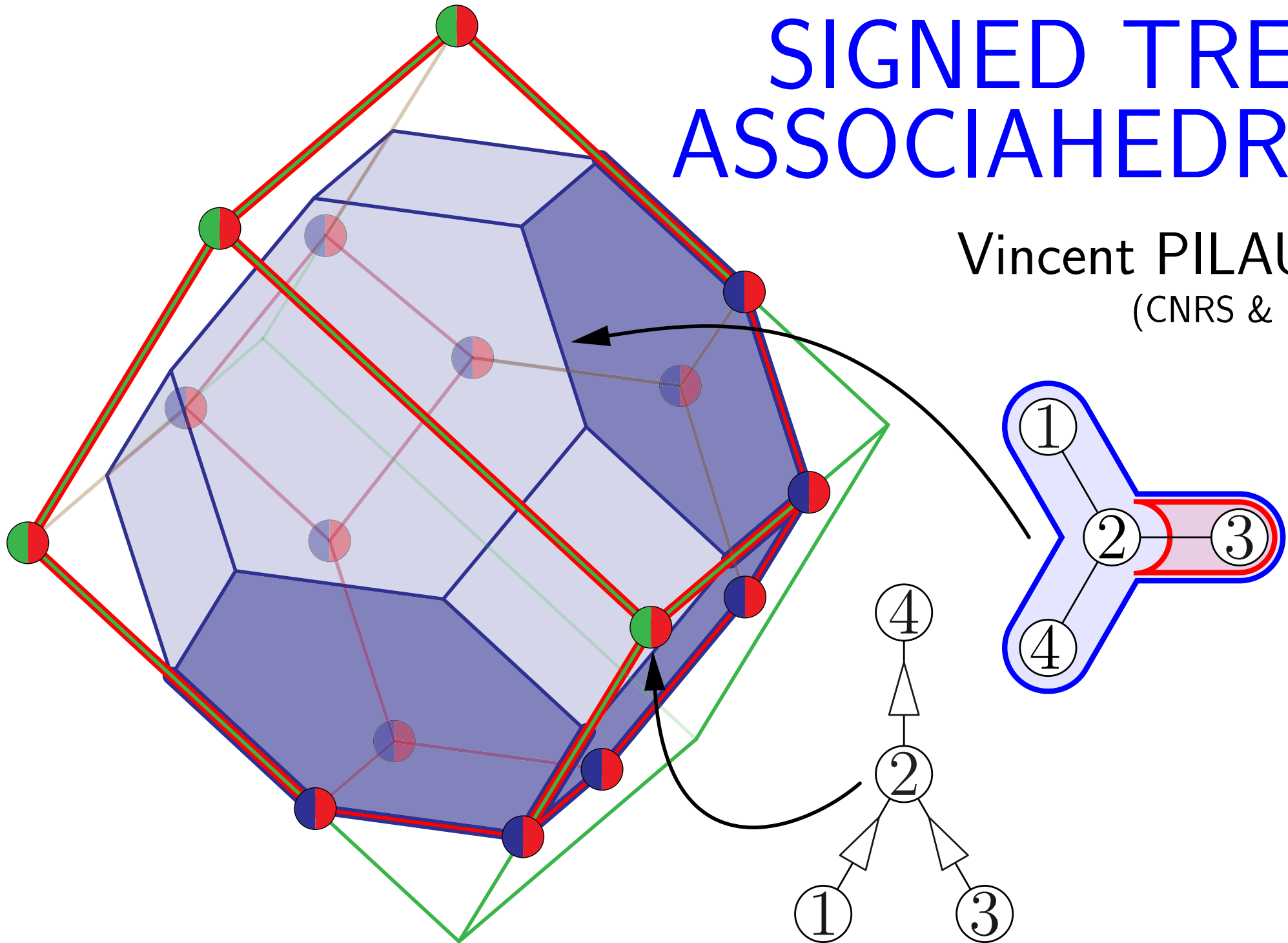


# SIGNED TREE ASSOCIAHEDRA

Vincent PILAUD  
(CNRS & LIX)



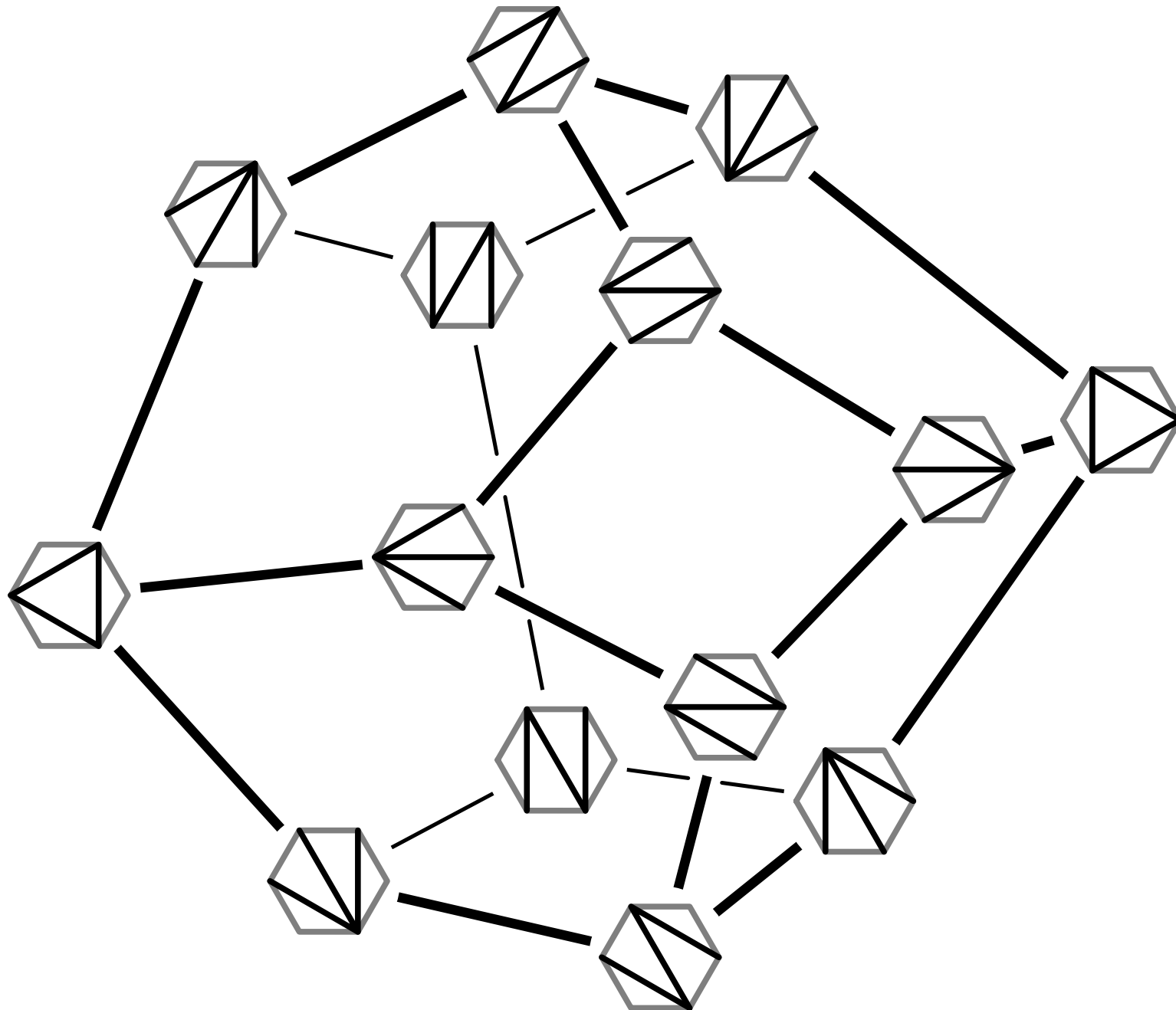
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# ASSOCIAHEDRA

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# ASSOCIAHEDRON

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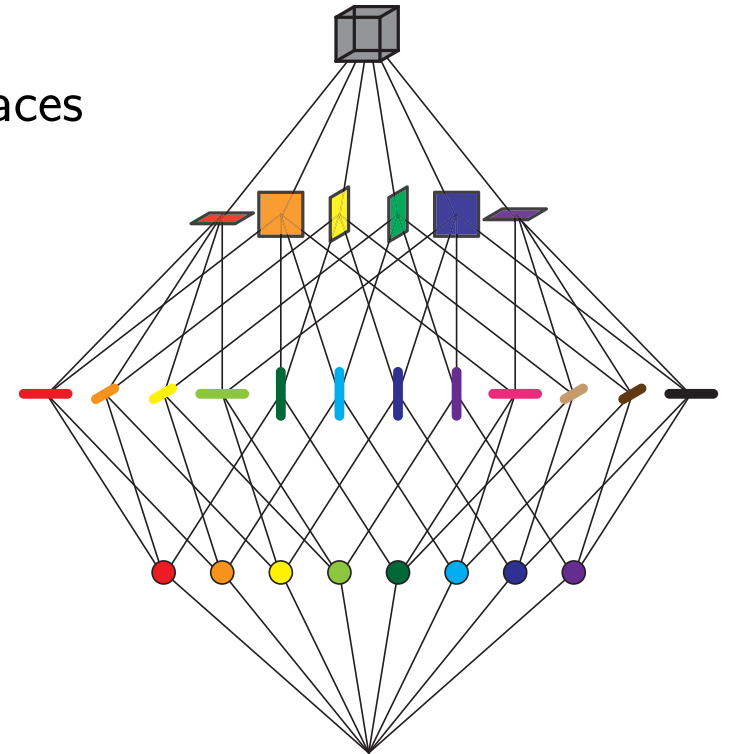
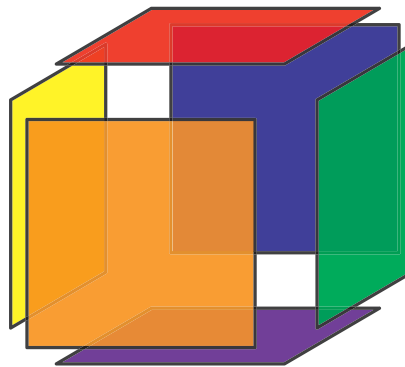
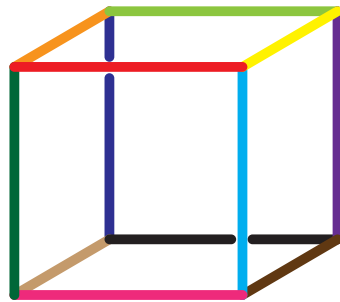
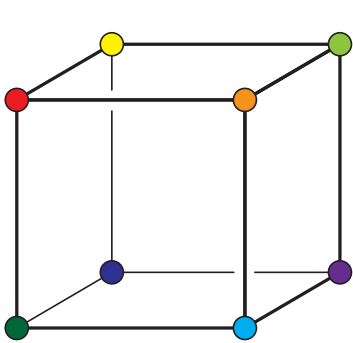


# POLYTOPAL REALIZATIONS OF THE ASSOCIAHEDRON

**polytope** = convex hull of a finite set of  $\mathbb{R}^d$   
= bounded intersection of finitely many half-spaces

**face** = intersection with a supporting hyperplane

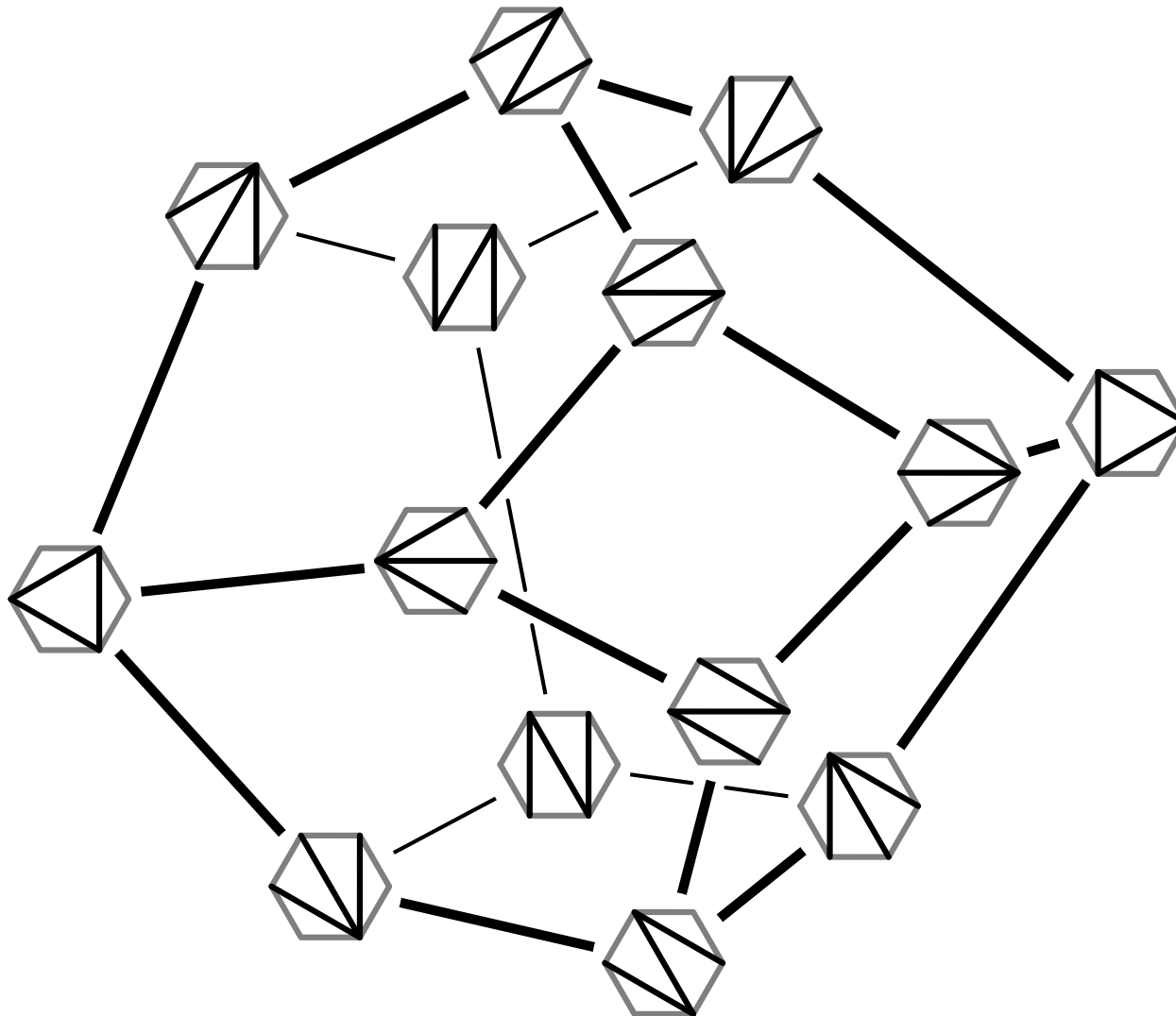
**face lattice** = all the faces with their inclusion relations



**Associahedron** = polytope whose face lattice is isomorphic to the lattice of crossing-free sets of internal diagonals of a convex  $(n + 3)$ -gon, ordered by reverse inclusion

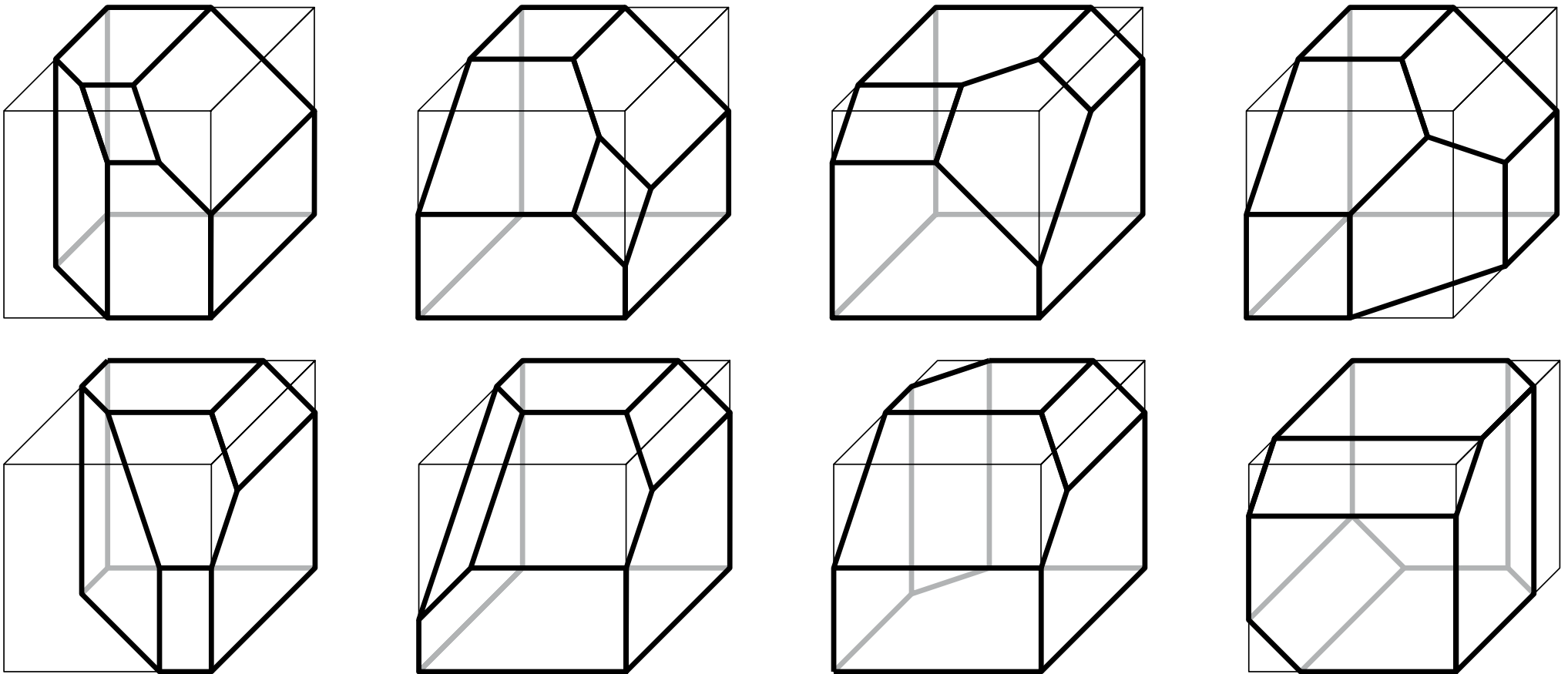
# ASSOCIAHEDRON

**Associahedron** = polytope whose face lattice is isomorphic to the lattice of crossing-free sets of internal diagonals of a convex  $(n + 3)$ -gon, ordered by reverse inclusion



# VARIOUS ASSOCIAHEDRA

**Associahedron** = polytope whose face lattice is isomorphic to the lattice of crossing-free sets of internal diagonals of a convex  $(n + 3)$ -gon, ordered by reverse inclusion



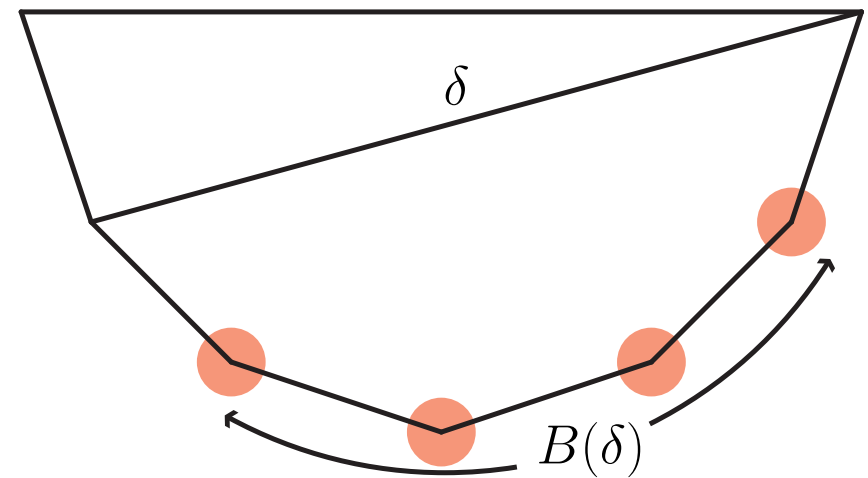
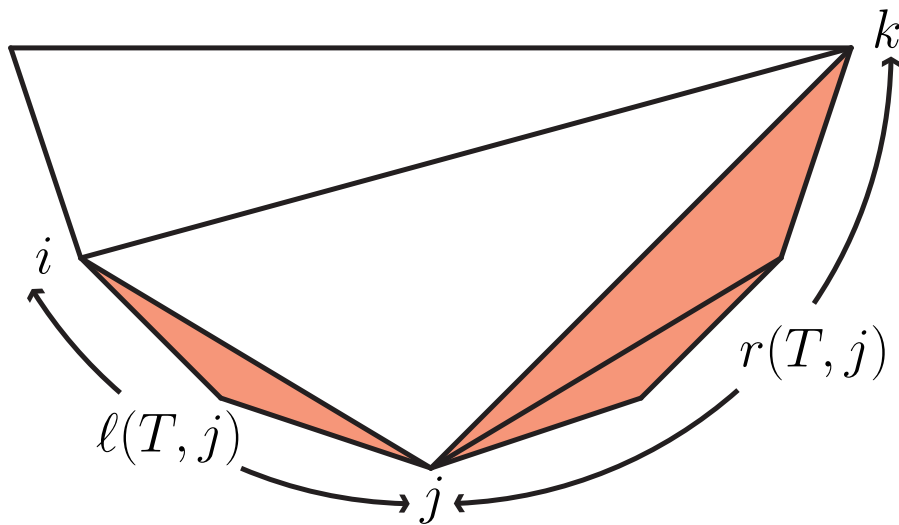
(Pictures by Ceballos-Santos-Ziegler)

Lee ('89), Gel'fand-Kapranov-Zelevinski ('94), Billera-Filliman-Sturmfels ('90), ..., Ceballos-Santos-Ziegler ('11)  
Loday ('04), Hohlweg-Lange ('07), Hohlweg-Lange-Thomas ('12), P.-Santos ('12), P.-Stump ('12+), Lange-P. ('13+)

# LODAY'S ASSOCIAHEDRON

Loday's associahedron =  $\text{conv} \{L(T) \mid T \text{ triangulation of the } (n+3)\text{-gon}\}$

$$= \mathbb{H} \cap \bigcap_{\substack{\delta \text{ diagonal} \\ \text{of the } (n+3)\text{-gon}}} \mathbf{H}^{\geq}(\delta)$$



$$L(T) = (\ell(T, j) \cdot r(T, j))_{j \in [n+1]}$$

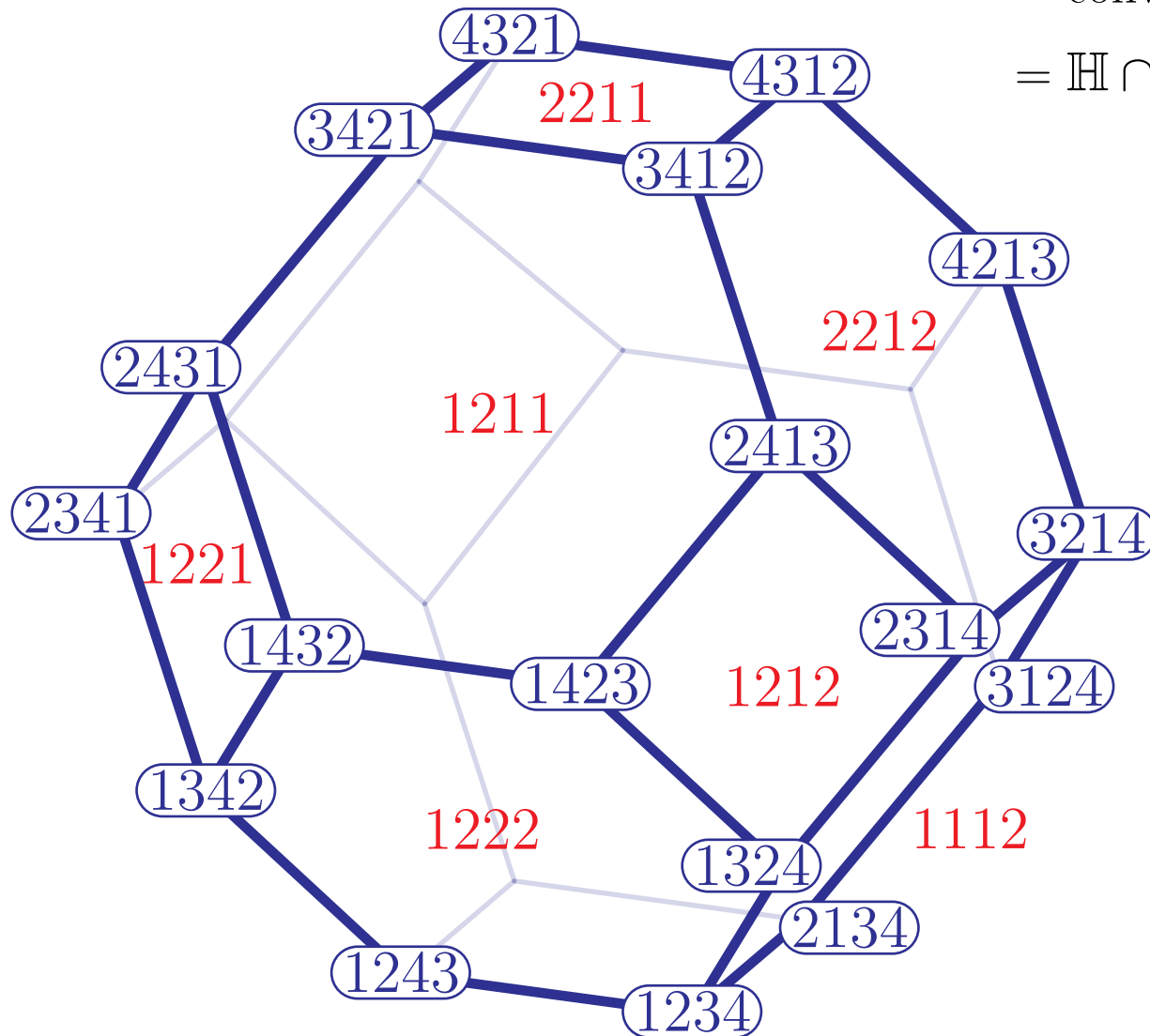
$$\mathbf{H}^{\geq}(\delta) = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid \sum_{j \in B(\delta)} x_j \geq \binom{|B(\delta)| + 1}{2} \right\}$$

# PERMUTAHEDRON

Permutohedron  $\text{Perm}(n)$

$$= \text{conv} \{(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n+1)) \mid \sigma \in \Sigma_{n+1}\}$$

$$= \mathbb{H} \cap \bigcap_{\emptyset \neq J \subsetneq [n+1]} \mathbf{H}^{\geq}(J)$$

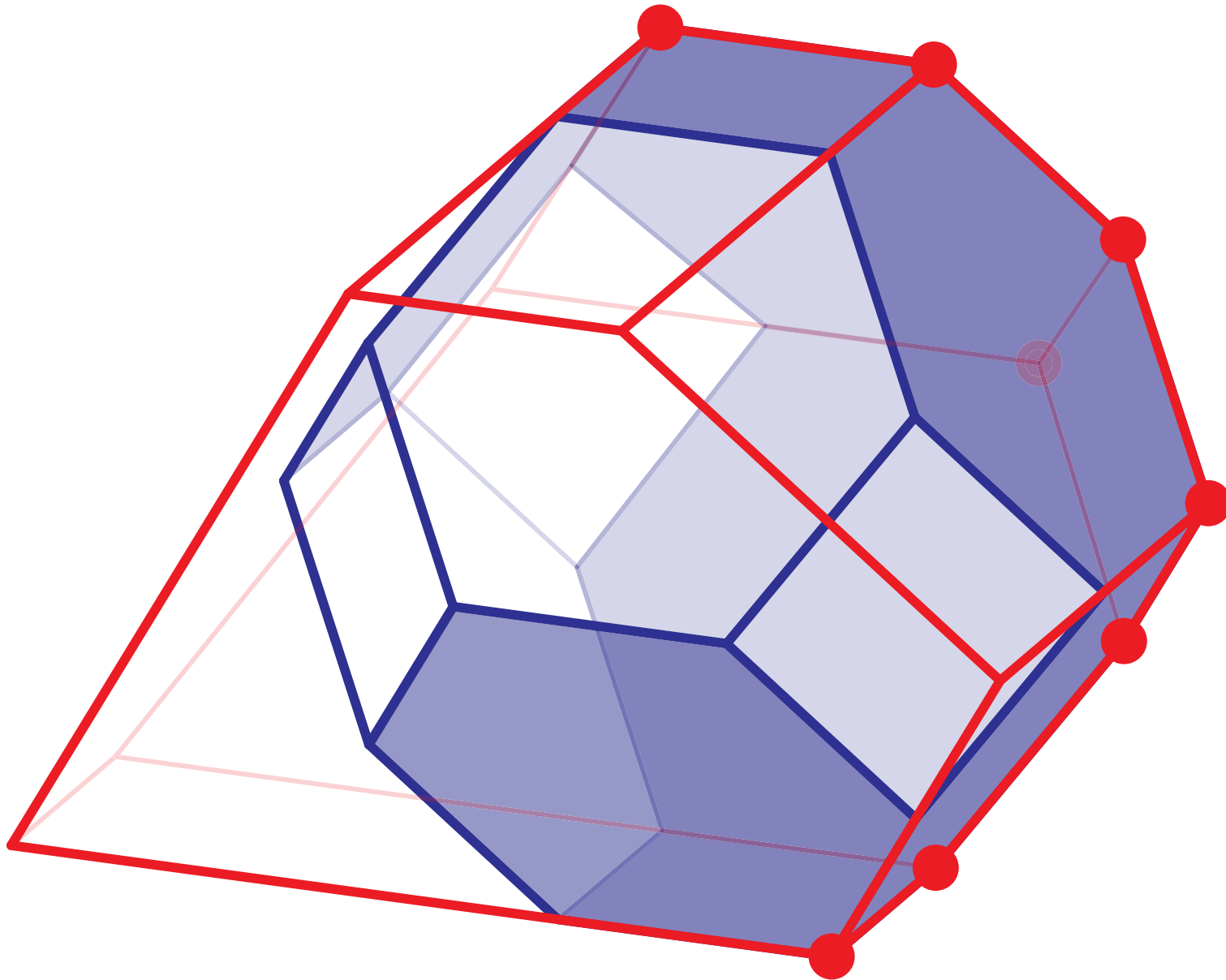


$k$ -faces of  $\text{Perm}(n)$

- $\equiv$  ordered partitions of  $[n+1]$  into  $n+1-k$  parts
- $\equiv$  surjections from  $[n+1]$  to  $[n+1-k]$

# ASSOCIAHEDRON AND PERMUTAHEDRON

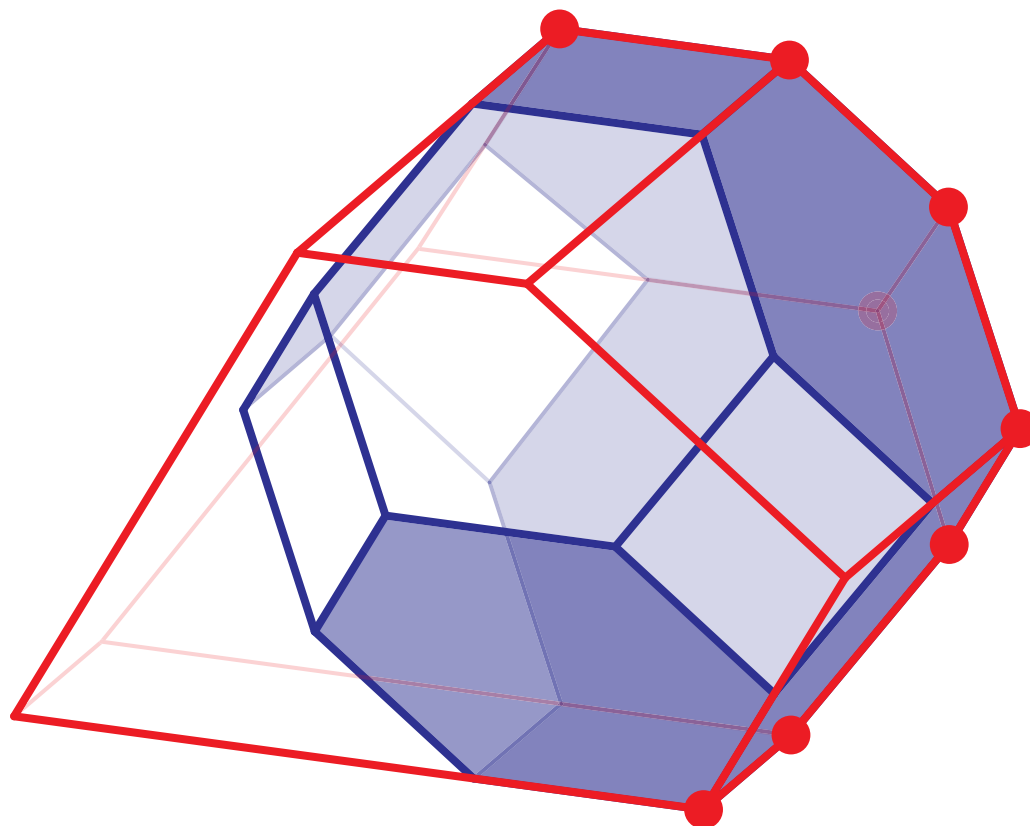
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The associahedron is obtained from the permutahedron by removing facets

# ASSOCIAHEDRON AND PERMUTAHEDRON

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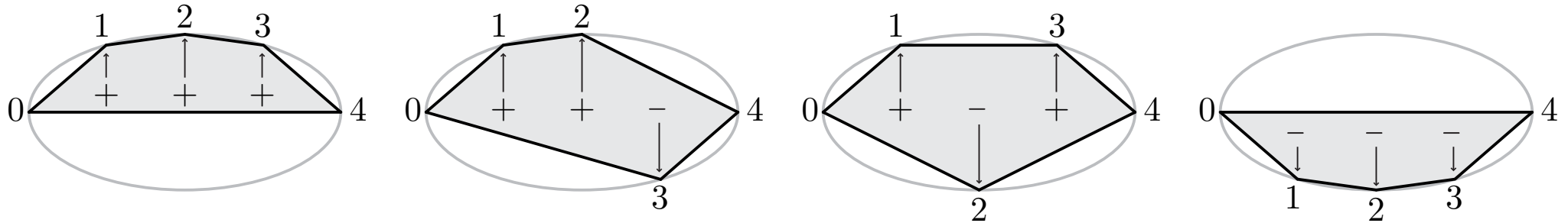


Relevant connections to combinatorial properties:

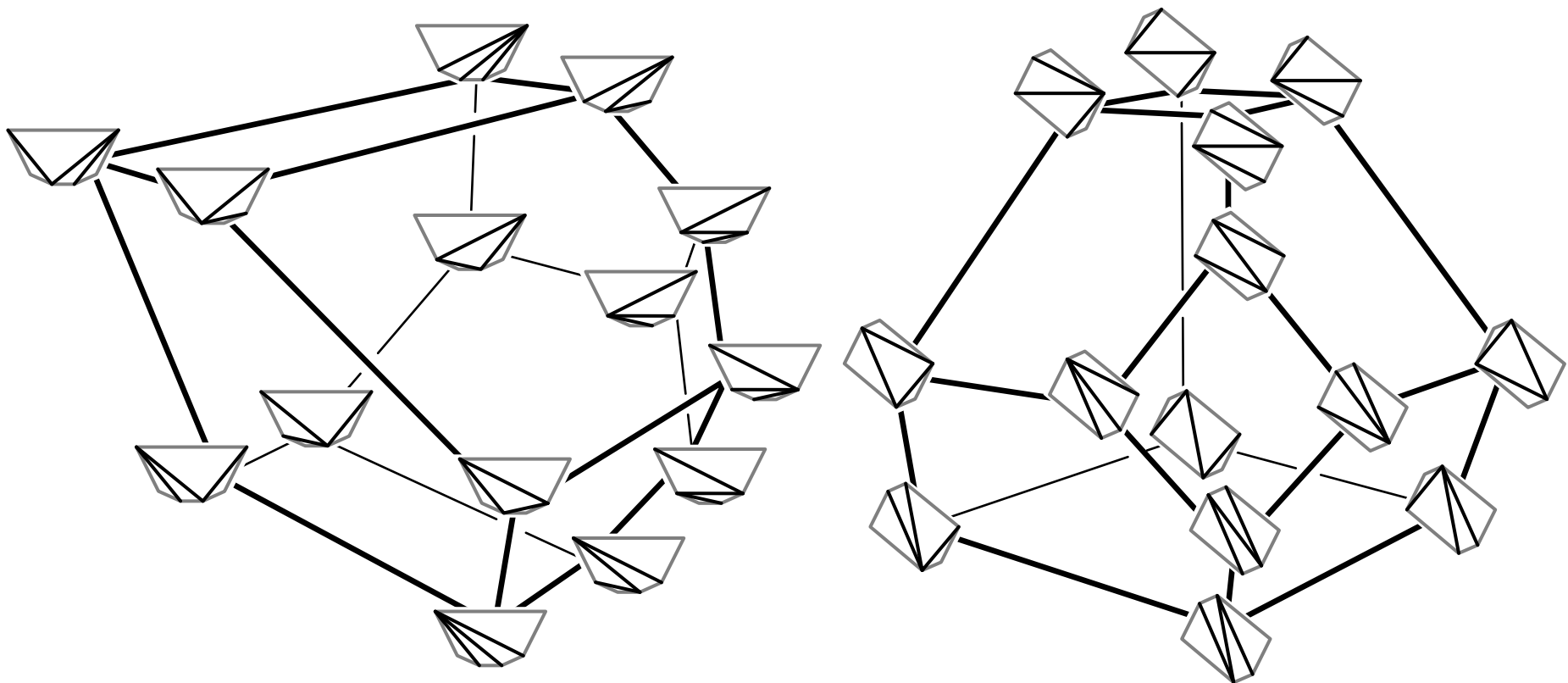
- the normal fan of  $\text{Perm}(n)$  refines that of  $\text{Asso}(P)$
- it defines a surjection  $\kappa : \mathfrak{S}_{n+1} \rightarrow \{\text{triangulations}\}$  (connection to linear extensions and insertion in binary search trees)
- $\kappa$  defines a lattice homomorphism from the **weak order** to the **Tamari lattice**

# HOHLWEG & LANGE'S ASSOCIAHEDRA

Can also replace Loday's  $(n + 3)$ -gon by others...

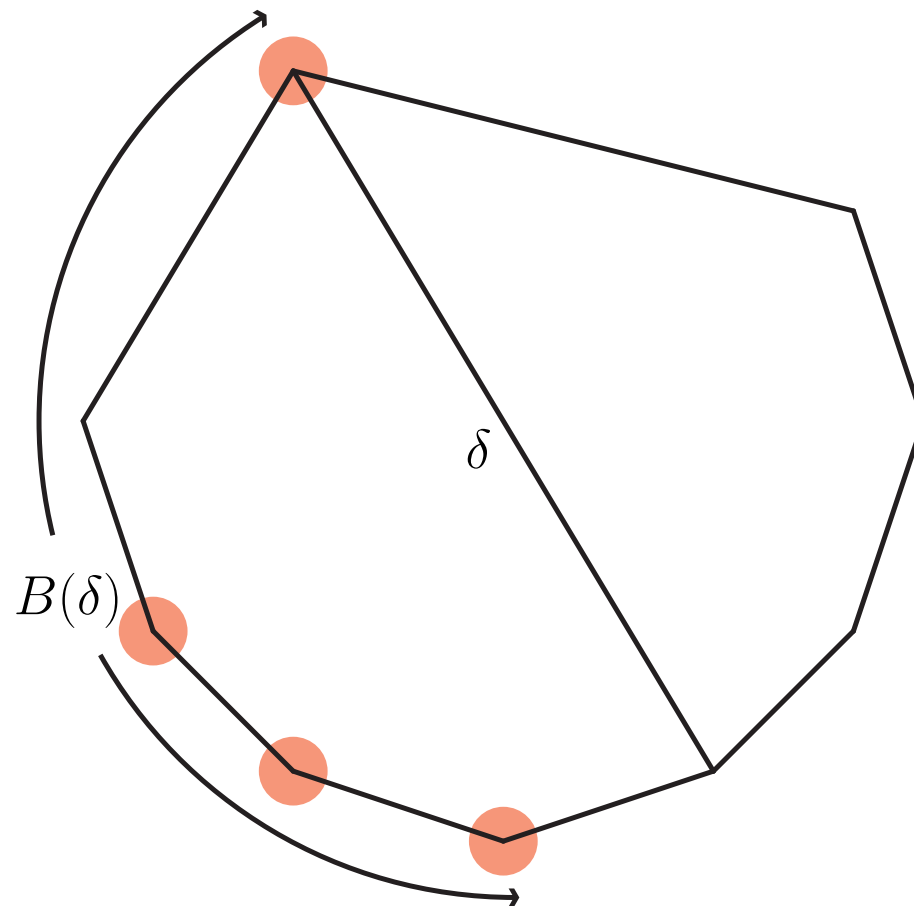
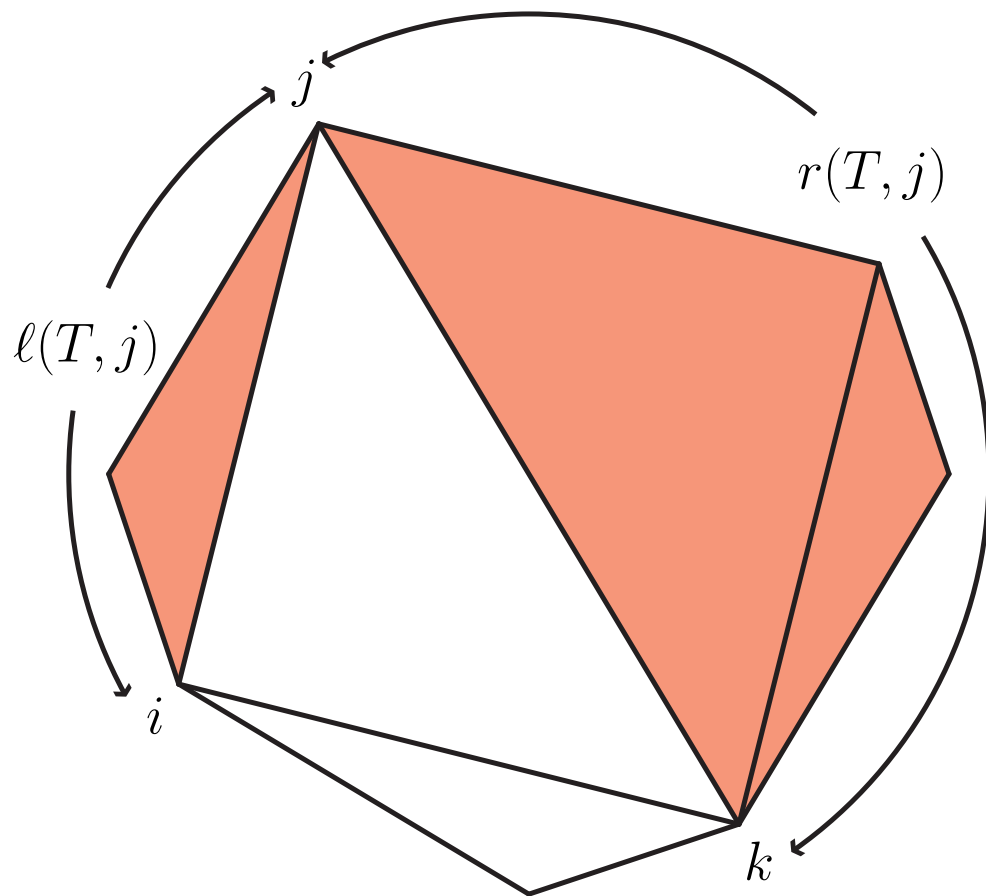


... to obtain different realizations of the associahedron



# HOHLWEG & LANGE'S ASSOCIAHEDRA

$$\text{Asso}(P) = \text{conv} \{HL(T) \mid T \text{ triangulation of } P\} = \mathbb{H} \cap \bigcap_{\delta \text{ diagonal of } P} \mathbf{H}^{\geq}(\delta)$$

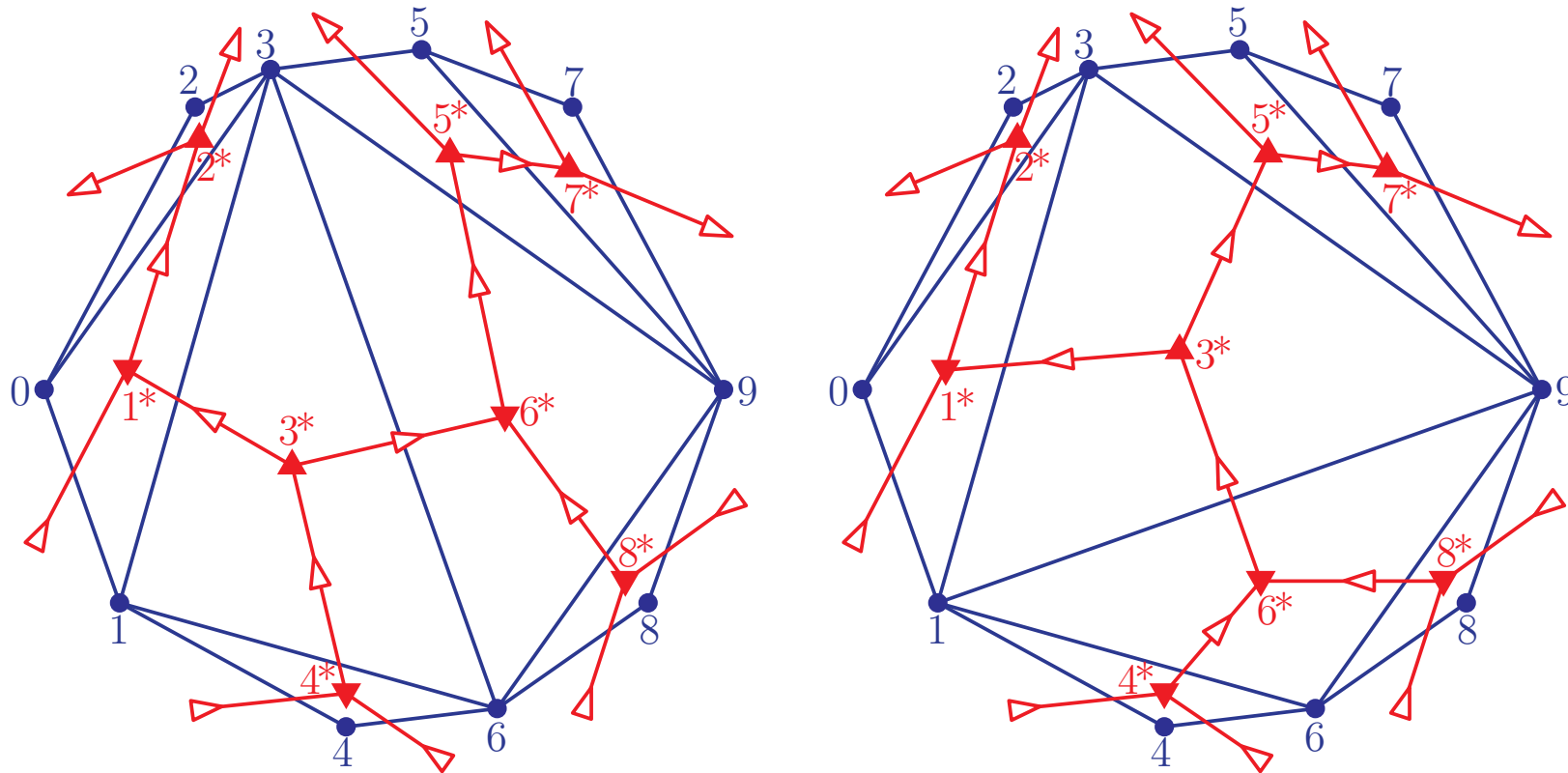


$$HL(T)_j = \begin{cases} \ell(T, j) \cdot r(T, j) & \text{if } j \text{ down} \\ n + 2 - \ell(T, j) \cdot r(T, j) & \text{if } j \text{ up} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{H}^{\geq}(\delta) = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \mid \sum_{j \in B(\delta)} x_j \geq \binom{|B(\delta)| + 1}{2} \right\}$$

# SPINES

Lange-Pilaud, *Using spines to revisit a construction of the associahedron* ('13<sup>+</sup>)



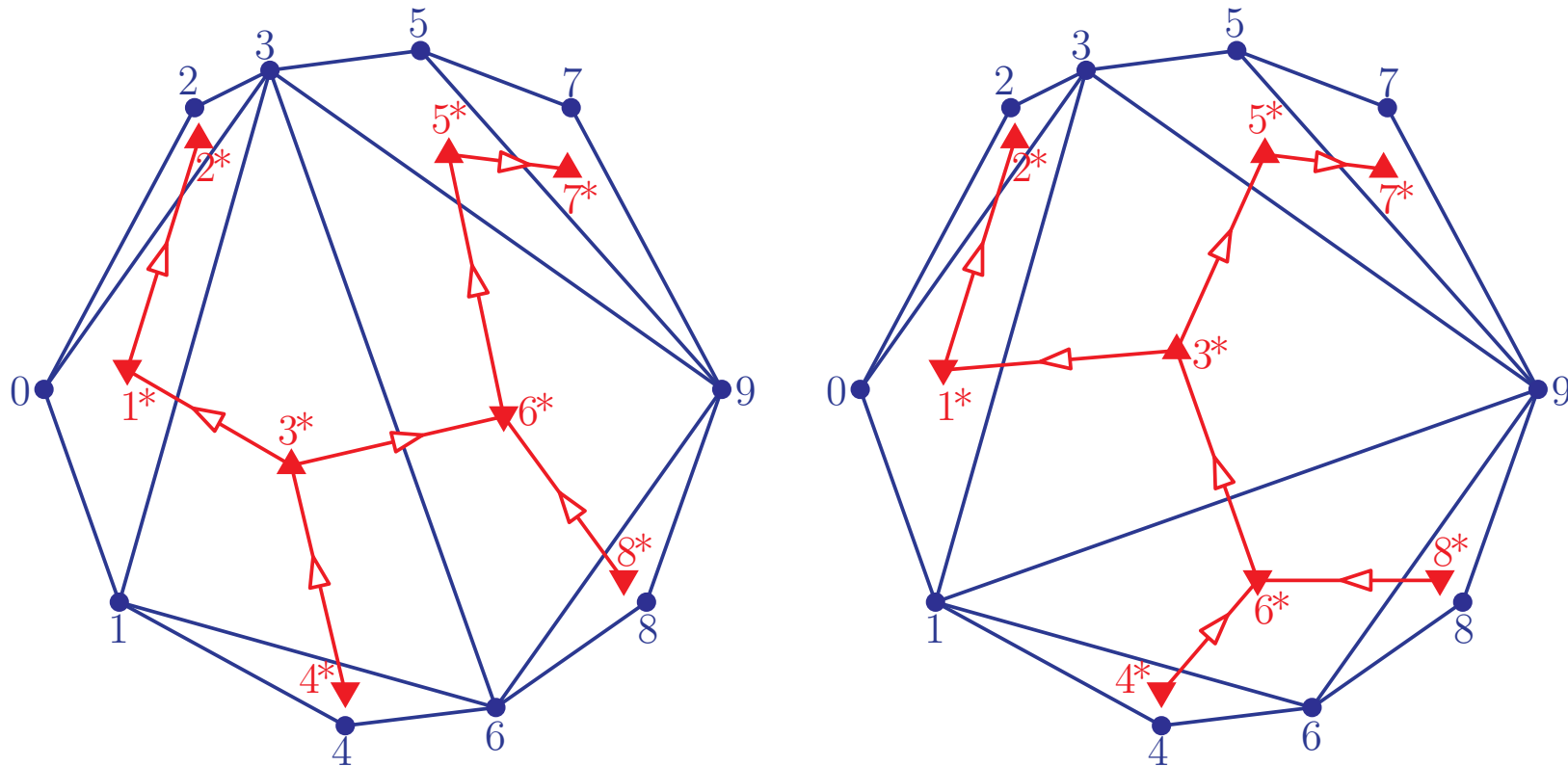
**REM.** 1. Spines can be defined without their triangulations...

2. Alternative vertex description of Hohlweg-Lange's associahedra:

$$\mathbf{a}(S)_j = \begin{cases} |\{\pi \text{ maximal path in } S \text{ with 2 incoming arcs at } j\}| & \text{if } j \text{ down vertex} \\ |\{\pi \text{ maximal path in } S \text{ with 2 outgoing arcs at } j\}| & \text{if } j \text{ up vertex} \end{cases}$$

# SPINES

Lange-Pilaud, *Using spines to revisit a construction of the associahedron* ('13<sup>+</sup>)



- REM.** 1. Spines can be defined without their triangulations...
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# GRAPH ASSOCIAHEDRA

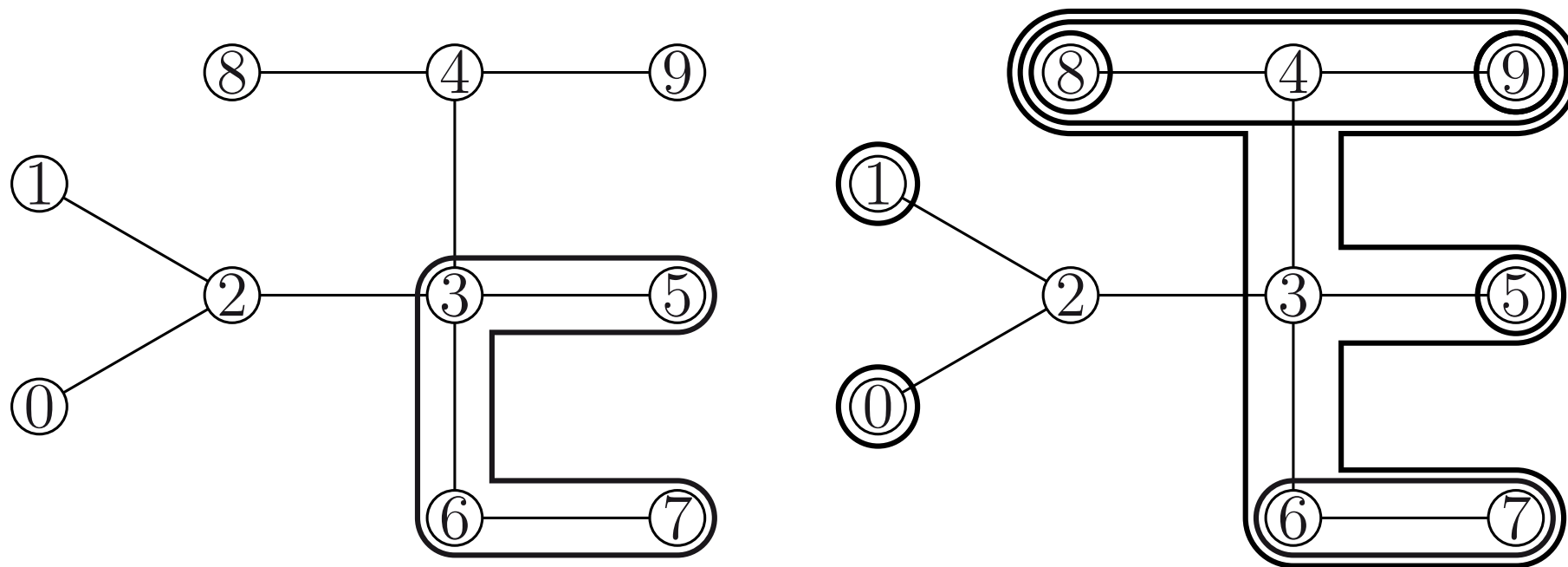
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# NESTED COMPLEX AND GRAPH ASSOCIAHEDRON

$G$  graph on ground set  $V$

**Tube** on  $V$  = connected induced subgraph of  $G$

**Compatible** tubes = nested, or disjoint and non-adjacent

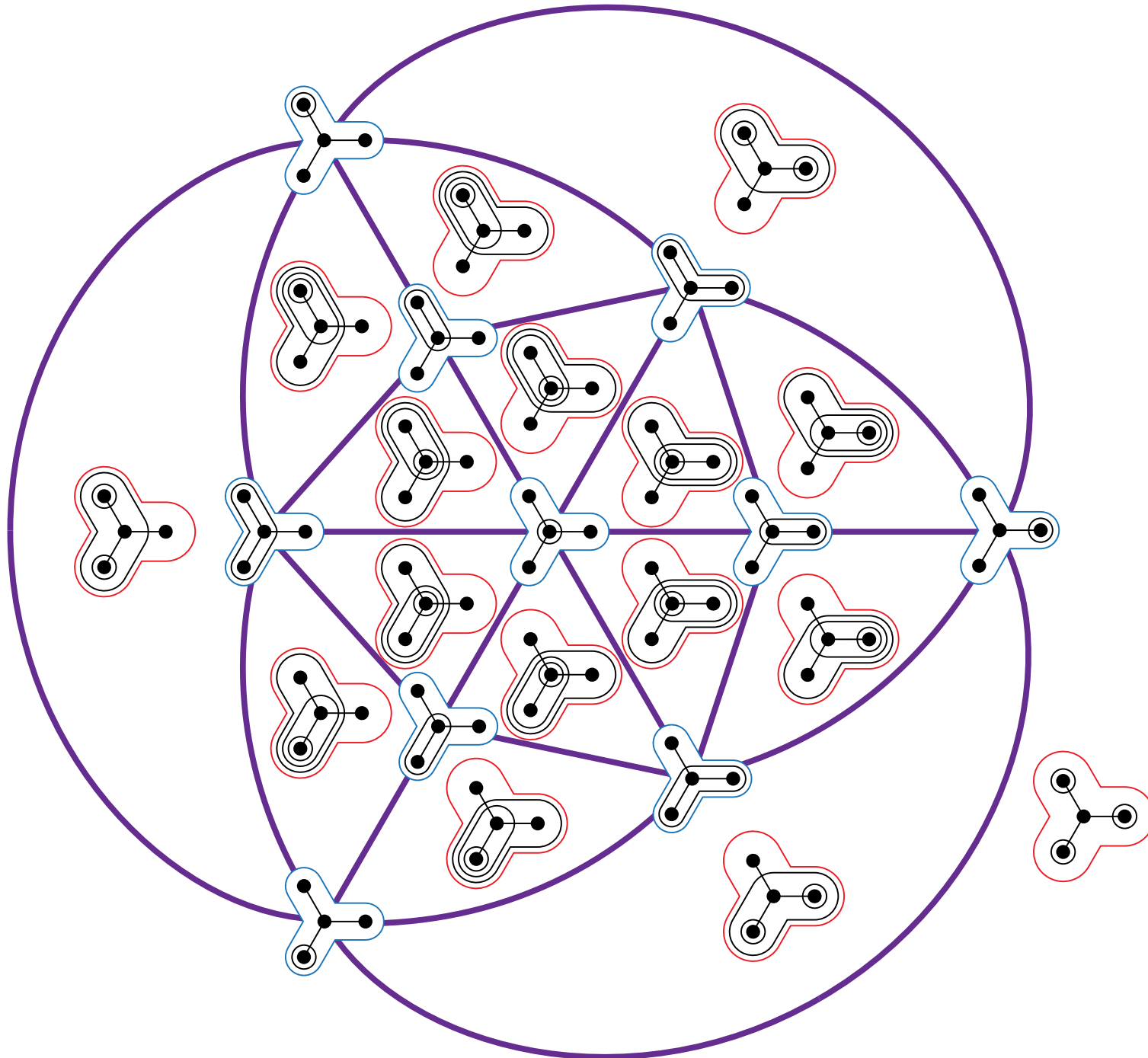


**Nested complex**  $\mathcal{N}(G)$  = simplicial complex of sets of pairwise compatible tubes  
= clique complex of the compatibility relation on tubes

**G-associahedron** = polytopal realization of the nested complex on  $G$

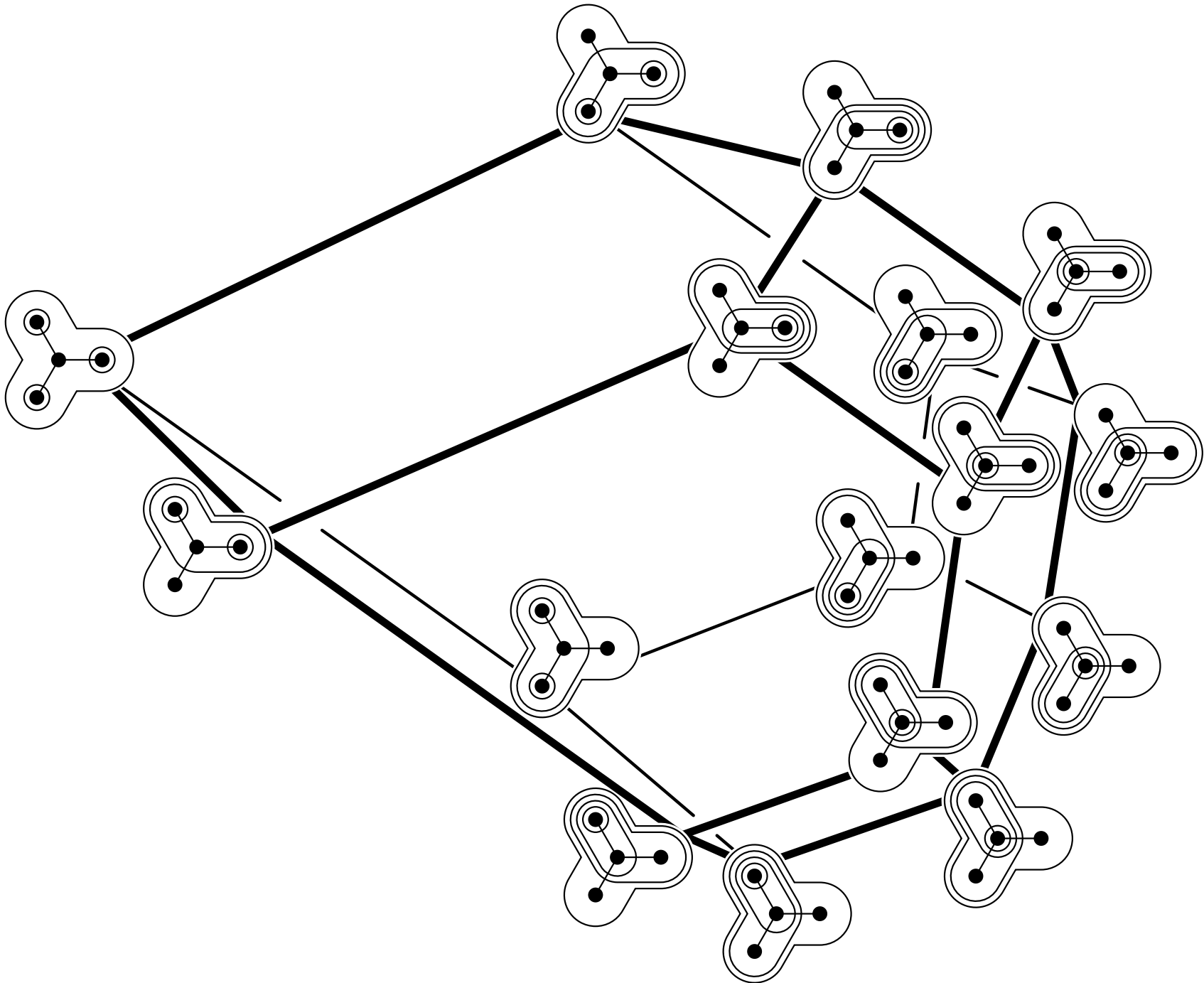
# EXM: NESTED COMPLEX

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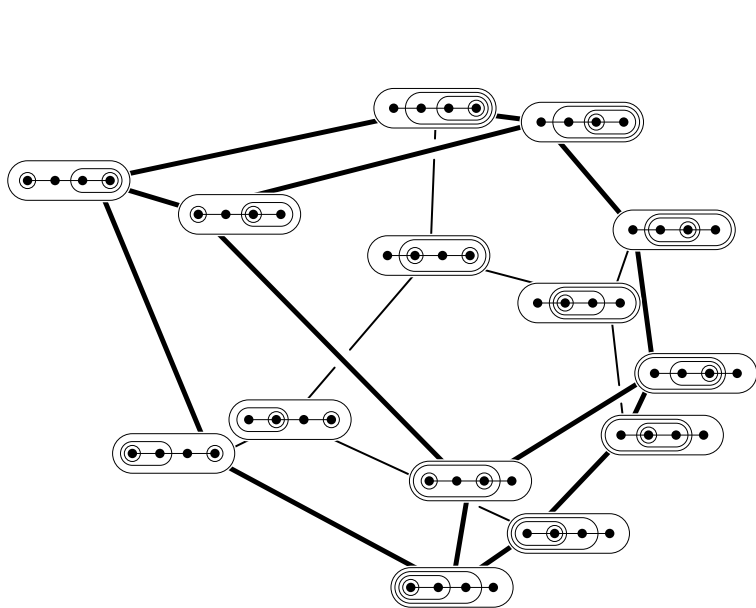


# EXM: GRAPH ASSOCIAHEDRON

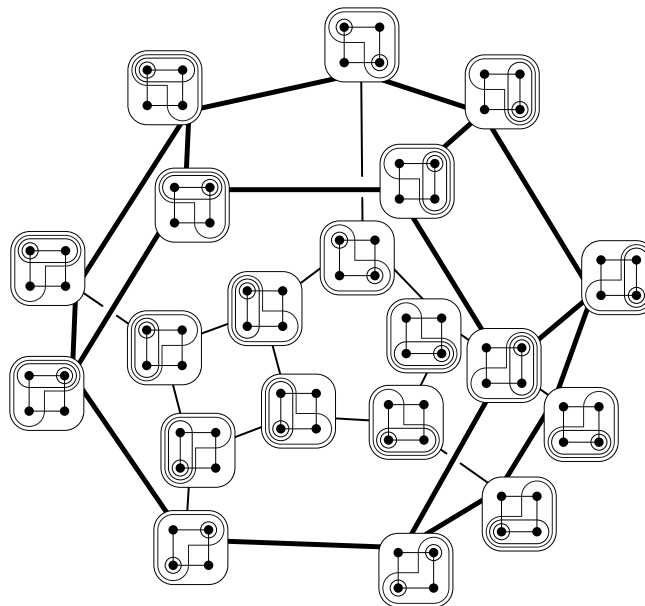
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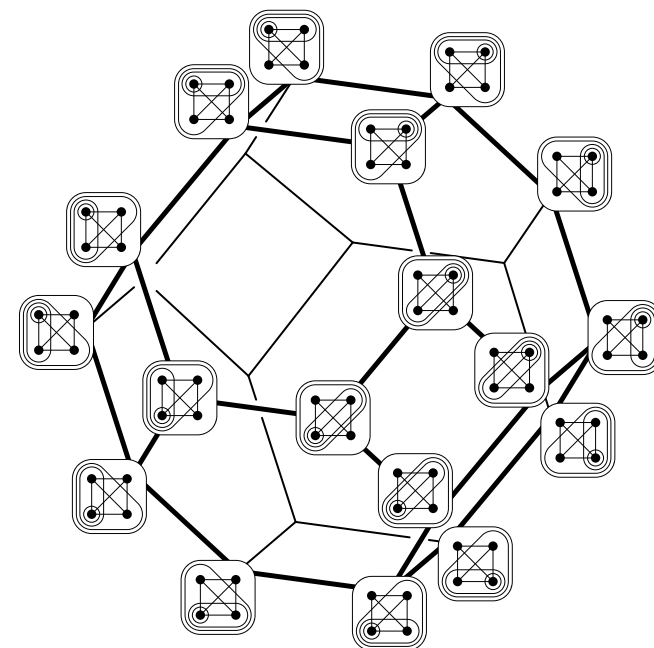
# SPECIAL GRAPH ASSOCIAHEDRA



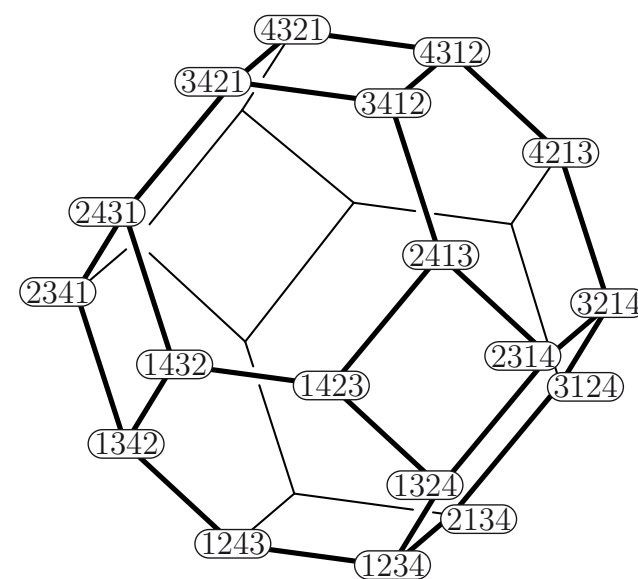
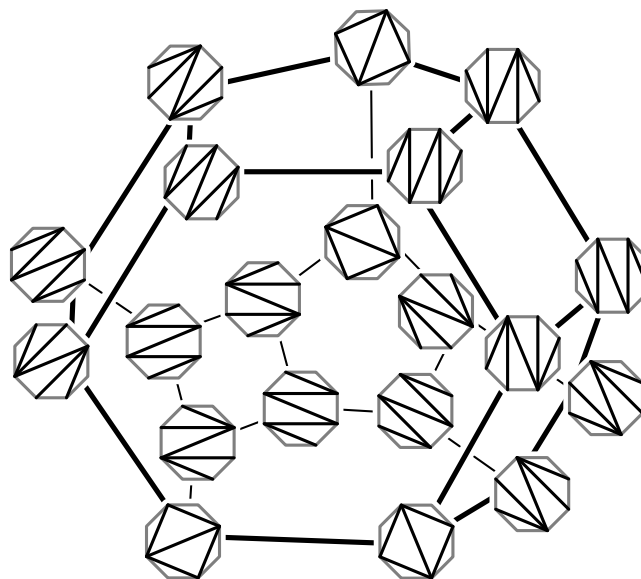
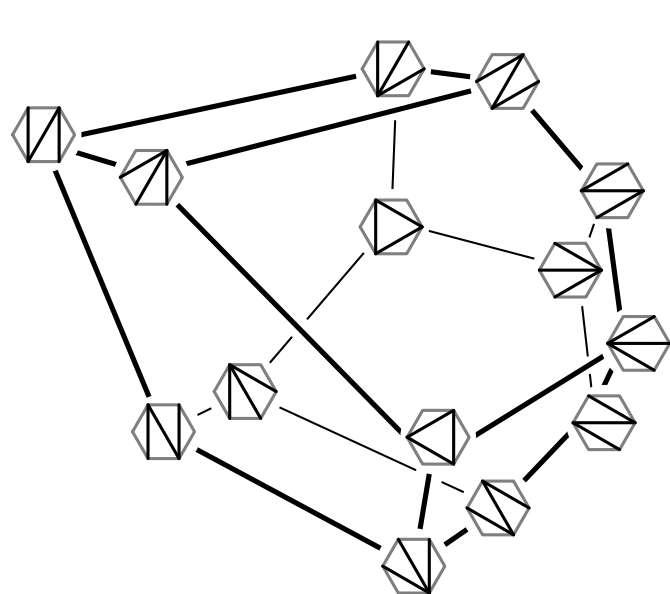
Path associahedron  
= associahedron



Cycle associahedron  
= cyclohedron

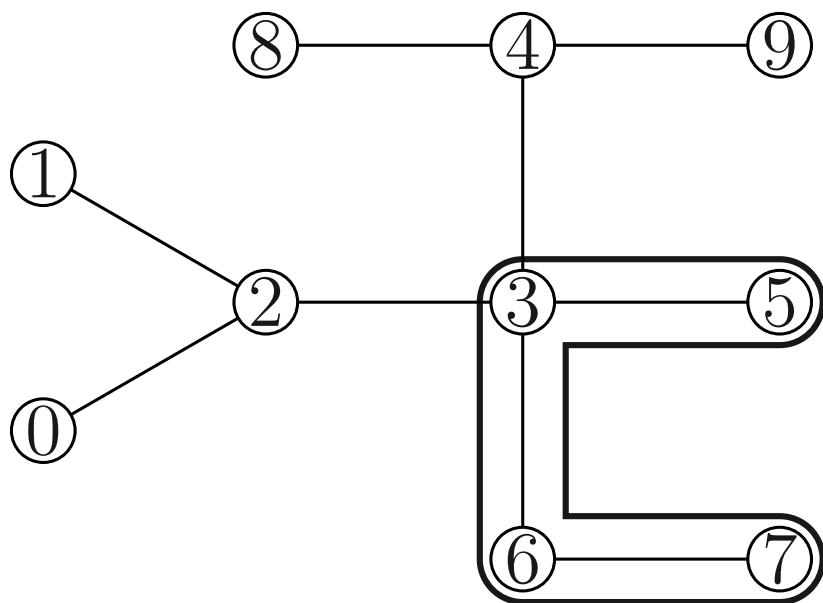


Complete graph associahedron  
= permutahedron

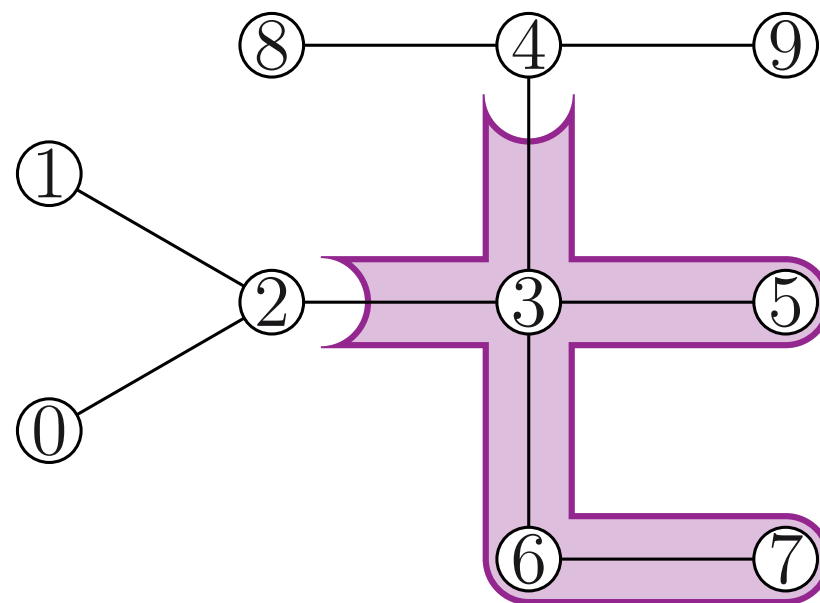
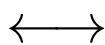


# OPEN SUBTREES

For later use, represent tubes by **open subtrees**:



compatible tubes



nested or disjoint open subtrees

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# SIGNED NESTED COMPLEXES

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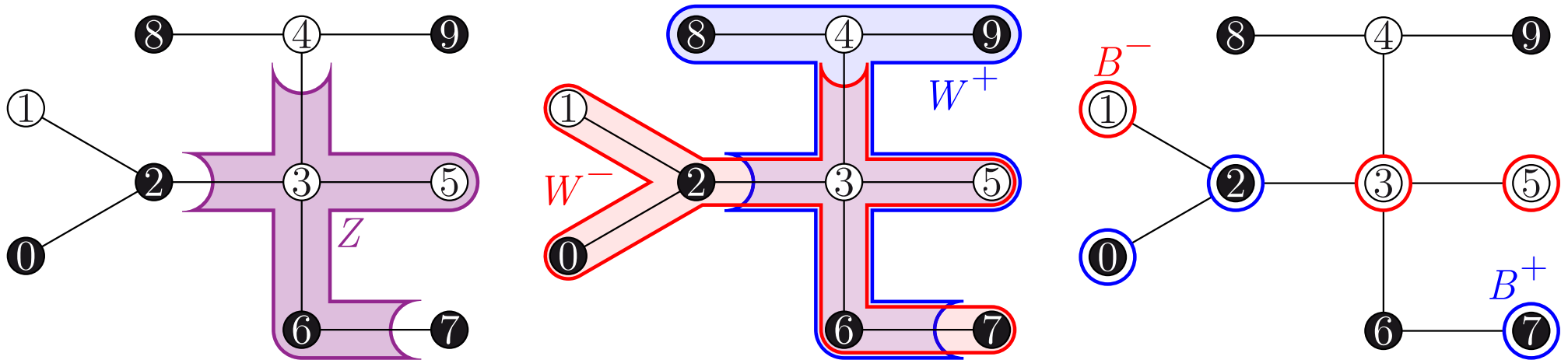
# SIGNED CONNECTED STRUCTURES

T tree on the signed ground set  $V = V^- \sqcup V^+$  (negative in white, positive in black)

**Open subtree** = non-empty subtree  $Z$  with leaves excluded (except maybe the leaves of  $T$ )

**Signed tube** = pair  $(W^-, W^+)$  of open subtrees st.  $\partial W^- \subseteq V^- \cap W^+$  and  $\partial W^+ \subseteq V^+ \cap W^-$

**Signed building block** =  $B \subseteq V$  negative convex and with positive convex complement

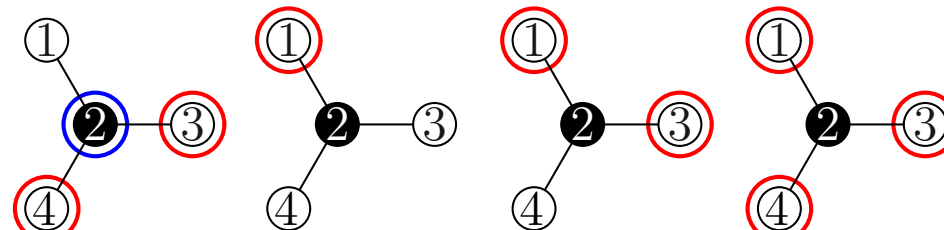
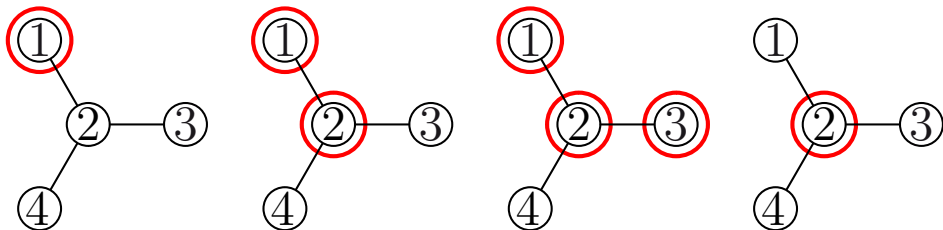
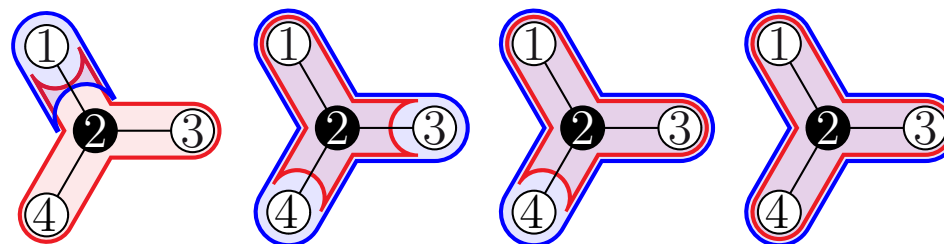
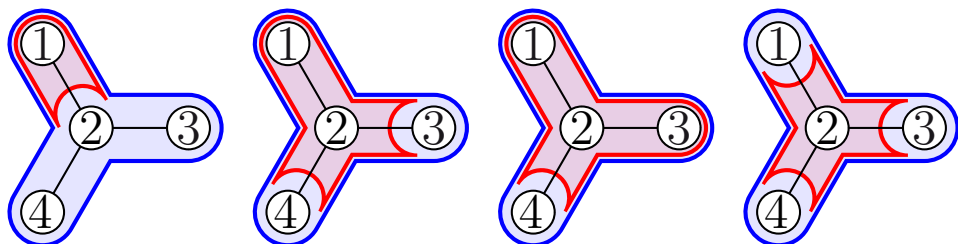
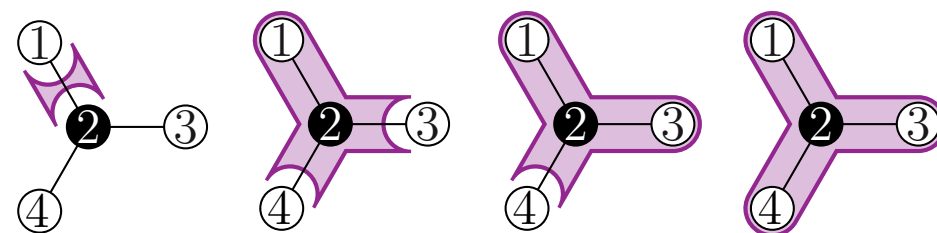
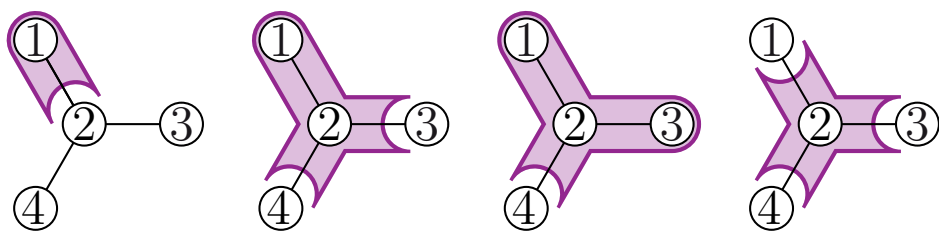
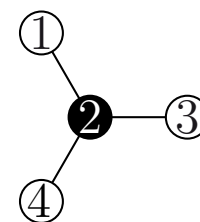
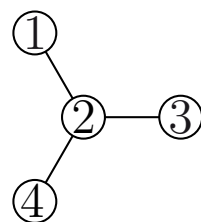


$$z(W) := W^- \cap W^+ \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad W = (W^-, W^+) \quad \longmapsto \quad b(W) := (V^- \cap W^-) \sqcup (V^+ \setminus W^+)$$

Unsigned trees  $\Rightarrow$  classical tubes

Signed paths  $\Rightarrow$  diagonals of Hohlweg-Lange's polygons

# SIGNED CONNECTED STRUCTURES



# SIGNED NESTED COMPLEX

---

$W_1 = (W_1^-, W_1^+)$  and  $W_2 = (W_2^-, W_2^+)$  two signed tubes of  $T$

Define the binary relations

$$W_1 \preceq W_2 \text{ (" } W_1 \text{ negative nested in } W_2 \text{")} \iff W_1^- \subseteq W_2^- \text{ and } W_1^+ \supseteq W_2^+$$

$$W_1 \succeq W_2 \text{ (" } W_1 \text{ positive nested in } W_2 \text{")} \iff W_1^- \supseteq W_2^- \text{ and } W_1^+ \subseteq W_2^+$$

$$W_1 \perp W_2 \text{ (" } W_1, W_2 \text{ negative disjoint"')} \iff W_1^- \cap W_2^- = \emptyset \text{ and } W_1^+ \cup W_2^+ = V$$

$$W_1 \top W_2 \text{ (" } W_1, W_2 \text{ positive disjoint"')} \iff W_1^- \cup W_2^- = V \text{ and } W_1^+ \cap W_2^+ = \emptyset$$

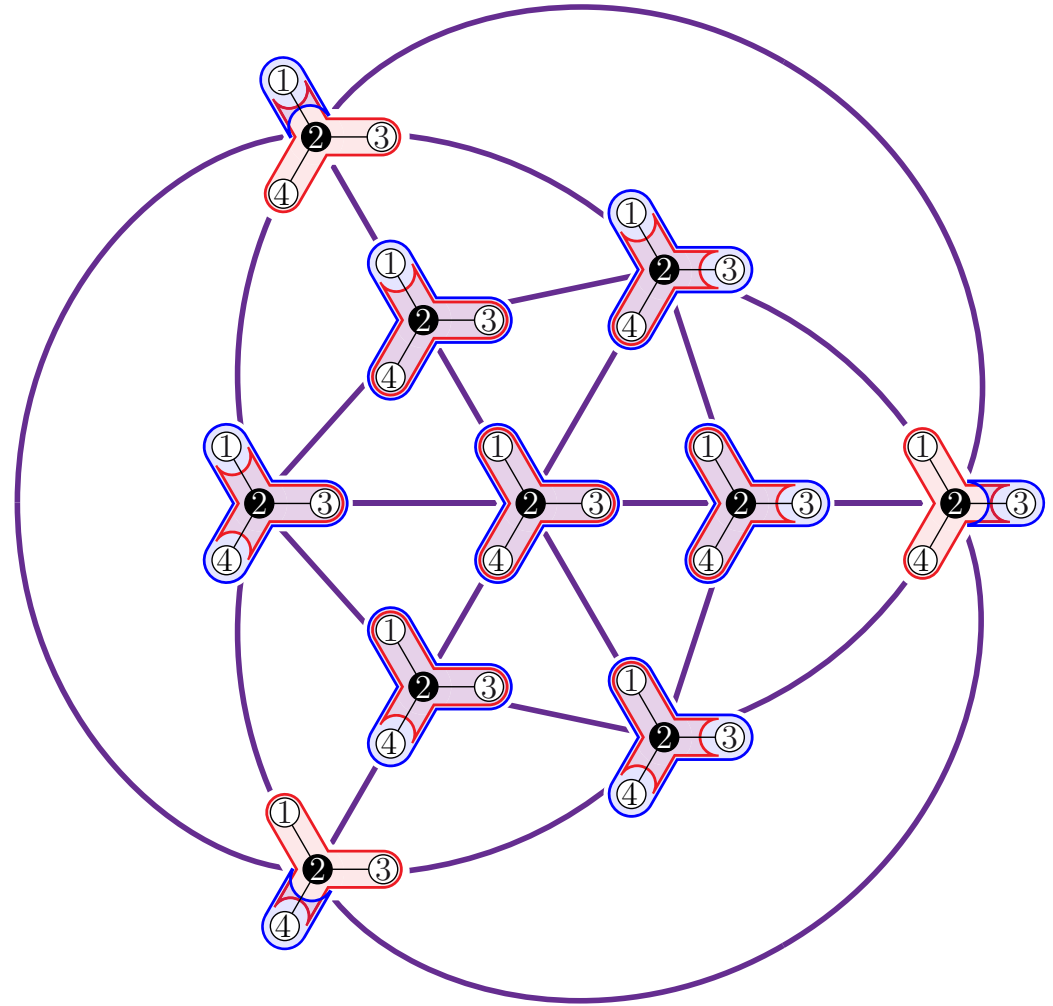
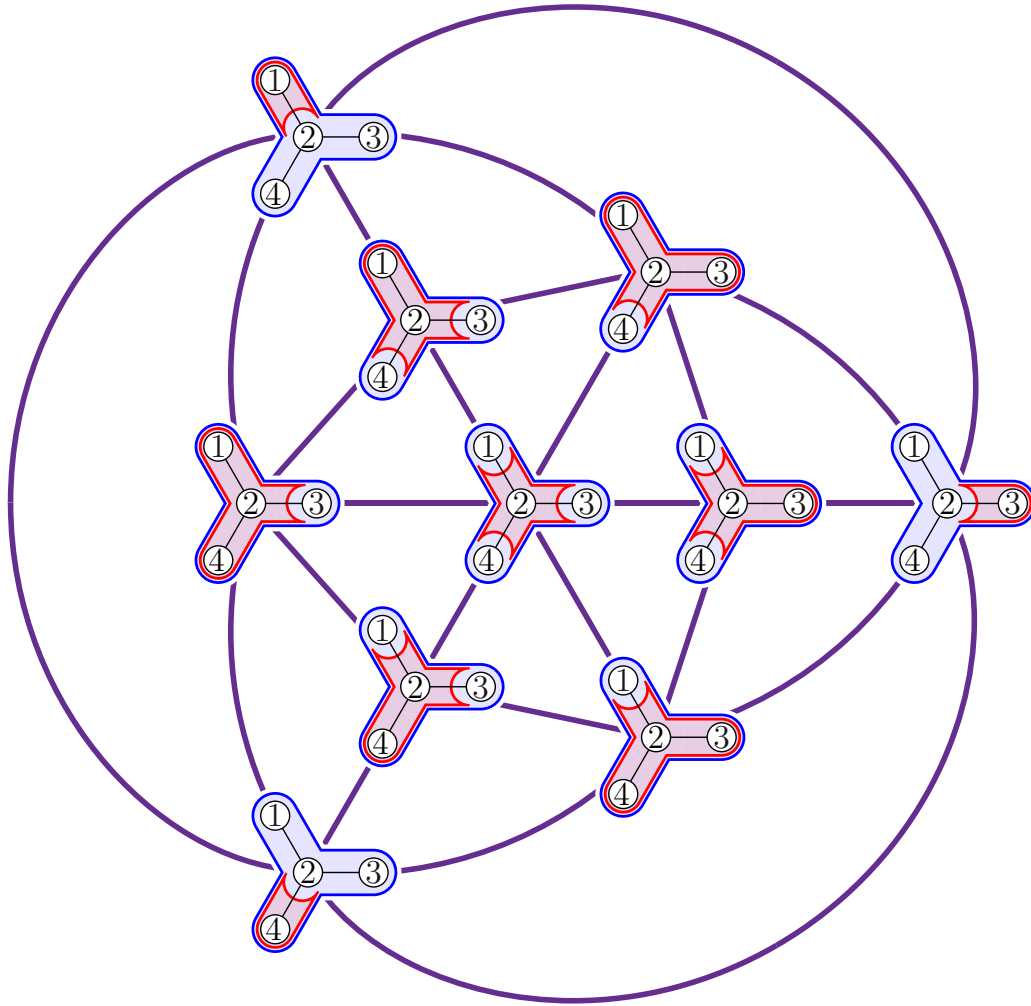
$$W_1 \text{ and } W_2 \text{ are signed compatible} \iff W_1 \preceq W_2 \text{ or } W_1 \succeq W_2 \text{ or } W_1 \perp W_2 \text{ or } W_1 \top W_2$$

Signed nested complex  $\mathcal{N}(T)$  = simplicial complex of sets of pairwise

signed compatible signed tubes

= clique complex of the signed compatibility relation

# EXM: SIGNED NESTED COMPLEX

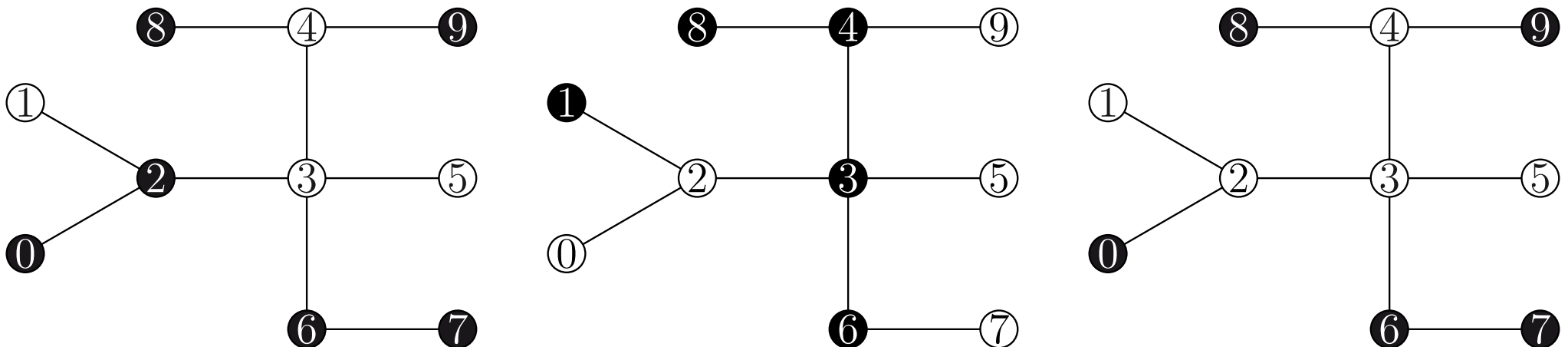


# ISOMORPHISMS

**PROP.**  $T$  and  $T'$  two signed trees st.  $T'$  is obtained from  $T$  by:

- (i) changing the sign of a leaf of  $T$
- (ii) changing simultaneously the signs of all vertices of  $T$
- (iii) relabeling the vertices of  $T$  while preserving their signs
- (iv) applying a graph automorphism of  $T$  to the signs of  $T$
- (v) switching two vertices of  $T$ , adjacent to each other and of degree at most 2

Then the signed nested complexes  $\mathcal{N}(T)$  and  $\mathcal{N}(T')$  are isomorphic



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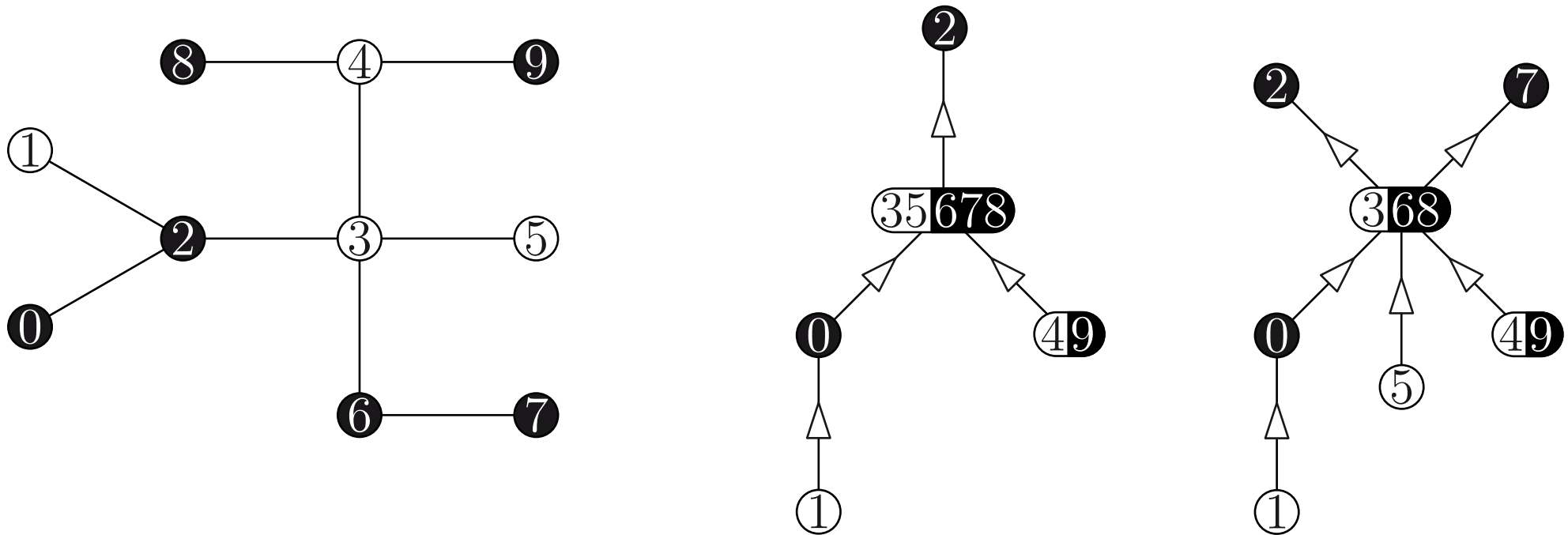
# SPINES

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# SIGNED SPINES

Signed spine on  $T$  = directed and labeled tree  $S$  st

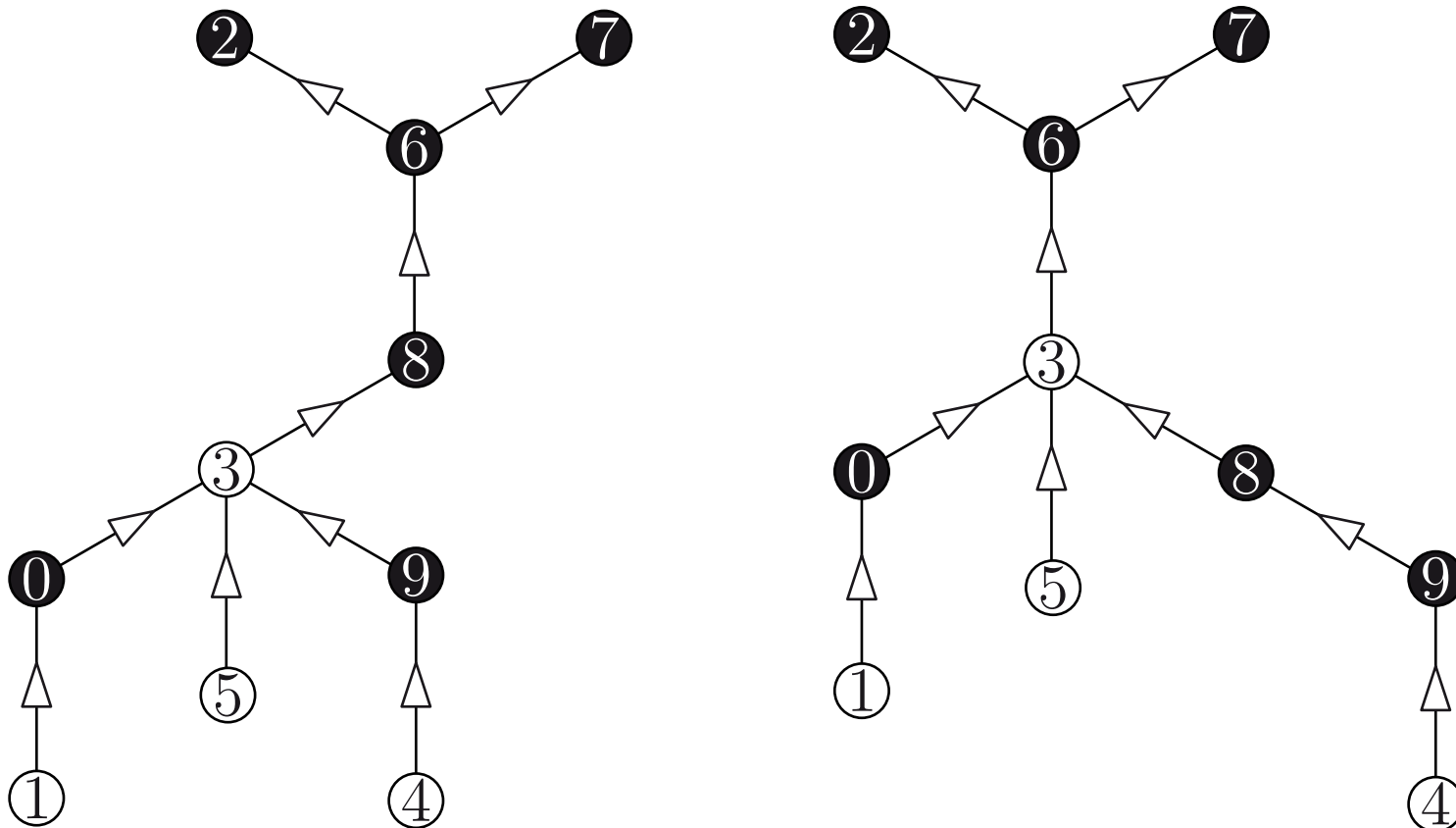
- (i) the labels of the nodes of  $S$  form a partition of the signed ground set  $V$
- (ii) at a node of  $S$  labeled by  $U = U^- \sqcup U^+$ , the source label sets of the different incoming arcs are subsets of distinct connected components of  $T \setminus U^-$ , while the sink label sets of the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



# CONTRACTIONS AND SPINE COMPLEX

**LEM.** Contracting an arc in a signed spine on  $T$  leads to a new signed spine on  $T$

**LEM.** Let  $S$  be a signed spine on  $T$  with a node labeled by a set  $U$  containing at least two elements. For any  $u \in U$ , there exists a signed spine on  $T$  whose nodes are labeled exactly as that of  $S$ , except that the label  $U$  is partitioned into  $\{u\}$  and  $U \setminus \{u\}$



# CONTRACTIONS AND SPINE COMPLEX

---

**LEM.** Contracting an arc in a signed spine on  $T$  leads to a new signed spine on  $T$

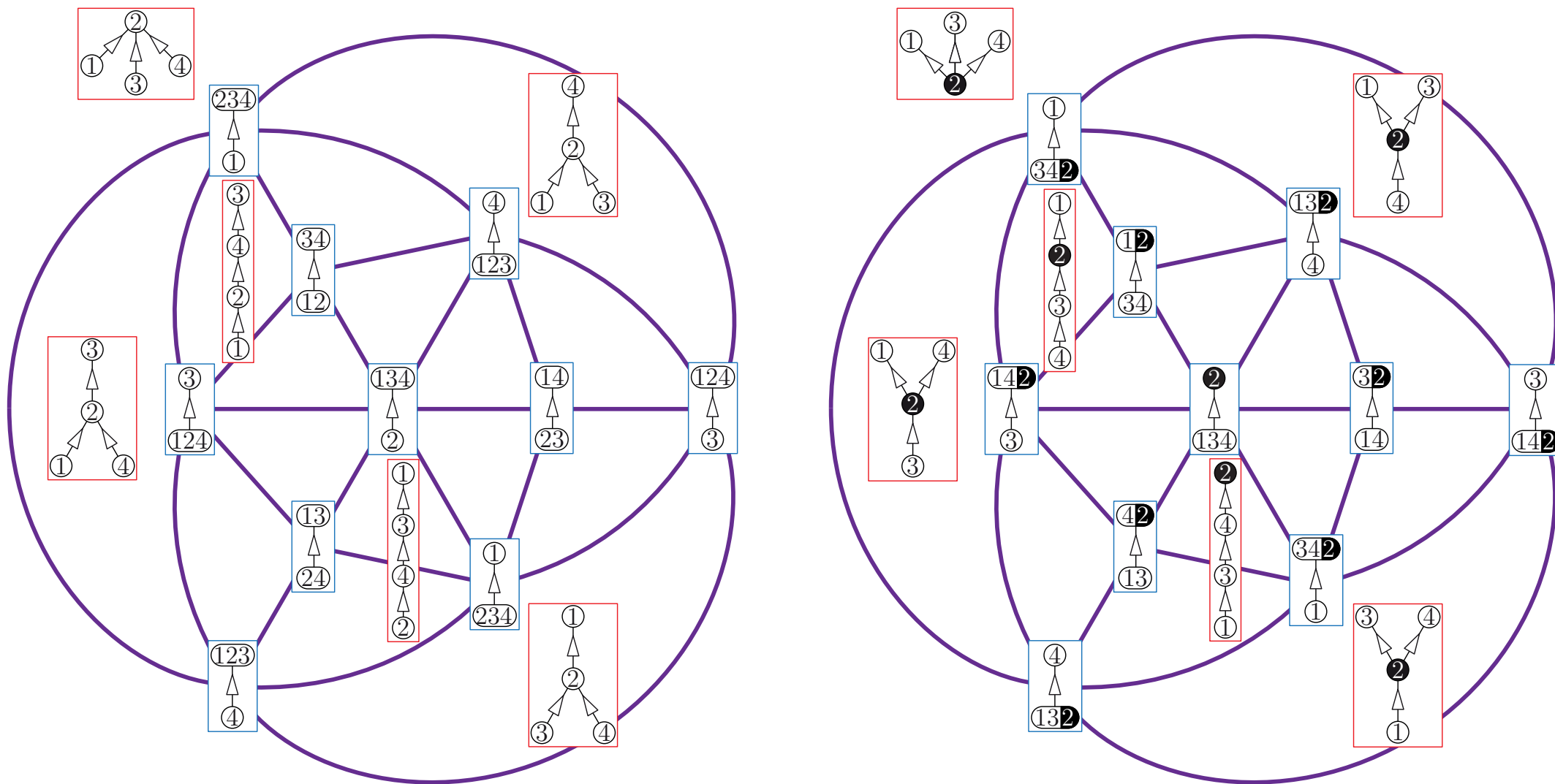
**LEM.** Let  $S$  be a signed spine on  $T$  with a node labeled by a set  $U$  containing at least two elements. For any  $u \in U$ , there exists a signed spine on  $T$  whose nodes are labeled exactly as that of  $S$ , except that the label  $U$  is partitioned into  $\{u\}$  and  $U \setminus \{u\}$

**Signed spine complex**  $\mathcal{S}(T)$  = simplicial complex whose inclusion poset is isomorphic to the poset of edge contractions on the signed spines of  $T$

**CORO.** The signed spine complex  $\mathcal{S}(T)$  is a pure simplicial complex of rank  $|V|$

# EXM: SPINE COMPLEX

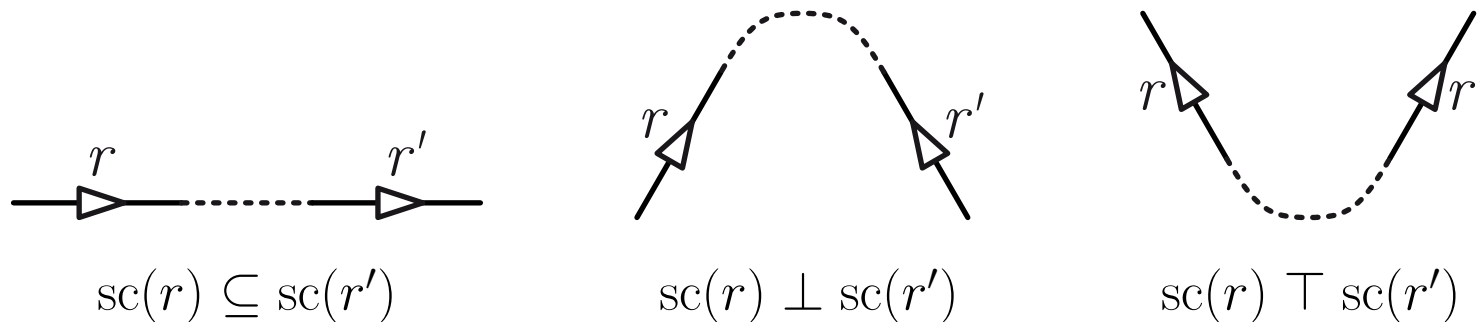
Signed spine complex  $\mathcal{S}(T)$  = simplicial complex whose inclusion poset is isomorphic to the poset of edge contractions on the signed spines of  $T$



# FROM SIGNED NESTED COMPLEXES TO SIGNED NESTED SETS

**LEM.** For any arc  $r$  of a signed spine  $S \in \mathcal{S}(T)$ , the source label set  $\text{sc}(r)$  is a relevant signed building set of  $T$

**LEM.** For any signed spine  $S \in \mathcal{S}(T)$ , the collection  $B(S) := \{\text{sc}(r) \mid r \text{ arc of } S\}$  is a signed nested set of  $\mathcal{NB}(T)$



**PROP.** The map  $B$  is an isomorphism between the signed spine complex  $\mathcal{S}(T)$  and the signed nested complex  $\mathcal{NB}(T)$  on  $T$

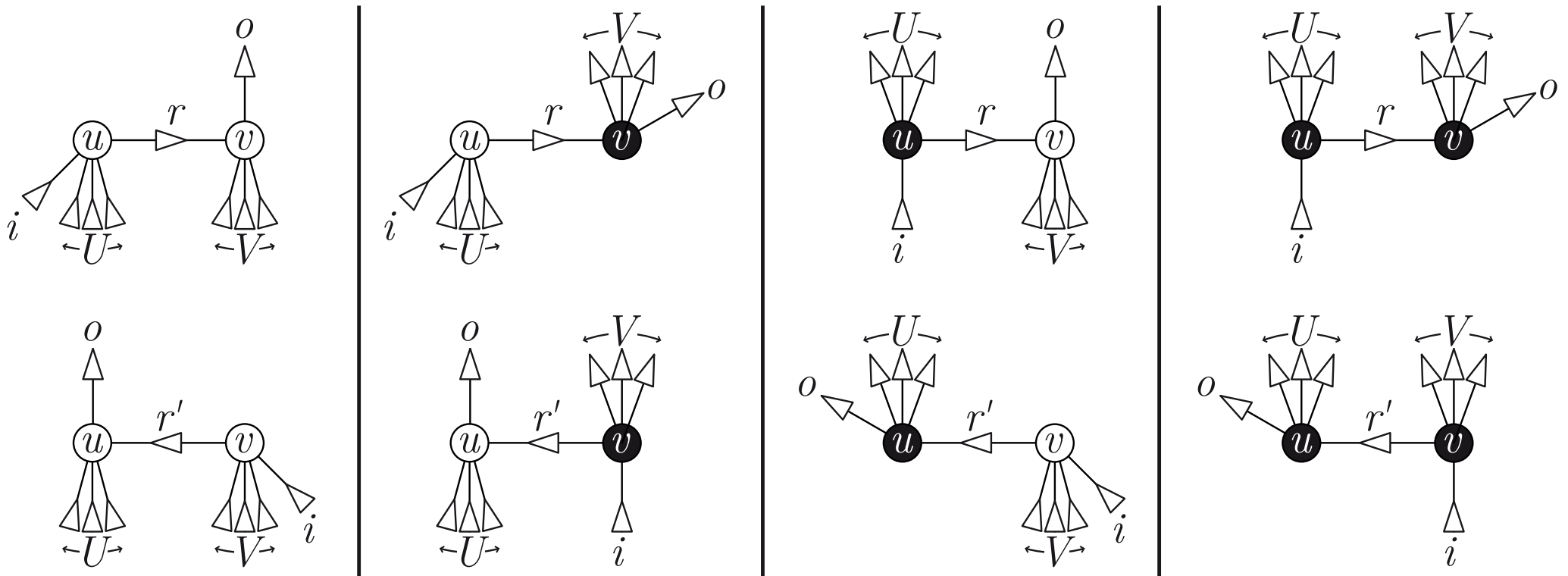
# FLIPS

$S$  maximal signed spine on  $T$ ,  $r$  arc in  $S$  from  $u$  to  $v$

$i$  incoming arc at  $u$  whose source label set lies in the c.c. of  $T \setminus \{u\}$  containing  $v$

$o$  outgoing arc at  $v$  whose sink label set lies in the c.c. of  $T \setminus \{v\}$  containing  $u$

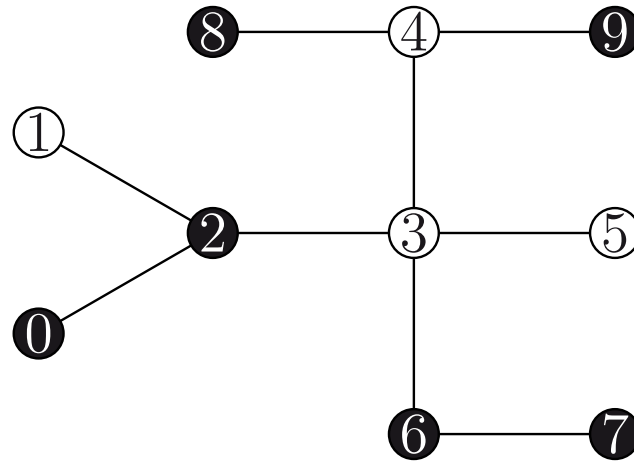
$S' =$  tree obtained from  $S$  reversing  $r$  and attaching  $i$  to  $v$  and  $o$  to  $u$



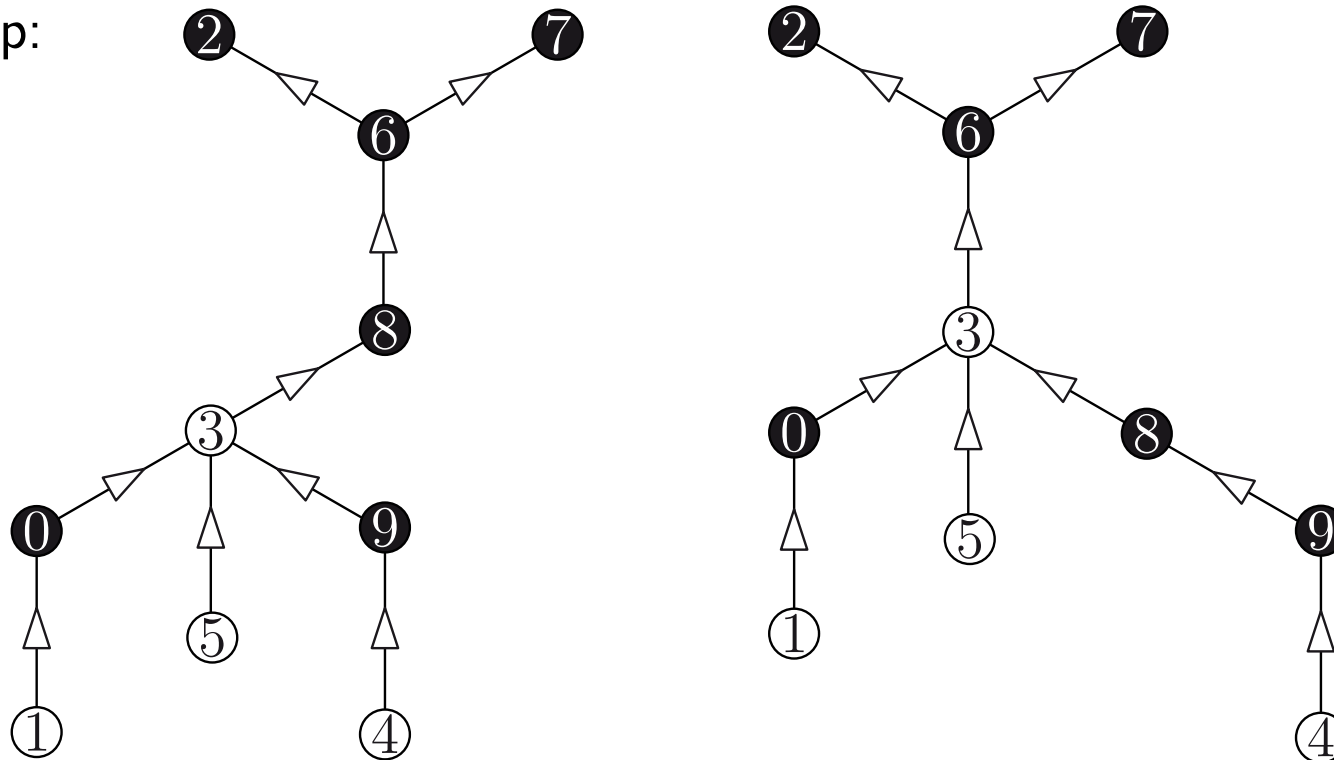
**PROP.**  $S'$  is a spine on  $T$ .  $S$  and  $S'$  are the only two max. spines on  $T$  refining  $S/r = S'/r$

## EXM: FLIPS

On the ground tree:



we have the flip:



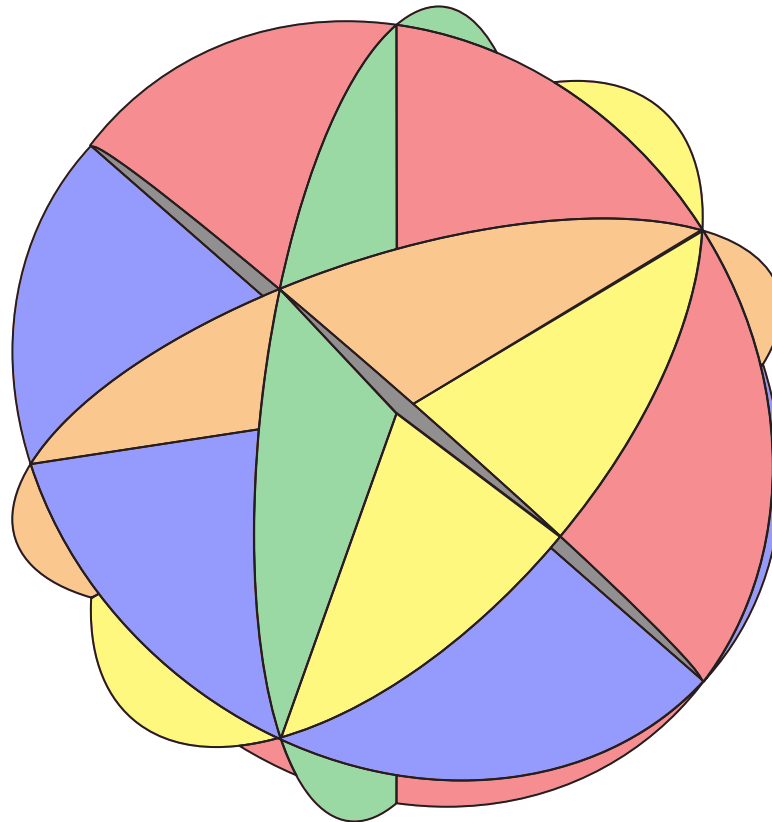
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SPINE FAN

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# BRAID FAN & PREPOSET CONES

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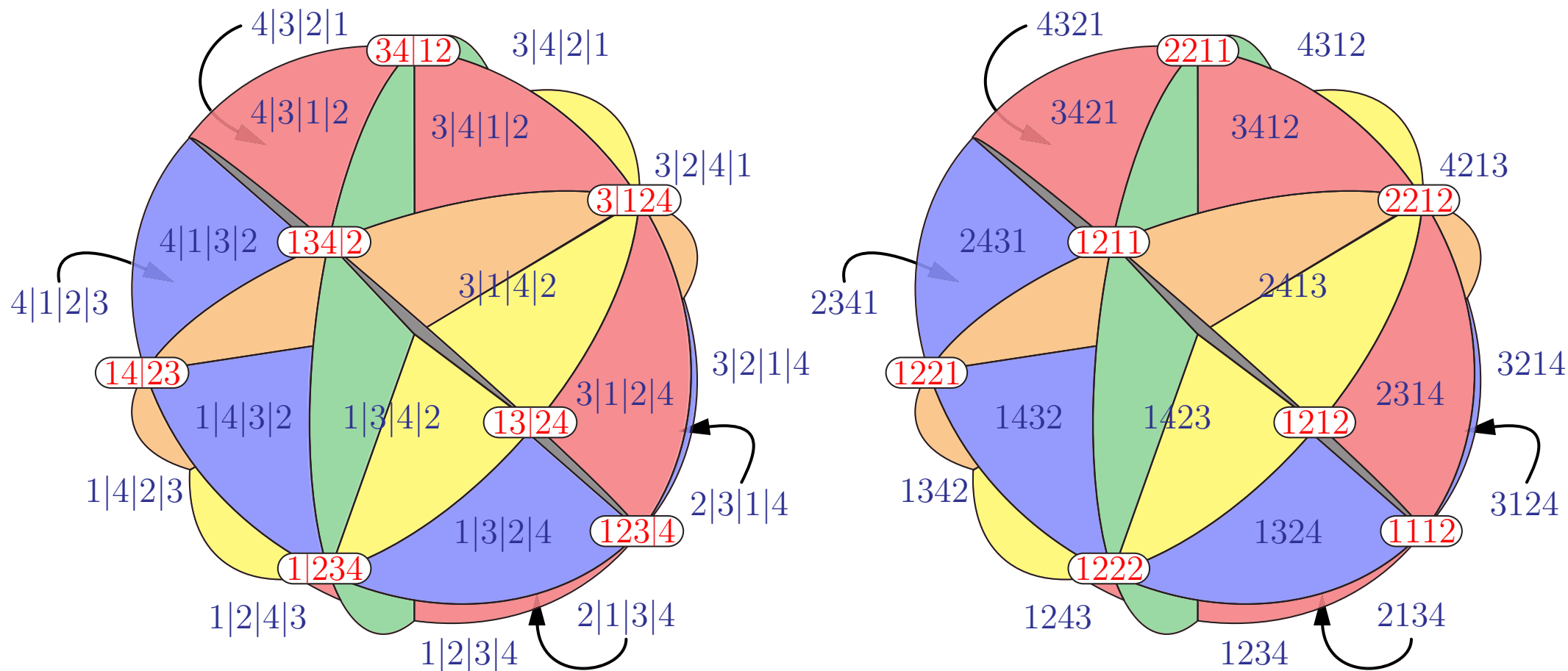


**Braid arrangement** on  $\mathbb{R}^V$  = collection of hyperplanes  $\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^V \mid x_u = x_v\}$  for  $u \neq v \in V$

**Braid fan**  $\mathcal{BF}$  = complete simplicial fan defined by the braid arrangement on

$$\mathbb{H} := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^V \mid \sum_{v \in V} x_v = \binom{|V|+1}{2} \right\}$$

# BRAID FAN & PREPOSET CONES



$k$ -dimensional cones of  $\mathcal{BF} \equiv$  ordered partitions of  $V$  into  $k + 1$  parts  
 $\equiv$  surjections from  $V$  to  $[k + 1]$

# BRAID FAN & PREPOSET CONES

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**Preposet** on  $V$  = binary relation  $R \subset V \times V$  which is reflexive and transitive

Exm. Equivalence relation  $\Leftrightarrow$  symmetric preposet and Poset  $\Leftrightarrow$  antisymmetric preposet

Any preposet  $R$  can be decomposed into

- an equivalence relation  $\equiv_R := \{(u, v) \in R \mid (v, u) \in R\}$  and
- a poset  $\prec_R := R / \equiv_R$  on the equivalence classes of  $\equiv_R$

**Braid cone** of a preposet  $R$  on  $V$  = polyhedral cone

$$C(R) := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{H} \mid x_u \leq x_v, \text{ for all } (u, v) \in R\}$$

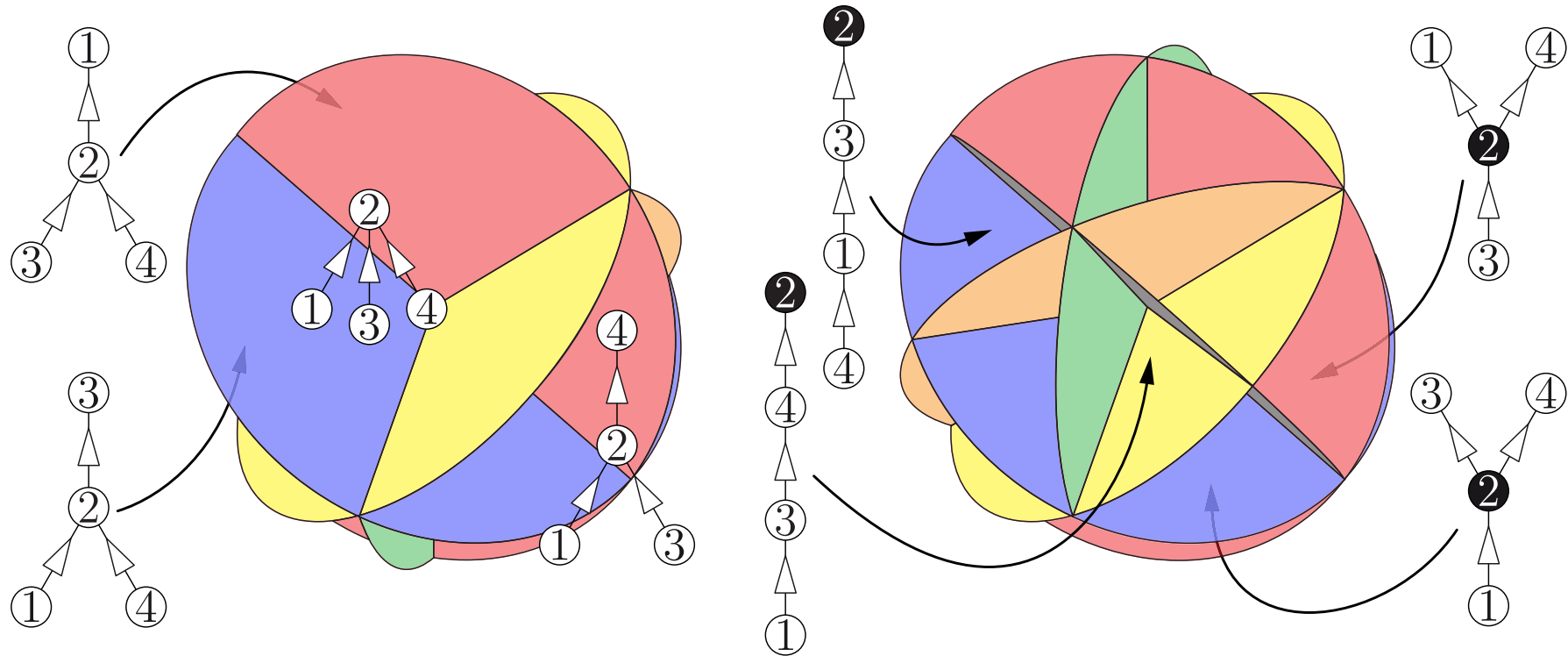
$C(R) \subseteq C(R') \iff R'$  extension of  $R$  (ie.  $R \subseteq R'$  as subset of  $V \times V$ )

The braid cone  $C(\prec)$  of a poset  $\prec$  on  $V$  is the union of the linear extensions of  $\prec$

# SPINE FAN

Consider a spine  $S$  on  $T$ . Its transitive closure is a preposet on  $V$ . Consider

$$C(S) := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{H} \mid x_u \leq x_v, \text{ for all arcs } u \rightarrow v \text{ in } S\}$$



**THEO.** The collection of cones  $\mathcal{F}(T) := \{C(S) \mid S \in \mathcal{S}(T)\}$  defines a complete simplicial fan on  $\mathbb{H}$ , which we call the **spine fan**

**CORO.** For any signed tree  $T$ , the signed nested complex  $\mathcal{N}(T)$  is a simplicial sphere

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# SIGNED TREE ASSOCIAHEDRON

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# VERTEX AND FACET DESCRIPTIONS

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Signed tree associahedron  $\text{Asso}(\mathcal{T}) = \text{convex polytope with}$

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

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

where  $r_v = \text{unique incoming (resp. outgoing) arc when } v \in V^- \text{ (resp. when } v \in V^+)$

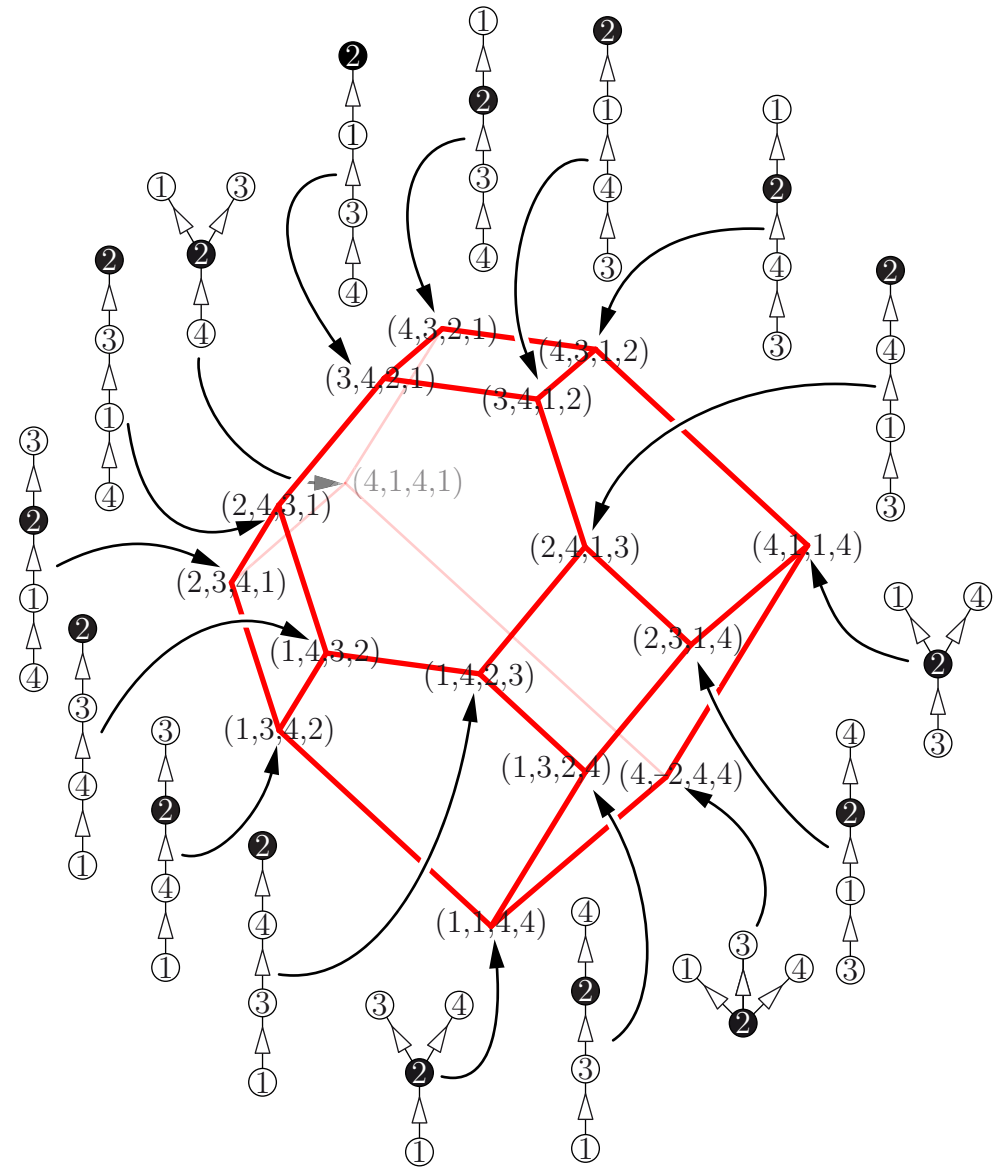
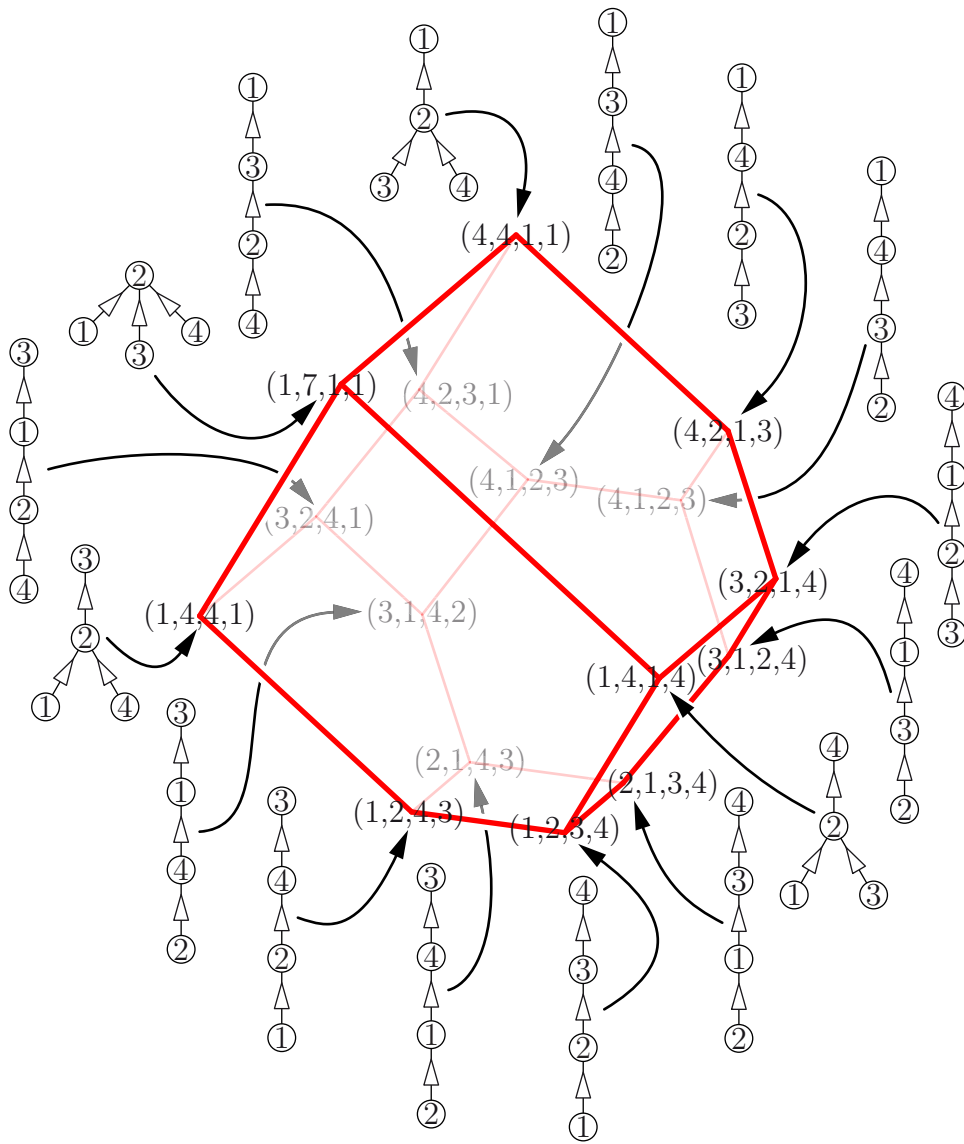
$\Pi(S) = \text{set of all (undirected) paths in } S, \text{ including the trivial paths}$

(ii) a facet defined by the half-space

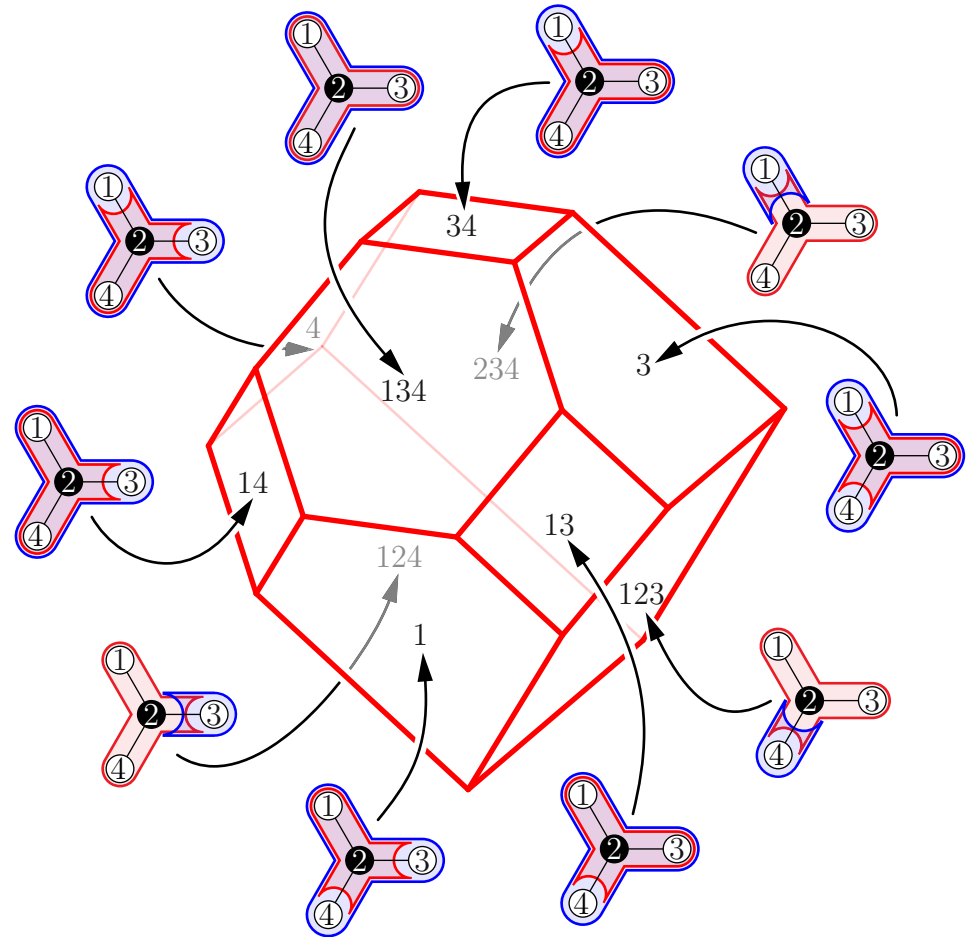
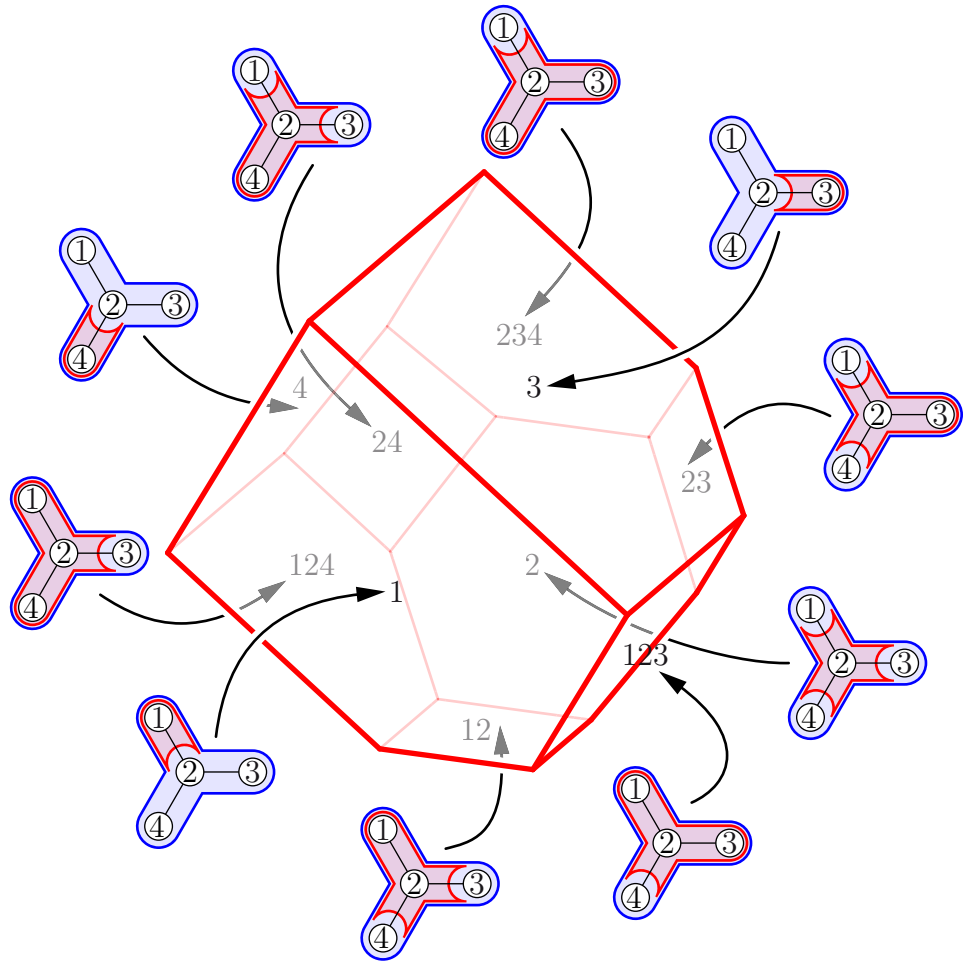
$$\mathbf{H}^{\geq}(B) := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^V \mid \sum_{v \in B} x_v \geq \binom{|B| + 1}{2} \right\}$$

for each signed building block  $B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{T})$

# EXM: VERTEX DESCRIPTION



# EXM: FACET DESCRIPTION



## MAIN RESULT

**THM.** The spine fan  $\mathcal{F}(T)$  is the normal fan of the **signed tree associahedron**  $\text{Asso}(T)$ , defined equivalently as

(i) the convex hull of the points

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

for all maximal signed spines  $S \in \mathcal{S}(T)$

(ii) the intersection of the hyperplane  $\mathbb{H}$  with the half-spaces

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

for all signed building blocks  $B \in \mathcal{B}(T)$

**CORO.** The signed tree associahedron  $\text{Asso}(T)$  realizes the signed nested complex  $\mathcal{N}(T)$

# SKETCH OF THE PROOF

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STEP 1. We have

$$\sum_{v \in V} \mathbf{a}(S)_v = \binom{|V| + 1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{v \in \text{sc}(r)} \mathbf{a}(S)_v = \binom{|\text{sc}(r)| + 1}{2}$$

for any arc  $r$  of  $S$ . In other words, “each vertex  $\mathbf{a}(S)$  belongs to the hyperplanes  $\mathbf{H}^-(B)$  it is supposed to”. Proof by double counting

# SKETCH OF THE PROOF

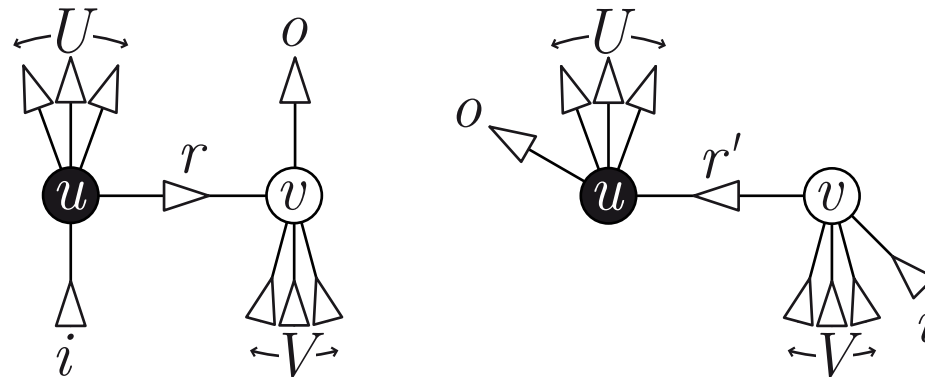
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STEP 2. If  $S$  and  $S'$  are two adjacent maximal spines on  $T$ , such that  $S'$  is obtained from  $S$  by flipping an arc joining node  $u$  to node  $v$ , then

$$\mathbf{a}(S') - \mathbf{a}(S) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \cdot (e_u - e_v)$$



$$\mathbf{a}(S') - \mathbf{a}(S) = (|U| + 1) \cdot (|V| + 1) \cdot (e_u - e_v)$$

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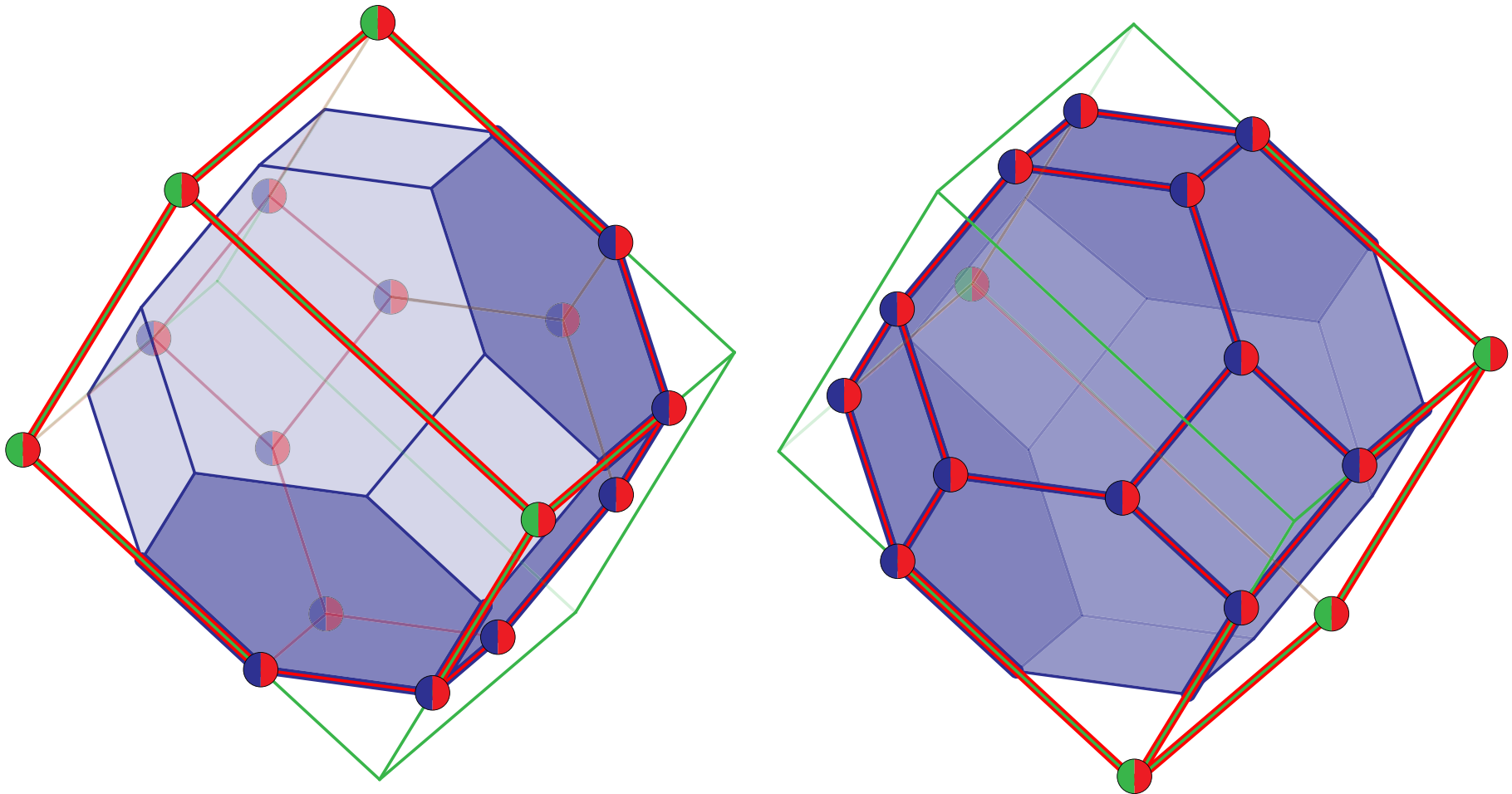
STEP 3. A general theorem concerning realizations of simplicial fan by polytopes  
In other words, a characterization of when is a simplicial fan regular

Hohlweg-Lange-Thomas, Permutahedra and generalized associahedra ('11)  
De Loera-Rambau-Santos, Triangulations: Structures for Algorithms and Applications ('10)

## FURTHER GEOMETRIC PROPERTIES

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

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



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Common vertices of  $\text{Asso}(T)$  and  $\text{Para}(T) \equiv$  orientations of  $T$  which are spines on  $T$

Common vertices of  $\text{Asso}(T)$  and  $\text{Perm}(T) \equiv$  linear orders on  $V$  which are spines on  $T$

$\Rightarrow$  no common vertex of the three polytopes except if  $T$  is a signed path

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**PROP.**  $\text{Asso}(T)$  and  $\text{Asso}(T')$  isometric  $\iff T$  and  $T'$  isomorphic or anti-isomorphic, up to the sign of their leaves, ie.  $\exists$  bijection  $\theta : V \rightarrow V'$  st.  $\forall u, v \in V$

- $u-v$  edge in  $T \iff \theta(u)-\theta(v)$  edge in  $T'$
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**REM.** The vertex barycenter of  $\text{Asso}(T)$  does not necessarily coincide with that of the permutahedron (but it lies on the linear span of the characteristic vectors of the orbits of  $V$  under the automorphism group of  $T$ )

arXiv:1309.5222

THANK YOU