

Extra structures on 3-manifolds
via extra structures on spines

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Plan

1. Triangulations and special spines of (oriented) 3-manifolds
2. Branched special spines, the normal flow, and the maw
3. Closed combed 3-manifolds [BP1997]
4. Spin 3-manifolds [BP1997]
5. Generic flows on 3-manifolds [P2012]
6. Spin structures via arbitrary spines [BP2013]

1. Triangulations and special spines

1.1. Triangulations

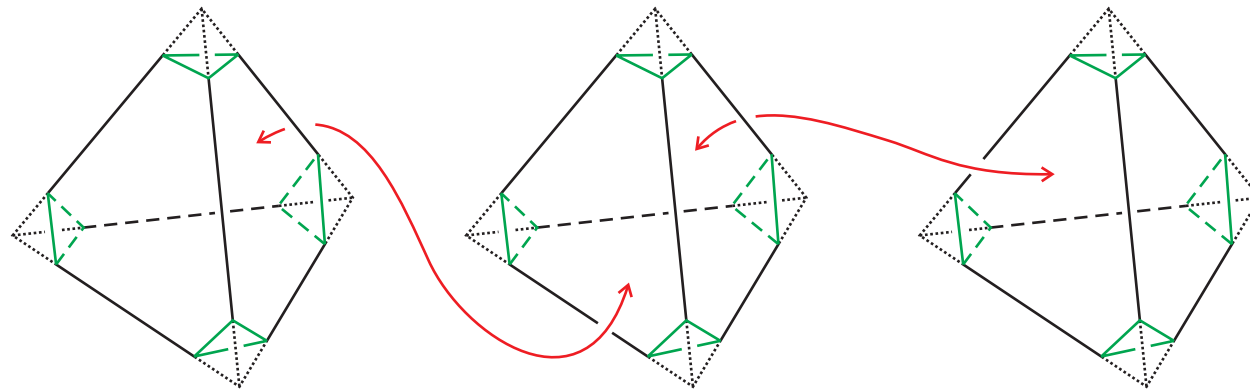
M compact 3-manifold with ∂ (possibly \emptyset)

An **(ideal) triangulation** of M is a realization of **the interior of M minus some points** as

- (1) Take some copies of the standard 3-simplex
- (2) Glue together the faces in pairs via simplicial maps
- (3) Remove the vertices

OR a realization of M minus some disjoint open balls as

- (1) Take some copies of the standard 3-simplex
- (2) Glue together the faces in pairs via simplicial maps
- (3') Remove open regular neighbourhoods of the vertices



For **oriented** M :

face-pairings should be **orientation-reversing**

Often **sphere components of ∂M** are forbidden

\Rightarrow **every triangulation defines a unique M**

and perhaps

- No balls removed if $\partial M \neq \emptyset$
- One ball removed if M is closed

1.2. Spines

$P \subset M$ is a **spine** of M if for $N = (M \text{ minus some balls})$

- $N \searrow P$
- $N \setminus P \cong (\partial N) \times (0, 1]$
- $N \cong U_N(P)$

(equivalently)

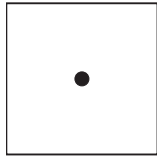
And perhaps

- $N = M$ if $\partial M \neq \emptyset$
- $N = (M \text{ minus one ball})$ if M is closed

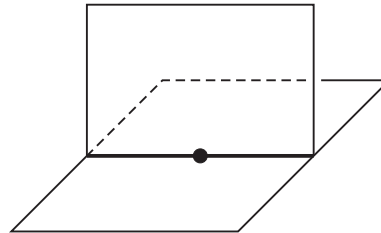
1.2. Special polyhedra

P is **special** if

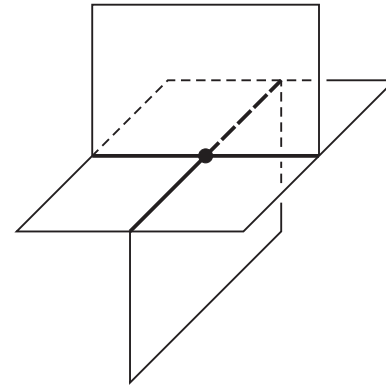
1. Locally it appears as



regions



edges



vertices

2. Edges are segments
3. Regions are discs

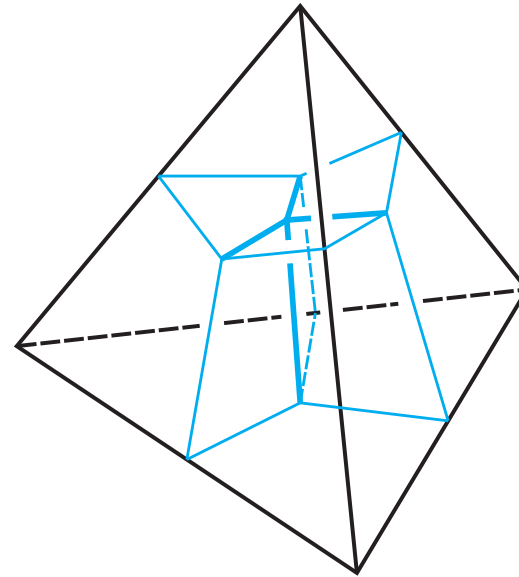
1.4 Duality

Fact

{triangulations of 3-manifolds}

↕ **duality**

{thickenable special polyhedra}



[BP1995] (combinatorial) **orientation** of a special polyhedron

Fact {triangulations of oriented 3-manifolds}

↕ **duality**

(orientable \Rightarrow thickenable)

{oriented special polyhedra}

2. Branched spines, normal flow, maw

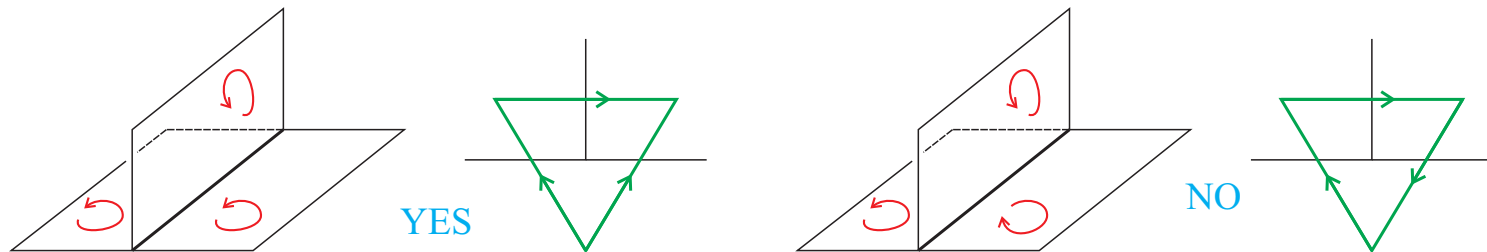
2.1. Branching

P oriented special polyhedron, \mathcal{T} dual triangulation

A **branching** is

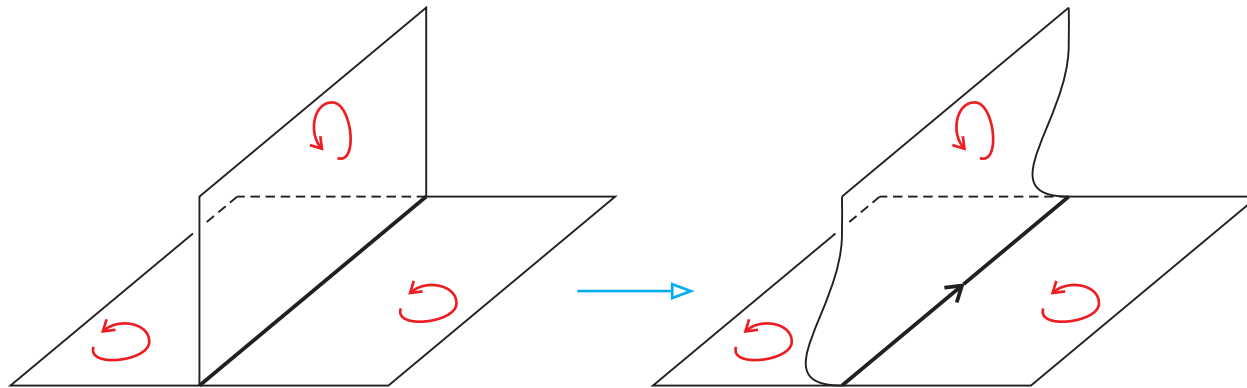
- An orientation for the regions of P such that no edge of P is induced 3 times the same orientation by the 3 incident regions
- An orientation for the edges of \mathcal{T} such that the boundary of a triangle of \mathcal{T} is never a cycle

(equivalently)



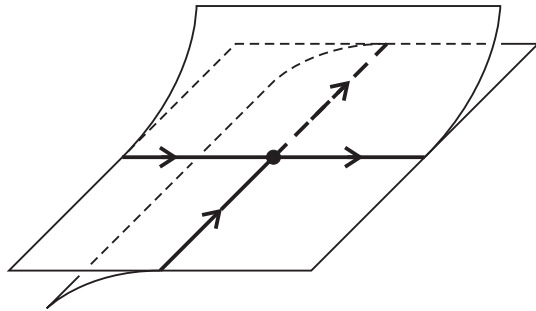
Fact Some P 's **do not admit any branching**

Smoothing along edges induced by a branching

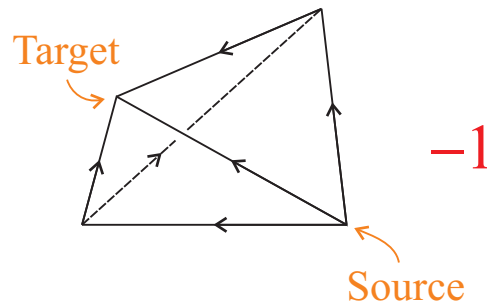


(and orientation of edges)

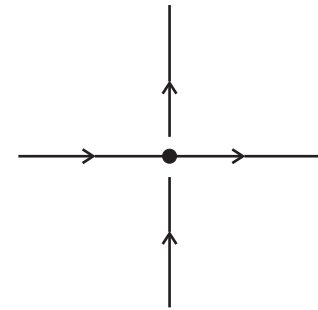
Fact The smoothing **extends at vertices**



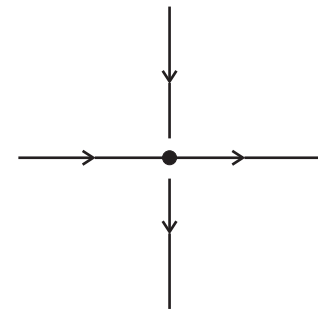
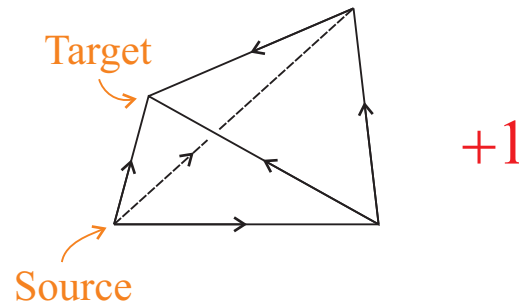
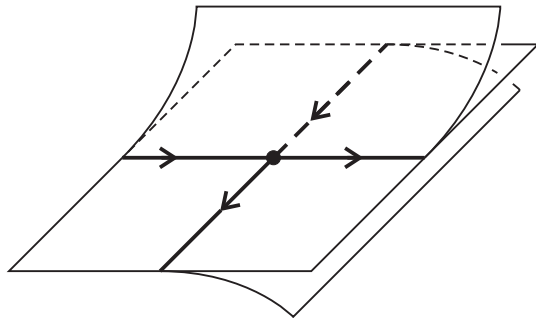
Spine



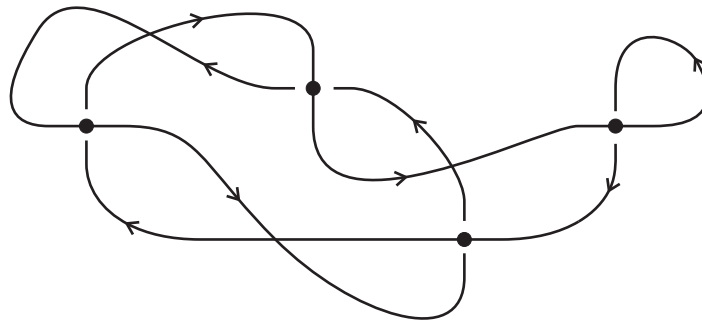
Triangulation



Graph

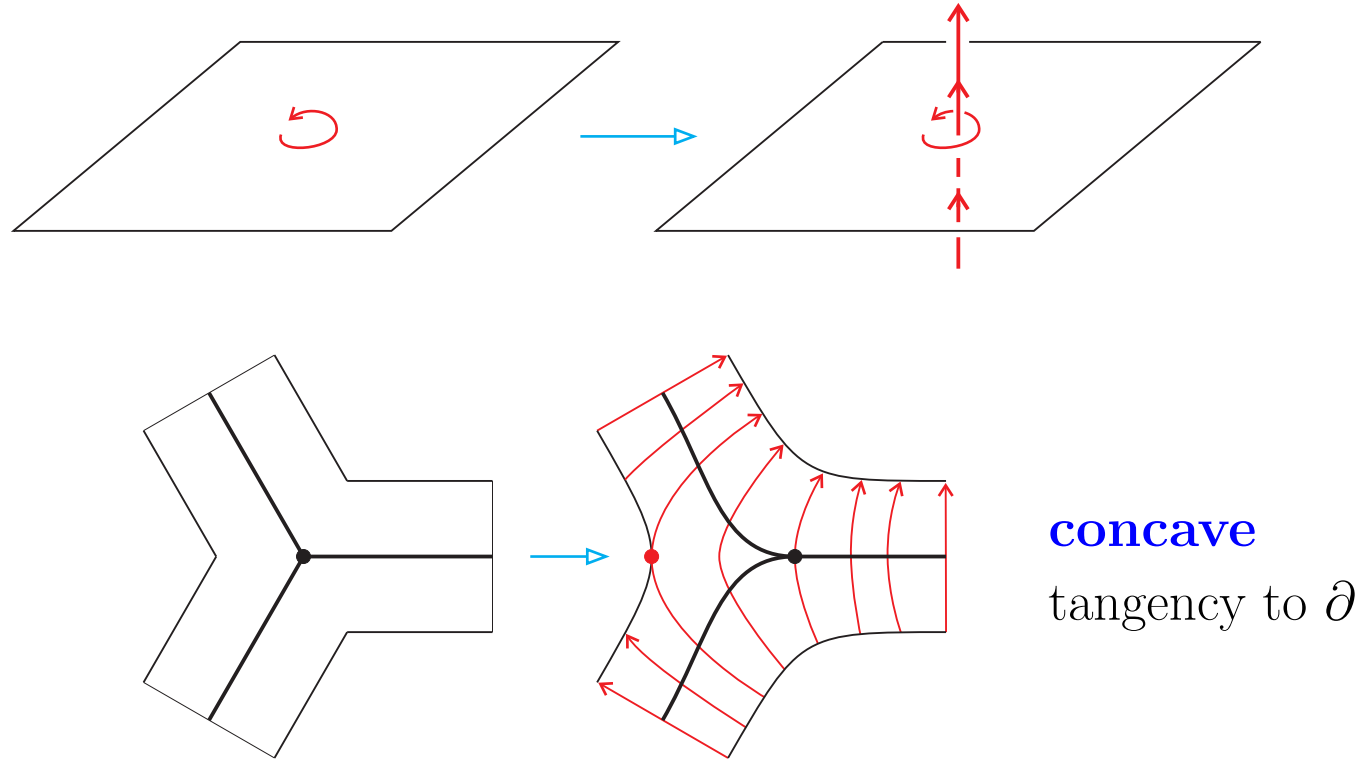


A branched triangulation



2.2. The normal flow ν

P branched (Ishii) positive normal flow $\nu(P)$ on $U(P)$

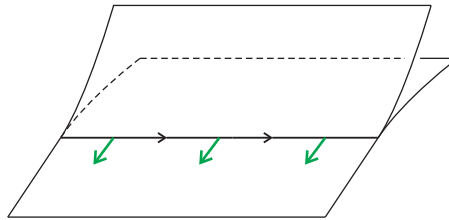


At vertices: a flow-line is **doubly tangent** to ∂

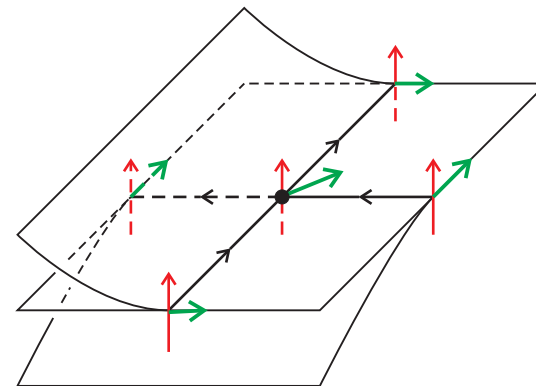
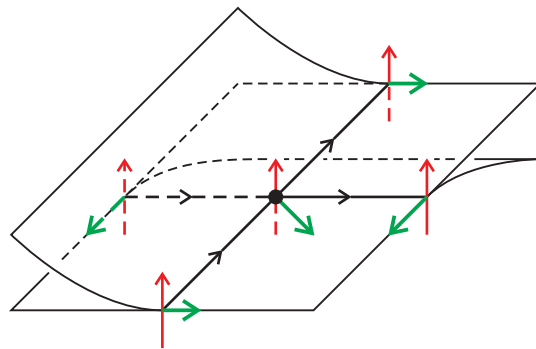
2.2. The maw ν

P branched

(Christy) descending field $\mu(P)$ on 1-skeleton $S(P)$ of P



ν and μ near a vertex



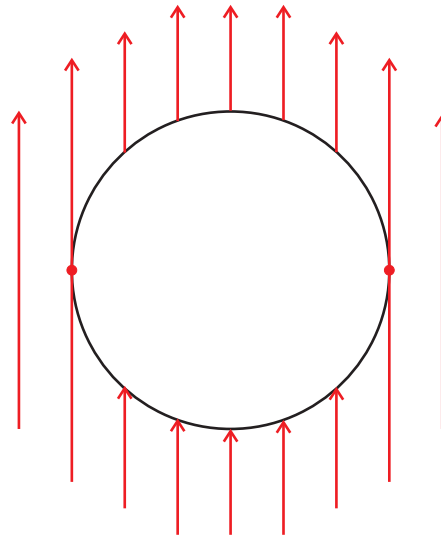
3. Closed combed 3-manifolds [BP1997]

Combinatorial realization of the set of pairs $(M, [v])$ with

- M closed oriented
- v non-zero vector field on M
- $[v]$ homotopy class (through non-zero vector fields)

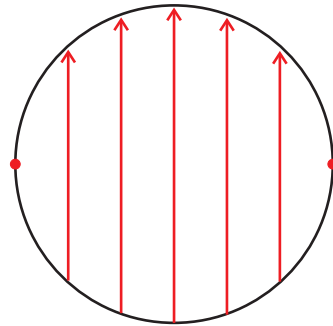
Objects P oriented branched special polyhedron with

$\partial U(P) \cong S^2$ and
 $\nu(P)$ near $\partial U(P)$ given by

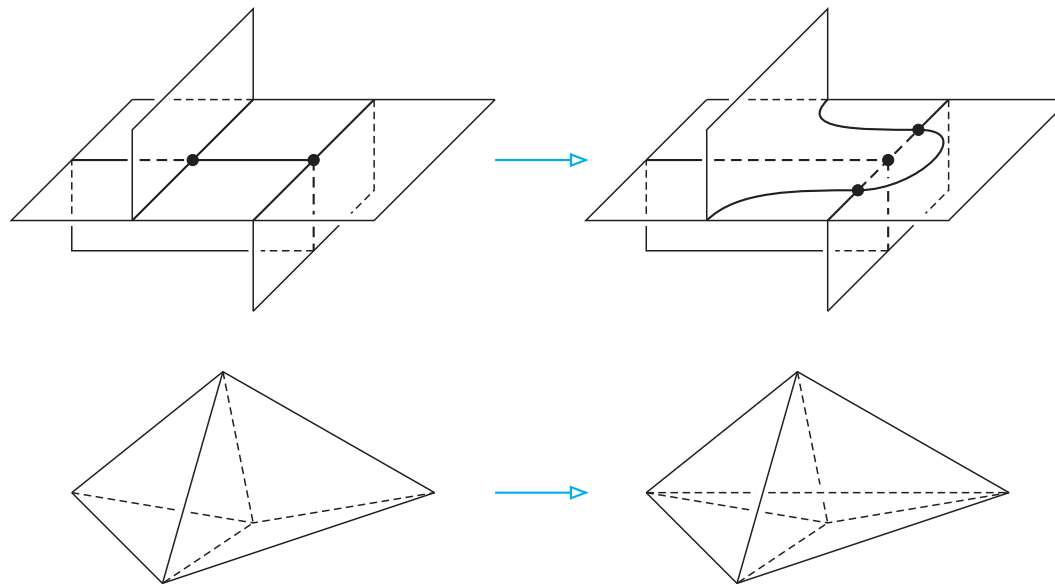


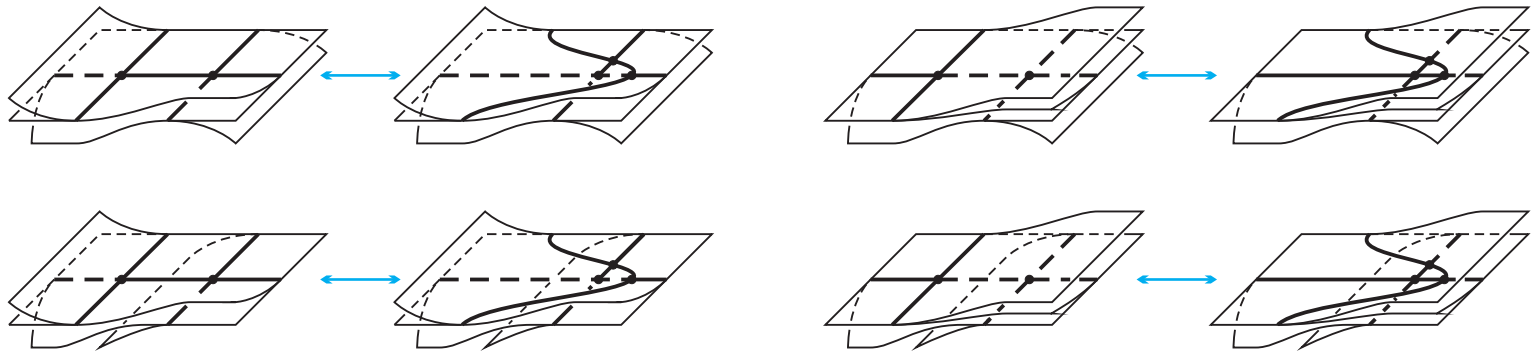
Reconstruction

cap $\partial U(P)$ with



Moves branched versions of the [Matveev-Piergallini 2-3 move](#)





Easy extension with same techniques

- allow $\partial M \neq \emptyset$
- allow v to have **concave** tangency to ∂M
- consider **homotopy fixed on ∂M**

4. Spin 3-manifolds [BP1997]

Combinatorial realization of the set of pairs (M, s) with

- M oriented
- s spin structure on M

Objects (P, β) with

- P oriented branched special polyhedron
- **weight** $\beta \in C^1(P; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ such that $\delta\beta$ is the obstruction to extending $(\nu(P), \mu(P))$ from $S(P)$ to P

Reconstruction Use β to extend $(\nu(P), \mu(P))$ from $S(P)$ to P

Moves

- Add 1-coboundaries to β
- Weighted and branched versions of the MP move

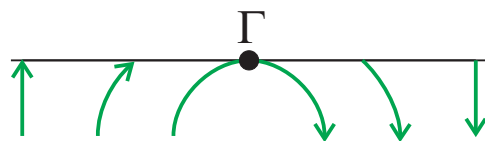
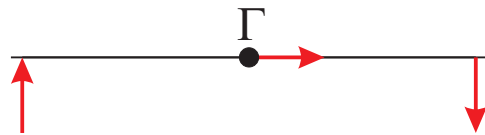
5. Generic flows [P2012]

5.1. Morin singularities

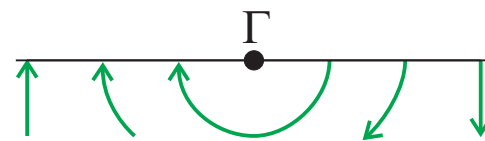
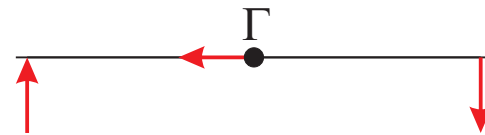
M compact, oriented, $\partial M \neq \emptyset$

v nowhere-zero on M

generically: v tangent to ∂M along curve Γ
and tangent to Γ at essential isolated points

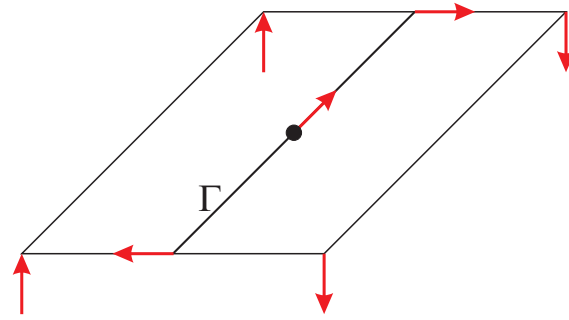
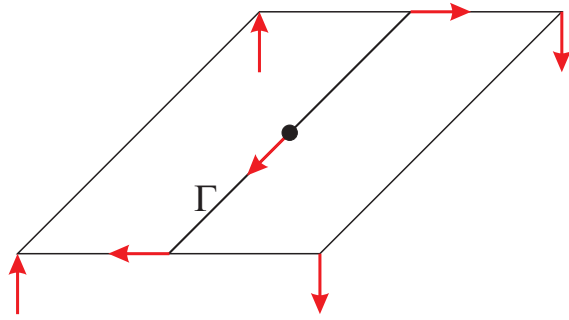


concave

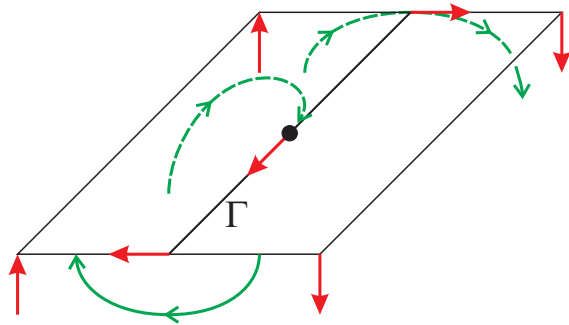


convex

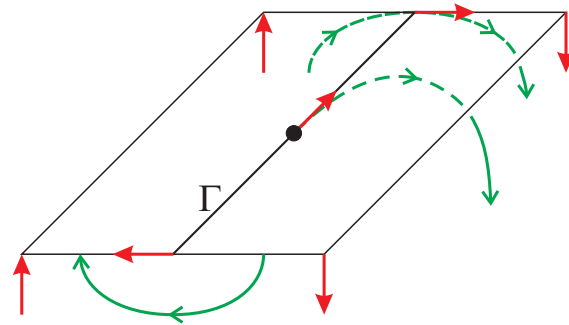
Transition points



Transition orbits



concave-to-convex



convex-to-concave

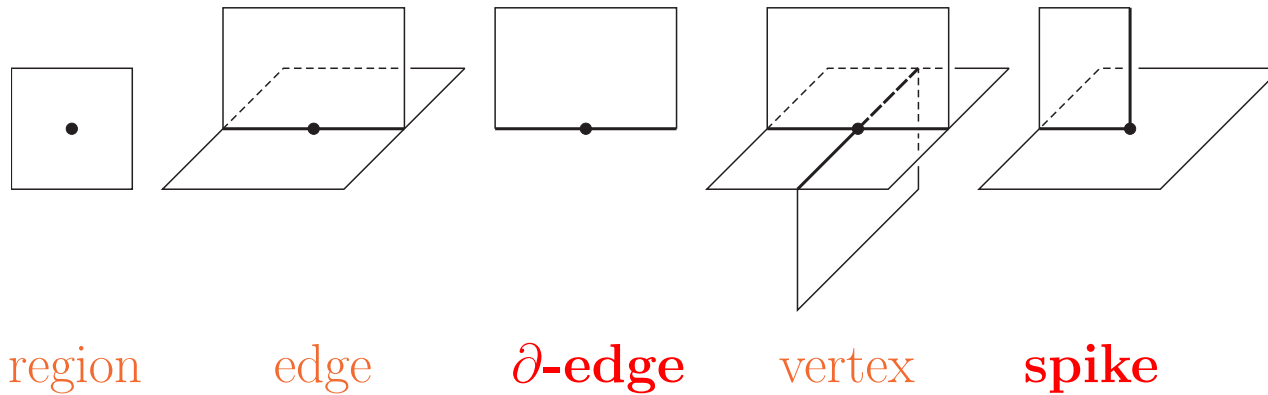
5.1. Combinatorial realization – objects

Set of pairs $(M, [v])$ with

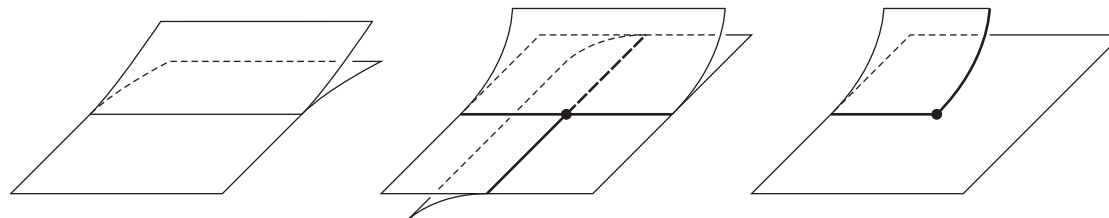
- M oriented compact with ∂
- v non-zero vector field on M generic along ∂M
- $[v]$ homotopy class through generic fields
(\Rightarrow configuration on ∂M evolves isotopically)

Objects P compact polyhedron

- locally



- oriented along edges
- oriented **branching** along edges

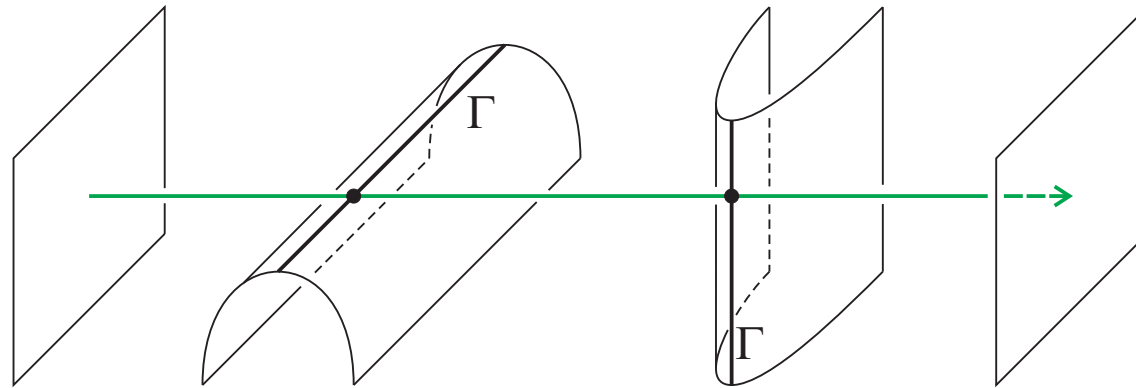


- **boundary** condition (discussed below – **no cellularity!**)

5.2. Reconstruction

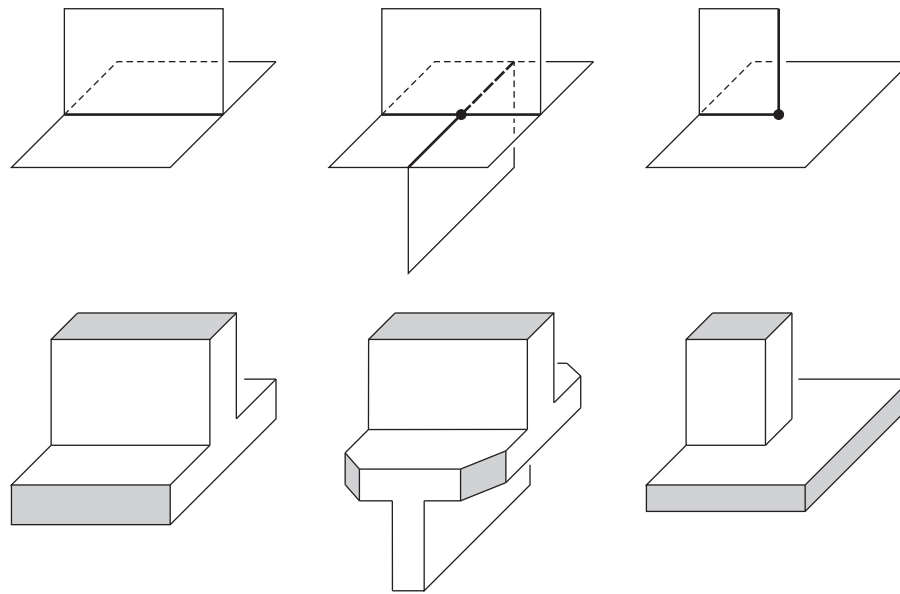
Theorem Each P as above thickens to unique $(U(P), \nu(P))$ with

- P a **spine** of $U := U(P)$
- $\nu := \nu(P)$ positively **normal** to P
- ν generic on ∂U
- Transition orbits of ν not elsewhere tangent to ∂U
- Each orbit of ν tangent to ∂U in at most two points, and transversely if so



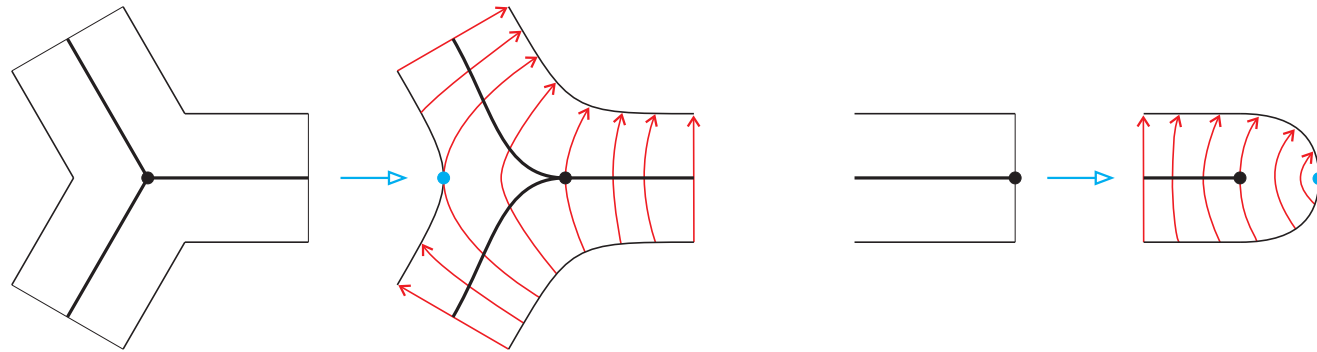
- All orbits of ν go **from ∂U to ∂U**

- Topological thickening

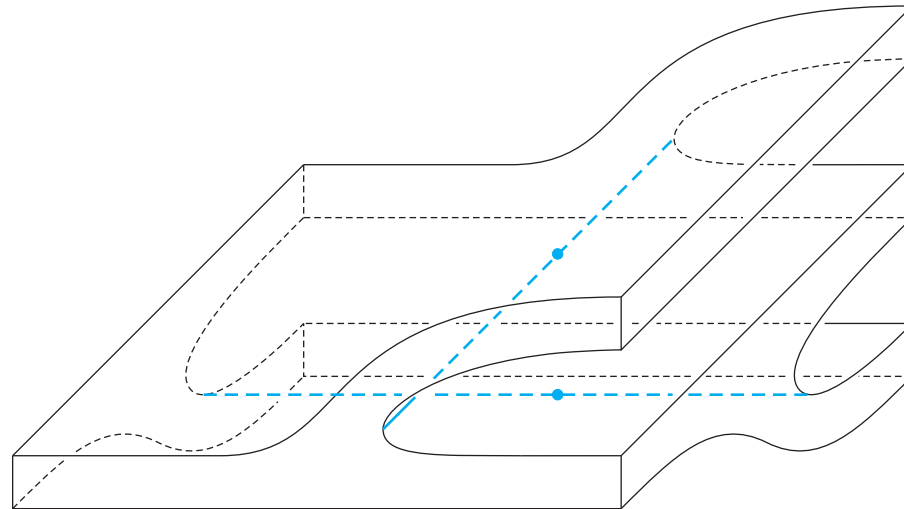
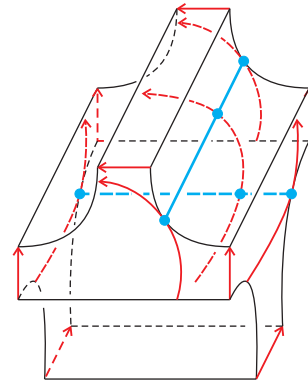
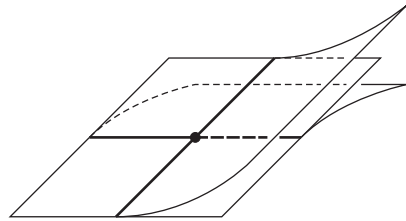


Unique because trivial I -bundle on each region

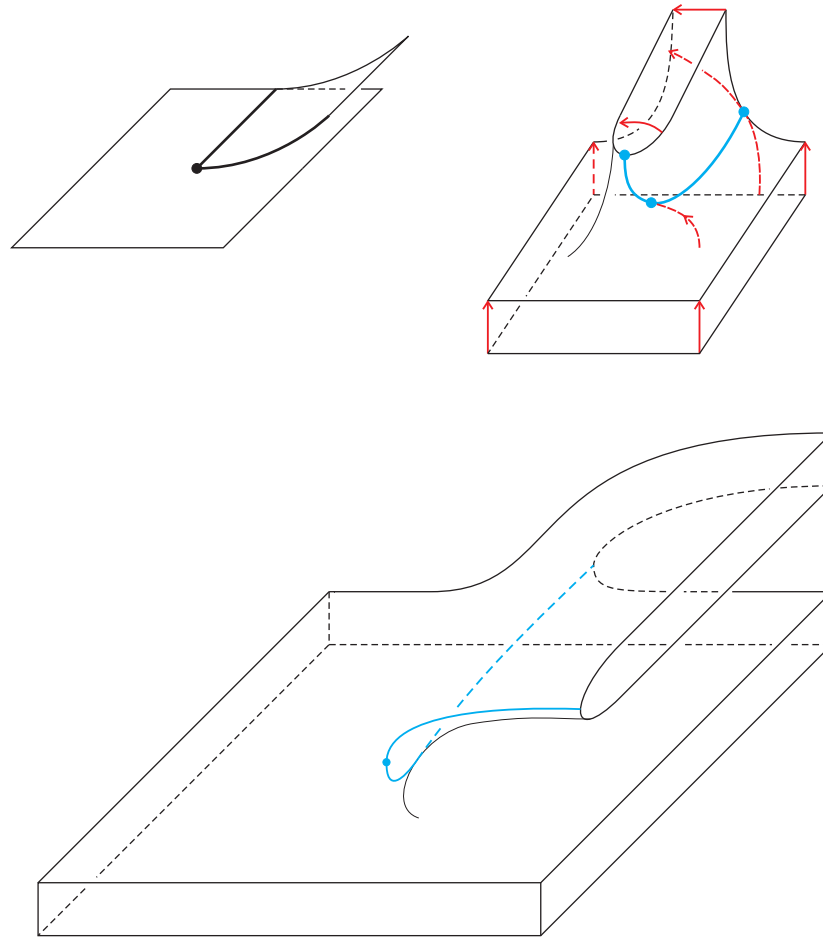
- Smooth thickening at edges and ∂ -edges



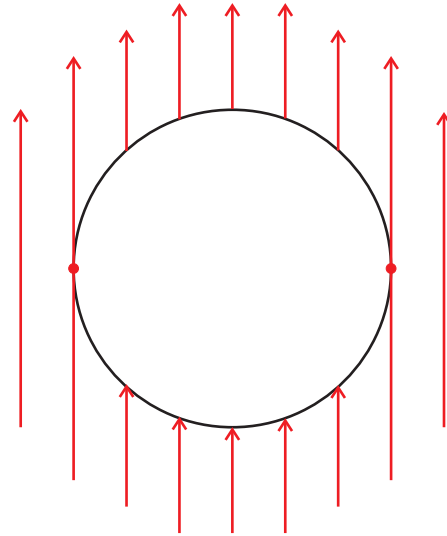
- Smooth thickening at vertices



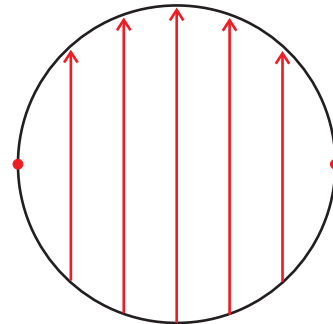
- Smooth thickening at spikes



Extra condition on objects
 (U, ν) must include at least one

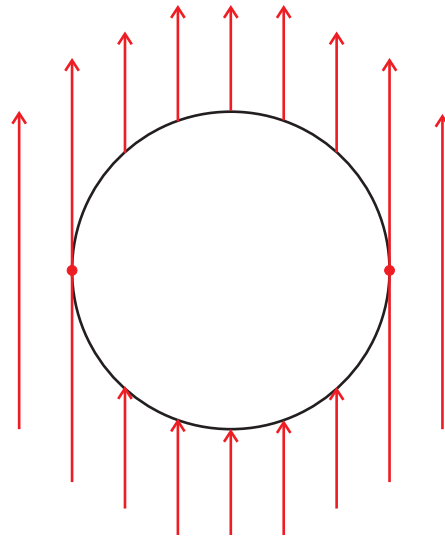


Reconstruction
cap (U, ν) with



Proposition Reconstruction well-defined

If there are two



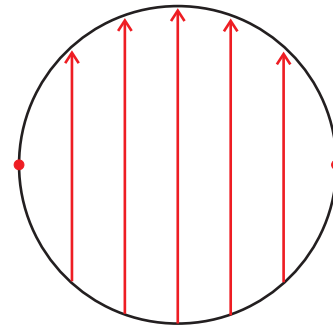
capping any of them
gives the same

Proposition Reconstruction surjective

I We want to obtain a given (M, ν) by capping (U, ν) with

- ν generic on ∂U
- Transition orbits of ν not elsewhere tangent to ∂U
- Each orbit of ν tangent to ∂U in at most two points, and transversely if so
- All orbits of ν go from ∂U to ∂U

* Choose U as M minus a “very big”



(trivially combed ball)

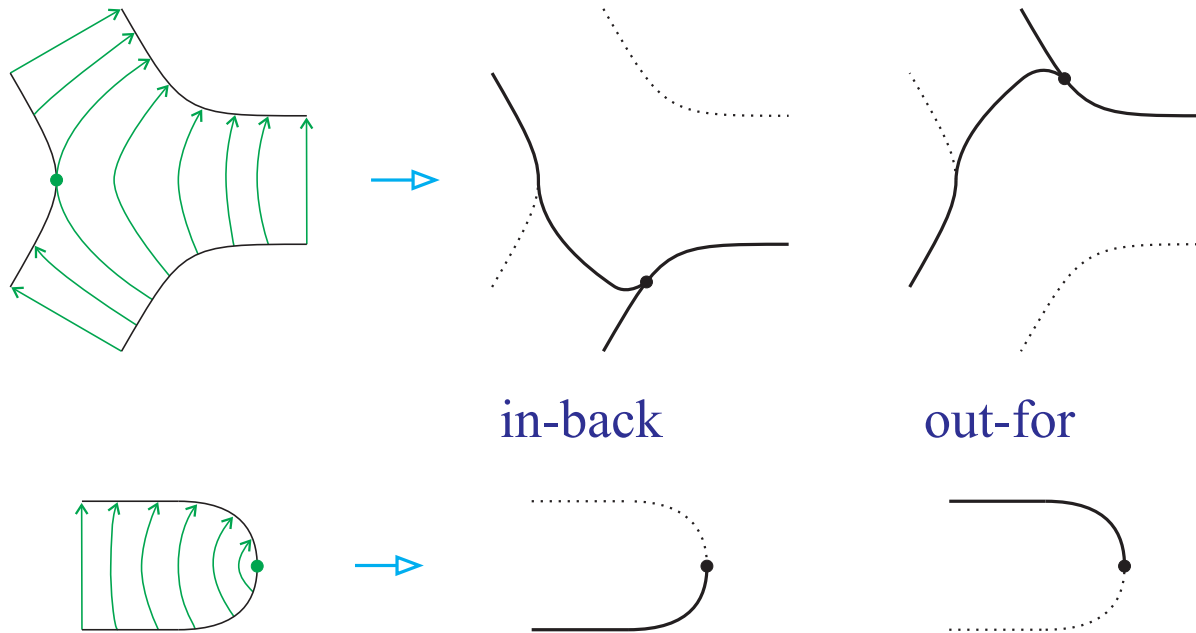
achieving first and last condition

Other two conditions true up to homotopy

II Given (U, ν) find P with $U = U(P)$ and $\nu = \nu(P)$

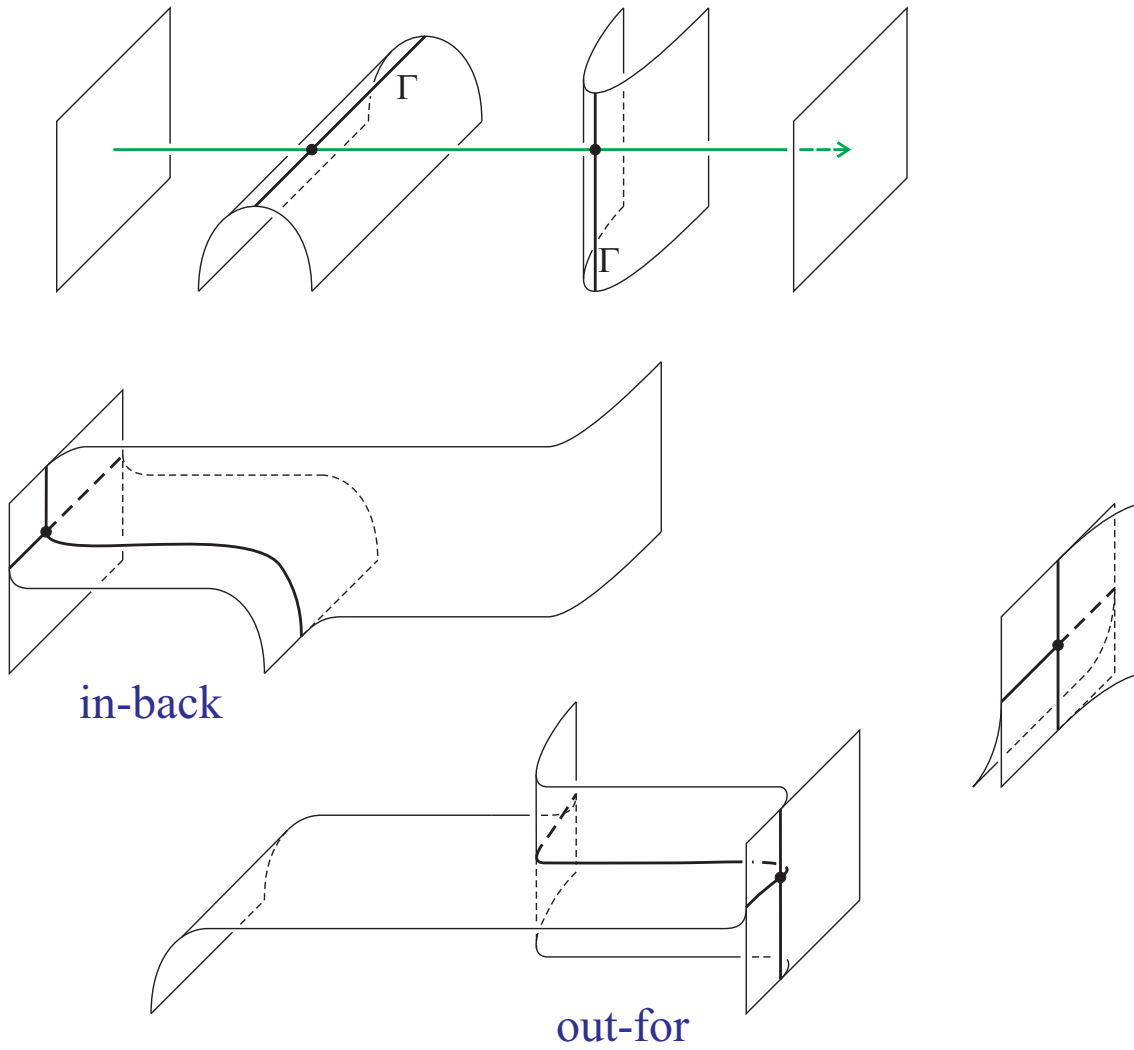
* **in-backward** P : in-region of ∂U union orbits to concave or transition points

* **out-forward** P : out-region of ∂M union orbits from concave or transition points

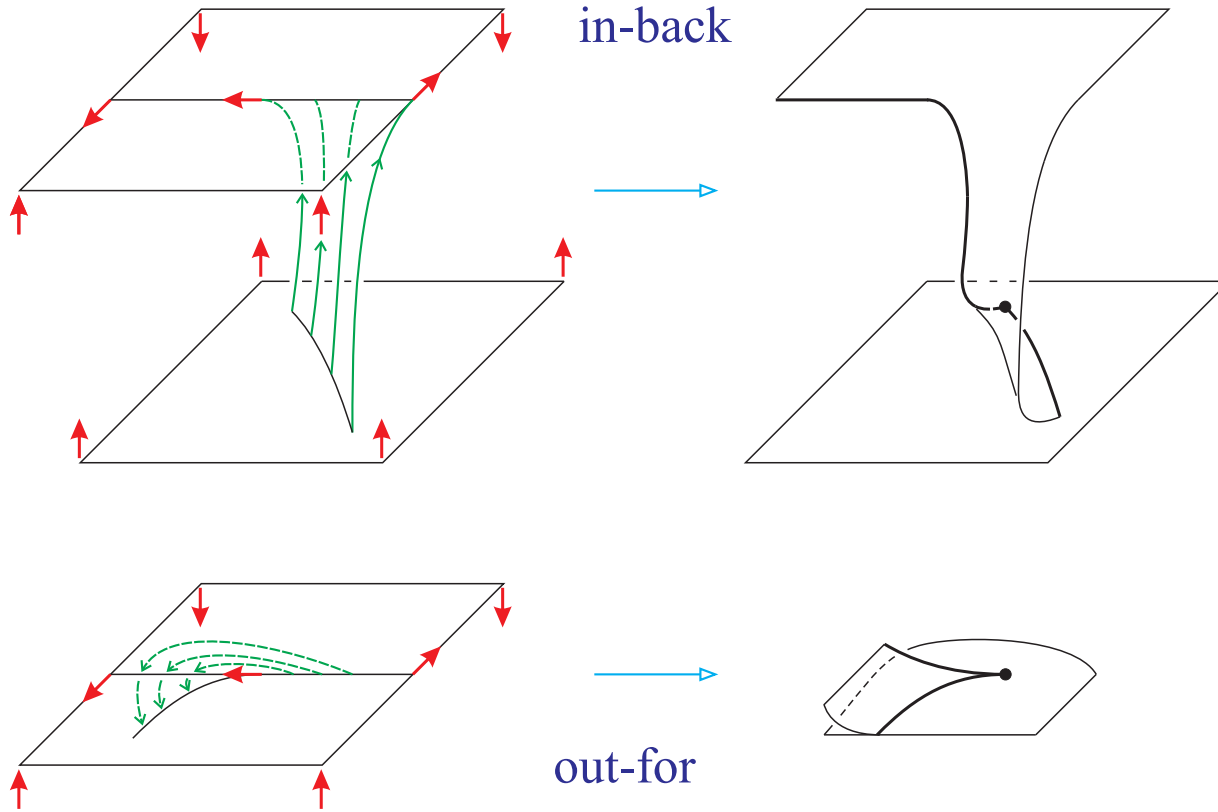


They are the same and they work

Birth of vertices

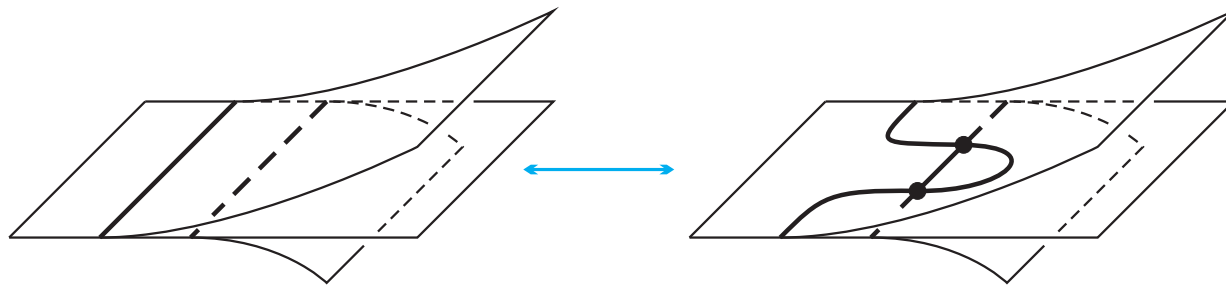
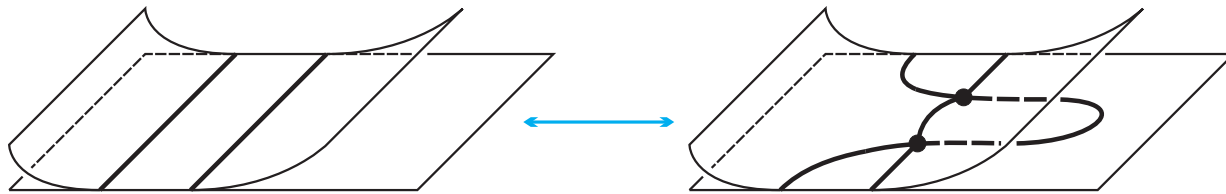
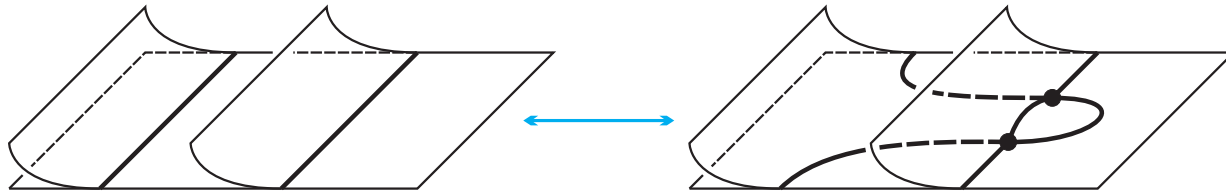


Birth of spikes

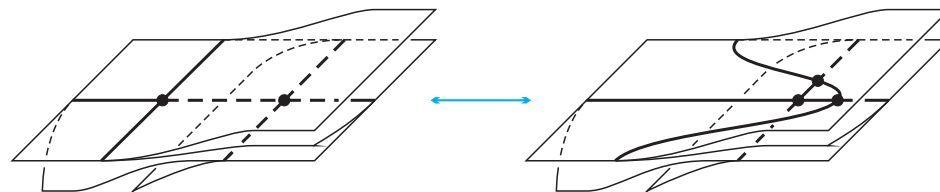
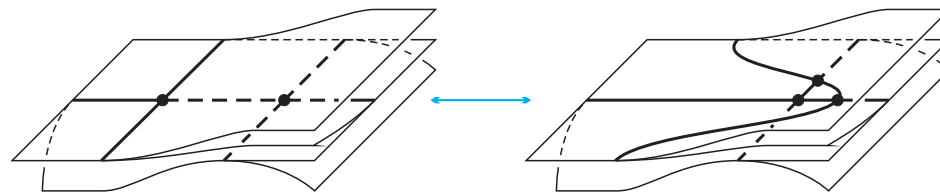
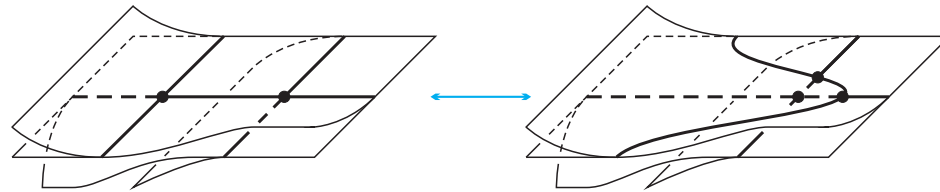
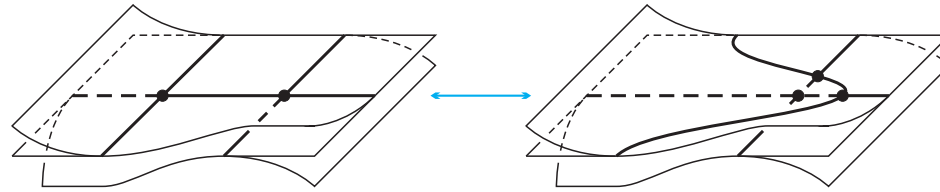


5.3. Moves

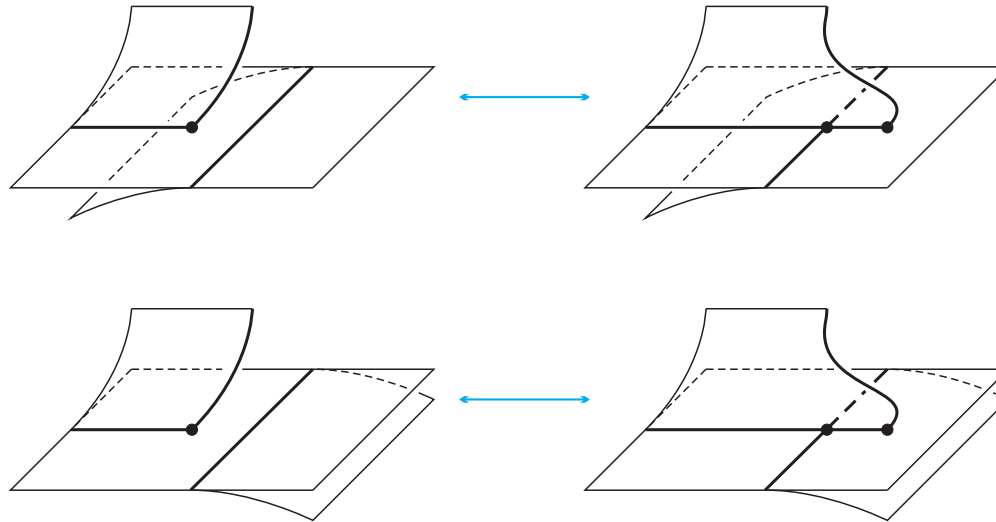
- $0 \leftrightarrow 2$ sliding moves



- $2 \leftrightarrow 3$ sliding moves



- spike-sliding moves



Idea of proof

I Express homotopy of ∂ -to- ∂ fields
on $U = (M \text{ minus trivially combed ball})$
as composition of **elementary catastrophes**
reading effect on in-backward or out-forward spines

II Express isotopy of trivially combed ball
as composition of **elementary catastrophes**
reading effect on in-backward or out-forward spines

Fact Moves from **II** same as those from **I**

Catastrophe I.1

Orbit twice concavely tangent to ∂U but not transversely

Effect $0 \leftrightarrow 2$ sliding moves

Catastrophe I.2

Orbit thrice transversely and concavely tangent to ∂U

Effect $2 \leftrightarrow 3$ sliding moves

Catastrophe I.2

Transition orbit also concavely tangent to ∂U

Effect Spike-sliding moves

6. Spin structures via arbitrary spines

[BP1997] Combinatorial presentation of

$$\{(M, s) : s \text{ spin structure on } M\}$$

via branched spines — not all spines admit branching

Idea [BP2013] A weaker version of branching

that **exists on every P**

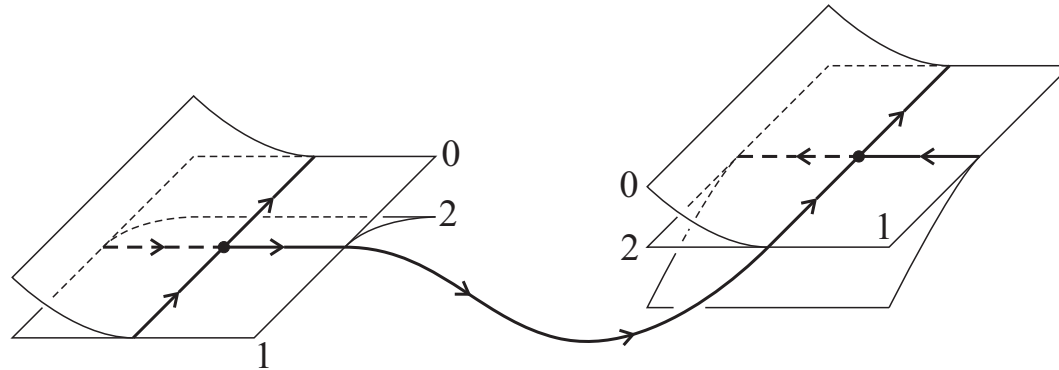
still allows to define $\nu(P), \mu(P)$ on

$S(P) = 4$ -valent gluing graph of triangulation dual to P

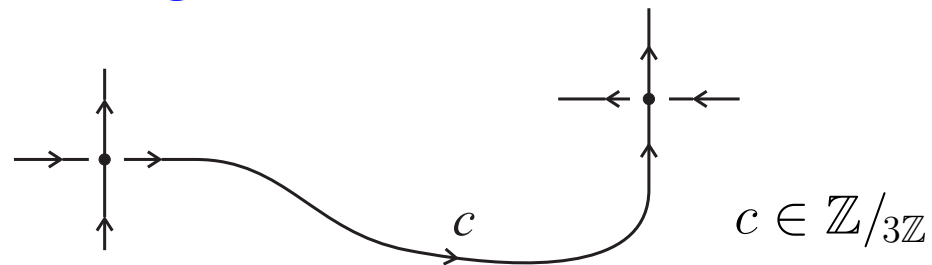
Pre-branching ω on P is an orientation of $S(P)$ with
2 edges in and 2 out at each vertex

Existence Express $S(P)$ as union of cycles

Weak branching b compatible with pre-branching ω is a branching at each vertex inducing ω



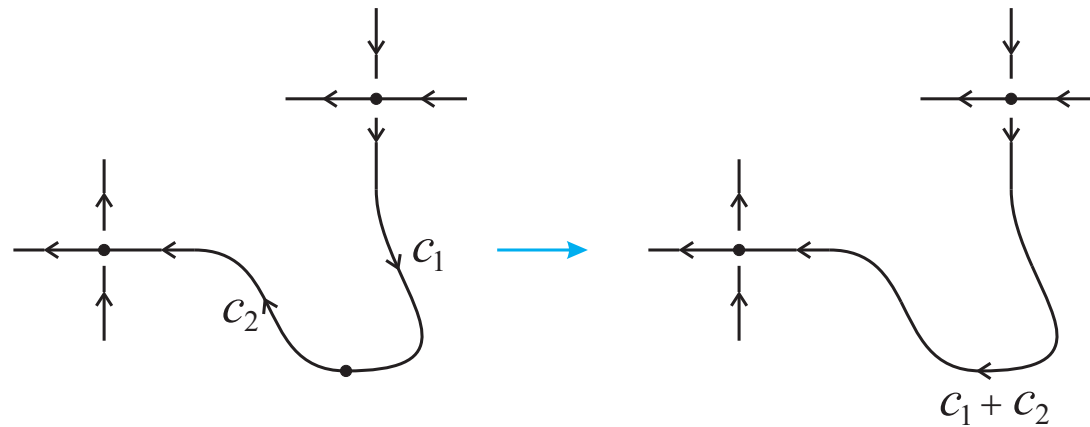
Graphic encoding



Proposition

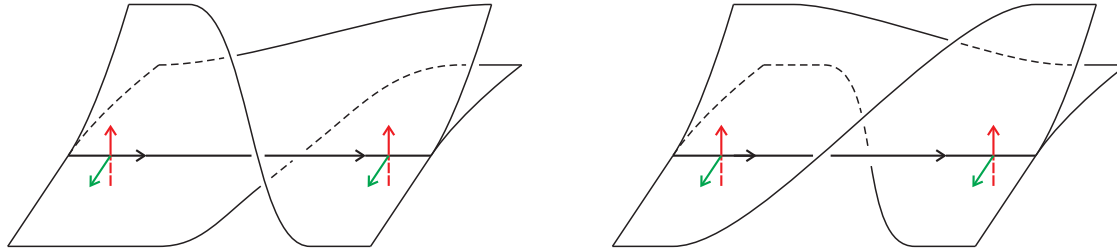
ω pre-branching on P b compatible weak branching

- They allow to define $\varphi(P) := (\nu(P), \mu(P))$ on $S(P)$
- The **obstruction** $\alpha(P, \omega, b) \in C^1(P; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ to extending $\varphi(P)$ on P can be computed explicitly
- φ and α are **additive** with respect to edge summation



Idea ν, μ defined at vertices

- obvious extension along **branched edges** (colour 0)
- extension along **unbranched edges** (colour ± 1)

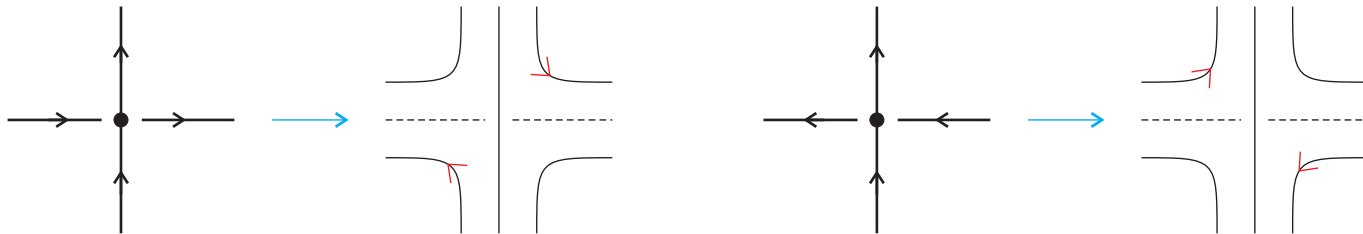


- extend ν vertical
- extend μ horizontal **adding a full twist**

Obstruction computation

$\alpha(P, \omega, b)$ on R is a sum of contributions in $\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$
 (with final sum in $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$)

- from vertices — requires orientation of ∂R



- from edges



Proposition

$[\alpha(P, \omega, b)] = 0 \in H^2(P; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ and there exists

$$\{\beta \in C^1(P; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) : \delta\beta = \alpha(P, \omega, b)\} \xrightarrow{s} \text{Spin}(M)$$

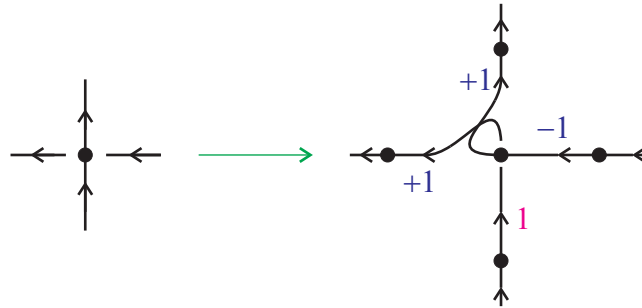
with $s(\beta_0) = s(\beta_1) \Leftrightarrow [\beta_0 + \beta_1] = 0 \in H^1(P; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

$$\beta \in C^1(P; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{weight}$$

Theorem

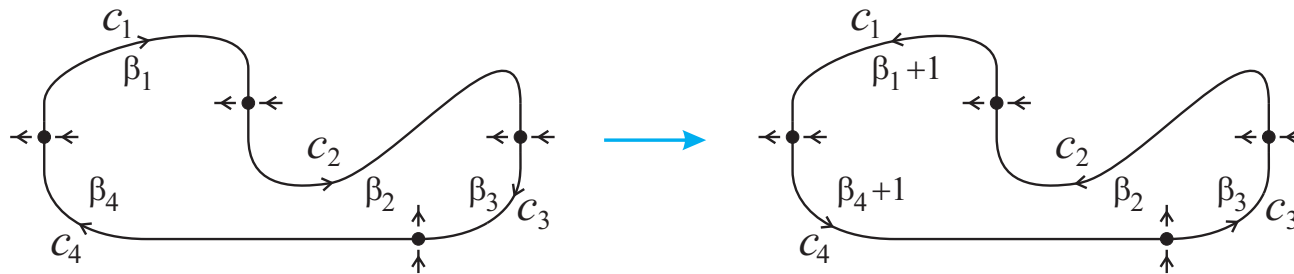
$$s(P_0, \omega_0, b_0, \beta_0) = s(P_1, \omega_1, b_1, \beta_1) \Leftrightarrow \dots \text{moves}$$

- P, ω, b fixed, β varies: $H^1(P; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$
- P, ω fixed, b changes: explicit local moves at vertices



$\pm 1 \in \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ edge colours $1 \in \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ weight

- P fixed, ω varies: one global move (circuit)

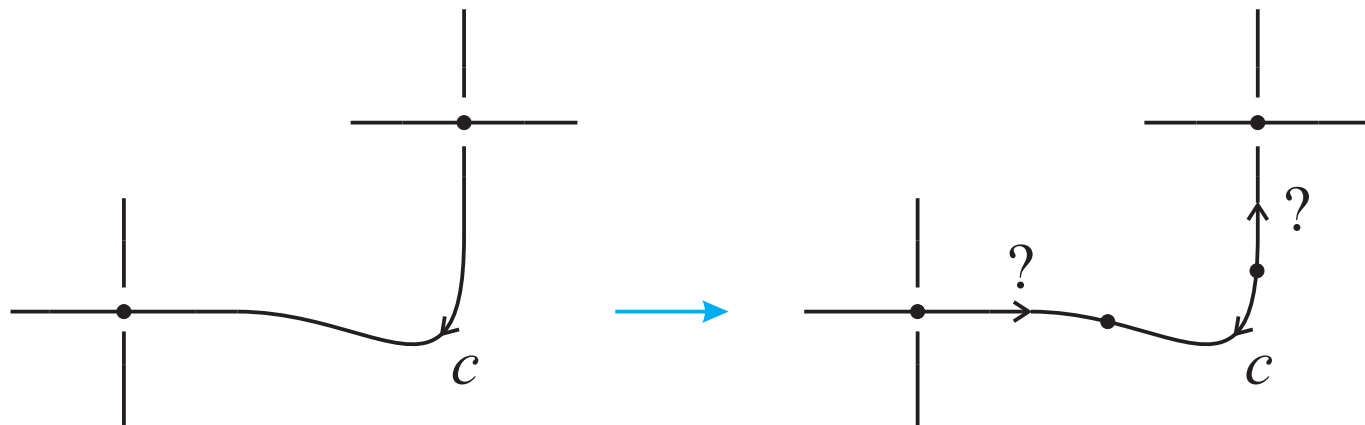


- P varies: weighted versions of 2-3 and bubble moves

Issue Replace global move by (semi-)local moves

Idea Allow branching to be “temporarily” arbitrary

- Start with weak branching b compatible with pre-branching ω
- Change branching at each vertex getting another b' compatible with some other ω'
- On some edges this will give



- To treat the change **locally** we need graphs encoding arbitrary branchings (even if globally we only want weak \rightarrow weak changes)

- **New edges**



τ transposition

- **New weighted vertex moves**

- **New summation rules** for weighted edges

- These rules are **not** associative for arbitrary branchings
- When applied to weak \rightarrow weak transitions they give well-defined result
- The new weighted vertex moves when applied to weak \rightarrow weak transitions generate the circuit move under the new summation rules

- **Same weighted 2-3 and bubble moves**