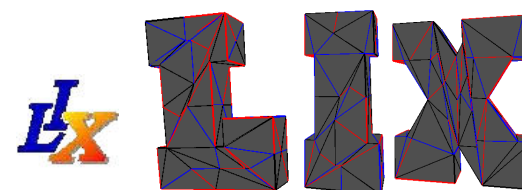


## Computation of toroidal Schnyder woods made simple and fast: from theory to practice

june 26th 2025, SoCG (Kanazawa)



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(LIX, Ecole Polytechnique, IP Paris)



Eric Fusy

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Jyh-Chwen Ko

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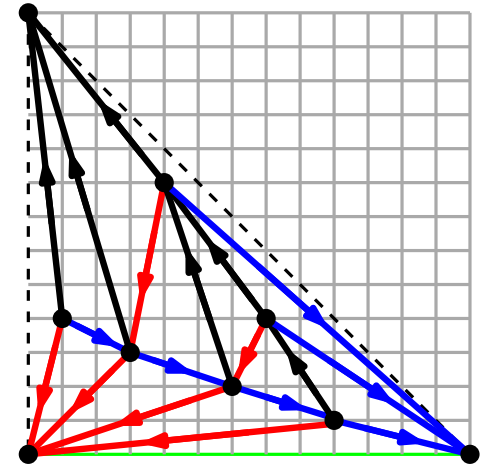
Razvan S. Puscasu

(EPFL)

# Main goals of this talk

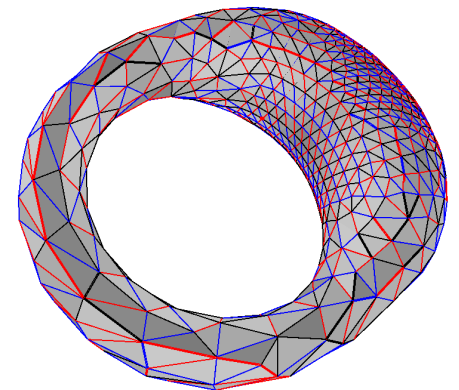
- either you do not know Schnyder woods

I will make you discover the amazing world of Schnyder woods



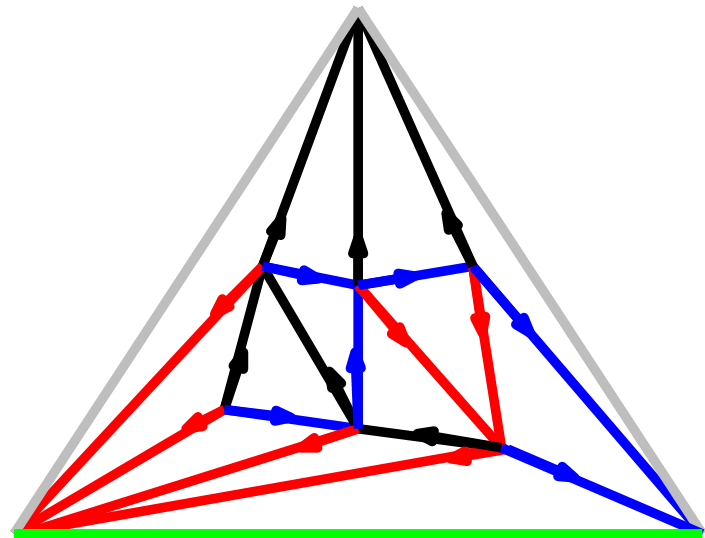
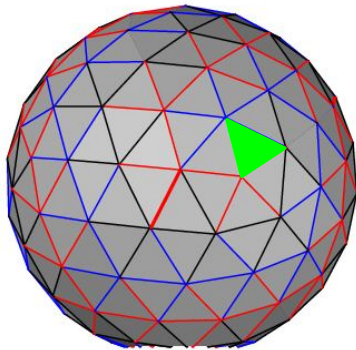
- or you already encountered Schnyder woods

I will explain how to efficiently compute Schnyder woods for toroidal triangulations



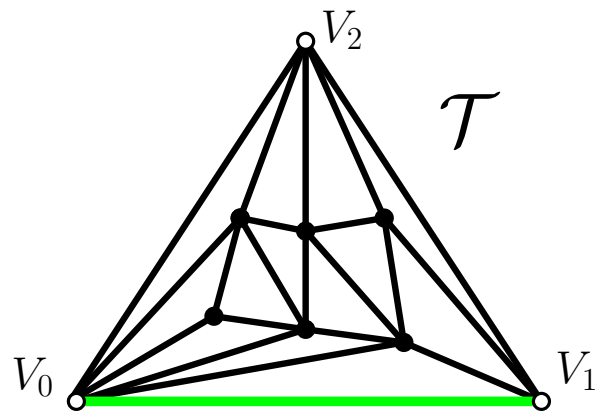
# (Planar) Schnyder woods

(definitions and main properties)

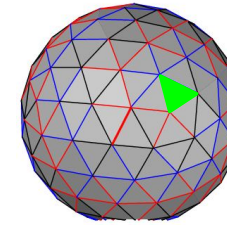
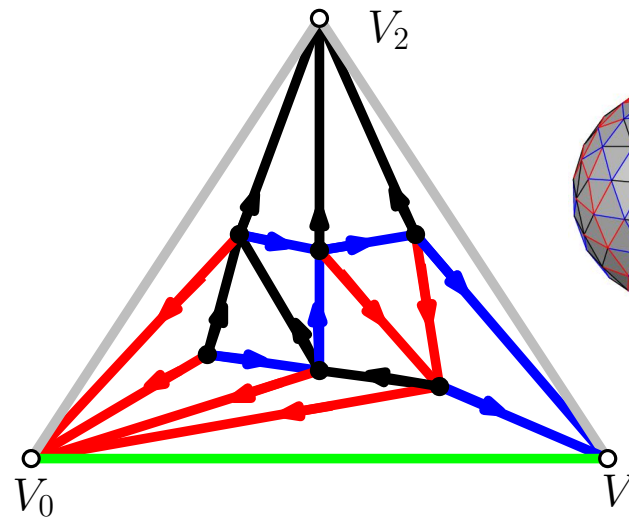


# Schnyder woods for genus 0 (plane) triangulations: definition

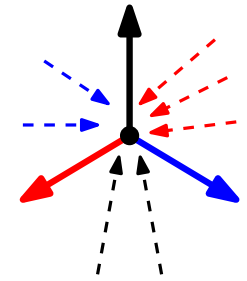
[W. Schnyder SoDA'90]



**input:** a genus 0 triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  with a marked **root** face  $\{V_0, V_1, V_2\}$



local Schnyder condition  
for inner vertices



**Definition [Schnyder '90]**

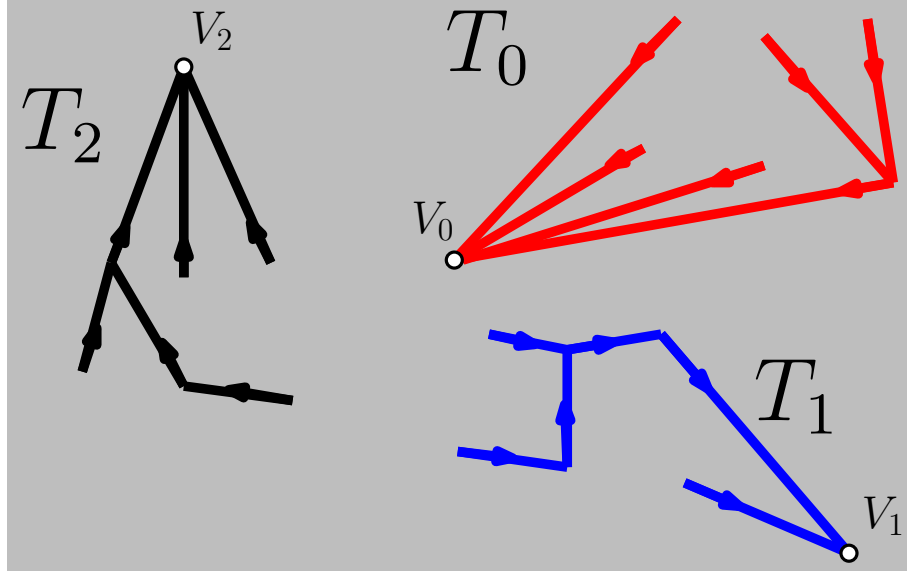
A **Schnyder wood** of a (rooted) planar triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  is partition of all inner edges into three sets  $T_0$ ,  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  such that

- i) edges are colored and oriented in such a way that each inner node **has exactly one outgoing edge of each color**
- ii) colors and orientations around each inner node must respect the local Schnyder condition
- iii) inner edges incident to  $V_i$  are of color  $i$  and oriented toward  $V_i$

**Theorem [global spanning property]**

The three sets  $T_0$ ,  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  are spanning trees of the inner vertices of  $\mathcal{T}$  (each rooted at vertex  $v_i$ )

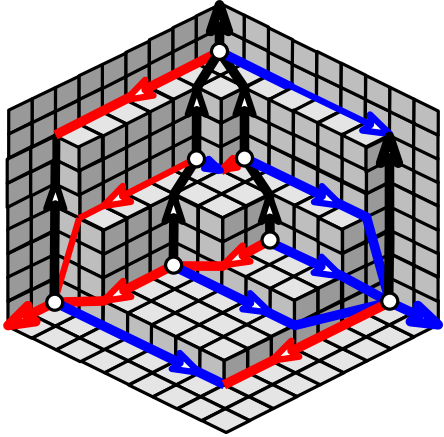
$T_i :=$  digraph defined by directed edges of color  $i$



# Schnyder woods: some (classical) applications

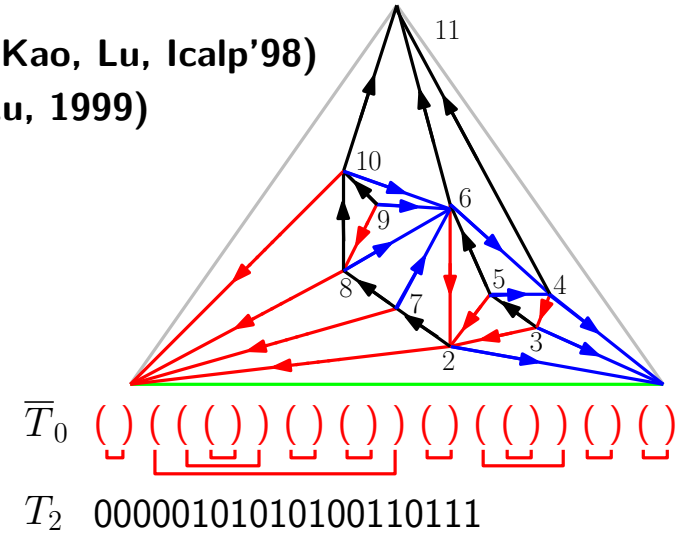
[Felsner, Bonichon et al. '10, ...]

geodesic embeddings on coplanar orthogonal surfaces, TD-Delaunay graphs and Half- $\Theta_6$ -graphs



(Chuang, Garg, He, Kao, Lu, Icalp'98)

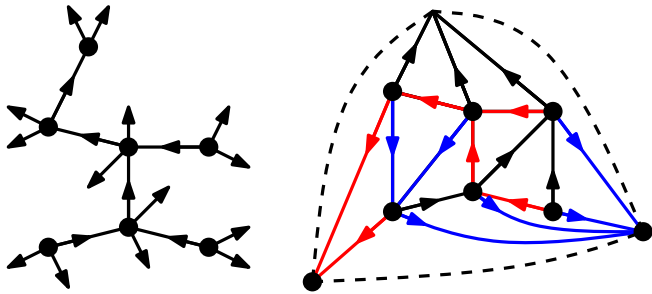
**(He, Kao, Lu, 1999)**



# Graph encoding

(Poulalhon-Schaeffer, Icalp 03)

bijection counting, random generation

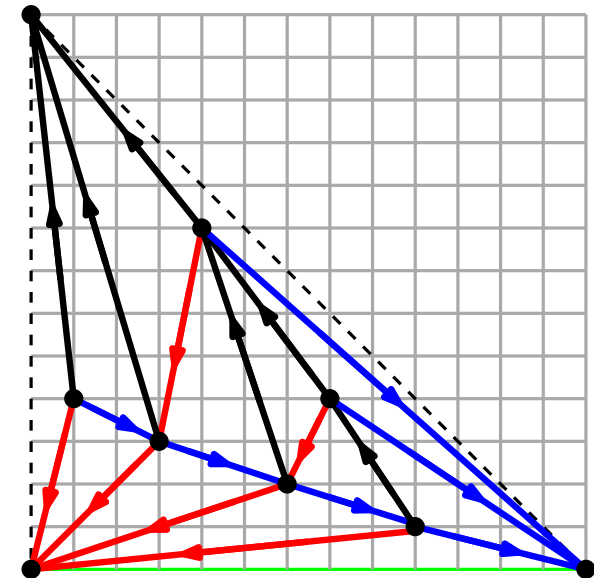


$$c_n = \frac{2(4n+1)!}{(3n+2)!(n+1)!}$$

$\Rightarrow$  optimal encoding  $\approx 3.24$  bits/vertex

**(Schnyder SoDA'90)**

### Planar straight-line grid drawing (on a $O(n \times n)$ grid)

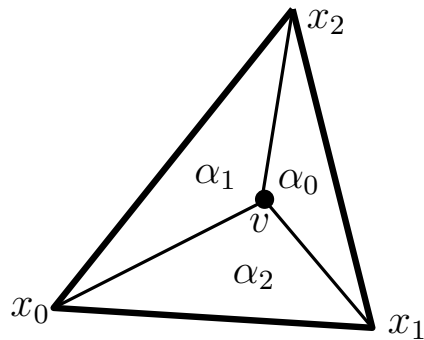


# Schnyder grid drawing: face counting algorithm

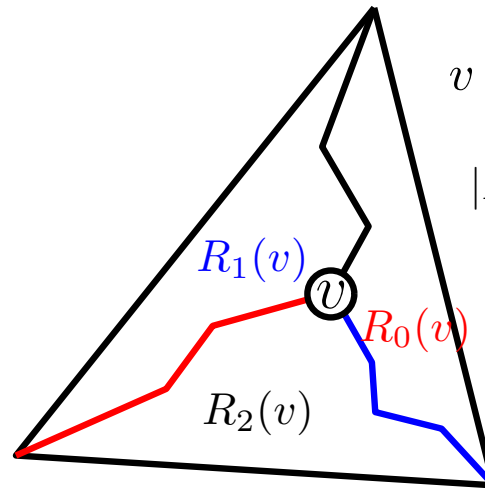
## Theorem (Schnyder, Soda '90)

For a triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  having  $n$  vertices, we can draw it (with no edge crossings) on a grid of size  $(2n - 5) \times (2n - 5)$ , by setting  $x_0 = (2n - 5, 0)$ ,  $x_1 = (0, 0)$  and  $x_2 = (0, 2n - 5)$ .

$$v = \alpha_0 x_0 + \alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2$$



$\alpha_i :=$  normalized area of  $(x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, v)$   
(barycentric coordinates of  $v$ )



$$v := \frac{|R_0(v)|}{|F|-1} V_0 + \frac{|R_1(v)|}{|F|-1} V_1 + \frac{|R_2(v)|}{|F|-1} V_2$$

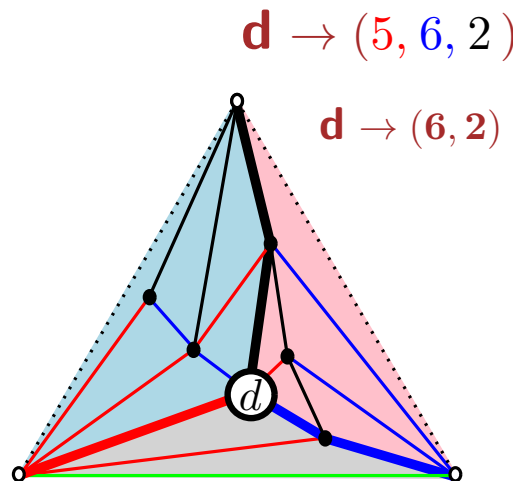
$|R_i(v)|$  is the number of triangles in  $R_i(v)$

$$|F| - 1 = 2n - 5$$

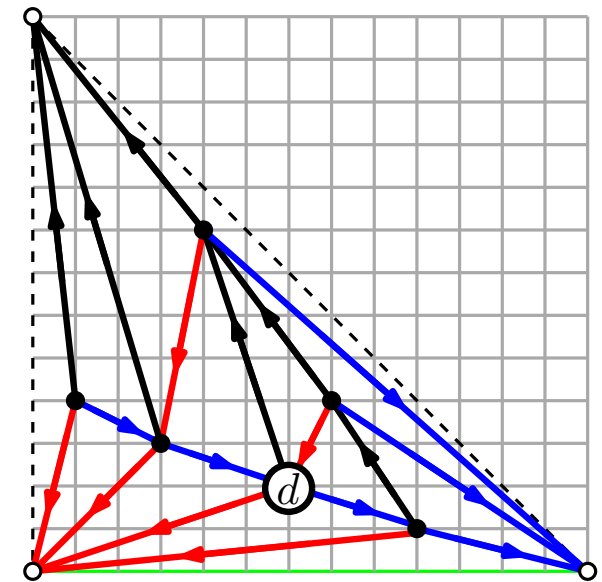
(number of inner triangles)

## Lemma

For each inner vertex  $v$  the three monochromatic paths  $P_0, P_1, P_2$  directed from  $v$  toward each vertex  $V_i$  are vertex disjoint (except at  $v$ ) and partition the inner faces into three sets  $R_0(v), R_1(v), R_2(v)$



$$V_2 = (0, 13)$$



$$V_0 = (0, 0)$$

$$V_1 = (13, 0)$$

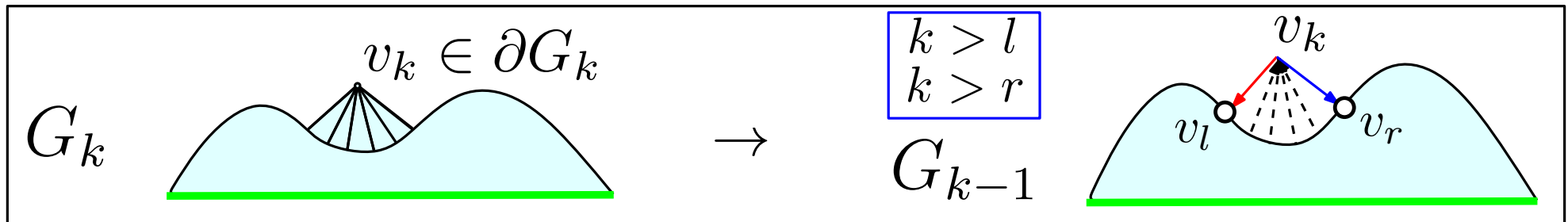
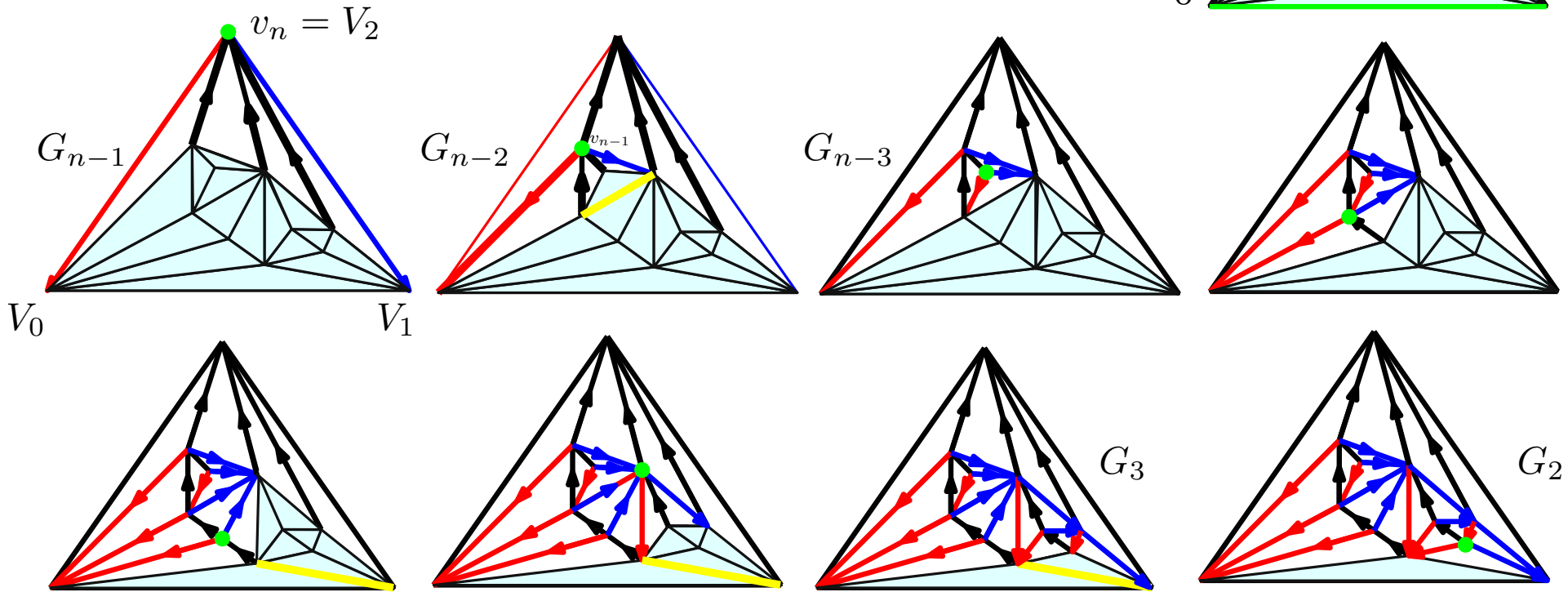
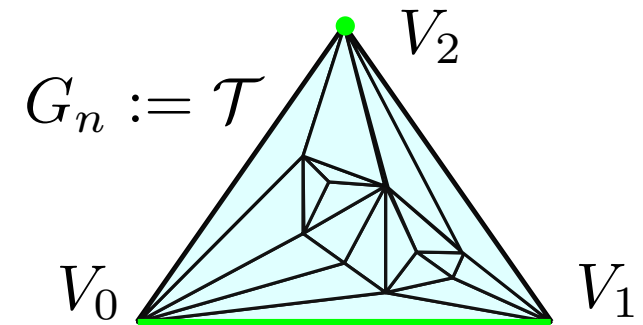
# Linear-time computation of (planar) Schnyder woods

use Canonical Orderings [De Fraysseix, Pach, Pollack '89]

## Theorem (Brehm, 2000)

A Schnyder wood can be computed in linear-time  
(via a sequence of  $n - 2$  vertex shellings)

Remove at each step a vertex  $v$  on the boundary  $\partial G_k$   
(with no incident chordal edges in the gray region)

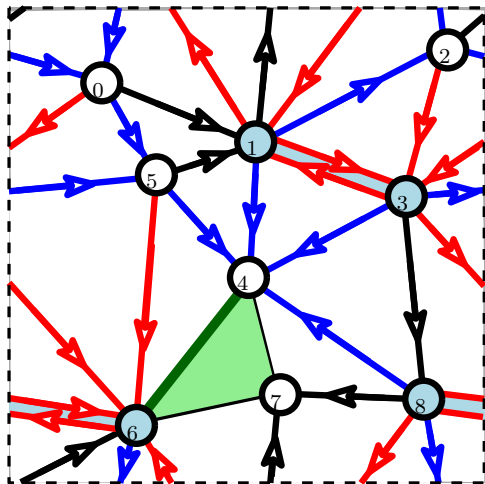


# Schnyder woods for higher genus surfaces

**$g$ -Schnyder woods** (for genus  $g$  surfaces)

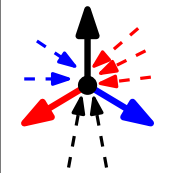
[Castelli Aleardi, Fusy, Lewiner, SoCG'08]

Schnyder local rule valid **only almost everywhere** (except  $O(g)$  vertices)

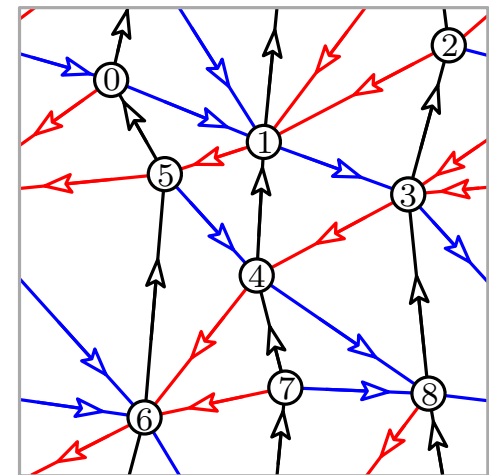
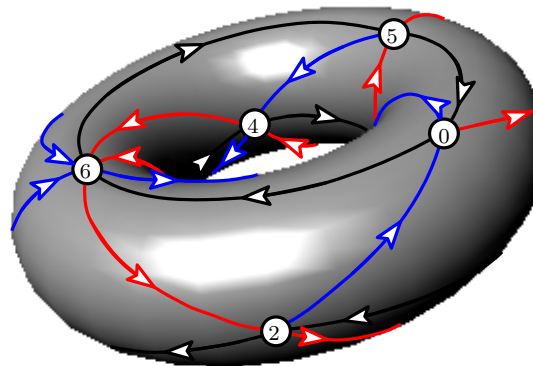


**Toroidal Schnyder woods** ( $g=1$ )

[Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14]



Schnyder local rule **valid at each vertex**





# Toroidal Schnyder woods: definition

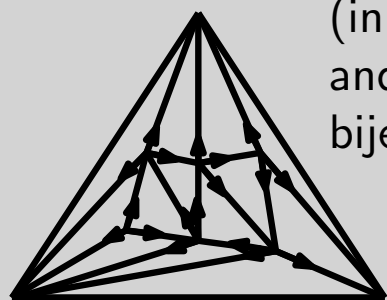
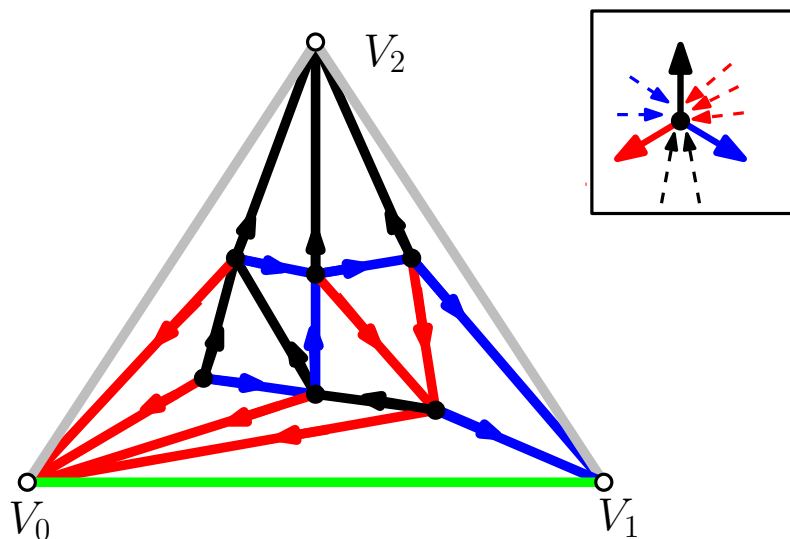
[Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14]

$$n - e + f = 2$$

$$e = 3n - 6$$

## Def. Planar Schnyder woods

3-orientation + Schnyder local rule valid at each **inner** vertex



(in the plane 3-orientations and Schnyder woods are in bijection)

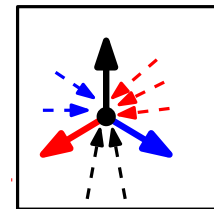
3-orientation of  $\mathcal{T}$

$$n - e + f = 2 - 2g$$

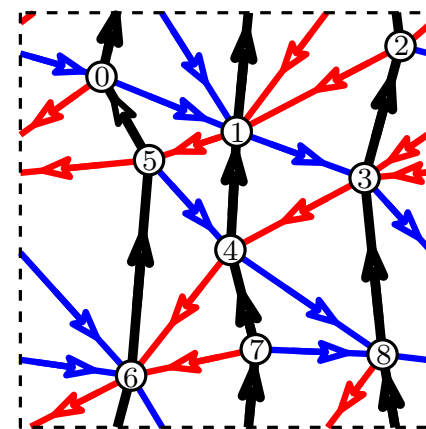
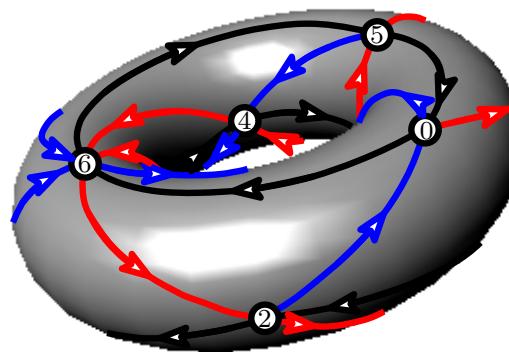
$$e = 3n$$

## Def. Toroidal Schnyder woods

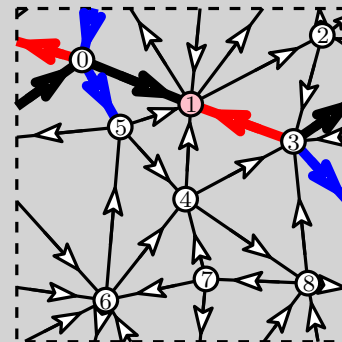
3-orientation + Schnyder local rule valid at each vertex



toroidal Schnyder wood



In the toroidal case a 3-orientation does not necessarily yield a valid toroidal Schnyder wood

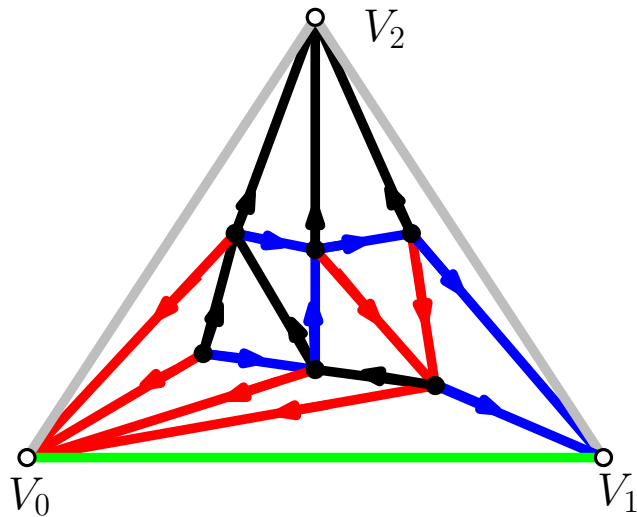


# Cycles in Toroidal Schnyder woods

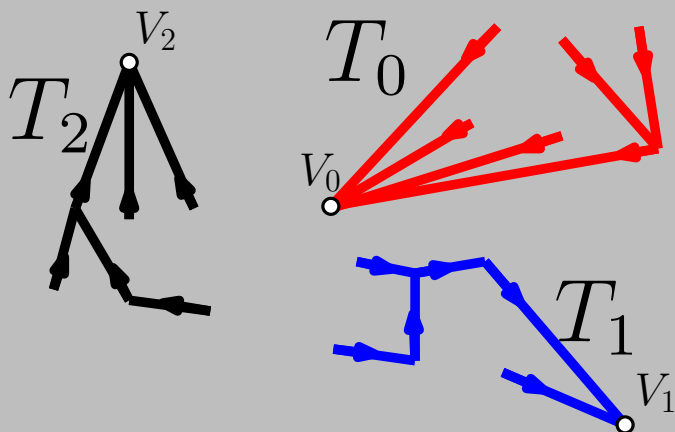
[Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14]

$$n - e + f = 2$$

$$e = 3n - 6$$

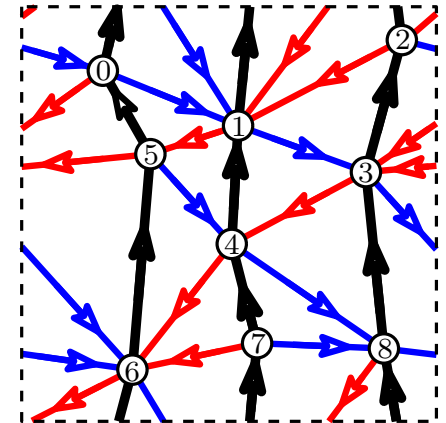
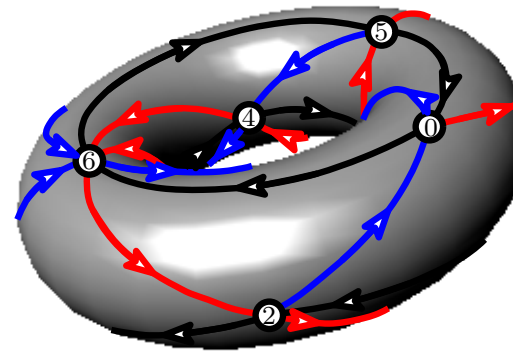


mono-chromatic components are trees:  
connected graphs without cycles

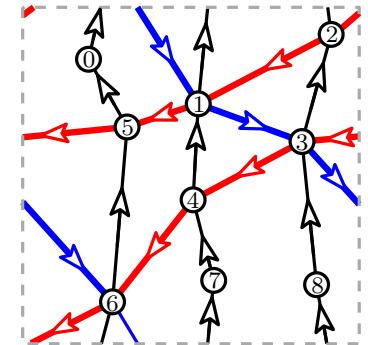


$$e = 3n$$

toroidal Schnyder woods must  
contain a (mono-chromatic)  
cycle in each color

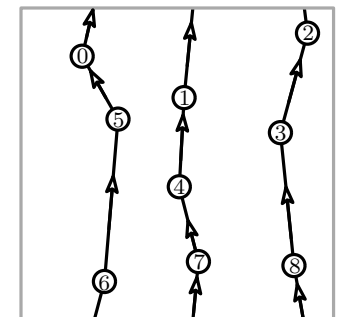


mono-chromatic cycles are  
non-contractibles



some colors may define  
disconnected components

all mono-chromatic cycles of the  
same color are:  
homotopic and disjoint (parallel)  
and oriented in one direction

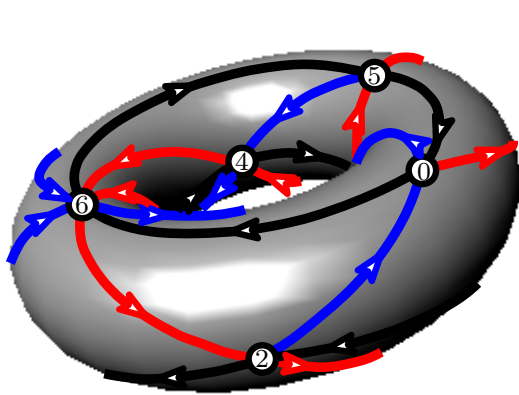


# Crossing cycles: a hierarchy of Schnyder woods

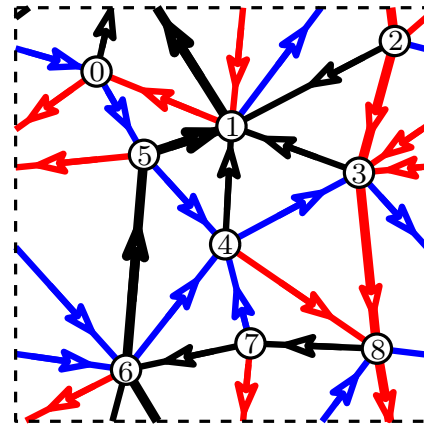
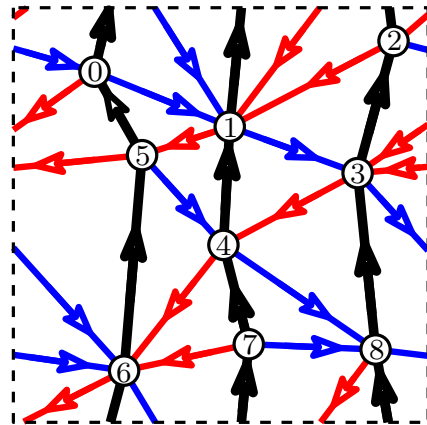
**Toroidal Schnyder woods** [Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14]

Toroidal Schnyder woods can be:

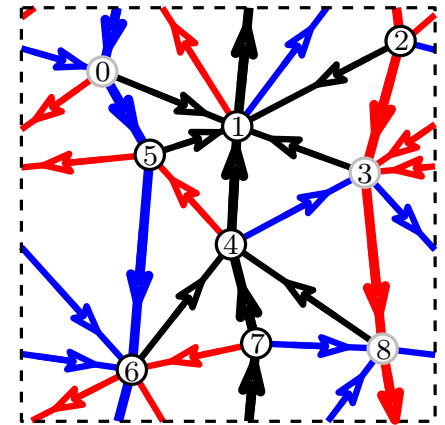
- **crossing**: every monochromatic cycle intersects at least one monochromatic cycle of each color
- only **half-crossing**: only two mono-chromatic cycles are pairwise crossing
- **non-crossing**: all mono-chromatic  $i$ -cycles are parallel (non crossing)



**crossing** Schnyder wood  
(required for  $xy$ -periodic drawing)



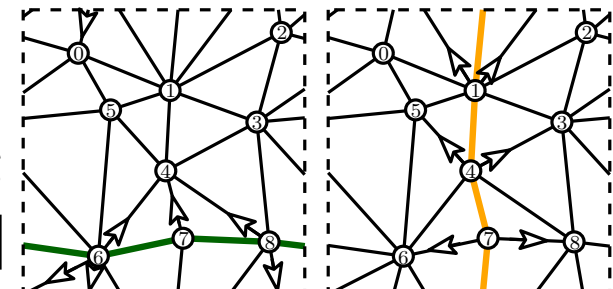
**half-crossing**  
Schnyder wood



the Schnyder wood is  
**non-crossing** but at  
least **balanced**

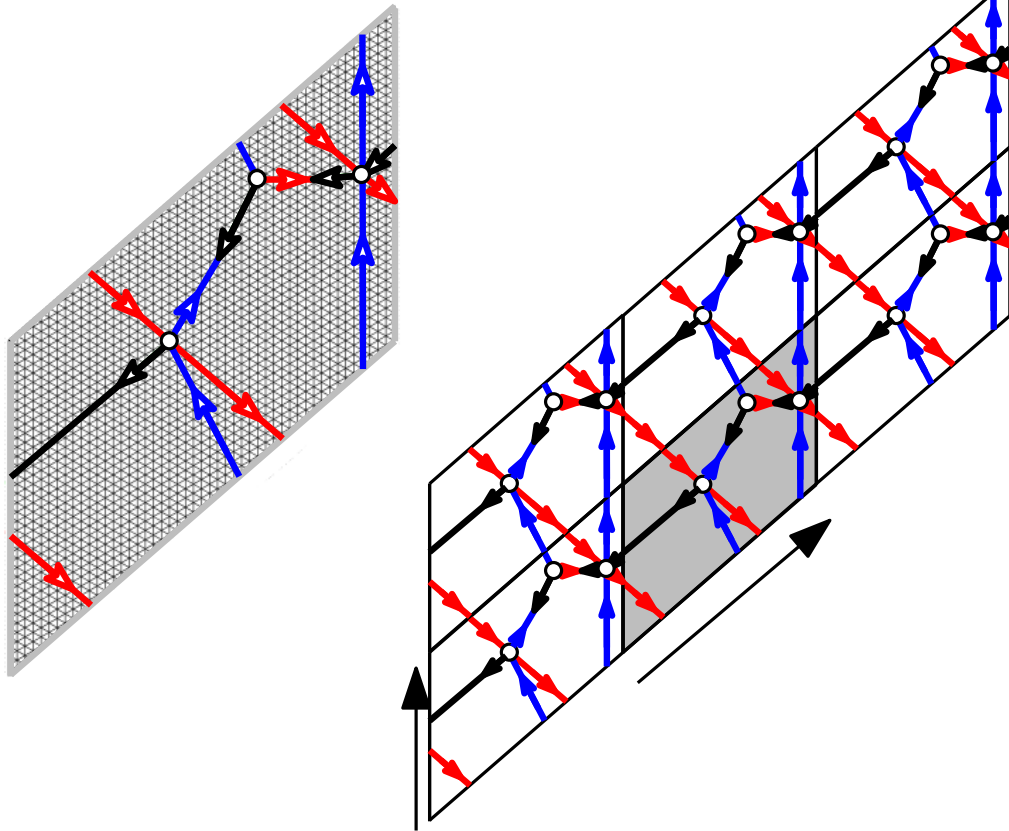
**balanced** Schnyder woods  
useful for bijective encoding

[Despré, Goncalves, Lévêque DCG'17]

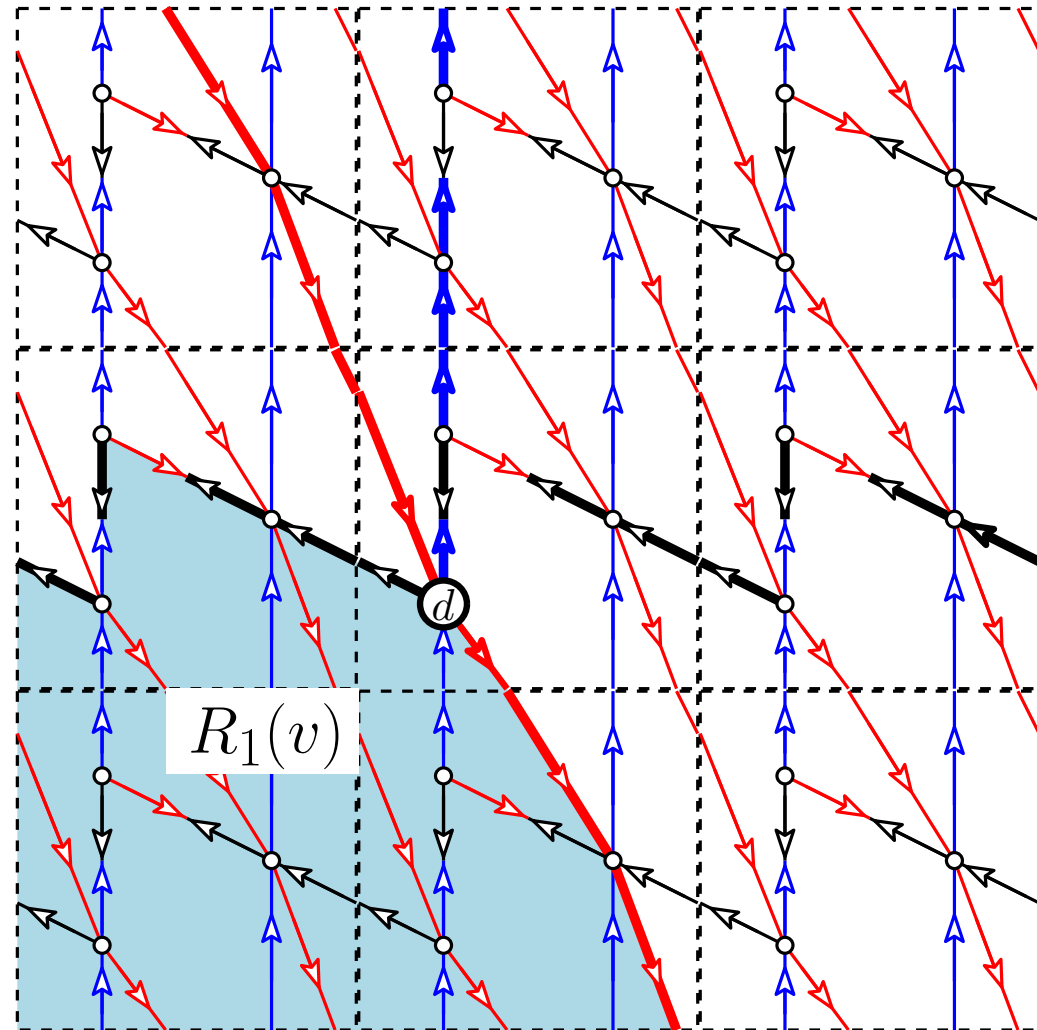


# Toroidal Schnyder (periodic) drawings

[Goncalves and Lévêque, DCG'14]



$xy$ -periodic grid drawing on a grid of size  $O(n^2) \times O(n^2)$



Idea: use the face-counting method in the universal cover to assign (relative) coordinates

In the toroidal case: regions are unbounded

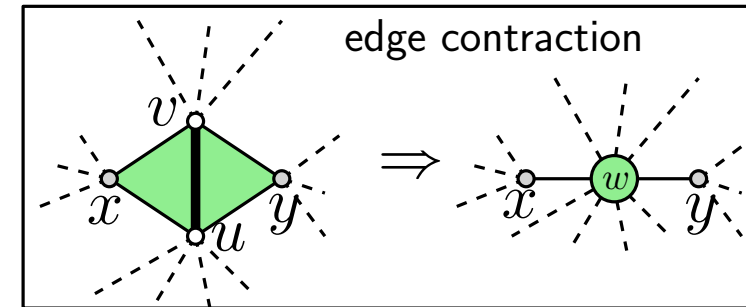
**Warning:** regions can be defined if the Schnyder wood is crossing

# Toroidal Schnyder woods: existence

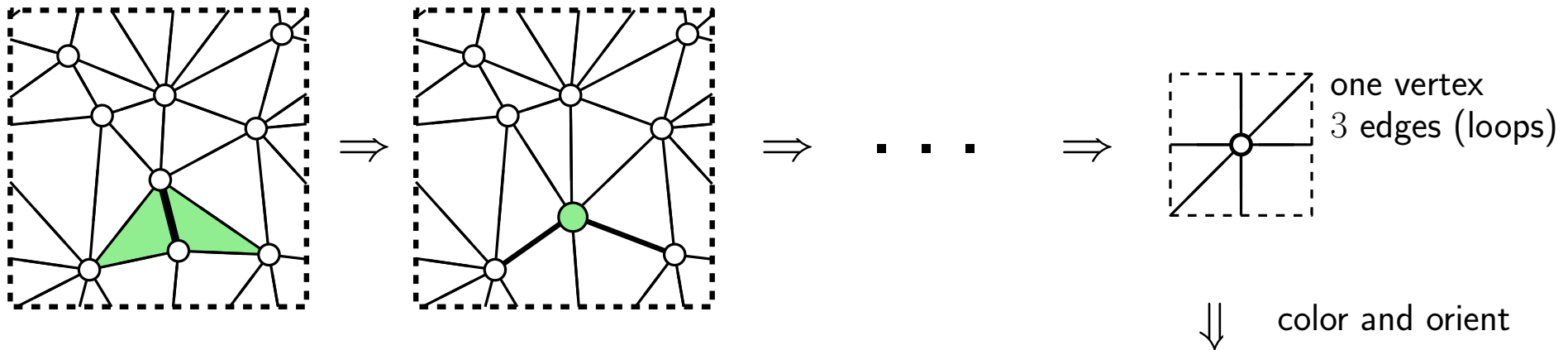
**Thm**[Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14] (for general toroidal triangulations and maps)

Any toroidal triangulation admits a toroidal **crossing Schnyder wood**

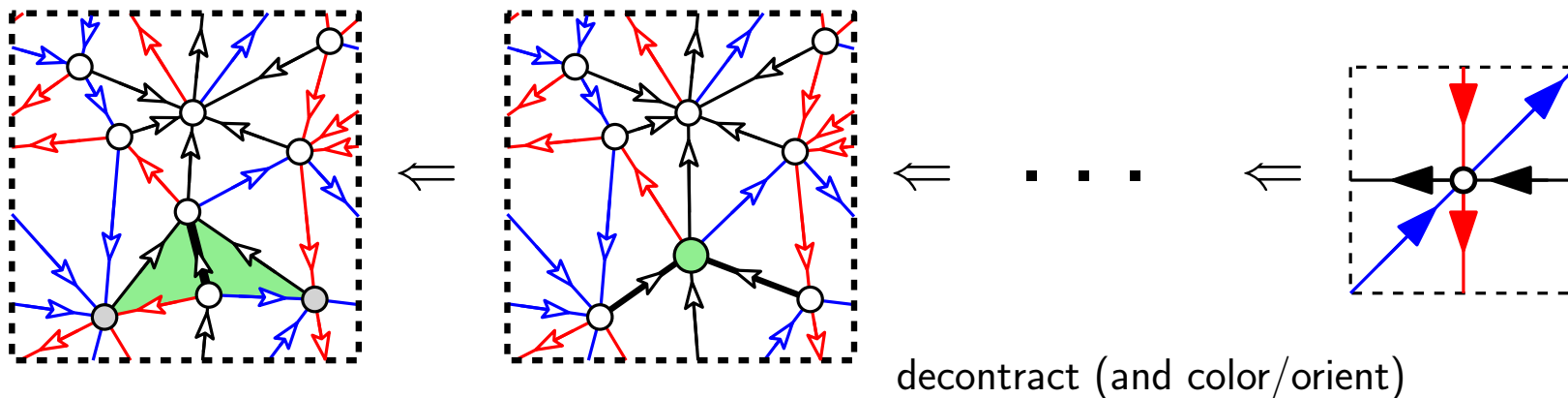
**remark:** maintaining the crossing property can require quadratic time



perform (carefully) a sequence of  $n - 1$  edge contractions



⇓ color and orient



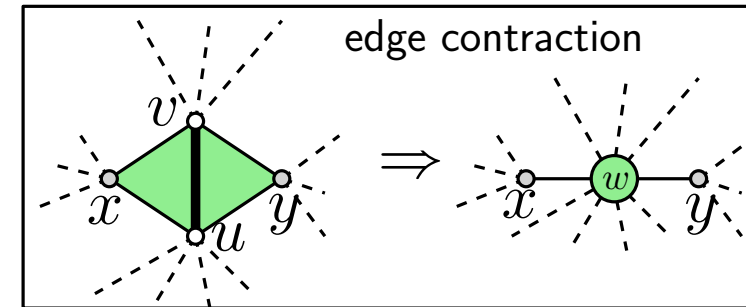
decontract (and color/orient)

# Toroidal Schnyder woods: existence

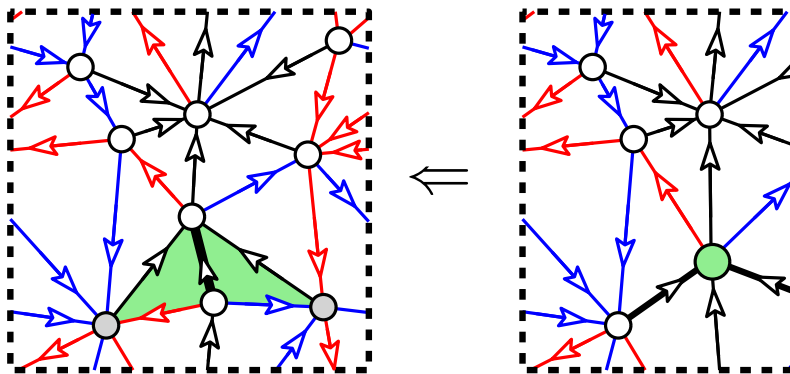
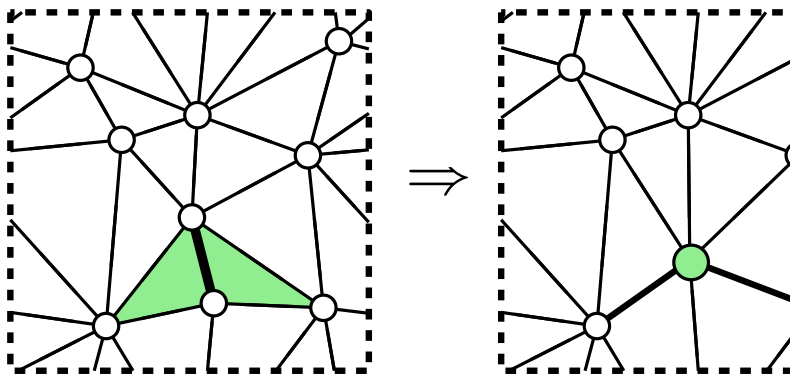
**Thm**[Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14]

(for general toroidal triangulations and maps)

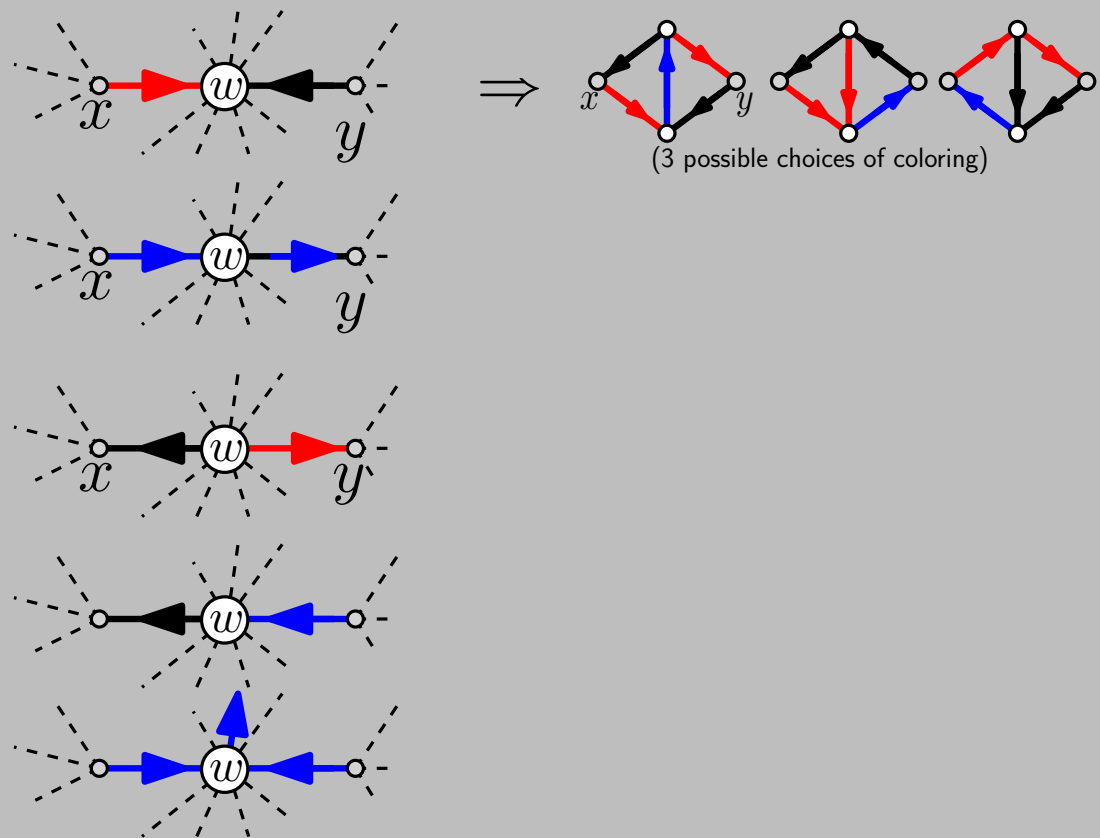
Any toroidal triangulation admits a toroidal **crossing Schnyder wood**



perform (carefully) a sequence of



**proof:** (involved) case analysis

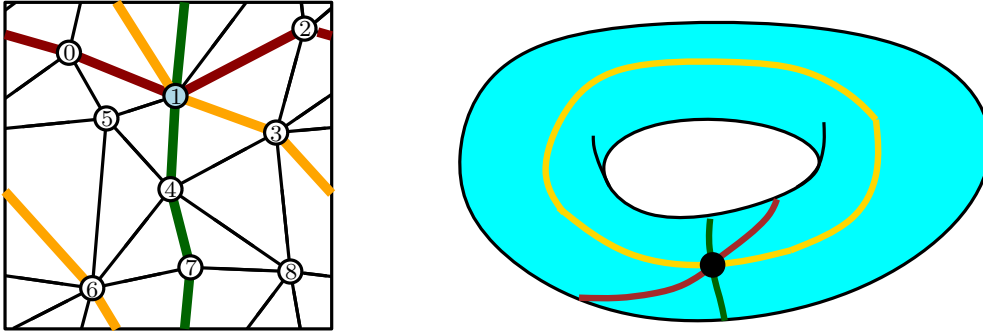


# Toroidal Schnyder woods: existence II

**Thm**[Fijavz, unpublished]

[for simple toroidal triangulations]  
(no multiple edges, no loops)

A simple toroidal triangulation contains three non-contractible and non-homotopic cycles that all intersect on one vertex and that are pairwise disjoint otherwise.



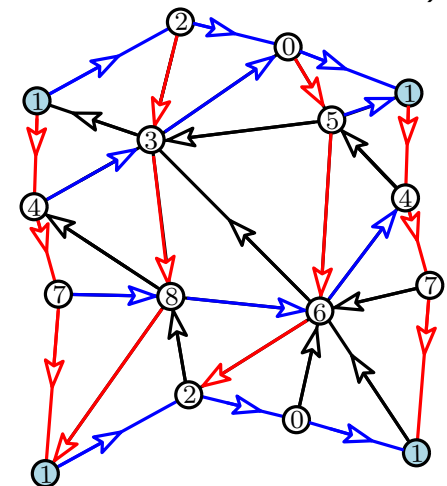
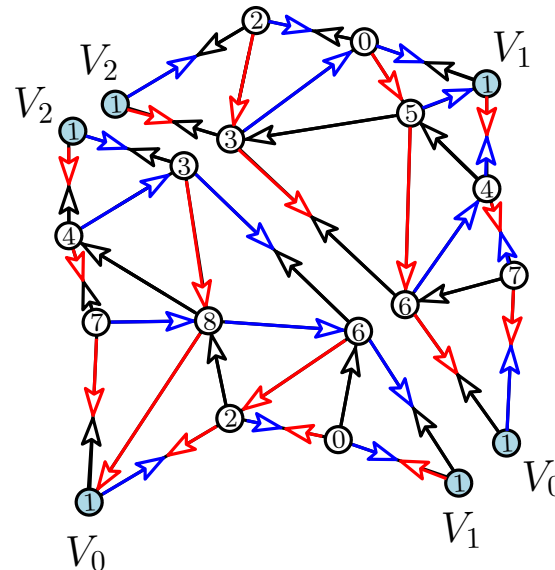
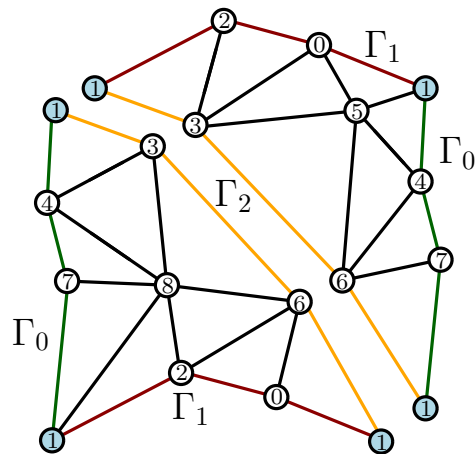
**Corollary**[Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14]

Any simple toroidal triangulation admits a toroidal **crossing Schnyder wood**

**split** along  $\Gamma_0, \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2$

(two planar quasi-triangulations)

**crossing** toroidal Schnyder wood  
(for simple triangulations)



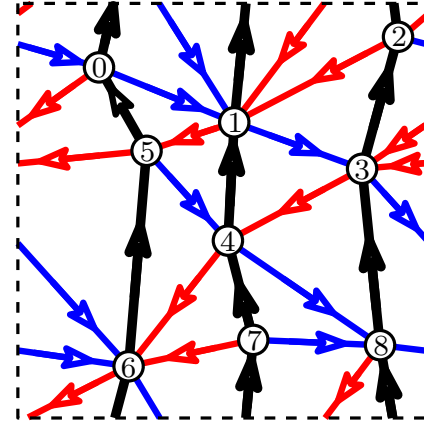


# Open problems

## Open problem [Lévêque, 2015]

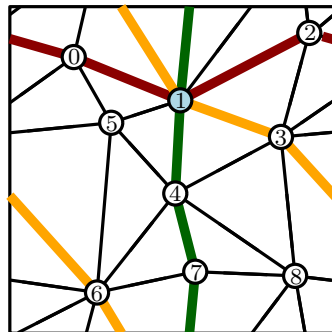
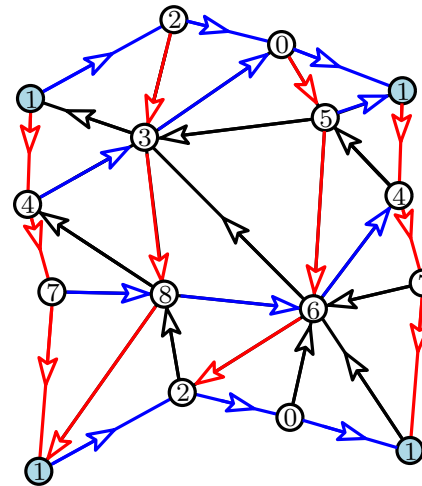
Is it possible to compute in linear-time crossing toroidal Schnyder woods via vertex shellings?

**Open problem:** [Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14] is it possible to find (at least) one toroidal Schnyder wood which is crossing and with connected mono-chromatic components (one for each color)?



3 disjoint mono-chromatic cycles of color 2  
Mono-chromatic cycles of color 0 and 1 are connected

**Open problem:** [Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14] is it possible to find a toroidal Schnyder wood with connected mono-chromatic components and such the intersection of the three cycles is a single vertex (and with connected components)?



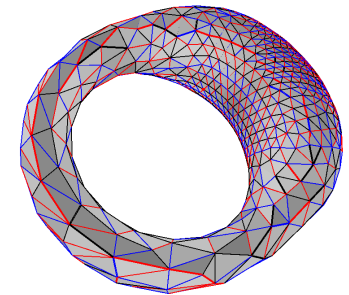
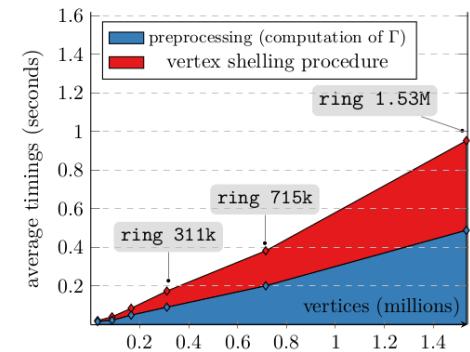
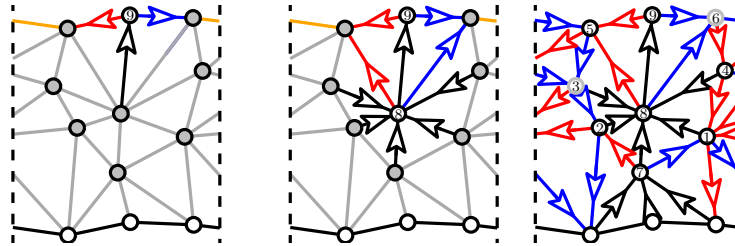


# Our contributions

## Open problem [Lévêque, 2015]

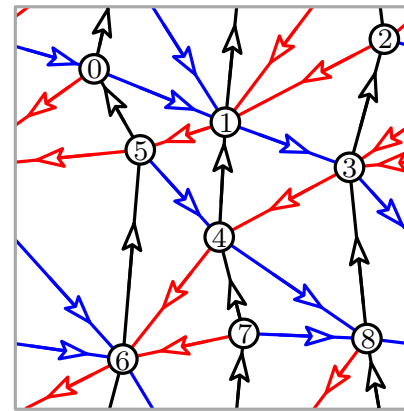
Is it possible to compute in linear-time crossing toroidal Schnyder woods via vertex shellings?

Yes, our implementation can process more than  $1M$  vertices/second



**Open problem:** [Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14] is it possible to find (at least) one toroidal Schnyder wood which is crossing and with connected mono-chromatic components (one for each color)?

Almost Yes, the connectness is true for at least two colors

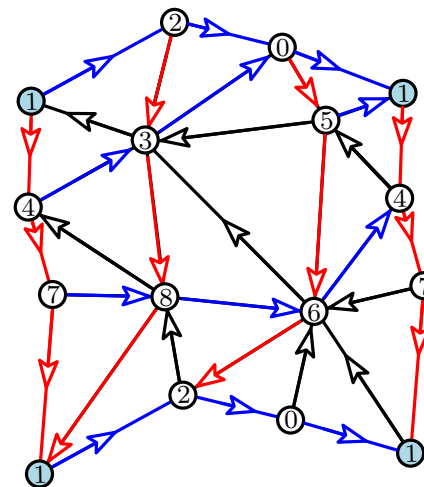


crossing Schnyder wood

Mono-chromatic cycles of color red and blue are connected

**Open problem:** [Goncalves Lévêque, DCG'14] is it possible to find (at least) one toroidal Schnyder wood with connected mono-chromatic components and such the intersection of the three cycles is a single vertex?

True for all toroidal triangulations of size at most  $n = 11$  (experimental)

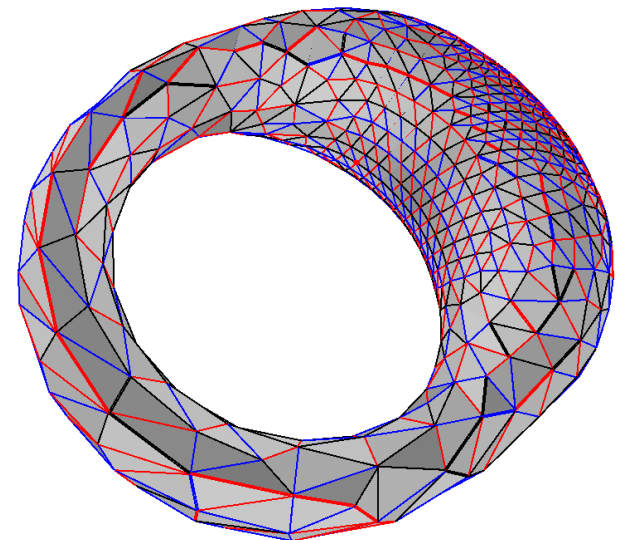
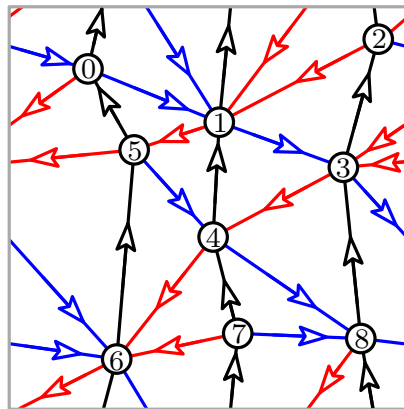
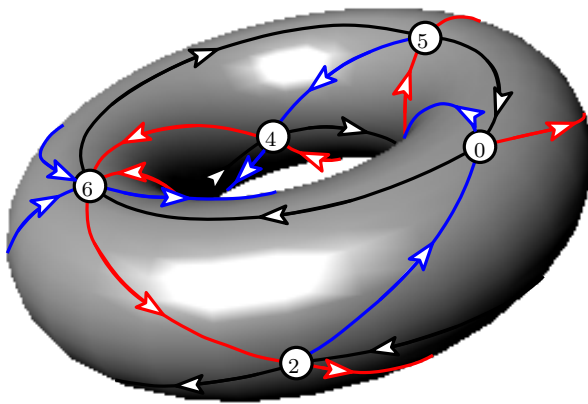


n	# irreducible triangulations	#triangulations (g = 1)
7	1	1
8	4	7
9	15	112
10	1	2109
11	—	37867

triangulations generated using **surftri** tool (by T. Sulanke)

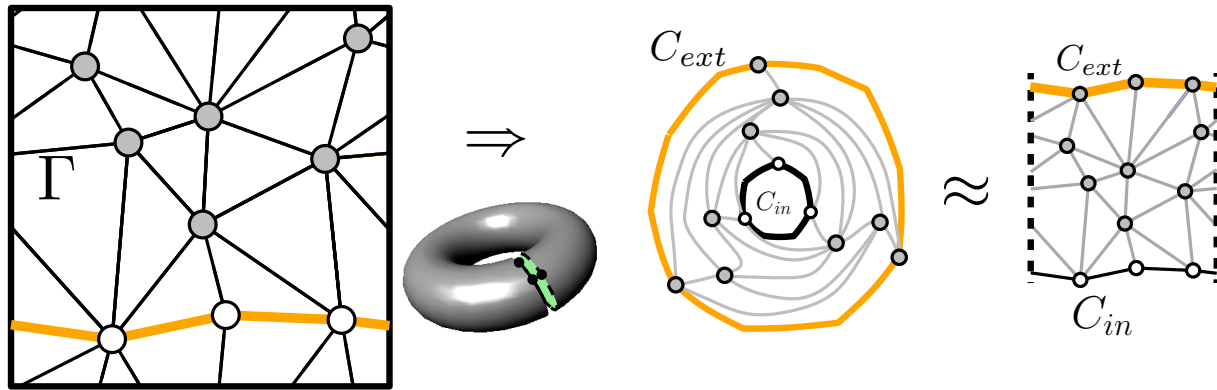
## Our contribution:

Computing in linear time (crossing) Schnyder woods with  
at least two monochromatic connected components  
(via vertex shellings)



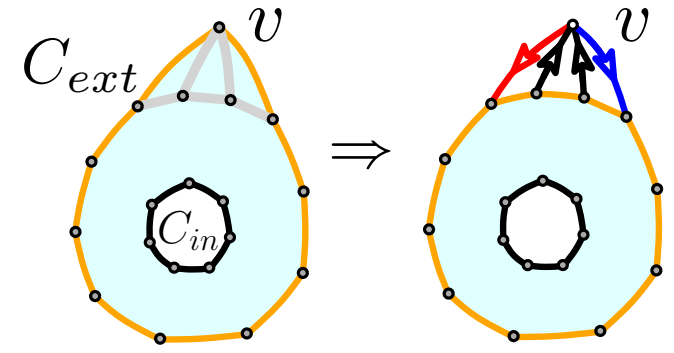
# Algo 1: Toroidal Schnyder woods via (cylindric) canonical orderings

Pre-processing: cut along a non-contractible cycle  $\Gamma$   
 $\Gamma$  is split into two copies:  $C_{ext}$  and  $C_{in}$

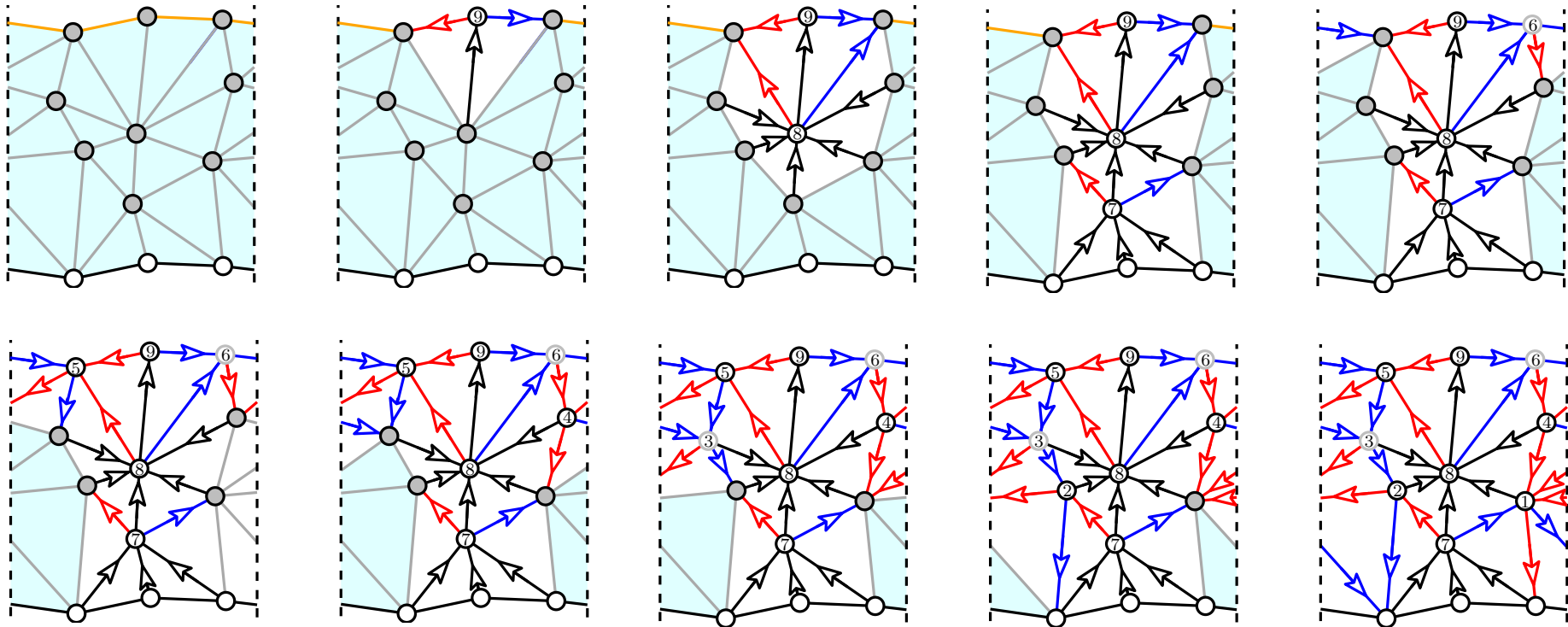


input: cylindric triangulation

Compute a **cylindric canonical ordering**  
[Castelli Aleardi, Fusy, Devillers, GD2012]



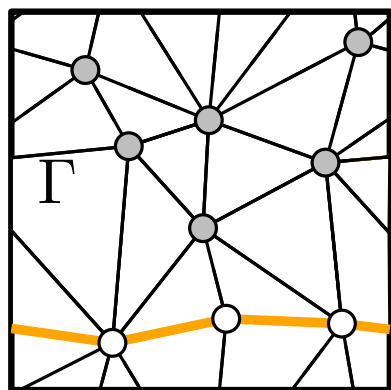
At each step remove a vertex and  
color/orient edges



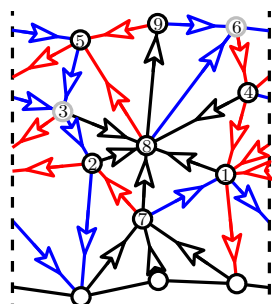
output: cylindric Schnyder wood

# Algo 1: Toroidal Schnyder woods via (cylindric) canonical orderings

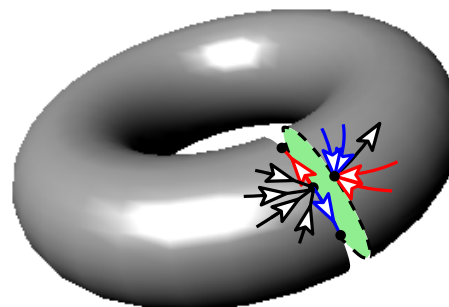
(not necessarily crossing Schnyder woods)



cylindric Schnyder wood

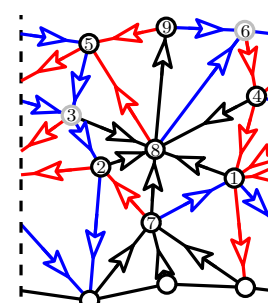
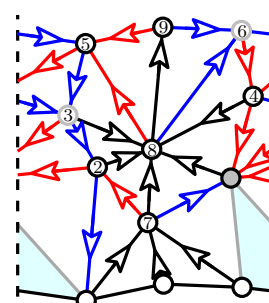
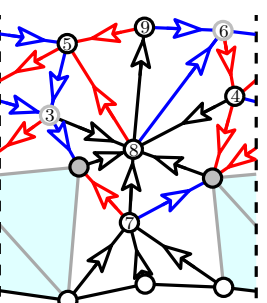
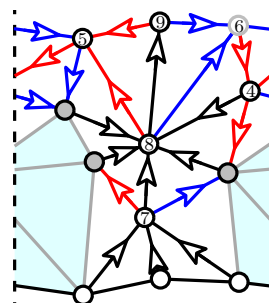
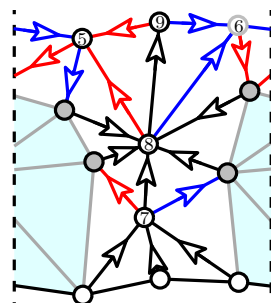
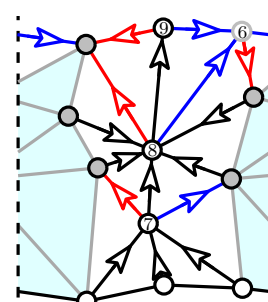
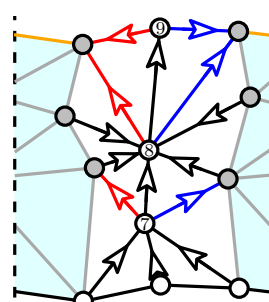
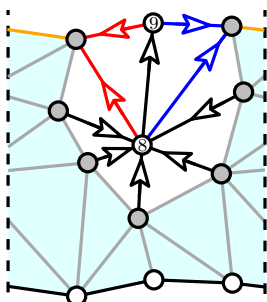
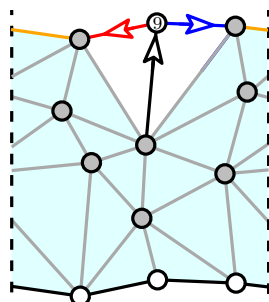
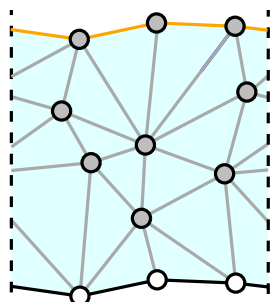
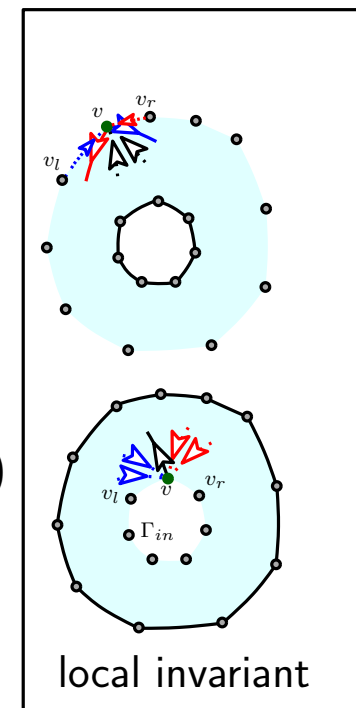


toroidal Schnyder wood

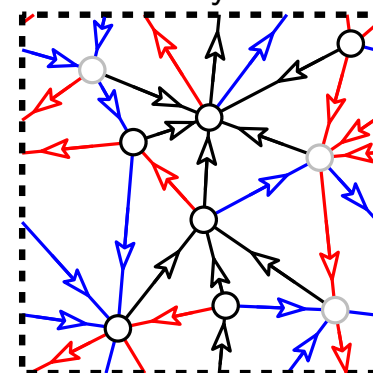


glue together the two boundaries

(the local Schnyder woods remains satisfied on  $\Gamma$ )



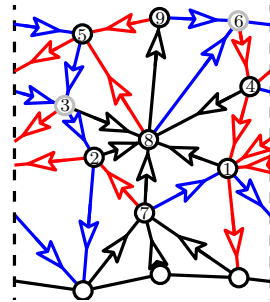
Toroidal Schnyder wood



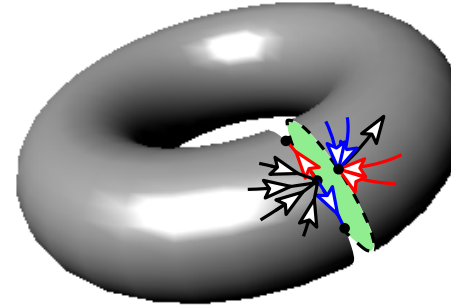
# Algo 1: Toroidal (and cylindric) Schnyder woods : properties

(not necessarily crossing Schnyder woods)

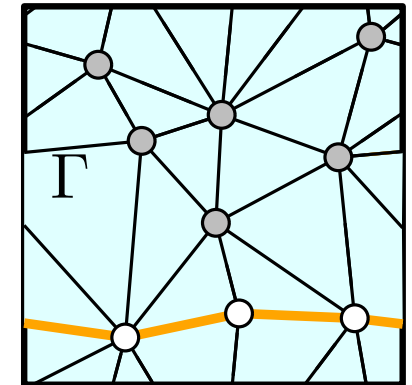
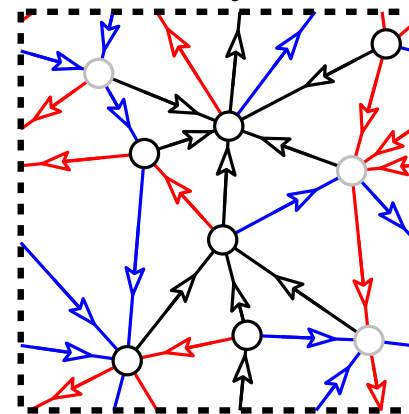
cylindric Schnyder wood



toroidal Schnyder wood

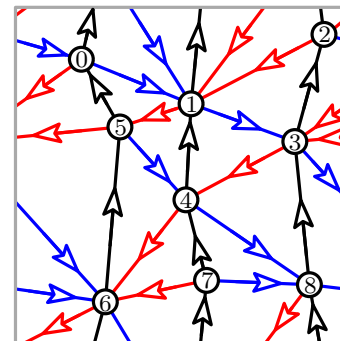


Toroidal Schnyder wood



mono-chromatic cycles are never homotopic to  $\Gamma$

- edges of  $\Gamma$  are either 0 or 1
- 0 and 1-paths are oriented downward
- 2-paths are oriented upward
- 0, 1 and 2-paths cross the cycle  $\Gamma$



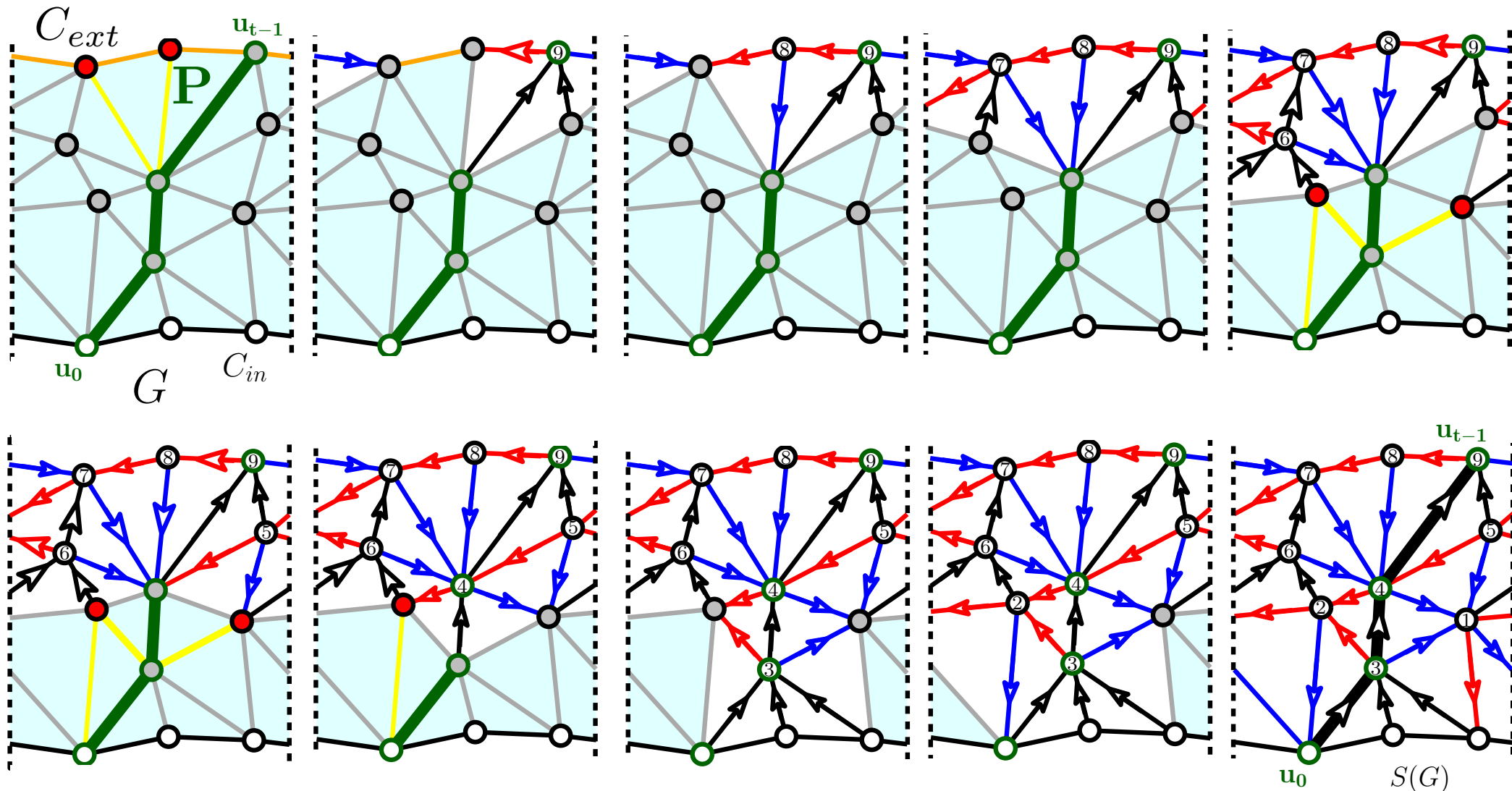
If the Schnyder wood is (at least) half-crossing then the 0-cycles and 1-cycles are pairwise crossing

# $P$ -constrained (cylindric) Schnyder woods

**Input:** a **cylindric triangulation**  $G$  and a **chord-free path**  $P := \{u_0, \dots, u_{t-1}\}$   
 the path  $P$  must intersect the two boundary cycles only at  $u_0$  and  $u_{t-1}$

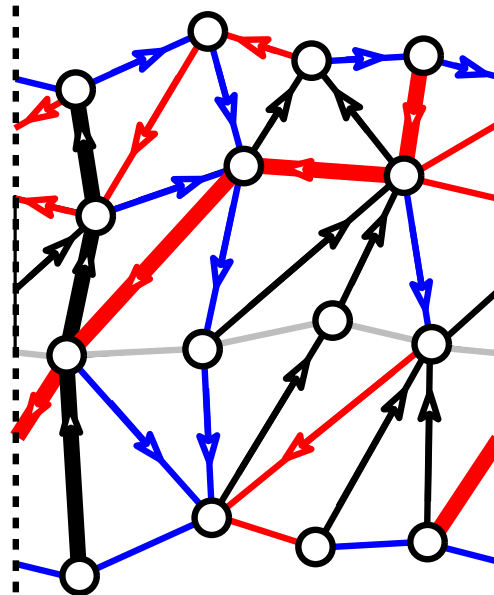
**Output:** a Schnyder wood  $S_P(G)$  such that the edges of  $P$  are of black

Solution: perform vertex shellings only for (boundary) vertices which are not adjacent to an inner vertex of  $P$



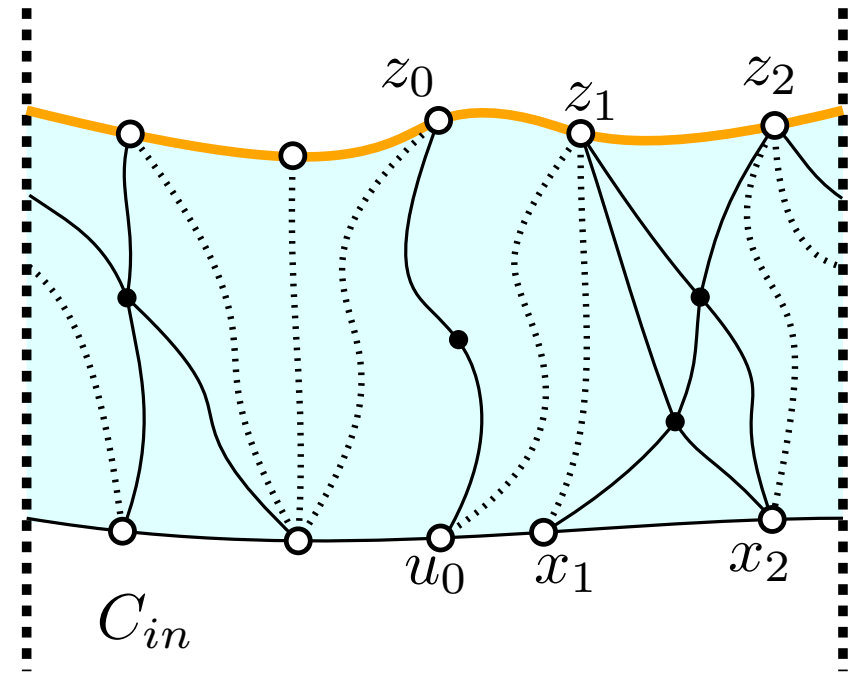
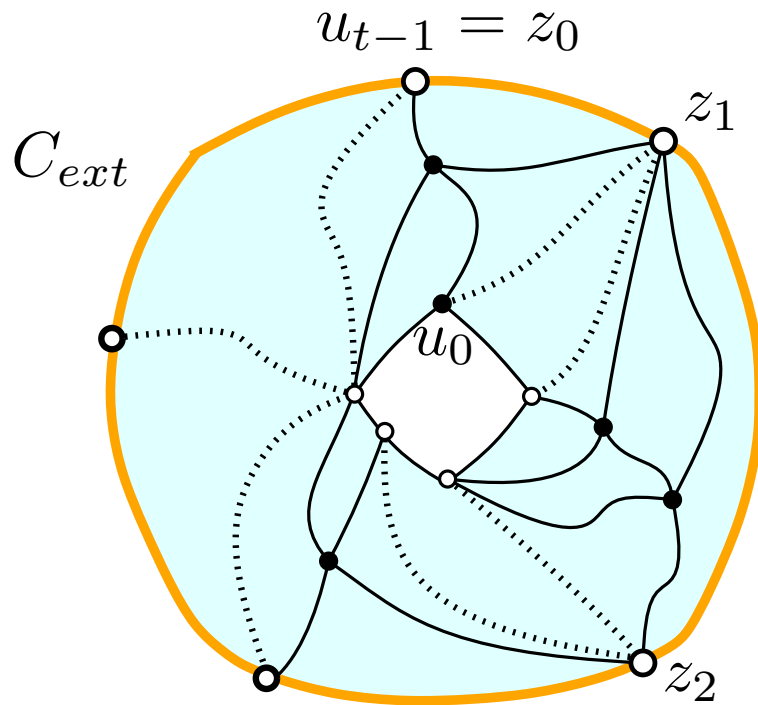


# Toward half-crossing Schnyder woods (with one connected mono-chromatic component)



# Rivers: definition

Def: a **river** is a thin cylindric triangulation such that the two boundaries are disjoint and chordless and such every vertex is incident to a non-trivial chord (connecting the two boundaries)

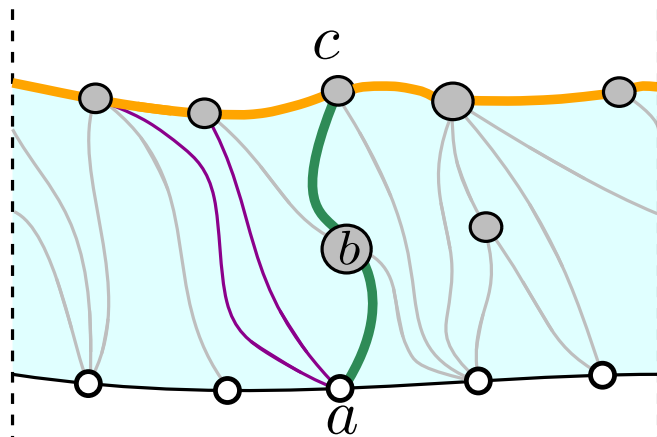




# $P$ -constrained right-most traversal of a river

**input:** a river and a chord-free path  $P$

assume there some chords at the left of  $a$

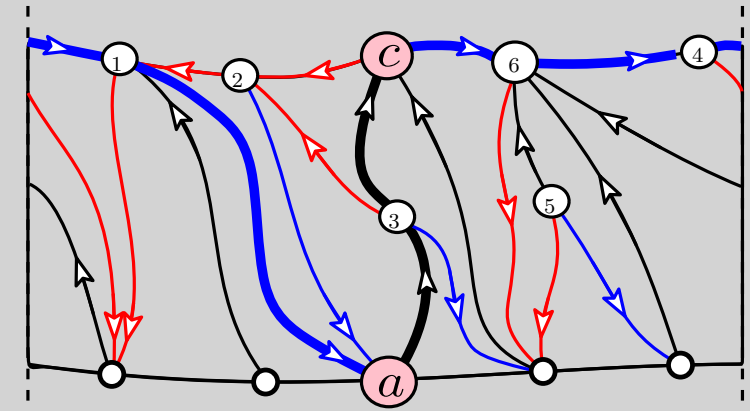


$$P := \{a, b, c\}$$

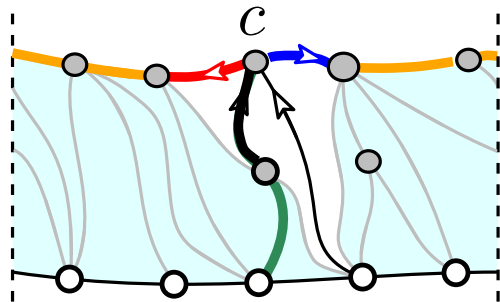
**output:** a Schnyder wood

containing a blue path

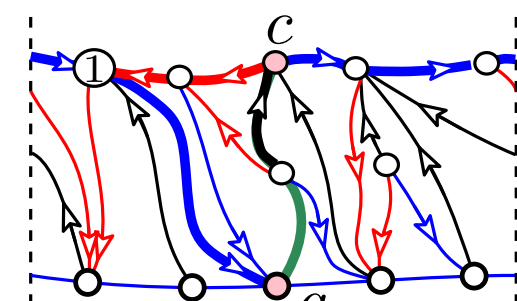
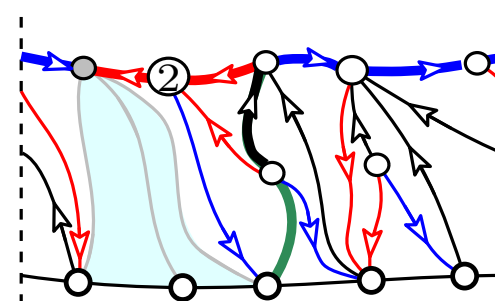
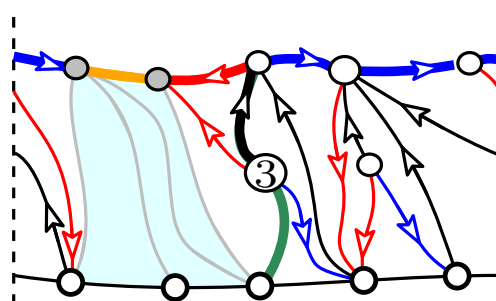
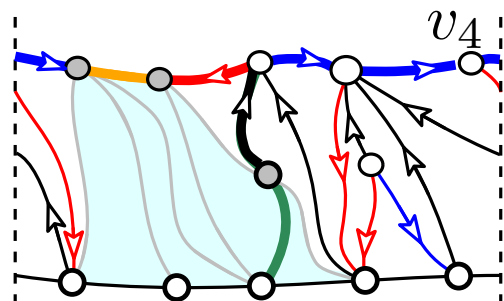
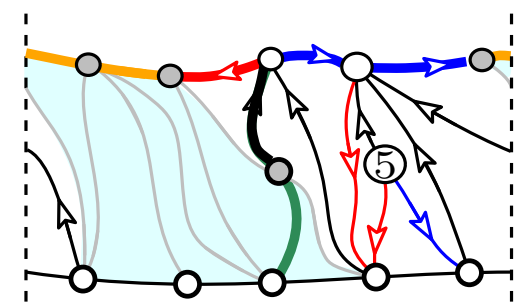
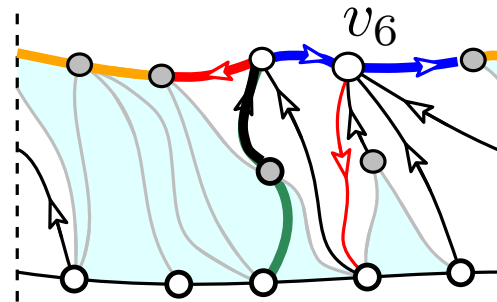
$P_1 = \{c, v_6, v_4, v_1, a\}$ , starting at  $c$  and ending at  $a$



first step: remove  $c$



remove vertices without chords in right-most manner (at the right of  $P$ )



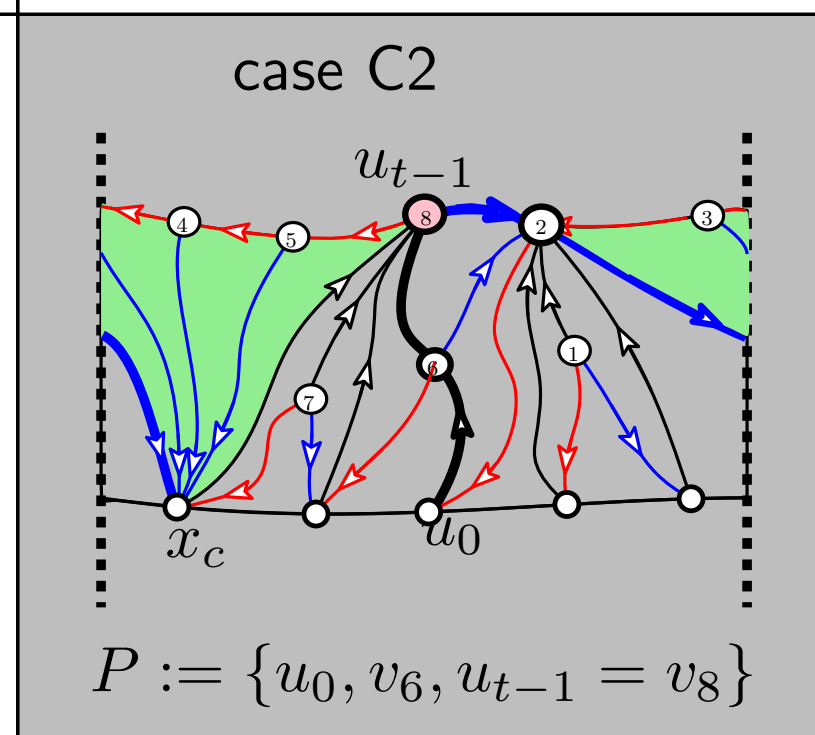
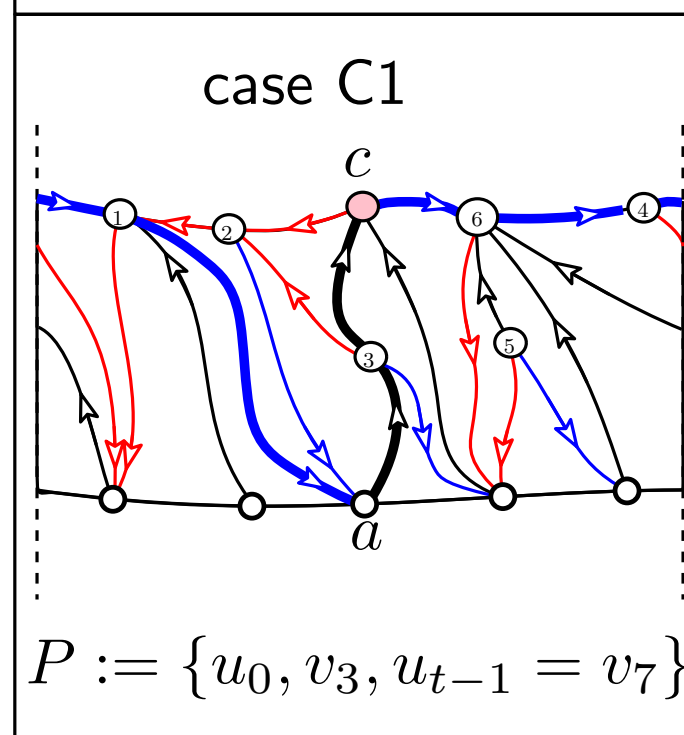
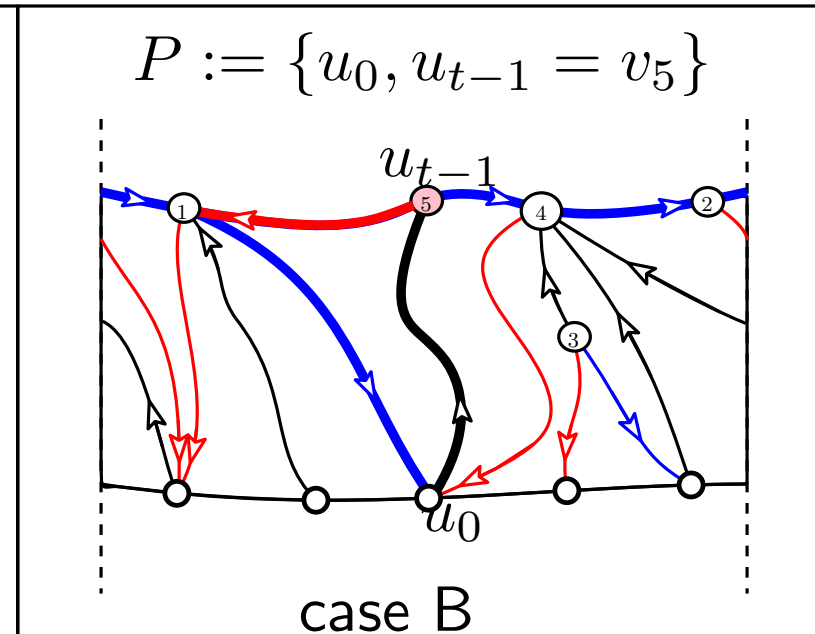
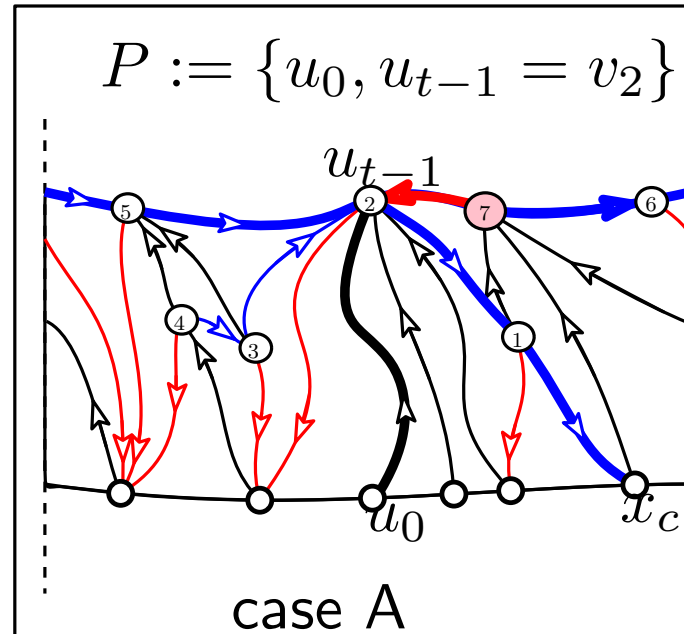
# Right-most traversal of a river

**Right-most** traversal: remove at each step the left-most vertex without chords

## Lemma

In cases (A), (B) and (C<sub>1</sub>), the blue path  $P_1$  visits all vertices on the top boundary and crosses  $P$  either at  $u_0$  or at  $u_{t-1}$

In case (C<sub>2</sub>), the blue path  $P_1$  may not cover all top boundary vertices (not crossing  $P$ ), but then there exists a ccw-oriented (contractible) cycle (green region)



# An algorithm for half-crossing Schnyder woods

Algo 2 f-crossing Schnyder woods (with a connected mono-chromatic component)

**Data:** a simple toroidal triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , a non-contractible chordless cycle  $\Gamma$

**Result:** a half-crossing Schnyder wood

// Pre-processing step

cut  $\mathcal{T}$  along  $\Gamma$ : let  $G$  be the resulting cylindric triangulation ;  
compute a river  $R$  and the partition  $G = G_{top} \cup R \cup G_{bottom}$  ;

// First pass

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{top})$  of  $G_{top}$  ;

choose an arbitrary non trivial chord  $e = (x, z)$  of  $R$  ;

$P \leftarrow \{x, z\}$  ;

if  $z$  has **type (A), (B) or (C1)** then

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;  
     $r \leftarrow 1$  ;

else

    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;  
     $r \leftarrow 0$  ;

end

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{bottom})$  of  $G_{bottom}$  ;

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

if the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are crossing in  $S(\mathcal{T})$  then

    return  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;

end

// Run a second pass on  $R$

$\gamma_2 \leftarrow$  any 2-cycle of  $S(\mathcal{T})$ ; // Remark: the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are parallel

$P_2 \leftarrow \gamma_2 \cap R$ ; // restriction of  $\gamma_2$  to the river  $R$

$u \leftarrow \partial^e R \cap P_2$  ;

if  $u$  has **type (A), (B) or (C1)** then

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;  
     $r \leftarrow 1$  ;

else

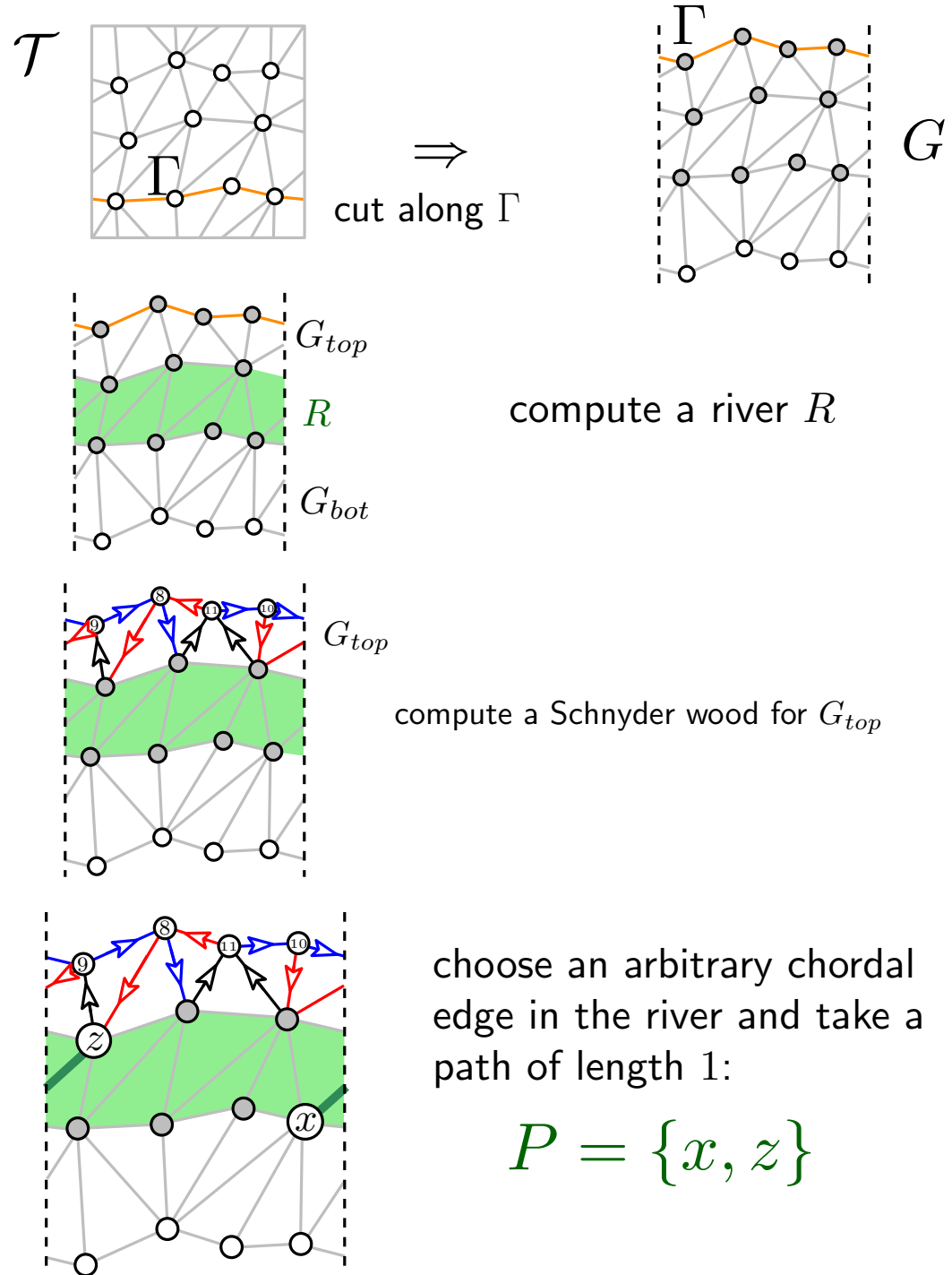
    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;  
     $r \leftarrow 0$  ;

end

// Remark:  $S(G_{bottom})$  and  $S(G_{top})$  are  $P_2$ -constrained

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

return  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;



# An algorithm for half-crossing Schnyder woods

Algo 2 Half-crossing Schnyder woods (with a connected mono-chromatic component)

**Data:** a simple toroidal triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , a non-contractible chordless cycle  $\Gamma$

**Result:** a half-crossing Schnyder wood

// Pre-processing step

cut  $\mathcal{T}$  along  $\Gamma$ : let  $G$  be the resulting cylindric triangulation ;

compute a river  $R$  and the partition  $G = G_{top} \cup R \cup G_{bottom}$  ;

// First pass

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{top})$  of  $G_{top}$  ;

choose an arbitrary non trivial chord  $e = (x, z)$  of  $R$  ;

$P \leftarrow \{x, z\}$  ;

**if**  $z$  has **type** (A), (B) or (C1) **then**

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 1$  ;

**else**

    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 0$  ;

**end**

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{bottom})$  of  $G_{bottom}$  ;

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

**if** the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are crossing in  $S(\mathcal{T})$  **then**

**return**  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;

**end**

// Run a second pass on  $R$

$\gamma_2 \leftarrow$  any 2-cycle of  $S(\mathcal{T})$ ; // Remark: the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are parallel

$P_2 \leftarrow \gamma_2 \cap R$ ; // restriction of  $\gamma_2$  to the river  $R$

$u \leftarrow \partial^e R \cap P_2$  ;

**if**  $u$  has **type** (A), (B) or (C1) **then**

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 1$  ;

**else**

    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;

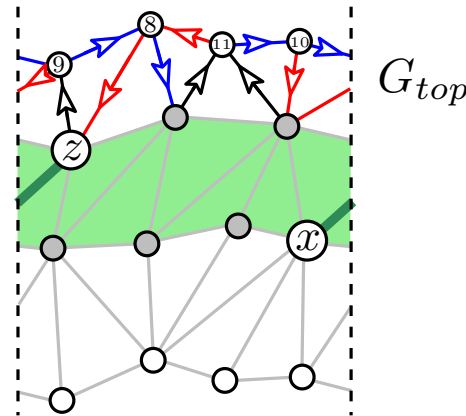
$r \leftarrow 0$  ;

**end**

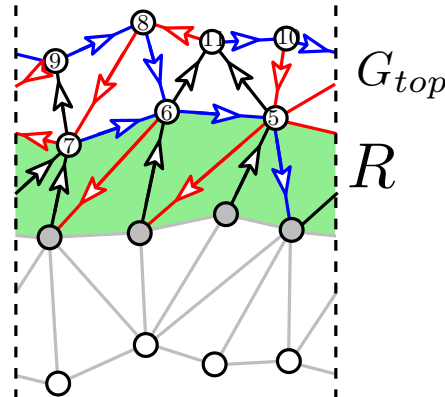
// Remark:  $S(G_{bottom})$  and  $S(G_{top})$  are  $P_2$ -constrained

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

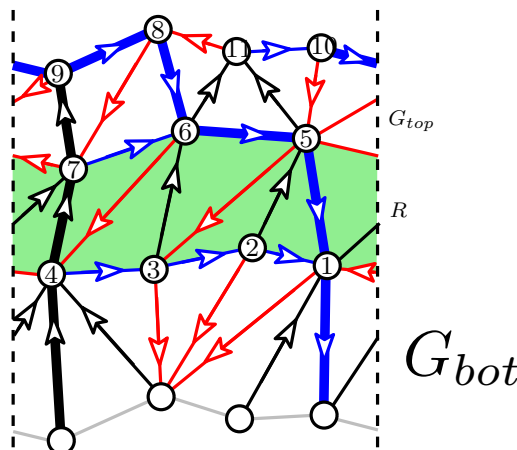
**return**  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;



$$P = \{x, z\}$$



compute a  $P$ -constrained rightmost traversal of the river



compute  $S(G_{bot})$

blue and black cycles are crossing  
there is one connected blue cycle

return the Schnyder wood

One pass suffices!

# An algorithm for half-crossing Schnyder woods

Algo 2 Half-crossing Schnyder woods (with a connected mono-chromatic component)

**Data:** a simple toroidal triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , a non-contractible chordless cycle  $\Gamma$

**Result:** a half-crossing Schnyder wood

// Pre-processing step

cut  $\mathcal{T}$  along  $\Gamma$ : let  $G$  be the resulting cylindric triangulation ;

compute a river  $R$  and the partition  $G = G_{top} \cup R \cup G_{bottom}$  ;

// First pass

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{top})$  of  $G_{top}$  ;

choose an arbitrary non trivial chord  $e = (x, z)$  of  $R$  ;

$P \leftarrow \{x, z\}$  ;

**if**  $z$  has **type** (A), (B) or (C1) **then**

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 1$  ;

**else**

    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 0$  ;

**end**

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{bottom})$  of  $G_{bottom}$  ;

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

**if** the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are crossing in  $S(\mathcal{T})$  **then**

**return**  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;

**end**

// Run a second pass on  $R$

$\gamma_2 \leftarrow$  any 2-cycle of  $S(\mathcal{T})$ ; // Remark: the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are parallel

$P_2 \leftarrow \gamma_2 \cap R$ ; // restriction of  $\gamma_2$  to the river  $R$

$u \leftarrow \partial^e R \cap P_2$  ;

**if**  $u$  has **type** (A), (B) or (C1) **then**

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 1$  ;

**else**

    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 0$  ;

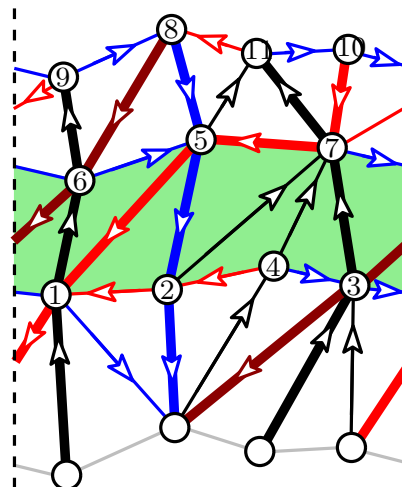
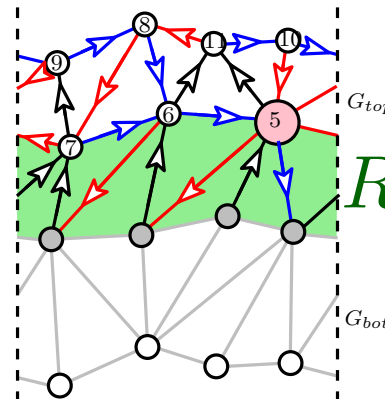
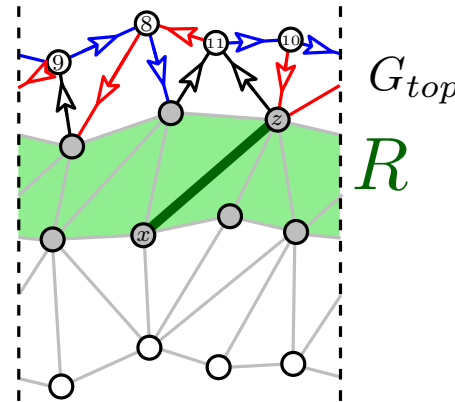
**end**

// Remark:  $S(G_{bottom})$  and  $S(G_{top})$  are  $P_2$ -constrained

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

**return**  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;

compute  $S(G_{bot})$



Sometimes two passes are required

$$P = \{x, z\}$$

compute a  $P$ -constrained rightmost traversal of  $R$

the blue cycle and black cycles are NOT crossing

red cycles cross black cycles but have 2 components

bad news: we need more work

good news: black cycles are chord-free, we can run a second pass



# An algorithm for half-crossing Schnyder woods

Algo 2 Half-crossing Schnyder woods (with a connected mono-chromatic component)

**Data:** a simple toroidal triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , a non-contractible chordless cycle  $\Gamma$

**Result:** a half-crossing Schnyder wood

// Pre-processing step

cut  $\mathcal{T}$  along  $\Gamma$ : let  $G$  be the resulting cylindric triangulation ;

compute a river  $R$  and the partition  $G = G_{top} \cup R \cup G_{bottom}$  ;

// First pass

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{top})$  of  $G_{top}$  ;

choose an arbitrary non trivial chord  $e = (x, z)$  of  $R$  ;

$P \leftarrow \{x, z\}$  ;

if  $z$  has **type (A), (B) or (C1)** then

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 1$  ;

else

    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 0$  ;

end

compute a Schnyder wood  $S(G_{bottom})$  of  $G_{bottom}$  ;

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

if the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are crossing in  $S(\mathcal{T})$  then

    return  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;

end

// Run a second pass on  $R$

$\gamma_2 \leftarrow$  any 2-cycle of  $S(\mathcal{T})$ ; // Remark: the  $r$ -cycle and 2-cycles are parallel

$P_2 \leftarrow \gamma_2 \cap R$ ; // restriction of  $\gamma_2$  to the river  $R$

$u \leftarrow \partial^e R \cap P_2$  ;

if  $u$  has **type (A), (B) or (C1)** then

    run the right-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 1$  ;

else

    run the left-most  $P$ -constrained traversal of  $(R, P_2)$  ;

$r \leftarrow 0$  ;

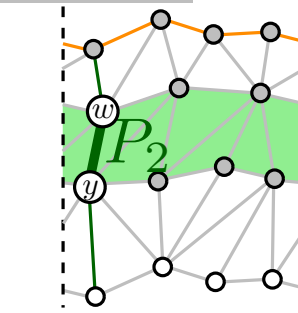
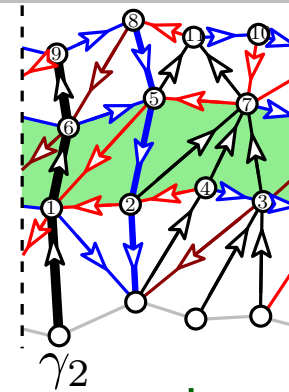
end

// Remark:  $S(G_{bottom})$  and  $S(G_{top})$  are  $P_2$ -constrained

glue boundary cycles together and let  $S(\mathcal{T}) = S(G_{bottom}) \cup S(R) \cup S(G_{top})$  ;

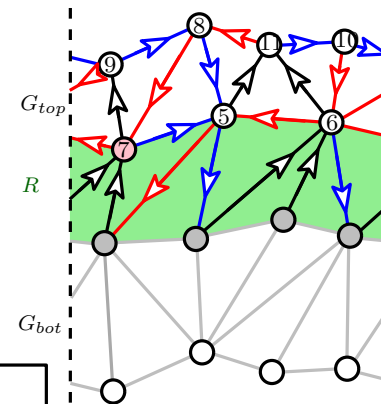
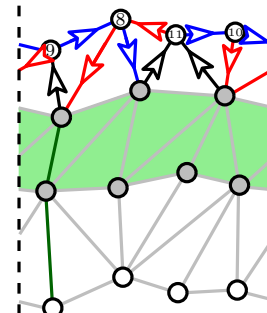
return  $S(\mathcal{T})$  ;

Run the second pass



$\gamma_2$  is chord-free

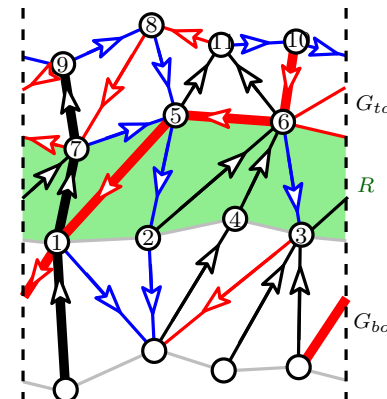
choose  $P_2 = \{y, w\} := \gamma_2 \cap R$



$w$  has type  $C_2$

compute a constrained leftmost traversal of  $R$

compute  $S(G_{bot})$

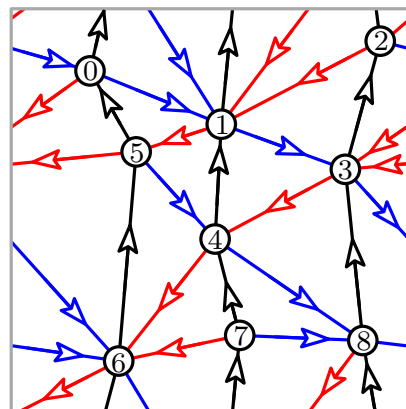
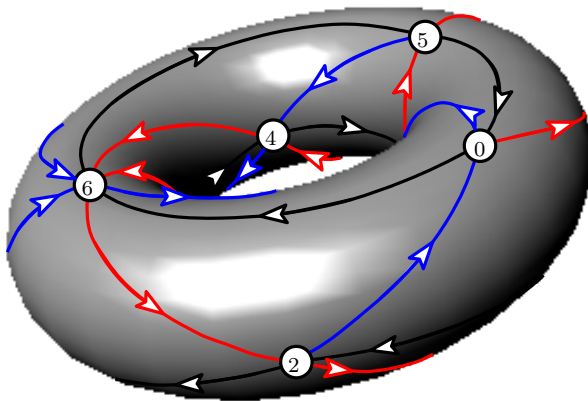


there is only one connected red cycle  
the red cycle and the black cycle are crossing

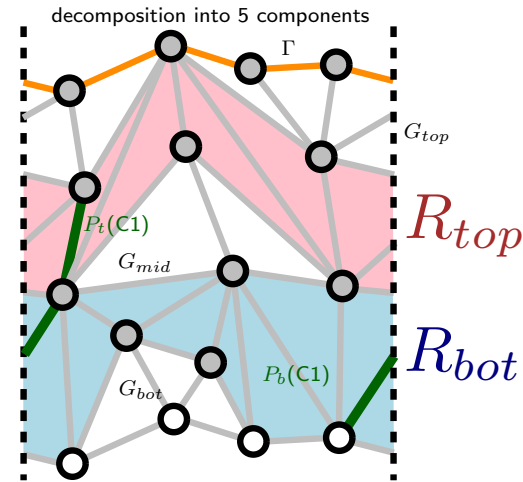
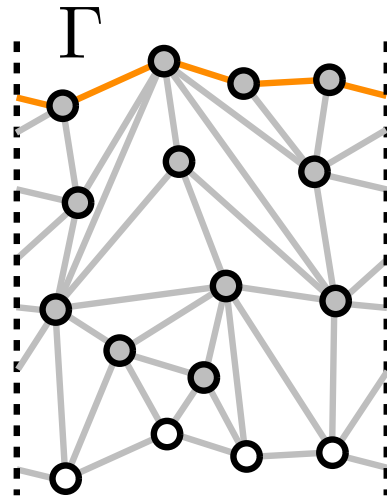
return the Schnyder wood

# Toward crossing Schnyder woods

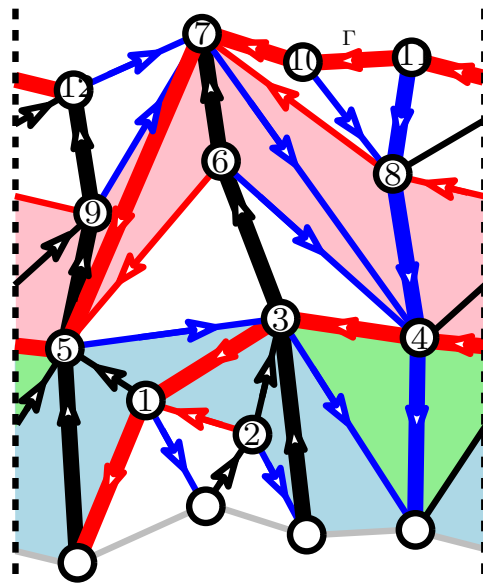
(with two connected mono-chromatic components)



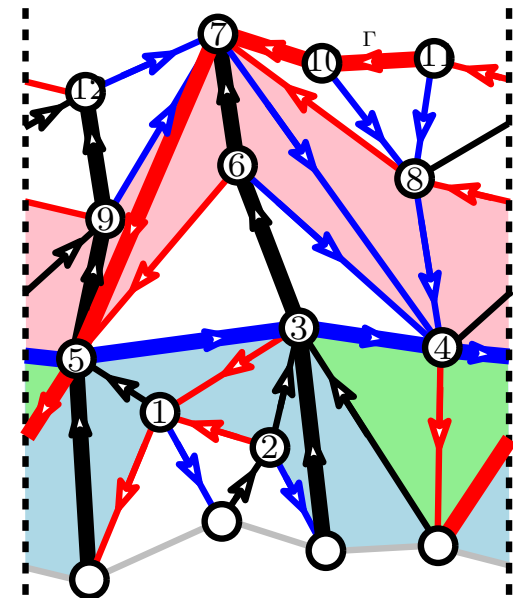
# An algorithm for crossing Schnyder woods



compute two non overlapping rivers



the 2-cycles and the 1-cycle are NOT crossing



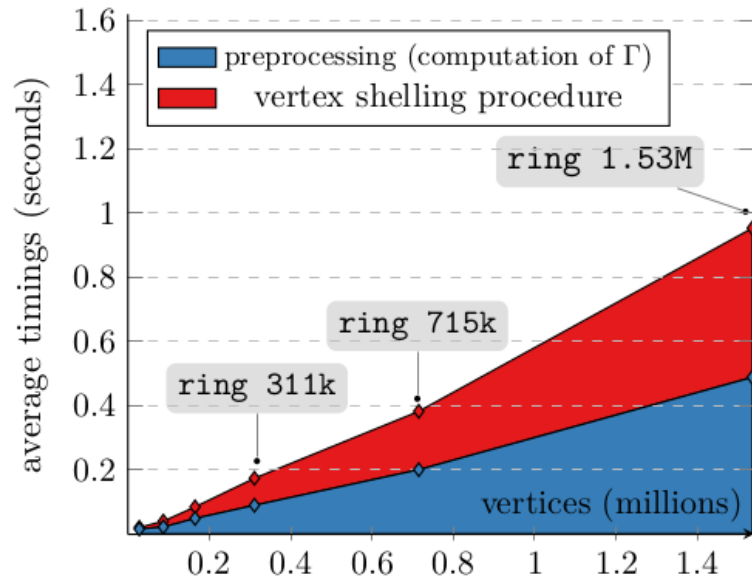
crossing after reversing

half-crossing before reversing  
an oriented cycle in  $R_{bot}$  to be reversed



# Experimental results

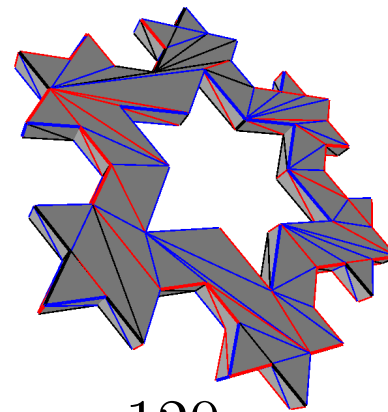
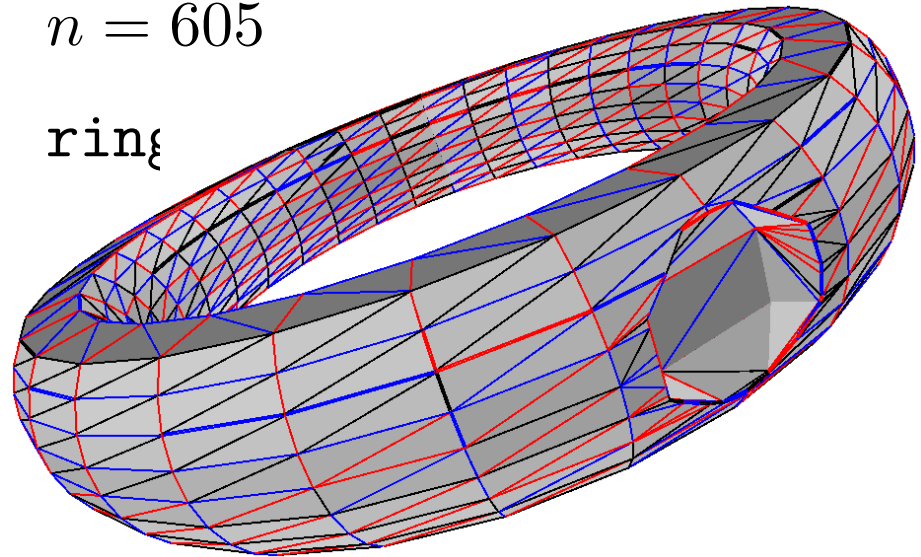
# Fast linear-time implementation



(with Java 1.8, on a Dell Laptop,  
Intel core i7 2.6GHz, 8GB RAM)

$n = 605$

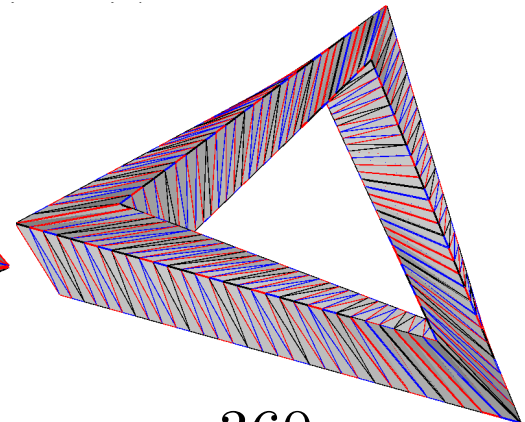
ring



$n = 120$

Koch

snowflake

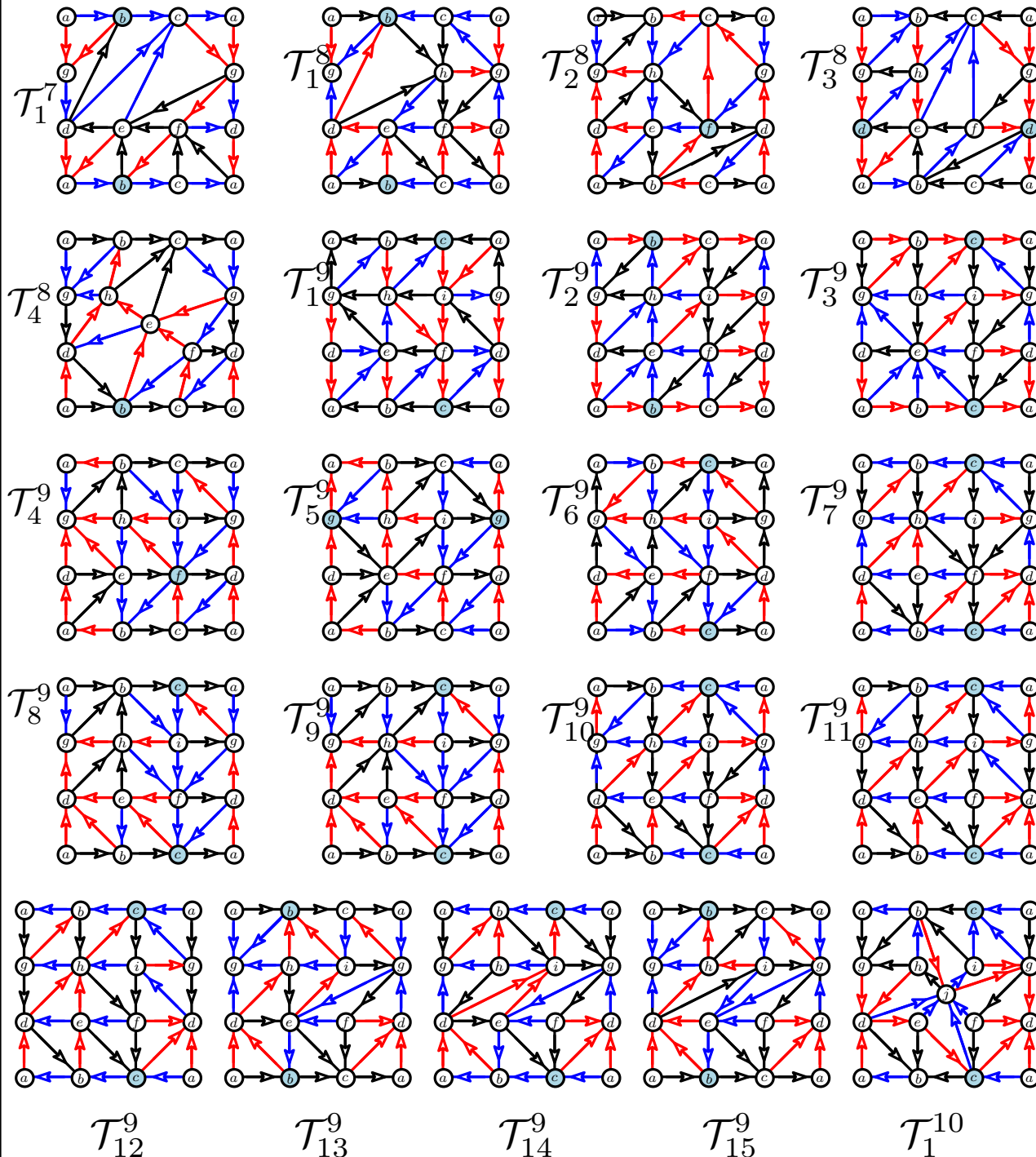


$n = 360$

Penrose

triangle

# Conjectures on toroidal Schnyder woods: experimental confirmation



**Open problem:** is it possible to find (at least) one toroidal Schnyder wood with connected mono-chromatic components and such the intersection of the three cycles is a single vertex?

(true for all triangulations of size at most  $n = 11$ )

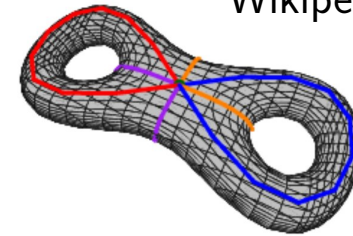
n	# irreducible triangulations	#triangulations (g = 1)
7	1	1
8	4	7
9	15	112
10	1	2109
11	—	37867

triangulations are generated with **surftri** software [Sulanke, 2006]

# Schyder woods for $g \geq 2$

**Thm** (3-orientations for graphs on surfaces, of arbitrary genus)  
[Albar Goncalves Knauer, 2014]

Any triangulation of a surface (the sphere and the projective plane) admits a '3-orientation': orientation without sinks  
s.t. every vertex has outdegree divisible by three

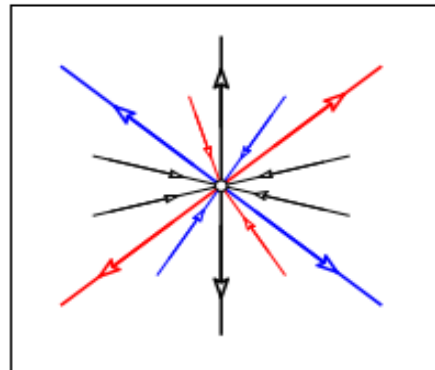


Wikipedia picture

**Open problem** [Goncalves Knauer L  v  que, 2016]  
Existence of Schnyder woods for higher genus triangulations

Multiple local Schnyder condition:  
the outdegree of every vertex is a  
**positive** multiple of 3.

(there are no **sinks**)



**Thm** [Suagee, 2021]

Simple triangulations of genus  $g \geq 1$  having  
"large" **edgewidth** do admit Schnyder woods

$$\text{edgewidth} \geq 40(2^g - 1)$$

(size of the smallest non contractible cycle)

## Experimental confirmation ( $g = 2$ )

exhaustive generation of all 3-orientations  
for all triangulations with  $g = 2$ ,  $n \leq 11$

**All simple triangulations of genus  $g = 2$   
and size  $\leq 11$  admit Schnyder woods**

n	# irreducible triangulations	#triangulations ( $g = 2$ )
7	—	—
8	—	—
9	—	—
10	865	865
11	26276	113506

**surftri** software [Sulanke, 2006]

TWAIN'S