

Simplification of Polyline Bundles

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Universität Würzburg, Germany

Motivation

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- Maps often consist of polylines

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- Multiple polylines share edges and vertices sectionwise

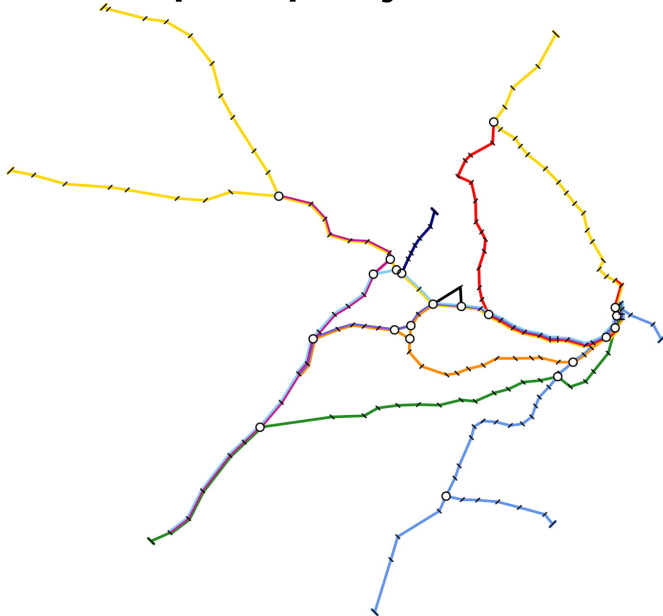
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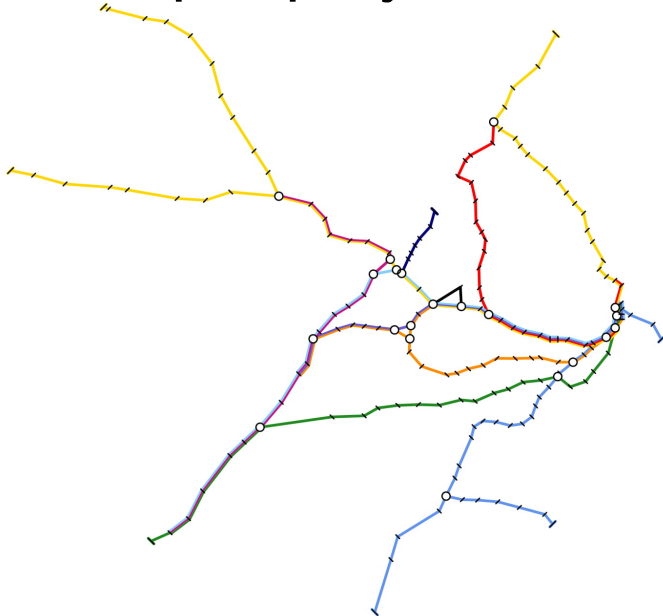
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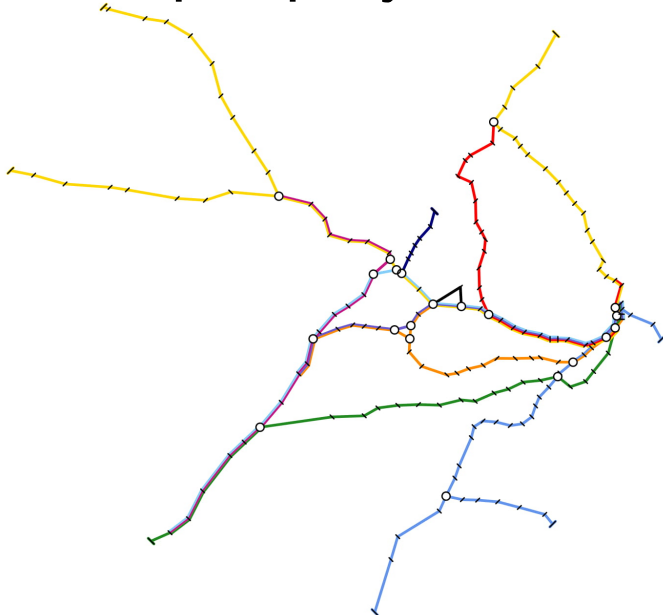
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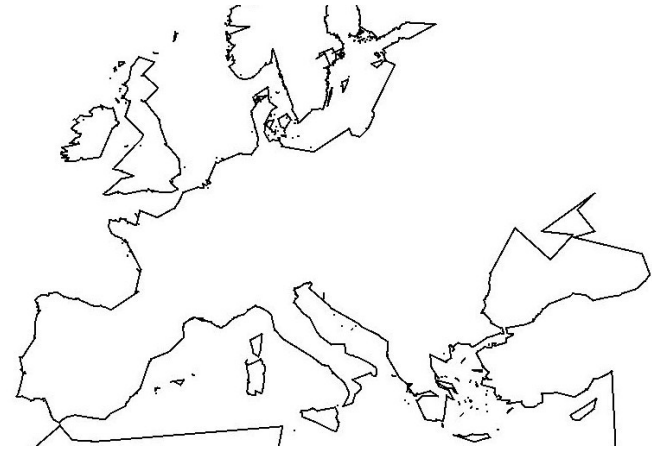


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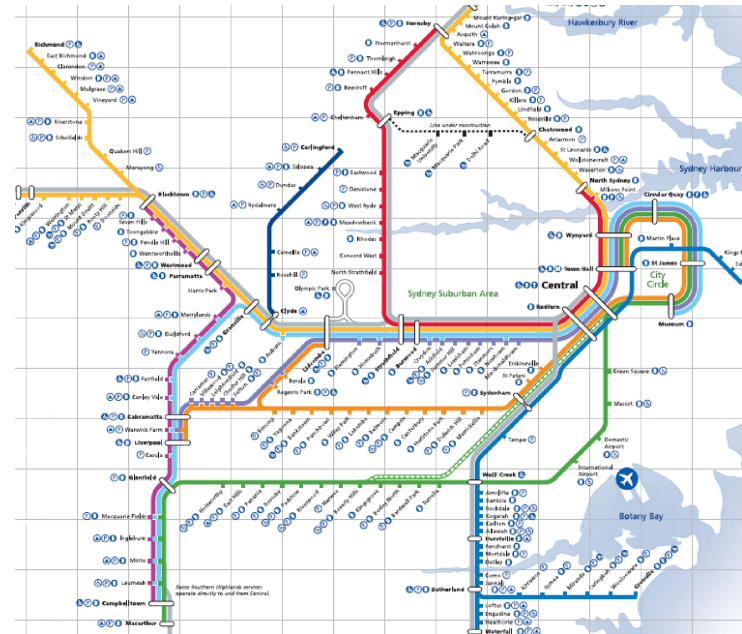
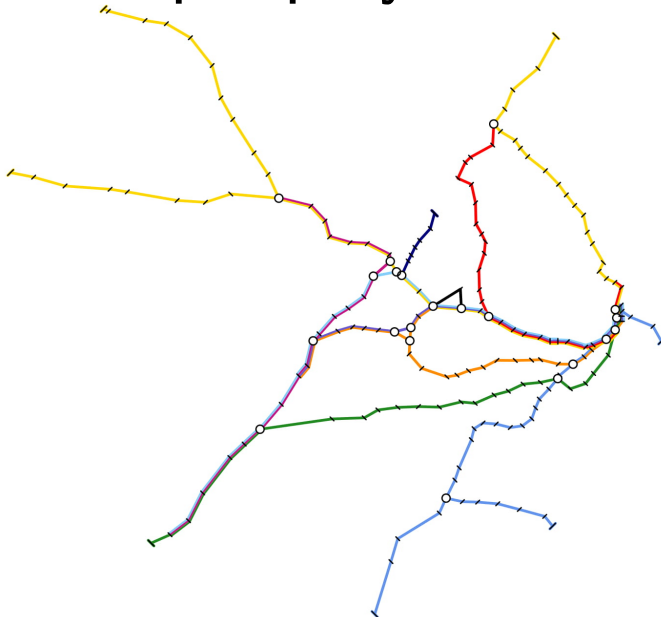
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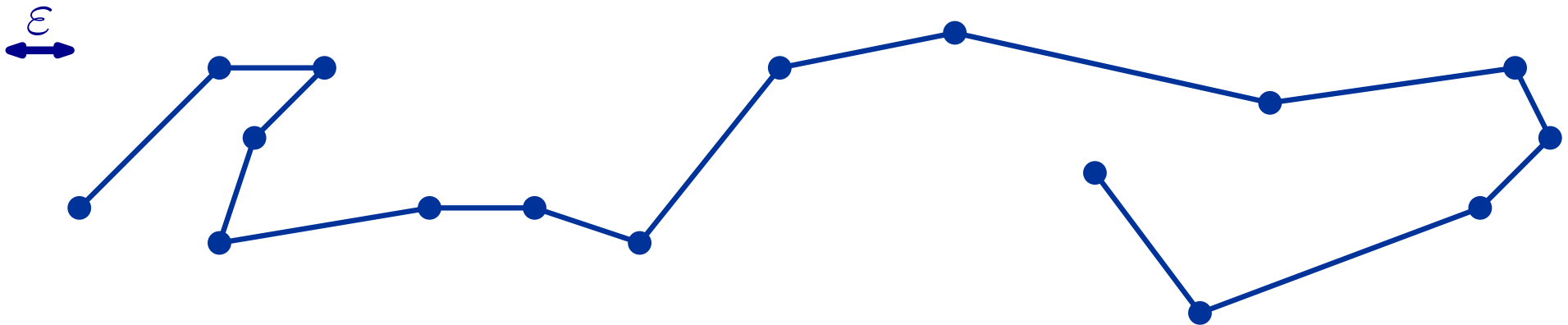
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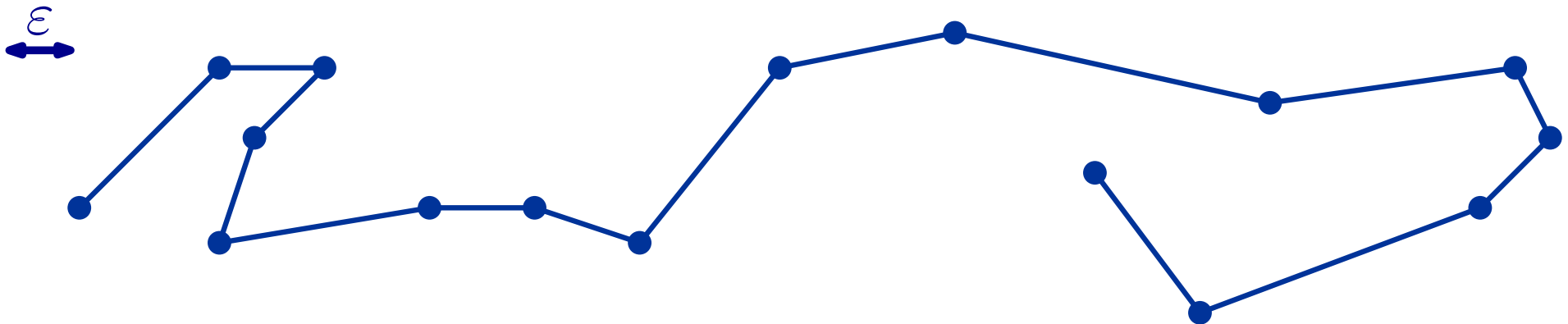
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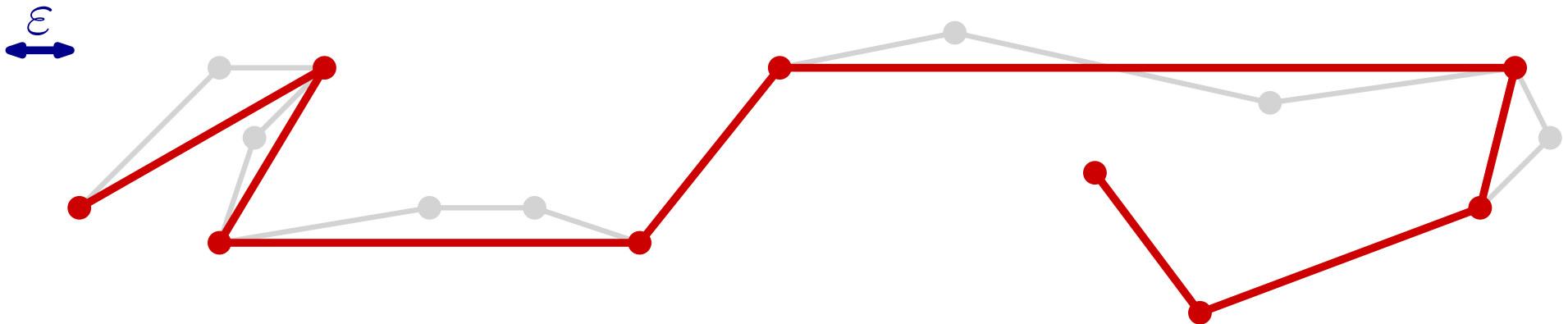


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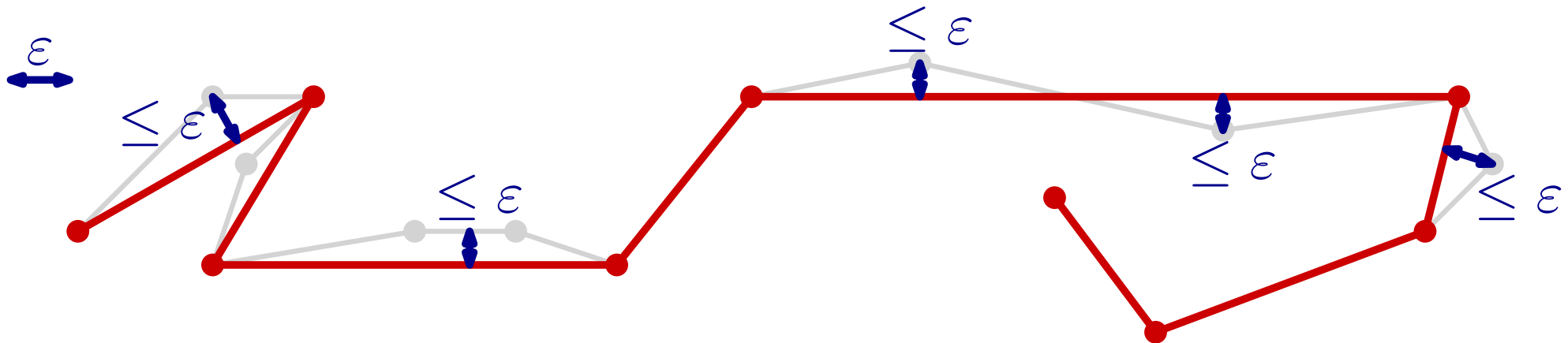


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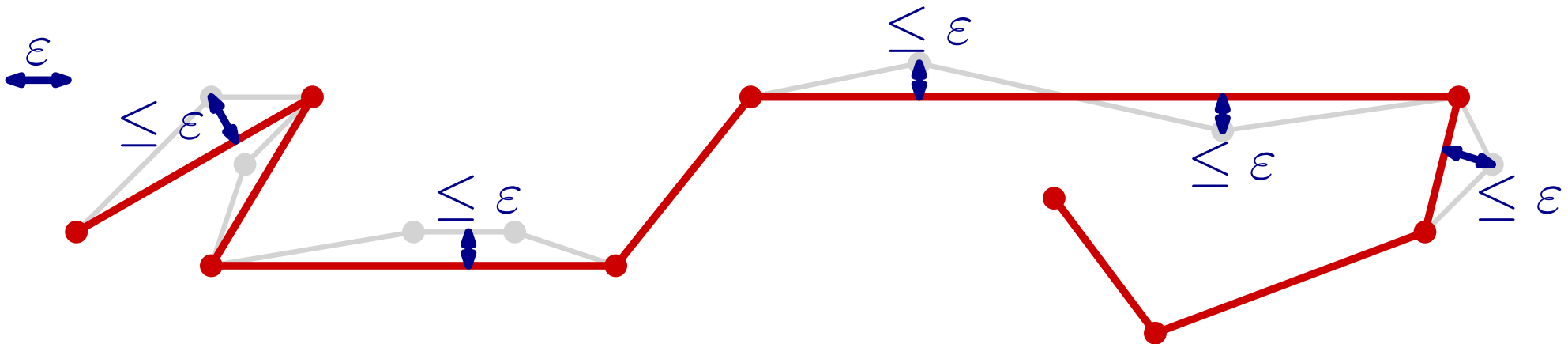


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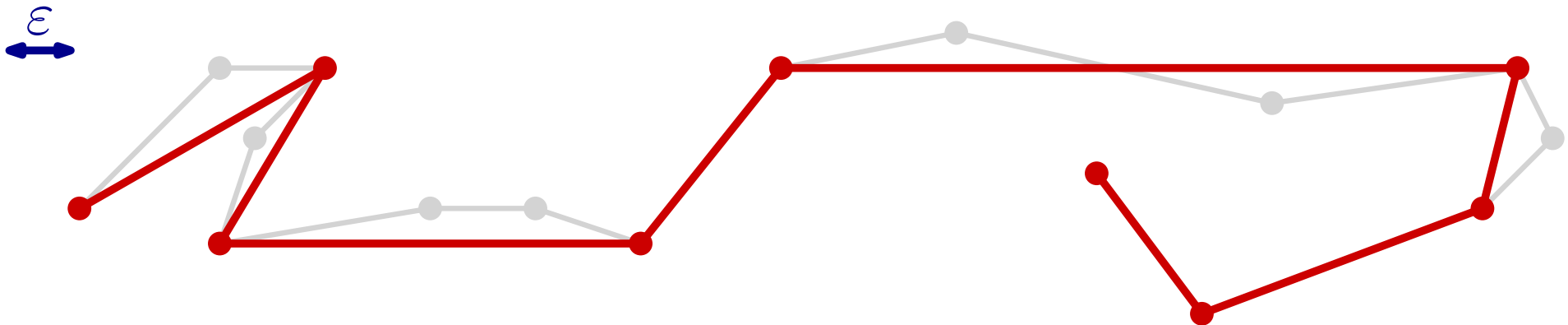
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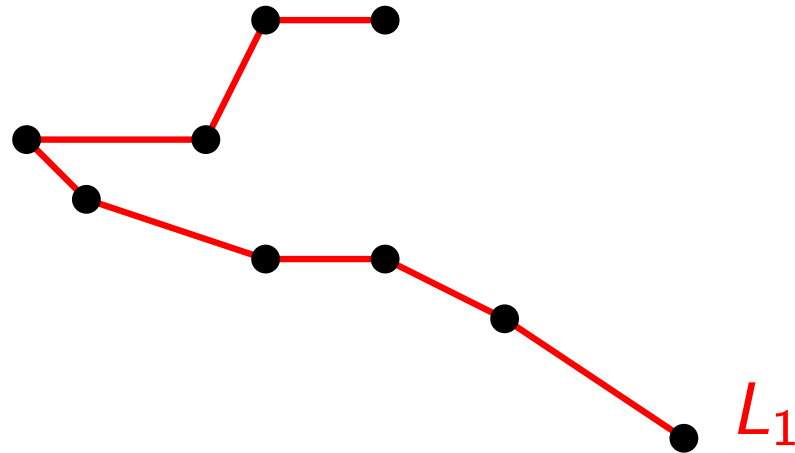
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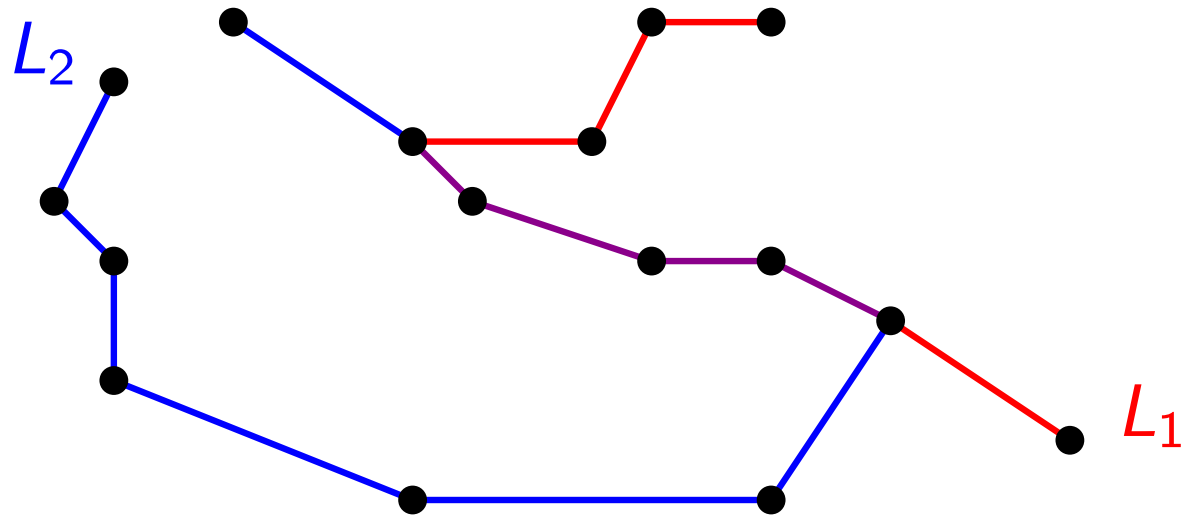
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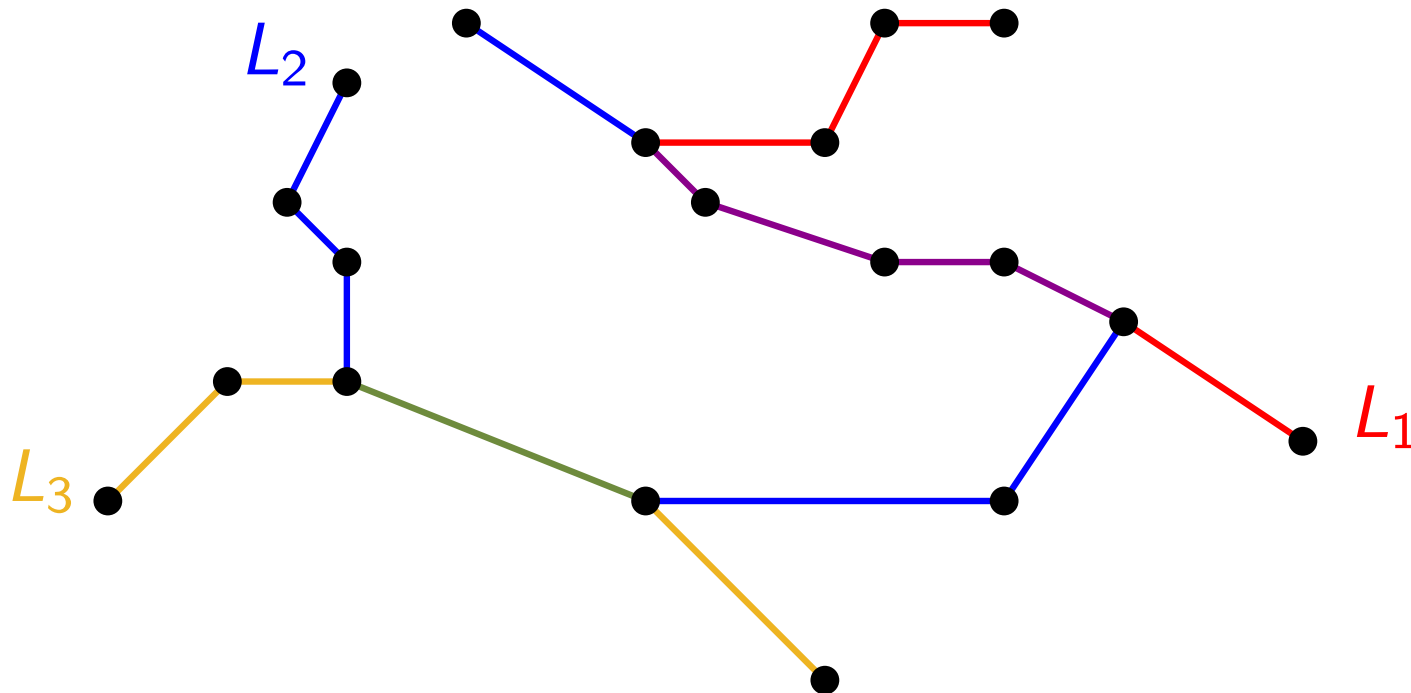
-
- The graph consists of 15 vertices and 16 edges. The edges are colored as follows: blue (4 edges), red (4 edges), purple (2 edges), green (1 edge), and orange (5 edges). The graph is labeled with L_1 , L_2 , and L_3 .

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- Given: a set $\mathcal{L} = \{L_1, \dots, L_\ell\}$ of polylines possibly sharing vertices and edges

We call the union of their vertices V

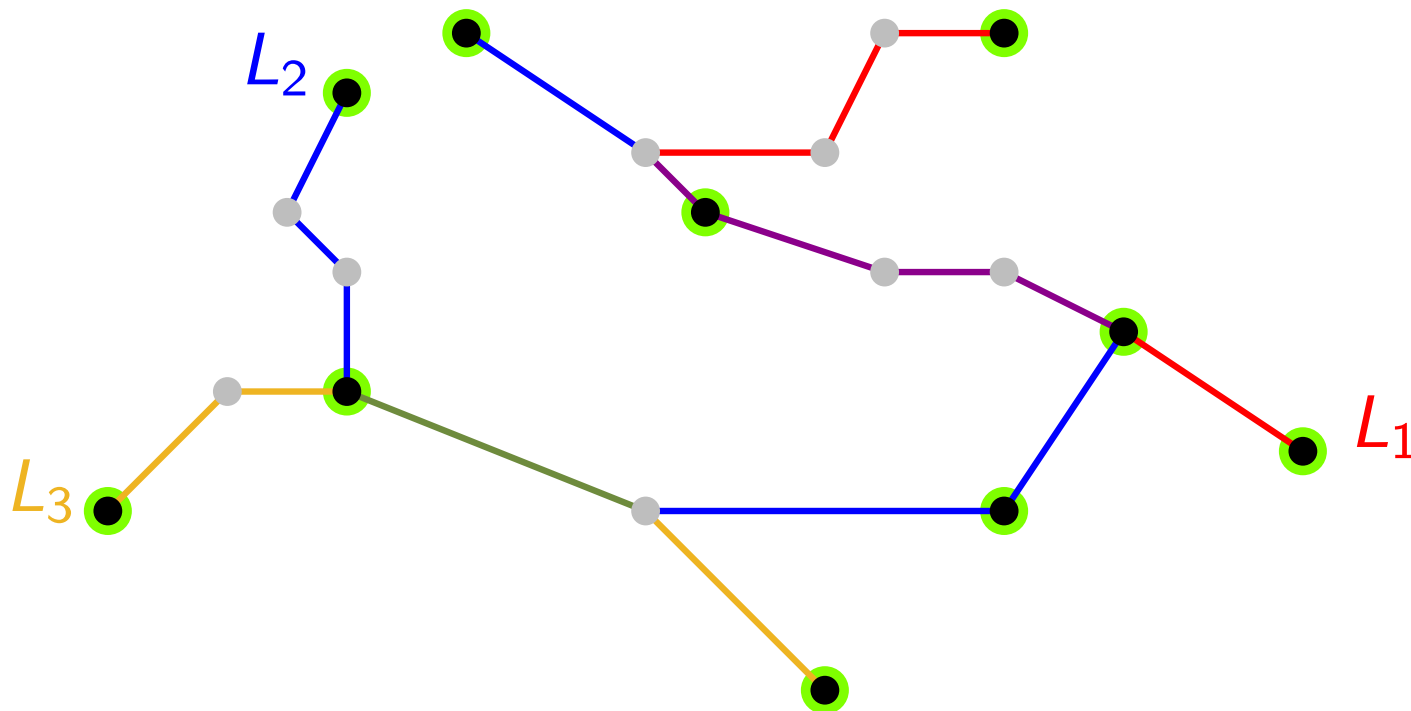


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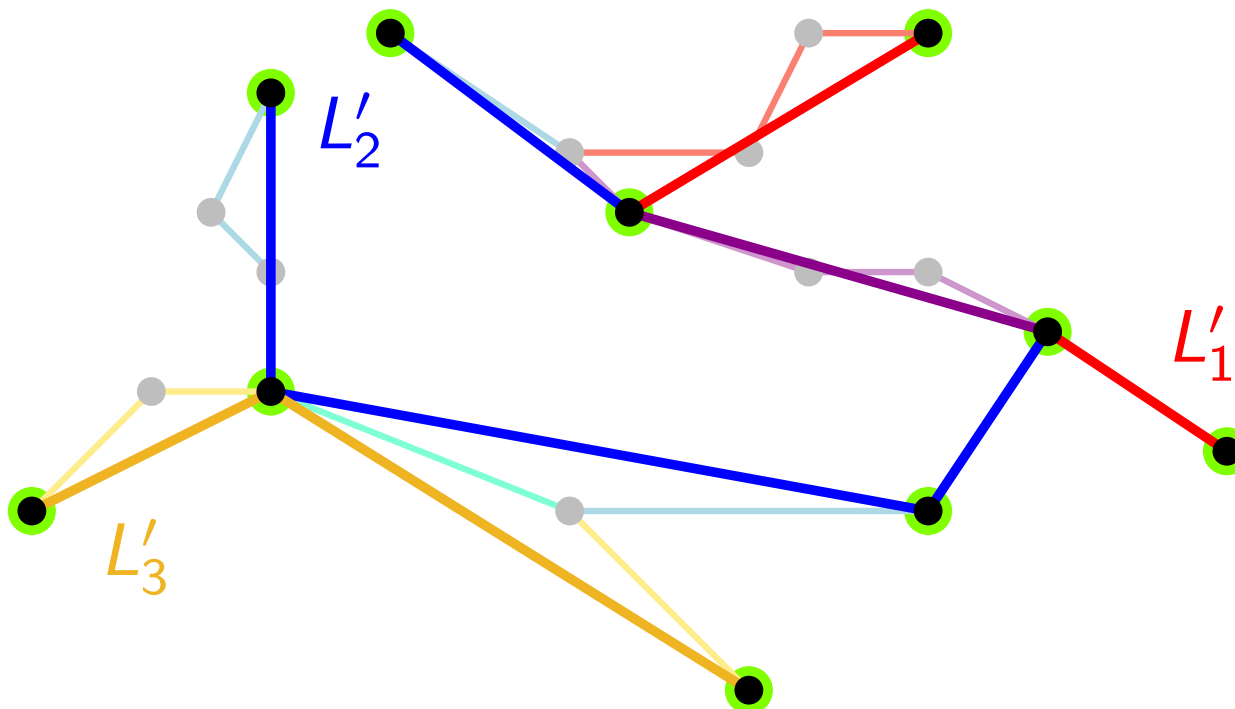


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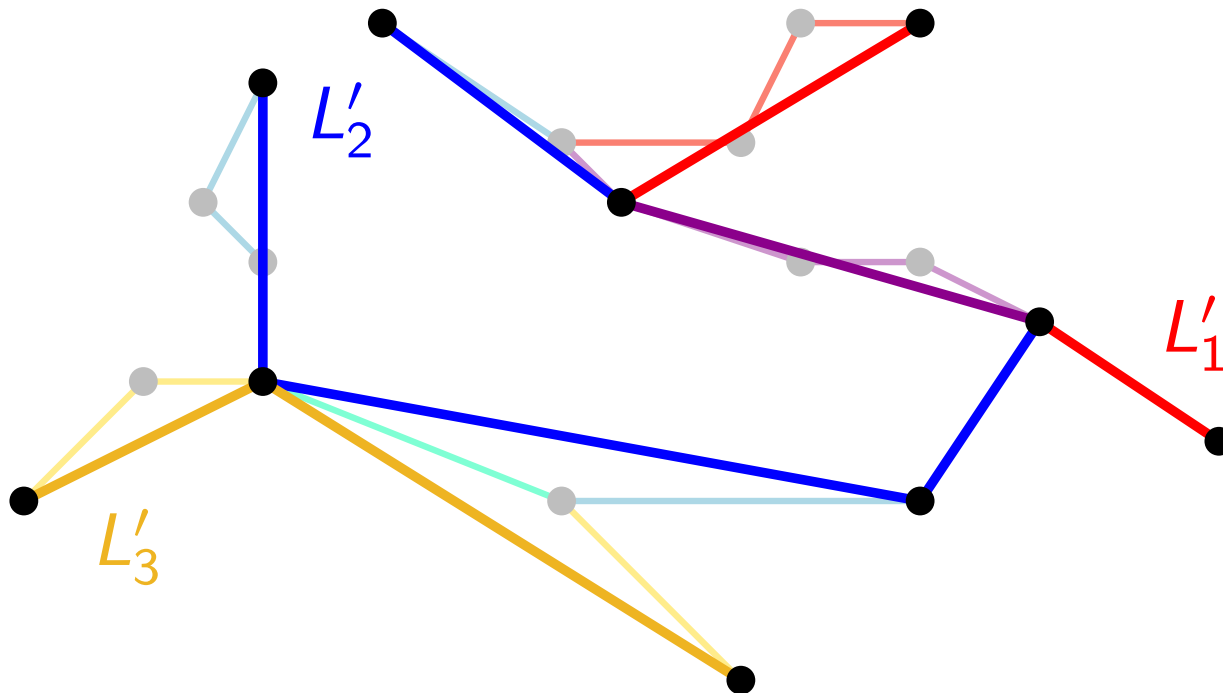


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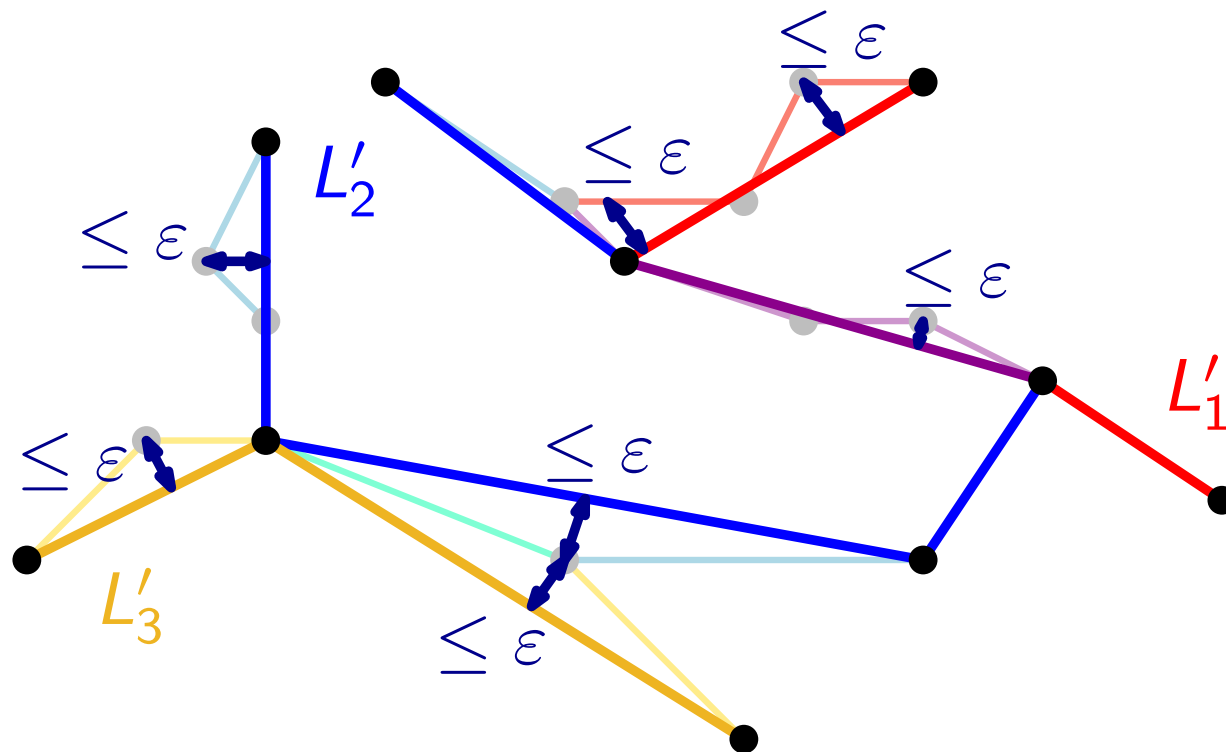


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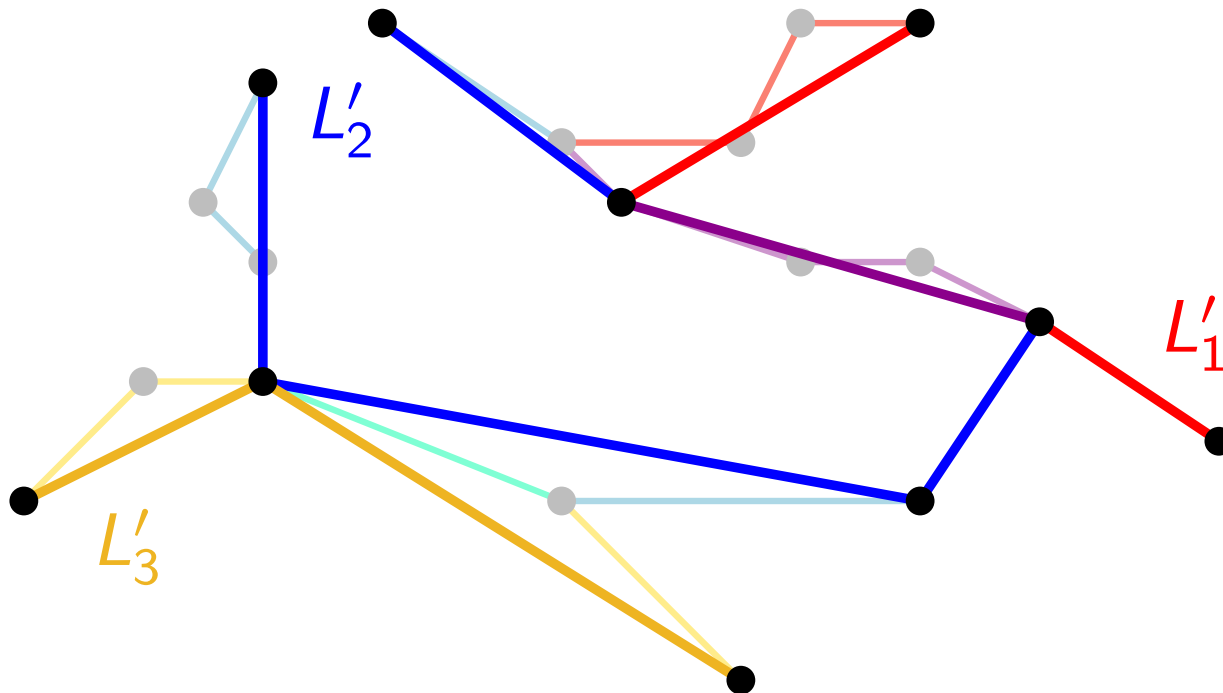


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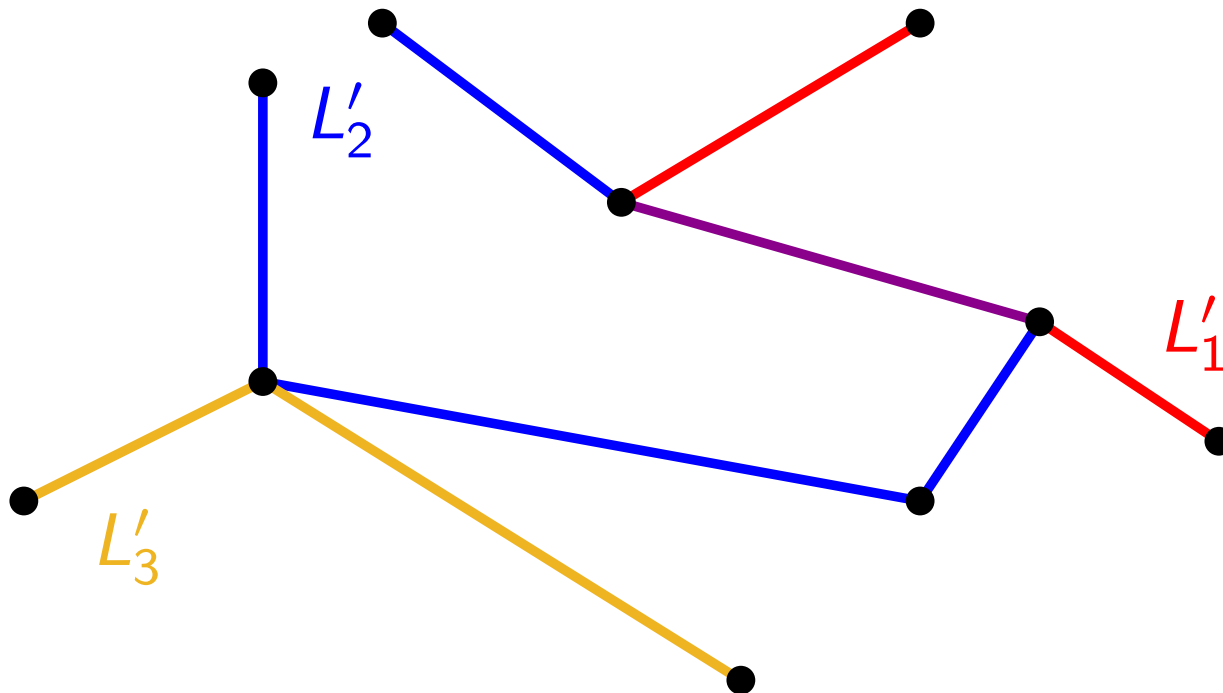


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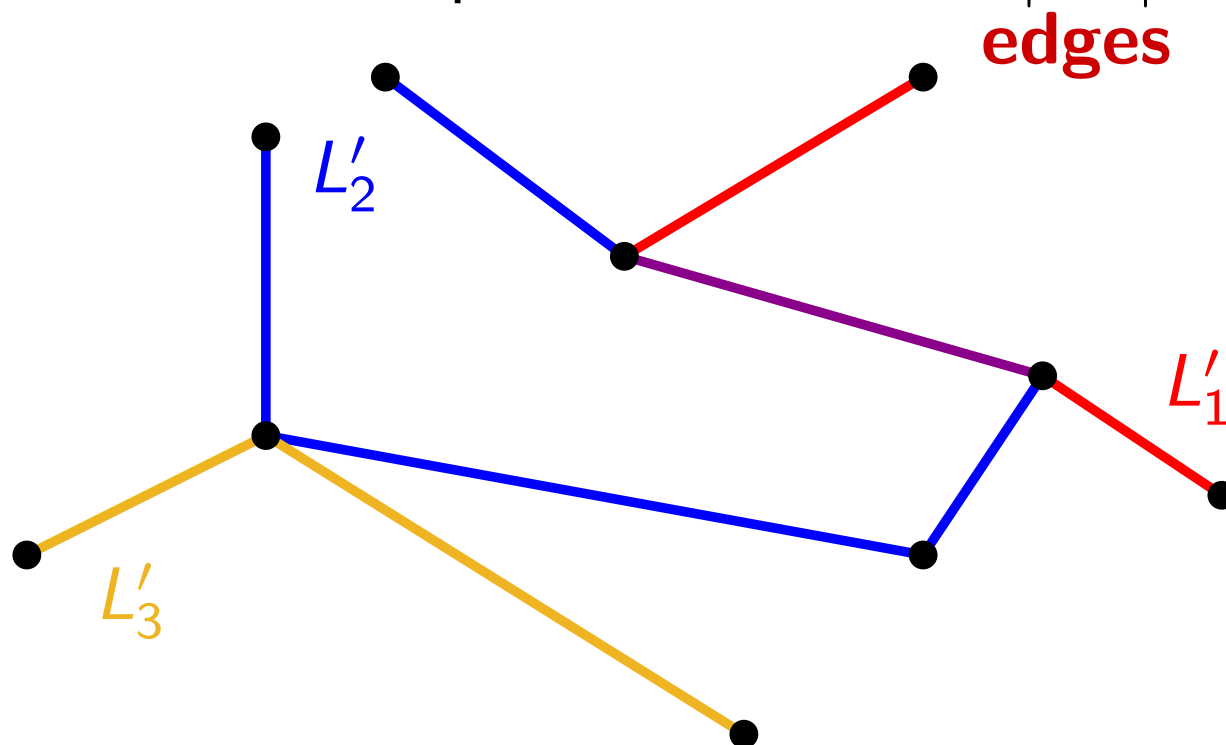
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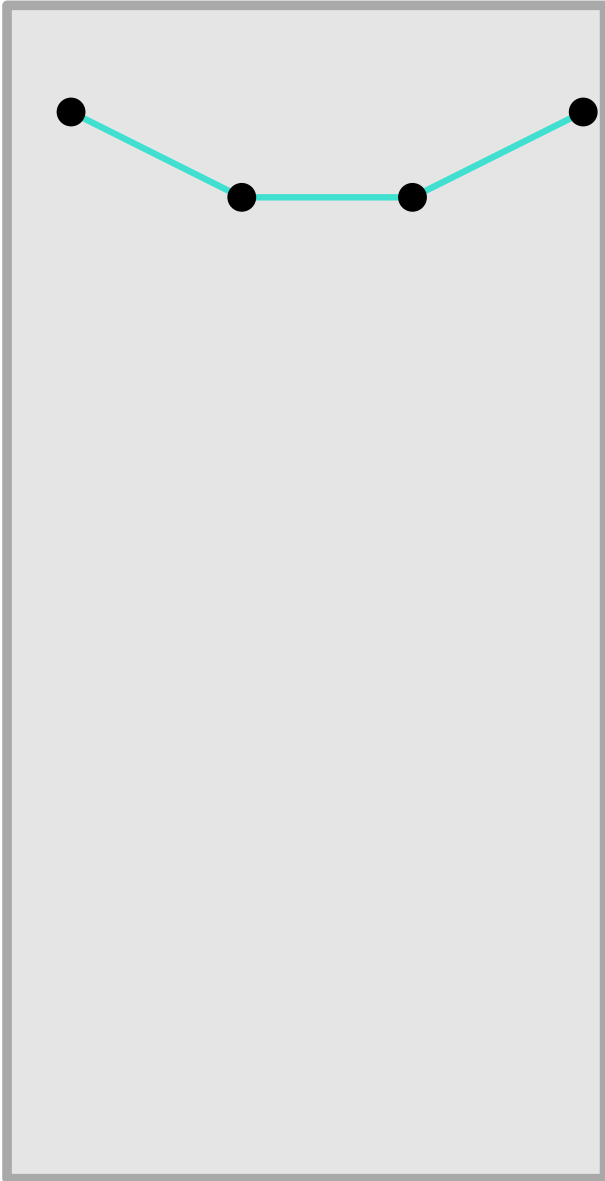
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No! Here is a counterexample:

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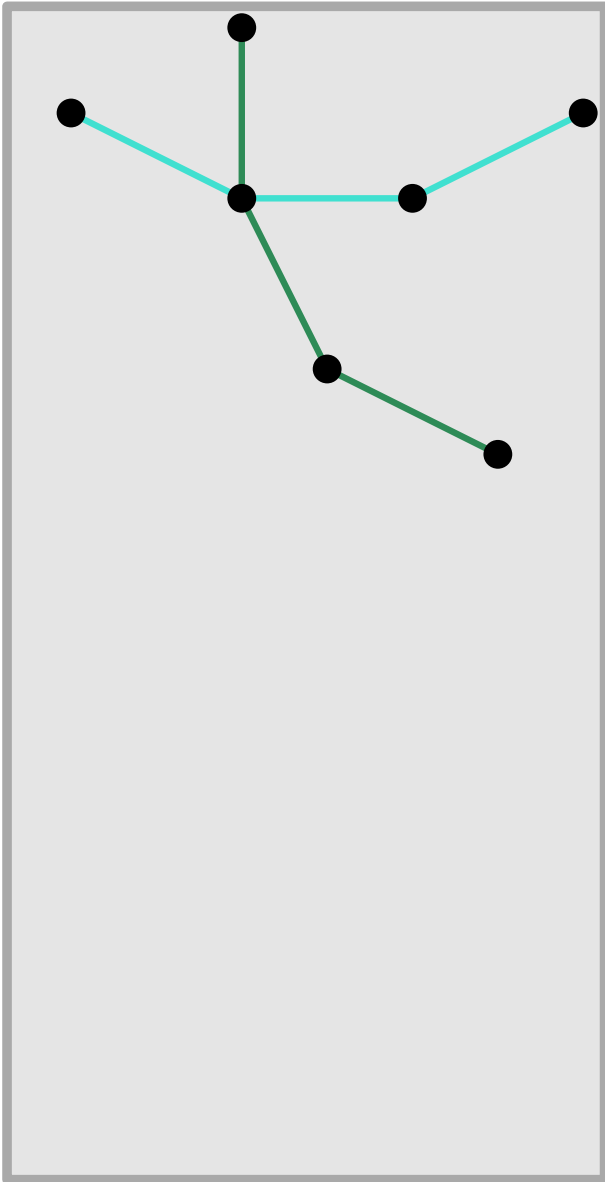
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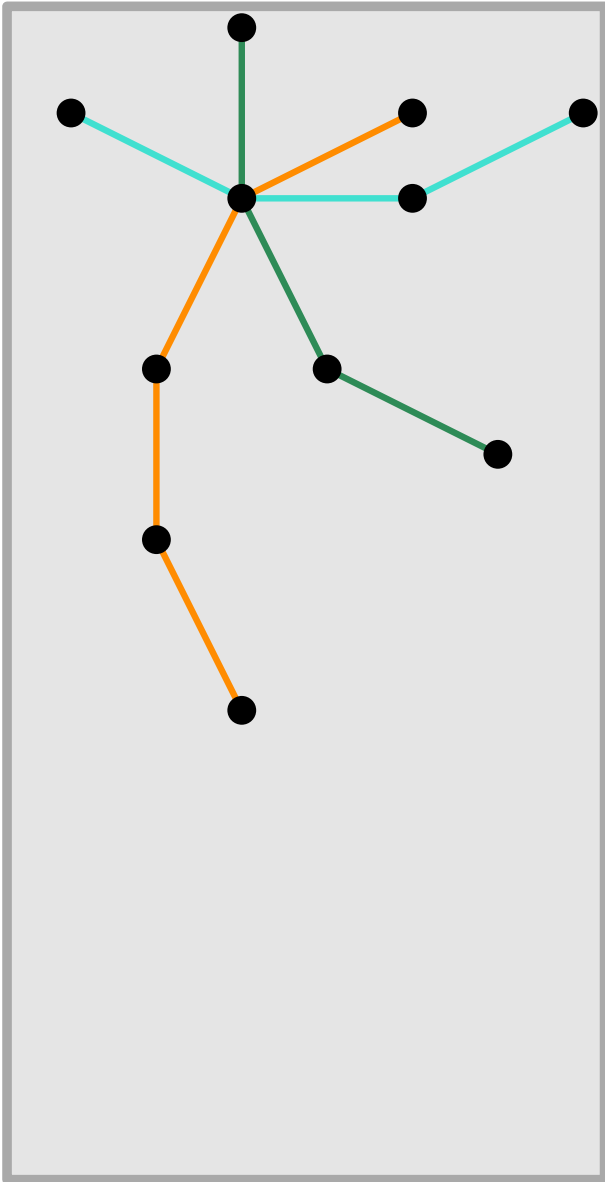
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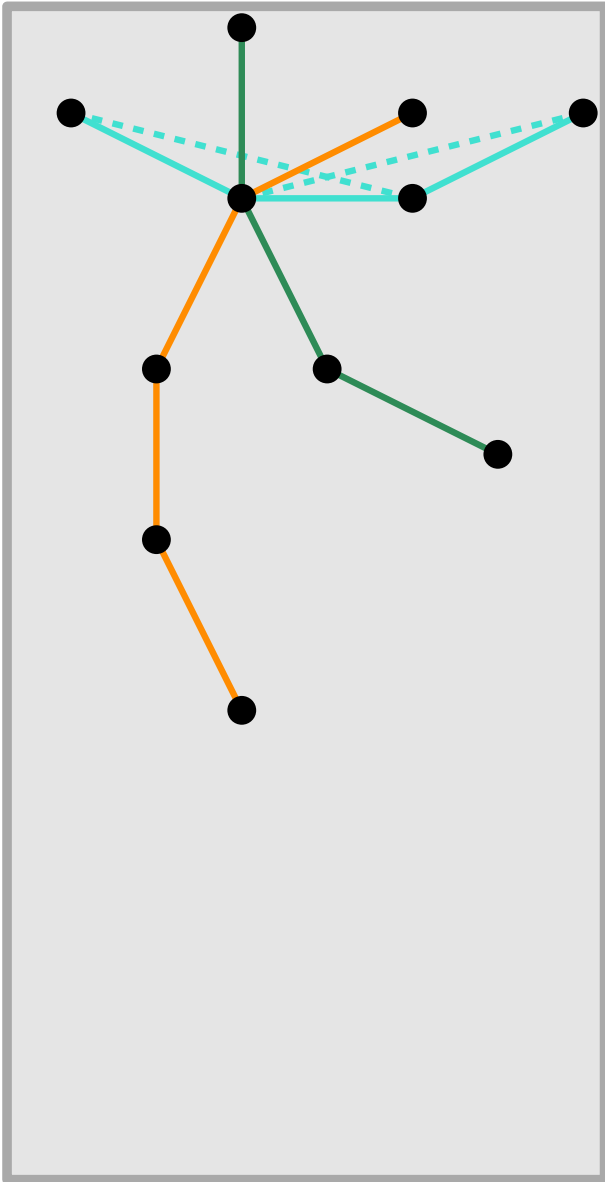
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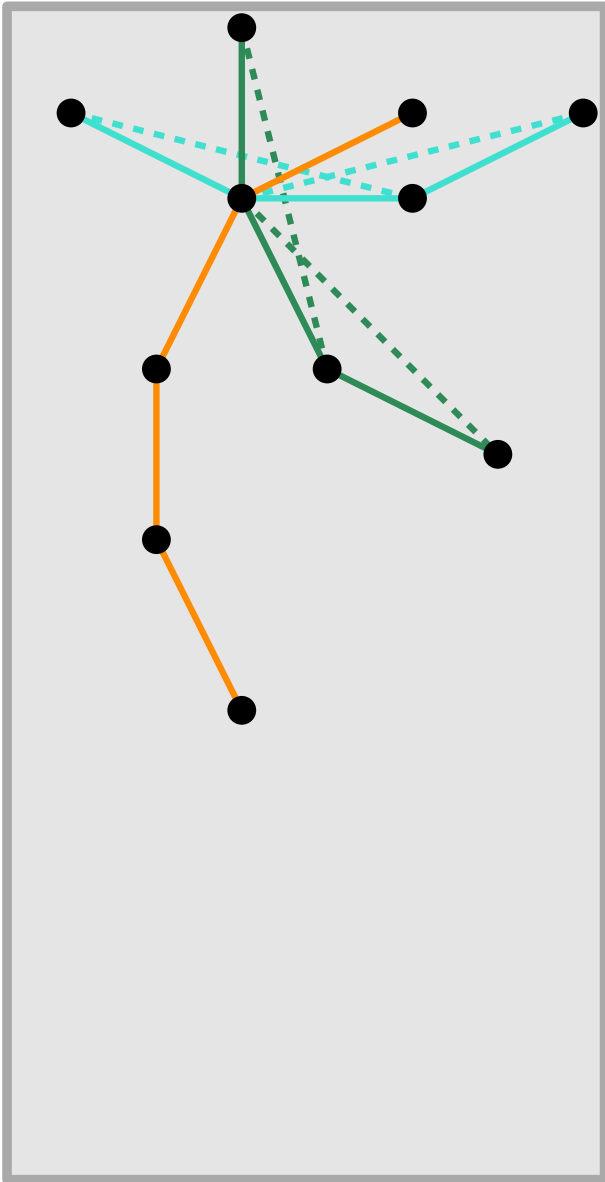
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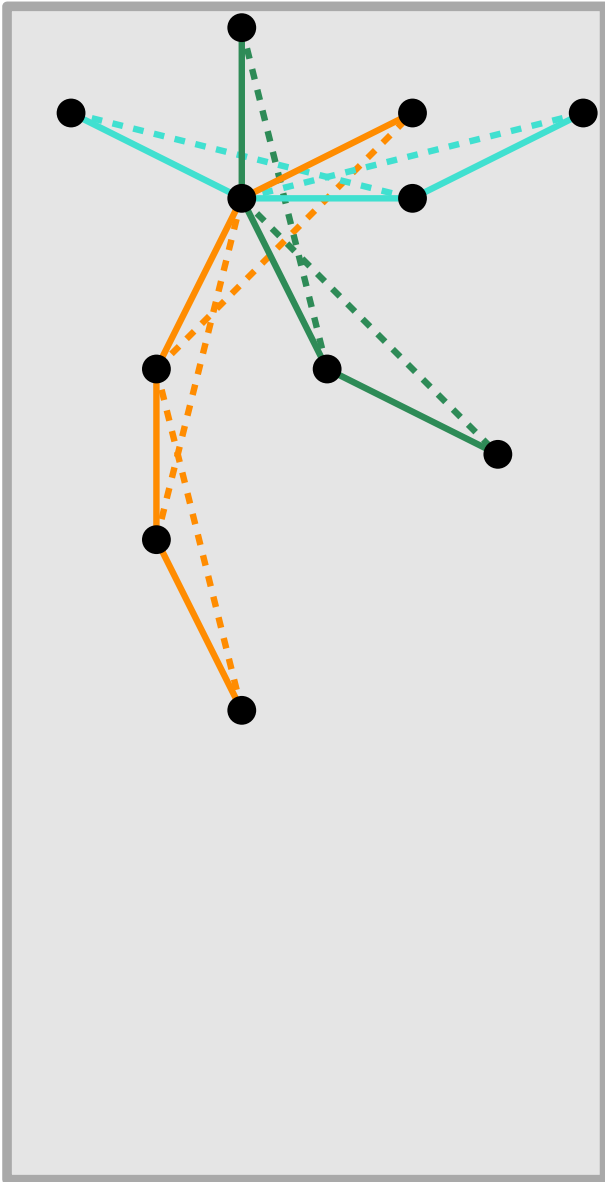
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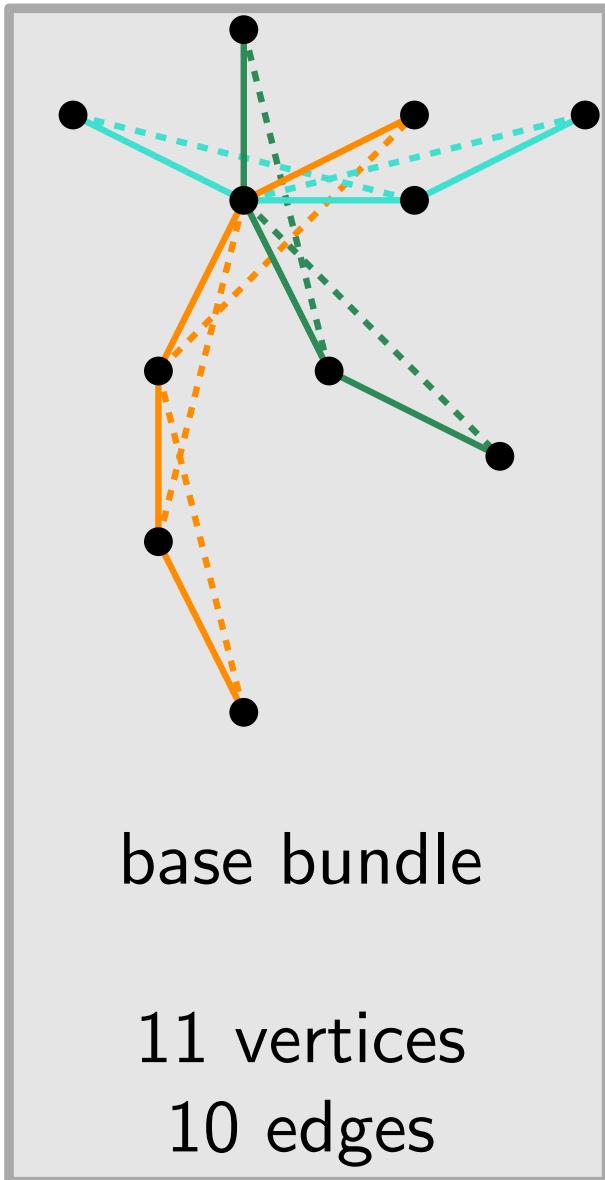
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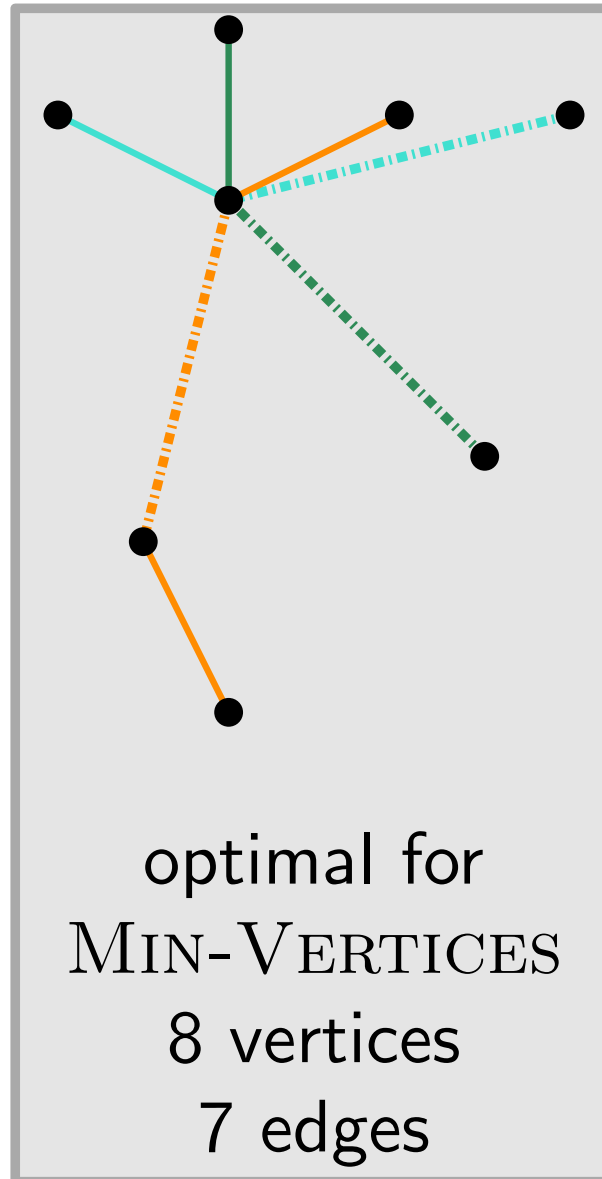
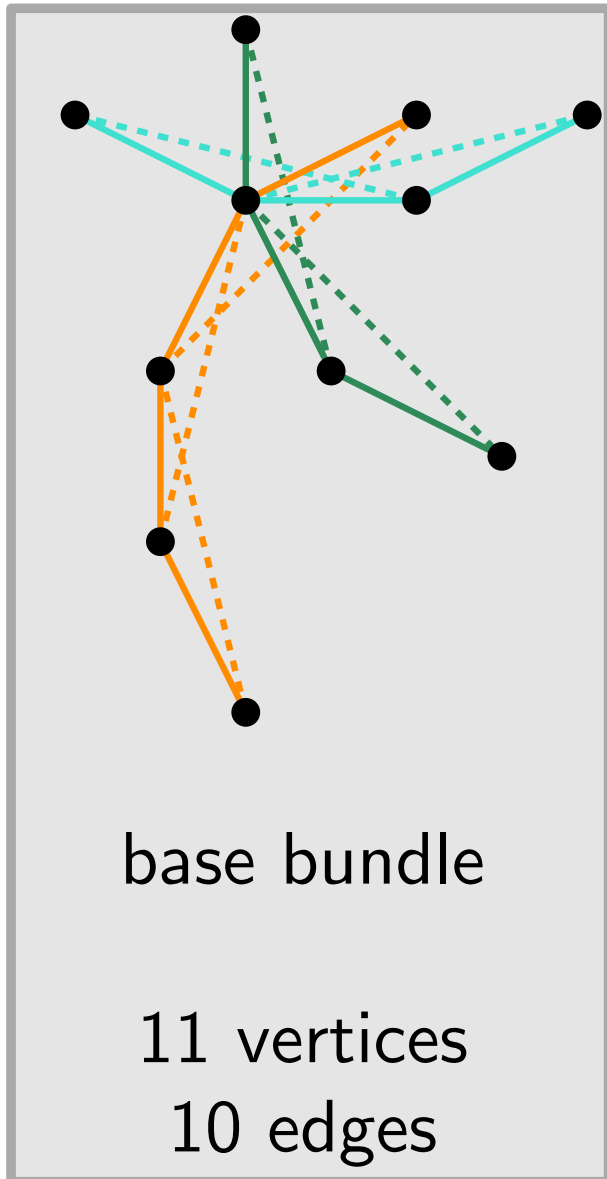
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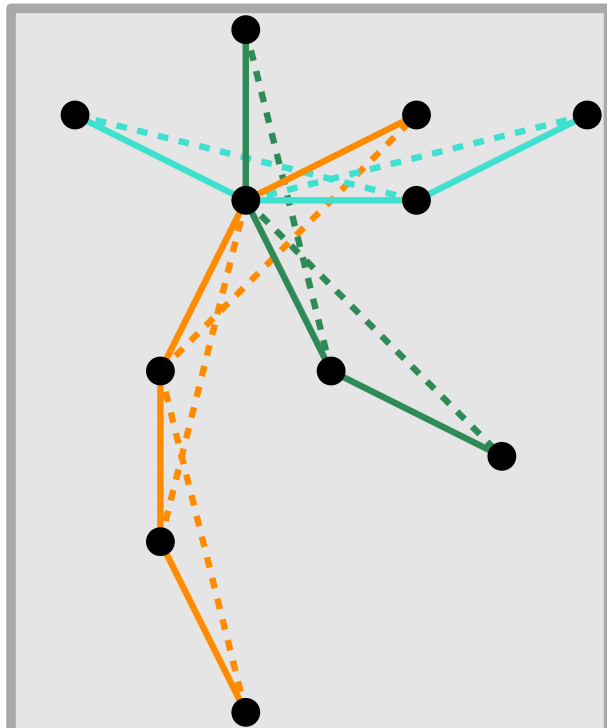
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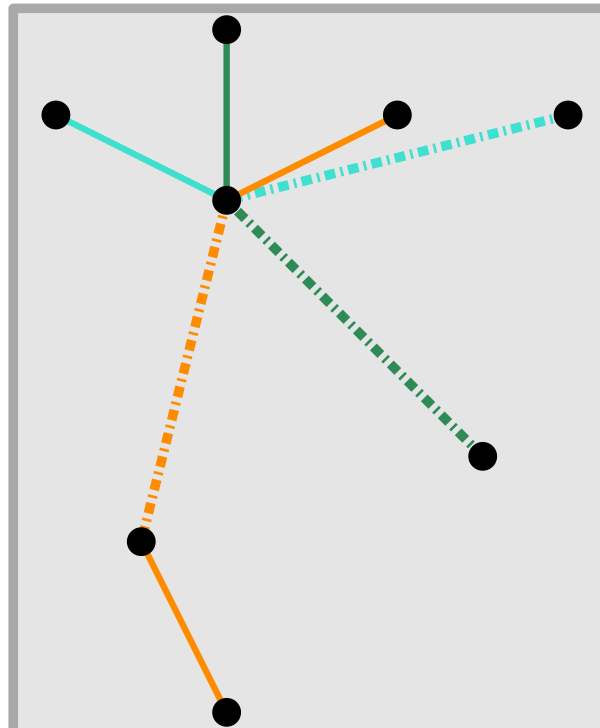
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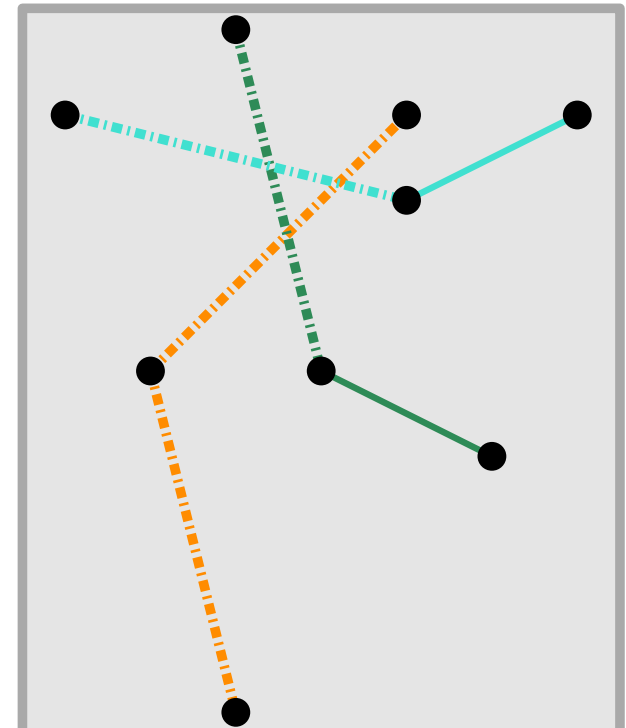


base bundle

11 vertices
10 edges



optimal for
MIN-VERTICES
8 vertices
7 edges



optimal for
MIN-EDGES
9 vertices
6 edges

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A vertex or edge might once be kept and once be discarded

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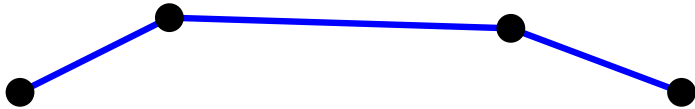
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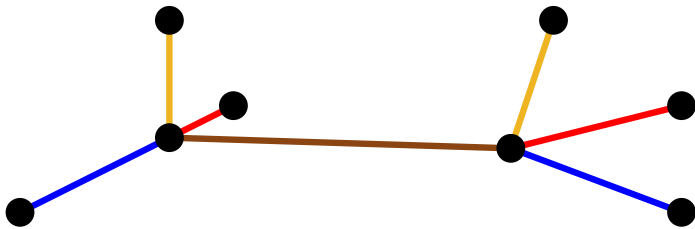
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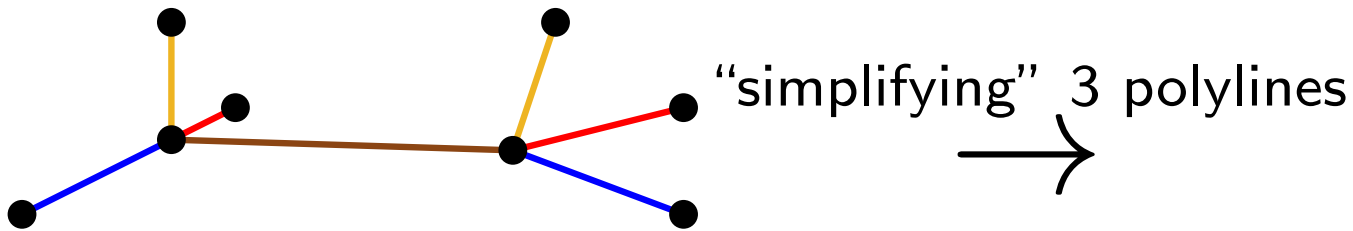
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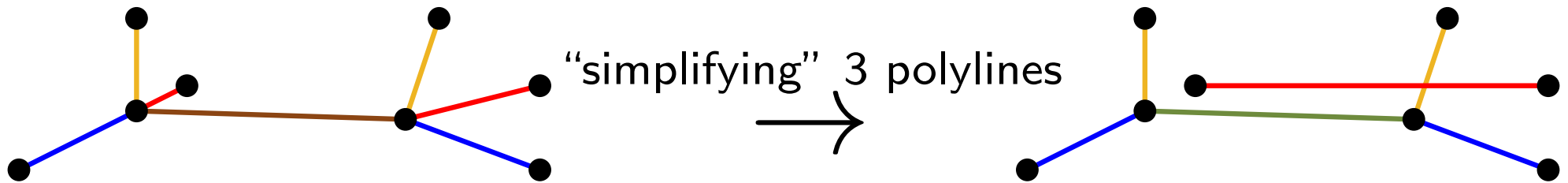
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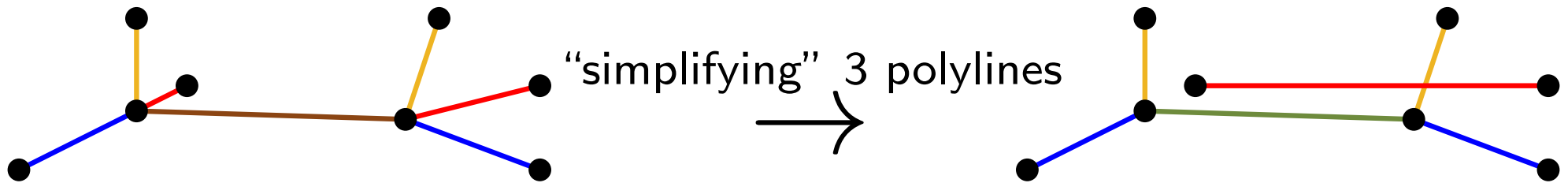
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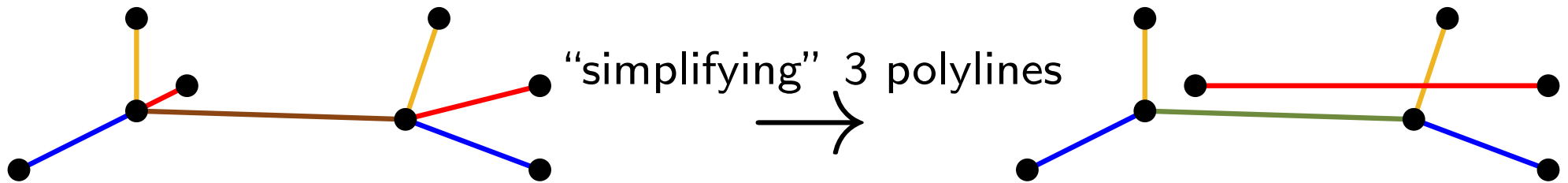


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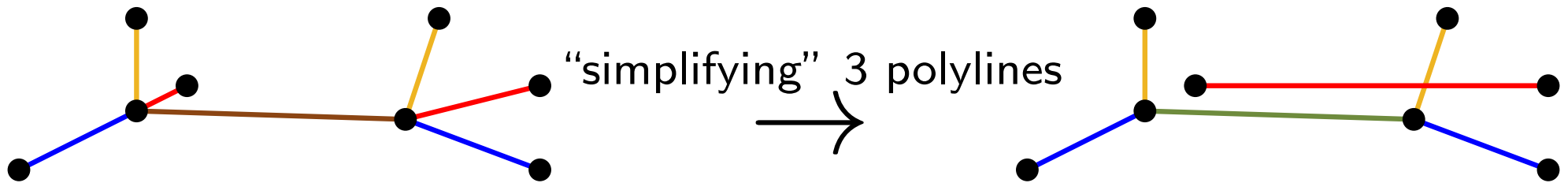
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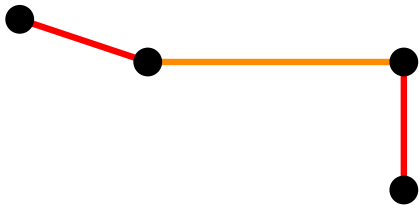
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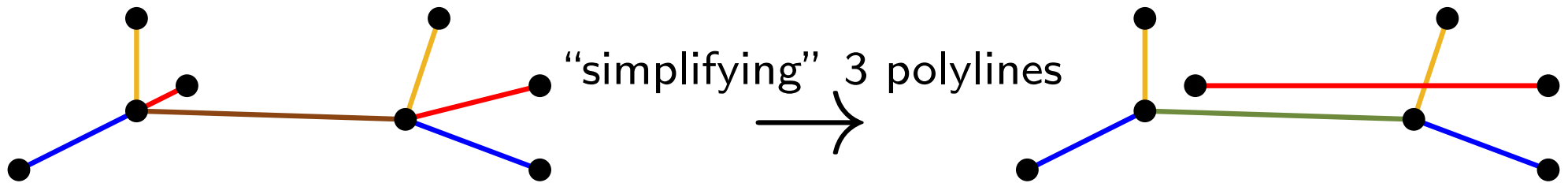
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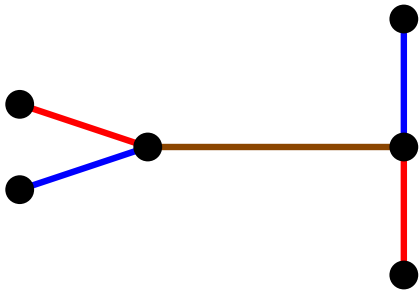
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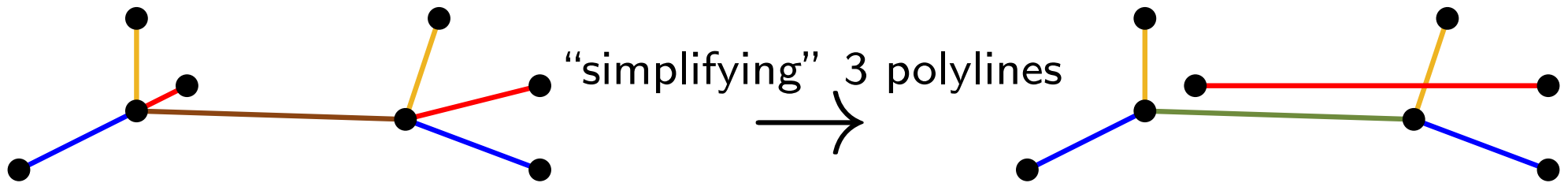
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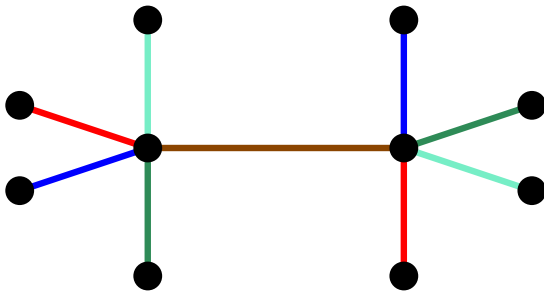
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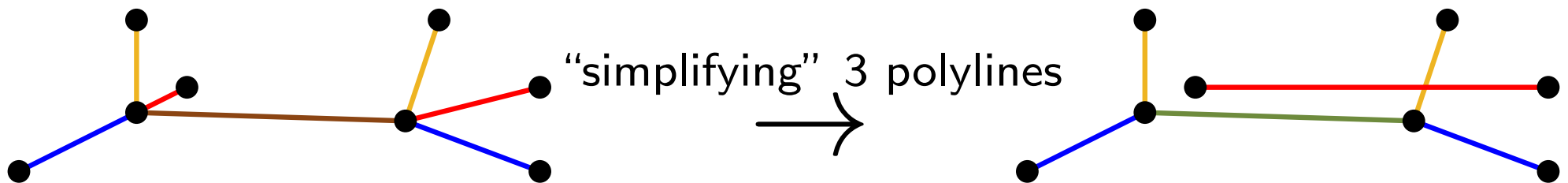
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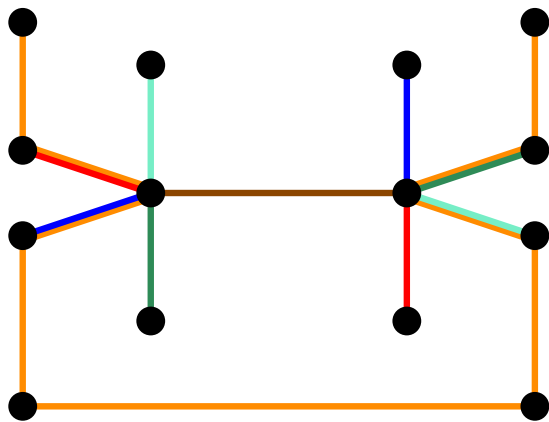
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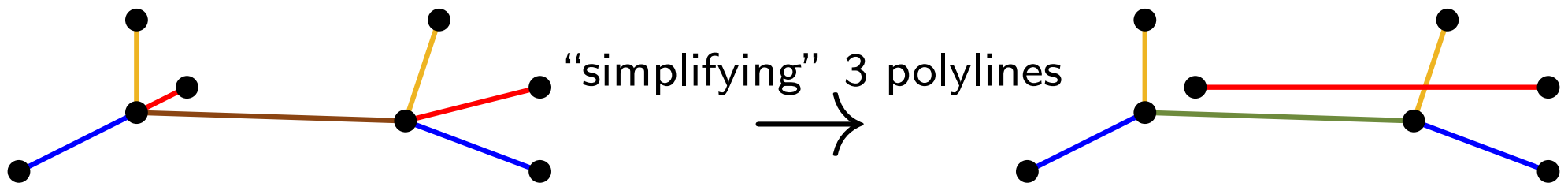


14 vertices, 14 edges

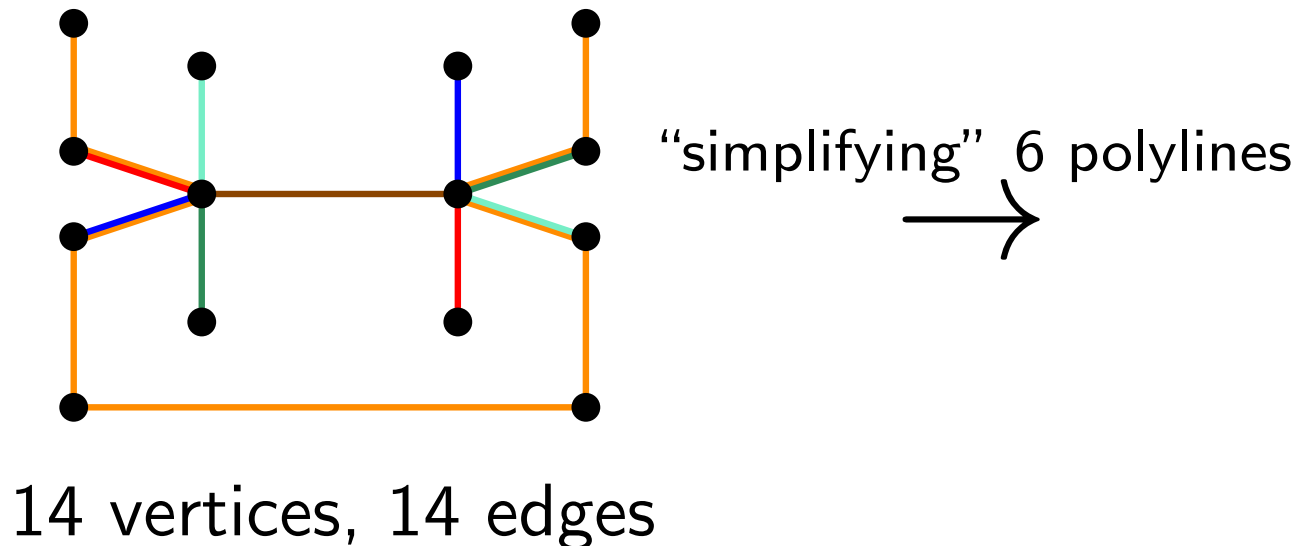
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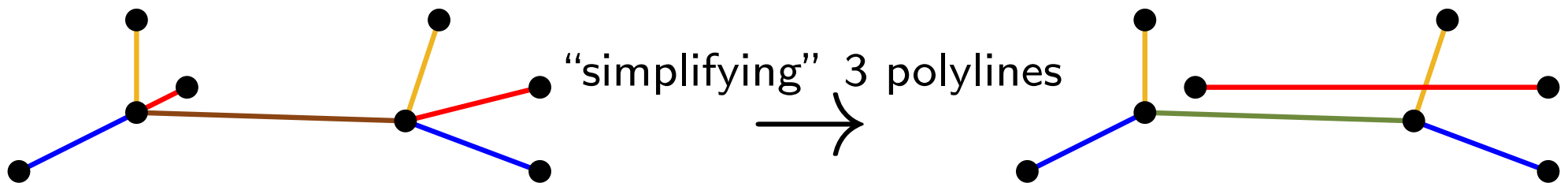
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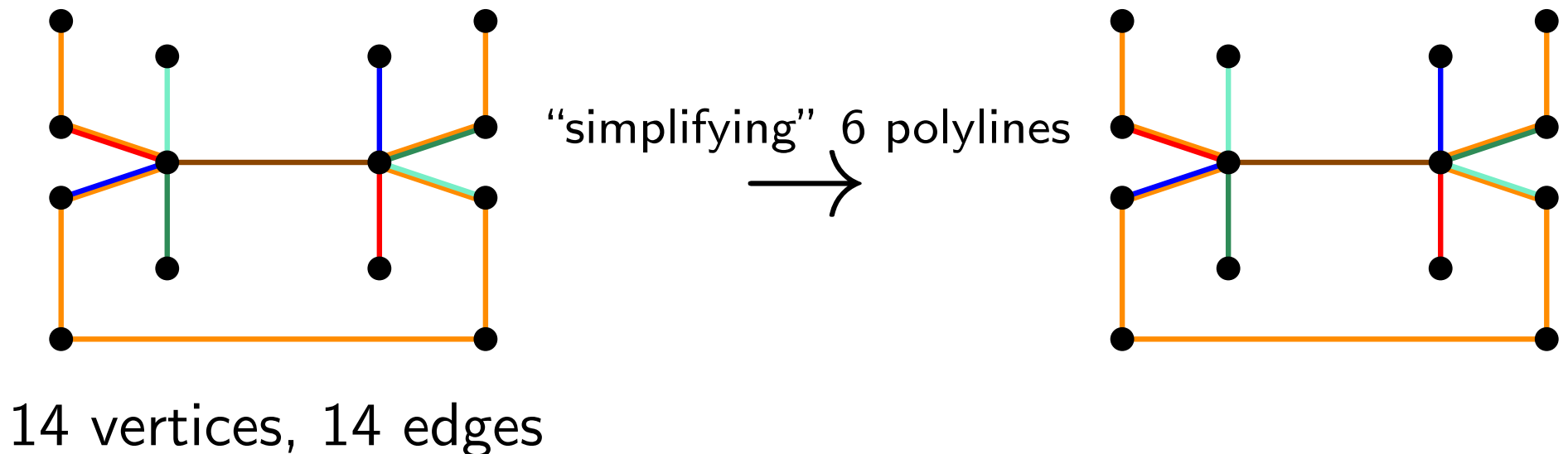
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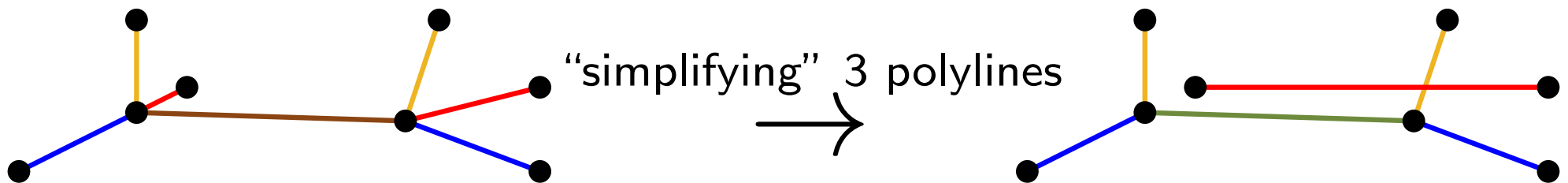
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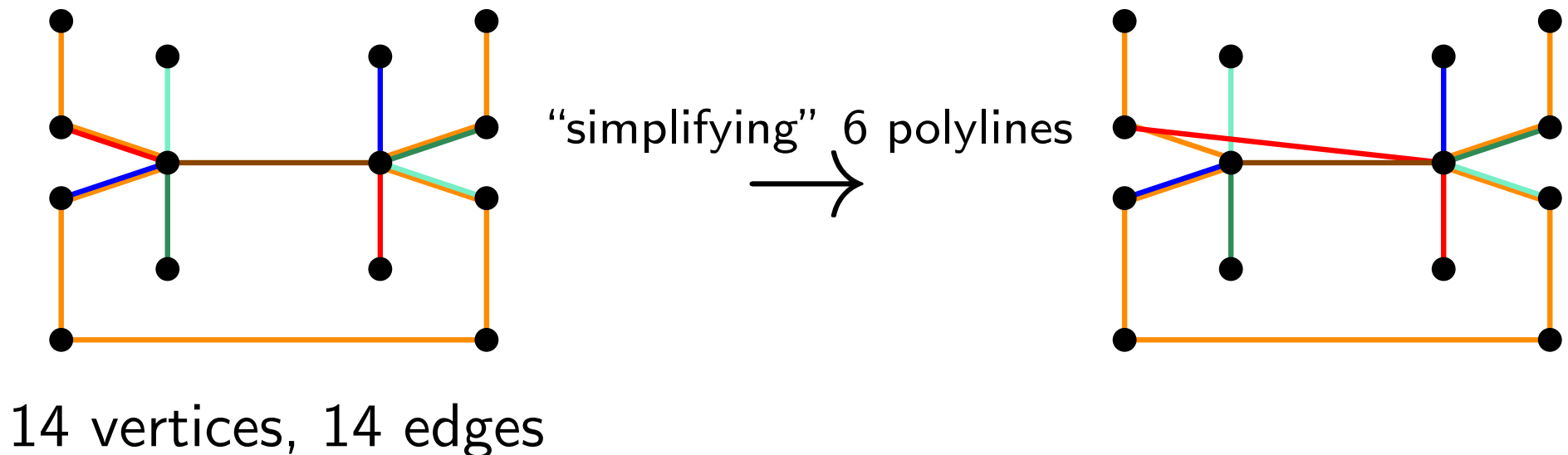
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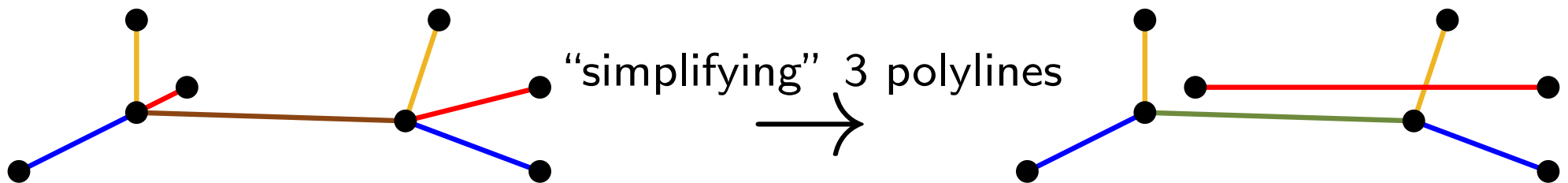
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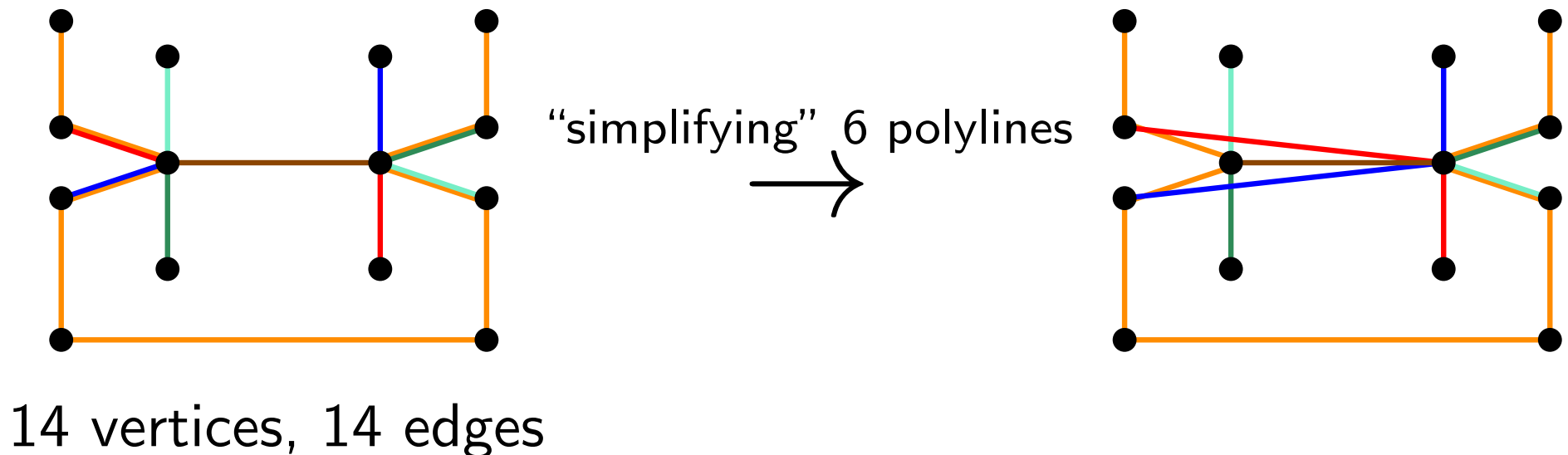
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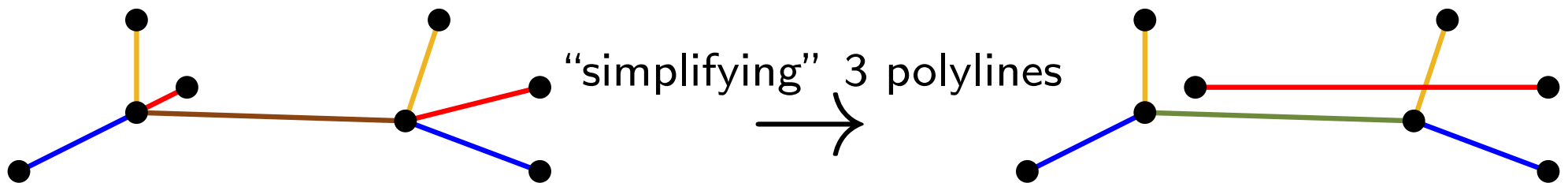
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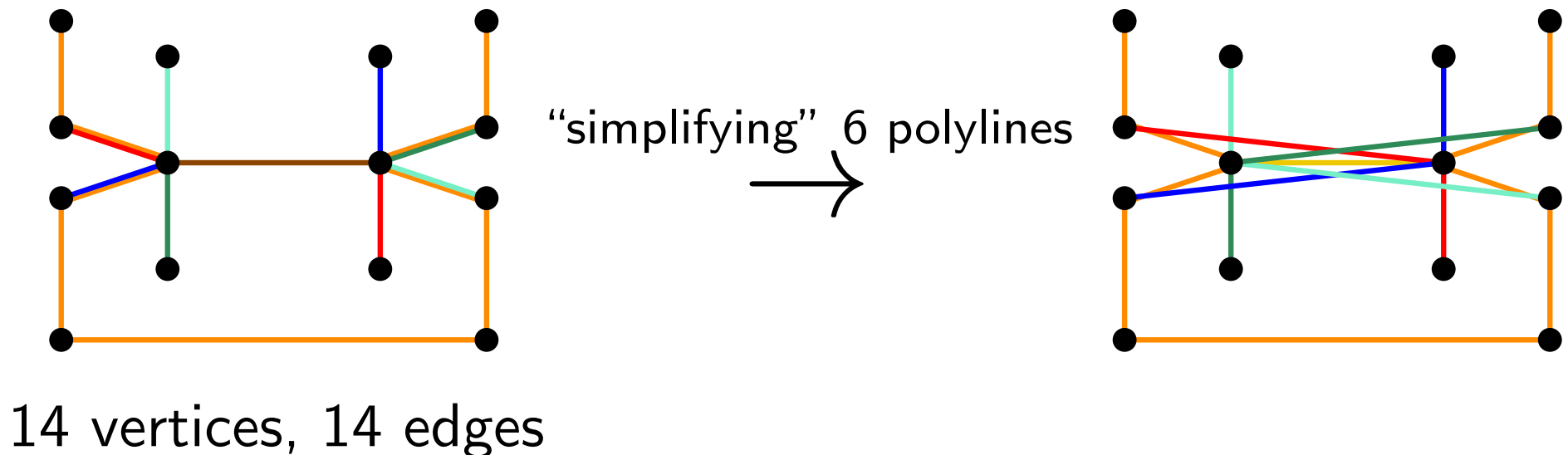
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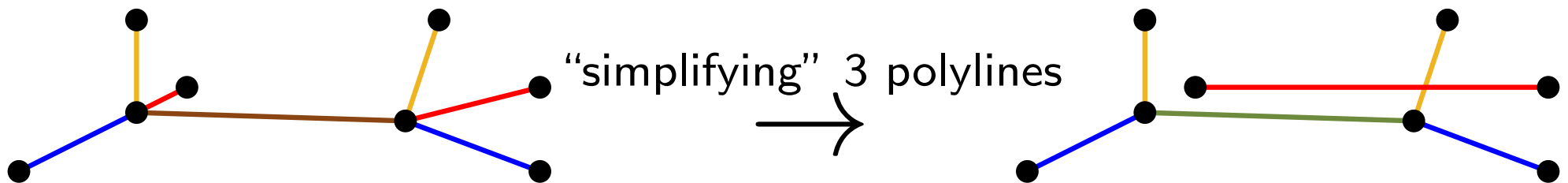
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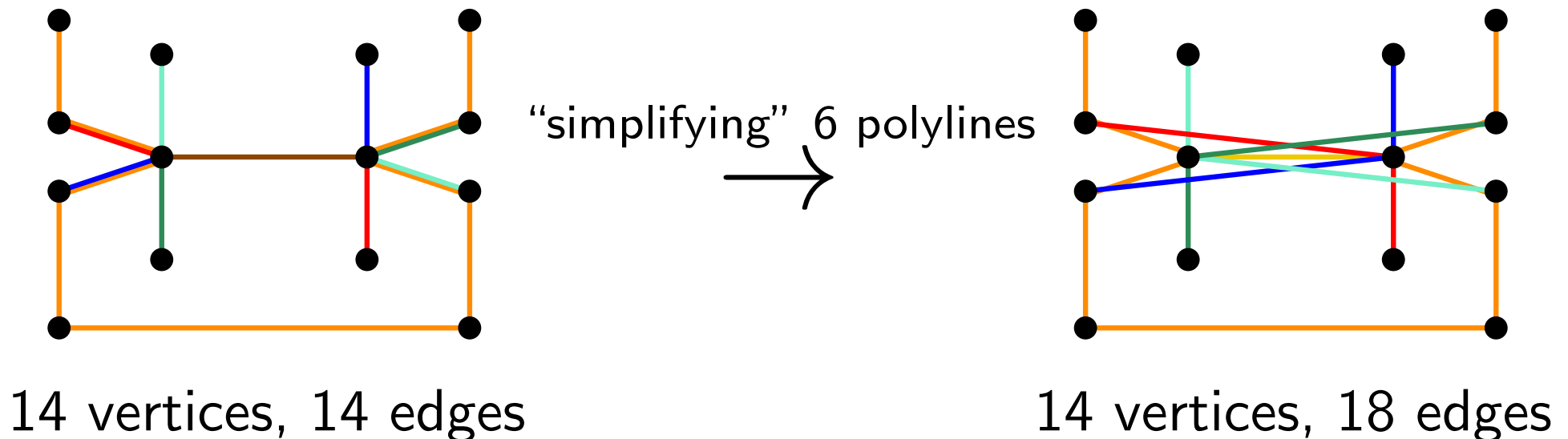
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NP-Hardness

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Simplifying a bundle of polylines is NP-hard for the goals MIN-VERTICES and MIN-EDGES even for 2 polylines.

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Proof Sketch:

- We reduce from MAX-2-SAT.
- We use a polyline as a gadget for each literal in each clause. We connect them serially. \rightarrow first polyline

Theorem 1:

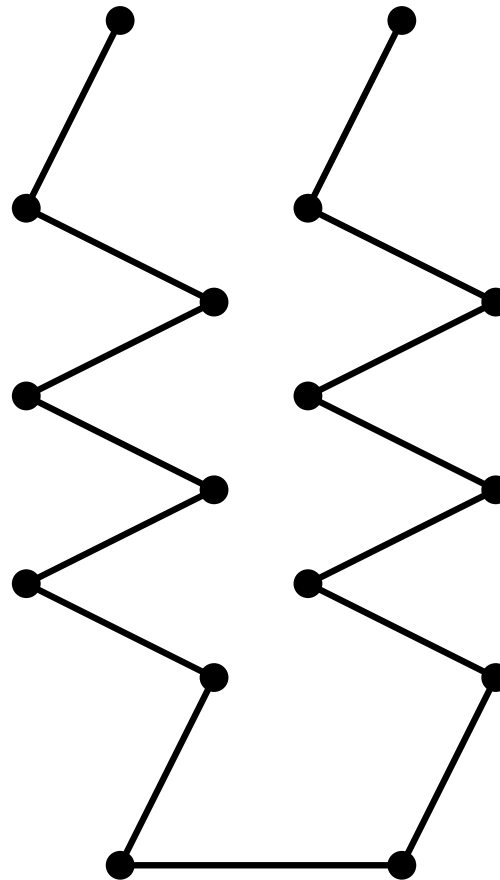
Simplifying a bundle of polylines is NP-hard for the goals MIN-VERTICES and MIN-EDGES even for 2 polylines.

Proof Sketch:

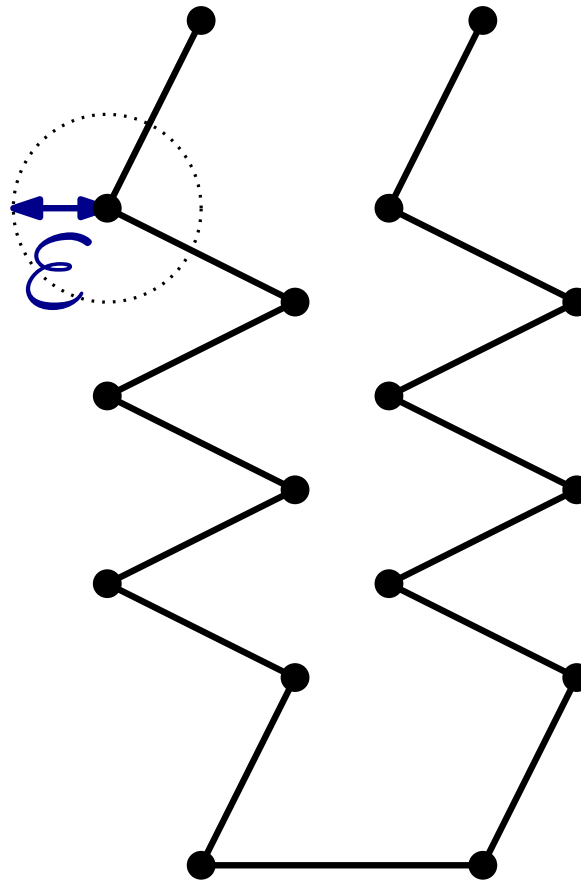
- We reduce from MAX-2-SAT.
- We use a polyline as a gadget for each literal in each clause. We connect them serially. → first polyline
- We use a polyline as a gadget for each variable and each clause. We connect them serially. → second polyline

Variable-Gadget

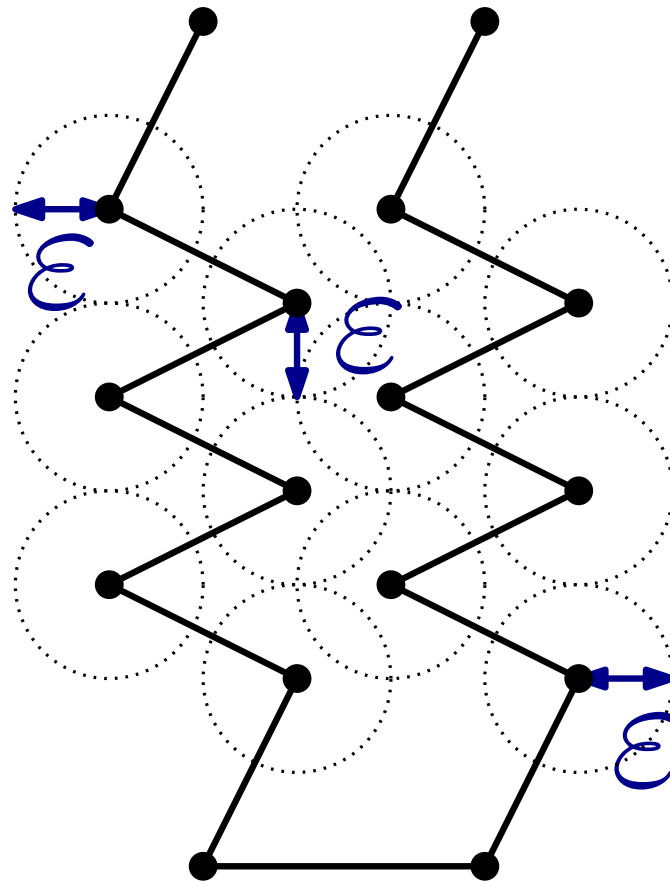
Variable-Gadget



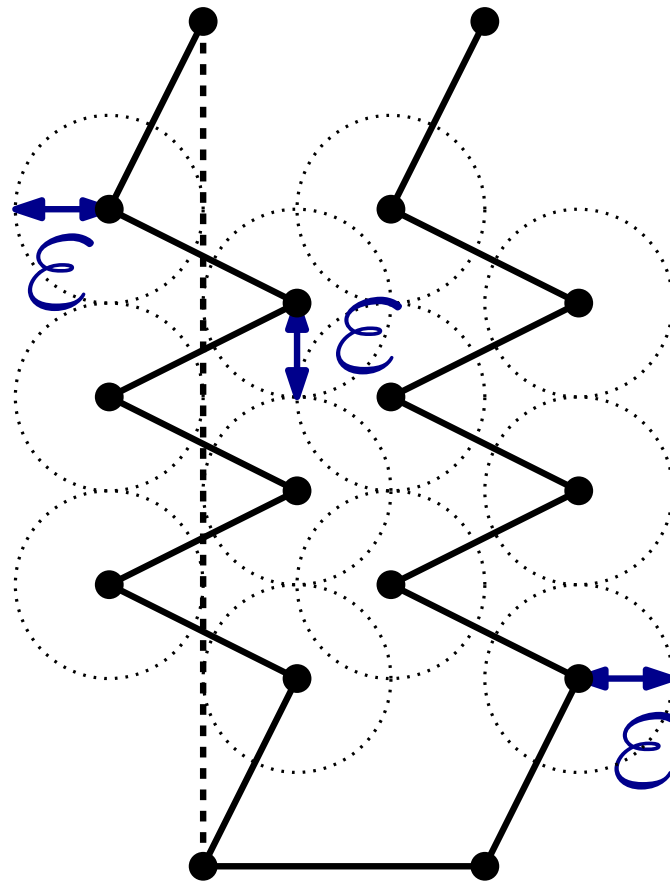
Variable-Gadget



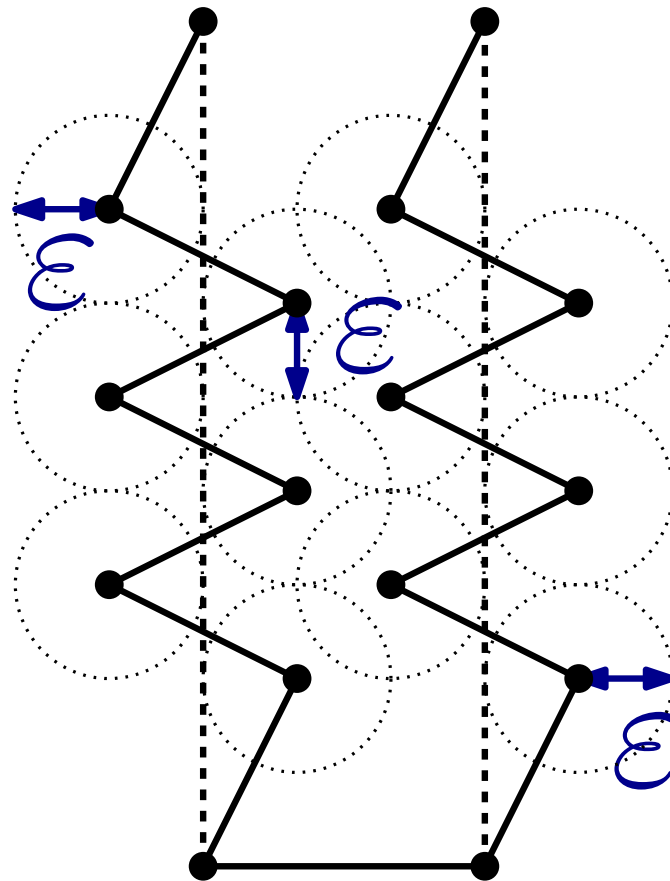
Variable-Gadget



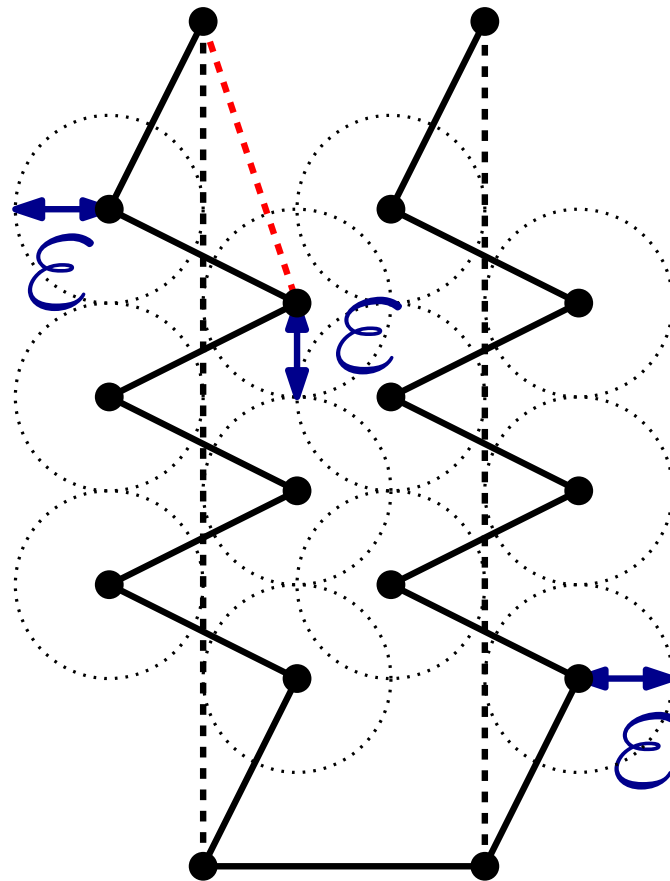
Variable-Gadget



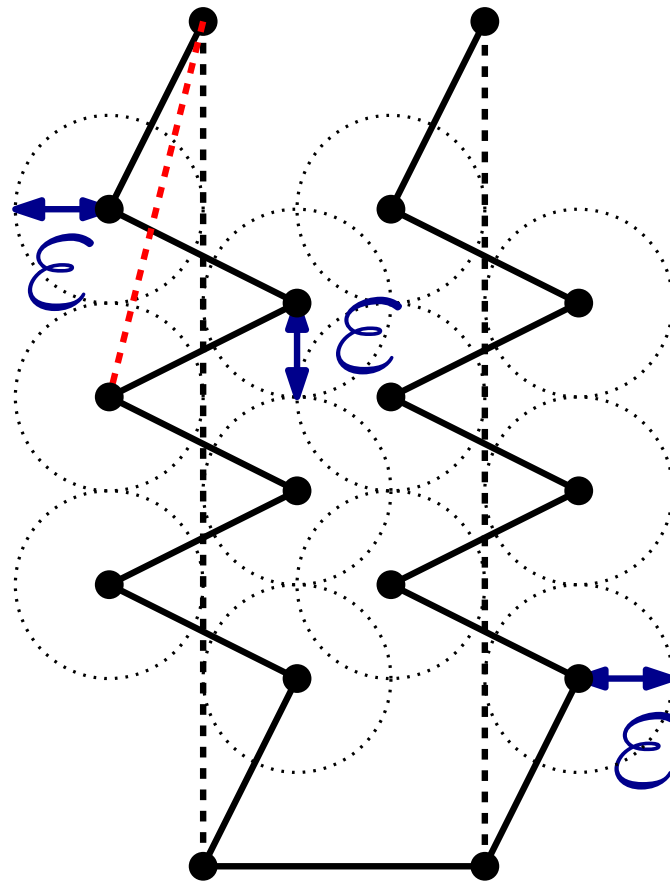
Variable-Gadget



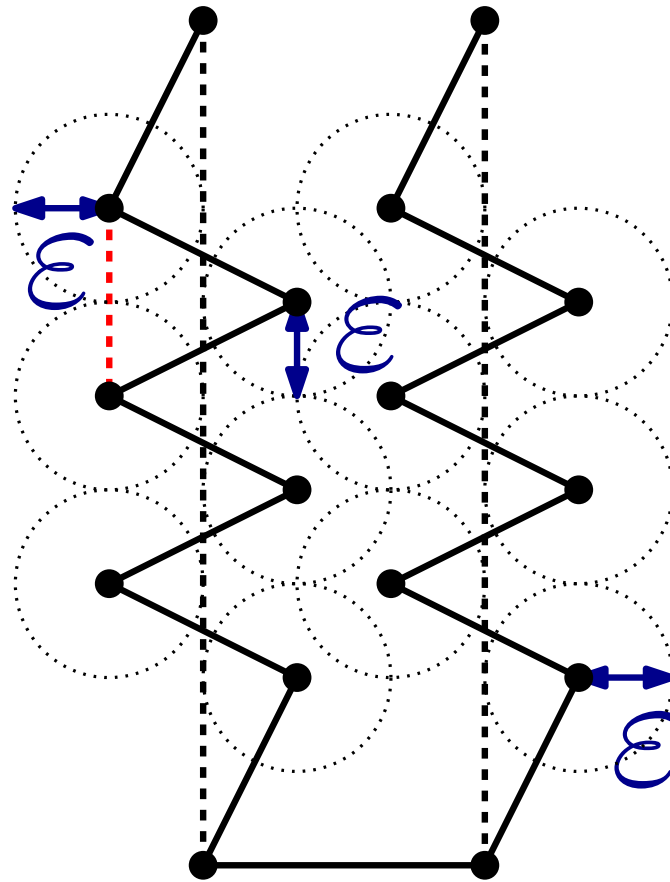
Variable-Gadget



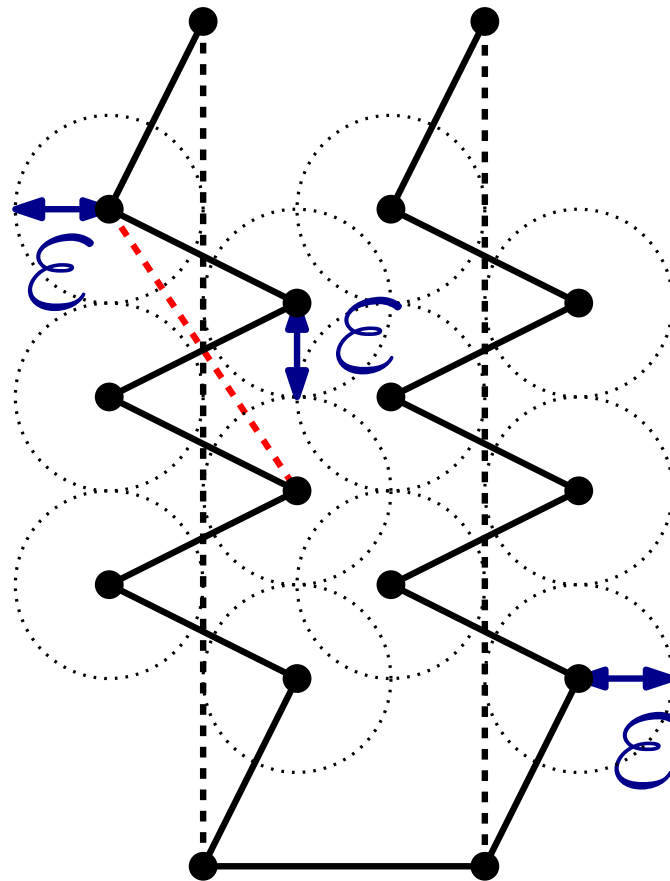
Variable-Gadget



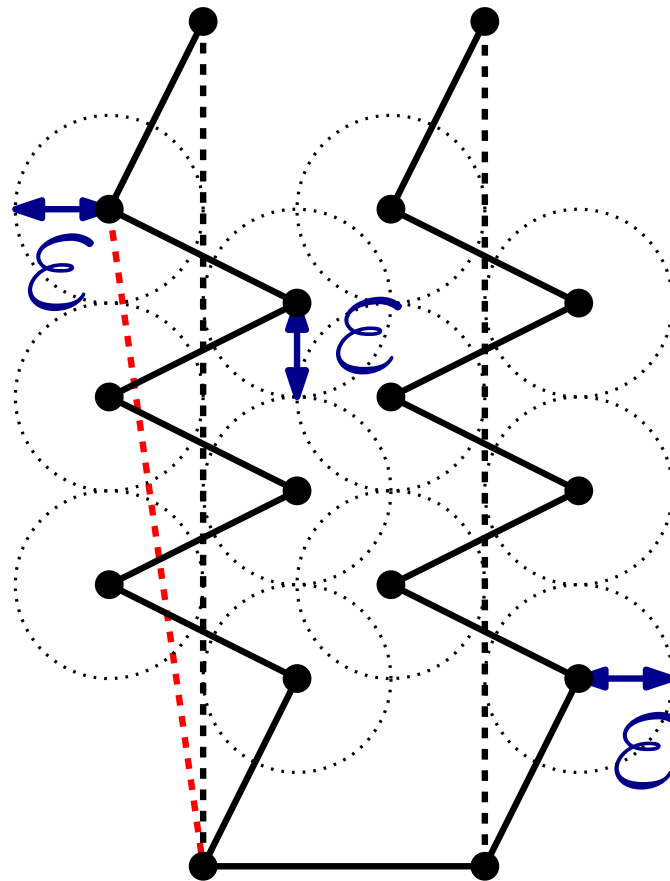
Variable-Gadget



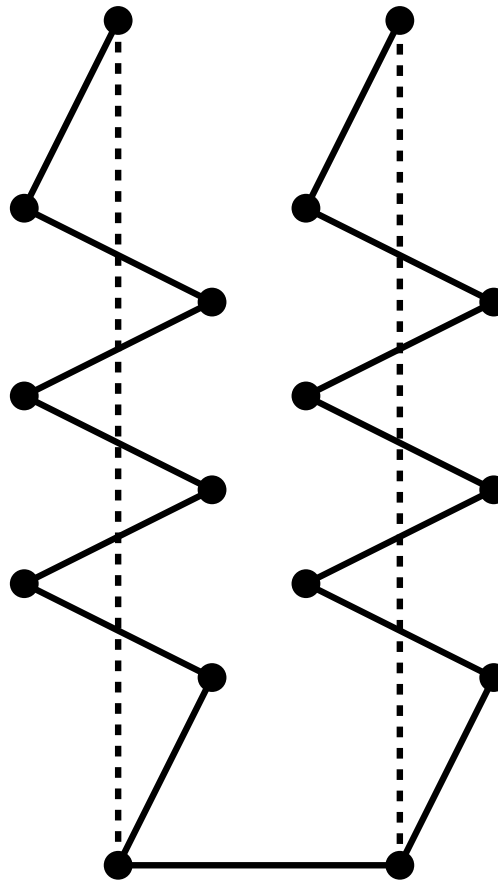
Variable-Gadget



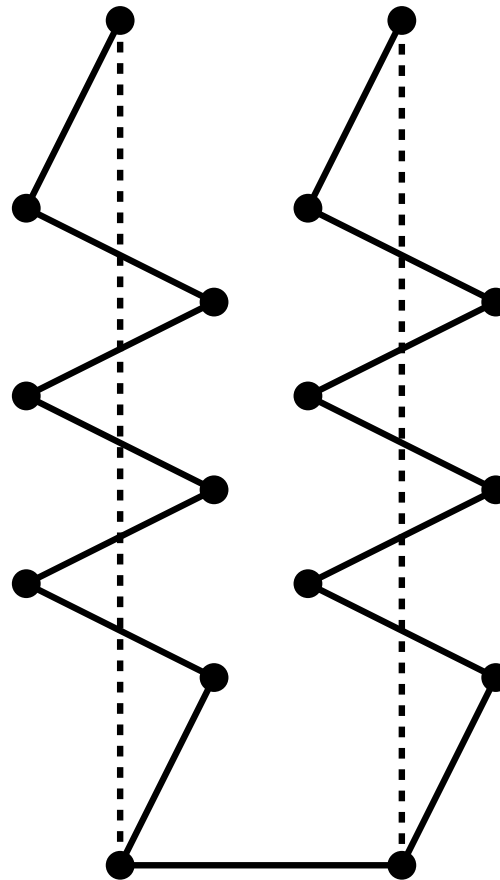
Variable-Gadget



Variable-Gadget

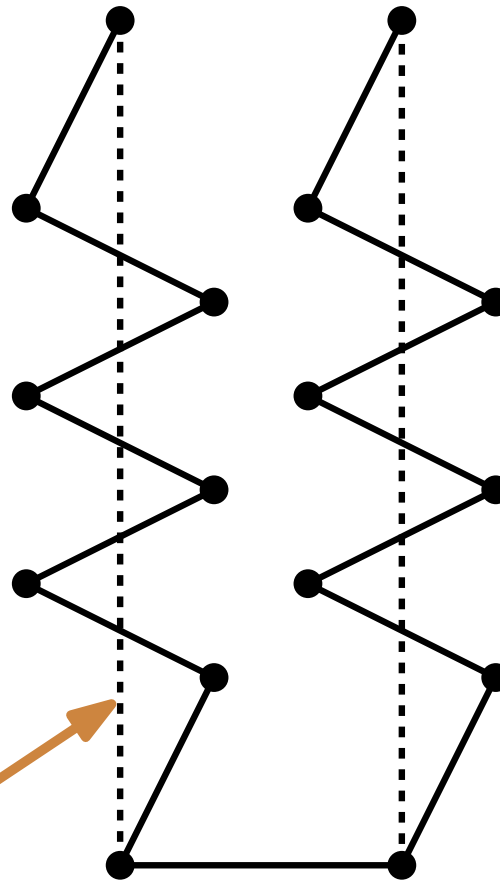


Variable-Gadget



Interpretation:

Variable-Gadget

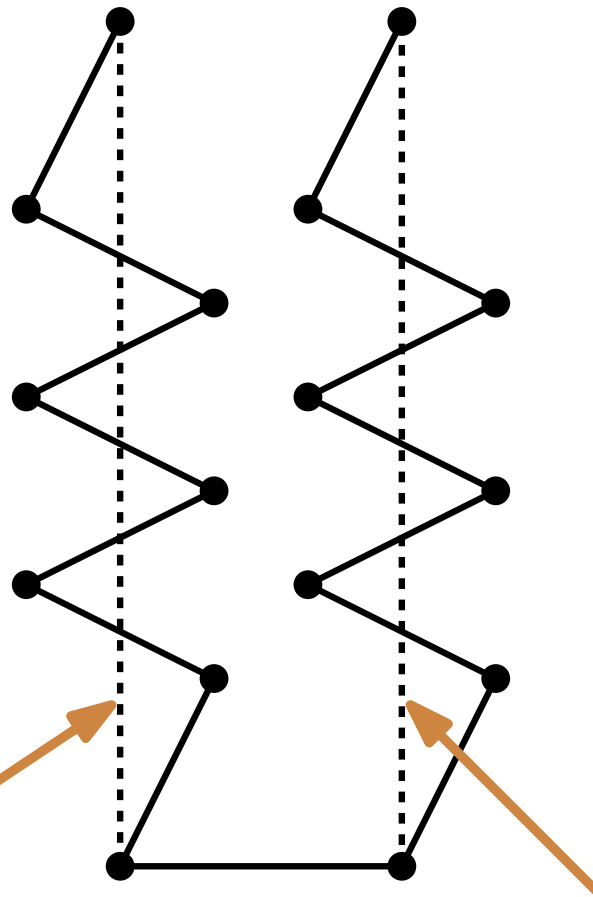


Interpretation:

shortcut taken \Leftrightarrow variable set to true

Variable-Gadget

8



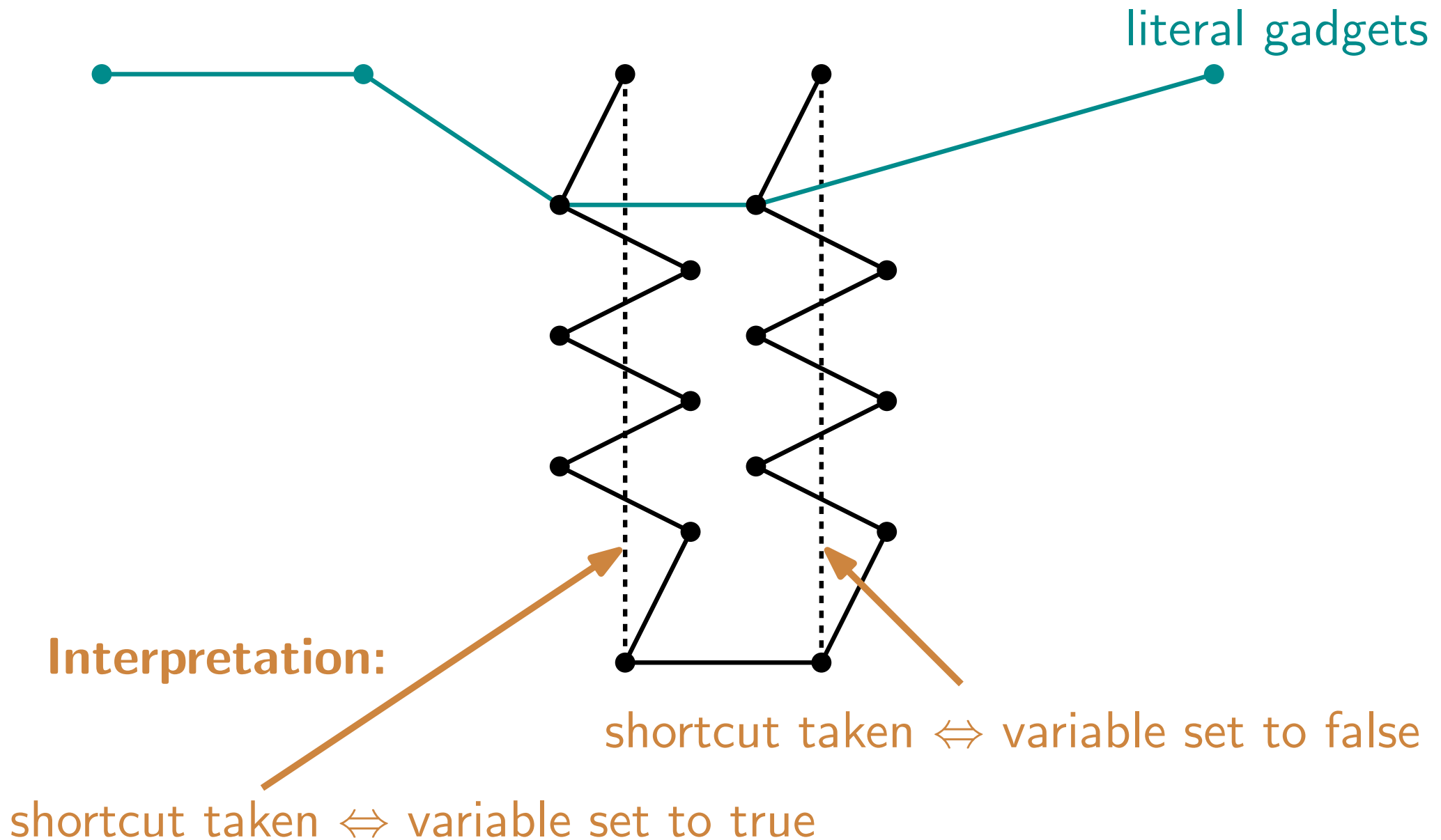
Interpretation:

shortcut taken \Leftrightarrow variable set to false

shortcut taken \Leftrightarrow variable set to true

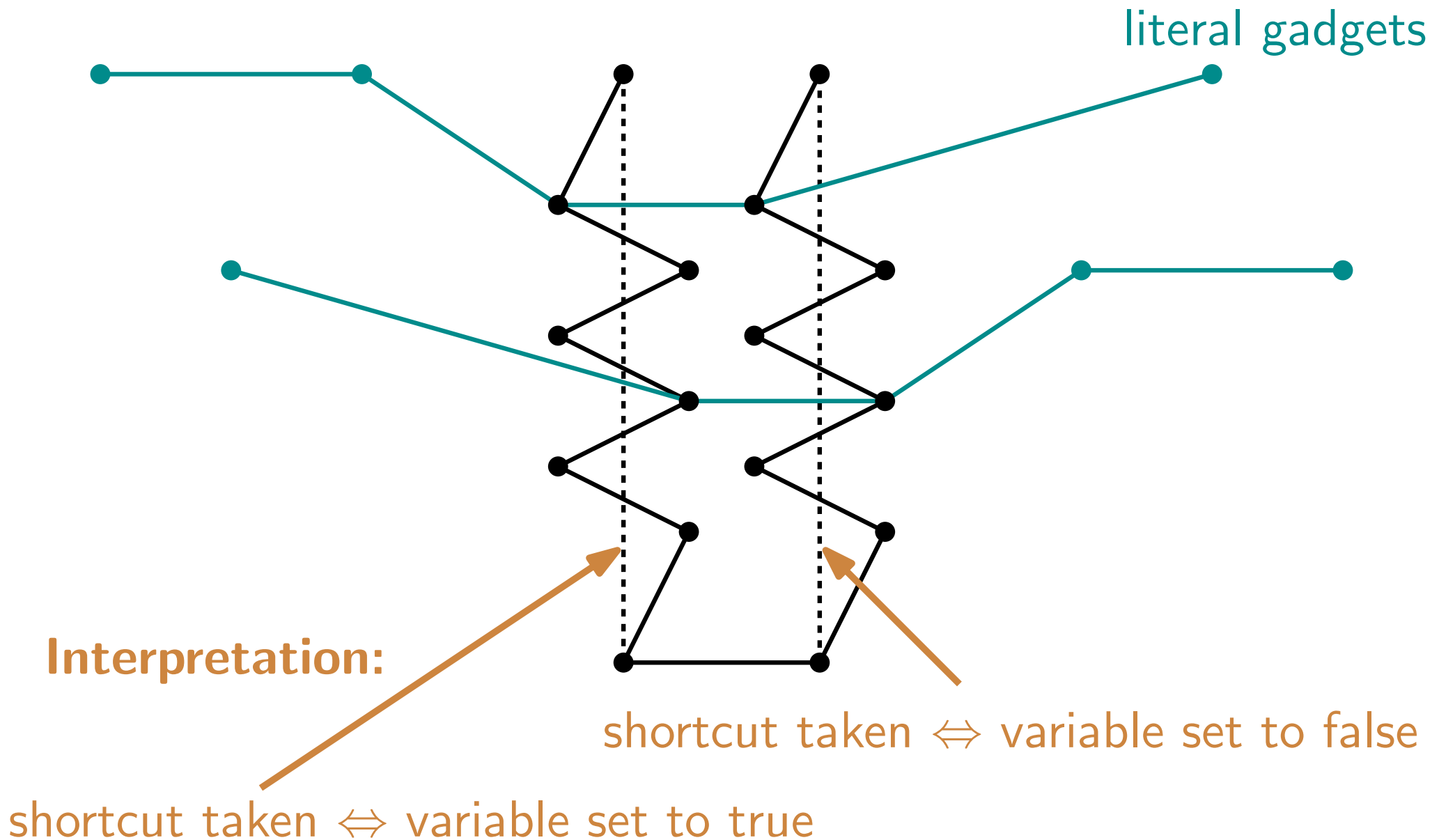
Variable-Gadget

8



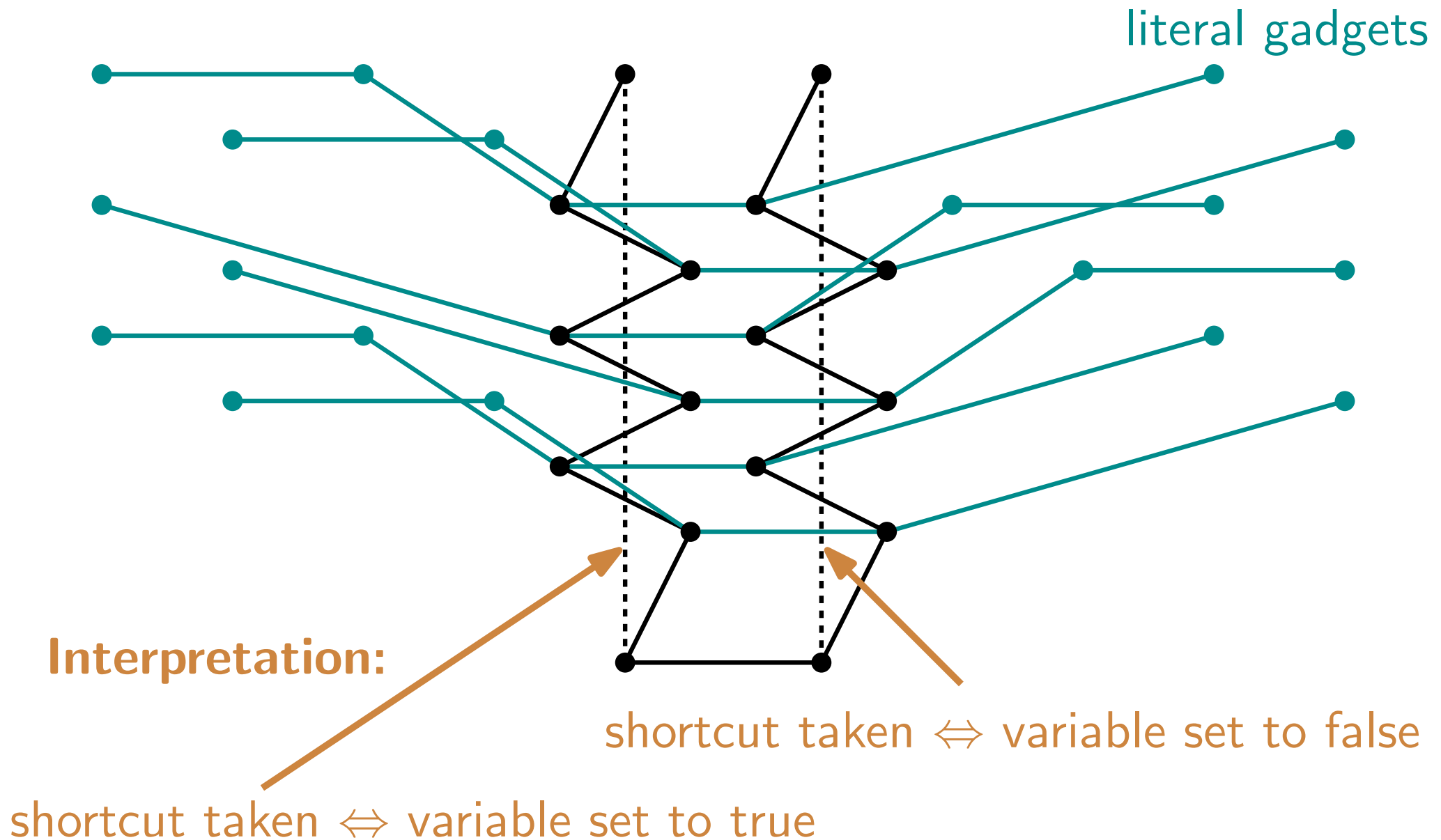
Variable-Gadget

8



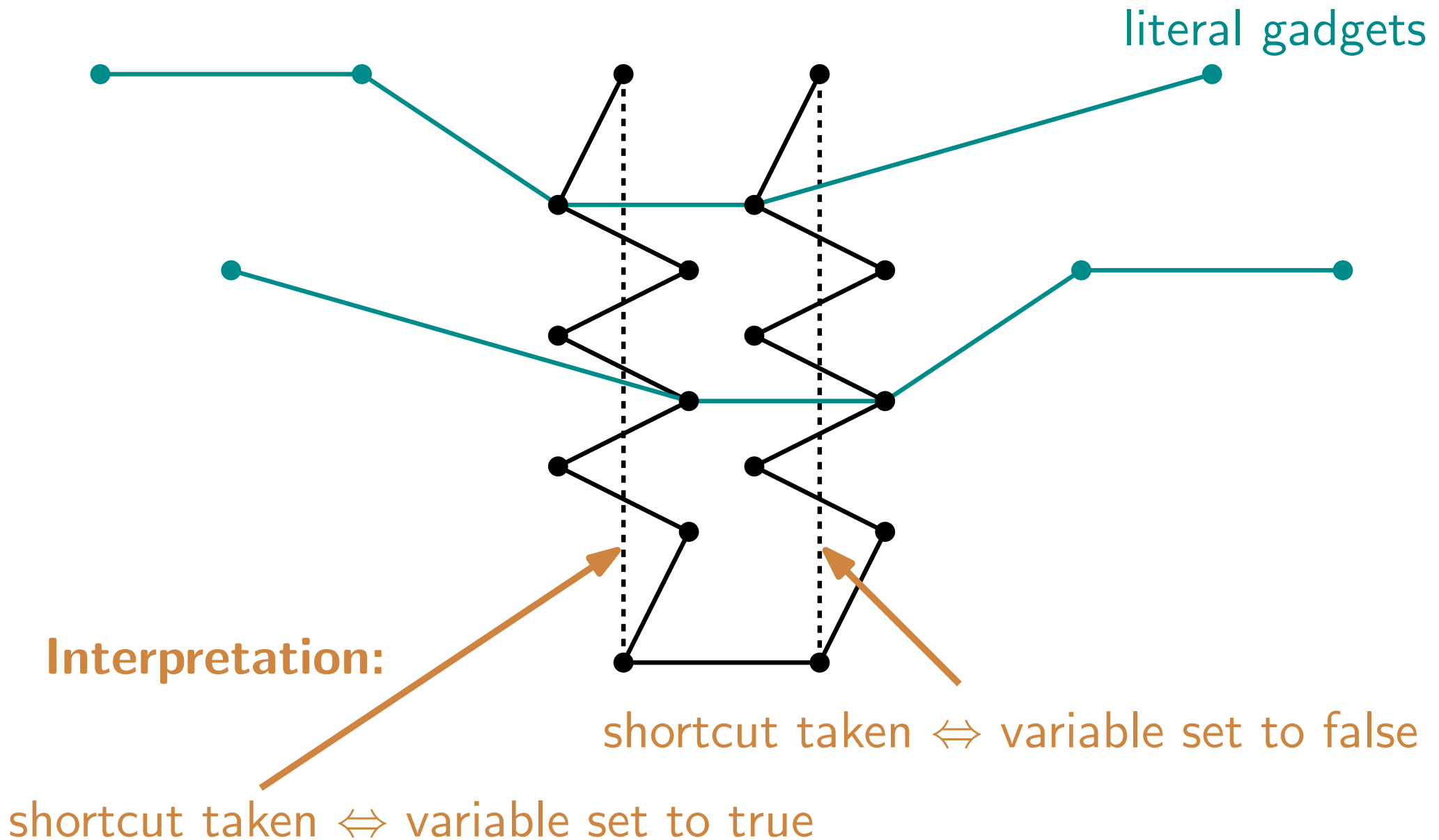
Variable-Gadget

8



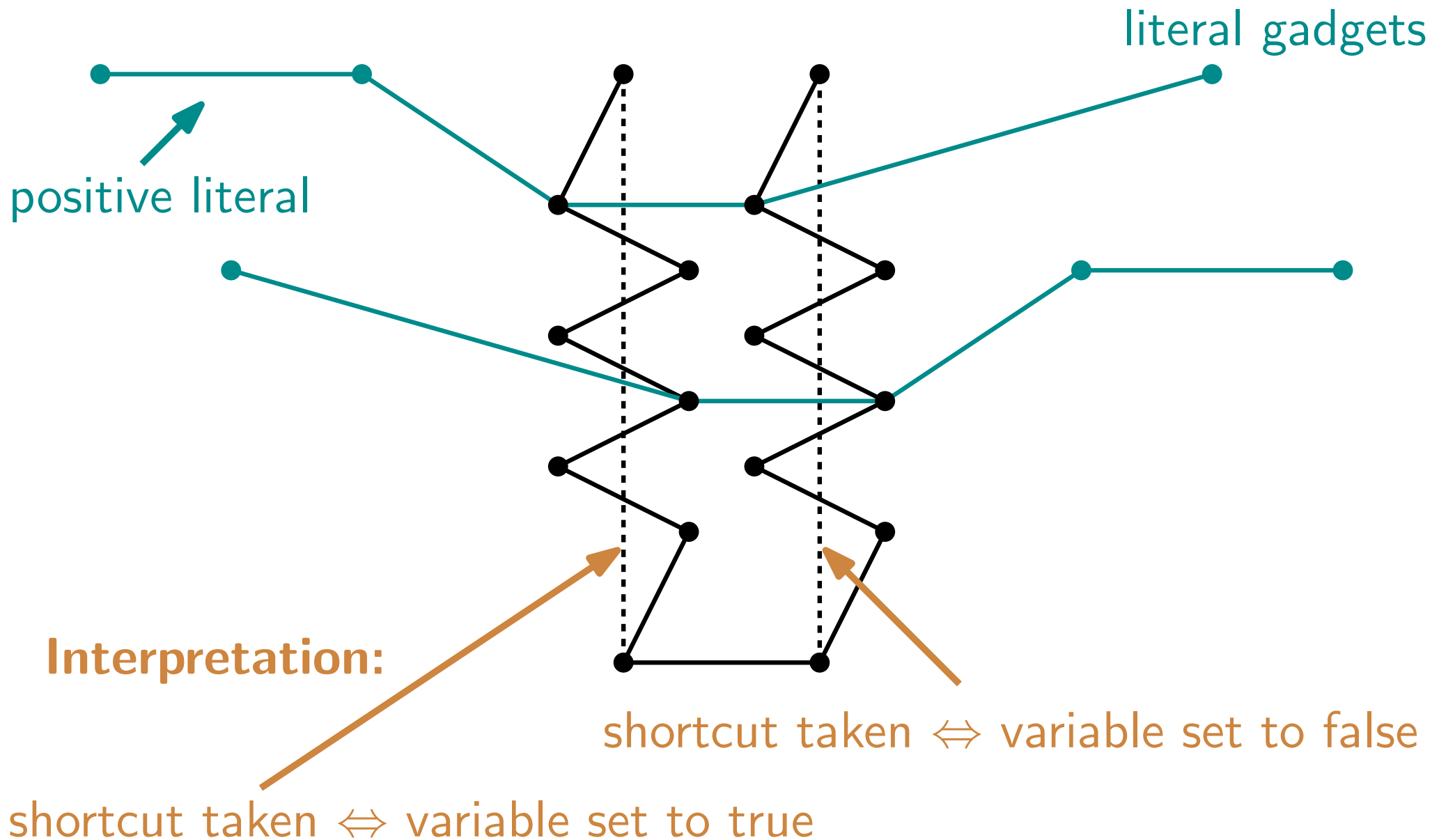
Variable-Gadget

8



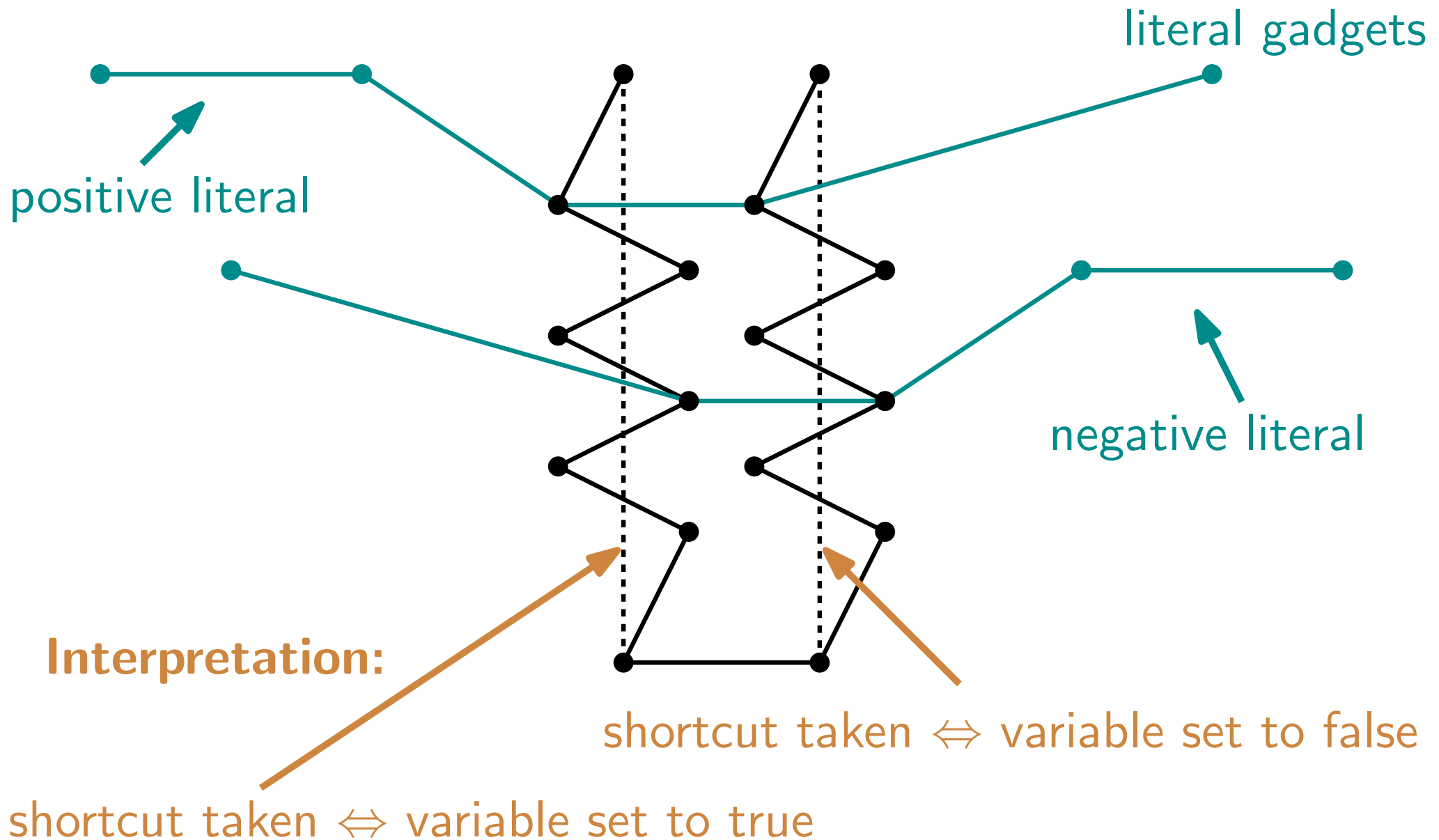
Variable-Gadget

8



Variable-Gadget

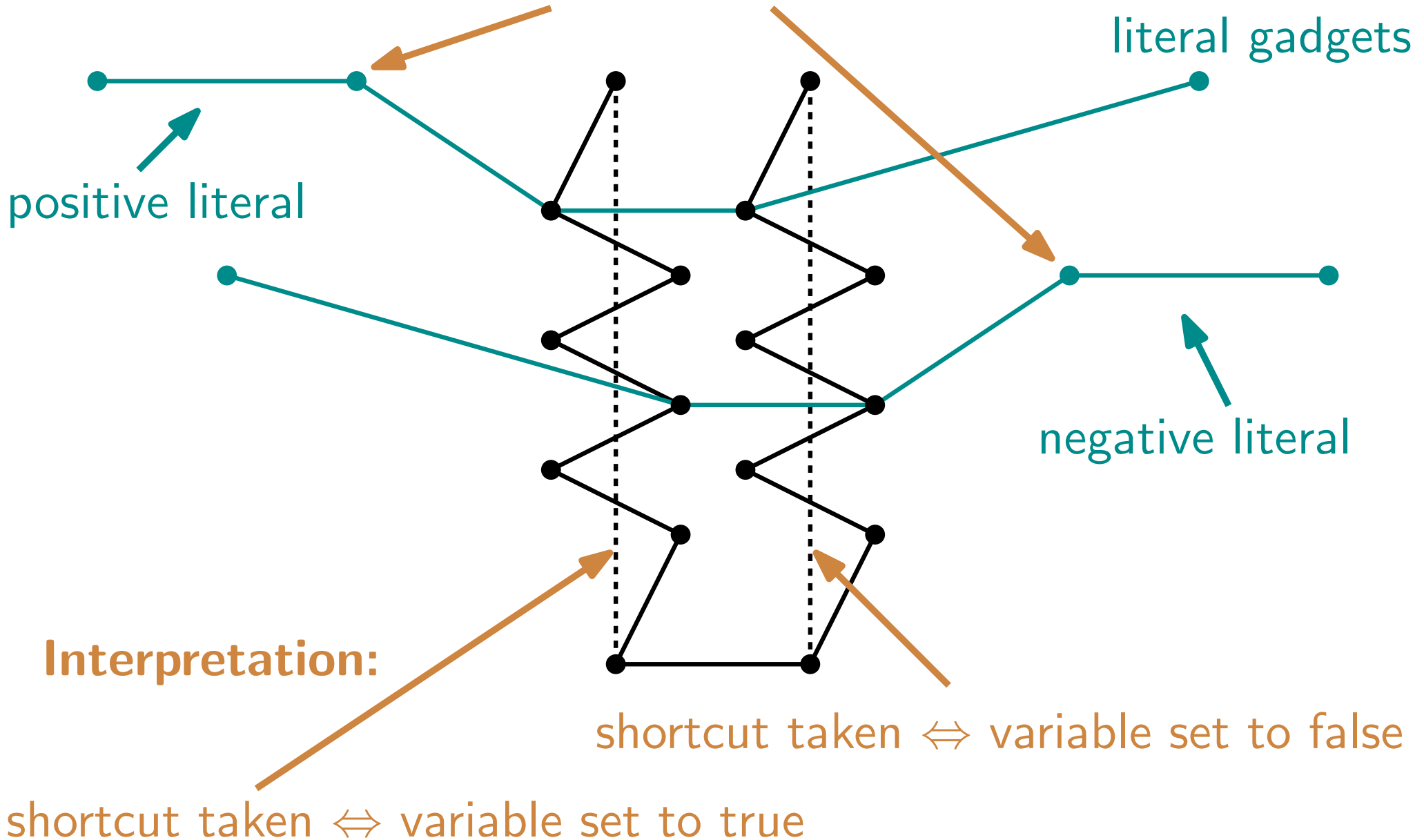
8



Variable-Gadget

8

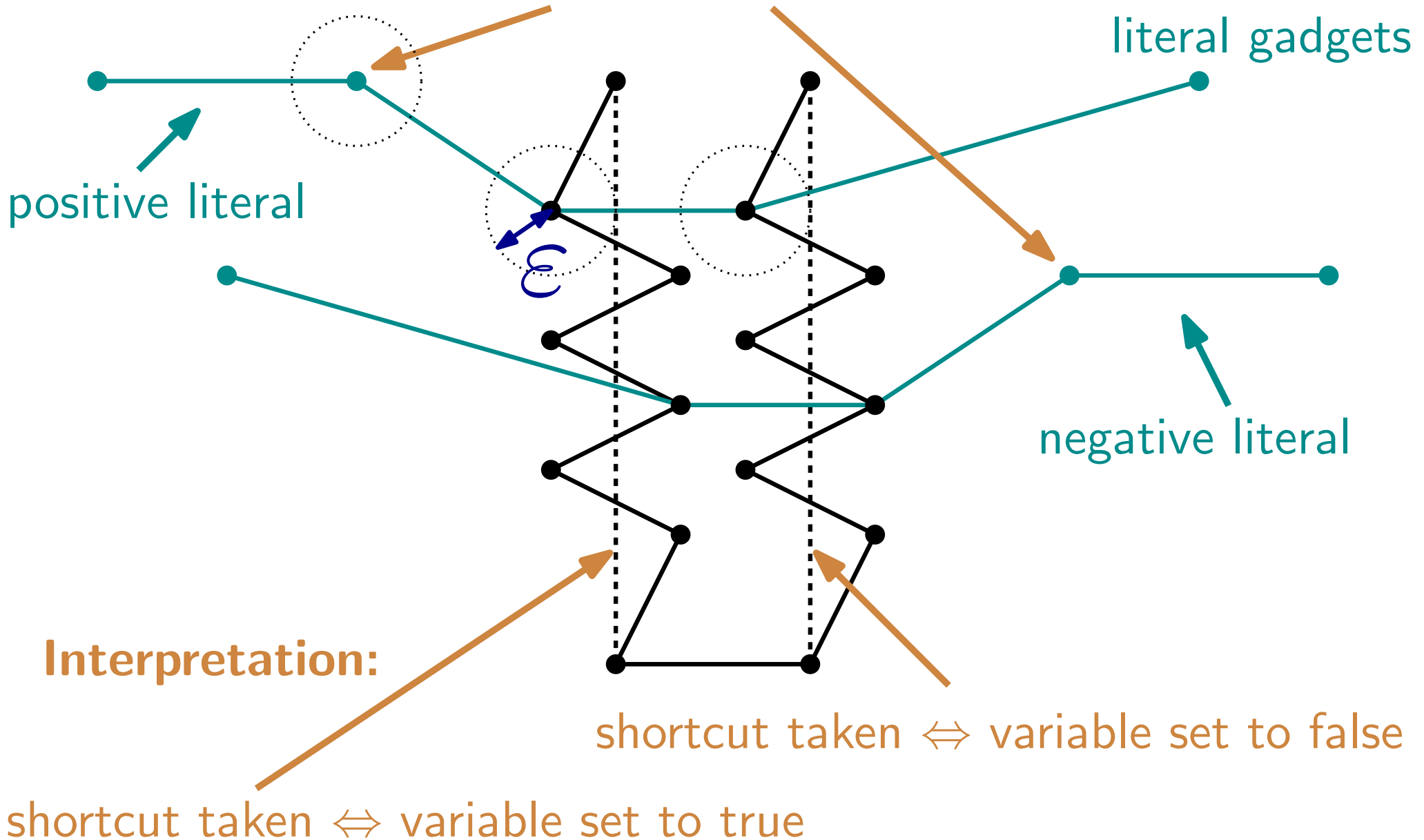
skipped \Leftrightarrow literal satisfies its clause



Variable-Gadget

8

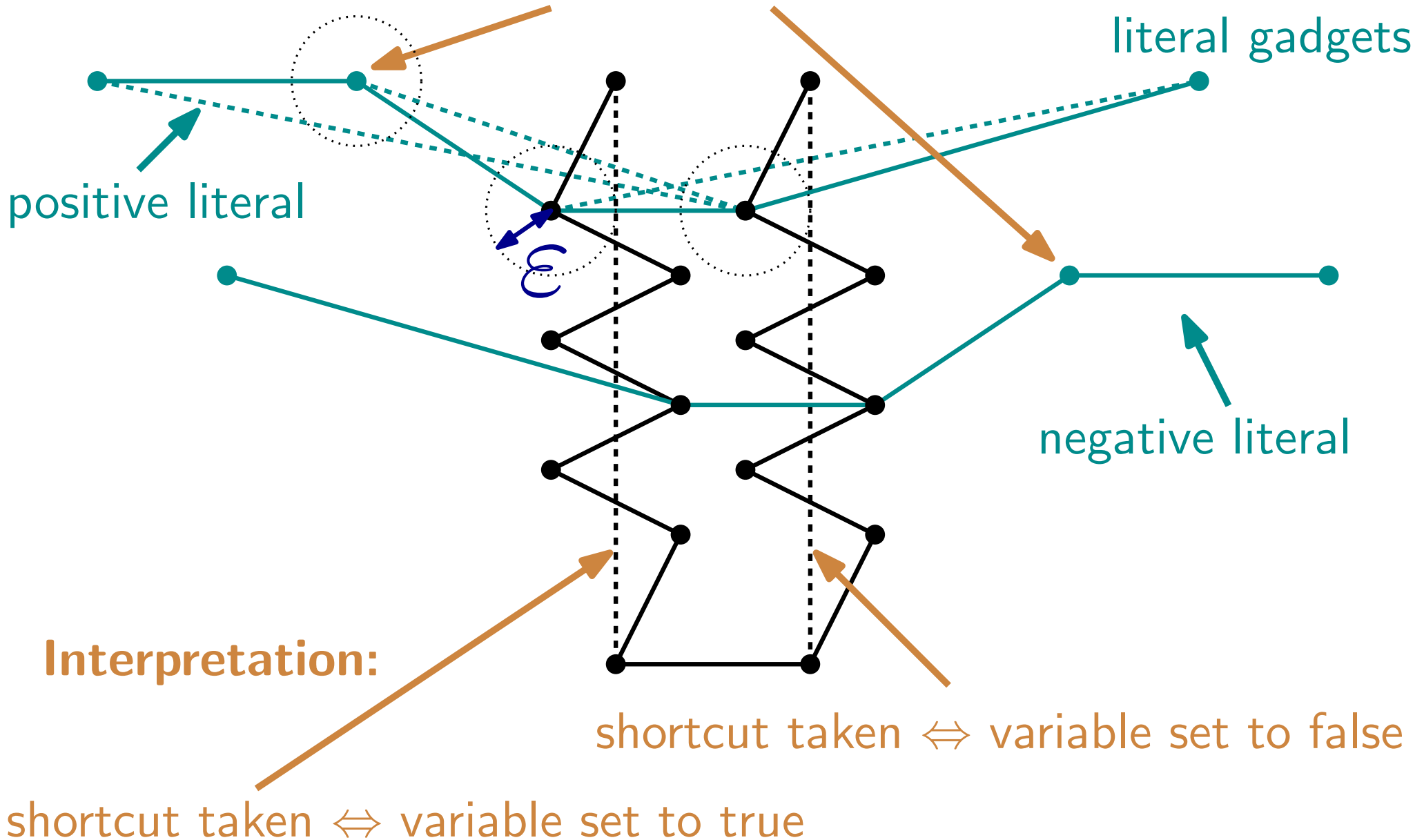
skipped \Leftrightarrow literal satisfies its clause



Variable-Gadget

8

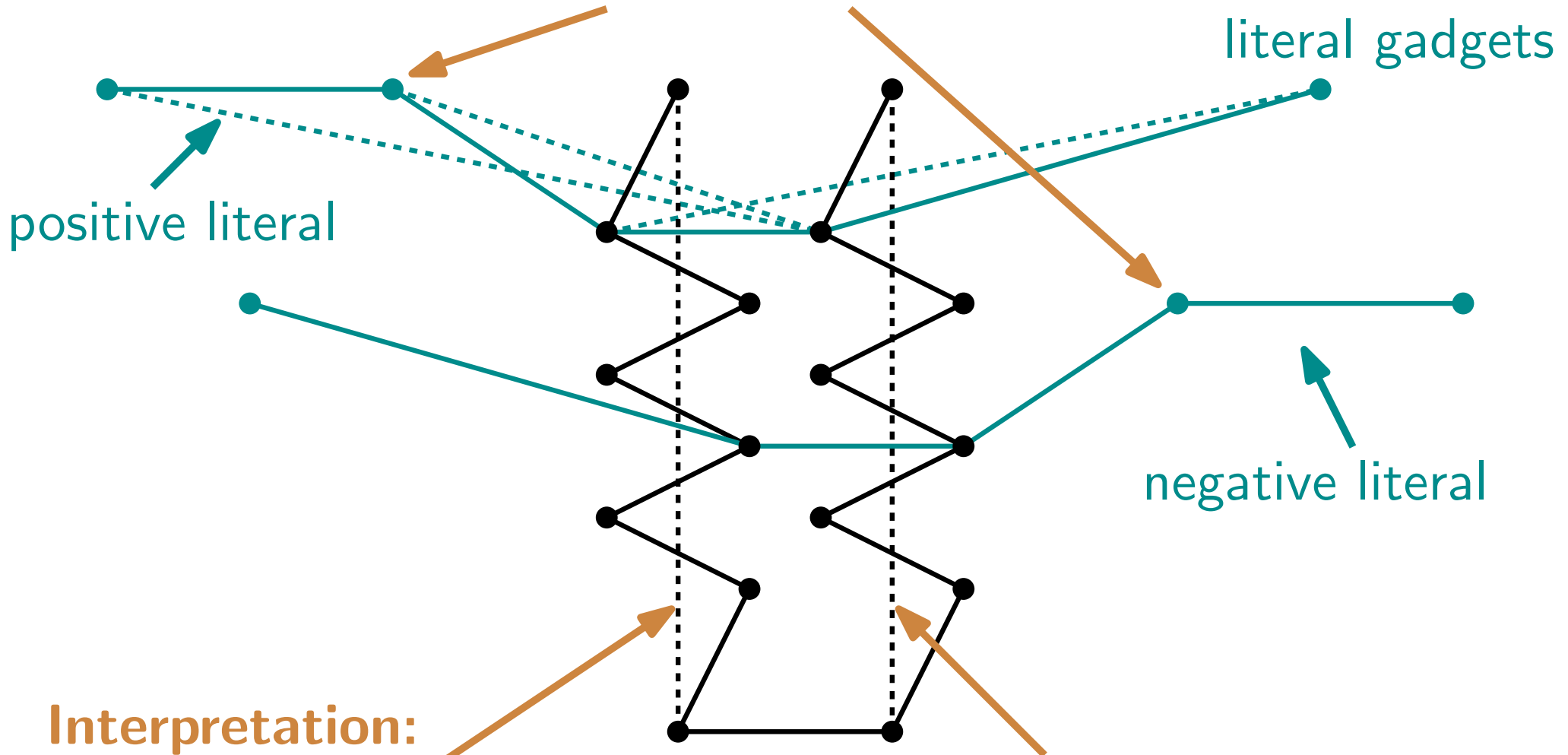
skipped \Leftrightarrow literal satisfies its clause



Variable-Gadget

8

skipped \Leftrightarrow literal satisfies its clause



Interpretation:

shortcut taken \Leftrightarrow variable set to false

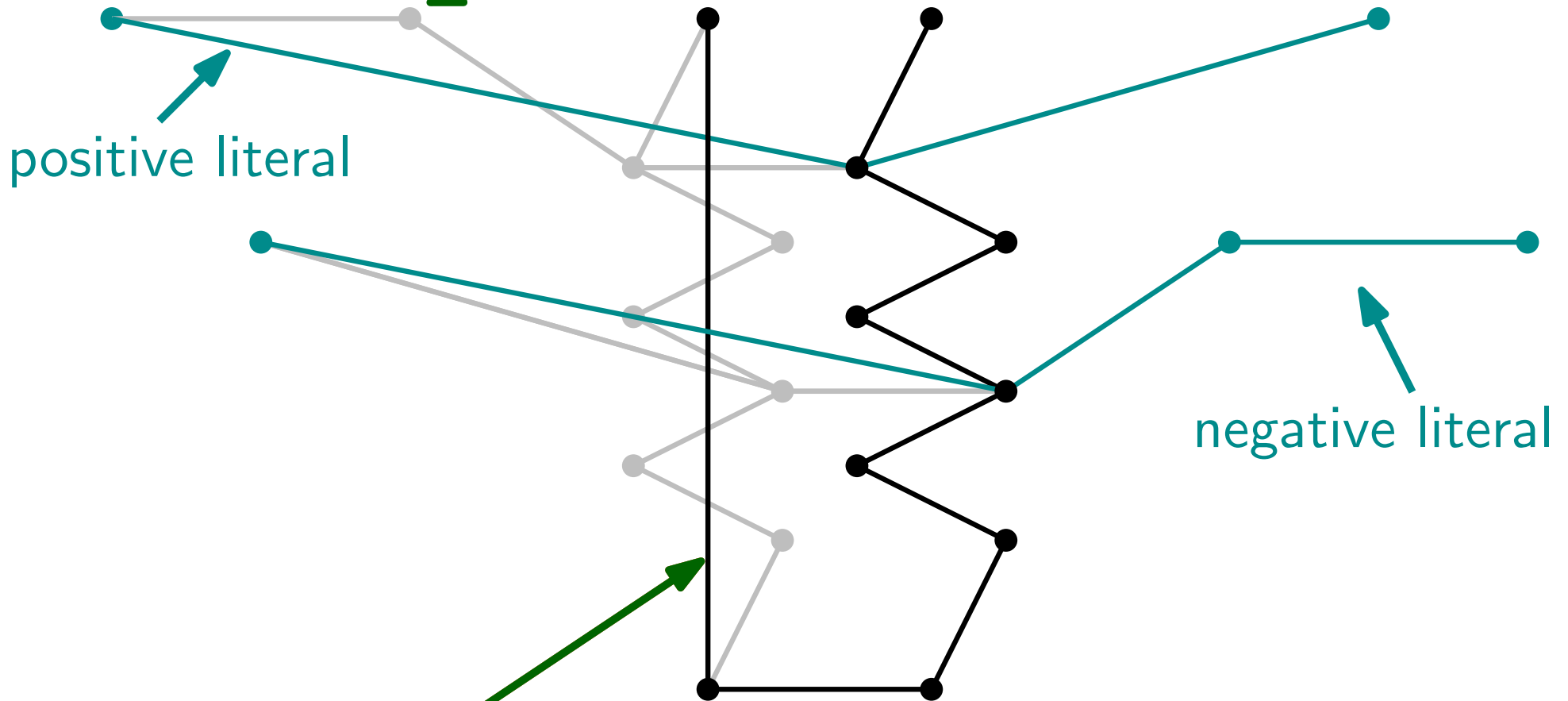
shortcut taken \Leftrightarrow variable set to true

Variable-Gadget

8

skipped \Leftrightarrow literal satisfies its clause

TRUE



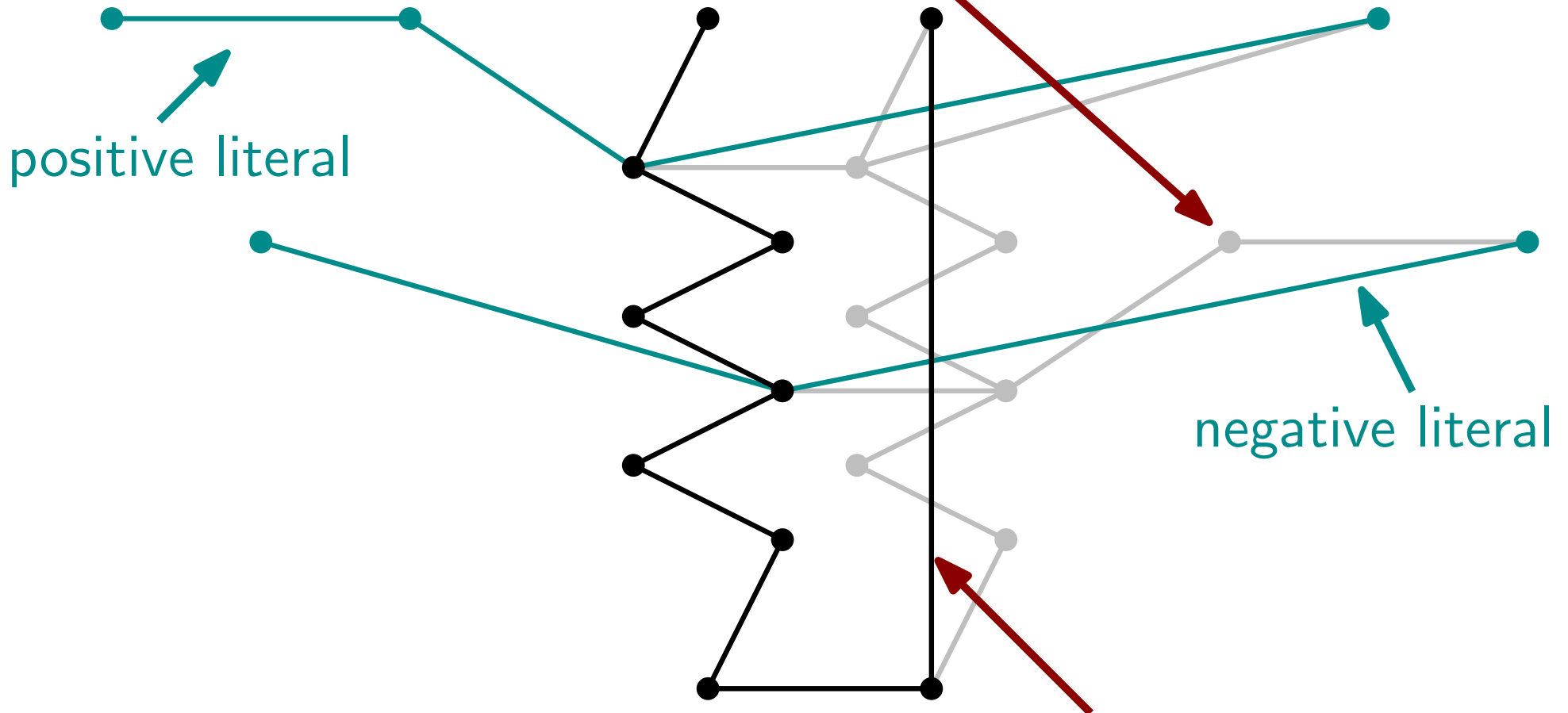
shortcut taken \Leftrightarrow variable set to true

Variable-Gadget

8

skipped \Leftrightarrow literal satisfies its clause

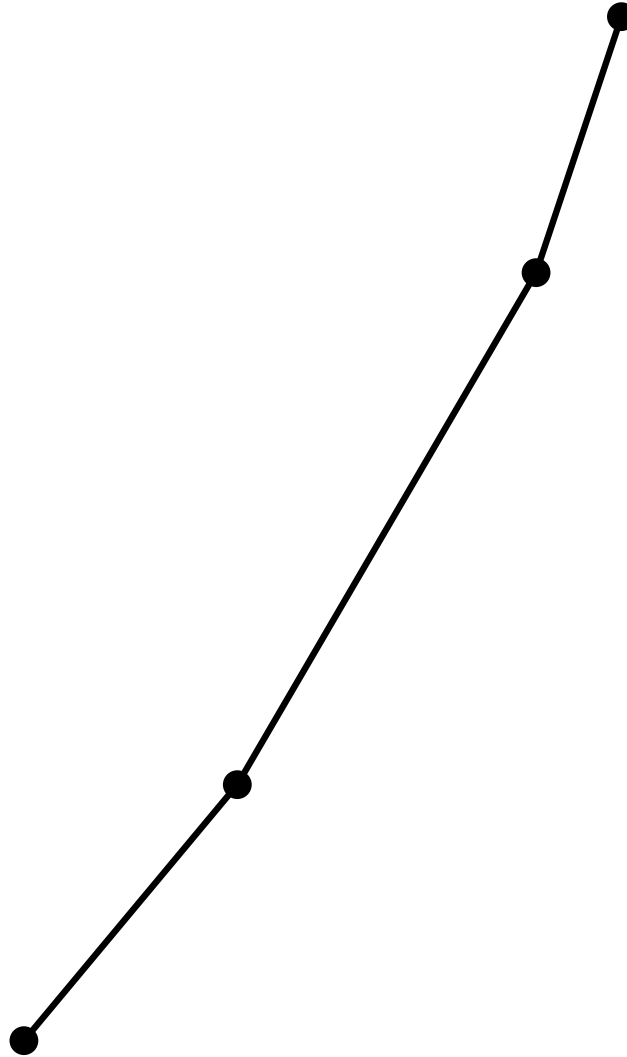
FALSE



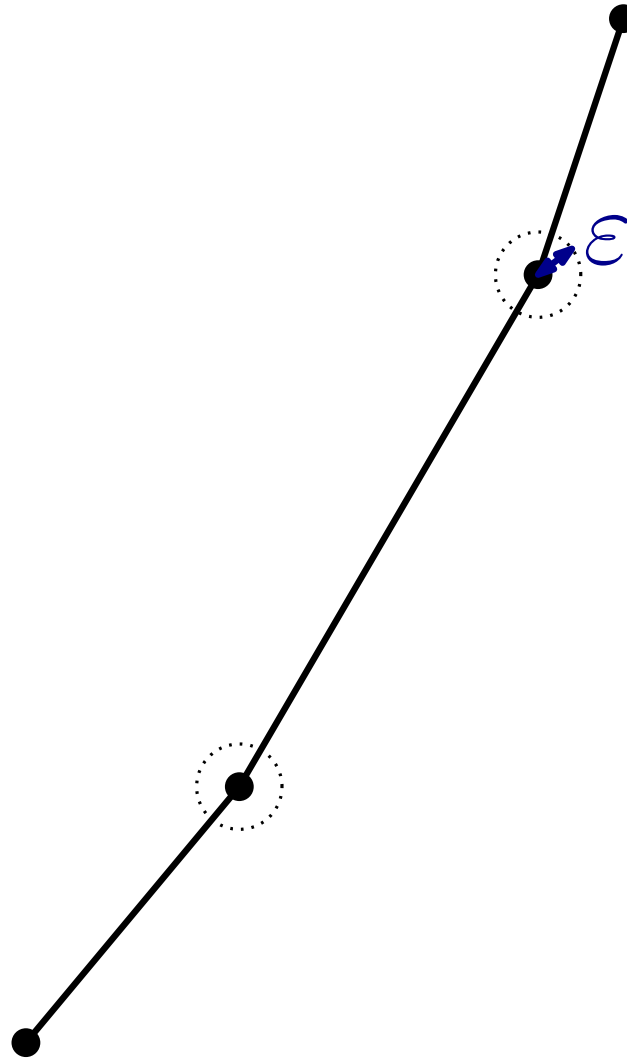
shortcut taken \Leftrightarrow variable set to false

Clause-Gadget

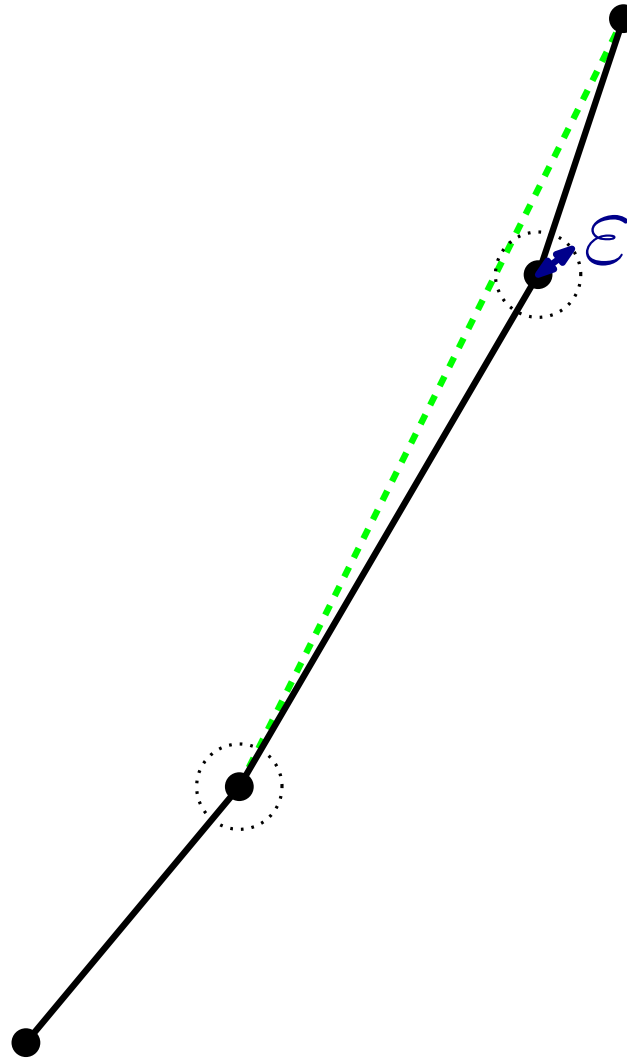
Clause-Gadget



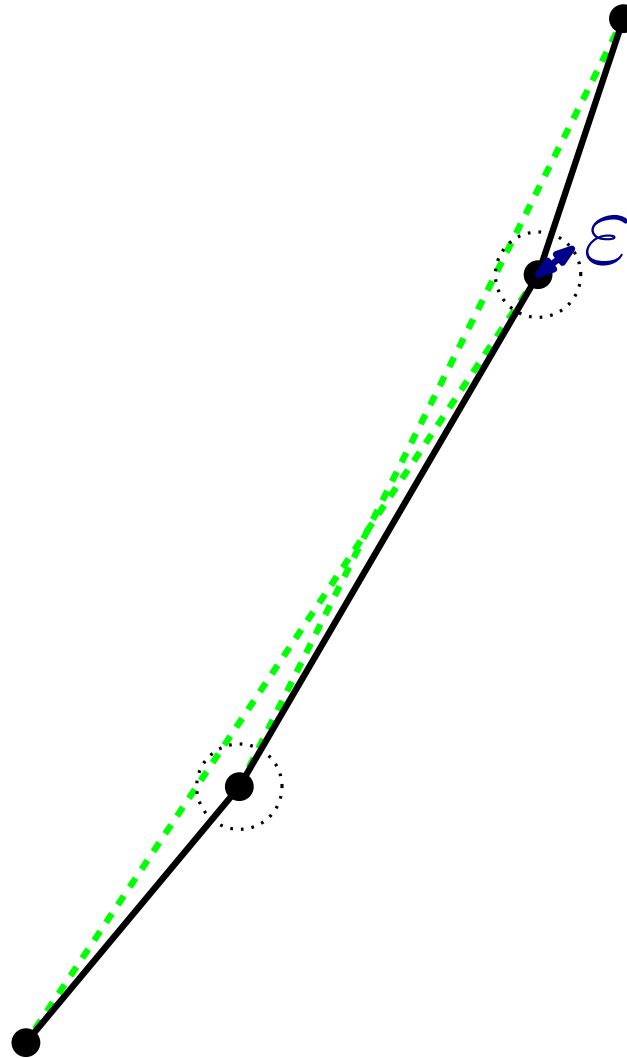
Clause-Gadget



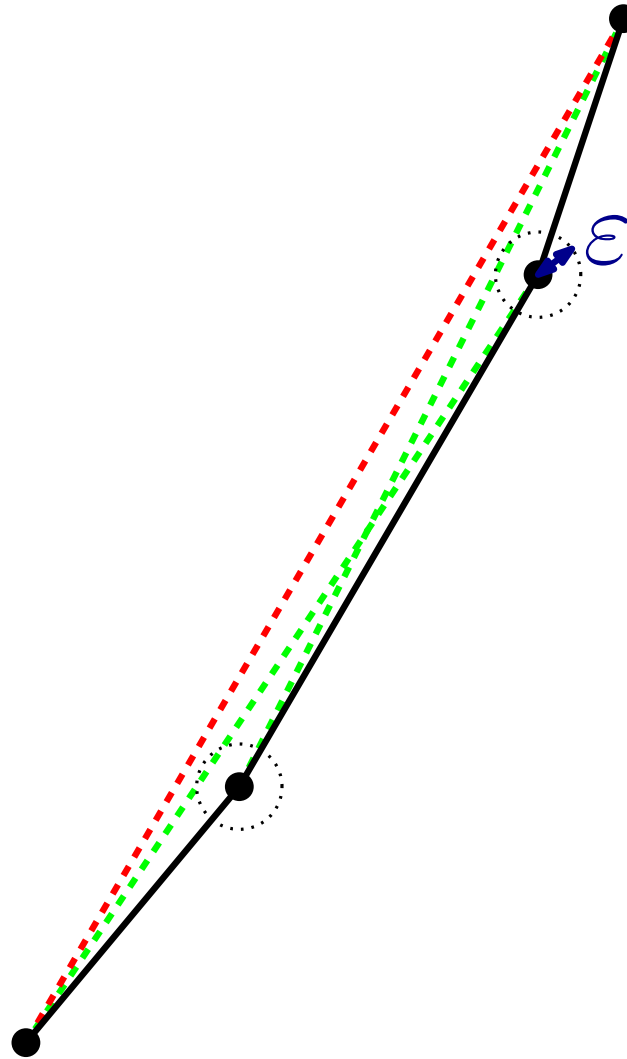
Clause-Gadget



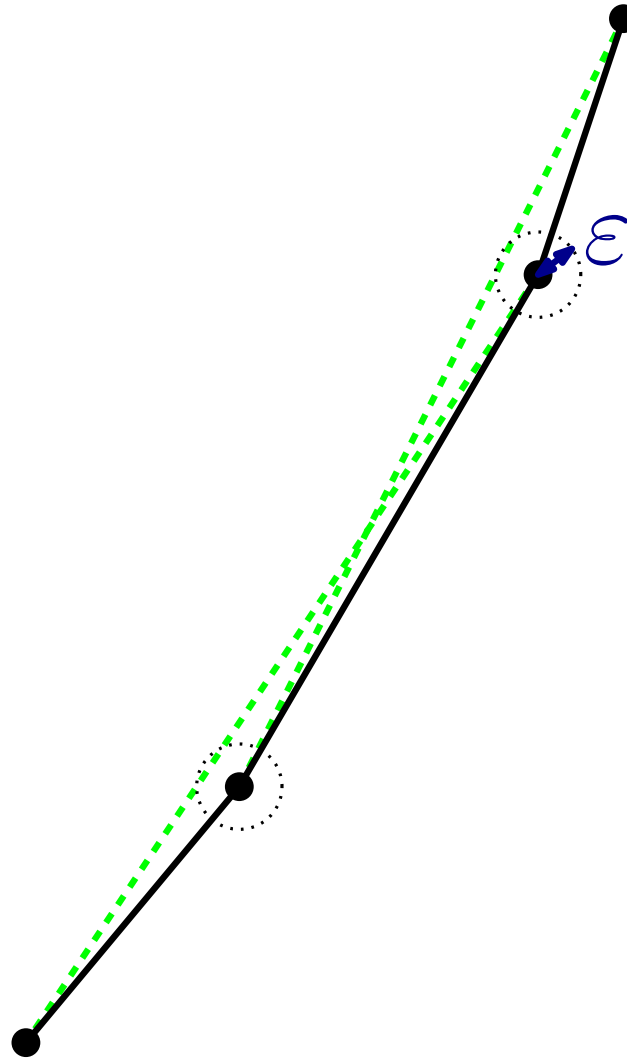
Clause-Gadget



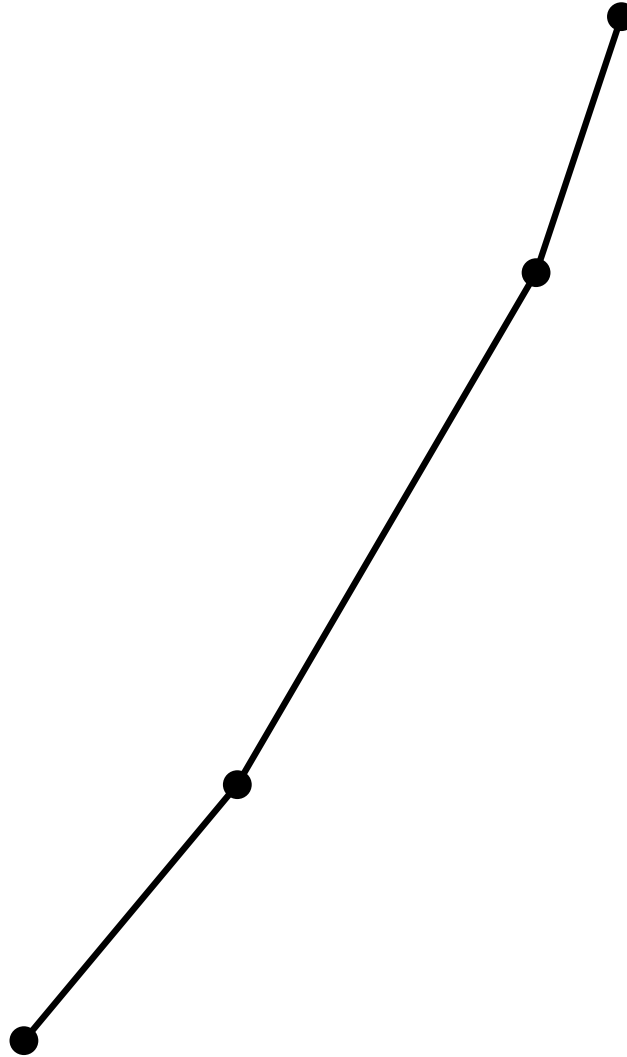
Clause-Gadget



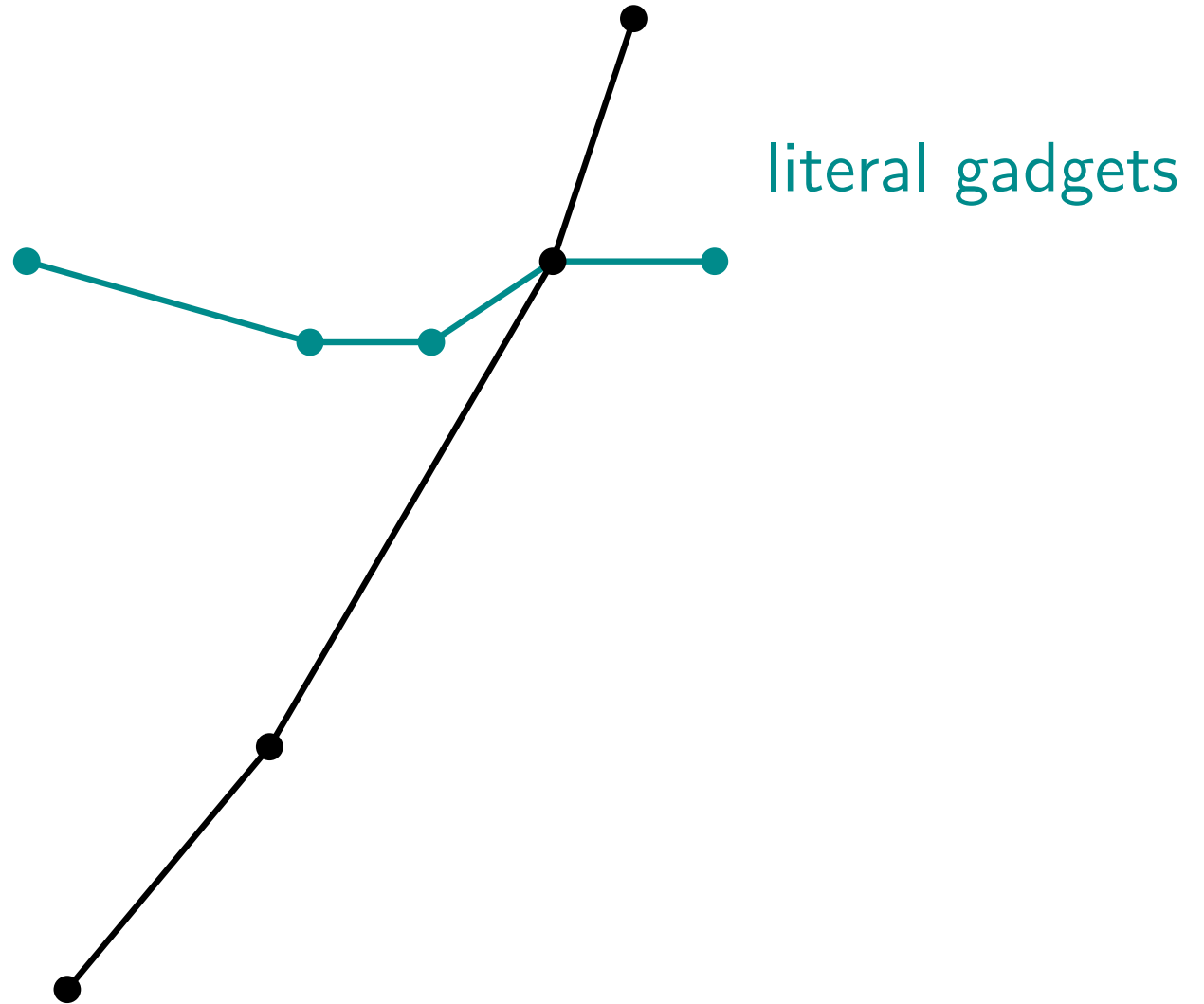
Clause-Gadget



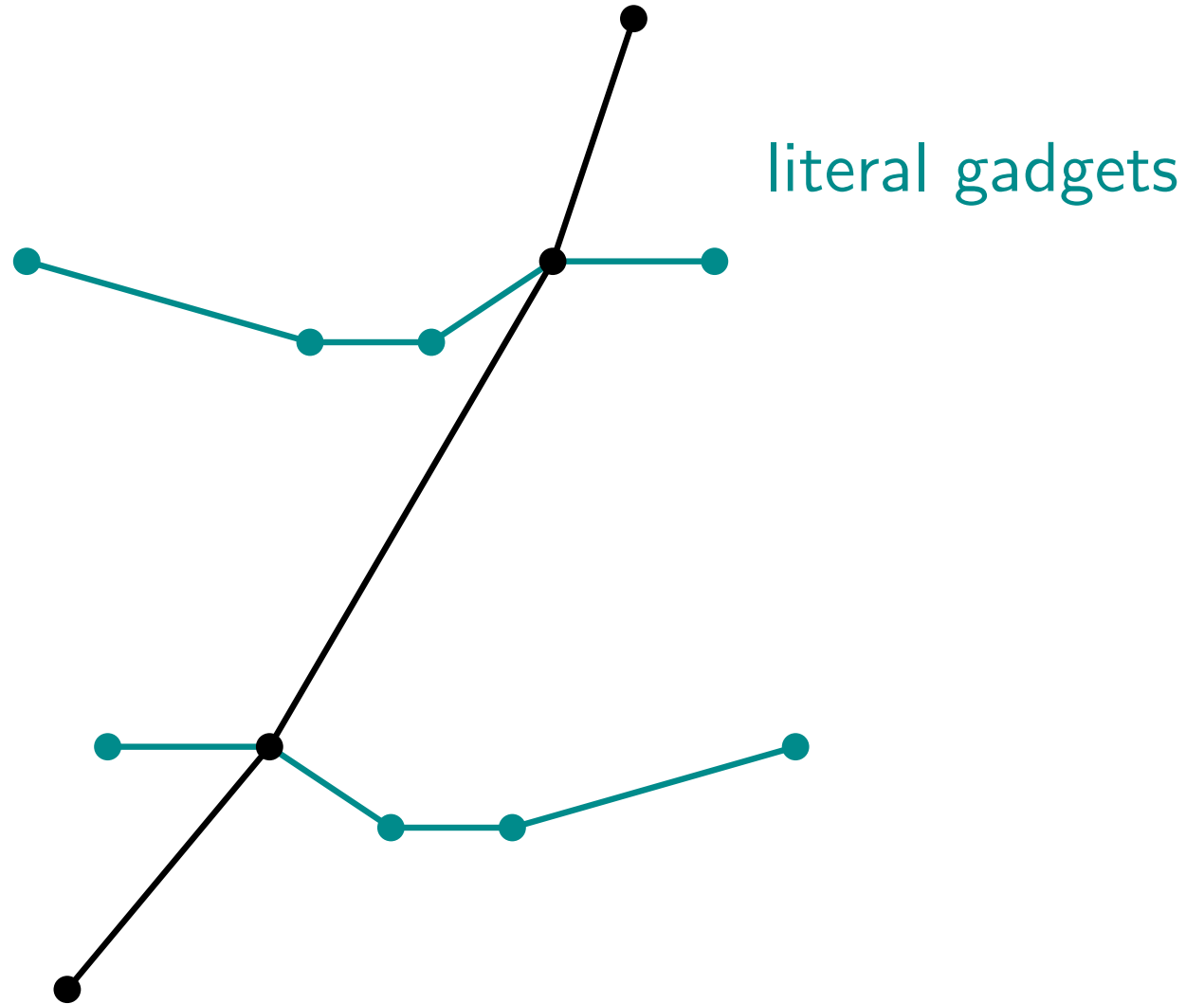
Clause-Gadget



Clause-Gadget



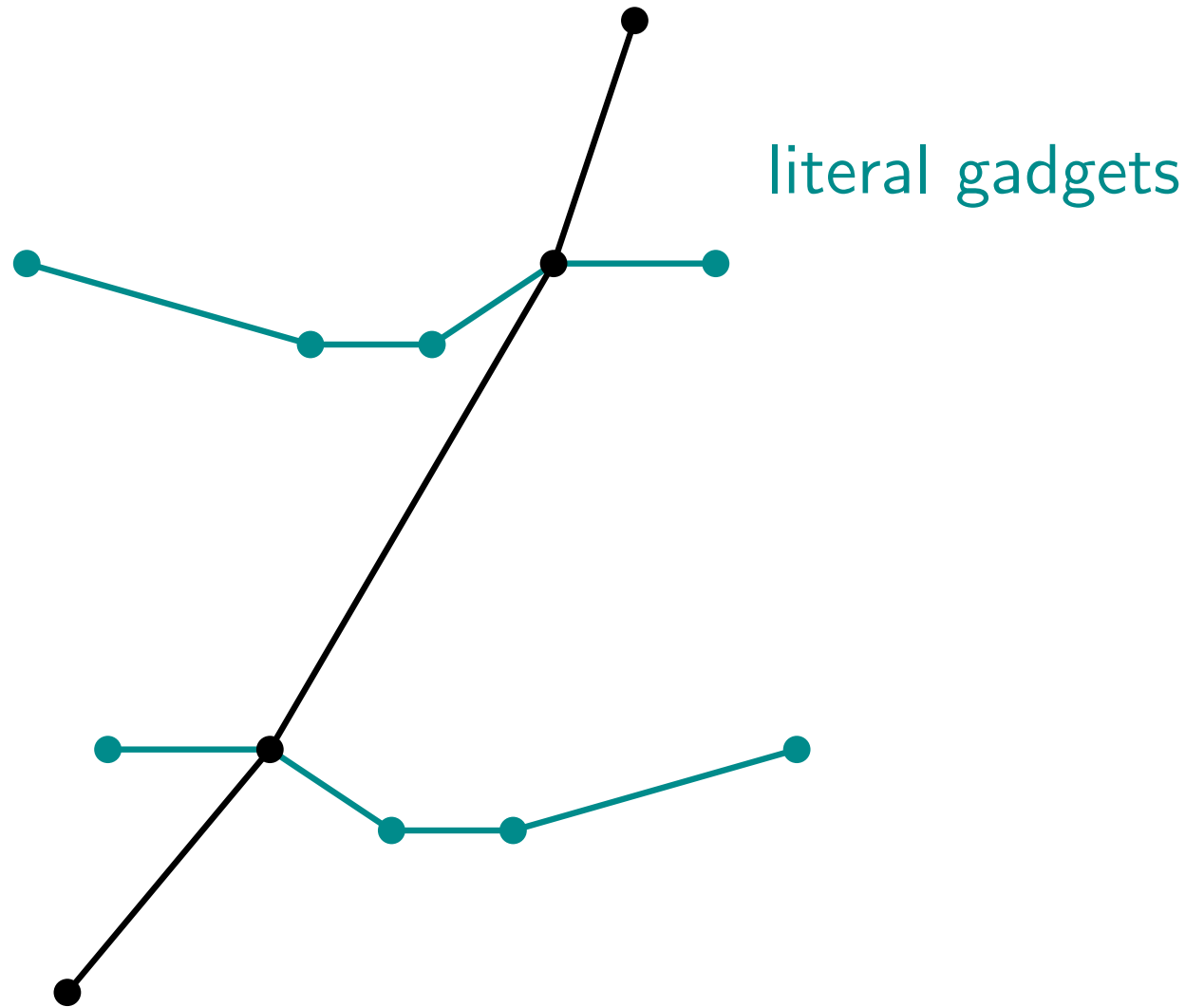
Clause-Gadget



Clause-Gadget

9

Interpretation:

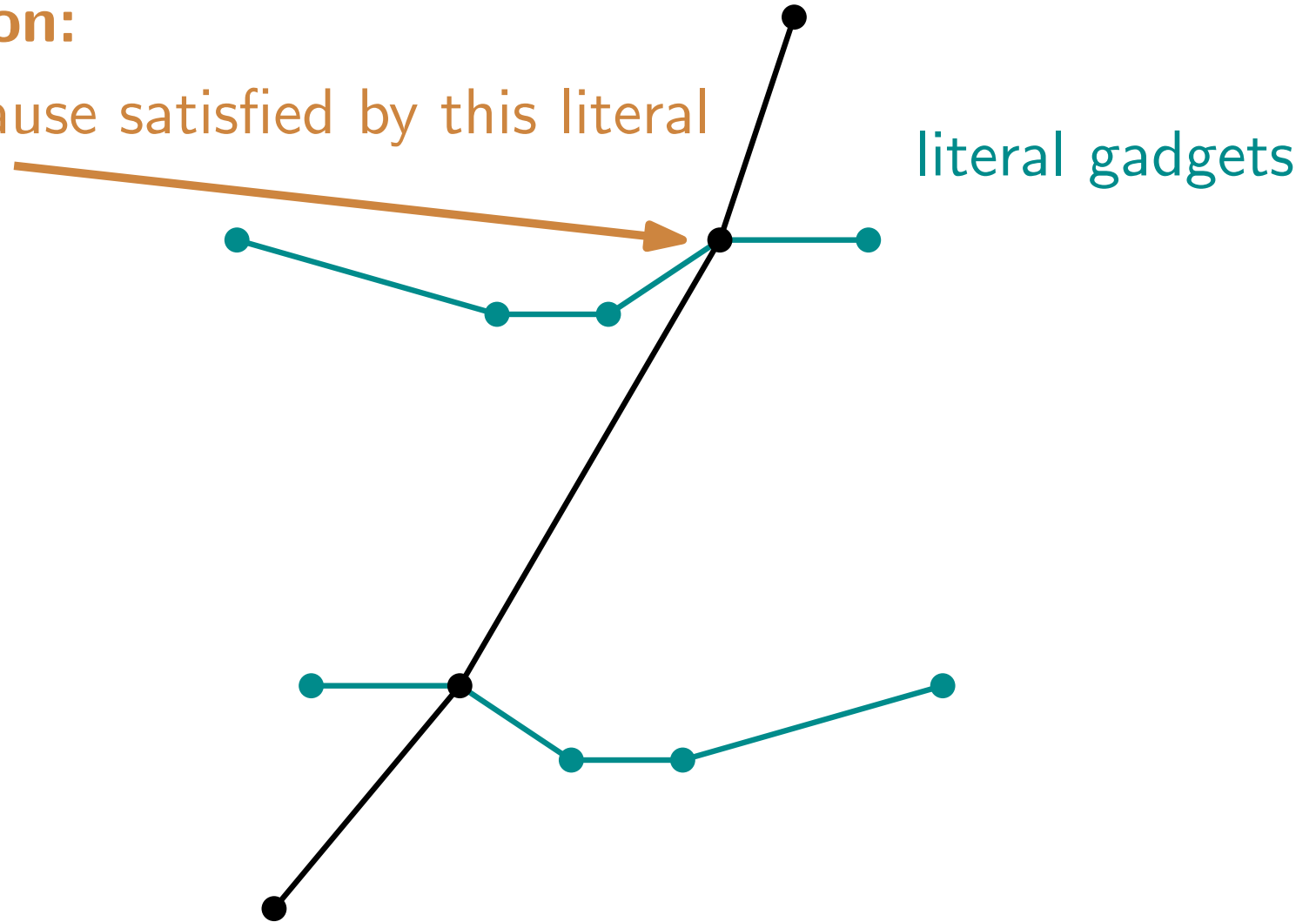


Clause-Gadget

9

Interpretation:

skipped \Leftrightarrow clause satisfied by this literal



Clause-Gadget

9

Interpretation:

skipped \Leftrightarrow clause satisfied by this literal

literal gadgets

skipped \Leftrightarrow clause satisfied by this literal



Clause-Gadget

9

Interpretation:

skipped \Leftrightarrow clause satisfied by this literal

literal gadgets

skipped \Leftrightarrow clause satisfied by this literal

none skipped \Leftrightarrow clause remains unsatisfied



Full Example

Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

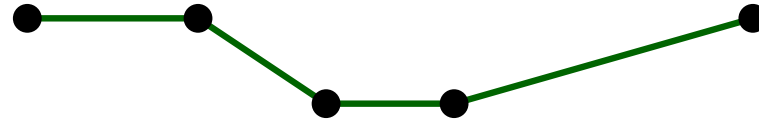


Full Example

10

$$\boxed{x_1} \vee x_2) \wedge \\ (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ (\neg x_3)$$

ε



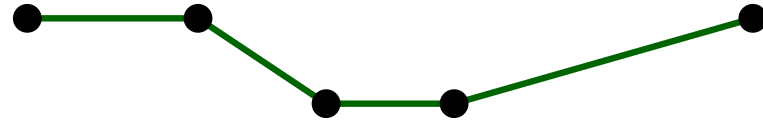
$x_1 \quad \neg x_1$

Full Example

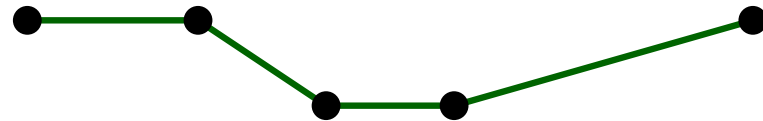
10

$$\begin{aligned} & (x_1 \vee \boxed{x_2}) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε



$x_1 \quad \neg x_1$



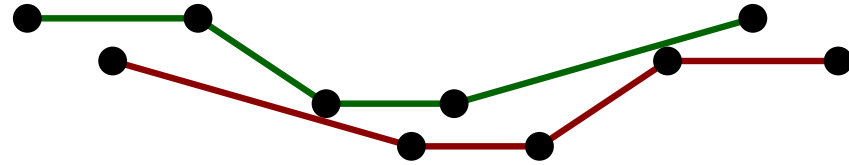
$x_2 \quad \neg x_2$

Full Example

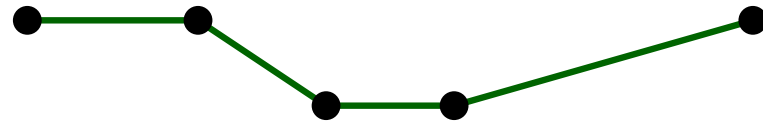
10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\boxed{\neg x_1} \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε



$x_1 \quad \neg x_1$



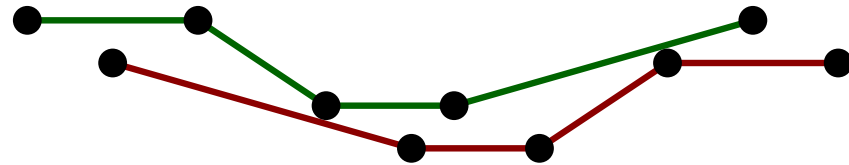
$x_2 \quad \neg x_2$

Full Example

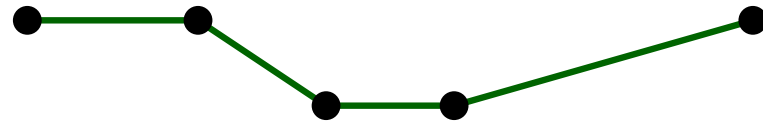
10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee \boxed{x_3}) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

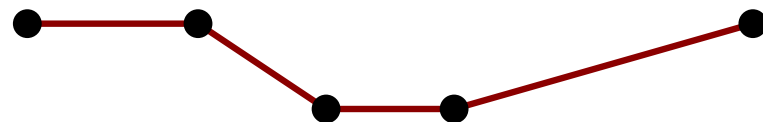
ε



$x_1 \quad \neg x_1$



$x_2 \quad \neg x_2$



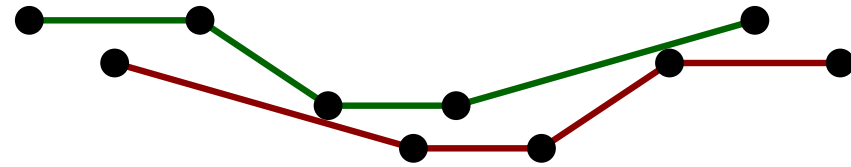
$x_3 \quad \neg x_3$

Full Example

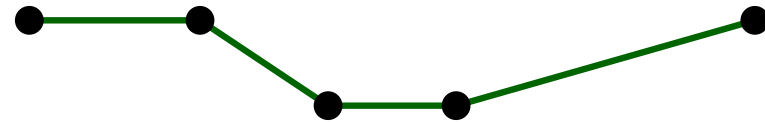
10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\boxed{\neg x_3}) \end{aligned}$$

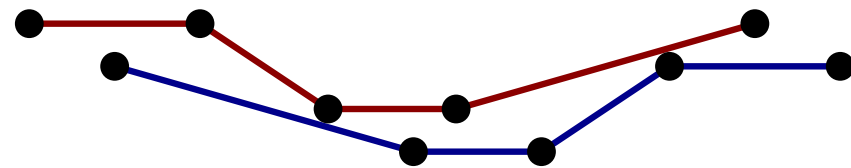
ε



$x_1 \quad \neg x_1$



$x_2 \quad \neg x_2$



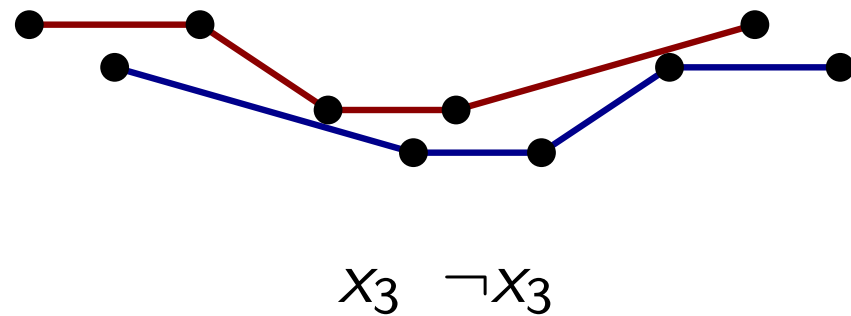
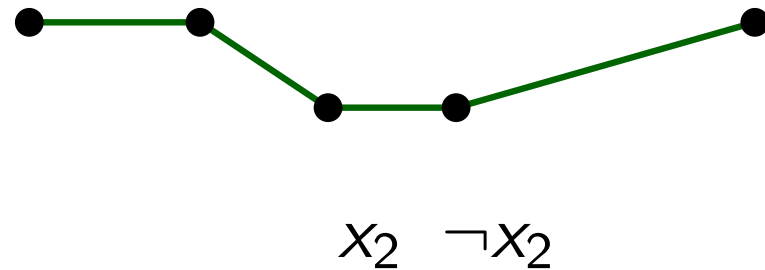
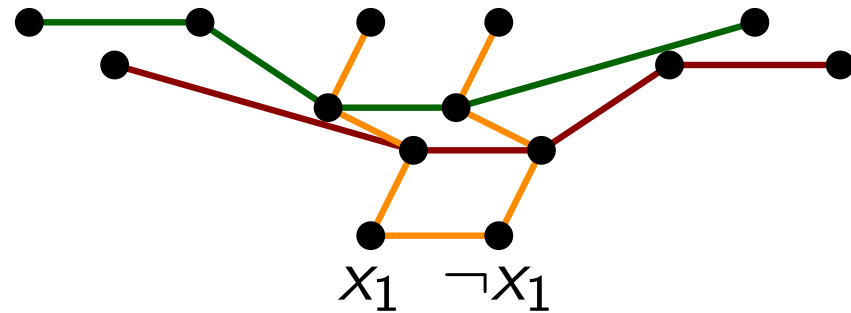
$x_3 \quad \neg x_3$

Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(\boxed{x_1} \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\boxed{\neg x_1} \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε

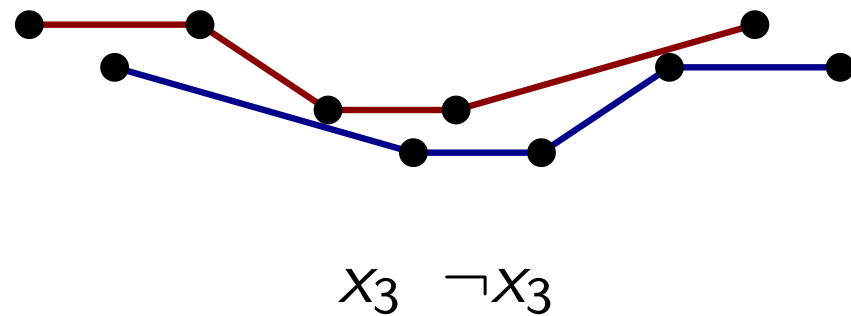
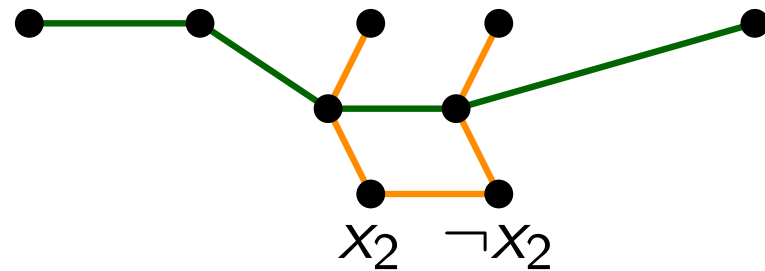
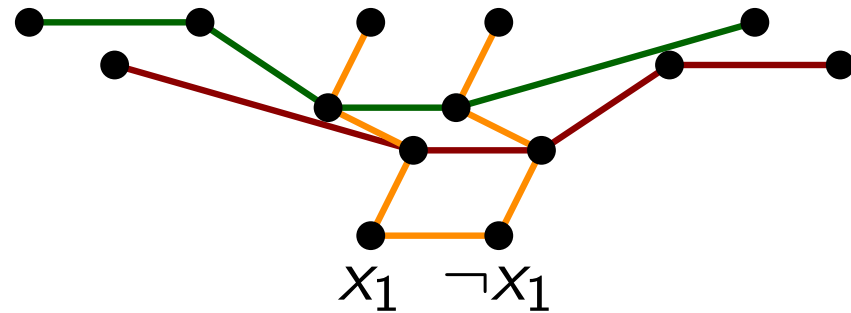


Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} & (x_1 \vee \boxed{x_2}) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε

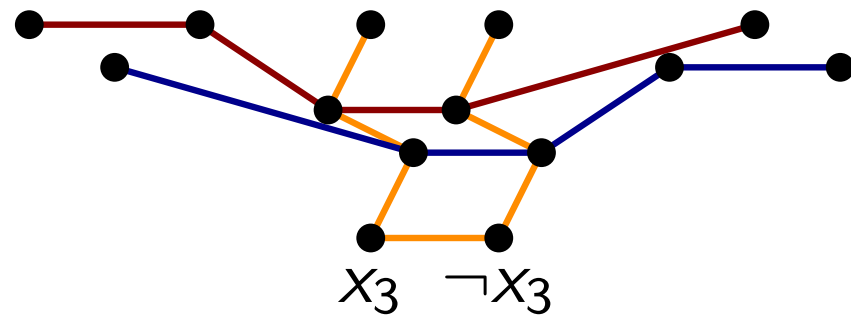
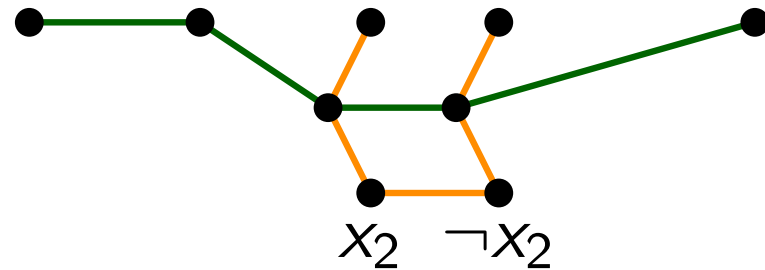
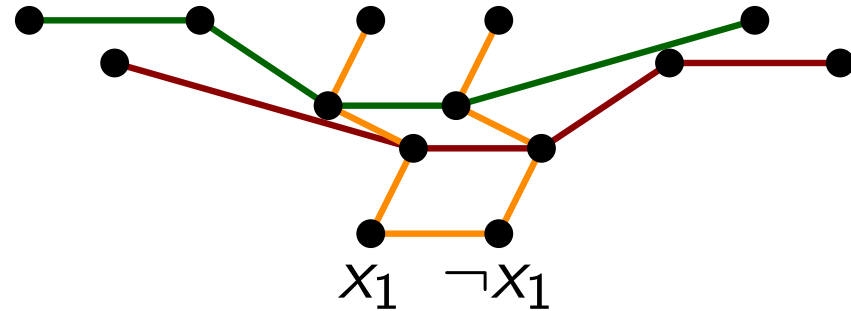


Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee \boxed{x_3}) \wedge \\ &(\boxed{\neg x_3}) \end{aligned}$$

ε

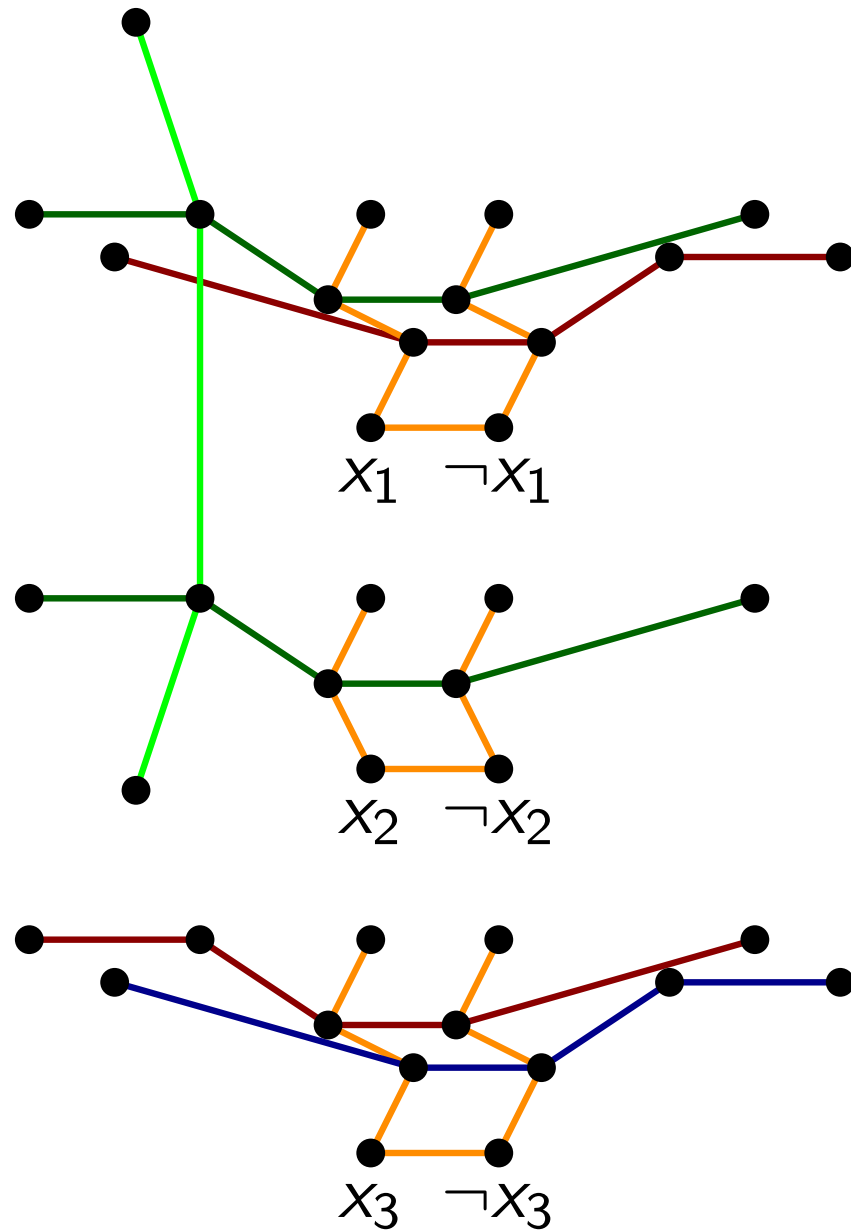


Full Example

10

$$\boxed{(x_1 \vee x_2)} \wedge \\ (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ (\neg x_3)$$

ε

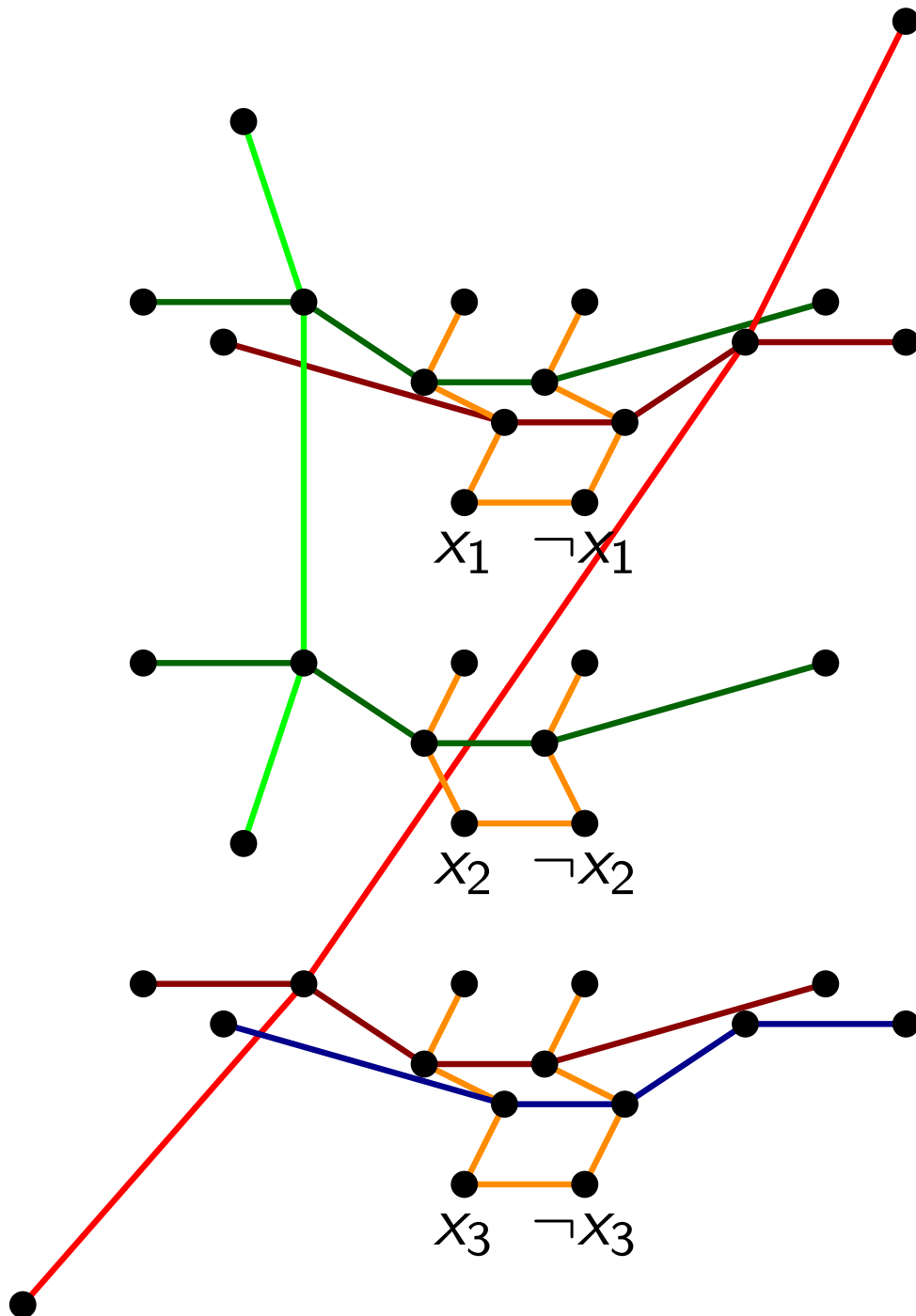


Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &\boxed{(\neg x_1 \vee x_3)} \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

\mathcal{E}

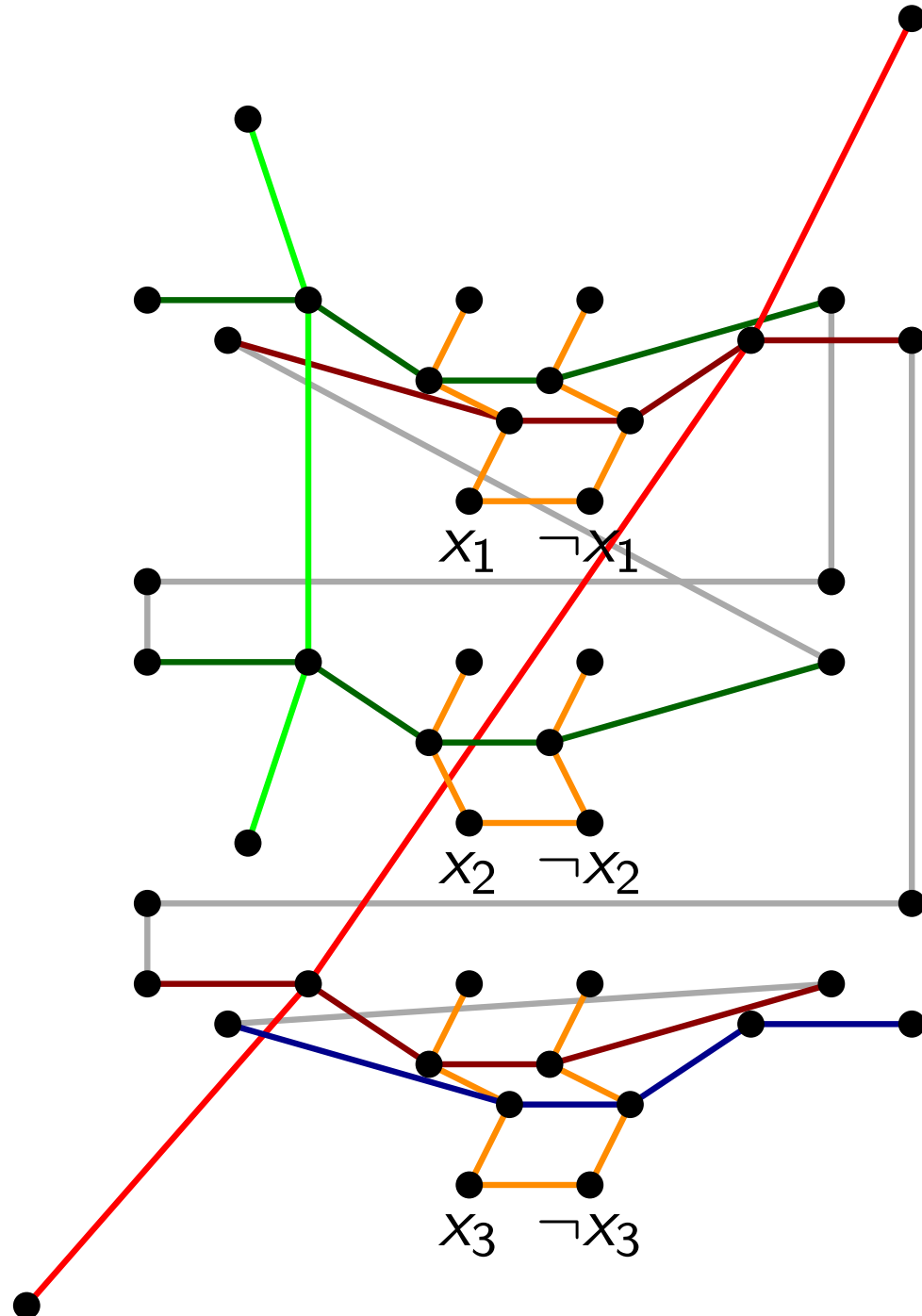


Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

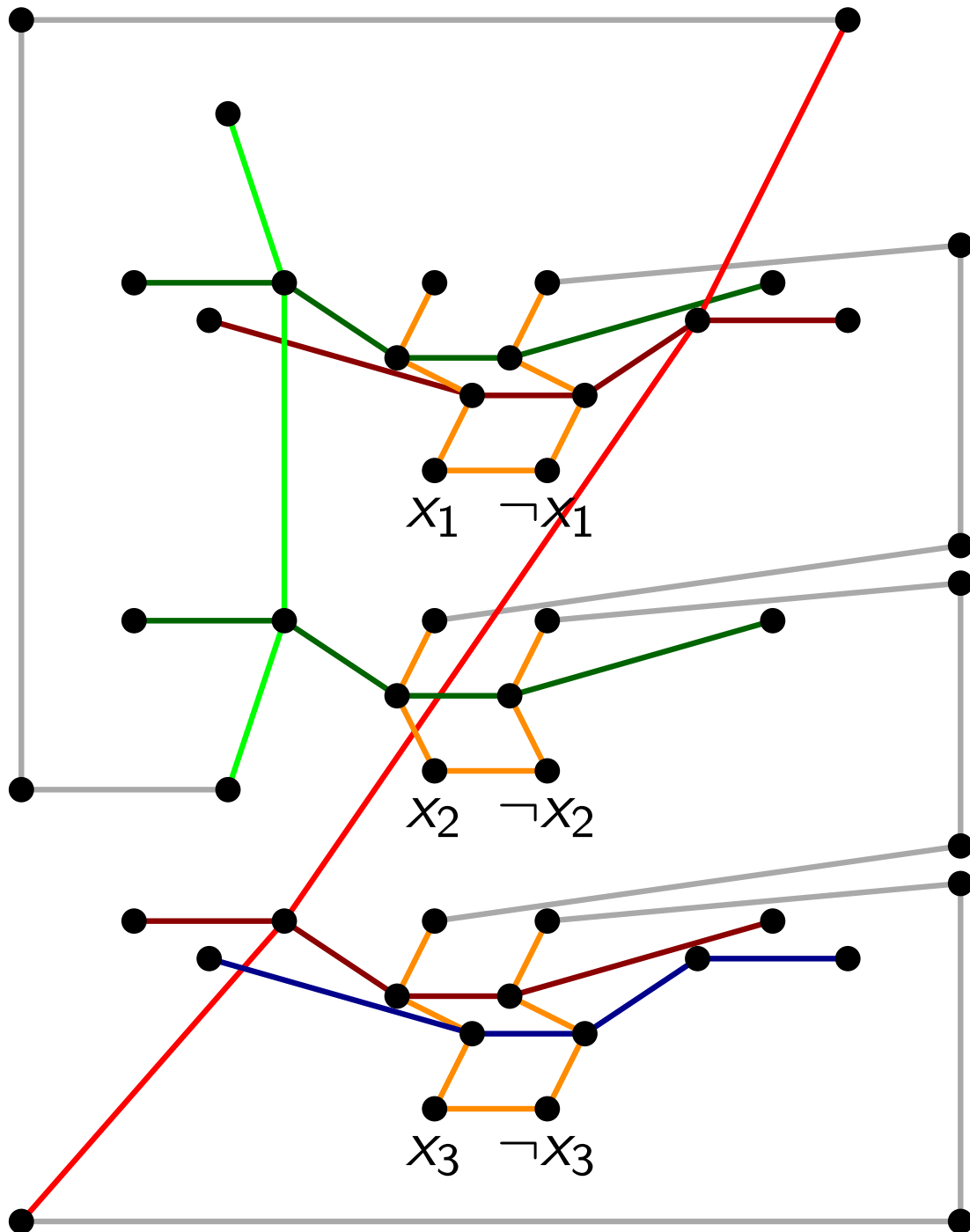
ε



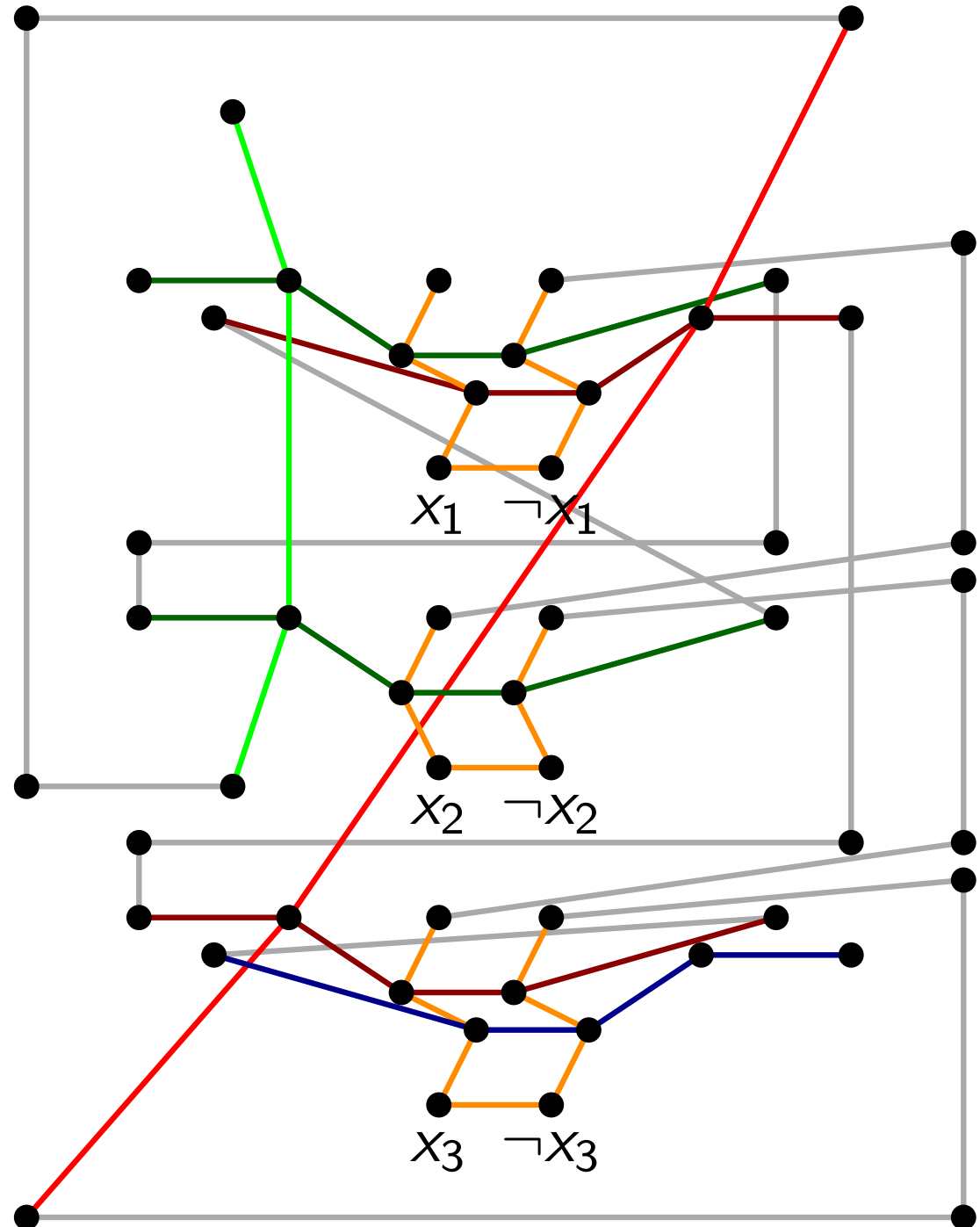
Full Example

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε



10



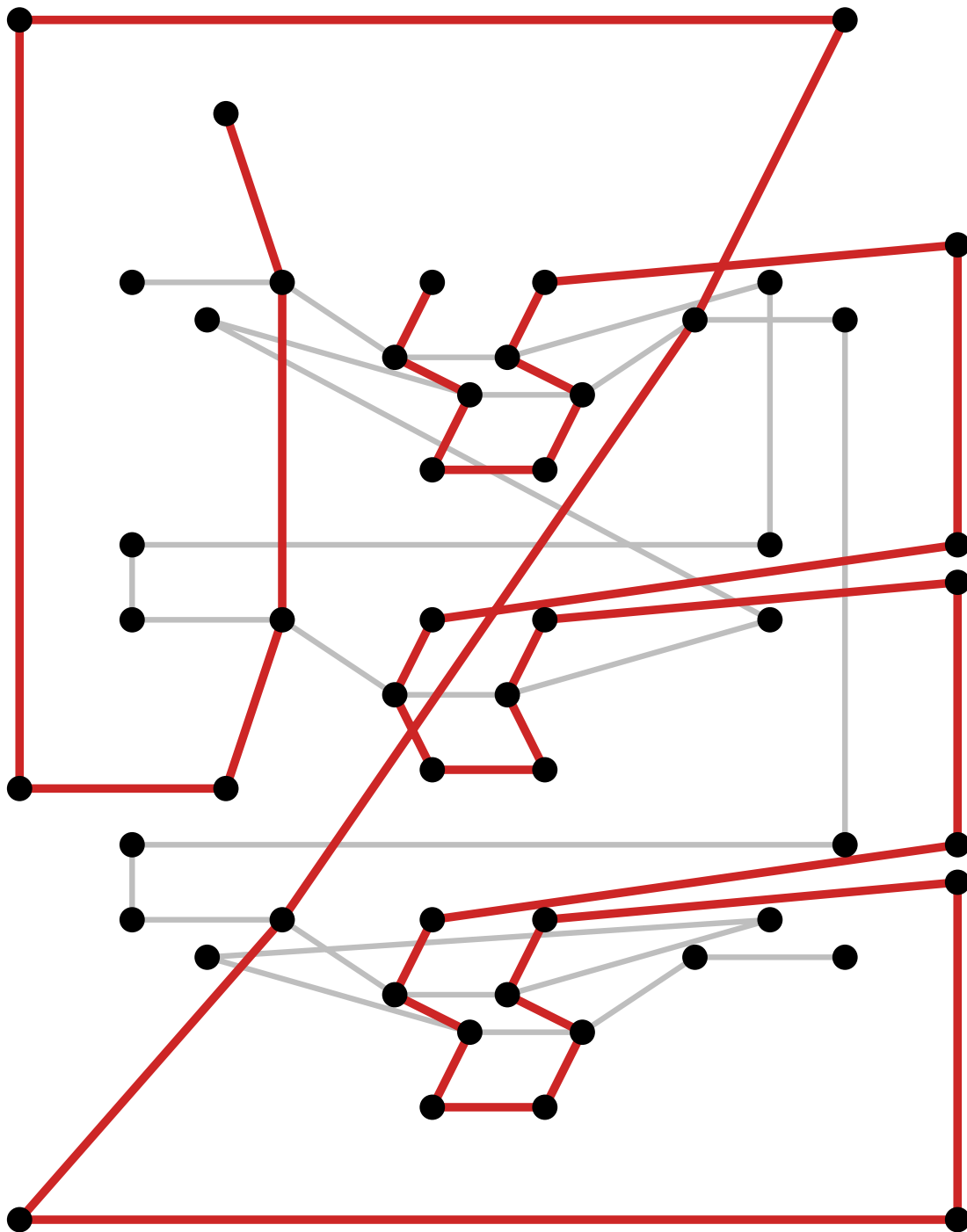
$$\begin{aligned} & (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

The diagram illustrates a 3D coordinate system with axes labeled x , y , and z . A blue line represents a path through a grid of points, showing a sequence of steps in a 3D space. The path starts at the origin and moves through various points, illustrating a complex trajectory. The grid points are arranged in a 3D lattice, and the blue line connects them in a specific sequence, representing a path or a sequence of steps in the 3D space.

Full Example

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

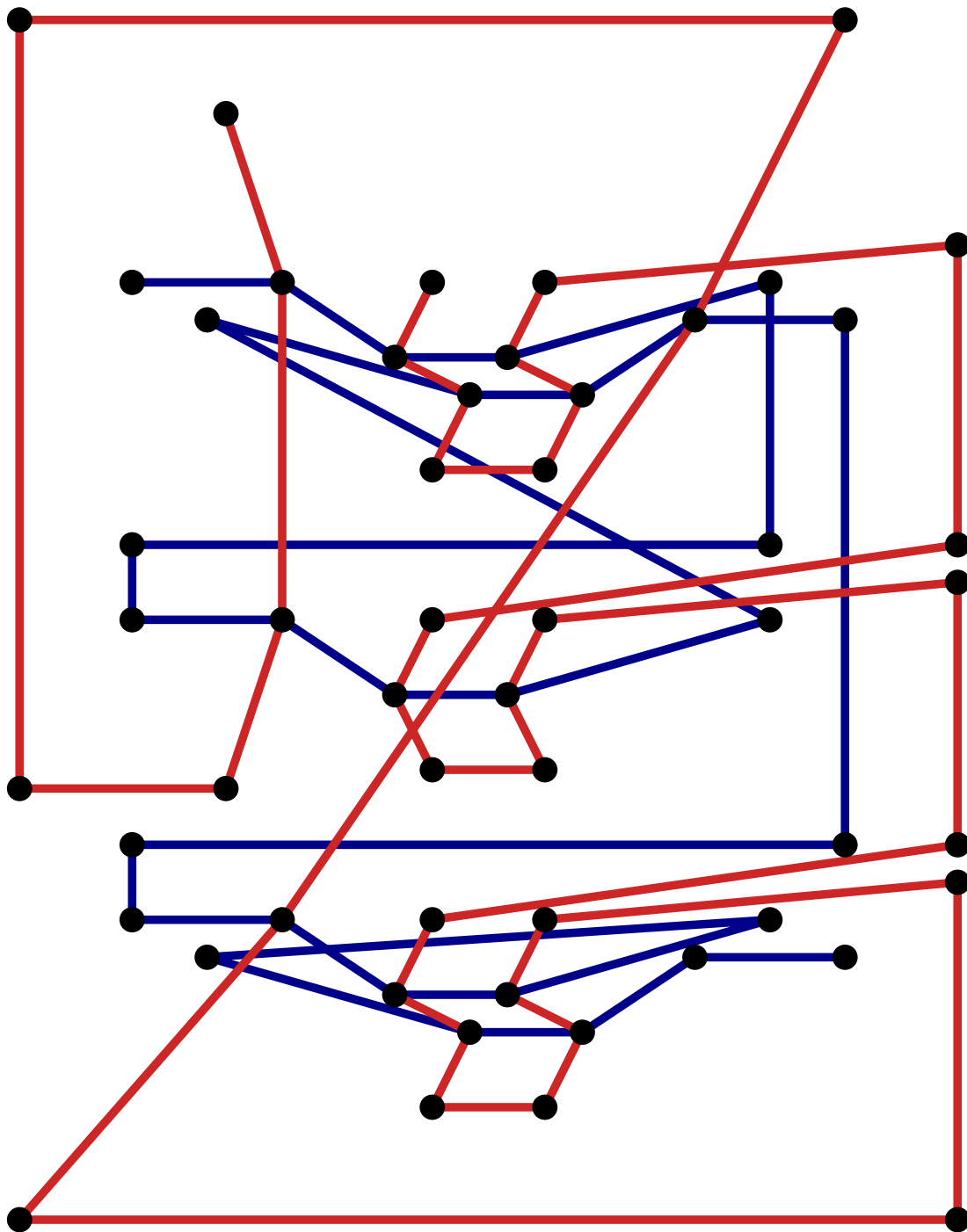
ε



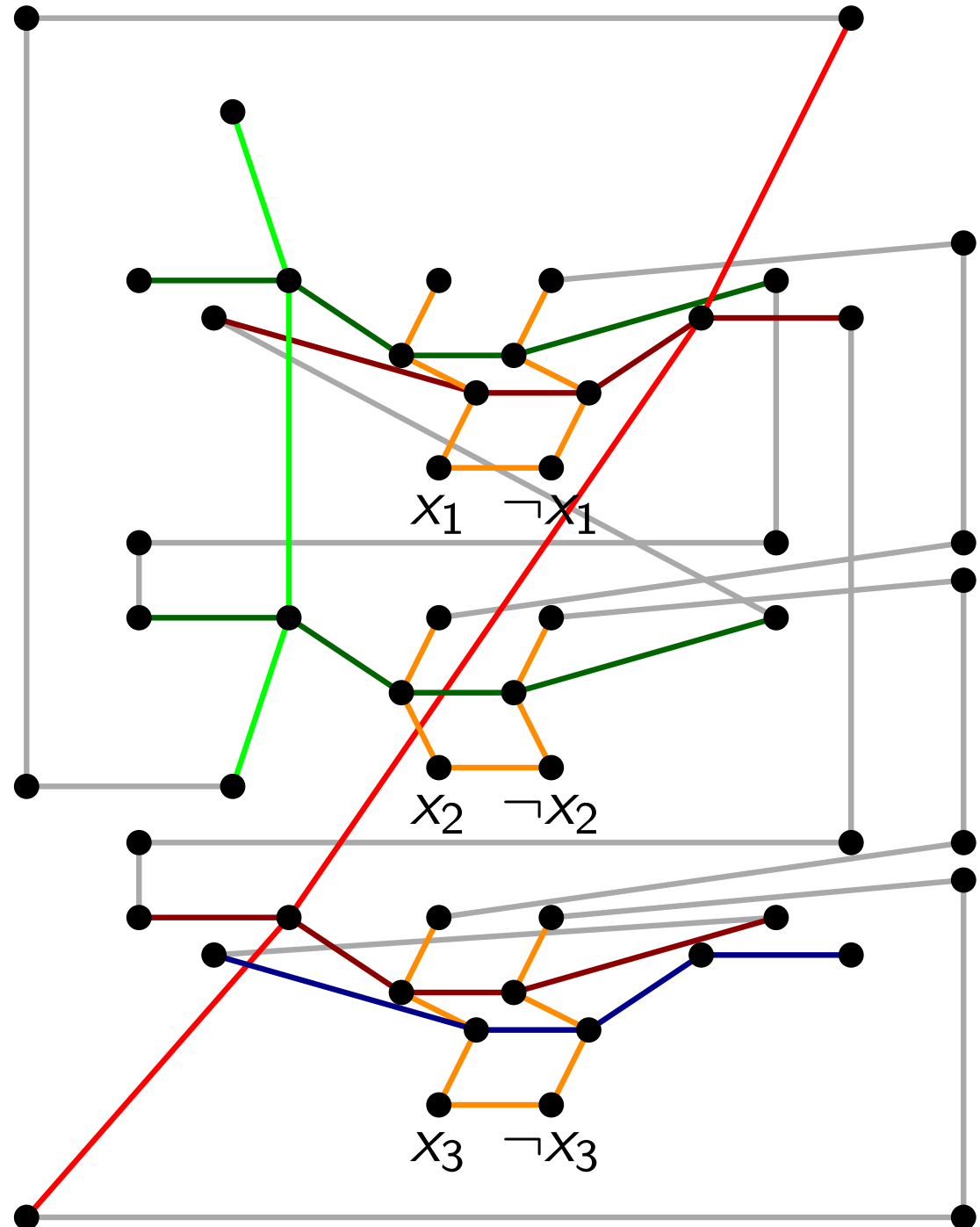
Full Example

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

\mathcal{C}



10

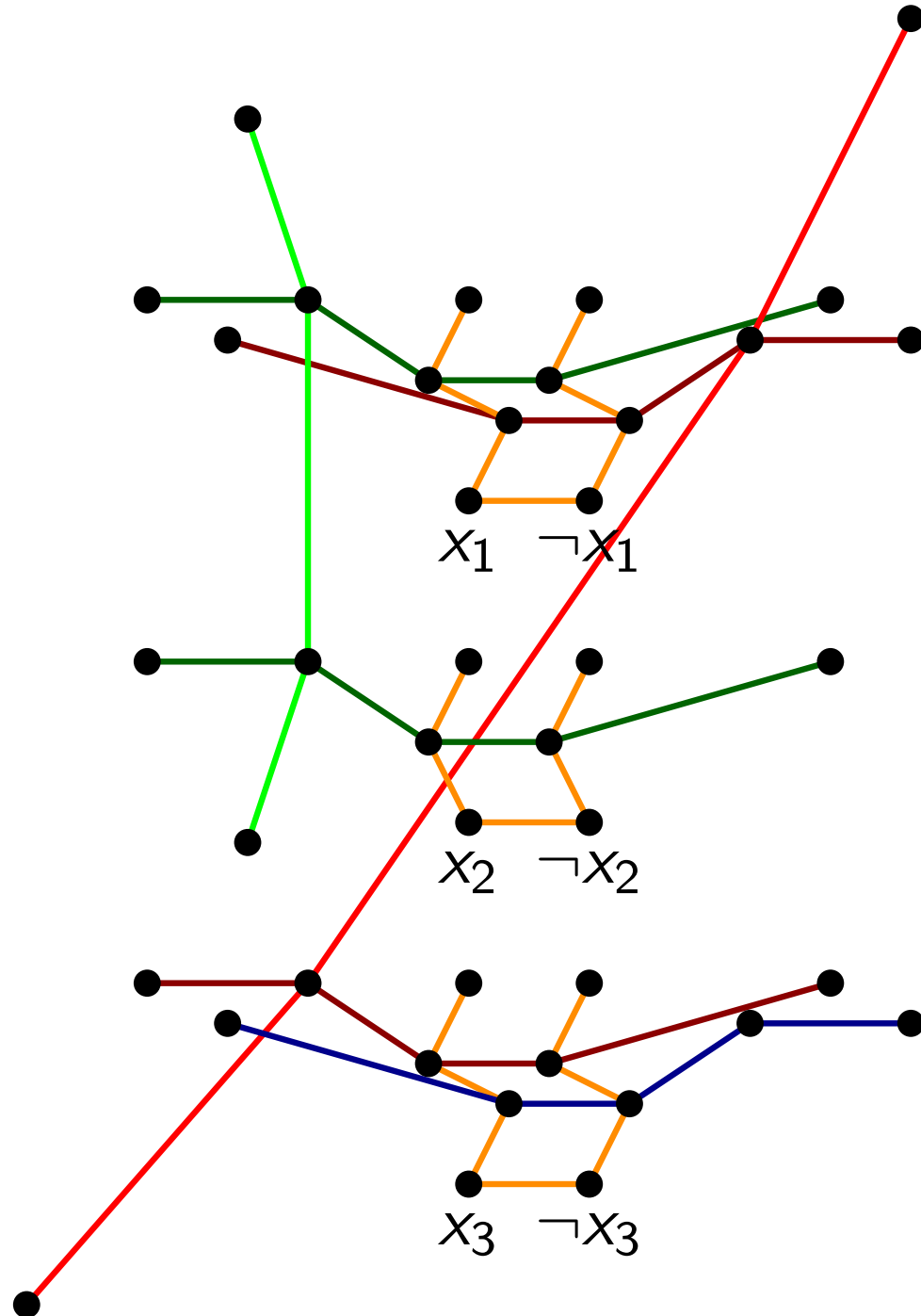


Full Example

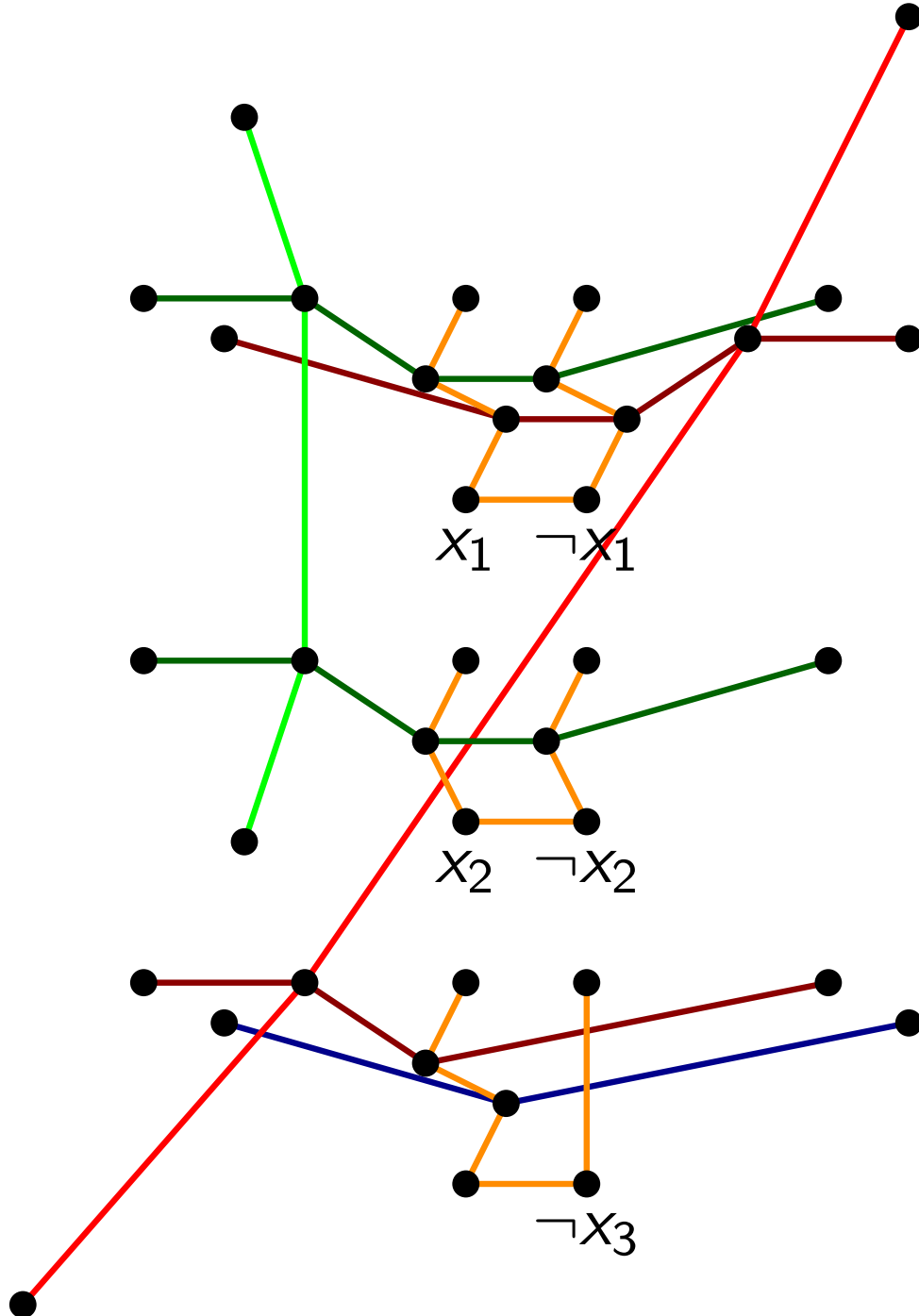
10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε



Full Example

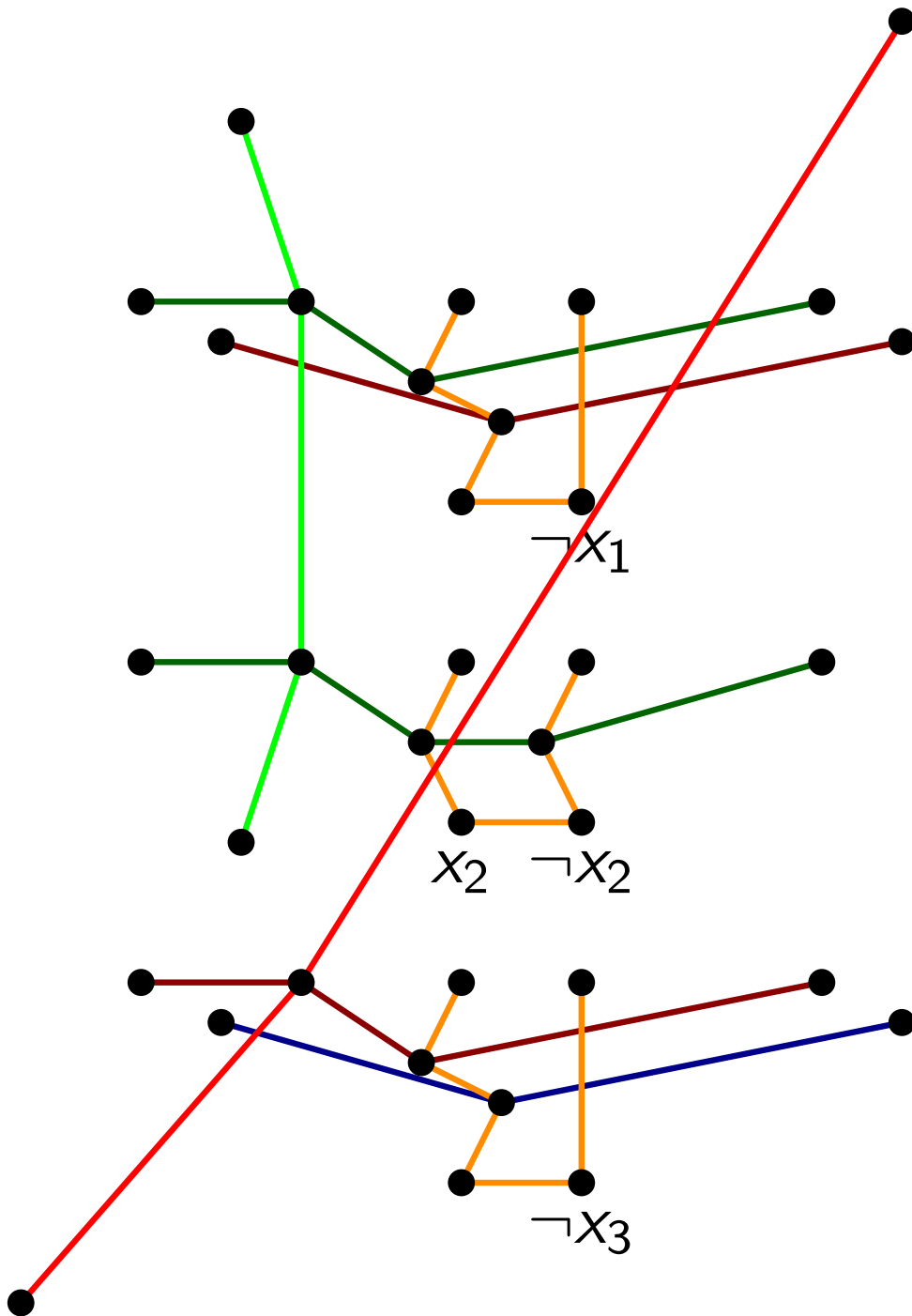
$$\begin{aligned} & (x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$


Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε

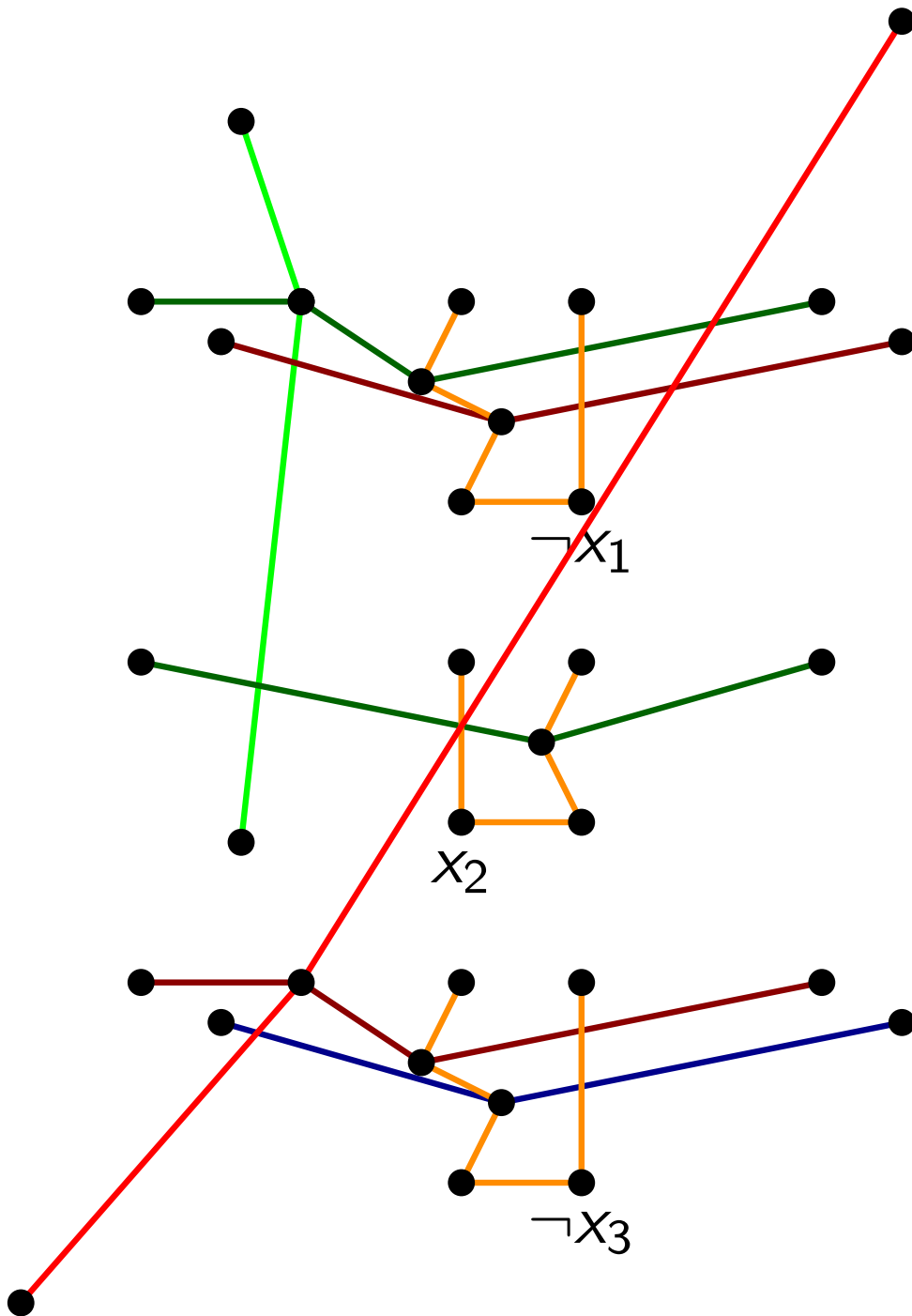


Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε



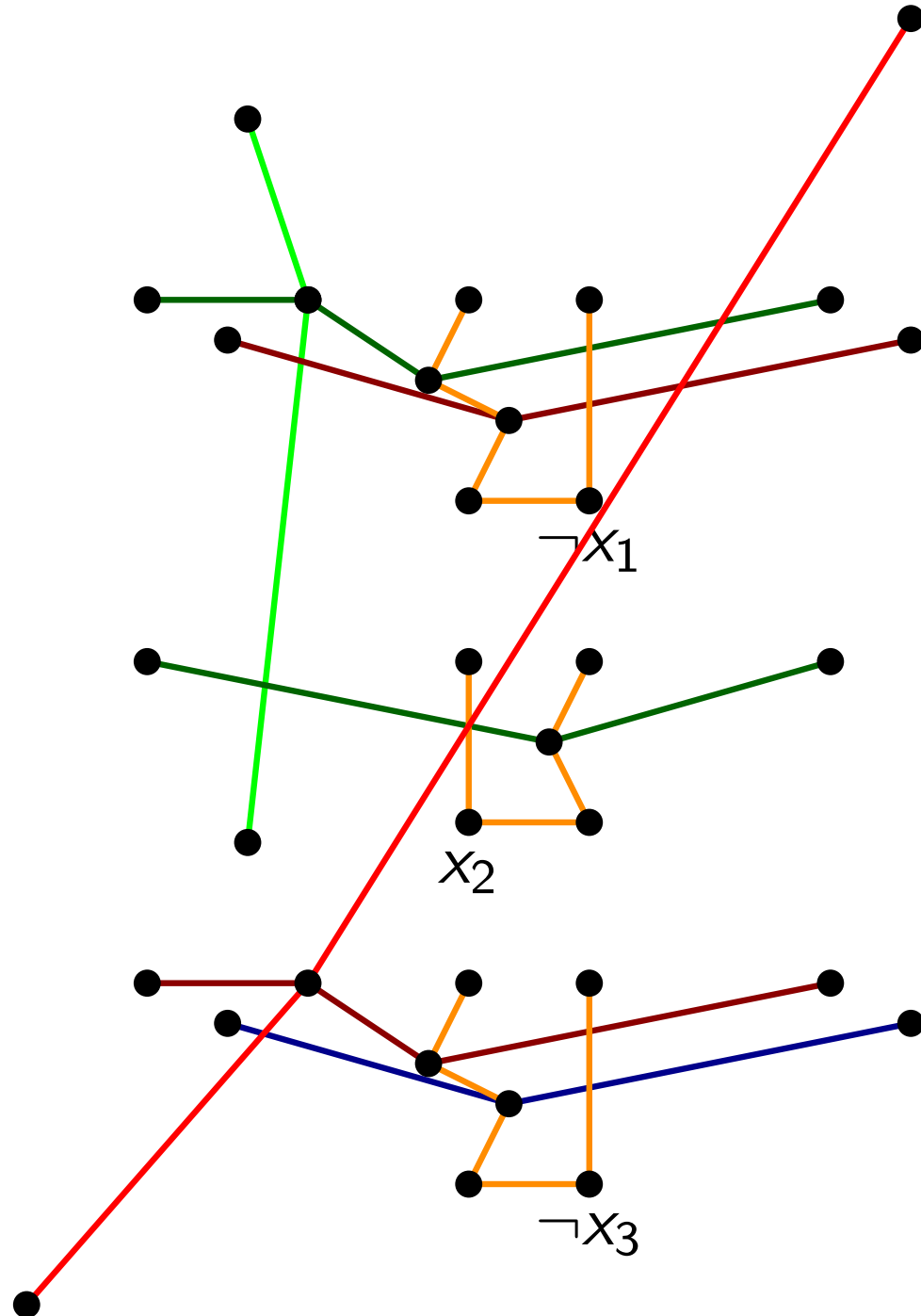
Full Example

10

$$\begin{aligned} &(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ &(\neg x_3) \end{aligned}$$

ε

We can even obtain
APX-hardness by the
reduction from
MAX-2-SAT



Fixed-Parameter Tractability

11

Theorem 2:

Simplifying a bundle of polylines is fixed-parameter tractable in the number of shared vertices for the goals MIN-VERTICES and MIN-EDGES.

Theorem 2:

Simplifying a bundle of polylines is fixed-parameter tractable in the number of shared vertices for the goals MIN-VERTICES and MIN-EDGES.

Proof Sketch:

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Simplifying a bundle of polylines is fixed-parameter tractable in the number of shared vertices for the goals MIN-VERTICES and MIN-EDGES.

Proof Sketch:

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- Running time in $O(2^k \cdot \ell n^2)$

$$k := |V_{\text{shared}}|, \quad \ell := \# \text{ polylines}, \quad n := \# \text{ vertices}$$

Summary

Problem:

Simplify a set of polylines sharing some vertices and edges

Goal 1: Minimize the number of vertices

Goal 2: Minimize the number of edges

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- Since there is no PTAS, is there a constant factor approximation algorithm?