

The structure of quasi-transitive graphs avoiding a minor with applications to the Domino Conjecture.

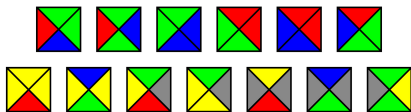
Louis Esperet*, Ugo Giocanti*, Clément Legrand-Duchesne[◊]

*Université Grenoble Alpes, Laboratoire G-SCOP, France

◊Université de Bordeaux, LaBRI, France

JGA 2023

Wang tiling problem



Wang tiling problem

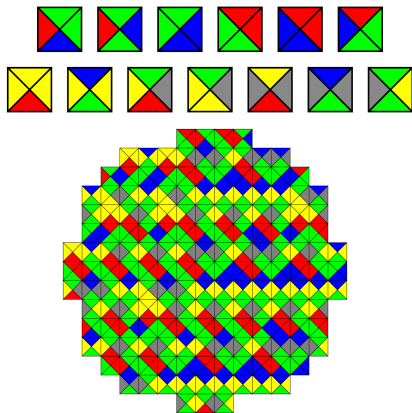
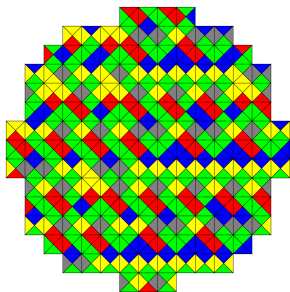
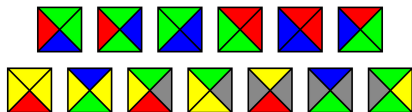


Image source:

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=12128873>

Wang tiling problem



Theorem (Berger, '66)

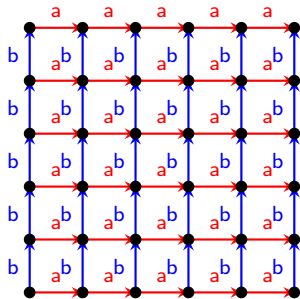
The Wang tiling problem is undecidable.

$\Gamma = \langle S \rangle$: finitely generated group. Assume $S = S^{-1}$.

Cayley graphs

$\Gamma = \langle S \rangle$: finitely generated group. Assume $S = S^{-1}$. $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ is the labelled graph with vertex set Γ and adjacencies xy for every $x, y \in \Gamma$ such that $y \in x \cdot S$.

$\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}^2, S)$,
with $S = \{(1, 0), (-1, 0), (0, 1), (0, -1)\}$



Domino Problem on groups

Fix (Γ, S) .

Pattern of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$: coloring p of $\{1_\Gamma, s\}$ for some $s \in S$.

p **appears** in a vertex-coloring of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ if there is a pair $(w, w \cdot s)$ colored p .

Domino Problem on groups

Fix (Γ, S) .

Pattern of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$: coloring p of $\{1_\Gamma, s\}$ for some $s \in S$.

p **appears** in a vertex-coloring of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ if there is a pair $(w, w \cdot s)$ colored p .

Domino problem on (Γ, S) :

Input: a finite alphabet Σ and a finite set $\mathcal{F} = \{p_1, \dots, p_t\}$ of forbidden patterns.

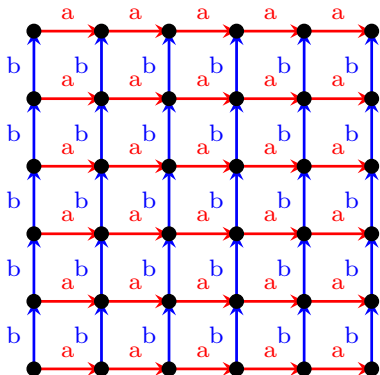
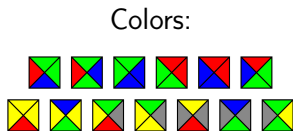
Question: Is there a coloring $c : V(G) \rightarrow \Sigma$ avoiding \mathcal{F} ?

Domino Problem on groups

Fix (Γ, S) .

Pattern of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$: coloring p of $\{1_\Gamma, s\}$ for some $s \in S$.

p **appears** in a vertex-coloring of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ if there is a pair $(w, w \cdot s)$ colored p .



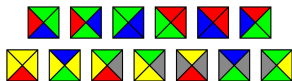
Domino Problem on groups

Fix (Γ, S) .

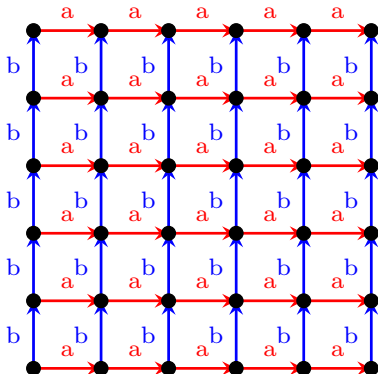
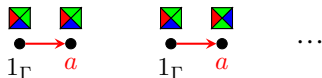
Pattern of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$: coloring p of $\{1_\Gamma, s\}$ for some $s \in S$.

p **appears** in a vertex-coloring of $\text{Cay}(\Gamma, S)$ if there is a pair $(w, w \cdot s)$ colored p .

Colors:

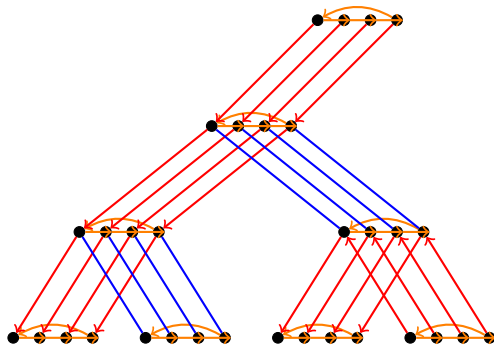


Forbidden patterns:



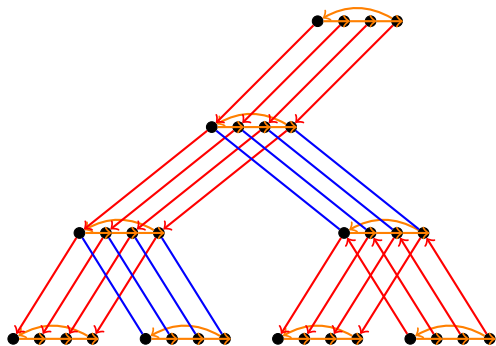
Virtually-free groups

Γ is **virtually-free** if one/all its Cayley graphs have bounded treewidth.



Virtually-free groups

Γ is **virtually-free** if one/all its Cayley graphs have bounded treewidth.



Conjecture (Ballier-Stein 2018)

The domino problem on Γ is decidable if and only if Γ is virtually-free.

A group is **planar** if one of its Cayley graphs is planar.

A group is **minor excluded** if one of its Cayley graphs excludes a (countable) minor.

A group is **planar** if one of its Cayley graphs is planar.

A group is **minor excluded** if one of its Cayley graphs excludes a (countable) minor.

Remark: G minor-excluded $\Leftrightarrow G$ is K_∞ -minor free.

The minor-excluded case

Decidable on virtually-free groups;

[Berger 1966] Undecidable on \mathbb{Z}^2 ;

[ABM 2019] Undecidable on fundamental groups of surfaces.

The minor-excluded case

Decidable on virtually-free groups;

[Berger 1966] Undecidable on \mathbb{Z}^2 ;

[ABM 2019] Undecidable on fundamental groups of surfaces.

Theorem

The Domino conjecture is true for planar groups and more generally for minor-excluding groups.

Quasi-transitive graphs

G : (connected) graph, countable vertex set, locally finite.

Quasi-transitive graphs

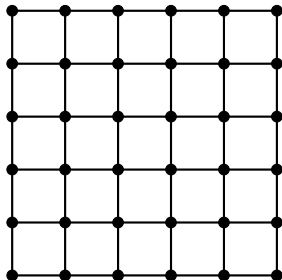
G : (connected) graph, countable vertex set, locally finite.

G **transitive** (resp. **quasi-transitive**) if the action of $\text{Aut}(G)$ on $V(G)$ has one (resp. a finite number of) orbit.

Quasi-transitive graphs

G : (connected) graph, countable vertex set, locally finite.

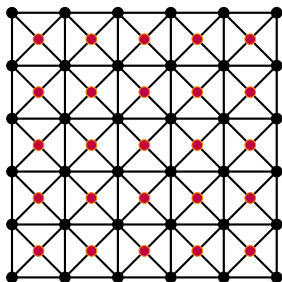
G **transitive** (resp. **quasi-transitive**) if the action of $\text{Aut}(G)$ on $V(G)$ has one (resp. a finite number of) orbit.



Quasi-transitive graphs

G : (connected) graph, countable vertex set, locally finite.

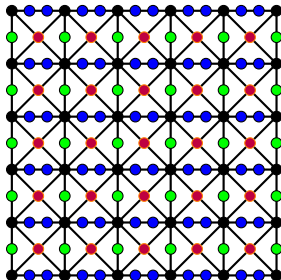
G **transitive** (resp. **quasi-transitive**) if the action of $\text{Aut}(G)$ on $V(G)$ has one (resp. a finite number of) orbit.



Quasi-transitive graphs

G : (connected) graph, countable vertex set, locally finite.

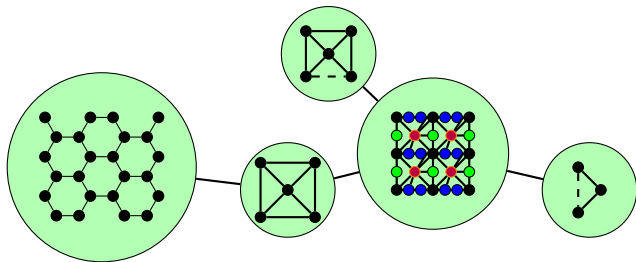
G **transitive** (resp. **quasi-transitive**) if the action of $\text{Aut}(G)$ on $V(G)$ has one (resp. a finite number of) orbit.



Main result

Theorem (finite/planar)

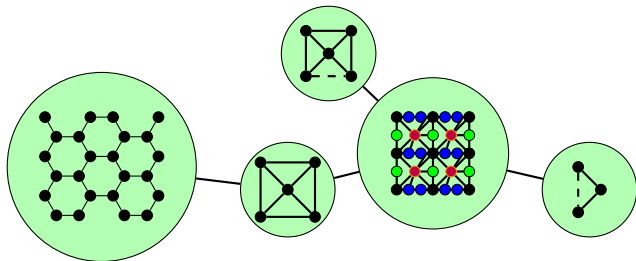
Let G be a quasi-transitive locally finite graph excluding K_∞ as a minor. Then there is an integer k such that G admits a canonical tree-decomposition (T, \mathcal{V}) , of adhesion at most k whose torsos are either finite or quasi-transitive 3-connected planar minors of G .



Main result

Theorem (finite/planar)

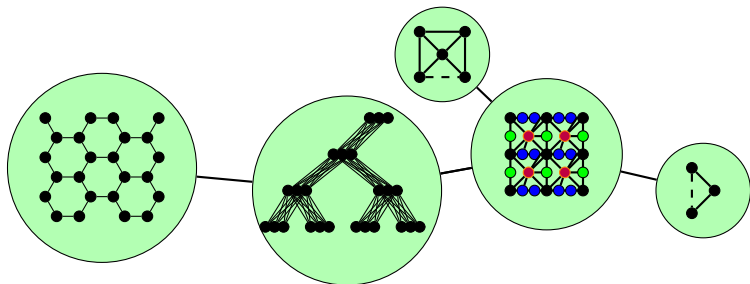
Let G be a quasi-transitive locally finite graph excluding K_∞ as a minor. Then there is an integer k such that G admits a canonical tree-decomposition (T, \mathcal{V}) , of adhesion at most k whose torsos are either finite or quasi-transitive 3-connected planar minors of G . *Moreover, $E(T)$ has finitely many $\text{Aut}(G)$ -orbits.*



Main result

Theorem (finite treewidth/planar)

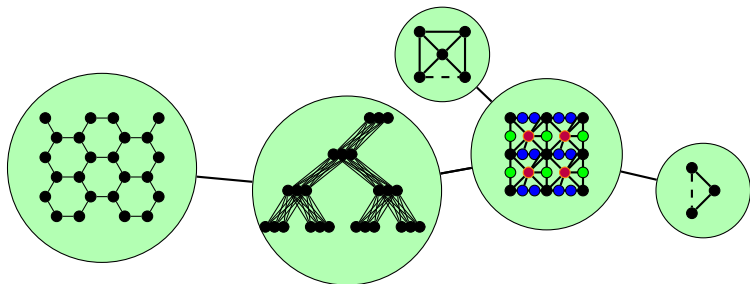
Let G be a quasi-transitive locally finite graph excluding K_∞ as a minor. Then there is an integer k such that G admits a canonical tree-decomposition (T, \mathcal{V}) , of adhesion at most 3 whose torsos are quasi-transitive minors of G and have either treewidth at most k or are 3-connected planar.



Main result

Theorem (finite treewidth/planar)

Let G be a quasi-transitive locally finite graph excluding K_∞ as a minor. Then there is an integer k such that G admits a canonical tree-decomposition (T, \mathcal{V}) , of adhesion at most 3 whose torsos are quasi-transitive minors of G and have either treewidth at most k or are 3-connected planar. *Moreover, $E(T)$ has finitely many $\text{Aut}(G)$ -orbits.*



Corollary

For every locally finite quasi-transitive graph G avoiding K_∞ as a minor, there is an integer k such that G is K_k -minor-free.

Generalizes [Thomassen '92] dealing with the 4-connected case.

Conclusion

- Prove results on groups by working in the more general world of quasi-transitive graphs.
- Key tool: canonicity (allows to do induction in the context of tree-decompositions).

- Prove results on groups by working in the more general world of quasi-transitive graphs.
- Key tool: canonicity (allows to do induction in the context of tree-decompositions).

Questions:

- A quasi-transitive graphical reformulation of Domino's conjecture?
- If G is quasi-transitive, is there a proper colouring of G with a finite number of colours such that the colored graph G is quasi-transitive?

Conclusion

- Prove results on groups by working in the more general world of quasi-transitive graphs.
- Key tool: canonicity (allows to do induction in the context of tree-decompositions).

Questions:

- A quasi-transitive graphical reformulation of Domino's conjecture?
- If G is quasi-transitive, is there a proper colouring of G with a finite number of colours such that the colored graph G is quasi-transitive?

Merci!

Application: Finite presentability.

Theorem (Droms '06)

Planar groups are finitely presented.

Application: Finite presentability.

Theorem (Droms '06)

Planar groups are finitely presented.

Corollary

Every minor-excluding finitely generated group Γ is finitely presented.

Proof based on the approach of [Hamann '18]