

# Zigzags and central circuits for 3- or 4-valent plane graphs

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I.  $\kappa$ -valent  
two-faced polyhedra

# Polyhedra and planar graphs

A graph is called  **$k$ -connected** if after removing any set of  $k - 1$  vertices it remains connected.

The **skeleton** of a polytope  $P$  is the graph  $G(P)$  formed by its vertices, with two vertices adjacent if they generate a face of  $P$ .

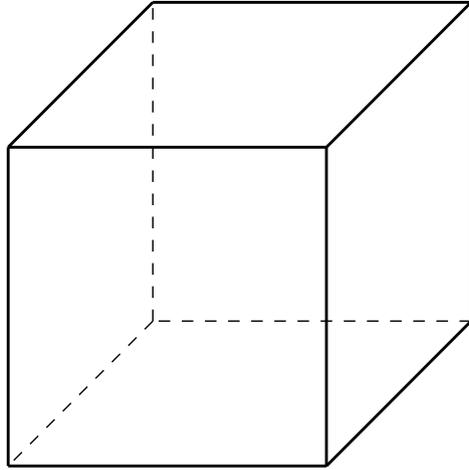
**Theorem (Steinitz)**

*(i) A graph  $G$  is the skeleton of a 3-polytope if and only if it is planar and 3-connected.*

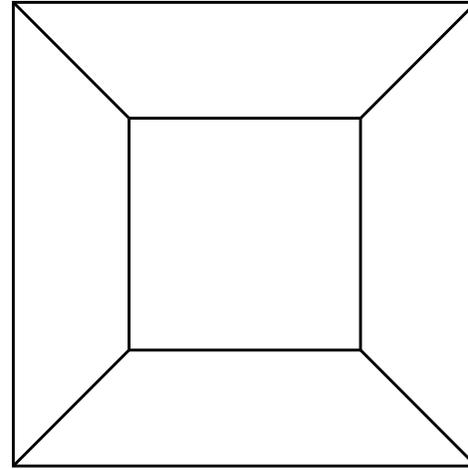
*(ii)  $P$  and  $P'$  are in the same **combinatorial type** if and only if  $G(P)$  is isomorphic to  $G(P')$ .*

The **dual** graph  $G^*$  of a plane graph  $G$  is the plane graph formed by the faces of  $G$ , with two faces adjacent if they share an edge.

# Example

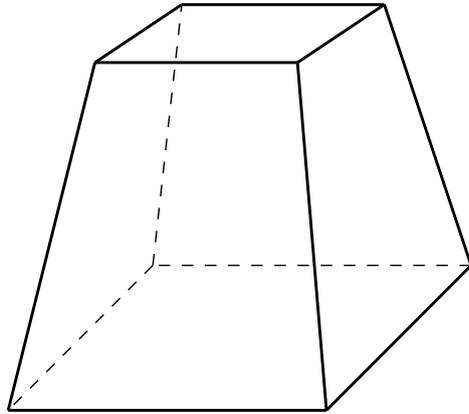


The regular cube

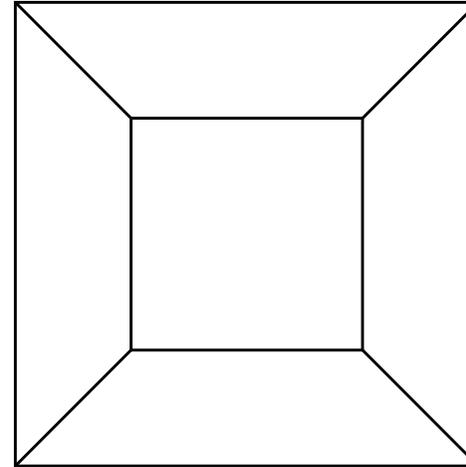


its planar graph

# Example



A perturbed cube



its planar graph

A 3-polytope is usually represented by the Schlegel diagram of its skeleton, the program used for this is [CaGe](#) by [G. Brinkmann](#), [O. Delgado](#), [A. Dress](#) and [T. Harmuth](#).

# $k$ -valent two-faced polyhedra

The Euler formula for plane graphs  $V - E + F = 2$ , take the following form for  $k$ -valent graphs:

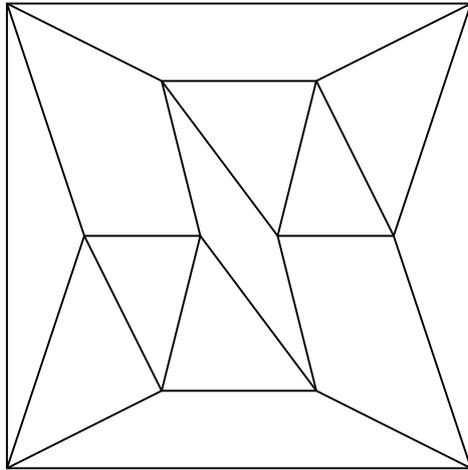
$$12 = \sum_i (6 - i)p_i \quad \text{if } k = 3$$
$$\text{and } 8 = \sum_i (4 - i)p_i \quad \text{if } k = 4$$

With  $p_i$  the number of faces of **gonality**  $i$ .

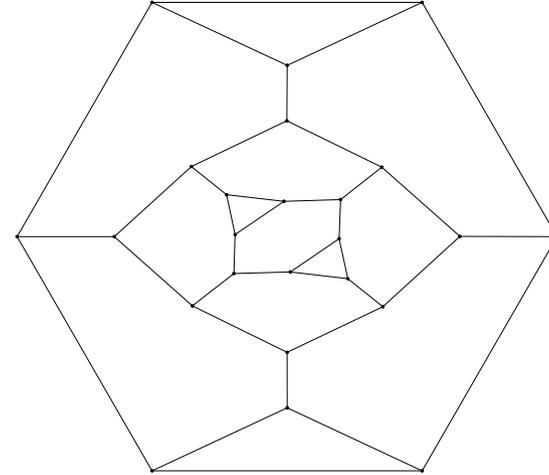
A  $k$ -valent plane graph is called **two-faced** if the gonality of its faces has only two possible values  $a$  and  $b$ .

- 3-valent plane graphs with  $n$  vertices and faces of gonality  $q$  and  $6$  (**classes**  $q_n$ ),
- 4-valent plane graphs with  $n$  vertices and faces of gonality 3 or 4 (**octahedrites**).

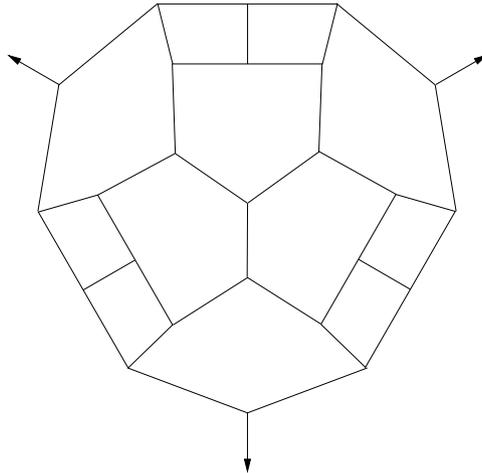
# Examples



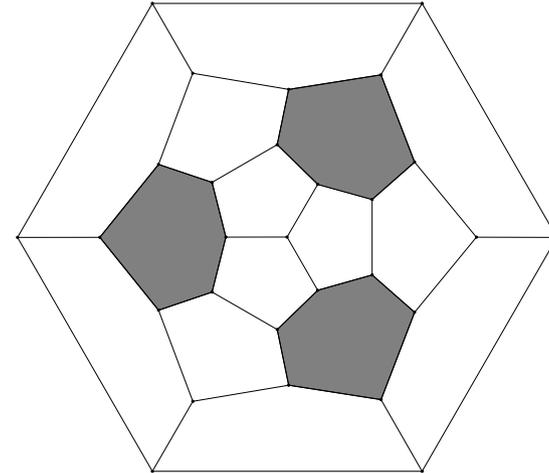
An octahedrite



A  $3_{24}$  plane graph



A  $4_{26}$  plane graph



A  $5_{28}$  plane graph

# Classes and their generation

$k$	$(a, b)$	Polyhedra	Exist if and only if	$p_a$	$n$
3	(3, 6)	$3_n$	$\frac{p_6}{2} \in N - \{1\}$	$p_3 = 4$	$4 + 2p_6$
3	(4, 6)	$4_n$	$p_6 \in N - \{1\}$	$p_4 = 6$	$8 + 2p_6$
3	(5, 6)	$5_n$ (fullerenes)	$p_6 \in N - \{1\}$	$p_5 = 12$	$20 + 2p_6$
4	(3, 4)	octahedrite	$p_4 \in N - \{1\}$	$p_3 = 8$	$6 + p_4$

## Generation programs

- **3-valent:** CPF for two-faced maps on the sphere by T. Harmuth  
CGF for two-faced maps on surfaces of genus  $g$  by T. Harmuth
- **4-valent:** ENU by T. Heidemeier
- **General:** plantri by G. Brinkmann and B. McKay

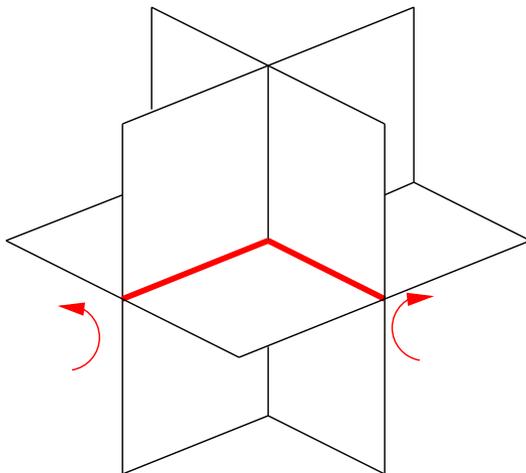
# Finite isometry groups

All finite groups of isometries of 3-space are classified. In Schoenflies notations:

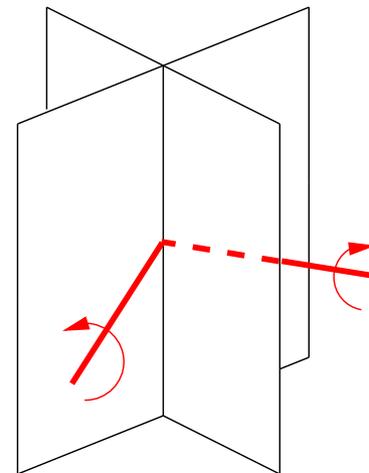
- $C_1$  is the **trivial** group
- $C_s$  is the group generated by a **plane reflexion**
- $C_i = \{I_3, -I_3\}$  is the **inversion** group
- $C_m$  is the group generated by a rotation of order  $m$  of axis  $\Delta$
- $C_{mv}$  ( $\simeq$  dihedral group) is the group formed by  $C_m$  and  $m$  **reflexion containing**  $\Delta$
- $C_{mh} = C_m \times C_s$  is the group generated by  $C_m$  and the symmetry by the plane **orthogonal** to  $\Delta$
- $S_N$  is the group of order  $N$  generated by an antirotation

# Finite isometry groups

- $D_m$  ( $\simeq$  dihedral group) is the group formed of  $C_m$  and  $m$  rotations of order 2 with axis **orthogonal** to  $\Delta$
- $D_{mh}$  is the group generated by  $D_m$  and a **plane symmetry orthogonal** to  $\Delta$
- $D_{md}$  is the group generated by  $D_m$  and  $m$  symmetry planes **containing**  $\Delta$  and which does not contain axis of order 2



$D_{2h}$



$D_{2d}$

# Finite isometry groups

- $I_h = H_3 \simeq Alt_5 \times C_2$  is the group of **isometries** of the regular **Dodecahedron**
- $I \simeq Alt_5$  is the group of **rotations** of the regular **Dodecahedron**
- $O_h = B_3$  is the group of **isometries** of the regular **Cube**
- $O \simeq Sym(4)$  is the group of **rotations** of the regular **Cube**
- $T_d = A_3 \simeq Sym(4)$  is the group of **isometries** of the regular **Tetrahedron**
- $T \simeq Alt(4)$  is the group of **rotations** of the regular **Tetrahedron**
- $T_h = T \cup -T$

# Point groups

(point group)  $Isom(P) \subset Aut(G(P))$  (combinatorial group)

Theorem ([Mani, 1971](#))

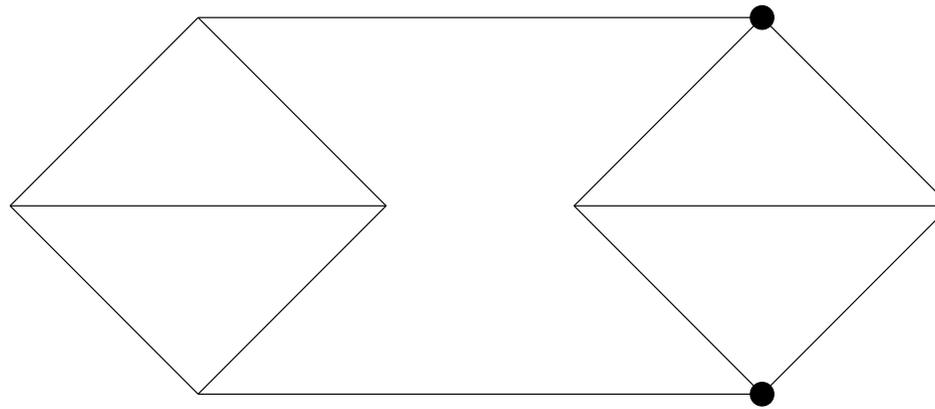
*Given a 3-connected planar graph  $G$ , there exist a 3-polytope  $P$ , whose group of isometries is isomorphic to  $Aut(G)$  and  $G(P) = G$ .*

- For **octahedrites**:  $(C_1, C_s, C_i), (C_2, C_{2v}, C_{2h}, S_4), (D_2, D_{2d}, D_{2h}), (D_3, D_{3d}, D_{3h}), (D_4, D_{4d}, D_{4h}), (O, O_h)$ . ([Deza and al.](#))
- For  $3_n$ :  $(D_2, D_{2h}, D_{2d}), (T, T_d)$  ([Fowler and al.](#))
- For  $4_n$ :  $(C_1, C_s, C_i), (C_2, C_{2v}, C_{2h}), (D_2, D_{2d}, D_{2h}), (D_3, D_{3d}, D_{3h}), (D_6, D_{6h}), (O, O_h)$  ([Deza and al.](#))
- For  $5_n$ :  $(C_1, C_s, C_i), (C_2, C_{2v}, C_{2h}, S_4), (C_3, C_{3v}, C_{3h}, S_6), (D_2, D_{2h}, D_{2d}), (D_3, D_{3h}, D_{3d}), (D_5, D_{5h}, D_{5d}), (D_6, D_{6h}, D_{6d}), (T, T_d, T_h), (I, I_h)$  ([Fowler and al.](#))

# $k$ -connectedness

## Theorem

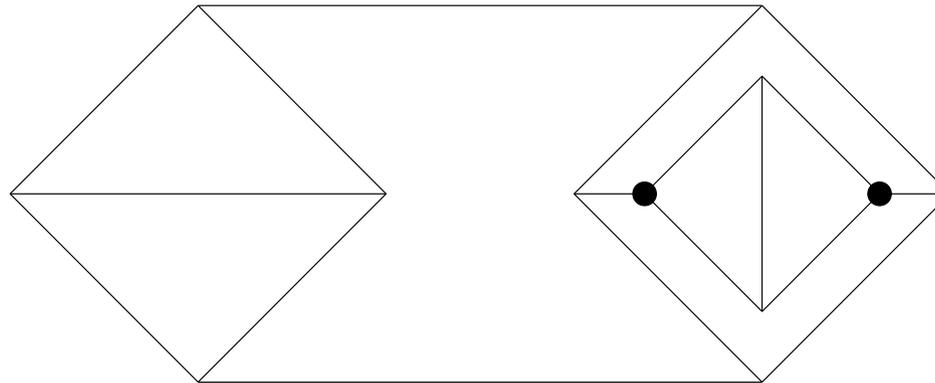
- (i) *Any octahedrite is 3-connected.*
- (ii) *Any 3-valent plane graph without ( $> 6$ )-gonal faces is 2-connected.*
- (iii) *Moreover, any 3-valent plane graph without ( $> 6$ )-gonal faces is 3-connected except of the following serie  $G_n$ :*



# $k$ -connectedness

## Theorem

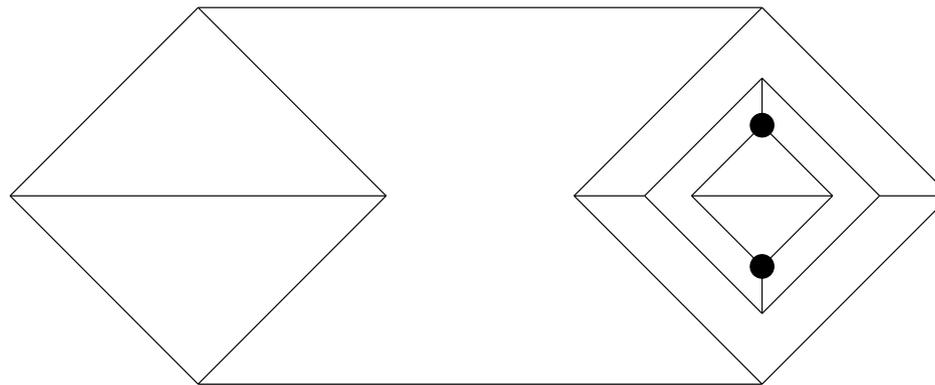
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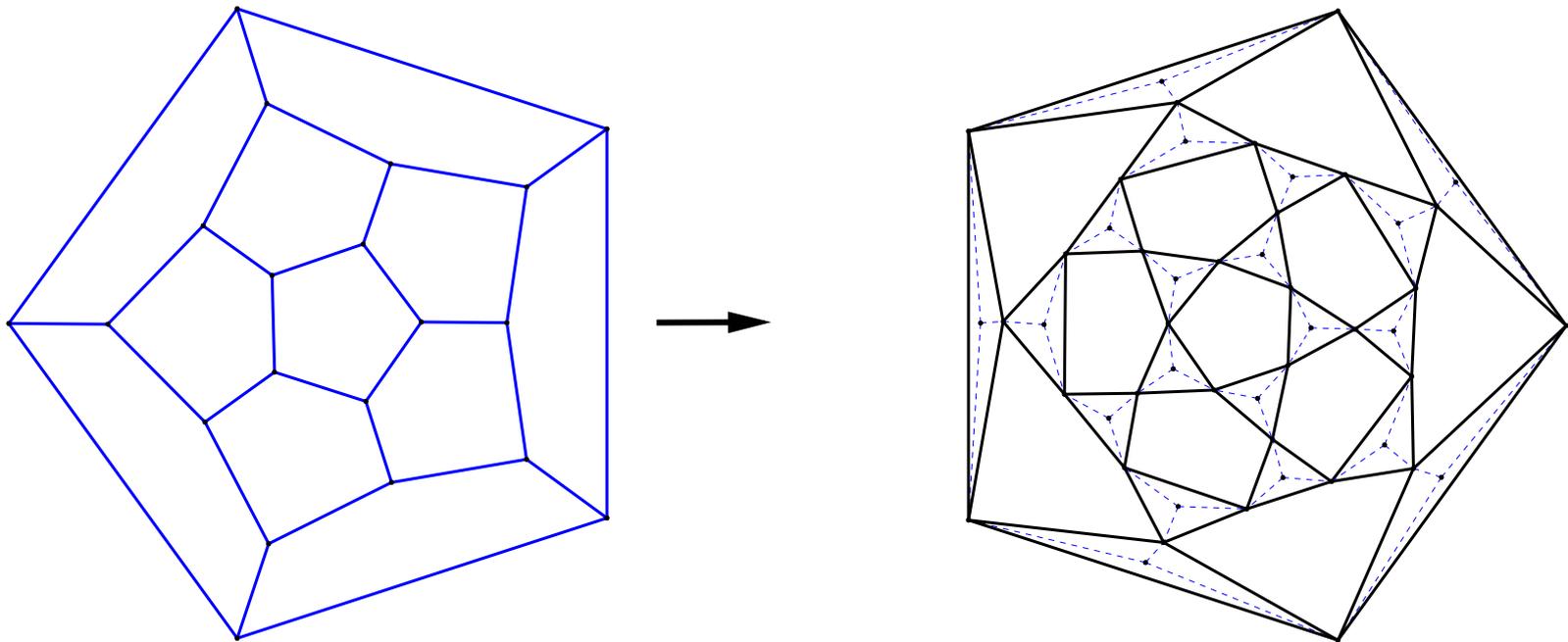
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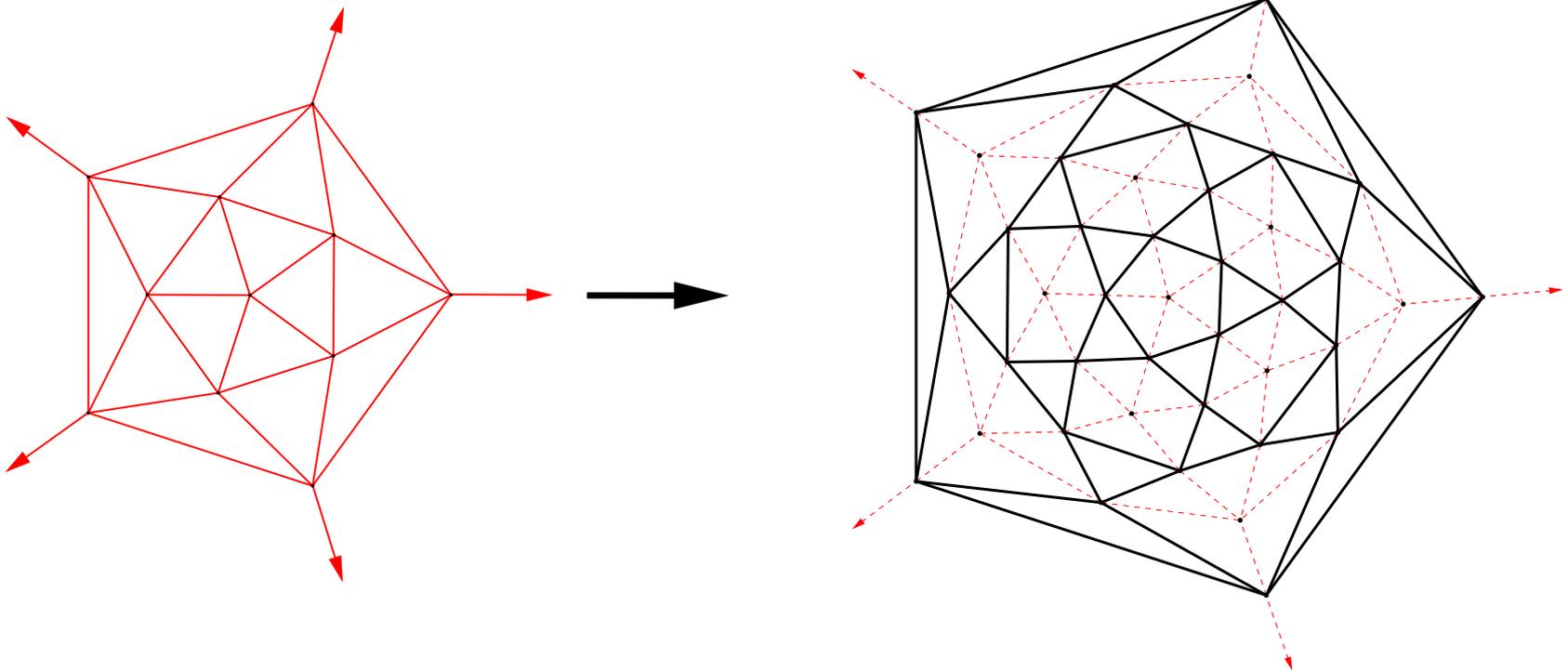
# Medial graph

Given a plane graph  $G$ , the 4-valent plane graph  $Med(G)$  is defined as the graph having as vertices the edges of  $G$  with two vertices adjacent if and only if they share a vertex and belong to a common face.



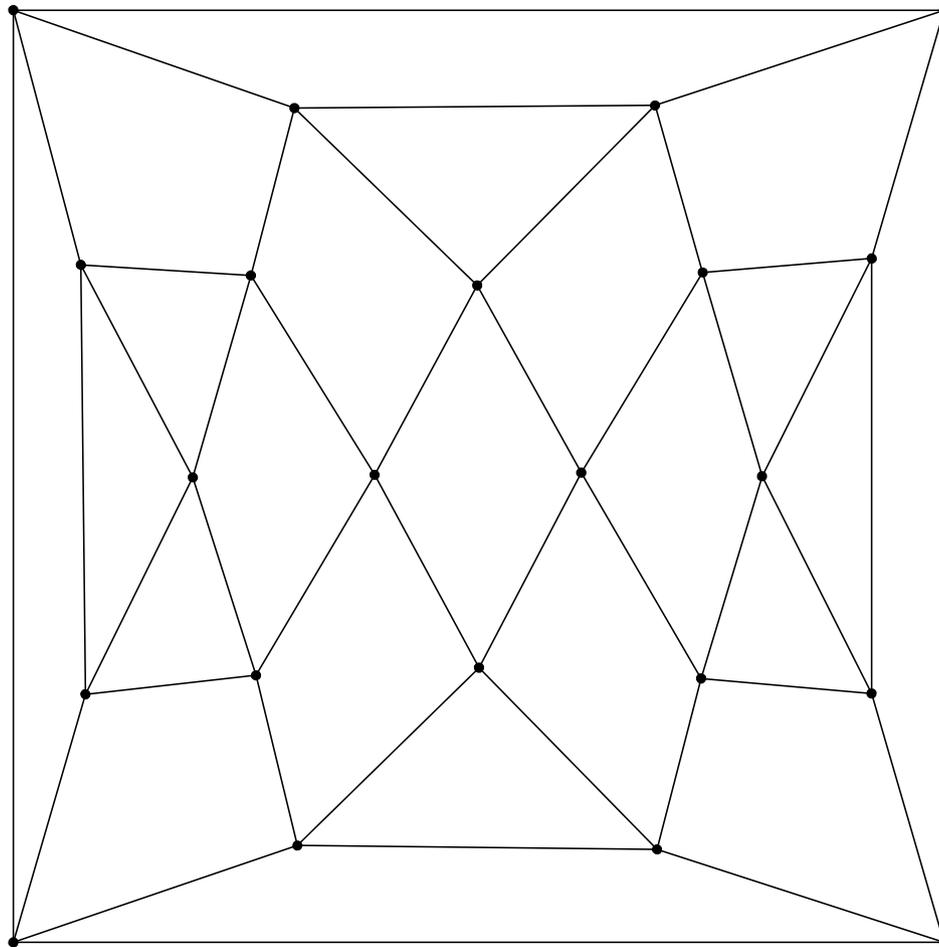
# Medial graph

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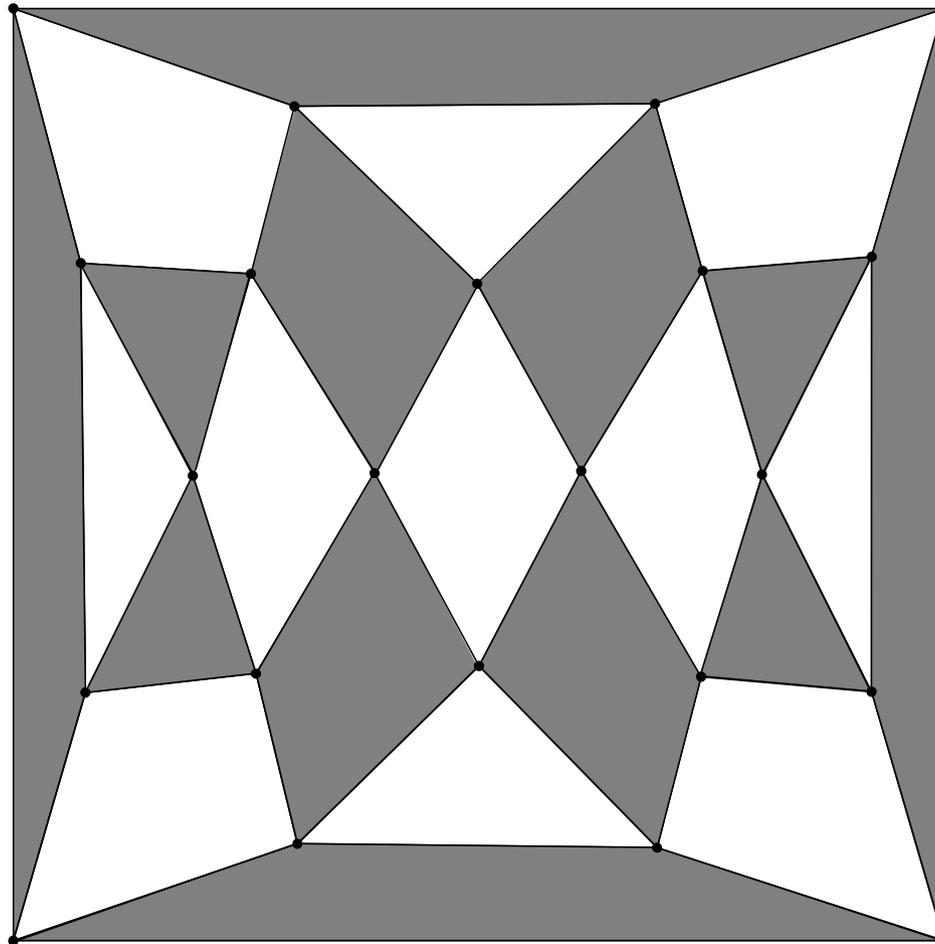
# Inverse medial graph

If  $G$  is a 4-valent plane graph, we want to find the graphs  $H$  such that  $G = \text{Med}(H)$ .



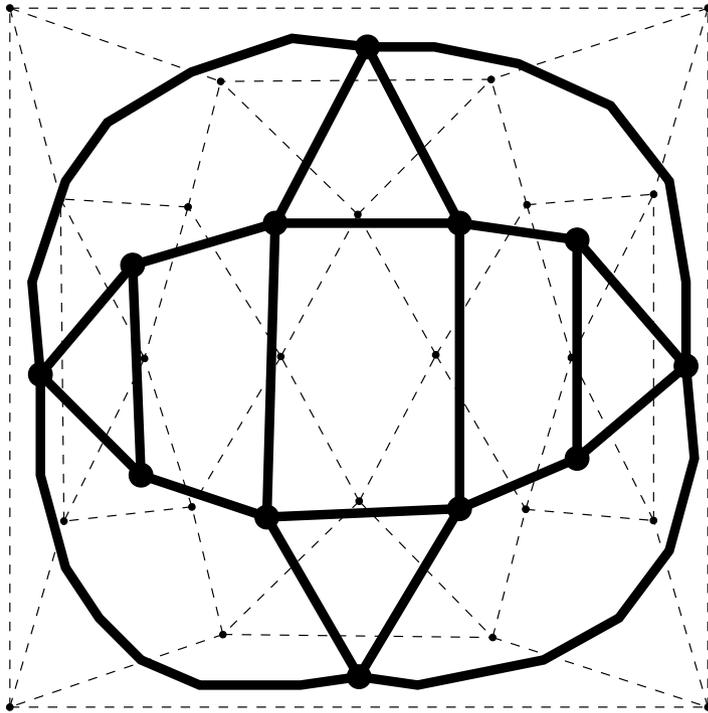
# Inverse medial graph

Take  $\mathcal{C}_1$  (■),  $\mathcal{C}_2$  (□) a bipartition of the face-set of  $G$  or in other word a chess coloring.

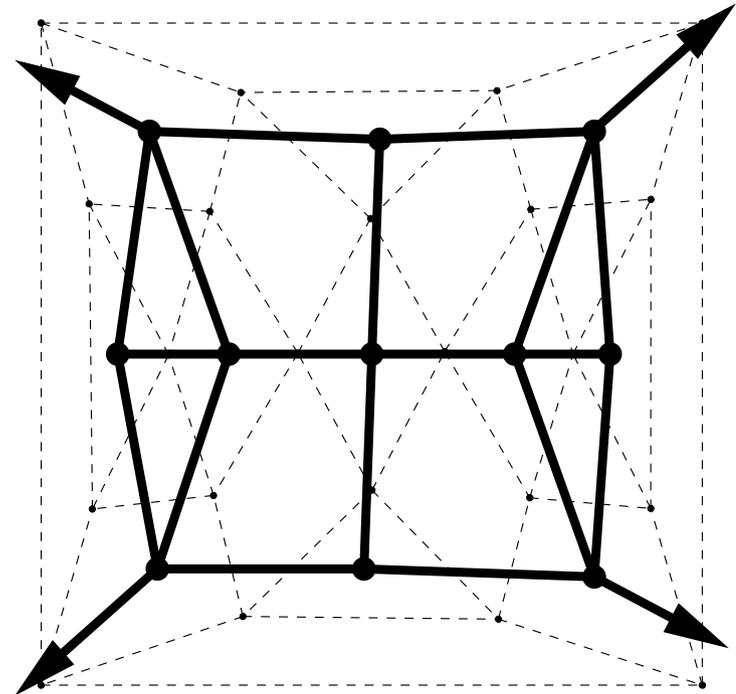


# Inverse medial graph

We form two plane graphs  $H_{black}$  and  $H_{white}$  with the black and white faces.



From the **black** faces



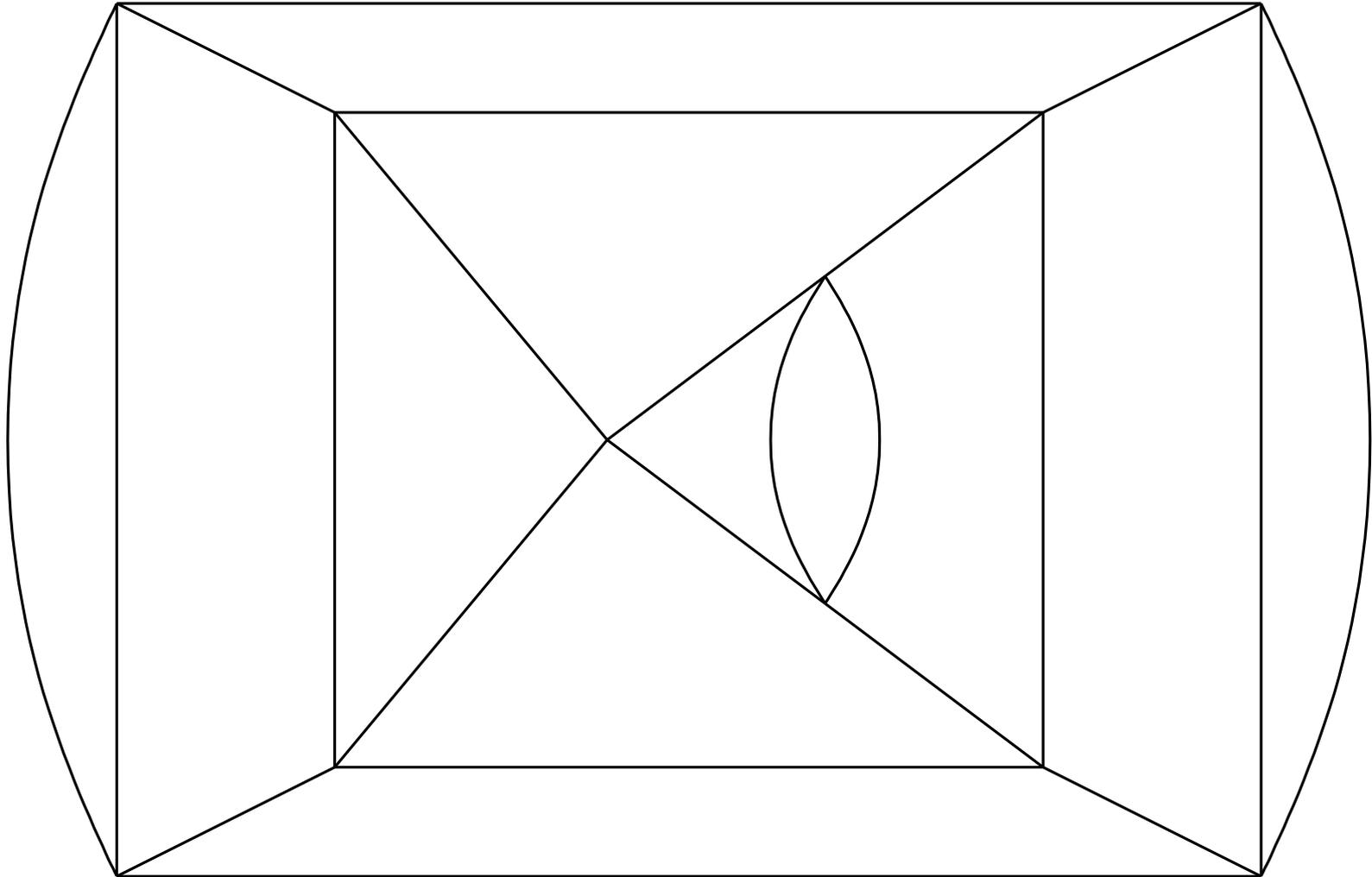
From the **white** faces

Note that  $H_{black}$  can be isomorphic to  $H_{white}$ ;  
 $Med(Tetrahedron) = Octahedron$ .

# II. Zigzags and central circuits

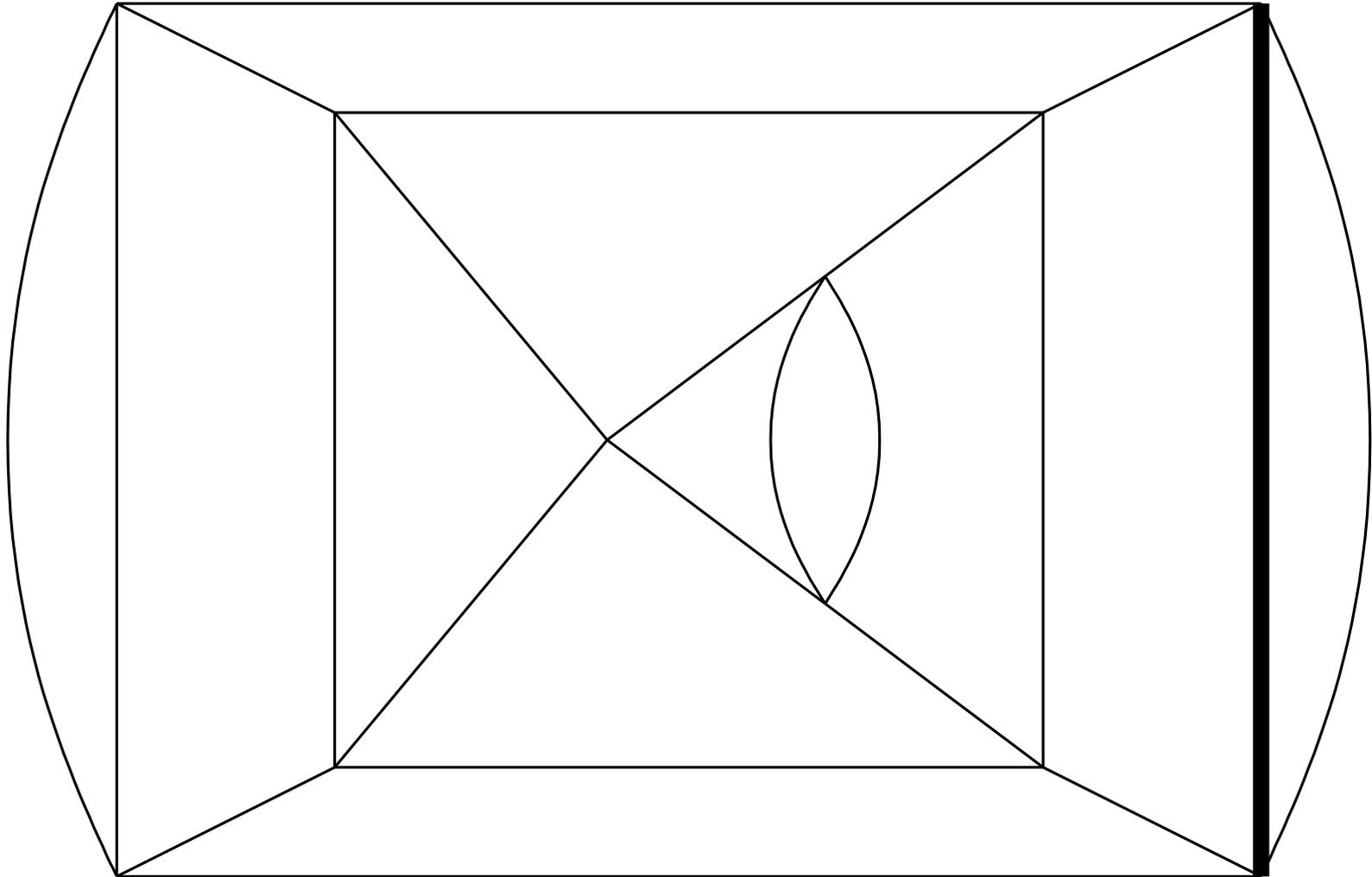
# Central circuits

A 4-valent plane graph  $G$



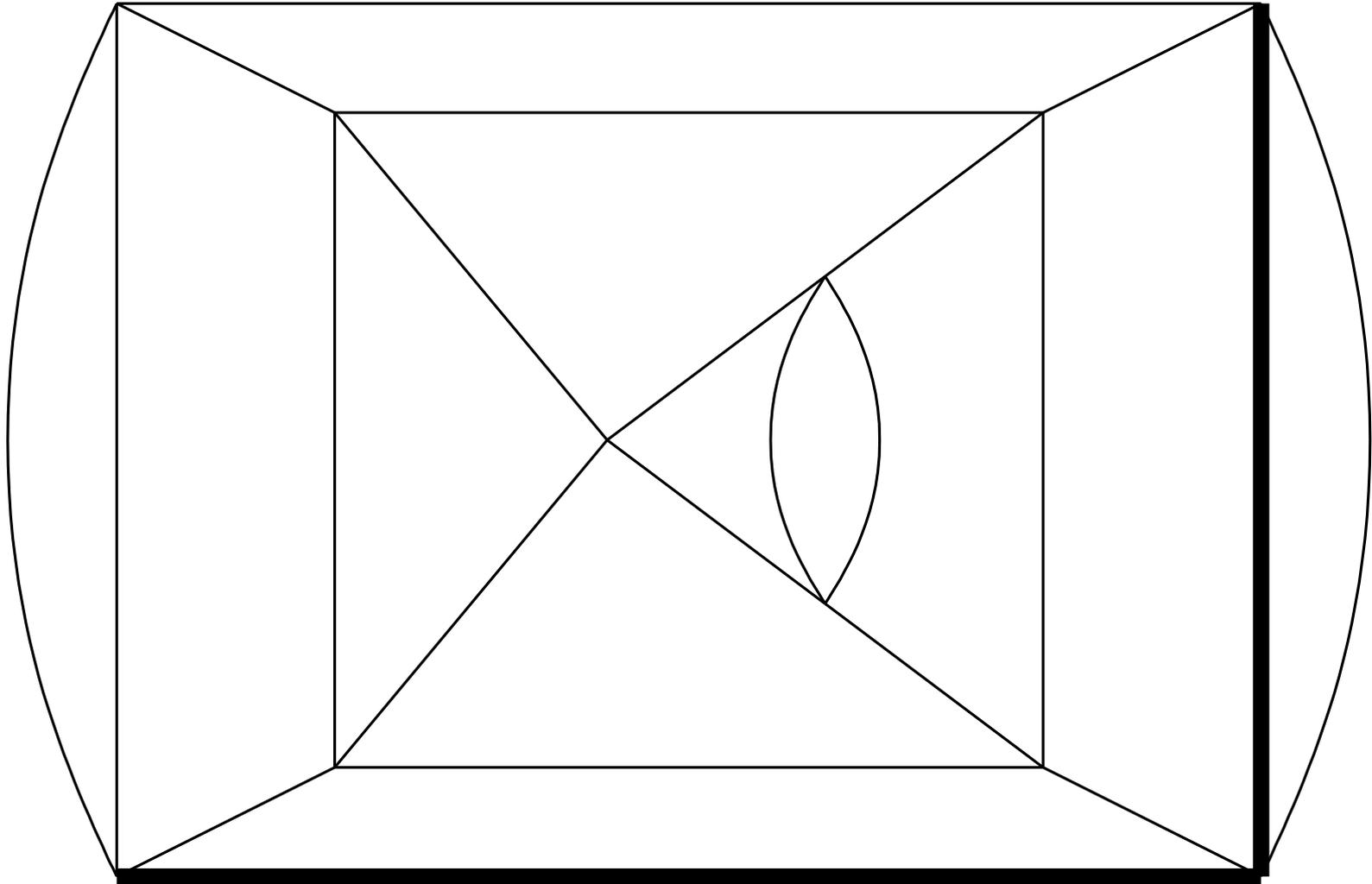
# Central circuits

Take an edge of  $G$



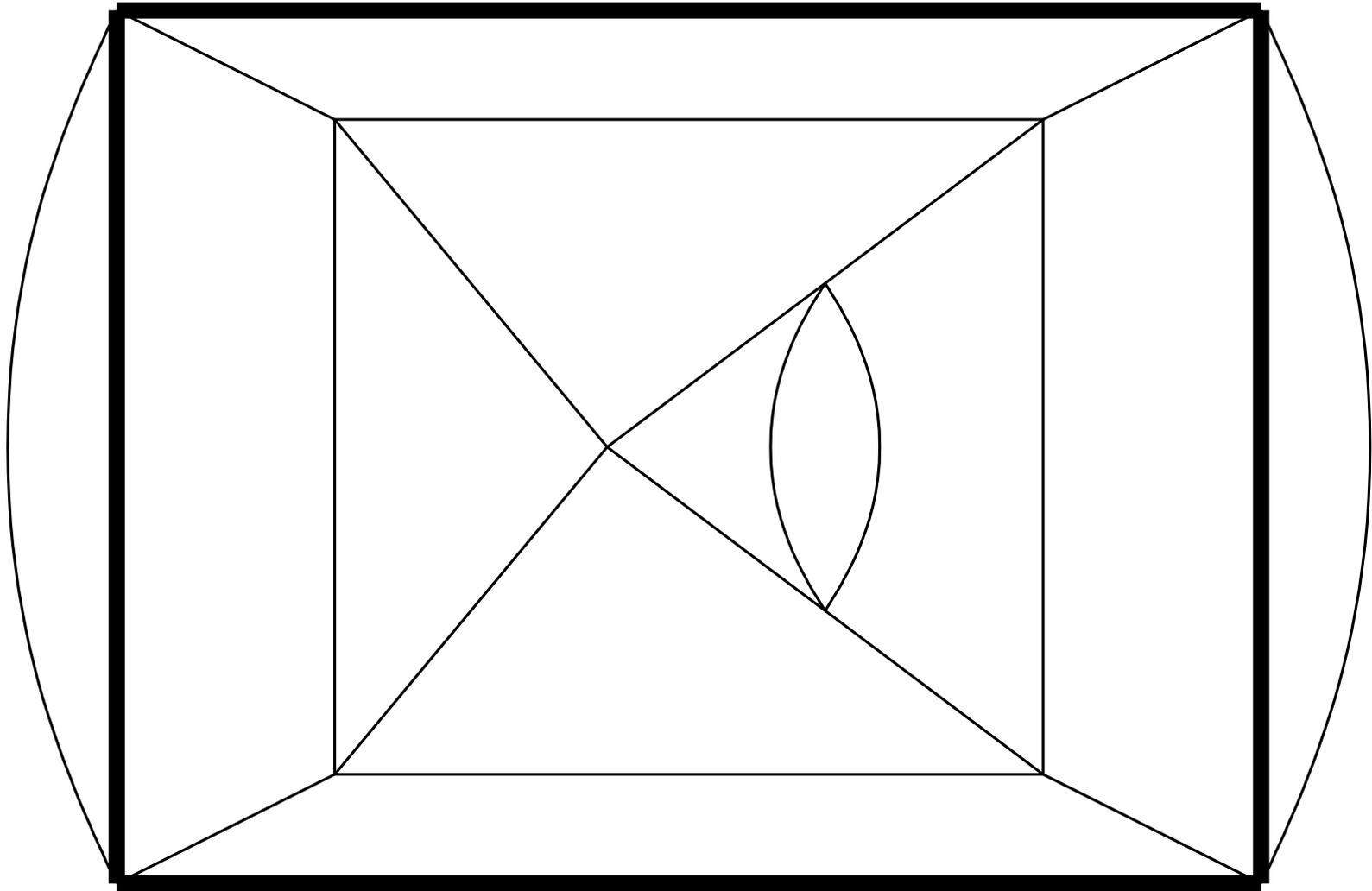
# Central circuits

Continue it straight ahead ...



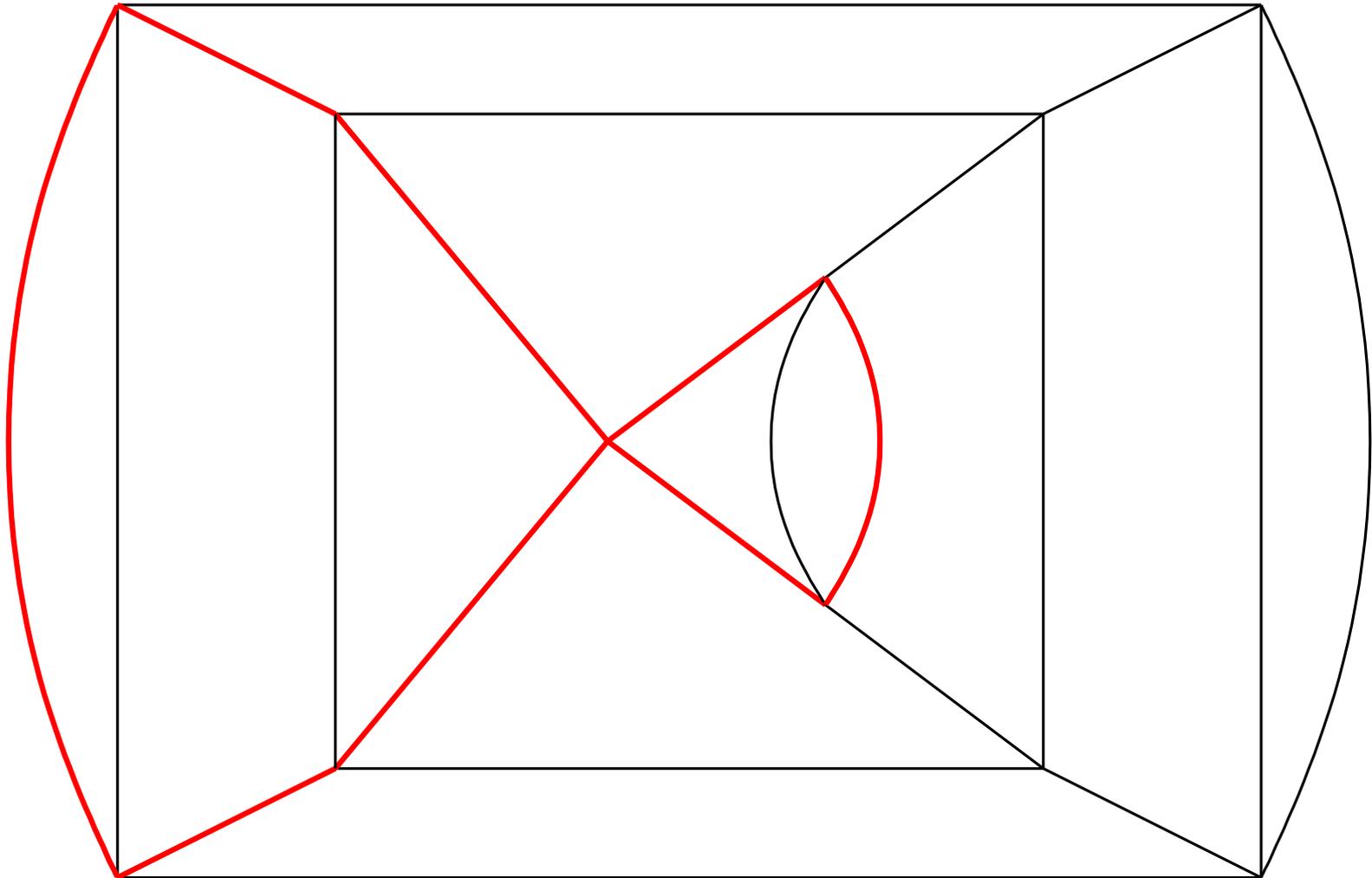
# Central circuits

... until the end



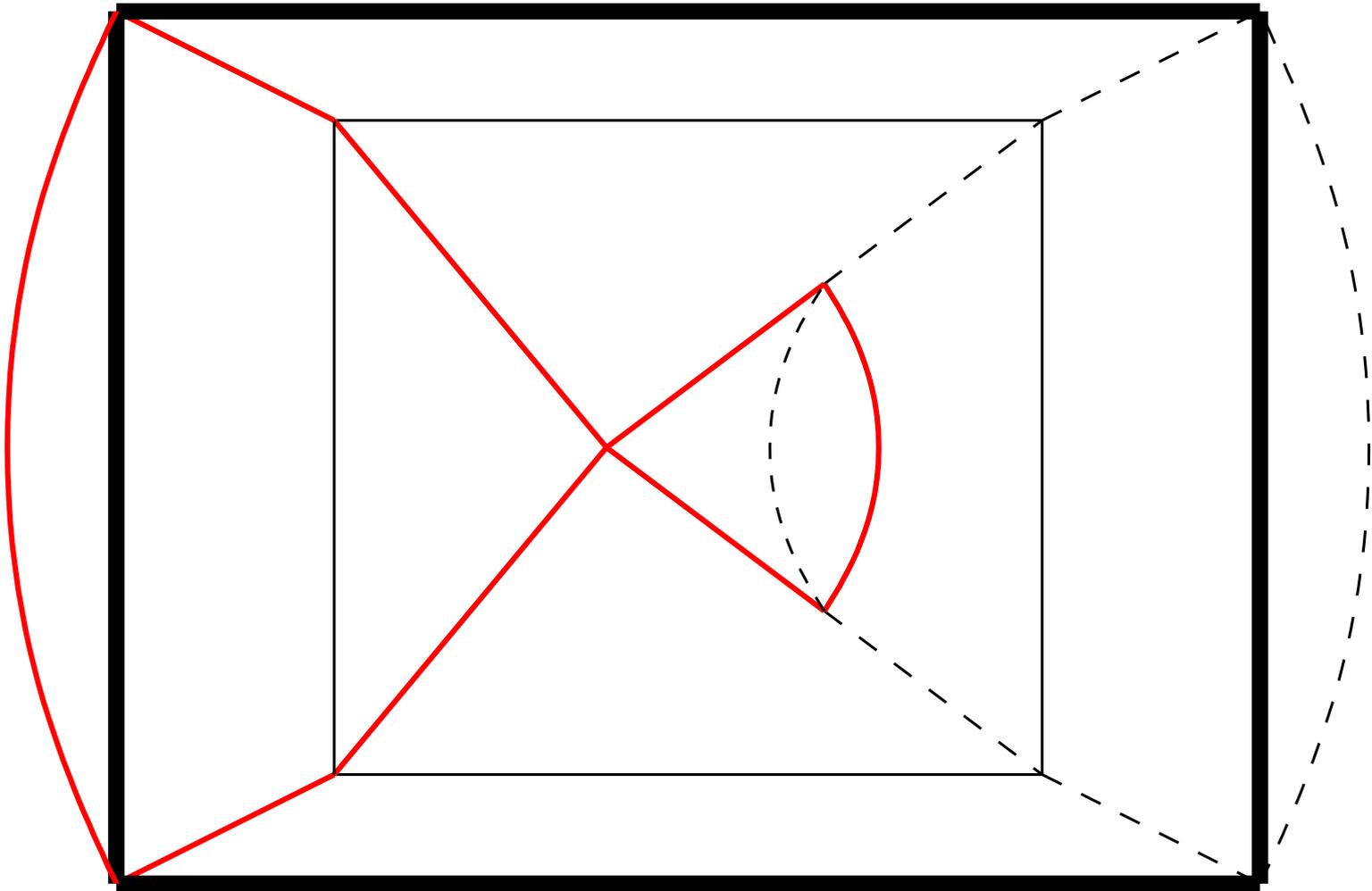
# Central circuits

A self-intersecting central circuit



# Central circuits

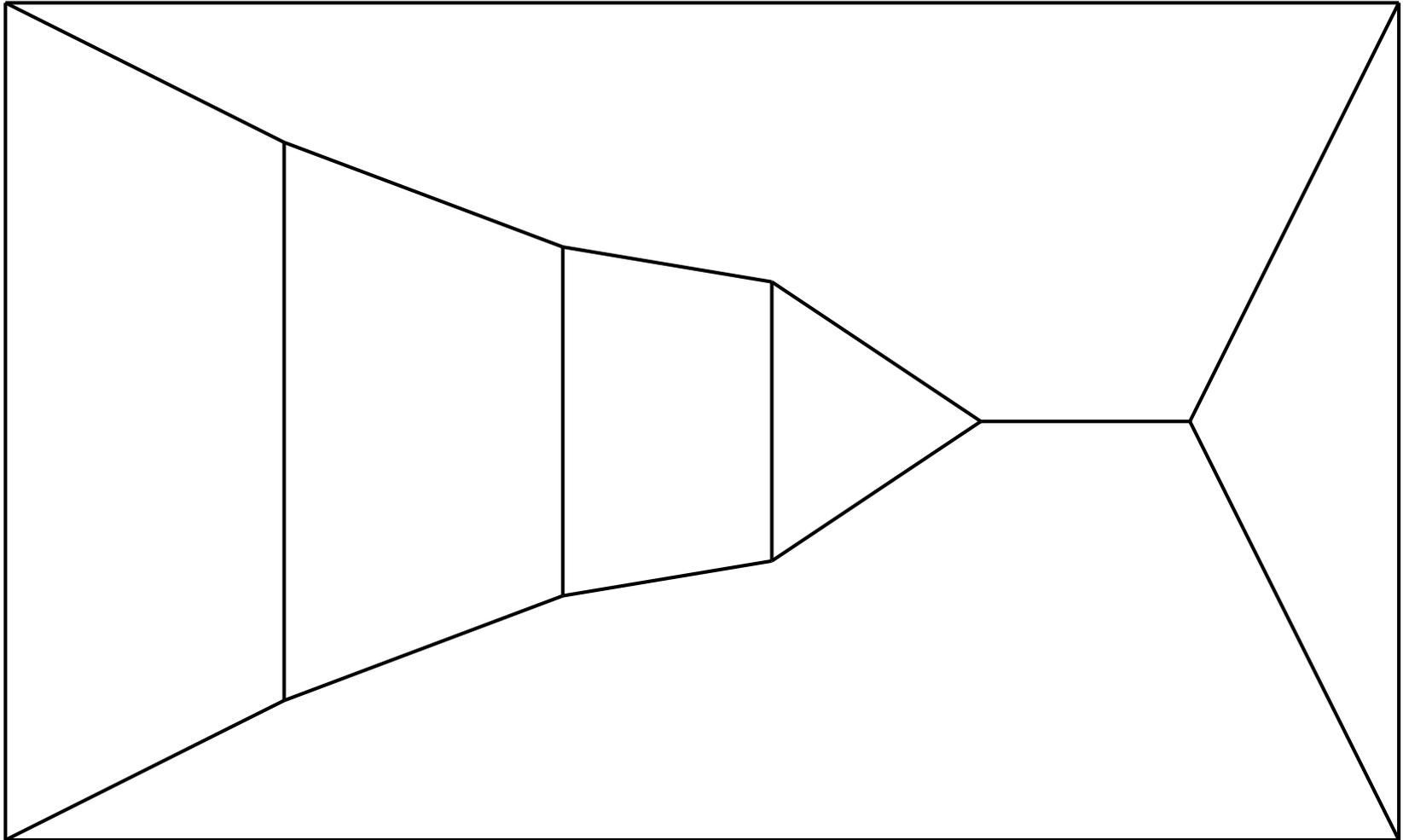
A partition of edges of  $G$



$$CC=4^2, 6, 8$$

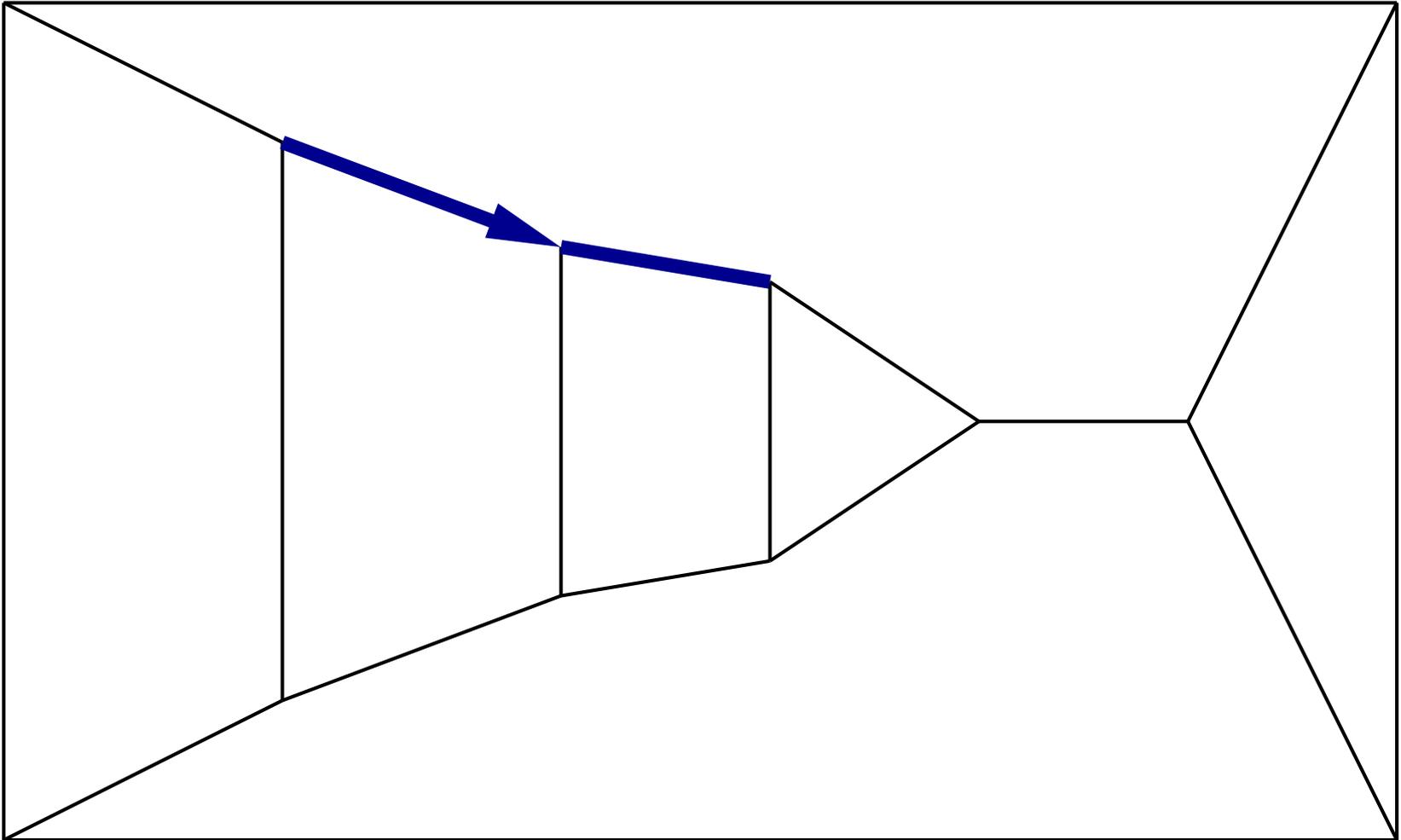
# Zigzags

A plane graph  $G$



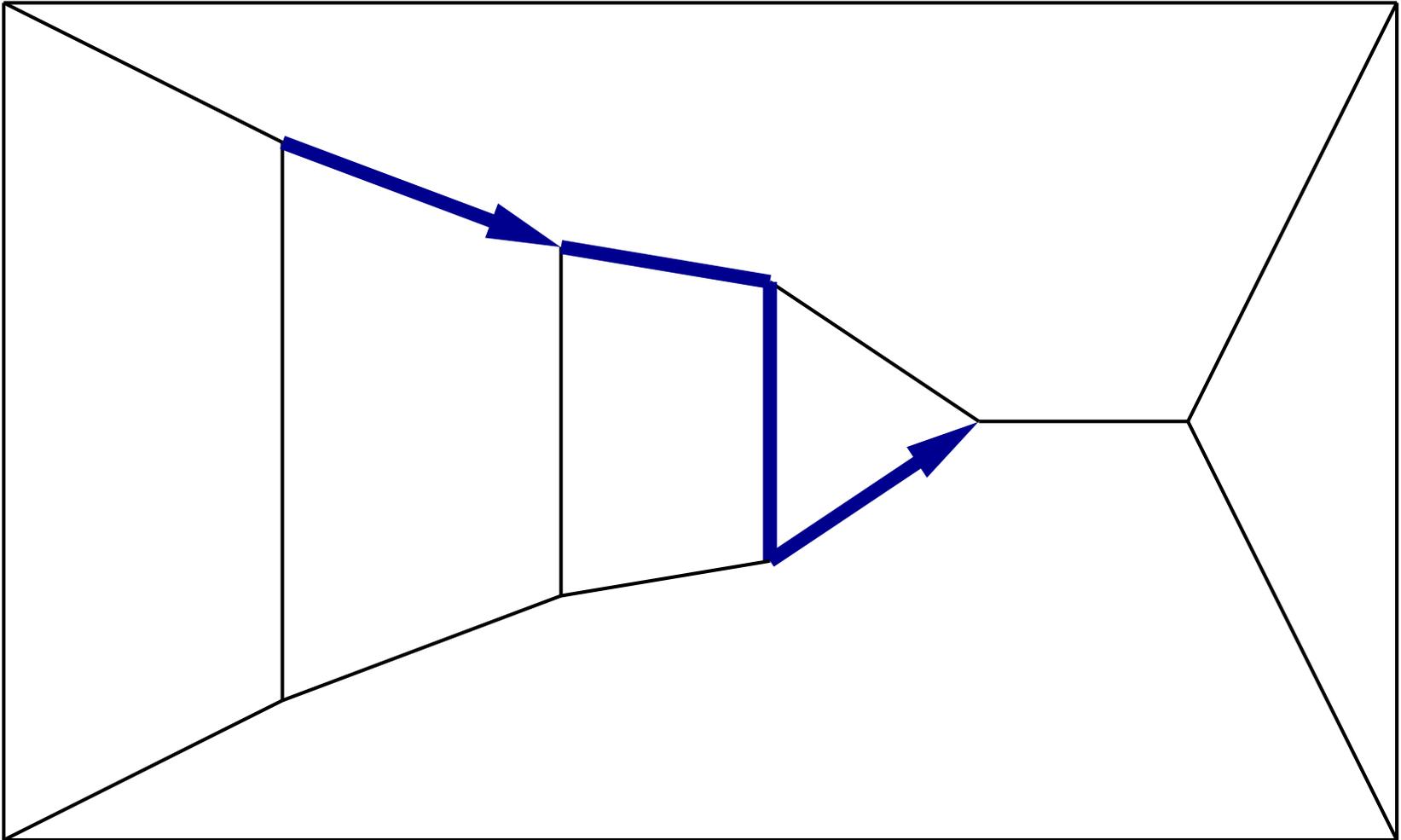
# Zigzags

take two edges



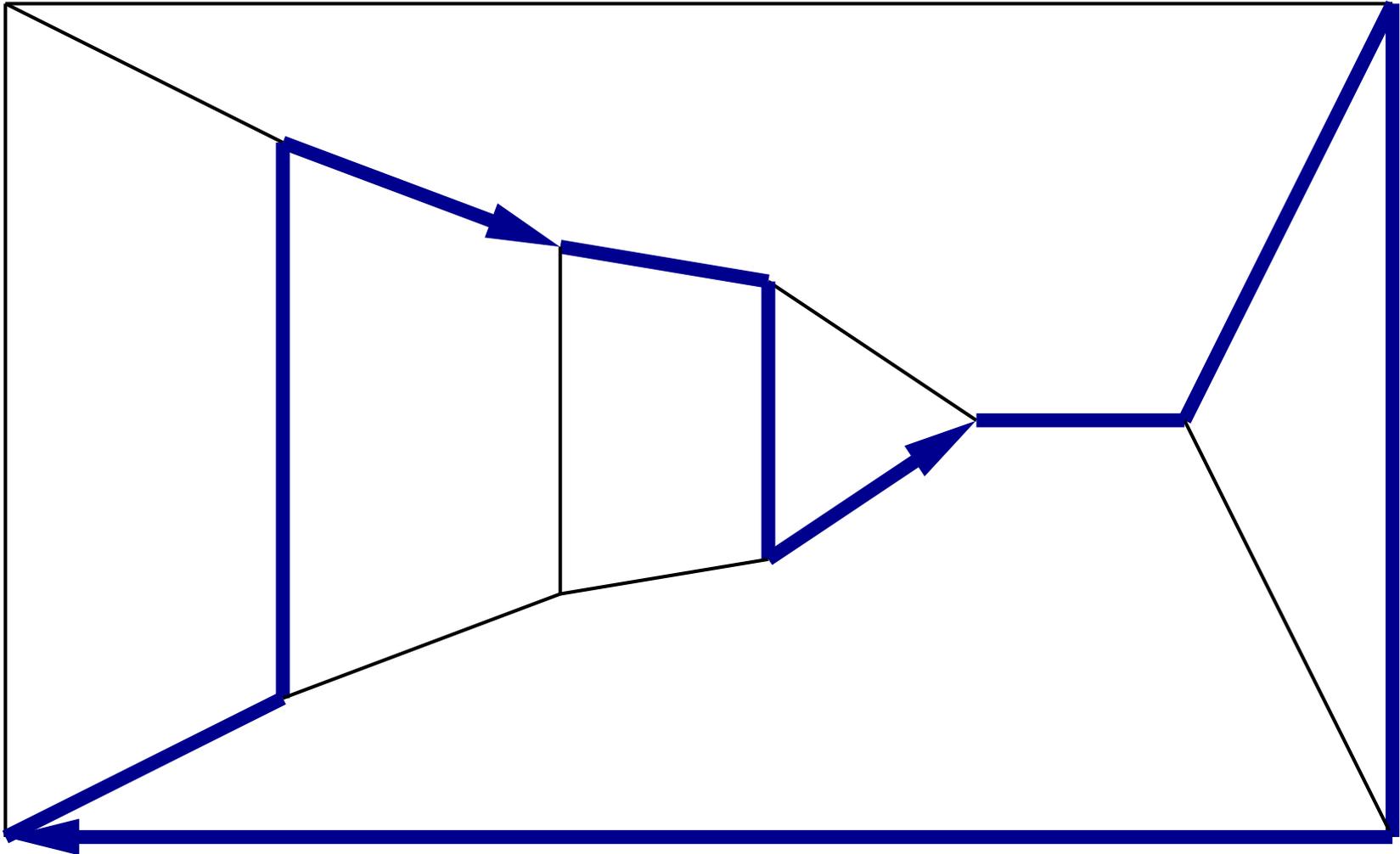
# Zigzags

Continue it left–right alternatively ....



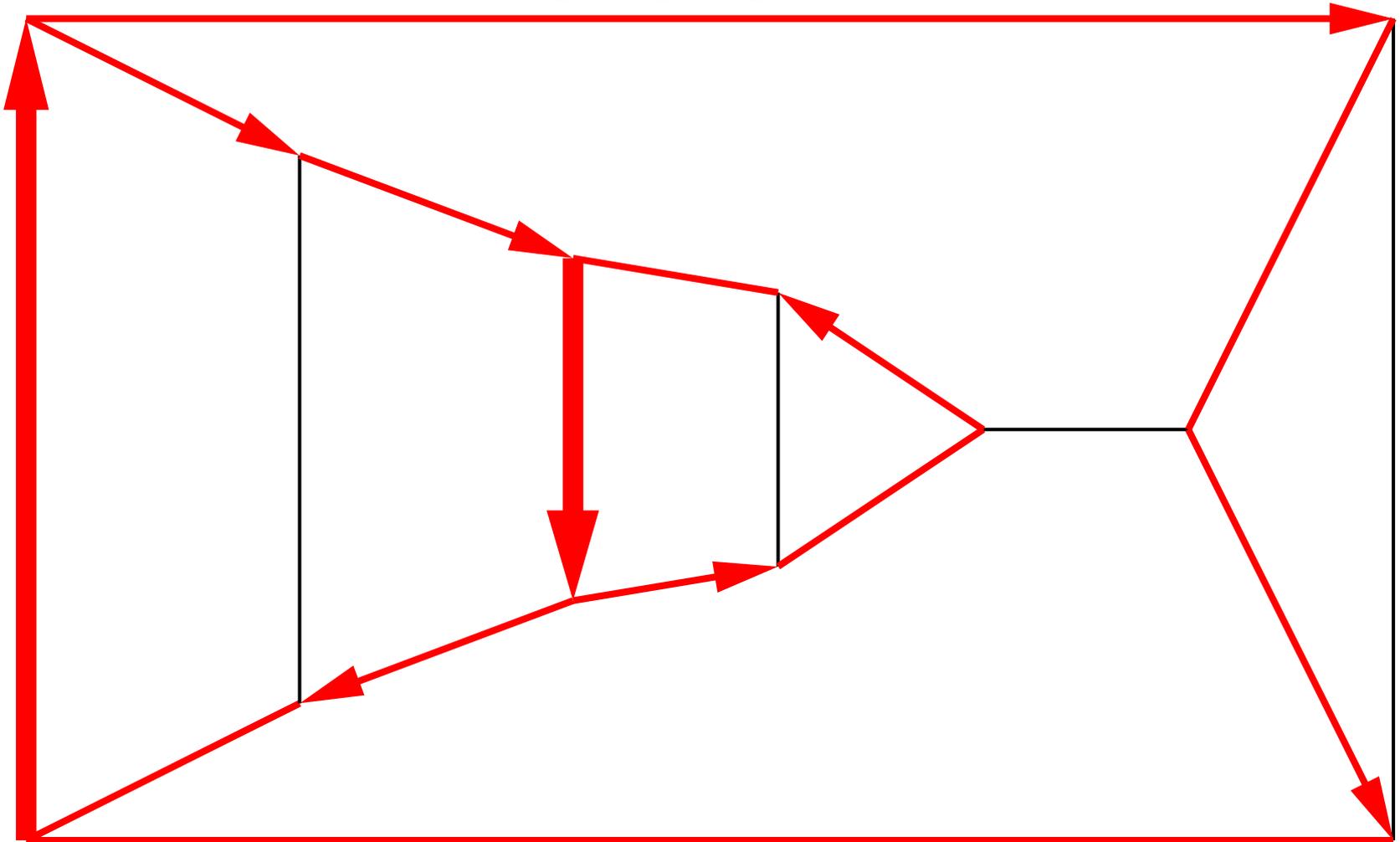
# Zigzags

... until we come back.



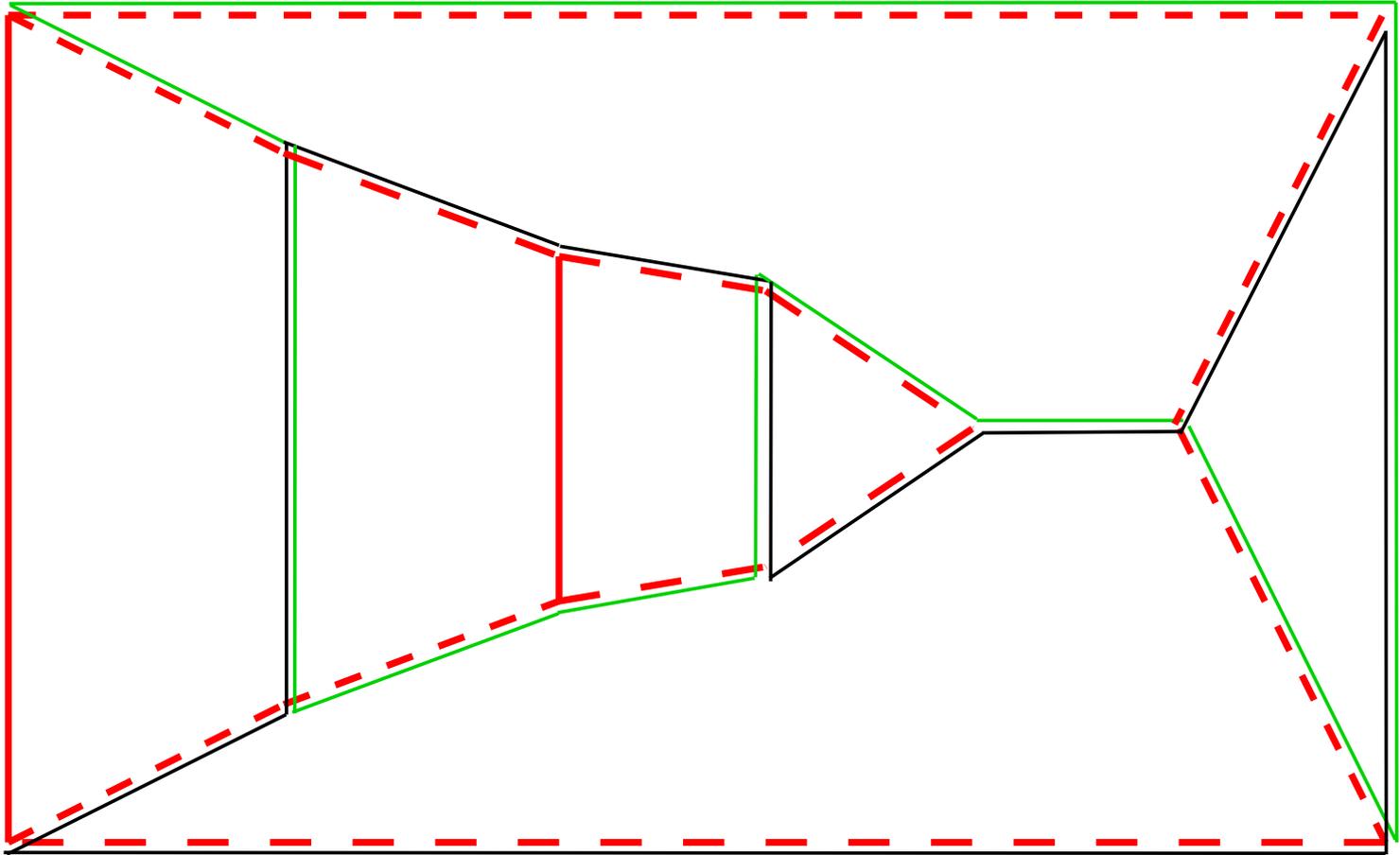
# Zigzags

A self-intersecting zigzag



# Zigzags

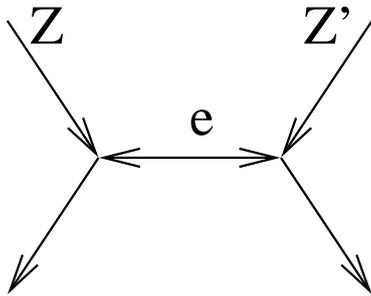
A double covering of 18 edges: 10+10+16



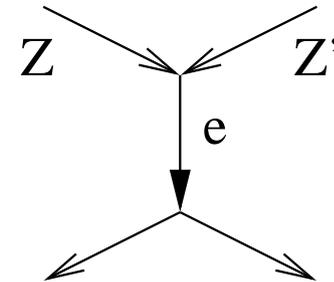
z-vector  $z=10^2, 16_{2,0}$

# Intersection types for zigzags

Let  $Z$  and  $Z'$  be (possibly,  $Z = Z'$ ) zigzags of a plane graph  $G$  and let an orientation be selected on them. An edge of intersection  $Z \cap Z'$  is called of **type I** or **type II**, if  $Z$  and  $Z'$  traverse  $e$  in opposite or same direction, respectively



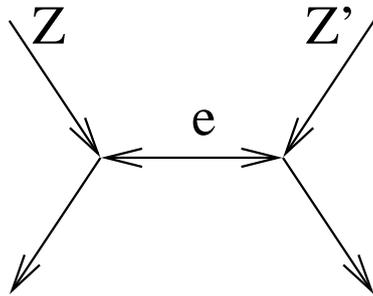
type I



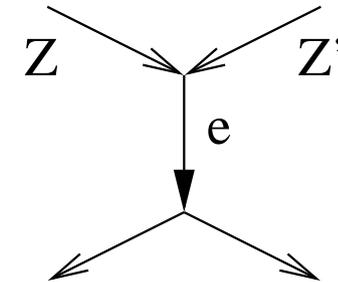
type II

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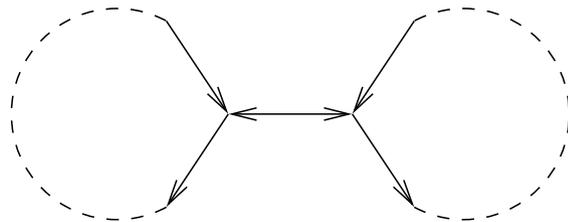


type I

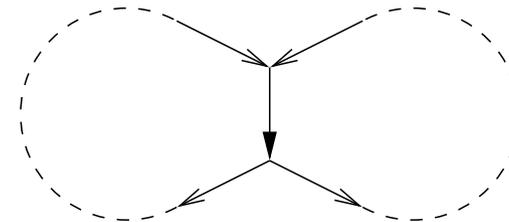


type II

The types of self-intersection depends on orientation chosen on zigzags except if  $Z = Z'$ :



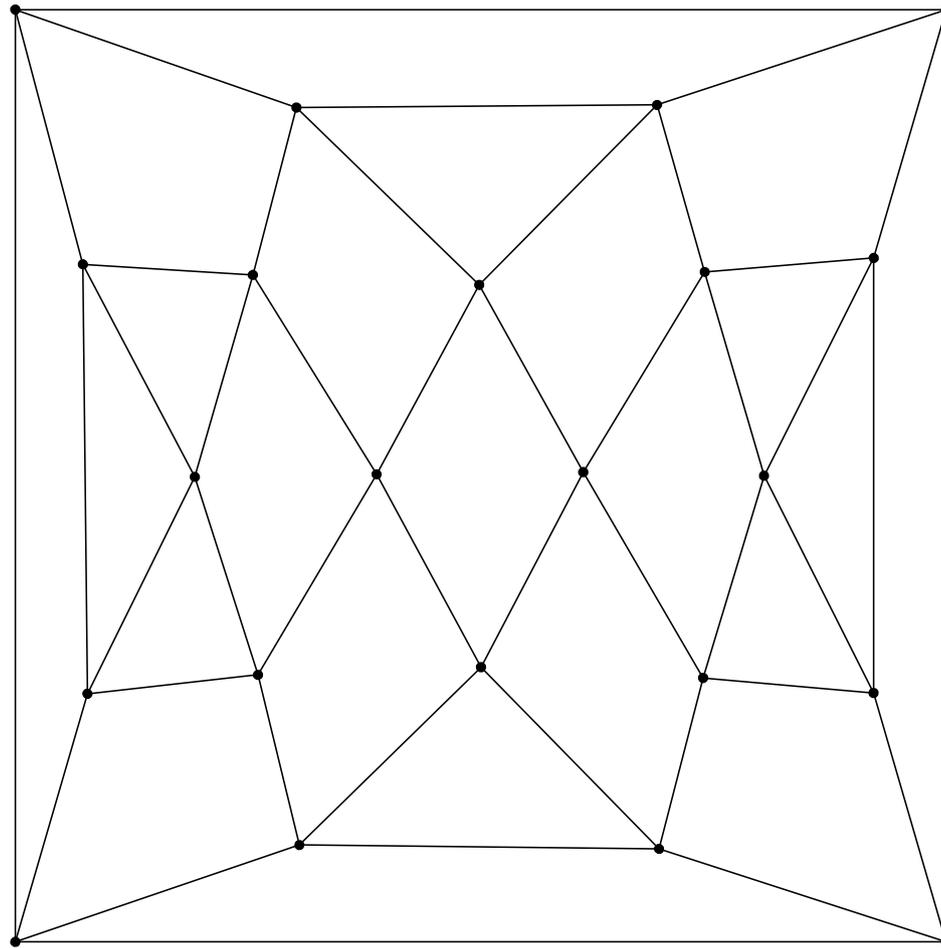
type I



type II

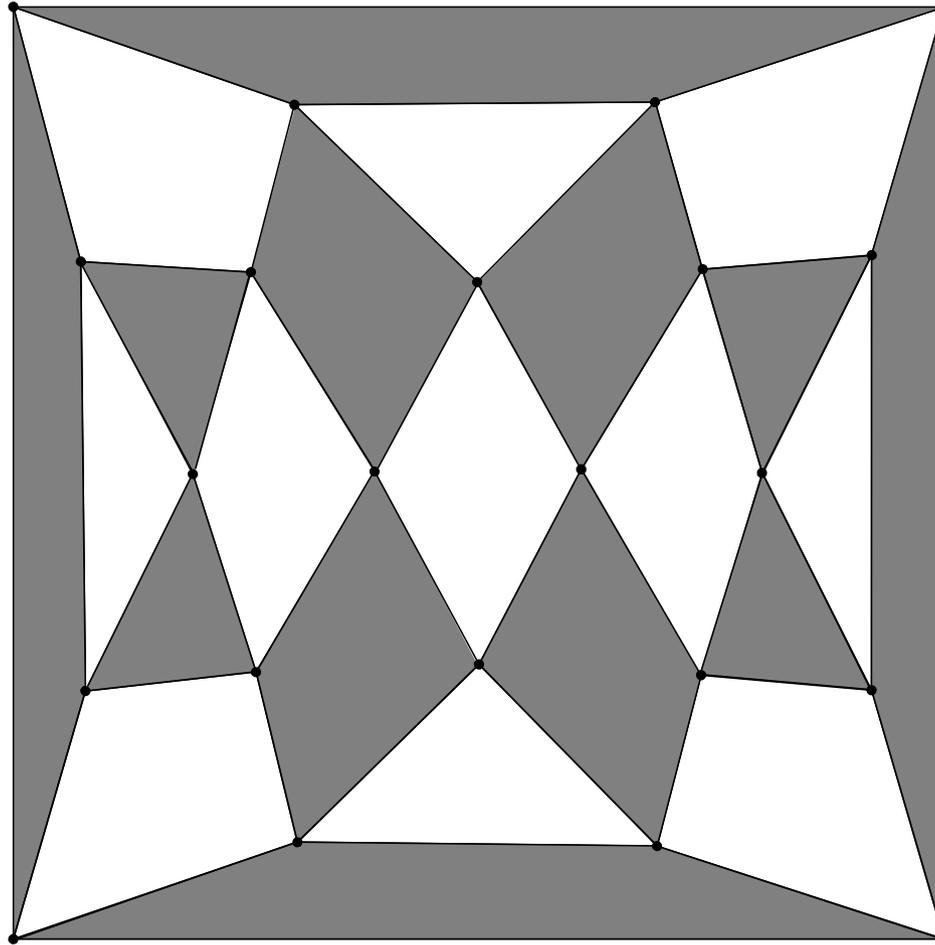
# Intersection types for central circuits

Let  $G$  be a 4-valent plane graph



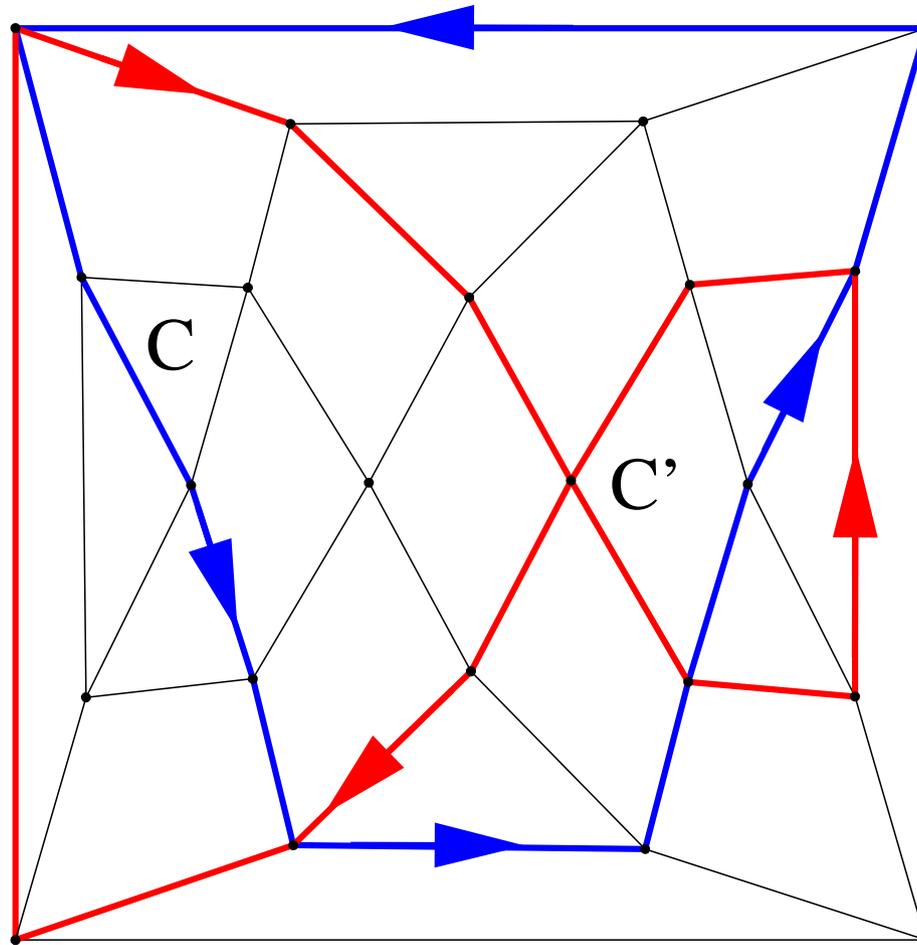
# Intersection types for central circuits

Take  $\mathcal{C}_1(\blacksquare)$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_2(\square)$  a bipartition of the face-set of  $G$



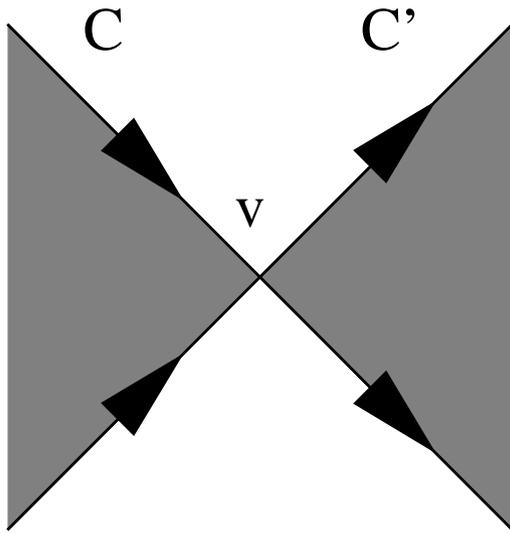
# Intersection types for central circuits

Let  $C$  and  $C'$  be two central circuits of  $G$  and let an orientation be selected on them.

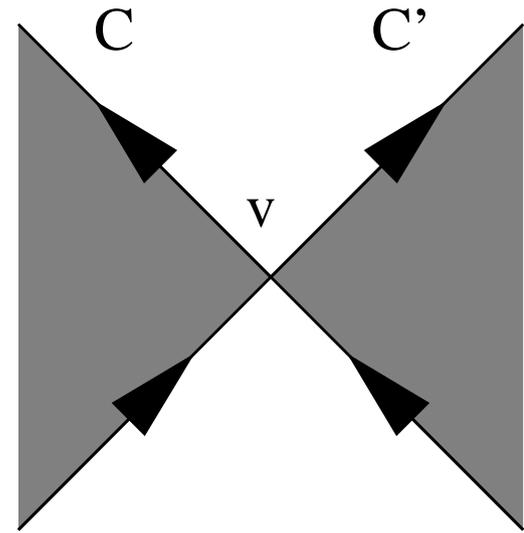


# Intersection types for central circuits

Local View on a vertex  $v$  and type



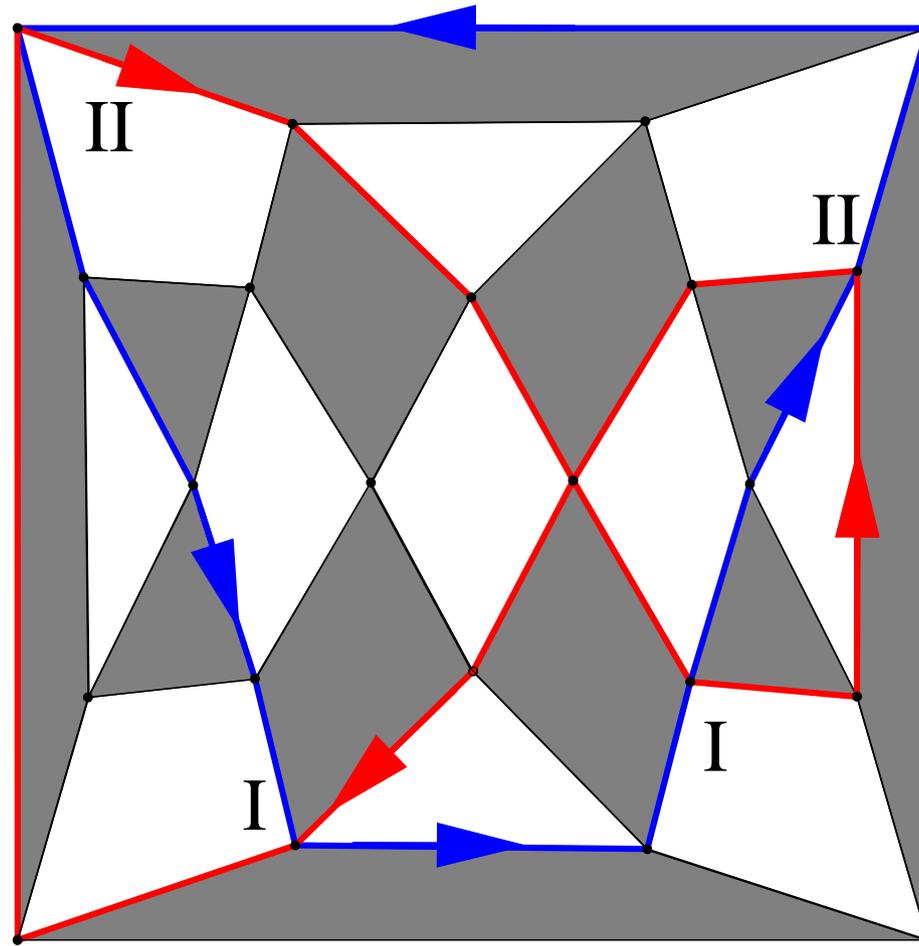
Type I



Type II

# Intersection types for central circuits

$C$  and  $C'$  have 2 intersections I and 2 intersection II



# Duality and types

## Theorem

*The zigzags of a plane graph  $G$  are in one-to-one correspondence with zigzags of  $G^*$ . The length is preserved, but intersection of type I and II are interchanged.*

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a plane graph; for any orientation of all zigzags of  $G$ , we have:*

- (i) The number of edges of type II, which are incident to any fixed **vertex**, is even.*
- (ii) The number of edges of type I, which are incident to any fixed **face**, is even.*





# Notation

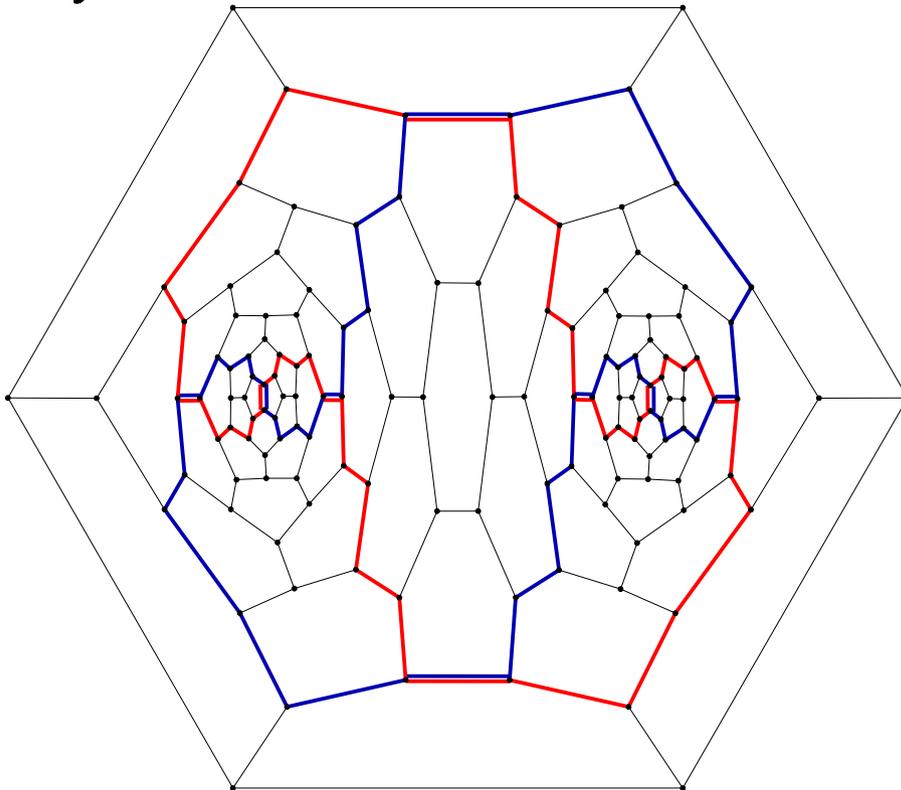
- **ZC-circuit** stands for “zigzag or central circuit” in 3- or 4-valent plane graphs.
- The **length** of a ZC-circuit is the number of its edges.
- The **ZC-vector** of a 3- or 4-valent plane graph  $G_0$  is the vector  $\dots, c_k^{m_k}, \dots$  where  $m_k$  is the number of ZC-circuits of length  $c_k$ .
- A graph is ZC-transitive if its group of automorphism is transitive on the set of ZC-circuits.
- Zigzags are also called **left-right paths** (Shank) or **Petri paths**, from **Petri polygons** of polytopes (Coxeter).

# Zigzags versus spanning trees

- Given a plane graph  $G$  with vertices  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  and the adjacency matrix  $A(G)$ , the **Laplacian** of  $G$  is the matrix  $L(G) = D(G) - A(G)$ , where  $D(G)$  is a diagonal matrix with  $d_{ii}$  being the degree of vertex  $v_i$ .
- **Kirchhoff**: the the number of spanning trees of  $G$  is equal to the determinant of any minor of  $L(G)$ .
- **Shank**: to **every zigzag**  $z$  of  $G$  corresponds an element  $x(z) \in \{0, 1\}^n$  which is a basic element of the kernel of  $L(G)$  (equation  $Lx = 0$  over  $\{0, 1\}$ ).
- So, the **number of zigzags**  $Z(G)$  is equal to corank of  $L(G)$  over  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ ; co-rank of any minor of  $L(G)$  is  $Z(G)-1$ .
- **Godsil-Royle**: the number of spanning trees of  $G$  is **odd** if and only if  $G$  is  **$z$ -knotted**.

# Intersection of two simple ZC-circuits

- For the class of **graph**  $4_n$  the size of the intersection of two simple zigzags belongs to  $\{0, 2, 4, 6\}$ .
- For classes of **octahedrites**, **graph**  $3_n$  or **graph**  $5_n$  the size of the intersection of two simple ZC-circuits can be any **even number**.



Two simple zigzags  
of a graph  $5_n$  with  
 $|Z \cap Z'| = 8$ .

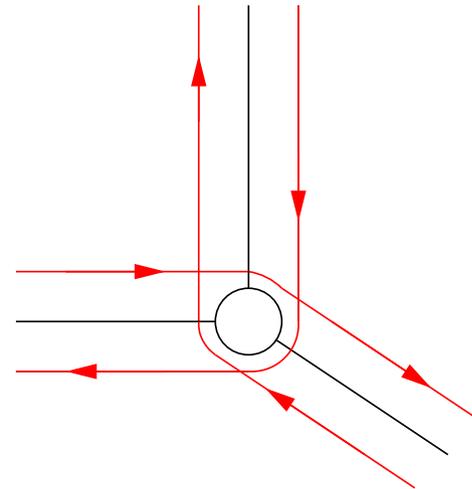
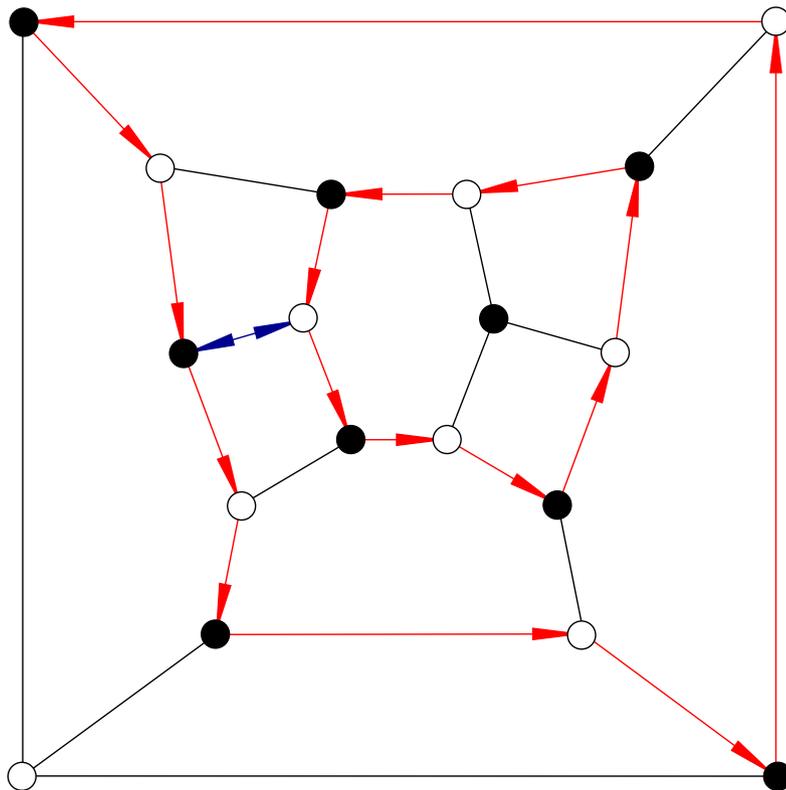
On surfaces of  
genus  $g \geq 1$ , the  
intersection can be  
odd.

# Bipartite graphs

Remark A plane graph is *bipartite* if and only if its faces have even gonality.

Theorem (*Shank-Shtogrin*)

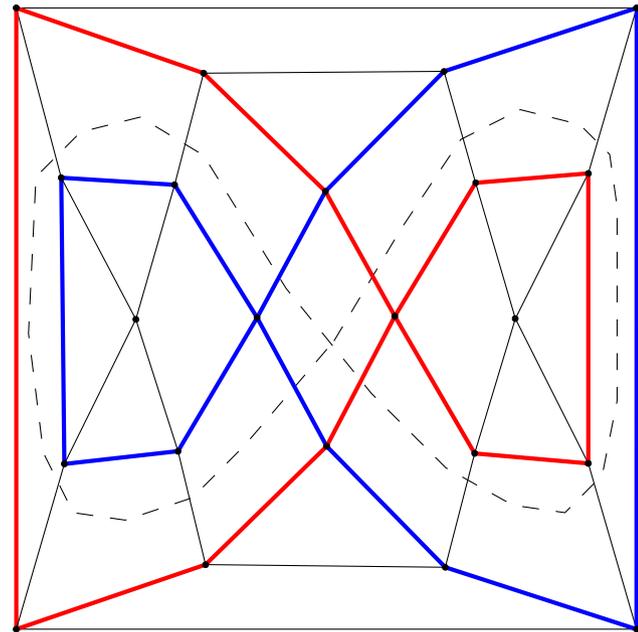
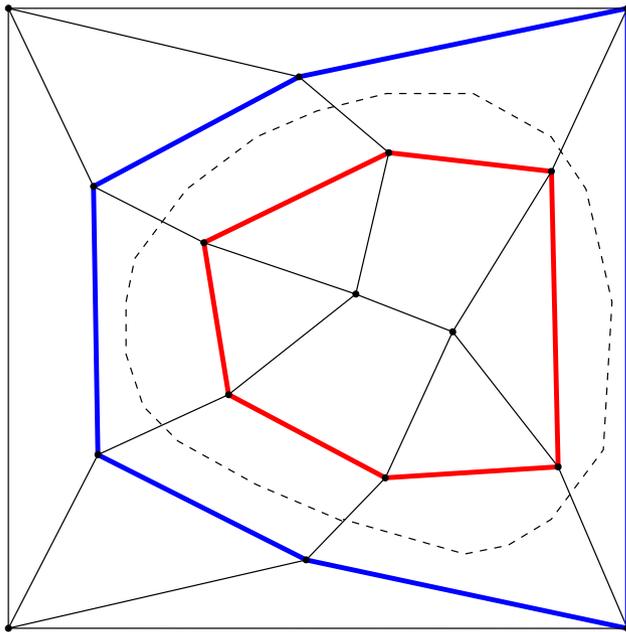
For any planar bipartite graph  $G$  there exist an orientation of zigzags, with respect to which each edge has type I.



# III. Railroad structure and tightness

# Railroads, 4-valent case

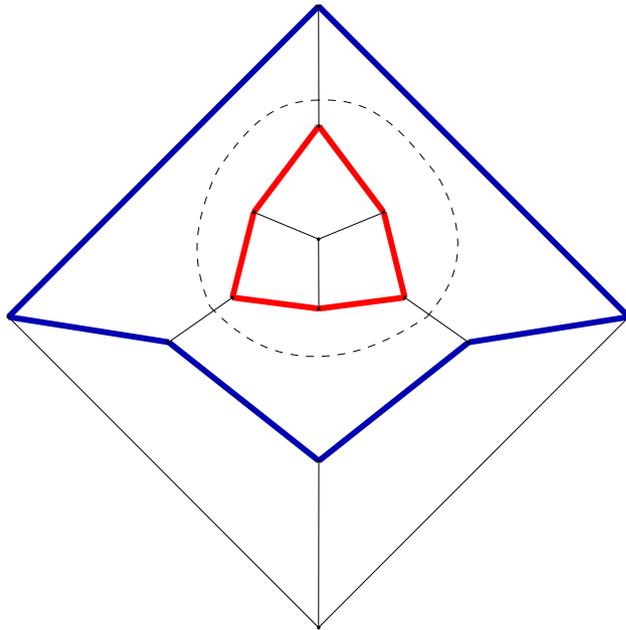
A **railroad** in an octahedrite is a circuit of square faces, such that any of them is adjacent to its neighbors on opposite faces. Any railroad is bordered by two central circuits.



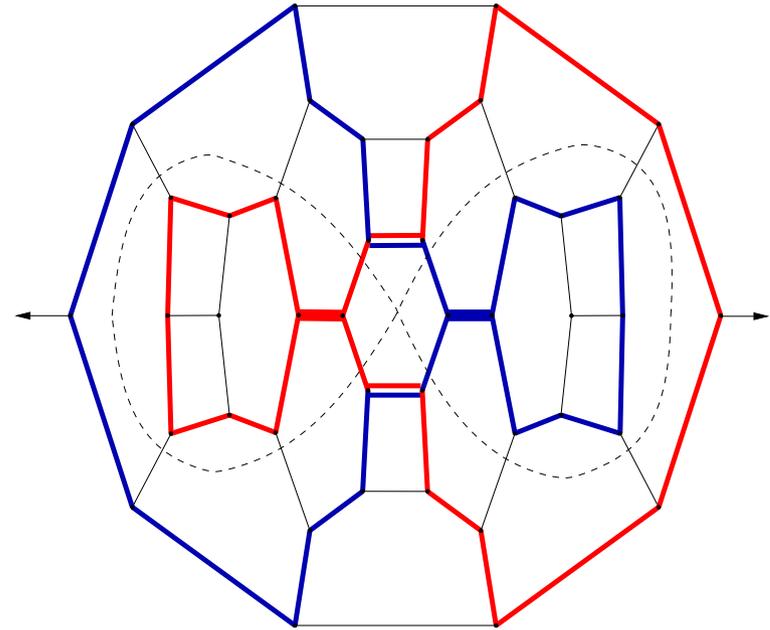
Railroads, as well as central circuits, can self-intersect. An octahedrite is called **tight** if it has no railroad.

# Railroads, 3-valent case

A **railroad** in graph  $q_n$ ,  $q = 3, 4, 5$  is a circuit of hexagonal faces, such that any of them is adjacent to its neighbors on opposite faces. Any railroad is bordered by two zigzags.



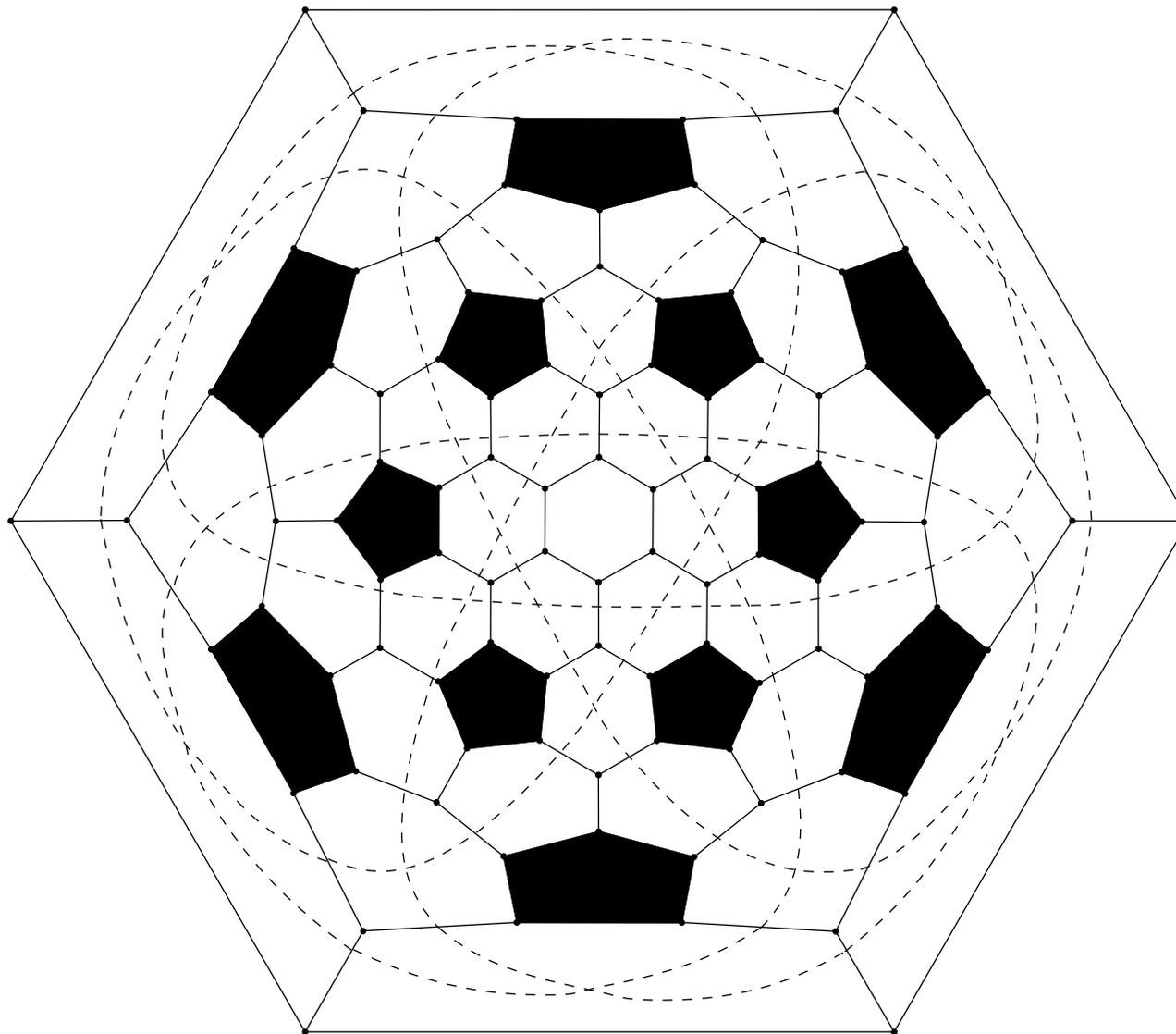
$4_{14}(D_{3h})$



$4_{42}(C_{2v})$

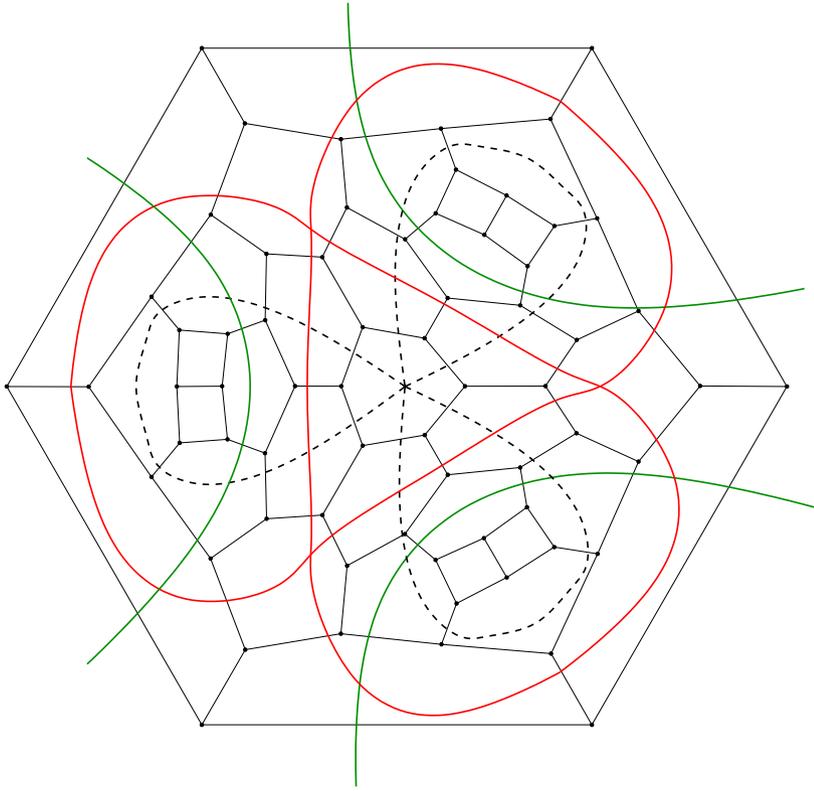
Railroads, as well as zigzags, can self-intersect (**doubly** or **triply**). A graph  $q_n$  is called **tight** if it has no railroad.

# First IPR fullerene with self-int. railroad



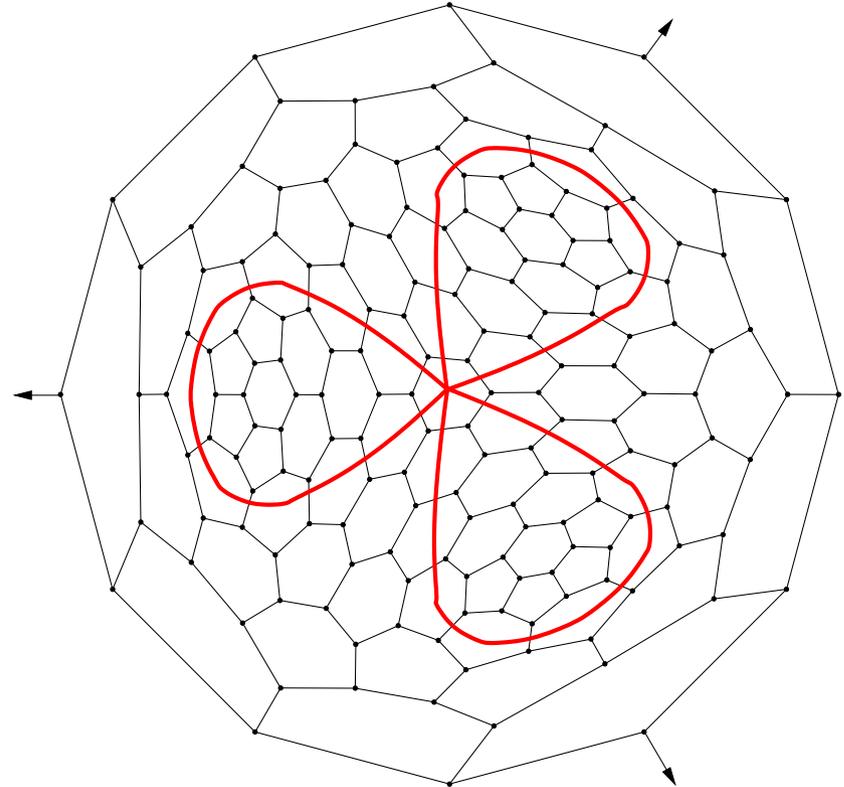
$F_{96}(D_{6d})$ ; realizes projection of **Conway knot**  $(4 \times 6)^*$

# Triple self-intersection



$466(D_{3h})$

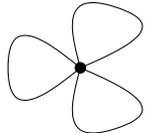
It is smallest such  $4_n$  graph.



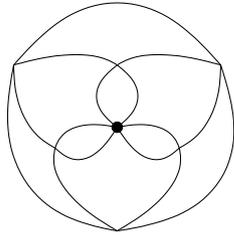
$5176(C_{3v})$

**Conjecture:** It is smallest  
such  $5_n$  graph.

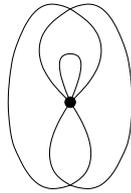
# Railroads with triple points in small $4_n$



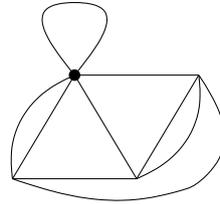
1-1



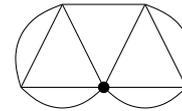
1-2



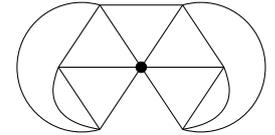
1-3



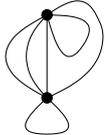
1-4



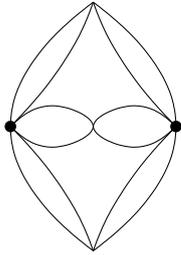
1-5



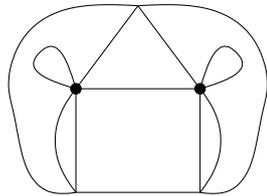
1-6



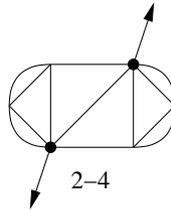
2-1



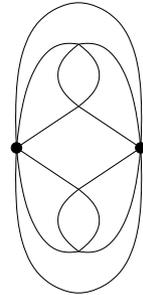
2-2



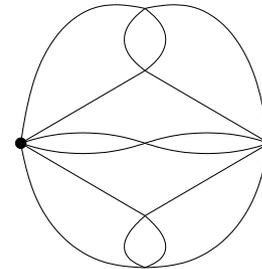
2-3



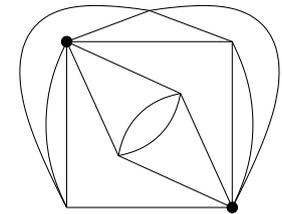
2-4



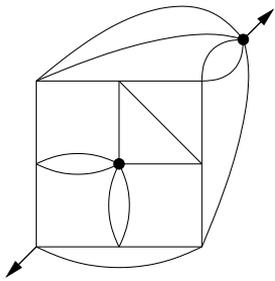
2-5



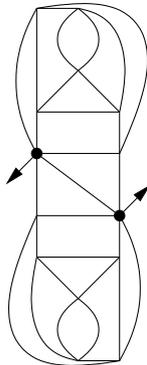
2-6



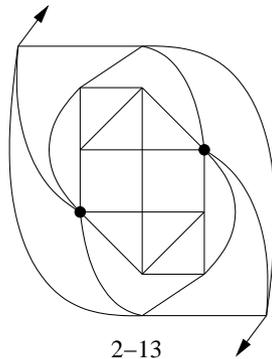
2-7



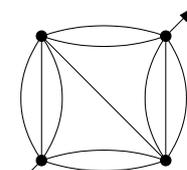
2-11



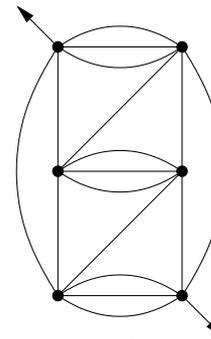
2-12



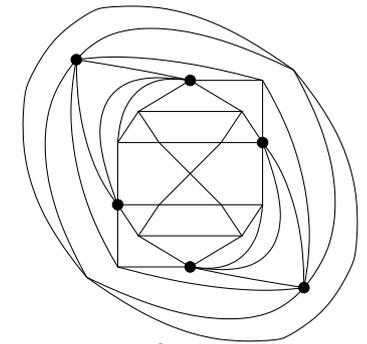
2-13



4-1



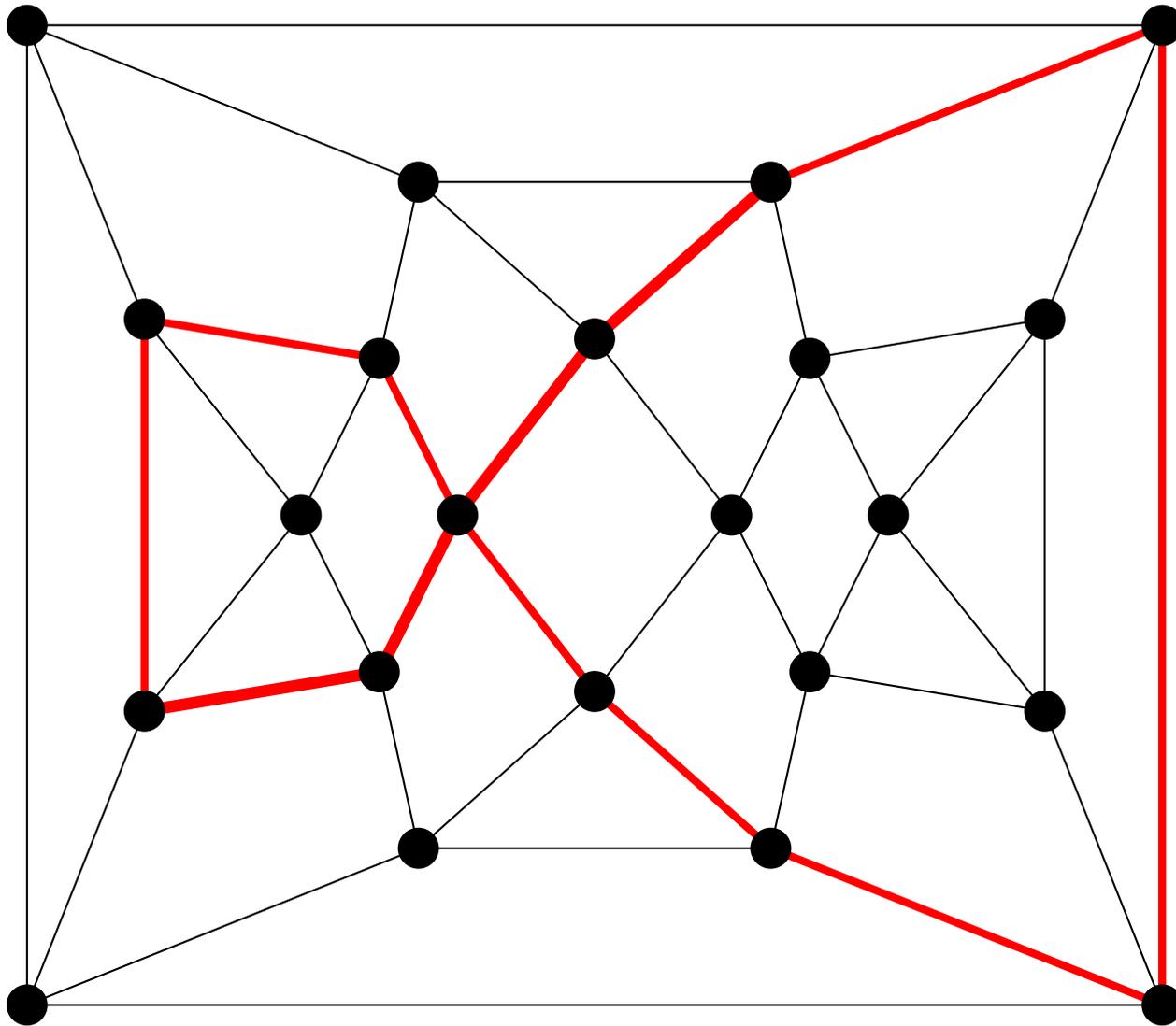
6-1



6-2

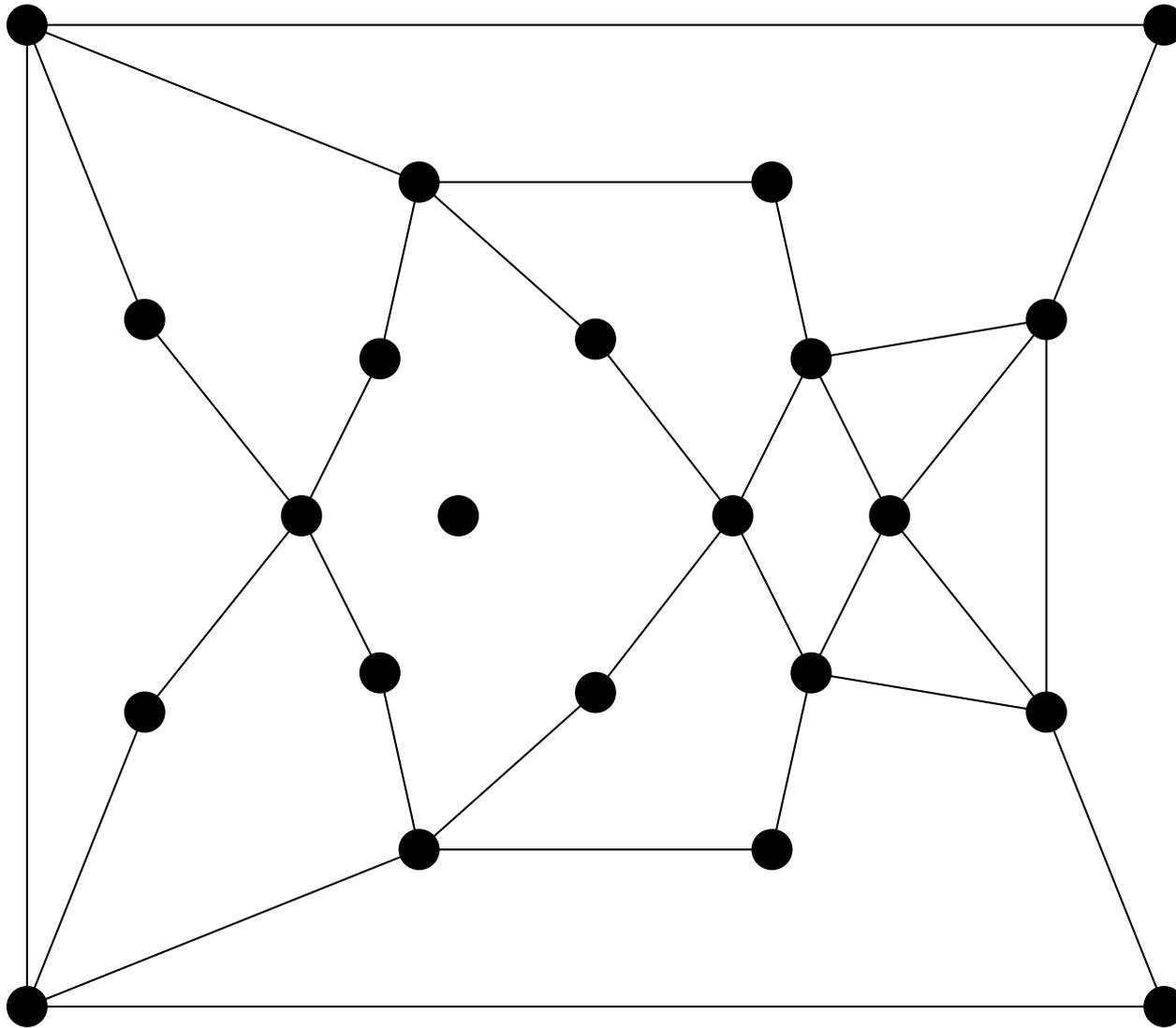
# Removing central circuits

Take a 4-valent plane graph  $G$  and a central circuit.



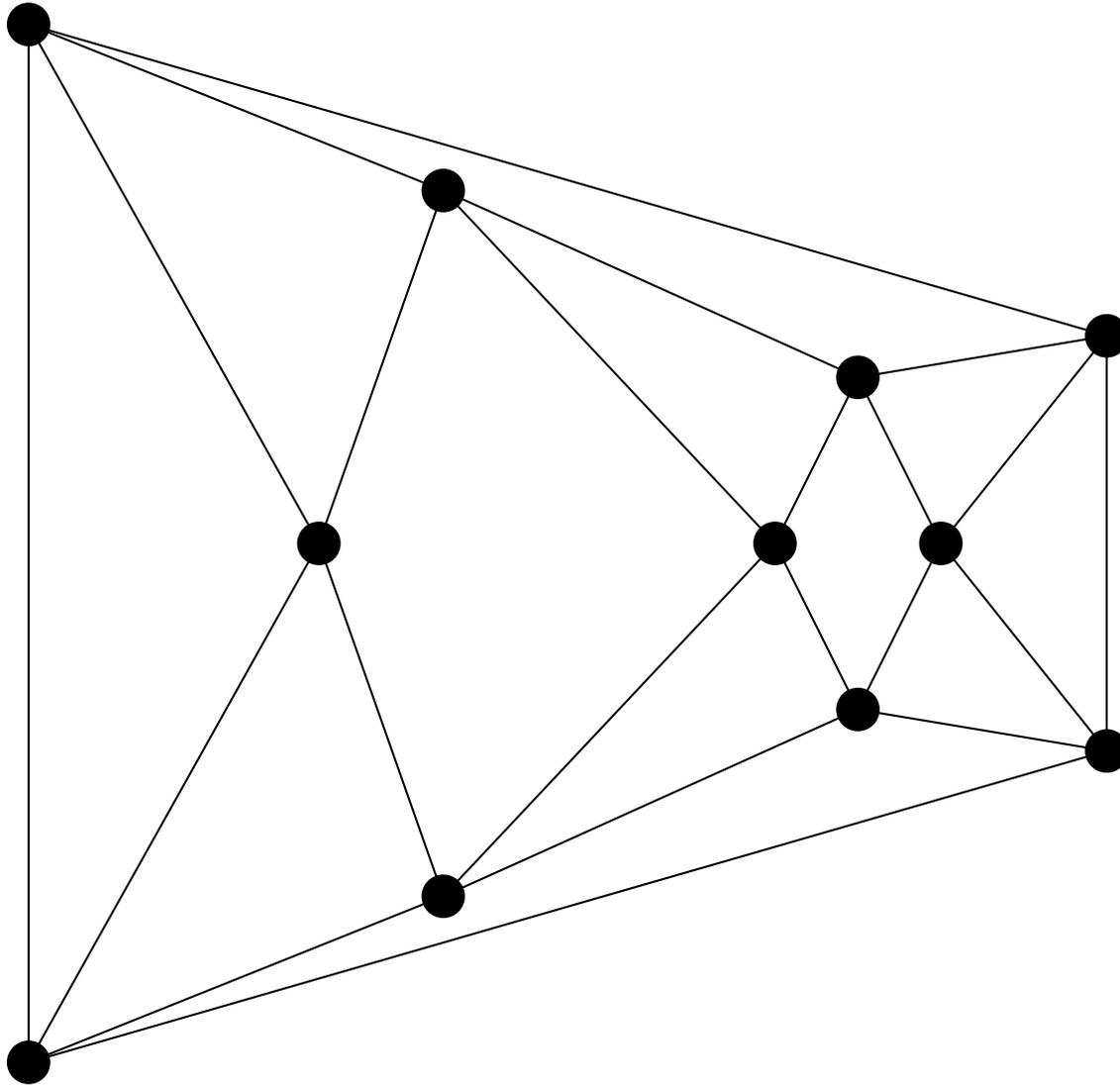
# Removing central circuits

Remove the edges of the central circuit.



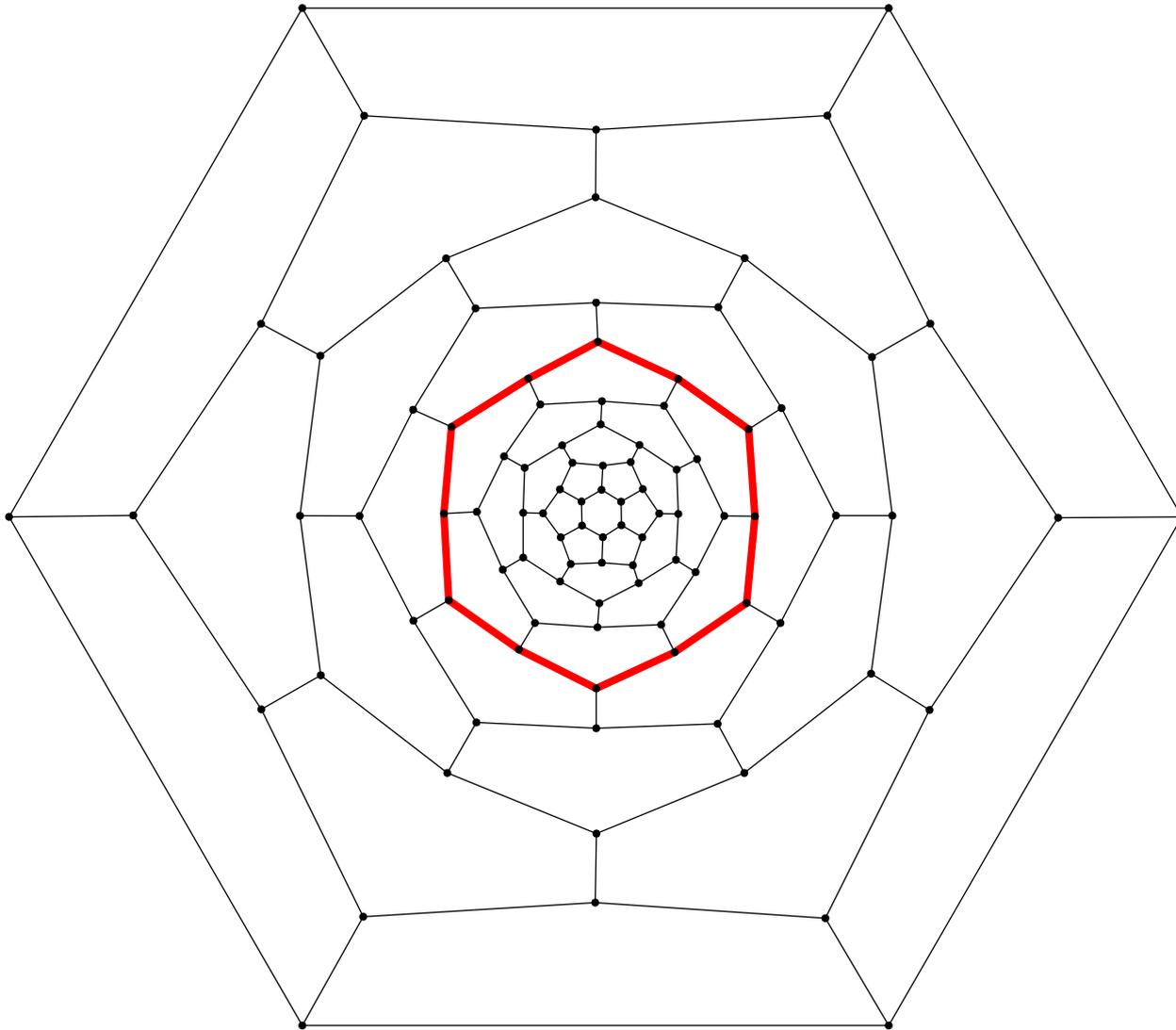
# Removing central circuits

Remove the vertices of degree 0 or 2.



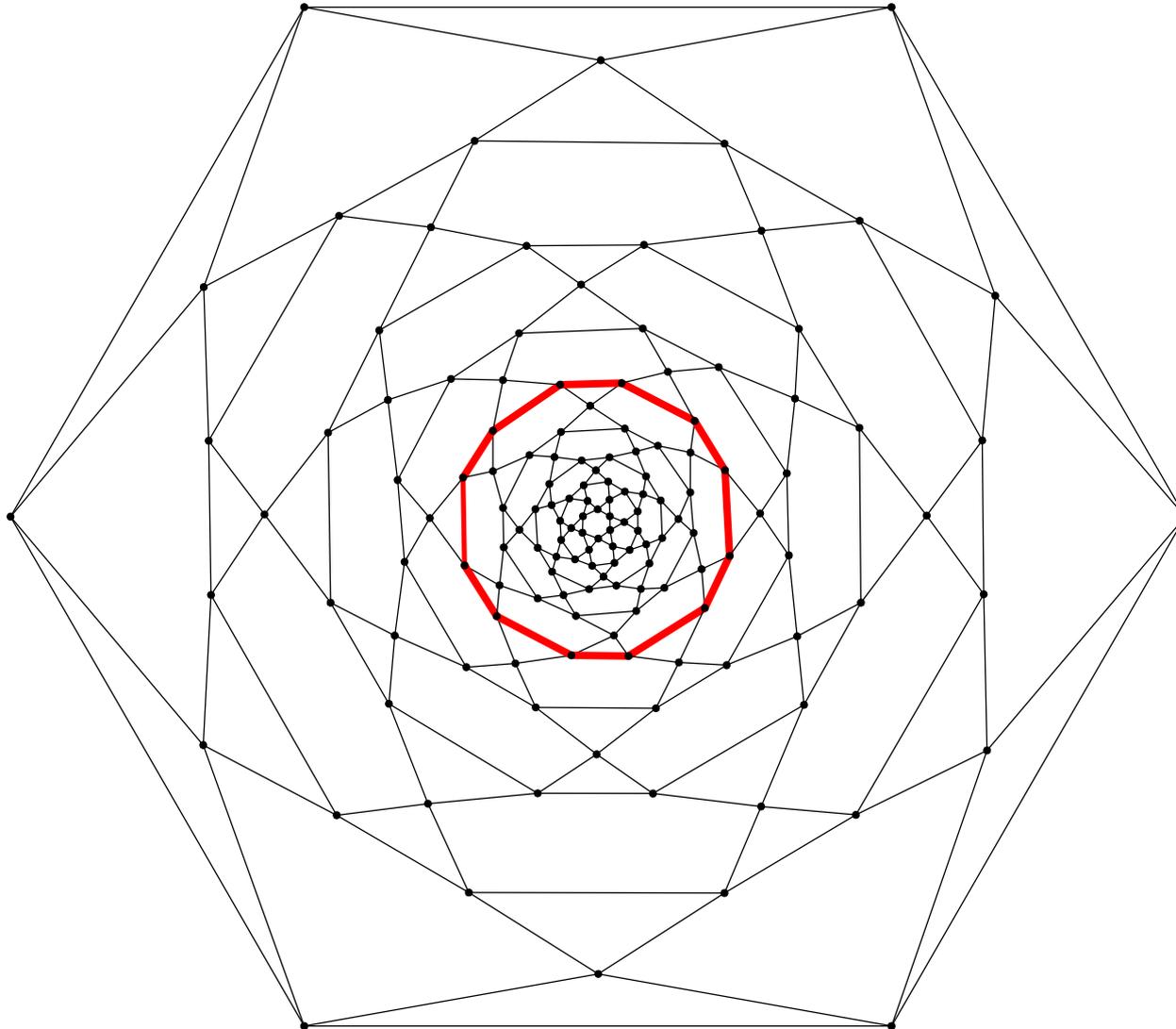
# Removing zigzags

Take a plane graph  $G$  and a zigzag.



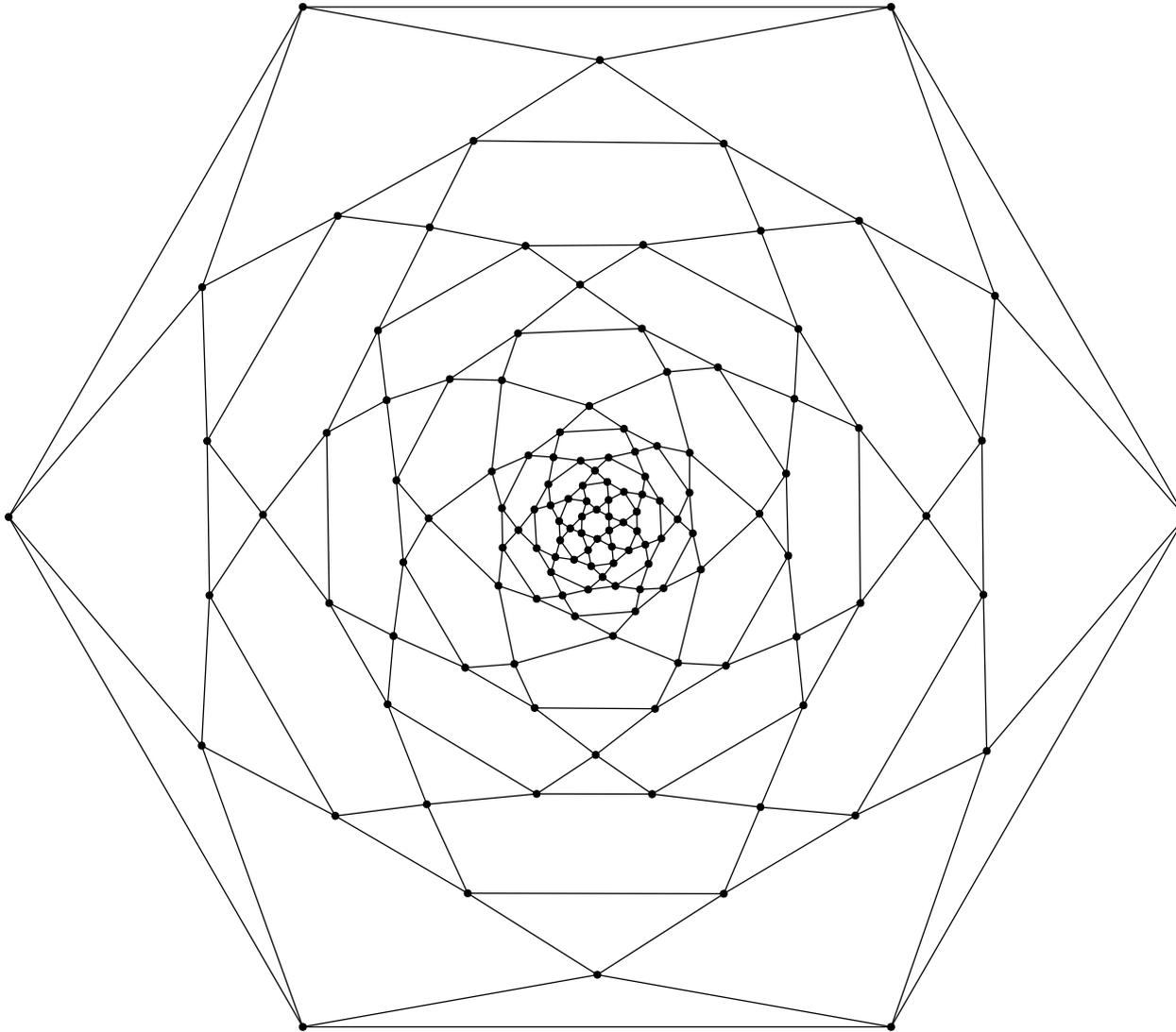
# Removing zigzags

Go to the medial.



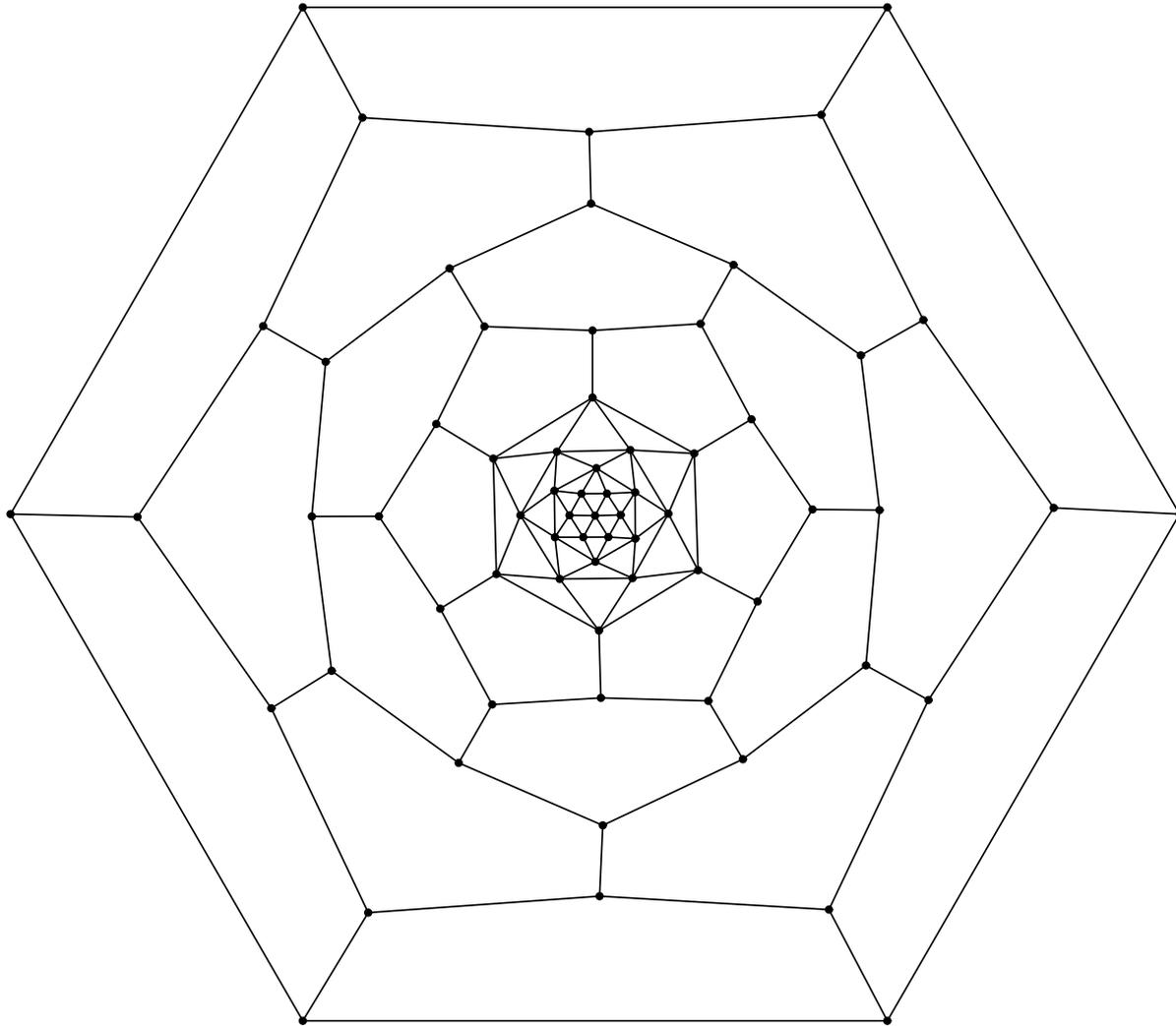
# Removing zigzags

Remove the central circuit.



# Removing zigzags

Take one (out of two) inverse medial graph.



# Extremal problem

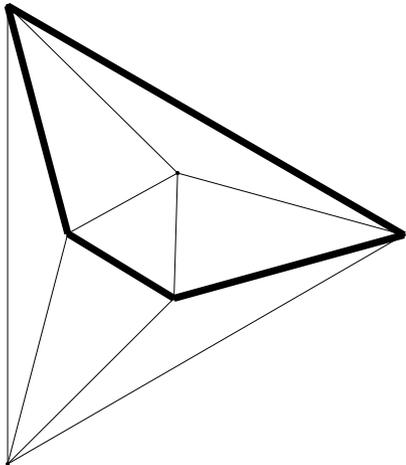
Given a class of tight graphs (octahedrites, graphs  $q_n$ ), there exist a constant  $C$  such that any element of the class has at most  $C$  ZC-circuits.

- Every tight octahedrite has at most 6 central circuits.  
**Proof method:** Local analysis + case by case analysis.
- Every tight  $3_n$  has exactly 3 zigzags.  
**Proof method:** Uses an algebraic formalism on the graphs  $3_n$ .
- Every tight  $4_n$  has at most 9 zigzags.  
**Conjecture:** The correct upper bound is 8. Checked for  $n \leq 400$ .
- Every tight  $5_n$  has at most 15 zigzags.  
**Attempted proof:** Uses a local analysis on zigzags.

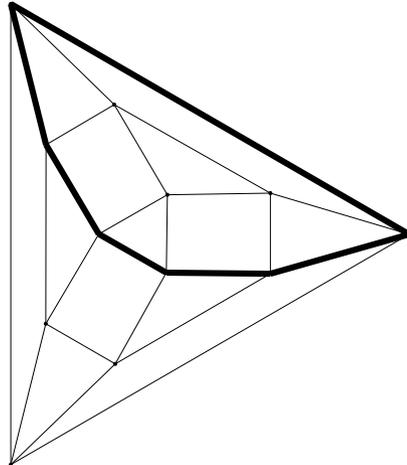
# Tight with simple central circuits

**Theorem 1** *There is exactly 8 tight octahedrites with simple central circuits.*

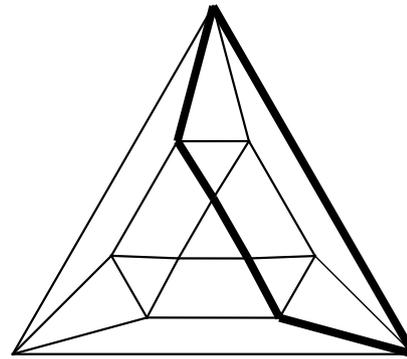
**Proof method:** After removing a central circuit, the obtained graph has faces of gonality at most 4.



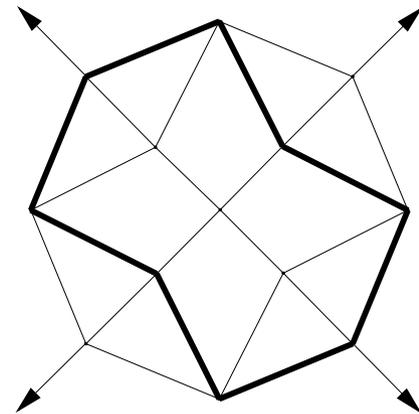
**6**  $O_h$   
 $4^3$



**12**  $O_h$   
 $6^4$



**12**  $D_{3h}$   
 $6^4$

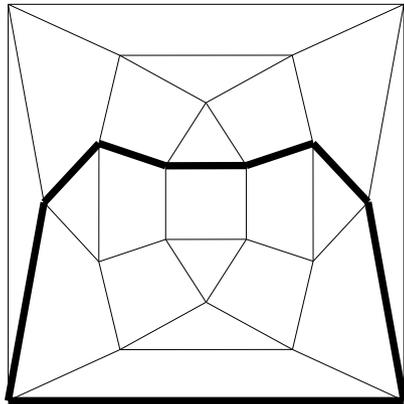


**14**  $D_{4h}$   
 $6^2, 8^2$

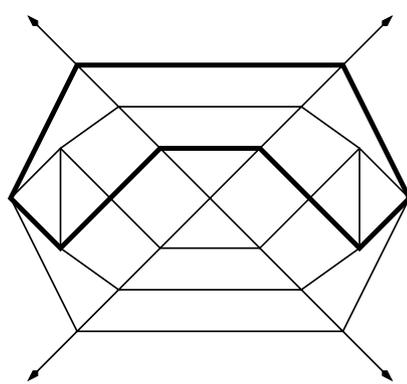
# Tight with simple central circuits

**Theorem 2** *There is exactly 8 tight octahedrites with simple central circuits.*

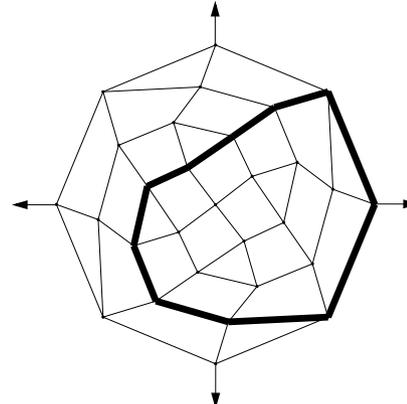
**Proof method:** After removing a central circuit, the obtained graph has faces of gonality at most 4.



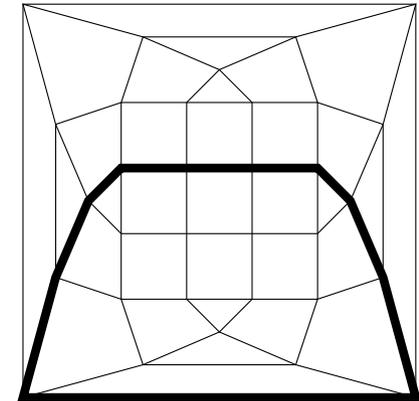
**20**  $D_{2d}$   
 $8^5$



**22**  $D_{2h}$   
 $8^3, 10^2$



**30**  $O$   
 $10^6$



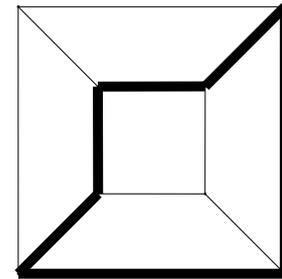
**32**  $D_{4h}$   
 $10^4, 12^2$

# Tight with simple zigzags

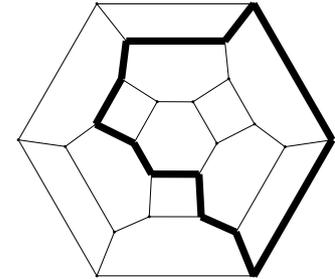
- All tight  $3_n$  have simple zigzags  
    ⇒ **Infinity** of such graphs
- There are exactly **2** tight graph  $4_n$  with simple zigzags:  
Cube and Truncated Octahedron= $GC_{1,1}(Cube)$ .

**Proof method:** The size of intersection of two simple zigzags is at most 6. There is at most 9 zigzags.

⇒ **Upper bound** on  $n$ .



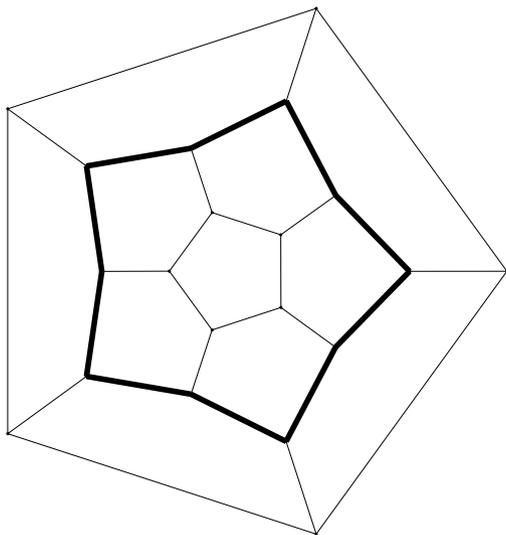
6  $O_h, 6^4$



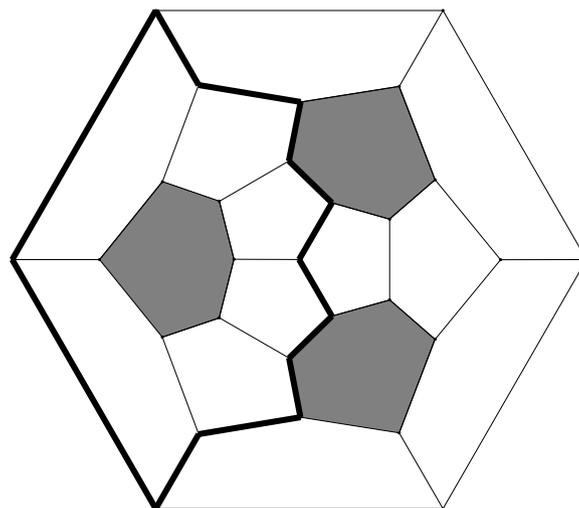
24  $O_h, 10^6$

- There is at least **9** tight graphs  $5_n$  with simple zigzags.  
**G. Brinkmann and T. Harmuth** computation of fullerenes with simple zigzags up to 200 vertices.

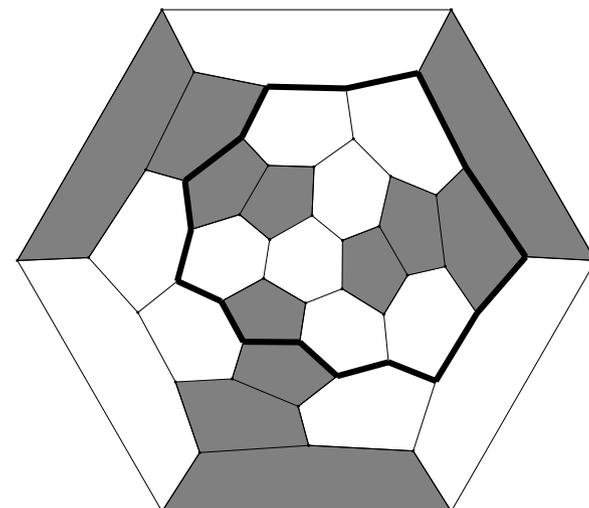
# Tight $5_n$ with simple zigzags



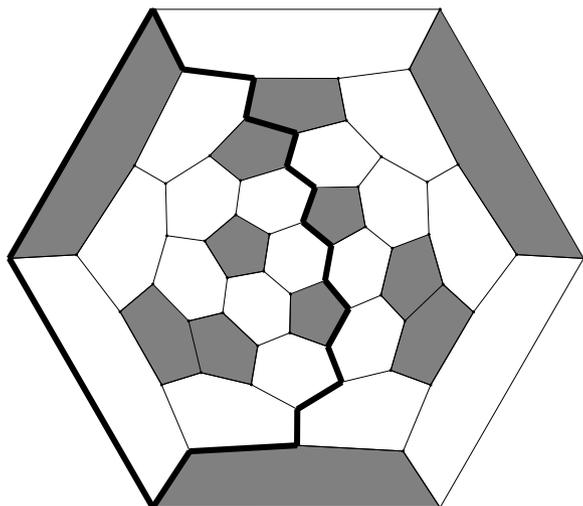
20  $I_h, 20^6$



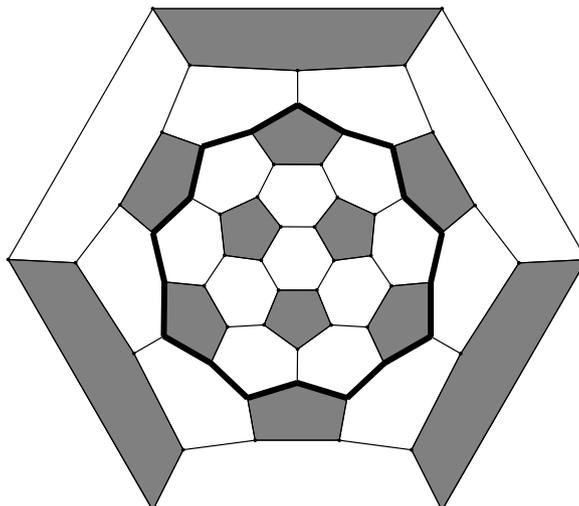
28  $T_d, 12^7$



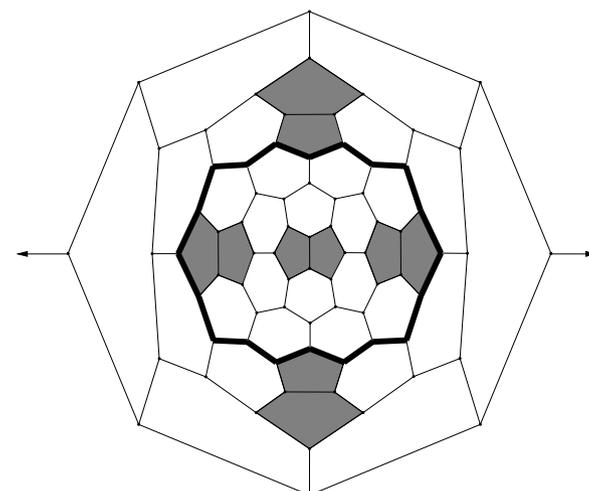
48  $D_3, 16^9$



60  $D_3, 18^{10}$

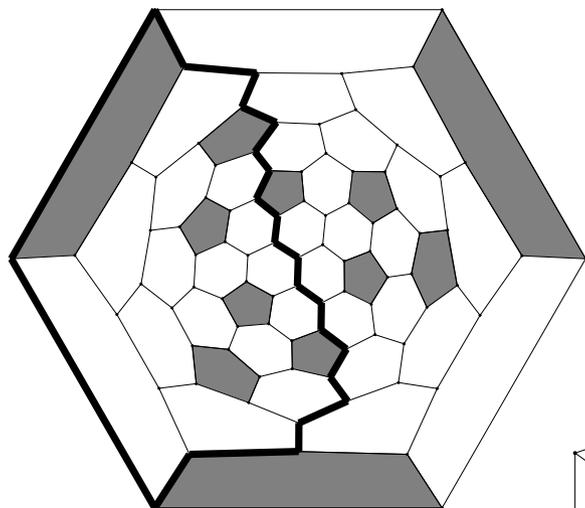


60  $I_h, 18^{10}$

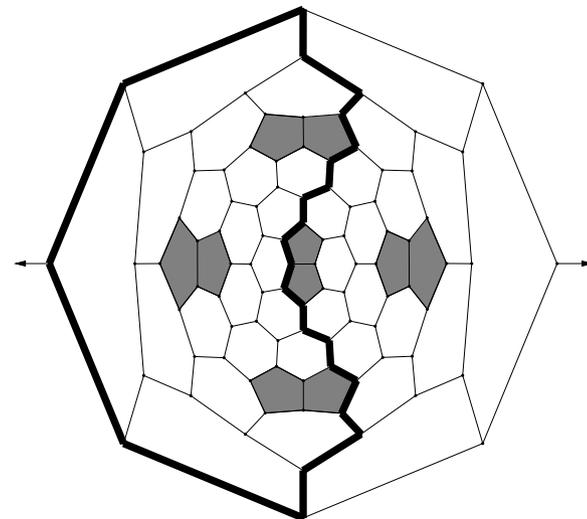


76  $D_{2d}, 22^4, 20^7$

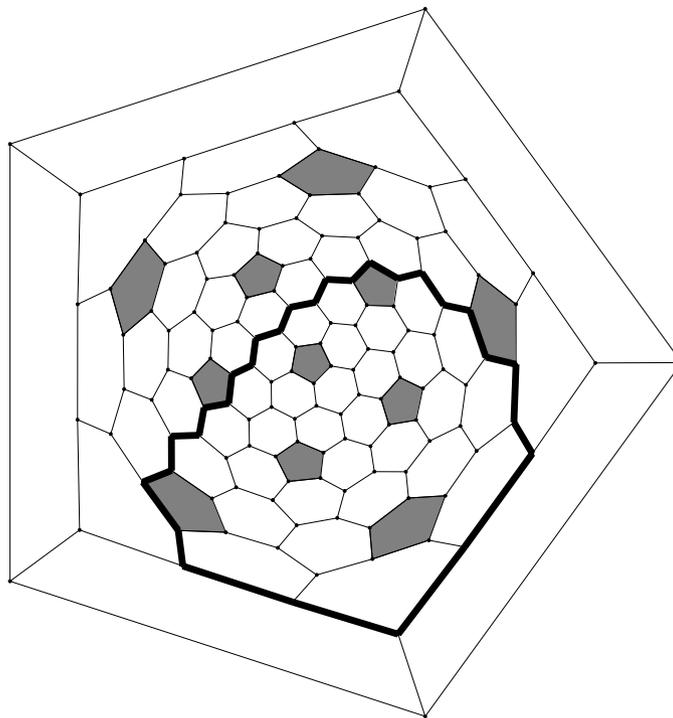
# Tight $5_n$ with simple zigzags



88  $T, 22^{12}$



92  $T_h, 24^6, 22^6$



140  $I, 28^{15}$

# Tight $F_n$ with only simple zigzags

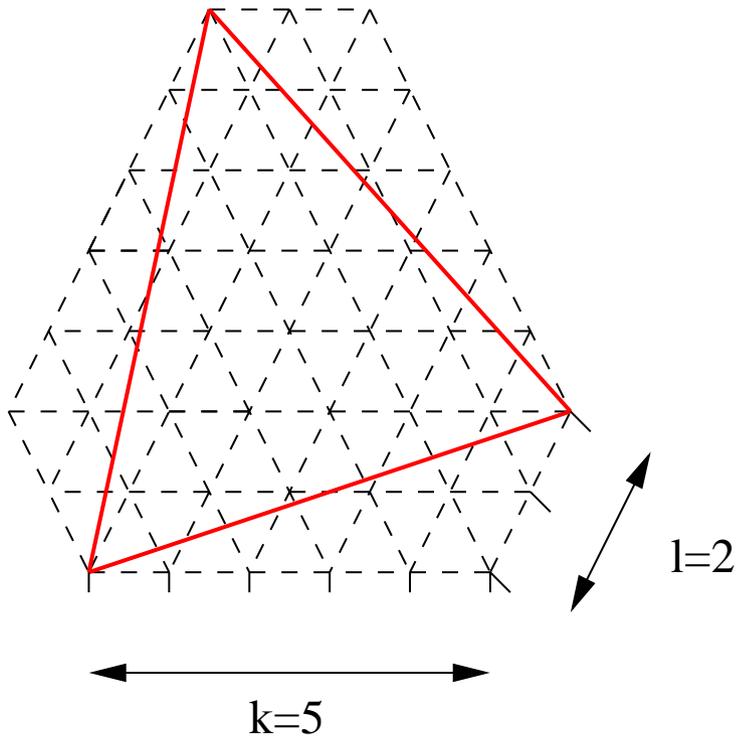
$n$	group	$z$ -vector	orbit lengths	int. vector
20	$I_h$	$10^6$	6	$2^5$
28	$T_d$	$12^7$	3,4	$2^6$
48	$D_3$	$16^9$	3,3,3	$2^8$
60, IPR	$I_h$	$18^{10}$	10	$2^9$
60	$D_3$	$18^{10}$	1,3,6	$2^9$
76	$D_{2d}$	$22^4, 20^7$	1,2,4,4	4, $2^9$ and $2^{10}$
88, IPR	$T$	$22^{12}$	12	$2^{11}$
92	$T_h$	$22^6, 24^6$	6,6	$2^{11}$ and $2^{10}, 4$
140, IPR	$I$	$28^{15}$	15	$2^{14}$

Conjecture: this list is complete (checked for  $n \leq 200$ ).  
 It gives 7 **Grünbaum arrangements** of plane curves.

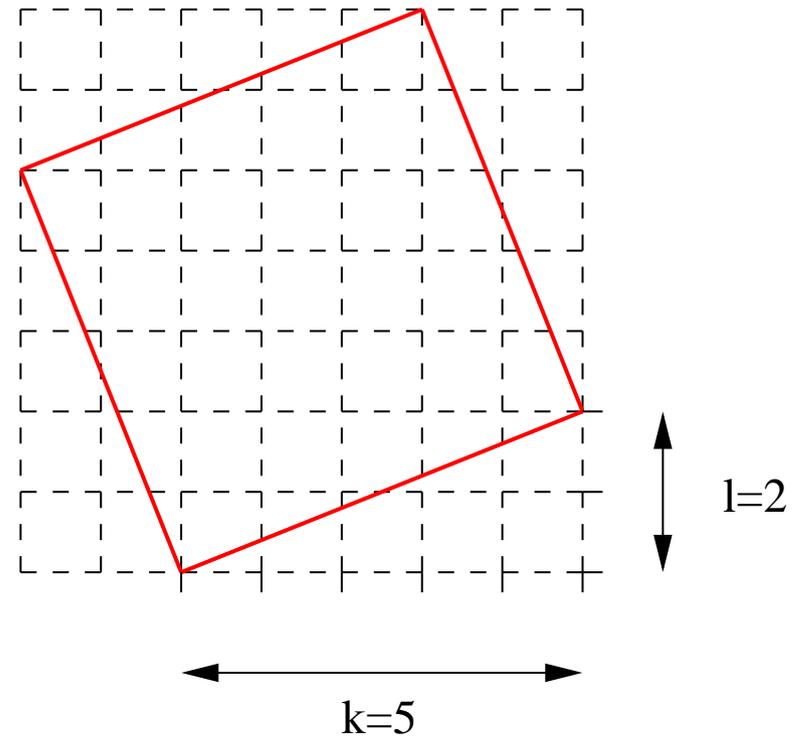
# IV. Goldberg-Coxeter construction

# The construction

- Take a 3- or 4-valent plane graph  $G_0$ . The graph  $G_0^*$  is formed of triangles or squares.
- Break the triangles or squares into pieces according to parameter  $(k, l)$ .



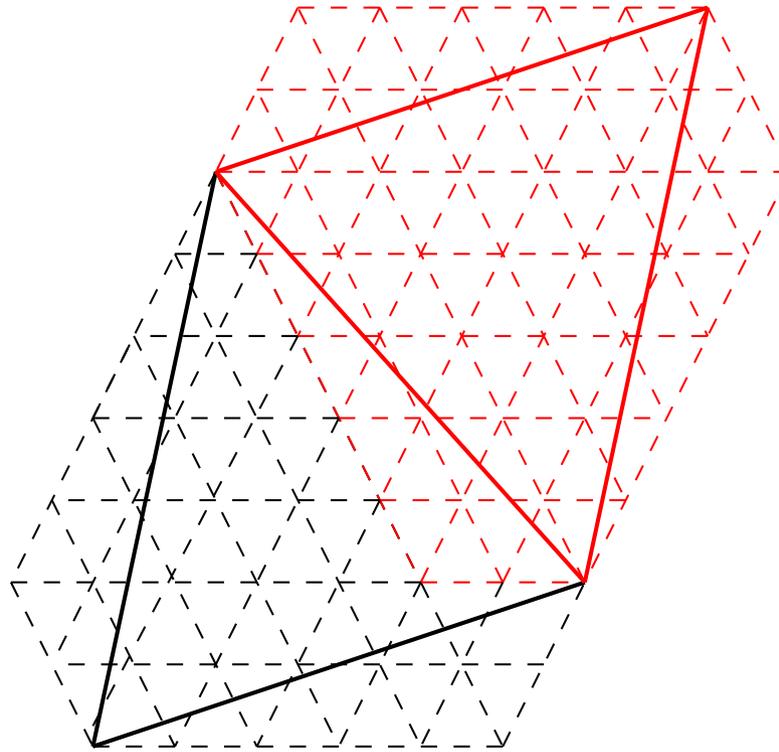
3-valent case



4-valent case

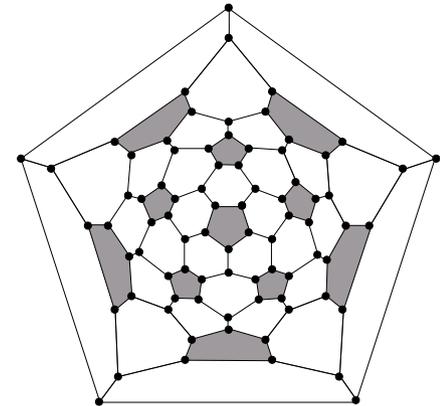
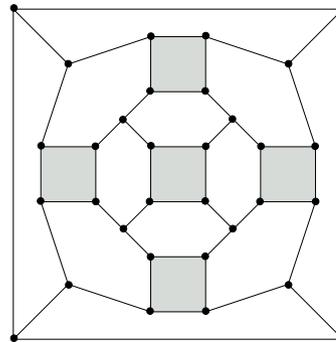
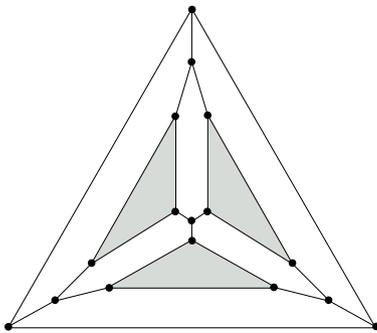
# Gluing the pieces

- Glue the pieces together in a coherent way.
- We obtain another **triangulation** or **quadrangulation** of the plane.



# Final steps

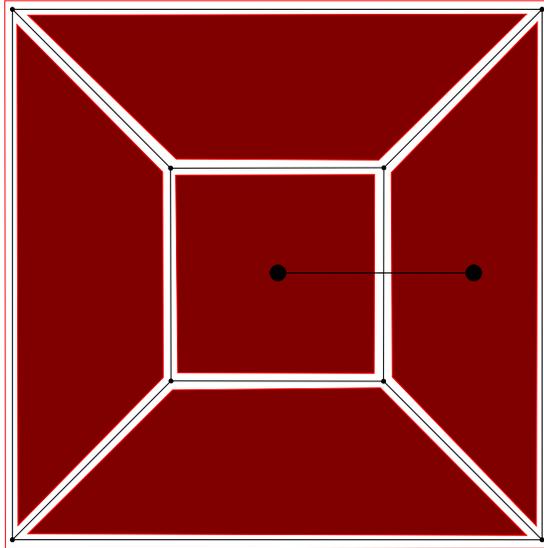
- Go to the dual and obtain a 3- or 4-valent plane graph, which is denoted  $GC_{k,l}(G_0)$  and called “**Goldberg-Coxeter construction**”.
- The construction works for any 3- or 4-valent map on **oriented surface**.



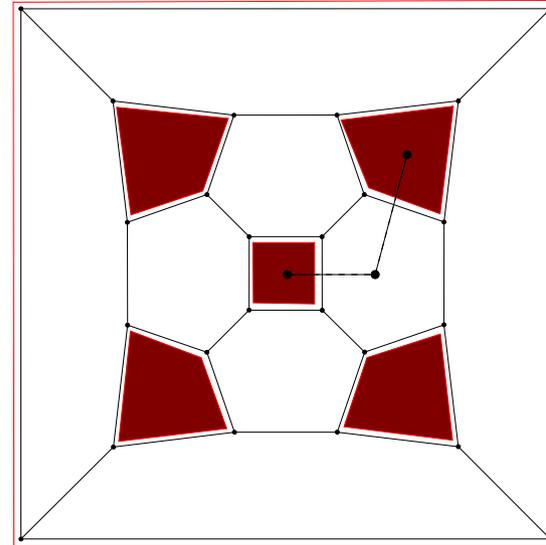
Operation  $GC_{2,0}$  on Tetrahedron, Cube and Dodecahedron

# Goldberg-Coxeter for Cube

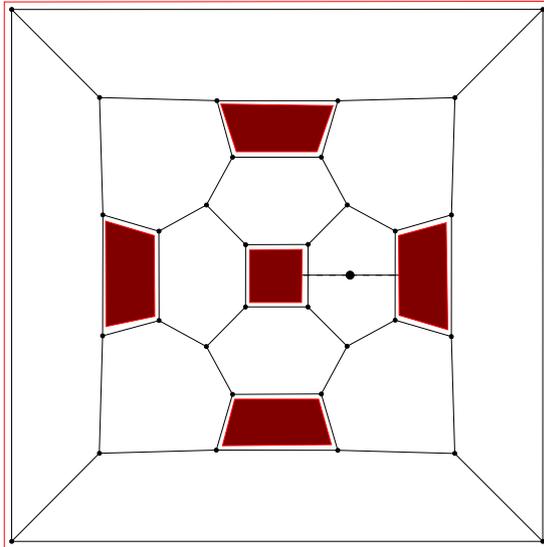
1,0



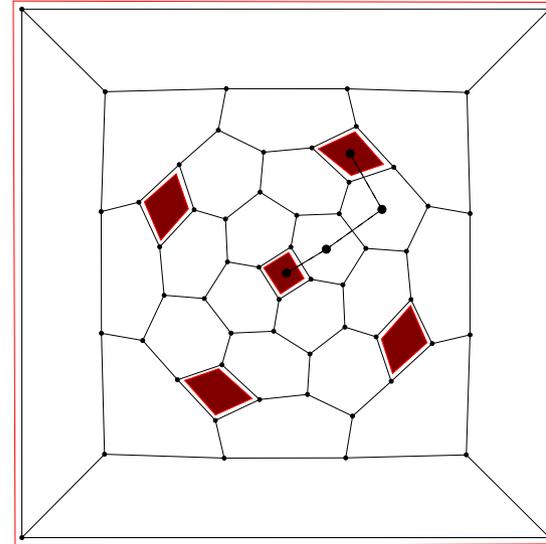
1,1



2,0

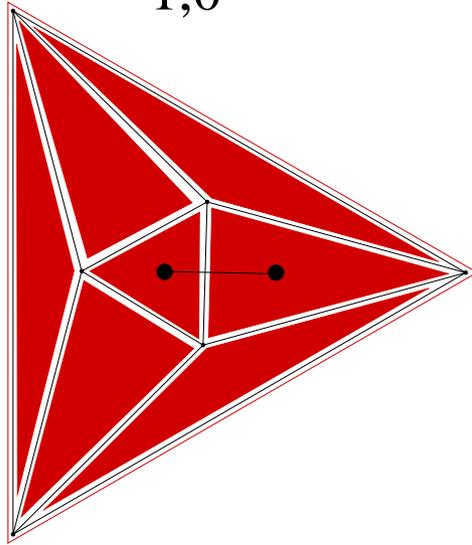


2,1

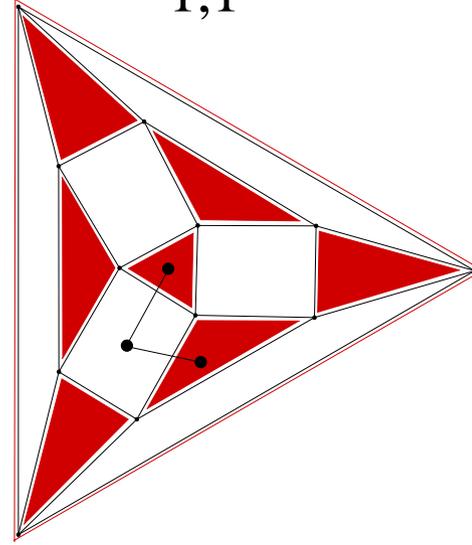


# Goldberg-Coxeter for Octahedron

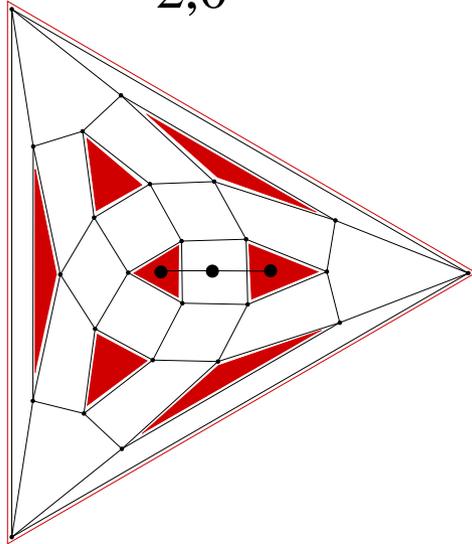
1,0



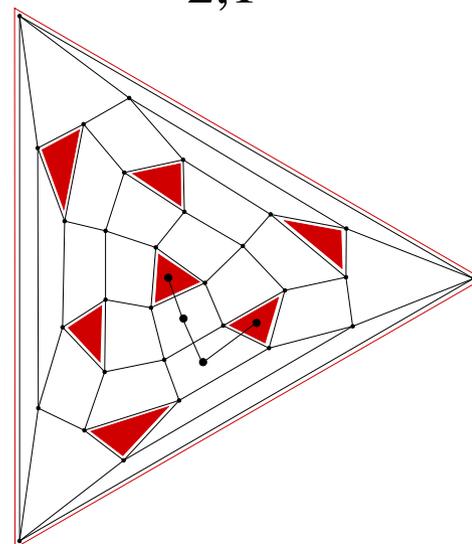
1,1



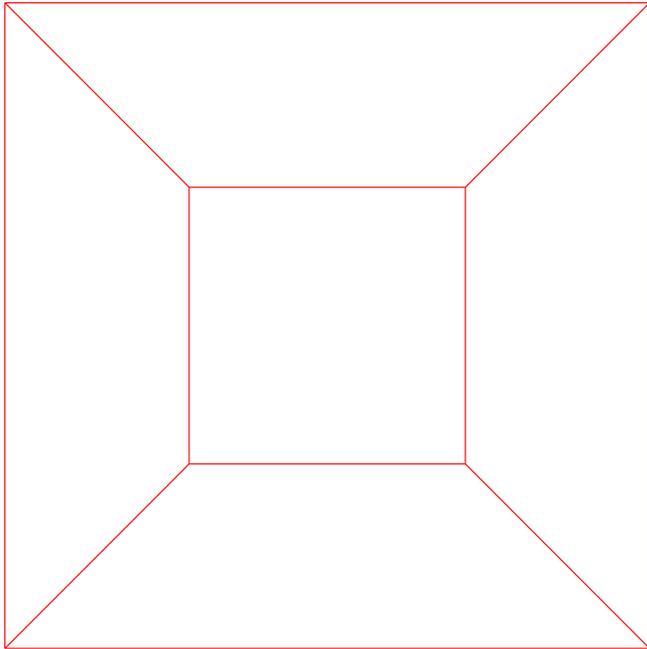
2,0



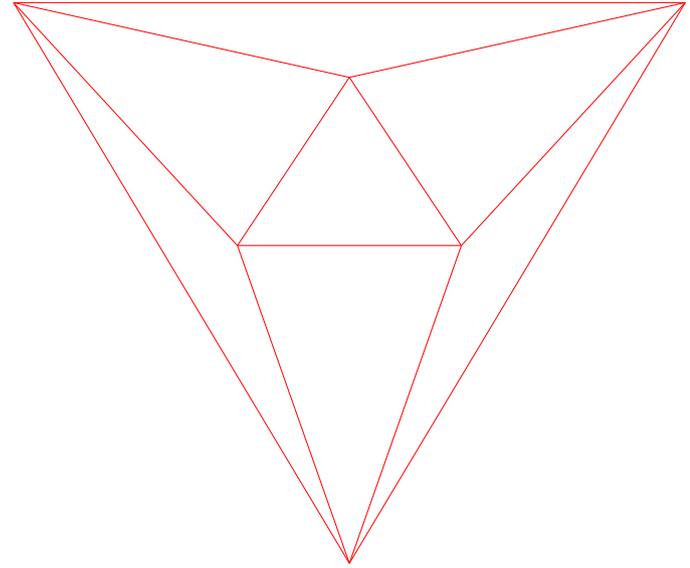
2,1



# The case $(k, l) = (1, 1)$

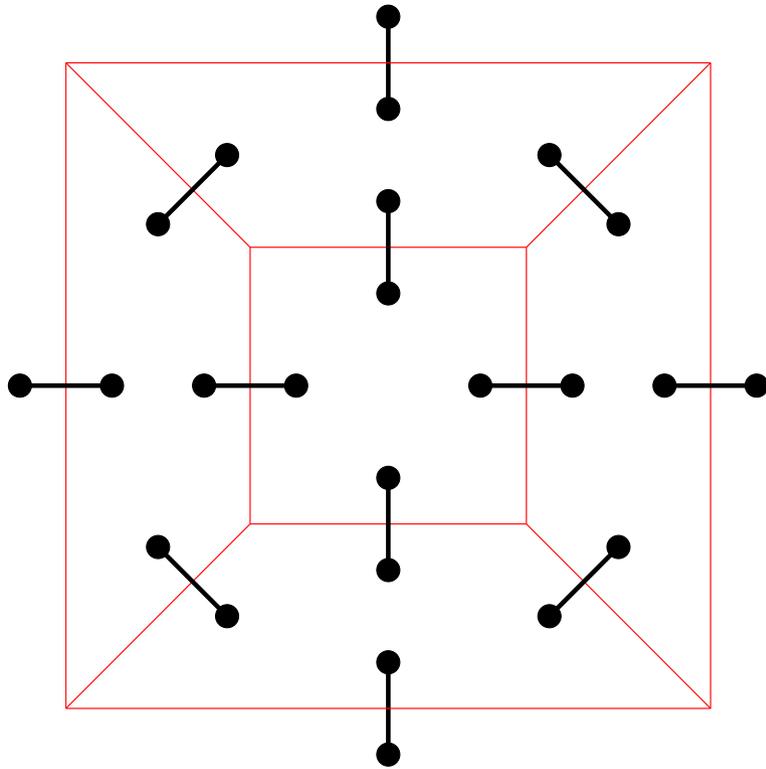


Case 3-valent

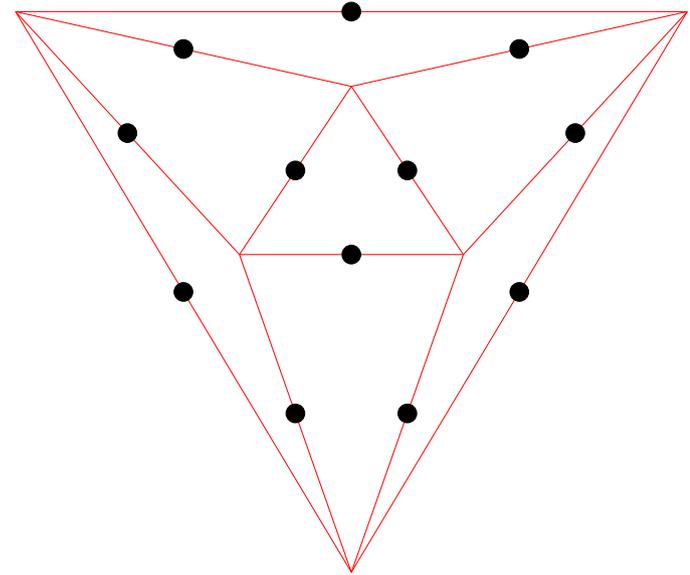


Case 4-valent

# The case $(k, l) = (1, 1)$

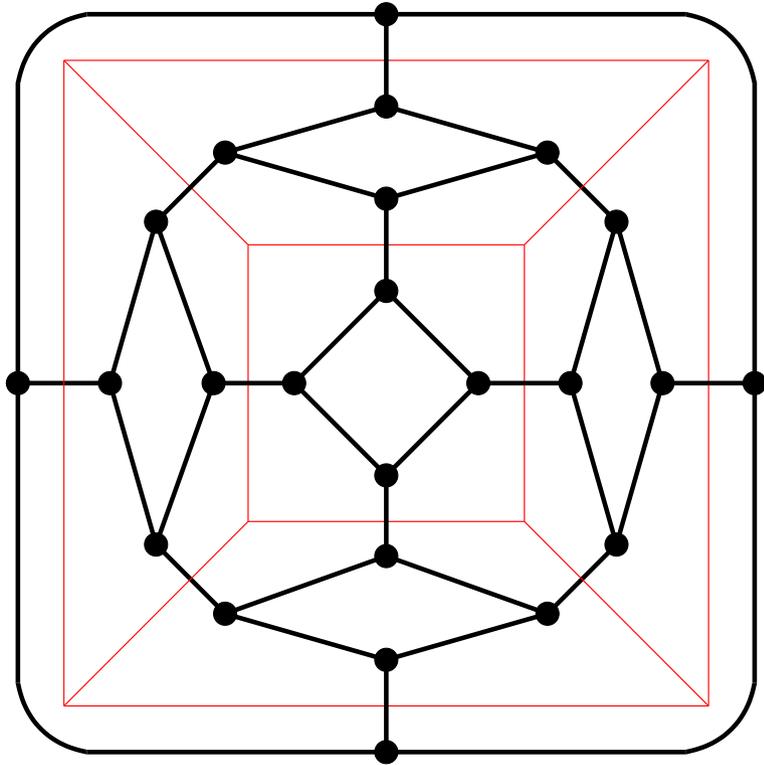


Case 3-valent

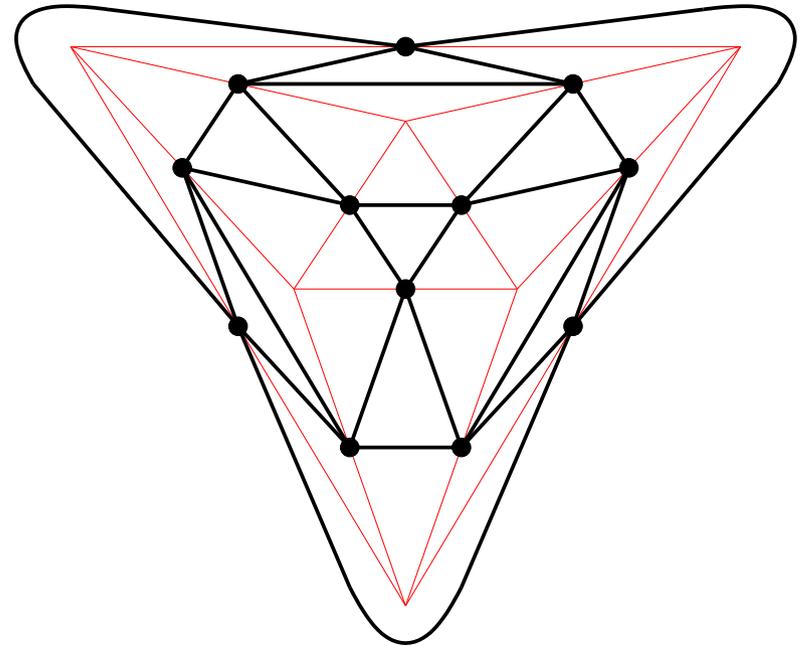


Case 4-valent

# The case $(k, l) = (1, 1)$



Case 3-valent  
 $GC_{1,1}$  is called **leapfrog**  
(=Truncation of the dual)



Case 4-valent  
 $GC_{1,1}$  is called **medial**

# Properties

- One associates  $z = k + le^{i\frac{\pi}{3}}$  (**Eisenstein integer**) or  $z = k + li$  (**Gaussian integer**) to the pair  $(k, l)$  in 3- or 4-valent case.

- If one writes  $GC_z(G_0)$  instead of  $GC_{k,l}(G_0)$ , then one has:

$$GC_z(GC_{z'}(G_0)) = GC_{zz'}(G_0)$$

- If  $G_0$  has  $n$  vertices, then  $GC_{k,l}(G_0)$  has

$$n(k^2 + kl + l^2) = n|z|^2 \text{ vertices if } G_0 \text{ is 3-valent,}$$

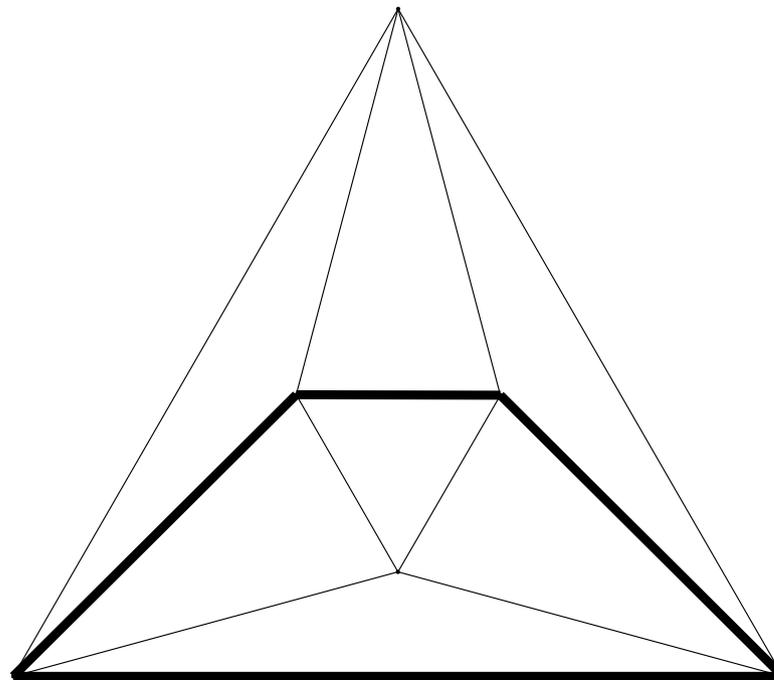
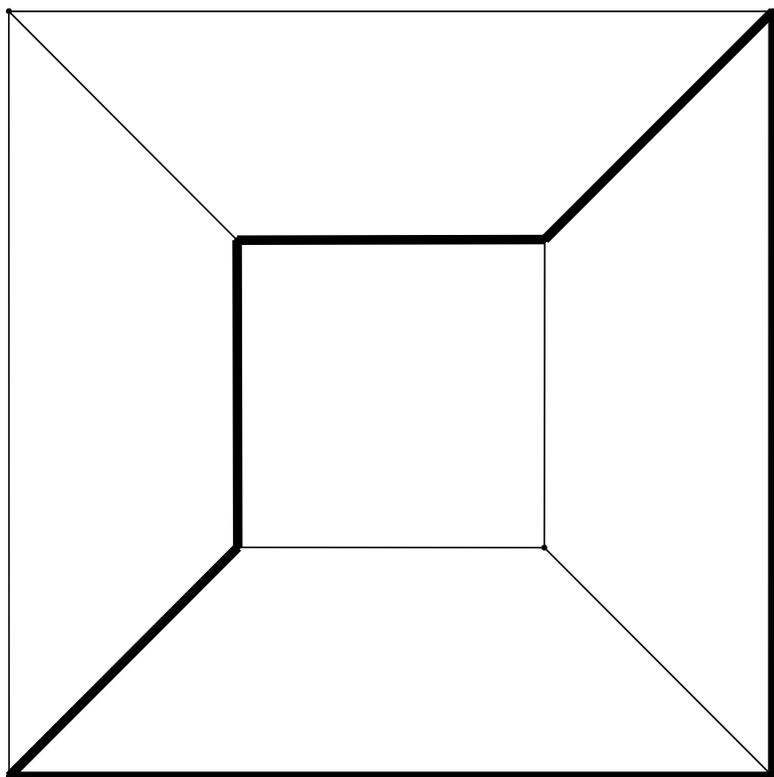
$$n(k^2 + l^2) = n|z|^2 \text{ vertices if } G_0 \text{ is 4-valent.}$$

- If  $G_0$  has a symmetry plane, then  $GC_z(G_0) = GC_{\bar{z}}(G_0)$ .

- $GC_z(G_0)$  has all **rotational symmetries** of  $G_0$  and all symmetries if  $l = 0$  or  $l = k$ .

# The special case $GC_{k,0}$

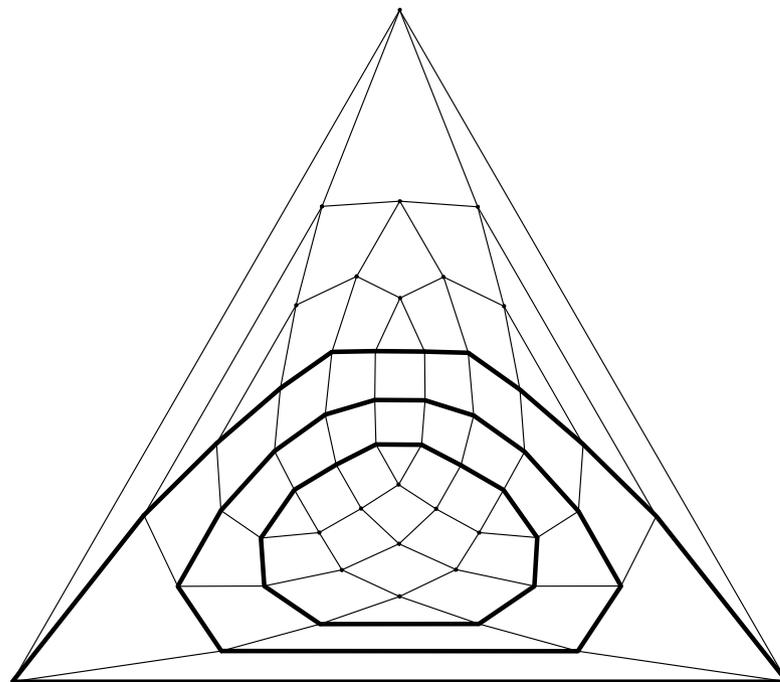
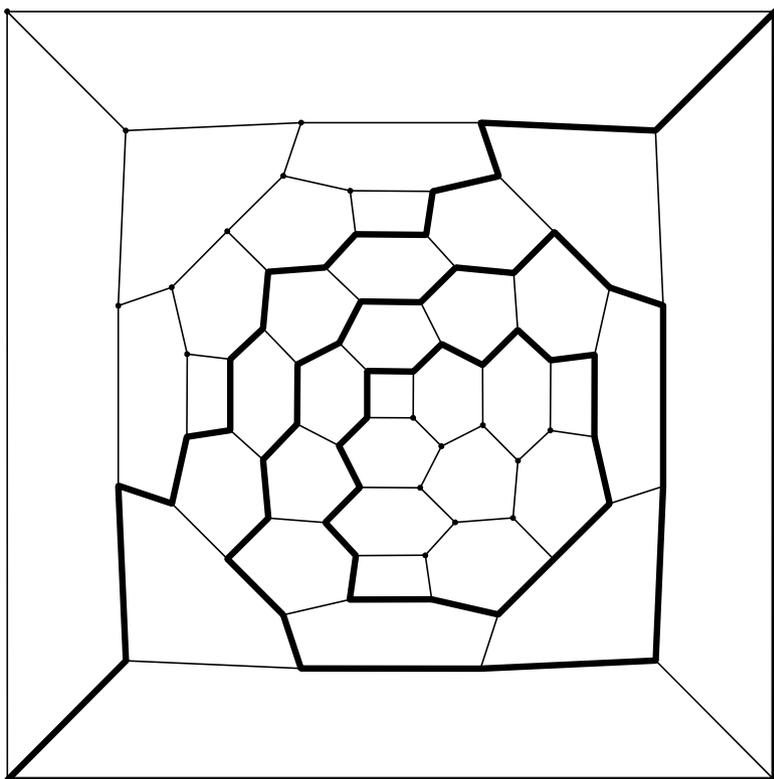
- Any ZC-circuit of  $G_0$  corresponds to  $k$  ZC-circuits of  $GC_{k,0}(G_0)$  with length multiplied by  $k$ .
- If the ZC-vector of  $G_0$  is  $\dots, c_l^{m_l}, \dots$ , then the ZC-vector of  $GC_{k,0}(G_0)$  is  $\dots, (kc_l)^{km_l}, \dots$ .





# The special case $GC_{k,0}$

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- If the ZC-vector of  $G_0$  is  $\dots, c_l^{m_l}, \dots$ , then the ZC-vector of  $GC_{k,0}(G_0)$  is  $\dots, (kc_l)^{km_l}, \dots$ .



# $(k, l)$ -product formalism

Given a 3-valent plane graph  $G$ , the zigzags of the Goldberg-Coxeter construction of  $GC_{k,l}(G)$  are obtained by:

- associating to  $G$  two elements  $L$  and  $R$  of a group called **moving group**,
- computing the value of the  **$(k, l)$ -product**  $L \odot_{k,l} R$ ,
- the lengths of zigzags are obtained by computing the **cycle structure** of  $L \odot_{k,l} R$ .

For  $GC_{k,l}(\text{Dodecahedron})$  with  $\gcd(k, l) = 1$ , this gives 6, 10 or 15 zigzags.

# Illustration

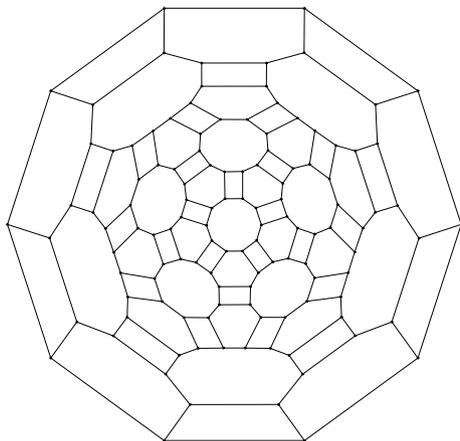
- For any ZC-circuit of  $GC_{k,l}(G_0)$ , there exist  $\alpha \geq 1$

$$\text{length}(ZC) = 2(k^2 + kl + l^2)\alpha \quad \text{3-valent case}$$

$$\text{length}(ZC) = (k^2 + l^2)\alpha \quad \text{4-valent case}$$

The **[ZC]-vector** of  $GC_{k,l}(G_0)$  is the vector  $\dots, \alpha_k^{m_k}, \dots$  where  $m_k$  is the number of ZC-circuits with **order**  $\alpha_k$ .

- If  $\gcd(k, l) = 1$ , then  $GC_{k,l}(Cube)$  has 6 zigzags if  $k \equiv l \pmod{3}$  and 4 otherwise.
- For **Truncated Icosidodecahedron**, possible [ZC]:



$2^{30}, 3^{40}$	$2^{30}, 5^{24}$	$3^{20}, 5^{24}$
$2^{60}, 3^{20}$	$2^{60}, 5^{12}$	$3^{40}, 5^{12}$
$2^{90}$	$3^{60}$	$5^{36}$
$9^{20}$	$6^{30}$	$15^{12}$

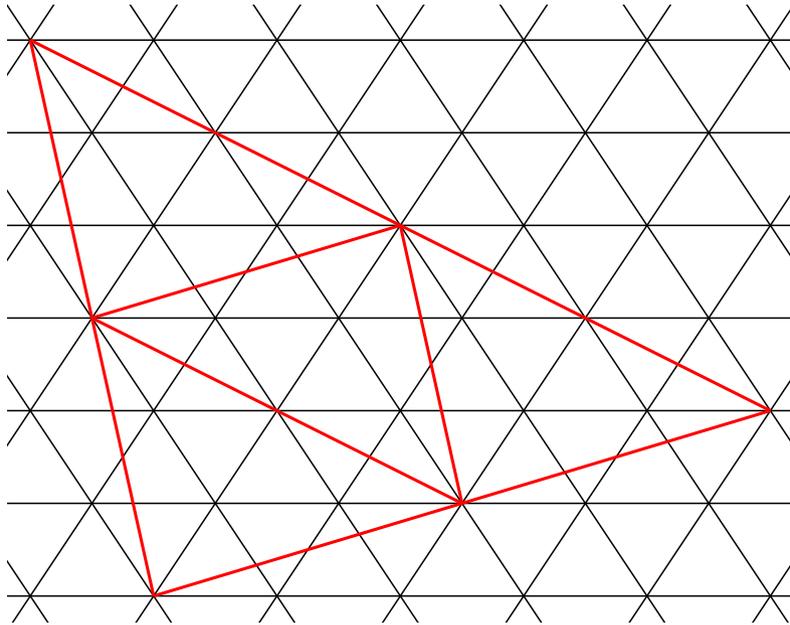
# V. Parametrizing graphs

# Parametrizing graphs $Q_n$

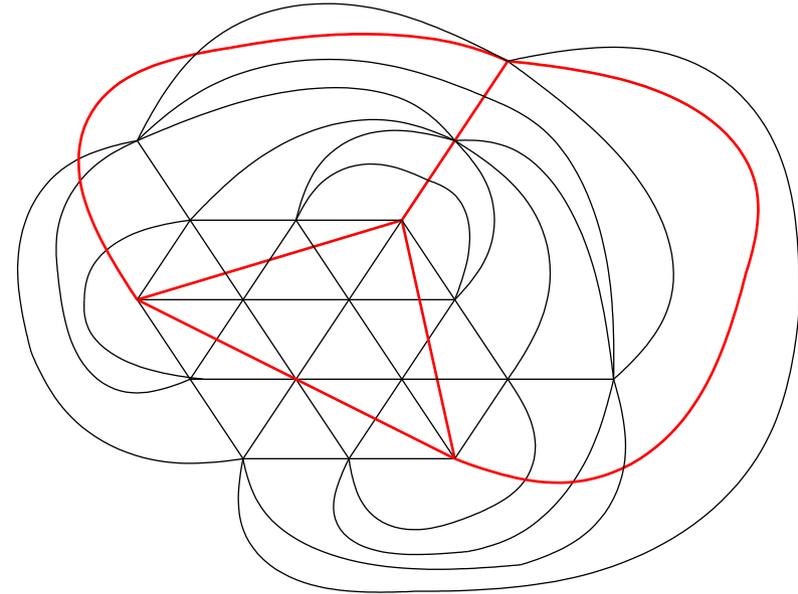
Idea: the hexagons are of zero curvature, it suffices to give relative positions of faces of non-zero curvature.

- **Goldberg (1937)** All  $3_n$ ,  $4_n$  or  $5_n$  of symmetry  $(T, T_d)$ ,  $(O, O_h)$  or  $(I, I_h)$  are given by Goldberg-Coxeter construction  $GC_{k,l}$ .
- **Fowler and al. (1988)** All  $5_n$  of symmetry  $D_5$ ,  $D_6$  or  $T$  are described in terms of 4 parameters.
- **Graver (1999)** All  $5_n$  can be encoded by 20 integer parameters.
- **Thurston (1998)** The  $5_n$  are parametrized by 10 complex parameters.
- **Sah (1994)** Thurston's result implies that the Nrs of  $3_n$ ,  $4_n$ ,  $5_n \sim n, n^3, n^9$ .

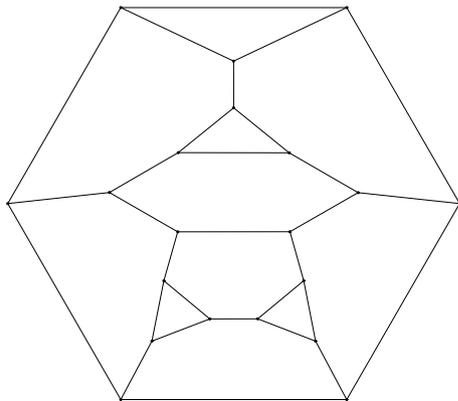
# The structure of graphs $3_n$



4 triangles in  $Z[\omega]$



The corresponding triangulation



The graph  $3_{20}(D_{2d})$

# $z$ - and railroad-structure of graphs $\mathfrak{Z}_n$

All zigzags and railroads are simple.

- The  $z$ -vector is of the form

$$(4s_1)^{m_1}, (4s_2)^{m_2}, (4s_3)^{m_3} \quad \text{with} \quad s_i m_i = \frac{n}{4};$$

the number of railroads is  $m_1 + m_2 + m_3 - 3$ .

- $G$  has  $\geq 3$  zigzags with equality if and only if it is tight.
- If  $G$  is tight, then  $z(G) = n^3$  (so, each zigzag is a Hamiltonian circuit).
- All  $\mathfrak{Z}_n$  are tight if and only if  $\frac{n}{4}$  is prime.
- There exists a tight  $\mathfrak{Z}_n$  if and only if  $\frac{n}{4}$  is odd.

# General theory

## Extensions:

- 3-valent or 4-valent graphs.
- Classes of graphs with fixed  $p_i, i \neq 6$ .
- Classes with a fixed symmetry.
- Maps on surfaces.

## Dictionnary

	3-valent graph $G_0$	4-valent graph $G_0$
ring	Eisenstein integers $\mathbb{Z}[\omega]$	Gaussian integers $\mathbb{Z}[i]$
Euler formula	$\sum_i (6 - i)p_i = 12$	$\sum_i (4 - i)p_i = 8$
zero-curvature	hexagons	squares
ZC-circuits	zigzags	central circuits
Operation	leapfrog graph	medial graph

# Number of parameters

Octahedrites:

Group	#param.
$C_1$	6
$C_2$	4
$D_2$	3
$D_3$	2
$D_4$	2
$O$	1

Graphs  $3_n$ :

Groups	#param.
$D_2$	2
$T$	1

Graphs  $4_n$ :

Group	#param.
$C_1$	4
$C_2$	3
$D_2$	2
$D_3$	2
$O$	1

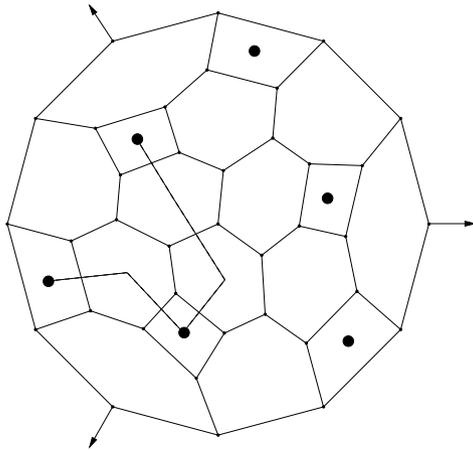
Graph  $5_n$ :

Group	#param.
$C_1$	10
$C_2$	6
$C_3$	4
$D_2$	4
$D_3$	3
$D_5$	2
$D_6$	2
$T$	2
$I$	1

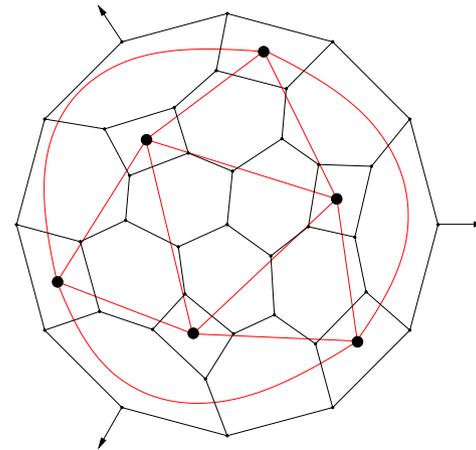
If there is just one parameter, then this is Goldberg-Coxeter construction (of **Octahedron**, **Tetrahedron**, **Cube**, **Dodecahedron** for **octahedrite**,  $3_n$ ,  $4_n$ ,  $5_n$ , respectively).

# Conjecture on $4_n(D_{3h}, D_{3d} \text{ or } D_3)$

- $4_n(D_3 \subset D_{3h}, D_{3d}, D_6, D_{6h}, O, O_h)$  are described by two complex parameters. They exist if and only if  $n \equiv 0, 2 \pmod{6}$  and  $n \geq 8$ .



$4_n(D_3)$  with one zigzag



The defining triangles

- $4_n(D_{3d} \subset O_h, D_{6h})$  exists if and only if  $n \equiv 0, 8 \pmod{12}$ ,  $n \geq 8$ .
- If  $n$  increases, then part of  $4_n(D_3)$  amongst  $4_n(D_{3h}, D_{3d}, D_3)$  goes to 100%.

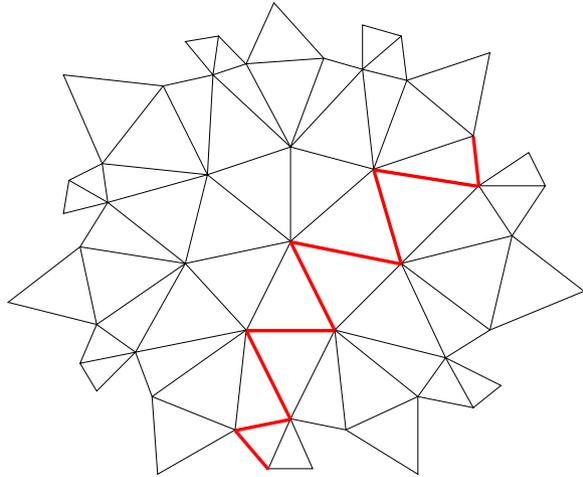
# More conjectures

- All  $4_n$  with only simple zigzags are:
  - $GC_{k,0}(Cube)$ ,  $GC_{k,k}(Cube)$  and
  - the family of  $4_n(D_3 \subset \dots)$  with parameters  $(m, 0)$  and  $(i, m - 2i)$  with  $n = 4m(2m - 3i)$  and  $z = (6m - 6i)^{3m-3i}, (6m)^{m-2i}, (12m - 18i)^i$ .

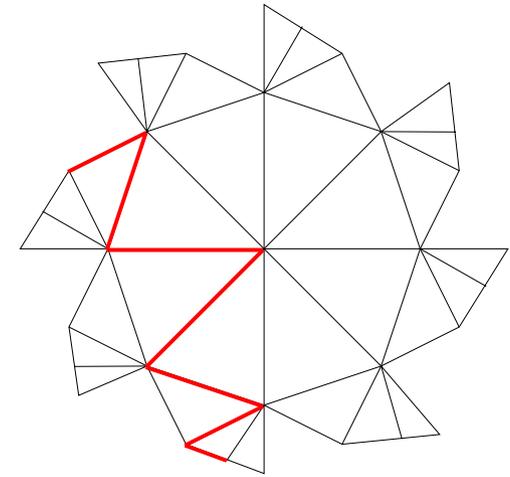
They have symmetry  $D_{3d}$  or  $O_h$  or  $D_{6h}$
- Any  $4_n(D_3 \subset \dots)$  with one zigzag is a  $4_n(D_3)$ .
- For tight graphs  $4_n(D_3 \subset \dots)$  the  $z$ -vector is of the form  $a^k$  with  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, 6\}$  or  $a^k, b^l$  with  $k, l \in \{1, 3\}$ .
- Tight  $4_n(D_{3d})$  exist if and only if  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$ , they are  $z$ -transitive with:
  - $z = (n/2)_{n/36,0}^6$  iff  $n \equiv 24 \pmod{36}$  and, otherwise,
  - $z = (3n/2)_{n/4,0}^2$  iff  $n \equiv 0, 12 \pmod{36}$

# VI. Zigzags on surfaces

# Zigzags of 2-complexes (surface maps)



Klein map:  $z = 8^{21}$



Dyck map:  $z = 6^{16}$

- Zigzags (and central circuits), being local notions, are defined on any surface, even on a non-orientable one.
- Zigzags are also called **left-right paths** (Shank) or **Petri paths**, from **Petri polygons** of polytopes (Coxeter).
- A map and its dual have the same zigzag vector  $z$ .

# Zigzags of regular maps

A flag-transitive map is called **regular**.  
Zigzags of regular maps are simple  
(i.e., not self-intersecting).

map	$n$	rot. group	$z$	$z(GC_{k,l})/k^2 + kl + l^2$
Dod. $\{5^3\}$	20	$A_5$	$10^6$	$10^6$ or $6^{10}$ or $4^{15}$
Klein* $\{7^3\}$	56	$PSL(2, 7)$	$8^{21}$	$8^{21}$ or $6^{28}$
Dyck* $\{8^3\}$	32	(*)	$6^{16}$	$6^{16}$ or $8^{12}$
$\{11^3\}$	220	$PSL(2, 11)$	$10^{66}$	$10^{66}$ or $6^{110}$ or $12^{55}$

(\*) is a solvable group of order 96 generated by two elements  $R, S$  subject to the relations  
 $R^3 = S^8 = (RS)^2 = (S^2 R^{-1})^3 = 1.$

# Lins trialities

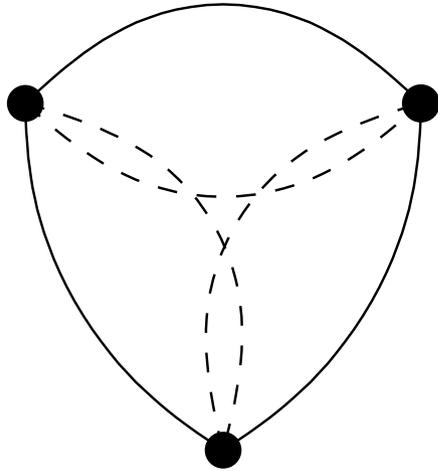
$(v, f, z) \rightarrow$	notation in [2]	notation in [1]	
$(v, f, z)$	$\mathcal{M}$	<b>Graph-Encoded Map</b>	$\mathcal{M}$
$(f, v, z)$	$\mathcal{M}^*$	dual gem	$\mathcal{M}^*$
$(z, f, v)$	$phial(\mathcal{M})$	<b>phial</b> gem	$s((s(\mathcal{M}))^*)$
$(f, z, v)$	$(phial(\mathcal{M}))^*$	skew-dual gem	$s(\mathcal{M}^*)$
$(v, z, f)$	$skew(\mathcal{M})$	<b>skew</b> gem	$s(\mathcal{M})$
$(z, v, f)$	$(skew(\mathcal{M}))^*$	skew-phial gem	$(s(\mathcal{M}))^*$

**Jones, Thornton, 1987:** those are only “good” dualities.

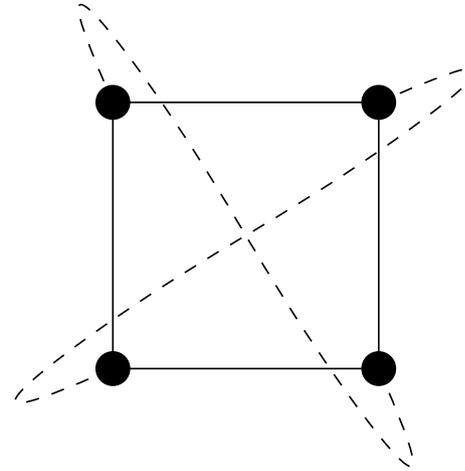
The group  $S_3$  of trialities is isomorphic to  $Sym(3)$ .

1. **S. Lins**, *Graph-Encoded Maps*, J. Comb. Theory B-32 (1982) 171–181
2. **D. and M. Dutour**, *Zigzag Structure of Complexes*, SEAMS Math. Bull. 29-2 (2005), 301–320; papers/math.CO/0405279 of LANL archive.

# Example: Tetrahedron



*phial*(Tetrahedron)

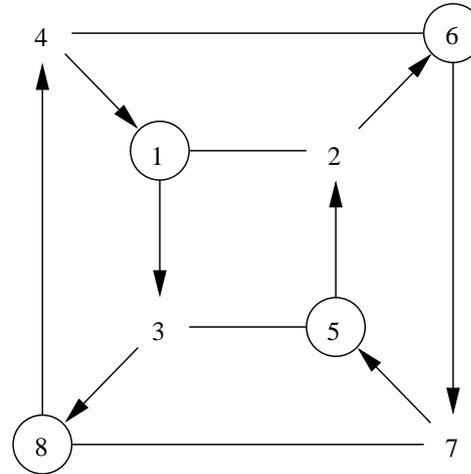
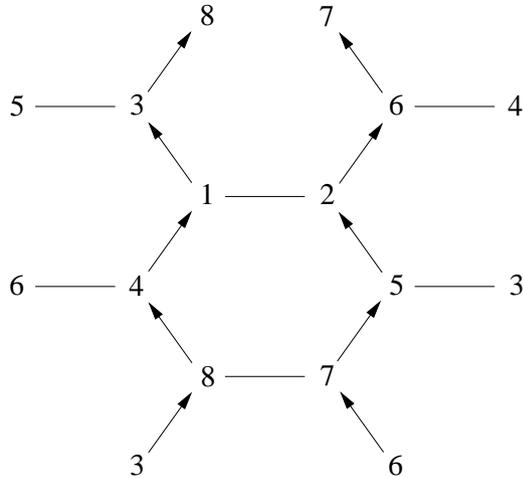


*skew*(Tetrahedron)

Two Lins maps on projective plane.

- The *phial*(Tetrahedron) is the complex obtained by taking the octahedron and identifying opposite points.
- *skew*(Cube) and *phial*(Octahedron) are toric maps. *phial*(Cube) and *skew*(Octahedron) are maps on a non-oriented surface of genus 4, i.e., with  $\chi = 2$ .

# Bipartite skeleton case



Two representation of *skew*(*Cube*): on Torus and as a Cube with cyclic orientation of vertices (marked by  $\bigcirc$ ) reversed.

## Theorem

*For bipartite graph embedded in oriented surface, the skew operation is, in fact, reversing orientation of one of the part of the bipartition.*

# Trialities of prisms and antiprisms

Let  $\chi$  denotes the Euler characteristic.

**Conjecture** (checked up to  $n = 100$ ):

- *skew*( $Prism_m$ ) has  $\chi = \gcd(m, 4) - m$  and is oriented iff  $m$  is even;
- *phial*( $Prism_m$ ) has  $\chi = 2 + \gcd(m, 4) - 2m$  and is non-oriented.
- *skew*( $APrism_m$ ) has  $\chi = 1 + \gcd(m, 3) - 2m$  and is non-oriented;
- *phial*( $APrism_m$ ) has  $\chi = 3 + \gcd(m, 3) - 2m$  and is oriented.

VII. Zigzags  
on  $n$ -dimensional  
complexes

# Zigzags on $n$ -dimensional polytopes

A (maximal) **flag**  $u = (f_0, \dots, f_{n-1})$  is a sequence of  $i$ -faces  $f_i$  (of polytope  $P$ ) with  $f_i \subset f_{i+1}$ .

Given a flag  $u$ , there exist a unique flag  $\sigma_i(u)$ , which differs from  $u$  only in position  $i$ , i.e., in  $f'_i \neq f_i$ ,  $f_{i-1} \in f_i$ ,  $f'_i \in f_{i+1}$ .

A **zigzag**  $z$  is a circuit of flags  $(u_j)_{0 \leq j \leq l}$ , such that  $u_0 = u$ ,  $u_j = \sigma_n \dots \sigma_1(u_{j-1})$ ; so,  $u_1 = (f'_0, \dots, f'_{n-1})$ .

The number of flags is called its **length**.

The zigzags partition the flag-set of  $P$ .

**$z$ -vector** of  $P$  is a vector, listing zigzags with their lengths.

**Proposition:** *if the dimension of polytope is odd, then the length of any zigzag is even.*

**Problem:** generalize Lins triality of maps on  $d$ -complexes.

# Zigzags of regular/semiregular polytopes

$d$	$d$ -polytope	$z$ -vector
3	Dodecahedron	$10^6$
4	24-cell	$12^{48}$
4	600-cell	$30^{240}$
$d$	$d$ -simplex= $\alpha_d$	$(n + 1)^{n!/2}$
$d$	$d$ -cross-polytope= $\beta_d$	$(2n)^{2^{n-2}(n-1)!}$
4	octicosahedric 4-polytope	$45^{480}$
4	snub 24-cell	$20^{144}$
4	$0_{21}$ =Med( $\alpha_4$ )	$15^{12}$
5	$1_{21}$ =Half-5-Cube	$12^{240}$
6	$2_{21}$ =Schläfli polytope (in $E_6$ )	$18^{4320}$
7	$3_{21}$ =Gosset polytope (in $E_7$ )	$90^{48384}$
8	$4_{21}$ (240 roots of $E_8$ )	$36^{29030400}$

# Zigzags of reg. and semireg. polyhedra

# edges	polyhedron	$z$ -vector	int. vector
6	Tetrahedron	$4^3$	$(1, 1)^2$
12	Cube, Octahedron	$6^4$	$(0, 2)^3$
30	Dodecahedron, Icosahedron	$10^6$	$(0, 2)^5$
24	Cuboctahedron	$8^6$	$(0, 2)^4, (0, 0)$
60	Icosidodecahedron	$10^{12}$	$(0, 2)^5, (0, 0)^6$
48	Rhombicuboctahedron	$12^8$	$(0, 2)^6, (0, 0)$
120	Rhombicosidodecahedron	$20^{12}$	$(0, 2)^{10}, (0, 0)$
72	Truncated Cuboctahedron	$18^8$	$(0, 6), (0, 2)^6$
180	Truncated Icosidodecahedron	$30^{12}$	$(0, 10), (0, 2)^{10}$
18	Truncated Tetrahedron	$12^3$	$(3, 3)^2$
36	Truncated Octahedron	$12^6$	$(0, 4), (0, 2)^4$

36	<b>Truncated Cube</b>	$18^4$	$(2, 4)^3$
90	<b>Truncated Icosahedron</b>	$18^{10}$	$(0, 2)^9$
90	<b>Truncated Dodecahedron</b>	$30^6$	$(2, 4)^5$
60	<b>Snub Cube</b>	$30_{3,0}^4$	$(4, 4)^3$
150	<b>Snub Dodecahedron</b>	$50_{5,0}^6$	$(4, 4)^5$
3m	$Prism_m, m \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$	$(\frac{3m}{2})^4$	$(0, \frac{m}{2})^3$
3m	$Prism_m, m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$	$(3m \frac{m}{2}, 0)^2$	$(0, 2m)$
3m	$Prism_m, m \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{4}$	$6m_{m, 2m}$	
4m	$APrism_m, m \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$	$(2m)^4$	$(0, \frac{2m}{3})^3$
4m	$APrism_m, m \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{3}$	$2m; 6m_{0, 2m}$	
84	<b>Klein map</b> (oriented, genus 3 surface)	$8^{21}$	$(0, 1)^8, 0^{12}$
48	<b>Dyck map</b> (oriented, genus 3 surface)	$6^{16}$	$(0, 1)^6, 0^9$

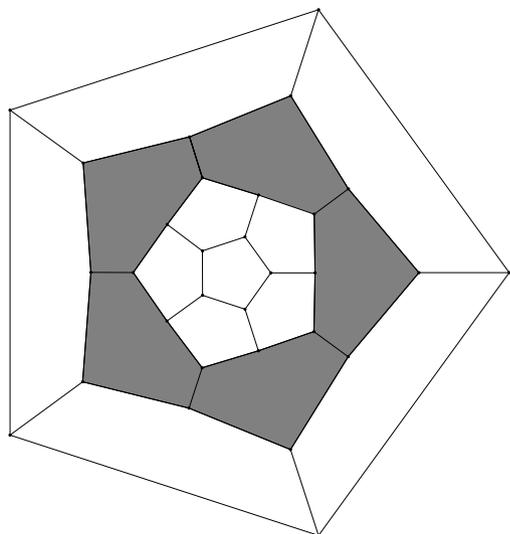
# Regular-faced and Conway's polytopes

$d$	$d$ -polytope	$z$ -vector
4	$Pyr(Icosahedron)$	$25^{12}$
4	$BPyr(Icosahedron)$	$40^{12}$
4	$0_{21} + Pyr(\beta_3)$	$42^6$
$d$	$Pyr(\beta_{d-1}), d \geq 4$	$\left(\frac{2(d^2-1)}{\gcd(d,2)}\right)^x$
$d$	$BPyr(\alpha_{d-1}), d \geq 5$	$\left(\frac{2d^2}{\gcd(d,2)}\right)^y$
4	<b>Grand Antiprism</b>	$30^{20}, 50^{40}, 90^{20}$
4	$C_p \times C_q$ (put $t = \gcd(p, q)$ )	$\left(\frac{2pq}{t}\right)^{2t}, \left(\frac{4pq}{t}\right)^{2t}$ if both, $p$ and $q$ , are odd $\left(\frac{2pq}{t}\right)^{6t}$ , otherwise

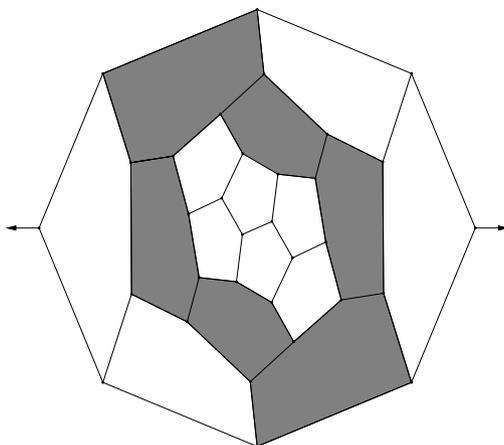
# VIII. Special fullerenes $5_n$

1. All (8) with every hexagon being in a ring
2.  $z$ -uniform and  $z$ -transitive fullerenes
3.  $z$ -knotted fullerenes

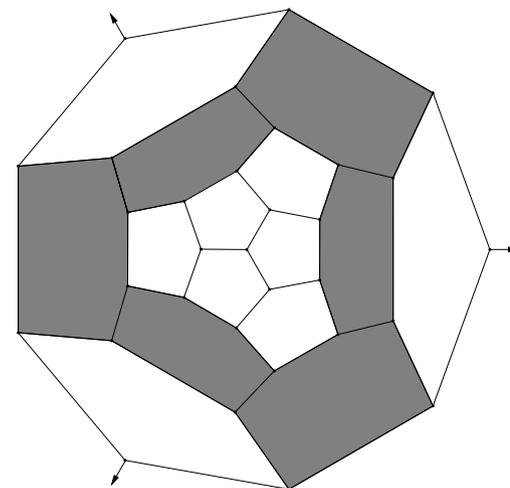
# All $5_n$ with hexagons in 1 ring



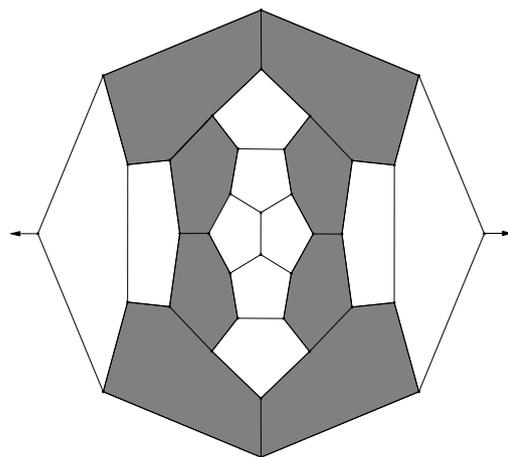
30  $D_{5h}$   
railroad



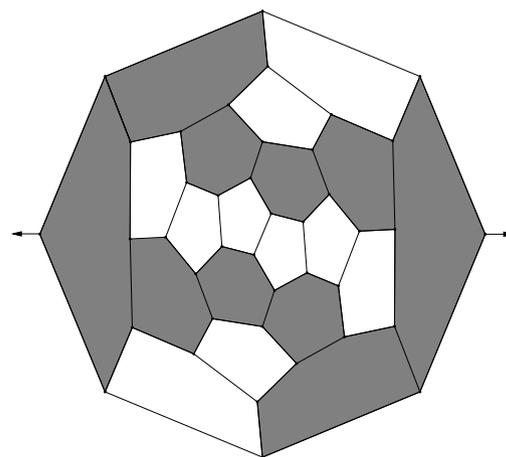
32  $D_2$



32  $D_{3d}$

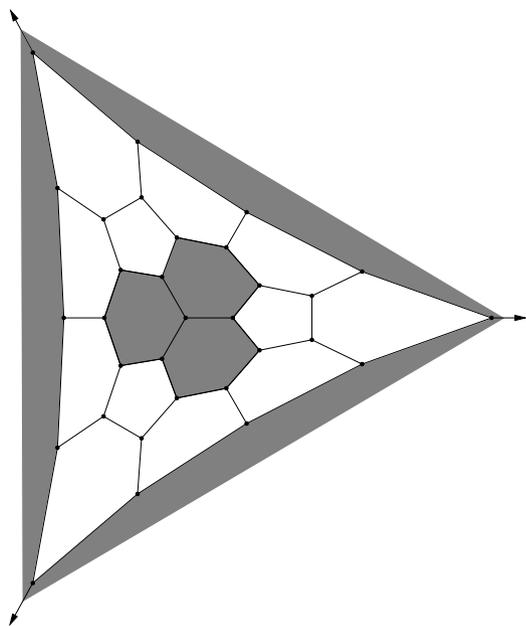


36  $D_{2d}$

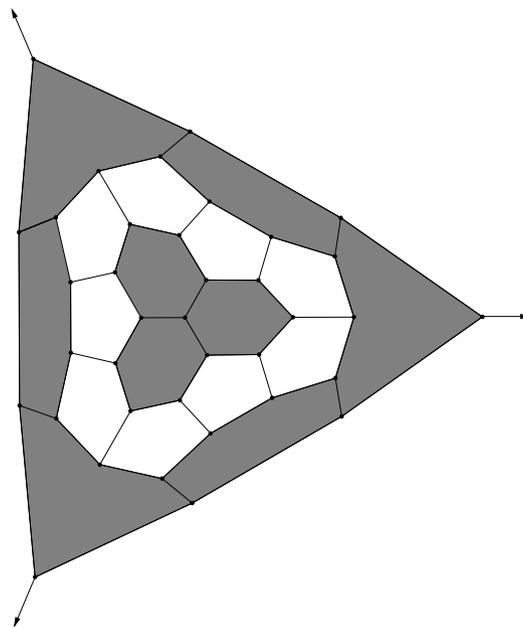


40  $D_2$

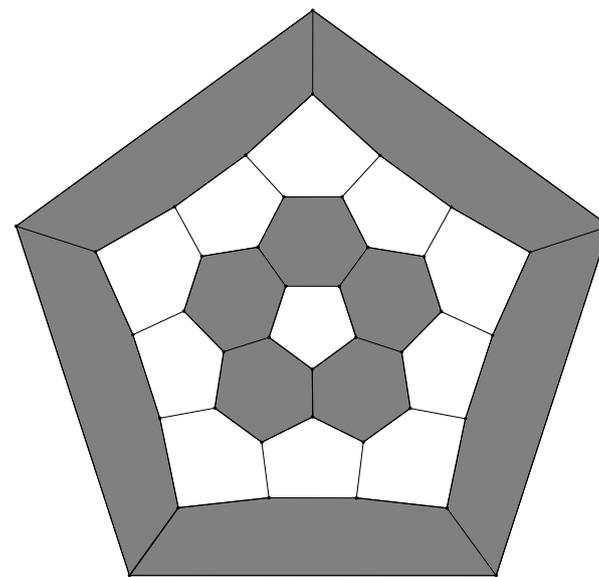
# All $5_n$ with hexagons in ( $> 1$ ) rings



32  $D_{3h}$ ;  
6-gons in two  
3-rings



38  $C_{3v}$ ;  
6-gons in 3- and  
6-ring  
5-gons in 3- and  
9-ring

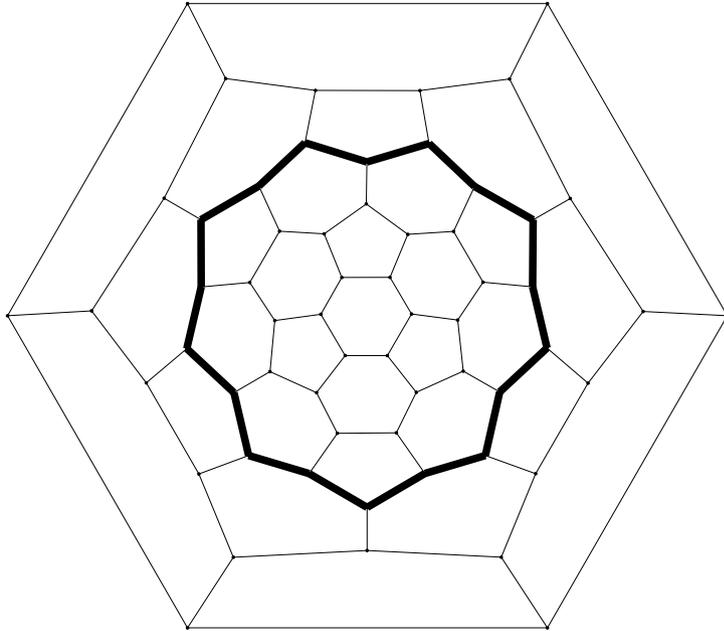


40  $D_{5h}$ ;  
6-gons in two  
5-rings

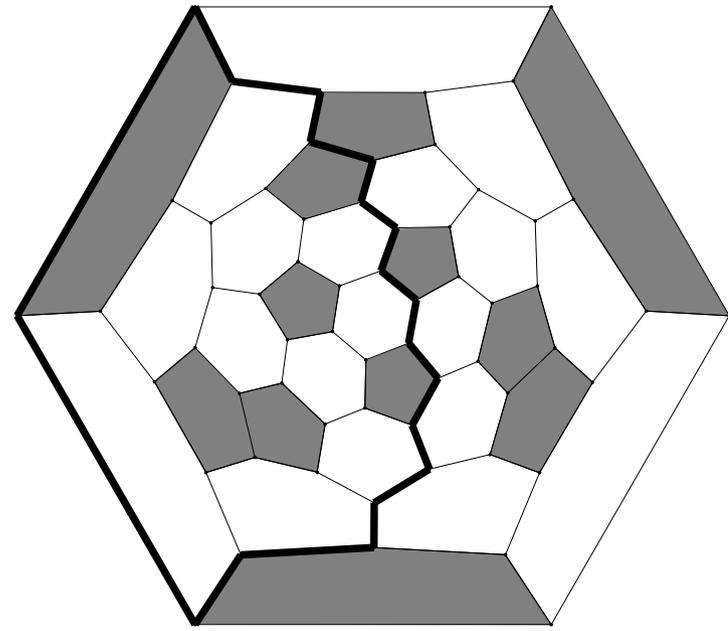
# $z$ -uniform $5_n$ with $n \leq 60$

$n$	isomer	orbit lengths	$z$ -vector	int. vector
20	$I_h:1$	6	$10_{0,0}^6$	$2^5$
28	$T_d:2$	4,3	$12_{0,0}^7$	$2^6$
40	$T_d:40$	4	$30_{0,3}^4$	$8^3$
44	$T:73$	3	$44_{0,4}^3$	$18^2$
44	$D_2:83$	2	$66_{5,10}^2$	36
48	$C_2:84$	2	$72_{7,9}^2$	40
48	$D_3:188$	3,3,3	$16_{0,0}^9$	$2^8$
52	$C_3:237$	3	$52_{2,4}^3$	$20^2$
52	$T:437$	3	$52_{0,8}^3$	$18^2$
56	$C_2:293$	2	$84_{7,13}^2$	44
56	$C_2:349$	2	$84_{5,13}^2$	48
56	$C_3:393$	3	$56_{3,5}^3$	$20^2$
60	$C_2:1193$	2	$90_{7,13}^2$	50
60	$D_2:1197$	2	$90_{13,8}^2$	48
60	$D_3:1803$	6,3,1	$18_{0,0}^{10}$	$2^9$
60	$I_h:1812$	10	$18_{0,0}^{10}$	$2^9$

# Two $5_{60}$ with $z$ -vector $18_{0,0}^{10}$



$C_{60}(I_h)$



$F_{60}(D_3)$

This pair was first answer on a question in B.Grunbaum "Convex Polytopes" (Wiley, New York, 1967) about non-existence of simple polyhedra with the same  $p$ -vector but different zigzags.

# $z$ -uniform IPR $5_n$ with $n \leq 100$

$n$	isomer	orbit lengths	$z$ -vector	int. vector
80	$I_h:7$	12	$20_{0,0}^{12}$	$0, 2^{10}$
84	$T_d:20$	6	$42_{0,1}^6$	$8^5$
84	$D_{2d}:23$	4,2	$42_{0,1}^6$	$8^5$
86	$D_3:19$	3	$86_{1,10}^3$	$32^2$
88	$T:34$	12	$22_{0,0}^{12}$	$2^{11}$
92	$T:86$	6	$46_{0,3}^6$	$8^5$
94	$C_3:110$	3	$94_{2,13}^3$	$32^2$
100	$C_2:387$	2	$150_{13,22}^2$	80
100	$D_2:438$	2	$150_{15,20}^2$	80
100	$D_2:432$	2	$150_{17,16}^2$	84
100	$D_2:445$	2	$150_{17,16}^2$	84

**IPR** means the absence of adjacent pentagonal faces;  
IPR enhanced stability of putative fullerene molecule.

# IPR $z$ -knotted $5_n$ with $n \leq 100$

$n$	signature	isomers
86	43, 86*	$C_2:2$
90	47, 88	$C_1:7$
	53, 82	$C_2:19$
	71, 64	$C_2:6$
94	47, 94*	$C_1:60; C_2:26, 126$
	65, 76	$C_2:121$
	69, 72	$C_2:7$
96	49, 95	$C_1:65$
	53, 91	$C_1:7, 37, 63$

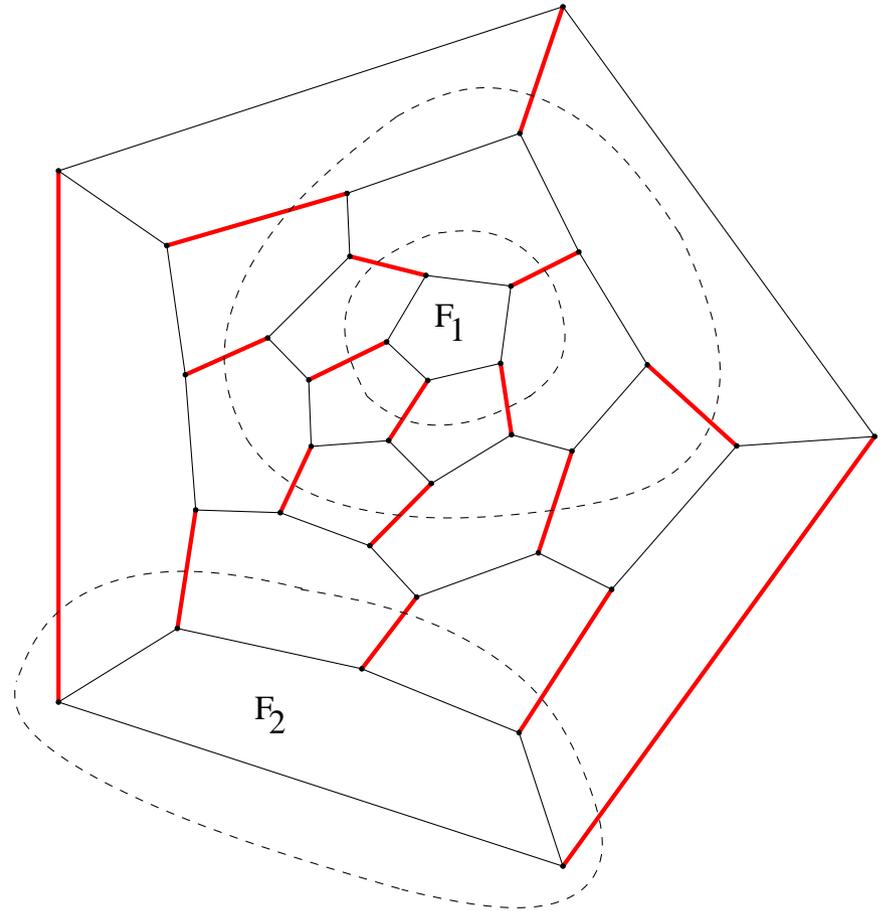
98	49, 98*	$C_2:191, 194, 196$
	63, 84	$C_1:49$
	75, 72	$C_1:29$
	77, 70	$C_1:5; C_2:221$
100	51, 99	$C_1:371, 377; C_3:221$
	53, 97	$C_1:29, 113, 236$
	55, 95	$C_1:165$
	57, 93	$C_1:21$
	61, 89	$C_1:225$
	65, 85	$C_1:31, 234$

The symbol \* above means that fullerene forms a **Kékule structure**, i.e., edges of self-intersection of type I cover exactly once the vertex-set of the fullerene graph (in other words, they form a **perfect matching** of the graph).

# Perfect matching on $5_n$ graphs

Let  $G$  be a graph  $5_n$  with **one zigzag** with self-intersection numbers  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$ .

- (i)  $\alpha_1 \geq \frac{n}{2}$ . If  $\alpha_1 = \frac{n}{2}$  then the edges of self-intersection of type I form a **perfect matching  $PM$**
- (ii) every face incident to **0 or 2** edges of  $PM$
- (iii) two faces,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are free of  $PM$ ,  $PM$  is organized around them in **concentric circles**.



# Statistics of $z$ -knotted $5_n$ with $n \leq 74$

$n$	# of $5_n$	# of $z$ -knotted
34	6	1
36	15	0
38	17	4
40	40	1
42	45	6
44	89	9
46	116	15
48	199	23
50	271	30
52	437	42
54	580	93
56	924	87
58	1205	186
60	1812	206
62	2385	341
64	3465	437
66	4478	567
68	6332	894
70	8149	1048
72	11190	1613
74	14246	1970

It will be interesting to estimate the relative order of magnitude of  $z$ -knotted fullerenes among all  $5_n$ .

From Schaeffer and Zinn-Justin, 2004: the proportion, among all 3-valent  $n$ -vertex plane graphs, of those having  $\leq m$  zigzags (for any fixed  $m$ ) goes to 0 with  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .