

# Preserving topology while sampling

## Trials and tribulations

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Andrew Rechnitzer   Nick Beaton   Nathan Clisby



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- What does a trefoil look like?
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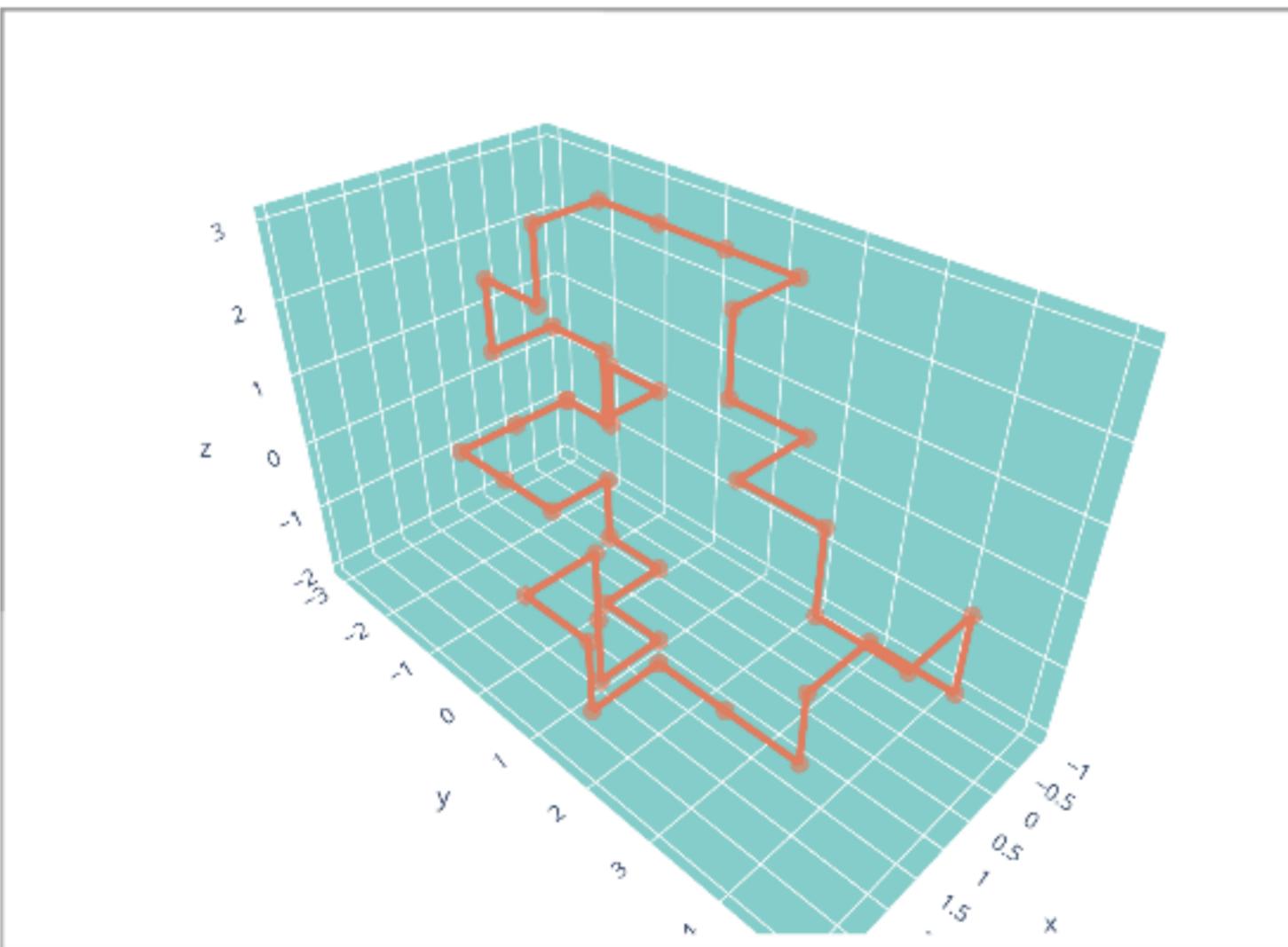
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- Use that to study a typical trefoil

How hard could it be?

My favourite two measures

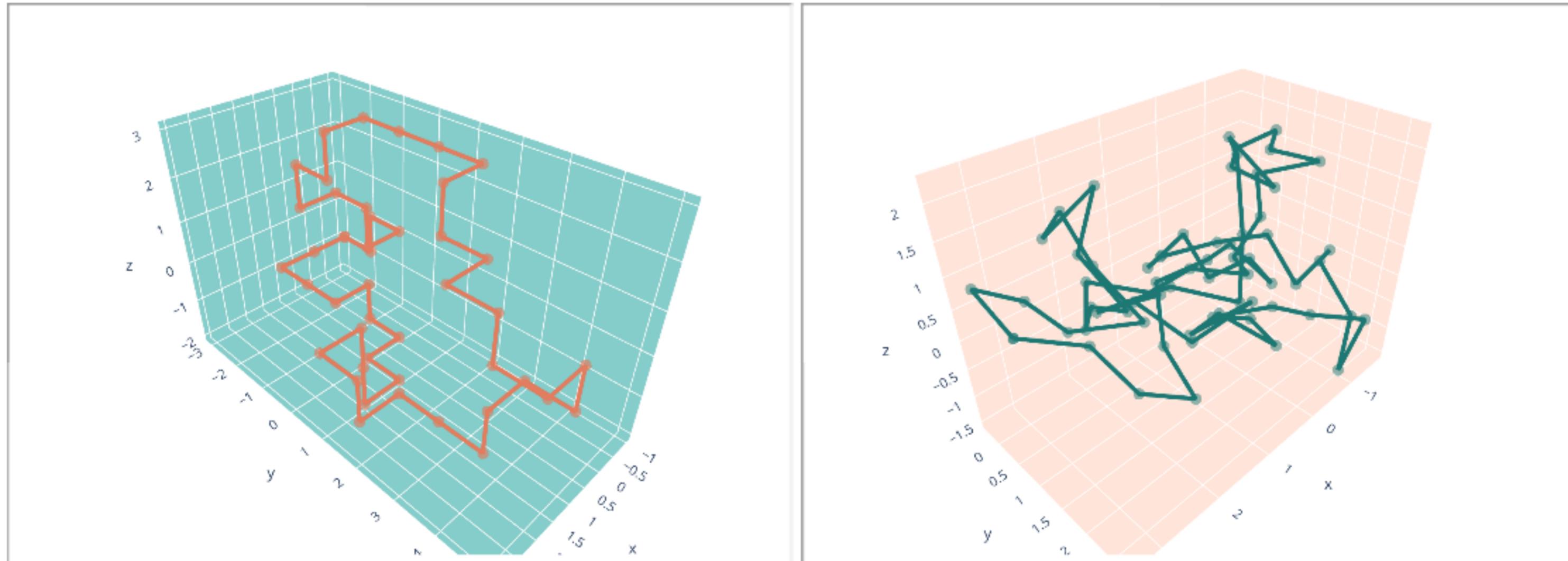
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- Self-avoiding polygons (SAP) in  $\mathbb{Z}^3$ 
  - embedding of simple loop into lattice
  - each embedding of length  $n$  equally likely
- Equilateral random polygons (ERP) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ 
  - each edge has unit length
  - edge direction chosen uniformly on  $S^2$ , conditioned to close



## Analytic results are very hard

- Work by Whittington, Sumners, Millett, Soteros, van Rensburg, Orlandini, Deguchi, Cantarella, Micheletti, Grosberg, ...
- Please see this [excellent review](#) with a much more complete list

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Resort to random sampling instead

- Sample a superset and then sieve out the ones you want, or
- Sample only curves of the given fixed topology

## Sample superset then sieve #1

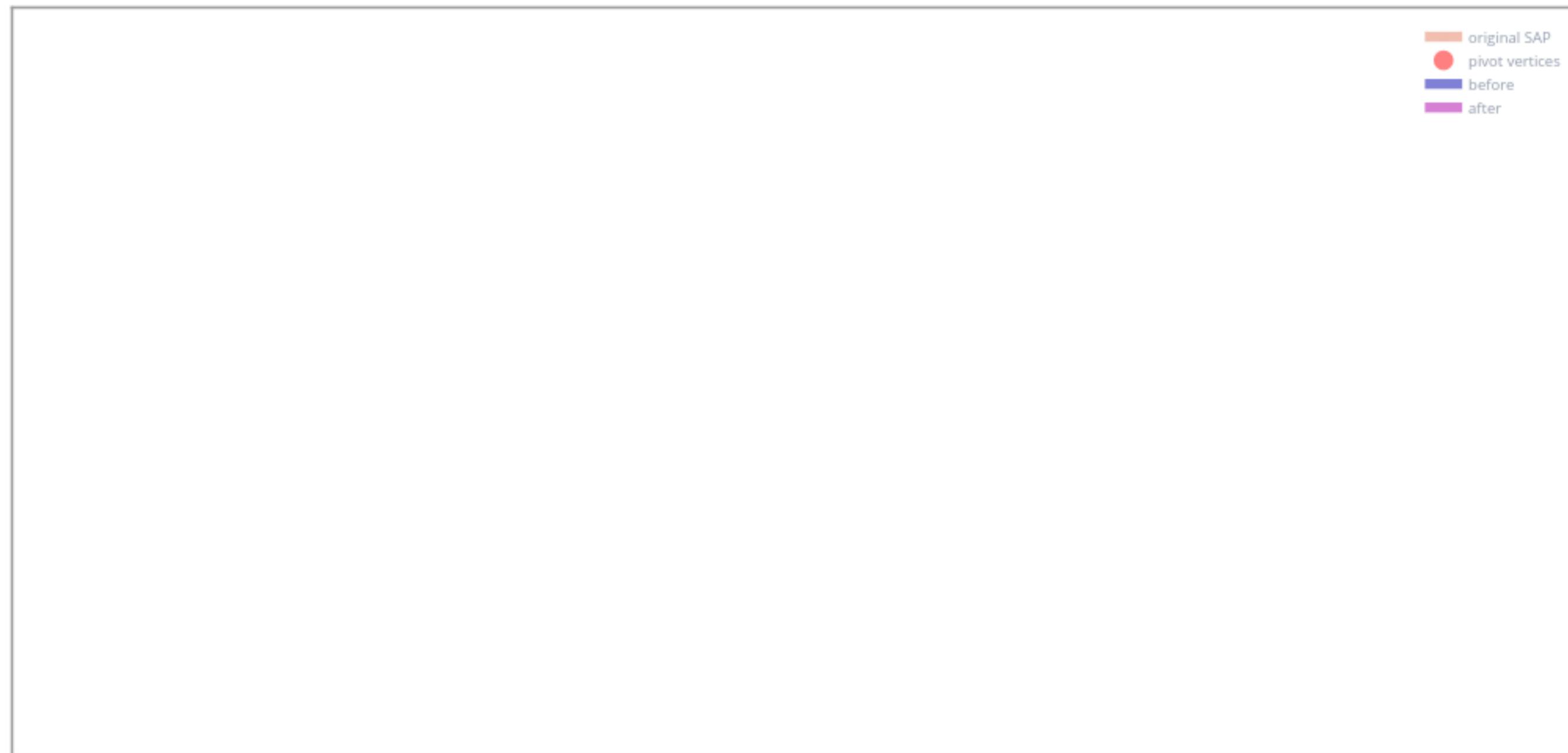
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## Sample superset then sieve #2

- Pivot algorithm on SAP of fixed length – [Lai \(1969\)](#), [Madras & Sokal \(1988\)](#), [Madras et al \(1990\)](#)
- [Clisby \(2010\)](#) implementation –  $O(\log n)$  to sample statistically "independent" walk



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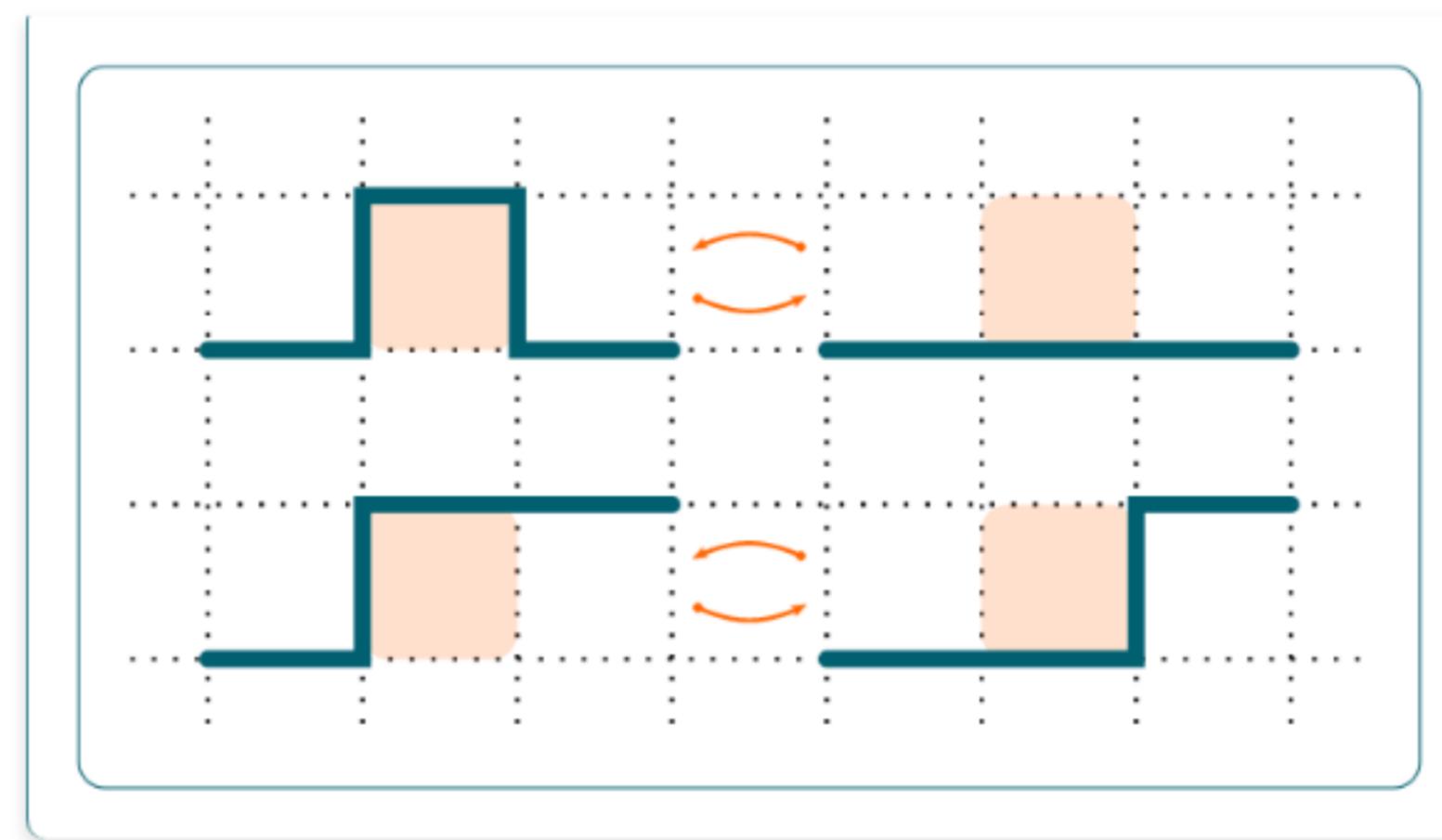
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- Aside – how can we measure the trefoilness of a larger knot?

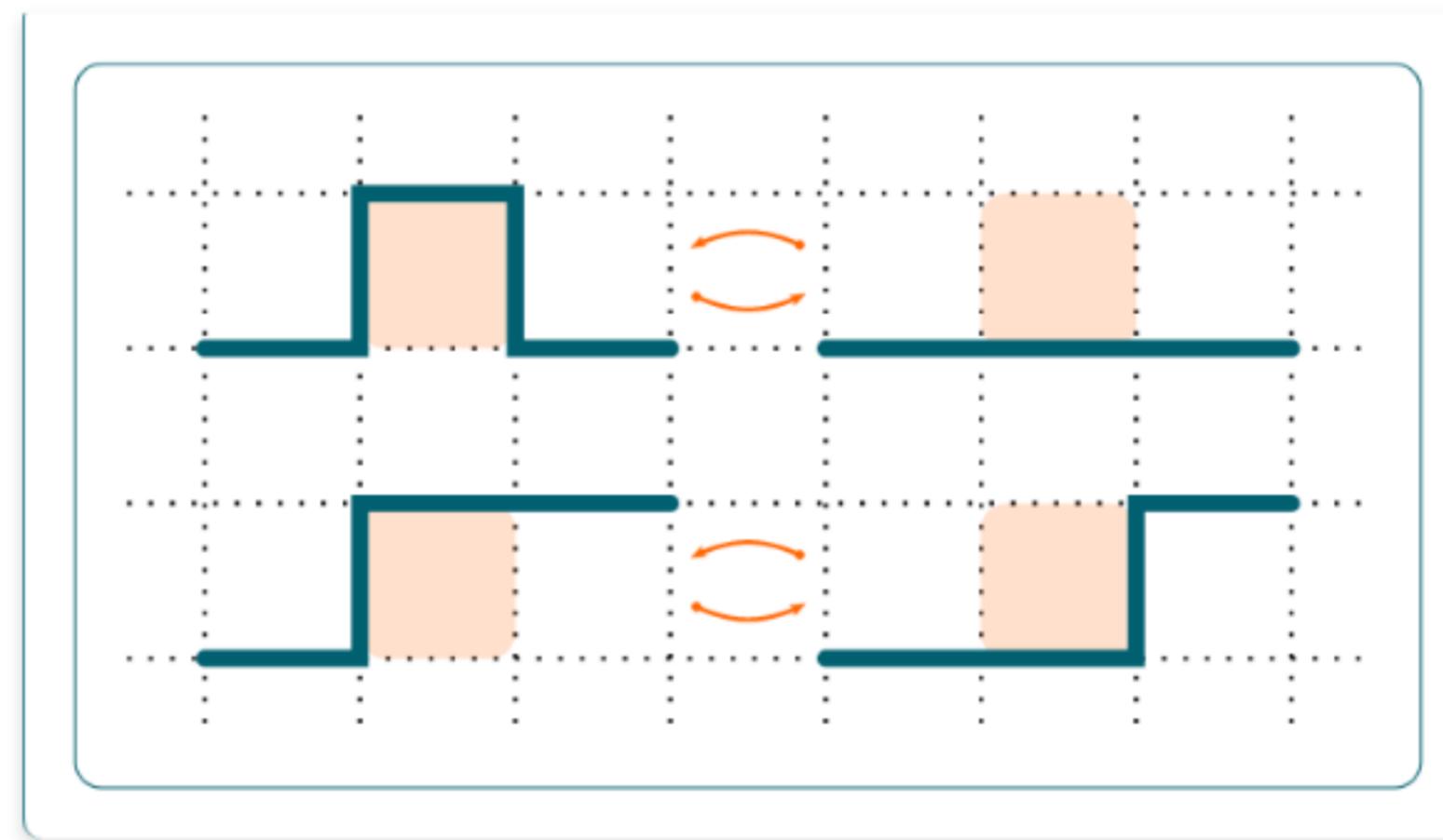
## Sample only fixed topology #1

- Markov chain on SAPs of fixed topology – [B.F.A.C.F. \(1981, 1983\)](#)
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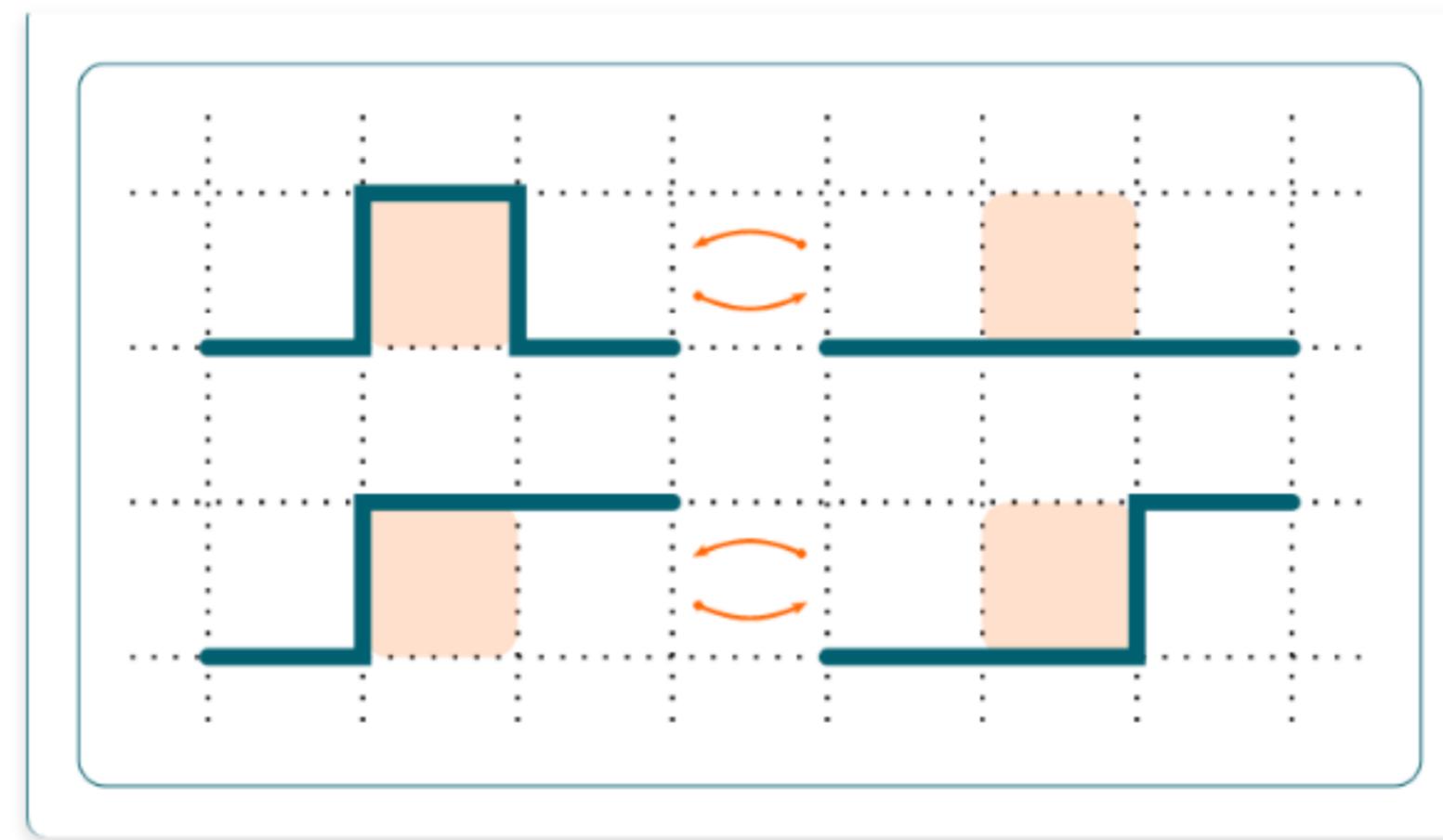
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- Start with small conformation – deform with local moves
- Tune so that grow/shrink moves equally likely to succeed

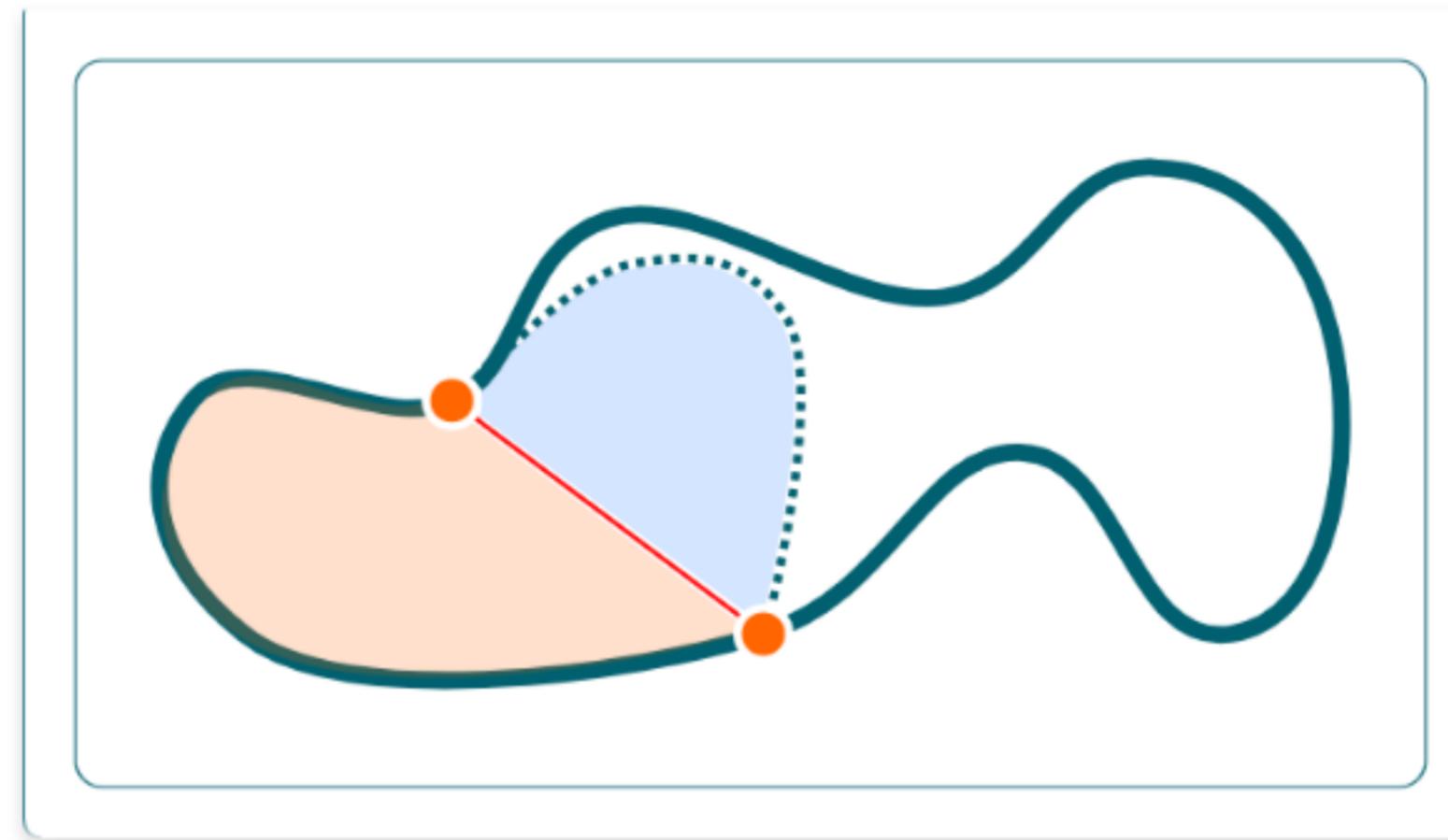
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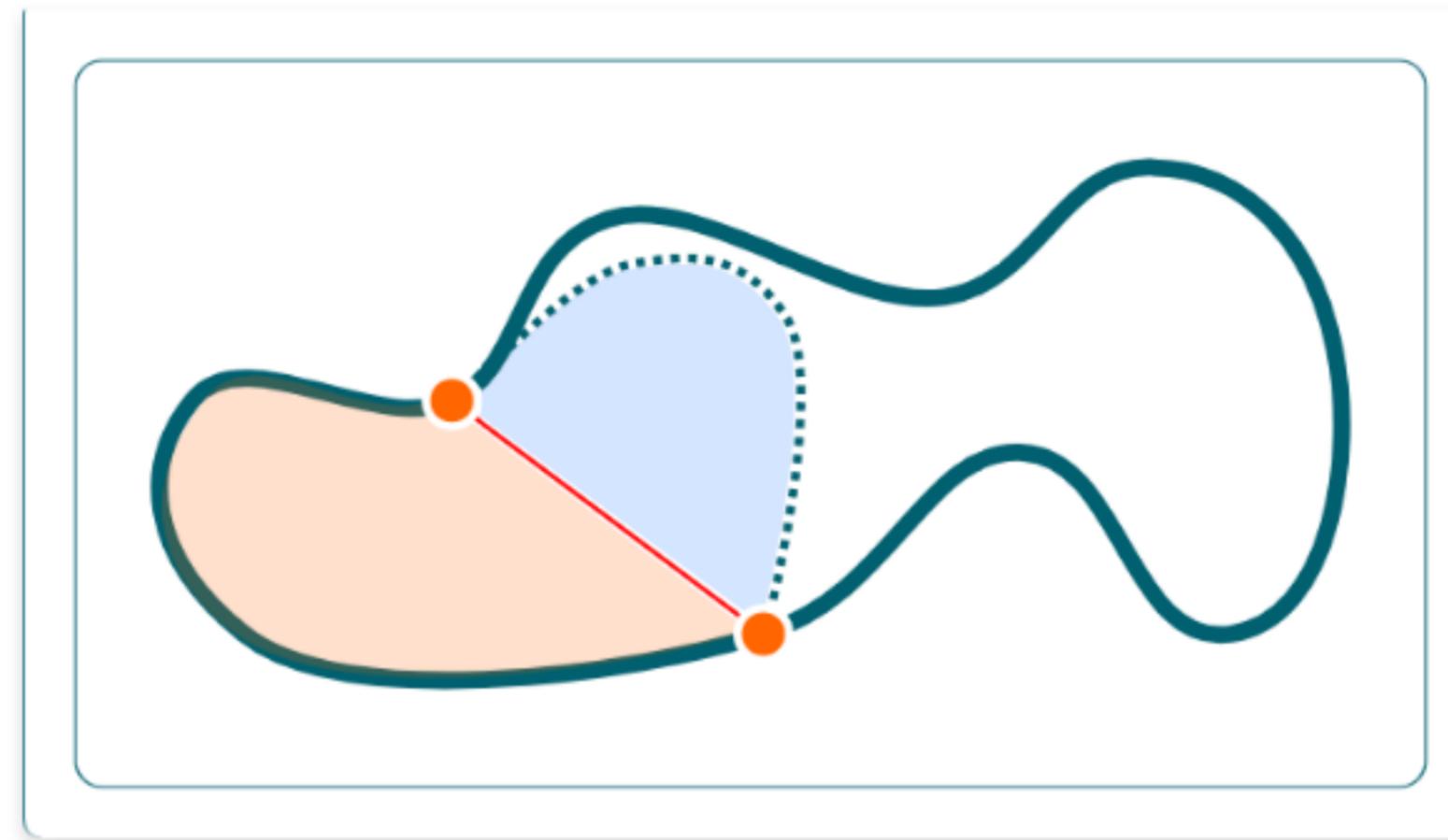
- Start with small conformation – deform with local moves
- Tune so that grow/shrink moves equally likely to succeed
- Random walk on polygon length – long time to sample "independent" long polygons

## Fixed topology #2 — restricted pivots



- Pivot with excluded area algorithm Zhao & Ferrari (2012)
- Attempt pivot segment  $\Phi \mapsto \Phi'$
- Pivot fails if edge crosses surface bordered by  $\Phi \cup \Phi'$

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- Computationally intensive – only allowed short segment  $|\Phi| \leq 5$
- Probably "okay" for moderate size polygons – but not ergodic [Madras & Sokal \(1987\)](#)

So what can we do to speed things up?

Revisit pivots again — reduce computation

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  - need not "*literally*" pivot the segment about the axis
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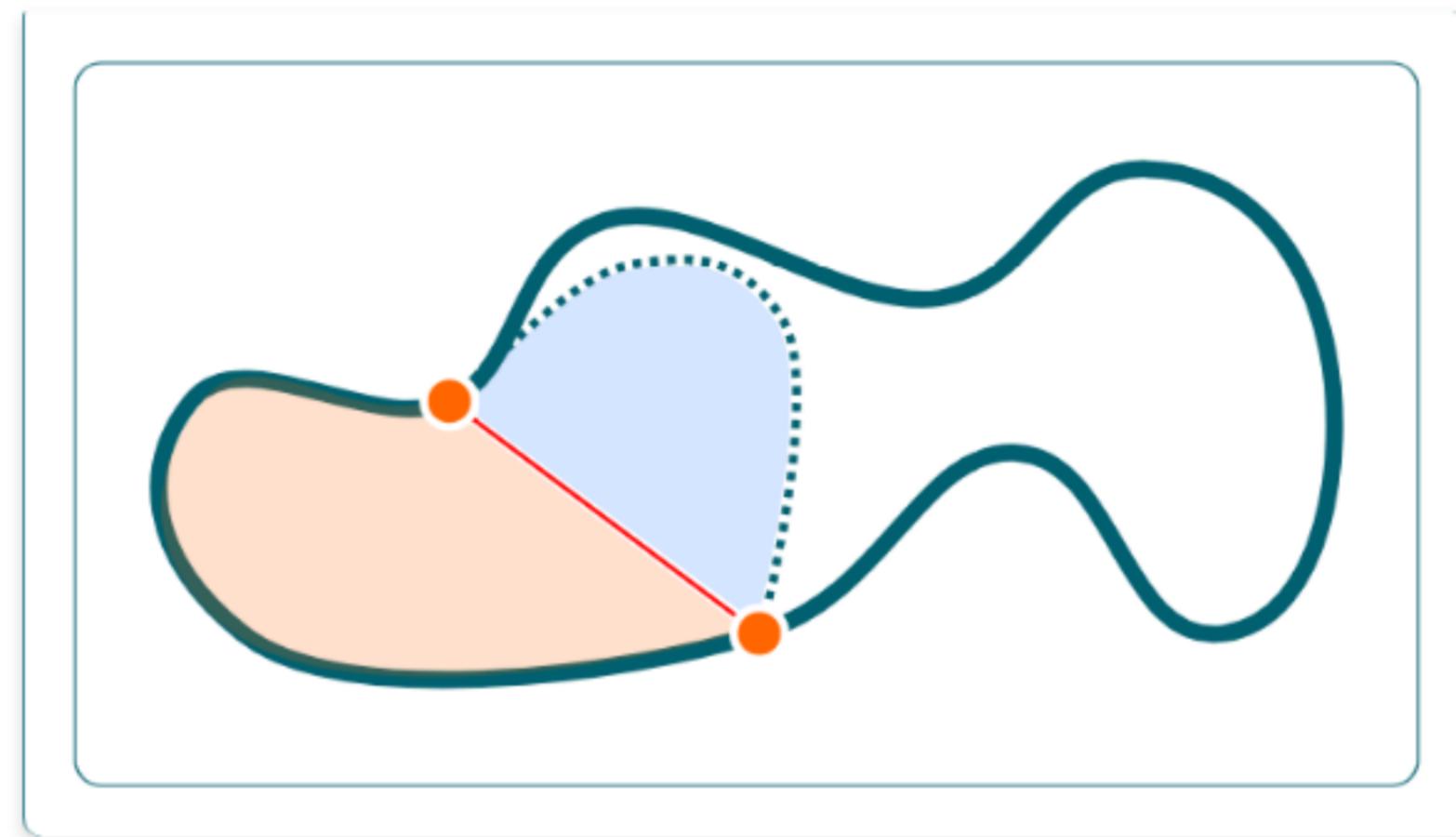
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  - Store polygon and symmetries in binary tree
  - Lazy evaluation of observables – don't write down the polygon

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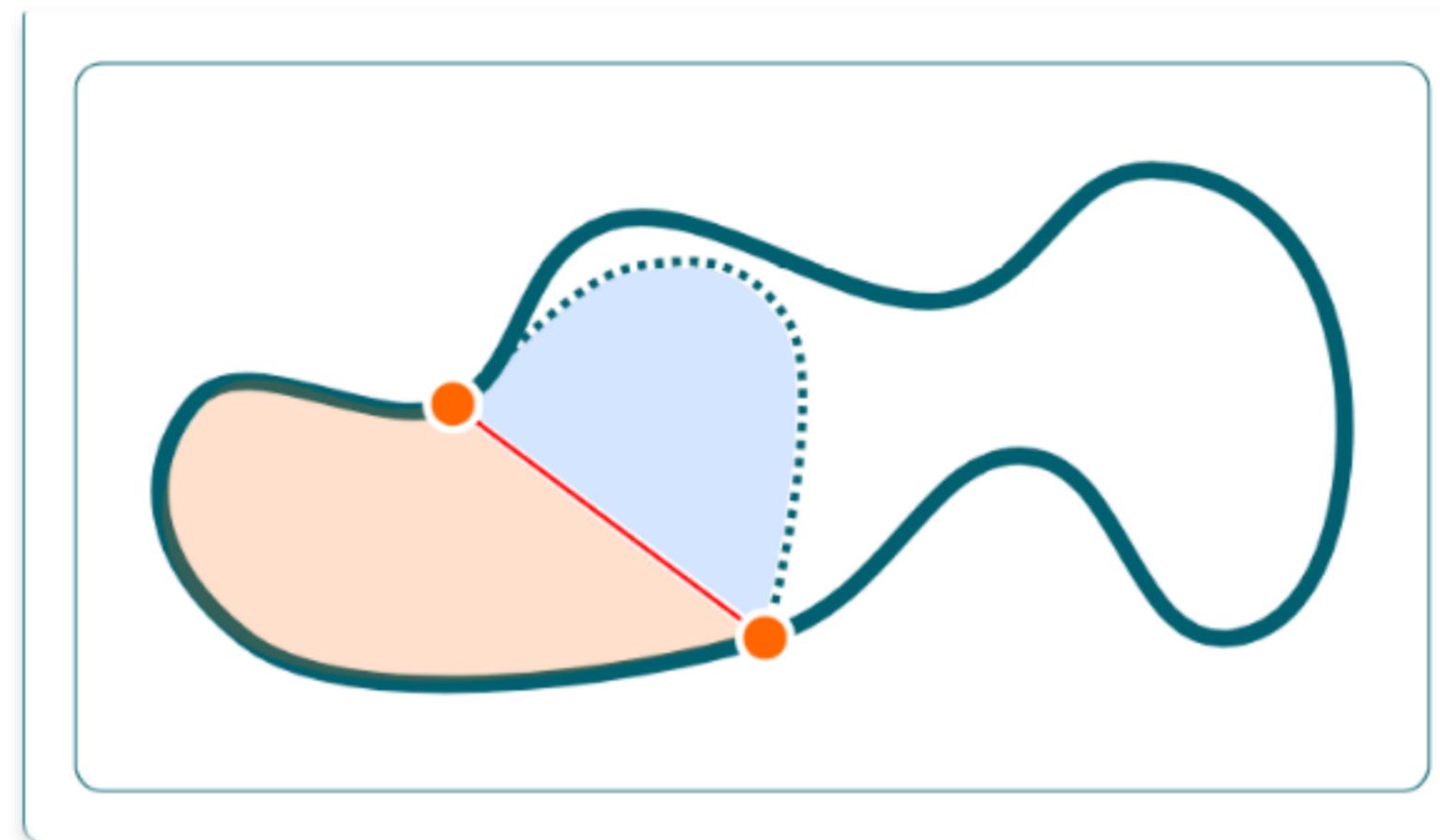
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- Aside – this is actually not so far from [Cantarellean encoding](#) of polygons via triangulations

## Inner pivot



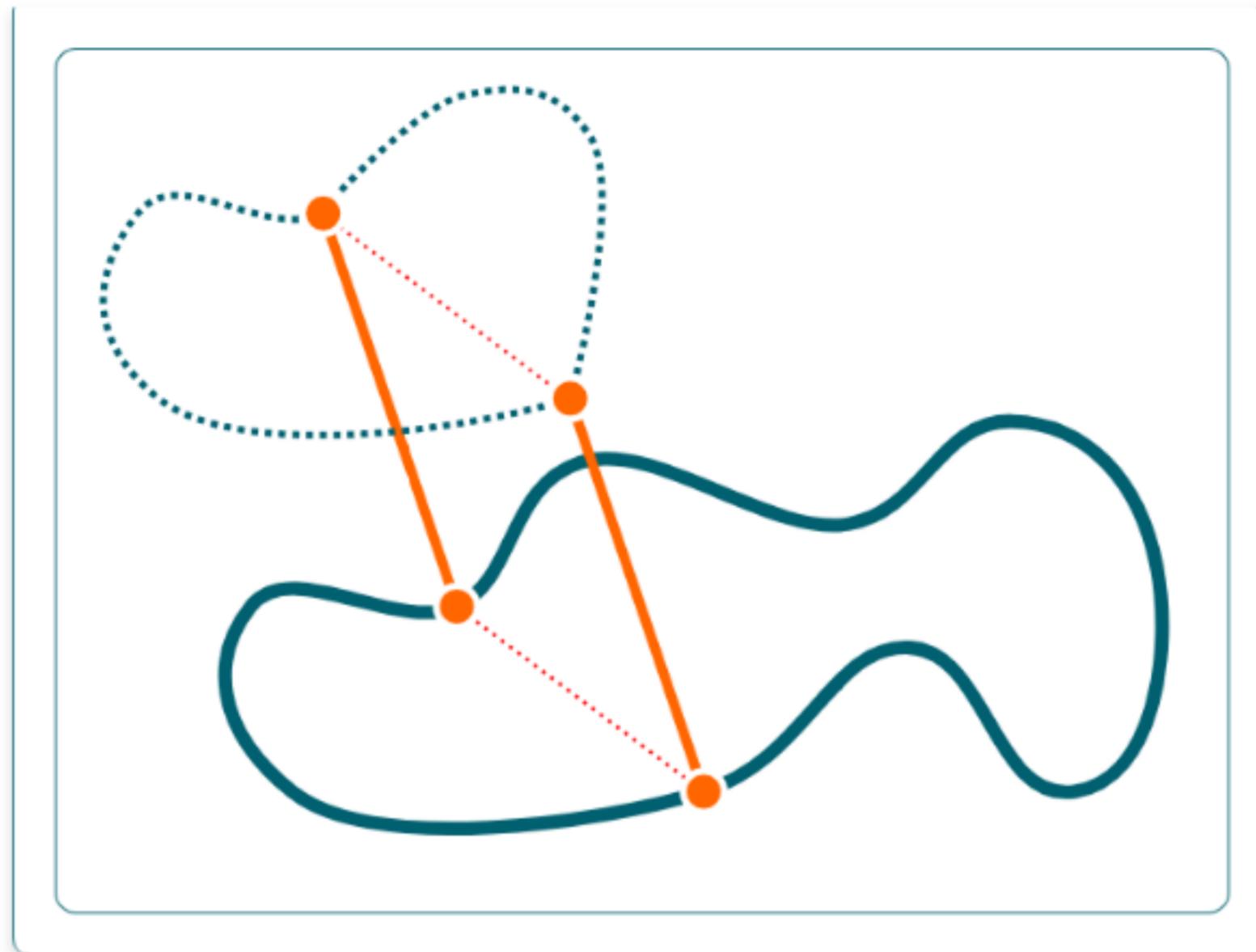
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## Inner pivot



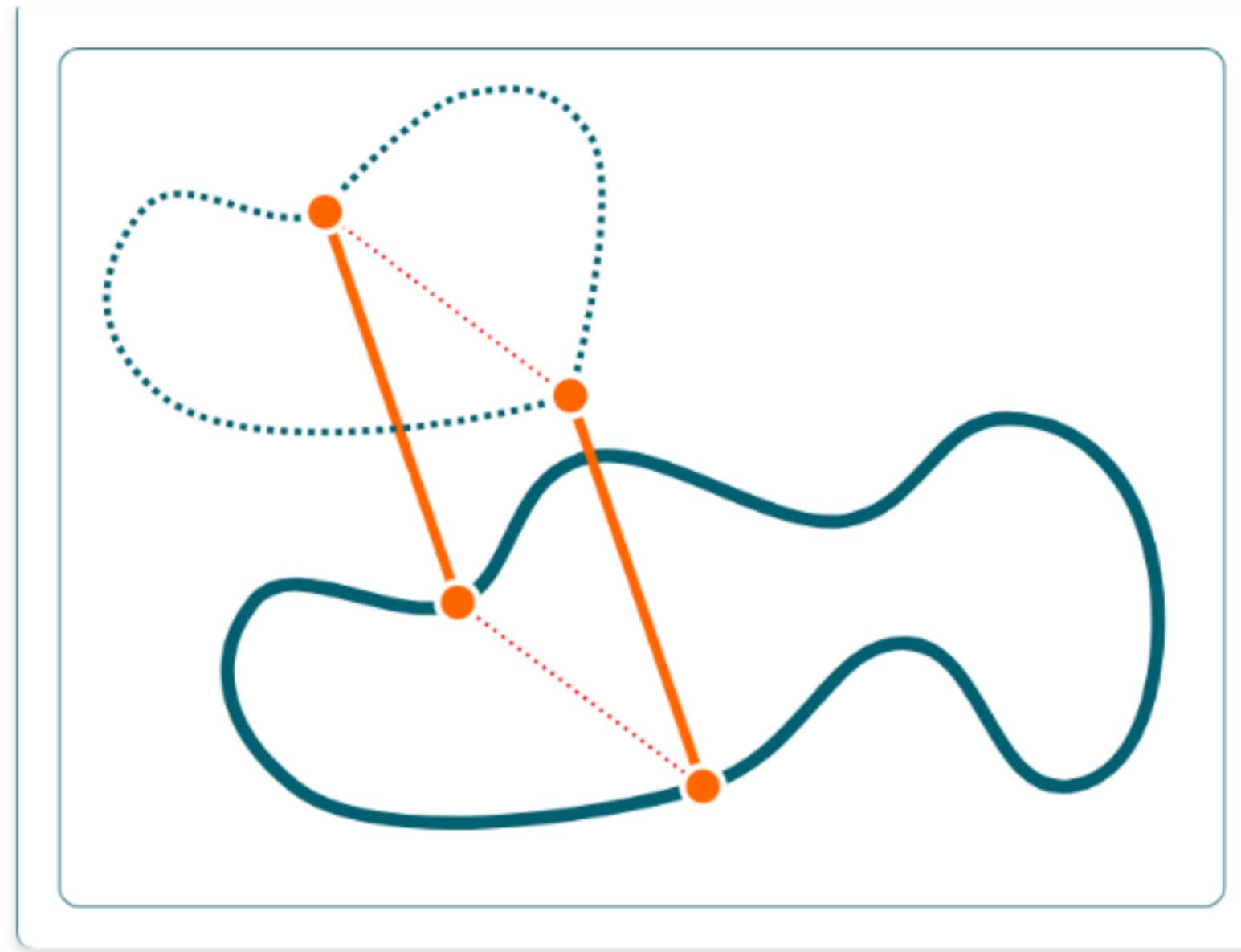
- Pick pivot segment and rotation angle
- Topology checking
  - Each pivot edge maps out a twisted quadrilateral
  - Check intersection of fixed edges with triangulation of those quadrilaterals
  - Use ray-tracing methods – eg Möller-Trumbore (1997)

## Outer pivot



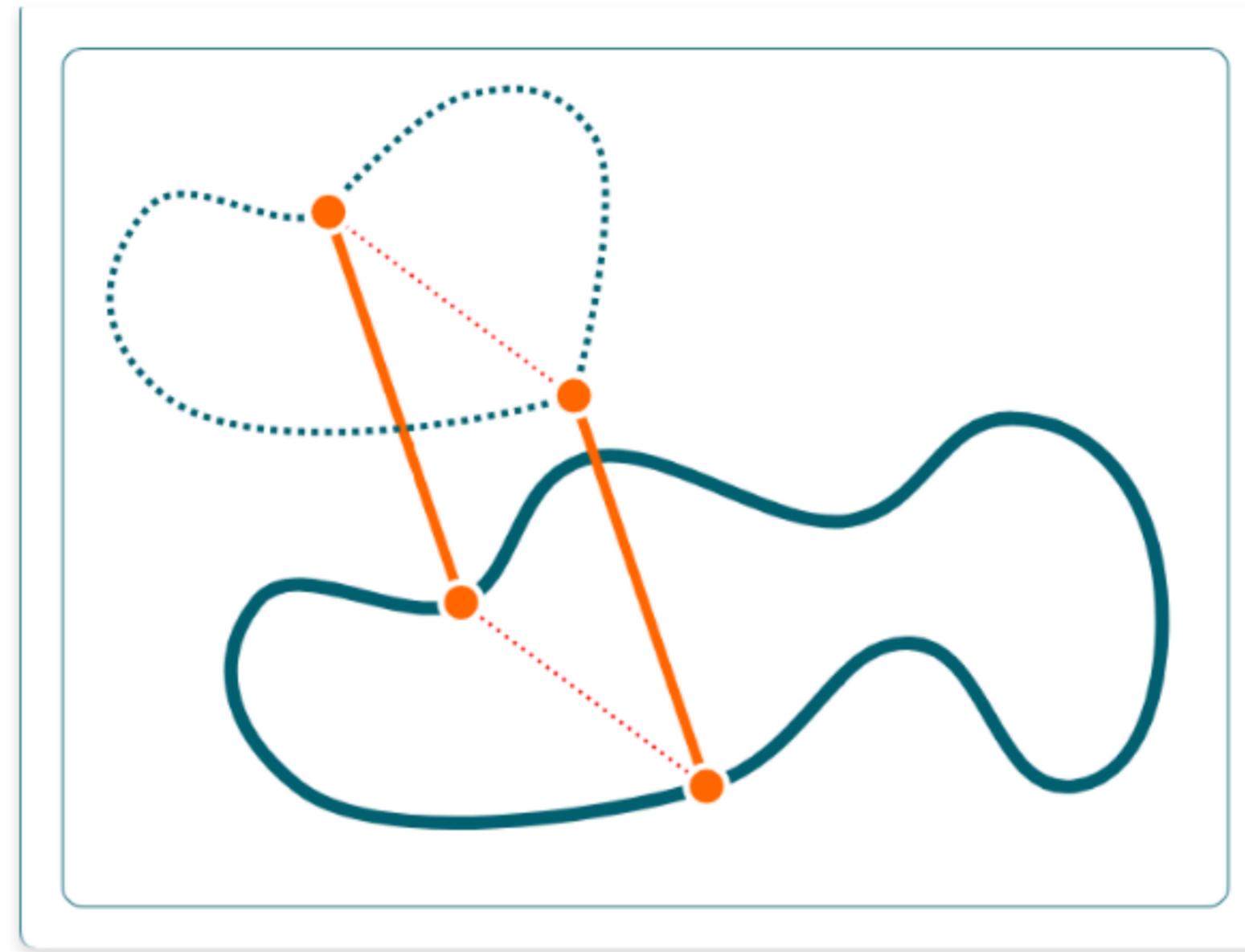
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# Outer pivot



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- Pick the pivot segment and an orthogonal drag direction
  - drag the segment to infinity
  - pivot the segment at infinity
  - drag the segment back from infinity
- Topology checking
  - drag to/from infinity  $\mapsto$  segment overlap in projection
  - pivot at infinity  $\mapsto$  check intersection with drag lines

## Simple implementation of inner and outer pivots

- Computation time is  $O(n^2)$  or  $O(n \log n)$ :
  - pick pivot vertices:  $O(1)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^3$
  - inner pivot: naive  $O(n^2)$ , but maybe as fast as  $O(n \log n)$ ?
  - drag to infinity: naive  $O(n^2)$ , or [Shamos-Hoey \(1976\)](#)  $O(n \log n)$
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- Autocorrelation time?

Classification by analogy

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- Consider the product  $q = x^a y^b z^c$ 
  - Numbers  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  changed rarely
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  - How should you compute the product?

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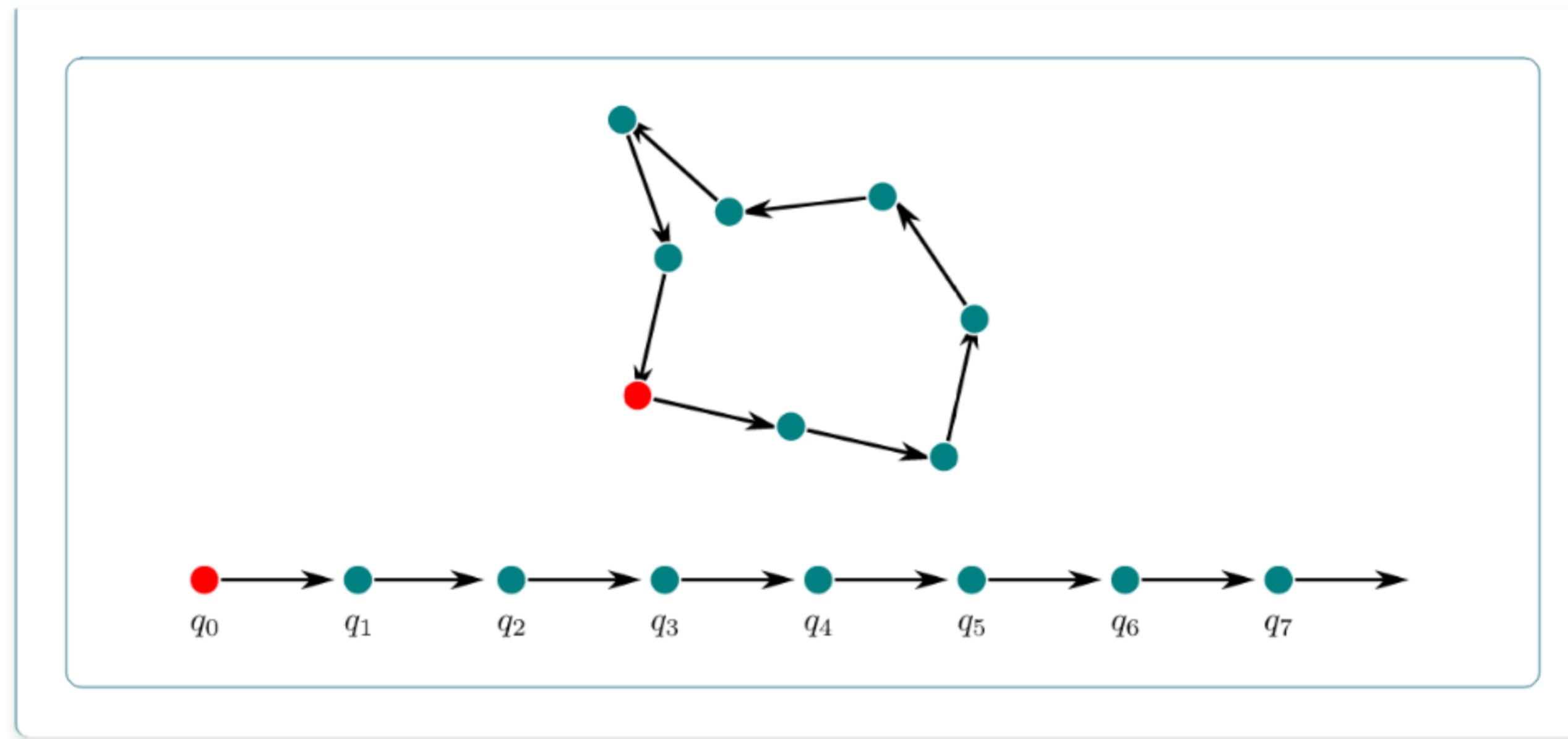
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- Standard sneaky logarithmic trick
  - When  $y$  changes, pre-compute  $y^2, y^4, y^8, y^{16}, \dots$
  - Then find  $y^b$  as product of pre-computed powers

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- Careful precomputation and lazy evaluation

# Classification

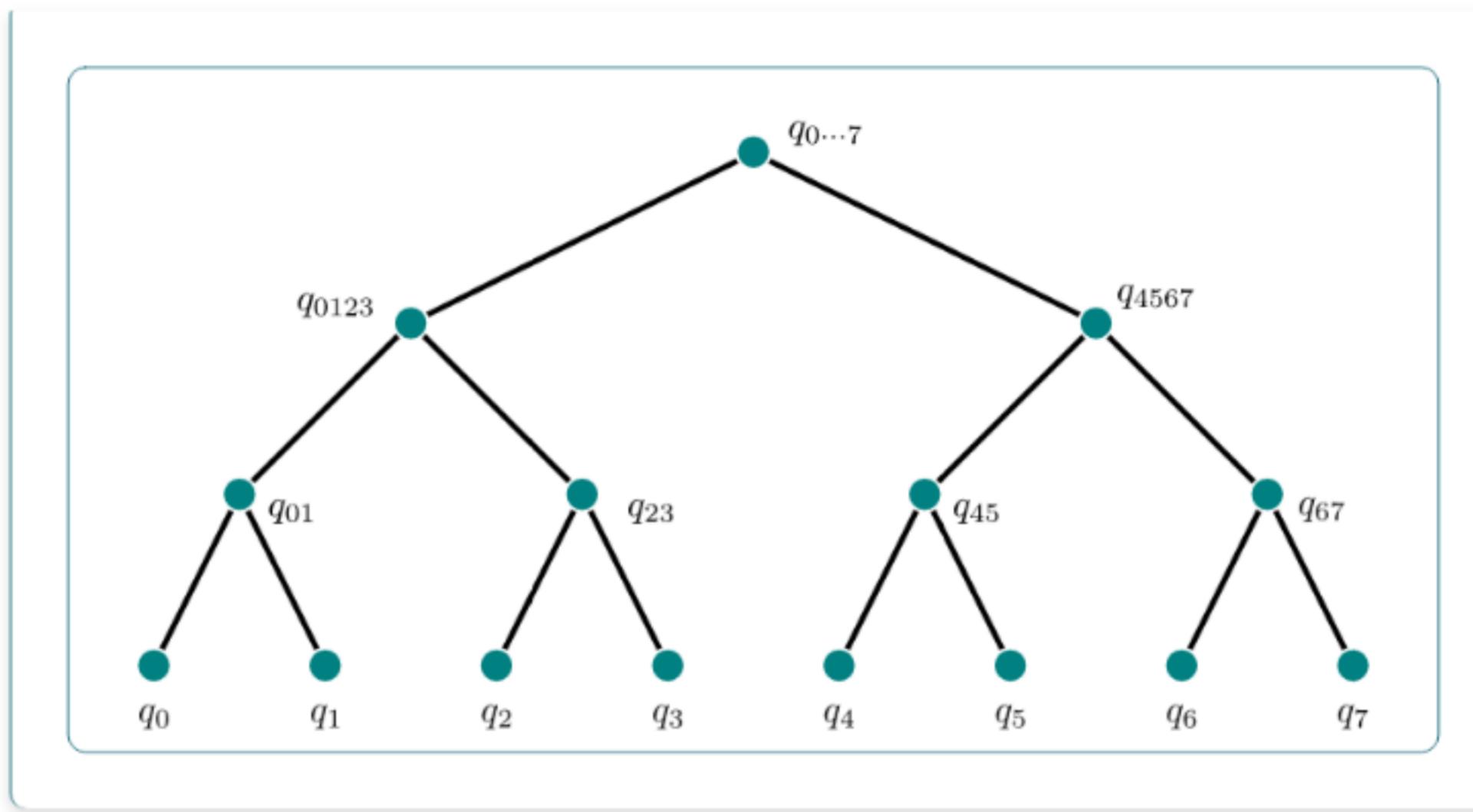
- Successful pivot in  $O(\log n)$  time



- Write polygon as symmetries acting on  $\vec{e} = (1, 0, 0)$
- Position of vertex  $n$  is

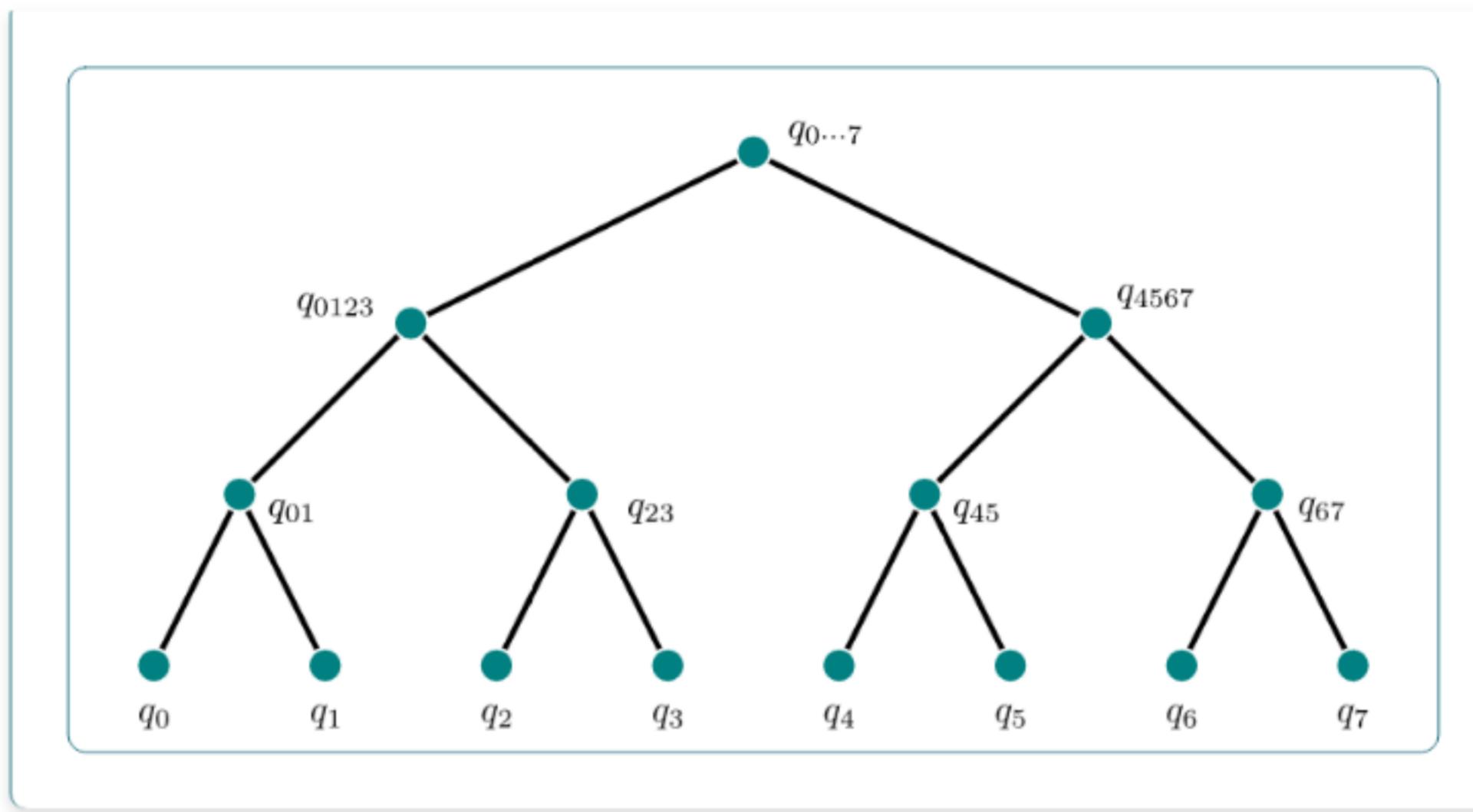
$$\vec{X}_n = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (q_0 q_1 \cdots q_k) \vec{e}$$

## Store polygon in a tree



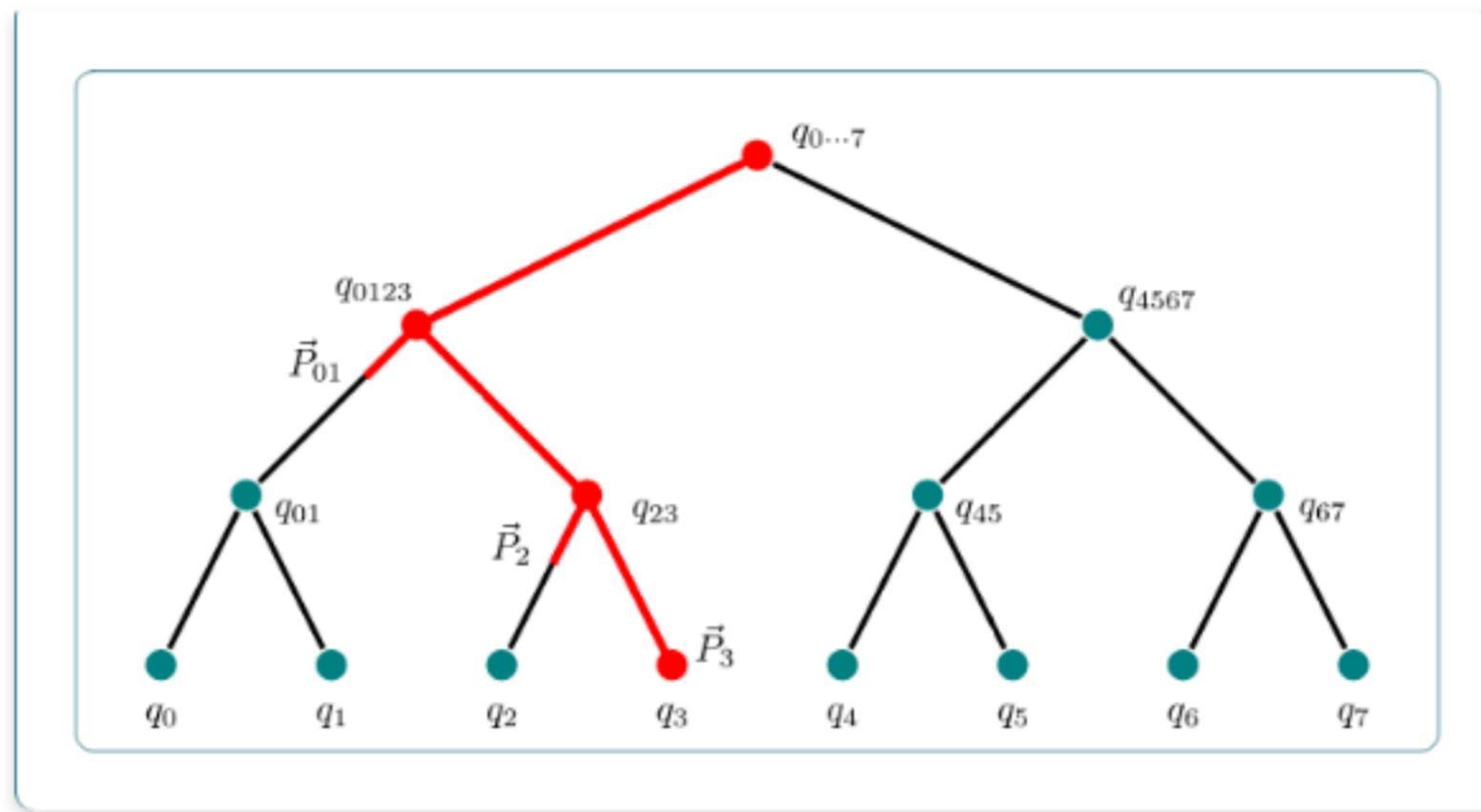
- Leaf  $k$  stores symmetry  $q_k$  and a position  $\vec{P}_k = q_k \vec{e}$
- Internal nodes stores  $q_n = q_\ell q_r$  and a position  $\vec{P}_n = \vec{P}_\ell + q_\ell \vec{P}_r$

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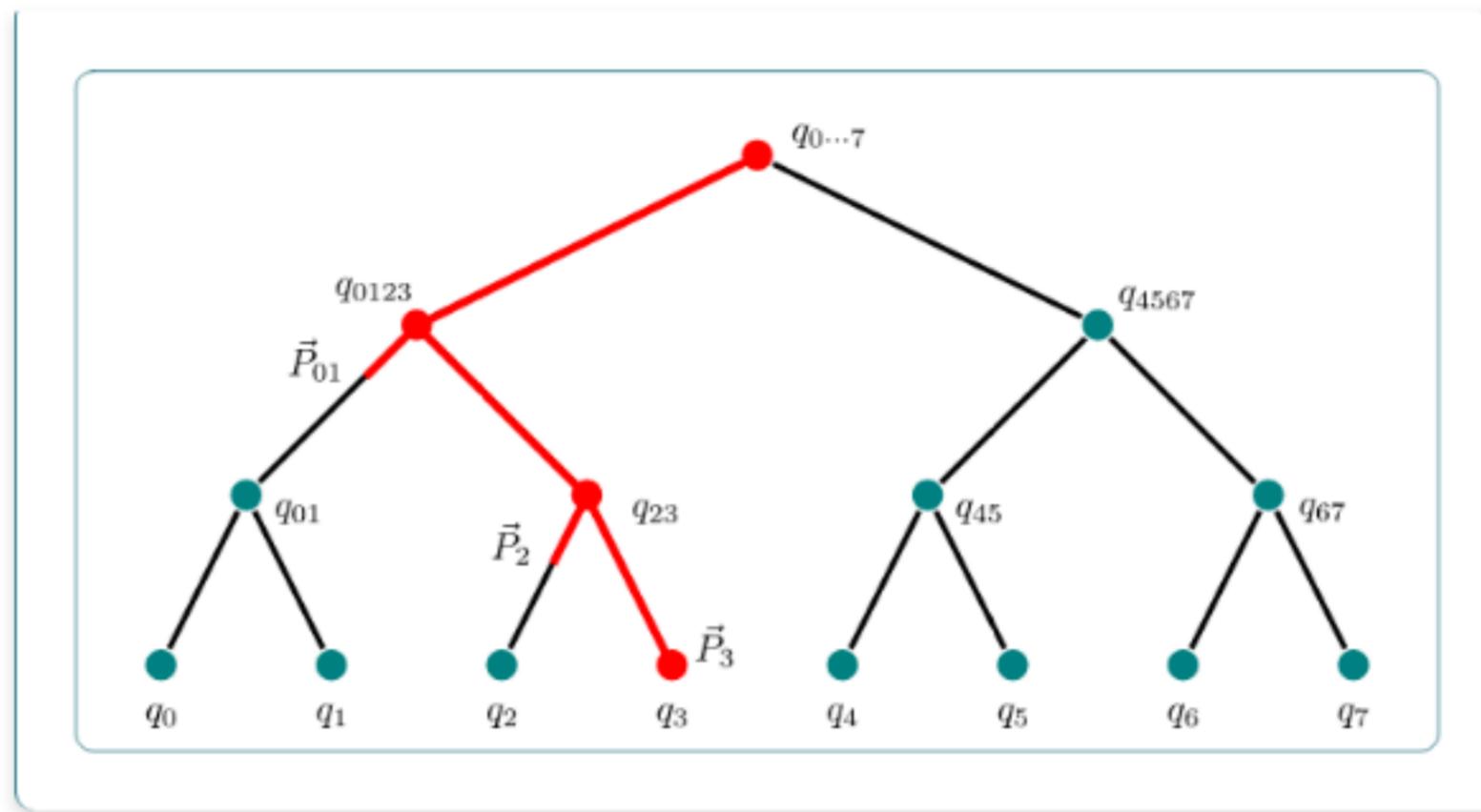
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- Compute polygon vertex positions using  $q_n, \vec{P}_n$

# Compute a position



- Position of vertex 4  $\equiv$  end of 3rd polygon edge

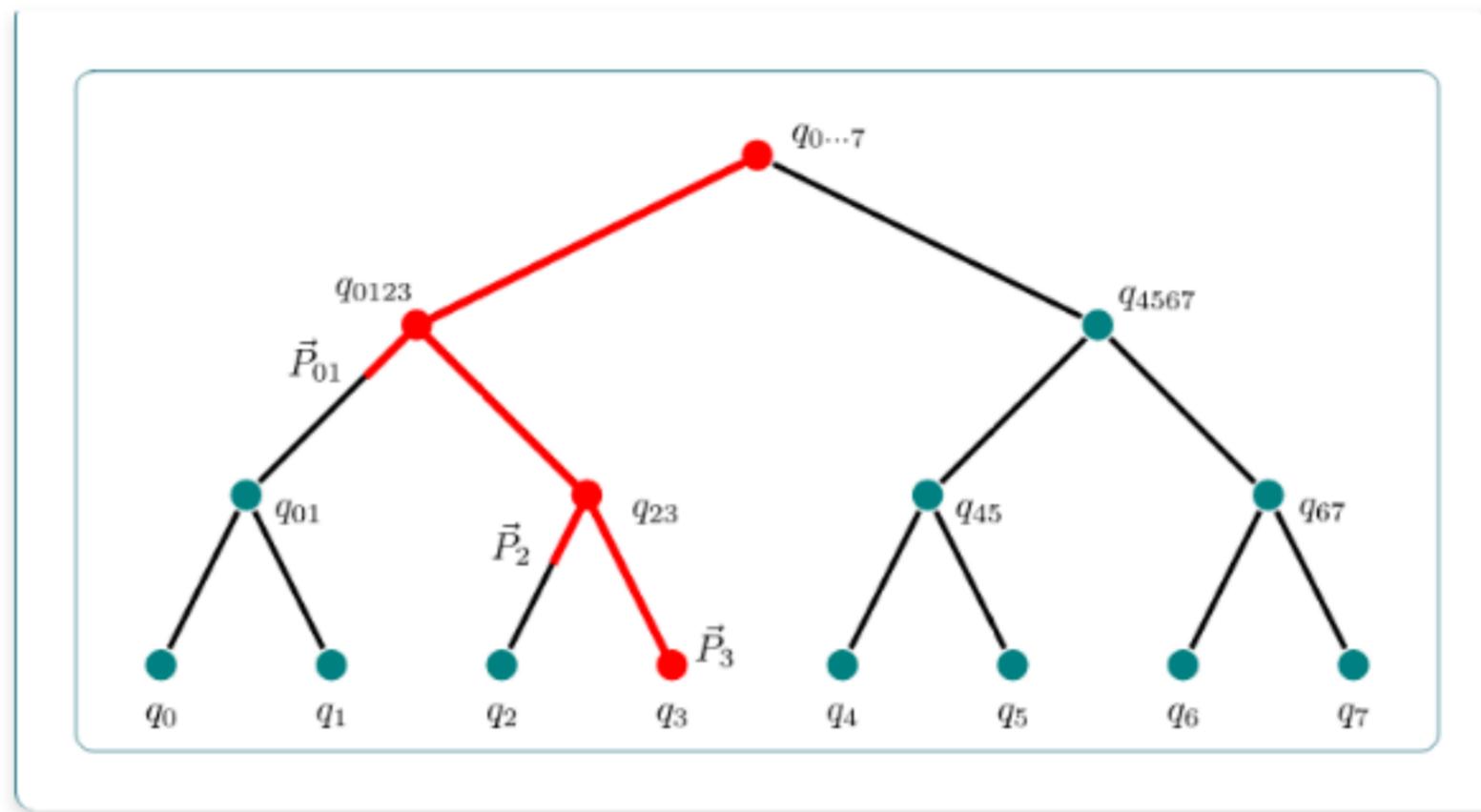
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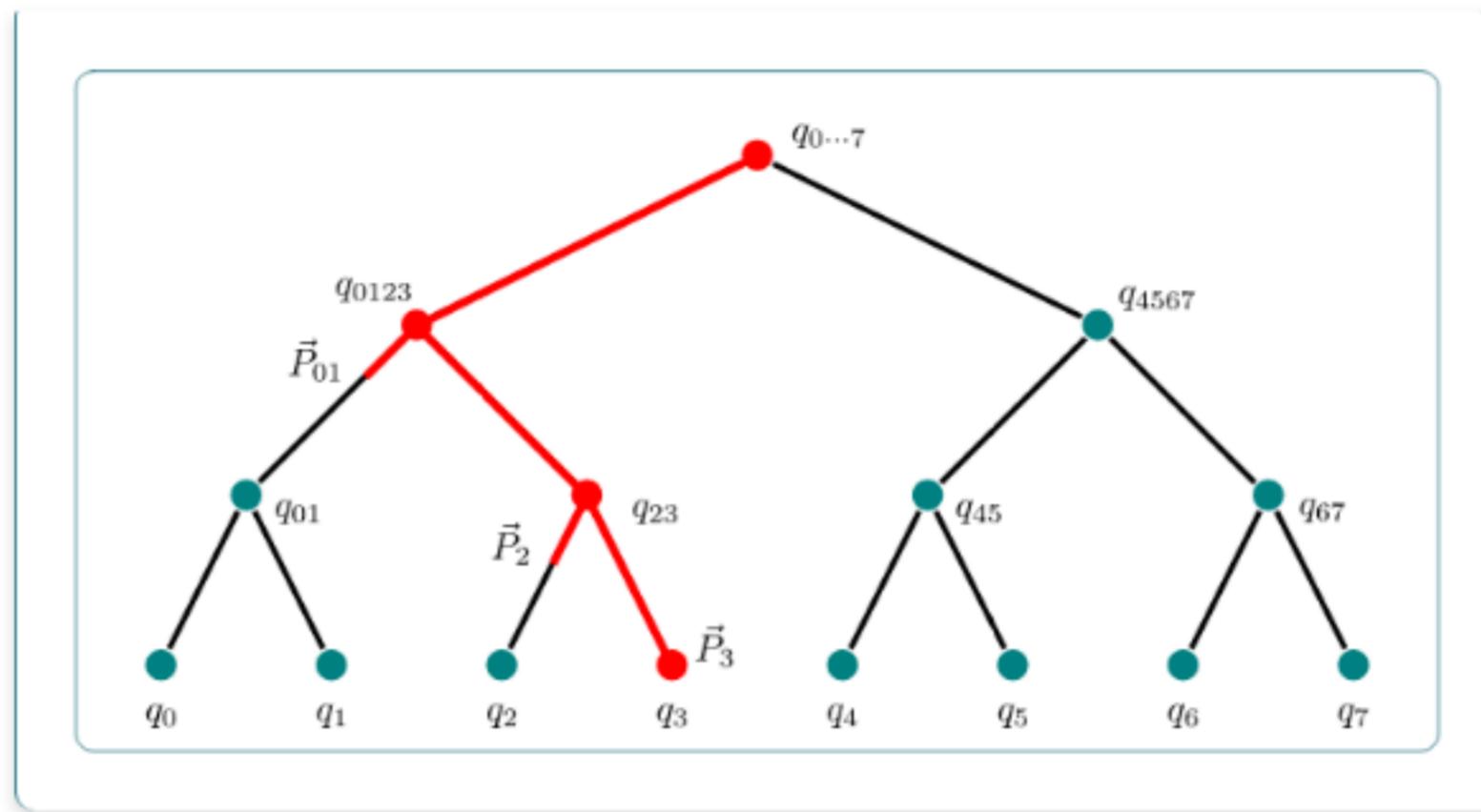
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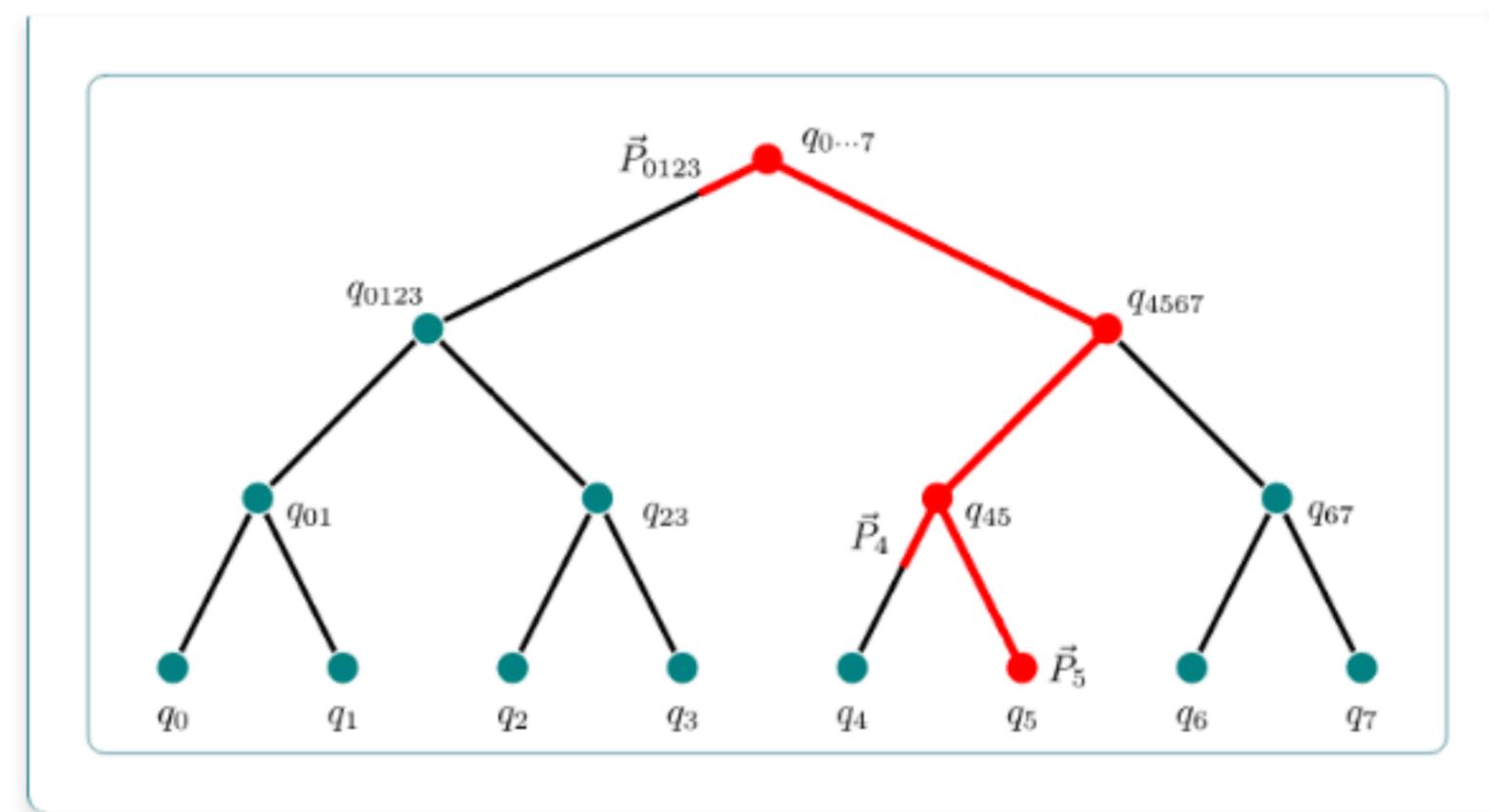
- $\vec{X}_4 = (q_0 + q_{01} + q_{012} + q_{0123}) \vec{e}$
- $\vec{X}_4 = (q_0 + q_{01}) \vec{e} + q_{01} (q_2 \vec{e} + q_2 (q_3 \vec{e}))$

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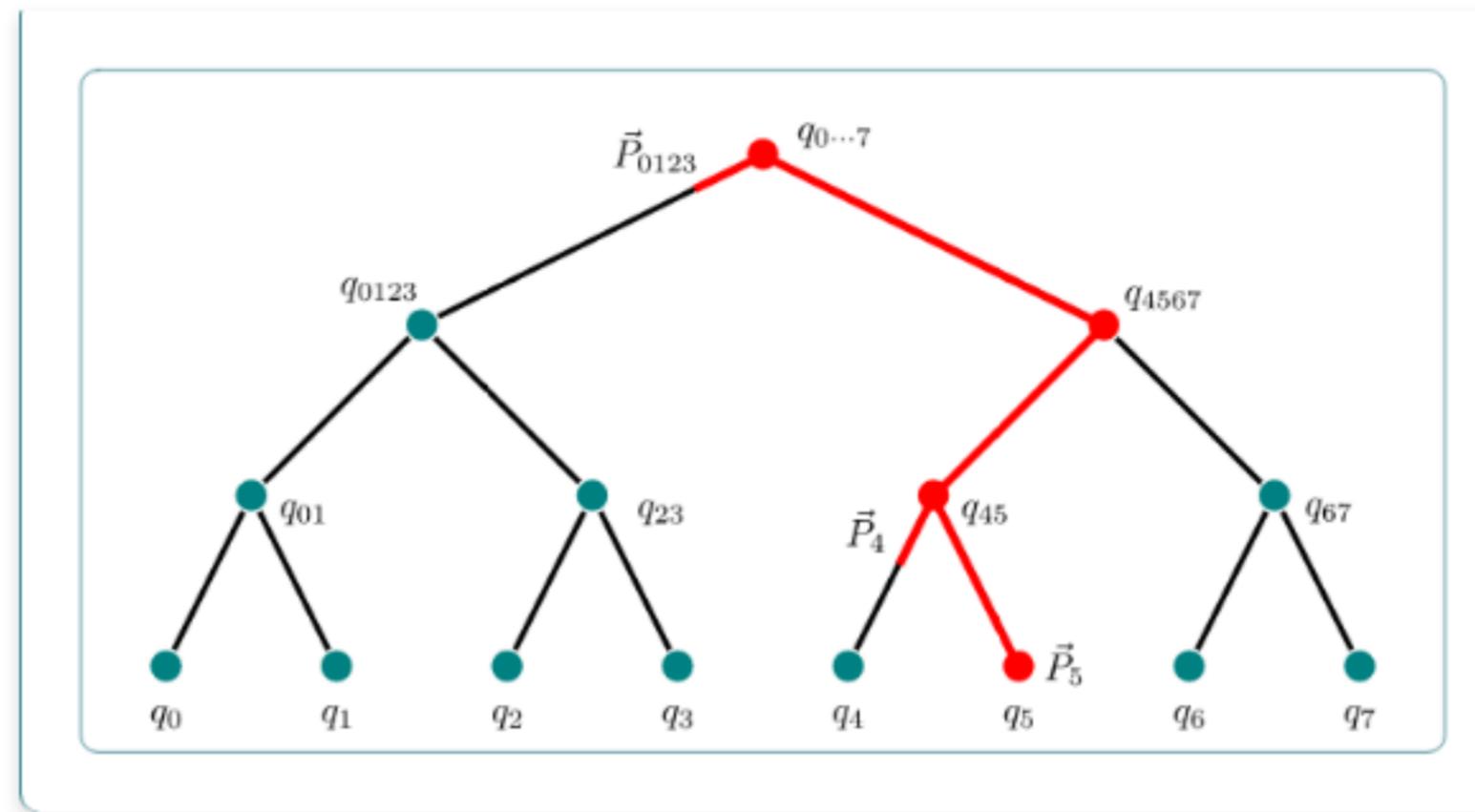
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  - $\vec{X}_4 = \vec{P}_{01} + q_{01} (\vec{P}_2 + (q_2 \vec{P}_3))$
- Already computed  $q_{01}$  and  $P_{01}, P_2, P_3$ .
- Requires  $O(\text{tree-depth}) = O(\log n)$  operations

# Compute another position



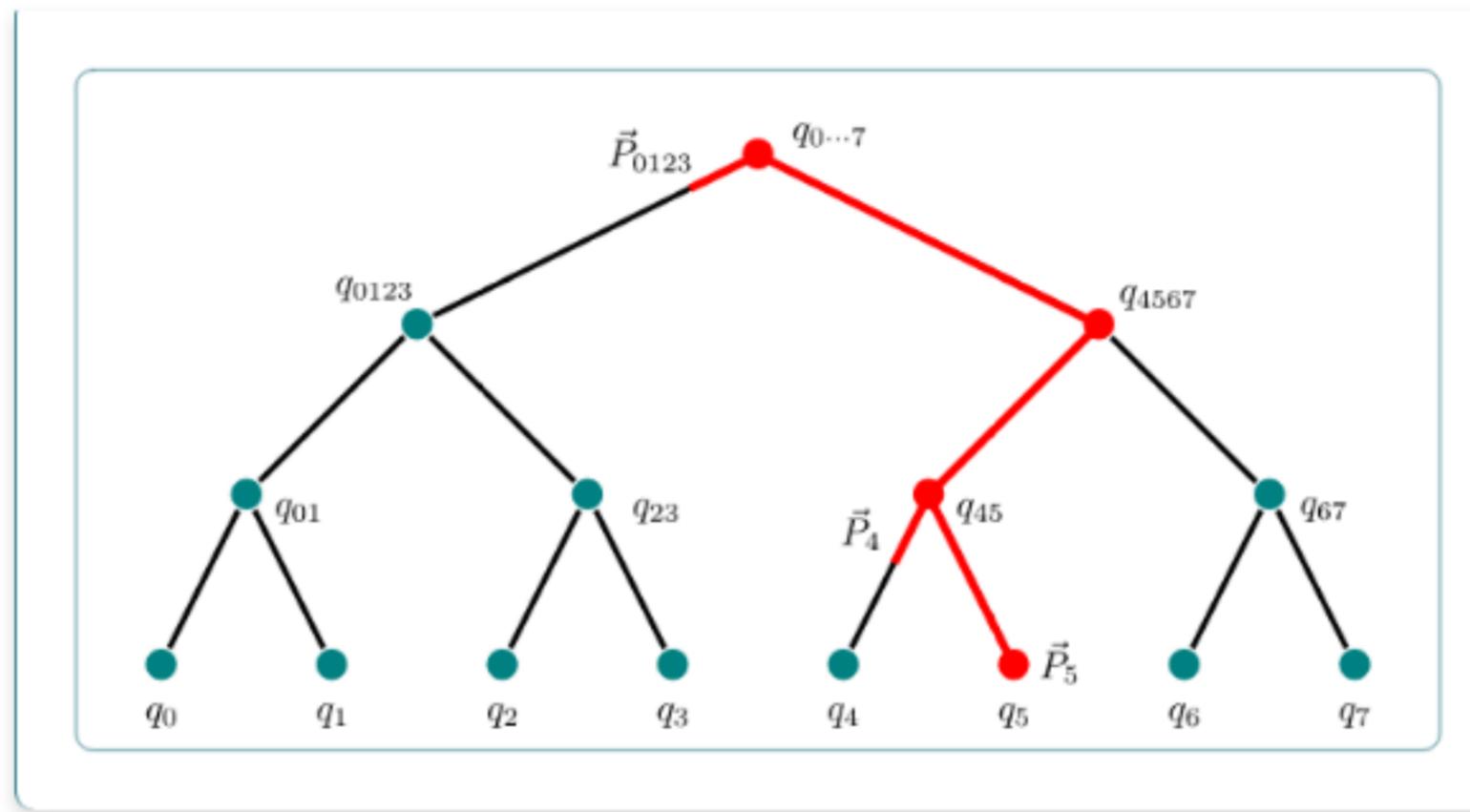
- Position of vertex  $6 \equiv$  end of 5th polygon edge

# Compute another position



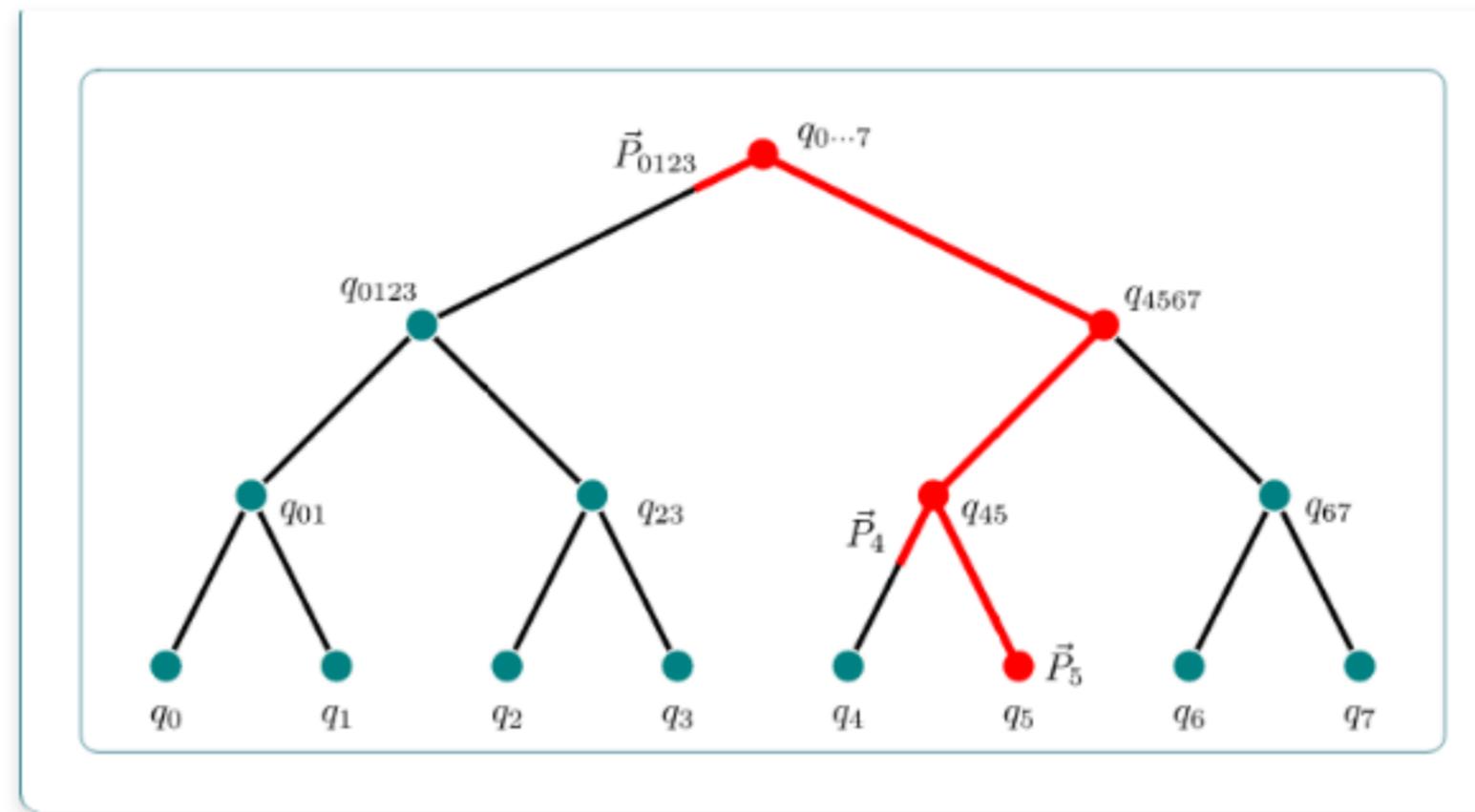
- Position of vertex 6  $\equiv$  end of 5th polygon edge
  - $\vec{X}_6 = (q_0 + q_{01} + q_{012} + q_{0123} + q_{01234} + q_{012345}) \vec{e}$

# Compute another position



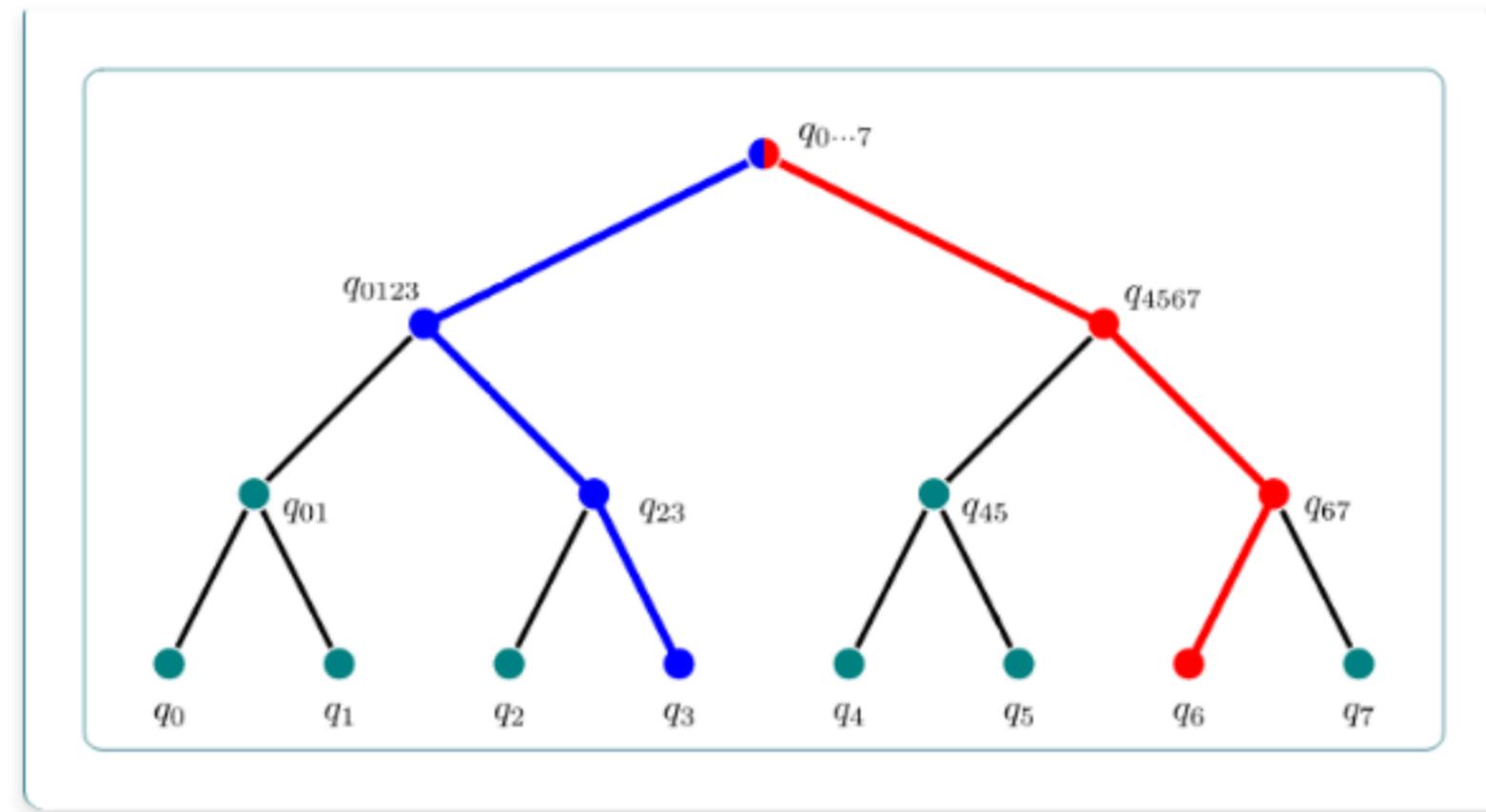
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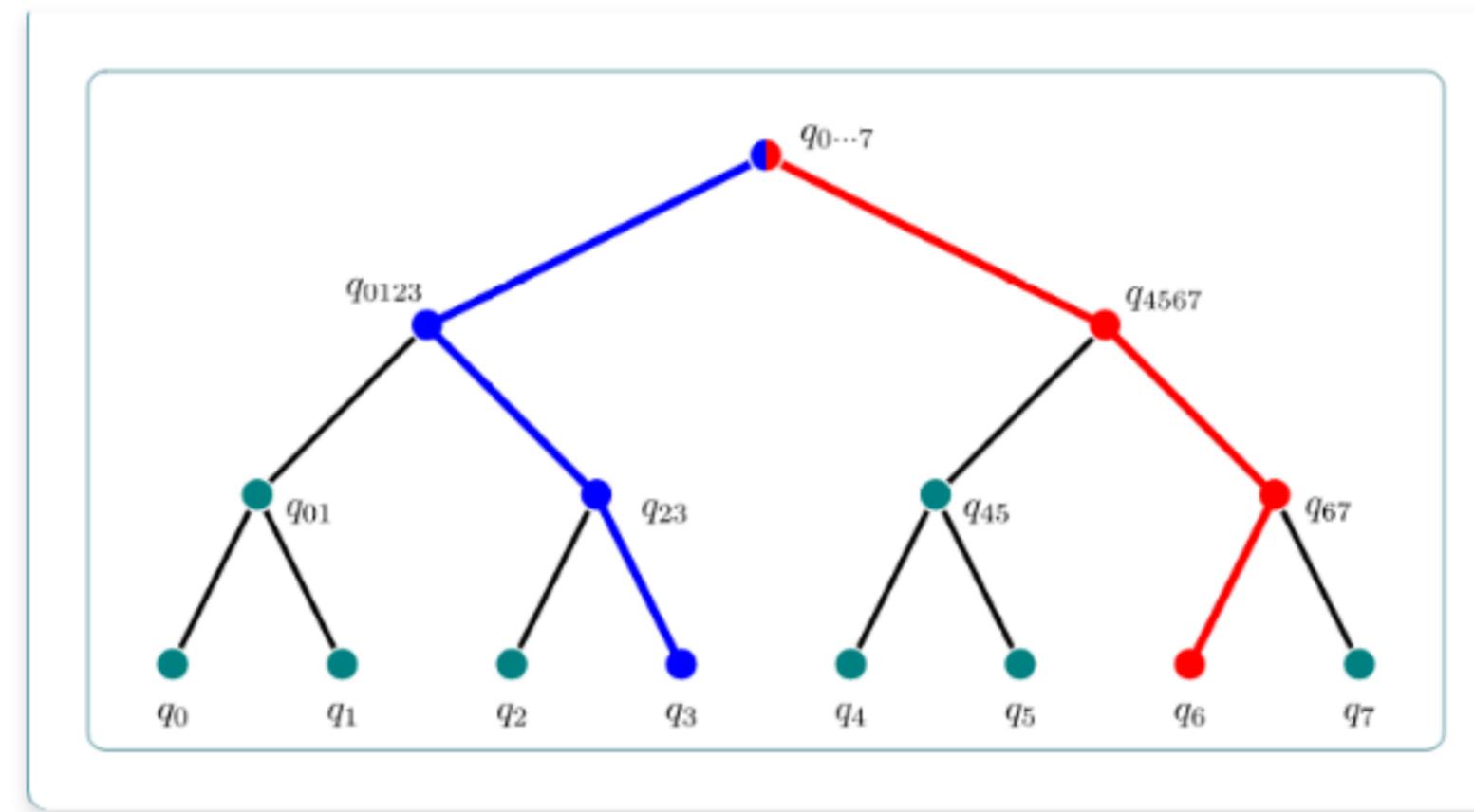
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## Update after pivot at vertices 3 and 6



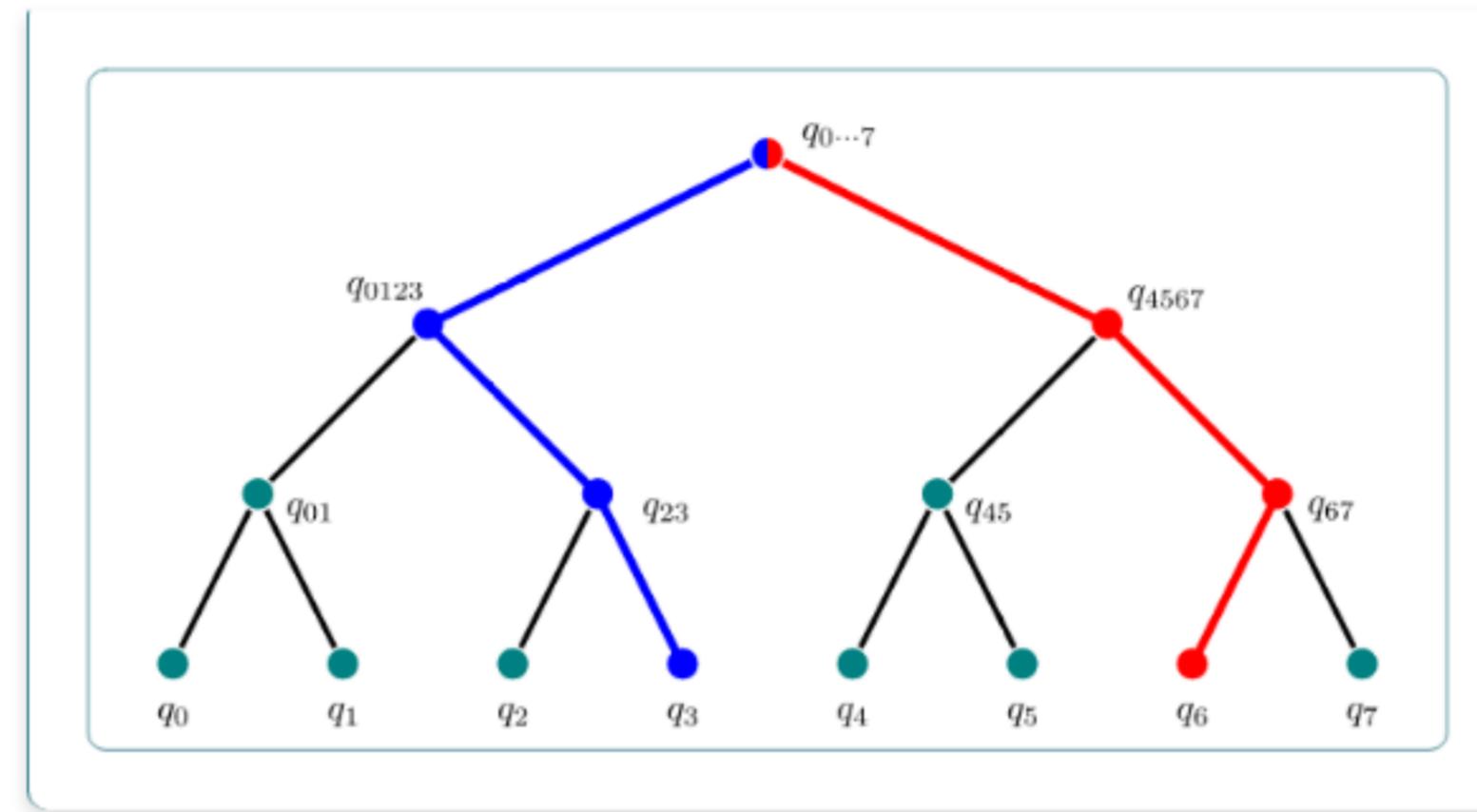
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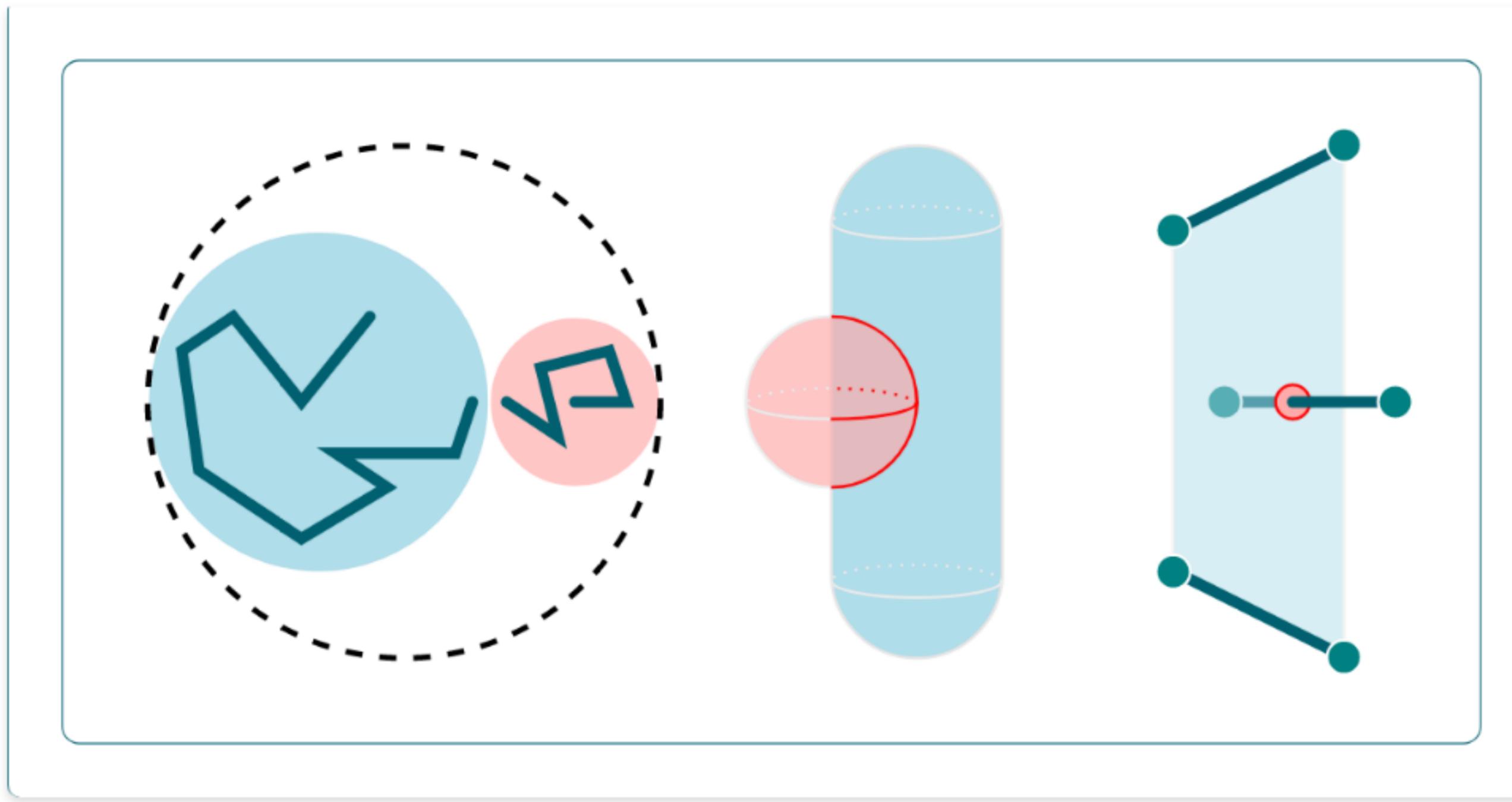
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  - Auto-correlation time for  $R_g(n) \approx O(\log n)$
  - ERP sampling in sublinear time
  - Takes longer to write down than to sample!

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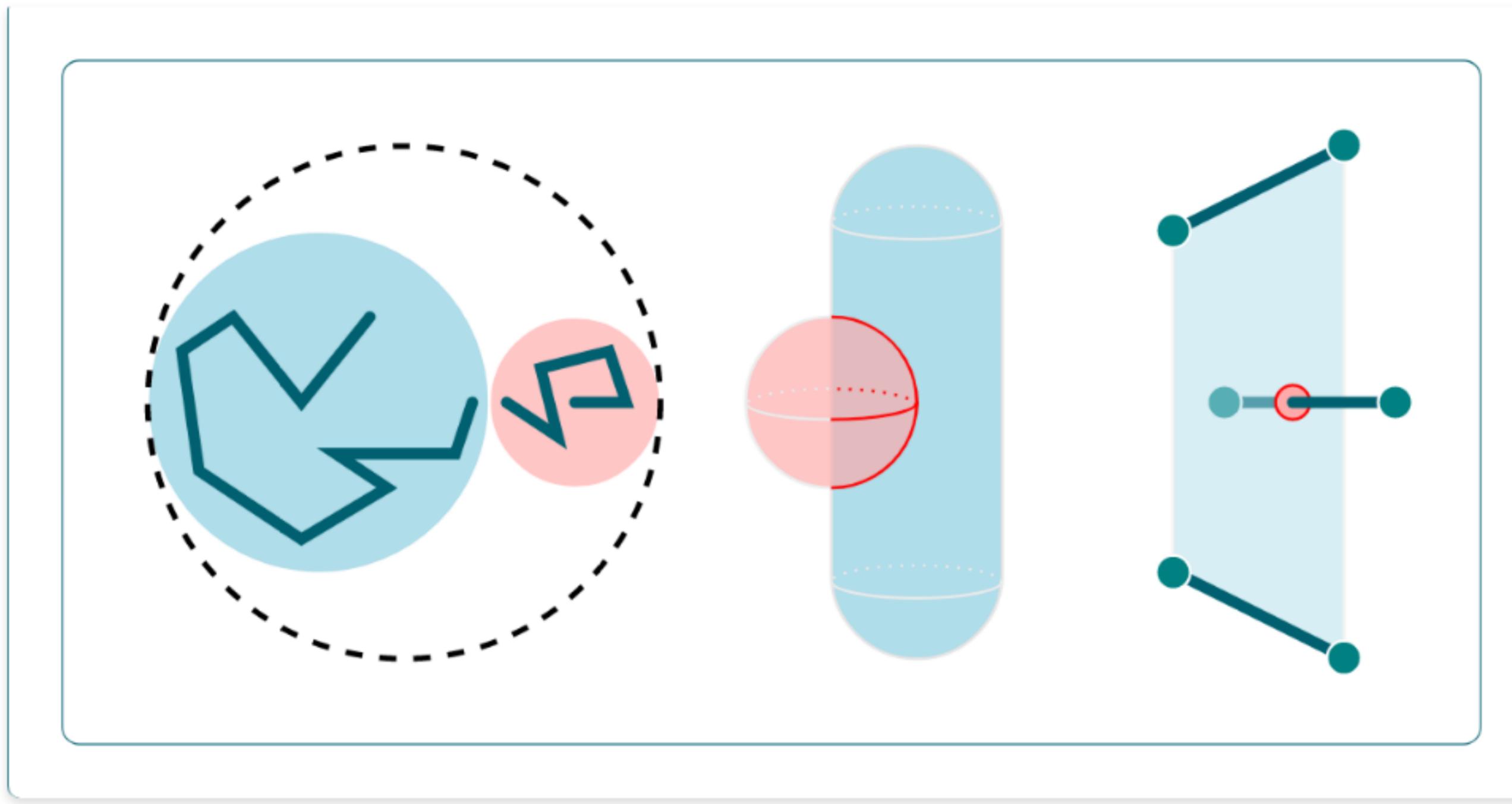
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- Harder on lattice – must pick pairs carefully to stay on lattice

## For topology checks



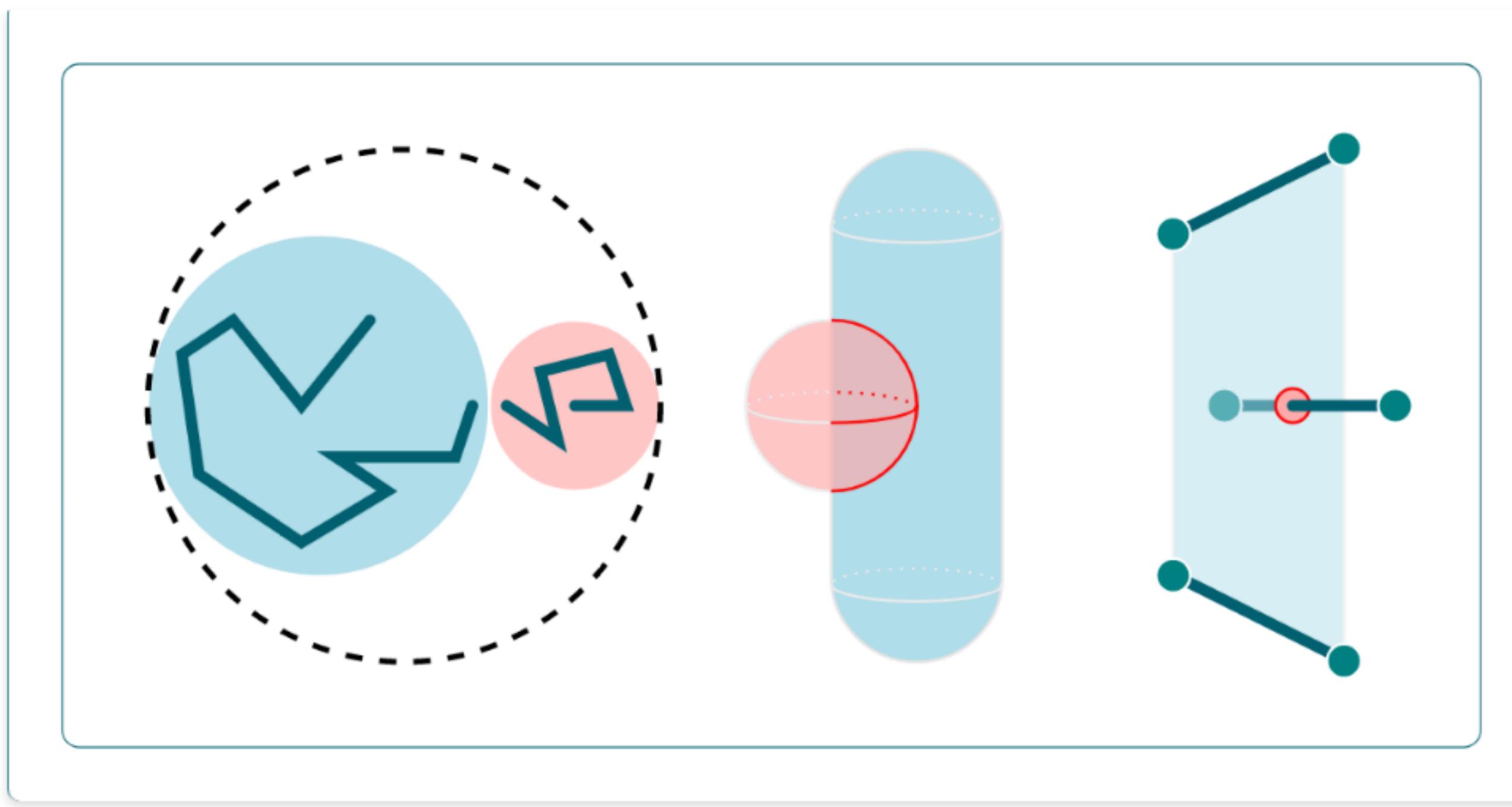
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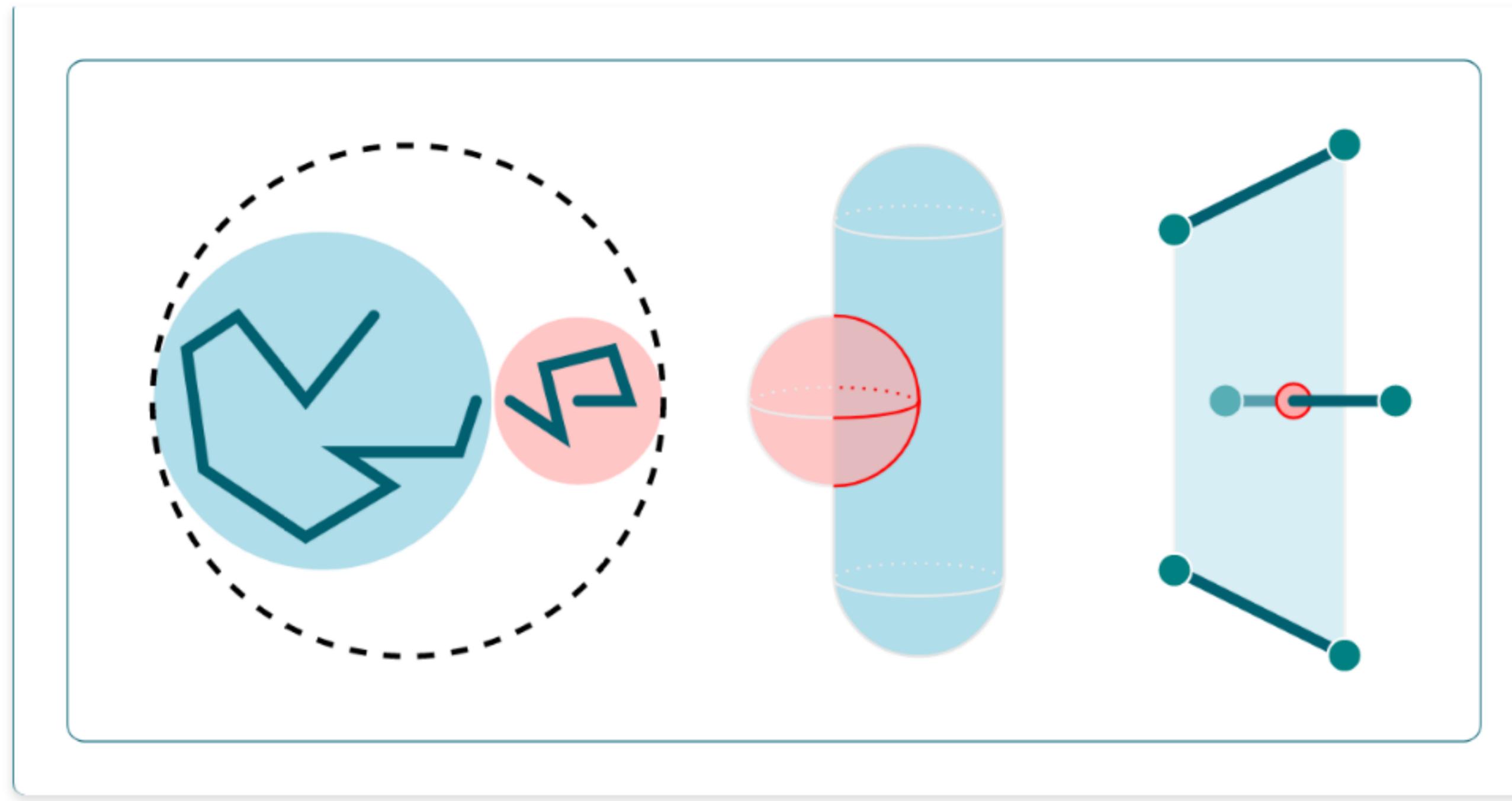
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- Sphere intersects sphere-capped-cylinder test

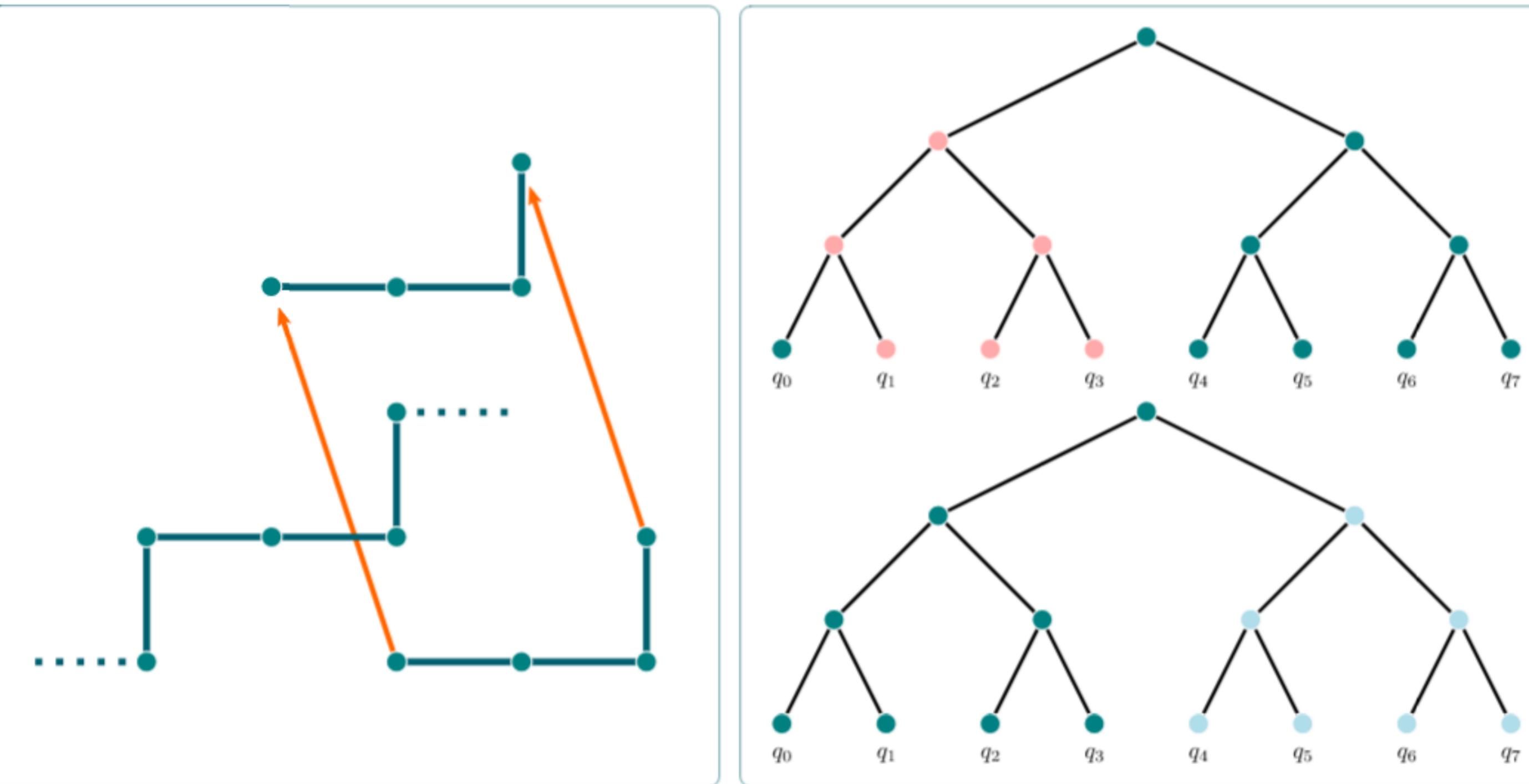
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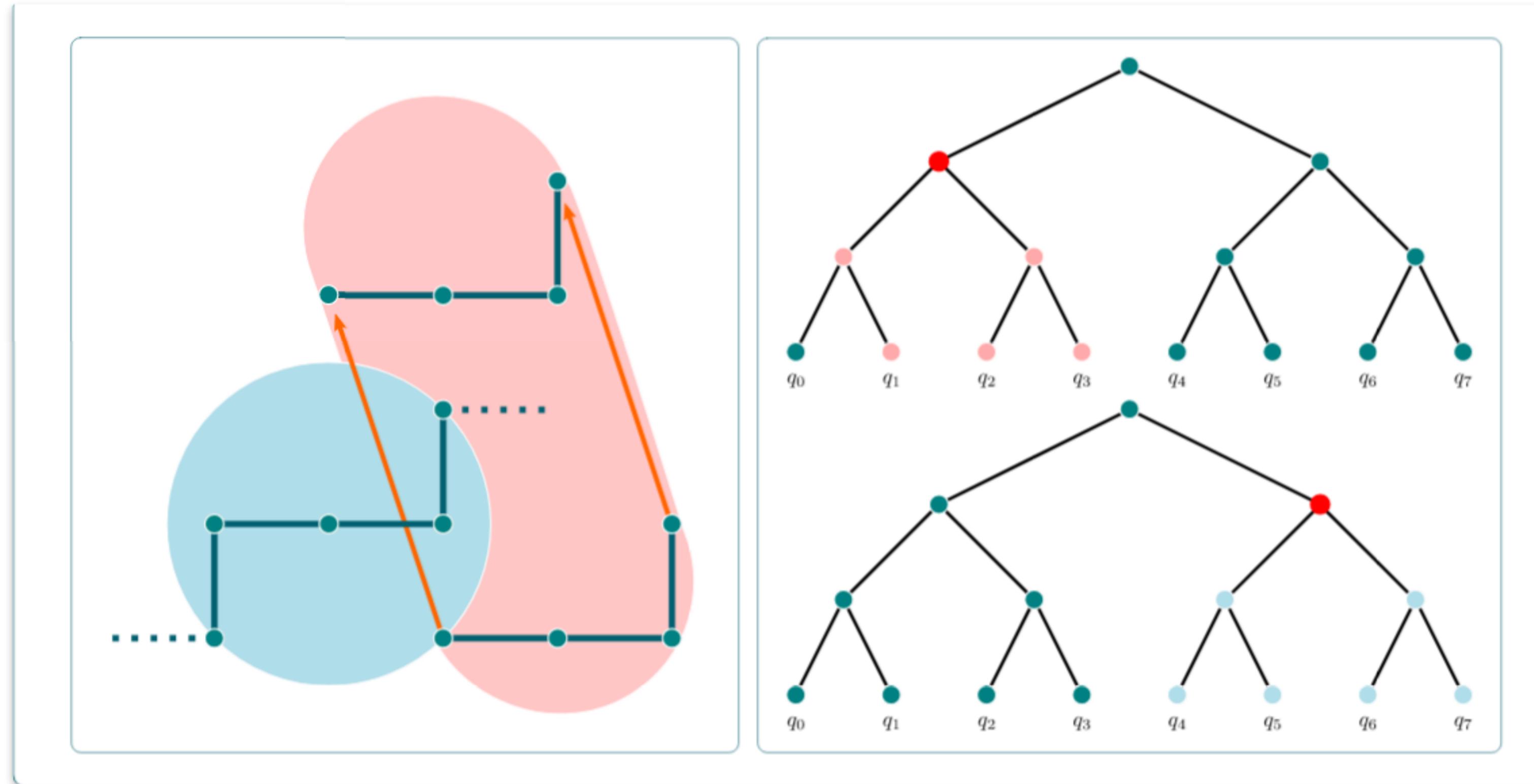
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- Segment intersects quadrilateral test  $\equiv$  Möller-Trumbore

Fast intersection checks via bounding sphere refinements

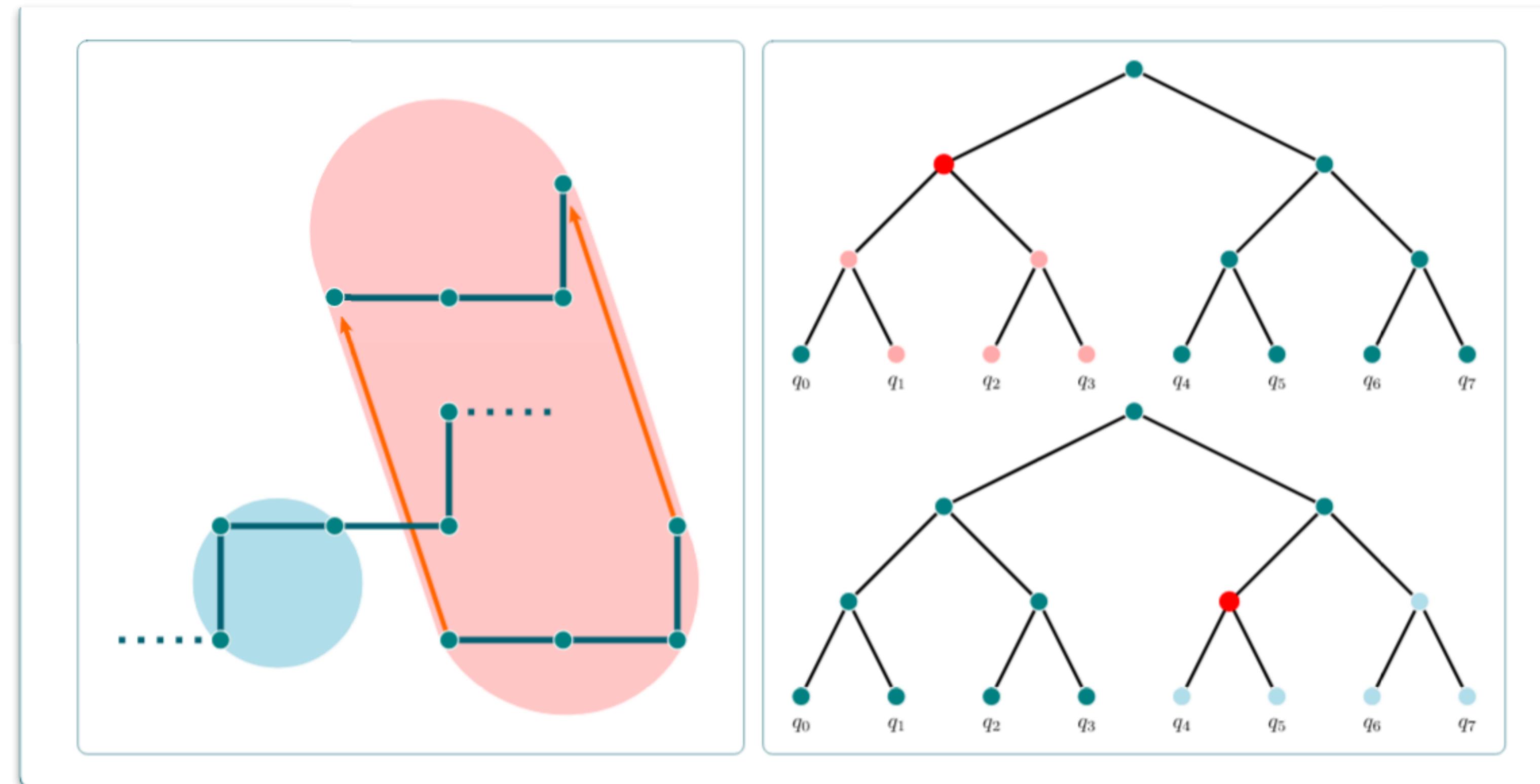
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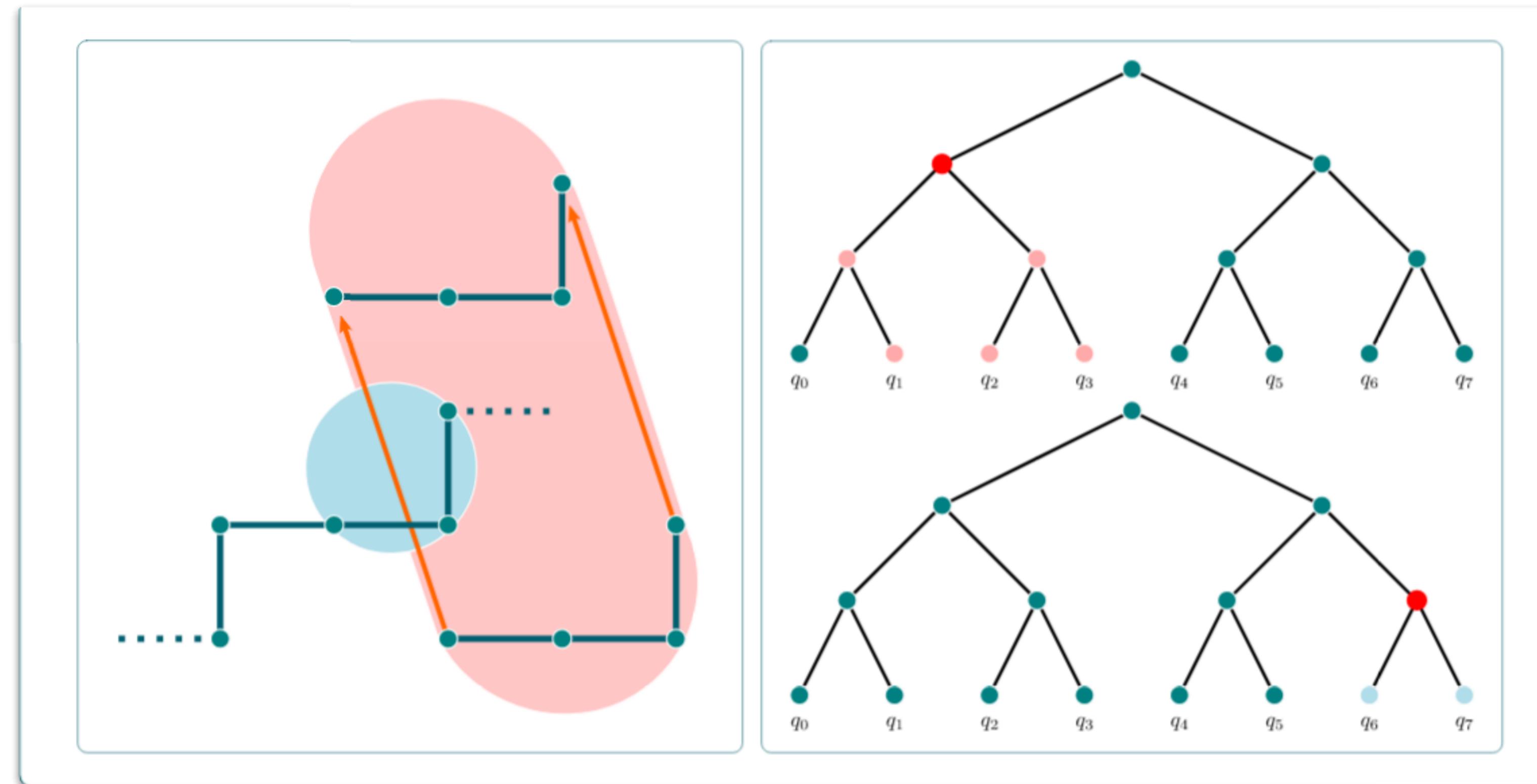
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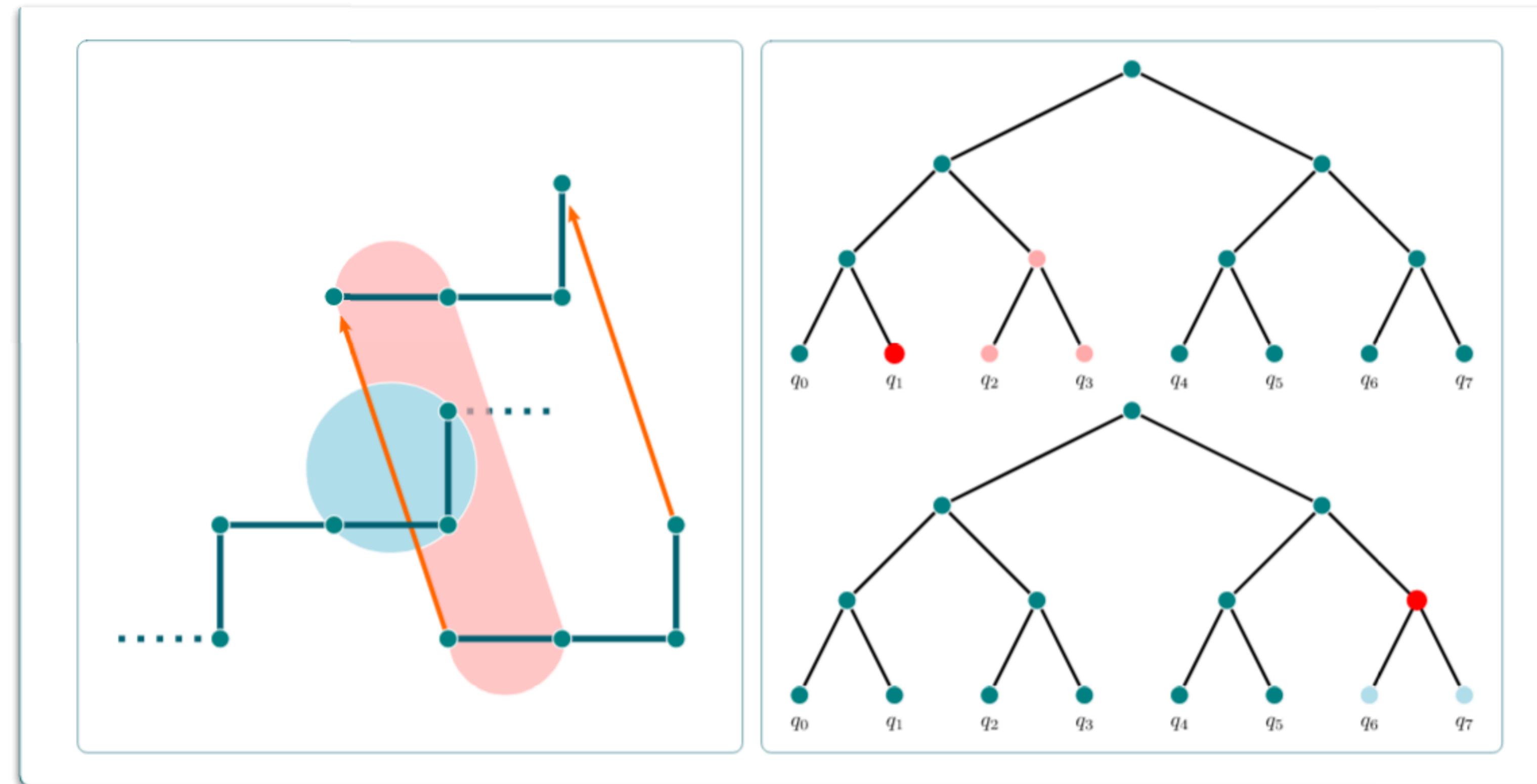
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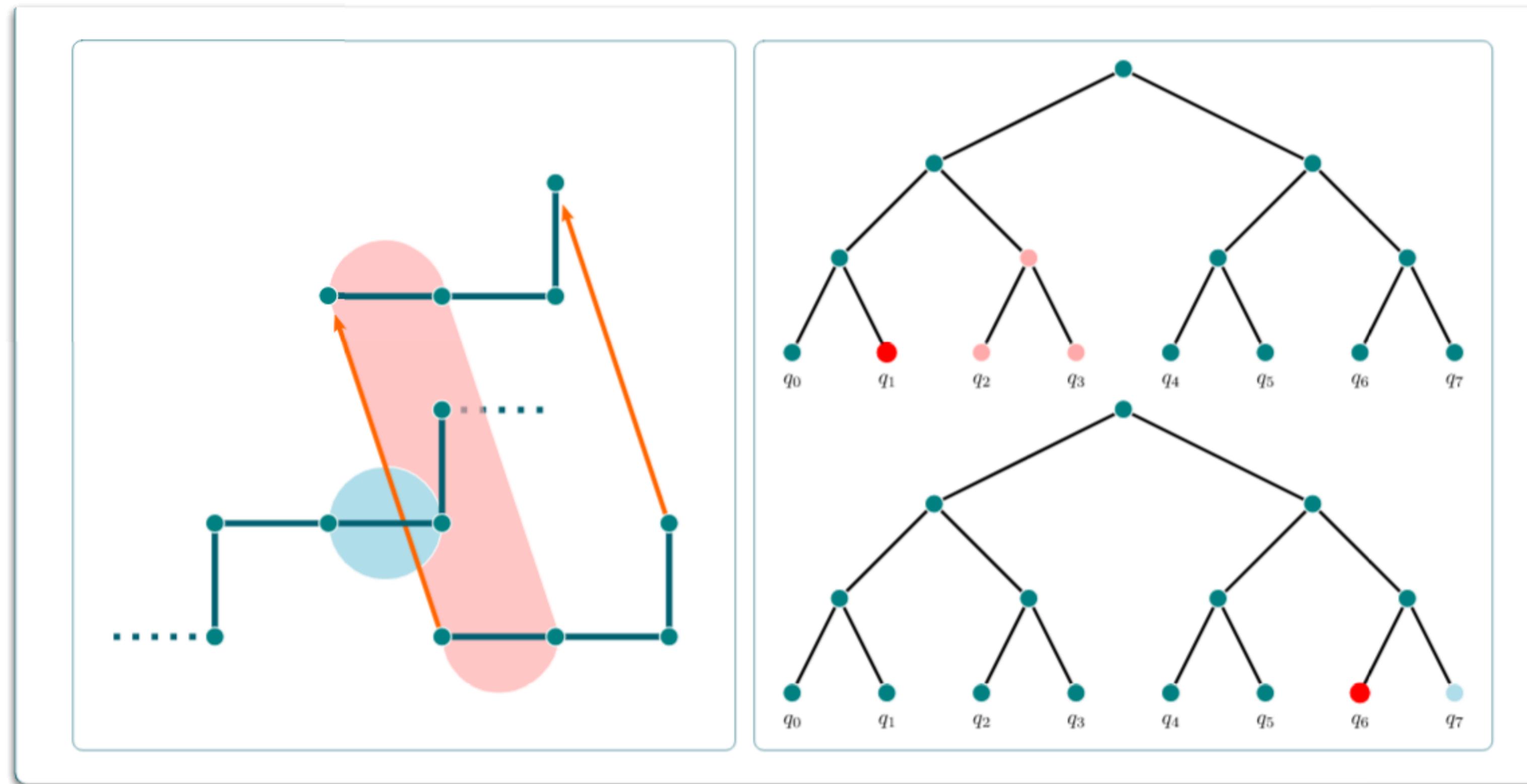
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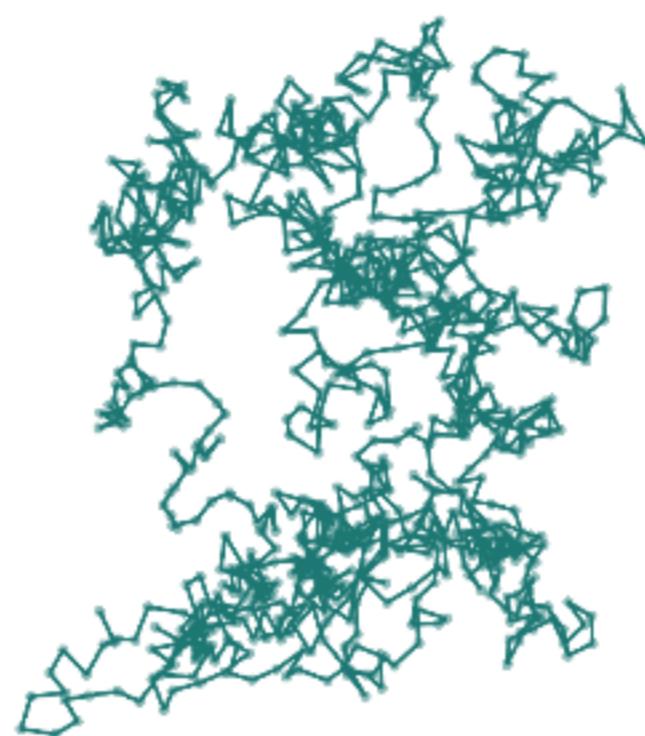


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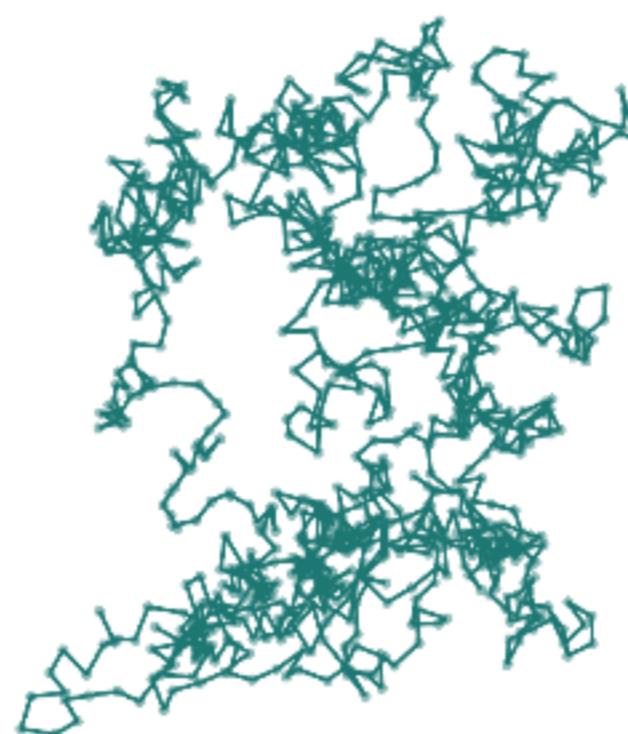
- Check segment-quadrilateral intersection via Möller-Trumbore

# Does it work? Is topology conserved?



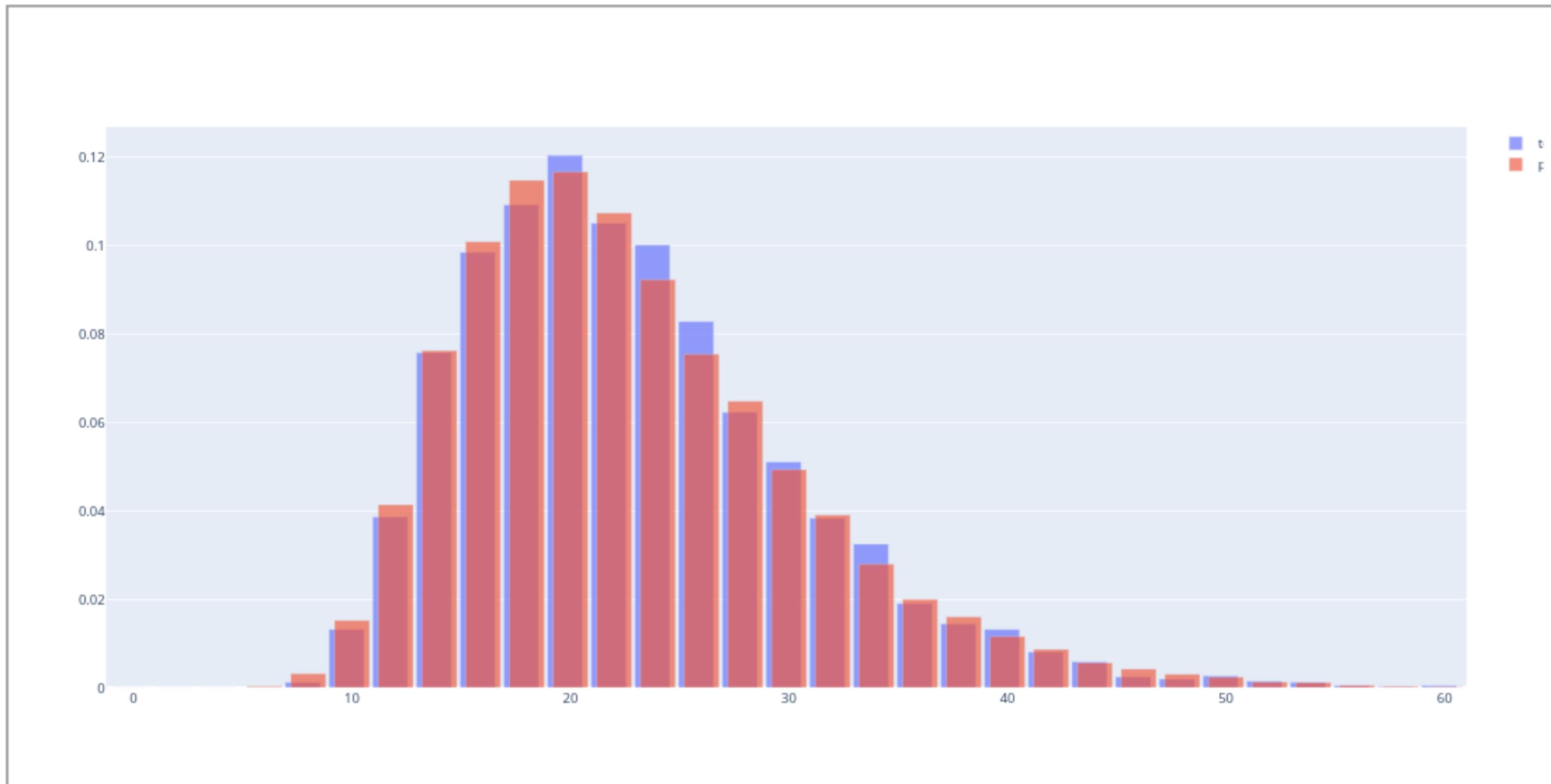
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## Does it work? Is topology conserved?



- 1024 edge square after  $\approx 250k$  pivots
- Still an unknot
- Important aside – the [topoly library](#) is extremely helpful!

# Does it work? Compare $R_g$ histograms



- Generate  $2^{12}$  length 256 unknots with the [topoly library](#)
- Generate  $2^{14}$  length 256 unknots by pivots
- Close agreement

Does it work? Is it fast? Autocorrelation is everything

Warning: research still in progress

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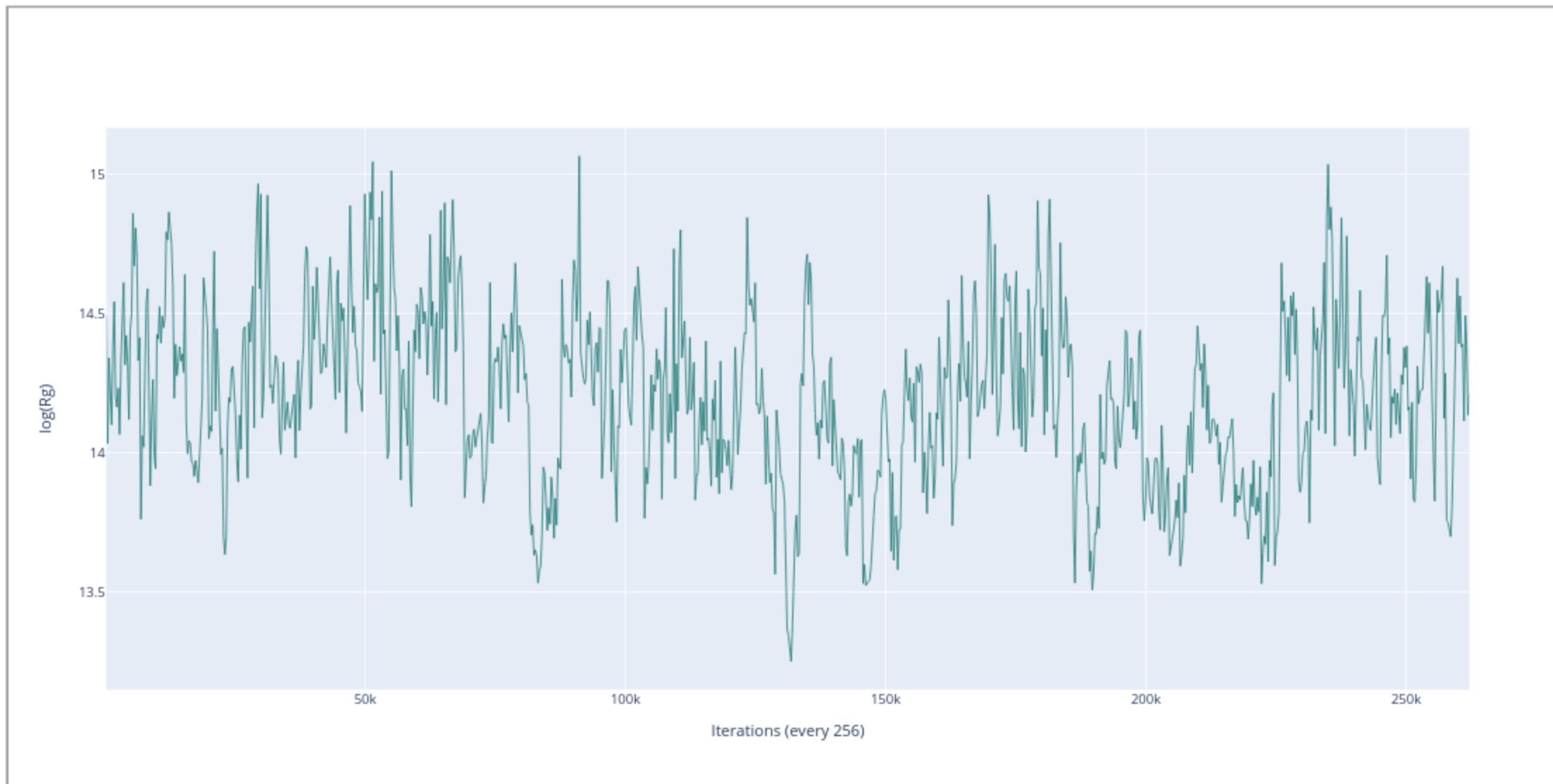
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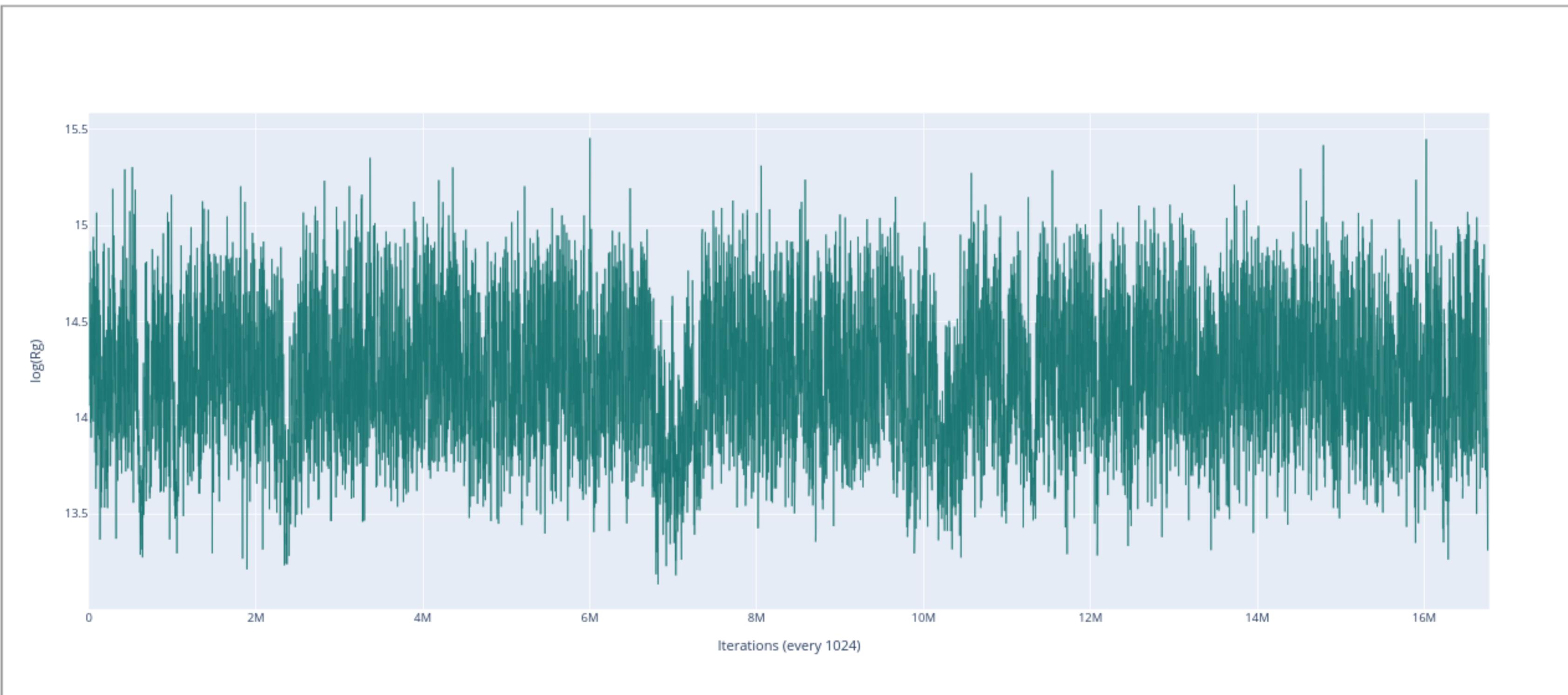
- Had great difficulty computing reliable autocorrelation time estimates
  - Windowing method via [EMCEE](#) python module
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- Huh? What is going on

# Plot evolution of $R_g$ with iterations



- Unknot length 256, every 256th iteration shown
- Looks okay, but those "canyons" are worrying

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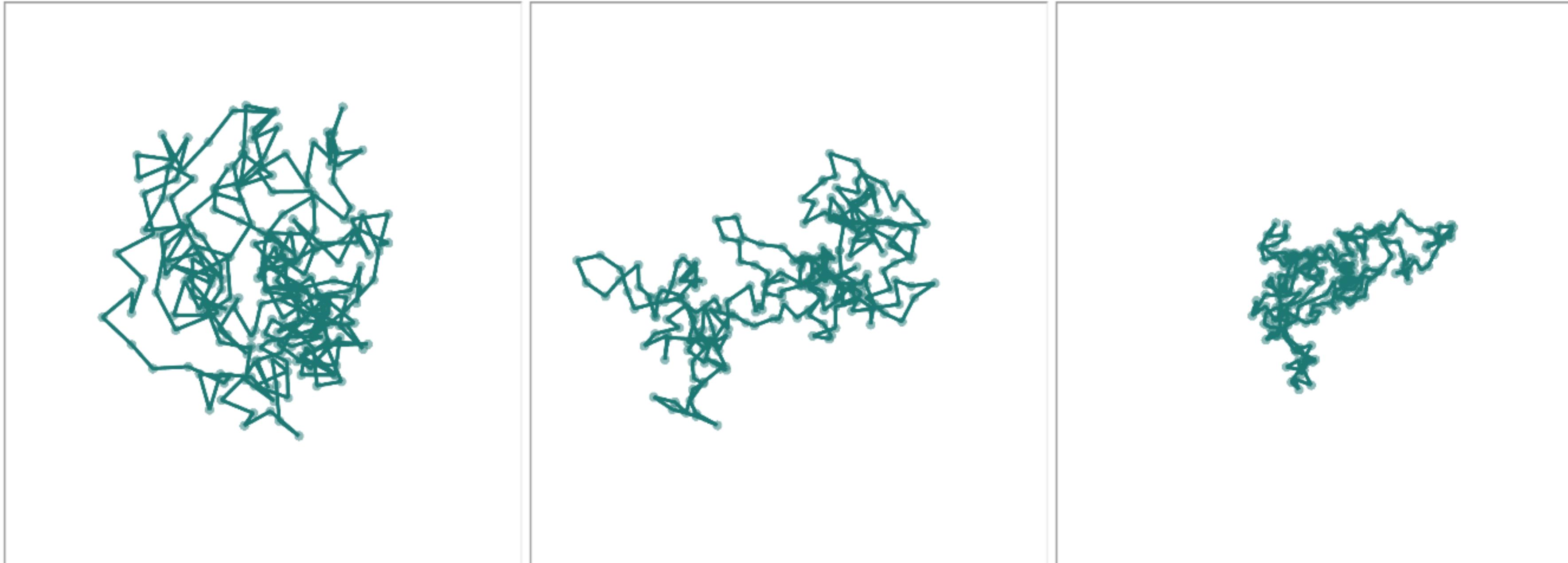


- Unknot length 256, every 1024th iteration shown
- Now "canyons" are very worrying

Possibility 1  
bugs in my code

## Possibility 2

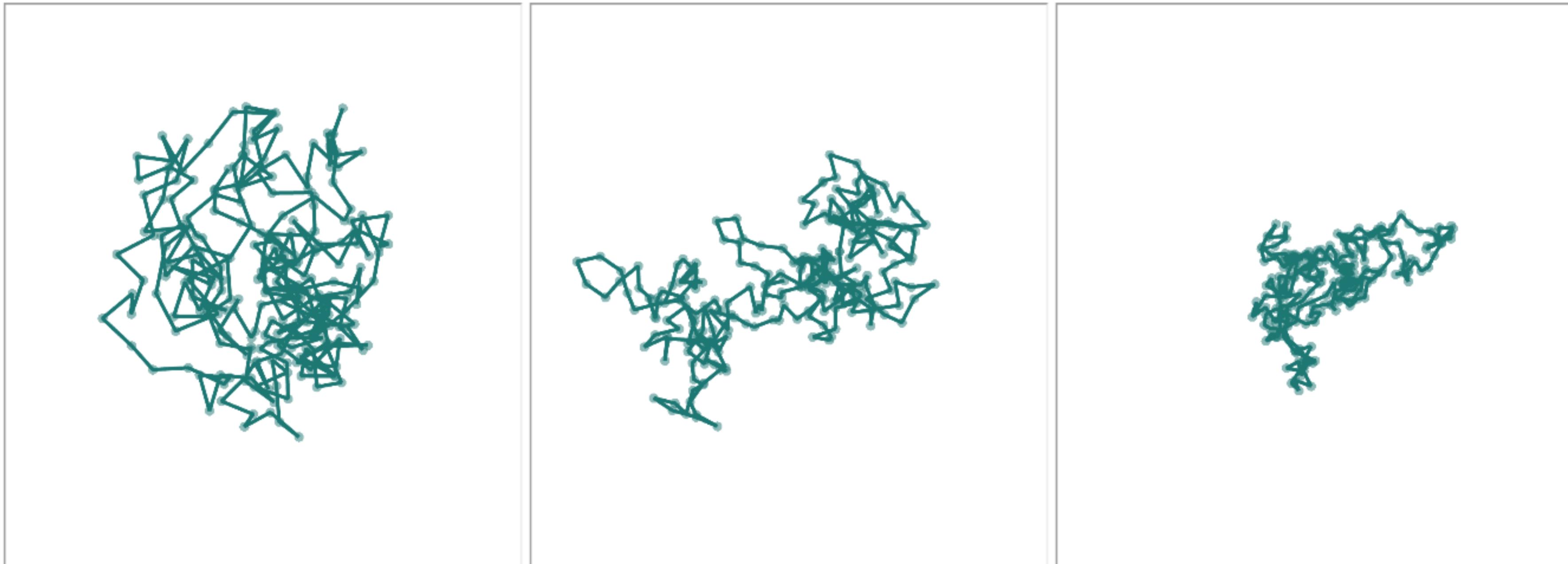
Compact conformations are not so rare



- Hard to pivot away from compact conformations

## Possibility 2

Compact conformations are not so rare



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- Does not exclude Possibility 1

Is topological swelling to blame?

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- Metric scaling of ERP and ERUnkots are different
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Many thanks to the organisers for today

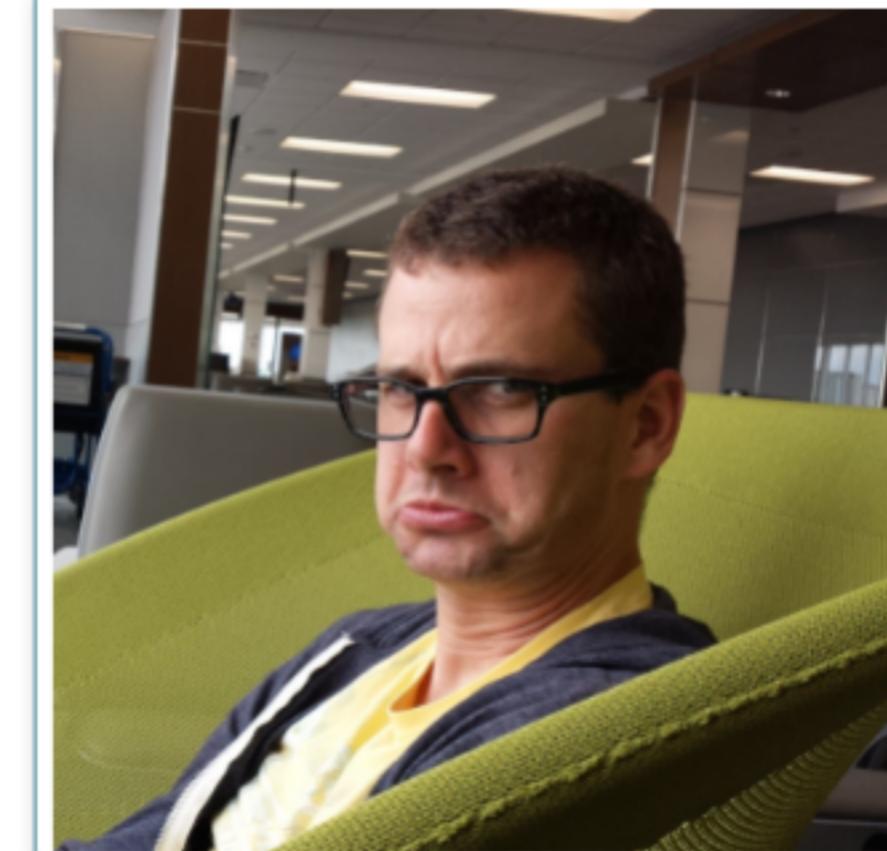
Richard

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YXE after cancelled flight June 2015

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- He made a big impact on my mathematics; how I do it, how I present it, and how I teach it

