Read the paper Branch-Width and Well-Quasi-Ordering in Matroids and Graphs (available for free download). You can ignore everything pertaining to matroids, i.e., read only the first four sections. Write and send me a short summary of the paper. Questions to think about:

- Suppose G_1, G_2, ... is an infinite sequence of graphs, and at least one element of this sequence is planar. Can you show there exist indices $i < j$ such that G_i is a minor of G_j?
- The paper introduces a notion of "linked" branch decomposition. How is linkedness used in the proof of Theorem (1.3)?