

Course IMSc Chennai, India

January-March 2017

Enumerative and algebraic combinatorics,  
a bijective approach:

# commutations and heaps of pieces

(with interactions in physics, mathematics and computer science)

Monday and Thursday 14h-15h30

[www.xavierviennot.org/coursIMSc2017](http://www.xavierviennot.org/coursIMSc2017)



IMSc

January-March 2017

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Chapter 1  
Commutation monoids  
and  
heaps of pieces:

basic definitions  
(3)

IMSc, Chennai  
13 January 2017

from the previous lecture

commutation  
monoid

$A^*$  /  $\equiv_C$

commutation

relation

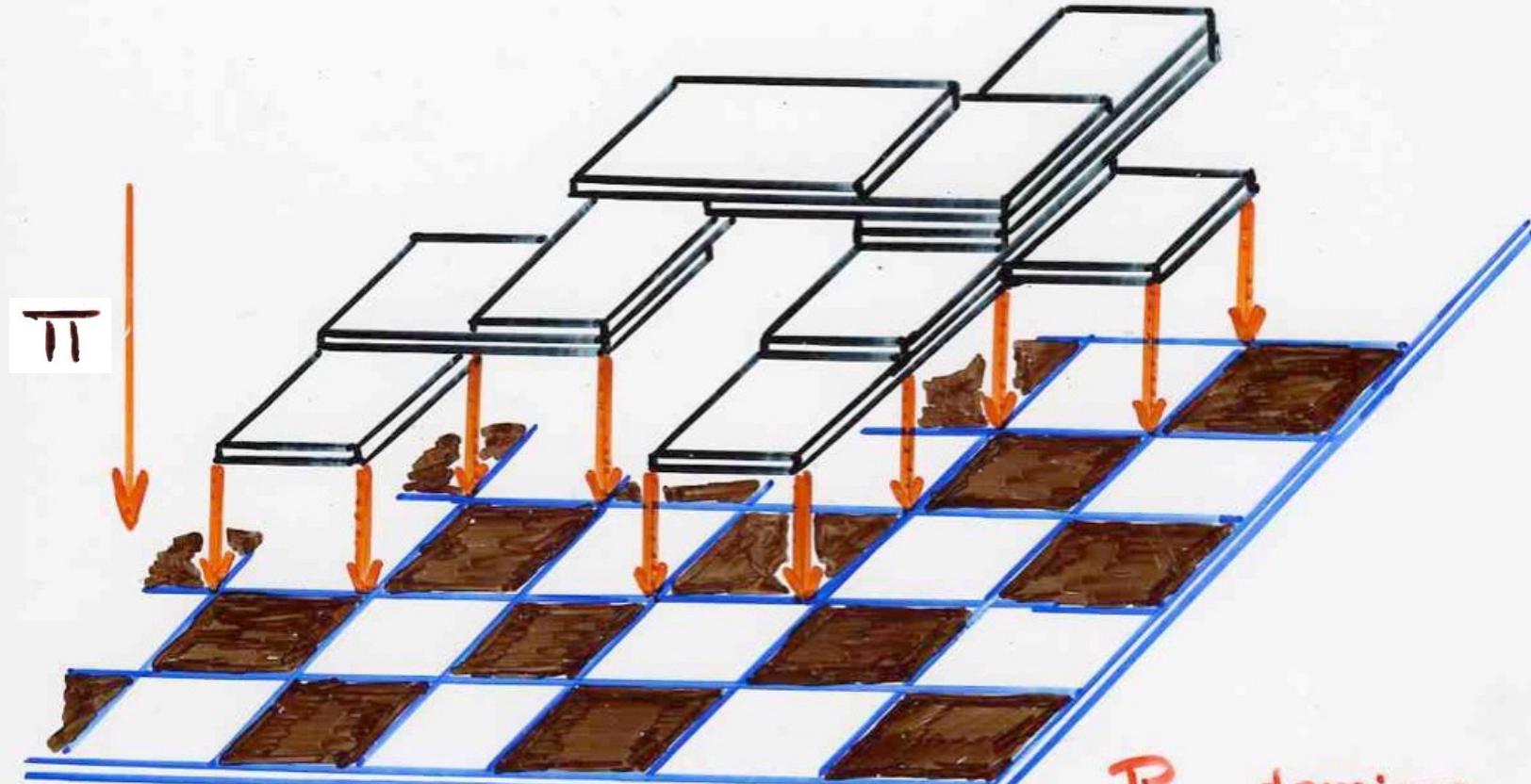
$C$

antireflexive  
symmetric

$\equiv_C$

congruence of  $A^*$  generated  
by the commutations

$ab \equiv_C ba \iff aC b$



$$B = R \times R$$

P domino

## heap

## definition

- $P$  set (of basic pieces)
- $\mathcal{E}$  binary relation on  $P$  {  
symmetric  
reflexive  
(dependency relation)}
- heap  $E$ , finite set of pairs  
 $(\alpha, i)$   $\alpha \in P, i \in \mathbb{N}$  (called pieces)  
projection      level

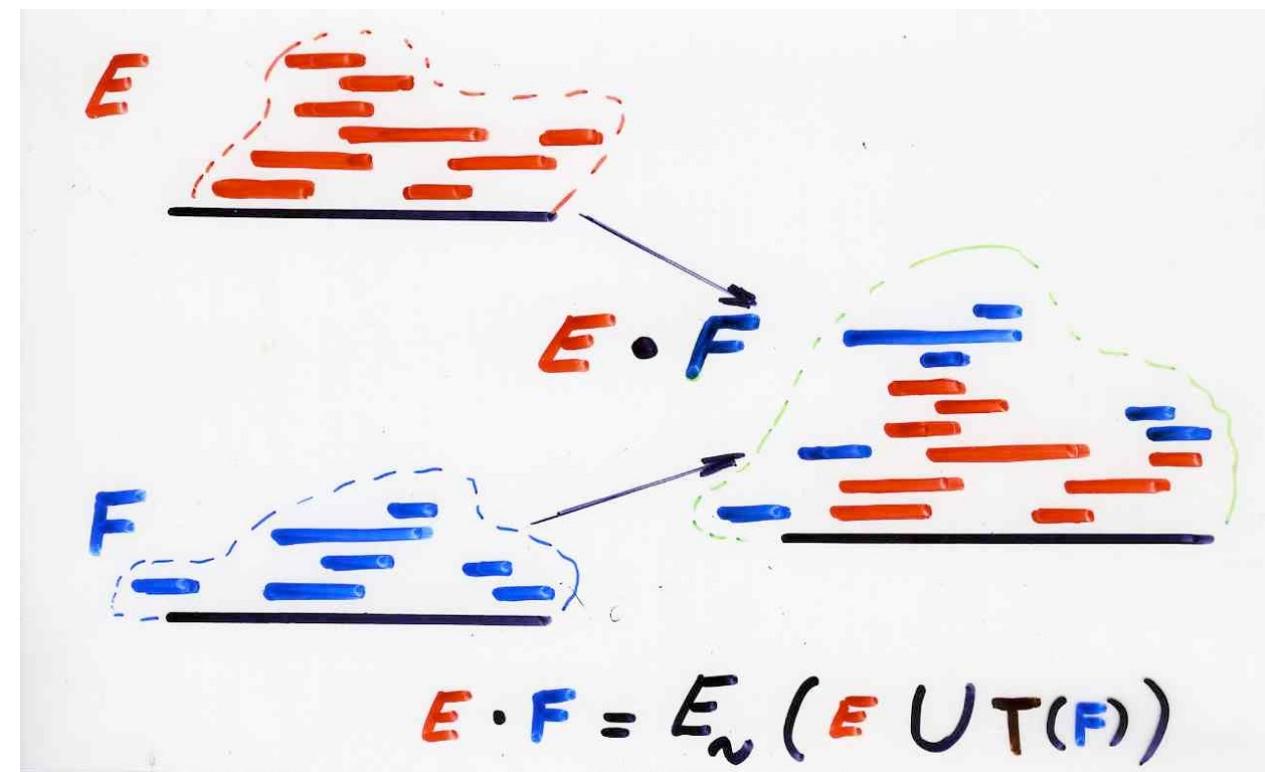
- (i)  $(\alpha, i), (\beta, j) \in E, \alpha \mathcal{E} \beta \Rightarrow i \neq j$
- (ii)  $(\alpha, i) \in E, i > 0 \Rightarrow \exists \beta \in P, \alpha \mathcal{E} \beta,$   
 $(\beta, i-1) \in E$

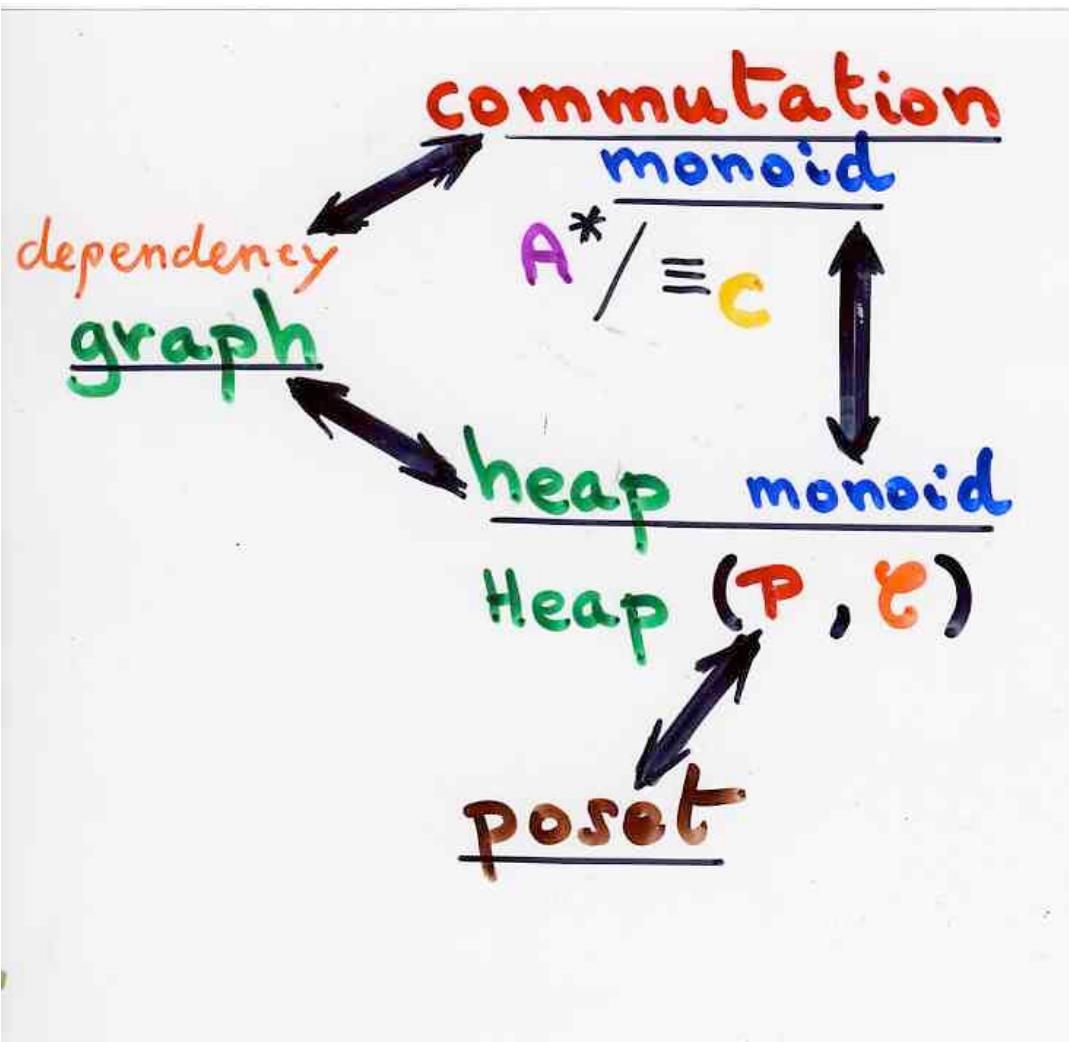
Heaps monoid

$H(P, \otimes)$

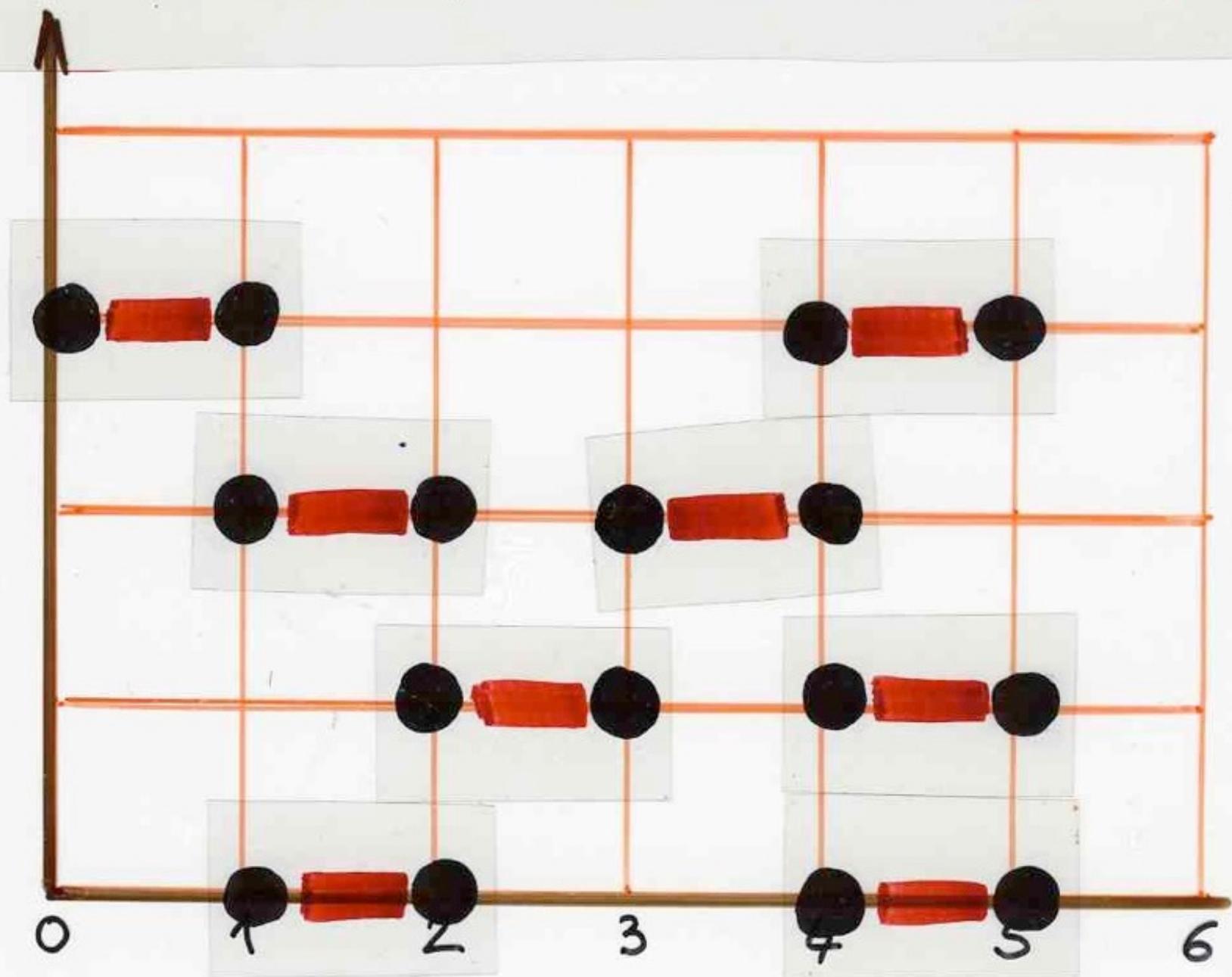
product of two heaps

$E \cdot F$

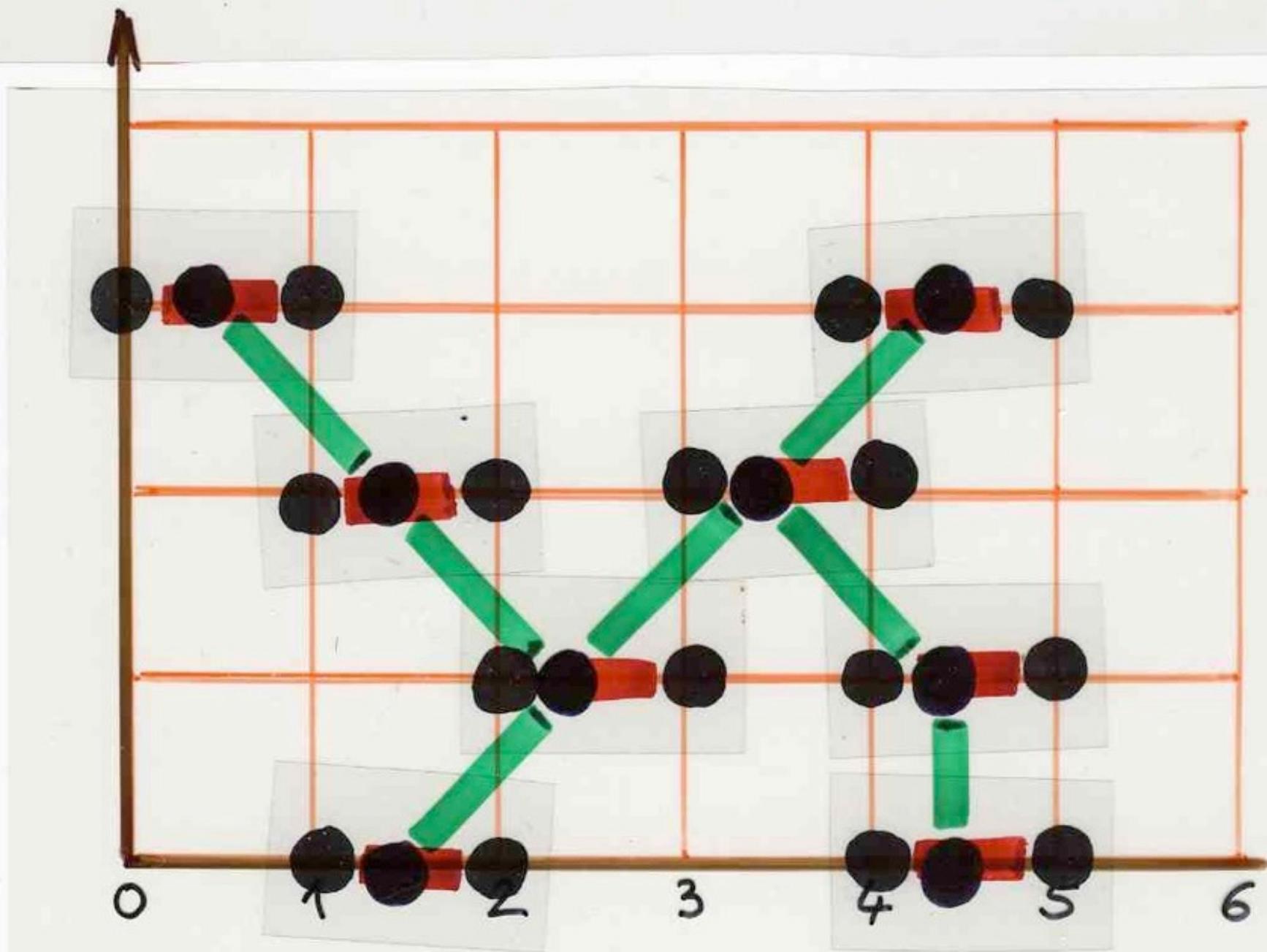




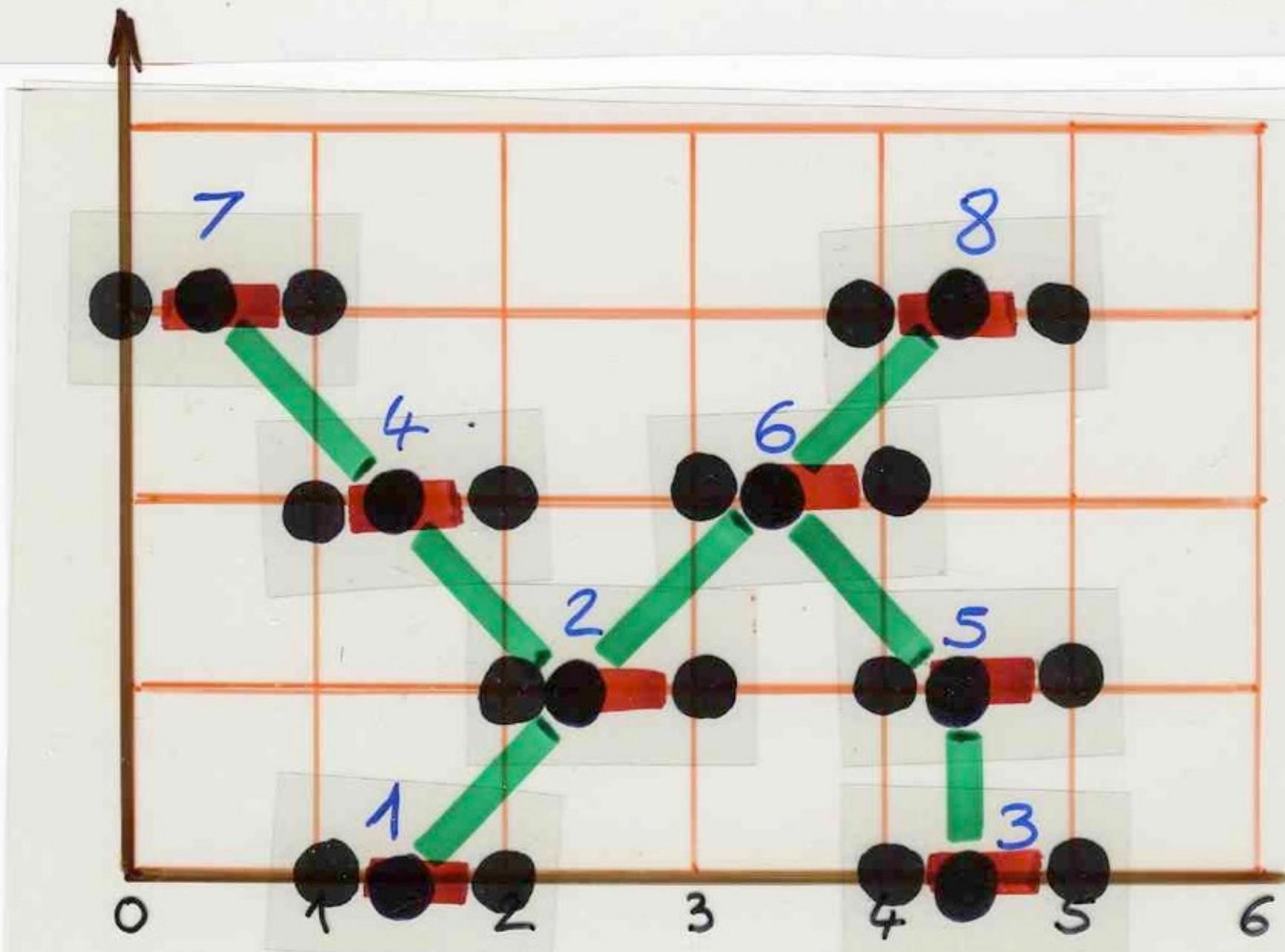
$$w = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_4 \sigma_1 \sigma_4 \sigma_3 \sigma_0 \sigma_4$$

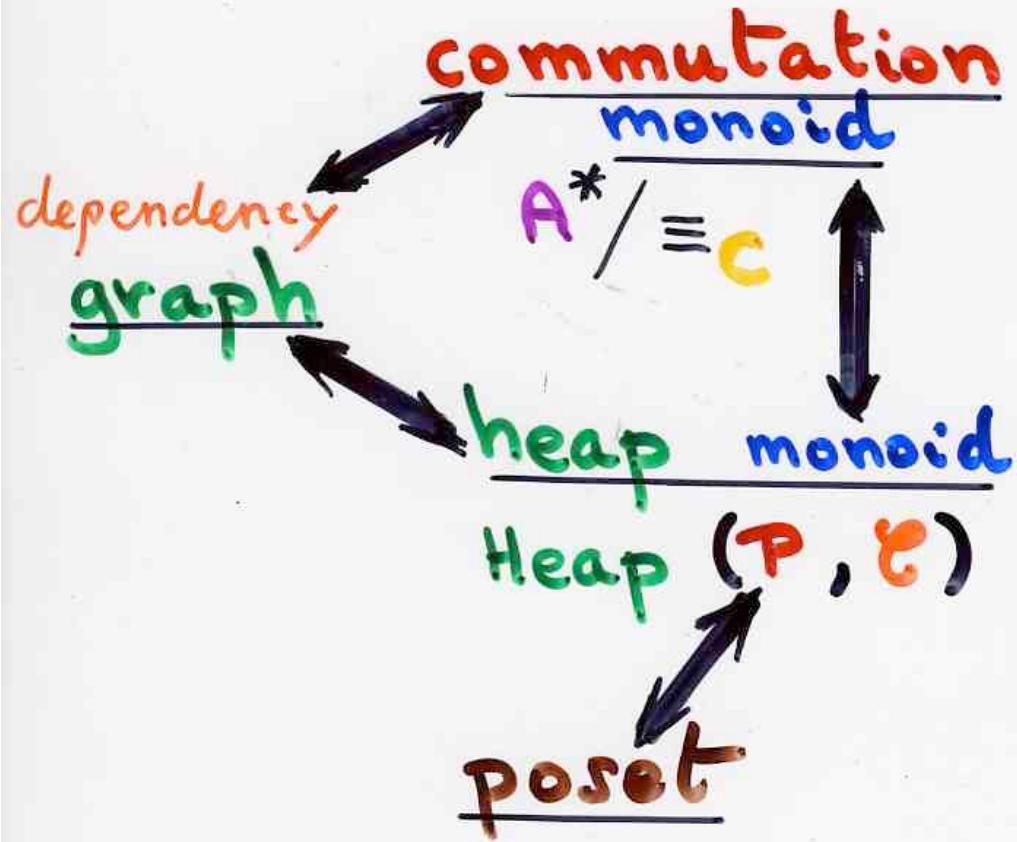


$$w = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_4 \sigma_1 \sigma_4 \sigma_3 \sigma_0 \sigma_4$$



$$w = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_4 \sigma_1 \sigma_4 \sigma_3 \sigma_0 \sigma_4$$





equivalence  
class

heap

word

linear  
extension  
of the poset

solution exercise

$X$  set

$$P \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X)$$

set of subsets of  $X$

dependency relation

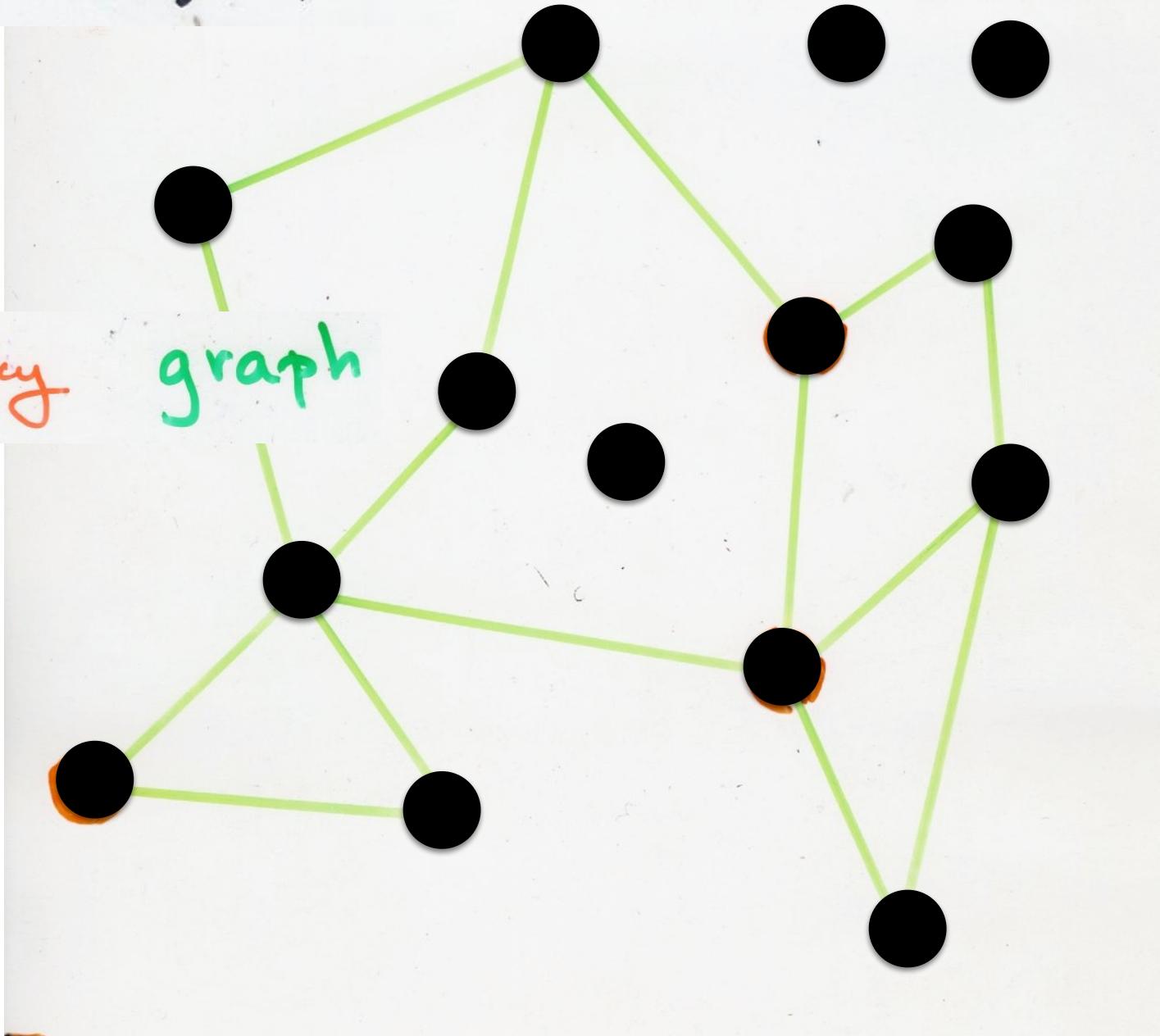
$$A, B \in P, A \subsetneq B \Leftrightarrow A \cap B \neq \emptyset$$

$$H(P)$$

heaps of  
subsets

Proposition Every heap monoid is  
isomorphic to a "heap of subsets of  
a set  $X$ " monoid.

$$G = (P, E)$$



dependency graph

$$G = (P, E)$$

dependency graph

median graph

$$MG = (E, \alpha)$$

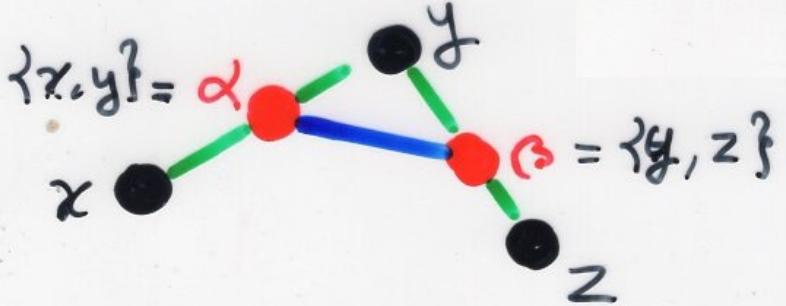
vertices of MG = edges E of G



edges of MG  $\alpha = \{x, y\}$  in relation  $\alpha$

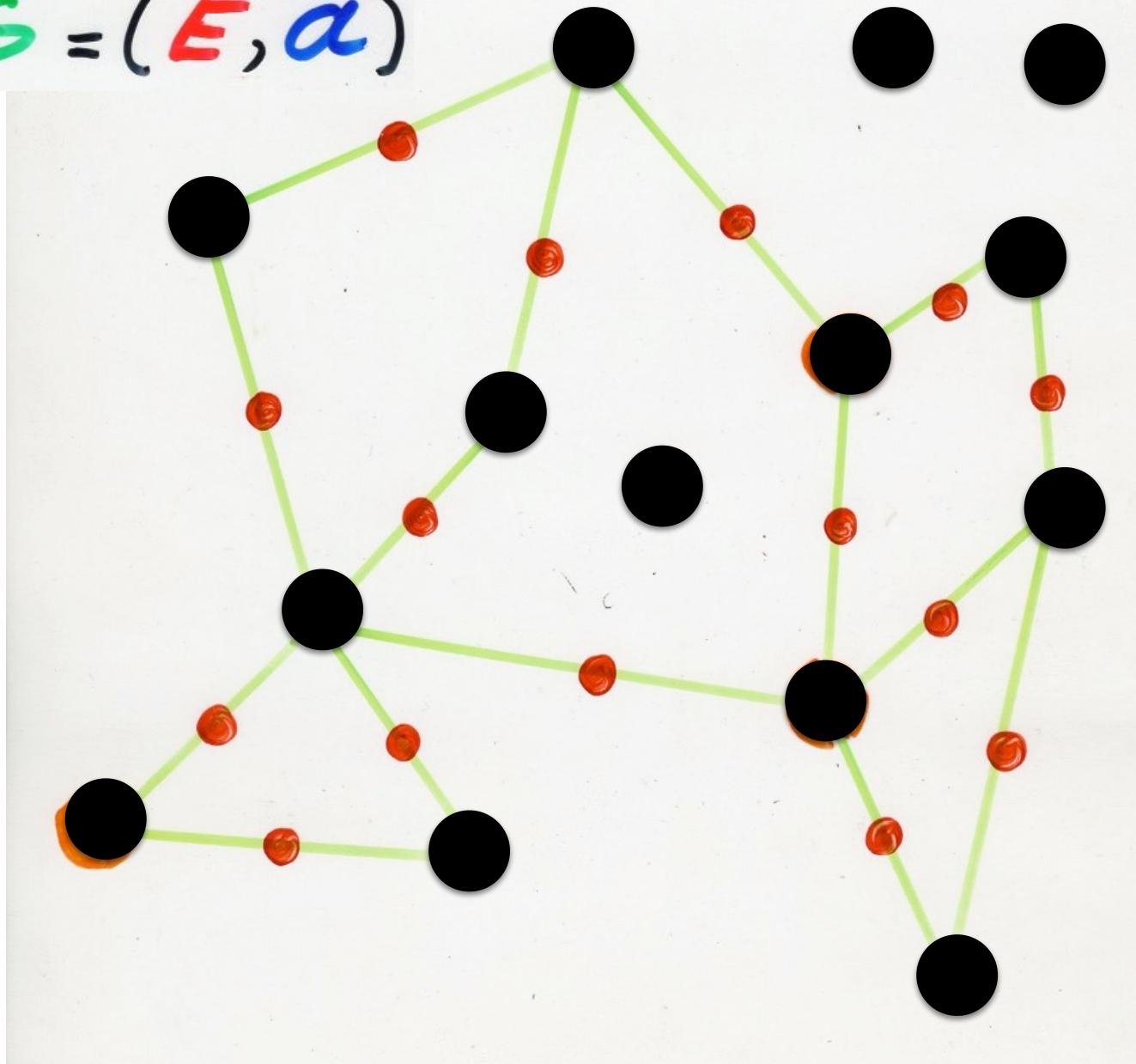
$$\beta = \{z, y\}$$

iff  $\alpha, \beta$  adjacent



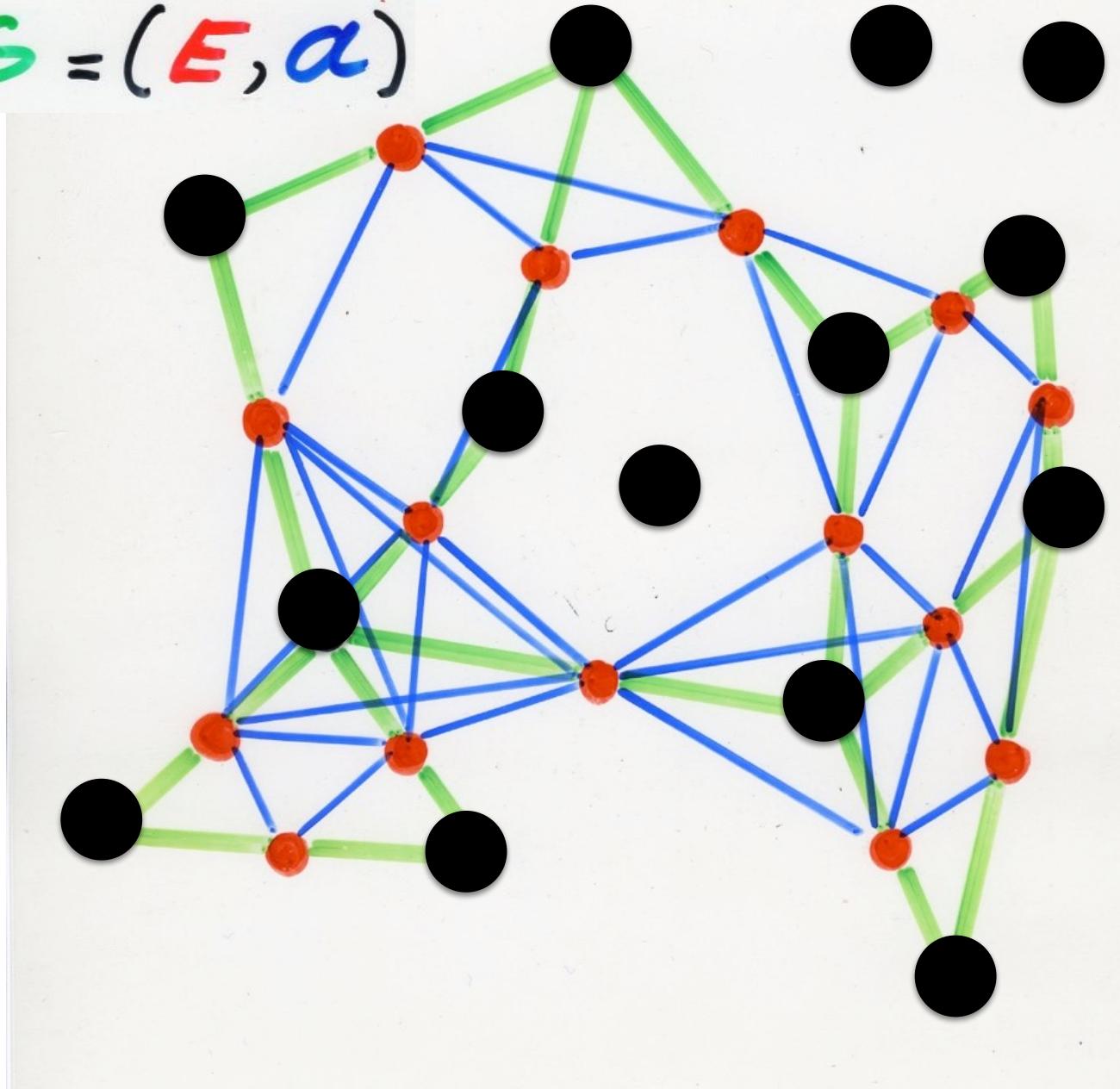
median graph

$$MG = (E, \alpha)$$

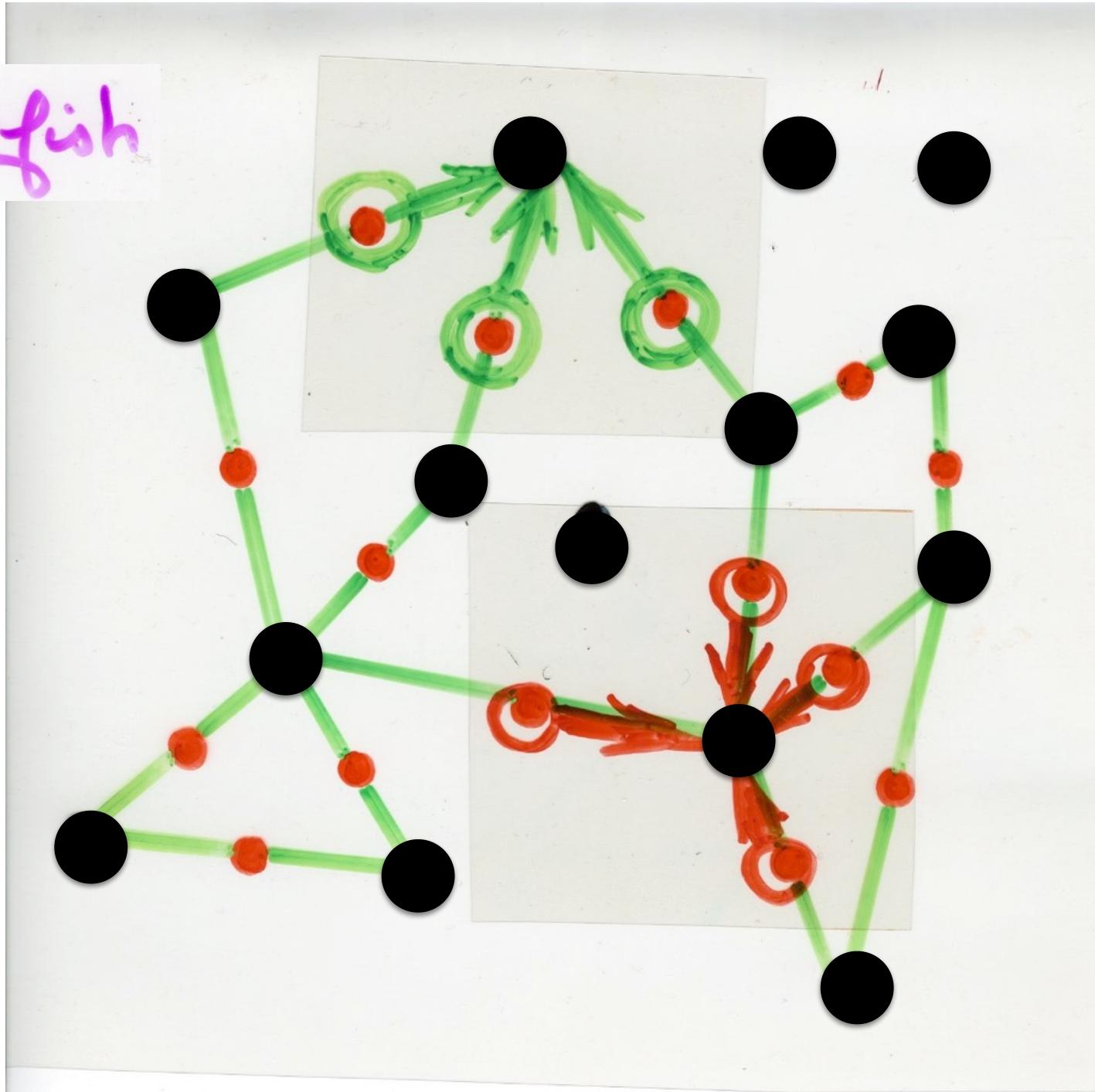


median graph

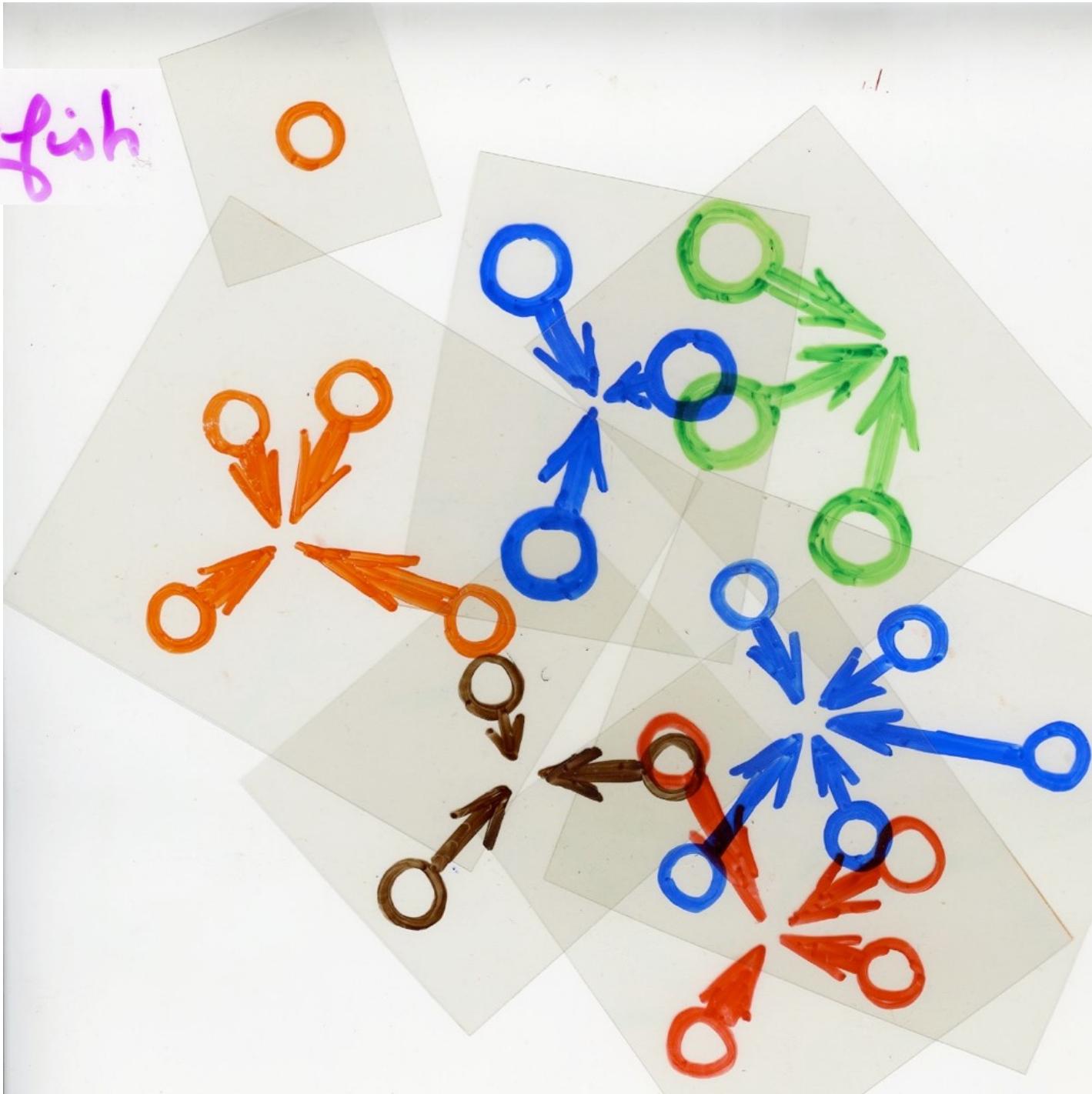
$MG = (E, \alpha)$



starfish

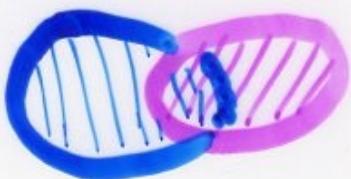


starfish



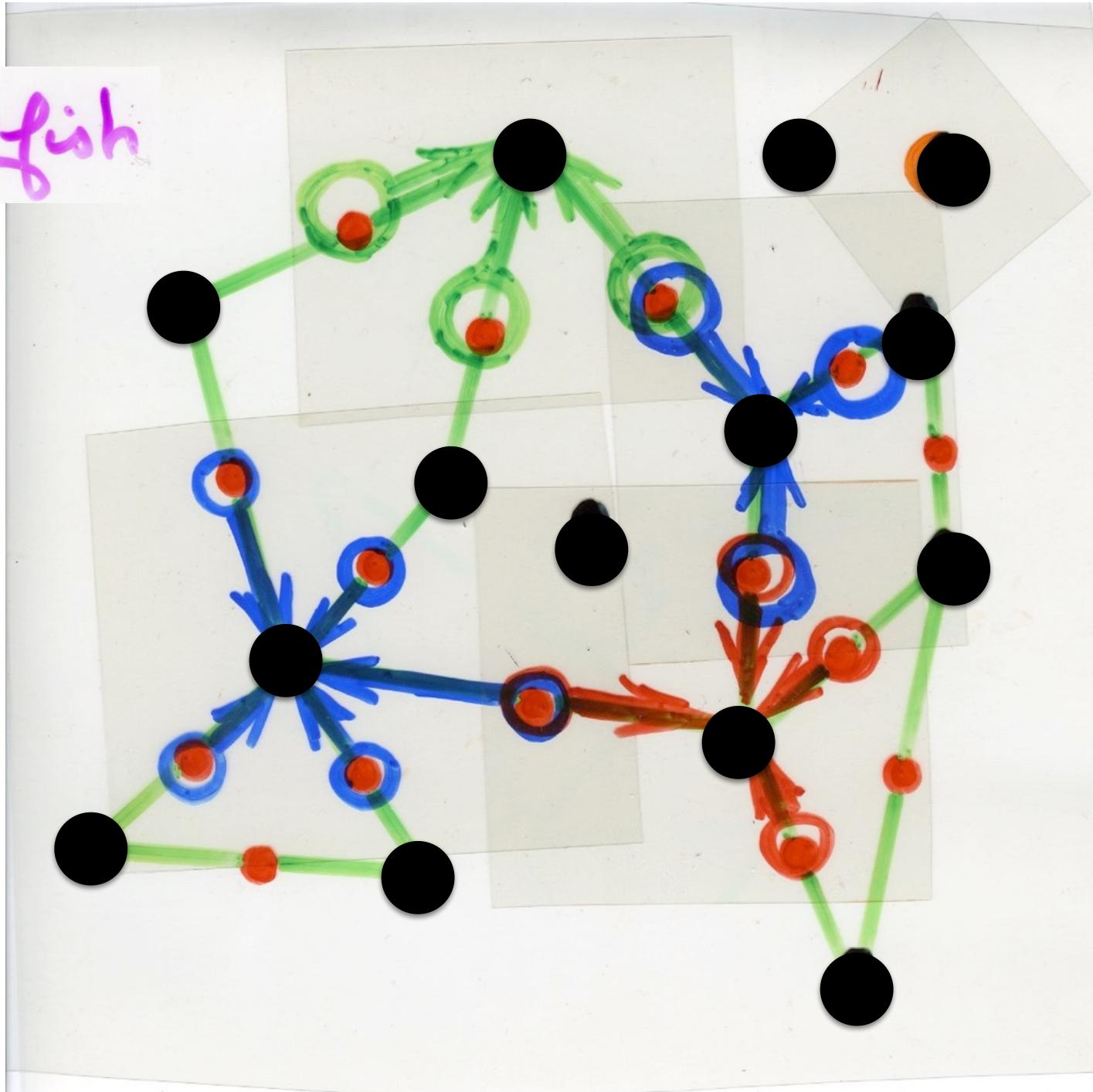
$$H(P, G) \cong H(SF)$$

heaps of  
starfishes

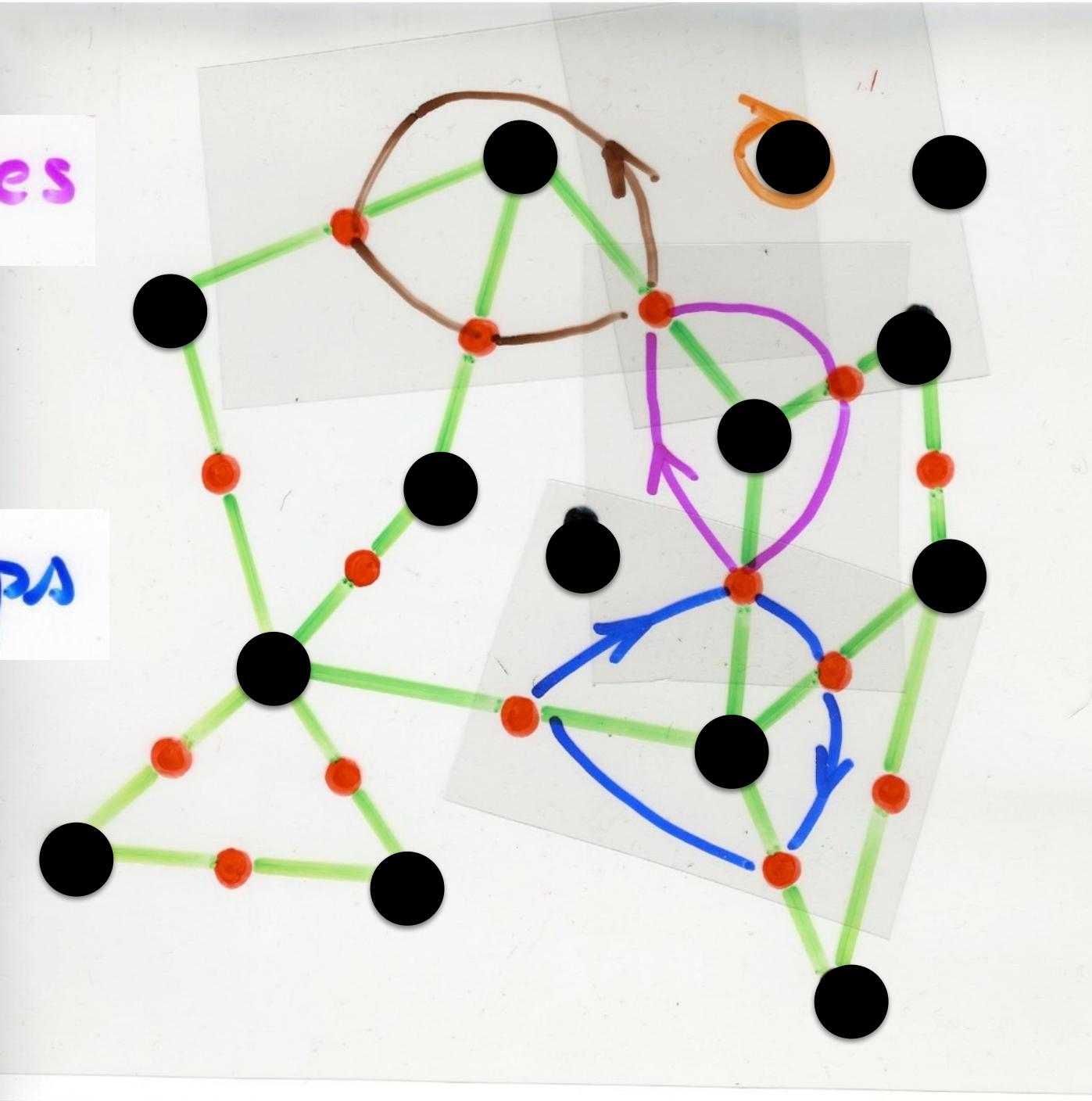


$$x \in P \rightarrow \begin{cases} \bullet \{x\} & \text{if } x \text{ isolated vertex of } G \\ \text{else} \\ \bullet \{ \alpha = \{x, y\} \text{ vertices of MG} \} \\ \text{starfish centered on } x \end{cases}$$

starfish

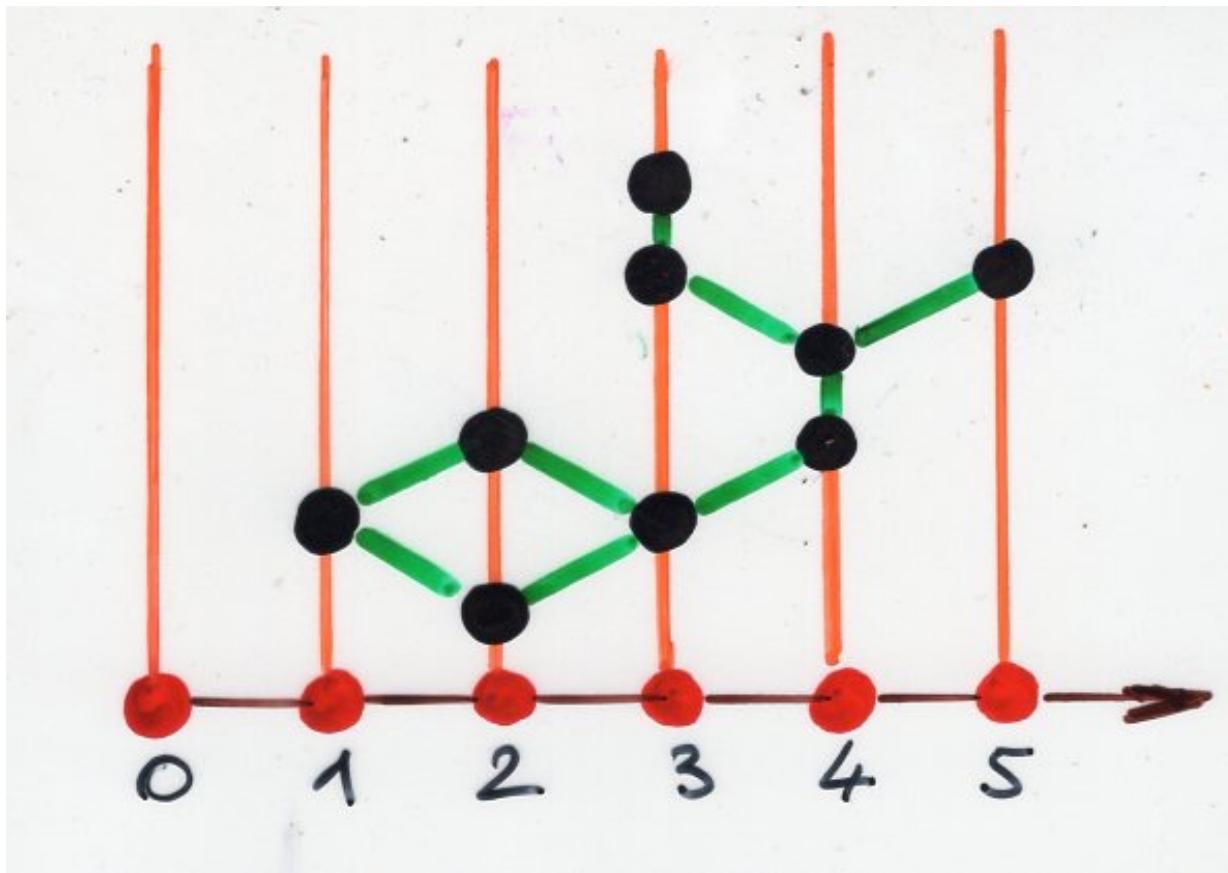


*cycles*



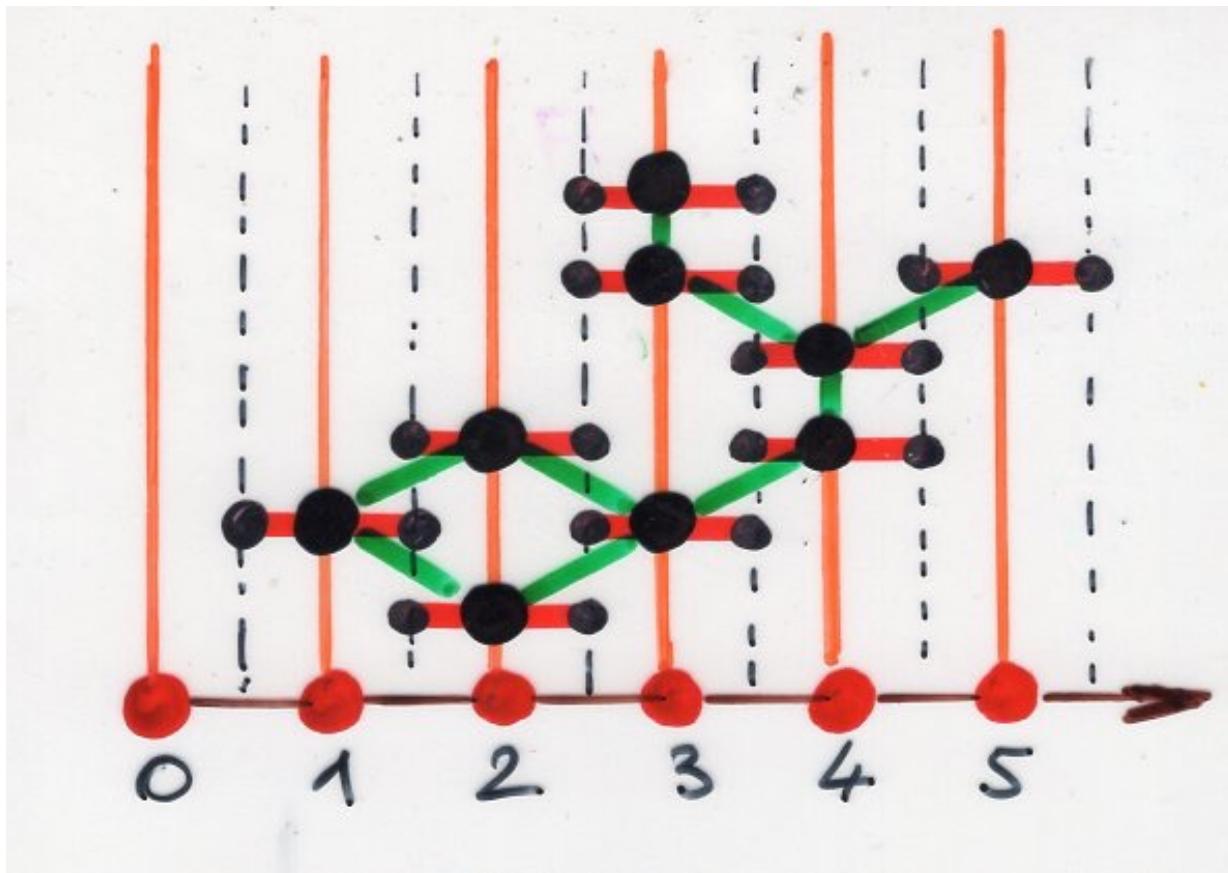
*loops*

# example 1



$$P = N$$
$$i \sim j \iff |i-j| \leq 1$$

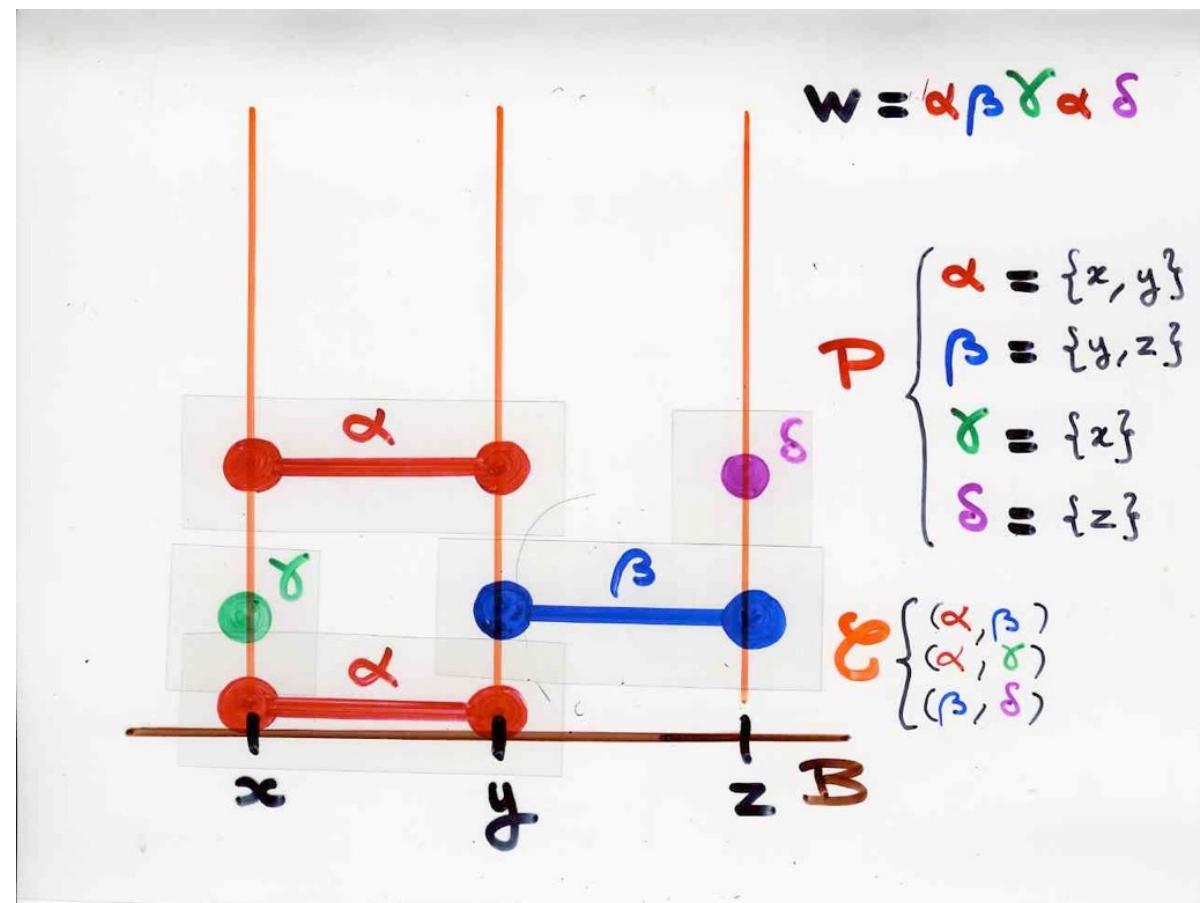
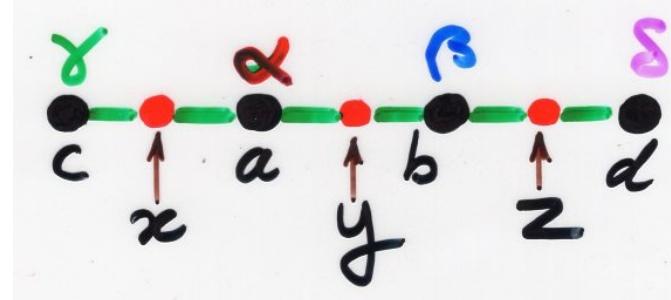
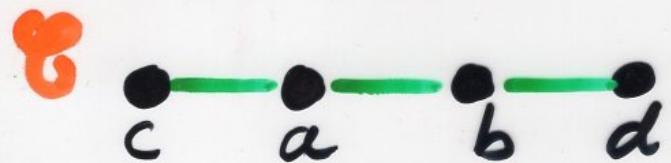
# example 1



$$P = N$$
$$i \leq j \iff |i-j| \leq 1$$

## example 2

$$A = \{a, b, c, d\}$$

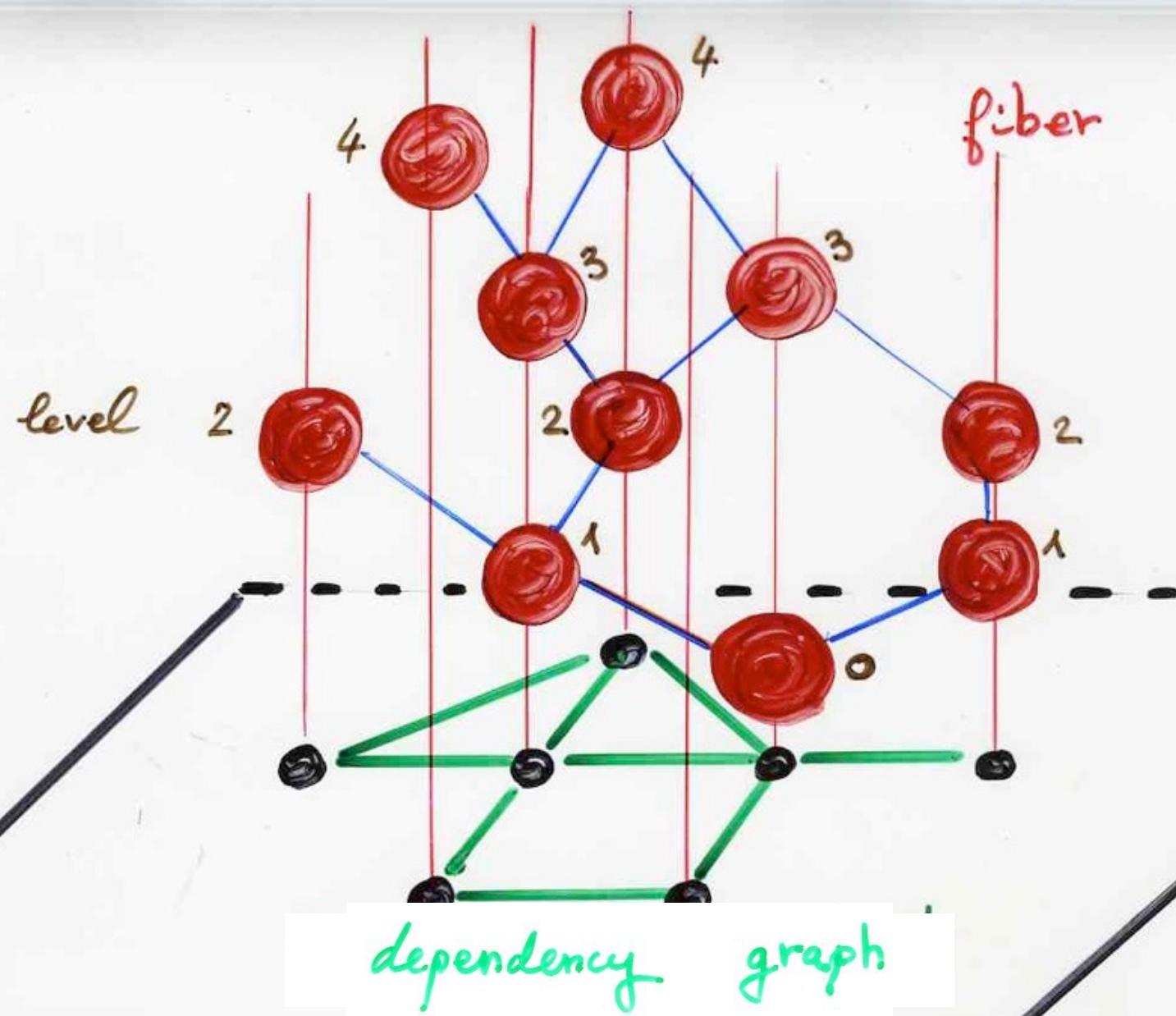


other definitions for the notion  
heaps of pieces

the orginal definition  
(paper X.V. 1986)

X.V. [41] *Heaps of pieces, I: Basic definitions and combinatorial lemma*,  
in « *Combinatoire énumérative* », eds. G. Labelle et P. Leroux, , Lecture  
Notes in Maths. n° 1234, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1986, p. 321-325.

(downloadable on my main site [www.xavierviennot.org](http://www.xavierviennot.org))



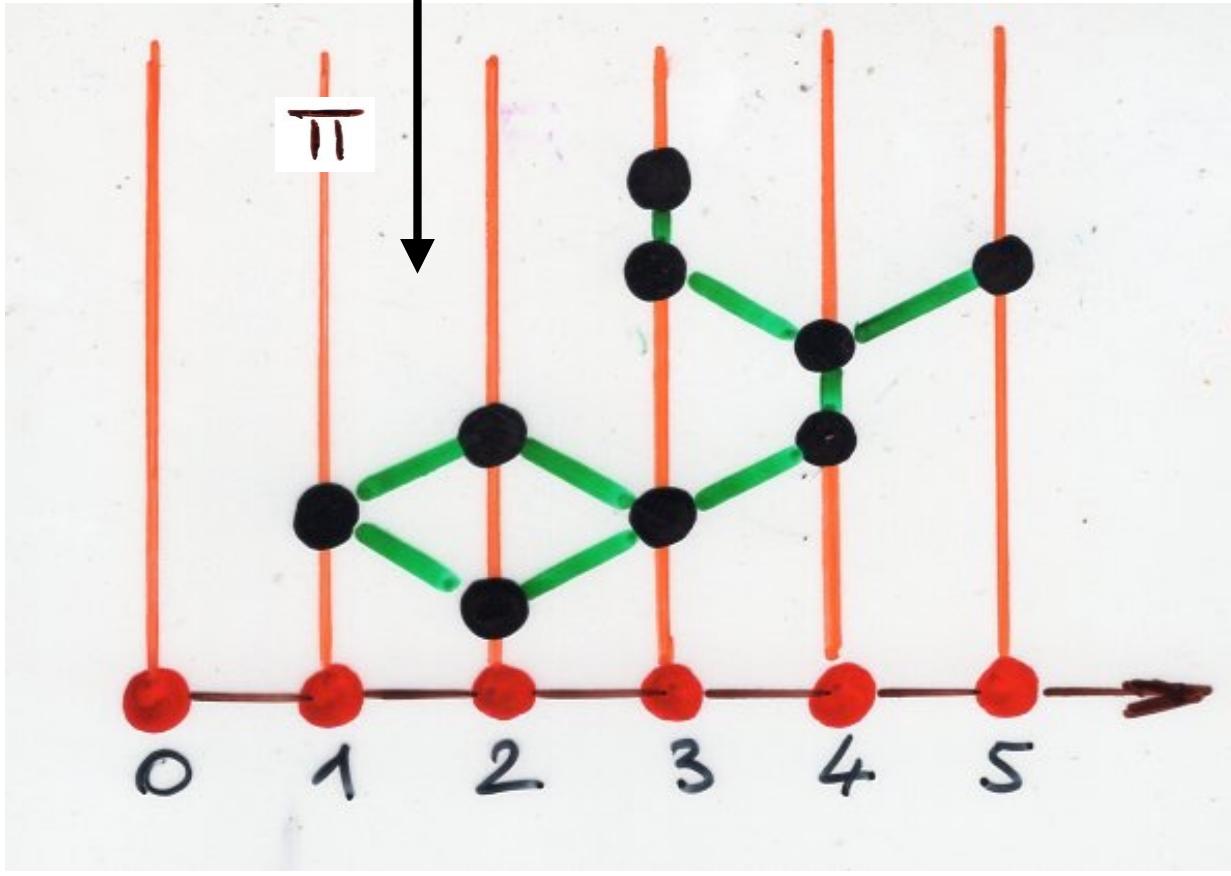
(second definition of heap of pieces)  
(in french "empilement de pièces")

$E$  heap of pieces in  $P$

- $P$  set (of basic pieces)
- $\mathcal{E}$  dependency relation on  $P$   
symmetric and reflexive
  - is a poset with order relation  $\leq$
  - $E \xrightarrow{\pi} P$   $\pi$  projection (to be above)

$$(i) \alpha, \beta \in E, \pi(\alpha) \mathcal{E} \pi(\beta) \Rightarrow_{\text{or}} \alpha \mathcal{E} \beta$$

$$(ii) \alpha, \beta \in E, \alpha \leq \beta, \beta \text{ covers } \alpha \\ \Rightarrow \pi(\alpha) \mathcal{E} \pi(\beta)$$



$$P = \mathbb{Z}$$

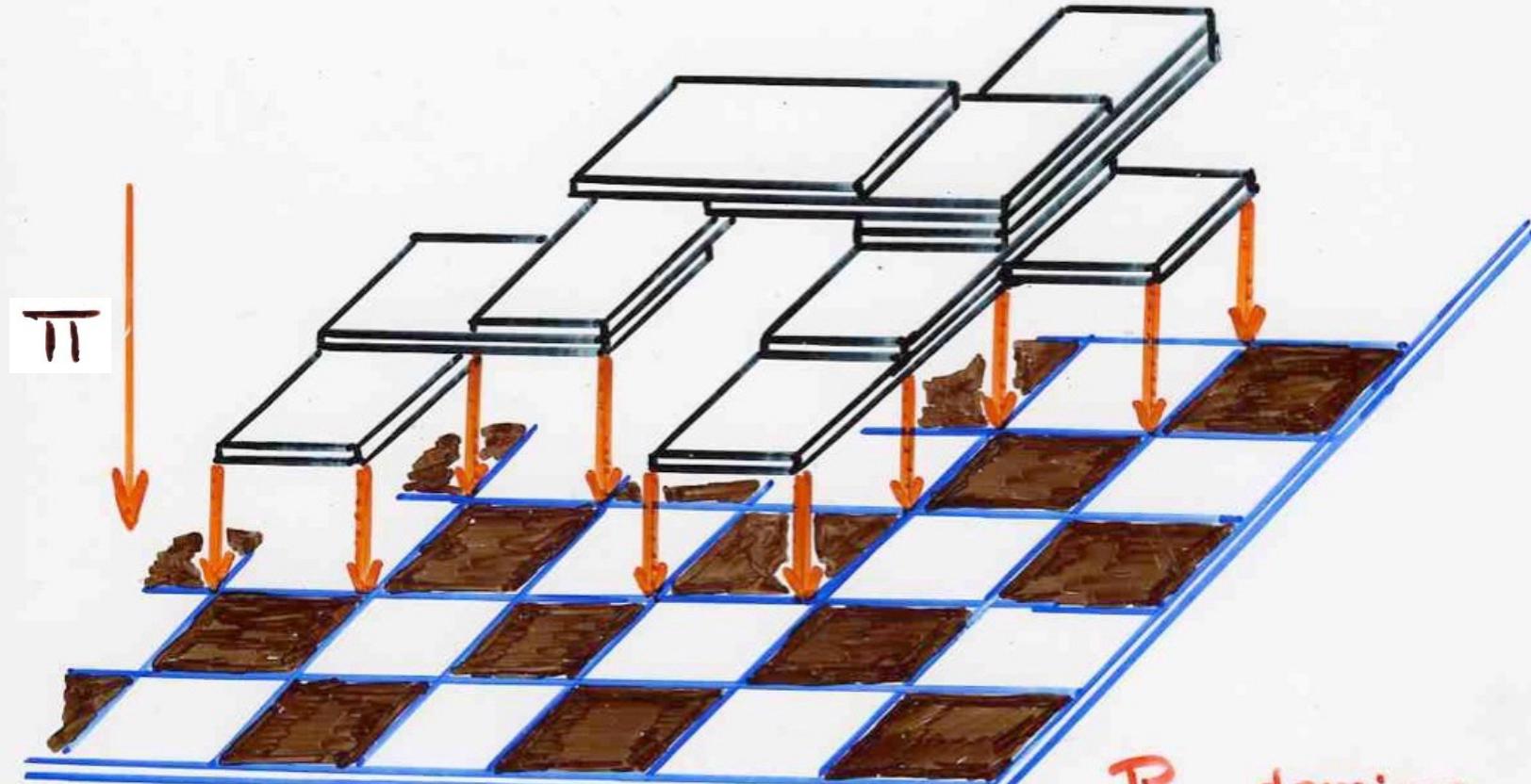
$$i \leq j \Leftrightarrow |i-j| \leq 1$$

equivalent definition

(i)  $\alpha, \beta \in E$ ,  $\pi(\alpha) \mathcal{E} \pi(\beta) \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha \preccurlyeq \beta \\ \text{or} \\ \beta \preccurlyeq \alpha \end{array} \right.$

(ii')  $\preccurlyeq$  is the *transitive closure* of  
the relation in (i)  
 $\alpha \preccurlyeq \beta$  and  $\pi(\alpha) \mathcal{E} \pi(\beta)$

i.e.  $\alpha \preccurlyeq \beta \Leftrightarrow \exists \alpha_1 = \alpha \preccurlyeq \alpha_2 \preccurlyeq \dots \preccurlyeq \alpha_k = \beta$   
with  $\pi(\alpha_i) \mathcal{E} \pi(\alpha_{i+1})$  for  $i=1, \dots, k-1$ .



$$B = R \times R$$

P domino

E heap (second definition)

Definition level of a  $\alpha \in E$   
(or height)  $h(\alpha)$

- if  $\alpha$  minimal element of  $(E, \leq)$   
 $h(\alpha) = 0$
  - in general  $h(\alpha)$  is the length of  
 the **longest** chain going from a  
 minimal element to  $\alpha$

$$\text{minimal } \lambda_0 > \lambda_1 > \dots > \lambda_k = \lambda$$

$$k = h(\lambda)$$

satisfies axioms (i) and (ii)

of the first definition

$$(i) (\alpha, i), (\beta, j) \in E, \alpha \succcurlyeq \beta \Rightarrow i \neq j$$

$$(ii) (\alpha, i) \in E, i > 0 \Rightarrow \exists \beta \in P, \alpha \succcurlyeq \beta, (\beta, i-1) \in E$$

the two definitions are equivalent

by taking the projection  $\pi$  to be

$$\pi(\alpha, i) = \alpha \quad (\text{from the first definition})$$

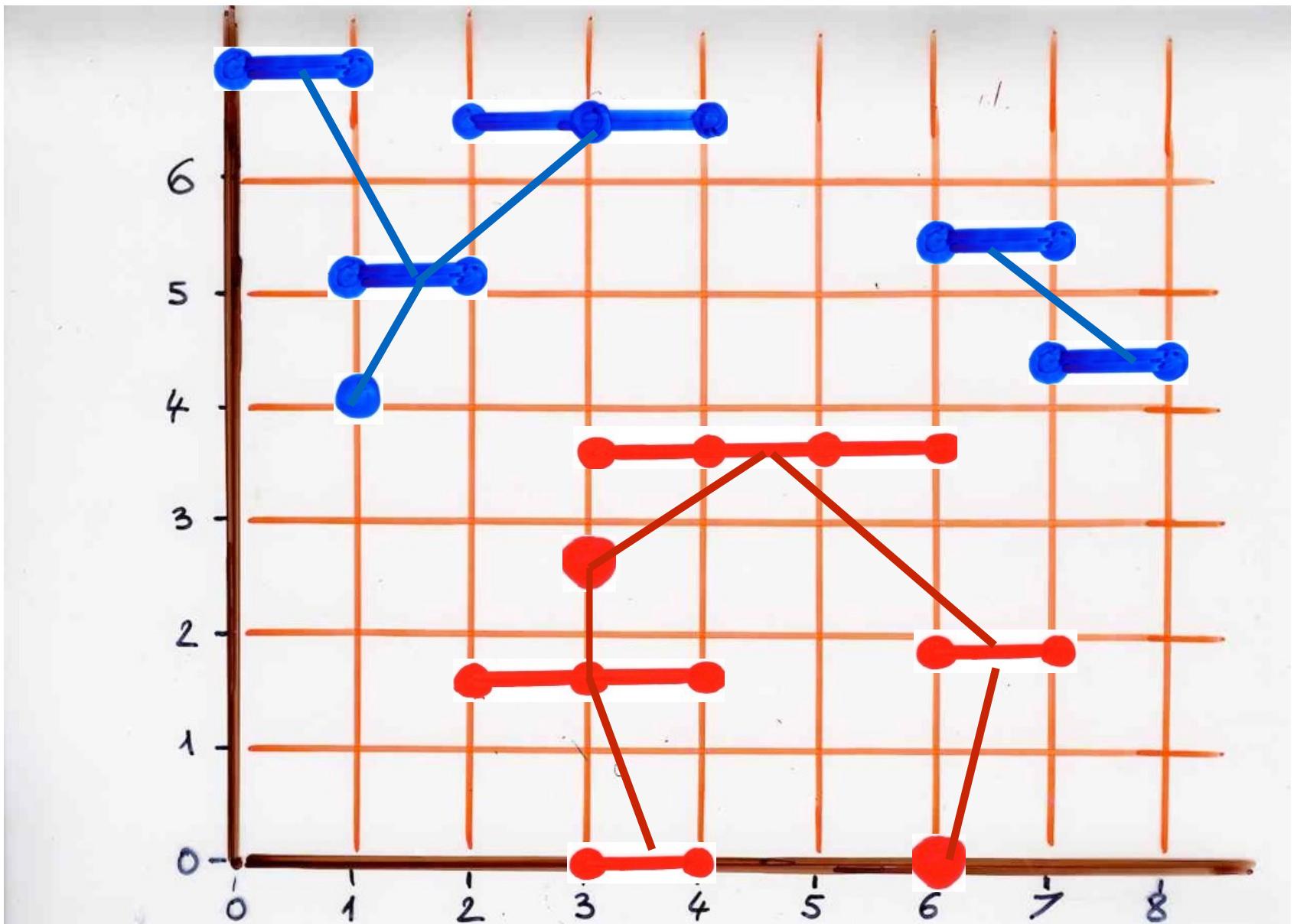
Definition Product of two heaps  
 ⊙ (with the second definition)

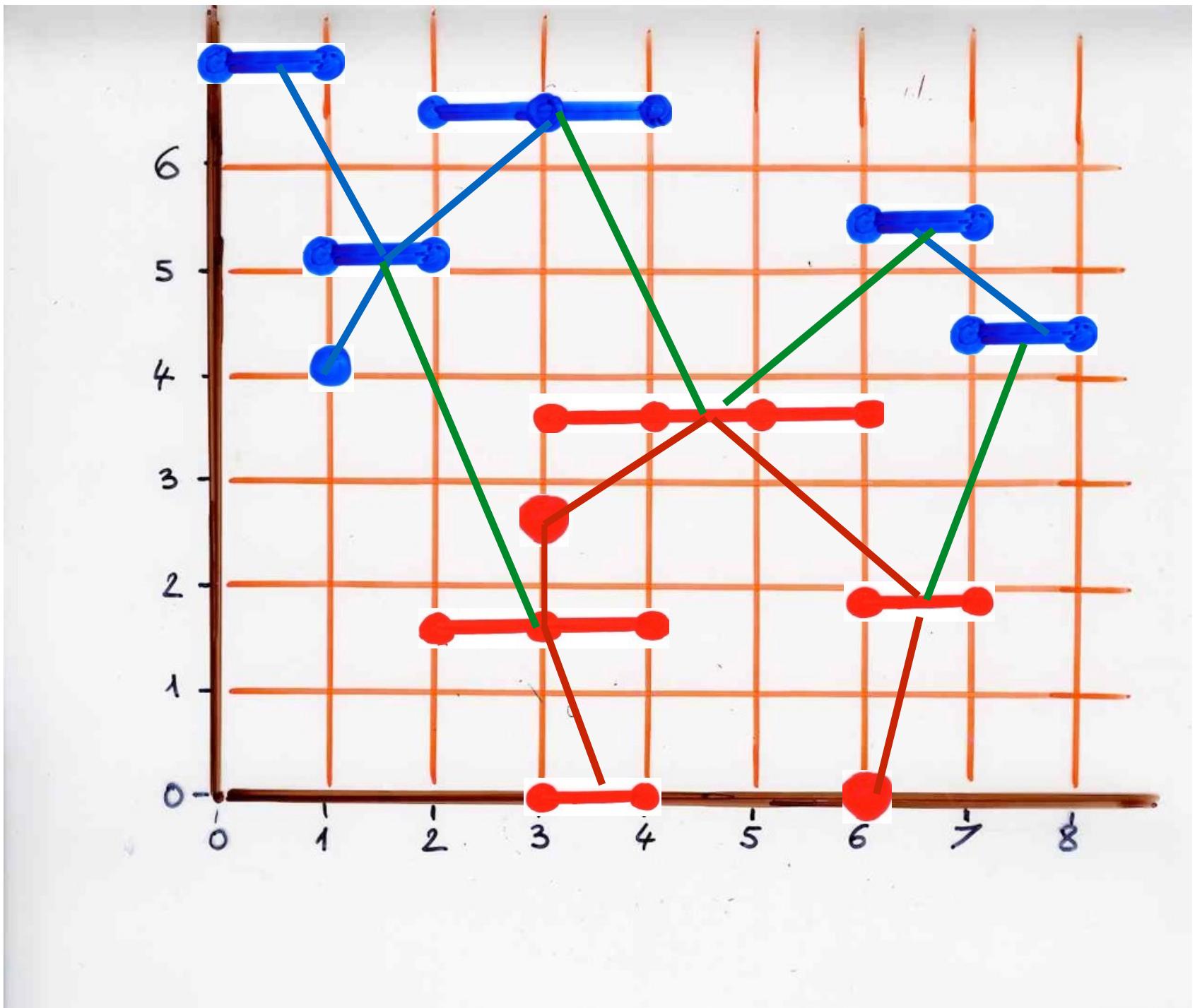
$$E_1 = (E_1, \leq_1, \pi_1), E_2 = (E_2, \leq_2, \pi_2)$$

$$E_1 \odot E_2 = (E_3, \leq_3, \pi_3) \quad \text{with}$$

- $E_3 = E_1 + E_2$  (disjoint union)
- $\pi_3 : E_3 \rightarrow P$  such that the restrictions  
 $\pi_3|_{E_1} = \pi_1 \quad \pi_3|_{E_2} = \pi_2$
- $\leq_3$  is the transitive closure of the relation  $R$

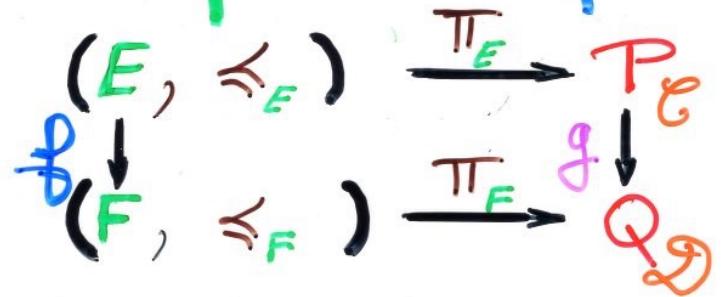
for  $\alpha, \beta \in E_3$   $\Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \alpha, \beta \in E_1 \text{ and } \alpha \leq_1 \beta \\ \bullet \alpha, \beta \in E_2 \text{ and } \alpha \leq_2 \beta \\ \bullet \alpha \in E_1 \text{ and } \pi_1(\alpha) C \pi_2(\beta) \end{array} \right.$





# heaps

# morphism

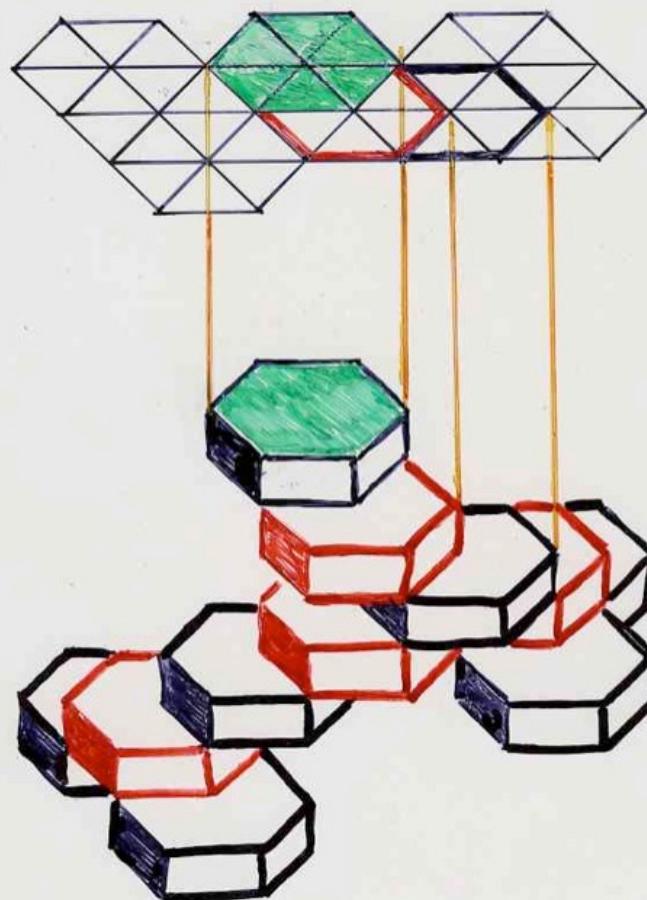


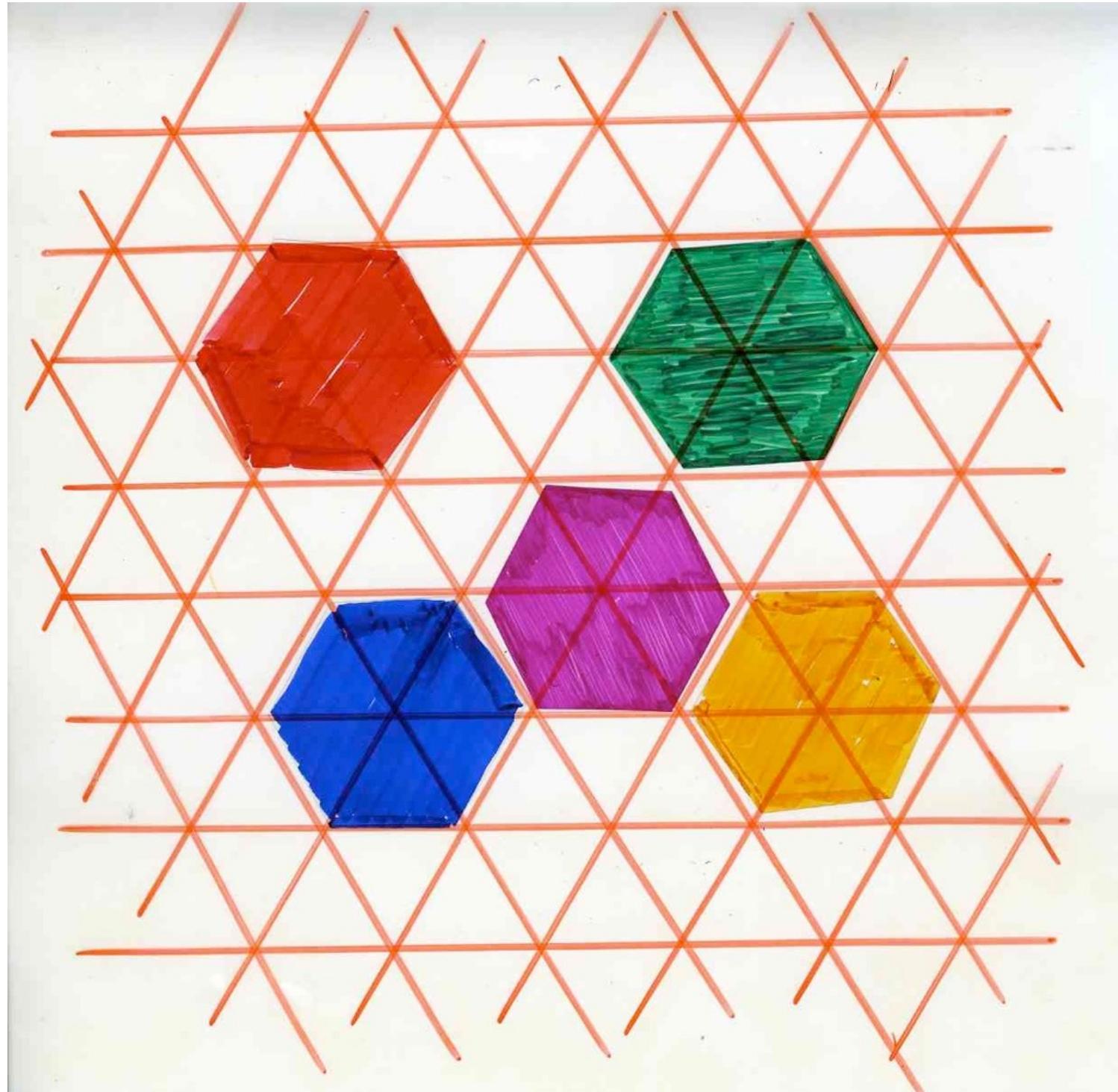
- (i) • commutative diagram
- (ii) •  $f: E \rightarrow F$  increasing map
- (iii) •  $g: P \rightarrow Q$  such that  
 $\alpha \leq \beta \Rightarrow g(\alpha) \leq g(\beta)$

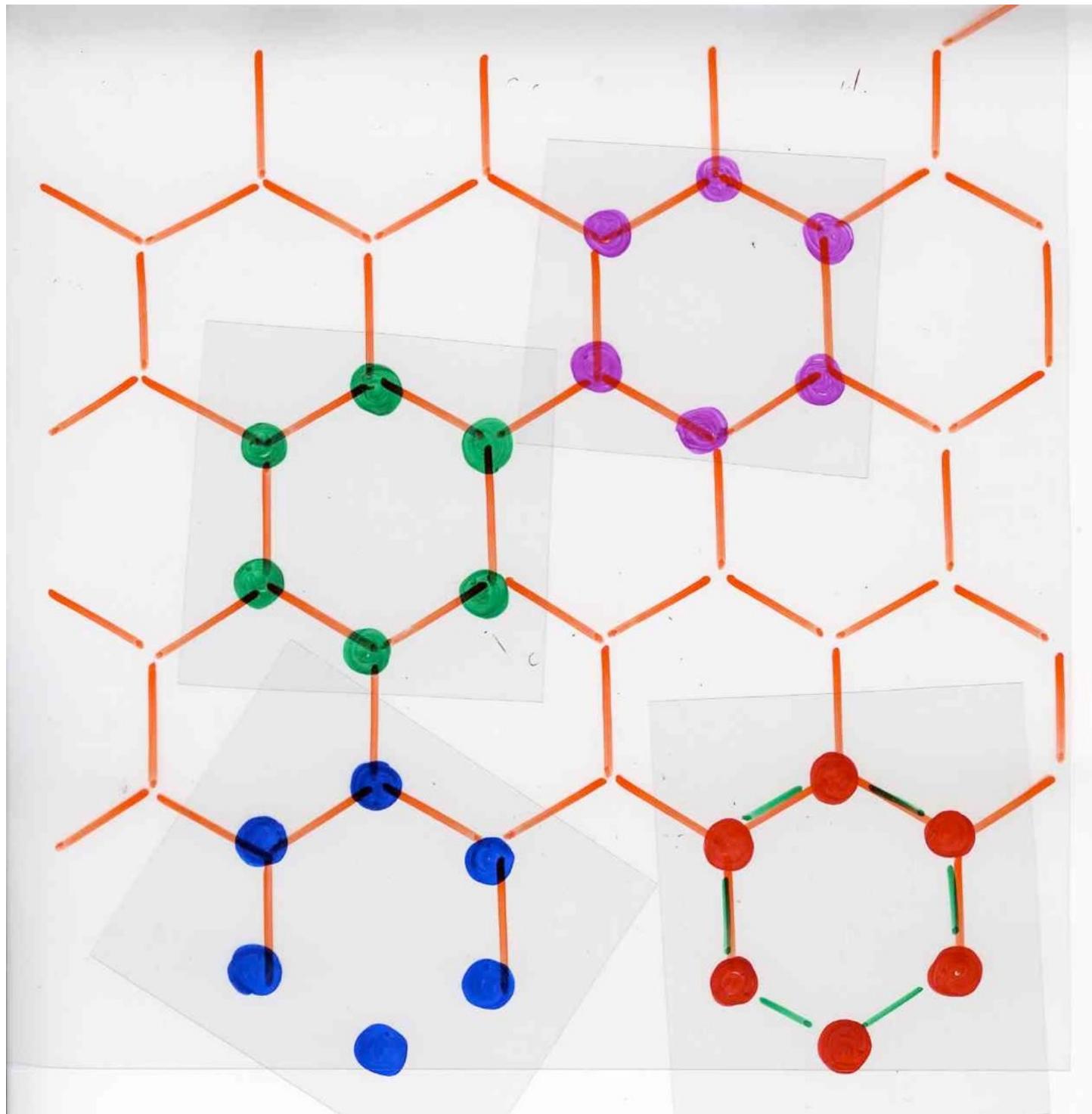
# isomorphism

$f$  and  $g$  are bijections  
 $f^{-1}, g^{-1}$  satisfies (ii) and (iii)

$$-p(-t) = y$$







Heaps of dimers

symmetric group

more in chapter 9

heaps of dimers  
 $(i, i+1)$

on  $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$

generators  $\{\sigma_0, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}\}$

$$\sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i \quad \text{iff} \quad |i-j| \geq 2$$

# Symmetric group $G_n$ $S_n$

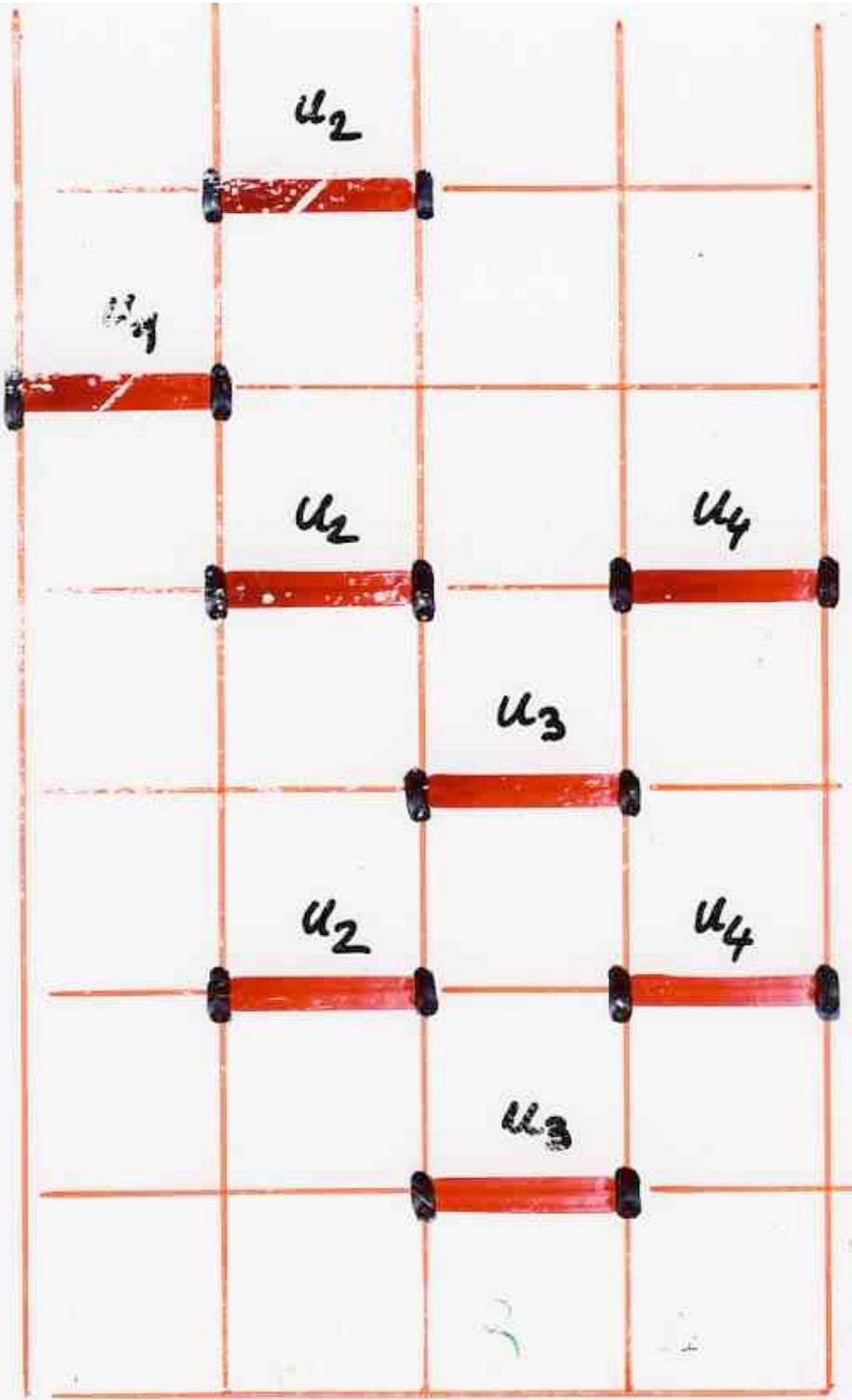
$n!$  permutations

$$\sigma_i = (i, i+1) \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n-1$$

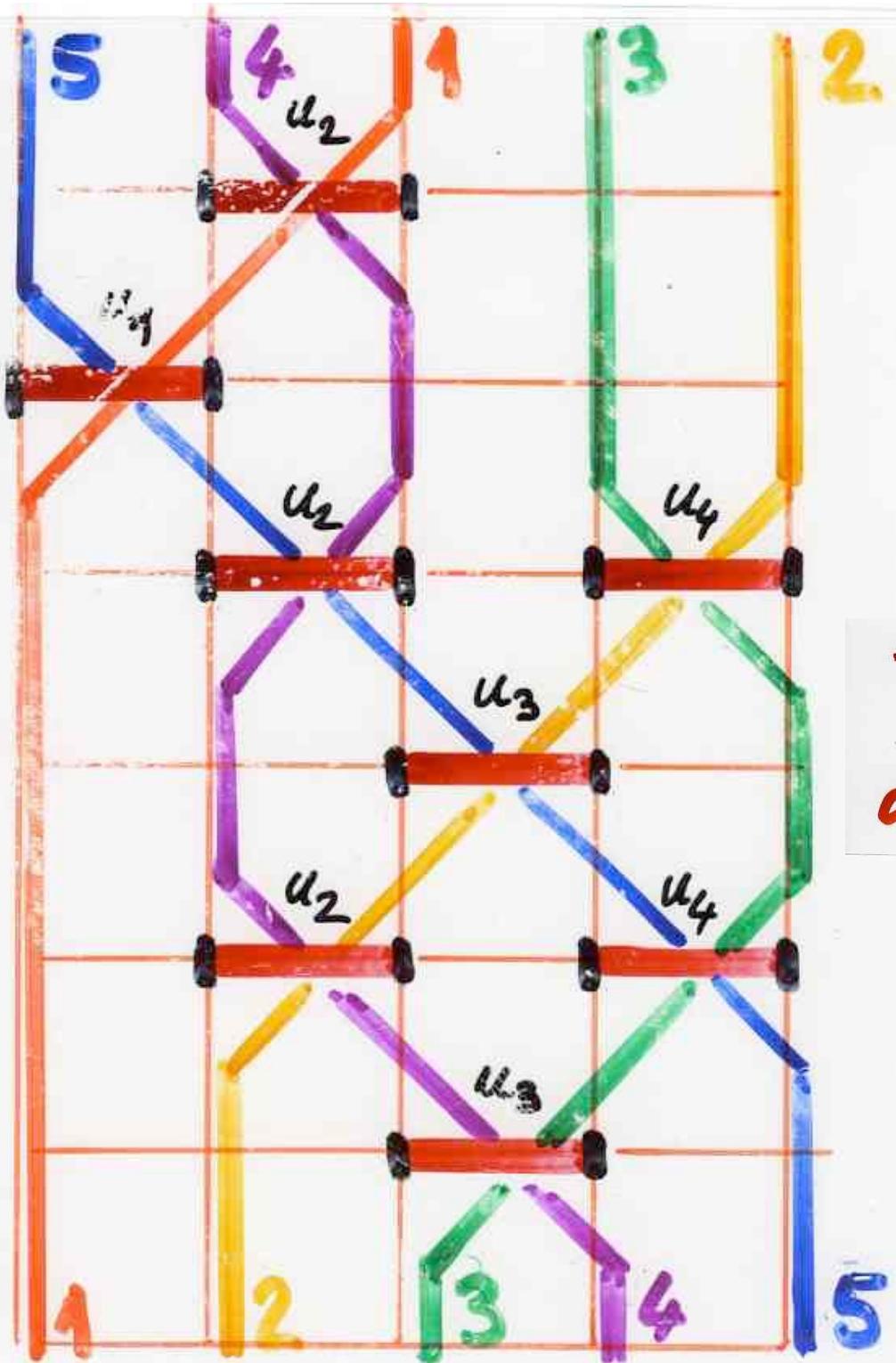
transposition of two consecutive elements

- (i)  $\sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i, \quad |i-j| \geq 2$
- (ii)  $\sigma_i^2 = 1,$
- (iii)  $\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1}.$

Moore-Greider  
Yang-Baxter



heap  
of  
dimers  $[1, n]$   $\rightarrow$  permutation  $S_n$



heap  
of  
dimers  $[1, n]$   $\rightarrow$  permutation  $S_n$

$$u_i(a_1 \dots a_i a_{i+1} \dots a_n)$$

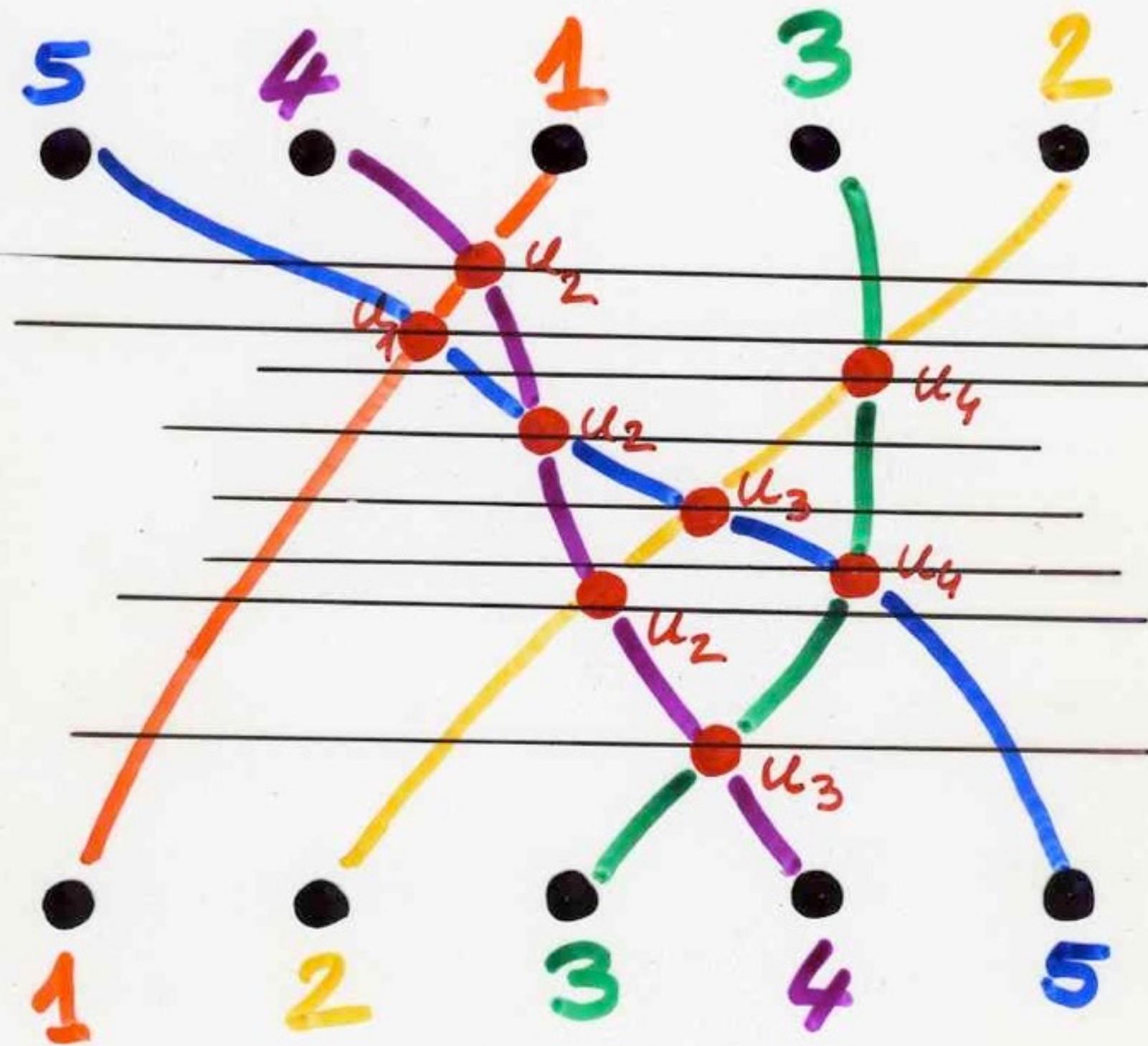
$$= (a_1 \dots a_{i-1} a_i \dots a_n)$$

reduced decomposition  
of a permutation

$$\sigma = u_{i_1} \dots u_{i_k}$$

$k$  minimum

(nb of inversion)



$$\begin{aligned} u_i(a_1 \cdots a_i a_{i+1} \cdots a_n) \\ = (a_1 \cdots a_{i+1} a_i \cdots a_n) \end{aligned}$$

equivalently :

if  $\sigma = u_{i_1} \dots u_{i_k} (12\dots n)$

$$\sigma^{-1} = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_k}$$

$$s_i = (i, i+1)$$

transposition

braid

group

$B_n$

symmetric  
group

$S_n$

Temperley-Lieb

algebra

$A_n(\tau)$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i \quad |i-j| \geq 2 \\ \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sigma_i^2 = 1 \\ \sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i \quad |i-j| \geq 2 \\ \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} e_i^2 = e_i \\ e_i \cdot e_j = e_j \cdot e_i \quad |i-j| \geq 2 \\ e_i \cdot e_{i+1} \cdot e_i = \tau e_i \end{array} \right\}$$

Hecke  
algebra

$H_n(q)$

more

in

chapter 9

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g_i^2 = (q-1)g_i + q \\ g_i \cdot g_j = g_j \cdot g_i \quad |i-j| \geq 2 \\ g_i \cdot g_{i+1} \cdot g_i = g_{i+1} \cdot g_i \cdot g_{i+1} \end{array} \right.$$

