(v)} := parent(v_i)$  $| ear(a) > ear(v) \rightarrow v_{ear(a)} := parent(v_i) \mathbf{fi};$ direct this edge from parent  $(v_i)$  to  $v_i$ rof; let the undirected version of the graph obtained in step 1 be  $G^{1}$ , the directed version be  $G_{si}^{1}$ and its associated spanning tree be  $T_{st}^{1}$  and the reverse directed graph be  $G_{ts}^{1}$  and its associated spanning tree be  $T_{ts}^{1}$ ; repeat step 1 using  $G_{ts}^{1}$  and  $T_{ts}^{1}$  and let the resulting undirected graph be  $G^{2}$ , the resulting directed graph be  $G_{ts}^2$  and its associated spanning tree be  $T_{ts}^2$ , and the reverse directed graph be  $G_{st}^2$  and its associated spanning tree be  $T_{st}^2$ ;  $\{\{\text{In the following we process parallel ears by constructing a new graph } H.\}\}$ for each parallel ear  $P_i$  in parallel  $\rightarrow$  create a vertex  $q_i$  rof; for each nontree edge n in  $T_{si}^2$  in parallel  $\rightarrow$ if the base edges of the fundamental cycle of n belong to ears  $P_i$  and  $P_j$ , where  $P_i$ and  $P_i$  are parallel to each other  $\rightarrow$  create an edge between  $q_i$  and  $q_j$  fi rof; call the resulting graph H; find a spanning tree in each connected component of H and root it at the vertex corresponding to the minimum numbered ear in the connected component;

for each vertex  $q_i$  in H that is not a root of a spanning tree in parallel  $\rightarrow$ 3.

> let  $P_i$  be directed from endpoint u to endpoint w in  $G_{si}$ ; let  $q_i$  be the parent of  $q_i$  in the spanning tree in H;

replace the parent of  $u_i$  in  $T_{st}^2$  by  $u_i$  and the parent of  $w_i$  in  $T_{ts}^2$  by  $w_i$ 

rof;

denote the undirected version of the graph formed in step 3 by  $G_l$ , the directed graph from sto t by  $G'_{st}$  and its associated spanning tree by  $T'_{st}$  and the reverse directed graph by  $G'_{ts}$ and its associated spanning tree by  $T_{ts}$ ; call  $G_l$  the local replacement graph of G;

call the underlying undirected tree constructed in steps 1, 2 and 3 from each vertex v in Gthe local tree  $T_v$ ; call  $v_{ear}(v)$  the root of  $T_v$ , and consider  $T_v$  to be an out-tree rooted at  $v_{ear(v)}$ . Call the part of  $T_v$  constructed by assigning parents in  $T_{st}^2$  the o-tree  $OT_v$  of  $T_v$  and the part of  $T_v$  constructed by assigning parents in  $T_{ts}^2$  the *i-tree IT<sub>v</sub>* of  $T_v$ ;

 $\{\{\text{In }G_{sl}^{2},\,OT_{v}\text{ is an out-tree rooted at }v_{ear(v)}\text{ and }IT_{v}\text{ is an in-tree rooted at }v_{ear(v)}\text{ and vice-versa in }G_{ts}^{2}.\}\}$ 

denote by  $P'_i$  the ear  $P_i$ , together with the edge connecting each endpoint of  $P_i$  to its parent in its local tree in  $G_i$ ;

 $\{\{\text{Note that the innard of } P'_i \text{ (i.e., the path } P'_i \text{ excluding its two end edges) is } P_i.\}\}$ 

denote the first vertex on  $P'_i$  when directed as in  $G'_{st}$  by  $L(P'_i)$ , the left endpoint of  $P'_i$ , and the last vertex on  $P'_i$  when directed as in  $G'_{st}$  by  $R(P'_i)$ , the right endpoint of  $P'_i$ .

end.

Figure 2 gives an example of the construction of the local replacement graph. For the rest of the paper we assume that the vertices in  $G_l$ ,  $G'_{st}$  and  $T'_{st}$  are numbered with their st-numbering.

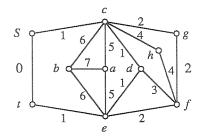
We will need the following lemma about the paths  $P'_i$  that are constructed in the local replacement graph  $G_l$ . The proof of this lemma is immediate if  $G_l$  contains no parallel ears. The proof for the case when  $G_l$  contains parallel ears is not difficult and is left as an exercise.

**Lemma 2.1** There exists a permutation  $\pi$  of the indices 0 through r-1 such that  $[P'_{\pi(0)}, \cdots, P'_{\pi(r-1)}]$  is an open ear decomposition for  $G_l$ .

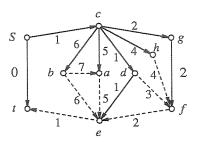
# 3. Overview of the Planarity Algorithm

Our planarity algorithm finds an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}]$  in the input graph G and derives from it the local replacement graph  $G_l$  together with its associated paths  $P'_i$ ,  $i=0,\dots,r-1$  and its st-numbering directed graph  $G'_{st}$  and spanning tree  $T'_{st}$ . For each path  $P'_i$ , let  $C'_i$  be the fundamental cycle formed with respect to  $T'_{st}$  by the unique nontree edge in  $P'_i$ . The direction of  $C'_i$  will be the direction of  $P'_i$  in  $G'_{st}$ .

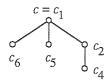
For each i, our algorithm finds certain approximations to the bridges of  $C_i$  with attachments on  $P_i$ , called the bunches of  $P_i$ , together with a hook for each bunch. Some of the bunches are called the anchor bunches of  $P_i$ ; these are defined in the next section. The algorithm constructs a star graph  $J_i$  for each i, that (roughly speaking) consists of  $P_i$  together with its bunches, and then forms  $G_{i,I}$ , the interlacing parity graph of  $J_i$ . The algorithm then links these graphs  $G_{i,I}$  with some additional edges that are derived from the hooks of anchor bunches. This gives the constraint graph  $G^*$  which we describe in Section 5. The vertices of graph  $G^*$  are the union of the vertices in the  $G_{i,I}$ , together with some dummy vertices. We show that the graph  $G^*$  has the property that if  $G_I$  is planar, then any legal coloring of the vertices of  $G^*$  with  $\{0,1\}$  gives a planar embedding of  $G_I$  with edge (s,t) on the outer face. This planar embedding is obtained by embedding bunch  $G^*$  in an only if the star vertex in  $G_{i,I}$  corresponding to  $G^*$  is colored 0 in  $G^*$ . We then give a method to obtain the cyclic order of edges embedded inside  $G^*$  and of edges embedded outside  $G^*$  for each  $G^*$  by collapsing the vertices in each local tree.



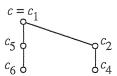
G with an open ear decomposition



 $G_{st}$  and  $T_{st}$ 



Out-tree at vertex *c* after step 1 of Algorithm 4.2



Out-tree at vertex c after step 3 of Algorithm 4.2  $(P_2, P_5 \text{ and } P_6 \text{ are parallel ears})$ 

Figure 2
Constructing the local replacement graph.

All steps in our algorithm can be implemented in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.

### 4. The Bunches and Their Hooks

Let G be a biconnected graph with an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, P_1, \dots, P_{r-1}]$  and let  $G_l$ ,  $G'_{st}$ ,  $T'_{st}$ , and  $P'_i$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, r-1$  be as described in Section 2.6. Let the vertices of  $G_l$  be numbered with their st-numbering.

Let  $C'_i$  be the fundamental cycle formed in  $G_l$  by adding the unique nontree edge in the path  $P'_i$  to  $T'_{st}$  and let l be the lca of the unique nontree edge in  $C'_i$ . Note that l is the lowest-numbered vertex in  $C'_i$  and  $R(P'_i)$  is the highest-numbered vertex in  $C'_i$ . A nonanchor bridge of  $C'_i$  is a bridge of  $C'_i$ , all of whose attachments are internal vertices of  $P'_i$ . An anchor bridge of  $C'_i$  is a bridge of  $C'_i$  that has an attachment on an internal vertex of  $P'_i$  and either a) an attachment on  $C'_i - P'_i$  or b) a nonattachment vertex v with v < l or  $v > R(P'_i)$ . A spanning bridge of  $C'_i$  is a bridge of  $C'_i$  that has an attachment on  $L(P'_i)$ , has no attachment on  $C'_i - P'_i$ , and for each nonattachment vertex v has  $L(P'_i) < v < R(P'_i)$ .

#### 4.1. The Bunches

The following algorithm finds certain objects that we call the bunches of the  $P'_i$ .

# Algorithm 4.1: Forming the Bunches

### Input:

Biconnected graph G=(V,E);

an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}]$  for G, with  $P_0 = (s, t)$ ;

the local replacement graph  $G_l$  of (G;D), together with the associated  $G'_{st}, T'_{st}$  and the paths  $P'_i, i=0, \cdots, r-1$ .

Output: The bunches of each  $P'_i$ .

```
integer i, j, k; {{These integers range in value from 0 to r-1.}} vertex a, b, l, p, u, v, w, x, y, z; {{The vertex p will be subscripted by an integer.}} edge e, f, e_1, e_2; set X, X' of edges;
```

- 1. in  $G'_{st}$  collapse the internal vertices of each path  $P'_i$  to form vertex  $p_i$ ; let vertex t be  $p_0$ ; call the resulting graph  $G''_{st}$ , and the resulting spanning tree derived from  $T'_{st}$  as  $T''_{st}$ ; call the resulting underlying undirected graph G'';
- 2.  $H := auxgraphs(G'', T''_{st}); \{\{\text{function } auxgraphs \text{ is given in Section 2.5.}\}\}$   $\text{let } H = \{H_i \mid i=1, \cdots, r-1\};$   $\{\{H_i \text{ is the auxiliary graph whose vertices represent the edges incident on vertex } p_i \text{ in } G''\}\};$
- 3. for each i in parallel  $\rightarrow$  compute the connected components of  $H_i$  and call the set of edges of  $G_l$  corresponding to the vertices in each connected component a *cluster of*  $P'_i$ ;
- 4. for each nontree edge e = (u, v) in  $G''_{st}$  whose fundamental cycle contains both base edges in parallel  $\rightarrow$

 $\{\{\text{In the following we compute attachments to } L(P'_i), \text{ the left endpoint of } P'_i \text{ for each } P'_i.\}\}$ 

```
let l = lca(u, v);
```

let  $e_1=(l,a)$  and  $e_2=(l,b)$  be the two base edges of the fundamental cycle created by (u,v), with a an ancestor of u and b an ancestor of v; let  $a=p_k$  and  $b=p_j$ ;

a. if edge  $e_2$  is incident on  $L(P'_k)$  in  $G_l \rightarrow$ 

if  $u=a \rightarrow \text{add a copy of } e_2 \text{ to } X$  where X is the cluster of  $P'_k$  that contains e

```
| u≠a → add a copy of e₂ to X', where X' is the cluster of P'k that contains edge (a,y), where y is the unique child of a which is an ancestor of u fi
fi;
b. if edge e₁ is incident on L(P'j) in Gl → {{This is symmetric to step a.}}
if v=b → add a copy of e₁ to X, where X is the cluster of P'j that contains e | v≠b → add a copy of e₁ to X', where X' is the cluster of P'j that contains edge (b,z), where z is the unique child of b which is an ancestor of v fi
fi<
```

5. for each  $P'_i$  in parallel  $\rightarrow$ 

let  $w = L(P'_i)$ ; let ear(w) be j; let f be the edge in  $P'_i$  that is incident on w; let x be the vertex in  $H_w$  that represents the edge f;

for each connected component C in  $H_w - \{x\} \to \text{union all of the clusters of } P'_i$  to which an edge corresponding to a vertex in C was added in step a or step b **rof** 

rof;

denote each set of edges generated at the end of step 5 to be a bunch

{{Each bunch of  $P'_i$  is a set of attachment edges on  $P'_i$  of a bridge of  $C'_i$  in  $G_l$ . Some edges of  $G_l$  can appear in the bunches of several different  $P'_i$  because of step 4.

We will denote a bunch of  $P'_i$  by (B,i) where B denotes the set of edges in the bunch; if the index i is clear from the context we will let B denote the bunch.}

end.

The following observation is a simple consequence of the construction of the local replacement graph.

Observation 4.1 In the graph  $G''_{st}$  constructed in step 1 of Algorithm 4.1,

- a) Every outgoing edge from  $p_i$  is a tree edge in  $T''_{st}$  except for the unique outgoing edge that lies on  $P'_i$ .
- b) Every incoming edge to  $p_i$  is a nontree edge except for the unique incoming edge that lies on  $P'_i$ .

The next lemma shows that every bunch of  $P'_i$  is part of a single bridge of  $C'_i$ .

Lemma 4.1 Let (X,i) be a bunch as computed in Algorithm 4.1. Then X is a subset of the attachment edges of a single bridge of  $C'_i$ . Further none of the edges in X appear in any other bunch of  $P'_i$ .

Proof It is straightforward to see that the edges in each cluster of  $P'_i$  as computed in step 3 belong to a single bridge of  $C'_i$  and that these clusters are disjoint. It is also straightforward to see that if edge e is added to cluster X in step 4a or step 4b then e belongs to the same bridge of  $C'_i$  as the edges in X. Also, all edges in  $G_i$  corresponding to vertices in a connected component of  $H_w - \{x\}$  must belong to the same bridge of  $C'_i$ . Hence the sets of edges that are unioned in step 5 are all part of the same bridge of  $C'_i$ . Finally if (X,i) and (Y,i) are two bunches of  $P'_i$  with  $X \neq Y$  they must be disjoint since the clusters in X are disjoint from the clusters in Y and the added edges in step 4 must also be disjoint, since otherwise, the X and Y would have been combined in step 5.[]

We will refer to a bunch (B,i) as a nonanchor bunch, an anchor bunch or a spanning bunch, depending on whether the bridge of  $C'_i$  that contains the edges in B is a nonanchor bridge, an anchor bridge or a spanning bridge of  $C'_i$  respectively.

We now give a series of observations about bridges and bunches. The proof of the first observation makes use of material from [Ra90].

Observation 4.2 Every spanning bridge of  $C'_i$  has attachments on both  $L(P'_i)$  and  $R(P'_i)$ .

Proof It is shown in [Ra90] (Lemma 4.4) that any bridge of  $P'_i$  that has an attachment on  $L(P'_i)$  either contains a nonattachment vertex on a path  $P'_j$ , j < i or is a 2-attachment bridge with only the endpoints of  $P'_i$  as attachments. In the former case the bridge is called an *anchor bridge* of  $P'_i$ . Since  $P'_i$  is properly contained in  $P'_i$ , each bridge of  $P'_i$  is part of a bridge of  $P'_i$ . Hence any spanning bridge of  $P'_i$  is part of either an anchor bridge of  $P'_i$  or a bridge of  $P'_i$  that has attachments only on its two endpoints. In the latter case the Observation is immediate so for the rest of the proof we consider only the former case.

Let S be a bridge of  $C'_i$  that is part of an anchor bridge of  $P'_i$  and let I be the lca of the nontree edge in  $C'_i$ . If every nonattachment vertex in S is an internal vertex on a path  $P'_j$ , j > i, then S must have an attachment on  $C'_i - P'_i$  and thus cannot be a spanning bridge of  $C'_i$ . Otherwise, let v be a vertex in S that is an internal vertex on a path  $P'_k$ , k < i. Consider the tree path p from s to v in  $T'_{st}$ . This path must intersect the path q from s to  $L(P'_i)$  since j < i. Let the lowest point of intersection of p and q (i.e.,  $lca(v, L(P'_i))$ ) be x. If  $x < L(P'_i)$  then either S is an anchor bridge of  $C'_i$ . If  $x = L(P'_i)$ , consider the edge e on p that is outgoing from  $L(P'_i)$ . Let e be contained in  $P'_m$ . By the construction of the local replacement graph,  $R(P'_m)$  is not a descendant of an internal vertex of  $P'_i$  in  $T'_{st}$ , hence we again have the case that either S is an anchor bridge of  $C'_i$  or S has an attachment on  $R(P'_i)$ .[]

**Observation 4.3** Let (X,i) be a spanning bunch of  $C'_i$  as computed in Algorithm 4.1. Then X has an attachment on  $L(P'_i)$ .

Proof Straightforward.[]

**Observation 4.4** Let (B,i) be a nonanchor bunch of  $C'_i$  as computed in Algorithm 4.1. Then B is the set of all attachment edges of a nonanchor bridge of  $C'_i$ .

Proof Straightforward.[]

**Lemma 4.2** Algorithm 4.1 can be implemented to run in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.

*Proof* We first show the total size of all of the bunches computed by the algorithm is O(n). Edges are added to the bunches in step 3 and in step 4 (a and b) of the algorithm. Each edge of  $G_l$  is added to at most one bunch in step 3 so the total number is O(n). In step 4, at most two edges are added to bunches for each nontree edge, hence the total number is again O(n).

We now analyze the performance of the algorithm. The major computation before step 5 is in finding connected components which can be performed in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance, and in finding lcas of pairs of vertices in a rooted tree which can be performed optimally in logarithmic time using the algorithm of [SV88]. For the case  $u \neq a$  in step 4a and the case  $v \neq b$  in step 4b we need the second edge on the path from the lca of a nontree edge to one of its endpoints; this can be computed optimally in logarithmic time using the lca algorithm of [SV88].

In step 5 we need to determine for each edge that was added to a cluster in step 4, the connected component to which it belongs in the graph  $H_w - \{x\}$ . For this, as a preprocessing step we construct the blocktree T' of the graph H' (see Appendix for the definition of blocktree). Each connected component of  $H_w - \{x\}$  corresponds to a segment, starting and ending with x of the Euler tour of T'. Hence with some simple preprocessing of T' using the Euler tour technique, each vertex in H' can determine its connected component in the graph  $H_w - \{x\}$ , for any x, in constant time with one processor.

Step 5 also required several unions to be performed in parallel. For this, we create a triple (i,C,X) for each end attachment e on  $P'_i$  that is added to cluster X in step 4, where C is the connected component of  $H_w - \{x\}$  that contains the vertex corresponding to e. We then sort these triples using the algorithm in [Ha87]. We form an auxiliary graph with a vertex for each cluster X formed in step 3 for each  $P'_i$  and we connect up all such vertices with identical second entry in the triple. Each connected component in the resulting graph together with the edges corresponding to the second entries in their triples gives a set corresponding to the union. This can be computed in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.[]

### 4.2. The Hooks of Bunches

In this section we compute, for each bunch found in Algorithm 4.1, an additional edge called its *hook*. We first need some definitions. Recall that the vertices of  $T'_{st}$  are numbered with their st-numbering. For each edge e = (parent(v), v) in  $T'_{st}$ , out(e) is the set of nontree edges that are either incoming to or outgoing from a descendant of v; we define low(e) to be  $\min_{n \in out(e)} lca(n)$ .

Let  $S = \{n \mid n \in out(e) \text{ and } lca(n) \neq low(e)\}$ . Then we define low 2(e) to be  $min(v, \min_{n \in S} lca(n))$ .

Note that low 2(e) is the second smallest vertex that is the lca of an edge in out(e) if such a vertex exists.

For a nontree edge n = (u, v) in  $G_l$ , we define  $out(n) = \{n\}$ , low(n) = lca(n) in  $T'_{st}$  and low 2(n) to be max(u, v).

Let X be a set of edges in  $G_l$ . Then, we define

$$out(X) = \bigcup_{e \in X} out(e)$$
; and

$$low(X) = \min_{e \in Y} low(e).$$

Let 
$$l1(X) = \min_{e \in X \text{ and } low(e) \neq low(X)} (low(e))$$
 and  $l2(X) = \min_{e \in X} low 2(e)$ .

Then, 
$$low 2(X) = min(l 1(X), l 2(X))$$
.

Note that low 2(X) is the second smallest vertex that is the lca of an edge in out(X) if such a vertex exists.

The computation of the hooks of the bunches is performed in two stages. In the first stage we find a hook for some of the bunches of  $P'_i$  using their low and low 2 values. In the second stage we compute hooks for those bunches of  $P'_i$  for which the first stage found a hook that was incident on  $L(P'_i)$  or  $R(P'_i)$ .

Algorithm 4.2 is specified in a manner that makes it simple to understand and to prove correctness. In order to obtain logarithmic time, A-optimal performance, we will modify the algorithm slightly. The details of the modification are given in the proof of Lemma 4.7.

# Algorithm 4.2: Finding Hooks of the Bunches

### Input:

```
The local replacement graph G_l of (G;D); the bunches of each P'_l;
```

Output: A hook for each bunch.

```
integer i, j; {{i and j range from 0 to r-1.}}
edge f, h; vertex u, v, w, x;
set D, X of edges; set U of vertices;
bunch (B,i);
edge function hook (set X of edges in G<sub>l</sub>, integer i);
    vertex l, u, v, x, y, z;
    edge d, e, f, m, n;
```

```
l := lca(d) in T'_{st}, where d is the nontree edge of P'_{i};
     if low(X) < l \rightarrow return (parent(l), l) fi;
1.
      n := \text{ an edge in } out(X) \text{ with } lca(n) = low(X);
      if L(P'_i) > low(X) > l \rightarrow n := an edge in out(X) with <math>lca(n) = low(X)
2.
         low(X) = l and L(P'_i) > low 2(X) \rightarrow n := an edge in out(X) with
3.
      lca(n) = low 2(X)
       low(X) = l and L(P'_i) \le low 2(X) and there is an edge m in out(X) not incident
4.
      on R(P'_i) with lca(m) = l \rightarrow n := m
      fi
      let n=(x,y) and let e=(u,v) be an edge in X that lies in the fundamental cycle of n
      with u contained in P'_i; let x be a descendant of v (and hence y is not a descendant of
      v); let f be a base edge of the fundamental cycle of n with f not lying on the path
      from s to z, where z is the vertex on P'_i adjacent to R(P'_i);
      if f is not contained in C'_i \rightarrow \mathbf{return} f
6.
       |y\rangle R(P'_i) \rightarrow \text{return } (parent(l), l)
7.
       |y| \le R(P'_i) \rightarrow \text{return}(x,y)
8.
end hook;
{{Main program}}
H := auxgraphs(G_l, T'_{st});
let H = \{H_v \mid v \text{ is a vertex in } G_l\};
for each bunch (B,i) in G_l in parallel \rightarrow
 1.
      h := hook(B,i);
       if h is incident on L(P'_i) or R(P'_i) \rightarrow
             {{This computation is similar to step 5 of Algorithm 4.1.}}
             let w = L(P'_i); let ear(w) be j; let f be the edge in P'_i that is incident on w;
             D := the set of edges in B incident on w;
             let x be the vertex in H_w that represents the edge f;
             let U be the set of vertices in H_w that represent the edges in D;
             X := \bigcup_{l \in I} (the set of edges in G_l that correspond to the vertices in the connected
             component of H_w - \{x\} that contains vertex u);
             h := hook(X,i)
       2.
```

A

rof

end.

**Lemma 4.3** Let X be a set of edges not contained in  $C'_i$  but with each edge in X incident on a vertex in  $P'_i$ . Function hook(X,i) returns an edge f in a bridge of  $C'_i$  that contains an edge in X.

*Proof* If edge f is returned in step 1 of function hook let e be an edge in X with low(e) = low(X) and let n be an edge in out(e) with lca(n) = low(X). Since lca(n) < l, lca(n) must be an ancestor of parent(l). Then the path in  $G_l$  consisting of the path from parent(l) to lca(n) followed by the path from lca(n) to n followed by the path from n to e in  $T'_{st}$  shows that f is an attachment edge of the bridge of  $C'_i$  that contains e.

If f is not returned in step 1, consider the nontree edge n = (x,y) in step 5 of function hook. The edge n is in out(X) and lca(n) > l. Hence the edge f as computed in step 5 is incident on a vertex in  $C'_i$ . If this edge f is returned in step 6 then the path from f to f, followed by the path from f to f is in the same bridge of f as edge f, which is in f is in the same bridge of f is edge f.

If edge f is not returned in steps 1 or 6 then f is the base edge of  $C'_i$  that lies on the path from s to  $R(P'_i)$ . If edge (parent(l),l) is returned in step 7 then the path from edge e to n in  $T'_{sl}$ , followed by the path from s to t that contains vertices in increasing order of their t-numbering, followed by the path from t to t to t to t that avoids all vertices in t to t the lea of the nontree edge in t the edge t that avoids all vertices in t to t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t in t to t the lea of the nontree edge in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is the lea of the nontree edge in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is the lea of the nontree edge in t the edge t that t is incident on a vertex in t the edge t that t is the lea of the nontree edge in t the edge t that t is the lea of the nontree edge in t that t is the lea of the nontree edge in t that t is the lea of the nontree edge in t that t is the lea of t that t i

Finally if edge (x,y) is returned in step 8, then y is a vertex on  $C'_i$  on the path from l to  $R(P'_i)$  and hence edge (x,y) is incident on a vertex in  $C'_i$ . In this case the path from edge e to x in  $T'_{st}$  is a path between e and edge (x,y) that avoids all vertices in  $C'_i$ .[]

**Lemma 4.4** Let (B,i) be a bunch of  $P'_i$  and let h be its hook as calculated in Algorithm 4.2. Then h is an attachment edge of the bridge of  $C'_i$  that contains the edges in B.

*Proof* If the hook of B is computed in step 1 of the main program, then the result follows immediately from Lemma 4.3. If the hook of B is computed in step 2 then consider the set X in the function call hook(X,i) in step 2. Each edge e in X is incident on  $L(P'_i)$  and is in the same bridge of  $C'_i$  as an edge of B that is incident on  $L(P'_i)$ . Hence X is a subset of the edges in the bridge of  $C'_i$  that contains B, and the result follows from Lemma 4.3[]

Corollary to Lemma 4.4 Let (B, i) be a nonanchor bunch with hook h. Then h is incident on an internal vertex of  $P'_i$ .

The following two lemmas deal with the hooks of anchor and spanning bunches.

**Lemma 4.5** Let (B,i) be an anchor bunch of  $P'_i$  with hook h. Then either h is incident on a vertex in  $C'_i - P'_i$  or h = (parent(l), l), where l is the lca of the nontree edge of  $P'_i$ .

*Proof* The proof is divided into two cases depending on whether or not B has an edge incident on  $L(P'_i)$ .

CASE 1: B contains no edge incident on  $L(P'_i)$ . Since B is part of an anchor bridge of  $C'_i$  there must be a path p from an edge in B to either an attachment edge on  $C'_i - P'_i$  or a vertex v with v < l or  $v > R(P'_i)$ , with path p avoiding all vertices in  $C'_i$ . Further we can find such a path p with exactly one nontree edge n. The edge n is in out(B) and  $lca(n) < L(P'_i)$ ; further, n is not incident on  $R(P'_i)$ . Hence function hook(B,i) will return either an edge incident on  $C'_i - P'_i$  or the edge (parent(l),l).

CASE 2: B contains an edge incident on  $L(P'_i)$ . In this case the path p of CASE 1 may contain several nontree edges with  $\operatorname{lca} L(P'_i)$  before reaching an attachment edge on  $C'_i - P'_i$  or a vertex v not having a value between l and  $R(P'_i)$ . But the vertices in  $H_w$  corresponding to all of the base edges of the fundamental cycles of these nontree edges will be in a connected component of the graph  $H_w - \{x\}$  (as computed in step a of the main program) that contains a vertex corresponding to an edge in B. Hence all of these nontree edges are included in  $\operatorname{out}(X)$  and hence the argument of CASE 1 applies with B replaced by X.[]

**Lemma 4.6** Let (B,i) be a spanning bunch of  $P'_i$  with hook h. Then h is incident on  $L(P'_i)$  or  $R(P'_i)$ .

Proof By Observation 4.3 B contains an edge e incident on  $L(P'_i)$ . Let e be contained in  $P'_k$ . By the construction of the local replacement graph,  $R(P'_k)$  is not incident on a descendant of an internal vertex of  $P'_i$ . Hence B would be part of an anchor bridge of  $C'_i$  unless  $R(P'_k) = R(P'_i)$ . Hence out(B) contains a nontree edge incident on  $R(P'_i)$ . The lca of this edge equals low(B) since if low(B) is smaller then B would be an anchor bridge. Hence either an edge incident on  $R(P'_i)$  is returned in step 8 on function call hook(B,i) and hook(X,i) or an edge incident on  $L(P'_i)$  is returned in step 6 on function call hook(B,i) and hook(X,i) (this could happen if  $l = L(P'_i)$ ).[]

The following lemma gives bounds on the parallel complexity of Algorithm 4.2.

Lemma 4.7 Algorithm 4.2 can be implemented to run in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.

Proof The low and low 2 values for all edges can be computed optimally in logarithmic time using the Euler tour technique [TV85]. We can also compute with the same bounds a collection Z(e) of two or three edges in out(e) with lca equal to low(e) and such that for any vertex v in  $G_l$  one of these edges is not incident on v (if such a collection of edges exists in out(e)). This computation allows us to find in constant time, an edge in out(e), not incident on  $R(P'_i)$ , and with lca equal to low(e), as needed in step 4 of function hook. Once these values are known for set X, all steps of any single call to function hook(X,i) can be computed in constant time with one processor.

The total size of all of the sets in the function call in step 1 of the main program is linear in the size of  $G_l$ , hence this step can be performed optimally in logarithmic time using the preprocessing described above. However, the total size of all of the sets in the function call in step 2 of

the main program can be superlinear in the size of  $G_l$  since the graph  $H_w$  will be needed in processing the bunches of several different  $P'_l$ . In order to obtain A-optimal performance, we will preprocess by computing the low, low 2 and Z values for each block in each  $H_w$ . As in the proof of Lemma 4.2, the corresponding values for each connected component in  $H_w - \{x\}$  can be computed from a segment of the Euler tour of the block tree of  $H_w$ . In our parallel implementation of Algorithm 4.2 we will pass only the low, low 2 and Z values to function hook rather than the entire set of edges. This results in a parallel algorithm that runs in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.[]

### 4.3. The Bunch Graphs

Let  $Q_i$  be the path  $P'_i$  together with an edge from  $L(P'_i)$  to a new vertex  $U(P'_i)$ . In the following we define for each path  $P'_i$  in  $G_l$  a star graph,  $J_i(Q_i)$ , called the bunch graph of  $P'_i$ . We create a star  $S_B$  for each bunch B of  $P'_i$  by creating a new vertex  $v_B$  and adding attachment edges as follows: we replace each edge (x,y) in B with y not on  $P'_i$  by the edge  $(x,v_B)$ . If B contains an edge (x,y) with both x and y on  $P'_i$  then we replace (x,y) by two edges  $(x,v_B)$  and  $(y,v_B)$ . If B is an anchor bunch we include an attachment edge  $(U(P'_i),v_B)$  to represent the hook. If B is a spanning bunch we include an attachment edge  $(R(P'_i),v_B)$ . The center of star  $S_B$  is  $v_B$  and each edge in  $S_B$  corresponds to an attachment edge of B on a vertex in  $C'_i$ .

The bunch graph  $J_i(Q_i)$  is the star graph consisting of the path  $Q_i$ , together with the star  $S_B$  for each bunch B of  $P'_i$ .

In the next section we will use the interlacing parity graph (defined in Section 2.4) of each  $J_i(Q_i)$ . We will denote this interlacing parity graph by  $G_{i,I}$ . Recall that the graph  $G_{i,I}$  contains vertices for certain chords derived from the stars in  $J_i(Q_i)$  as well as a vertex for each star of  $J_i(Q_i)$ . We will refer to the latter vertices as bunch vertices and we will denote the bunch vertex corresponding to (B,i) by  $u_{B,i}$ .

We now associate a triconnected component of  $G_l$  with each bunch (see Appendix for definitions relating to triconnected components). Recall that by Lemma 2.1 it is possible to rearrange the  $P'_i$  so that the resulting sequence of paths forms an open ear decomposition for  $G_l$ . We assume that the  $P'_i$  have been reordered so that  $[P'_0, \cdots, P'_{r-1}]$  forms an open ear decomposition for  $G_l$ . If  $G_l$  contains no pair a,b separating  $P'_i$  such that the interval [a,b] on  $P'_i$  contains all attachment vertices of B then let v be an attachment of B and let X be the triconnected component of  $G_l$  that contains the copy of v that remains when all upper split graphs corresponding to ear splits on adjacent and extremal separating pairs on  $P'_{j,j} \ge i$  have been removed. If  $G_l$  contains a pair a,b separating  $P'_i$  such that the interval [a,b] on  $P'_i$  contains all attachment vertices of B then let x,y be such an adjacent separating pair whose upper split graph does not contain any other adjacent pair of this form and let X = TC(x,y,i). Then X is the triconnected component of (B,i), or equivalently, (B,i) belongs to triconnected component TC(x,y,i).

The following lemma follows from the results of [MR87, Ra90] relating separating pairs on  $P'_{i}$  to the interlacings of stars in the bridge graph of  $P'_{i}$ .

#### Lemma 4.8

- a) Let X be a connected component of  $G_{i,l}$  that contains no bunch vertex corresponding to an anchor bunch and let Y be the triconnected component of a bunch whose bunch vertex is in X. Then Y is the triconnected component of a bunch (B,i) if and only if the bunch vertex  $u_{B,i}$  is in X.
- All bunches corresponding to bunch vertices in connected components of  $G_{i,I}$  that contain an anchor bunch belong to a single triconnected component of  $G_I$ , and this triconnected component is not part of the upper split graph of any ear split corresponding to a pair separating  $P'_{i}$ .

### 5. The Constraint Graph

In this section we define the constraint graph  $G^*$  of  $G_l$ .  $G^*$  consists of two parts. One part consists of the union over all i of the interlacing parity graph,  $G_{i,l}$ , of the bunch graph  $J_i(Q_i)$ . The other part of  $G^*$  consists of certain edges linking the  $G_{i,l}$ , incorporating some additional dummy vertices as described below. The link edges are determined by the hooks of anchor bunches that we computed in Algorithm 4.2. In Section 6 we relate 2-colorings of  $G^*$  to planar embeddings of  $G_l$ .

## Algorithm 5.1: Forming the Links of the Constraint Graph

A biconnected graph G with an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}];$ 

### Input:

```
the local replacement graph G_l of (G;D) together with G'_{sl} and T'_{sl}; the bunches of each P'_l in G_l; a hook for each anchor bunch; the interlacing parity graph G_{i,l} for each bunch graph J_i(Q_i).

Output: The constraint graph G^* of G_l.

integer i, j, k, m; {{The range of the integers is from 0 to r-1.}} vertex l, p, q, w, x, y, z; edge e, f, h, n; bunch (A, j), (B, i);

procedure odd (bunch (B, i), (A, j));

vertex u_{B,i}, u_{A,j};

create an edge between the bunch vertex u_{B,i} in G_{i,l} and the bunch vertex u_{A,j} in G_{j,l}
{{We will refer to this edge as the link path between the vertices u_{B,i} and u_{A,j}.}}
```

```
end odd;
procedure even (bunch (B,i),(A,j));
      vertex v, u_{B,i}, u_{A,j};
      create a vertex v; {{We will refer to v as a dummy vertex.}}
      create an edge between the vertex v and the bunch vertex u_{B,i} in G_{i,I};
      create an edge between the vertex v and the bunch vertex u_{A,j} in G_{j,J}
      {{We shall refer to the path of length 2 formed by the two newly-created edges as the
      link path between the vertices u_{B,i} and u_{A,j}.
end even;
{{Main program}}
for each anchor bunch B of each P'_i in parallel \rightarrow
      let n = (p,q) be the unique nontree edge in P'_i with q = R(P'_i);
      let lca(n)=l;
      let h be the base edge of C'_i that lies on the path from l to q and let e be the other
       base edge of C'_i;
      let hook(B) be f = (x,y);
     if f = (parent(l), l) \rightarrow
             let ear(h)=j;
             A := the set of edges in the bunch of P'_{j} that contains edge e;
             {{Note that e must be contained in a bunch of P'_{j} even if L(P'_{j}) = l because of
             the presence of nontree edge n whose fundamental cycle contains e and h as its
             base edges.)
             even((B,i),(A,j))
       | f is an edge incident on a proper ancestor y of L(P'_i) \rightarrow
 2.
             let w be the unique child of y on the tree path from l to L(P'_i); let (y, w) be an
             edge in P'_i;
             A := the set of edges in the bunch of P'_j that contains edge f;
             even((B,i),(A,j))
        | f | is incident on a vertex y in the path from l to q \rightarrow
 3.
             let z be parent(y) in T'_{st} and let w be the unique child of y on the tree path
              from l to q;
             let (y,z) be contained in P'_{j}, let (w,y) be contained in P'_{k}, let (x,y) be con-
              tained in P'_m;
```

```
a. if m \neq j \rightarrow
A := \text{the set of edges in the bunch of } P'_j \text{ that contains edge } f;
odd((B,i),(A,j))
b. |m=j \rightarrow
A := \text{the set of edges in the bunch of } P'_j \text{ that contains edge } (w,y);
even((B,i),(A,j))
fi
fi
fi
rof
end.
```

Lemma 5.1 Algorithm 5.1 can be implemented to run optimally in logarithmic time.

### Proof Straightforward.[]

We now relate the link paths created in Algorithm 5.1 to a planar embedding of  $G_l$ . We first review some definitions. Let  $G_d$  be the directed graph obtained from the local replacement graph  $G_l$  by replacing each (undirected) edge (u,v) in  $G_l$  by two directed edges (u,v) and (v,u). Let  $I(G_d)$  be a cyclic ordering of the edges outgoing from each vertex in  $G_d$  corresponding to a planar embedding of  $G_l$ . Given a directed path  $P'_i = \langle v_0, v_1, \cdots, v_b \rangle$  in  $G'_{st}$ , and an attachment edge  $(v_i,x)$  where x is not in  $P'_i$  but  $v_i$  is an internal vertex on  $P'_i$ , recall that in Section 2.2 we defined  $(v_i,x)$  to be embedded inside  $P'_i$  (and otherwise outside  $P'_i$ ) if, in the cyclic order defined by  $I(G_d)$  on the edges outgoing from vertex  $v_i$ , edge  $(v_i,x)$  appears after edge  $(v_i,v_{i+1})$  and before edge  $(v_i,v_{i-1})$ . Thus  $(v_i,x)$  is defined to be embedded inside  $P'_i$  if and only if  $(v_i,x)$  is embedded inside the basis cycle  $C'_i$ .

The link paths introduced in Algorithm 5.1 are either of length 1 or length 2. The length of a link path is determined by the relative placements of the two bunches it connects with respect to their fundamental cycles in a planar embedding of  $G_l$  as described in the following lemma.

**Lemma 5.2** Let (A,j) and (B,i) be a pair of bunches in  $G_l$  whose corresponding vertices u and v in  $G^*$  are connected by a link path p in  $G^*$ .

If  $G_l$  is planar and  $\hat{G}_l$  is a planar embedding of  $G_l$  with edge (s,t) on the outer face then

- a) If  $p = \langle u, v \rangle$  then in  $\hat{G}_l$  the edges in bunch A are embedded inside  $C'_j$  if and only if the edges in bunch B are embedded outside  $C'_i$ .
- b) If  $p = \langle u, d, v \rangle$  where d is a dummy vertex created by procedure even, then in  $\hat{G}_l$  the edges in bunch A are embedded inside  $C'_j$  if and only if the edges in bunch B are embedded inside  $C'_i$ .

*Proof* The path p must have been introduced in step 1, 2, a or b of Algorithm 5.1. These four cases are shown in figure 3. We verify the lemma only for step a (the other steps are easier to verify).

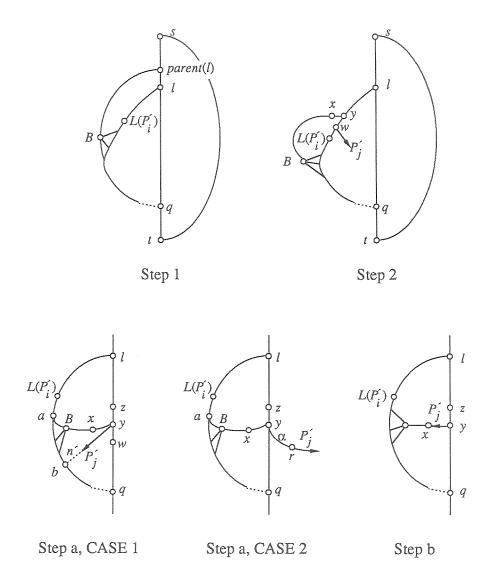


Figure 3 Illustrating the four cases in the proof of Lemma 5.2.

Let p be introduced in step a of Algorithm 5.1. Let n' be the nontree edge in  $C'_j$ . Let p' be the path in  $T'_{st}$  from s to x and let a be the last vertex on p' that is a descendant of  $L(P'_i)$ .

CASE 1: n' is incident on a descendant b of  $L(P'_i)$ . Since  $G'_{st}$  is acyclic, the vertex b must be a proper descendant of a. Let B' be the bridge of  $C'_j$  that contains edge (x,y) and let X be the bridge of  $C'_j$  that contains edge (s,t). The bridges B' and X interlace since B' has attachments on a and b and b. The bridge b' contains the edge (y,w).

Assume that bridge B' is embedded inside  $C'_j$  (as shown in the figure). Hence edge (y,w) is embedded outside  $C'_j$ . Hence edge (x,y) is embedded inside the path from l to q in  $T'_{st}$ . However, in  $C'_i$ , this path is traversed in the direction from q to l. Edge (x,y) is embedded outside the path from q to l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and l and hence the bunch l is embedded outside l and l

that if B' is embedded outside  $C'_i$  then the bridge containing (x,y) is embedded inside  $C'_i$ .

CASE 2: n' is not incident on a descendant of  $L(P'_i)$ . The edge n' cannot be incident on an ancestor of  $L(P'_i)$  since  $G'_{st}$  is acyclic. Let  $\alpha=(y,r)$  be the edge following edge (z,y) on  $P'_j$ . Let X be the bridge of  $C'_i$  that contains edge (x,y) and let Y be the bridge of  $C'_i$  that contains edge  $\alpha$ . The bridges X and Y interlace on  $C'_i$ . This is because X has attachments on X and X has attachment on X and X has attachment on X and X has attachment on X are X by the X numbering property.

In  $C'_i$  the path between l and q is directed from q to l. In  $C'_j$  the path between l and r is directed from l to r. Without loss of generality assume that X is embedded outside  $C'_i$  (as shown in the figure). Then Y is embedded inside  $C'_i$ . Hence edge (x,y) is embedded outside the path from l to r, i.e., inside the path from r to l. Thus the bridge of  $C'_j$  that contains edge (x,y) is embedded inside  $C'_i$  if (x,y) is embedded outside  $C'_i$ .[]

### 6. Planar Embeddings via 2-Colorings

In this section we correlate 2-colorings of the constraint graph  $G^*$  with planar embeddings of  $G_l$ . A 2-coloring of  $G^*$  assigns to each vertex a value (or *color*) in  $\{0,1\}$  such that no two adjacent vertices are assigned the same color. This can be done A-optimally in logarithmic time by a simple algorithm (see , e.g., [Ra90]).

**Observation 6.1** Let  $G_l$  be planar. In any planar embedding of  $G_l$  the edges in a bunch (B,i) are either all embedded inside  $P'_i$  or all embedded outside  $P'_i$ .

*Proof* The edges in B are a subset of a bridge of the cycle  $C'_i$ . Hence all edges in B must be embedded on one side of  $C'_i$ , and thus on one side of  $P'_i$ .[]

We now relate 2-colorings of the constraint graph  $G^*$  to planar embeddings of  $G_l$ .

Lemma 6.1 Let  $G_l$  be planar and let  $\hat{G}_l$  be a planar embedding of  $G_l$  with edge (s,t) on the outer face. Then any 2-coloring of  $G^*$  that assigns a bunch vertex  $u_{B,i}$  the color 0 if and only if the corresponding bunch (B,i) was embedded inside  $P'_i$  in  $\hat{G}_l$  can be extended into a valid 2-coloring of  $G^*$ .

*Proof* By the results in [Ra90] we know that the two coloring can be extended to a valid two coloring for the graph  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{r-1} G_{i,I}$ . So we only need to verify that the coloring can be extended to the dummy vertices and that the link edges do not destroy the validity of the two-coloring. The result follows from Lemma 5.2 since the link edges only connect bunch vertices and dummy vertices and they force a pair of bunch vertices to be given the same color if and only if the corresponding bunches have to be embedded on the same side of their fundamental cycles.[]

**Lemma 6.2** A pair of bunch vertices  $u_{A,i}$  and  $u_{B,j}$  lie in the same connected component of  $G^*$  if and only if bunches (A,i) and (B,j) belong to the same triconnected component of  $G_l$ .

*Proof* The proof is by induction on i and is applied to the bunches corresponding to the bunch vertices in the subgraph  $D_i$  of  $G^*$  induced on  $\bigcup_{i \in I} G_{j,I} \bigcup$  {dummy vertices linking bunch vert

tices  $u_{X,k}$ ,  $u_{Y,l}$ ,  $k < l \le i$  }.

BASE:  $D_1 = G_{1,I}$ . By Lemma 4.8, the bunch vertices in  $D_1$  satisfy the statement of the lemma, since  $P'_1$  has no anchor bunches.

INDUCTION STEP: Assume that the result is true until i-1 and consider  $D_i$ .  $D_i$  is  $D_{i-1}$  together with  $G_{i,l}$  and the link paths connecting vertices in  $G_{i,l}$  to vertices in  $D_{i-1}$ . By construction the vertices corresponding to each anchor bunch incident on  $P'_i$  are connected to  $D_{i-1}$  by the link edges. By Lemma 4.8, if the connected components in  $G_{i,l}$  that contain a bunch vertex corresponding to an anchor bunch are connected to one another then a pair of bunches (A,i) and (B,i) are in the same connected component of  $G^*$  if and only if the bunches belong to the same triconnected component of  $G_l$ . This verifies the induction step for bunches of  $P'_i$ .

To establish the induction step for bunches in  $P'_j$ , j < i, we need to verify the lemma for pairs of bunches (A,i) and (B,j), j < i, whose bunch vertices are connected by a link path. Let (A,i) be an anchor bunch of  $P'_i$  and let  $u_{A,i}$  be connected to  $u_{B,j}$ , j < i by a link path in  $G^*$ . Let x be an attachment vertex of bunch (A,i) on  $P'_i$  and let y be an attachment vertex of bunch (B,j) on  $P'_j$ . To show that (A,i) and (B,j) belong to the same triconnected component it suffices to show that there are 3 vertex-disjoint paths between x and y in  $G_l$ . For this we note that x and y are vertices on the fundamental cycle  $C'_i$ . This gives two vertex-disjoint paths between x and y on  $C'_i$ . Further by Lemma 4.4 x and y are attachments of the bridge X of  $C'_i$  that contains the edges in A. This provides the third vertex-disjoint path between x and y.

This concludes the induction step and the lemma is proved.[]

We now state and prove the main result of this section.

**Theorem 6.1** Let  $G_l$  be biconnected and planar and let X be a 2-coloring of  $G^*$ . Then there exists a planar embedding of  $G_l$  with the edge (s,t) on the outside face that embeds a bunch (B,i) inside  $P'_i$  if and only if the bunch vertex  $u_{B,i}$  in  $G^*$  is colored 0.

*Proof* The proof is by induction on the number of triconnected components in  $G_l$ .

BASE:  $G_l$  is triconnected. Then by Lemma 6.2  $G^*$  is connected. Hence  $G^*$  has exactly two different 2-colorings, and each can be obtained from the other by interchanging zeros and ones. By Lemma 6.1 these two colorings must correspond to the two possible embeddings of  $G_l$  with (s,t) on the outer face.

INDUCTION STEP: Assume the lemma is true for up to k-1 triconnected components and let  $G_l$  have k triconnected components. Assume without loss of generality that the indices of the  $P'_i$  have been permuted so that  $D = [P'_0, \cdots, P'_{r-1}]$  forms an open ear decomposition for  $G_l$  (such a rearrangement was shown to exist in Lemma 2.1). Let x,y be a nontrivial adjacent pair separating  $P'_i$  and let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be the upper and lower split graphs obtained by the ear split (x,y,i). The open ear decomposition D induces an open ear decomposition  $D_1$  in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , with the newly-introduced edge (x,y,i) serving as the initial ear in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  in  $G_3$ , with nected component of  $G_1$  is contained entirely within one of  $G_1$  or  $G_2$ , hence the connected components of  $G_1$  can be partitioned between  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . Further, each of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  contains at

most k-1 triconnected components, hence the induction hypothesis applies to both of them.

Let  $\hat{G}_1$  and  $\hat{G}_2$  be planar embeddings of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  respectively, that are induced by the 2-coloring X. We only need to verify that these two embeddings can be combined into a planar embedding for G. In  $G_1$  the embeddings for  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  interact only on  $P'_i$ . However none of the bunches of  $P'_i$  in  $G_2$  interlace with any of the bunches of  $P'_i$  in  $G_1$  [MR87, Ra90]. Also, since X and X serve the place of X and X and X on the outer face. Hence  $\hat{G}_1$  can be combined with  $\hat{G}_2$  at X and X to form a planar embedding for  $G_1$ .[]

# 7. The Combinatorial Embedding

By Theorem 6.1 we can determine for each  $P'_i$ , the set of bunches that are embedded inside  $P'_i$  and the set that is embedded outside  $P'_i$ . In this section we show how to determine the relative ordering of the edges incident on a vertex in  $P'_i$  that are assigned to one side of  $P'_i$ . In Section 7.1 we describe this procedure for the local replacement graph  $G_l$ . In Section 7.2 we map this ordering back to the input graph G.

# 7.1. The Combinatorial Embedding of the Local Replacement Graph

In order to obtain a combinatorial embedding of  $G_l$  we need to obtain for each vertex v in  $G_l$ , the cyclic ordering of the edges incident on v in a planar embedding of  $G_l$ . In Section 6 we obtained some coarse information on this cyclic ordering, i.e., for each vertex v in  $P'_i$  we partitioned the set of edges incident on v (other than the two edges in  $P'_i$  that are incident on v) into two classes, those that are embedded inside  $P'_i$  and those that are embedded outside  $P'_i$ . In this section we obtain the cyclic ordering for each of these two sets. Since the procedure is identical for each of these two sets we describe only the procedure for the edges embedded inside  $P'_i$ .

A segment of a cycle C in a graph G is a connected subgraph of a bridge of C. Two segments of C are disjoint if their nonattachment vertex sets are disjoint. For instance, each bunch (B,i) is a segment of  $C'_i$  and two bunches (B,i) and (B',i) with  $B \neq B'$  are disjoint. We will work with segments in this section, and the following observation and its corollary will be used.

**Observation 7.1** If two disjoint segments of a cycle C in a graph G interlace then they must be placed on opposite sides of C in any planar embedding of G.

Corollary to Observation 7.1 If two disjoint segments of C that are derived from the same bridge of C interlace then G is nonplanar.

In the following we will assume, as before, that the vertices of  $G_l$ ,  $G'_{st}$ , and  $T'_{st}$  are numbered with their st-numbering. Given an edge e=(u,v) with u>v, the vertex u will be called the high endpoint of e and the vertex v will be called the low endpoint of e.

Observation 7.2 Let n=(x,y) be a nontree edge in  $G'_{st}$  with respect to the tree  $T'_{st}$ . Let x>y. Then x is the largest-numbered vertex in the fundamental cycle of n.

Let v be an internal vertex on  $P'_i$  and let F be the set of edges incident on v that are embedded inside  $P'_i$ . Let  $F = F_1 \cup F_2$  where  $F_1$  is the set of edges in F that lie in the tree  $T'_{st}$  and  $F_2$  is the set of remaining edges in F. We first obtain the cyclic ordering of edges in  $F_1$  (for

all vertices v) and then find the cyclic ordering of edges in  $F_2$ . The following lemma shows that all edges in  $F_1$  must appear before any edge in  $F_2$  in a cyclic ordering corresponding to a planar embedding of  $G_l$ . Hence we can concatenate the cyclic ordering of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  to obtain the cyclic ordering of F.

Lemma 7.1 Let v be an internal vertex of  $P'_i$  in the local replacement graph  $G_l$ . Let e and e' be edges incident on v that are embedded inside  $P'_i$  in a planar embedding of  $G_l$  with e an edge in  $T'_{st}$  and e' a nontree edge. Let f be the unique incoming edge to v and g the unique outgoing edge from v in  $G'_{st}$  that are contained in  $P'_i$ . Then edge e appears before edge e' in the cyclic ordering of edges incident on v, starting with edge g.

*Proof* Let e be contained in  $P'_j$  and let n = (u, w) be the nontree edge in  $P'_j$ . Let w > u. By Observation 7.2 the vertex w is the largest-numbered vertex in the fundamental cycle  $C'_j$ . Hence there is a path p from w to t that avoids all other vertices on  $C'_j$  including vertex v.

Let C be the cycle in  $G_l$  consisting of the path in  $T'_{st}$  from s to v, followed by the path q in  $C'_j$  from v to w that contains edge e, followed by the path p, followed by edge (t,s). Let this cycle have the direction of edge f (which is the same as that of edge e). Edge g is embedded outside C since e is embedded inside  $C'_i$ .

Let g = (v, y). There is a path from y to t that contains vertices in increasing order of their st-numbering. Hence the bridge B of C containing edge g must have an attachment on a vertex  $x \neq v$  that lies on path q or path p. Now consider the bridge B' of C that contains edge e'. Let m be the base edge of the fundamental cycle of e' not lying on C. The edge m is an attachment edge of B' and the attachment vertex, which is lca(e'), does not lie on either path p or path q since lca(e') is a proper ancestor of v. If B' is embedded outside C then it must appear before g in the cyclic ordering starting with f. This is not possible since this would cause e' to be embedded outside  $C'_i$ . Hence e' is embedded inside C which means that e appears before e' in the cyclic ordering of edges incident on v, starting with edge g. []

We now describe how to obtain the cyclic ordering of the tree edges that are attachment edges on an internal vertex v in  $P'_i$ . We will compute this ordering in two phases. The first phase makes use of the following lemma.

Lemma 7.2 Let v be an internal vertex on the path  $P'_i$ . Let  $H_v$  be the graph obtained for vertex v using the function call  $auxgraphs(G_l, T'_{st})$  (from section 2.5). Let  $X_l$ , l=0 to k be the connected components of  $F=H_v-\{z\}$ , where z is the vertex in  $H_v$  representing the unique outgoing edge from v that is contained in  $P'_i$ . Let  $S_l$  be the simple graph obtained from  $X_l$ , for each l, by deleting multiple edges. Then each  $S_l$  is a simple noncyclic path.

Proof Let z' be a vertex in  $S_l$  whose corresponding edge in  $G_l$  is e'. Let (z',z'') be an edge in  $S_l$  with e'' being the edge in  $G_l$  corresponding to z'' and let n be a nontree edge in  $G_l$  that caused edge (z',z'') to be placed in  $H_v$ . Let e' be contained in  $P'_j$  and let (u,w) be the nontree edge in  $P'_j$  with w>u; by Observation 7.2 w is the largest-numbered vertex on  $C'_j$ . By the construction of  $G_l$  the fundamental cycle  $C'_j$  does not not contain e''.

Now consider the bridge B of  $C'_j$  that contains the attachment edge e''. The fundamental cycle of n will contribute an attachment edge for B on  $C'_j$  on a vertex x where  $x \neq v$  and  $x \neq w$ . Further, if e'' is on  $P'_k$  then the fundamental cycle  $C'_k$  will contribute an attachment edge for B either on vertex w on  $C'_j$  or on a proper ancestor of v on  $C'_j$ . This results in a segment S of B that has 3 or more attachments on  $C'_j$ .

We have shown above that each edge (z',z'') in  $H_v$  results in a segment of  $C'_j$  that contains at least 3 attachments. The segments corresponding to different z'' are disoint. Any two segments with 3 attachments interlace on a cycle, and hence must be placed on opposite sides of the cycle in a planar embedding by Observation 7.1. Hence z' can have at most two neighbors in  $H_v - \{z\}$ . Hence each connected component of F must be a simple path. Finally, all of the edges in a connected component of V must be placed on the same side (either inside or outside) of  $C'_i$ . Hence no connected component of F is a simple cycle.[]

Lemma 7.3 Let X be a connected component of the graph  $F=H_v-\{z\}$ , as defined in the statement of Lemma 7.2 and let X be the path  $\langle x_0, \cdots, x_k \rangle$ . Let the edge in  $G_l$  corresponding to  $x_l$  be  $e_l$ . Then in any planar embedding of  $G_l$  the cyclic ordering of the edges incident on v will contain the  $e_l$  as consecutive edges in order from  $e_0$  to  $e_k$  or from  $e_k$  to  $e_0$ .

Proof Let v be an internal vertex of  $P'_i$  and let  $e_l$  be contained in  $P'_j$ . Then by the construction of the local replacement graph, the nontree edge in  $P'_j$  is not incident on a descendant of an internal vertex of  $P'_q$ , for any  $P'_q$  that contains one of the  $e_r$ . Hence the edges  $e_0$  to  $e_{l-1}$  appear in one bridge of  $C'_j$  and the edges  $e_{l+1}$  to  $e_k$  appear in another bridge. This holds for each  $e_l$ , l=0 to k. Hence in any planar embedding of  $G_l$  the edges  $e_0$  to  $e_k$  appear in that order in the cyclic order of edges outgoing from v.

We now show that the  $e_l$  must occur as consecutive edges in the cyclic order. Let e be an outgoing edge from vertex v other than the  $e_l$ , and let e be contained in  $P'_m$ . Since  $R(P'_m)$  is not incident on a descendant of an internal vertex of  $P'_q$ , for any  $P'_q$  that contains one of the  $e_l$ , all of the  $e_l$  are in a single bridge of  $C'_m$ . Hence they must all appear on one side of  $C'_m$ , i.e., the edge e cannot appear between the  $e_l$  in the cyclic ordering.[]

We will call each set of edges in  $G_l$  corresponding to vertices in a connected component of F (as defined in the statement of Lemma 7.2) a tuft of vertex v. In phase 2 of the algorithm to find the cyclic ordering of tree edges outgoing from v we determine the ordering of the tufts that are embedded inside  $P'_i$ . To do this, we determine, for each tuft S of v, an edge n in out(S) with lca(n) < v and we embed the tufts in decreasing order of the high endpoint of this edge. The following lemma shows that if the high endpoints of the edges chosen for different tufts are all distinct this will give us the correct ordering of the tufts.

Lemma 7.4 Let e', e'' be two tree edges outgoing from v that are embedded inside  $C'_i$ . Let  $n' \in out(e')$  and  $n'' \in out(e'')$  with lca(n') < v and lca(n'') < v and let u' and u'' be the high endpoints of n' and n'' respectively. If u' > u'' then e' is embedded before e'' in the cyclic ordering starting with g, the unique outgoing edge from v that lies on  $P'_i$ .

Proof Let C'' be the fundamental cycle of n''. The edge g is embedded outside C'' since e'' is embedded inside  $C'_i$ . Since lca(n'') < v, the vertex t is in the same bridge of C'' as edge g and hence t is embedded outside C''. By Observation 7.2 u'' is the highest-numbered vertex in C'' and hence by the st-numbering property any vertex t with t0 must be in the same bridge of t1 as vertex t2. Hence vertex t2 and edge t3 are embedded outside the cycle t3 in the planar embedding, i.e., edge t4 is embedded before t7 in the cyclic ordering starting at edge t8.

In order to handle the case when the chosen edges for different tufts have the same high endpoint we choose two different nontree edges for each tuft. These edges are chosen by a strategy somewhat similar to the one used to find hooks for the bunches. We first present some definitions. These definitions are similar to the definitions of *low* and *low* 2 given in Section 4.2, except that we now distinguish between outgoing nontree edges and incoming nontree edges.

Let the vertices of  $T'_{st}$  be numbered in st-numbering. For each edge e = (parent(v), v) in  $T'_{st}$ , a.out(e) is the set of nontree edges that are outgoing from a descendant of v and b.out(e) is the set of nontree edges that are incoming to a descendant of v; note that a.out(e) and b.out(e) are disjoint and out(e) as defined in Section 4.2 is  $a.out(e) \cup b.out(e)$ . We define a.low(e) to be  $\min_{n \in a.out(e)} lca(n)$  and b.low(e) to be  $\min_{n \in b.out(e)} lca(n)$ .

Let  $a.S = \{n \mid n \in a.out(e) \text{ and } lca(n) \neq a.low(e)\}$ . Then we define a.low2(e) to be  $min(v, \min_{n \in a.S} lca(n))$ .

Let X be a set of edges in  $T'_{st}$ . Then, we define

```
a.out(X) = \bigcup_{e \in X} a.out(e);
b.out(X) = \bigcup_{e \in X} b.out(e);
a.low(X) = \min_{e \in X} a.low(e);
b.low(X) = \min_{e \in X} b.low(e); \text{ and}
Let \ a.l \ 1(X) = \min_{e \in X} b.low(e) \neq a.low(e) \neq a.low(X) 
(a.low(e)) \text{ and } a.lo(X) = \min_{e \in X} a.low(2(e)).
Then \ a.low(2(X)) = \min(a.l(X), a.l(X)).
```

In the following algorithm we find for each tuft S of v, two vertices big(S) and nextbig(S) which are high endpoints of edges in out(S). We use these to compute the cyclic ordering of the tufts of each vertex.

### Algorithm 7.1: Finding the Cyclic Ordering for the Tufts

Input Graphs  $G_l$ , tree  $T'_{sl}$ , and the tufts for each vertex.

Output For each vertex v, the cyclic ordering of its tufts that are embedded inside the fundamental cycle of the path  $P'_i$  that contains v as an internal vertex (vertices s and t are assumed to be internal vertices of  $P'_0$ ).

```
vertex u, u', v; edge n, n'; tuft S;
```

1. for each tuft S of each vertex v in parallel  $\rightarrow$ 

```
big(S) :=  the high endpoint u of an edge n in a.out(S) with lca(n) = a.low(S); nextbig(S) := v; if there is an edge n' in a.out(S) with lca(n) = a.low(S) and with high endpoint u' \neq u \rightarrow nextbig(S) := u' | a.low(S) < v \rightarrow nextbig(S) :=  the high endpoint of an edge in a.out(S) with lca(n') = a.low(S) | b.low(S) < v \rightarrow nextbig(S) :=  the high endpoint of an edge n' in b.out(S) with lca(n') = b.low(S) fi; pair(S) := (big(S), nextbig(S))
```

2. for each vertex v in parallel  $\rightarrow$ 

sort the tufts of v embedded inside the path containing v as an internal vertex in lexicographically nonincreasing value of their pairs;

output the tufts in the order computed by the sort

rof

rof

end.

Lemma 7.5 If  $G_l$  is planar then Algorithm 7.1 finds a cyclic ordering of the tufts corresponding to a planar embedding of  $G_l$ .

*Proof* If the pairs sorted in step 2 of Algorithm 7.1 are distinct then by Lemma 7.4 this cyclic ordering corresponds to a planar embedding of  $G_l$ . Otherwise, let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be two tufts with  $pair(S_1) = pair(S_2)$ . Let  $pair(S_1) = (a,b)$ . If  $b \neq v$  then by Lemma 7.4  $S_1$  must be embedded before  $S_2$  since a > b; also  $S_1$  must be embedded after  $S_2$  since b < a. Hence no planar embedding is possible if  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are to be embedded on the same side of  $P'_i$  (where  $P'_i$  is the path that contains v as an internal vertex). If b = v then by the computation in the for loop of step 1, every nontree edge in  $out(S_1)$  and  $out(S_2)$  is incident on a or has lea greater than v. In this case the pair (a,v) is a separating pair for  $G_l$  and  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  can appear in either order in a planar embedding of  $G_l$ .[]

Lemma 7.6 Algorithm 7.1 can be implemented to run in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.

*Proof* The only nontrivial computation in Algorithm 7.1 is the computation of tree functions that can be computed using the Euler tour technique, Ica computation and bucket sort. Hence the

algorithm runs in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.[]

Algorithm 7.1, together with the ordering of edges within each tuft, gives the cyclic ordering of tree edges outgoing at each vertex. We number these tree edges in cyclic order as  $0,-1,-2,\cdots$ ; let this be the *cyclic tree number* of the edge. To find the cyclic ordering of the incoming nontree edges at each vertex, we assign each tree edge (x,y) that is outgoing from x, for each vertex x, the ordered pair (x,c), where c is the cyclic tree number of the edge. For each nontree edge incoming to a vertex v, we consider the base edge of the fundamental cycle of each such nontree edge that lies on the path from the lca to the low endpoint, and we embed nontree edges incoming to v in reverse order of the ordered pairs of these base edges. It is easy to see that this gives a cyclic ordering for the nontree edges corresponding to a planar embedding of  $G_l$  consistent with the ordering obtained for the tree edges.

### 7.2. The Combinatorial Embedding of the Input Graph

In this section we show that we can work with  $G_l$  in order to obtain a planar embedding of G.

### **Lemma 7.7** G is planar if and only if $G_l$ is planar.

*Proof* If  $G_l$  is planar then clearly G is planar. For the reverse, let  $C_i$  be the fundamental cycle in G of the nontree edge in ear  $P_i$  with respect to tree  $T_{st}$  and let  $C'_i$  be its image in  $G_l$ . Let  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  be the bridges of  $C_i$  in G and let  $B'_1, \dots, B'_k$  be the bridges of  $C'_i$  in  $G_l$ . By the results in Section 4.1.3 in [Ra90] there is a 1-1 correspondence between the  $B_j$  and the  $B'_j$  such that an edge e in  $G - C_i$  is in  $B_j$  if and only if e is in the bridge corresponding to it in  $G_l - C'_i$ . (The results in Section 4.1.3 of [Ra90] are for bridges of  $P_i$ ; however it is straightforward to extend them to bridges of  $C_i$ .)

Let G be planar and let  $\hat{G}$  be a planar embedding of G. Let  $\hat{C_i}$  be the embedding of  $C_i$ . Replace each vertex v on  $C_i$  by its image in  $T_v$ , together with its parent and children (if any) in  $T_v$ . The embedding  $\hat{G}$  can be extended to a planar embedding in this new graph. This can be established by virtue of the correspondence between the bridges of  $C_i$  in G and those of  $C'_i$  in  $G_l$  and by using the properties of the local replacement graph; we omit the details. We now find a fundamental cycle inside  $C_i$  (similarly outside  $C_i$ ) that intersects  $C_i$  and repeat this construction. Since planarity is preserved, we can continue to repeat this construction until we have exhausted all fundamental cycles at which point we obtain a planar embedding of  $G_l$ .[]

#### 8. The Complete Algorithm and Its Complexity

We now present the complete algorithm for obtaining a planar embedding of a graph on n vertices if one exists.

### Algorithm 8.1: Planarity Algorithm

**Input:** A biconnected graph G = (V, E).

Output: A combinatorial embedding of G if G is planar.

```
vertex s, t, v;
```

integer i; {{The range of this integer is from 0 to r-1.}}

if  $|E| > 3 \cdot |V| \rightarrow \text{report } G$  is nonplanar and halt fi;

- 1. fix an edge (s,t) in the graph; find an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}]$  starting with (s,t); construct the directed st-numbering graph  $G'_{st}$ , its spanning tree  $T'_{st}$ , and the associated paths  $P'_0, P'_1, \dots, P'_{r-1}$ ;
- 2. find the bunches of each  $P'_i$  together with the hooks for the anchor bunches;
- 3. construct the constraint graph  $G^*$  by forming the interlacing parity graph for each bunch graph and adding in the link edges;

if  $G^*$  is not 2-colorable  $\rightarrow$  report G is nonplanar and halt fi;

4. find a 2-coloring of  $G^*$ ;

for each  $P'_i$  in parallel  $\rightarrow$ 

- 5. assign all bunches whose corresponding vertices on  $G^*$  were given color 0 in  $G^*$  inside  $P'_i$  and the remaining bunches outside  $P'_i$
- 6. find the cyclic ordering of the edges assigned to each side of  $P'_i$  and consequently the ordering of edges around each vertex

rof;

- 7. compute the number of faces in this combinatorial embedding and verify Euler's formula to determine if G is planar;
- 8. if  $G_l$  is planar  $\rightarrow$  collapse all vertices in  $T_v$  into a single vertex v for each v to obtain a combinatorial embedding of G

 $\mid G_l \text{ is nonplanar} \rightarrow \text{report } G \text{ is nonplanar}$ 

fi

end.

Step 1 is described in Section 2, step 2 in Section 4, step 3 in Section 5 and step 6 in Section 7. Steps 4 and 5 have easy optimal logarithmic time parallel algorithms and steps 7 and 8 can be computed with similar bounds using the Euler tour technique [TV84, CV86, KD88]. This gives us the main theorem of the paper.

**Theorem 8.1** The planarity problem can be solved on a CRCW PRAM in logarithmic time with A-optimal performance.

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#### **APPENDIX**

#### **Basic Definitions**

A graph (or undirected graph) G=(V,E) consists of a vertex set V and an edge set E containing unordered pairs of distinct elements from V. An edge (u,v) is incident on vertices u and v are adjacent in G if G contains edge (u,v). The degree of a vertex is the number of edges incident on the vertex.

A directed graph G = (V, E) consists of a vertex set V and an edge set E containing ordered pairs of elements from V. An edge (u, v) in a directed graph is directed from u to v and is outgoing from u and incoming to v.

A multigraph G=(V,E) is an undirected graph in which there can be several edges between the same pair of vertices, as well as self-loop edges of the form  $(v,v),v\in V$ . An edge e in a multigraph may be denoted by (a,b,i) to distinguish it from other edges between a and b; in such cases the third entry in the triplet may be omitted for one of the edges between a and b.

A path P in G is a sequence of vertices  $\langle v_0, \cdots, v_k \rangle$  such that  $(v_{i-1}, v_i) \in E, i=1, \cdots, k; P$  is directed or undirected depending on whether G is directed or undirected. The path P contains the vertices  $v_0, \cdots, v_k$  and the edges  $(v_0, v_1), \cdots, (v_{k-1}, v_k)$  and has endpoints  $v_0, v_k$ , and internal vertices  $v_1, \cdots, v_{k-1}$ . The path P is a simple path if  $v_0, \cdots, v_{k-1}$  are distinct and  $v_1, \cdots, v_k$  are distinct, and all edges on P are distinct. A simple path  $P = \langle v_0, \cdots, v_k \rangle$  is a simple cycle if  $v_0 = v_k$ ; otherwise P is noncyclic. The path  $\langle v \rangle$  is a trivial path with no edges. If  $P = \langle v_0, \cdots, v_k \rangle$  is a noncyclic path, the innard of P is the path  $\langle v_1, \cdots, v_{k-1} \rangle$ , i.e., the path obtained from P by deleting the first and last vertices.

A graph G' = (V', E') is a subgraph of a graph G = (V, E) if  $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$ . The subgraph of G induced by V' is the graph H = (V', F) where  $F = \{(u, v) \in E \mid u, v \in V'\}$ .

An undirected graph G = (V, E) is connected if there exists a path between every pair of vertices in V. A connected component of a graph G is a maximal induced subgraph of G which is connected.

Let G=(V,E) and H=(W,F) be a pair of graphs. The graph  $G \cup H$  is the graph  $G'=(V \cup W,E \cup F)$ . If  $W \subseteq V$  then the graph G-H is the graph H'=(V,E-F).

A tree is a connected graph containing no cycle. A leaf in a tree is a vertex of degree 1. Let T=(V,E) be a tree and let  $r\in V$ . The out-tree T rooted at r (or simply the tree T rooted at r) is the directed graph obtained from T by directing each edge such that every path from r to any other vertex is directed away from r. The in-tree rooted at r is the directed graph obtained from T by directing each edge such that the path from every vertex to r is directed towards r.

Let (x,y) be a directed edge in a rooted tree T. Then, x is the parent of y and y is a child of x in T. Vertex v is a descendant of vertex u (and equivalently, u is an ancestor of v) if there is a directed path from u to v in T. Vertex v is a proper descendant of u (and u a proper ancestor of v) if v is a descendant of u and  $u \neq v$ . Given a pair of vertices  $u, v \in V$ , the least common ancestor of u and v, denoted by lca(u,v) is the vertex  $w \in V$  that is an ancestor of both u and v with no

child of w being an ancestor of both u and v. For an edge e = (u, v) the least common ancestor of e, denoted by lca(e), is the vertex lca(u, v).

Let G = (V, E) be a connected graph. A spanning tree T of G is a subgraph of G with vertex set V such that T is a tree. An edge in G - T is a nontree edge with respect to T.

Let T be a spanning tree of G. Any nontree edge e of G creates a cycle in the graph  $T \setminus \{e\}$ , called the fundamental cycle of e with respect to T. Let  $r \in V$ , and let T be rooted at r.

Let e = (u, v) be a nontree edge in T = (V, E, r) and let lca(e) = l. The fundamental cycle of e with respect to T consists of the path from l to u, followed by edge e, followed by the path from v to l. Let (l, a) be the first edge on the path from l to u and (l, b) be the first edge on the path from l to v (it is possible for one of these edges to be missing). Then edges (l, a) and (l, b) are the base edge(s) of the fundamental cycle of e (when they exist) and the vertices e and e are the base vertice(s) of the fundamental cycle of e (when they exist).

An edge  $e \in E$  in a connected graph G = (V, E) is a cutedge if e does not lie on a cycle in G. An undirected graph G = (V, E) is 2-edge connected if it contains no cutedge. A 2-edge connected component of G is a maximal induced subgraph of G which is 2-edge connected.

A vertex  $v \in V$  is a *cutpoint* of a connected undirected graph G = (V, E) if the subgraph induced by  $V - \{v\}$  is not connected. G is *biconnected* (or *two-vertex connected*) if it contains no cutpoint. A *biconnected component* (or *block*) of G is a maximal induced subgraph of G which is biconnected.

By *Menger's theorem* a graph is 2-edge connected if and only if there are at least two edgedisjoint paths between every pair of distinct vertices, and a graph is biconnected if and only if there are at least two vertex-disjoint paths between every pair of distinct vertices.

Let G be a connected graph. The *blocktree* of G is a tree with a vertex for each block and each cutpoint in G, and an edge between each cutpoint and the blocks that contain it. A *rooted blocktree of* G is the blocktree of G that is rooted at one of the vertices that represent a cutpoint of G.

Finally we give some definitions on the *triconnected components* of a biconnected graph (see, e.g., [Tu66, HT73, FRT89, Ra90]).

A pair of vertices a,b in a multigraph G = (V, E) is a separating pair if and only if there are two nontrivial bridges, or at least three bridges, one of which is nontrivial, of  $\{a$ , $b\}$  in G. If G has no separating pairs then G is triconnected. The pair a,b is a *nontrivial* separating pair if there are two nontrivial bridges of a,b in G.

Let  $\{a,b\}$  be a separating pair for a biconnected multigraph G = (V,E). For any bridge X of  $\{a,b\}$ , let  $\overline{X}$  be the induced subgraph of G on  $(V-V(X)) \cup \{a,b\}$ . Let B be a bridge of G such that  $|E(B)| \ge 2$ ,  $|E(\overline{B})| \ge 2$  and either B or  $\overline{B}$  is biconnected. We can apply a *Tutte split* s(a,b,i) to G by forming  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  from G, where  $G_1$  is  $B \cup \{(a,b,i)\}$  and  $G_2$  is  $\overline{B} \cup \{(a,b,i)\}$ . The graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are called *split graphs of* G with respect to a,b. The *Tutte components* of G are obtained by successively applying a Tutte split to split graphs until no Tutte split is possible. Every Tutte component is one of three types: i) a triconnected simple graph; ii) a simple cycle (a

polygon); or iii) a pair of vertices with at least three edges between them (a bond); the Tutte components of a biconnected multigraph G are the unique triconnected components of G.

If a pair of vertices of G appear in a triconnected component of G then by Menger's theorem there must be 3 vertex-disjoint paths in G between x and y. Conversely if there are 3 vertex-disjoint paths between x and y then there must be a triconnected component of G that contains a copy of both x and y.

Let G = (V, E) be a biconnected graph with an open ear decomposition  $D = [P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}]$ . A separating pair a, b in G is a pair separating  $P_i$  if a and b are contained in  $P_i$  and the vertices between a and b on  $P_i$  are separated from the vertices on ears numbered lower than i. A candidate list for  $P_i$  is a sequence of vertices on  $P_i$  in increasing order of their values such that each pair of vertices on the list is either adjacent on  $P_i$  or a pair separating  $P_i$ . It is known that every separating pair in a graph G with an open ear decomposition D is contained in a candidate list for some ear in D [MR87, Ra90].

Let a,b be a pair separating  $P_i$ . Let  $B_1, \dots, B_k$  be the bridges of  $P_i$  with no attachments outside the interval [a,b] on  $P_i$ , and let  $T_i(a,b) = (\bigcup_{j=1}^k B_j) \bigcup_j P_i(a,b)$ , where  $P_i(a,b)$  is the segment of  $P_i$  between and including vertices a and b. Then the ear split e(a,b,i) consists of forming the upper split graph  $G_1 = T_i(a,b) \bigcup_j \{(a,b,i)\}$  and the lower split graph  $G_2 = \overline{T_i(a,b)} \bigcup_j \{(a,b,i)\}$ . An ear split e(a,b,i) is a Tutte split if either  $G_1 - \{(a,b,i)\}$  or  $G_2 - \{(a,b,i)\}$  is biconnected.

Let S be a nontrivial candidate list for ear  $P_i$ . Two vertices u,v in S are an adjacent separating pair for  $P_i$  if u and v are not adjacent to each other on  $P_i$  and S contains no vertex in the interval (u,v) on  $P_i$ . Two vertices a,b in S are an extremal separating pair for  $P_i$  if  $|S| \ge 3$  and S contains no vertex in the interval outside [a,b]. An ear split on an adjacent or extremal separating pair is a Tutte split, and the Tutte components of G are obtained by performing an ear split on each adjacent and extremal separating pair [MR87, Ra90].

With each ear split e(a,b,i) corresponding to an adjacent or extremal pair separating  $P_i$ , we can associate a unique Tutte component of G as follows [FRT89, Ra90]. Let e(a,b,i) be such a split. Then by definition  $T_i(a,b) \cup \{(a,b,i)\}$  is the upper split graph associated with the ear split e(a,b,i). The triconnected component of the ear split e(a,b,i), denoted by TC(a,b,i), is  $T_i(a,b) \cup \{(a,b,i)\}$  with the following modifications: Call a pair c,d separating an ear  $P_j$  in  $T_i(a,b)$  a maximal pair for  $T_i(a,b)$  if there is no e,f in  $T_i(a,b)$  such that e,f separates some ear  $P_k$  in  $T_i(a,b)$  and C and C and C are in C and C are in C and C by the edge C and C together with all two-attachment bridges with attachments at C and C by the edge C and C are in C are in C and C are in C are in C and C are in C are in C and in C and in C are in C and in C are in C and in C and in C are in C and in C are in C are in C and in C and in C and in C are in C and in C are in C and in C are in C and in C and in C are in C