

# Track Layout is Hard

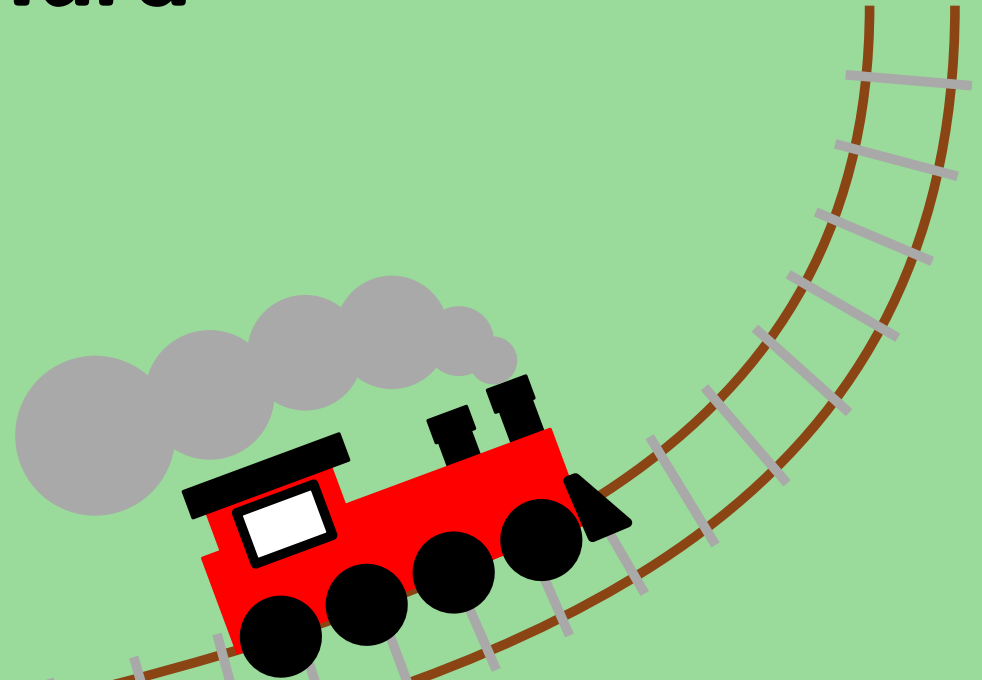
Michael J. Bannister<sup>1</sup>

**William E. Devanny<sup>2</sup>**

Vida Dujmović<sup>3</sup>

David Eppstein<sup>2</sup>

David R. Wood<sup>4</sup>



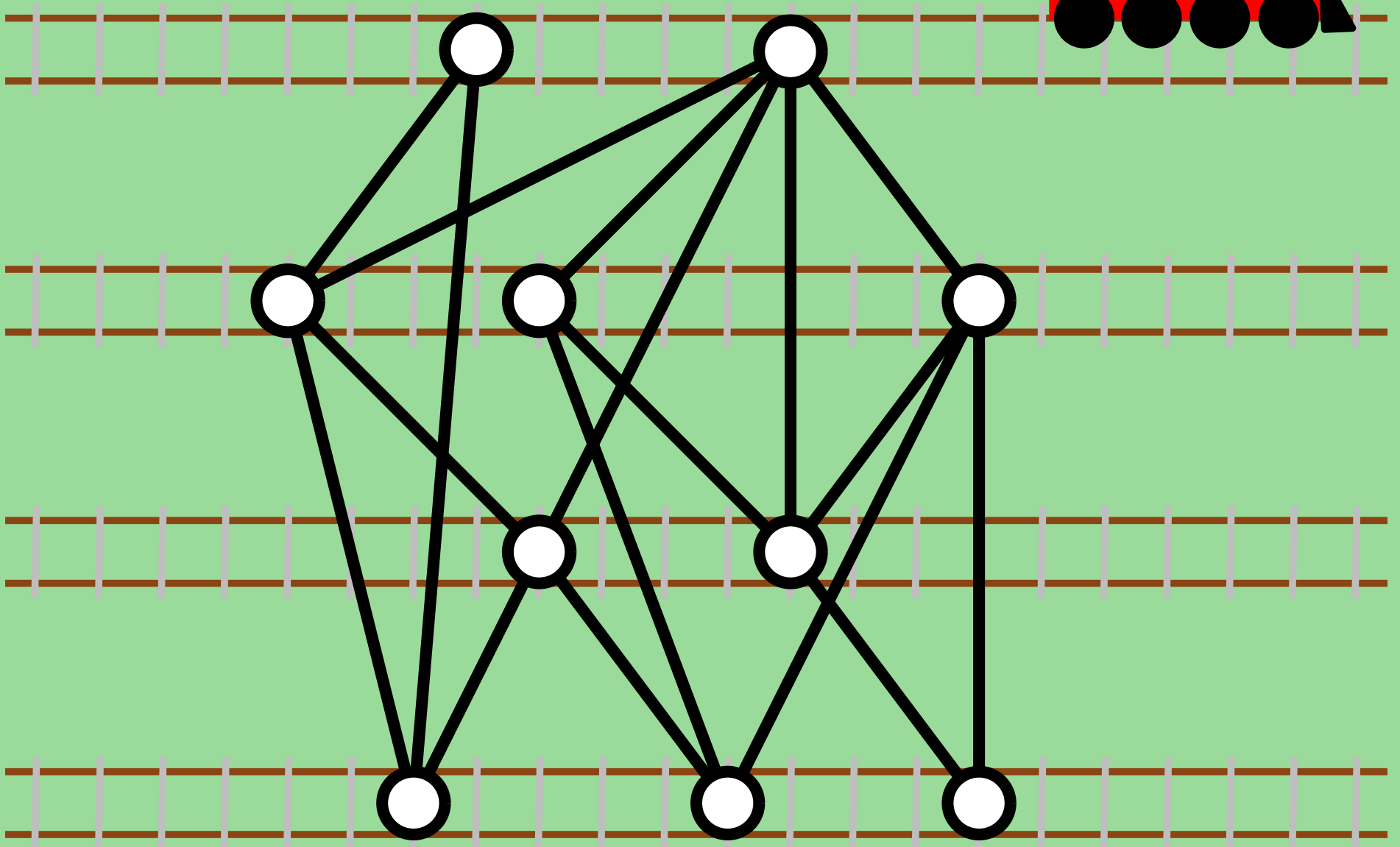
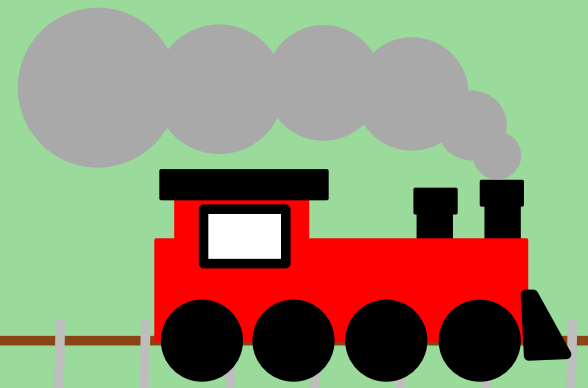
<sup>1</sup>Santa Clara University

<sup>2</sup>University of California, Irvine

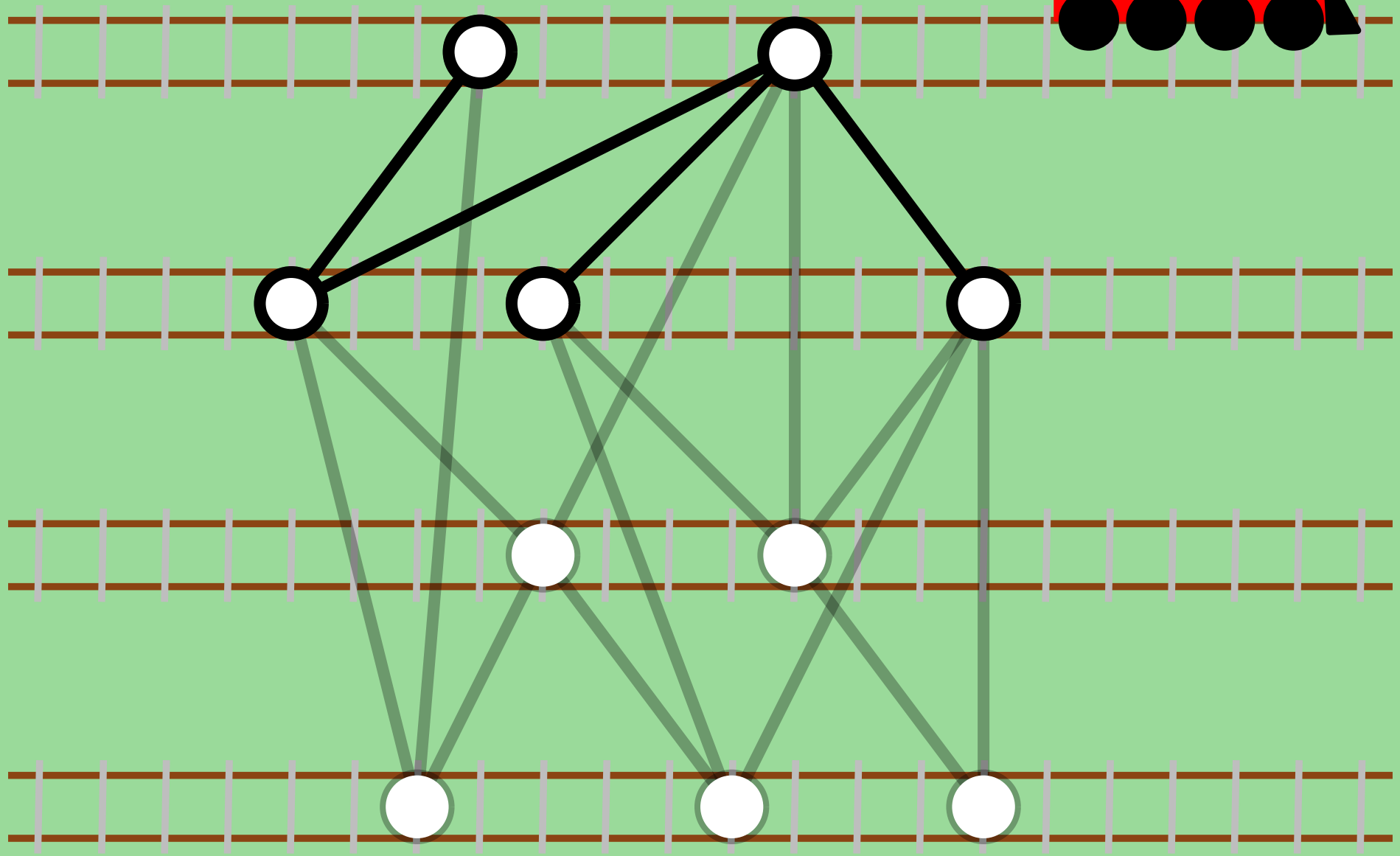
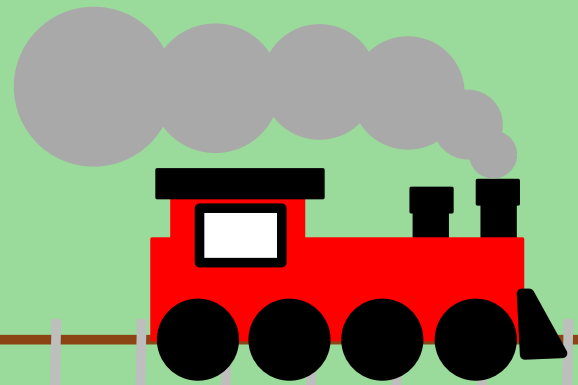
<sup>3</sup>University of Ottawa

<sup>4</sup>Monash University

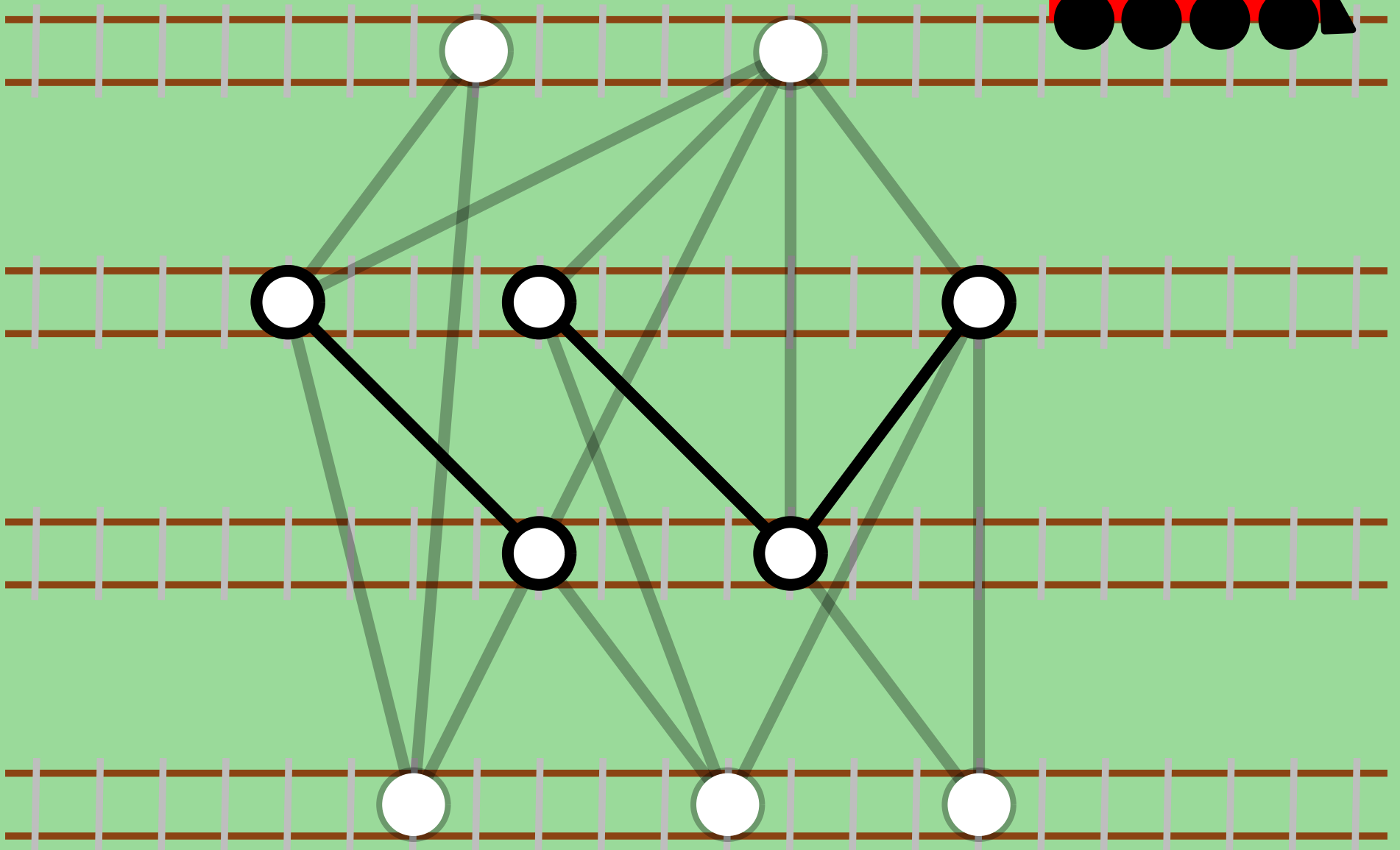
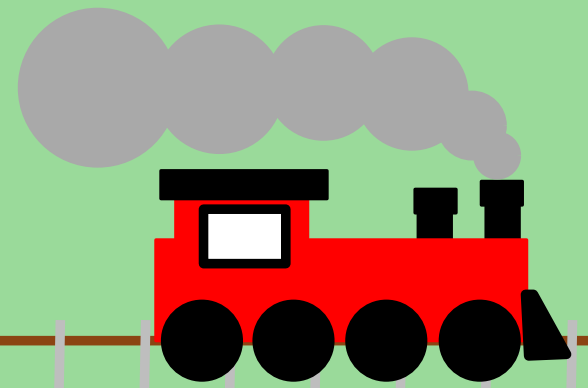
# Track Layout



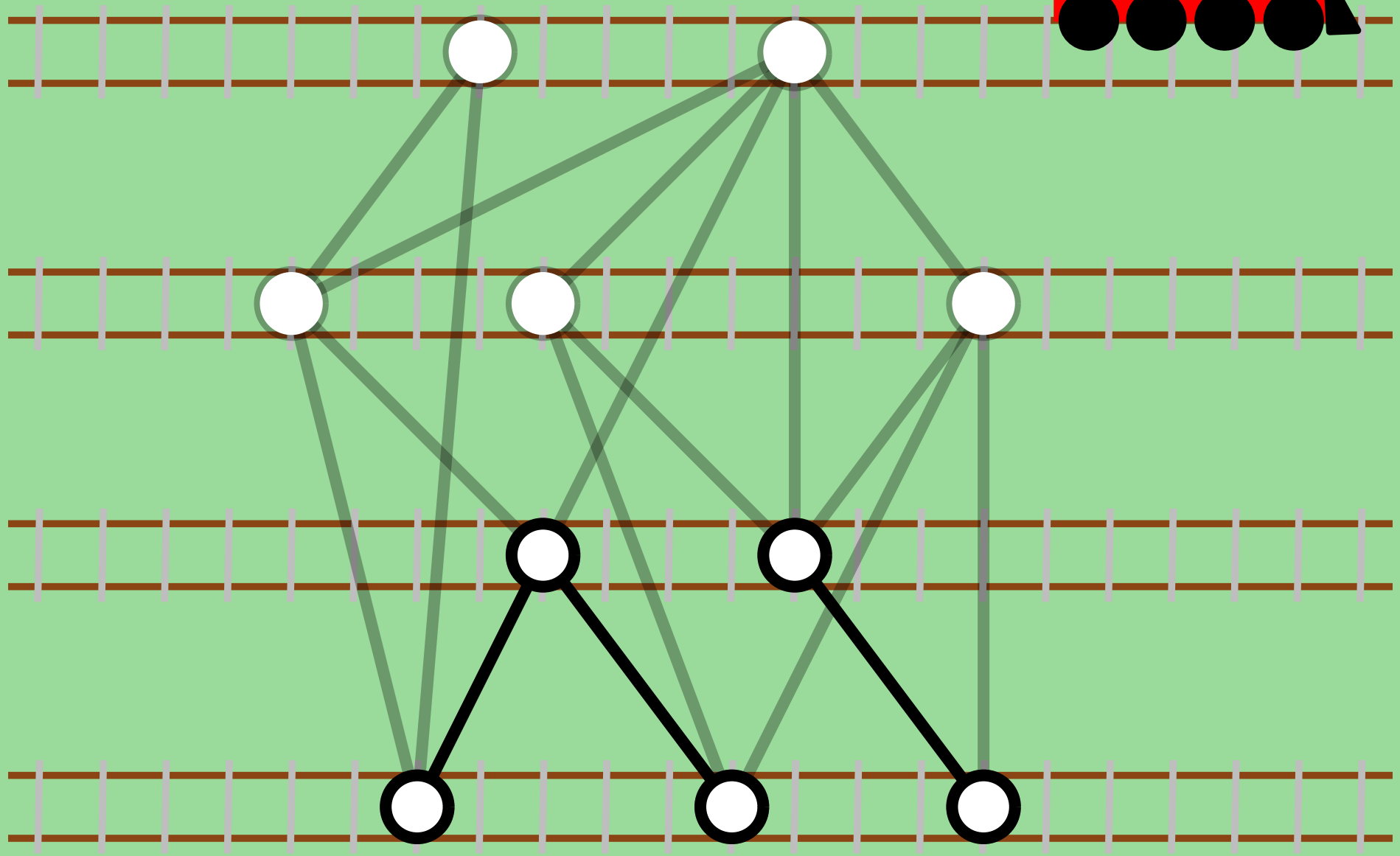
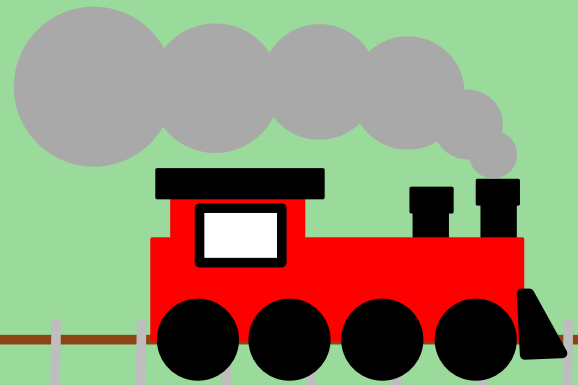
# Track Layout



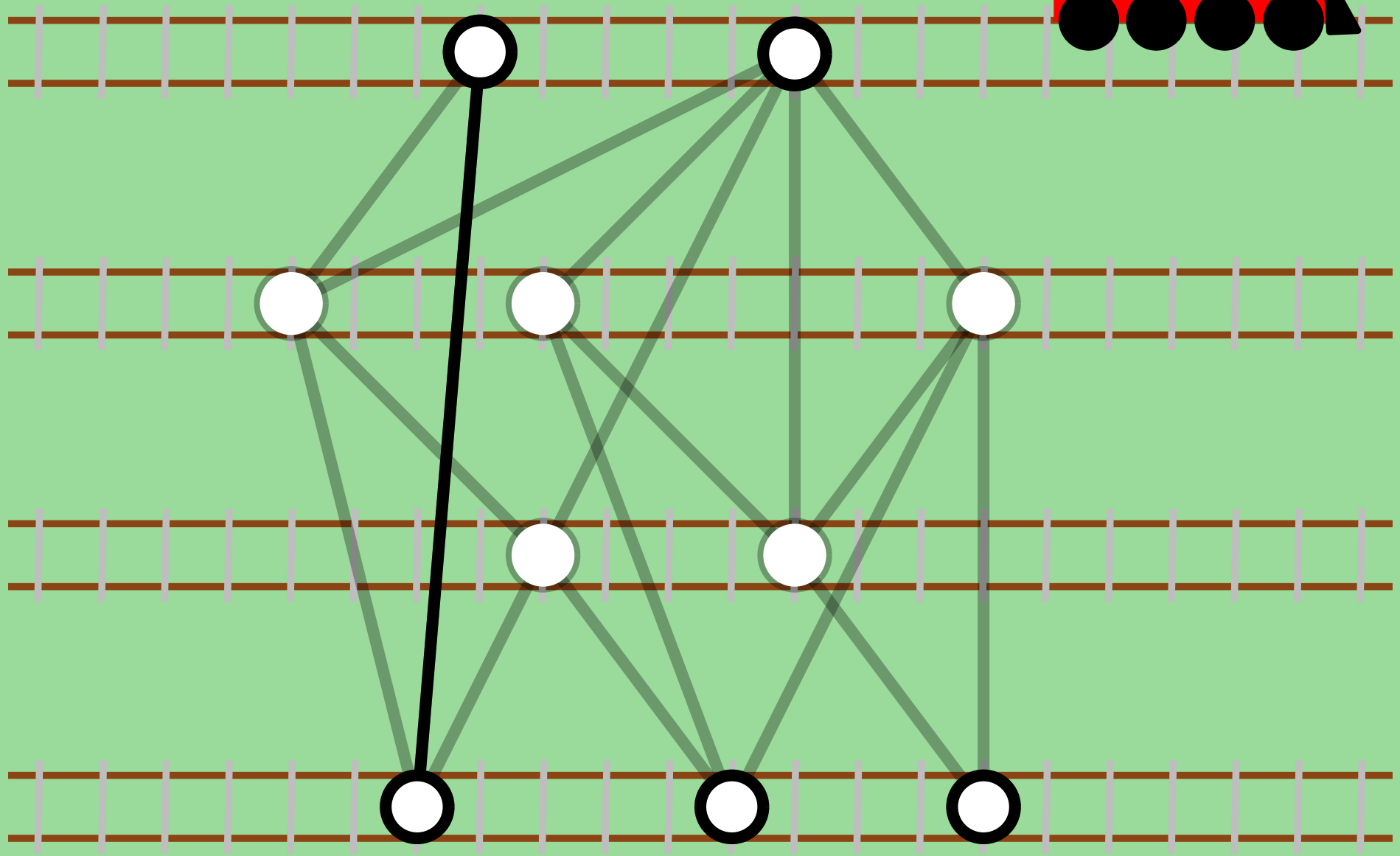
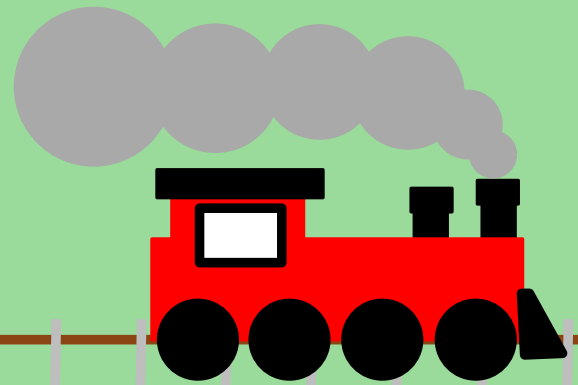
# Track Layout



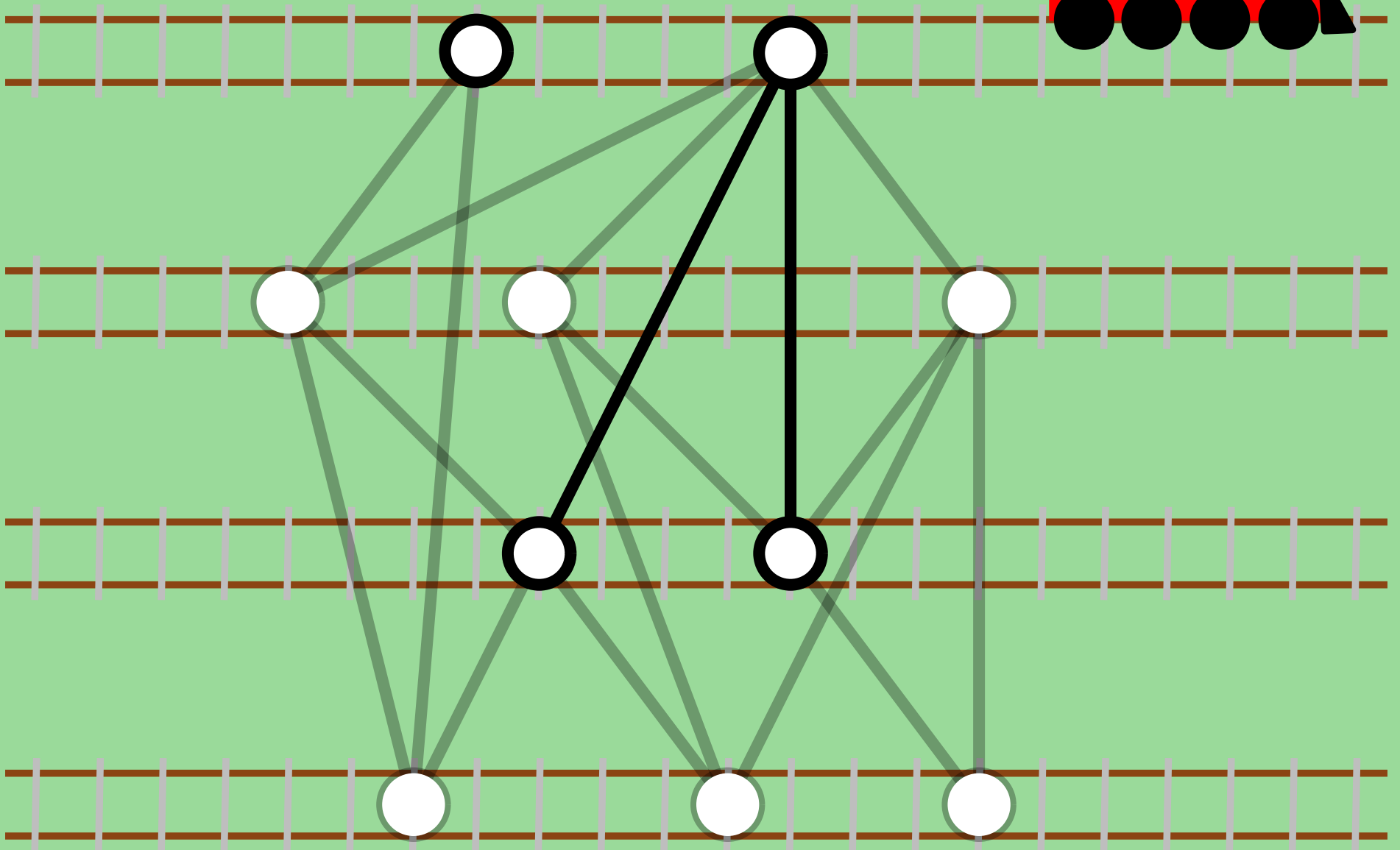
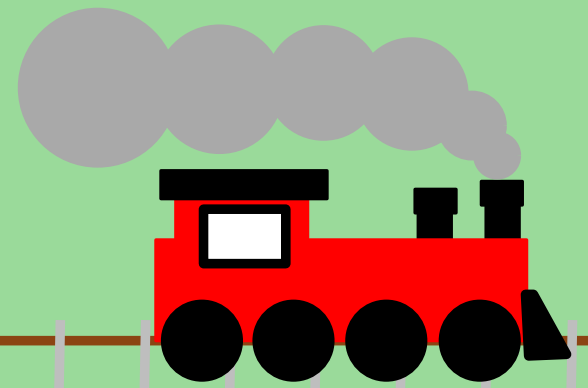
# Track Layout



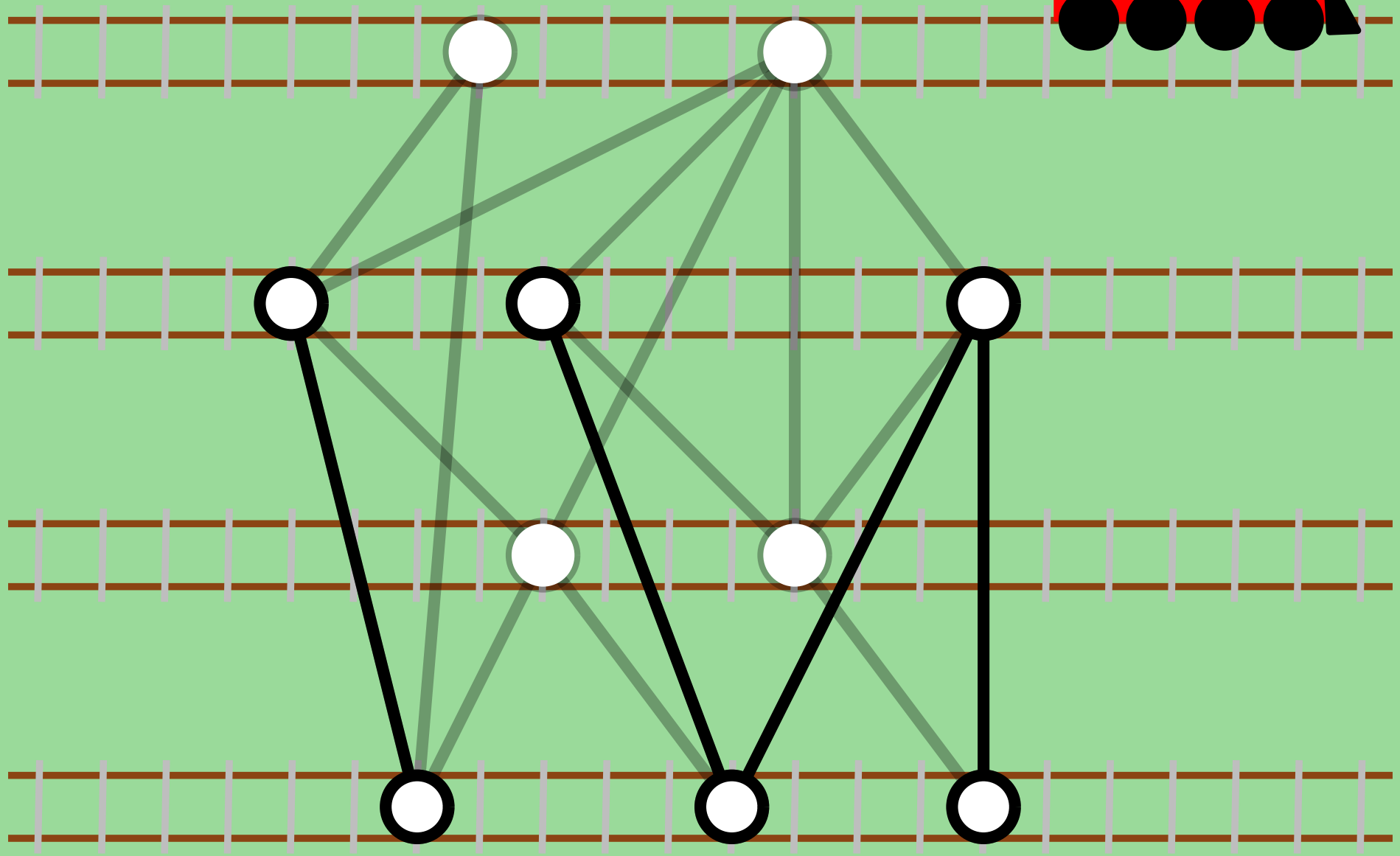
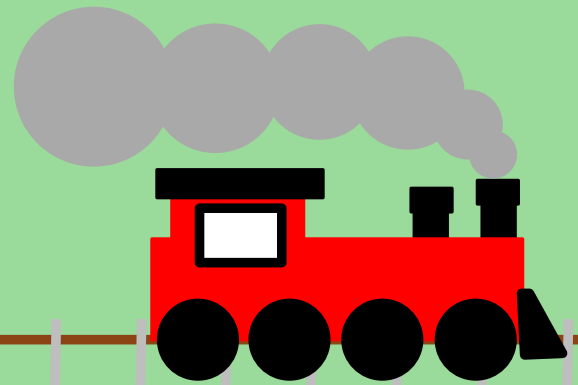
# Track Layout



# Track Layout

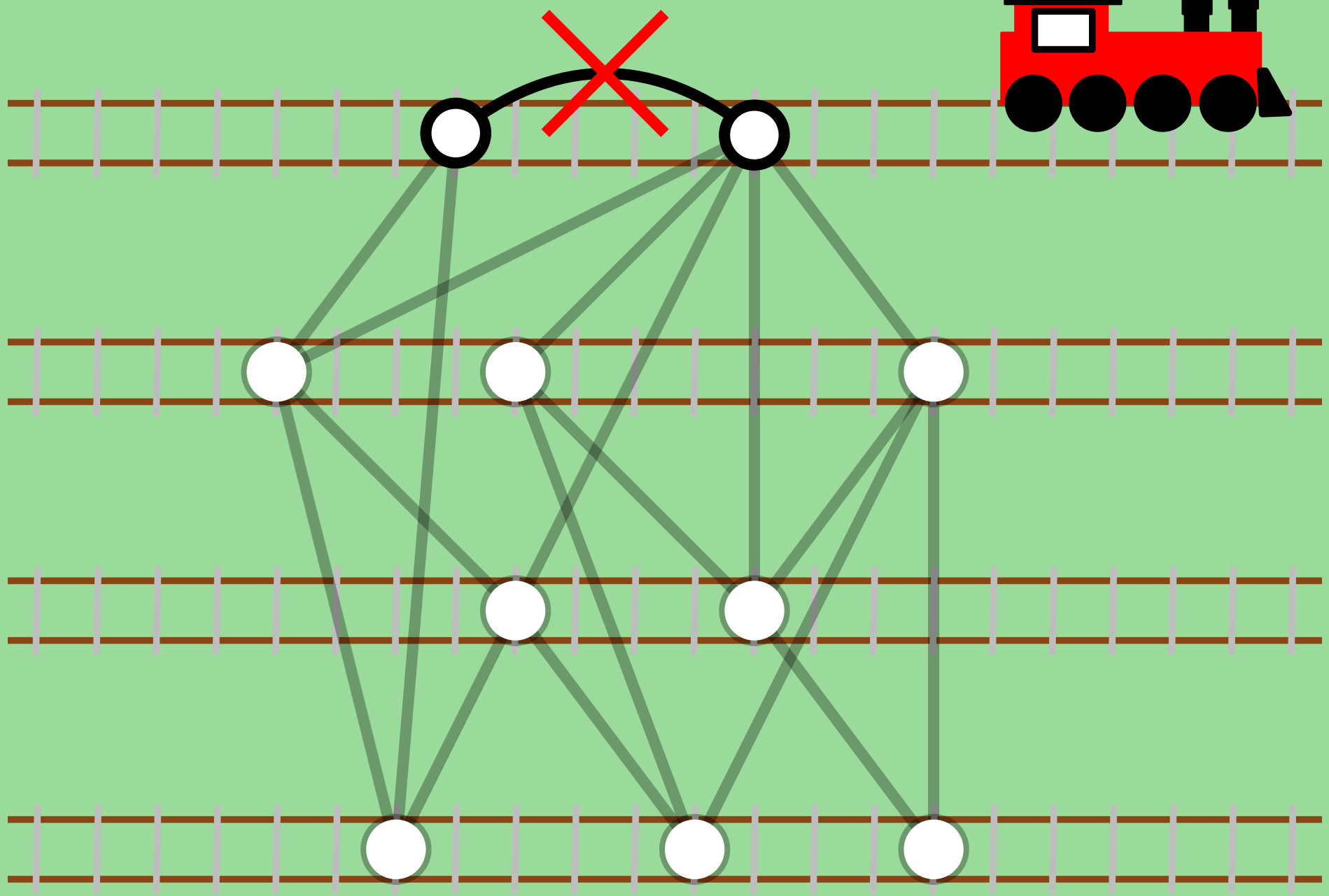


# Track Layout

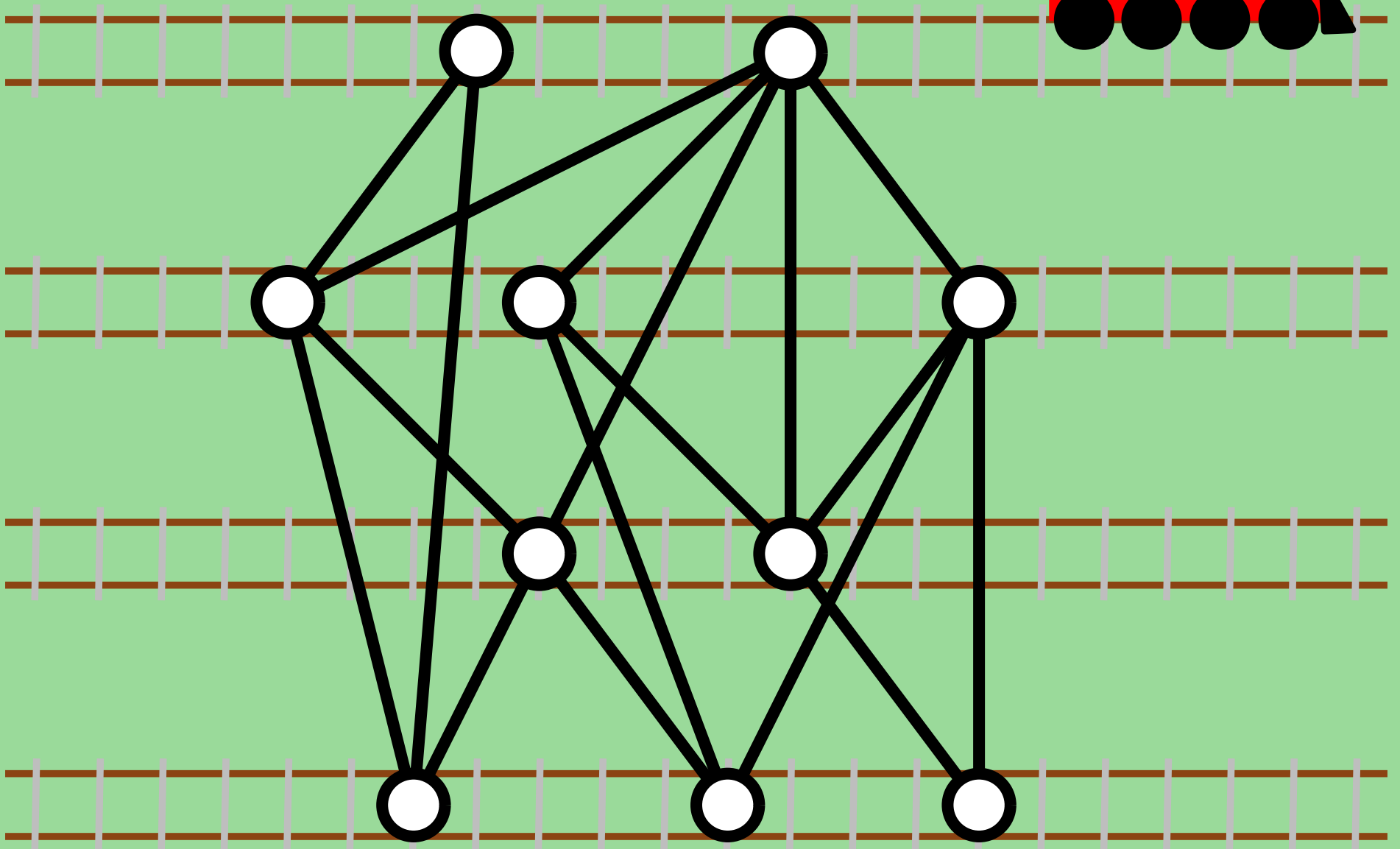
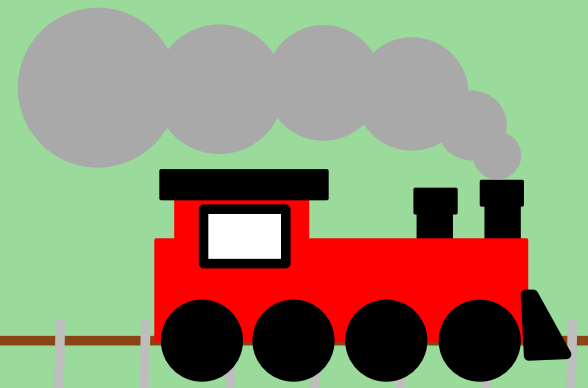




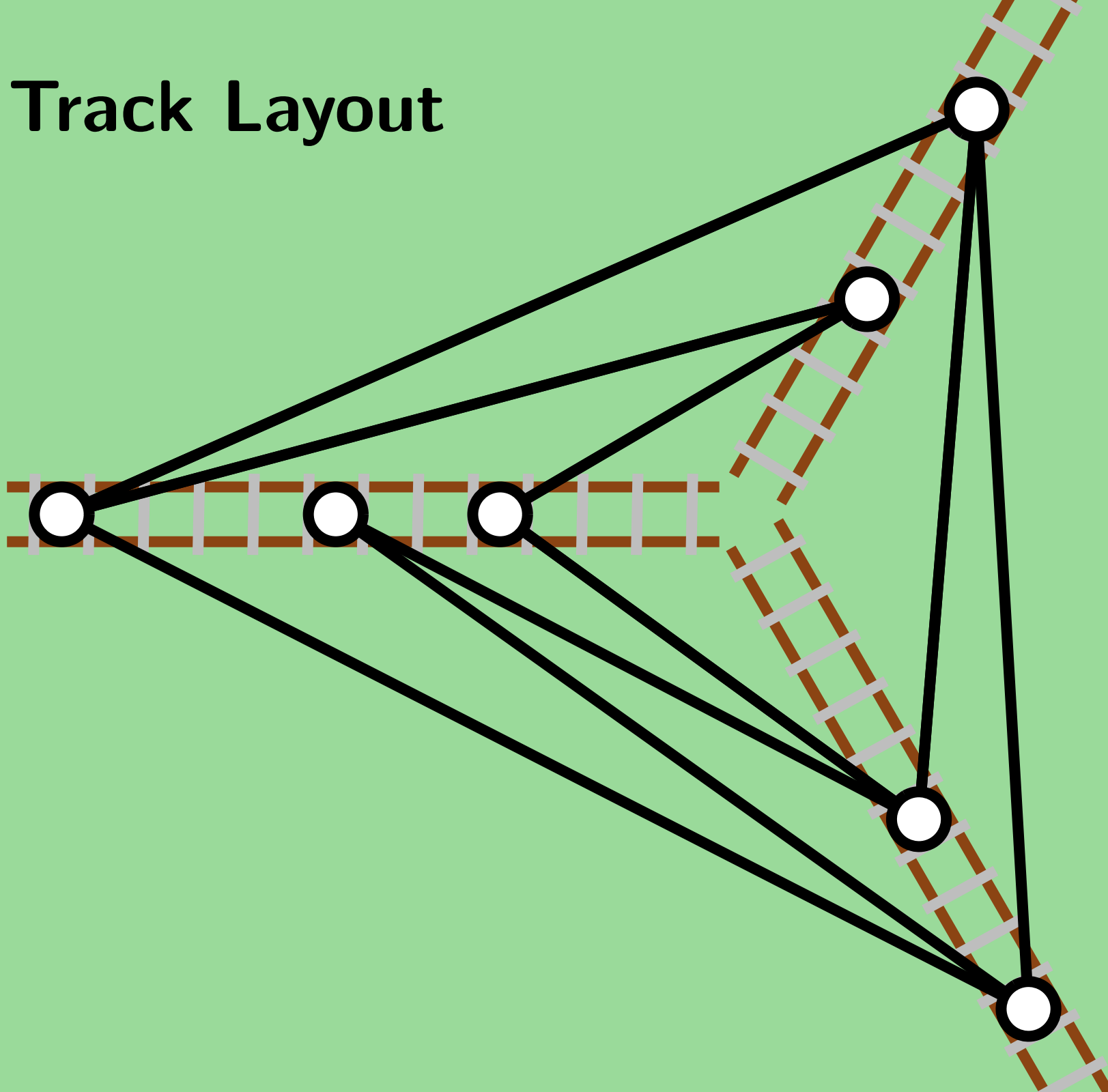
# Track Layout



# Track Layout



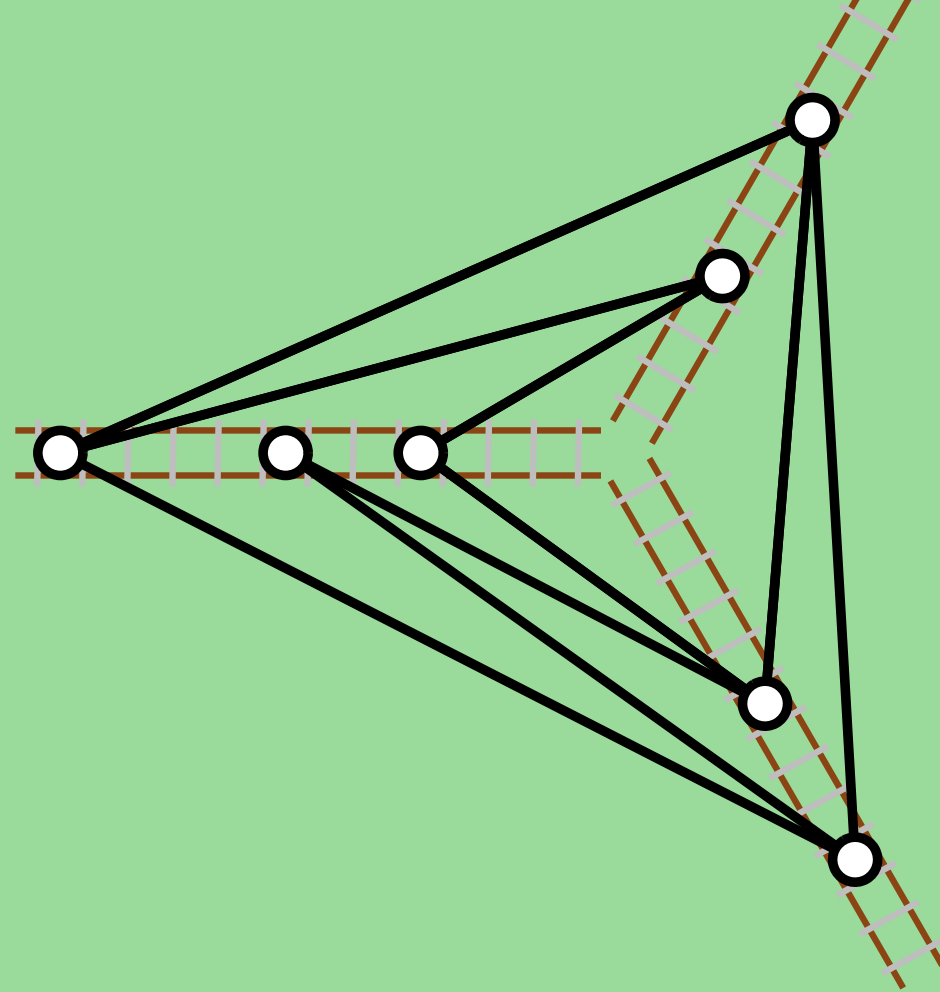
# Track Layout



# Track Layout

Track layouts find applications in minimizing the volume of 3D drawings

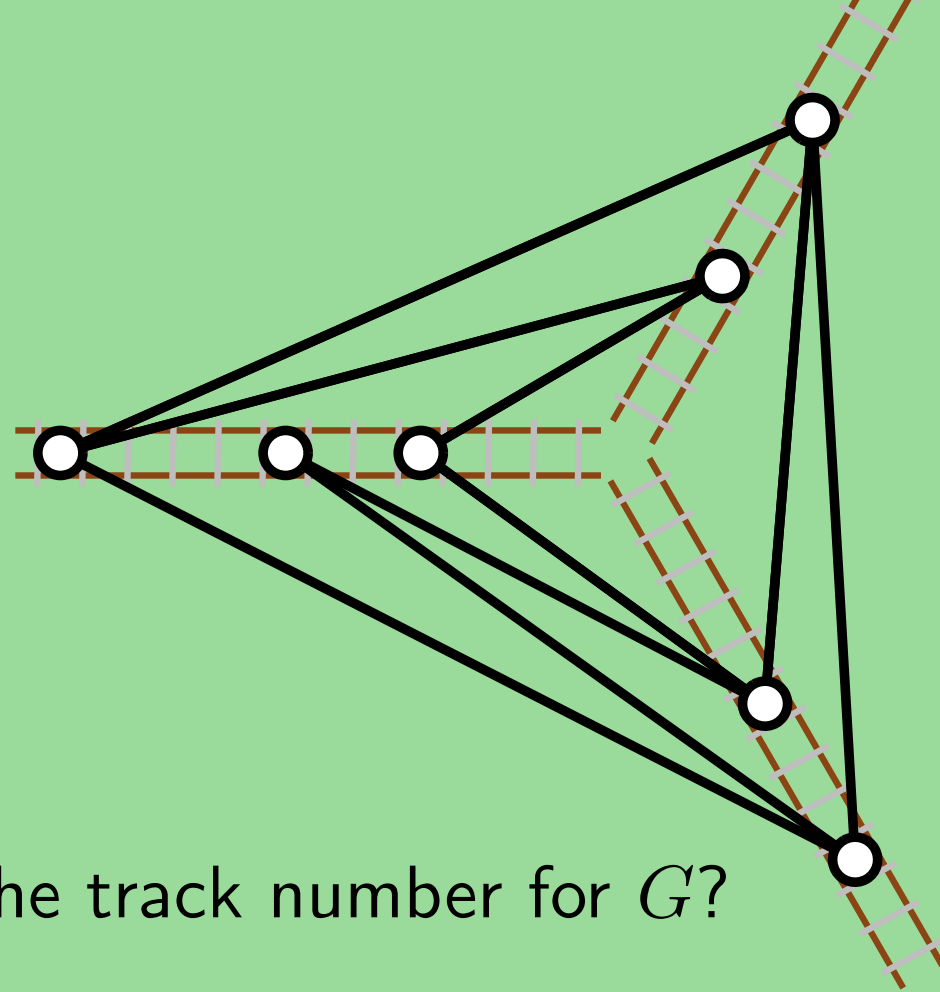
[Di Giacomo, 2004; Di Giacomo and Meijer, 2004; Dujmović and Wood, 2004; Felsner et al, 2003; Hasunuma, 2004]



# Track Layout

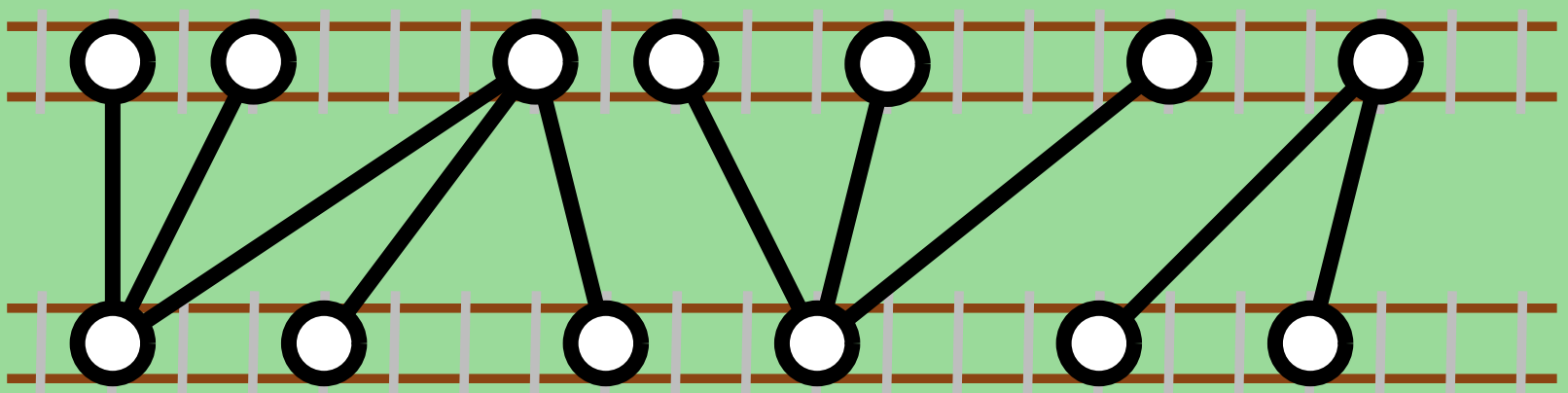
Track layouts find applications in minimizing the volume of 3D drawings

[Di Giacomo, 2004; Di Giacomo and Meijer, 2004; Dujmović and Wood, 2004; Felsner et al, 2003; Hasunuma, 2004]



Given a graph  $G$  can we compute the track number for  $G$ ?

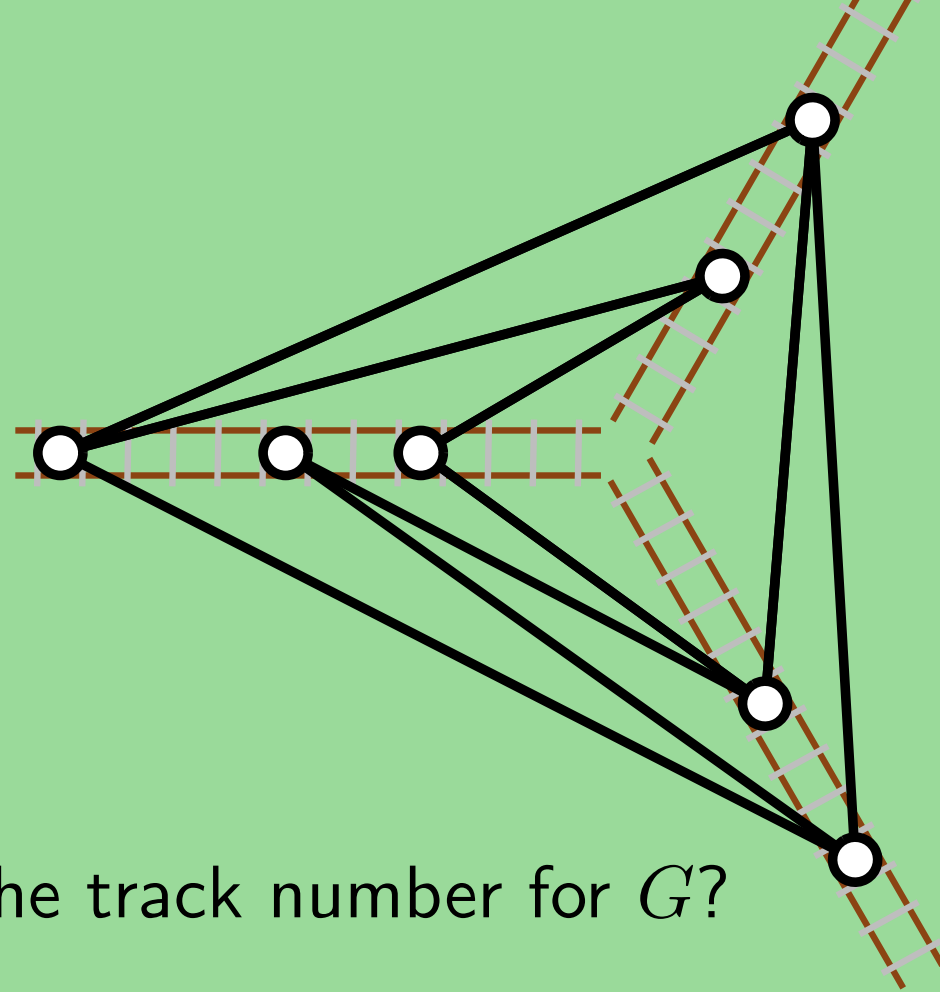
A graph is 2-track if and only if it is a forest of caterpillars



# Track Layout

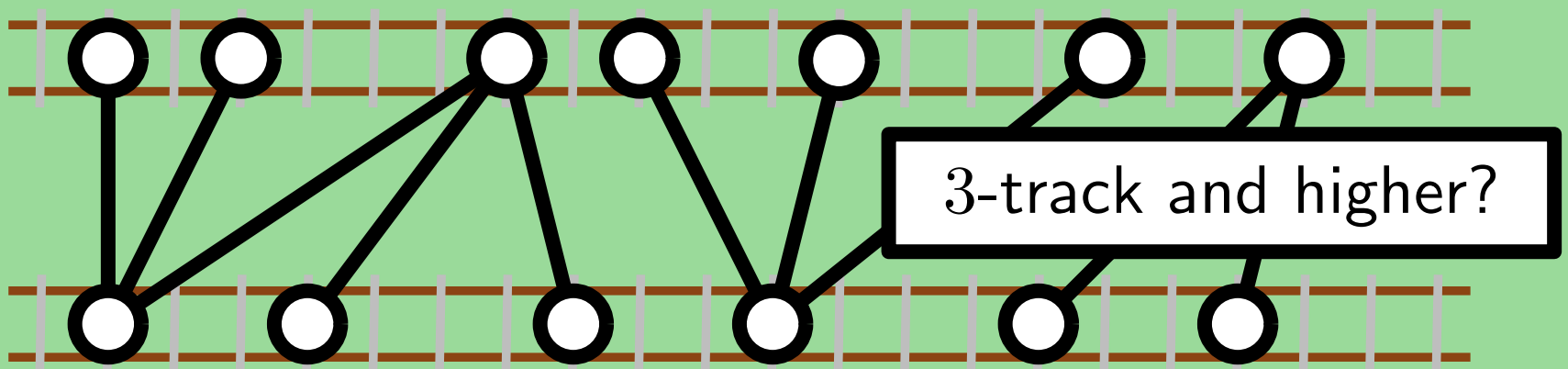
Track layouts find applications in minimizing the volume of 3D drawings

[Di Giacomo, 2004; Di Giacomo and Meijer, 2004; Dujmović and Wood, 2004; Felsner et al, 2003; Hasunuma, 2004]



Given a graph  $G$  can we compute the track number for  $G$ ?

A graph is 2-track if and only if it is a forest of caterpillars



# Leveled planarity

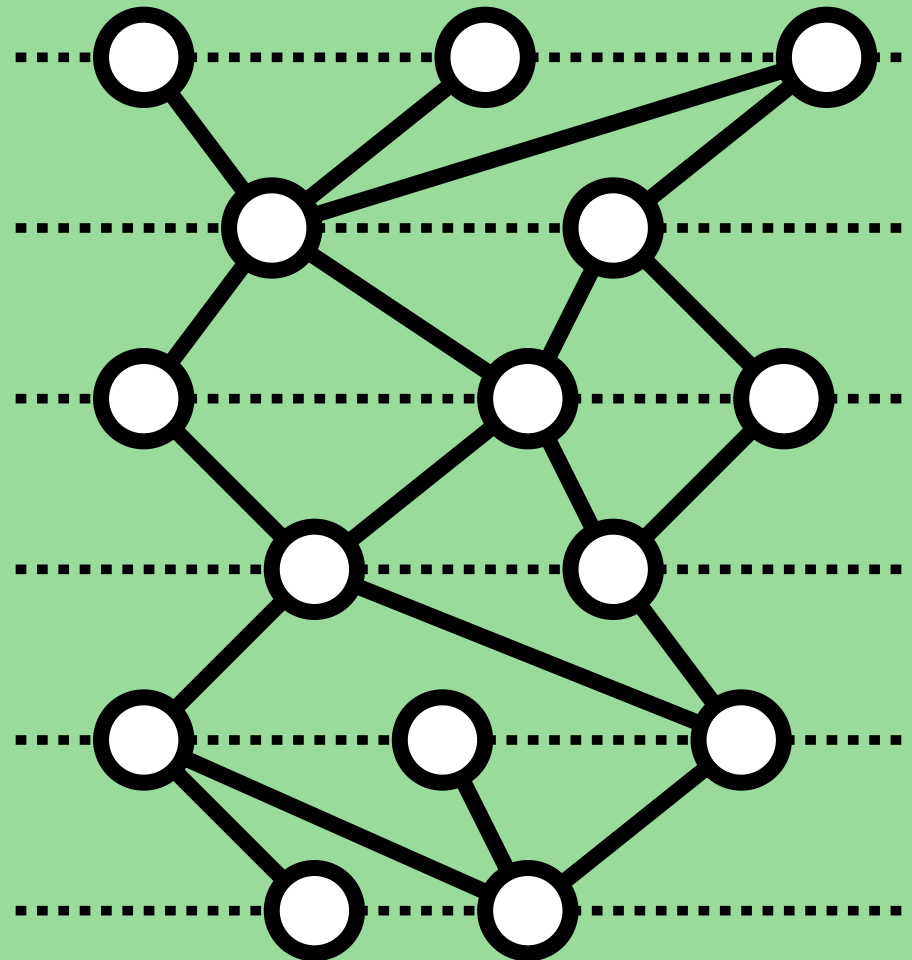
Perfect Sugiyama-style  
layered drawing

No edge crossing

No dummy vertices

Recognition is NP-complete

[Heath and Rosenberg, 1992]



# Leveled planarity

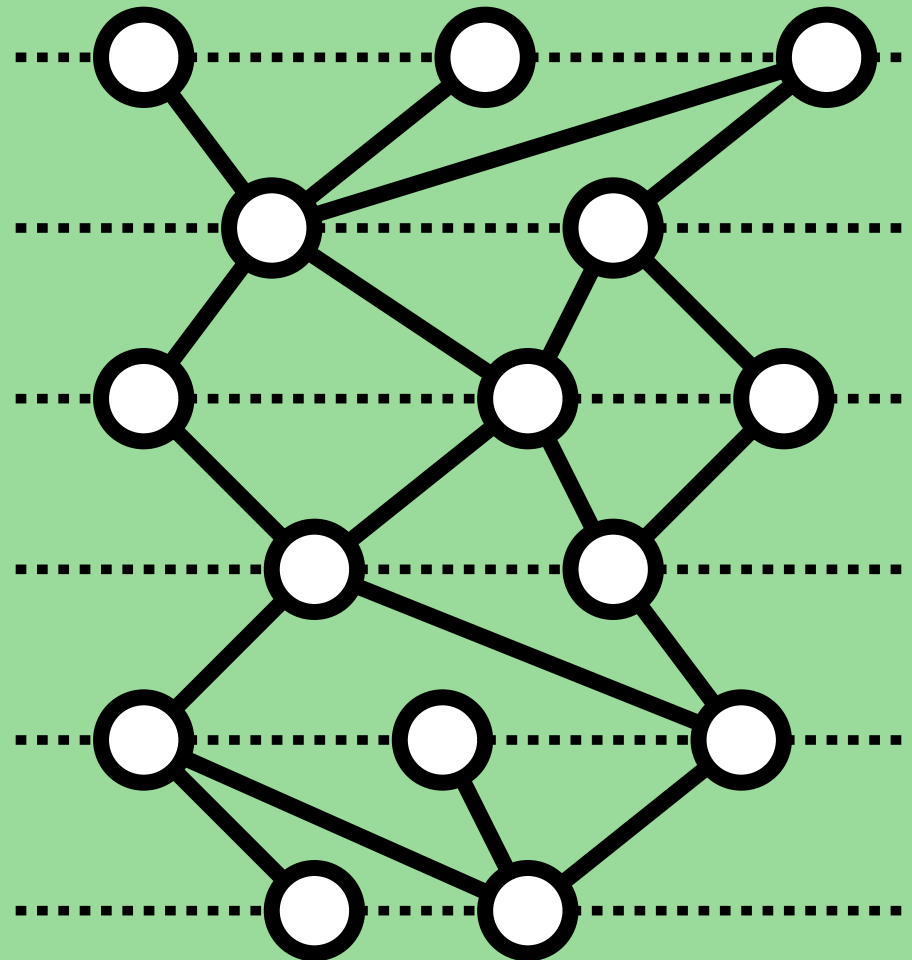
Perfect Sugiyama-style  
layered drawing

No edge crossing

No dummy vertices

Recognition is NP-complete

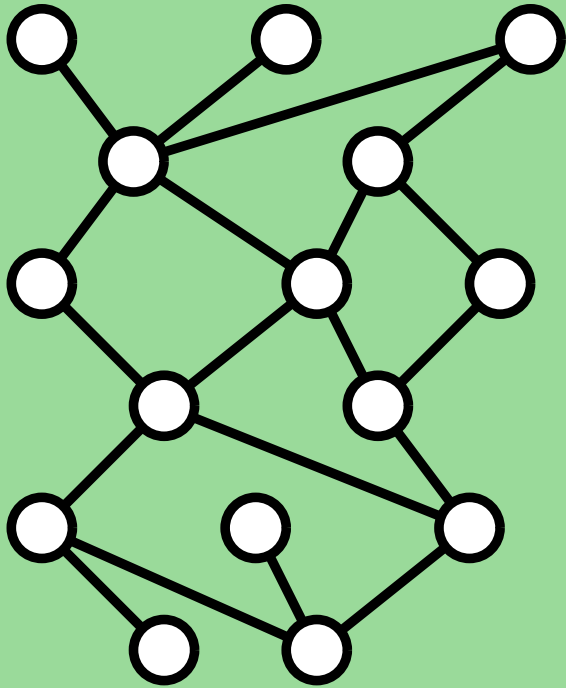
[Heath and Rosenberg, 1992]



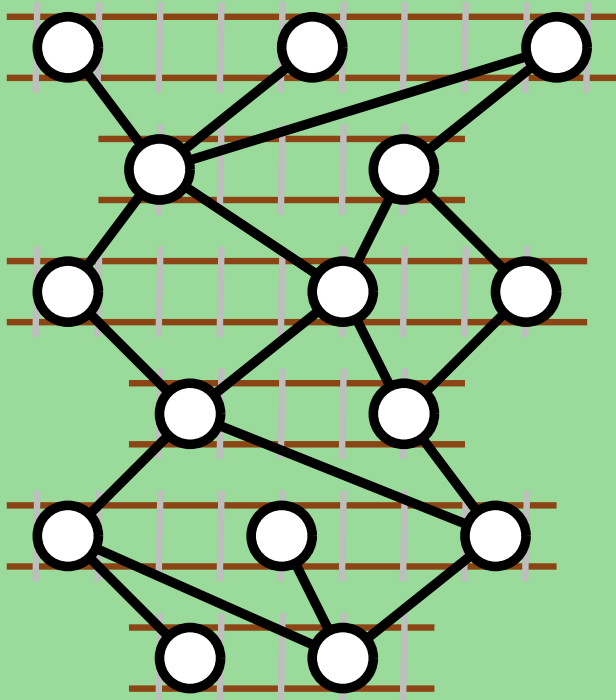
Will show leveled planar graphs are  
the same as bipartite 3-track graphs



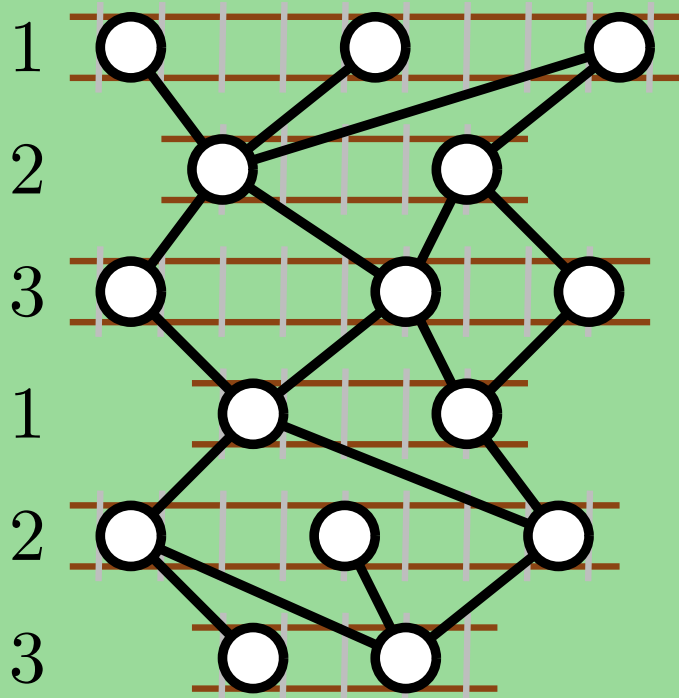
**Lemma:** Every leveled planar graph has a 3-track layout.



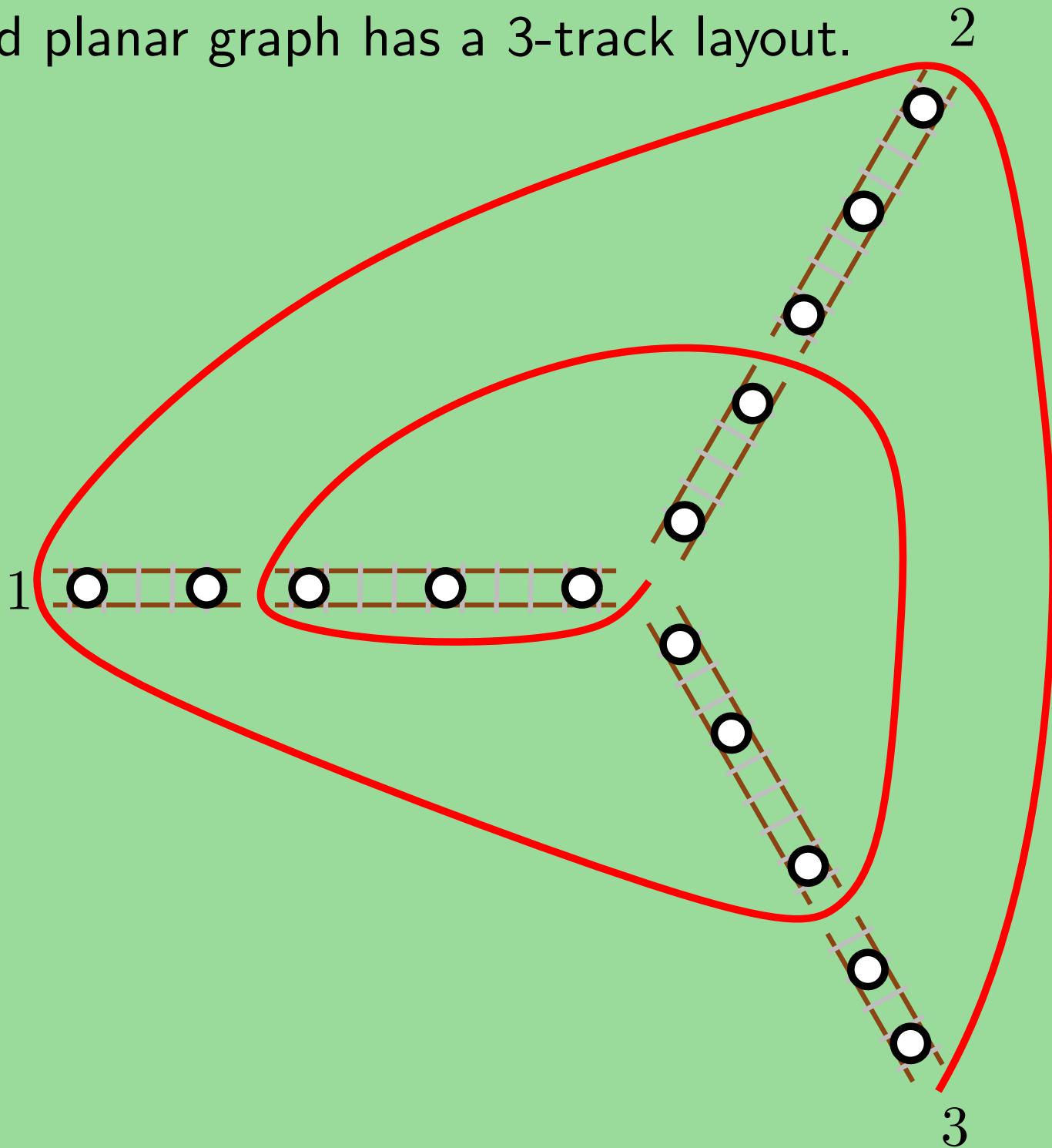
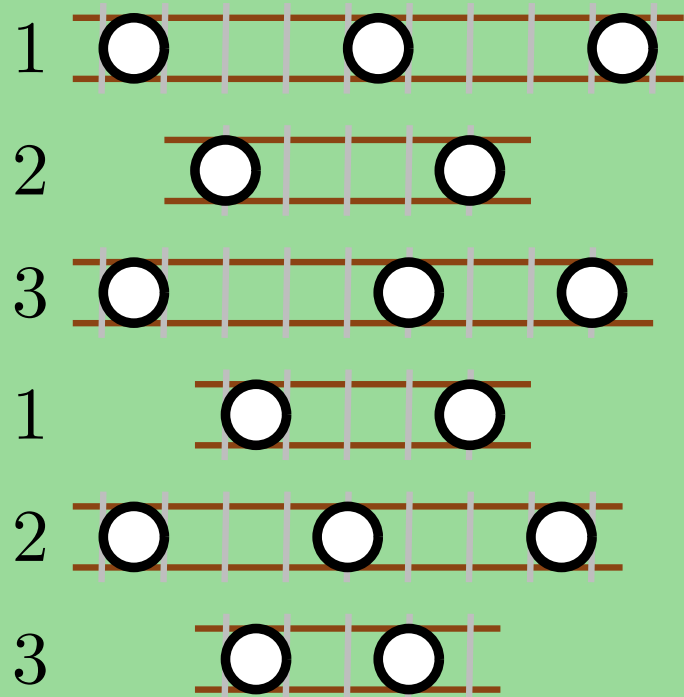
**Lemma:** Every leveled planar graph has a 3-track layout.



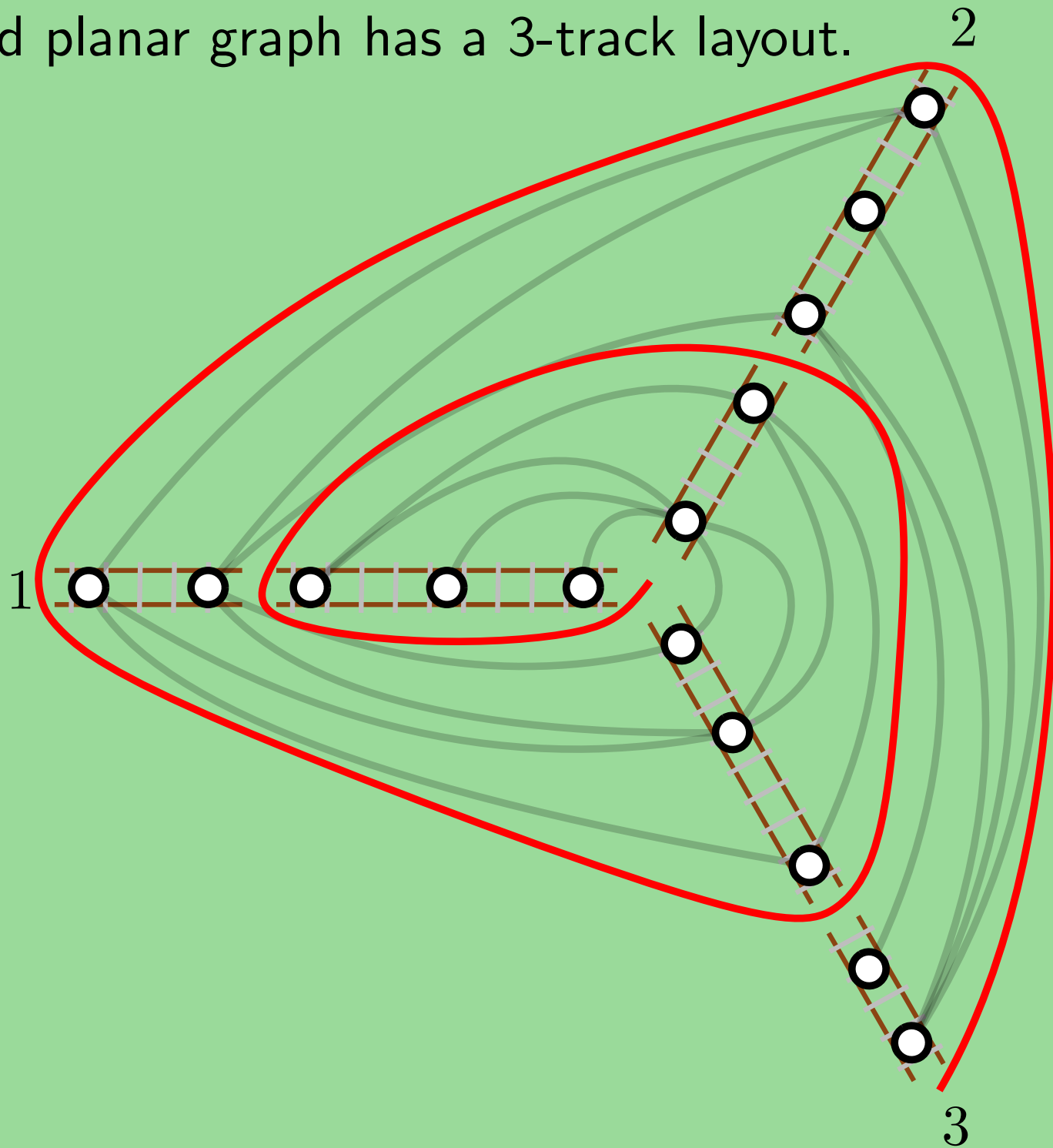
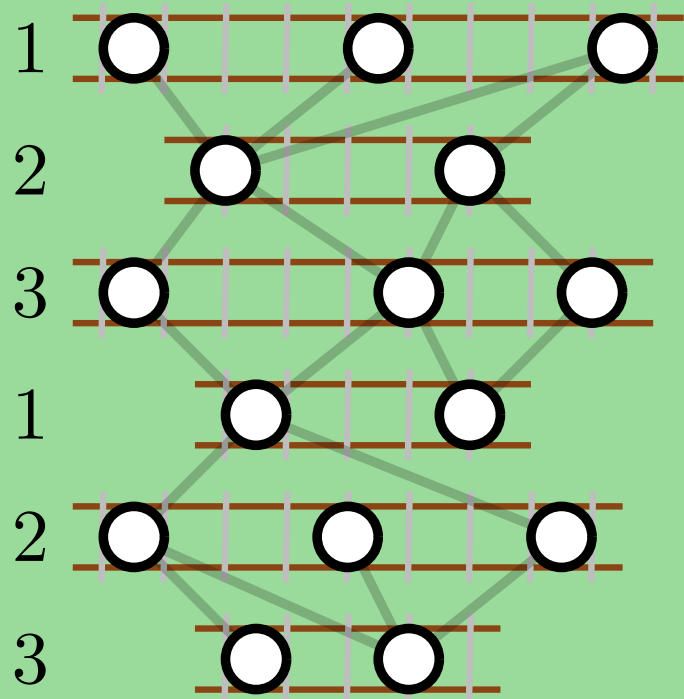
**Lemma:** Every leveled planar graph has a 3-track layout.



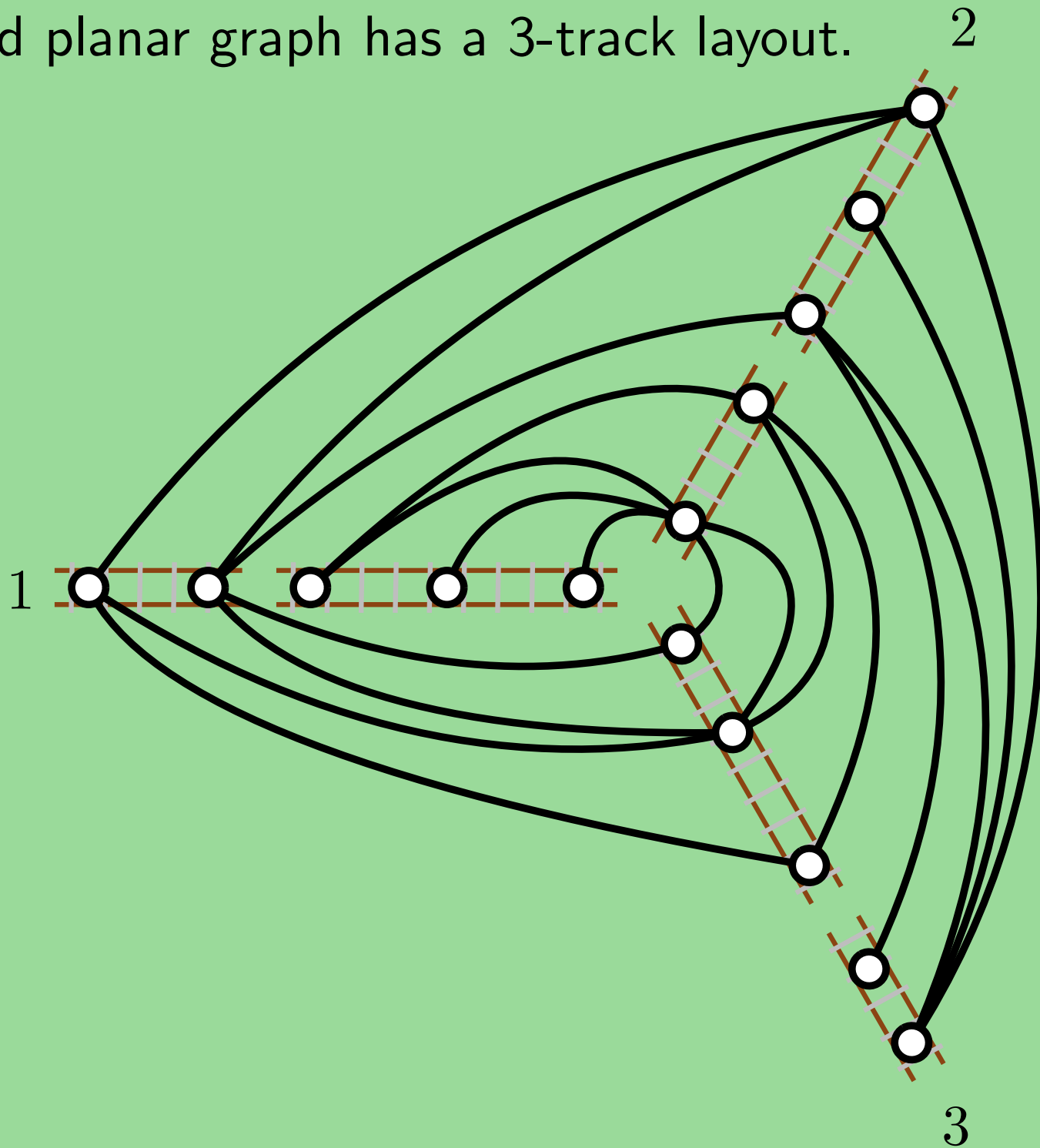
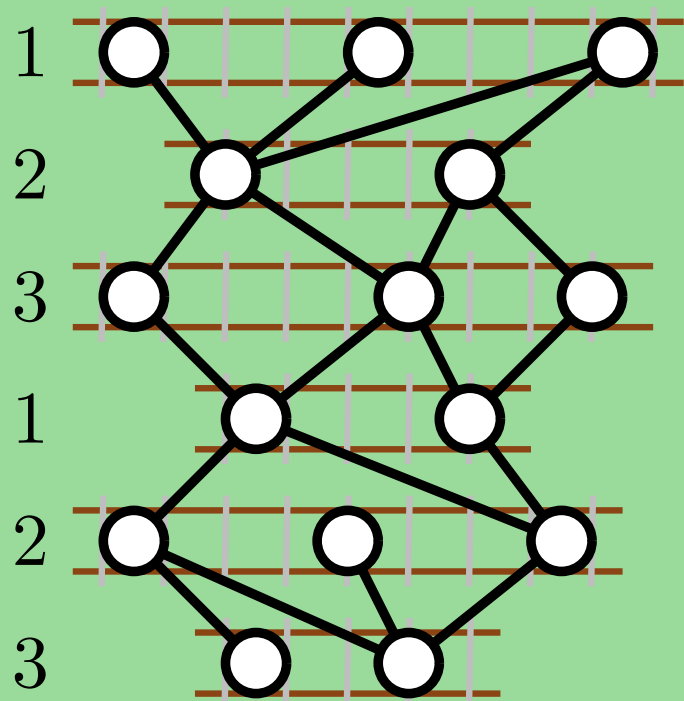
**Lemma:** Every leveled planar graph has a 3-track layout.



**Lemma:** Every leveled planar graph has a 3-track layout.

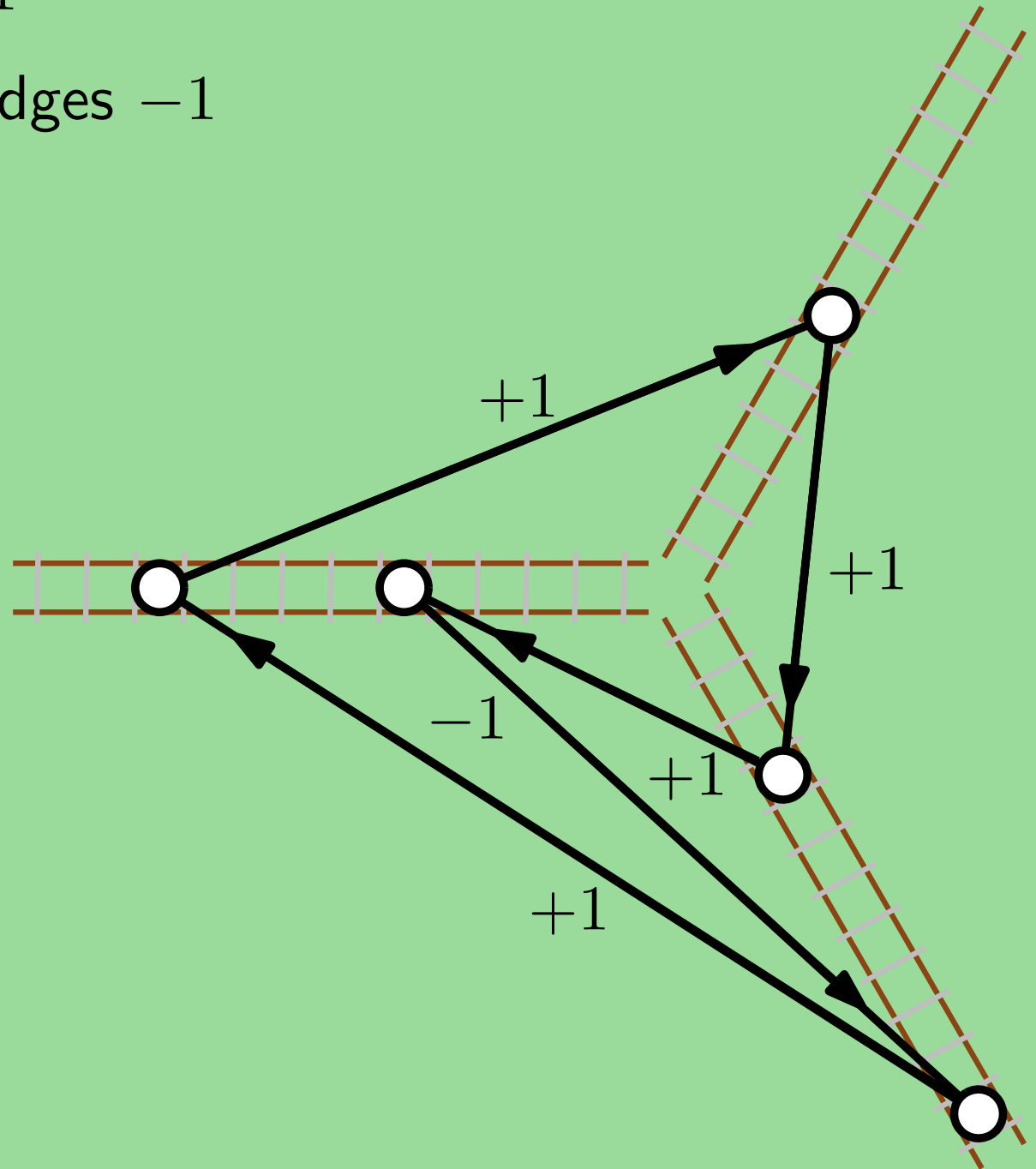


**Lemma:** Every leveled planar graph has a 3-track layout.



Label clockwise edges  $+1$

Label counterclockwise edges  $-1$



Label clockwise edges +1

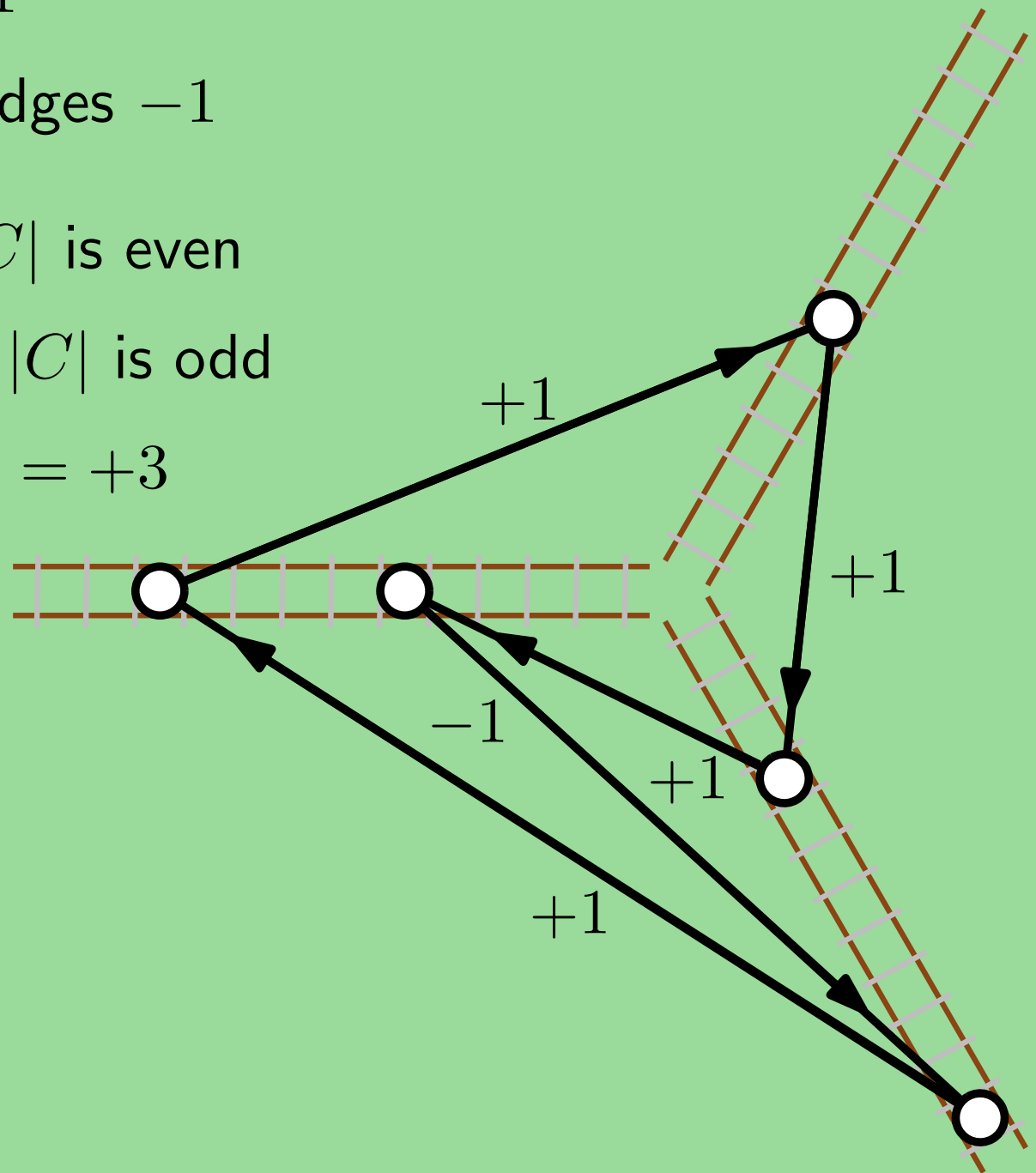
Label counterclockwise edges -1

**Lemma:**

$$\sum_{e \in C} \text{label}(e) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is even} \\ \pm 3 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$$+1 + 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 = +3$$

**Proof:**





Label clockwise edges +1

Label counterclockwise edges -1

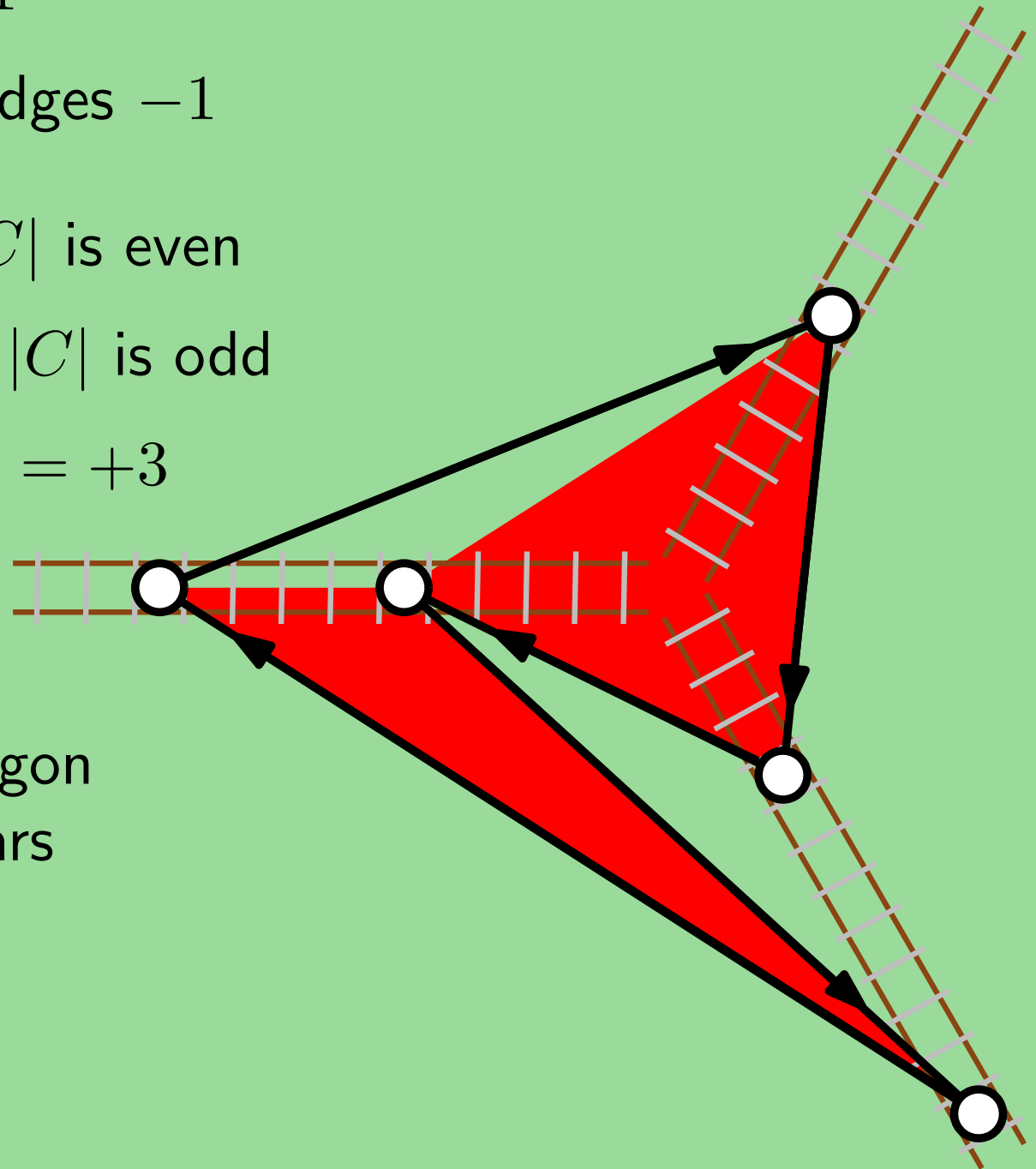
**Lemma:**

$$\sum_{e \in C} \text{label}(e) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is even} \\ \pm 3 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$$+1 + 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 = +3$$

**Proof:**

The cycle forms a polygon  
and has at least two ears



Label clockwise edges +1

Label counterclockwise edges -1

**Lemma:**

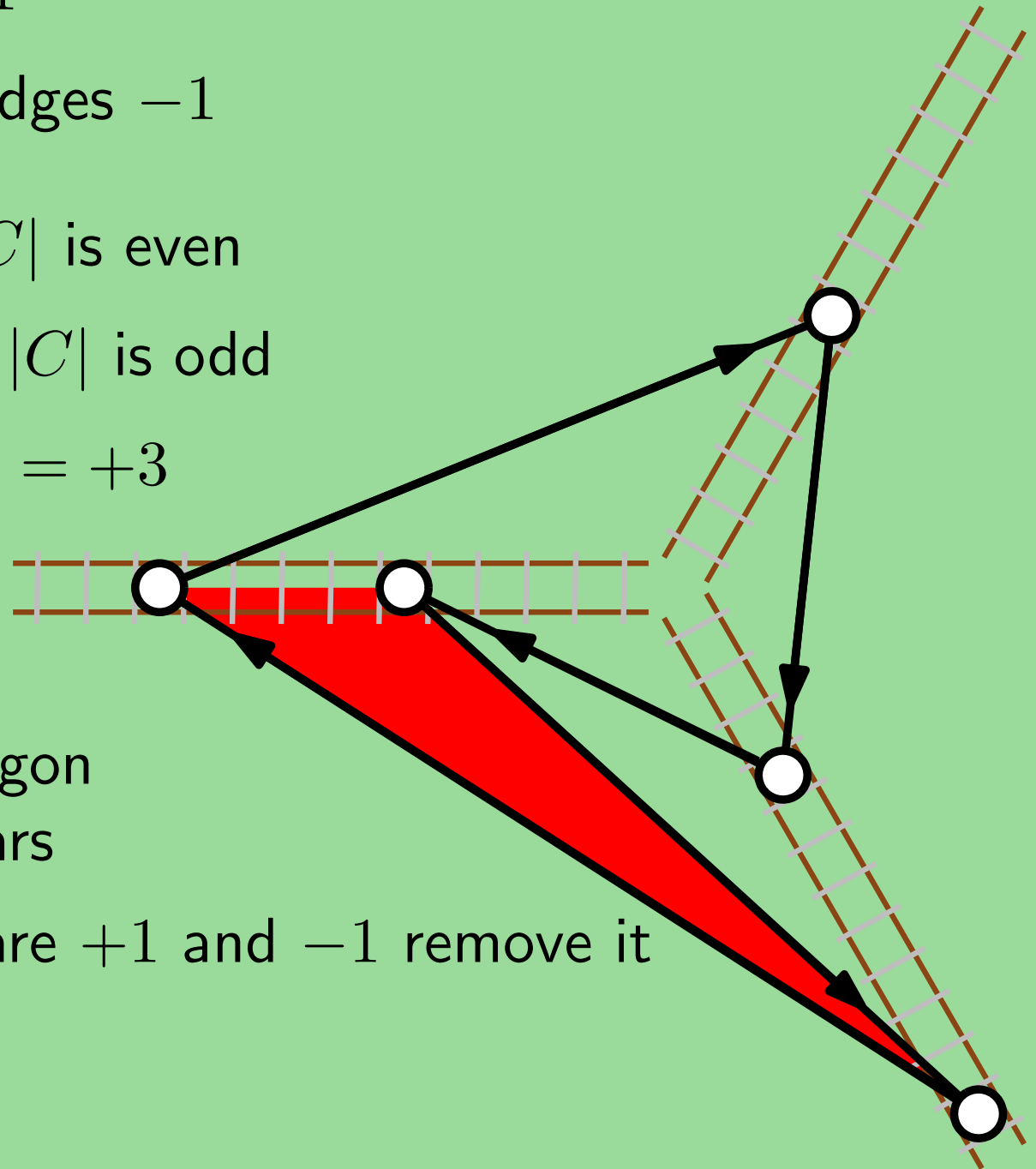
$$\sum_{e \in C} \text{label}(e) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is even} \\ \pm 3 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$$+1 + 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 = +3$$

**Proof:**

The cycle forms a polygon  
and has at least two ears

If the edges of an ear are +1 and -1 remove it



Label clockwise edges +1

Label counterclockwise edges -1

**Lemma:**

$$\sum_{e \in C} \text{label}(e) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is even} \\ \pm 3 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

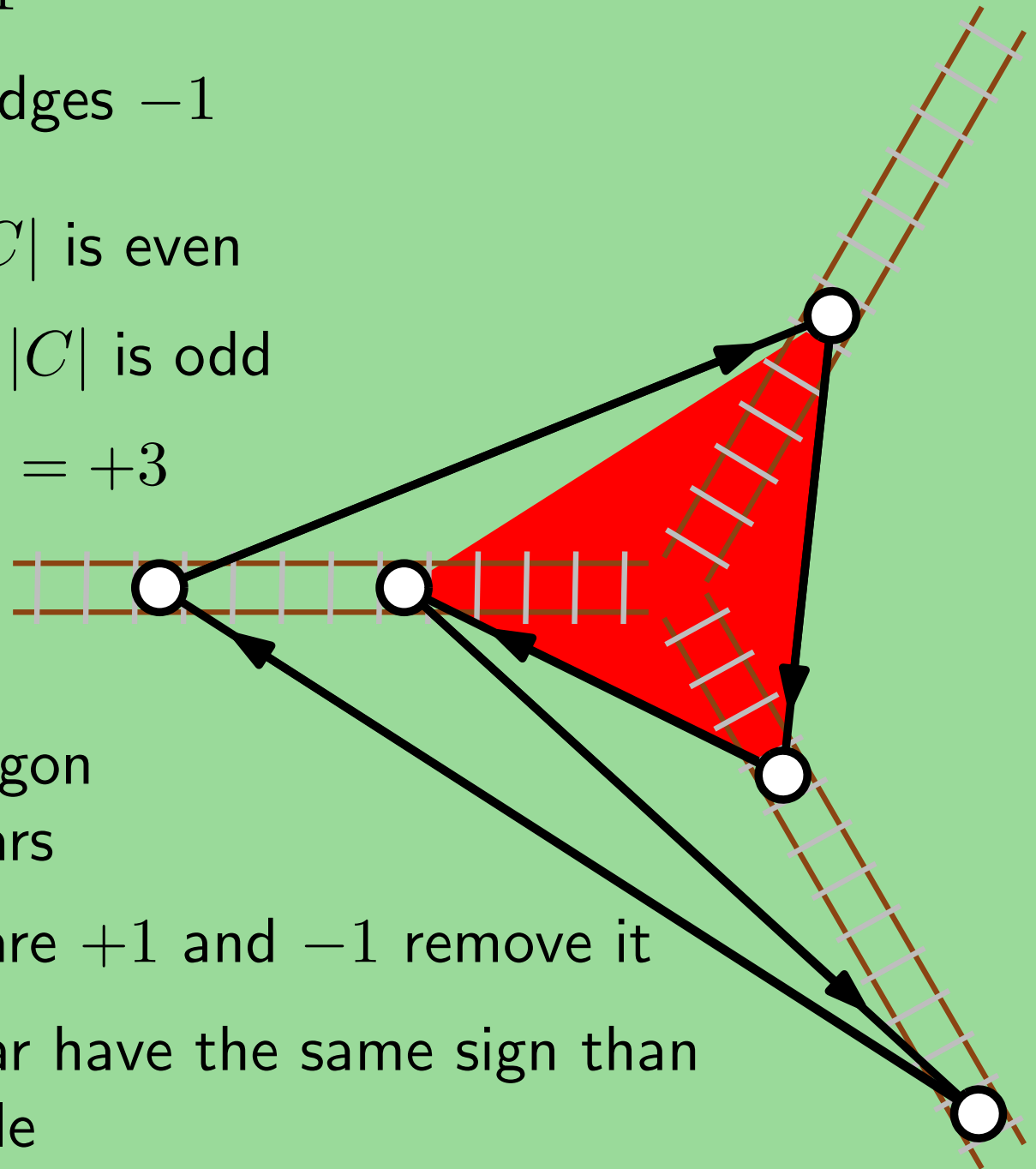
$$+1 + 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 = +3$$

**Proof:**

The cycle forms a polygon  
and has at least two ears

If the edges of an ear are +1 and -1 remove it

If the edges of every ear have the same sign than  
the polygon is a triangle



Label clockwise edges +1

Label counterclockwise edges -1

**Lemma:**

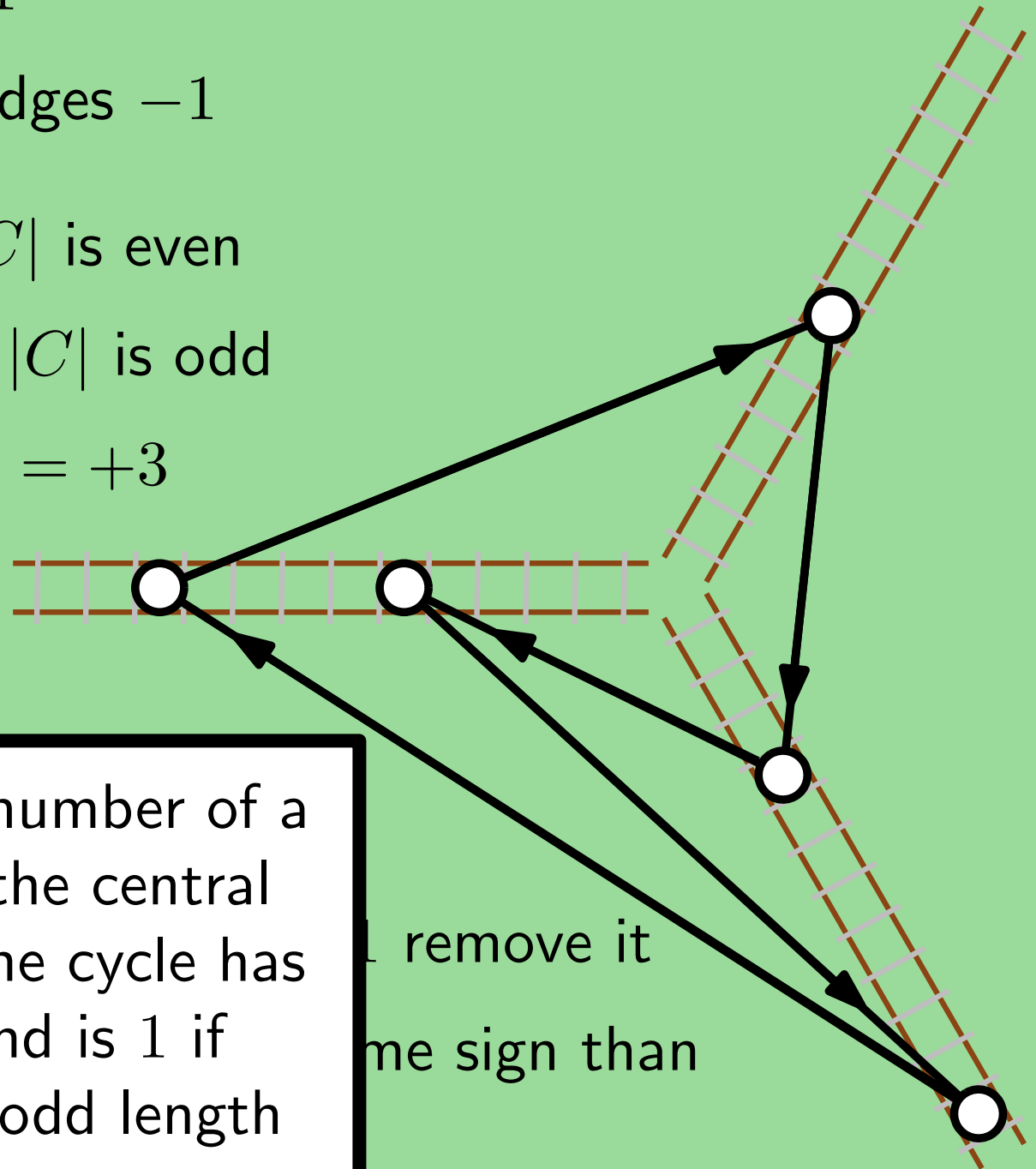
$$\sum_{e \in C} \text{label}(e) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is even} \\ \pm 3 & \text{if } |C| \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

$$+1 + 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 = +3$$

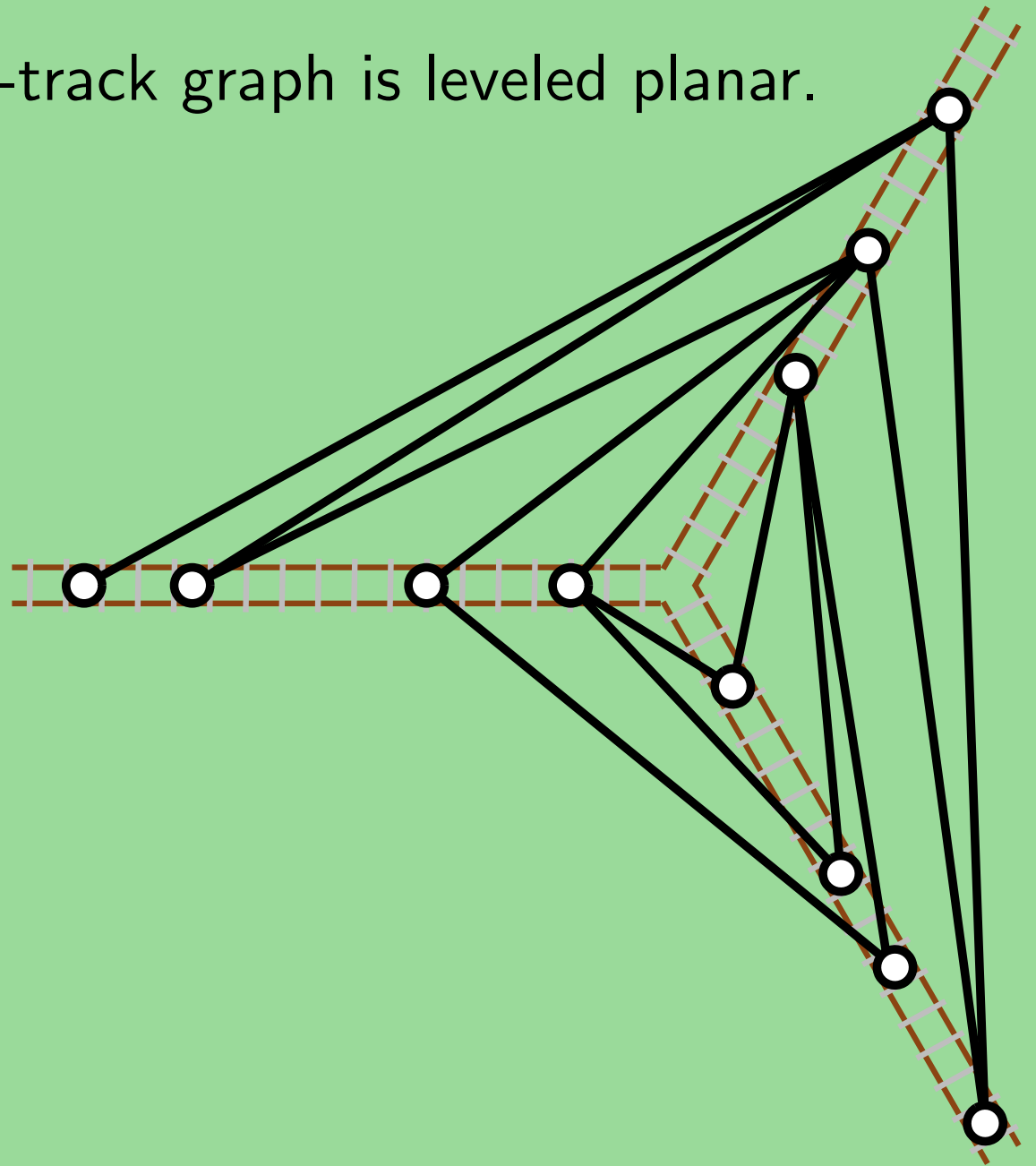
**Proof:**

The cycle  
and has  
If the e  
If the e  
the poly

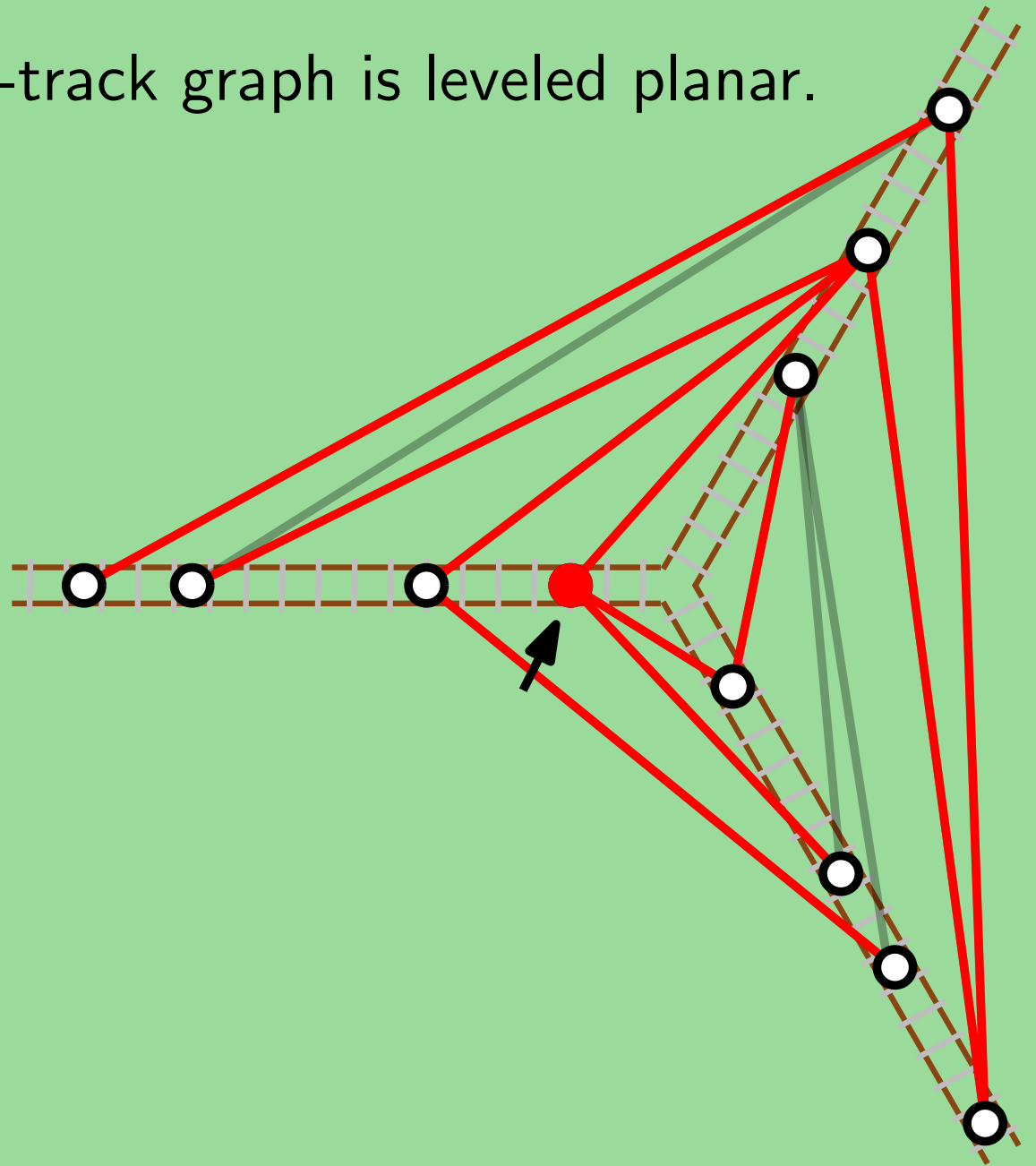
The winding number of a cycle around the central point is 0 if the cycle has even length and is 1 if the cycle has odd length



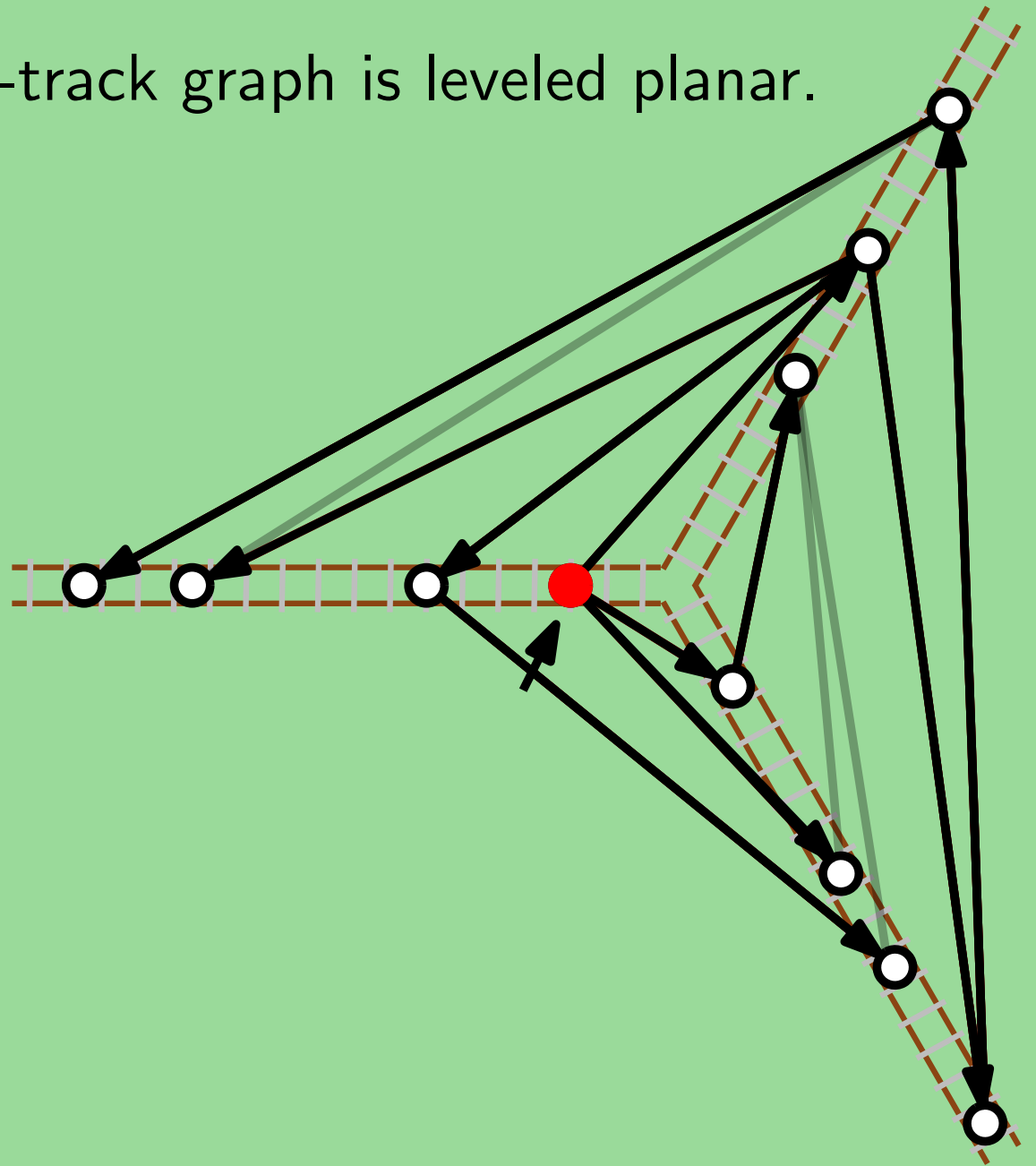
**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.



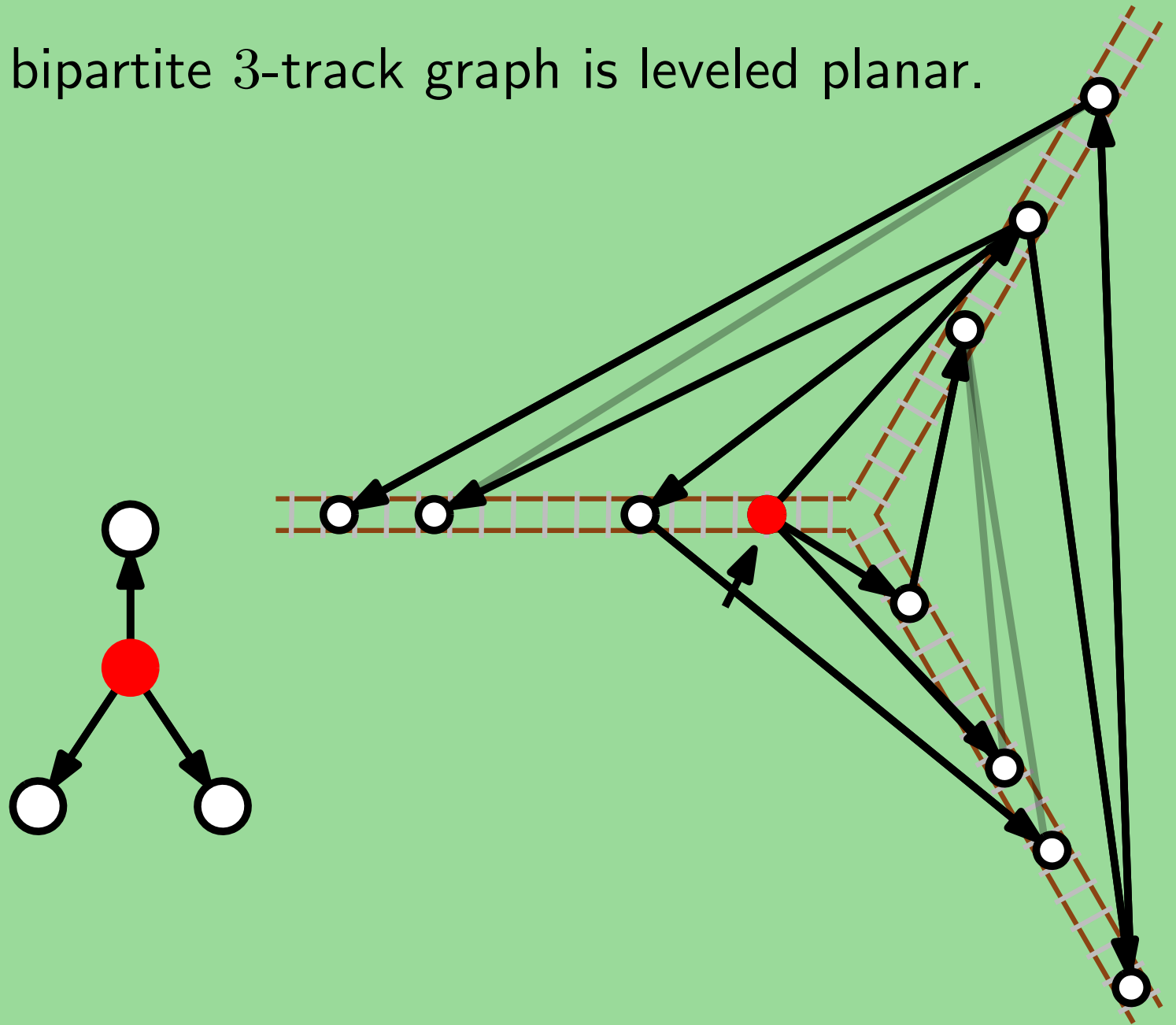
**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.



**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.

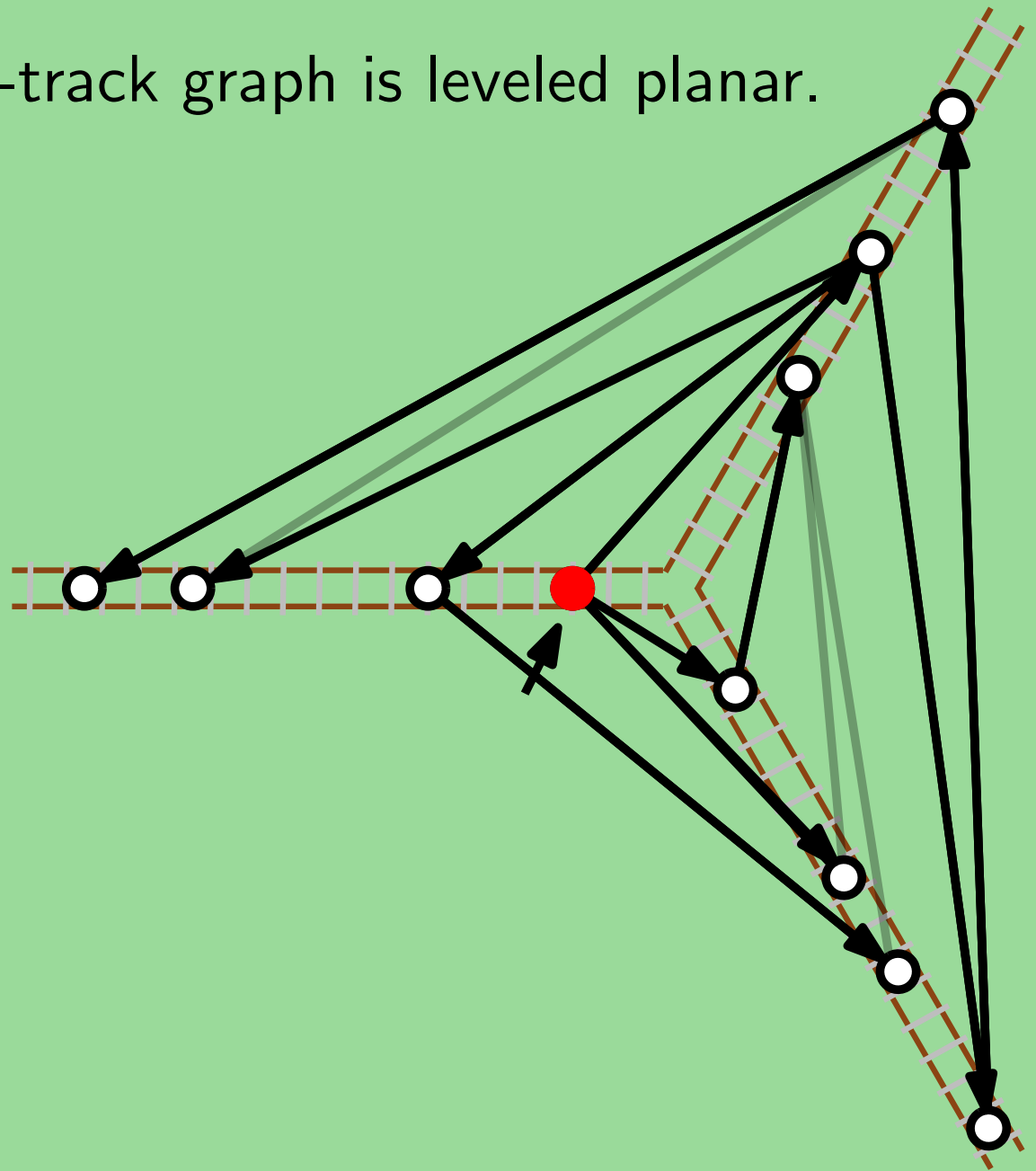
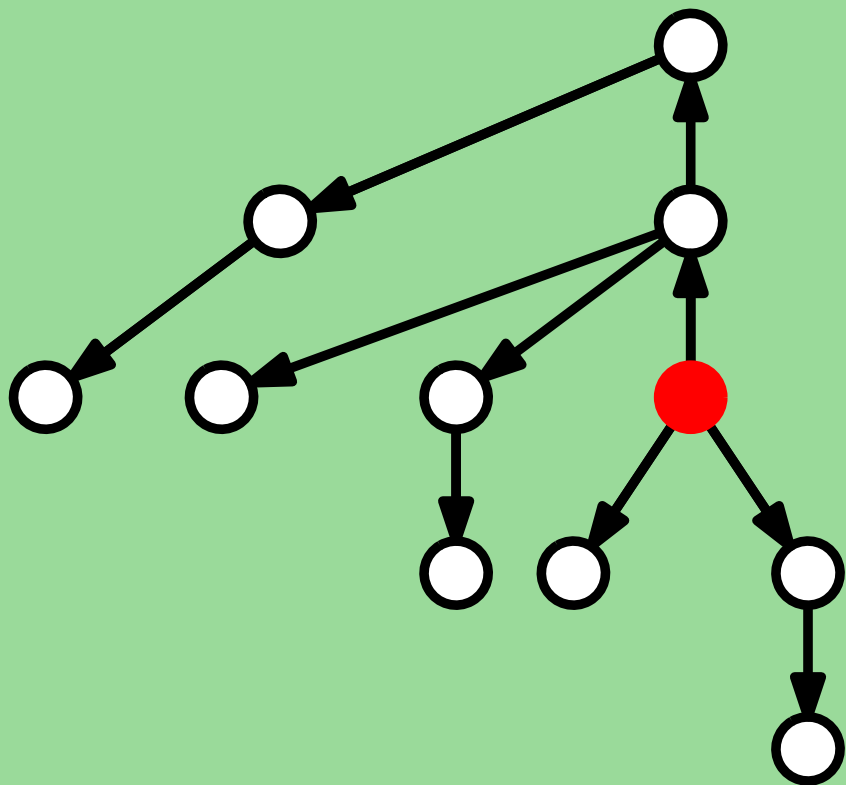


**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.

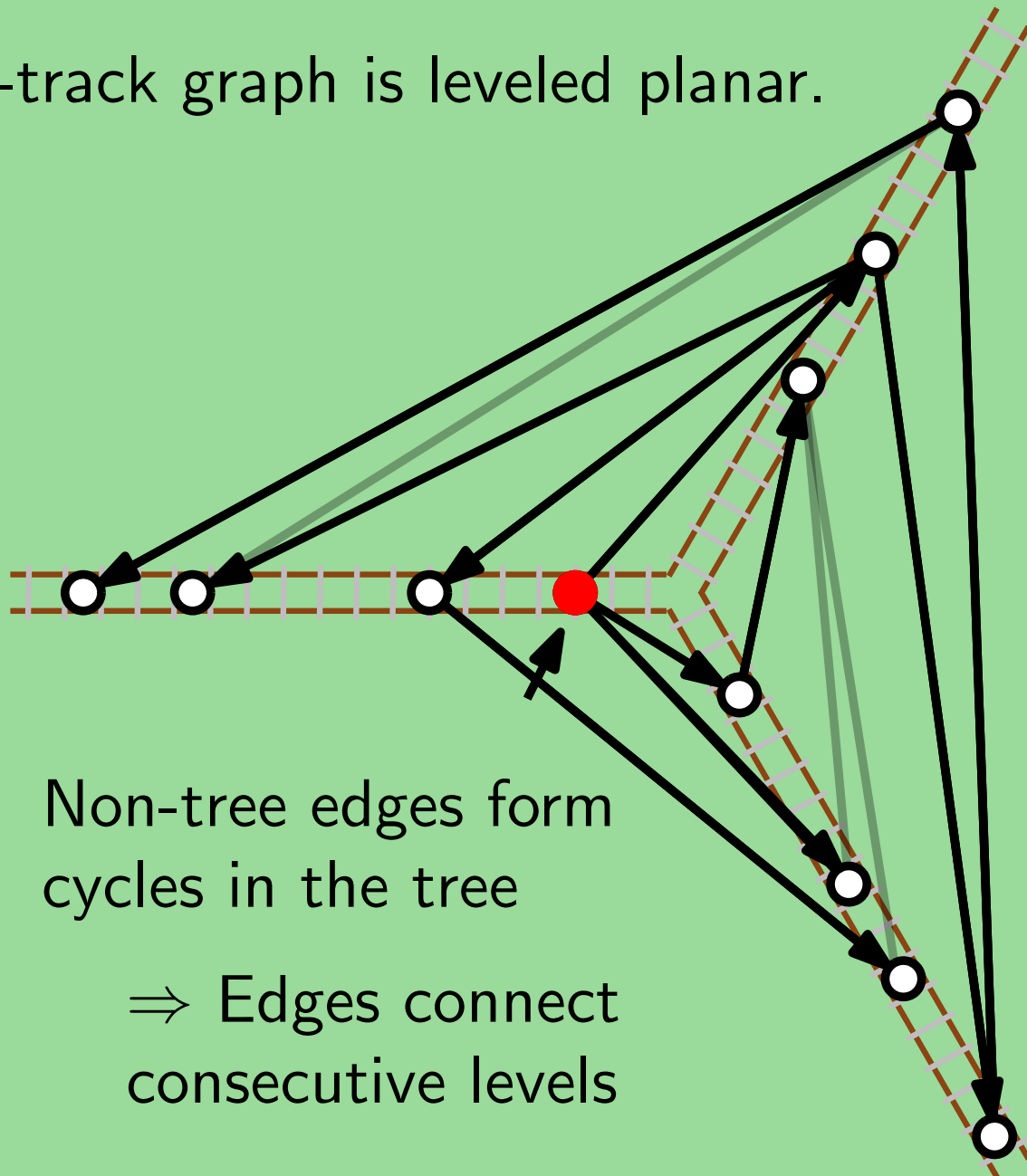
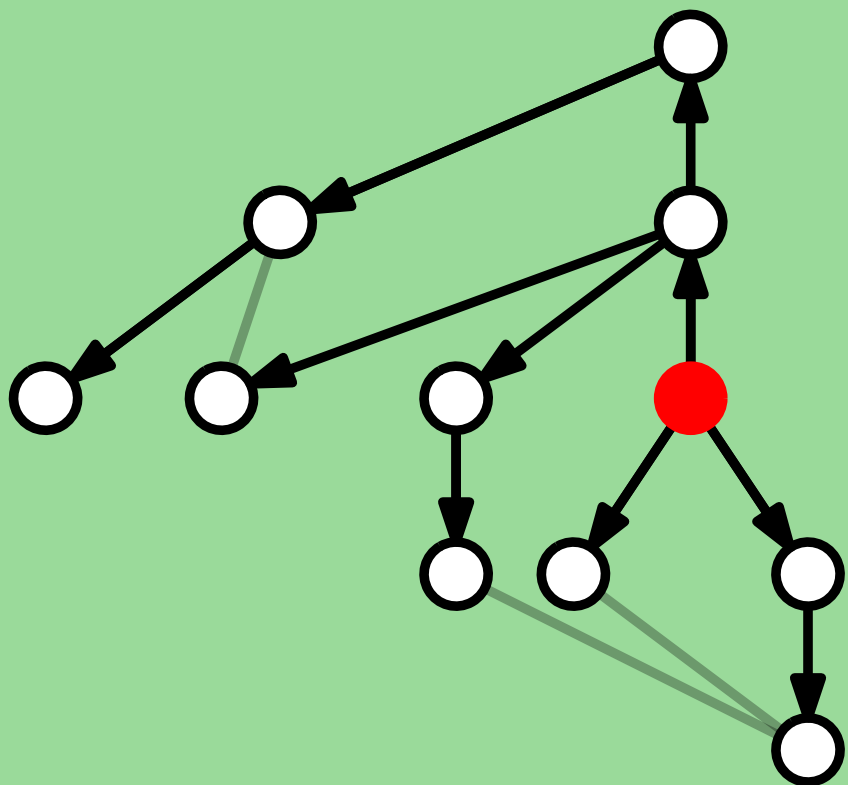




**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.



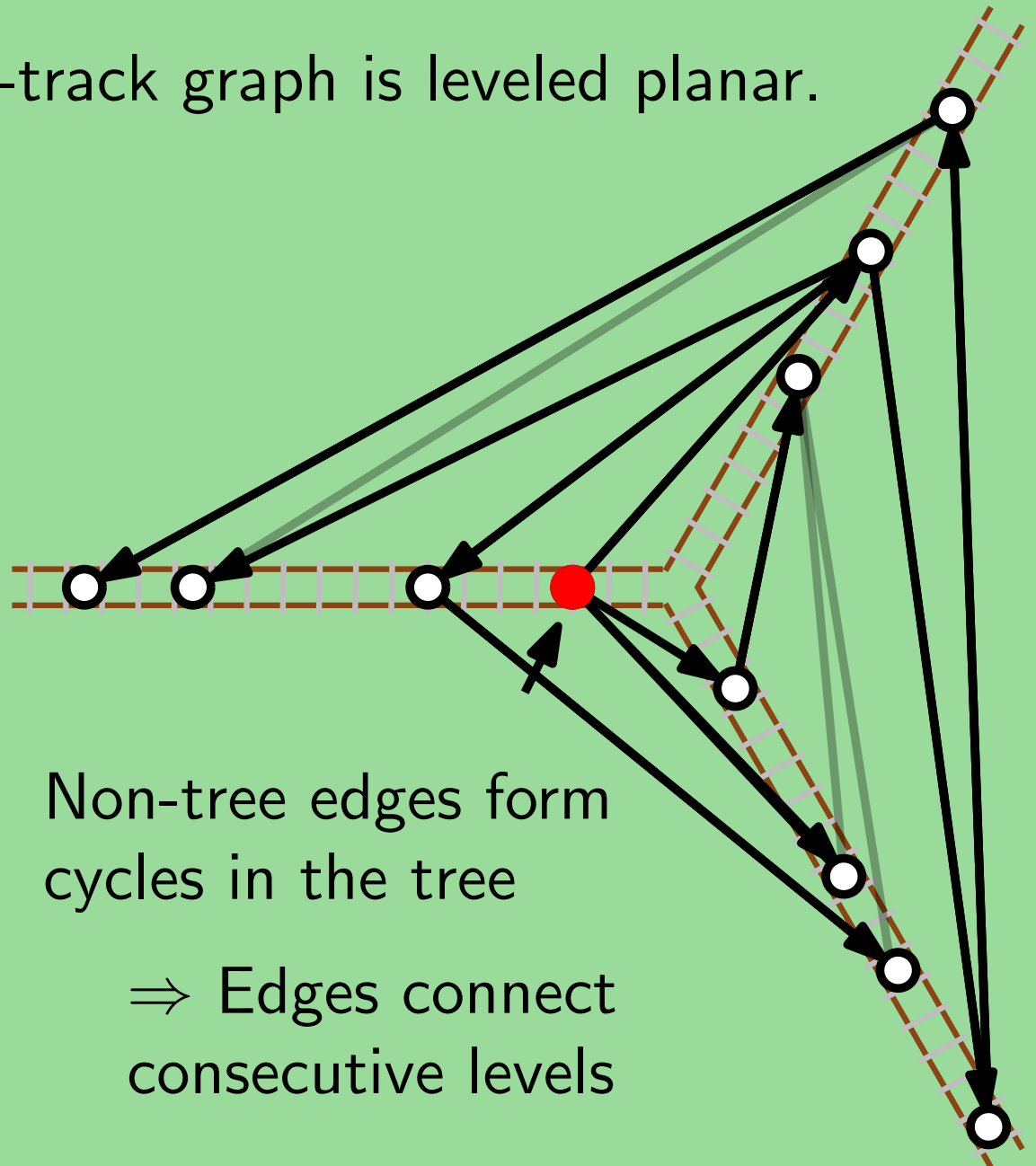
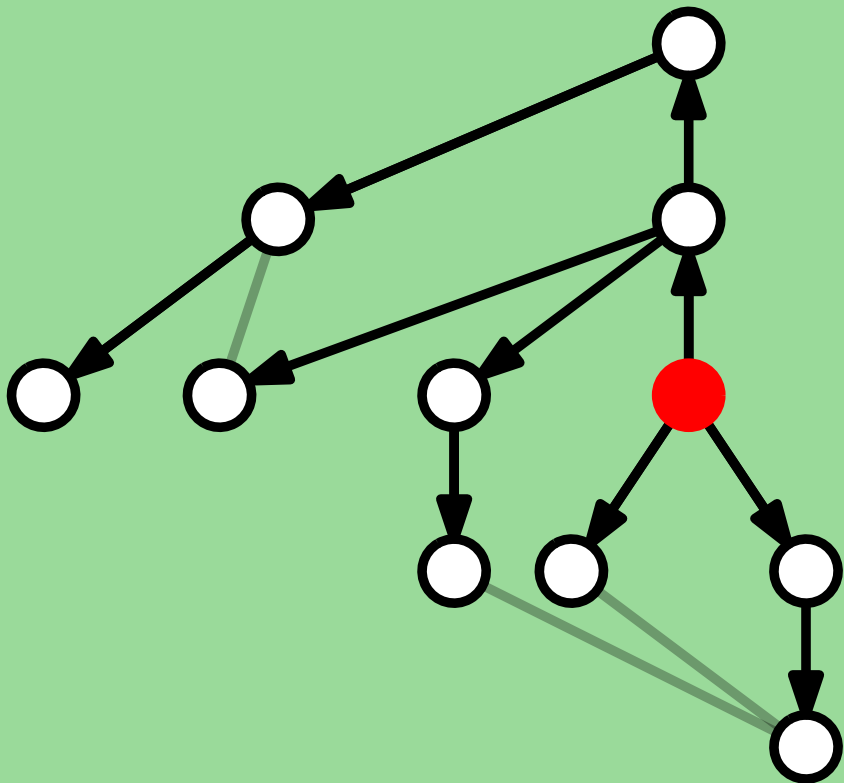
**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.



Non-tree edges form cycles in the tree

⇒ Edges connect consecutive levels

**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.



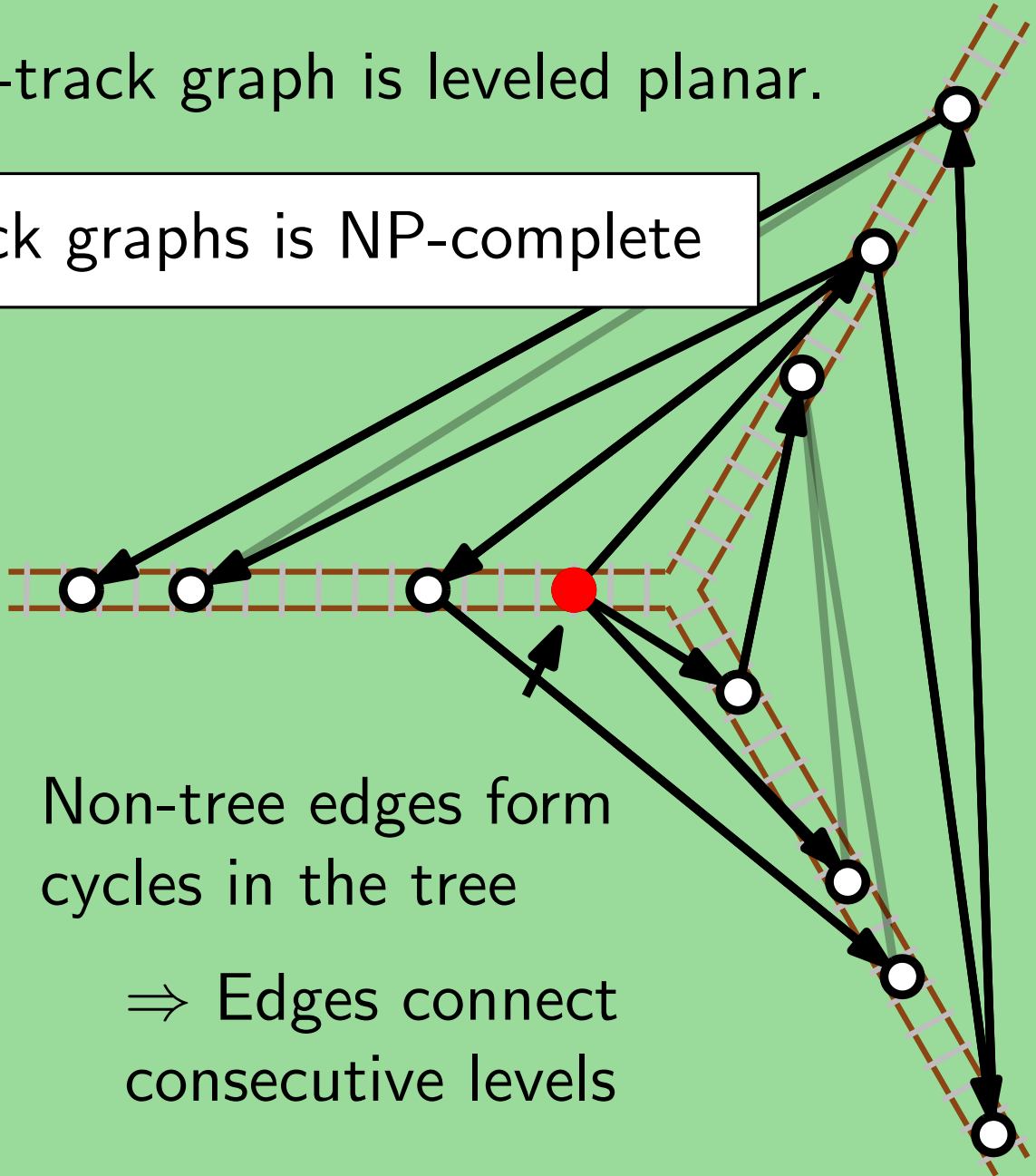
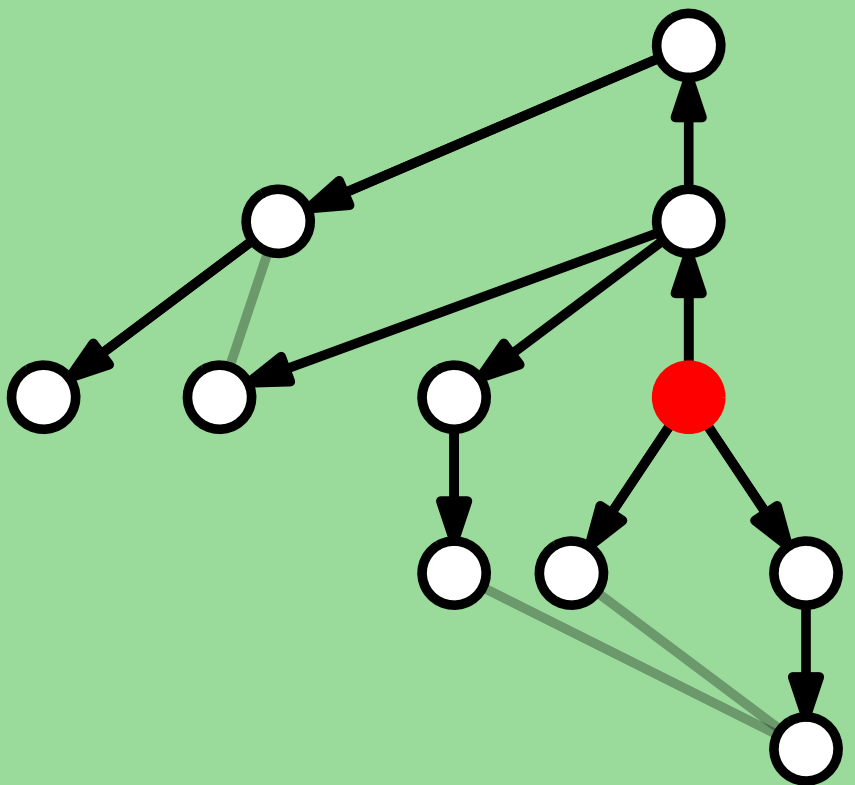
Non-tree edges form cycles in the tree

⇒ Edges connect consecutive levels

Order vertices by their track order ⇒ No crossings

**Lemma:** Every bipartite 3-track graph is leveled planar.

**Thm:** Recognizing 3-track graphs is NP-complete



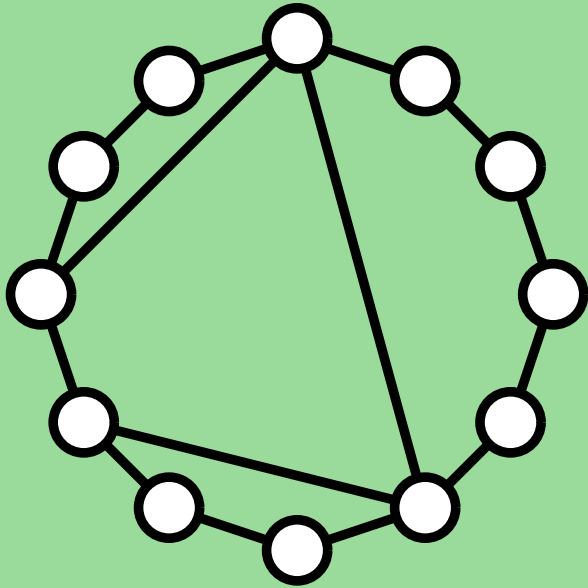
Non-tree edges form cycles in the tree

⇒ Edges connect consecutive levels

Order vertices by their track order ⇒ No crossings

Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

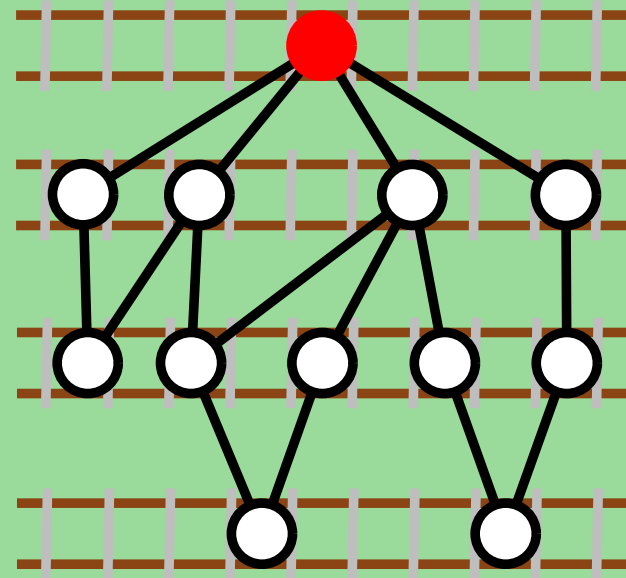
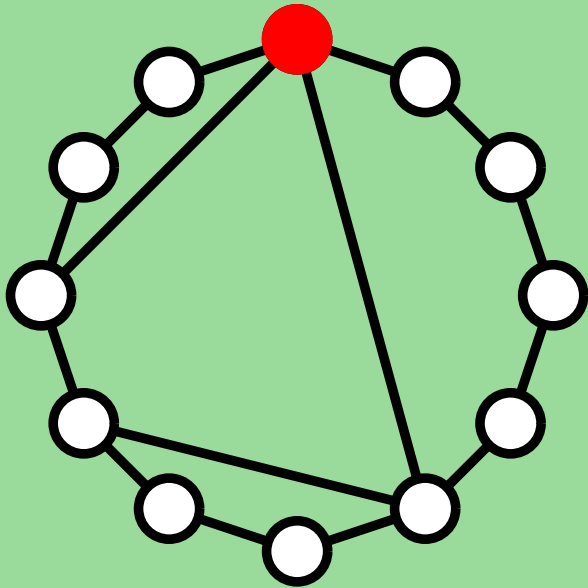
## Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs



Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

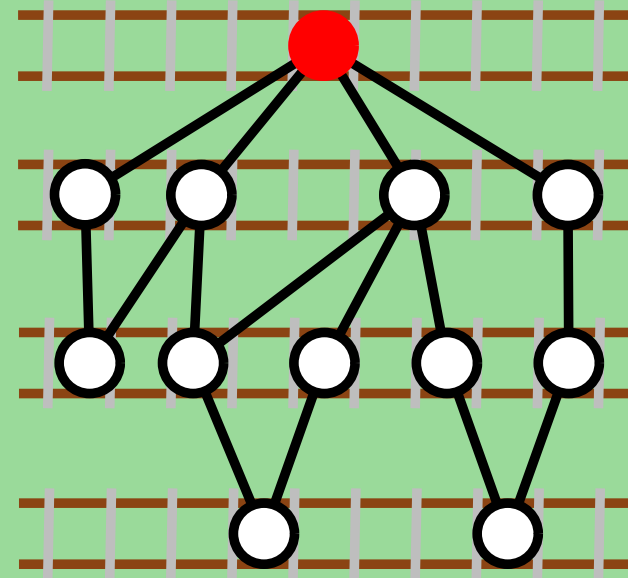
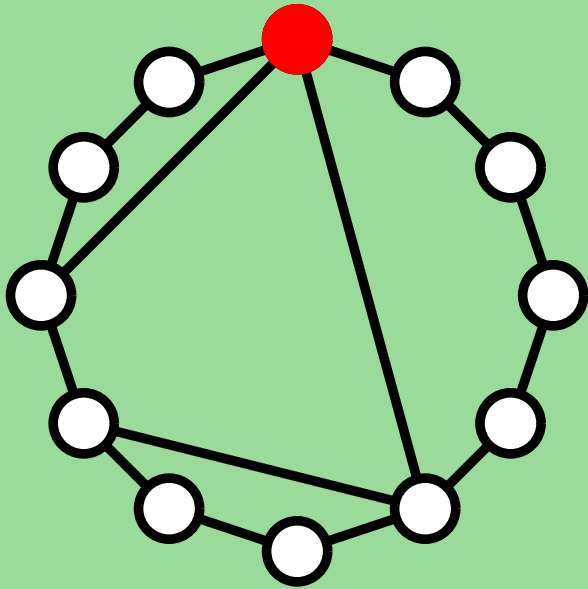
Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

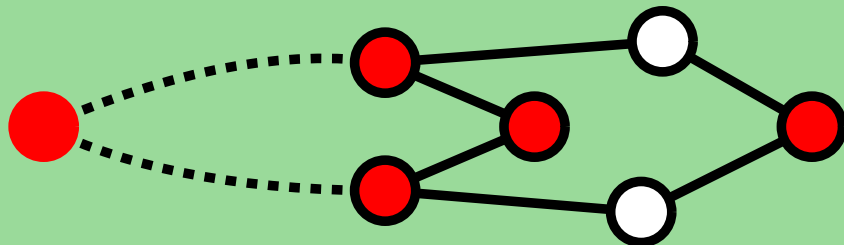
# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



How to layout vertices with a level?

Each face cycle has a closest vertex to the chosen vertex

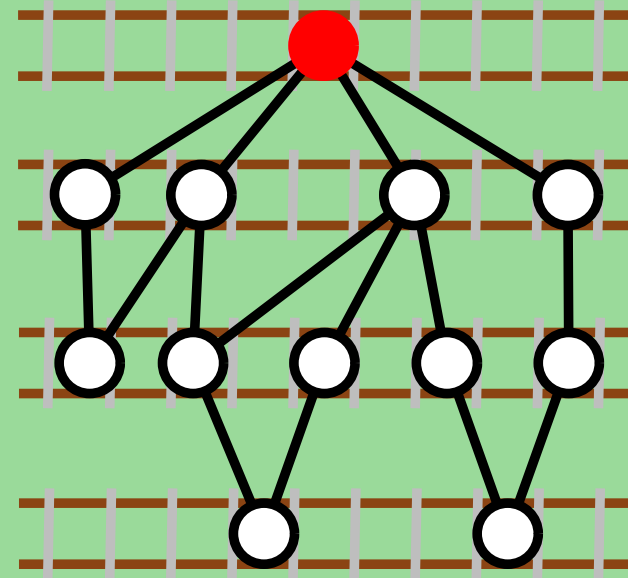
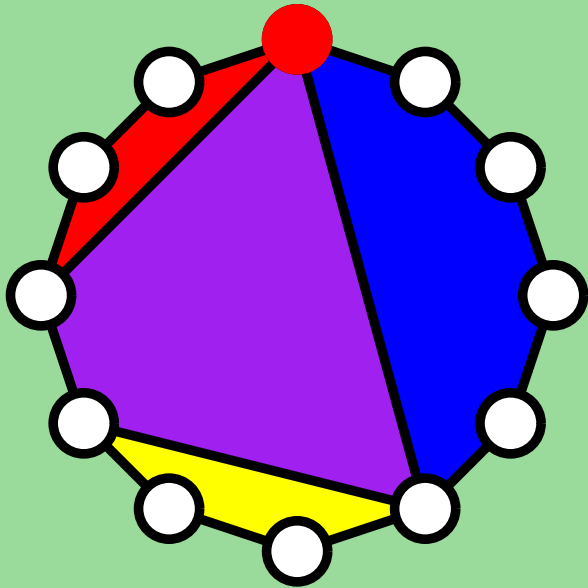


Otherwise there is a  $K_{2,3}$  subdivision

Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



How to layout vertices with a level?

Each face cycle has a closest vertex to the chosen vertex

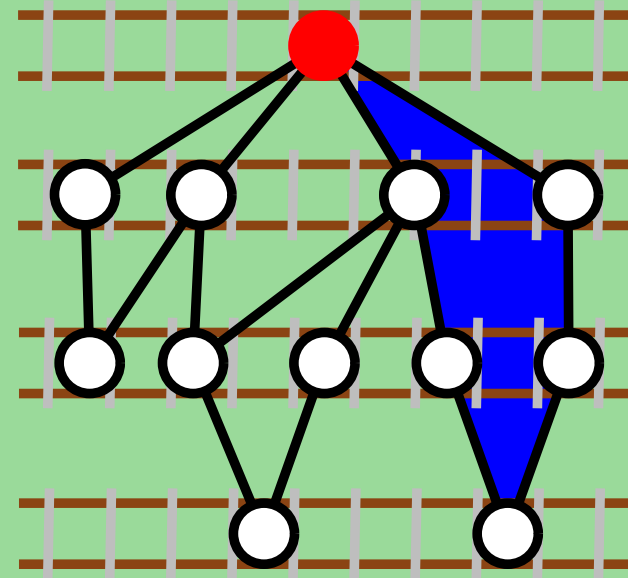
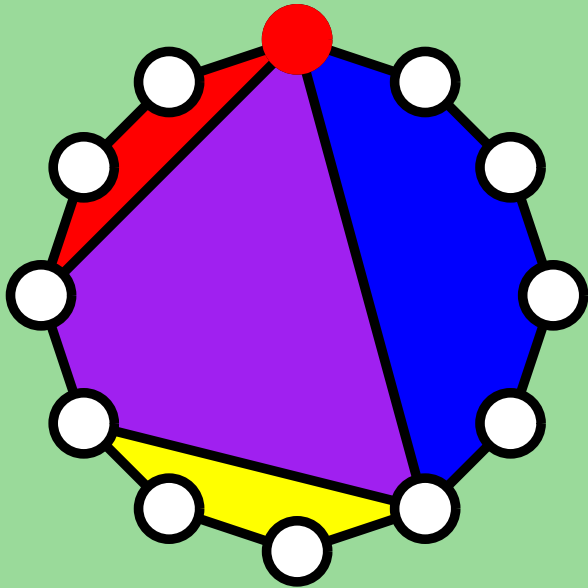
Order vertices of each face cycle independently



Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



How to layout vertices with a level?

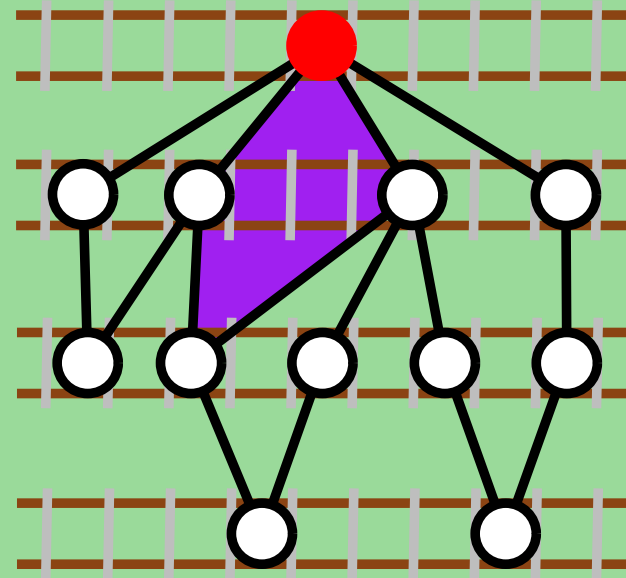
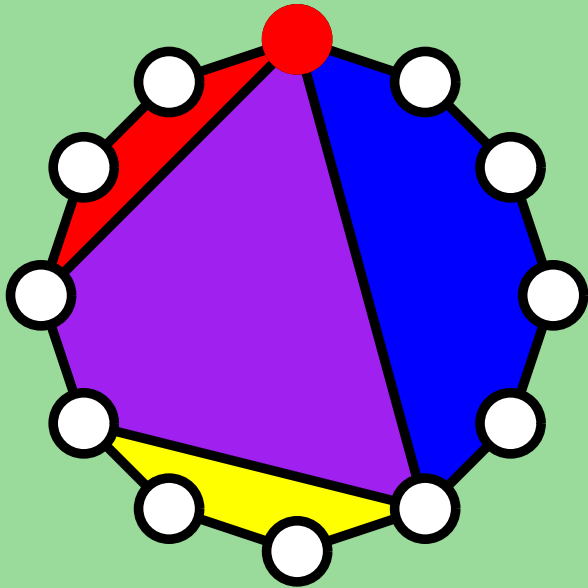
Each face cycle has a closest vertex to the chosen vertex

Order vertices of each face cycle independently

Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



How to layout vertices with a level?

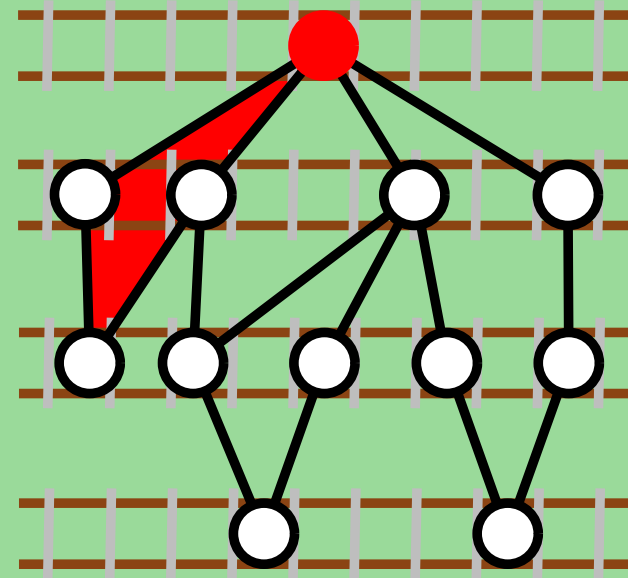
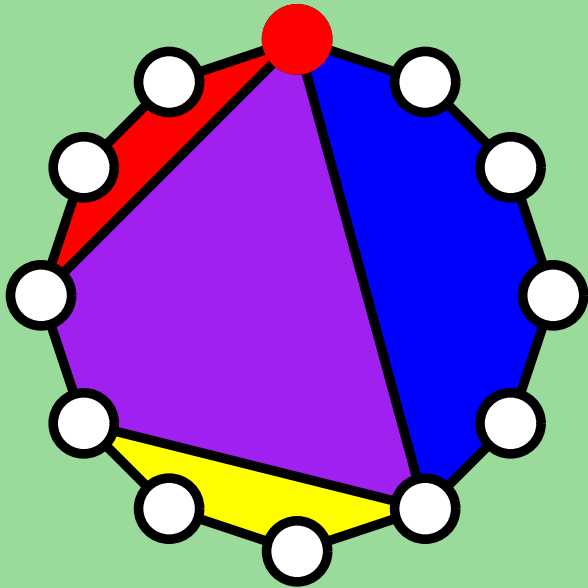
Each face cycle has a closest vertex to the chosen vertex

Order vertices of each face cycle independently

Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



How to layout vertices with a level?

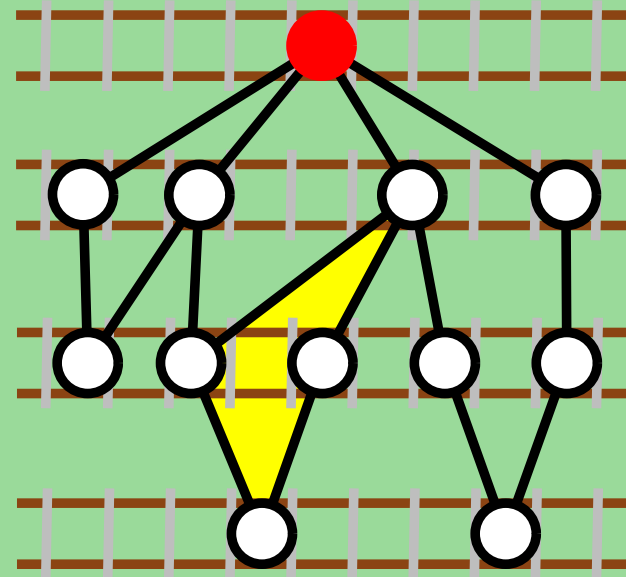
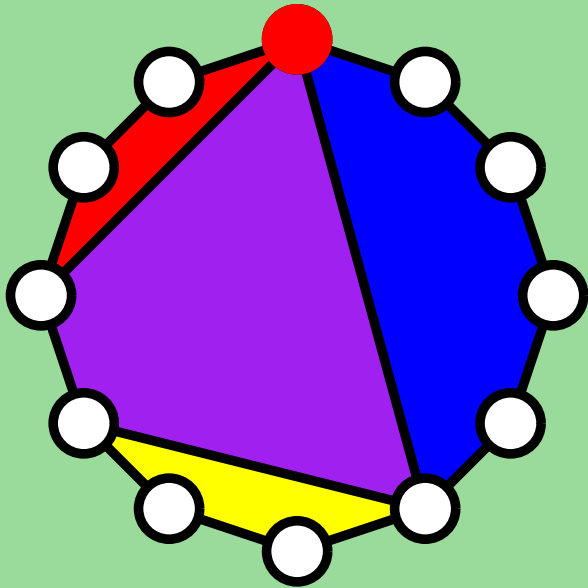
Each face cycle has a closest vertex to the chosen vertex

Order vertices of each face cycle independently

Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



How to layout vertices with a level?

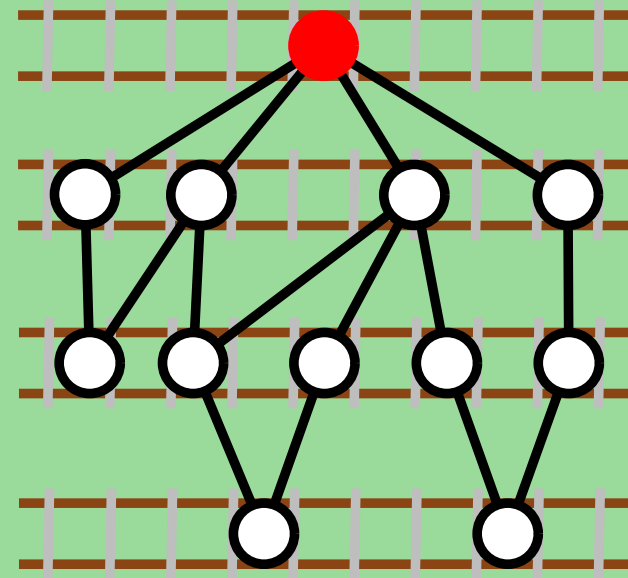
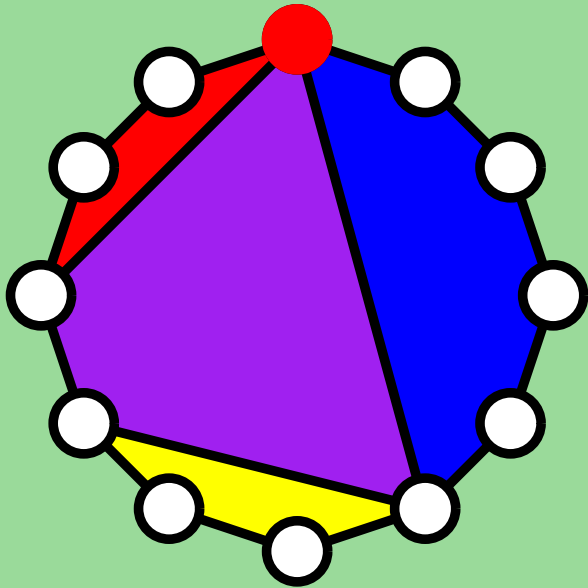
Each face cycle has a closest vertex to the chosen vertex

Order vertices of each face cycle independently

Which 3-track graphs can we recognize and layout 3-track?

# Bipartite Outerplanar Graphs

Pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering



How to layout vertices with a level?

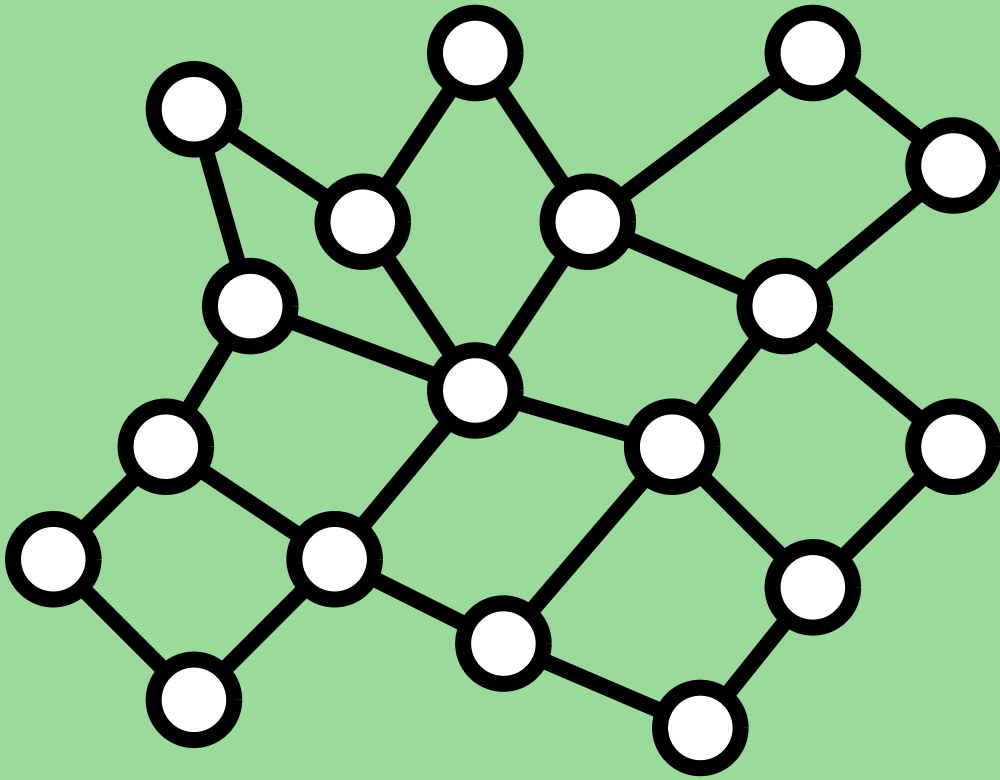
Each face cycle has a closest vertex to the chosen vertex

Order vertices of each face cycle independently

Because every face cycle has a valid layout, the entire graph has a valid layout [Abel et al, 2014]

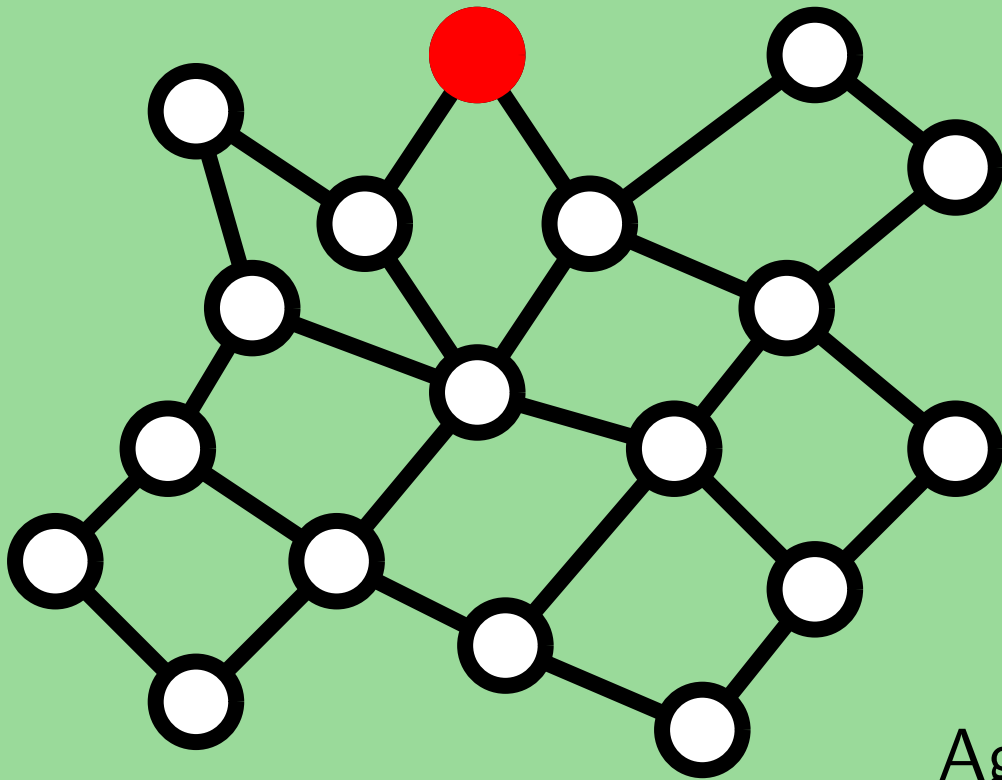
# Squaregraphs

Every bounded face is a 4-cycle and every interior vertex has at least 4 neighbors



# Squaregraphs

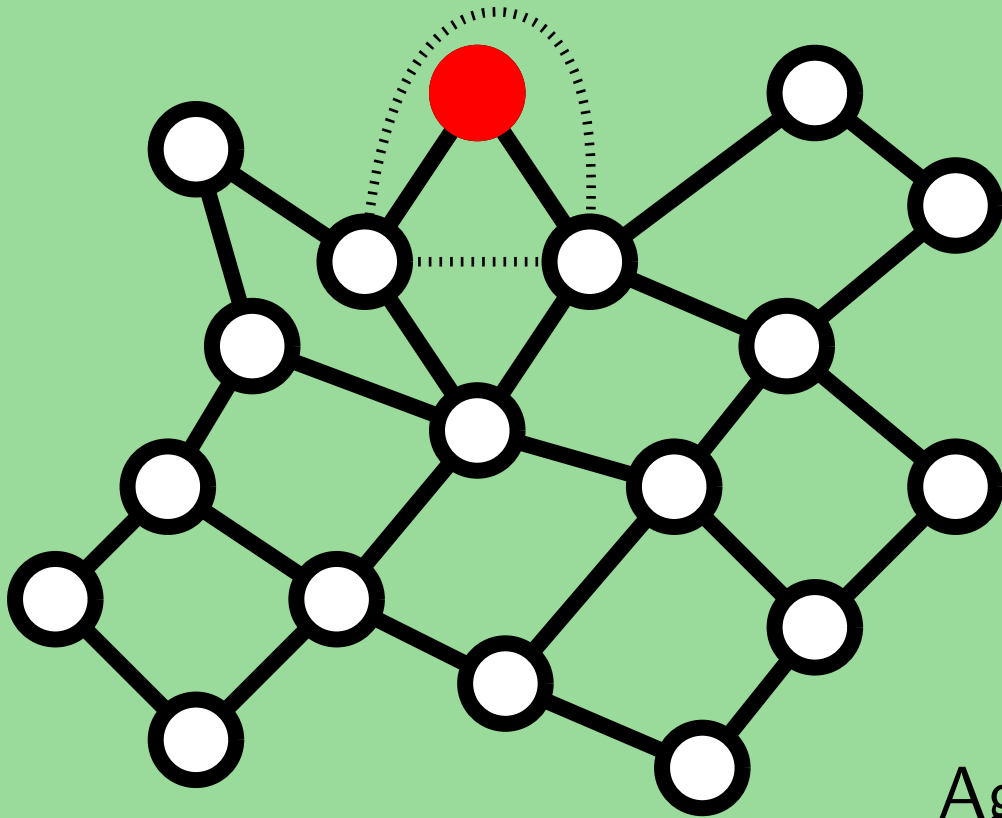
Every bounded face is a 4-cycle and every interior vertex has at least 4 neighbors



Again pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering

# Squaregraphs

Every bounded face is a 4-cycle and every interior vertex has at least 4 neighbors



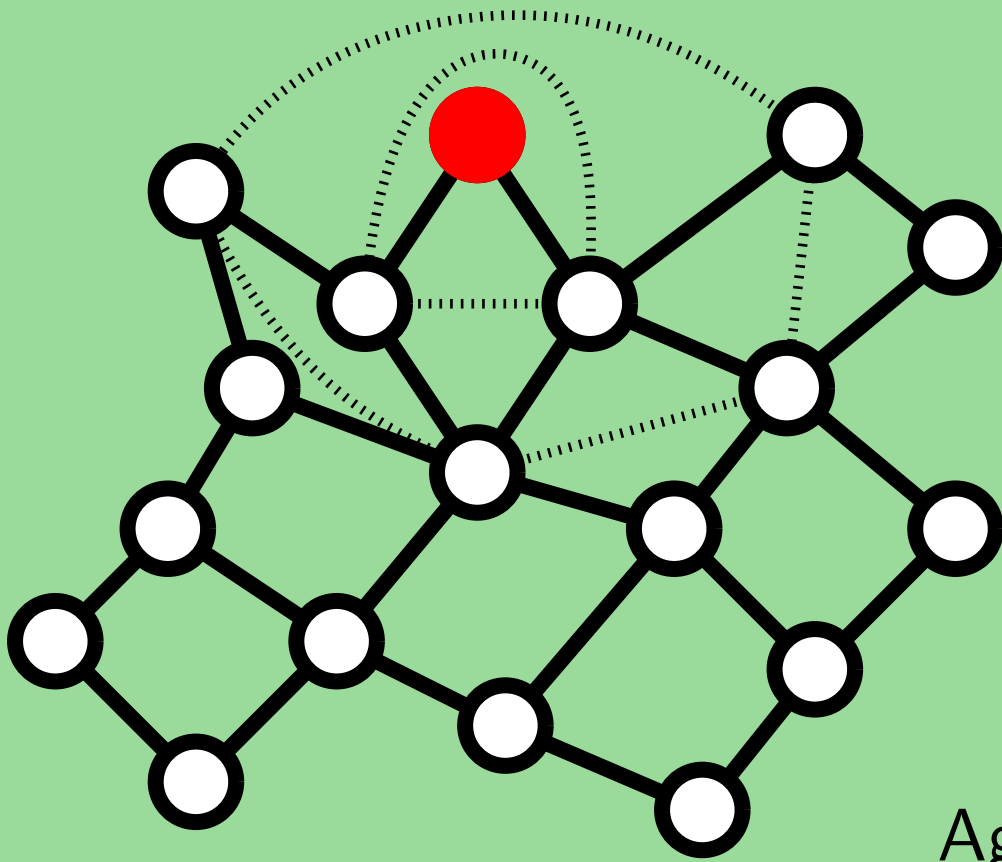
Again pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering

Use [Bandelt et al, 2010] for ordering layers



# Squaregraphs

Every bounded face is a 4-cycle and every interior vertex has at least 4 neighbors

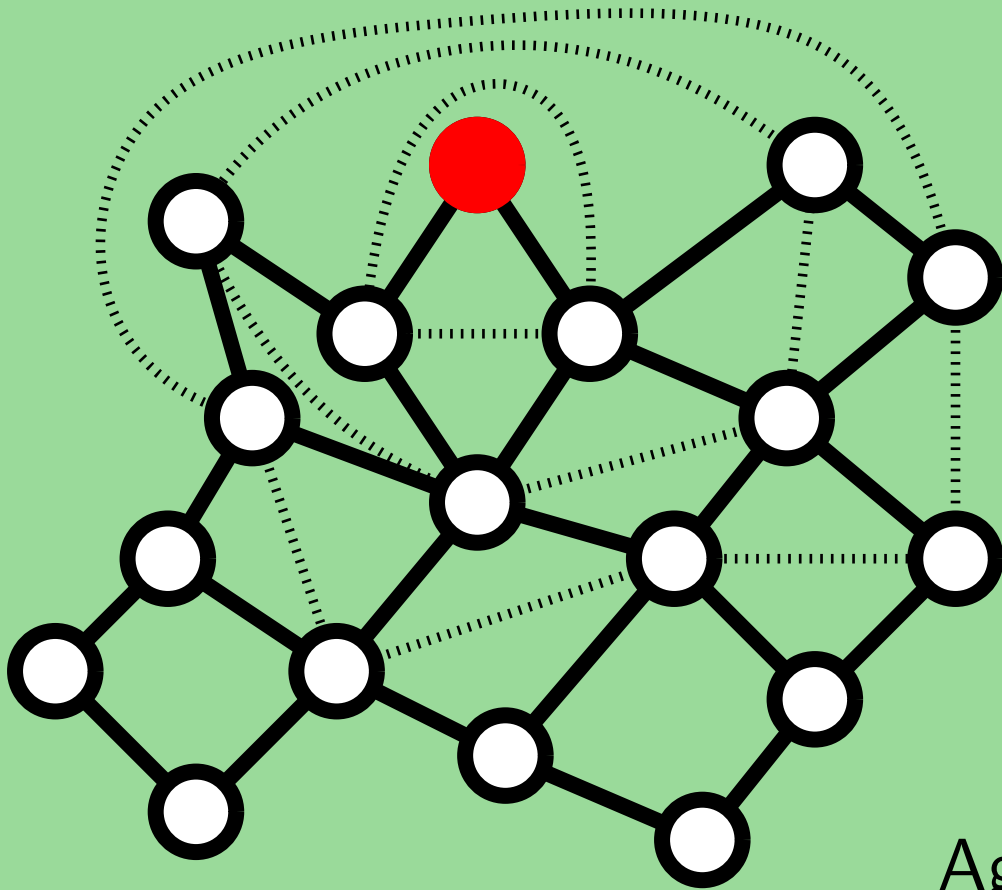


Again pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering

Use [Bandelt et al, 2010] for ordering layers

# Squaregraphs

Every bounded face is a 4-cycle and every interior vertex has at least 4 neighbors

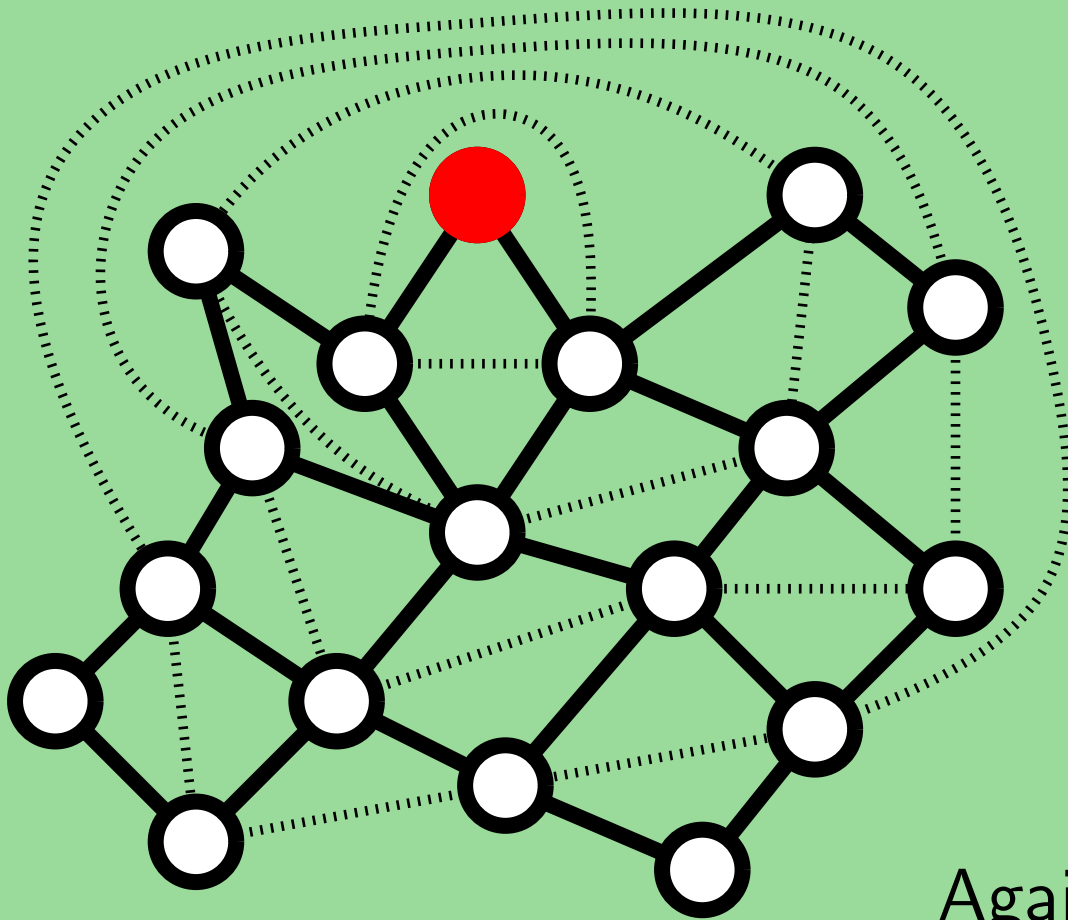


Again pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering

Use [Bandelt et al, 2010] for ordering layers

# Squaregraphs

Every bounded face is a 4-cycle and every interior vertex has at least 4 neighbors

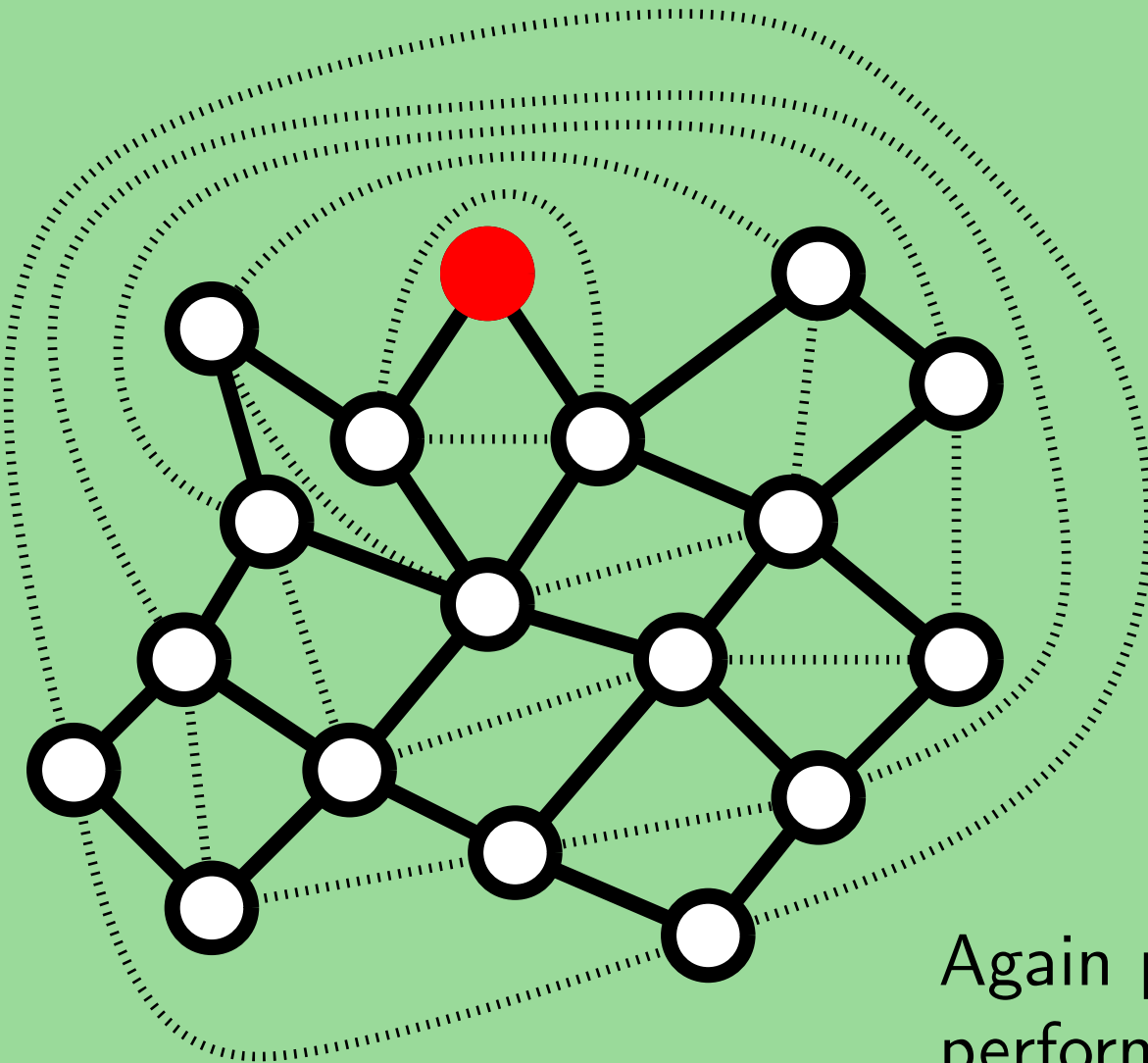


Again pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering

Use [Bandelt et al, 2010] for ordering layers

# Squaregraphs

Every bounded face is a 4-cycle and every interior vertex has at least 4 neighbors



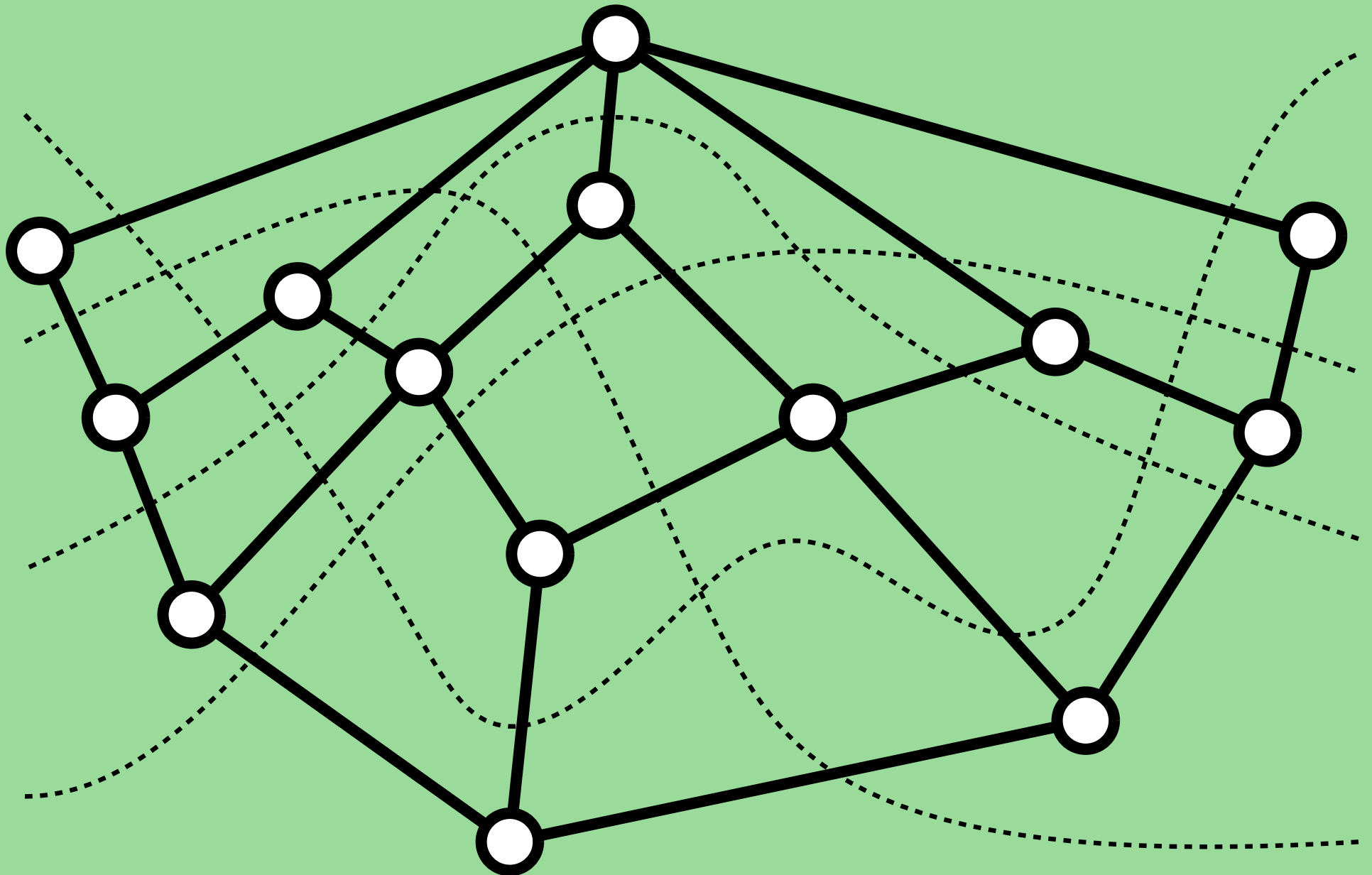
Again pick a vertex and perform a breadth first layering

Use [Bandelt et al, 2010] for ordering layers



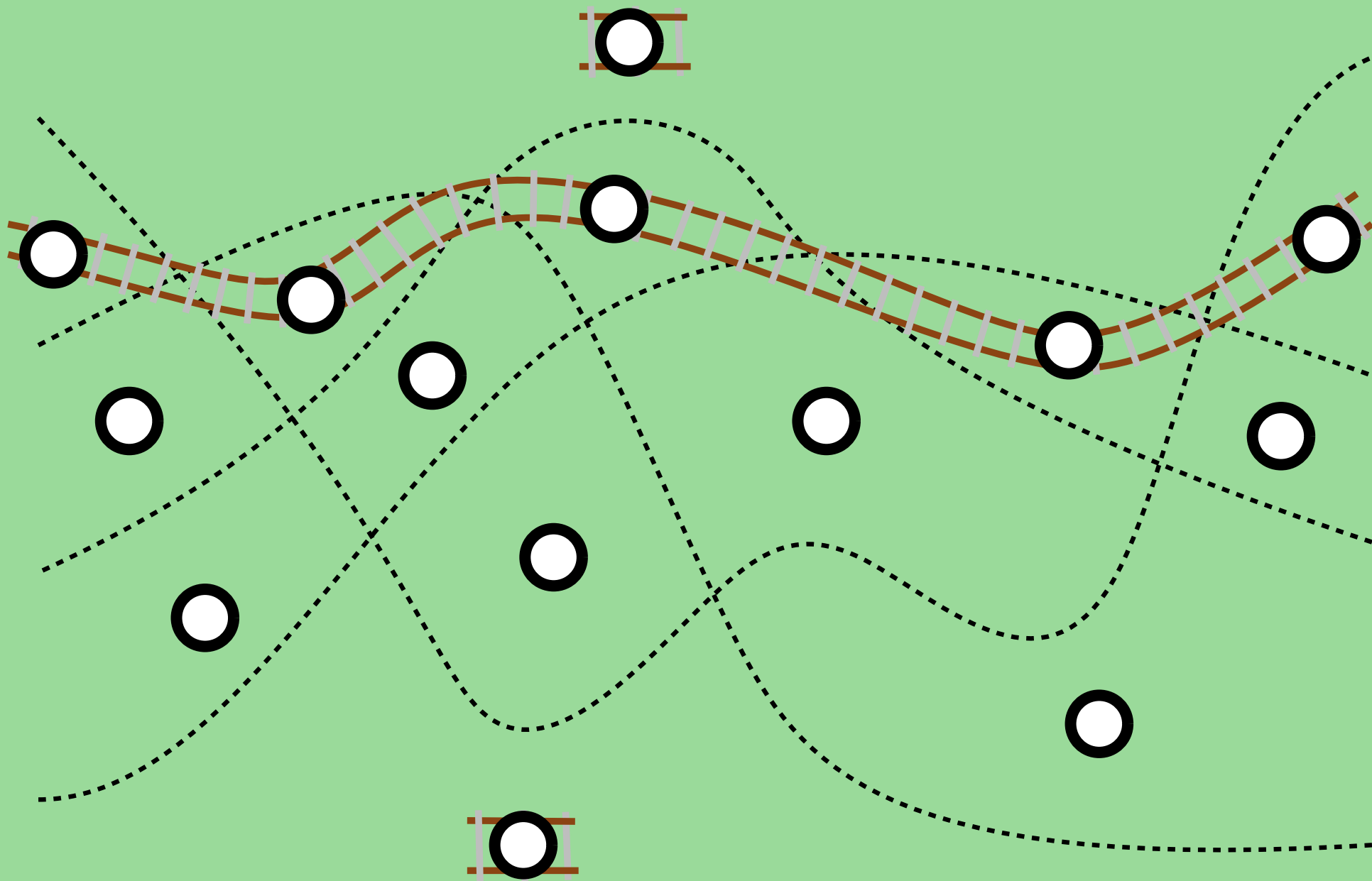
# Dual graphs of $x$ -monotone curves

where each curves projection covers the entire  $x$ -axis



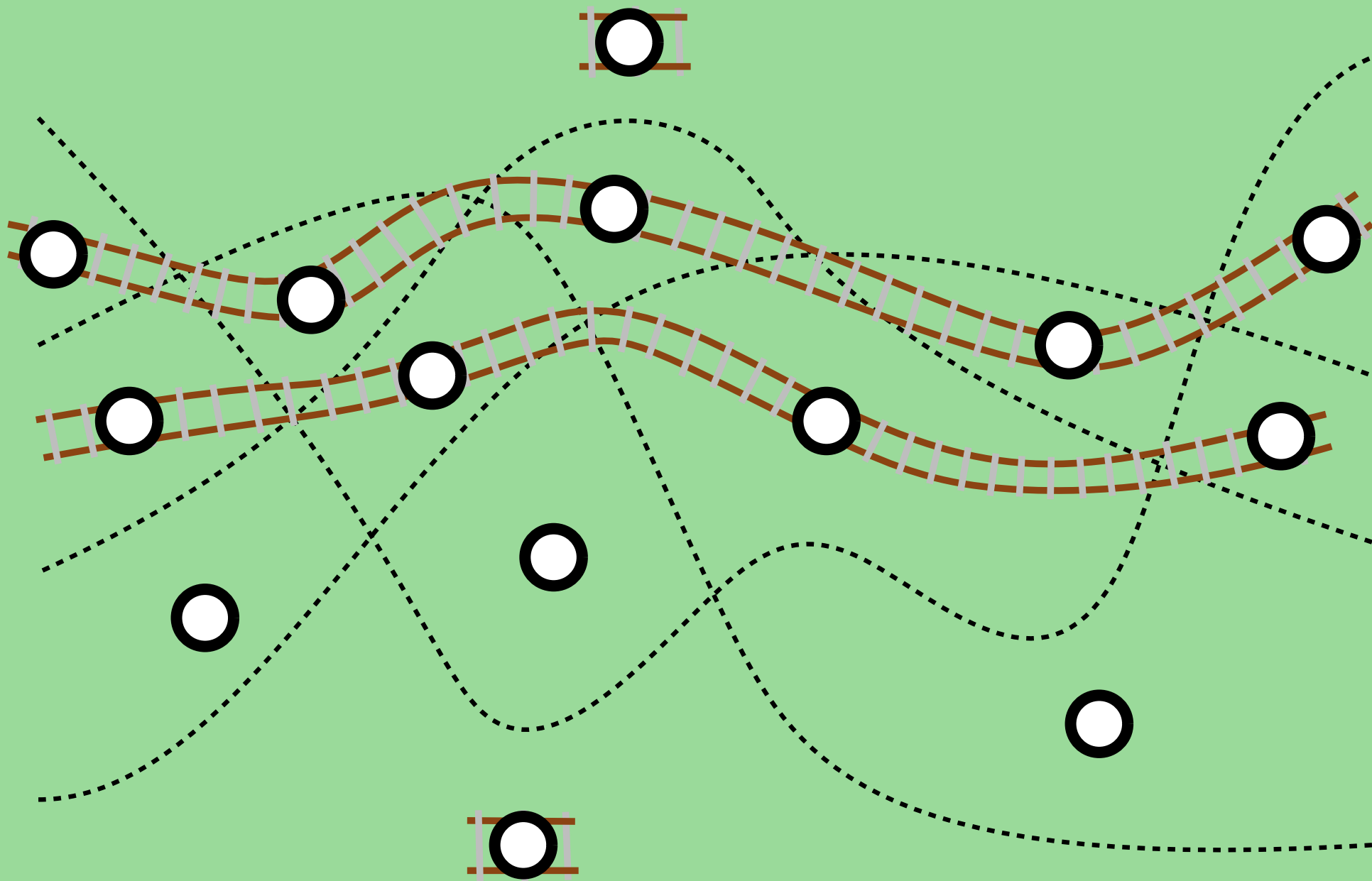
# Dual graphs of $x$ -monotone curves

where each curves projection covers the entire  $x$ -axis



# Dual graphs of $x$ -monotone curves

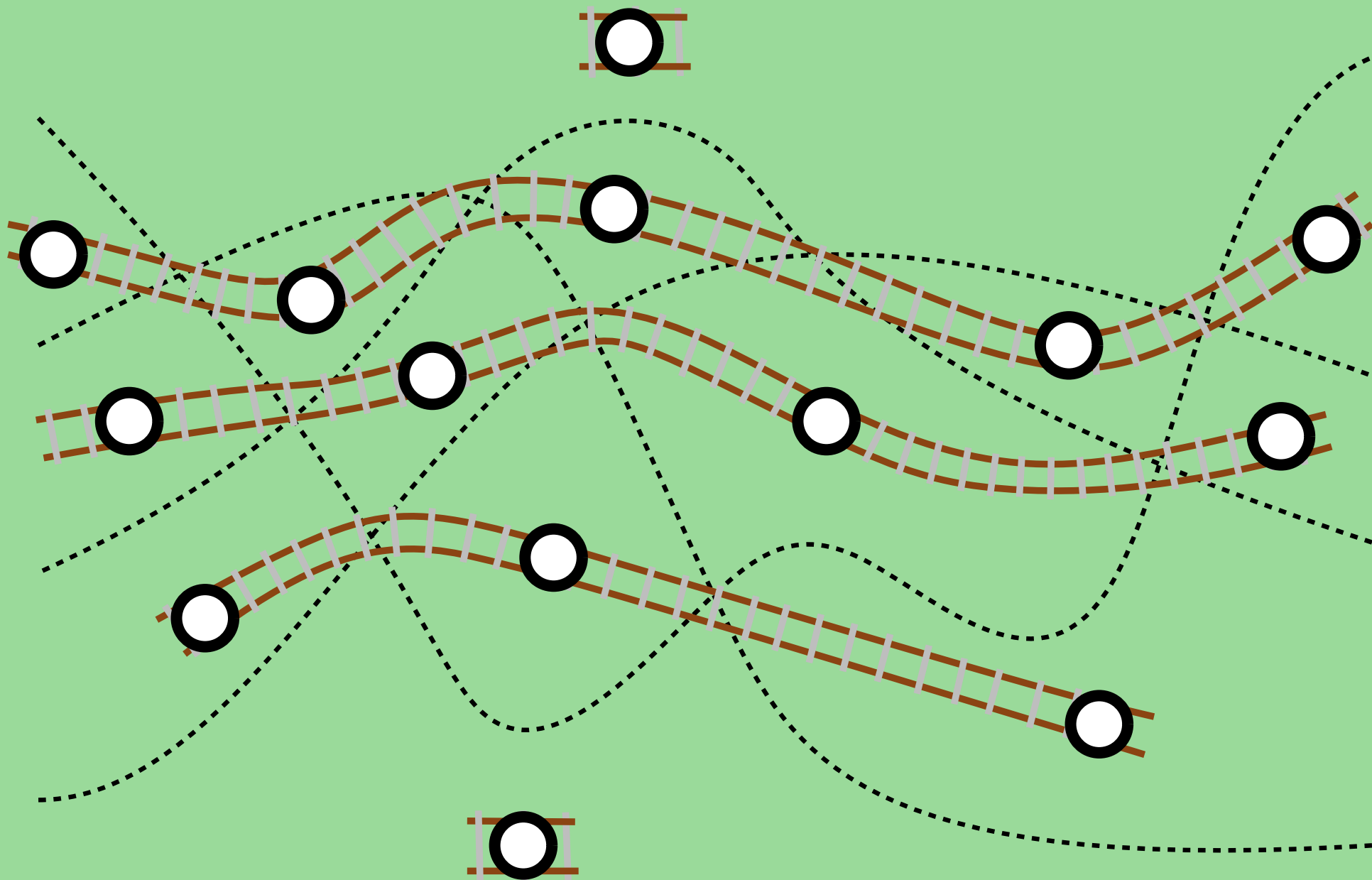
where each curves projection covers the entire  $x$ -axis





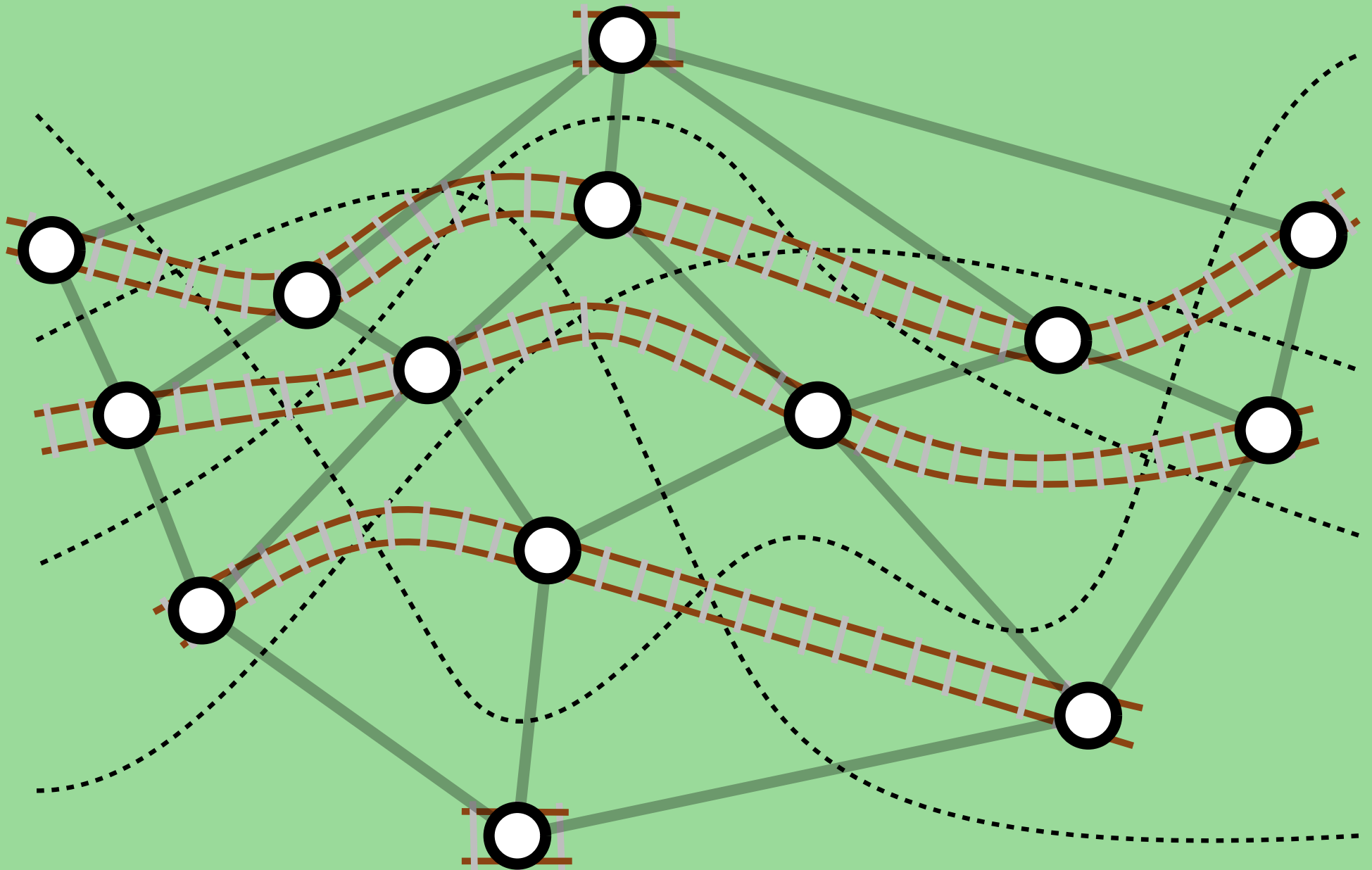
# Dual graphs of $x$ -monotone curves

where each curves projection covers the entire  $x$ -axis



# Dual graphs of $x$ -monotone curves

where each curves projection covers the entire  $x$ -axis



# Summary

Recognizing 3-track graphs is NP-complete

- holds for larger track number

Computing the track number for a graph is NP-hard

3-track layouts for special graph classes

- Bipartite outerplanar graphs

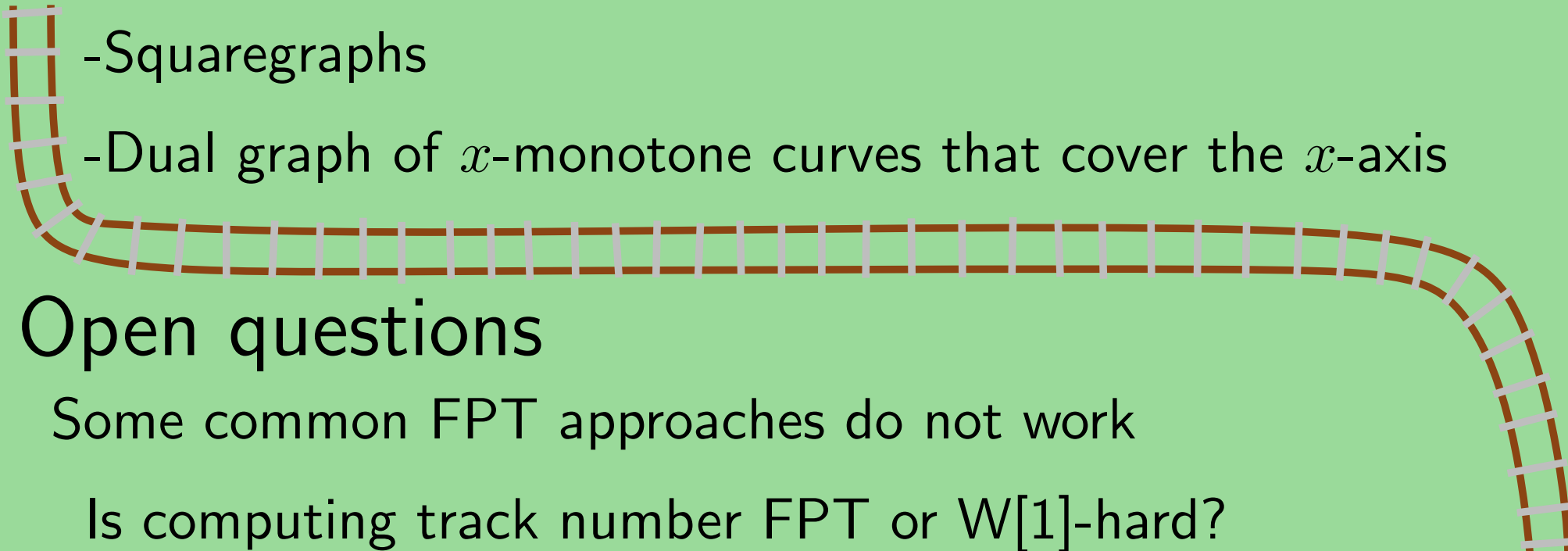
- Squaregraphs

- Dual graph of  $x$ -monotone curves that cover the  $x$ -axis

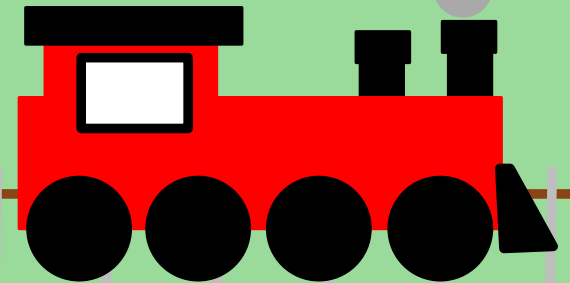
# Open questions

Some common FPT approaches do not work

Is computing track number FPT or  $W[1]$ -hard?



Thank you!



# FPT Results Summary



1. Courcelle's Theorem cannot be applied

Find a family of graphs that are not finite state

2. 2-core kernelization for  $k$ -almost-tree will not work

Found pairs of graphs with the same 2-core and different track number

3. Track number is non-uniformly FPT in tree depth

Using forbidden subgraph testing