

Improved Approximation Algorithms for  $(1,2)$ -TSP  
and Max-TSP Using Path Covers  
in the Semi-Streaming Model

Ermiya Farokhnejad, University of Warwick

Joint work with:

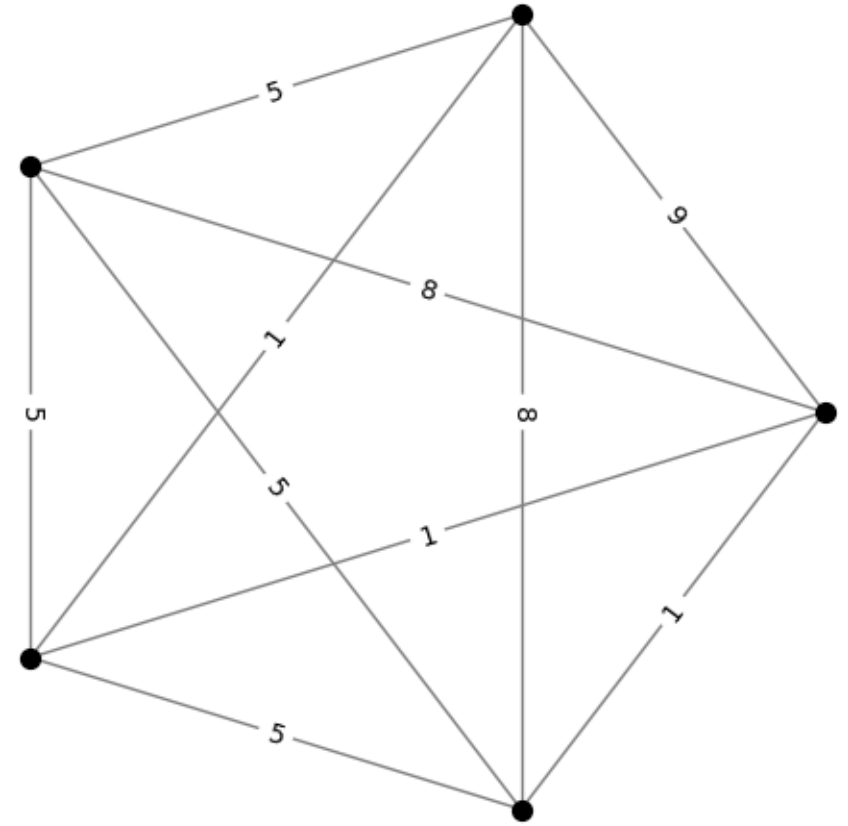
Sharareh Alipour, Tehran Institute for Advanced Studies (TeIAS)

Tobias Mömke, University of Augsburg

TSP:

Given a complete graph:

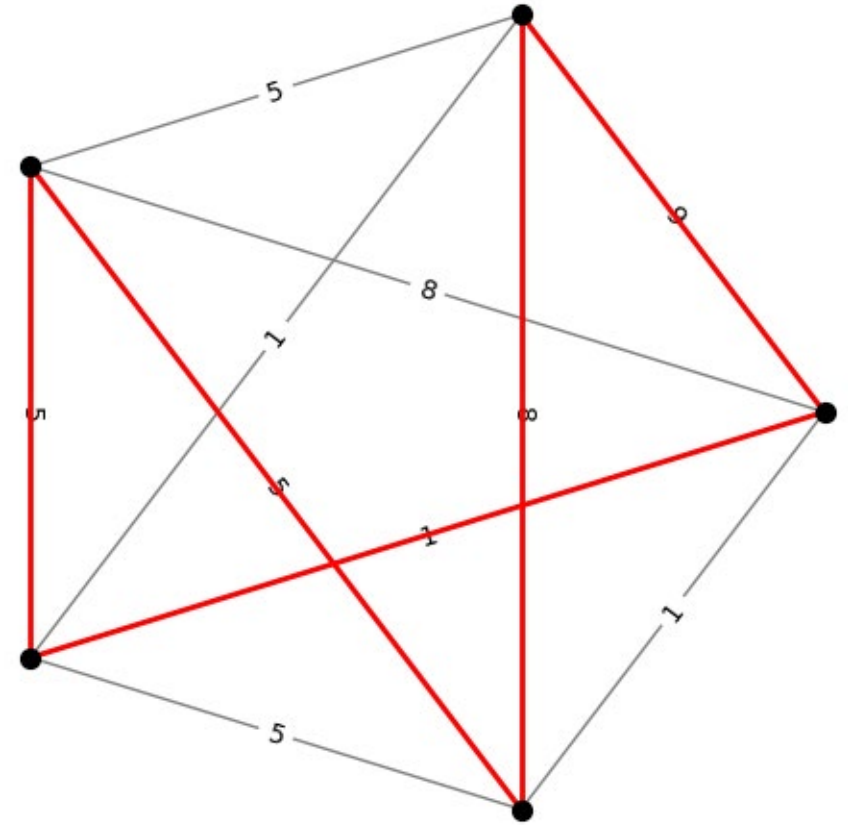
Find a tour with minimum cost



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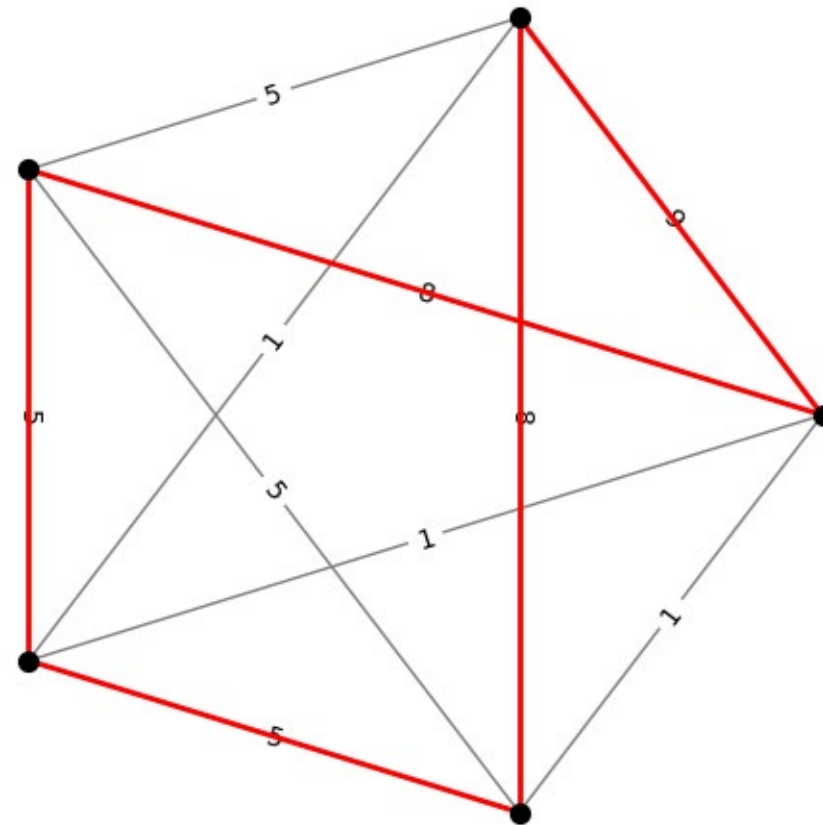


Cost: 28

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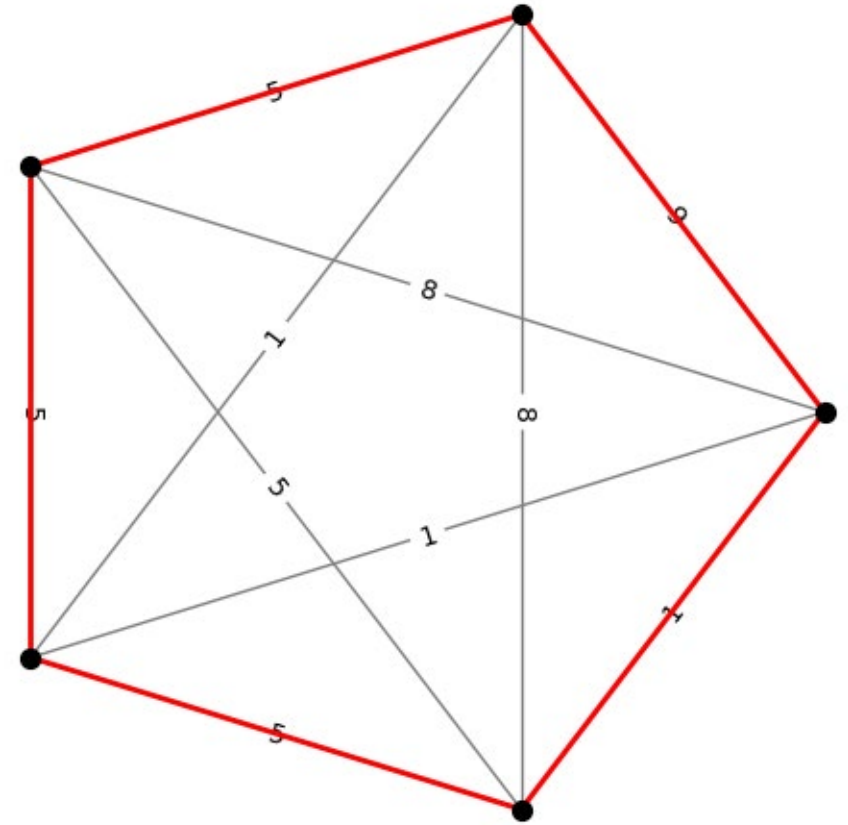


Cost: 35

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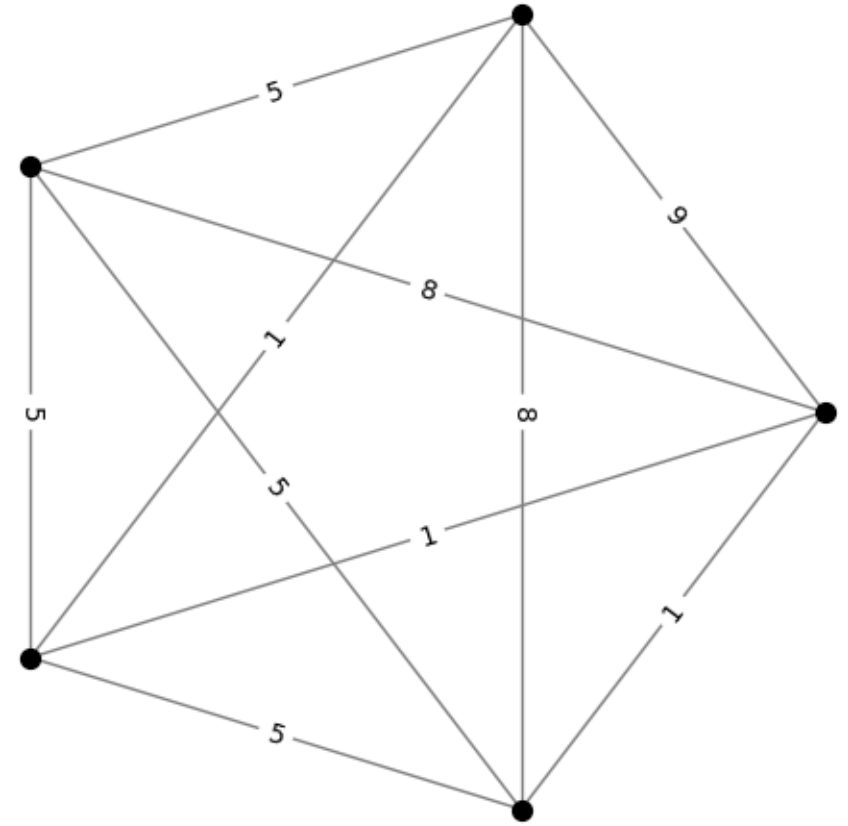


Cost: 25

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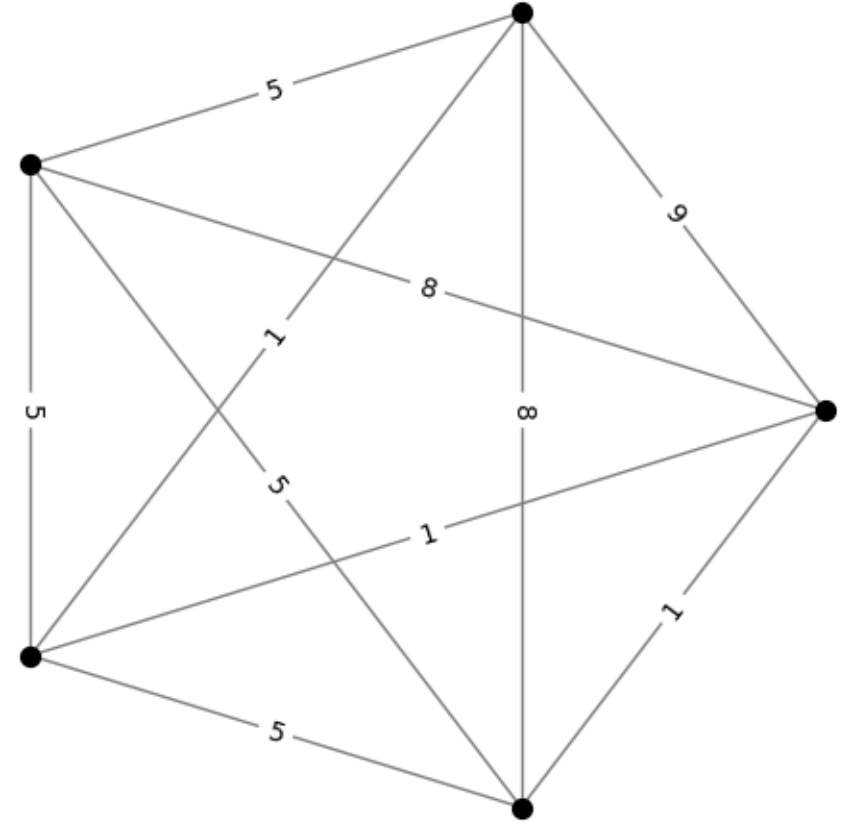


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Variants:



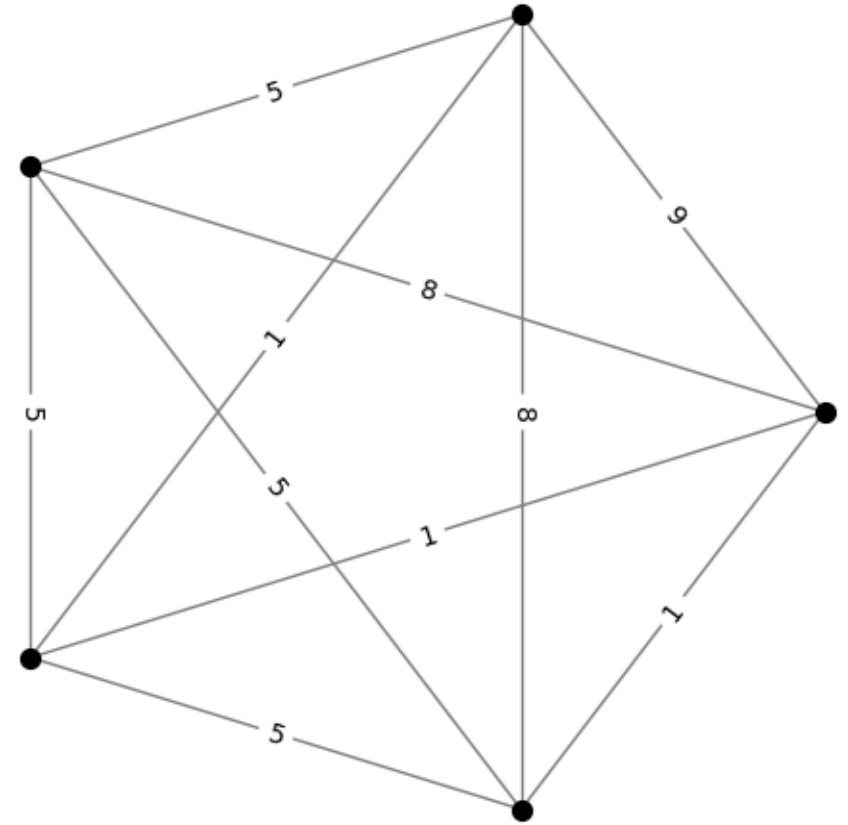
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Metric TSP





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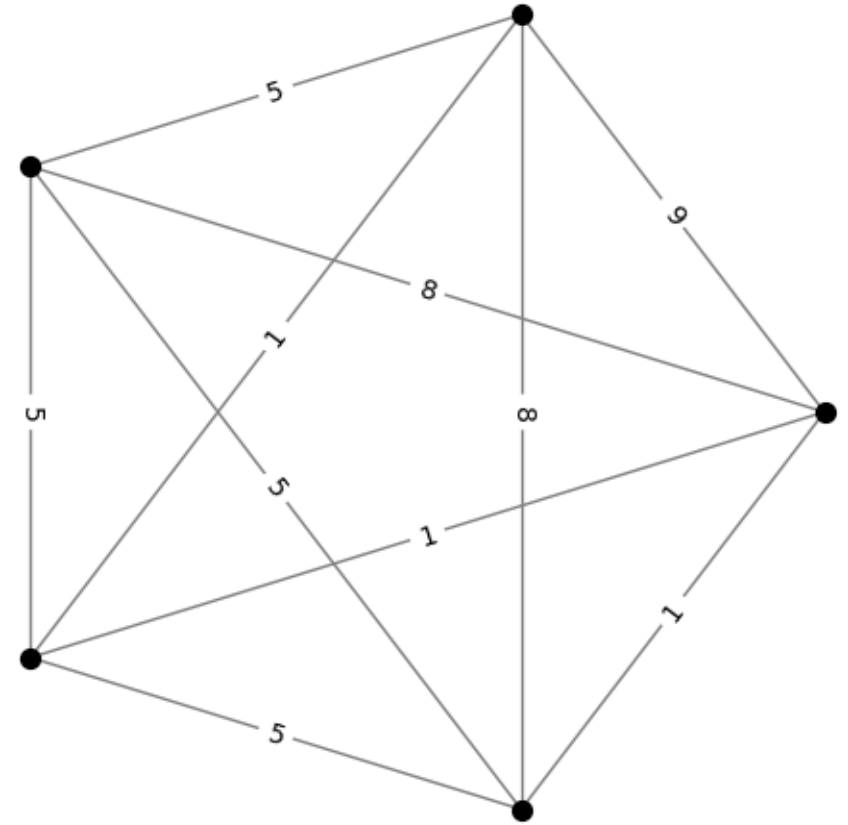
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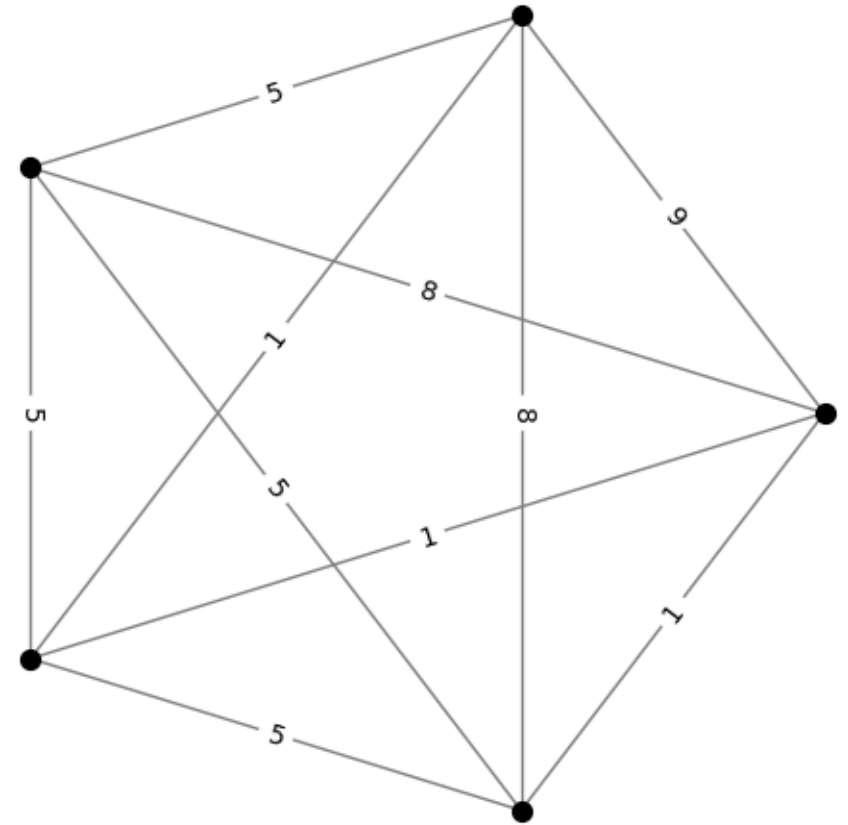
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(1,2)-TSP



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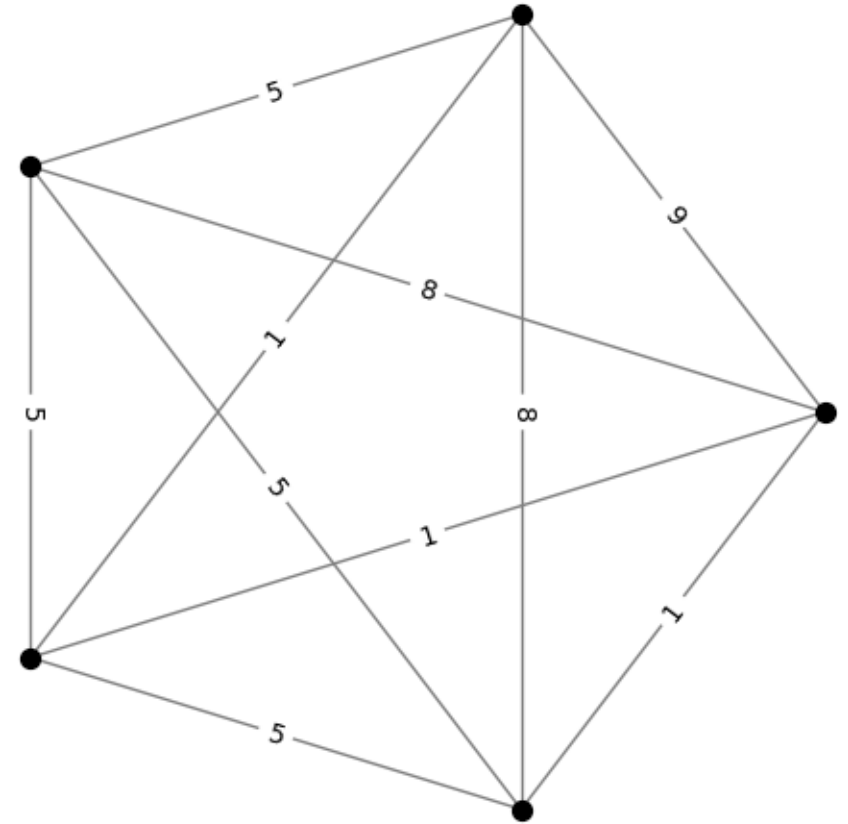
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Max-TSP



Previous Work:

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Behnezhad, Roghani, Rubinstein, Saberi [ICALP 2024]

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Question:

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Question:

Better approximation by more passes?

Our results:

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## Theorem

Given an instance of  $(1, 2)$ -TSP , there is a  $(4/3+\epsilon)$ -approximation algorithm that runs in  $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$  passes in the semi-streaming model.

# Our results:

## Theorem

Given an instance of  $(1, 2)$ -TSP , there is a  $(4/3 + \epsilon)$ -approximation algorithm that runs in  $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$  passes in the semi-streaming model.

## Theorem

Given an arbitrary weighted graph, there is a  $(7/12 - \epsilon)$ -approximation algorithm for MAX-TSP that runs in  $\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$  passes in the semi-streaming model.

Main Idea:

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Reduction to Maximum Matching



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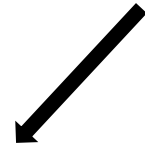
Maximum Weighted Matching in Semi-Streaming Model

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## Reduction to Maximum Matching

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Maximum Weighted Matching in Semi-Streaming Model



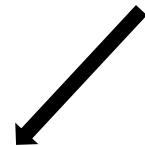
$(1 - \epsilon)$ -approximation

Main Idea:

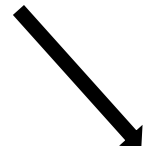
## Reduction to Maximum Matching

[Huang, Su] [PODC23]:

Maximum Weighted Matching in Semi-Streaming Model



$(1 - \epsilon)$ -approximation



$\text{poly}(1/\epsilon)$  passes

Main Idea:

Reduction to Maximum Matching

rest of the talk

[Huang, Su] [PODC23]:

Maximum Weighted Matching in Semi-Streaming Model

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Related problem: Maximum Path Cover (MPC)

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Path cover:

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Path cover:

union of vertex-disjoint paths

covering all nodes



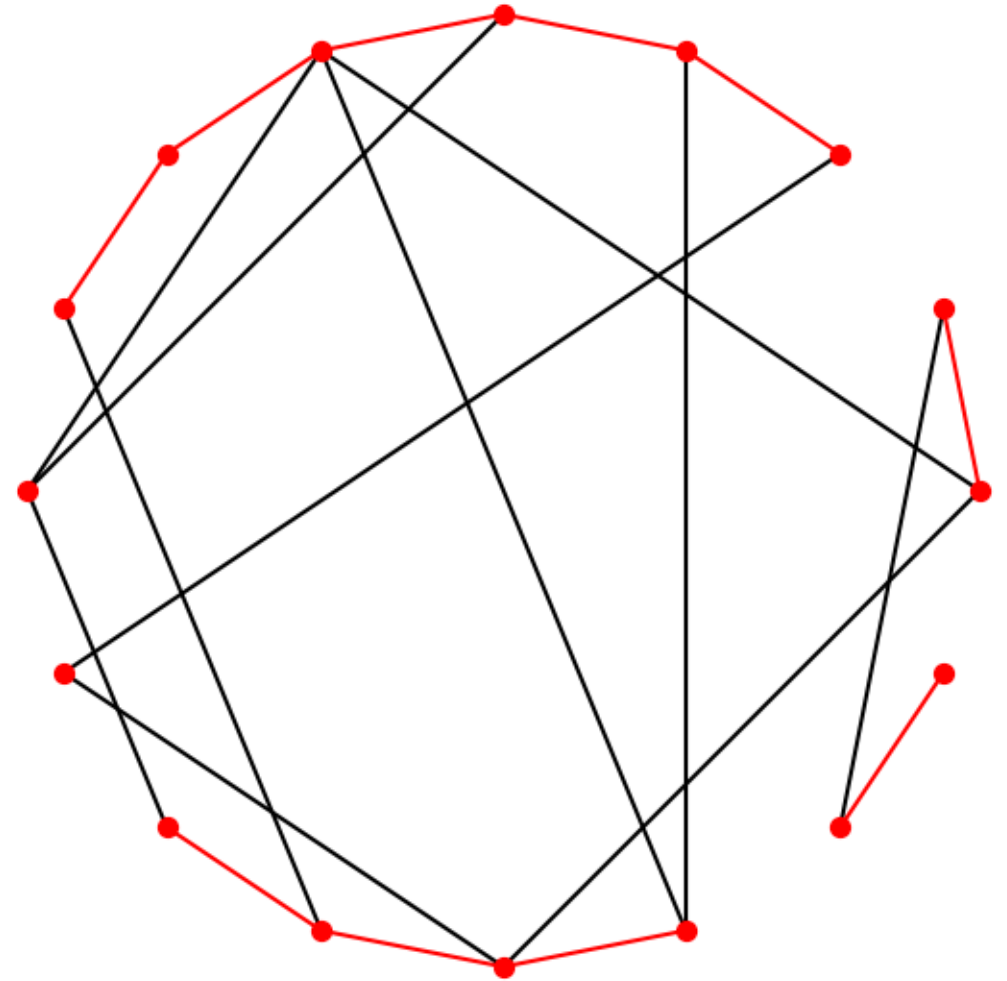


## Related problem: Maximum Path Cover (MPC)

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Find a path cover  
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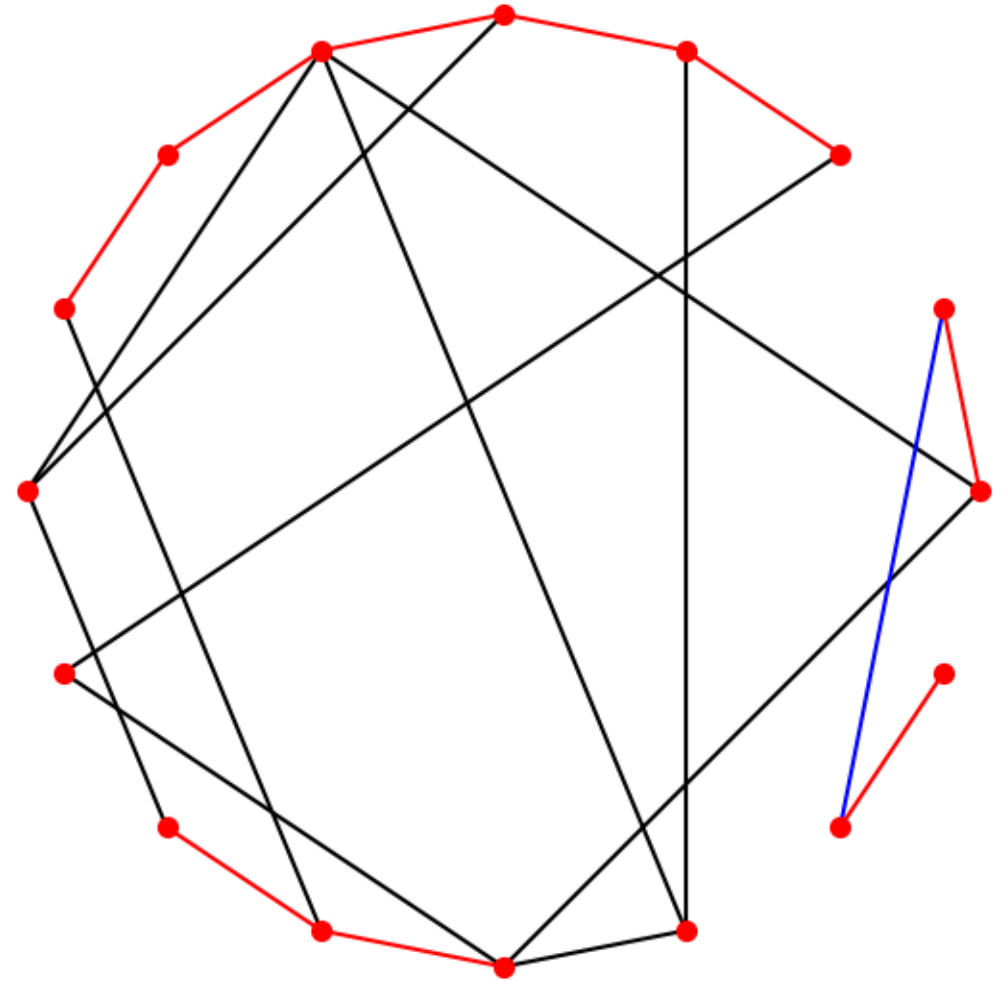


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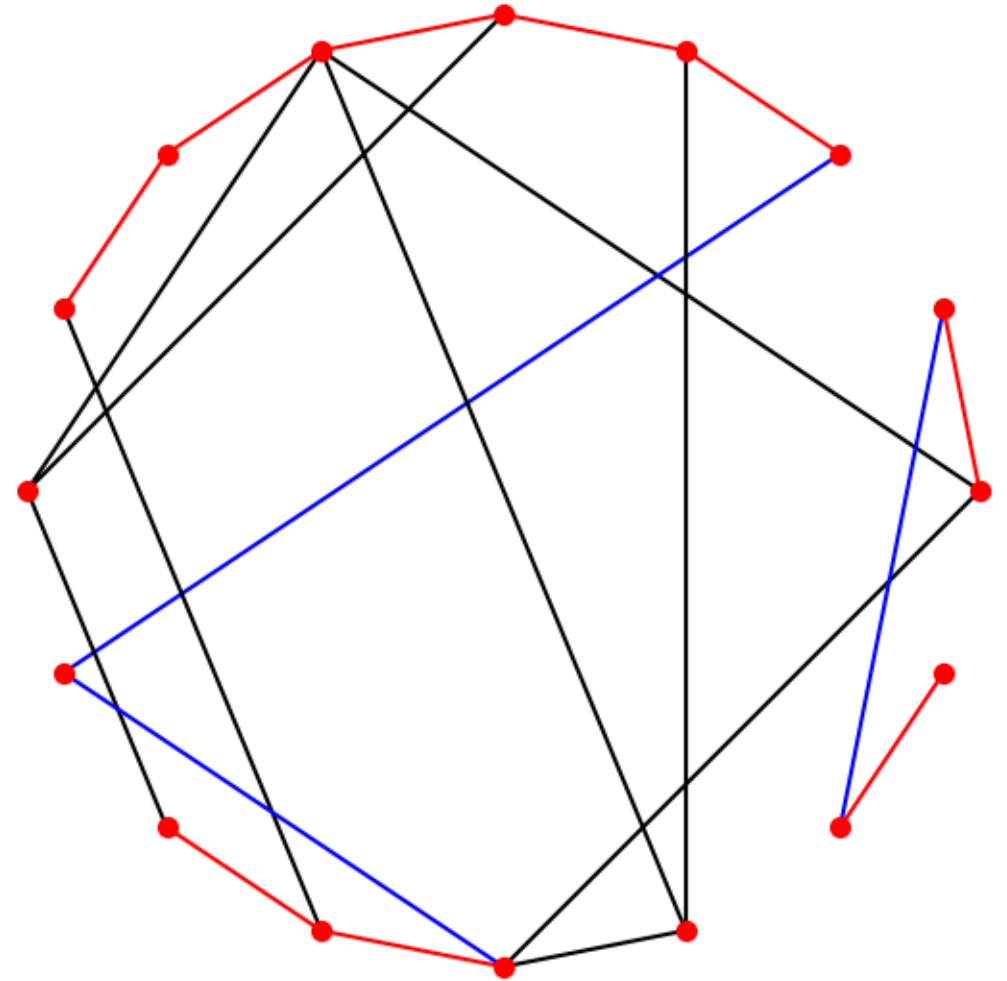


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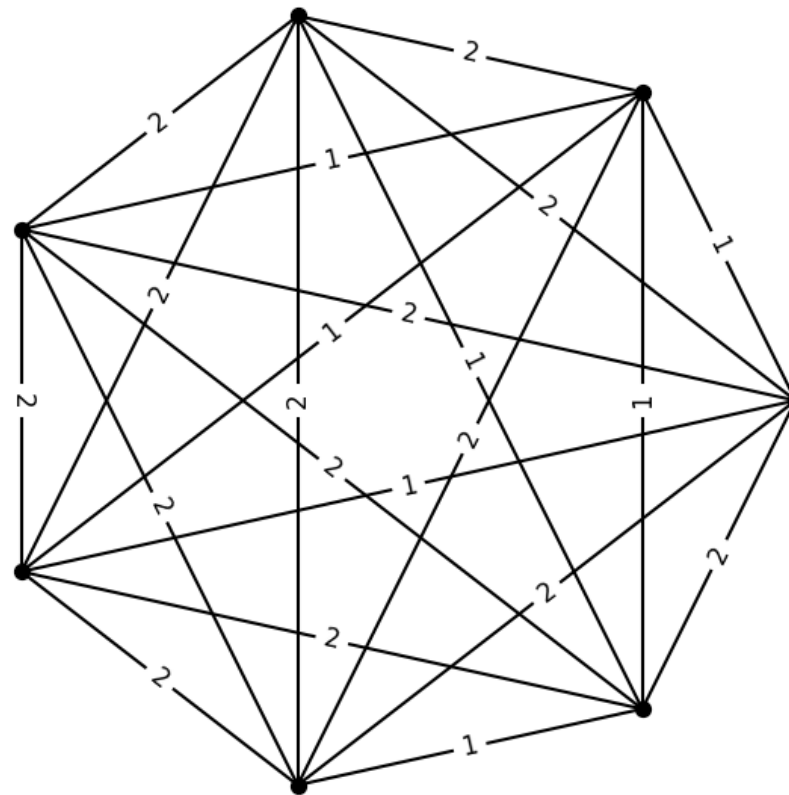
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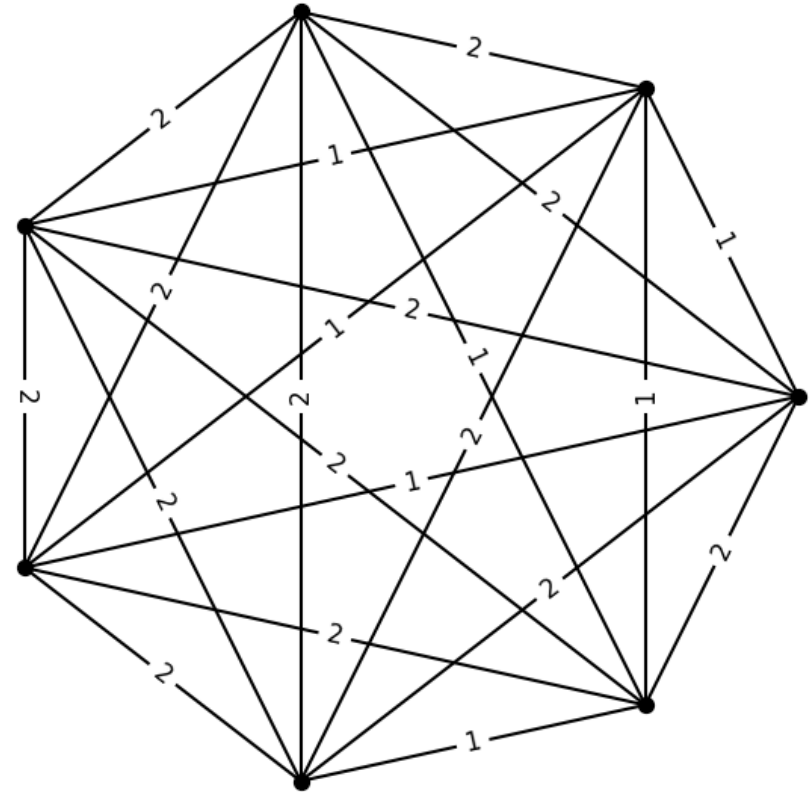


Relation between MPC and  $(1, 2)$ -TSP:



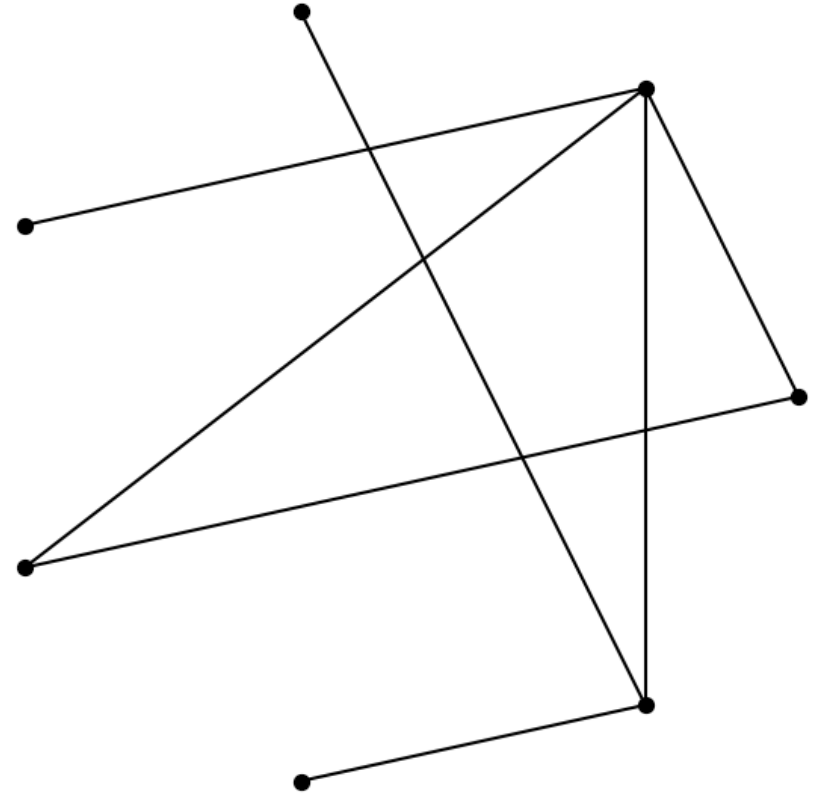
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step 1: focus on edges of weight 1



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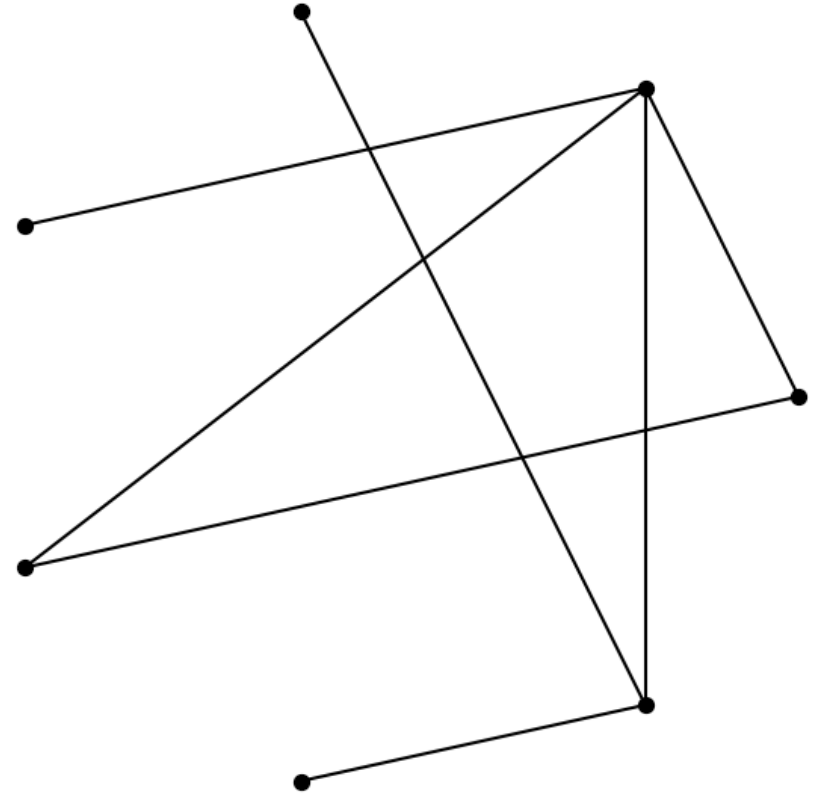
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# Relation between MPC and (1, 2)-TSP:

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step 2: find an MPC

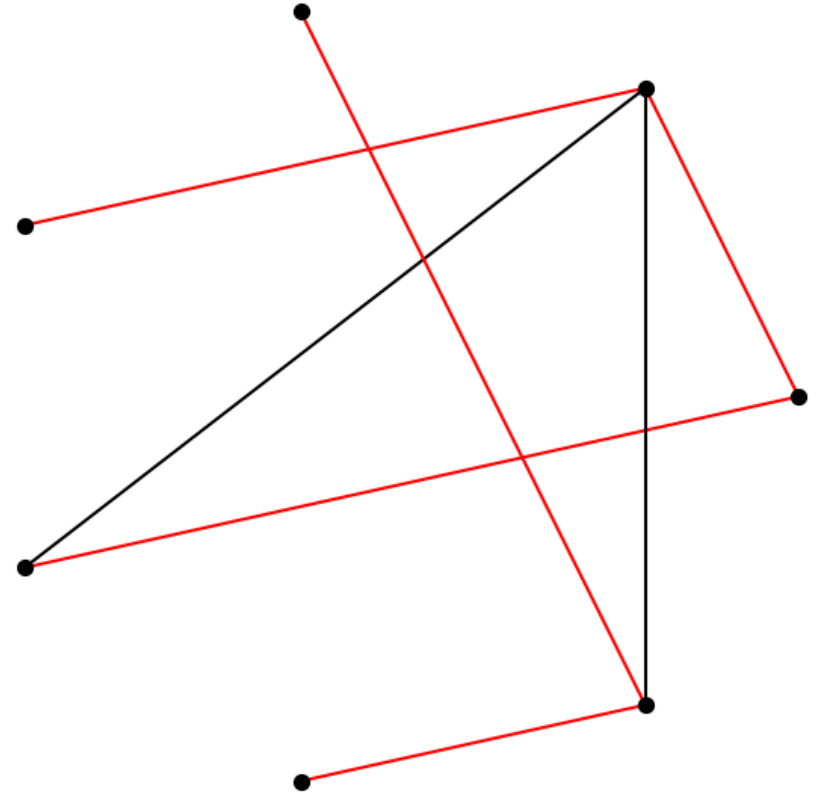




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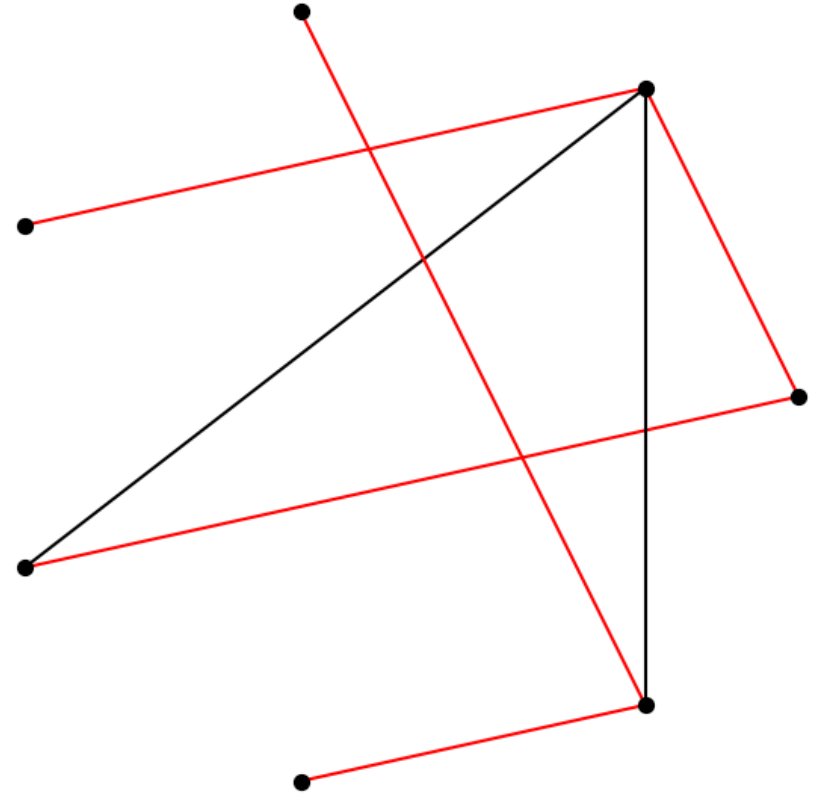


# Relation between MPC and (1, 2)-TSP:

step 1: focus on edges of weight 1

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step 3: complete it to a tour

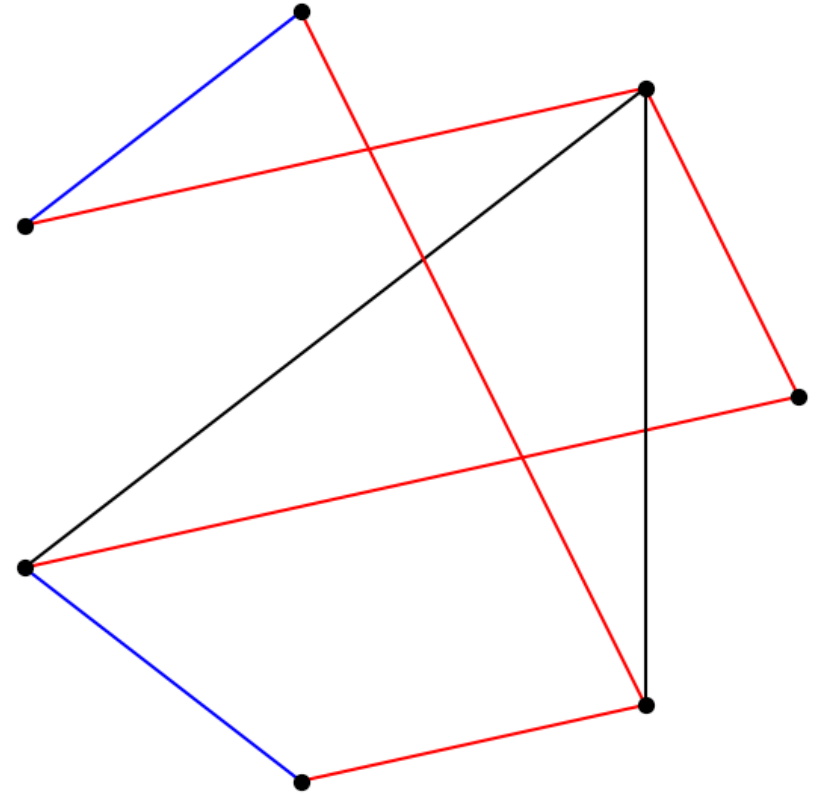




# Relation between MPC and (1, 2)-TSP:

$\rho$ : length of the path cover,  $T$ : TSP cost

$$T \approx 2n - \rho$$

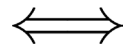


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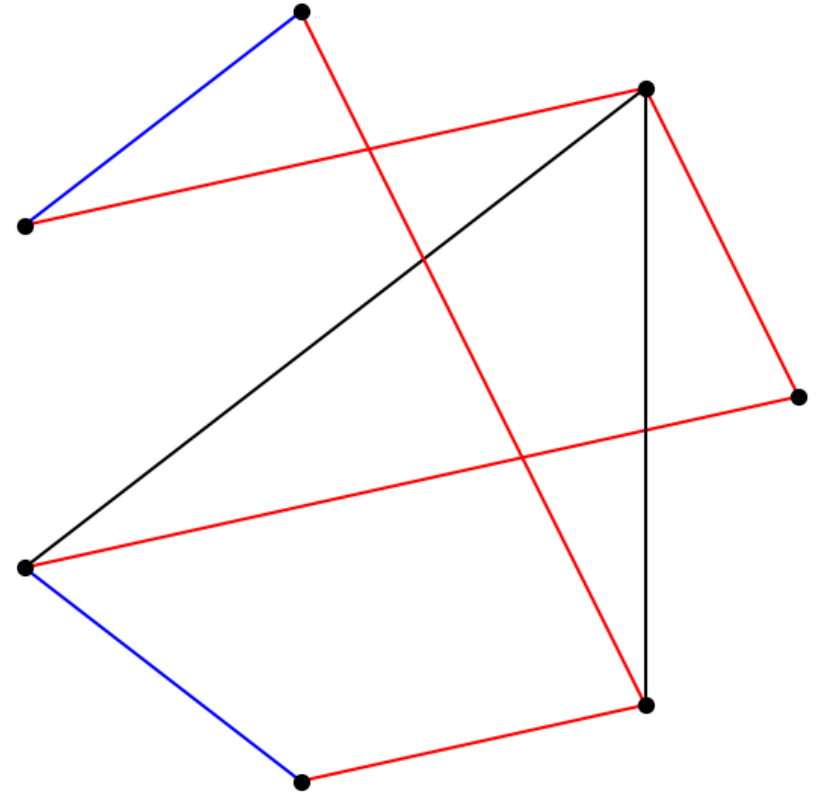
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$\alpha$ -approximation of MPC



$\approx (2 - \alpha)$ -approximation of (1, 2)-TSP



Algorithm for MPC:

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Observation:

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Observation:

Maximum matching



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$(1/2)$ -approximation of MPC

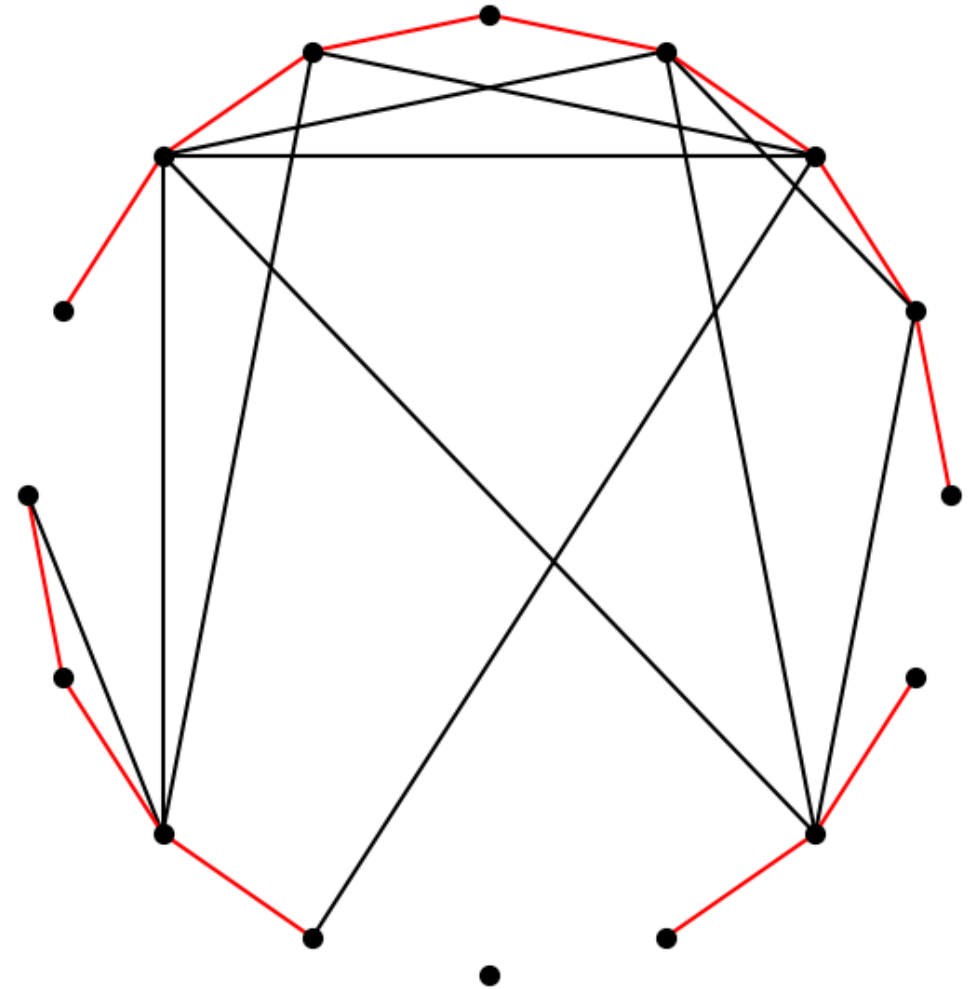
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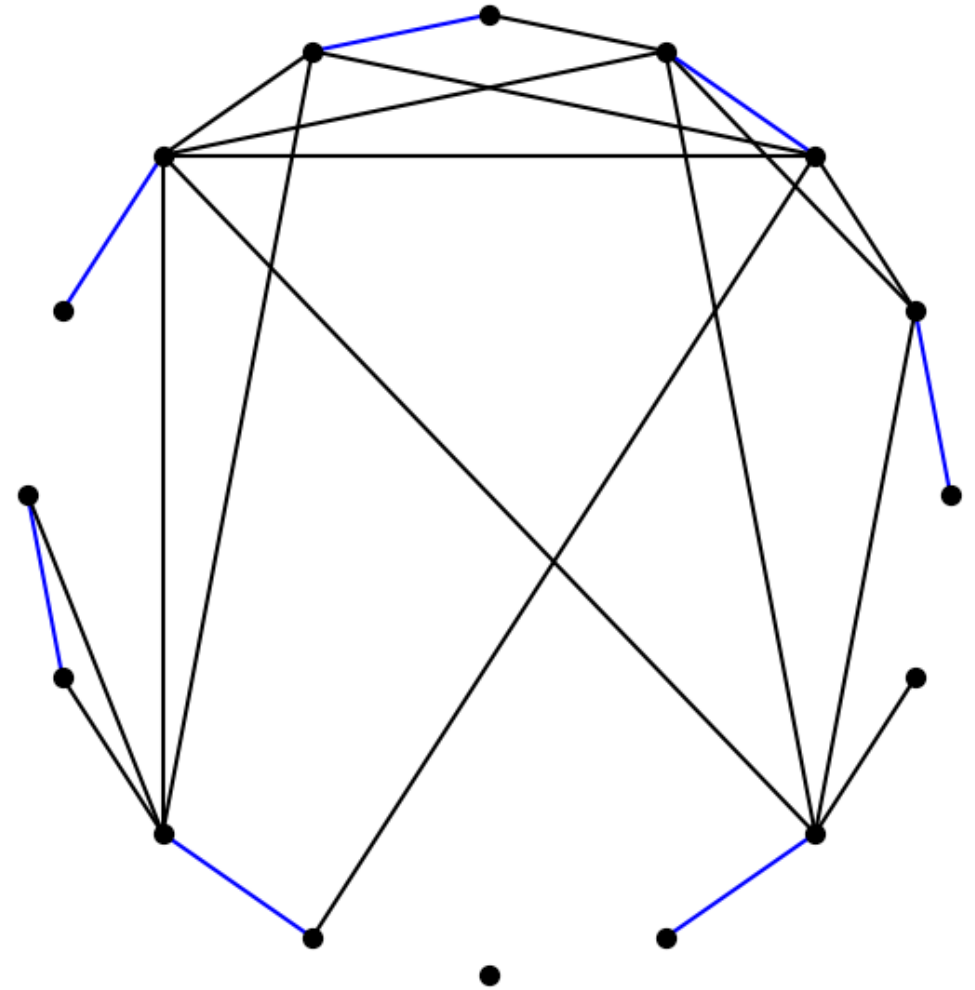
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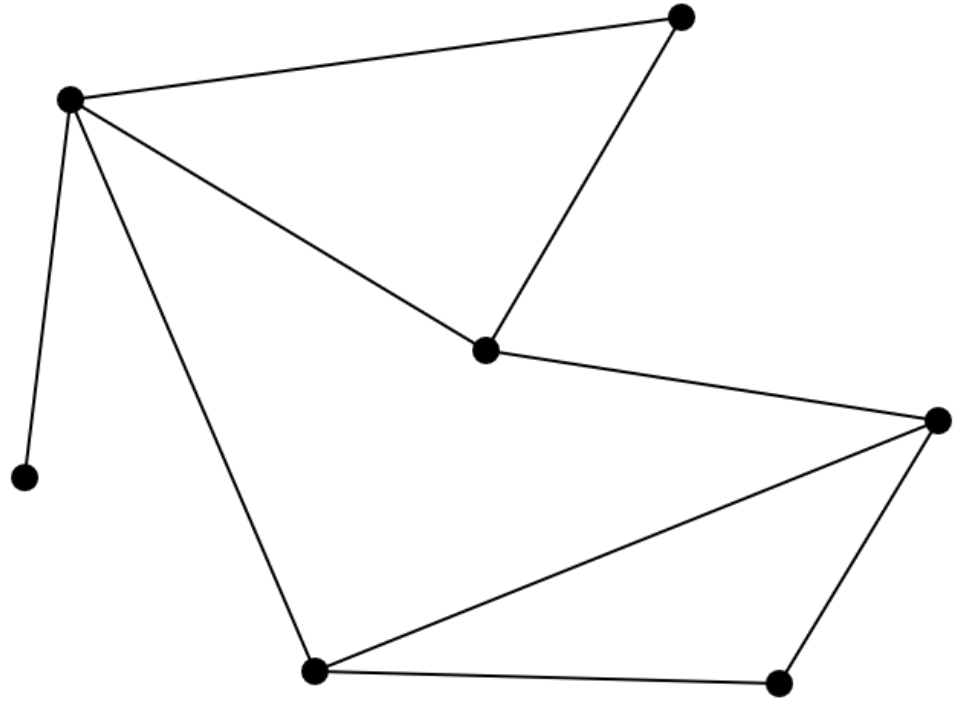
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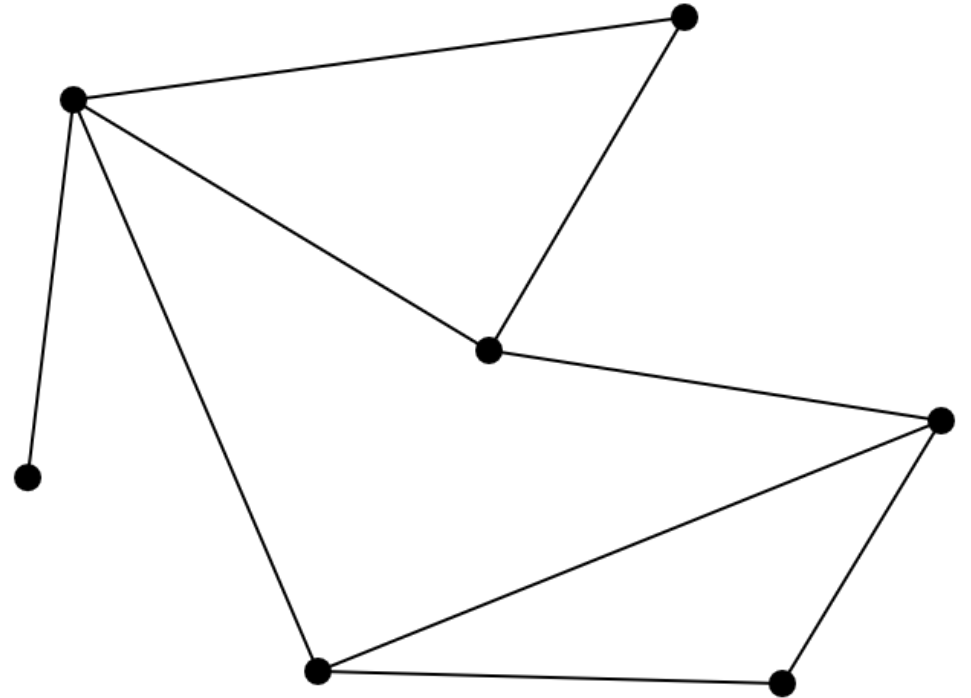


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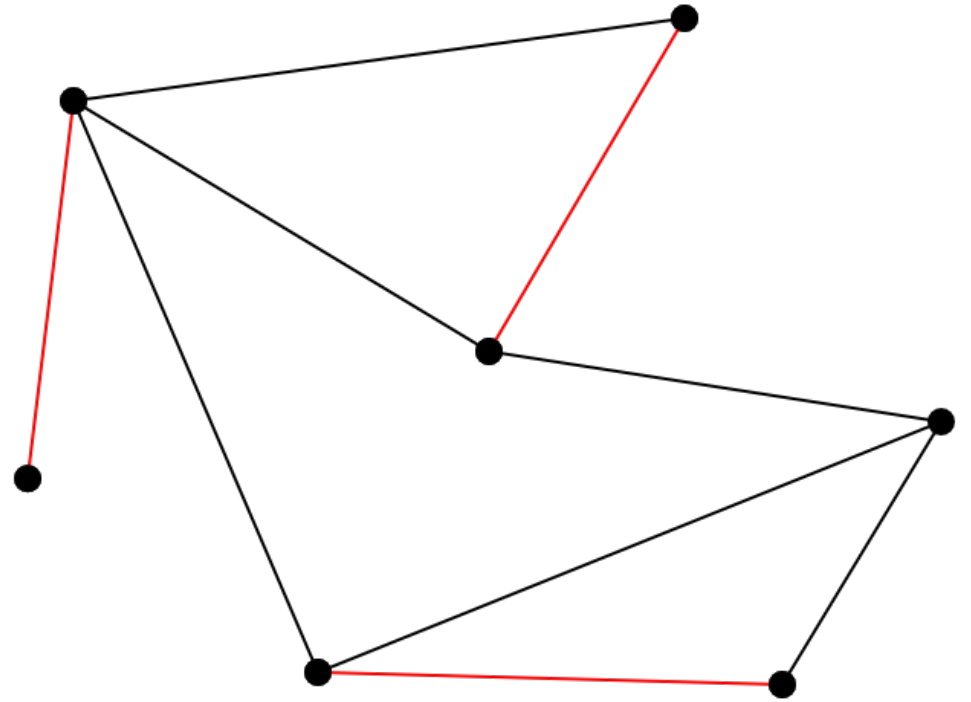
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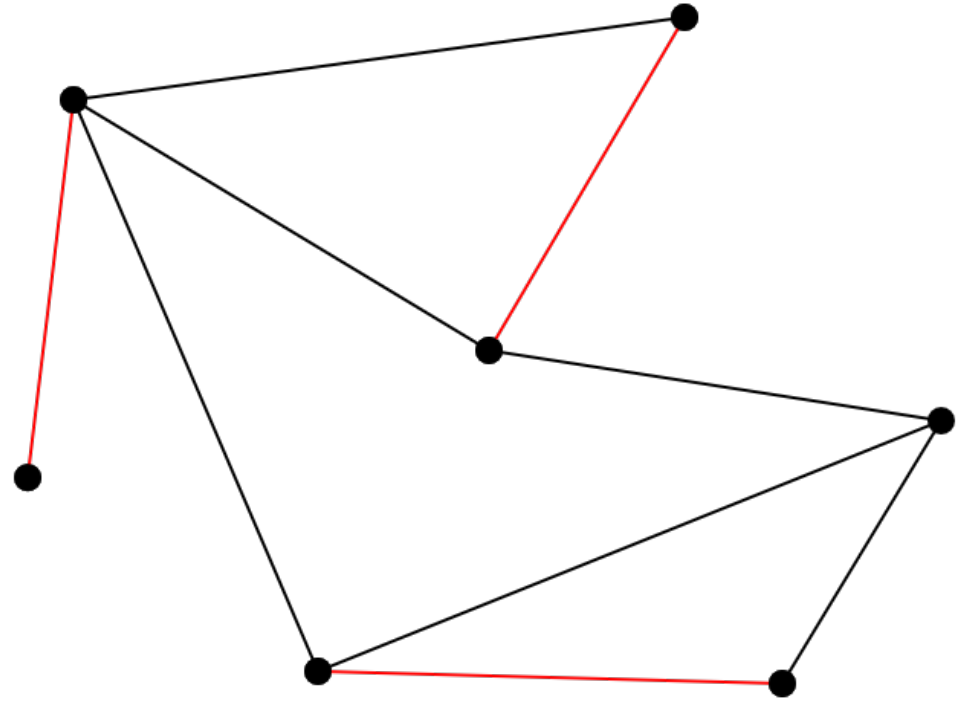
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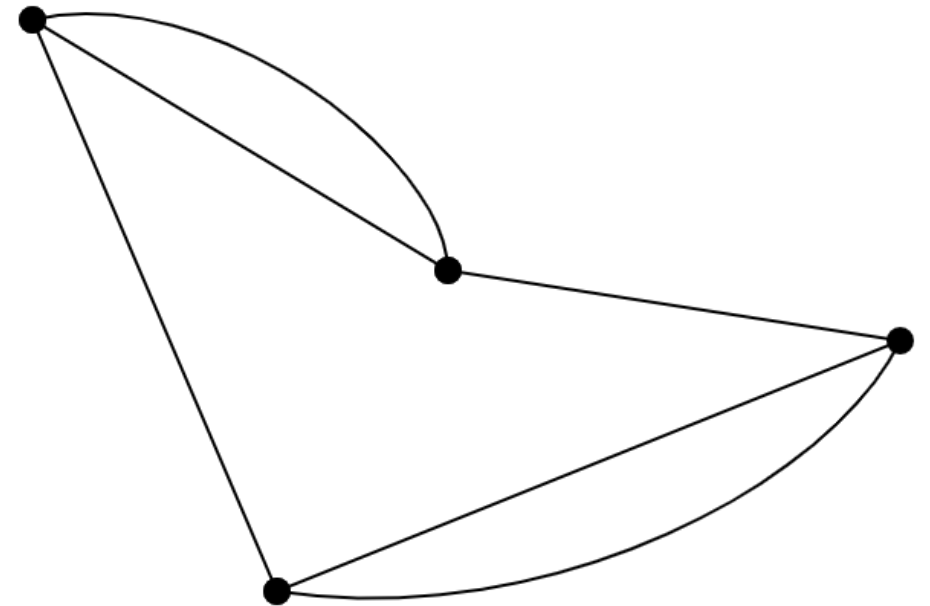
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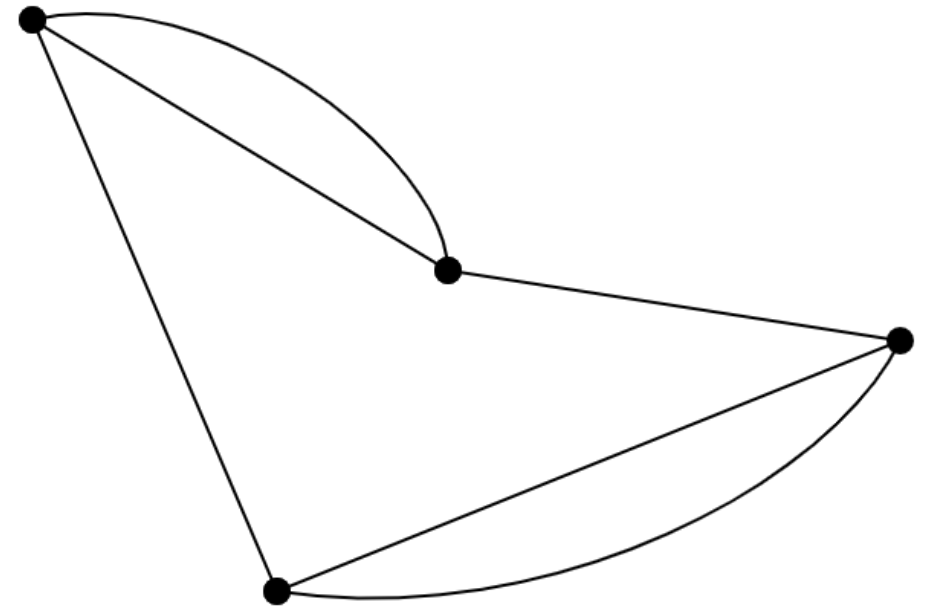


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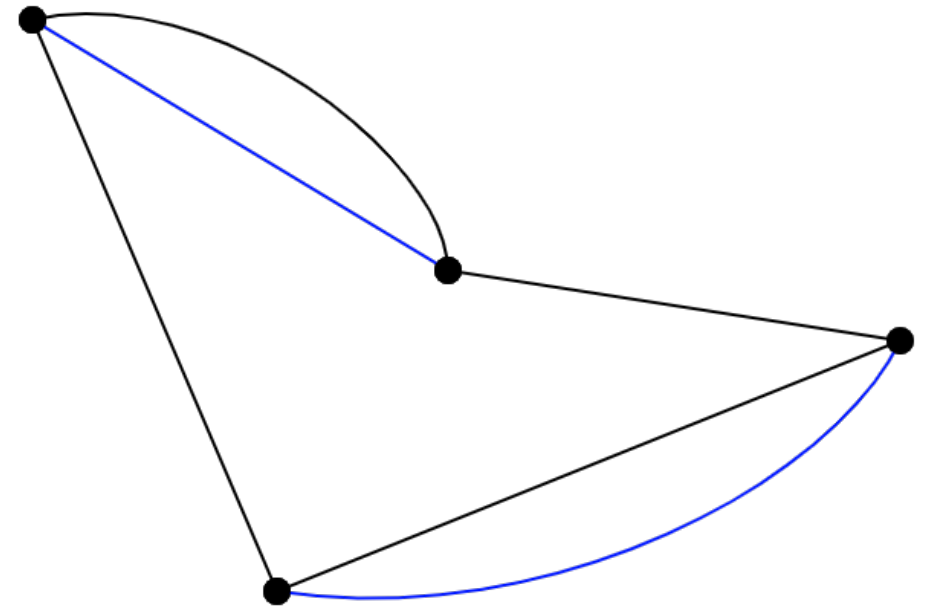


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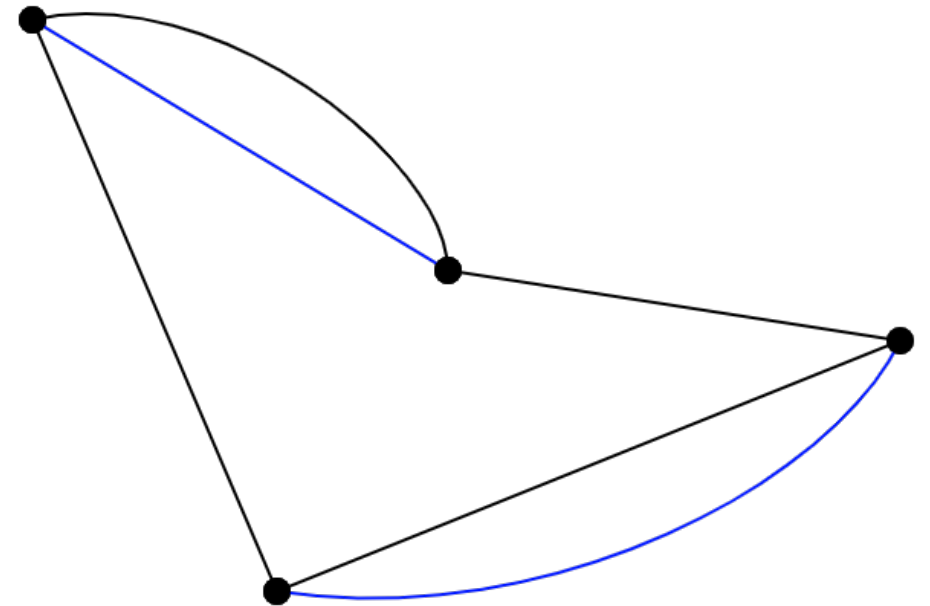
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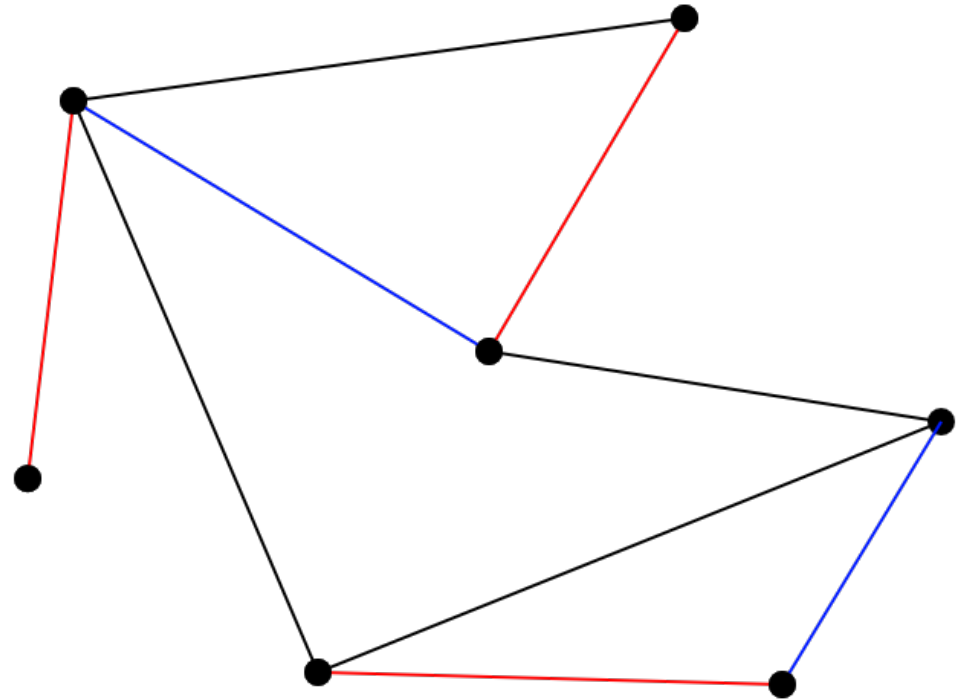
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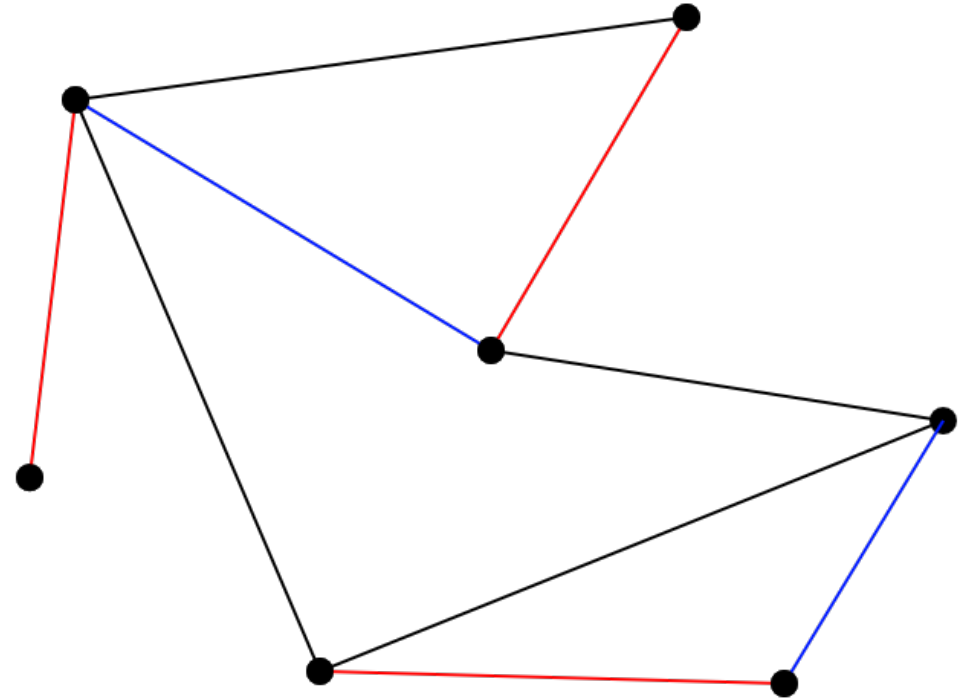
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Theorem:  $(2/3)$ -approximation

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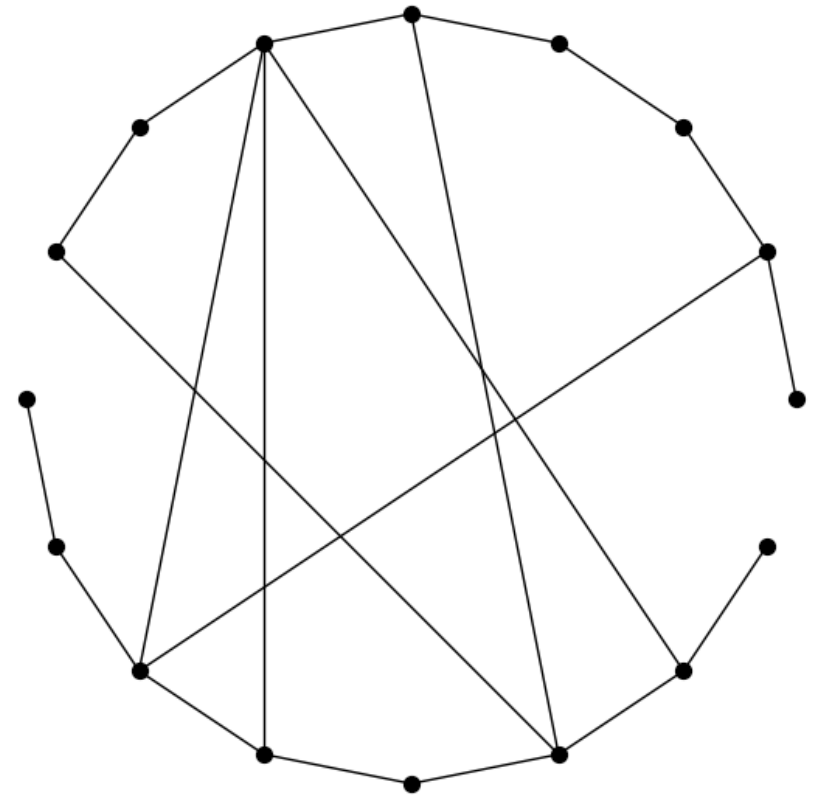
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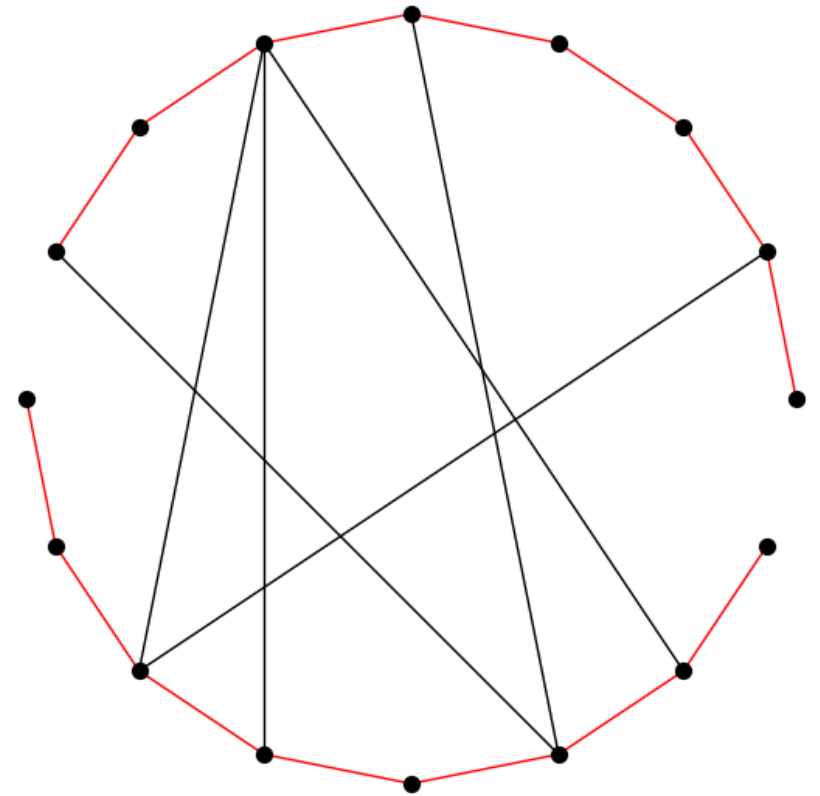


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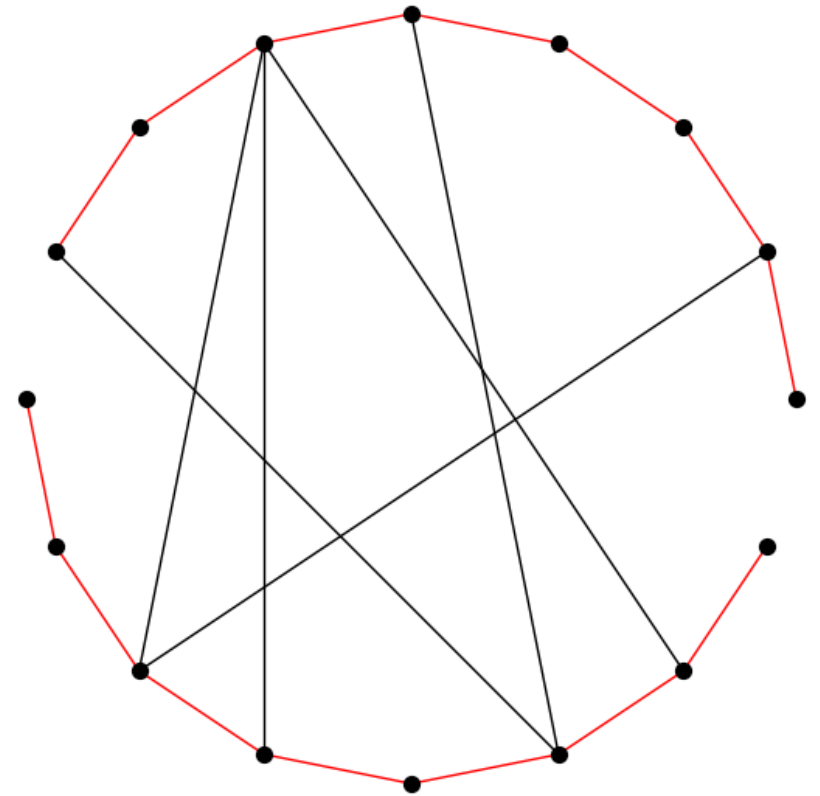
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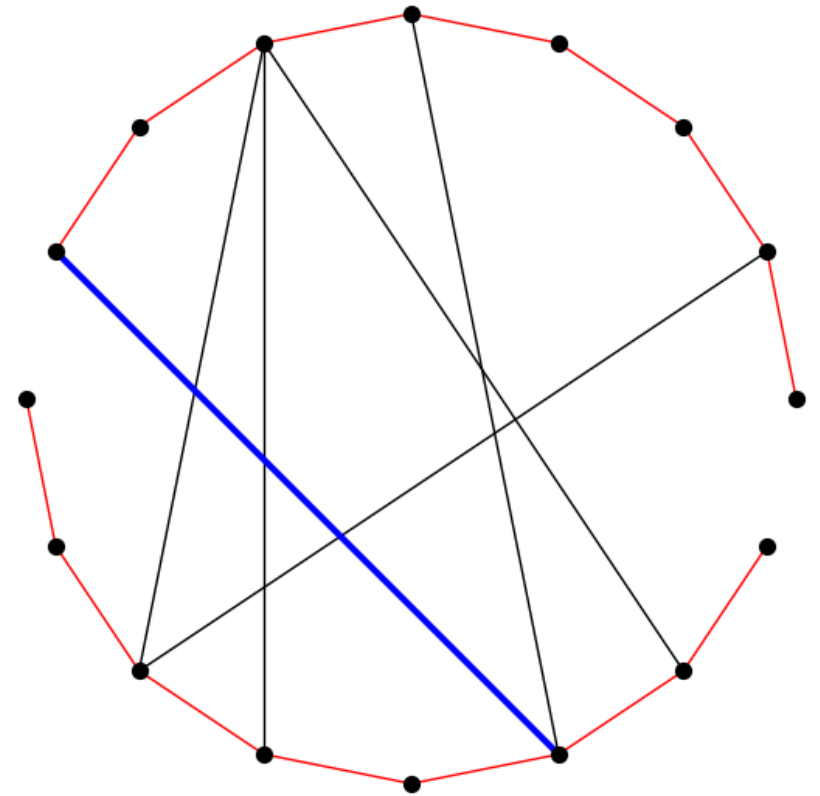
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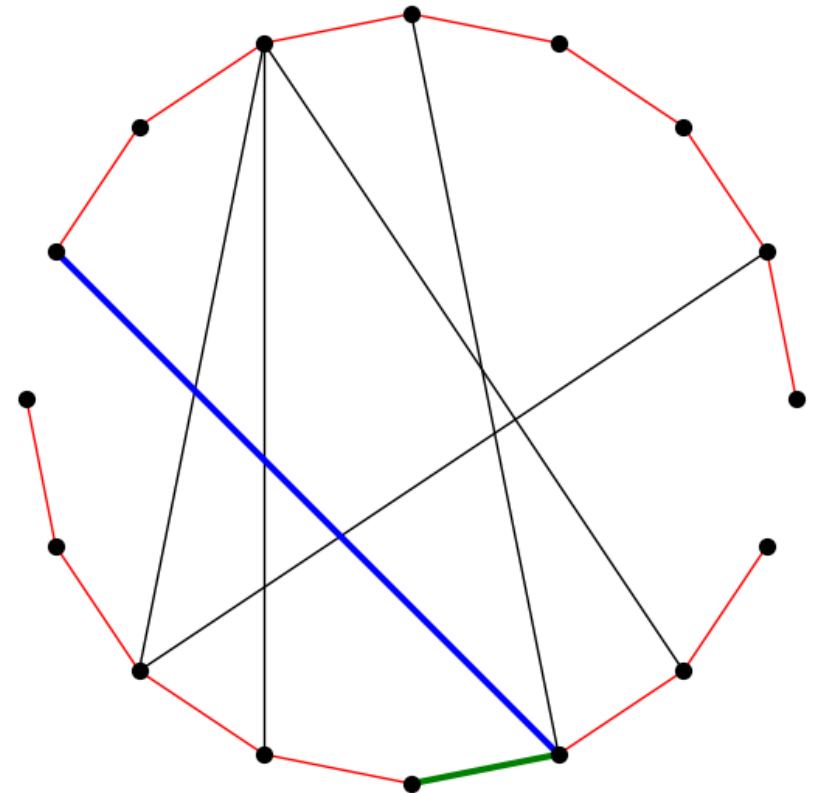
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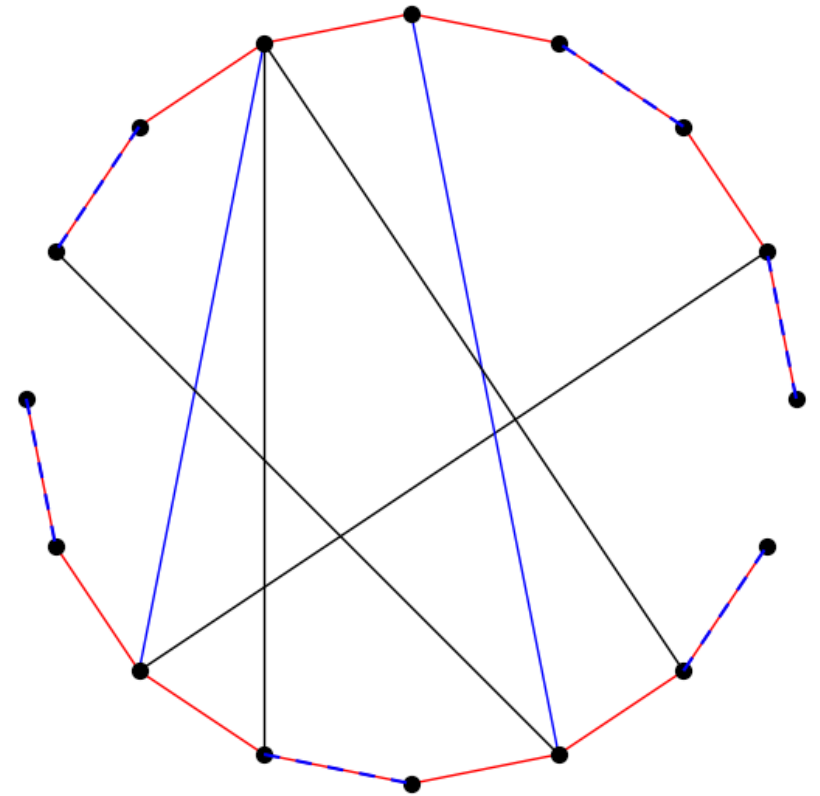
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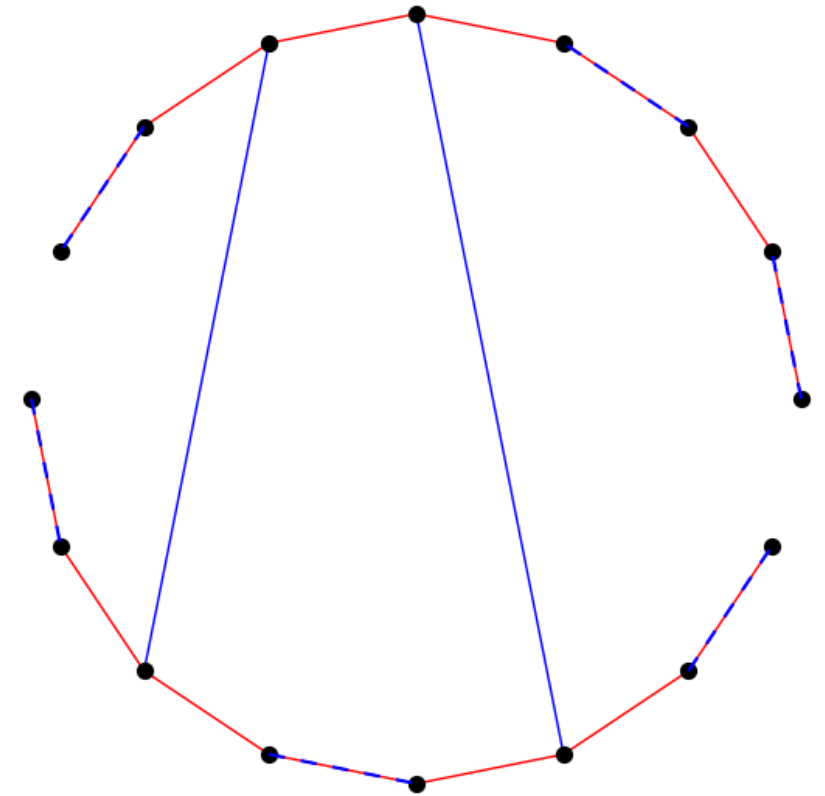
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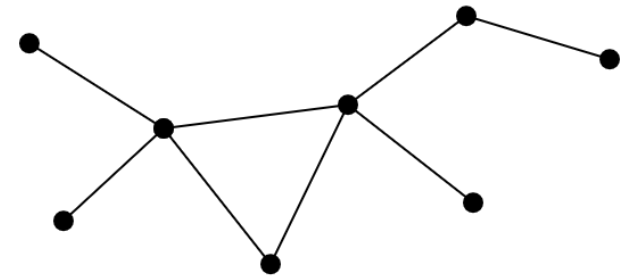
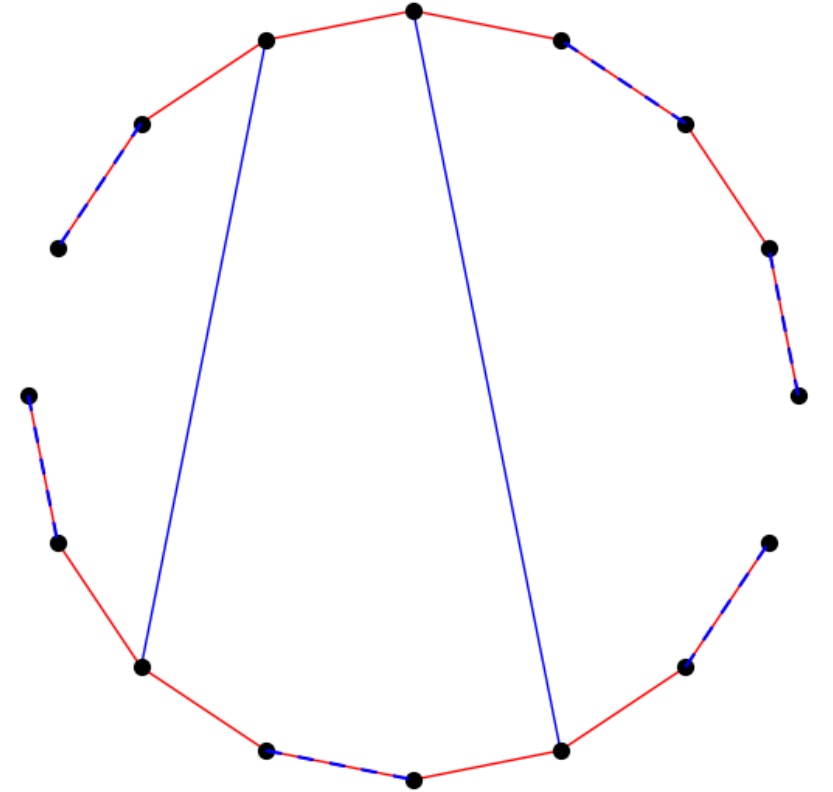
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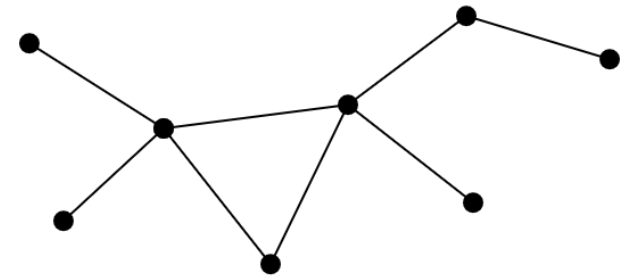
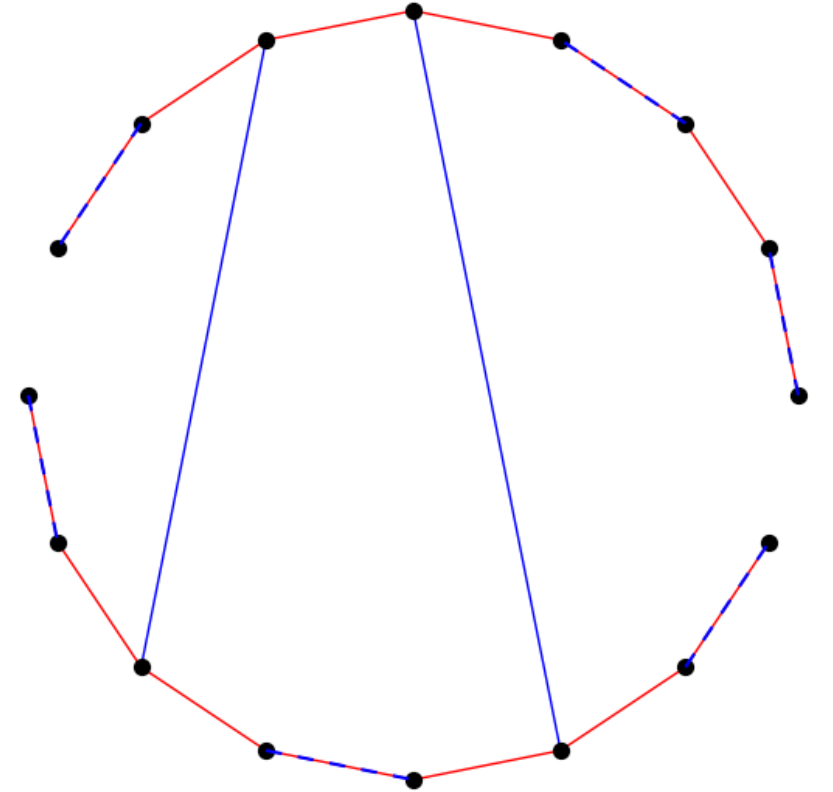
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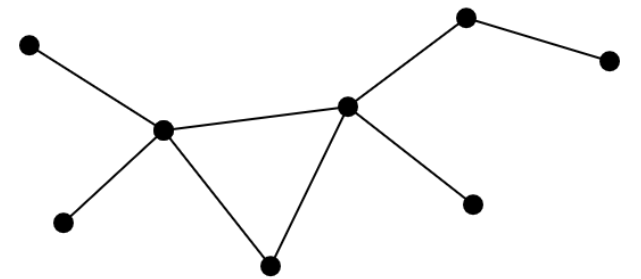
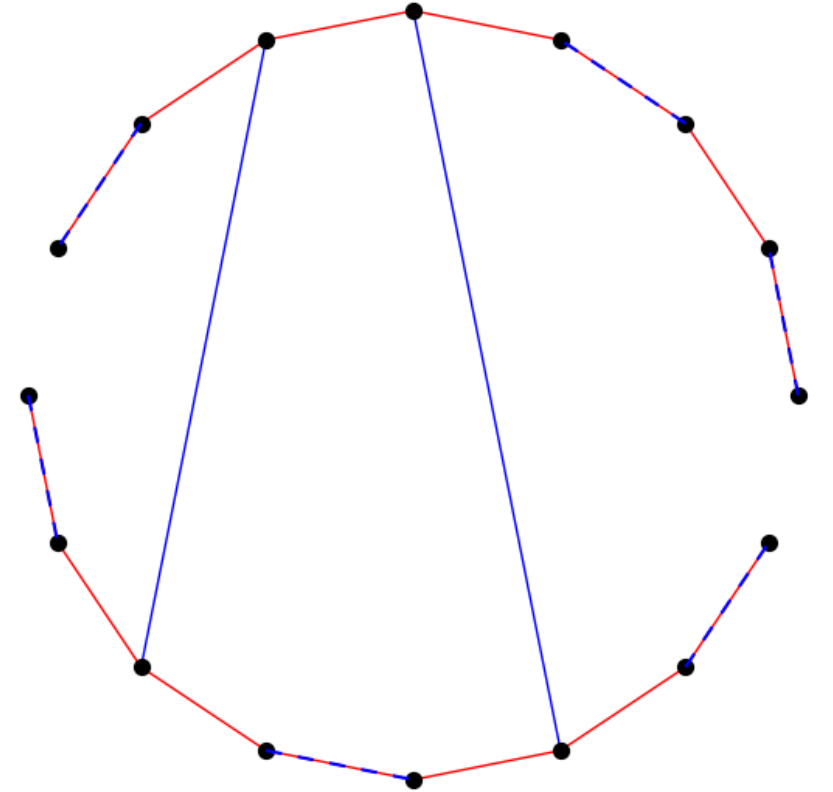
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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lemma: } \mu(G^*) &\geq \frac{|E(G^*)| - |V_4(G^*)|}{3} \\ &= \frac{|P^*| - |P^* \cap M_1| - |M_1 \setminus P^*|}{3} \end{aligned}$$



$G^*$

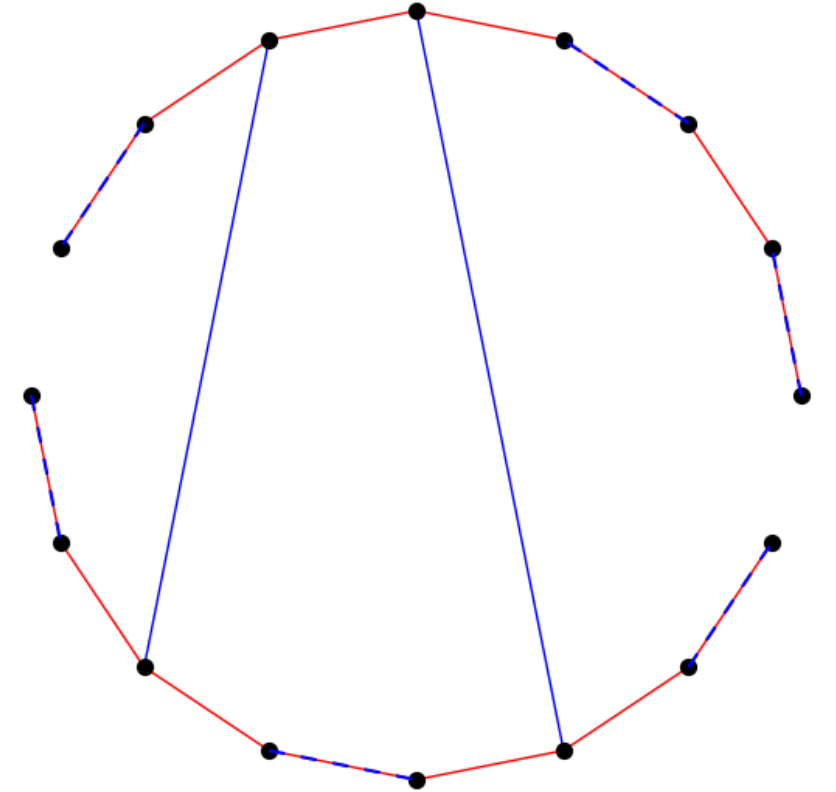
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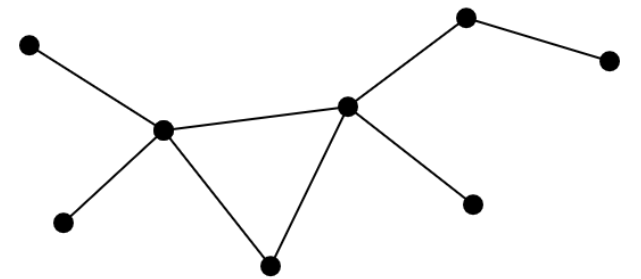
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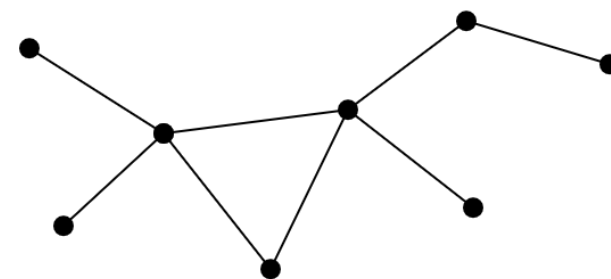
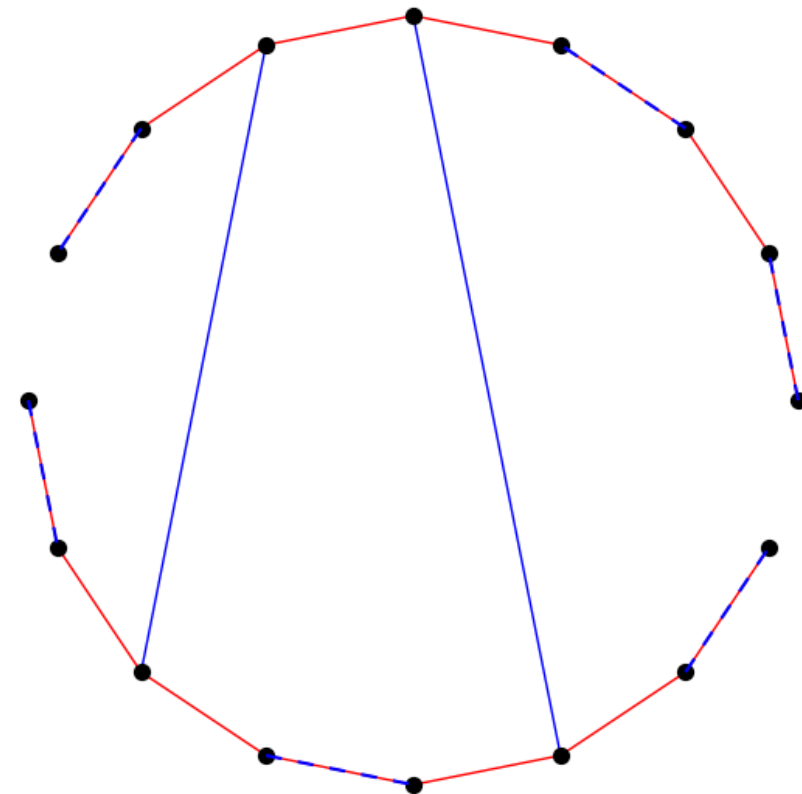
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Lemma: } \mu(G^*) &\geq \frac{|E(G^*)| - |V_4(G^*)|}{3} \\ &= \frac{|P^*| - |P^* \cap M_1| - |M_1 \setminus P^*|}{3} \\ &= \frac{\rho(G) - |M_1|}{3} \end{aligned}$$



$G^*$

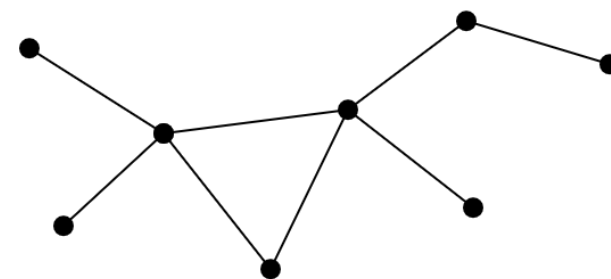
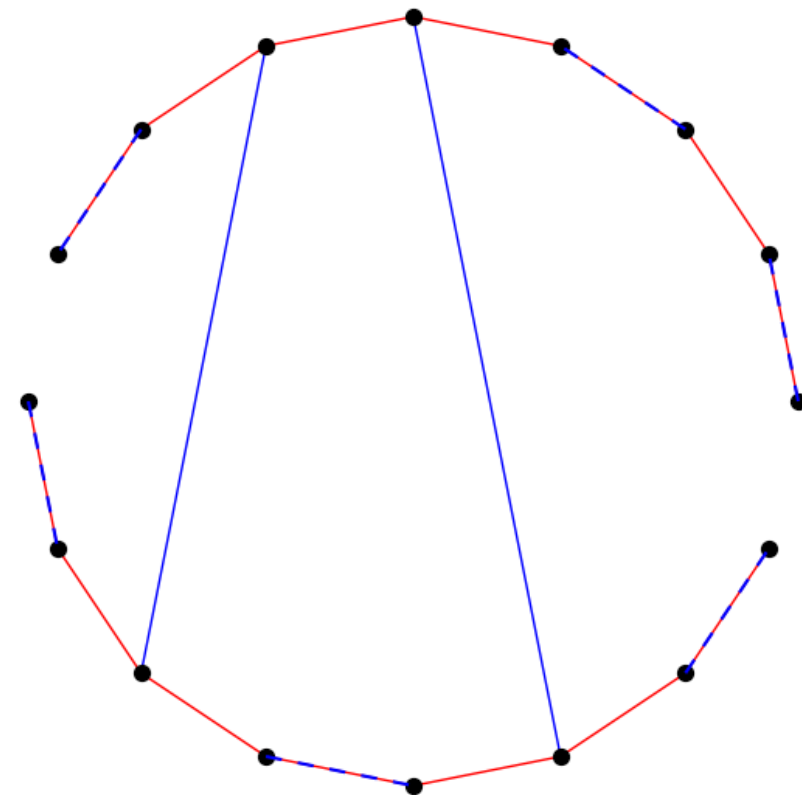
Analysis:

$$|M_1 \cup M_2| = |M_1| + |M_2|$$



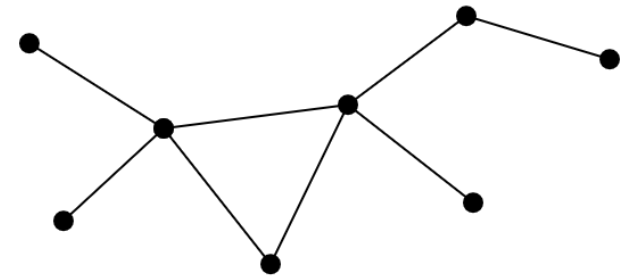
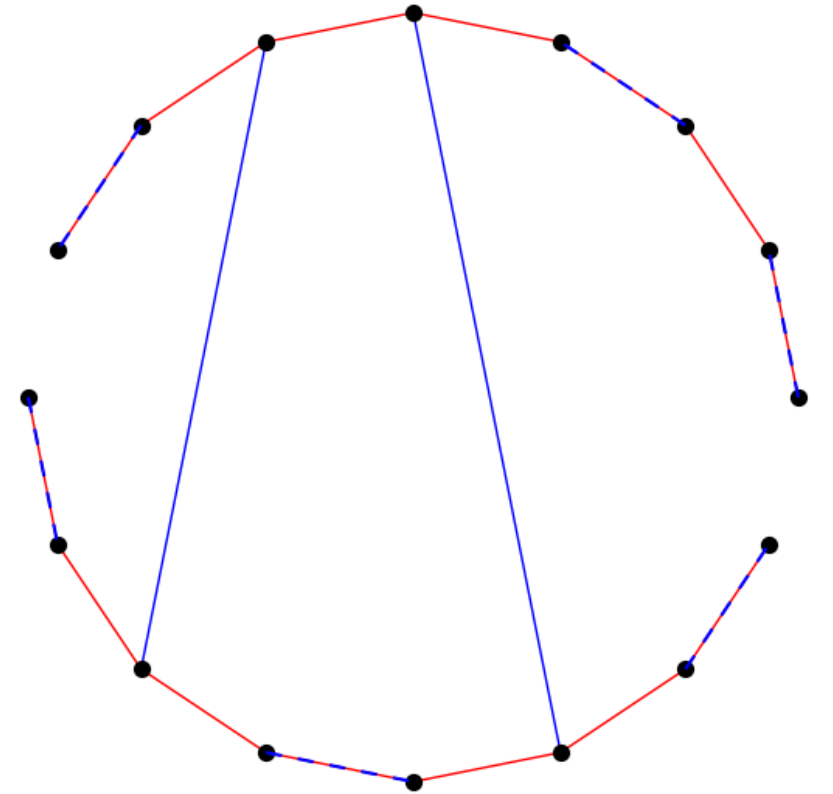
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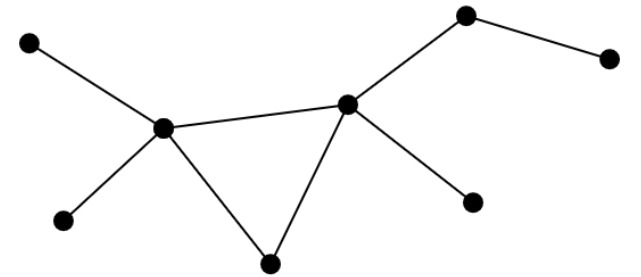
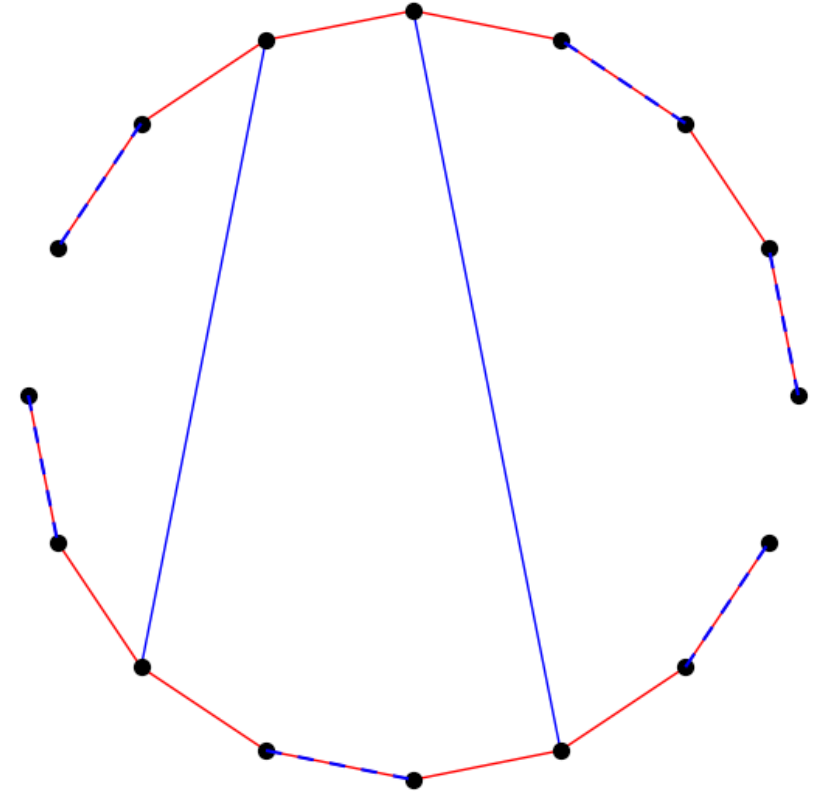
$$\begin{aligned} |M_1 \cup M_2| &= |M_1| + |M_2| \\ &\geq |M_1| + \frac{\rho(G) - |M_1|}{3} \\ &\geq \frac{2}{3} \cdot \rho(G) \end{aligned}$$



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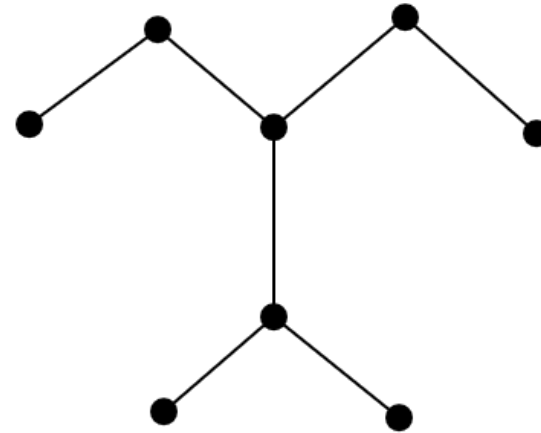
approx  $\geq 2/3$



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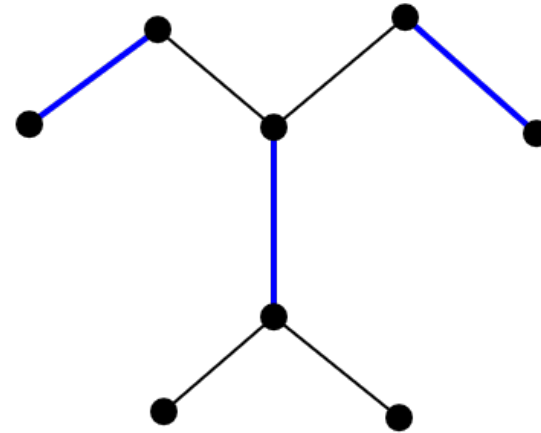




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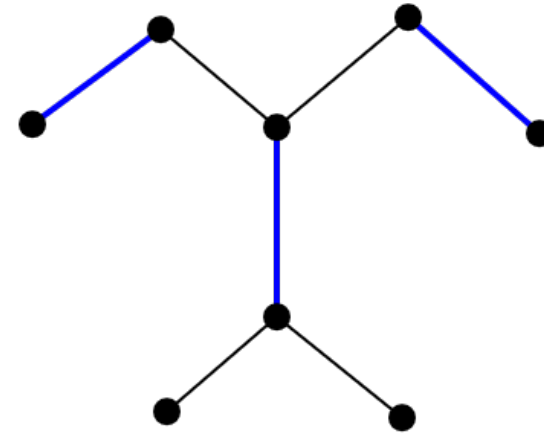
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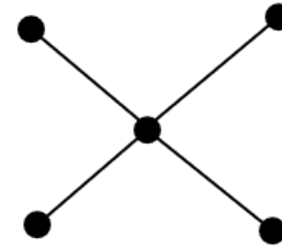


$$|M_1| = 3$$

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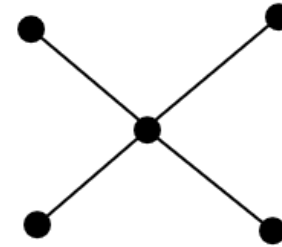


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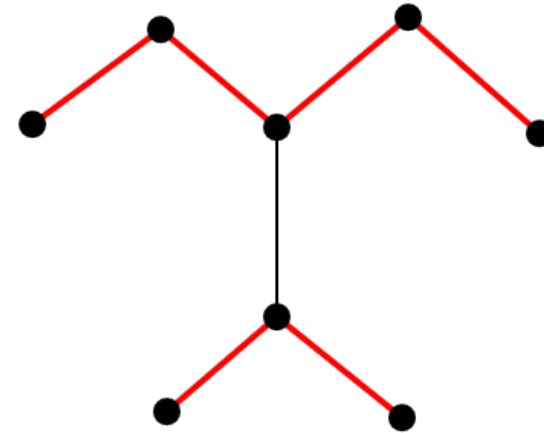


$$|M_1| = 3 \quad |M_2| = 1$$

Analysis:

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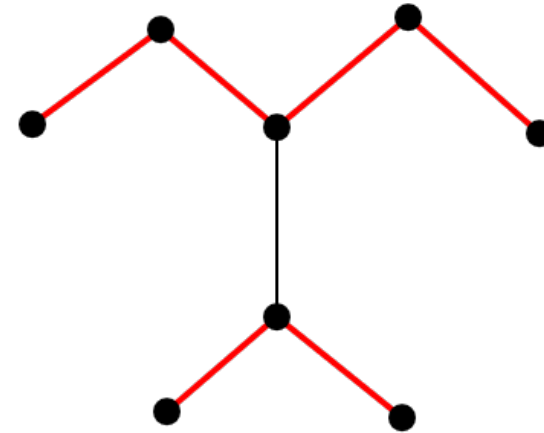


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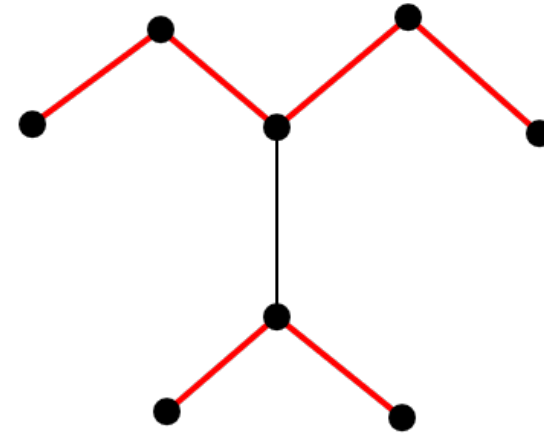
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Conclusion:



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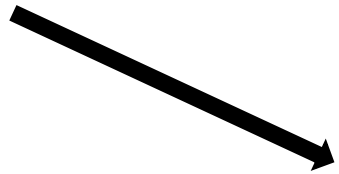
Maximum Matching

$(1 - \epsilon)$ -approx

# Conclusion:

Maximum Matching

$(1 - \epsilon)$ -approx



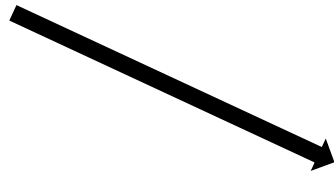
Maximum Path Cover

$(2/3 - \epsilon)$ -approx

# Conclusion:

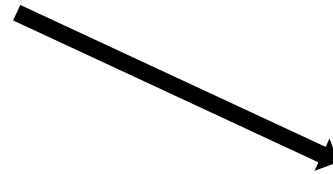
Maximum Matching

$(1 - \epsilon)$ -approx



Maximum Path Cover

$(2/3 - \epsilon)$ -approx



(1, 2)-TSP

$(4/3 + \epsilon)$ -approx

Max-TSP:

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Theorem:

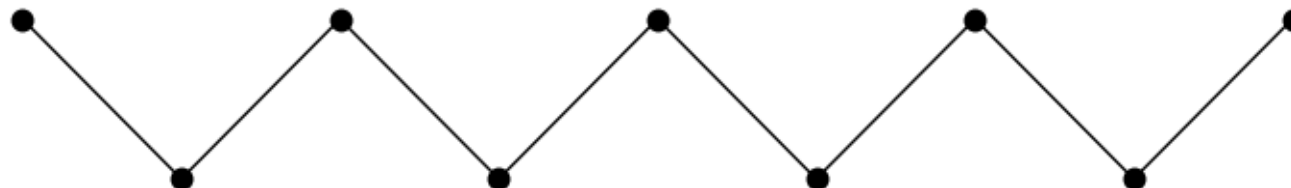
$(7/12)$ -approximation



Analysis:

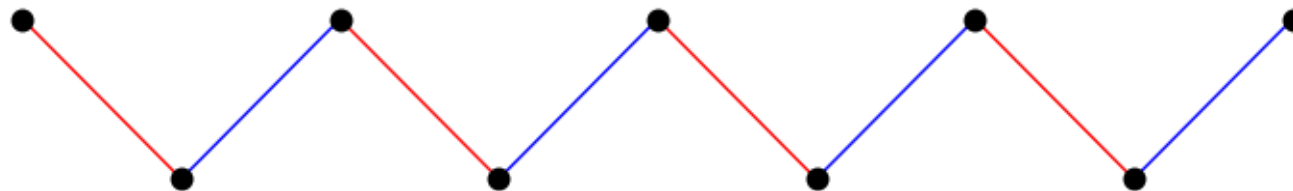
Analysis:

Observation:



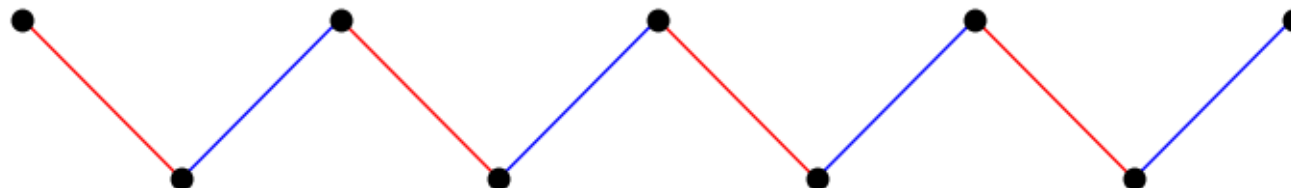
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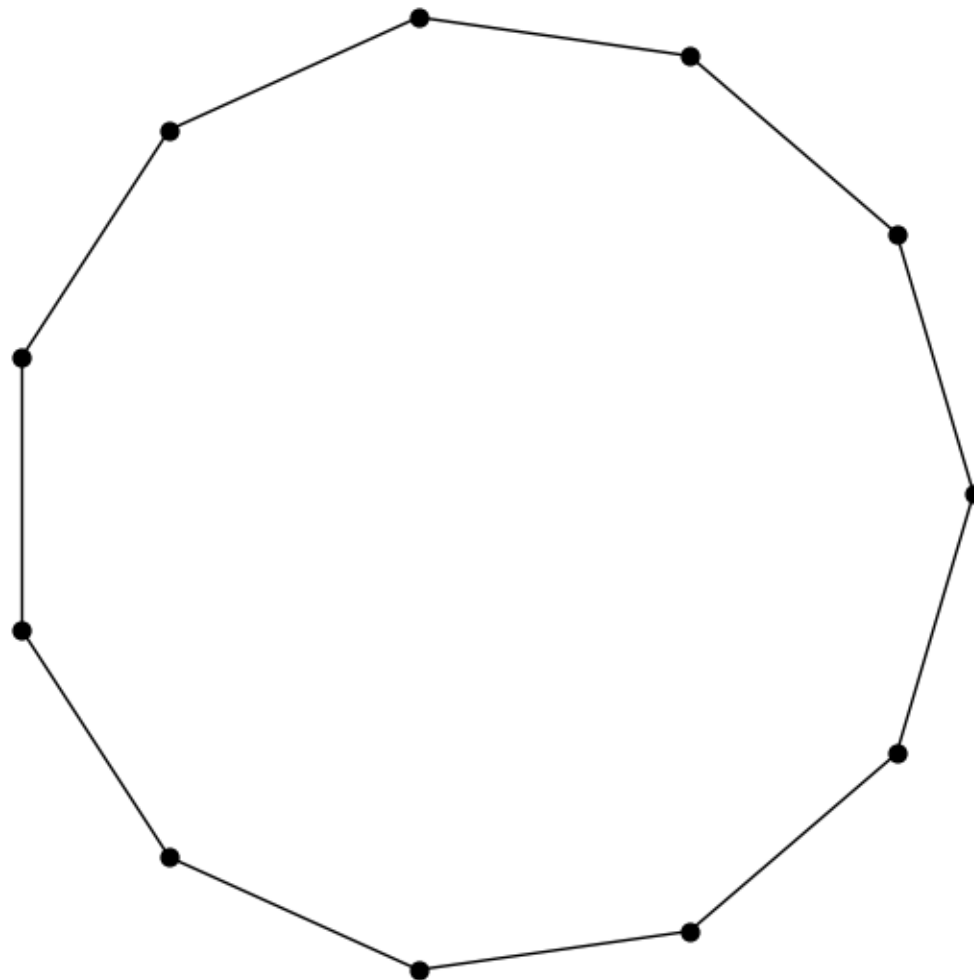
Observation:



$$\exists M \subseteq P \text{ s.t. } w(M) \geq w(P)/2$$

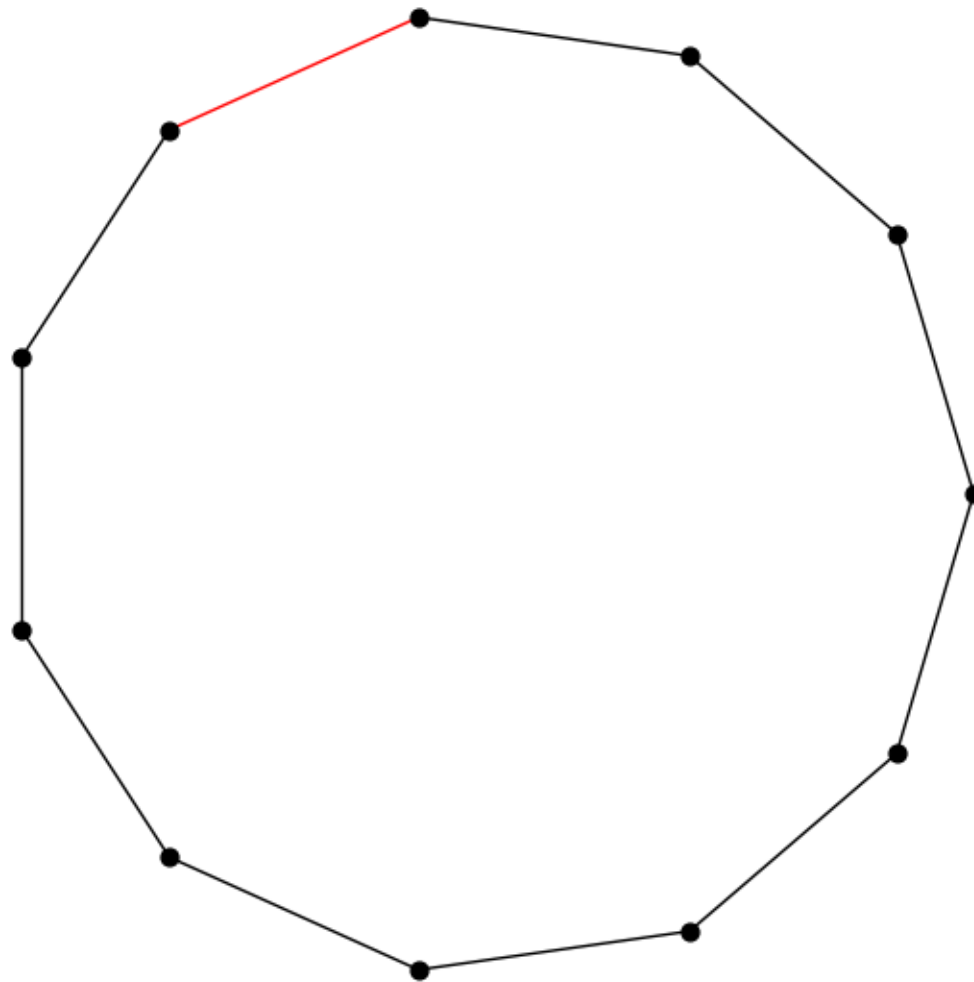
Analysis:

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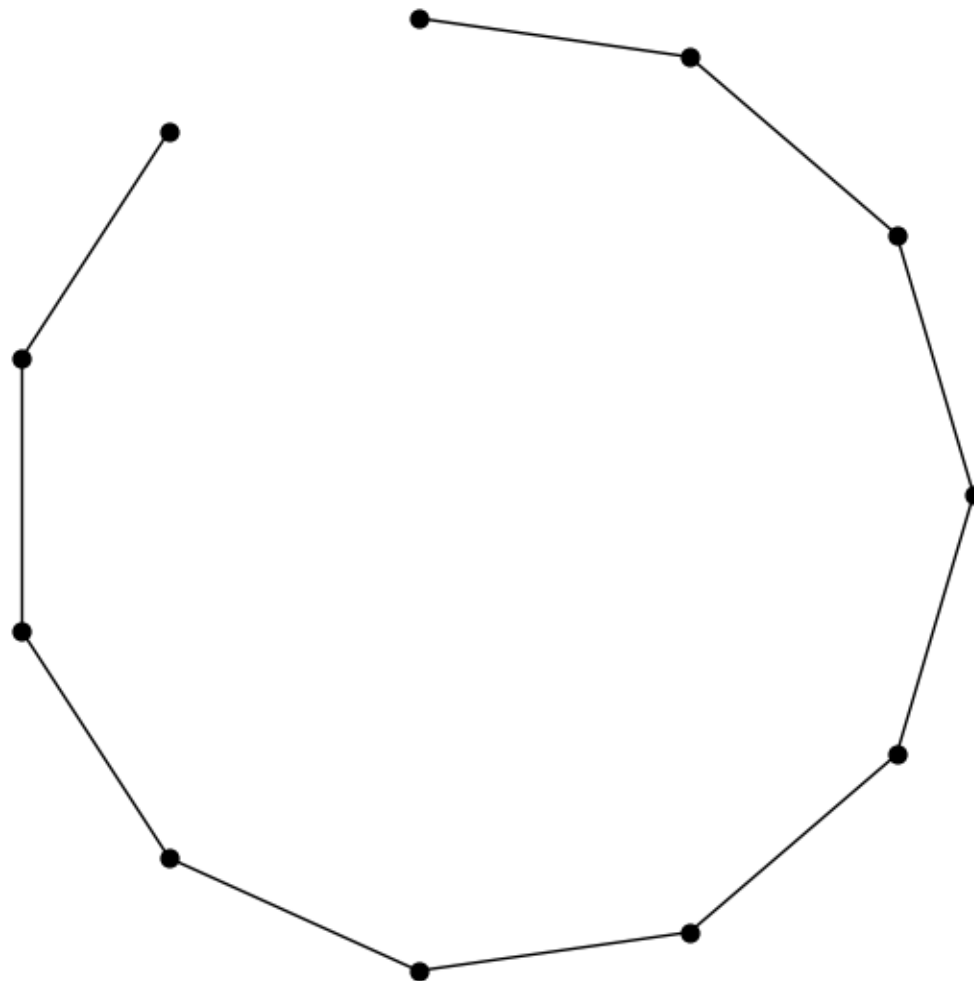
Analysis:

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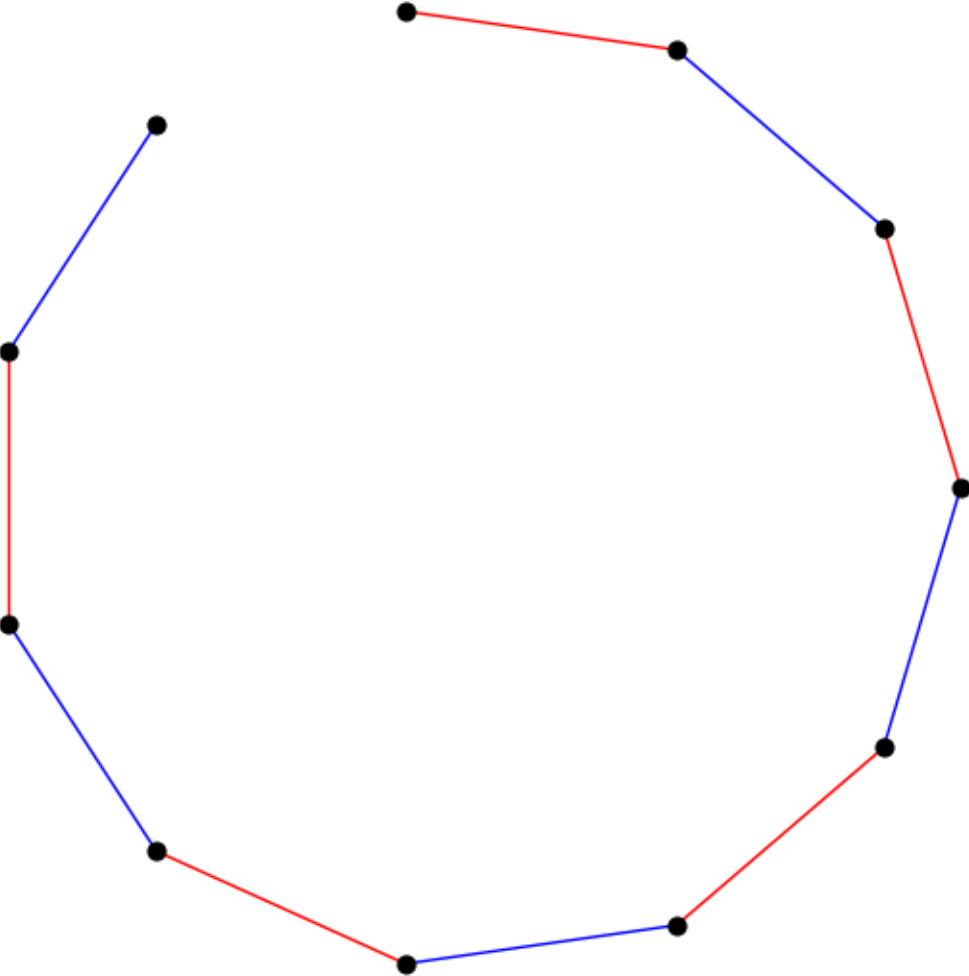
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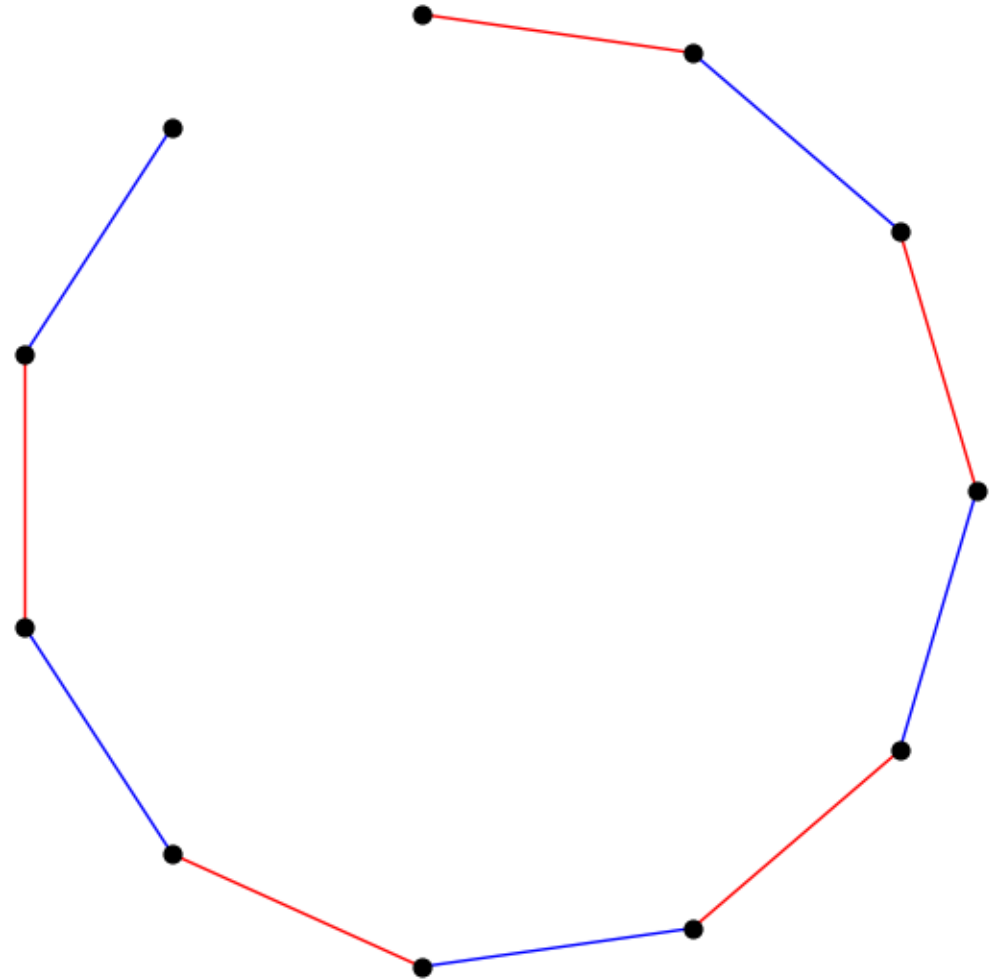


Analysis:

Observation:

$\exists M \subseteq C$  s.t.

$$w(M) \geq (1 - 1/\ell) \cdot w(C)/2$$



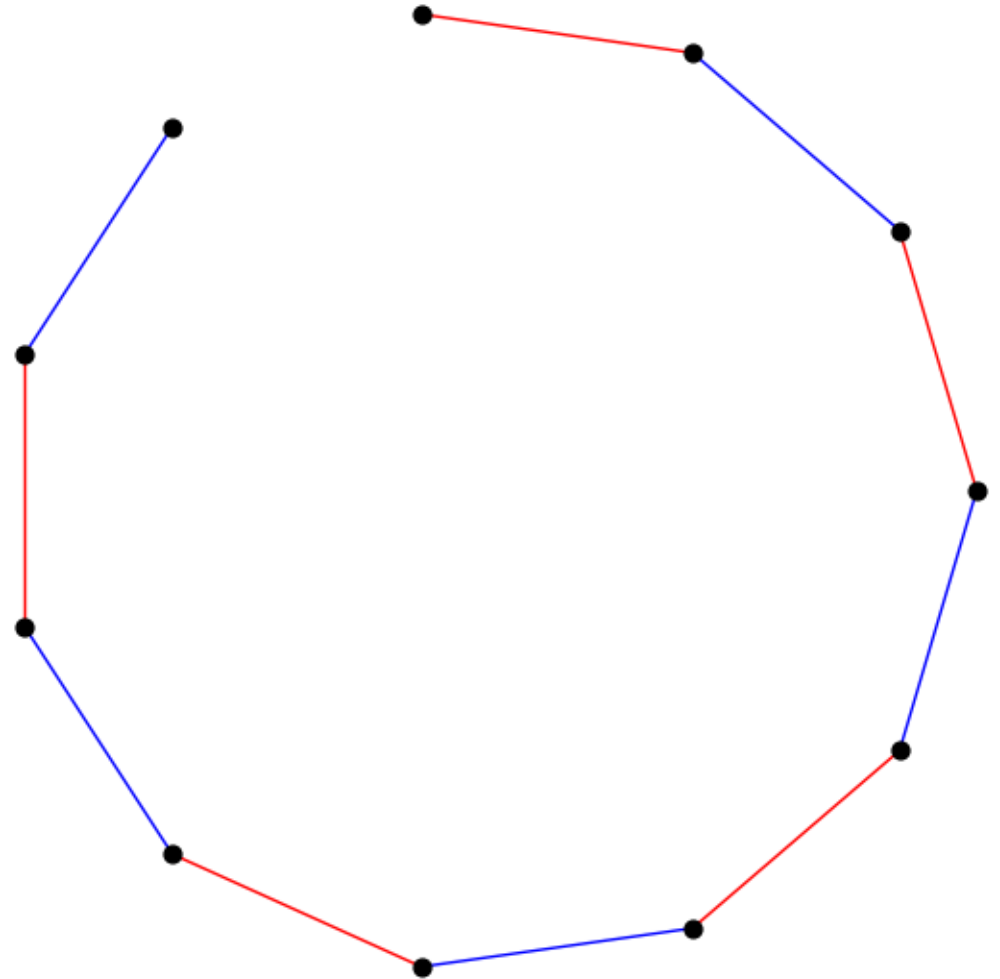
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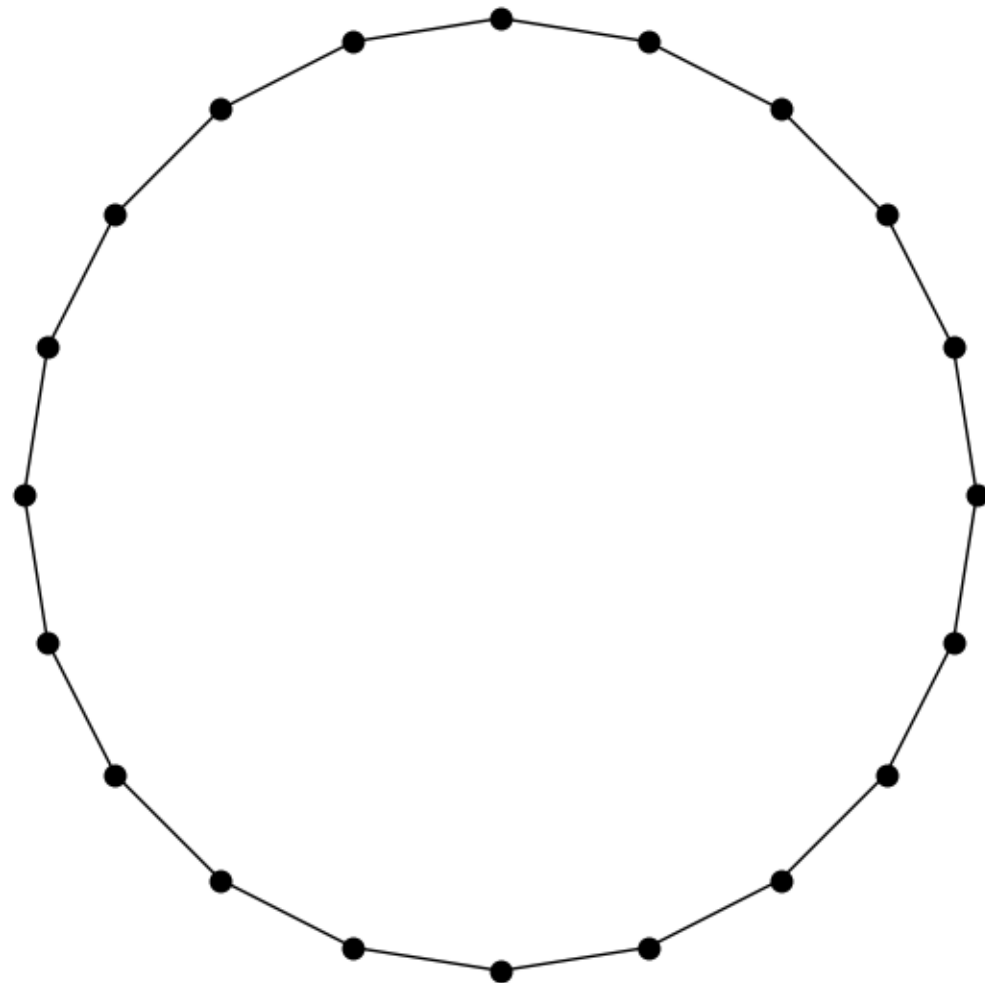
$$w(M) \geq (1 - 1/\ell) \cdot w(C)/2$$

worst case:  $w(M) \geq w(C)/3$



Analysis:

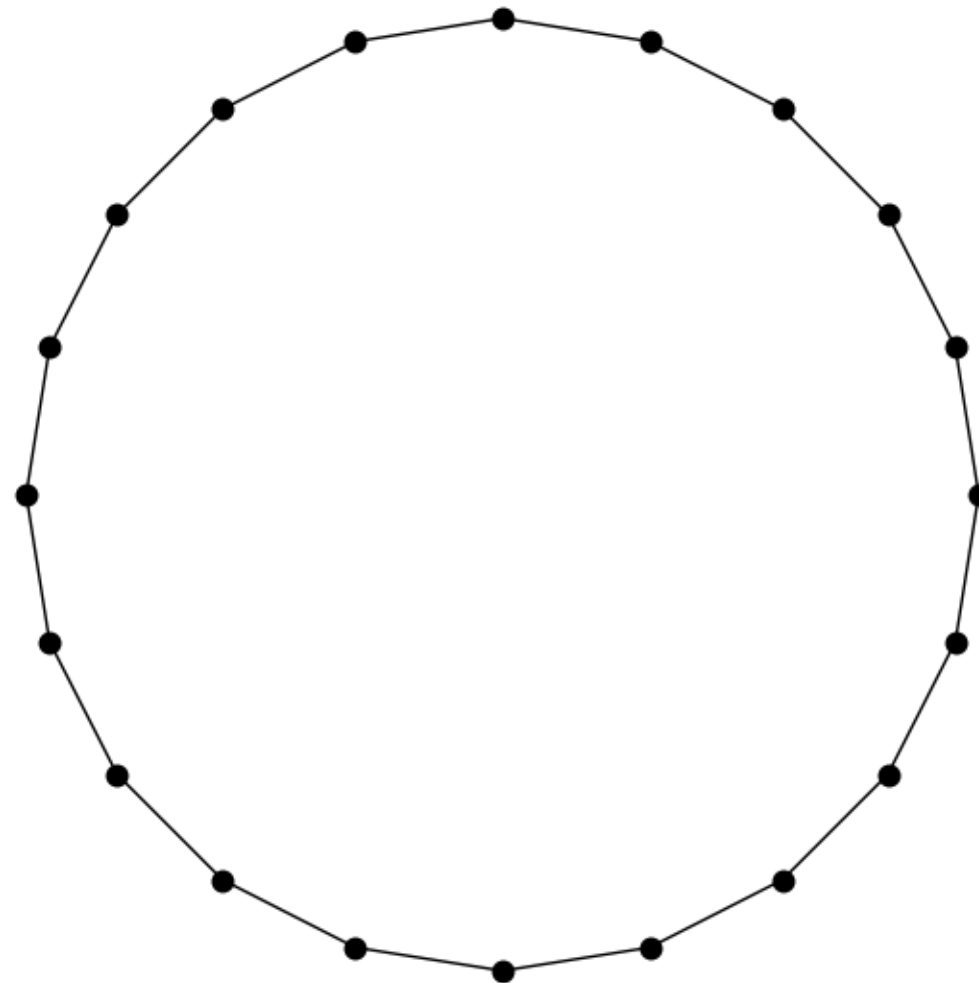
$C^*$ : Max-TSP



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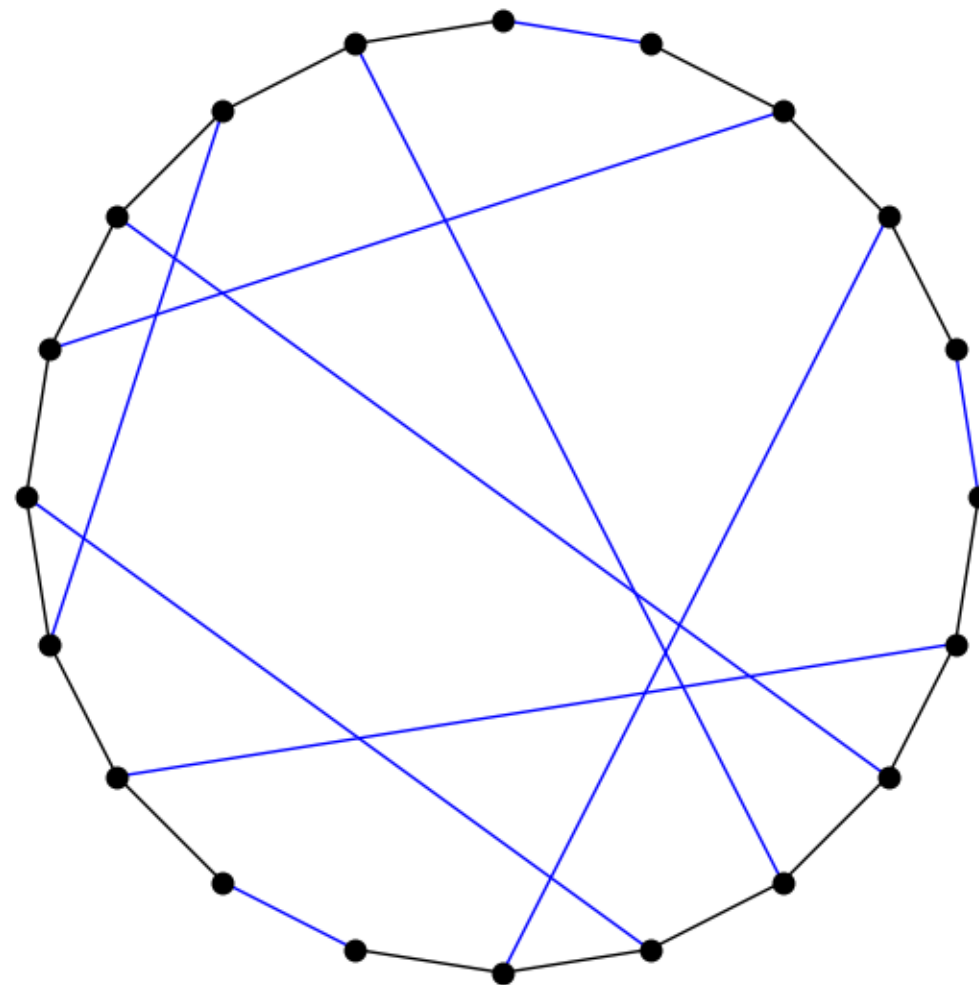
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Analysis:

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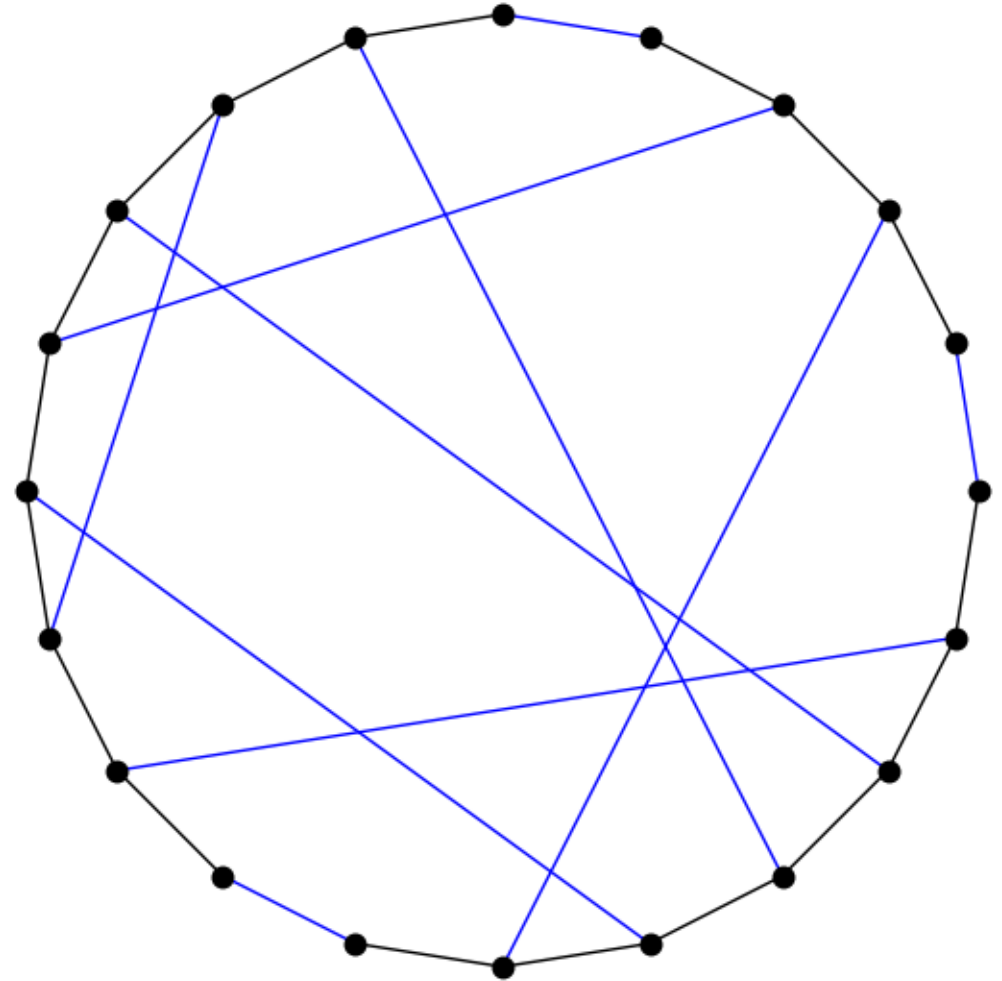


Analysis:

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Consider  $C = C^* / (M_1 \cap C^*)$

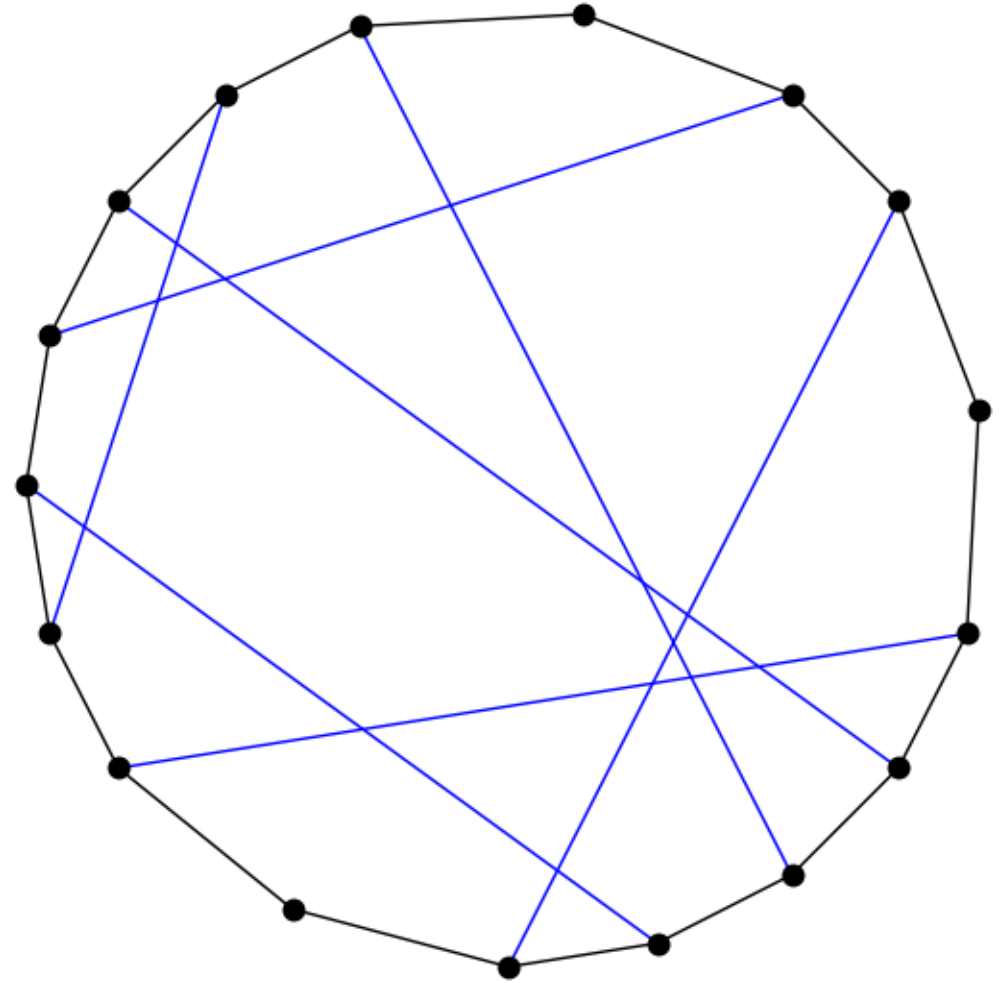


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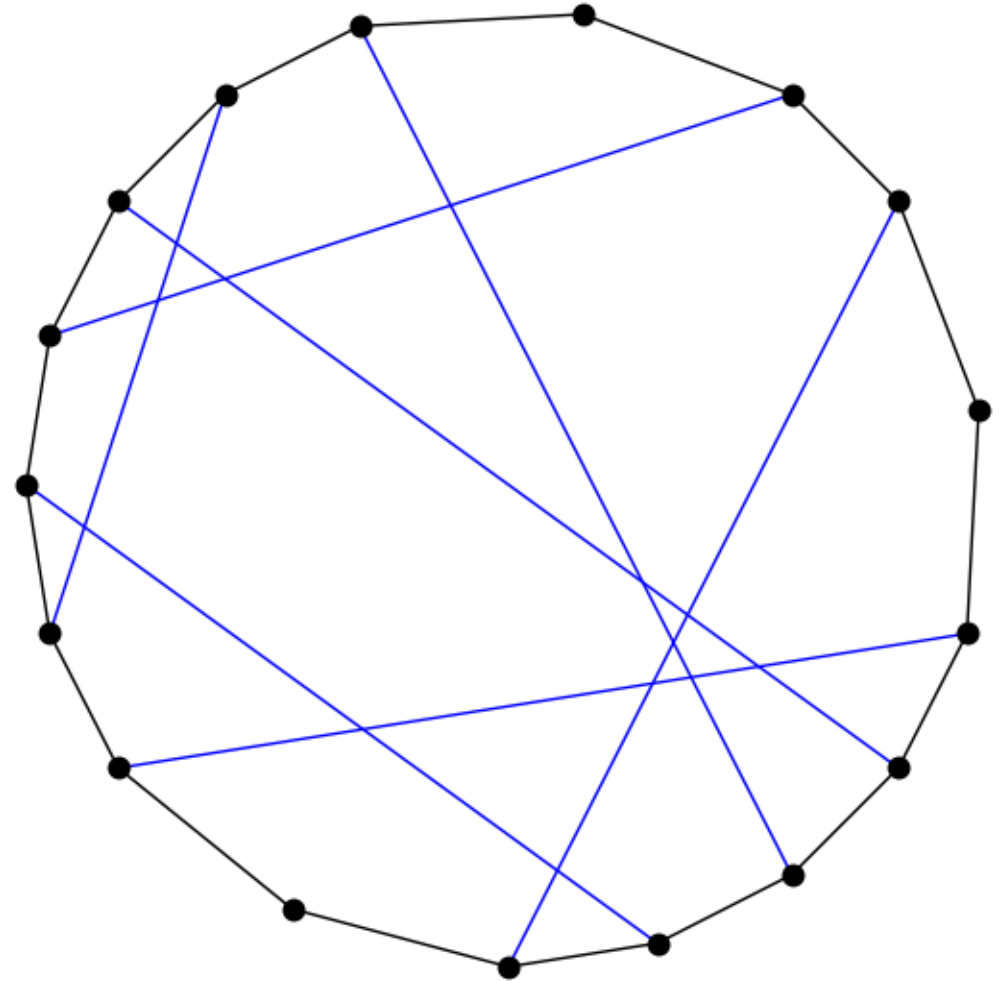
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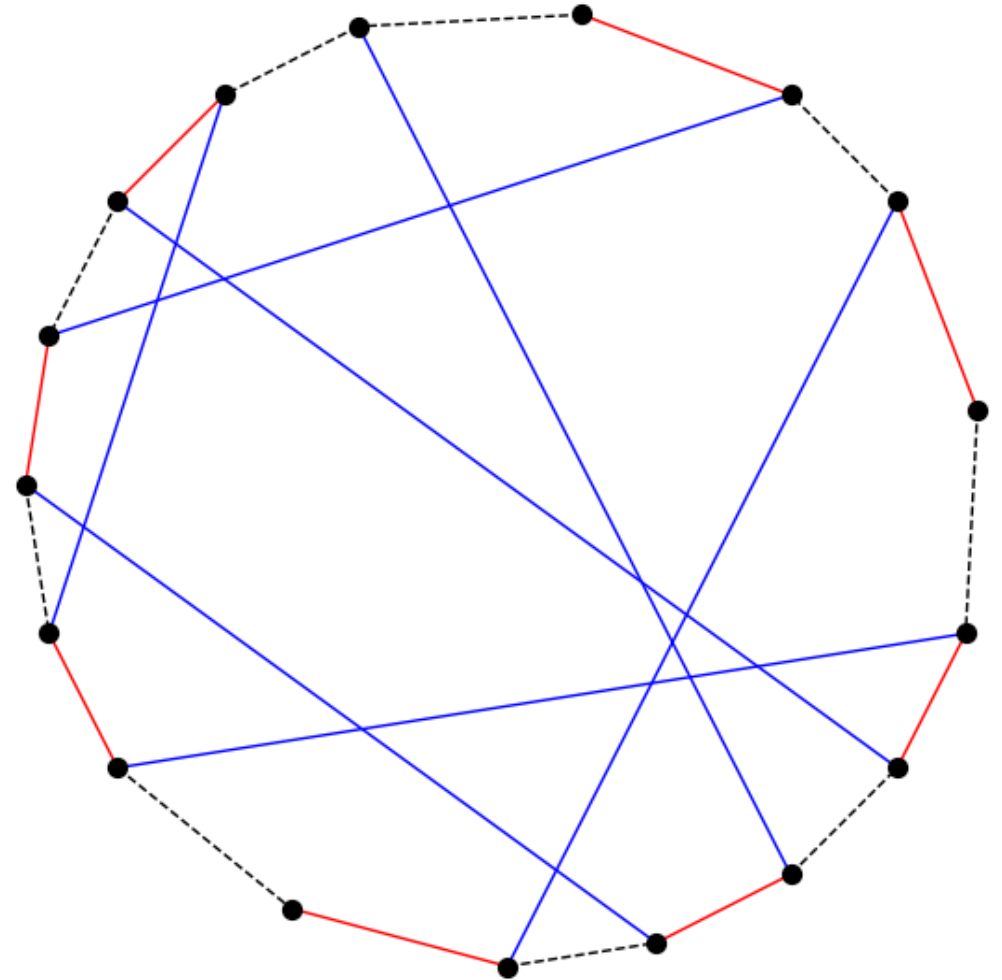
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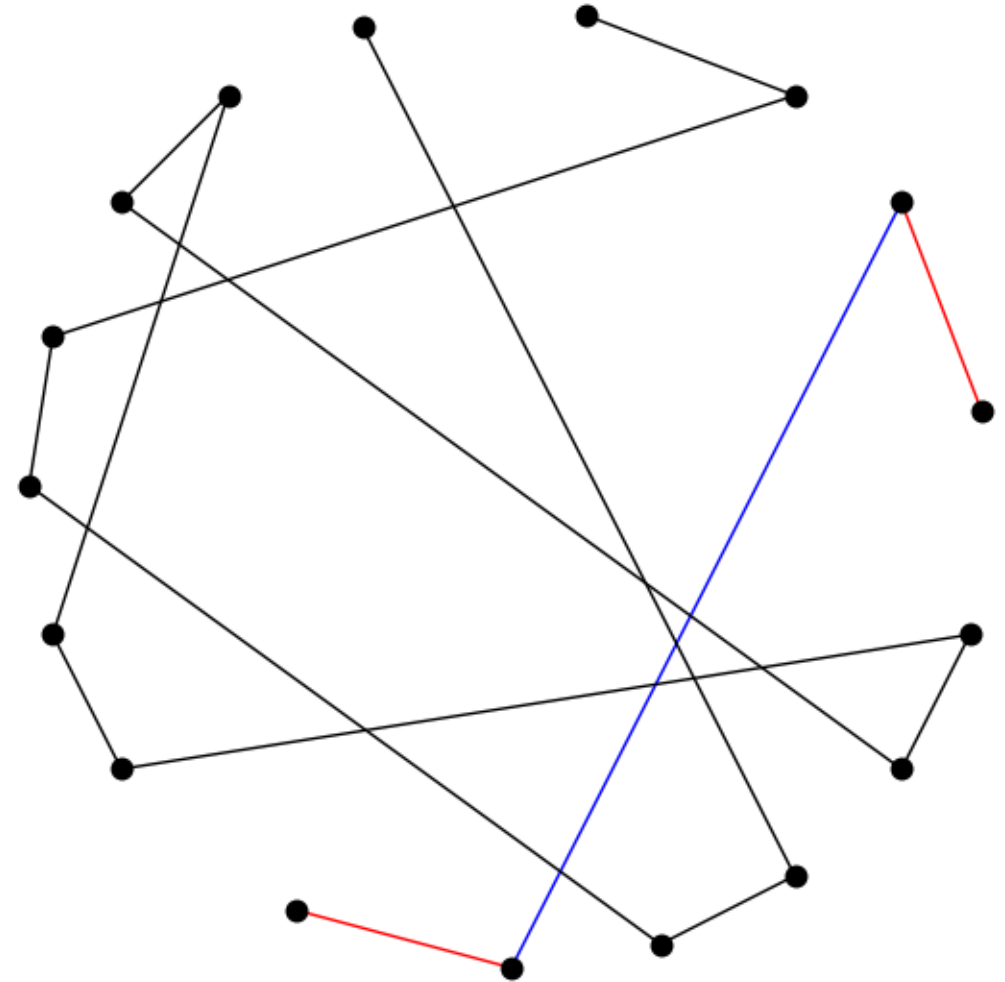
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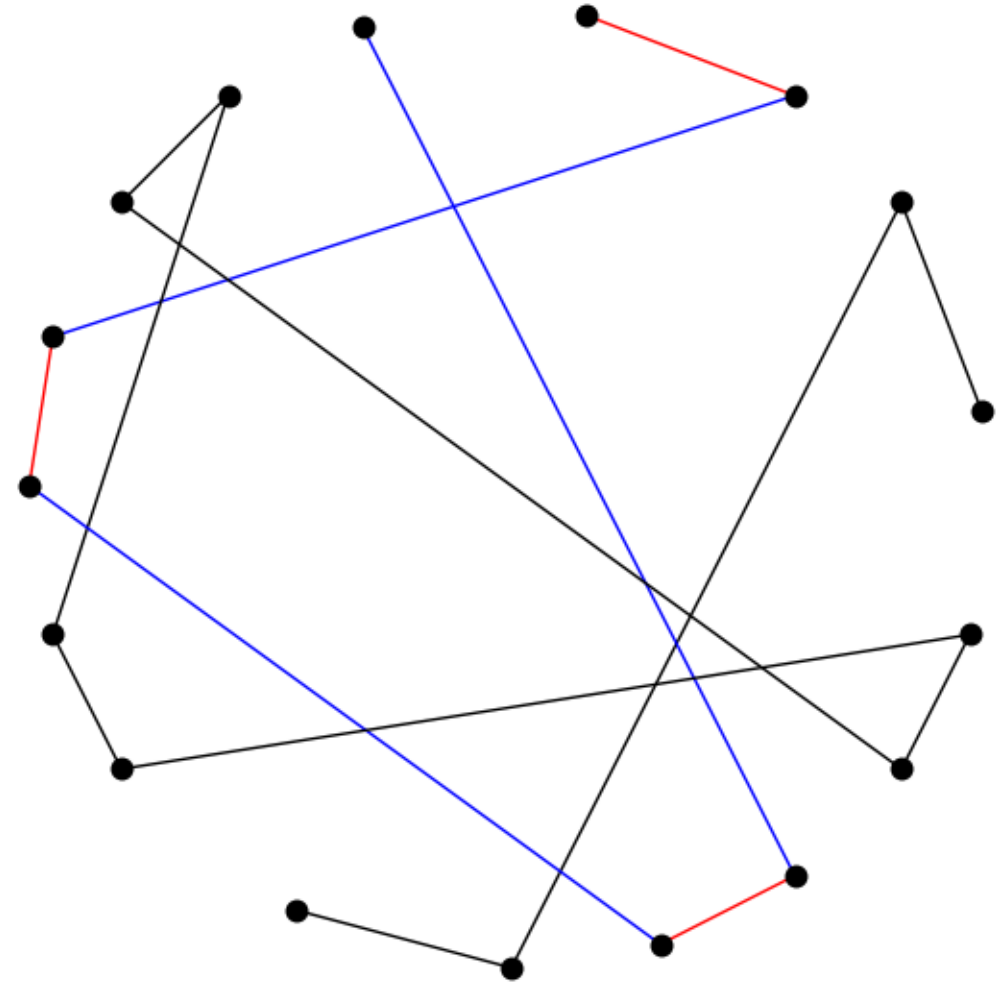
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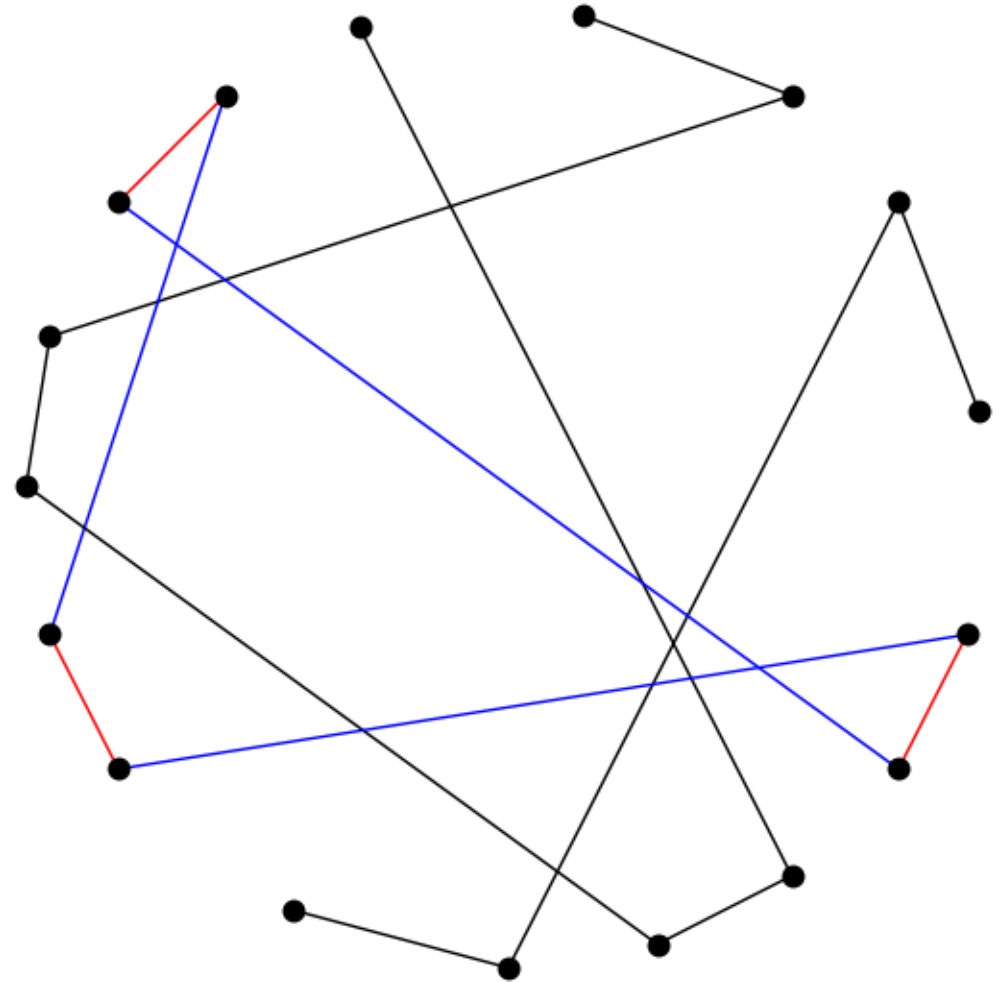
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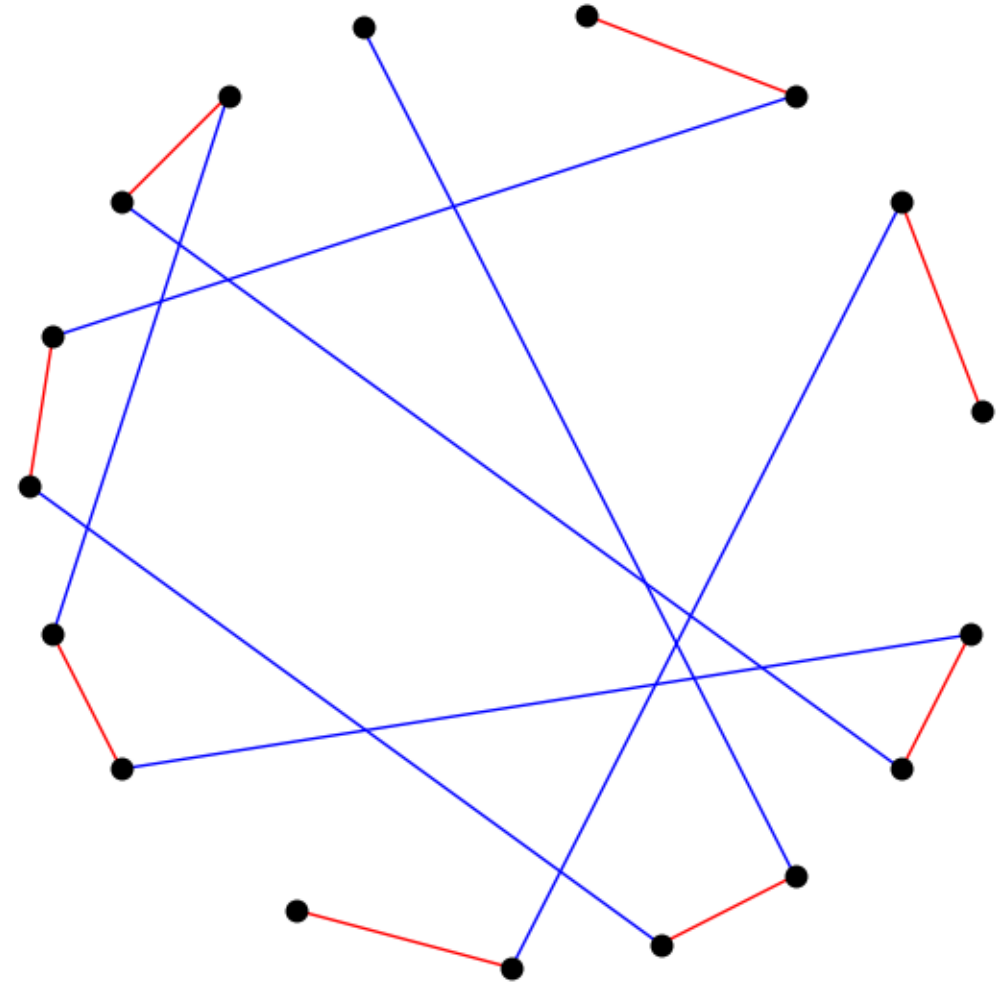
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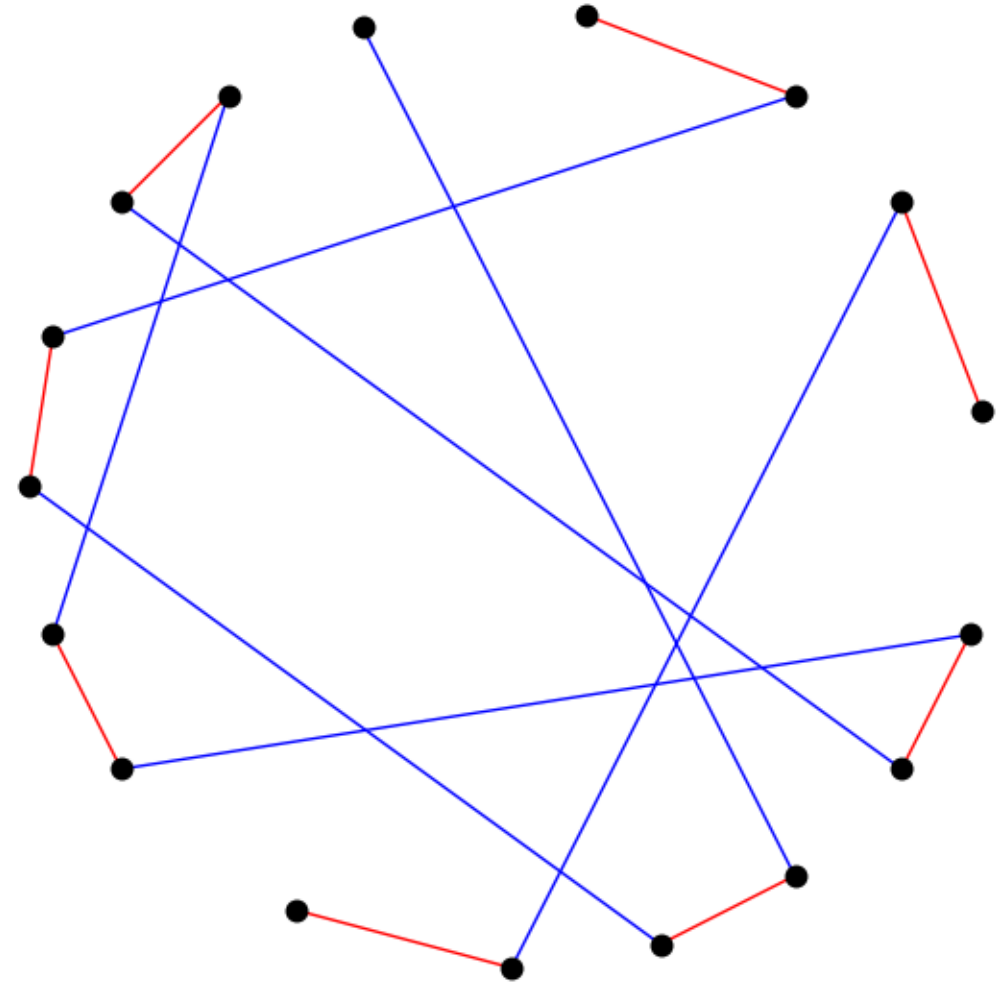
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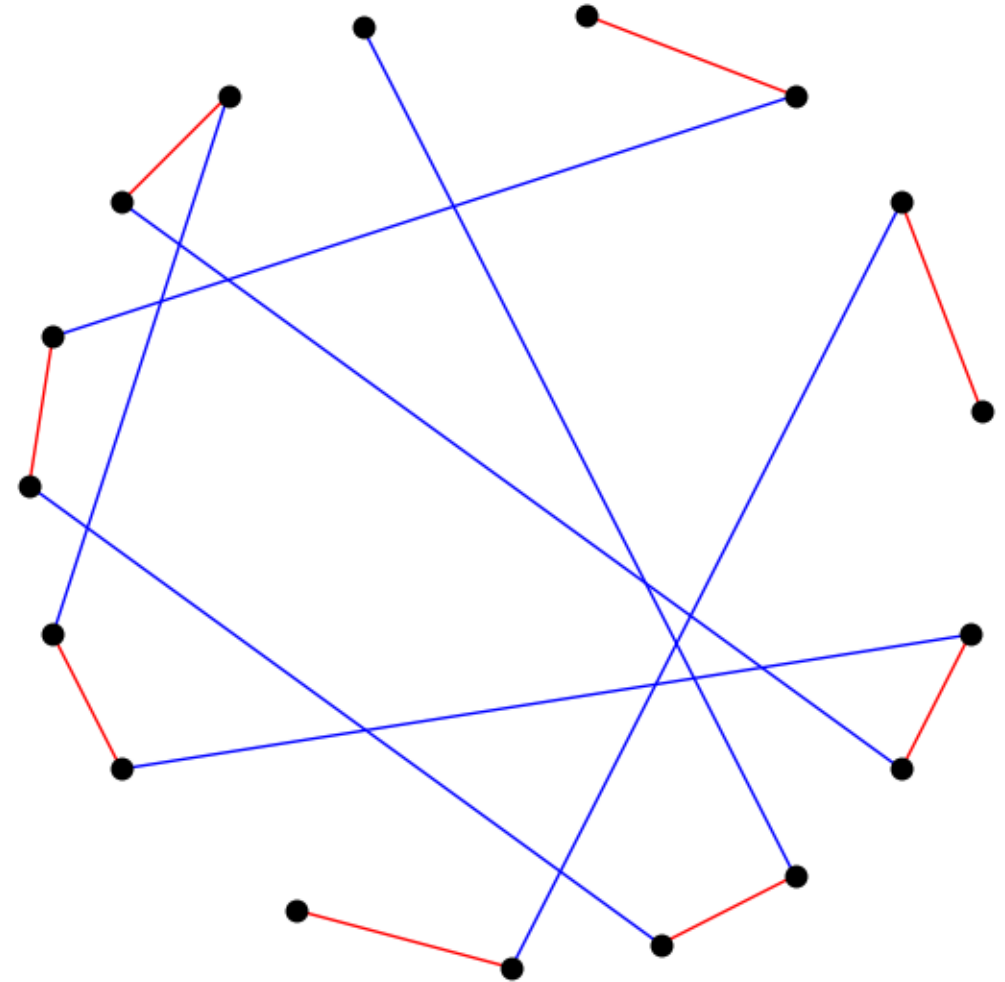
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disjoint union of paths and cycles



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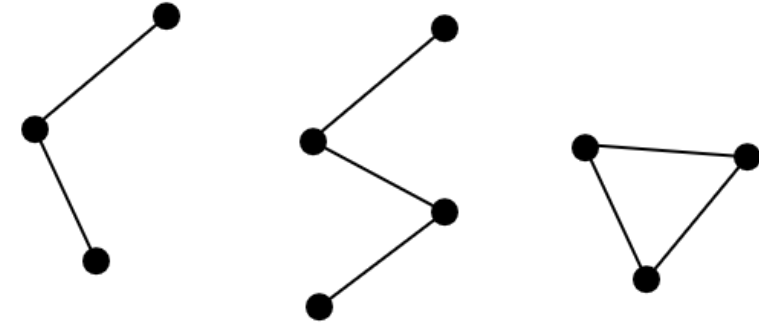
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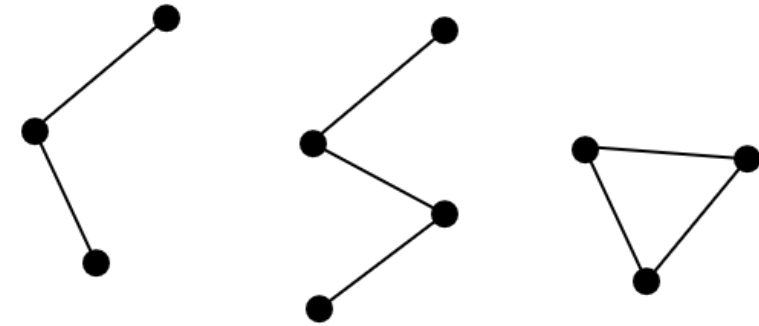
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$\exists M_2 \subseteq M$  s.t.  $w(M_2) \geq w(M)/3 \approx w(C)/6$



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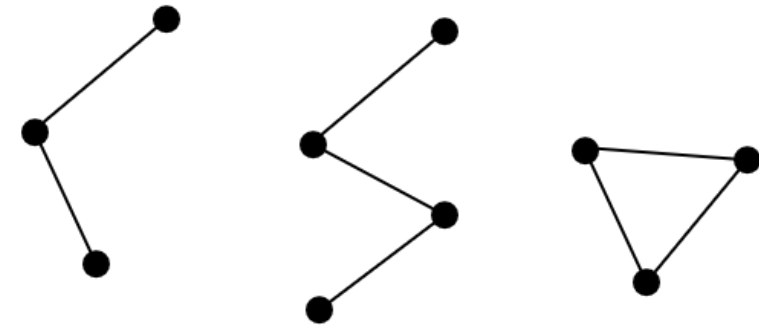
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$\exists M_2 \subseteq M$  s.t.  $w(M_2) \geq w(M)/3 \approx w(C)/6$

$$w(M_1) + w(M_2) \geq w(M_1) + \frac{w(C^*) - w(M_1)}{6} \geq (7/12) \cdot w(C^*)$$



Conclusion:

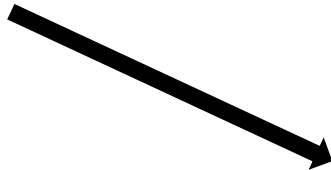
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Open Questions:

Better analysis for Max-TSP

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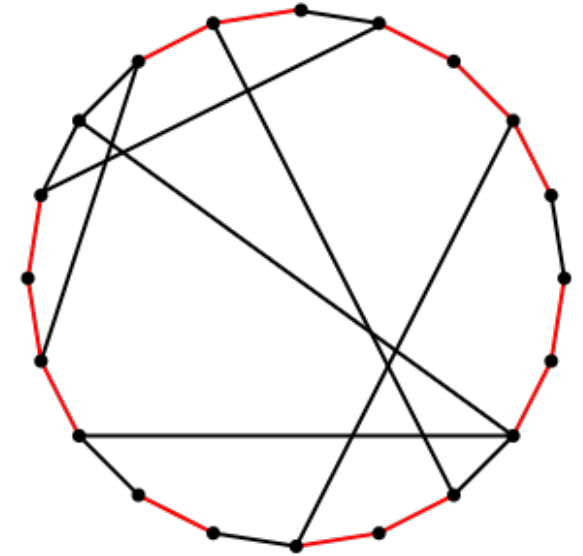
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Bottleneck:  $M_1 \cup M_2 \cup M_3 \cup \dots$  is not necessarily a path cover

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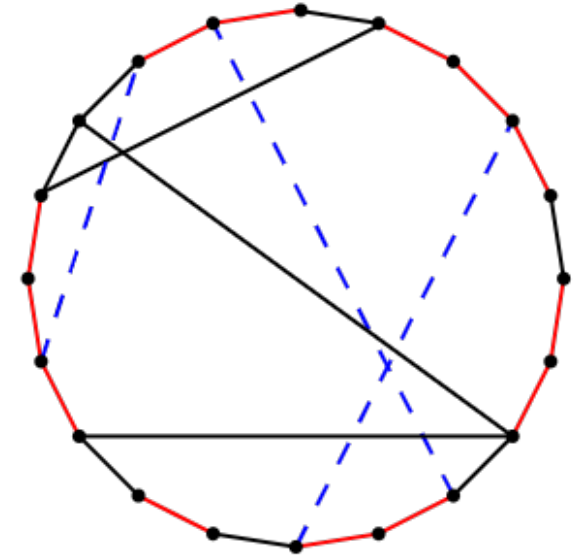


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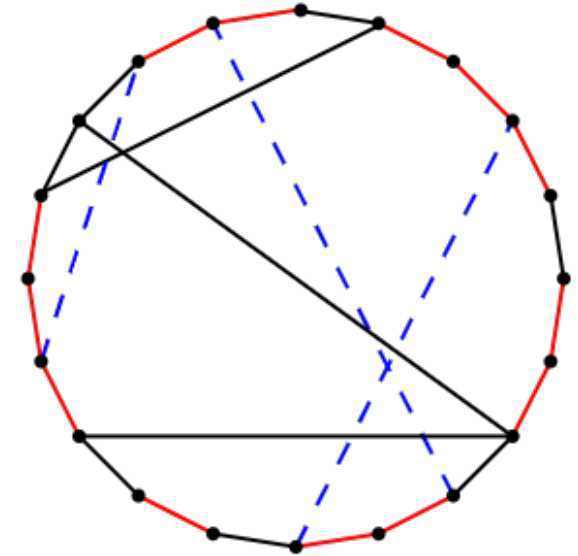


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Maintain feasibility: remove some edges

Thanks for Listening!