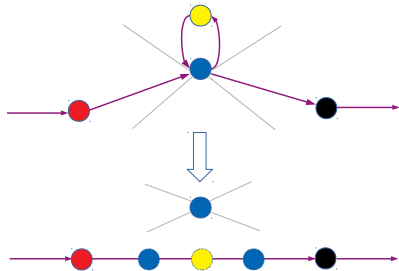


(a) Merging bridges



(b) Untangling a knot