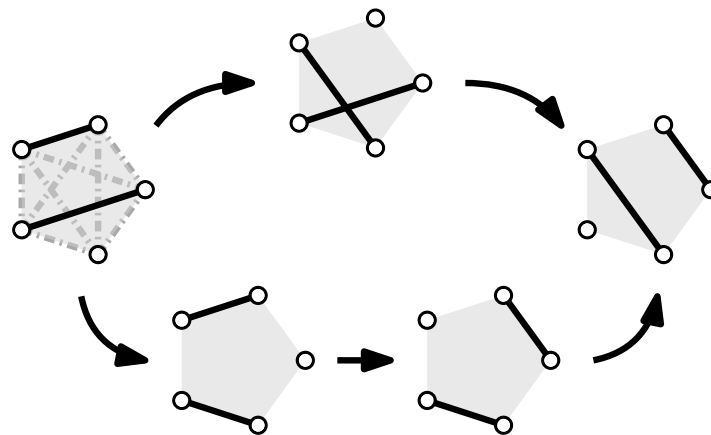


Higher Hardness Results for the Reconfiguration of Odd Matchings

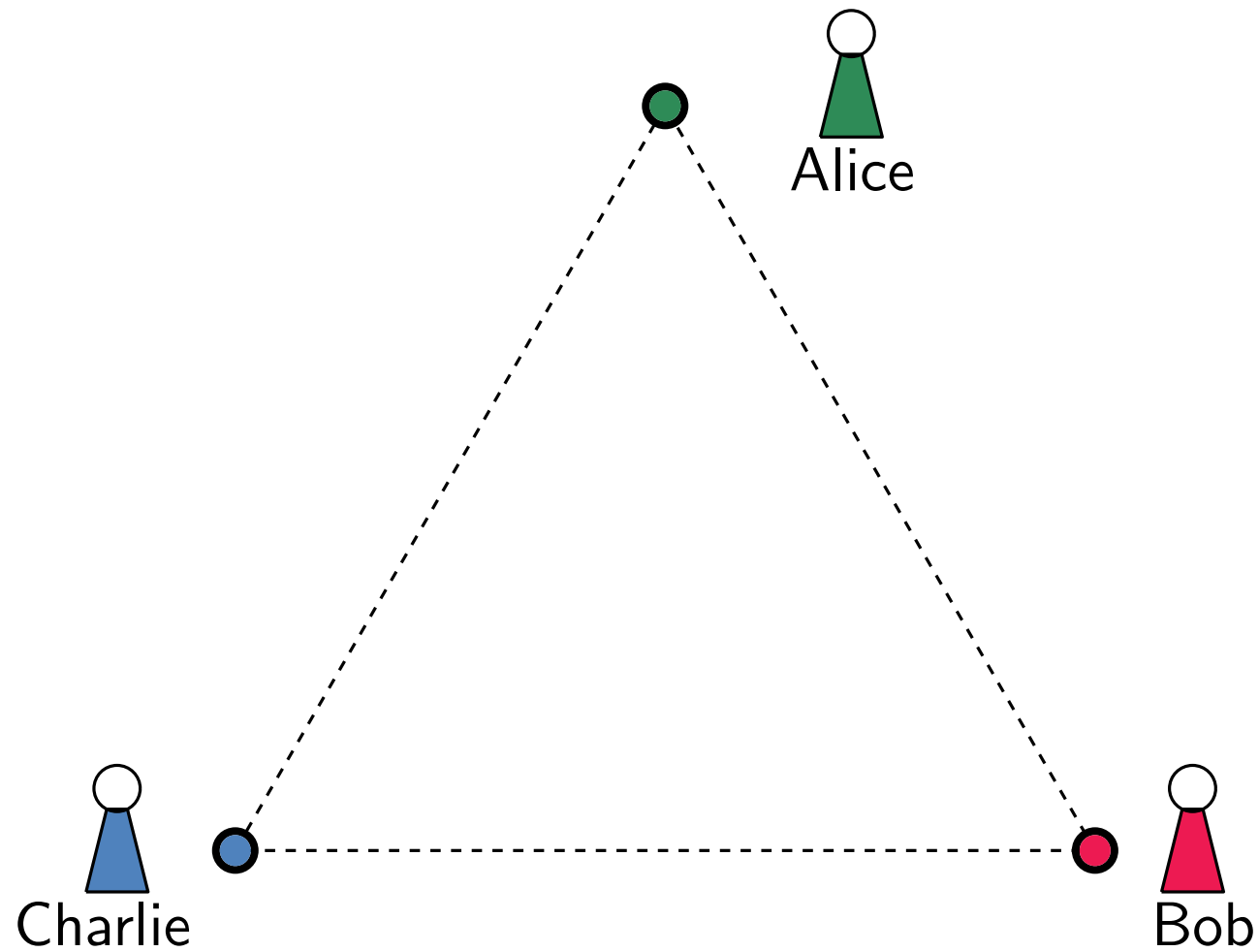
Joseph Dorfer

Graz University of Technology

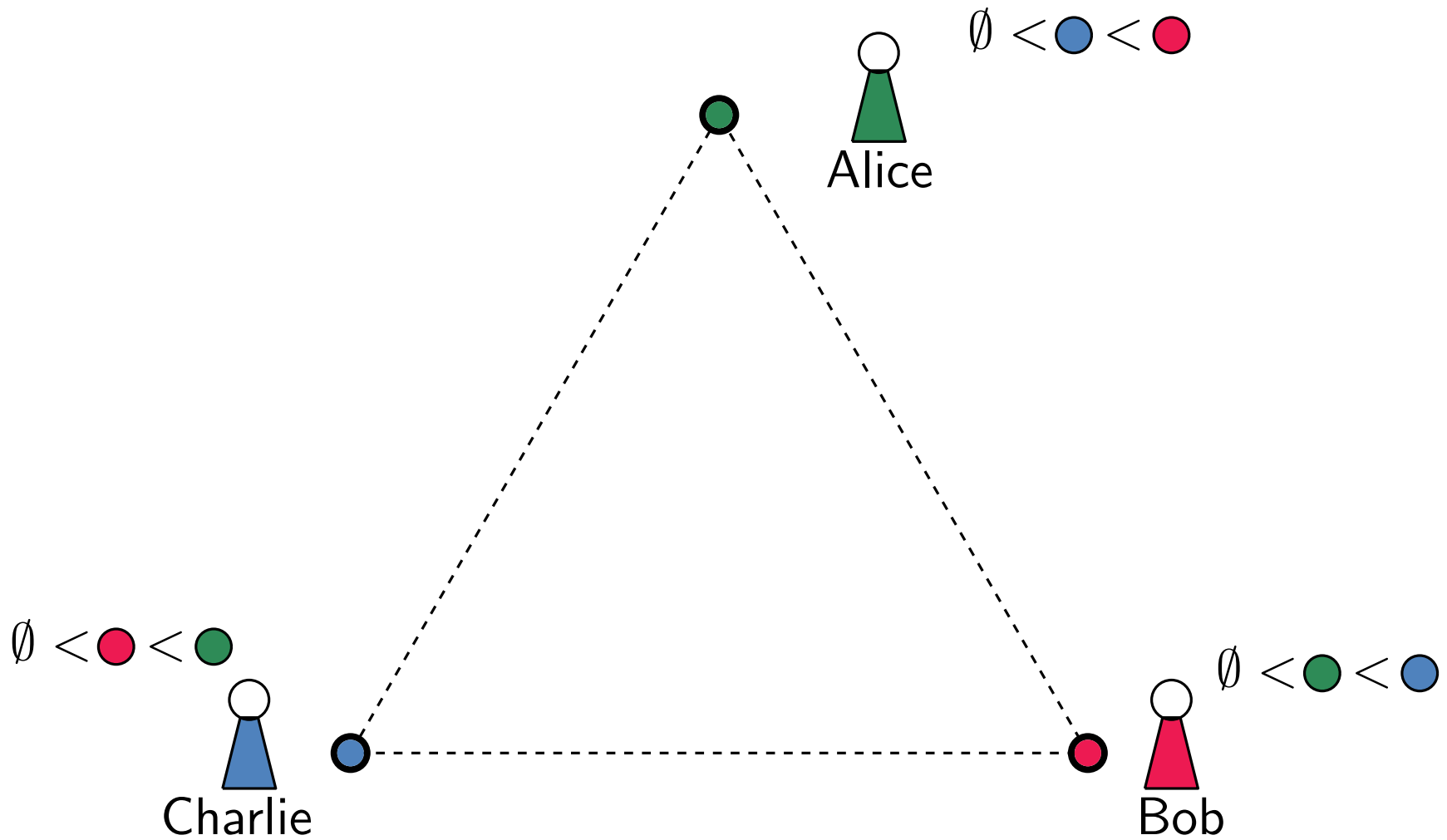


Austrian Science Fund (FWF) 10.55776/DOC183

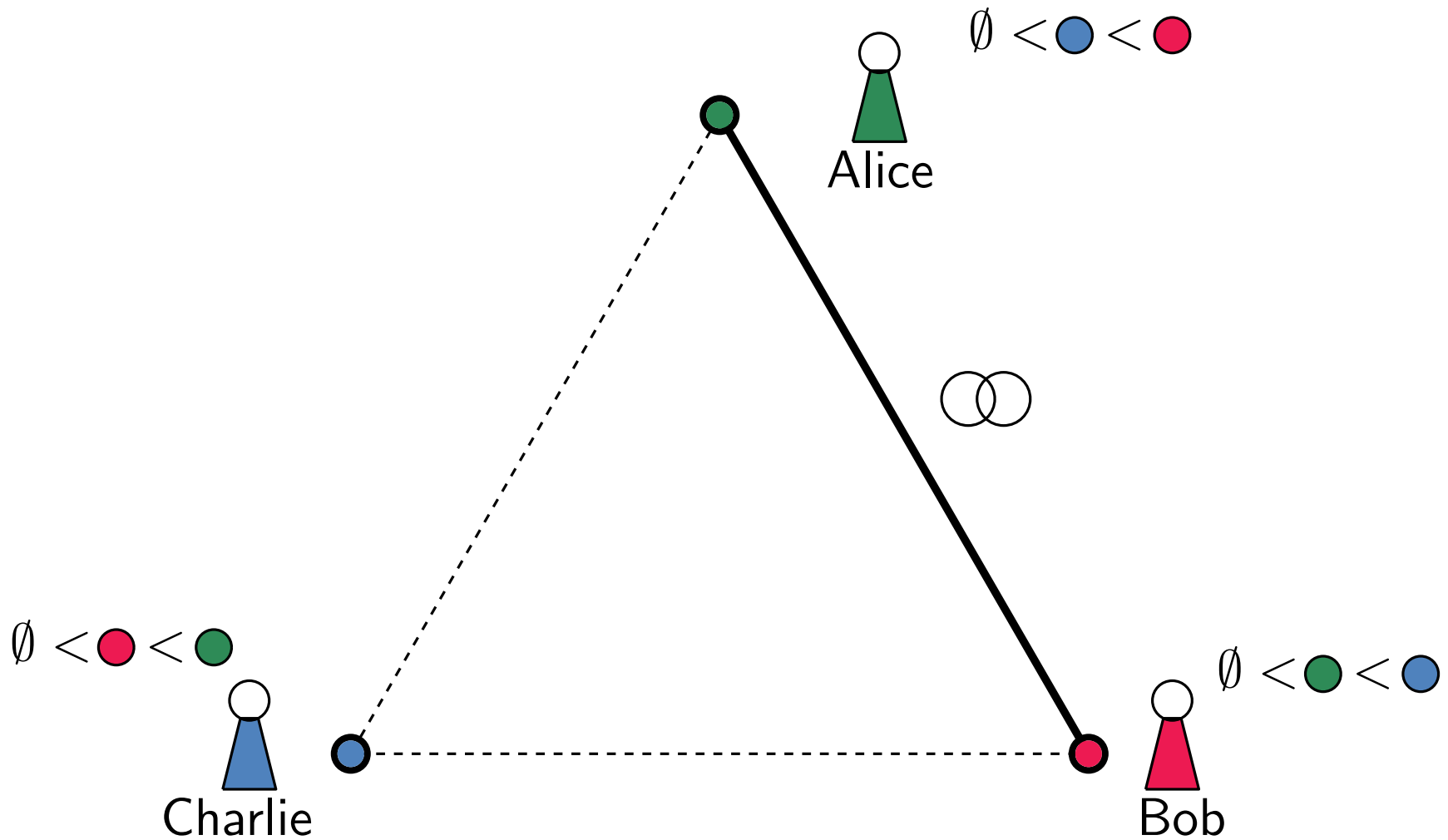
Stable Marriage Problem



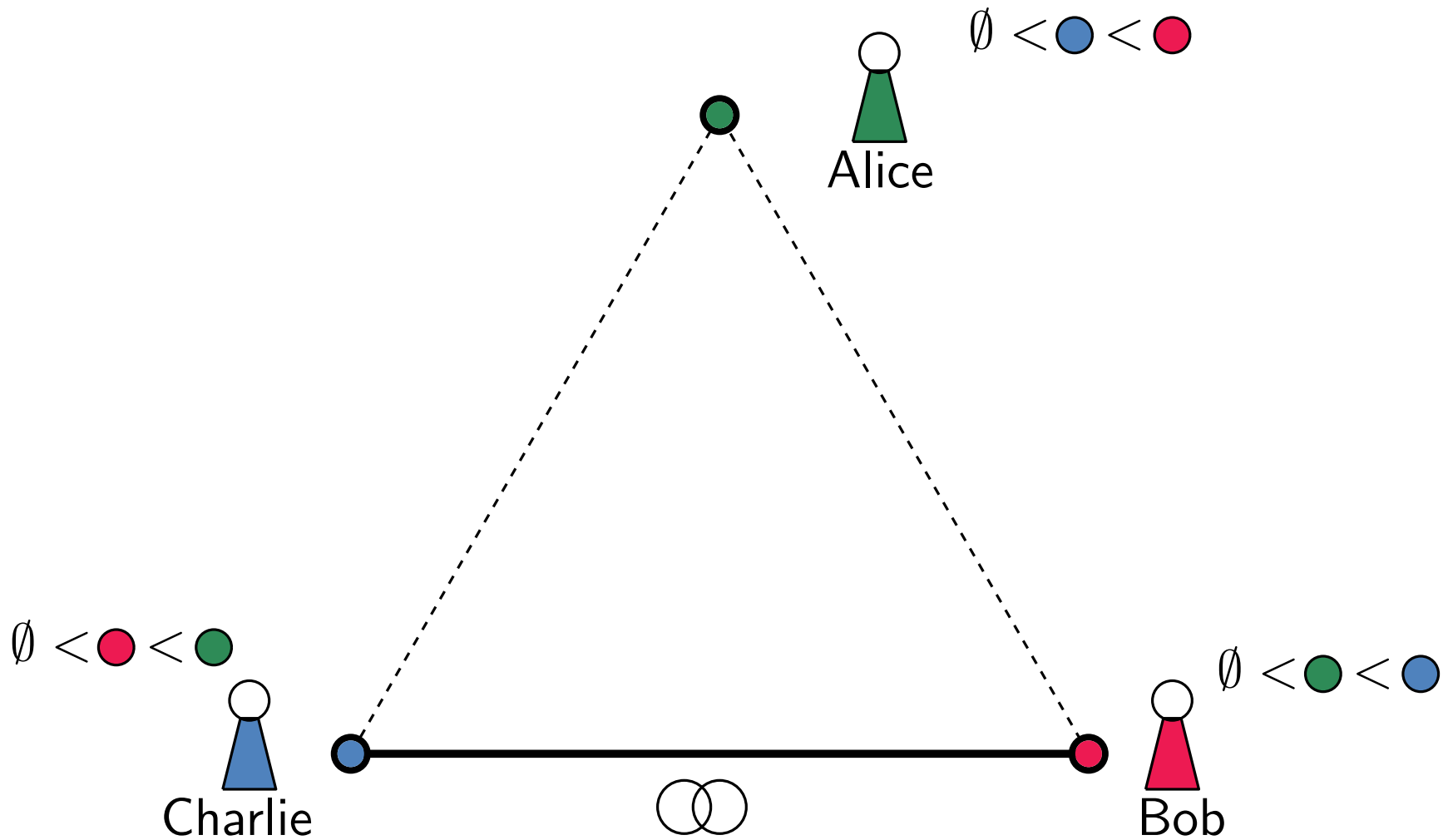
Stable Marriage Problem



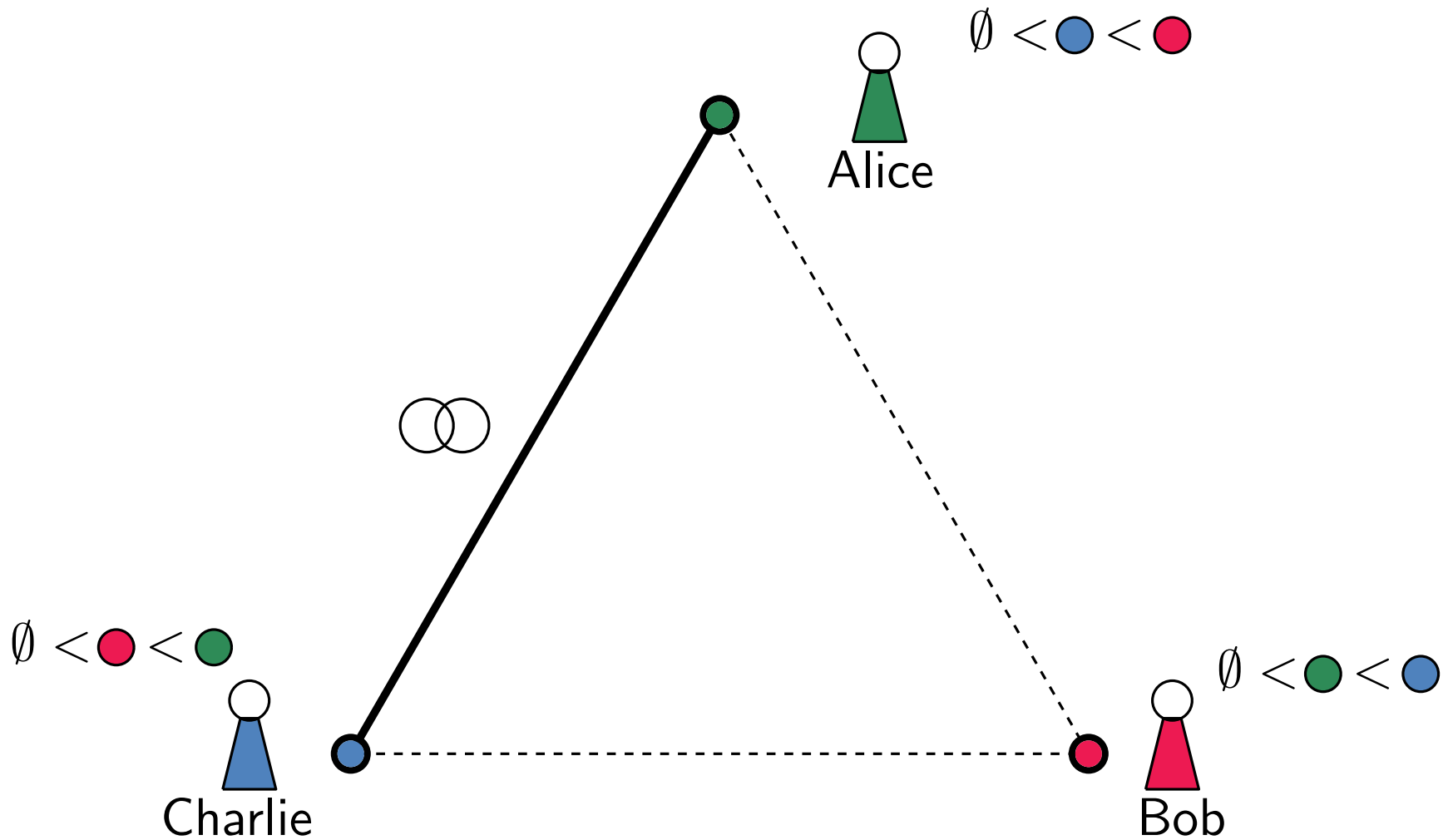
Stable Marriage Problem



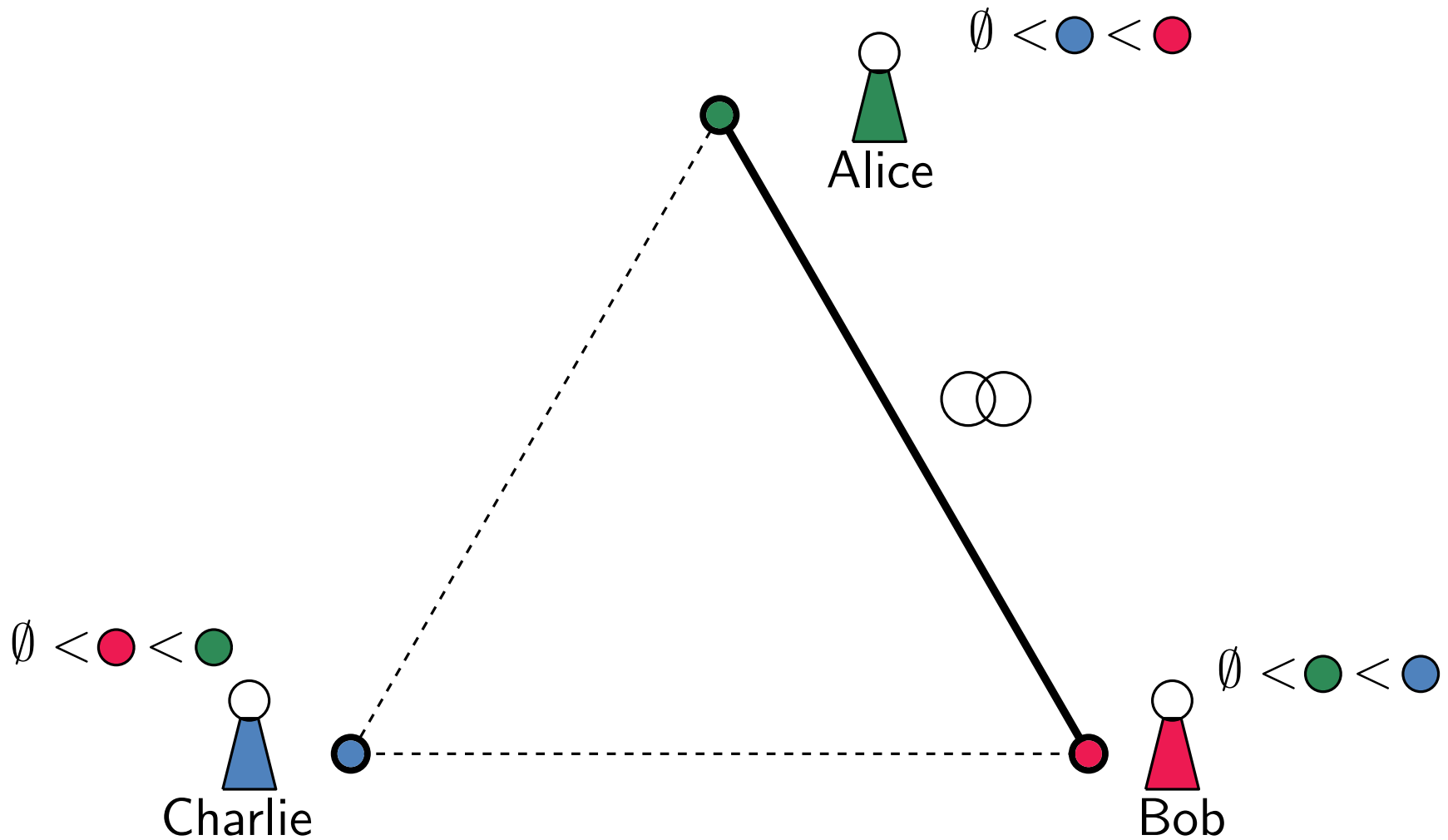
Stable Marriage Problem



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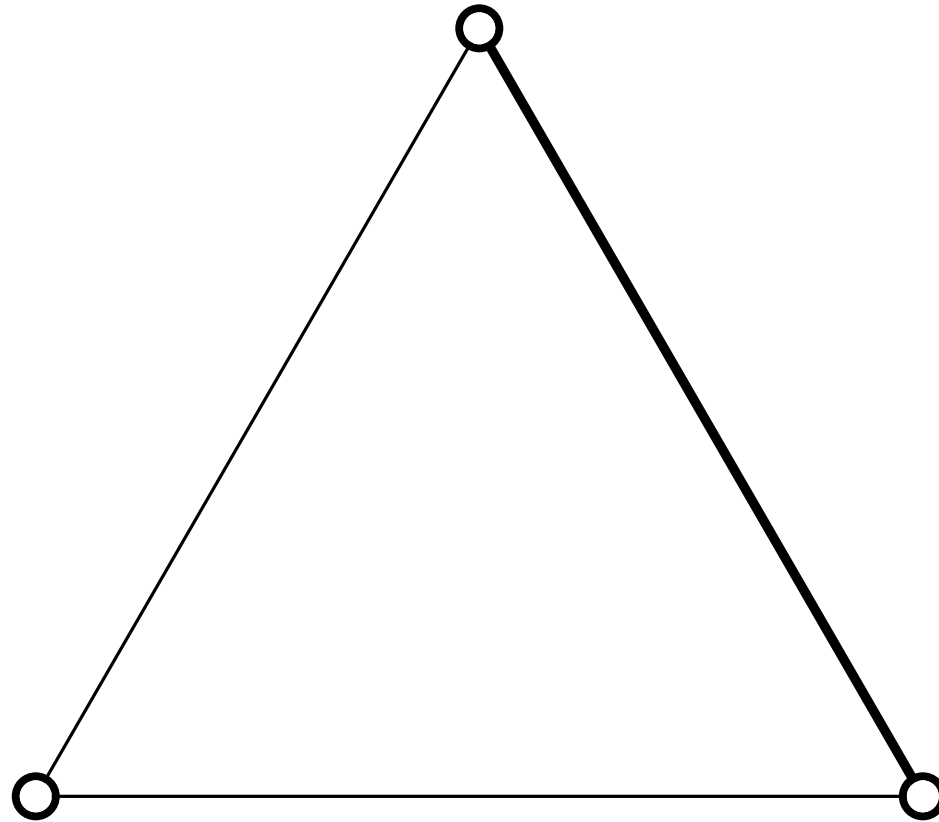


Stable Marriage Problem



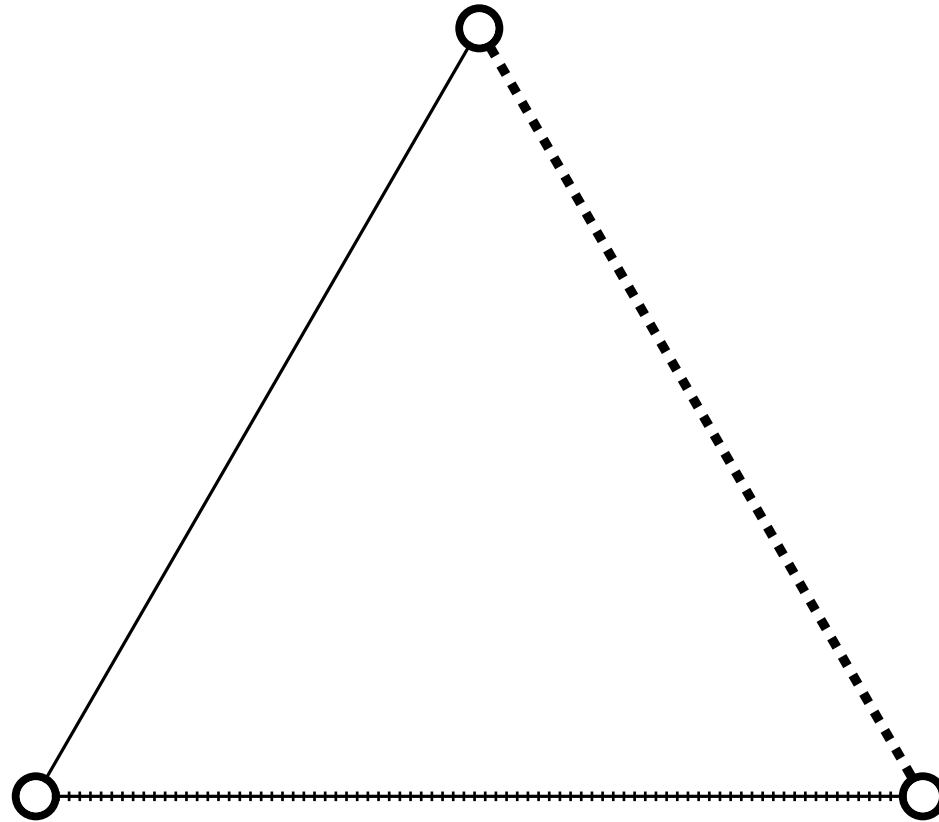
Odd matchings and flips

Odd matching of graphs: All vertices except one are matched



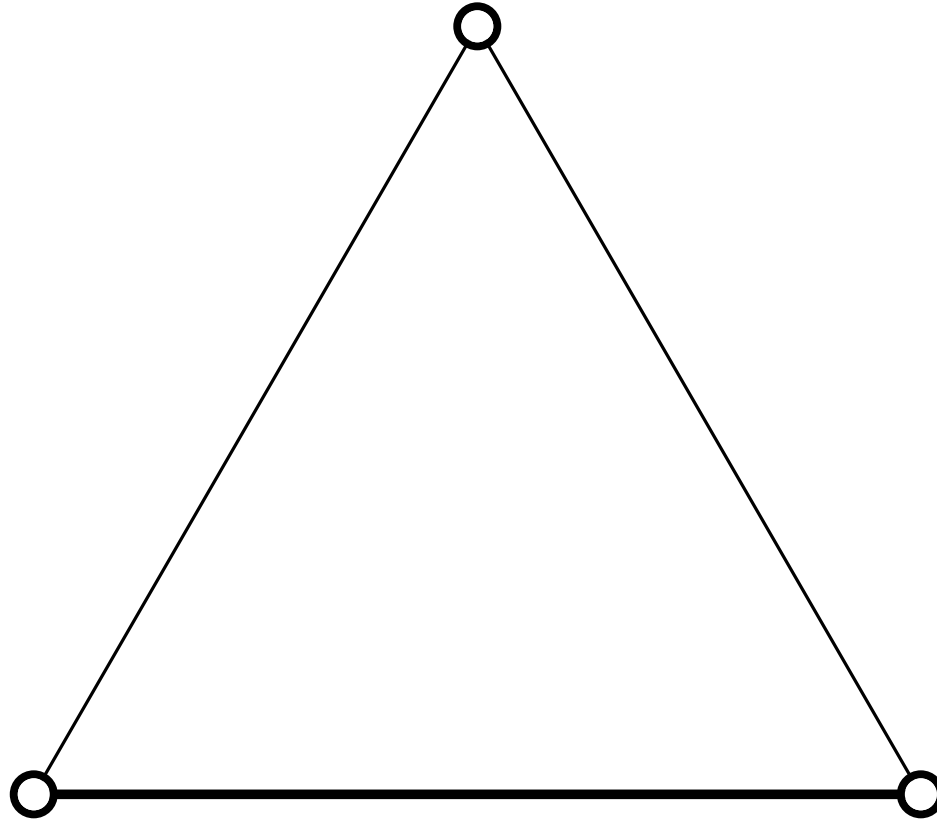
Odd matchings and flips

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Flipping - Central Questions

Connectedness: Transform any structure into any other via flips?

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Diameter: Worst case number of flips between configurations?

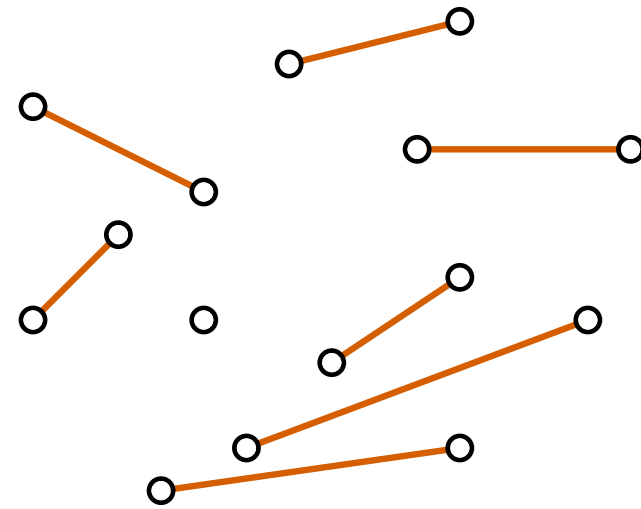
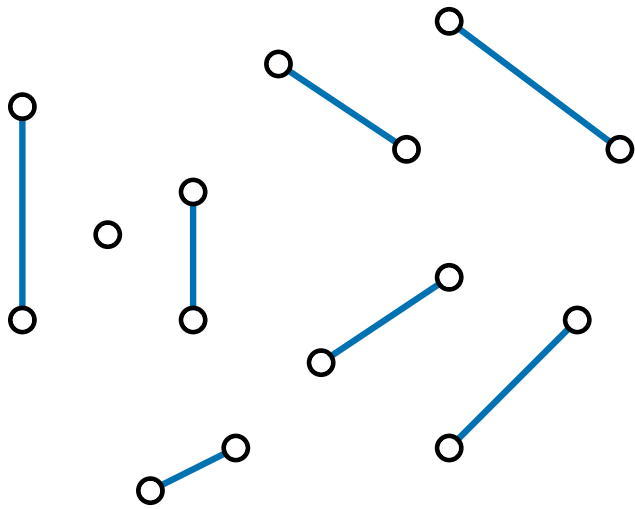
Flipping - Central Questions

Connectedness: Transform any structure into any other via flips?

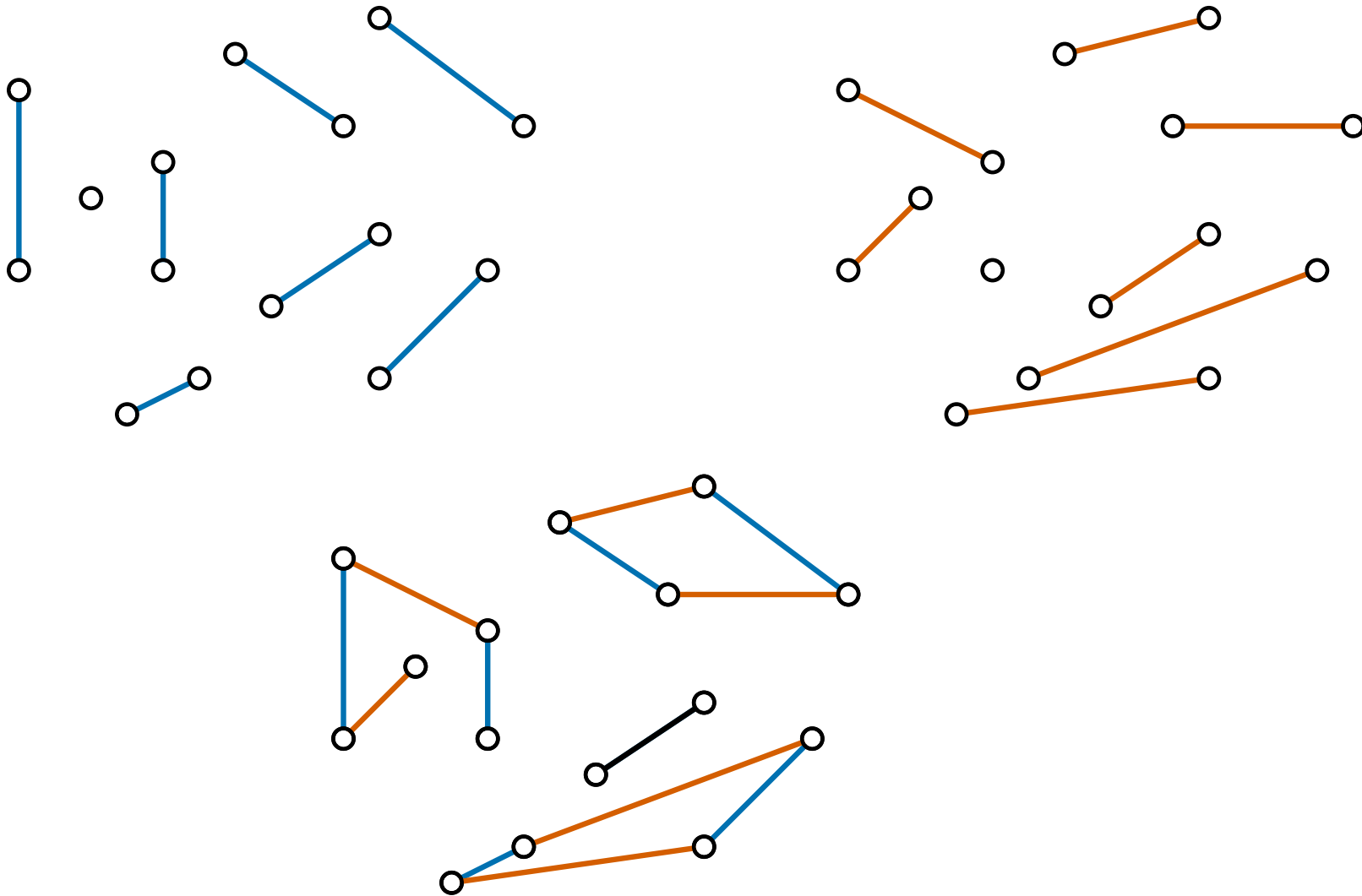
Diameter: Worst case number of flips between configurations?

Complexity: Two specific configurations: How many flips needed? How to compute flip sequence?

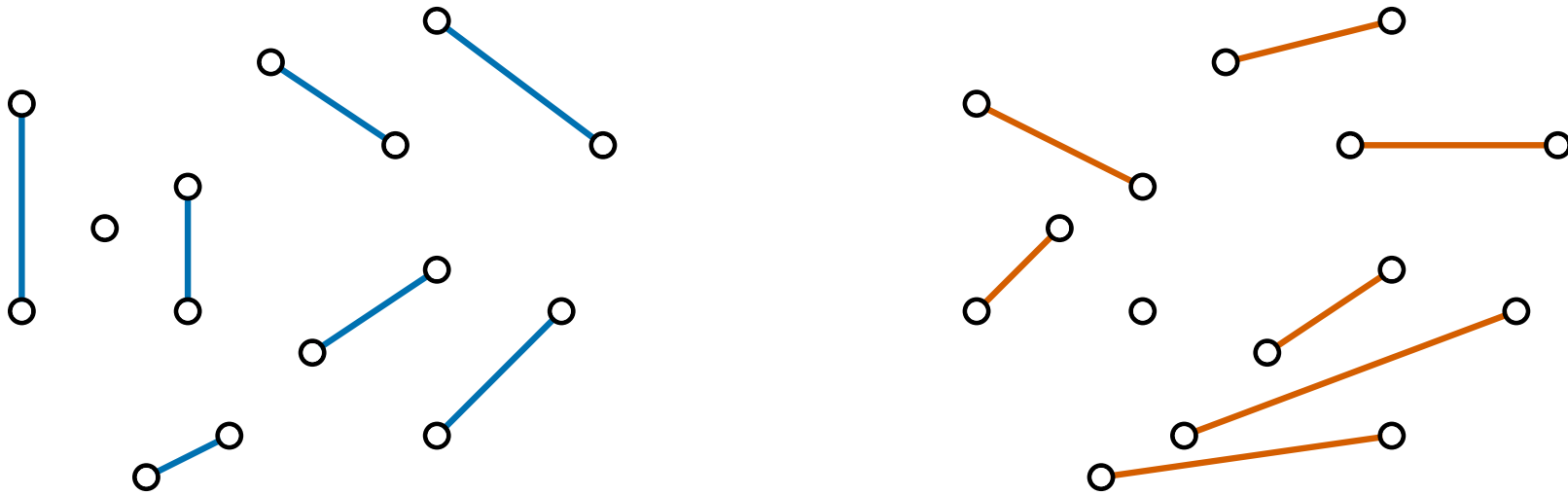
Union of matchings



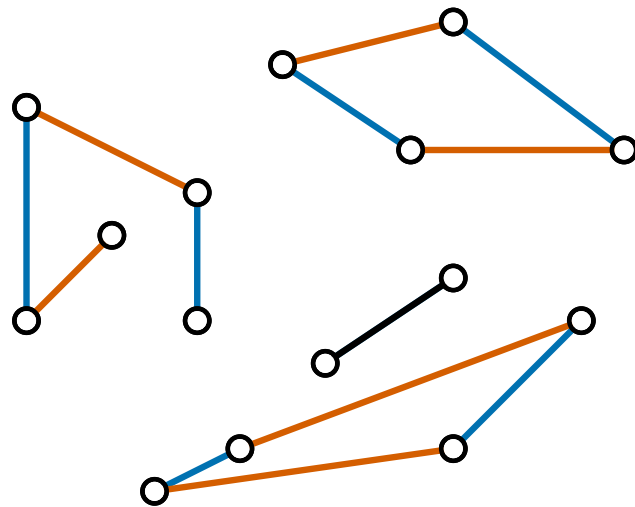
Union of matchings



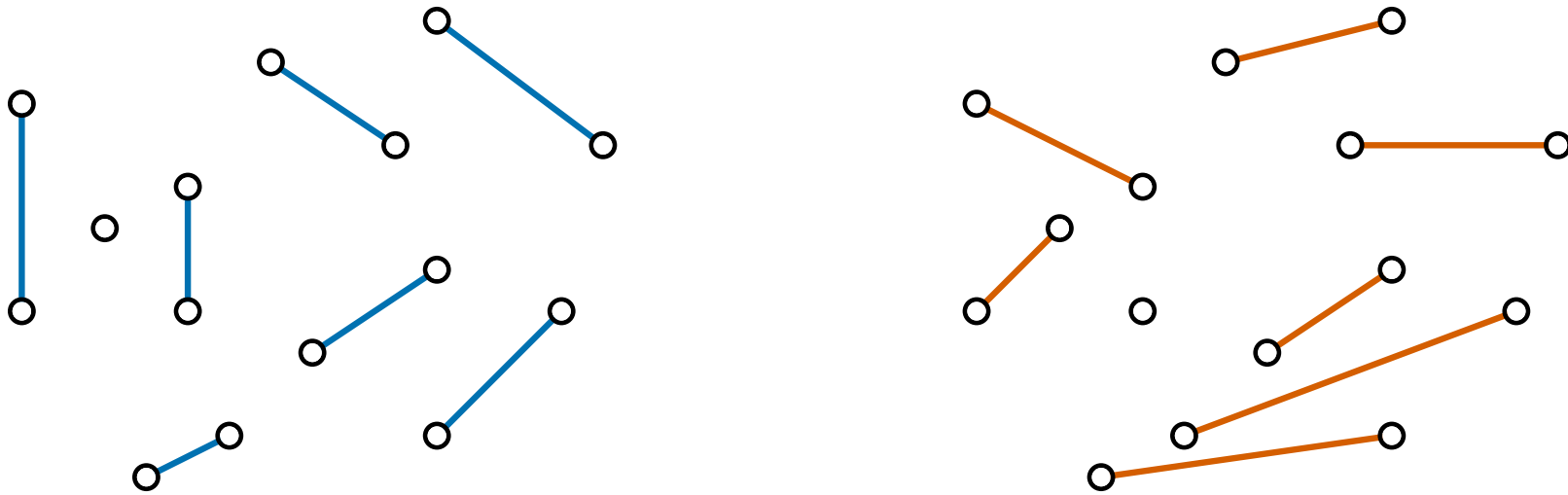
Union of matchings



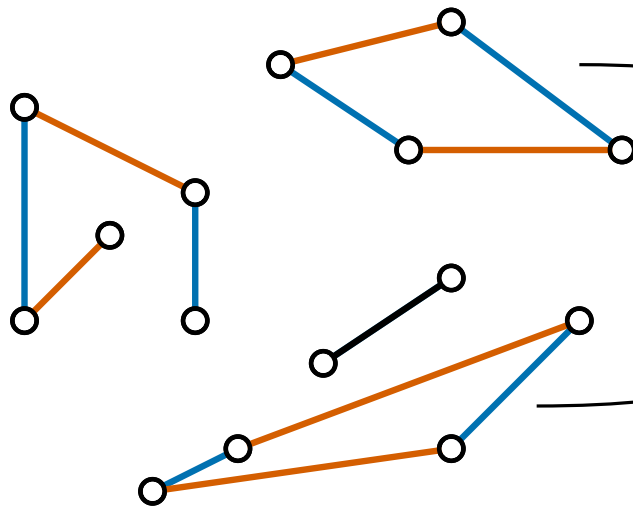
Alternating path connecting isolated vertices



Union of matchings

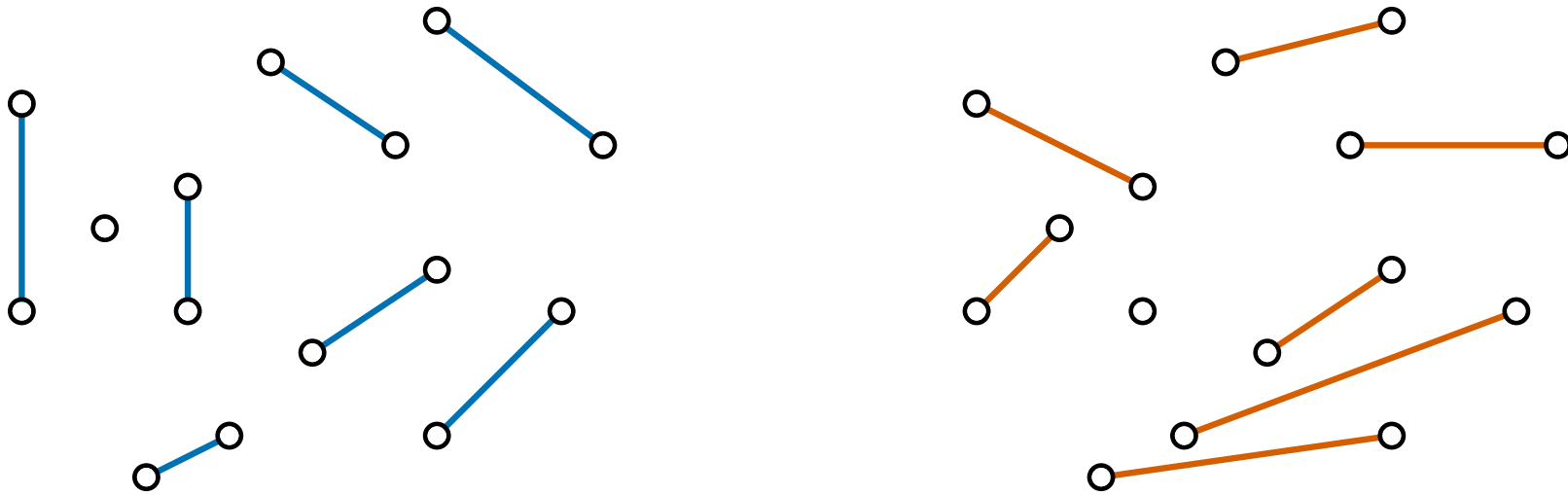


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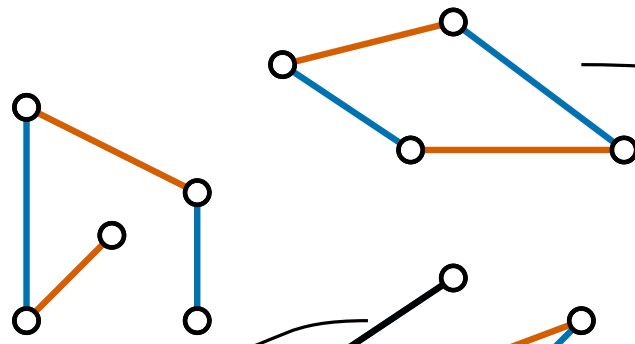


Alternating cycles

Union of matchings

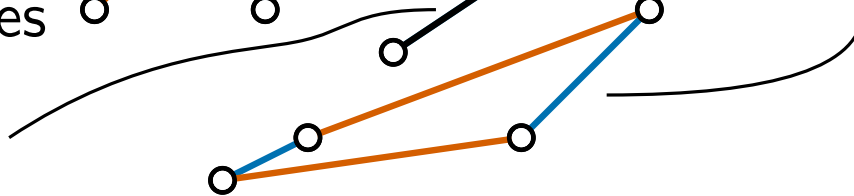


Alternating path connecting isolated vertices



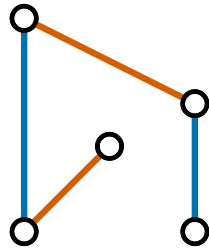
Alternating cycles

Happy Edges



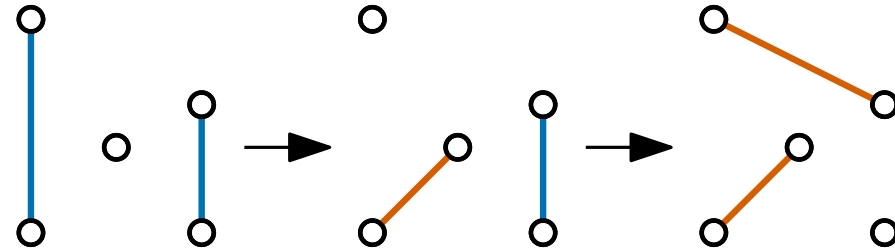
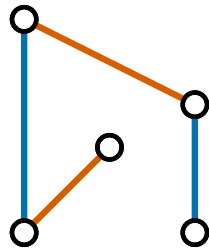
Union of Matchings

Alternating
paths



Union of Matchings

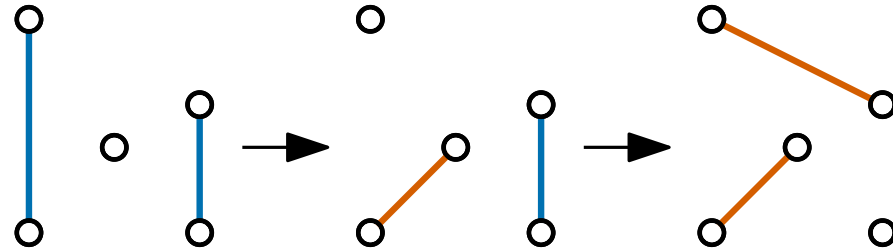
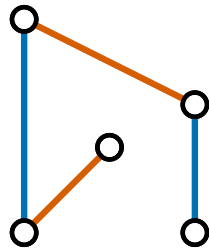
Alternating paths



One flip per edge in one matching

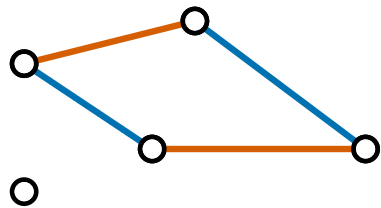
Union of Matchings

Alternating paths



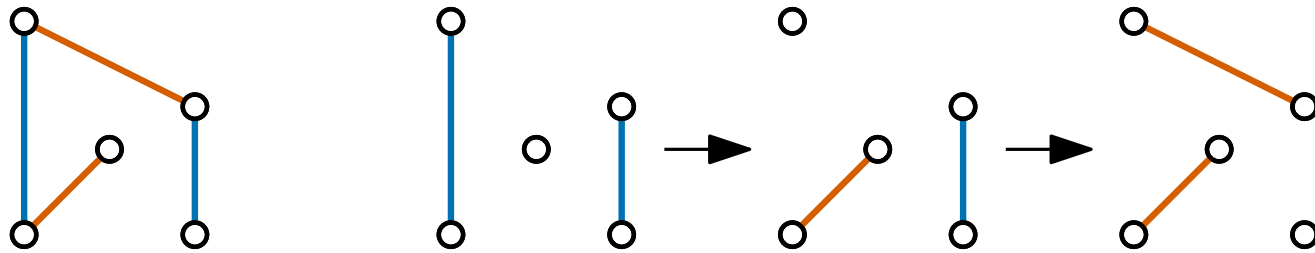
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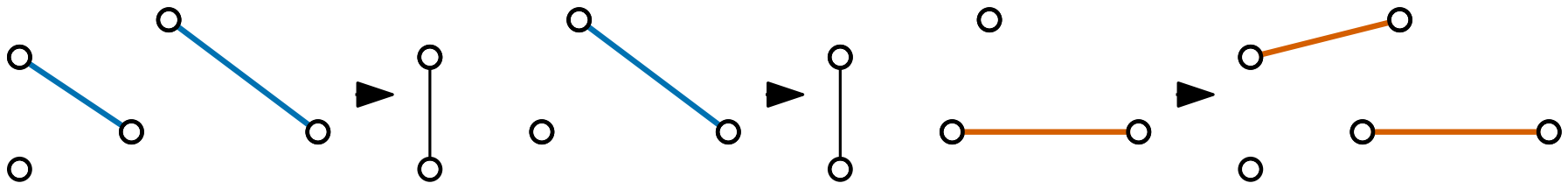
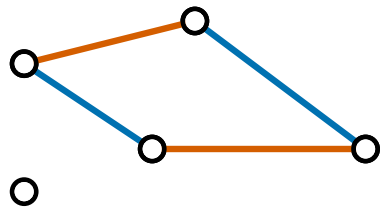
Union of Matchings

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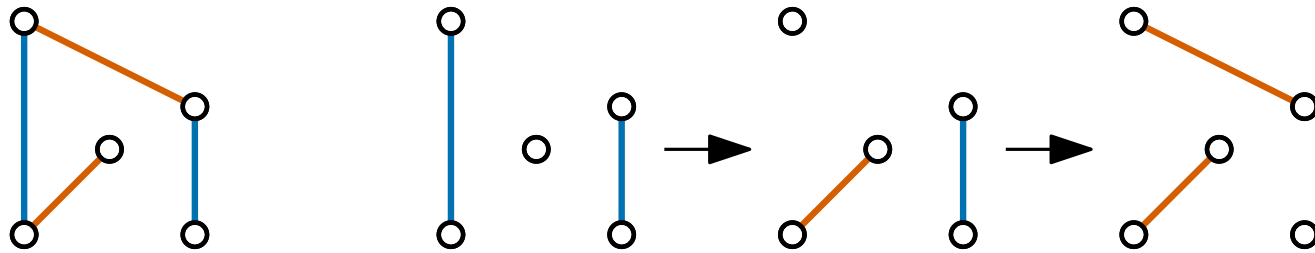
Alternating cycles



One flip more than the number of edges

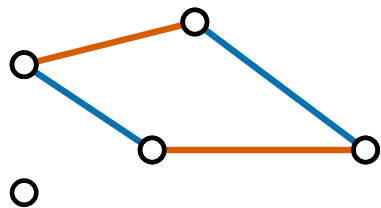
Union of Matchings

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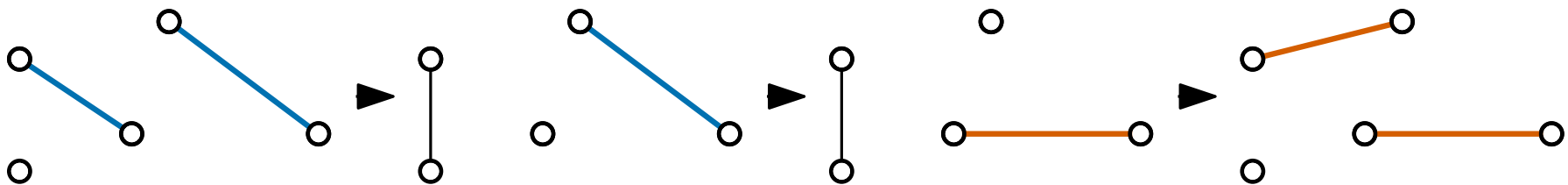


One flip per edge in one matching

Alternating cycles



Happy Edges: No flips at all or at least two

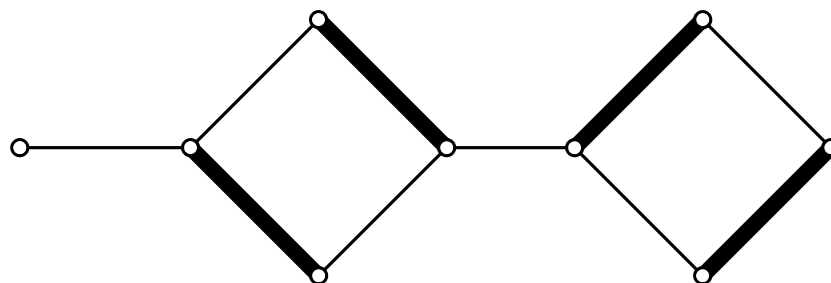
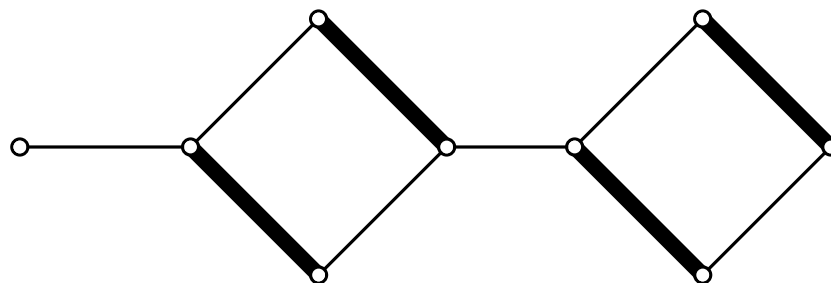


One flip more than the number of edges

Connectedness

Diameter

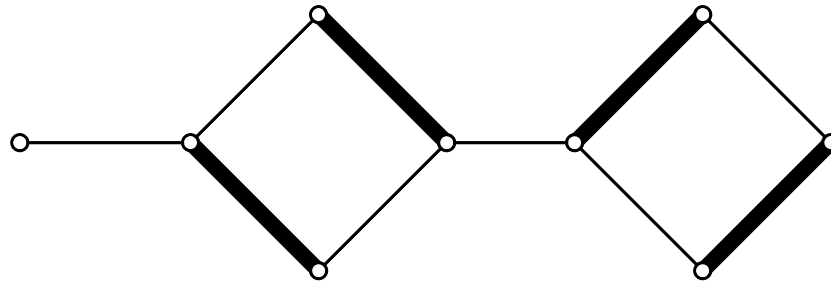
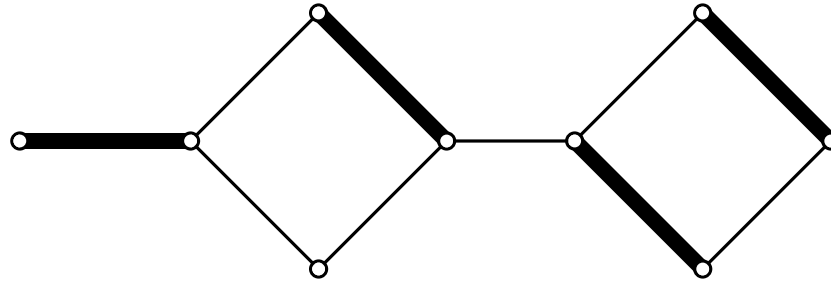
Complexity



Connectedness

Diameter

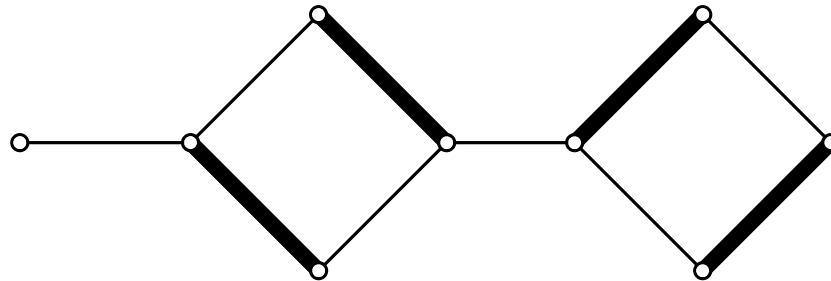
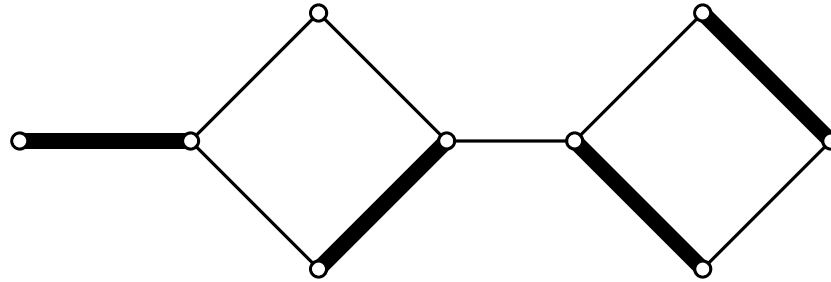
Complexity



Connectedness

Diameter

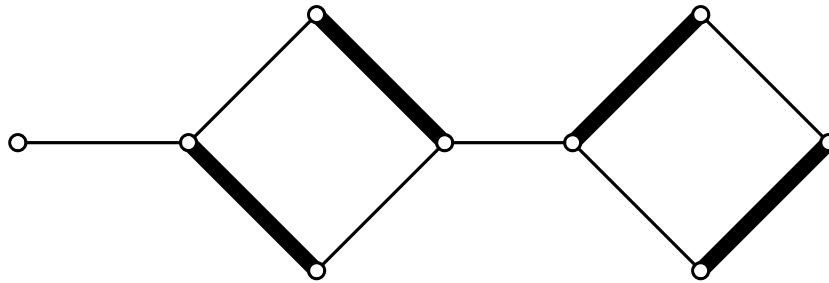
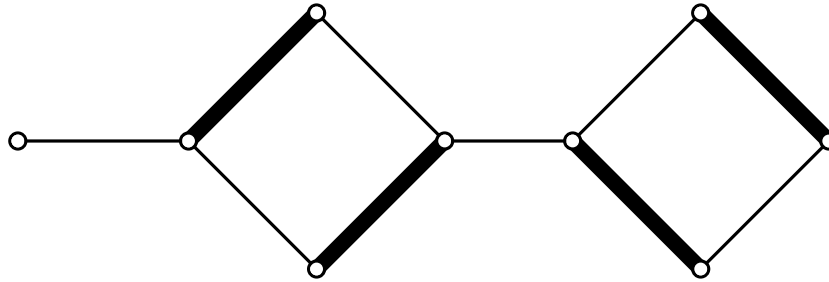
Complexity



Connectedness

Diameter

Complexity



Connectedness	Diameter	Complexity
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Not always connected

Connectedness	Diameter	Complexity
----------------------	-----------------	-------------------

Not always connected

Connectedness is polynomial time checkable:

Different Algorithms/Characterizations:

With arbitrary number (≥ 1) of isolated vertices:

[Ito, Demaine, Harvey, Papadimitriou, Sideri,
Uehara, Uno, 2011]

[Bousquet, Hatanaka, Ito, Mühlenthaler, 2019]

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$O(n^2)$

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Connectedness	Diameter	Complexity
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NP-complete, no $o(\log(n))$ approximation, unless $P=NP$

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NEW RESULT

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Π_2^p -complete [Wulf 2025]

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$$\forall x_1, \dots, x_k, \exists y_1, \dots, y_l : \phi(x_1, \dots, x_k, y_1, \dots, y_l) = 1$$

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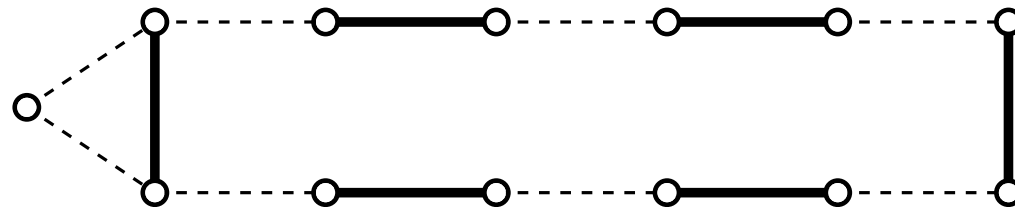
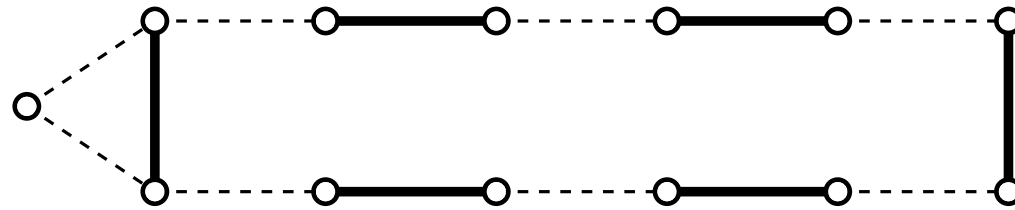
Π_2^p -complete [Wulf 2025]

Connectedness

Diameter

Complexity

Flip Sequences and $\exists y_1, \dots, y_l$

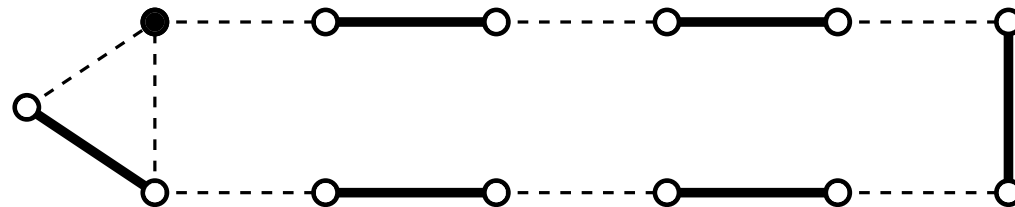
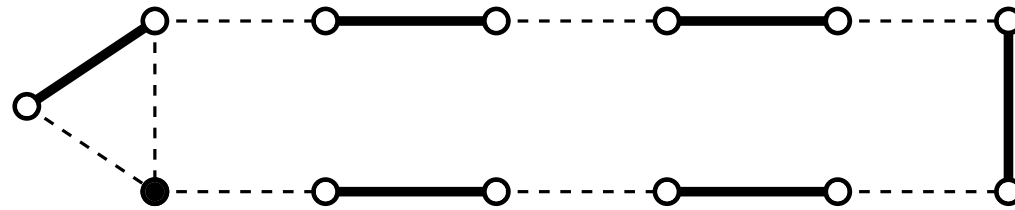


Connectedness

Diameter

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Flip Sequences and $\exists y_1, \dots, y_l$

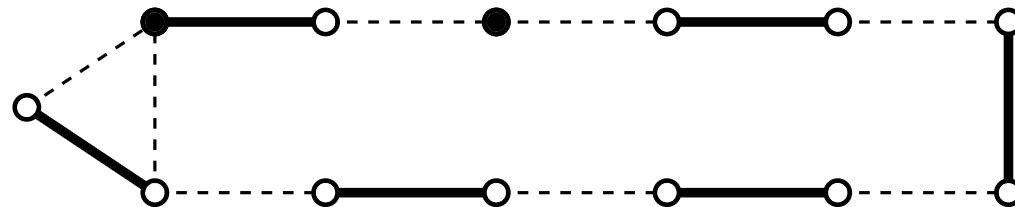
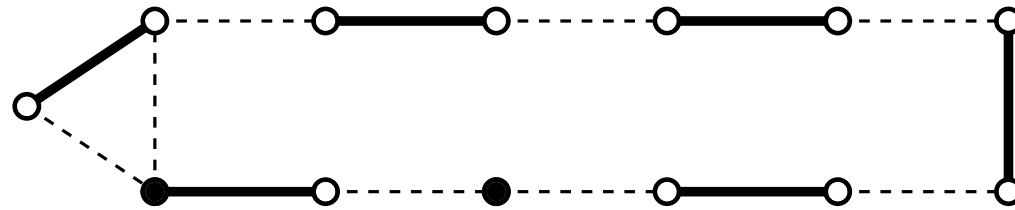


Connectedness

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Flip Sequences and $\exists y_1, \dots, y_l$

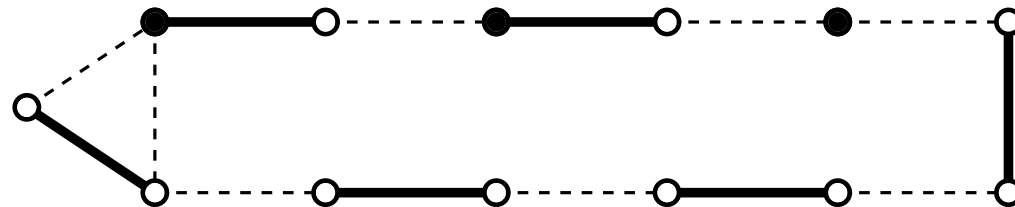
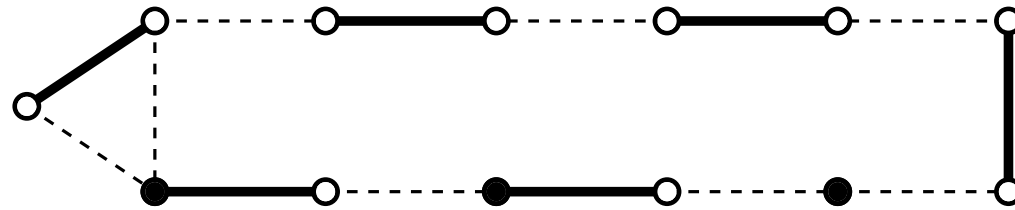


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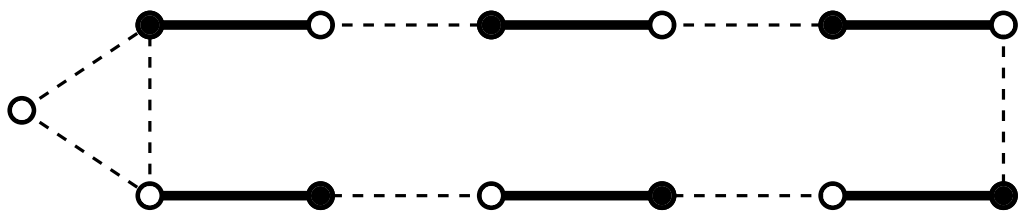
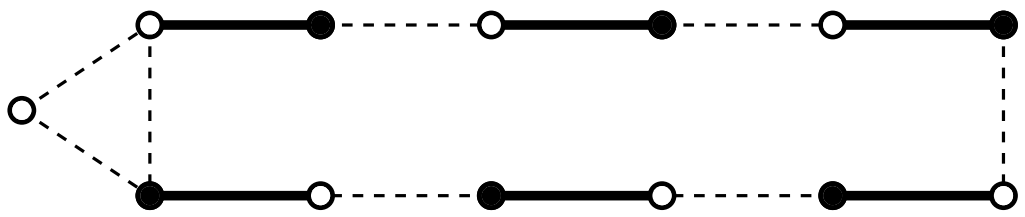
Complexity

Flip Sequences and $\exists y_1, \dots, y_l$



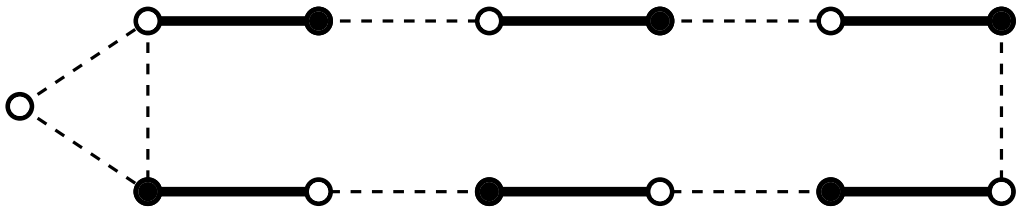
Connectedness	Diameter	Complexity
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Flip Sequences and $\exists y_1, \dots, y_l$

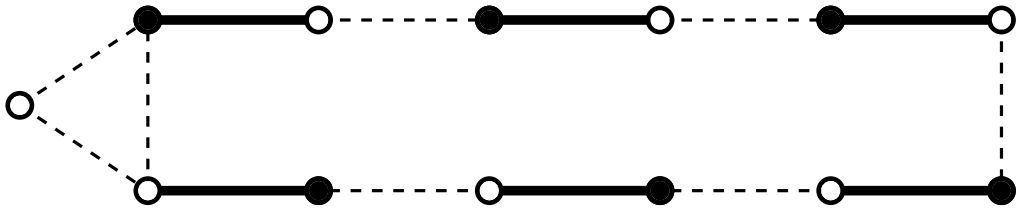


Connectedness	Diameter	Complexity
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Flip Sequences and $\exists y_1, \dots, y_l$



$y_i = \text{TRUE}$



$y_i = \text{FALSE}$

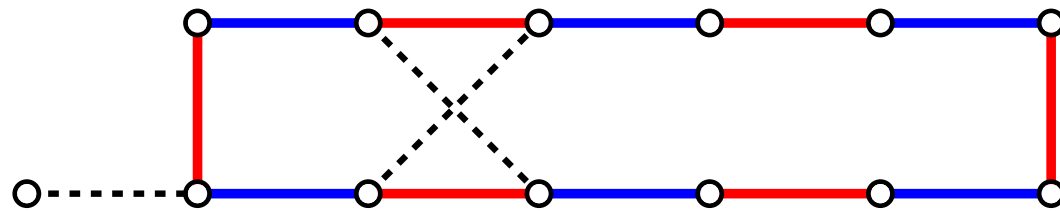
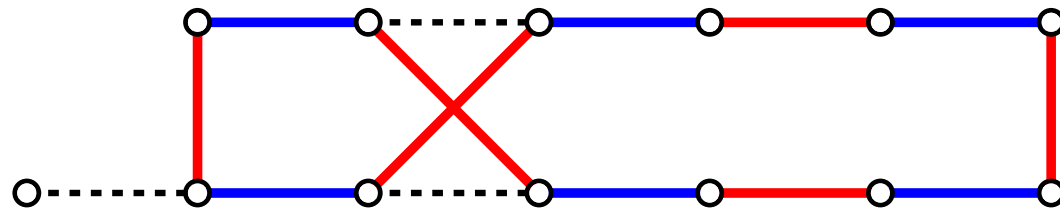
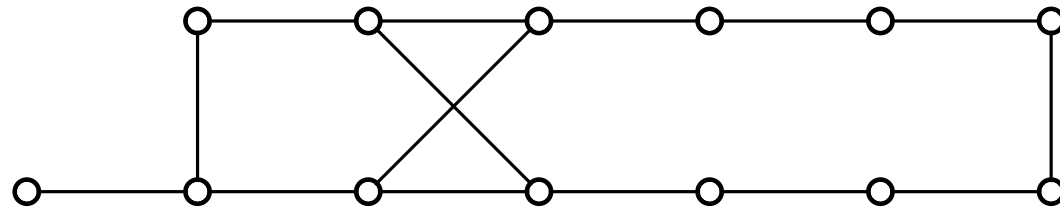
Encodes binary Decisions

Connectedness

Diameter

Complexity

Pairs of Matchings and $\forall x_1, \dots, x_k$

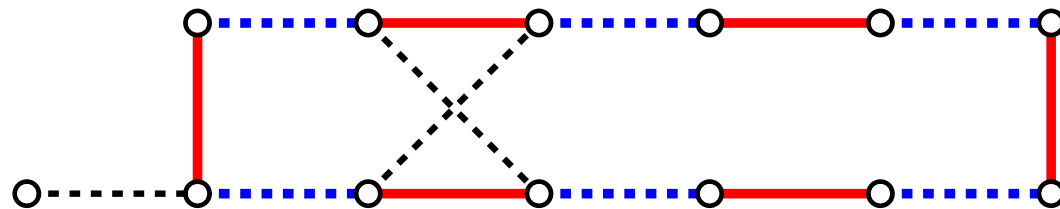
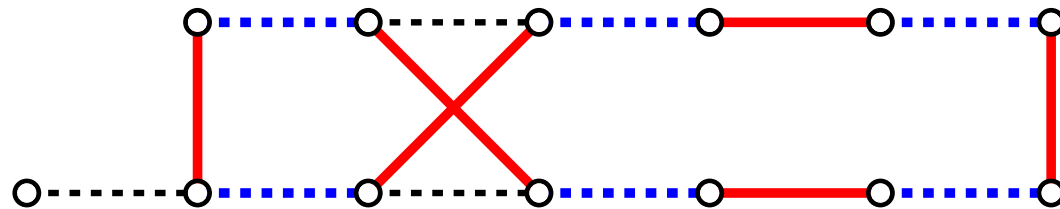
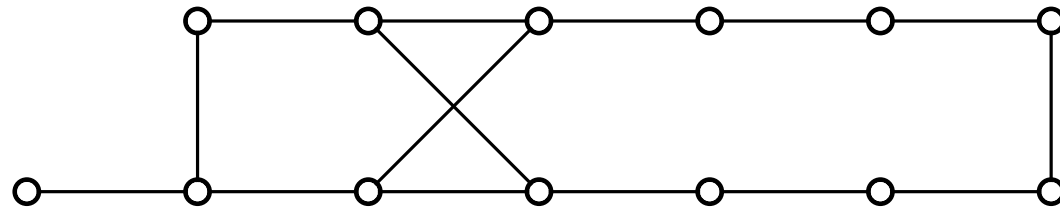


Connectedness

Diameter

Complexity

Pairs of Matchings and $\forall x_1, \dots, x_k$

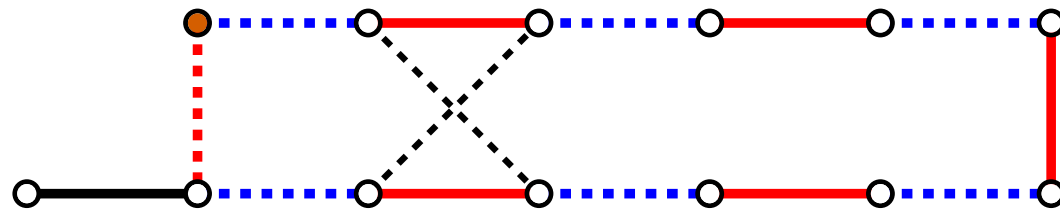
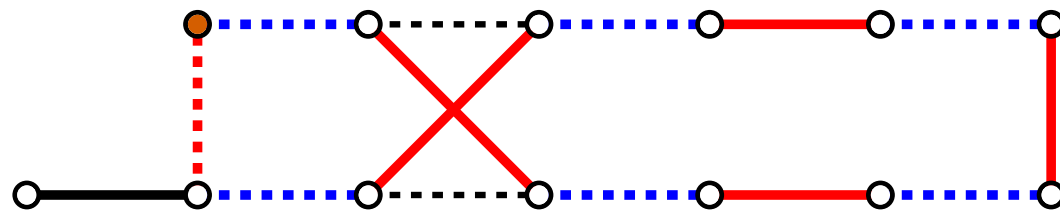
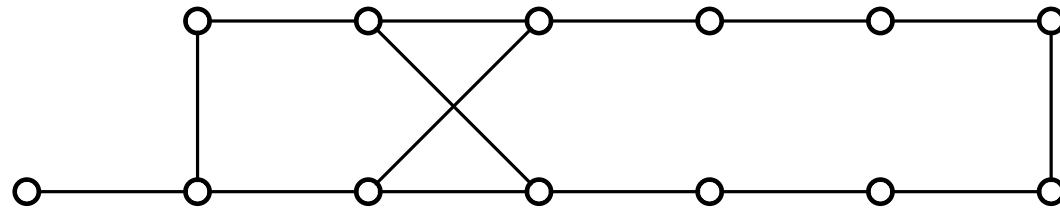


Connectedness

Diameter

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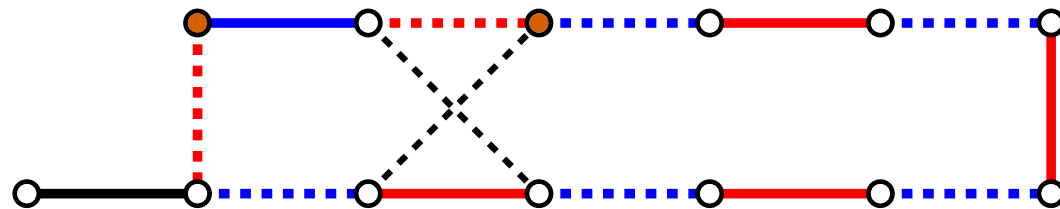
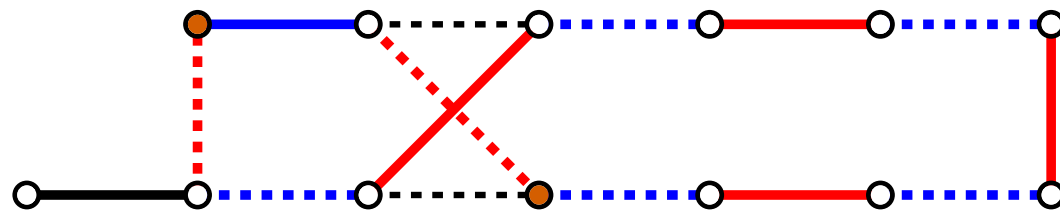
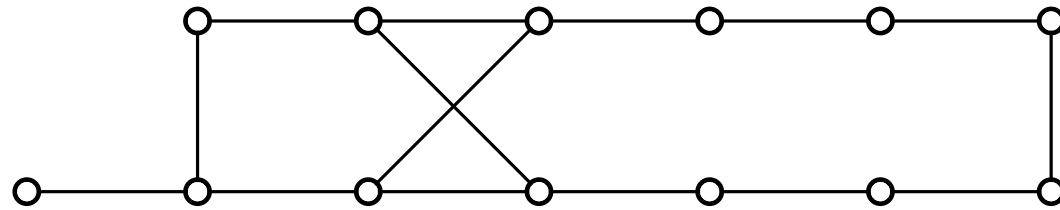


Connectedness

Diameter

Complexity

Pairs of Matchings and $\forall x_1, \dots, x_k$

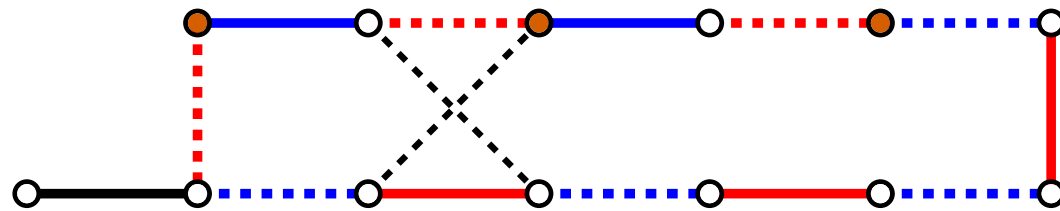
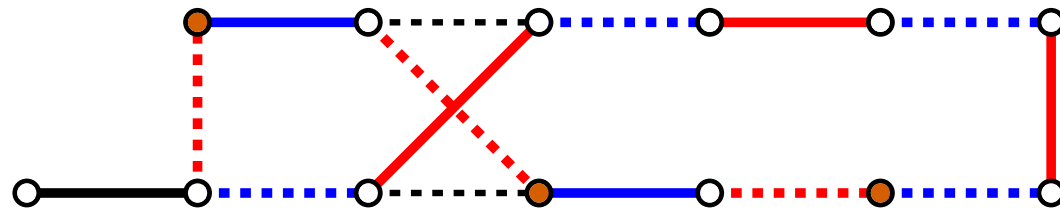
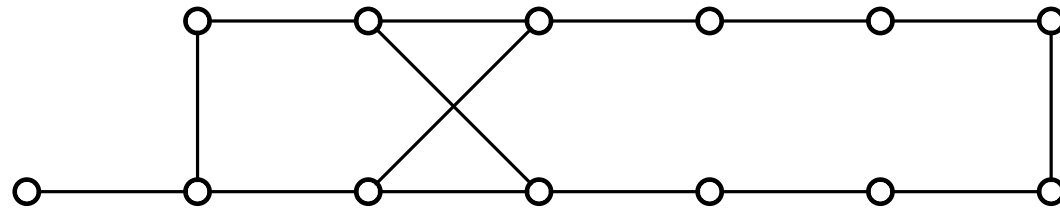


Connectedness

Diameter

Complexity

Pairs of Matchings and $\forall x_1, \dots, x_k$

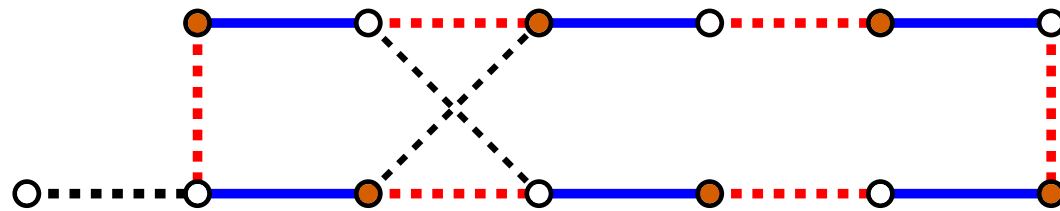
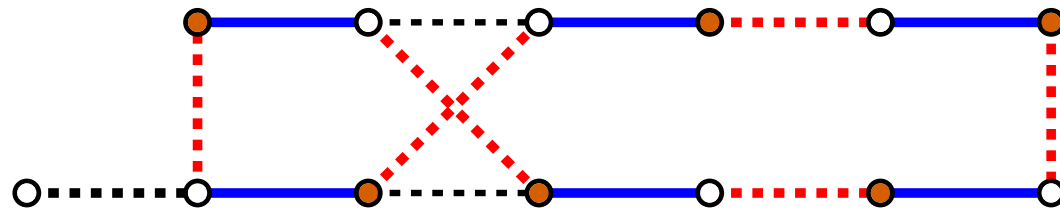
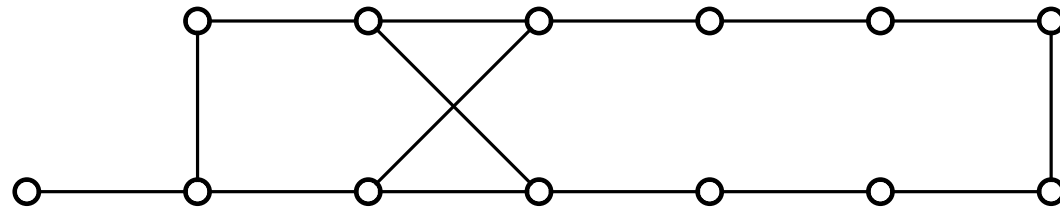


Connectedness

Diameter

Complexity

Pairs of Matchings and $\forall x_1, \dots, x_k$

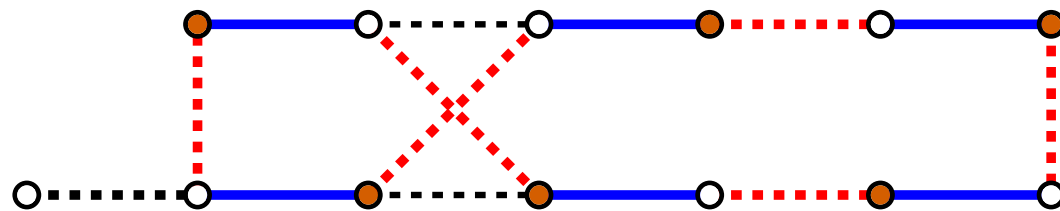
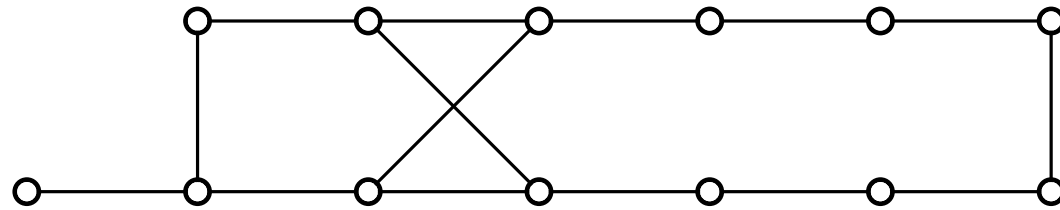


Connectedness

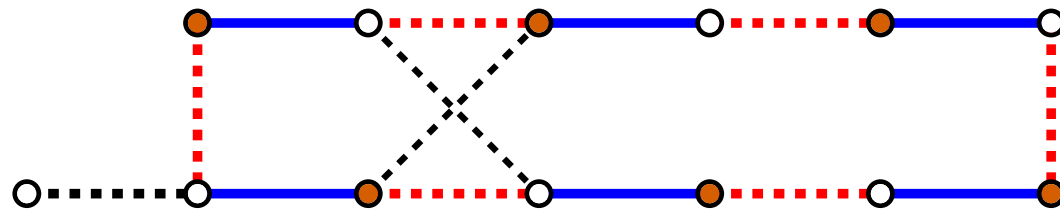
Diameter

Complexity

Pairs of Matchings and $\forall x_1, \dots, x_k$



$x_i = \text{TRUE}$



$x_i = \text{FALSE}$

Encodes binary decision

The Reduction

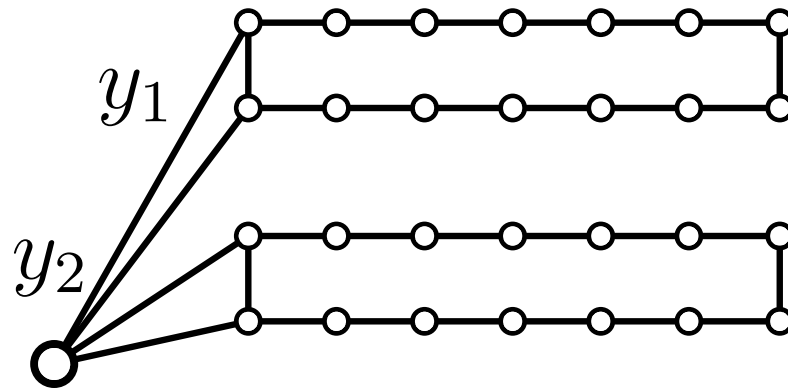
The Reduction

Start with a single vertex



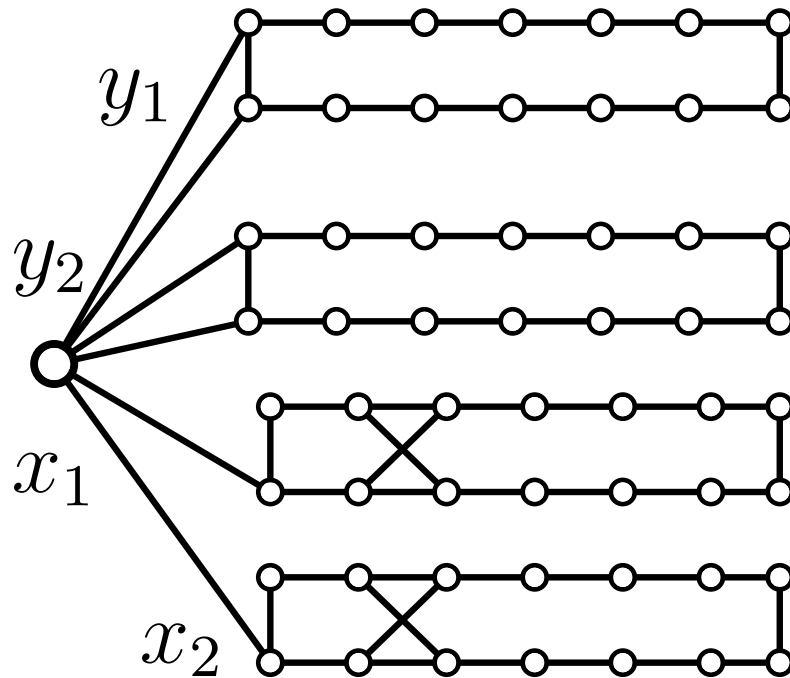
The Reduction

Add one gadget for each $\exists y$ variable



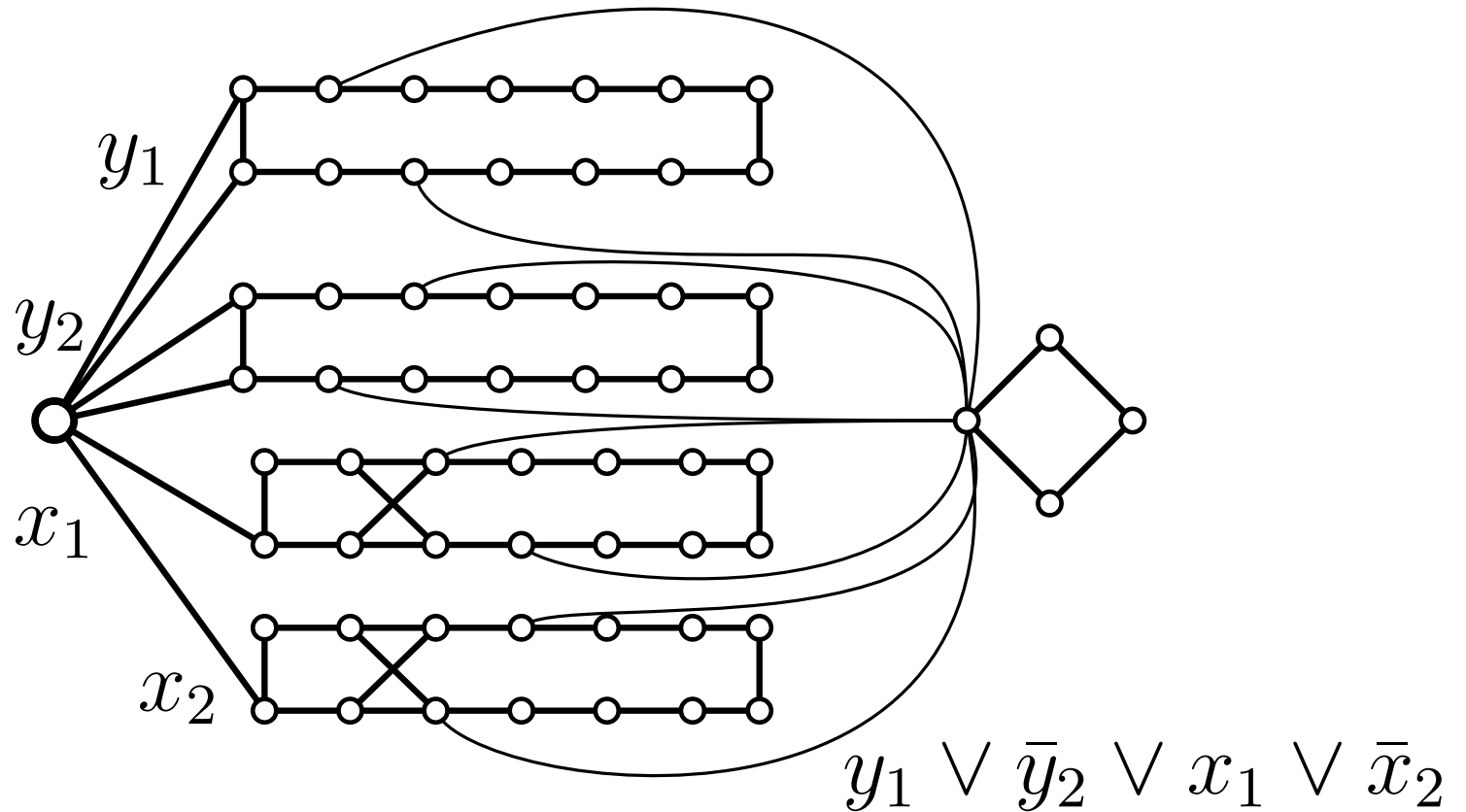
The Reduction

Add a gadget for each $\forall x$ variable



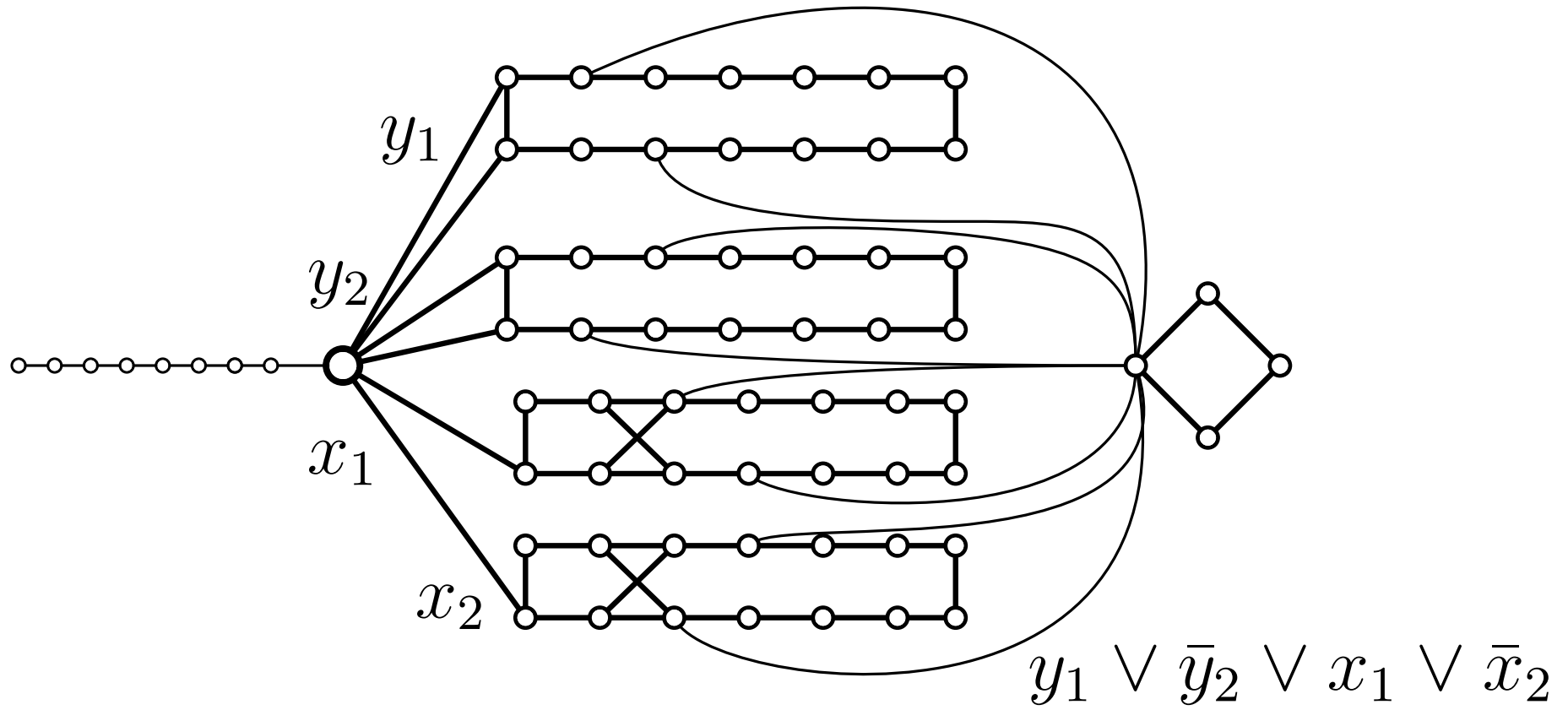
The Reduction

Add one gadget for every clause, and connect accordingly

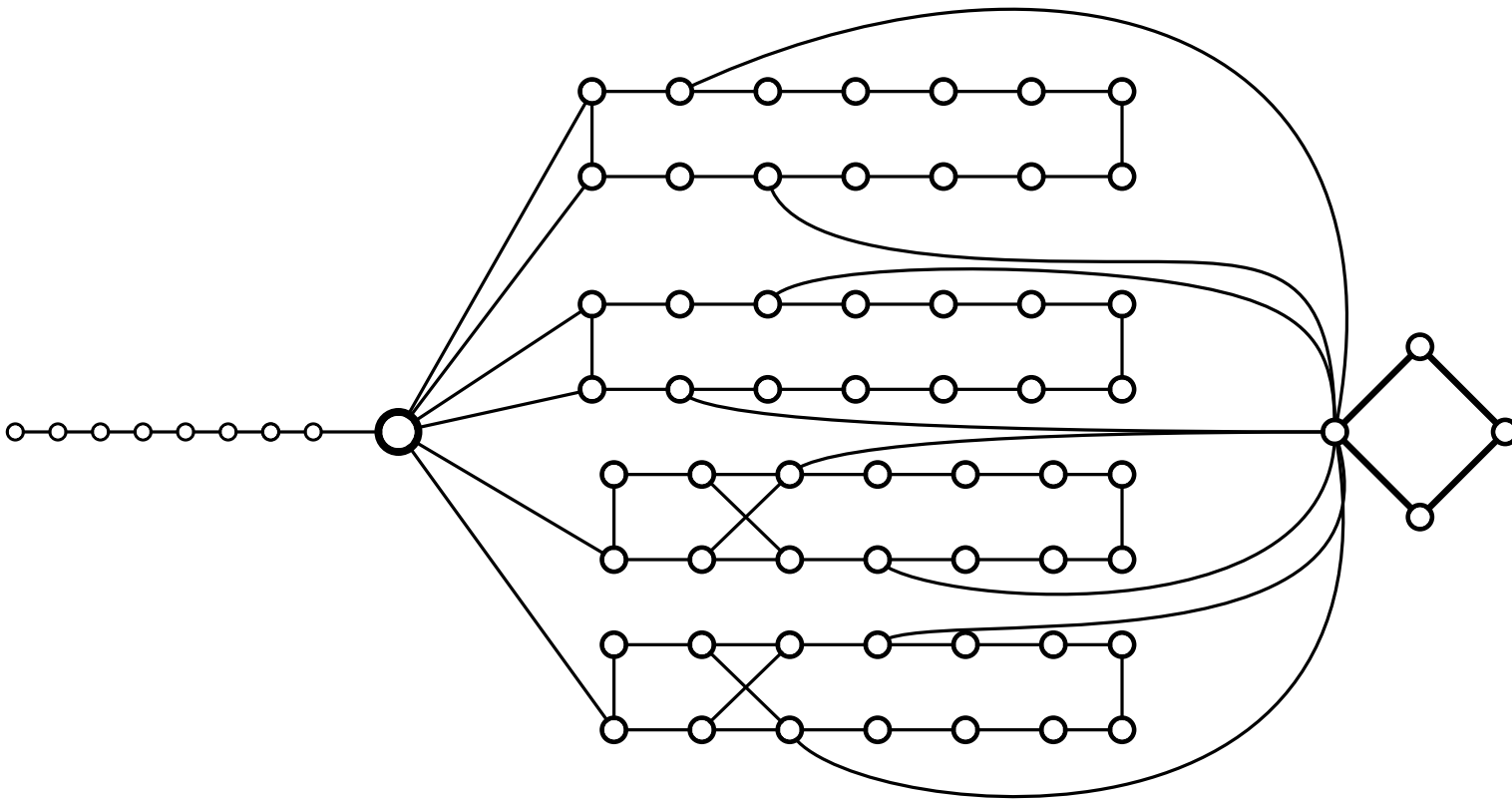


The Reduction

Add a tail

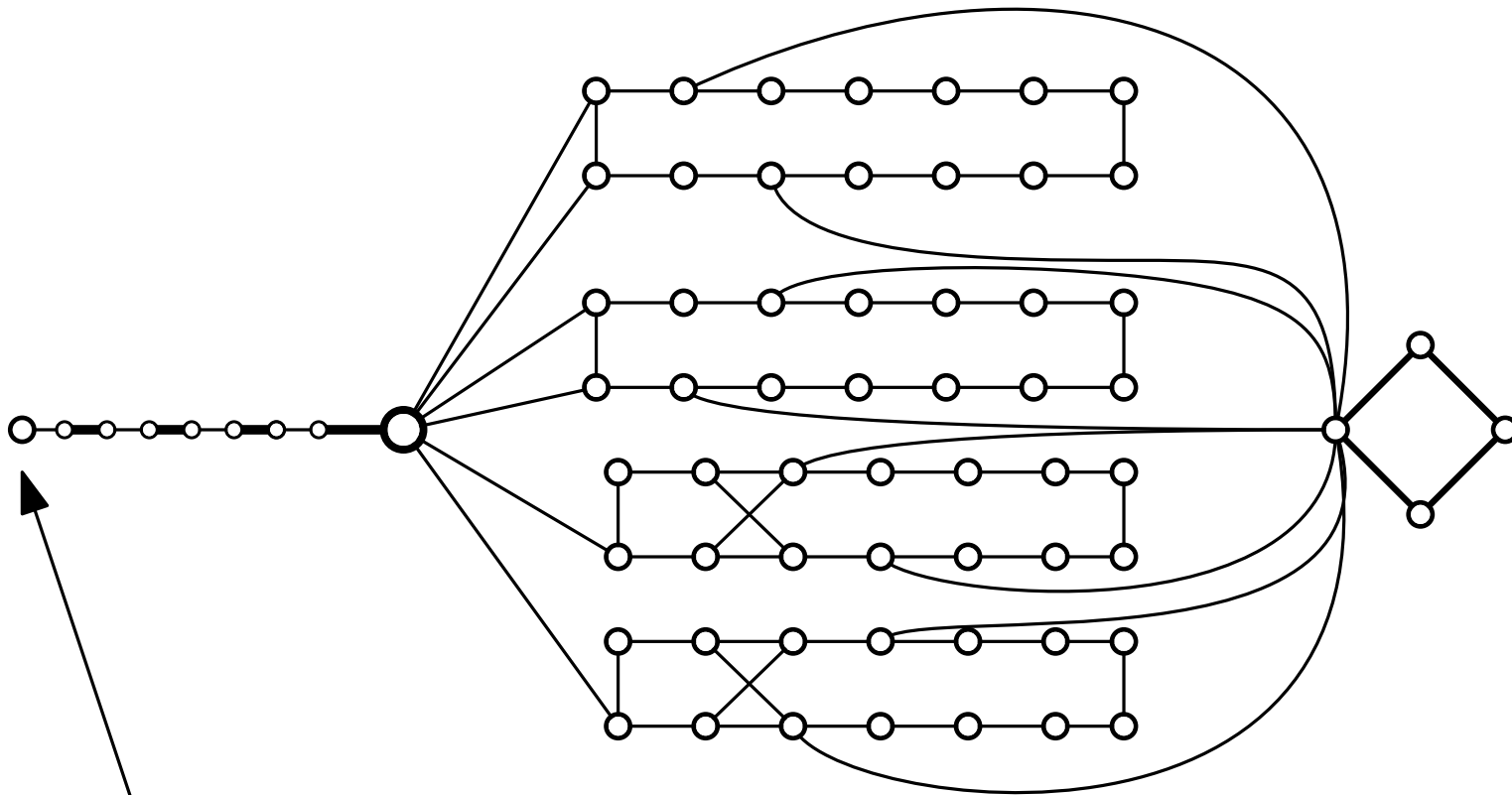


A Technical Lemma



W.l.o.g. to determine the diameter it is sufficient to consider matchings M and M' with

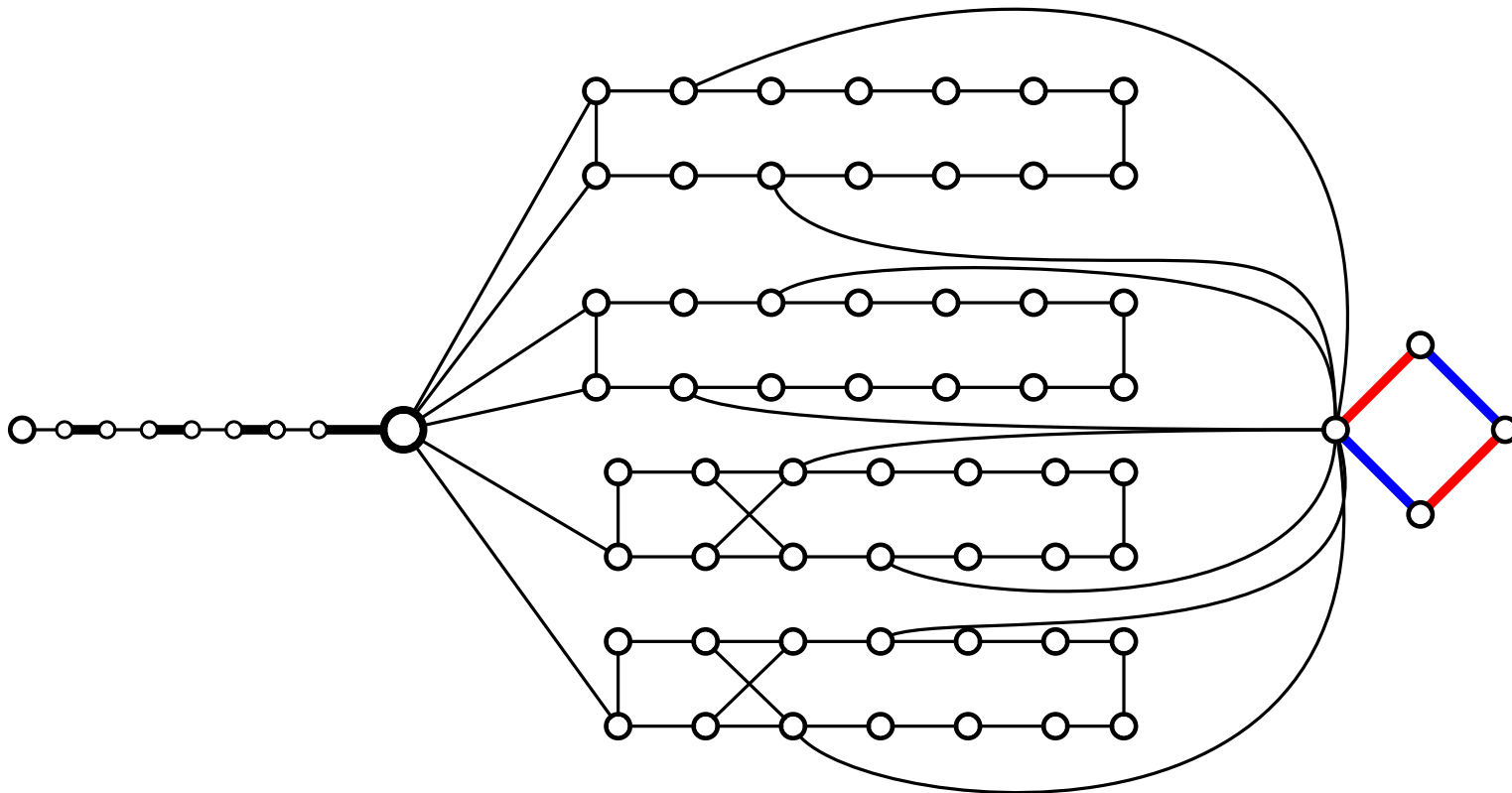
A Technical Lemma



W.l.o.g. to determine the diameter it is sufficient to consider matchings M and M' with

The isolated vertex here

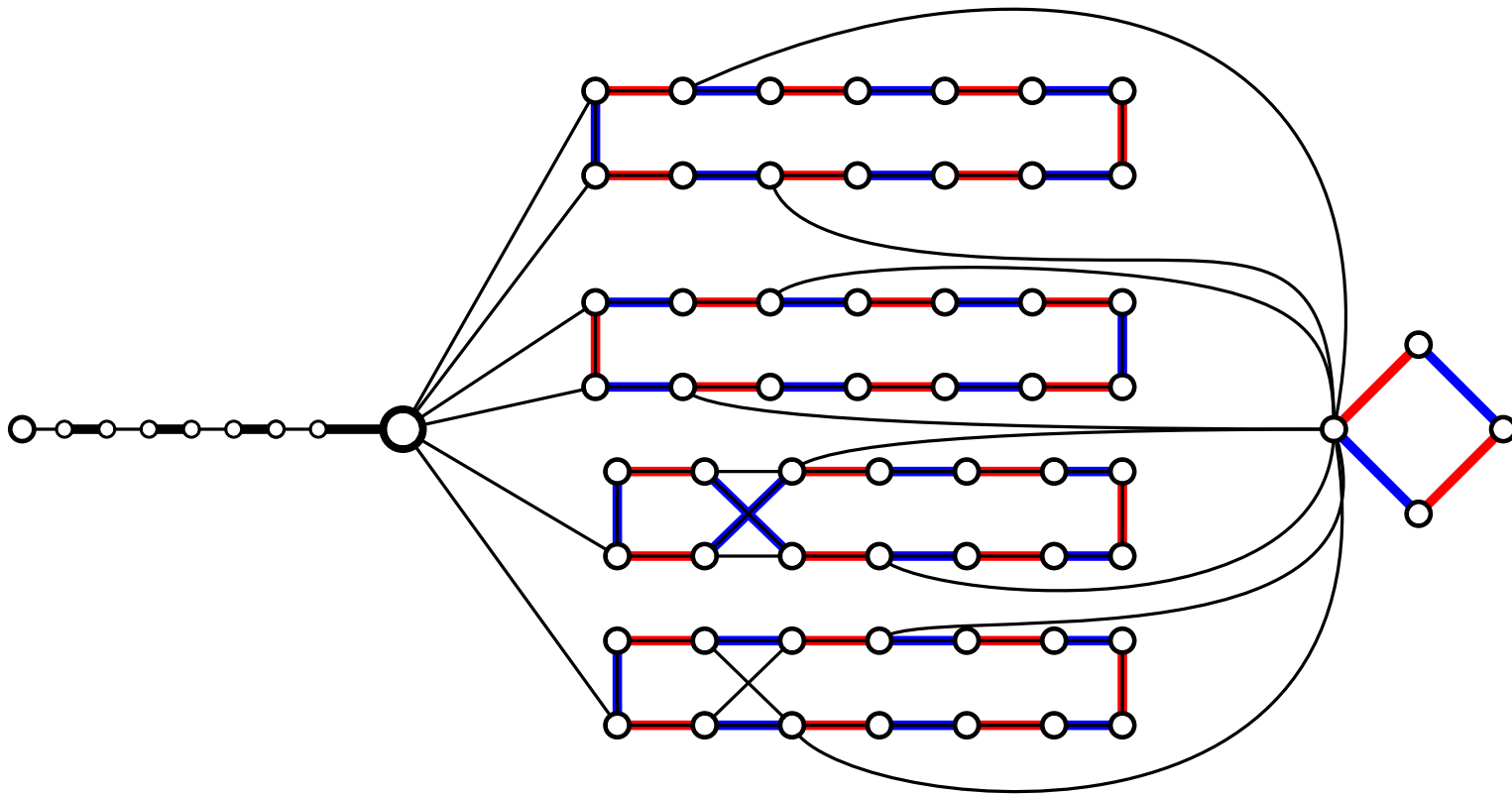
A Technical Lemma



W.l.o.g. to determine the diameter it is sufficient to consider matchings M and M' with

Alternating cycles in all clause gadgets

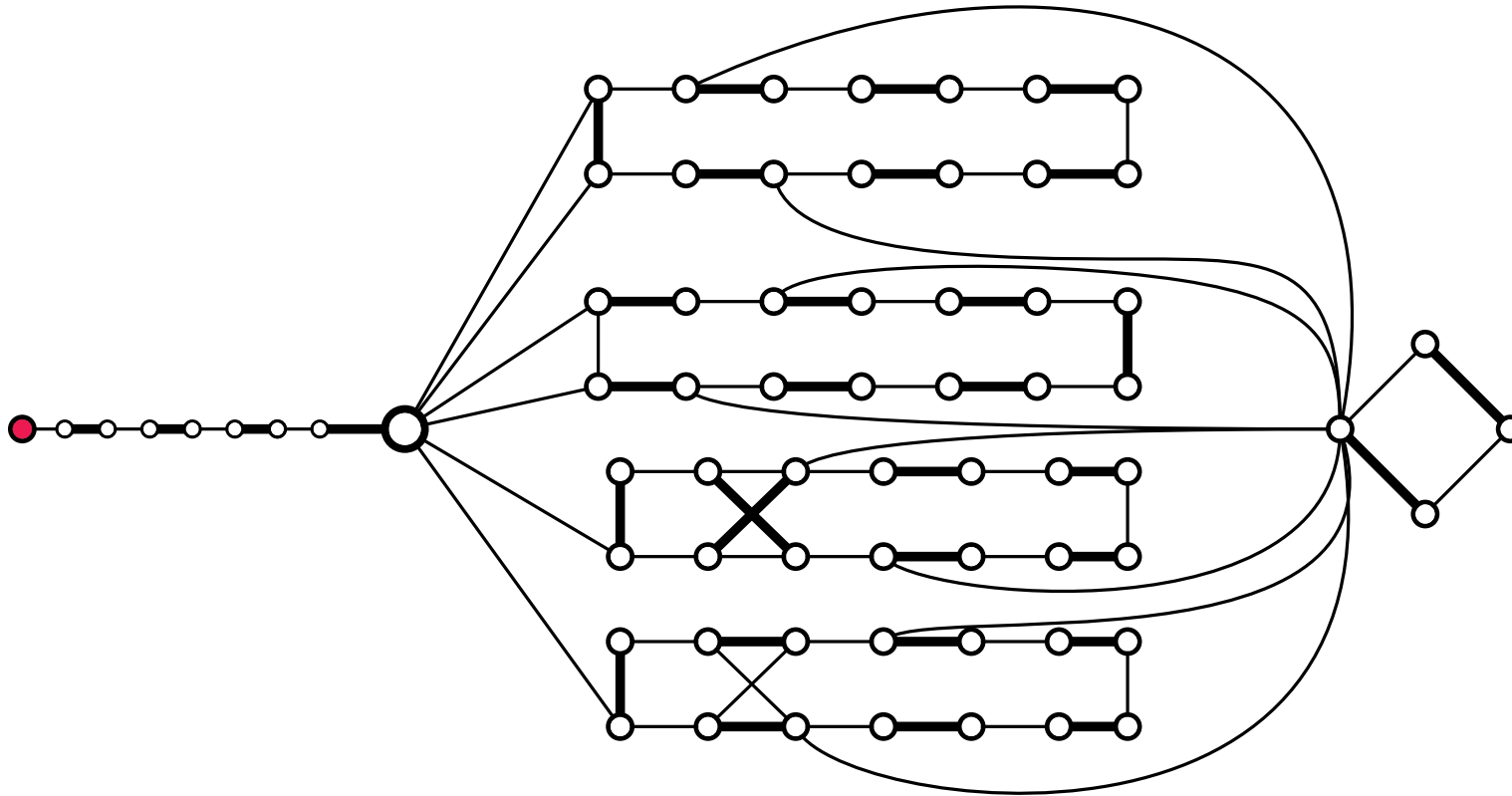
A Technical Lemma



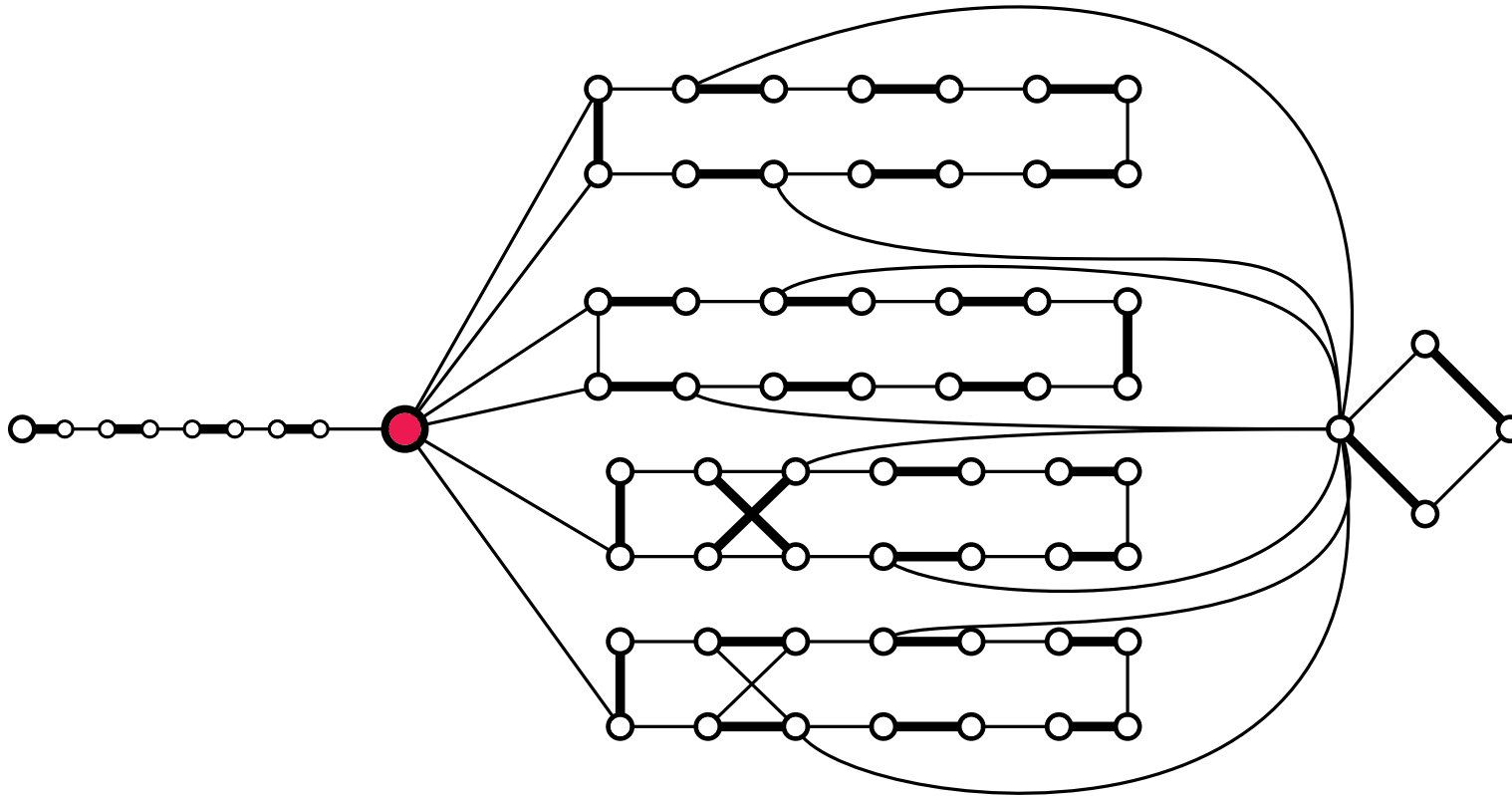
W.l.o.g. to determine the diameter it is sufficient to consider matchings M and M' with

Alternating cycles in all variable gadgets

Flip Sequences

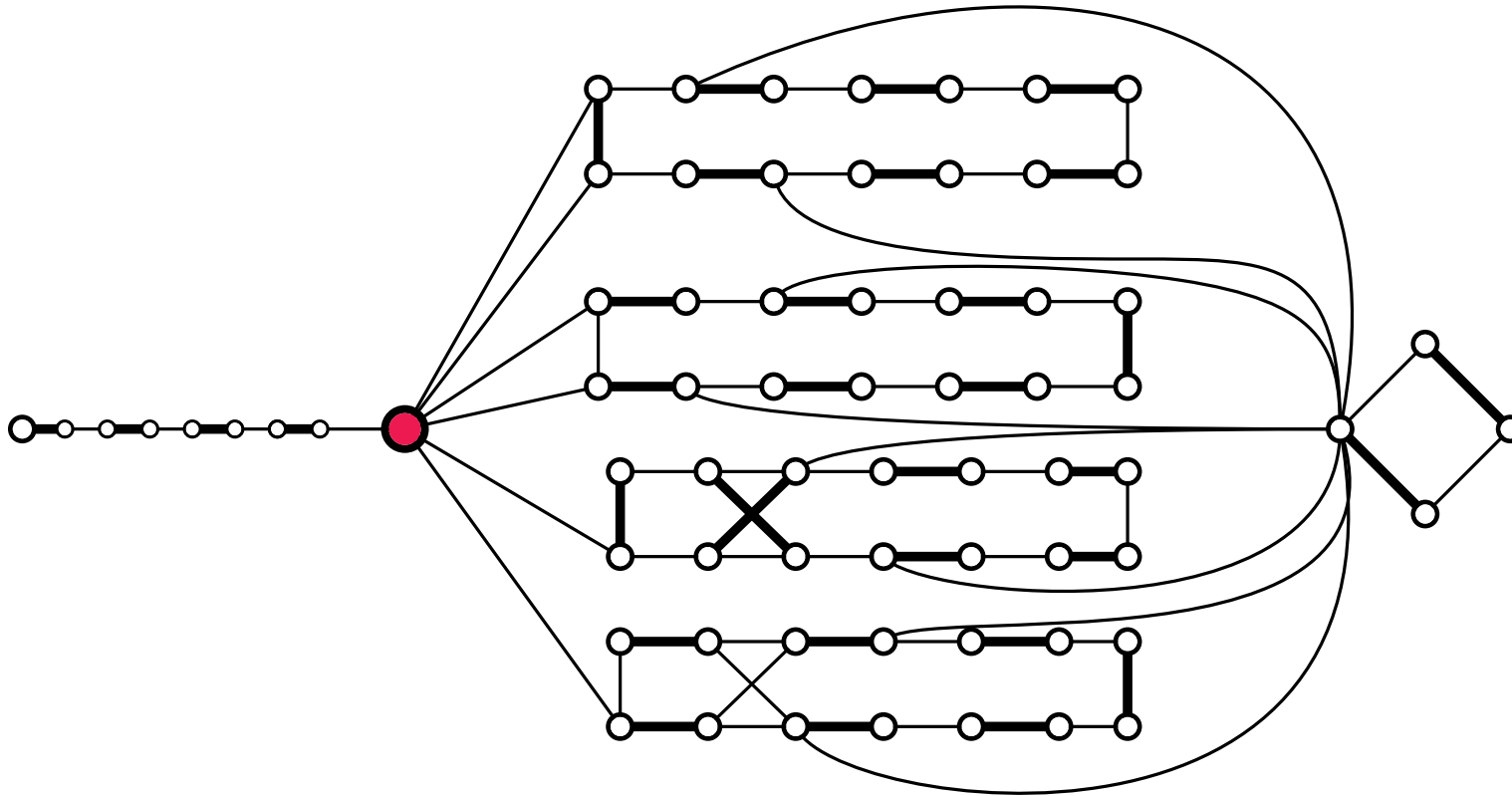


Flip Sequences



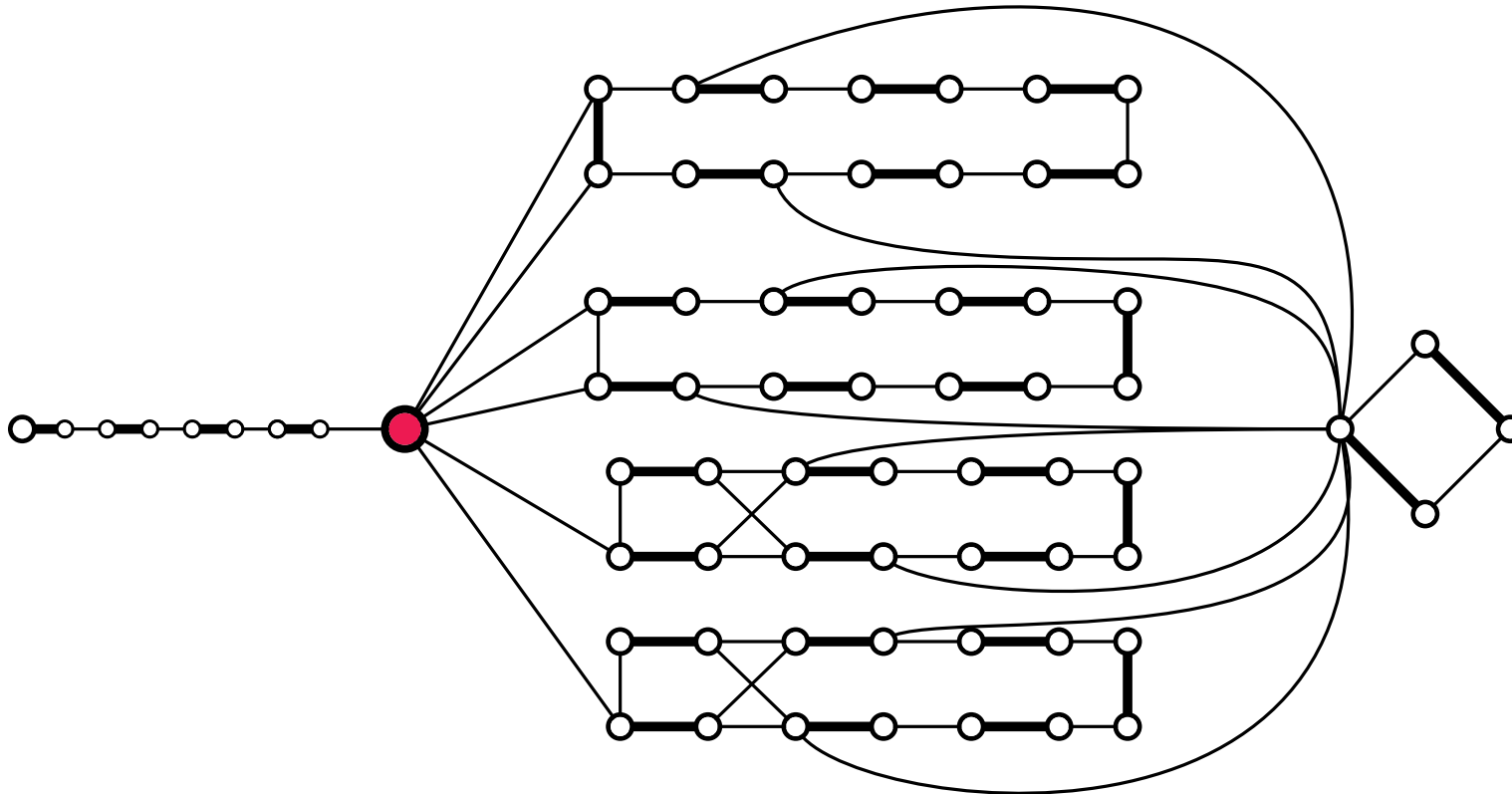
Step 1) Move isolated vertex

Flip Sequences



Step 2) Flip cycles in \forall gadgets

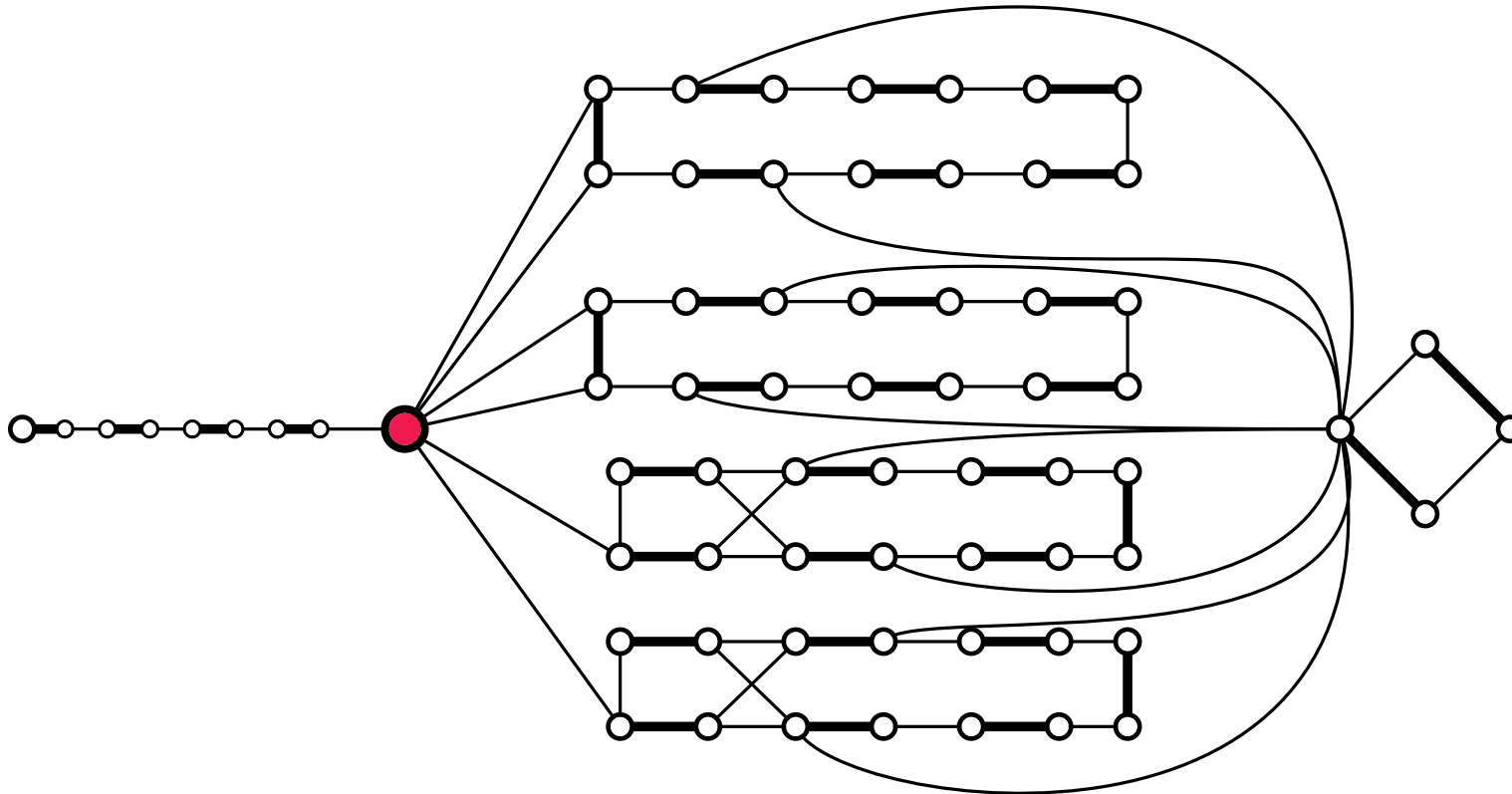
Flip Sequences



Step 2) Flip cycles in \forall gadgets

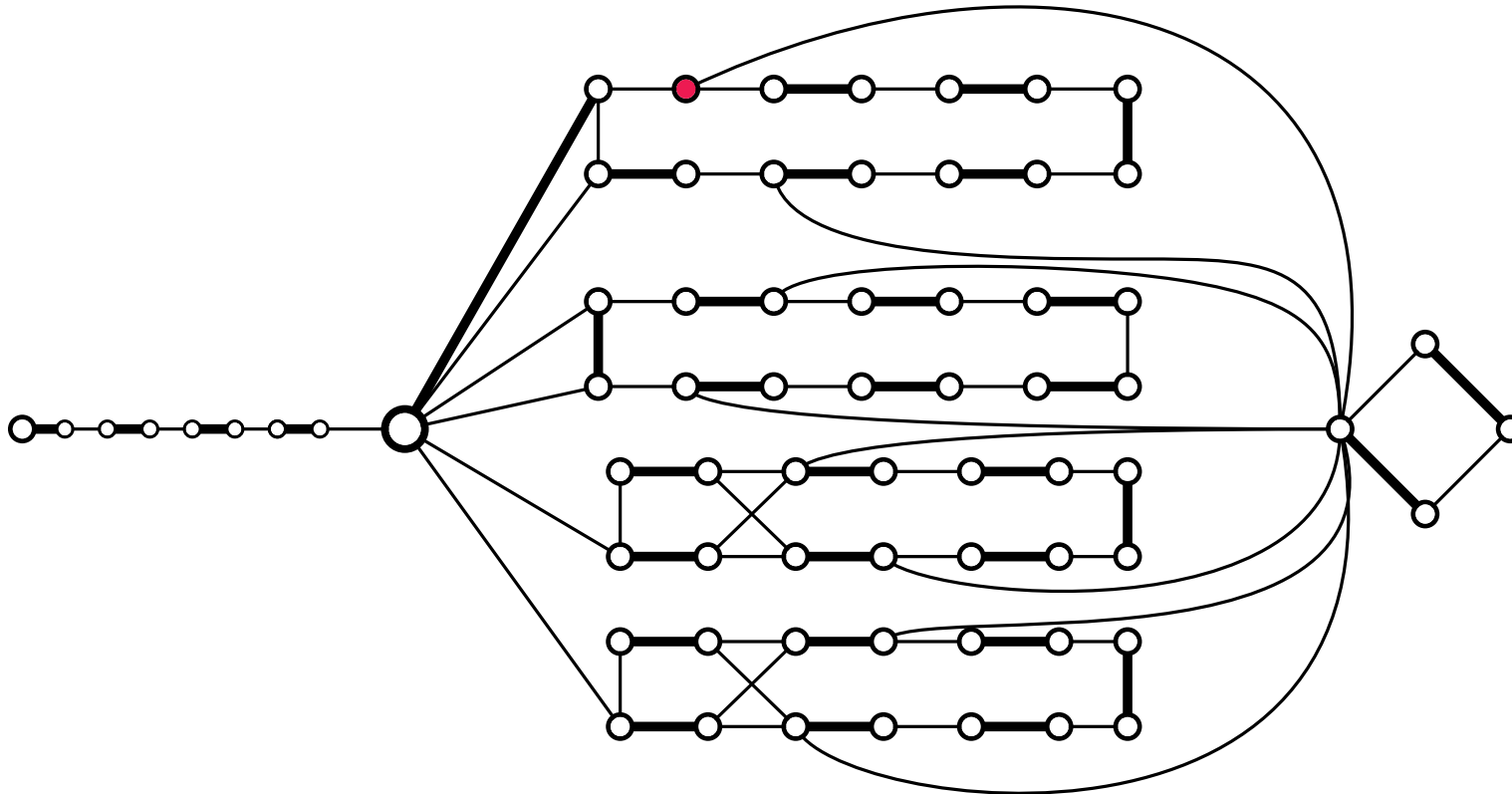
If the isolated vertex is placed next to a clause gadget, switch the clause gadget. But here it isn't

Flip Sequences



Step 3) Switch the cycles of \exists gadgets

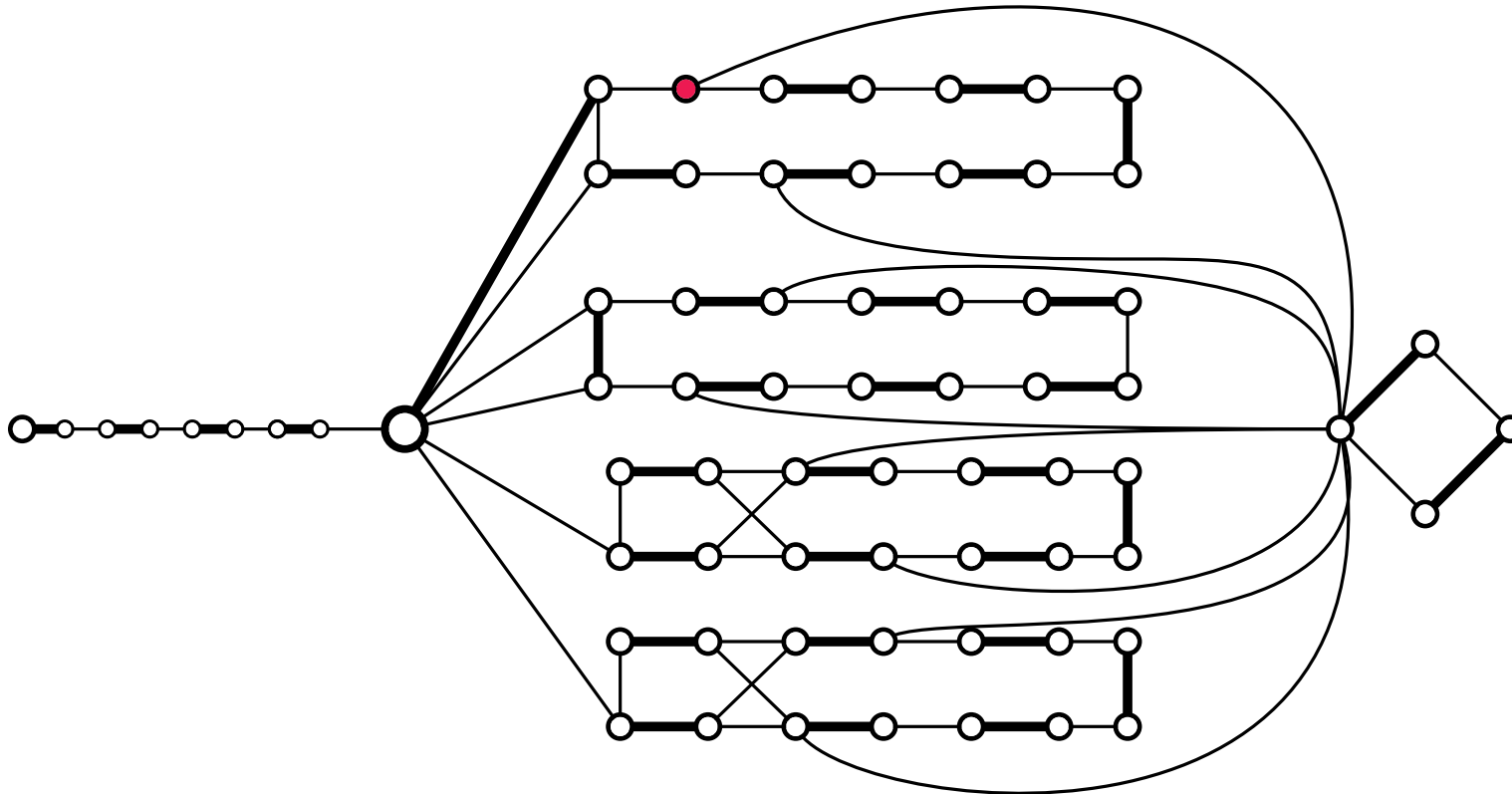
Flip Sequences



Step 3) Switch the cycles of \exists gadgets

If the isolated vertex lies next to a clause gadget...

Flip Sequences

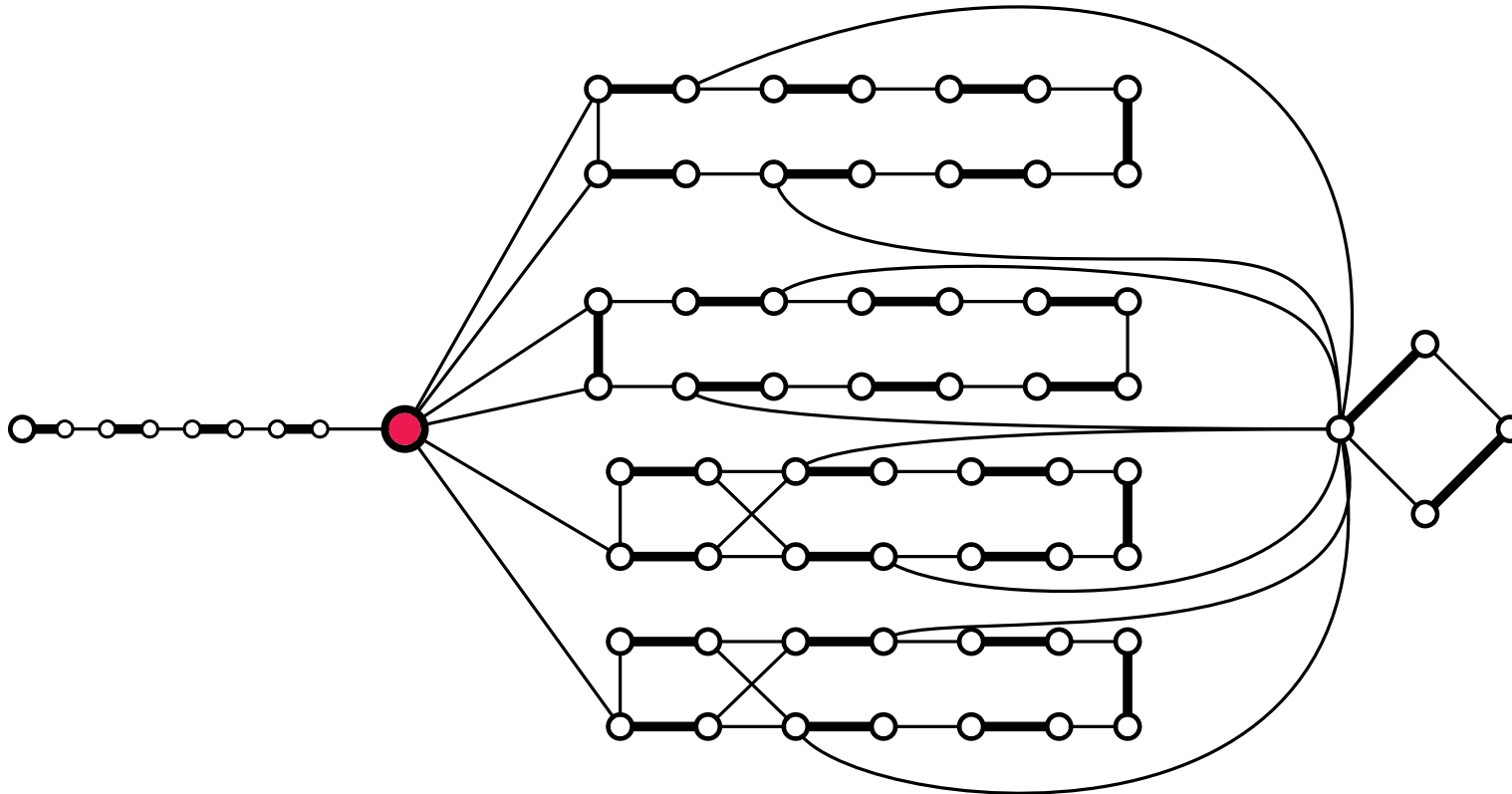


Step 3) Switch the cycles of \exists gadgets

If the isolated vertex lies next to a clause gadget...

...switch the clause gadget

Flip Sequences

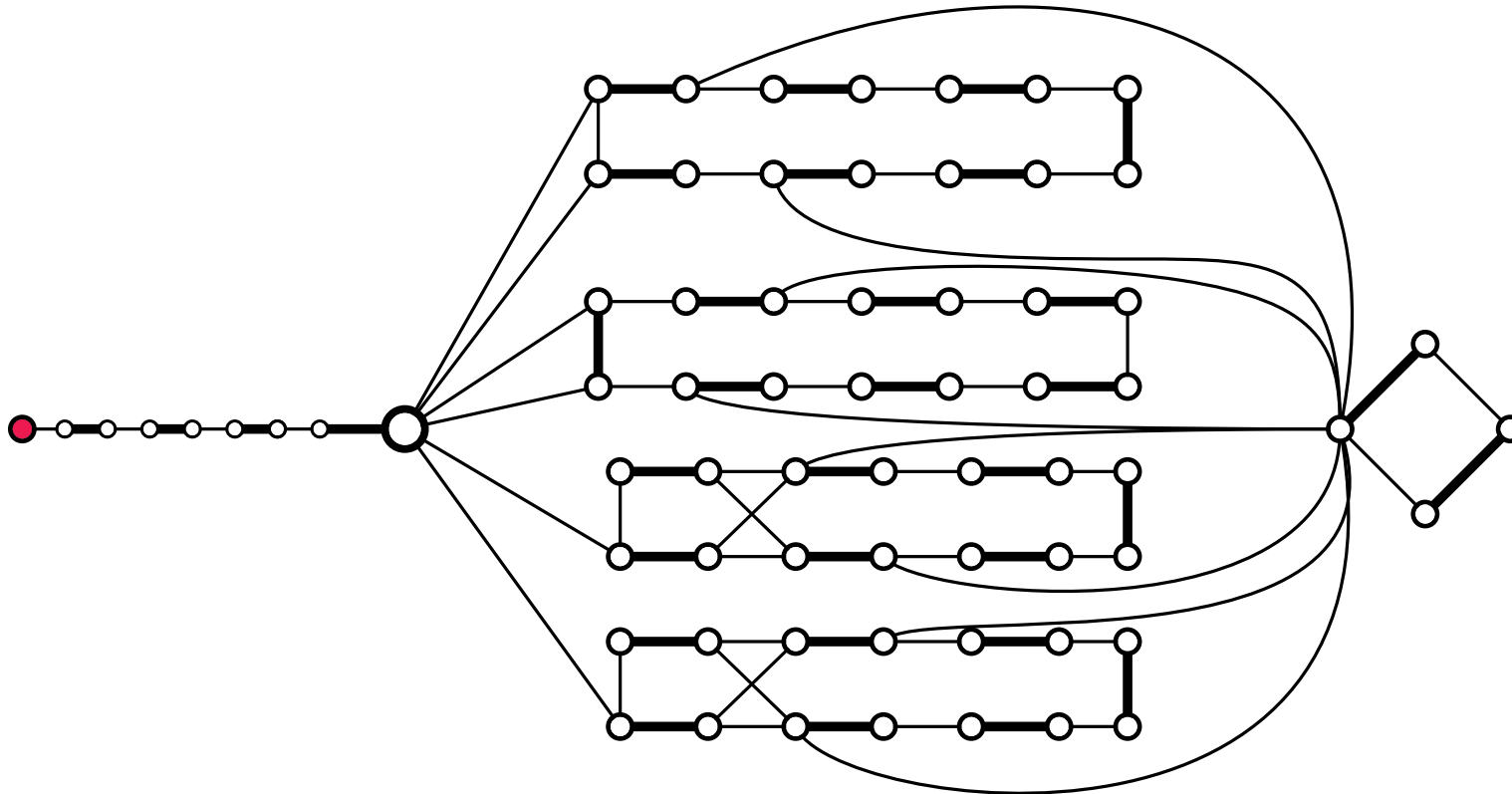


Step 3) Switch the cycles of \exists gadgets

If the isolated vertex lies next to a clause gadget...

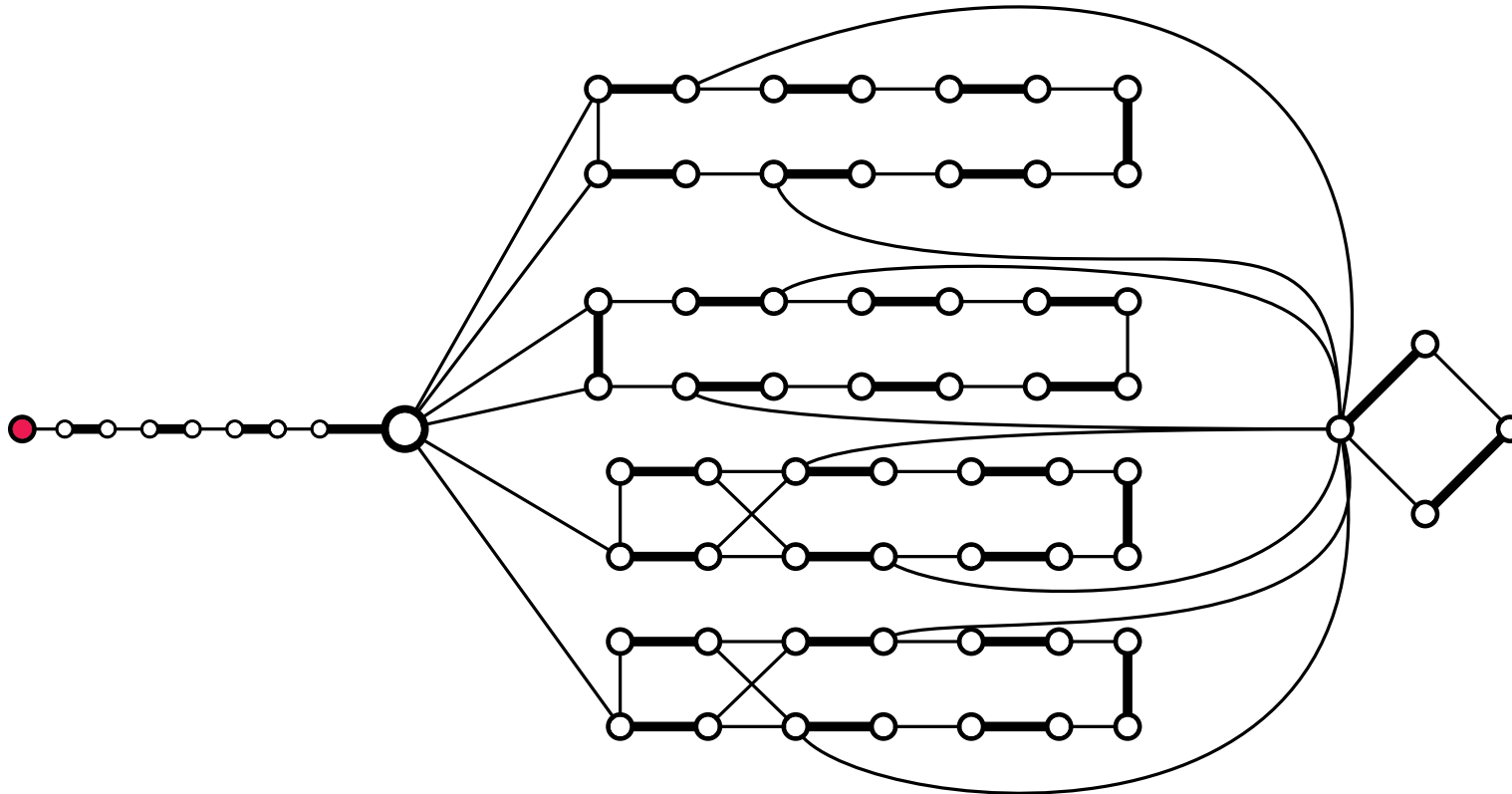
...switch the clause gadget

Flip Sequences



Step 4) Move the isolated vertex back

Flip Sequences



Step 4) Move the isolated vertex back

All clause gadgets get switched for any pair M, M'
 $\Leftrightarrow \phi$ is an accepted $\forall \exists$ SAT-instance

Next step

Problem Description Given a graph G and an integer k . Is the radius of the flip graph of odd matchings of G at most k .

Diameter: $\min_M \max_{M'} d(M, M')$

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This is Σ_3^p -complete

NEW RESULT

Reduce from $\exists\forall\exists$ -SAT

Next step

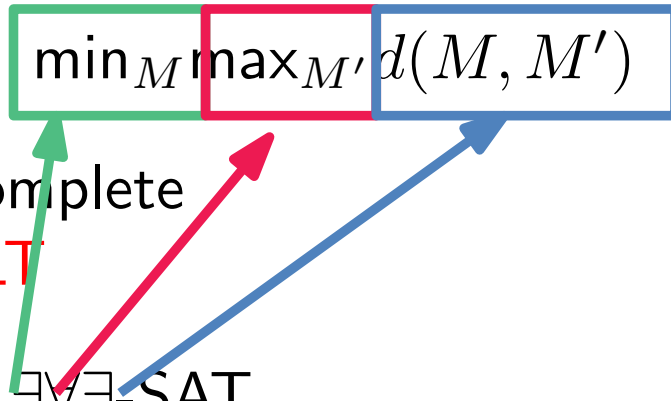
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NEW RESULT

Reduce from $\exists \forall \exists$ -SAT



Next step

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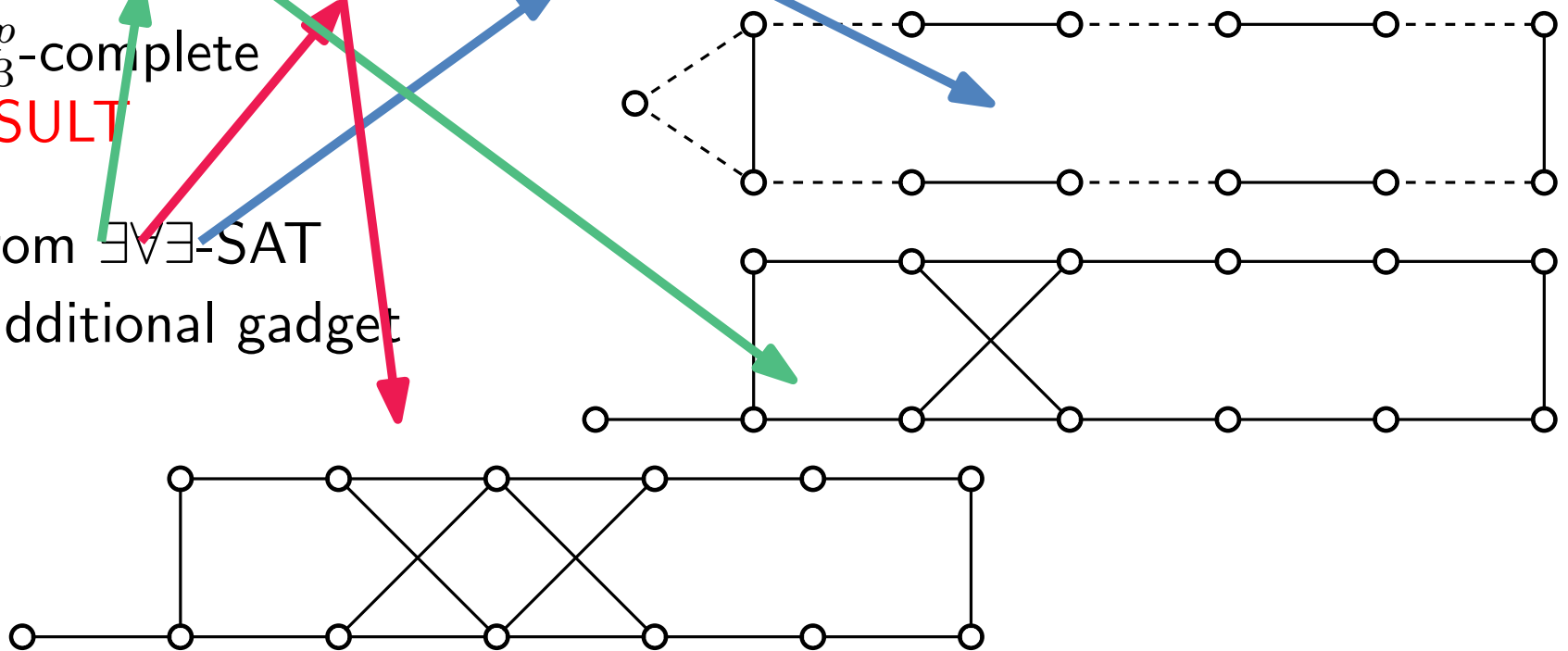
Diameter: $\min_M \max_{M'} d(M, M')$

This is Σ_3^p -complete

NEW RESULT

Reduce from $\exists\forall\exists$ -SAT

Uses an additional gadget



Thanks for your attention

