

Course IMSc Chennai, India

January-March 2017

Enumerative and algebraic combinatorics,  
a bijective approach:

# commutations and heaps of pieces

(with interactions in physics, mathematics and computer science)

Monday and Thursday 14h-15h30

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IMSc

January-March 2017

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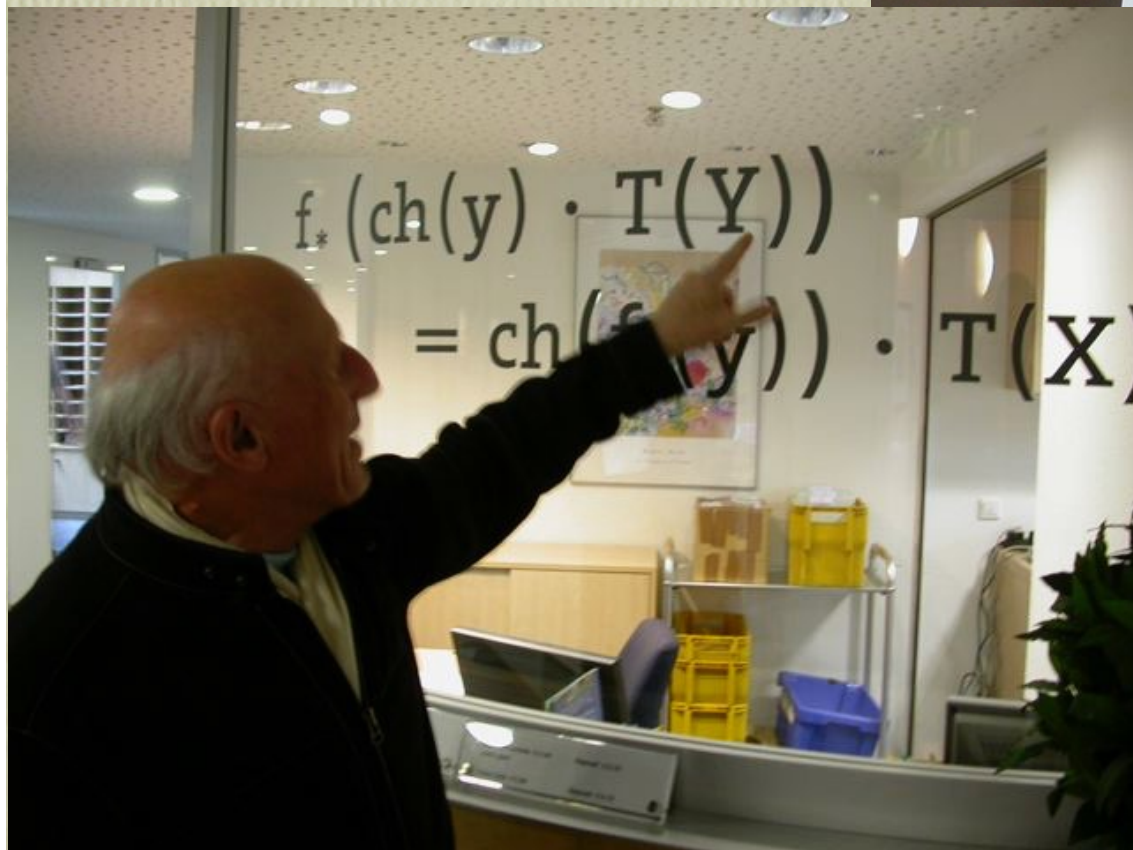
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Chapter 3  
Heaps and Paths,  
Flows and Rearrangements monoids  
(1)

IMSc, Chennai  
30 January 2017

"Commutation and  
Rearrangements"  
(1969)

Pierre Cartier



Dominique Foata

rearrangements  
monoid  
 $R(X)$

flows monoid  
 $F(X)$

The flows monoid

•  $X$  set

•  $P = A = \{(i, j)\}$   
basic pieces      alphabet       $i \in X$   
pieces       $j \in X$

flow monoid  
(on  $X$ )

$F(X)$

•  $X$  set

•  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{A} = \{(i, j)\}$   
basic pieces      alphabet       $i \in X$   
                                                                                                  $j \in X$

•  $\mathcal{C}$  dependency relation:  
(or concurrency)

$$(i, j) \mathcal{C} (i', j') \iff i = i'$$

$\mathcal{C}$  commutations

$$(i, j)(i', j') = (i', j')(i, j) \text{ iff } i \neq i'$$

flow monoid  
(on  $X$ )

$$F(X)$$

$$A = X \times X$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} i \\ j \end{pmatrix}$$

biword

$$w = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

flow

$$[w]$$

equivalence class  
of biwords  
for  $C$

$$A = X \times X$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} i \\ j \end{pmatrix}$$

biword

$$w = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

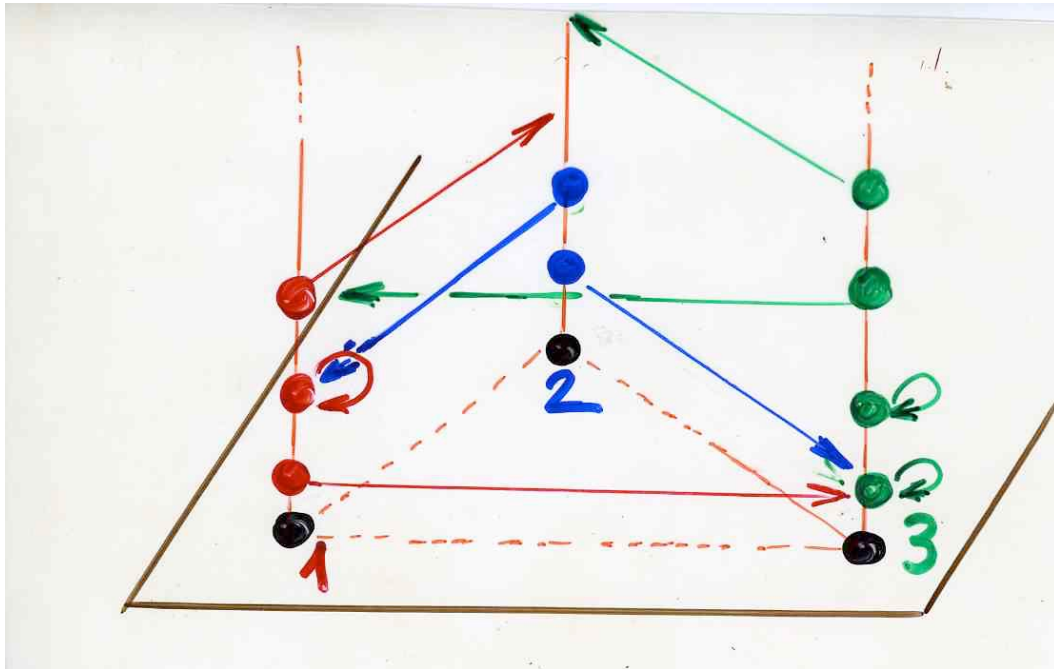
total order  
on  $X$

$$w \equiv_c \overrightarrow{w}$$

$$\overrightarrow{w} \text{ biword} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$X = \{1, 2, 3\}$$



$$A = X \times X$$

heap of "half-edges"  
 $(i, j)$  for  $\mathcal{E}$

$\vec{w}$  biword =  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

flow monoid  
(on  $X$ )

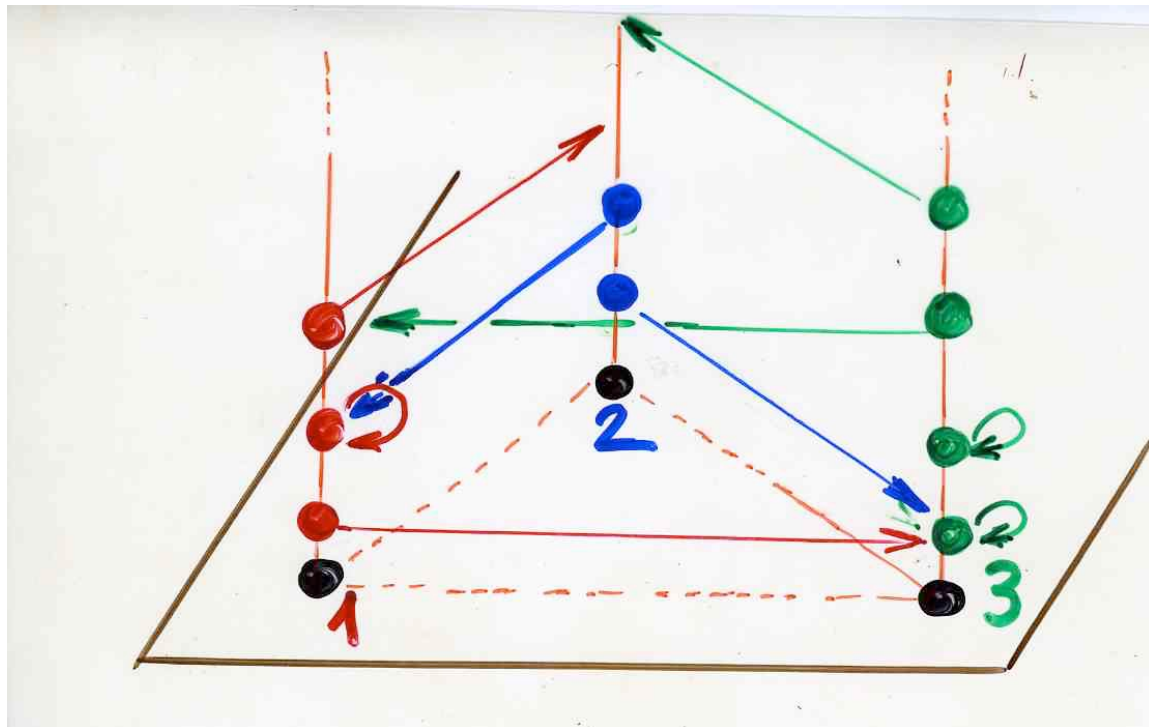
$$F(X) \approx \prod_{s \in X} X_s^*$$

direct product

free monoid

$$X_s = \{ (s, t) \}_{t \in X}$$

$$F(\{1, 2, 3\}) = X_1^* \times X_2^* \times X_3^*$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Phi$  flow  $F(X)$

for  $s \in X$

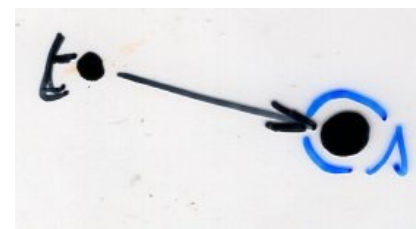
$$\text{deg}_{\Phi}^{+}(s) = \left\{ \text{number of edges } \binom{s}{t} \right\}$$

$\{t \in X, \text{ in } \Phi\}$



$$\text{deg}_{\Phi}^{-}(s) = \left\{ \text{number of edges } \binom{t}{s} \right\}$$

$\{t \in X \text{ in } \Phi\}$



$\Phi$  flow  
 $\Phi \in F(X)$

definition

$\Phi$  rearrangement iff  
for any  $s \in X$   
 $\deg^+_{\Phi}(s) = \deg^-_{\Phi}(s)$

$R(X)$  submonoid  
of  $F(X)$

$$R(X) \subseteq F(X)$$

"permutation"  
with repetition of letters

word

3 1 2 3 1 3 3 1 2

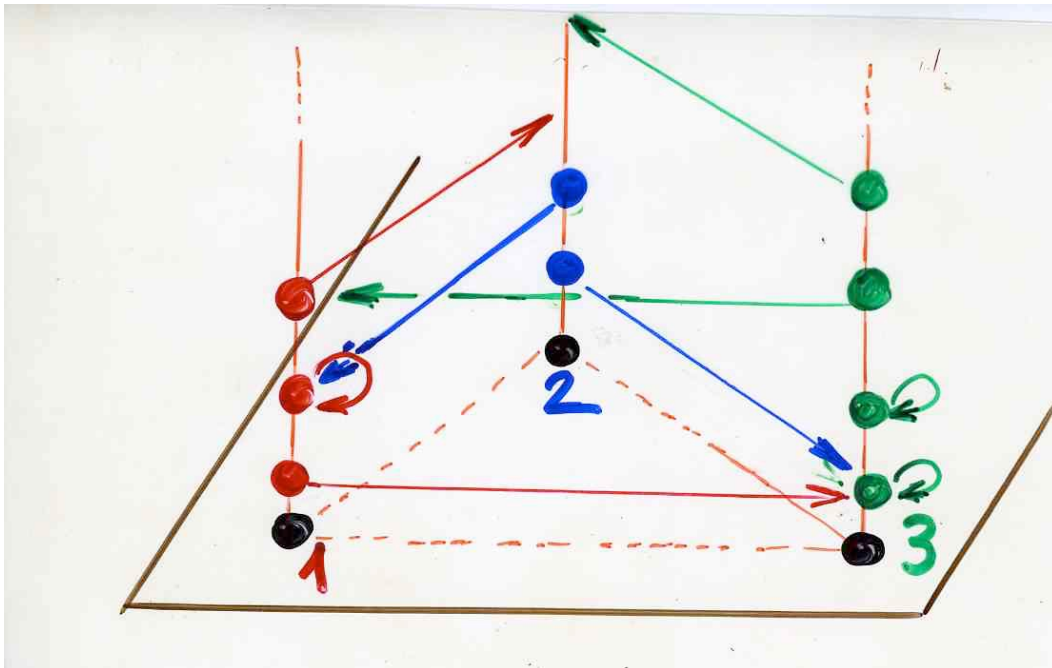
total order  
on X

1 1 1 2 2 3 3 3 3  
3 1 2 3 1 3 3 1 2

rearrangement

$(\begin{matrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{matrix})$

$$X = \{1, 2, 3\}$$



$$A = X \times X$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

paths and flows monoid



path on  $X$

$$\omega = (s_0, \dots, s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots, s_n)$$

$$s_i \in X \quad i=0, \dots, n$$

$\omega$  goes from  $s_0$  to  $s_n$

path on a  
graph  $G$   
(oriented or not)

notation



$(s_i, s_{i+1})$   
edge of  $G$

$s_0$  starting vertex

$s_n$  ending vertex

$(s_i, s_{i+1})$  elementary step

length  $|\omega| = n$

(number of elementary steps)

$n+1$  vertices

weight

$$v(\omega) = \prod_{0 \leq i \leq n-1} v(\lambda_i, \lambda_{i+1})$$

$$v: X \times X \rightarrow K[z]$$

↑  
"formal variables"  
K ring

$$X = [1, k]$$

$$a_{ij} = v(i, j)$$

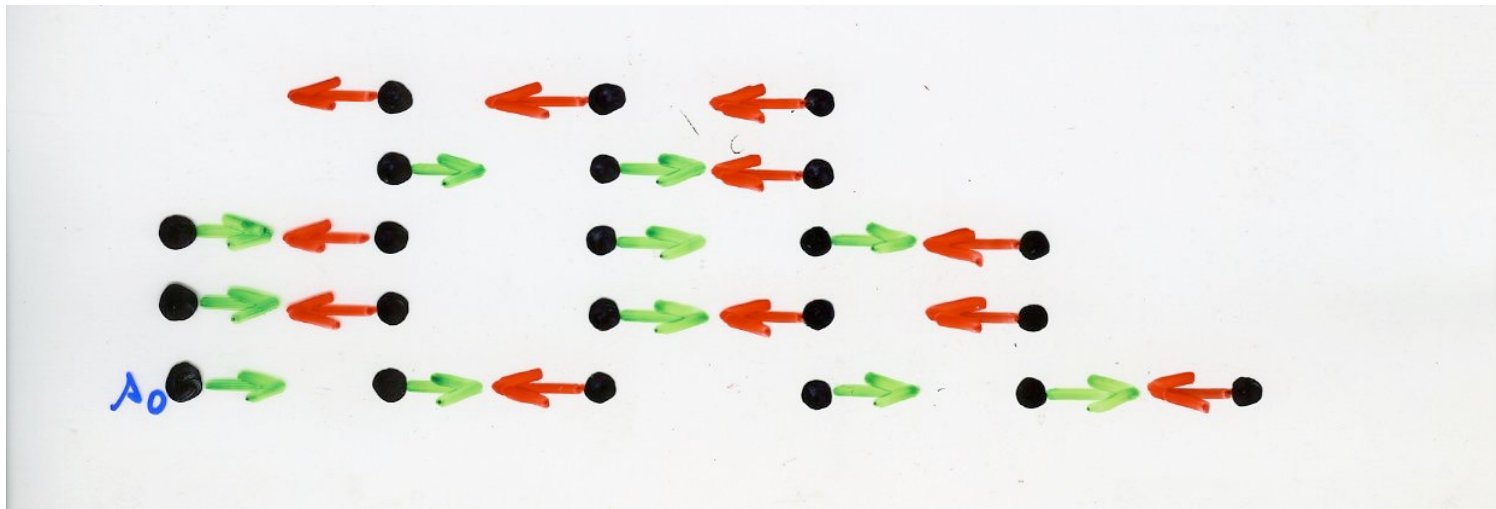
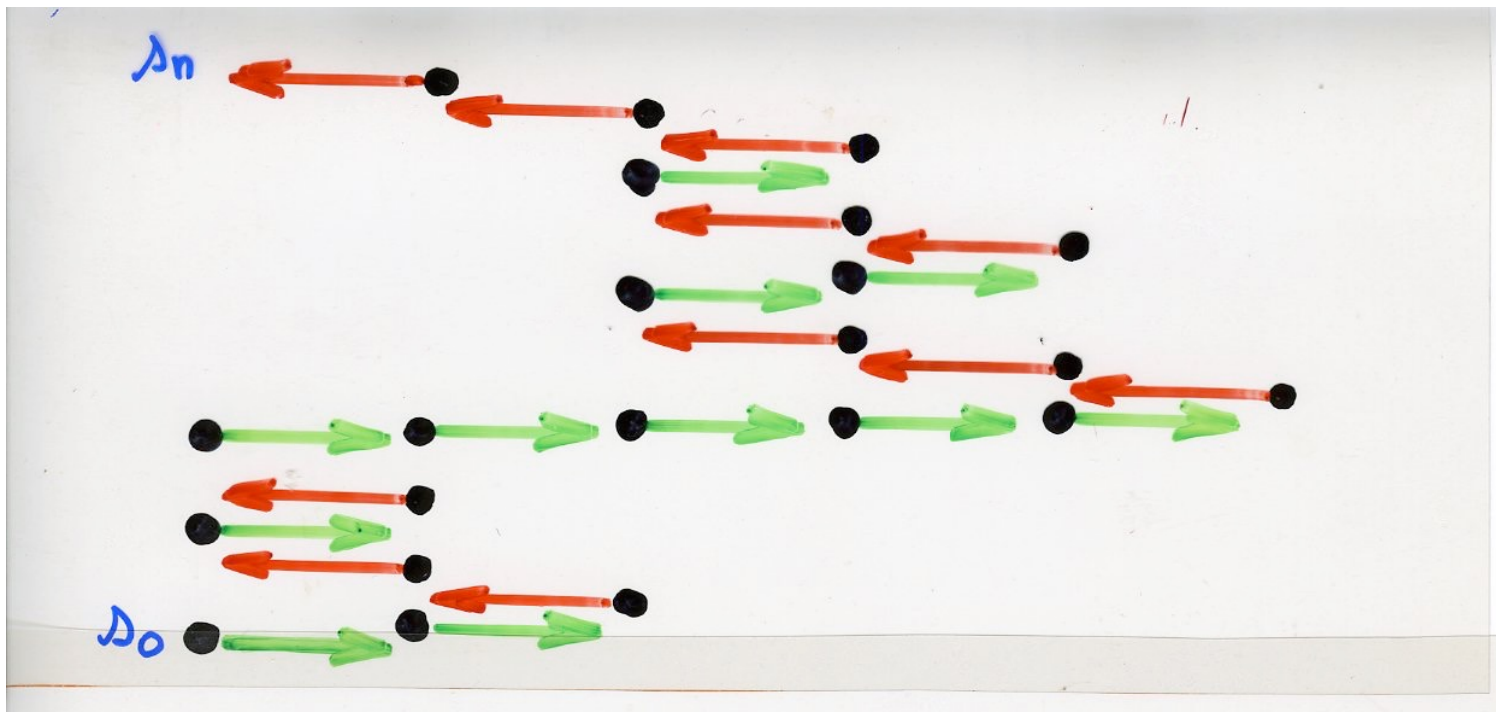
$$A = (a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq k}$$

Path  $\omega$  on  $X$

$$\omega \rightarrow \mathfrak{f}(\omega) \in F(X)$$

$$\mathfrak{f}(\omega) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & \dots & \lambda_{n-1} \\ \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

commutation class



can we reconstruct  
the path  $\omega$  from  
the flow  $\Phi = f(\omega)$  ?

Yes, knowing  $s_0$   
the starting point

algorithm "following"  
a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$

$(s, \Phi) \xrightarrow{h} \omega$  path  
on  $X$

algorithm  
« following a flow »

algorithm "following"  
a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$

$(s, \Phi) \xrightarrow{h} \omega$  path  
on  $X$

$$\omega = (s_0, \dots, s_n)$$

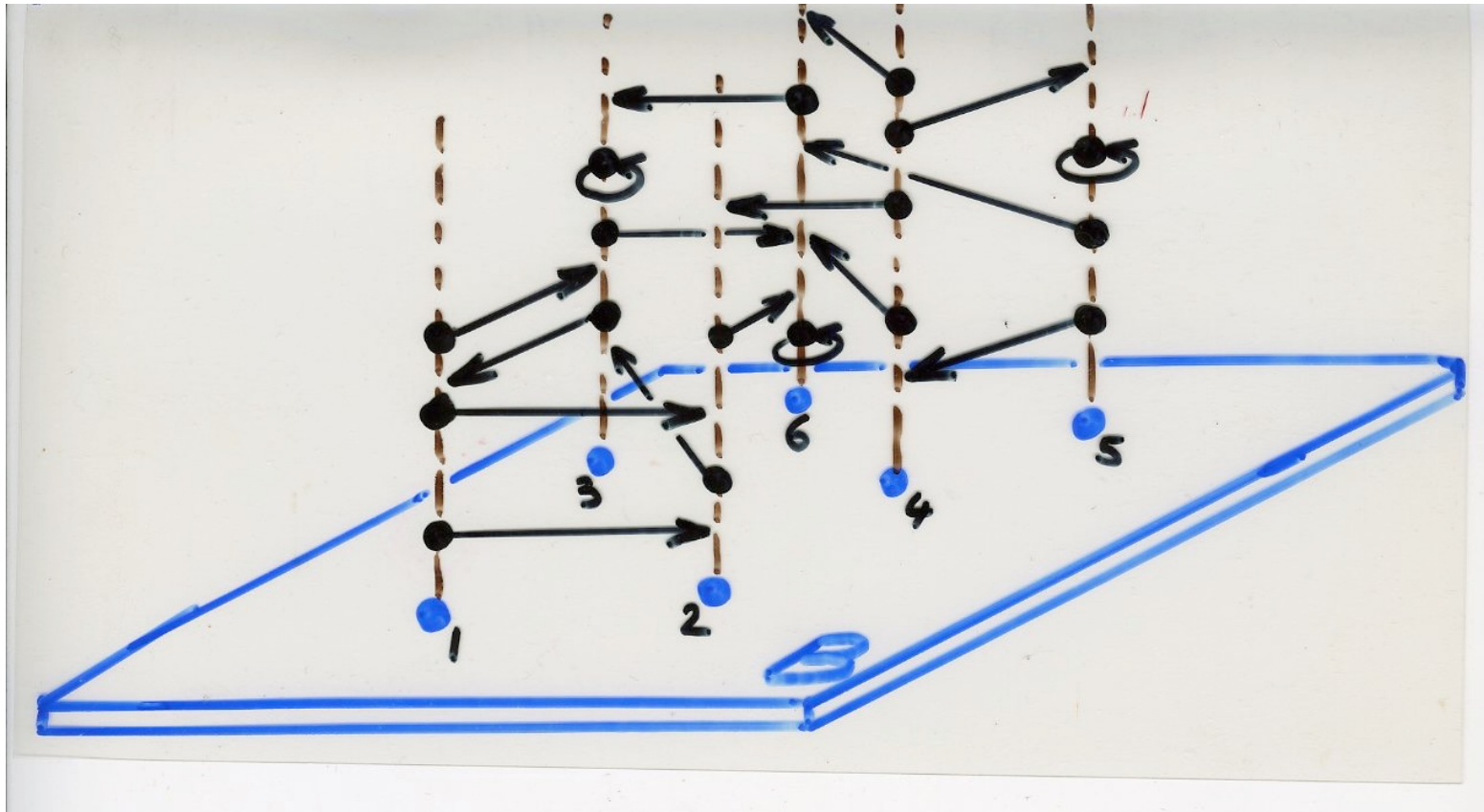
- starting at  $s_0 = s$

- ending at  $s_n$  with  $\deg^+(s_n) = 0$

- the flow  $f(\omega)$  is a left divisor  
of  $\Phi$ , i.e.  $\Phi = f(\omega) \Psi$  in  $F(X)$

for a certain  
 $\Psi$  in  $F(X)$

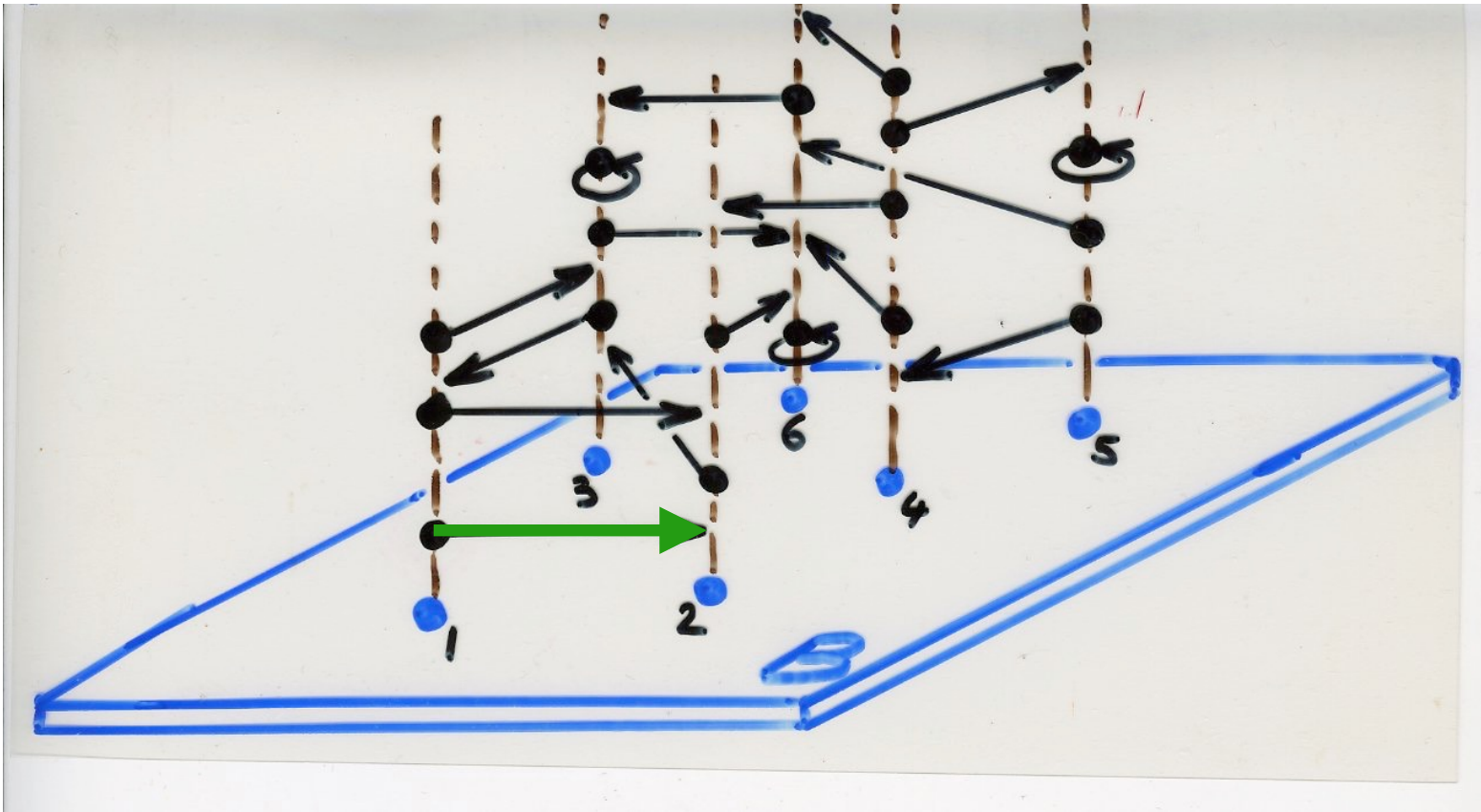
algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

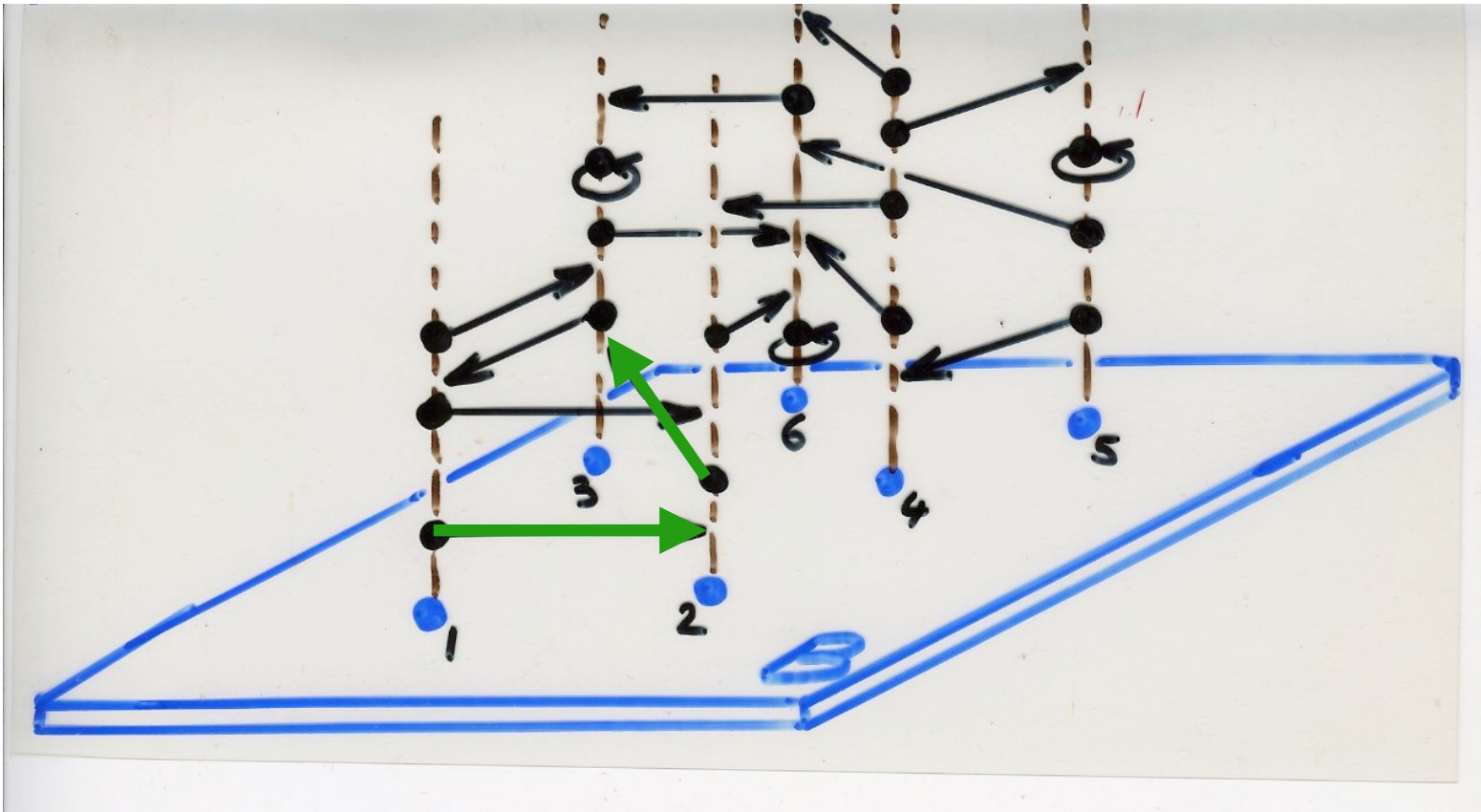


algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



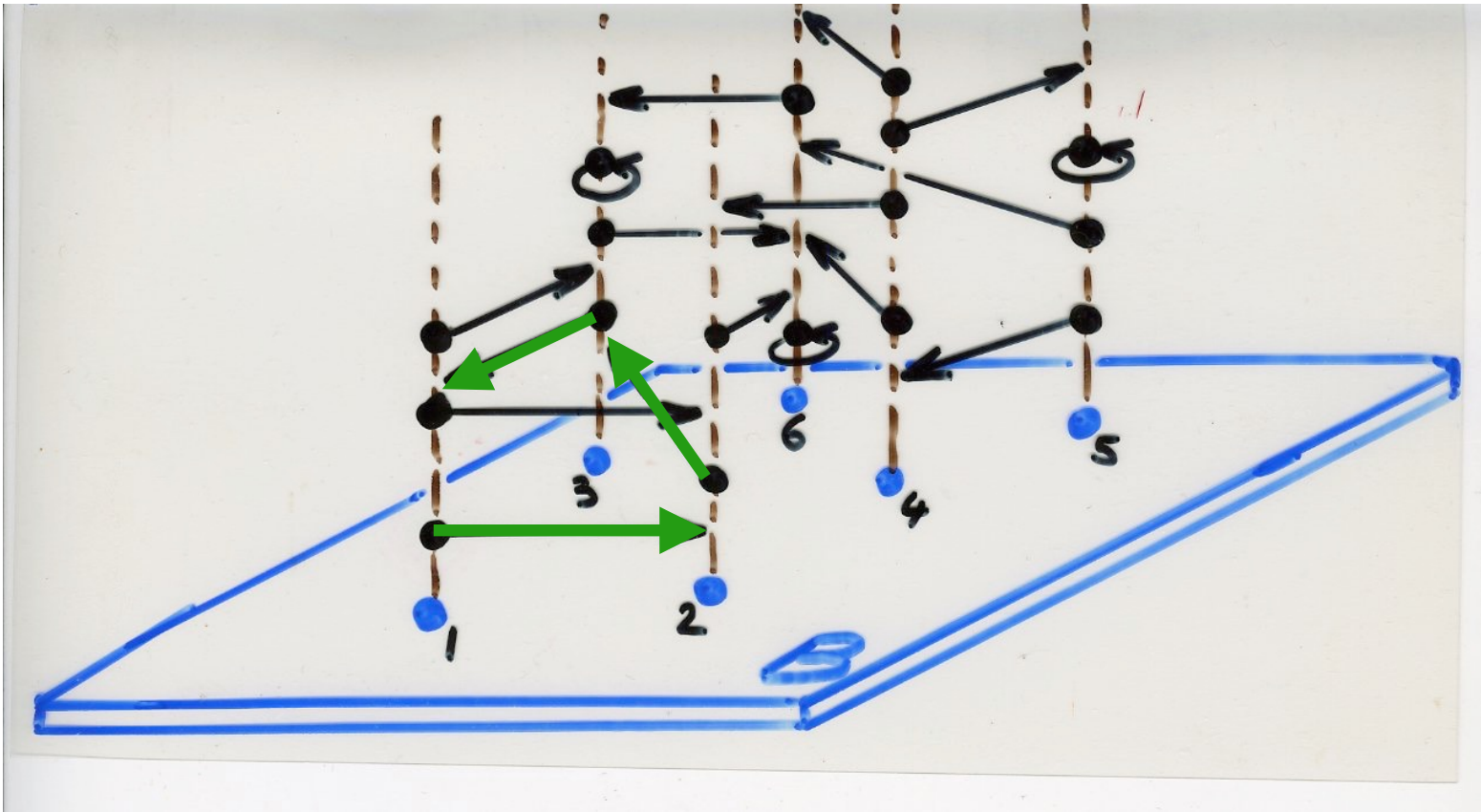
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



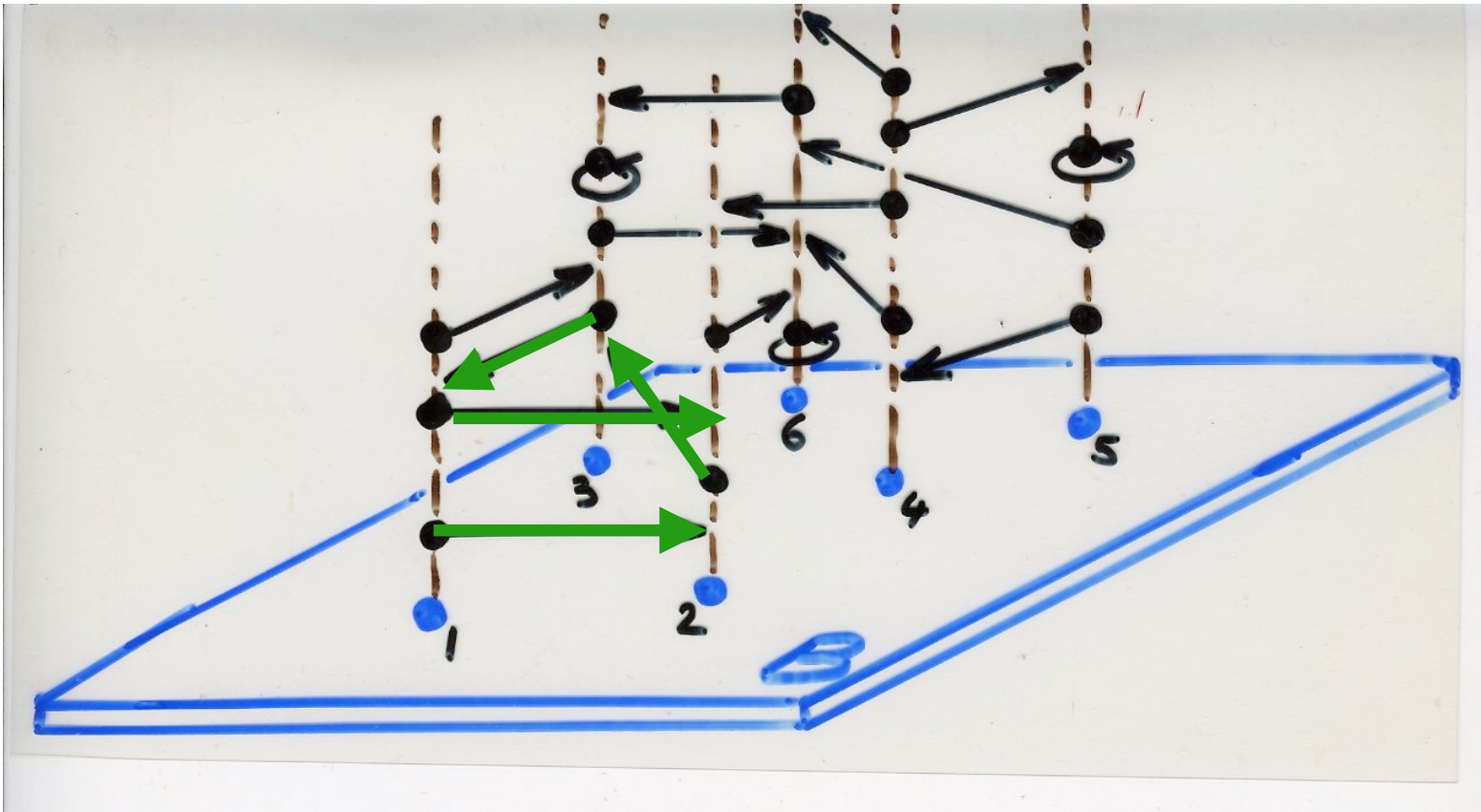
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



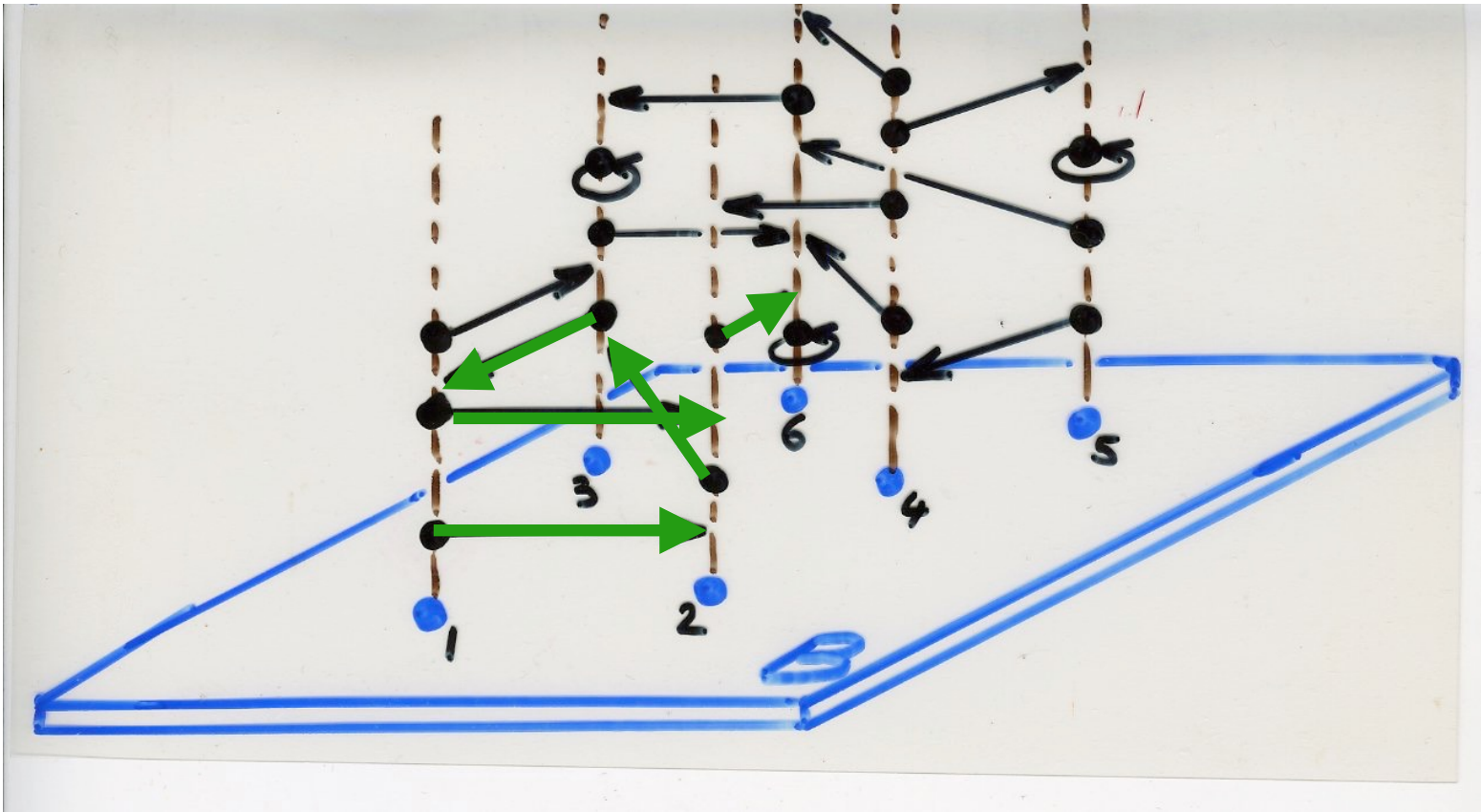
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



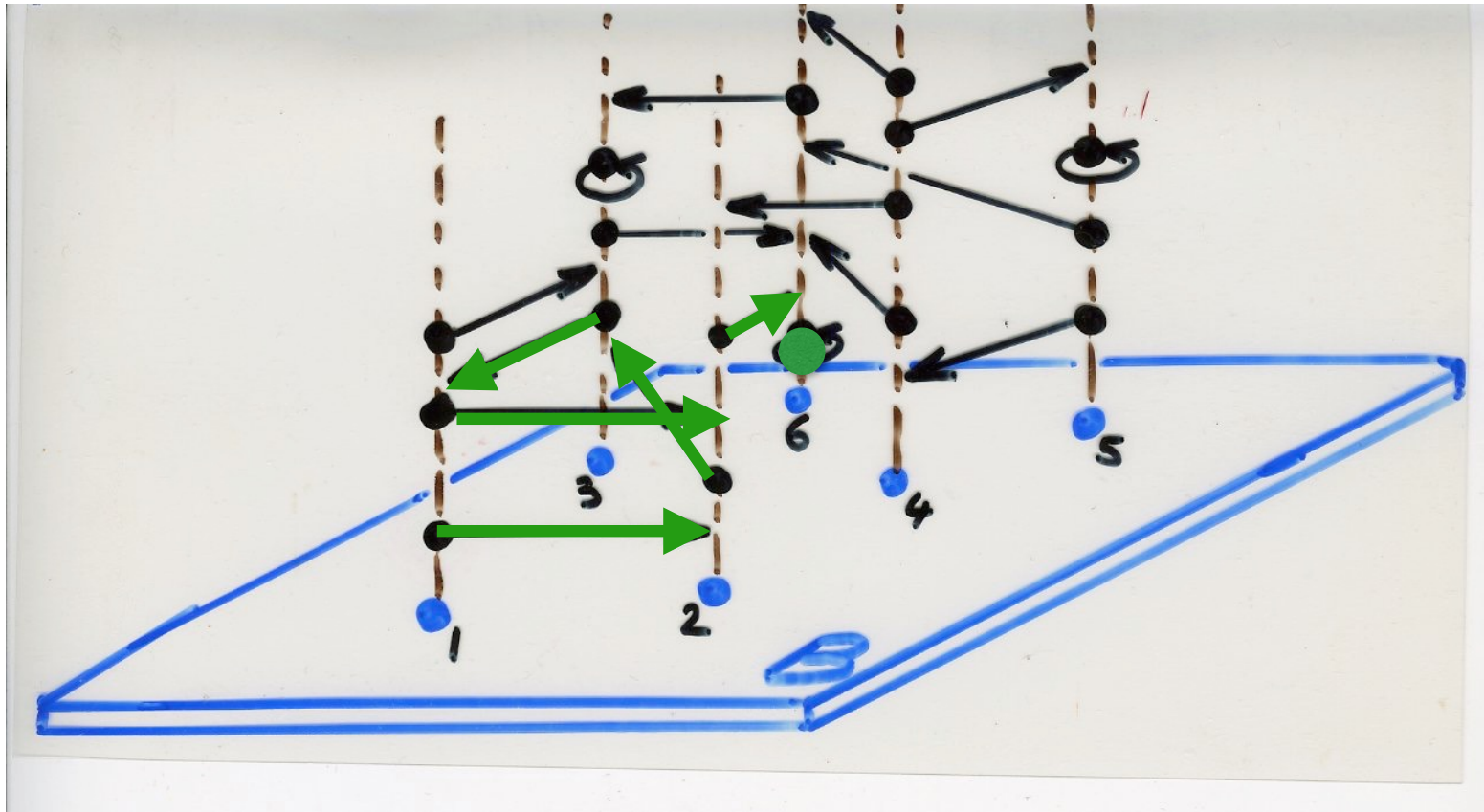
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



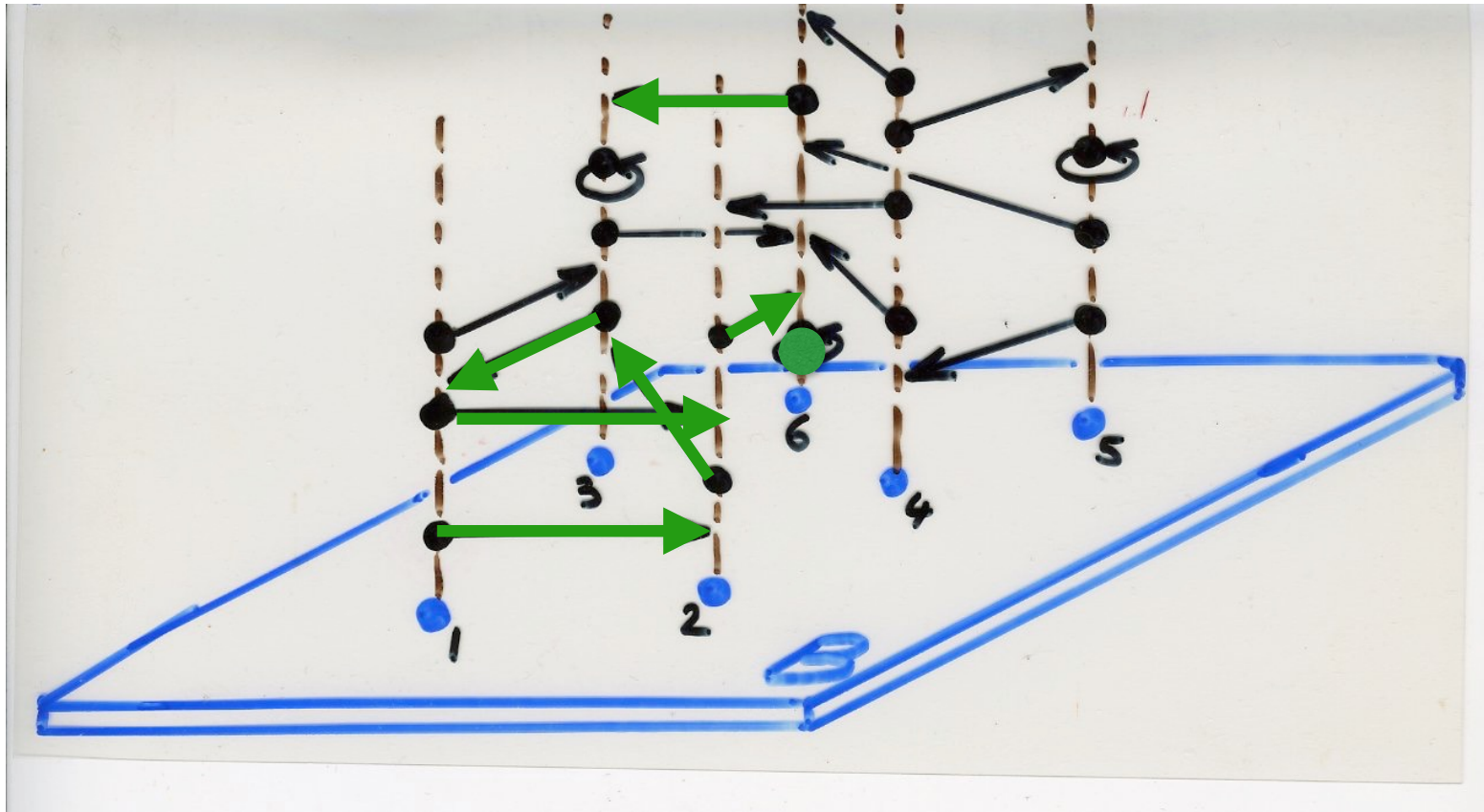
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



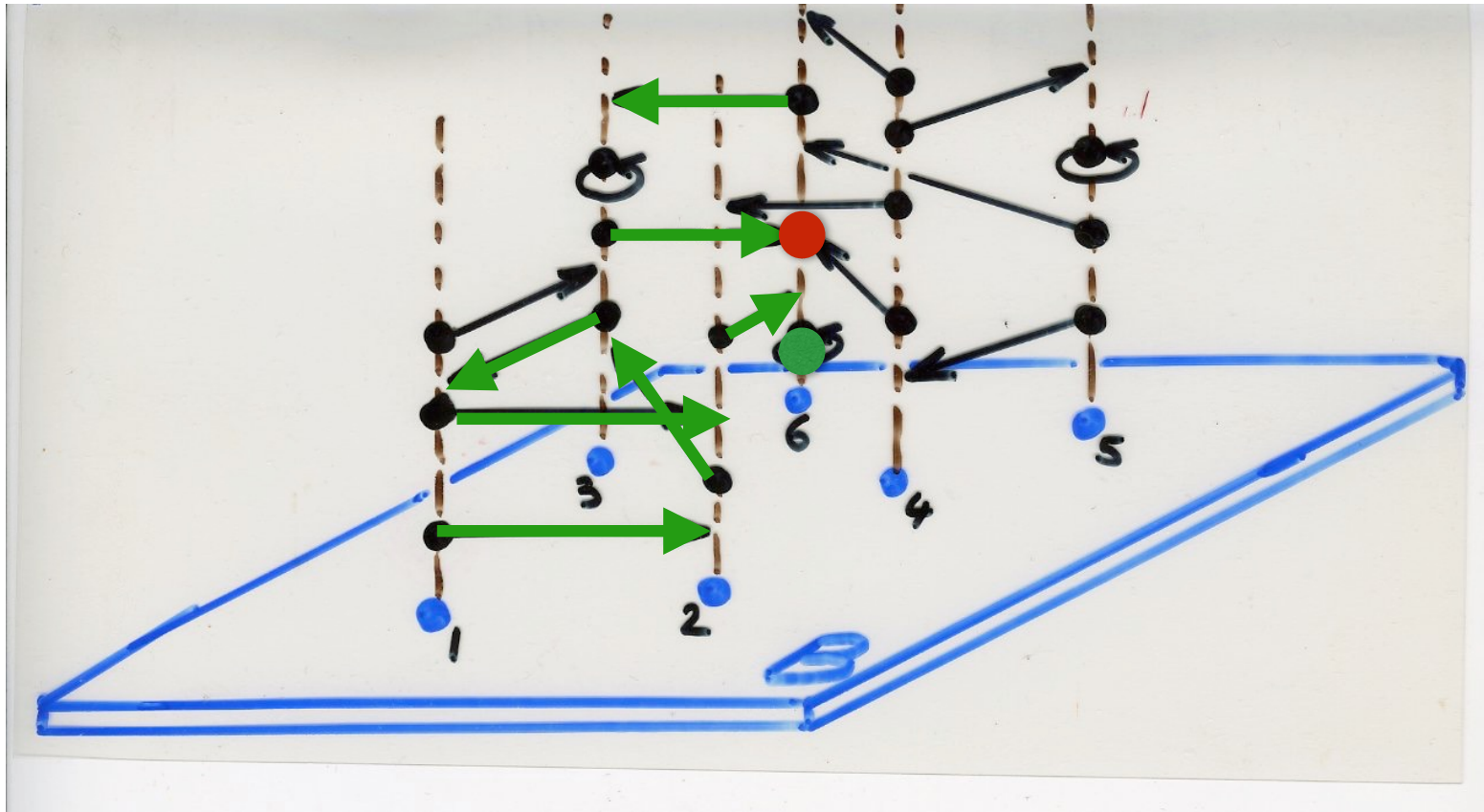
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

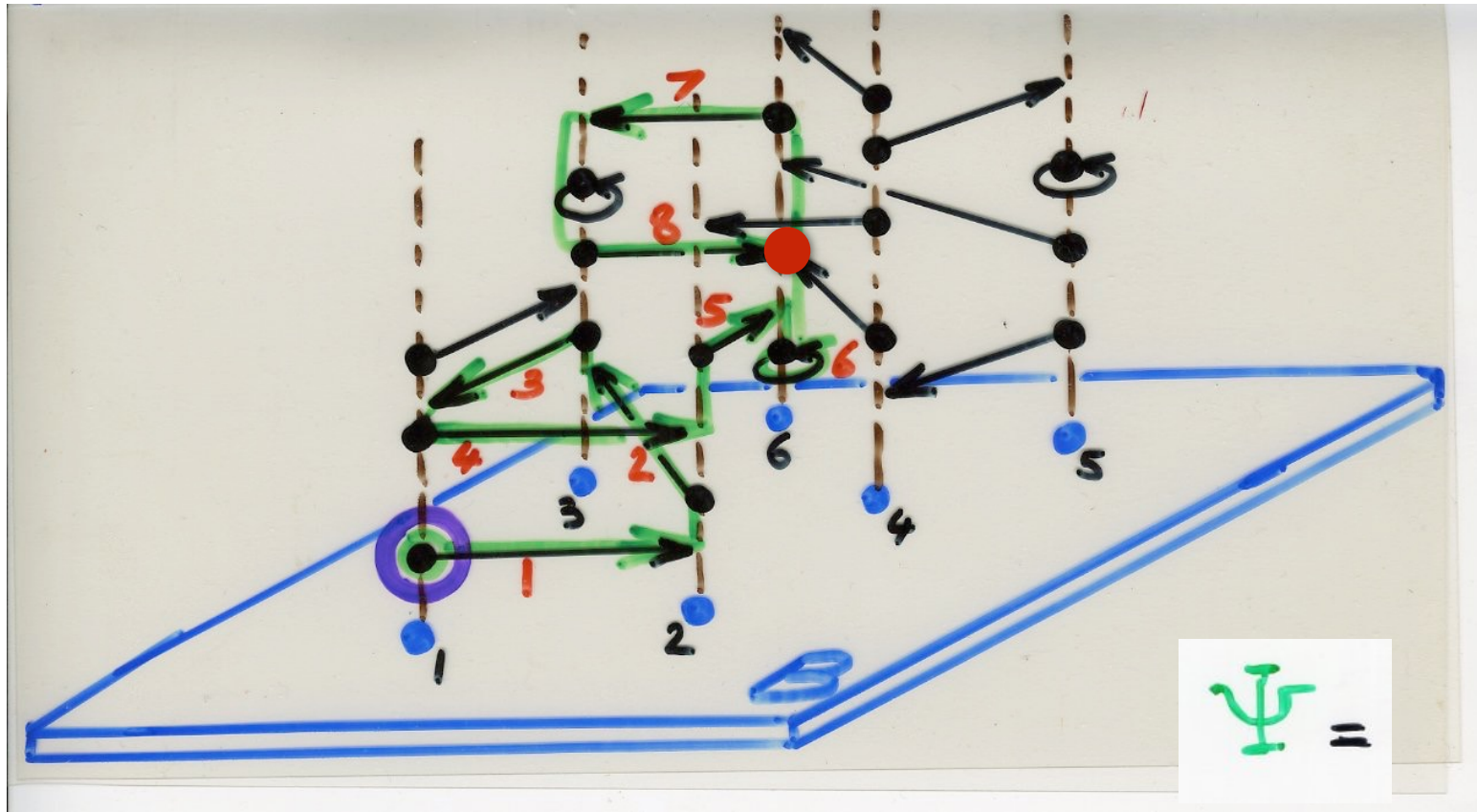
algorithm "following"  
 a flow  $\Phi \in F(X)$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$h(1, \Phi) = (1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 6, 6, 3, 6)$$



$$\left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ 3 \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 3 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} 3 \\ 3 \end{array} \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 4 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 6 \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 5 & 5 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 6 & 6 \\ \hline 6 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array} \right)$$

Path  $\omega$  on  $X$

$$\omega \rightarrow \mathfrak{f}(\omega) \in F(X)$$

$$\mathfrak{f}(\omega) = \begin{bmatrix} s_0 & s_1 & \dots & s_{n-1} \\ s_1 & s_2 & \dots & s_n \end{bmatrix}$$

commutation class

can we reconstruct  
the path  $\omega$  from  
the flow  $\mathfrak{F} = \mathfrak{f}(\omega)$  ?

Yes, knowing  $s_0$   
the starting point

$$h(s_0, \mathfrak{f}(\omega)) = \omega$$

let  $\omega = (\lambda_0, \dots, \lambda_i, \dots, \lambda_n)$   
path on  $X$  with  $\lambda_0 \neq \lambda_n$

can we reconstruct  
the path  $\omega$  from  
the flow  $\Phi = f(\omega)$  ?

Yes!

(i)

- $s_0$  is the unique element  $s \in X$  such that  $\deg_{\Phi}^+(s) - \deg_{\Phi}^-(s) = 1$

(ii)

- $s_n$  is the unique element  $s \in X$  such that  $\deg_{\Phi}^+(s) - \deg_{\Phi}^-(s) = -1$

(iii)

- for all other  $s \in X$   
 $\deg_{\Phi}^+(s) = \deg_{\Phi}^-(s)$

$$h(s_0, f(\omega)) = \omega$$

if  $\Delta_0 = \Delta_n$  ( $\omega$  is a circuit)

we need to  
know  $\Delta_0 = \Delta_n$

$f(\omega)$  is a rearrangement

(i)

•  $s_0$  is the unique element  $s \in X$  such that  $\deg_{\Phi}^+(s) - \deg_{\Phi}^-(s) = 1$

(ii)

•  $s_n$  is the unique element  $s \in X$  such that  $\deg_{\Phi}^+(s) - \deg_{\Phi}^-(s) = -1$

(iii)

• for all other  $s \in X$   
 $\deg_{\Phi}^+(s) = \deg_{\Phi}^-(s)$

Conversely, any flow  $\Phi$  satisfying (i)(ii)(iii) can be uniquely factorized as

$$\Phi = \underbrace{f(\omega)}_{\text{(unique) path}} \underbrace{\Psi}_{\text{rearrangement}}$$

obvious!

called "open hike"

(Giscard, Rochet, 2016)

Rearrangements and heaps of cycles

definition

$\Phi$  flow  $F(X)$

$\Phi$  rearrangement iff  
for any  $s \in X$   
 $\deg_{\Phi}^{+}(s) = \deg_{\Phi}^{-}(s)$

$$\deg_{\Phi}^{+}(s) = \left\{ \text{number of edges } \binom{s}{t} \right\}$$

$\{t \in X, \text{ in } \Phi\}$



$$\deg_{\Phi}^{-}(s) = \left\{ \text{number of edges } \binom{t}{s} \right\}$$

$\{t \in X, \text{ in } \Phi\}$

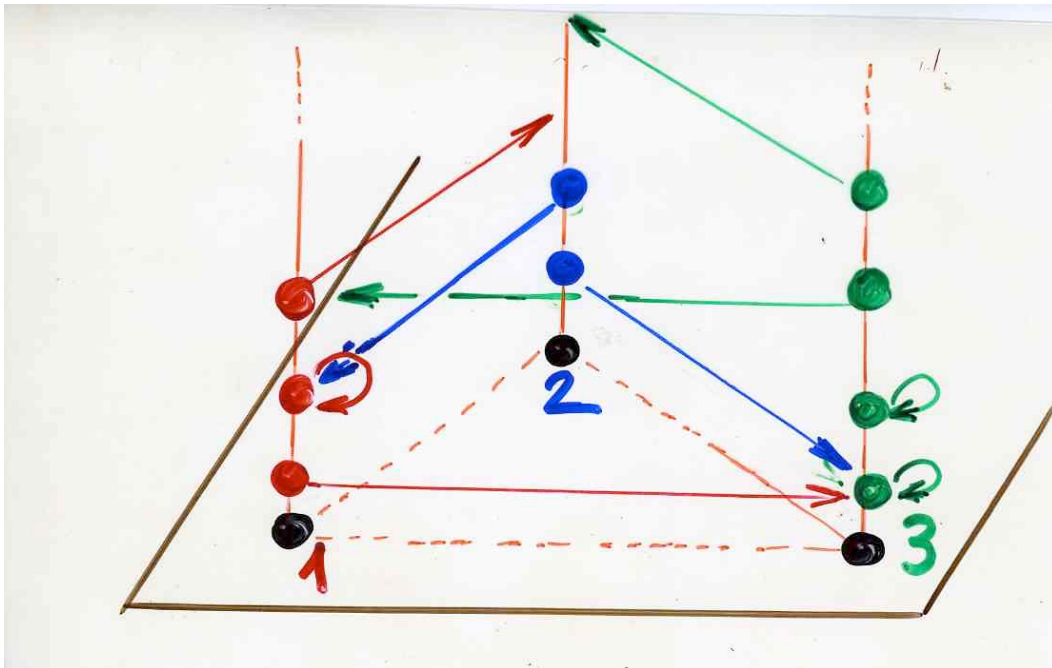


$$R(X) \subseteq F(X)$$

$R(X)$  submonoid  
of  $F(X)$



$$X = \{1, 2, 3\}$$



$$A = X \times X$$

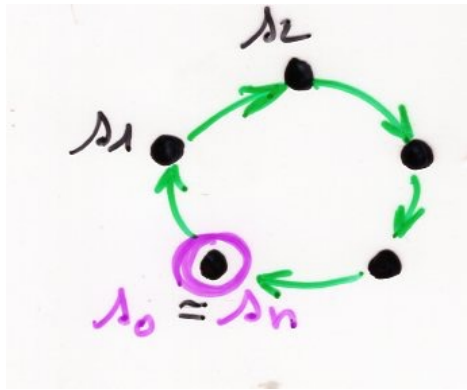
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

notation

HC (X)

heaps of cycles on X  
monoid

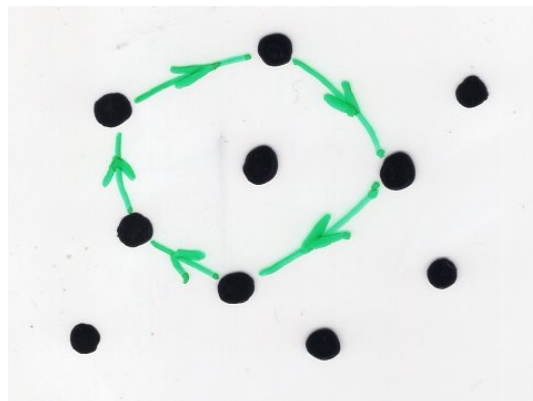
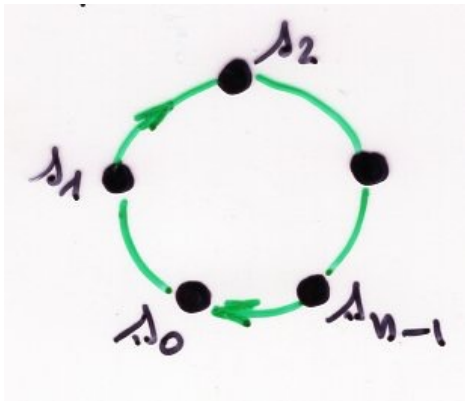
basic pieces : cycles on X



(from Chapter 2d)

elementary circuit  $w = (s_0, \dots, s_n)$   
 with  $s_0 = s_n$ , all vertices are disjoint  
 except  $s_0 = s_n$ .

Cycle = elementary circuit up to a  
 circular permutation of the vertices

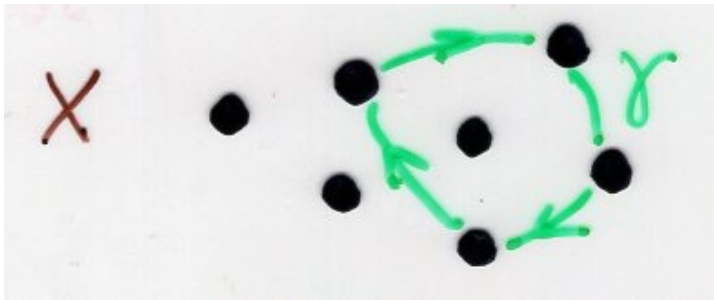


notation

HC(X)

heaps of cycles on X  
monoid

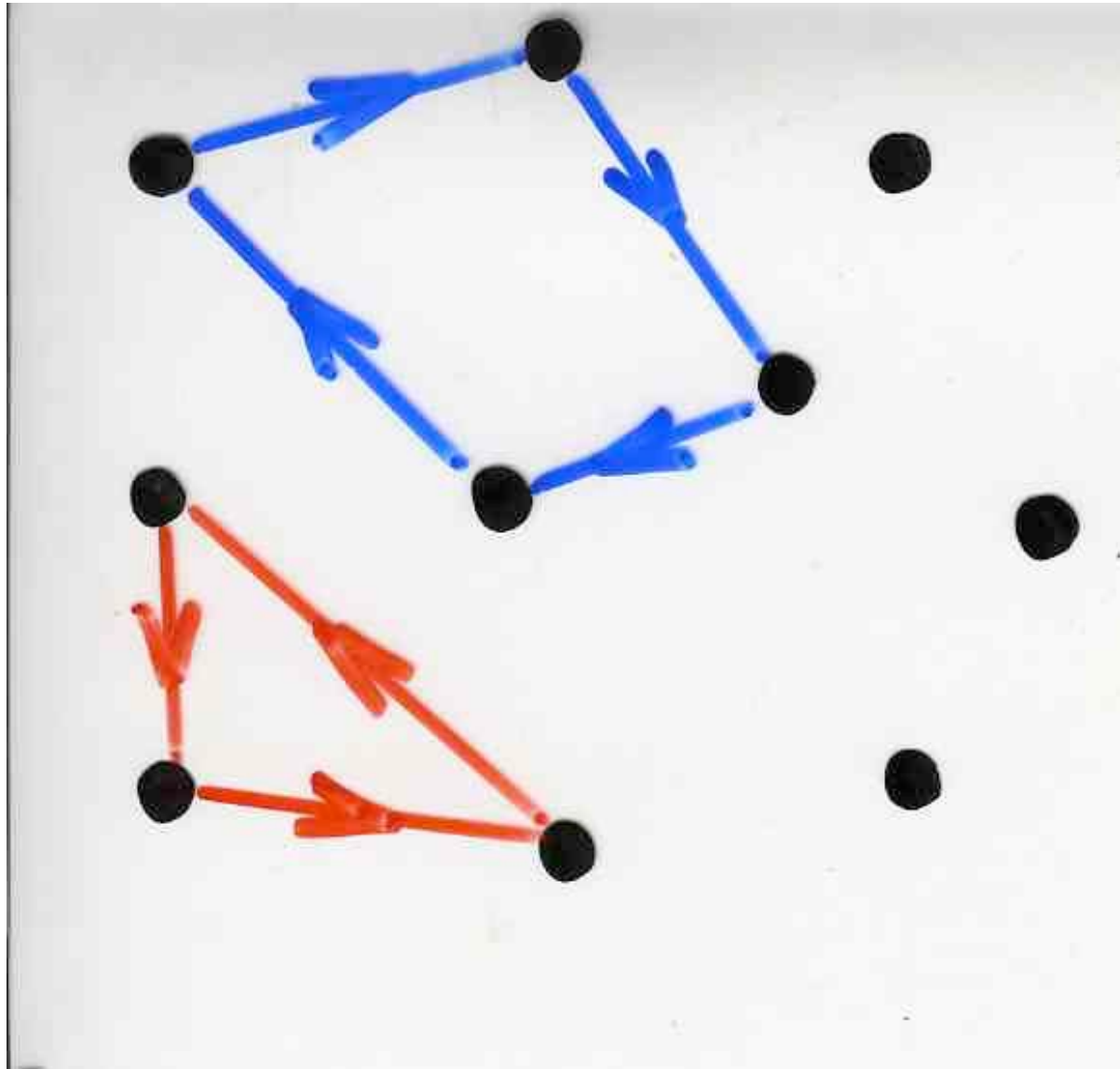
basic pieces: cycles on X

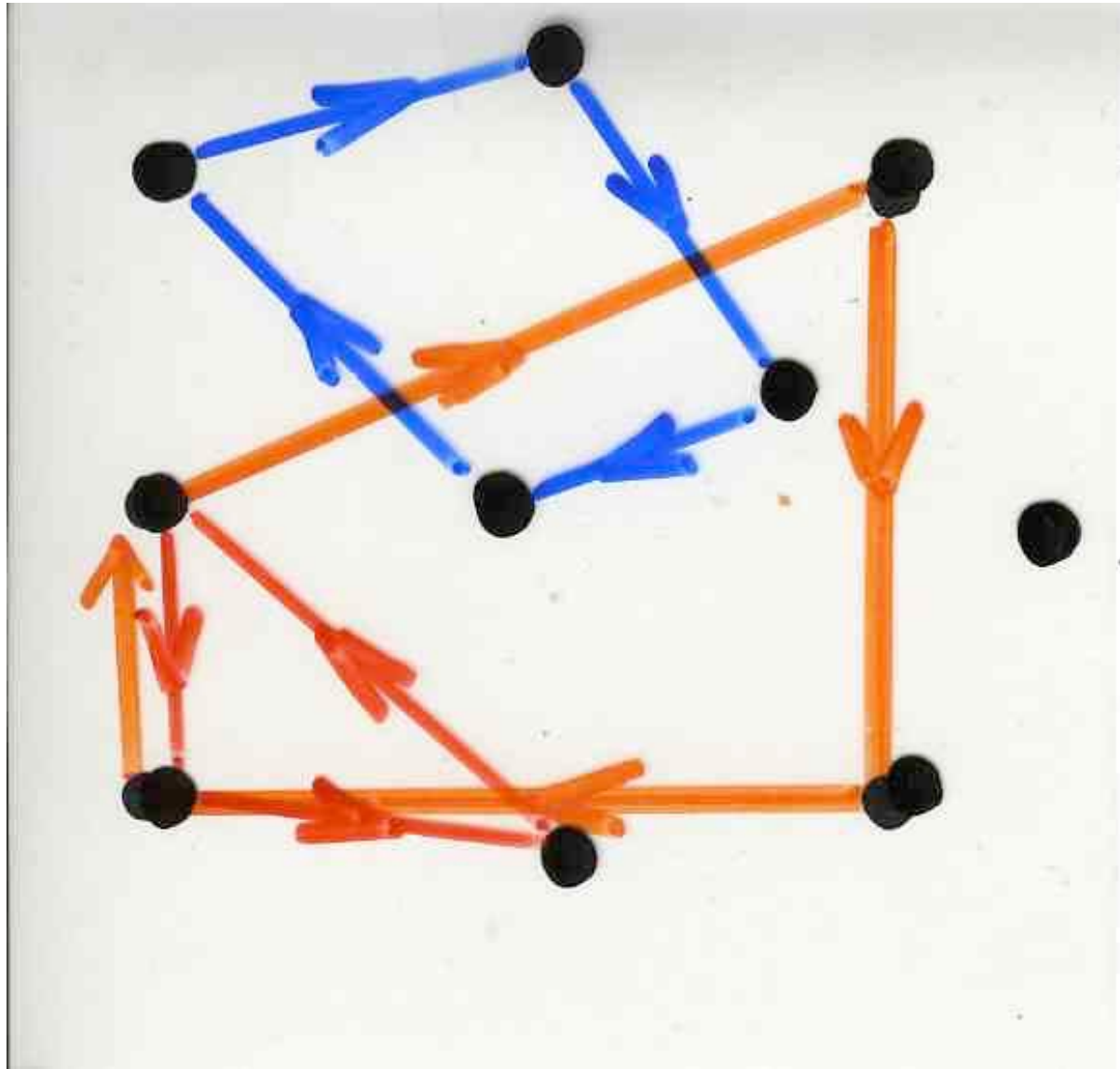


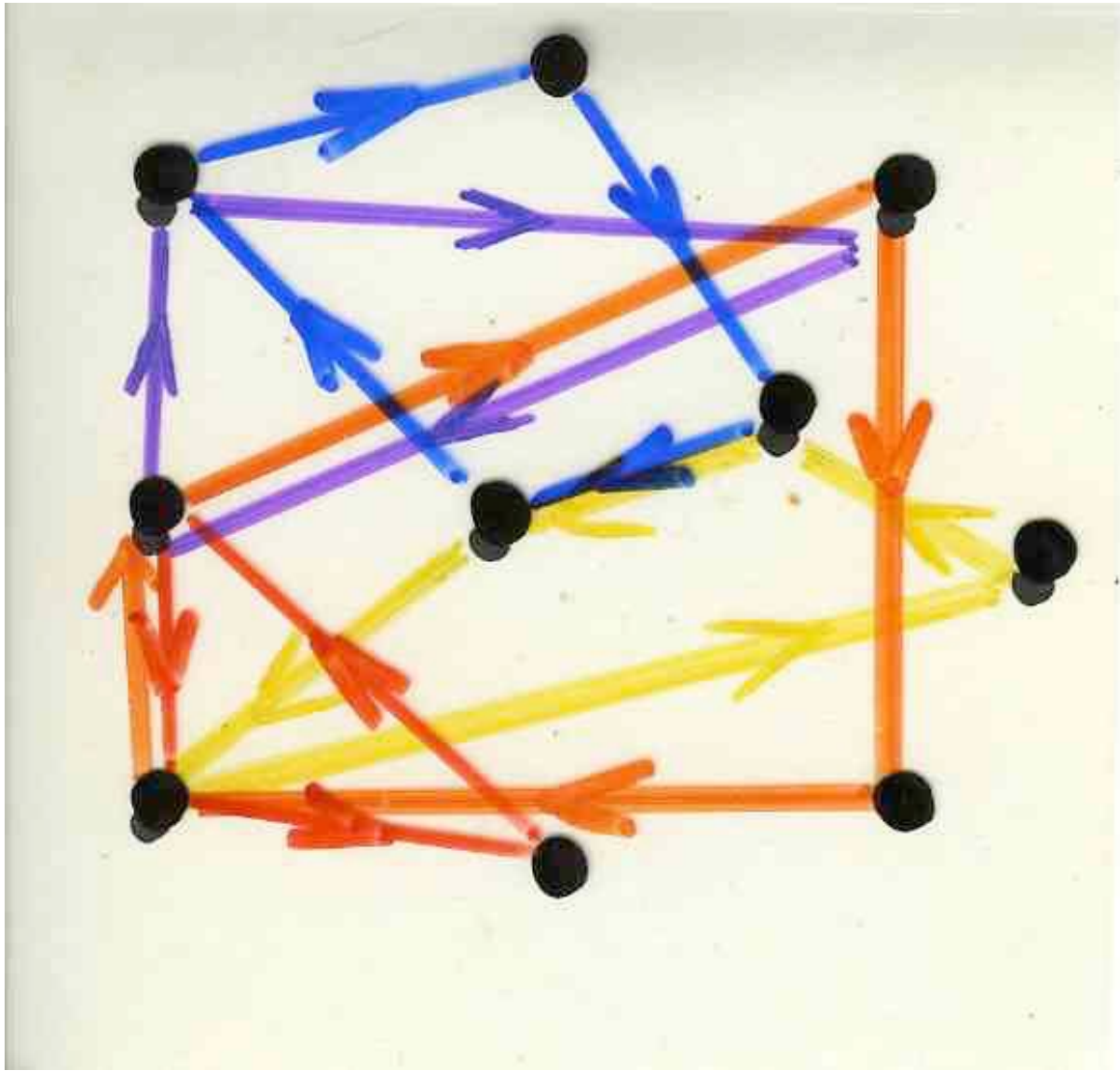
dependency relation  
 $\gamma \in \gamma'$

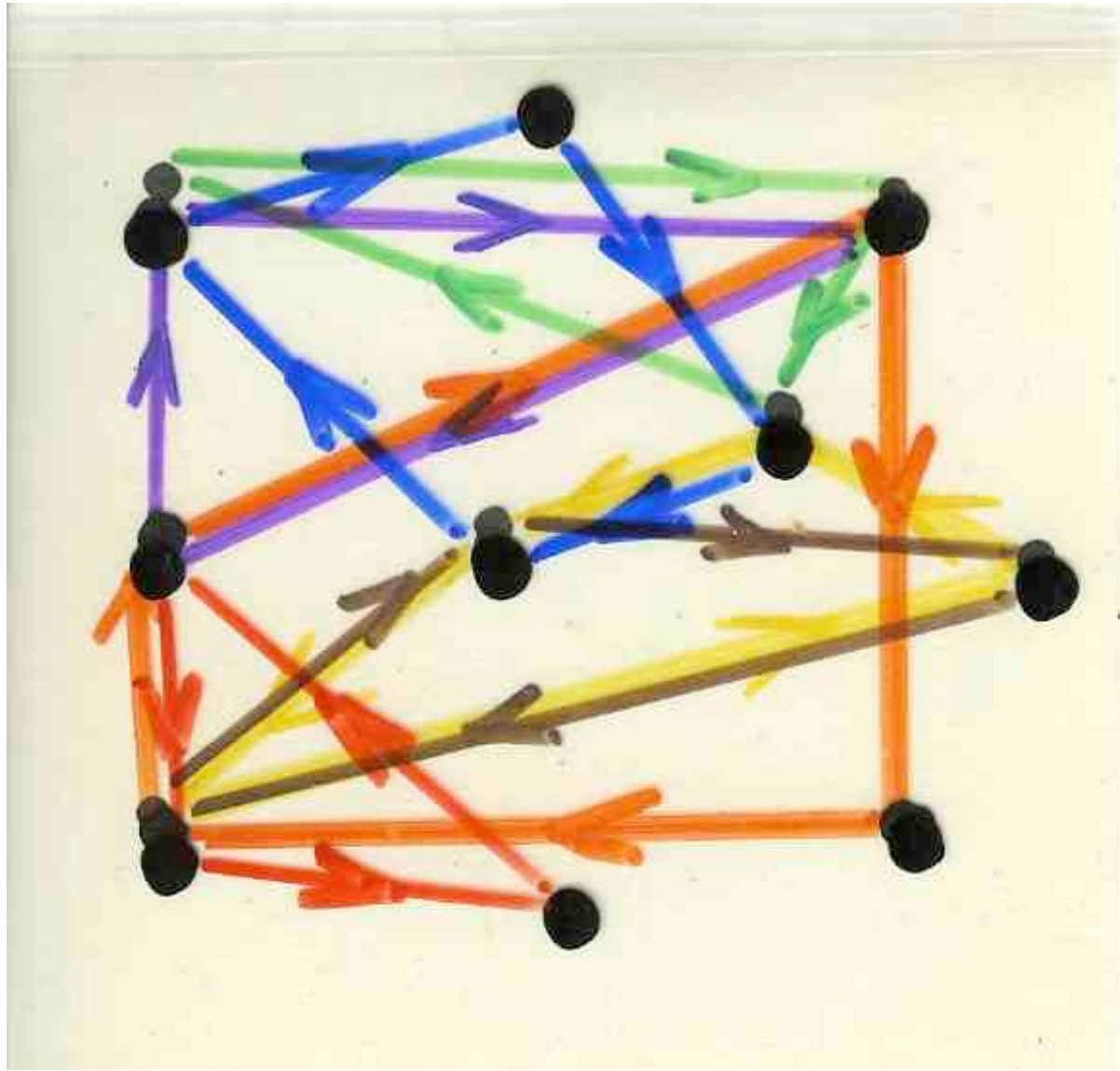
iff  $\text{supp}(\gamma) \cap \text{supp}(\gamma') \neq \emptyset$

$\text{supp}(\gamma) =$  underlying  
set of vertices  $\subseteq X$

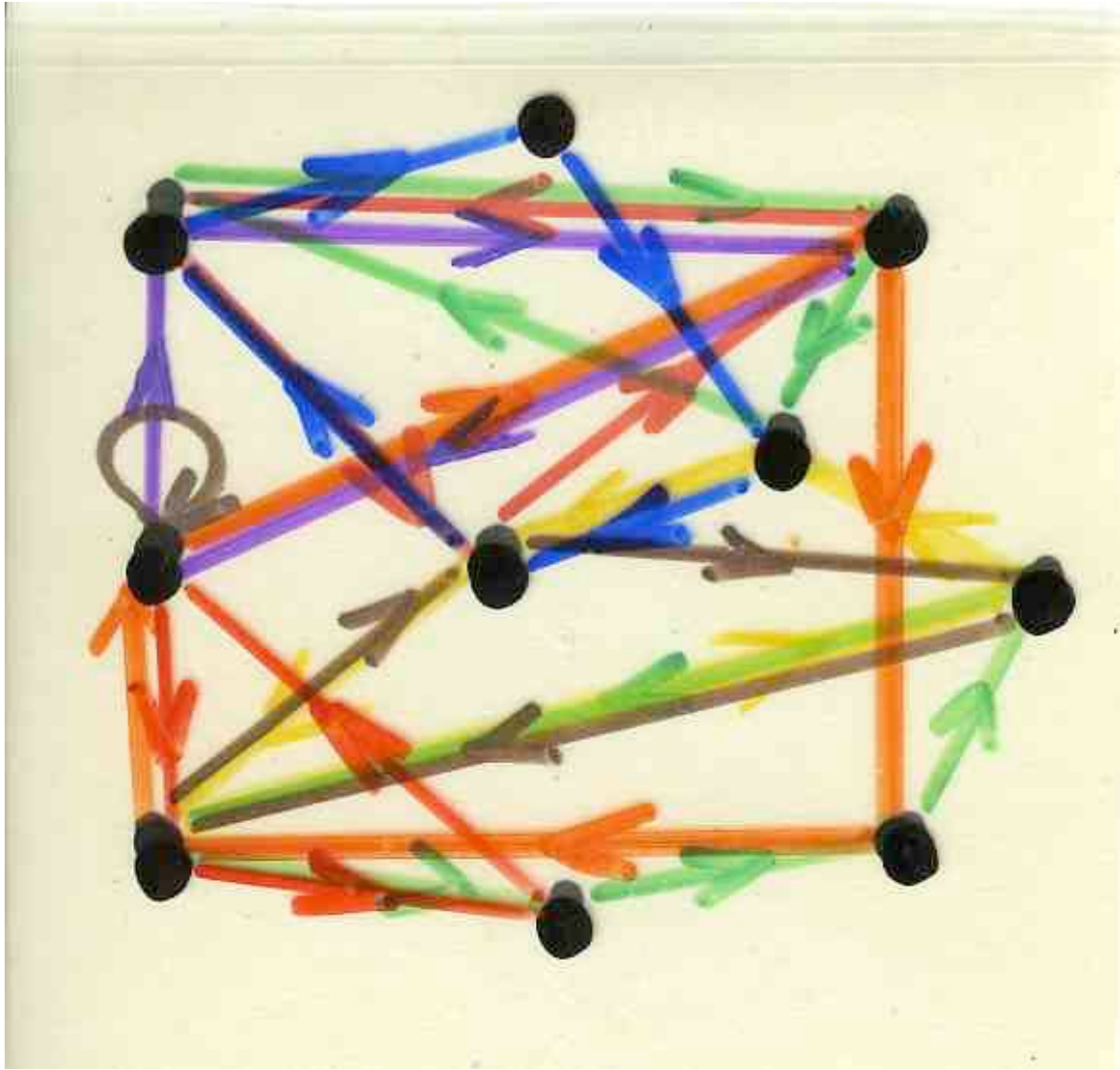












$\gamma$  cycle

$$\dot{\gamma} = (\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n = \gamma_0)$$

$$f(\dot{\gamma}) = f(\dot{\gamma}) \quad \dot{\gamma} \text{ is a path}$$

$$= \binom{\gamma_0}{\gamma_1} \binom{\gamma_1}{\gamma_2} \dots \binom{\gamma_{n-1}}{\gamma_n}$$

$E$  heap of cycles

$$E = \gamma_1 \odot \dots \odot \gamma_k$$

$$f(E) = f(\gamma_1) \odot \dots \odot f(\gamma_k)$$

(product in the  
heaps of cycles on  $X$   
monoid)

(product in the  
rearrangement  
monoid  $\mathbf{R}(X)$ )

"breaking"  
and heap of paths  
of cycles

Proposition The map  $f: \text{HC}(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}(X)$  is an isomorphism from the heaps of cycles monoid to the rearrangements monoid

for any  $s, t \in X$

the numbers of occurrences of the edge  $(s, t)$  in  $\Phi$  and  $E$  are the same.

$$\Rightarrow v(\Phi) = v(E)$$

Construction of the reciprocal isomorphism  
 $g = f^{-1}$

$\Phi \xrightarrow{g} E$   
 rearrangement  $ER(X)$     heap cycles on  $X$

for  $\Phi$  rearrangement of  $R(X)$   
 from any vertex  $s \in X$   
 "follow" the flow  $\Phi$

at the end we  
 are back in  $s$   
 giving a sequence  
 of cycles

$(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$

if all edges of  $\Phi$   
 has been used

$$g(\Phi) = \gamma_1 \circ \dots \circ \gamma_k$$

else we have

$$\Phi = \gamma_1 \circ \gamma_k \circ \Psi$$

heap  
of cycles

rearrangement

$$\deg_{\Psi}^{+}(s) = \deg_{\Psi}^{-}(s) = 0$$

choosing another vertex  $t \in X$   
with  $\deg^{+}(t) = \deg^{-}(t) \neq 0$   
we repeat the process for  $\Psi$

Recursively we get a sequence  
of cycles  $(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_r)$  such that  
 $\Phi = f(\gamma_1) \cdots f(\gamma_r) \in R(X)$

The heap  $E = \gamma_1 \circ \dots \circ \gamma_r$  is  
independent of the successive  
choices of the vertices  $s, t, \dots$   
define  $g(\Phi) = E$

$$g = f^{-1}$$

"gluing" bijections

Paths and heaps of cycles

path on  $X$

$$\omega = (s_0, \dots, s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots, s_n)$$

$$s_i \in X \quad i=0, \dots, n$$

$\omega$  goes from  $s_0$  to  $s_n$

path on a graph  $G$   
(oriented or not)

notation

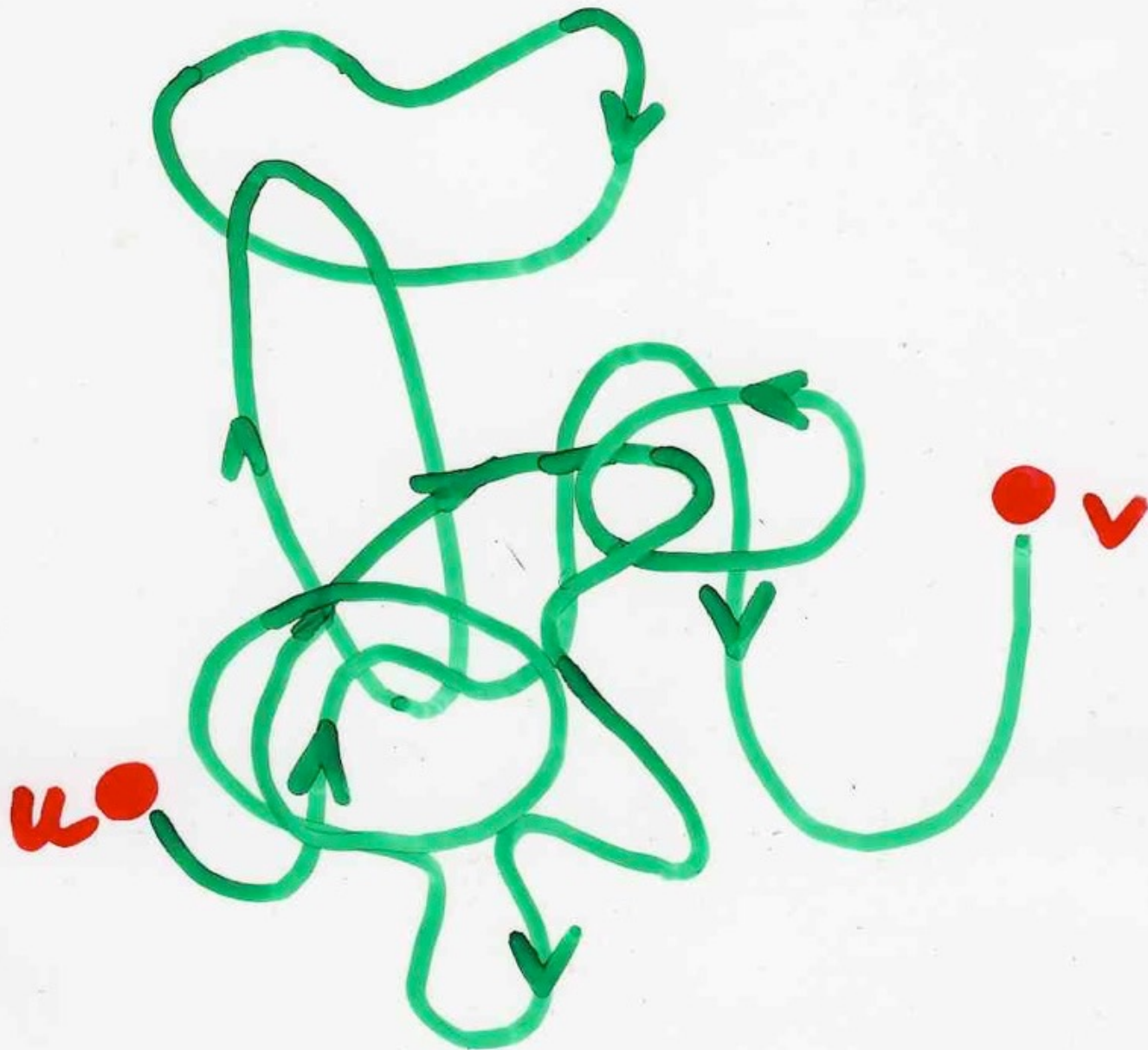


$(s_i, s_{i+1})$   
edge of  $G$

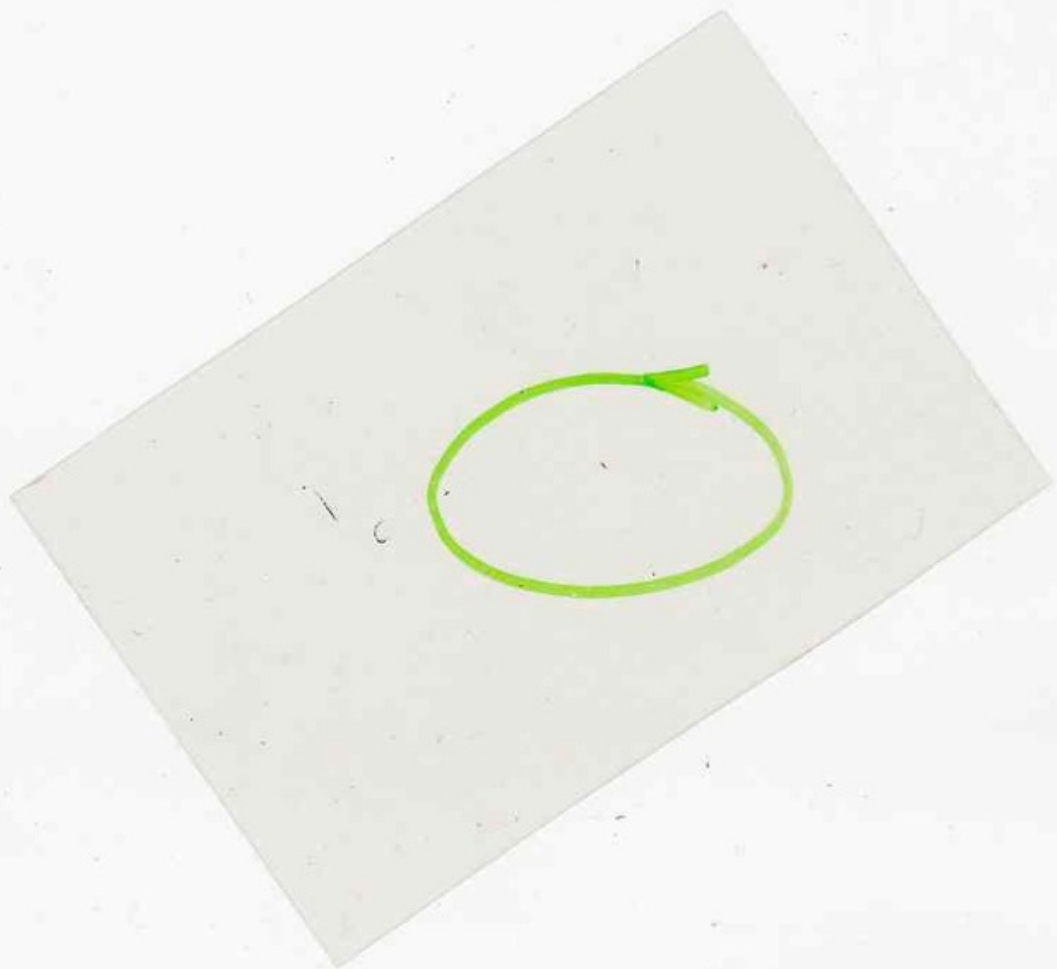
$s_0$  starting vertex  
 $s_n$  ending vertex  
 $(s_i, s_{i+1})$  elementary step

length  $|\omega| = n$   
(number of elementary steps)  
 $n+1$  vertices

paths = { heaps of cycles  
+  
self-avoiding path





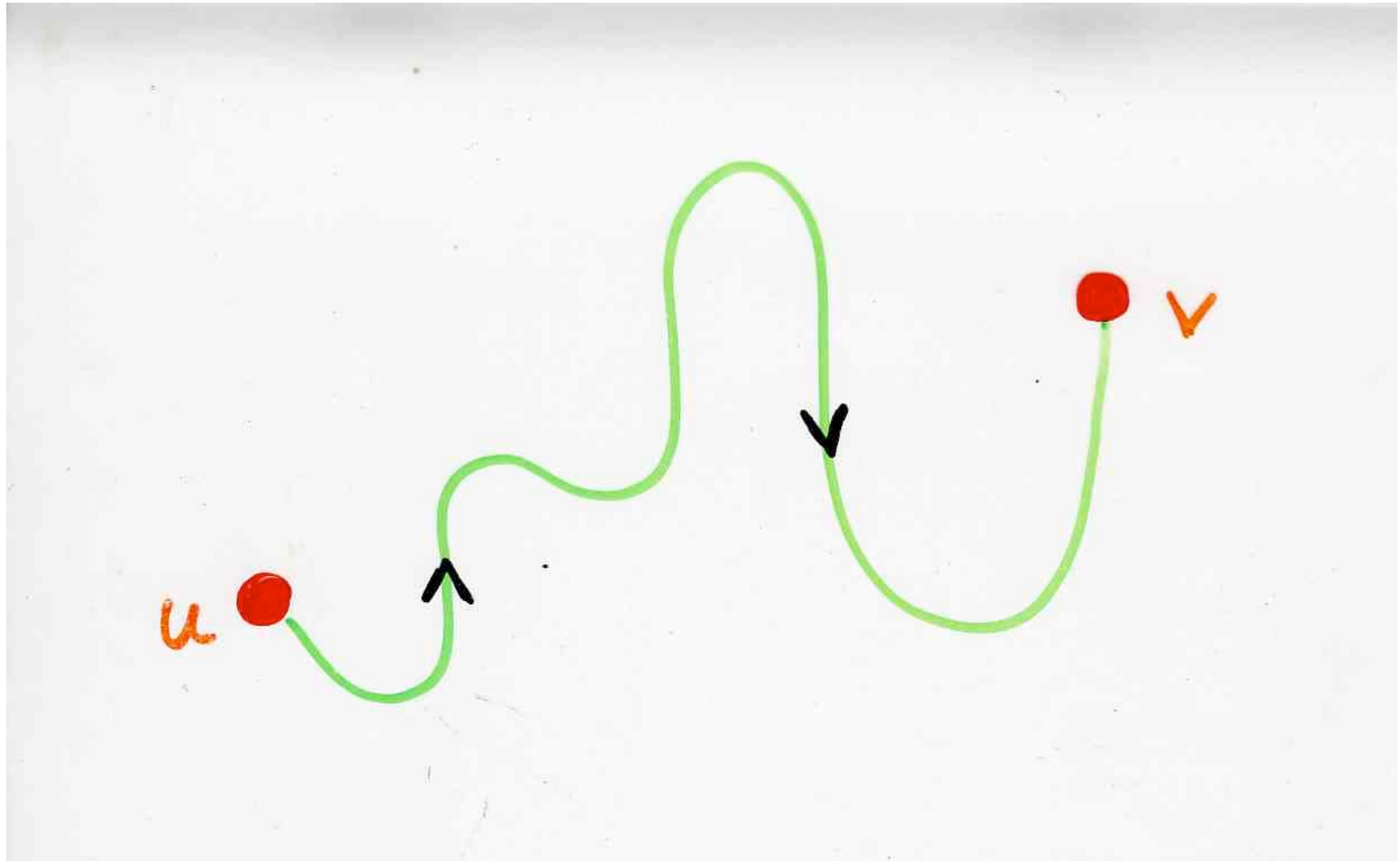


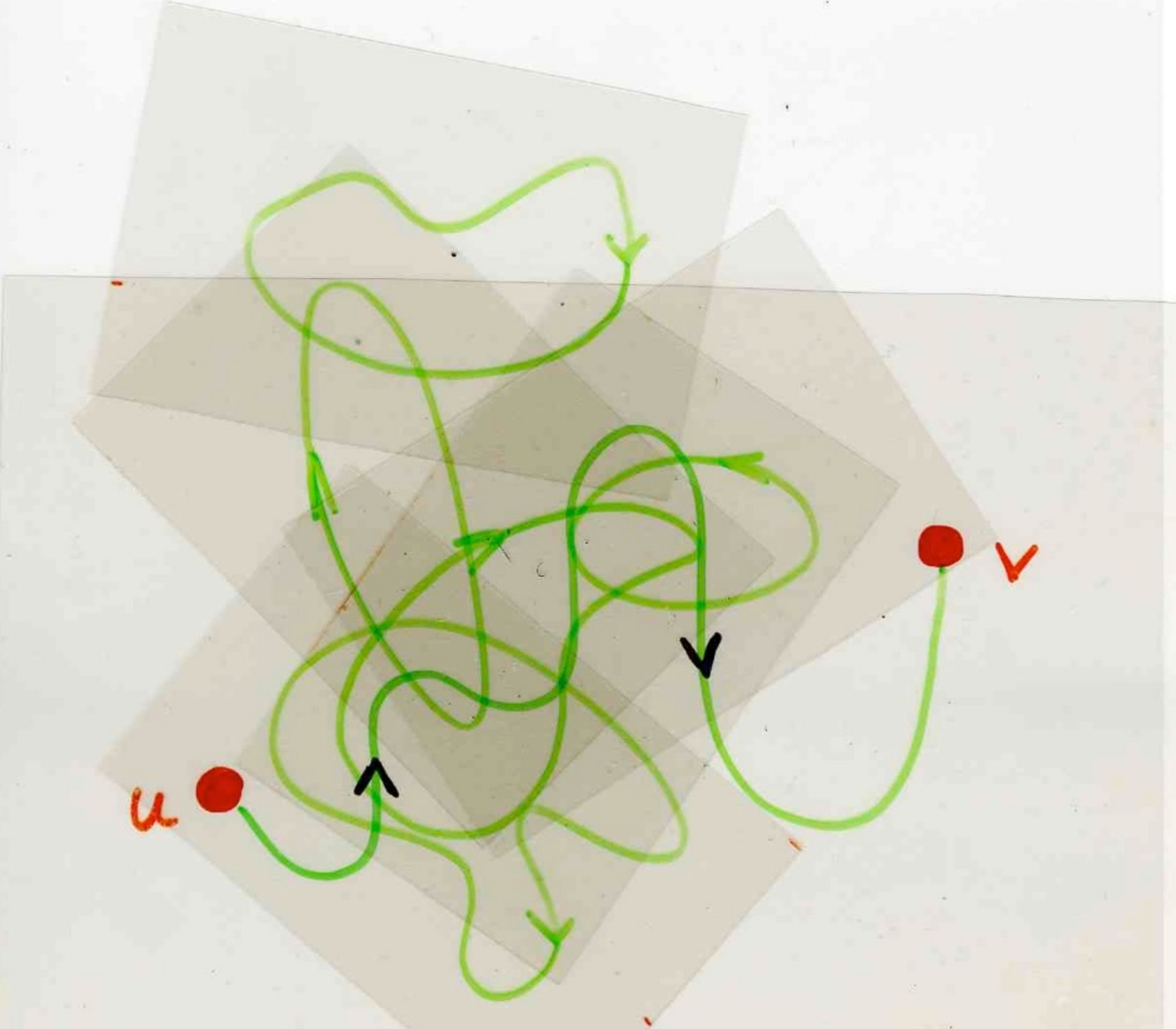


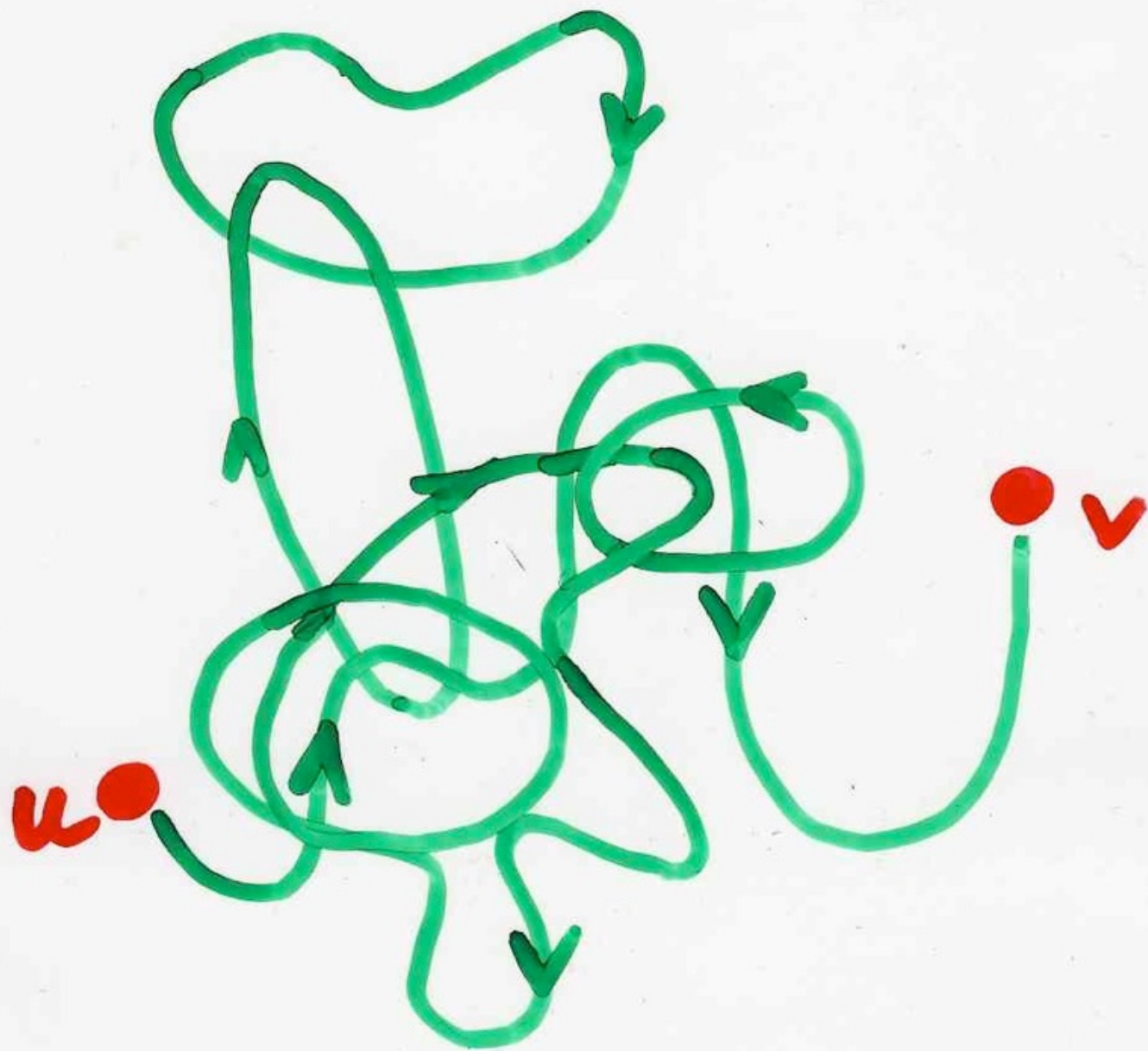














# Bijection

$$u, v \in X$$

$$\text{path } \omega \text{ on } X \longleftrightarrow (\eta, E)$$

going from  $u$  to  $v$

- $\eta$  self-avoiding path going from  $u$  to  $v$

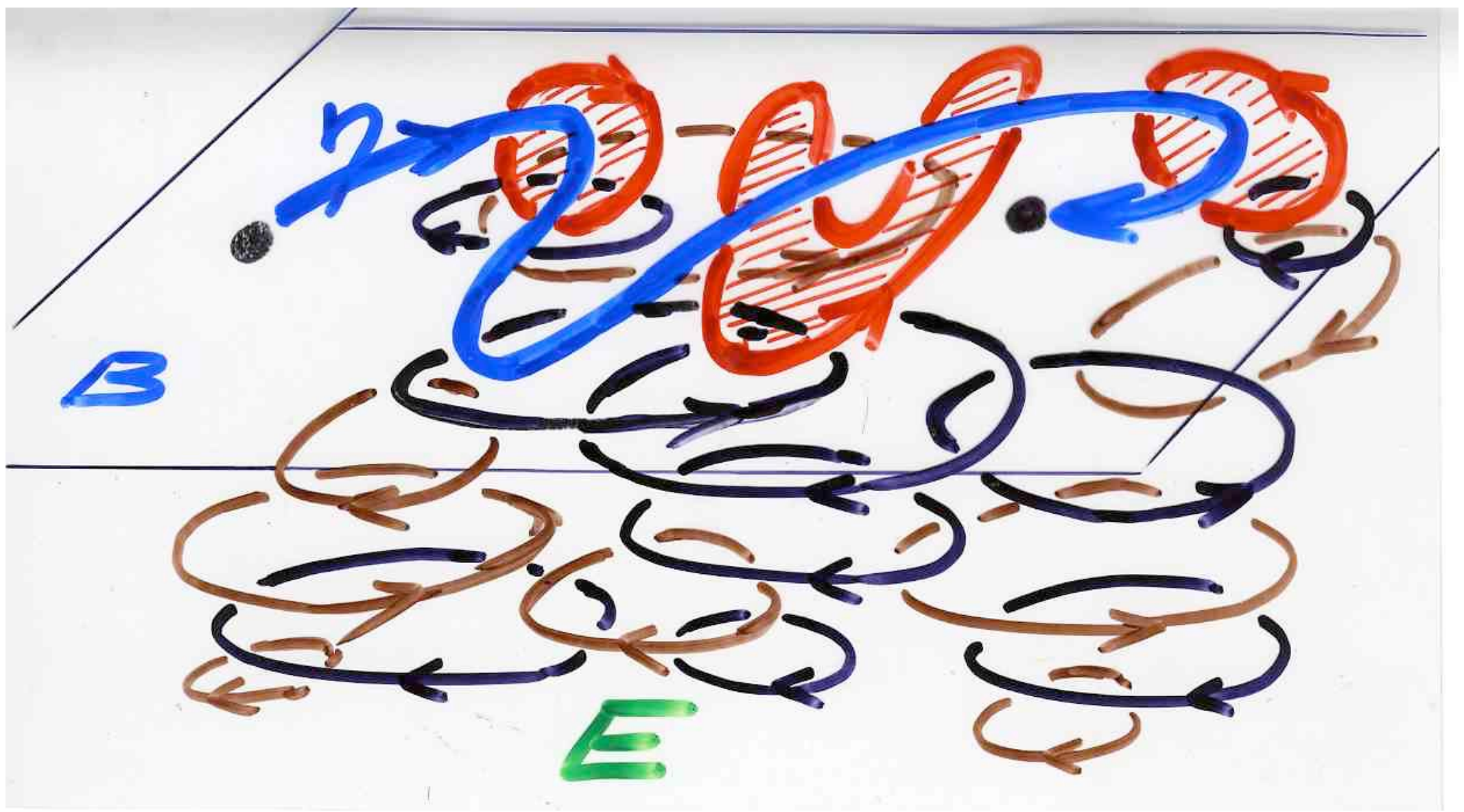
- $E$  heap of cycles such that the projections  $\alpha = \pi(m)$  of the maximal pieces intersect  $\eta$

( $\alpha$  and  $\eta$  has a common vertex)  
cycle path

for any  $s, t \in X$

the numbers of occurrences of the edge  $(s, t)$  in  $\omega$  and in  $(\eta, E)$  are the same.

$$\Rightarrow v(\omega) = v(\eta)v(E)$$



algorithm "Cut and heap"

$$\omega = (s_0 = u, \dots, s_n = v)$$

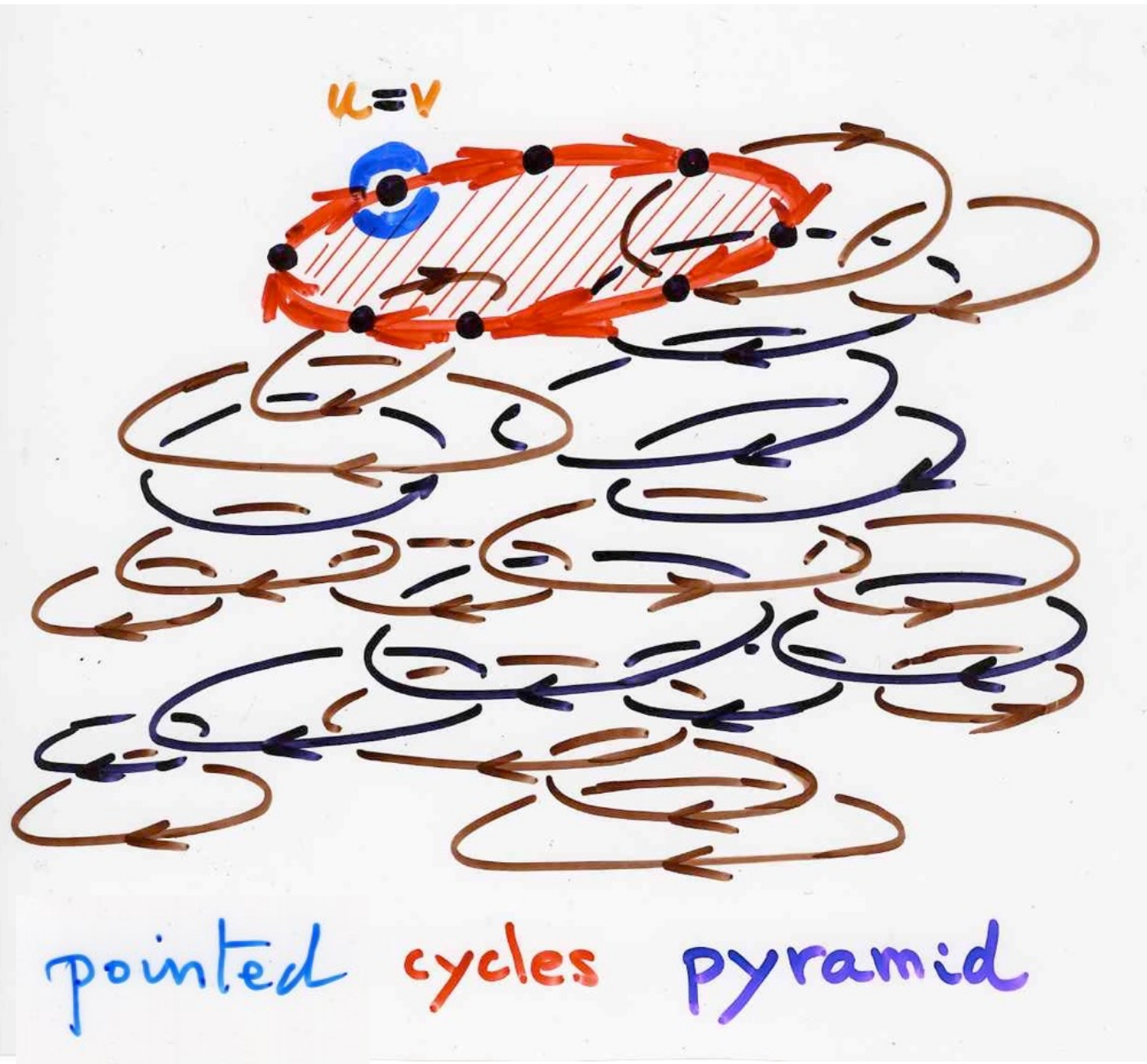
path on  $X$

see next course  
Chapter 3b

$$\omega \longrightarrow (\eta, E)$$

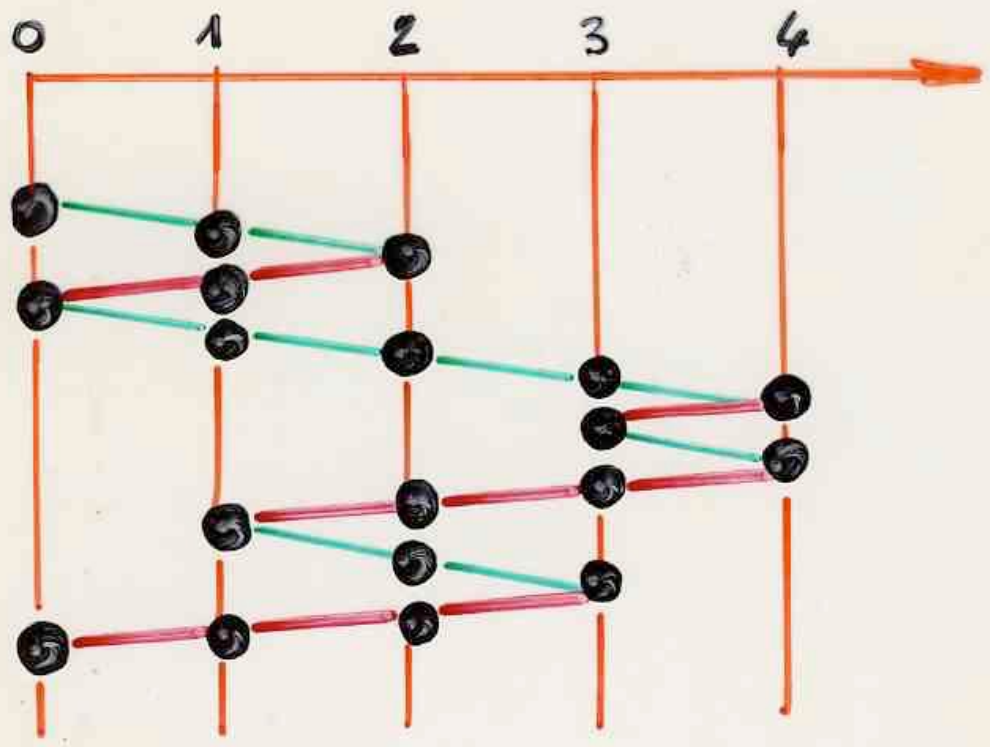
self-avoiding  
path  
 $u \rightsquigarrow v$

heap of  
cycles



pointed cycles pyramid

an example with Dyck paths



see the animation  
on the video

violin:  
G. Duchamp

