

# On Cayley graphs of monoids and semigroups

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Aix-Marseille Université  
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Université Paris Dauphine

Ignacio García-Marco

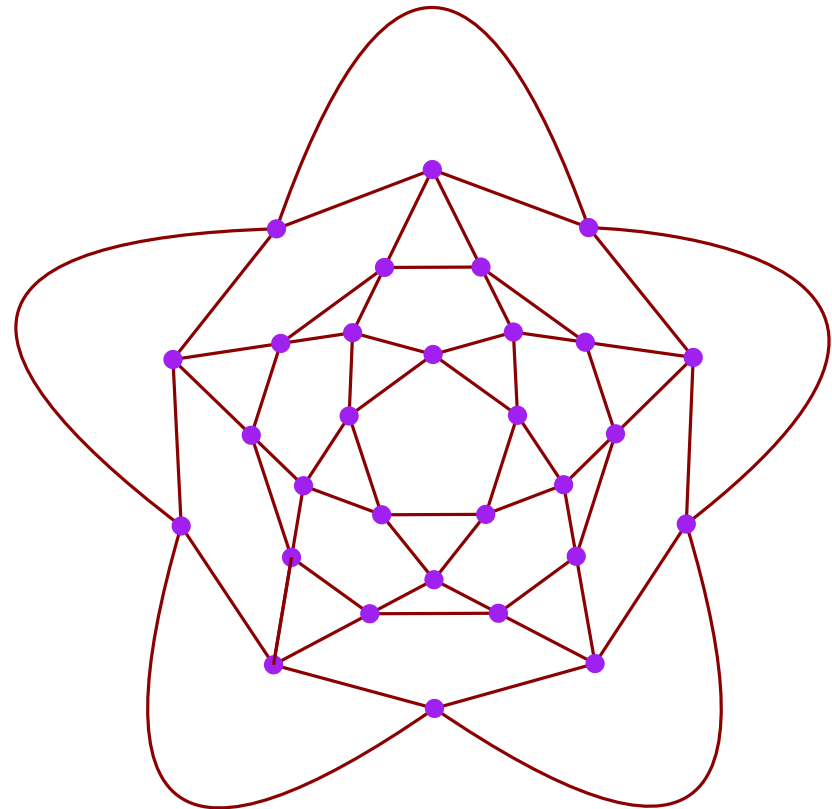
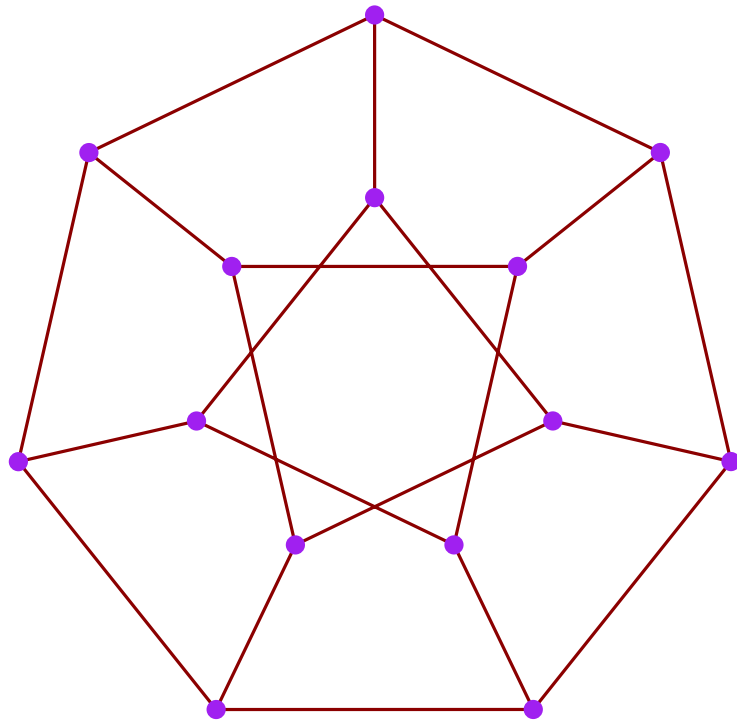
Universidad La Laguna

Ulrich Knauer

Universität Oldenburg

Ernest Vidal

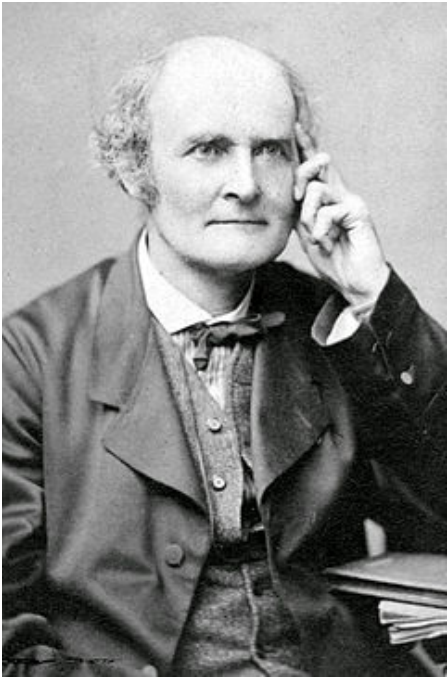
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# Cayley graphs

named after:

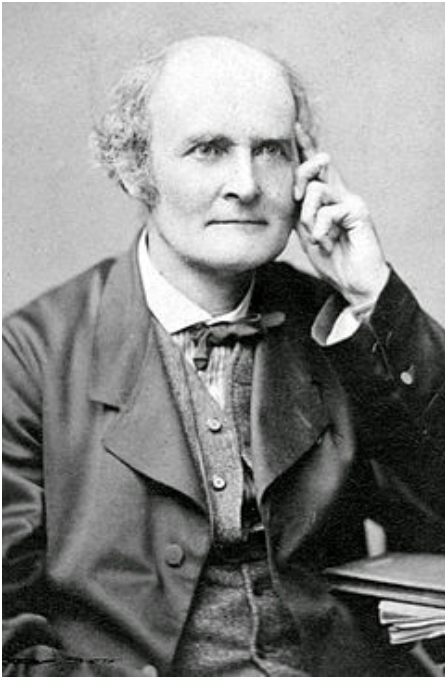
Arthur Cayley (1821-1895 )



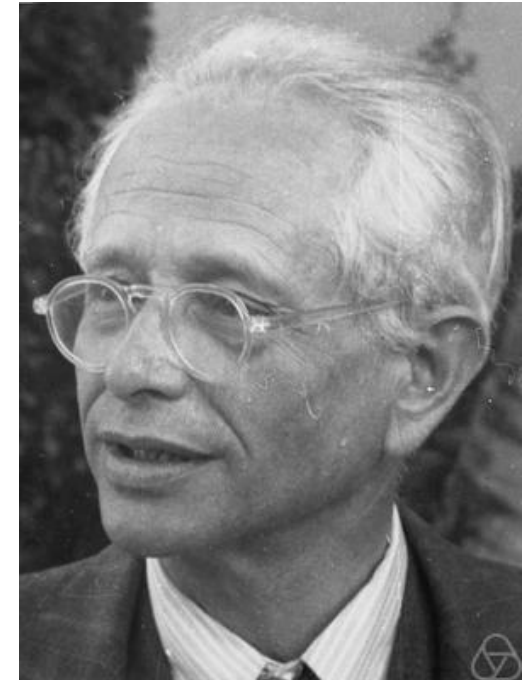
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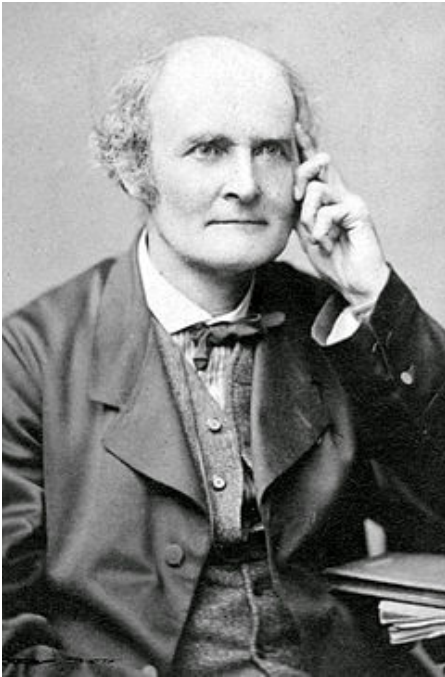
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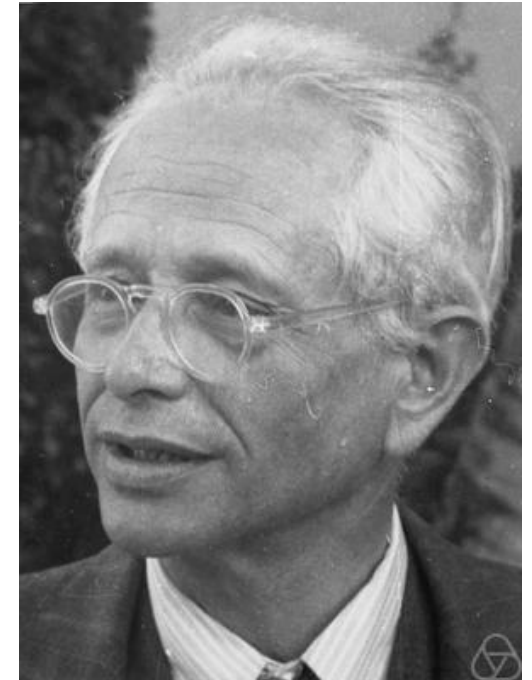
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Cayley's paper published in 1878

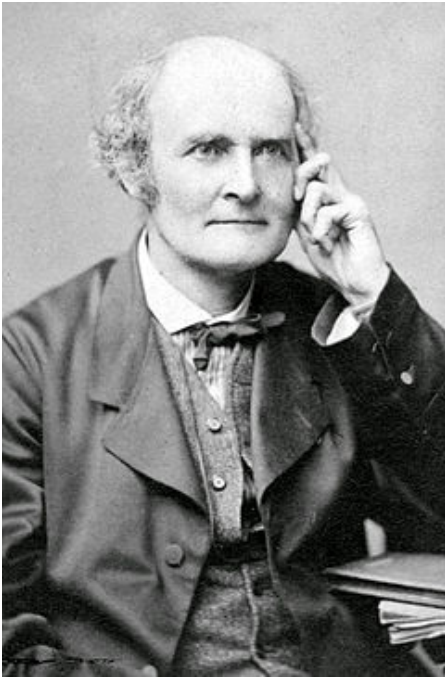
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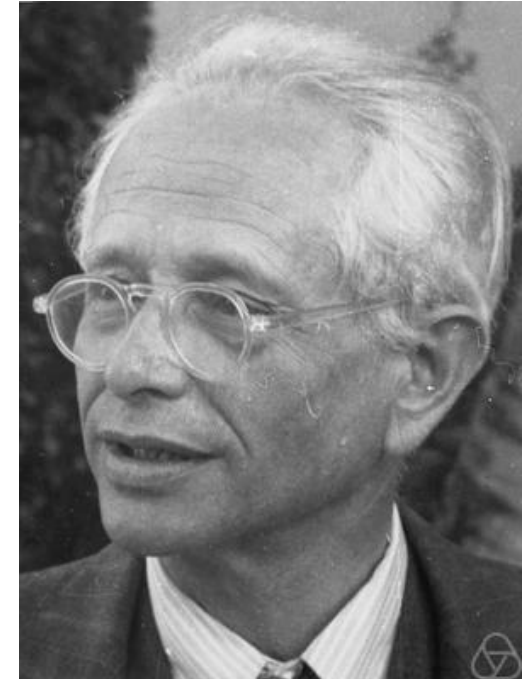
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(finite) set  $S$  with binary operation  $\cdot : S \times S \rightarrow S$

**associativity:**  $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$  for all  $a, b, c \in S$

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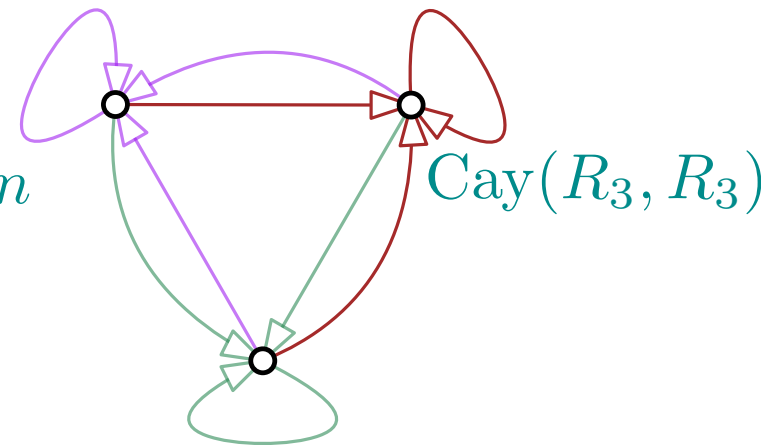
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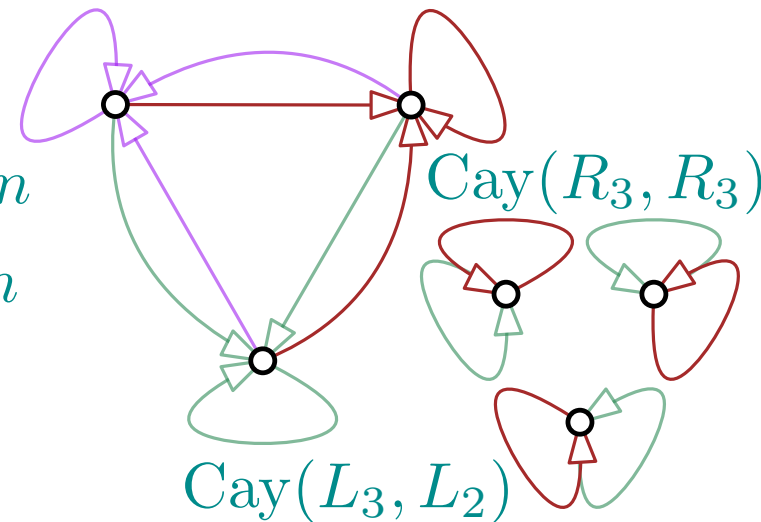
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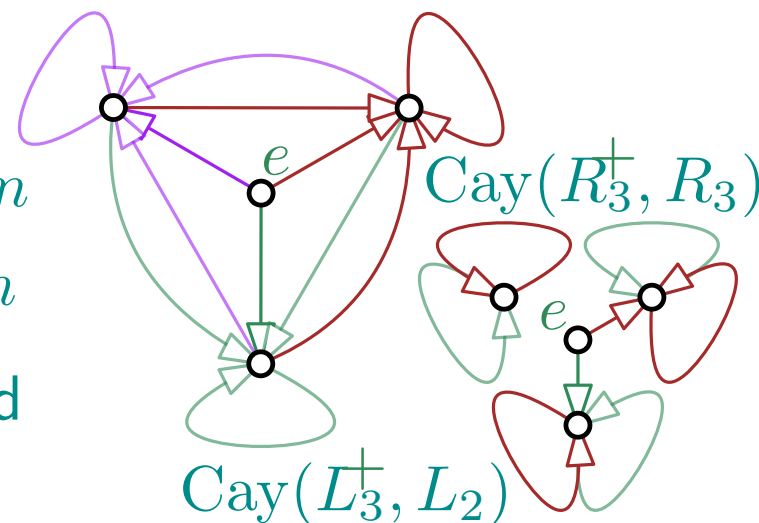
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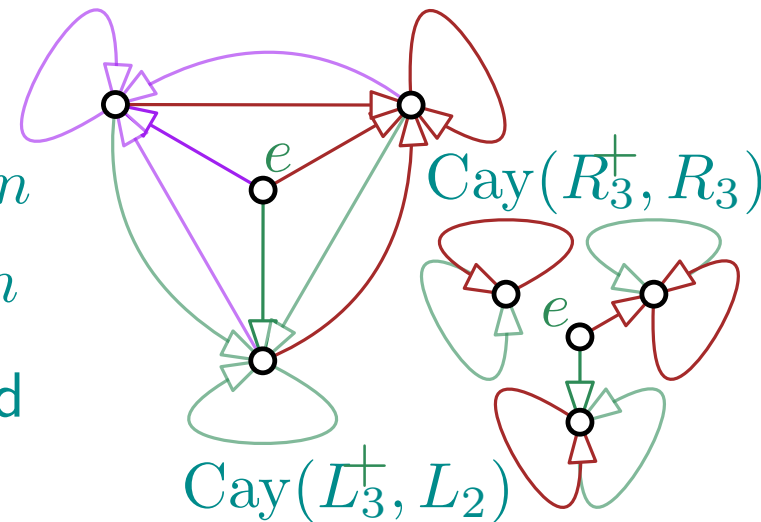
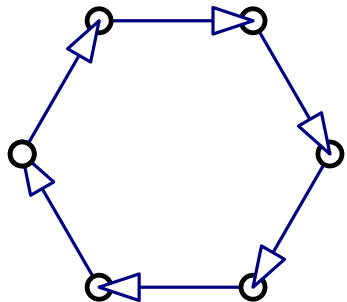
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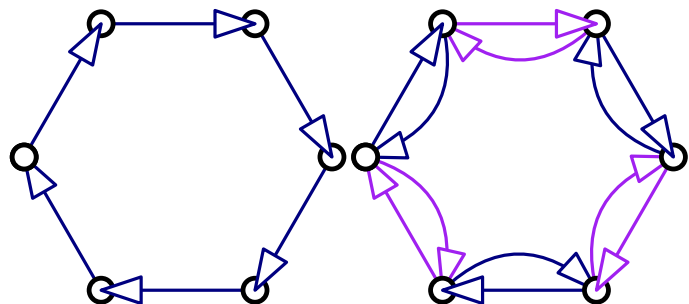
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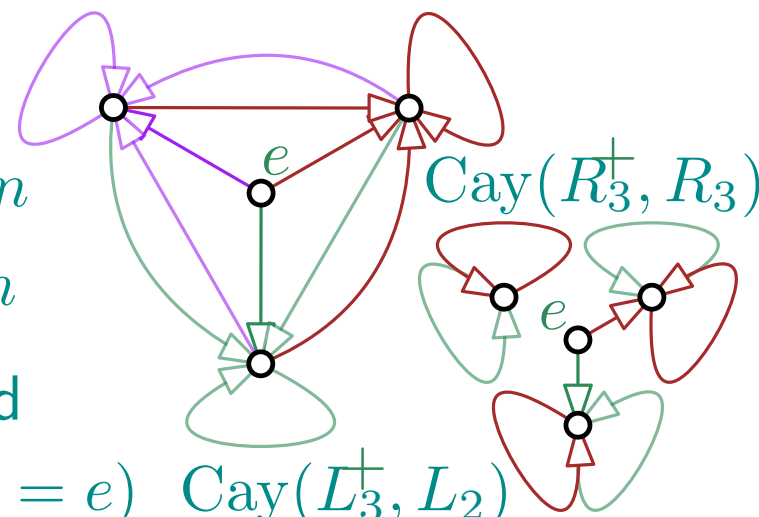
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$D_n$  = symmetry group of regular  $n$ -gon



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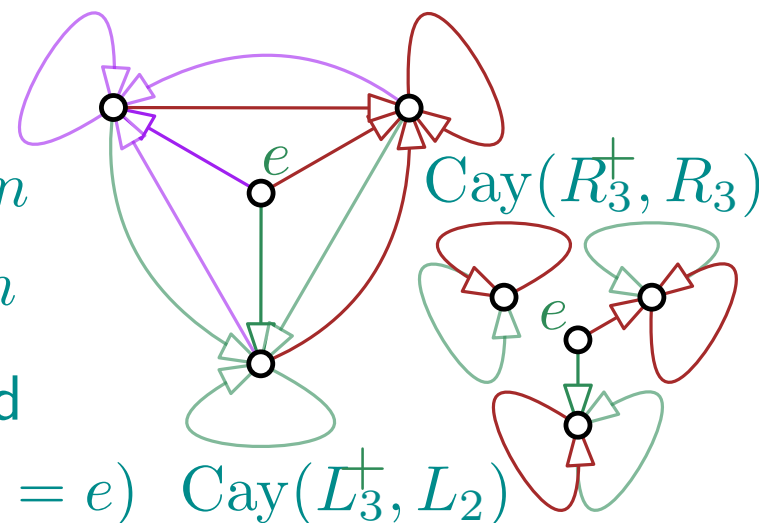
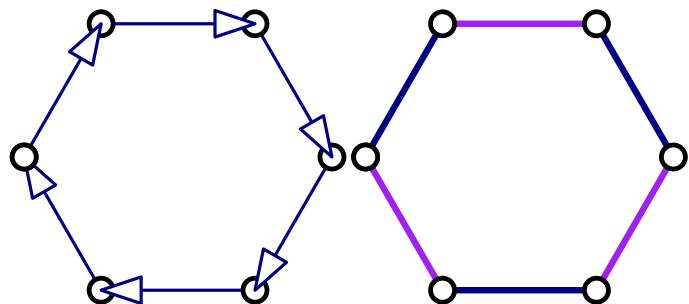
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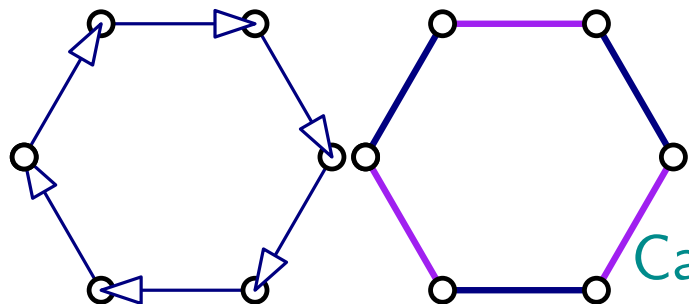
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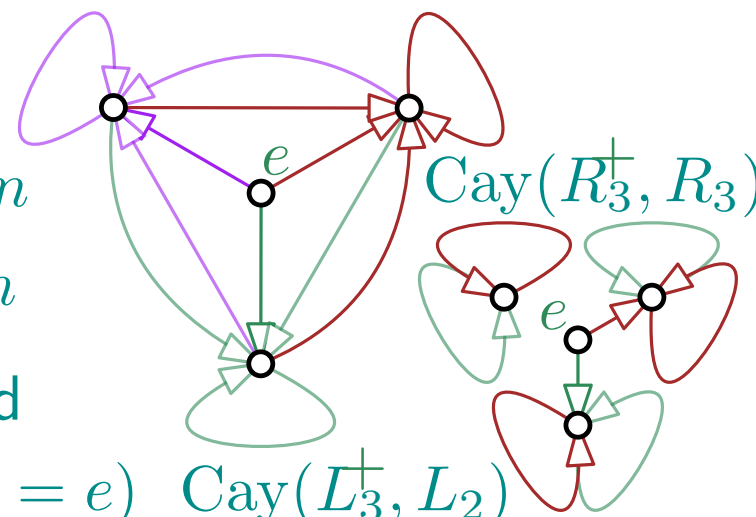
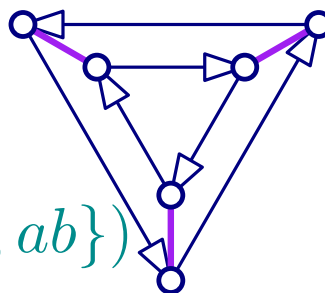
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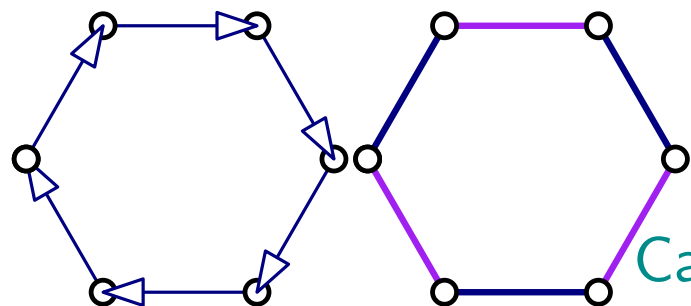
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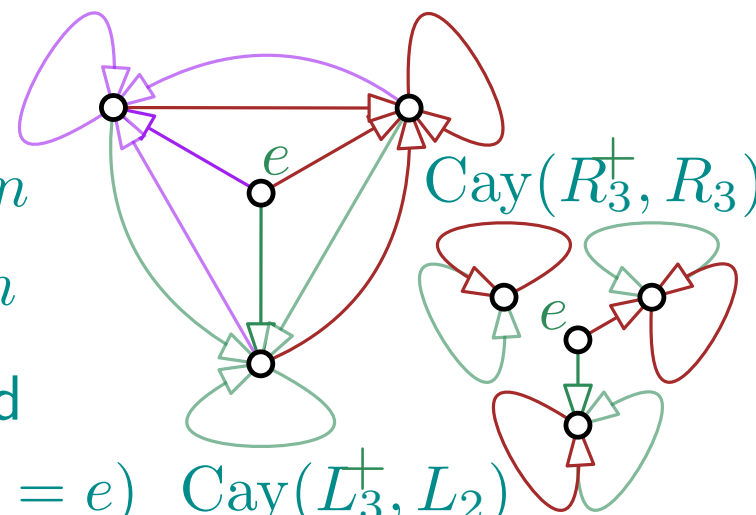
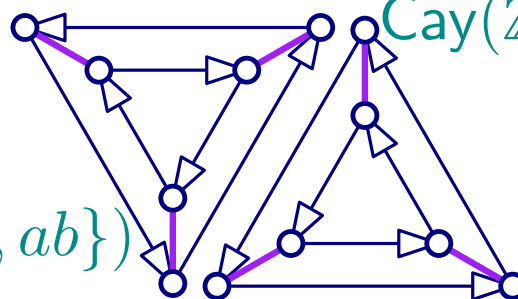
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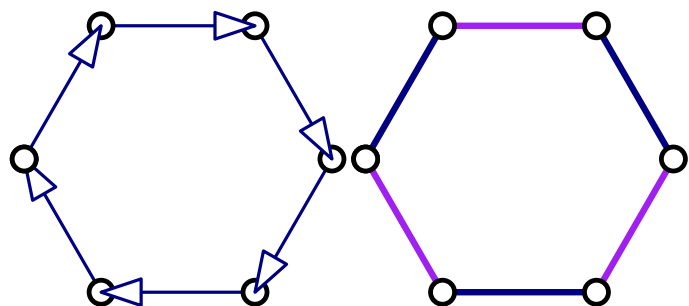
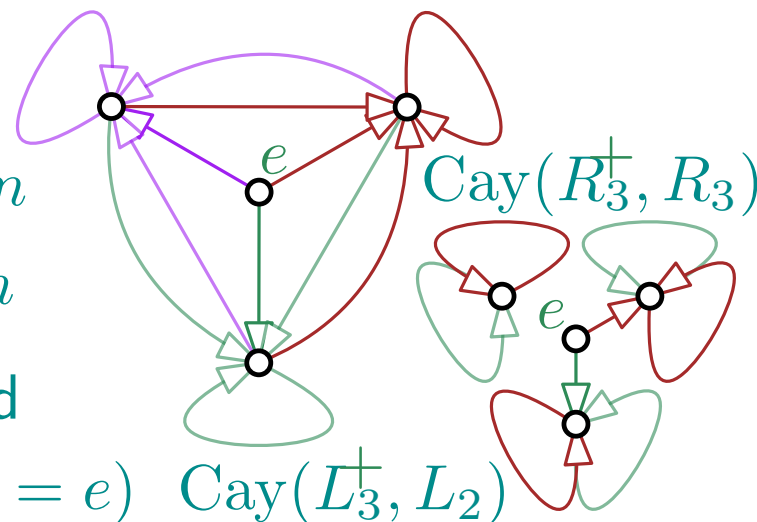
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$\rightsquigarrow \text{Cay}_{\text{col}}(S, C)$  colored Cayley graph  
 color arcs with  $C$

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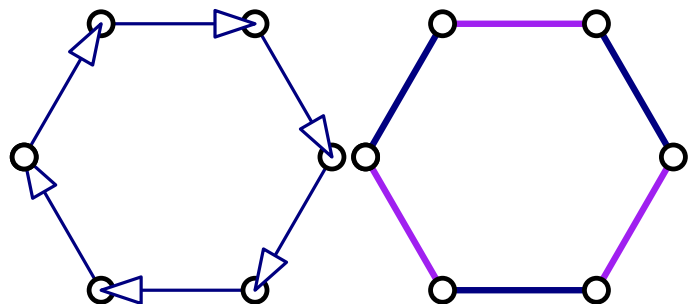
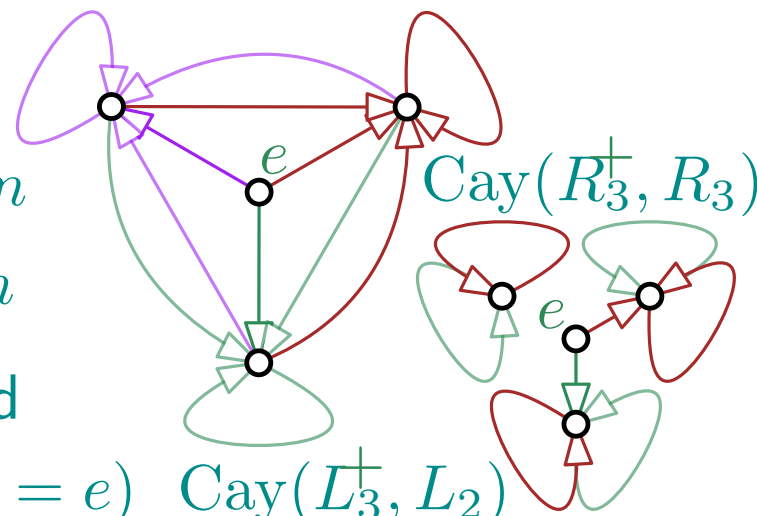
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$\rightsquigarrow \underline{\text{Cay}}(S, C)$  (underlying) simple Cayley graph  
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 forget directions, edge multiplicities, loops

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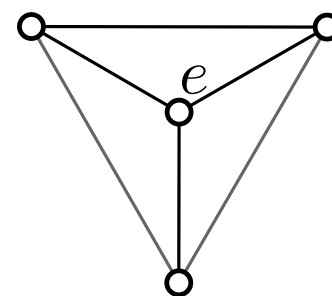
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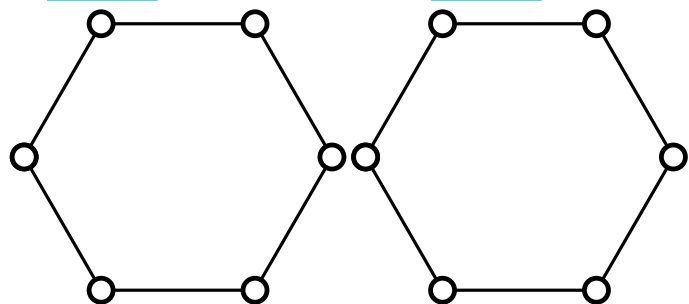
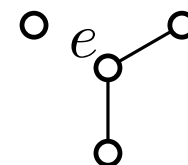
left-zero-band:  $L_n : i \cdot j = i$  for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$

add neutral element: semigroup  $S \rightarrow S^+$  monoid

$\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_6, \{1\})$   $\text{Cay}(D_3, \{a, b\})$  ( $a^2 = b^2 = (ab)^3 = e$ )  $\text{Cay}(L_3^+, L_2)$



$\text{Cay}(R_3^+, R_3)$



$\rightsquigarrow \text{Cay}_{\text{col}}(S, C)$  colored Cayley graph

$\rightsquigarrow \text{Cay}(S, C)$  (underlying) simple Cayley graph  
 color arcs with  $C$   
 forget directions, edge multiplicities, loops

# Planar groups

$S$  planar if  $S$  has generating system  $C$  such that  $\text{Cay}(S, C)$  is planar

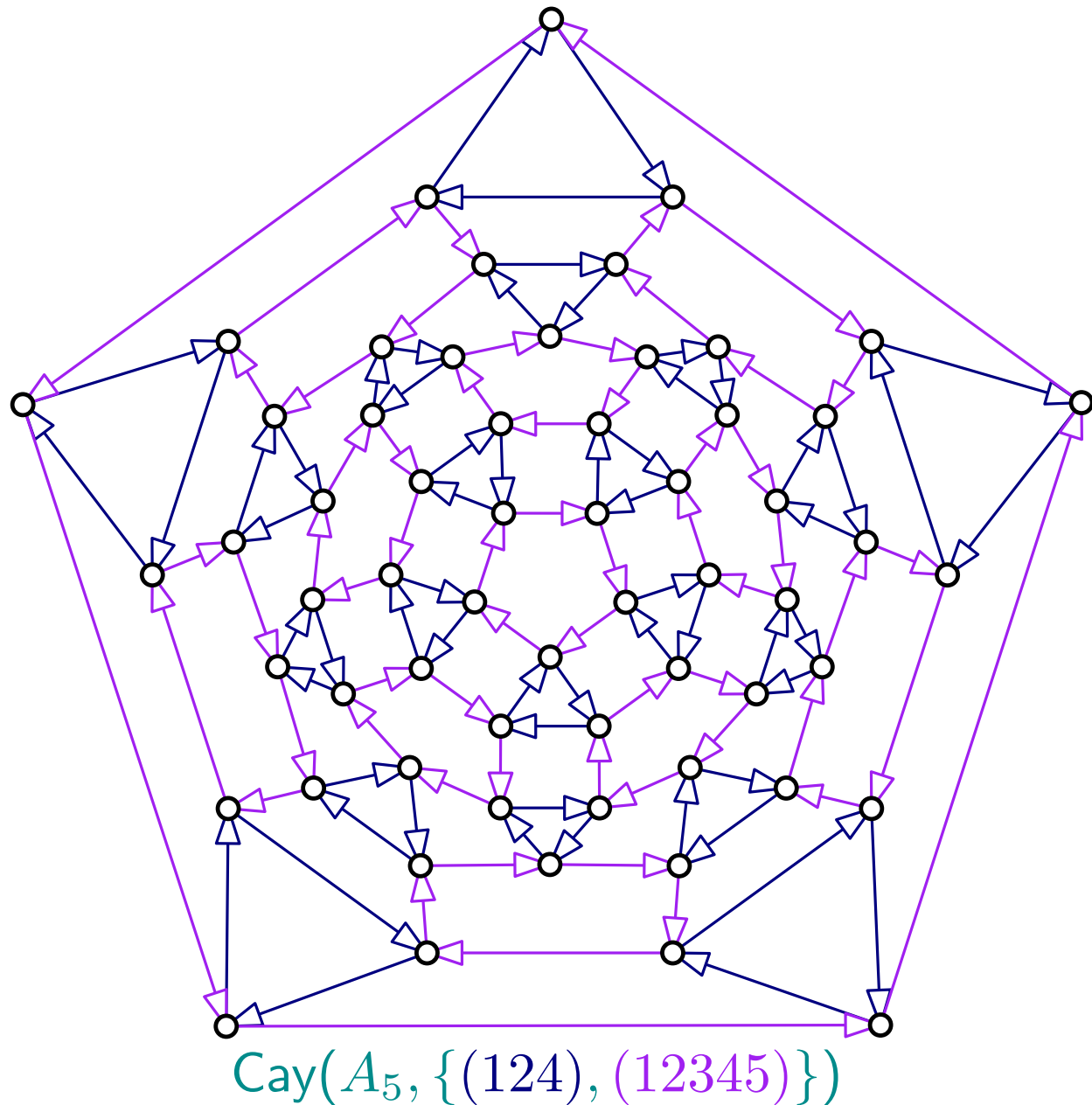
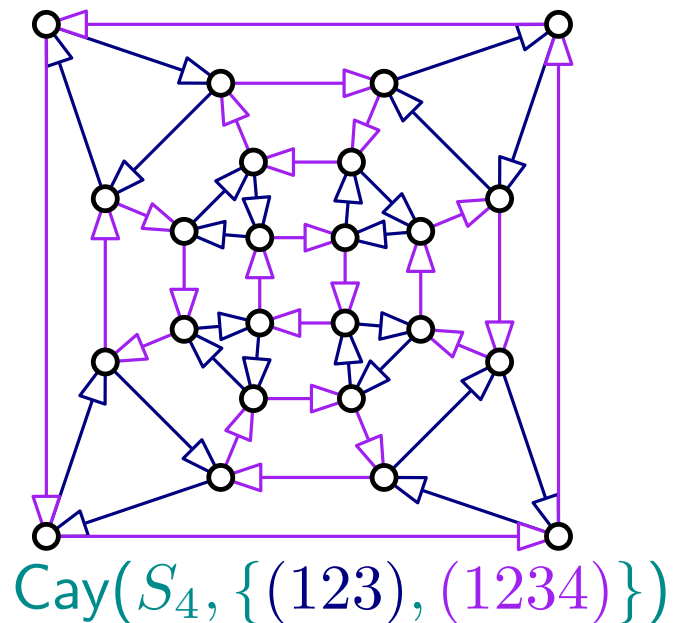
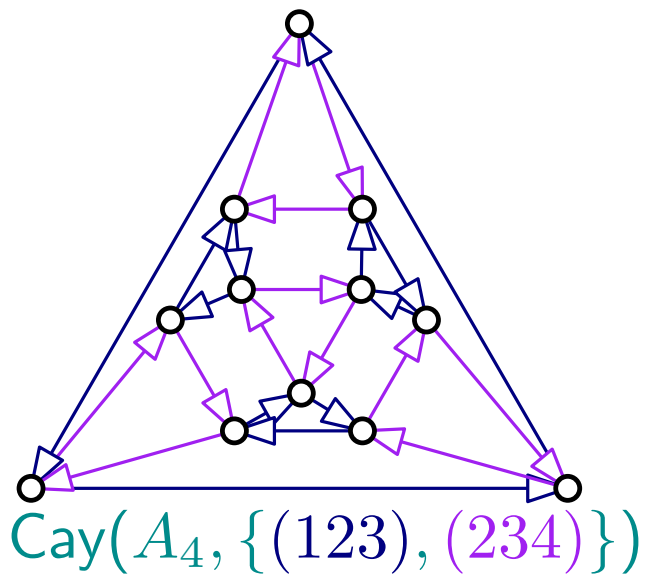
**Thm** [Maschke '96]: the planar groups are

$\mathbb{Z}_n, D_n, A_4, S_4, A_5, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_n, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times D_n, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times A_4, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times S_4, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times A_5$

Heinrich Maschke (1853-1908)



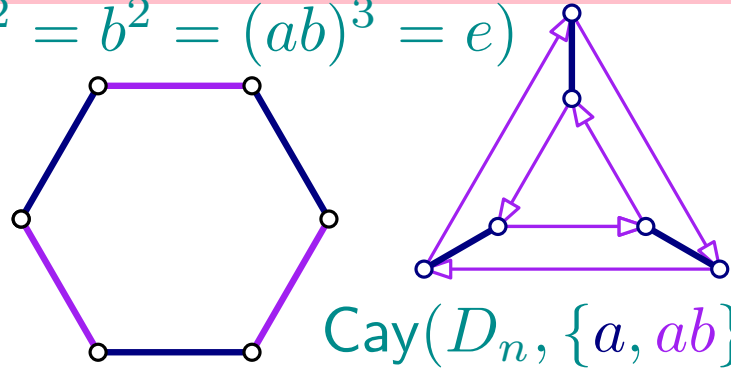
# Case 1: two generators of order $> 2$



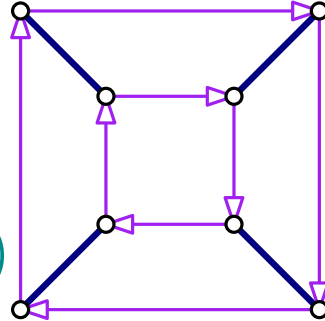


# Case 2: generators of order 2 and $> 2$

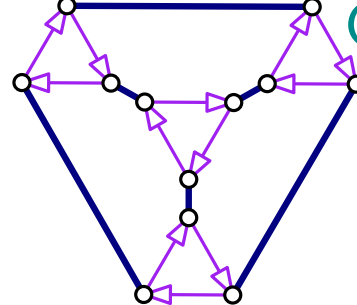
$$(a^2 = b^2 = (ab)^3 = e)$$



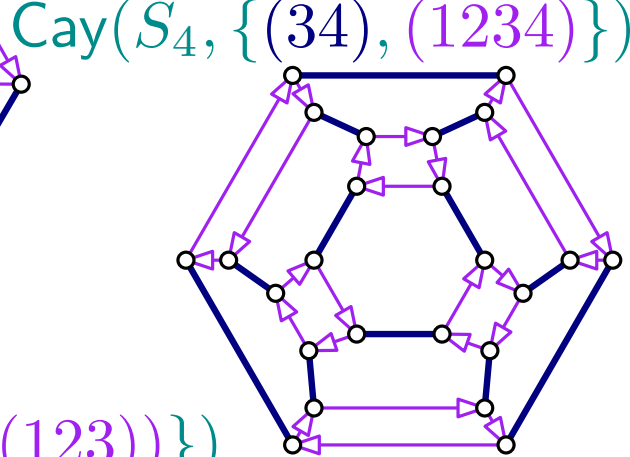
$$\text{Cay}(D_n, \{a, ab\})$$



$$\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_{2n}, \{(1, 0), (0, 1)\})$$

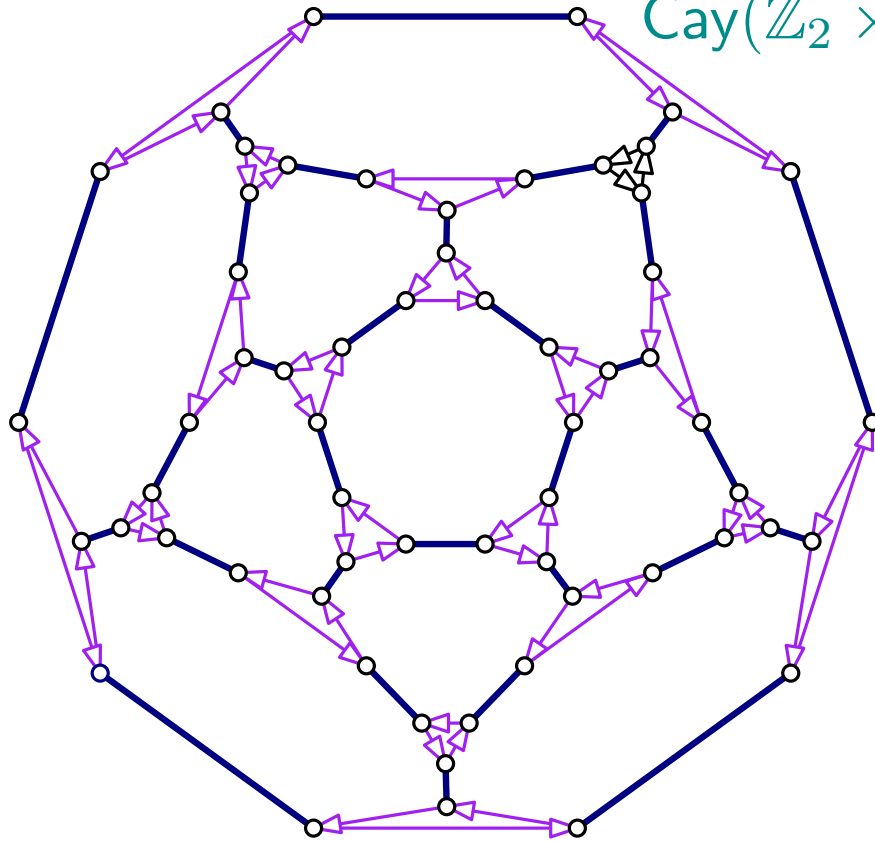


$$\text{Cay}(A_4, \{(12)(34), (123)\})$$

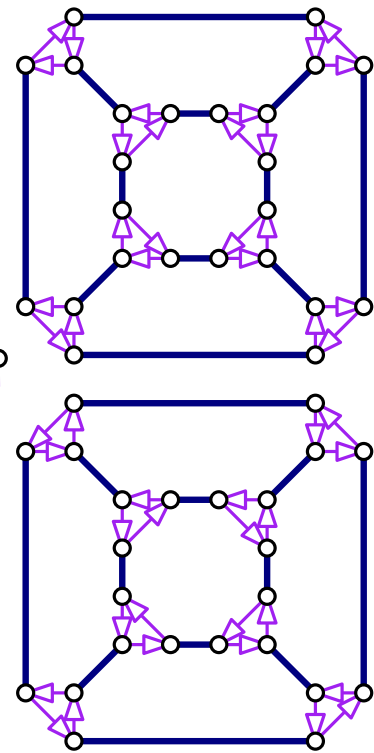


$$\text{Cay}(S_4, \{(34), (1234)\})$$

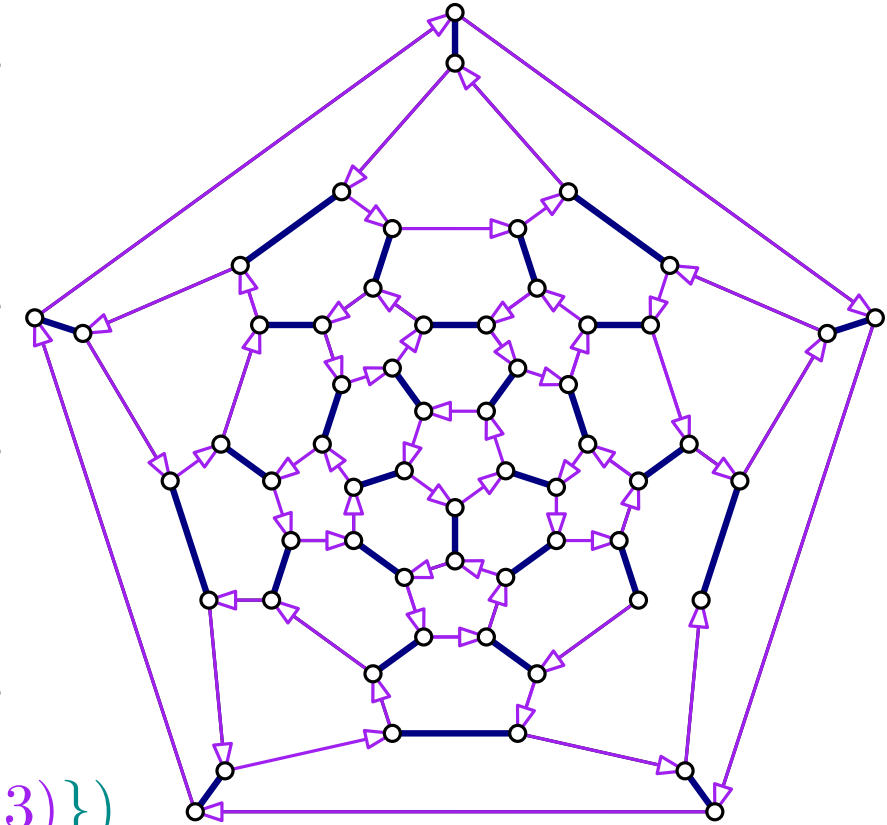
$$\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times A_4, \{(1, (12)(34)), (0, (123))\})$$



$$\text{Cay}(A_5, \{(23)(45), (124)\})$$



$$\text{Cay}(S_4, \{(34), (123)\})$$



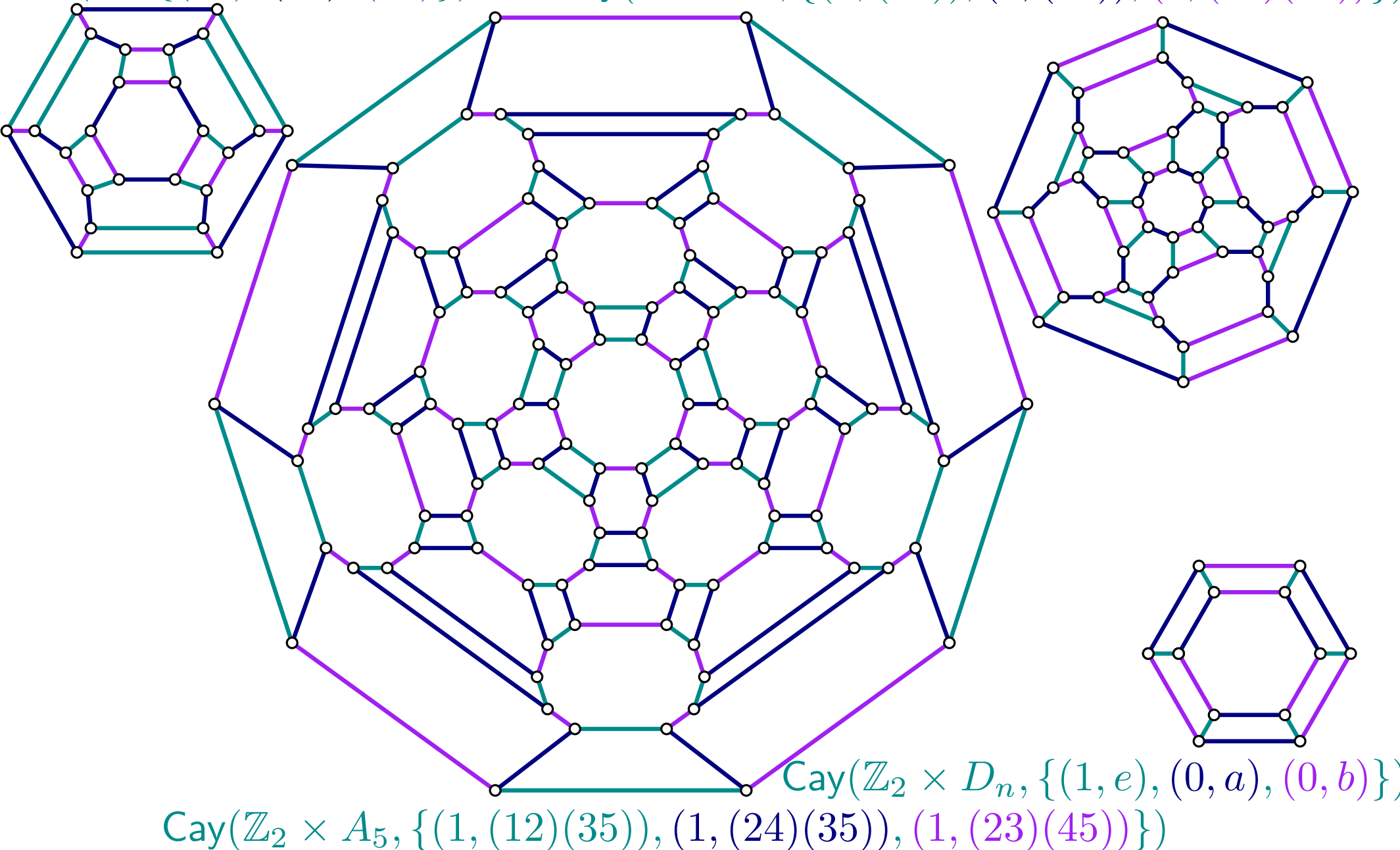
$$\text{Cay}(A_5, \{(23)(45), (12345)\})$$



# Case 3: three generators of order 2

$\text{Cay}(S_4, \{(12), (23), (34)\})$

$\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_2 \times S_4, \{(0, (12)), (0, (23)), (1, (12)(34))\})$



# Planar groups

**Thm** [Maschke '96]: the planar groups are

$\mathbb{Z}_n, D_n, A_4, S_4, A_5, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_n, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times D_n, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times A_4, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times S_4, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times A_5$

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## Planar semigroups?

# Planar groups

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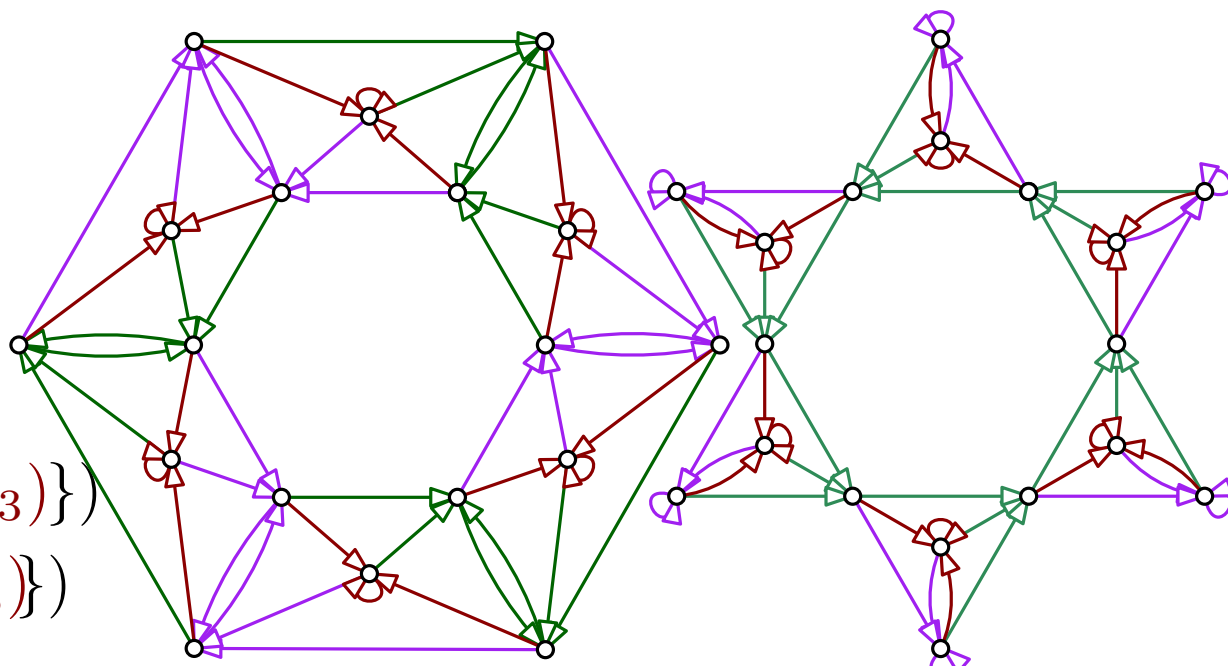
## Planar semigroups?

**Thm** [K, Knauer '16]: the planar *right groups* are

$R_i \times \mathbb{Z}_n, R_i \times D_n, R_i \times A_4,$   
 $R_i \times S_4, R_i \times A_5, R_{i+1}, i \leq 3$

$\text{Cay}(D_3 \times R_3, \{(a, r_1), (b, r_2), (e, r_3)\})$

$\text{Cay}(\mathbb{Z}_6 \times R_3, \{(1, r_1), (0, r_2), (0, r_3)\})$



# Planar groups

**Thm** [Maschke '96]: the planar groups are

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**Cor:** the planar Cayley graphs of groups are 1-skeleta of:

Platonic solids

( $n$ -gon), cube, tetrahedron, octahedron, icosahedron

Archimedean solids

$n$ -prism, cuboctahedron truncated cube, truncated octahedron, rhombicuboctahedron, truncated dodecahedron, truncated icosahedron, rhombicosidodecahedron, truncated icosidodecahedron,  $n$ -antiprism, snub cube, snub dodecahedron

# Planar groups

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$\mathbb{Z}_n, D_n, A_4, S_4, A_5, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_n, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times D_n, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times A_4, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times S_4, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times A_5$

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missing: dodecahedron

$n$ -prism, cuboctahedron truncated cube, truncated octahedron,

rhombicuboctahedron, truncated dodecahedron, truncated icosahedron,

rhombicosidodecahedron, truncated icosidodecahedron,  $n$ -antiprism, snub

cube, snub dodecahedron

missing: icosidodecahedron

# Planar groups

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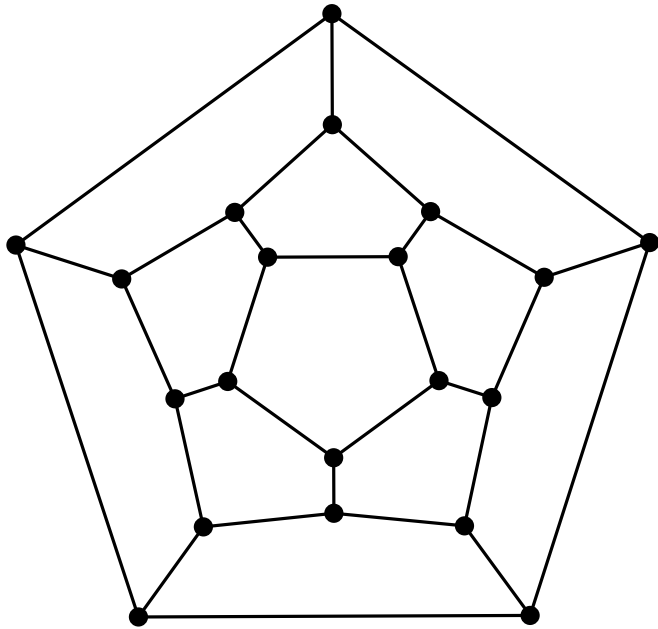
cube, snub dodecahedron

missing: icosidodecahedron

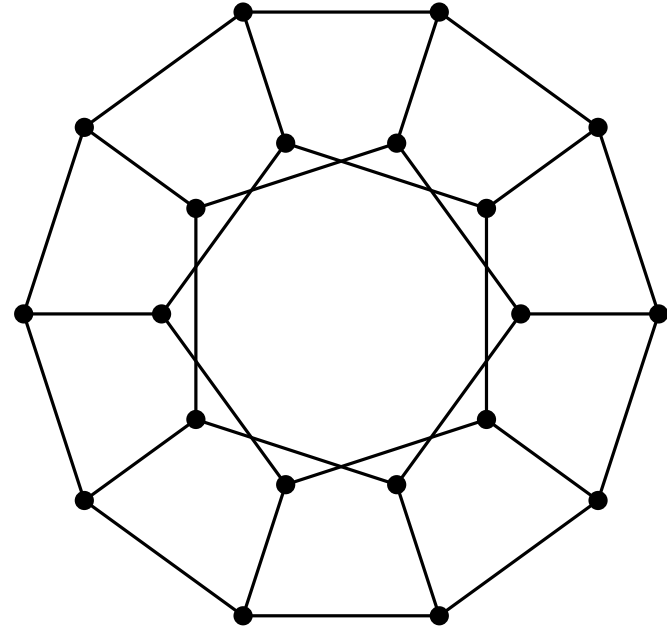
**Quest**[K,Knauer '16]:

are they underlying Cayley graphs of monoids?

# The dodecahedron



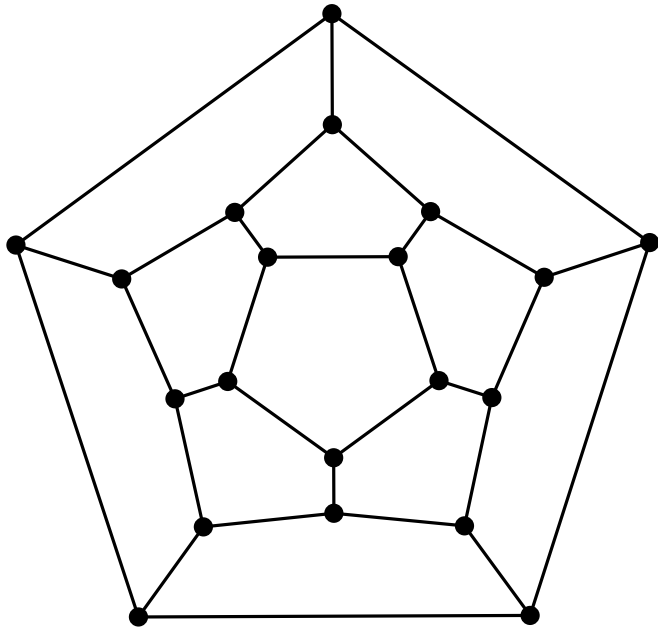
$\cong$



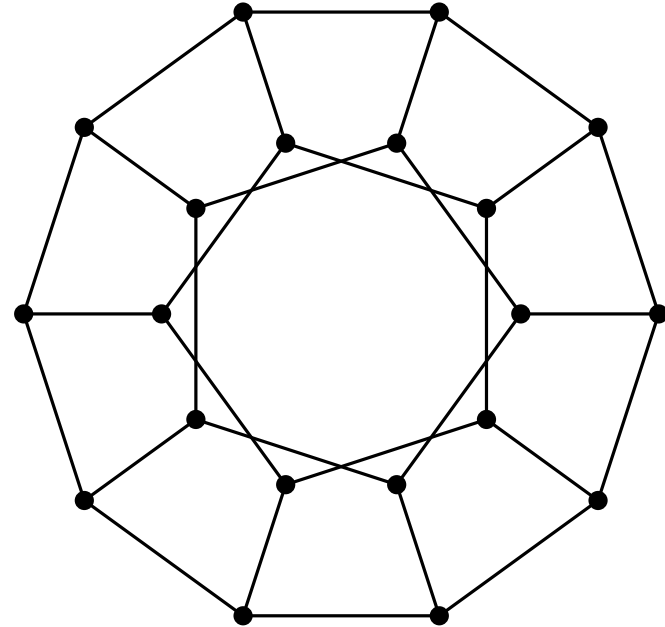


# The dodecahedron

generalized Petersen graph  $G(10, 2)$

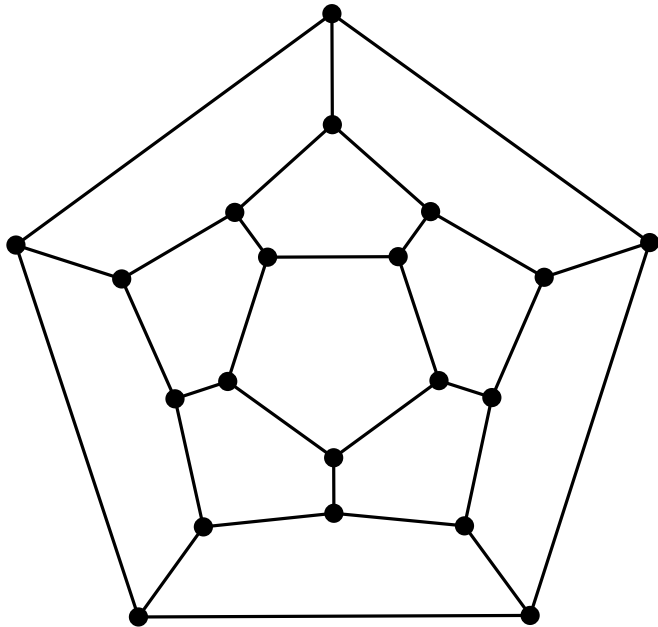


$\cong$

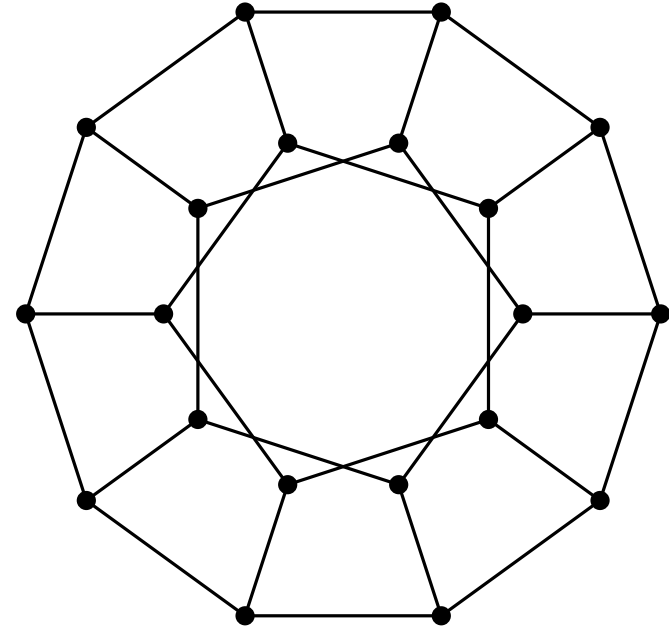


# The dodecahedron

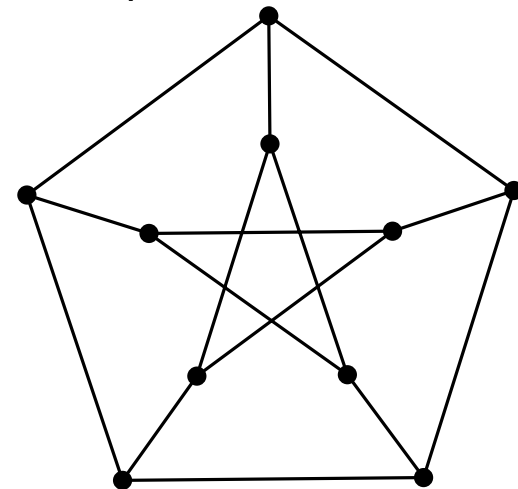
generalized Petersen graph  $G(10, 2)$



$\cong$

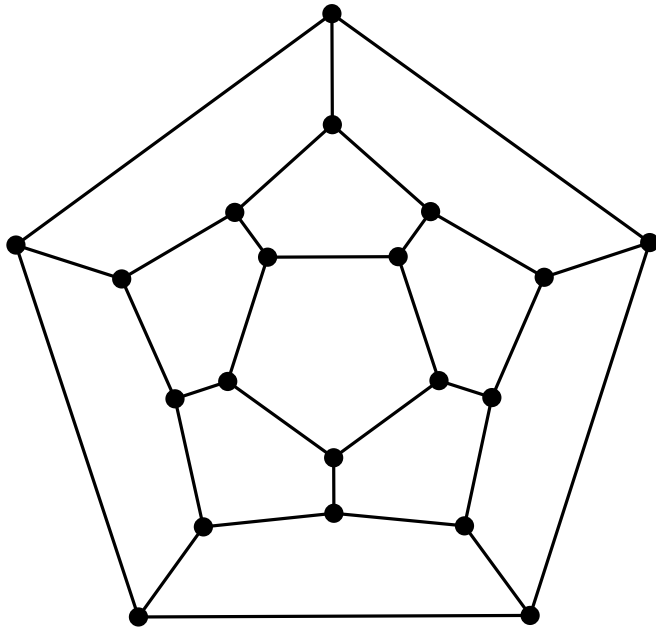


(generalized) Petersen graph  $G(5, 2)$

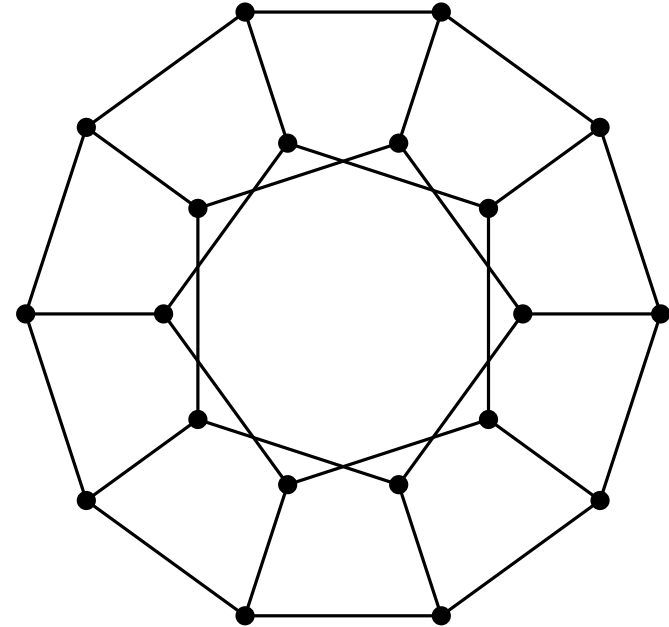


# The dodecahedron

generalized Petersen graph  $G(10, 2)$

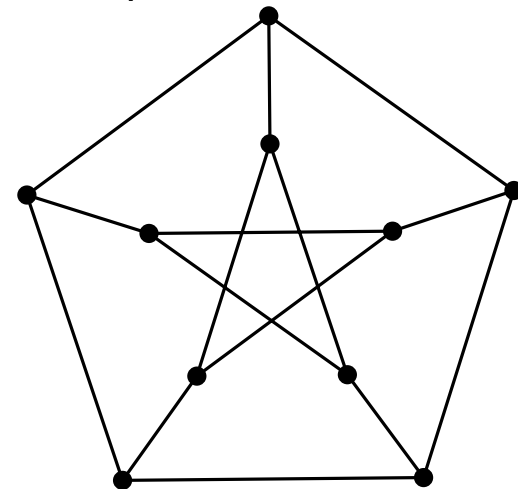


$\cong$

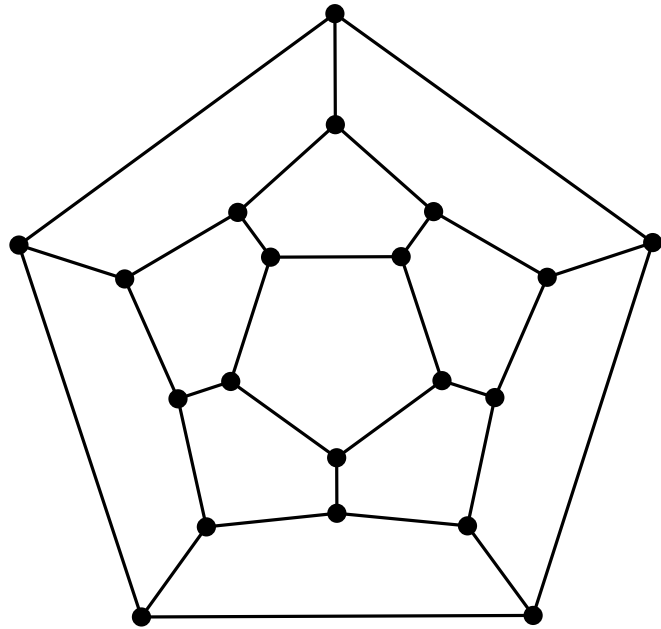


**Quest**[Mathoverflow '21]:  
is the Petersen graph a "Cayley graph" of  
some more general group-like structure?

(generalized) Petersen graph  $G(5, 2)$

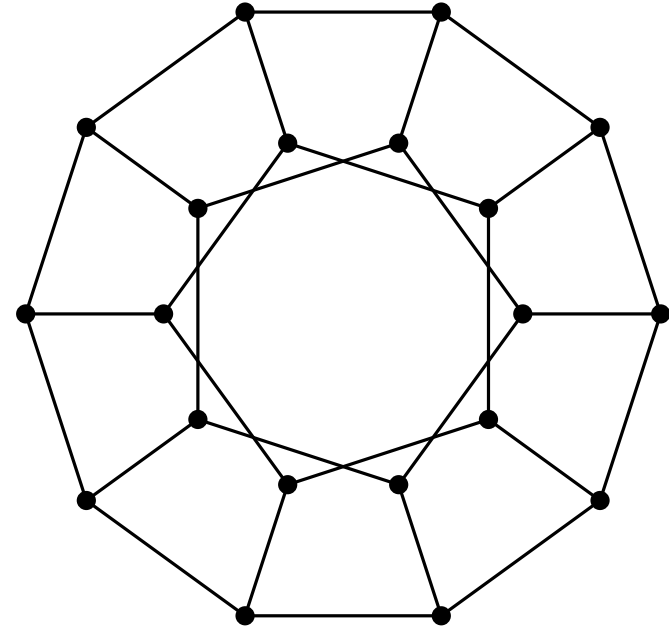


# The dodecahedron



$\cong$

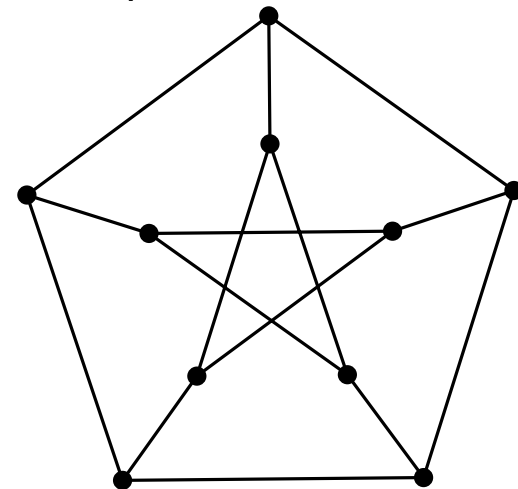
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some more general group-like structure?

(generalized) Petersen graph  $G(5, 2)$

how about  $G(n, k)$ ?



# Generalized Petersen Graphs

**Thm**[Nedal, Škoviera '95, Lovrečić Saražin '97]:  
 $G(n, k)$  is Cayley of group iff  $k^2 = 1 \pmod n$ .

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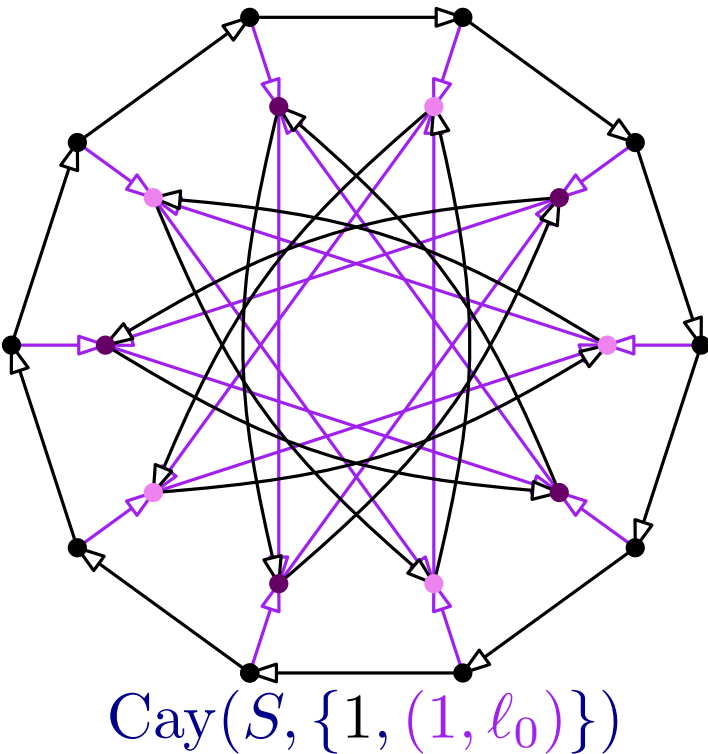
$$\begin{aligned} x(i, \ell_j) &= (x + i \pmod{\frac{n}{\gcd(n, k)}}, \ell_{x+j \pmod{\gcd(n, k)}}) \\ (i, \ell_j)x &= (x + i \pmod{\frac{n}{\gcd(n, k)}}, \ell_j) \end{aligned}$$

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# Generalized Petersen Graphs

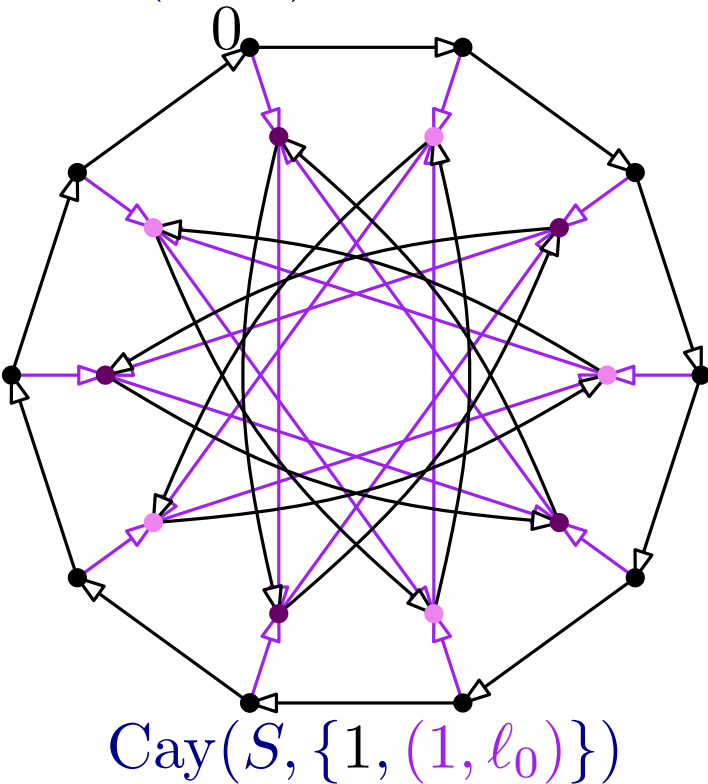
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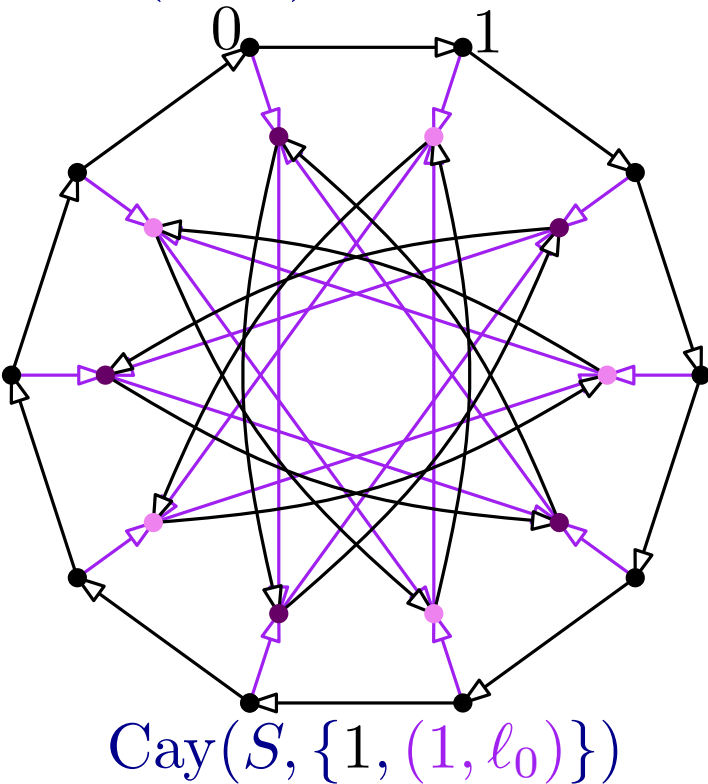
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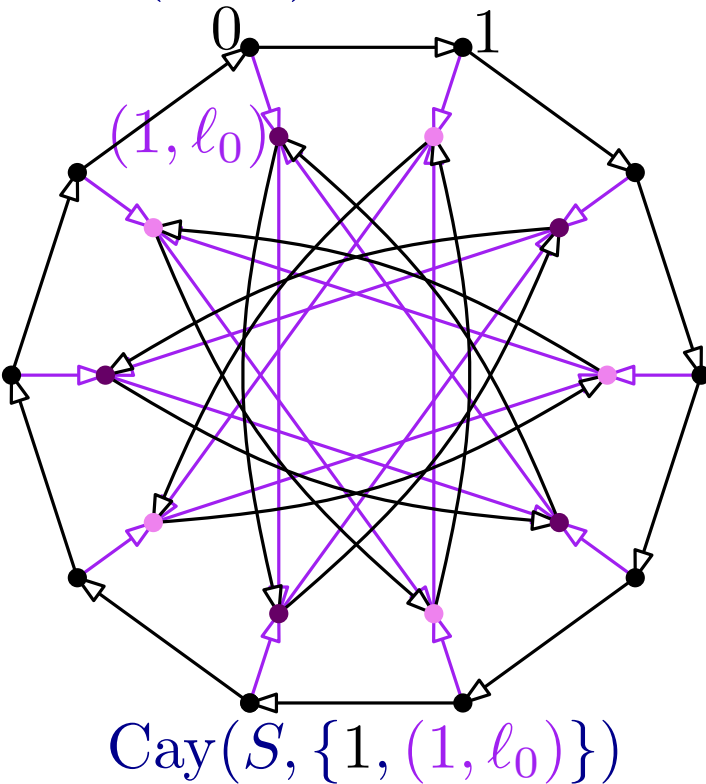
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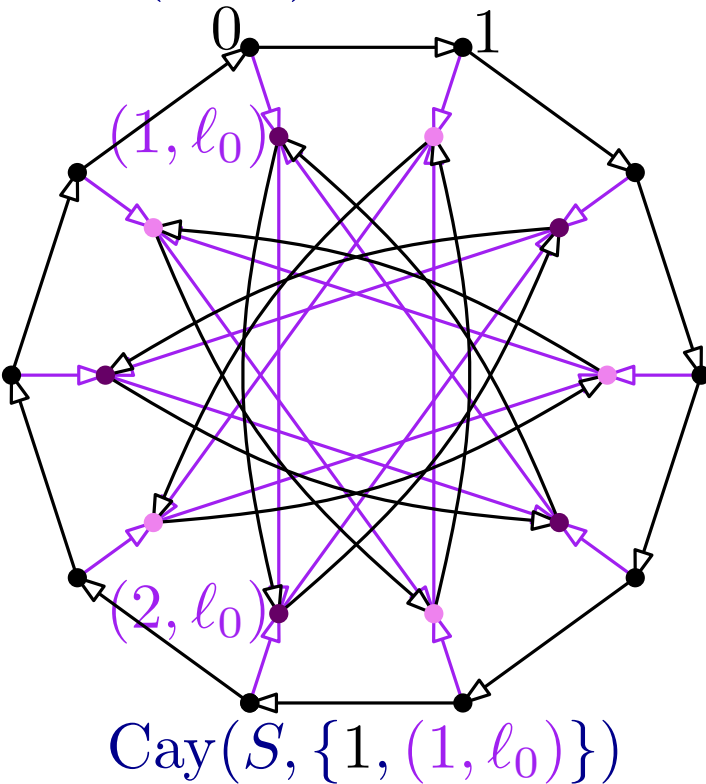
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# Generalized Petersen Graphs

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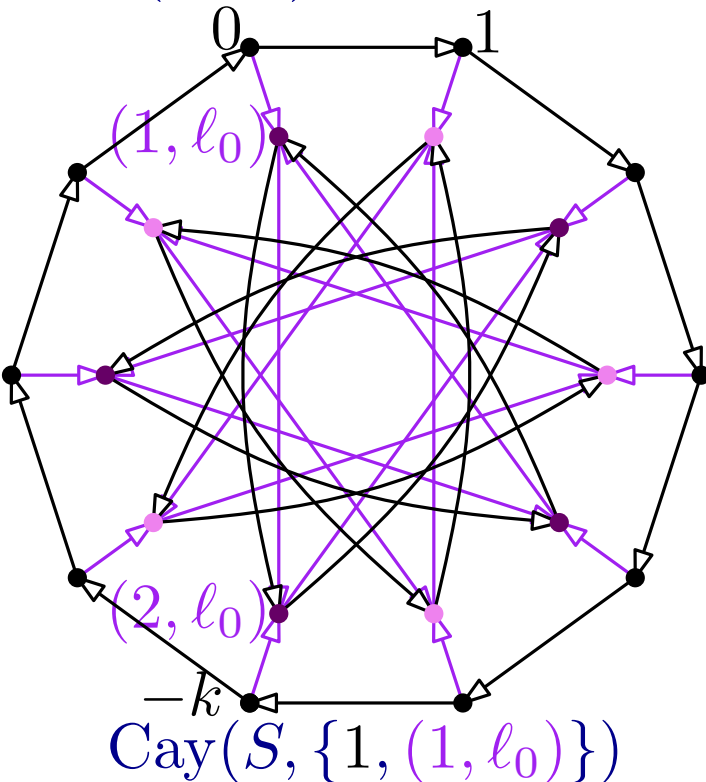
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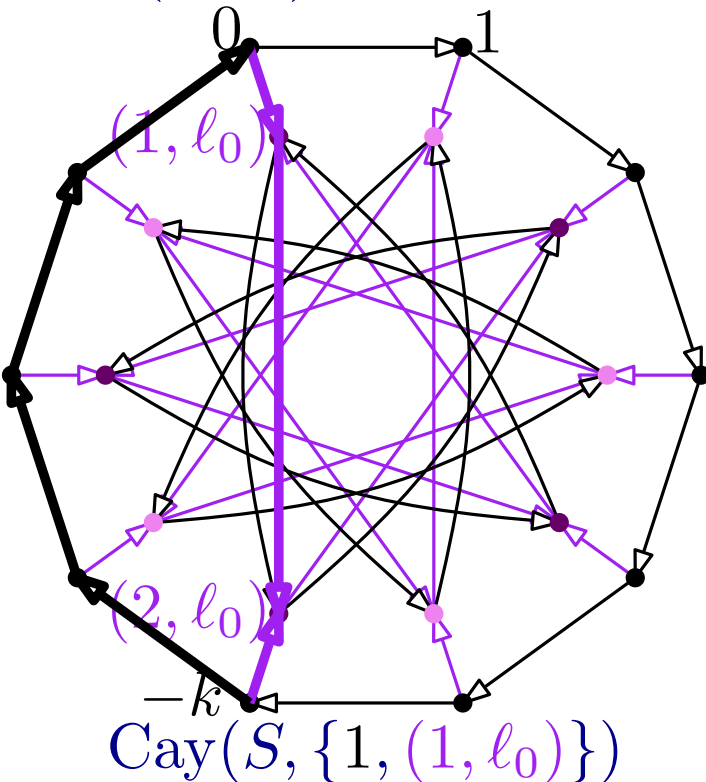
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$$(i, \ell_j)x = (x + i \pmod{\frac{n}{\gcd(n, k)}}, \ell_j)$$

$$-k + 1 = 2 \pmod{\frac{n}{\gcd(n, k)}}$$

$$k = -1 \pmod{\frac{n}{\gcd(n, k)}}$$

# Generalized Petersen Graphs

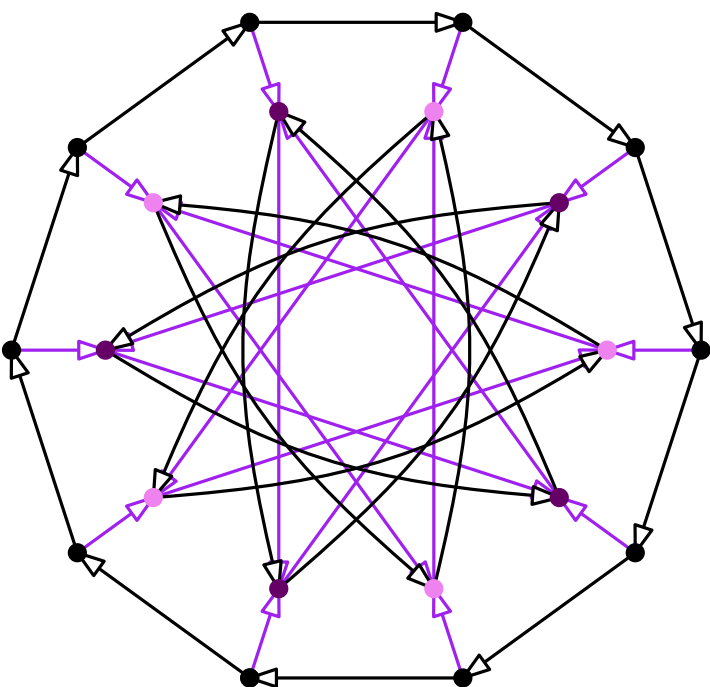
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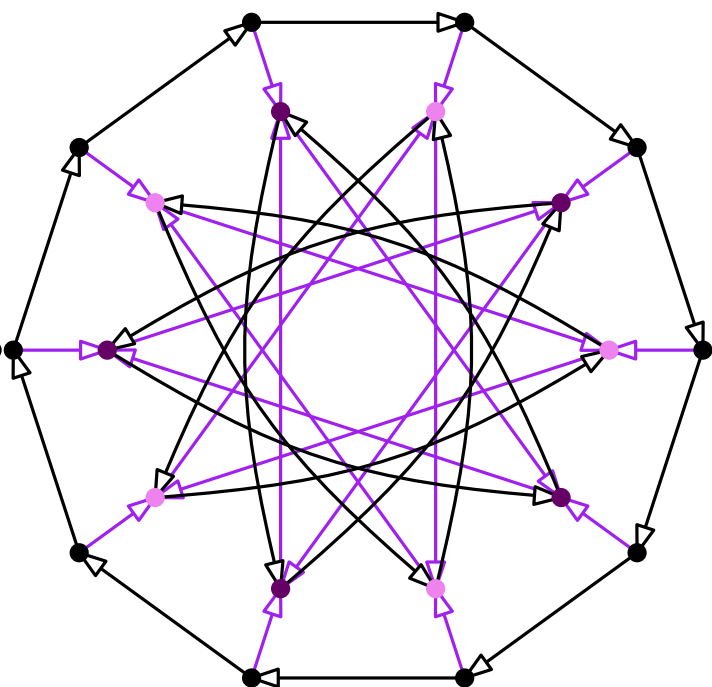
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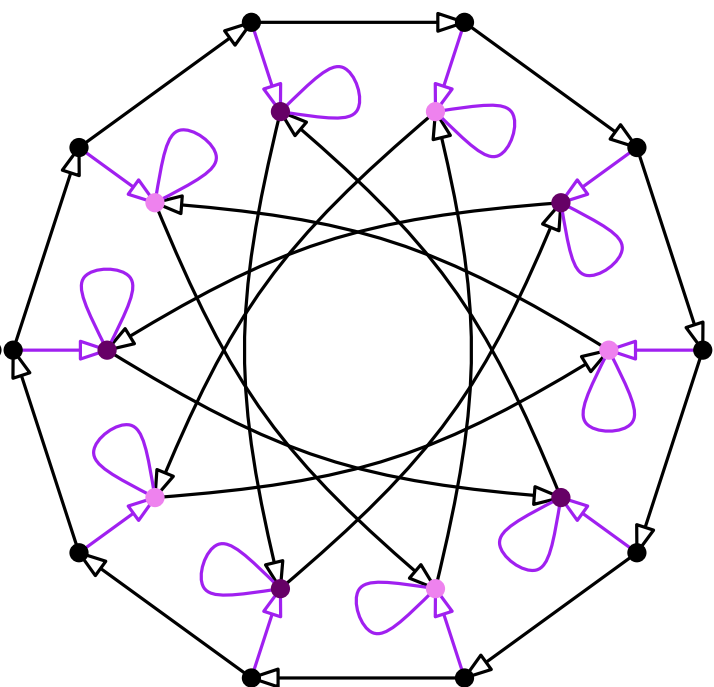
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 $G(10, 4)$



$\text{Cay}(S, \{1, (1, \ell_0)\})$



$\text{Cay}(S, \{1, (-1, \ell_0)\})$



$\text{Cay}(S, \{1, (0, \ell_0)\})$

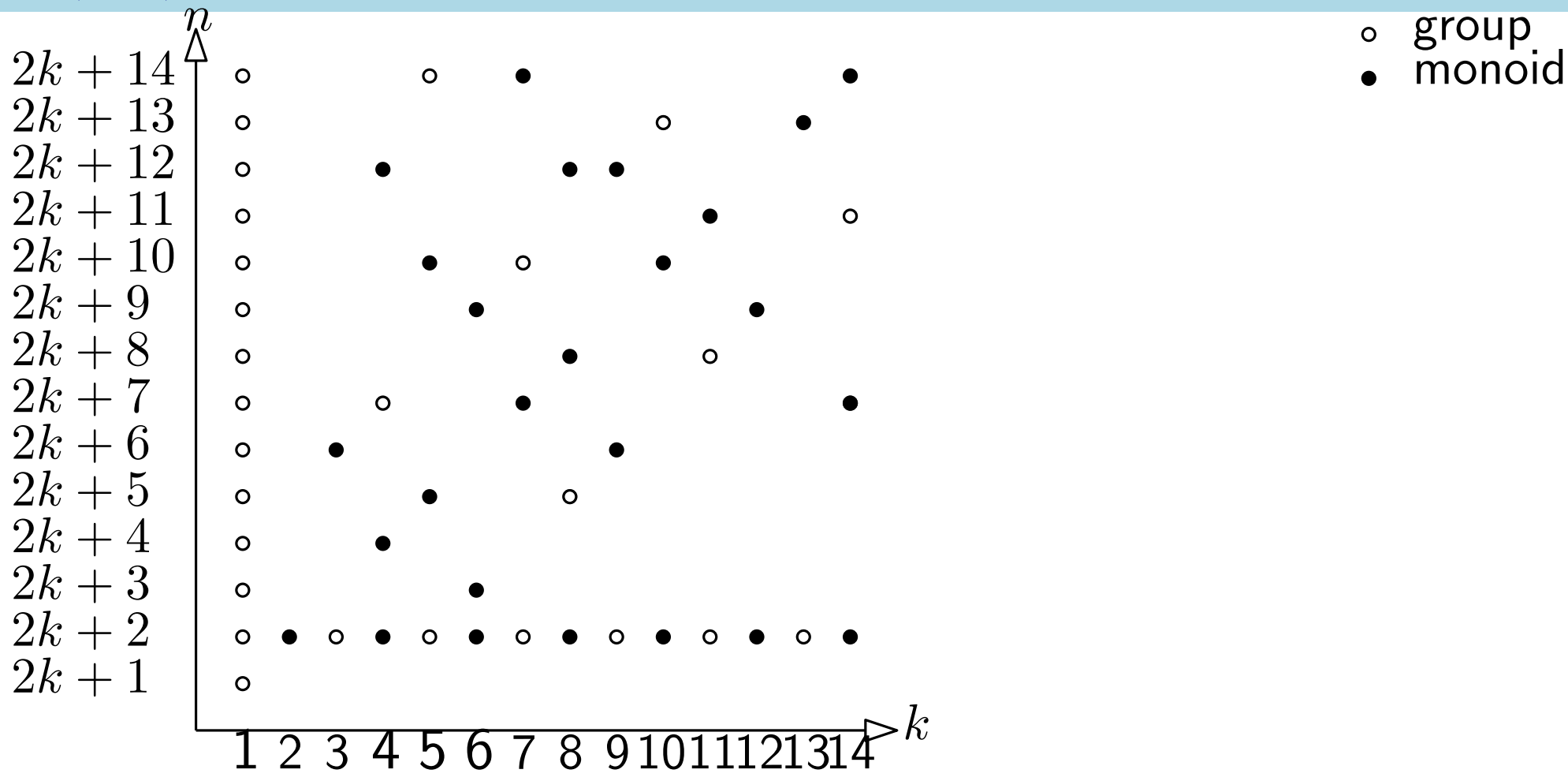
# Generalized Petersen Graphs

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$G(n, k)$  is Cayley of group iff  $k^2 = 1 \pmod n$ .

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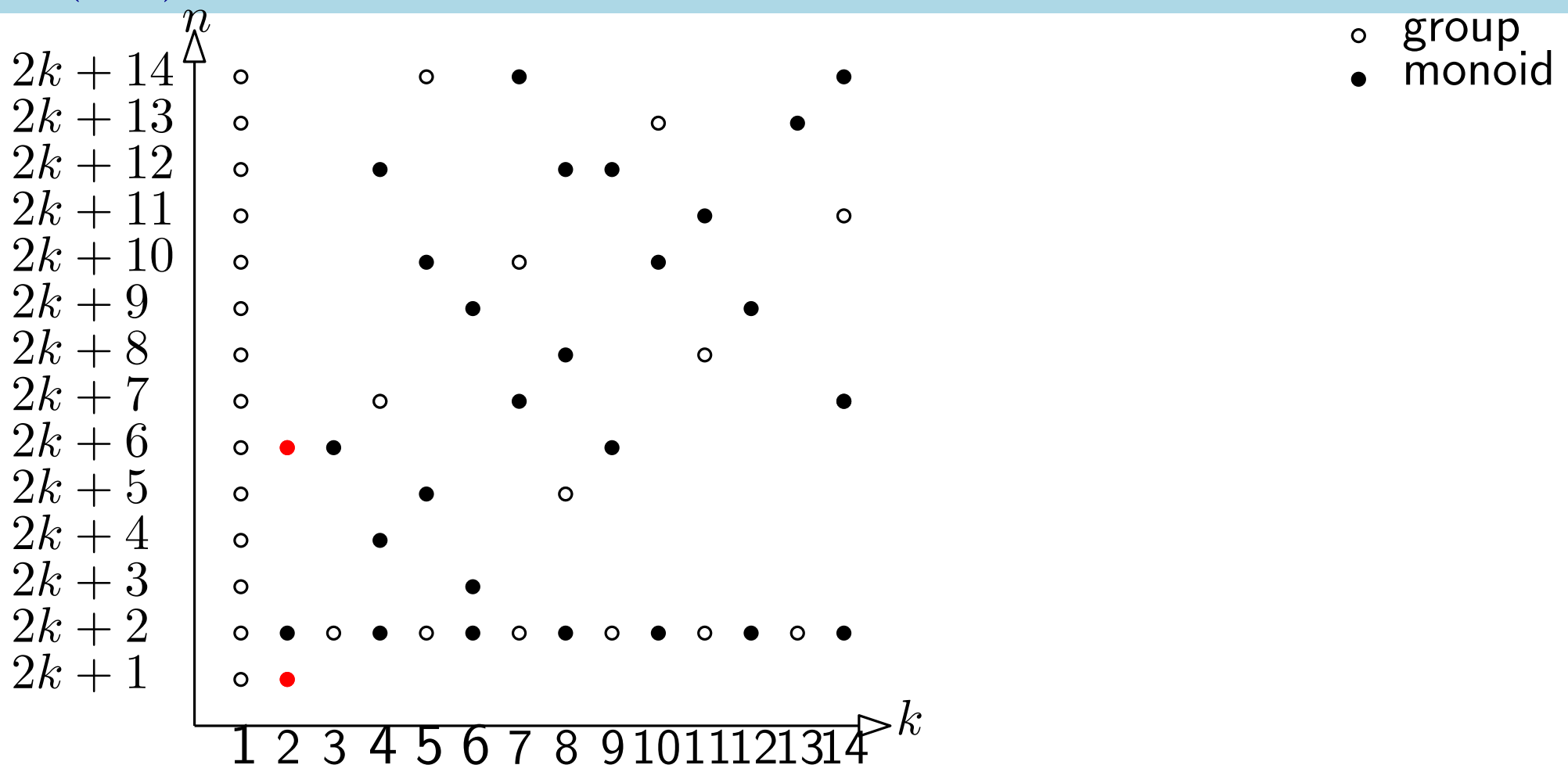




# Generalized Petersen Graphs

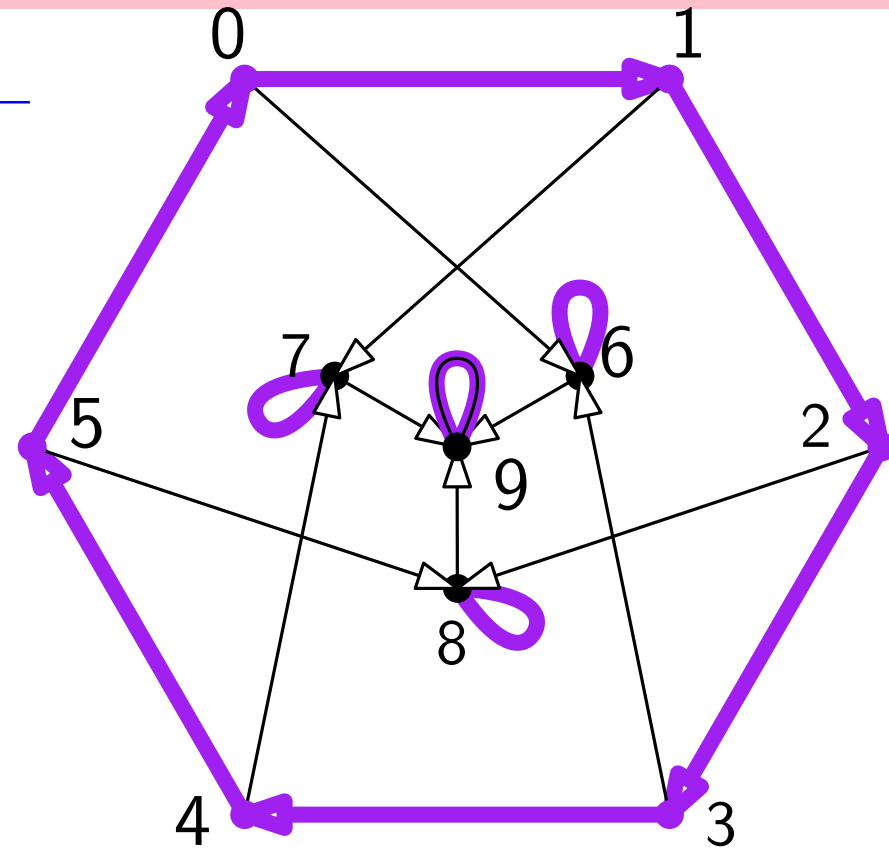
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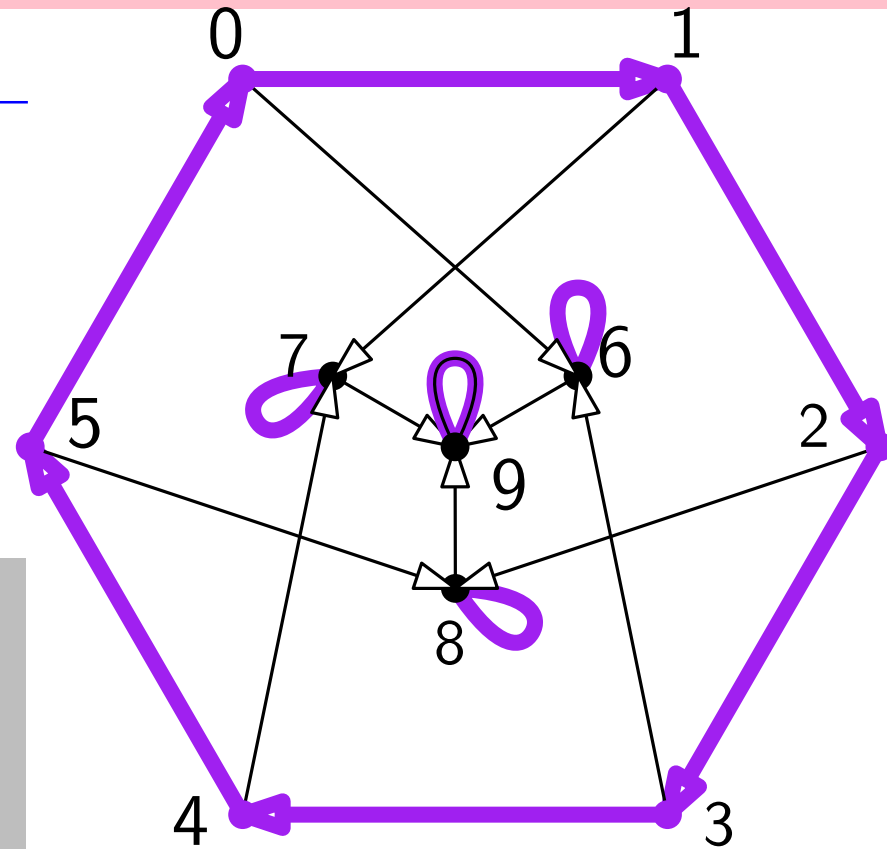
# The Petersen graph

$M$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	1	2	3	4	5	0	7	8	6	9
2	2	3	4	5	0	1	8	6	7	9
3	3	4	5	0	1	2	6	7	8	9
4	4	5	0	1	2	3	7	8	6	9
5	5	0	1	2	3	4	8	6	7	9
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	9	9	9	9
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	9	9	9	9
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9



# The Petersen graph

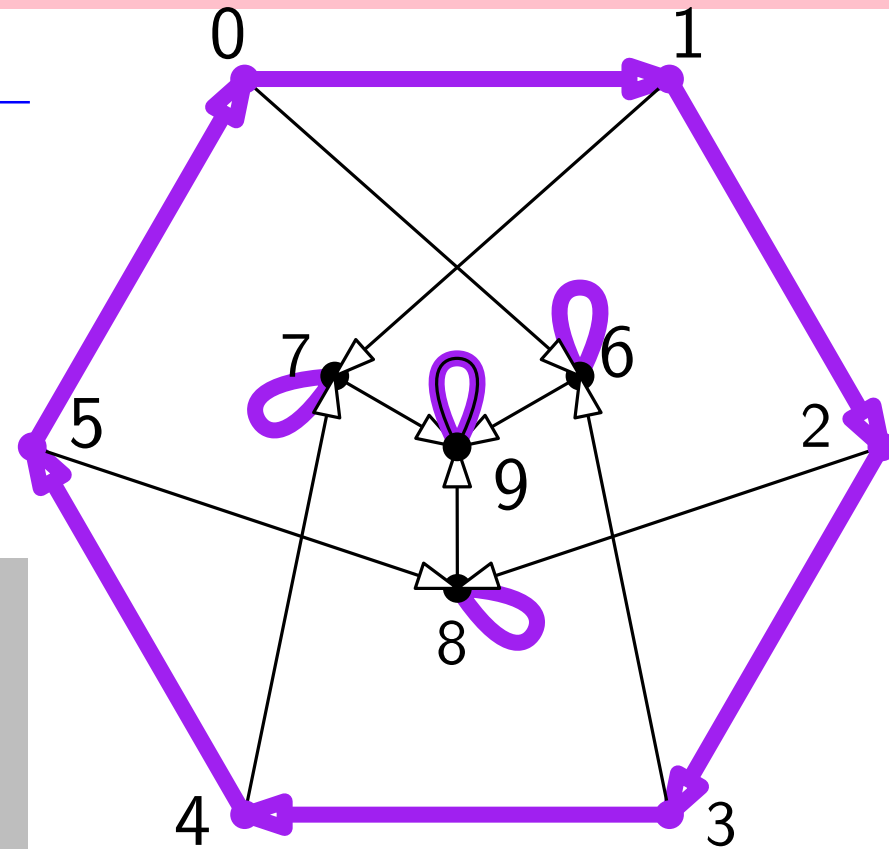
$M$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	1	2	3	4	5	0	7	8	6	9
2	2	3	4	5	0	1	8	6	7	9
3	3	4	5	0	1	2	6	7	8	9
4	4	5	0	1	2	3	7	8	6	9
5	5	0	1	2	3	4	8	6	7	9
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	9	9	9	9
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	9	9	9	9
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9



exploiting the (less obvious) symmetry  $\mathbb{Z}_6 < \text{Aut}(G(5, 2))$

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7	7	7	7	7	7	7	9	9	9	9
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

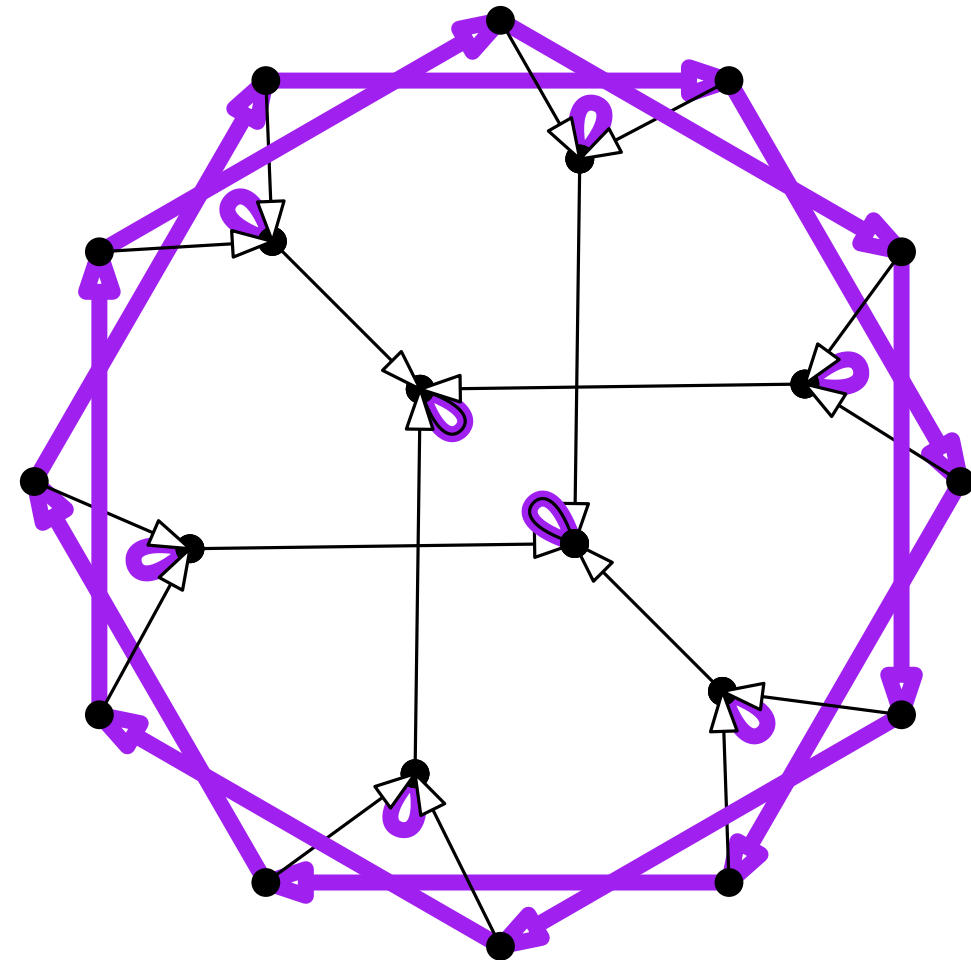


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two more graphs

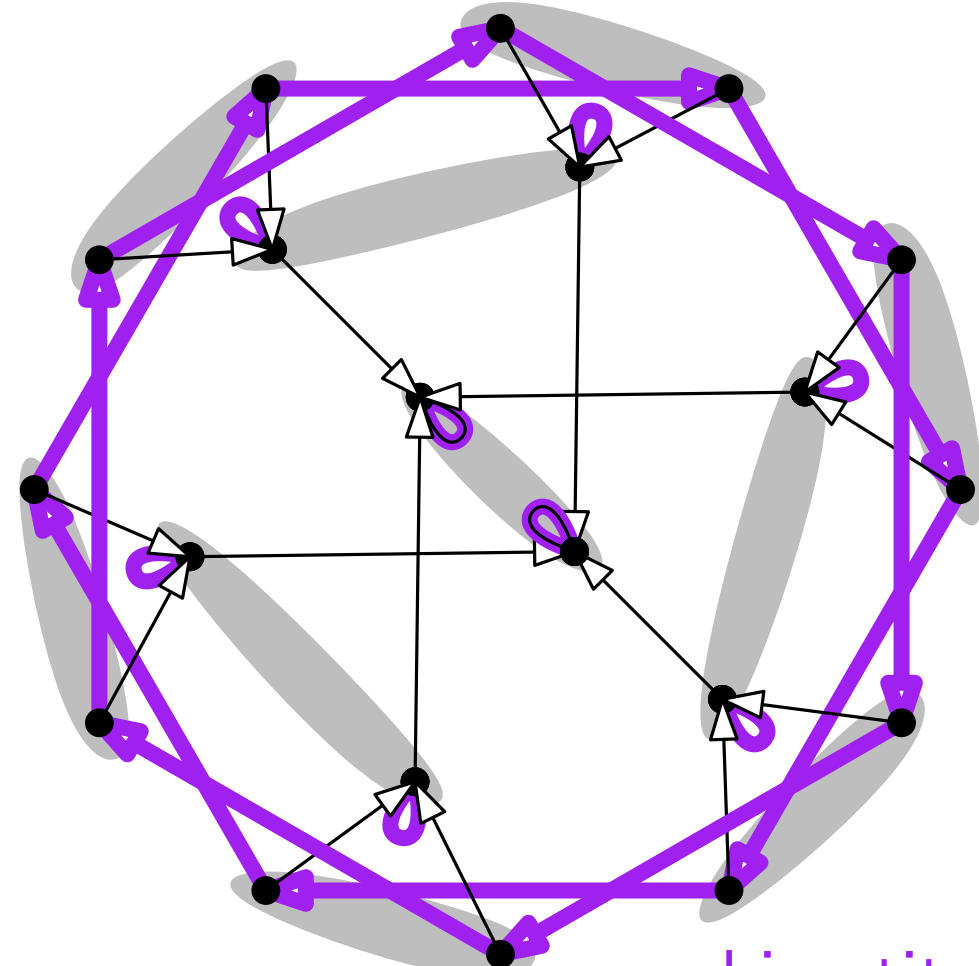
# Desargues graph and Dodecahedron

$G(10, 3)$

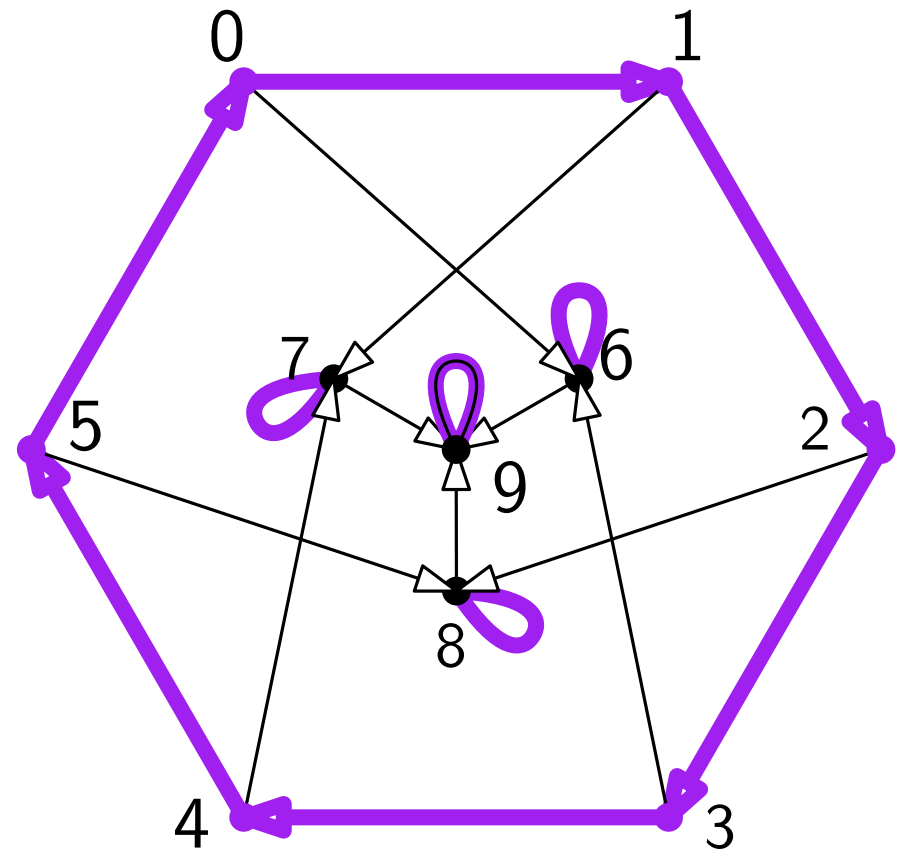


# Desargues graph and Dodecahedron

$G(10, 3)$



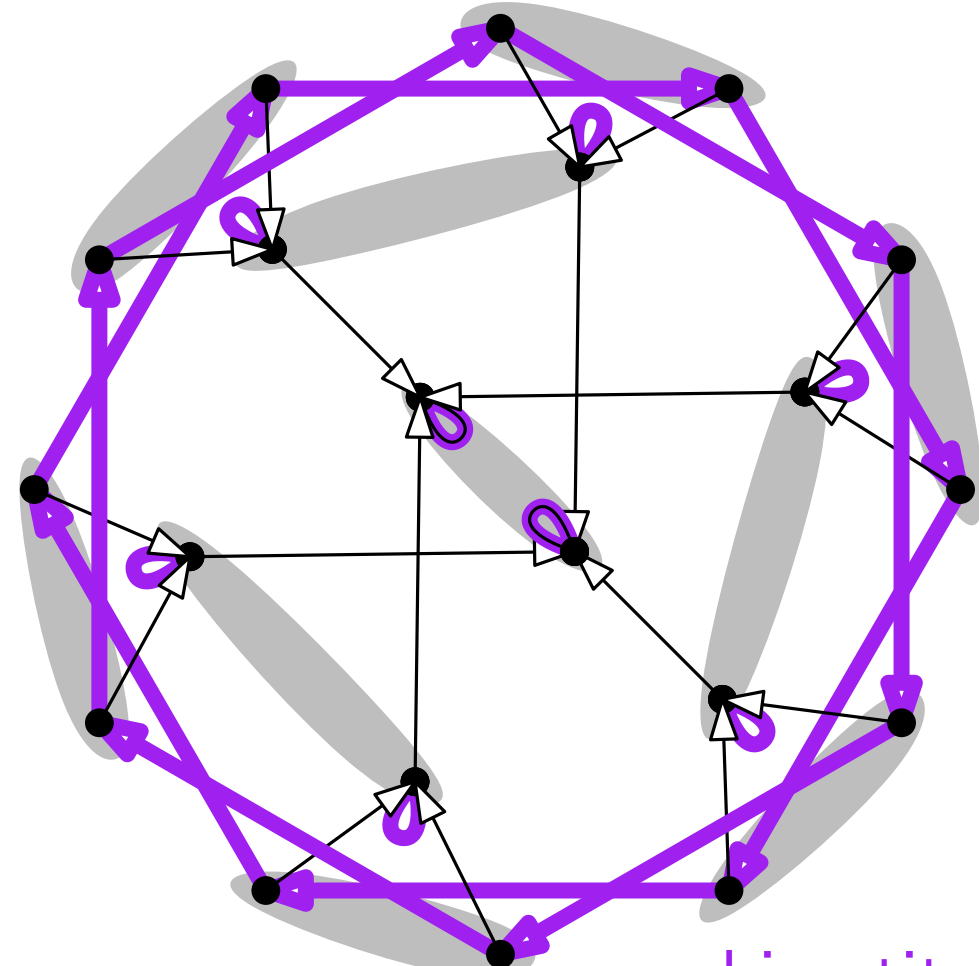
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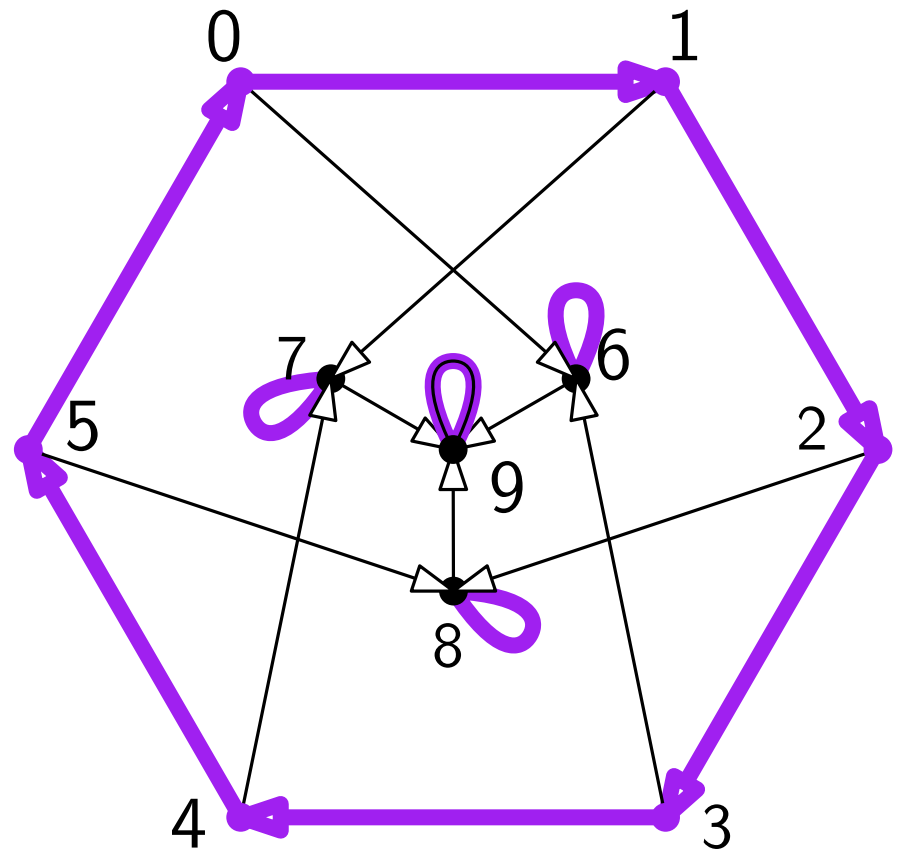
bipartite double cover

# Desargues graph and Dodecahedron

$G(10, 3)$



$G(5, 2)$



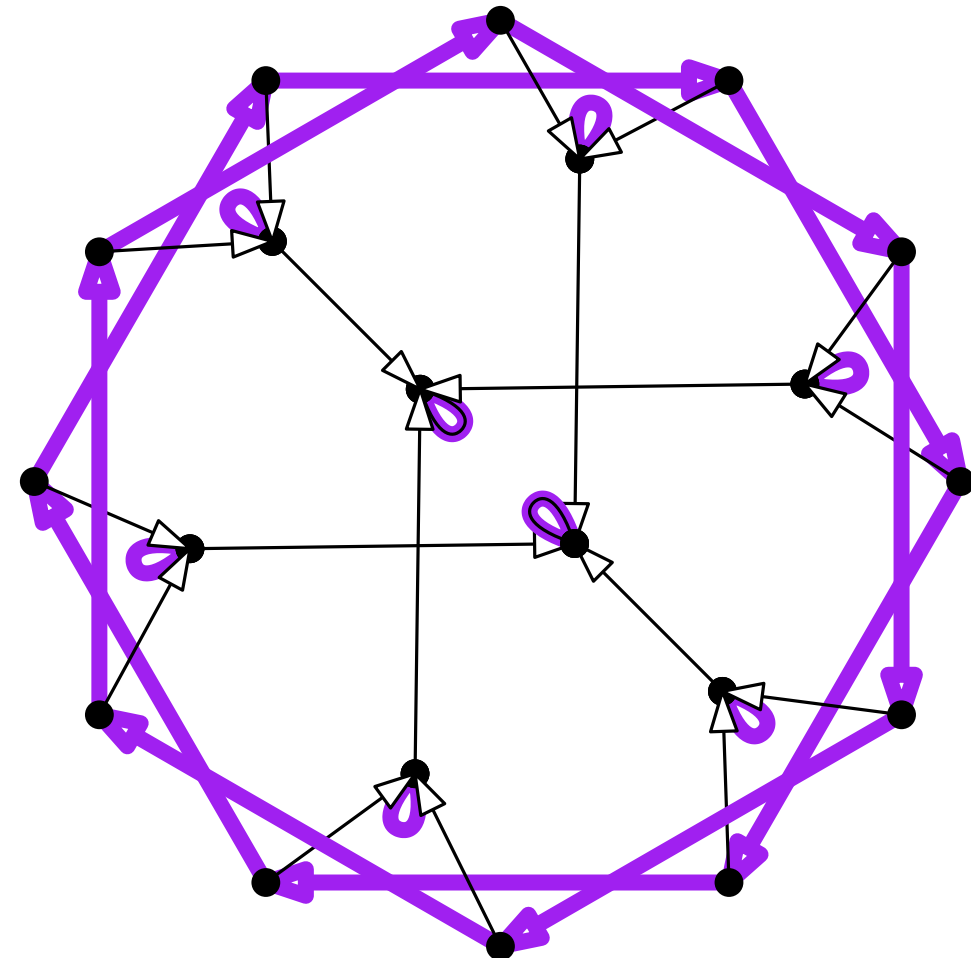
bipartite double cover

**Cor**[Krnec, Pisanski, '19]:

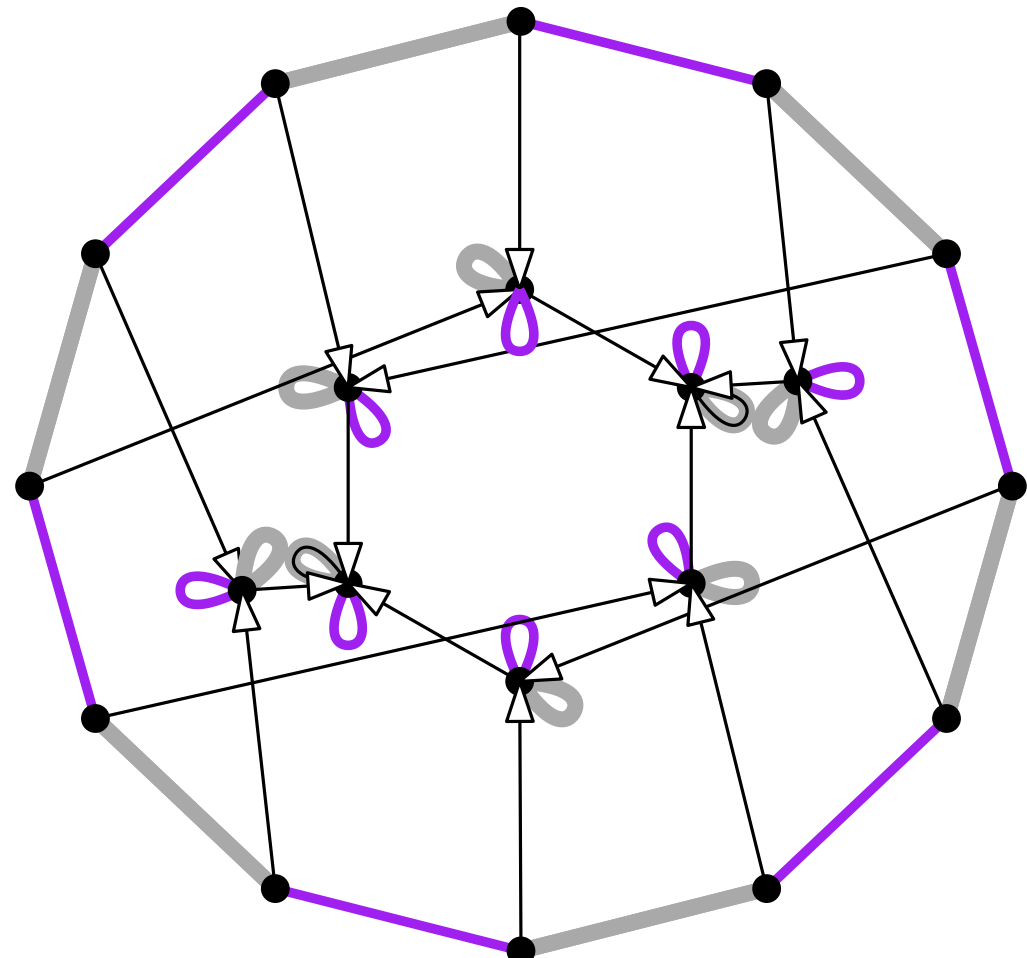
apart from this, the trick won't leave the family  $k^2 = \pm k \pmod n$

# Desargues graph and Dodecahedron

$G(10, 3)$



$G(10, 2)$



exploiting the (less obvious) symmetry  $D_6 < \text{Aut}(G(10, 2))$



# Desargues graph and Dodecahedron

$G(10, 2)$

$M$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1	1	0	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	16	18	17	19	12	14	13	15
2	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	0	1	17	18	16	19	13	14	12	15
3	3	2	1	0	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	13	12	14	15	17	16	18	19
4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	0	1	2	3	14	12	13	15	18	16	17	19
5	5	4	3	2	1	0	11	10	9	8	7	6	18	17	16	19	14	13	12	15
6	6	7	8	9	10	11	0	1	2	3	4	5	16	18	19	12	15	14	13	15
7	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	11	10	9	8	12	14	13	15	16	18	17	19
8	8	9	10	11	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	13	14	12	15	17	18	16	19
9	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	11	10	17	18	19	13	15	12	14	15
10	10	11	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	18	16	17	19	14	12	13	15
11	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	14	13	12	15	18	17	16	19
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19

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# Desargues graph and Dodecahedron

[illegible]

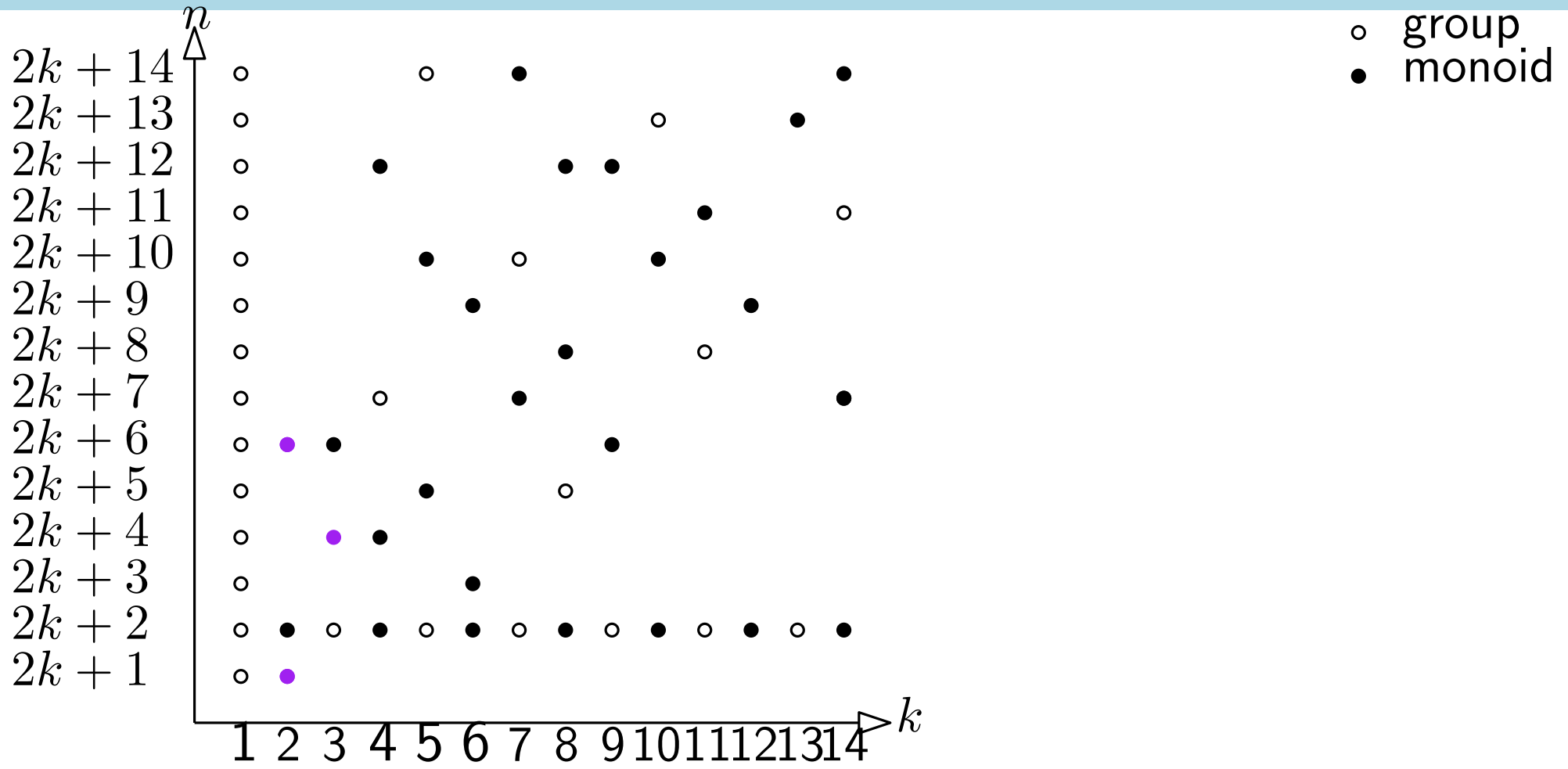
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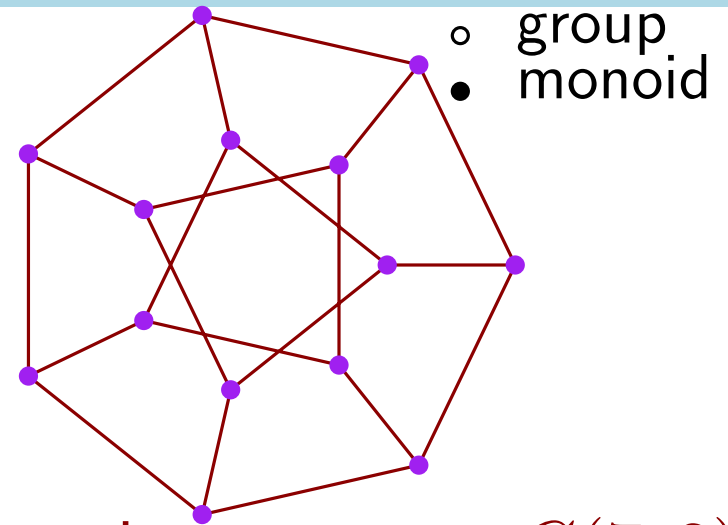
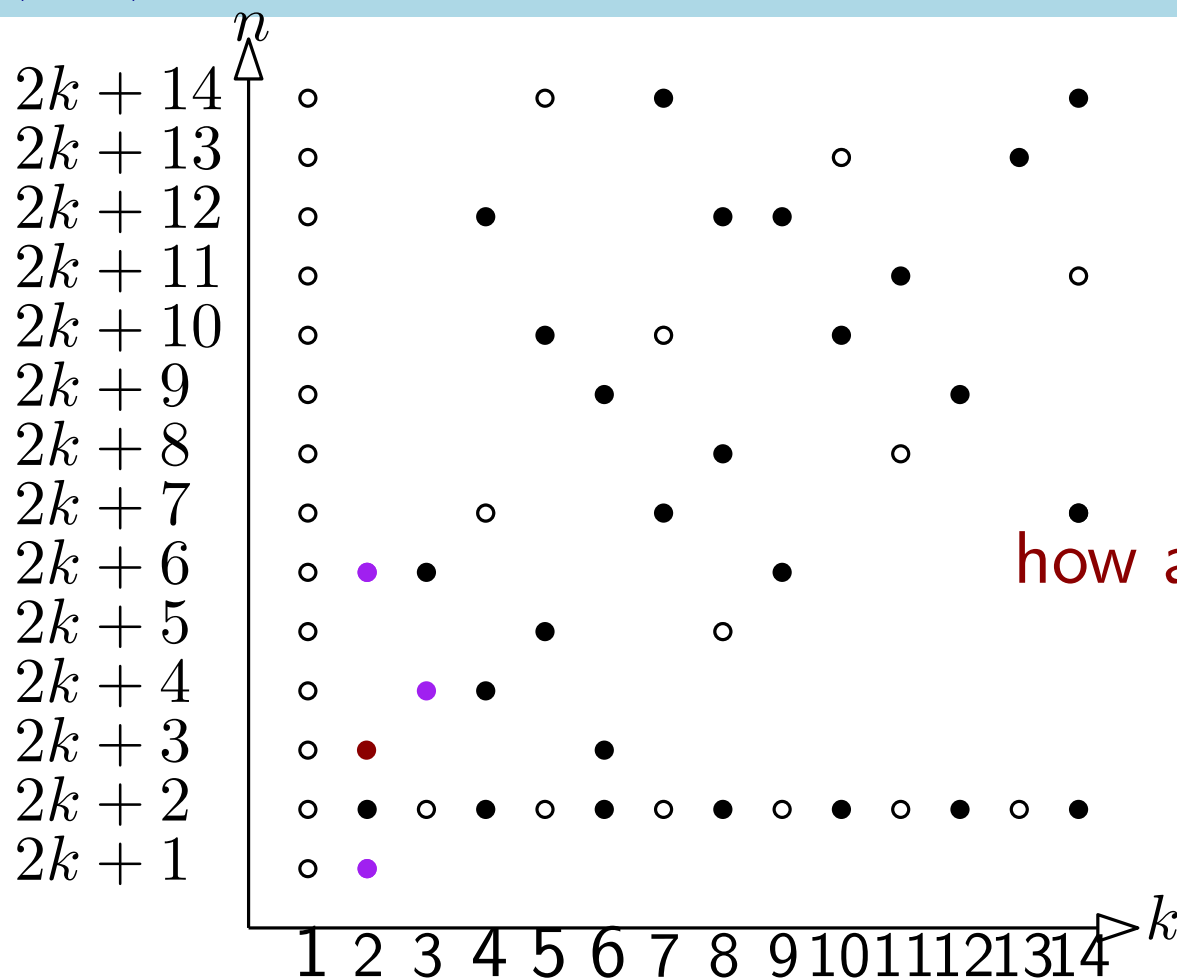
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how about the rest, e.g.  $G(7, 2)$ ?

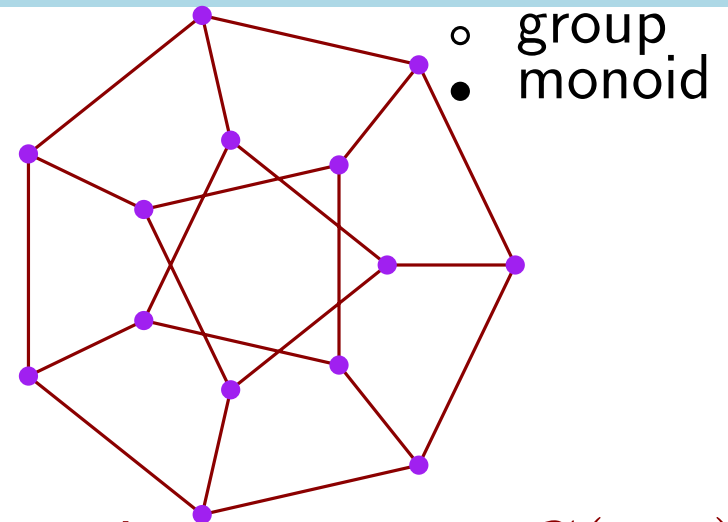
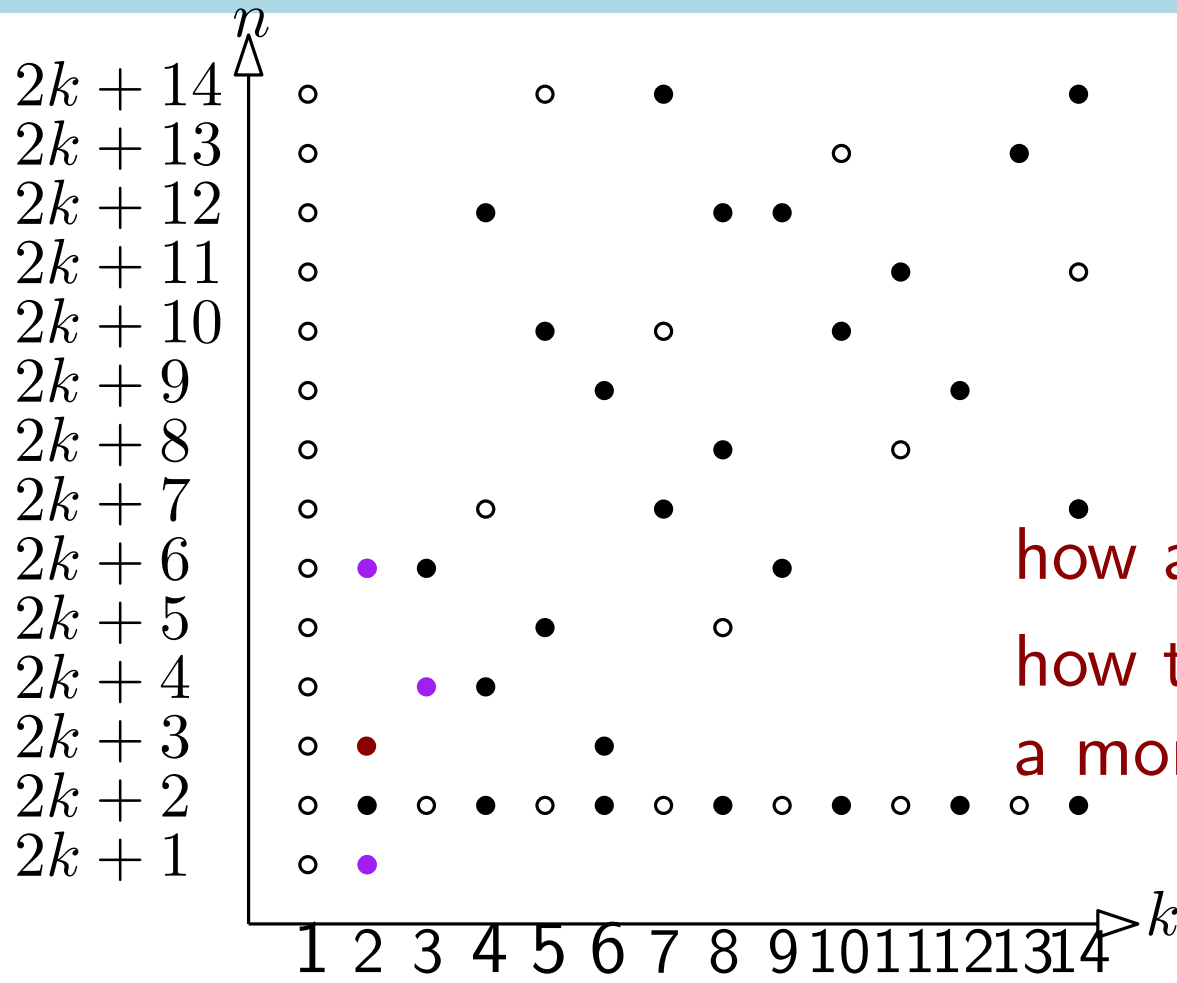
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how about the rest, e.g.  $G(7, 2)$ ?

how to prove/check if a graph is  
a monoid or semigroup graph?

# Cayley graphs

(finite) set  $S$  with binary operation  $\cdot : S \times S \rightarrow S$

**associativity:**  $(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$  for all  $a, b, c \in S$   $\rightsquigarrow$  semigroup

**neutral element:**  $\exists_{e \in S} : a \cdot e = e \cdot a = a$  for all  $a \in S$   $\rightsquigarrow$  monoid

**inverse element:**  $\forall_{a \in S} \exists_{a^{-1} \in S} : a \cdot a^{-1} = e$   $\rightsquigarrow$  group

order	#groups	# monoids	# semigroups
1	1	1	1
2	1	2	5
3	1	7	24
4	2	35	188
5	1	228	1915
6	2	2237	28634
7	1	31559	1627672
8	5	1668997	3684030417
9	2		105978177936292
10	2		
11	1		
12	5		
13	1		

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10	2		
11	1		
12	5		
13	1		

trying all pairs  $C \subseteq S$  is unfeasible

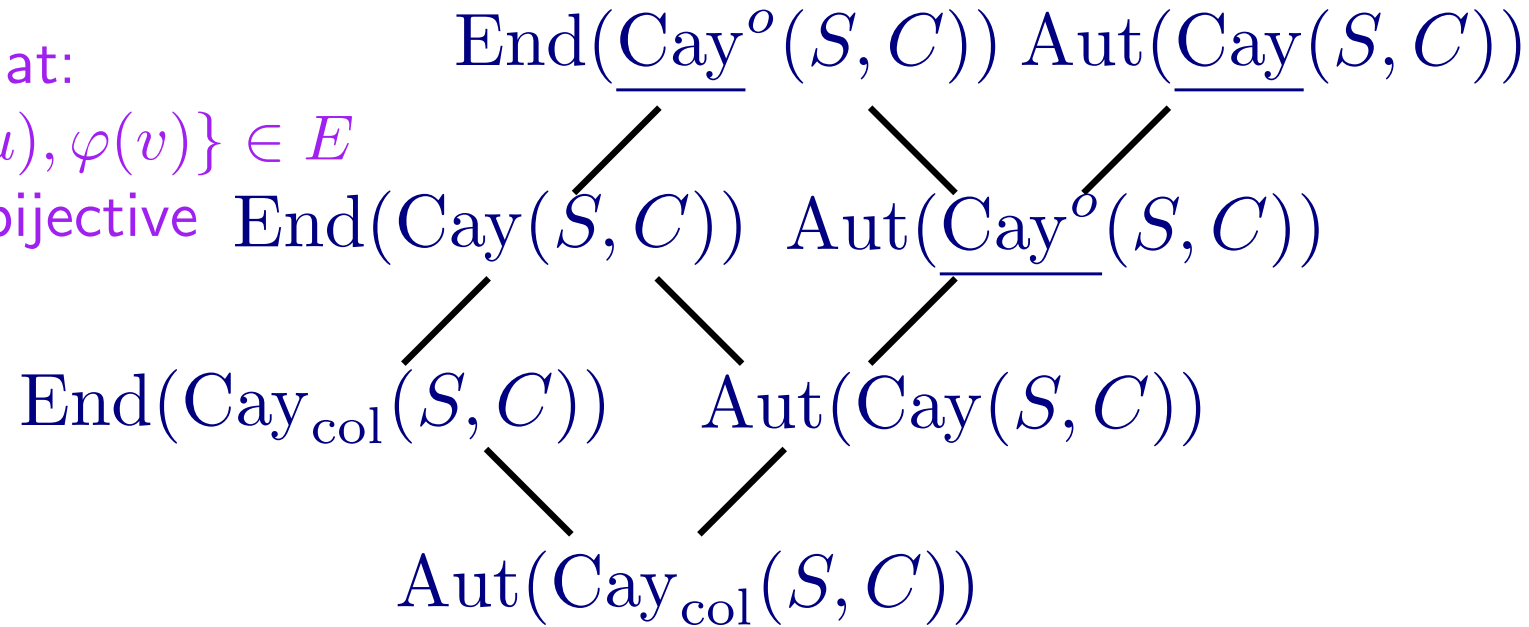
# Restricting $M$

**endomorphism:**

$\varphi : V \rightarrow V$  such that:

$\{u, v\} \in E \Rightarrow \{\varphi(u), \varphi(v)\} \in E$

**automorphism** if bijective





# Restricting $M$

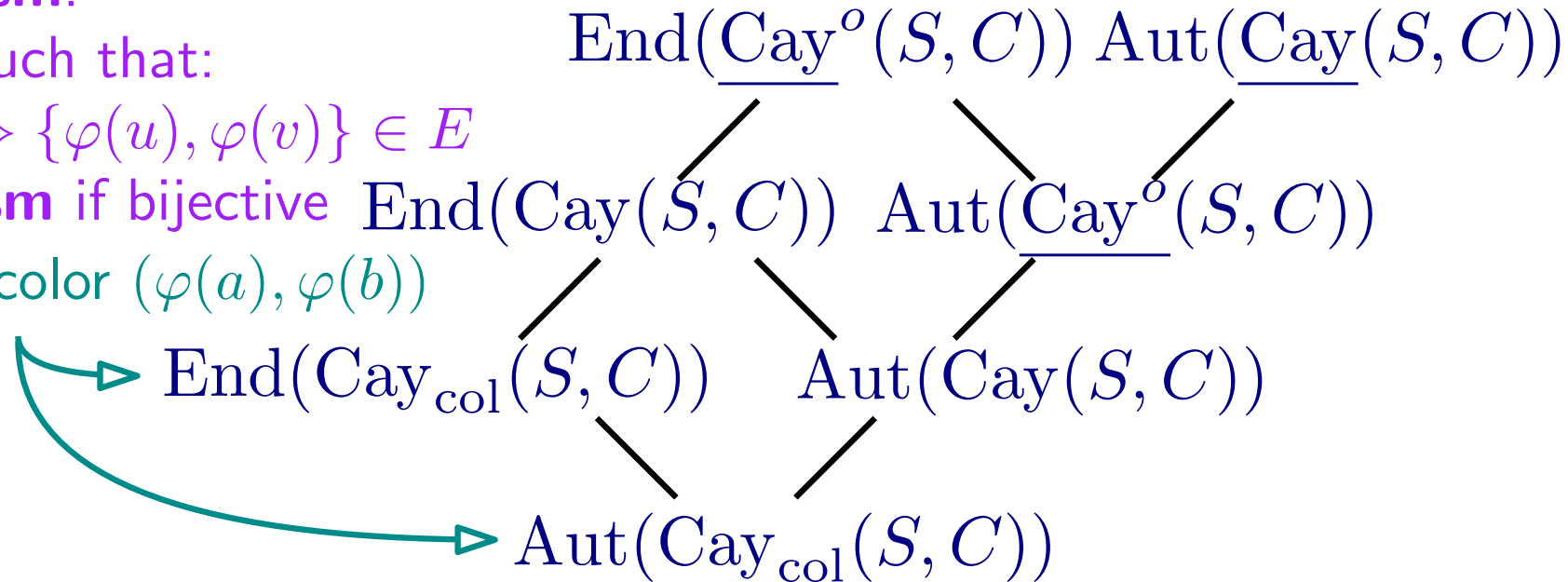
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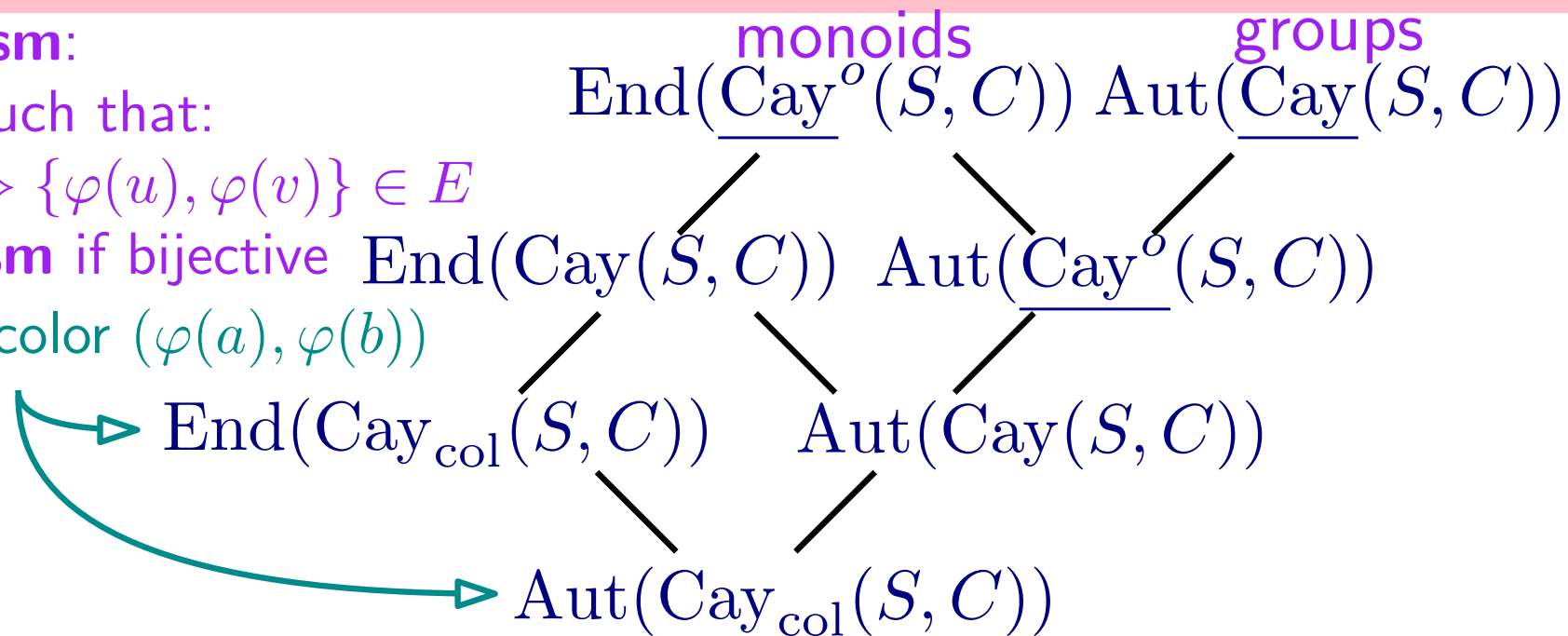
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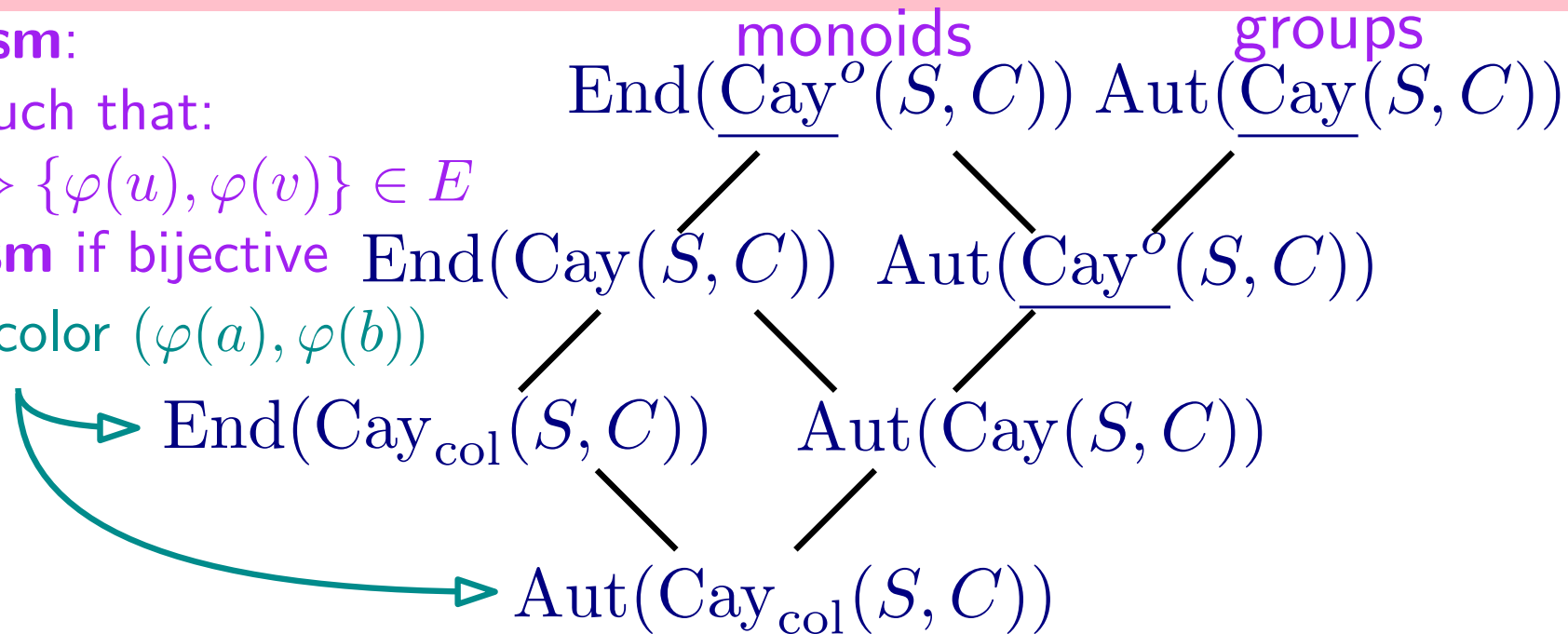
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**Lem:**  $M < \text{End}(\text{Cay}_{\text{col}}(M, C))$  and  $\exists_{e \in V} \forall_{v \in V} \exists \varphi \in M : \varphi(e) = v$

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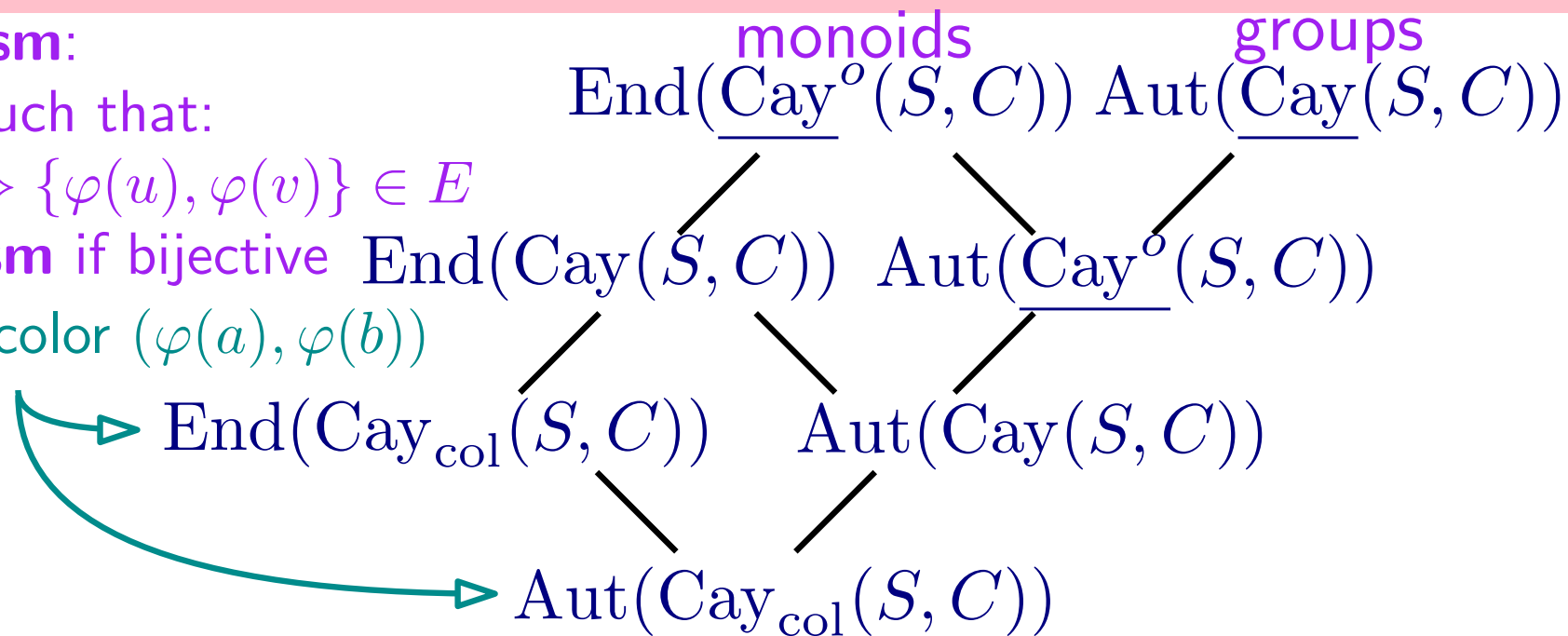
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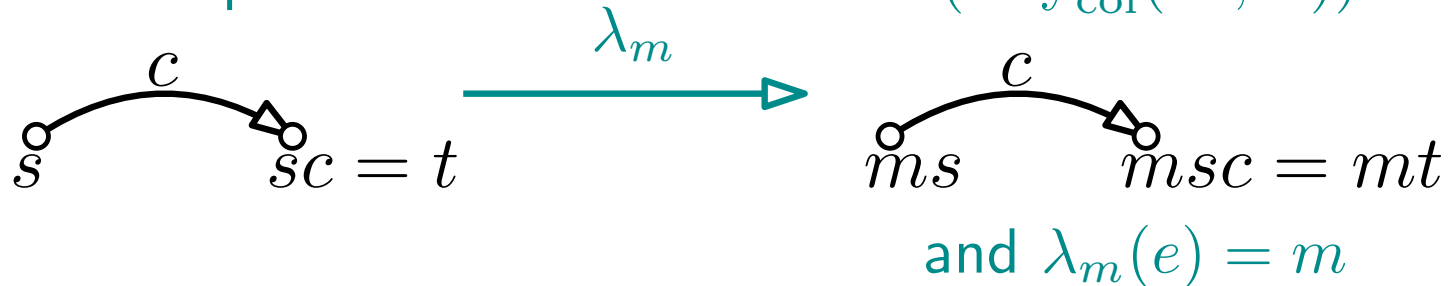
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left-multiplication with  $M$  is in  $\text{End}(\text{Cay}_{\text{col}}(M, C))$



# Restricting $M$

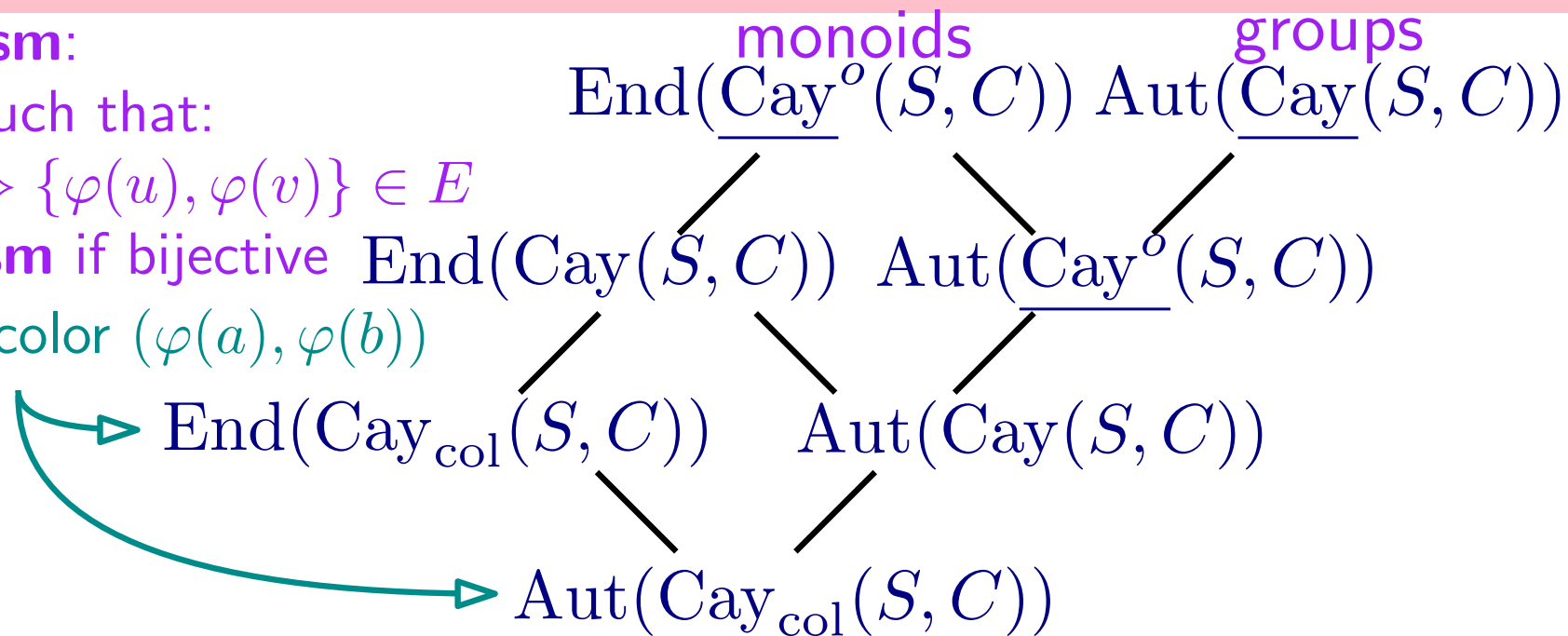
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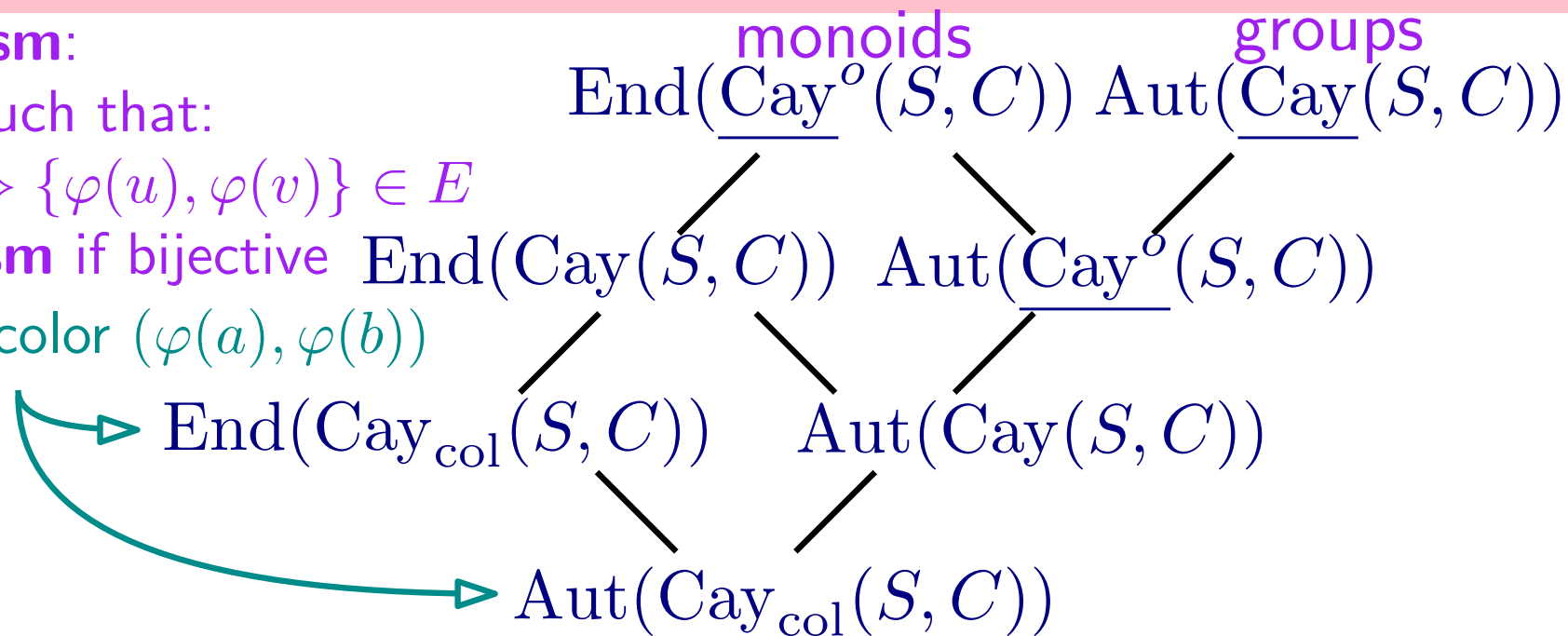
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naive approach:

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- add some loops to get  $D'$
- compute  $\text{End}(D')$
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- or get  $C \subseteq \text{End}(D')$  and check  $\langle C \rangle$

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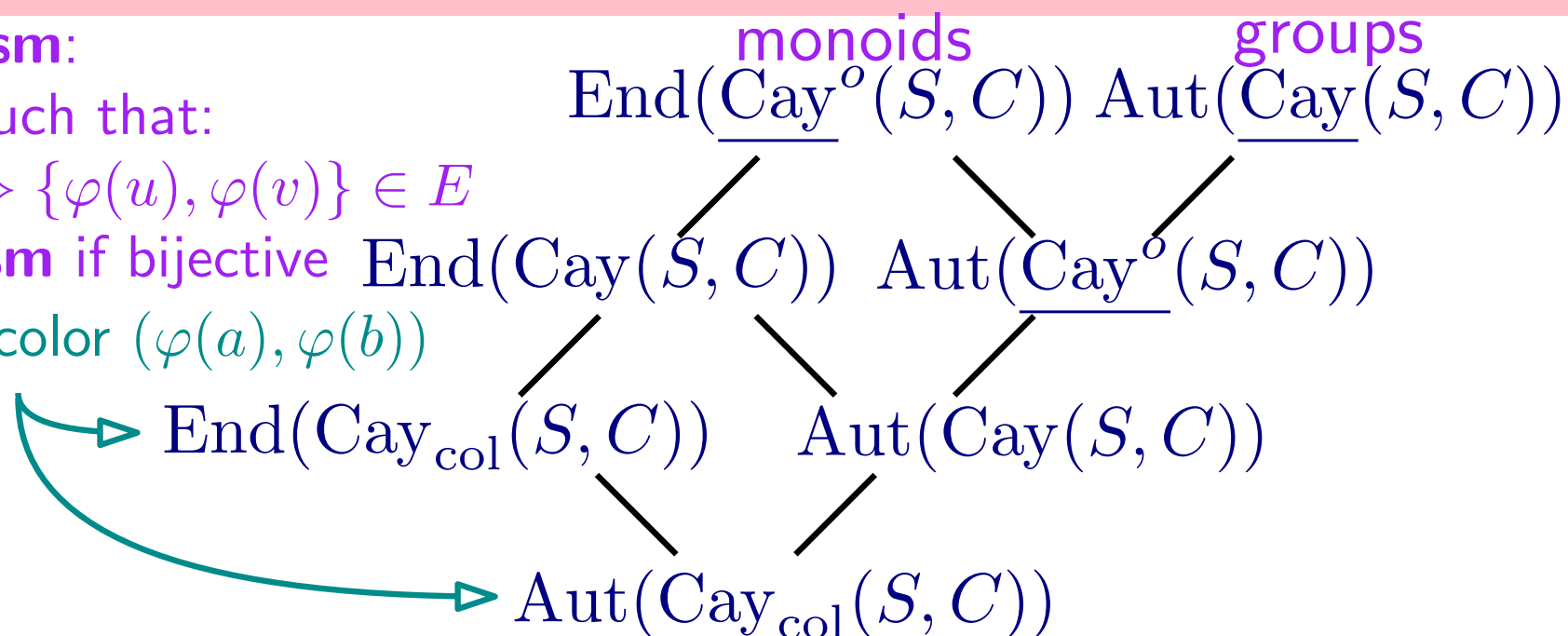
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- color the arcs
- compute  $\text{End}_{\text{col}}(D')$

# Restricting $M$

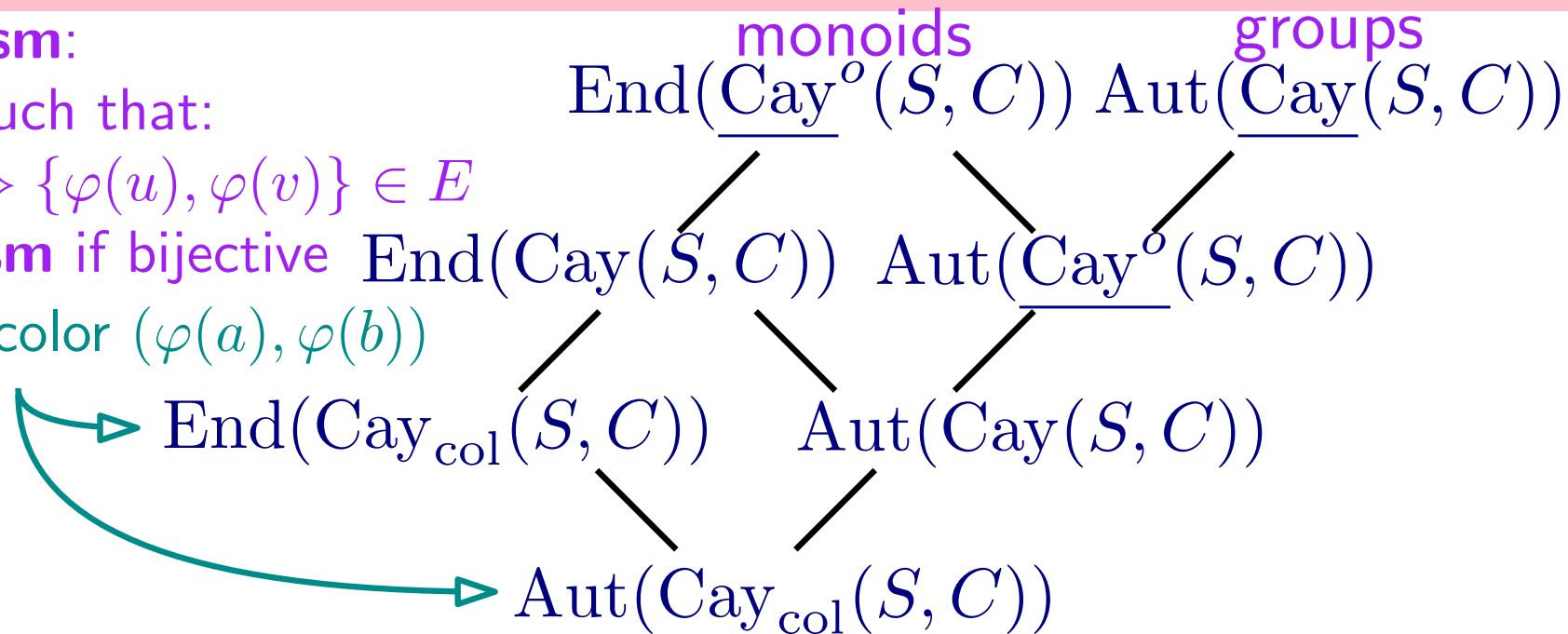
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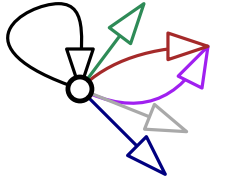
- get a multi-orientation  $D$  of  $G$   $G(7, 2)$  has 747197622 multiorientations!
- add some loops to get  $D'$  ◦ color the arcs
- compute  $\text{End}(D')$  ◦ compute  $\text{End}_{\text{col}}(D')$
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# Restricting $C$

consider  $\text{Cay}_{\text{col}}(S, C)$  as an arc-coloured directed multigraph

$\text{Cay}(S, C)$  is  $|C|$ -*outregular* directed multigraph

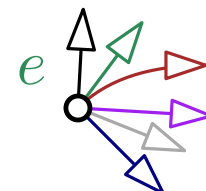


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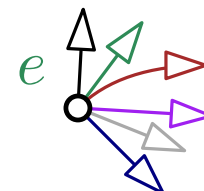


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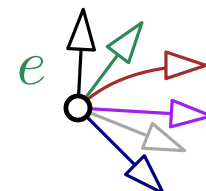
if  $G = \underline{\text{Cay}}(M, C)$  then  $|C| \leq \Delta_G$

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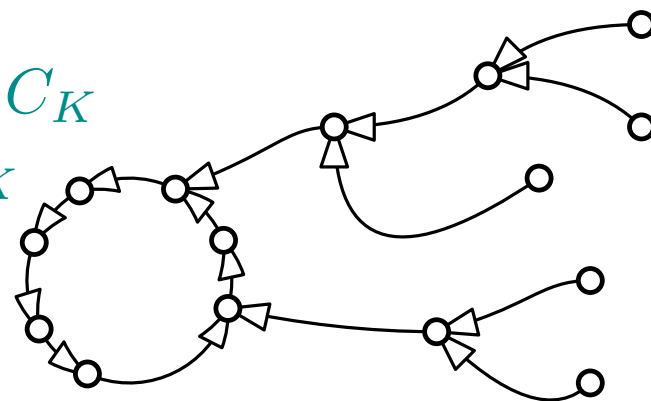
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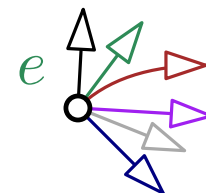


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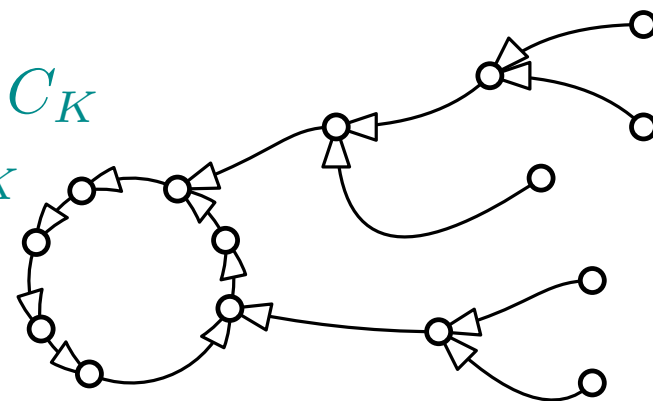


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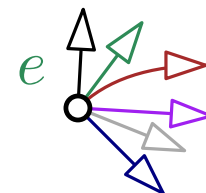


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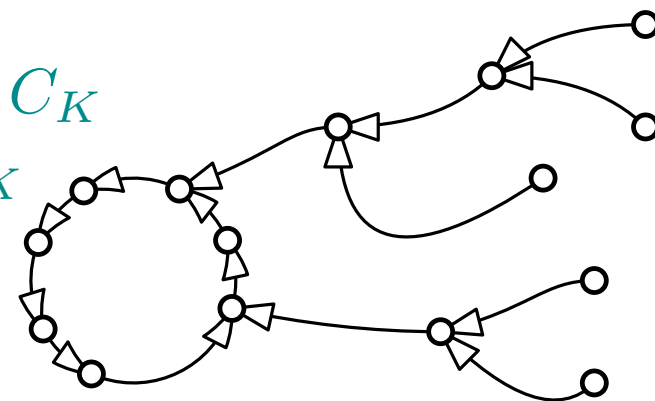
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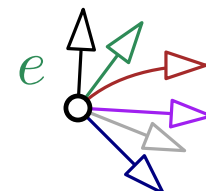
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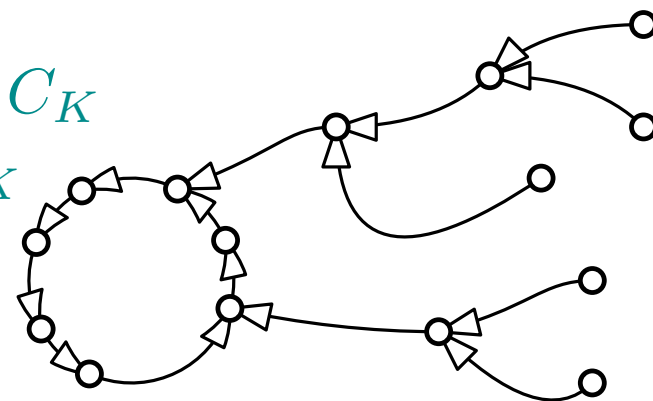
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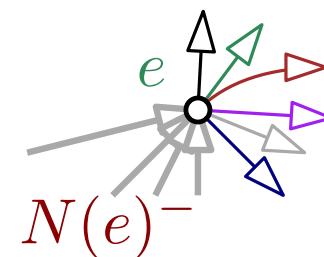
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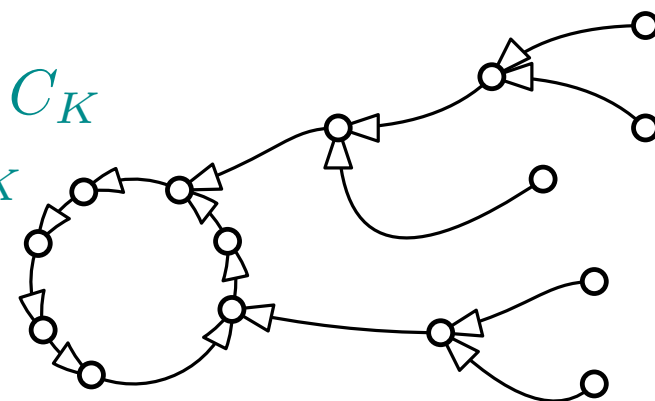
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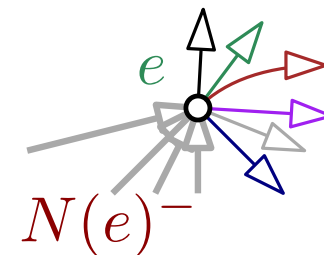


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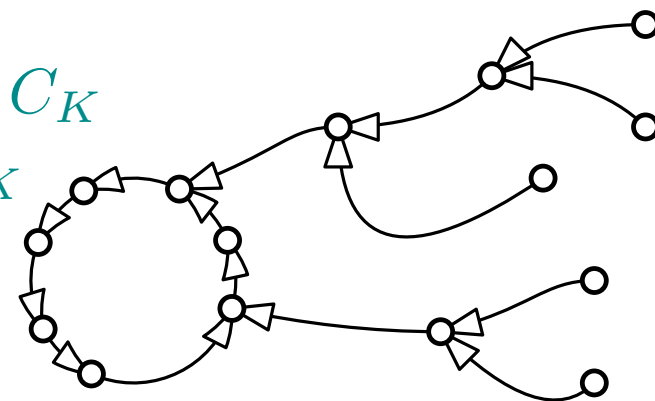
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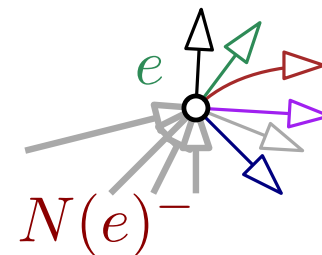
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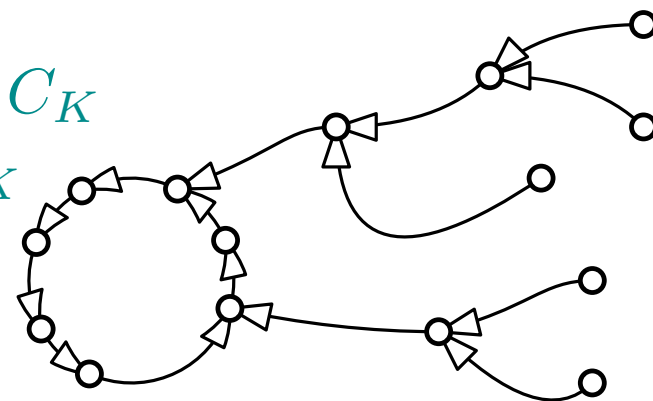
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$$|C| = 2$$

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$G(n, k) = \underline{\text{Cay}}(M, C)$  with  $M = \langle C \rangle$  and  $|C| = 2$  if and only if:

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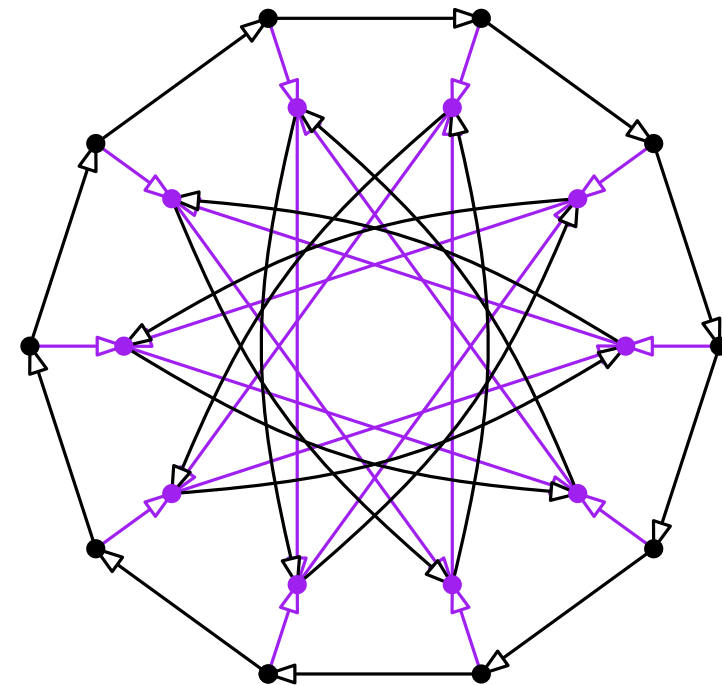
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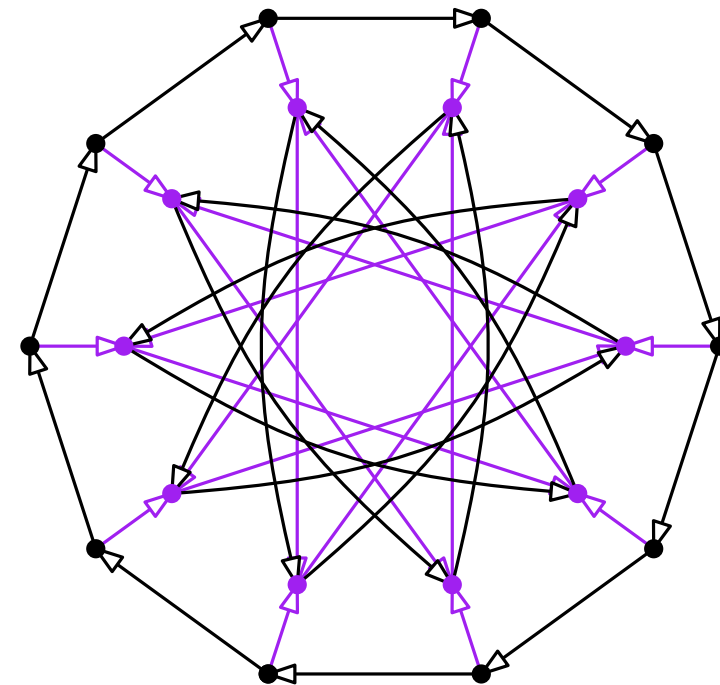
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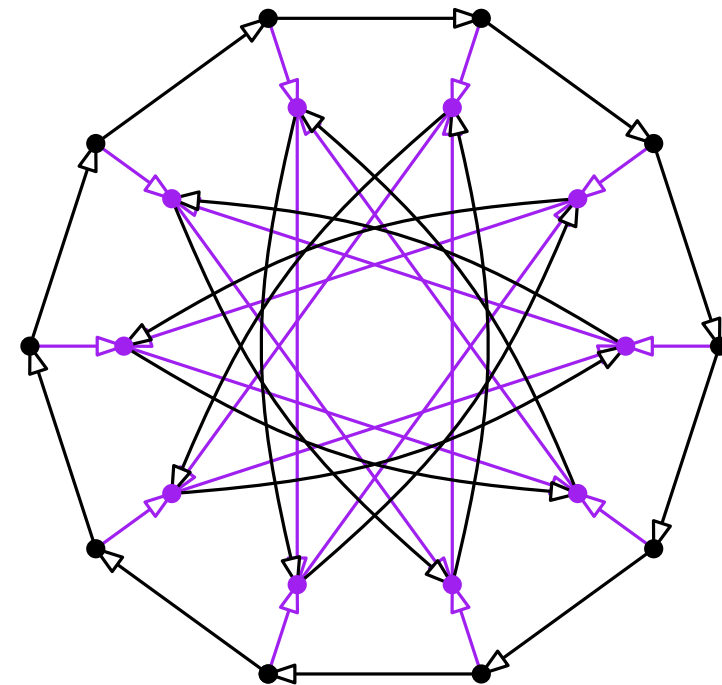
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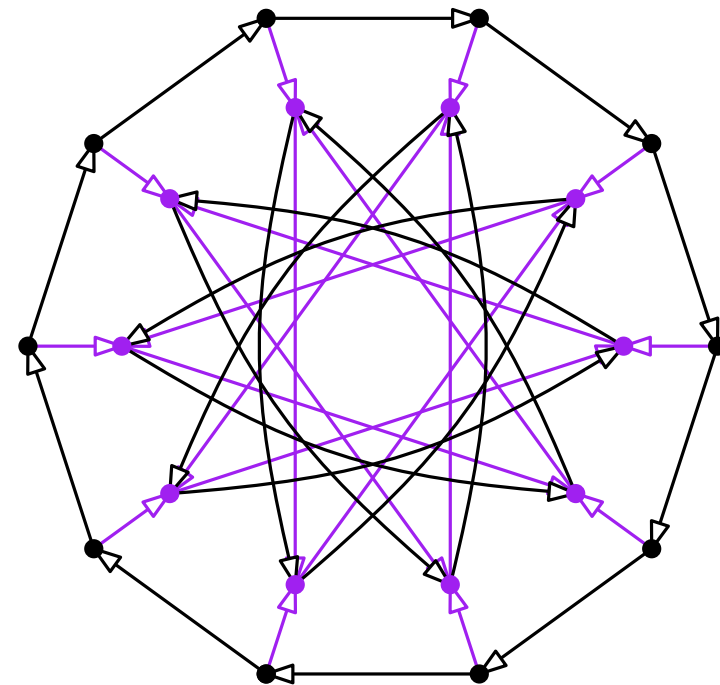
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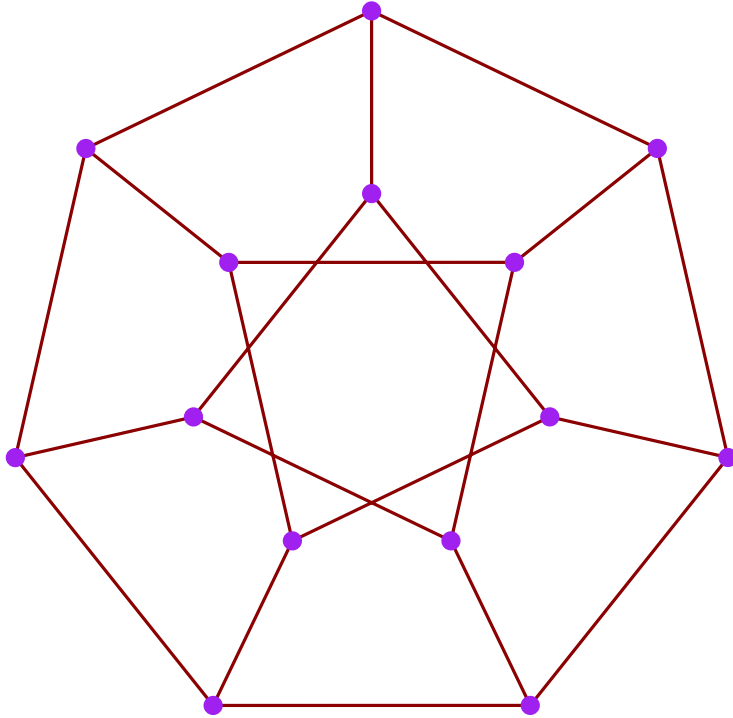
use of computer  $\rightsquigarrow$

**Proposition** [K, Vidal '24]:

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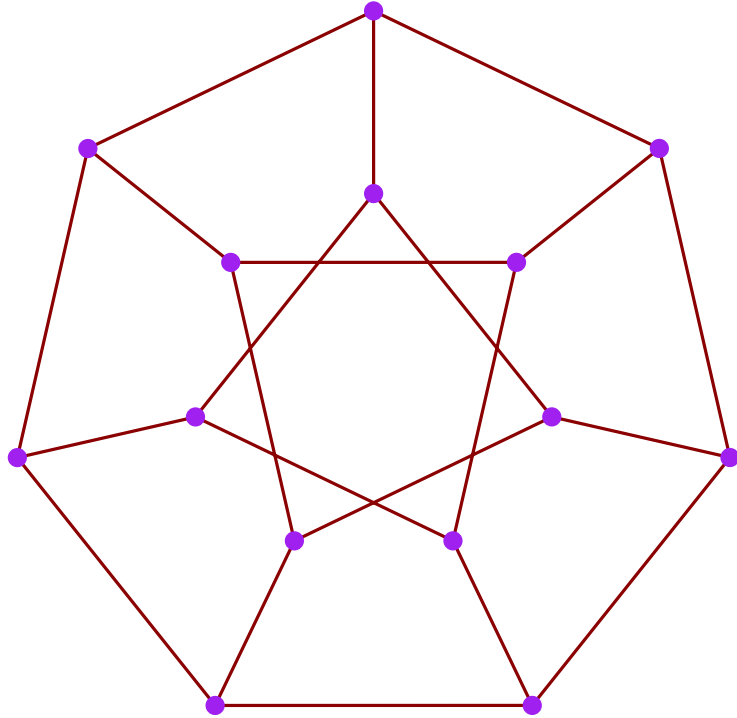
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$G(7, 2)$  and many generalized Petersen graphs

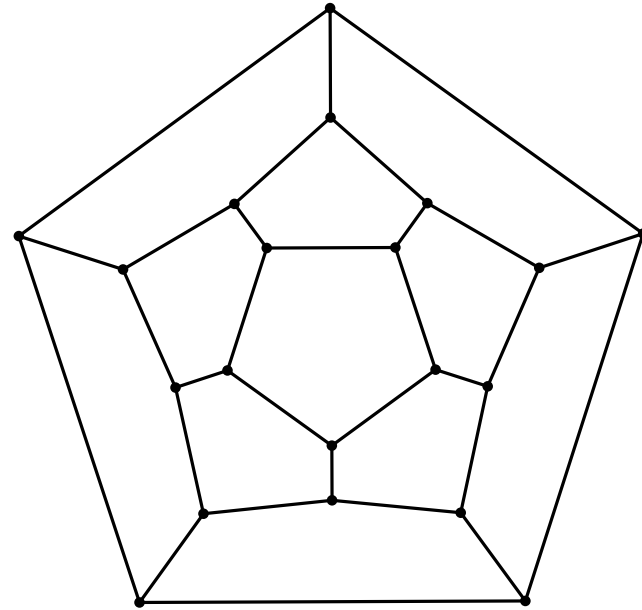


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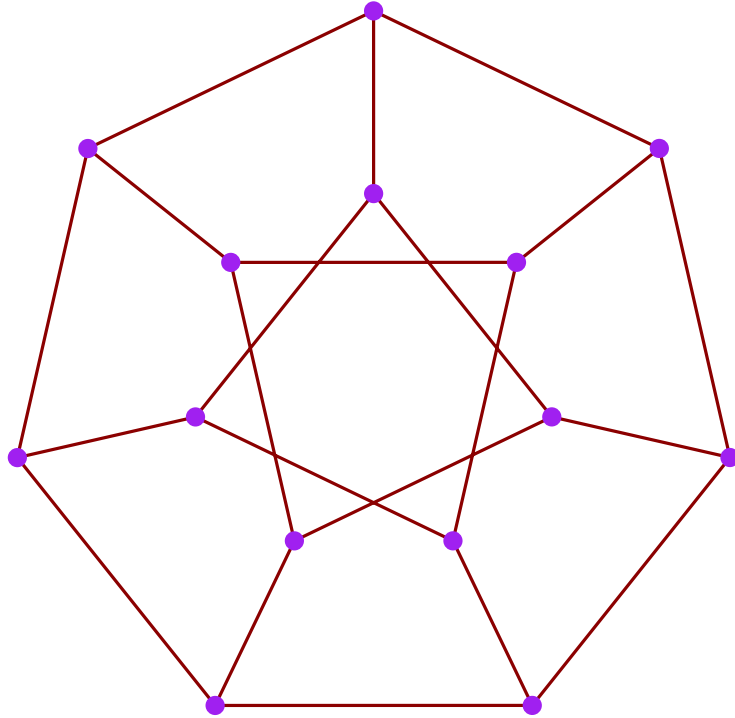


icosidodecahedron

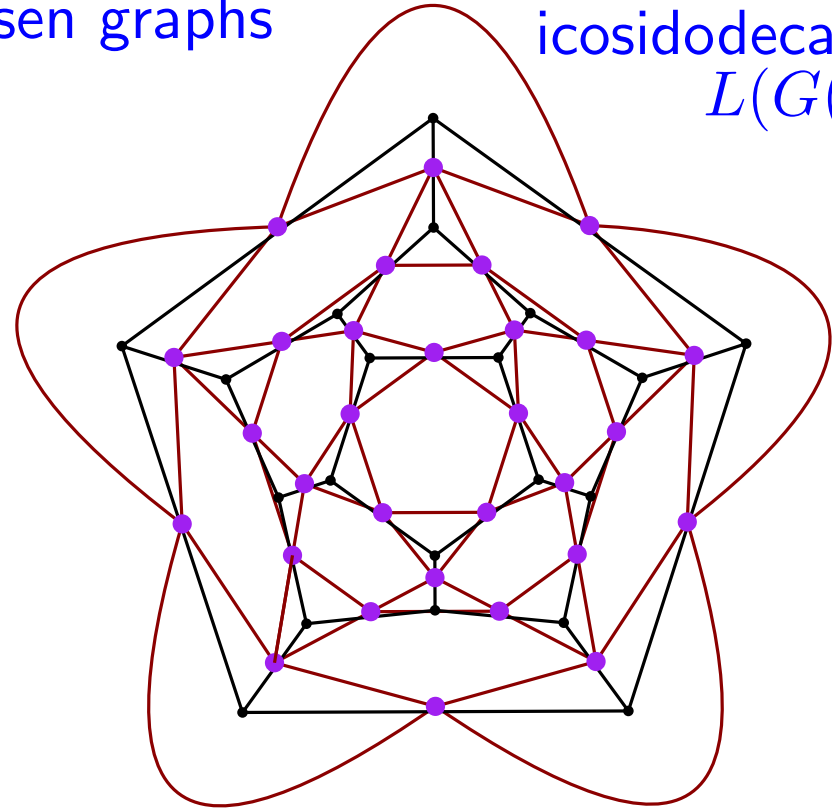


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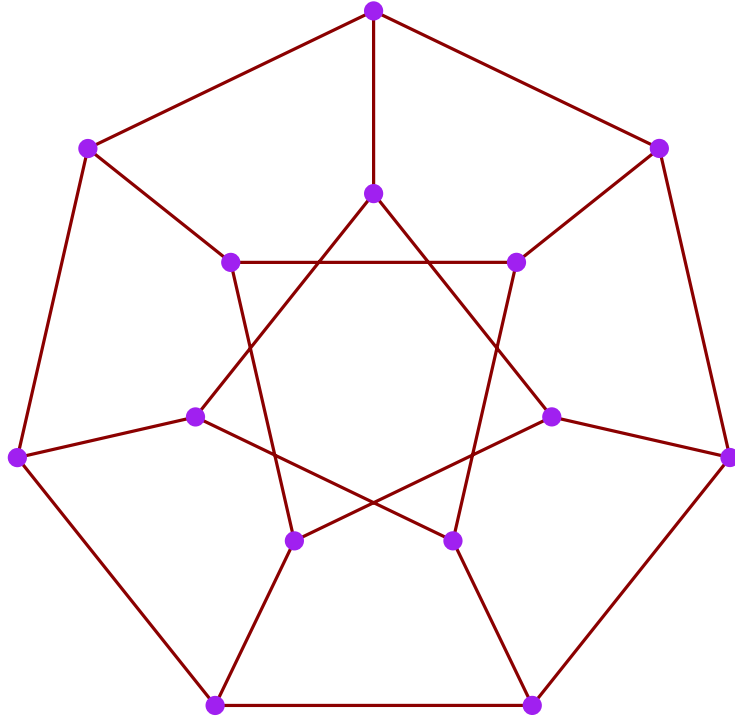


icosidodecahedron  
 $L(G(10, 2))$

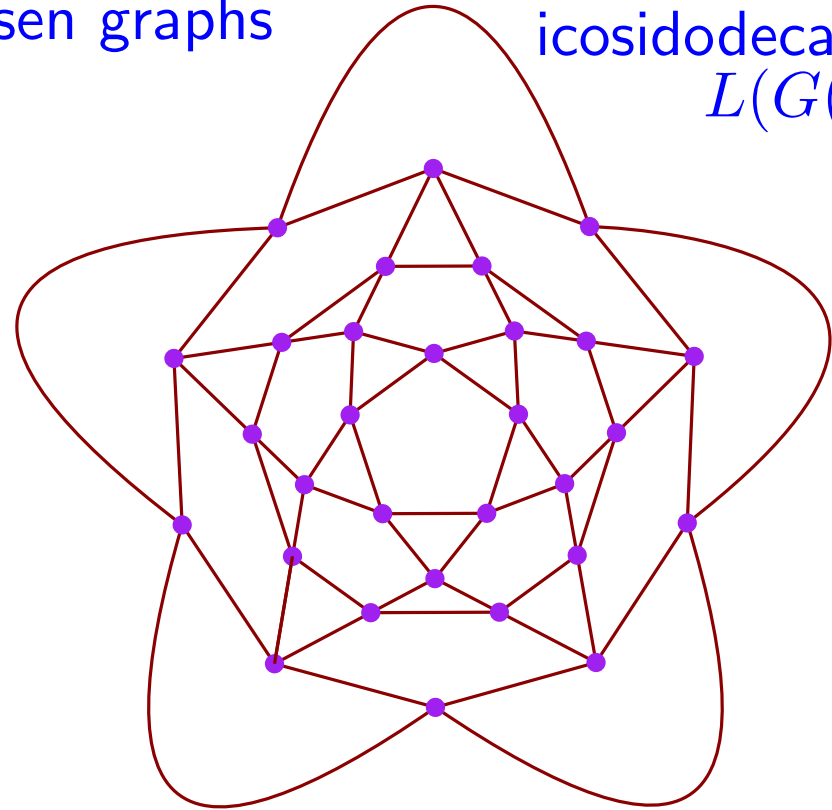


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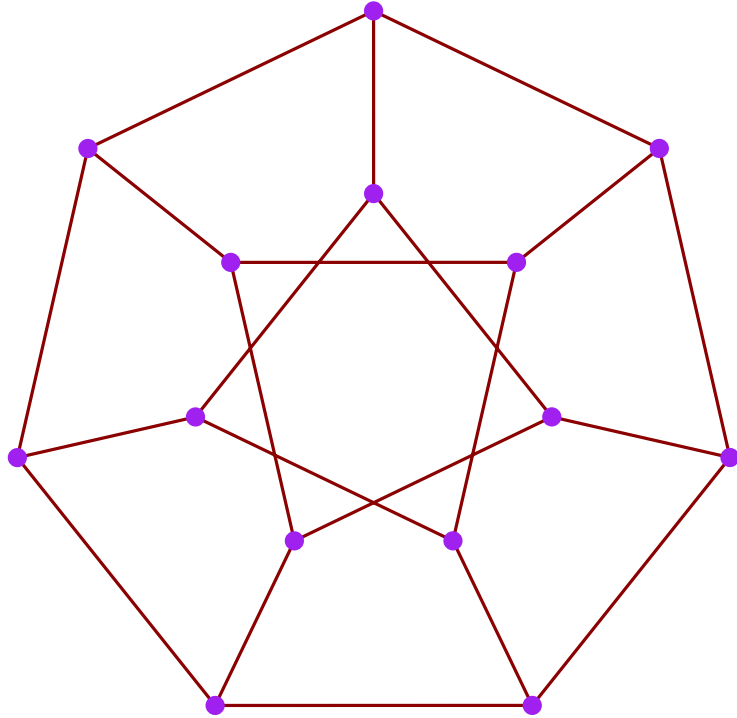
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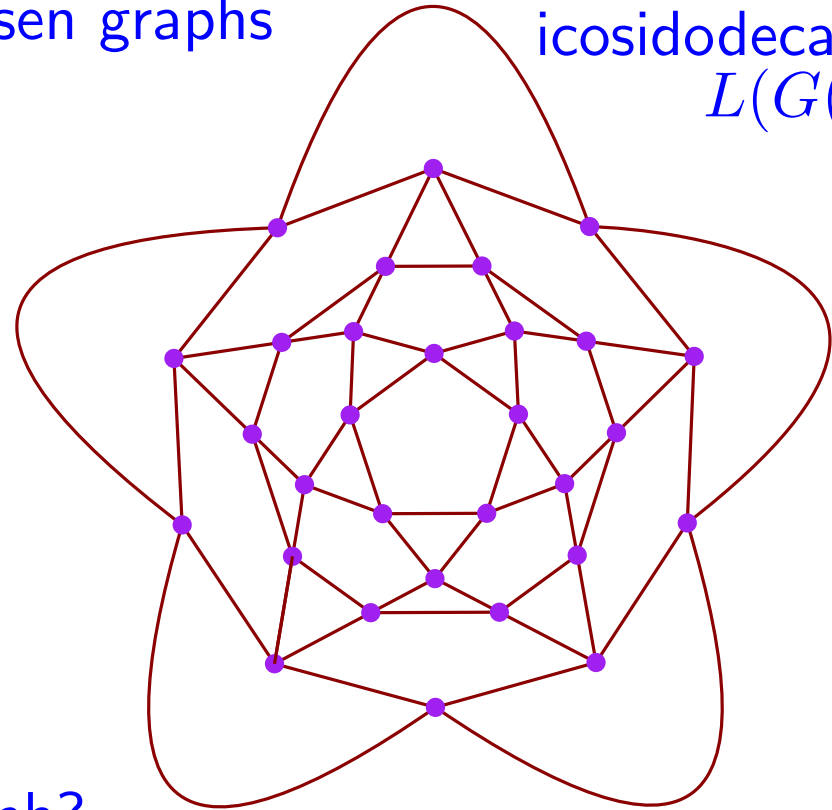
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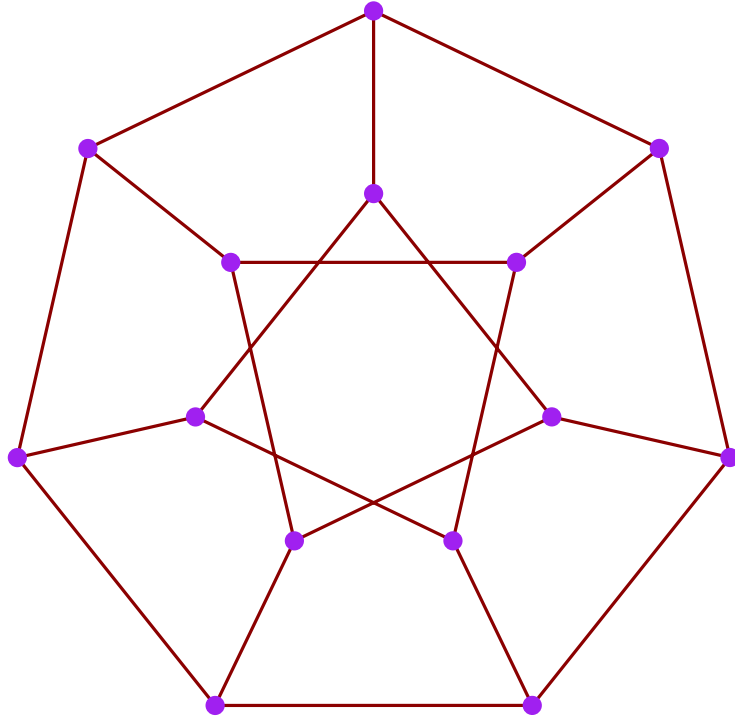
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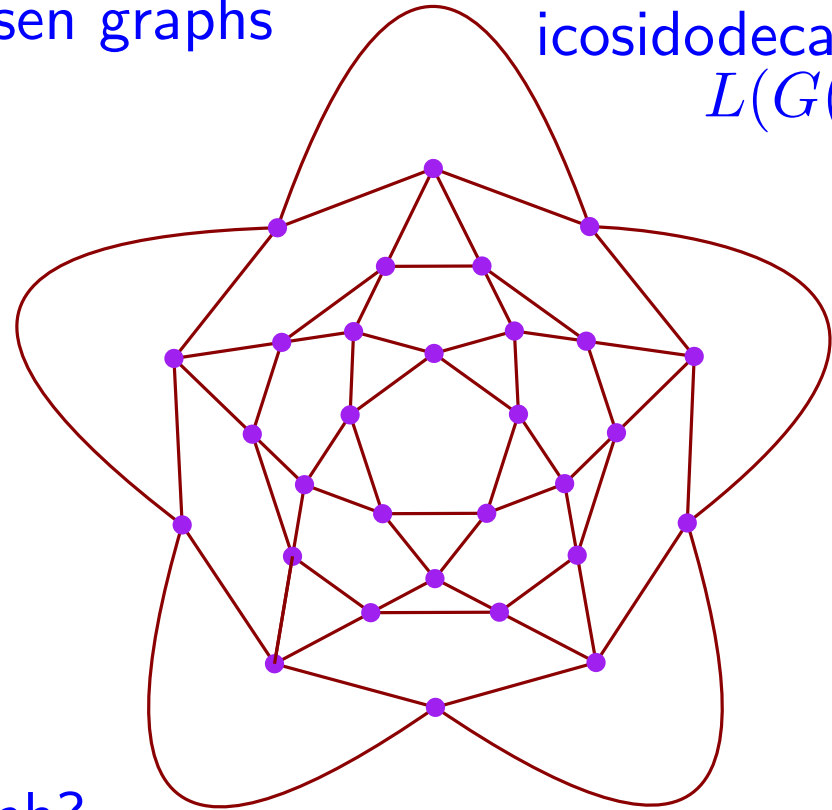


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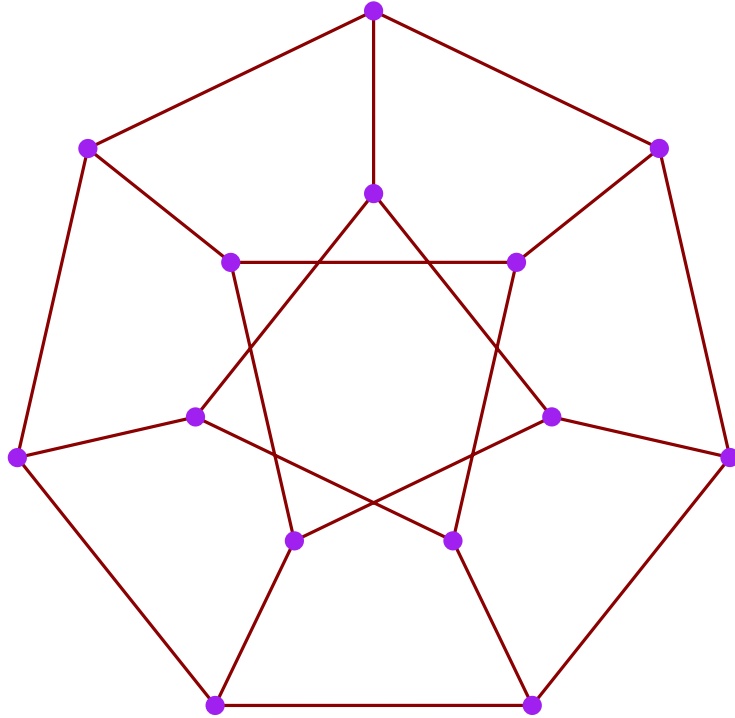
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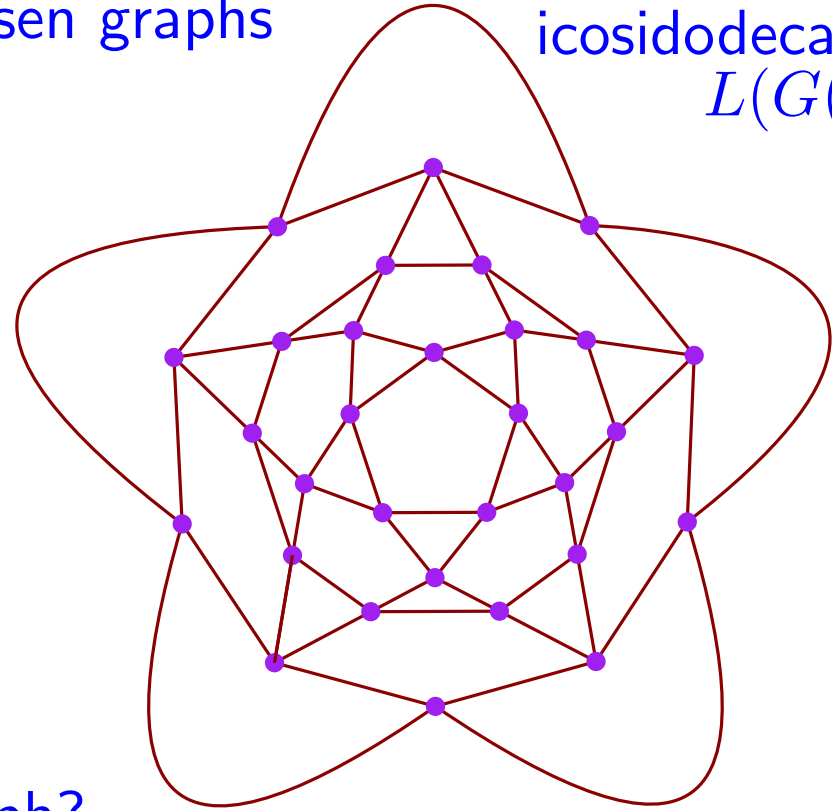
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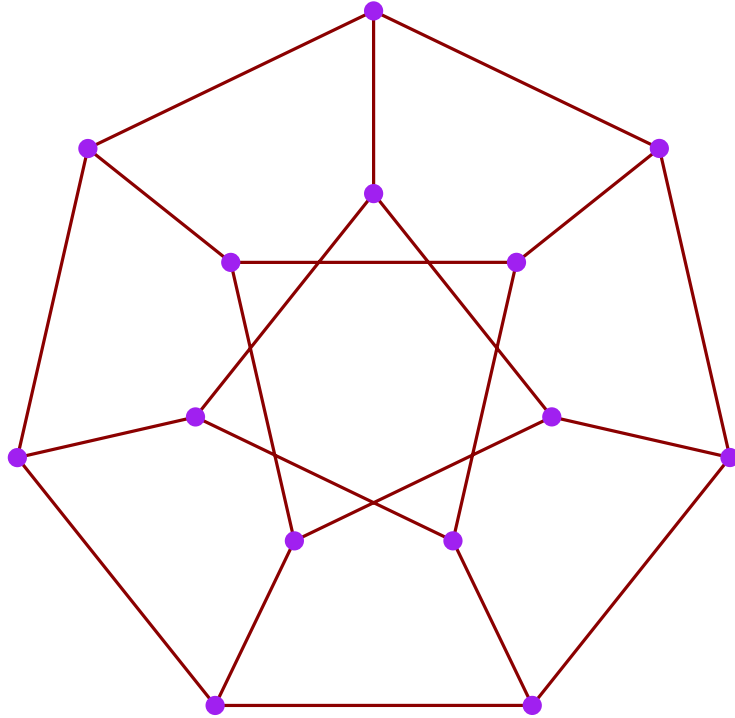


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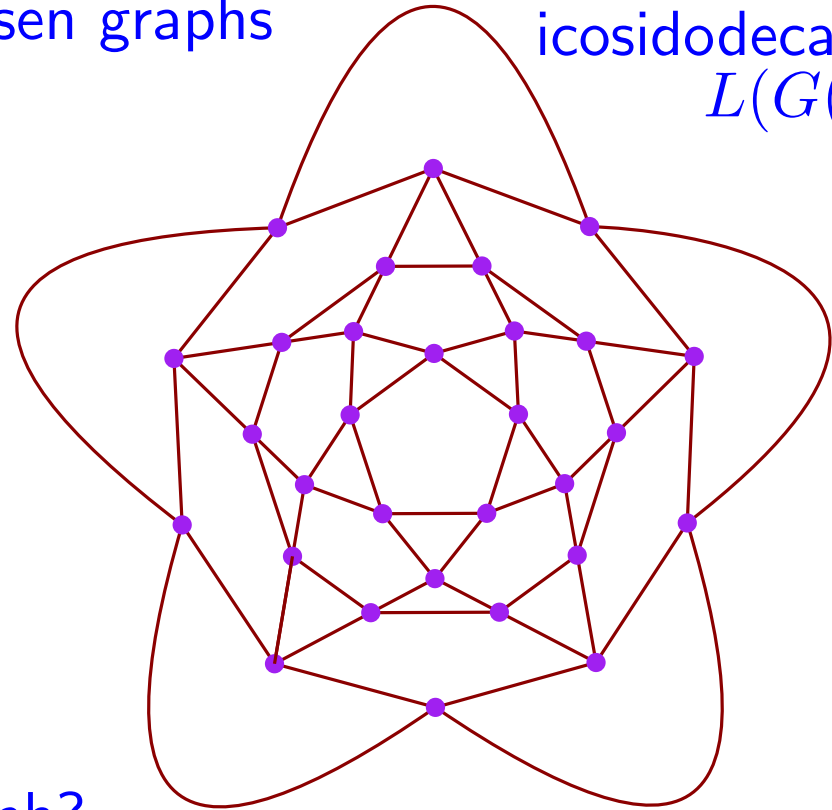
**Thm** [K, Puig i Surroca '23]:  
Every forest is a monoid graph

# Open graphs

$G(7, 2)$  and many generalized Petersen graphs

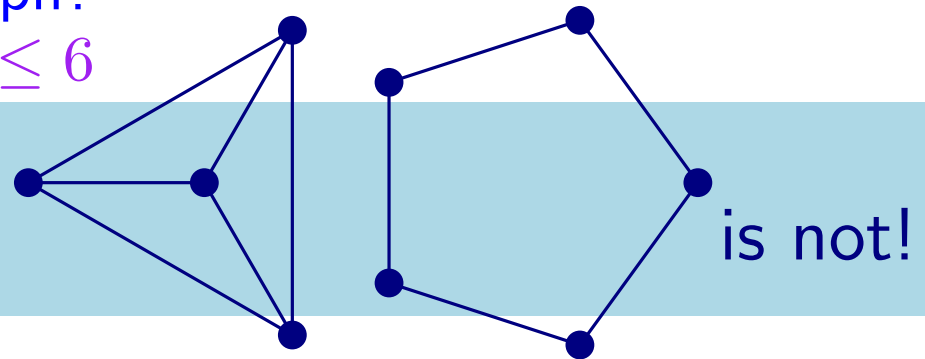


icosidodecahedron  
 $L(G(10, 2))$



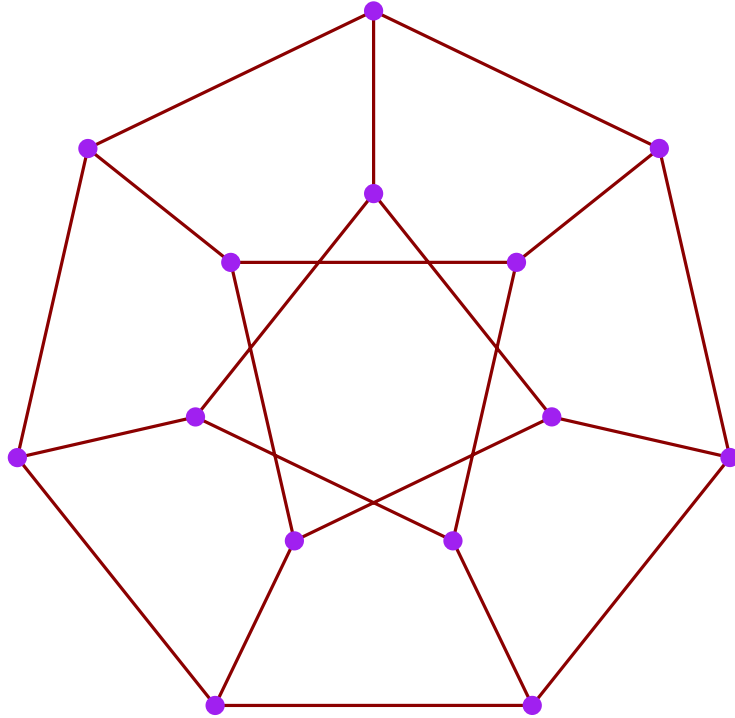
...wait, is every graph a monoid graph?  
use of computer  $\rightsquigarrow$  yes, for  $n \leq 6$

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Every forest is a monoid graph but:

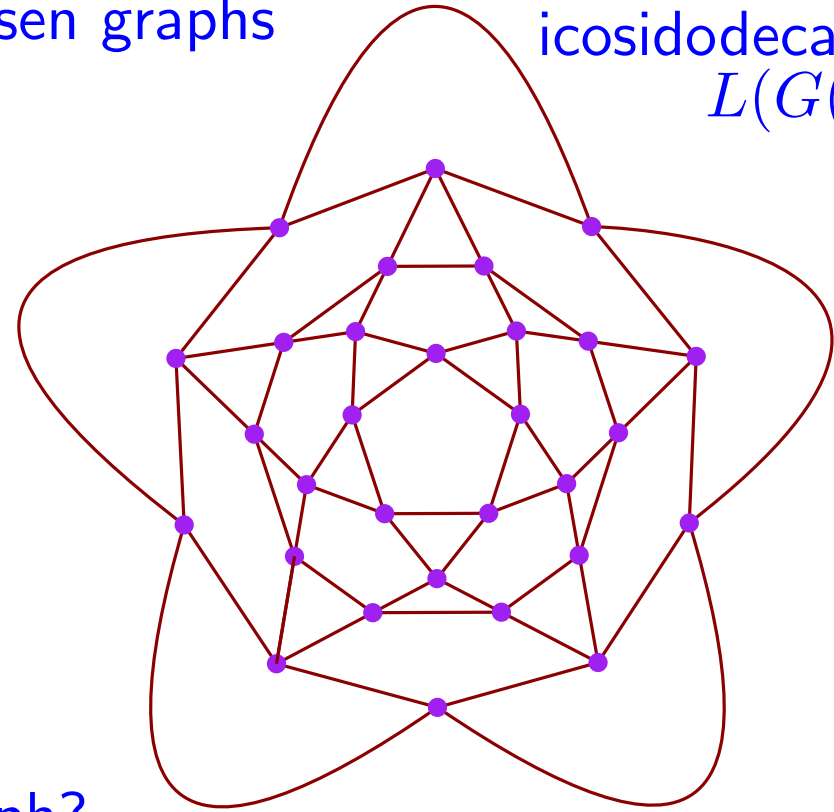


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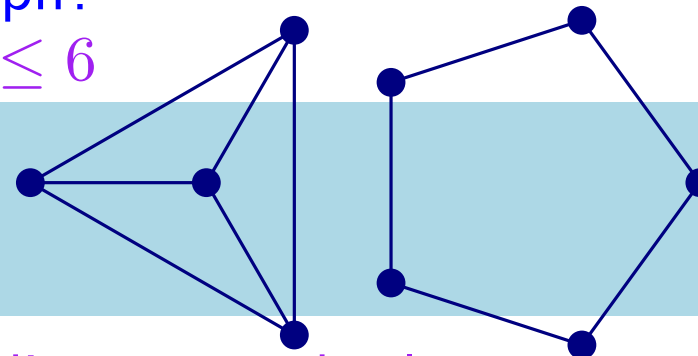


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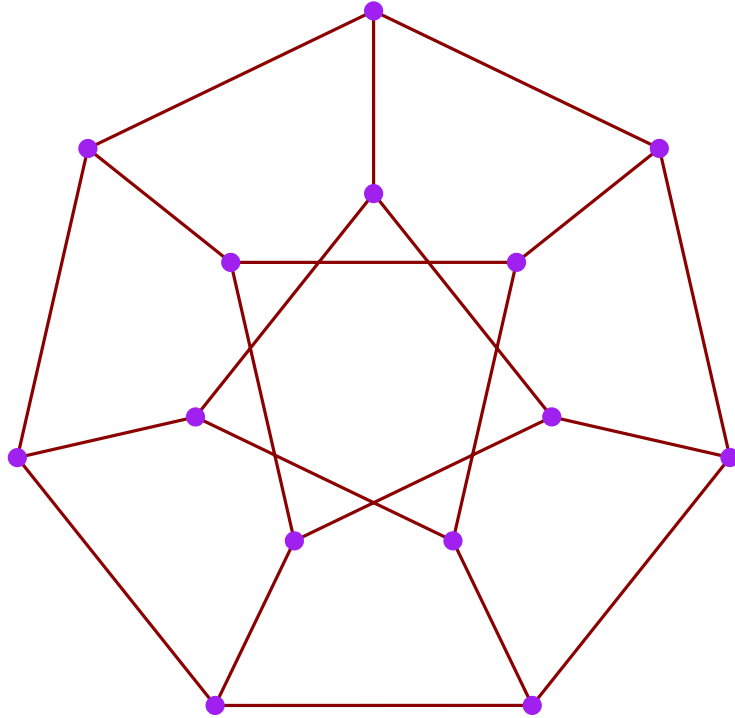


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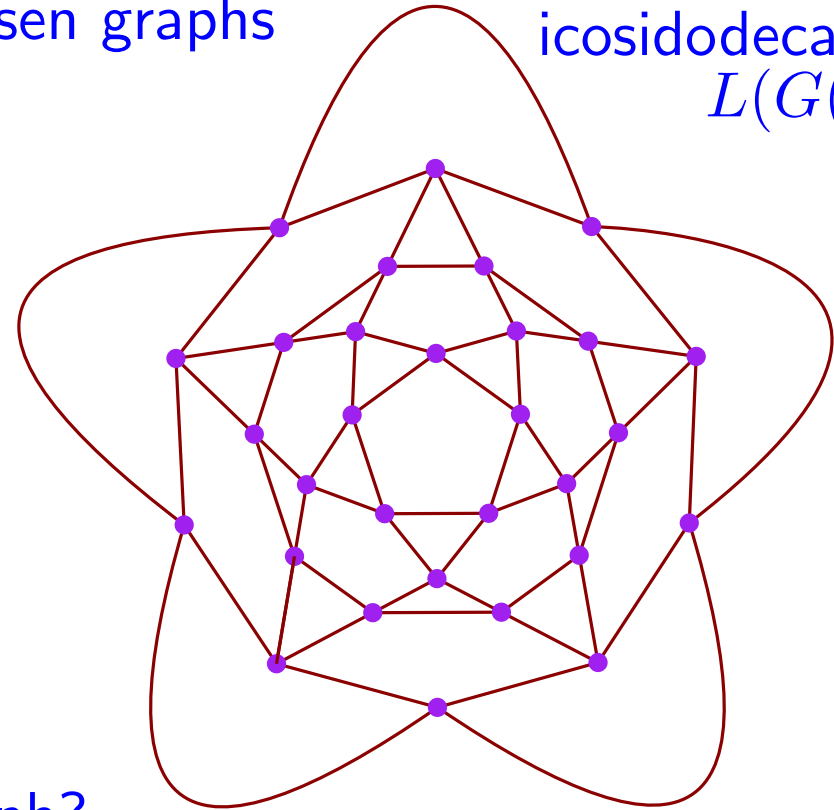
disconnected, planar, treewidth 3

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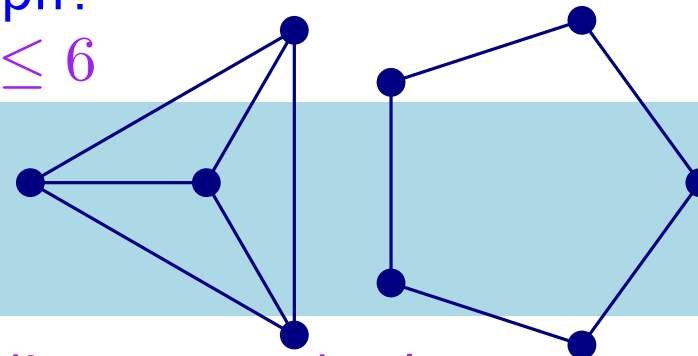


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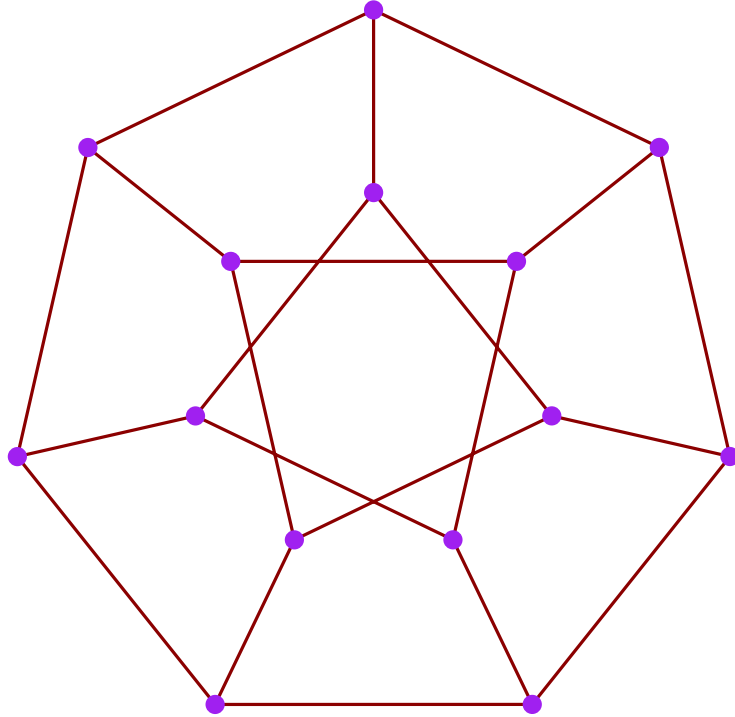


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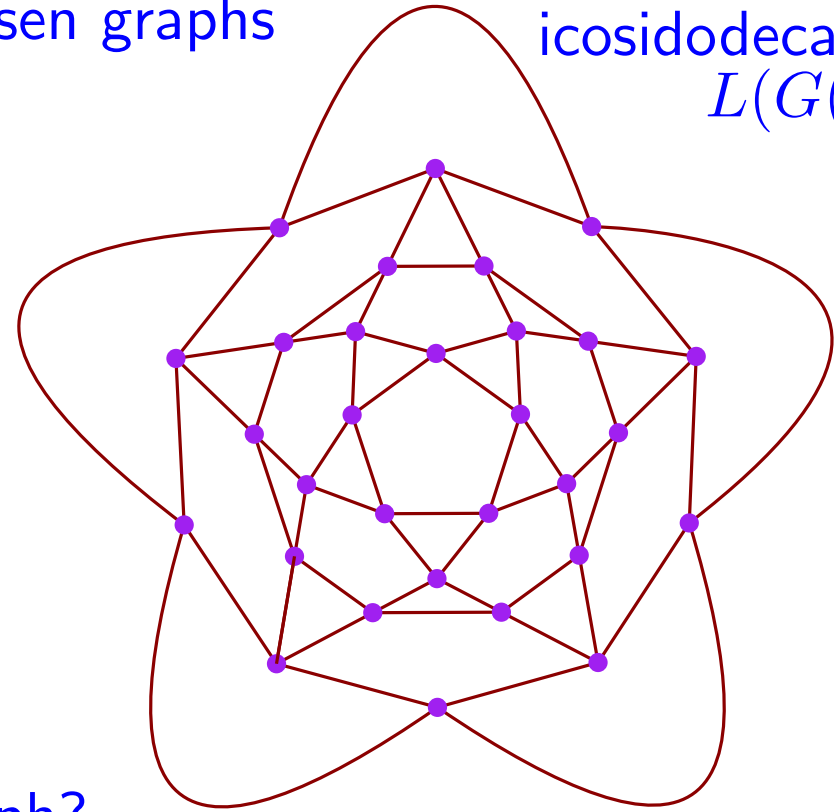
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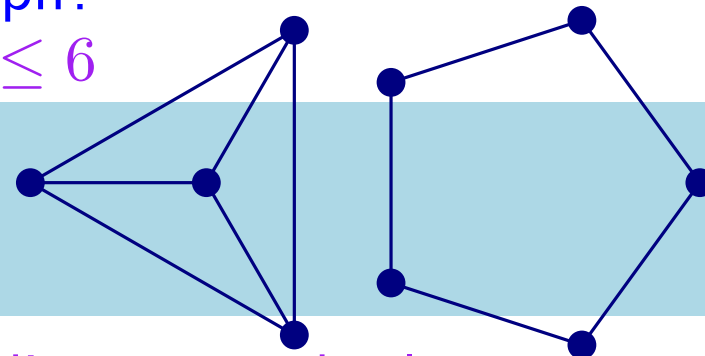


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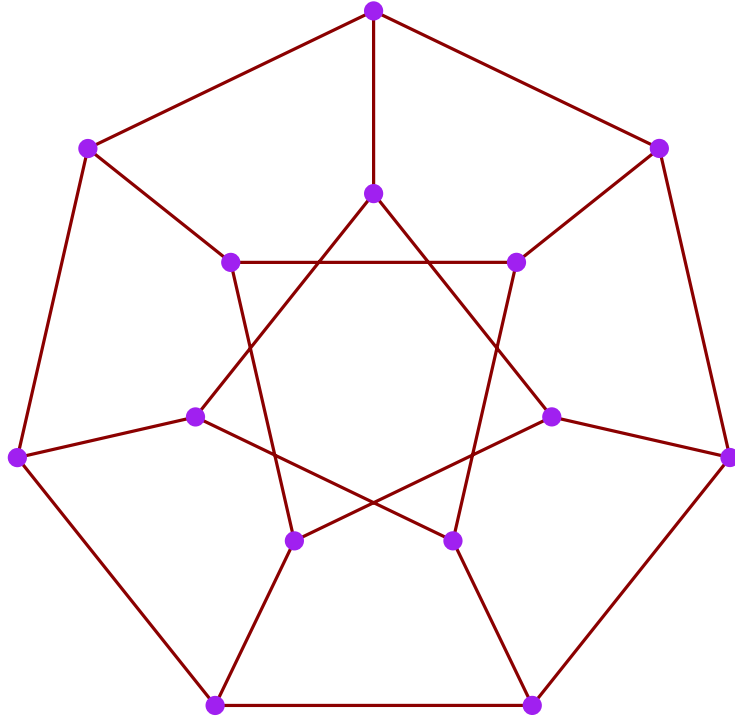
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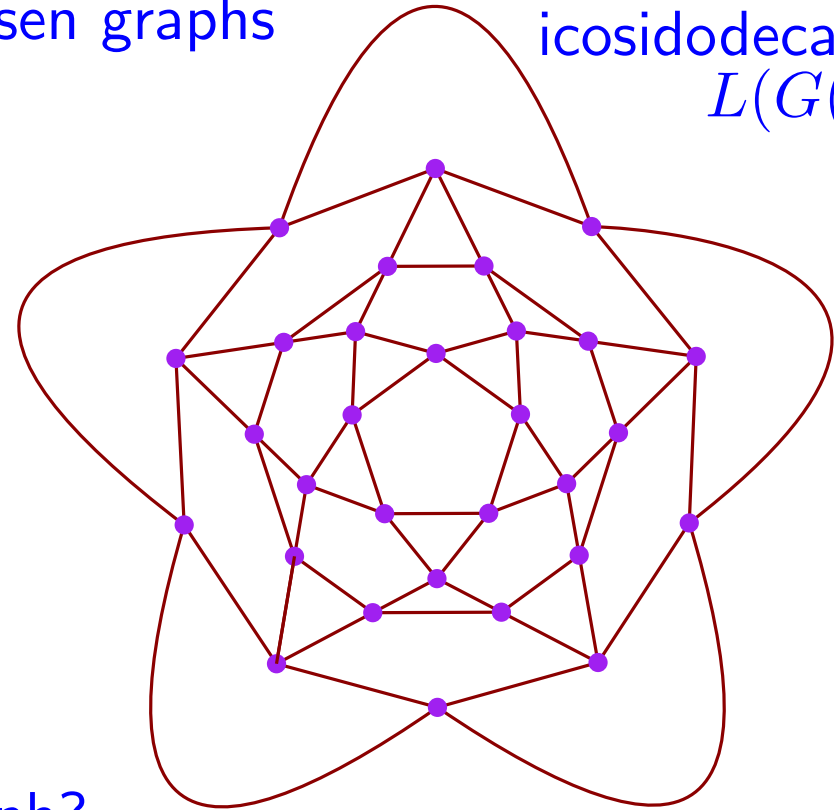
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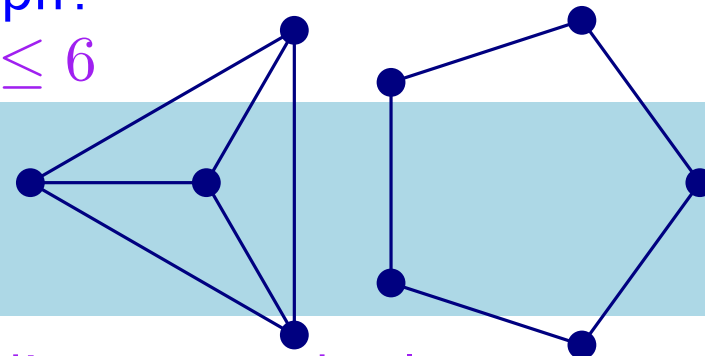


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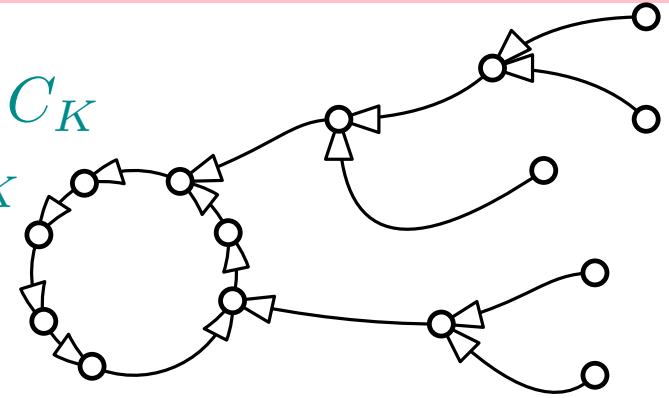
**Quest**[K, Puig i Surroca '23]: is every outerplanar graph monoid graph?  
is every graph a semigroup graph?



$$|C| = 1$$

$D = (V, A)$  1-outregular  $\iff$

- each component  $K$  has unique (directed) cycle  $C_K$
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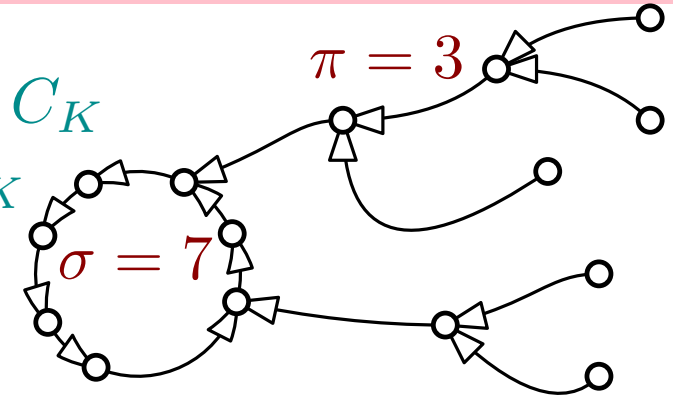


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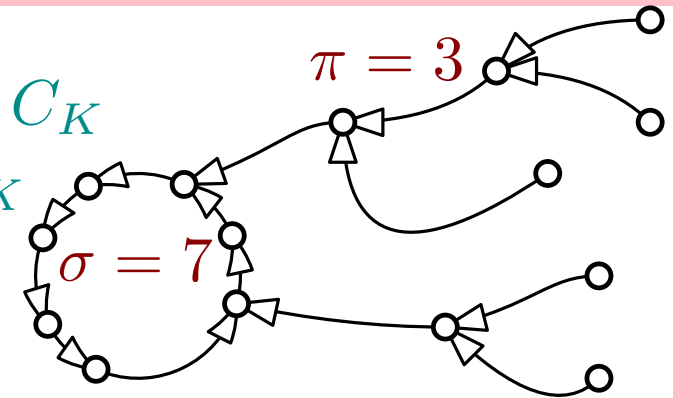


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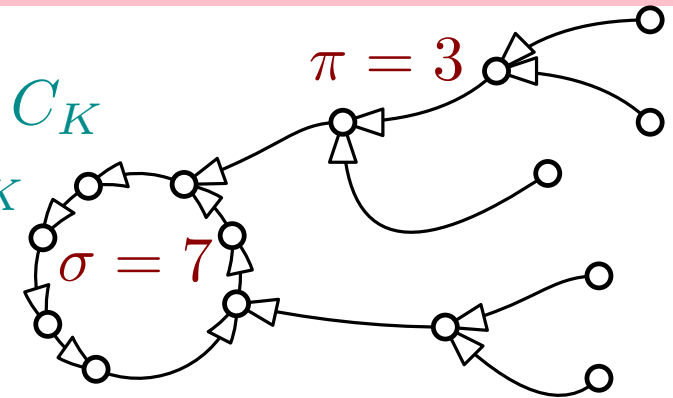
- $D = \text{Cay}(S, \{a\}) \iff \exists_{\text{comp}K} \forall_{\text{comp}K'} : \pi(K') \leq \pi(K) + 1$  and  $\sigma(K') | \sigma(K)$
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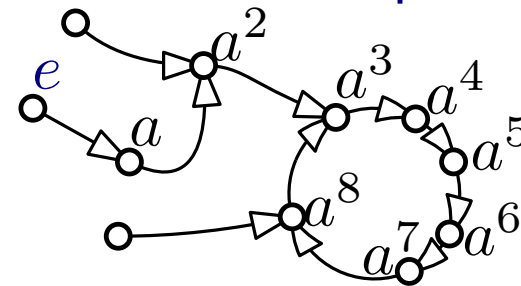


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$K$  component of  $e$

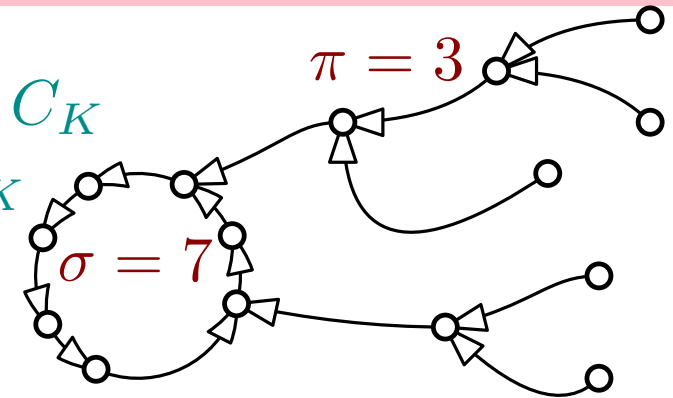


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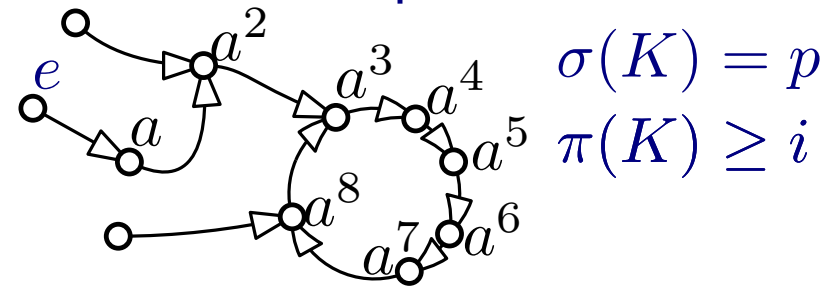


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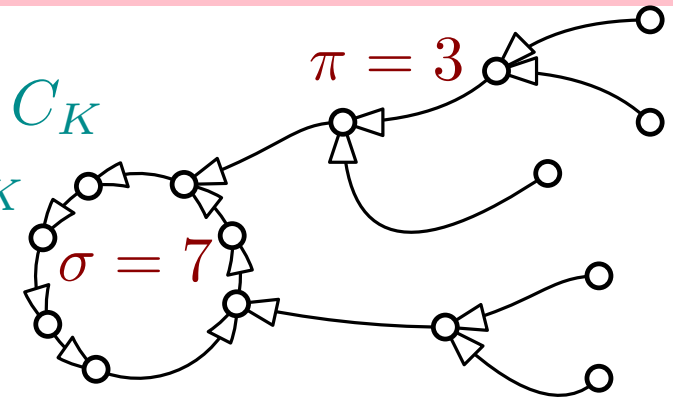


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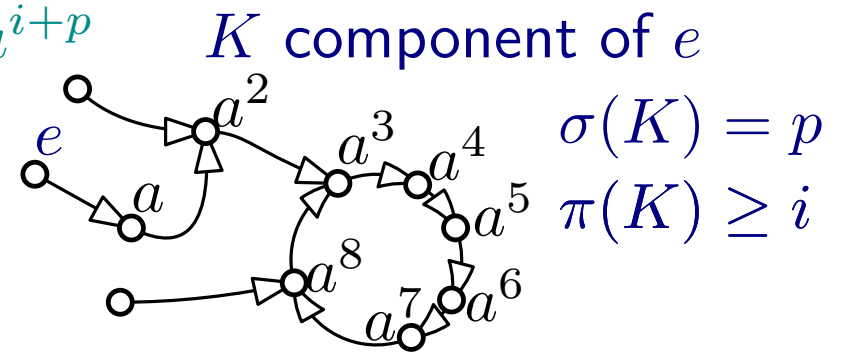
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suppose

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(K') &> i \\ d(x, C_{K'}) &> i \Rightarrow xa^i \neq xa^{i+k} \text{ for all } k \geq 1 \\ &\Rightarrow a^i \neq a^{i+p} \end{aligned}$$

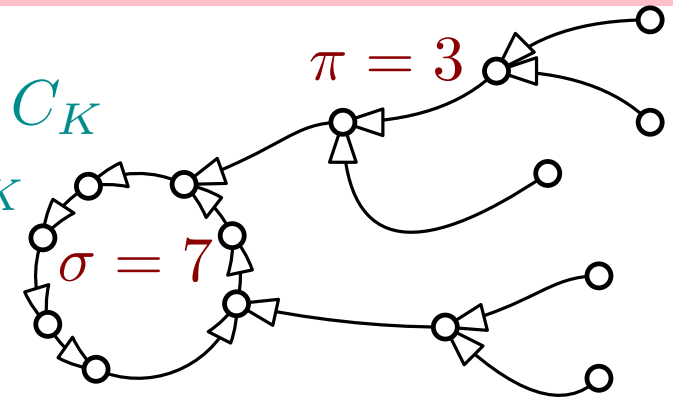


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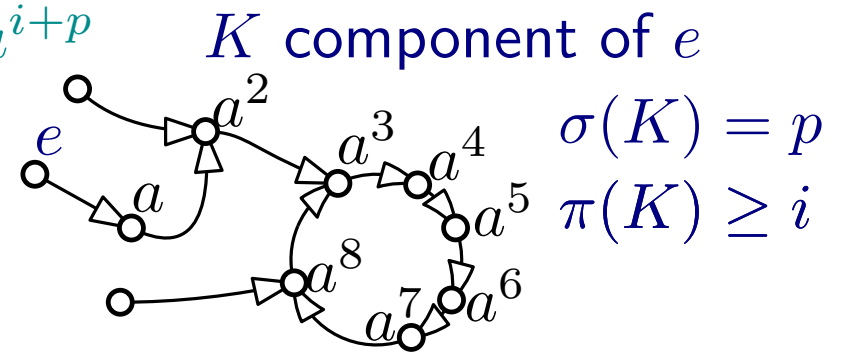
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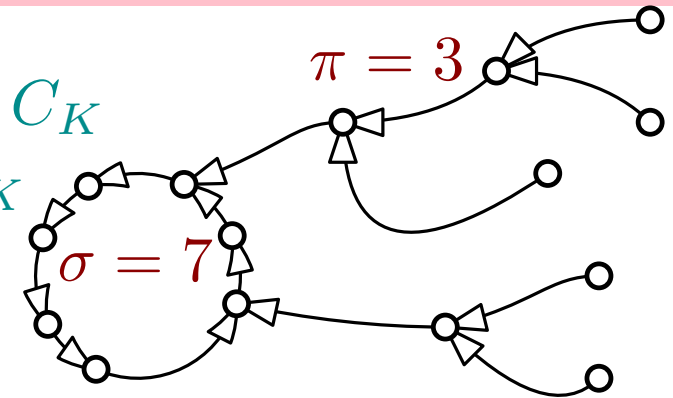
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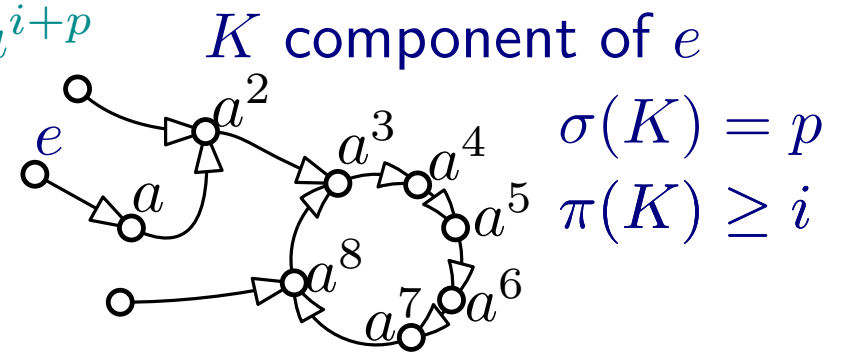
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$xa^i \in C_{K'}$  but can't return by  $p$  steps

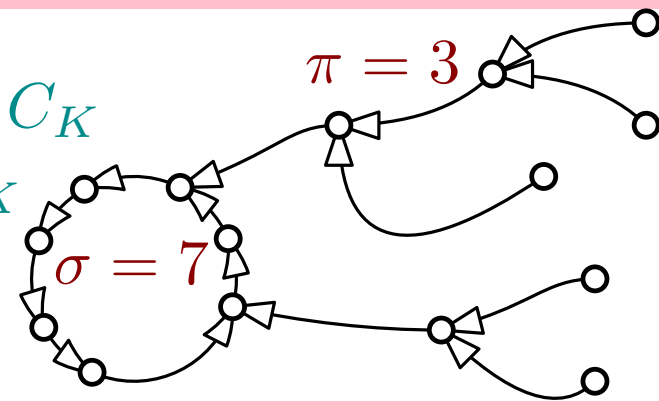


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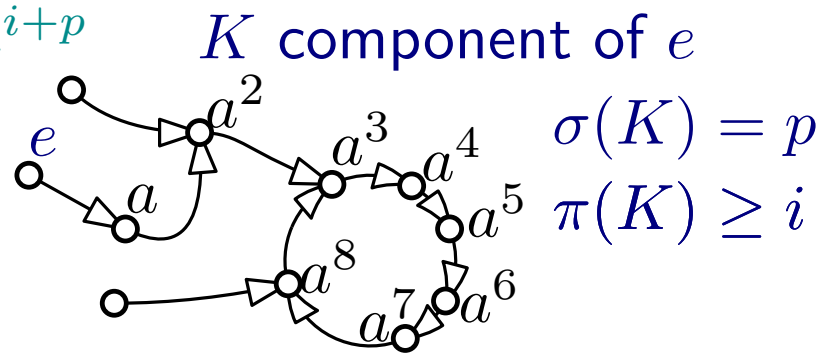
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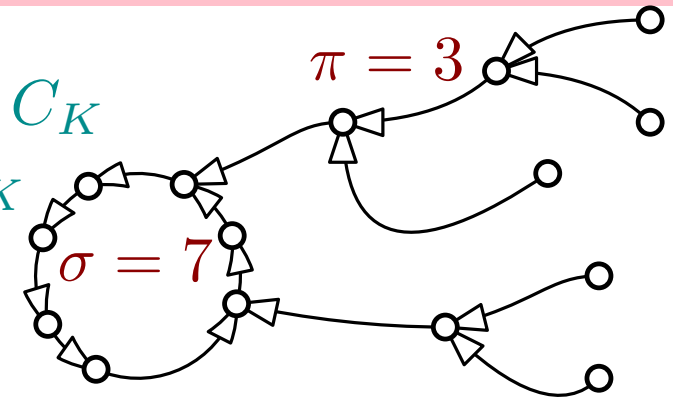
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- $\rightsquigarrow$  for every pseudotree  $P$  there is monoid  $M$  with  $P = \text{Cay}(M, \{a\})$
- $\rightsquigarrow$  for every forest  $F$  there is monoid  $M$  with  $F = \underline{\text{Cay}}(\overline{M}, \{a\})$