Geometric Representation of Graphs and Crossing Numbers

Thomas Boehme, Technische Universitaet Ilmenau, Germany

The distance $d_G(u, v)$ of two vertices $u$ and $v$ in a connected graph $G$ is the number of edges in a shortest $u$-$v$-path in $G$. We say that a connected graph $G$ can be embedded into the euclidean plane with distortion at most $\alpha$ if there is an injection $f$ of the vertex $V(G)$ into the euclidean plane such that for any two vertices $u, v \in V(G)$

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \leq \frac{||f(u) - f(v)||}{d_G(u, v)} \leq \alpha.$$ 

The main result of the talk is that for any $\alpha \geq 1$ and any $\Delta$ there is a number $h(\alpha, \Delta)$ such that every graph with maximum degree $\Delta$ that can be embedded into the euclidean plane with distortion at most $\alpha$ has a plane drawing with at most $h(\alpha, \Delta)$ crossings per edge.

Keywords: graph distance, crossing number, distortion