

# OCSA: Research in reverse mathematics

Jeff Hirst  
Appalachian State University  
Boone, NC USA

with many collaborators

January 25, 2019

Mathematical Sciences Colloquium  
Appalachian State University

# OCSA activities

## Invited talks

Leaf management, September 2018

Dagstuhl Seminar 18361

Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik.

Hindman's theorem and ultrafilters, July 2018

RaTLoCC 2018

Bertinoro International Center for Informatics.

A weak coloring principle, July 2018

Workshop on Ramsey Theory and Computability

Rome Global Gateway of Notre Dame University.

## Papers

*Combinatorial principles equivalent to weak induction*, with C. Davis, D. Hirschfeldt, J. Pardo, A. Pauly, and K. Yokoyama, submitted. [1]

*Leaf management*, submitted. [5]

*Using Ramsey's theorem once*, with C. Mummert, resubmitted. [7]

*Reverse mathematics and colorings of hypergraphs* with C. Davis, J. Pardo, and T. Ransom, Archive for Mathematical Logic. [2]

## International contacts support student research

During his senior year, alumnus Noah Hughes gave a talk on his senior honors thesis in the logic seminar at the University of Ghent. Paul Shafer was our contact in Ghent.



# Contact bait: An example of student work

## How many 2-colorings of K5 have no 1-colored K3 ?

Ramsey Interest Group: Anthony Hengst, Sergei Miles, Isaac Medina Silva, Allison Staley      Faculty Mentor: Jeff Hirst

Appalachian State University, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Boone, North Carolina 28608

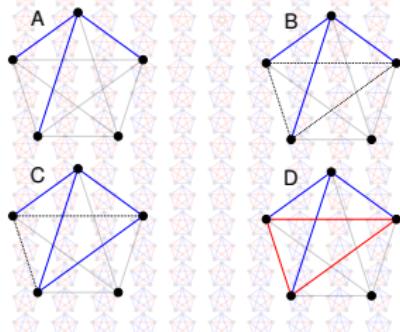
### Introduction

Of the 1024 possible 2-colorings of K5, only 12 have no 1-colored triangles.



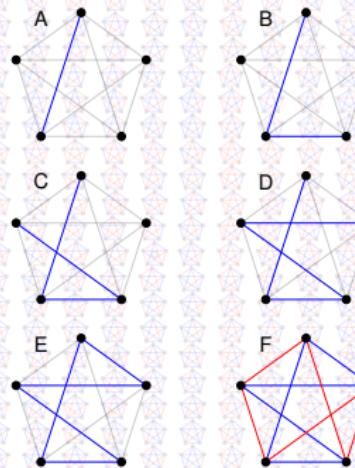
### Claim 1

If any 3 edges match, then there is a 1-colored triangle.



### Claim 2

If G has no 1-colored triangles, then G has a 1-colored 5-cycle.

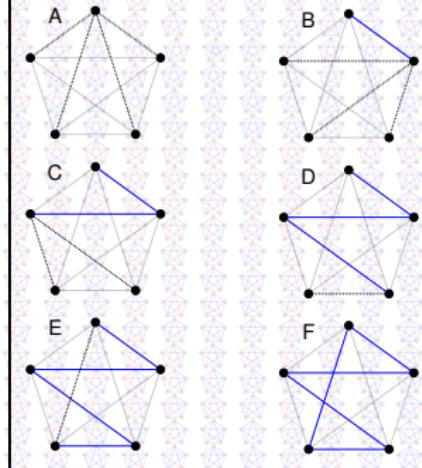


E: 1-colored 5-cycle

F: Remaining edges form a 5-cycle

### Claim 3

There are 12 ways to construct a 1-colored 5-cycle.



$$\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1}{2} = 12$$

## Making contacts, groundwork

International workshops provide opportunities to create new contacts.

- Smaller than conferences
  - greater interaction
  - disciplinary focus
- More international participants
- Travel tips

Organization of the workshop may or may not be international.

# Workshop example 1: Rome

Workshop on Ramsey Theory and Computability  
Rome Global Gateway of Notre Dame University  
July 9-13, 2018

Participants from:

- Leeds University
- University of Bern
- Central South University of China
- Dartmouth College
- Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- Università di Roma Sapienza
- Appalachian State
- Cornell University
- Università di Pisa
- National University of Singapore
- University of Vienna
- Swansea University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Università degli Studi di Udine



# Workshop example 2: Bertinoro, Italy

RaTLoCC18:

Ramsey Theory in Logic, Combinatorics, and Complexity

Bertinoro International Center for Informatics

July 15-20, 2018

37 participants from Spain, Germany, USA, England, Greece,  
Czech Republic, Russia, Poland, Italy, Austria, France, and  
Canada



Basilica of San Vitale in Ravenna

# Workshop example 3: Wadern, Germany

Dagstuhl Seminar 18361:  
Measuring the Complexity of Computational Content:  
From Combinatorial Problems to Analysis  
Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik  
September 2-7, 2018  
43 participants from Spain, France, USA, Germany, Austria,  
England, Japan, New Zealand, Italy, Singapore, Chile, and  
Russia



Faculty from Appalachian can pursue funding from multiple sources:

- Office of International Education and Development
- Board of Trustees International Research Grants
- Student And Faculty Excellence (SAFE) Fund, College of Arts and Sciences

## Part II: Reverse mathematics

Reverse mathematics uses a hierarchy of axioms of second order arithmetic to measure the strength of theorems.

The language has variables for natural numbers and sets of natural numbers.

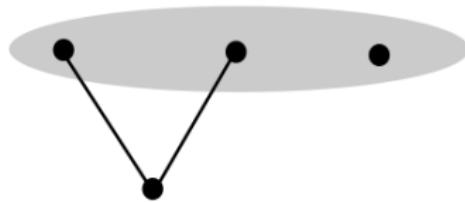
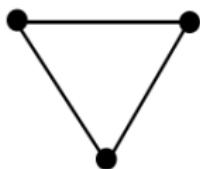
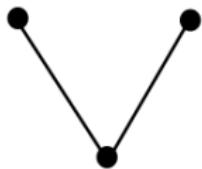
The base system,  $\text{RCA}_0$ , includes

- arithmetic facts (e.g.  $n + 0 = n$ ),
- an induction scheme (restricted to  $\Sigma_1^0$  formulas), and
- recursive comprehension  
(computable sets exist, i.e. sets with programmable characteristic functions exist).

Adding stronger comprehension axioms creates stronger axiom systems.

## Proper colorings of hypergraphs

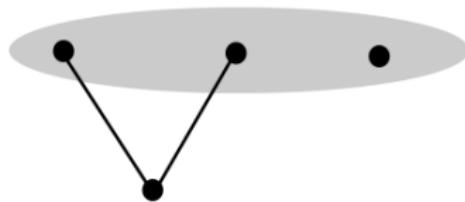
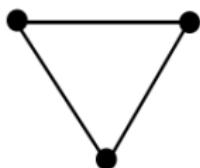
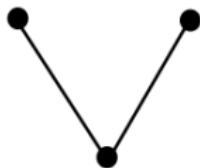
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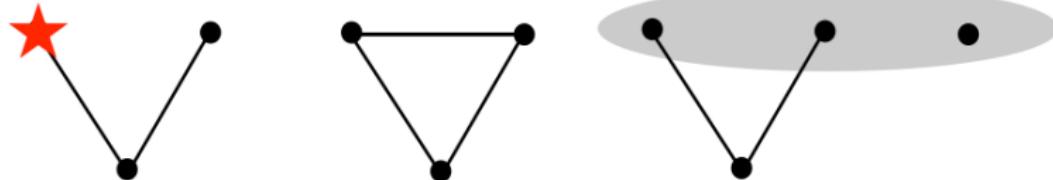
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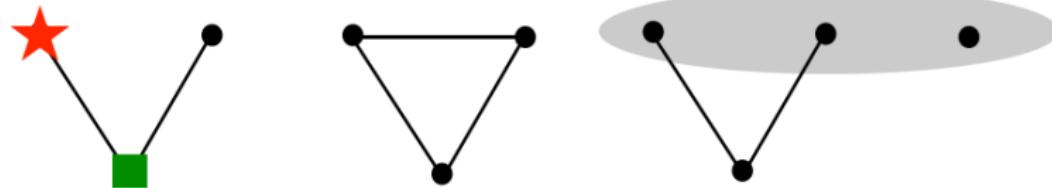
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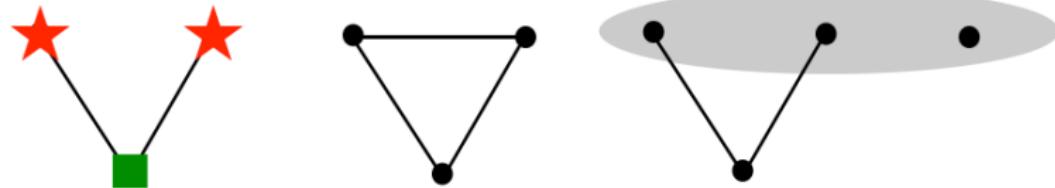
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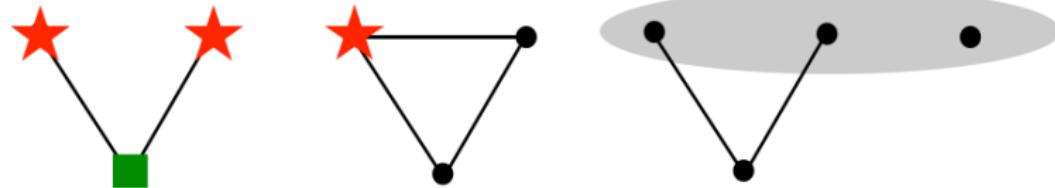
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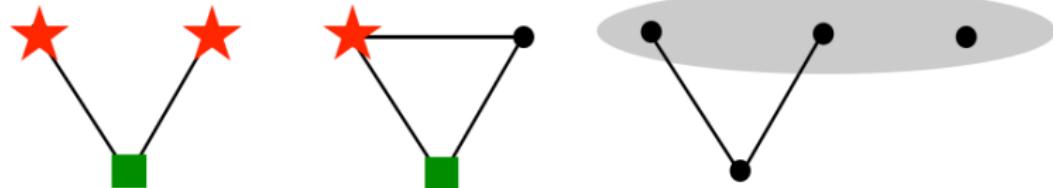
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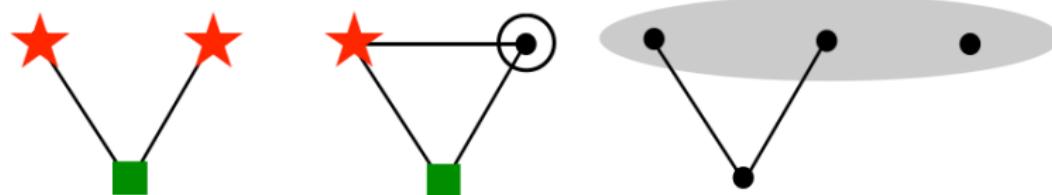
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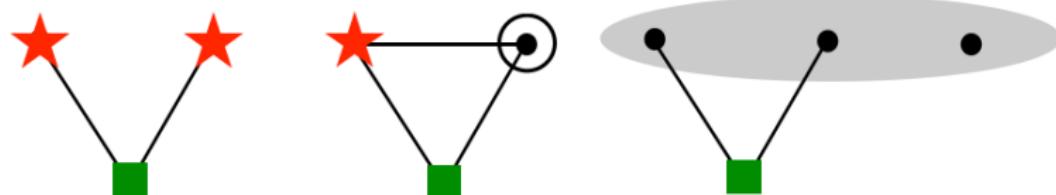
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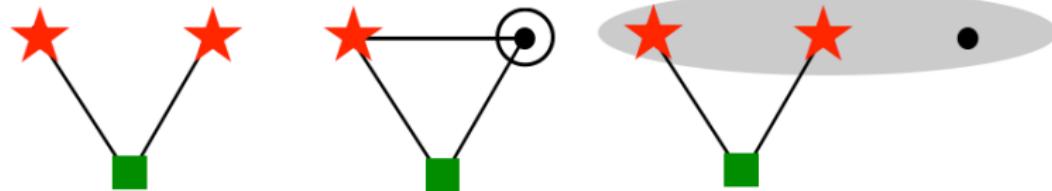
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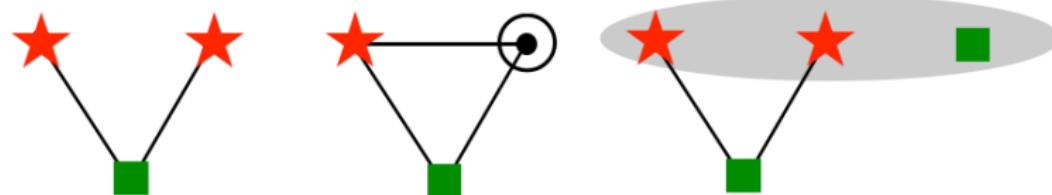
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## Hypergraphs with finite edges

The system  $\text{ACA}_0$  adds arithmetical comprehension to  $\text{RCA}_0$  (sets with arithmetically definable characteristic functions exist).

A theorem of reverse mathematics:

**Theorem:** Over  $\text{RCA}_0$ , the following are provably equivalent:

1.  $\text{ACA}_0$ .
2. Every injection has a range. (Friedman [4], Simpson [8]).
3. Suppose  $H$  is a hypergraph with finite edges presented as a sequence of characteristic functions. If every finite partial hypergraph of  $H$  has a proper 2-coloring, then  $H$  has a proper 2-coloring.

## Hypergraphs with finite edges: Additional observations

Hypergraphs are different from graphs.

**Theorem:**  $\text{RCA}_0$  proves the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $\text{ACA}_0$ .
- (2) Suppose  $H$  is a **hypergraph** with finite edges presented as a sequence of characteristic functions. If every finite partial **hypergraph** of  $H$  has a proper 2-coloring, then  $H$  has a proper 2-coloring.

**Theorem:**  $\text{RCA}_0$  proves the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $\text{WKL}_0$ .
- (2) Suppose  $H$  is a **graph** with finite edges presented as a sequence of characteristic functions. If every finite partial **graph** of  $H$  has a proper 2-coloring, then  $H$  has a proper 2-coloring.

## Hypergraphs with infinite edges

For hypergraphs with infinite edges, there is no arithmetical characterization of hypergraphs with proper 2-colorings. This is a corollary of:

**Theorem:**  $\text{RCA}_0$  proves the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $\Pi_1^1$ -CA<sub>0</sub>, the comprehension scheme for  $\Pi_1^1$  definable sets.
- (2)  $\widehat{\text{HC}}$ : If  $\langle H_i \rangle_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of hypergraphs, then there is a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2$  such that  $f(i) = 1$  if and only if  $H_i$  has a proper 2-coloring.

Proof sketch for (1) → (2):

$f(i) = 0$  if and only if every 2-coloring fails to be proper for  $H_i$ . “Fails to be proper” means that for some  $j$ , all the vertices of edge  $E_j$  of  $H_i$  match.

## Hypergraphs with infinite edges: the reversal

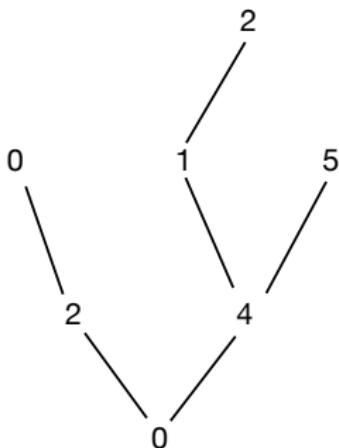
For the reversal, we need a combinatorial version of  $\Pi_1^1\text{-CA}_0$ .

**Theorem:** RCA<sub>0</sub> proves the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $\Pi_1^1\text{-CA}_0$ .
- (2)  $\widehat{\text{WF}}$ : If  $\langle T_i \rangle_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of trees with integer labeled nodes, then there is a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2$  such that  $f(i) = 1$  if and only if  $T_i$  is well founded. (Lemma IV.1.1, Simpson [8])
- (3)  $\widehat{\text{WF}}_L$ : If  $\langle T_i, L_i \rangle_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a sequence of trees, each equipped with a leaf set  $L_i$ , then there is a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2$  such that  $f(i) = 1$  if and only if  $T_i$  is well founded.

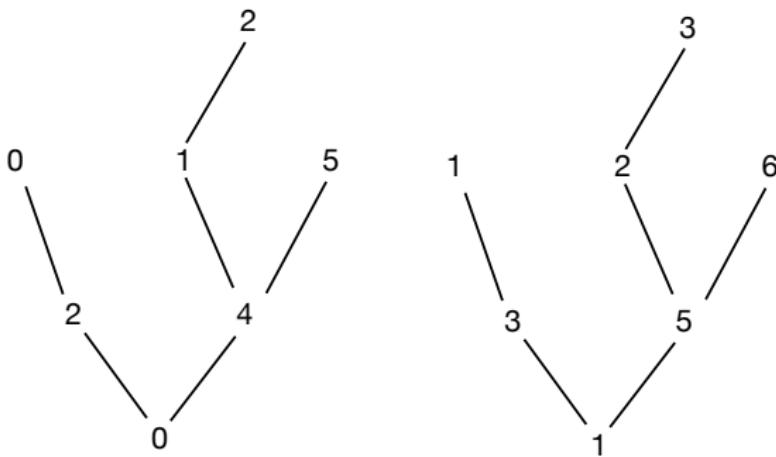
## Leaf management

A tree can be converted to a tree with a leaf set by adding an extension with a new label to every existing nodes. The converted tree has the same infinite paths (and the same perfect subtrees).



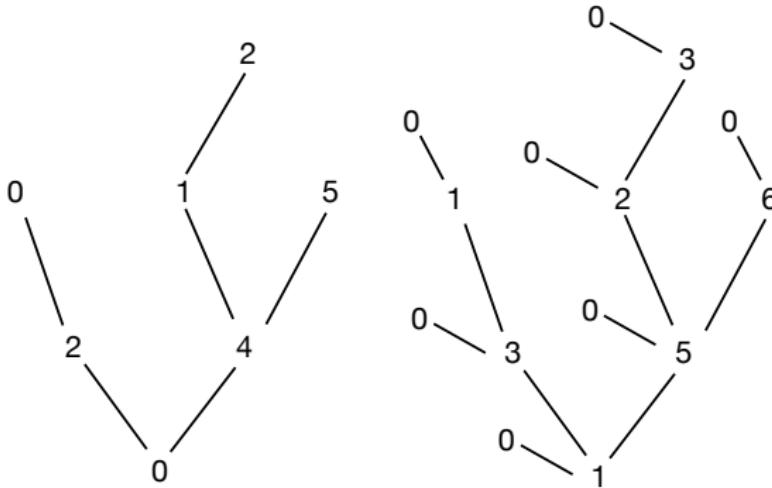
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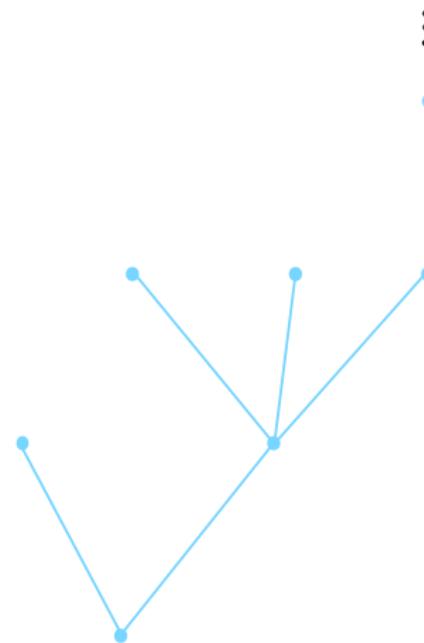
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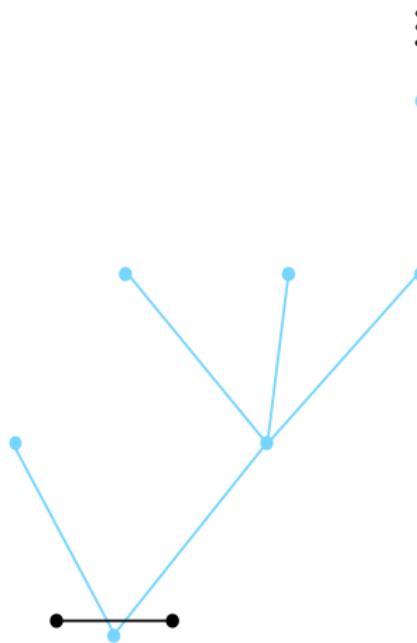
## The reversal: $\widehat{\text{HC}} \rightarrow \widehat{\text{WF}}$

We want to convert a tree into a hypergraph that has a proper 2-coloring iff the tree has a path.



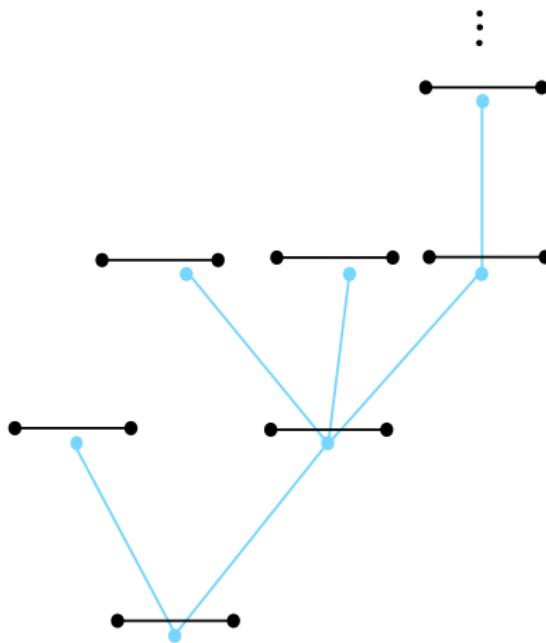
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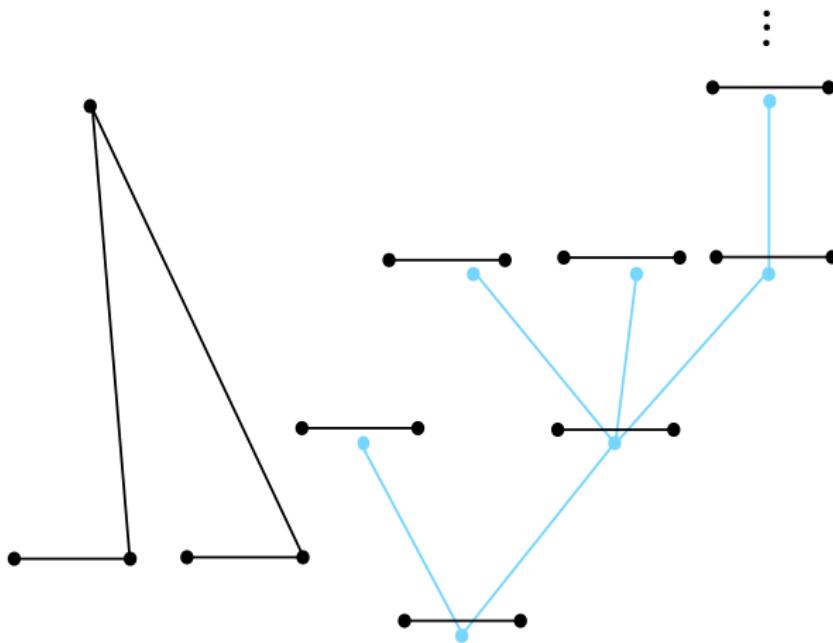
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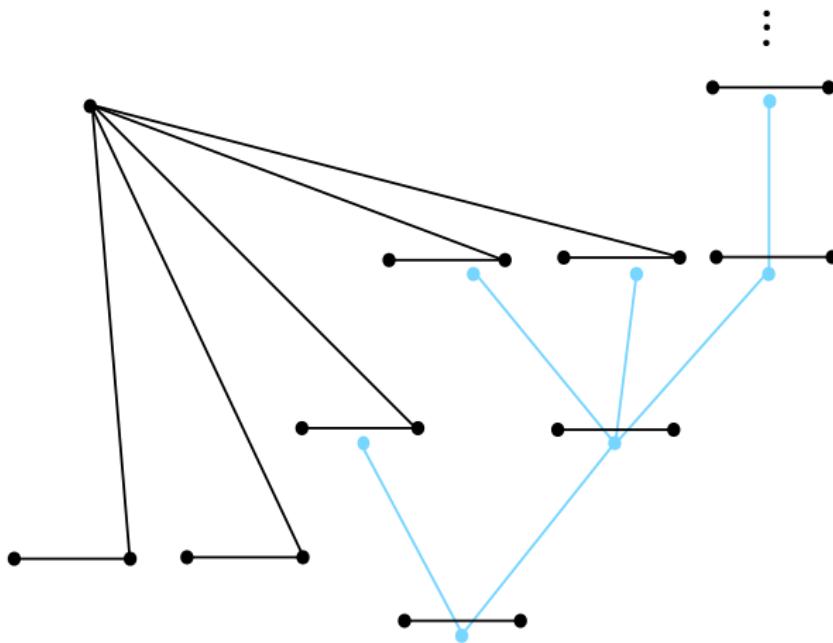
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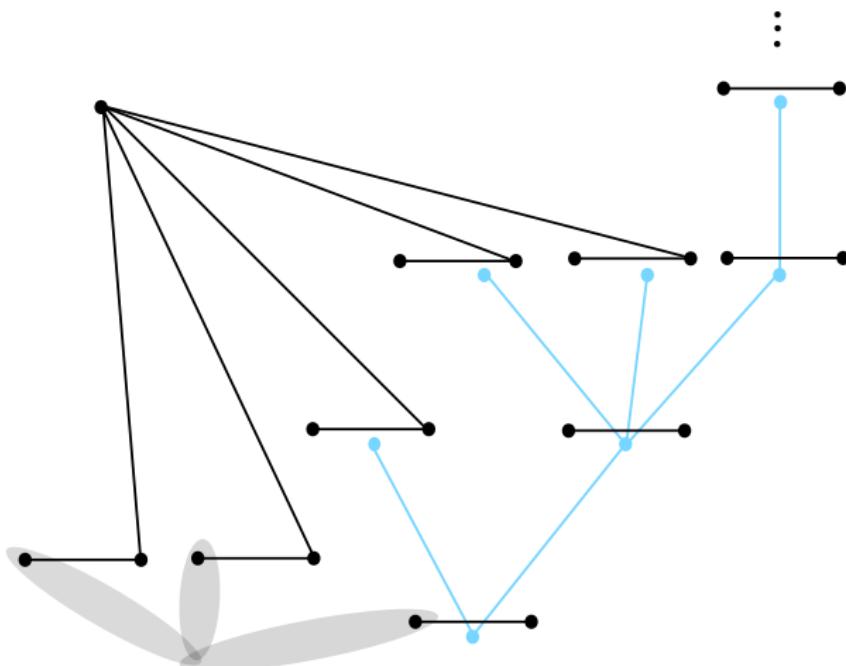
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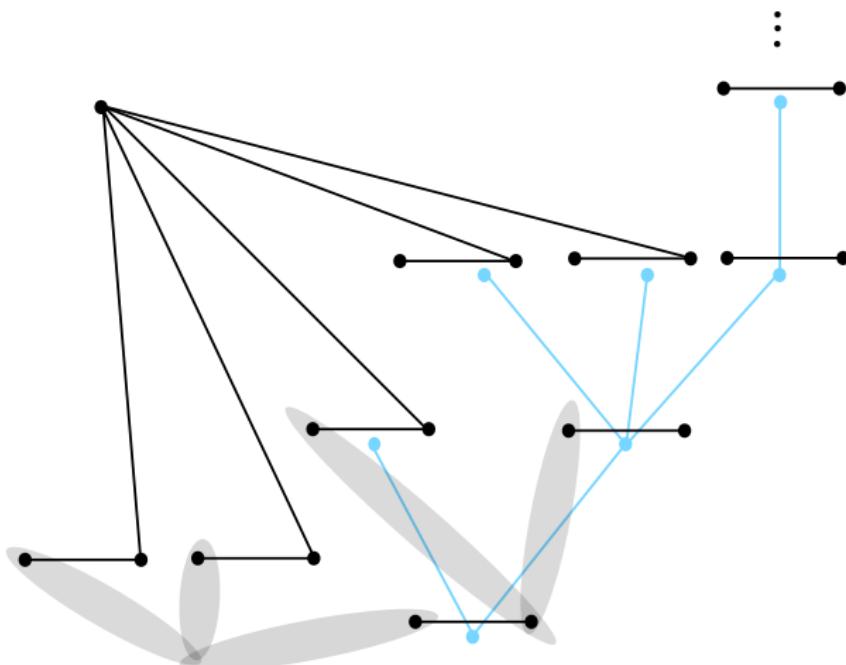
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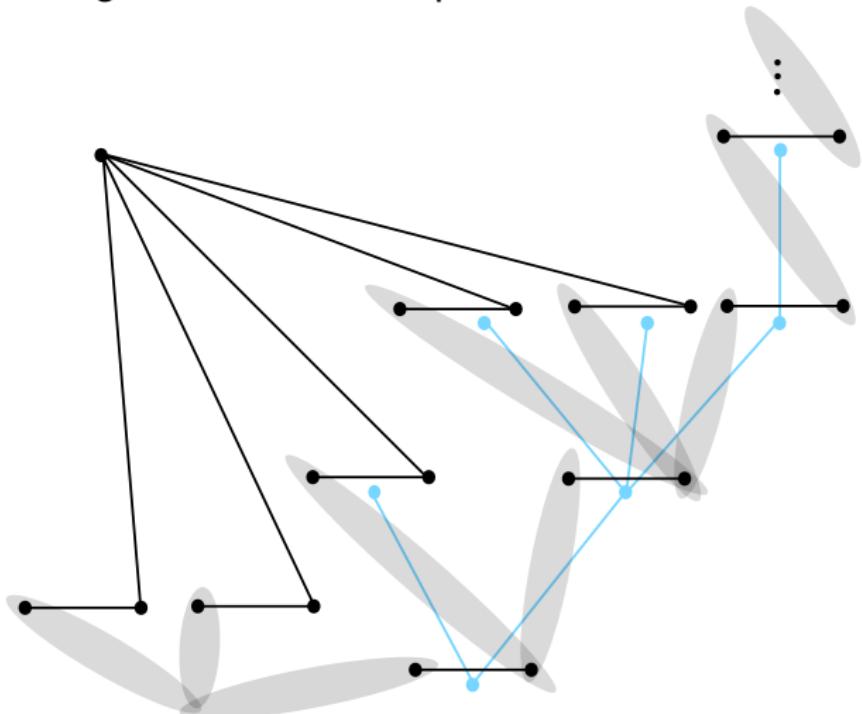
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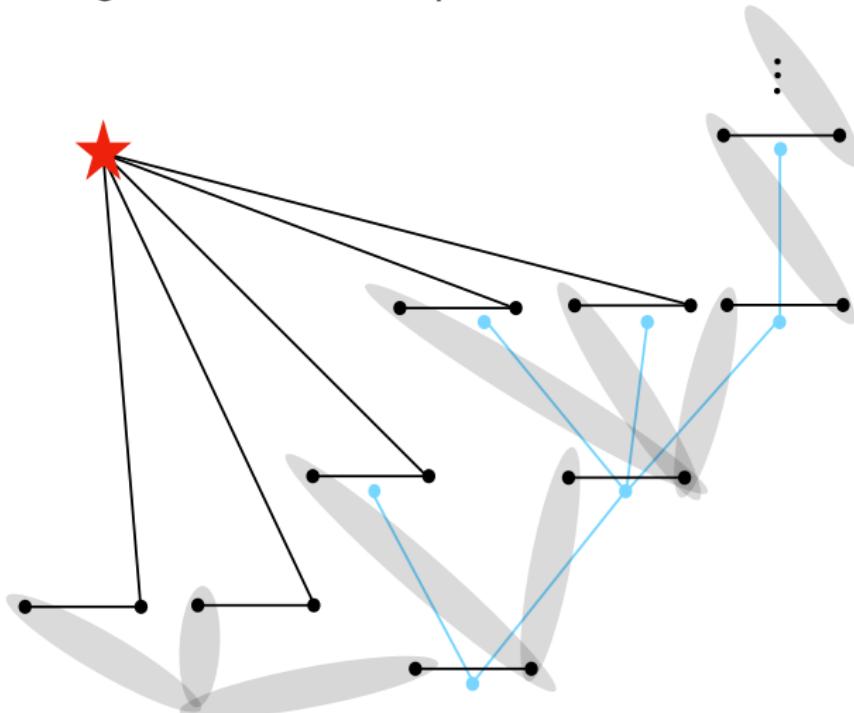
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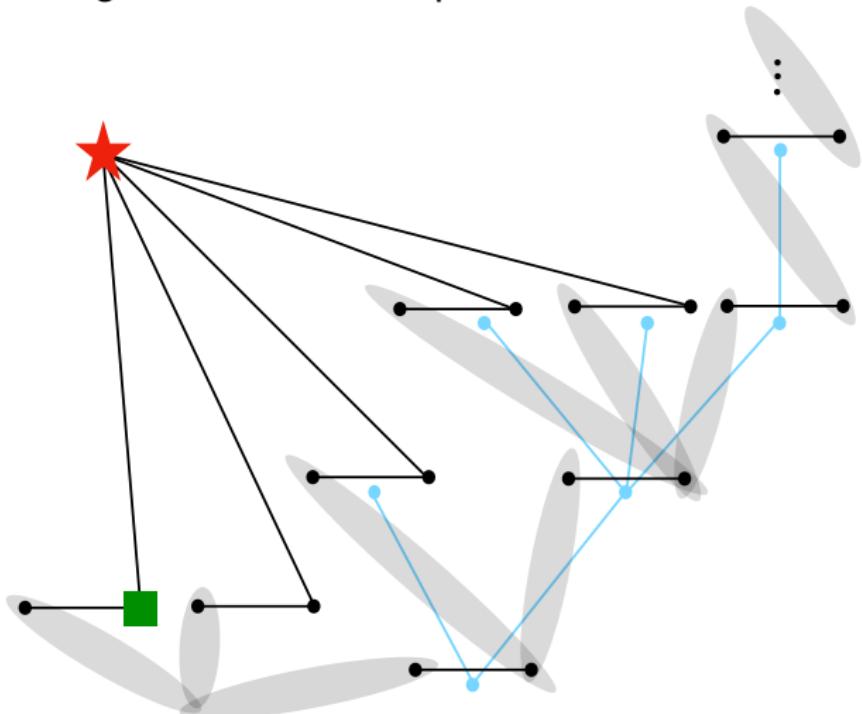
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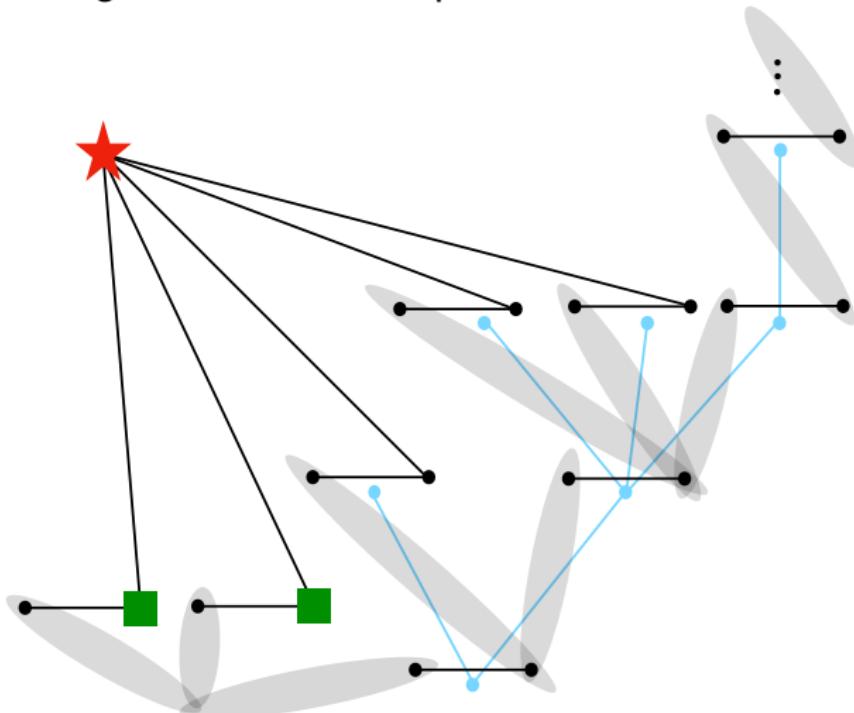
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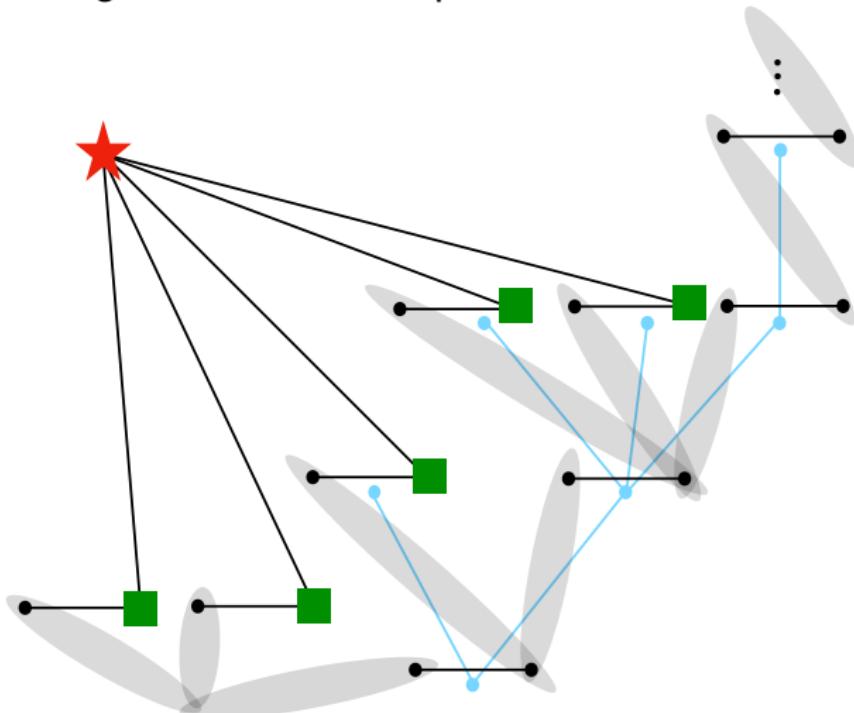
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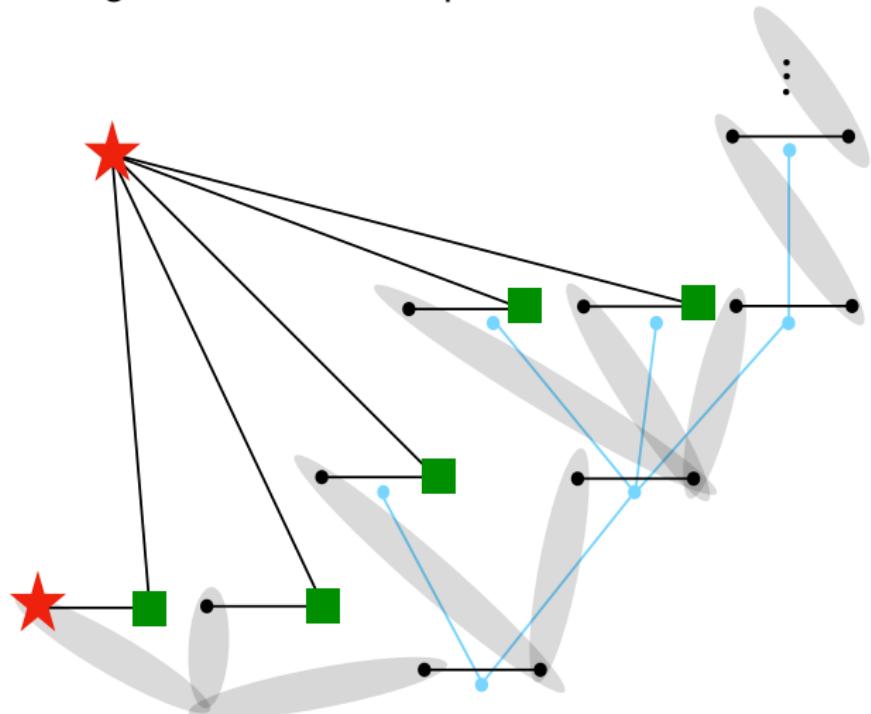
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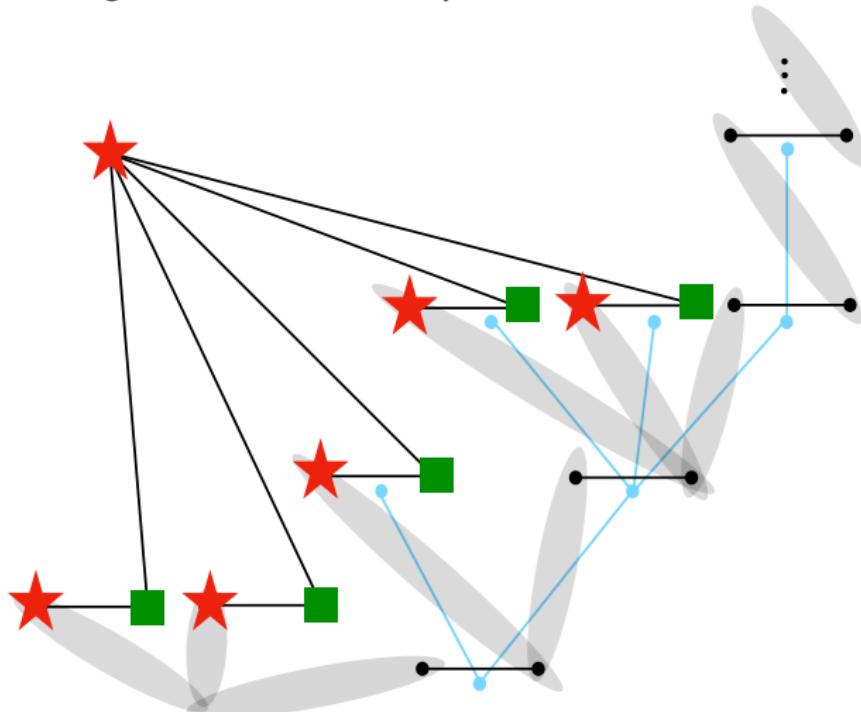
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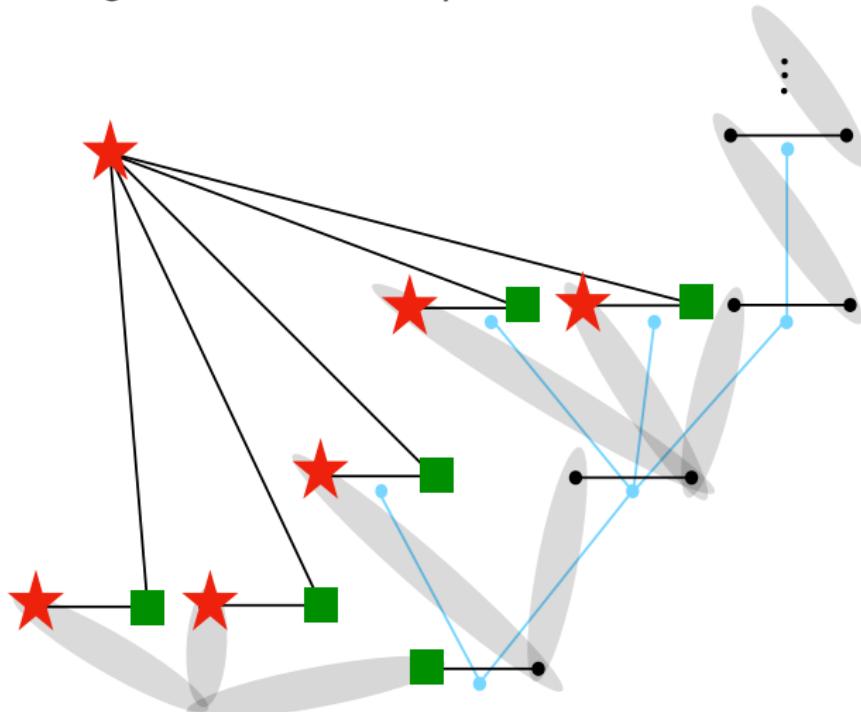
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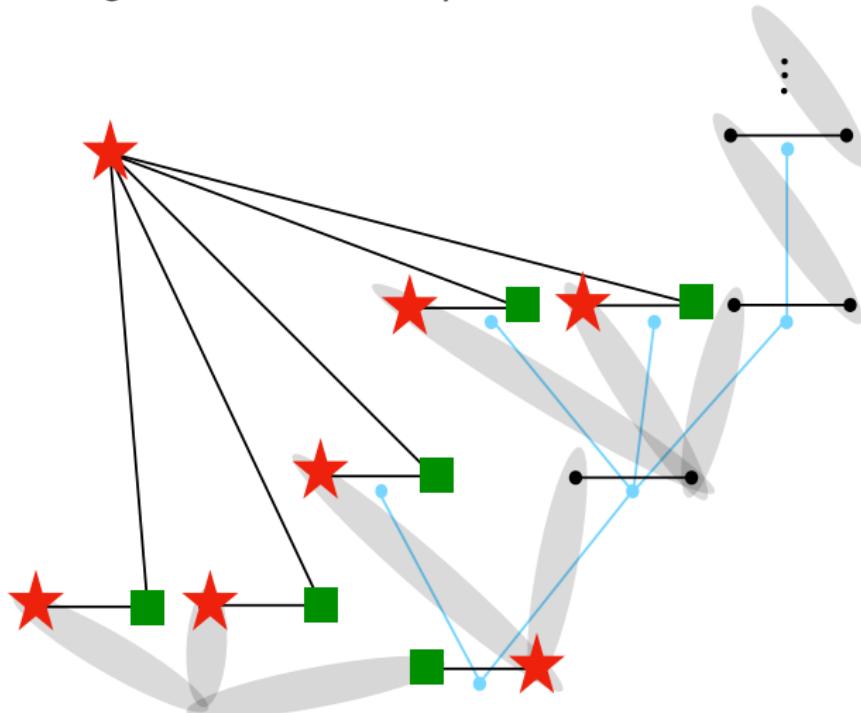
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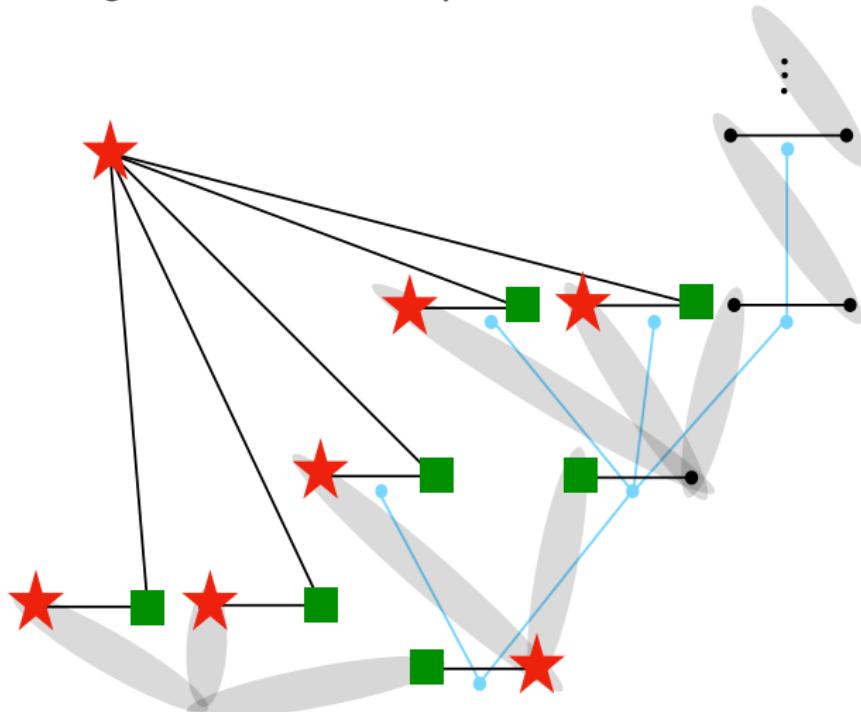
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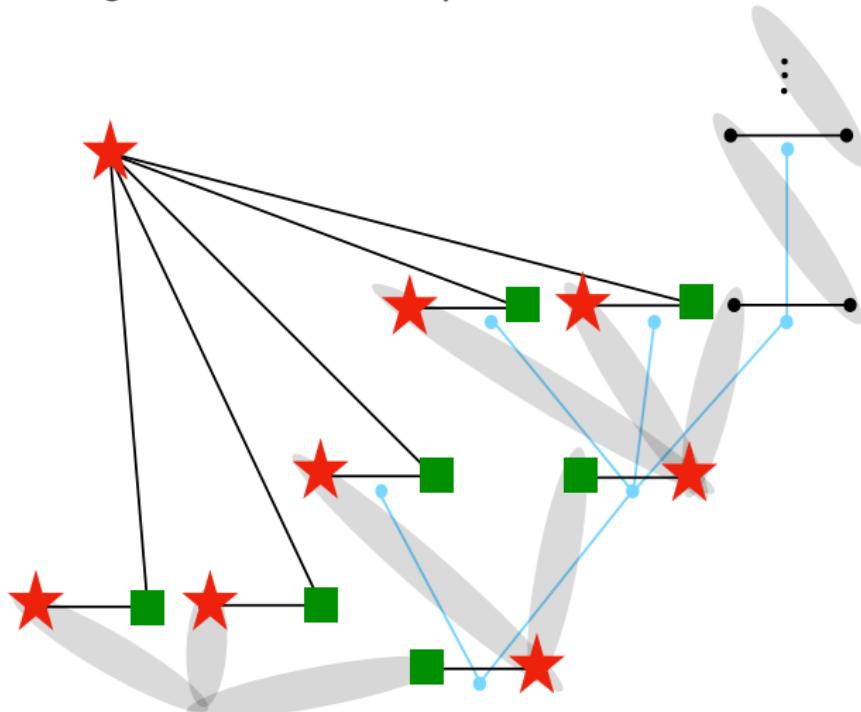
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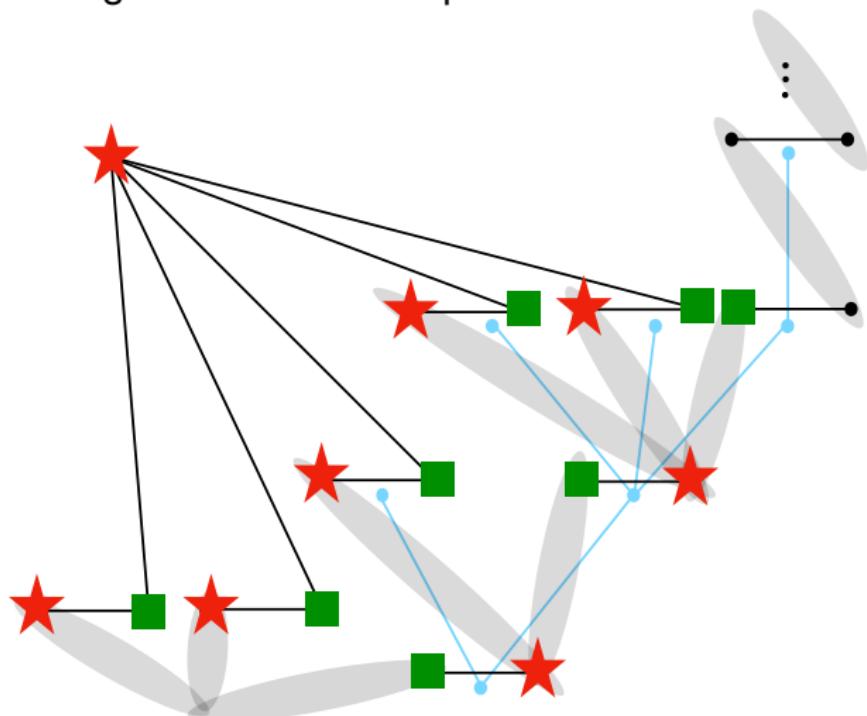
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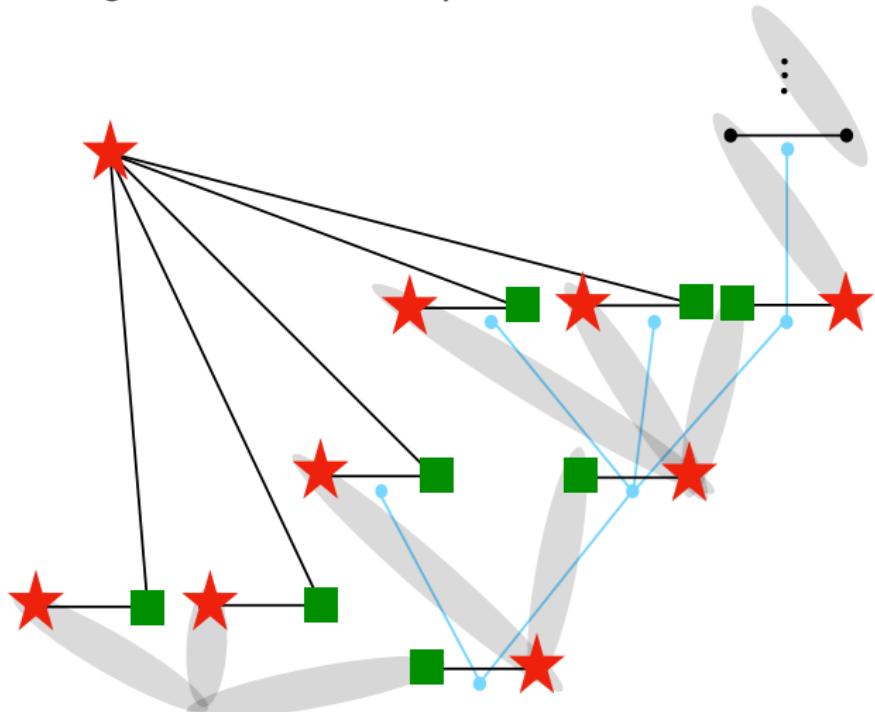
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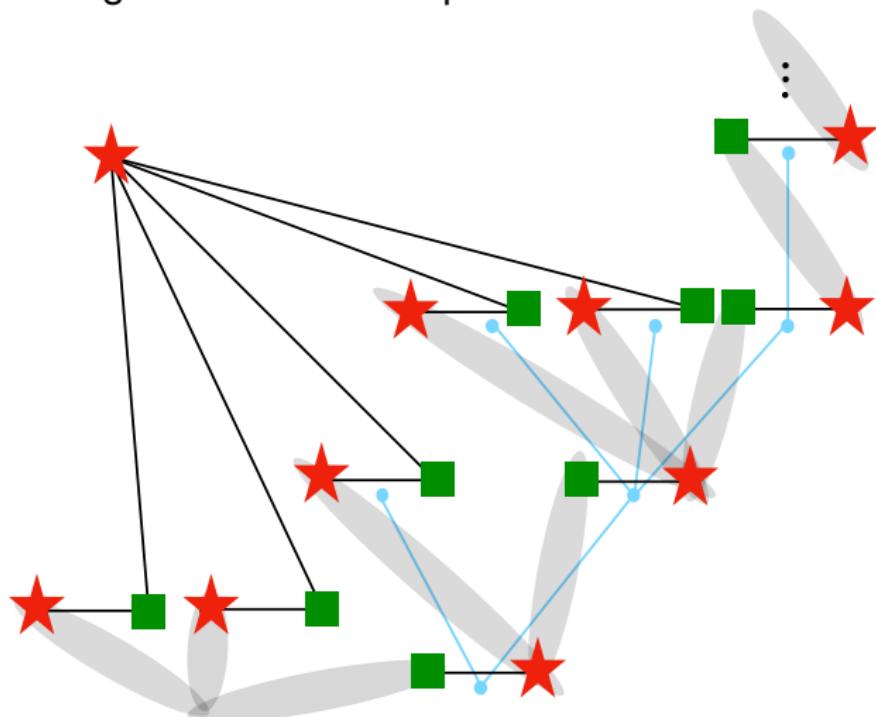
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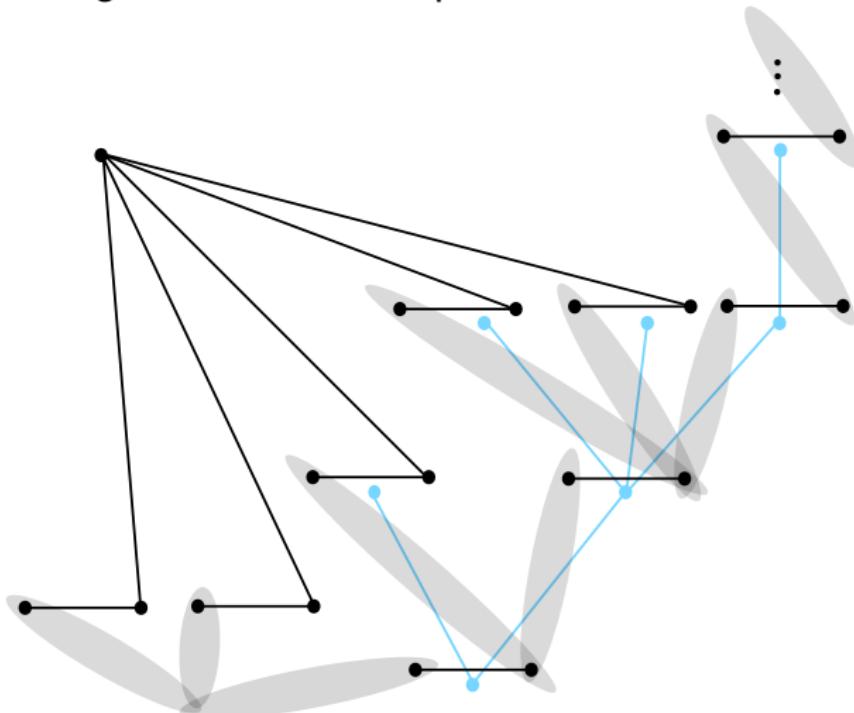
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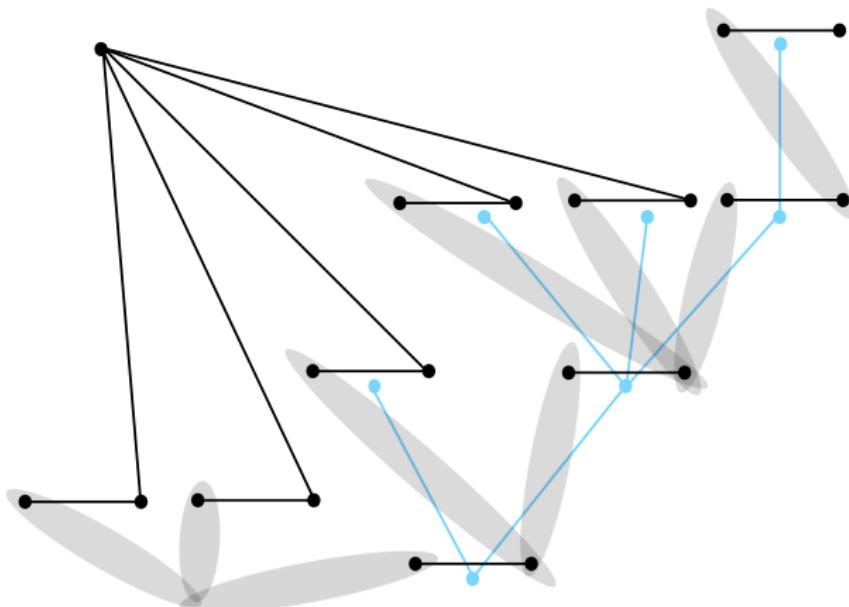
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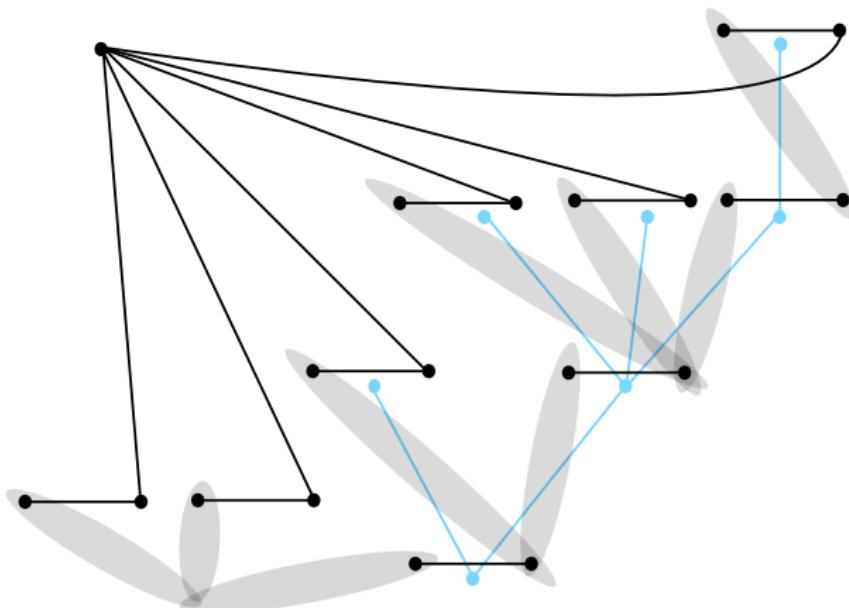
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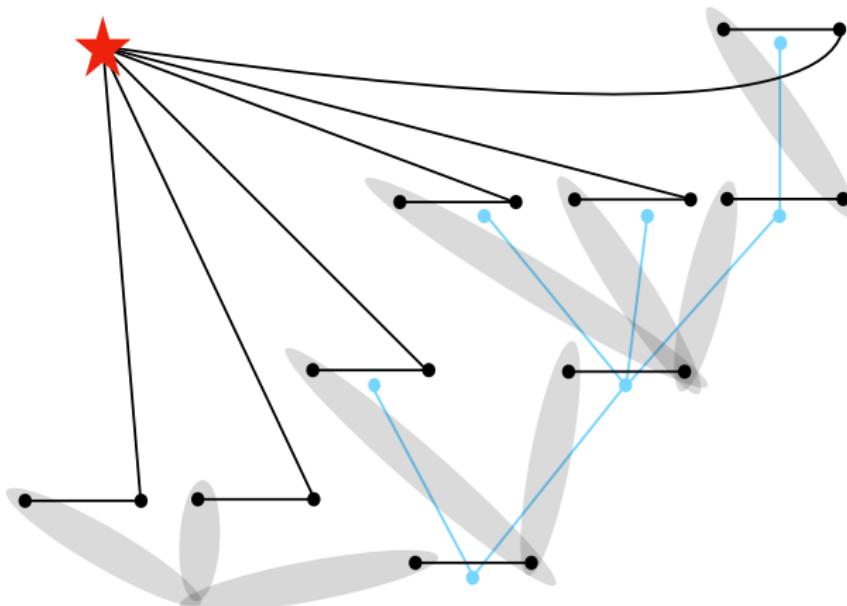
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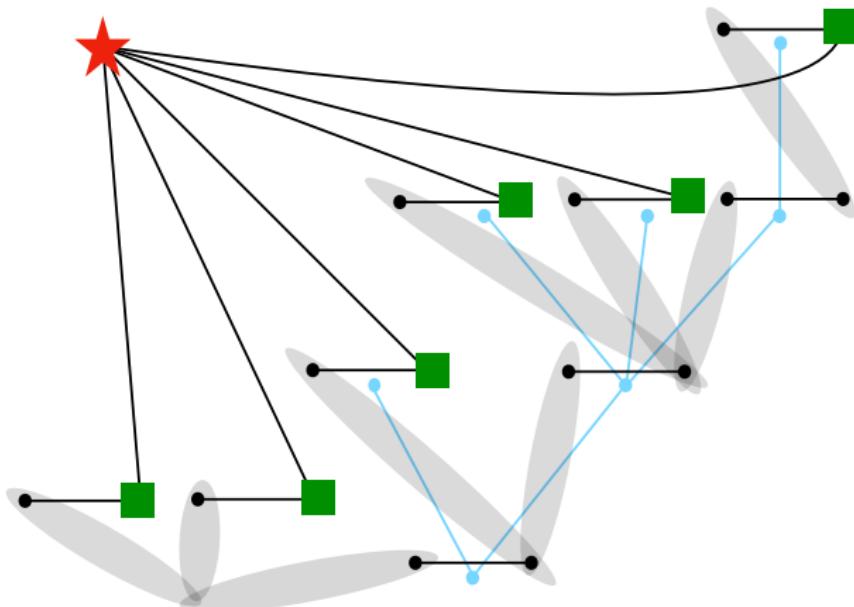
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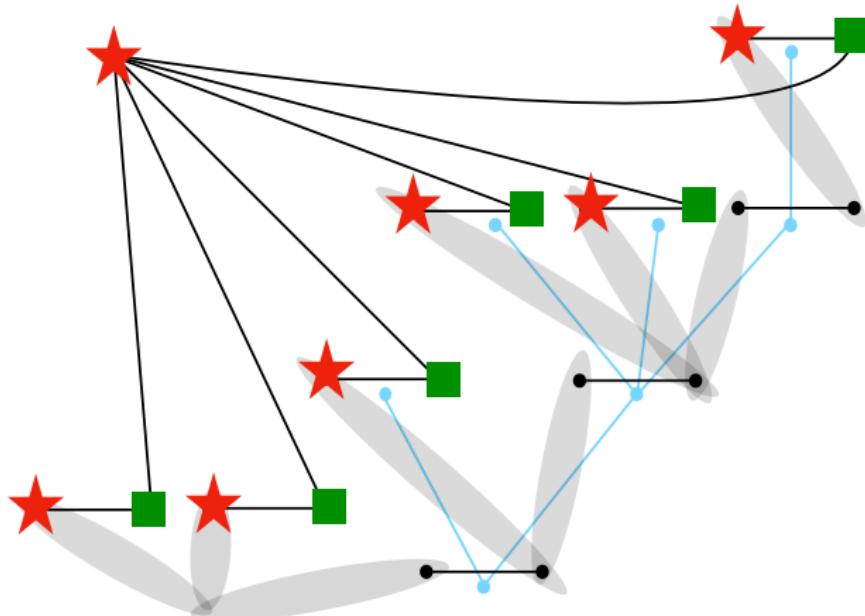
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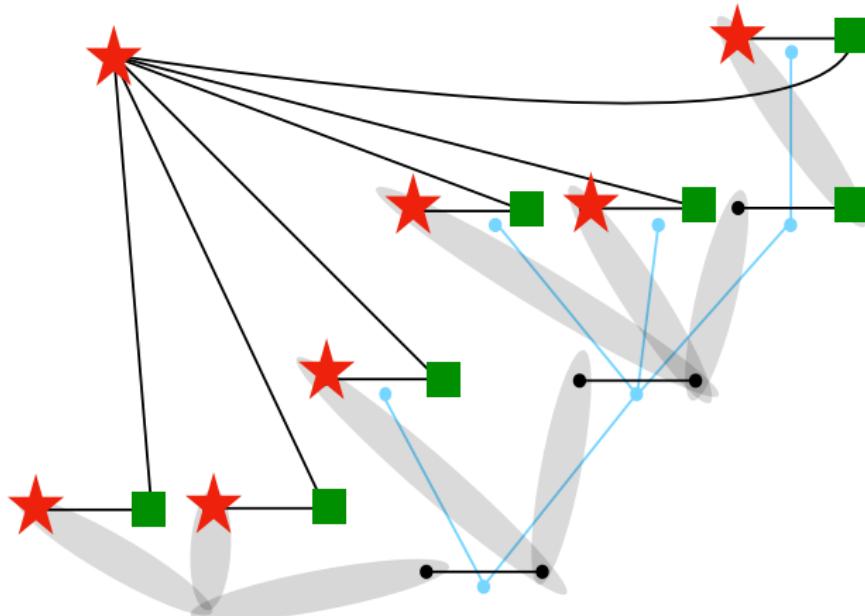
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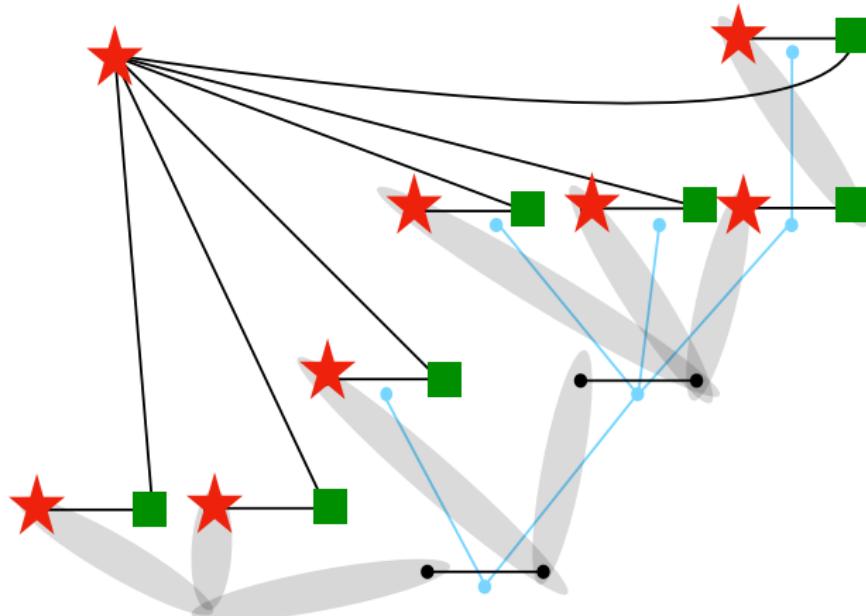
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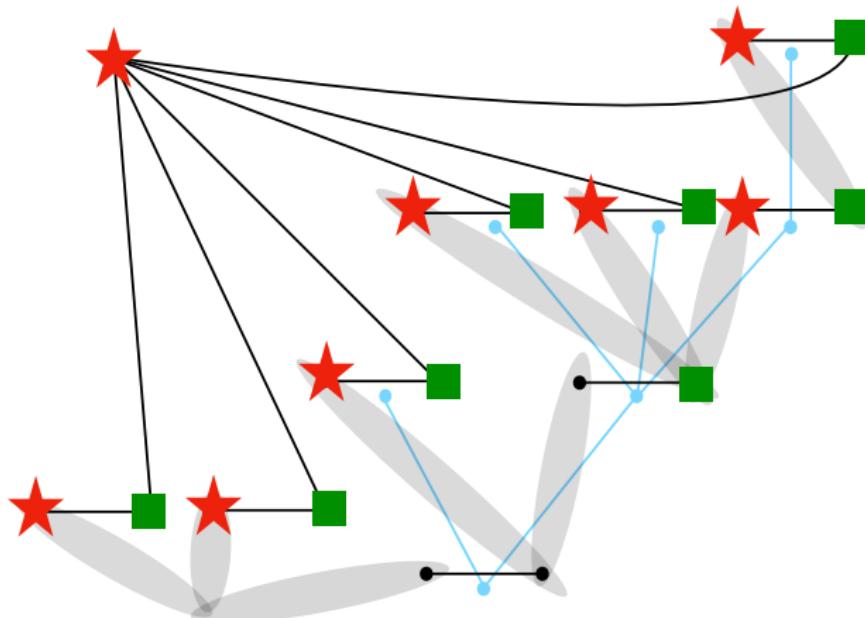
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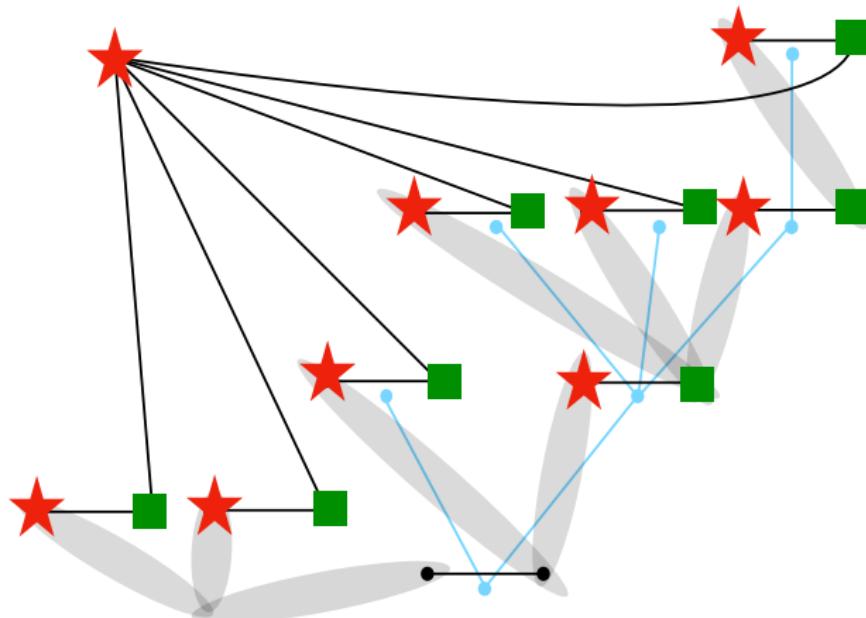
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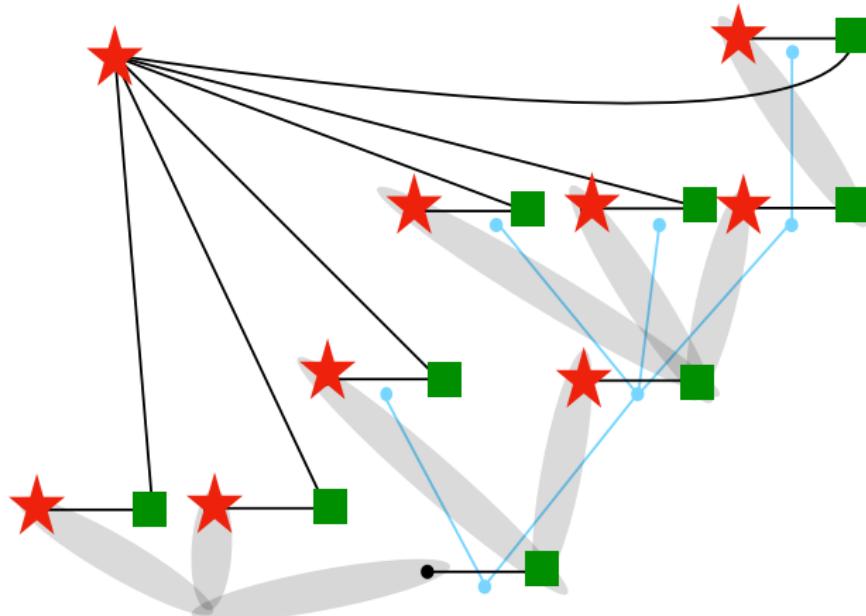
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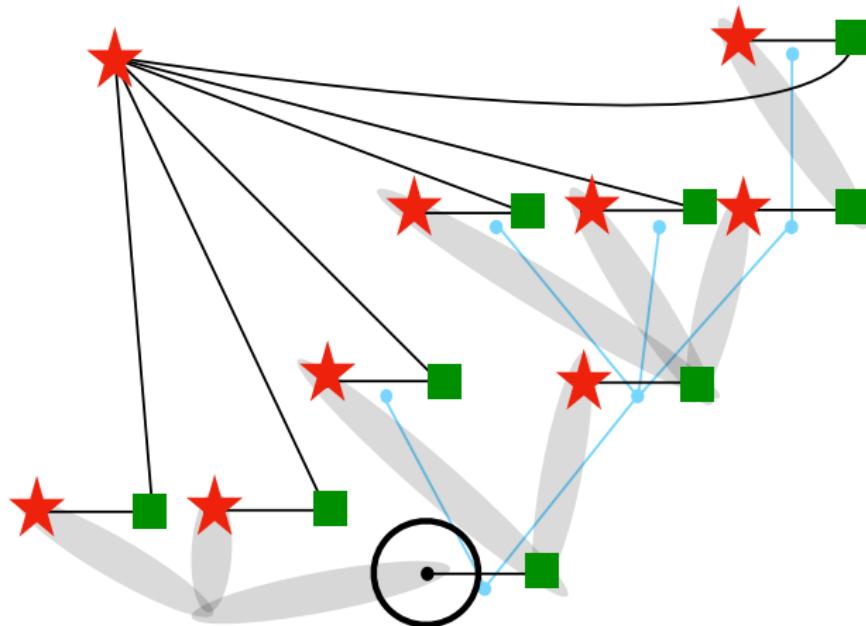
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# Weihrauch reductions

## Sample problems

WF: input a tree  $T$ ; output 1 iff  $T$  is well-founded.

HC: input a hypergraph  $H$ ; output 1 iff  $H$  has a proper 2-coloring.

## Parallelization

$\widehat{\text{HC}}$ : input an infinite sequence of hypergraphs; output list of indices of hypergraphs with proper 2-colorings.

## Reductions

$P \leq_{\text{sW}} Q$  if there are uniformly computable procedures  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P_{\text{input}} & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & Q_{\text{input}} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ P_{\text{output}} & \xleftarrow{\psi} & Q_{\text{output}} \end{array}$$

## Equivalences

$P \equiv_{\text{sW}} Q$  iff  $P \leq_{\text{sW}} Q$  and  $Q \leq_{\text{sW}} P$

## Weihrauch equivalences

$$\text{WF} \equiv_{\text{sW}} \text{WF}_L \equiv_{\text{sW}} \text{HC}$$

$$\widehat{\text{WF}} \equiv_{\text{sW}} \widehat{\text{WF}}_L \equiv_{\text{sW}} \widehat{\text{HC}}$$

Another problem

PK: input a tree  $T$ ; output the perfect kernel of  $T$ .

$$\widehat{\text{WF}} \equiv_{\text{sW}} \text{PK}$$

These results appear in *Leaf management* [5]

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