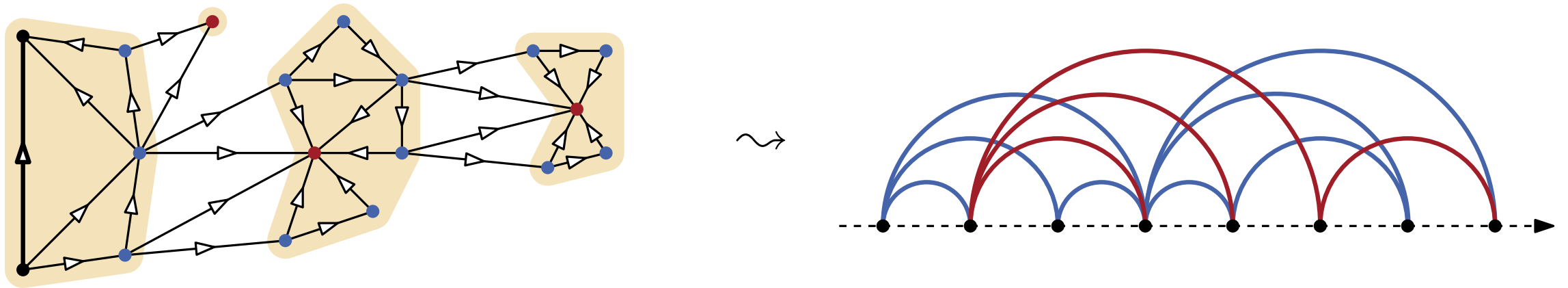


# Directed Acyclic Outerplanar Graphs Have Constant Stack Number

FOCS 2023 · 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2023

**Paul Jungeblut**, Laura Merker, Torsten Ueckerdt

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany



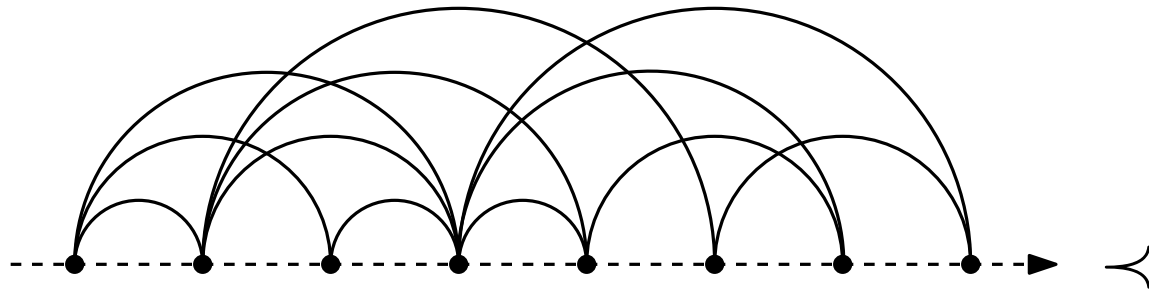
Stack Number:  $\text{sn}(G)$

**Input:** Graph  $G$

**Want:** ■ linear ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

■  $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\rightsquigarrow$  crossing-free

**Stack Number:**  $\text{sn}(G) := \min_{\prec} k$



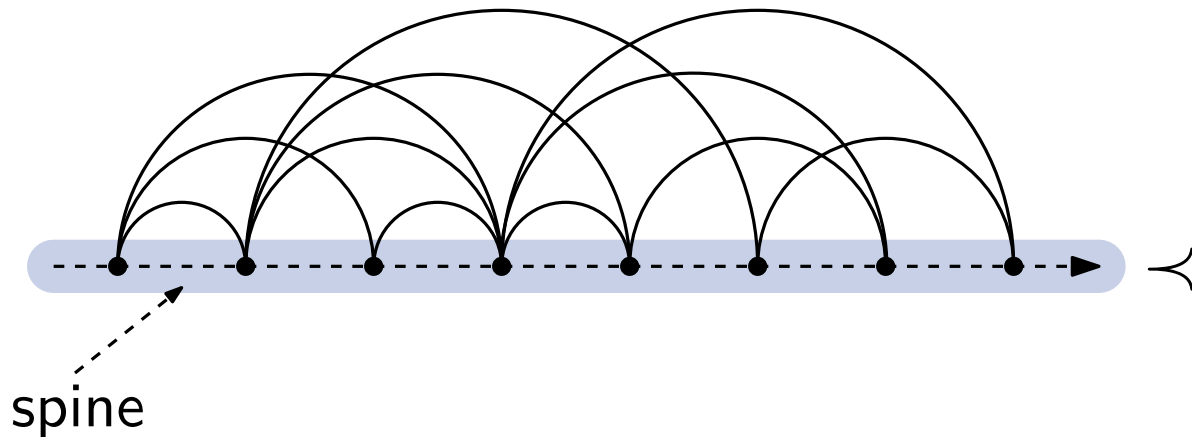
Stack Number:  $\text{sn}(G)$

**Input:** Graph  $G$

**Want:** ■ linear ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

■  $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\rightsquigarrow$  crossing-free

**Stack Number:**  $\text{sn}(G) := \min_{\prec} k$



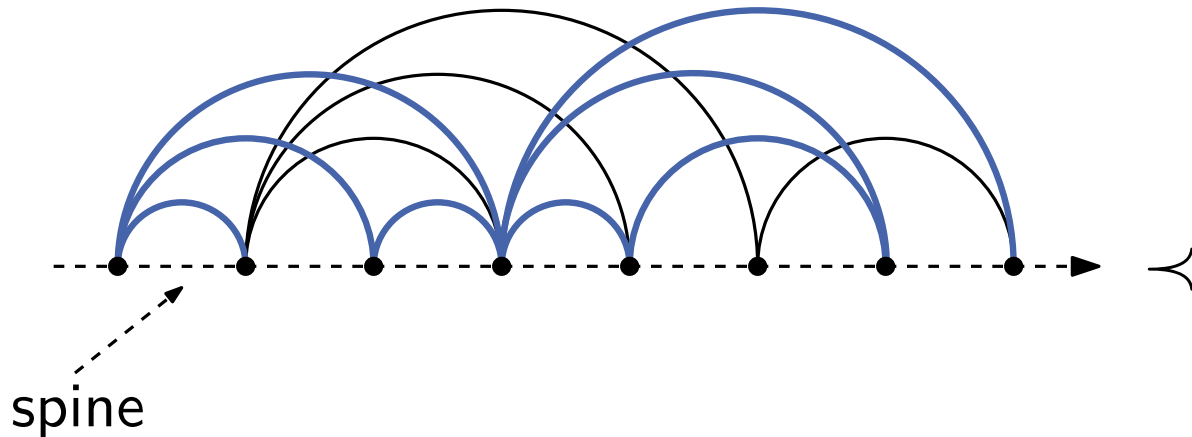
Stack Number:  $\text{sn}(G)$

**Input:** Graph  $G$

**Want:** ■ linear ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

■  $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\rightsquigarrow$  crossing-free

**Stack Number:**  $\text{sn}(G) := \min_{\prec} k$



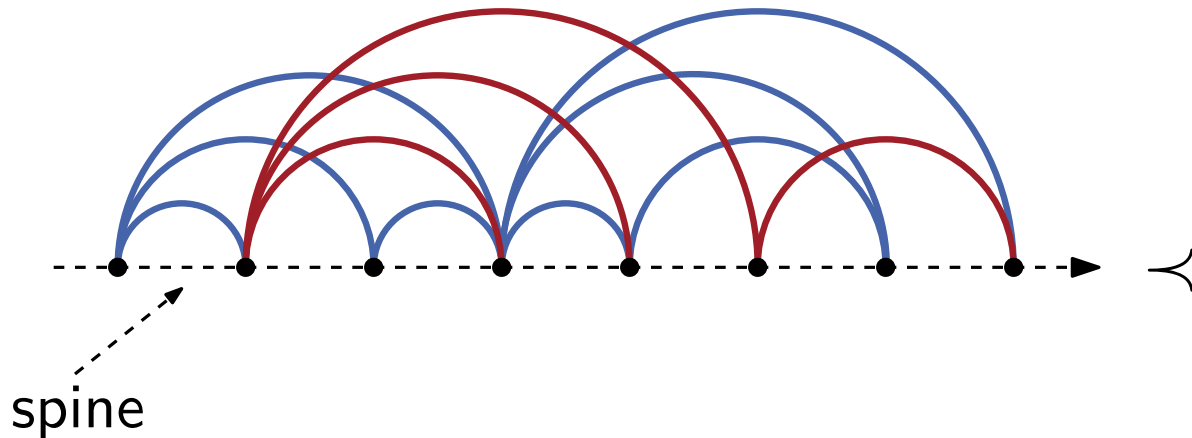
Stack Number:  $\text{sn}(G)$

**Input:** Graph  $G$

**Want:** ■ linear ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

■  $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\rightsquigarrow$  crossing-free

**Stack Number:**  $\text{sn}(G) := \min_{\prec} k$



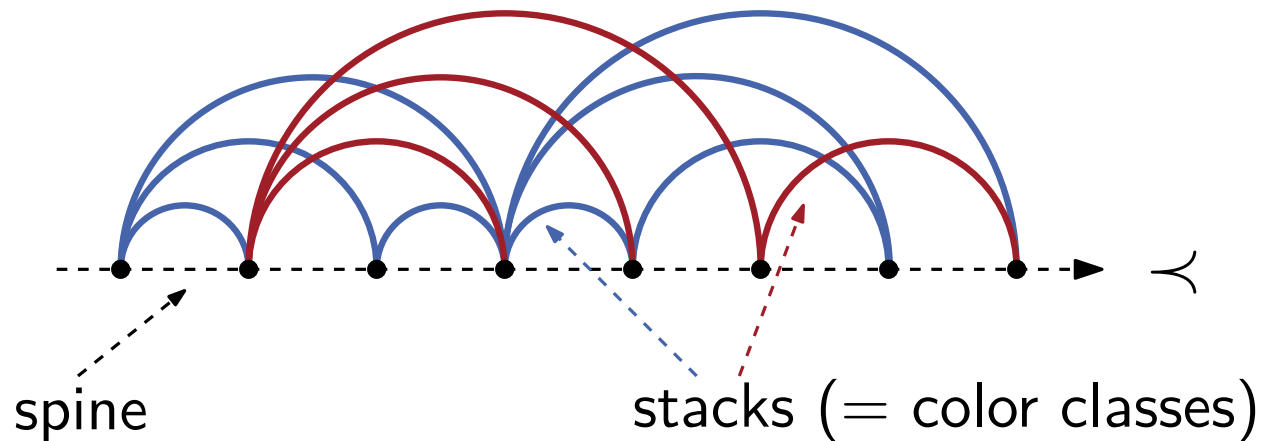
Stack Number:  $\text{sn}(G)$

**Input:** Graph  $G$

**Want:** ■ linear ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

■  $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\leadsto$  crossing-free

**Stack Number:**  $\text{sn}(G) := \min_{\prec} k$



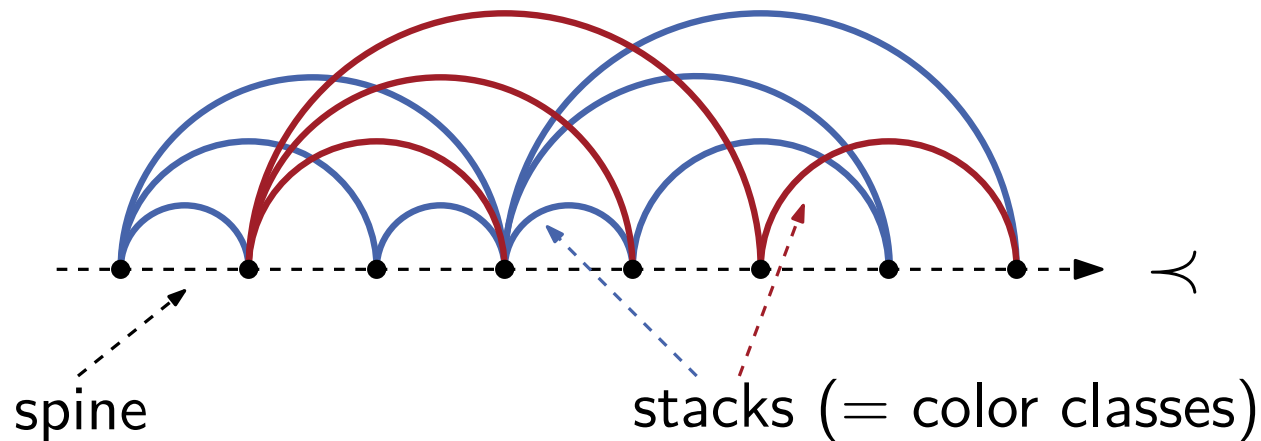
# Stack Number: $\text{sn}(G)$

**Input:** Graph  $G$

**Want:** ■ linear ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

■  $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\leadsto$  crossing-free

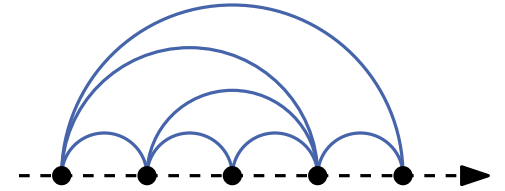
**Stack Number:**  $\text{sn}(G) := \min_{\prec} k$



**Examples:**

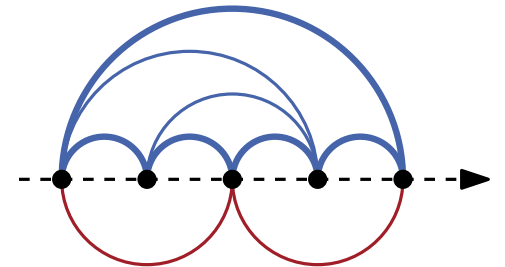
Outerplanar:

$$\text{sn}(G) = 1$$



Hamiltonian

$$\text{sn}(G) \leq 2$$



Planar

$$\text{sn}(G) \leq 4$$

[Yannakakis 1989]

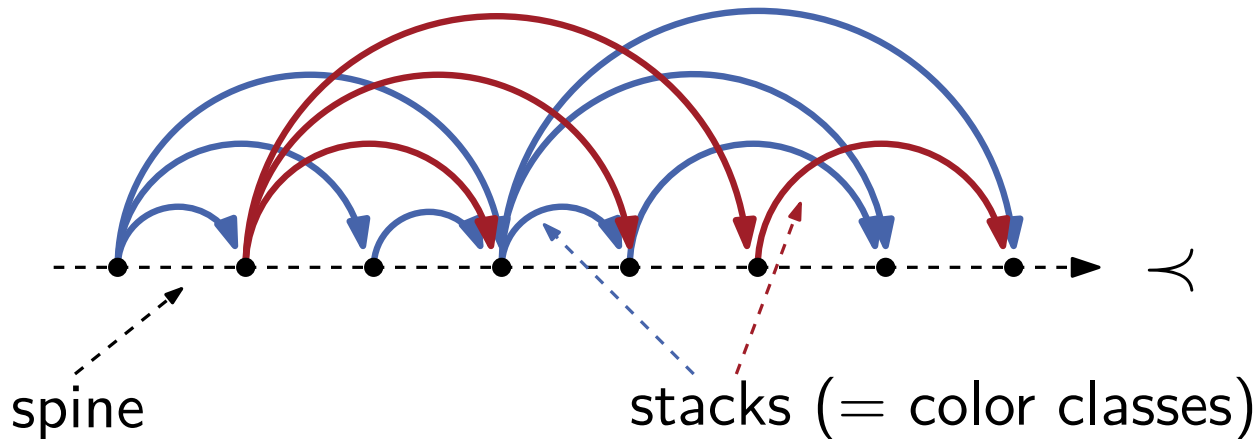
# Directed Stack Number: $sn(G)$

**Input:** DAG  $G$  (directed acyclic graph)

**Want:** ■ topological ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

■  $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\leadsto$  crossing-free

**Stack Number:**  $sn(G) := \min_{\prec} k$





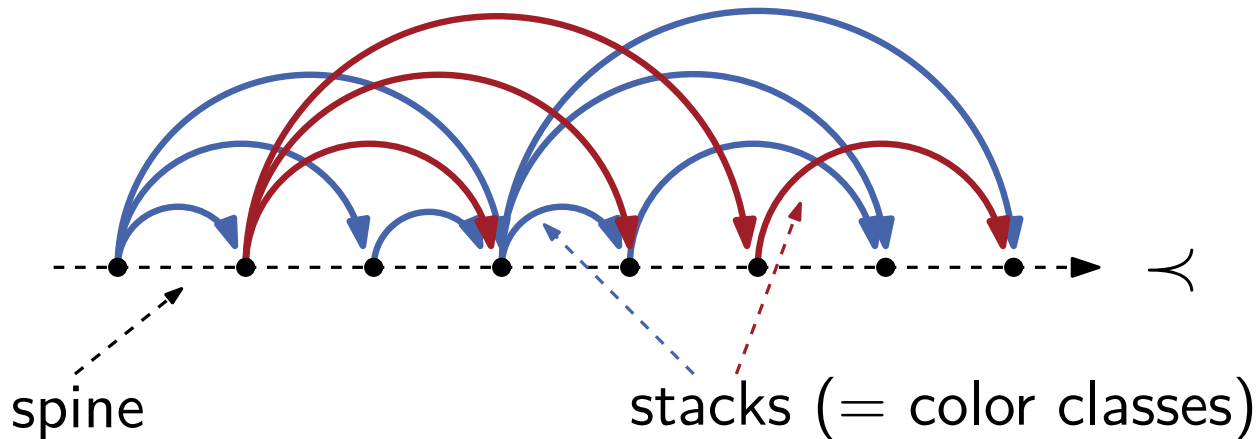
# Directed Stack Number: $sn(G)$

**Input:** DAG  $G$  (directed acyclic graph)

**Want:** ■ topological ordering  $\prec$  of vertices

- $k$ -coloring of edges, s.t:  
same color  $\rightsquigarrow$  crossing-free

**Stack Number:**  $sn(G) := \min_{\prec} k$



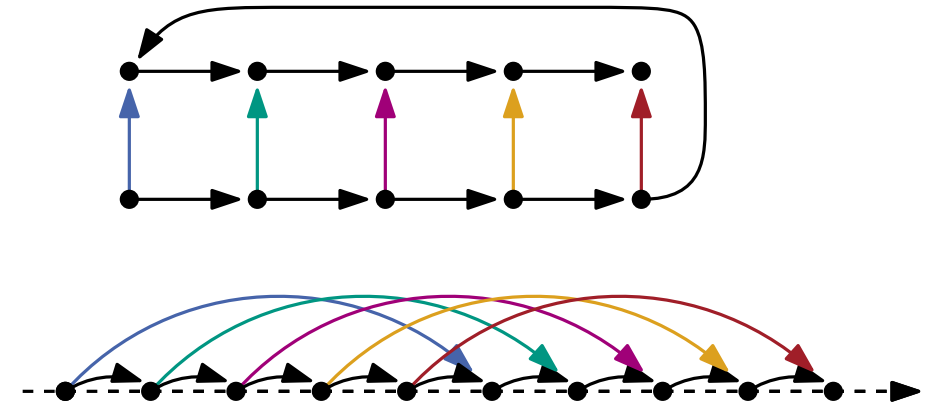
**Examples:**

Trees:

$$sn(G) = 1$$

Planar:

$$sn(G) = \infty$$



# Our Contribution

**Conjecture:** (Heath, Pemmaraju, Trenk 1999)  
Outerplanar DAGs have constant stack number.

- ✓ cacti
- ✓ single-source outerplanar
- ✓ monotone outerplanar
- ✓ outerpaths

# Our Contribution

**Conjecture:** (Heath, Pemmaraju, Trenk 1999)  
Outerplanar DAGs have constant stack number.

**Theorem:** (JMU 2023)  
 $G$  is outerplanar:

$$\text{sn}(G) \leq 24776$$

- ✓ cacti
- ✓ single-source outerplanar
- ✓ monotone outerplanar
- ✓ outerpaths

new decomposition for  
outerplanar DAGs

# Our Contribution

**Conjecture:** (Heath, Pemmaraju, Trenk 1999)  
Outerplanar DAGs have constant stack number.

- ✓ cacti
- ✓ single-source outerplanar
- ✓ monotone outerplanar
- ✓ outerpaths

**Theorem:** (JMU 2023)

$G$  is outerplanar:  $\text{sn}(G) \leq 24776$

new decomposition for  
outerplanar DAGs

Best possible:

**Theorem:** (JMU 2023)

$G$  is a “very simple” 2-tree:  $\text{sn}(G) = \infty$

2-trees are a slightly  
larger graph class than  
outerplanar DAGs


# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees

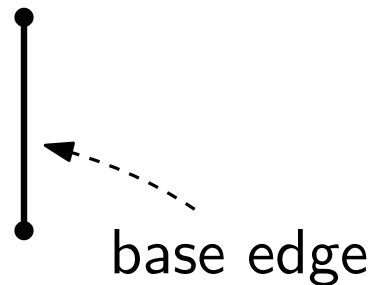
## 2-Tree:

- Base edge:  $\vdots$
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$

# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees


## 2-Tree:

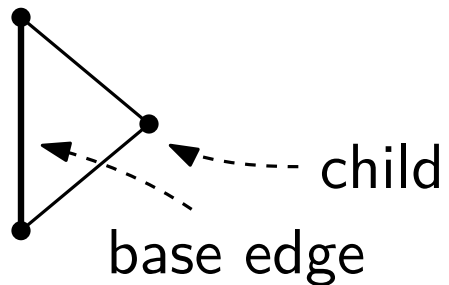
- Base edge: 
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$



# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees


## 2-Tree:

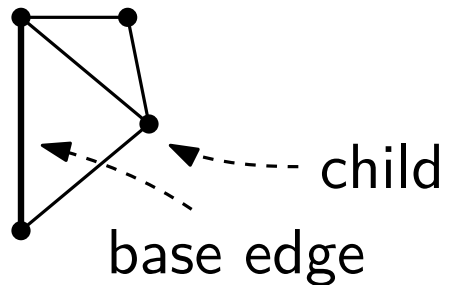
- Base edge: 
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$



# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees

## 2-Tree:


- Base edge: 
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$

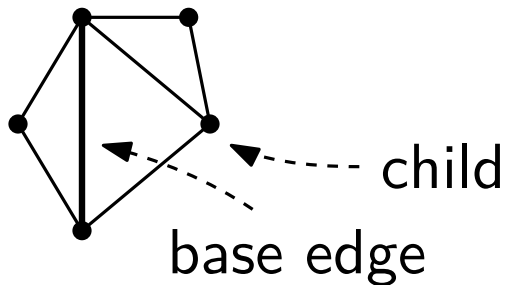




# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees

## 2-Tree:

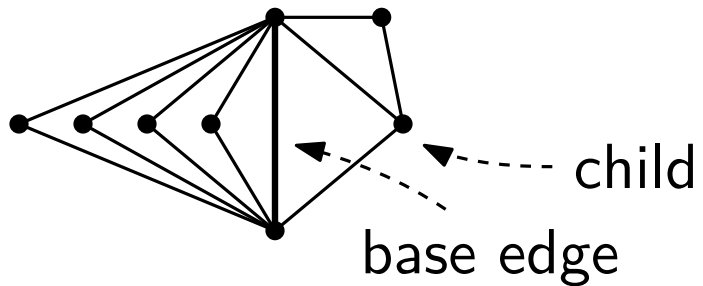
- Base edge: 
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$



# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees


## 2-Tree:

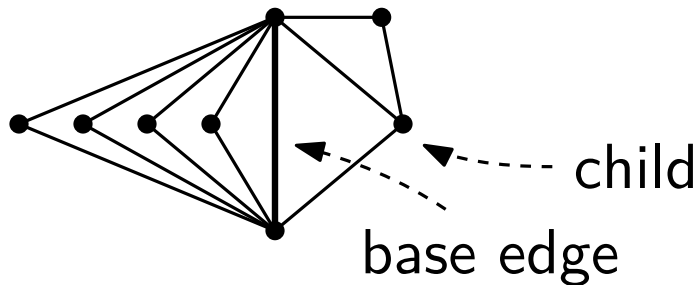
- Base edge:  $\vdots$
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$



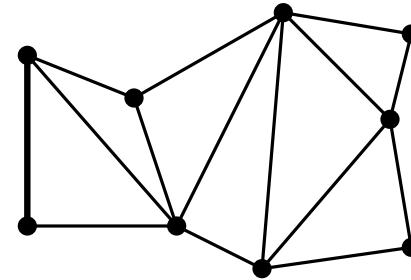
# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees

## 2-Tree:

- Base edge: 
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$



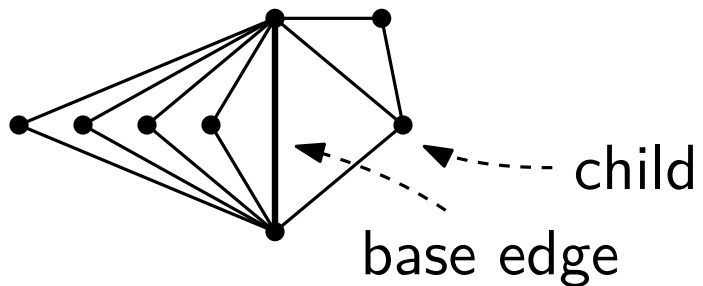
## Outerplanar Graph:



# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees

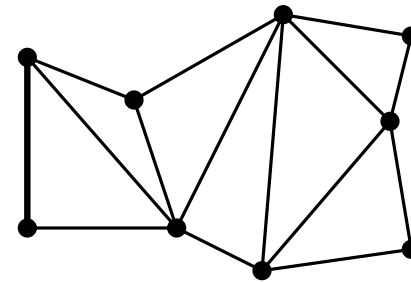
## 2-Tree:

- Base edge:  $\vdots$
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$




## Outerplanar Graph:

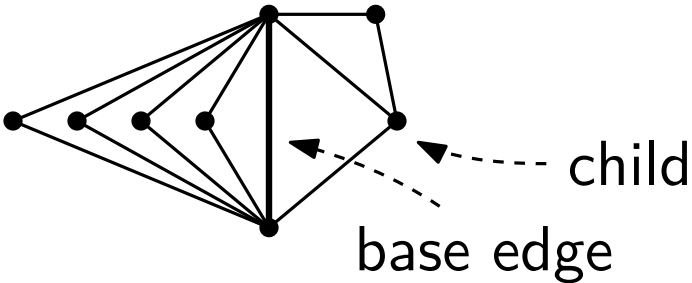
(Subgraph of a) 2-tree in which each edge has at most one child.



# Outerplanar Graphs and 2-Trees

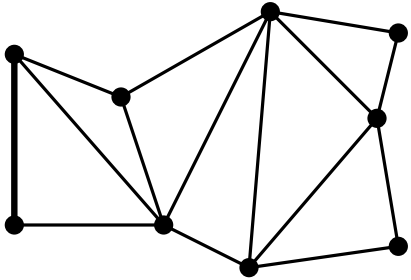
## 2-Tree:

- Base edge: 
- $G$  is a 2-tree,  $uv \in E(G)$ .  
Then  $G'$  is a 2-tree:
  - $V(G') = V(G) \cup \{x\}$
  - $E(G') = E(G) \cup \{ux, vx\}$

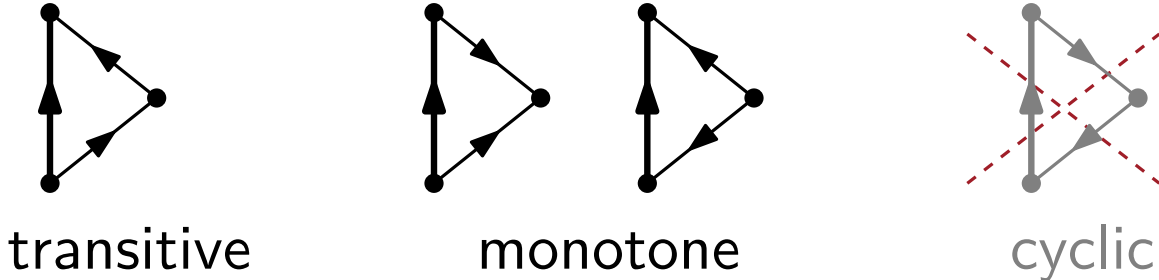


## Outerplanar Graph:

(Subgraph of a) 2-tree in which each edge has at most one child.

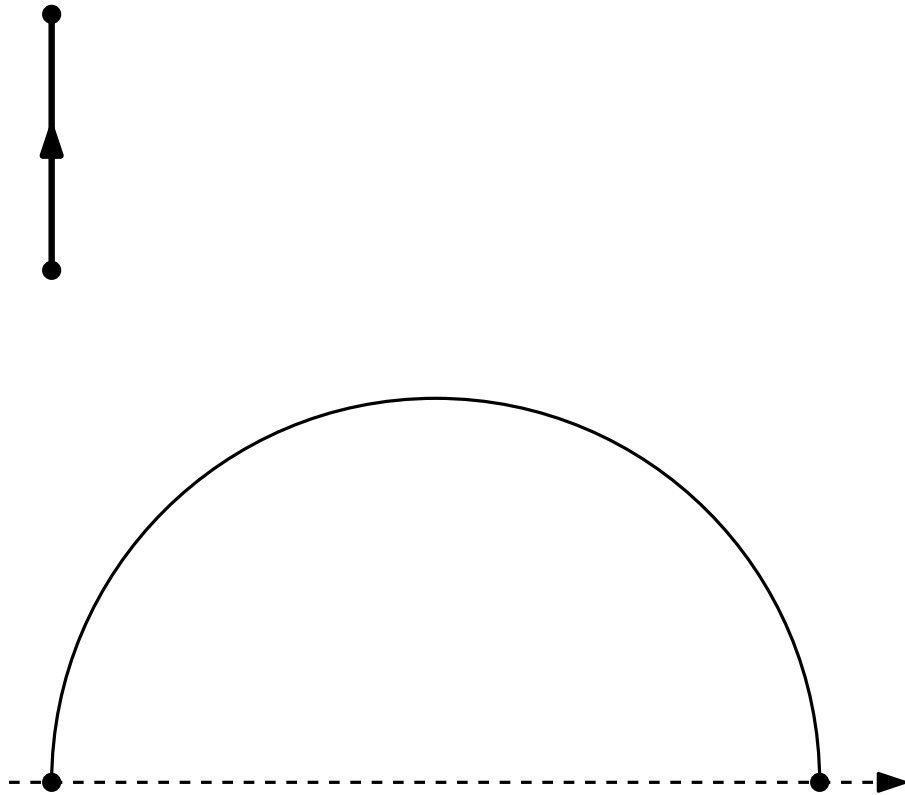


## Directed:



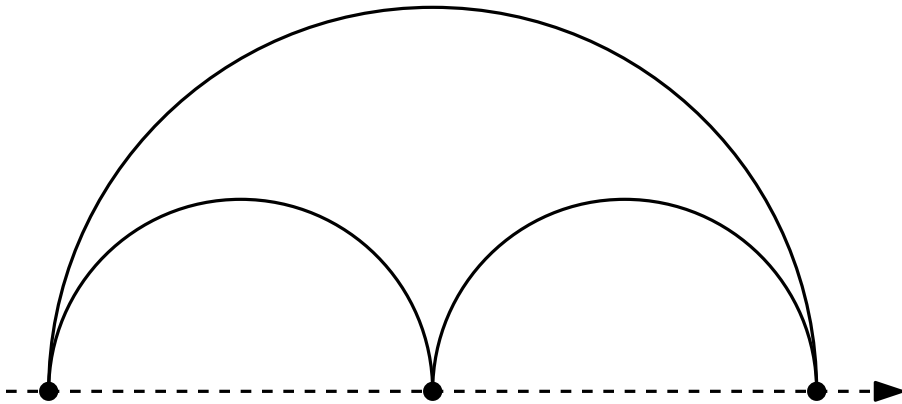
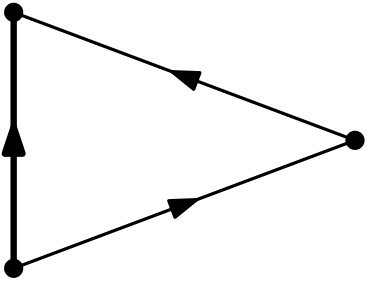
# Special Cases

## Transitive Outerplanar DAGs:



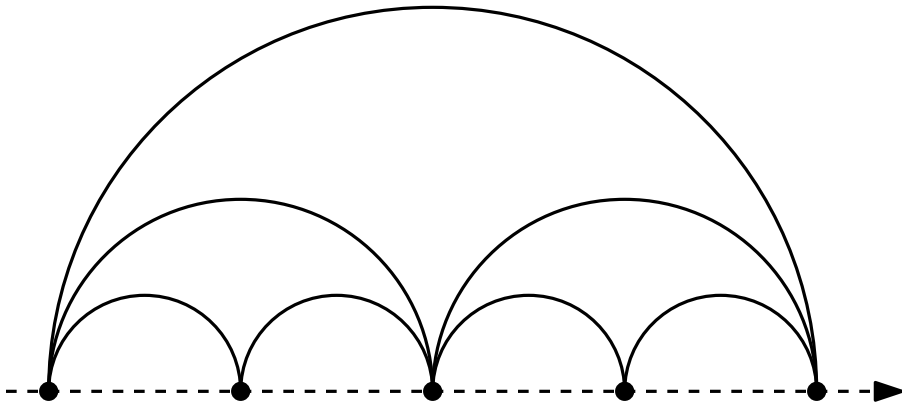
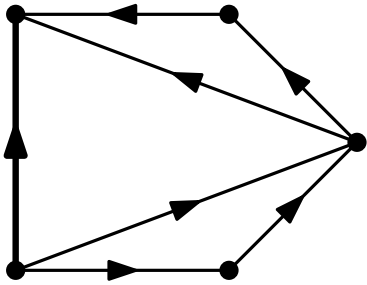
# Special Cases

## Transitive Outerplanar DAGs:



# Special Cases

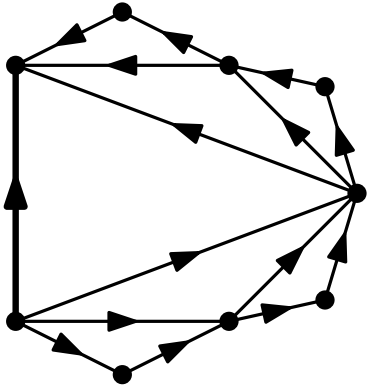
## Transitive Outerplanar DAGs:



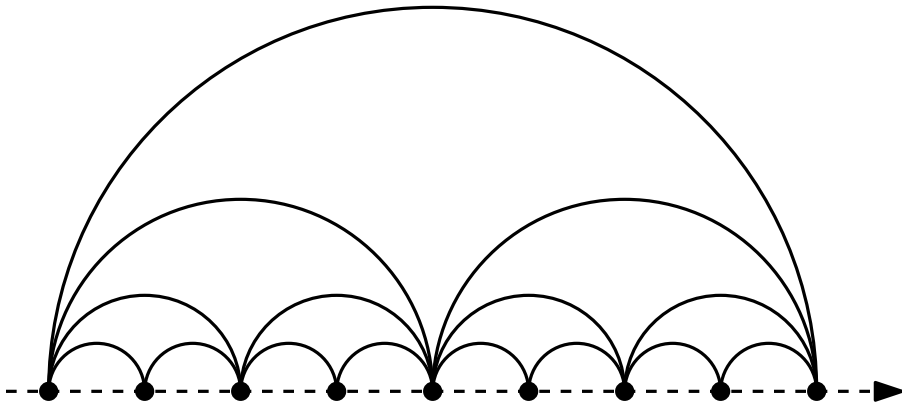


# Special Cases

## Transitive Outerplanar DAGs:

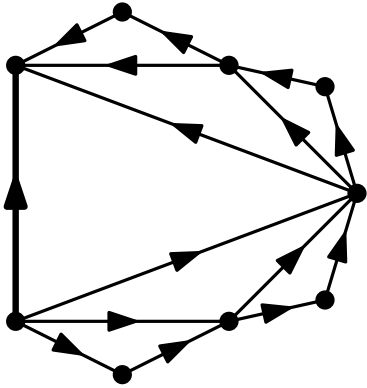


**Observation:**  
Transitive  $G$ :  
 $\text{sn}(G) = 1$



# Special Cases

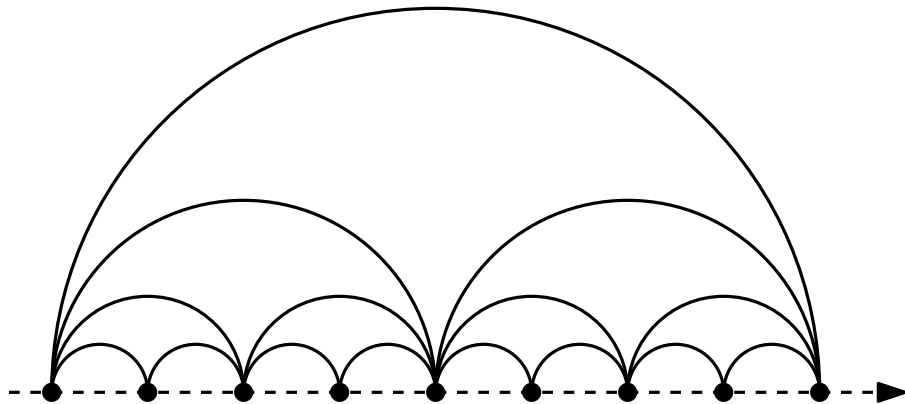
## Transitive Outerplanar DAGs:



**Observation:**  
Transitive  $G$ :  
 $\text{sn}(G) = 1$

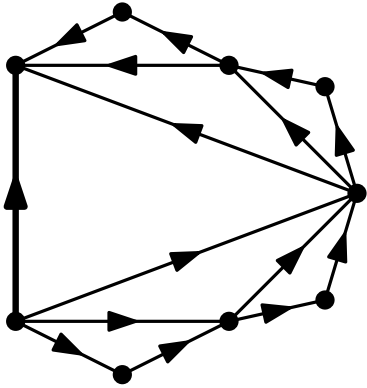
## Monotone Outerplanar DAGs:

**Theorem:** (Nöllenburg, Pupyrev 2023)  
Monotone outerplanar DAG  $G$ :  
 $\text{sn}(G) \leq 128$

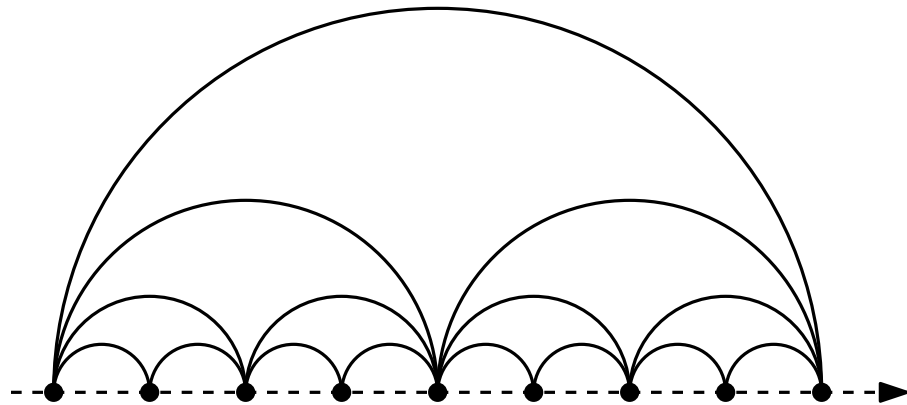


# Special Cases

## Transitive Outerplanar DAGs:



**Observation:**  
Transitive  $G$ :  
 $\text{sn}(G) = 1$



## Monotone Outerplanar DAGs:

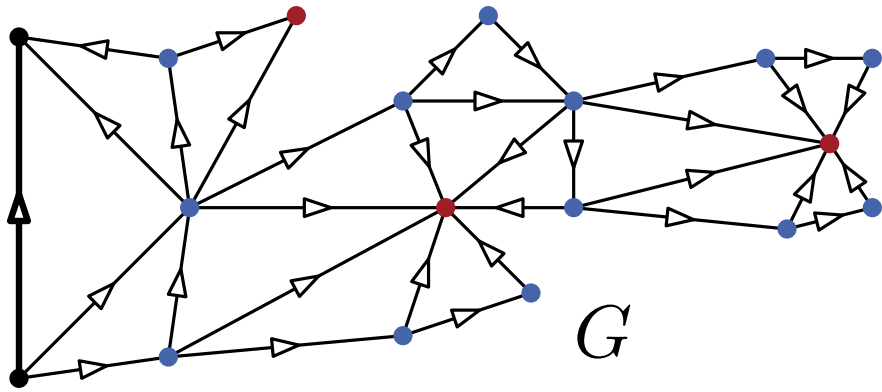
**Theorem:** (Nöllenburg, Pupyrev 2023)  
Monotone outerplanar DAG  $G$ :  
 $\text{sn}(G) \leq 128$

**Block-Monotone:**  
Every biconnected component is monotone.

**Lemma:** (JMU 2023)  
Block-monotone outerplanar DAG  $G$ :  
 $\text{sn}(G) \leq 258$

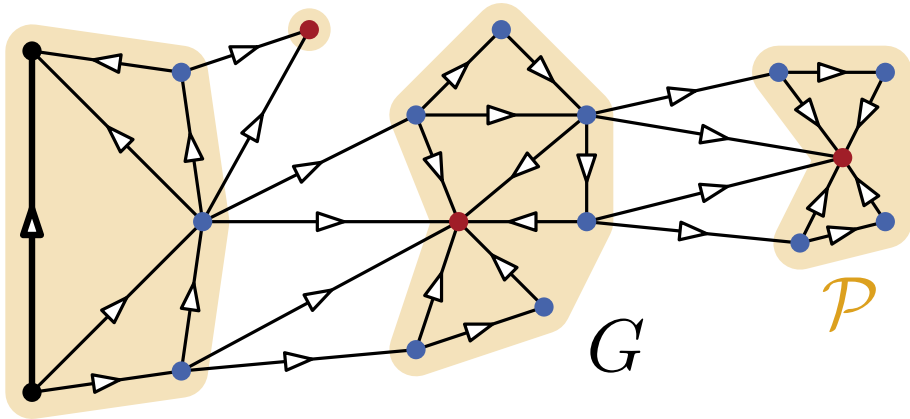
# Directed $H$ -Partitions

- transitive
- monotone



# Directed $H$ -Partitions

- transitive
- monotone
- parts

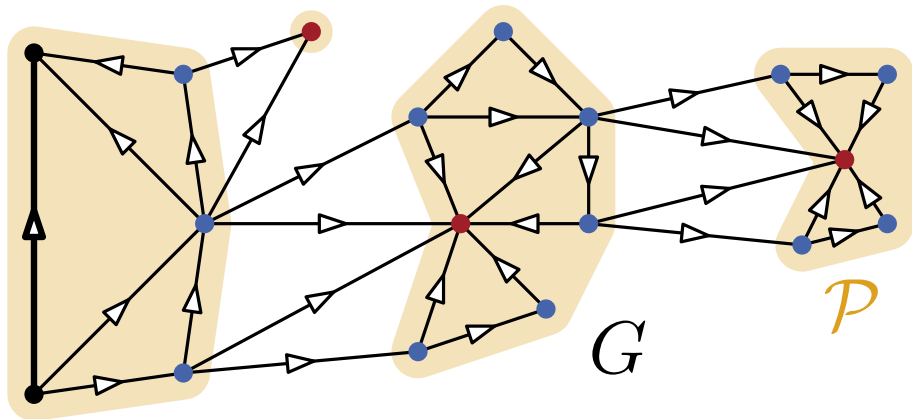


## Partition vertices:

- start with base edge
- transitive  $\rightsquigarrow$  add to current part
- monotone  $\rightsquigarrow$  new part

# Directed $H$ -Partitions

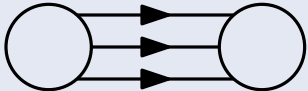
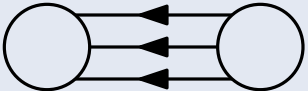
- transitive
- monotone
- parts



## Partition vertices:

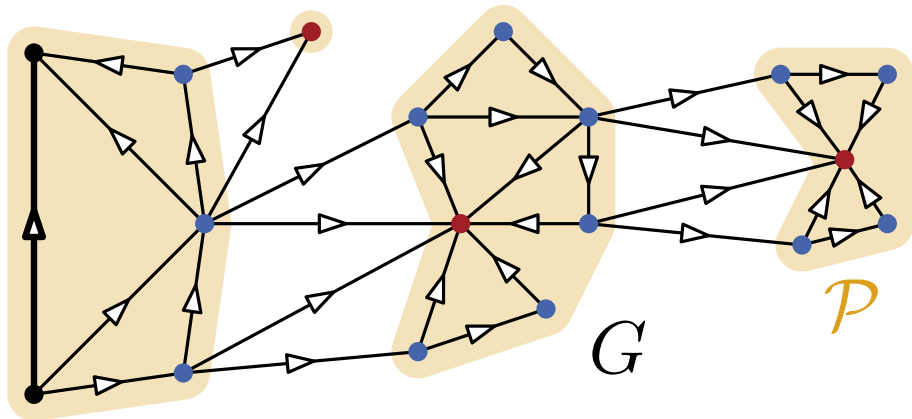
- start with base edge
- transitive  $\rightsquigarrow$  add to current part
- monotone  $\rightsquigarrow$  new part

## Definition: (Directed $H$ -Partition)

- partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $V(G)$
- quotient  $G/\mathcal{P} \cong H$  (contract each part into single vertex)
- between each two parts:  or 

# Constructing Stack Layouts

- transitive
- monotone
- parts



**Lemma:** (JMU 2023)

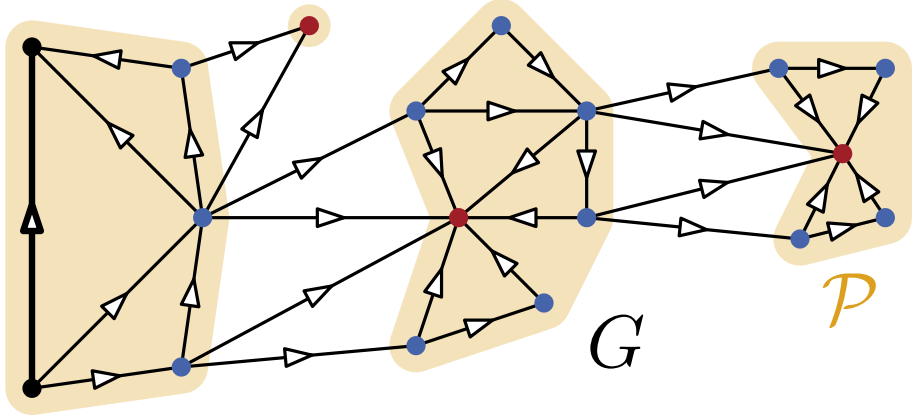
An outerplanar DAG  $G$  has a directed  $H$ -partition  $\mathcal{P}$ , such that:

- $H = G/\mathcal{P}$  is block-monotone
- each part is “transitive”

(+ other useful properties)

# Constructing Stack Layouts

- transitive
- monotone
- parts

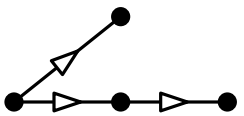


**Lemma:** (JMU 2023)

An outerplanar DAG  $G$  has a directed  $H$ -partition  $\mathcal{P}$ , such that:

- $H = G/\mathcal{P}$  is block-monotone
  - each part is “transitive”
- (+ other useful properties)

**Proof Strategy:**

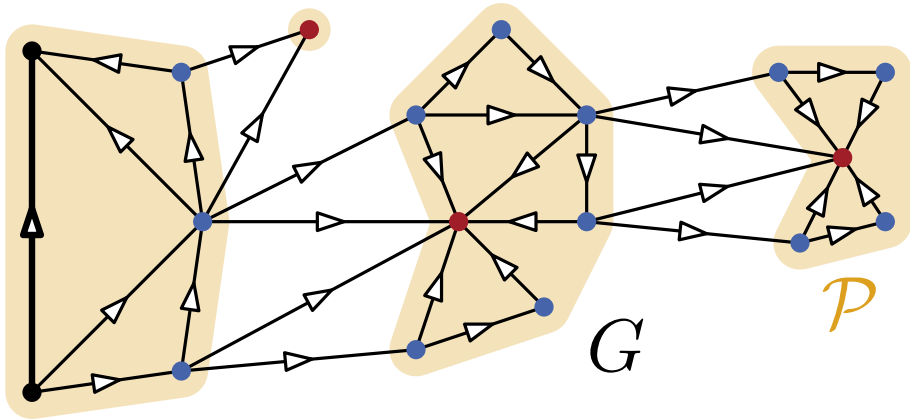


$$H = G/\mathcal{P}$$



# Constructing Stack Layouts

- transitive
- monotone
- parts



**Lemma:** (JMU 2023)

An outerplanar DAG  $G$  has a directed  $H$ -partition  $\mathcal{P}$ , such that:

- $H = G/\mathcal{P}$  is block-monotone
- each part is “transitive”

(+ other useful properties)

## Proof Strategy:

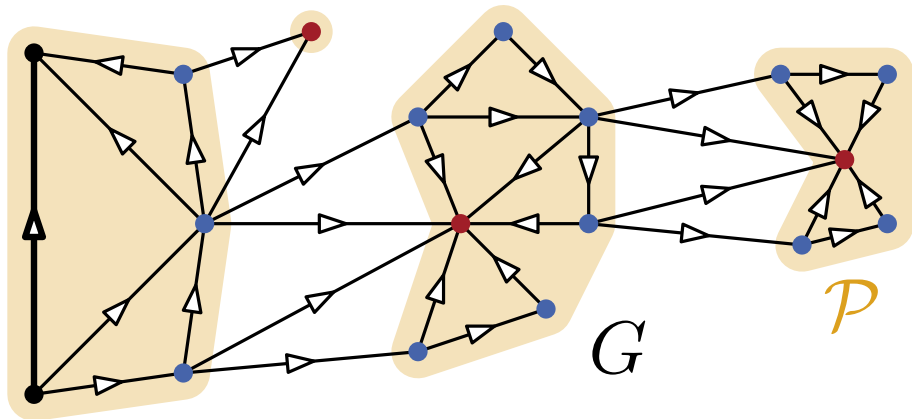


$H = G/\mathcal{P}$

$H$

# Constructing Stack Layouts

- transitive
- monotone
- parts



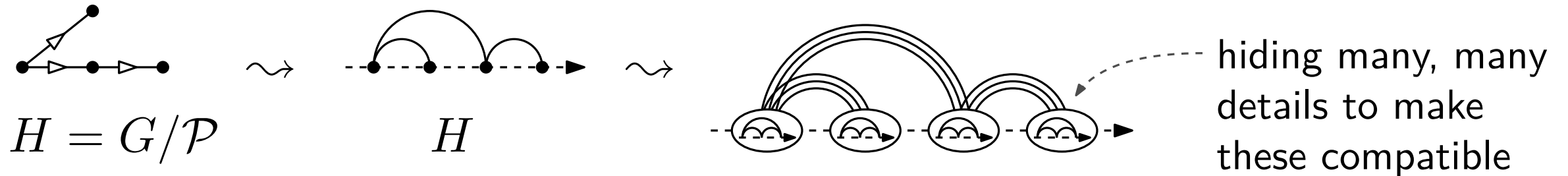
**Lemma:** (JMU 2023)

An outerplanar DAG  $G$  has a directed  $H$ -partition  $\mathcal{P}$ , such that:

- $H = G/\mathcal{P}$  is block-monotone
- each part is “transitive”

(+ other useful properties)

## Proof Strategy:



# Best Possible

## Recall:

- an outerplanar DAG  $G$  is a 2-tree with at most one child per edge
- $\text{sn}(G) \leq 24776$

## Questions:

- Stack number of general directed 2-trees?
- Where is the boundary between constant and unbounded stack number?

# Best Possible

## Recall:

- an outerplanar DAG  $G$  is a 2-tree with at most one child per edge
- $\text{sn}(G) \leq 24776$

## Theorem: (JMU 2023)

For every  $k$  there exists a 2-tree  $G$  with stack number  $\text{sn}(G) = k$ .

## Questions:

- Stack number of general directed 2-trees?
- Where is the boundary between constant and unbounded stack number?

# Best Possible

## Recall:

- an outerplanar DAG  $G$  is a 2-tree with at most one child per edge
- $\text{sn}(G) \leq 24776$

## Questions:

- Stack number of general directed 2-trees?
- Where is the boundary between constant and unbounded stack number?

## Theorem: (JMU 2023)

For every  $k$  there exists a 2-tree  $G$  with stack number  $\text{sn}(G) = k$ .

Additionally:

- $G$  is monotone
- at most two children per edge



outerplanar DAGs are right at that boundary

# Open Problems

## Problem 1:

Precise bound for stack number of outerplanar DAGs?

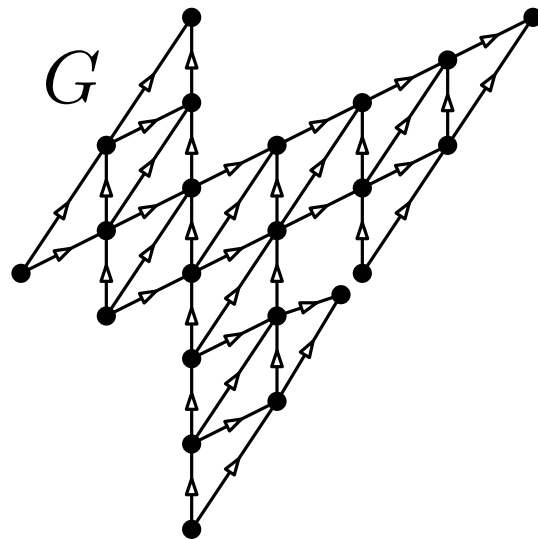
**JMU 2023:**

$$\text{sn}(G) \leq 24776$$

**Nöllenburg +**

**Pupyrev 2023:**

$$\text{sn}(G) \geq 4$$



$$\text{sn}(G) = 4$$

# Open Problems

## Problem 1:

Precise bound for stack number of outerplanar DAGs?

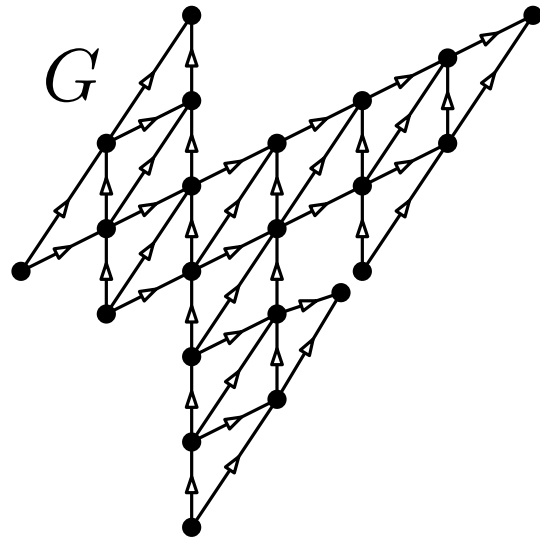
**JMU 2023:**

$$\text{sn}(G) \leq 24776$$

**Nöllenburg +**

**Pupyrev 2023:**

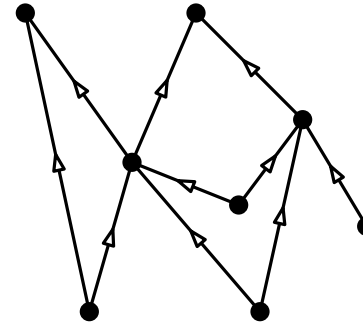
$$\text{sn}(G) \geq 4$$



$$\text{sn}(G) = 4$$

## Problem 2:

What is the stack number of upward planar graphs?



planar +  
all edges upward

**JMU 2022:**

$$5 \leq \text{sn}(G) \in O((n \log n)^{\frac{2}{3}})$$

