

# Lattice homomorphisms between weak orders and between Cambrian lattices

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Simion's map

A lattice-theoretic approach

General theorems

Homomorphisms between Cambrian lattices

# Main points

Recall: Automorphisms of the weak order on a finite Coxeter group are exactly diagram automorphisms.

Surjective lattice homomorphisms between different finite Coxeter groups are **diagram homomorphisms**: A surjective homomorphism exists from  $W$  to  $W'$  if and only if the diagram for  $W'$  can be obtained from the diagram for  $W$  by deleting vertices and/or decreasing edge labels (and thus possibly erasing edges).

Such homomorphisms depend only on their restriction to rank-2 standard parabolic subgroups.

$W'$  is (usually) the quotient of  $W$  modulo a **homogeneous congruence** of degree 2 (or sometimes nonhomog. of degree 3).

From there: surjective hom.s between Cambrian lattices...  
refinement relations among Cambrian fans... **g**-vector fans...  
scattering diagrams... hom.s between cluster algebras...

## Section 1: Simion's map

# The story begins with Simion

At the time of Rodica Simion's untimely death in 2000, she had nearly completed her paper "A type-B associahedron." (Reiner finished preparing it for publication with help from Greene, Matsko, and Devadoss.)

The paper constructs a type-B analog of the usual associahedron, based on centrally symmetric triangulations of a polygon.

(At about the same time, the operads/homotopy theory people were doing the same thing, calling this the cyclohedron. Simion's work was independent and initiated the combinatorial study of this polytope.)

In the paper, Simion defined a map from signed permutations to permutations. That map is **the beginning of the story** (not just the story of this talk, but the story of this research).

# Some pattern-avoiding signed permutations

**Signed permutations:** Permutations  $\pi$  of  $\pm[n]$  with  $\pi_{-i} = -\pi_i \forall i$ .  
The Coxeter group  $B_n$  is the group of signed permutations.

**(Short) one-line notation:**  $\pi_1\pi_2\cdots\pi_n$ .

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**Example.**  $(-5)(-2)(-7)43(-1)(-8)6 \mid (-6)81(-3)(-4)725$



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Consider signed permutations whose (short) one-line notation avoids  $1\bar{2}$  and  $2\bar{1}$ . That is, negative entries (if any) must come first and then positive entries (if any).

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Fiber (i.e. preimage) of a permutation is an interval in weak order on  $B_n$ . (Bottom and top of interval are the two types of avoiders.)

**Example.** Fiber of 547192836 is

$[(-6)(-3)(-4)81725, 81725(-6)(-3)(-4)]$ .

Reminder: The weak order on  $B_n$  is containment of inversion sets of the extended one-line notation.

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Reminder: The weak order on  $B_n$  is containment of inversion sets of the extended one-line notation.

**Always** when we have a map from a lattice and the fibers are intervals, we should ask ourselves if the fibers are a lattice **congruence** and if the map is a lattice **homomorphism**.

# Congruences and homomorphisms, combinatorially

**Congruence:** equivalence relation respecting meet and join.

An equivalence relation  $\equiv$  on a **finite** lattice  $L$  is a **lattice congruence** if and only if the following three conditions hold:

- (i) Each equivalence class is an interval in  $L$ .
- (ii) The map  $\pi_{\downarrow}$  taking each element to the bottom element of its equivalence class is order-preserving.
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**Homomorphism:** Map respecting meet and join.

A surjective map  $\eta : L \rightarrow L'$  (**finite** lattices) is a **lattice homomorphism** if and only if the following two conditions hold:

- (i)  $\eta$  is order-preserving.
- (ii) For every interval  $[x, y]$  in  $L'$ , the set  $\eta^{-1}([x, y])$  is an interval.

# A surjective homomorphism from $B_n$ to $S_{n+1}$

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Conclusion: We have a surjective lattice homomorphism from the weak order on  $B_n$  to the weak order on  $S_{n+1}$ . In other words,  $S_{n+1}$  is a lattice quotient of  $B_n$ .



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Note: It is much easier to get a surjective lattice homomorphism from the weak order on  $B_n$  to the weak order on  $S_n$ . That is a parabolic congruence (discussed last week and again soon).

## In general?

The simple combinatorics of this map might hide how surprising it is that  $S_{n+1}$  is a lattice quotient of  $B_n$ .

Are there other examples?

Can we characterize surjective lattice homomorphisms between weak orders?

Equivalently, can we characterize congruences on  $W$  such that the quotient is the weak order on some  $W'$ ?

First we'll need more background.

## Section 2: A lattice-theoretic approach

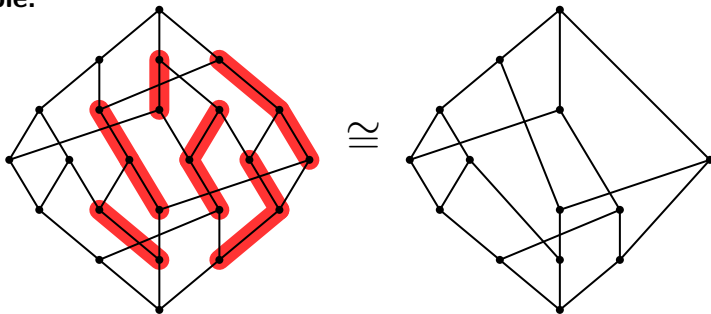
# Order-theoretic characterization of a lattice quotient

We saw that congruence classes of a lattice congruence are intervals.

**Lattice quotient:** The natural lattice structure on the set of congruence classes.

Order-theoretically: The lattice quotient is isomorphic to the subposet induced by the **bottom elements** of intervals.

**Example.**



# Contracting edges

Write  $a \triangleleft b$  for a cover relation.

A congruence  $\Theta$  **contracts** the edge  $a \triangleleft b$  if  $a \equiv b$  modulo  $\Theta$ .

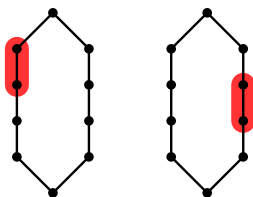
**Because congruence classes are intervals**, a congruence is completely determined by the edges it contracts.

As one might expect, edges cannot be contracted independently.

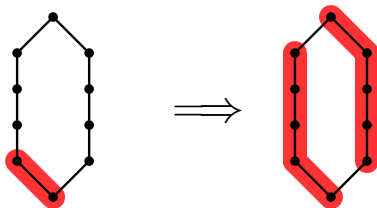
Say  $a \triangleleft b$  **forces**  $c \triangleleft d$  if every congruence contracting  $a \triangleleft b$  also contracts  $c \triangleleft d$ .

# Forcing in a polygon

A “side” edge can be contracted independently. E.g.:



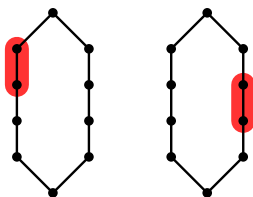
A “bottom” edge forces all side edges and the opposite “top” edge.



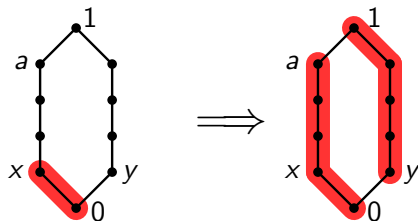
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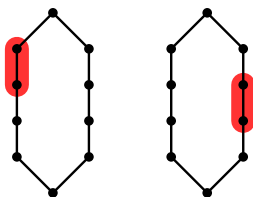
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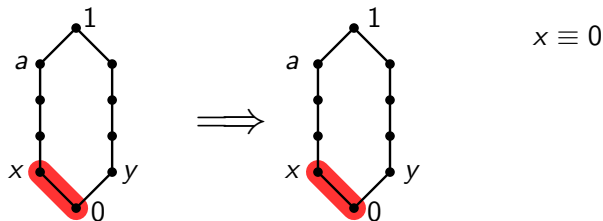
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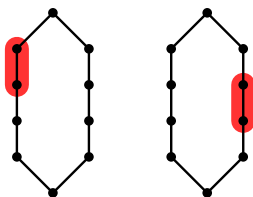


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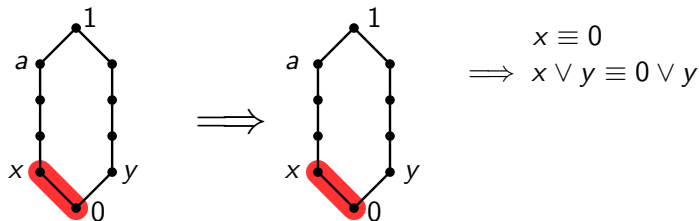


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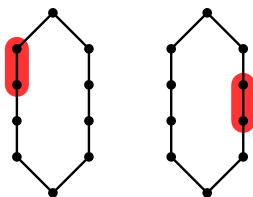
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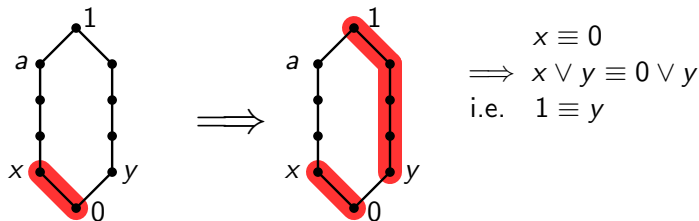
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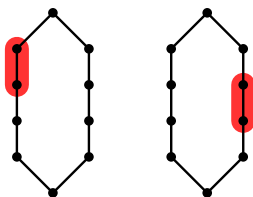
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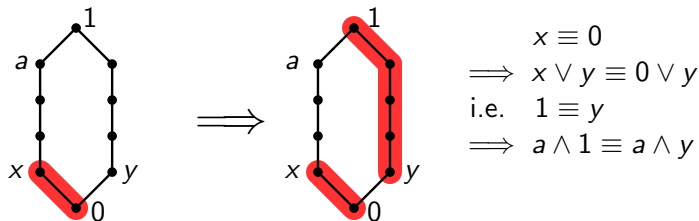
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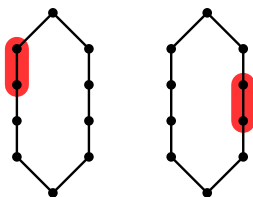
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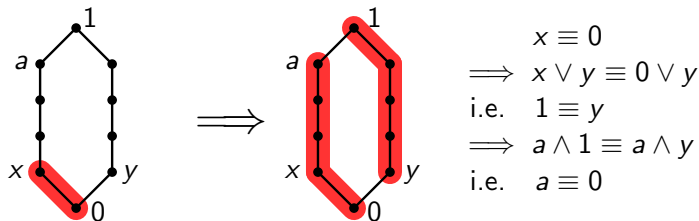
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# Forcing in the weak order

A **polygon** in the weak order is an interval whose Hasse diagram is a cycle.

**Proposition.** The forcing relation in the weak order is the **transitive closure of the forcing relation in each polygon.**

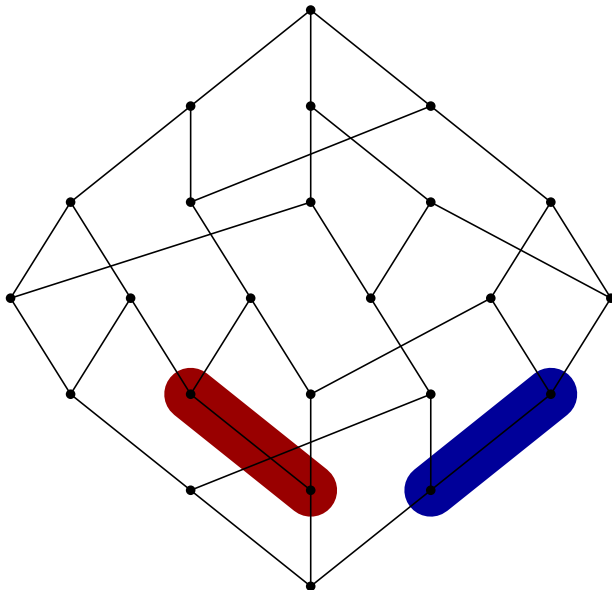
That relation was: bottom edge forces opposite top edge and all side edges (and dually, top edge forces...)

As a result, we can compute examples easily by hand.

Terminology: We'll compute the congruence **generated** by contracting a set of edges.

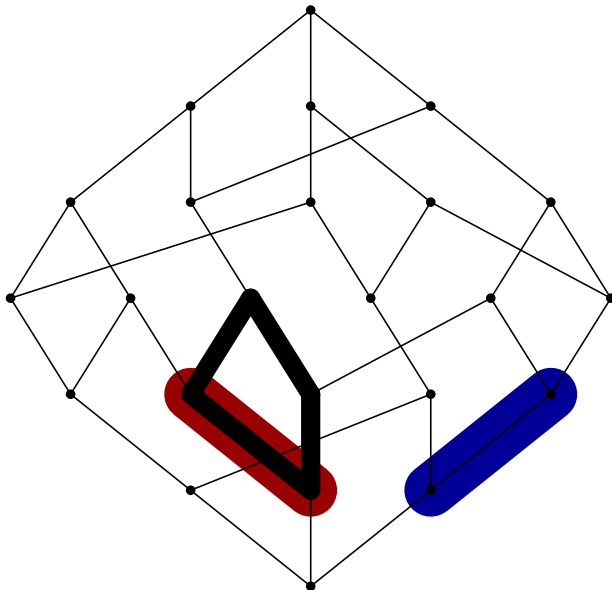
# Example of forcing in the weak order

The congruence generated by contracting the **red** and **blue** edges.



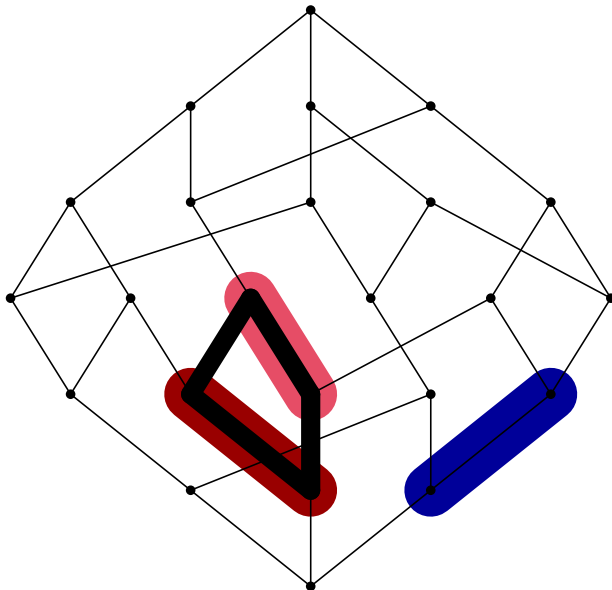
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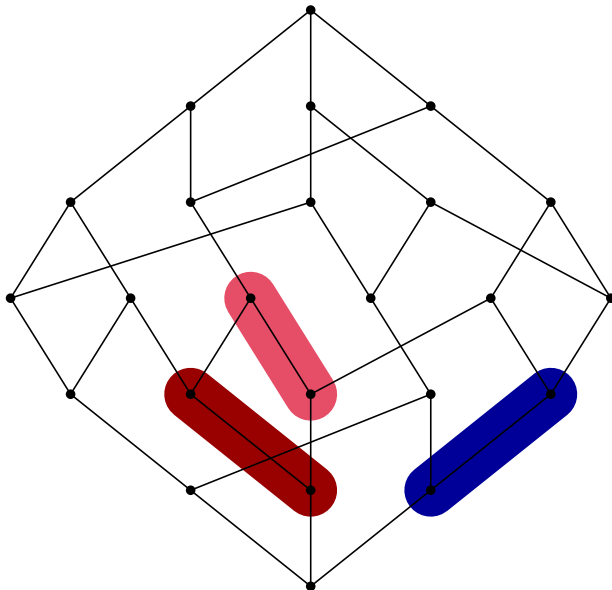
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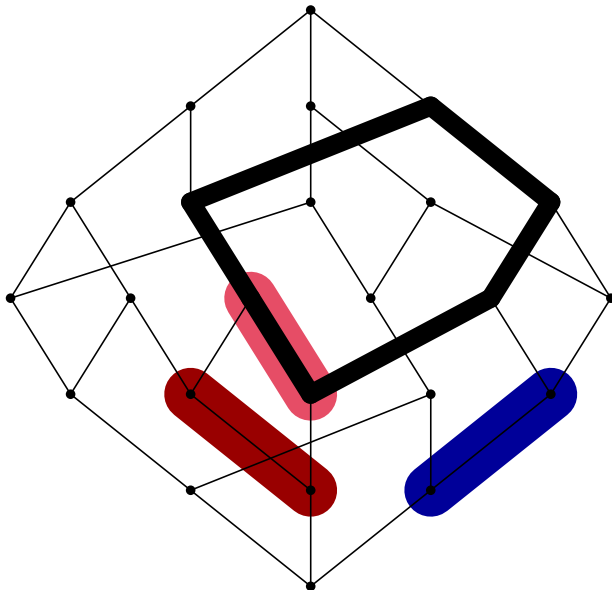
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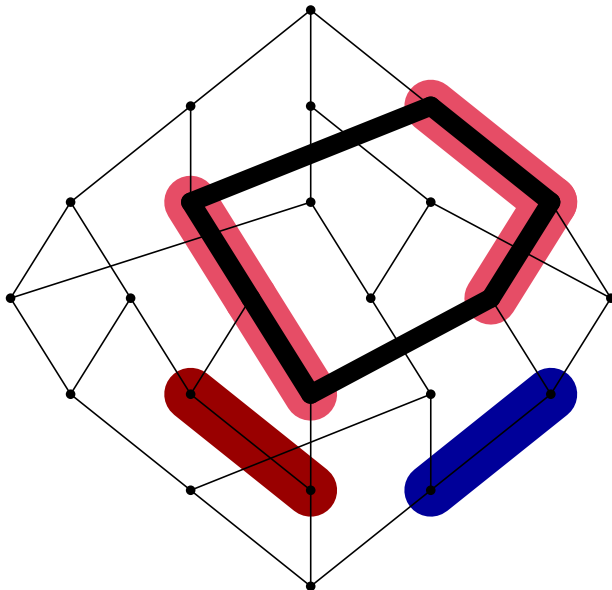
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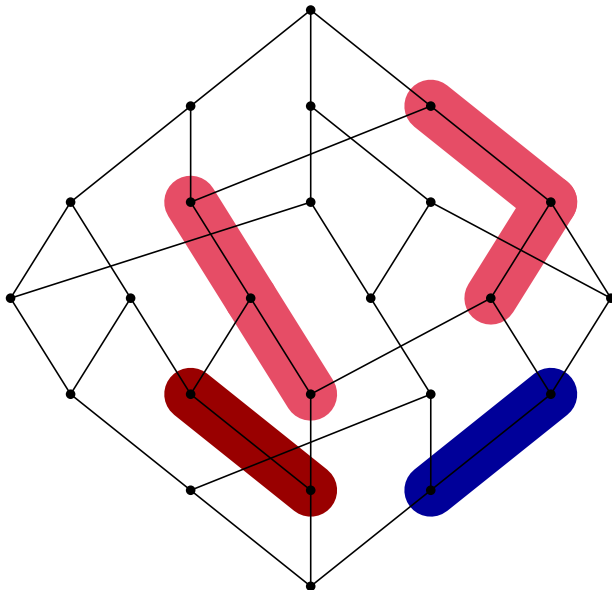
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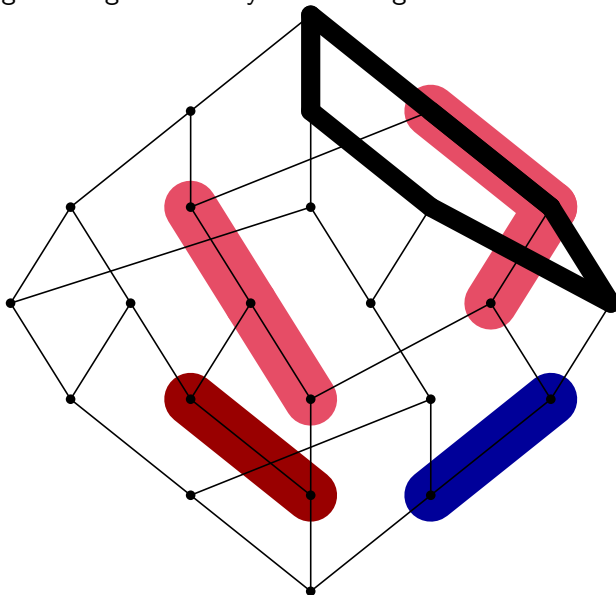
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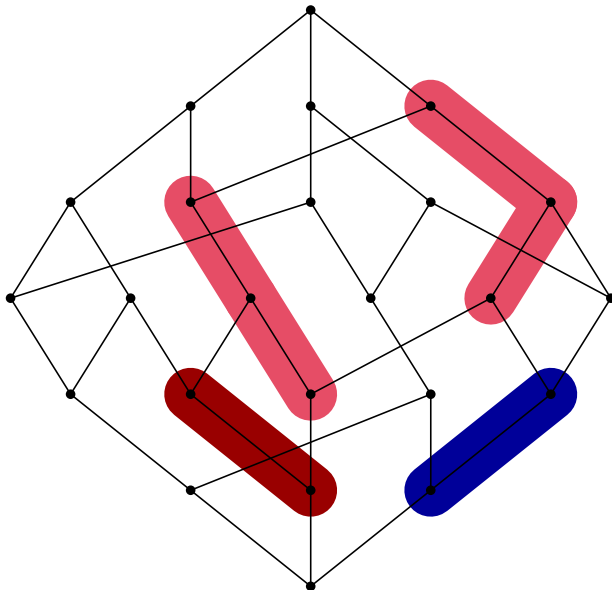
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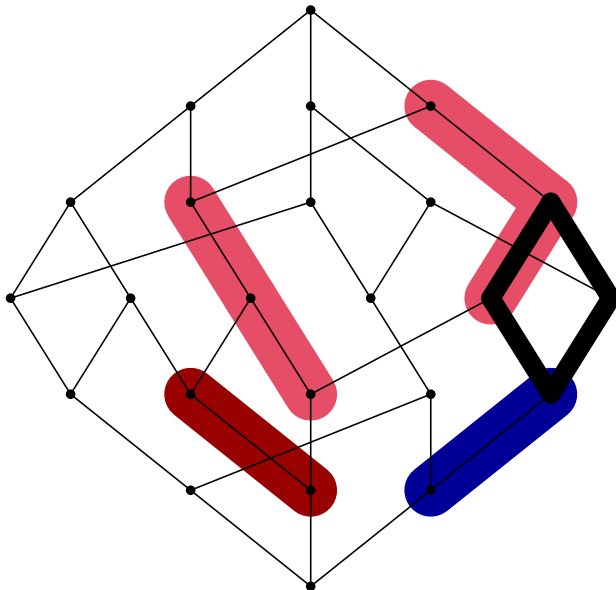
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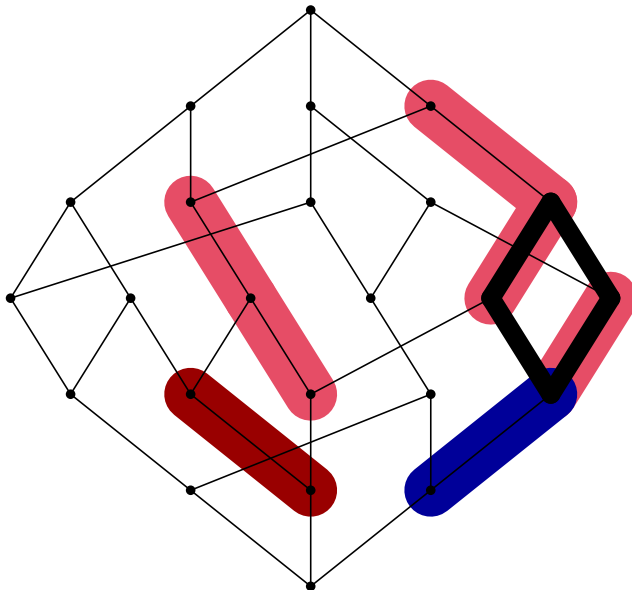
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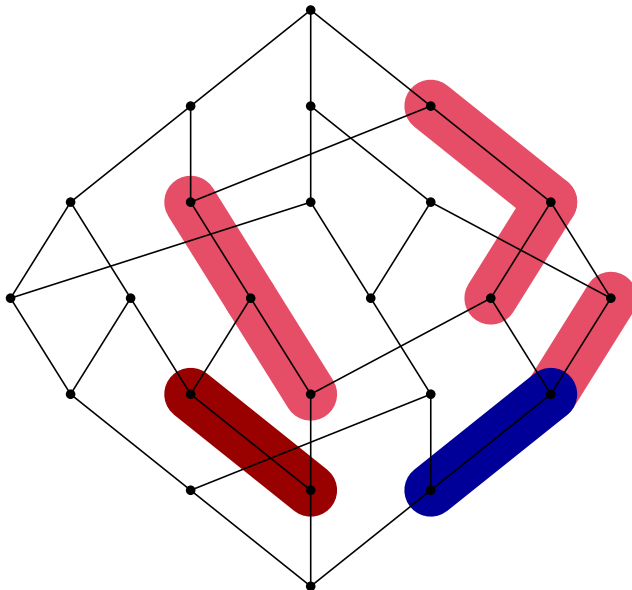
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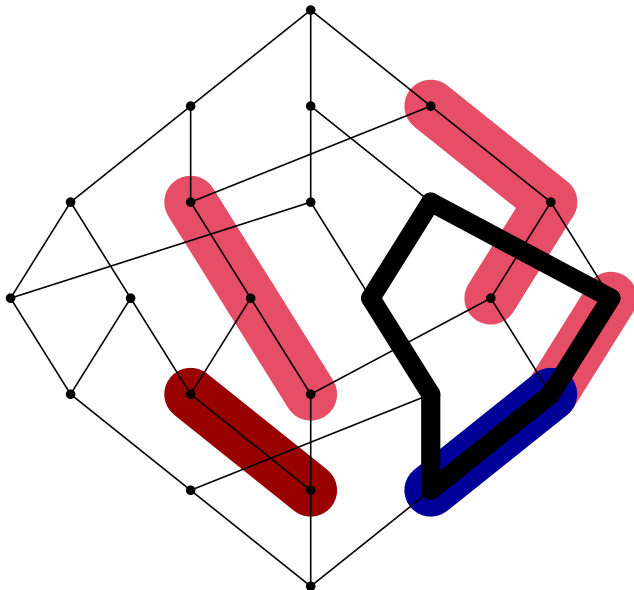
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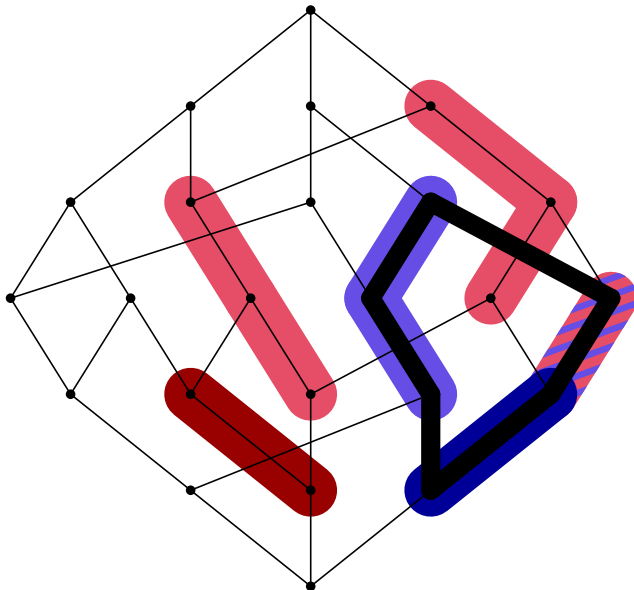
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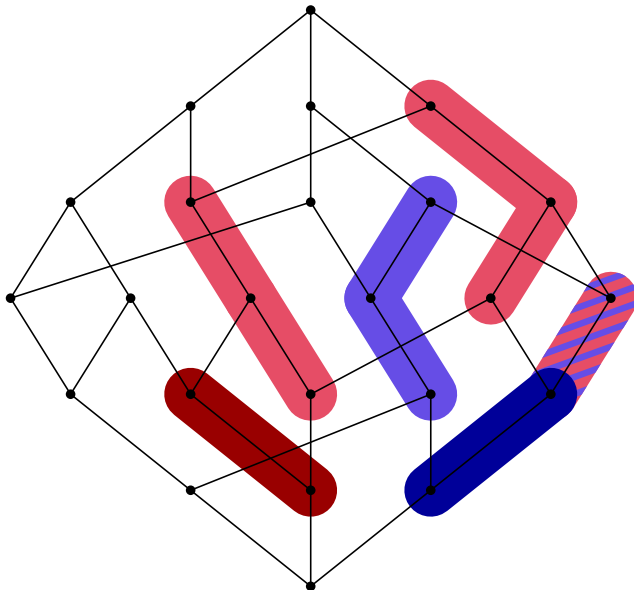
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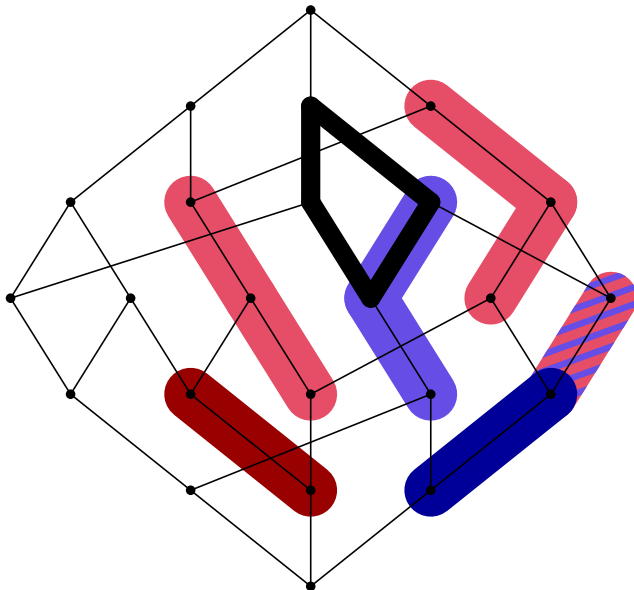
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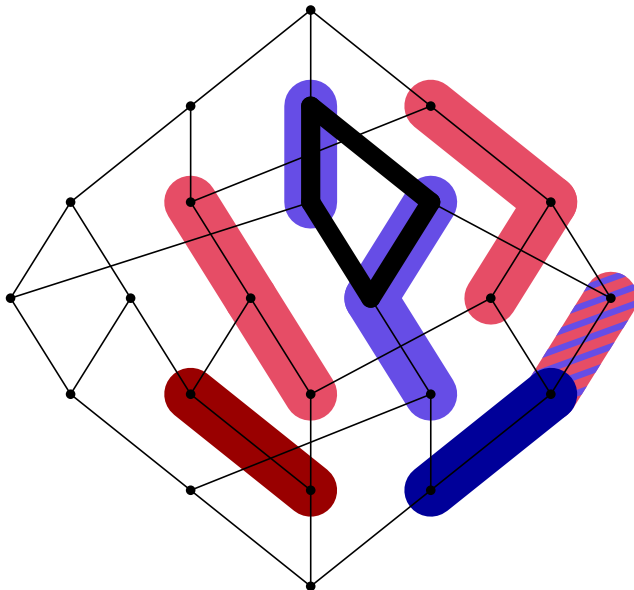
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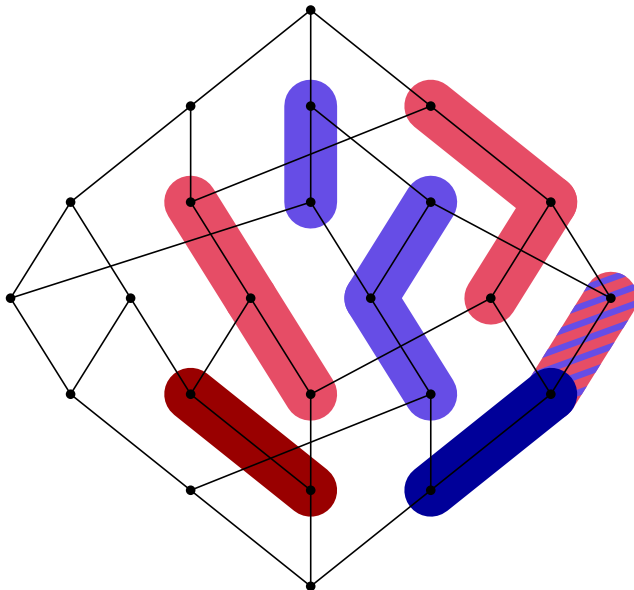
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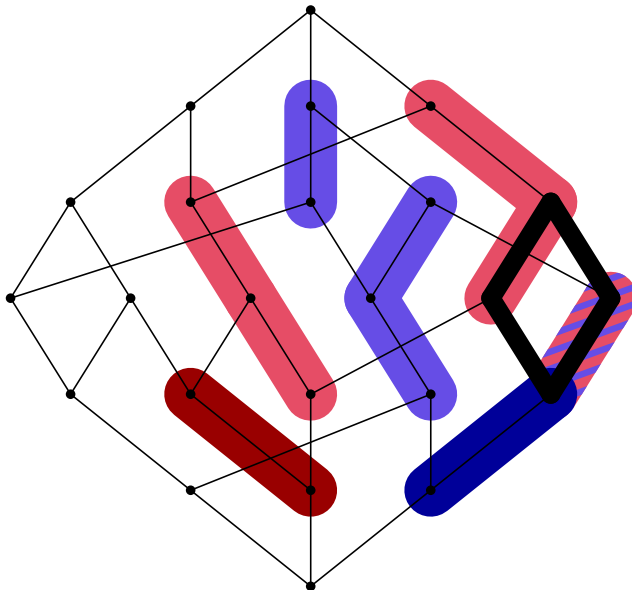
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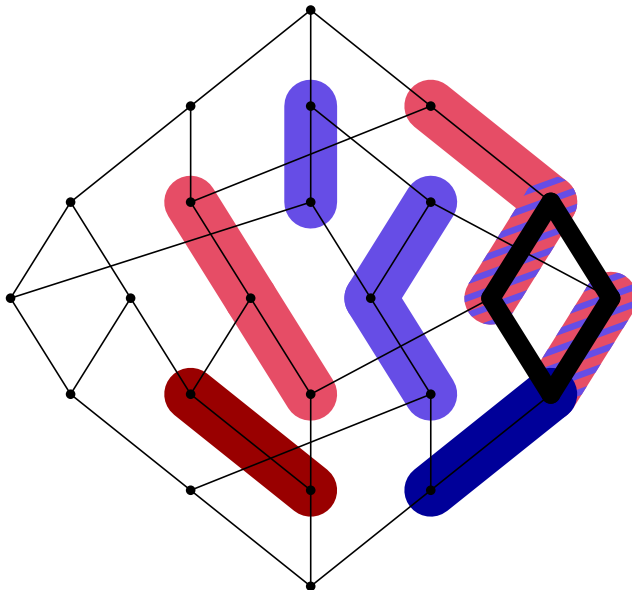
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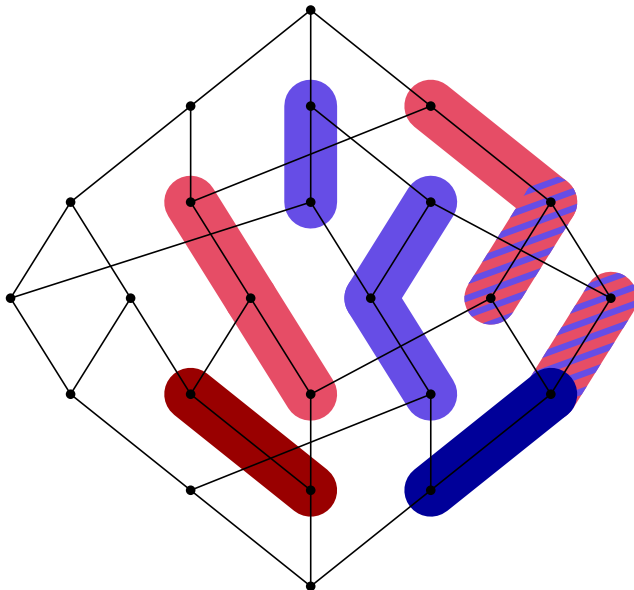
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The congruence generated by contracting the **red** and **blue** edges.



# Example of forcing in the weak order

The congruence generated by contracting the **red** and **blue** edges.



# Homogeneous congruences

Each edge in the weak order has a **degree**: The rank of the smallest standard parabolic subgroup containing that edge.

**Caveat**: This definition has some problems, but it's good enough for this talk. If you want to think more about this, use the definition I gave in the school last week.

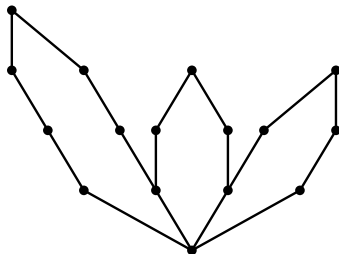
A **homogeneous congruence of degree  $d$**  is a congruence generated by contracting a set of edges of degree  $d$ .

For example, a homogenous congruence of degree 1 is generated by contracting edges that look like  $1 \triangleleft s$ .

Important examples of congruences of degree 2 include **Cambrian congruences**, which make permutohedra into (generalized) associahedra.

# Looking for congruences

The weak order contains, at the bottom, the Coxeter diagram:  
Vertices are atoms and edges are polygons:

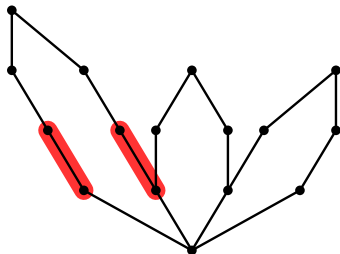


If I want to “turn this into” the weak order on  $A_4$ , somehow the octagon needs to turn into a hexagon.

I can do it by contracting edges.

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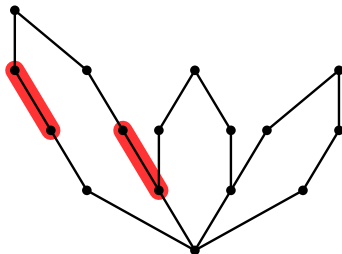


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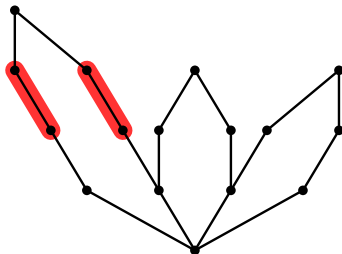


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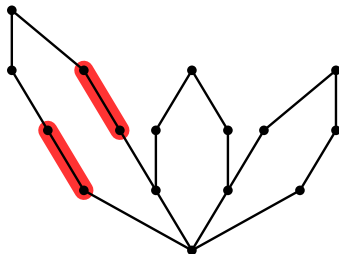


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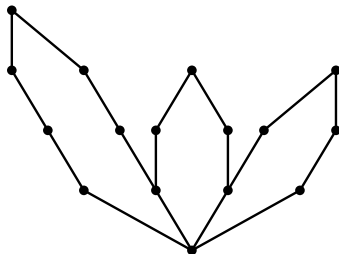
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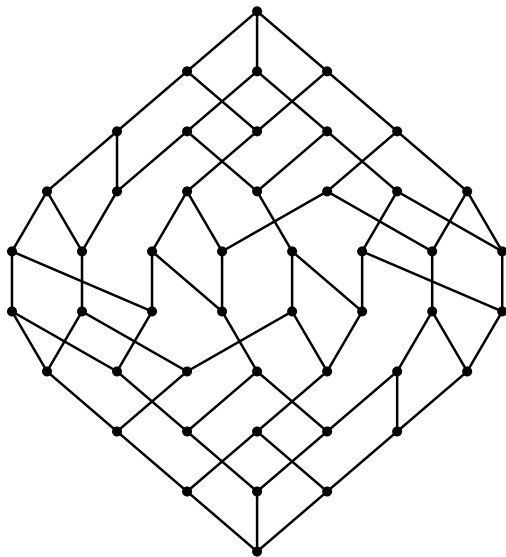


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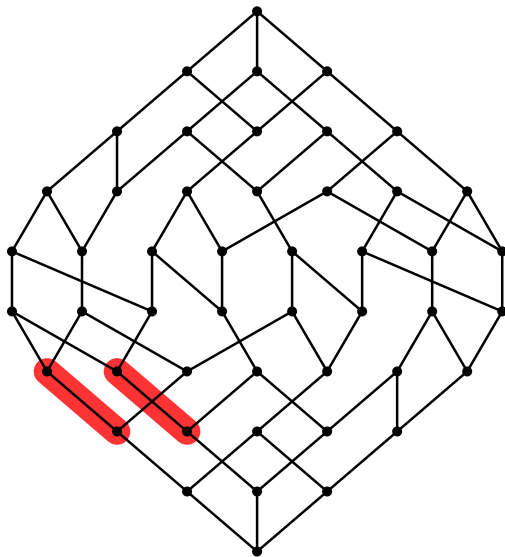
I can do it by contracting edges.

Let's try it (in lower rank).

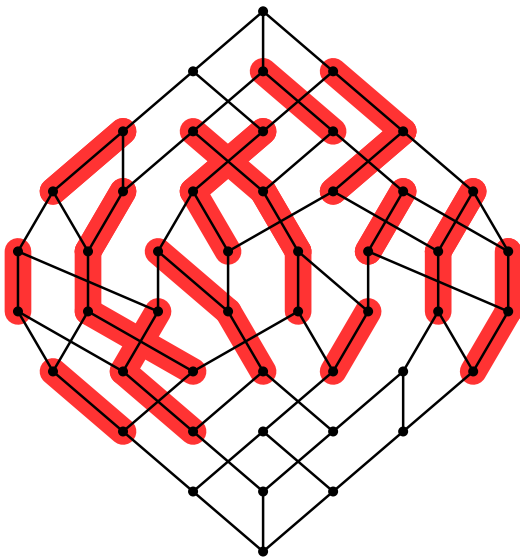
# Looking for congruences in rank 3



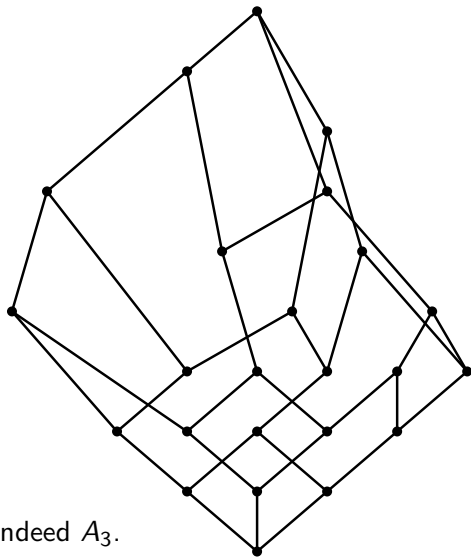
# Looking for congruences in rank 3



# Looking for congruences in rank 3



# Looking for congruences in rank 3



Quotient is indeed  $A_3$ .

Let's stop and think about this:

We looked at the polygons at the bottom of weak order that encode the Coxeter diagram of  $B_3$ .

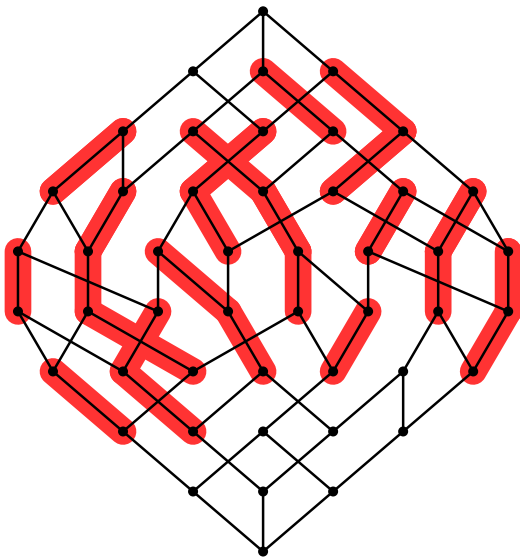
We contracted two side edges to turn the octagon (label 4) into a hexagon (label 3).

Naïvely contracting these edges generates a congruence whose quotient is  $A_3$ .

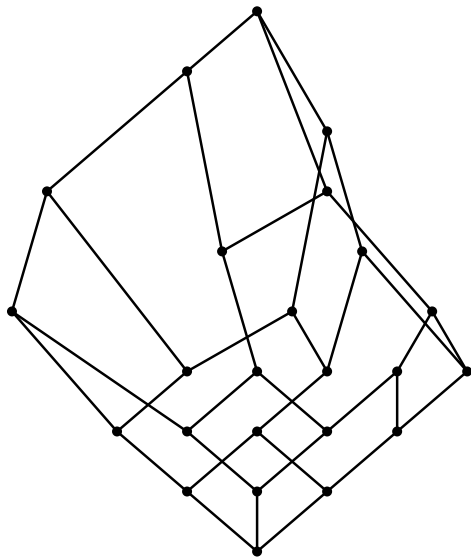
On the one hand, this is surprising. Why should this naïve approach work.

On the other hand, this is consistent with our expectation that constructions in Coxeter groups are determined in rank 2.

# Looking for congruences in rank 3

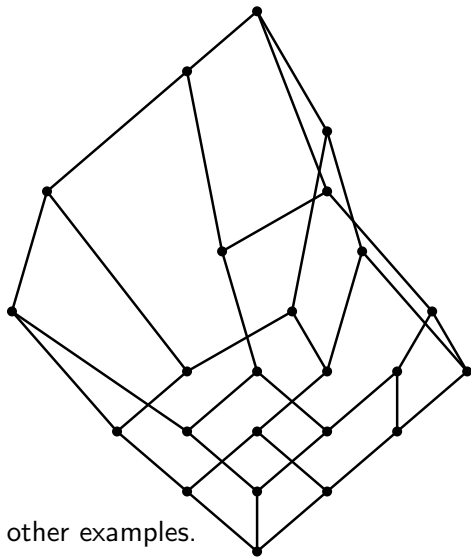


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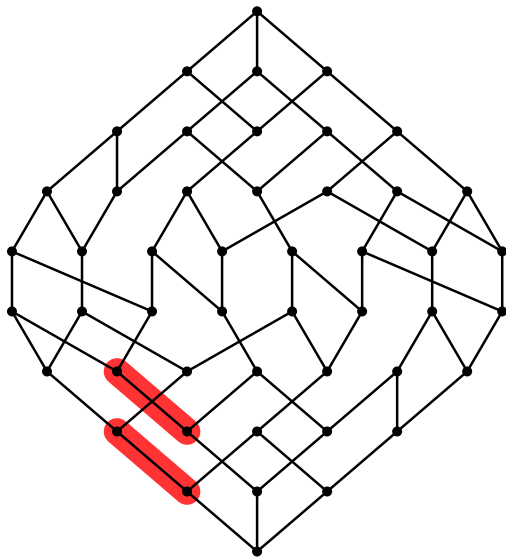


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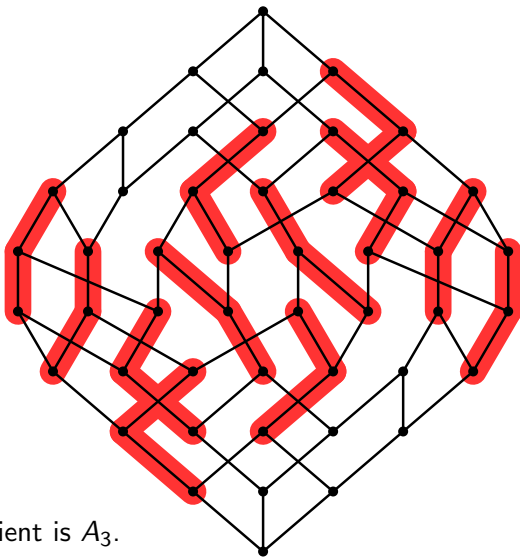


Let's look at the other examples.

# Looking for congruences in rank 3

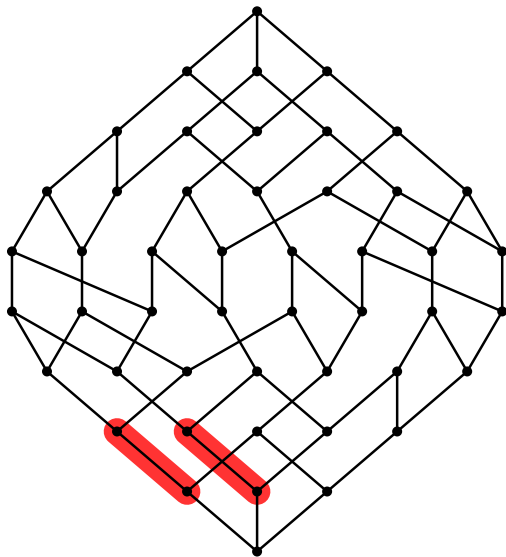


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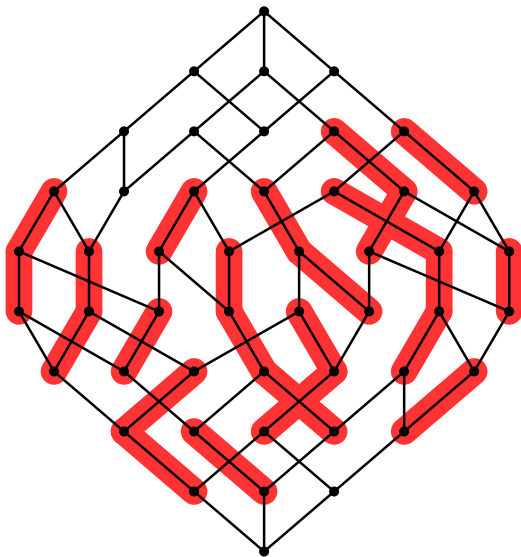


Again, quotient is  $A_3$ .

# Looking for congruences in rank 3

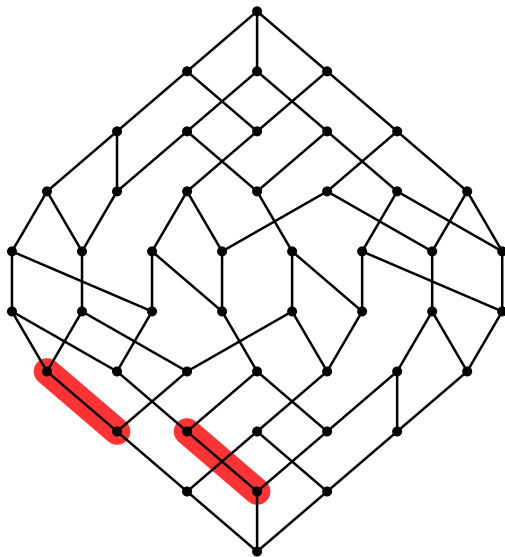


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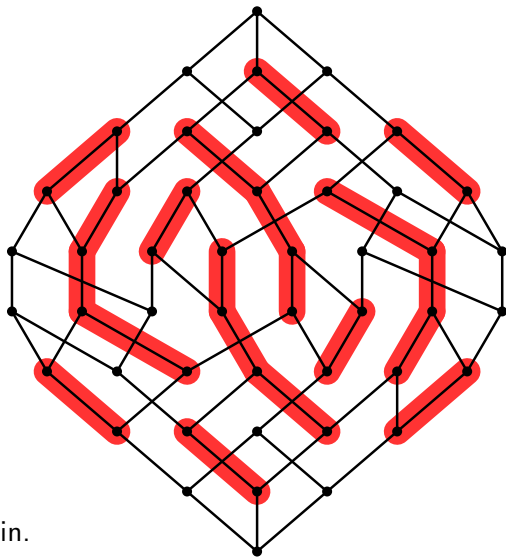


And again.

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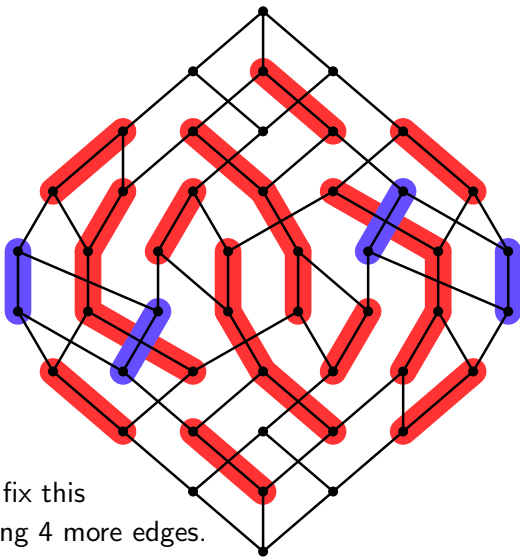


# Looking for congruences in rank 3



And **not** again.

# Looking for congruences in rank 3



But we can fix this  
by contracting 4 more edges.



# Summary of the $B_3$ -to- $A_3$ examples

All of these are theorems for general  $B_n$ -to- $A_n$ .

There are 4 ways to contract side edges of the octagon to get a hexagon.

In 3 of 4 cases, contracting those edges generates a congruence whose quotient is  $A_3$ . Thus these are homogeneous congruences of degree 2.

In the remaining case, there are 4 additional edges to contract, but then we still get  $A_3$ . This is a non-homogeneous congruence of degree 3. For larger  $n$ , the congruence is generated by contracting these edges in the  $B_3$  standard parabolic subgroup of  $B_n$ .

# Explicit homomorphisms

Simion's map (insert 0, take nonnegative entries, add 1 to each)  
 $\longleftrightarrow$  one of the homogeneous congruences. The homomorphism  
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The other two homomorphisms are "hybrids."



## Section 3: General theorems

# Deleting vertices

## Parabolic homomorphism:

Given  $J \subseteq S$ , let  $\eta_J$  map  $w$  to  $w_J$ , where  $w$  factors as  $w_J \cdot {}^J w$ .  
(If you like:  $w_J$  is the largest element of  $W_J$  below  $w$ .)

Given Coxeter systems  $(W, S)$  and  $(W', S')$ ,

**Theorem.** Let  $\eta : W \rightarrow W'$  be a surjective lattice homomorphism and let  $J \subseteq S$  be  $\{s \in S : \eta(s) \neq 1'\}$ . Then  $\eta$  factors as  $\eta|_{W_J} \circ \eta_J$ , where  $\eta|_{W_J}$  (the restriction of  $\eta$  to  $W_J$ ) restricts to a bijection from  $J$  to  $S'$ .

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*Proof idea:* E.g. for  $J = S \setminus \{s\}$ , the congruence associated to  $\eta_J$  is the smallest congruence with identity  $\equiv s$ .

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That is:  $\eta$  “deletes” vertices from the diagram and then ... **does something else.**

To see what “something else” is, we reduce to the case where  $S = S'$  and  $\eta$  fixes  $S$  (**for the rest of the talk**).

# Surjective homomorphisms fixing $S$

**Theorem.** Suppose  $(W, S)$  and  $(W', S)$  are finite Coxeter systems. Then there exists a surjective lattice homomorphism from  $W$  to  $W'$  (fixing  $S$ ) if and only if  $m'(r, s) \leq m(r, s)$  for each pair  $r, s \in S$ . If so, then the homomorphism can be chosen so that the associated congruence on  $W$  is homogeneous of degree 2.

*Proof idea:* The “only if” direction (easy): The map fixes  $S$ , and so can't make the rank-2 standard parabolics (polygons at the bottom) larger, only smaller (by contracting their side edges).

The “if” direction: Choose side edges to contract and use forcing (geometrized via “shards”) to generate congruences. Verify that (possibly after contracting more edges), the quotient is  $W'$ . Verify that  $\exists$  a choice of side edges to contract s.t. no additional edges need be contracted (so the congruence is homog. of degree 2).

Uniform proof for “erasing edges,” then case-by-case, with computations in the remaining exceptional types  $F_4$ ,  $H_3$ , and  $H_4$ .

**Theorem.** Let  $W$  and  $W'$  be finite Coxeter groups. A surjective homomorphism from the weak order on  $W$  to the weak order on  $W'$  is determined entirely by its restrictions to rank-two standard parabolic subgroups.

*Proof idea:* This is an extension of the previous proof. One checks that, once one chooses which “side edges of polygons” to contract in each rank-2 parabolic subgroup, if the congruence is not already correct, there is at most one way to contract additional edges so that the quotient is  $W'$ .

**Theorem.** Let  $(W, S)$  and  $(W', S)$  be finite Coxeter systems with  $m'(r, s) \leq m(r, s)$  for each pair  $r, s \in S$ . For each  $r, s \in S$ , fix a surjective homomorphism  $\eta_{r,s}$  from  $W_{\{r,s\}}$  to  $W'_{\{r,s\}}$  with  $\eta_{r,s}(r) = r$  and  $\eta_{r,s}(s) = s$ . Then there is exactly one diagram homomorphism  $\eta : W \rightarrow W'$  such that the restriction of  $\eta$  to  $W_{\{r,s\}}$  equals  $\eta_{r,s}$  for each pair  $r, s \in S$ .



## Surjective homomorphisms fixing $S$ (continued)

**Almost Theorem.** Let  $(W, S)$  and  $(W', S)$  be finite Coxeter systems with  $m'(r, s) \leq m(r, s)$  for each pair  $r, s \in S$ . For each  $r, s \in S$ , fix a surjective homomorphism  $\eta_{r,s}$  from  $W_{\{r,s\}}$  to  $W'_{\{r,s\}}$  with  $\eta_{r,s}(r) = r$  and  $\eta_{r,s}(s) = s$ . Then there is exactly one diagram homomorphism  $\eta : W \rightarrow W'$  such that the restriction of  $\eta$  to  $W_{\{r,s\}}$  equals  $\eta_{r,s}$  for each pair  $r, s \in S$ .

In fact, as stated, the theorem is **false**, but fails in essentially one case: Going from type  $H_n$  to type  $B_n$ , **one** of the nine ways to choose side edges produces a bad congruence. (No matter what additional edges you contract, you can't get the quotient to be  $B_n$ .)

## Surjective homomorphisms fixing $S$ (continued)

**Theorem.** Let  $(W, S)$  and  $(W', S)$  be finite **crystallographic** Coxeter systems with  $m'(r, s) \leq m(r, s)$  for each pair  $r, s \in S$ . For each  $r, s \in S$ , fix a surjective homomorphism  $\eta_{r,s}$  from  $W_{\{r,s\}}$  to  $W'_{\{r,s\}}$  with  $\eta_{r,s}(r) = r$  and  $\eta_{r,s}(s) = s$ . Then there is exactly one diagram homomorphism  $\eta : W \rightarrow W'$  such that the restriction of  $\eta$  to  $W_{\{r,s\}}$  equals  $\eta_{r,s}$  for each pair  $r, s \in S$ .

(Without crystallography) the theorem fails in essentially one case: Going from type  $H_n$  to type  $B_n$ , **one** of the nine ways to choose side edges produces a bad congruence. (No matter what additional edges you contract, you can't get the quotient to be  $B_n$ .)

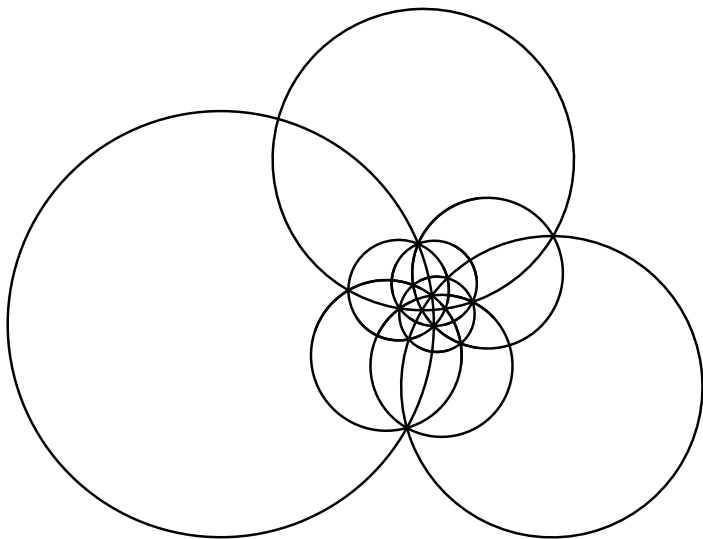
**The theorem is true if we restrict  $W$  to be crystallographic.** Given that we prove the theorem case-by-case and don't use crystallography, this seems artificial, but does give a uniform "existence and uniqueness" statement.  $\exists$  **a crystallographic proof?**

# Coarsening the Coxeter fans

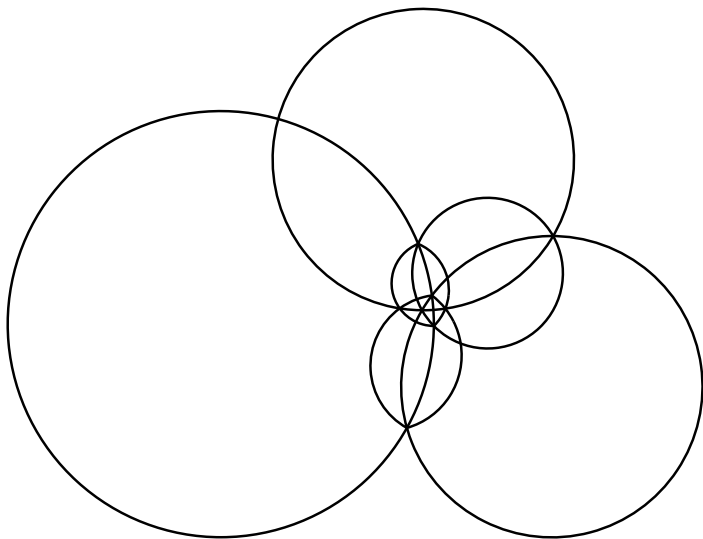
Each lattice congruence defines a complete fan that coarsens the Coxeter fan. (Combine maximal cones of the Coxeter fan according to congruence classes.)

The existence of surjective homomorphisms between different finite Coxeter groups implies Coarsening relations among different Coxeter fans.

# Example: Coarsening the Coxeter fan for $B_3$ to get $A_3$



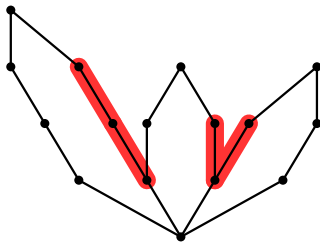
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## Section 4: Homomorphisms between Cambrian lattices

# Cambrian lattices

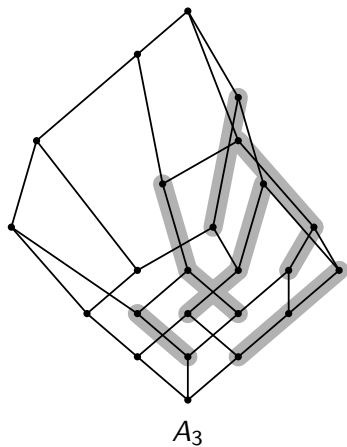
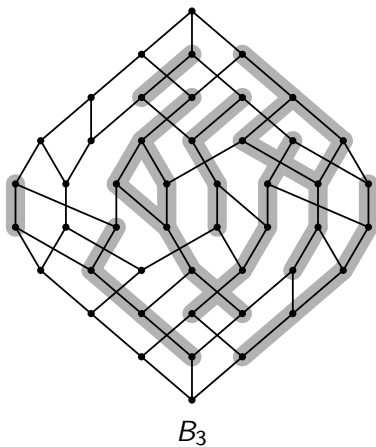
A **Cambrian congruence** is generated by contracting all edges on one side of each polygon at the bottom of weak order.



A **Cambrian lattice** is the quotient of the weak order on  $W$  modulo a Cambrian congruence. Its Hasse diagram is the graph of a **generalized associahedron**, AKA the exchange graph of a **cluster algebra** of finite type.

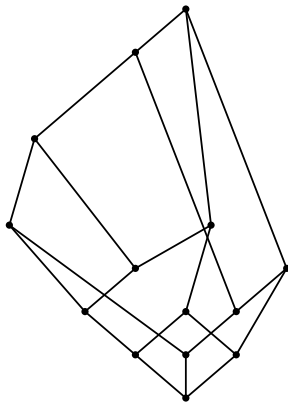
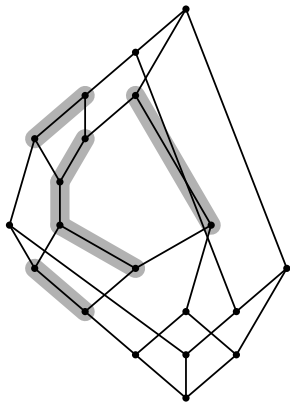
Classification of surjective homomorphisms between weak orders  
 $\implies$  classification of surjective hom.s between Cambrian lattices.

# $B_3$ and $A_3$





# $B_3$ and $A_3$

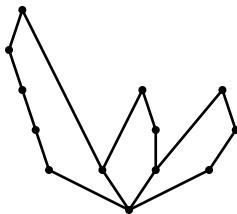


# Surjective homomorphisms between Cambrian lattices

The classification of surjective homomorphisms between Cambrian lattices is more uniform.

When we pass from weak order to Cambrian lattice, each “polygon at the bottom” only has side edges on one side.

To decrease  $m(r, s)$ , we can contract these side edges arbitrarily. These contractions generate the right congruence, with no additional contractions needed (and no restriction to the crystallographic case).



# Dominance and coarsening of Cambrian fans

A Cartan matrix  $A$  **dominates**  $A'$  if corresponding entries of  $A'$  have weakly smaller absolute value.

**Example.**  $B_3$  and  $A_3$ .

Root system for  $A'$  is a subset of root system for  $A$ .

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Cambrian fan for  $(A', c)$  is obtained from Cambrian fan for  $(A, c)$  by removing walls orthogonal to  $A$ -roots that are not  $A'$ -roots. This implies a relationship among  $\mathfrak{g}$ -vector fans, among scattering diagrams, cluster algebras, etc. These relationships seem to be more general than the context (“finite type”) where the lattice theory makes sense.

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## Edge-erasing congruences in type $A_n$

Erasing the edge  $s_k \text{---} s_{k+1}$  in  $S_n$ :

$\pi_1 \pi_2 \cdots \pi_{n+1}$  maps to  $(\sigma, \tau) \in S_{k+1} \times S_{n-k+1}$ .

$\sigma$  is the restriction of  $\pi_1 \pi_2 \cdots \pi_{n+1}$  to values  $\leq k+1$ .

$\tau$  is obtained by restricting  $\pi_1 \pi_2 \cdots \pi_{n+1}$  to values  $\geq k+1$  and then subtracting  $k$  from each value.

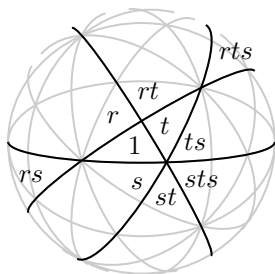
**Example.** ( $n = 7$  and  $k = 3$ ):  $58371426 \mapsto (3142, 25413)$ .

Bottom elements of the congruence: Permutations in  $S_{n+1}$  with no descents  $ba$  such that  $b > k+1$  and  $a < k+1$ . These are thus in bijection with  $S_{k+1} \times S_{n-k+1}$ .

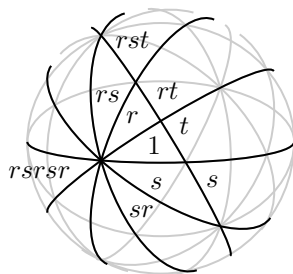
There is a similar description for type  $B_n$ .

# Edge-erasing congruences in type $H_3$

$$r \overset{5}{\text{---}} s \text{ --- } t$$



Erase  $r \overset{5}{\text{---}} s$



Erase  $s \text{ --- } t$