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Florian Block*, Department of Mathematics, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720, and **Diane Maclagan** (d.maclagan@warwick.ac.uk), Mathematics Institute, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL, United Kingdom. *A Tropical Approach to Computing Effective Cones*. Preliminary report.

Hyperplane complements can be compactified (by a succession of blow-ups) in a “wonderful” way, as introduced by DeConcini and Procesi. We study the effective cones of these wonderful compactifications. In particular, we give an algorithm to compute the effective cones in terms of tropical geometry and the underlying matroid of the hyperplane arrangement. Examples include the moduli space of genus 0 curves and the blow-up of the plane at n points. (Received September 04, 2012)