

# The $\{-3\}$ -reconstruction and the $\{-3\}$ -self duality of tournaments

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## Abstract

Let  $T = (V, A)$  be a (finite) tournament and  $k$  be a non negative integer. For every subset  $X$  of  $V$  is associated the subtournament  $T[X] = (X, A \cap (X \times X))$  of  $T$ , induced by  $X$ . The dual tournament of  $T$ , denoted by  $T^*$ , is the tournament obtained from  $T$  by reversing all its arcs. The tournament  $T$  is self dual if it is isomorphic to its dual.  $T$  is  $\{-k\}$ -self dual if for each set  $X$  of  $k$  vertices,  $T[V \setminus X]$  is self dual.  $T$  is strongly self dual if each of its induced subtournaments is self dual. A subset  $I$  of  $V$  is an interval of  $T$  if for  $a, b \in I$  and for  $x \in V \setminus I$ ,  $(a, x) \in A$  if and only if  $(b, x) \in A$ . For instance,  $\emptyset$ ,  $V$  and  $\{x\}$ , where  $x \in V$ , are intervals of  $T$  called trivial intervals.  $T$  is indecomposable if all its intervals are trivial; otherwise, it is decomposable. A tournament  $T'$ , on the set  $V$ , is  $\{-k\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$  if for each set  $X$  on  $k$  vertices,  $T[V \setminus X]$  and  $T'[V \setminus X]$  are isomorphic. The tournament  $T$  is  $\{-k\}$ -reconstructible if each tournament  $\{-k\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$  is isomorphic to it.

Suppose that  $T$  is decomposable and  $|V| \geq 9$ . In this paper, we begin by proving the equivalence between the  $\{-3\}$ -self duality and the strong self duality of  $T$ . Then we characterize each tournament  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$ . As a consequence of this characterization, we prove that if there is no interval  $X$  of  $T$  such that  $T[X]$  is indecomposable and  $|V \setminus X| \leq 2$ , then  $T$  is  $\{-3\}$ -reconstructible. Finally, we conclude by reducing the  $\{-3\}$ -reconstruction problem

to the indecomposable case (between a tournament and its dual). In particular, we find and improve, in a less complicated way, the results of [6] found by Y. Boudabbous and A. Boussaïri.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Preliminaries on tournaments

A (finite) *tournament*  $T$  consists of a finite set  $V$  of *vertices* with a prescribed collection  $A$  of ordered pairs of distinct vertices, called the set of *arcs* of  $T$ , which satisfies: for  $x, y \in V$  with  $x \neq y$ ,  $(x, y) \in A$  if and only if  $(y, x) \notin A$ . Such a tournament is denoted by  $(V, A)$ . If  $(x, y)$  is an arc of  $T$ , then we say that  $x$  *dominates*  $y$  (symbolically  $x \rightarrow y$ ). The *dual* of the tournament  $T$  is the tournament  $T^* = (V, A^*)$  defined by: for all  $x, y \in V$ ,  $(y, x) \in A^*$  if and only if  $(x, y) \in A$ . The tournament  $T$  is *transitive* or a *linear order* provided that for any  $x, y, z \in V$ , if  $(x, y) \in A$  and  $(y, z) \in A$ , then  $(x, z) \in A$ . For example, a total order on a finite set  $E$  can be identified to a transitive tournament with a vertex set  $E$  in the following way: for  $x, y \in E$  with  $x \neq y$ ,  $x \rightarrow y$  if and only if  $x < y$ . The tournament corresponding to the usual order on  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  (where  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ) is denoted by  $O_n$ . An *almost transitive tournament* is a tournament obtained from a transitive tournament with at least three vertices by reversing the arc formed by its two extremal vertices.

For every finite sets  $E$  and  $F$ , we denote  $E \subset F$  when  $E$  is a subset of  $F$  and  $|E|$  the cardinality of  $E$ .

Given a tournament  $T = (V, A)$ , for each subset  $X$  of  $V$  we associate the *subtournament* of  $T$  induced by  $X$ , that is the tournament  $T[X] = (X, A \cap (X \times X))$ . For convenience, the subtournament  $T[V \setminus X]$  is denoted by  $T - X$ , and by  $T - x$  whenever  $X = \{x\}$ .

Let  $T = (V, A)$  be a tournament, a subset  $I$  of  $V$  is an *interval* of  $T$  if for every  $x \in V \setminus I$ ,  $x$  dominates or is dominated by all elements of  $I$ . For instance,  $\emptyset$ ,  $V$  and  $\{x\}$ , where  $x \in V$ , are intervals of  $T$  called *trivial* intervals. A tournament is *indecomposable* if all its intervals are trivial; otherwise, it is *decomposable*. For example, the tournament  $C_3 = (\{1, 2, 3\}, \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1)\})$  is indecomposable, whereas, the tournaments  $C_4 = (\{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4), (4, 1), (3, 1), (2, 4)\})$ ,  $\delta^+ = (\{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \{(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 1), (1, 4), (2, 4), (3, 4)\})$  and  $\delta^- = (\delta^+)^*$  are decomposable.

Given two tournaments  $T = (V, A)$  and  $T' = (V', A')$ , an *isomorphism* from  $T$  onto  $T'$  is a bijection  $f$  from  $V$  onto  $V'$  satisfying: for any  $x, y \in V$ ,  $(x, y) \in A$  if and only if  $(f(x), f(y)) \in A'$ . The tournaments  $T$  and  $T'$  are *isomorphic* if there exists an isomorphism from one onto the other. This is denoted by  $T \sim T'$ . A tournament  $T'$  *embeds* into a tournament  $T$  (or  $T$  *embeds*  $T'$ ), if  $T'$  is isomorphic to a subtournament of  $T$ . A *3-cycle*

(resp. *4-cycle*) is a tournament which is isomorphic to  $C_3$  (resp.  $C_4$ ). Moreover, a *positive diamond* (resp. *negative diamond*) is a tournament that is isomorphic to  $\delta^+$  (resp.  $\delta^-$ ). A *diamond* is a positive or a negative diamond. For convenience, a set  $X$  of vertices of a tournament  $T$  is called diamond of  $T$  if  $T[X]$  is a diamond.

## 1.2 Self duality and reconstruction

A tournament  $T$  on a set  $V$  is *self dual* if  $T$  and  $T^*$  are isomorphic, it's *strongly self dual* if for every subset  $X$  of  $V$ ,  $T[X]$  and  $T^*[X]$  are isomorphic. For each non negative integer  $k$ , the tournament  $T$  is  $(\leq k)$ -*self dual* whenever for every set  $X$  of at most  $k$  vertices, the subtournament  $T[X]$  is self dual. It is easy to see that a transitive tournament or an almost transitive tournament is strongly self dual. Conversely, Reid and Thomassen [23] was proved that a strongly self dual tournament with at least 8 vertices is transitive or almost transitive. This result was used by K. B. Reid and C. Thomassen [23] in order to characterize the pair of *hereditarily isomorphic* tournaments, that is, the pair of tournaments  $T, T'$  on a set  $V$  such that for every subset  $X$  of  $V$ , the subtournaments  $T[X]$  and  $T'[X]$  are isomorphic. A relaxed version of this notion is the following. Consider two tournaments  $T$  and  $T'$  on the same vertex set  $V$ , with  $|V| = n \geq 2$ . Let  $k$  be a non negative integer  $k$  with  $k \leq n$ . The tournaments  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{k\}$ -*hypomorphic*, whenever for every set  $X$  of  $k$  vertices, the subtournaments  $T[X]$  and  $T'[X]$  are isomorphic. If  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{n - k\}$ -hypomorphic, we say that  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{-k\}$ -*hypomorphic*. Let  $F$  be a set of integers. The tournaments  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $F$ -*hypomorphic*, if for every  $p \in F$ ,  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{p\}$ -hypomorphic, in particular, if  $F = \{0, \dots, k\}$ , we say that  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $(\leq k)$ -*hypomorphic*. For example, every two tournaments on the same vertex set with at least 2 elements are  $(\leq 2)$ -hypomorphic. The tournament  $T$  is  $F$ -*reconstructible* provided that every tournament  $F$ -hypomorphic to  $T$  is isomorphic to  $T$ . This notion was introduced by R. Fraïssé [11] in 1970.

In 1972, G. Lopez ([15],[16]) showed that a tournament, with at least 6 vertices, is  $(\leq 6)$ -reconstructible (see also [17]). It follows from a "Combinatorial Lemma" of M. Pouzet (see Section 2) that a tournament, with at least 12 vertices, is  $\{-6\}$ -reconstructible.

On the other hand, P. K. Stockmeyer [25] showed that the tournaments are not, in general,  $\{-1\}$ -reconstructible, invalidating so the conjecture of Ulam [26] for tournaments. Then, M. Pouzet ([1],[2]) proposed the  $\{-k\}$ -reconstruction problem of tournaments. P. Ille [14] established that a tournament with at least 11 vertices is  $\{-5\}$ -reconstructible. G. Lopez and C. Rauzy ([18],[19]) showed that a tournament with at least 10 vertices is  $\{-4\}$ -reconstructible. The  $\{-k\}$ -reconstruction problem of tournaments is still open for  $k \in \{2, 3\}$ .

In 1995, Y. Boudabbous and A. Boussaïri [6] studied the  $\{-3\}$ -reconstruction of decomposable tournaments, for which they give a partial positive answer.

In this paper, we find and improve, in a less complicated way, the results of this study. In order to present our results, we need the Gallai's decomposition theorem [12].

### 1.3 Gallai's decomposition

Given a tournament  $T = (V, A)$ , we define on  $V$  a binary relation  $\mathcal{R}$  as follows: for all  $x \in V$ ,  $x\mathcal{R}x$  and for  $x \neq y \in V$ ,  $x\mathcal{R}y$  if there exist two integers  $n, m \geq 1$  and two sequences  $x_0 = x, \dots, x_n = y$  and  $y_0 = y, \dots, y_m = x$  of vertices of  $T$  such that  $x_i \rightarrow x_{i+1}$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$  and  $y_j \rightarrow y_{j+1}$  for  $j = 0, \dots, m-1$ . Clearly,  $\mathcal{R}$  is an equivalence relation on  $V$ . The equivalence classes of  $\mathcal{R}$  are called the *strongly connected components* of  $T$ . A tournament is then *strongly connected* if it has at most one strongly connected component, otherwise, it is *non-strongly connected*.

The next result is due to J. W. Moon [20].

**Lemma 1** [20] *Given a strongly connected tournament  $T = (V, A)$  with  $n \geq 3$  vertices, for every integer  $k \in \{3, \dots, n\}$  and for every  $x \in V$ , there exists a subset  $X$  of  $V$  such that  $x \in X$ ,  $|X| = k$  and the subtournament  $T[X]$  is strongly connected.*

Let  $T$  be a tournament on a set  $V$ . A partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $V$  is an *interval partition* of  $T$  if all the elements of  $\mathcal{P}$  are intervals of  $T$ . It ensues that the elements of  $\mathcal{P}$  may be considered as the vertices of a new tournament, the *quotient*  $T/\mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{P}, A/\mathcal{P})$  of  $T$  by  $\mathcal{P}$ , defined in the following way: for any  $X \neq Y \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $(X, Y) \in A/\mathcal{P}$  if  $(x, y) \in A$ , for  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$ . On another hand, a subset  $X$  of  $V$  is a *strong interval* of  $T$  provided that  $X$  is an interval of  $T$  and for every interval  $Y$  of  $T$ , if  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ , then  $X \subset Y$  or  $Y \subset X$ . Here, for each tournament  $T = (V, A)$  with  $|V| \geq 2$ ,  $\mathcal{P}(T)$  denotes the family of maximal, strong intervals of  $T$ , under the inclusion, amongst the strong intervals of  $T$  distinct from  $V$ . Clearly,  $\mathcal{P}(T)$  realizes an interval partition of  $T$ .

Consider a tournament  $H = (V, A)$ . For every  $x \in V$  is associated the tournament  $T_x = (V_x, A_x)$  such that the  $V_x$ 's are mutually disjoint. The lexicographical sum of  $T_x$ 's over  $H$  is the tournament  $T$  denoted by  $H(T_x; x \in V)$  and defined on the union of  $V_x$ 's as follows: given  $u \in V_x$  and  $v \in V_y$ , where  $x, y \in V$ ,  $(u, v)$  is an arc of  $T$  if either  $x = y$  and  $(u, v) \in A_x$  or  $x \neq y$  and  $(x, y) \in A$ . This operation consists in fact to replace every vertex  $x$  of  $V$  by  $T_x$  so that  $V_x$  becomes an interval; we say that the vertex  $x$  is *dilated* by  $T_x$ . For example, an almost transitive tournament is obtained from a 3-cycle by dilating one of its vertices by a transitive tournament.

The Gallai's decomposition theorem [12] consists in the following examination of the quotient  $T/\mathcal{P}(T)$ .

**Theorem 2** ([9],[12]) *Let  $T$  be a tournament with at least two vertices.*

1. *The tournament  $T$  is non-strongly connected if and only if  $T/\mathcal{P}(T)$  is transitive. In addition, if  $T$  is non-strongly connected, then  $\mathcal{P}(T)$  is the family of the strongly connected components of  $T$ .*
2. *The tournament  $T$  is strongly connected if and only if  $T/\mathcal{P}(T)$  is indecomposable and  $|\mathcal{P}(T)| \geq 3$ .*

We complete this subsection by the following notation.

**Notation 3** *For every tournament  $T$  defined on a vertex set  $V$  with at least two elements, we associate the partition  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$  of  $V$  defined from  $\mathcal{P}(T)$  as follows:*

- *If  $T$  is strongly connected,  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T) = \mathcal{P}(T)$ .*
- *If  $T$  is non-strongly connected, a subset  $A$  of  $V$  belongs to  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$  if and only if either  $A \in \mathcal{P}(T)$  and  $|A| \geq 2$ , or  $A$  is a maximal union of consecutive vertices of the transitive tournament  $T/\mathcal{P}(T)$  which are singletons.*

## 1.4 Statement of the results

In this paper, we begin by proving the following theorem (Section 3). That improves the result obtained by K. B. Reid and C. Thomassen [23]. (Note that, the study of [23] is easily reduced to the decomposable case).

**Theorem 4** *A decomposable tournament which has at least 9 vertices is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual if and only if it is either transitive or almost transitive.*

Then, we characterize each tournament  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic to a decomposable tournament with at least 9 vertices (Section 4). For the statement, we need additional notation.

**Notation 5** *Consider a set  $P$  of non zero integers, an integer  $n \geq 6$  and  $q \in \{2, 3\}$ . We denote by:*

- *$I_{n,P}$ , the class of tournaments with  $n$  vertices which are indecomposable, not self dual and  $\{p\}$ -self dual for every  $p \in P$ ; these tournaments being considered up to an isomorphism.*

- $C_3(I_{n,P})$  (resp.  $O_q(I_{n,P})$ ), the class of tournaments with  $n+2$  (resp.  $n+q-1$ ) vertices obtained, from the 3-cycle  $C_3$  (resp. from the transitive tournament  $O_q$ ), by dilating one of its vertices by a tournament belonging to the class  $I_{n,P}$ ; these tournaments being considered up to an isomorphism.
- For each integer  $m \geq 8$ , we denote by  $\Omega_m$  the union  $C_3(I_{m-2,\{-1,-2,-3\}}) \cup O_3(I_{m-2,\{-1,-2,-3\}}) \cup O_2(I_{m-1,\{-2,-3\}})$ .

Here is the characterization.

**Theorem 6** *Consider a decomposable tournament  $T$  with  $n \geq 9$  vertices and let  $T'$  be a tournament  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$ . Then, we have:*

1.  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T') = \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$  and one of the following situations is achieved.
  - (a)  $T$  is almost transitive and  $T' \sim T$ .
  - (b)  $T$  is not almost transitive,  $T/\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T) = T'/\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$  and one of the following situations is achieved.
    - (i)  $T \notin \Omega_n$ , for every  $X \in \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$ ,  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$  and  $T' \sim T$ .
    - (ii)  $T \in \Omega_n$  and  $T' \not\sim T$ .
2.  $T$  is not  $\{-3\}$ -reconstructible if and only if  $T \in \Omega_n$ .

We deduce the following results.

**Corollary 7** *Let  $T$  be a decomposable tournament on a set  $V$ , with  $|V| \geq 9$ . If there is no interval  $X$  of  $T$  such that  $T[X]$  is indecomposable and  $|V \setminus X| \leq 2$ , then  $T$  is  $\{-3\}$ -reconstructible.*

**Corollary 8** *If there exists an integer  $n_0 \geq 7$  for which the indecomposable tournaments with at least  $n_0$  vertices are  $\{-3\}$ -reconstructible, then the tournaments with at least  $n_0 + 2$  vertices are  $\{-3\}$ -reconstructible.*

By Theorem 17 (Section 2) and Corollary 8, we reduce the  $\{-3\}$ -reconstruction problem of tournaments to the indecomposable case between a tournament and its dual.

## 2 Preliminary results

In this section, we recall and prove some results which will be used in next sections.

First, concerning the decomposability, we recall the following notation, lemma and corollary.

**Notation 9** Given a tournament  $T = (V, A)$ , for each subset  $X$  of  $V$ , such that  $|X| \geq 3$  and  $T[X]$  is indecomposable, we associate the following subsets of  $V \setminus X$ .

- $Ext(X)$  is the set of  $x \in V \setminus X$  such that  $T[X \cup \{x\}]$  is indecomposable.
- $[X]$  is the set of  $x \in V \setminus X$  such that  $X$  is an interval of  $T[X \cup \{x\}]$ .
- For every  $u \in X$ ,  $X(u)$  is the set of  $x \in V \setminus X$  such that  $\{u, x\}$  is an interval of  $T[X \cup \{x\}]$ .

**Lemma 10** [10] Let  $T = (V, A)$  be a tournament and let  $X$  be a subset of  $V$  such that  $|X| \geq 3$  and  $T[X]$  is indecomposable. The family  $Ext(X), [X]$  and  $X(u)$  where  $u \in X$  constitutes a partition of  $V \setminus X$ . (Some elements of this family can be empty).

The next result follows from Lemma 10.

**Corollary 11** [10] Let  $T = (V, A)$  be an indecomposable tournament. If  $X$  is a subset of  $V$ , such that  $|X| \geq 3$ ,  $|V \setminus X| \geq 2$  and  $T[X]$  is indecomposable, then there are distinct  $x, y \in V \setminus X$  such that  $T[X \cup \{x, y\}]$  is indecomposable.

Second, we consider the following remark and notation.

**Remark 12 i)** Up to an isomorphism, there exist four tournaments with four vertices:  $O_4, C_4, \delta^+$  and  $\delta^-$ . In addition, both of them is decomposable.

ii) Given two  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic tournaments  $T$  and  $T'$  with the same vertex set  $V$  with  $|V| \geq 4$ ,  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $(\leq 4)$ -hypomorphic if and only if for every subset  $X$  of  $V$ , if  $T[X]$  or  $T'[X]$  is a diamond, then  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ .

iii) Consider two  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic tournaments  $T$  and  $T'$ . If  $T$  is without diamonds then  $T'$  and  $T$  are  $\{4\}$ -hypomorphic.

**Notation 13** Given a tournament  $T = (V, A)$ , a subset  $F$  of  $V$  and a tournament  $H$ , we denote by  $S(T, H; F) = \{X \subset V; F \subset X \text{ and } T[X] \sim H\}$  and  $n(T, H; F) = |S(T, H; F)|$ .

Then, we recall the following "Combinatorial Lemma" of M. Pouzet [21].

**Lemma 14** [21] Let  $p, r$  be two positive integers,  $E$  be a set of at least  $p + r$  elements and  $U, U'$  be two sets of subsets of  $p$  elements of  $E$ . If for each subset  $Q$  of  $E$  with  $|Q| = p + r$ , the number of the elements of  $U$  which

are contained in  $Q$  is equal to the number of the elements of  $U'$  which are contained in  $Q$ , then for every finite subsets  $P'$  and  $Q'$  of  $E$ , such that  $P'$  is contained in  $Q'$  and  $Q' \setminus P'$  has at least  $p + r$  elements, the number of elements of  $U$  containing  $P'$  and included in  $Q'$  is equal to the number of elements of  $U'$  containing  $P'$  and included in  $Q'$ . In particular, if  $E$  has at least  $2p + r$  elements, then  $U$  and  $U'$  are equal.

From the Combinatorial Lemma, we have the next corollaries.

**Corollary 15** [22] Consider positive integers  $n, p, h$  such that  $p < n$  and  $h \leq n - p$ , a tournament  $H$  with  $h$  vertices and two tournaments  $T$  and  $T'$  defined on the same vertex set  $V$  with  $|V| = n$ . If  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{-p\}$ -hypomorphic then for each subset  $X$  of  $V$  of at most  $p$  elements,  $n(T', H; X) = n(T, H; X)$ .

**Corollary 16** [21] Consider two tournaments  $T = (V, A)$  and  $T' = (V, A')$  and an integer  $p$  such that  $0 < p < |V|$ . If  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{p\}$ -hypomorphic, then  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{q\}$ -hypomorphic for each  $q \in \{1, \dots, \min(p, |V| - p)\}$ . In particular, if  $|V| \geq 6$  and  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic, then  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic.

Now, recall the following theorem, called the "Inversion Theorem", which was obtained by A. Boussairi, P. Ille, G. Lopez and S. Thomassé ([8],[9]).

**Theorem 17** ([8],[9]) Given an indecomposable tournament  $T$  with at least 3 vertices, the only tournaments which are  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$  are  $T$  and  $T^*$ .

The following corollary is a consequence of Theorem 17.

**Corollary 18** [9] Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic tournaments with at least 3 vertices.

- i)  $\mathcal{P}(T) = \mathcal{P}(T')$ .
- ii)  $T$  is strongly connected (resp. indecomposable) if and only if  $T'$  is strongly connected (resp. indecomposable).
- iii) If  $T$  is strongly connected, then the quotients  $T'/\mathcal{P}(T)$  and  $T/\mathcal{P}(T)$  are either equal or dual.

From this corollary, we obtain the following remark.

**Remark 19** Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic tournaments on a set  $V$  with  $|V| \geq 3$ , and  $I$  be a subset of  $V$  such that  $T[I]$  is strongly connected. If  $I$  is an interval of  $T$ , then  $I$  is an interval of  $T'$ .



Given a tournament  $T$  on a set  $V$  and a subset  $I$  of  $V$ , we denote by  $I_T^+$  (resp.  $I_T^-$ ) the set of vertices  $x \in V \setminus I$  such that  $I \longrightarrow x$  (resp.  $x \longrightarrow I$ ).

We complete this section by the following result.

**Proposition 20** *Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two tournaments on a set  $V$  with  $|V| \geq 6$ , and  $I$  be an interval of  $T$  such that  $|I| \geq 3$  and  $T[I]$  is indecomposable.*

- i) *If  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{3, -2\}$ -hypomorphic (resp.  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic) and  $|V \setminus I| \geq 2$  (resp.  $|V \setminus I| \geq 3$ ), then  $T[I] \sim T'[I]$ .*
- ii) *If  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{3, -2\}$ -hypomorphic (resp.  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic) and  $|V \setminus I| \geq 3$  (resp.  $|V \setminus I| \geq 4$ ), then  $|I_T^+| = |I_{T'}^+|$  and  $|I_T^-| = |I_{T'}^-|$ .*
- iii) *If  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic and  $|V \setminus I| \geq 4$ , then  $T[I] \sim T'[I]$ ,  $I_T^+ = I_{T'}^+$  and  $I_T^- = I_{T'}^-$ .*

**Proof.**

First, note that if  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic, then  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic (by Corollary 16). Moreover, as  $T[I]$  is indecomposable (in particular, it is strongly connected because  $|I| \geq 3$ ) and  $T[I]$  and  $T'[I]$  are  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic, then by Corollary 18,  $T'[I]$  is indecomposable and by Remark 19,  $I$  is an interval of  $T'$ .

- i) Let  $a \neq b \in I$  and  $J$  be a subset of  $V$  containing  $\{a, b\}$  such that  $T[J]$  is indecomposable and  $|I| = |J|$  and denote by  $H$  the subtournament  $T[J]$ . As  $I$  is an interval of  $T$ , then  $I \cap J$  is an interval of  $T[J]$ . However,  $\{a, b\} \subset I \cap J$  and  $T[J]$  is indecomposable, then  $I \cap J = J$  and hence  $I = J$  (because  $|I| = |J|$ ). Thus,  $I$  is the only subset  $J$  of  $V$  containing  $\{a, b\}$  such that  $T[J]$  is indecomposable and  $|J| = |I|$ . In particular  $S(T, H; \{a, b\}) = \{I\}$  and then  $n(T, H; \{a, b\}) = 1$ .  
By interchanging  $T$  and  $T'$  in the previous result,  $I$  is the only subset  $J$  of  $V$  containing  $\{a, b\}$  such that  $T'[J]$  is indecomposable and  $|I| = |J|$ . In particular,  $S(T', H; \{a, b\}) \subset \{I\}$ . Lastly, as  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{-2\}$ -hypomorphic (resp.  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic),  $|V| \geq 6$  and  $|I| \leq |V| - 2$  (resp.  $|I| \leq |V| - 3$ ), then by Corollary 15,  $n(T, H; \{a, b\}) = n(T', H; \{a, b\})$ . As  $n(T, H; \{a, b\}) = 1$ , then  $S(T', H; \{a, b\}) \neq \emptyset$  and so  $S(T', H; \{a, b\}) = \{I\}$ . Consequently,  $T'[I] \sim T[I]$ .
- ii) Let  $a \neq b \in I$  and denote by  $H$  a tournament with vertex set  $I \cup \{u\}$  (where  $u \notin I$ ) such that  $H[I] = T[I]$  and  $I \longrightarrow u$ . Clearly, if  $I_T^+ \neq \emptyset$ , then for each  $x \in I_T^+$ ,  $I \cup \{x\} \in S(T, H; \{a, b\})$ . Conversely, assume that  $S(T, H; \{a, b\}) \neq \emptyset$  and consider an element  $J$  of  $S(T, H; \{a, b\})$ . Let  $f$  be an isomorphism from  $H$  to  $T[J]$  and let  $\alpha = f(u)$ . As  $I$  is the unique non trivial interval of  $H$  and  $f(I) = J \setminus \{\alpha\}$ , then  $J \setminus \{\alpha\}$  is the unique non trivial interval of  $T[J]$ . However,  $I \cap J$  is an interval

of  $T[J]$  and  $\{a, b\} \subset I \cap J$ , then  $I \cap J = J \setminus \{\alpha\}$  and hence  $J \setminus \{\alpha\} \subset I$ . So,  $J \setminus \{\alpha\} = I$  (because  $|I| = |J \setminus \{\alpha\}|$ ). Thus,  $J = I \cup \{\alpha\}$  and  $\alpha \in I_T^+$ .

We conclude that  $S(T, H; \{a, b\}) = \{I \cup \{x\}; x \in I_T^+\}$  and hence,  $n(T, H; \{a, b\}) = |I_T^+|$ .

As  $T'[I] \sim T[I]$  (by i)), then by interchanging  $T$  and  $T'$  in the previous result, we deduce that  $n(T', H; \{a, b\}) = |I_{T'}^+|$ . Lastly, as  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $\{-2\}$ -hypomorphic (resp.  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic) and  $|I \cup \{u\}| \leq |V| - 2$  (resp.  $|I \cup \{u\}| \leq |V| - 3$ ), then by Corollary 15,  $n(T, H; \{a, b\}) = n(T', H; \{a, b\})$ . Therefore,  $|I_T^+| = |I_{T'}^+|$  and hence,  $|I_T^-| = |I_{T'}^-|$ .

- iii) By ii), we have  $|I_T^+| = |I_{T'}^+|$ . Assume now that  $I_T^+ \setminus I_{T'}^+ \neq \emptyset$  and let  $x \in I_T^+ \setminus I_{T'}^+$ . As  $I$  is an interval of  $T'$ , then  $x \in I_{T'}^-$ . The tournaments  $T-x$  and  $T'-x$  are  $\{3, -2\}$ -hypomorphic,  $|V \setminus \{x\}| \geq 6$ , and  $|(V \setminus \{x\}) \setminus I| \geq 3$ , then by ii),  $|I_{T-x}^+| = |I_{T'-x}^+|$ . However,  $|I_{T-x}^+| = |I_T^+| - 1$  and  $|I_{T'-x}^+| = |I_{T'}^+|$ ; contradiction. It follows that  $I_T^+ \subset I_{T'}^+$  and then  $I_T^+ = I_{T'}^+$ . By duality, we obtain  $I_T^- = I_{T'}^-$ . □

### 3 Proof of Theorem 4

For the tournaments without diamonds, H. Bouchaala and Y. Boudabbous [5] established the following result.

**Proposition 21** [5] *Given a tournament  $T$  without diamonds and which has at least 9 vertices,  $T$  is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual if and only if it is strongly self dual.*

We present now some results concerning tournaments embedding a diamond.

**Remark 22** *A diamond  $\delta$  has a unique non trivial interval  $I$ . Moreover,  $\delta[I]$  is a 3-cycle.*

**Lemma 23** [4] *If  $T = (V, A)$  is a tournament embedding a diamond, then each vertex of  $T$  is contained in at least one diamond of  $T$ .*

The following proposition was obtained by M. Sghiar in 2004. This result plays an important role in the proof of Theorem 4.

**Proposition 24** [24] *Let  $T$  be a tournament, with at least 8 vertices, embedding a diamond. If  $T$  has an interval of cardinality 2, then  $T$  is not  $\{-3\}$ -self dual.*

For the proof of this proposition, we need some definitions and notations. Given a tournament  $T = (V, A)$ , if  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$  is a subset of  $V$  such that  $T[X]$  is a diamond and  $T[\{a, b, c\}]$  is a 3-cycle, we say that  $X$  is a diamond of  $T$  of center  $d$  and cycle  $\{a, b, c\}$ . Let  $x \neq y \in V$ , we denote:

- $\delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^+$  (resp.  $\delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^-$ ), the number of positive (resp. negative) diamonds of  $T$  whose cycle contains  $\{x, y\}$ .
- $C_{T, \{x, y\}}$ , the set of elements  $w$  of  $V$  such that  $T[\{x, y, w\}]$  is a 3-cycle.
- $\delta_{T, \{x, y, w\}}^+$  (resp.  $\delta_{T, \{x, y, w\}}^-$ ), the number of positive (resp. negative) diamonds of  $T$  whose cycle is  $\{x, y, w\}$ , where  $w$  is an element of  $C_{T, \{x, y\}}$ .
- $D_{T, \{x\}}^+(y)$  (resp.  $D_{T, \{x\}}^-(y)$ ), the number of positive (resp. negative) diamonds of  $T$  passing by  $x$  and whose center is  $y$ .
- $D_{T, \{x, y\}}^+$  (resp.  $D_{T, \{x, y\}}^-$ ), the number of positive (resp. negative) diamonds of  $T$  passing by  $x$  and  $y$ .
- $\delta_T^+(x)$  (resp.  $\delta_T^-(x)$ ), the number of positive (resp. negative) diamonds of  $T$  whose center is  $x$ .

**Lemma 25** [24] *Let  $T = (V, A)$  be a  $\{-3\}$ -self dual tournament with at least 7 vertices. If  $T$  embeds a diamond, then every vertex of  $T$  is the center of at least one diamond of  $T$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose for a contradiction that there exists a vertex  $x$  of  $T$  such that  $\delta_T^+(x) = \delta_T^-(x) = 0$ . From Lemma 23, there exists a diamond  $\sigma$  of  $T$  containing  $x$ . By interchanging  $T$  and  $T^*$ , we can assume that  $\sigma$  is a negative diamond. Let  $y$  be the center of  $\sigma$ . So,  $D_{T, \{x\}}^-(y) \neq 0$  and  $D_{T, \{y\}}^+(x) = 0$ . If  $C_{T, \{x, y\}} = \emptyset$ , then  $\delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^+ = \delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^- = 0$ . If  $C_{T, \{x, y\}} \neq \emptyset$ , then pick  $w \in C_{T, \{x, y\}}$  and let  $X = \{x, y, w\}$ . As  $T$  and  $T^*$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic and  $|V| \geq 7$ , then from Corollary 15,  $n(T, \delta^+; X) = n(T^*, \delta^+; X)$ . So,  $n(T, \delta^+; X) = n(T, \delta^-; X)$  and hence  $\delta_{T, X}^+ = \delta_{T, X}^-$ . However,  $\delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^+ = \sum_{w \in C_{T, \{x, y\}}} \delta_{T, \{x, y, w\}}^+$  and  $\delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^- = \sum_{w \in C_{T, \{x, y\}}} \delta_{T, \{x, y, w\}}^-$ . Thus,  $\delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^+ = \delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^-$ . On the other hand, we have  $D_{T, \{x, y\}}^- = n(T, \delta^-; \{x, y\}) = n(T^*, \delta^+; \{x, y\})$ ,  $D_{T, \{x, y\}}^+ = n(T, \delta^+; \{x, y\})$  and from Corollary 15,  $n(T, \delta^+; \{x, y\}) = n(T^*, \delta^+; \{x, y\})$ , hence  $D_{T, \{x, y\}}^+ = D_{T, \{x, y\}}^-$ . However,  $D_{T, \{x, y\}}^+ = D_{T, \{y\}}^+(x) + \delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^+$ ,  $D_{T, \{x, y\}}^- = D_{T, \{x\}}^-(y) + \delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^-$  and  $\delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^+ = \delta_{T, \{x, y\}}^-$ , thus,  $D_{T, \{y\}}^+(x) = D_{T, \{x\}}^-(y)$ ; which contradicts the fact that  $D_{T, \{x\}}^-(y) \neq 0$  and  $D_{T, \{y\}}^+(x) = 0$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 26** [24] *Consider a  $\{-2\}$ -self dual (resp.  $\{-3\}$ -self dual) tournament  $T = (V, A)$  with at least 7 (resp. 8) vertices and two distinct vertices  $a, b$  of  $T$ . If  $\{a, b\}$  is an interval of  $T$  then  $\delta_T^+(a) = \delta_T^-(a)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $H$  be the tournament obtained from one positive diamond by dilating its center by a tournament with 2 vertices. Let  $\Delta_T^+(a) = \{X \subset V; T[X] \text{ is a positive diamond with center } a\}$ . Let  $X$  be an element of  $\Delta_T^+(a)$ . As  $\{a, b\}$  is an interval of  $T$ , so  $\{a, b\} \cap X$  is an interval of  $T[X]$ . Then, by Remark 22,  $b \notin X$  and  $\{a, b\}$  is an interval of  $T[X \cup \{b\}]$ . Hence,  $X \cup \{b\} \in S(T, H; \{a, b\})$ . Let's consider the map  $f : \Delta_T^+(a) \rightarrow S(T, H; \{a, b\})$  defined by: for each  $X \in \Delta_T^+(a)$ ,  $f(X) = X \cup \{b\}$ . Clearly,  $f$  is bijective and so  $\delta_T^+(a) = n(T, H; \{a, b\})$ . By interchanging  $T$  and  $T^*$ , we deduce that  $\delta_T^-(a) = \delta_{T^*}^+(a) = n(T^*, H; \{a, b\})$ . On the other hand, as  $T$  and  $T^*$  are  $\{-2\}$ -hypomorphic (resp.  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic) and  $|V| \geq 7$  (resp.  $|V| \geq 8$ ), then from Corollary 15,  $n(T, H; \{a, b\}) = n(T^*, H; \{a, b\})$ . Thus,  $\delta_T^+(a) = \delta_T^-(a)$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Proposition 24.** Assume by contradiction, that  $T$  is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual and has an interval  $\{a, b\}$  with  $a \neq b$ . By Lemma 25,  $T$  has a diamond  $T[X]$  with center  $a$ . Assume for example that  $T[X]$  is a positive diamond. Clearly,  $b \notin X$ . Consider a vertex  $x \in X \setminus \{a\}$ . As  $T - x$  (resp.  $T$ ) is  $\{-2\}$ -self dual (resp.  $\{-3\}$ -self dual) and  $\{a, b\}$  is an interval of  $T - x$  (resp.  $T$ ), then, by Lemma 26,  $\delta_{T-x}^+(a) = \delta_{T-x}^-(a)$  (resp.  $\delta_T^+(a) = \delta_T^-(a)$ ). So,  $0 = \delta_T^+(a) - \delta_T^-(a) = \delta_{T-x}^+(a) + D_{T, \{x\}}^+(a) - \delta_{T-x}^-(a) = D_{T, \{x\}}^+(a)$ ; contradiction.  $\square$

Theorem 4 is an immediate consequence of Proposition 21 and the below proposition.

**Proposition 27** *Every decomposable tournament with at least 8 vertices embedding a diamond is not  $\{-3\}$ -self dual.*

**Proof.** Let  $T = (V, A)$  be a decomposable tournament with at least 8 vertices embedding a diamond. Assume by contradiction that  $T$  is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual. By Proposition 24,  $T$  has no interval of size 2. Let  $I$  be a minimal (under the inclusion) non trivial interval of  $T$ . Clearly, the subtournament  $T[I]$  is indecomposable. And then it is strongly connected. Firstly, assume that  $|V \setminus I| \geq 4$ . Let  $z \in V \setminus I$  and suppose, for example that  $z \rightarrow I$  in  $T$ . As  $T$  and  $T^*$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic, then from Proposition 20,  $z \rightarrow I$  in  $T^*$ ; contradiction. Secondly, assume that  $|V \setminus I| \leq 3$ . Let  $k = |V \setminus I|$ . We have so  $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $|I| \geq 8 - k$ . As the subtournament  $T[I]$  is strongly connected and  $8 - k \in \{5, 6, 7\}$ , then from Lemma 1, there exists a subset

$X$  of  $I$  such that  $|X| = 4 - k$  and  $T[I] - X$  is strongly connected. Let  $Y$  be a subset of  $V \setminus I$  such that  $|Y| = k - 1$ . Clearly, the subtournament  $T - (X \cup Y)$  is not self dual; contradicts the fact that  $|X \cup Y| = 3$ .  $\square$

## 4 Proof of Theorem 6

The proof of Theorem 6 is based on the next result.

**Proposition 28** *Let  $T$  be a strongly connected and decomposable tournament on a set  $V$  with  $|V| = n \geq 9$ , which is not almost transitive. If  $T'$  is a tournament  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$ , then the following assertions hold.*

1.  $\mathcal{P}(T') = \mathcal{P}(T)$  and  $T'/\mathcal{P}(T) = T/\mathcal{P}(T)$ .
2. If there exists  $X \in \mathcal{P}(T)$  such that  $T'[X] \not\sim T[X]$ , then  $|\mathcal{P}(T)| = 3$  and  $|X| = n - 2$ .
3. If for each  $X \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ ,  $|X| \leq n - 3$ , then for each  $X \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ ,  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$  and in particular  $T' \sim T$ .

For the proof of the last proposition, we use the following remark and lemma.

**Remark 29** *Let  $T$  and  $T'$  be two tournaments on a set  $V$  with  $|V| \geq 3$  and  $\Gamma$  be a common interval partition of  $T$  and  $T'$  such that  $T/\Gamma = T'/\Gamma$ . Given a non empty subset  $A$  of  $V$  and let  $\Gamma_A = \{X \cap A; X \in \Gamma \text{ and } X \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$ . Then  $\Gamma_A$  is a common interval partition of  $T[A]$  and  $T'[A]$  and  $T[A]/\Gamma_A = T'[A]/\Gamma_A$ . Suppose that for each  $Y \in \Gamma_A$ , there exists an isomorphism  $\varphi_Y$  from  $T[Y]$  onto  $T'[Y]$  and consider the map  $f : A \rightarrow A$  defined by: for each  $x \in A$ ,  $f(x) = \varphi_Y(x)$  where  $Y$  is the unique element of  $\Gamma_A$  such that  $x \in Y$ . Then,  $f$  is an isomorphism from  $T[A]$  onto  $T'[A]$ . In particular, if for each  $X \in \Gamma$ ,  $T[X]$  and  $T'[X]$  are hereditarily isomorphic, then  $T$  and  $T'$  are hereditarily isomorphic.*

**Lemma 30** [3] *Let  $T = (V, A)$  and  $T' = (V', A')$  be two isomorphic tournaments,  $f$  be an isomorphism from  $T$  onto  $T'$ ,  $i \in V$  and  $R_i$  (resp.  $R'_i$ ) be a tournament defined on a vertex set  $I_i$  (resp.  $I'_i$ ) disjoint from  $V$  (resp.  $V'$ ). Let  $R$  (resp.  $R'$ ) be the tournament obtained from  $T$  (resp.  $T'$ ) by dilating the vertex  $i$  (resp.  $f(i)$ ) by  $R_i$  (resp.  $R'_i$ ). Then  $R \sim R'$  if and only if  $R_i \sim R'_i$ .*

Note that this lemma is a simple generalization of a result communicated by A. Boussaïri, and on which  $V' = V$  and  $f = id_V$ .

**Proof of Proposition 28.**

1. By Corollary 16,  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic. So, from Corollary 18,  $\mathcal{P}(T) = \mathcal{P}(T')$  and  $T'/\mathcal{P}(T) = T/\mathcal{P}(T)$  or  $T'/\mathcal{P}(T) = T^*/\mathcal{P}(T)$ . Assume by contradiction that  $T'/\mathcal{P}(T) = T^*/\mathcal{P}(T)$ . In this case, we are going to show that for every  $X \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ ,  $T[X]$  is transitive, and thus by Remark 29,  $T'$  is hereditarily isomorphic to  $T^*$ . Since  $T'$  is  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$ , then  $T$  is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual. By Theorem 4, the tournament  $T$  is almost transitive; which contradicts the hypothesis. For that, proceed by contradiction and consider an element  $X$  of  $\mathcal{P}(T)$  and a subset  $\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}$  of  $X$  such that  $T[\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}]$  is a 3-cycle. As  $T$  is strongly connected, there is  $a \in V \setminus X$  such that  $X \rightarrow a$ . From Corollary 15,  $n(T, \delta^+; \{\alpha, \beta, a\}) = n(T', \delta^+; \{\alpha, \beta, a\})$ . Moreover,  $n(T, \delta^+; \{\alpha, \beta, a\}) \neq 0$ , because  $T[\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, a\}] \sim \delta^+$ , then there exists a subset  $K$  of  $V$  such that  $\{\alpha, \beta, a\} \subset K$  and  $T'[K] \sim \delta^+$ . Hence,  $|K \cap X| = 3$ , because otherwise  $K \cap X$  is an interval with two elements of  $T'[K]$ ; which contradicts Remark 22. So,  $T'[K]$  is written:  $(K \cap X) \leftarrow a$ ; which contradicts the fact that  $T'[K] \sim \delta^+$ .
2. By 1, we have  $\mathcal{P}(T') = \mathcal{P}(T)$  and  $T'/\mathcal{P}(T) = T/\mathcal{P}(T)$ . We distinguish the following two cases.

- If for every  $X \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ ,  $|X| \leq n - |\mathcal{P}(T)| - 2$ .  
 Let  $X \in \mathcal{P}(T)$  and let  $H$  be the tournament obtained from  $T/\mathcal{P}(T)$  by dilating the vertex  $X$  by  $T[X]$ . Assume that  $|X| \geq 2$  and consider a subset  $A$  of  $X$  with 2 elements. Consider a subset  $B$  of  $V$  containing  $X$  such that:  $\forall Y \in \mathcal{P}(T) \setminus \{X\}, |B \cap Y| = 1$ . Clearly,  $B \in S(T, H; A)$  and hence  $n(T, H; A) \neq \emptyset$ . From Corollary 15,  $n(T', H; A) = n(T, H; A)$ , then  $n(T', H; A) \neq 0$ . So, there exists a subset  $K$  of  $V$  such that:  $A \subset K$  and  $T'[K] \sim H$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}(T'[K])$  have a unique element  $J$  non reduced to a singleton. Clearly,  $T'[J] \sim T[X]$ , in particular,  $|J| = |X|$ .  
 Let  $P_1 = \{Y \in \mathcal{P}(T); |Y \cap K| \geq 2\}$  and  $P_2 = \{Y \in \mathcal{P}(T); |Y \cap K| = 1\}$ . The set  $K$  is the union of the two disjoint sets  $K_1 = \bigcup_{Y \in P_1} K \cap Y$  and  $K_2 = \bigcup_{Y \in P_2} K \cap Y$ . As  $A \subset X \cap K$ , then  $X \in P_1$  and so,  $P_2 \subset (\mathcal{P}(T) \setminus \{X\})$ , in particular,  $|P_2| \leq |\mathcal{P}(T)| - 1$ . For all  $Y \in P_1$ ,  $Y \cap K$  is a non trivial interval of  $T'[K]$ , then  $Y \cap K \subset J$ , so  $K_1 \subset J$  and thus  $(K \setminus J) \subset K_2$ .  
 Thus,  $|\mathcal{P}(T)| - 1 = |K \setminus J| \leq \sum_{Y \in P_2} |K \cap Y| = |P_2| \leq |\mathcal{P}(T)| - 1$ .  
 So,  $|P_2| = |\mathcal{P}(T)| - 1$  and then  $P_2 = \mathcal{P}(T) \setminus \{X\}$  and  $P_1 = \{X\}$ .  
 Thus,  $K = (X \cap K) \cup K_2$ . So,  $|X \cap K| = |K| - |K_2| = |K| - |P_2| = |K| - |\mathcal{P}(T)| + 1 = |J|$ . As in addition

$X \cap K \subset J$ , then,  $X \cap K = J$ . So,  $J \subset X$  and then  $J = X$  because  $|J| = |X|$ . Consequently,  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ .

- If there exists an element  $X$  of  $\mathcal{P}(T)$  such that  $|X| > n - |\mathcal{P}(T)| - 2$ .

In this case, it is clear that for every  $Y \in \mathcal{P}(T) \setminus \{X\}$ ,  $|Y| \leq 3$ , so  $T'[Y]$  and  $T[Y]$  are hereditarily isomorphic. Suppose that  $|V \setminus X| \geq 3$ . Let  $x$  be an element of  $X$  and  $B$  be a subset of  $V \setminus X$  such that  $|B| = 3$ . Denote by  $V_{(x,B)}$  the set  $(V \setminus (X \cup B)) \cup \{x\}$  and by  $T_{(x,B)}$  (resp.  $T'_{(x,B)}$ ) the subtournament  $T[V_{(x,B)}]$  (resp.  $T'[V_{(x,B)}]$ ). The tournament  $T - B$  (resp.  $T' - B$ ) is obtained from the tournament  $T_{(x,B)}$  (resp.  $T'_{(x,B)}$ ) by dilating the vertex  $x$  by  $T[X]$  (resp.  $T'[X]$ ). Moreover, by Remark 29, there exists an isomorphism  $g$  from  $T_{(x,B)}$  onto  $T'_{(x,B)}$  such that  $g(x) = x$ . As in addition,  $T - B$  and  $T' - B$  are isomorphic, then, from Lemma 30,  $T'[X]$  is isomorphic to  $T[X]$ ; which permits to conclude.

3. Is a direct consequence of 2.

□

**Lemma 31** *Every strongly connected and decomposable tournament, which has 8 vertices, is  $\{-2, -3\}$ -reconstructible.*

**Proof.** Let  $H$  be a strongly connected and decomposable tournament defined on a vertex set  $X$  with  $|X| = 8$  and let  $H'$  be a tournament  $\{-2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $H$ . The tournaments  $H$  and  $H'$  are  $\{3\}$ -hypomorphic, by Corollary 16, so they are  $\{3, 5, 6\}$ -hypomorphic. Besides, by Corollary 18,  $\mathcal{P}(H) = \mathcal{P}(H')$ , and  $H'/\mathcal{P}(H) = H/\mathcal{P}(H)$  or  $H'/\mathcal{P}(H) = H^*/\mathcal{P}(H)$ . Let's put  $Q = \mathcal{P}(H)$ , and discuss according to its cardinal.

- If  $|Q| > 3$ .

If for every  $Z \in Q$ ,  $|Z| \leq 3$ . By  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphy,  $H'[Z] \sim H[Z]$ ;  $\forall Z \in Q$ . If  $H'/Q = H/Q$ , clearly  $H' \sim H$ . Suppose hence that  $H'/Q = H^*/Q$ . In this case,  $H'$  is hereditarily isomorphic to  $H^*$ . Then,  $H$  is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual. From Proposition 27,  $H$  is without diamonds. By Remark 12, iii),  $H$  is  $\{4\}$ -self dual. Thus,  $H$  is  $\{4, 5, 6\}$ -self dual. So,  $H$  is  $(\leq 6)$ -self dual and it is thus self dual, by the  $(\leq 6)$ -reconstruction of tournaments with at least 6 vertices [17]. It follows that  $H' \sim H$ .

If there exists  $Y \in Q$  such that  $|Y| \geq 4$ . In this case, as  $|X| = 8$ ,  $|Q| > 3$  and every tournament with 4 vertices is decomposable, then  $|Q| = 5$ ,  $|Y| = 4$  and for every  $Z \in Q \setminus \{Y\}$ ,  $|Z| = 1$ .

- If  $H'/Q = H/Q$ . For  $z \in X \setminus Y$ , as  $|Y \cup \{z\}| = |X| - 3$ , then,  $H[Y \cup \{z\}] \sim H'[Y \cup \{z\}]$ . It follows that  $H'[Y] \sim H[Y]$ , and then  $H' \sim H$ .
- If  $H'/Q = H^*/Q$ .
  - \* If  $H[Y]$  is not a diamond. In this case, clearly  $H'[Y]$  is hereditarily isomorphic to  $H^*[Y]$  and hence  $H'$  and  $H^*$  are hereditarily isomorphic. As  $H'$  is  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $H$ , then  $H$  is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual. From Proposition 27,  $H$  is then without diamonds, and it is clearly self dual and thus,  $H' \sim H$ .
  - \* If  $H[Y]$  is a diamond. In this case, if  $H'[Y]$  is not isomorphic to  $H[Y]$ , then  $H'$  is hereditarily isomorphic to  $H^*$  and so,  $H$  is  $\{-3\}$ -self dual; which contradicts Proposition 27. So,  $H'[Y] \sim H[Y]$ . For  $z \in X \setminus Y$ , it is easy to verify that  $H'[Y \cup \{z\}]$  is not isomorphic to  $H[Y \cup \{z\}]$ ; which contradicts the  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphy between  $H'$  and  $H$ .

• If  $|Q| = 3$ . We distinguish the following two sub-cases.

- If there exists an unique  $Y \in Q$  such that  $|Y| > 1$ .  
In this case,  $Q$  is written:  $Q = \{\{a\}, \{b\}, Y\}$  where  $|Y| = 6$  and  $a \rightarrow Y \rightarrow b$  in  $H$ . As  $|Y| = 6$ , we have:  $H'[Y] \sim H[Y]$  by  $\{-2\}$ -hypomorphy. Thus,  $H' \sim H$ .
- If there are  $Y \neq Z \in Q$  such that  $\min(|Y|, |Z|) > 1$ .  
In this case, we can write:  $Q = \{Y_1, Y_2, Y_3\}$  with:  $|Y_3| \leq |Y_2| \leq |Y_1|$ ,  $|Y_2| \geq 2$  and  $|Y_1| \geq 3$ . By considering a subset  $A_1$  (resp.  $A_2$ ) with 3 (resp. 2) elements of  $Y_1$  (resp.  $Y_2$ ) and an element  $y_3$  of  $Y_3$ , we see that the isomorphism between  $H[A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \{y_3\}]$  and  $H'[A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \{y_3\}]$  requires that:  $H'/Q = H/Q$ . So, if  $|Y_1| = 3$ , then for every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $H'[Y_i] \sim H[Y_i]$  and then  $H' \sim H$ . Suppose thus that  $|Y_1| \geq 4$ . As  $|X| = 8$ , then  $|Y_1| \in \{4, 5\}$  and  $|Y_2| \leq 3$ . By considering an element  $y_2$  of  $Y_2$ , we see that the isomorphism between  $H[Y_1 \cup \{y_2\}]$  and  $H'[Y_1 \cup \{y_2\}]$  requires the isomorphism between  $H'[Y_1]$  and  $H[Y_1]$ . It follows that  $H' \sim H$ .

□

**Proof of Theorem 6.** Consider a decomposable tournament  $T$  defined on a vertex set  $V$  with  $|V| = n \geq 9$ , a tournament  $T'$   $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic to  $T$ . By Corollary 16,  $T'$  is  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic to  $T$ . So, from Corollary 18,  $\mathcal{P}(T) = \mathcal{P}(T')$ . In particular, if  $T$  is strongly connected, then  $\tilde{P}(T) = \tilde{P}(T')$ .



If  $T$  is almost transitive, then clearly  $T' \sim T$ . Let's suppose that  $T$  is not almost transitive. For the proof, we distinguish the following two cases.

\*  $T$  is strongly connected.

In this case, from Proposition 28,  $T'/\mathcal{P}(T) = T/\mathcal{P}(T)$  and we can suppose that  $|\mathcal{P}(T)| = 3$  and there exists  $X \in \mathcal{P}(T)$  such that  $|X| = n - 2$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}(T) = \{X, \{a\}, \{b\}\}$  where  $X \rightarrow a \rightarrow b \rightarrow X$  in  $T$ . We verify easily that  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic (because  $T'$  and  $T$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic). We consider the following three cases.

- $T[X]$  is non-strongly connected.

As the tournaments  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1\}$ -hypomorphic, then they are isomorphic, since the non-strongly connected tournaments with at least 5 vertices are  $\{-1\}$ -reconstructible [13].

- $T[X]$  is strongly connected and decomposable.

Let  $Q = \mathcal{P}(T[X])$ . Assume that there exists  $Y \in Q$  such that  $|Y| = |X| - 2$ . In this case, we have  $|Q| = 3$  and  $T[X]/Q$  is a 3-cycle. Moreover, as  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic, then by Corollary 18,  $\mathcal{P}(T'[X]) = \mathcal{P}(T[X])$  and  $T'[X]/\mathcal{P}(T[X]) = T[X]/\mathcal{P}(T[X])$  or  $T'[X]/\mathcal{P}(T[X]) = T^*[X]/\mathcal{P}(T[X])$ . As in addition,  $T'[Y] \sim T[Y]$  (because  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2\}$ -hypomorphic), then  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ . Thus, clearly  $T' \sim T$ .

Now, suppose that for every  $Y \in Q$ ,  $|Y| < |X| - 2$ . In this case,  $T[X]$  is not almost transitive. If  $|X| \geq 9$ , as  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic, then by Proposition 28,  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$  and hence, clearly  $T' \sim T$ . If  $|X| = 7$ . As  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic, then they are  $(\leq 6)$ -hypomorphic, and thus  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$  (by [17]). If  $|X| = 8$ . As  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic, then, by Lemma 31,  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ .

- If  $T[X]$  is indecomposable.

In this case, from Theorem 17,  $T'[X] = T[X]$  or  $T'[X] = T^*[X]$  (because  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic). If  $T'[X] = T[X]$ , then clearly  $T' \sim T$ . If  $T'[X] = T^*[X]$ , then  $T[X]$  is  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -self dual (because  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic). We obtain: If  $T[X]$  is self dual, then  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$  and clearly  $T' \sim T$ . If  $T[X]$  is not self dual, then  $T \in C_3(I_{n-2, \{-1, -2, -3\}}) \subset \Omega_n$  and clearly  $T' \not\sim T$ .

\*  $T$  is non-strongly connected.

Observe that if  $T$  is a transitive tournament, then  $T'$  is also transitive (by  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphy) and the result is obvious. Suppose then that

$T$  is a non-strongly connected tournament which is not transitive. The result follows from the following five facts.

**Fact 1.** Let  $X$  be an element of  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$  such that  $T[X]$  is strongly connected with  $|X| \geq 3$  and let  $a$  be an element of  $V \setminus X$ . As  $\mathcal{P}(T') = \mathcal{P}(T)$ , then  $T'[X]$  is strongly connected,  $X \in \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T')$  and we have:  
 $a \rightarrow X$  in  $T$  if and only if  $a \rightarrow X$  in  $T'$ .

Indeed :

Let  $\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}$  be a subset of  $X$  such that  $T[\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\}]$  is a 3-cycle and suppose, for example, that  $X \rightarrow a$  in  $T$ . From Corollary 15,  $n(T, \delta^+; \{\alpha, \beta, a\}) = n(T', \delta^+; \{\alpha, \beta, a\})$ . As  $n(T, \delta^+; \{\alpha, \beta, a\}) \neq 0$ , thus there exists a subset  $K$  of  $V$  such that  $\{\alpha, \beta, a\} \subset K$  and  $T'[K] \sim \delta^+$ . Hence,  $|K \cap X| = 3$ , because otherwise  $K \cap X$  is an interval with two elements of  $T'[K]$ ; which contradicts Remark 22. As  $a \in V \setminus X$  and  $K \setminus \{a\} \subset X$ , then  $K \setminus \{a\}$  is an interval of  $T'[K]$  and thus  $T'[K]$  is a diamond of center  $a$ . So,  $X \rightarrow a$  in  $T'$ .

**Fact 2.**  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T') = \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$ .

Indeed :

Consider an element  $Y$  of  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$ . We distinguish the following two cases.

- If  $T[Y]$  is strongly connected and  $|Y| \geq 3$ . In this case,  $Y \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ . Then  $Y \in \mathcal{P}(T')$  and hence,  $Y \in \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T')$ .
- If  $T[Y]$  is a transitive. In this case, there exists an element  $Z$  of  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T')$  such that  $Y \subset Z$ , because otherwise,  $Y$  admits a partition  $\{Y_1, Y_2\}$  such that there is  $K \in \mathcal{P}(T')$  with  $|K| \geq 3$ ,  $T'[K]$  is strongly connected and in  $T'$  we have  $Y_1 \rightarrow K \rightarrow Y_2$ ; which contradicts the Fact 1. While exchanging the roles of  $T$  and  $T'$ , we can hence deduce that  $Y = Z$  and then,  $Y \in \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T')$ .

**Fact 3.**  $T'/\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T) = T/\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$ .

Indeed:

Proceed by the absurd and suppose that there exist two distinct elements  $X$  and  $Y$  of  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$  such that  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $T$  and  $Y \rightarrow X$  in  $T'$ . From the Fact 1,  $T[X]$  and  $T[Y]$  are transitive. So,  $X$  and  $Y$  are not consecutive in  $T/\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$ . Thus, there exists an element  $Z$  of  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$  such that  $T[Z]$  is strongly connected,  $|Z| \geq 3$  and  $X \rightarrow Z \rightarrow Y$  in  $T$ . So, by Fact 1,  $X \rightarrow Z \rightarrow Y$  in  $T'$  and then  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $T'$ ; which is absurd.

**Fact 4.** If  $T \notin \Omega_n$ , then for all  $X \in \widetilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$ ,  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ .

Indeed:

Suppose that  $T \notin \Omega_n$  and consider an element  $X$  of  $\widetilde{\mathcal{P}}(T)$ . As  $T$  and  $T'$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic, we can assume that  $|X| \geq 4$  and  $T[X]$  is strongly connected.

We distinguish the following cases.

- If  $|X| \leq n - 3$ .

Consider  $H = T[X]$  and  $A \subset X$  such that  $|A| = 2$ . From Corollary 15,  $n(T, H; A) = n(T', H; A)$ . As  $n(T, H; A) \neq 0$ , then  $n(T', H; A) \neq 0$ . So, there exists a subset  $K$  of  $V$  such that  $A \subset K$  and  $T'[K] \sim H$ . We have then  $K = X$ , because otherwise, there exists  $Y \in \widetilde{\mathcal{P}}(T) \setminus \{X\}$  such that  $K \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  and hence  $T'[K]$  is non-strongly connected (because  $K \cap X$  is also non empty); which is absurd. So,  $T'[X] \sim H = T[X]$ .

- If  $|X| = n - 1$ .

Let  $\{a\} = V \setminus X$  and suppose, for example, that  $X \rightarrow a$  in  $T$ . As  $|X| - 2 = n - 3$ , then  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2\}$ -hypomorphic. Now we shall prove that these two tournaments are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic. For that, consider a subset  $A$  of  $X$  such that  $|A| = 3$ . It is clear that  $T' - A$  and  $T - A$  are isomorphic and in these two tournaments, we have  $(X \setminus A) \rightarrow a$ . So,  $T'[X \setminus A] \sim T[X \setminus A]$ . Hence,  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphic. So,  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic.

– If  $T[X]$  is decomposable. Let  $Q = \mathcal{P}(T[X])$ . If there exists  $Y \in Q$  such that  $|Y| = |X| - 2$ . In this case,  $|Q| = 3$  and  $T[X]/Q$  is a 3-cycle. As  $|Y| = n - 3$ , then  $T'[Y] \sim T[Y]$ . As in addition,  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic, then, by Corollary 18,  $\mathcal{P}(T'[X]) = Q$  and  $T'[X]/Q = T[X]/Q$  or  $T'[X]/Q = T^*[X]/Q$ . So we deduce immediately that  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ . Now suppose that for every  $Y \in Q$ ,  $|Y| < |X| - 2$ . In this case,  $T[X]$  is not almost transitive. Distinguish the following two cases. If  $|X| \geq 9$ . In this case, by applying Proposition 28 for the tournaments  $T[X]$  and  $T'[X]$ , we obtain  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ . If  $|X| = 8$ . As  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic, then, by Lemma 31,  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ .

– If  $T[X]$  is indecomposable. We have  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic. So, by Theorem 17,  $T'[X] = T[X]$  or  $T'[X] = T^*[X]$ . Consider then the case where  $T'[X] = T^*[X]$ . If  $T[X]$  is self dual, then  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ . Suppose

hence that  $T[X]$  is not self dual. As  $T[X]$  is  $\{-2, -3\}$ -self dual (because  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic), then  $T \in O_2(I_{n-1, \{-2, -3\}}) \subset \Omega_n$ ; which is absurd.

- If  $|X| = n - 2$ .  
 Let  $\{a, b\} = V \setminus X$  and suppose, for example, that  $X \rightarrow a$  in  $T$ . As  $|X| - 1 = n - 3$ , then  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1\}$ -hypomorphic. Now, we shall prove that  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic. For that, for every  $i \in \{2, 3\}$ , let  $A_i$  be a subset of  $X$  such that  $|A_i| = i$ . We have  $T - (A_2 \cup \{a\}) \sim T' - (A_2 \cup \{a\})$ . From Fact 3,  $(X \setminus A_2) \rightarrow b$  in  $T$  if and only if  $(X \setminus A_2) \rightarrow b$  in  $T'$ . So,  $T'[X \setminus A_2] \sim T[X \setminus A_2]$  and thus,  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-2\}$ -hypomorphic. Furthermore, as  $T' - A_3 \sim T - A_3$ , then by Fact 3, we can see that  $T'[X \setminus A_3] \sim T[X \setminus A_3]$ . So,  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic.
  - If  $T[X]$  is decomposable. Pose  $Q = \mathcal{P}(T[X])$ . If there exists  $Y \in Q$  such that  $|Y| = |X| - 2$ . In this case,  $|Q| = 3$  and  $T[X]/Q$  is a 3-cycle. Besides, by  $\{-3\}$ -hypomorphy, the two subtournaments  $T'[Y \cup \{a\}]$  and  $T[Y \cup \{a\}]$  are isomorphic (because  $|Y \cup \{a\}| = n - 3$ ). As in addition,  $Y \rightarrow a$  in both these tournaments, then  $T'[Y] \sim T[Y]$ . As in addition,  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic, then, by Corollary 18, we can see that  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ . Now, suppose that for every  $Y \in Q$ ,  $|Y| < |X| - 2$ . In this case,  $T[X]$  is not almost transitive. We distinguish the following three cases.
    - If  $|X| \geq 9$ , we conclude by Proposition 28.
    - If  $|X| = 8$ , we conclude by Lemma 31.
    - If  $|X| = 7$ , as  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic, then they are  $(\leq 6)$ -hypomorphic and hence  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ .
  - If  $T[X]$  is indecomposable. As  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $(\leq 3)$ -hypomorphic, then from Theorem 17,  $T'[X] = T[X]$  or  $T'[X] = T^*[X]$ . Consider then the case where  $T'[X] = T^*[X]$ . If  $T[X]$  is self dual, then  $T'[X] \sim T[X]$ . Suppose now that  $T[X]$  is not self dual. As in addition  $T[X]$  is  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -self dual (because  $T'[X]$  and  $T[X]$  are  $\{-1, -2, -3\}$ -hypomorphic), hence the tournament  $T$  belongs to  $O_3(I_{n-2, \{-1, -2, -3\}})$  and then to  $\Omega_n$ ; which is absurd.

**Fact 5.** If  $T \in \Omega_n$ , then  $T' \not\sim T$ .

This fact is an immediate consequence of facts 2 and 3.

□

We shall now prove Corollary 8. Before that let us observe that Corollary 7 is an immediate consequence of Theorem 6 because each element  $T$  of  $\Omega_n$  (where  $n \geq 9$ ) has an interval  $X$  such that  $T[X]$  is indecomposable and  $|X| \in \{n-1, n-2\}$ .

**Proof of Corollary 8.** Suppose that there exists an integer  $n_0 \geq 7$  such that the indecomposable tournaments with at least  $n_0$  vertices are  $\{-3\}$ -reconstructible and consider a tournament  $T$  with  $n \geq n_0 + 2$  vertices. Then, the classes  $I_{n-2, \{-3\}}$  and  $I_{n-1, \{-3\}}$  are empty. So, the classes  $I_{n-2, \{-1, -2, -3\}}$  and  $I_{n-1, \{-2, -3\}}$  are empty. Thus,  $\Omega_n$  is empty and then  $T \notin \Omega_n$ . By Theorem 6, the tournament  $T$  is then  $\{-3\}$ -reconstructible. □

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