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The kite of a constellation

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ABSTRACT

A constellation is a set of infinitely near points obtained by successive blowing-ups starting from a smooth point of a surface. Two graphs are usually used to encode the topology of finite constellations : the Enriques diagram and the dual graph of the divisor obtained by totally blowing-up the constellation. I will explain the construction of a 2-dimensional simplicial complex, the kite of the constellation, in which both graphs embed naturally. This allows to understand geometrically their relation, as well as the algorithms of passage from one to the other using continued fractions.