

Spines

T a tree on a signed ground set $V = V^- \sqcup V^+$.

Spine on T = directed and labeled tree S such that

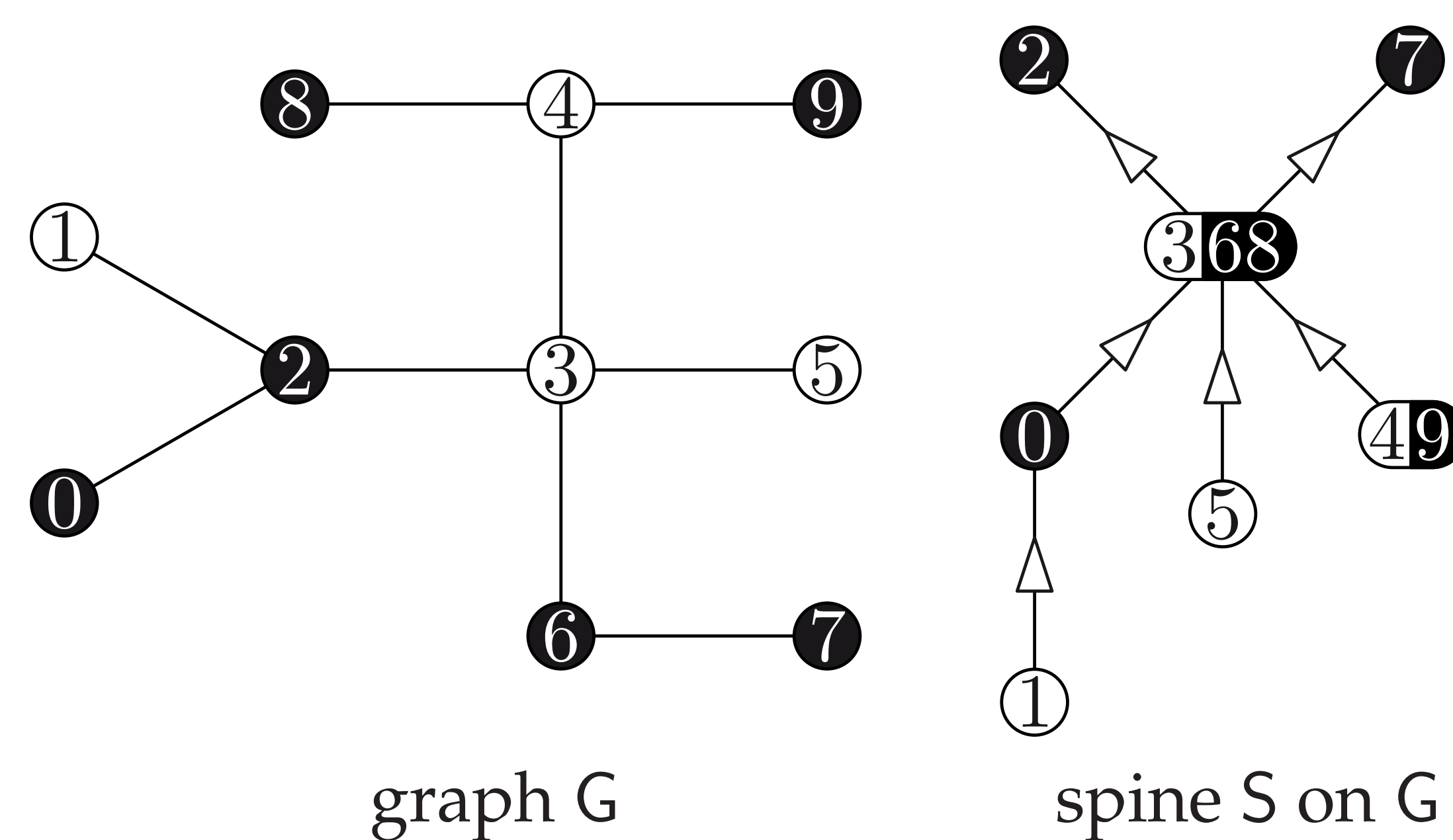
- the labels of the nodes of S form a partition of the signed ground set V ,
- at a node labeled by $U = U^- \sqcup U^+$, the source label sets of the incoming arcs are subsets of distinct connected components of $T \setminus U^-$, and the sink label sets of the outgoing arcs are subsets of distinct connected components of $T \setminus U^+$.

Spine poset $\mathcal{S}(T)$ = poset of arc contractions on signed spines of T .

Prop. The spine poset $\mathcal{S}(T)$ is a pure graded poset of rank $|V|$.

Signed nested complex = simplicial complex $\mathcal{N}(T) = \{N(S) \mid S \in \mathcal{S}(T)\}$,
where $N(S)$ = collection of source sets of S .

Exm. $V^- = \{1, 3, 4, 5\}$ $V^+ = \{0, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$



Spine fan

Ambiant space $H = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^V \mid \sum_{v \in V} x_v = \binom{|V|+1}{2}\}$.

Cone $C(S)$ of a spine $S = \{\mathbf{x} \in H \mid x_u \leq x_v \text{ for all } u \rightarrow v \text{ in } S\}$.

Theo. The collection of cones $\mathcal{F}(T) = \{C(S) \mid S \in \mathcal{S}(T)\}$ defines a complete simplicial fan on H , called the **spine fan** of T .

The spine fan $\mathcal{F}(T)$ coarsens the braid fan on H . It defines a map κ from linear orders on V to maximal spines on T .

Prop. The fibers of κ are the classes of **T-congruence** defined by $XuwY \equiv_T XvuY$ iff there is $w \in V$ in between u and v in T and such that $w \in X \cap V^+$ or $w \in Y \cap V^-$.

Signed tree associahedron

Theo. The spine fan $\mathcal{F}(T)$ is the normal fan of the **signed tree associahedron** $\text{Asso}(T)$ with

- a vertex $\mathbf{a}(S) \in \mathbb{R}^V$ for each maximal $S \in \mathcal{S}(T)$, with coordinates

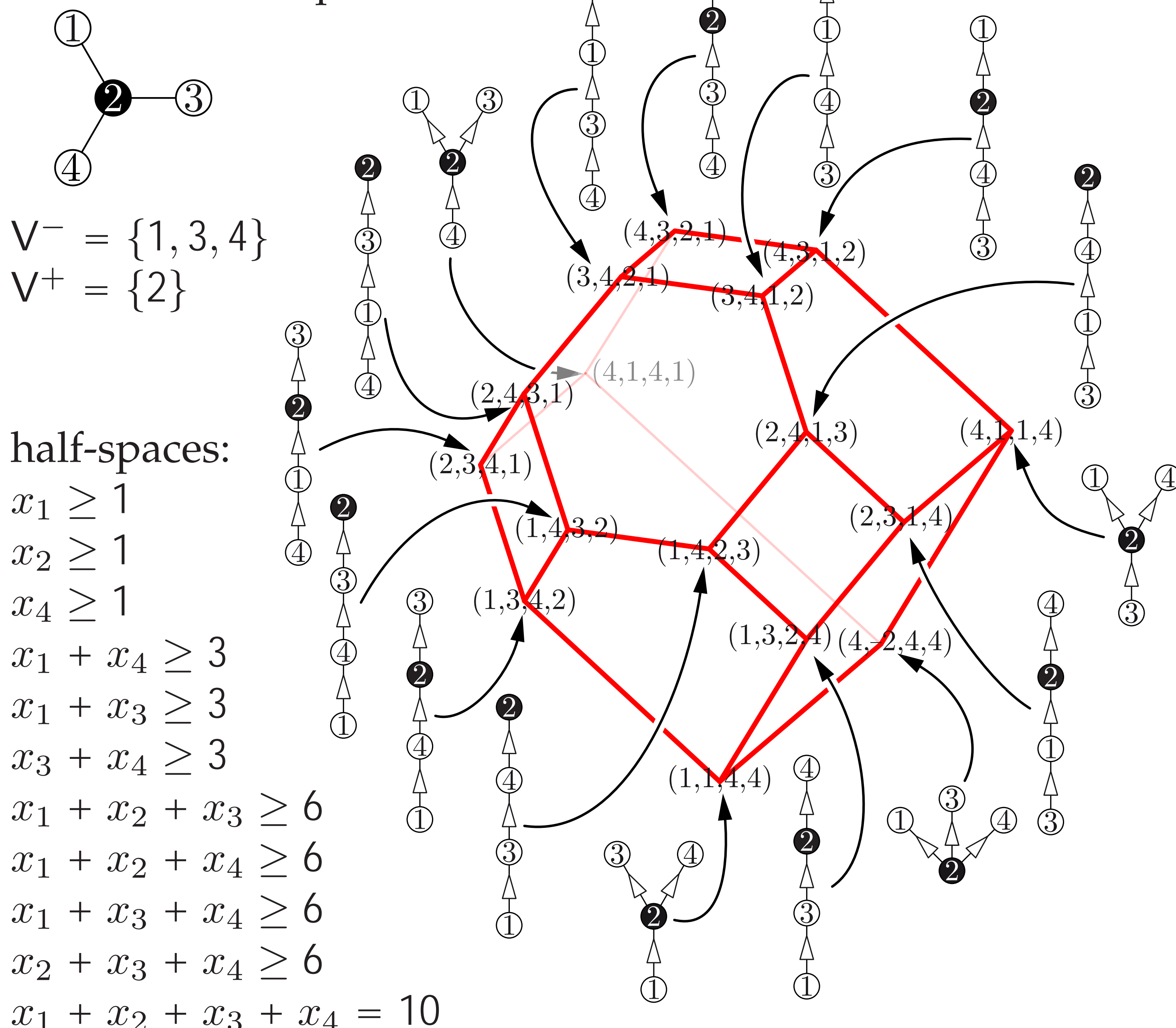
$$\mathbf{a}(S)_v = \begin{cases} |\{\pi \in (S) \mid v \in \pi \text{ and } r_v \notin \pi\}| & \text{if } v \in V^- \\ |V| + 1 - |\{\pi \in (S) \mid v \in \pi \text{ and } r_v \notin \pi\}| & \text{if } v \in V^+ \end{cases}$$

where r_v = unique incoming (outgoing) arc at $v \in V^-$ ($v \in V^+$),
 $(S) = \{(undirected) \text{ paths in } S\}$,

- a facet for each $B \in \bigcup_{S \in \mathcal{S}(T)} N(S)$ defined by the half-space

$$\left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^V \mid \sum_{v \in B} x_v \geq \binom{|B|+1}{2} \right\}.$$

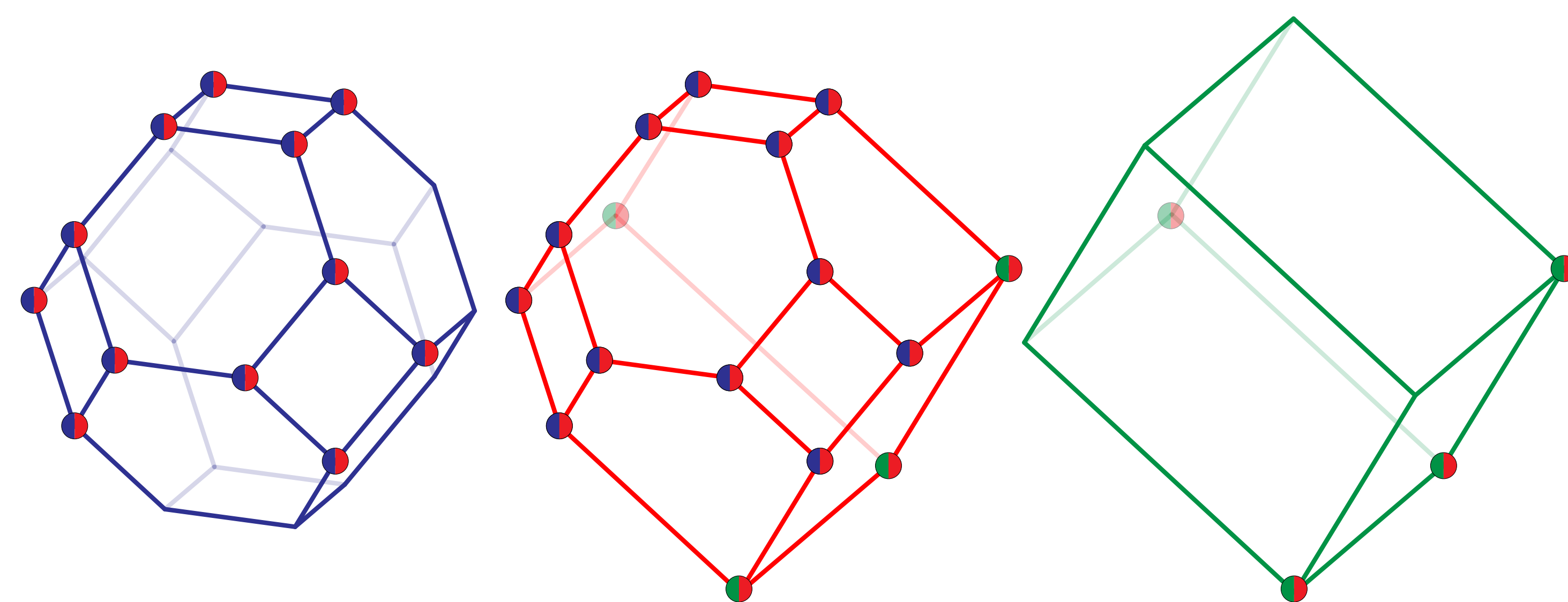
Exm. For the tripod



Some properties

Prop. The signed tree associahedron $\text{Asso}(T)$ is sandwiched between the permutahedron $\text{Perm}(V)$ and the parallelepiped $\text{Para}(T)$:

$$\sum_{u \neq v \in V} [e_u, e_v] = \text{Perm}(T) \subset \text{Asso}(T) \subset \text{Para}(T) = \sum_{uv \in T} \pi_{uv} [e_u, e_v]$$



Common vertices of

- $\text{Asso}(T)$ and $\text{Para}(T) \equiv$ orientations of T which are spines on T ,
 - $\text{Asso}(T)$ and $\text{Perm}(T) \equiv$ linear orders on V which are spines on T ,
- \Rightarrow no common vertex of the three polytopes except if T = signed path.

Prop. $\text{Asso}(T)$ and $\text{Asso}(T')$ isometric $\iff T$ and T' isomorphic or anti-isomorphic up to the signs of their leaves, i.e. there is a bijection $\theta : V \rightarrow V'$ st. $\forall u, v \in V$

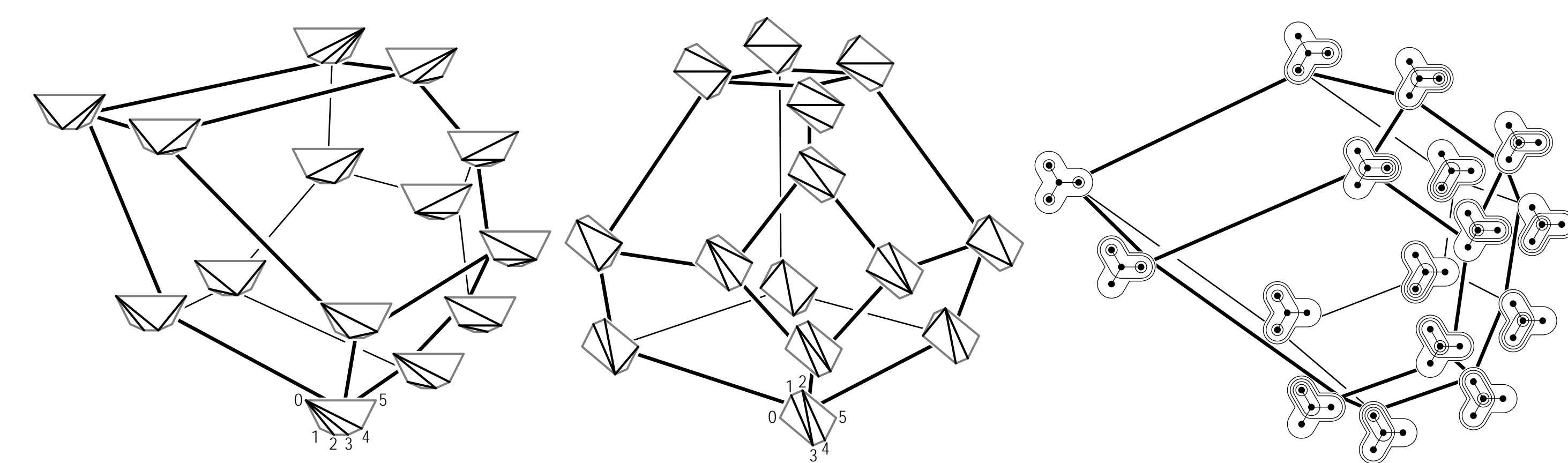
- $u-v$ edge in $T \iff \theta(u)-\theta(v)$ edge in T' ,
- if u is not a leaf of T , the signs of u and $\theta(u)$ coincide (resp. differ).

Examples

For a signed path P , $\text{Asso}(P)$ is the classical associahedron

faces \longleftrightarrow dissections \longleftrightarrow Schröder trees,
vertices \longleftrightarrow triangulations \longleftrightarrow binary trees.

Loday, Realization of the Stasheff polytope, 2004
Hohlweg & Lange, Realizations of the associahedron and cyclohedron, 2007



For an unsigned tree T , $\text{Asso}(T)$ is the T -associahedron
facets \longleftrightarrow **tubes** = connected induced subgraphs of T ,
faces \longleftrightarrow **tubings** = collections of tubes which are pairwise nested, or disjoint and non-adjacent.

Carr & Devadoss, Coxeter complexes and graph associahedra, 2006