



## The Subword Reversing Method

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- A motivating example
- Van Kampen diagrams
- Reversing : geometric description
- Reversing : syntactic description

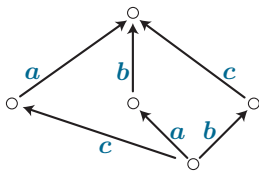


- Our red line in the sequel:

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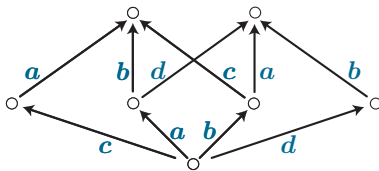
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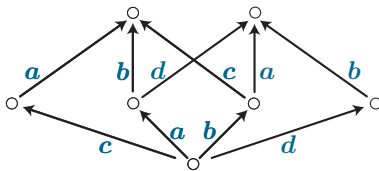
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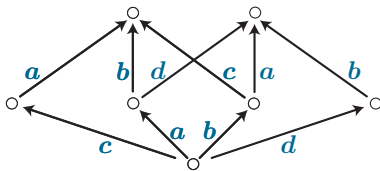
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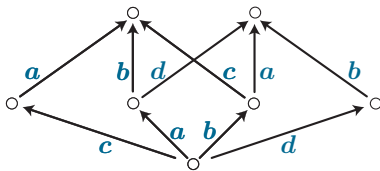
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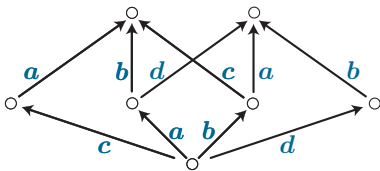
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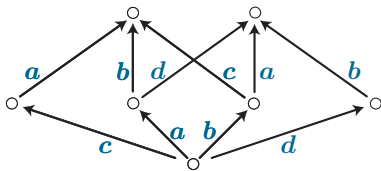
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- Note:  $M$  is **not** eligible for Adjan's cancellativity criterion.



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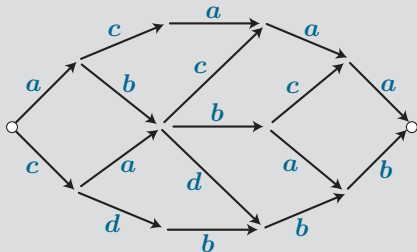
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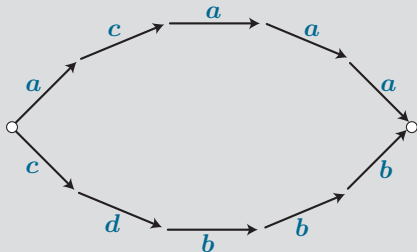
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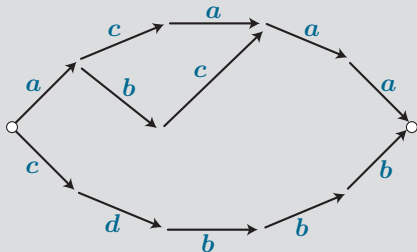
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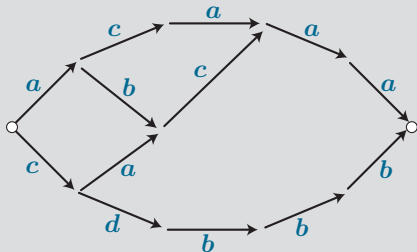
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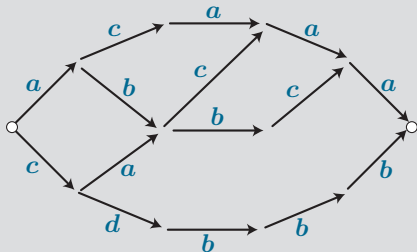
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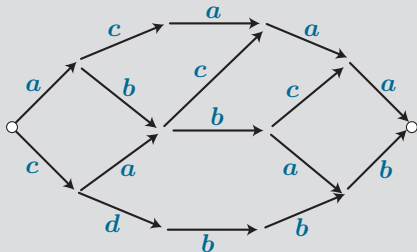
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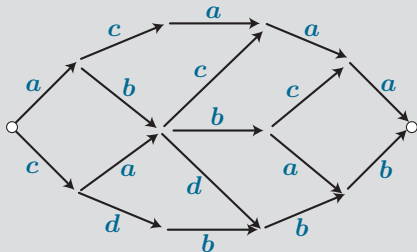
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
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
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
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

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

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

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

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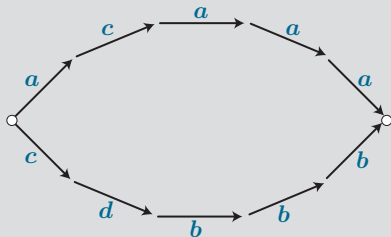
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

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- **Example**: (same hypotheses)



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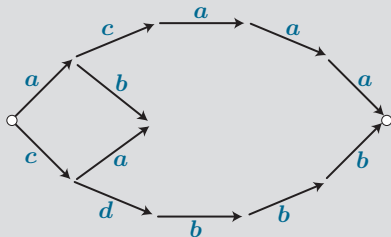
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

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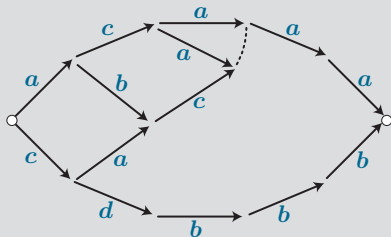
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

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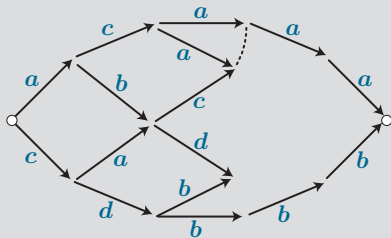
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

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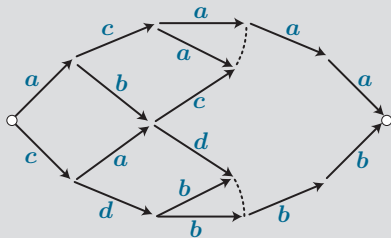
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

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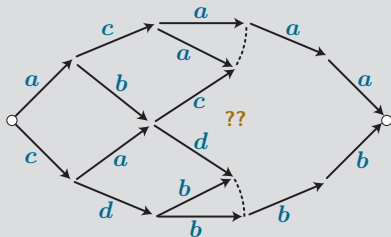
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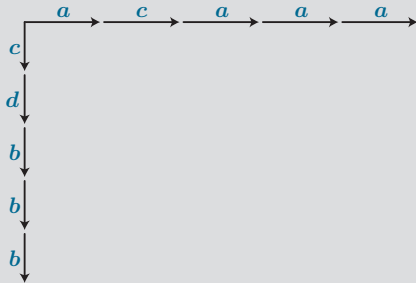
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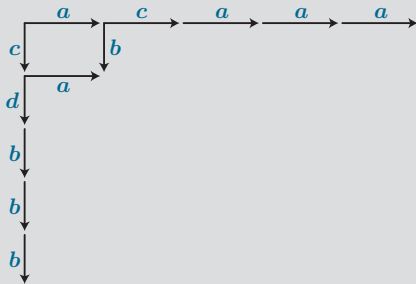


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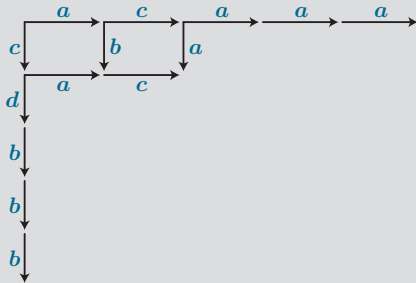
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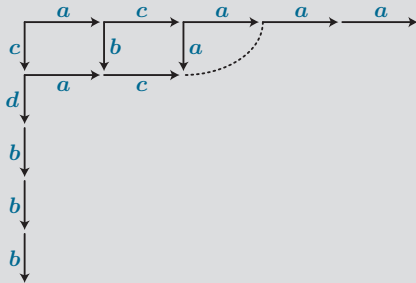
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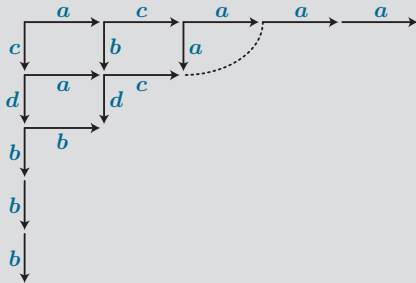
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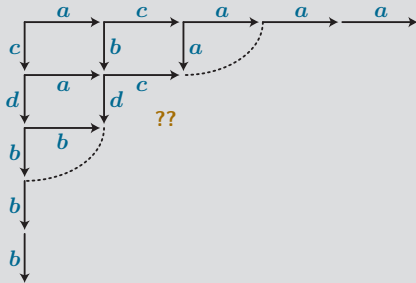


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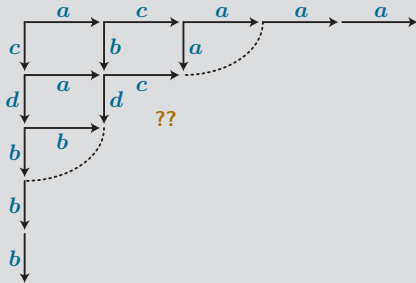


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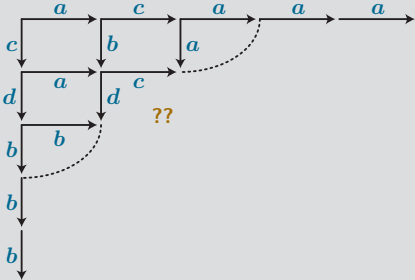


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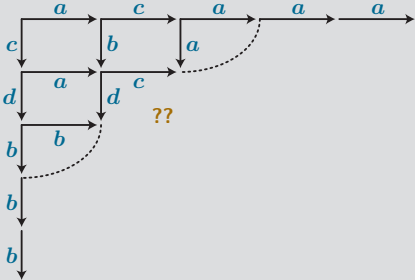
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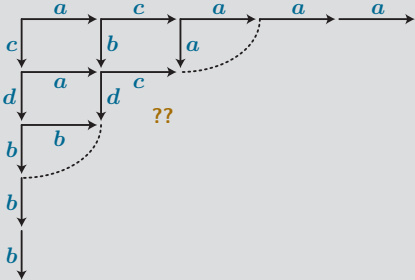
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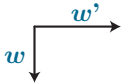
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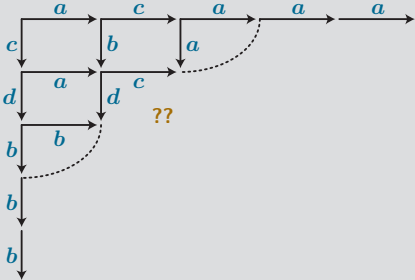


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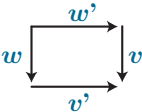


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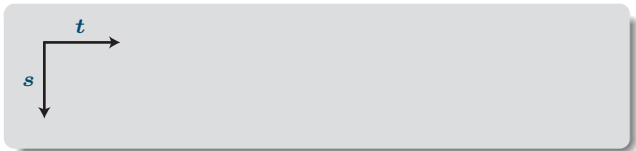
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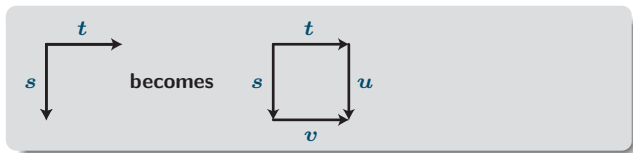


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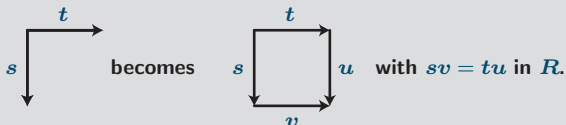


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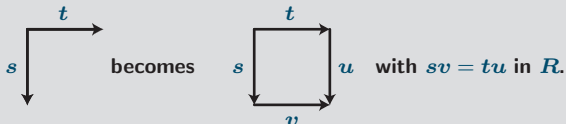




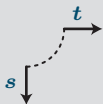
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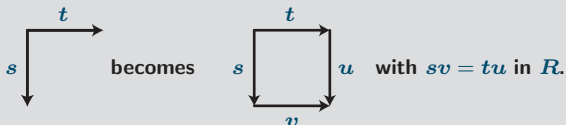
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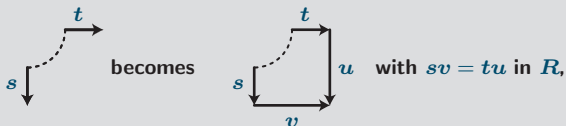
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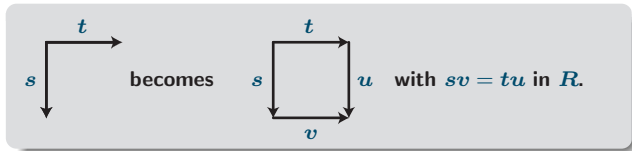
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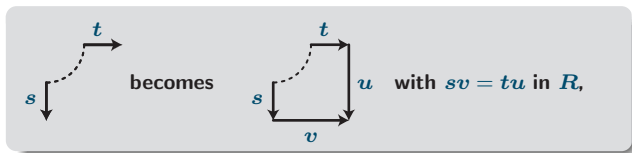
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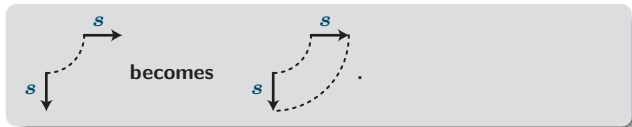
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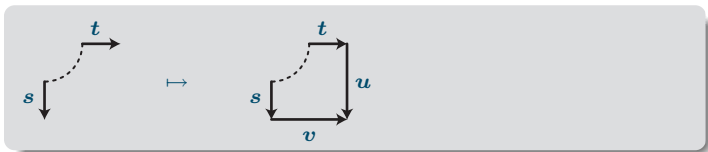
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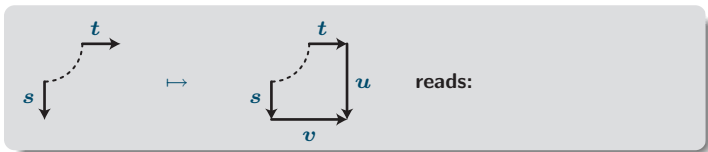
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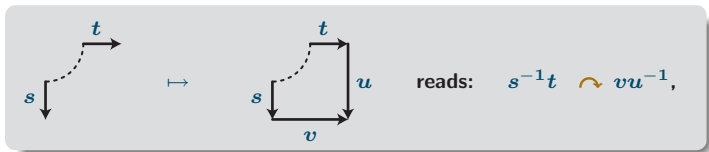
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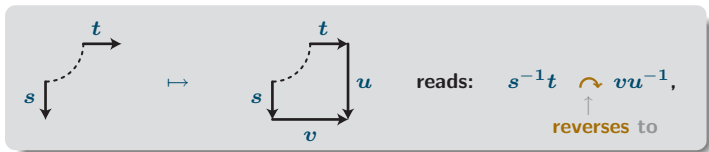
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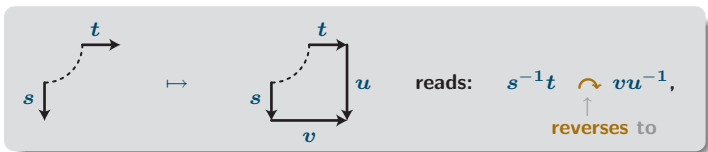
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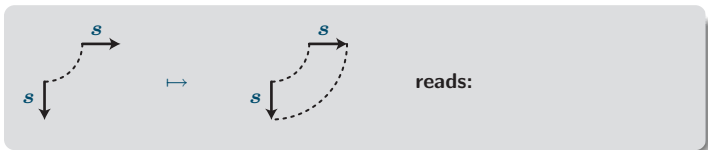


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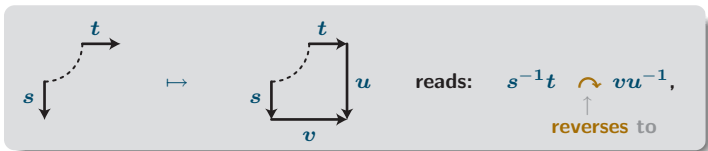


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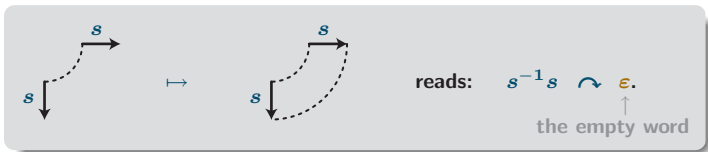


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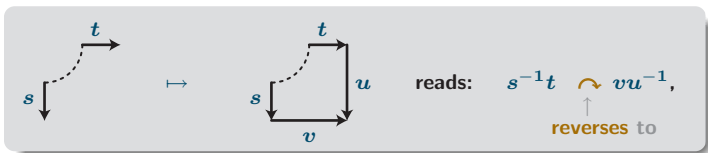


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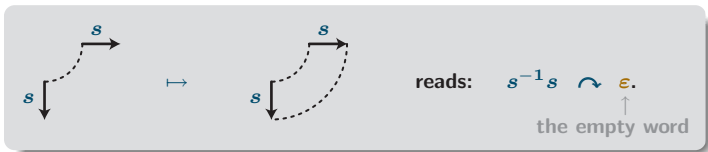


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- In this setting, “subword reversing” means replacing  $-+$  with  $+-$ , whence the terminology.

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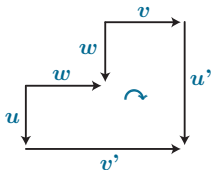




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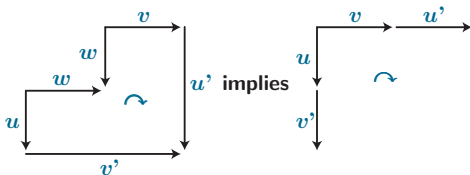
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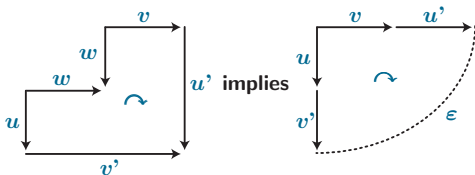
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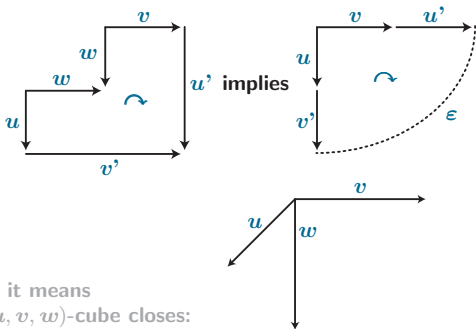
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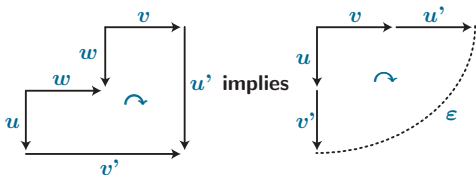


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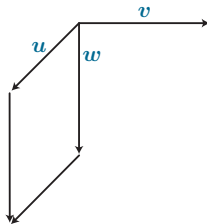
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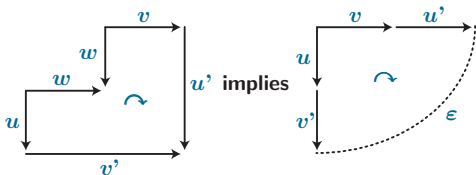
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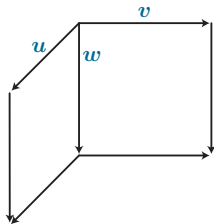
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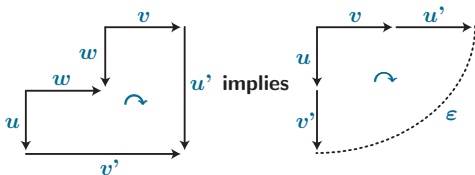
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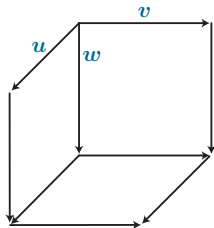
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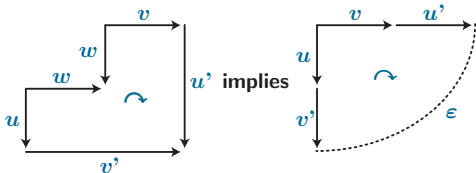




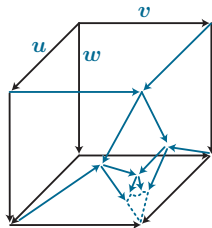
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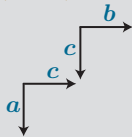
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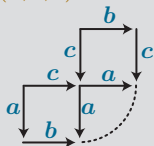
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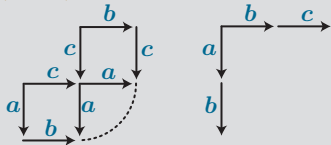
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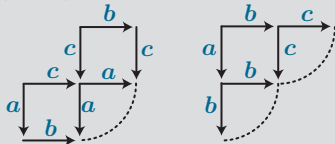
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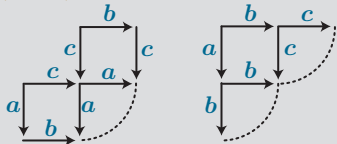
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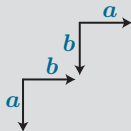


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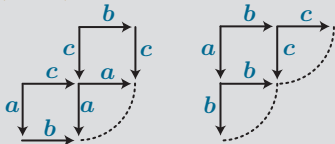


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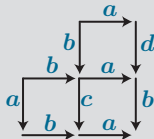
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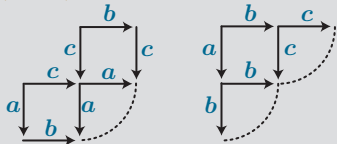
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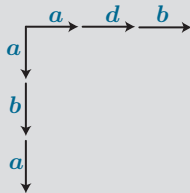
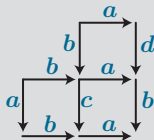
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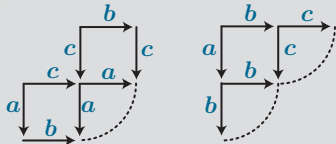
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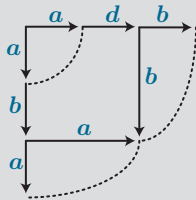
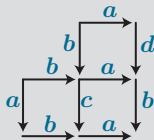
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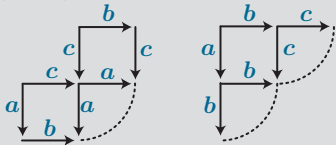
$(a, a, b)$ :



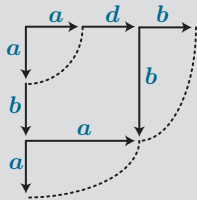
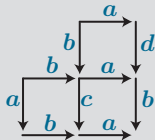
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- Homogeneous: take  $\lambda = \text{length}$ .
- Cube condition?

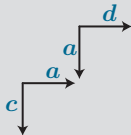
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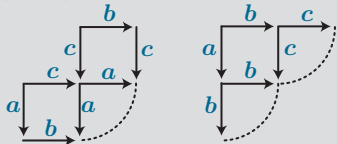


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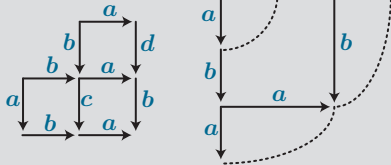
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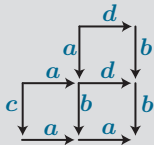
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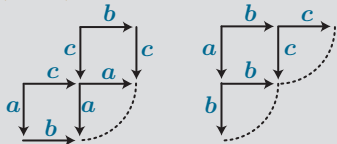


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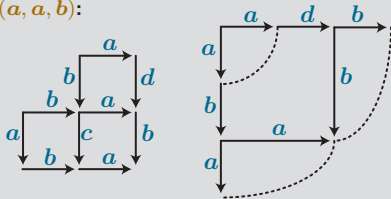
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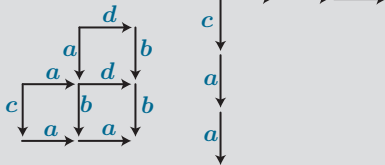
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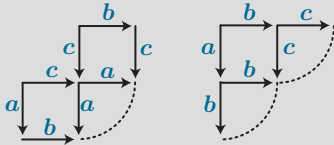
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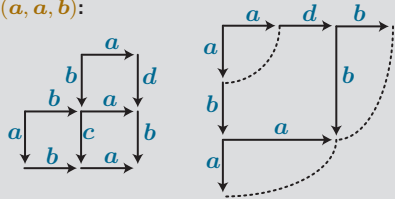
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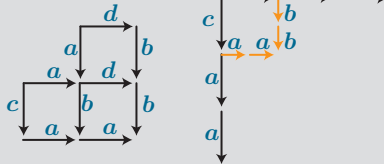
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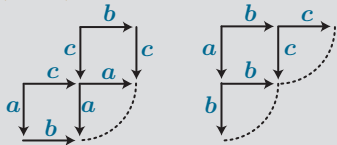


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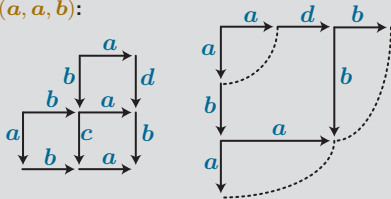
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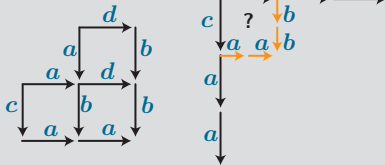
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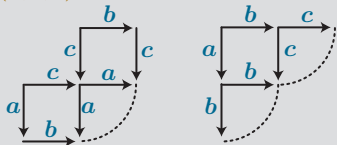


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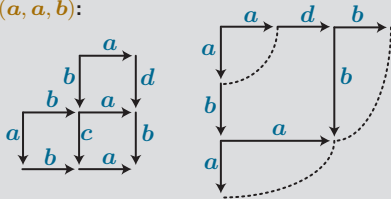
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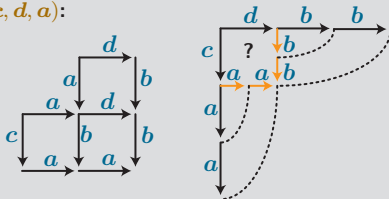
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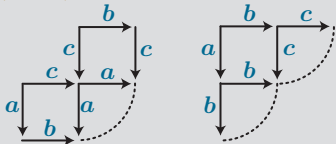


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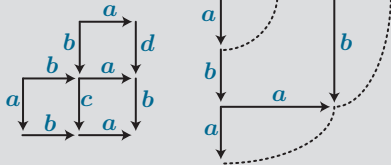
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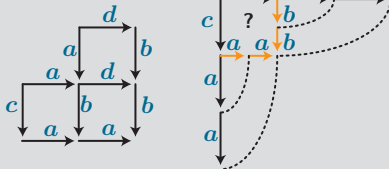
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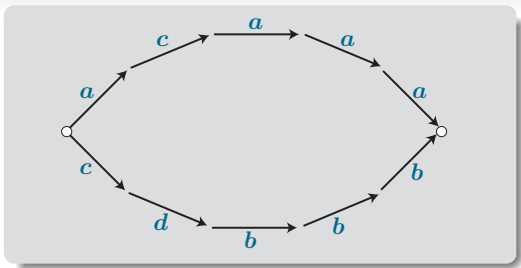
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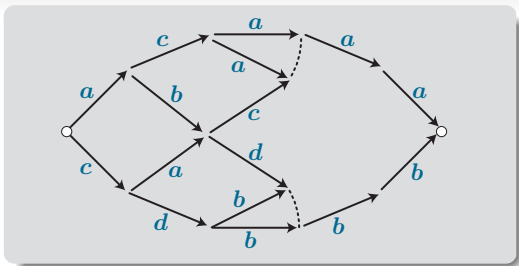


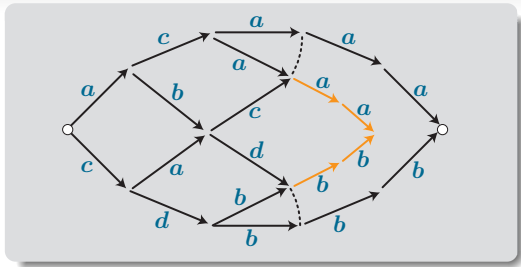
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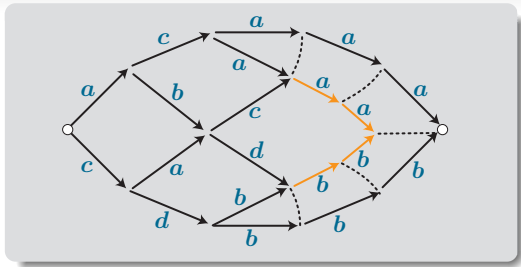


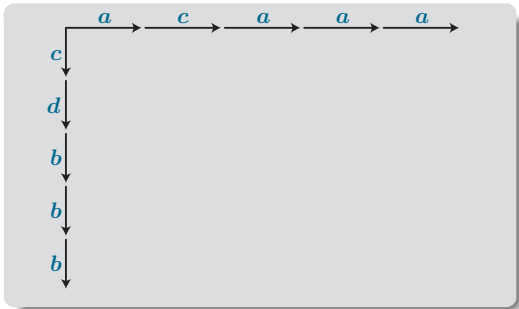
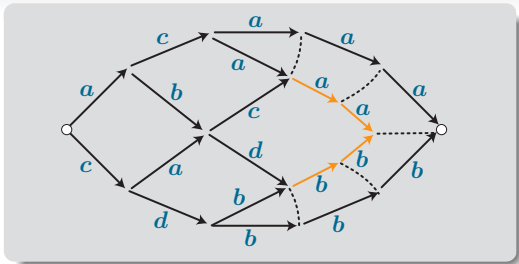
⇒ A **completion** procedure: if the cube fails, **add** the (redundant) missing relation.  
here: add  $caa = dbb$ .



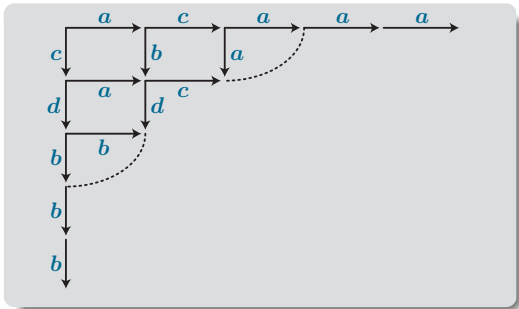
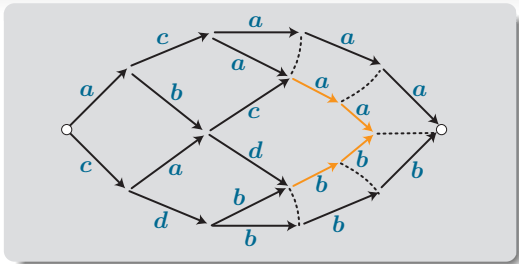


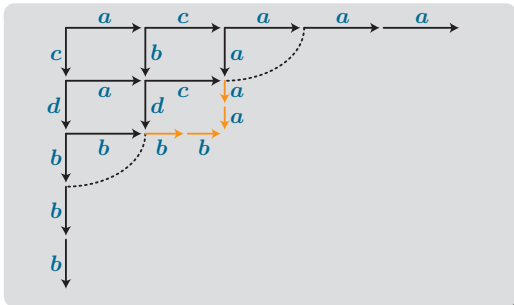
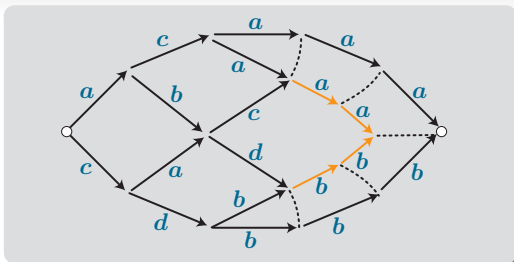


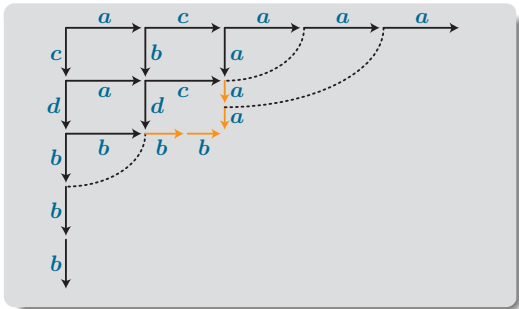
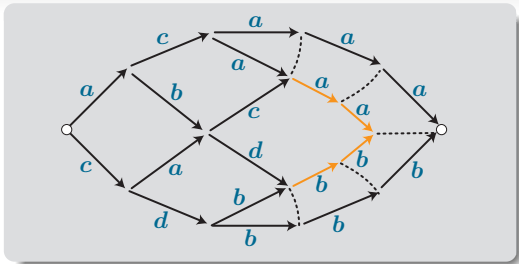


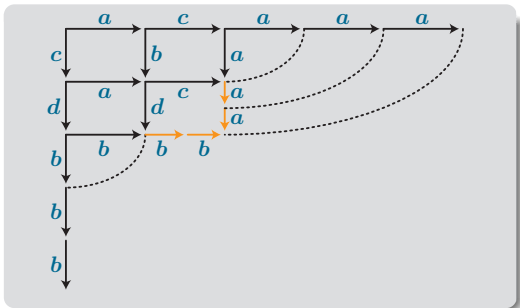
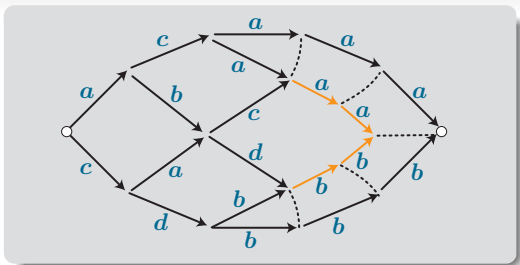


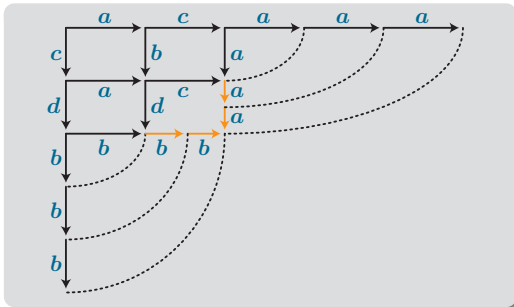
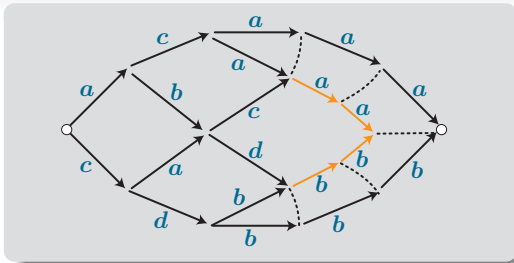












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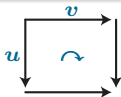
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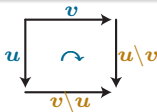


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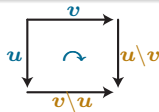


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- **Proposition** : If  $(S, R)$  is complemented, the cube condition for  $u, v, w$  holds iff
 
$$(u \setminus v) \setminus (u \setminus w) \equiv_R^+ (v \setminus u) \setminus (v \setminus w).$$

(the **cube law**)

### 3. Subword Reversing : Uses

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- Cancellativity
- Word problems
- Recognizing Garside structures
- Computing in Garside structures

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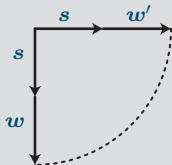
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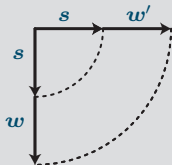
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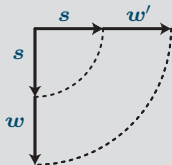
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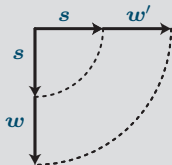
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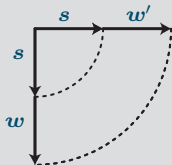
Completeness implies:  $(sw)^{-1}(sw') \curvearrowright_R \varepsilon$ , i.e.,

exists a sequence  $w^{-1}s^{-1}sw' \curvearrowright_R^1 \dots \curvearrowright_R^1 \dots \curvearrowright_R^1 \varepsilon$ .

The first step **must** be  $w^{-1}s^{-1}sw' \curvearrowright_R w^{-1}w'$ ,

so the sequel must be  $w^{-1}w' \curvearrowright_R \varepsilon$ ,

which implies  $w \equiv_R^+ w'$ . □



- **Example** :  $M$  is left-cancellative —and right-cancellative too by symmetry.

(not visible on the initial presentation; becomes visible after completion only)

- **Remark**: Applies in particular to every complete complemented presentation.



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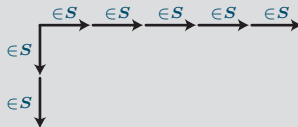
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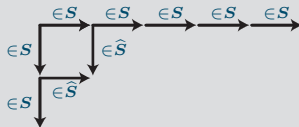
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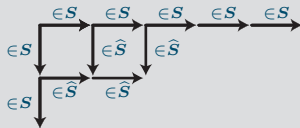
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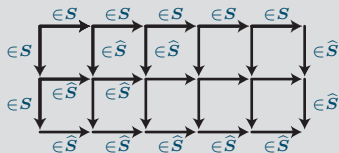
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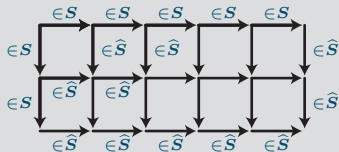
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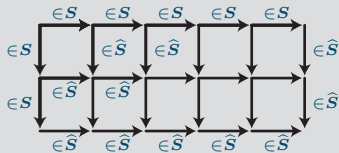




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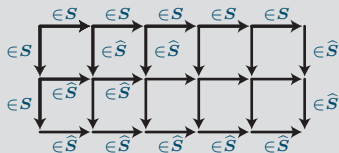


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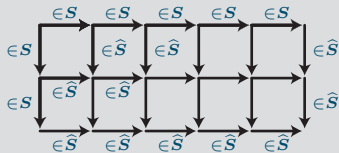
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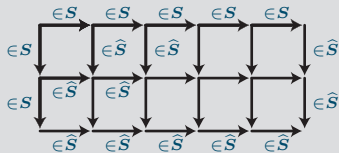
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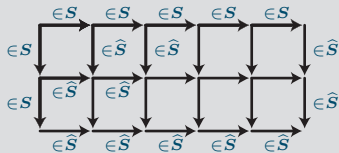
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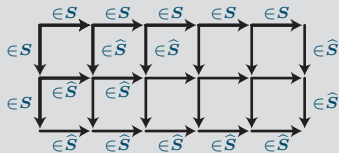
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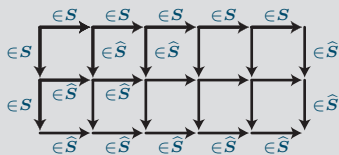


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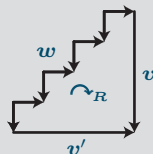


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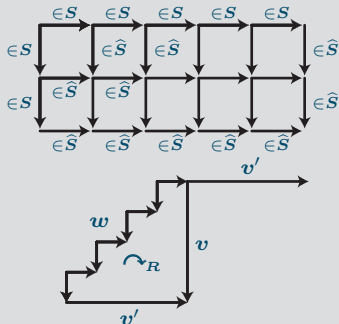




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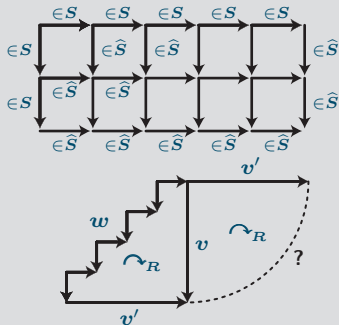


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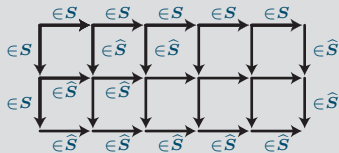
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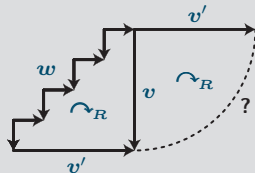


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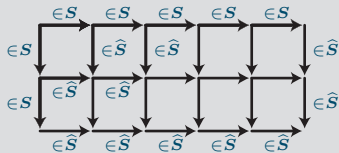
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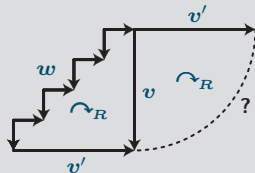
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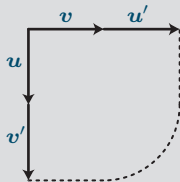
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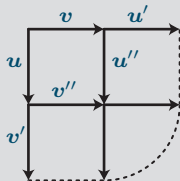
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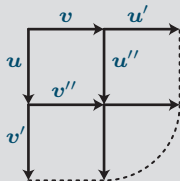
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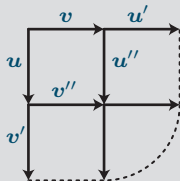
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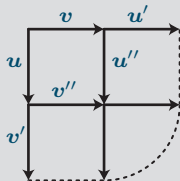
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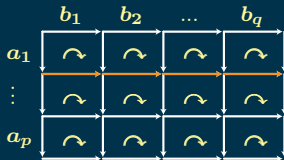




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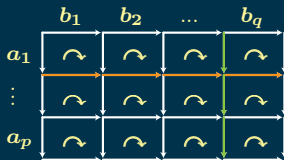
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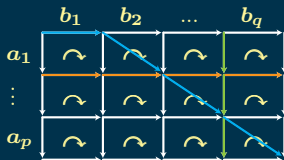
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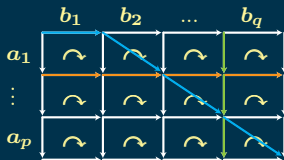
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- Leads to the so-called **grid property** in Garside groups ( $\approx \text{CAT}(0)$  geometry).

## 4. Subword Reversing : Efficiency

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- Upper bounds
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- **Proposition** : There exist positive constants  $C, C'$  s.t.

- $\text{dist}(u, v) \leq Cn^4$  for all  $f$  in  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  and all reduced expressions  $u, v$  of  $f$ ,
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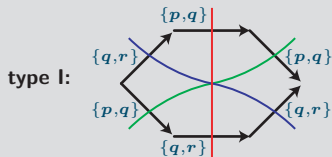
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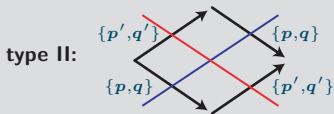
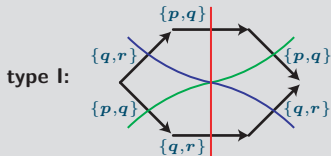




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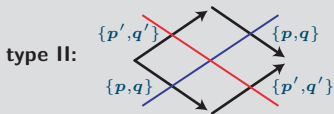
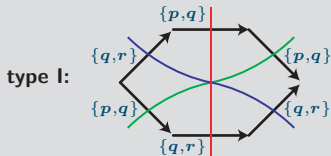


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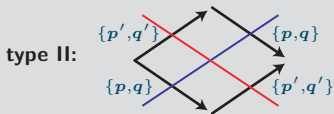
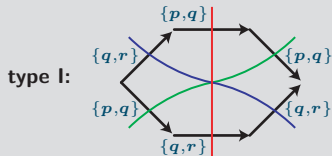


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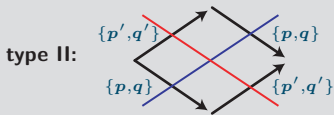
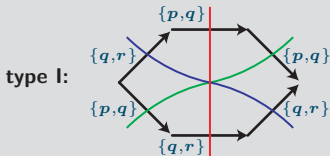
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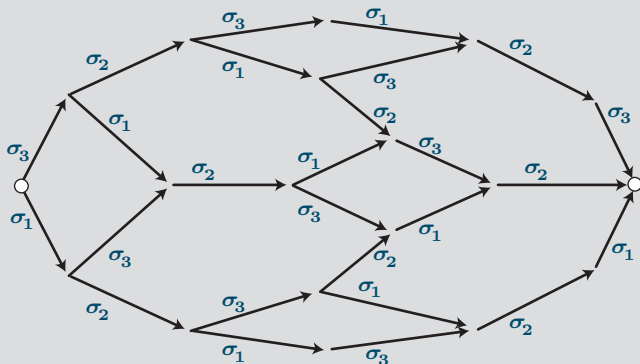


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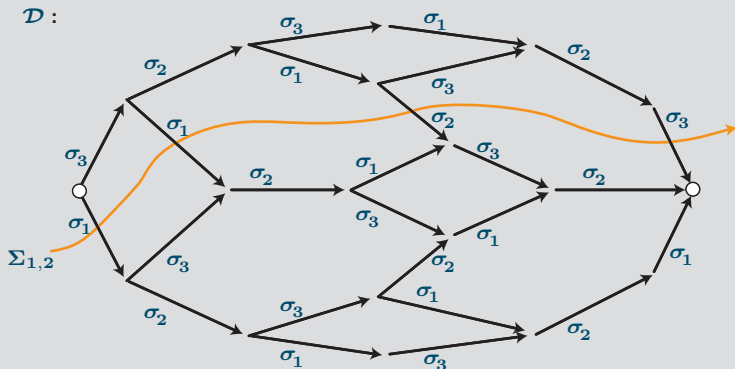
- **Lemma** : A sufficient condition for a van Kampen diagram  $\mathcal{D}$  to be optimal is that any two separatrices cross at most once in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

- Example :  $w = \sigma_3 \sigma_2 \sigma_3 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_3$ ,  $w' = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_3 \sigma_2 \sigma_1$ .

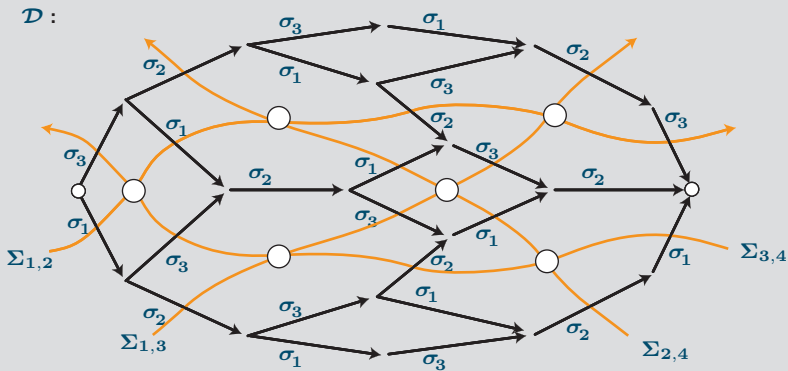
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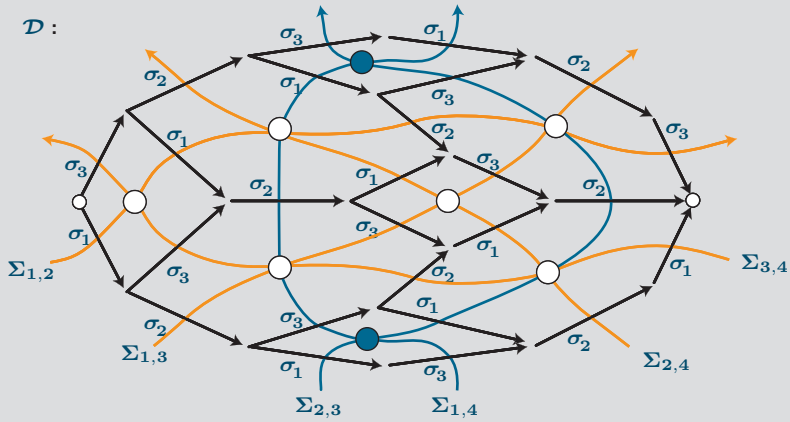
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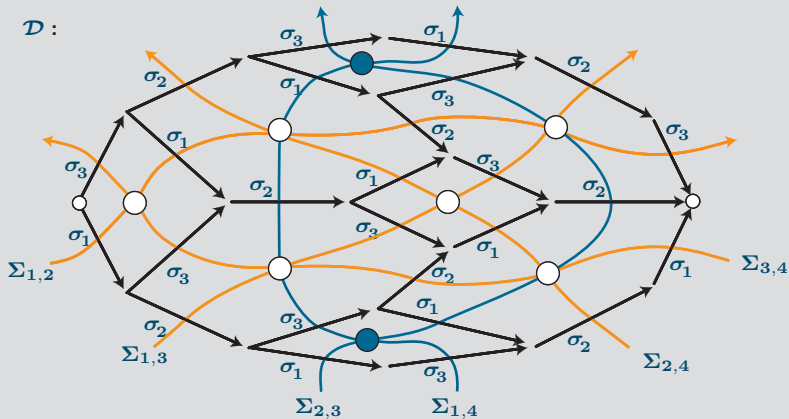
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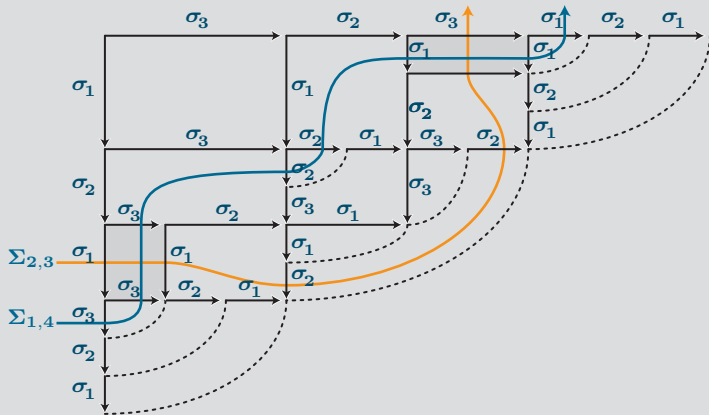


$\rightsquigarrow$  The separatrices  $\Sigma_{2,3}$  and  $\Sigma_{1,4}$  cross twice, hence  $\mathcal{D}$  is not optimal.

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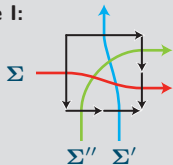


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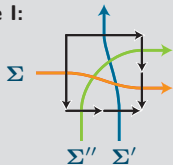
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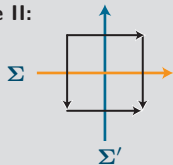


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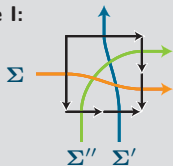


type II:

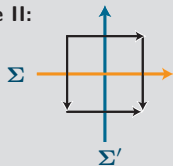


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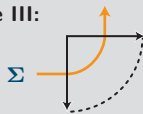
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type II:

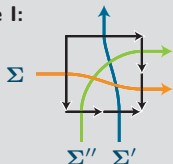


type III:

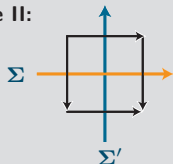


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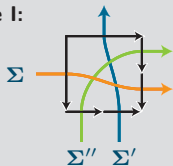
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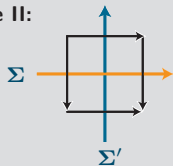
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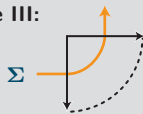
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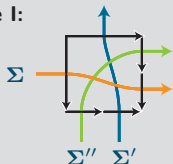


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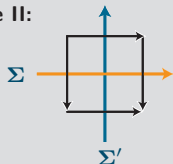
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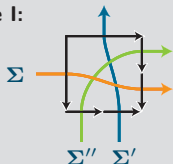
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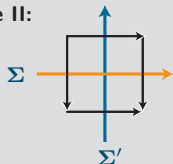


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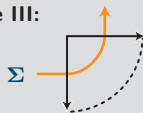
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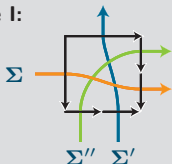
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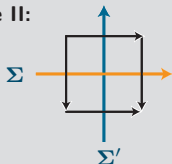
- Corollary** (Autord, D.): For each  $\ell$ , there exist length  $\ell$  braid words  $w, w'$  satisfying  $w^{-1}w' \sim_R v'v^{-1}$  and  $\text{dist}(wv', w'v) \geq \ell^4/8$ .

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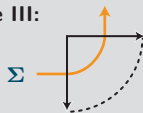
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- By contrast: for fixed  $n$ , Garside's theory gives an upper bound in  $O(\ell^2)$ .



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Reversing is really an operation on **words**.

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