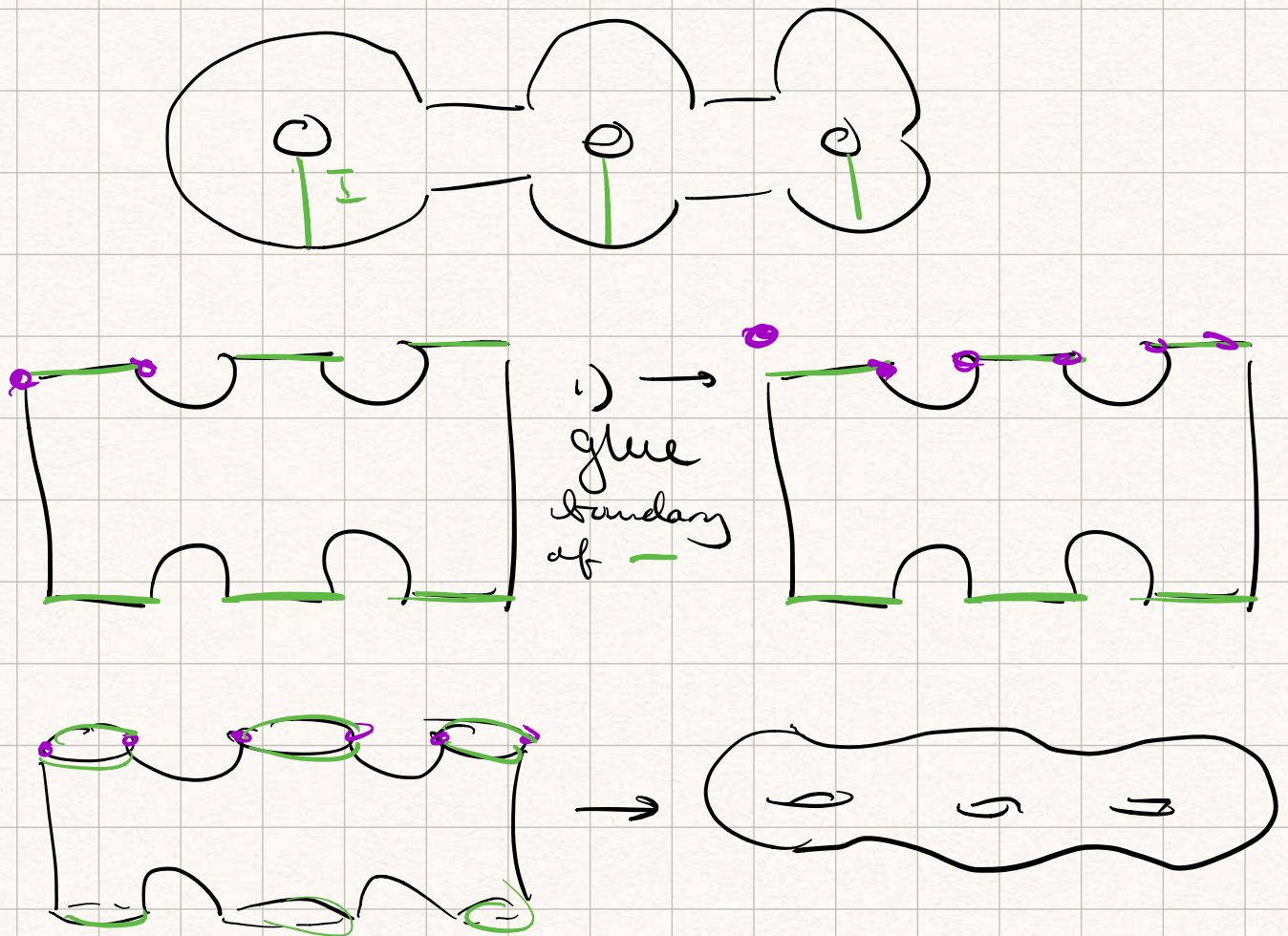


Did review of pic before.

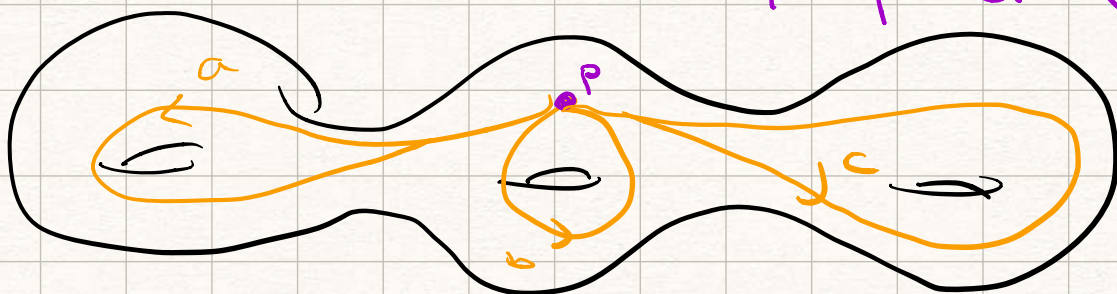
For me: lower dim analogue $S^2 \times I$



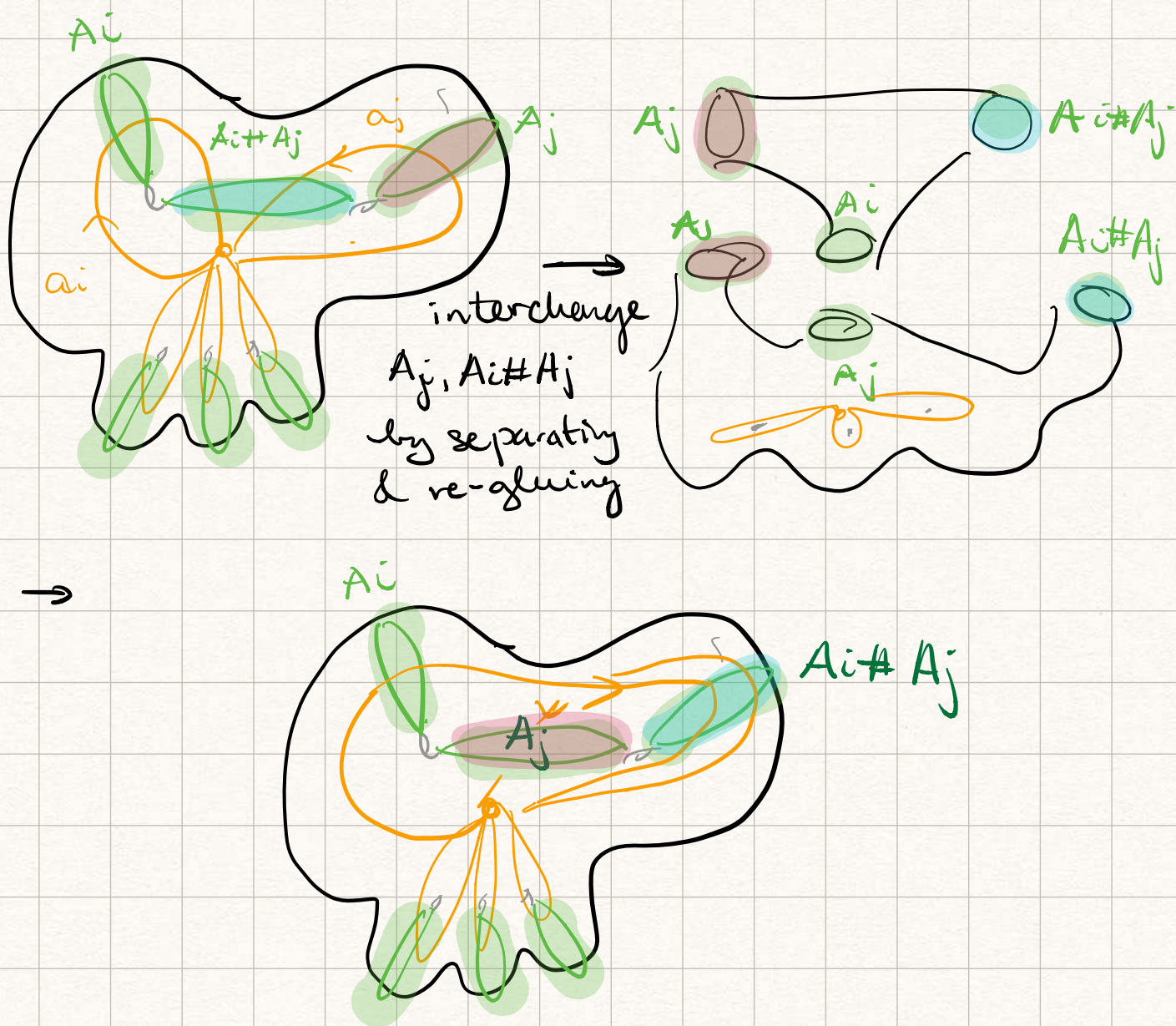
Anyway, for the grps elmt:

p = puncture

(A)



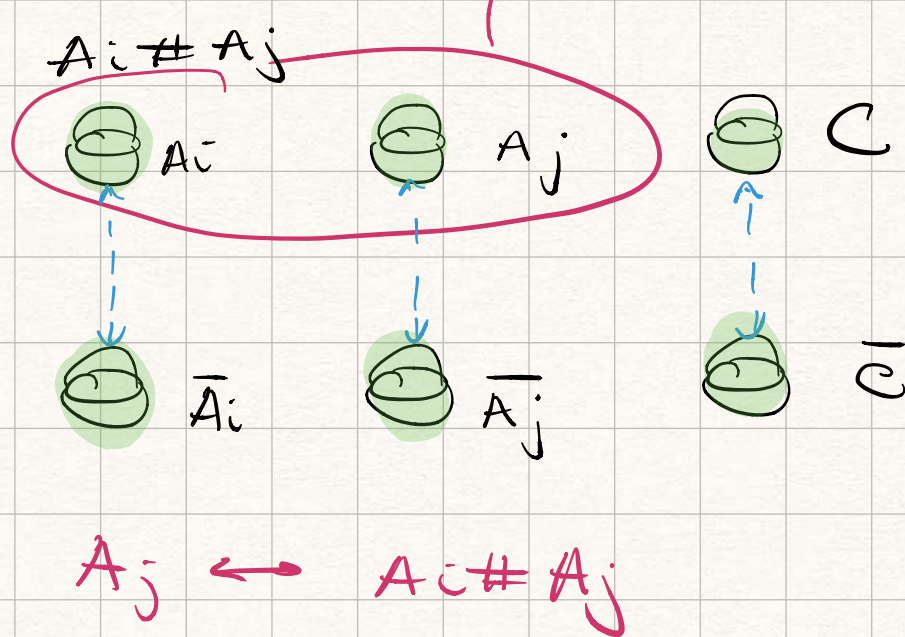
Modeling σ : choose homeomorphism that permute the spheres A_j & $A_i \# A_j$.



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_i \mapsto a_i a_j \xrightarrow{i_j^{-1}} a_i a_j^{-1} \\ a_j \mapsto a_j^{-1} \mapsto a_j \end{array} \right\} P_{ij}^{-1}$$

$\text{twis} =$

in ~~A~~
handlebody



Since $\sigma, c_i, p_{ij}, \tau_{ij}$ gen $\text{Aut}(F_n)$
 So their image generate
 $\text{Out}(F_n) = \text{Aut}(F_n) / \text{Inn}(F_n)$

→ up to linear equiv.

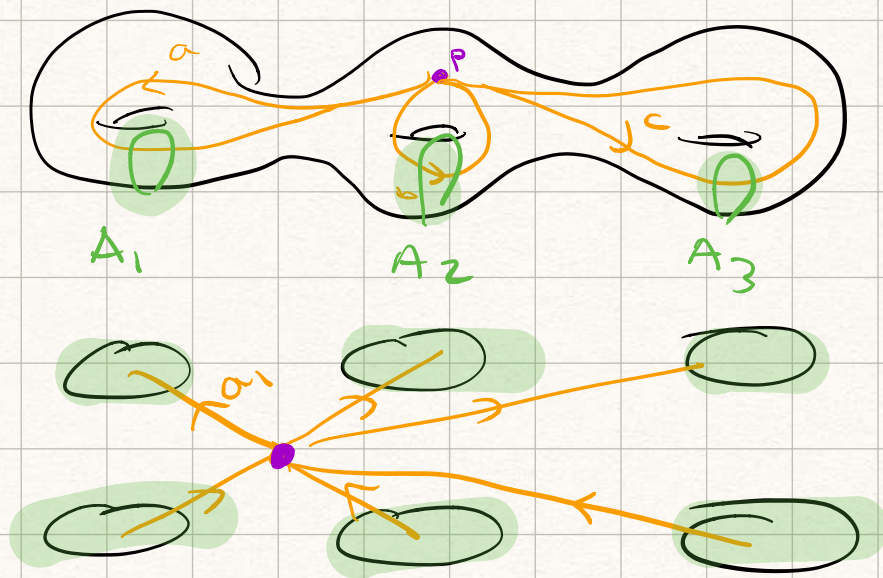
Thm: $\pi_0(\text{Homeo } M_n) \rightarrow \text{Out}(F_n)$
 is onto

Whitehead (1930s): used this picture
 to give an alg to decide
 whether $\varphi: F_n \rightarrow F_n$ is an
 automorphism. $a_i \mapsto w_i$

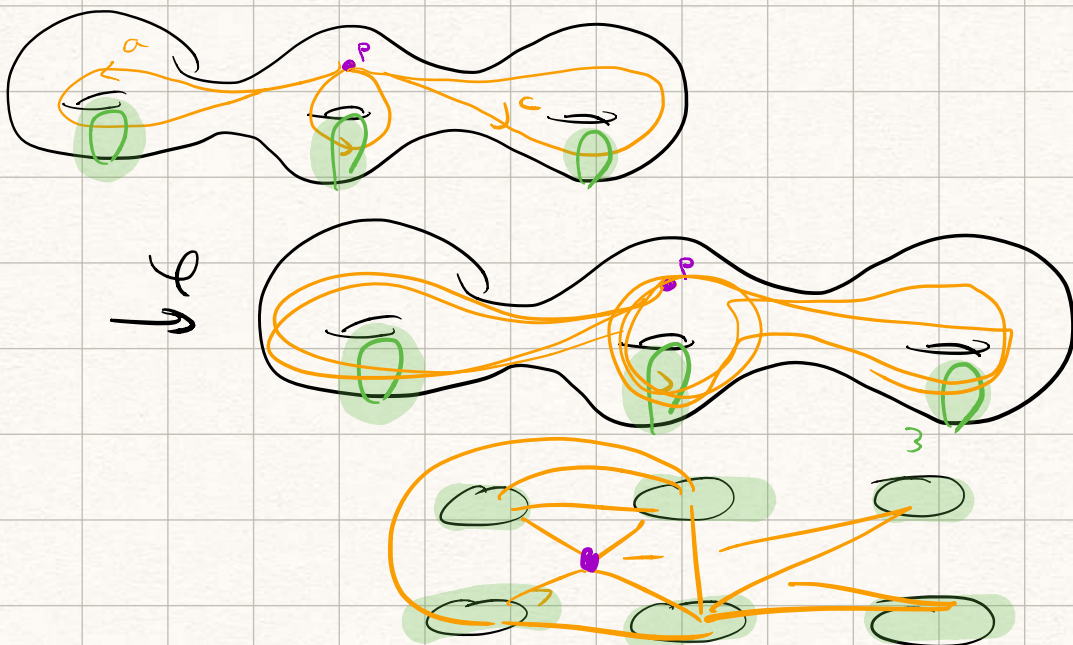
Recall: Stallings folding gives
 another for non-degen
 cases.

Pt: It's an aut $\Leftrightarrow \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$
form a basis for F_n .

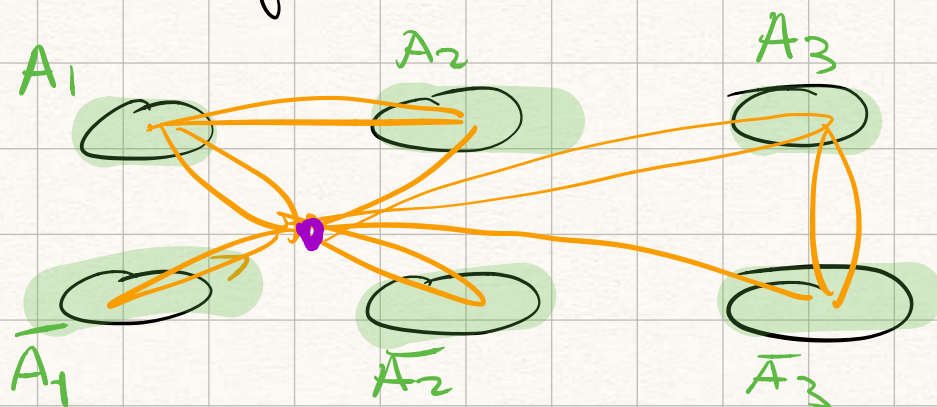
If ψ is an aut, model it by
homeo $(M_{n,p}) \rightarrow (M_{n,p})$ which
fixes bpt.



So:



Now "squint"

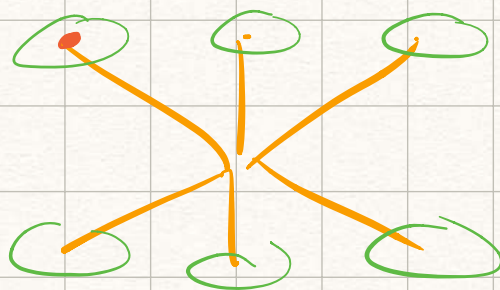


This is called Whitehead's star graph

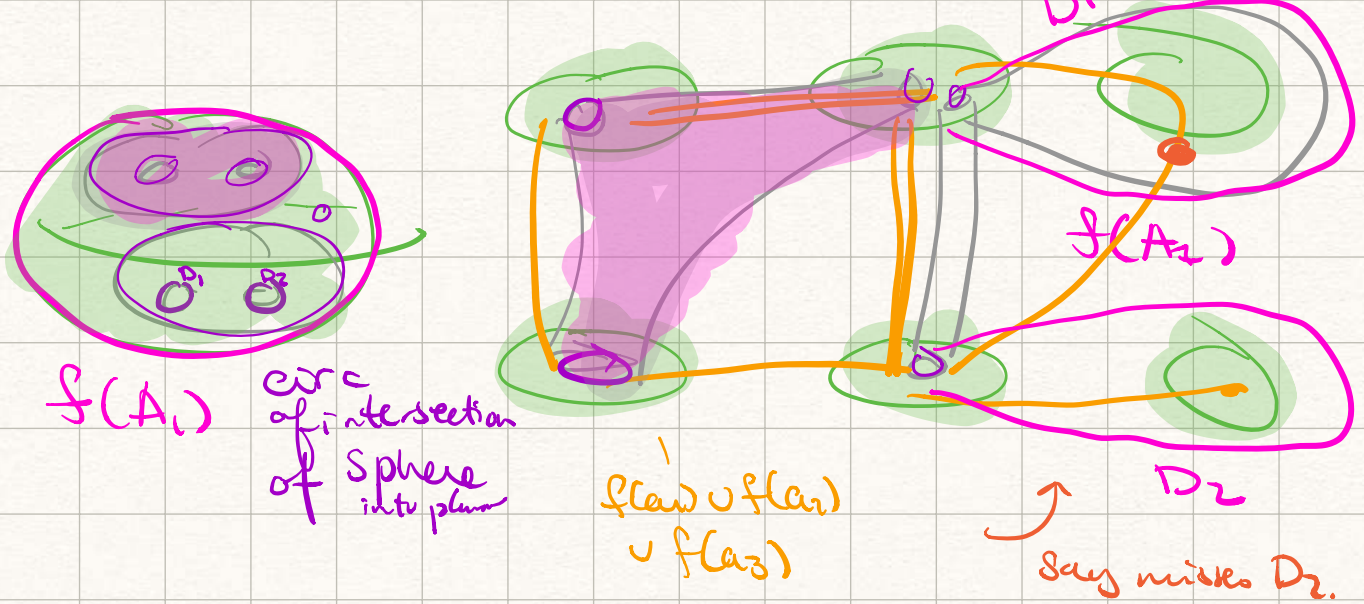
ie, there is an edge A_i to A_j

$\Leftrightarrow a_i a_j^{-1}$ occurs in some w_k .

Lemma: If $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$ is a basis, then the star graph has a cut vertex which is NOT the s_{pt} , or is



Pf: look at what happens to the spheres A_i under ψ .



Isotope $f(A_i)$ to be transferred to the A_i . $f(A_i)$ is a union of planar surfaces, including at least 2 disks *why?*

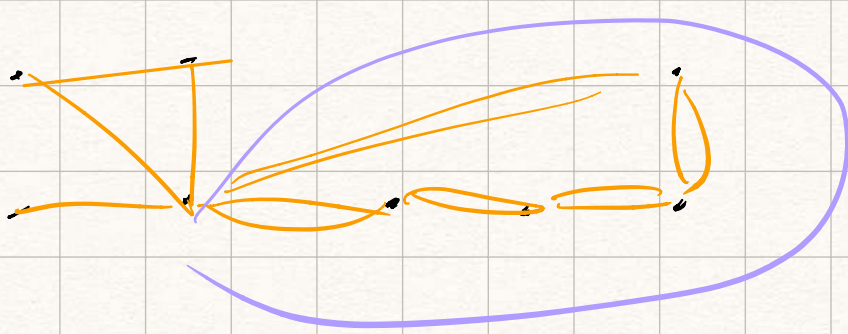
a_1 intersect A_1 , not A_2 or A_3 , in exactly 1 pt, $\Rightarrow$ must miss at least 1 disk. *why?*

$\Rightarrow f(a_1)$ intersects $f(A_1)$, not $f(A_2)$ or $f(A_3)$. *why?*

but $f(a_2)$ doesn't intersect $f(A_1)$
 $f(a_3)$ " " " $f(A_1)$

$f(a_1)$
 $\cup f(a_2) \cup f(a_3)$
 misses D_1 or D_2

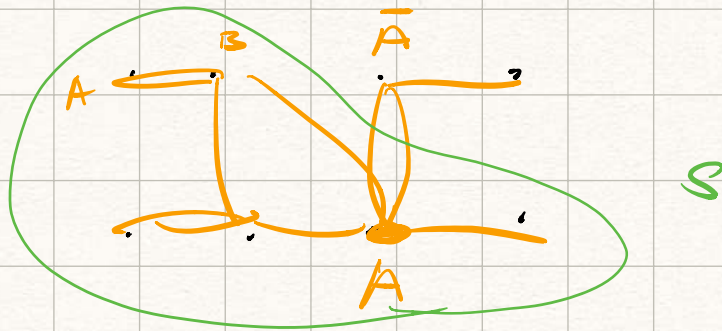
If $\partial D_2 \subset \overline{A_i}$, then A_i is cut vertex. *why?*



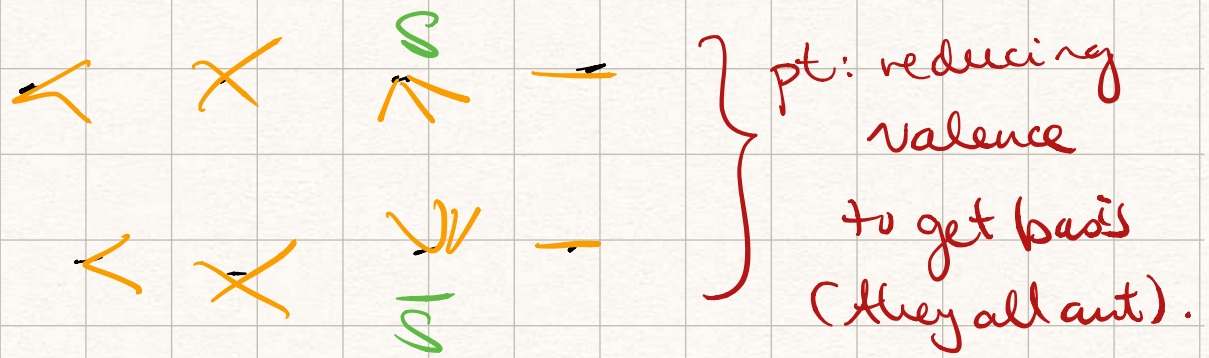
The algo: Given $w_1, \dots, w_n$ draw the star graph.

i) No cut vertex other than p
 $\Rightarrow$ not basis.

ii) Cut vert A (not cut vertex)
 $\rightarrow$ Draw sphere ^{specific} that separates A from $\bar{A}$.



Take a hom exchanging A w/ S . (**)
 Get star graph, intersecting S in fewer pts than A .



If the new star graph doesn't have a cut vertex, then stop.
 $\Rightarrow$ can't reduce valence.

otw, repeat until you get



$\Rightarrow$ have basis.

AA: Induces a Whitehead out of $\pi_1(M_n, b)$.