

# Preserving topology while sampling

Trials and tribulations

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Andrew Rechnitzer   Nick Beaton   Nathan Clisby

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February 2022 — Richard Brak

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- What does a trefoil look like?
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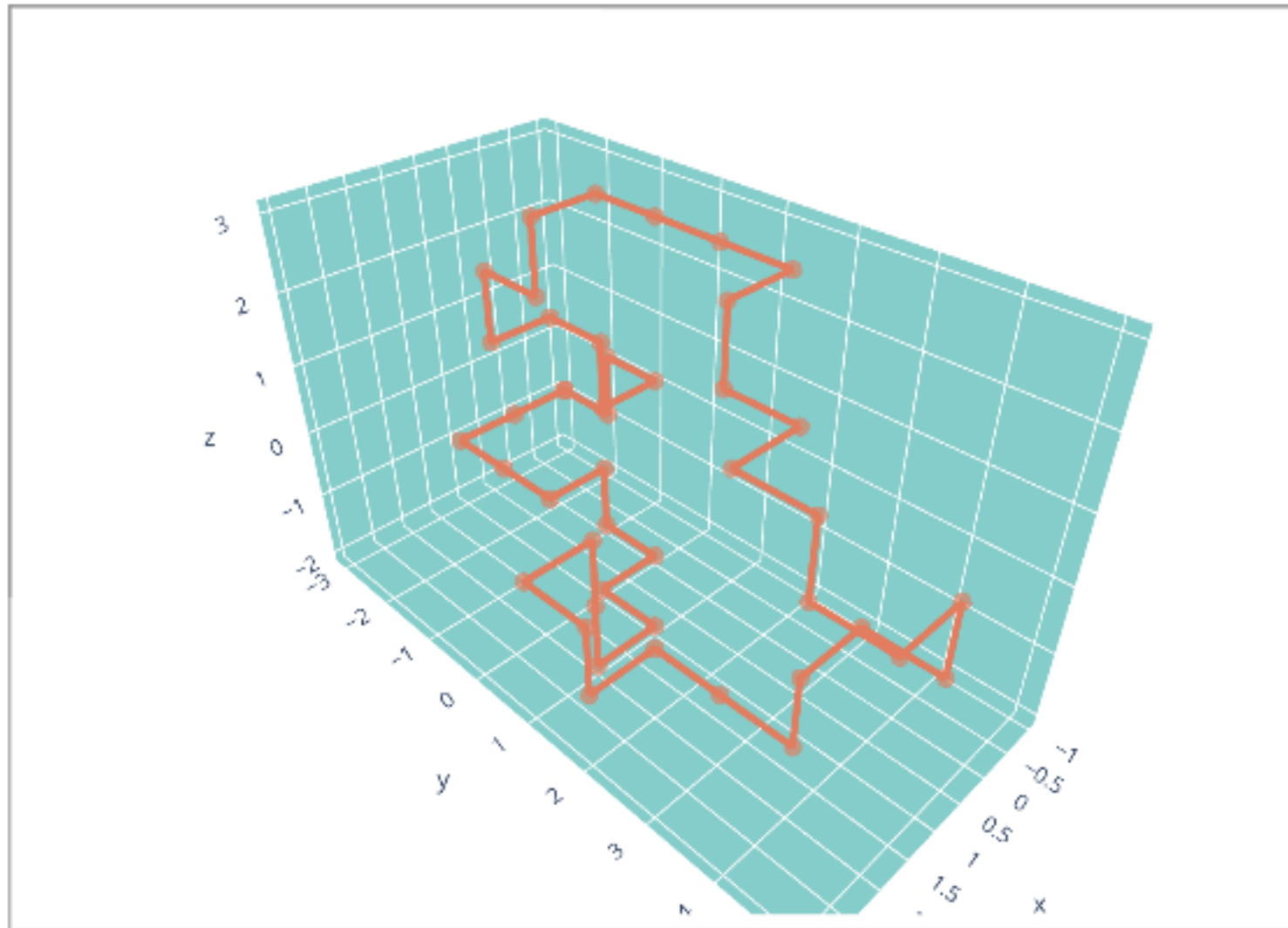
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How hard could it be?

My favourite two measures

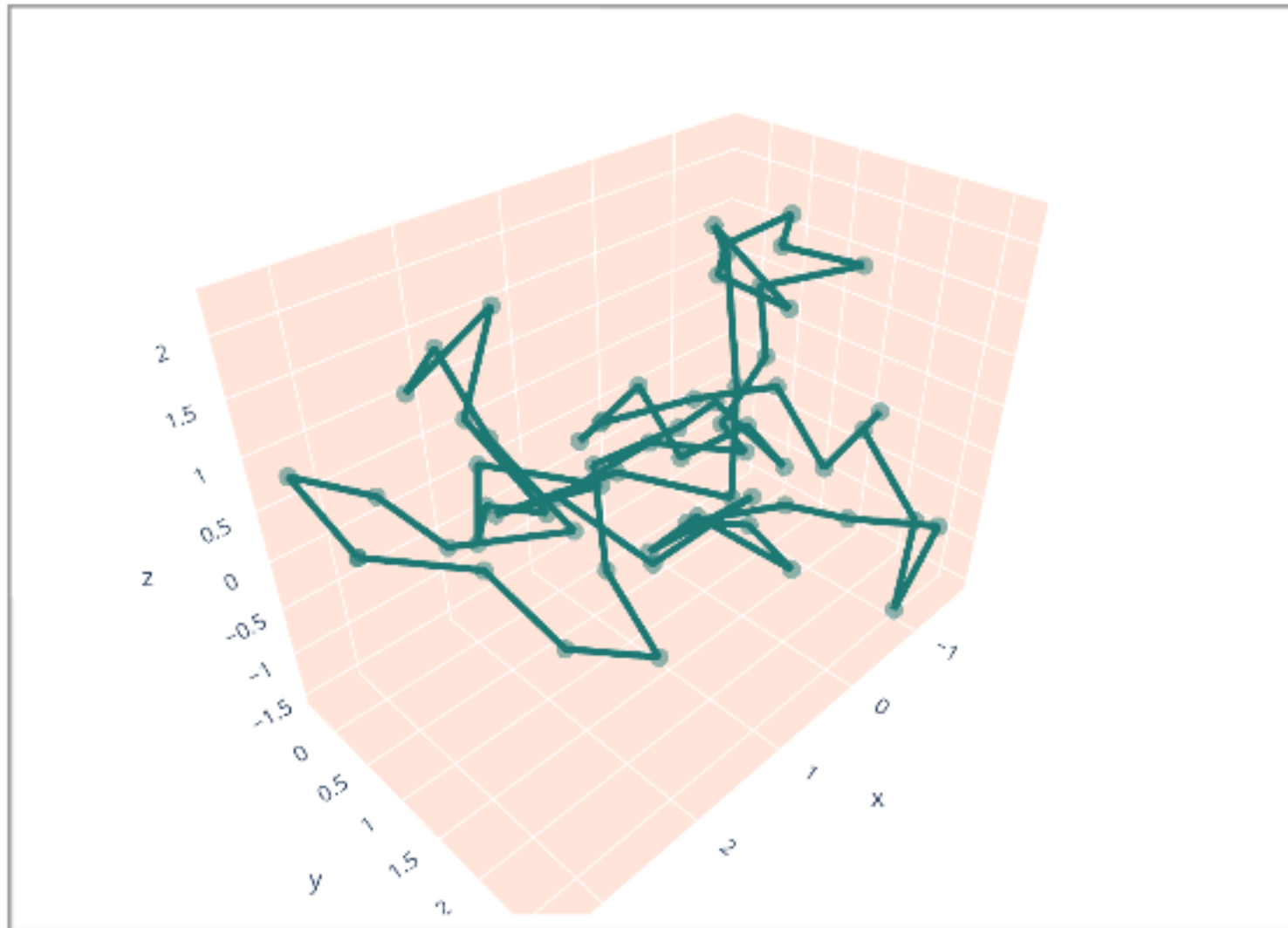
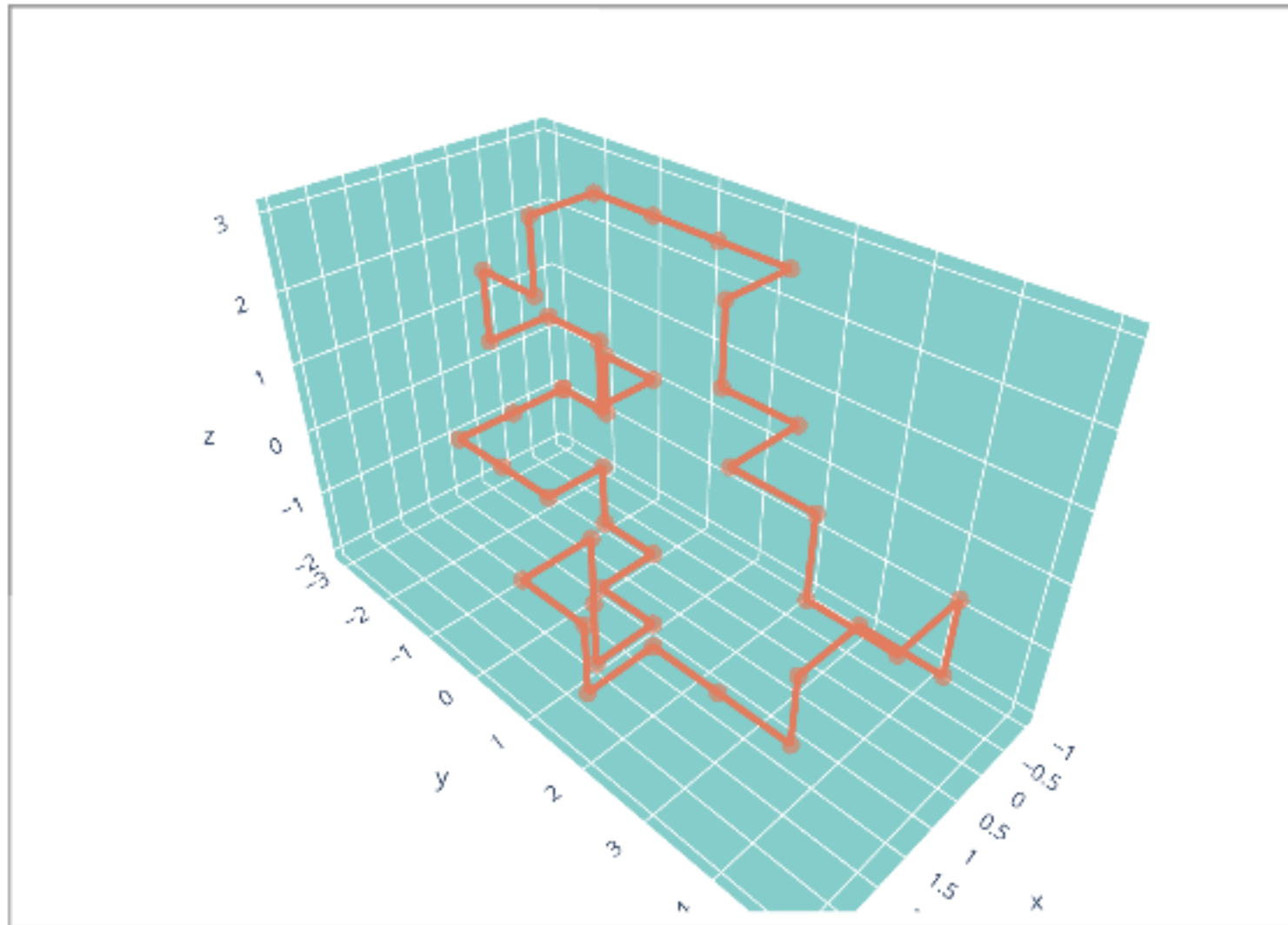
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- Self-avoiding polygons (SAP) in  $\mathbb{Z}^3$ 
  - embedding of simple loop into lattice
  - each embedding of length  $n$  equally likely
- Equilateral random polygons (ERP) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ 
  - each edge has unit length
  - edge direction chosen uniformly on  $S^2$ , conditioned to close





## Analytic results are very hard

- Work by [Whittington](#), [Sumners](#), [Millett](#), [Soteros](#), [van Rensburg](#), [Orlandini](#), [Deguchi](#), [Cantarella](#), [Micheletti](#), [Grosberg](#), ...
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## Resort to random sampling instead

- Sample a superset and then sieve out the ones you want, or
- Sample only curves of the given fixed topology

## Sample superset then sieve #1

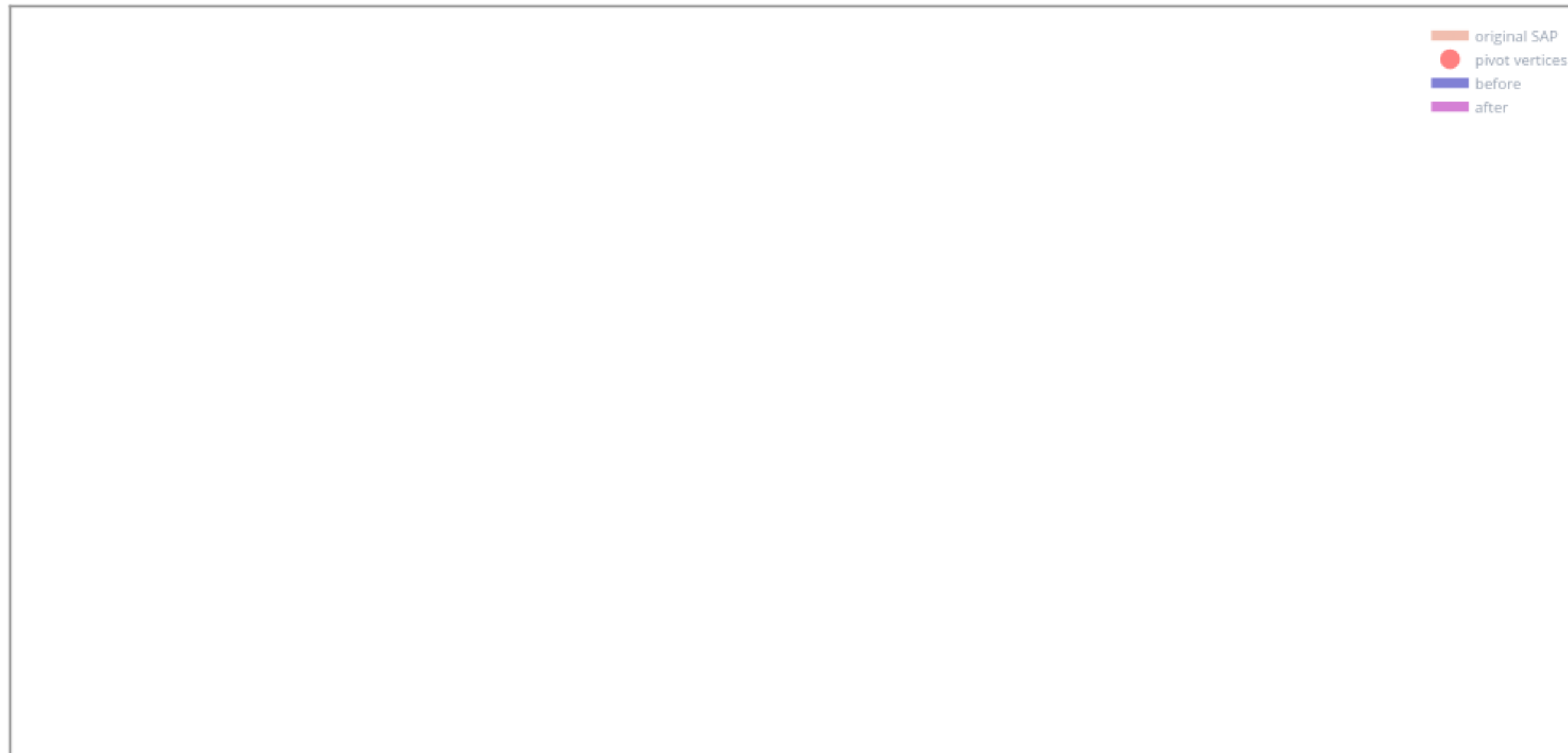
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## Sample superset then sieve #2

- Pivot algorithm on SAP of fixed length — [Lai \(1969\)](#), [Madras & Sokal \(1988\)](#), [Madras et al \(1990\)](#)
- [Clisby \(2010\)](#) implementation —  $O(\log n)$  to sample statistically "*independent*" walk



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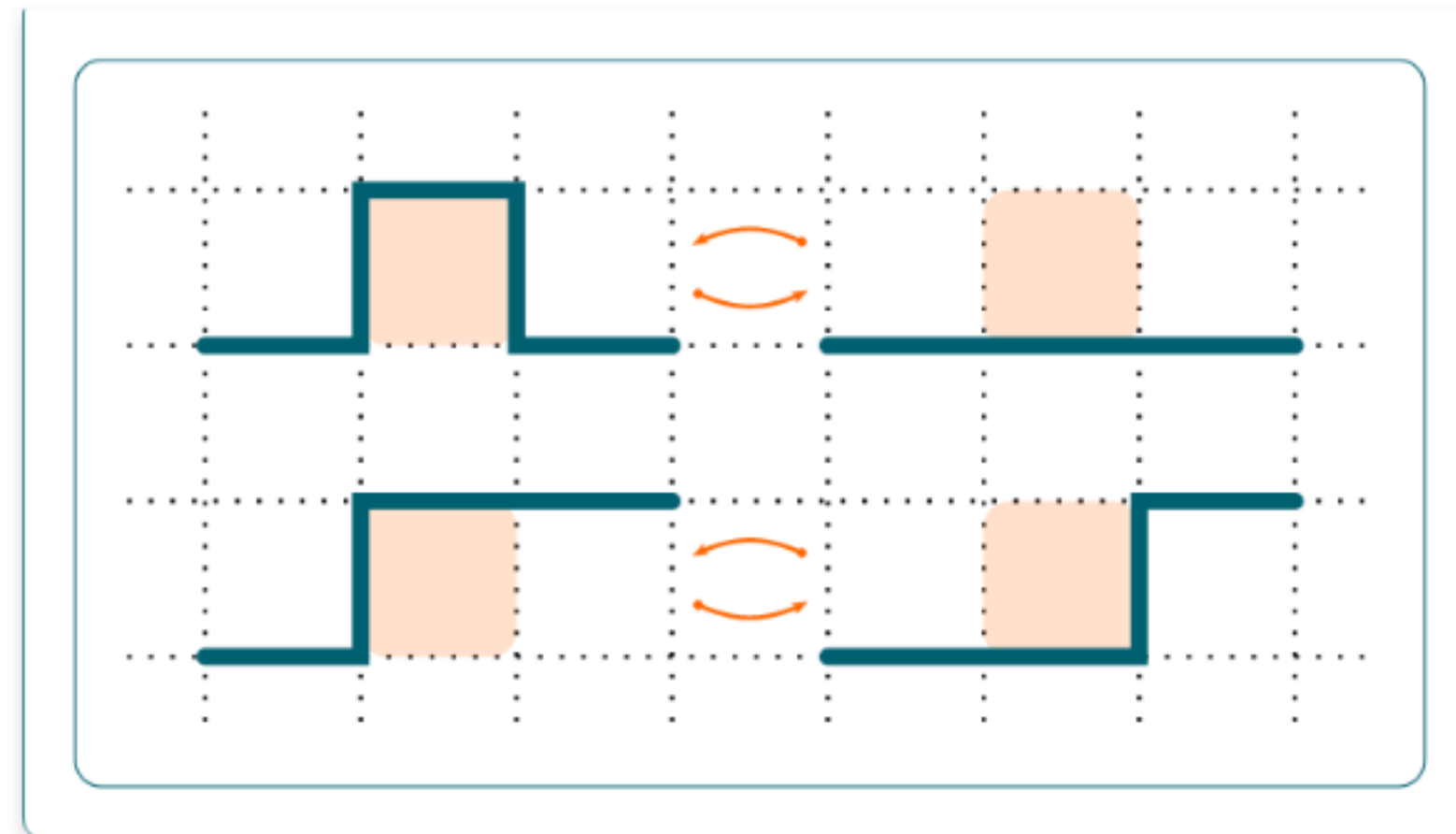
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- Aside — how can we measure the trefoilness of a larger knot?

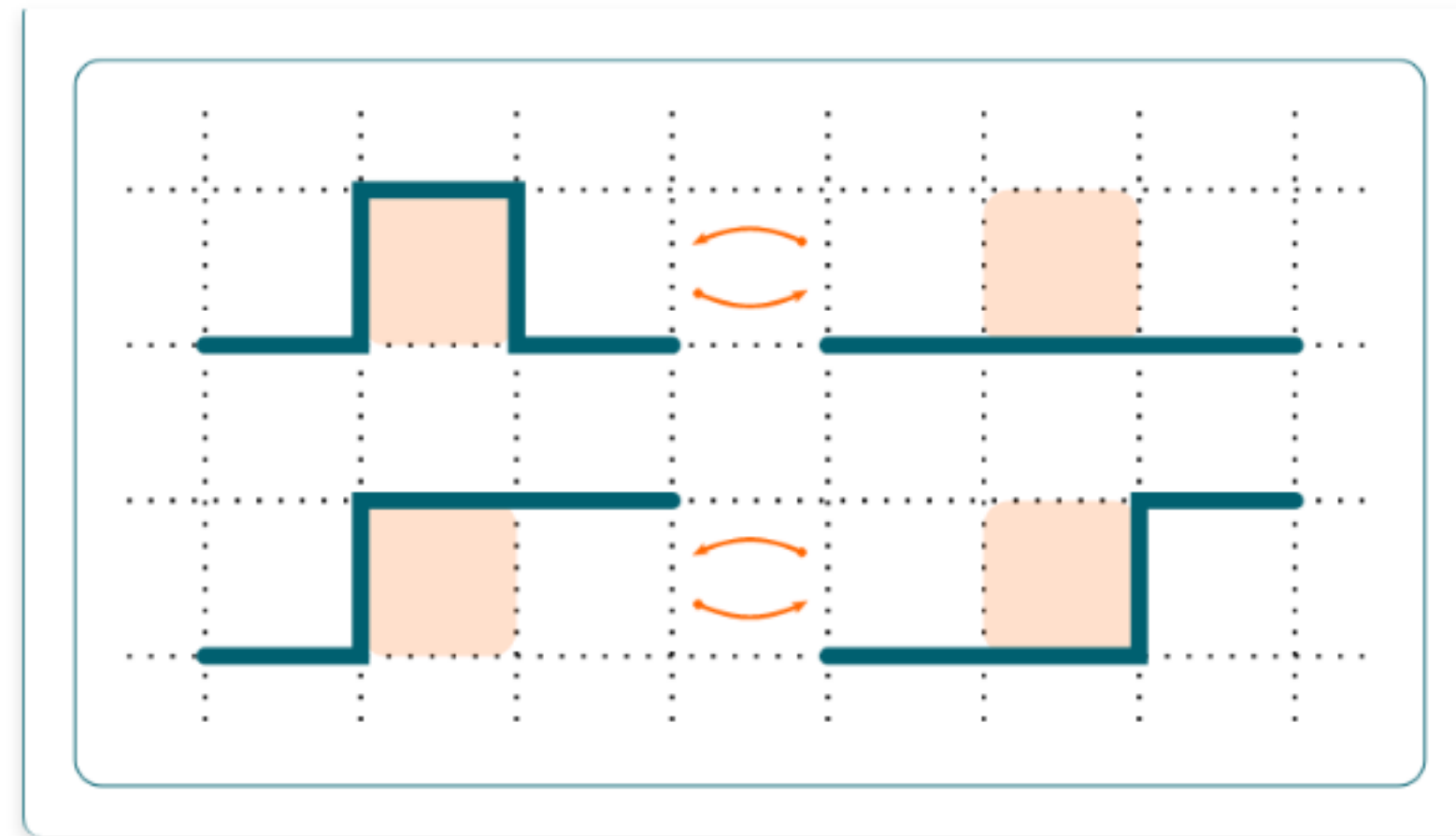
## Sample only fixed topology #1

- Markov chain on SAPs of fixed topology — [B.F.A.C.F. \(1981, 1983\)](#)
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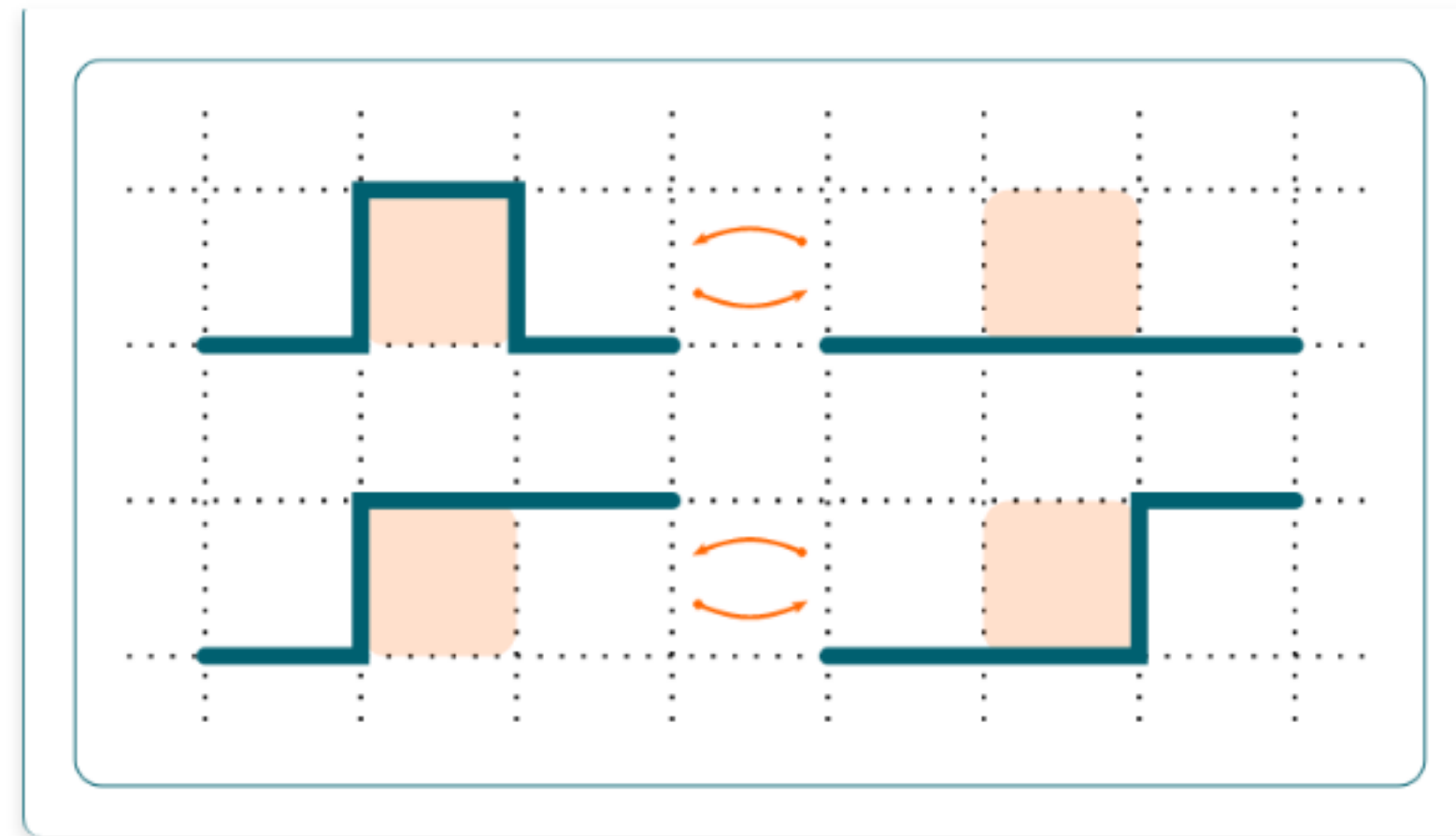
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- Start with small conformation — deform with local moves
- Tune so that grow/shrink moves equally likely to succeed

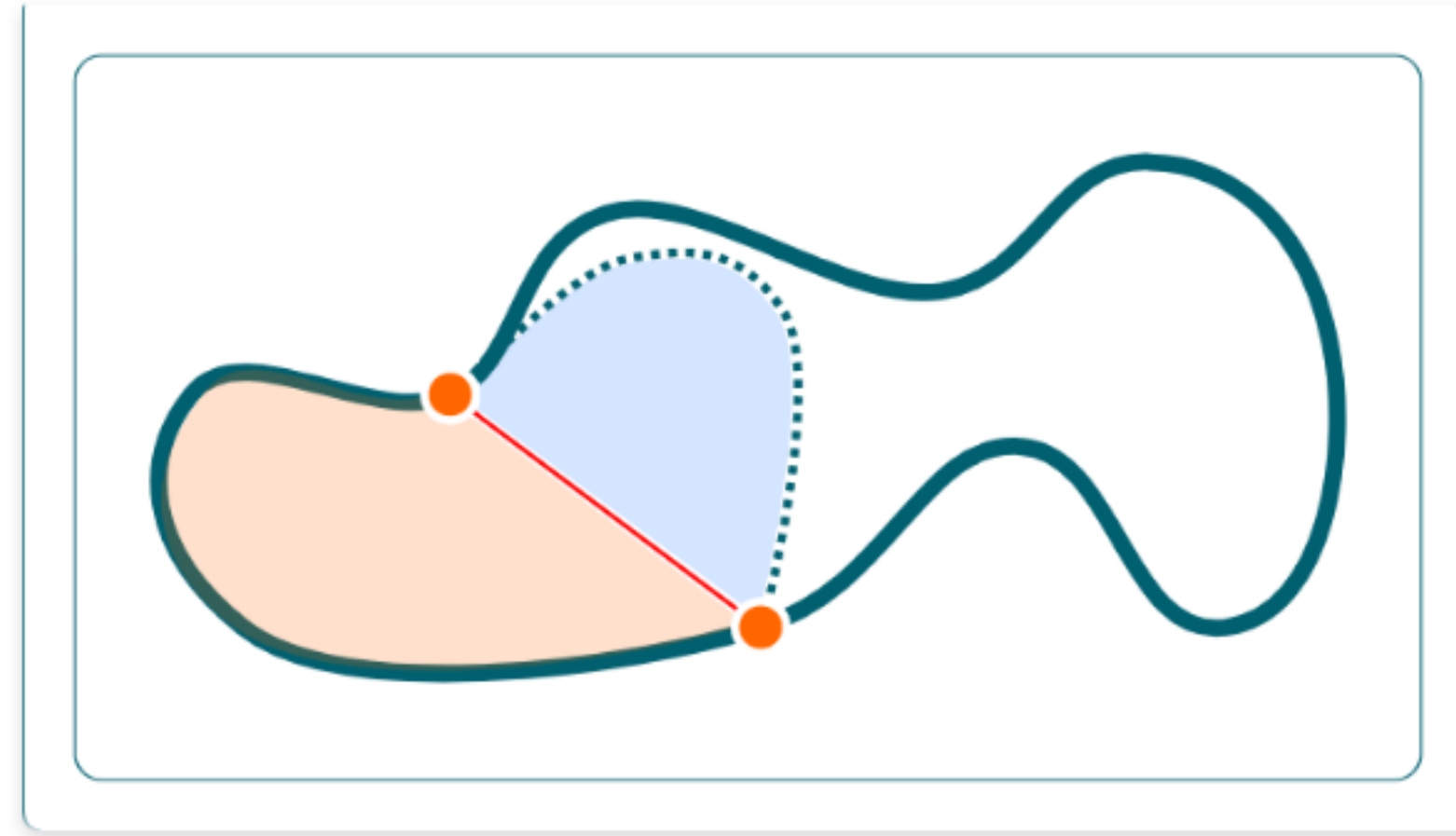
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- Start with small conformation — deform with local moves
- Tune so that grow/shrink moves equally likely to succeed
- Random walk on polygon length — long time to sample "*independent*" long polygons

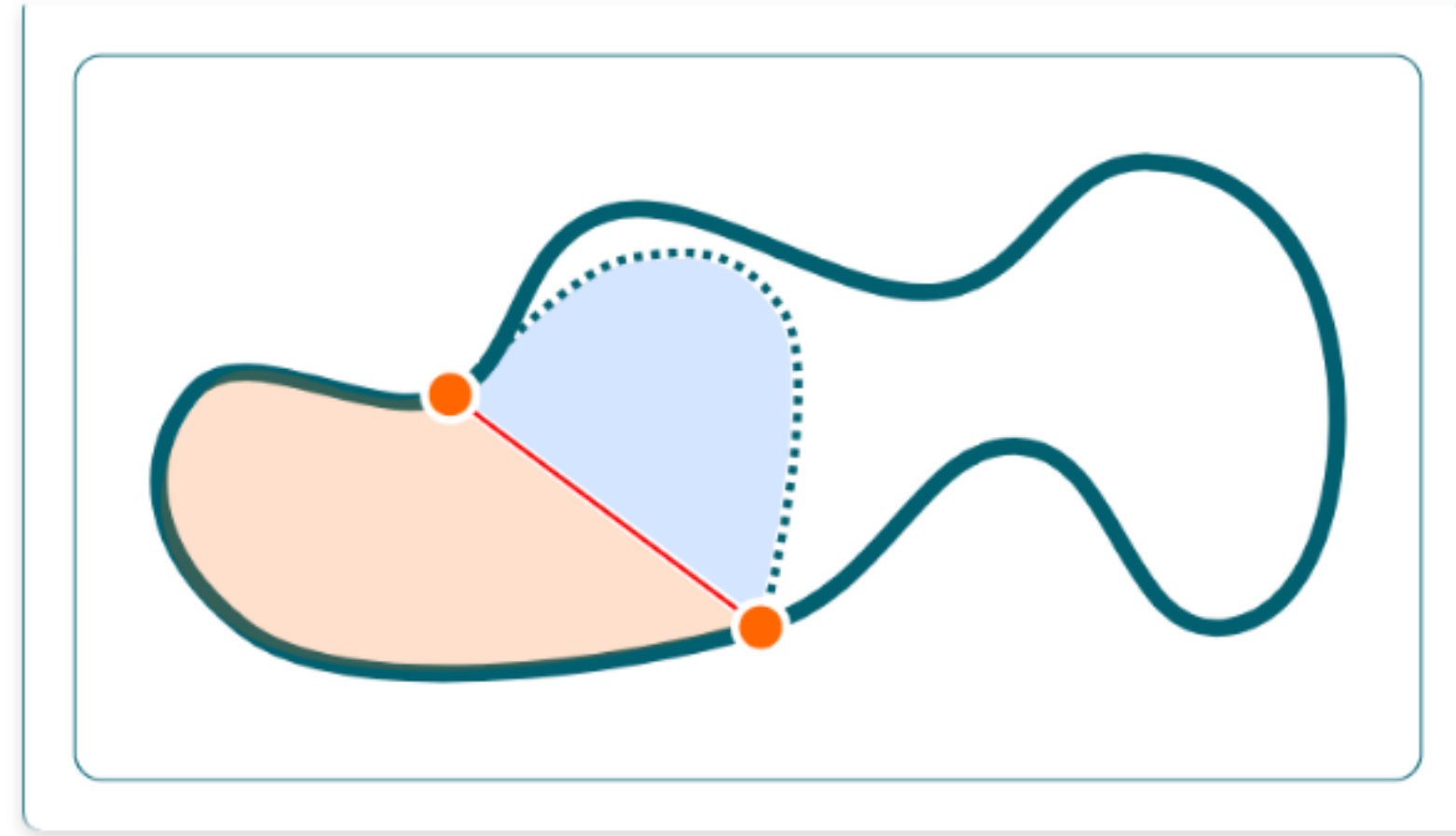
## Fixed topology #2 — restricted pivots



- Pivot with excluded area algorithm [Zhao & Ferrari \(2012\)](#)
- Attempt pivot segment  $\Phi \mapsto \Phi'$
- Pivot fails if edge crosses surface bordered by  $\Phi \cup \Phi'$



## Fixed topology #2 — restricted pivots



- Pivot with excluded area algorithm [Zhao & Ferrari \(2012\)](#)
- Attempt pivot segment  $\Phi \mapsto \Phi'$
- Pivot fails if edge crosses surface bordered by  $\Phi \cup \Phi'$
- Computationally intensive — only allowed short segment  $|\Phi| \leq 5$
- Probably "okay" for moderate size polygons — but not ergodic [Madras & Sokal \(1987\)](#)

So what can we do to speed things up?



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  - need not "*literally*" pivot the segment about the axis
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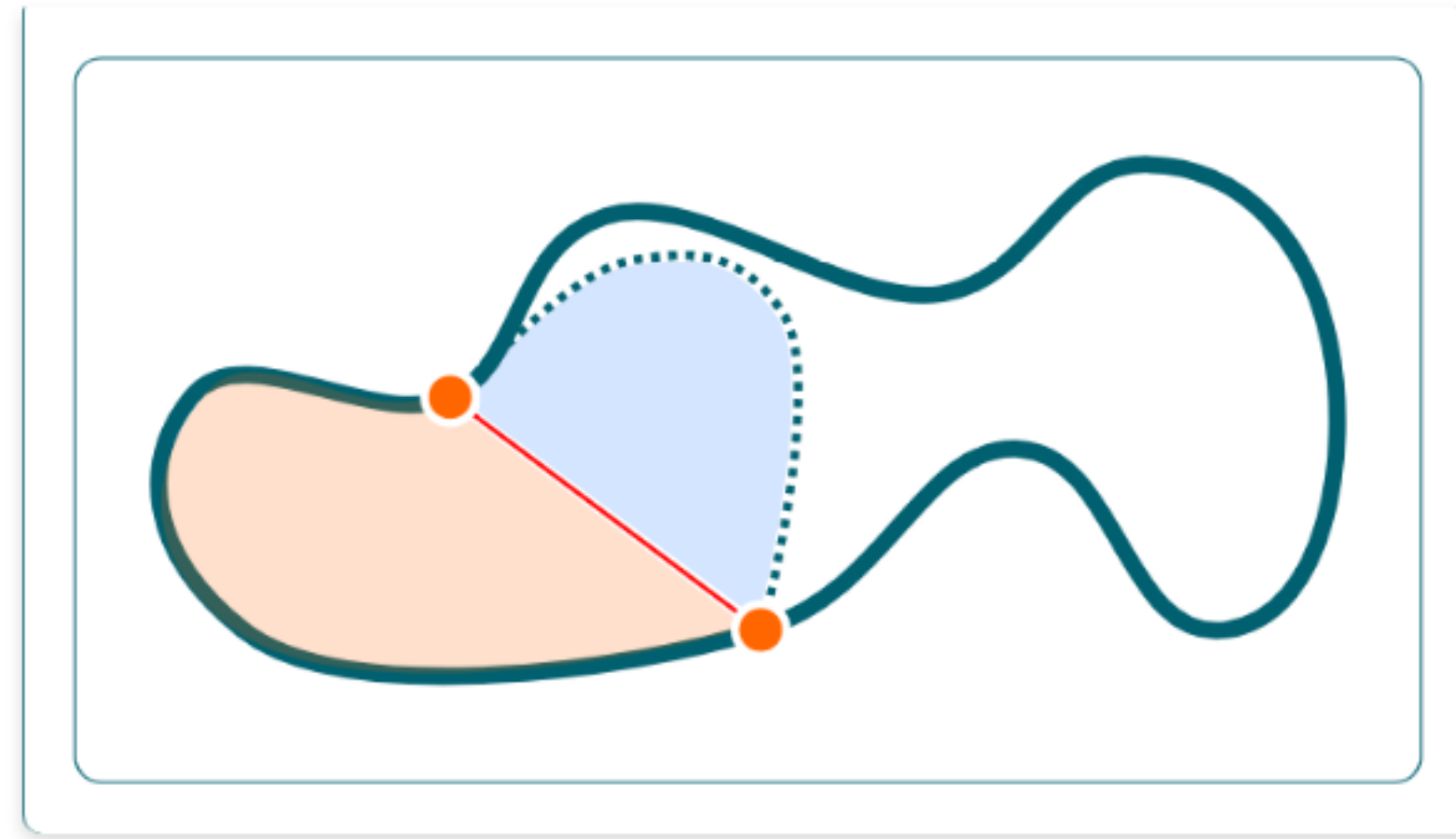
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  - Store polygon and symmetries in binary tree
  - Lazy evaluation of observables — don't write down the polygon

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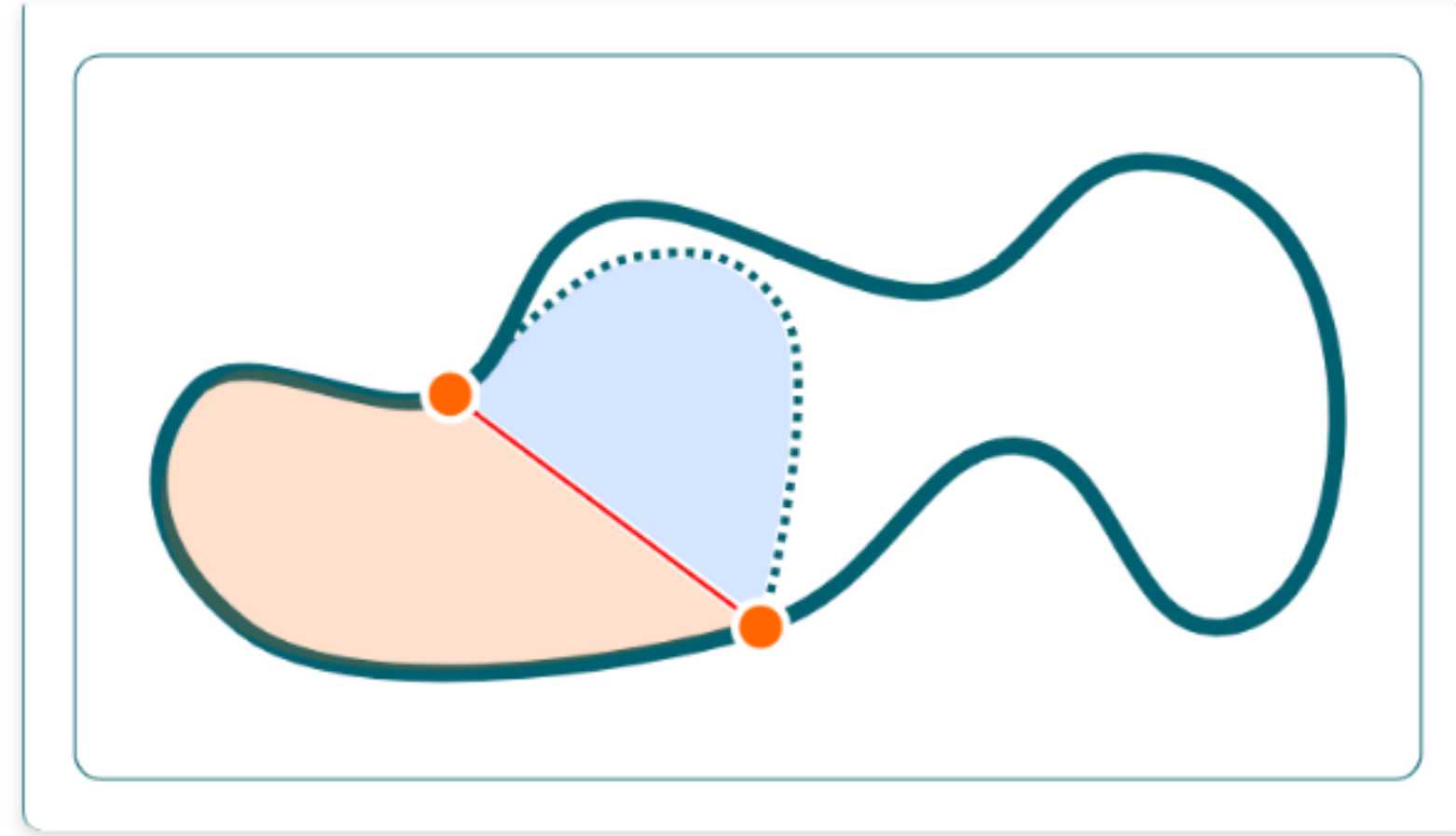
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- Aside — this is actually not so far from [Cantarellean encoding](#) of polygons via triangulations

## Inner pivot



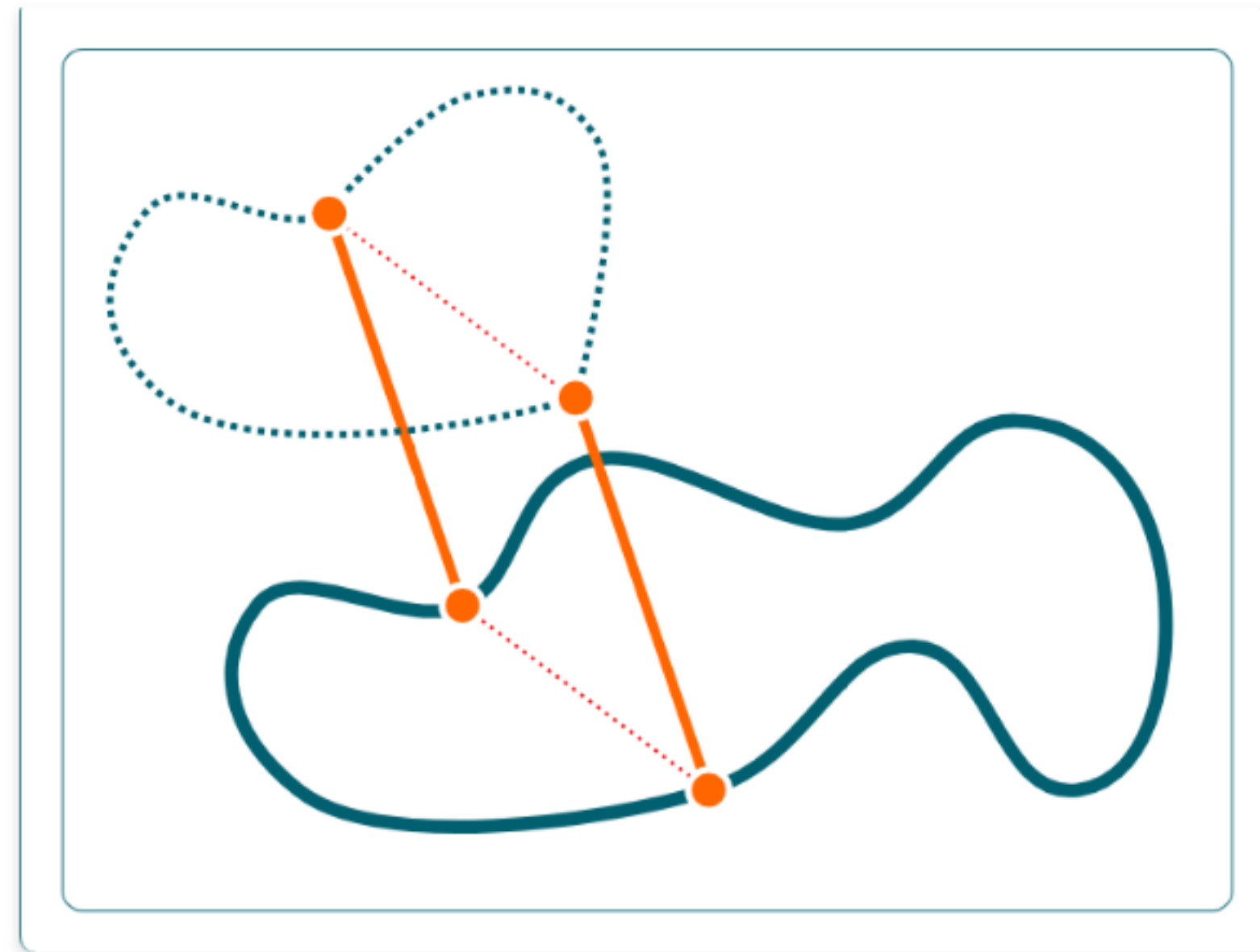
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## Inner pivot



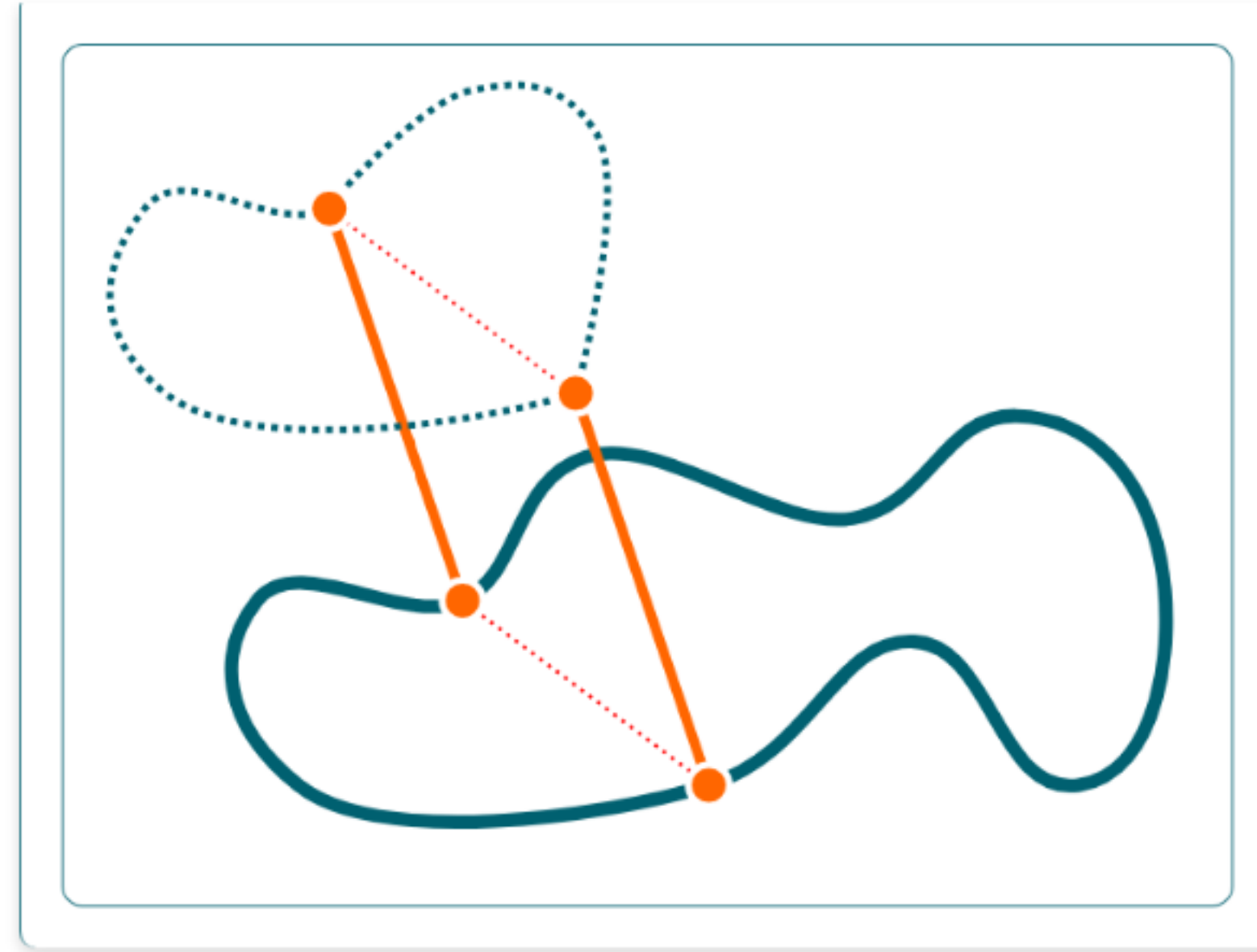
- Pick pivot segment and rotation angle
- Topology checking
  - Each pivot edge maps out a twisted quadrilateral
  - Check intersection of fixed edges with triangulation of those quadrilaterals
  - Use ray-tracing methods — eg [Möller-Trumbore \(1997\)](#)

## Outer pivot



- Pick the pivot segment and an orthogonal drag direction

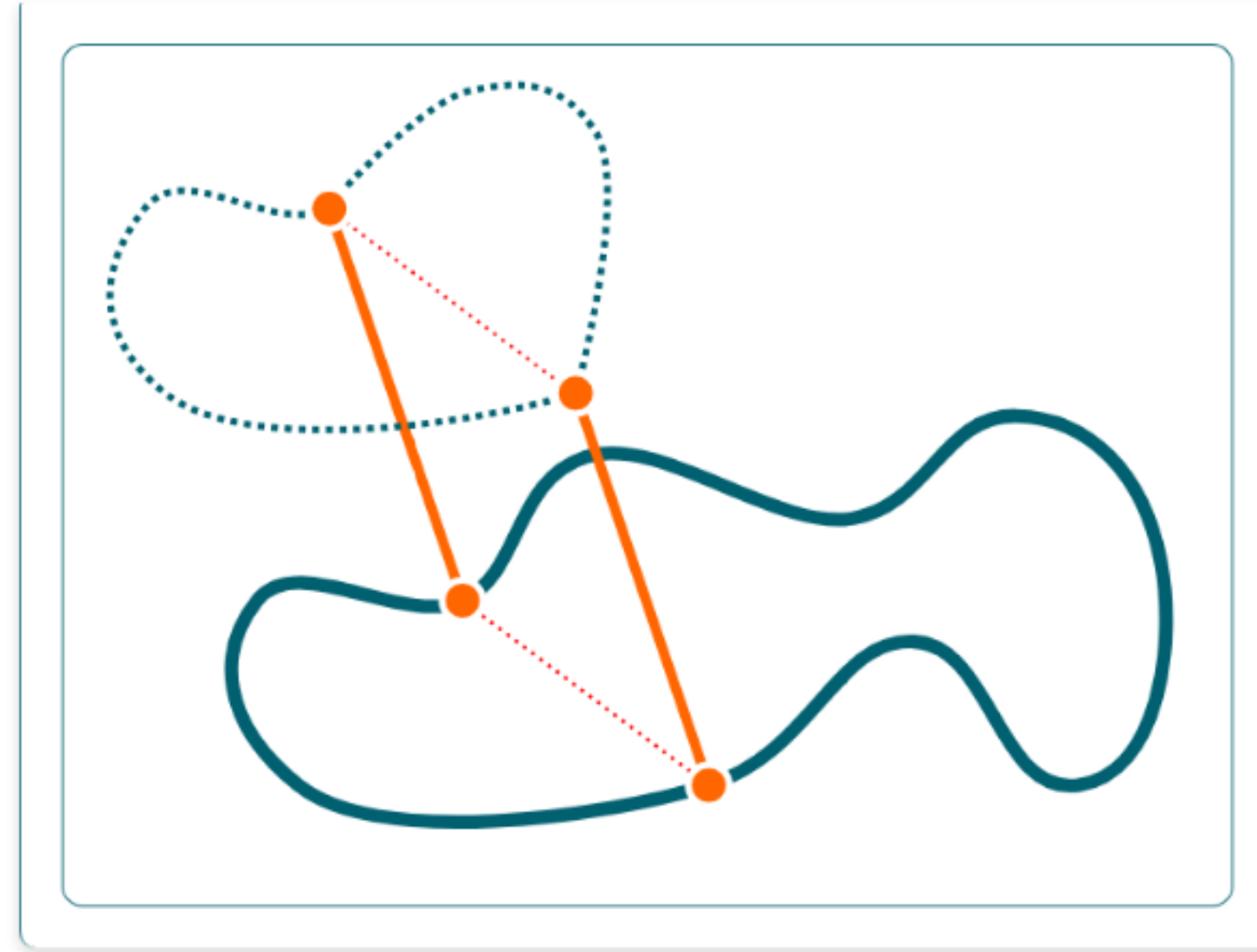
## Outer pivot



- Pick the pivot segment and an orthogonal drag direction
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- Pick the pivot segment and an orthogonal drag direction
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  - drag the segment back from infinity
- Topology checking
  - drag to/from infinity  $\mapsto$  segment overlap in projection
  - pivot at infinity  $\mapsto$  check intersection with drag lines

## Simple implementation of inner and outer pivots

- Computation time is  $O(n^2)$  or  $O(n \log n)$ :
  - pick pivot vertices:  $O(1)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^3$
  - inner pivot: naive  $O(n^2)$ , but maybe as fast as  $O(n \log n)$ ?
  - drag to infinity: naive  $O(n^2)$ , or [Shamos-Hoey \(1976\)](#)  $O(n \log n)$
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- Autocorrelation time?

Clisbification by analogy

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- Consider the product  $q = x^a y^b z^c$ 
  - Numbers  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  changed rarely
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- Standard sneaky logarithmic trick
  - When  $y$  changes, pre-compute  $y^2, y^4, y^8, y^{16}, \dots$
  - Then find  $y^b$  as product of pre-computed powers

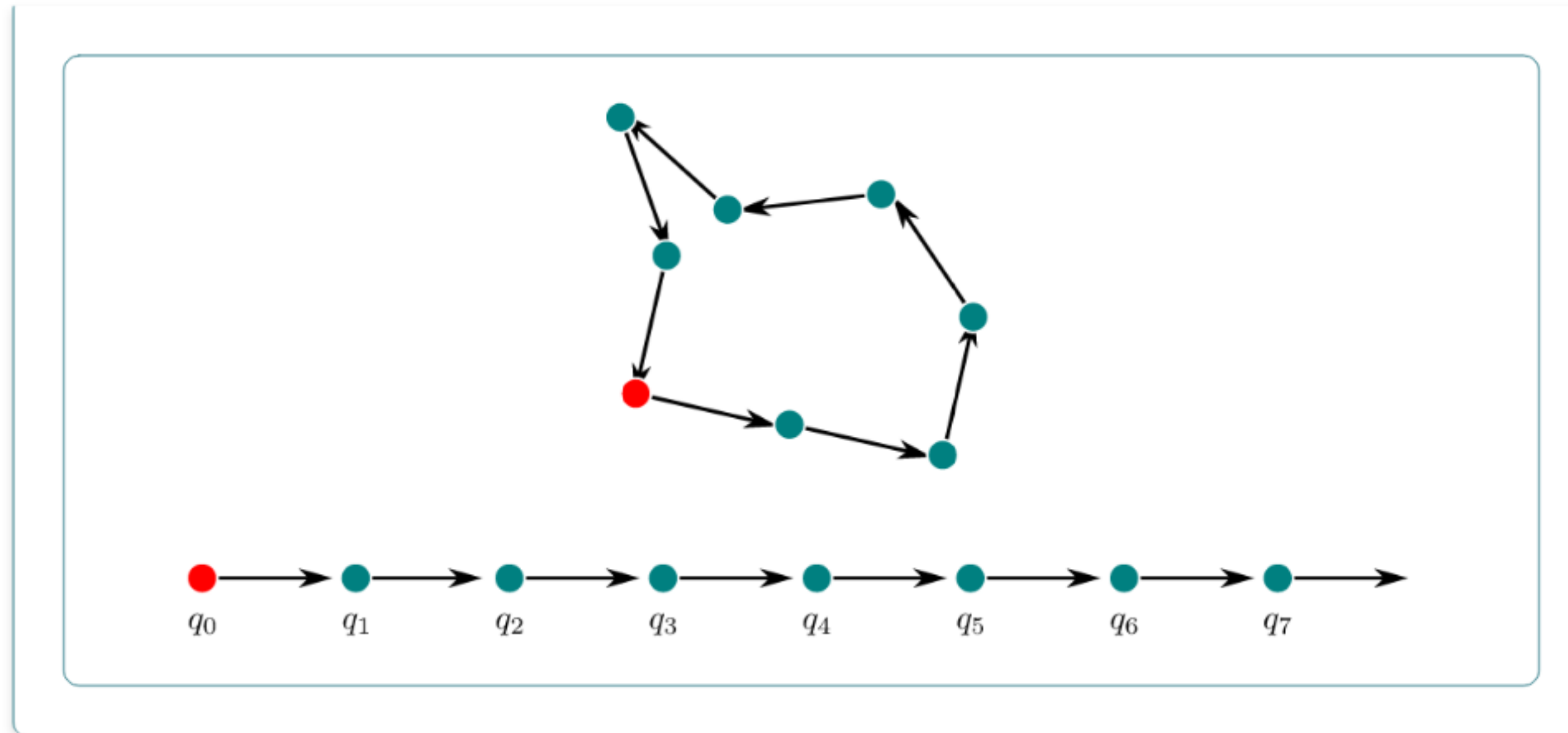


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- Careful precomputation and lazy evaluation

# Clisbification

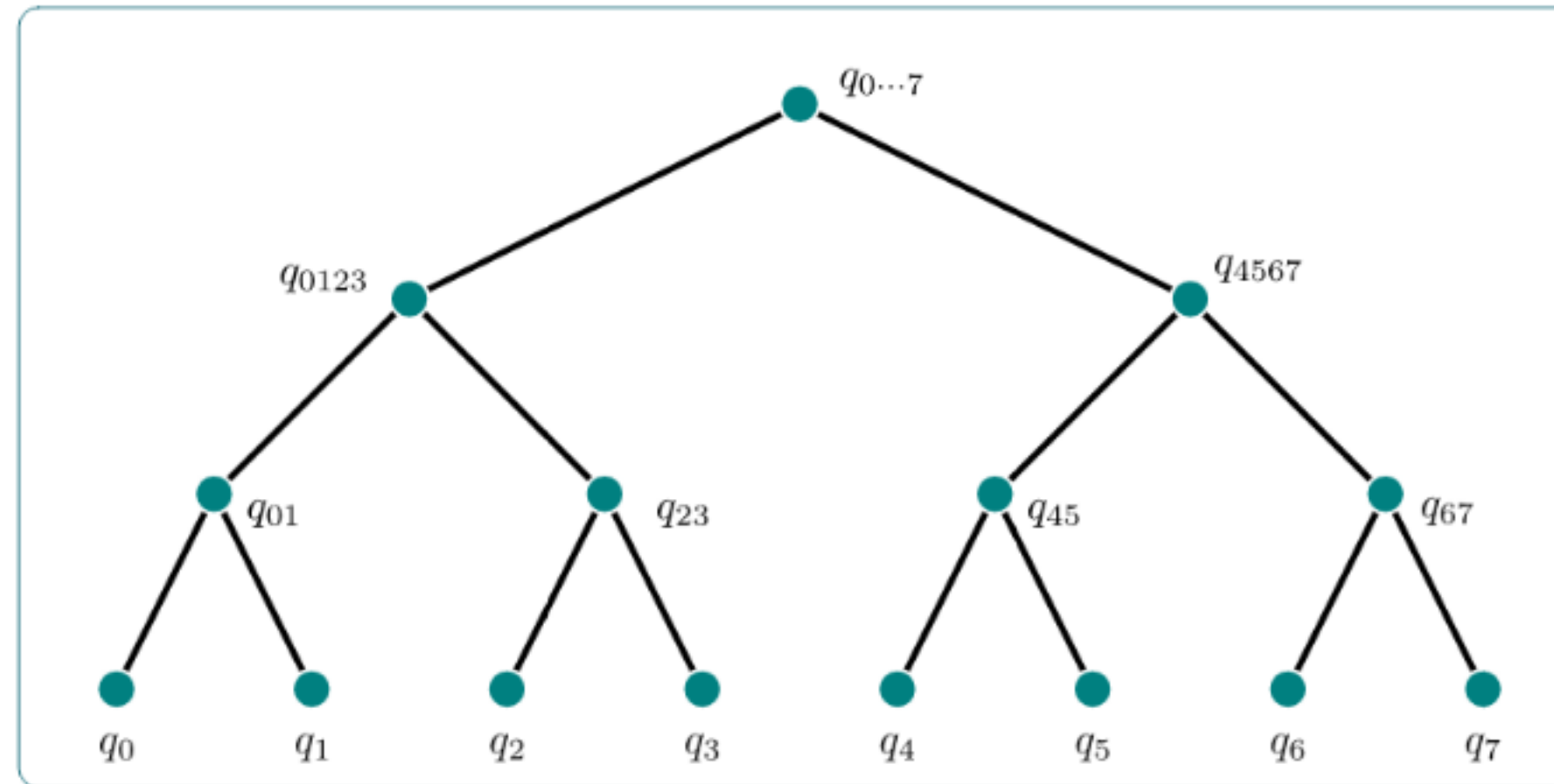
- Successful pivot in  $O(\log n)$  time



- Write polygon as symmetries acting on  $\vec{e} = (1, 0, 0)$
- Position of vertex  $n$  is

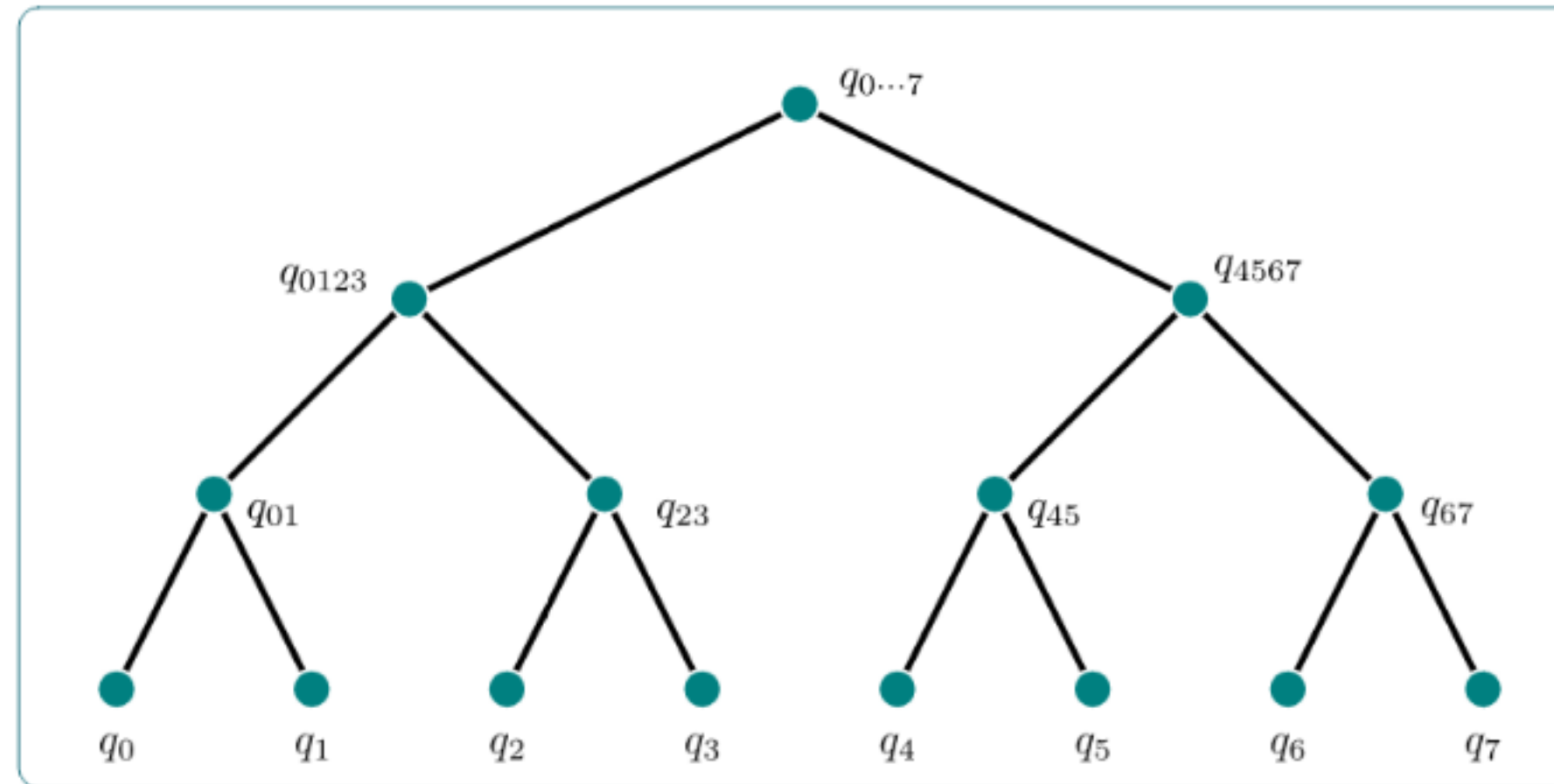
$$\vec{X}_n = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (q_0 q_1 \cdots q_k) \vec{e}$$

## Store polygon in a tree



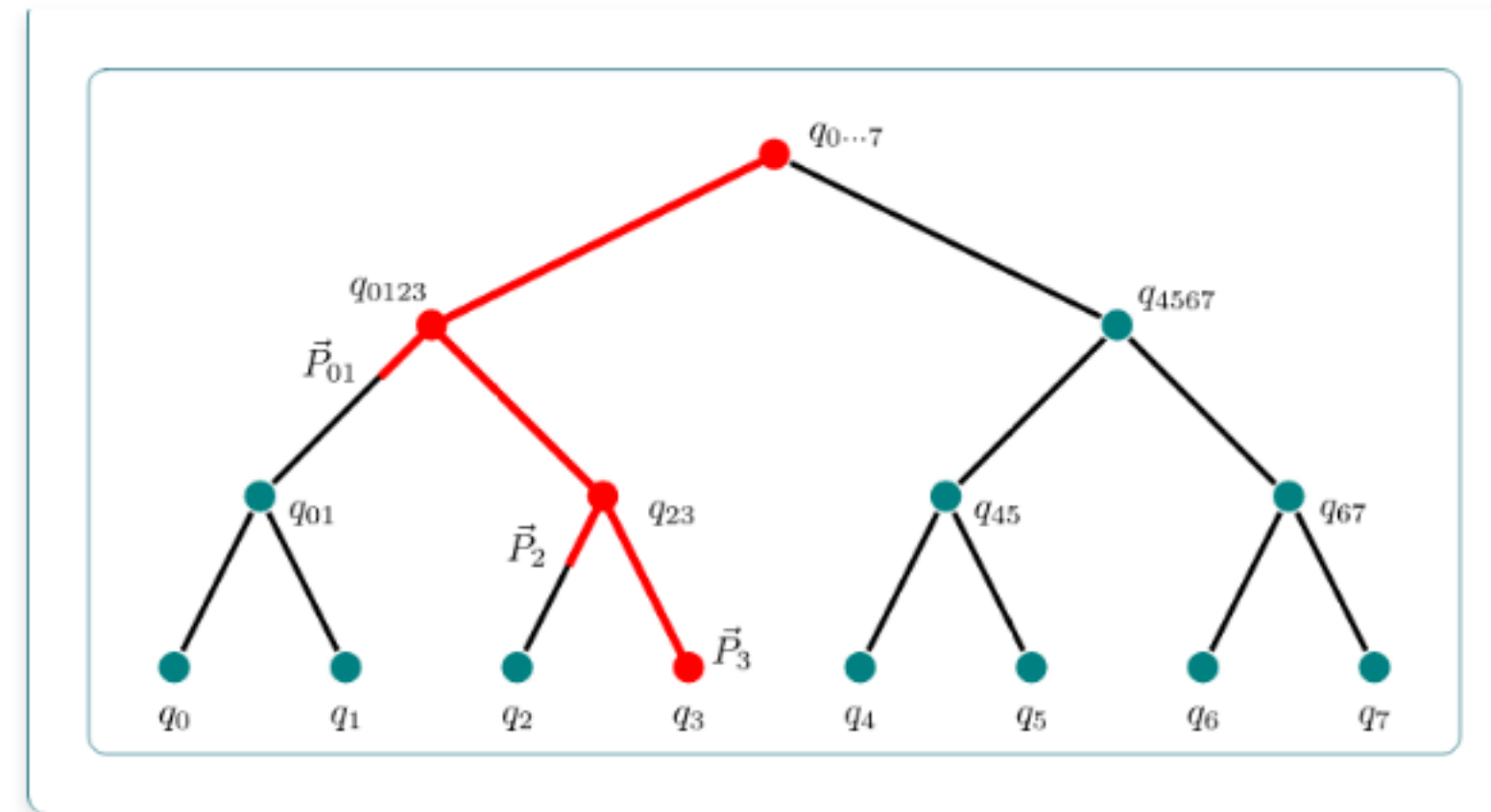
- Leaf  $k$  stores symmetry  $q_k$  and a position  $\vec{P}_k = q_k \vec{e}$
- Internal nodes stores  $q_n = q_\ell q_r$  and a position  $\vec{P}_n = \vec{P}_\ell + q_\ell \vec{P}_r$

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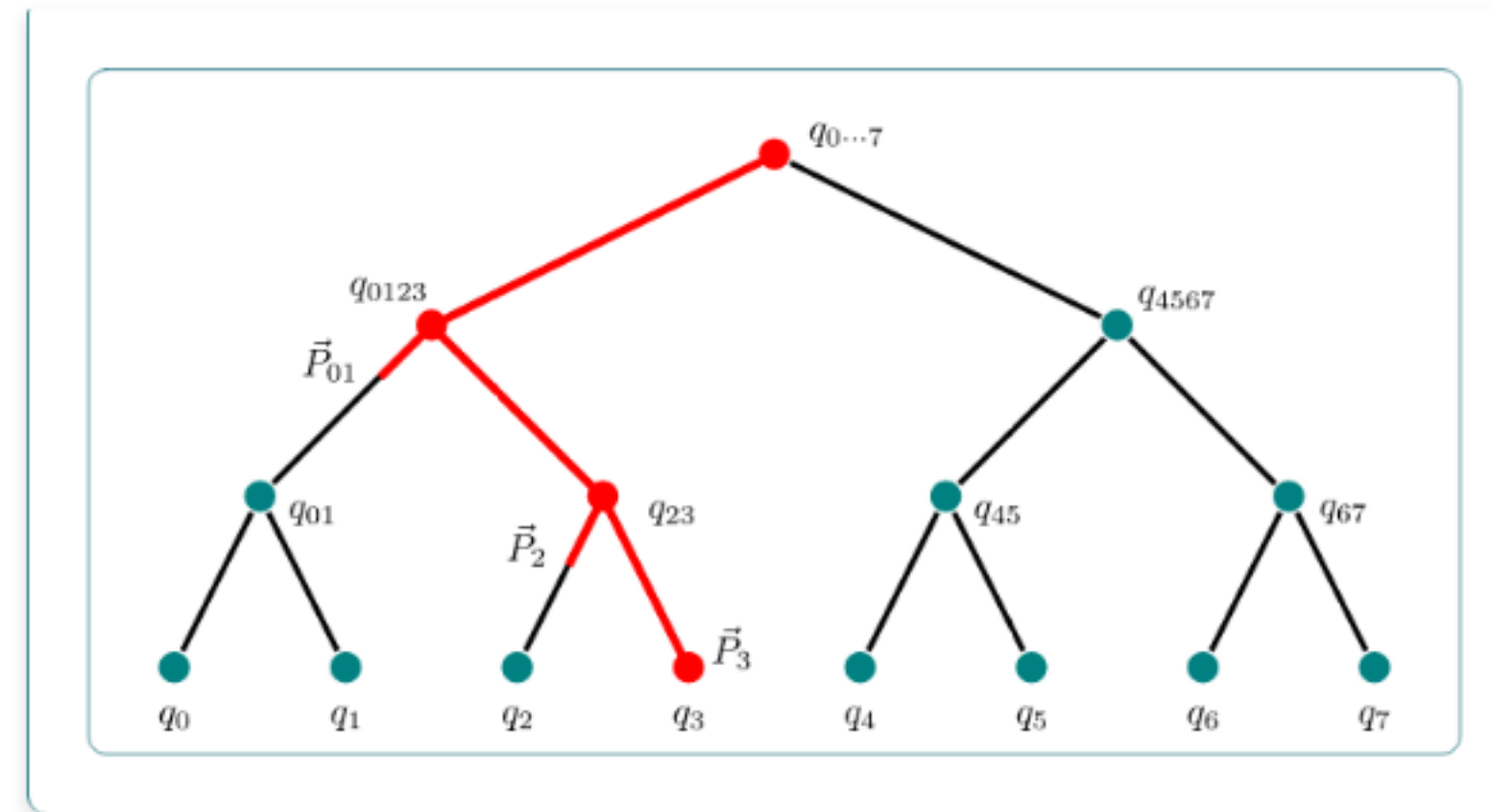
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- Compute polygon vertex positions using  $q_n, \vec{P}_n$

# Compute a position



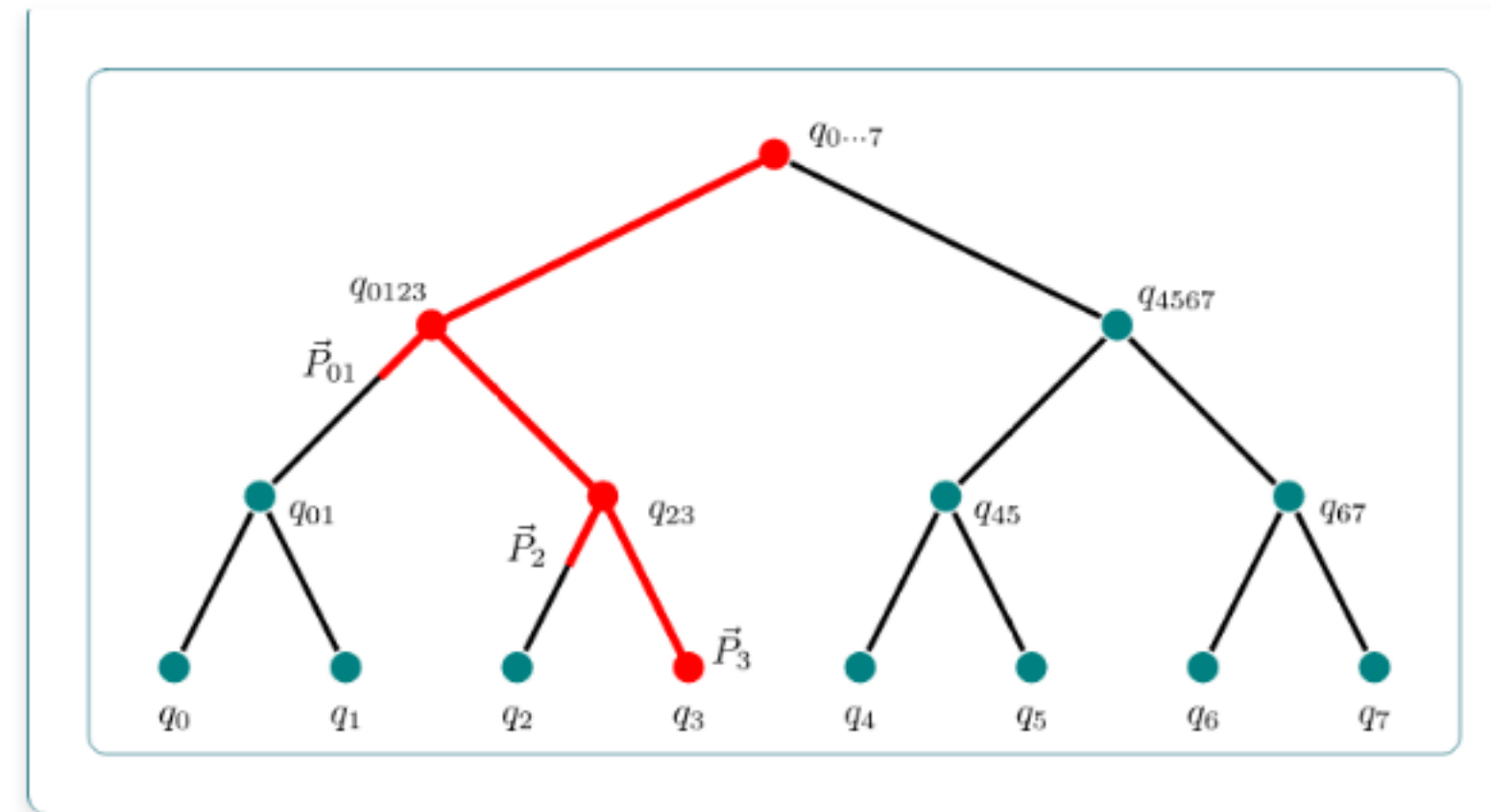
- Position of vertex 4  $\equiv$  end of 3rd polygon edge

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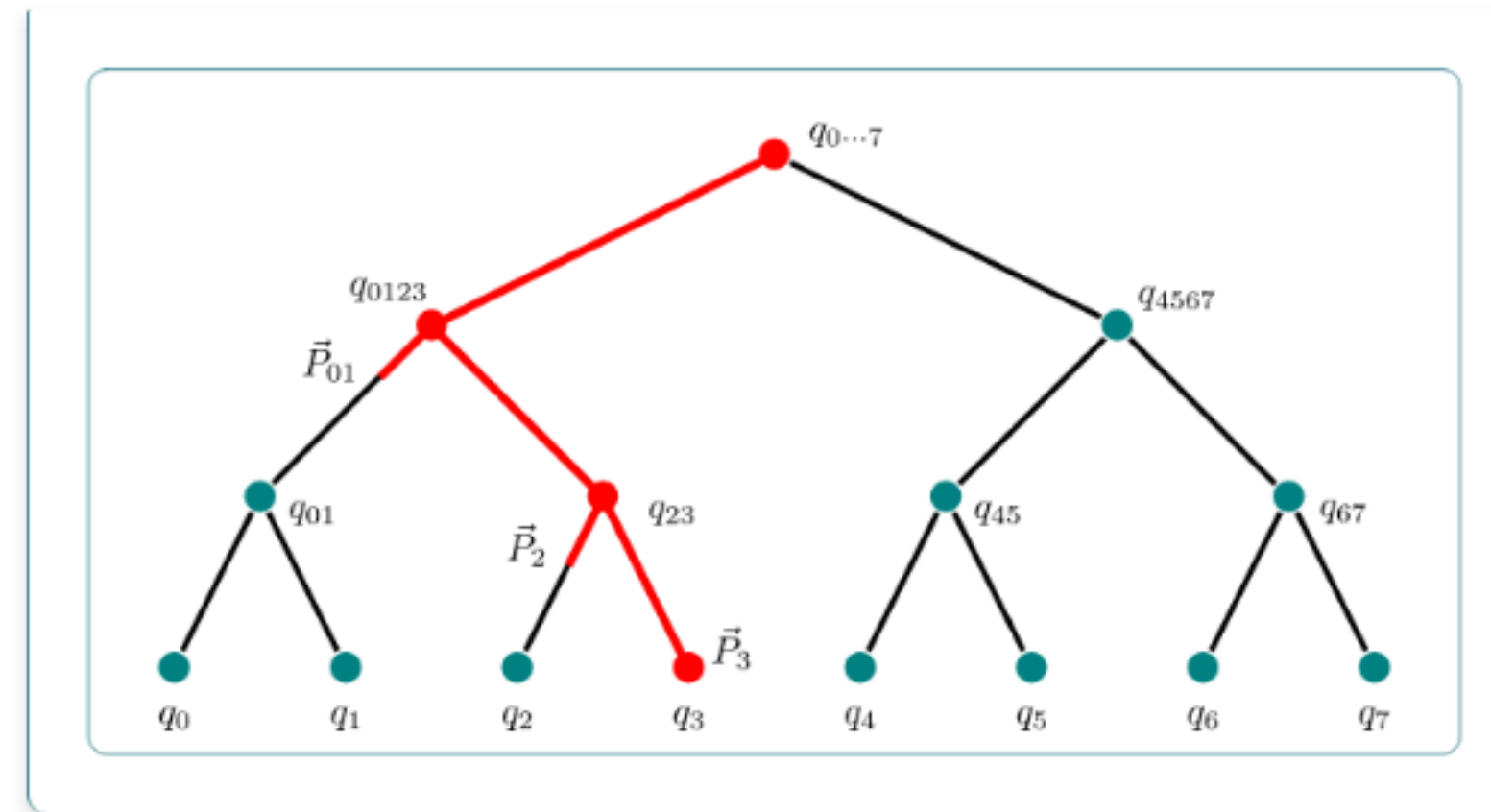
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  - $\vec{X}_4 = (q_0 + q_{01}) \vec{e} + q_{01} (q_2 \vec{e} + q_2 (q_3 \vec{e}))$

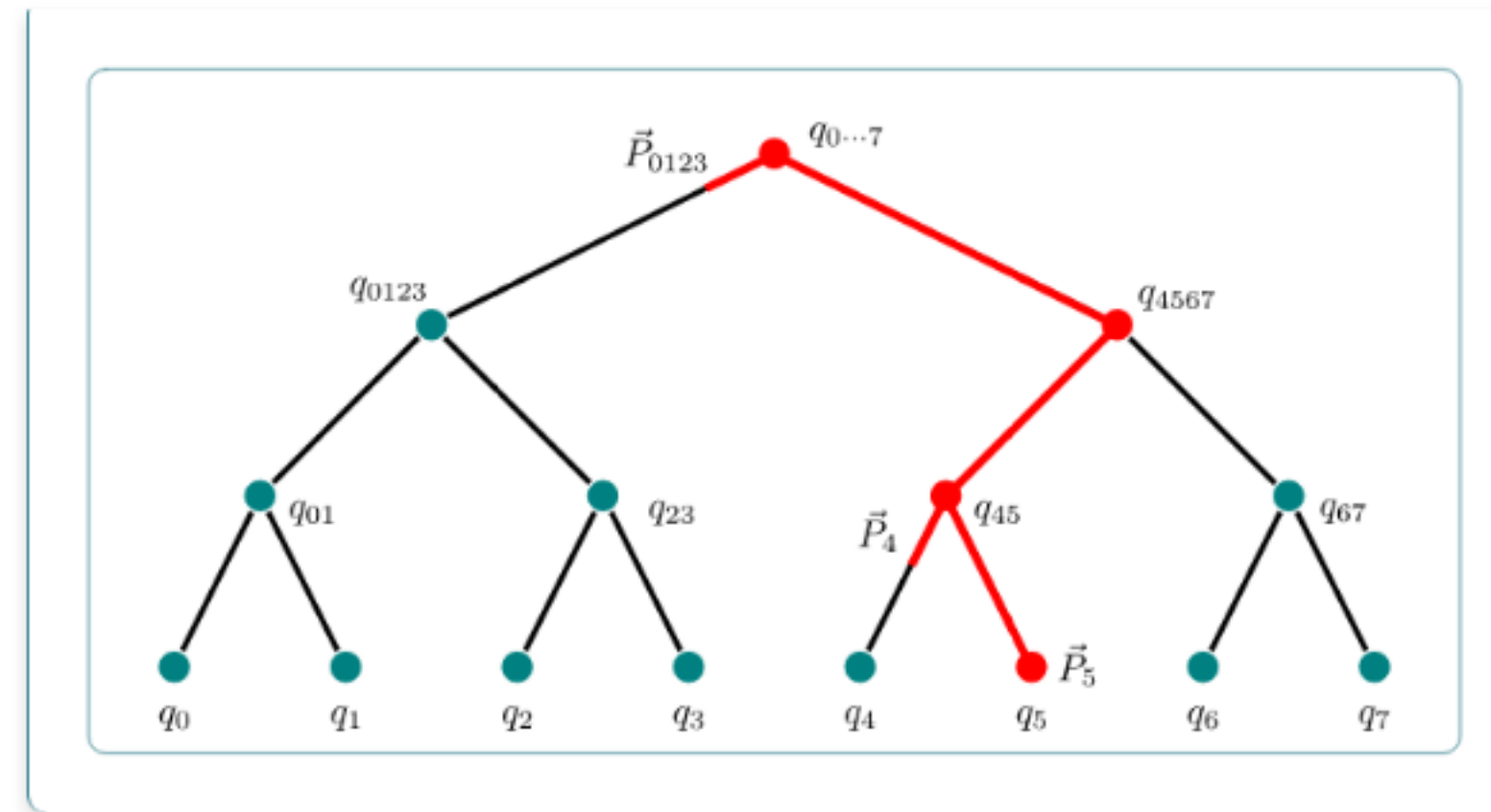
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  - $\vec{X}_4 = \vec{P}_{01} + q_{01} (\vec{P}_2 + (q_2 \vec{P}_3))$
- Already computed  $q_{01}$  and  $P_{01}, P_2, P_3$ .
- Requires  $O(\text{tree-depth}) = O(\log n)$  operations

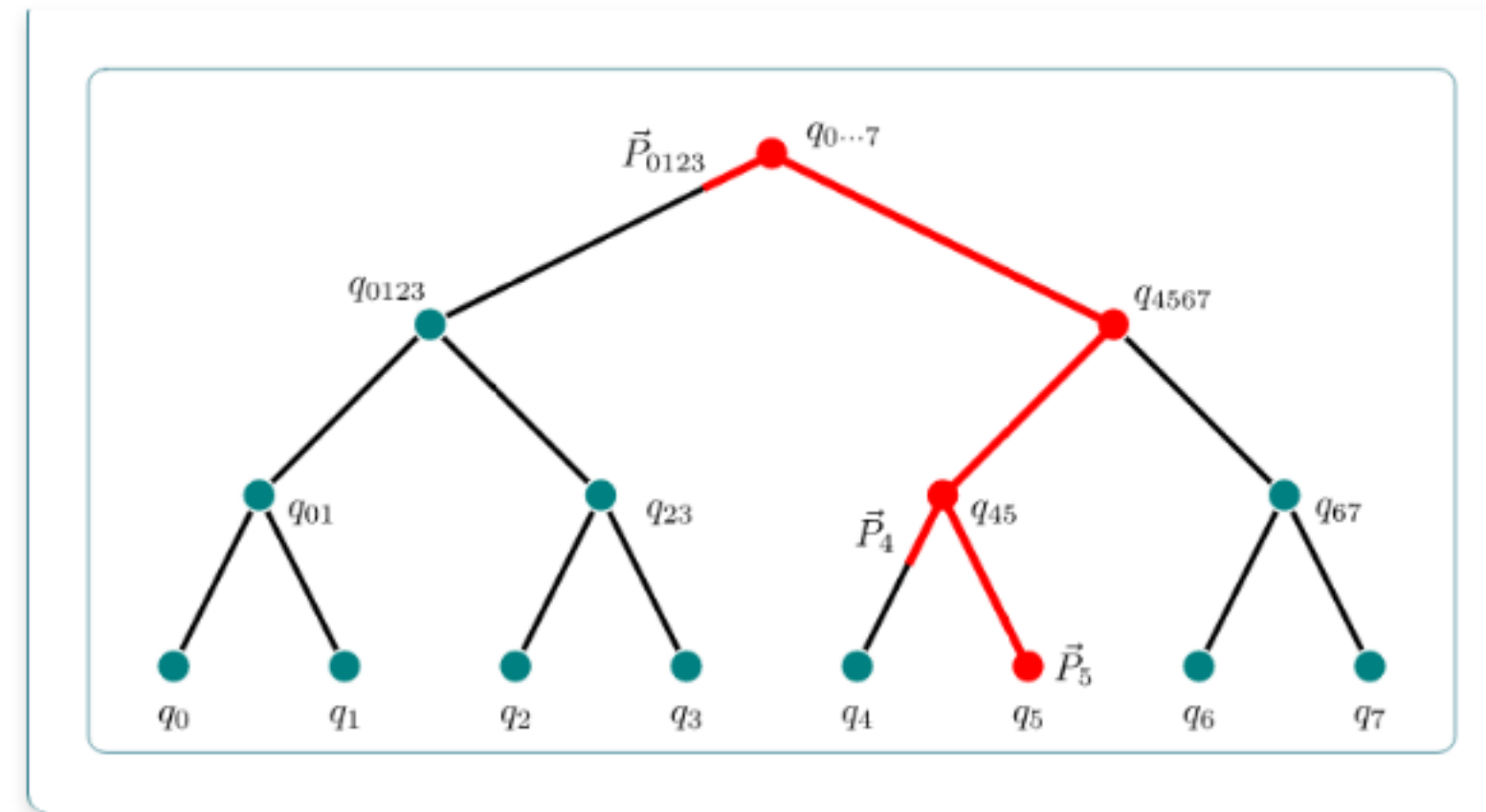


# Compute another position



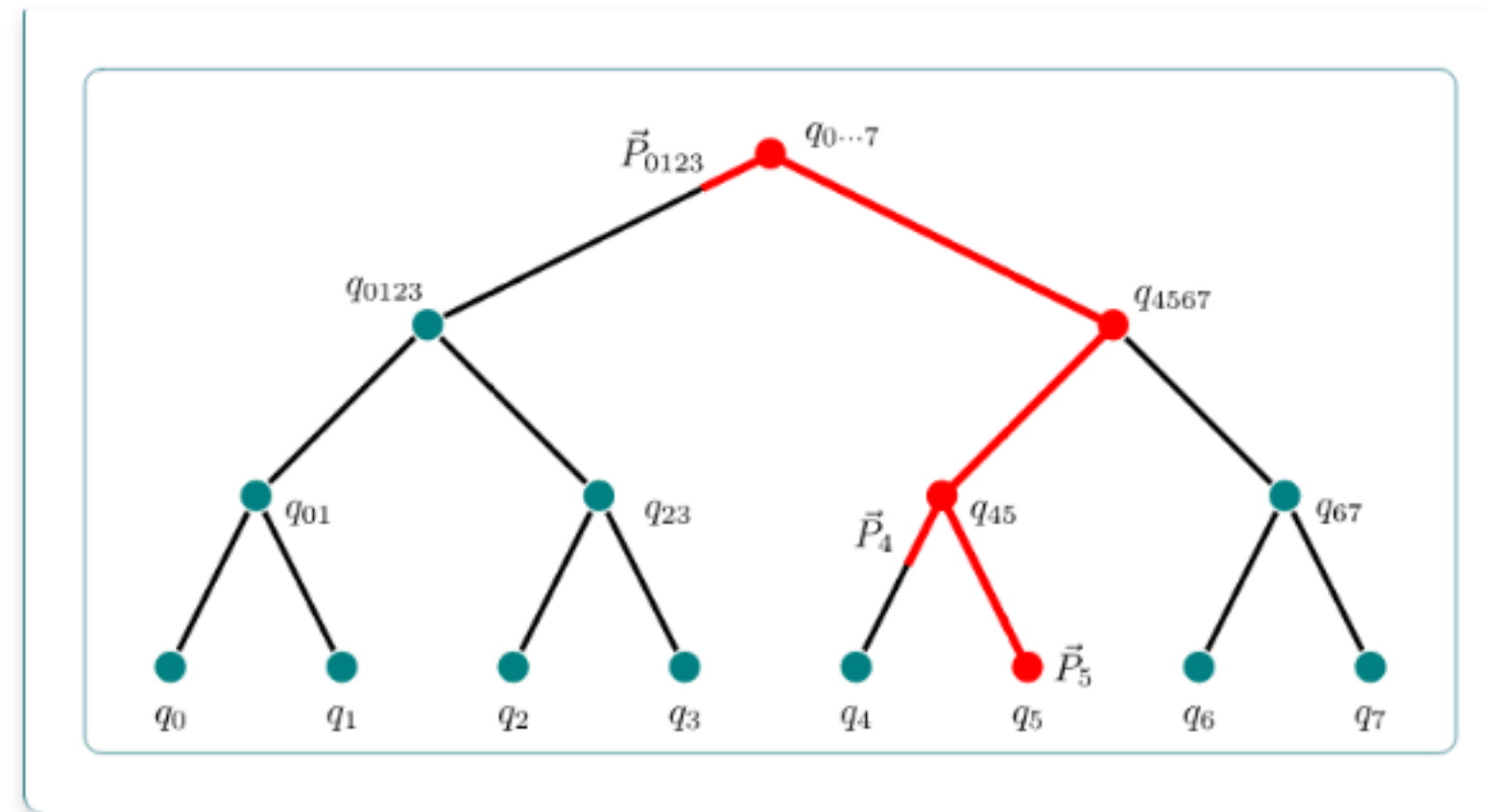
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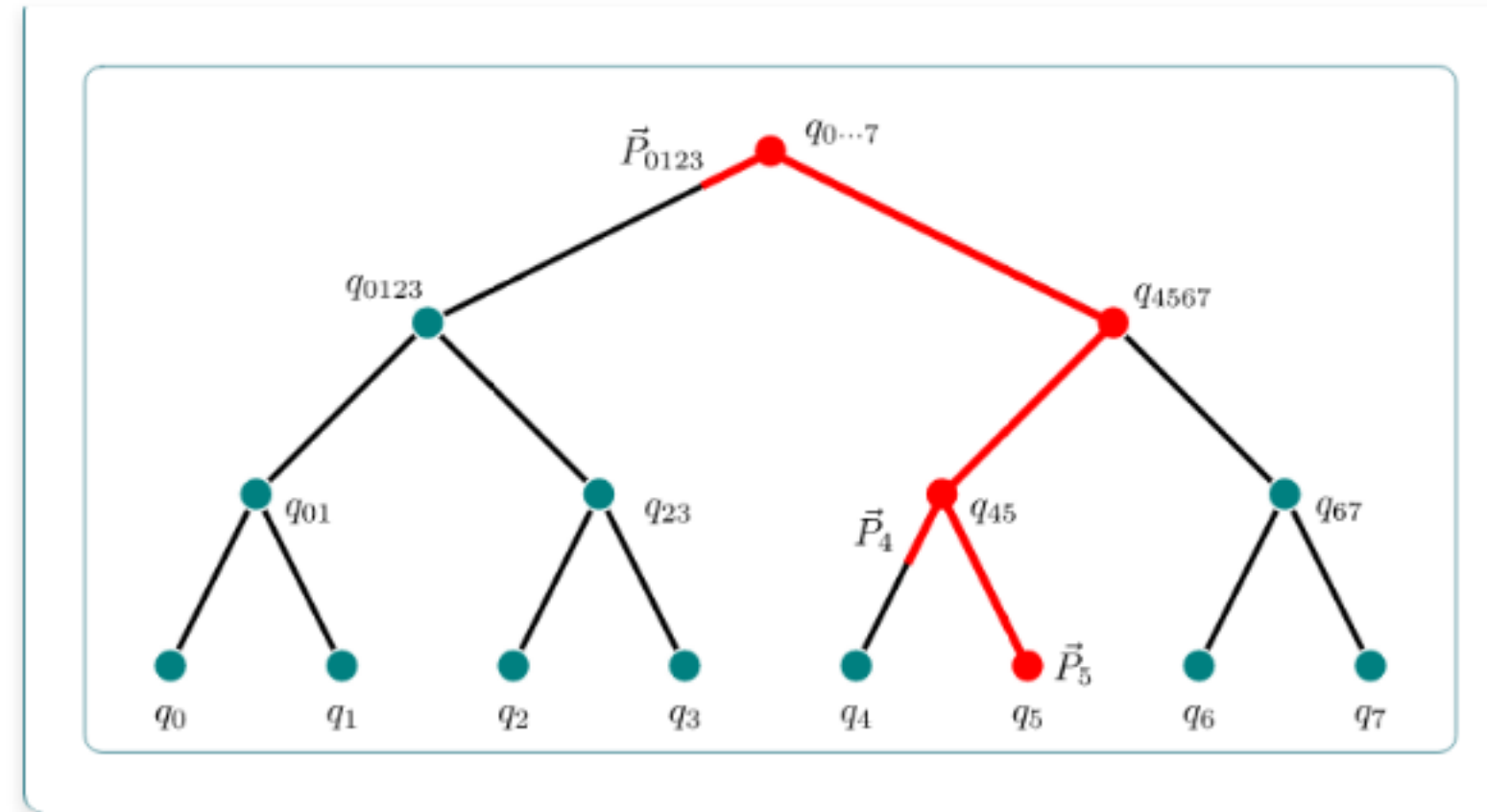
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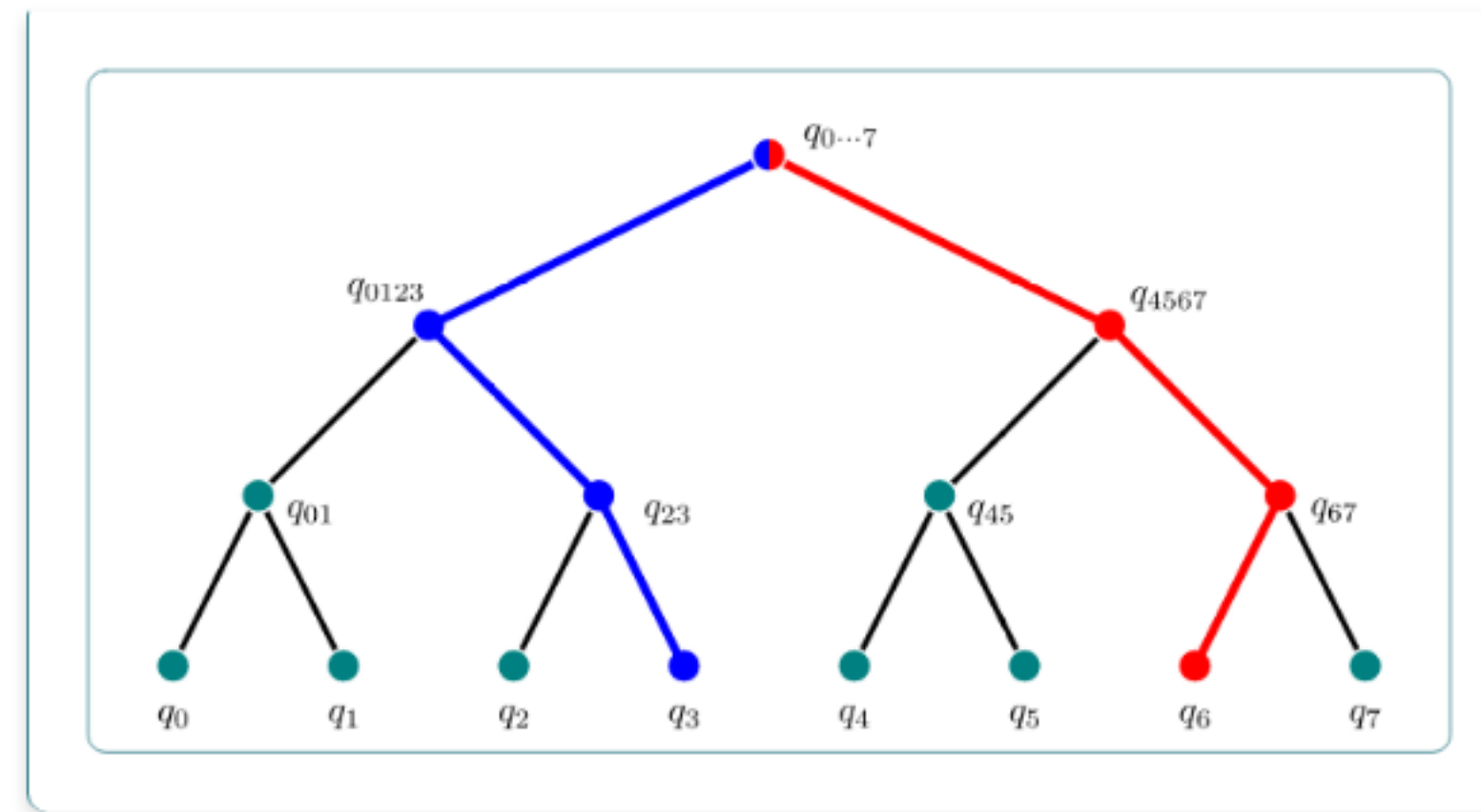
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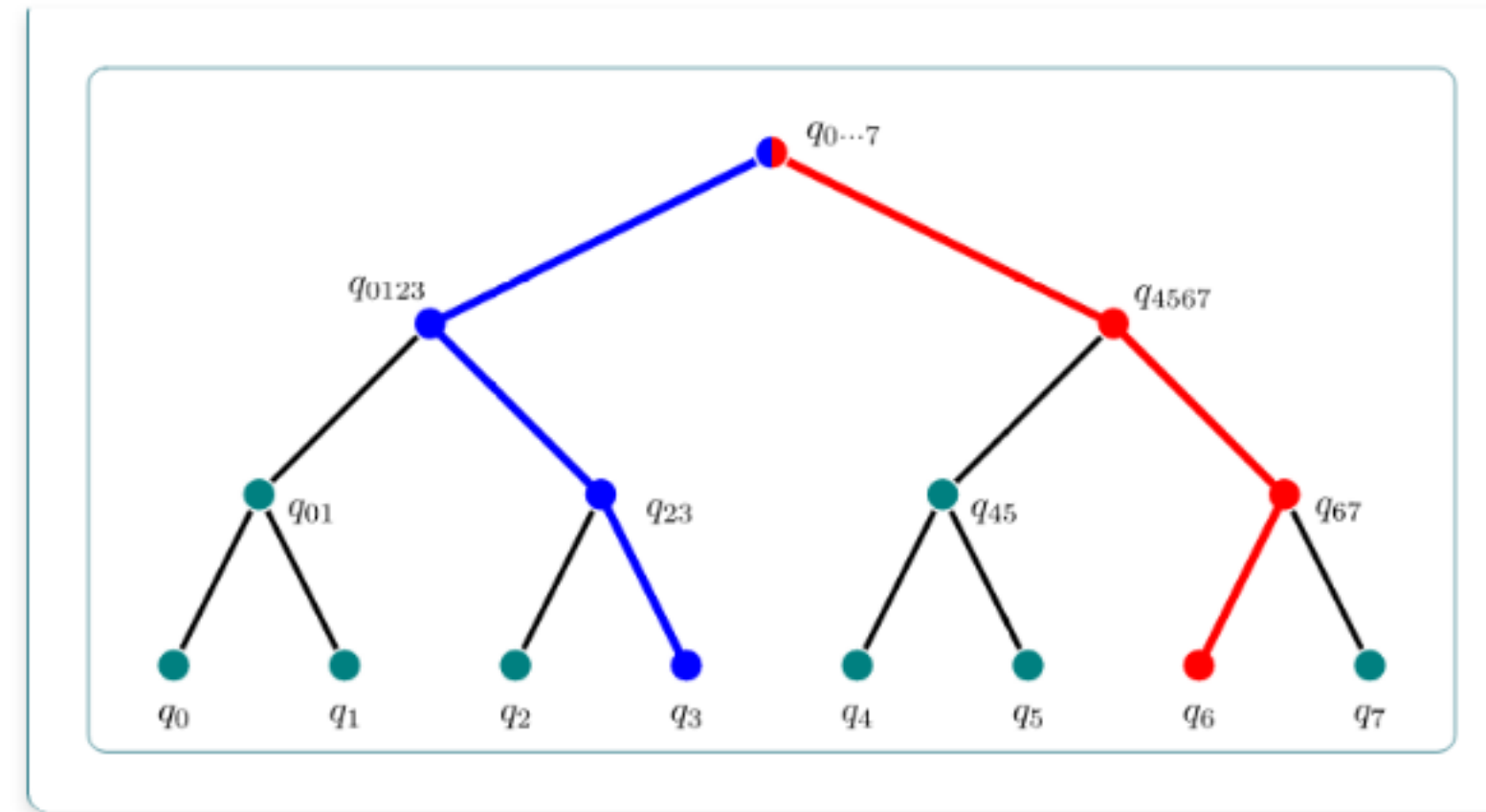
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  - $\vec{X}_6 = \vec{P}_{0123} + q_{0123} \left( \vec{P}_4 + q_4 \vec{P}_5 \right)$
- Already computed  $q_{0123}$  and  $P_{0123}, P_4, P_5$ .
- Requires  $O(\text{tree-depth}) = O(\log n)$  operations

## Update after pivot at vertices 3 and 6



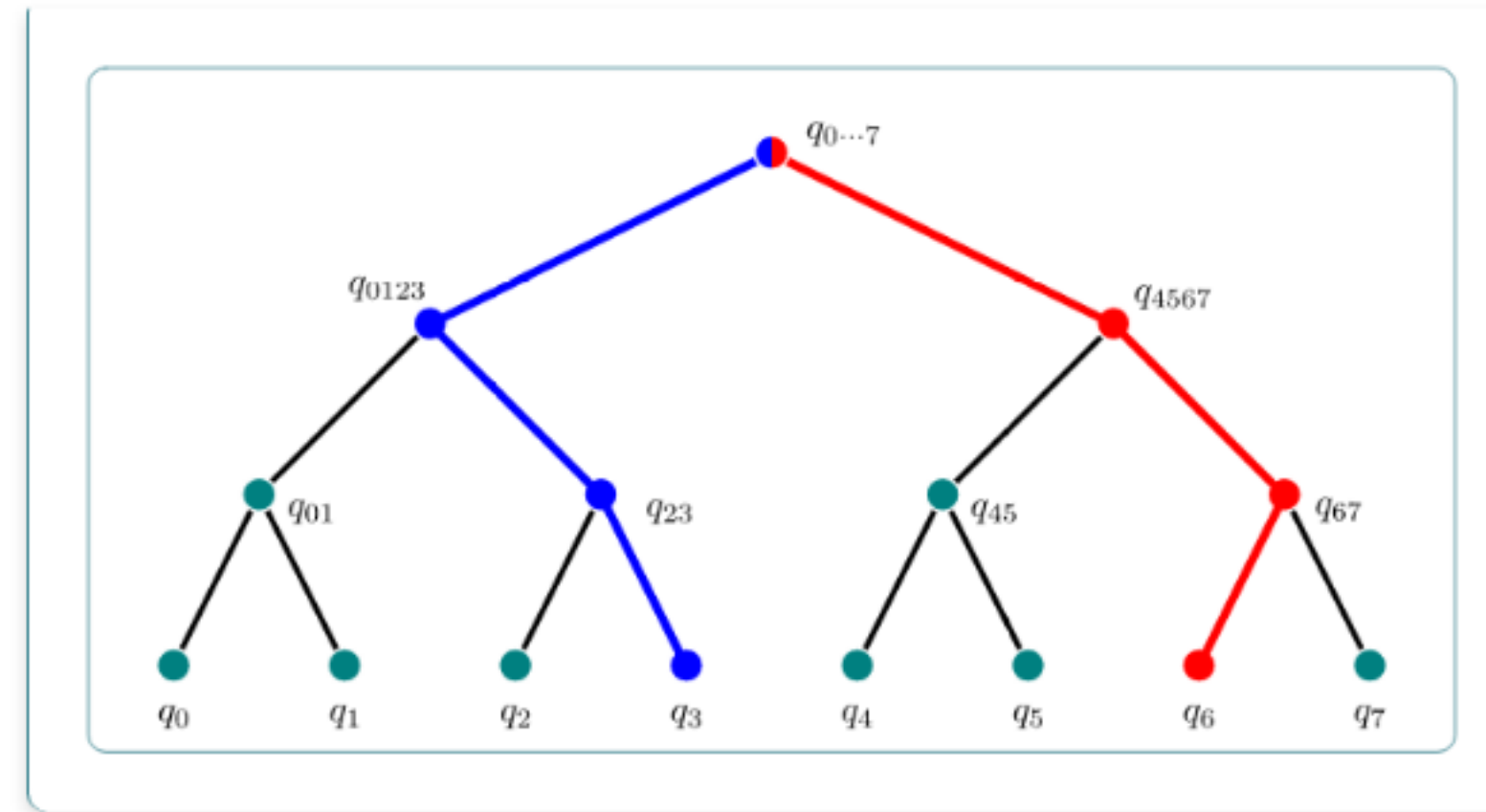
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  - Auto-correlation time for  $R_g(n) \approx O(\log n)$
  - ERP sampling in sublinear time
  - Takes longer to write down than to sample!

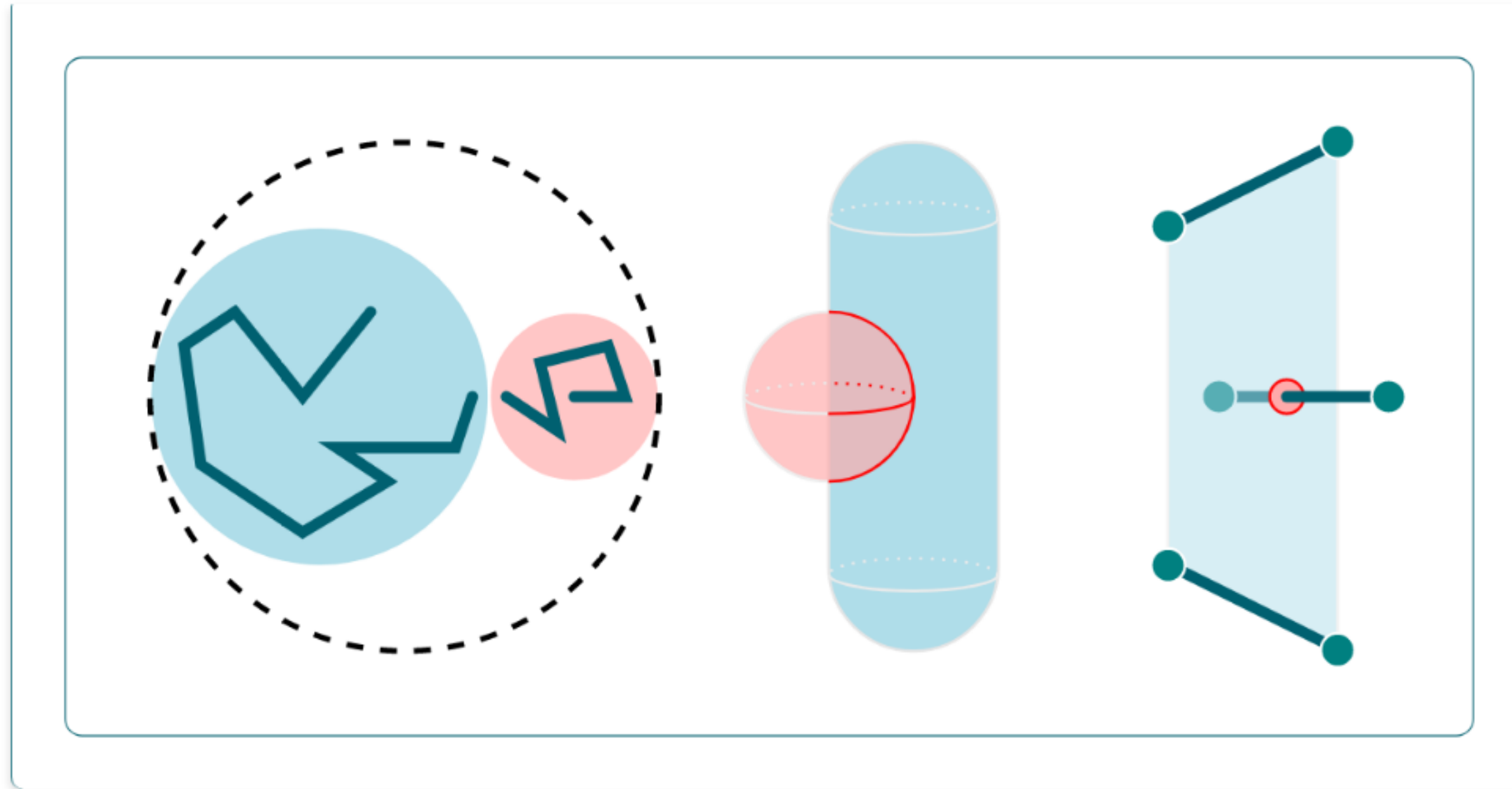
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- Harder on lattice — must pick pairs carefully to stay on lattice



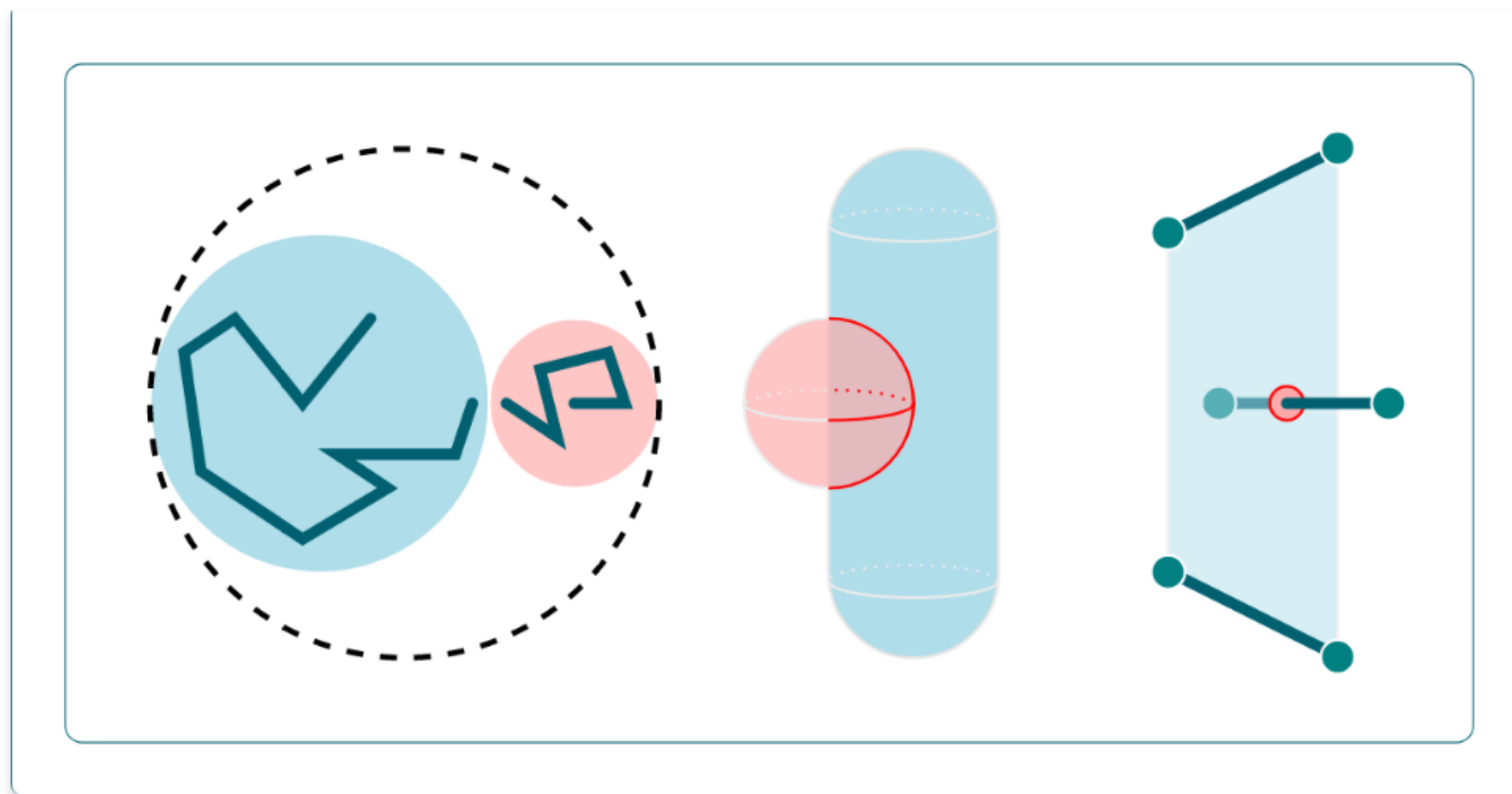
For topology checks



- Lots of basic vector and quaternion manipulation

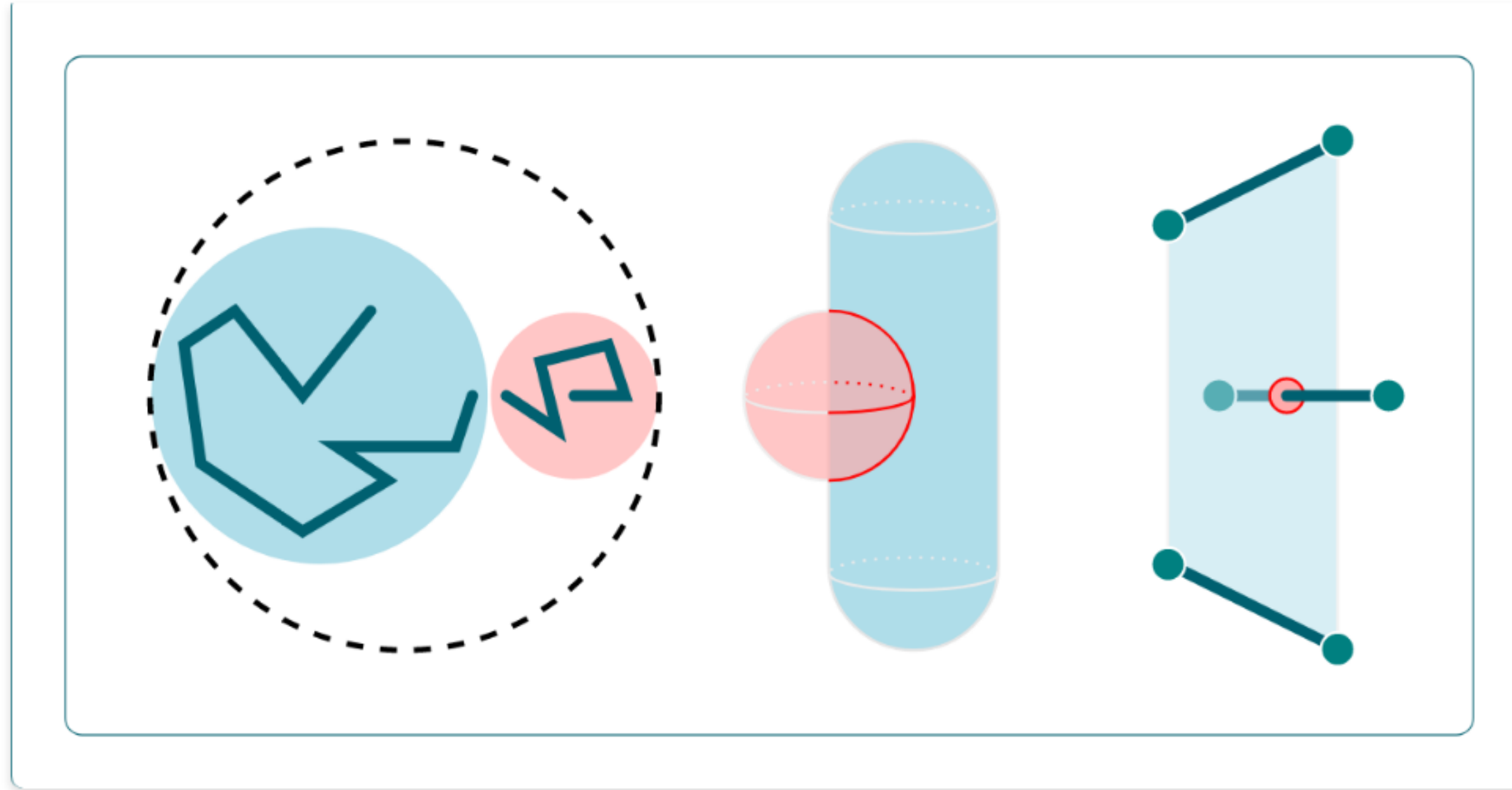


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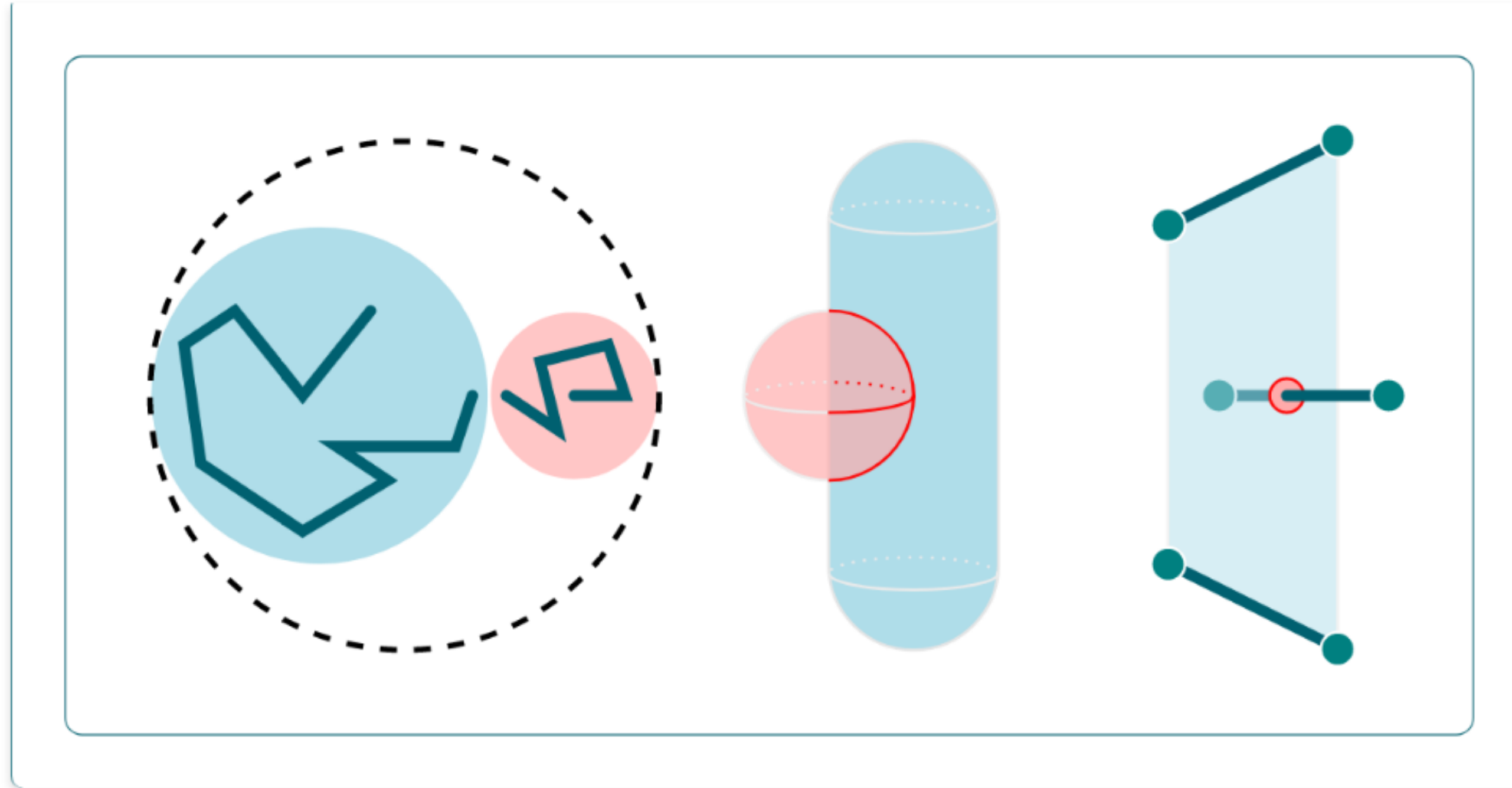
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## For topology checks



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- Sphere intersects sphere-capped-cylinder test

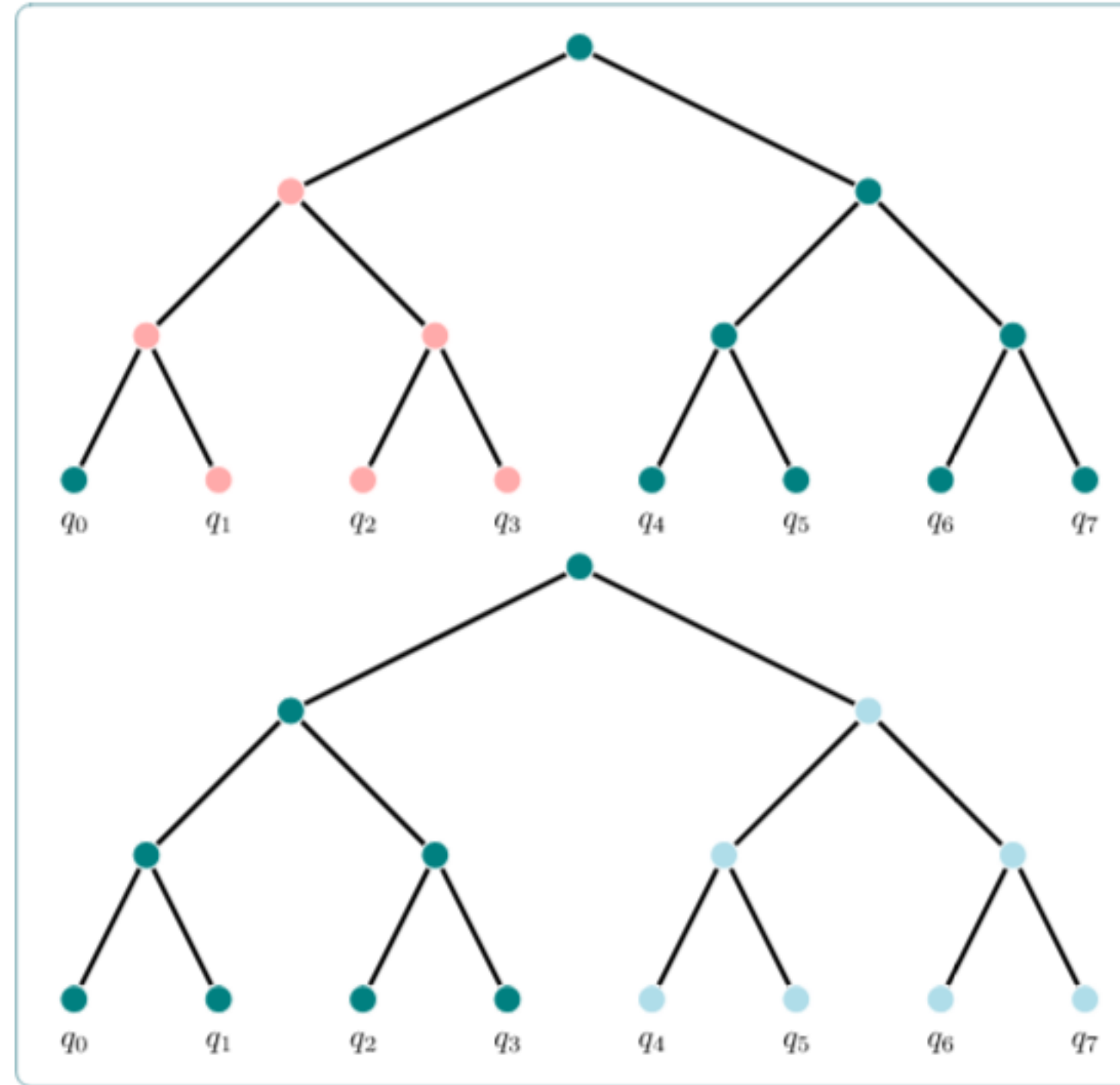
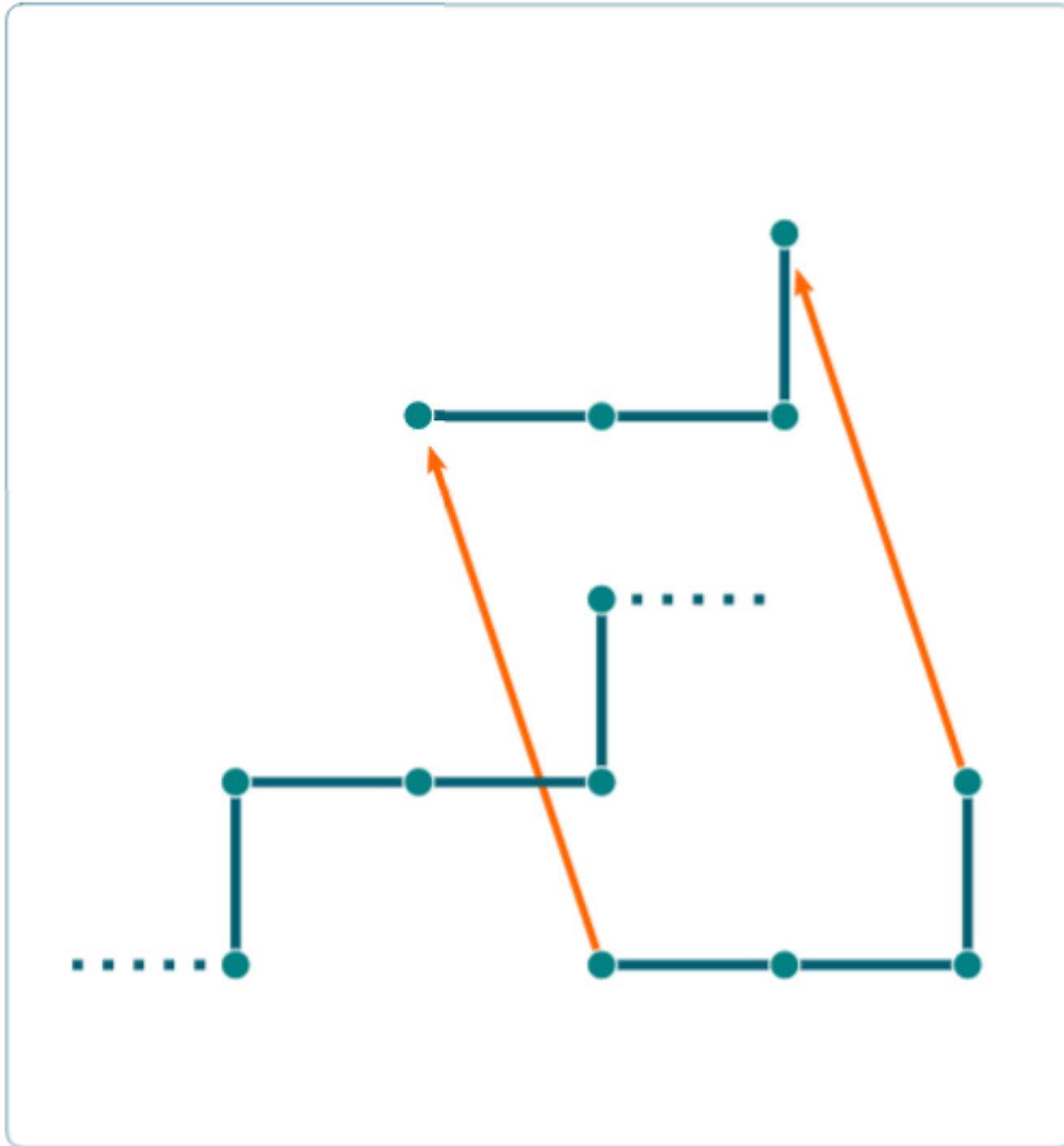
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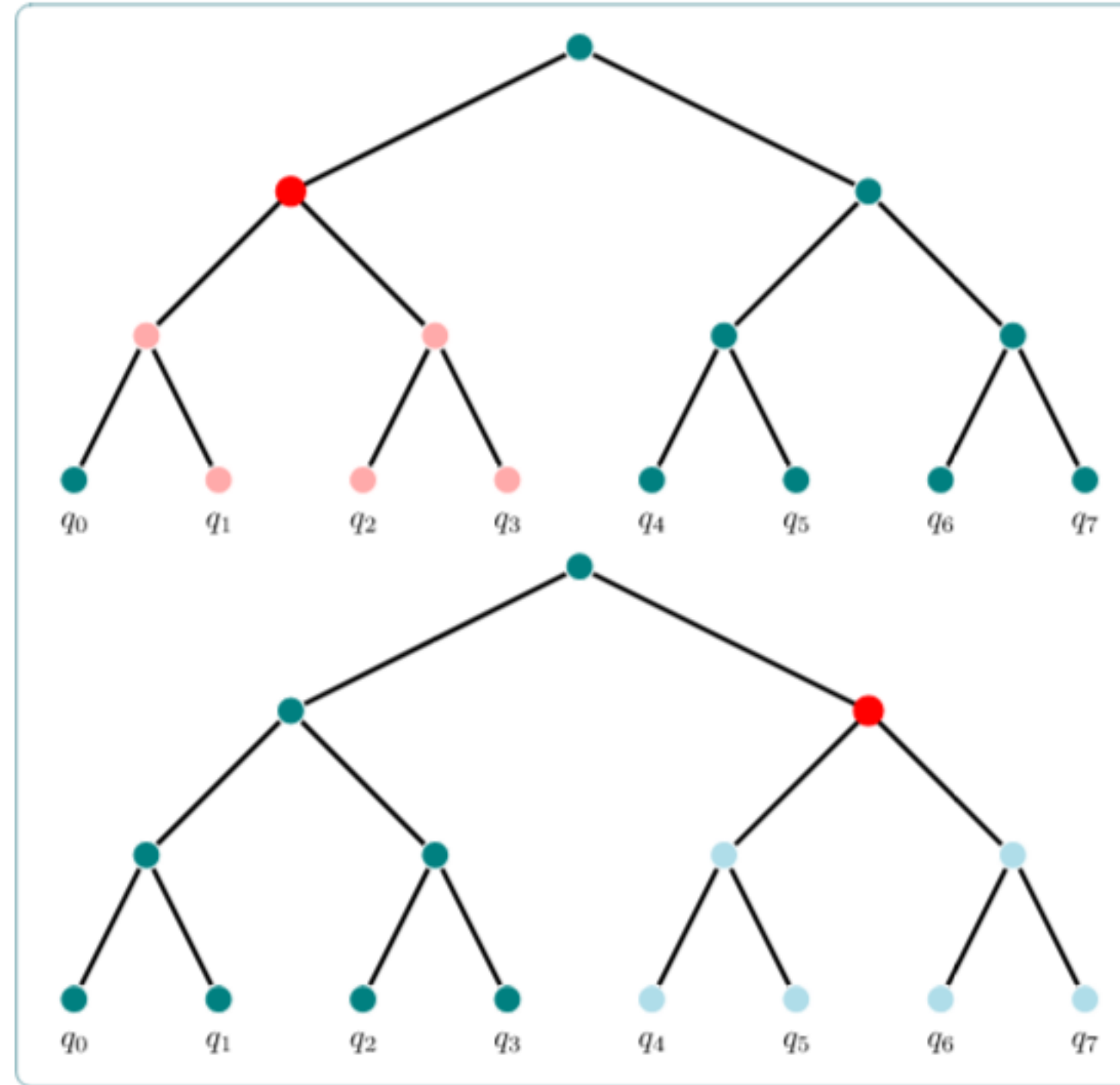
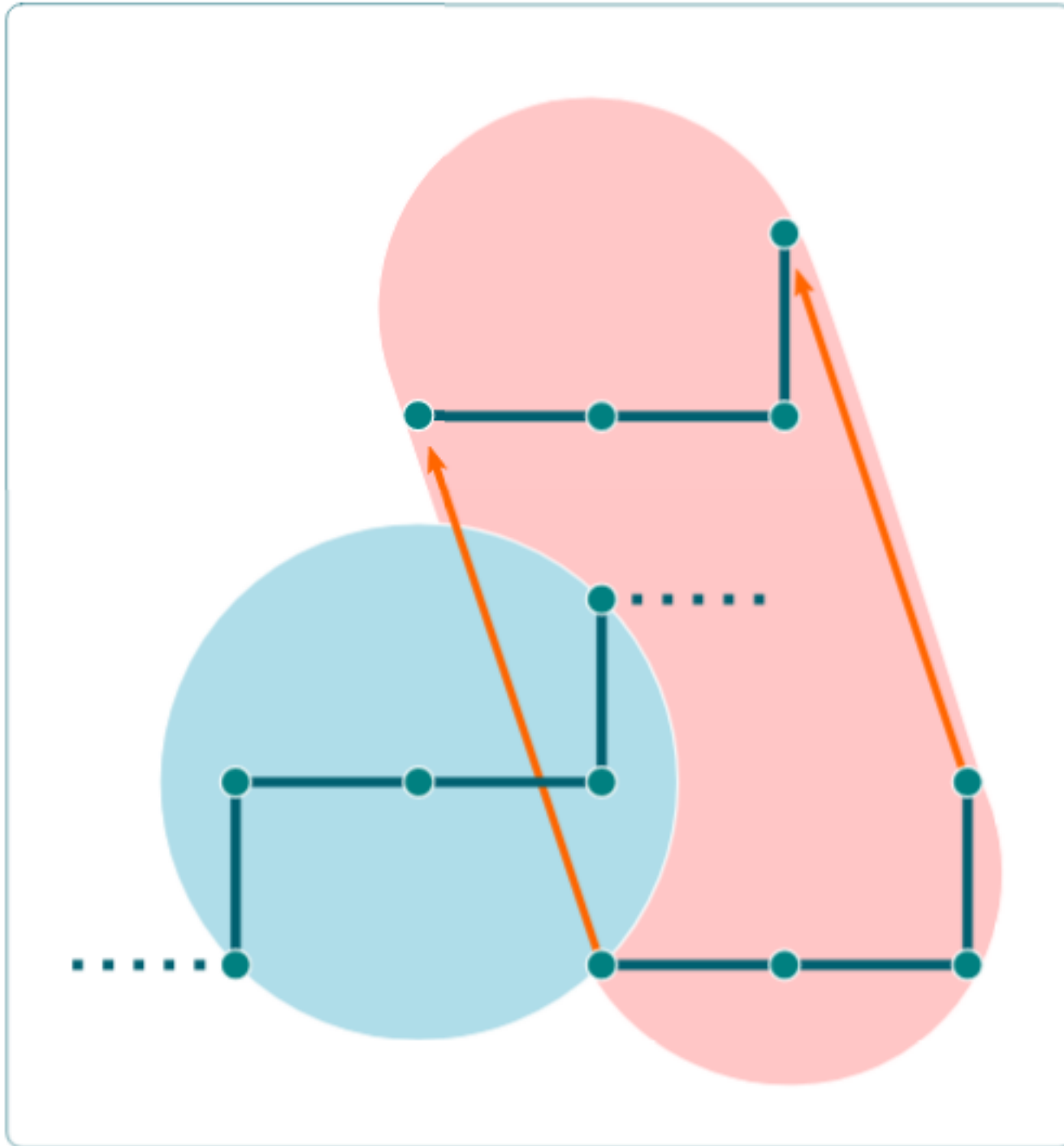
- Lots of basic vector and quaternion manipulation
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- Segment intersects quadrilateral test  $\equiv$  Möller-Trumbore

Fast intersection checks via bounding sphere refinements

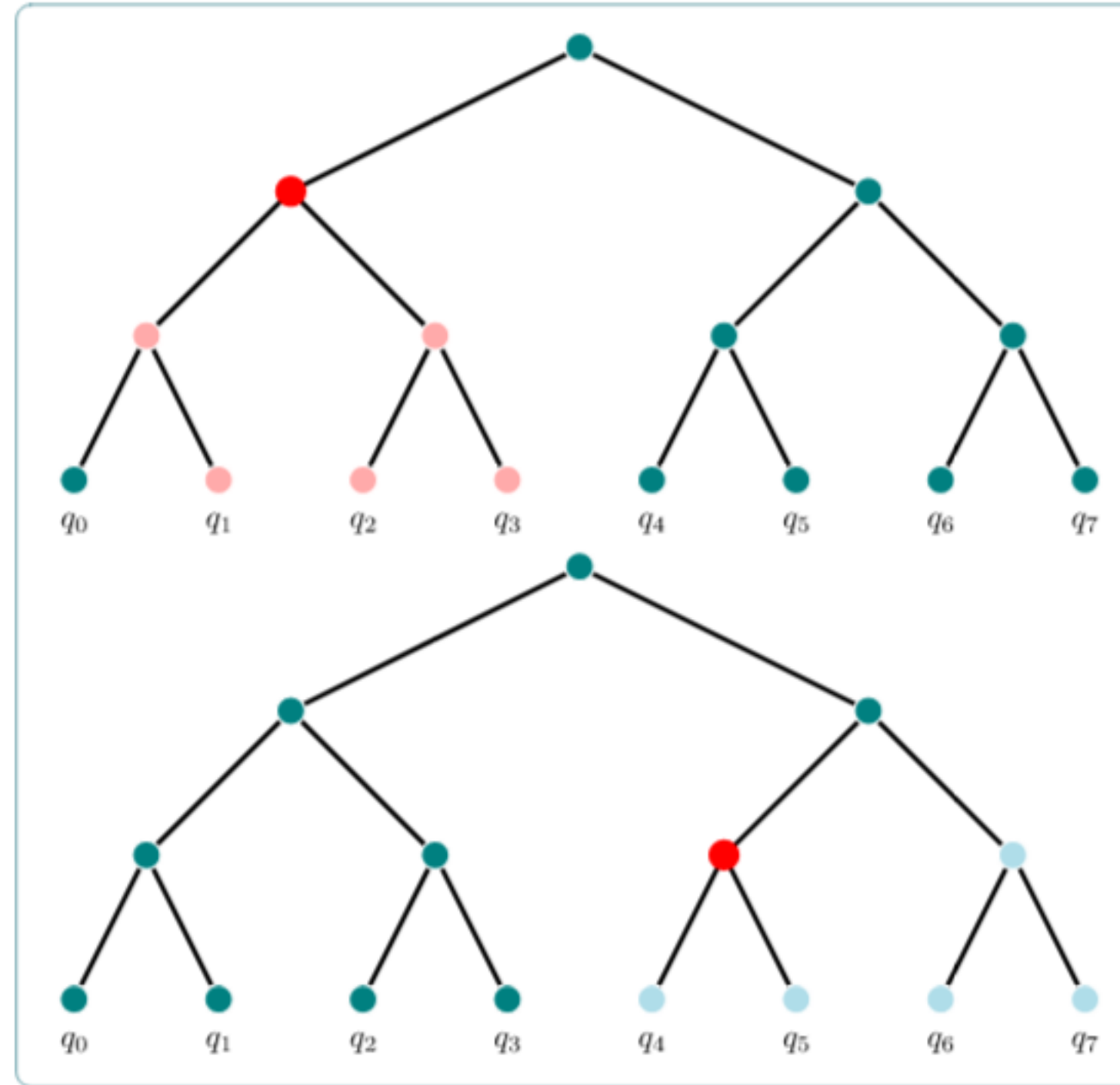
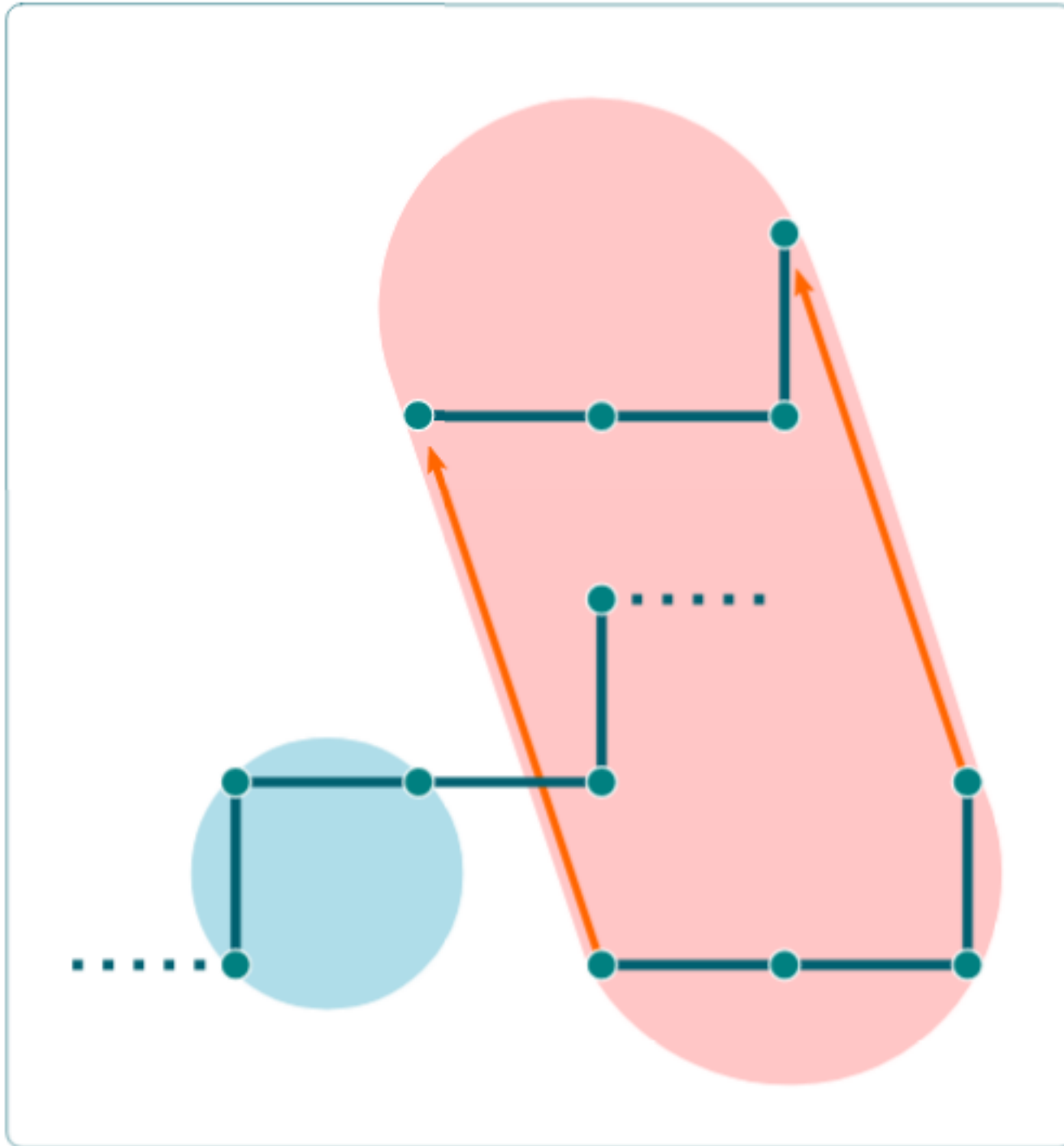
# Fast intersection checks via bounding sphere refinements



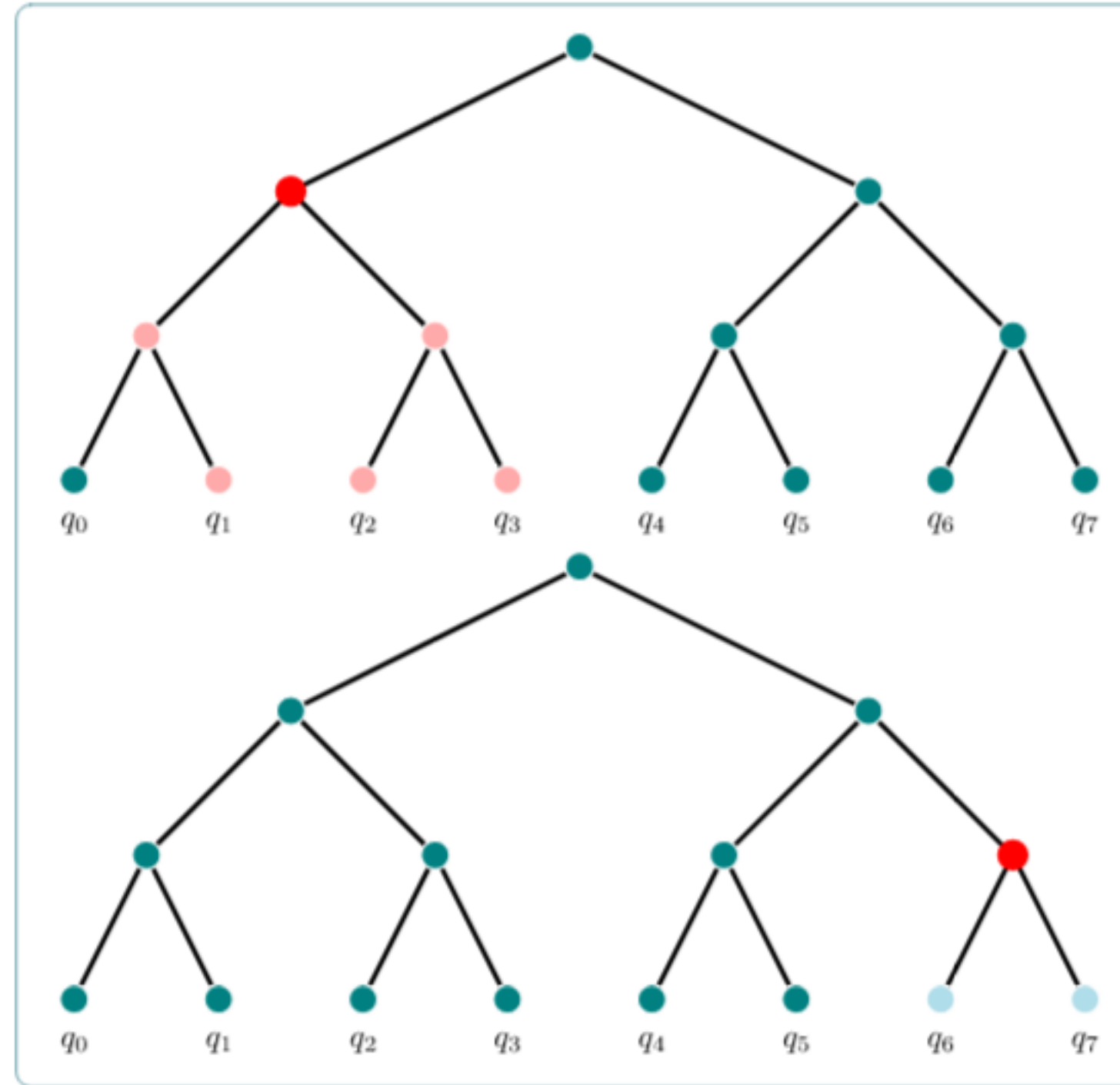
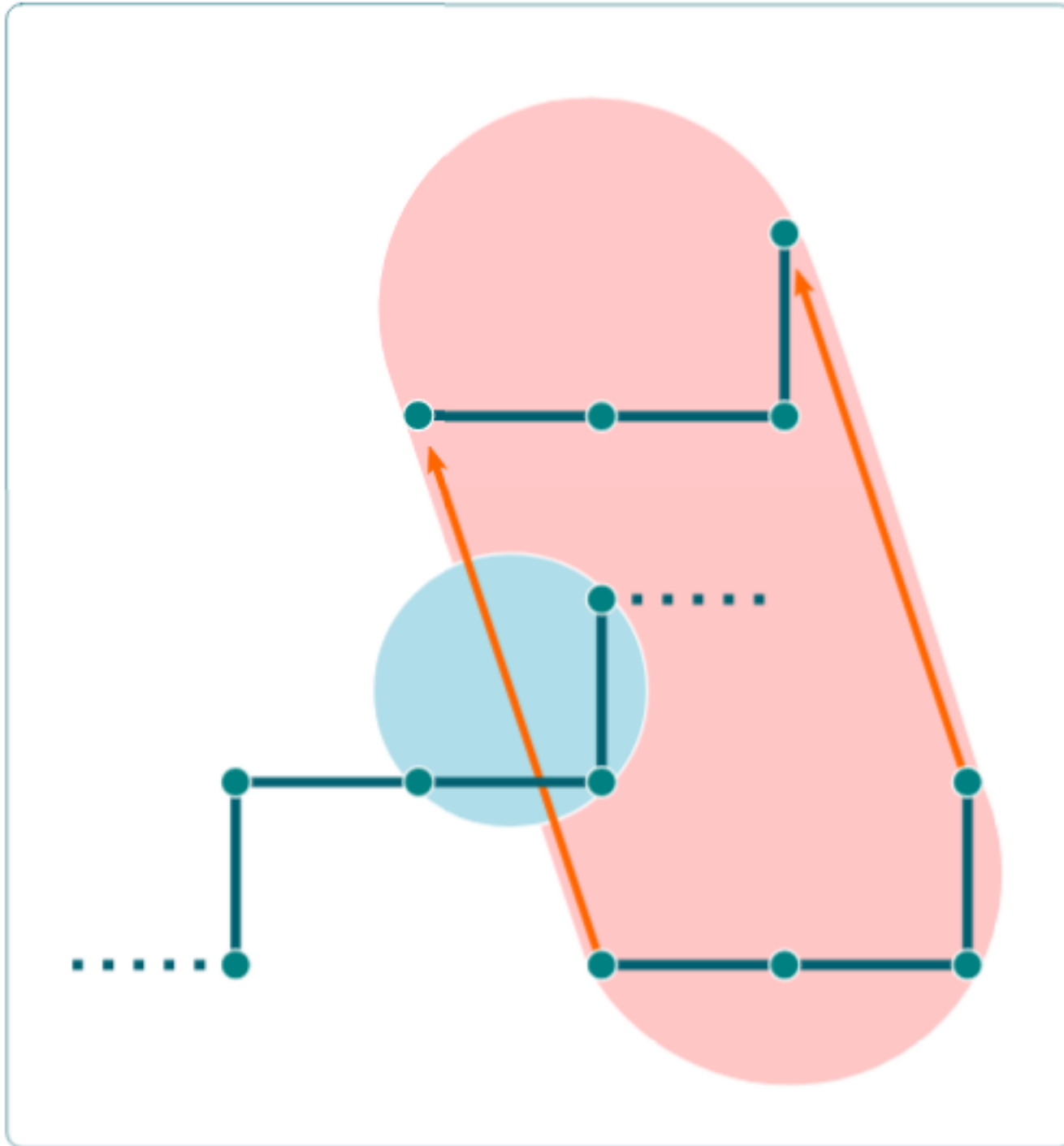
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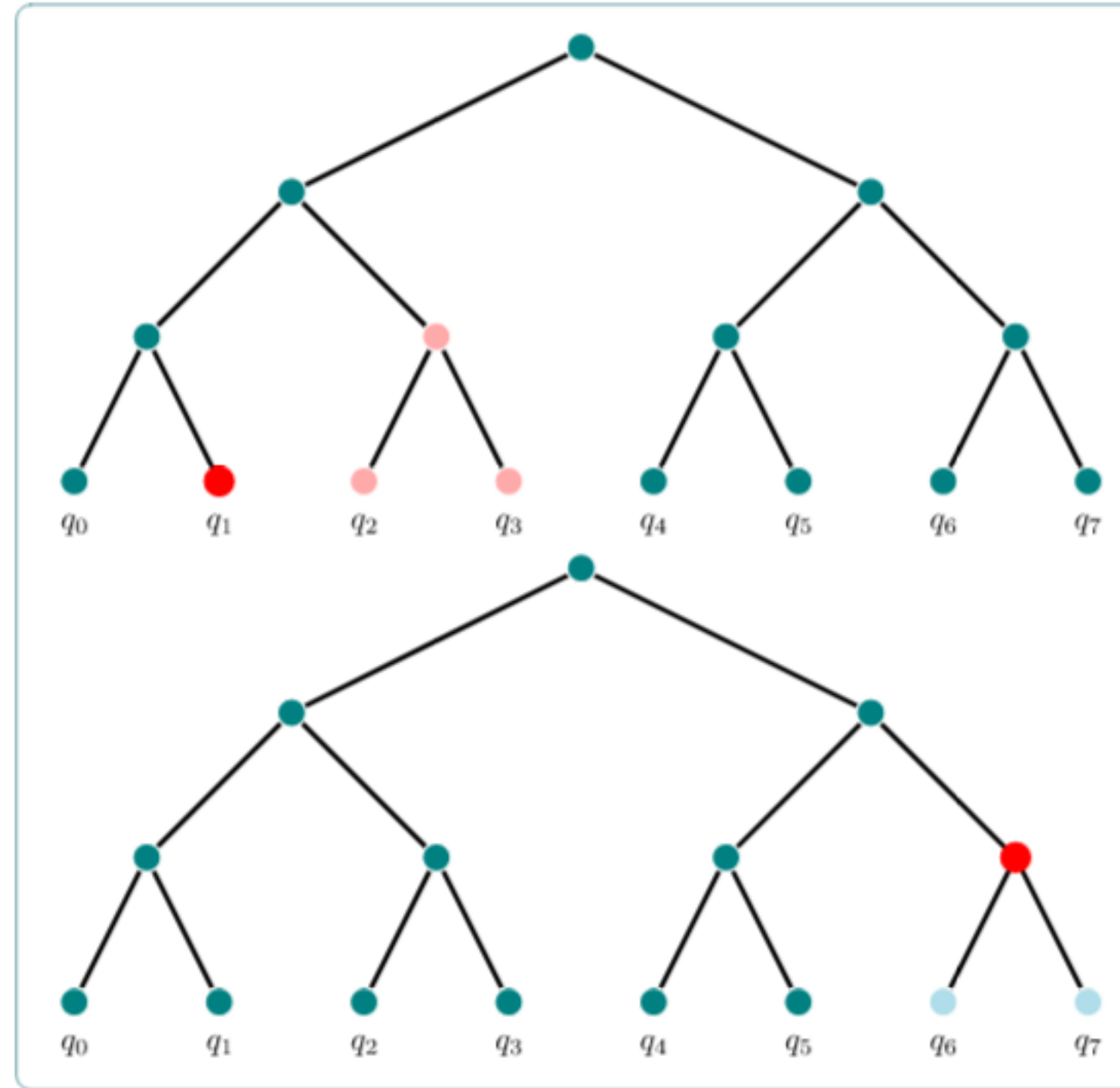
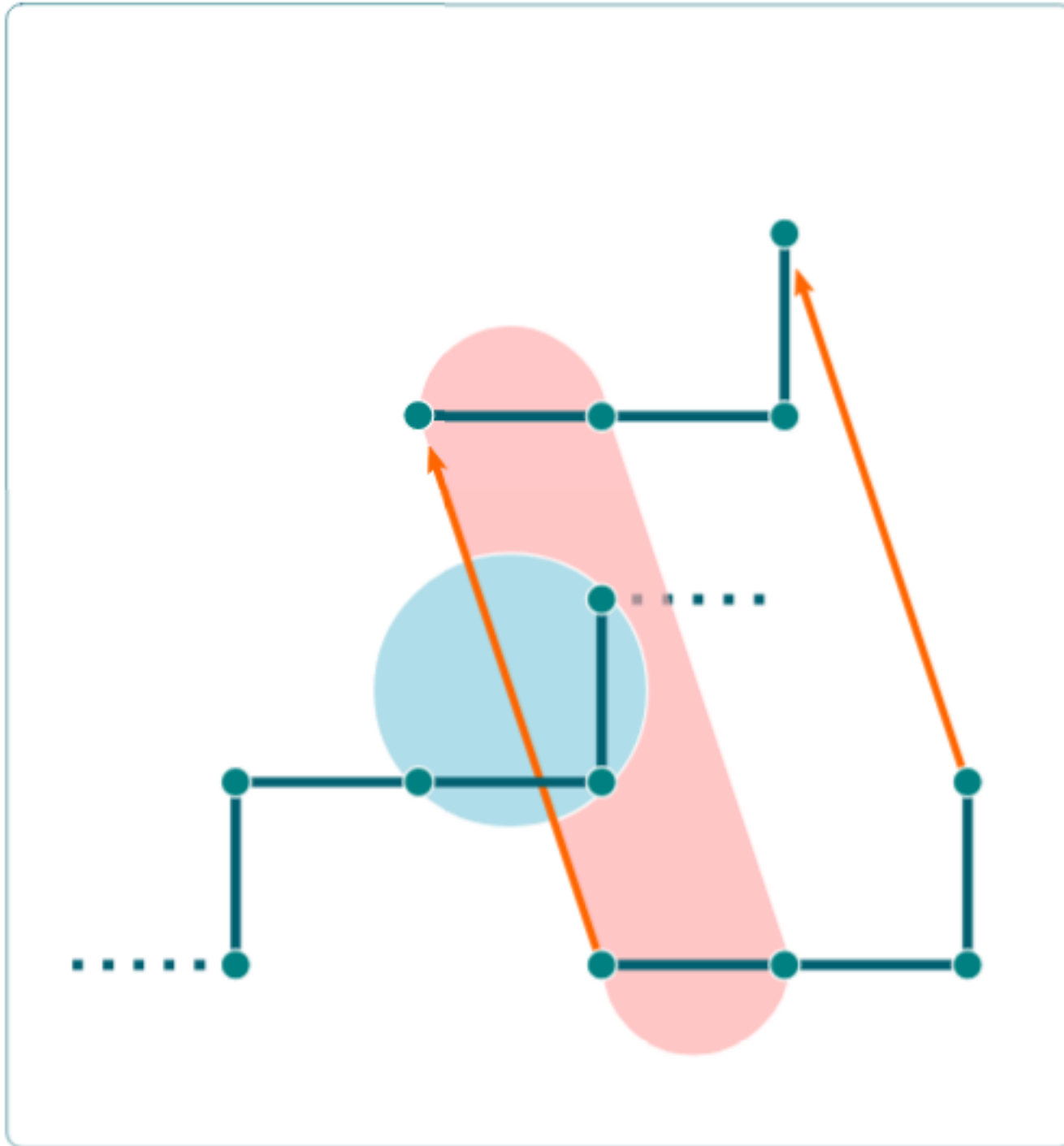


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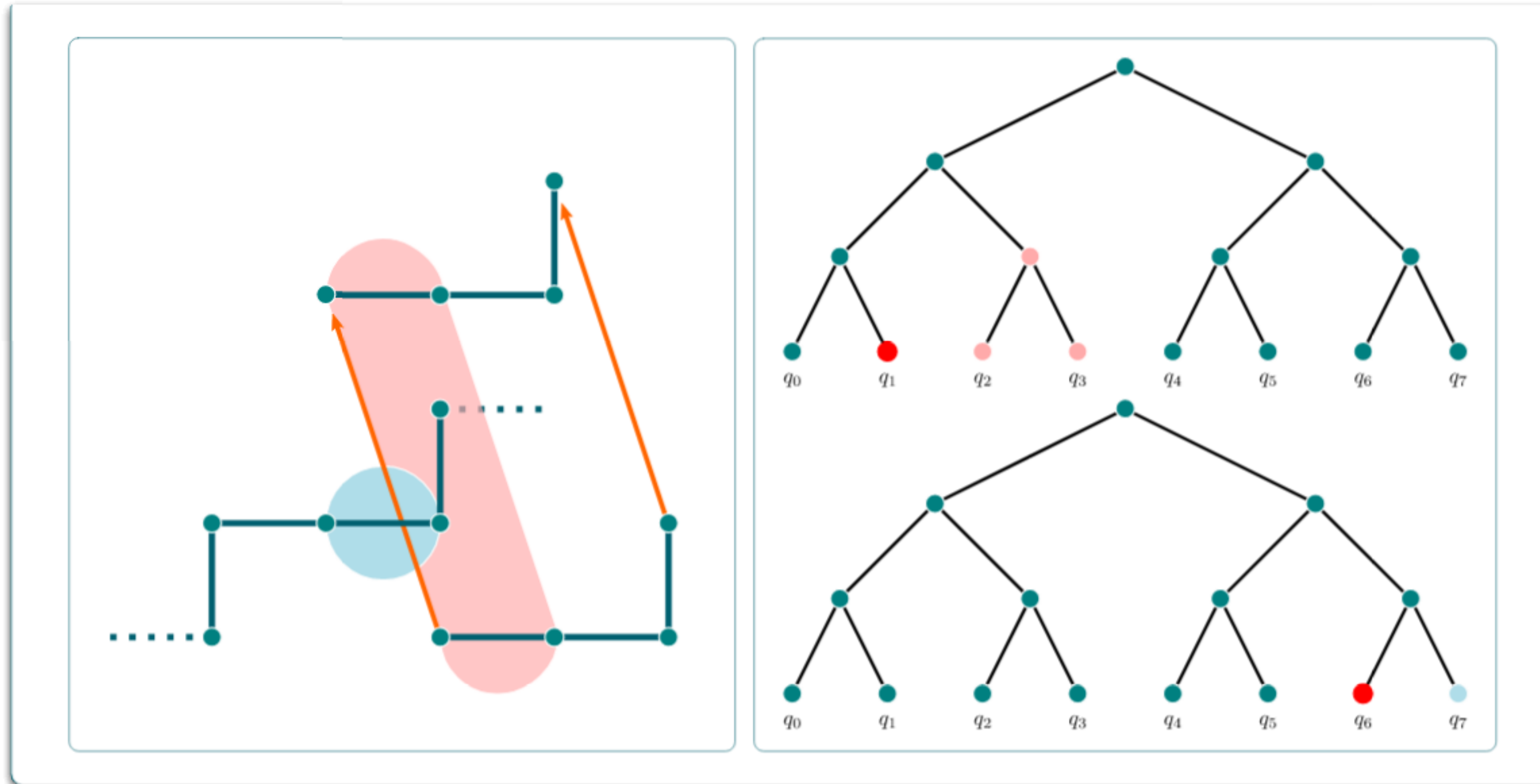




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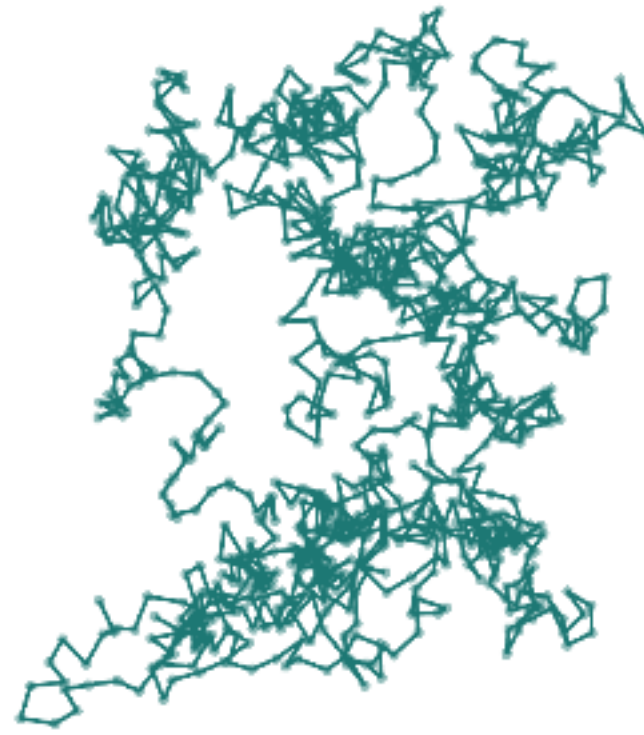


# Fast intersection checks via bounding sphere refinements



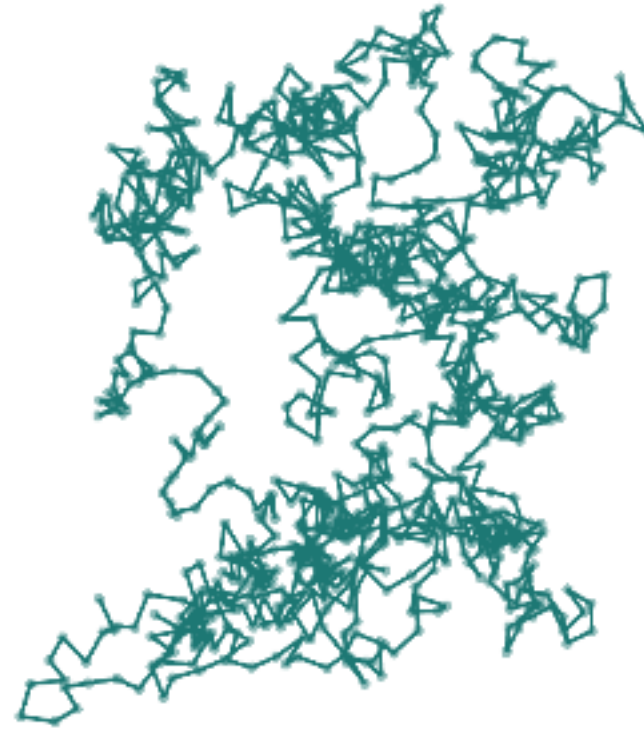
- Check segment-quadrilateral intersection via Möller-Trumbore

Does it work? Is topology conserved?



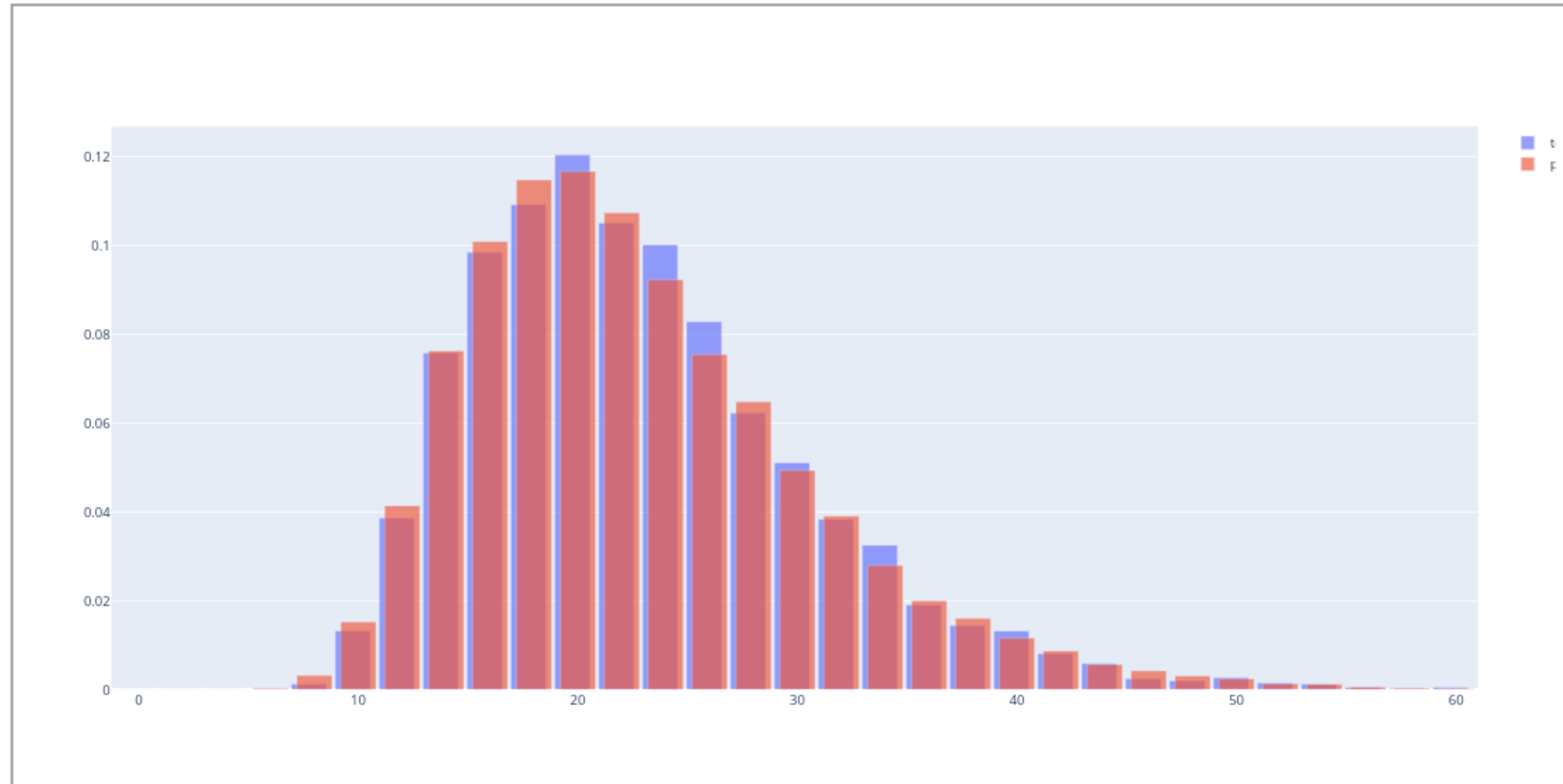
- 1024 edge square after  $\approx 250k$  pivots
- Still an unknot

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- Important aside — the [topoly library](#) is extremely helpful!

# Does it work? Compare $R_g$ histograms



- Generate  $2^{12}$  length 256 unknots with the [topoly library](#)
- Generate  $2^{14}$  length 256 unknots by pivots
- Close agreement

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Warning: research still in progress

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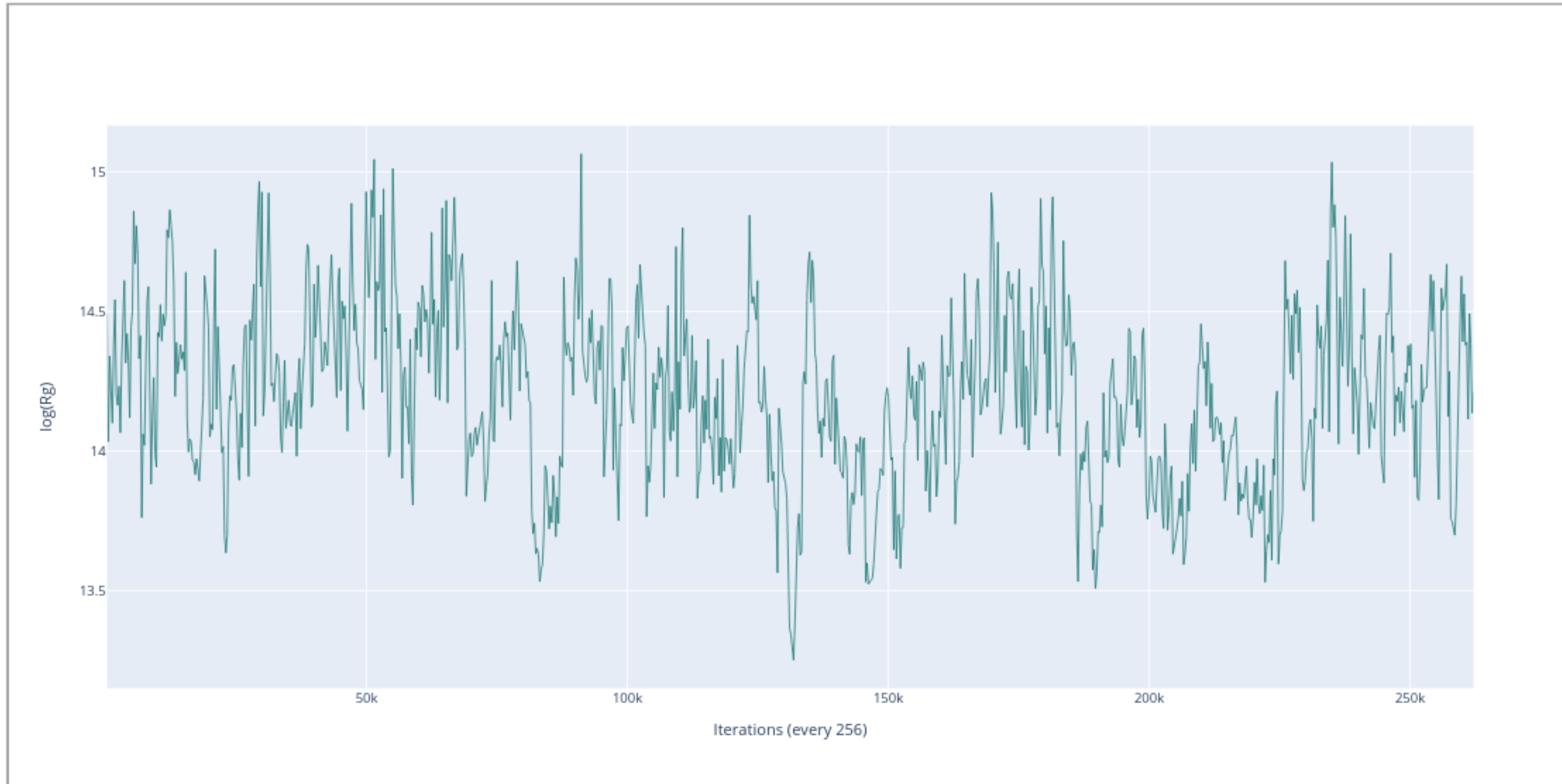
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- Huh? What is going on

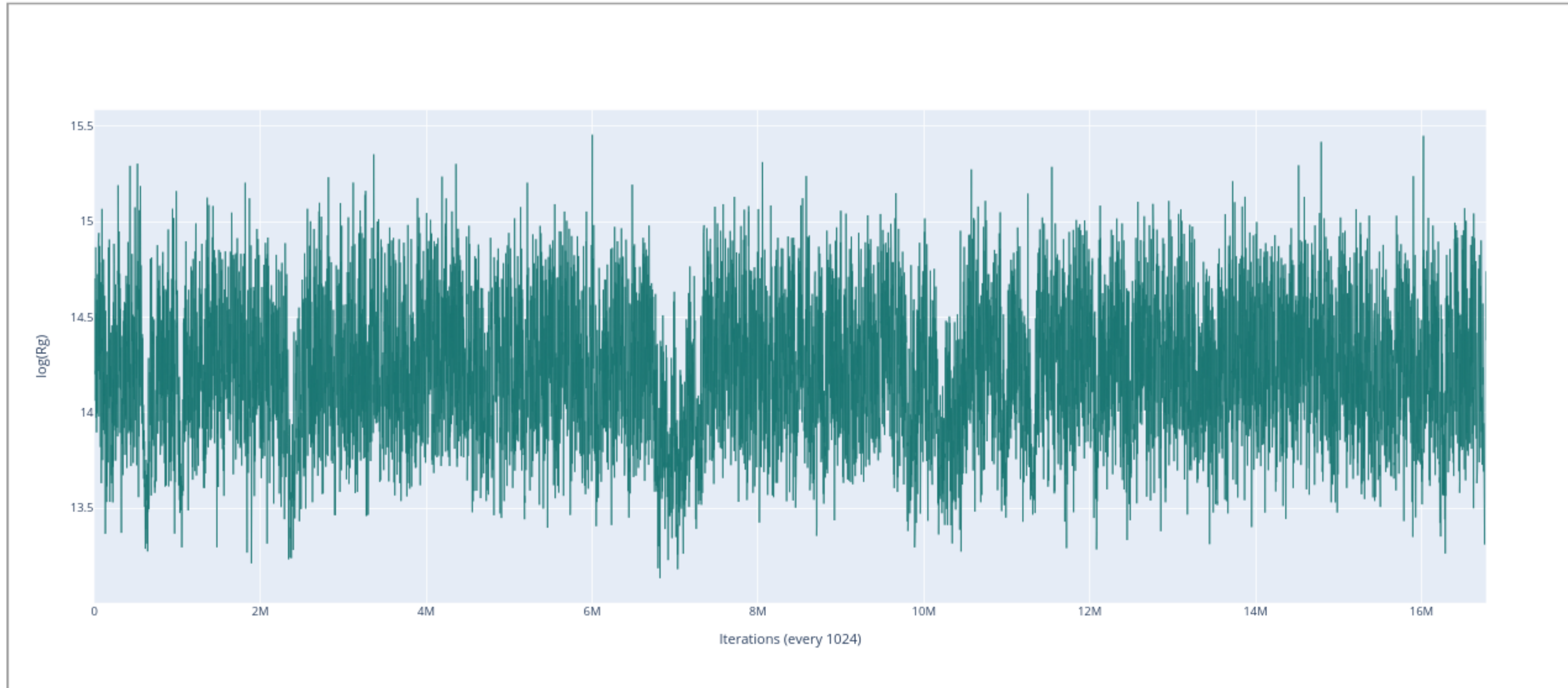


## Plot evolution of $R_g$ with iterations



- Unknot length 256, every 256th iteration shown
- Looks okay, but those "*canyons*" are worrying

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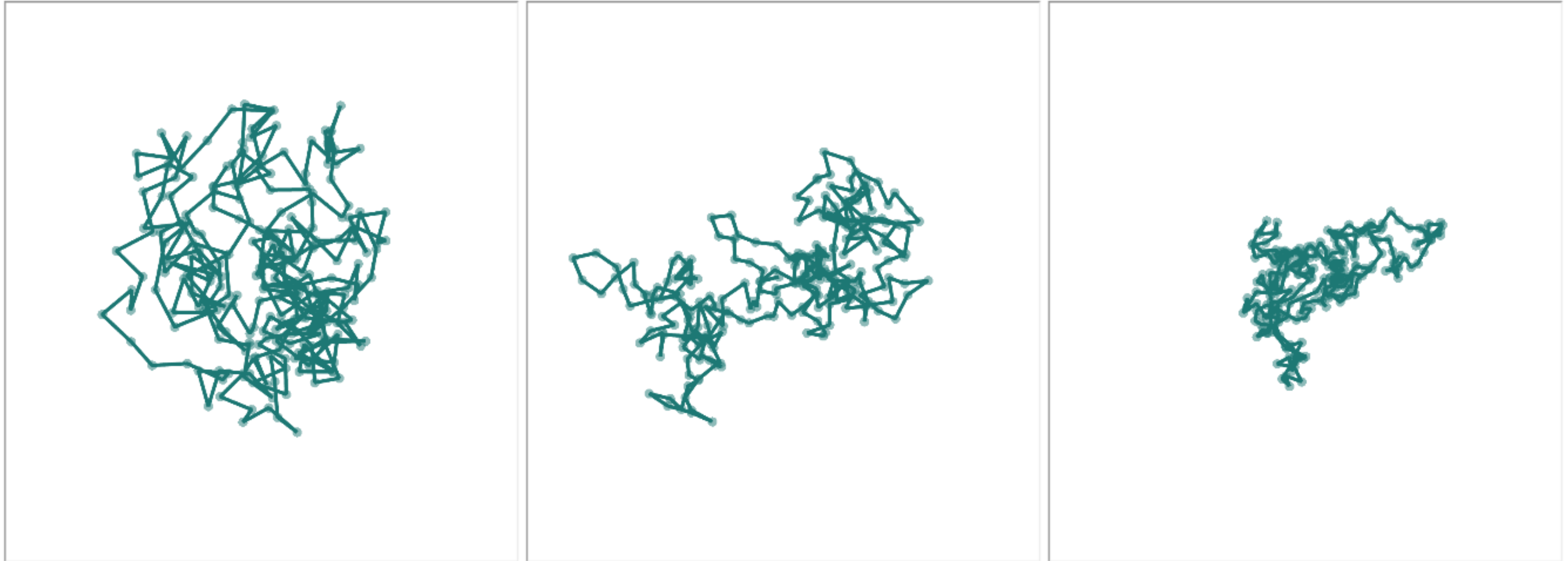


- Unknot length 256, every 1024th iteration shown
- Now "*canyons*" are very worrying

Possibility 1  
bugs in my code

## Possibility 2

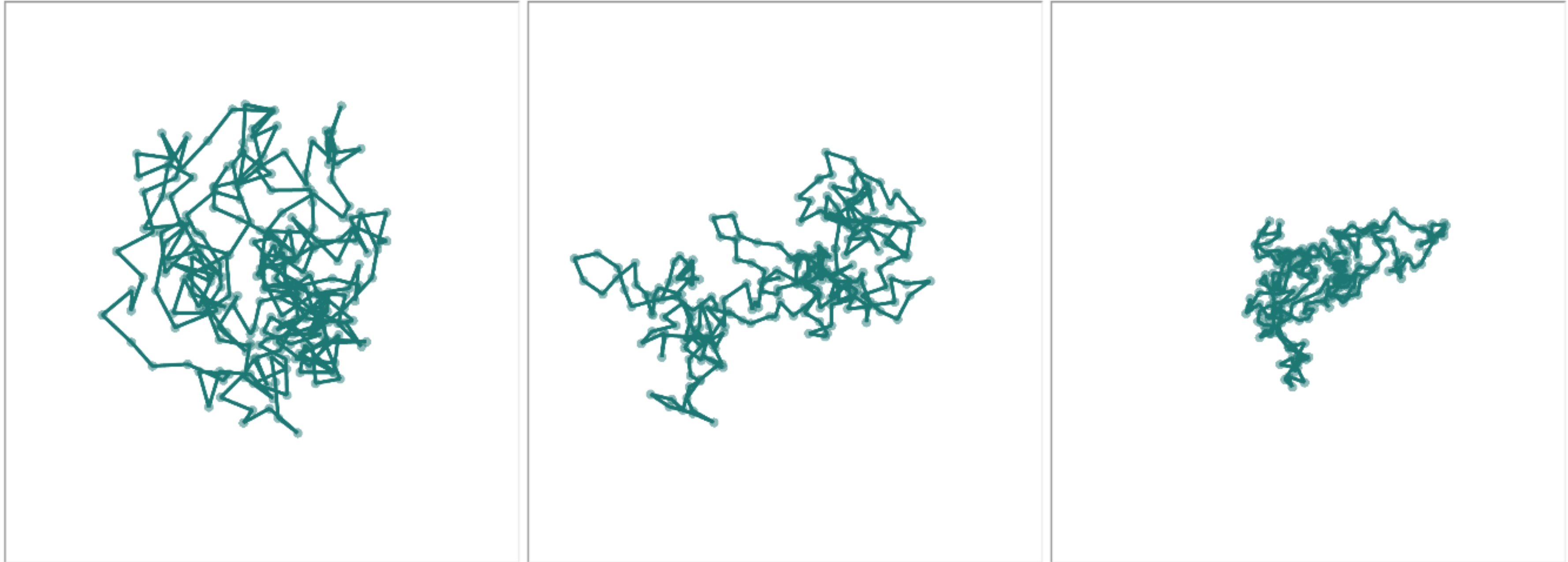
Compact conformations are not so rare



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## Possibility 2

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Does not exclude Possibility 1

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- Metric scaling of ERP and ERUnkots are different
  - ERP are compact — random walk universality class  $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$
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Many thanks to the organisers for today

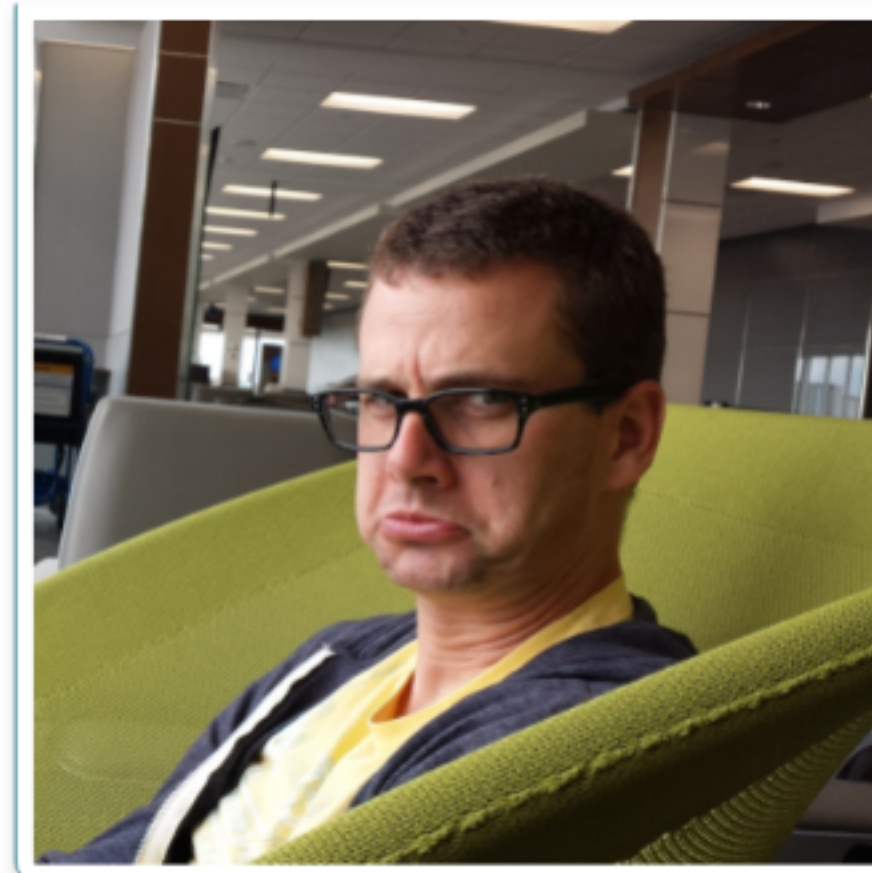
Richard

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YXE after cancelled flight June 2015



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- He made a big impact on my mathematics; how I do it, how I present it, and how I teach it

