

# Outline of the talk

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Stochastic embedding into trees
- 3 Distance Oracle
- 4 Group Steiner Tree
- 5 Conclusion
- 6 Appendix

# Metric Embeddings into Trees

Arnold Filtser  
Bar-Ilan University

May 06, 2024

## Metric space

A metric space is an ordered pair  $(X, d_X)$ , where  $X$  is a set and  $d_X : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  is a function such that:

- ① **Identity:**  $\forall x, y \in X, d_X(x, y) = 0 \iff x = y.$
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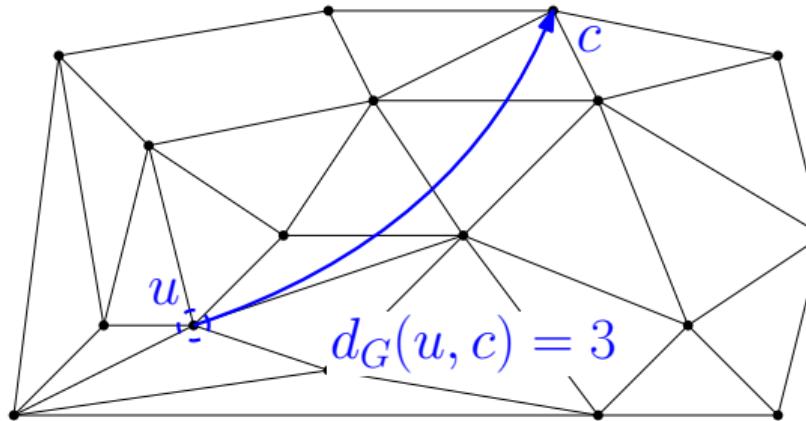
Examples:

- Weighted graph  $G = (V, E, w)$  with shortest path distance.

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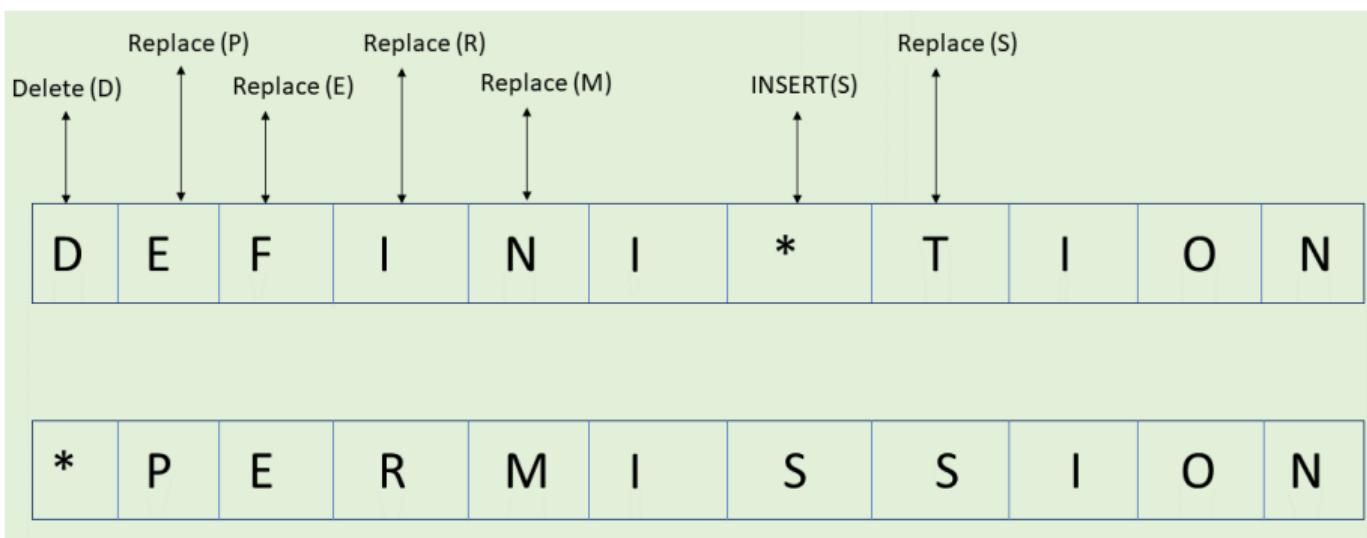


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- Euclidean space  $\ell_2$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ :  $d_{\ell_2}(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \|\vec{x} - \vec{y}\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^d (x_i - y_i)^2}.$

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 8 \\ -3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 10 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\|_2 = \sqrt{\underbrace{|5 - 1|^2}_{16} + \underbrace{|8 - 10|^2}_4 + \underbrace{|(-3) - 1|^2}_{16} + \underbrace{|4 - 1|^2}_9 + \underbrace{|1 - 3|^2}_4} = 7$$

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Many problems are defined w.r.t. metric spaces. Examples:

- Metric TSP.
- $k$ -center.
- Steiner tree.

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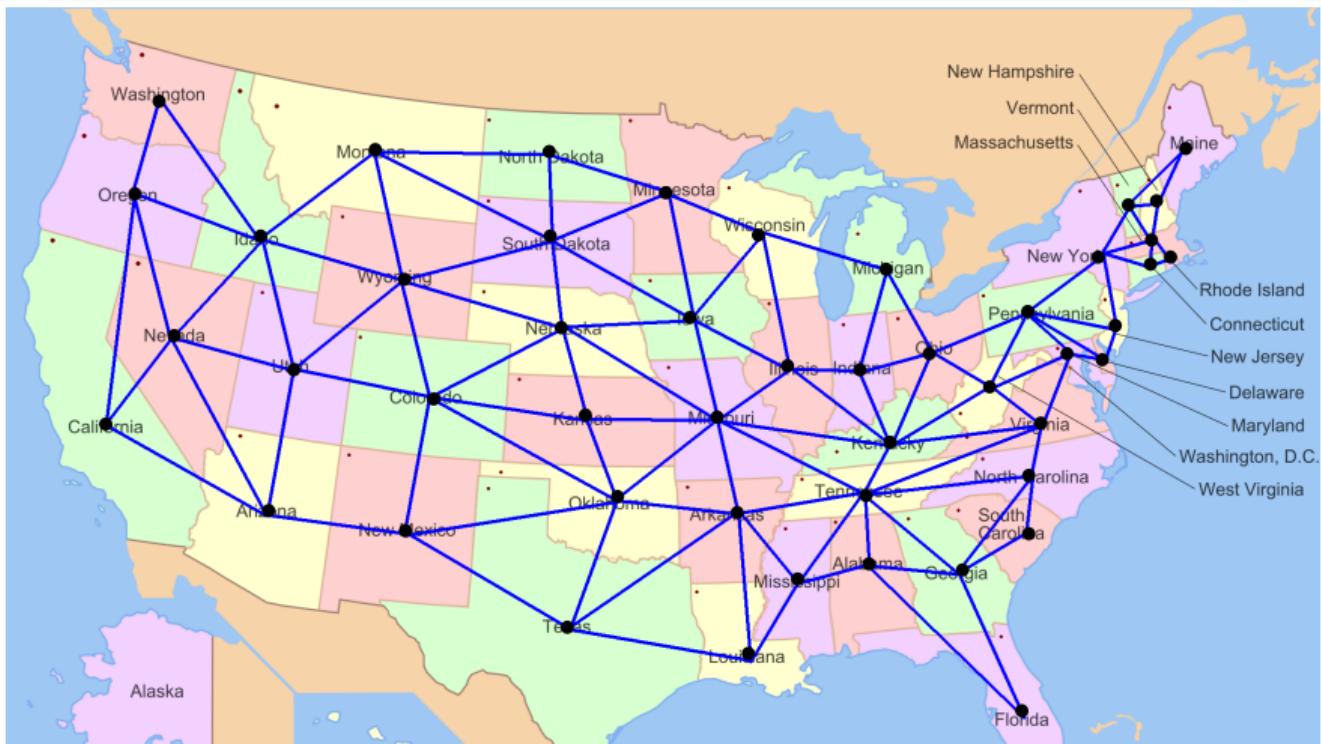
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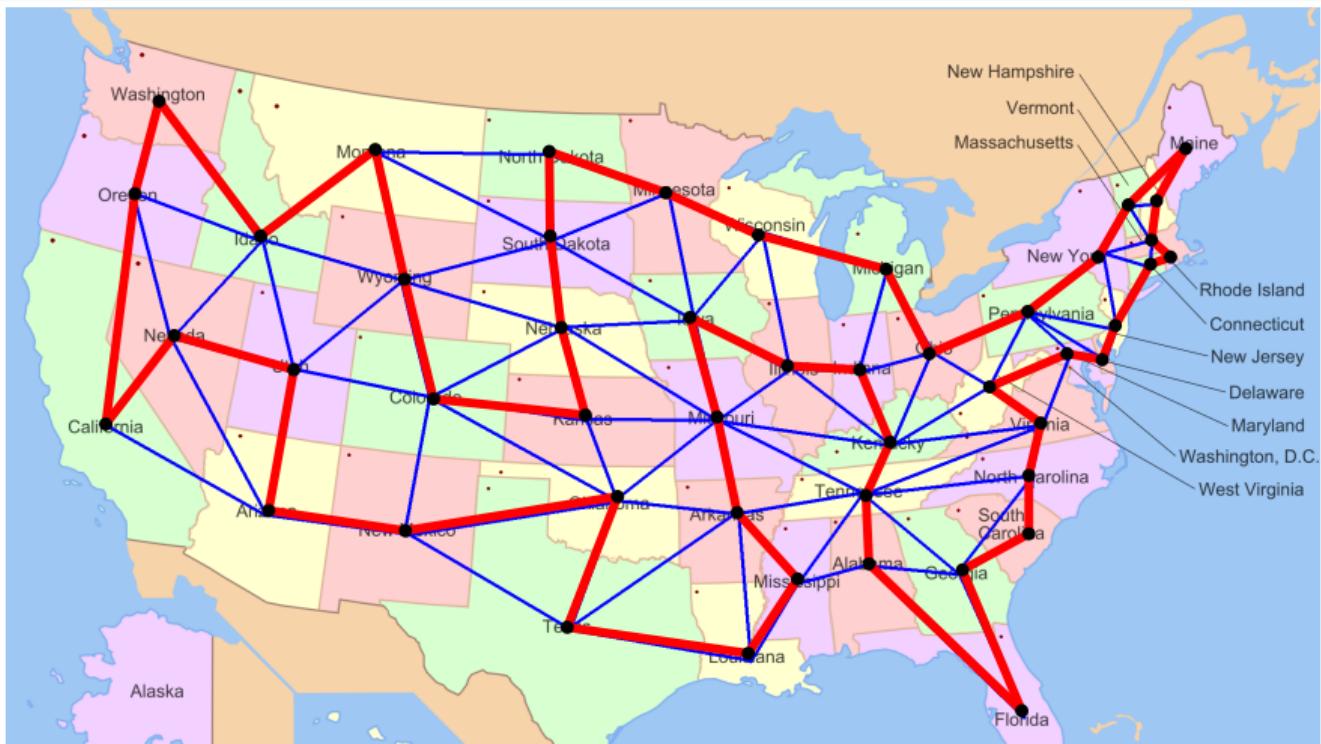
## Definition (Travelling salesman problem (TSP))

Given a metric space  $(X, d_X)$  find a permutation  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}$  of the points in  $X$  minimizing  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} d_X(x_i, x_{i+1})$  (i.e. a Hamilton cycle of minimum weight).



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Often these problems are NP-hard.

**NP-hard:** a large class of equivalent problems (i.e. if you solved one-you solved all) for which we don't know of any efficient algorithms. It is generally believed that there are no efficient algorithms for these problems.

## Theorem (Karp's list of 21 problems [Karp72])

The following problems are NP-Complete:

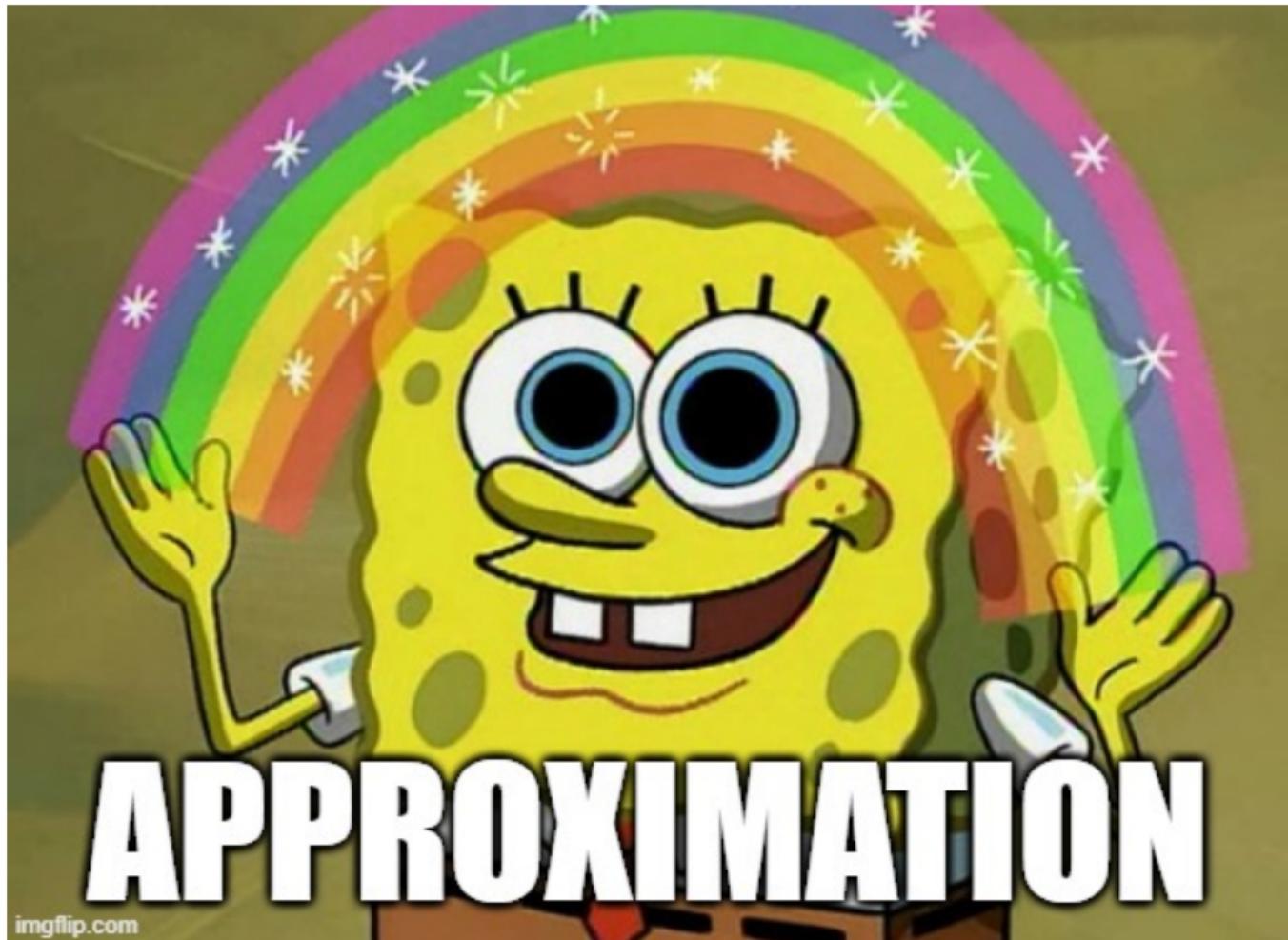
- |                                  |                                      |                                 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ① <i>SAT</i>                     | ⑧ <i>Feedback arc set</i>            | ⑯ <i>Hitting set</i>            |
| ② <i>0–1 integer programming</i> | ⑨ <i>Directed Hamilton circuit</i>   | ⑰ <i>Steiner tree</i>           |
| ③ <i>Clique</i>                  | ⑩ <i>Undirected Hamilton circuit</i> | ⑱ <i>3-dimensional matching</i> |
| ④ <i>Set packing</i>             | ⑪ <i>3-SAT</i>                       | ⑲ <i>Knapsack</i>               |
| ⑤ <i>Vertex cover</i>            | ⑫ <i>Chromatic number</i>            | ⑳ <i>Job sequencing</i>         |
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How should we cope with NP-hard problems?

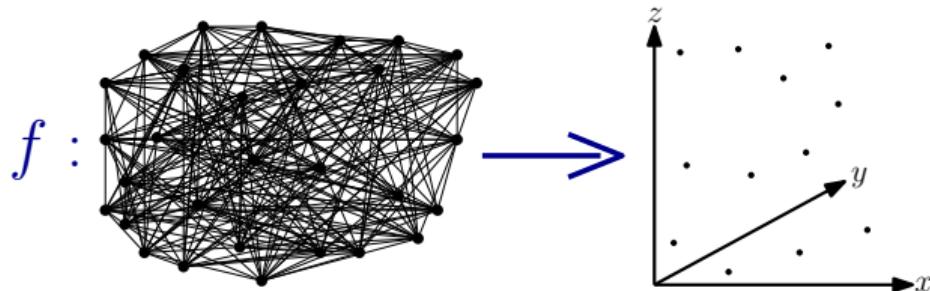


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$(X, d_X), (Y, d_Y)$  metric spaces.

$f : (X, d_X) \rightarrow (Y, d_Y)$  is called an **embedding**.

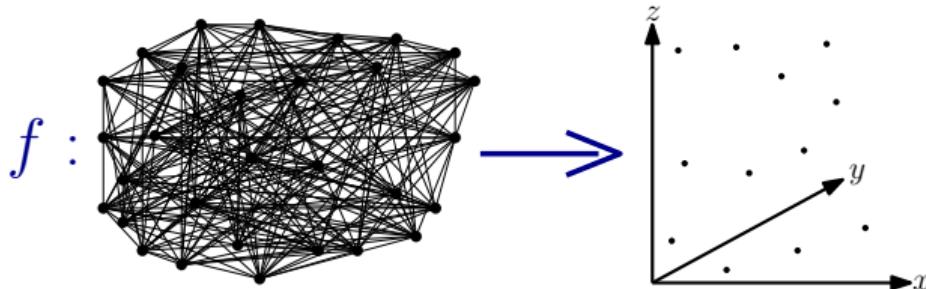


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Preserve (approximately) properties of the original space:

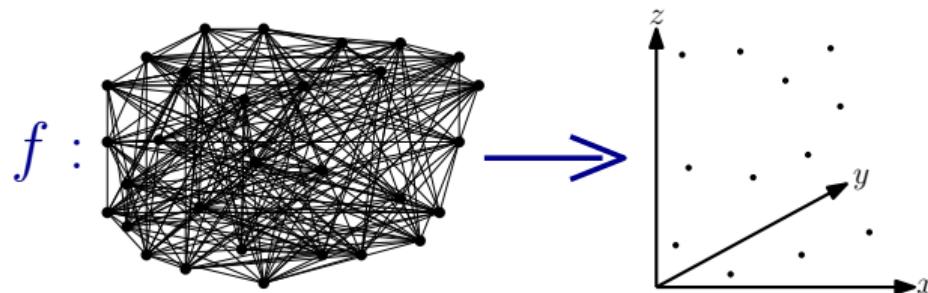
- Distances
- Cuts, Flows
- Commute time
- Effective resistance
- Clustering statistics.
- etc.

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$f$  has **distortion  $t$**  if:

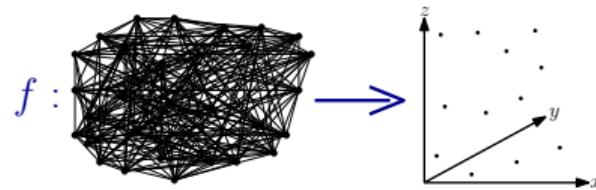
$$\forall x, y \in X, \quad d_X(x, y) \leq d_Y(f(x), f(y)) \leq t \cdot d_X(x, y).$$

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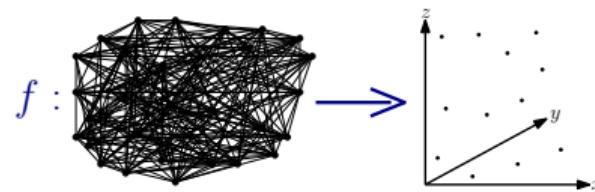
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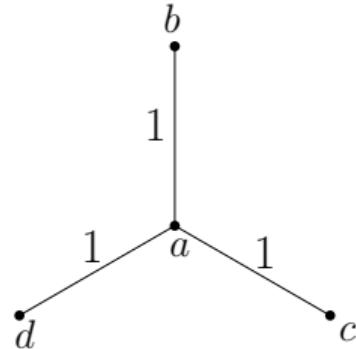
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So that we could run efficient algorithms on it...

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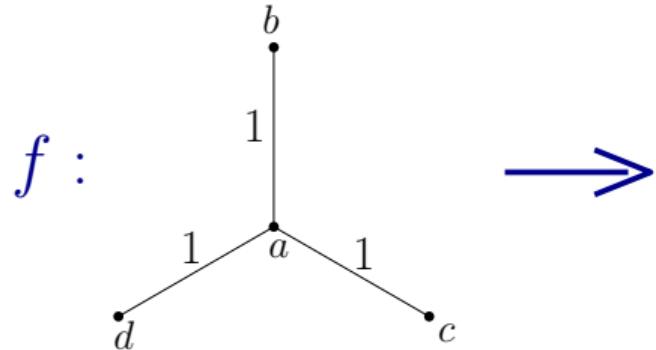
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$a$	1	1	1	1
$b$	1	2	2	2
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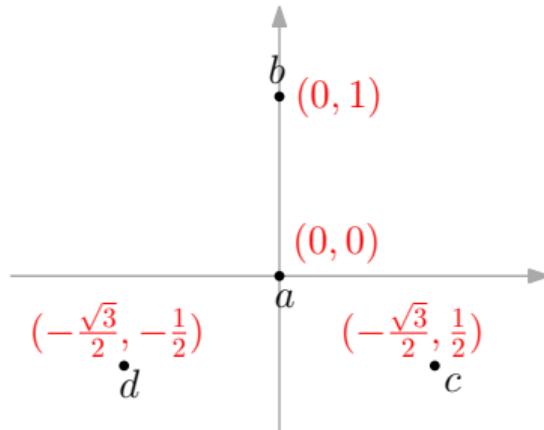
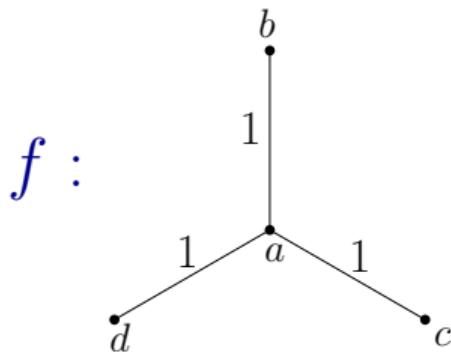
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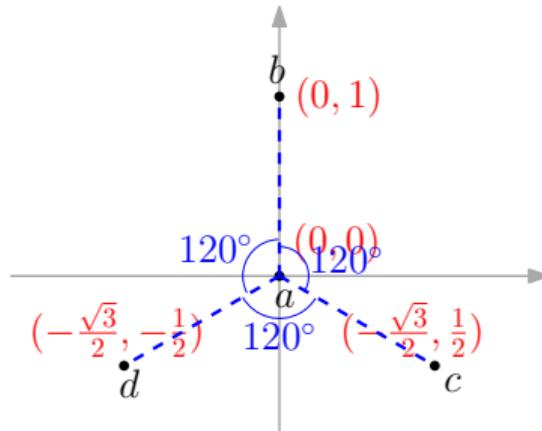
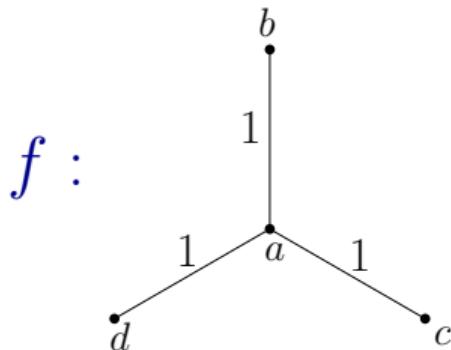


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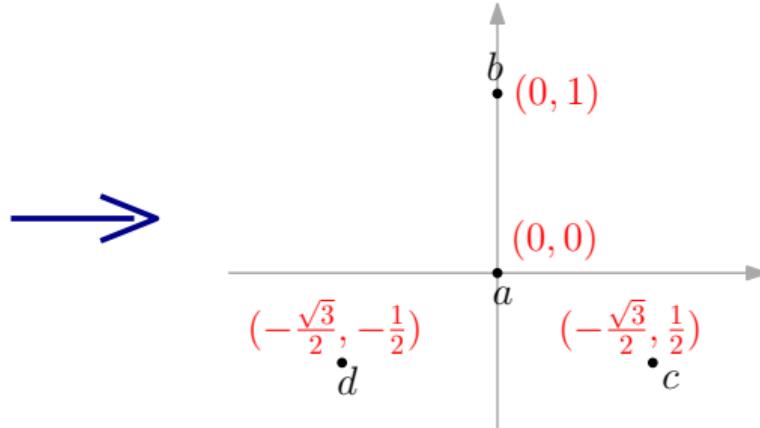
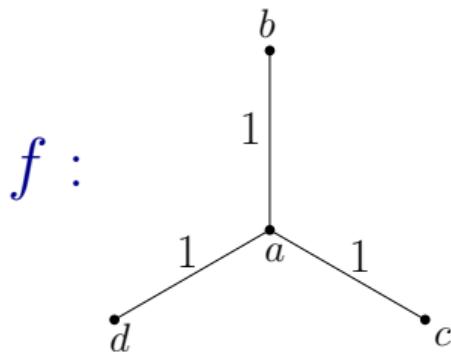


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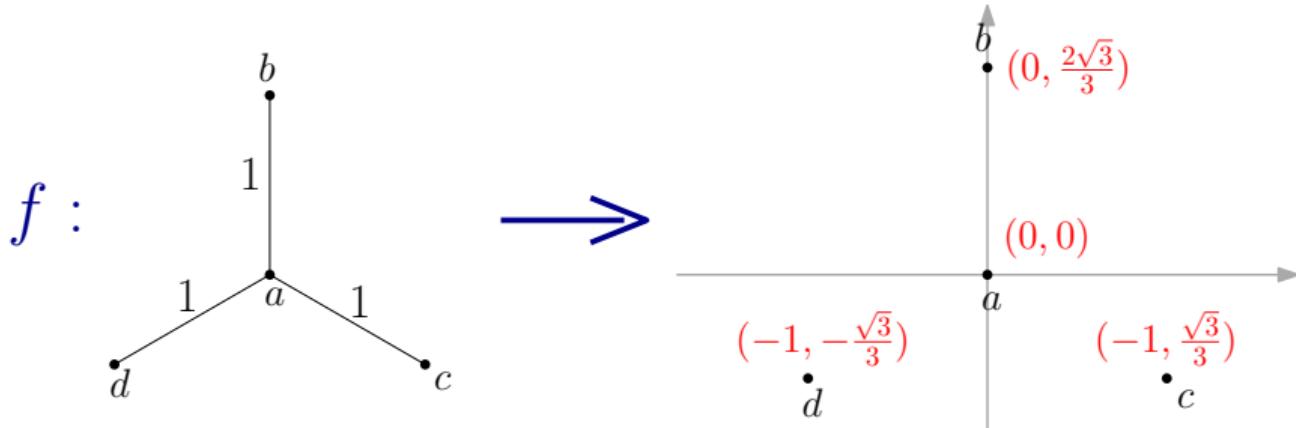


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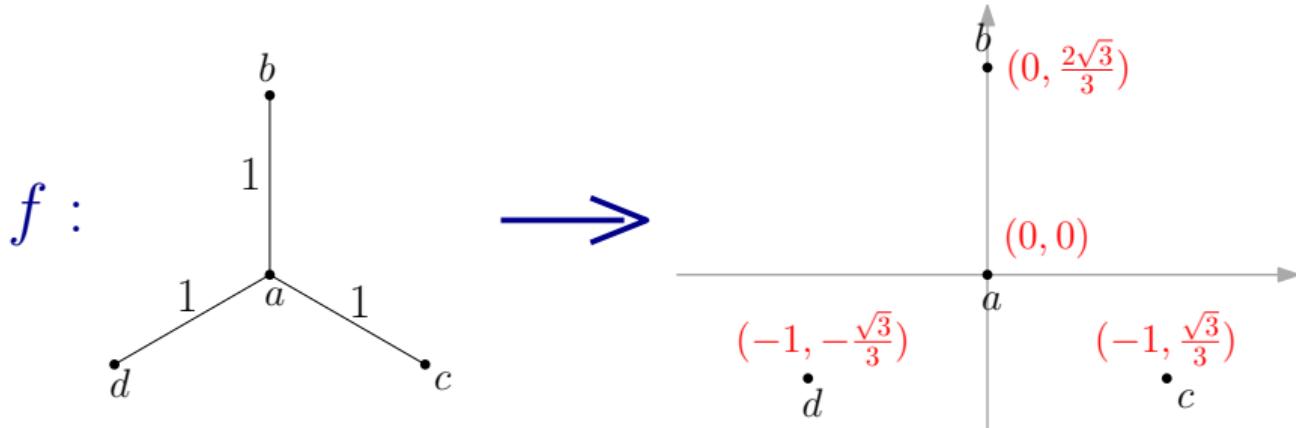


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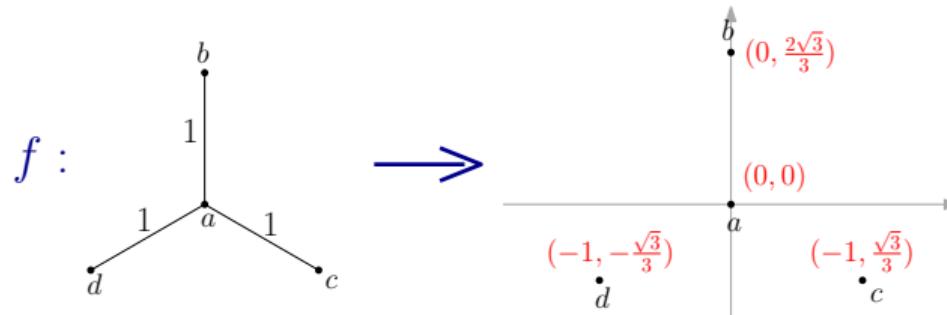


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$b$	$2/\sqrt{3}$		2	2
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$d$	$2/\sqrt{3}$	2	2	

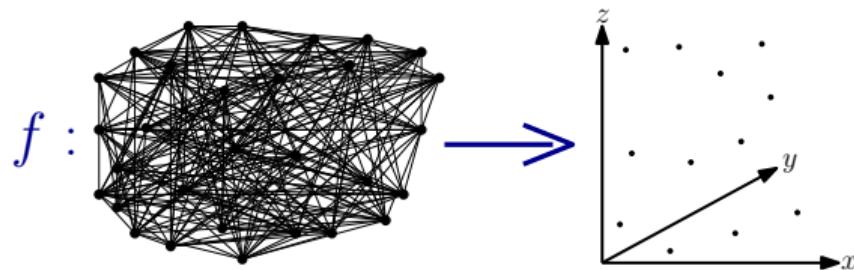
The distortion of the embedding is  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \approx 1.1547$ .

# Metric Embeddings

## Embedding

$(X, d_X), (Y, d_Y)$  metric spaces.

$f : (X, d_X) \rightarrow (Y, d_Y)$  is called an **embedding**.



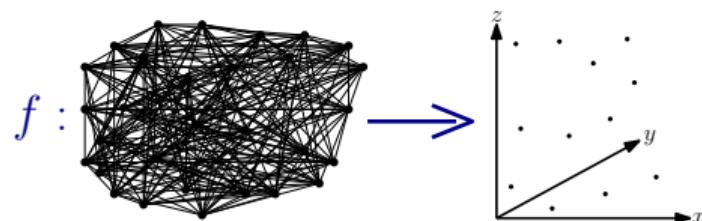
## Theorem ([Bourgain 85])

Every  $n$ -point metric  $(X, d_X)$  is **embeddable** into Euclidean space  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_2)$  with **distortion**  $O(\log n)$ .

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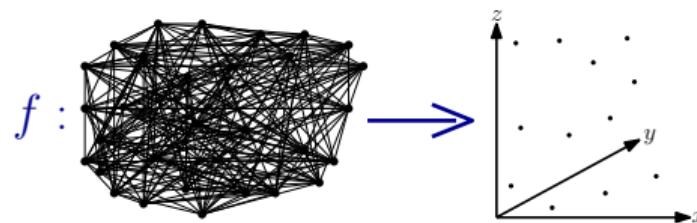
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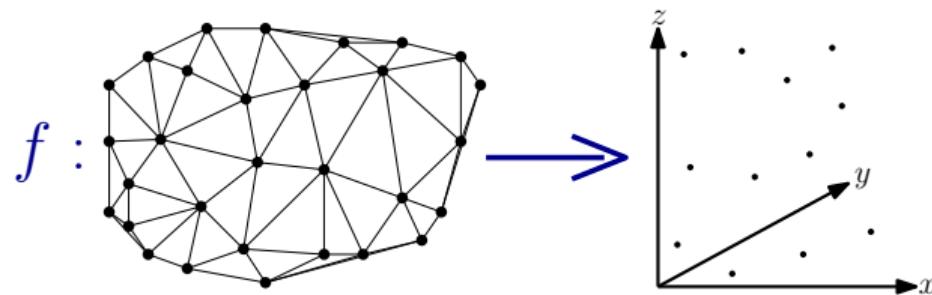


### Applications:

- Approximation algorithms (e.g. **sparsest cut**, min graph bandwidth)
- Parallel computation (e.g. SSSP in MPC)
- Computational Biology (e.g. clustering and detecting protein seq.)
- etc.

## Theorem ([Rao 99])

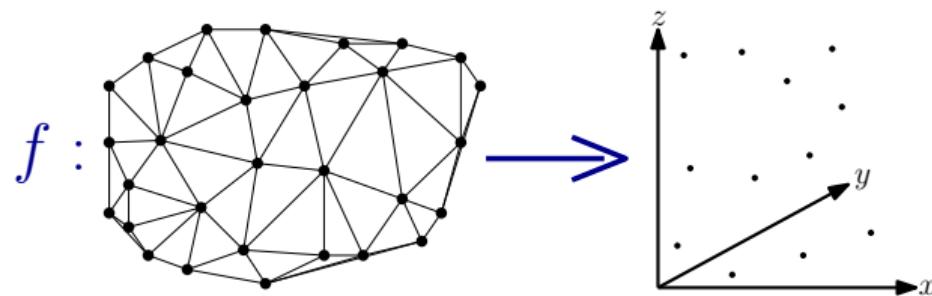
Every  $n$ -point **planar metric**  $(X, d_X)$  is **embeddable** into Euclidean space  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_2)$  with **distortion**  $O(\sqrt{\log n})$ .



Planar metric- the shortest path metric of a planar graph.

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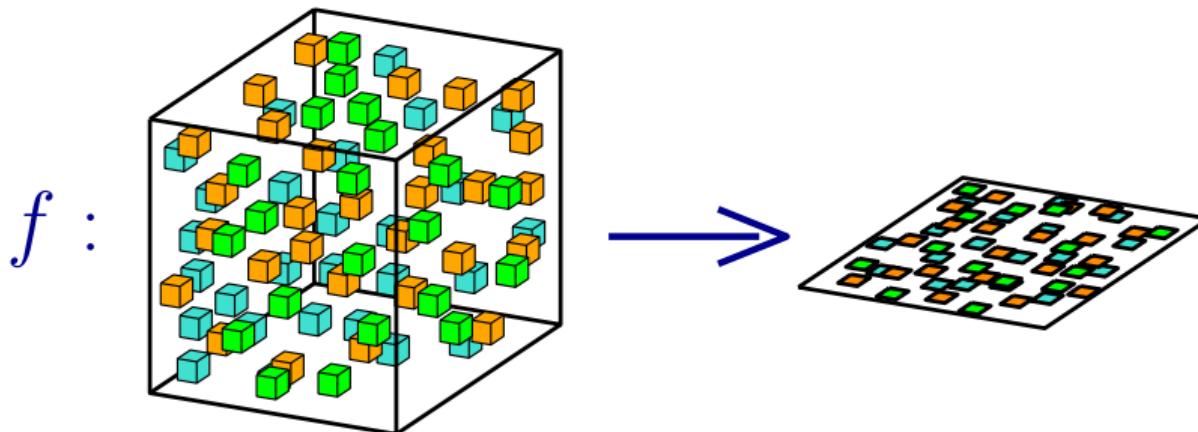
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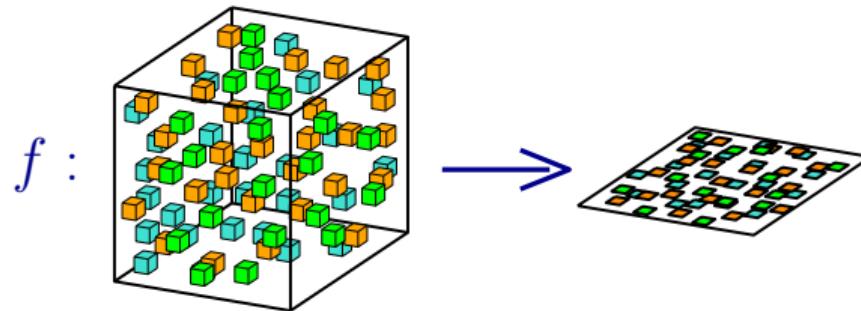
Theorem ([Johnson, Lindenstrauss 84], Dimension Reduction)

$X \subset (\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_2)$  set of size  $n$ . Then  $X$  embeds into  $O(\log n/\epsilon^2)$  dimensional Euclidean space with distortion  $1 + \epsilon$ .

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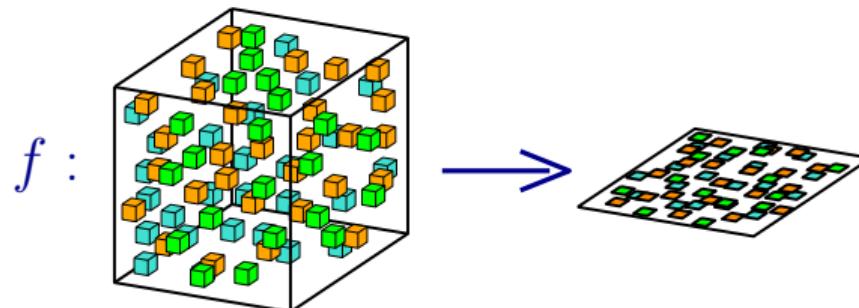
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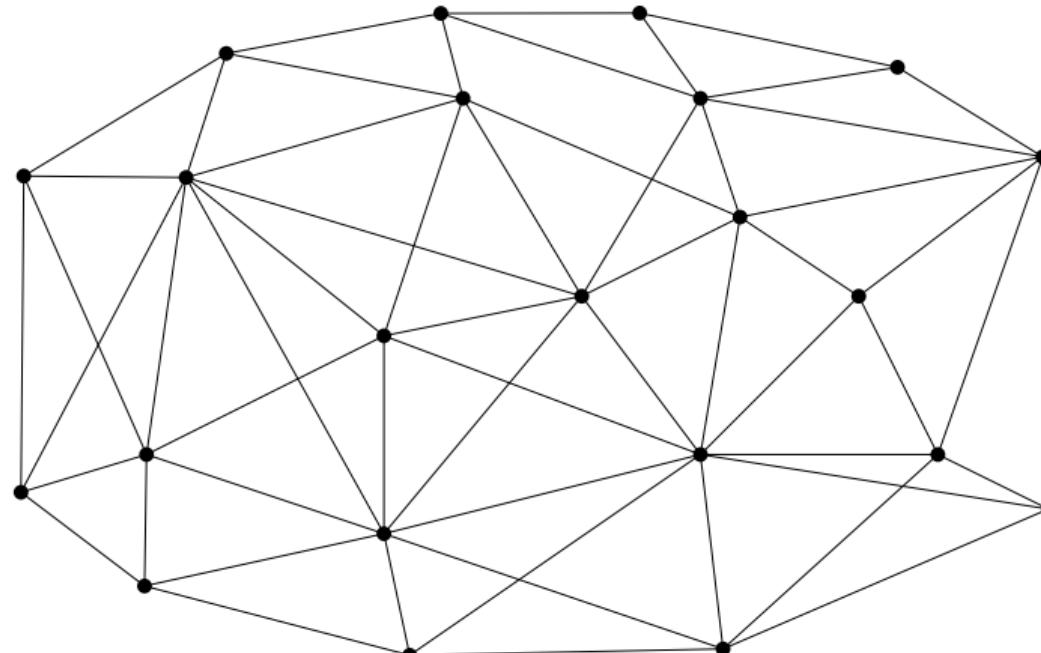
- Speeding up-computation
- Clustering
- Nearest Neighbor Search
- Machine Learning
- etc.

# Graph Spanners

$G = (V, E, w)$  weighted graph, a  **$t$ -spanner** is a subgraph  $H = (V, E_H)$

s.t.

$$\forall u, v \in V, \quad d_H(u, v) \leq t \cdot d_G(u, v)$$

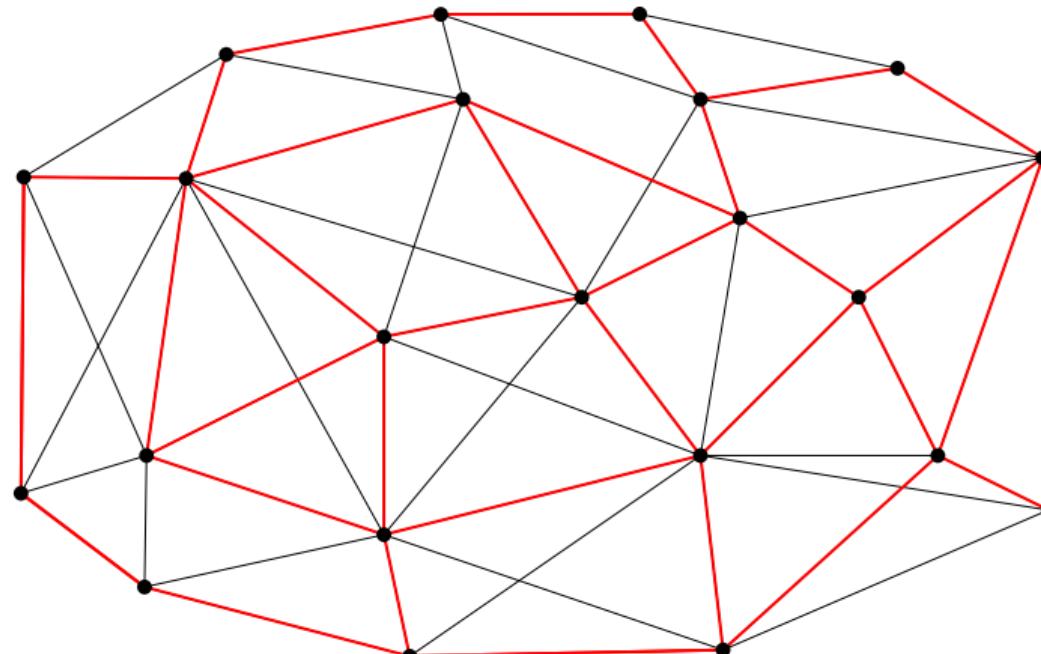


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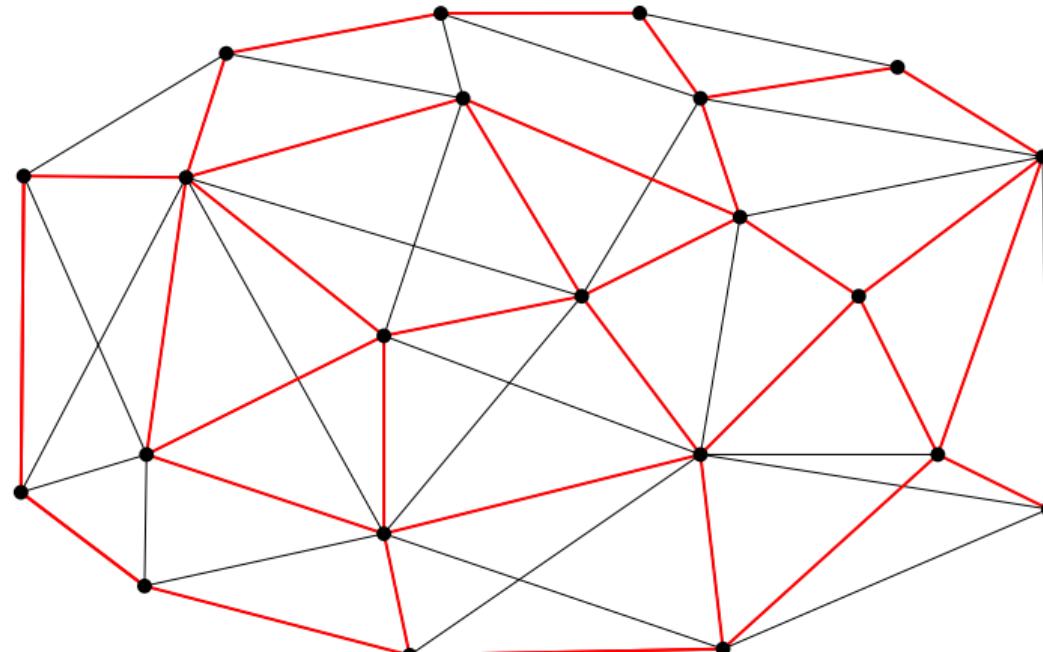


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Stretch

$t$

Sparsity

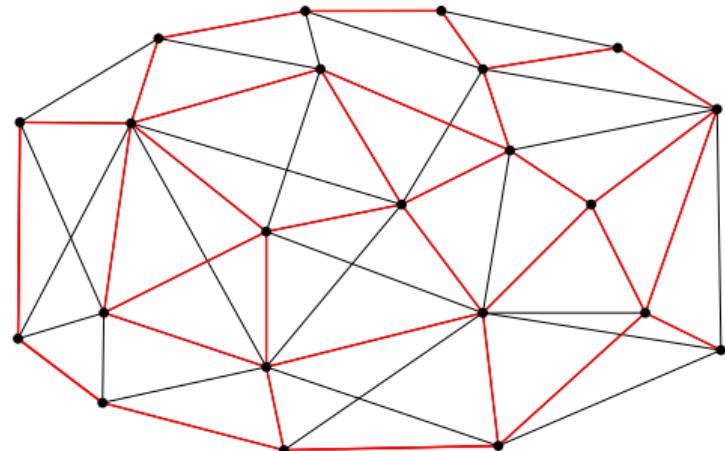
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[Althofer, Das, Dobkin, Joseph, Soares 93]:

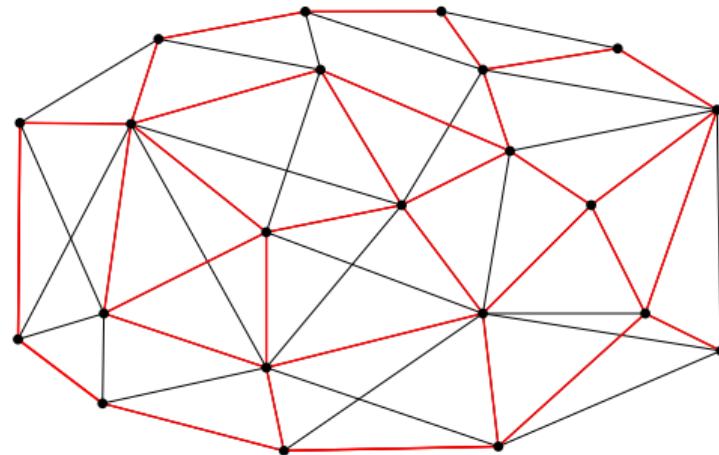
For  $k \geq 1$ , every graph admits  $2k - 1$  spanner with  $O(n^{1+\frac{1}{k}})$  edges.

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Tight. (assuming Erdős' girth conjecture).

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Tight. (assuming Erdős' girth conjecture).

Applications:

- Approximation Algorithms (e.g. PTAS for TSP)
- Distributed Computing
- Network Routing
- Computational Biology (e.g. measure genetic distance)
- etc.

# Outline of the talk

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Stochastic embedding into trees
- 3 Distance Oracle
- 4 Group Steiner Tree
- 5 Conclusion
- 6 Appendix

## Embedding into Trees

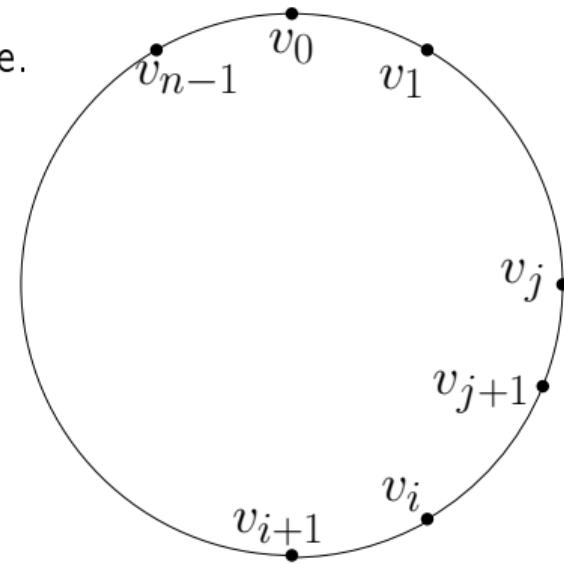
Tree is very **simple** and **desirable** target space.

Many NP-hard problems are easy on trees (using dynamic programming).

## Embedding into Trees

Tree is very **simple** and **desirable** target space.

Embedding  $C_n$  **requires** distortion  $\Omega(n)$ .

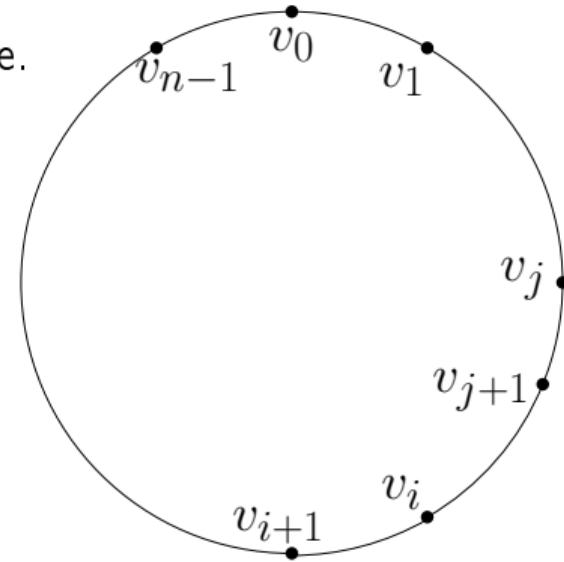


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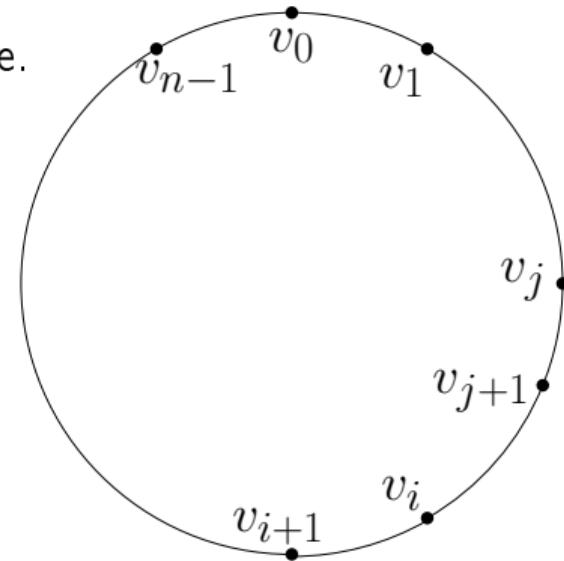
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$$\mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}}[d_T(v_i, v_{i+1})]$$

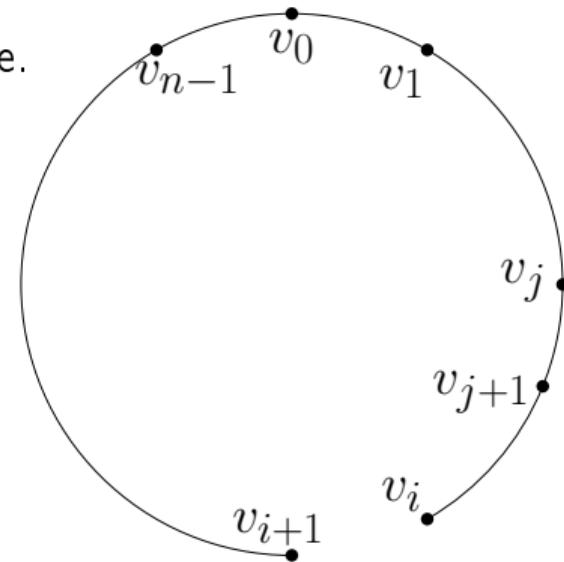


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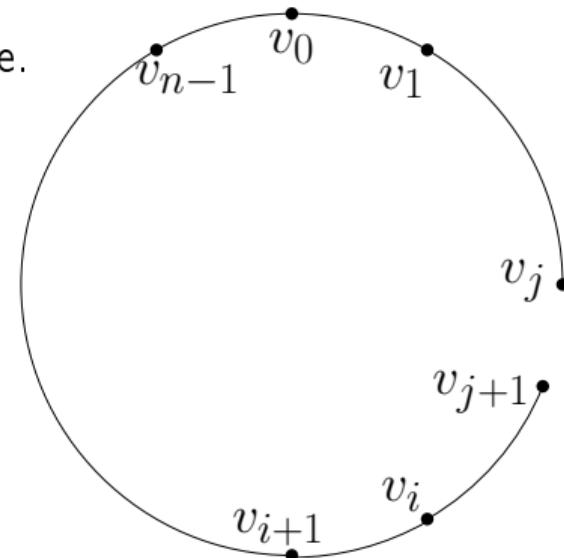
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$$\mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}}[d_T(v_i, v_{i+1})] = \Pr[\tilde{e} = \{v_i, v_{i+1}\}] \cdot (n - 1) + \Pr[\tilde{e} \neq \{v_i, v_{i+1}\}] \cdot 1$$

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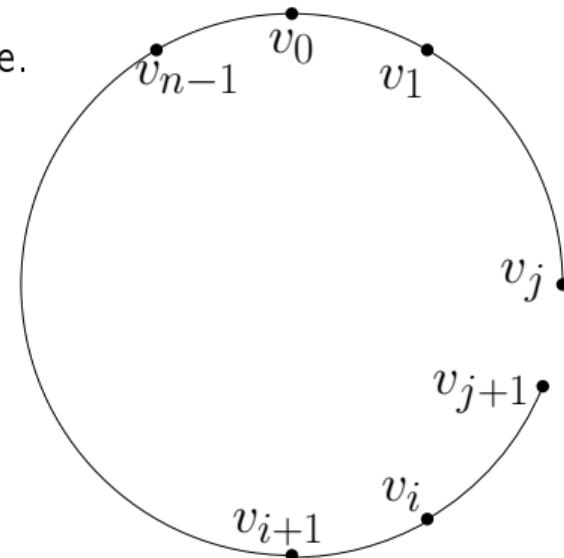
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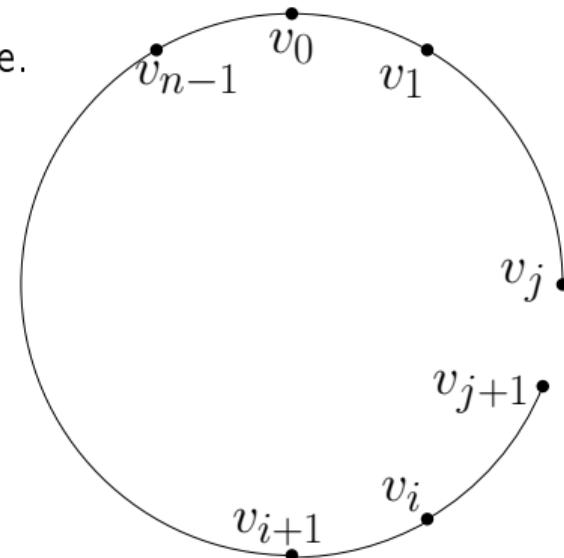
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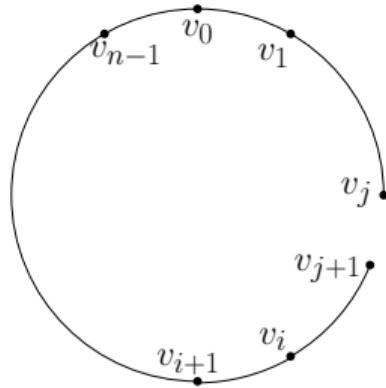
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By triangle inequality and linearity of expectation

$$\forall v_i, v_j, \quad \mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}}[d_T(v_i, v_j)] = \sum_{q=i}^{j-1} \mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}}[d_T(v_q, v_{q+1 \pmod n})] \leq 2 \cdot d_{C_n}(v_i, v_j).$$

## Stochastic Embedding into Trees

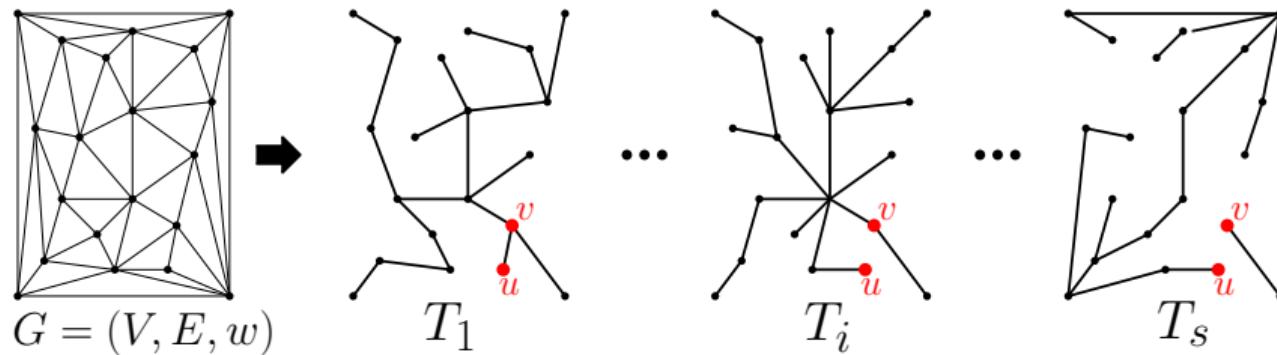
Theorem ([Fakcharoenphol, Rao, Talwar 04], improving [Bartal 96+98])

*Every  $n$ -point metric space  $(X, d)$  embeds into **distribution  $\mathcal{D}$**  over **dominating trees** with **expected distortion  $O(\log n)$** .*

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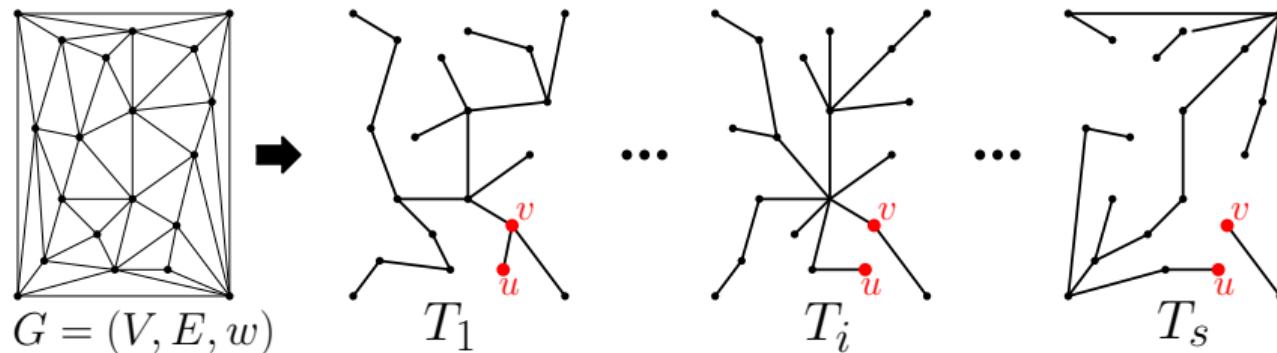
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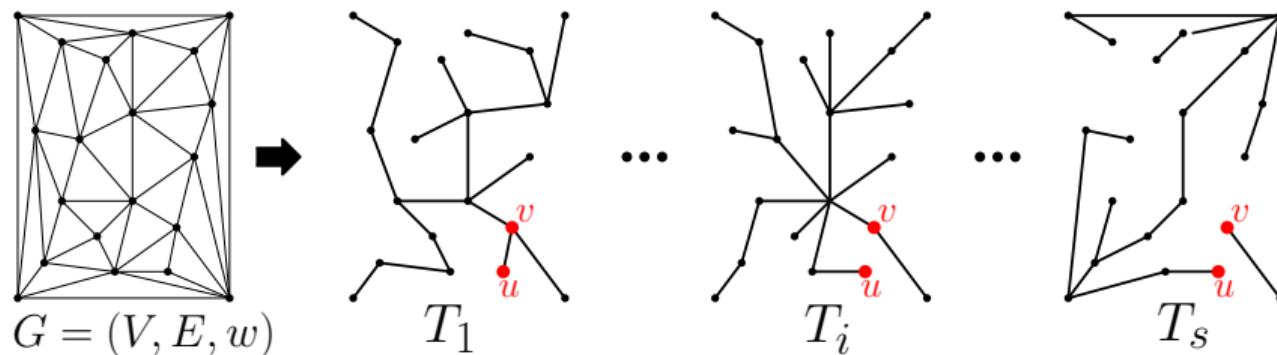


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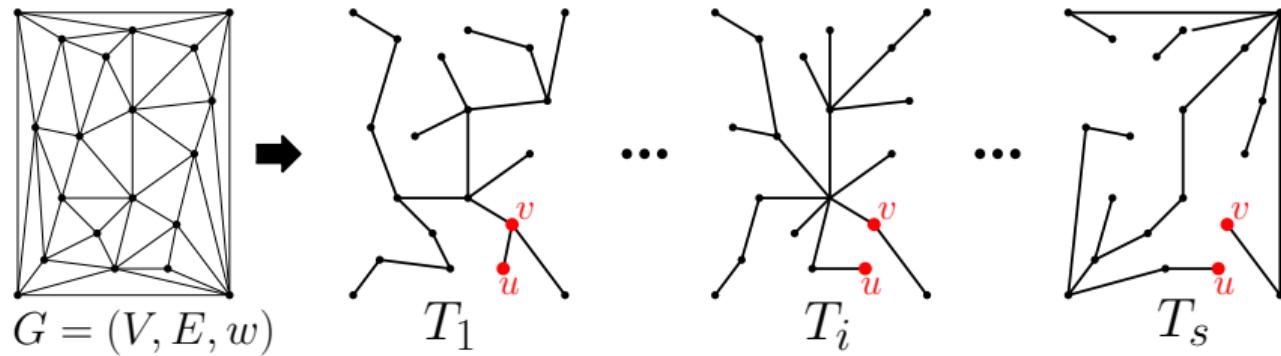
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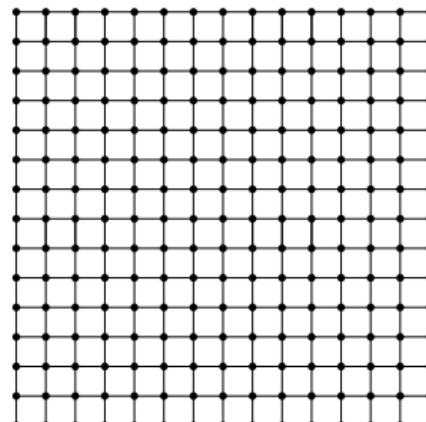
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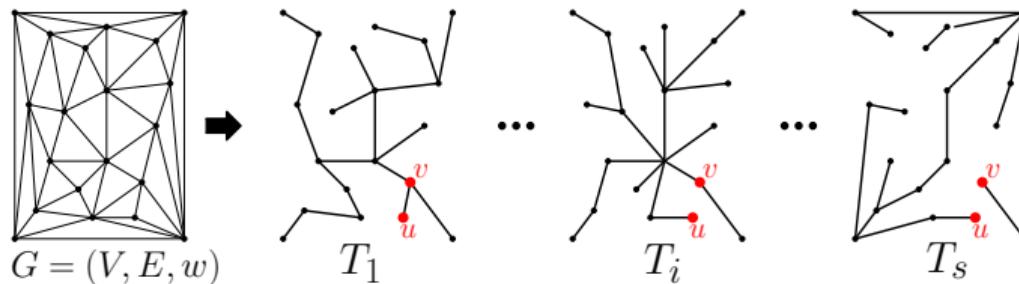
In fact, tight already for the  $n \times n$  grid graph!



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A useful hammer



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A succinct data structure that approximately answers distance queries.



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Could we do better by allowing the oracle to return approximated distances?

The properties of interest are size, distortion and query time.

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### Distance Oracle construction

Sample  $s = 4 \log n$  trees  $T_1, \dots, T_s$ . Given  $x, y$  return  $\text{DO}(x, y) = \min_{i \in [1, s]} d_{T_i}(x, y)$ .

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Markov inequality:  $\Pr[X \geq a] \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{a}$

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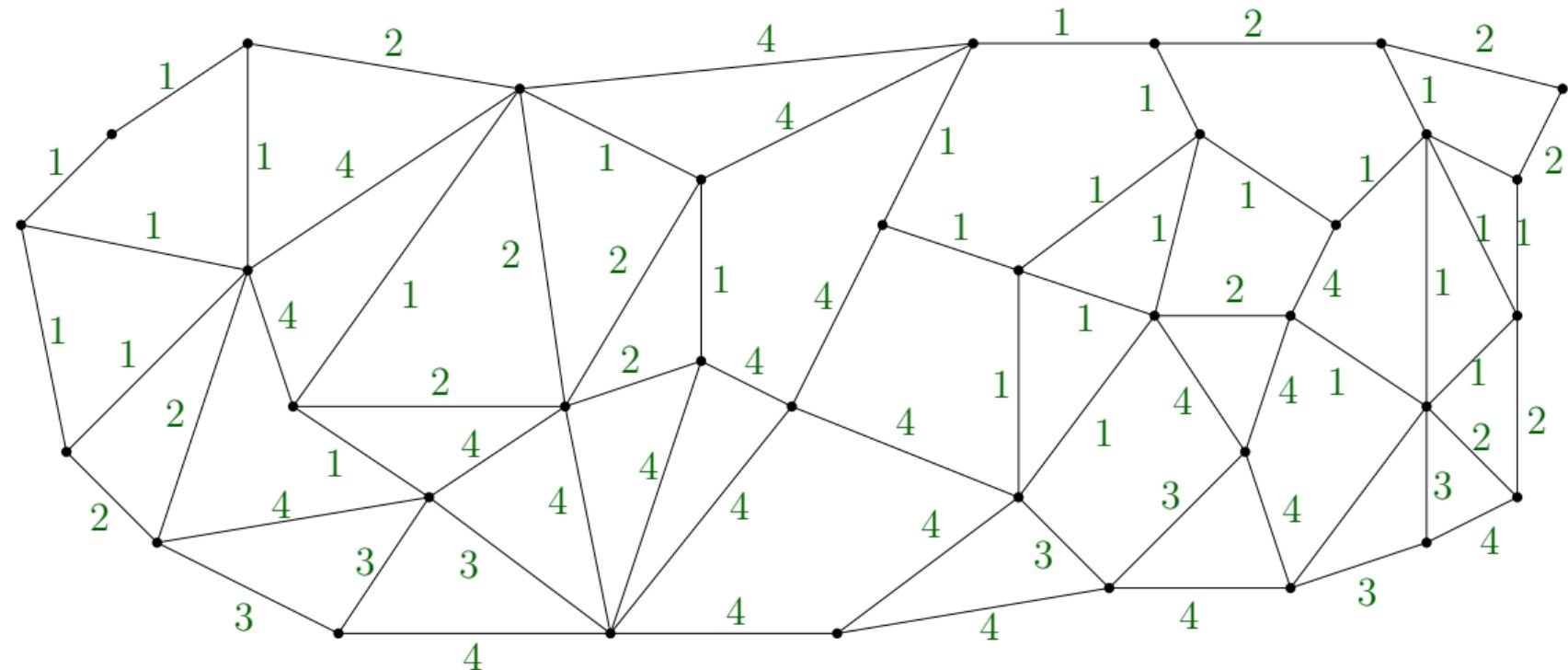
*Distance oracle with approximation  $2k - 1$ , space  $O(n^{1+\frac{1}{k}})$ , and query time  $O(1)$ .*

# Outline of the talk

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Stochastic embedding into trees
- 3 Distance Oracle
- 4 Group Steiner Tree
- 5 Conclusion
- 6 Appendix

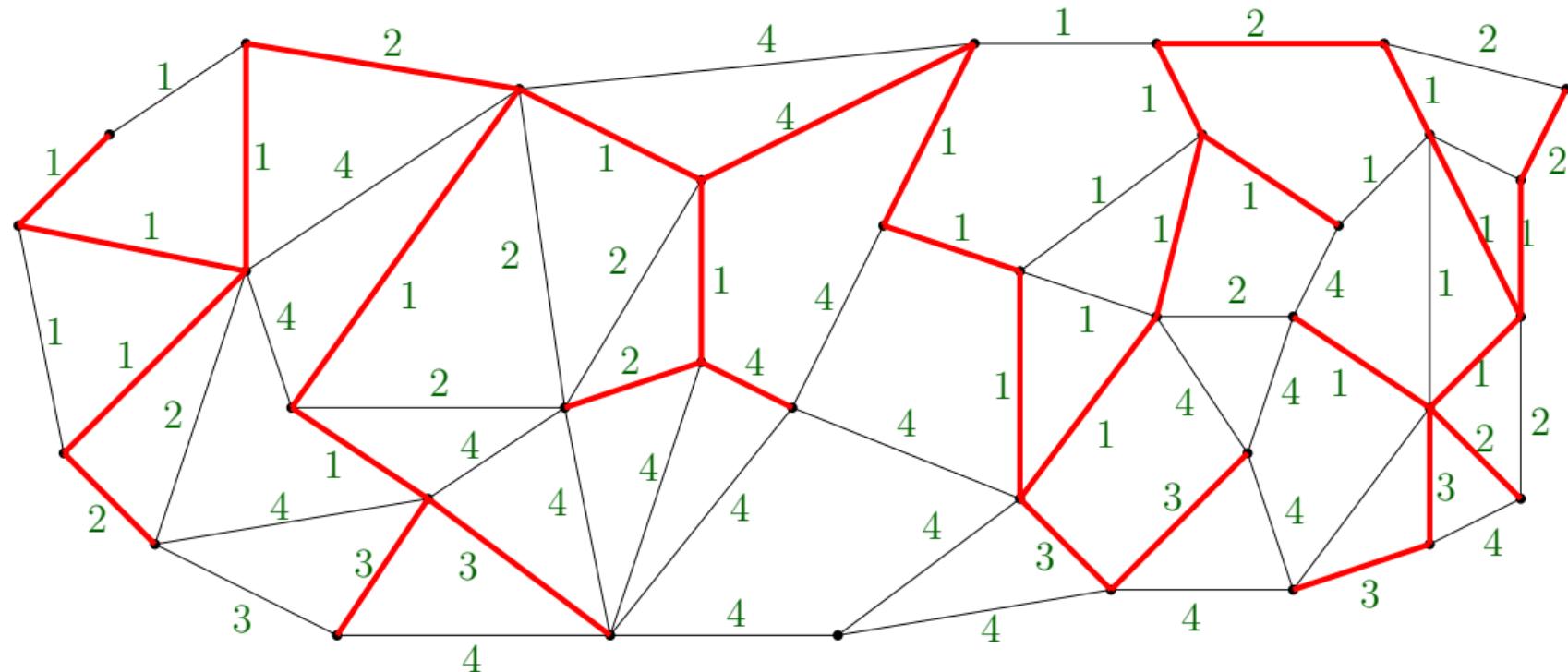
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Given a weighted graph  $G = (V, E, w)$  find a spanning tree of minimum total weight.



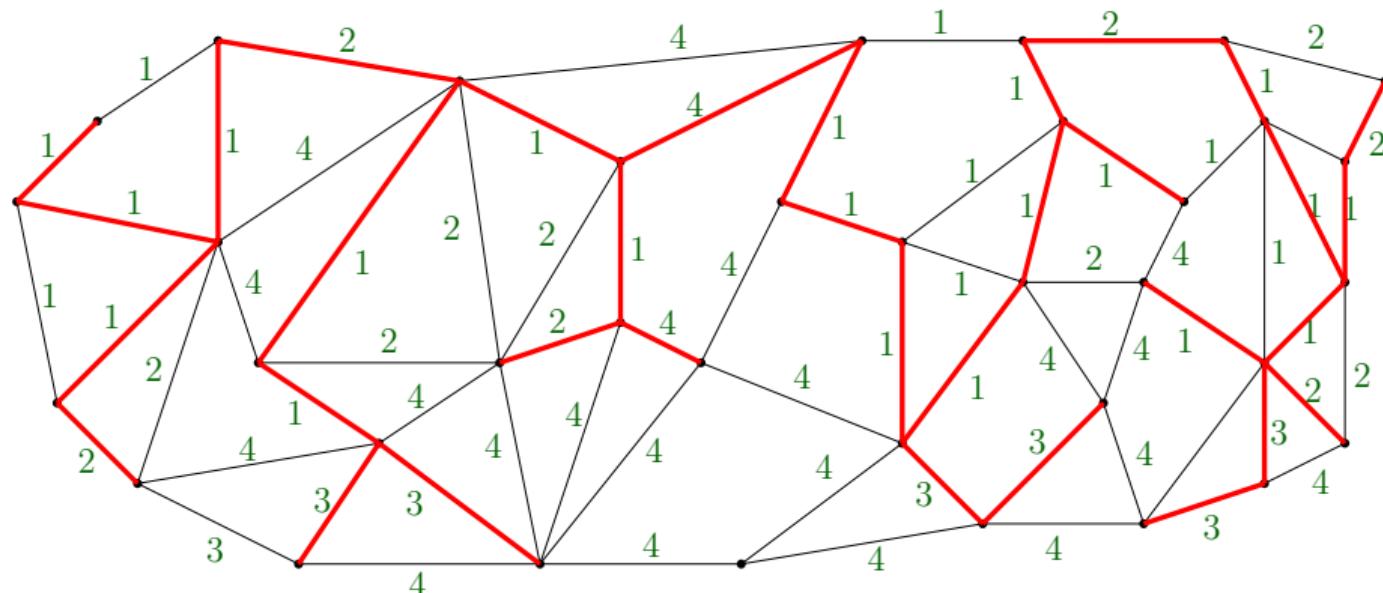
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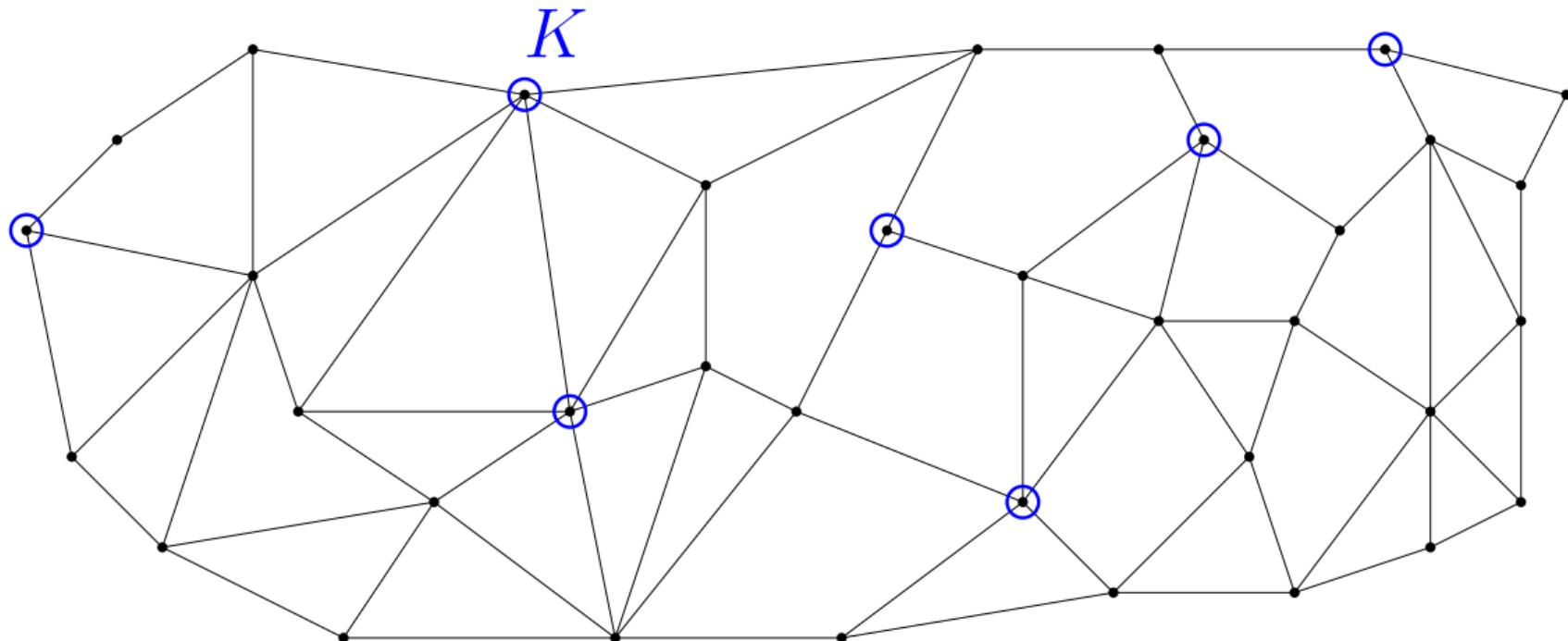
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Classic problem, admits efficient poly-time solution.

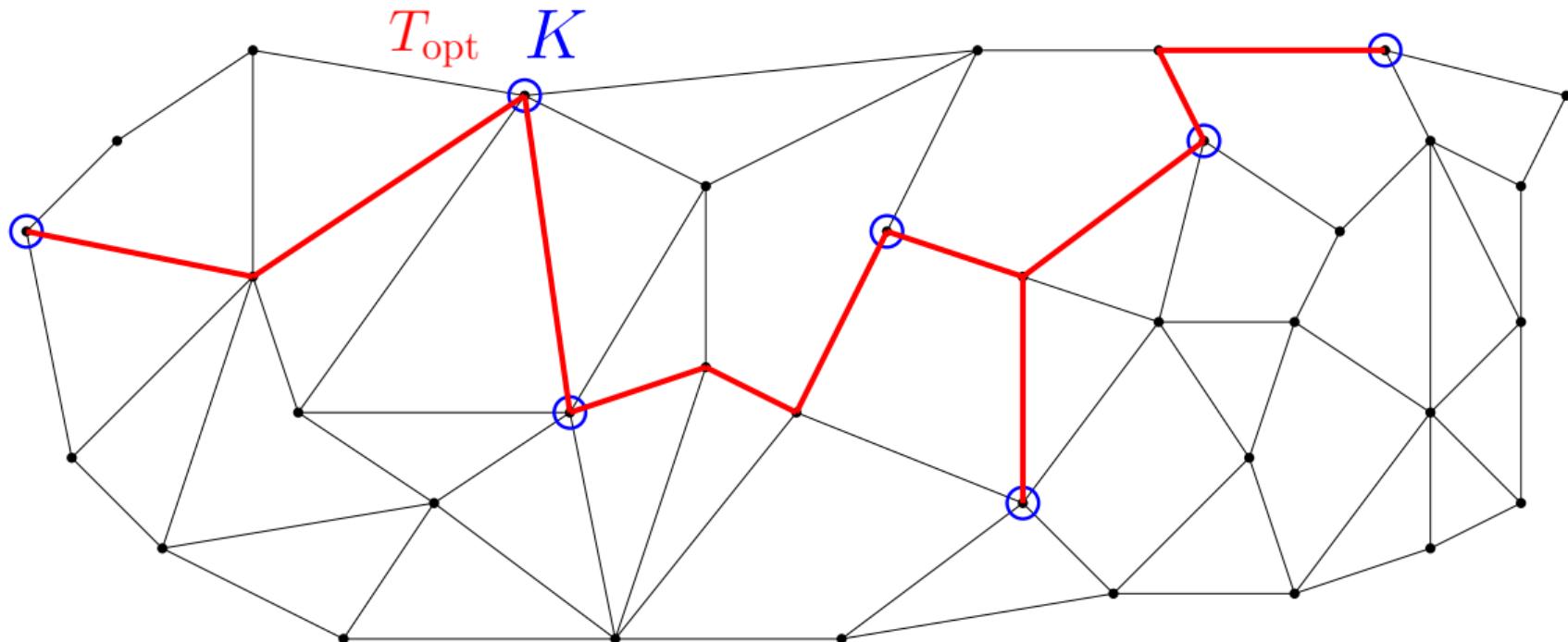
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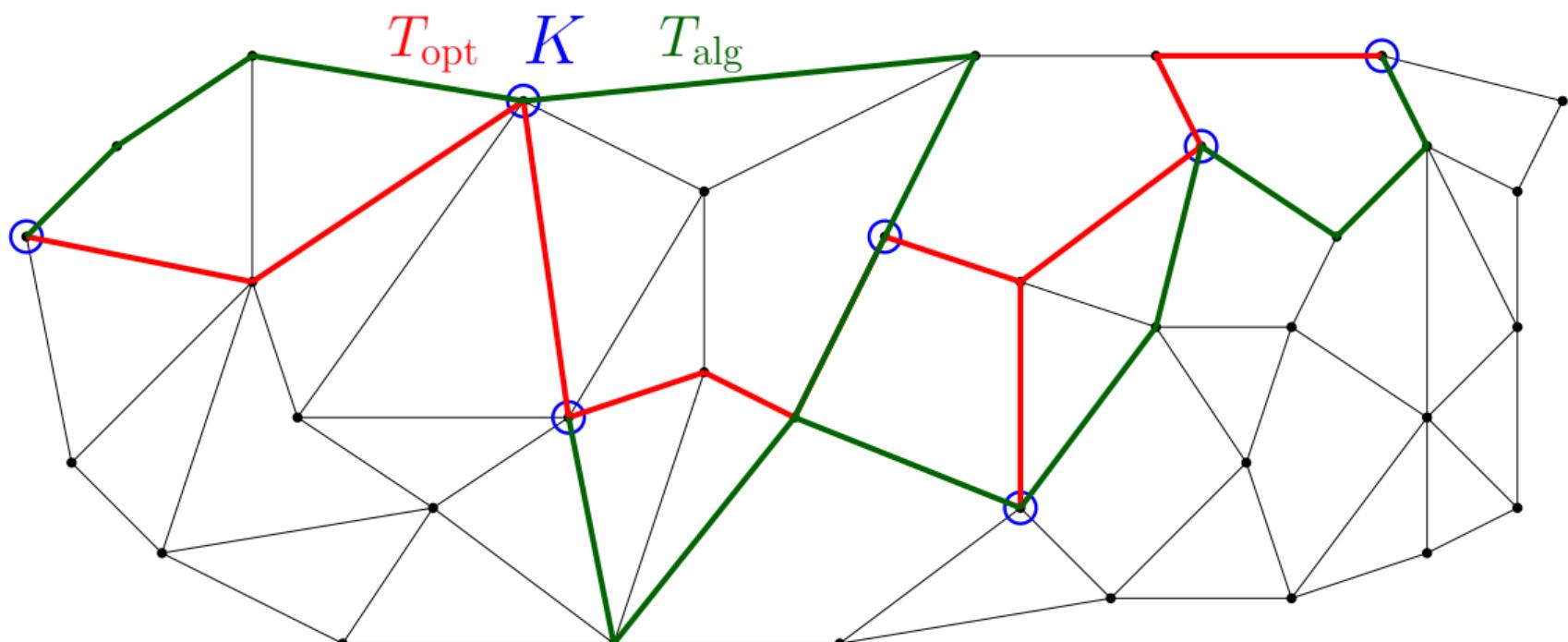
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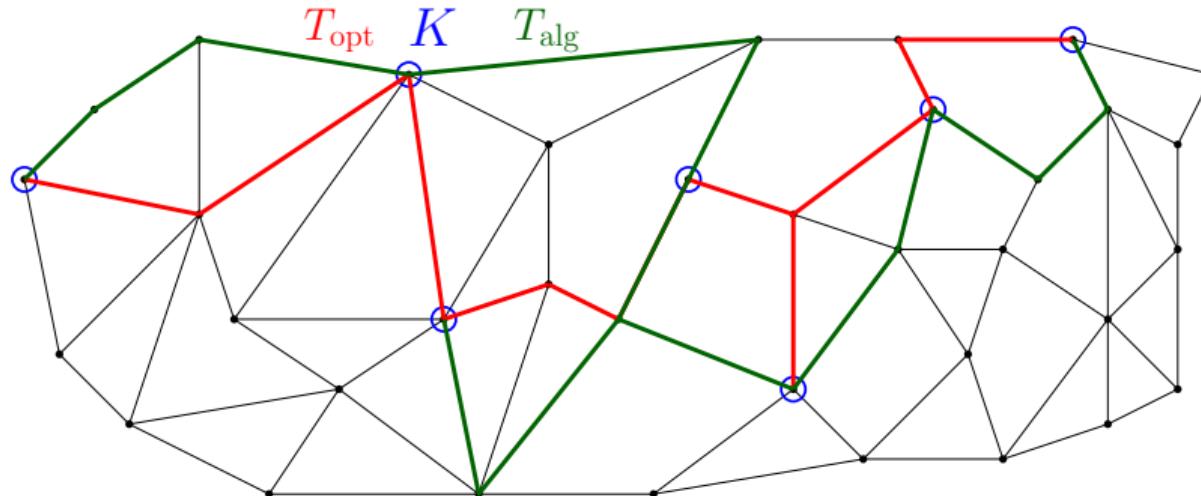
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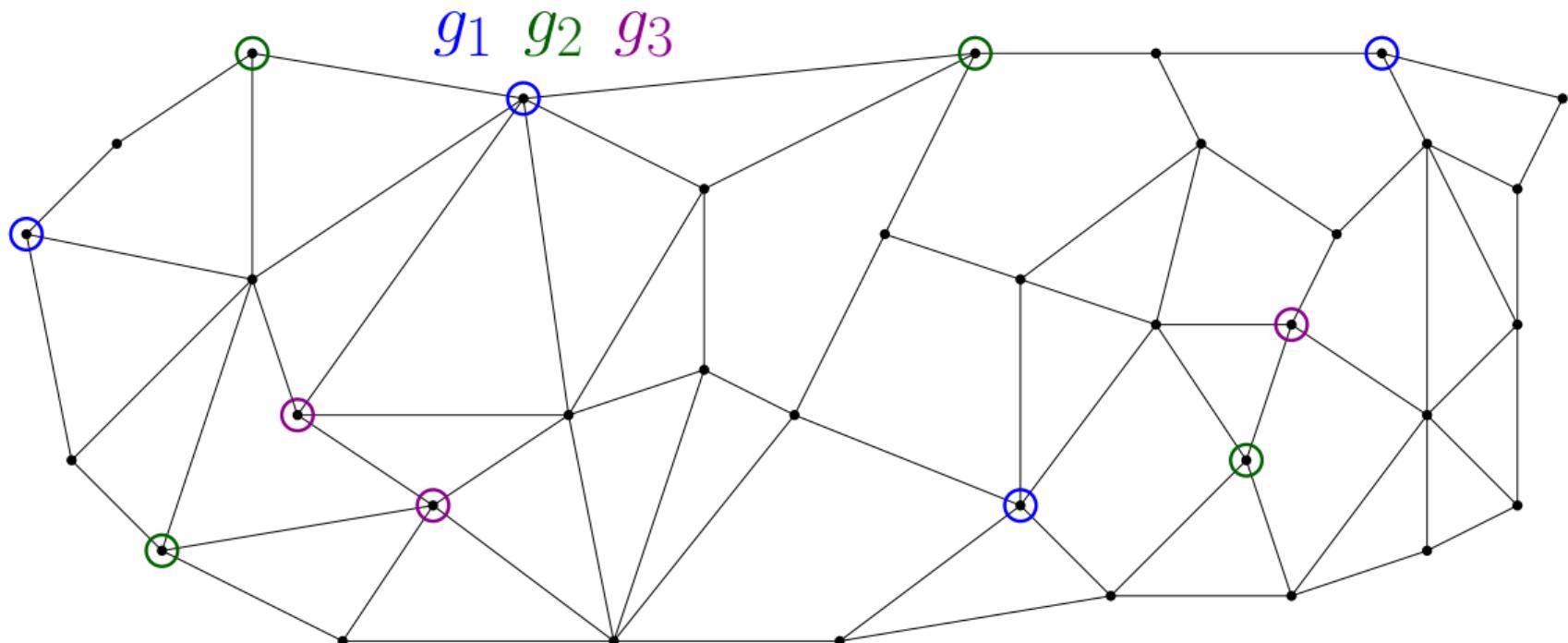


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That is, there is a polynomial time algorithm that returns a tree  $T_{\text{alg}}$  of weight at most  $w(T_{\text{alg}}) \leq 2 \cdot w(T_{\text{opt}})$ .

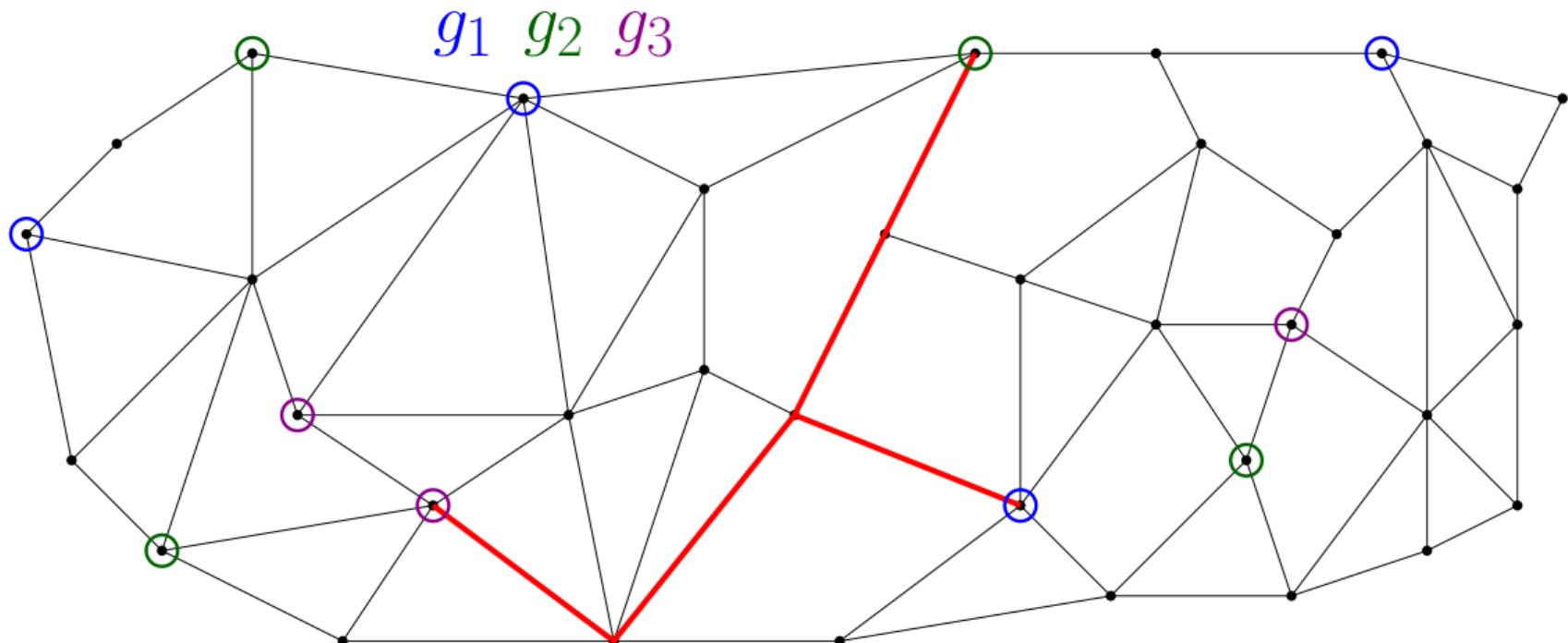
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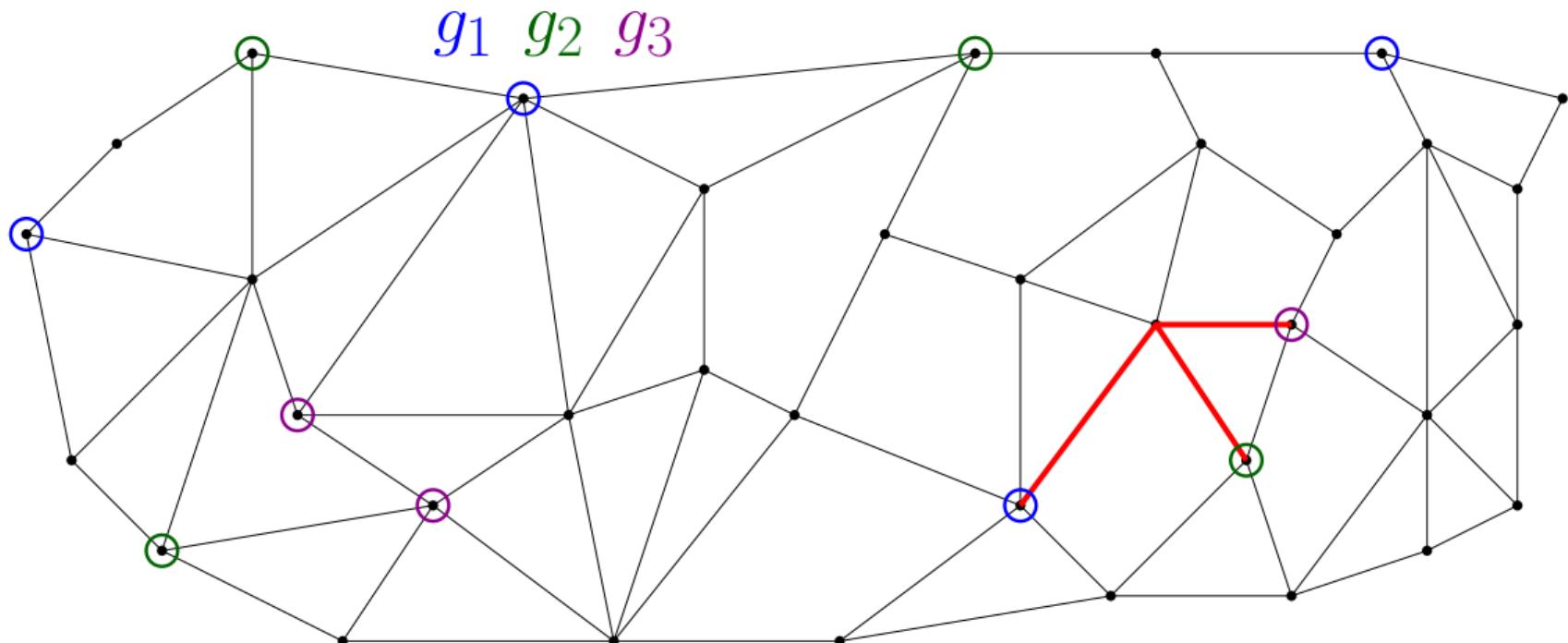
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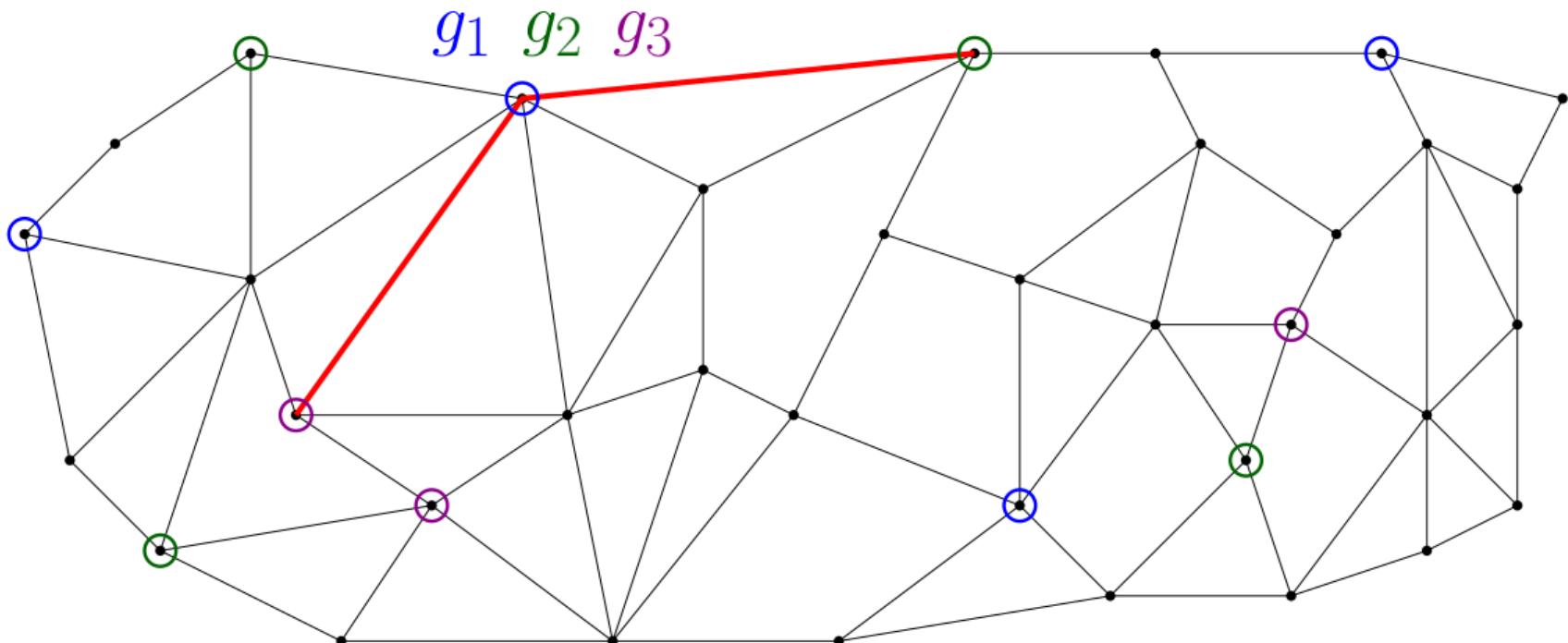
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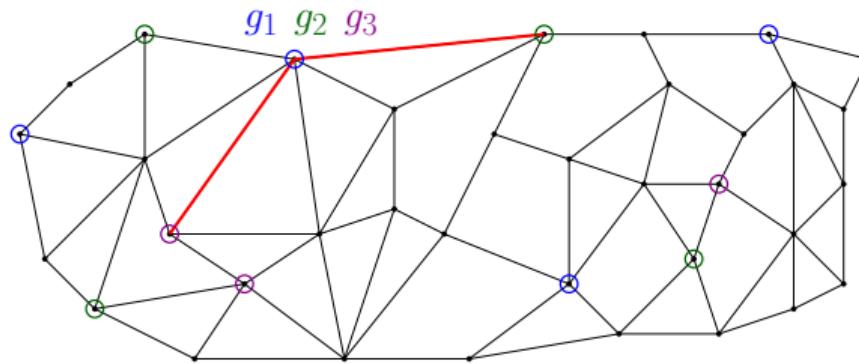
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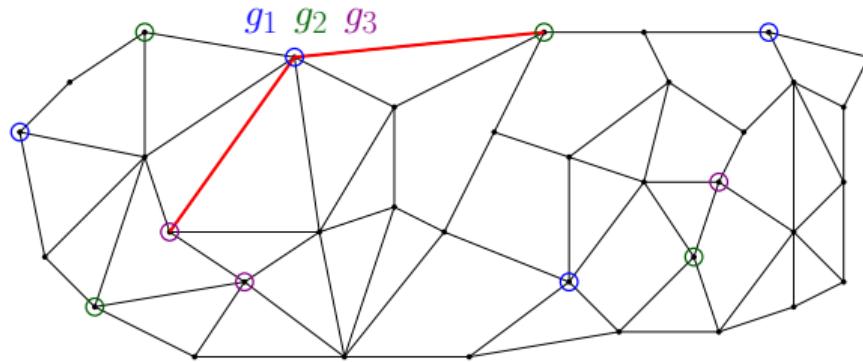


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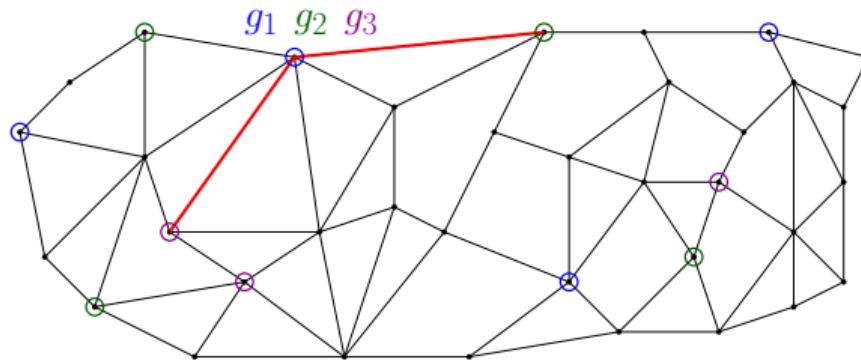
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That is given a tree  $T = (V, E)$  and groups  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k \subseteq V$ , there is an efficient algorithm that finds a sub-tree  $T_{\text{alg}}$  spanning a subset  $A$  of vertices such that:

- For every group  $g_i$ ,  $A \cap g_i \neq \emptyset$ .
- $w(T_{\text{alg}}) \leq O(\log n \cdot \log k) \cdot w(T_{\text{opt}})$  (where  $T_{\text{opt}}$  is the optimal solution).

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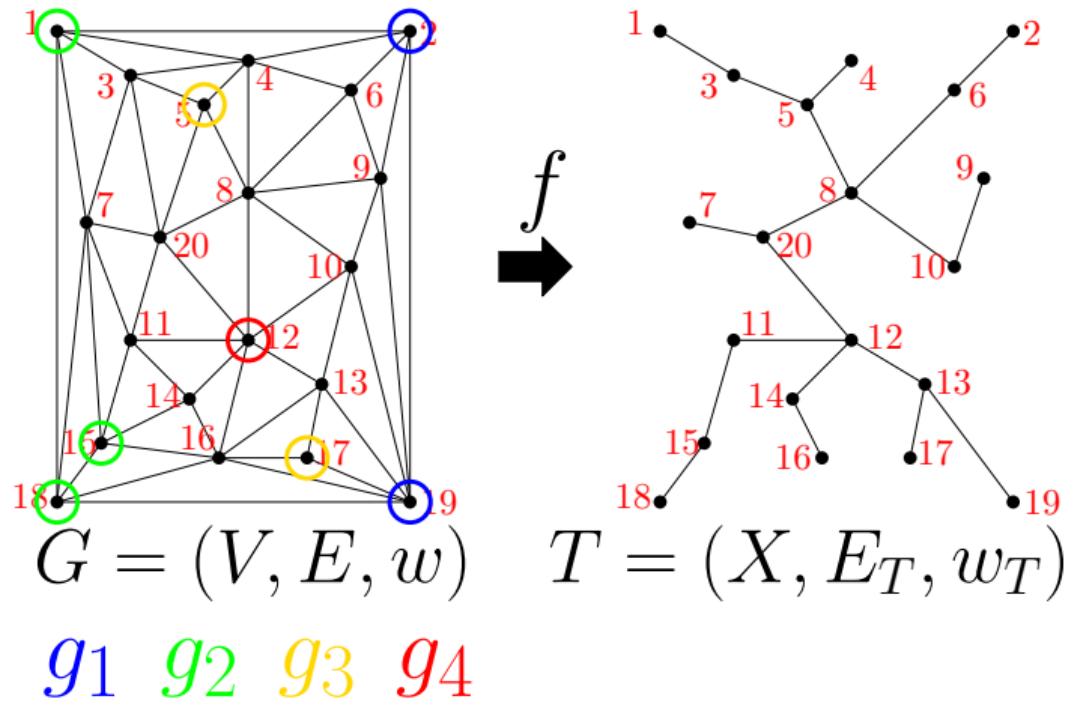
That is given a tree  $T = (V, E)$  and groups  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k \subseteq V$ , there is an efficient algorithm that finds a sub-tree  $T_{\text{alg}}$  spanning a subset  $A$  of vertices such that:

- For every group  $g_i$ ,  $A \cap g_i \neq \emptyset$ .
- $w(T_{\text{alg}}) \leq O(\log n \cdot \log k) \cdot w(T_{\text{opt}})$  (where  $T_{\text{opt}}$  is the optimal solution).

We will use stochastic tree embeddings to generalize [GKR00] to general graphs.

**GST:** Given subsets  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k \subseteq V$ , find minimum weight tree  $T$  spanning at least one vertex from each  $g_i$ .

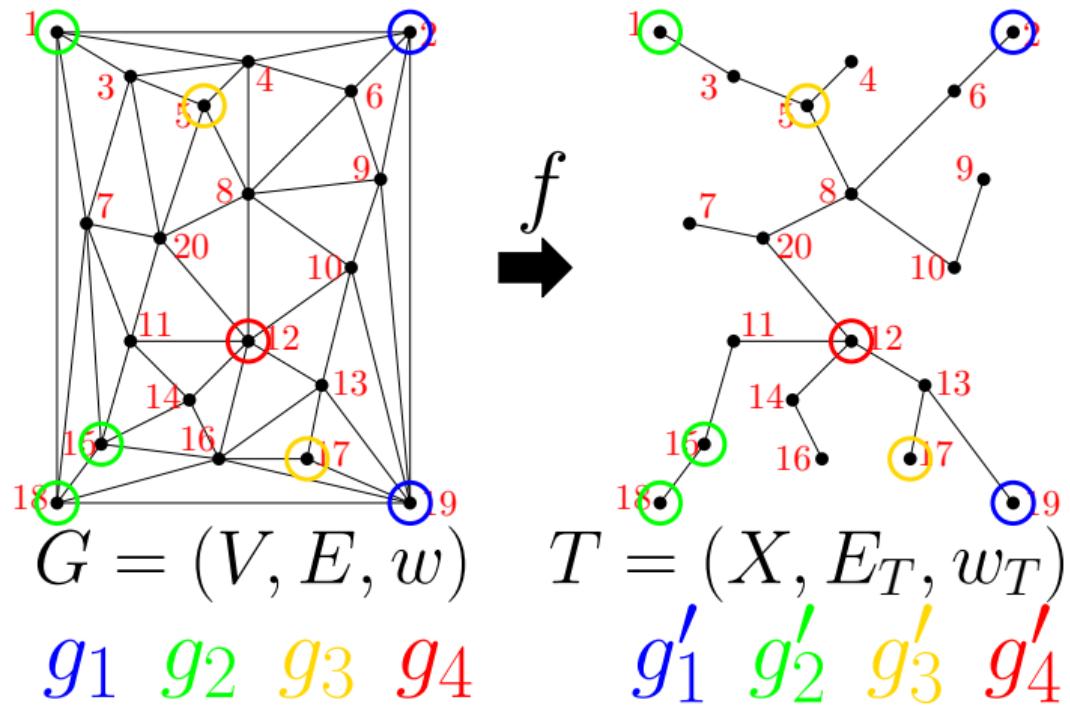
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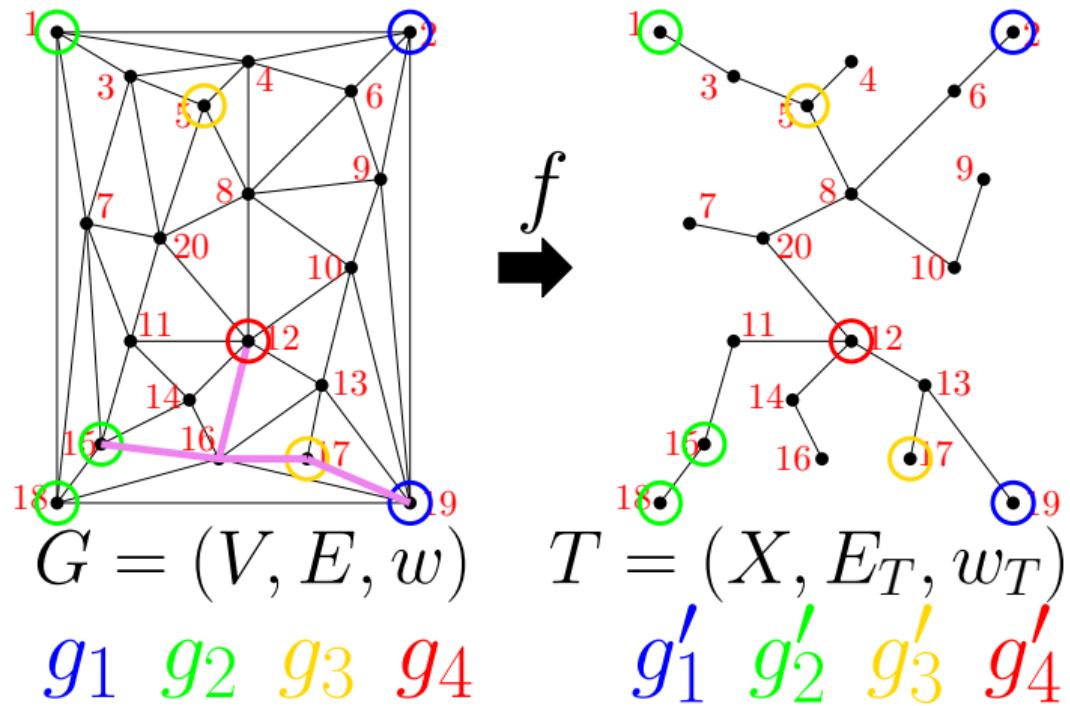
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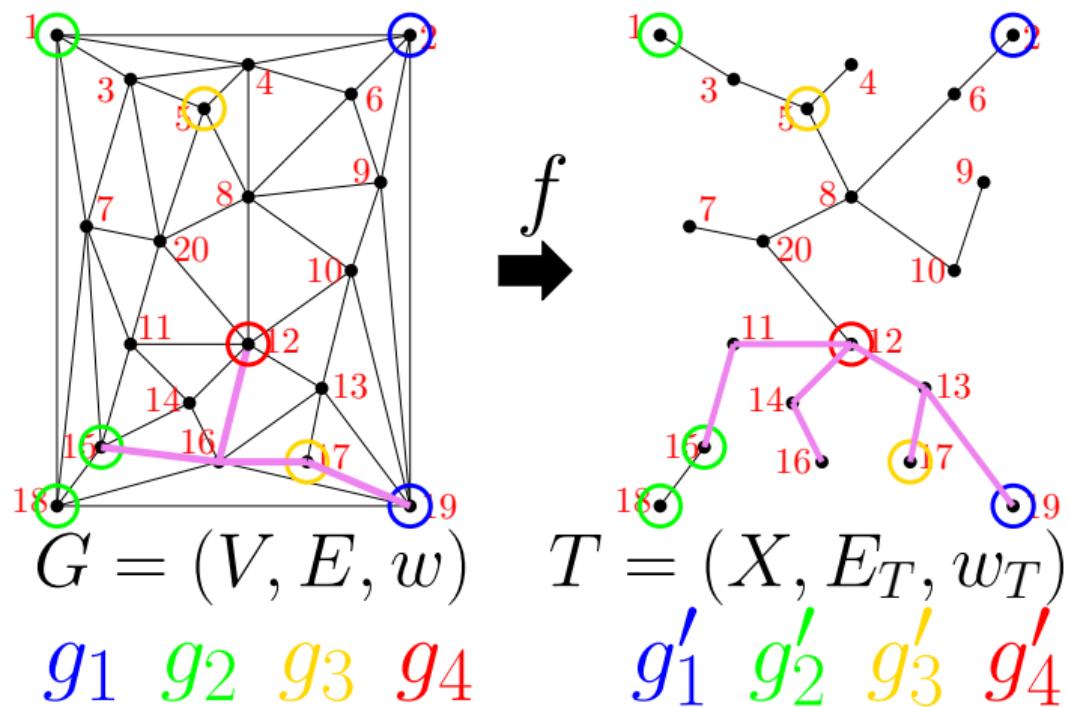


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(valid solution)

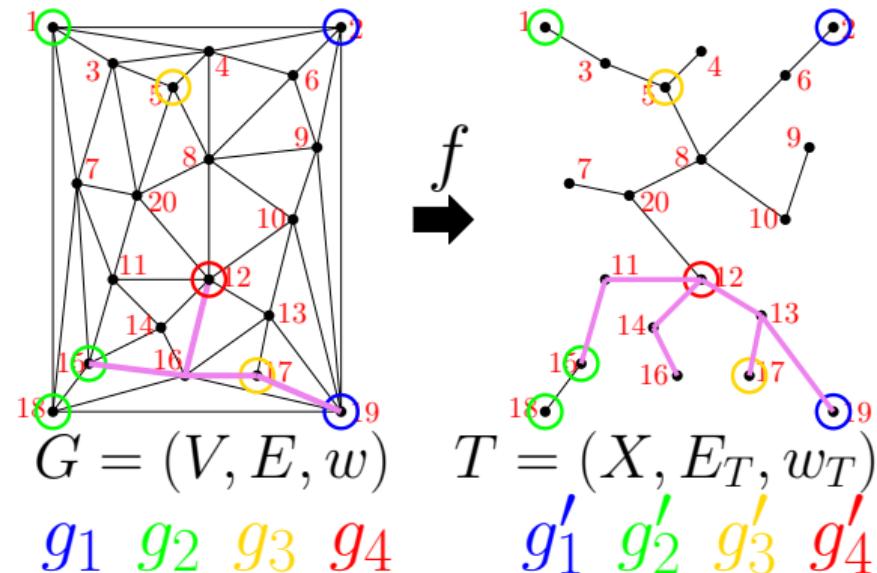


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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[w_T(S_T^*)] &\leq \sum_{(u,v) \in S^*} \mathbb{E}[d_T(f(u), f(v))] = O(\log n) \cdot \sum_{(u,v) \in S^*} d_T(f(u), f(v)) \\ &= O(\log n) \cdot \sum_{(u,v) \in S^*} w_G((u, v)) = O(\log n) \cdot w_G(S^*) \end{aligned}$$

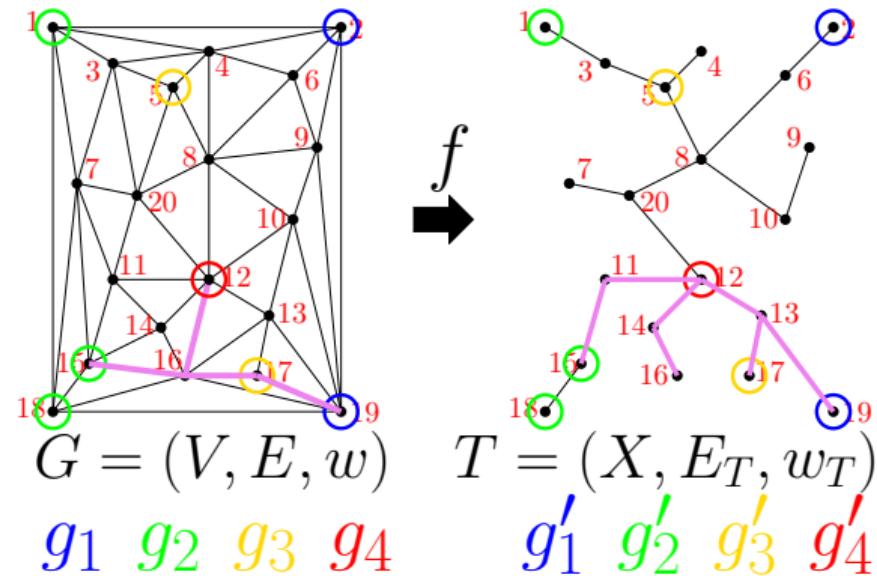
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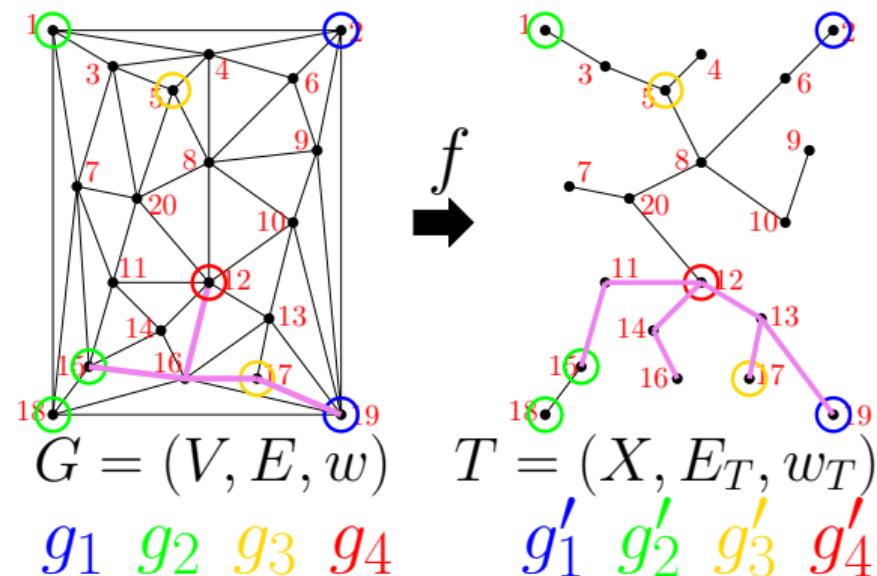
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Theorem ([Garg, Konjevod, Ravi 00])

$O(\log n \cdot \log k)$ -approximation algorithm for the GST problem on trees.

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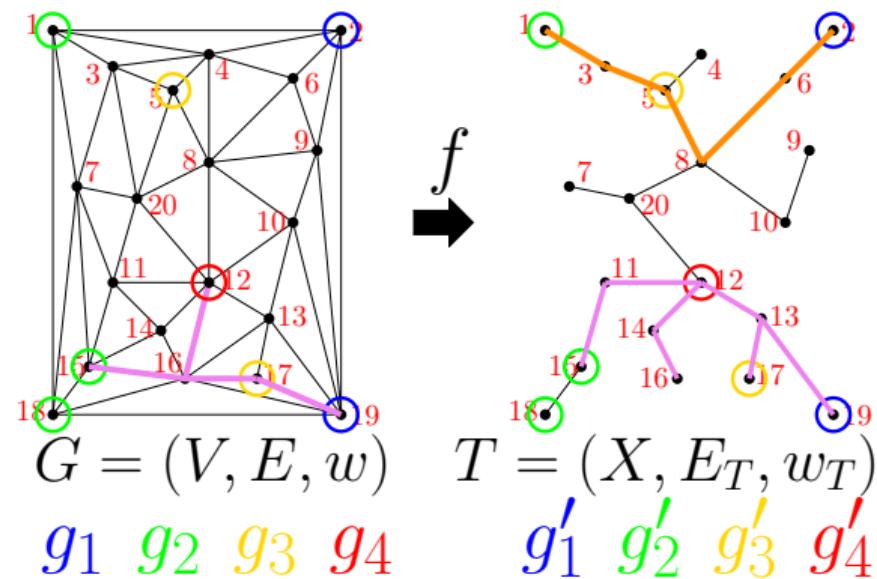
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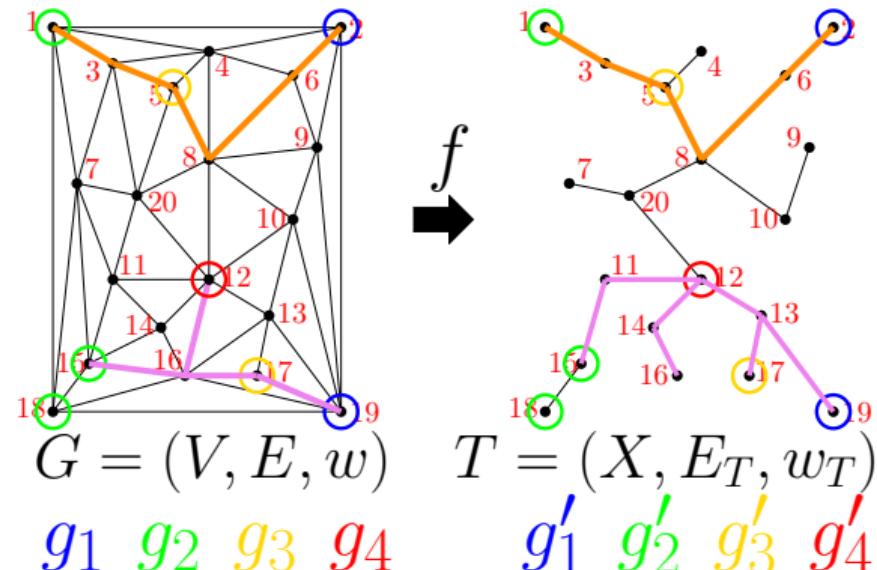
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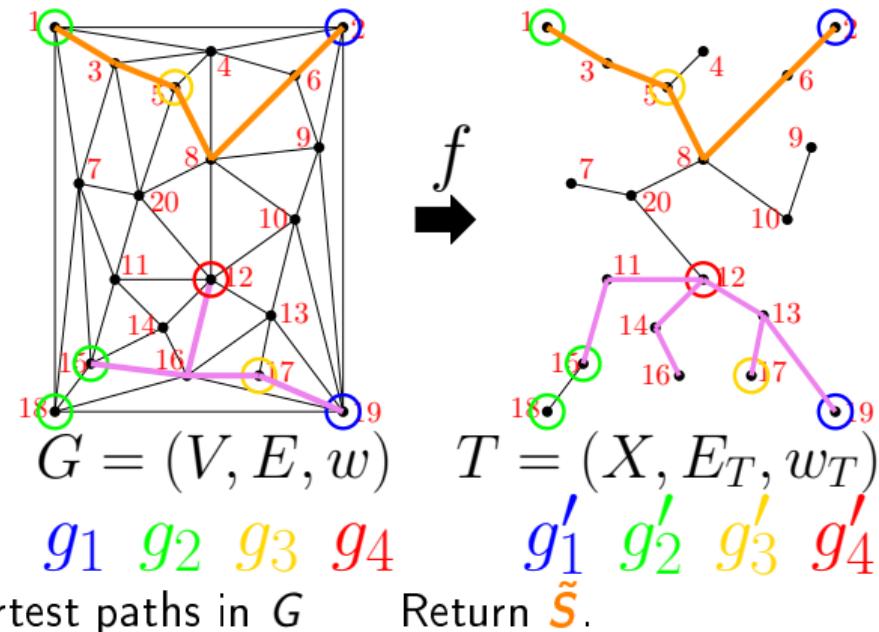
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$$\mathbb{E}[w_T(\tilde{S})] \leq \mathbb{E}[w_T(\tilde{S}_T)]$$

$$\leq O(\log n \cdot \log k) \cdot \mathbb{E}[w(S_T^*)] \leq O(\log^2 n \cdot \log k) \cdot w(S^*)$$

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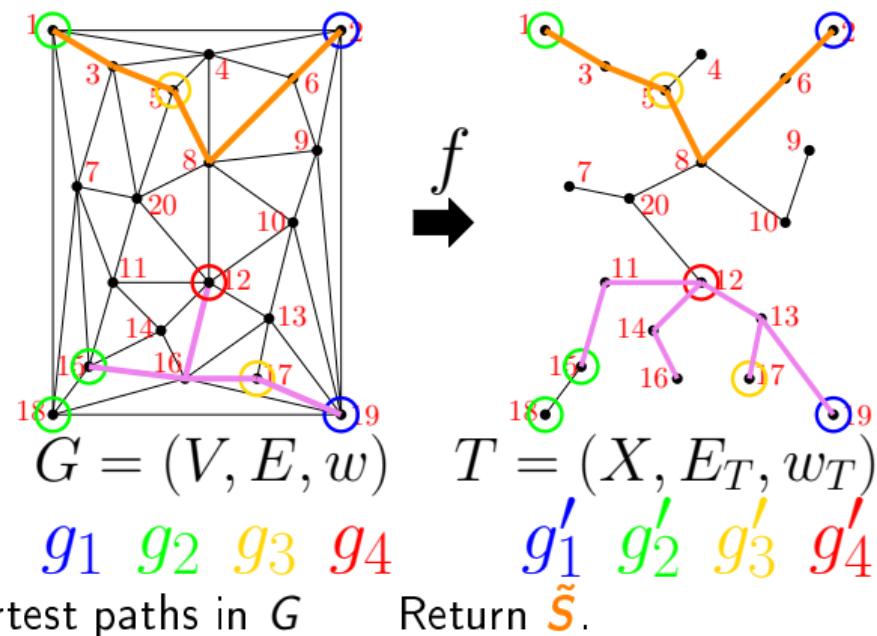
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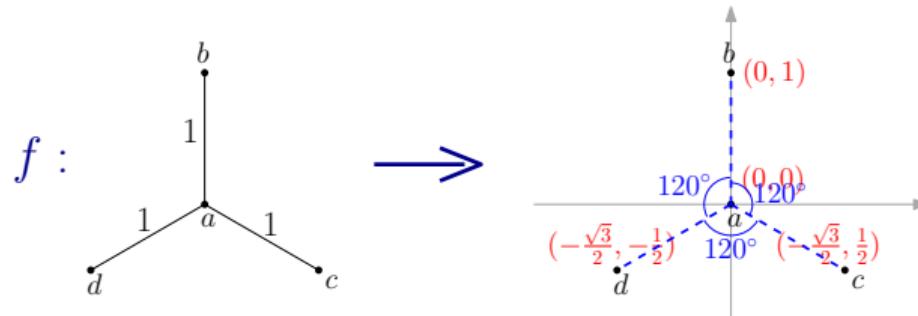
Repeat the process  $O(\log n)$  times, and return the observed solution of minimum weight.

# Outline of the talk

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Stochastic embedding into trees
- 3 Distance Oracle
- 4 Group Steiner Tree
- 5 Conclusion
- 6 Appendix

$f : (X, d_X) \rightarrow (Y, d_Y)$  has **distortion**  $t$  if:

$$\forall x, y \in X, d_X(x, y) \leq d_Y(f(x), f(y)) \leq t \cdot d_X(x, y) .$$



	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$
$a$	1	1	1	
$b$	1	2	2	2
$c$	1	2	2	
$d$	1	2	2	

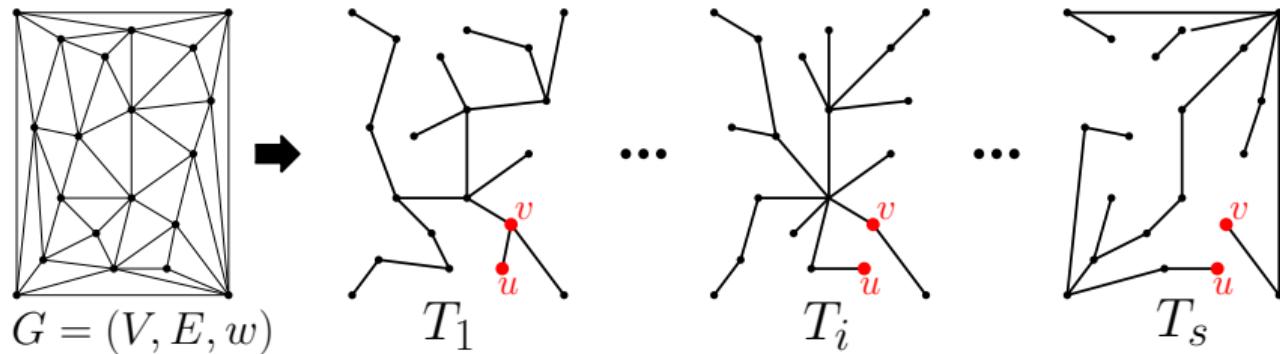
	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$
$a$		$2/\sqrt{3}$	$2/\sqrt{3}$	$2/\sqrt{3}$
$b$	$2/\sqrt{3}$		2	2
$c$	$2/\sqrt{3}$	2		2
$d$	$2/\sqrt{3}$	2	2	

The distortion of the embedding is  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \approx 1.1547$ .

# Stochastic Embedding into Trees

Theorem ([Fakcharoenphol, Rao, Talwar 04], improving [Bartal 96+98])

Every  $n$ -point metric space  $(X, d)$  embeds into **distribution  $\mathcal{D}$**  over **dominating trees** with **expected distortion  $O(\log n)$** .



For every  $u, v \in X$  and  $T \in \text{supp}(\mathcal{D})$ ,  $d_X(u, v) \leq d_T(f(u), f(v))$ .

For every  $u, v \in X$      $\mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}}[d_T(f(u), f(v))] \leq O(\log n) \cdot d_X(u, v)$ .

[Alon, Karp, Peleg, West 95]: Tight!

## Distance Oracle construction

Sample  $s = 4 \log n$  trees  $T_1, \dots, T_s$ . Given  $x, y$  return  $\text{DO}(x, y) = \min_{i \in [1, s]} d_{T_i}(x, y)$ .

Clearly, as the trees are **dominating**,  $\text{DO}(x, y) = \min_{i \in [1, s]} d_{T_i}(x, y) \geq d_X(x, y)$ .

Thus with high probability, for every  $x, y \in X$

$$\text{DO}(x, y) < 2 \cdot \mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}}[d_T(x, y)] = O(\log n) \cdot d_G(x, y).$$

**Space:** storing  $O(\log n)$  trees. Total space is  $O(n \log n)$  (machine words).

**Query time:** computing  $d_{T_i}(x, y)$  for  $i \in [1, s]$ .

There is a data structure computing distance in (some) trees in  $O(1)$  time.

Overall  $O(\log n)$  query time.

Overall we obtained distance approximation  $O(\log n)$  with  $O(\log n)$  query time and  $O(n \log n)$  space.

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$S^*$  optimal solution.

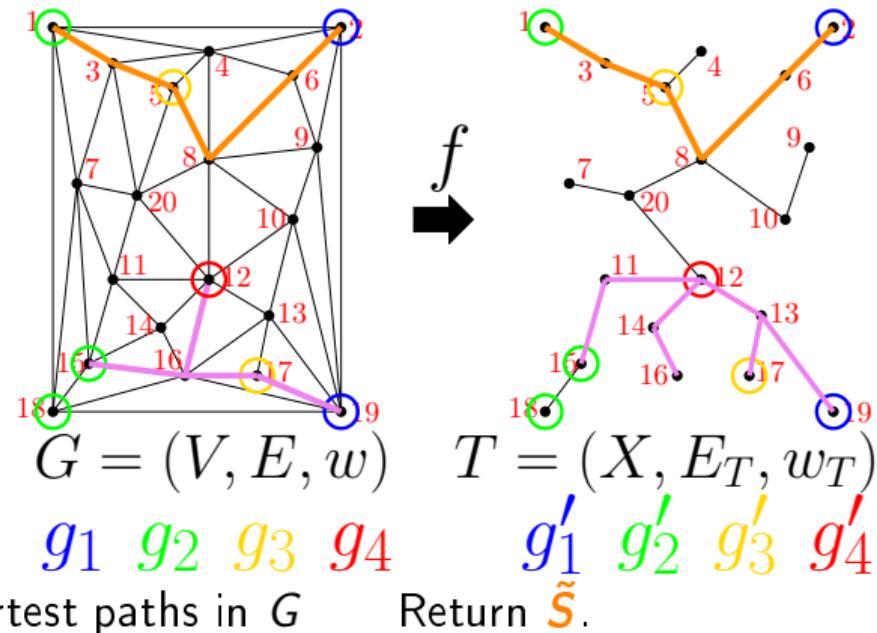
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I am looking for master students!

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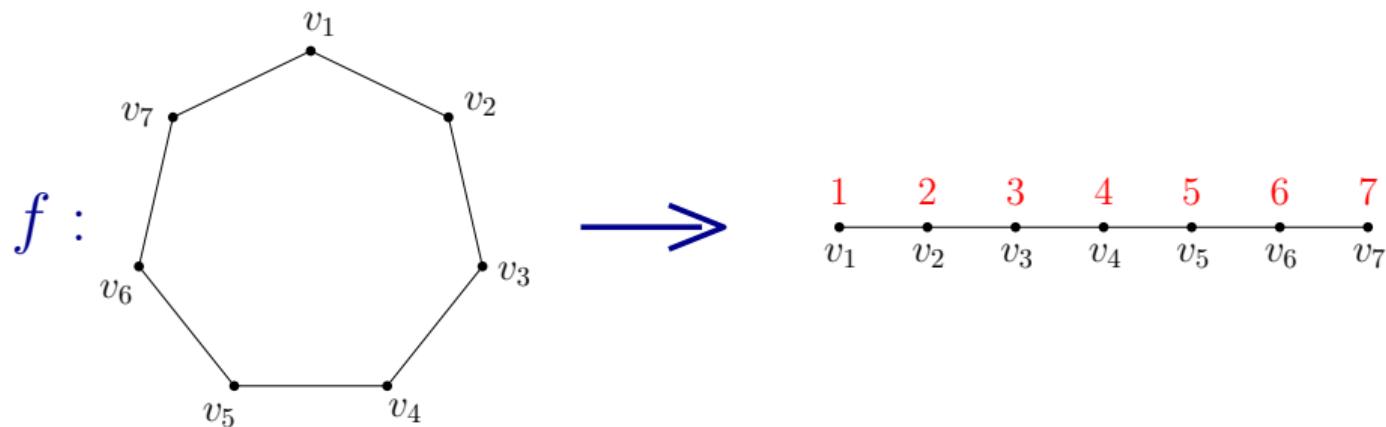
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You can learn about my research from many different videos in my [home-page](#).

# Quiz.

**Q0:** Consider an embedding of the circle graph  $C_7$  into the line, such that the vertices  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_6, v_7$  are mapped to  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$  respectively.  
What is the distortion?

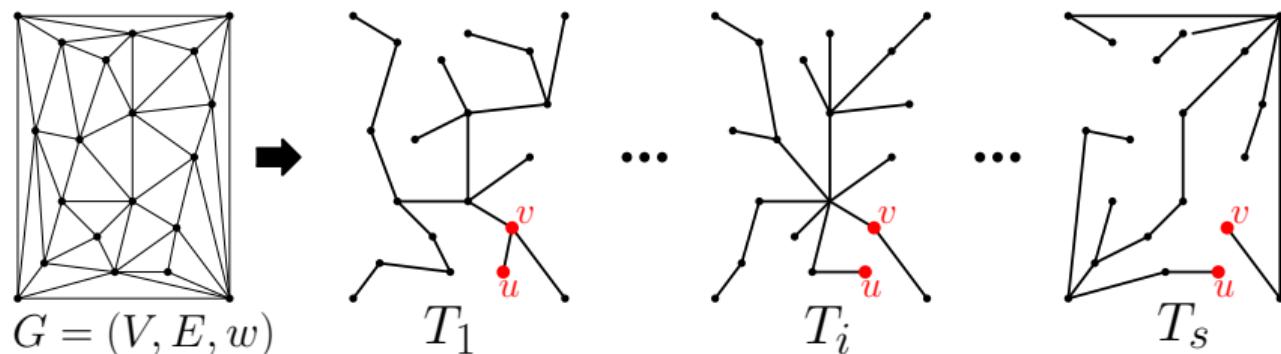


**Quiz.** Consider a graph family called *Graphica Prime*, such that every graph  $G$  in the family embeds into **distribution**  $\mathcal{D}$  over **dominating trees** with **expected distortion**  $t$ .

# Stochastic Embedding into Trees

Theorem (Stochastic embedding for Graphica Prime)

Every graph  $G = (V, E, w)$  in *Graphica Prime* embeds into **distribution  $\mathcal{D}$**  over **dominating trees** with expected distortion  $t$ .



For every  $u, v \in X$  and  $T \in \text{supp}(\mathcal{D})$ ,  $d_X(u, v) \leq d_T(f(u), f(v))$ .

For every  $u, v \in X$      $\mathbb{E}_{T \sim \mathcal{D}}[d_T(f(u), f(v))] \leq t \cdot d_X(u, v)$ .

**Quiz.** Consider a graph family called *Graphica Prime*, such that every  $n$ -graph  $G$  in the family embeds into **distribution**  $\mathcal{D}$  over **dominating trees** with **expected distortion**  $t$ . Using similar techniques to what we did in class:

**Q1:** What **distance oracle** can you achieve for graphs in *Graphica Prime*?

**Q2:** What **approximation factor** can you obtain for graphs in *Graphica Prime* for the group Steiner tree problem?

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Link to quiz:



Can also be found in my homepage:

[arnold.filtser.com](http://arnold.filtser.com)

Or just google Arnold Filtser.

Link to slides:



# Outline of the talk - Appendix

- 7 Bartal 96 and Padded decompositions
- 8 Metrical Task System
- 9 Ramsey type embeddings
- 10 Clan embedding
- 11 Group Steiner Tree (using clan embedding)

We will begin our tour of metric embeddings into trees with the classics: [Bartal 96]

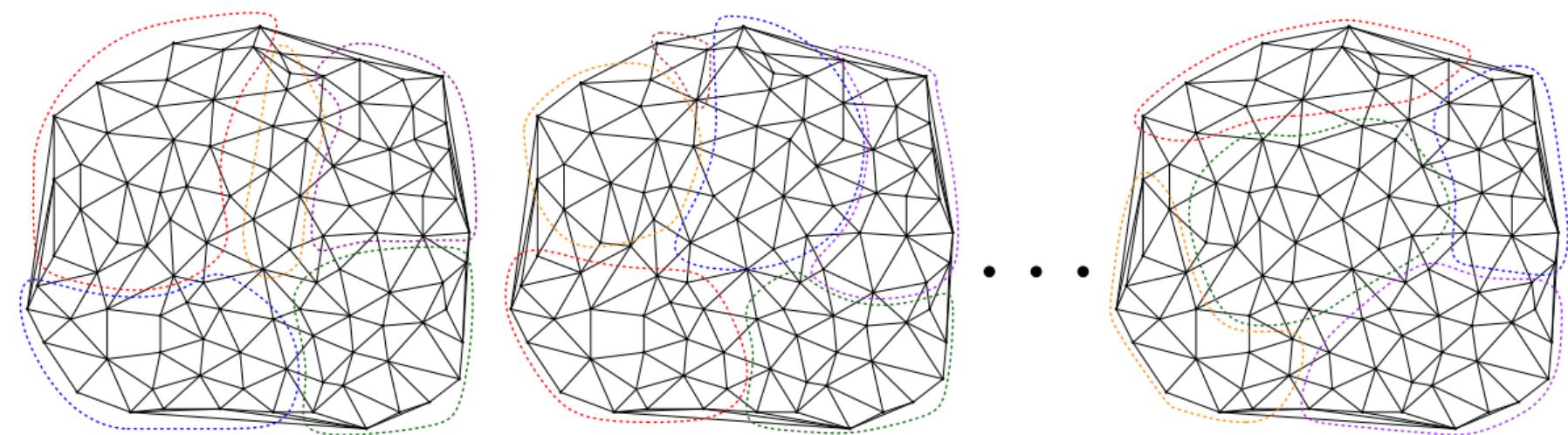
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This one is based on random partitions of metric spaces.

## Definition (Padded Decomposition)

Given a metric space  $(X, d_X)$  (or a weight graph  $G = (V, E, w)$ ).

**Distribution**  $\mathcal{D}$  over partitions of  $G$  is  $(\beta, \Delta)$ -padded decomposition if:

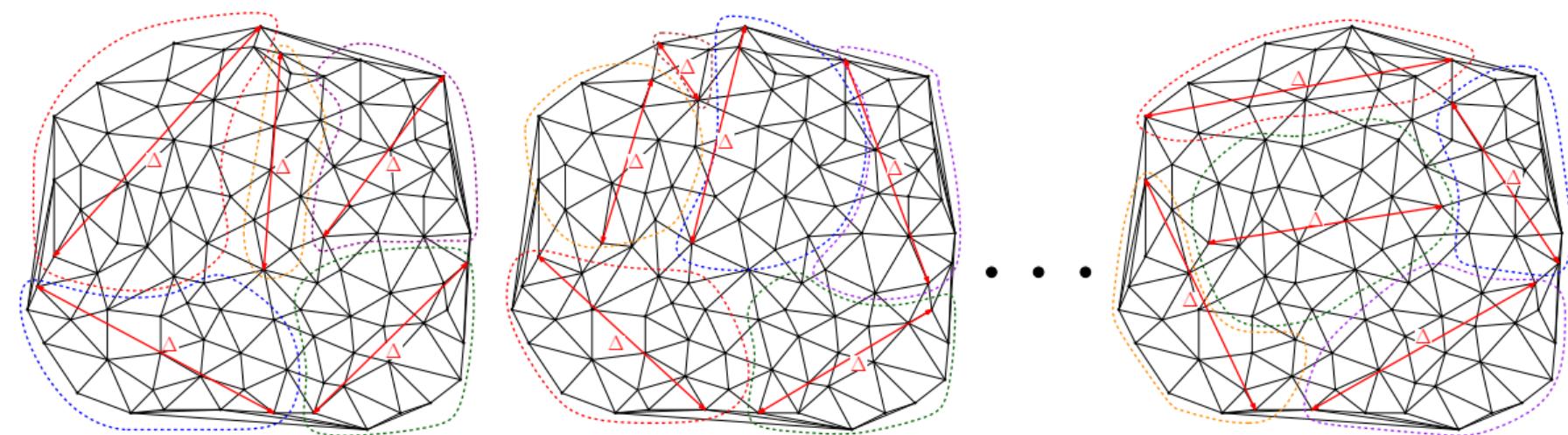


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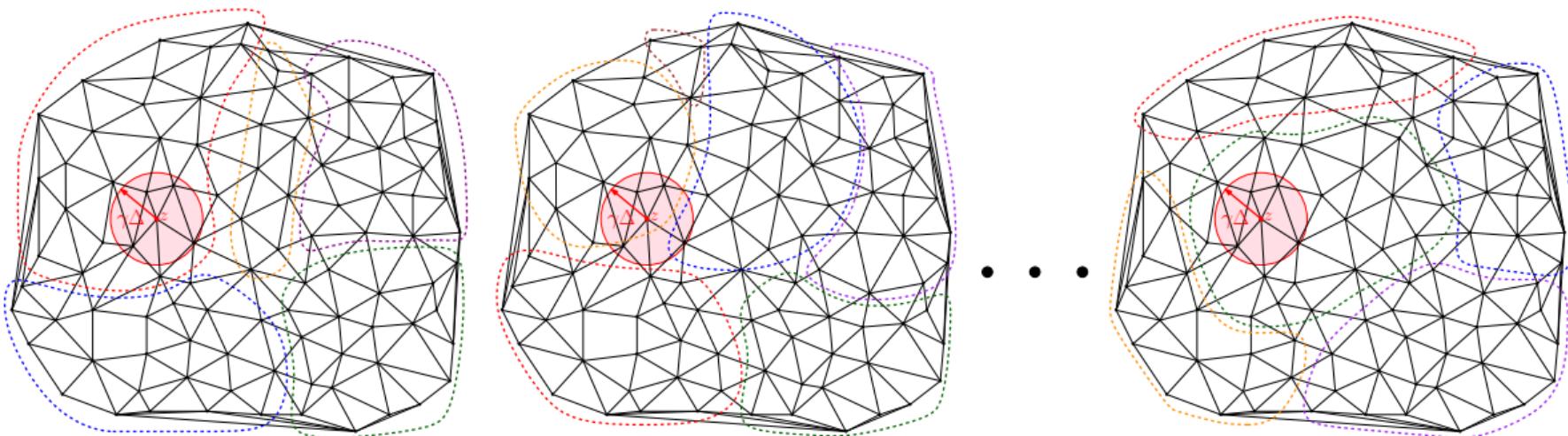


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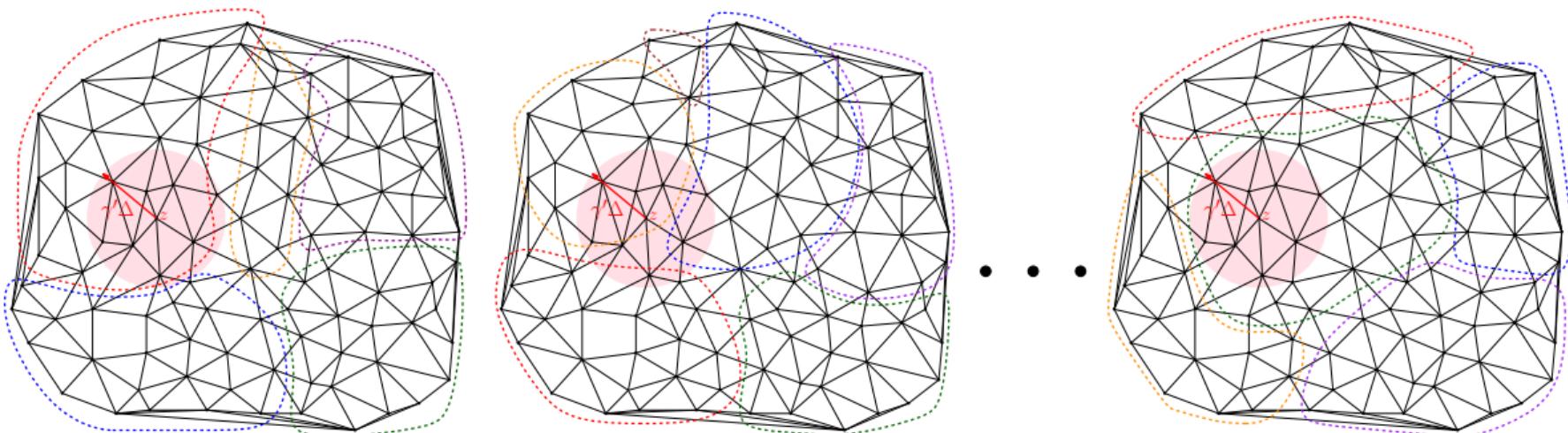


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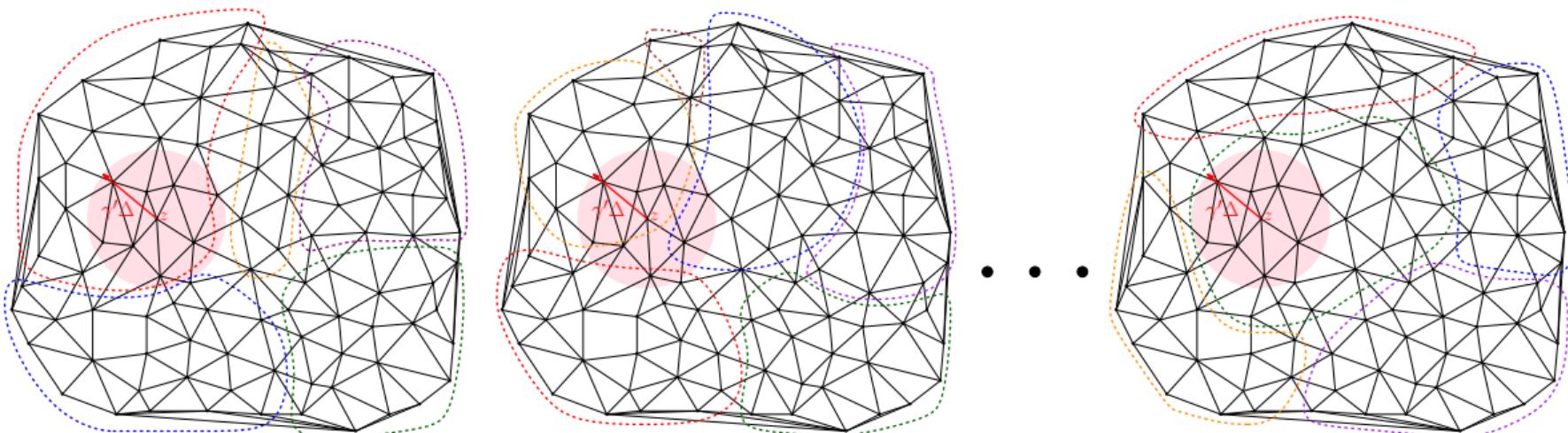


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$G$  admits a  $\beta$ -padded decomposition scheme:

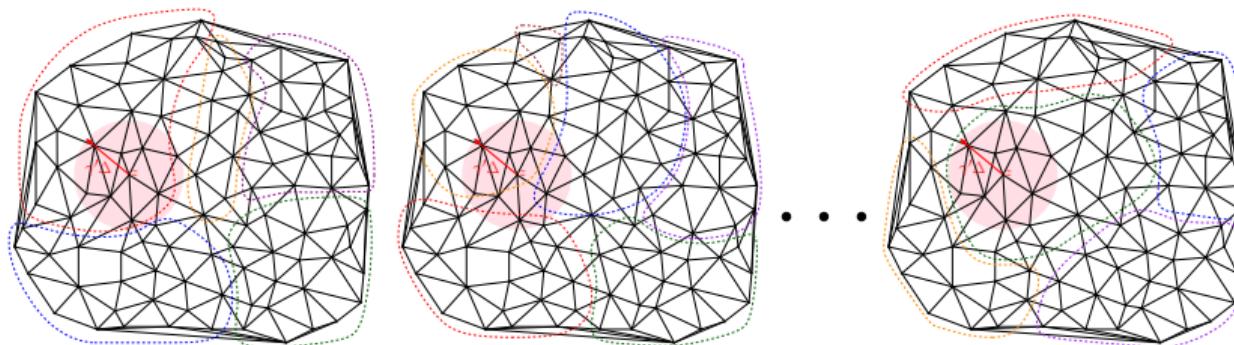
$\forall \Delta > 0$ ,  $G$  admits  $(\beta, \Delta)$ -padded decomposition.

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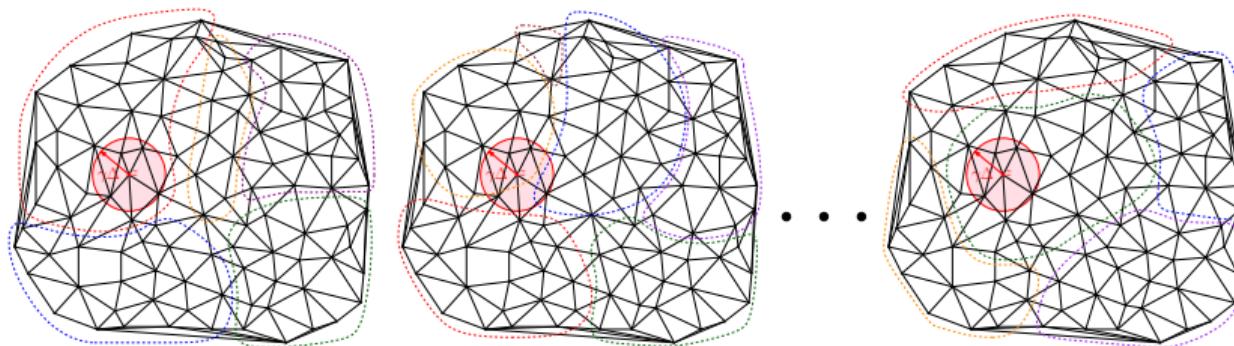
Note:  $\Pr[B(z, \frac{1}{\beta} \cdot \Delta) \subseteq P(z)] \geq \Omega(1)$ .

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Note:  $\Pr[B(z, \frac{1}{\beta} \cdot \Delta) \subseteq P(z)] \geq \Omega(1)$ .

For small enough  $\gamma$ , cut probability:  $\Pr[B(z, \gamma\Delta) \not\subseteq P(z)] \leq 1 - e^{-\beta\gamma} \approx \beta\gamma$ .

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## Theorem ([Bartal 96])

*Every  $n$ -point metric space admits an  $O(\log n)$ -padded decomposition scheme.*

## Definition (Padded Decomposition)

Given a metric space  $(X, d_X)$  (or a weight graph  $G = (V, E, w)$ ).

**Distribution**  $\mathcal{D}$  over partitions of  $G$  is  $(\beta, \Delta)$ -padded decomposition if:

- For every cluster  $C \in \mathcal{P} \sim \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\text{diam}(C) \leq \Delta$ .
- For every small  $0 \leq \gamma$ , and  $z \in V$ ,  $\Pr[B(z, \gamma\Delta) \subseteq P(z)] \geq e^{-\beta\gamma}$ .

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This is also tight! [Bartal 96]

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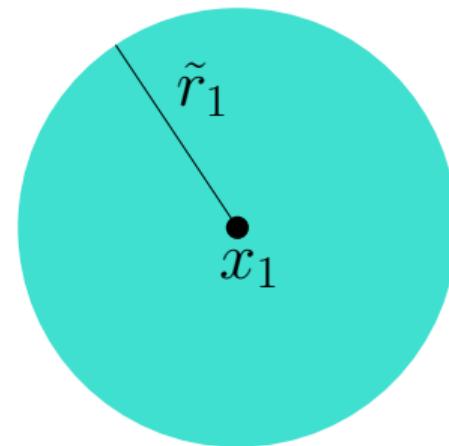
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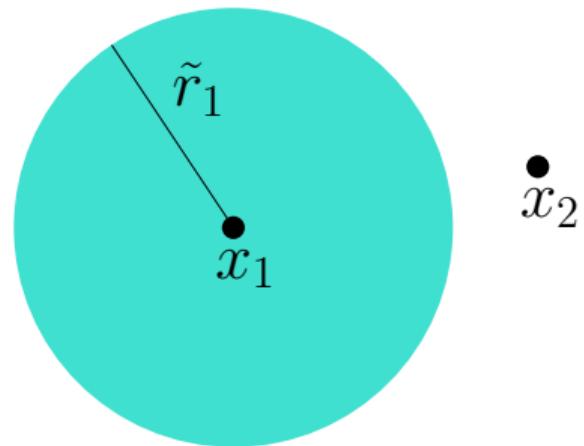


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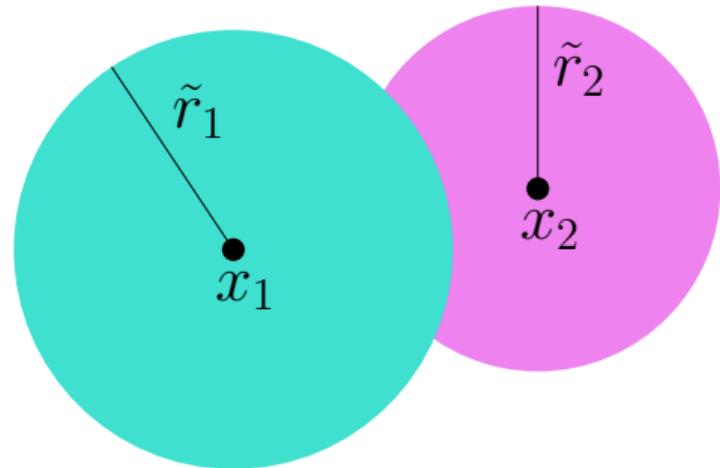


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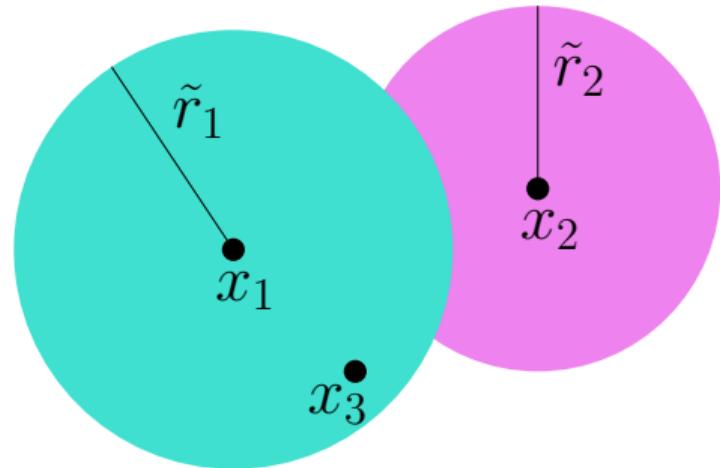


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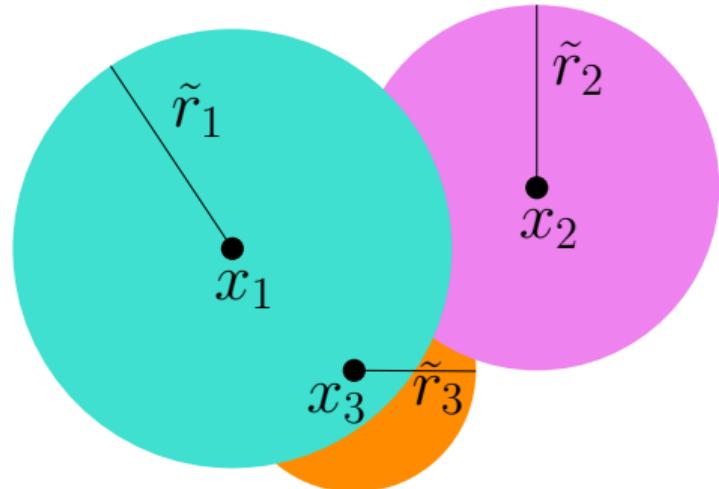


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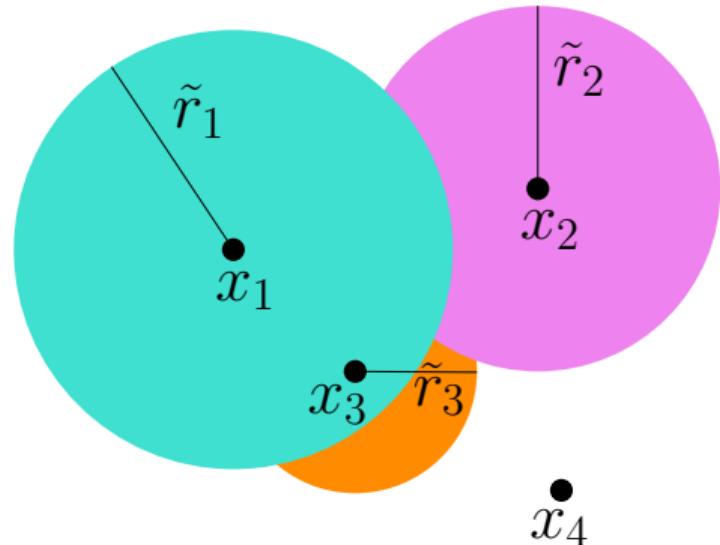


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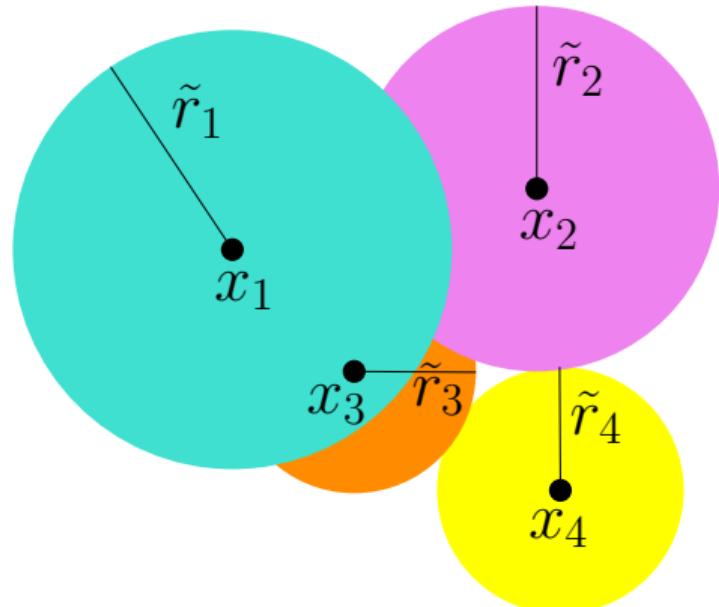


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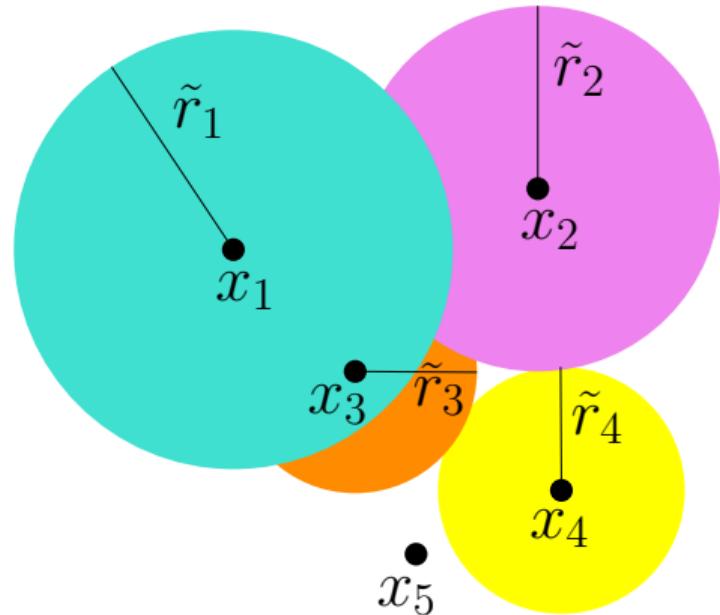


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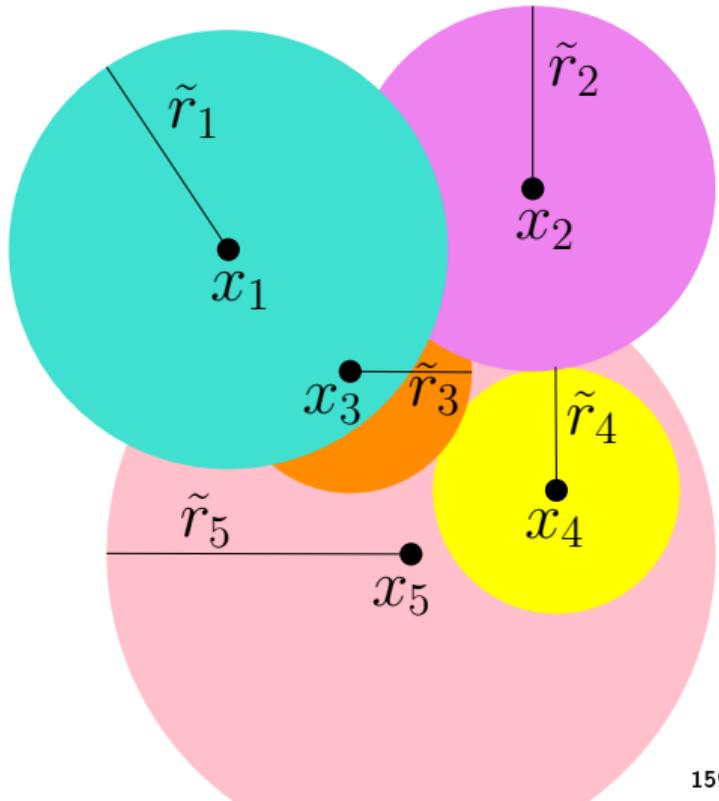


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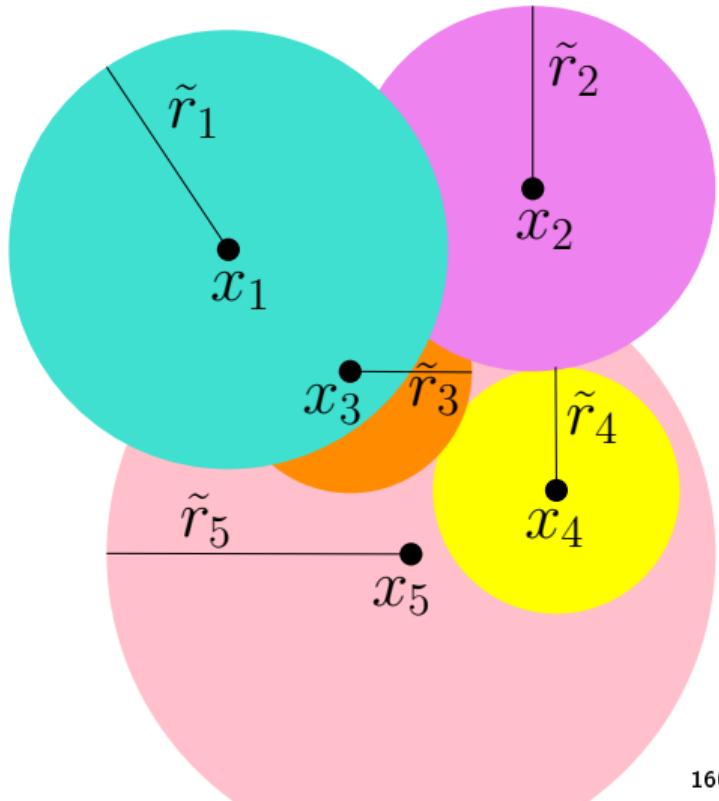
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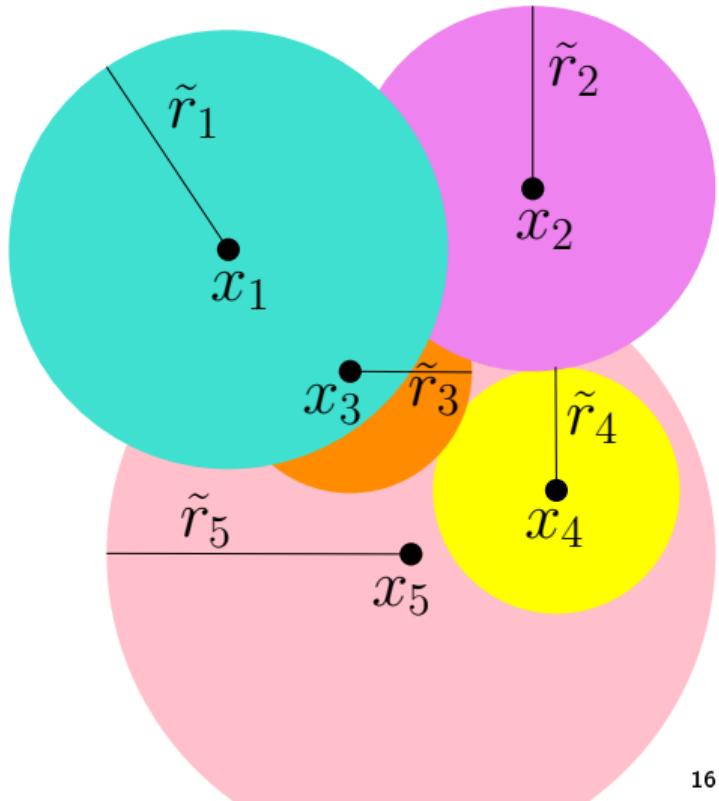
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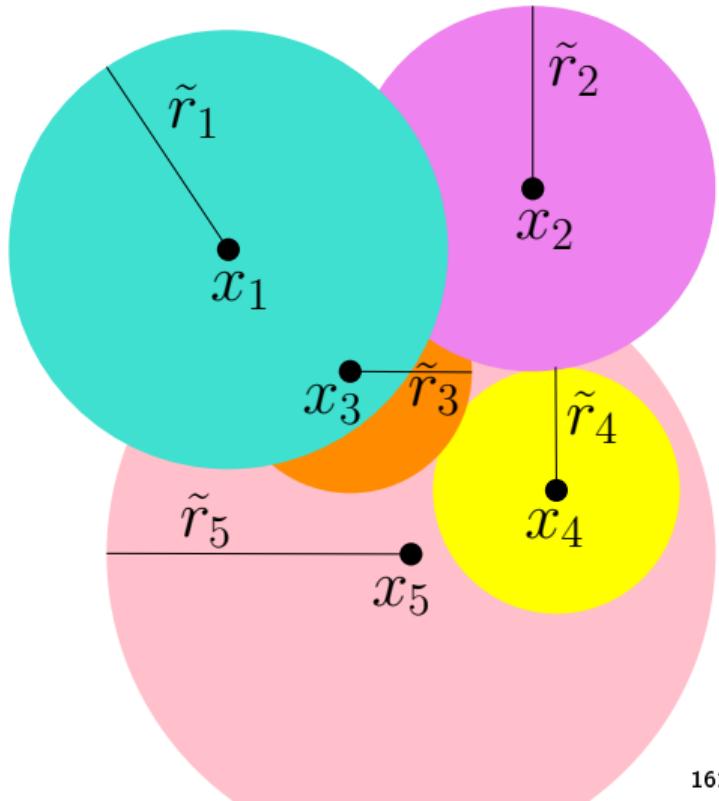
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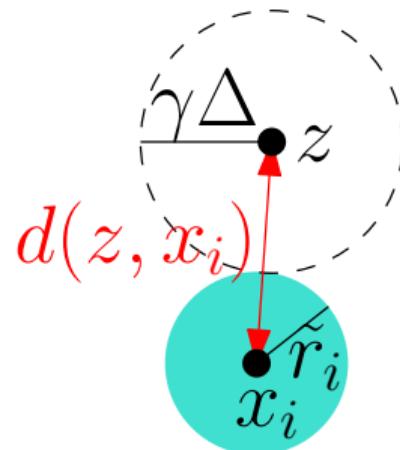


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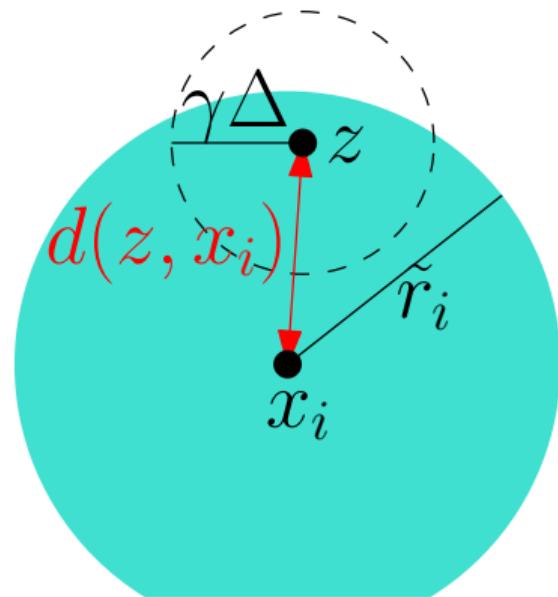
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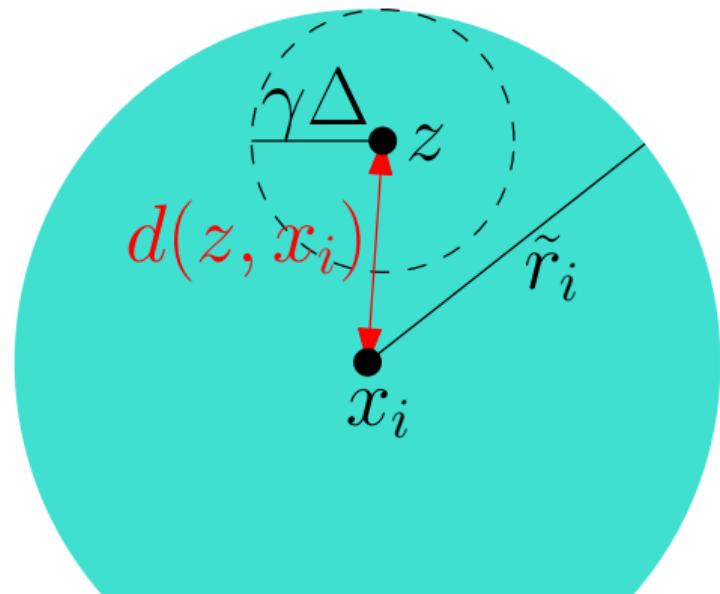
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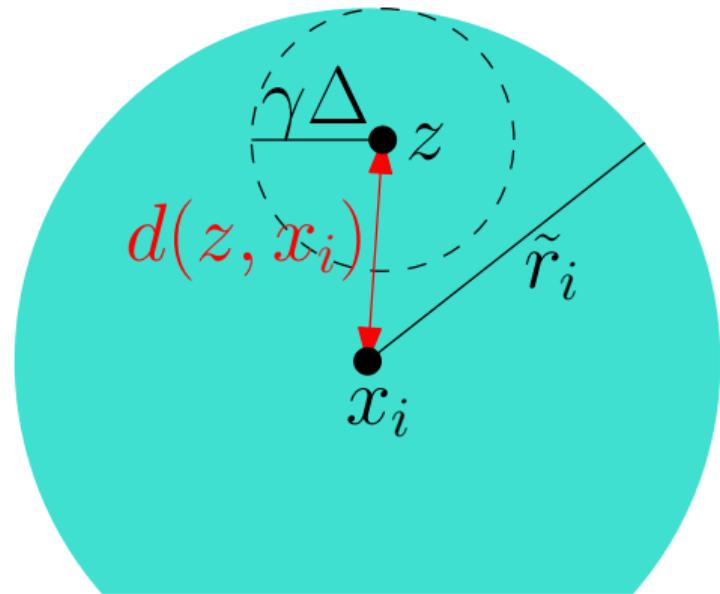
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By **Memorylessness**,

$$\Pr[B(z, \gamma\Delta) \subseteq C_i \mid B(z, \gamma\Delta) \cap C_i \neq \emptyset] \geq \Pr[\tilde{r}_i \geq 2\gamma\Delta] = e^{-\gamma \cdot 2c \log n}$$



## Theorem ([Bartal 96])

*Every  $n$ -point metric space  $(X, d)$  embeds into **distribution  $\mathcal{D}$**  over **dominating trees** with **expected distortion  $O(\log^2 n)$** .*

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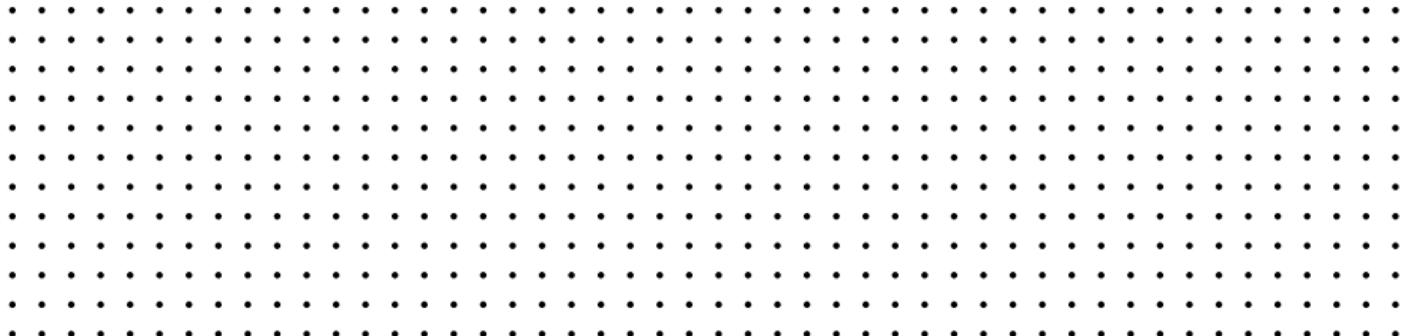
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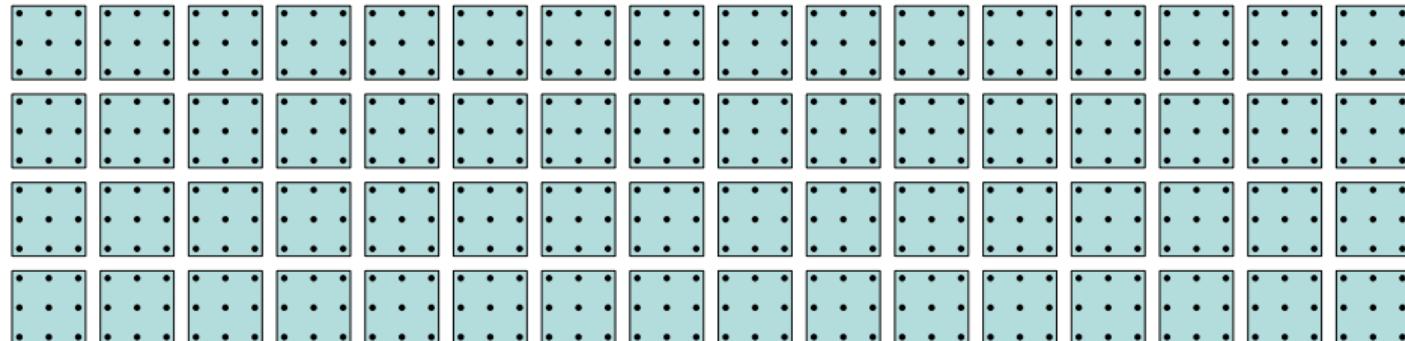
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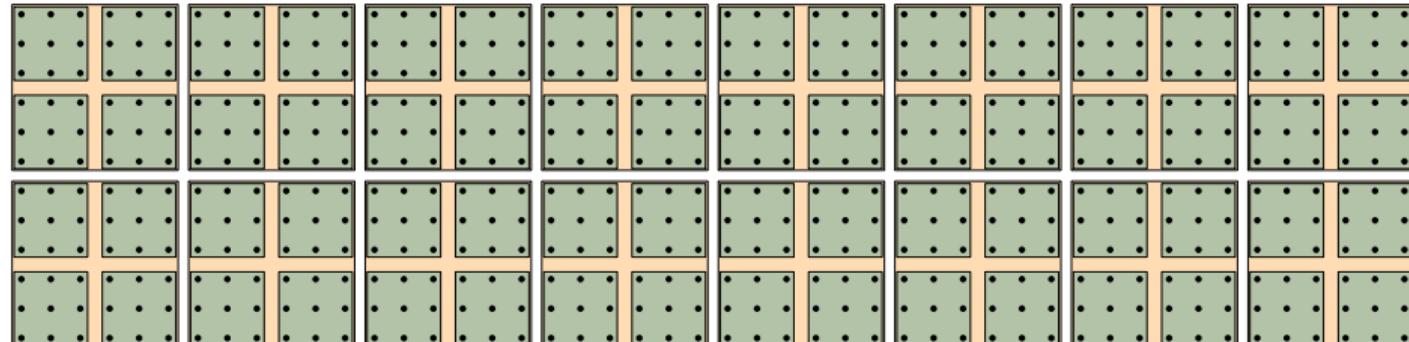
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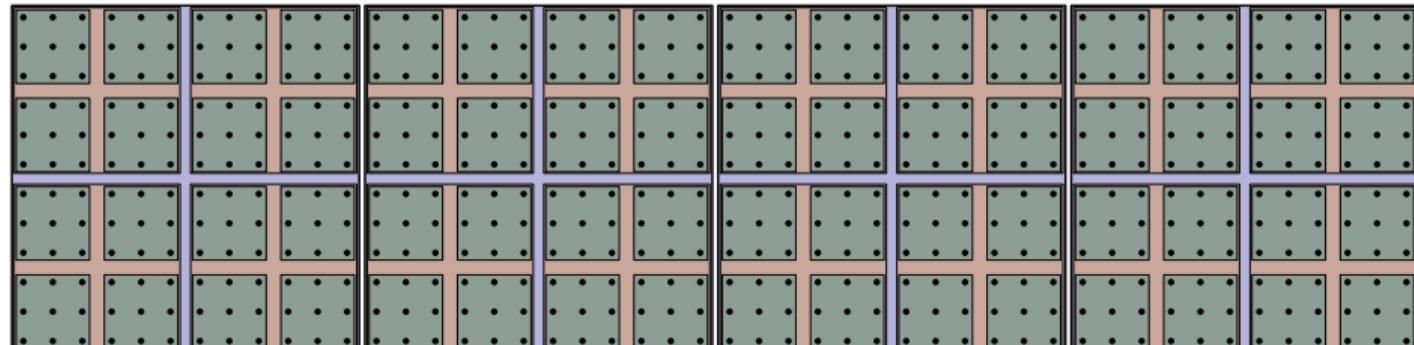
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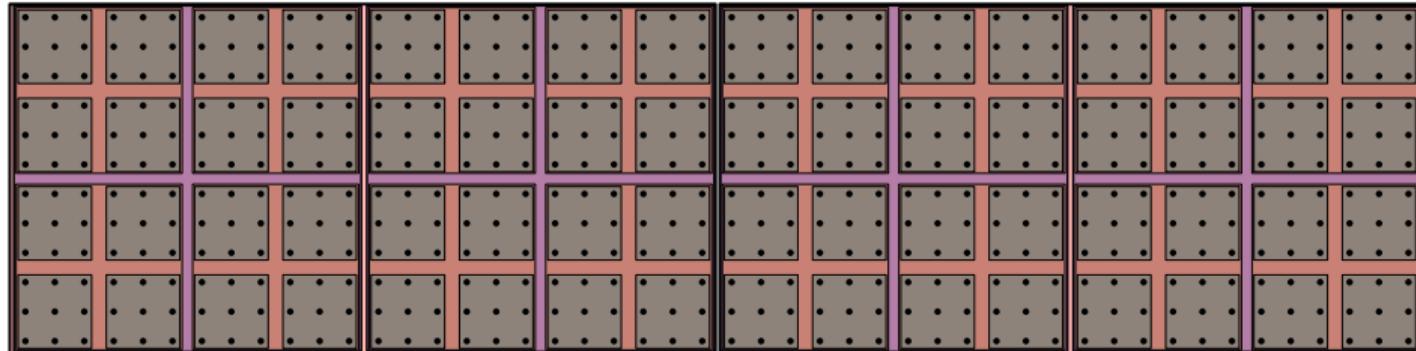
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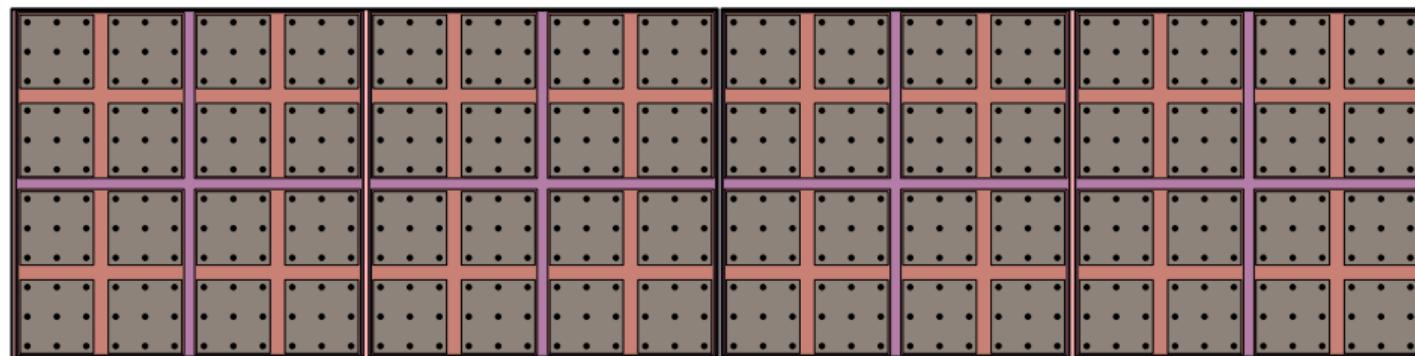
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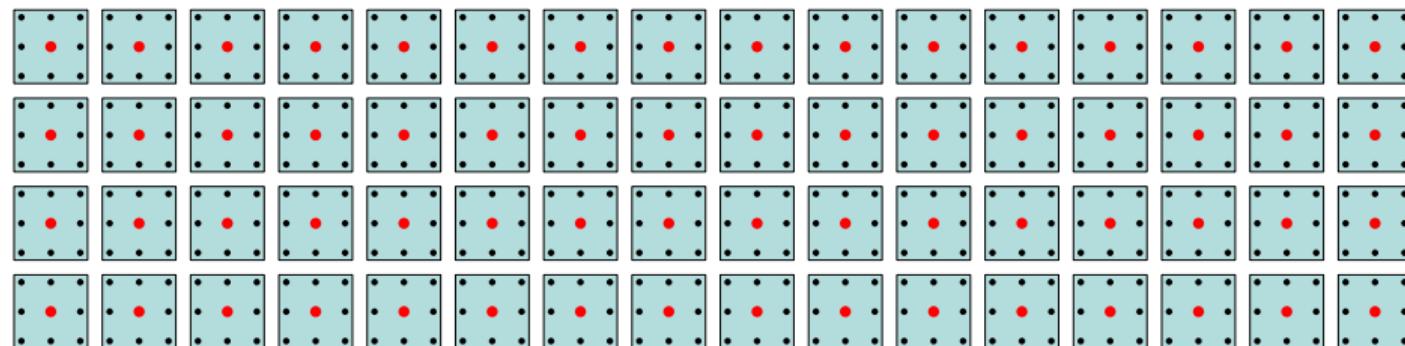
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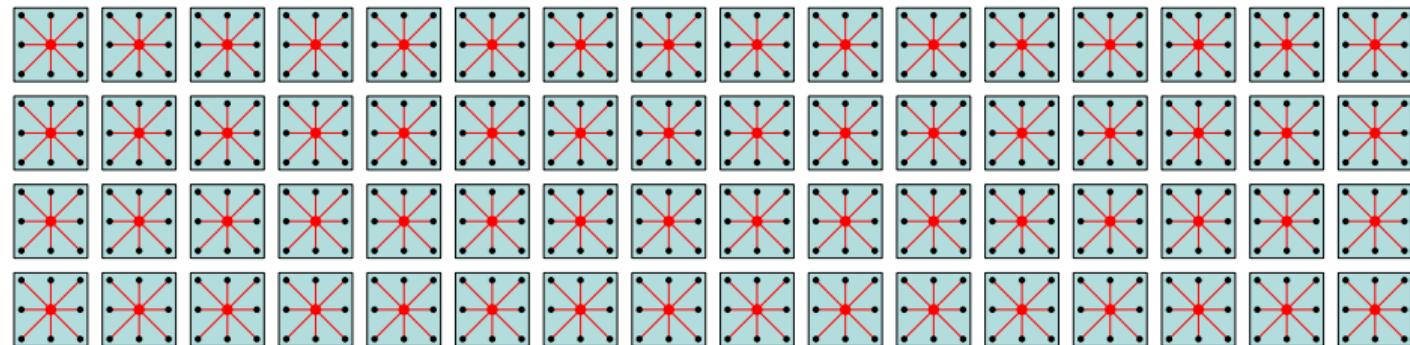
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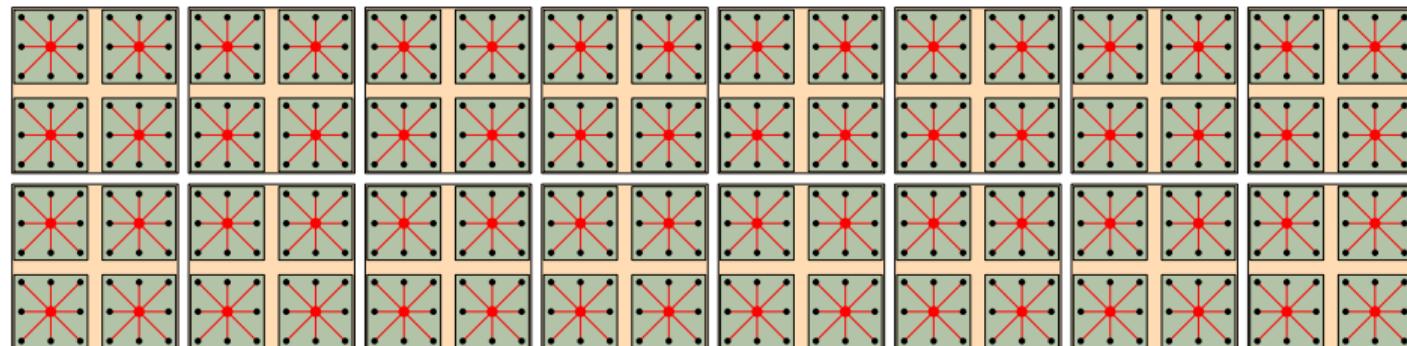
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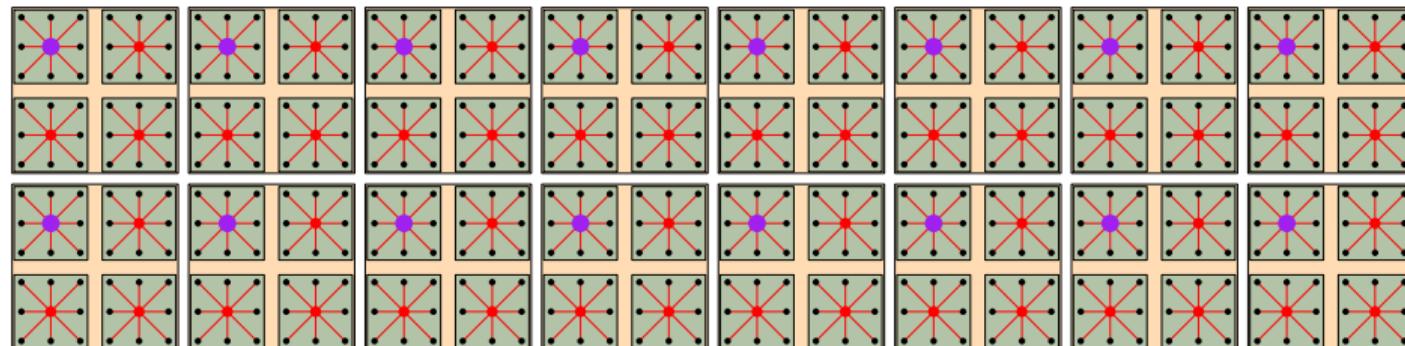
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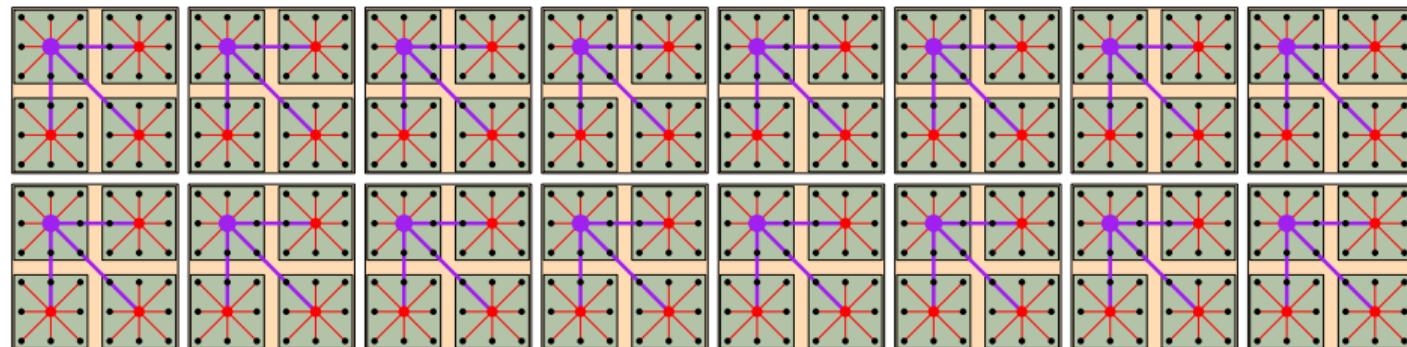
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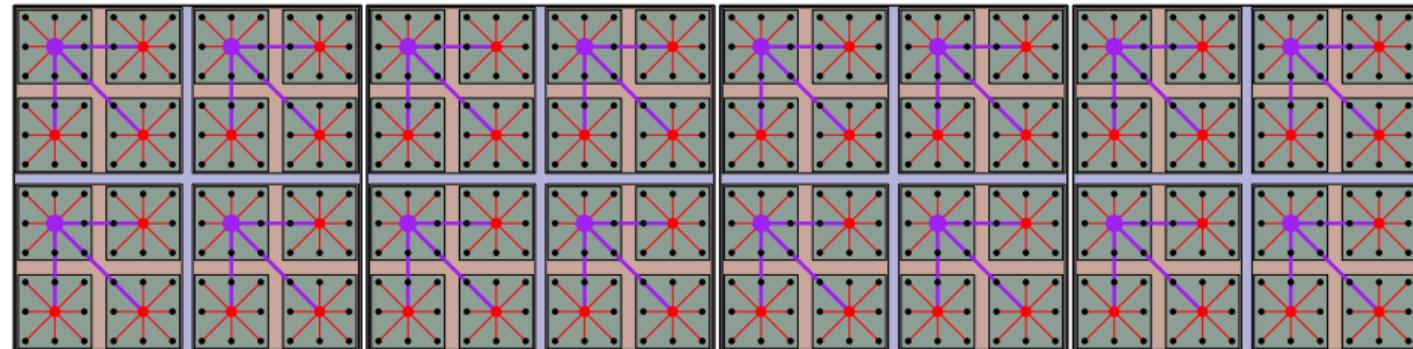
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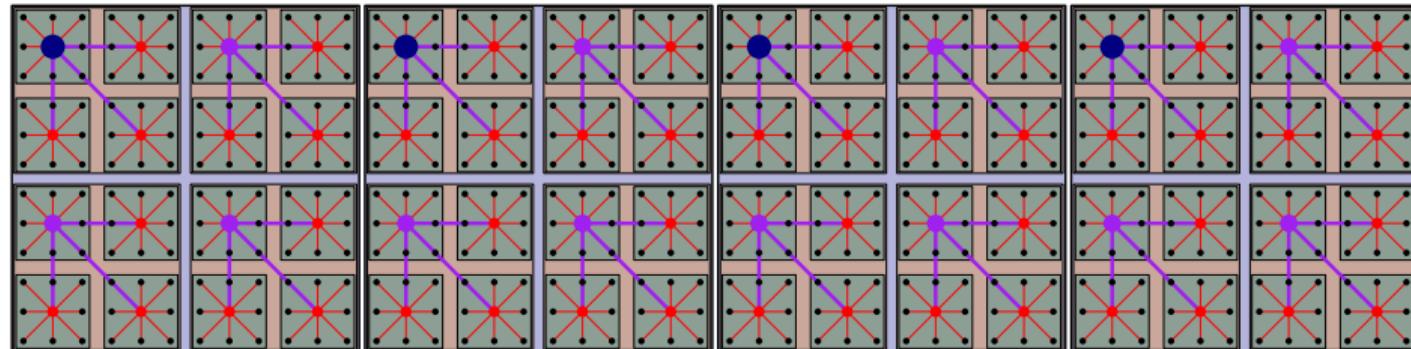
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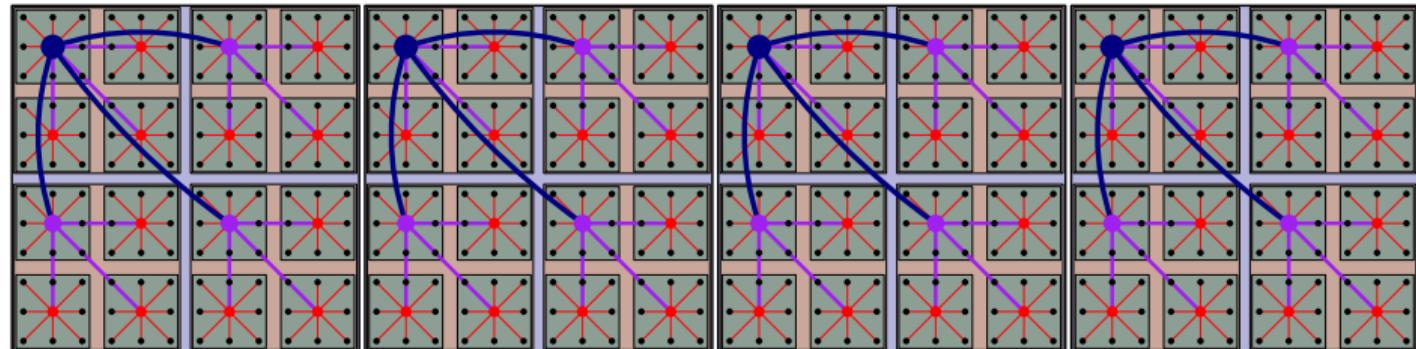
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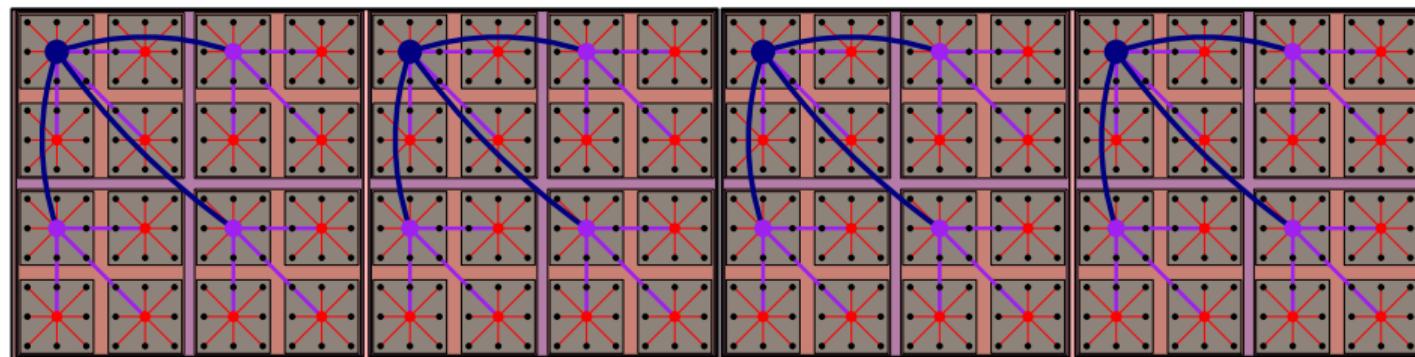
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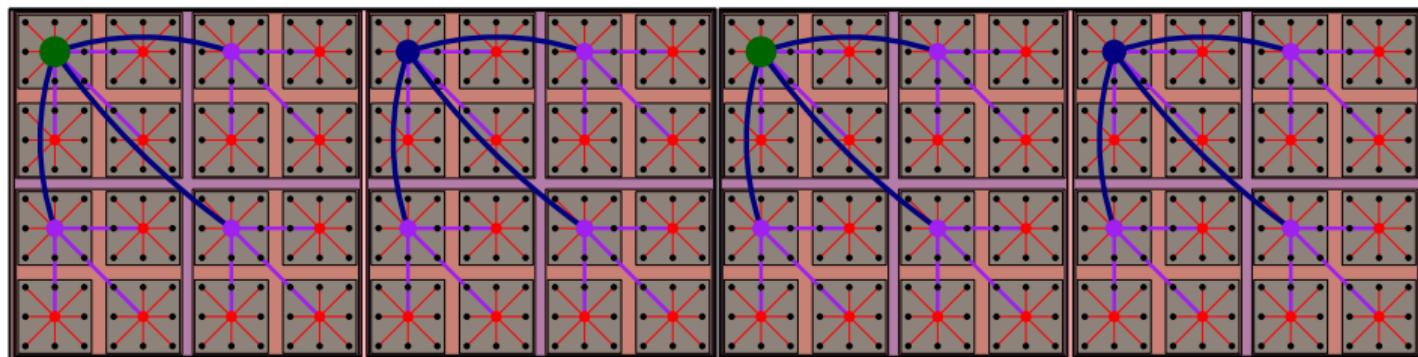
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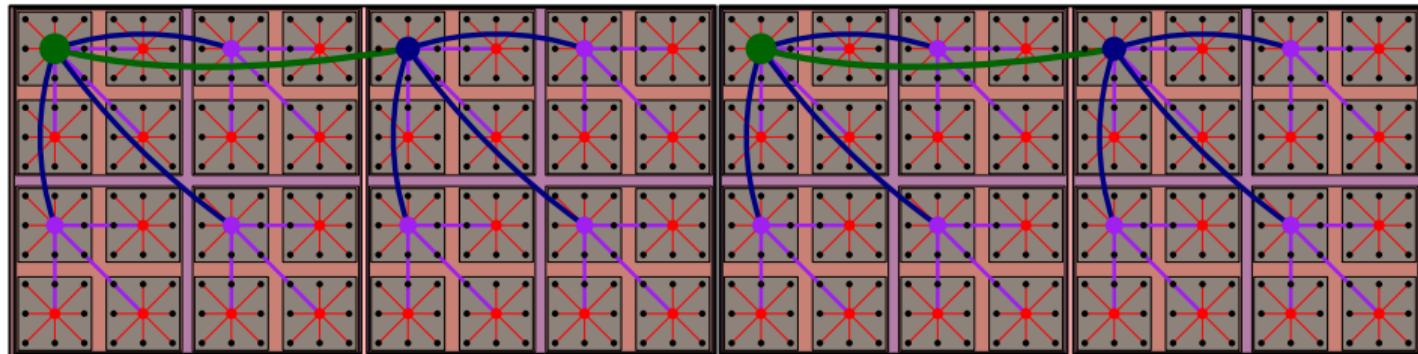
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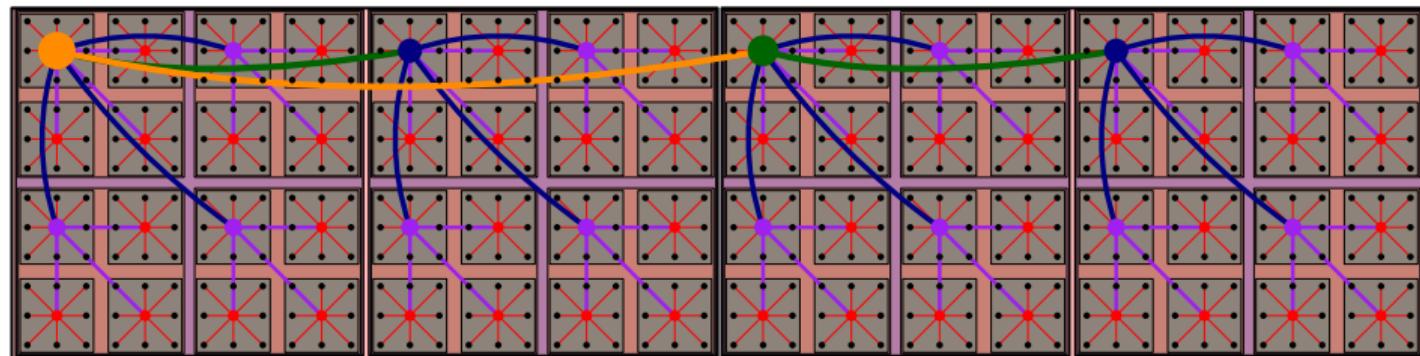
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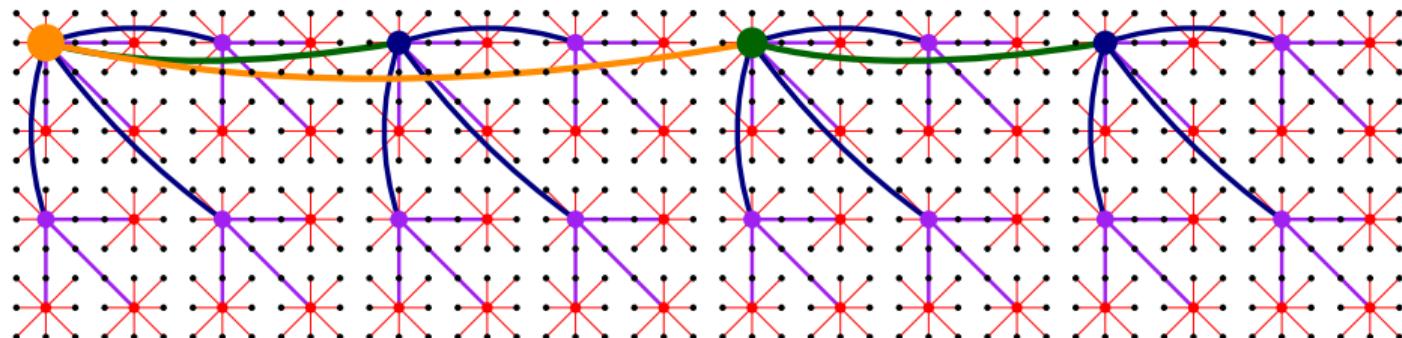
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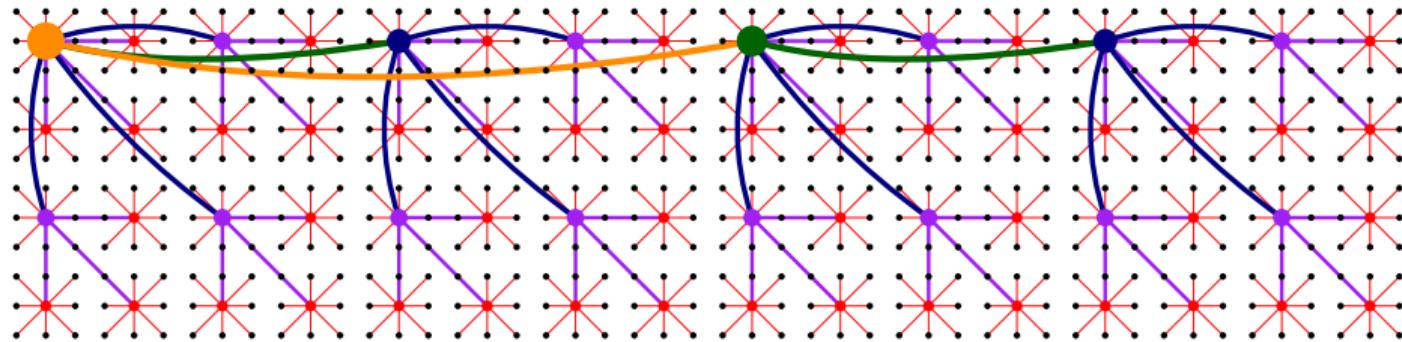
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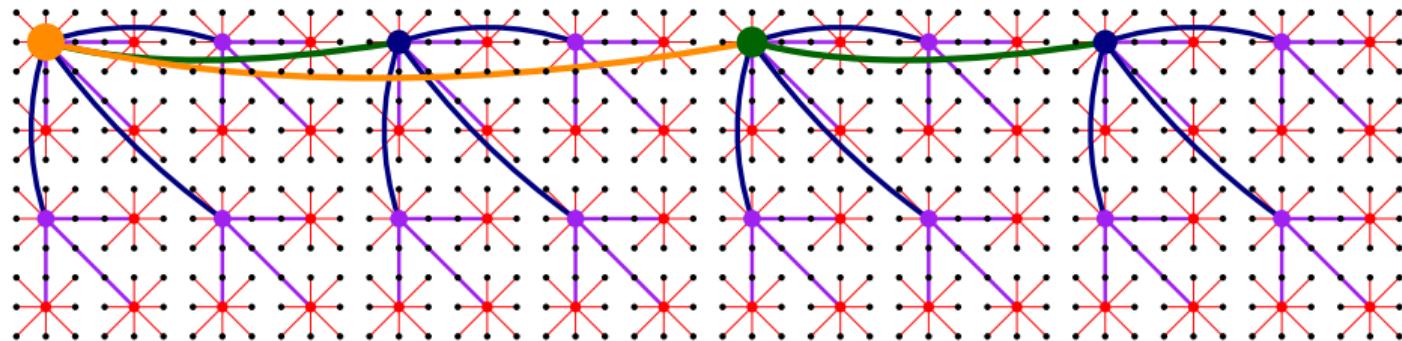


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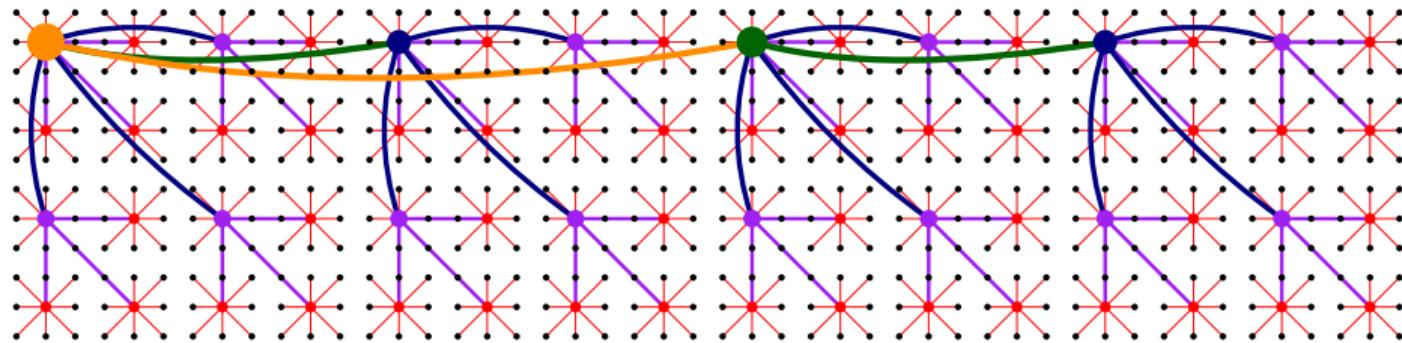
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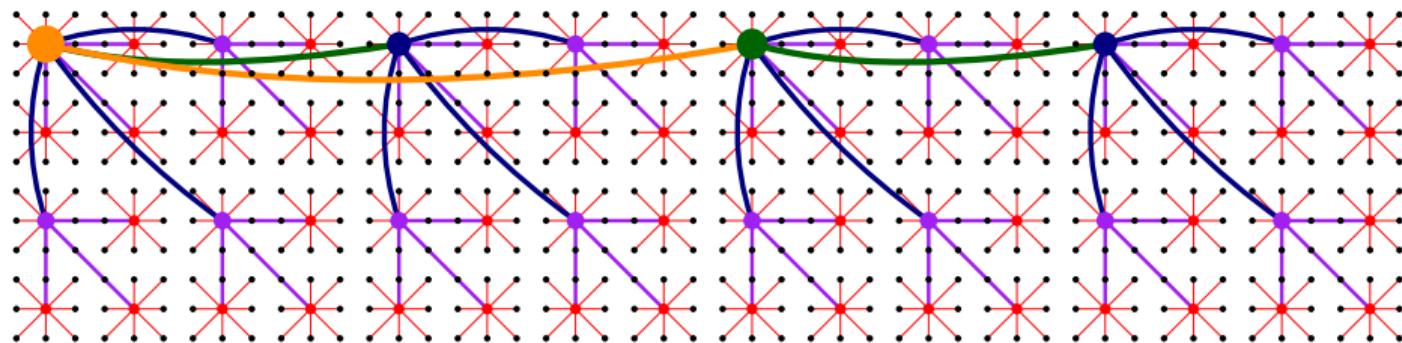
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Specifically, the probability to cut  $x, y$  at scale  $\Delta$  is

$$\approx \frac{d_X(x, y)}{\Delta} \cdot \log \frac{|B(x, c \cdot 2^i)|}{|B(x, 2^i/c)|}$$

for some constant  $c$ , instead of  $\approx \frac{d_X(x, y)}{\Delta} \cdot \log n$ . Then the sum “telescopes”.

# Outline of the talk - Appendix

7 Bartal 96 and Padded decompositions

8 Metrical Task System

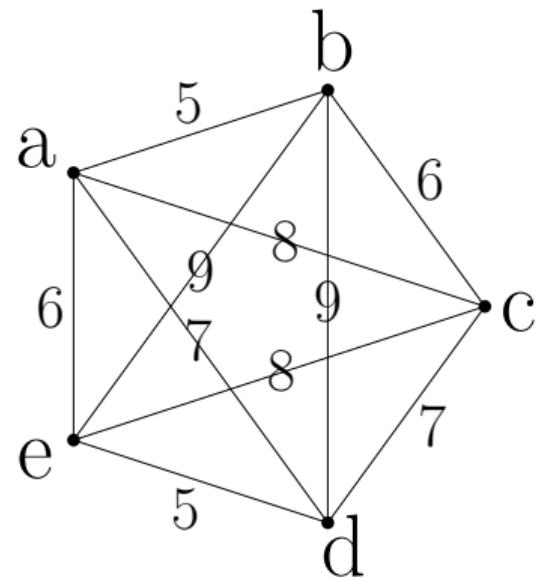
9 Ramsey type embeddings

10 Clan embedding

11 Group Steiner Tree (using clan embedding)

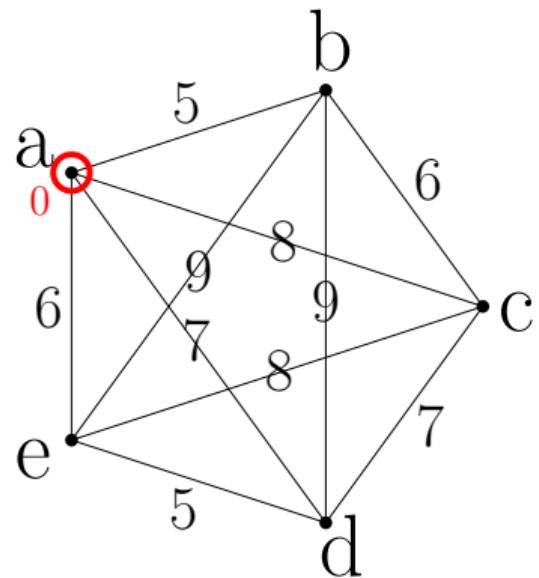
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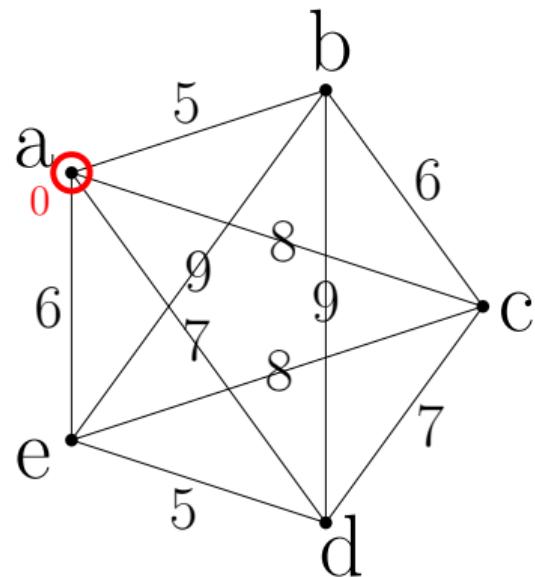
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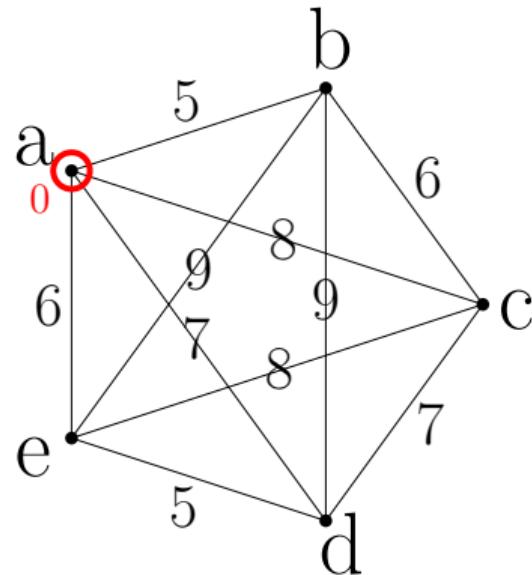
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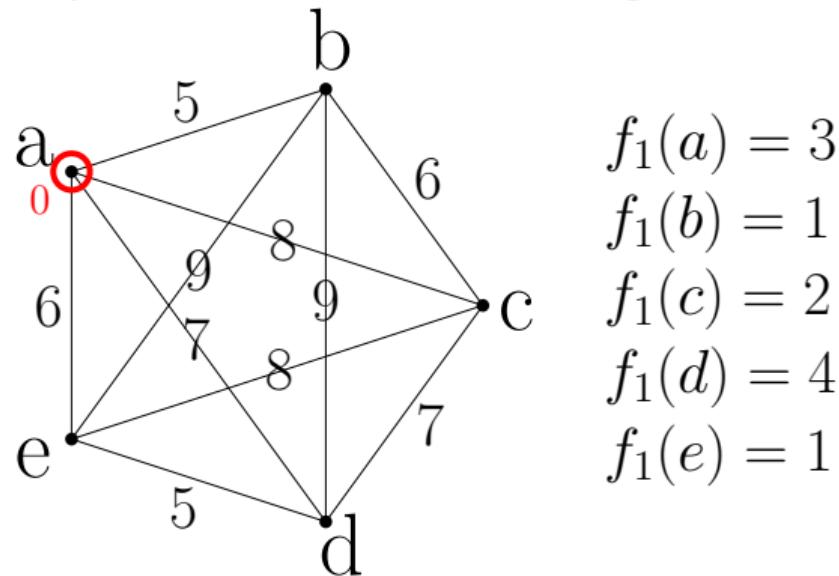
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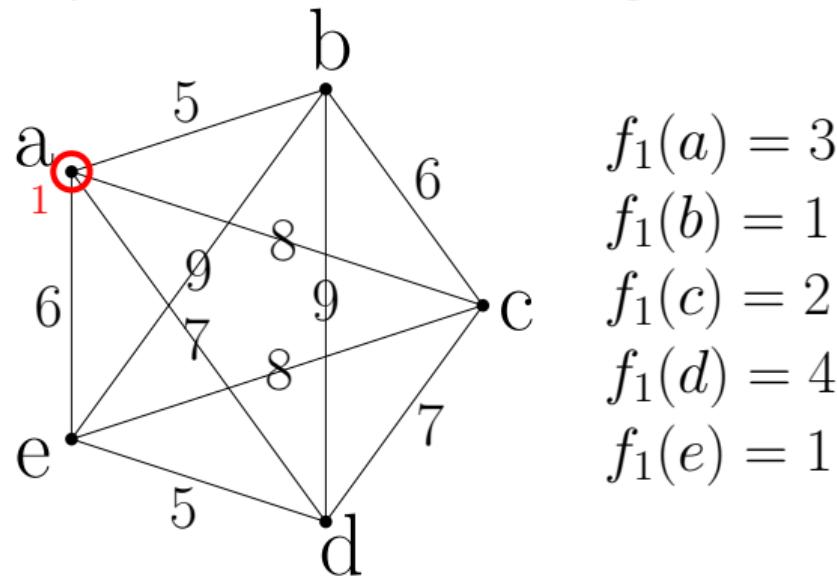
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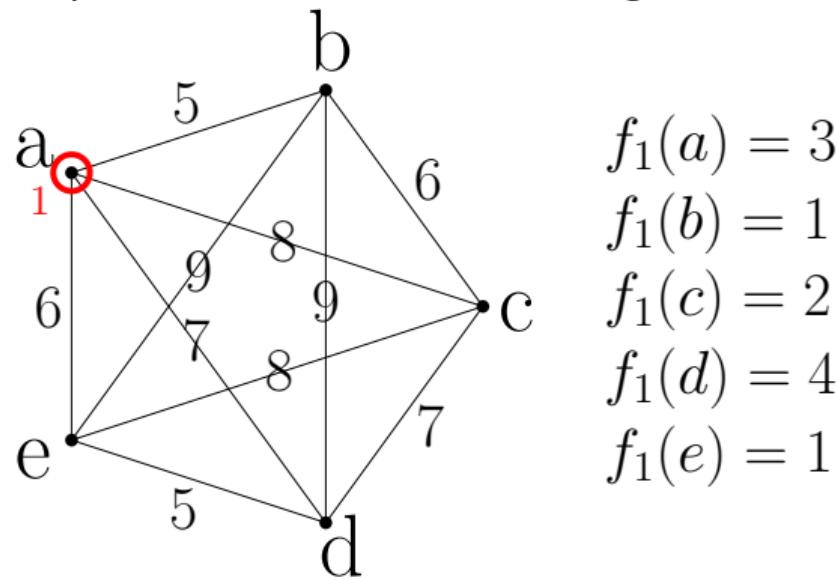
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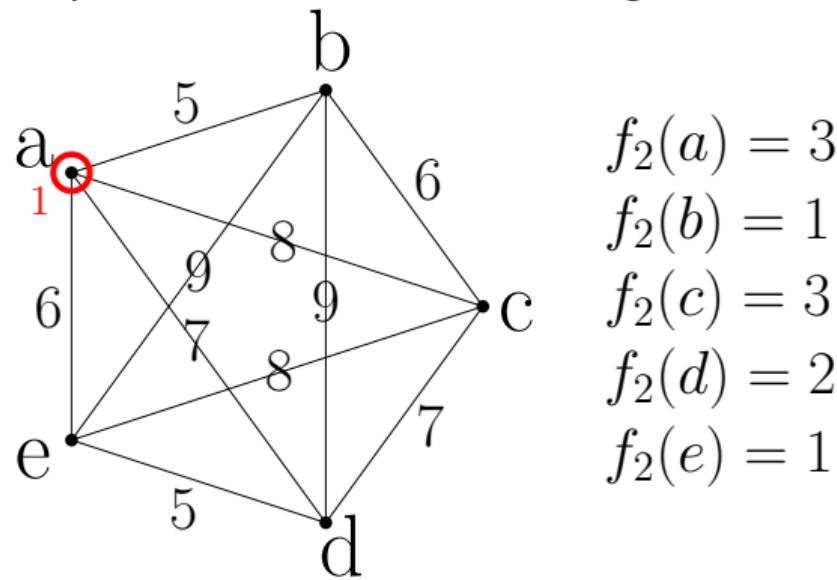
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Cost alg(1)=3

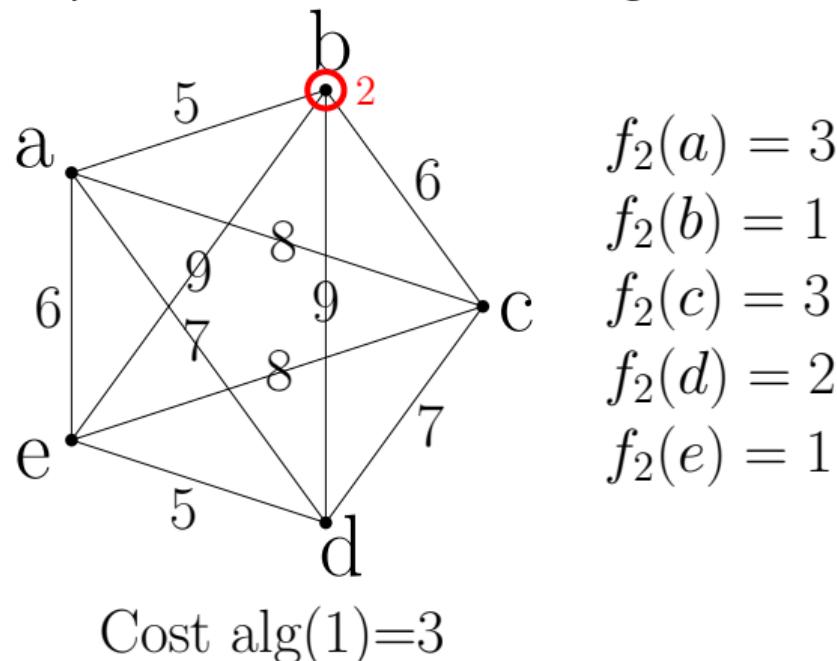
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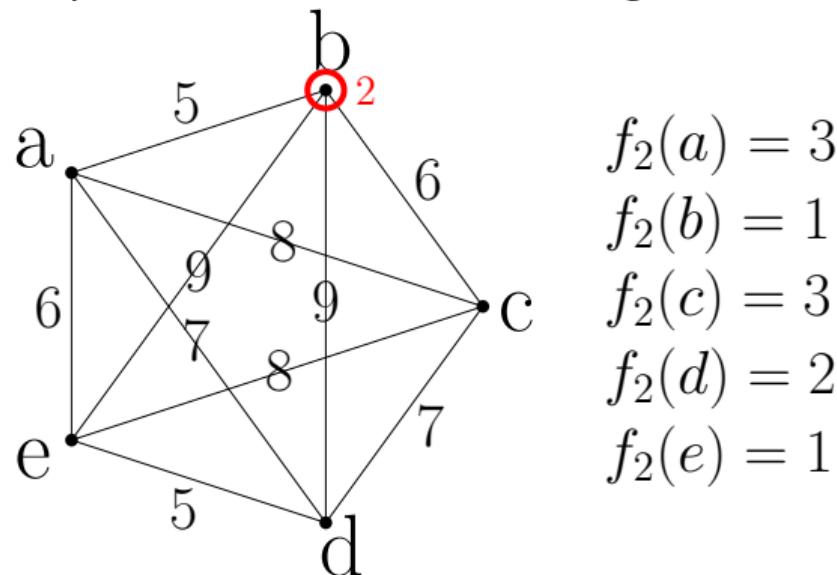
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$$\text{Cost alg}(2) = 3 + 5 + 1 = 9$$

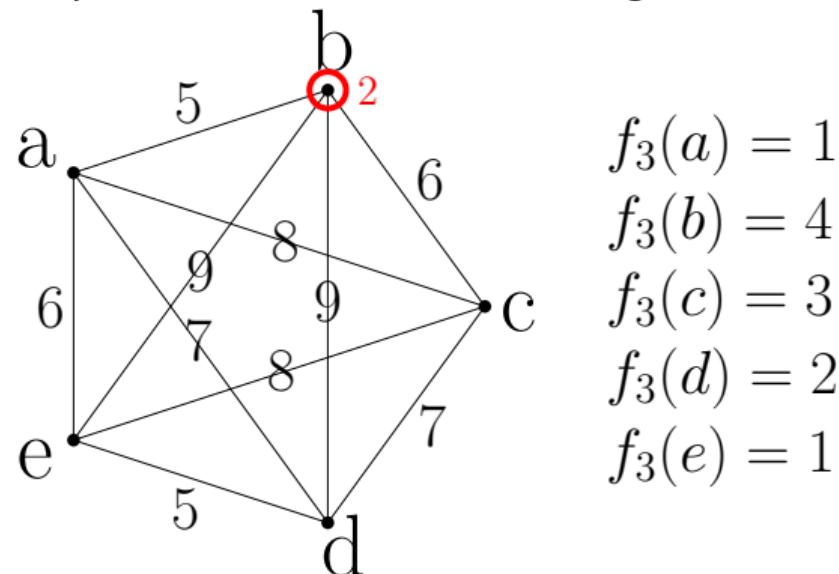
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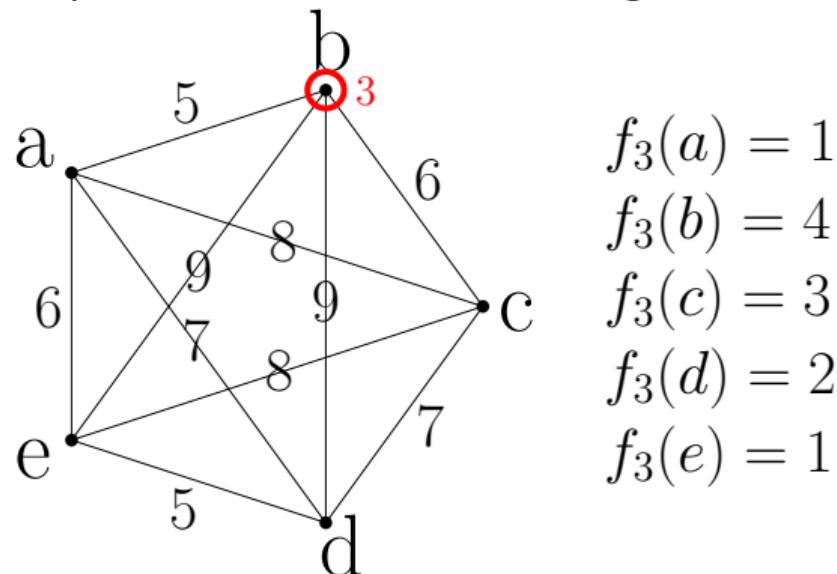
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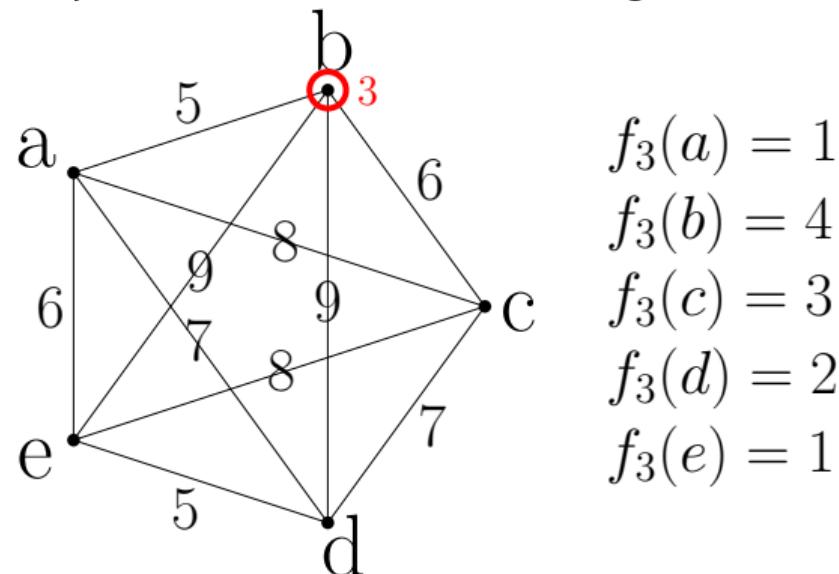
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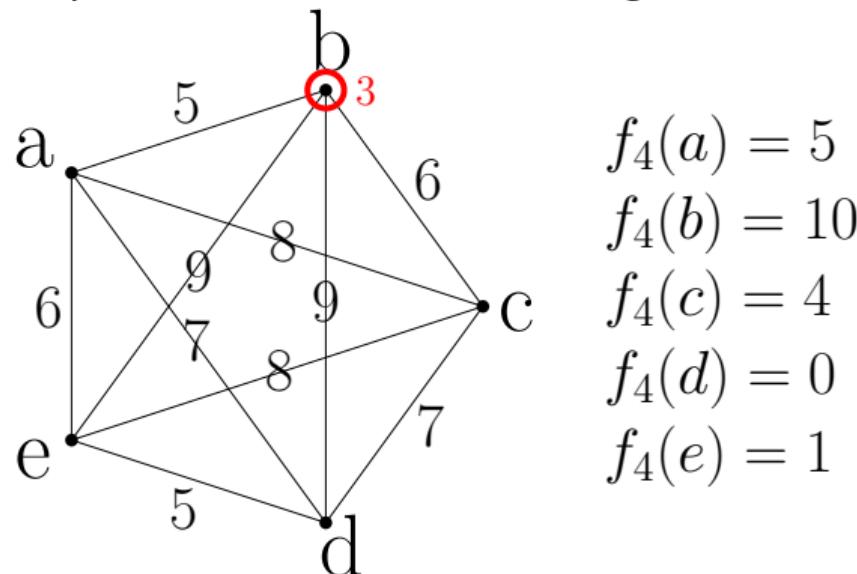
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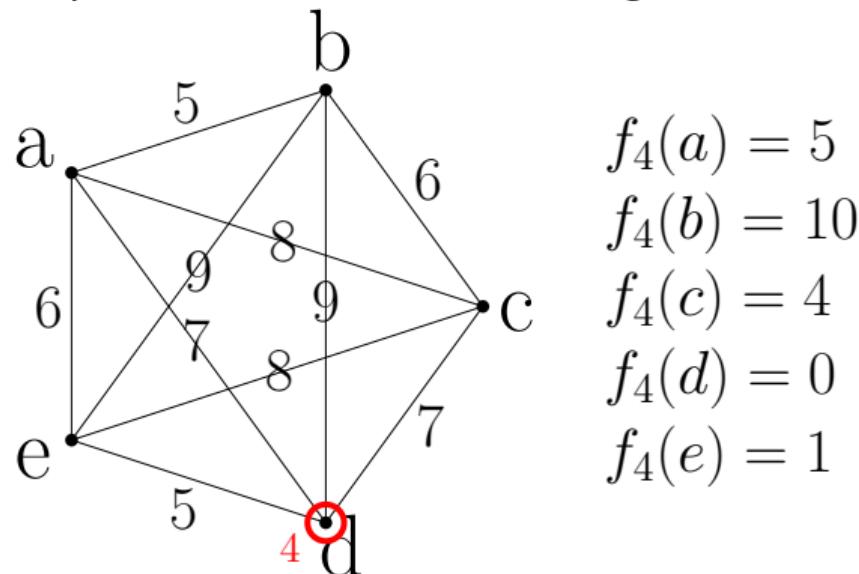
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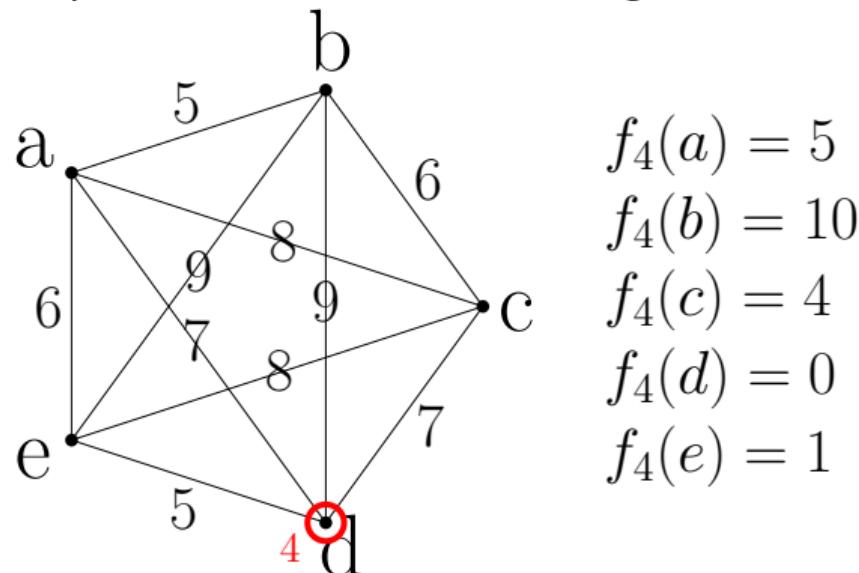
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$$\text{Cost alg}(4) = 13 + 9 + 0 = 22$$

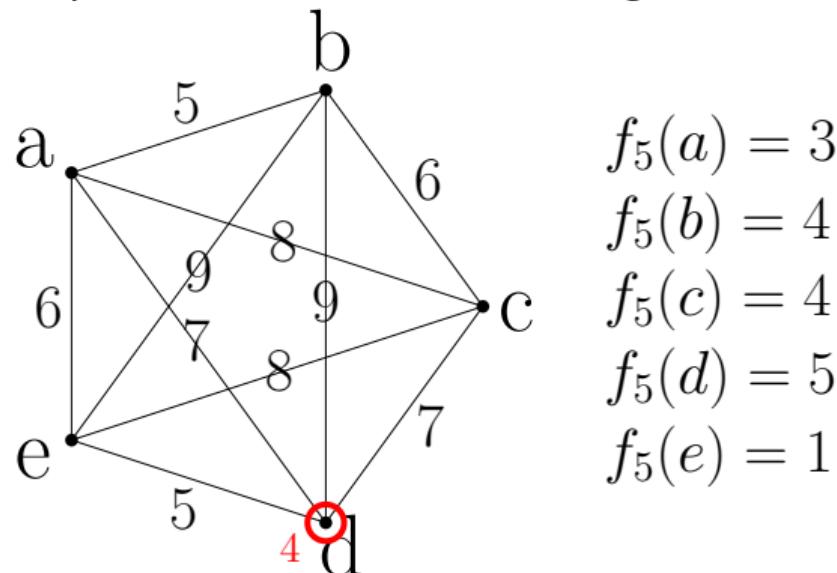
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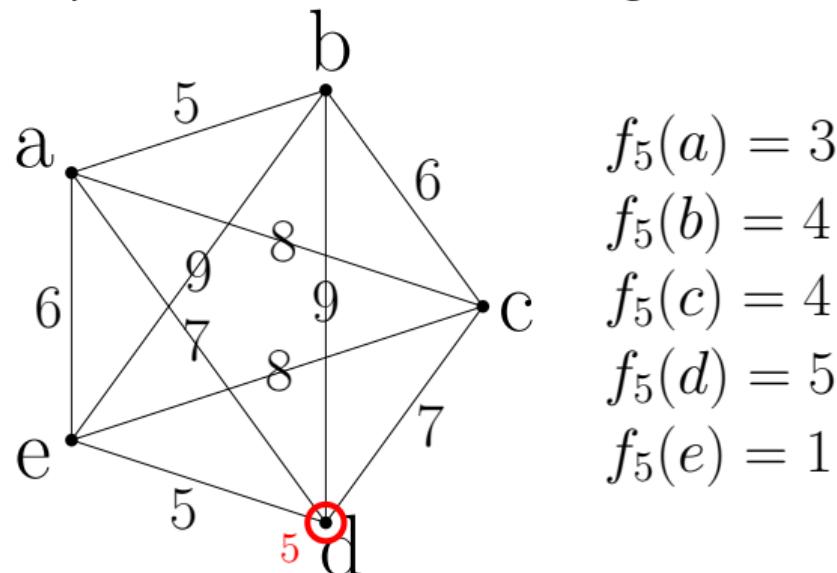
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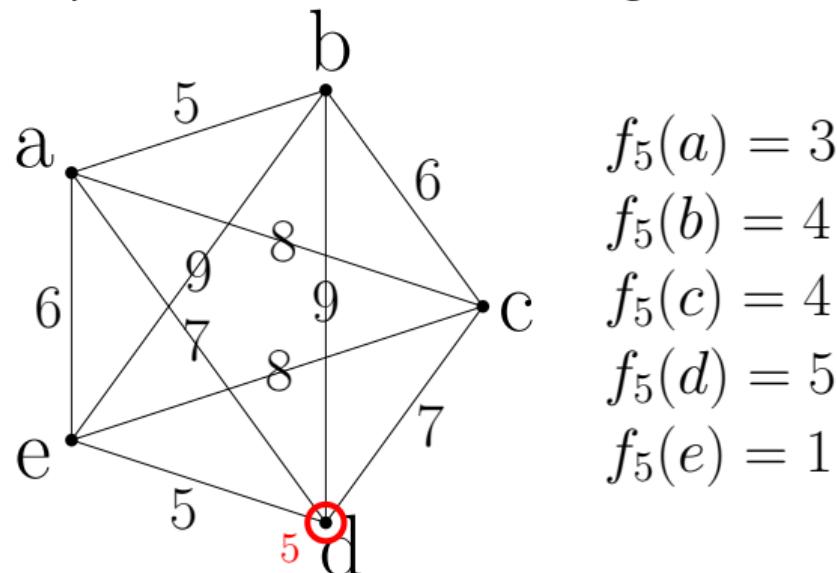
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$$\text{Cost alg}(5) = 22 + 5 = 27$$

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What about Opt?

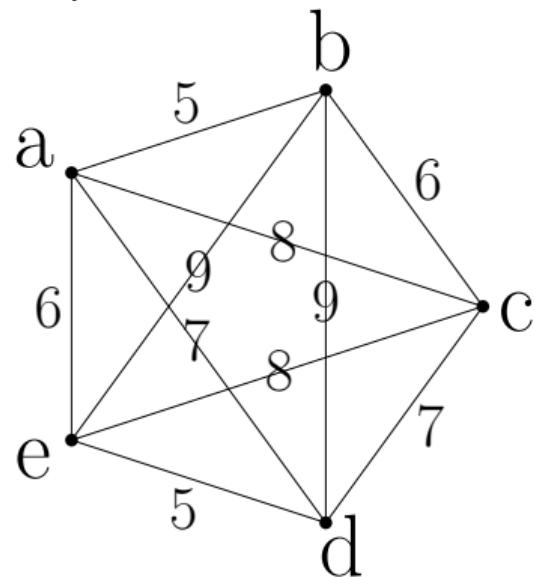
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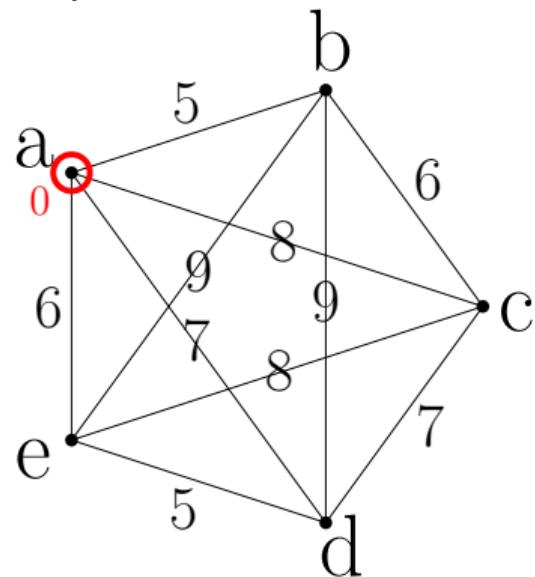
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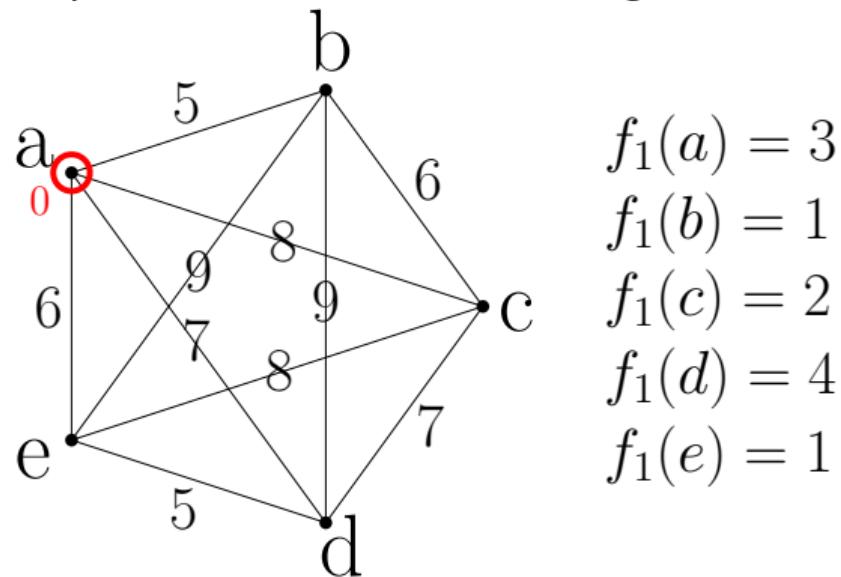
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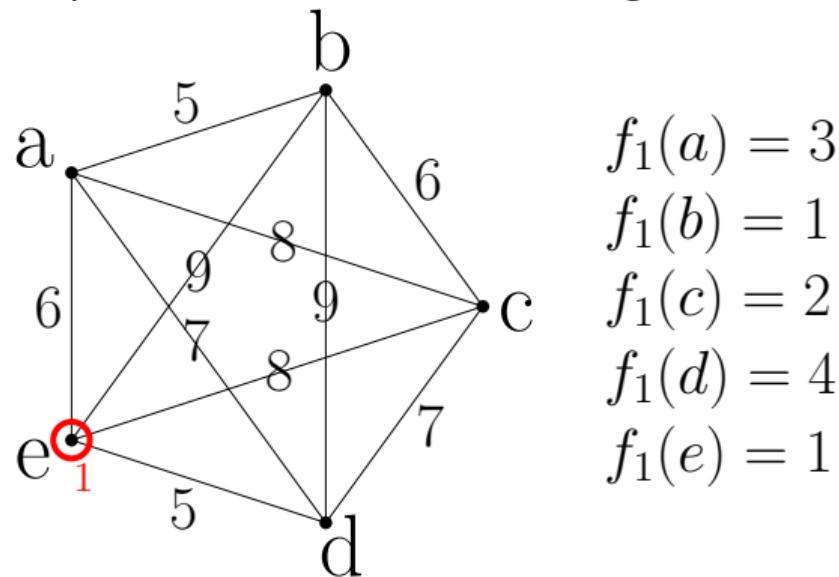
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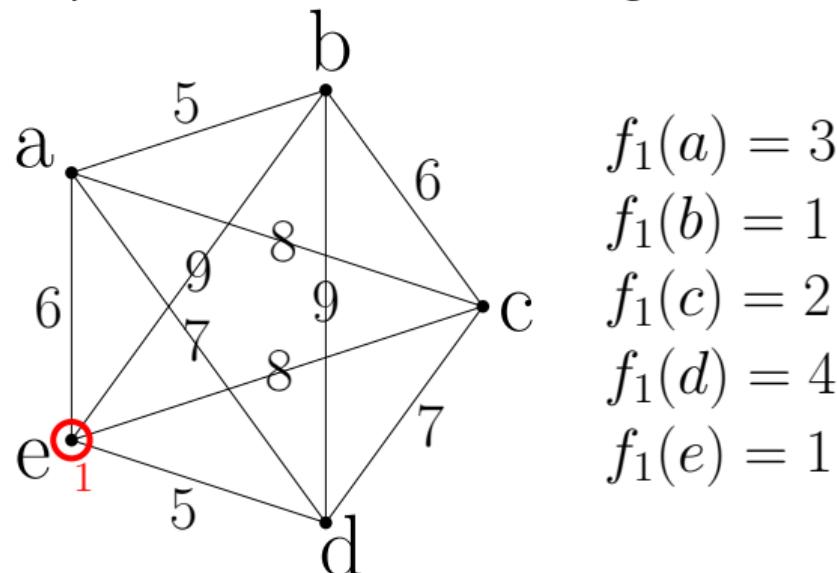
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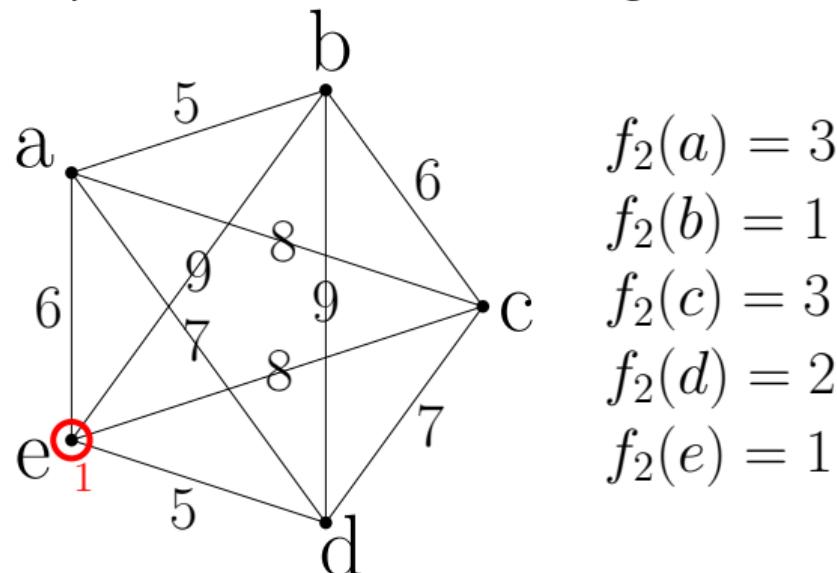
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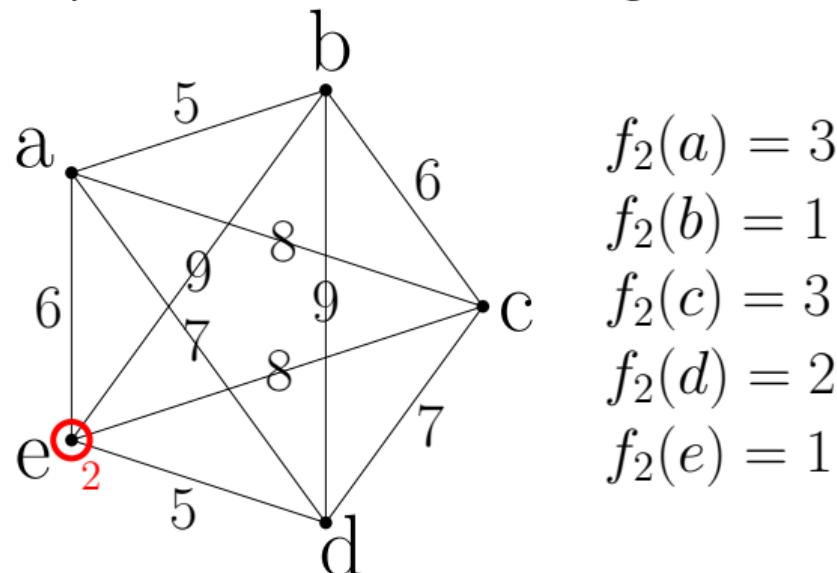
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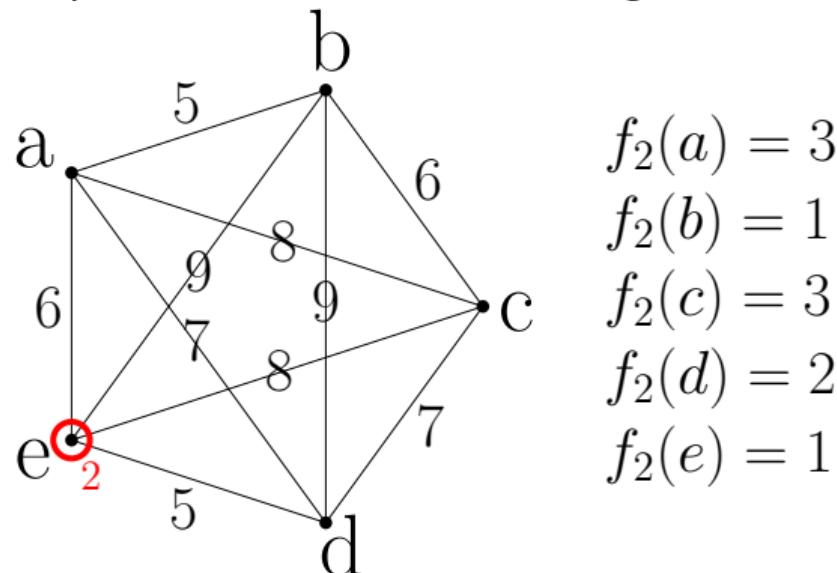
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$$\text{Cost opt}(2) = 7 + 1 = 8$$

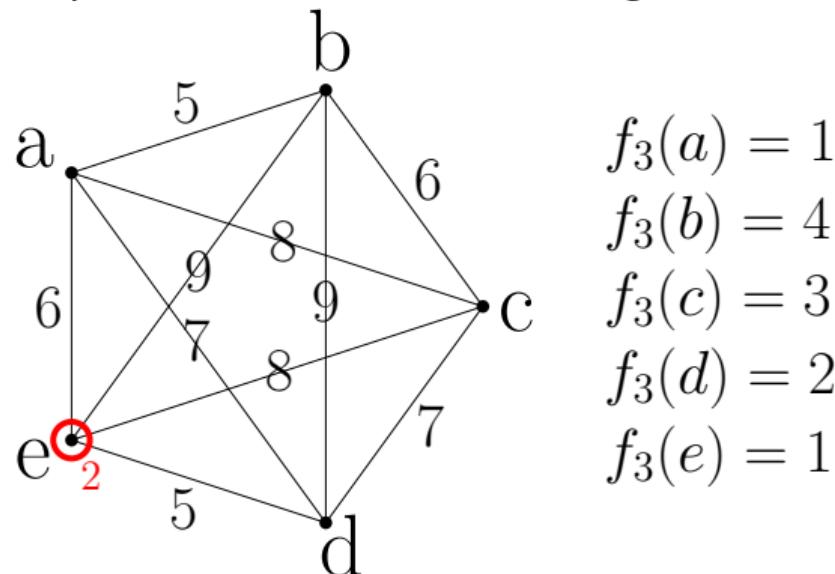
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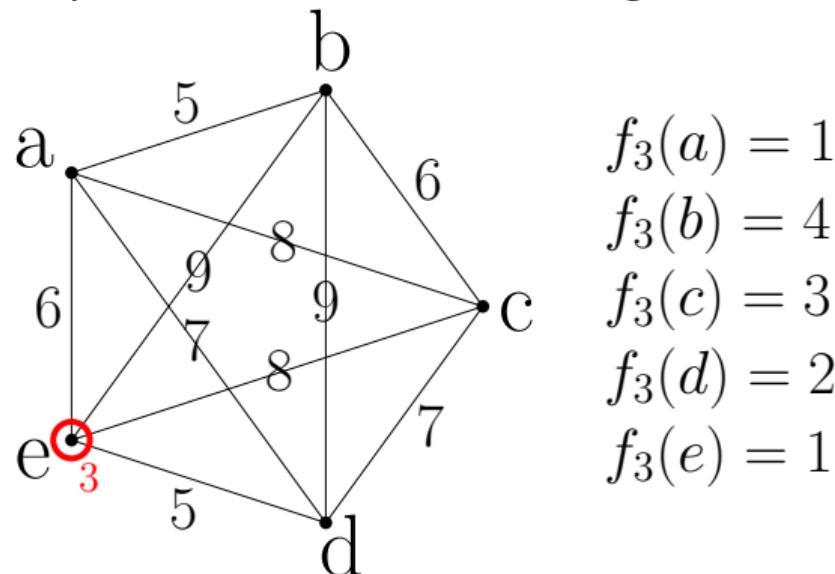
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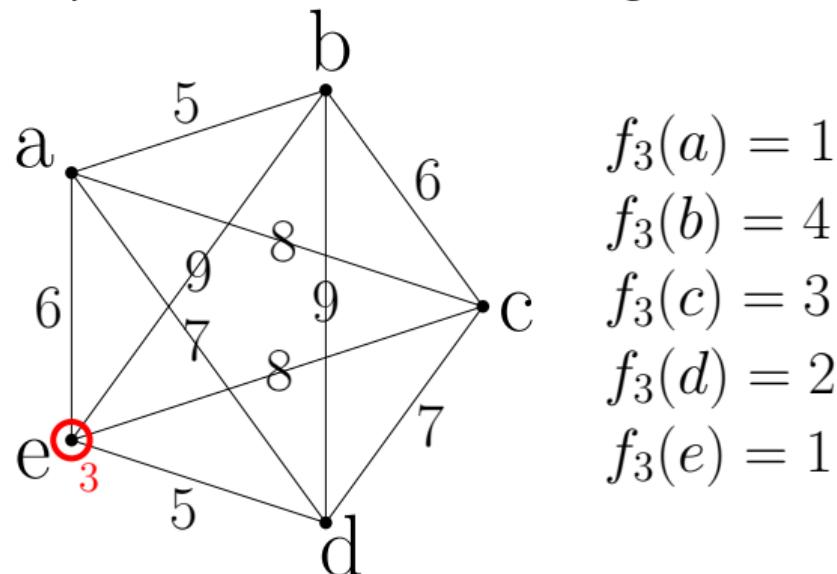
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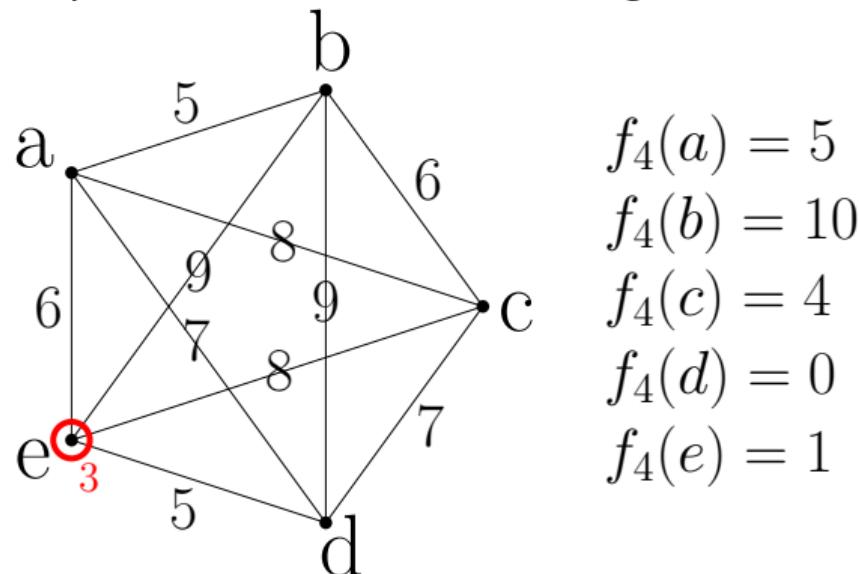
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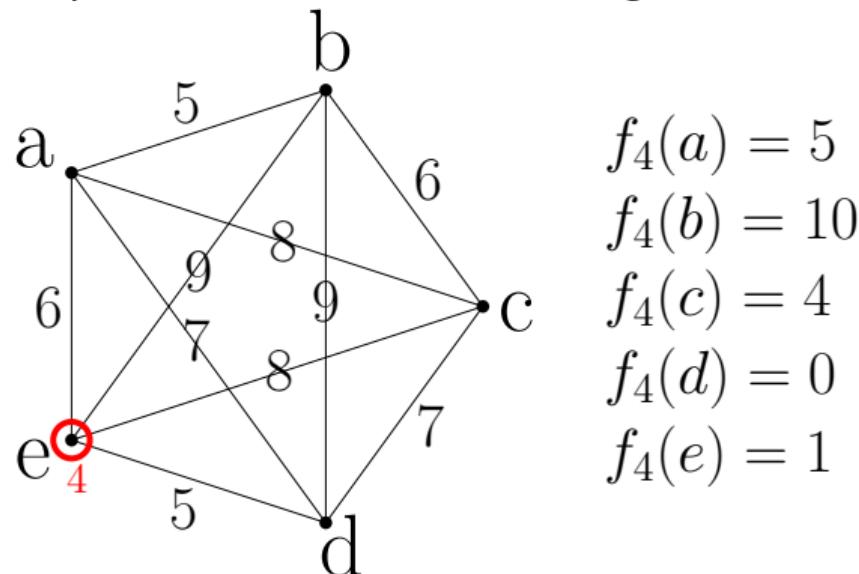
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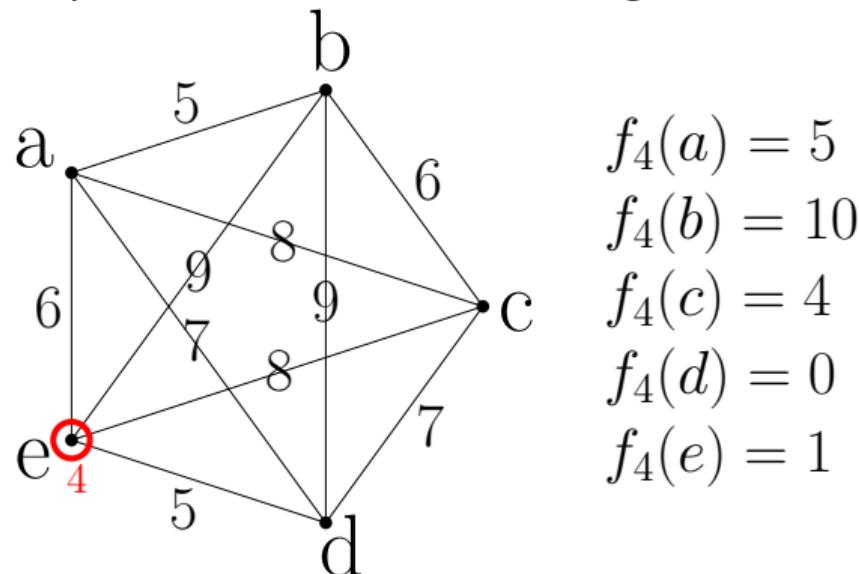
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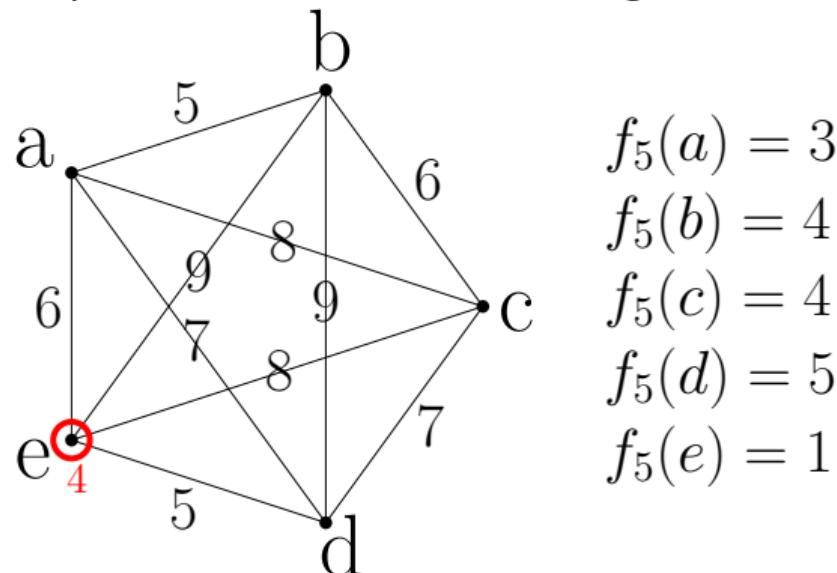
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**Output:** Point  $x_i \in X$  s.t. the task performed at  $x_i$  at cost  $d_X(x_{i-1}, x_i) + f_i(x_i)$ .

**Goal:** Minimize the competitive ratio between our algorithm to opt.



$$\begin{aligned}f_5(a) &= 3 \\f_5(b) &= 4 \\f_5(c) &= 4 \\f_5(d) &= 5 \\f_5(e) &= 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Cost opt}(4) = 9 + 1 = 10$$

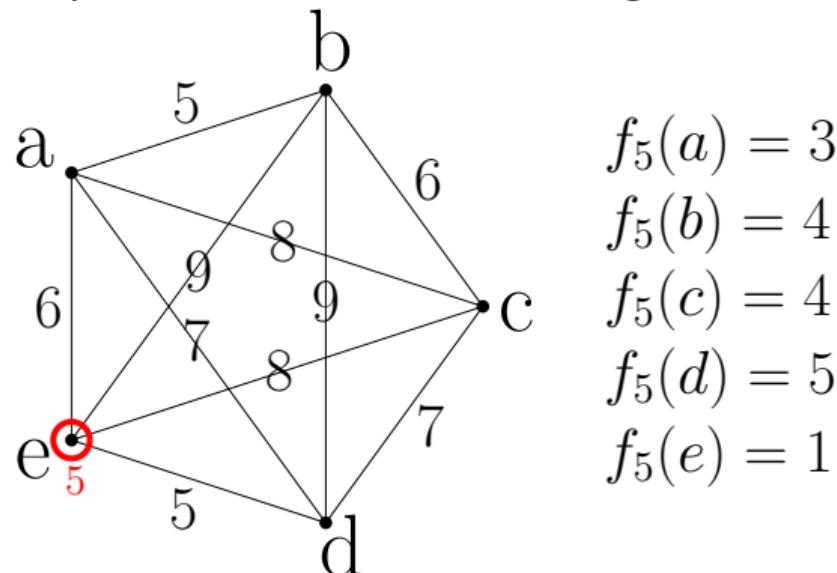
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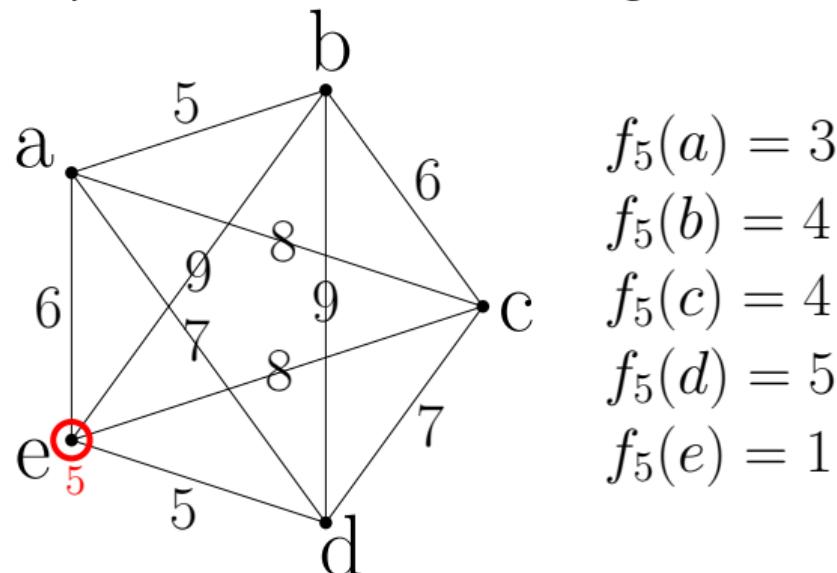
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Competitive ratio against oblivious adversary is

$$\max_{\text{input } I} \frac{\mathbb{E}[\text{Alg}(I)]}{\text{opt}(I)}.$$

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Approach: embed into a tree, and then make all the decisions based on the tree.

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### Theorem ([Fiat, Mendel 2000])

*Given an  $n$  point tree\*  $T$ , there is an online algorithm for MTS with competitive ratio  $O(\log n \cdot \log \log n)$  against oblivious adversary.*

\* Actually on an HST, which is a special kind of tree. [FRT04] is into HST's.

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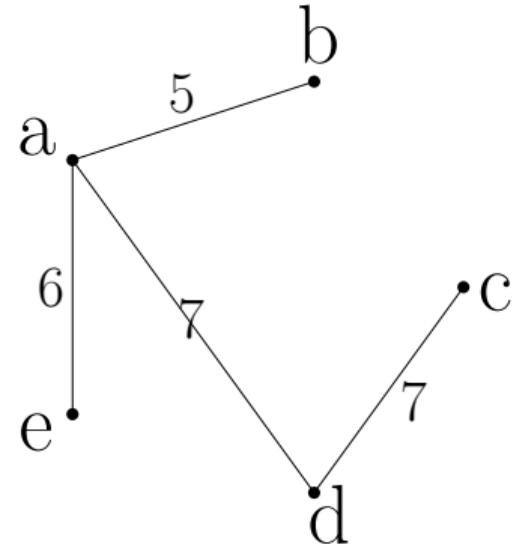
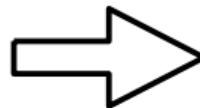
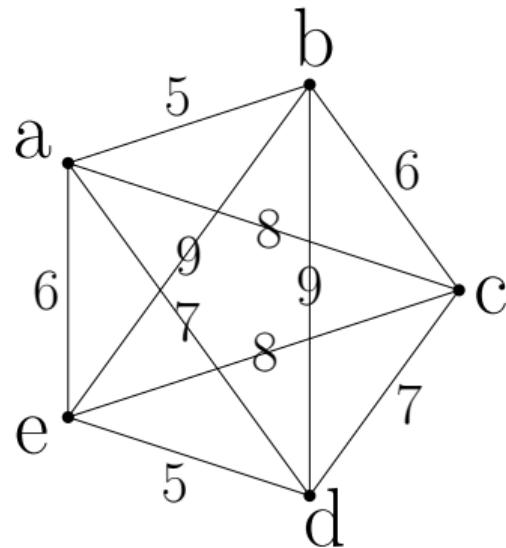
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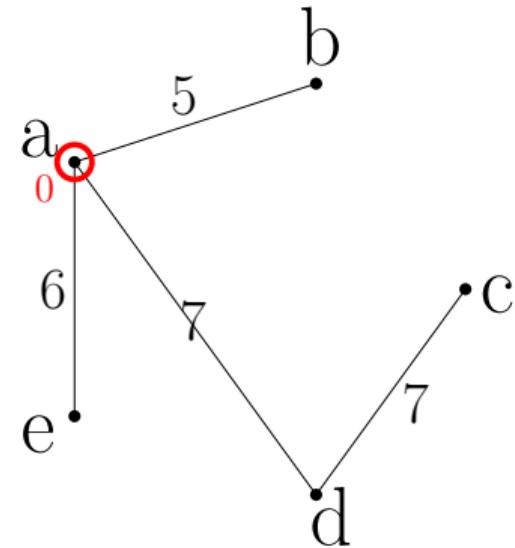
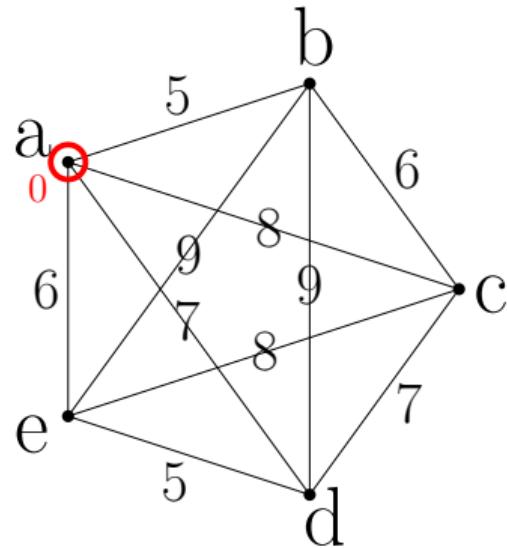
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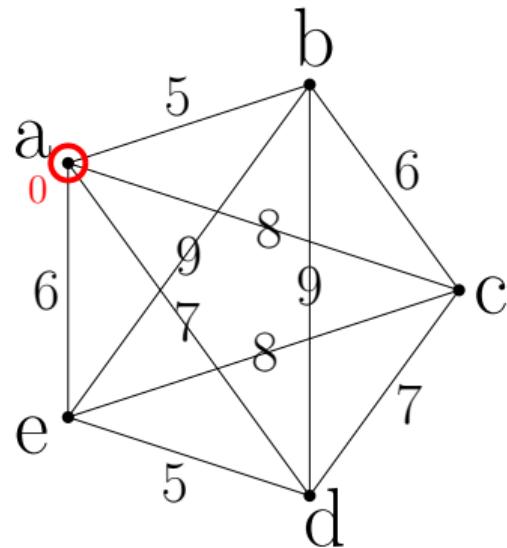
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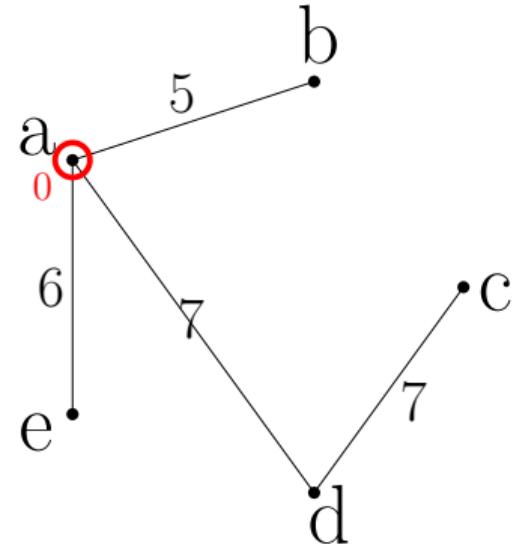
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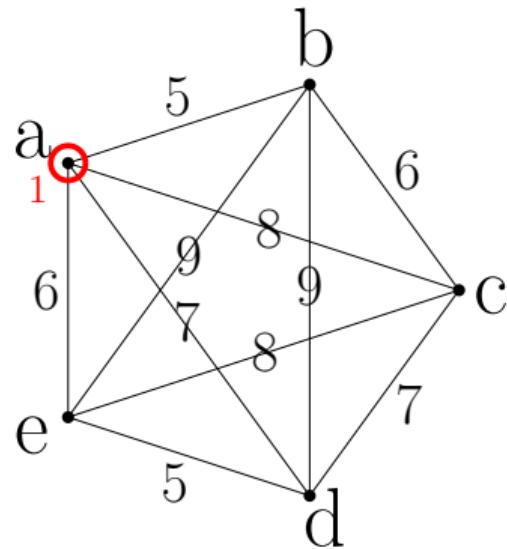
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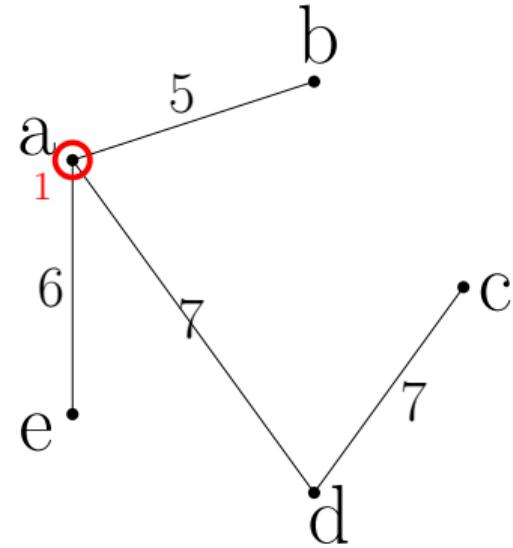
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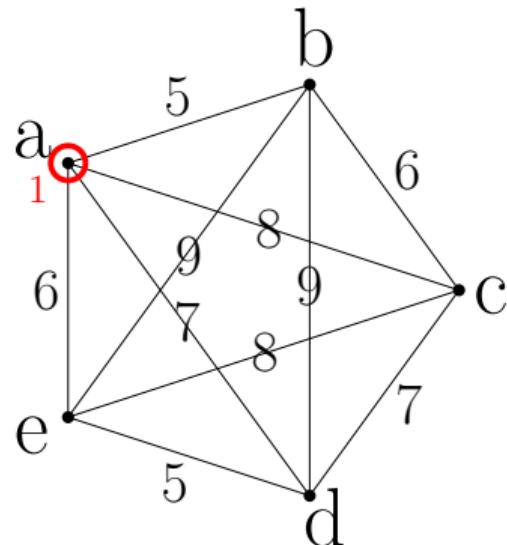


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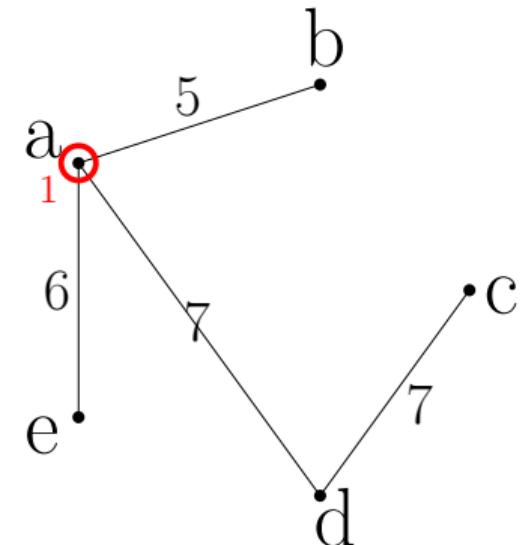
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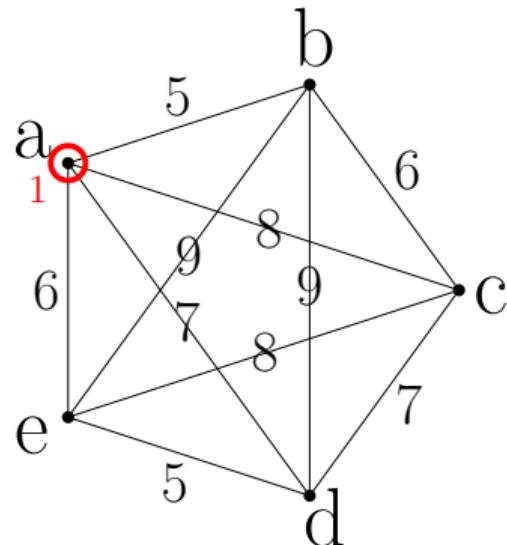
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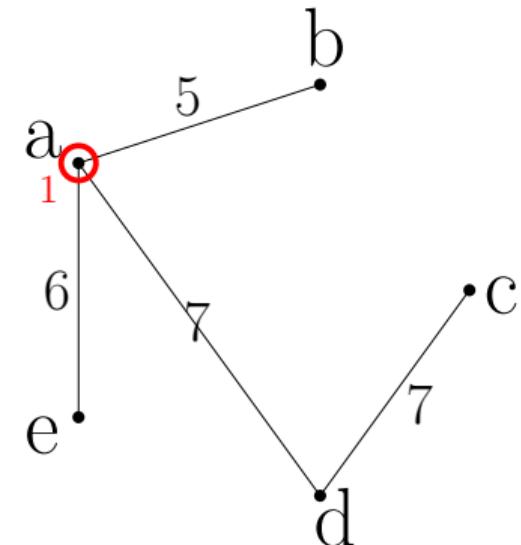
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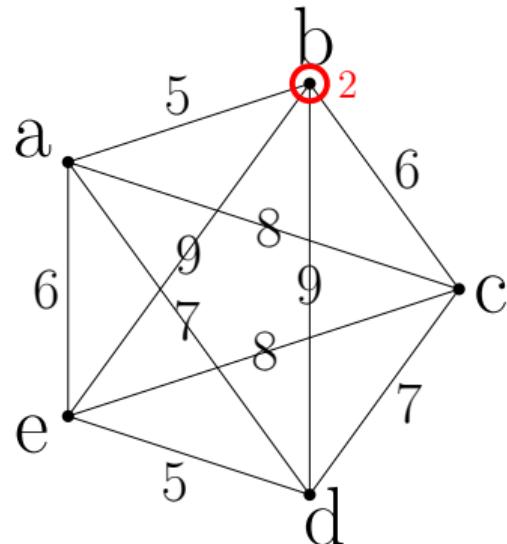


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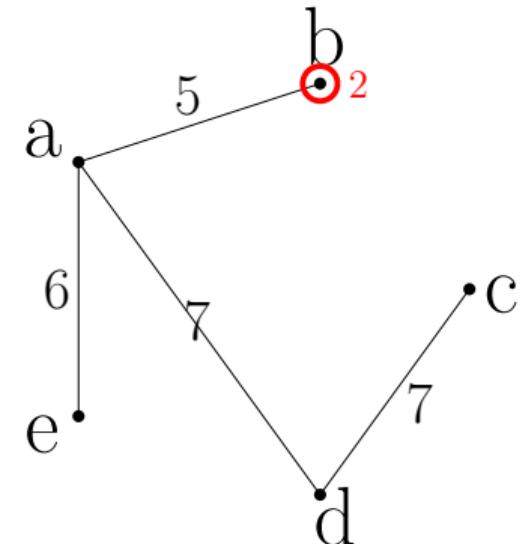
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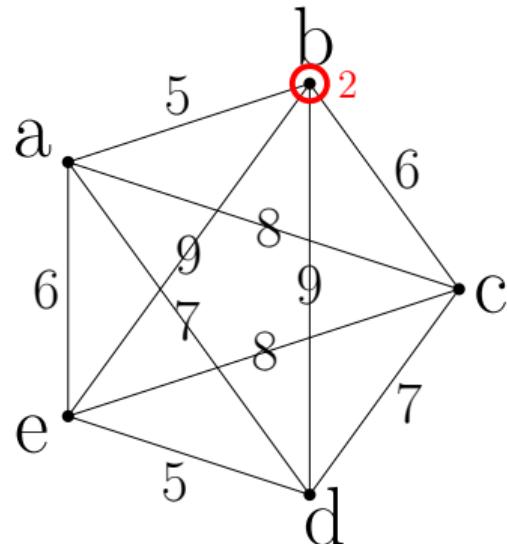


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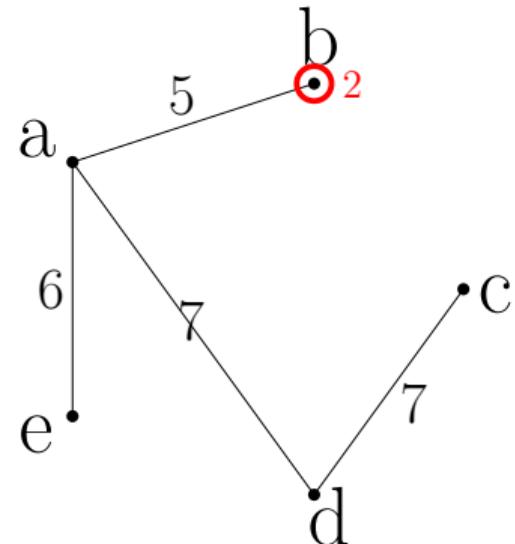
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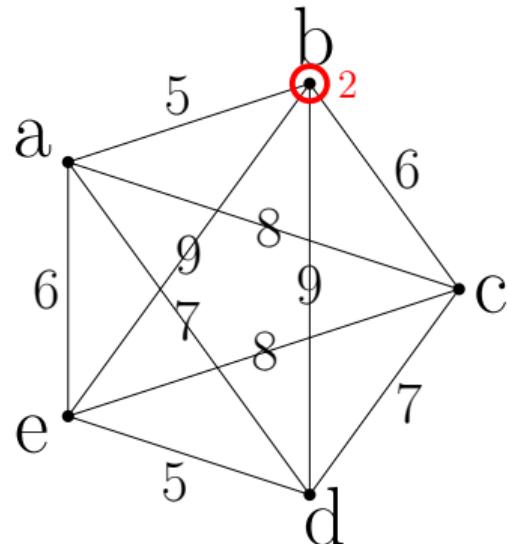


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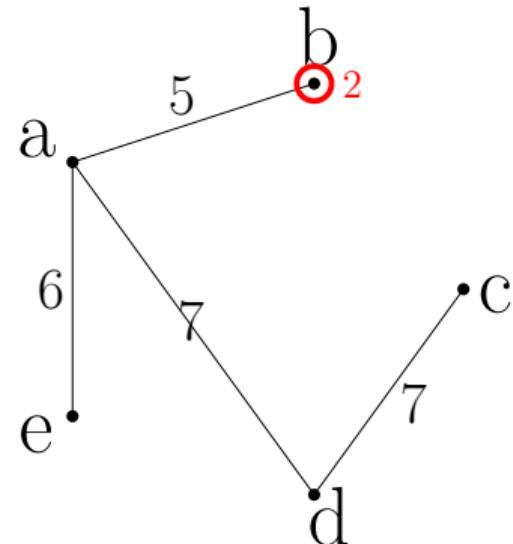
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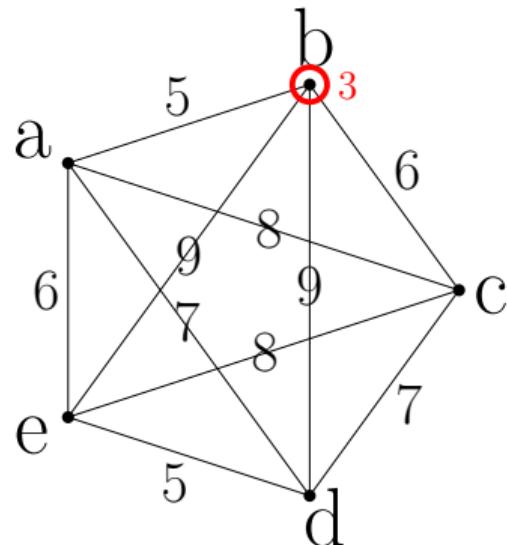


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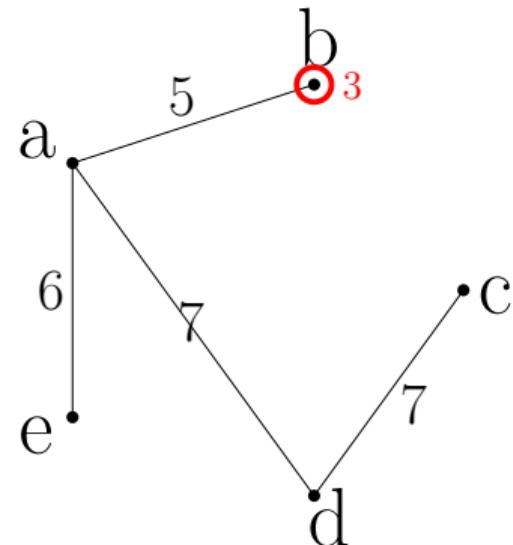
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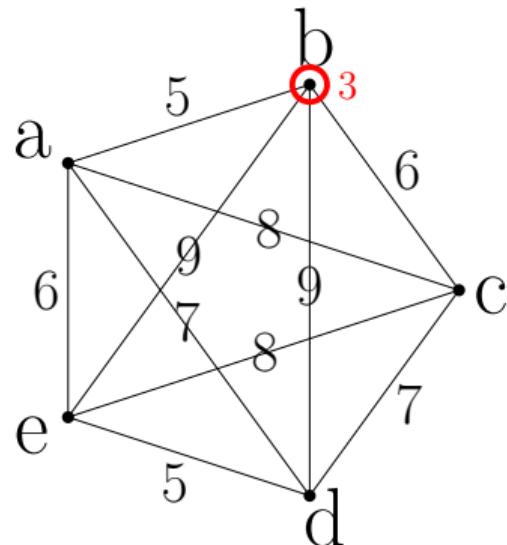


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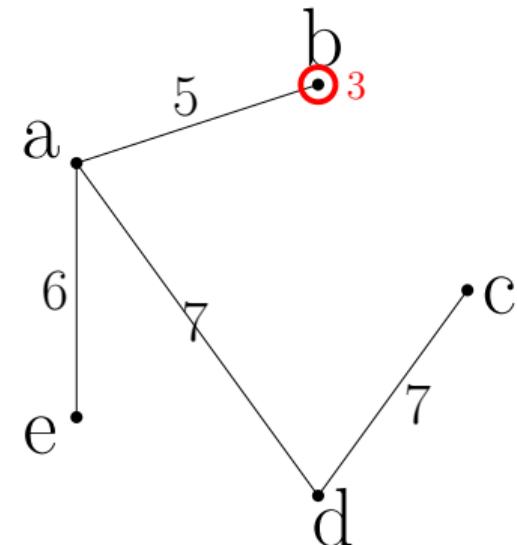
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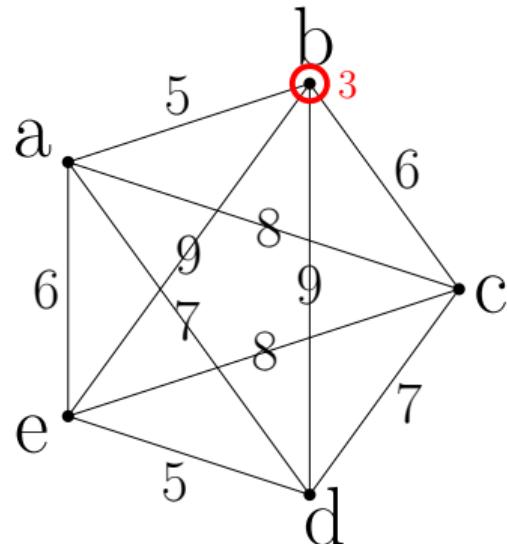


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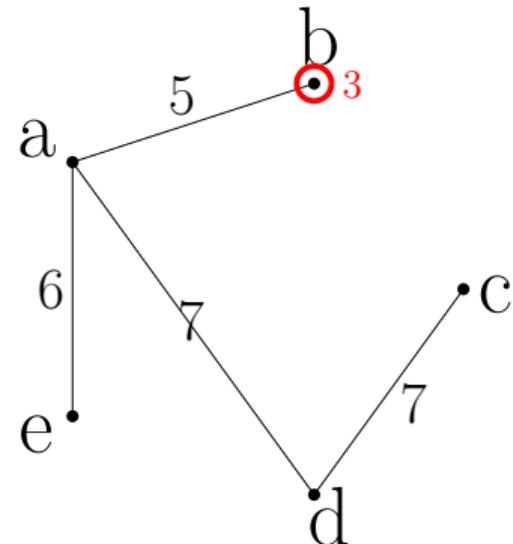
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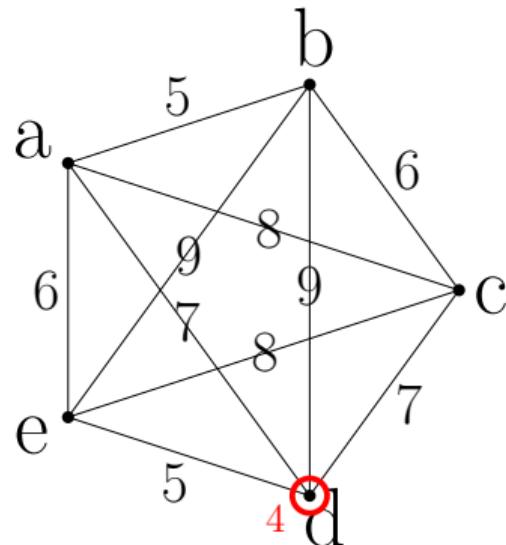


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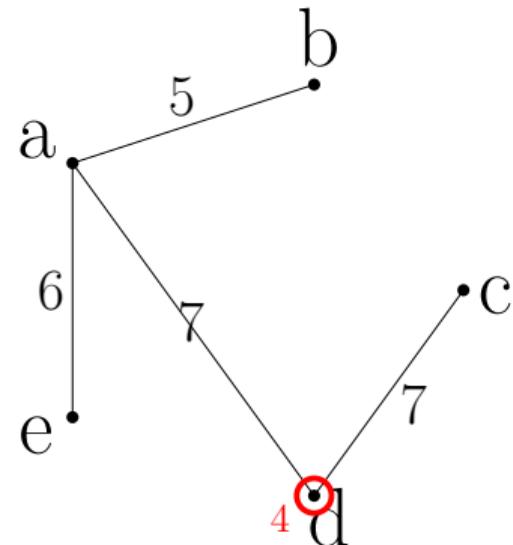
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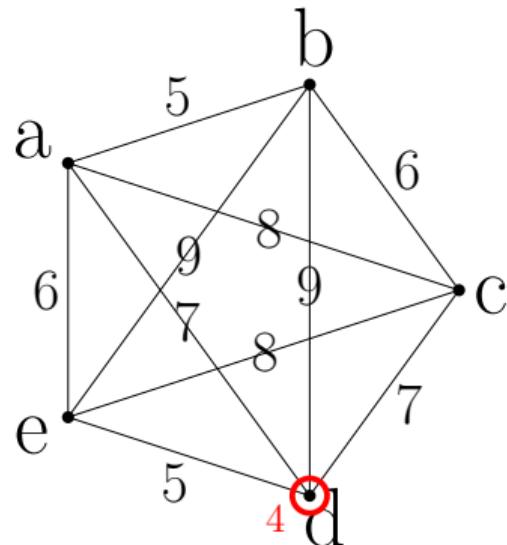


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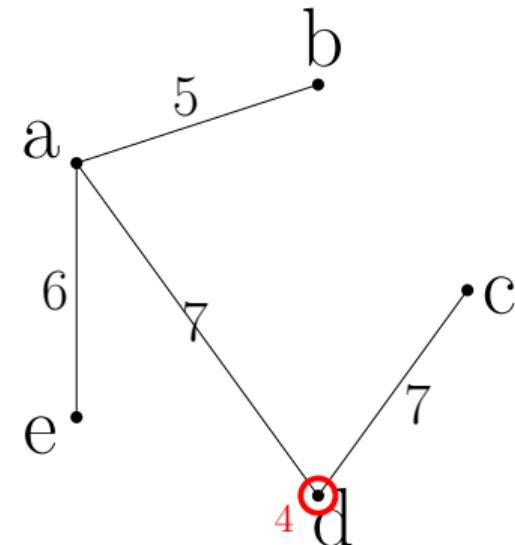
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$$\text{Cost alg}(4) = 13 + 9 + 0 = 22$$

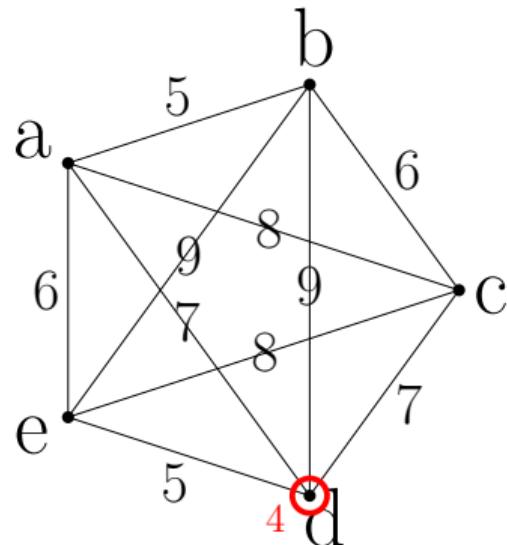


$$\text{Cost alg}_T(4) = 13 + 12 + 0 = 25$$

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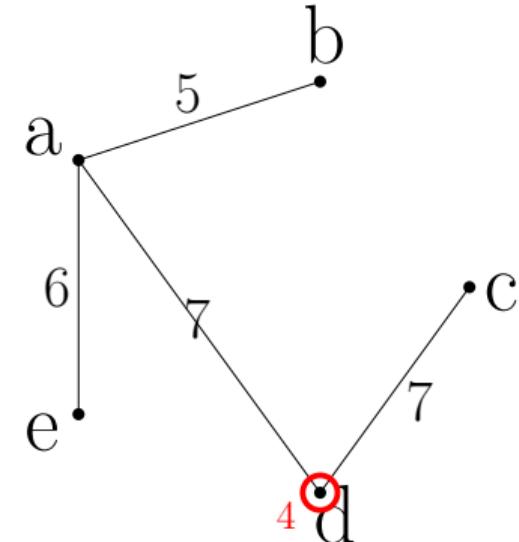
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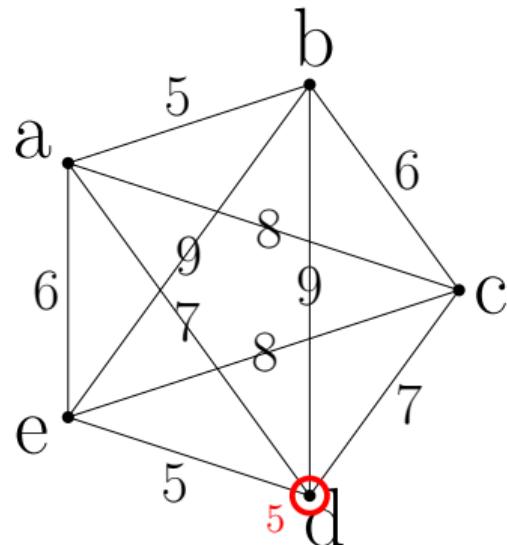


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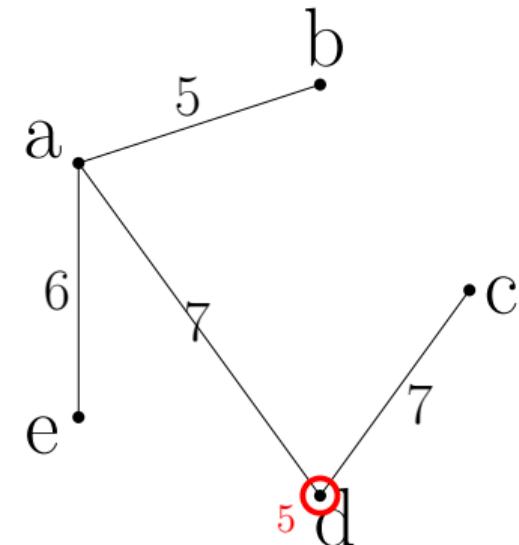
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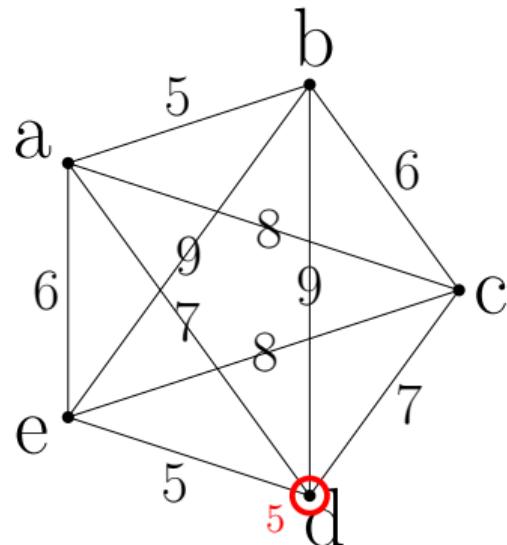


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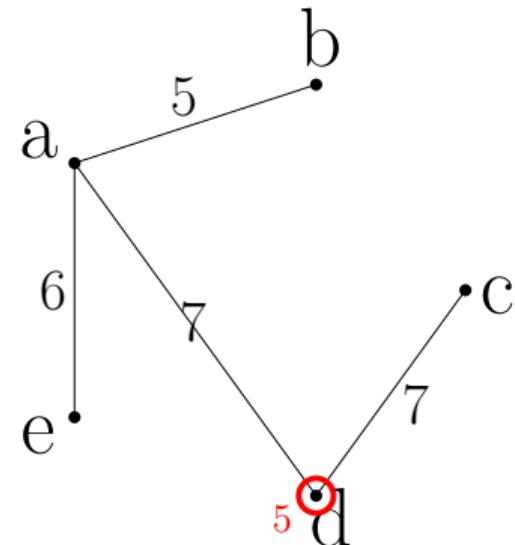
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$$\text{Cost alg}(5) = 22 + 5 = 27$$

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$$\text{Cost alg}_T(5) = 25 + 5 = 30$$

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**Analysis.** Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  be the decisions of opt. Thus  
 $\text{opt} = \sum_{i=1}^k f_i(x_i) + \sum_{i=1}^k d_X(x_{i-1}, x_i).$

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[FM00] is  $O(\log n \cdot \log \log n)$ -competitive on  $T$ . Hence it choose points  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  such that  $\mathbb{E}[\text{alg}_T] = \mathbb{E}[\sum_{i=1}^k f_i(y_i) + \sum_{i=1}^k d_T(y_{i-1}, y_i)] \leq O(\log n \cdot \log \log n) \cdot \text{opt}_T.$

We made the same decisions, so overall:

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{alg}] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k f_i(y_i) + \sum_{i=1}^k d_X(y_{i-1}, y_i) \right]$$

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## Theorem

*MTS has an  $O(\log^2 n \cdot \log \log n)$  competitive algorithm against oblivious adversary.*

# Outline of the talk - Appendix

7 Bartal 96 and Padded decompositions

8 Metrical Task System

9 Ramsey type embeddings

10 Clan embedding

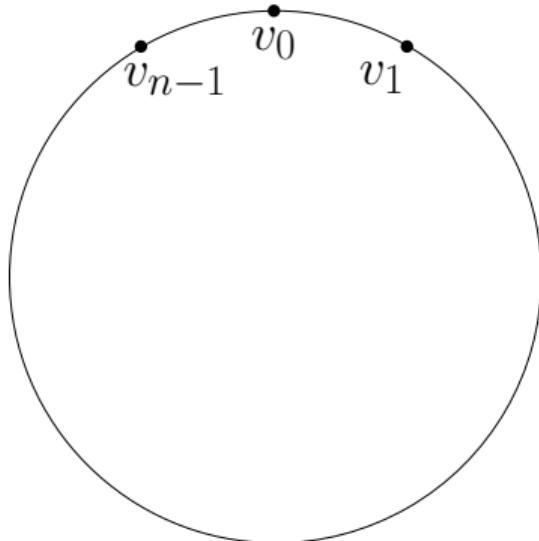
11 Group Steiner Tree (using clan embedding)

## Ramsey type Embeddings

Ramsey type theorem: Every **big** enough object, contains a **structured subset**.

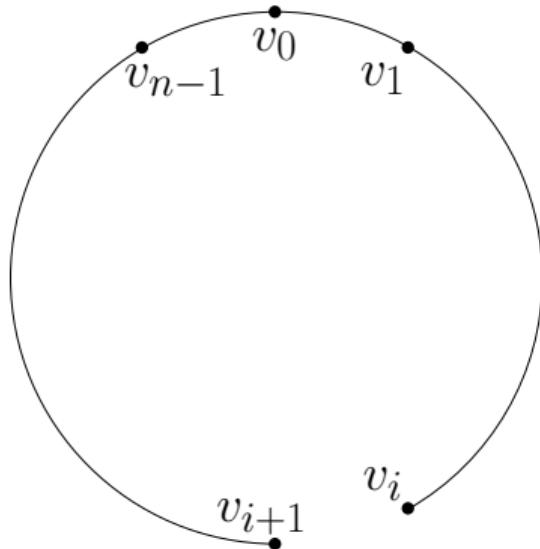
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# Ramsey type Embeddings

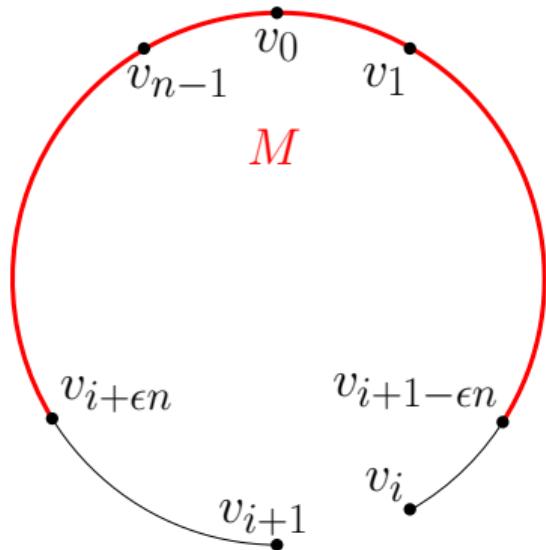
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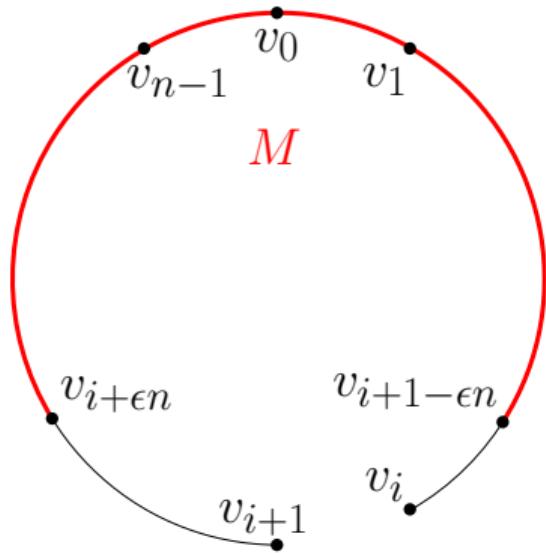


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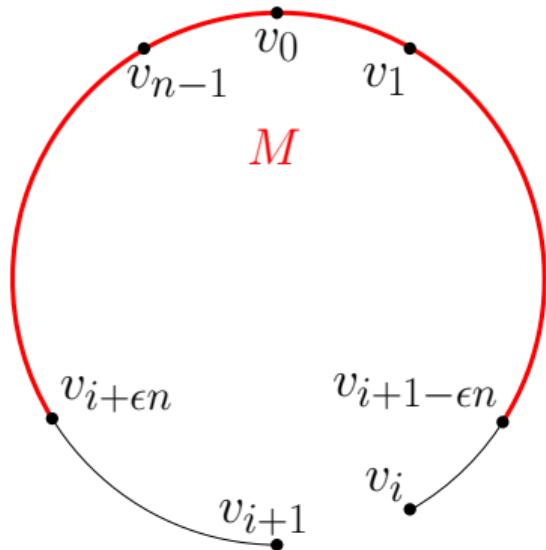
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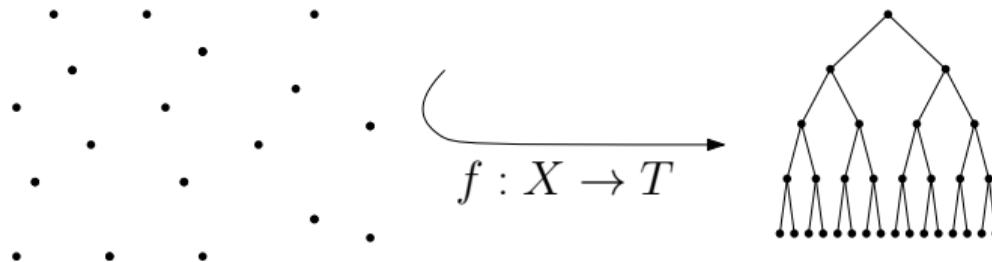
Choose  $i$  u.a.r., then  $\Pr[v \in M] = 1 - 2\epsilon$ .

## Ramsey type Embeddings

Fix  $k > 1$ , what is the largest subset  $M \subset X$ ,

s.t.  $(M, d_X)$  embeds into a tree with **distortion**  $k$ ?

$$(X, d_X)$$

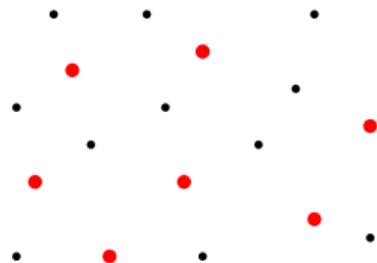


# Ramsey type Embeddings

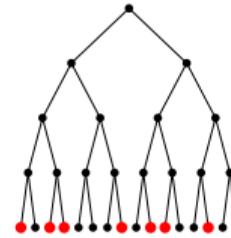
Fix  $k > 1$ , what is the largest subset  $\textcolor{red}{M} \subset X$ ,

s.t.  $(\textcolor{red}{M}, d_X)$  embeds into a tree with distortion  $k$ ?

$\textcolor{red}{M}$   $(X, d_X)$



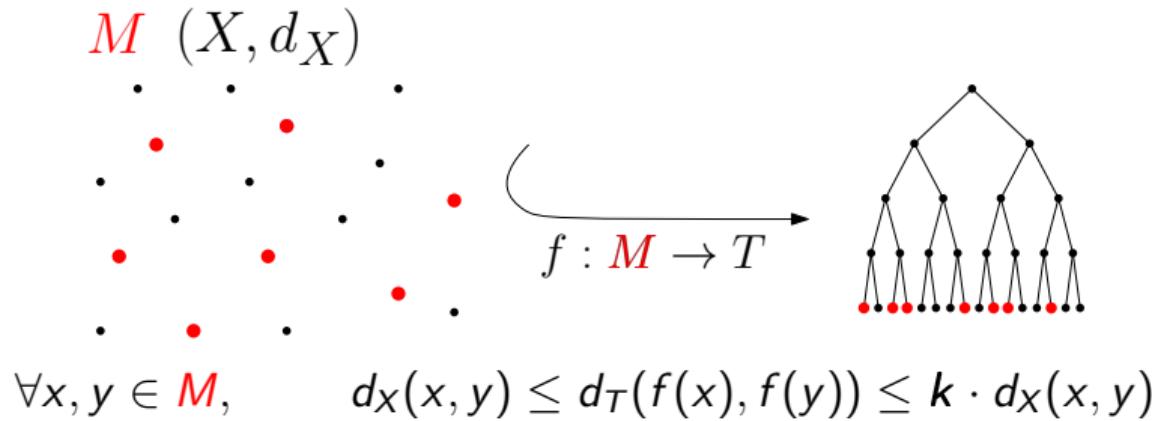
$f : \textcolor{red}{M} \rightarrow T$



$$\forall x, y \in \textcolor{red}{M}, \quad d_X(x, y) \leq d_T(f(x), f(y)) \leq k \cdot d_X(x, y)$$

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Theorem ([Mendel, Naor 07], following [BFM86, BLMN05])

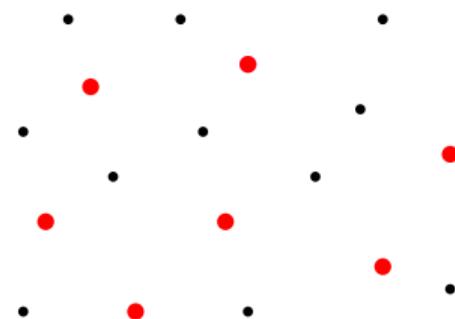
∀  $n$ -point metric space and  $k \geq 1$ , ∃ subset  $M$  of size  $n^{1-1/k}$   
that embeds into a tree with distortion  $O(k)$ .

# Ramsey type Embeddings

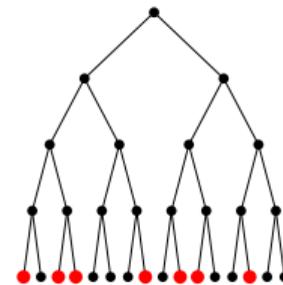
Theorem ([Mendel, Naor 07], following [BFM86, BLMN05])

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$$M \quad (X, d_X)$$



$$f : M \rightarrow T$$

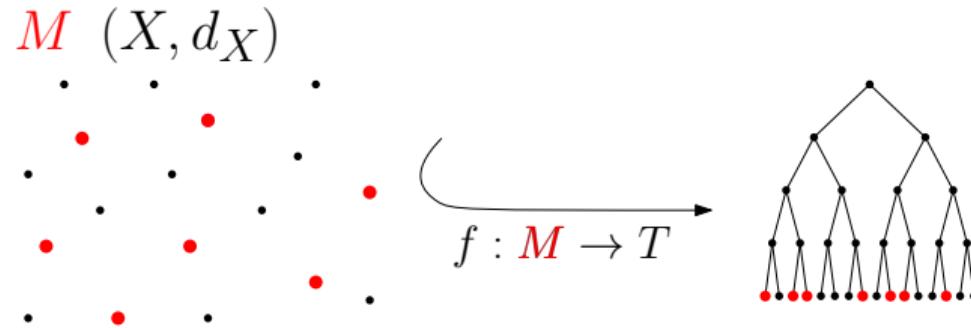


Asymptotically tight.

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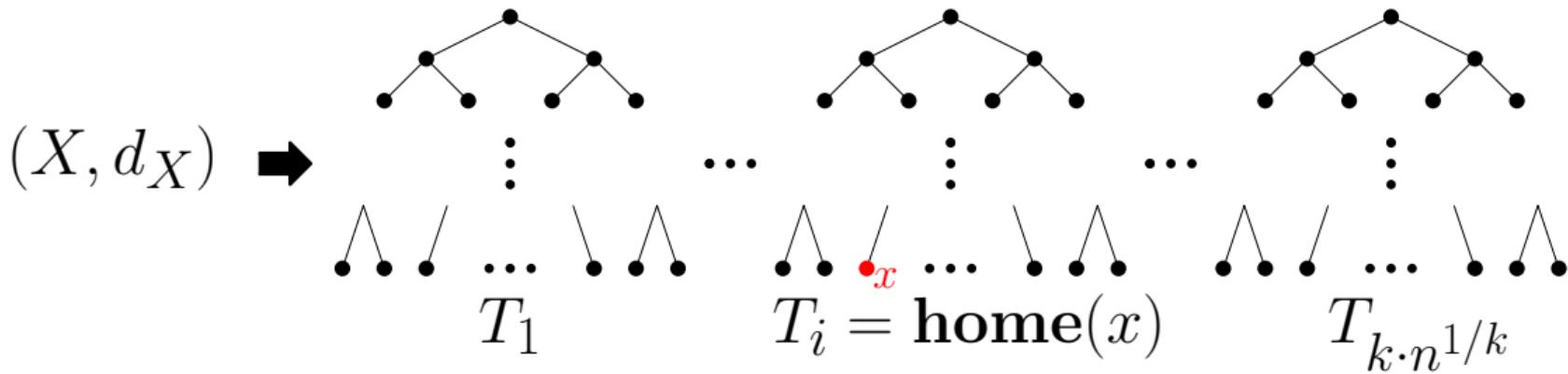
[Naor, Tao 12]: distortion  $2e \cdot k$ .

# Ramsey type Embeddings

## Corollary

For every  $n$ -point metric space and  $k \geq 1$ , there is a set  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $k \cdot n^{\frac{1}{k}}$  trees and a mapping  $\text{home} : X \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ , such that for every  $x, y \in X$ ,

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## Applications:

- **Distance oracle**
- Compact routing scheme
- Online algorithms
- Approximate ranking
- etc.

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Theorem ([Mendel, Naor 07], following [BFM86, BLMN05])

$\forall$  *n-point metric space and  $k \geq 1$ ,  $\exists$  subset  $M$  of size  $n^{1-1/k}$  that embeds into a tree with distortion  $O(k)$ .*

Compromises: only partial guarantees



## Distance Oracle

A **succinct** data structure that **approximately** answers distance queries.

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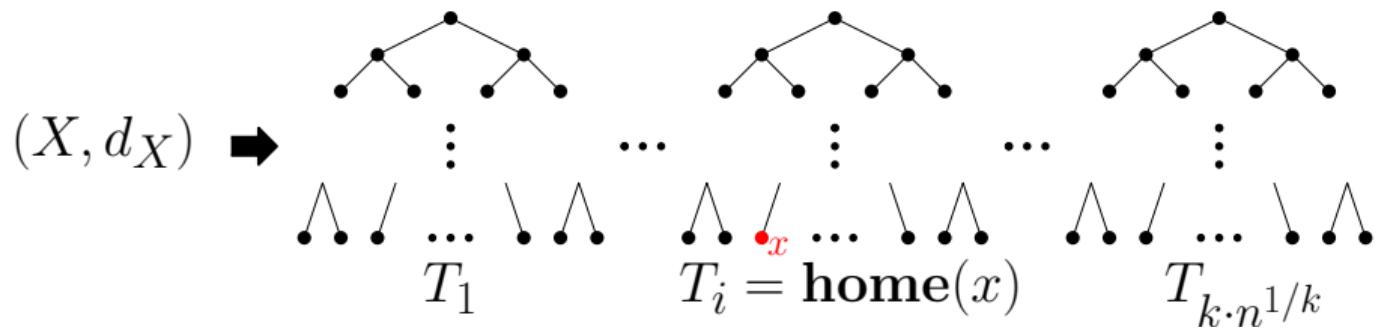
The properties of interest are size, distortion and query time.

# Distance Oracles

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For every tree metric\*, there is an exact distance oracle of linear size and constant query time.

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For every tree metric\*, there is an exact distance oracle of linear size and constant query time.

## Theorem (Ramsey based Deterministic Distance Oracle)

For any  $n$ -point metric space, there is a distance oracle with :

Distortion	Size	Query time
$O(k)$	$O(k \cdot n^{1+1/k})$	$O(1)$

# Outline of the talk - Appendix

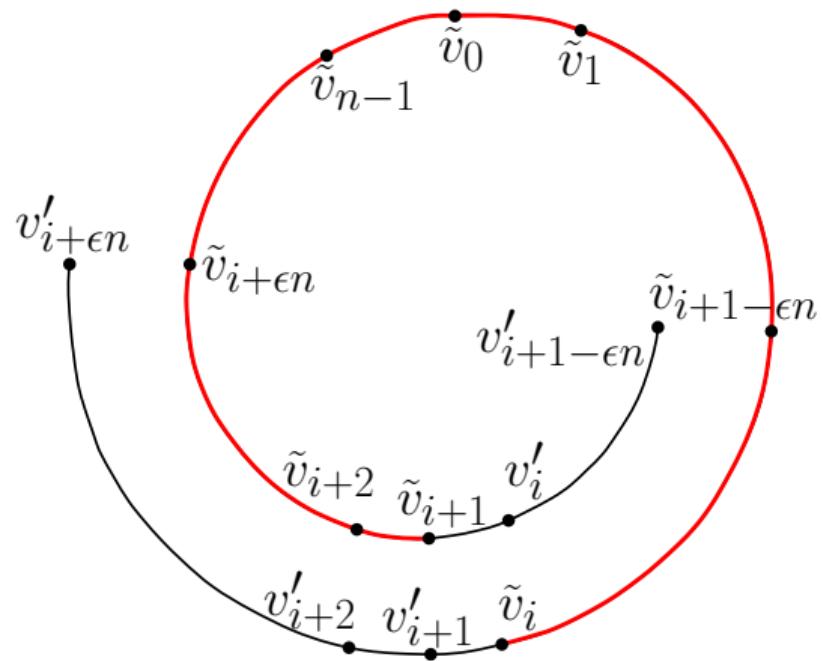
- 7 Bartal 96 and Padded decompositions
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# Clan Embedding

Idea: **duplicate** vertices to meet all guarantees!

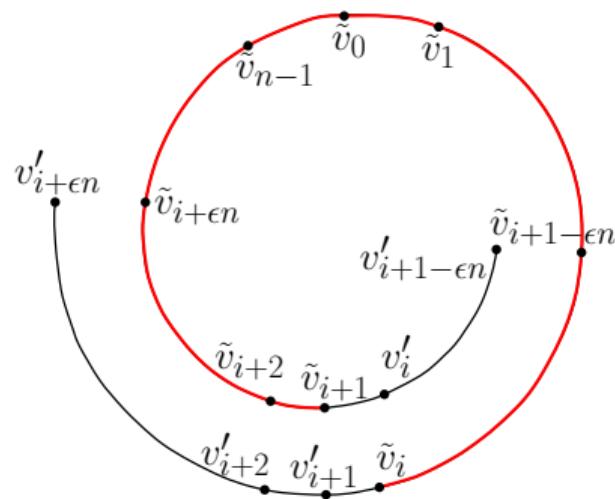
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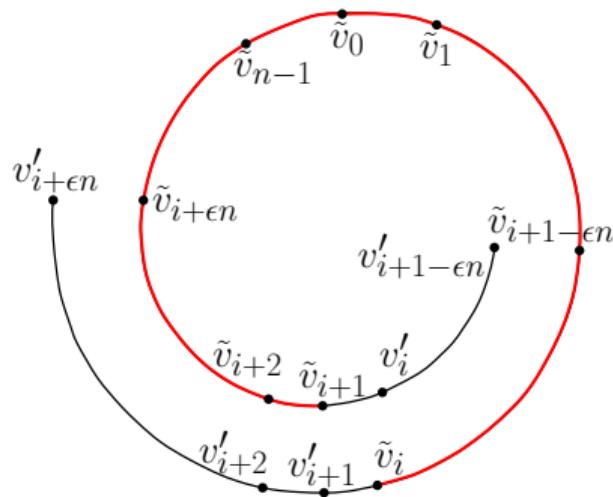


**One-to-many embedding** from  $(X, d_X)$  to  $(Y, d_Y)$ : A map  $f : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  where:

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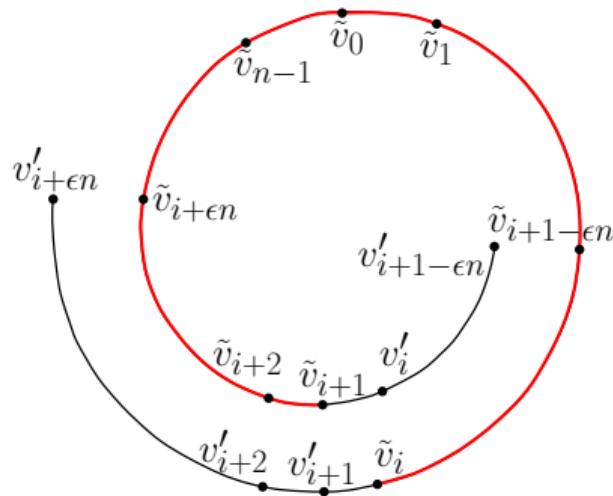
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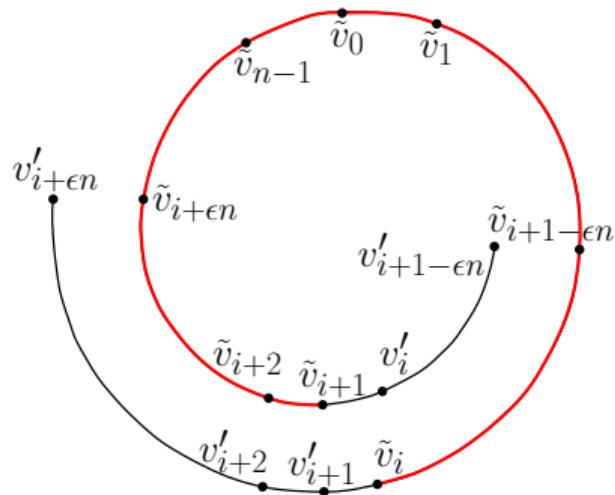
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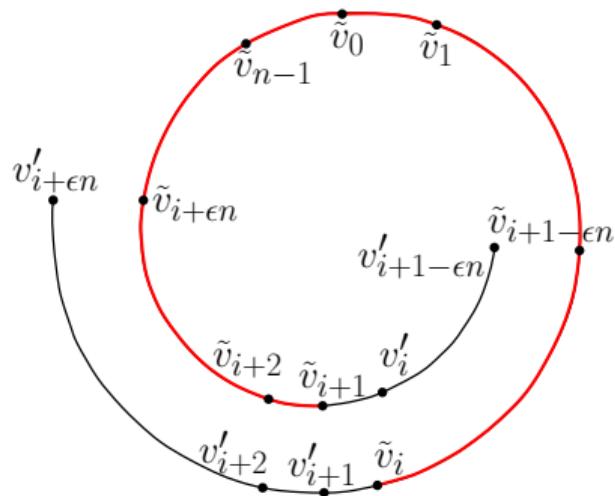
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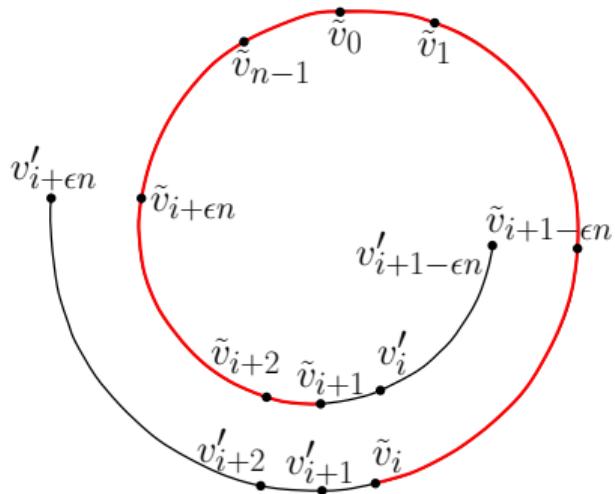
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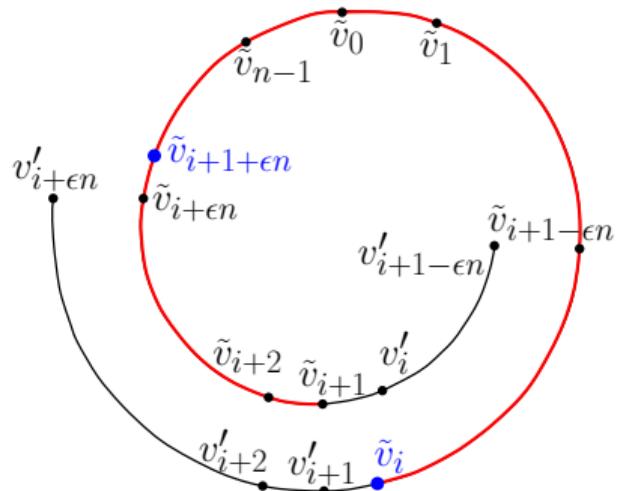
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 $(f, \chi)$  has **distortion**  $t$ , if  $\forall x, y \in X, \min_{y' \in f(y)} d_Y(\chi(x), y') \leq t \cdot d_X(x, y)$

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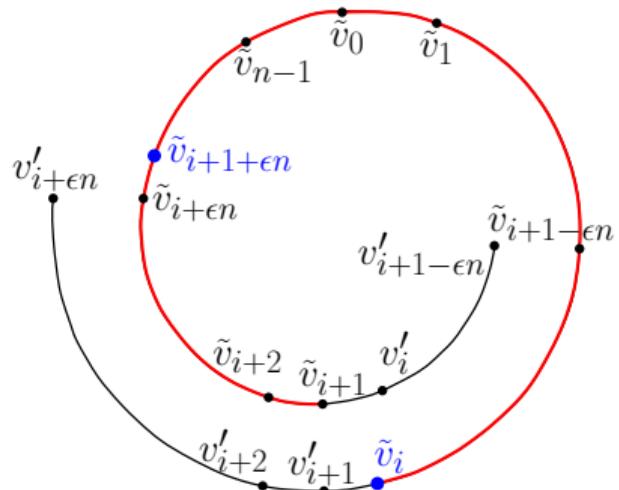
$$f : C_n \rightarrow 2^{P_{2n}}, \quad f(v_i) \subseteq \{\tilde{v}_i, v'_i\}, \quad \chi(v_i) = \tilde{v}_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{y' \in f(v_{i+1+\epsilon n})} d_{P_{2n}}(\chi(v_i), y') &\leq (1 - \epsilon)n \\ &< \frac{1}{\epsilon} \cdot d_{C_n}(v_i, v_{i+\epsilon n+1}) \end{aligned}$$

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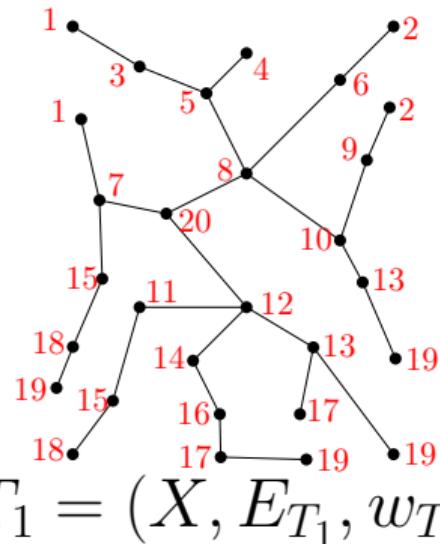
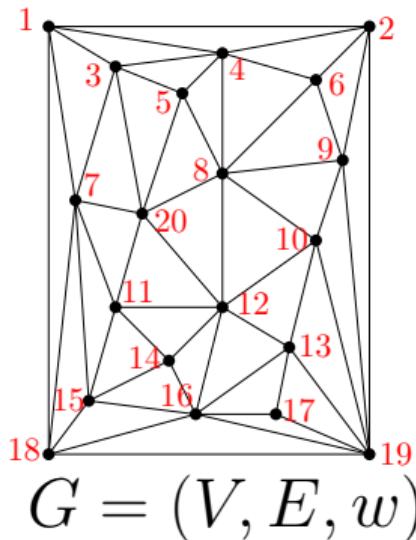
Choose  $i$  u.a.r., then  $\mathbb{E}[|f(v_i)|] = 1 + 2\epsilon$ .

Theorem (Clan embedding into trees, [Filtser, Le 21])

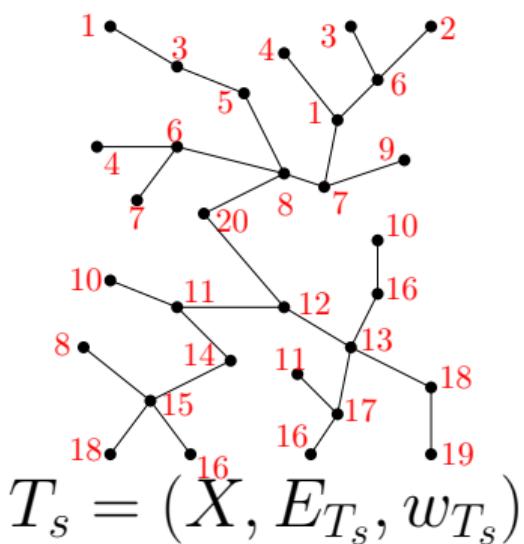
$(X, d_X)$   $n$  point metric space,  $\forall \epsilon \in (0, 1)$ , there is

**distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  over dominating clan embeddings into trees such that:**

- $\forall (f, \chi) \in \text{supp}(\mathcal{D})$  has distortion  $O(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon})$ .
- $\forall x \in X, \mathbb{E}_{(f, \chi) \sim \mathcal{D}}[|f(x)|] \leq 1 + \epsilon$ .



...

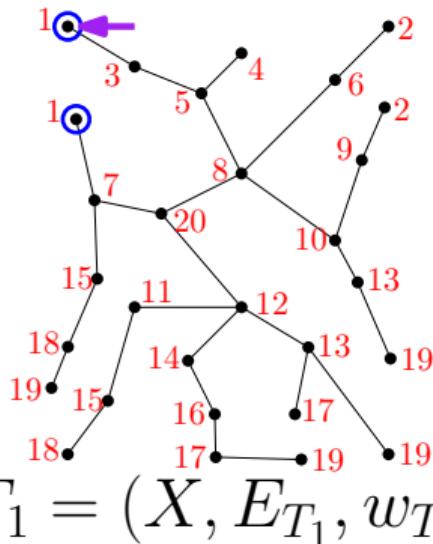
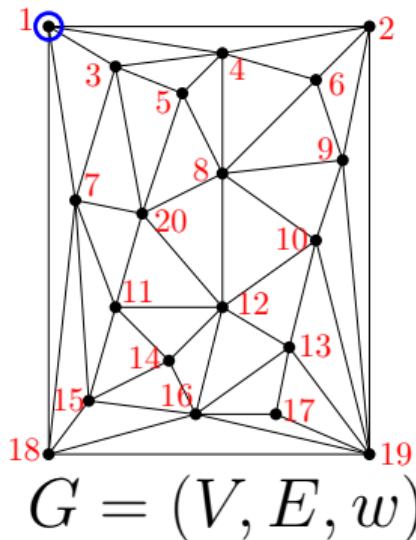


Theorem (Clan embedding into trees, [Filtser, Le 21])

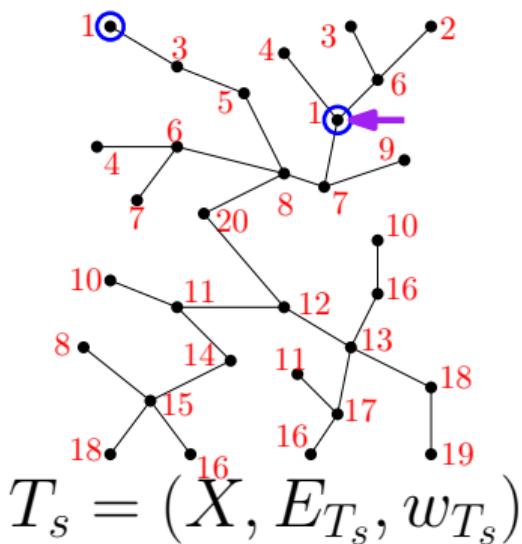
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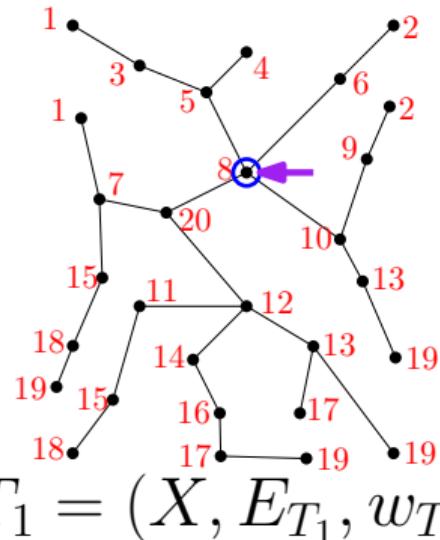
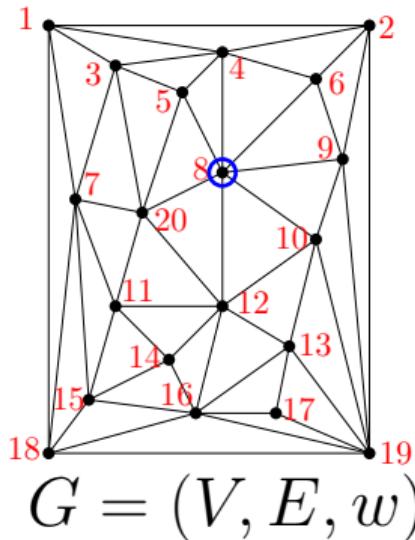


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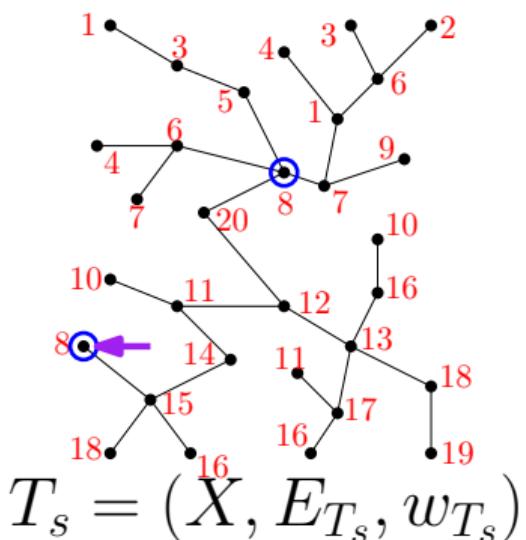
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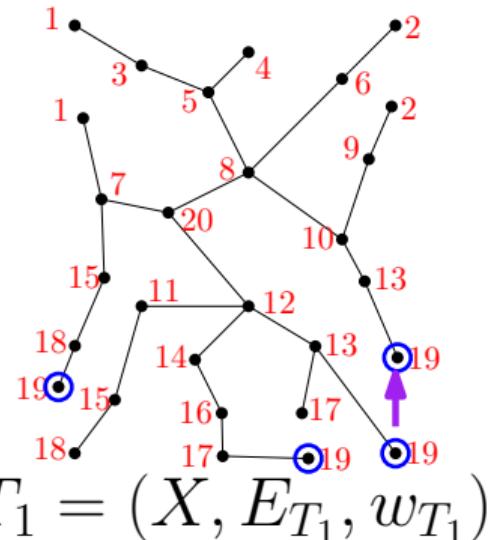
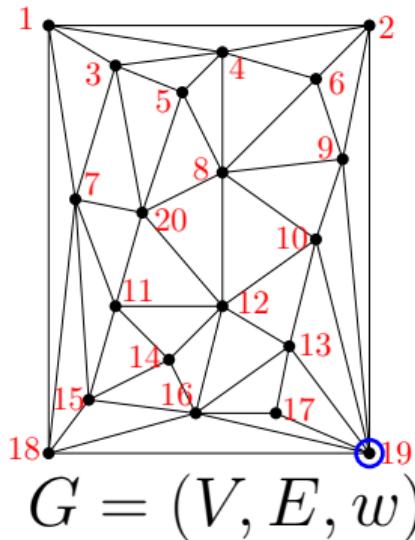


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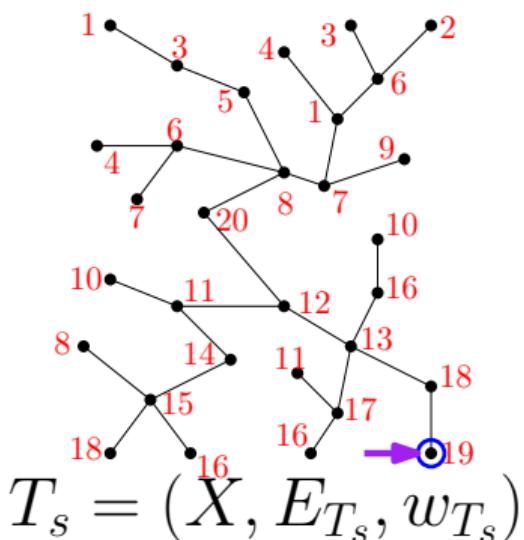
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(both) Tight!

# Clan Embedding

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Compromises: Not a real classic embedding



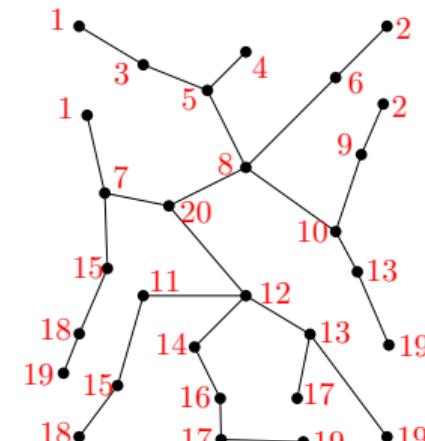
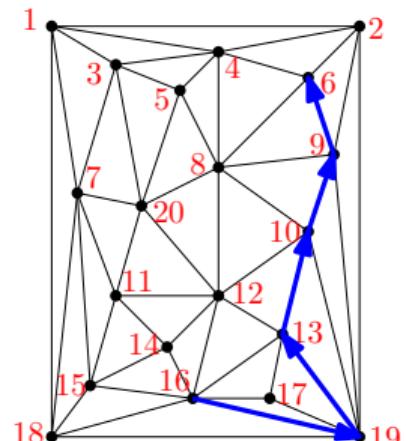
# Path Distortion

Originally appeared in [Bartal, Mendel 04] in the context of multi-embeddings.

## Definition

One-to-many embedding  $f : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  has *path-distortion*  $t$  if for every sequence  $(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_m)$  in  $X$  there is a sequence  $y_0, \dots, y_m$  where  $y_i \in f(x_i)$ , and

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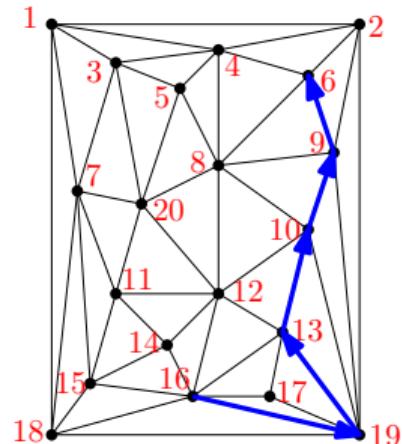
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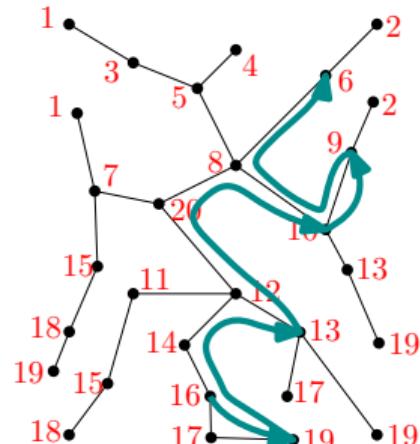
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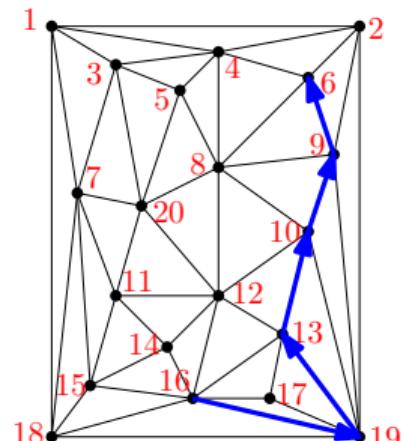
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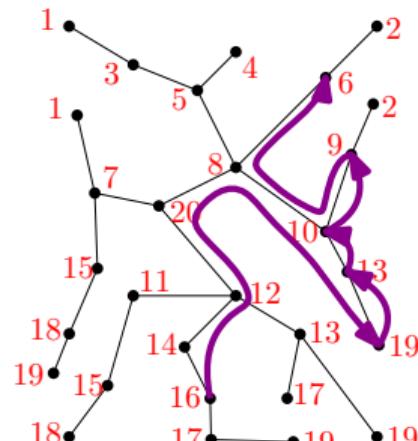
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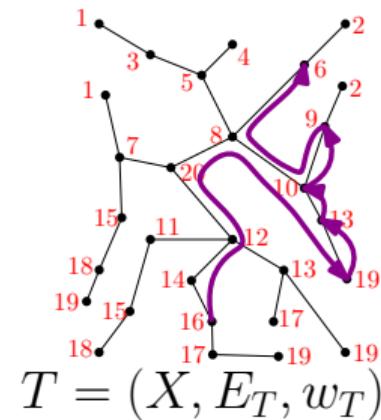
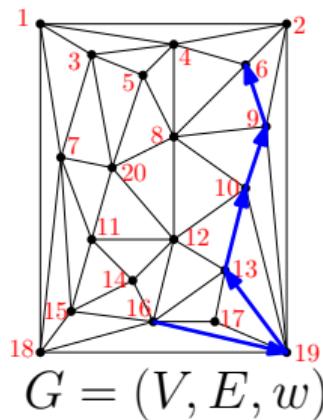


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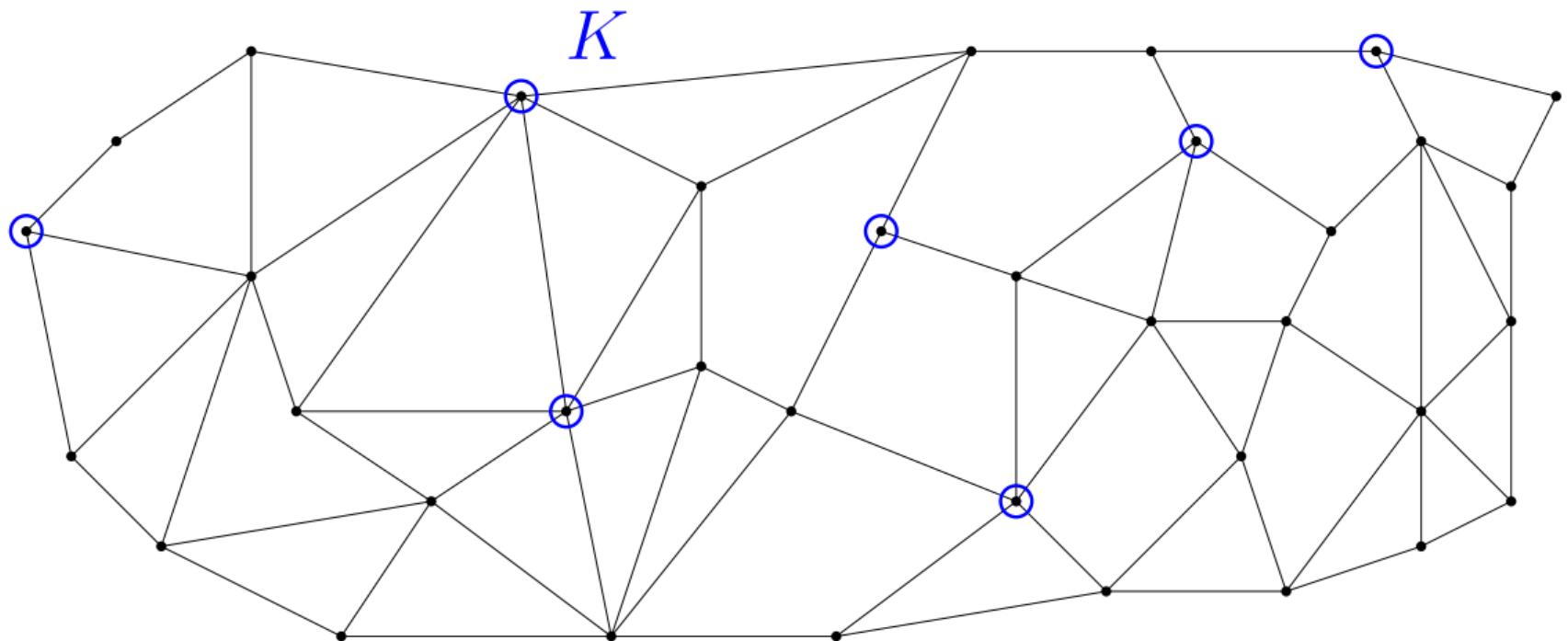
Or a total of  $O(n^{1+\frac{1}{2}})$  copies and path distortion  $O(\log n)$ .

# Outline of the talk - Appendix

- 7 Bartal 96 and Padded decompositions
- 8 Metrical Task System
- 9 Ramsey type embeddings
- 10 Clan embedding
- 11 Group Steiner Tree (using clan embedding)

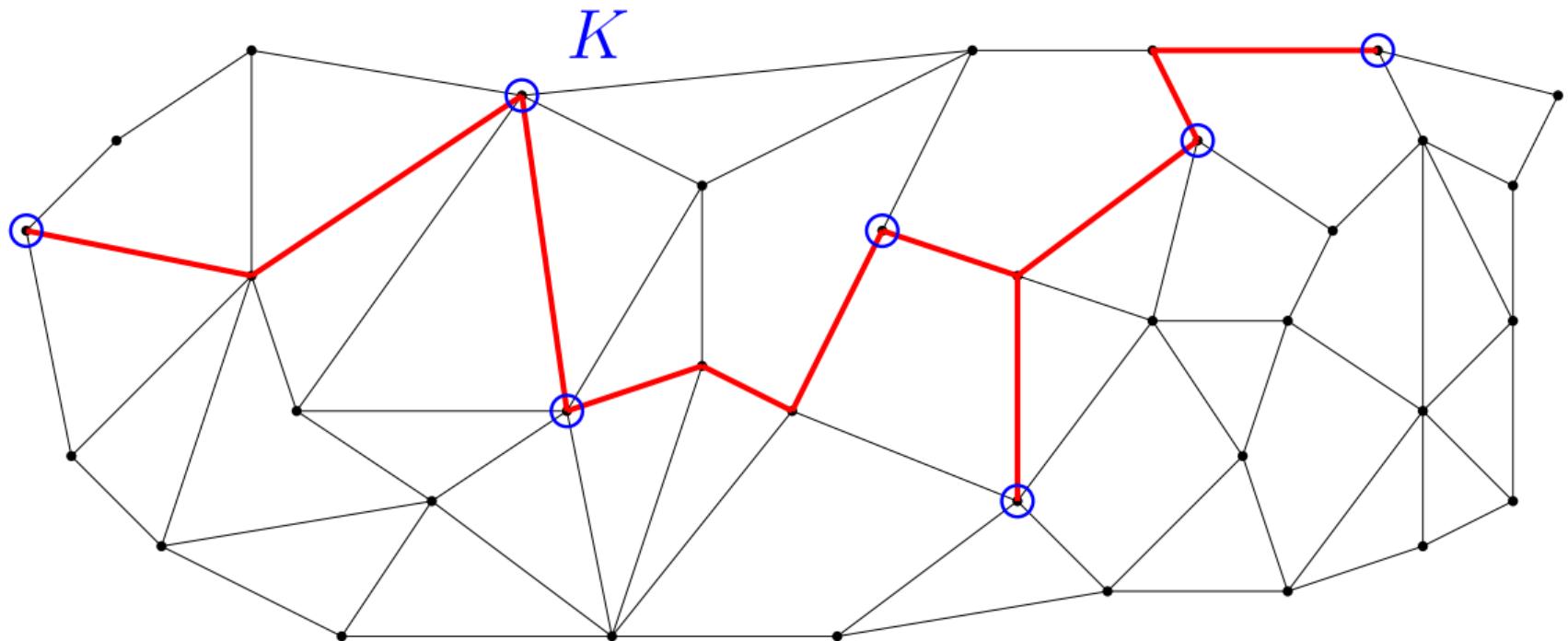
# Steiner Tree

Given set of terminals  $K$ , find minimum weight tree  $T$  spanning  $K$



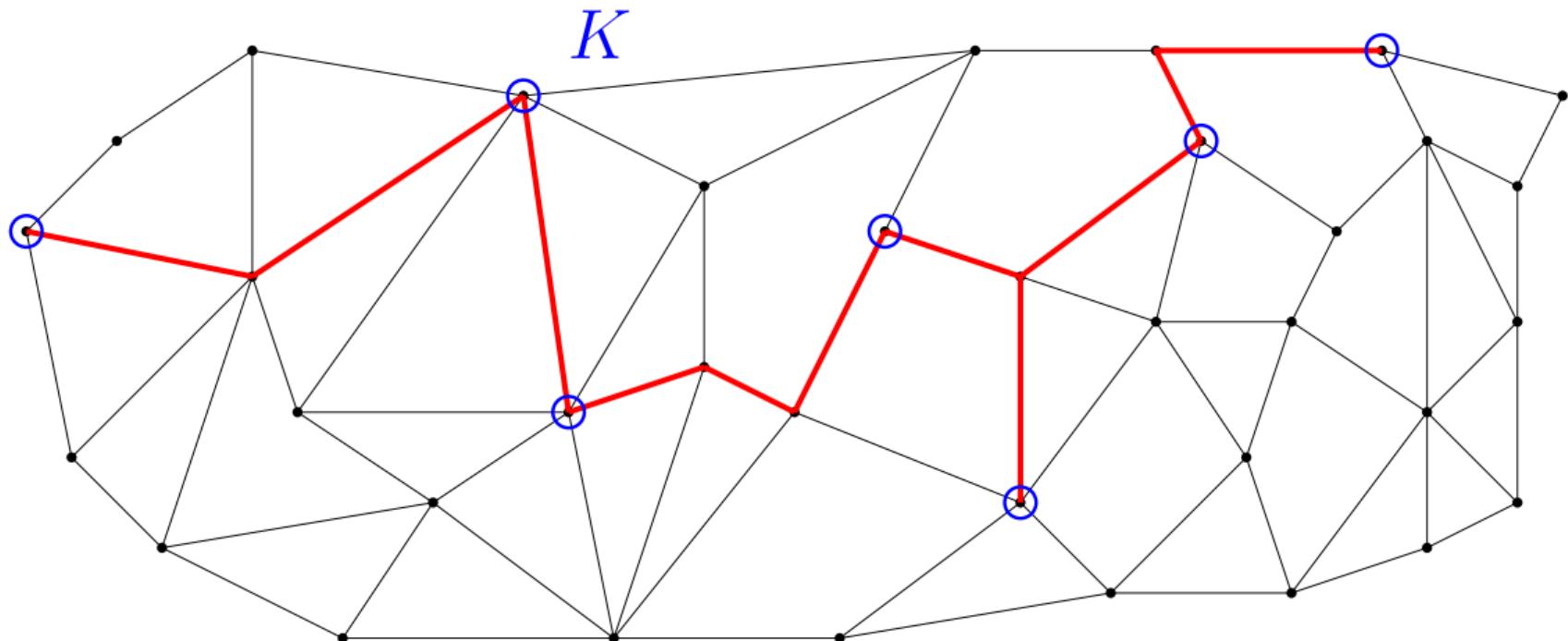
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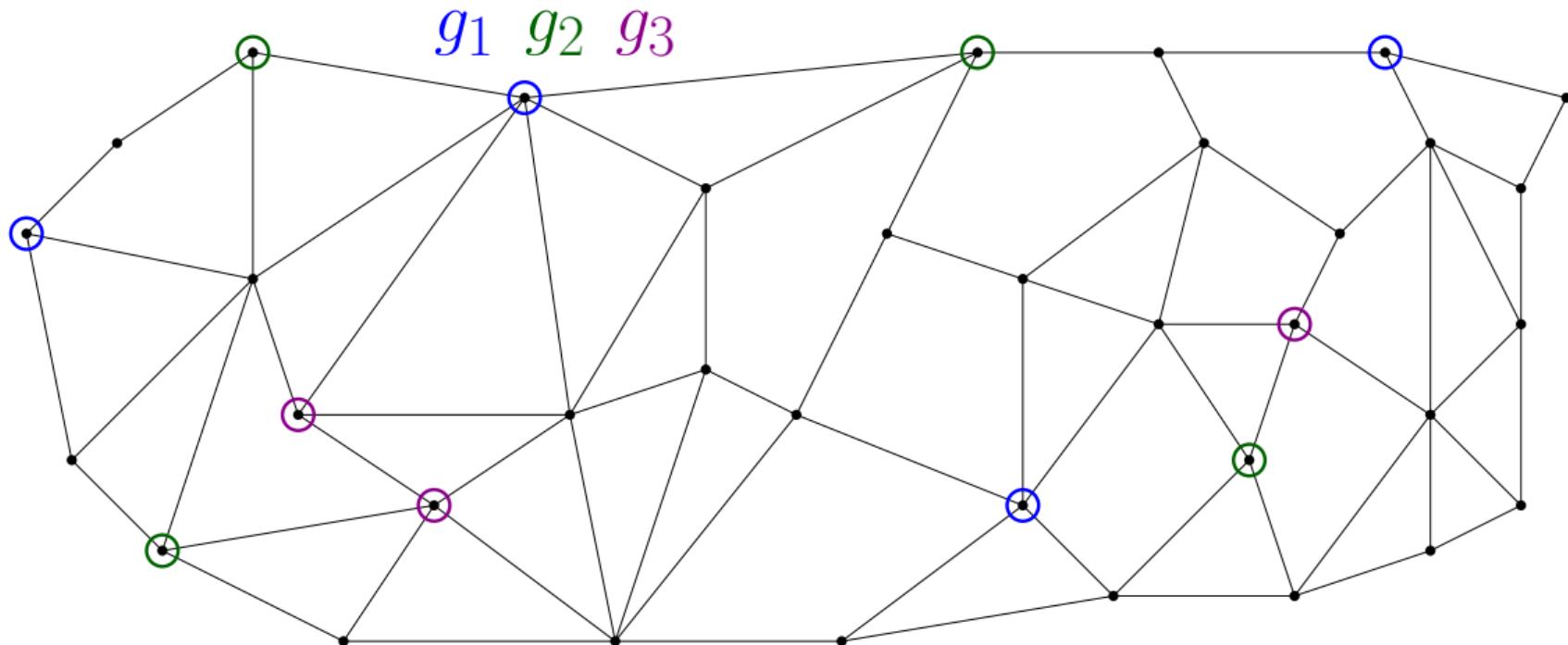
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In class we saw a 2-approximation algorithm for the Steiner tree problem.

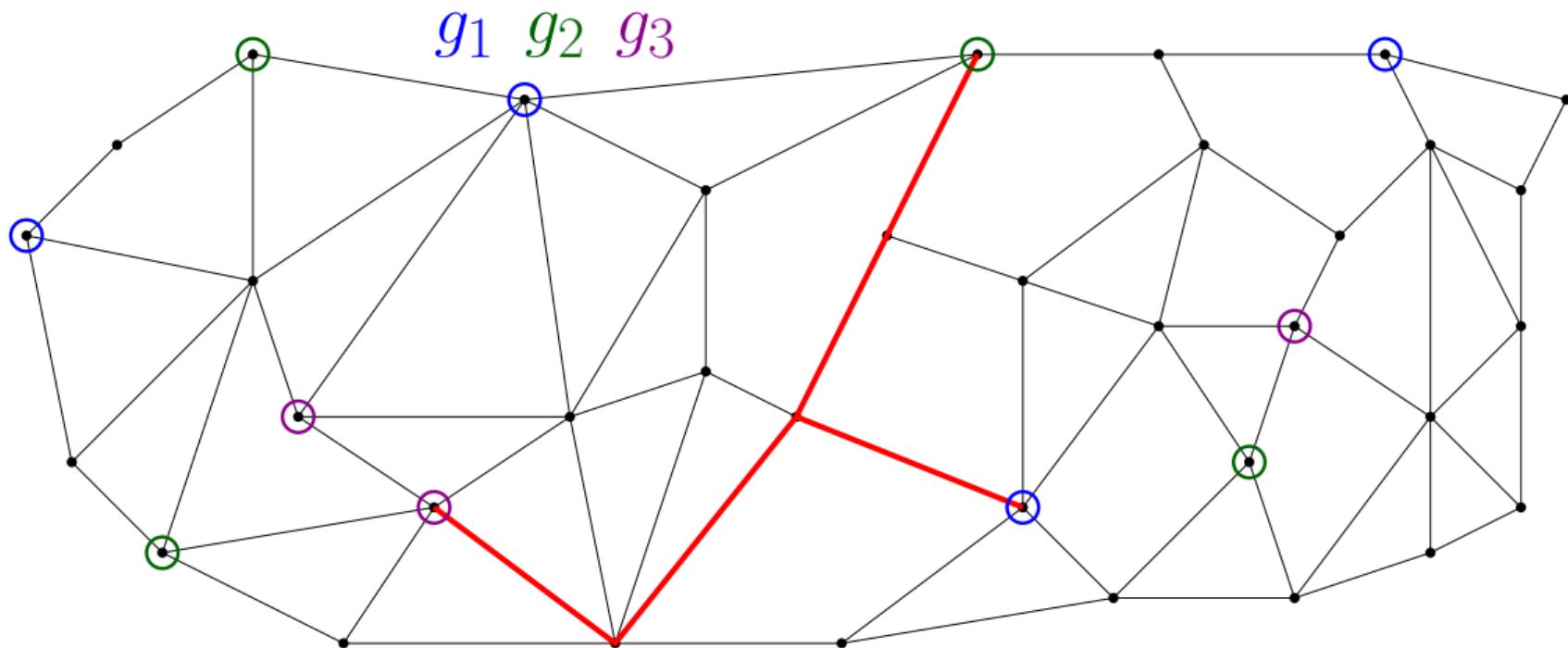
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Given subsets  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k \subseteq V$ , find minimum weight tree  $T$  spanning at least one vertex from each  $g_i$ ;



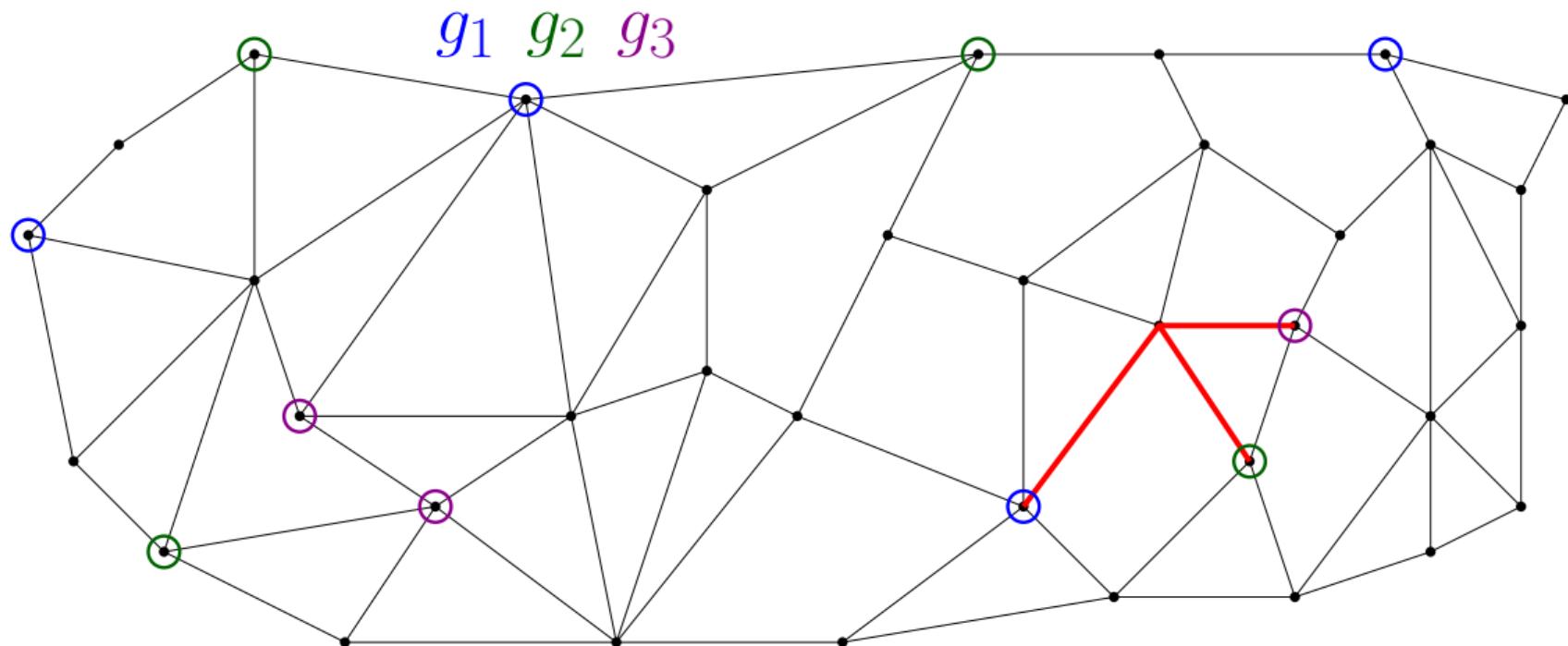
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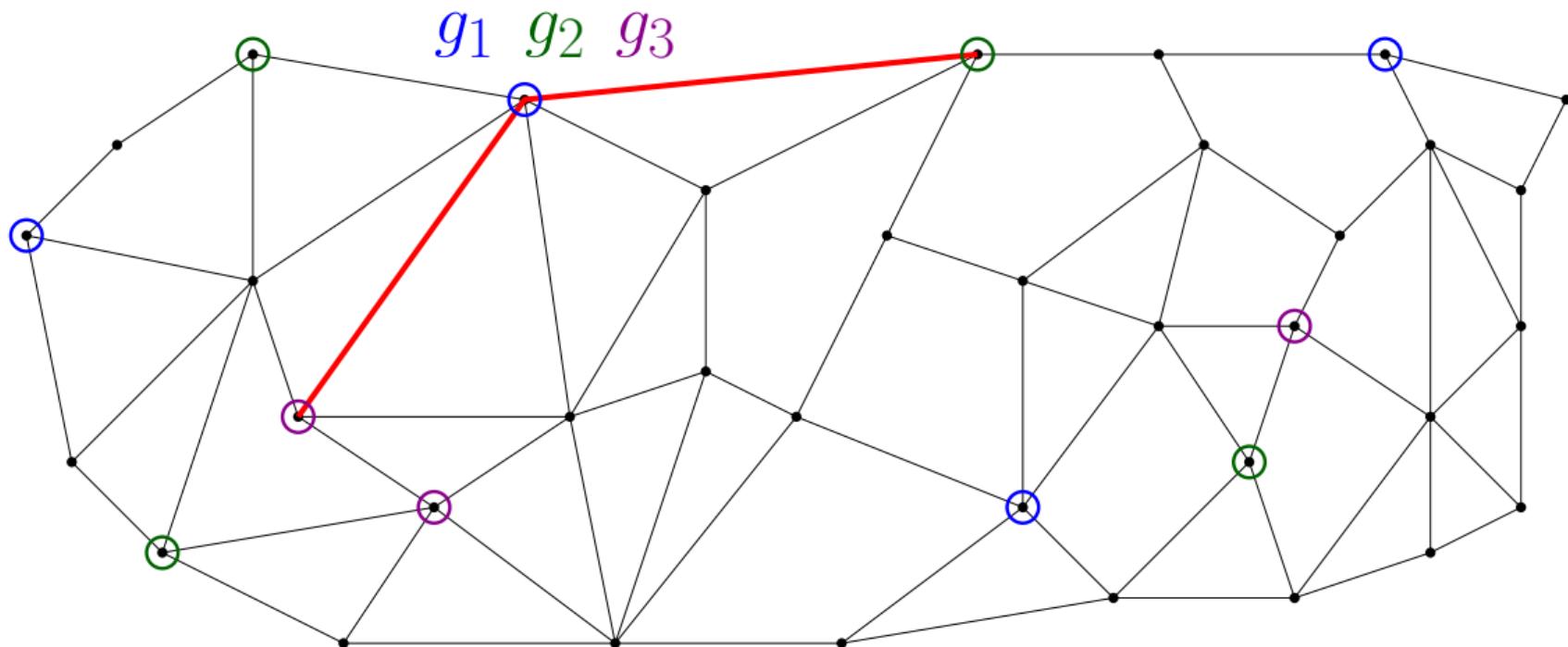
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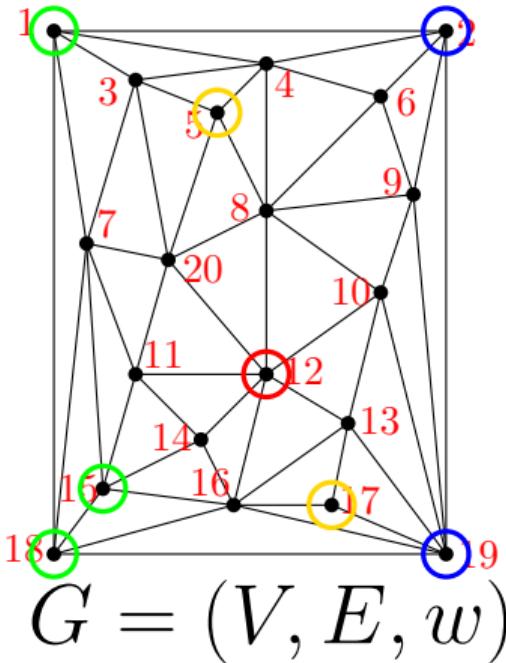
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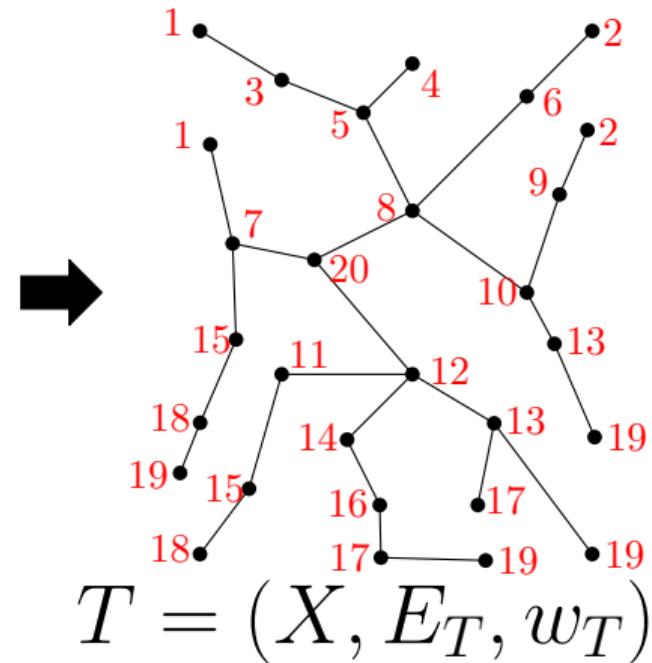


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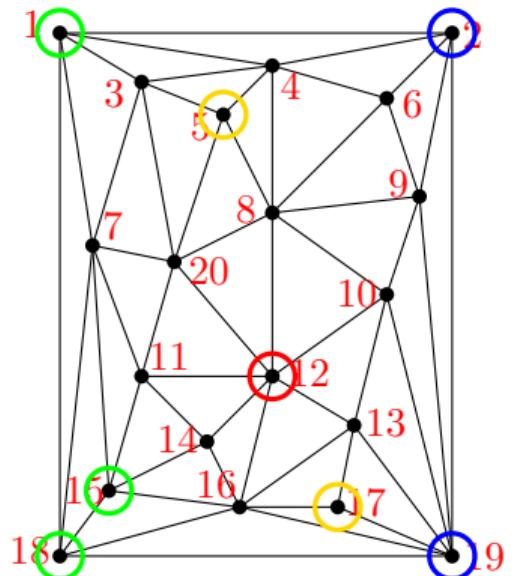
$g_1 \ g_2 \ g_3 \ g_4$



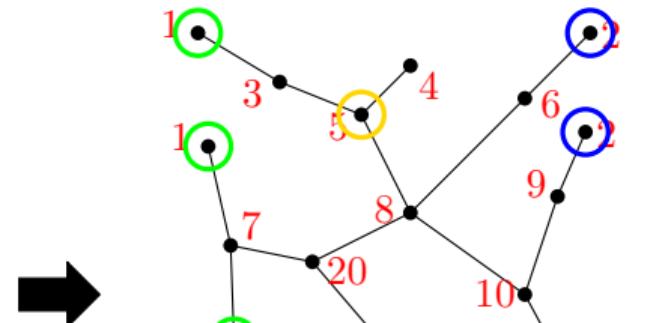
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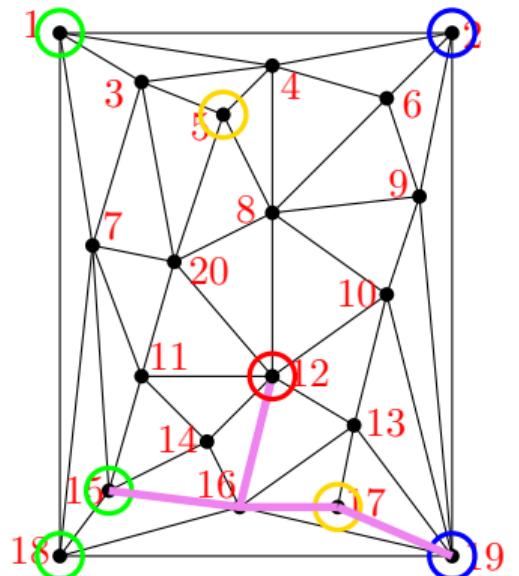
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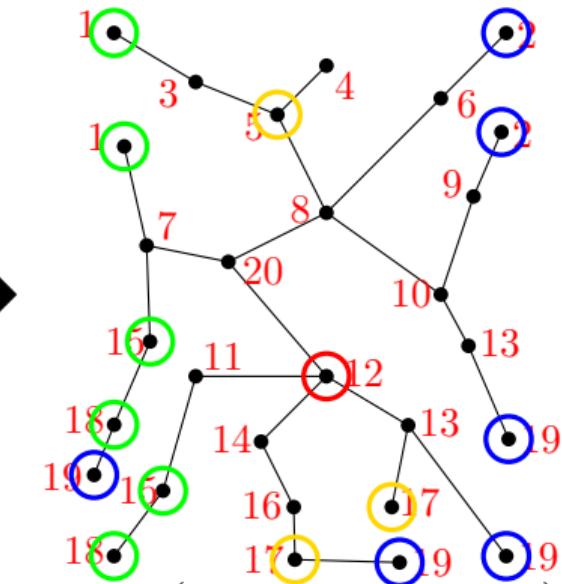
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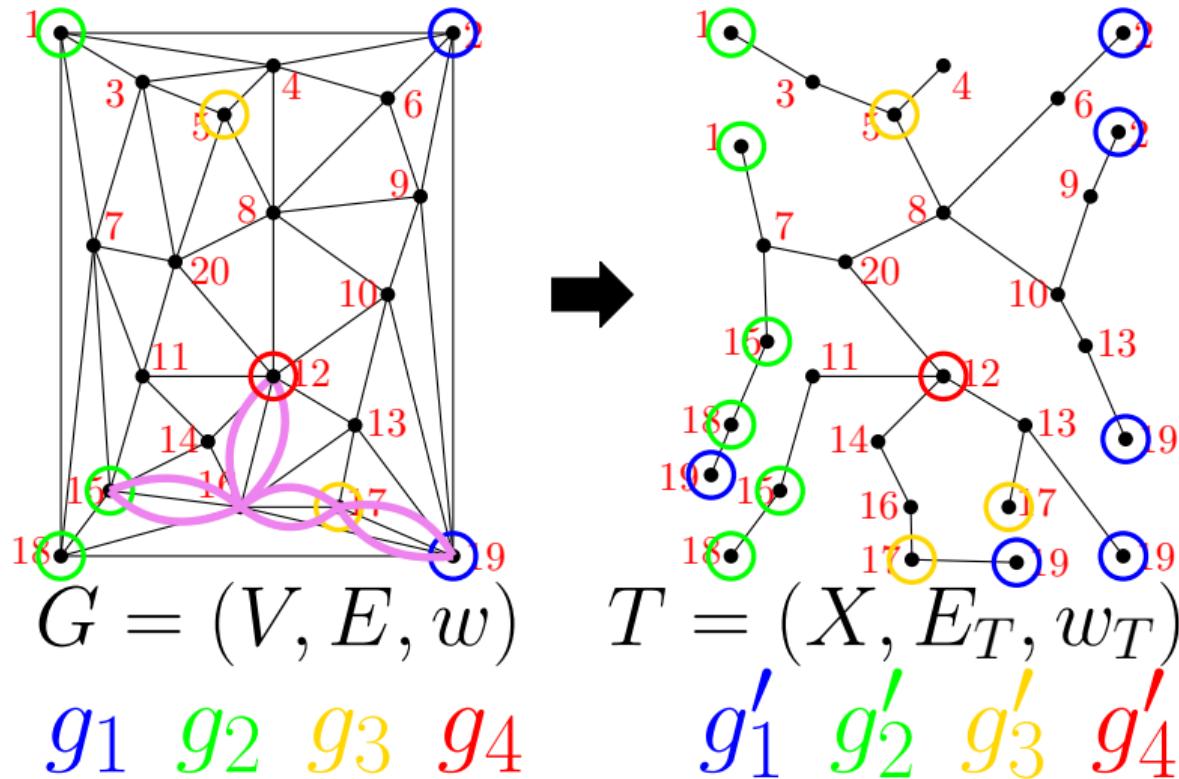
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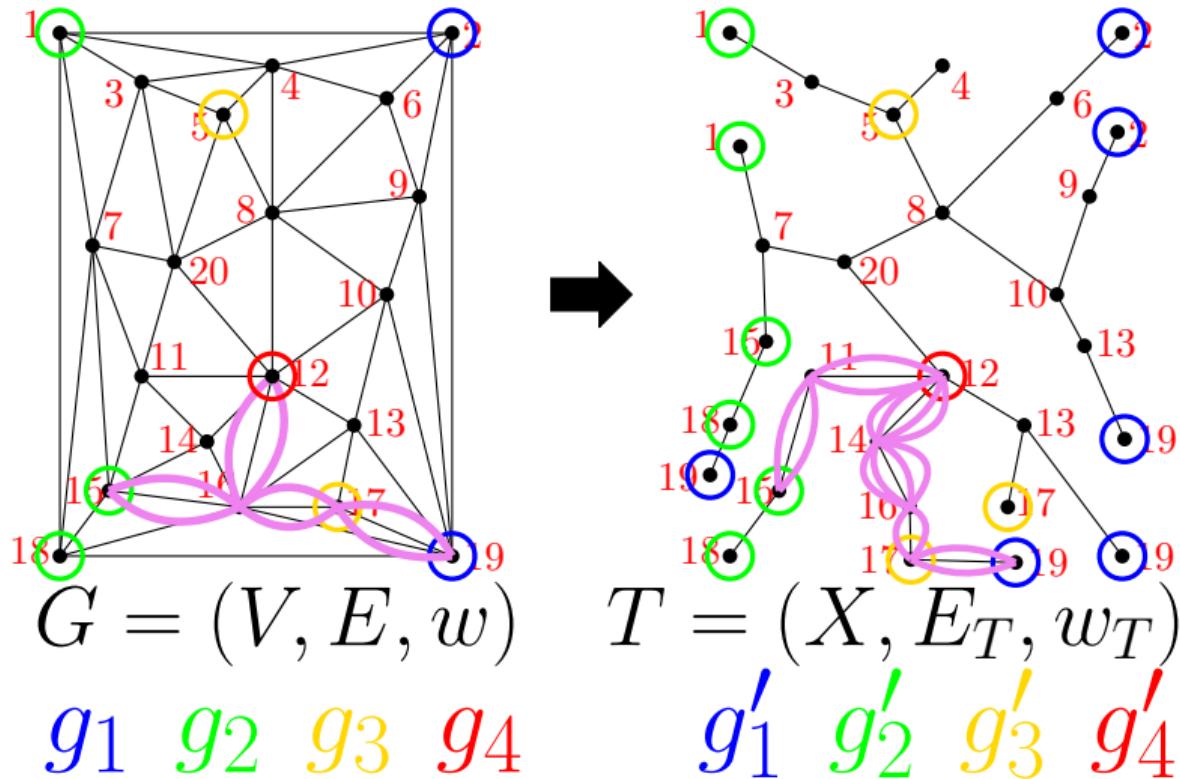
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Guaranteed path:  $S_T^*$   
(valid solution),  
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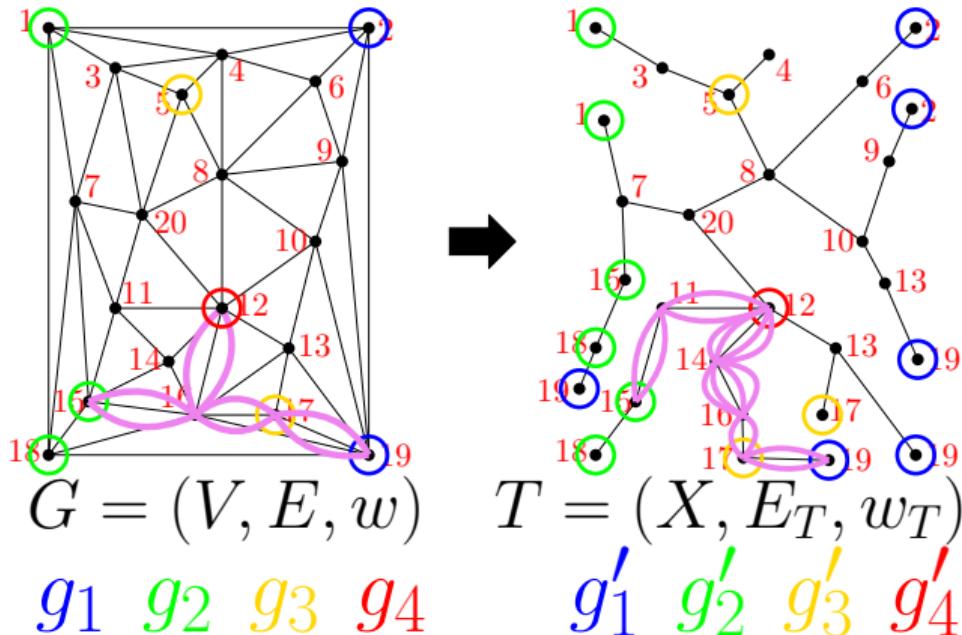
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$O(\log n \cdot \log k)$ -approximation algorithm for the GST problem on trees.

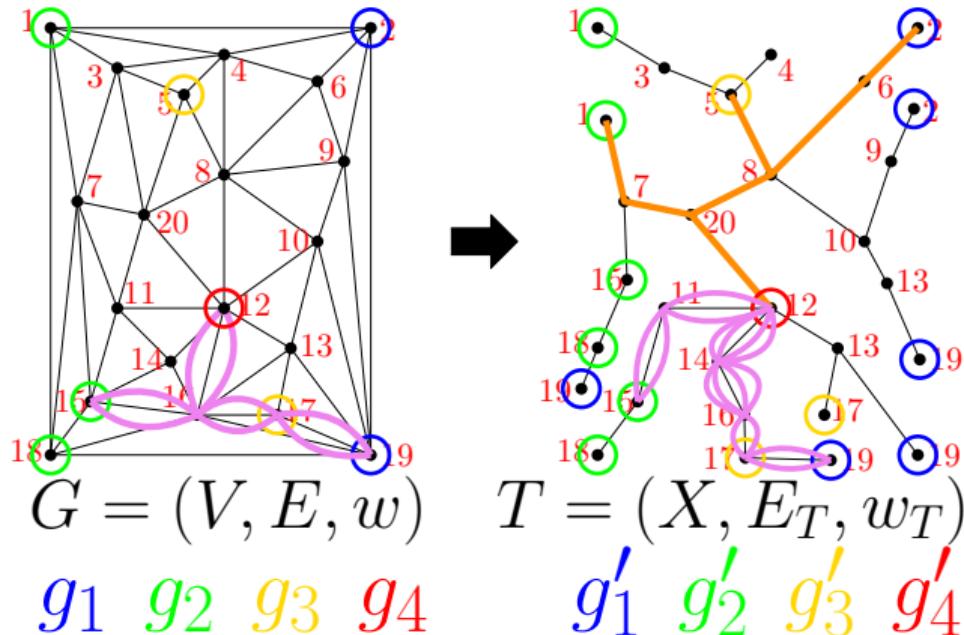
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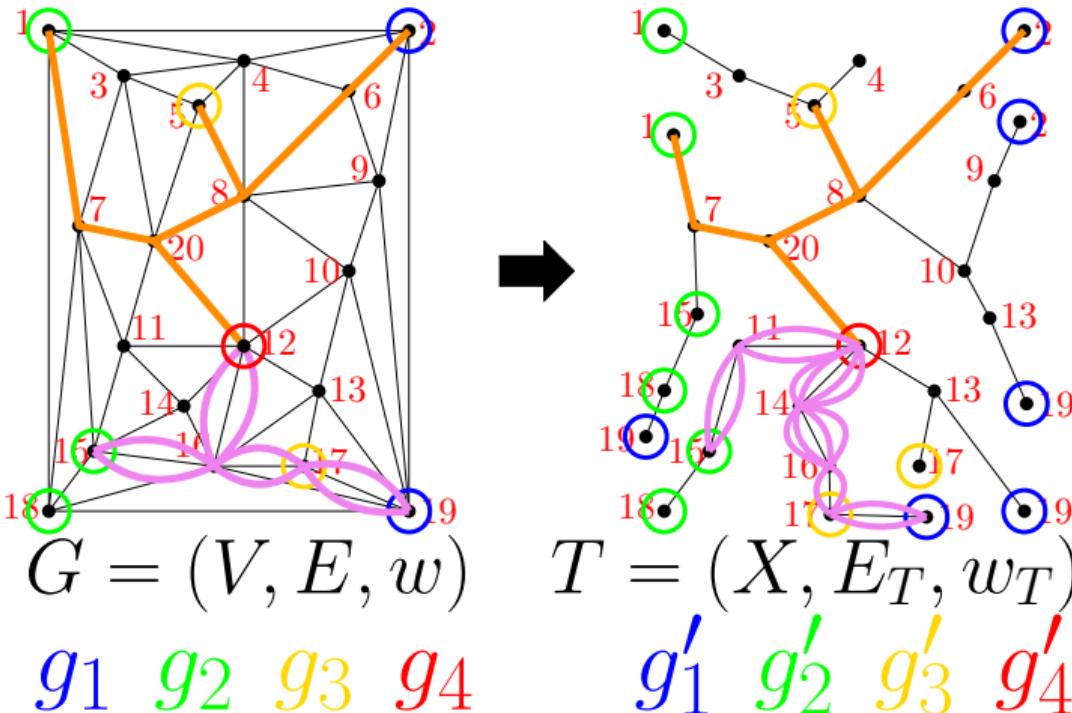
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$\tilde{S} = \bigcup_{\{v', u'\} \in \tilde{S}_T} P_{v', u'}^T$  is a union of shortest paths in  $G$



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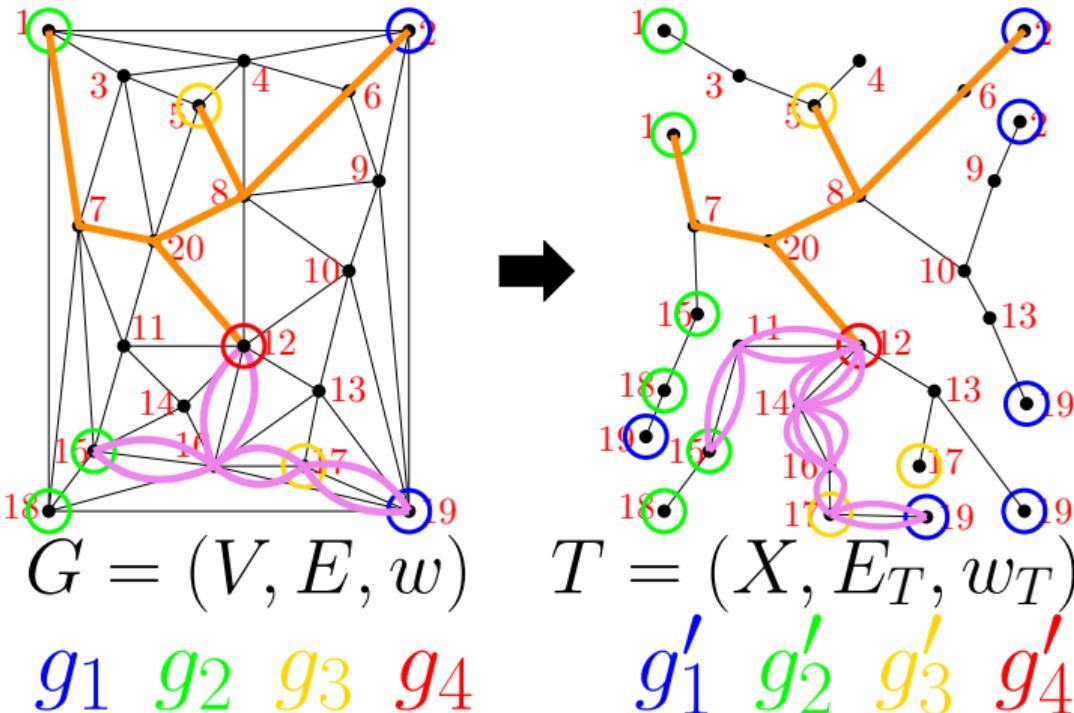
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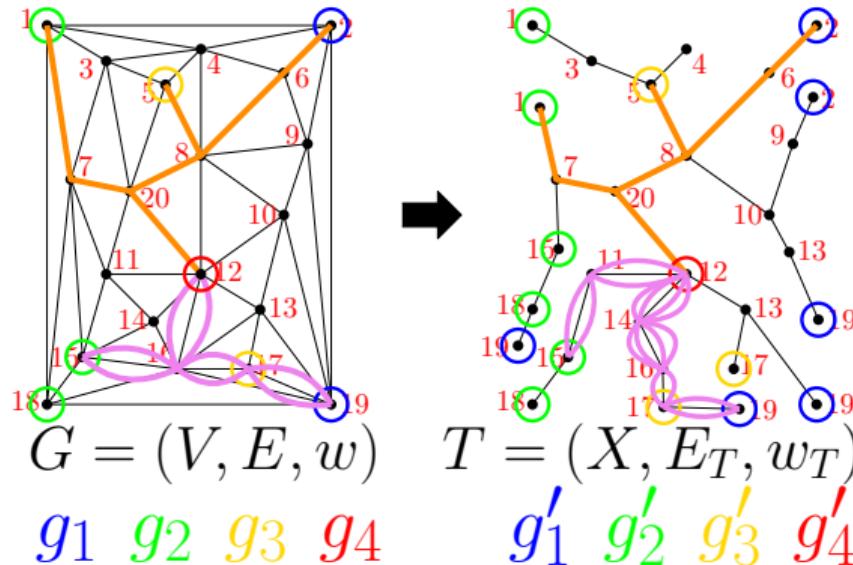
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$$w(\tilde{S}) \leq w(\tilde{S}_T) \leq O(\log^2 n \cdot \log k) \cdot w(S^*).$$

We got an  $O(\log^2 n \cdot \log k)$  **approximation**.



## Clan Embeddings construction

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# Clan Embeddings construction

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## Definition (Ultrametric)

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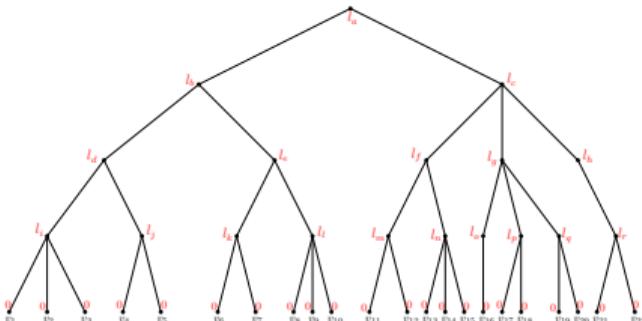
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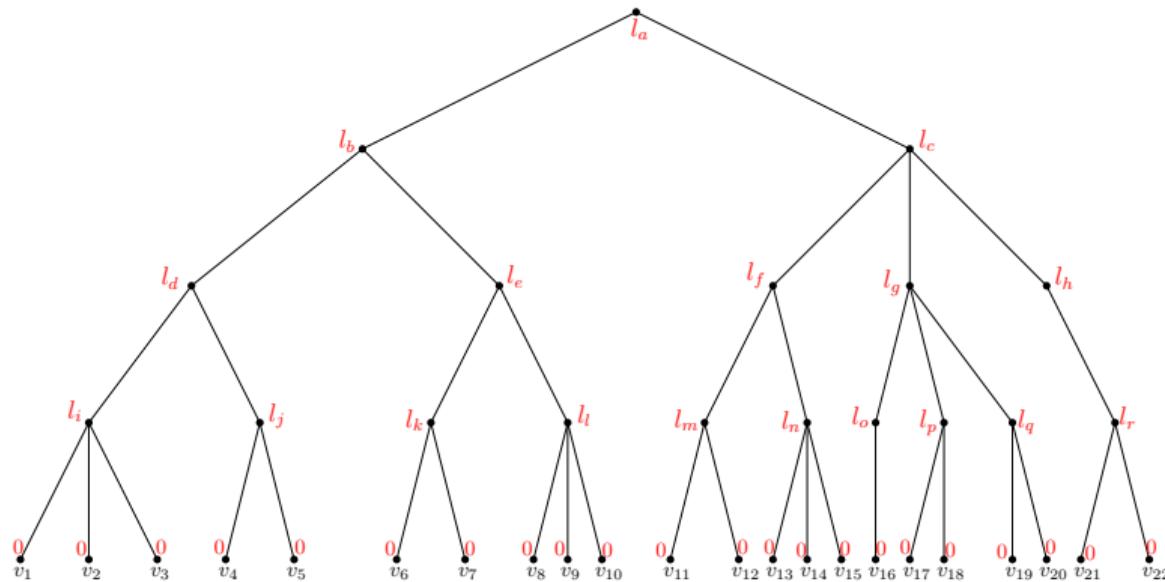
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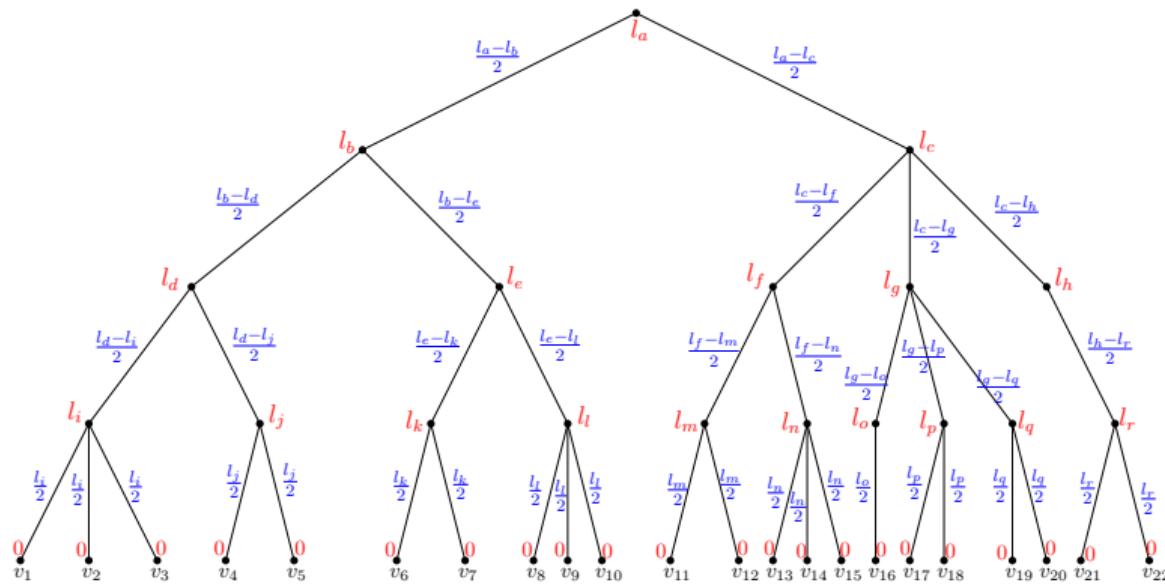
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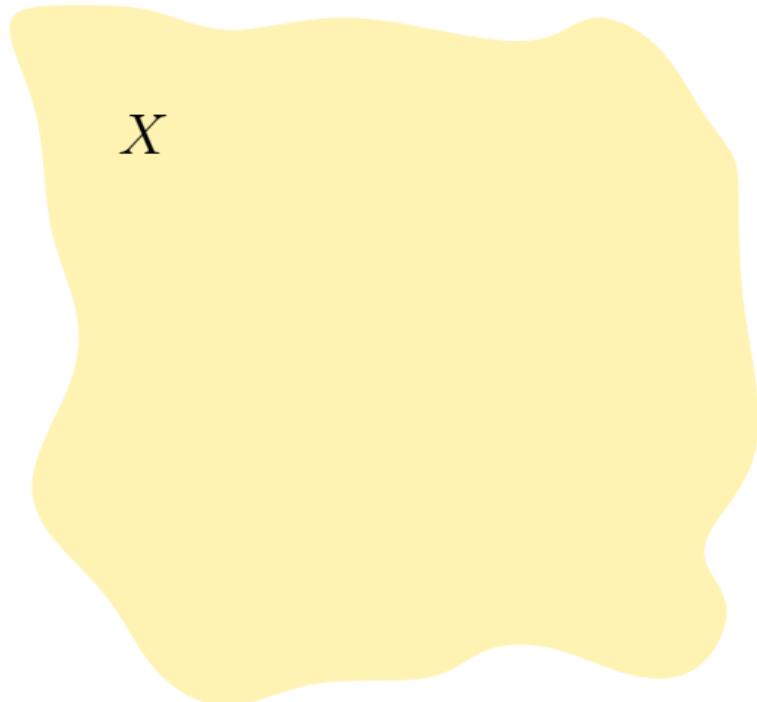
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# Construction

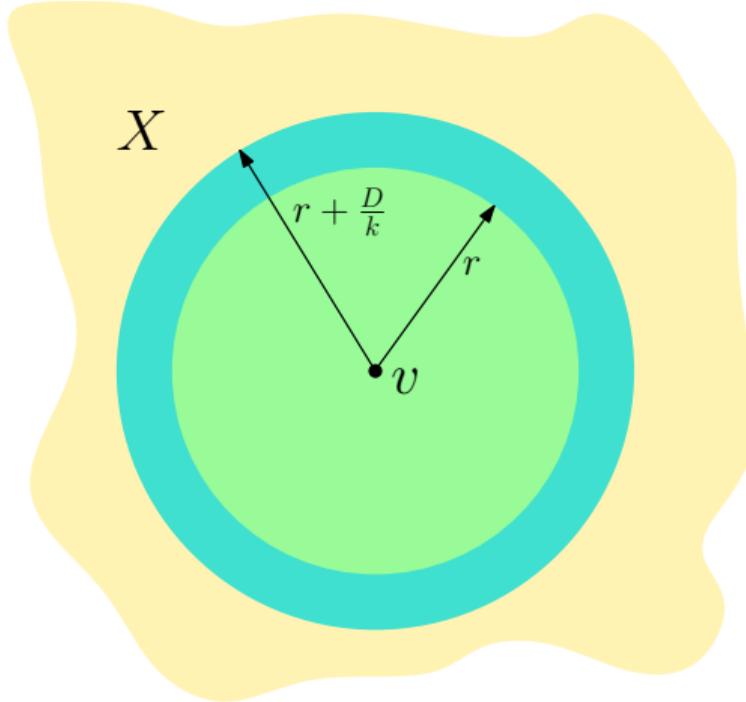


$X$

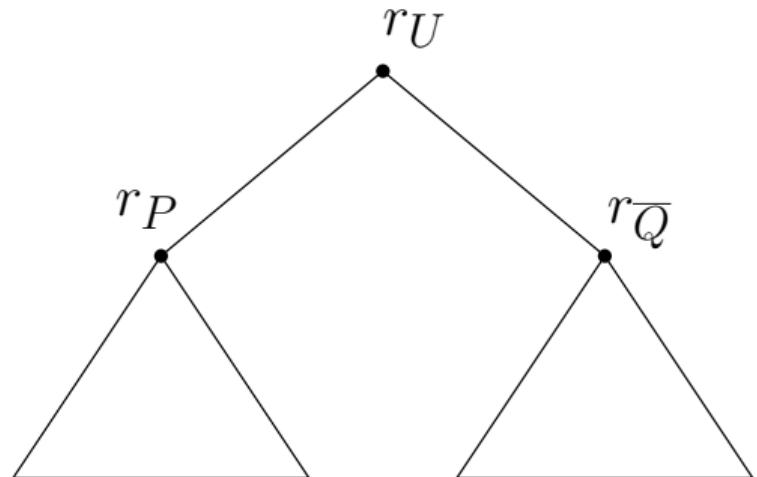
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# Construction



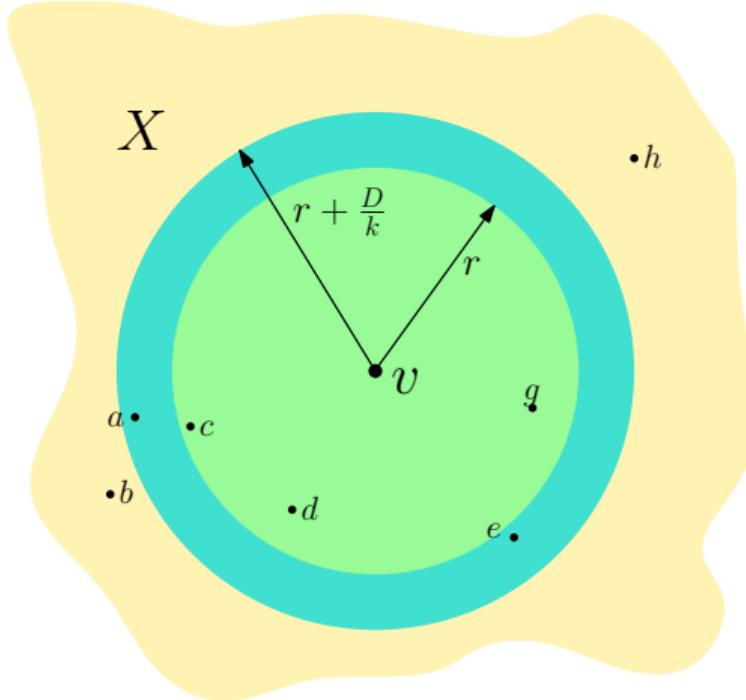
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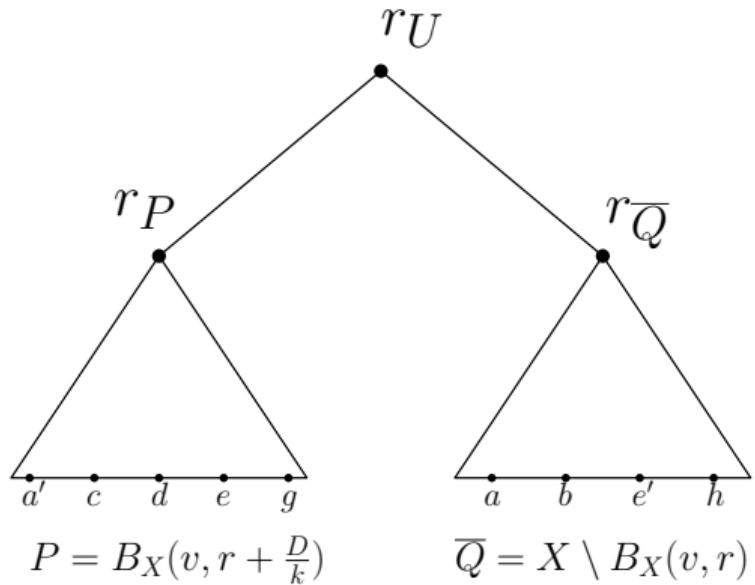
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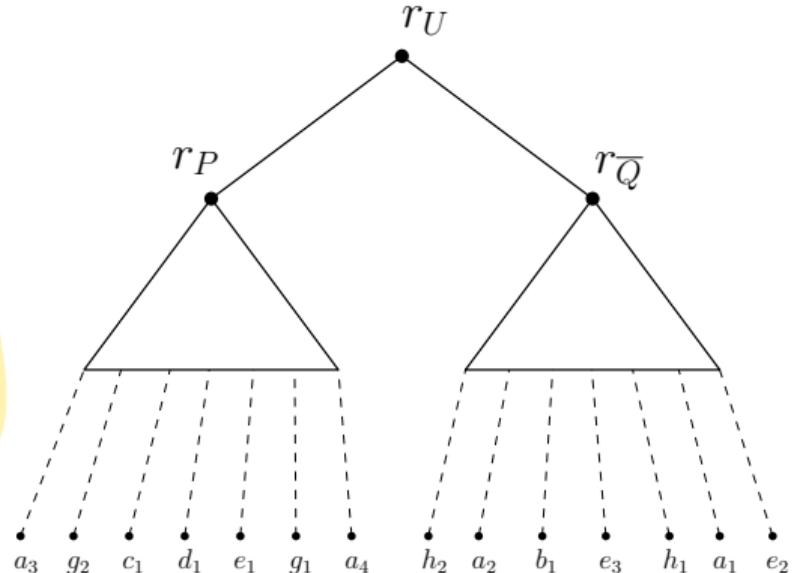
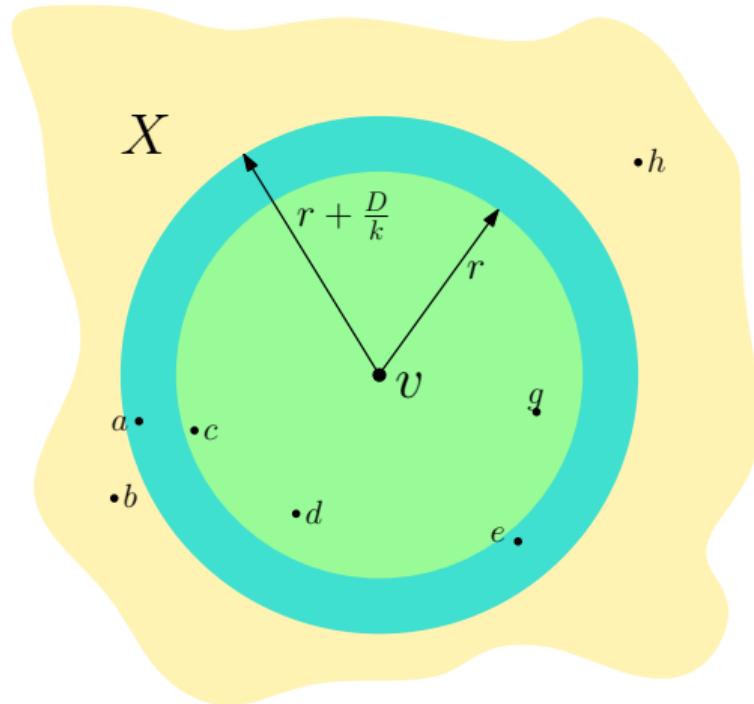
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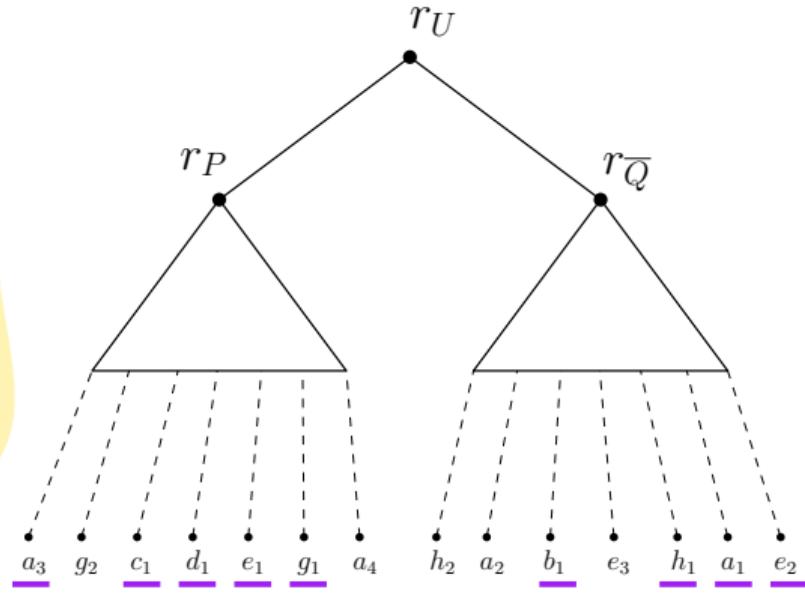
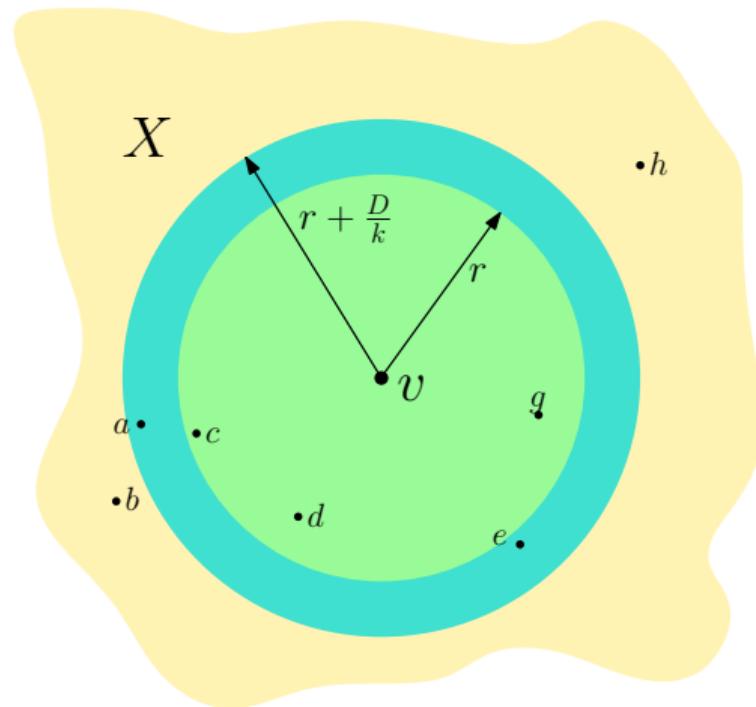
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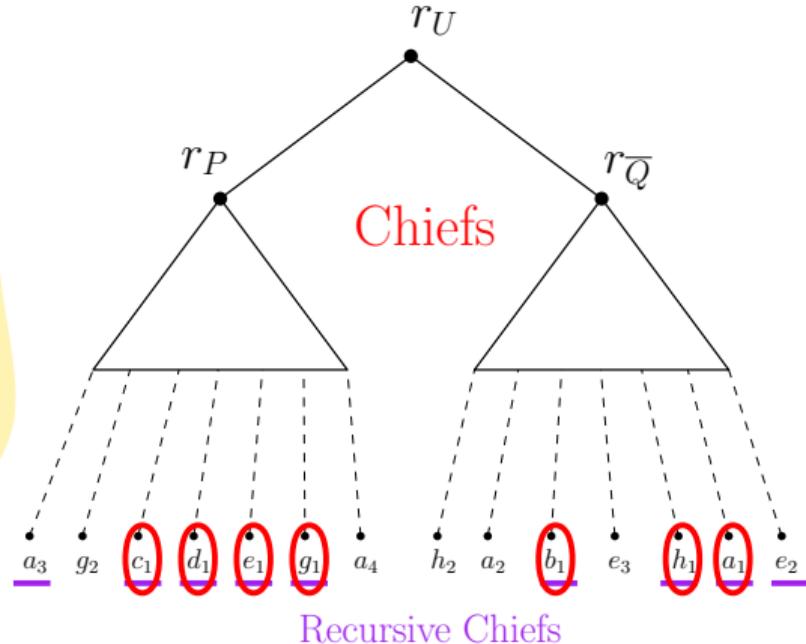
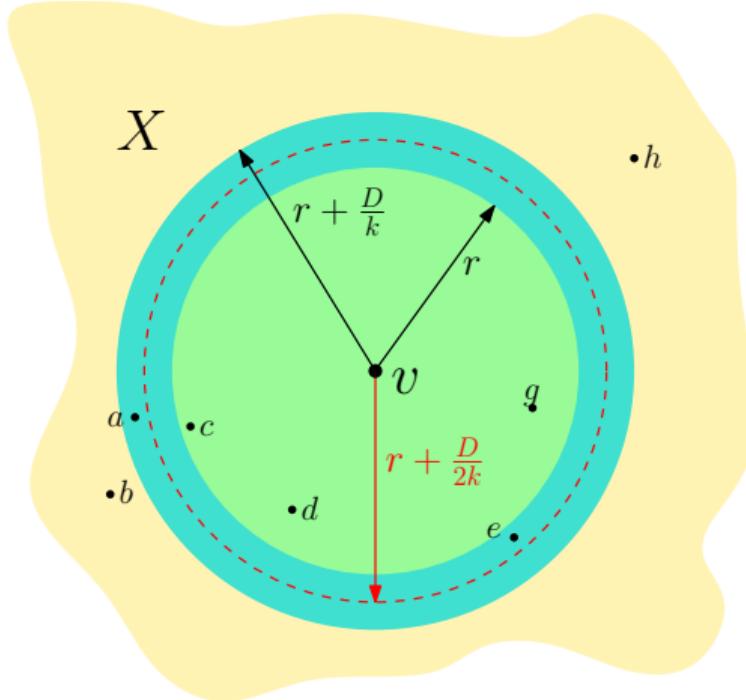


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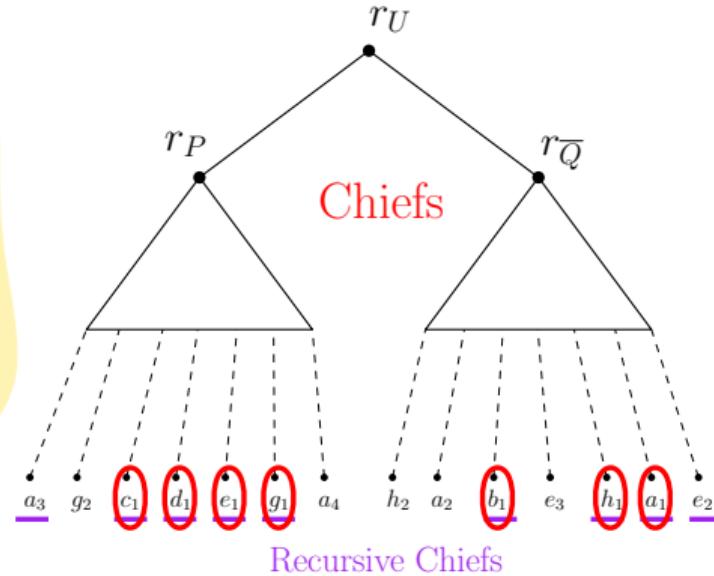
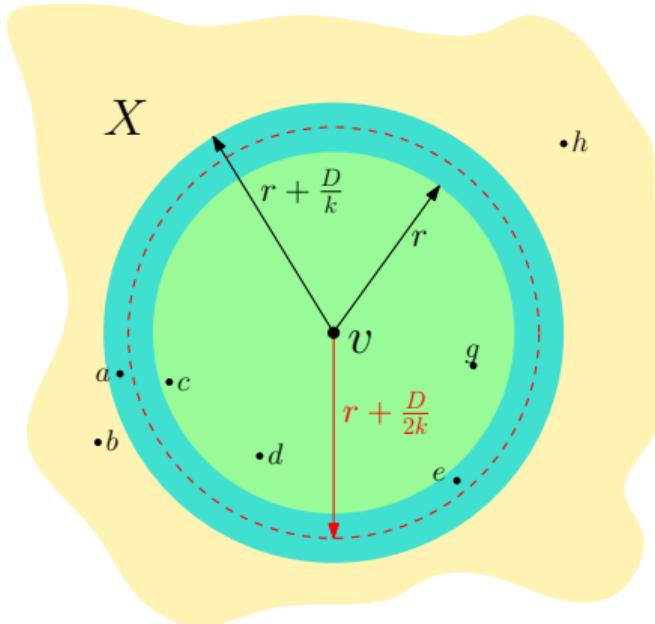


Recursive Chiefs

# Construction

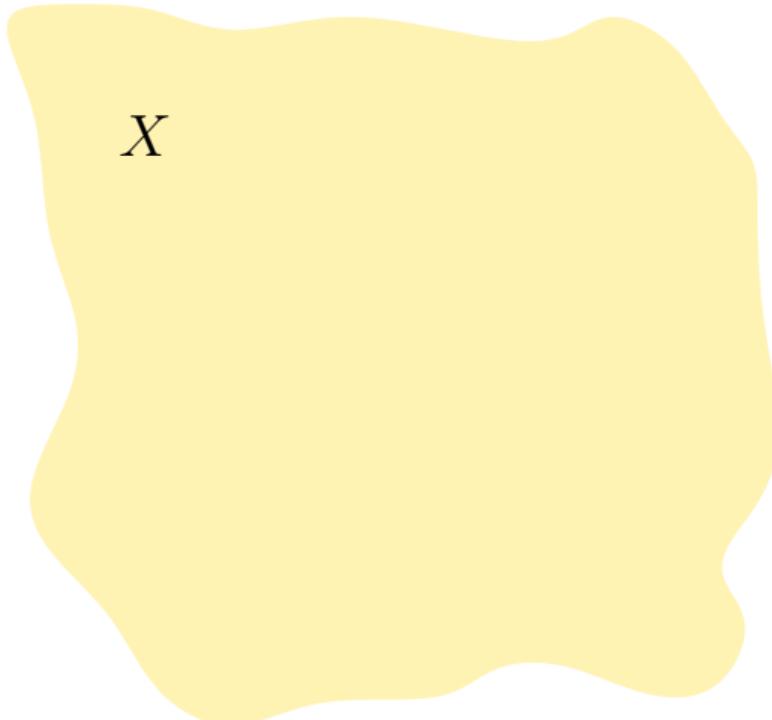


# Construction - distortion bound



$$\min_{c' \in f(c)} d_U(c', \chi(a)) = D \leq 2k \cdot d_X(c, a) .$$

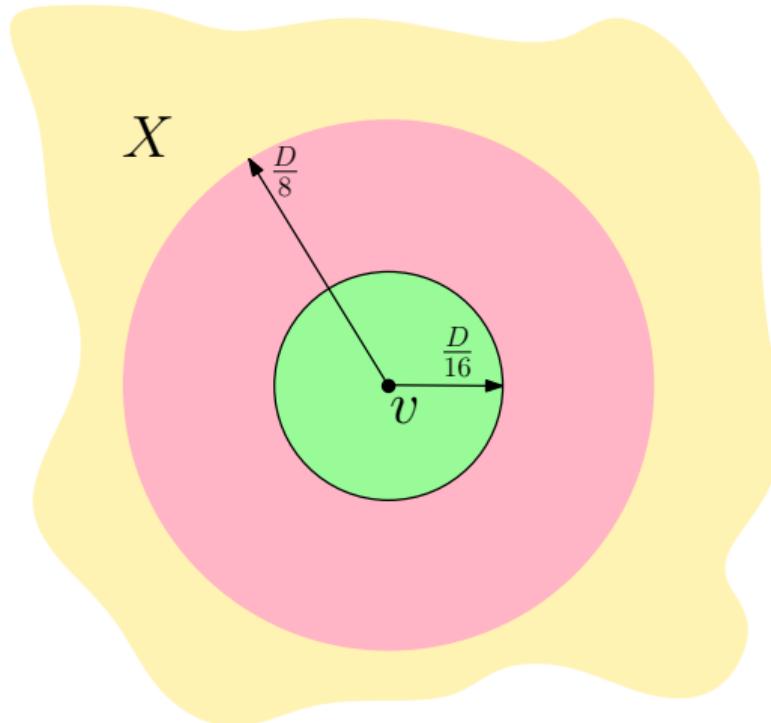
## Construction - cardinality bound



$X$

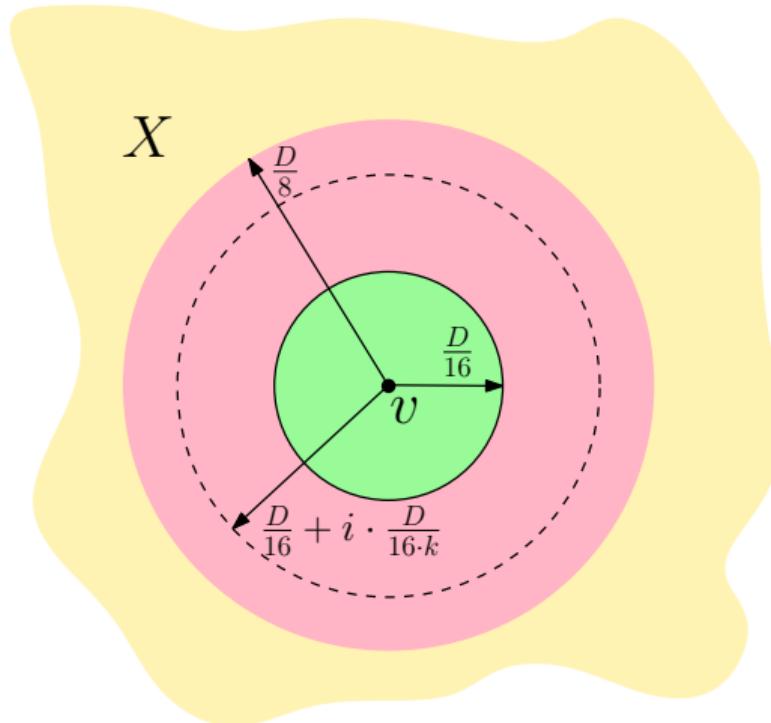
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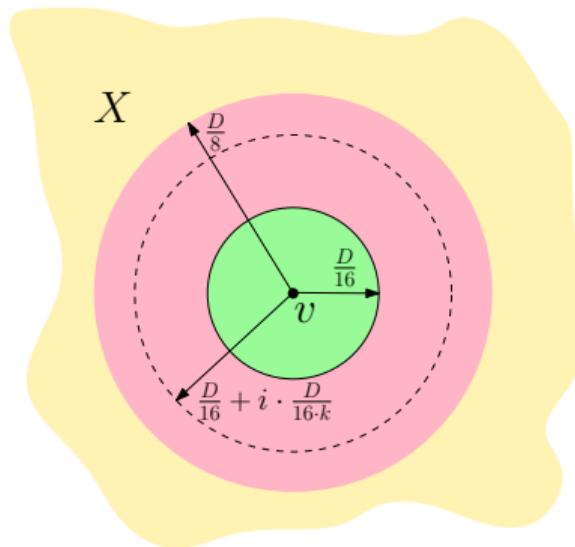
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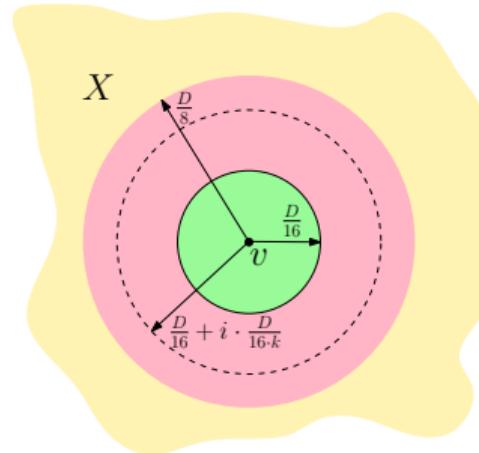


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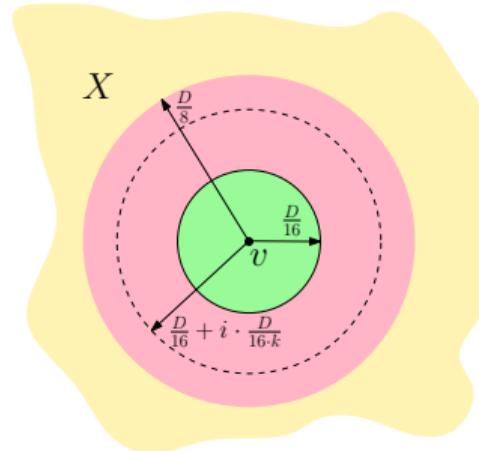
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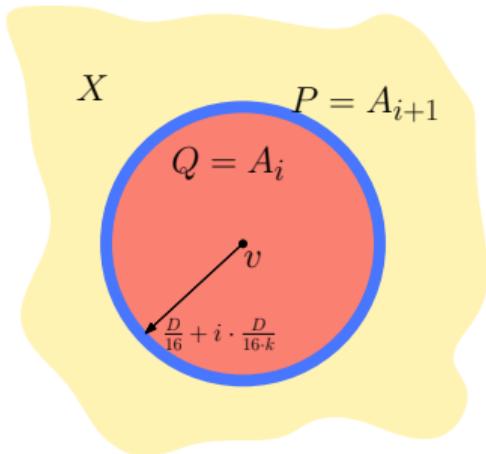
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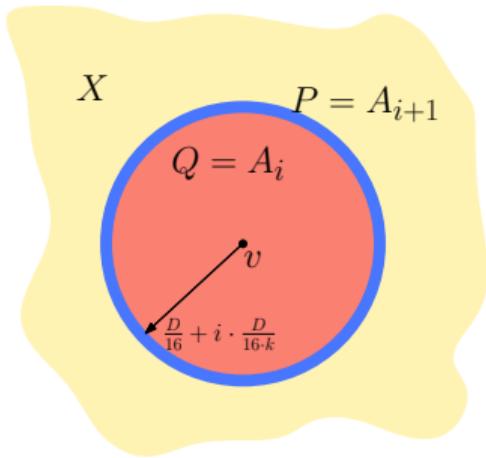
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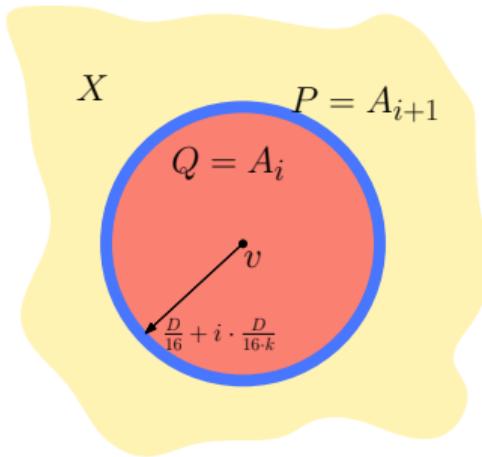


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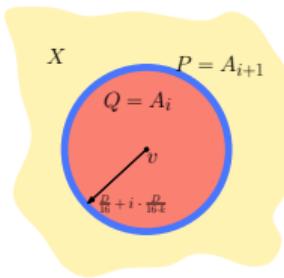
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