

# Expanders via Local Edge Flips

Zeyuan Allen-Zhu  
Princeton University

Aditya Bhaskara  
Google

*Silvio Lattanzi*  
Google

Vahab Mirrokni  
Google

Lorenzo Orecchia  
Boston University

# Outline

---

- ▶ How can we construct an expander locally?  
Problem motivation and related works
- ▶ A simple distributed protocol  
The switch and the flip protocols
- ▶ A new analysis for the two protocols  
Obstacles in the analysis and new approach for the problem
- ▶ Conclusions and future directions  
Open problems

---

# How can we construct an expander locally?

# Why is it interesting?

---

## Distributed system

P2P networks

Sensor networks

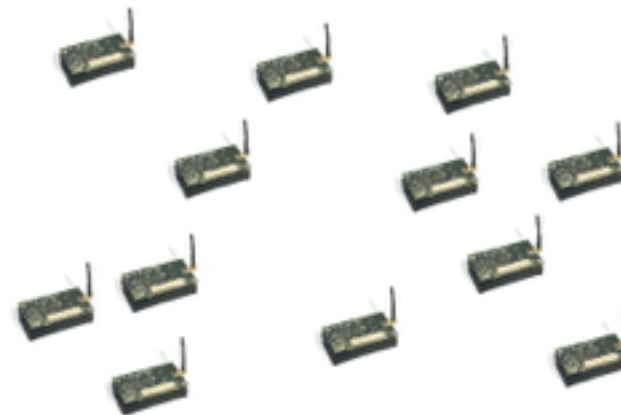
Asynchronous system



## Benefits

Efficient

Robust



## New challenges

Important to construct quickly good network structure

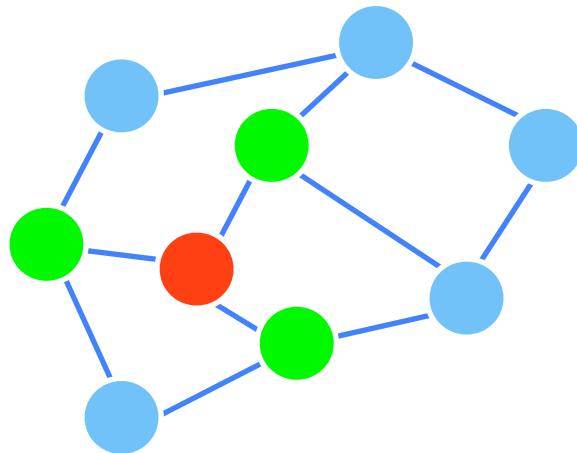
Only local communication

# Local graph algorithms

---

## Local algorithms

Algorithms based on *local* message passing among nodes

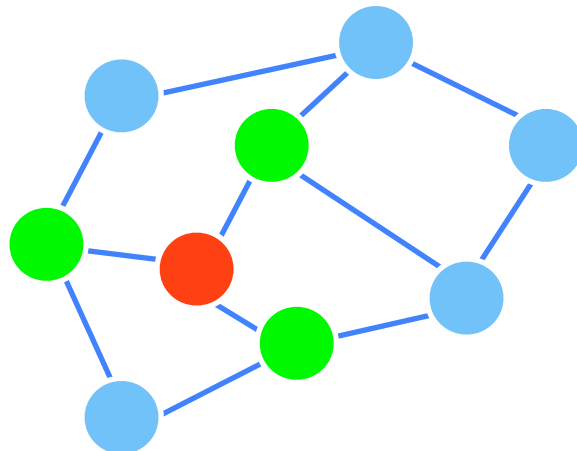


# Local graph algorithms

---

## Local algorithms

Algorithms based on *local* message passing among nodes



## Advantages

Applicable to large scale graphs

Fast, easy to implement in parallel (MapReduce, Hadoop, Pregel...)

# Problem

---

Starting from any connected graph is it possible to construct an expander locally?

# Previous work

---

*SKIP+: A Self-Stabilizing Skip Graph.*

R. Jacob, A. W. Richa, C. Scheideler, S. Schmid and H. Täubig.

**J. ACM** 61(6): 36:1-36:26 (2014)

In the Local model it is possible to build an expander locally in  $O(\log^2 n)$



# Previous work

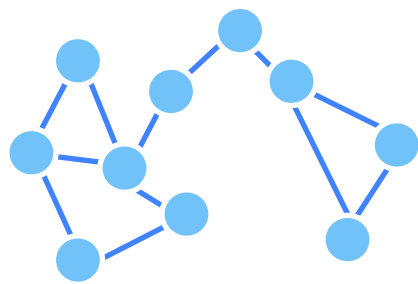
---

## *SKIP+: A Self-Stabilizing Skip Graph.*

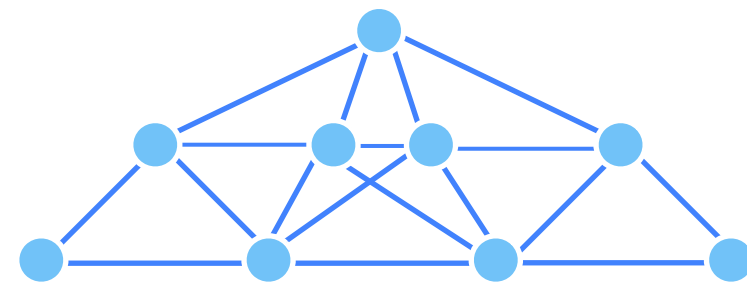
R. Jacob, A. W. Richa, C. Scheideler, S. Schmid and H. Täubig.

**J. ACM** 61(6): 36:1-36:26 (2014)

In the Local model it is possible to build an expander locally in  $O(\log^2 n)$



Construct Skip+  
locally



Skip+ has constant edge  
expansion and degree  $\log n$

# Previous work

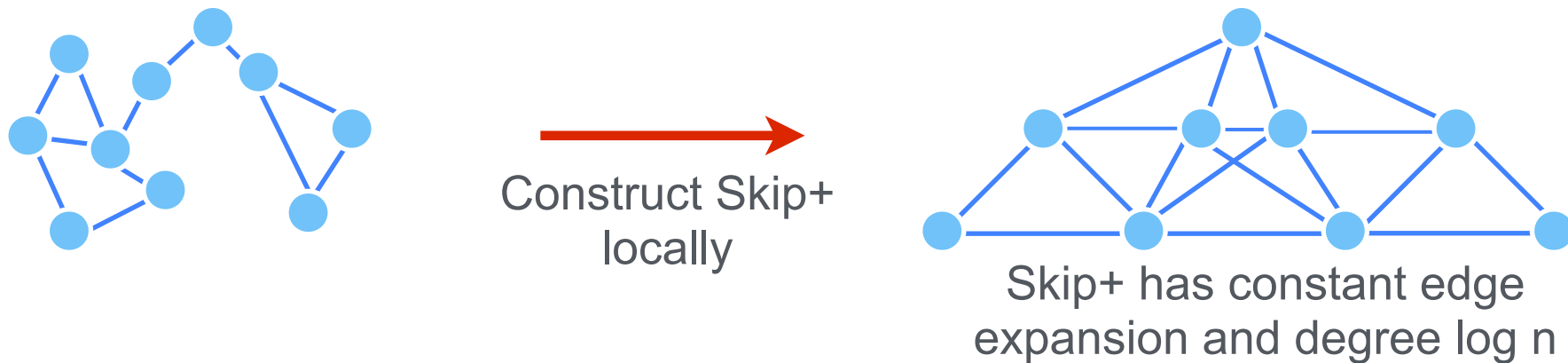
---

## *SKIP+: A Self-Stabilizing Skip Graph.*

R. Jacob, A. W. Richa, C. Scheideler, S. Schmid and H. Täubig.

**J. ACM** 61(6): 36:1-36:26 (2014)

In the Local model it is possible to build an expander locally in  $O(\log^2 n)$



## Limitations:

- Using this technique it is not possible to obtain an algebraic expander
- In any round nodes can exchange arbitrary large messages
- Memory needed by a single node in any round is not bounded
- Synchronous model, complex algorithm

# Problem

---

Starting from any connected graph is it possible  
to define a simple rule to construct  
an expander locally?

---

# **A simple distributed protocol**

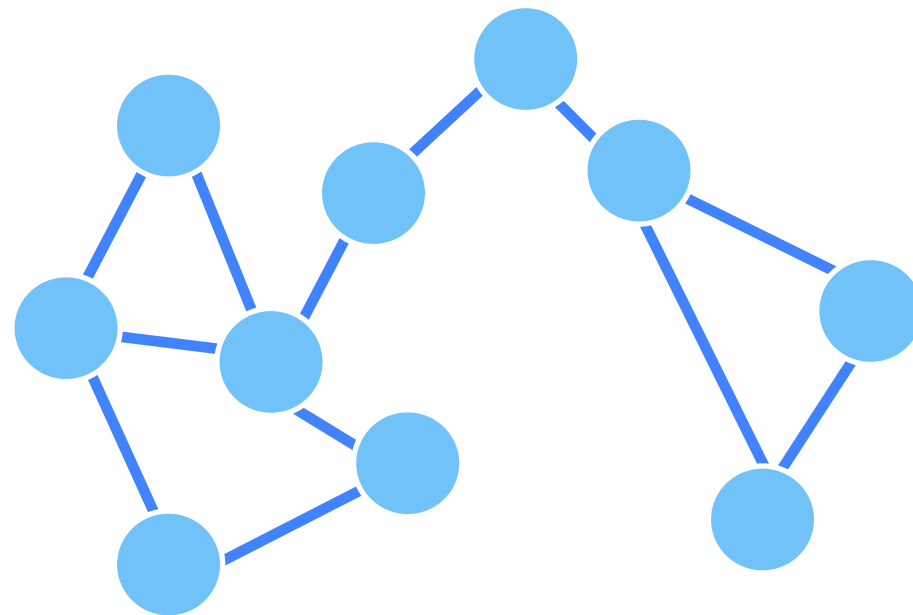
# Switch protocol

---

[McKay, *Congressus Numerantium* 1981]

A simple protocol:

Pick two edges at random and invert their endpoints



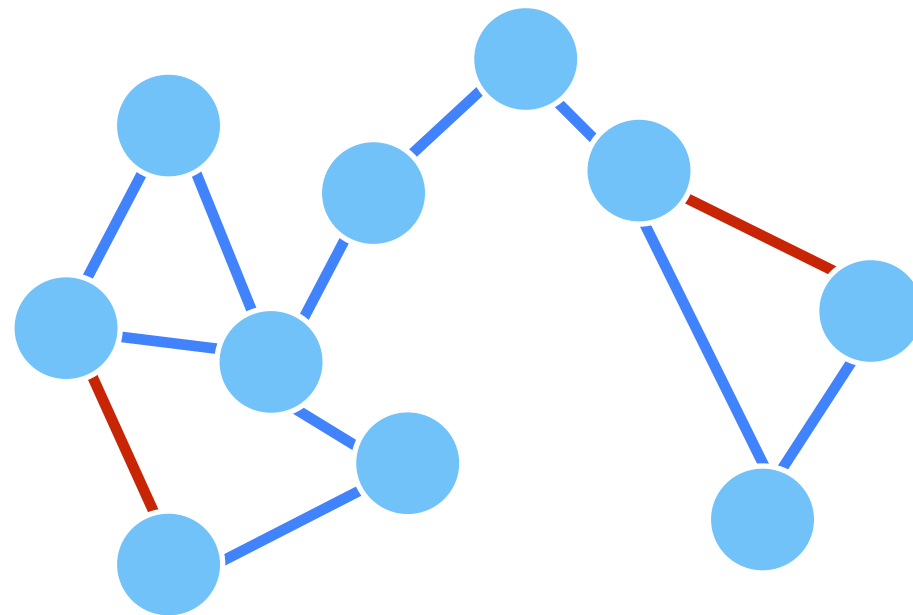
# Switch protocol

---

[McKay, *Congressus Numerantium* 1981]

A simple protocol:

Pick two edges at random and invert their endpoints



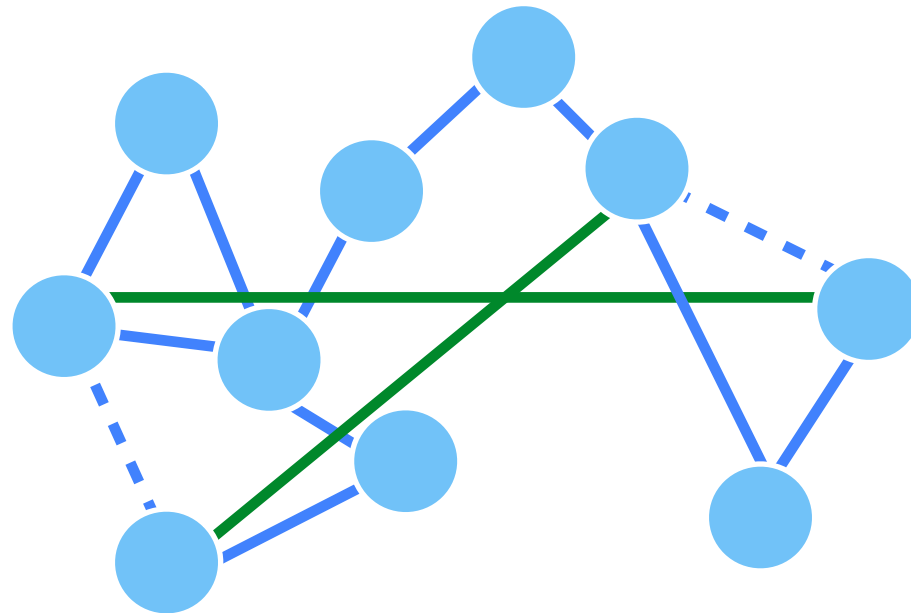
# Switch protocol

---

[McKay, *Congressus Numerantium* 1981]

A simple protocol:

Pick two edges at random and invert their endpoints



# Switch protocol

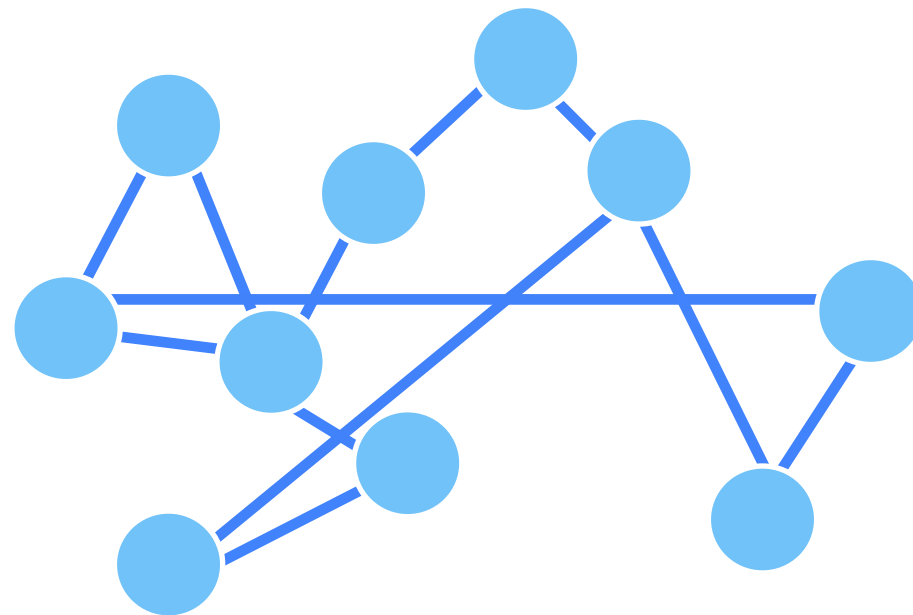
---

[McKay, *Congressus Numerantium* 1981]

A simple protocol:

Pick two edges at random and invert their endpoints

Creation of parallel edges/self-loops is allowed





# Switch protocol

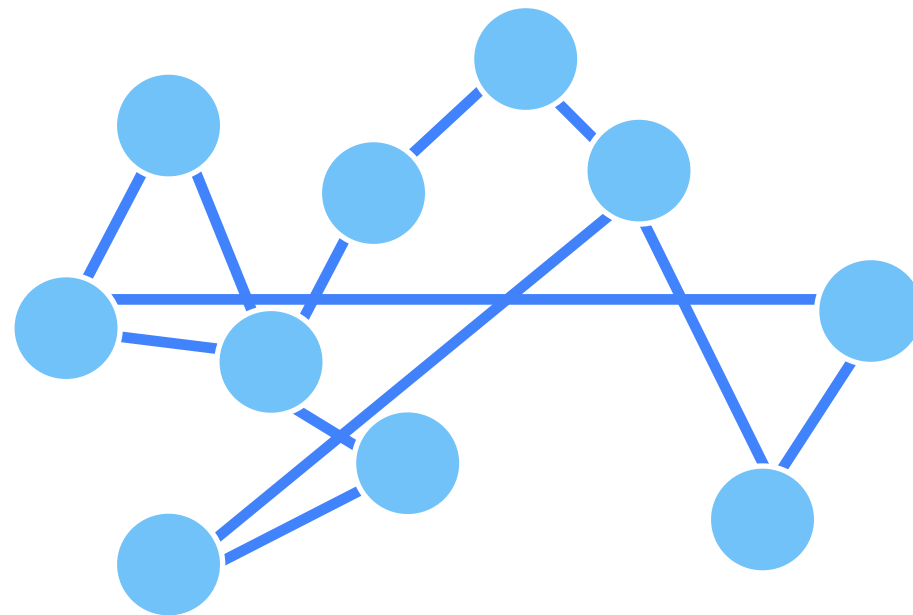
---

[McKay, *Congressus Numerantium* 1981]

A simple protocol:

Pick two edges at random and invert their endpoints

Creation of parallel edges/self-loops is allowed



## Limitation

It is not local

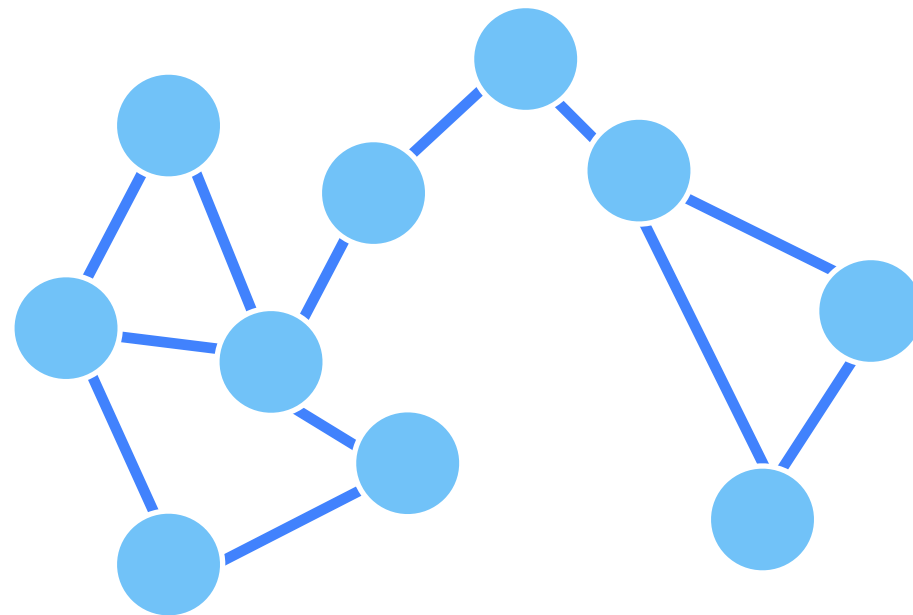
It may disconnect the graph

# Flip protocol

---

[Mahlmann and Schindelhauer, *SPAA* 2005]

Pick a random length 3 path and invert its endpoints

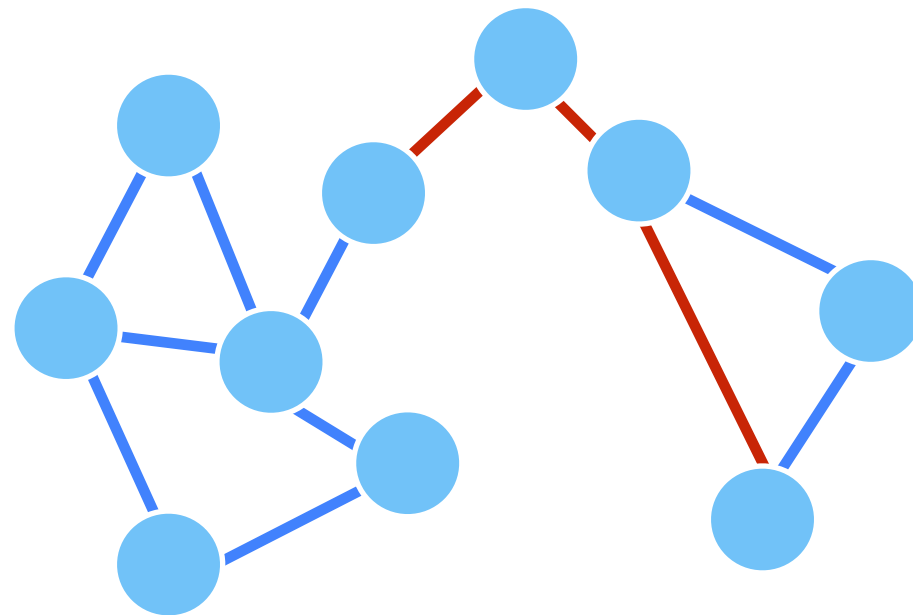


# Flip protocol

---

[Mahlmann and Schindelhauer, *SPAA* 2005]

Pick a random length 3 path and invert its endpoints

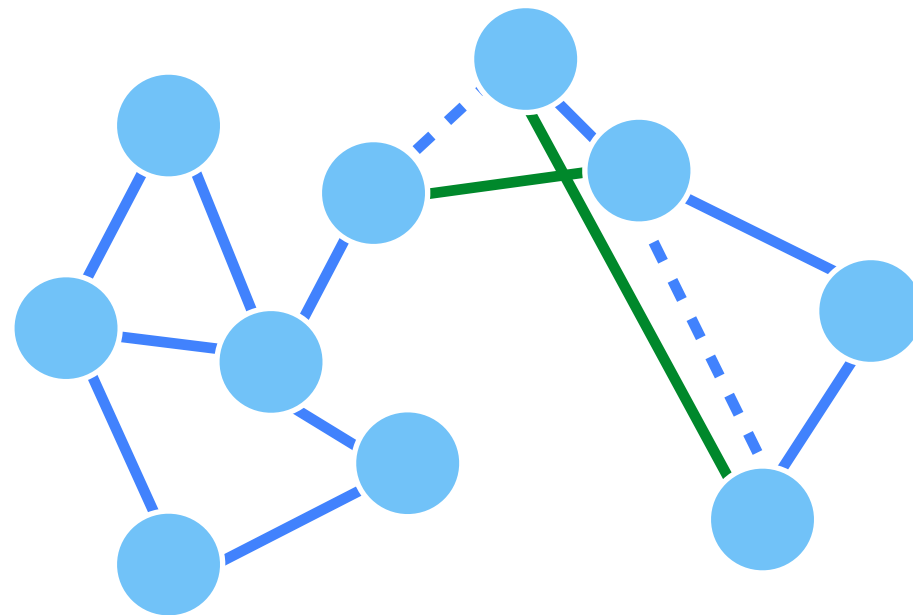


# Flip protocol

---

[Mahlmann and Schindelhauer, *SPAA* 2005]

Pick a random length 3 path and invert its endpoints

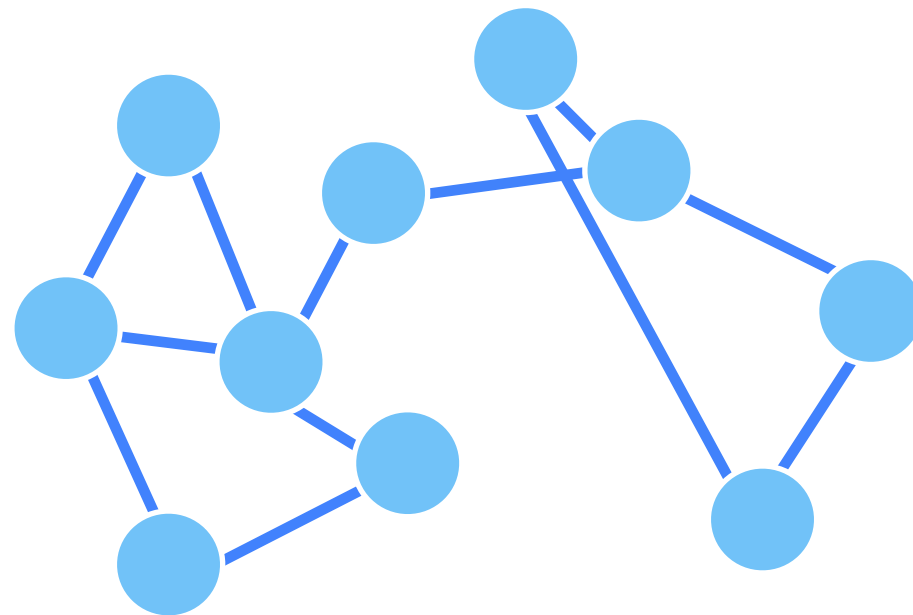


# Flip protocol

---

[Mahlmann and Schindelhauer, *SPAA* 2005]

Pick a random length 3 path and invert its endpoints  
Creation of parallel edges/self-loops is allowed

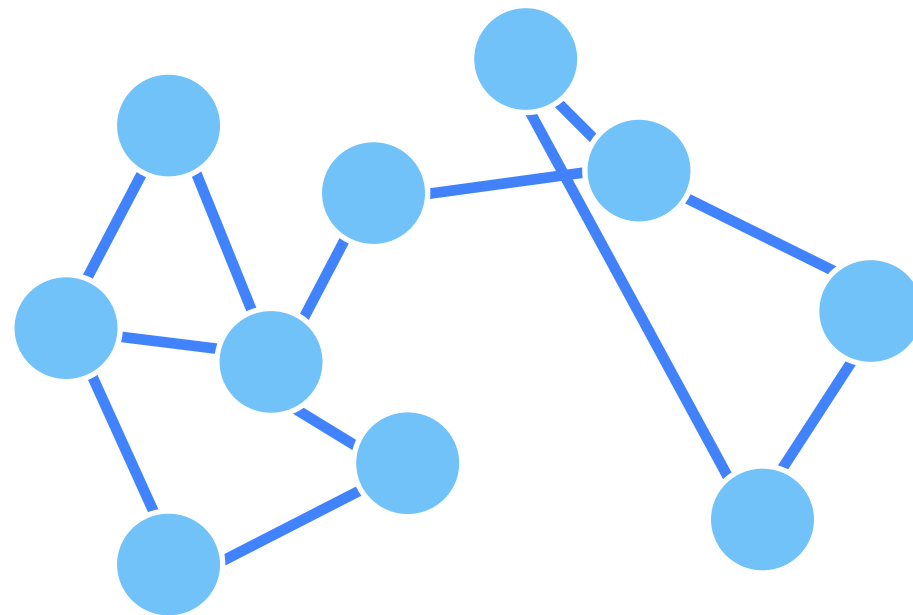


# Flip protocol

---

[Mahlmann and Schindelhauer, *SPAA* 2005]

Pick a random length 3 path and invert its endpoints  
Creation of parallel edges/self-loops is allowed



Experimentally it seems to be really fast

# What is known about them?

---

[Cooper, Dyer and Greenhill, *SODA* 2005]

For  $d$ -regular graph the switch protocol converges to the configuration model in  $\tilde{O}(n^8 d^{15})$  steps.

[Greenhill, *SODA* 2015]

For non regular graph with max degree in  $O(\sqrt{m})$  the switch protocol converges to the configuration model in  $\tilde{O}(m^{10} d_{max}^{14})$  steps.

# What is known about them?

---

[Cooper, Dyer and Greenhill, *SODA* 2005]

For  $d$ -regular graph the switch protocol converges to the configuration model in  $\tilde{O}(n^8 d^{15})$  steps.

[Greenhill, *SODA* 2015]

For non regular graph with max degree in  $O(\sqrt{m})$  the switch protocol converges to the configuration model in  $\tilde{O}(m^{10} d_{max}^{14})$  steps.

[Mahlmann and Schindelhauer, *SPAA* 2005]

For  $d$ -regular graph the flip protocol converges to the configuration model.

[Feder, Guez, Mihail, and Saberi, *FOCS* 2006]

For  $d$ -regular graph the flip protocol converges to the configuration model in  $\tilde{O}(d^{34} n^{36})$  steps.

[Cooper and Dyer, *PODC* 2009]

For  $d$ -regular graph the flip protocol converges to the configuration model in  $\tilde{O}(d^{23} n^{17})$  steps.



# How do they perform in practice?

---

[Mahlmann and Schindelhauer, SPAA 2005]

Experimentally switch and flips protocol transform any graph in an expander very quickly.

Conjectures:

Switch converges on  $d$ -regular graph in  $O(nd)$  steps.

Flip converges on  $d$ -regular graph in  $O(nd \log n)$  steps.

---

# A new analysis for the two protocols

# Results

---

Starting from any  $d$ -regular graph, with  $d \in \Omega(\log n)$ ,

the switch protocol transforms the graph in an algebraic expander in  $O(nd)$  steps.

the flip protocol transforms the graph in an algebraic expander in  $O\left(n^2 d^2 \sqrt{\log n}\right)$  steps.

# Results

---

Starting from any  $d$ -regular graph, with  $d \in \Omega(\log n)$ ,

the switch protocol transforms the graph in an algebraic expander in  $O(nd)$  steps.

the flip protocol transforms the graph in an algebraic expander in  $O\left(n^2 d^2 \sqrt{\log n}\right)$  steps.

# Obstacles

---

Dependencies.

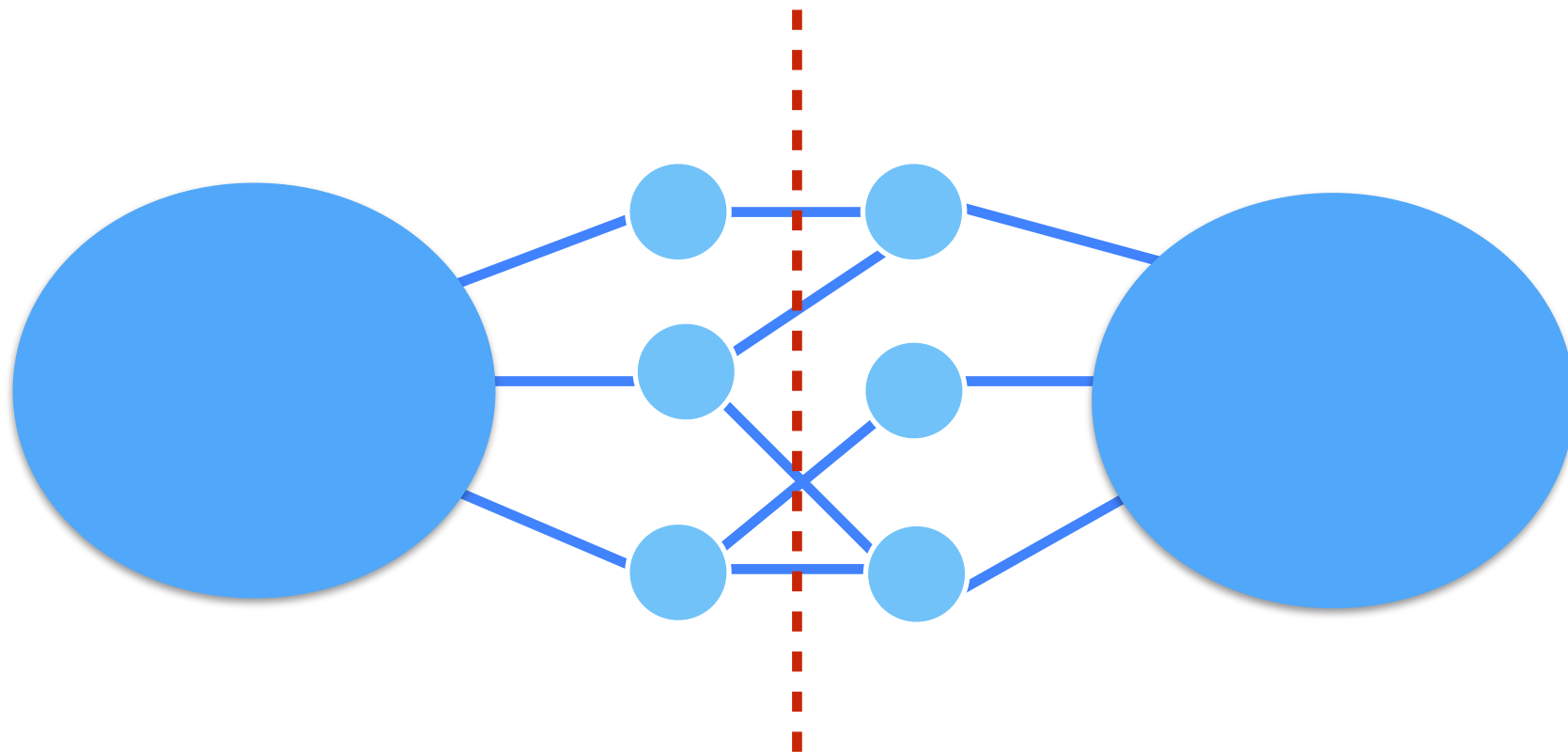
Small cuts may first become smaller and only later increase.

# Obstacles

---

Dependencies.

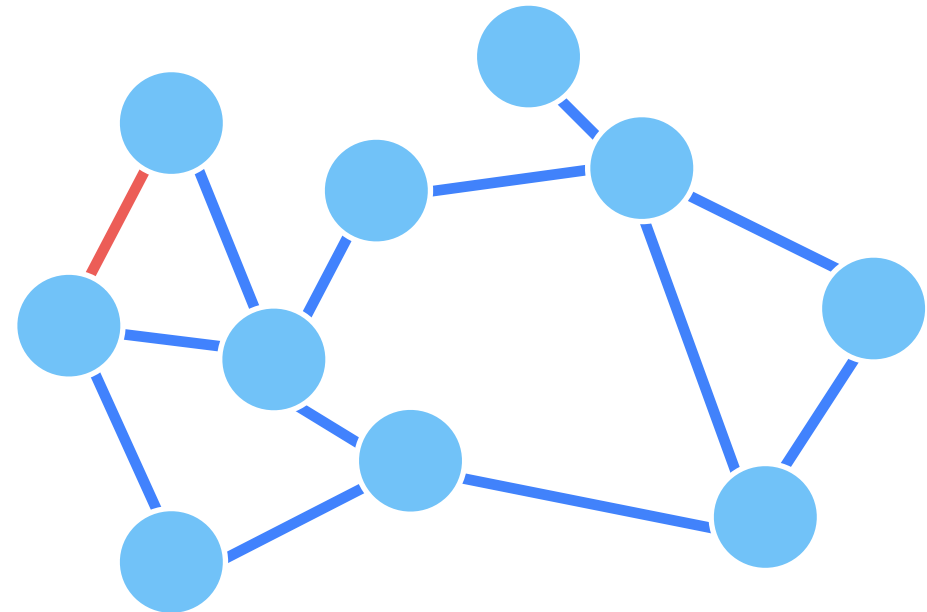
Small cuts may first become smaller and only later increase.



# Flip definition

---

Pick a random edge.

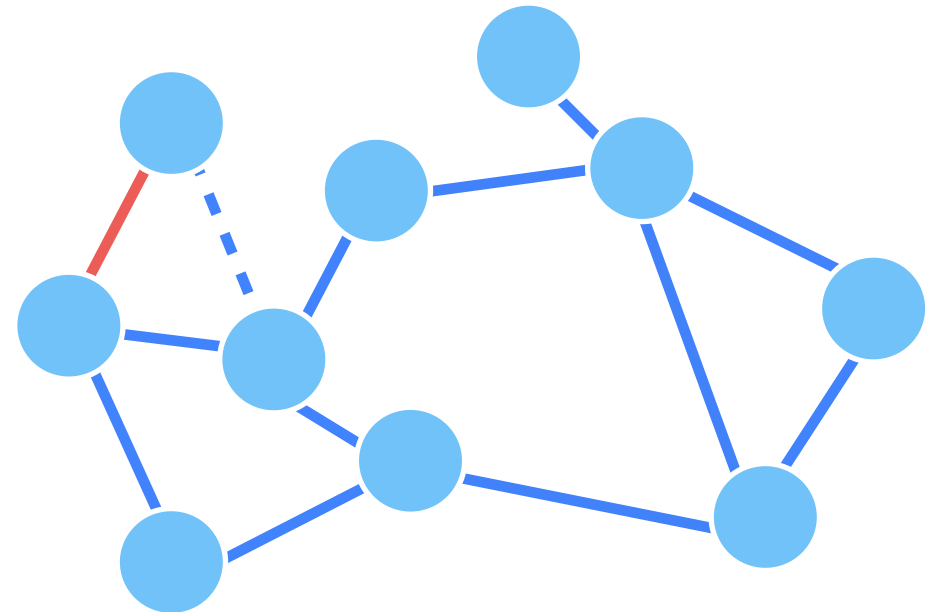


# Flip definition

---

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).



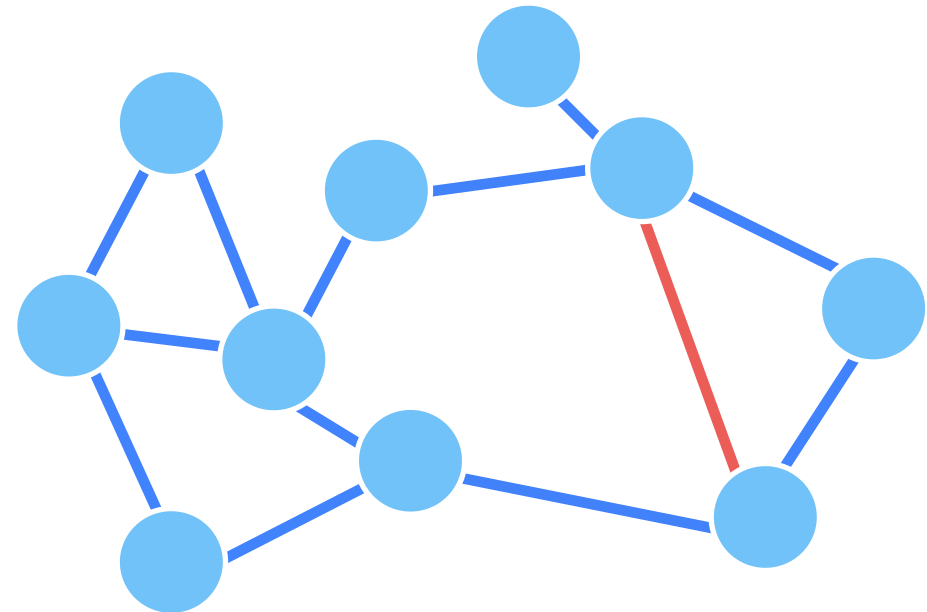


# Flip definition

---

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).

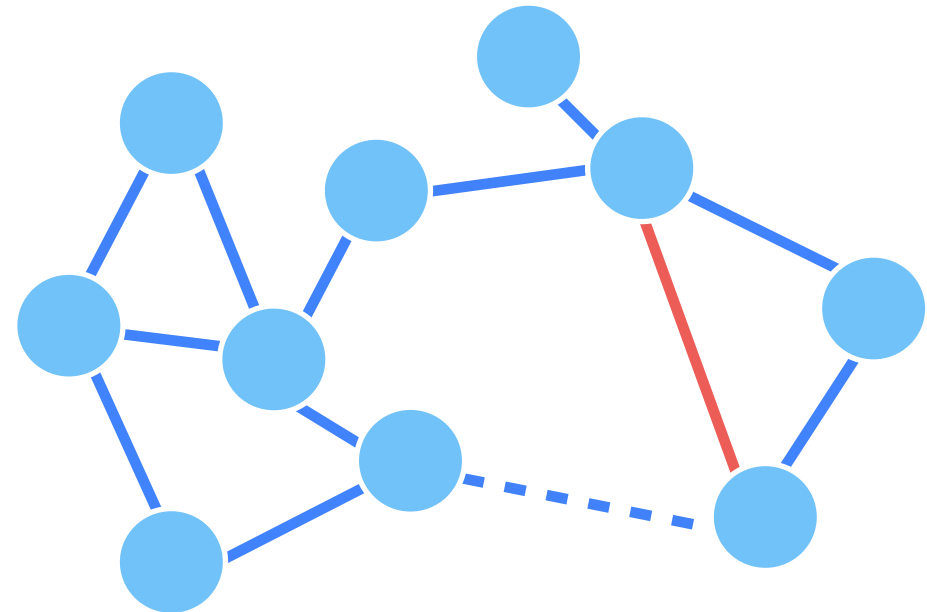


# Flip definition

---

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).



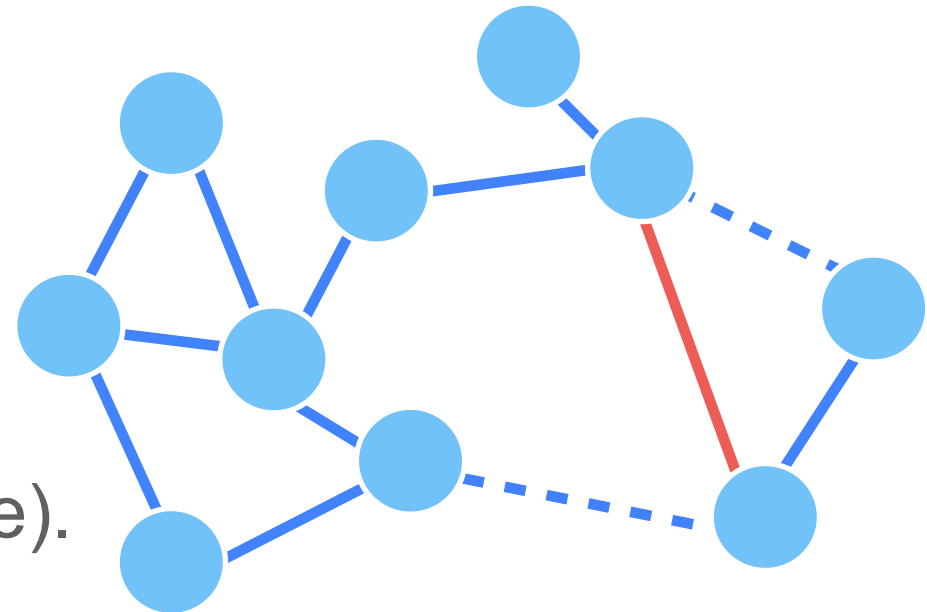
# Flip definition

---

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).

The other endpoint picks a random neighbor (if in common, picks a new one).



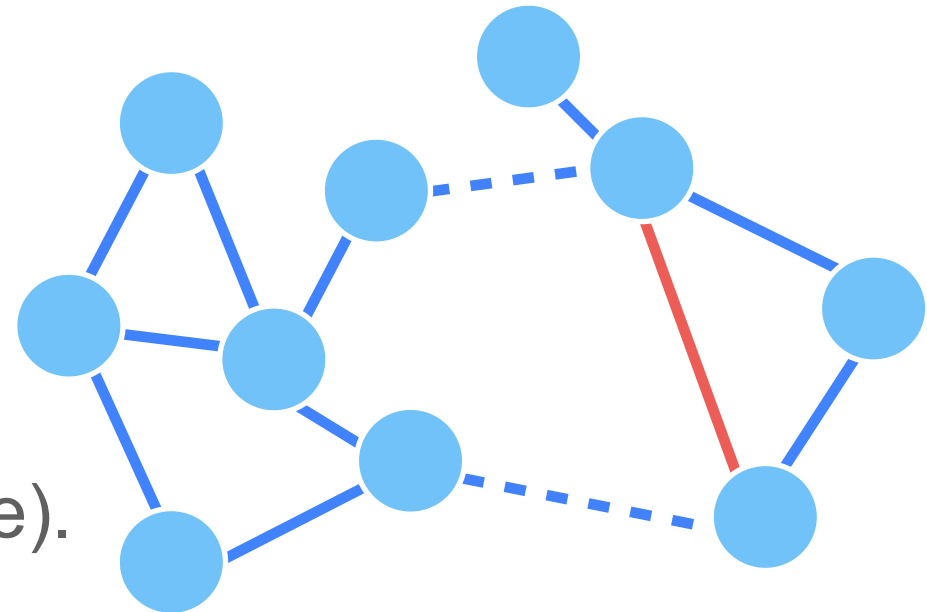
# Flip definition

---

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).

The other endpoint picks a random neighbor (if in common, picks a new one).



# Flip definition

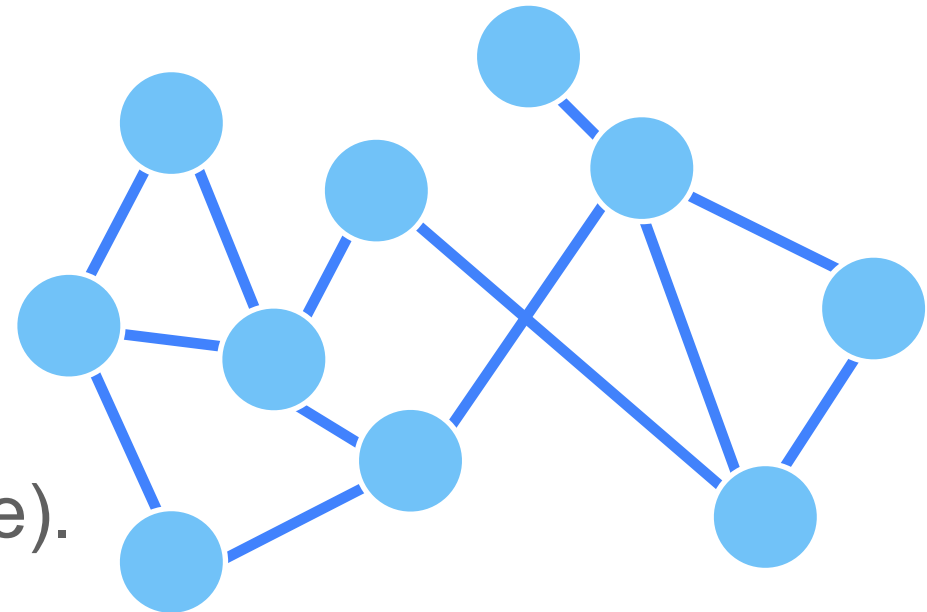
---

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).

The other endpoint picks a random neighbor (if in common, picks a new one).

Perform swap.



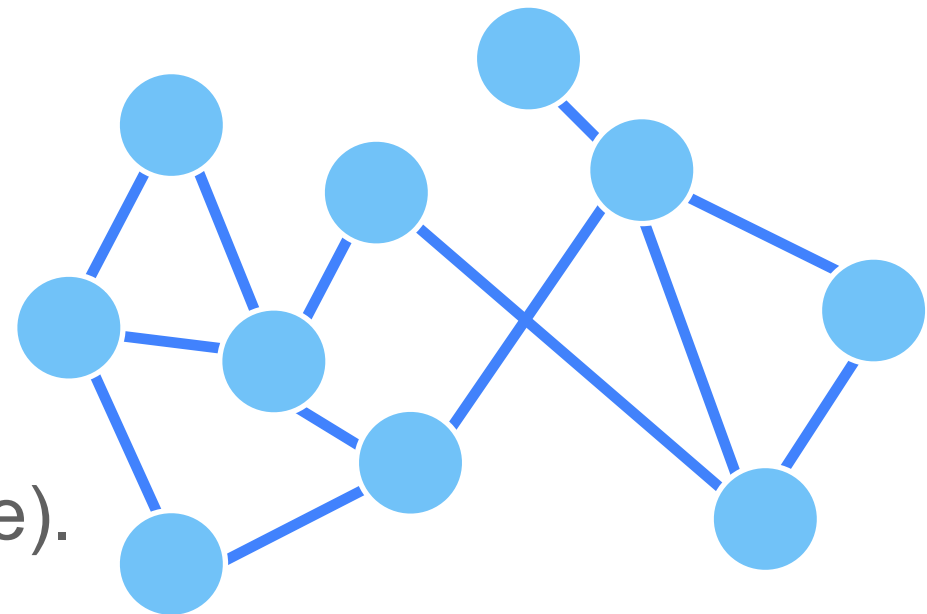
# Expected change of laplacian

---

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).

The other endpoint picks a random neighbor (if in common, picks a new one).



Perform swap.

$$\text{Let } \Delta^{(t)} = L \left( G^{(t+1)} \right) - L \left( G^{(t)} \right)$$

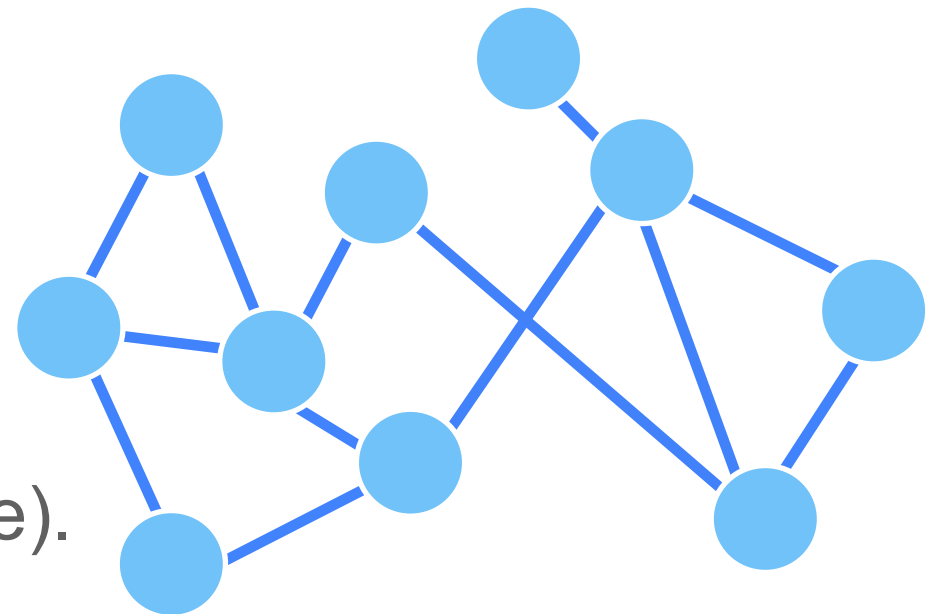
$$E \left[ \Delta^{(t)} | G^{(t)} \right] = \frac{4}{d^2 n} \left( (d+1) L^{(t)} - \left( L^{(t)} \right)^2 \right)$$

# Expected change of laplacian

Pick a random edge.

One of the endpoints picks a neighbor at random (if in common, abort).

The other endpoint picks a random neighbor (if in common, picks a new one).



Perform swap.

$$\text{Let } \Delta^{(t)} = L \left( G^{(t+1)} \right) - L \left( G^{(t)} \right)$$

$$E \left[ \Delta^{(t)} | G^{(t)} \right] = \frac{4}{d^2 n} \left( (d+1) L^{(t)} - \left( L^{(t)} \right)^2 \right)$$

Nice term.  
 $\left( G^{(t)} \right)^2$  has  
better  
expansion.

# Potential

---

Unfortunately we cannot argue directly on the expectation of the matrix after  $t$  step.

$$E \left[ \Delta^{(t)} | G^{(t)} \right] = \frac{4}{d^2 n} \left( (d+1)L^{(t)} - \left( L^{(t)} \right)^2 \right)$$



# Potential

---

Unfortunately we cannot argue directly on the expectation of the matrix after  $t$  step.

$$E \left[ \Delta^{(t)} | G^{(t)} \right] = \frac{4}{d^2 n} \left( (d+1)L^{(t)} - \left( L^{(t)} \right)^2 \right)$$

We use a classic potential used for matrix concentration:

$$\Phi^{(t)} = \hat{tr} \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} \right)$$

where  $\hat{tr} (e^A) = e^{\lambda_1} + e^{\lambda_2} + \dots$

# Potential

---

Unfortunately we cannot argue directly on the expectation of the matrix after  $t$  step.

$$E \left[ \Delta^{(t)} | G^{(t)} \right] = \frac{4}{d^2 n} \left( (d+1)L^{(t)} - \left( L^{(t)} \right)^2 \right)$$

We use a classic potential used for matrix concentration:

$$\Phi^{(t)} = \hat{tr} \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} \right)$$

where  $\hat{tr} (e^A) = e^{\lambda_1} + e^{\lambda_2} + \dots$

Note that in order to have  $\Phi^{(t)}$  very small all the eigenvalues need to be large.

# Potential

---

We want to show that the potential decreases

$$\Phi^{(t+1)} = \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} (L^{(t)} + \Delta^{(t)}) \right)$$

# Potential

---

We want to show that the potential decreases

$$\Phi^{(t+1)} = \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} (L^{(t)} + \Delta^{(t)}) \right)$$

by Golden-Thompson inequality

$$= \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} \Delta^{(t)} \right)$$

# Potential

---

We want to show that the potential decreases

$$\Phi^{(t+1)} = \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} (L^{(t)} + \Delta^{(t)}) \right)$$

by Golden-Thompson inequality

$$= \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} \Delta^{(t)} \right)$$

by  $e^{-A} = I - A + A^2$

$$= \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} \left( I - \frac{20 \log n}{d} \Delta^{(t)} + \left( \frac{20 \log n}{d} \Delta^{(t)} \right)^2 \right) \right)$$

# Potential

---

We want to show that the potential decreases

$$\Phi^{(t+1)} = \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} (L^{(t)} + \Delta^{(t)}) \right)$$

by Golden-Thompson inequality

$$= \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} \Delta^{(t)} \right)$$

by  $e^{-A} = I - A + A^2$

$$= \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} \left( I - \frac{20 \log n}{d} \Delta^{(t)} + \left( \frac{20 \log n}{d} \Delta^{(t)} \right)^2 \right) \right)$$

Taking expectation:

$$E \left[ \Phi^{(t+1)} | G^t \right] = \Phi^{(t)} - \frac{4 \log n}{d^3 n} \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} \left( L^{(t)} \left( \frac{d}{2} \hat{I} - L^{(t)} \right) \right) \right)$$

# Potential

---

We want to show that the potential decreases

$$\Phi^{(t+1)} = \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} (L^{(t)} + \Delta^{(t)}) \right)$$

by Golden-Thompson inequality

$$= \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} \Delta^{(t)} \right)$$

by  $e^{-A} = I - A + A^2$

$$= \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} \left( I - \frac{20 \log n}{d} \Delta^{(t)} + \left( \frac{20 \log n}{d} \Delta^{(t)} \right)^2 \right) \right)$$

Taking expectation:

$$E \left[ \Phi^{(t+1)} | G^t \right] = \Phi^{(t)} - \frac{4 \log n}{d^3 n} \hat{t}r \left( e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d}} L^{(t)} \left( L^{(t)} \left( \frac{d}{2} \hat{I} - L^{(t)} \right) \right) \right)$$

# Potential

---

Using common diagonalization

$$\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)$$



# Potential

---

Using common diagonalization

$$\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)$$

Two interesting cases:

$$\forall i : \lambda_i \geq \frac{d}{4}$$

$$\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i) \in O(n^{-3})$$

# Potential

---

Using common diagonalization

$$\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)$$

Two interesting cases:

$$\exists i : \lambda_i < \frac{d}{4}$$

We look at:

$$\frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)}{\Phi(t)} = \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)}{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i}}$$

# Potential

---

Using common diagonalization

$$\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)$$

Two interesting cases:

$$\exists i : \lambda_i < \frac{d}{4}$$

We look at:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)}{\Phi(t)} &= \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)}{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i}} \\ &\approx \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i}{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i}} \end{aligned}$$

# Potential

---

Using common diagonalization

$$\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)$$

Two interesting cases:

$$\exists i : \lambda_i < \frac{d}{4}$$

We look at:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)}{\Phi(t)} &= \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i (d/2 - \lambda_i)}{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i}} \\ &\approx \frac{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i} \lambda_i}{\sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} e^{-\frac{20 \log n}{d} \lambda_i}} \in \Omega \left( \frac{d}{n \sqrt{\log n}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Potential

---

Thus:

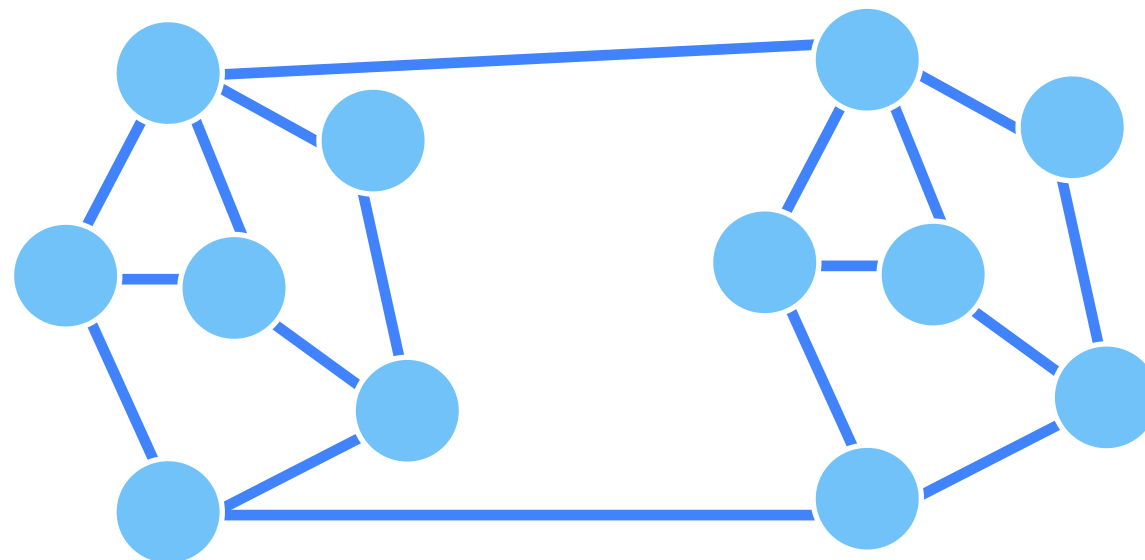
$$E \left[ \Phi^{(t+1)} | G^{(t)} \right] = \left( 1 - \Omega \left( \frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{n^2 d^2} \right) \right) \Phi^{(t)} + O(n^{-3})$$

So in expectation  $\Phi^{(t)}$  is in  $O(n^{-3})$  after  $O(n^2 d^2 \log n)$  steps, hence using Markov inequality we get the result.

# Limit of our analysis

---

Expected additive improvement in a round can be  $O\left(\frac{1}{n^2 d^2}\right)$



---

# Conclusions and future directions

# Conclusions

---

- ▶ New technique to analyze distribute protocol
- ▶ New convergence time analysis for flip and switch protocol



# Future works

---

- ▶ Improve analysis of the flip
- ▶ Study parallelized version of the protocol
- ▶ Study node addition or deletion

---

# Thanks!