# Geodesic topological cycles in locally finite graphs

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joint work with A. Georgakopoulos

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Geodesic cycle  $\iff$  Shortest path between any two vx's

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Geodesic cycle

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Geodesic cycle

#### Theorem

The cycle space of a finite graph is generated by geodesic circuits.

Proof by picture.

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Extend theorem to locally finite graphs

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- Extend theorem to locally finite graphs
- Topological cycle space

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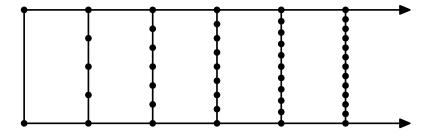
- Extend theorem to locally finite graphs
- Topological cycle space
- Infinite geodesic circles?

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- Extend theorem to locally finite graphs
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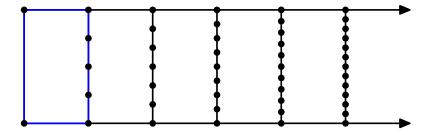
Theorem is false for infinite graphs.

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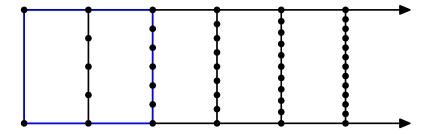
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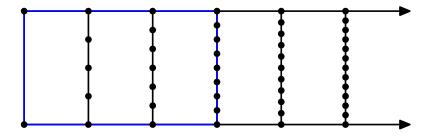
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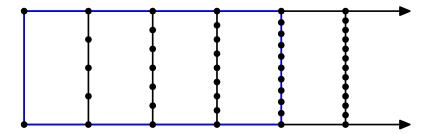


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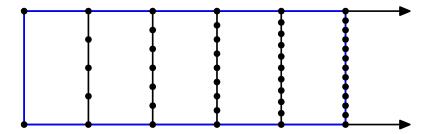
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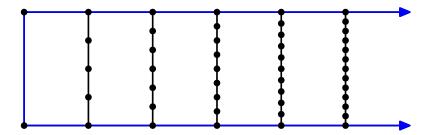
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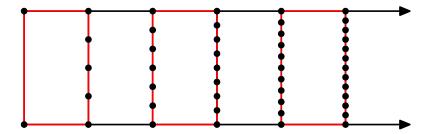
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### What now?

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Wrong metric! Need a metric on |G|.

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Need a metric on |G|.

Assign a length  $\ell(e)$  to every edge e.

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Infinite circles can have finite length.

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Metric should induce the topology of |G|.

Infinite circles can have finite length.

*l*-Geodesic circles may be infinite, but always of finite length.

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#### Theorem

Given suitable edge-lengths  $\ell(e)$ , the  $\ell$ -geodesic circuits generate  $\mathcal{C}(G)$ .

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• Generating circuits is not enough.

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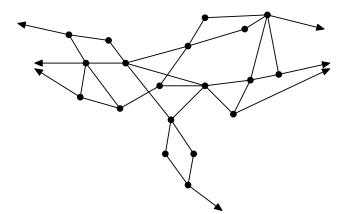
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- Generating circuits is not enough.
- Construct geodesic circuits.

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- Generating circuits is not enough.
- Construct geodesic circuits.
- Construct a *thin* family of geodesic circuits.

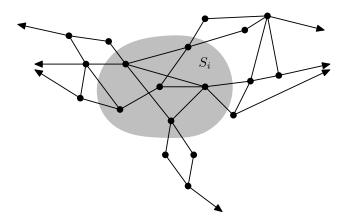
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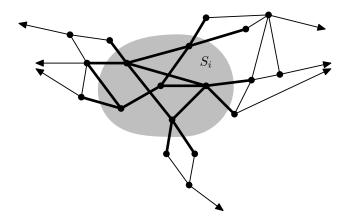
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Finite sets  $S_0 \subset S_1 \subset S_2 \subset \cdots$  with  $\bigcup S_i = V(G)$ .



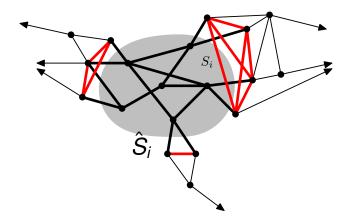
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Finite theorem  $\longrightarrow$  Family of  $\ell_i$ -geodesic circuits in each  $\hat{S}_i$ 

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Finite theorem  $\longrightarrow$  Family of  $\ell_i$ -geodesic circuits in each  $\hat{S}_i$ Compactness  $\longrightarrow$  Chain of families

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Finite theorem  $\longrightarrow$  Family of  $\ell_i$ -geodesic circuits in each  $\hat{S}_i$ Compactness  $\longrightarrow$  Chain of families Circuit in each  $\hat{S}_i \longrightarrow$  Element of C(G) $\ell_i$ -Geodesic circuit in each  $\hat{S}_i \longrightarrow$  Circuit in |G|

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Finite theorem  $\longrightarrow$  Family of  $\ell_i$ -geodesic circuits in each  $\hat{S}_i$ Compactness  $\longrightarrow$  Chain of families Circuit in each  $\hat{S}_i \longrightarrow$  Element of  $\mathcal{C}(G)$  $\ell_i$ -Geodesic circuit in each  $\hat{S}_i \longrightarrow \ell$ -Geodesic circuit in |G|

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Using compactness will not yield a thin family.

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Using compactness will not yield a thin family. Solution:

• Only finitely many circuits at one time.

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- After *i* steps,  $C \upharpoonright G[S_i]$  is generated.

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Using compactness will not yield a thin family.

Solution:

- Only finitely many circuits at one time.
- After *i* steps,  $C \upharpoonright G[S_i]$  is generated.
- Let the lengths of this circuits tend to zero.

The family is thin.

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## Go to Angelos' workshop!

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