The logarithmic least squares optimality of the geometric mean of weight vectors calculated from all spanning trees for (in)complete pairwise comparison matrices

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incomplete pairwise comparison matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_{12} & & a_{14} & a_{15} & a_{16} \\ a_{21} & 1 & a_{23} & & & & \\ & a_{32} & 1 & a_{34} & & \\ a_{41} & & a_{43} & 1 & a_{45} & \\ a_{51} & & & a_{54} & 1 & \\ a_{61} & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

incomplete pairwise comparison matrix and its graph

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_{12} & a_{14} & a_{15} & a_{16} \\ a_{21} & 1 & a_{23} & & & \\ a_{32} & 1 & a_{34} & & \\ a_{41} & a_{43} & 1 & a_{45} & \\ a_{51} & & a_{54} & 1 & \\ a_{61} & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The Logarithmic Least Squares (LLS) problem

$$\min \sum_{i,j:} \left[\log a_{ij} - \log\left(rac{w_i}{w_j}
ight)
ight]^2$$
 a_{ij} is known $w_i > 0, \qquad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

The most common normalizations are $\sum\limits_{i=1}^n w_i=1$, $\prod\limits_{i=1}^n w_i=1$ and $w_1=1$.

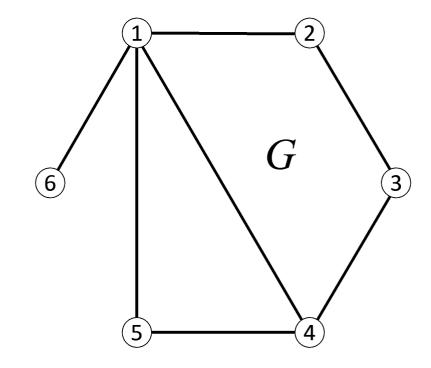
Theorem (Bozóki, Fülöp, Rónyai, 2010): Let \mathbf{A} be an incomplete or complete pairwise comparison matrix such that its associated graph G is connected. Then the optimal solution $\mathbf{w} = \exp \mathbf{y}$ of the logarithmic least squares problem is the unique solution of the following system of linear equations:

$$(\mathbf{L}\mathbf{y})_i = \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)} \log a_{ik}$$
 for all $i=1,2,\ldots,n,$ $y_1=0$

where L denotes the Laplacian matrix of G (ℓ_{ii} is the degree of node i and $\ell_{ij} = -1$ if nodes i and j are adjacent).

example

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_{12} & a_{14} & a_{15} & a_{16} \\ a_{21} & 1 & a_{23} \\ & a_{32} & 1 & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & a_{43} & 1 & a_{45} \\ a_{51} & a_{54} & 1 \\ a_{61} & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1(=0) \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \\ y_5 \\ y_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \log(a_{12} \, a_{14} \, a_{15} \, a_{16}) \\ \log(a_{21} \, a_{23}) \\ \log(a_{32} \, a_{34}) \\ \log(a_{41} \, a_{43} \, a_{45}) \\ \log(a_{51} \, a_{54}) \\ \log(a_{61}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Pairwise Comparison Matrix Calculator (PCMC)

The logarithmic least squares optimal weight vector can be calculated at

pcmc.online

CR-minimal (λ_{max} -minimal) completion is also calculated.

PCMC deals with Pareto optimality (efficiency) of weight vectors, too.

Pareto optimality (efficiency)

Let $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]_{i,j=1,...,n}$ be an $n \times n$ pairwise comparison matrix and $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)^{\top}$ be a positive weight vector.

Definition: weight vector \mathbf{w} is called *efficient*, if there exists no positive weight vector $\mathbf{w}' = (w_1', w_2', \dots, w_n')^{\top}$ such that

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{ij} - \frac{w_i'}{w_j'} \end{vmatrix} \le \begin{vmatrix} a_{ij} - \frac{w_i}{w_j} \end{vmatrix} \qquad \text{for all } 1 \le i, j \le n,$$
$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{k\ell} - \frac{w_k'}{w_\ell'} \end{vmatrix} < \begin{vmatrix} a_{k\ell} - \frac{w_k}{w_\ell} \end{vmatrix} \qquad \text{for some } 1 \le k, \ell \le n.$$

Remark: A weight vector \mathbf{w} is efficient if and only if $c\mathbf{w}$ is efficient, where c>0 is an arbitrary scalar.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 & 9 \\ 1 & 1 & 7 & 5 \\ 1/4 & 1/7 & 1 & 4 \\ 1/9 & 1/5 & 1/4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{w}^{EM} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.404518 \\ 0.436173 \\ 0.110295 \\ 0.049014 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} w_i^{EM} \\ \overline{w_j^{EM}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0.9274 & 3.6676 & 8.2531 \\
1.0783 & 1 & 3.9546 & 8.8989 \\
0.2727 & 0.2529 & 1 & 2.2503 \\
0.1212 & 0.1124 & 0.4444 & 1
\end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} \underline{w'_i} \\ \overline{w'_j} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3.9546 & 8.8989 \\ 1 & 1 & 3.9546 & 8.8989 \\ \mathbf{0.2529} & 0.2529 & 1 & 2.2503 \\ \mathbf{0.1124} & 0.1124 & 0.4444 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

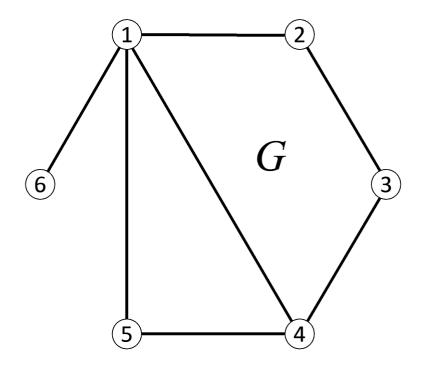
Pareto optimality (efficiency)

See more in

Bozóki, S., Fülöp, J. (2017): Efficient weight vectors from pairwise comparison matrices, European Journal of Operational Research (in print) DOI 10.1016/j.ejor.2017.06.033

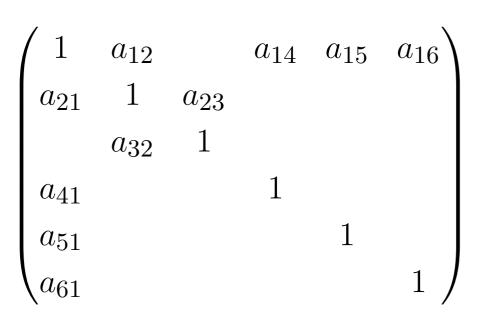
The spanning tree approach (Tsyganok, 2000, 2010)

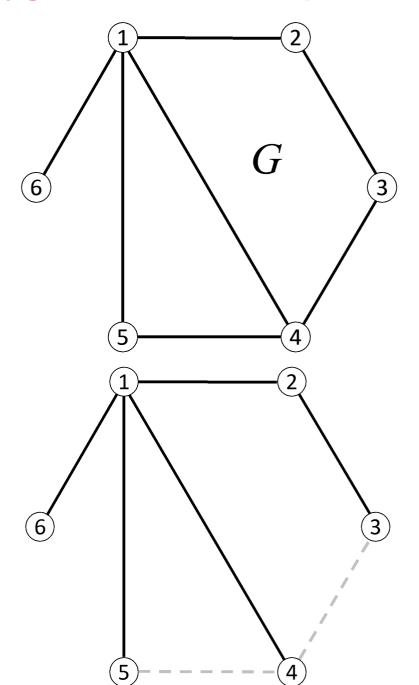
 $egin{pmatrix} 1 & a_{12} & a_{14} & a_{15} & a_{16} \ a_{21} & 1 & a_{23} & & & & \ & a_{32} & 1 & a_{34} & & & \ a_{41} & a_{43} & 1 & a_{45} & & \ a_{51} & & a_{54} & 1 & & \ & & & & & 1 \ \end{pmatrix}$

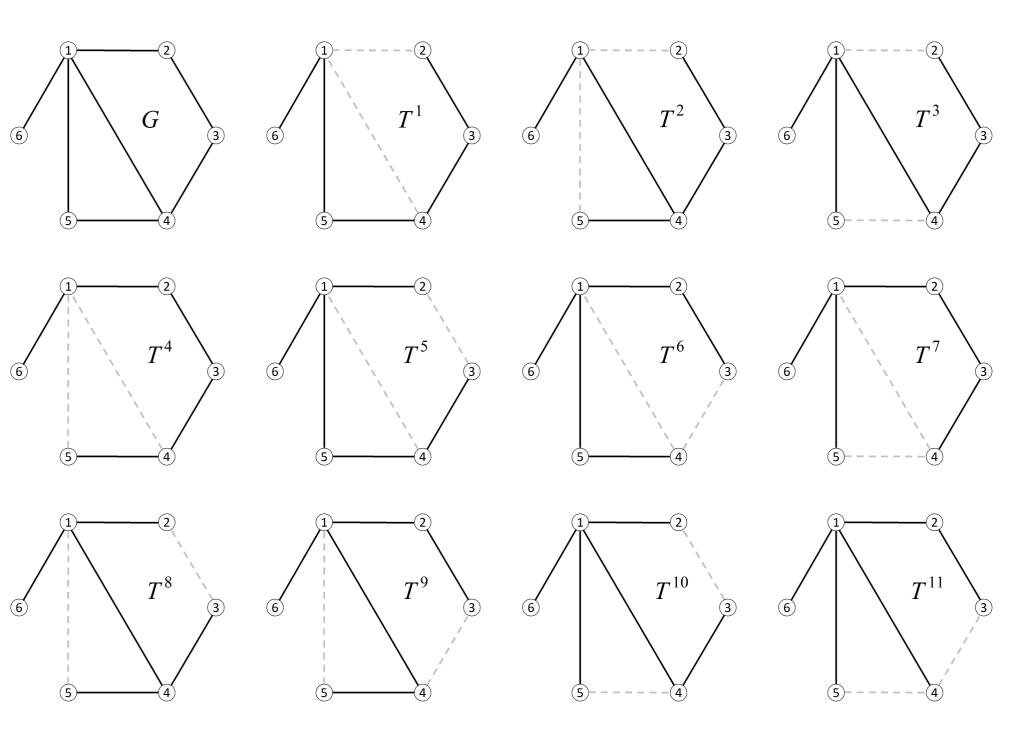


The spanning tree approach (Tsyganok, 2000, 2010)

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The spanning tree approach

Every spanning tree induces a weight vector.

Natural ways of aggregation: arithmetic mean, geometric mean etc.

Theorem (Lundy, Siraj, Greco, 2017): The geometric mean of weight vectors calculated from all spanning trees is logarithmic least squares optimal in case of complete pairwise comparison matrices.

Theorem (Lundy, Siraj, Greco, 2017): The geometric mean of weight vectors calculated from all spanning trees is logarithmic least squares optimal in case of complete pairwise comparison matrices.

Theorem (Bozóki, Tsyganok): Let A be an incomplete or complete pairwise comparison matrix such that its associated graph is connected. Then the optimal solution of the logarithmic least squares problem is equal, up to a scalar multiplier, to the geometric mean of weight vectors calculated from all spanning trees.

Let G be the connected graph associated to the (in)complete pairwise comparison matrix A and let E(G) denote the set of edges. The edge between nodes i and j is denoted by e(i,j).

The Laplacian matrix of graph G is denoted by \mathbf{L} . Let $T^1, T^2, \ldots, T^s, \ldots, T^S$ denote the spanning trees of G, where S denotes the number of spanning trees. $E(T^s)$ denotes the set of edges in T^s .

Let $\mathbf{w}^s, s=1,2,\ldots,S$, denote the weight vector calculated from spanning tree T^s . Weight vector \mathbf{w}^s is unique up to a scalar multiplication. Assume without loss of generality that $w_1^s=1$.

Let $y^s := \log w^s$, s = 1, 2, ..., S, where the logarithm is taken element-wise.

Let \mathbf{w}^{LLS} denote the optimal solution to the incomplete Logarithmic Least Squares problem (normalized by $w_1^{LLS}=1$) and $\mathbf{y}^{LLS}:=\log\mathbf{w}^{LLS}$, then

$$\left(\mathbf{L}\mathbf{y}^{LLS}\right)_i = \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)} b_{ik}$$
 for all $i=1,2,\ldots,n,$

where $b_{ik} = \log a_{ik}$ for all $e(i, k) \in E(G)$.

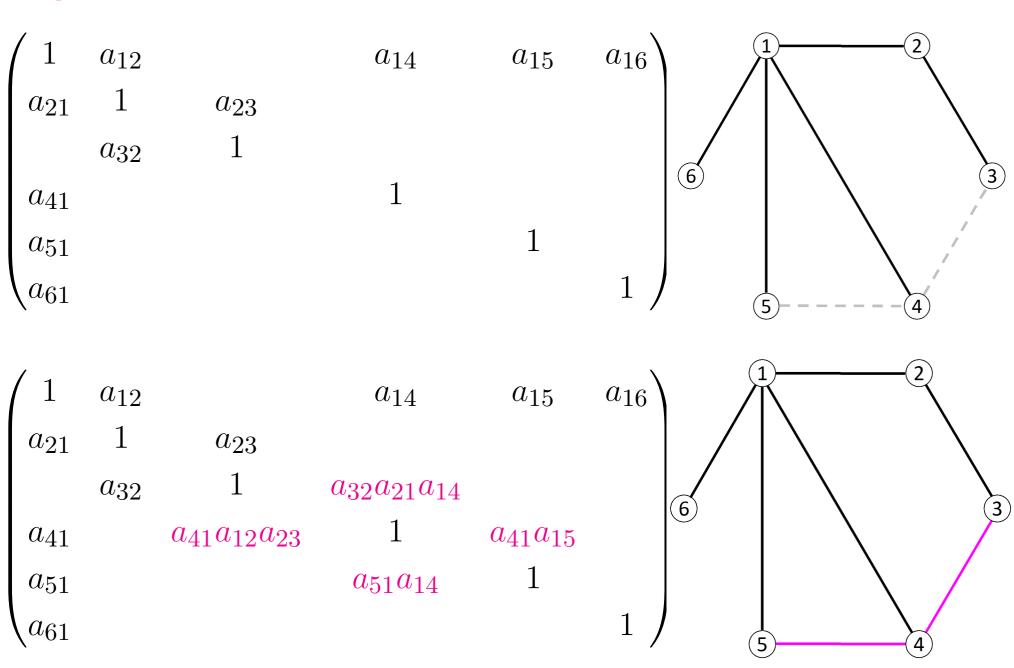
$$b_{ik} = -b_{ki}$$
 for all $e(i, k) \in E(G)$.

In order to prove the theorem, it is sufficient to show that

$$\left(\mathbf{L}\frac{1}{S}\sum_{s=1}^{S}\mathbf{y}^{s}\right)_{i} = \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)}b_{ik} \qquad \text{for all } i=1,2,\ldots,n.$$

Challenge: the Laplacian matrices of the spanning trees are different from the Laplacian of G.

Consider an arbitrary spanning tree T^s . Then $\frac{w_i^s}{w_j^s} = a_{ij}$ for all $e(i,j) \in E(T^s)$. Introduce the incomplete pairwise comparison matrix \mathbf{A}^s by $a_{ij}^s := a_{ij}$ for all $e(i,j) \in E(T^s)$ and $a_{ij}^s := \frac{w_i^s}{w_j^s}$ for all $e(i,j) \in E(G) \setminus E(T^s)$. Again, $b_{ij}^s := \log a_{ij}^s (= y_i^s - y_j^s)$. Note that the Laplacian matrices of \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}^s are the same (L).

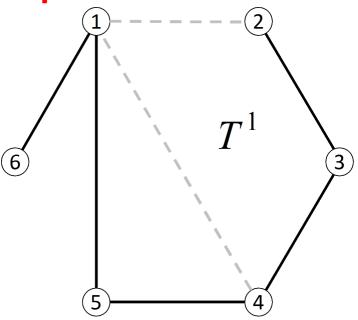


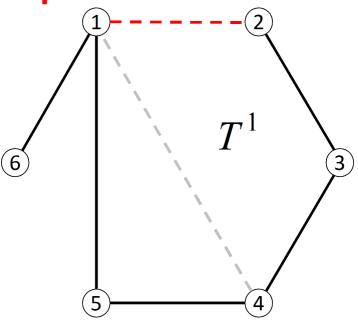
Since weight vector \mathbf{w}^s is generated by the matrix elements belonging to spanning tree T^s , it is the optimal solution of the LLS problem regarding \mathbf{A}^s , too. Equivalently, the following system of linear equations holds.

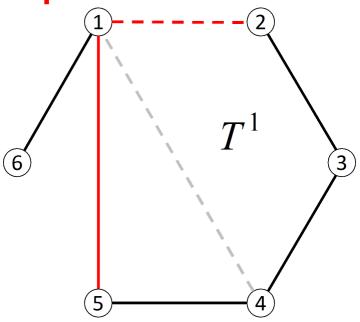
$$(\mathbf{L}\mathbf{y}^s)_i = \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(T^s)} b_{ik} + \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)\setminus E(T^s)} b_{ik}^s$$
 for all $i=1,\ldots,n$

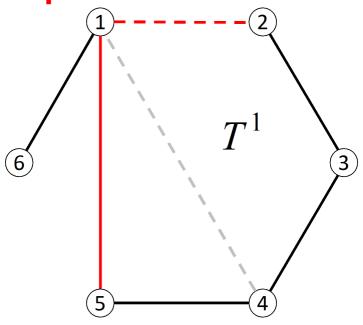
Lemma

$$\sum_{s=1}^{S} \left(\sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(T^s)} b_{ik} + \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)\setminus E(T^s)} b_{ik}^s \right) = S \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)} b_{ik}$$

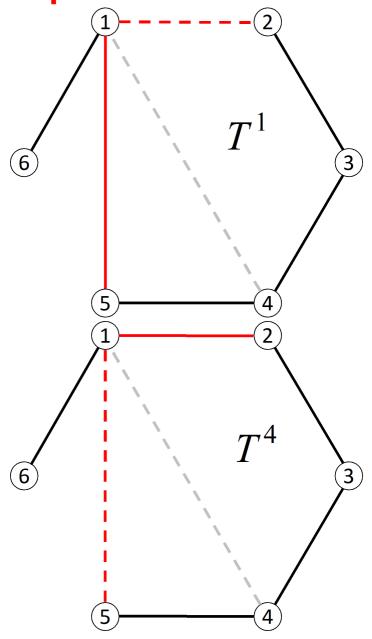




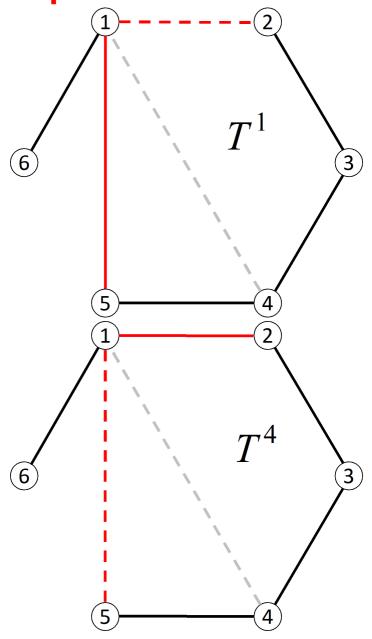




$$b_{12}^1 = b_{15} + b_{54} + b_{43} + b_{32}$$

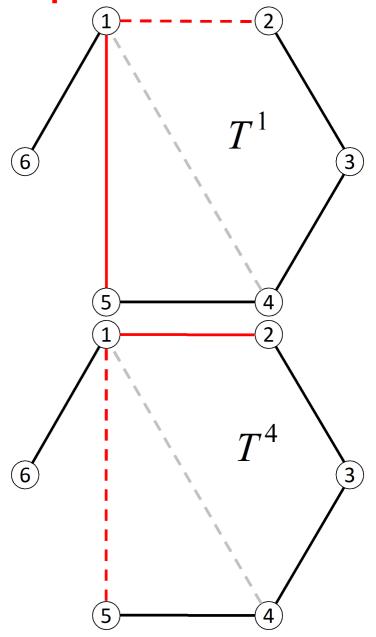


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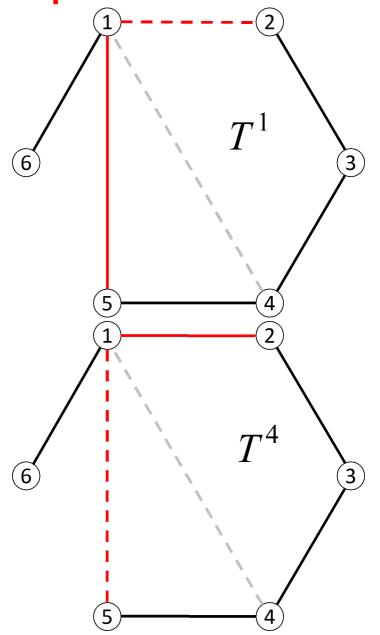
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$$b_{12}^1 = b_{15} + b_{54} + b_{43} + b_{32}$$

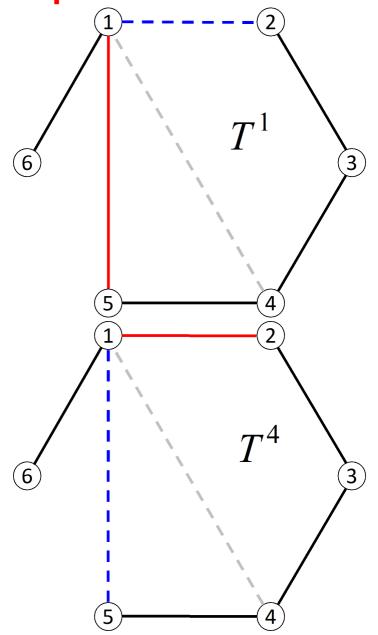
$$b_{15}^4 = b_{12} + b_{23} + b_{34} + b_{45}$$



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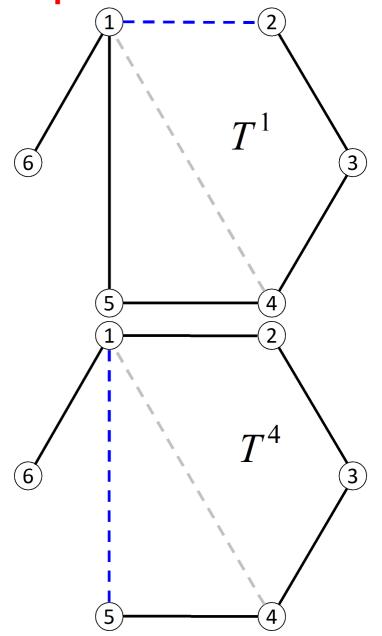
$$b_{12}^1 + b_{15}^4 = b_{12} + b_{15}$$



$$b_{12}^1 = b_{15} + b_{54} + b_{43} + b_{32}$$

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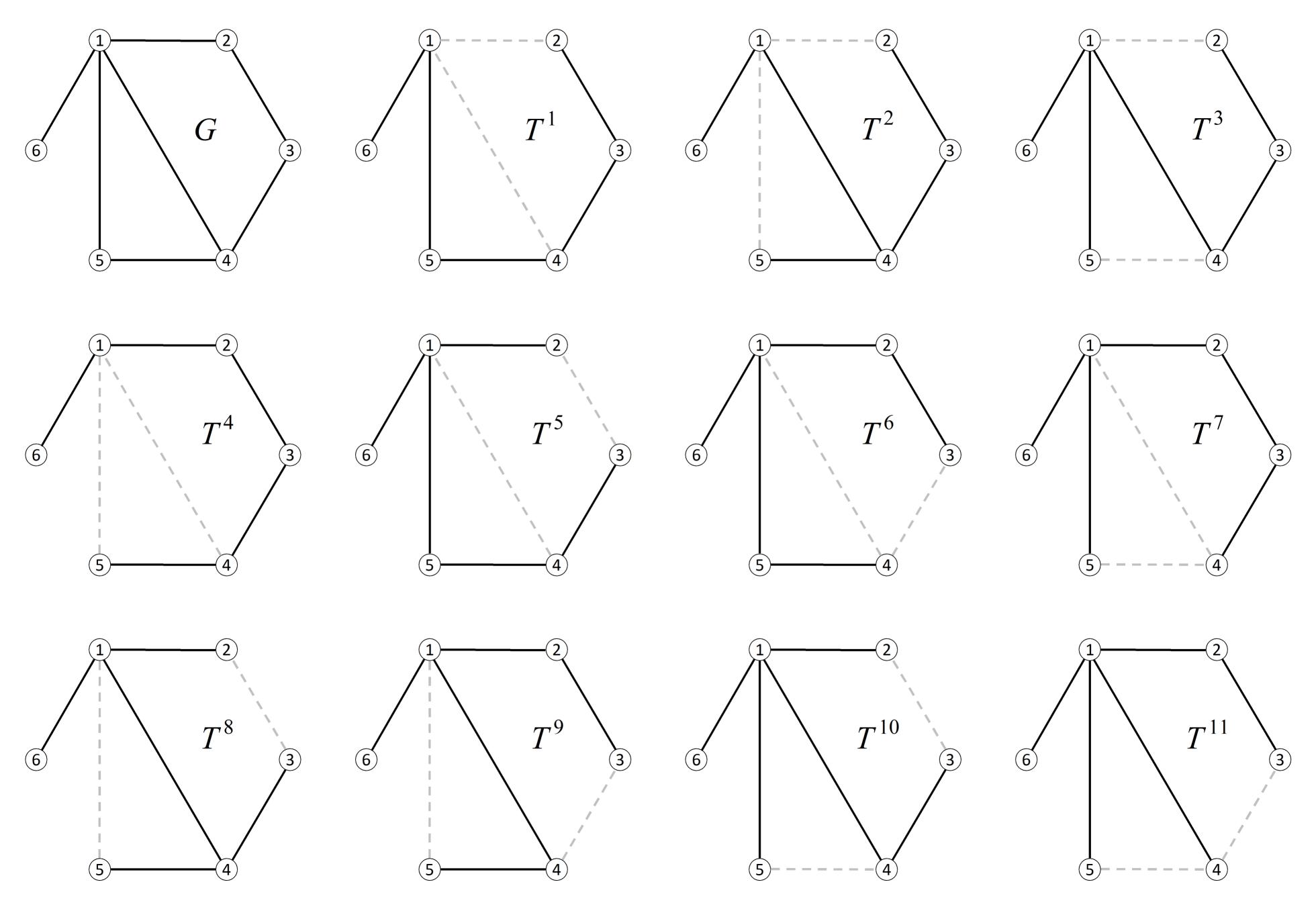
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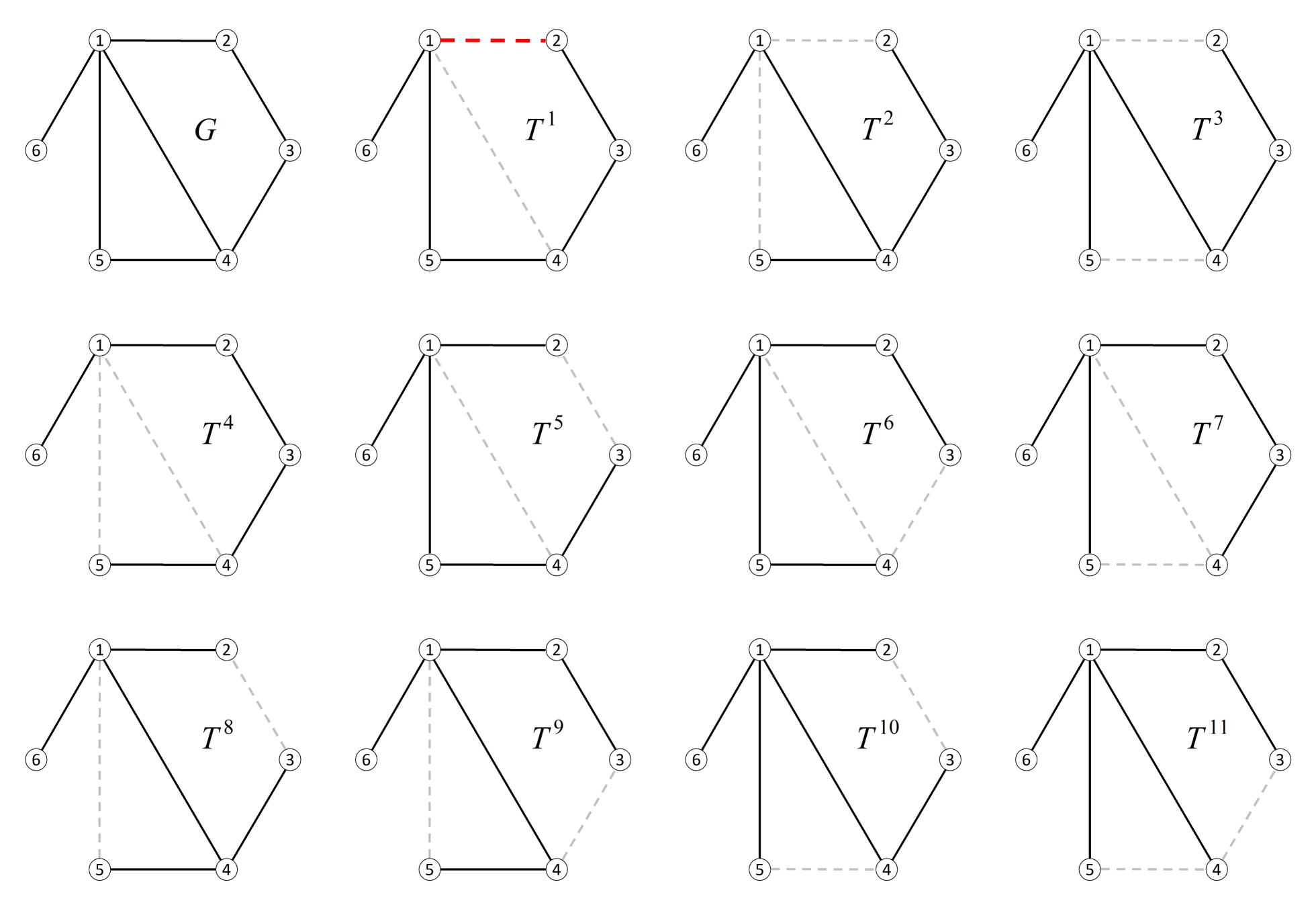


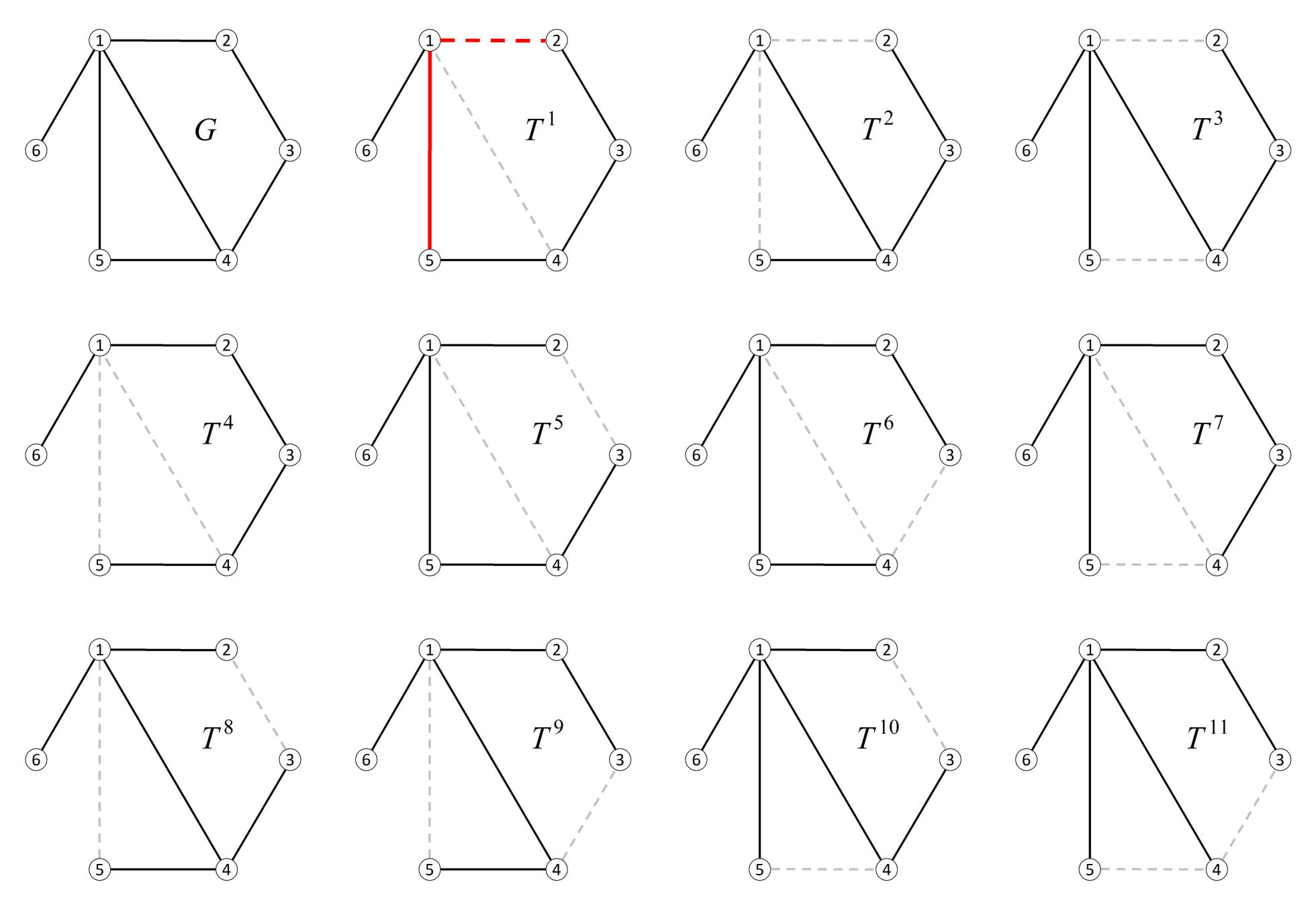
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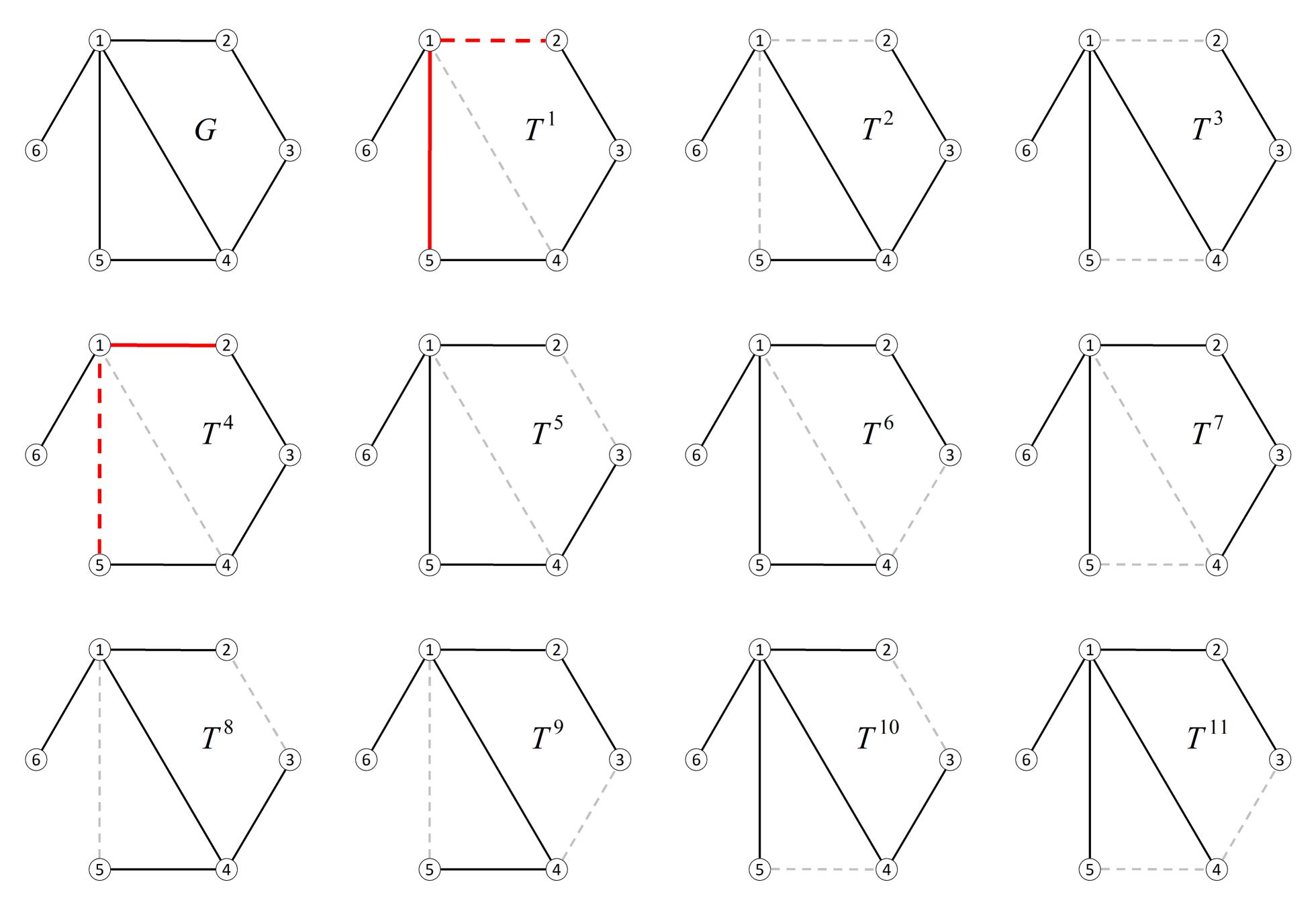
$$b_{15}^4 = b_{12} + b_{23} + b_{34} + b_{45}$$

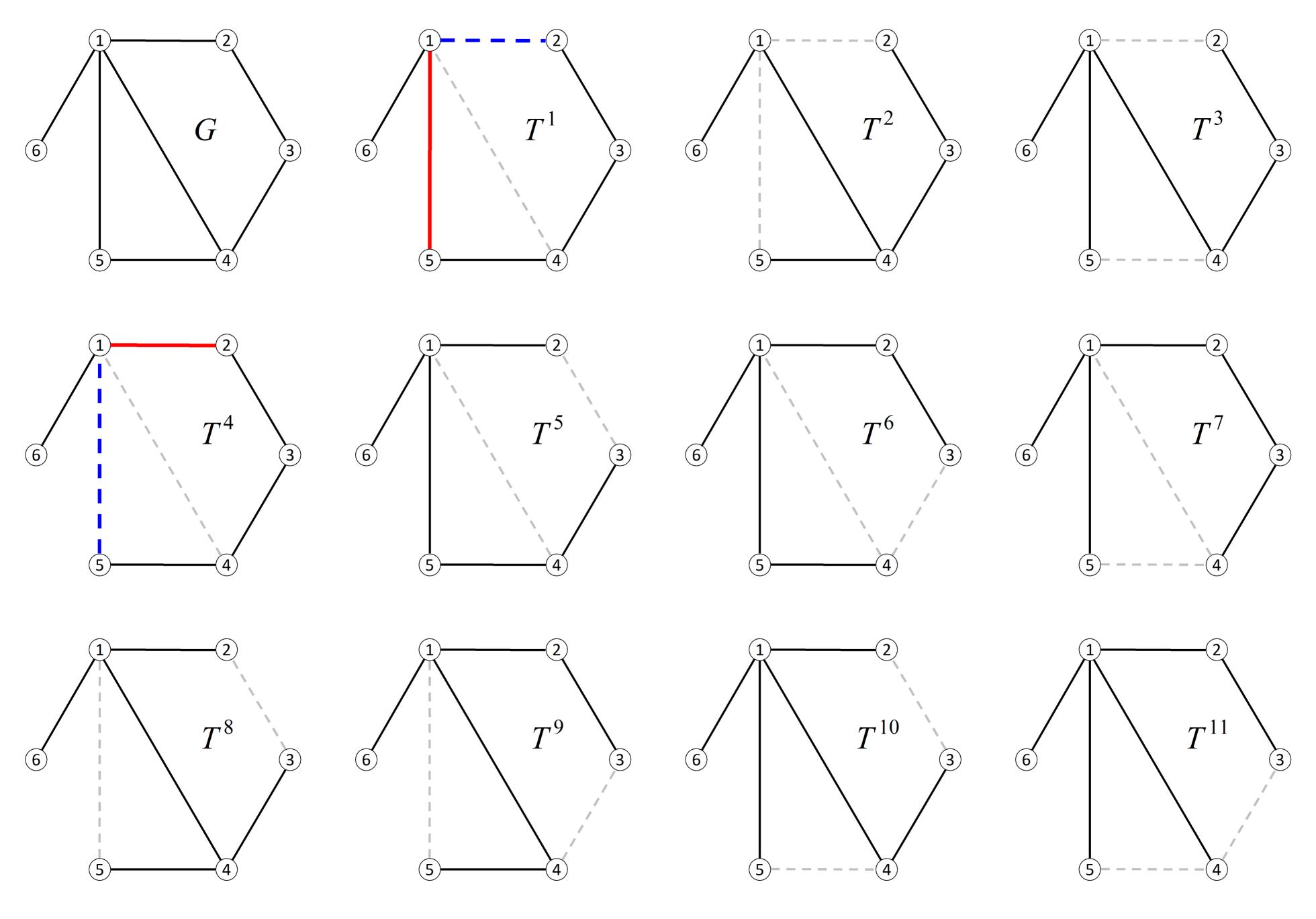
$$b_{12}^1 + b_{15}^4 = b_{12} + b_{15}$$

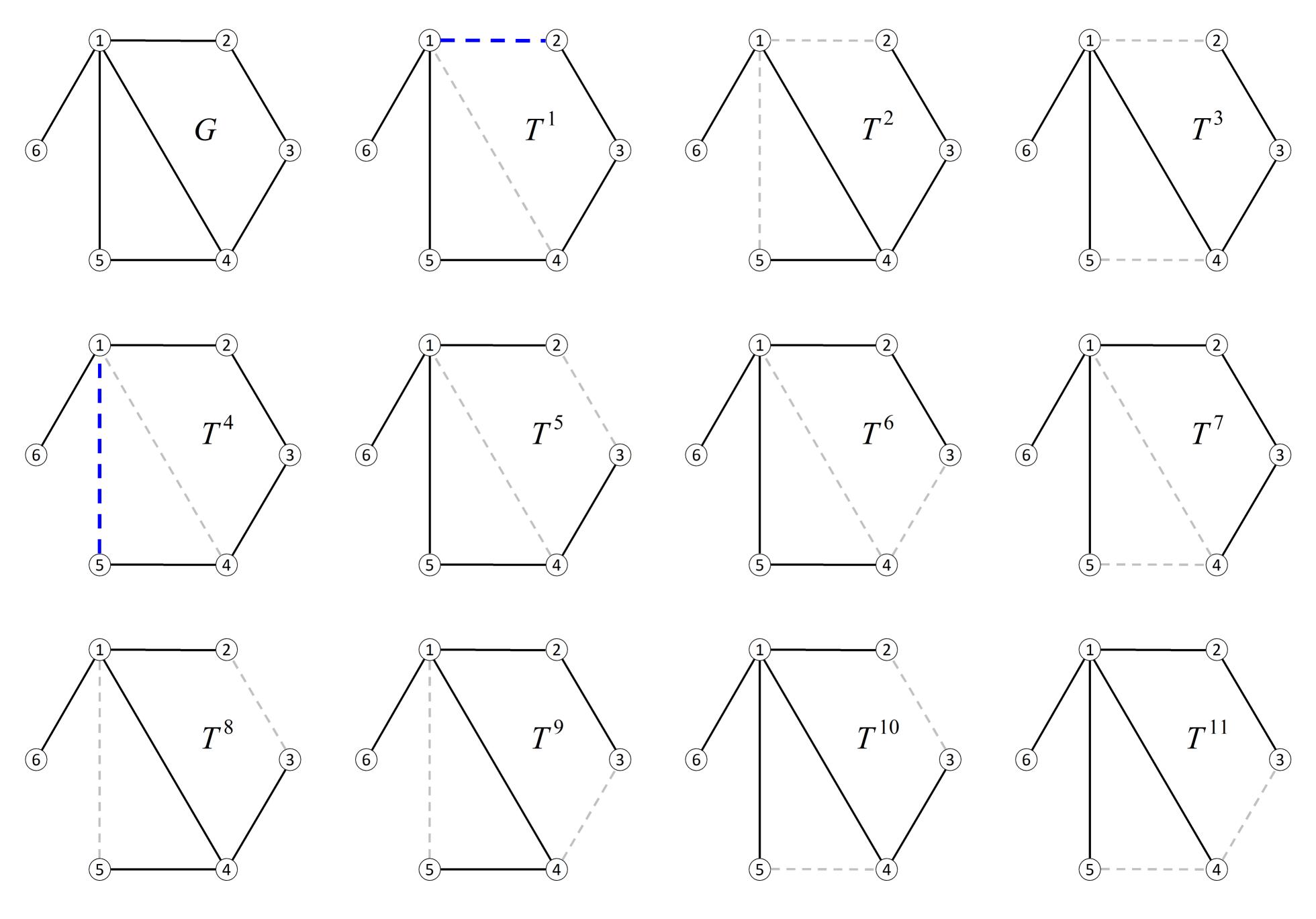


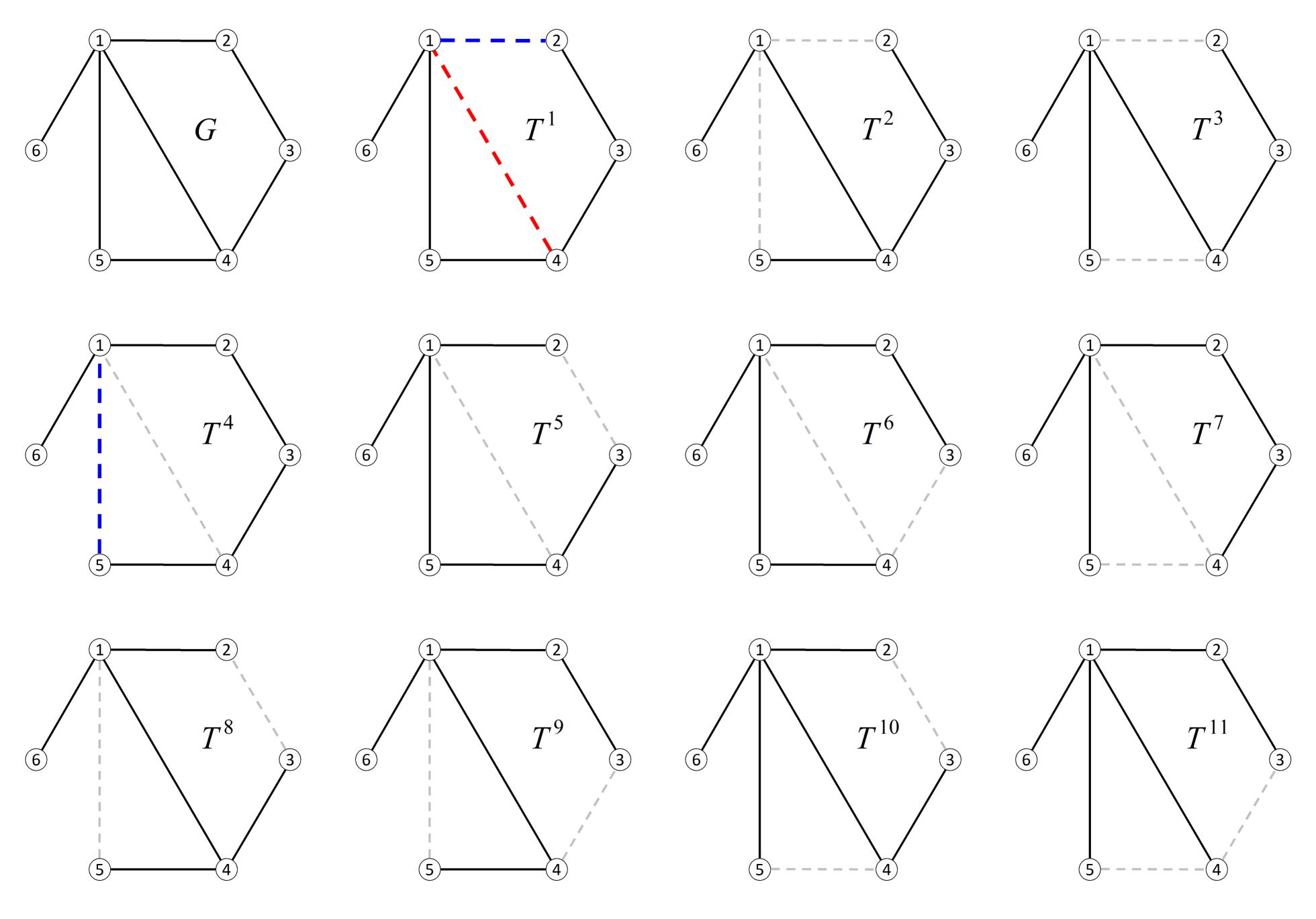


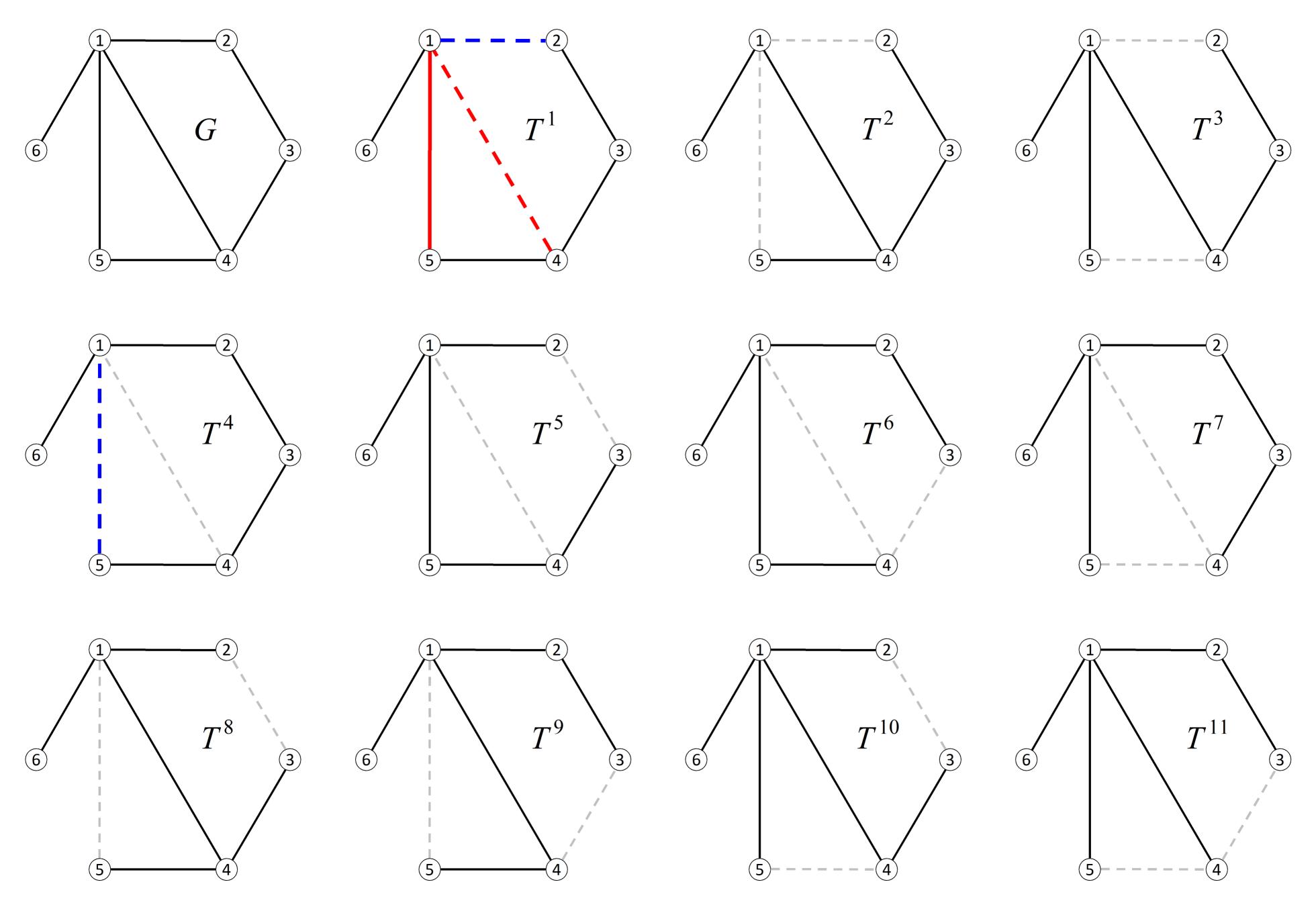


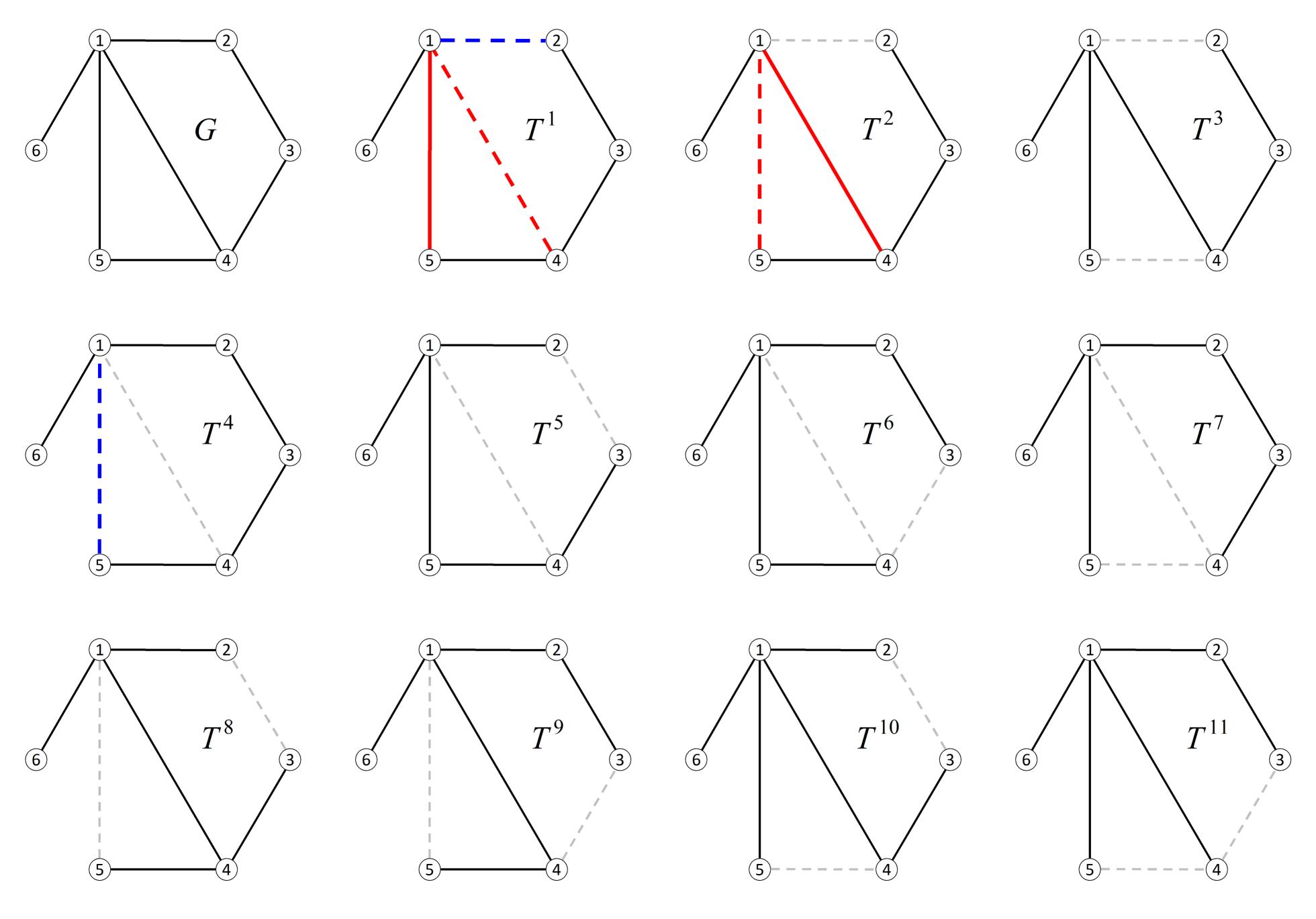


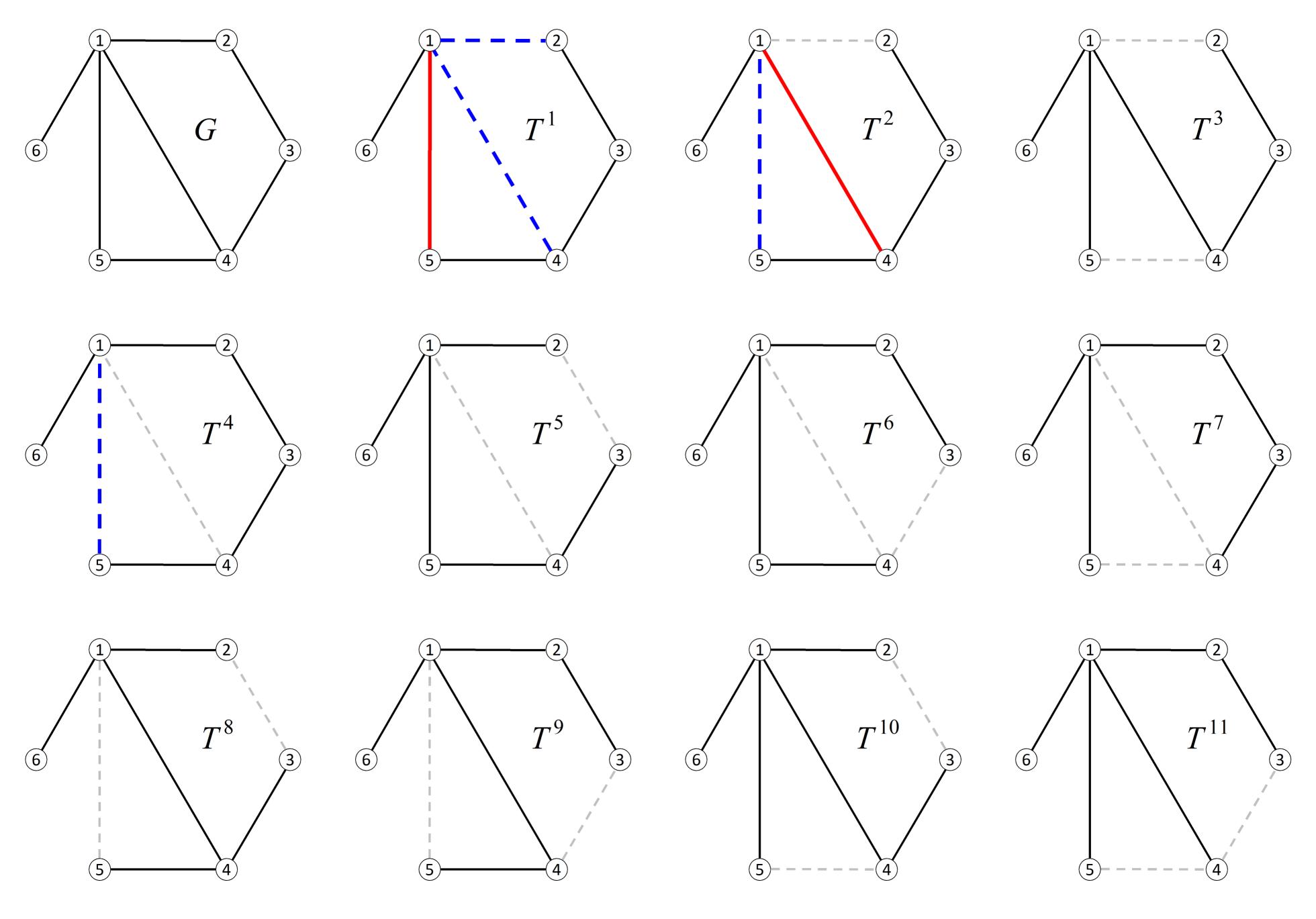


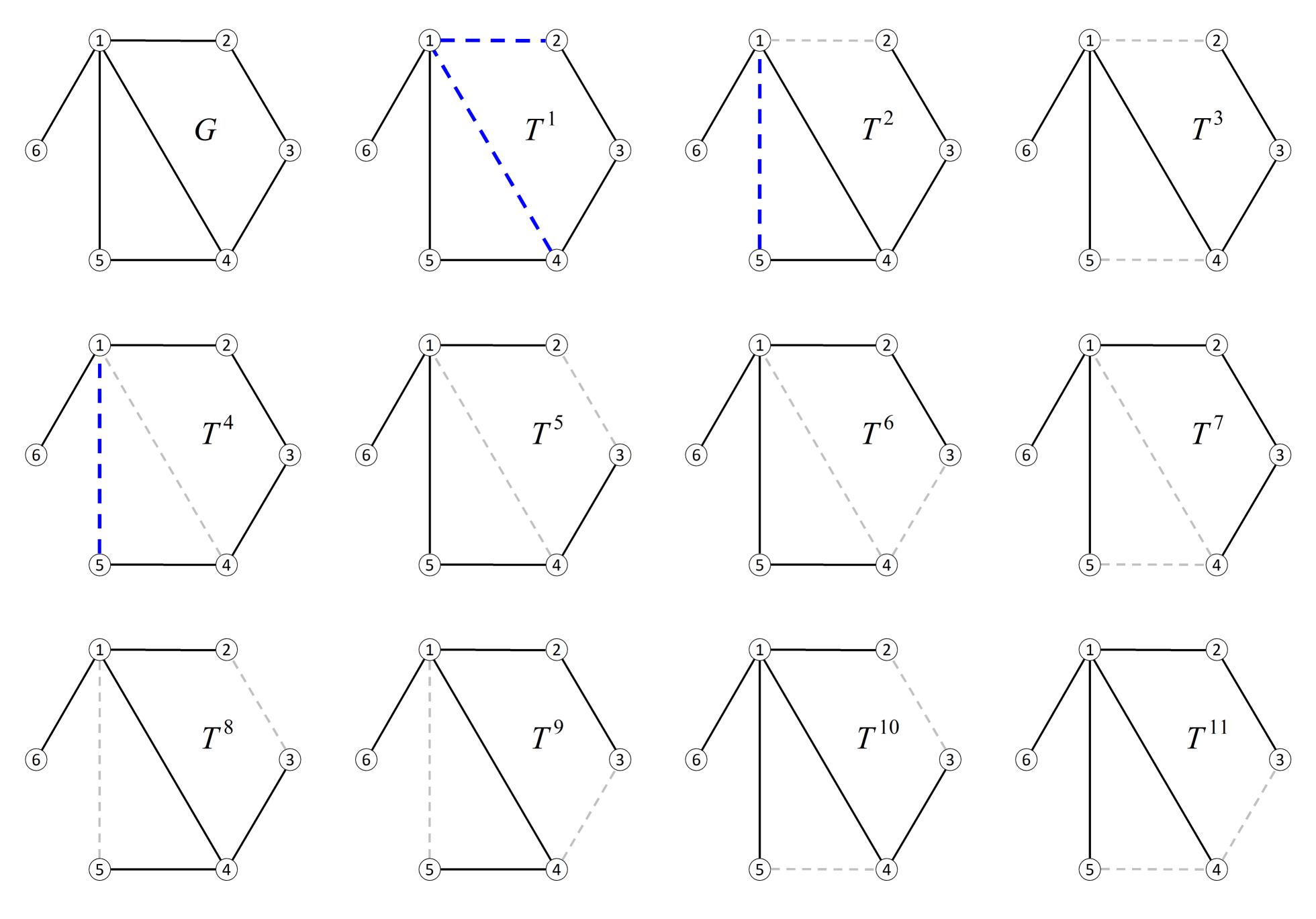


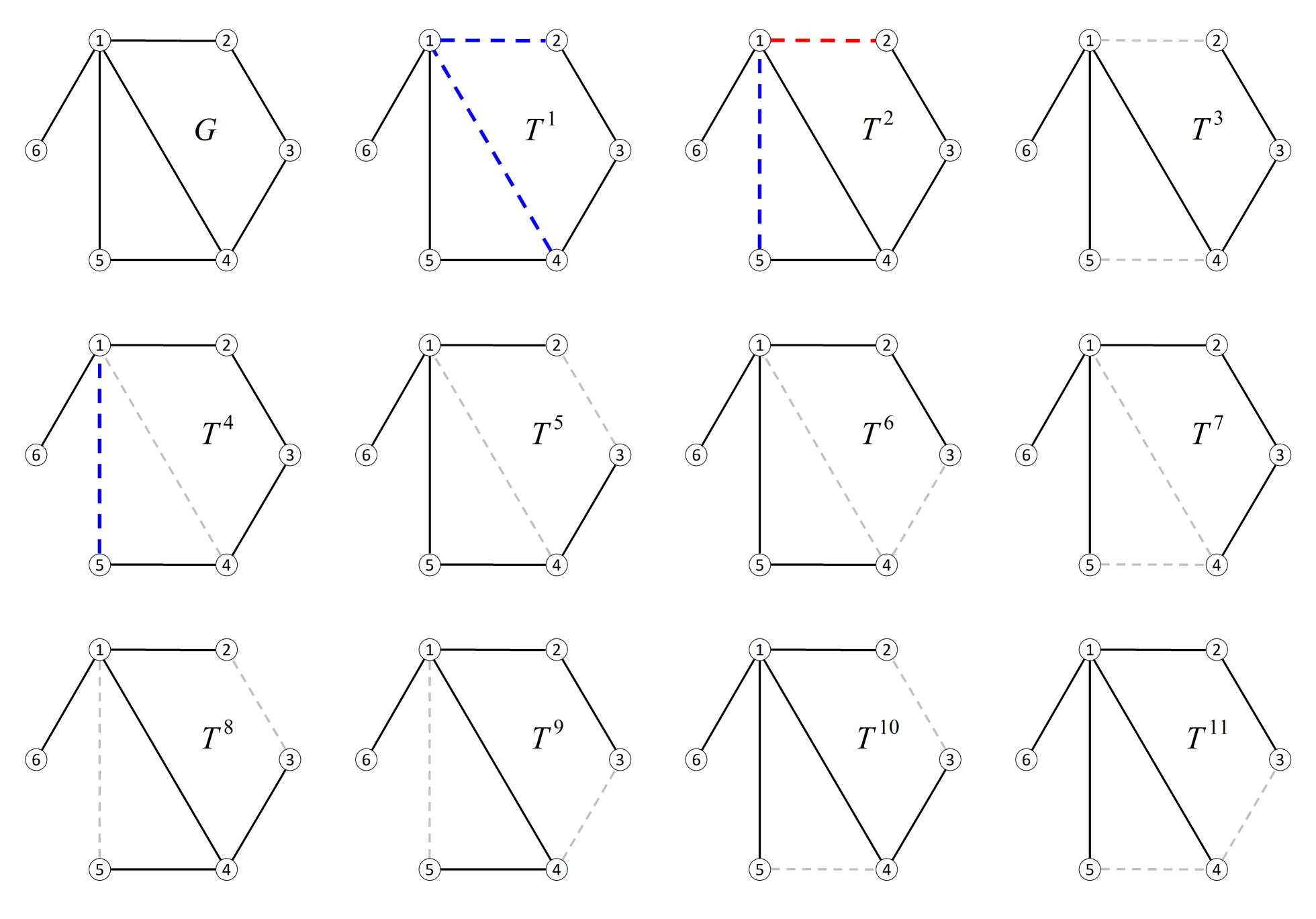


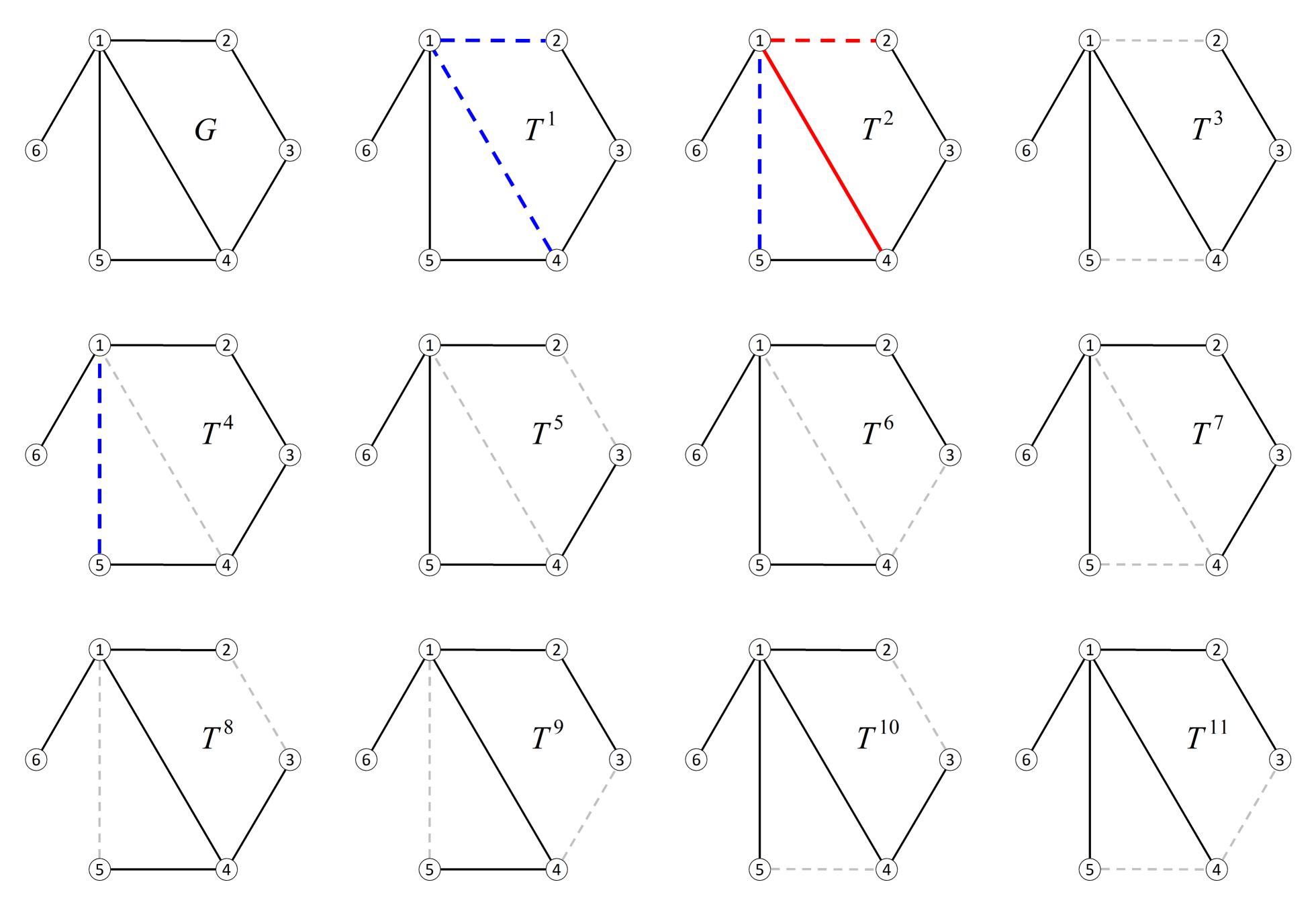


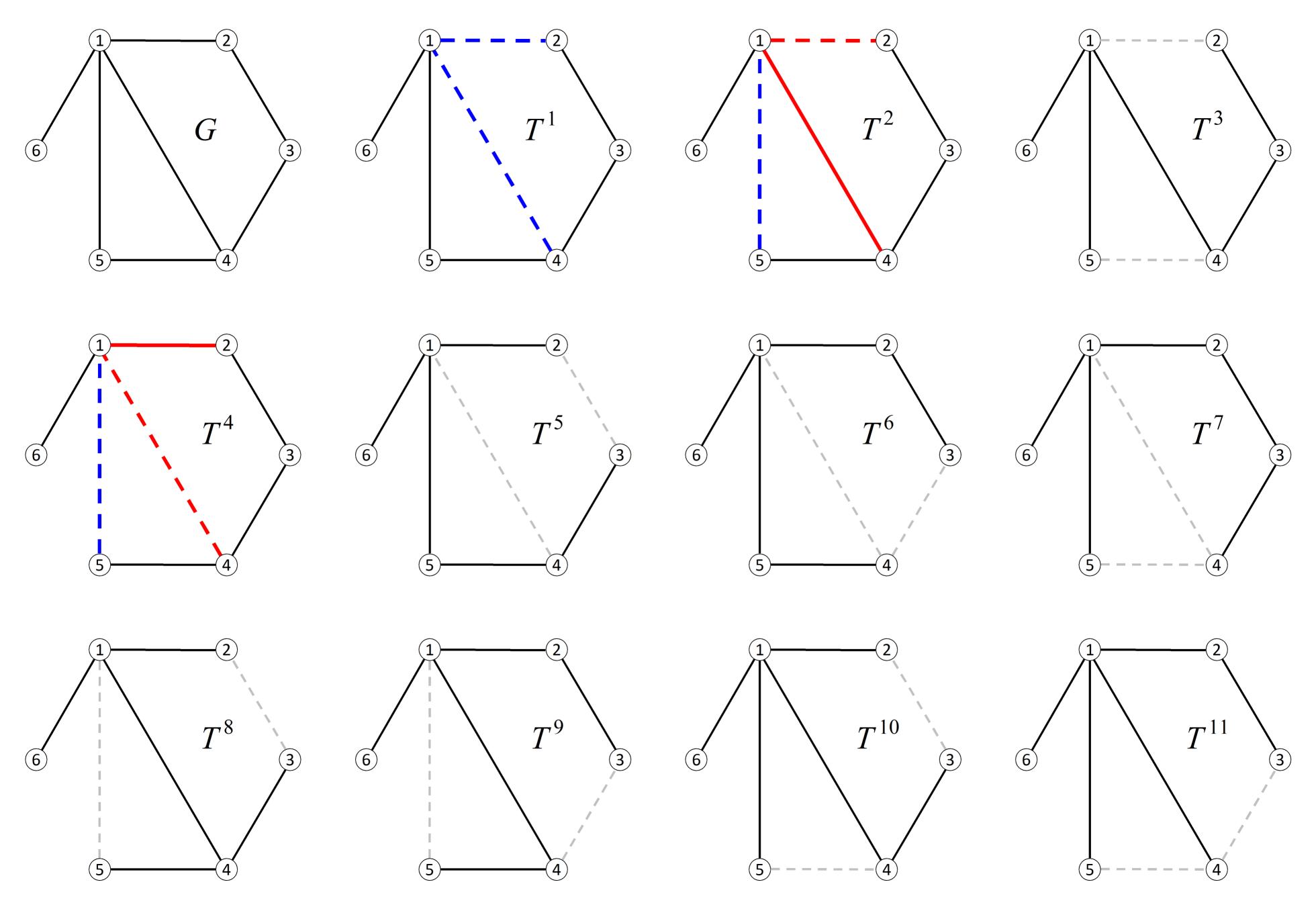


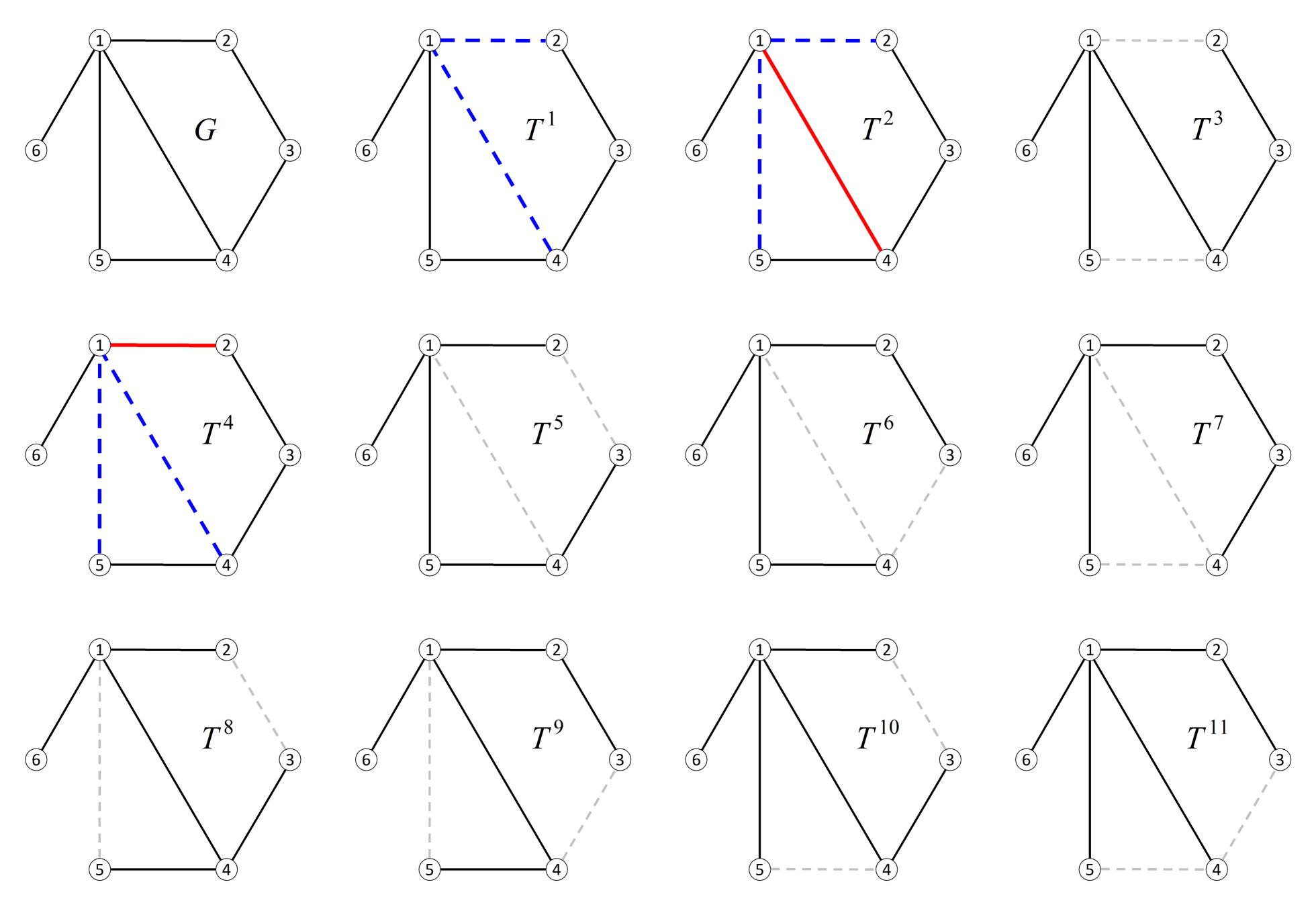


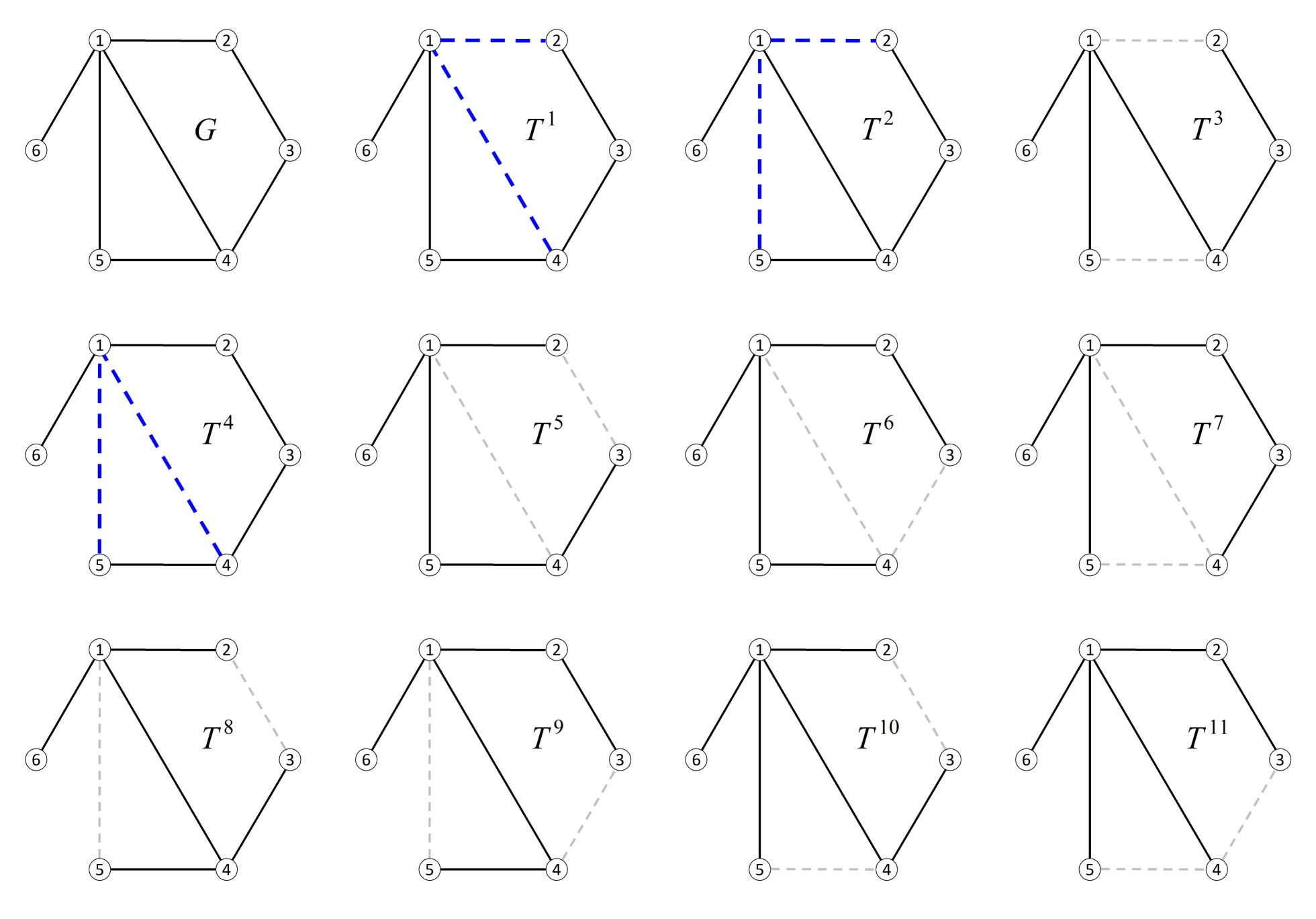


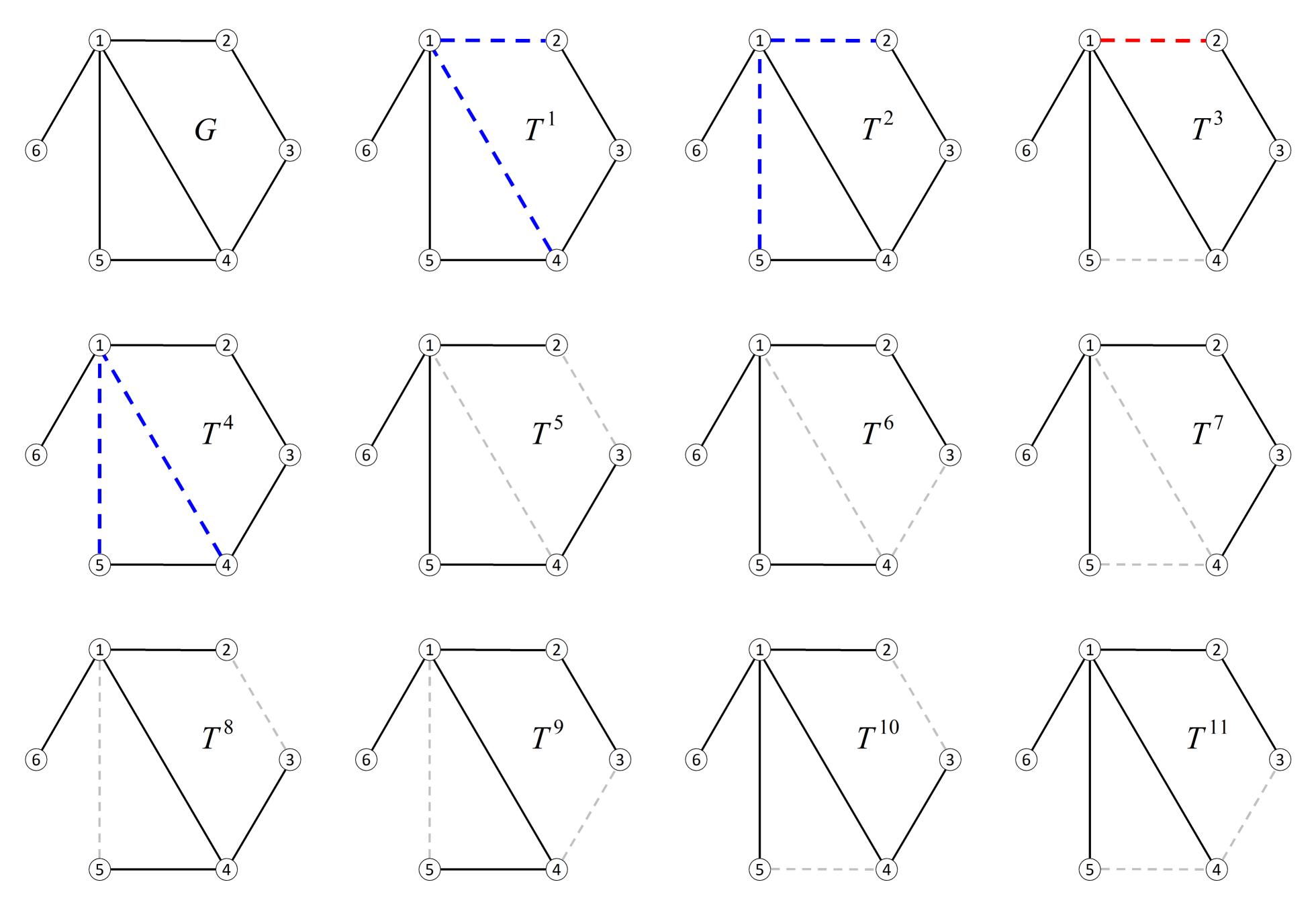


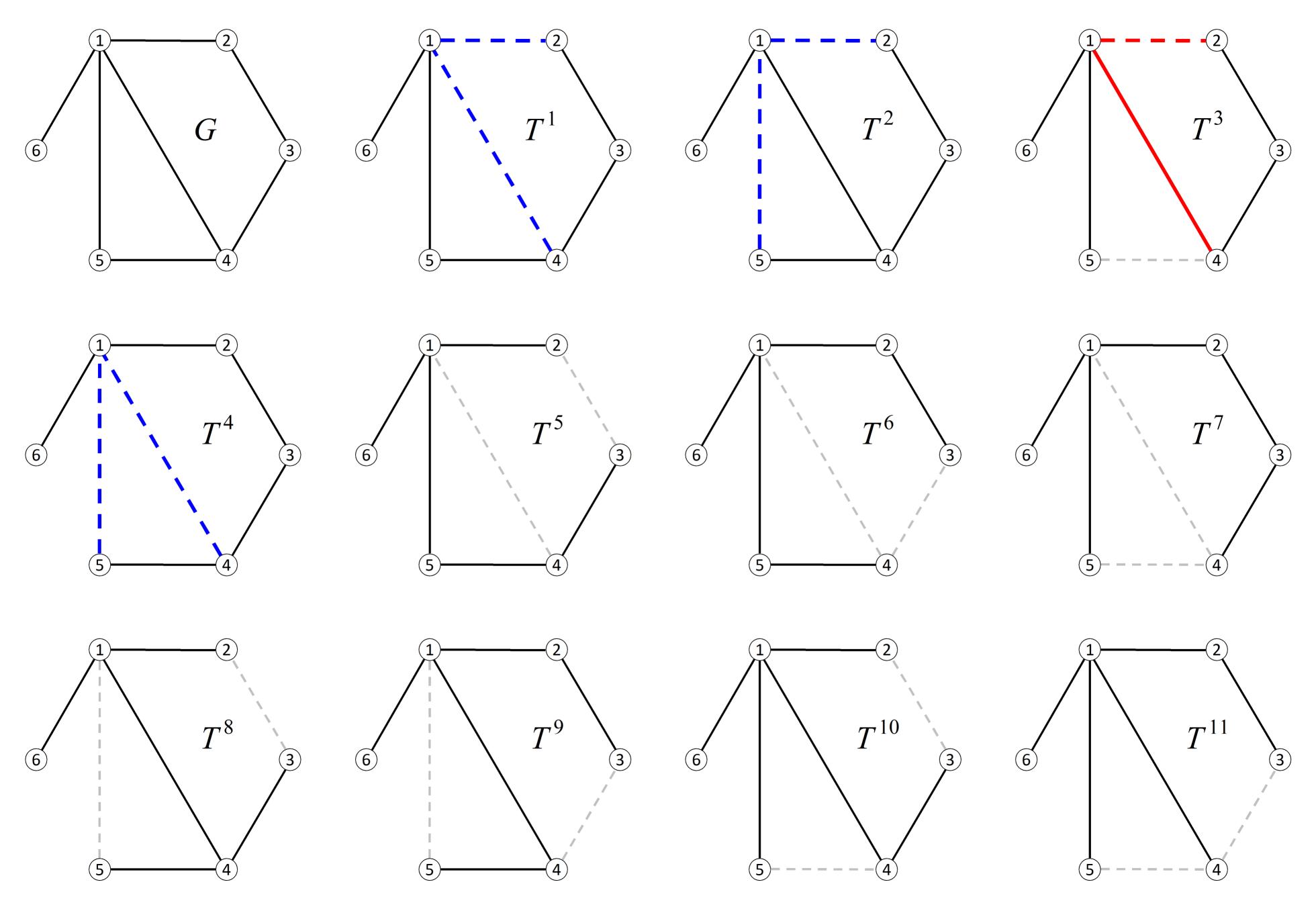


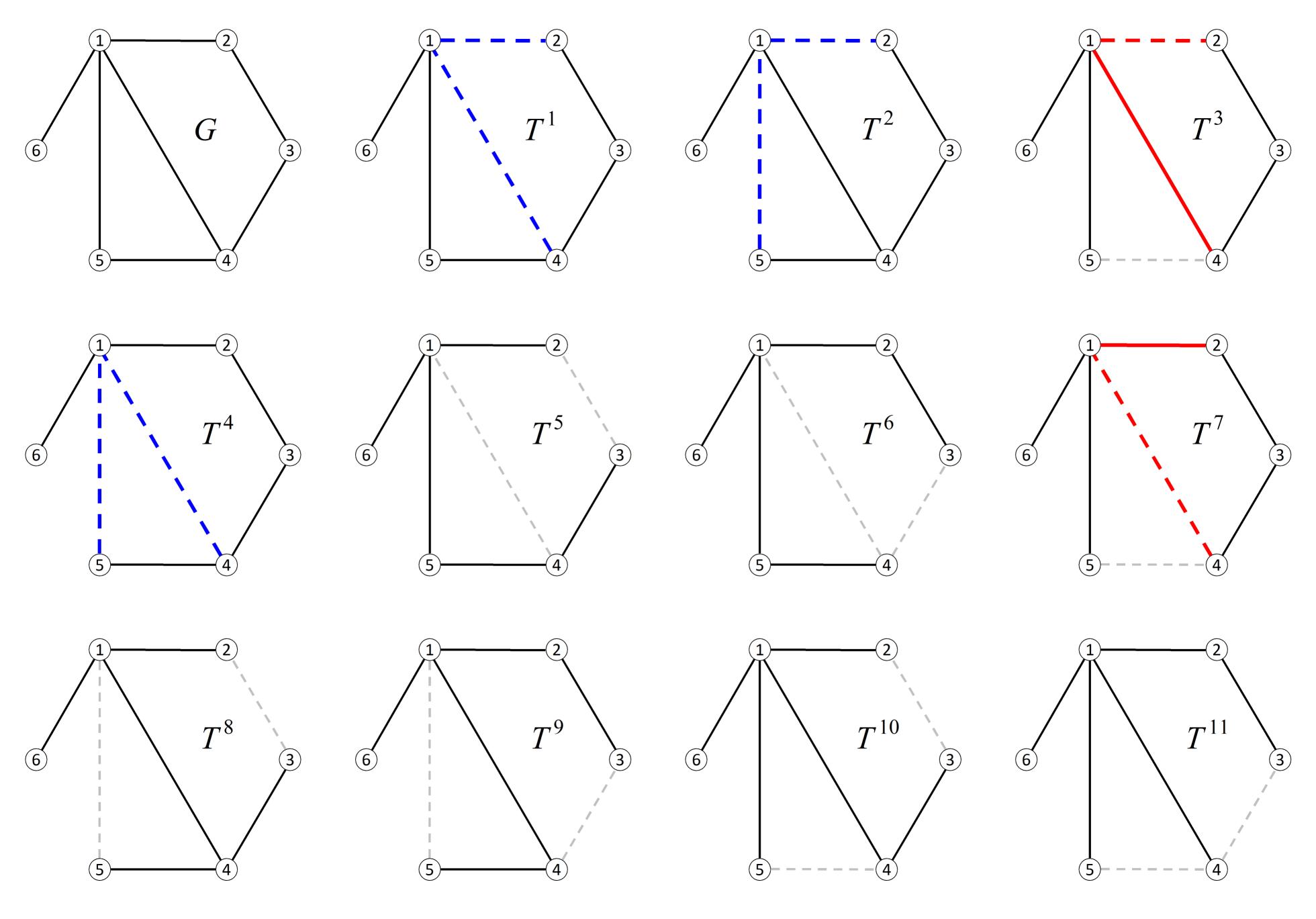


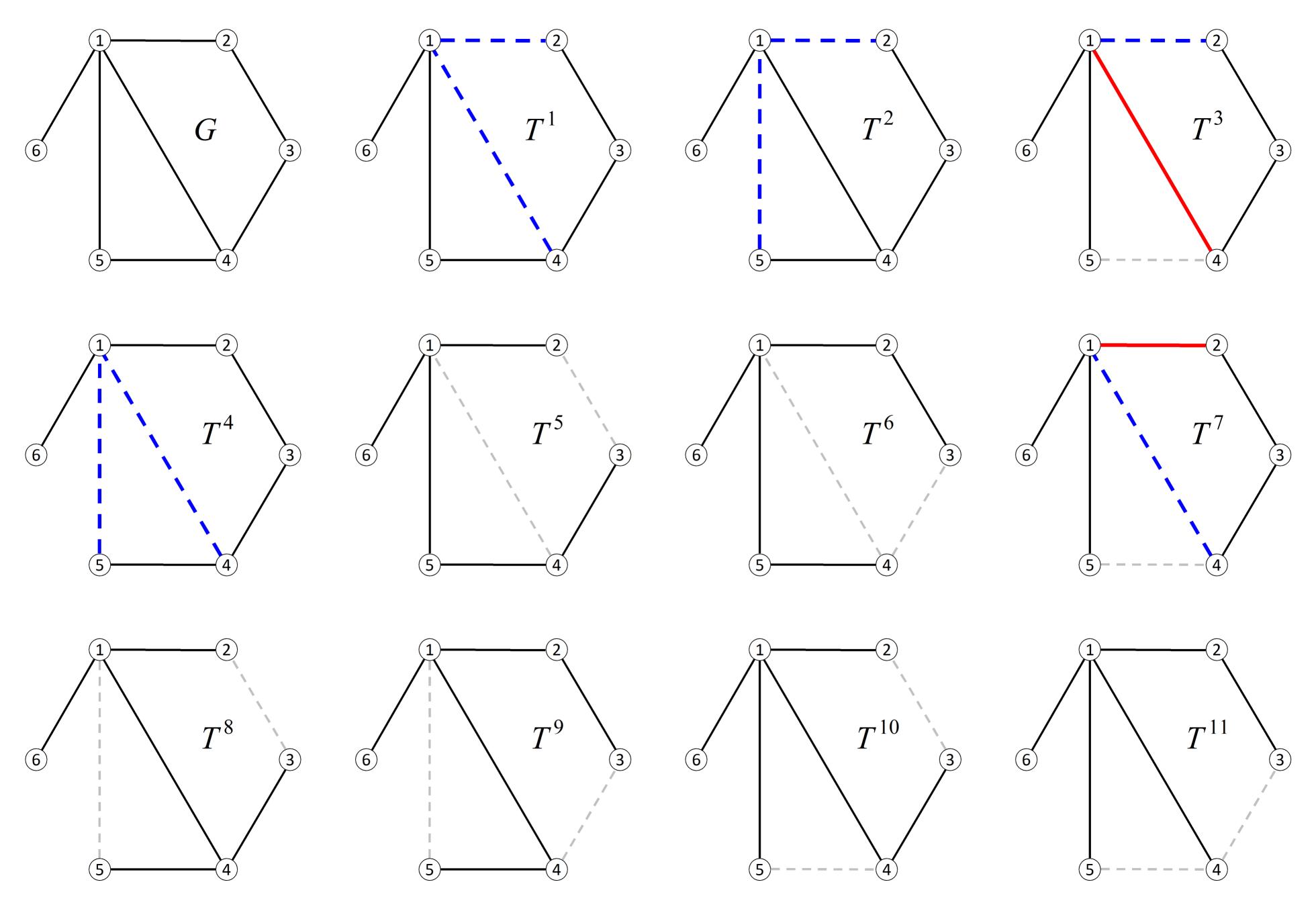


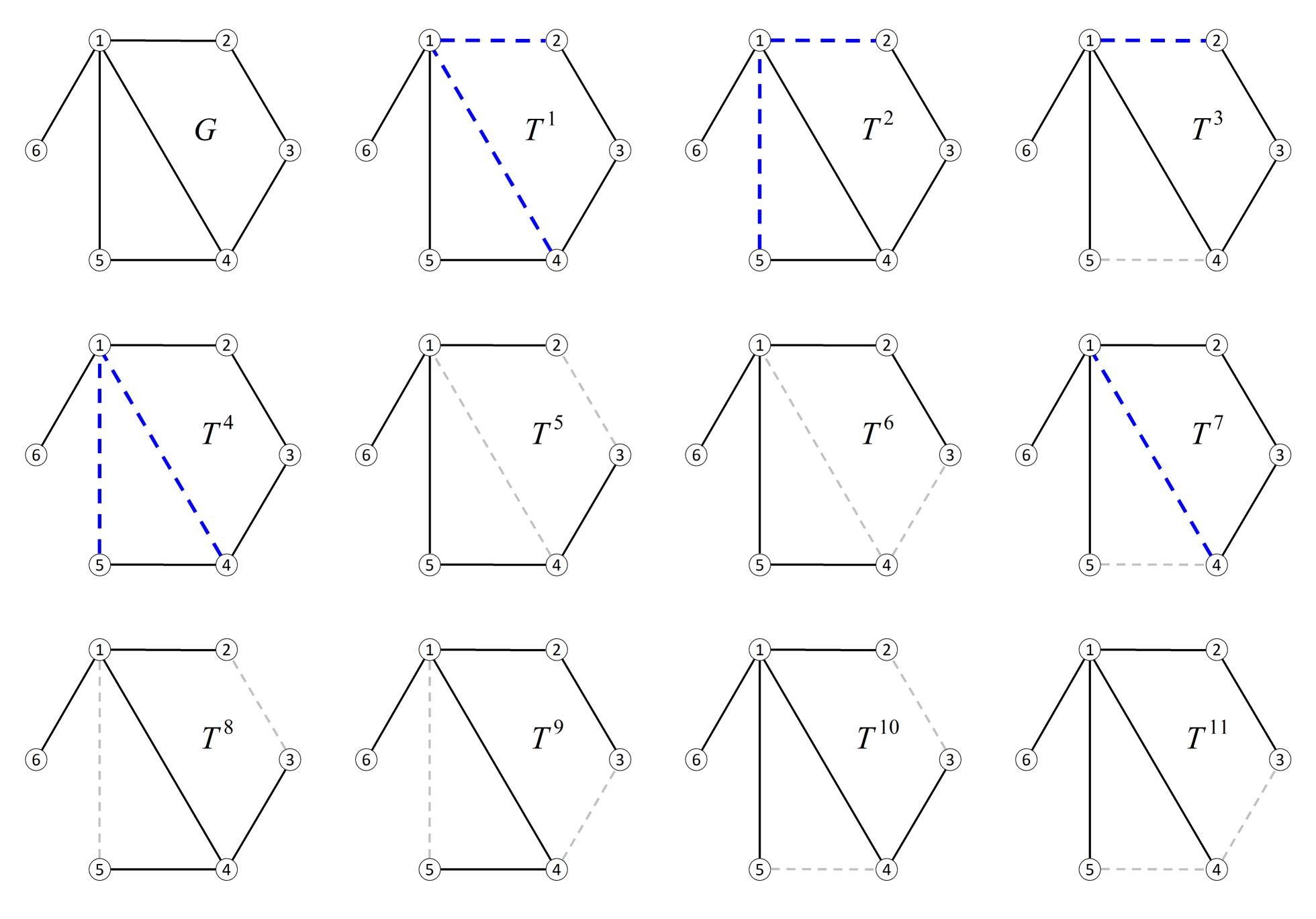


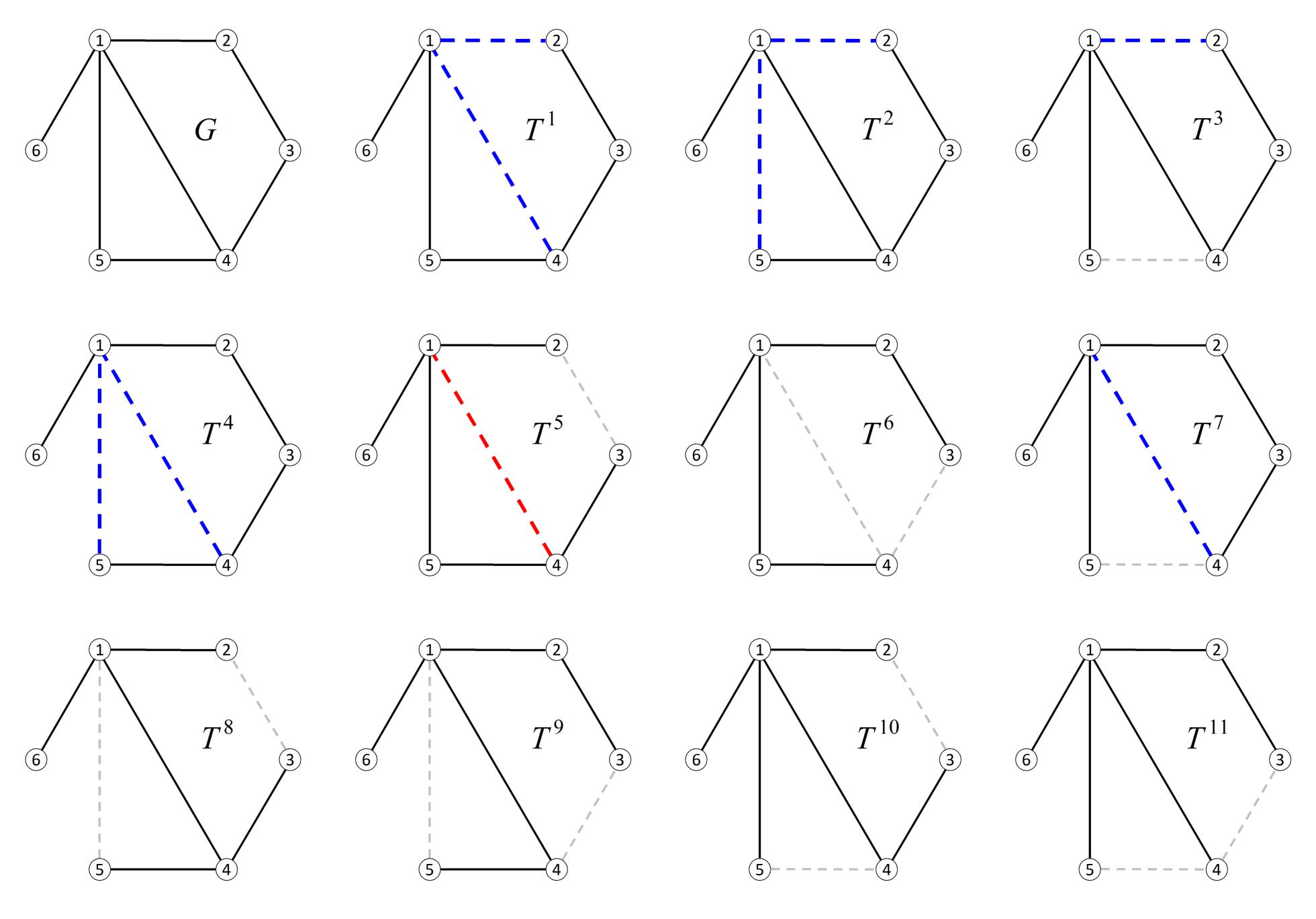


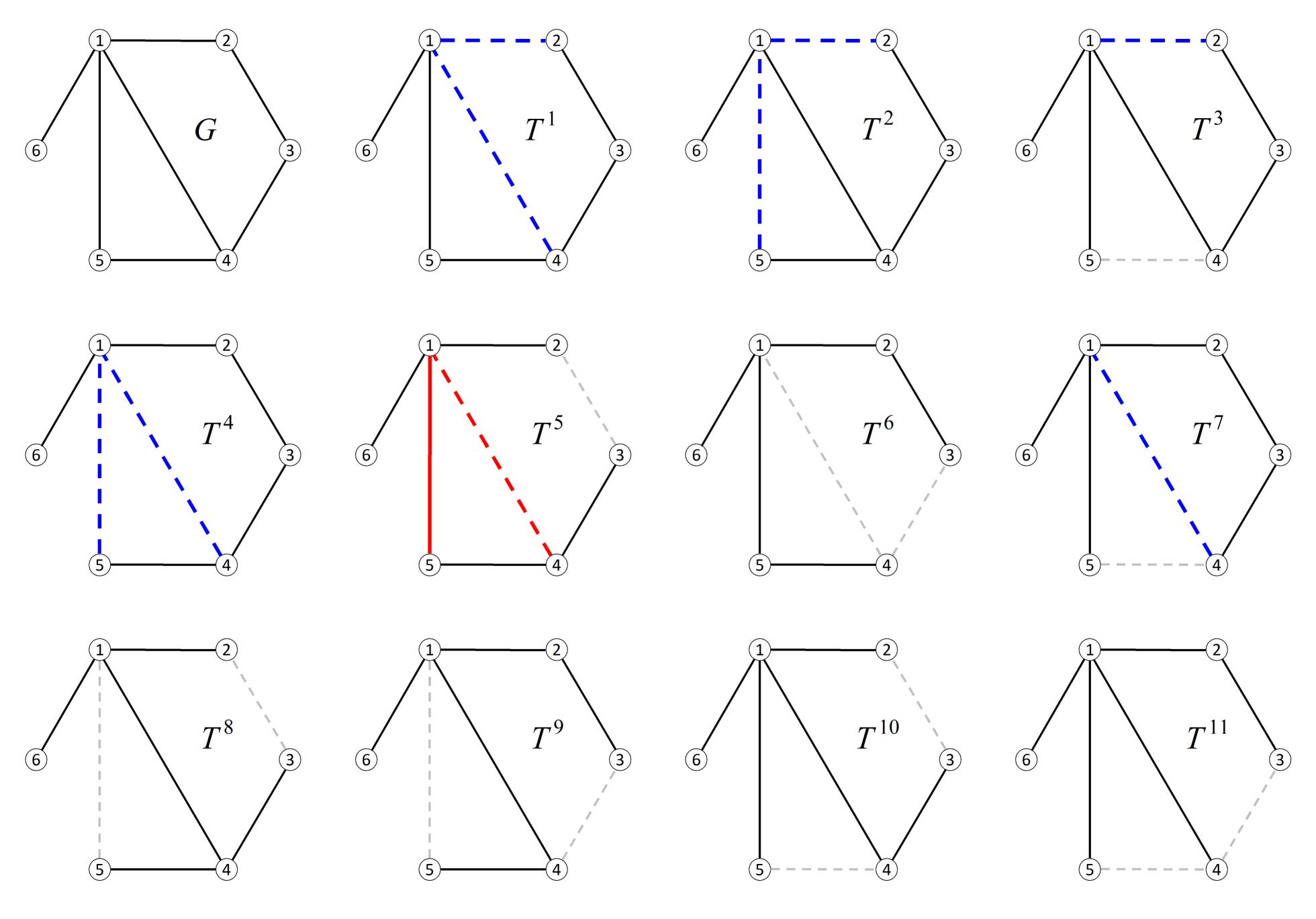


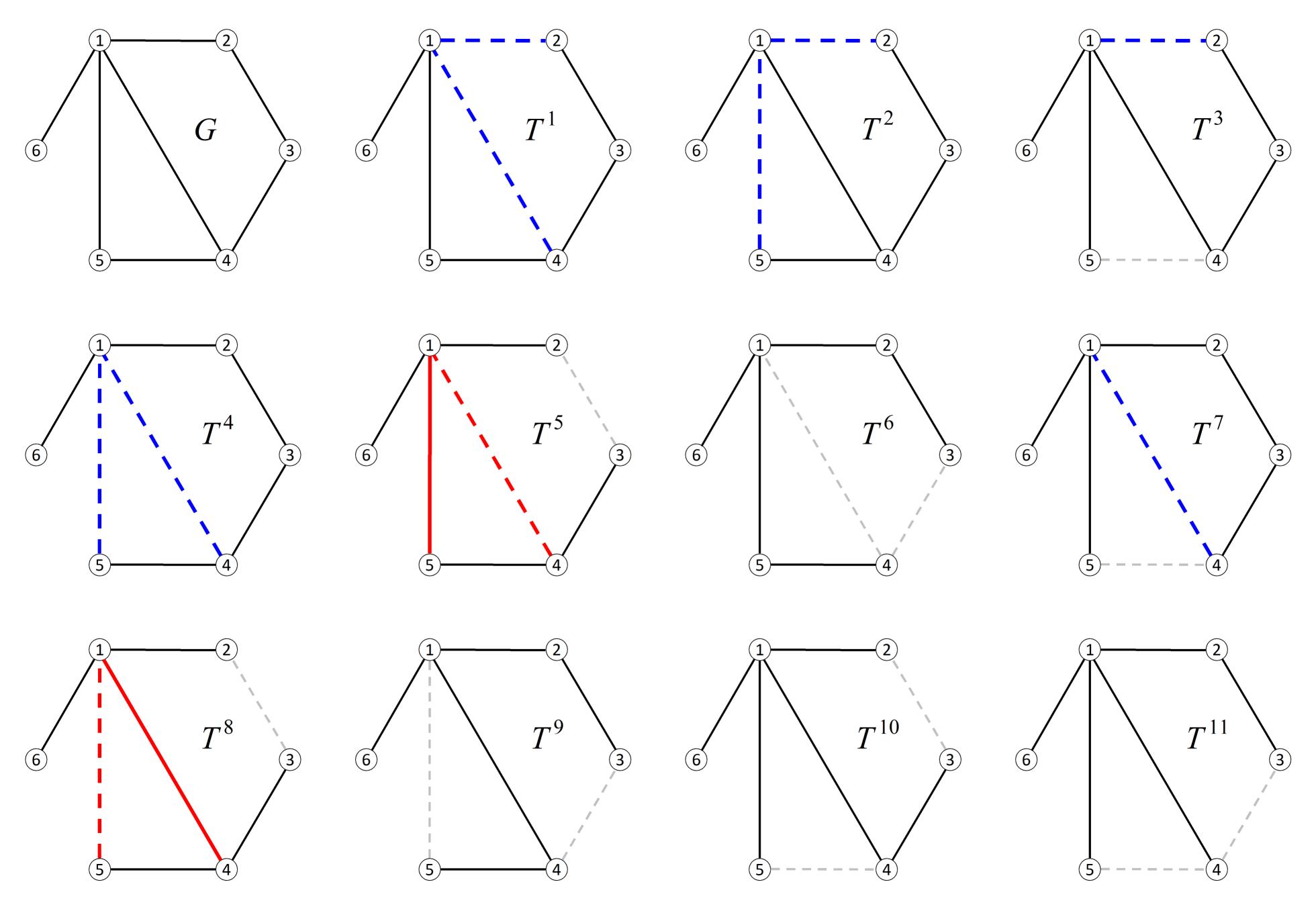


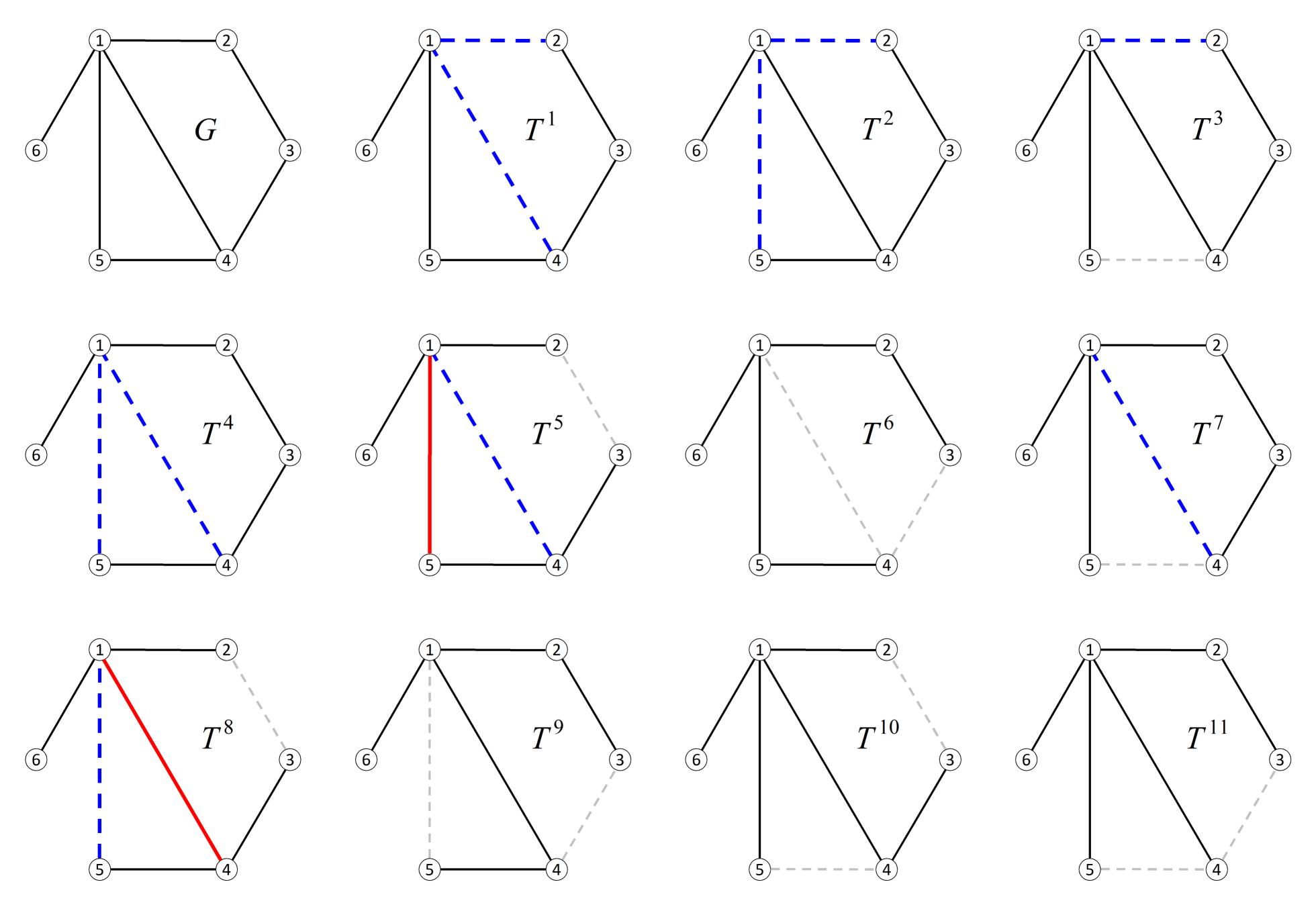


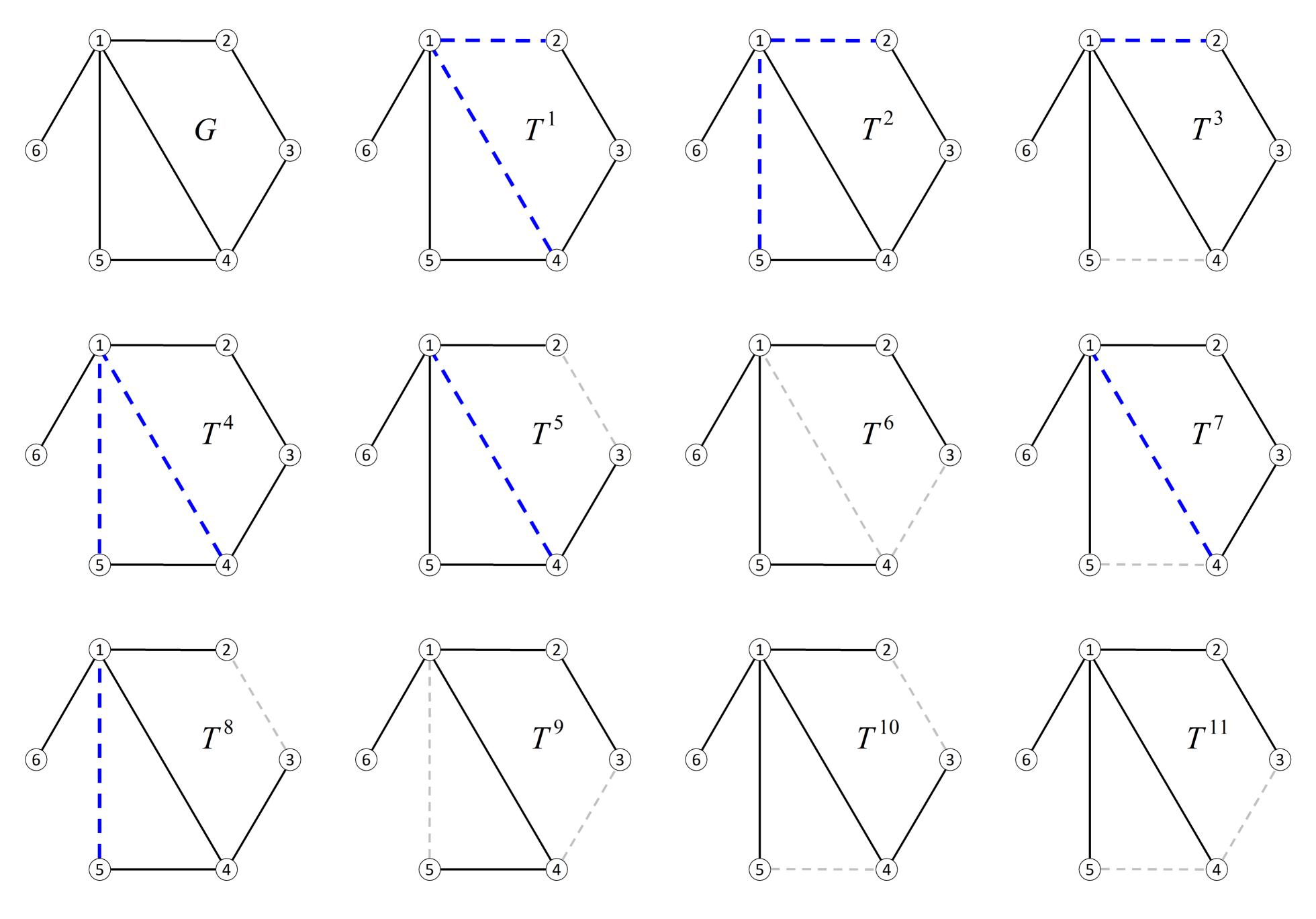


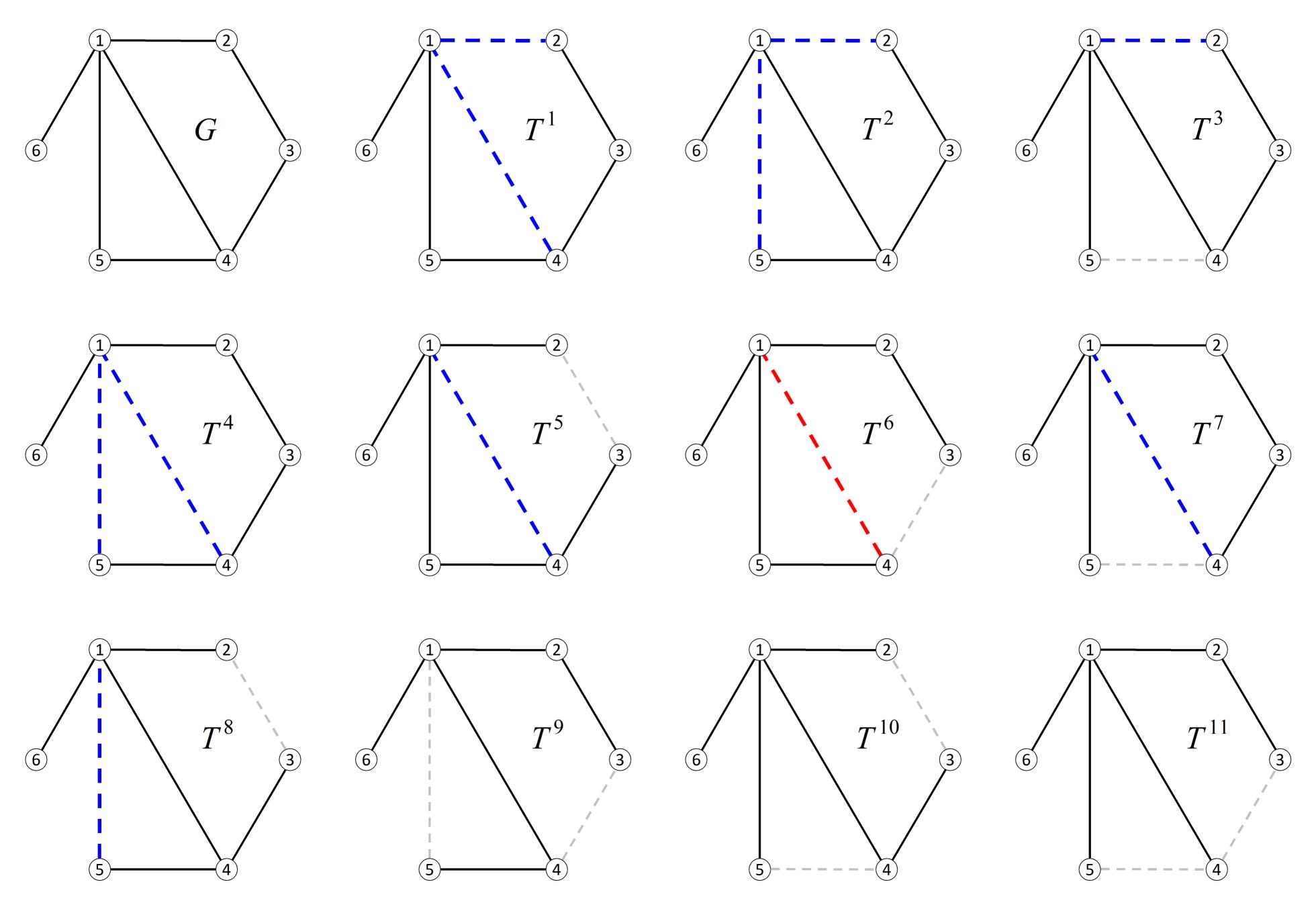


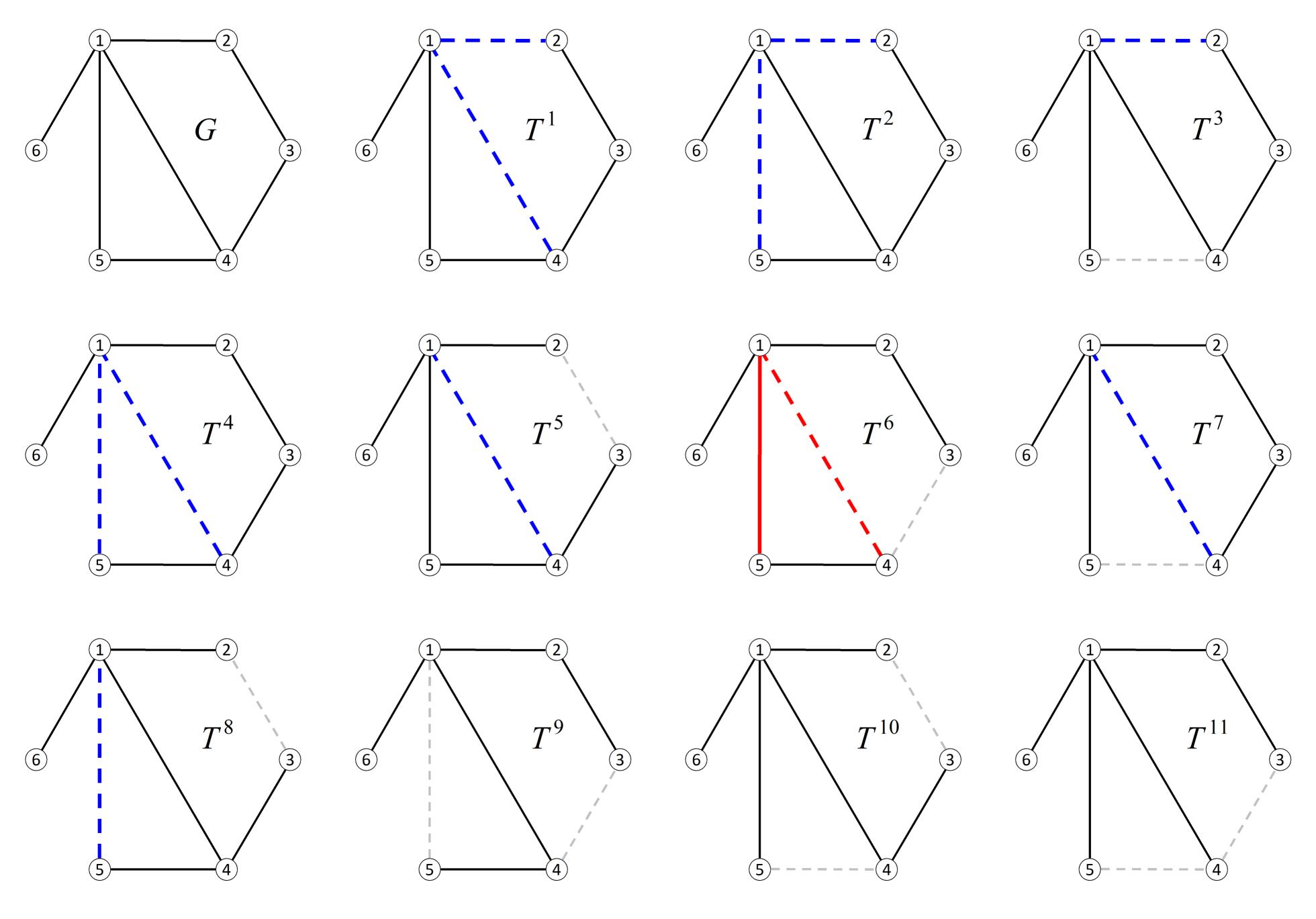


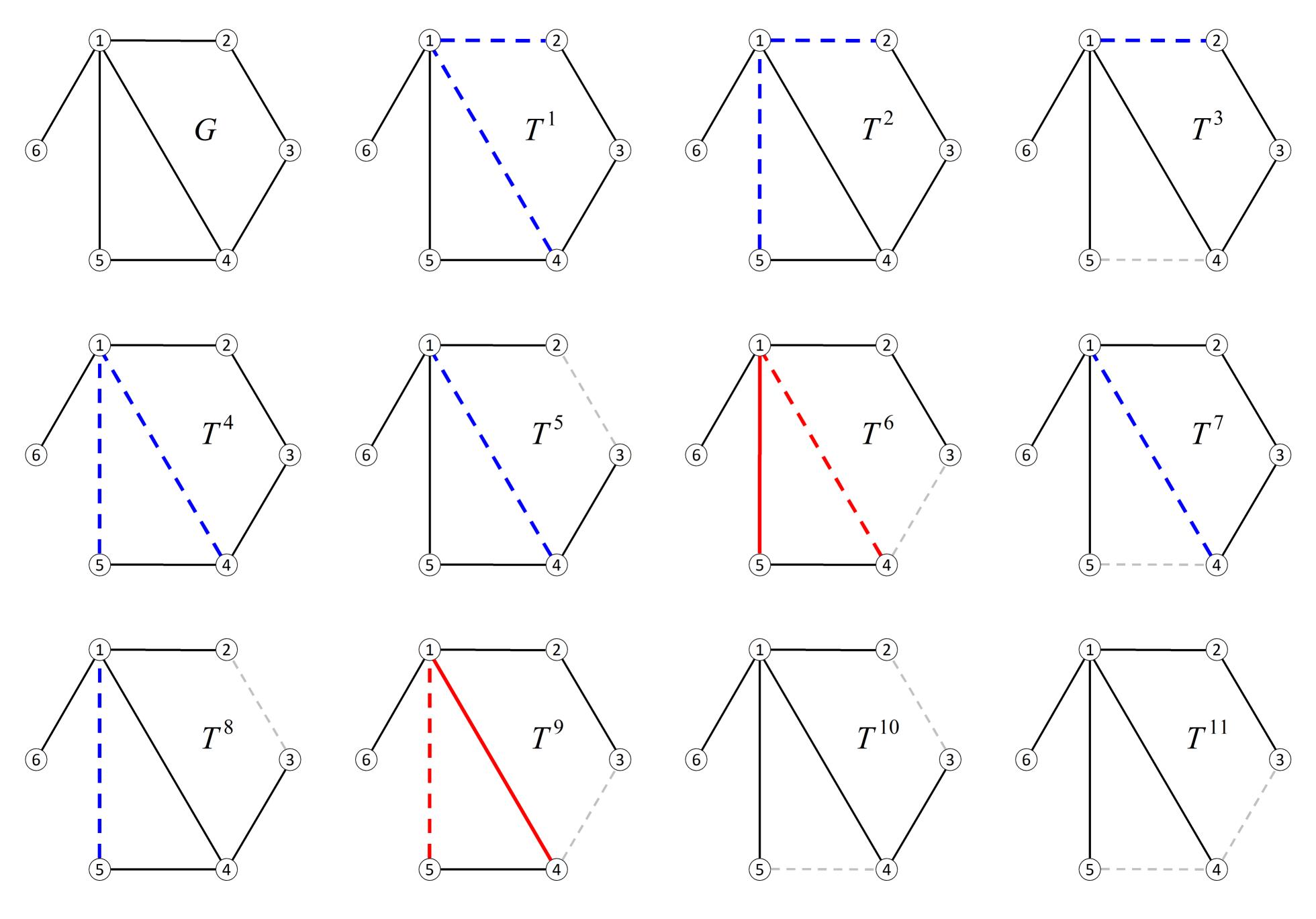


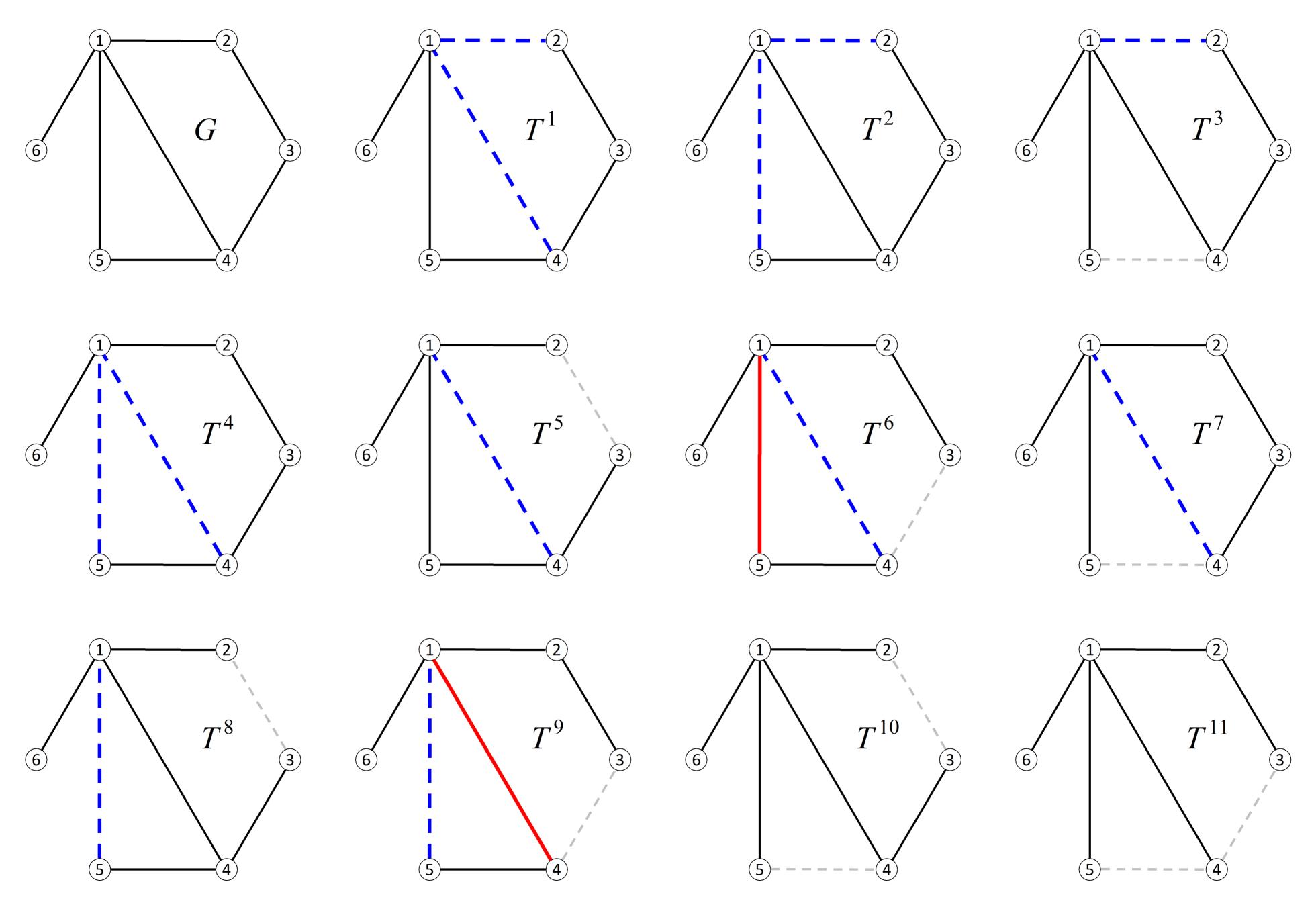


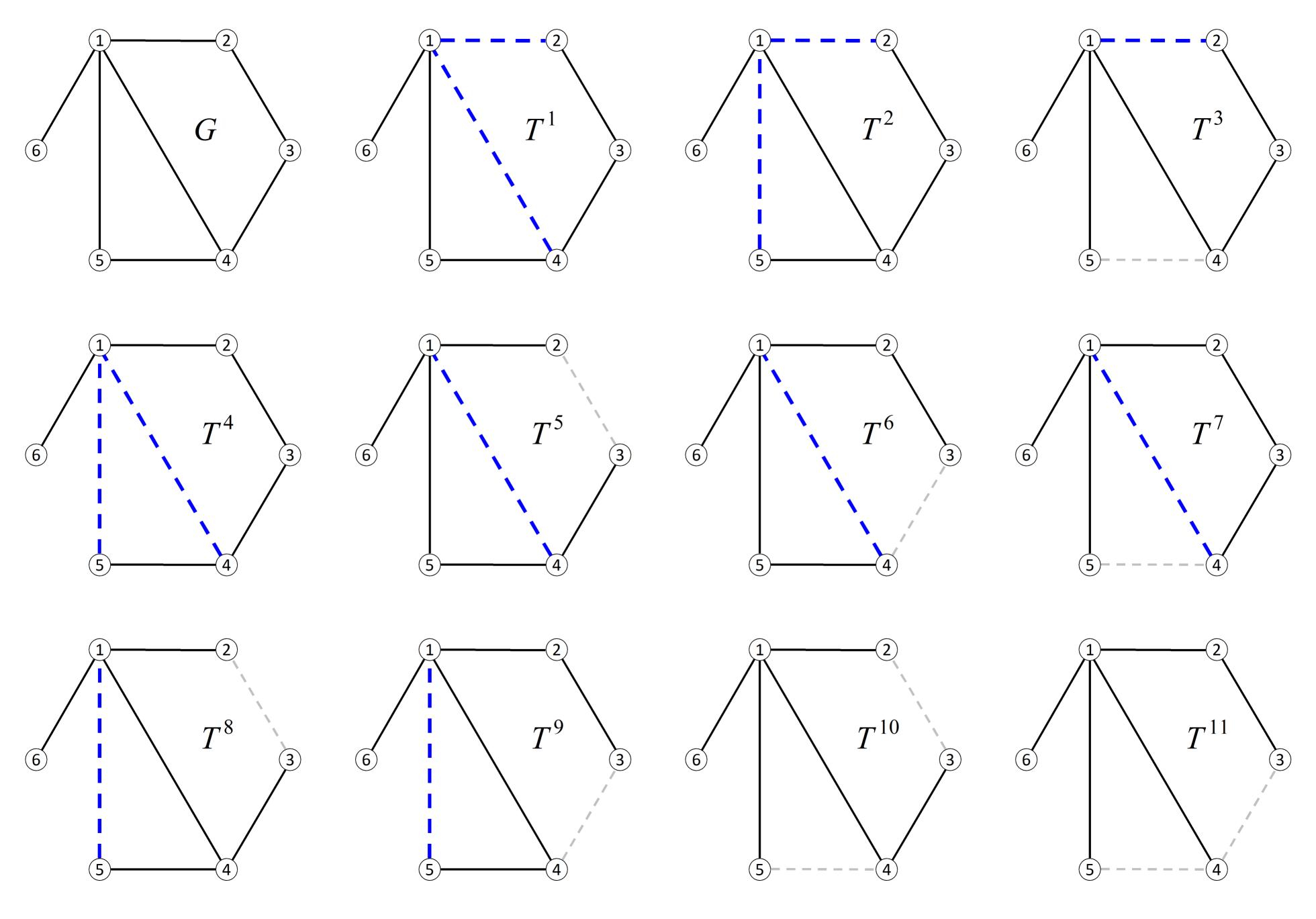












proof

Finally, to complete the proof, take the sum of equations

$$(\mathbf{L}\mathbf{y}^s)_i = \sum_{k: e(i,k) \in E(T^s)} b_{ik} + \sum_{k: e(i,k) \in E(G) \setminus E(T^s)} b_{ik}^s \quad \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, n$$

for all $s = 1, 2, \dots, S$ and apply the lemma

$$\sum_{s=1}^{S} \left(\sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(T^s)} b_{ik} + \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)\setminus E(T^s)} b_{ik}^s \right) = S \sum_{k:e(i,k)\in E(G)} b_{ik}$$

to conclude that
$$\mathbf{y}^{LLS} = \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^{S} \mathbf{y}^{s}$$
.

Remarks

Complete pairwise comparison matrices ($S = n^{n-2}$) are included in our theorem as a special case, and our proof can also be considered as a second, and shorter proof of the theorem of Lundy, Siraj and Greco (2017).

Special incomplete cases, investigated by Harker (1987); van Uden (2002); Chen, Kou, Tarn, Song (2015); Bozóki (2017) are also included.

Conclusions

The equivalence of two fundamental weighting methods has been shown.

The advantages of two approaches have been united.

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Siraj, S., Mikhailov, L., Keane, J.A. (2012): Enumerating all spanning trees for pairwise comparisons. Computers & Operations Research, 39(2) 191–199

Siraj, S., Mikhailov, L., Keane, J.A. (2012): Corrigendum to "Enumerating all spanning trees for pairwise comparisons [Comput. Oper. Res. 39(2012) 191–199]". Computers & Operations Research, 39(9) page 2265

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Lundy, M., Siraj, S., Greco, S. (2017): The mathematical equivalence of the "spanning tree" and row geometric mean preference vectors and its implications for preference analysis. European Journal of Operational Research 257(1) 197–208

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Thank you for attention.

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