

# Quiver mutations, reflection groups and curves on punctured disc



Anna Felikson

(joint with Pavel Tumarkin)

**Cluster Algebras: Twenty Years On**

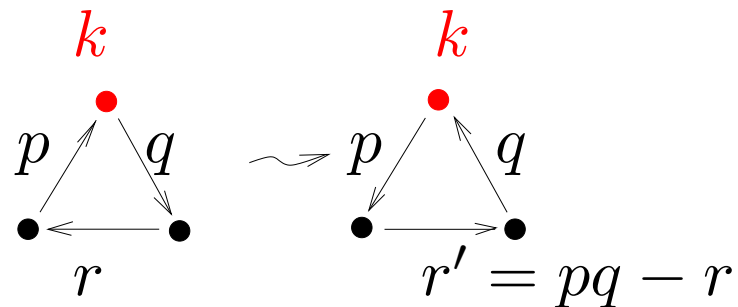
CIRM, 19-23 March, 2018

- **Quiver** is a directed graph without **loops** and **2-cycles**.

Agreement:  $\bullet \xrightarrow{p} \bullet = \bullet \xleftarrow{-p} \bullet$

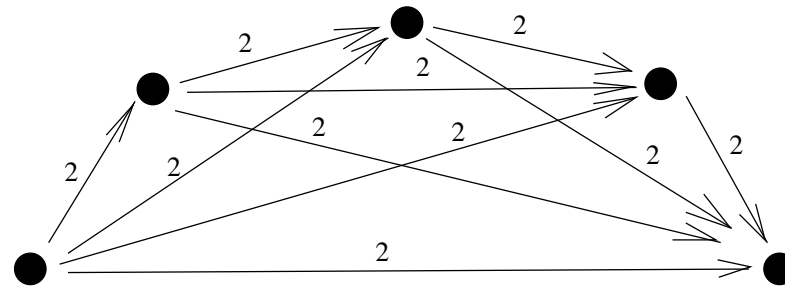
- **Mutation**  $\mu_k$  of quivers:

- reverse all arrows incident to  $k$ ;
- for every oriented path through  $k$  do  
(i.e.  $p, q > 0, r$  - any)



Notation:  $Q$  quiver,  $b_{ij}$  arrows  $i \rightarrow j$  ( $b_{ij} = -b_{ji}$ ).  
 $n = \#(\text{vertices of } Q)$ .

- Settings:
- $Q$  is **acyclic** quiver: no oriented cycles in  $Q$  after reordering of vertices,  $b_{ij} \geq 0$  for  $i < j$ .
  - $Q$  is **2-complete**:  $b_{ij} \geq 2$ .



# 1. Acyclic mutation classes via reflection groups

- $Q = (b_{ij}) \rightsquigarrow M = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & -|b_{ij}| \\ & 2 & \\ -|b_{ij}| & & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \langle v_i, v_j \rangle$

$(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  - basis of quadratic space  $V$  of same signature as  $M$ .

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- Let  $G = \langle s_1, \dots, s_n \rangle$  where  $s_i = r_{v_i}$ .

$G$  acts discretely in a cone  $C \subset V$  with fundamental domain

$$F = \bigcap_{i=1}^n \Pi_i^-, \quad \text{where } \Pi_i^- = \{u \in V \mid \langle u, v_i \rangle < 0\}.$$

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$$\mu_k(v_i) = \begin{cases} v_i - \langle v_i, v_k \rangle v_k, & \text{if } k \rightarrow i \text{ in } Q \\ -v_k, & \text{if } i = k \\ v_i, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



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new set of generators in  $G = \langle s'_1, \dots, s'_n \rangle$ :

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Theorem. (Barot, Geiss, Zelevinsky'06; Seven'15)

The values  $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle$  change under mutations  
in the same way as the weights of the arrows in  $Q$ .

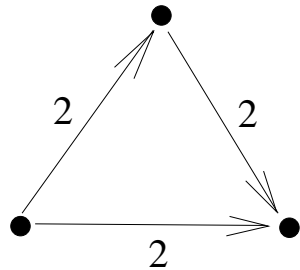
# 1. Acyclic mutation classes via reflection groups

Remark: **c-vectors** and **Y-seeds**

- If  $(v_1^0, \dots, v_n^0)$  are the initial vectors, then vectors  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  (written in the basis  $(v_1^0, \dots, v_n^0)$ ) are **c-vectors**.
- The collection  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is a **Y-seed**.

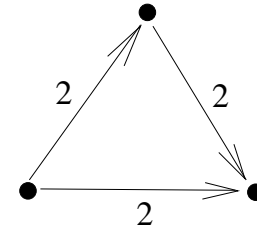
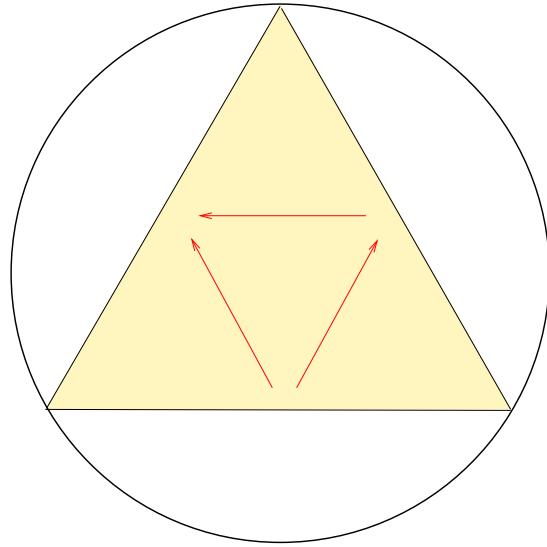
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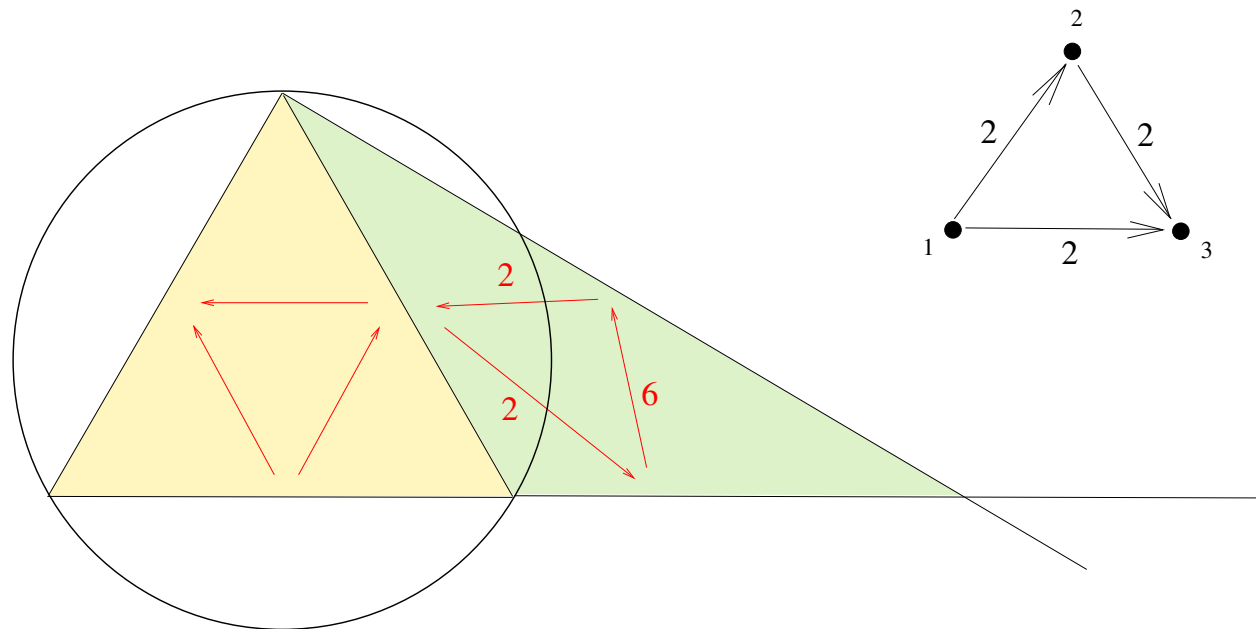
Example:



Then  $V = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle = \mathbb{H}^2$        $|\langle u, v \rangle| = \begin{cases} 2 \cosh d, & \text{if } \langle v, u \rangle > 2, \\ 2 \cos \alpha, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

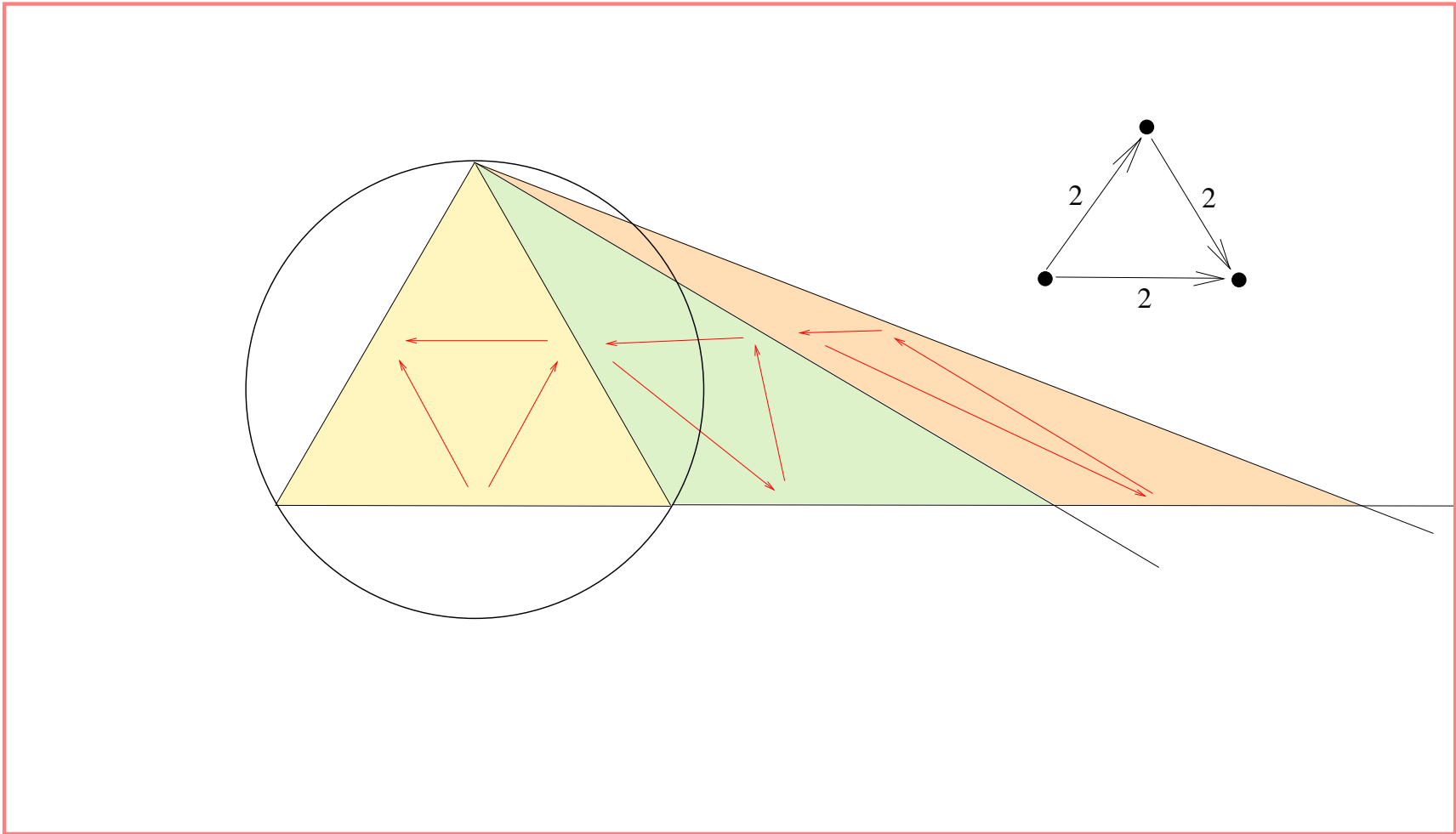
$\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = 2 \Rightarrow \Pi_i$  is parallel to  $\Pi_j$ .

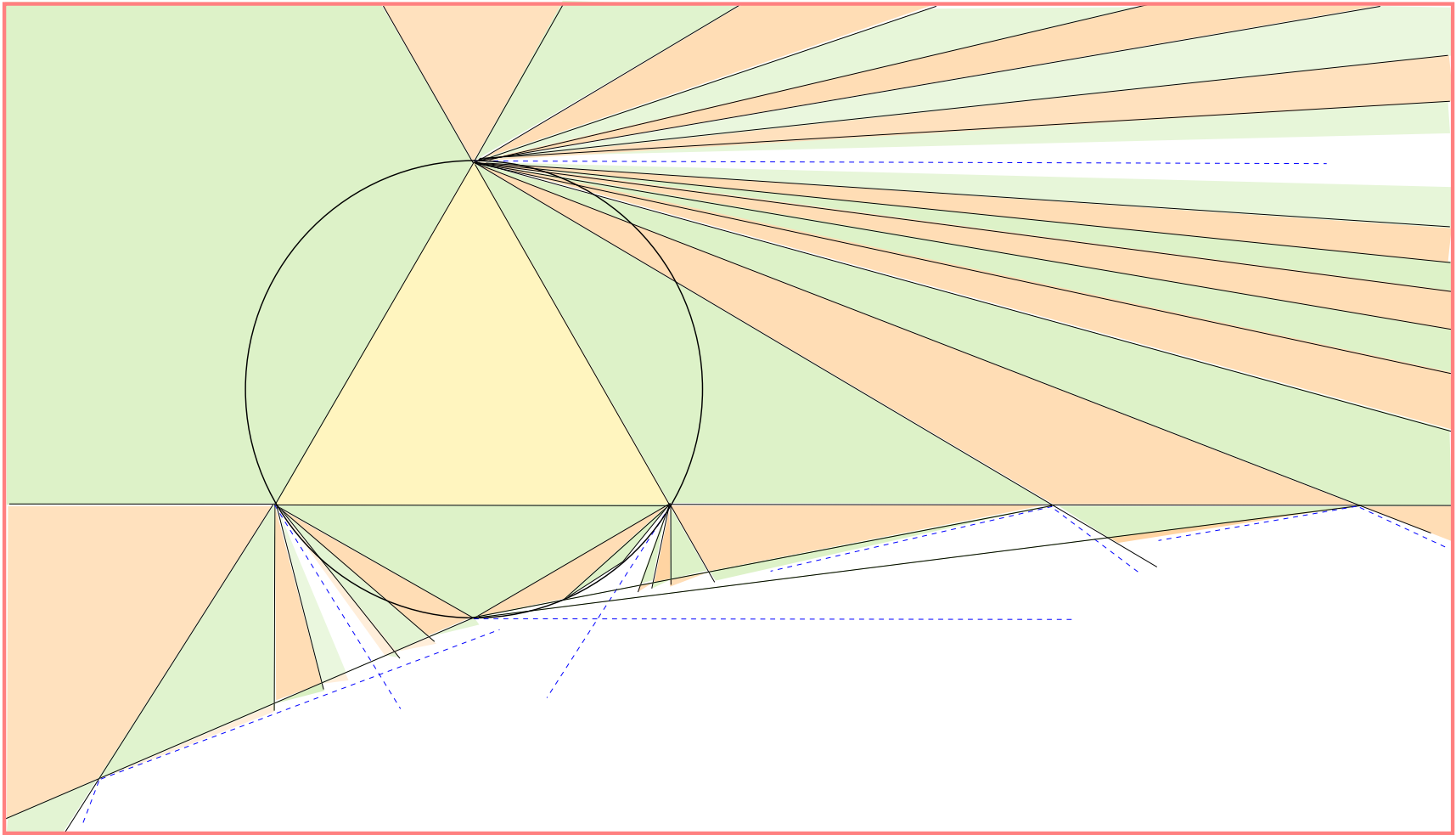




$$v'_3 = \mu_2(v_3) = v_3 - \langle v_3, v_2 \rangle v_2 = v_3 + 2v_2$$

$$\langle v'_3, v_1 \rangle = \langle v_3, v_1 \rangle + 2\langle v_2, v_1 \rangle = -6$$







## Corollaries from this picture (examples):

- All quivers in the mutation class of  $Q$  are 2-complete.
- All acyclic quiver in this mutation class look “similar” (only differ by permutations and directions of arrows).
- One can move from one acyclic representative to any other via **sink/source** mutations only.
- Exchange graph for this mutation class is a **tree**.

## Less known:

- How to describe **seeds** (= sets of walls in one domain)?

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Consider the ordering of the vertices of  $Q$  **from source to sink** (so that  $b_{ij} > 0$ ).

Let  $s_i$  be generator of  $G$  corresponding to  $i$ .

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Consider the ordering of the vertices of  $Q$  **from source to sink** (so that  $b_{ij} > 0$ ).

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Then:

If reflections  $r_1, \dots, r_n \in G$  form a seed then  
one can reorder them so that  $r_1 r_2 \dots r_n = s_1 s_2 \dots s_n$ .

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### Theorem (Speyer, Thomas' 10)

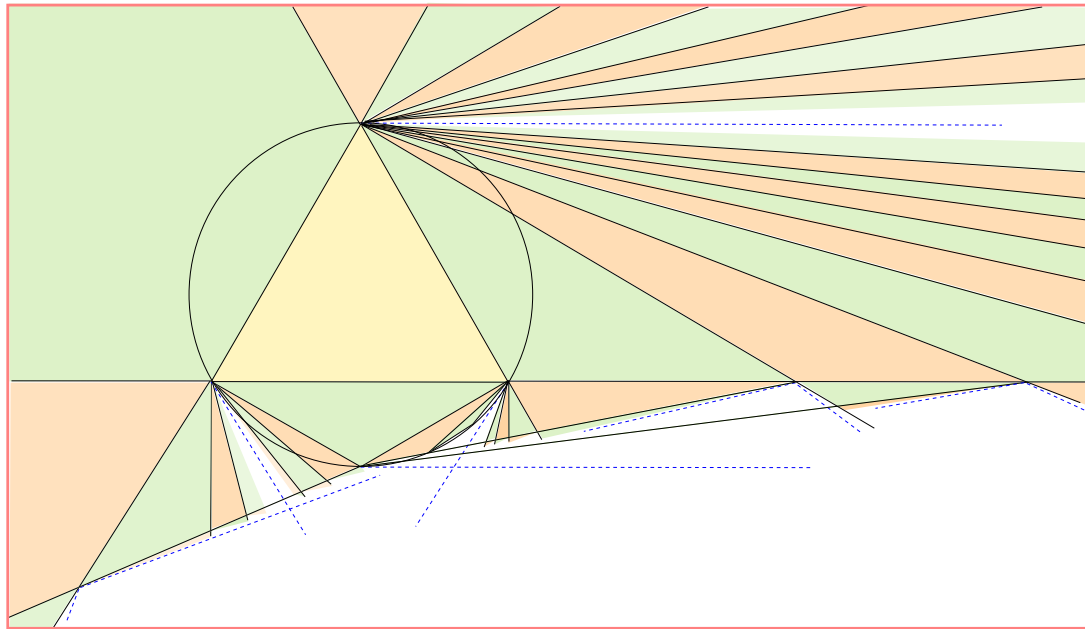
A collection of roots  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  forms a seed iff

- 1) If  $u_i$  and  $u_j$  are both positive roots (or both negative) then  $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle \leq 0$ ;
- 2) Up to renumbering of  $u_1, \dots, u_n$ , the positive roots precede the negative roots and

$$r_1 r_2 \dots r_{n-1} r_n = s_1 s_2 \dots s_n.$$

Another question:

- Which reflections appear in the picture?



Or, in other words: **How to characterise c-vectors?**

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Answer: (“ $\Rightarrow$ ” Nagao’13, “ $\Leftarrow$ ” Nájera Chávez’14)

$r \in G$  appears in the picture iff

the corresponding root  $u$  is a **real Schur root** (or its opposite).

(real Schur roots are

dimension vectors of indecomposable rigid modules  
over the path algebra of  $Q$ ).

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Conjecture: (Kyungyong Lee – Kyu-Hwan Lee’17 )

Schur roots are in bijection with

simple curves in some surfaces.

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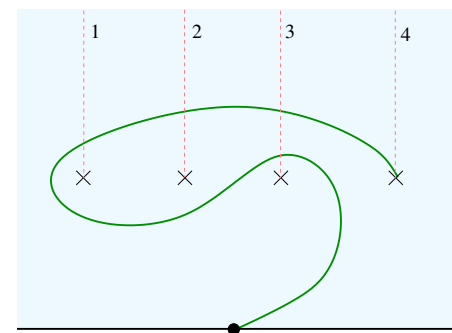
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Our answer:

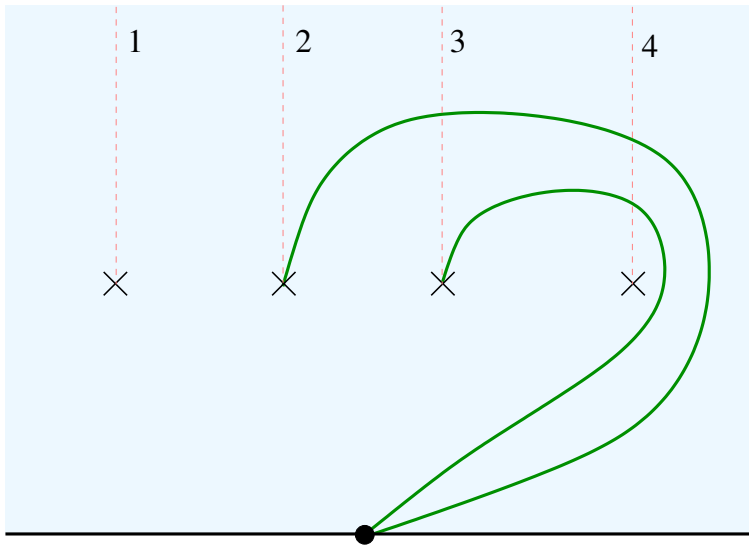
**Real Schur roots** =  
arcs in a disc



$s_3 s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4 s_3 s_2 s_1 s_3$

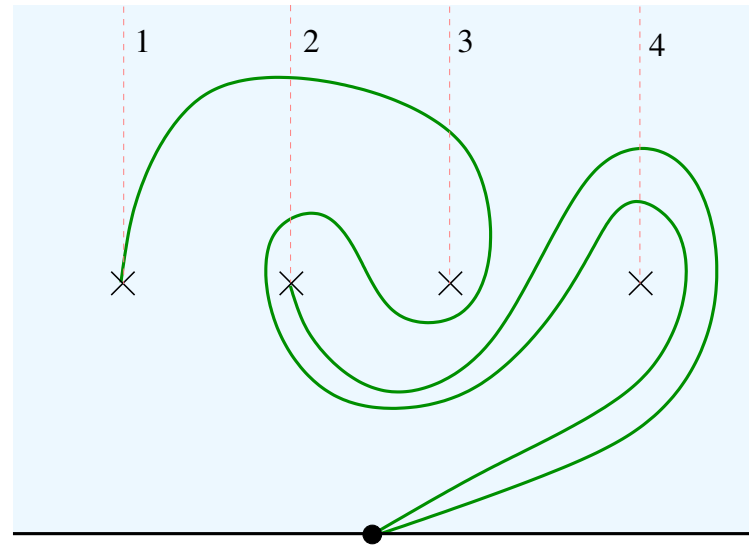


Two arcs form a **bad pair** if one is a **prefix** for another:



$$\underline{s_4 s_3 s_4}$$

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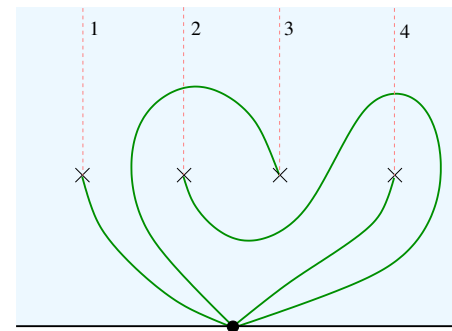
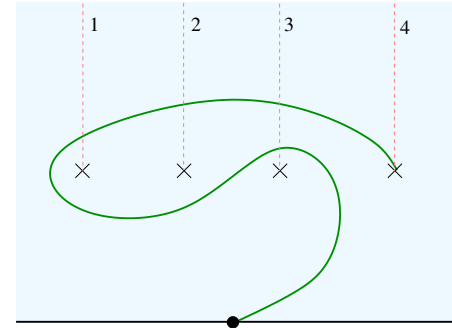


$$\underline{s_4 s_2 s_3 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_3 s_2 s_4}$$

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Theorem. (F., Tumarkin'17)

- **Real Schur roots** = arcs in a disc
- **Seeds** = collections of non-intersecting arcs with at most one consecutive bad pair



## 2. Seeds on the Cayley graph

Reflection group  $G$  constructed above is a presentation of the **universal Coxeter group**

$$\langle s_1, \dots, s_n \mid s_i^2 = e \rangle.$$

(This does not depend on  $Q$ , if  $Q$  is **acyclic** and **2-complete**).

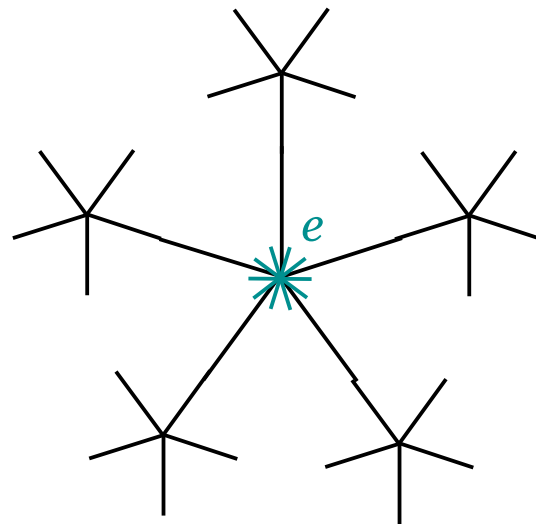
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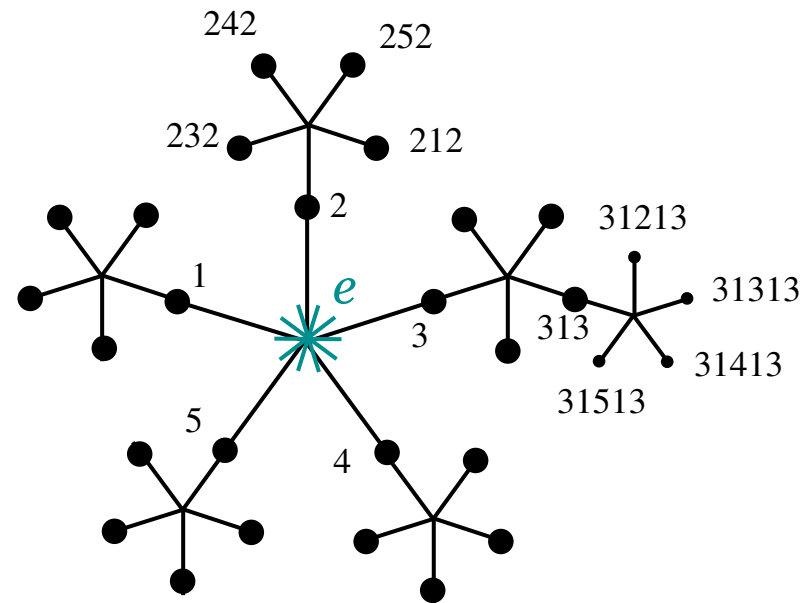
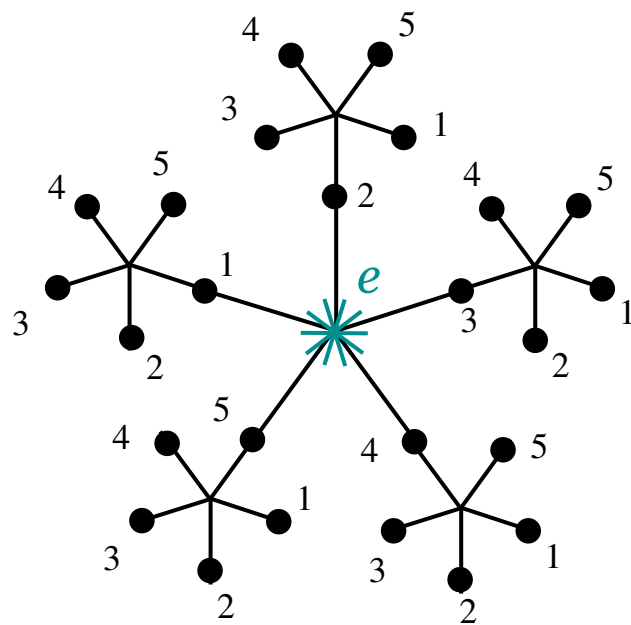
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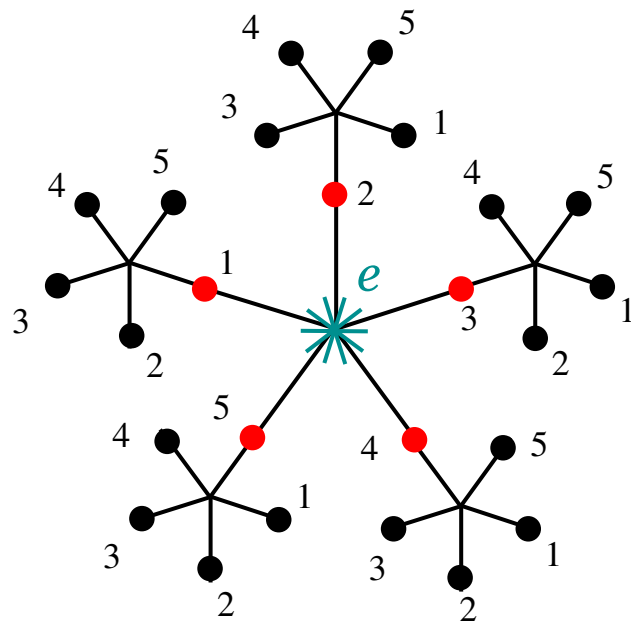
**$n$ -regular tree:**



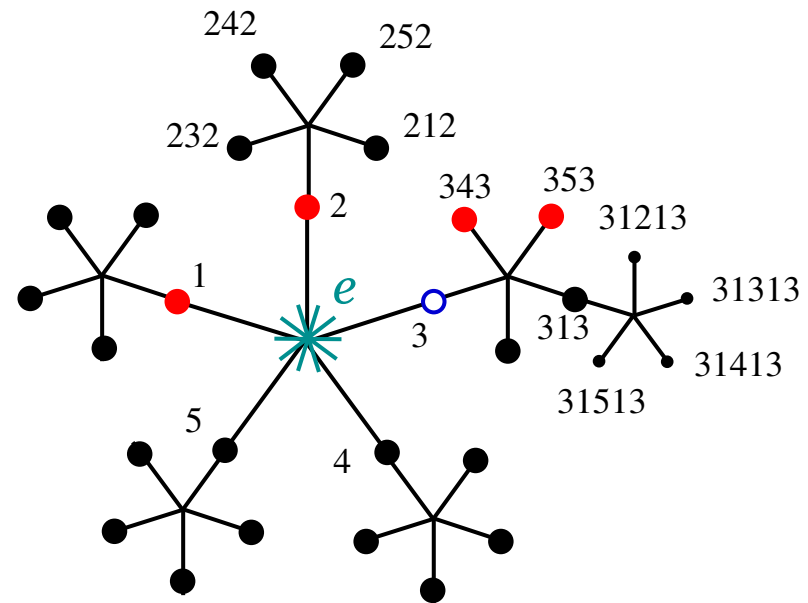
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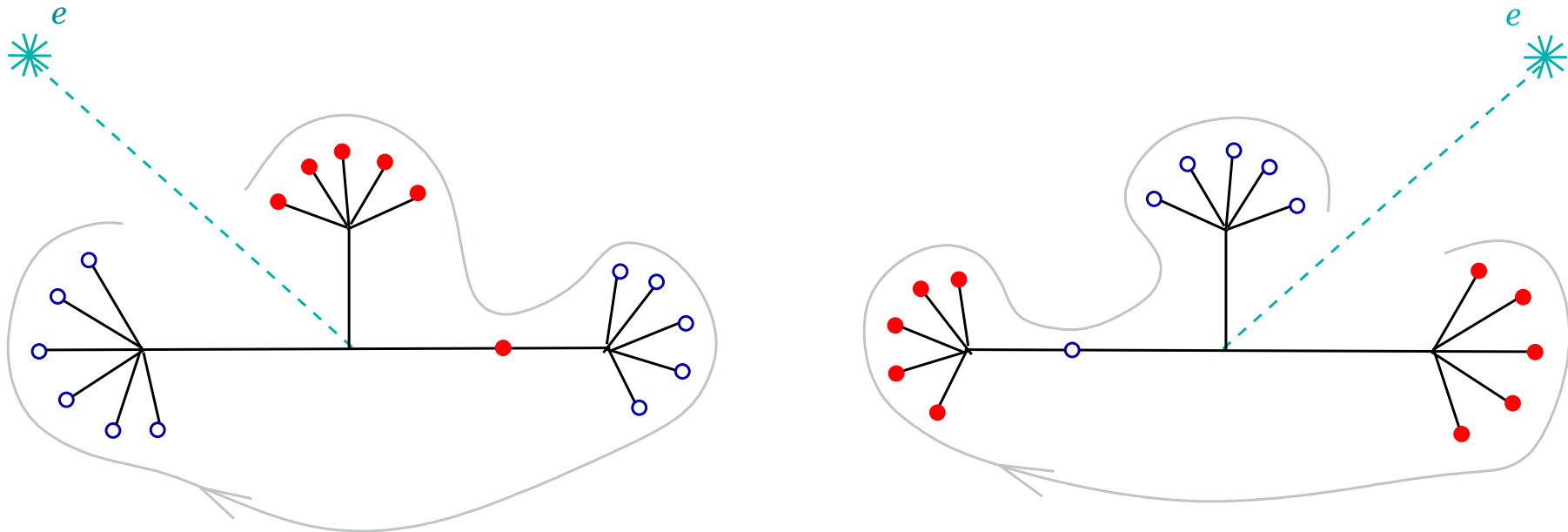


Initial seed



After mutation  $\mu_3$

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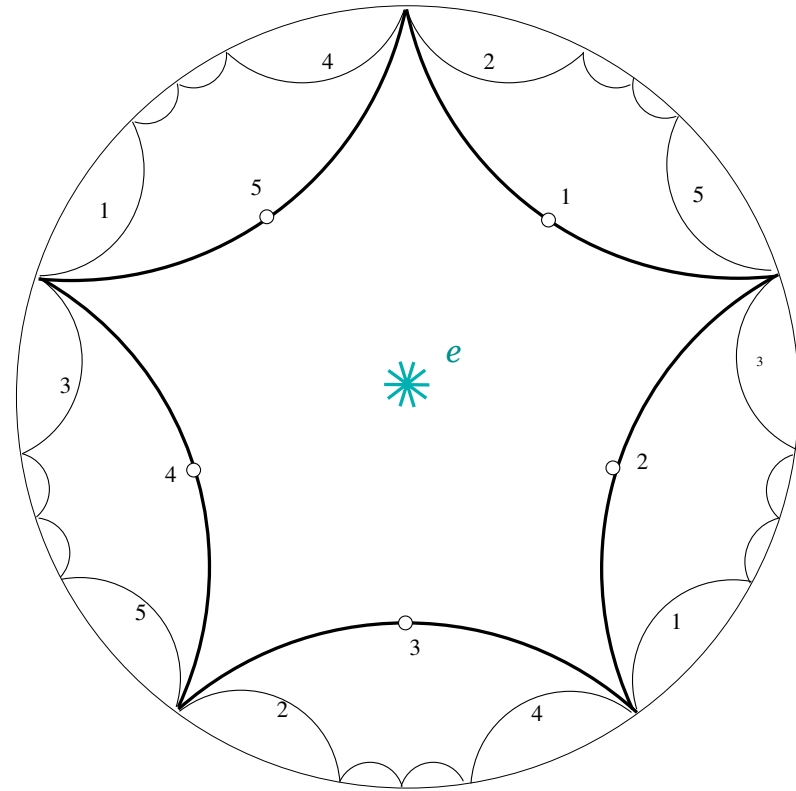


$$r_1 r_2 \dots r_{n-1} r_n = s_1 \dots s_n$$

**Proof:** induction on the number of mutations.

### 3. Cayley graph in the hyperbolic plane

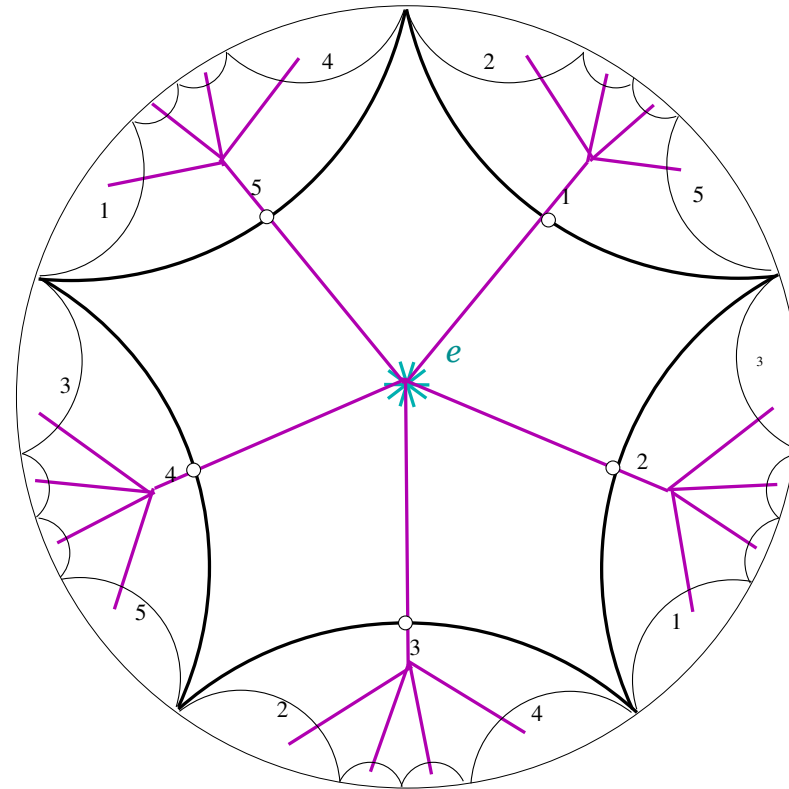
- $G$  is isomorphic to a group generated by  $\pi$ -rotations. Denote it by  $G_{rot}$ .





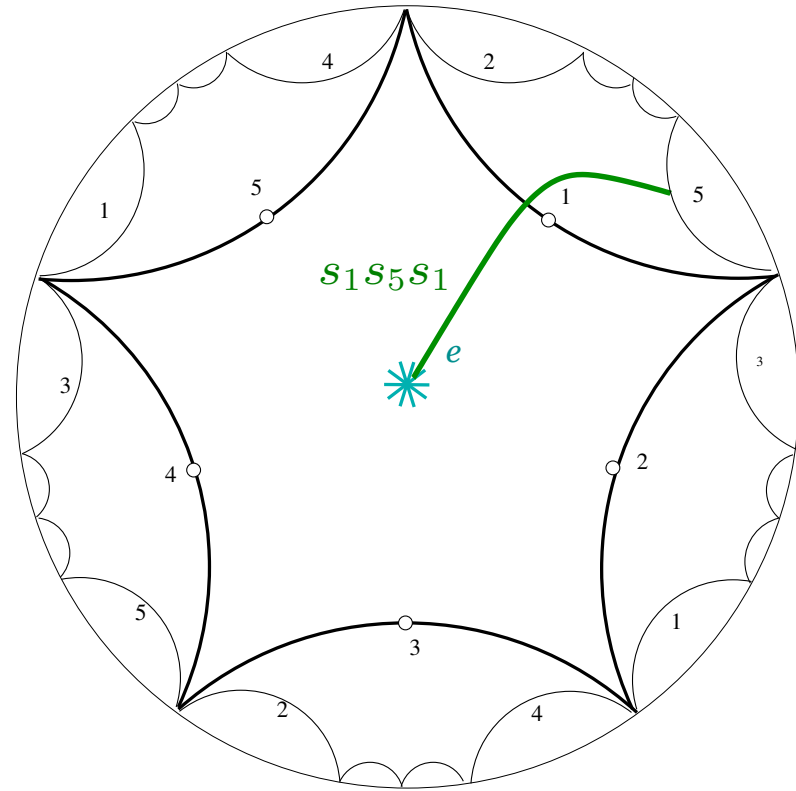
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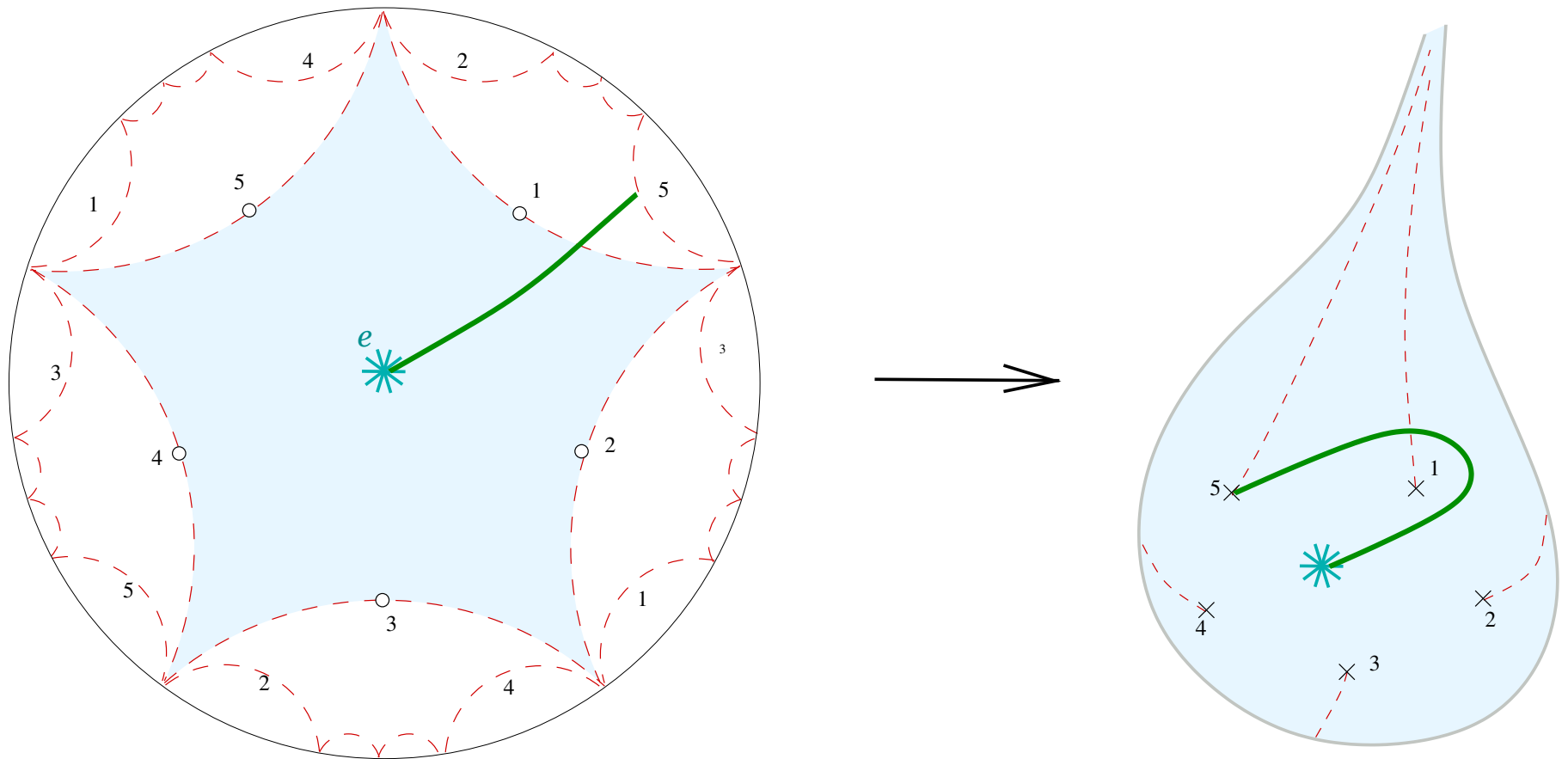
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- reflection  $r \in G$  may be represented by a path.



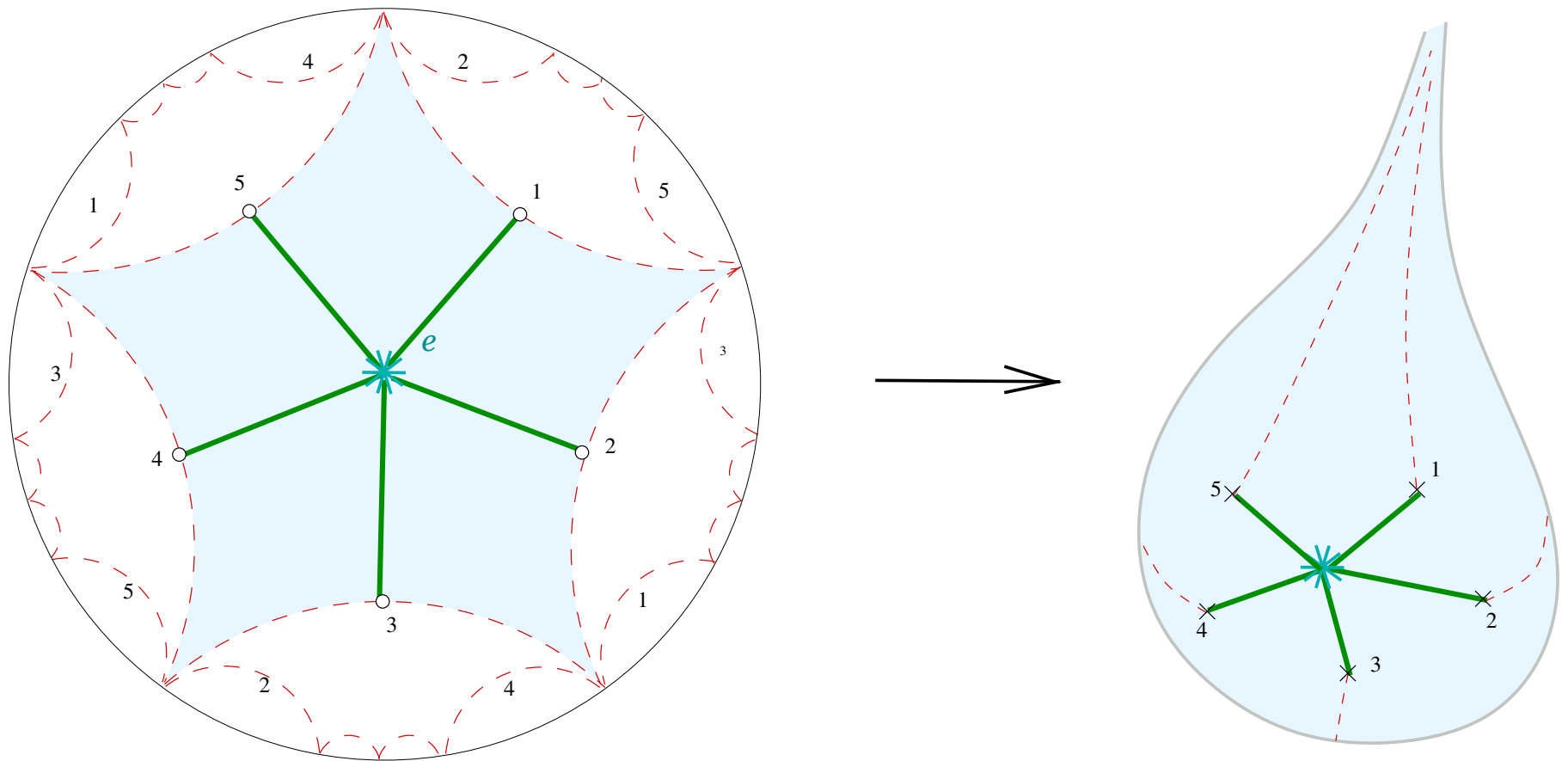
### 3. Orbifold: from $\mathbb{H}^2$ to an orbifold

Consider  $\mathbb{H}^2/G_{rot}$ :



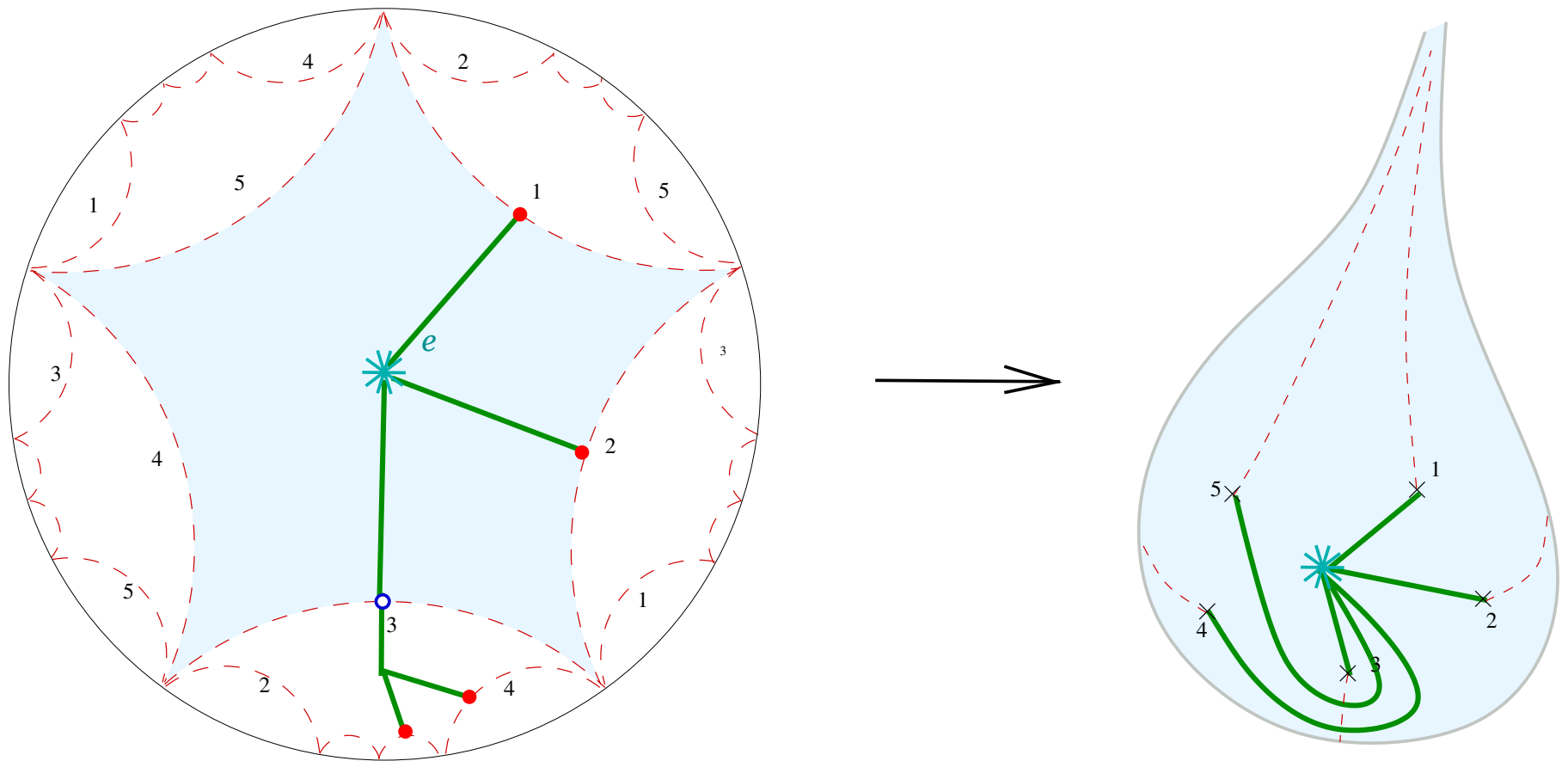
### 3. Orbifold: seeds on the orbifold

Initial seed:



### 3. Orbifold: seeds on the orbifold

After mutation  $\mu_3$ :



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Let  $s \in G$  be a reflection, let  $u_s$  be the corresponding root  $u$ .

Let  $\hat{\gamma}_s$  be the arc in  $\mathbb{H}^2$ ,

let  $\gamma_s$  be its projection to the orbifold  $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{H}^2 / G_{rot}$ .

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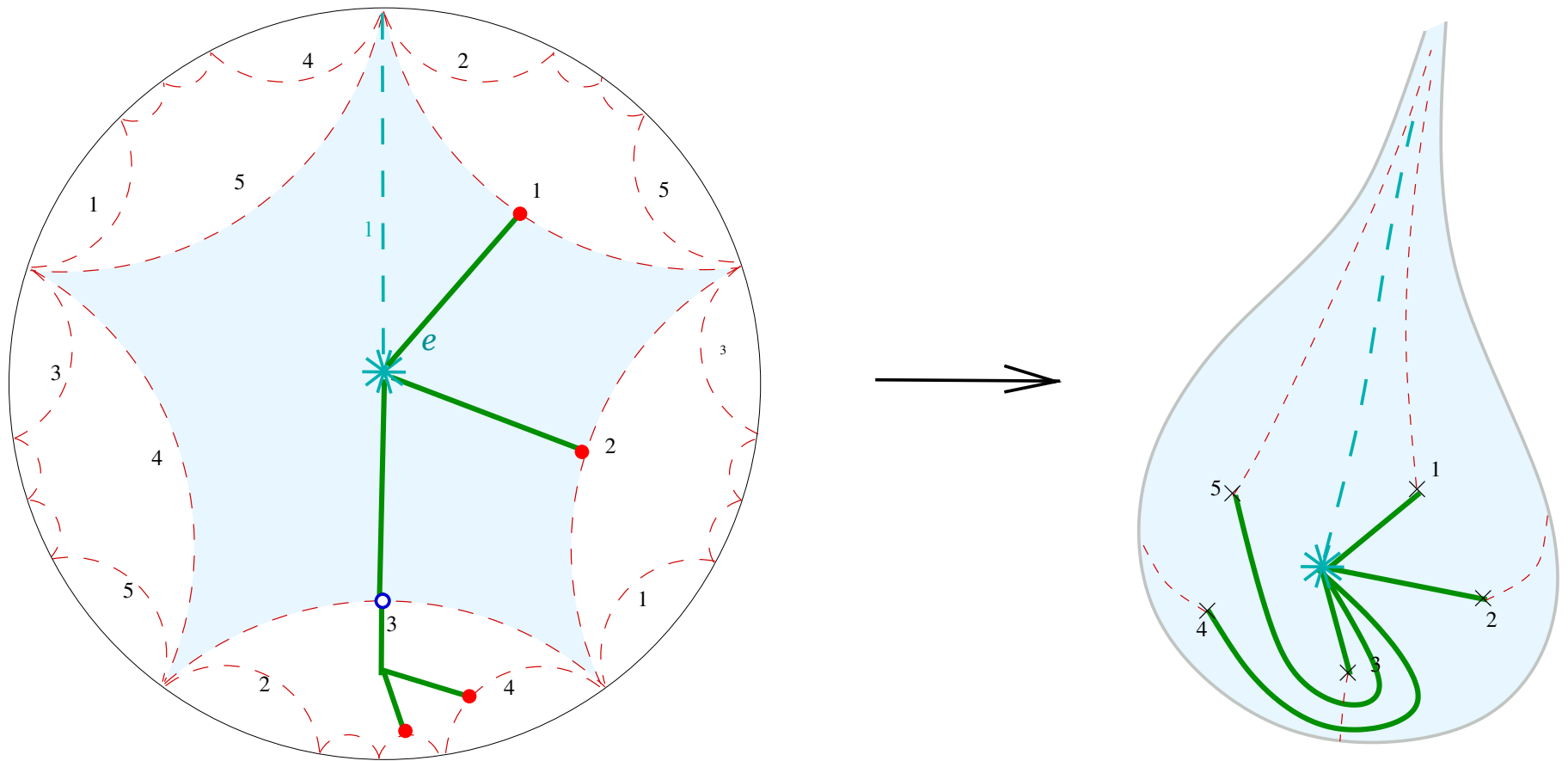
Claim.

- If  $u_s$  is a Schur root then  $\gamma_s$  is simple.
- If  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  is a seed then  $\gamma_{u_1}, \dots, \gamma_{u_n}$  are non-intersecting.
- If  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  is a seed then there exists a geodesic ray  $l \in \mathcal{O}$  such that no  $\gamma_{u_i}$  intersects  $l$ .

Proof: induction by the number of mutations.

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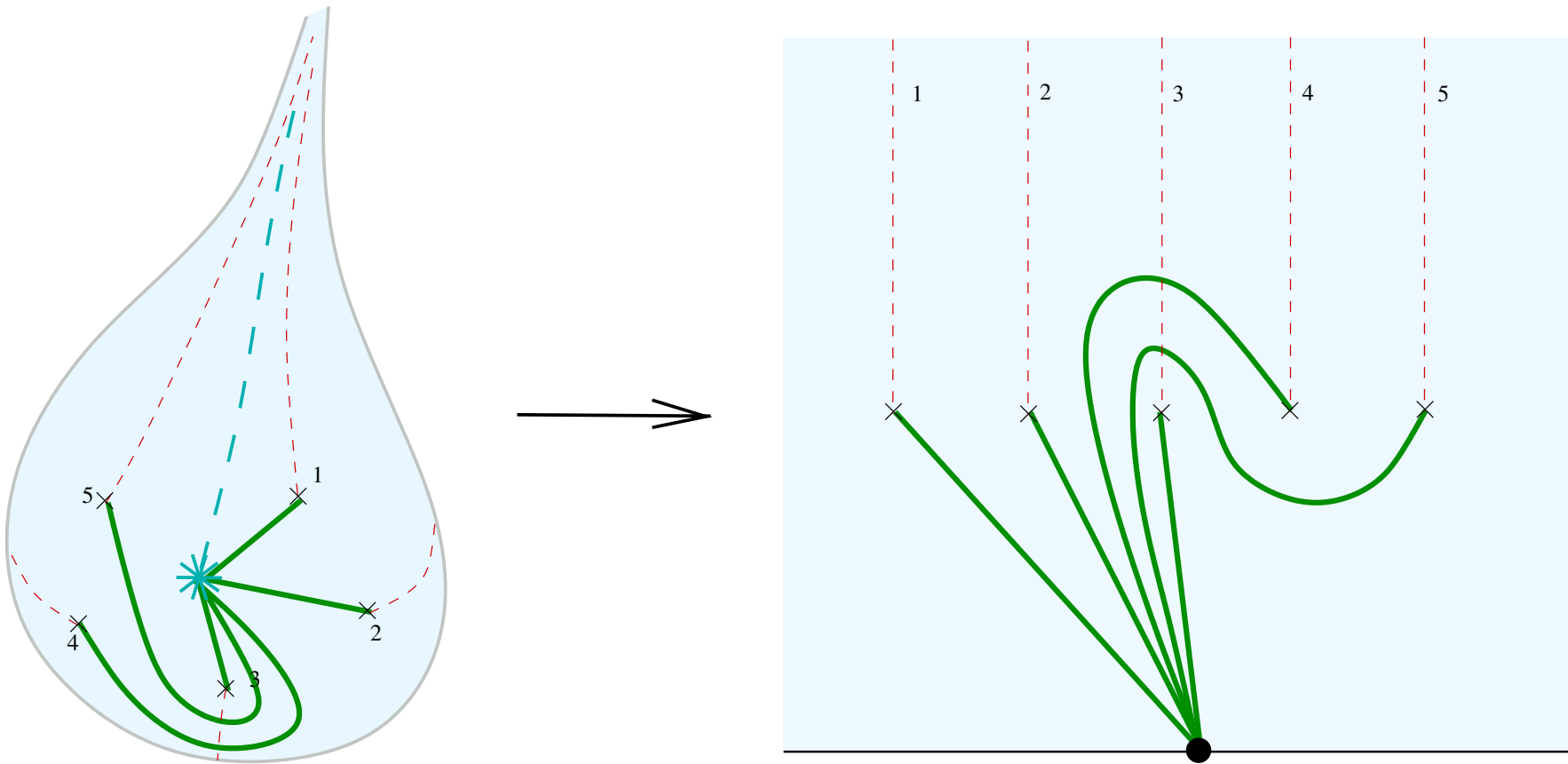
After mutation  $\mu_3$ :





## 4. From orbifold to disc

Cut along  $l$ :

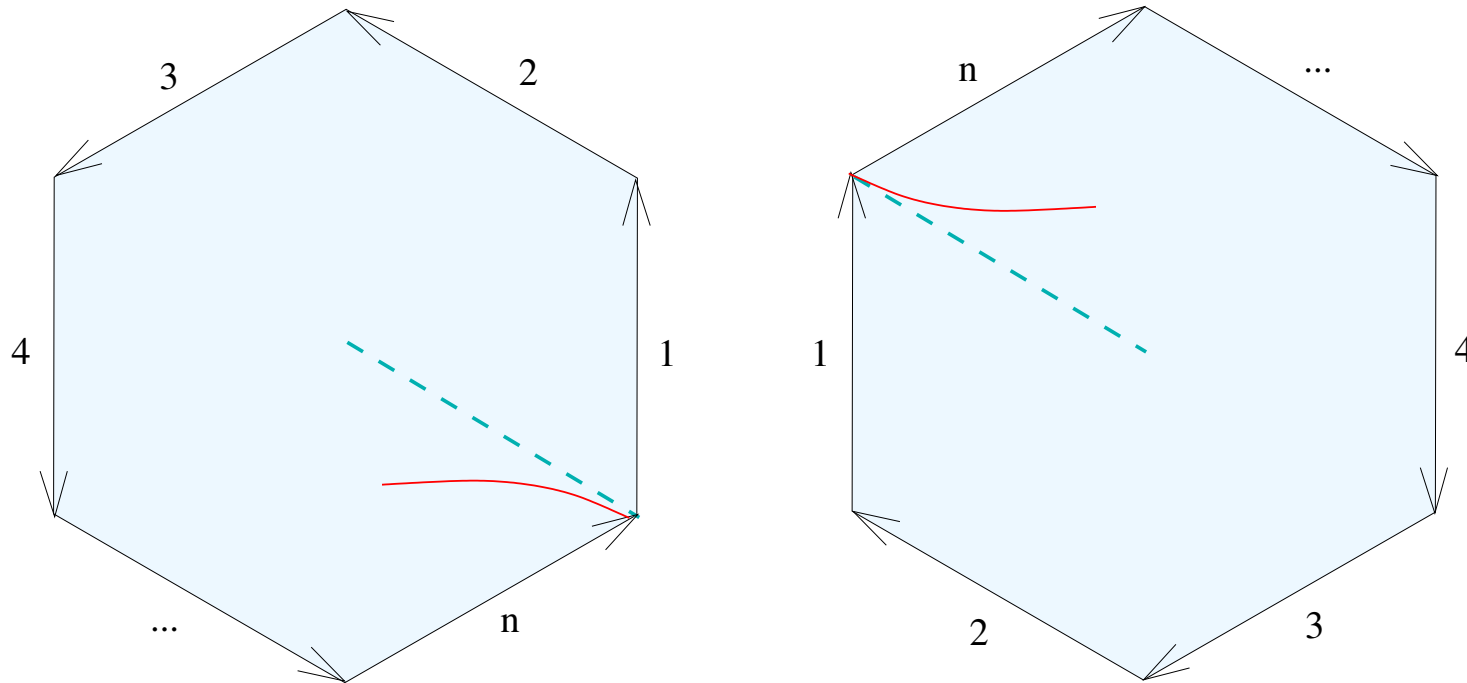


## Remarks

- This explains **how** to map Schur roots to arcs in the disc.  
Why do we get **all** arcs?
  - (a) every (good) set of arcs corresponds to a seed;  
(use the braid group  $\mathbb{B}_n = \text{Aut}(D)$   
to verify conditions given by Speyer and Thomas)
  - (b) every arc can be included into a (good) set of arcs.  
(induction on  $n$ )
- The “Schur roots” part of our theorem  
implies **Lee – Lee conjecture**.  
(after taking a double cover of the orbifold  $\mathcal{O}$ )

Lee-Lee conjecture:

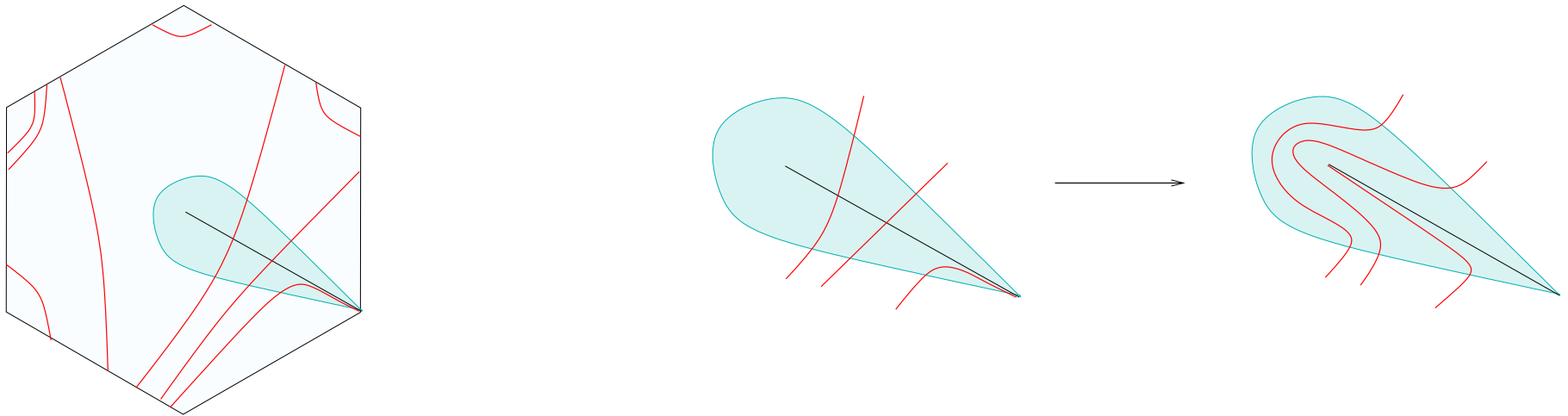
Schur roots are in bijection with arcs on the following surface  $S$ :



- Conjectured for all acyclic quivers (not necessarily 2-complete).
- Proved for 2-complete quivers of rank 3.

Lee-Lee conjecture  $\Leftrightarrow$  our theorem:  
for 2-complete  $Q$

Surface  $S$  is a double cover of the orbifold  $\mathcal{O}$ .



Curves on  $S \longrightarrow$  arcs on the disc.

## Open questions:

- General (not necessarily 2-complete) acyclic quivers?
- When are two roots compatible?  
(i.e. when there exists a seed containing them both?).
- Is a collection of mutually compatible roots compatible itself?

