

Automatic Round Elimination: A New Approach for Proving Complexity Bounds in the LOCAL Model

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ETH Zurich

joint work with: Alkida Balliu, Orr Fischer, Juho Hirvonen, Barbara Keller, Tuomo Lempiäinen,
Dennis Olivetti, Mikaël Rabie, Joel Rybicki, Jukka Suomela, Jara Uitto

Lovász Local Lemma

There is no **randomized** LLL algorithm with complexity $o(\log \log n)$.

[B., Fischer, Hirvonen, Keller, Lempiäinen, Rybicki, Suomela, Uitto, STOC'16]

There is no **deterministic** LLL algorithm with complexity $o(\log n)$.

[Chang, Kopelowitz, Pettie, FOCS'16]

... **Automatic** Round Elimination ...

[B., PODC'19]

Maximal Matching

There is no **randomized** MM algorithm with complexity

$$o(\Delta) + o\left(\frac{\log \log n}{\log \log \log n}\right).$$

There is no **deterministic** MM algorithm with complexity

$$o(\Delta) + o\left(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}\right).$$

Maximal Matching

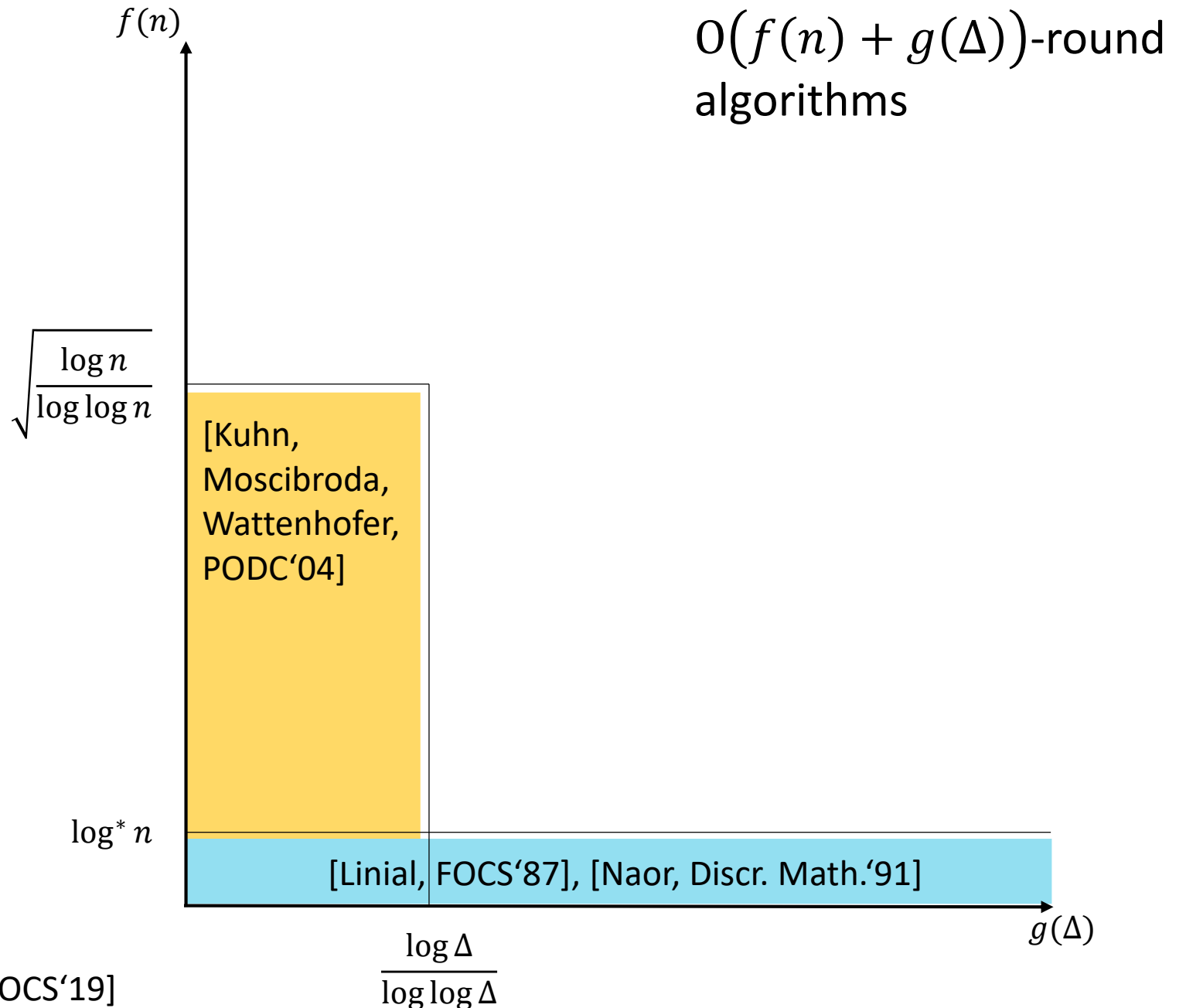
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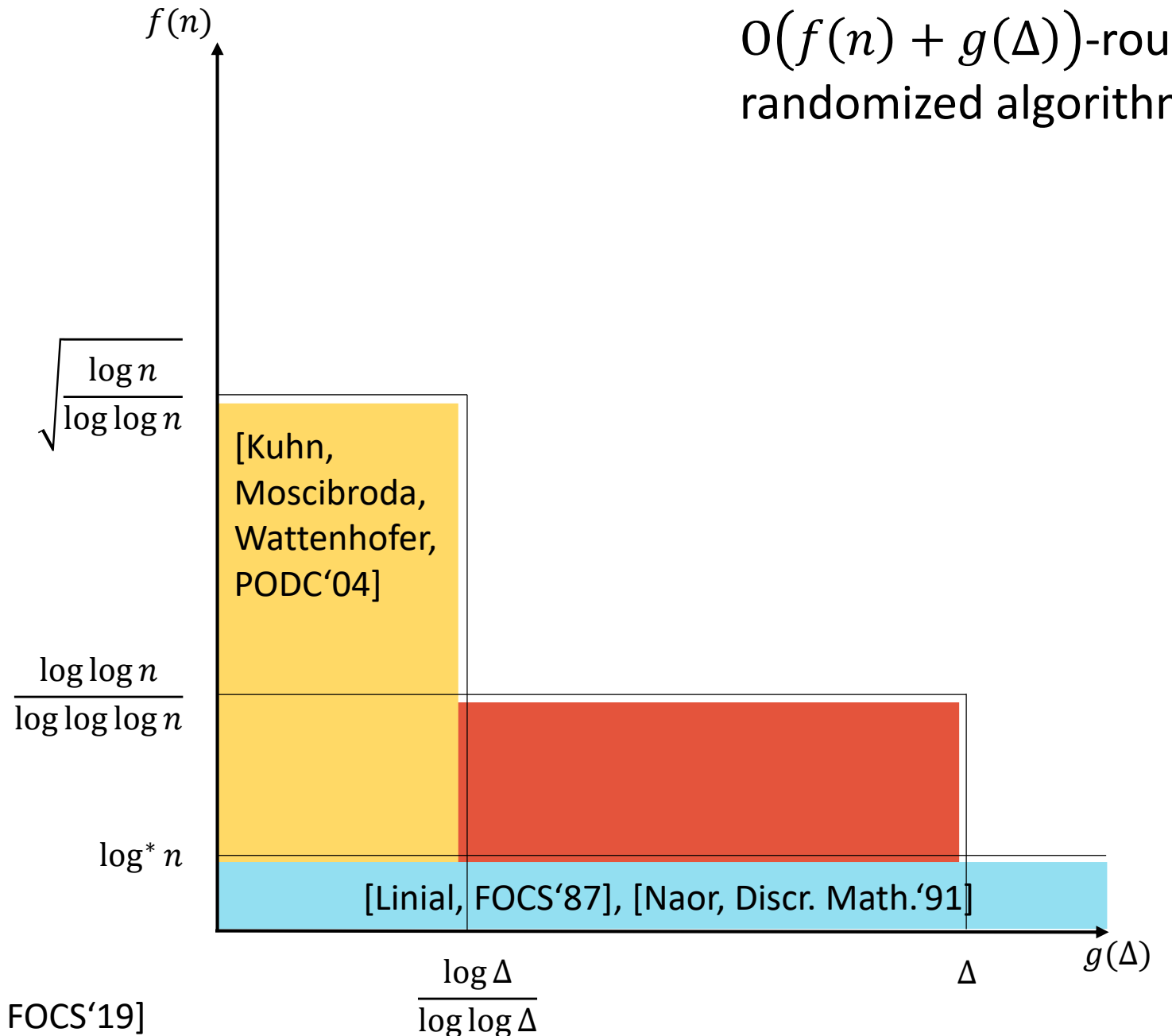
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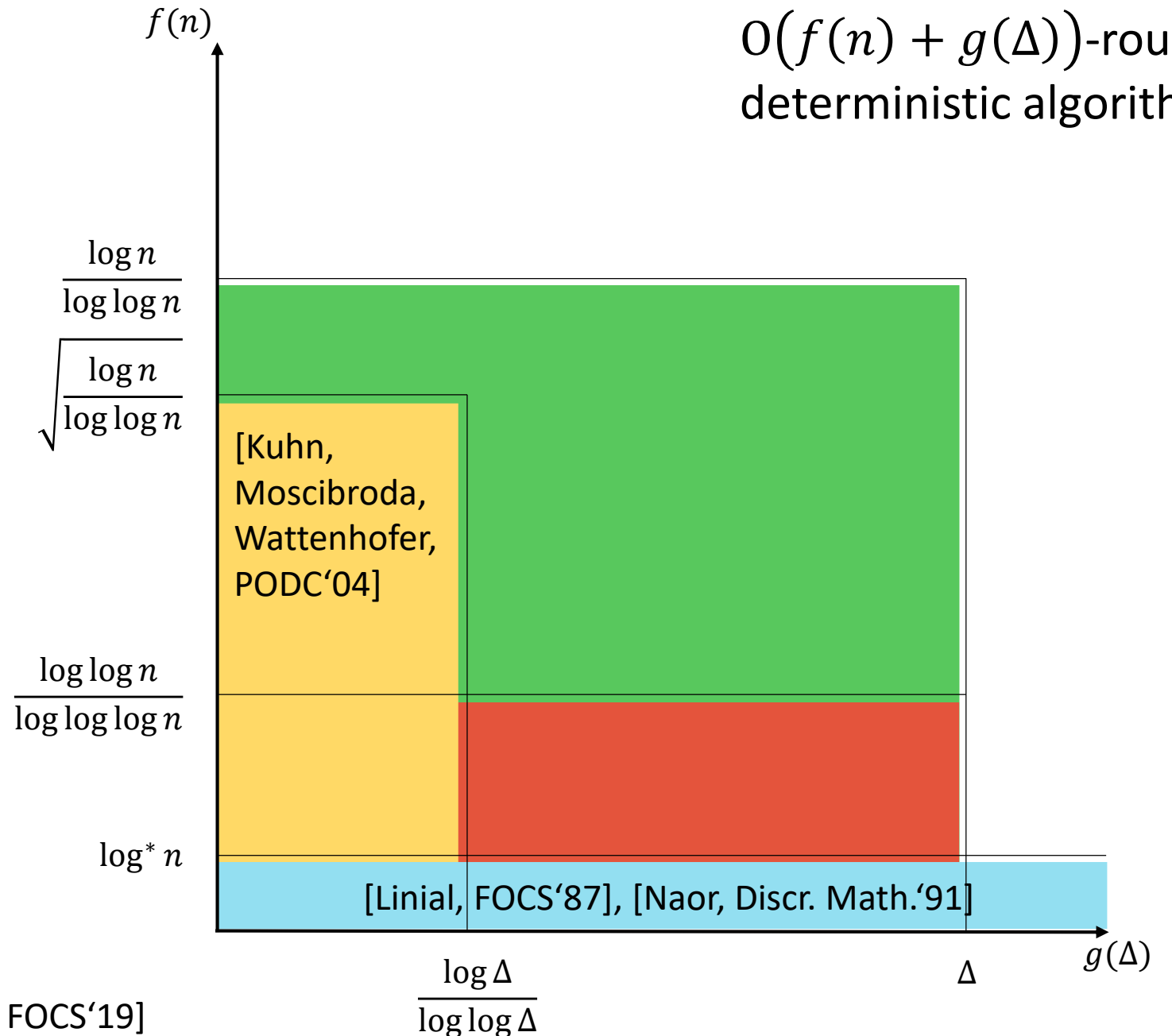
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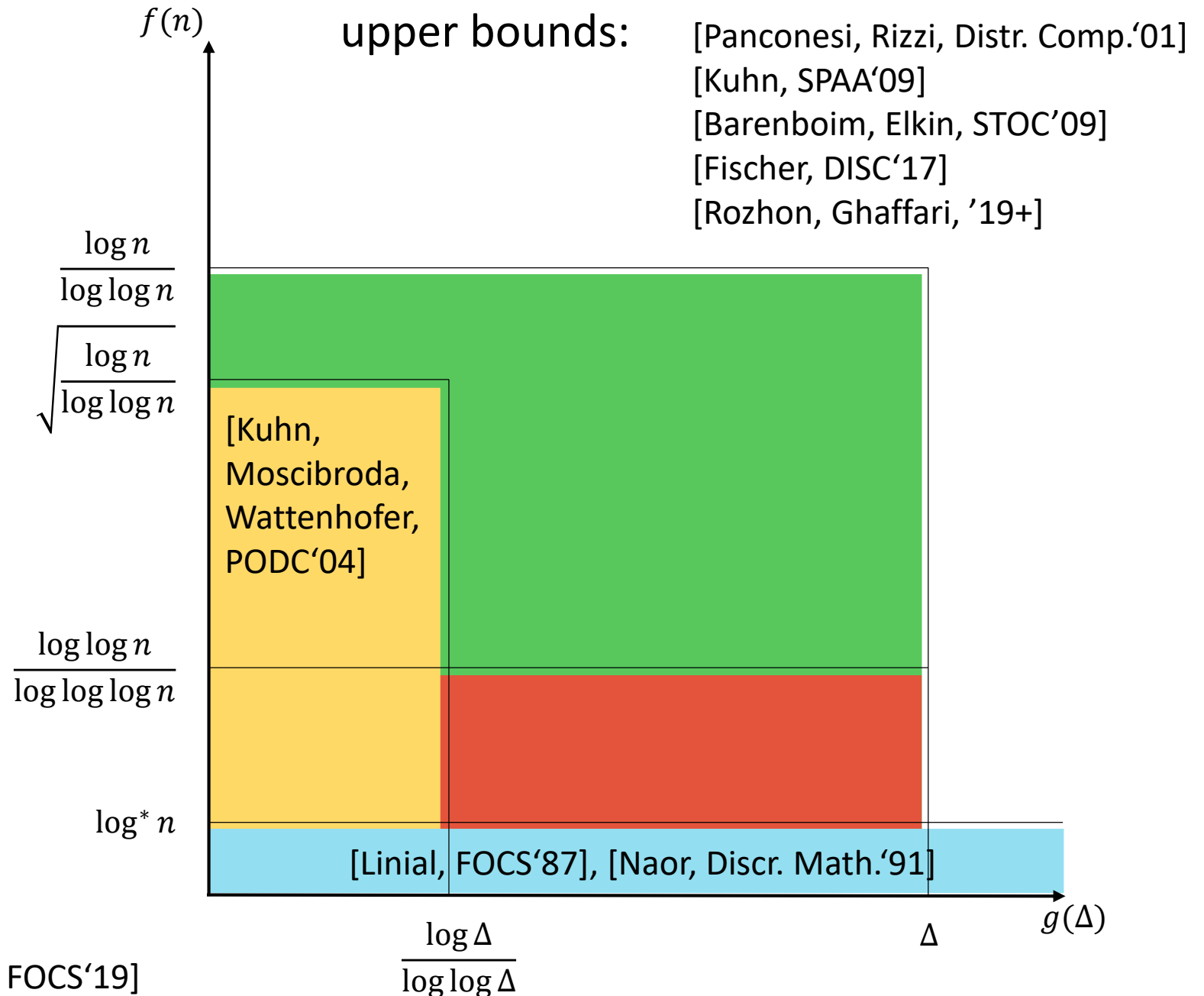
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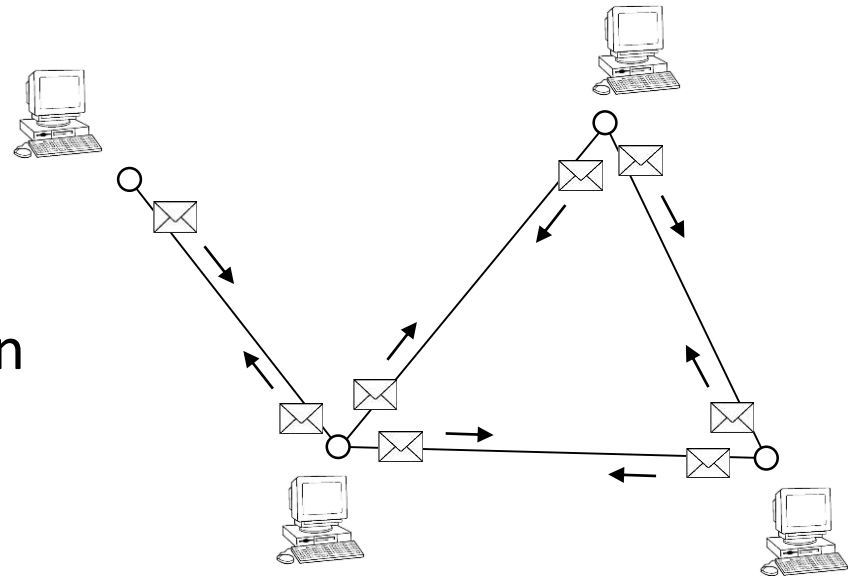
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[Balliu, B., Hirvonen, Olivetti, Rabie, Suomela, FOCS'19]



The LOCAL Model

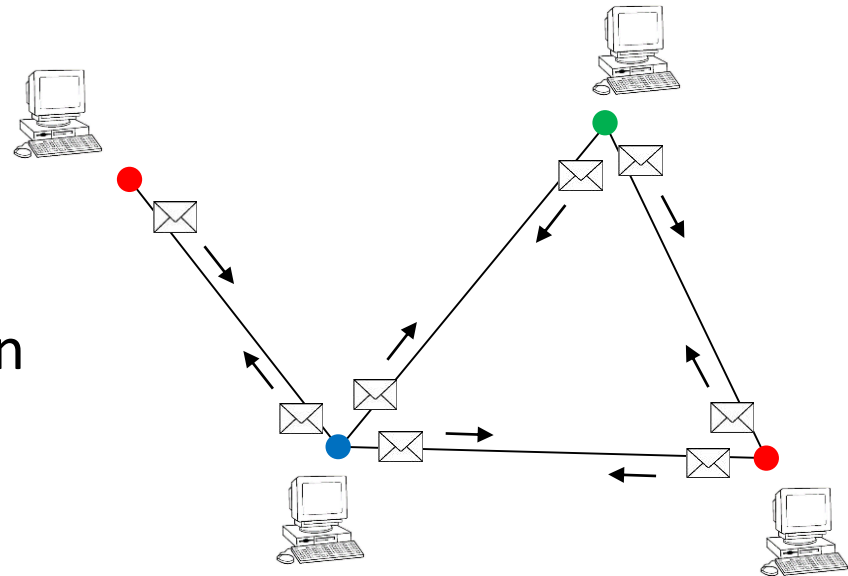
- Synchronous rounds of
 - 1) Communication
 - 2) Computation
- Unlimited Message Size and Computation
- Runtime = number of rounds
- $O(\log n)$ -bit unique identifiers



[Linial, FOCS'87]

The LOCAL Model

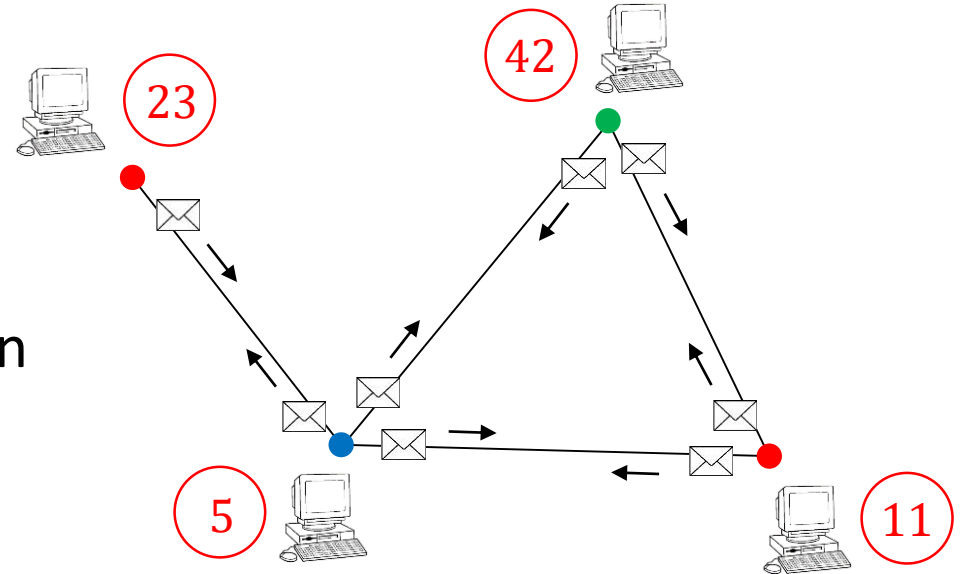
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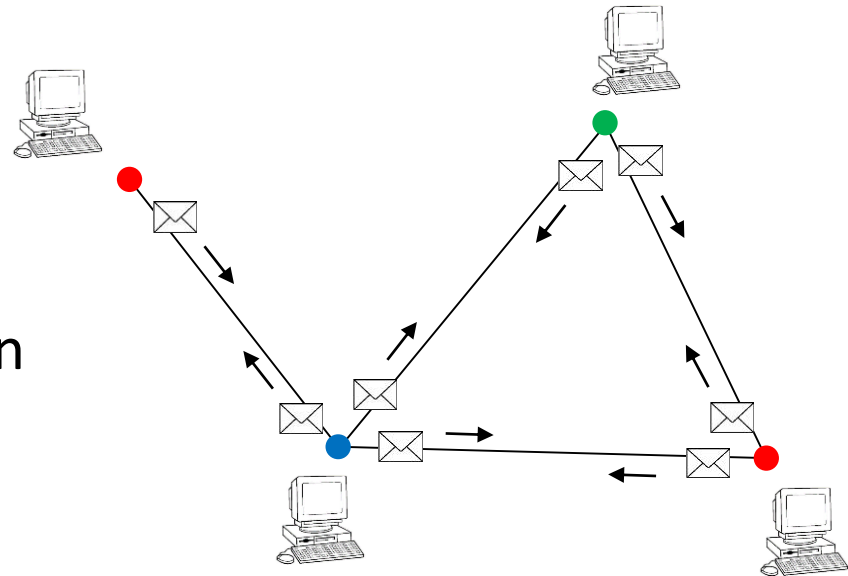
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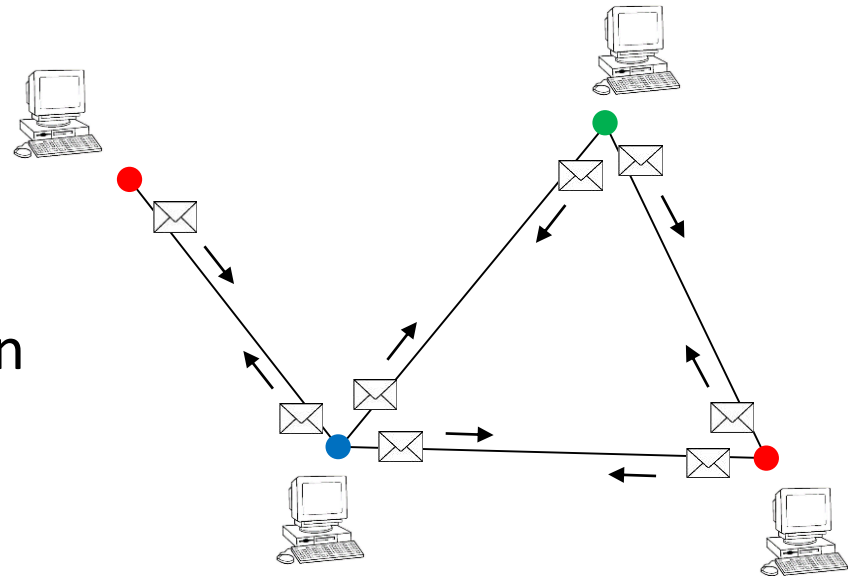
The LOCAL Model

- Synchronous rounds of
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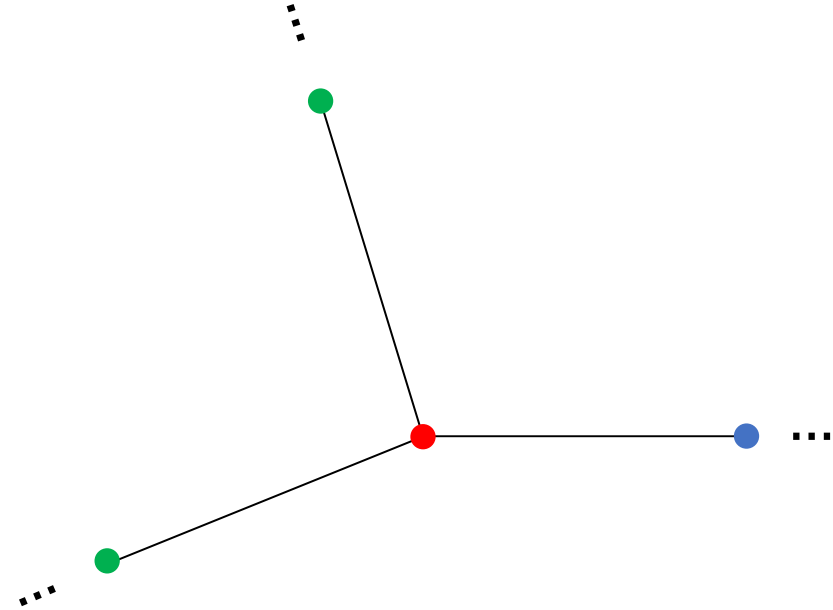
deterministic algorithms

High-girth graphs

Locally Checkable Problems

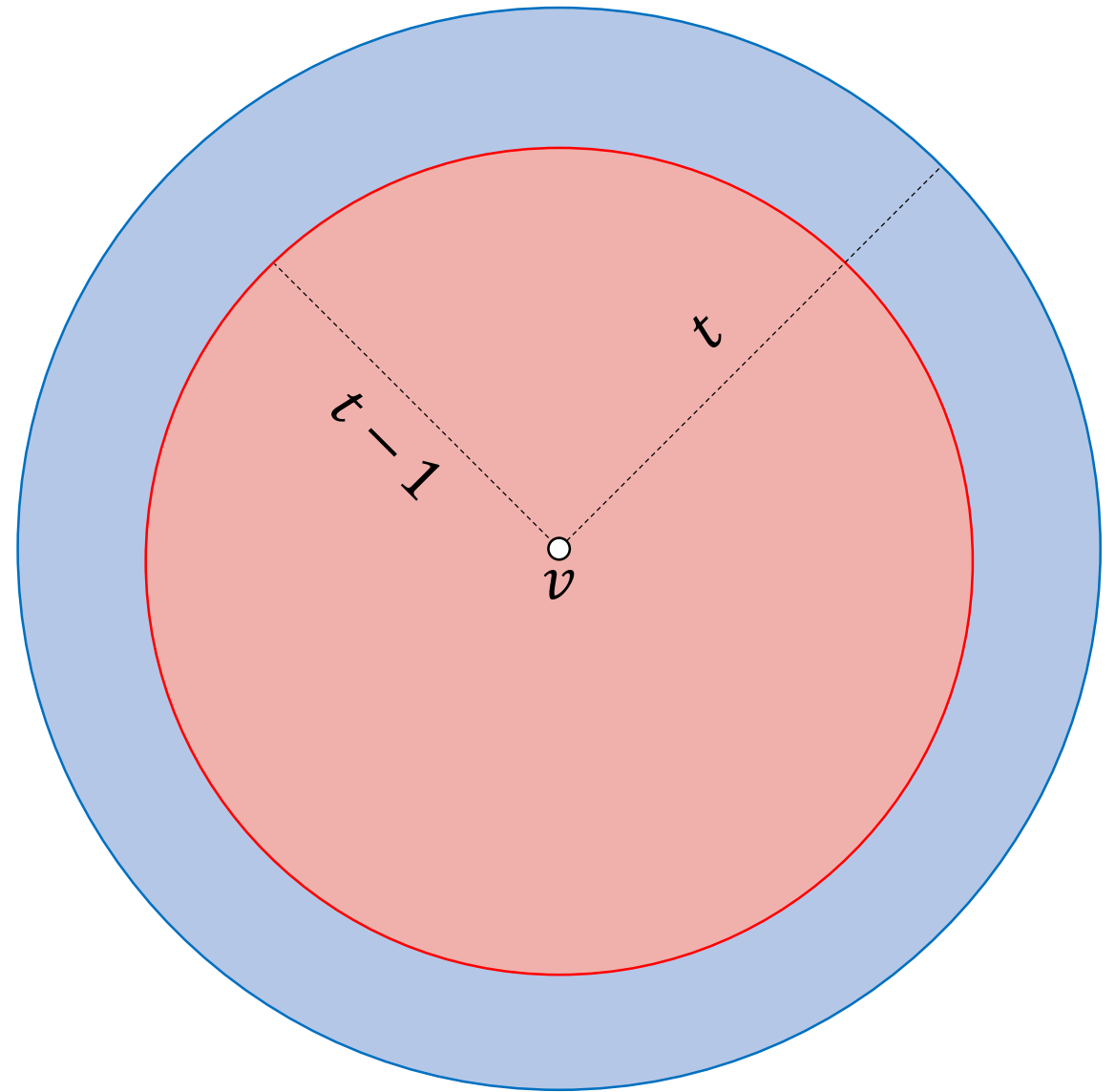
Locally Checkable:

Output correctness is defined via local ($= O(1)$ -hop) constraints.



Round Elimination

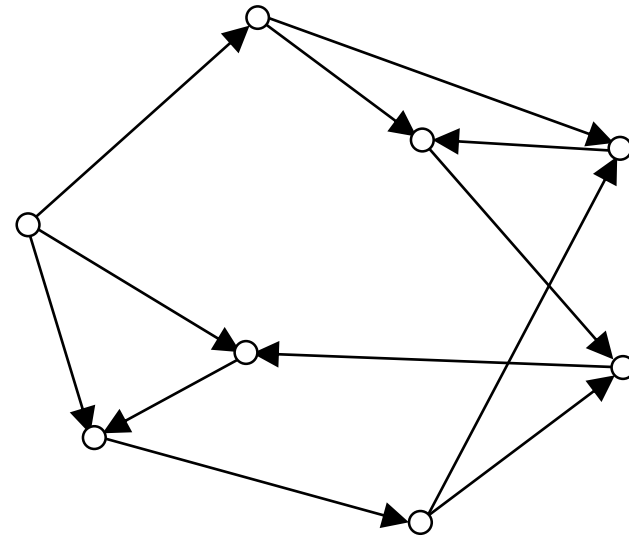
Given that we can solve some problem in t rounds, what can we do in $t - 1$ rounds?



Sinkless Orientation

Sinkless Orientation Problem:

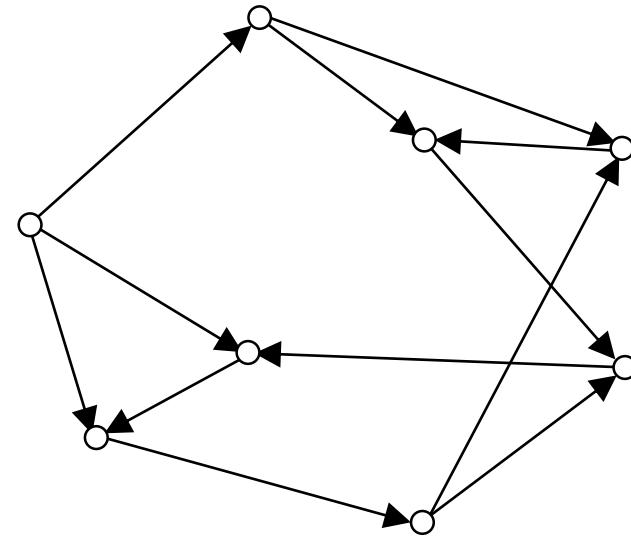
Orient the edges such that
no node is a sink.



Sinkless Orientation

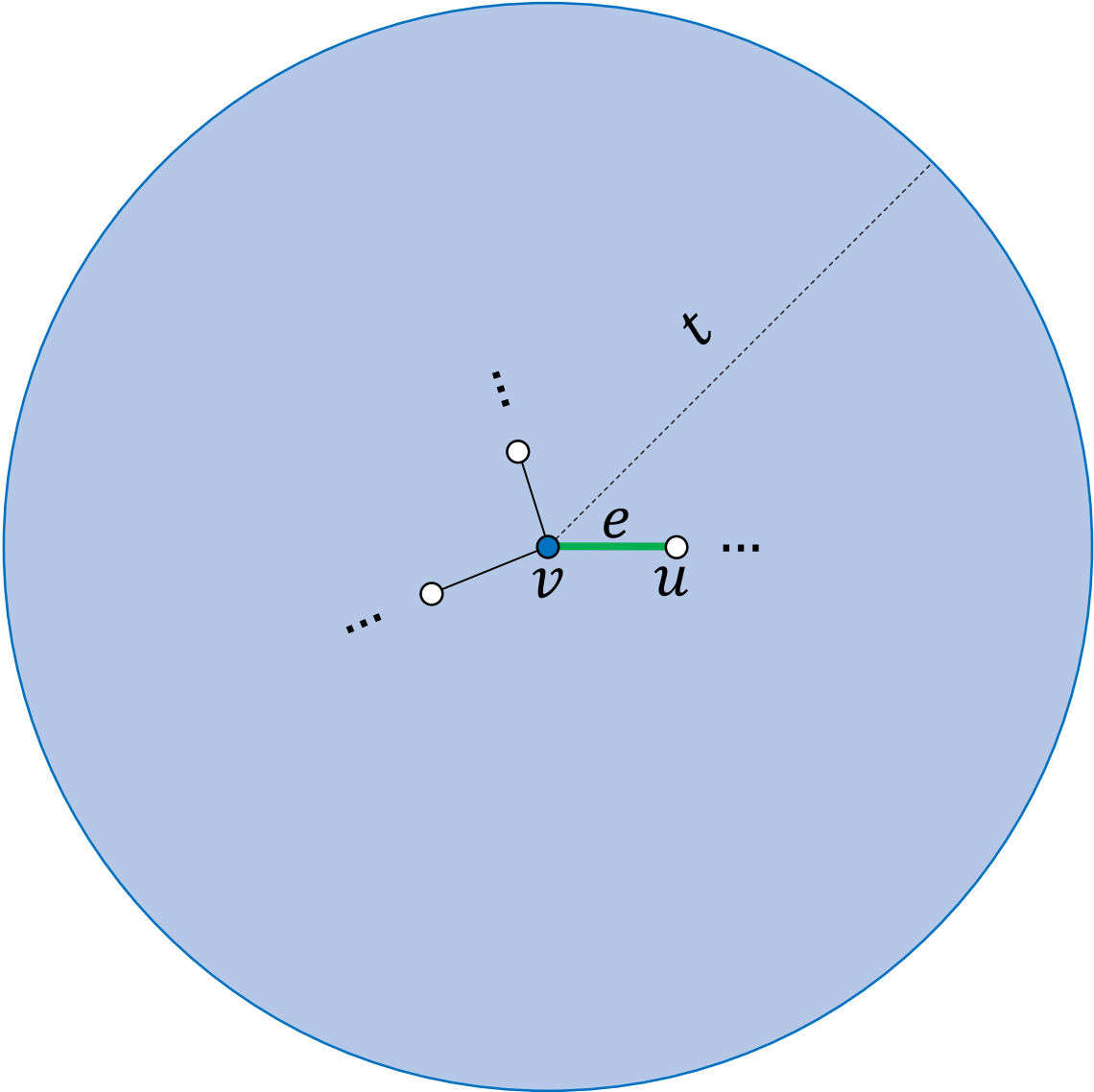
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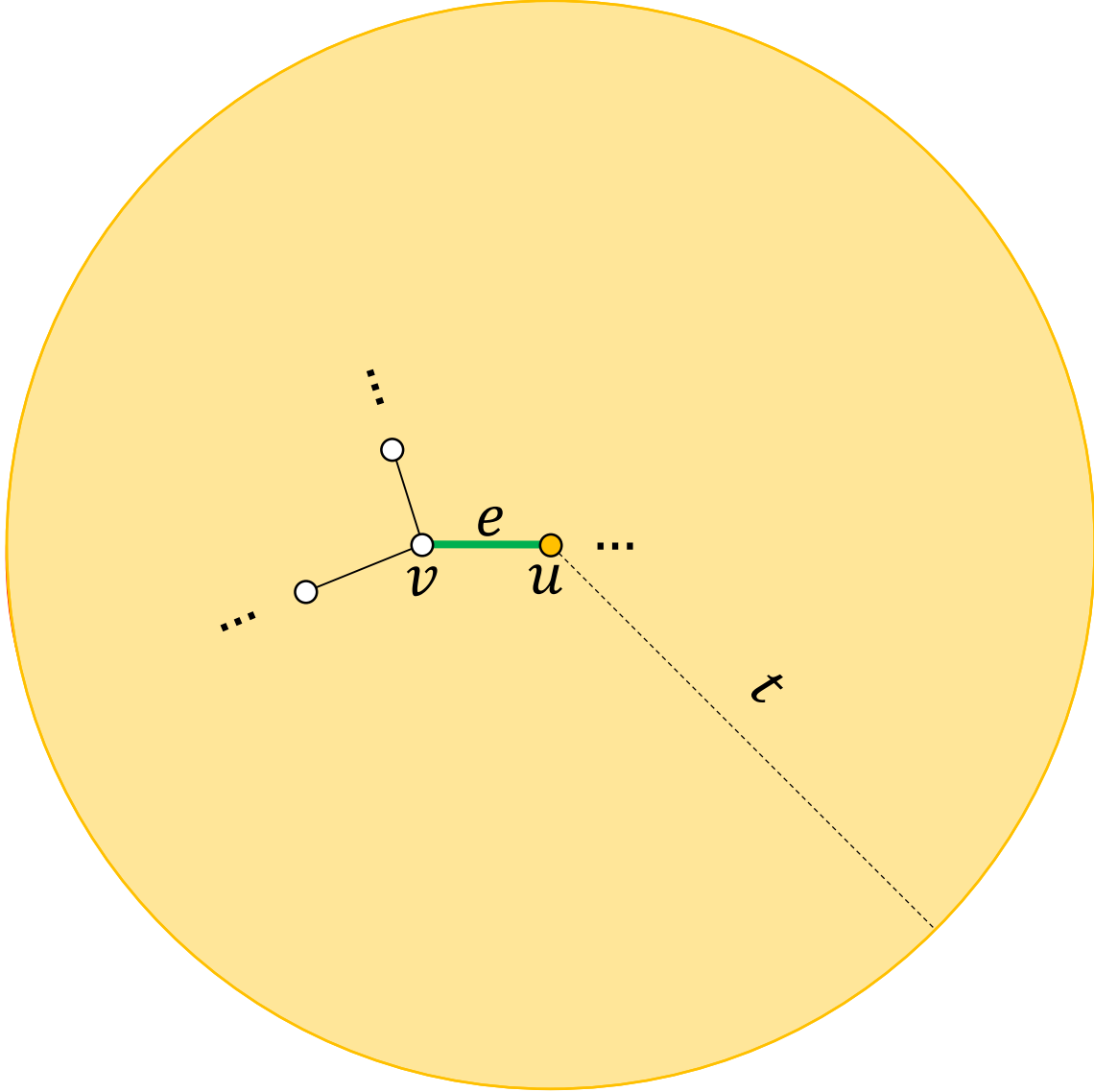


SO is an LLL problem!

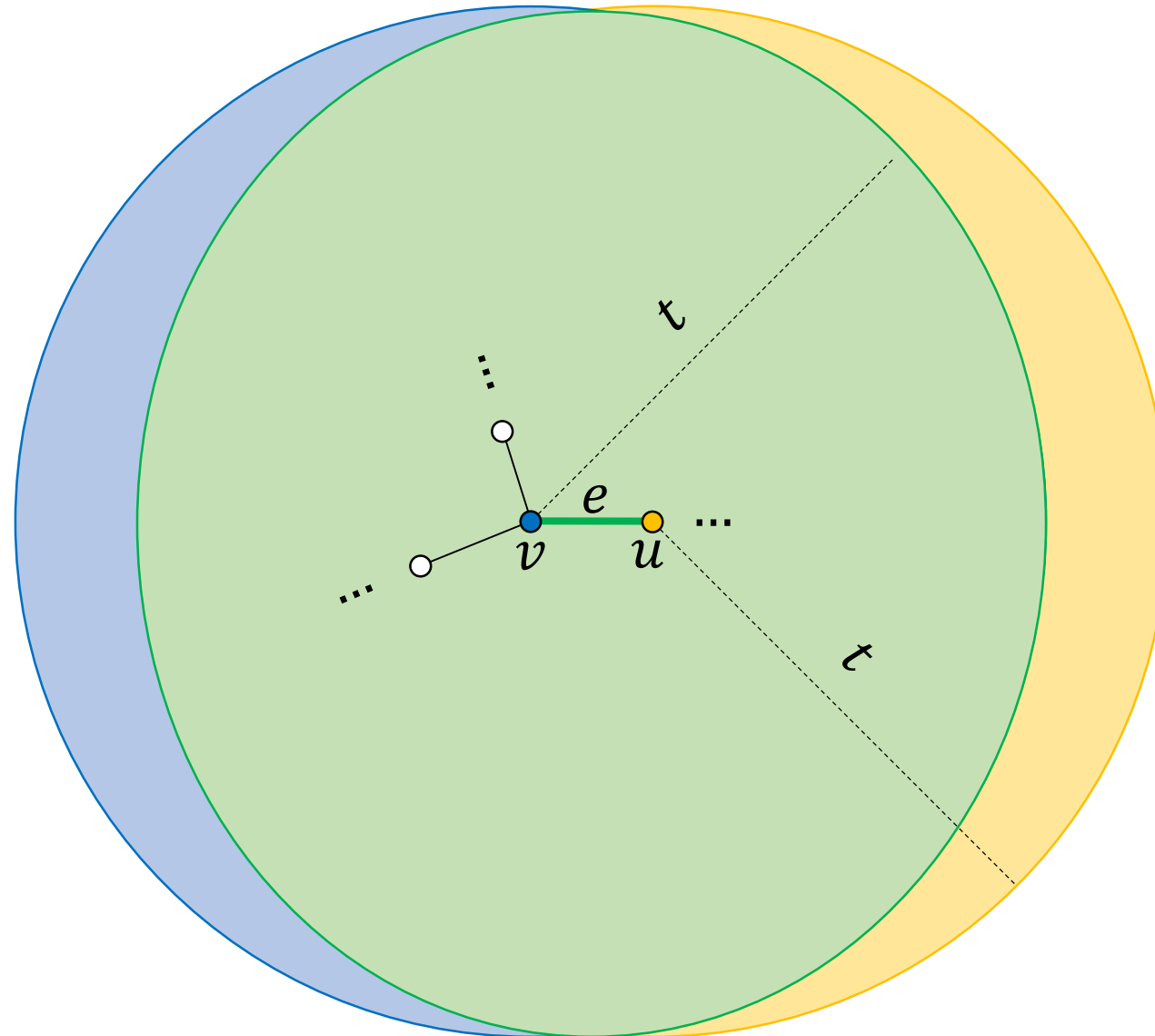
Some Intuition



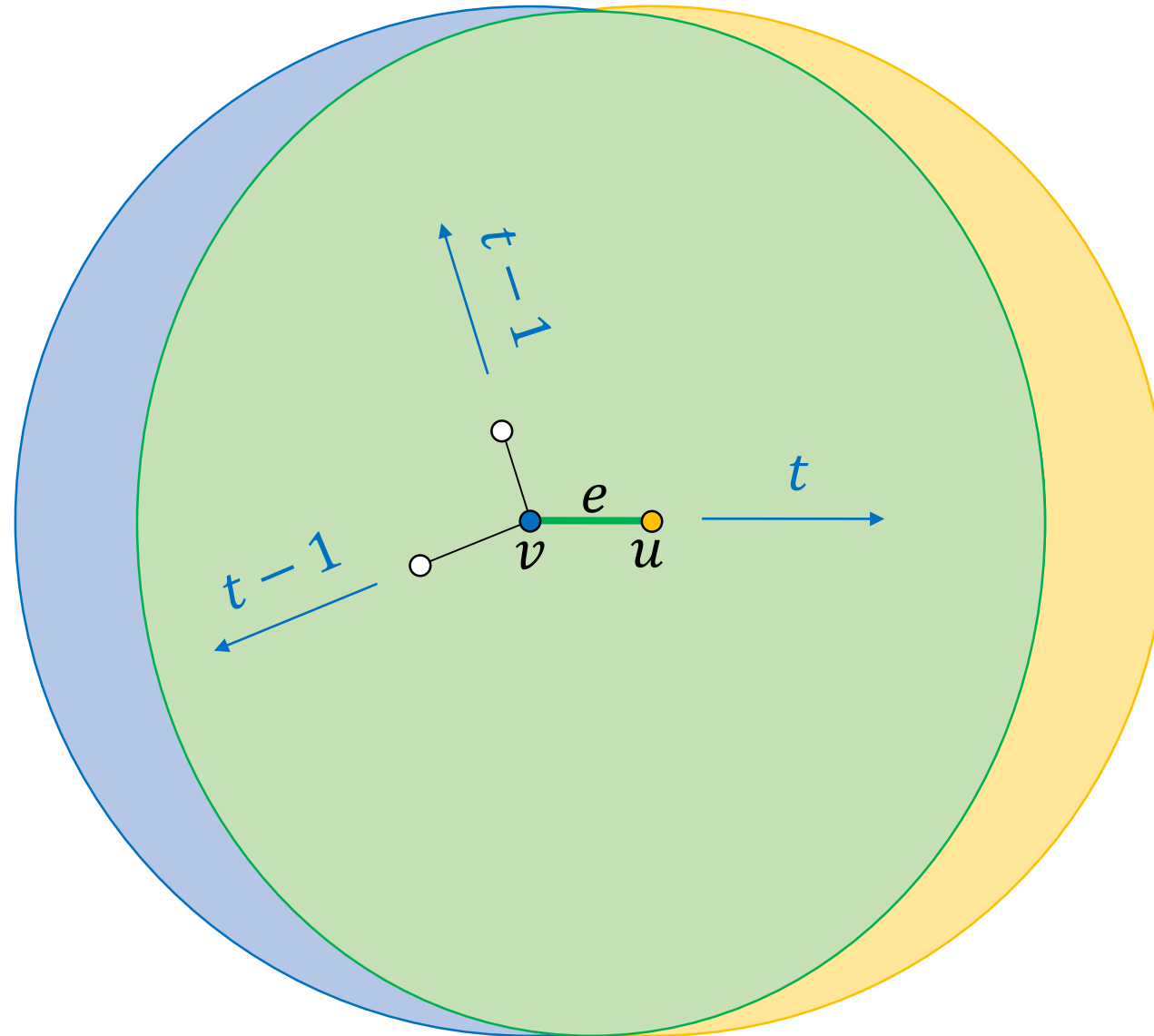
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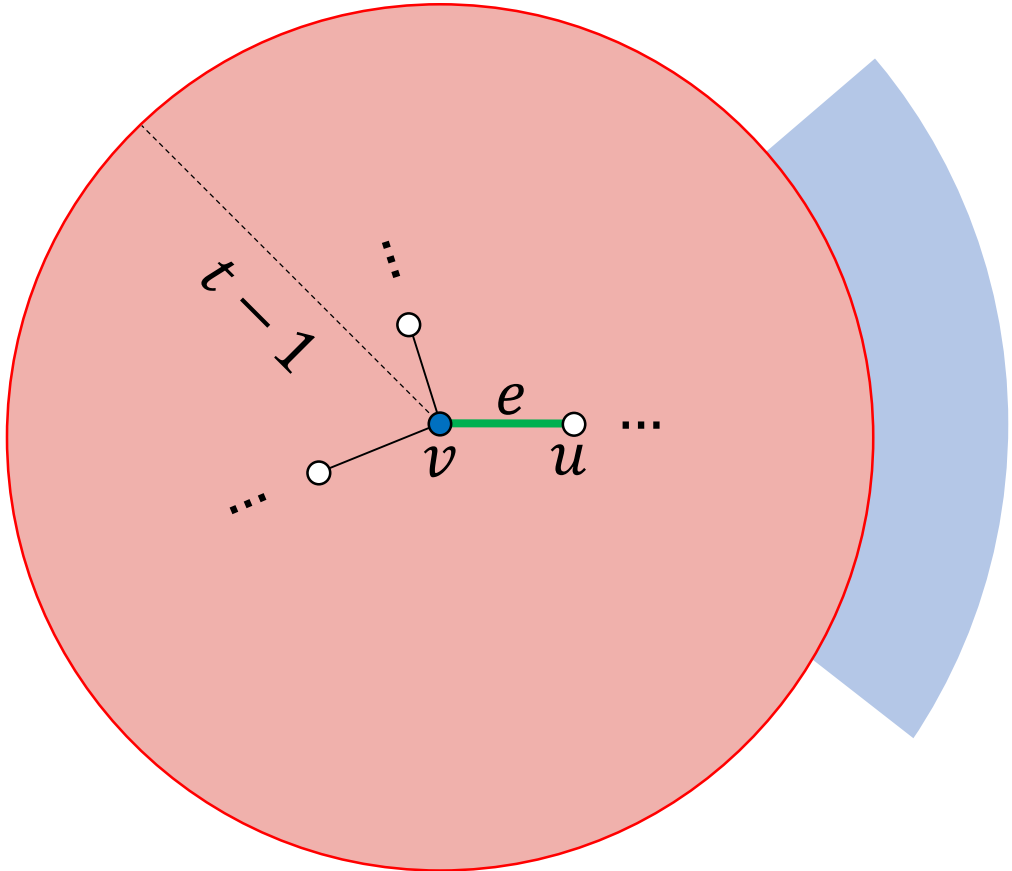
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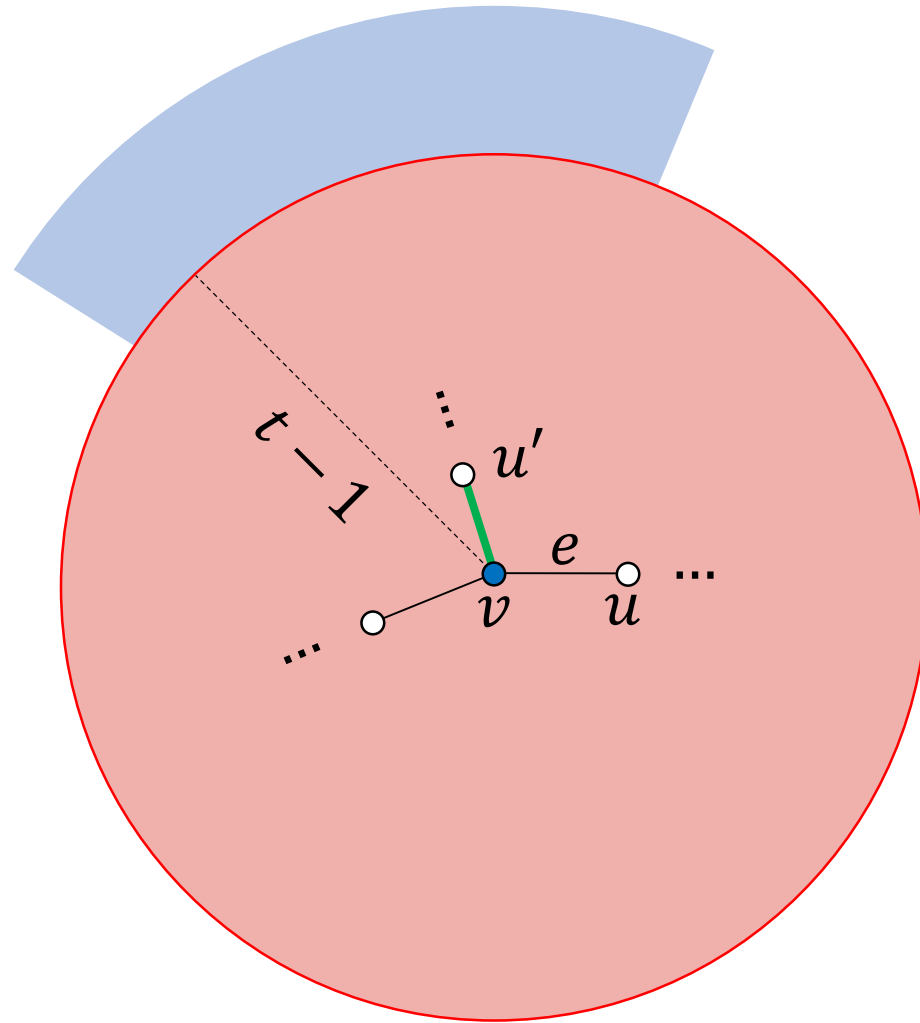
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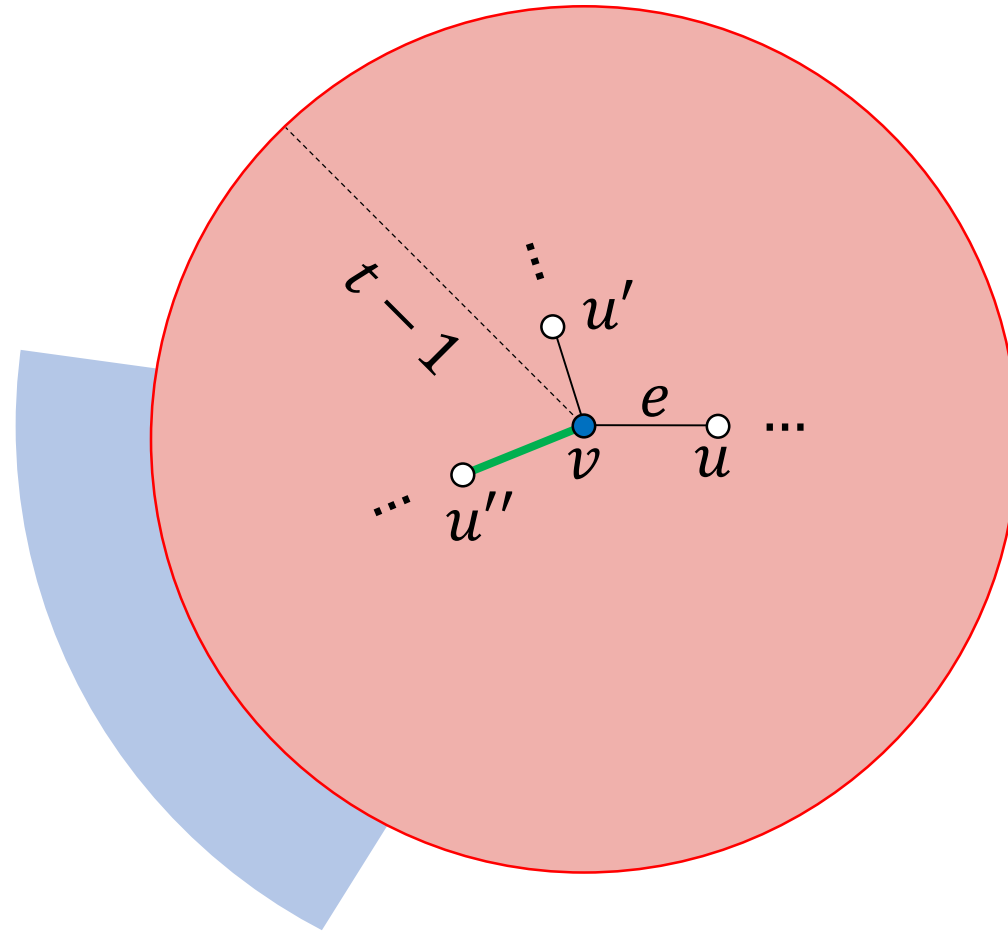
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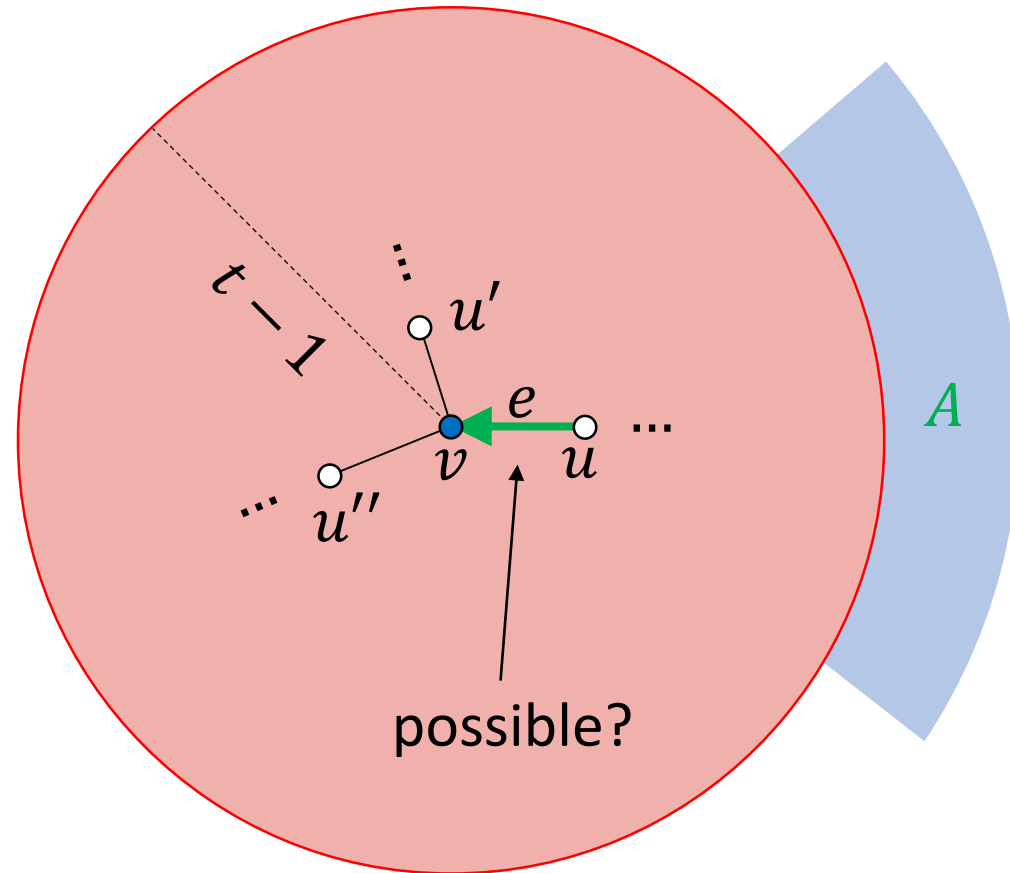
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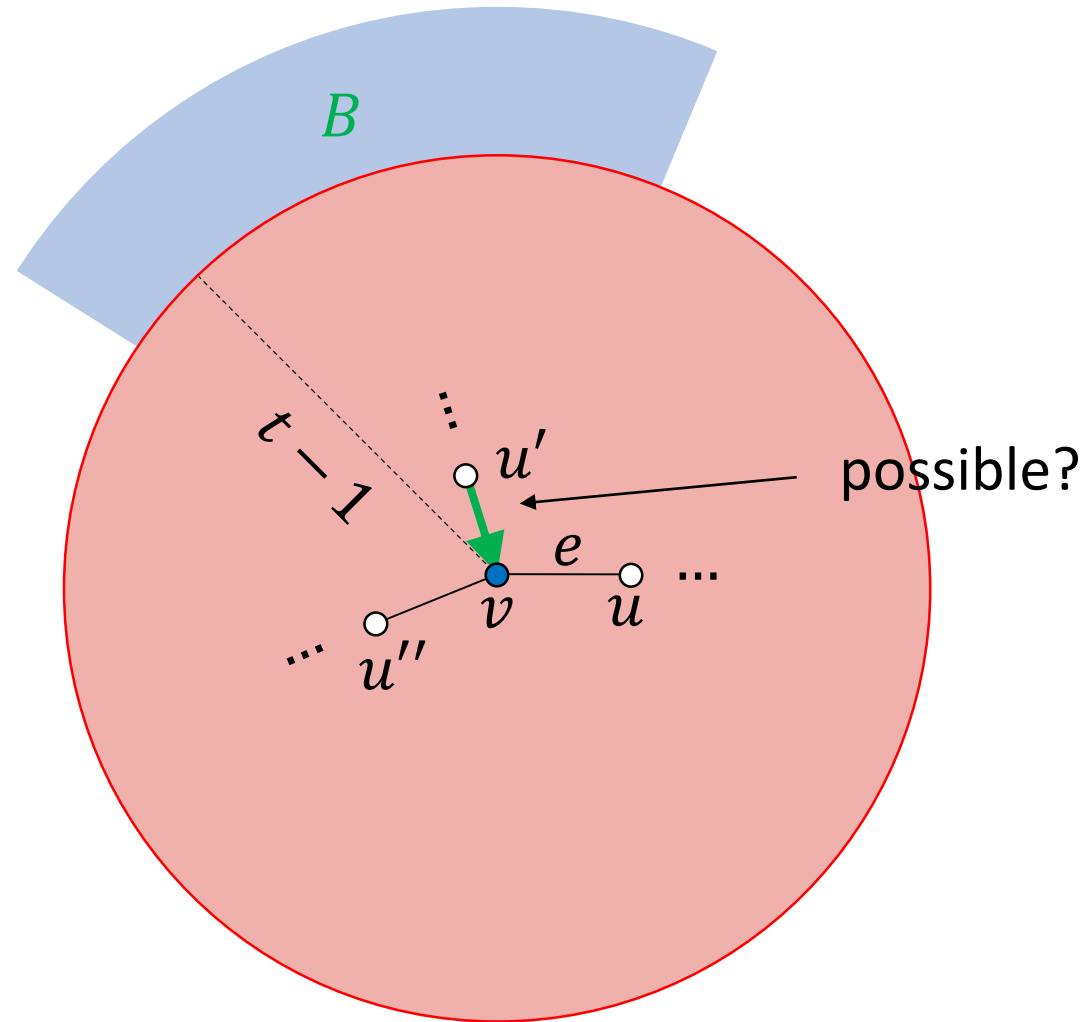
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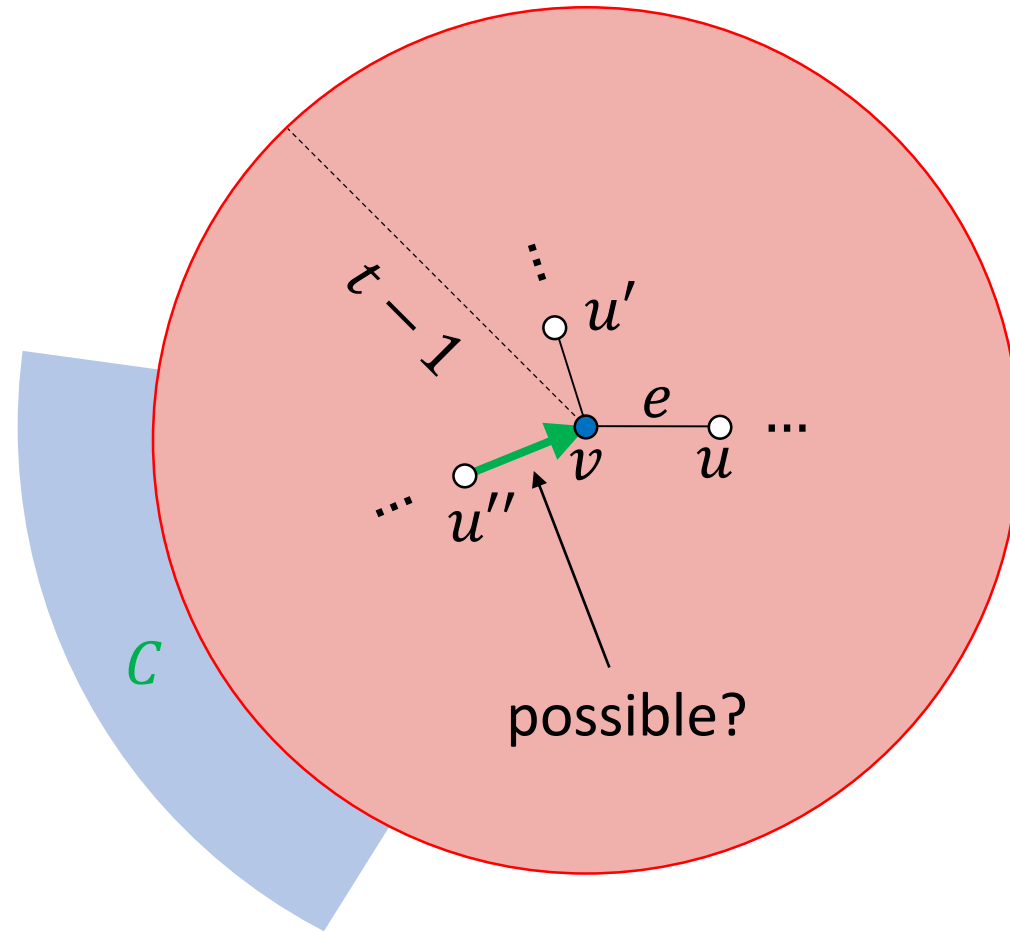
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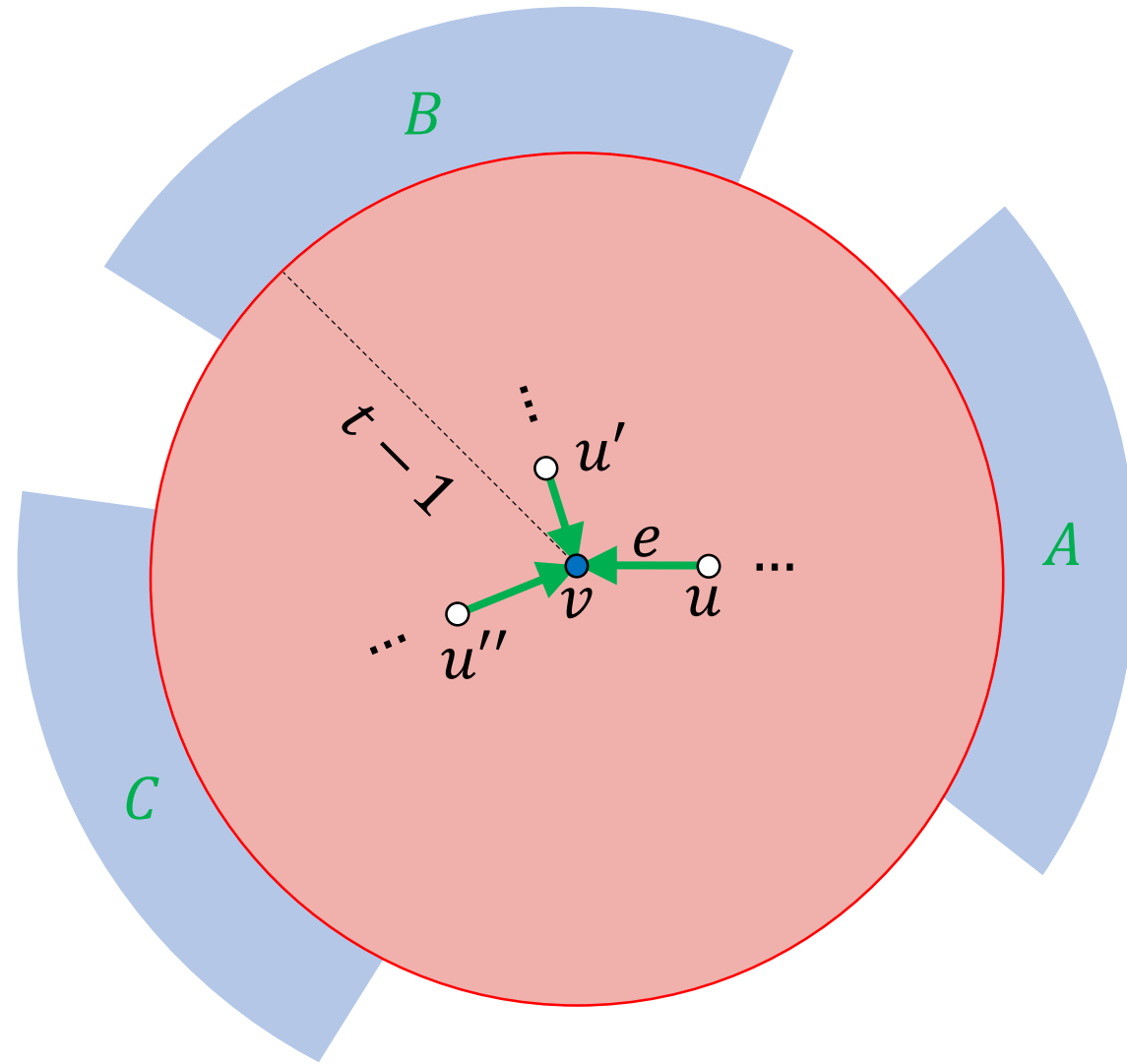
Some Intuition



Some Intuition

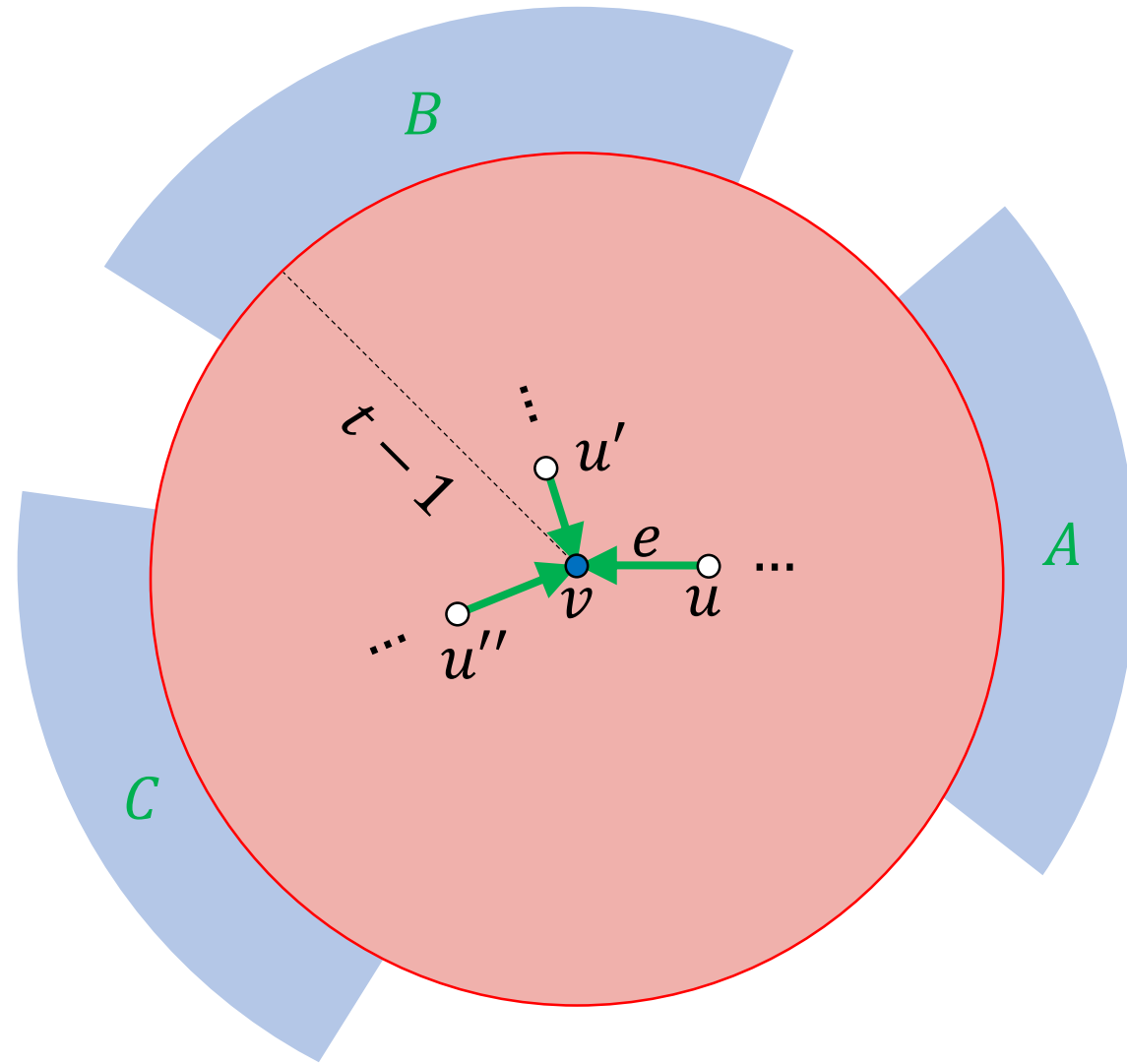


Some Intuition



Contradiction!

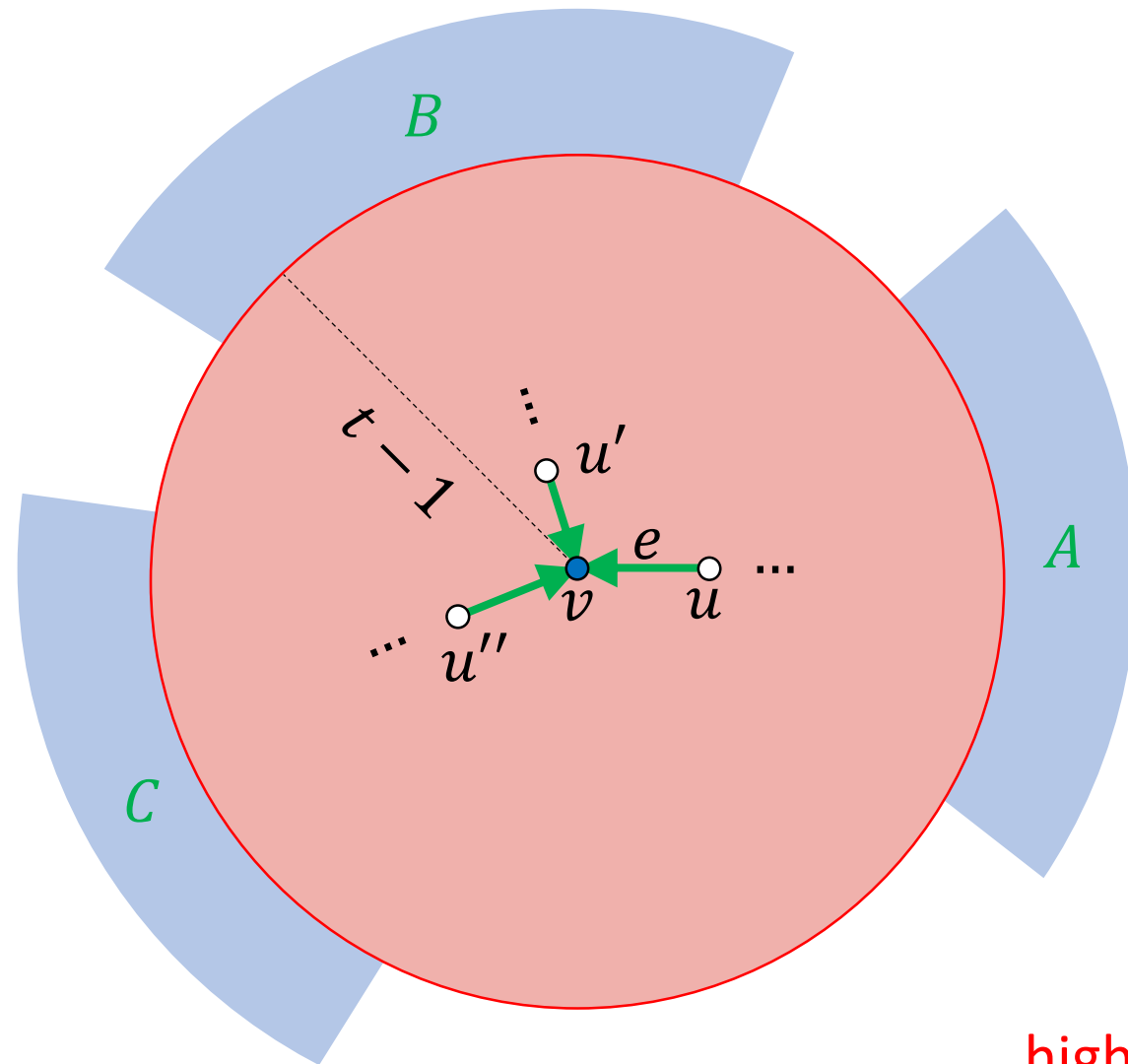
Some Intuition



Contradiction!

(if the extensions
are independent!)

Some Intuition



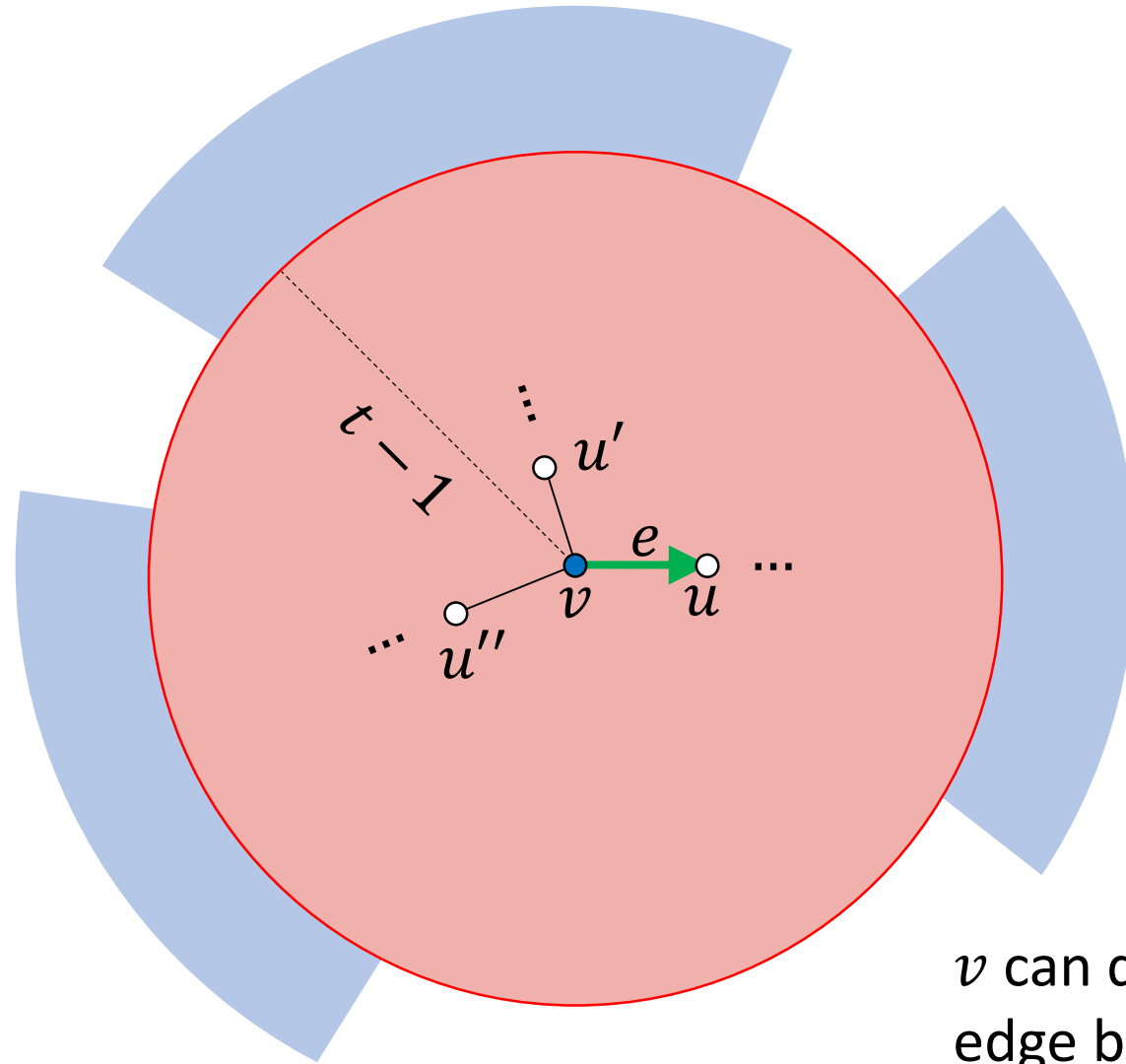
Contradiction!

(if the extensions are independent!)

high girth

no unique IDs

Some Intuition



v can determine one outgoing edge by just looking at its $(t - 1)$ -hop neighborhood

Round Elimination for SO

t -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation

Round Elimination for SO

t -round algorithm
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$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



...



0-round algorithm for
sinkless orientation

Round Elimination for SO

t -round algorithm
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0-round algorithm for
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Does not exist!

Round Elimination for SO

t -round algorithm
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Does not exist!



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
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0-round algorithm for
sinkless orientation

Does not exist!

Round Elimination for SO

t -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation

$t \in \Theta(\log n)$

Does not exist!



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



...



0-round algorithm for
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Does not exist!

Round Elimination for SO

t -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation

What about
other problems?

Round Elimination for Coloring Rings

t -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation

What about
other problems?

t -round algorithm
for k -coloring rings



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for 2^k -coloring rings

[Linial, FOCS'87]

Other Problems?

t -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation

What about
other problems?

t -round algorithm
for k -coloring rings



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for 2^k -coloring rings

Even-Degree Weak 2-Coloring

[Balliu, Hirvonen, Olivetti,
Suomela, PODC'19]

Round Elimination for SO

t -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
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Automatic Round Elimination

t -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for sinkless orientation

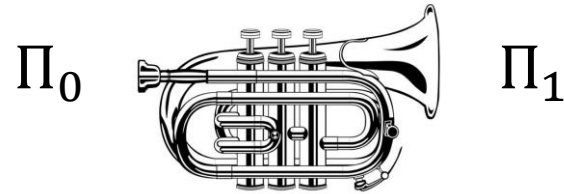
Let Π_0 be **any** locally checkable problem.
Then we can **automatically** find a locally
checkable problem Π_1 such that

t -round algorithm
for Π_0



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for Π_1

Automatic Round Elimination



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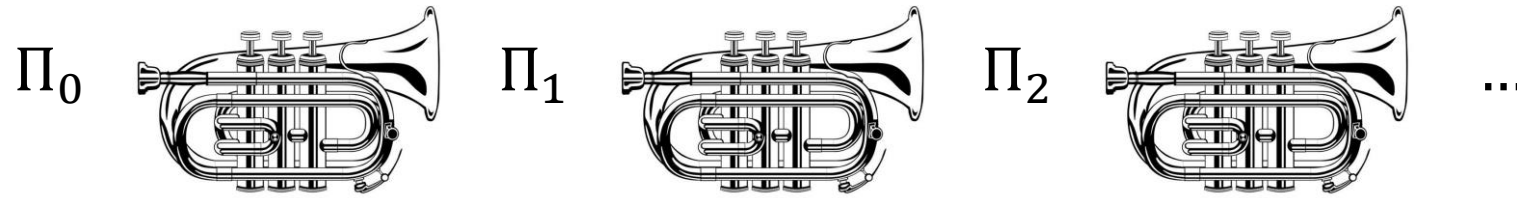
t -round algorithm
for Π_0



$(t - 1)$ -round algorithm
for Π_1

Problem	Π_0	Π_1
Complexity	$T(n, \Delta)$	$T(n, \Delta) - 1$

Automatic Round Elimination



Problem	Π_0	Π_1	Π_2	...
Complexity	$T(n, \Delta)$	$T(n, \Delta) - 1$	$T(n, \Delta) - 2$...

Obtaining Complexities

Find the first problem in the sequence that can be solved in 0 rounds ...

Problem	Π_0	Π_1	Π_2	...	Π_k
Complexity	$T(n, \Delta)$	$T(n, \Delta) - 1$	$T(n, \Delta) - 2$...	0

Obtaining Complexities

Find the first problem in the sequence that can be solved in 0 rounds ...

Problem	Π_0	Π_1	Π_2	...	Π_k
Complexity	$T(n, \Delta)$	$T(n, \Delta) - 1$	$T(n, \Delta) - 2$...	0

Π_0 has complexity k .

Where's the catch?

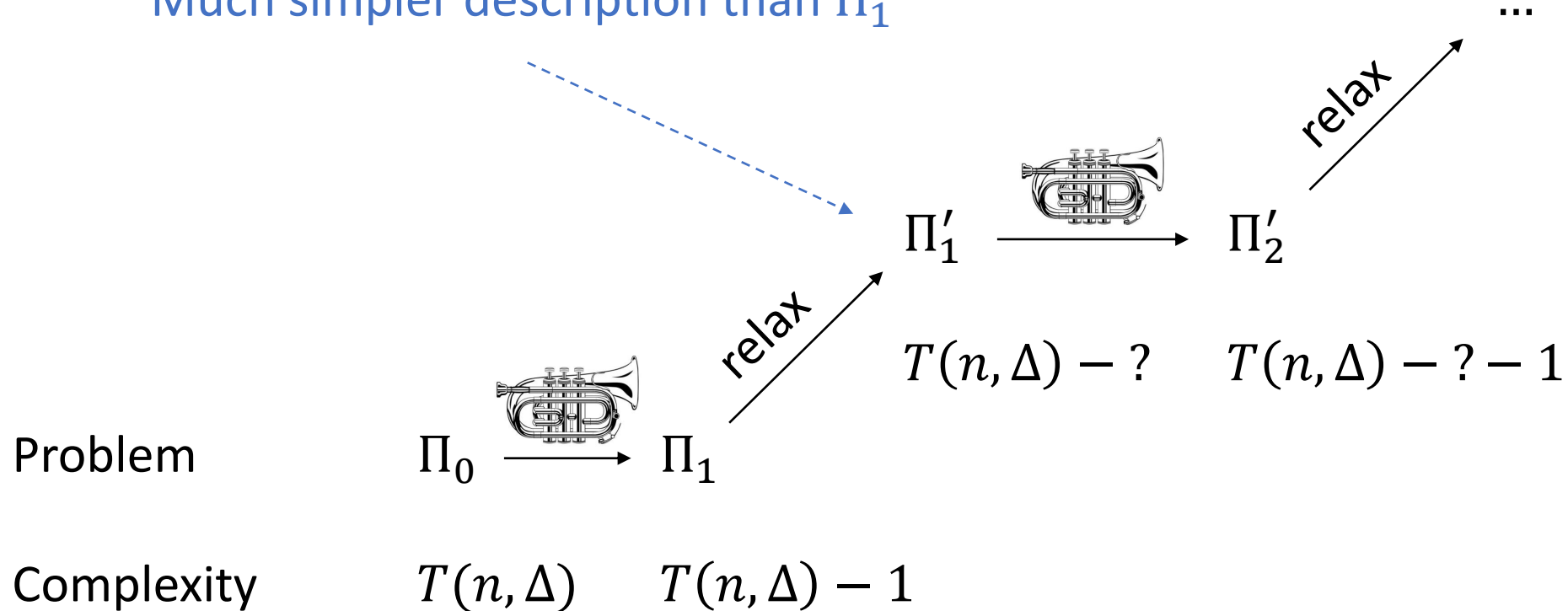
Increasingly complex problem descriptions!

Problem	Π_0	Π_1	Π_2	...	Π_k
Complexity	$T(n, \Delta)$	$T(n, \Delta) - 1$	$T(n, \Delta) - 2$...	0

Π_0 has complexity k .

Simplifying the Problems

Much simpler description than Π_1

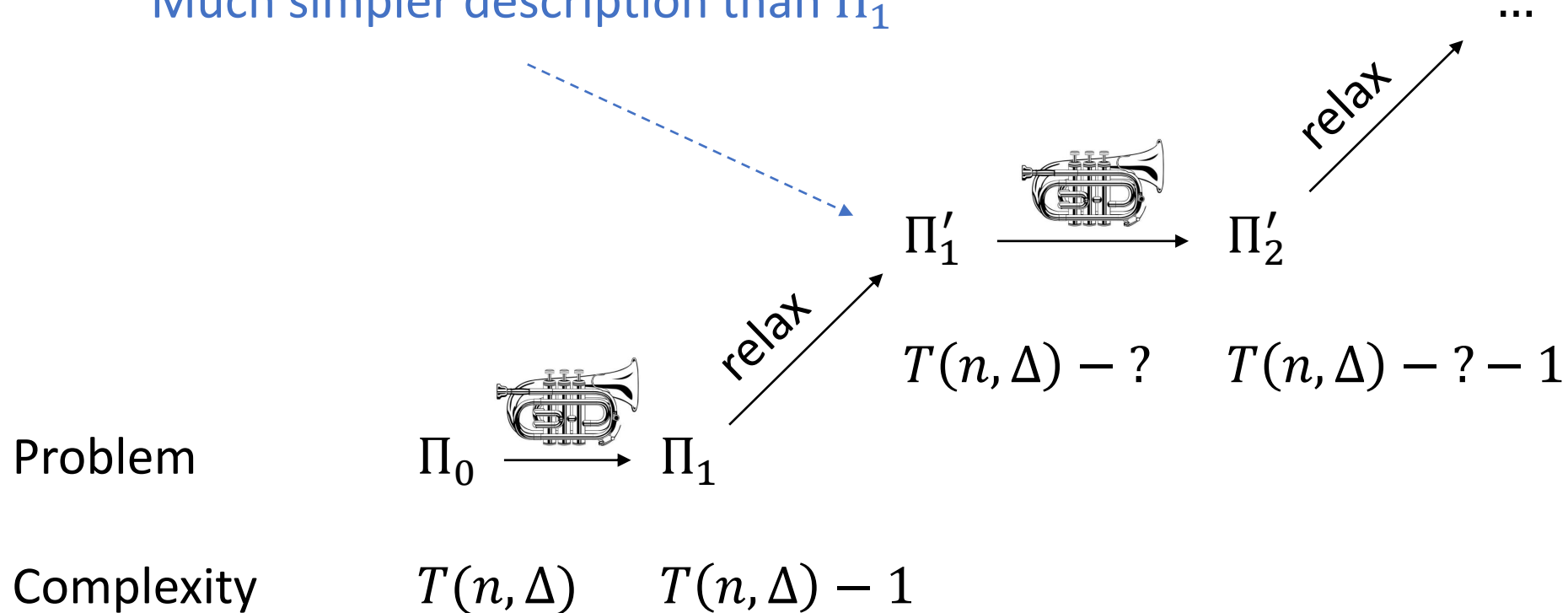


Lower Bounds

Π_k^*

0

Much simpler description than Π_1



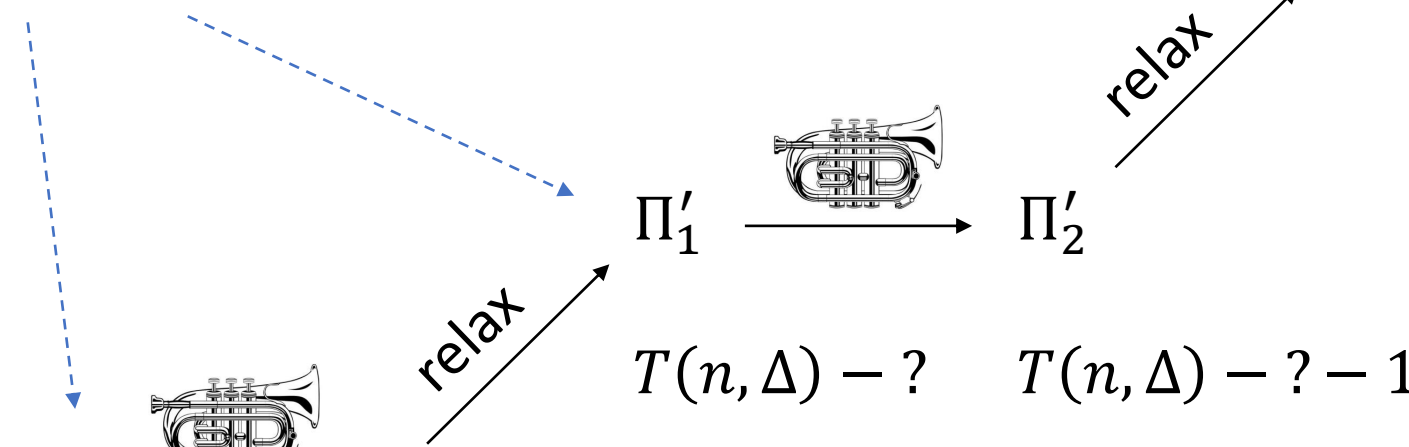
Π_0 has complexity at least k .

Lower Bounds

Π_k^*

0

Ideally: very similar problems



$T(n, \Delta) - ?$ $T(n, \Delta) - ? - 1$

Problem

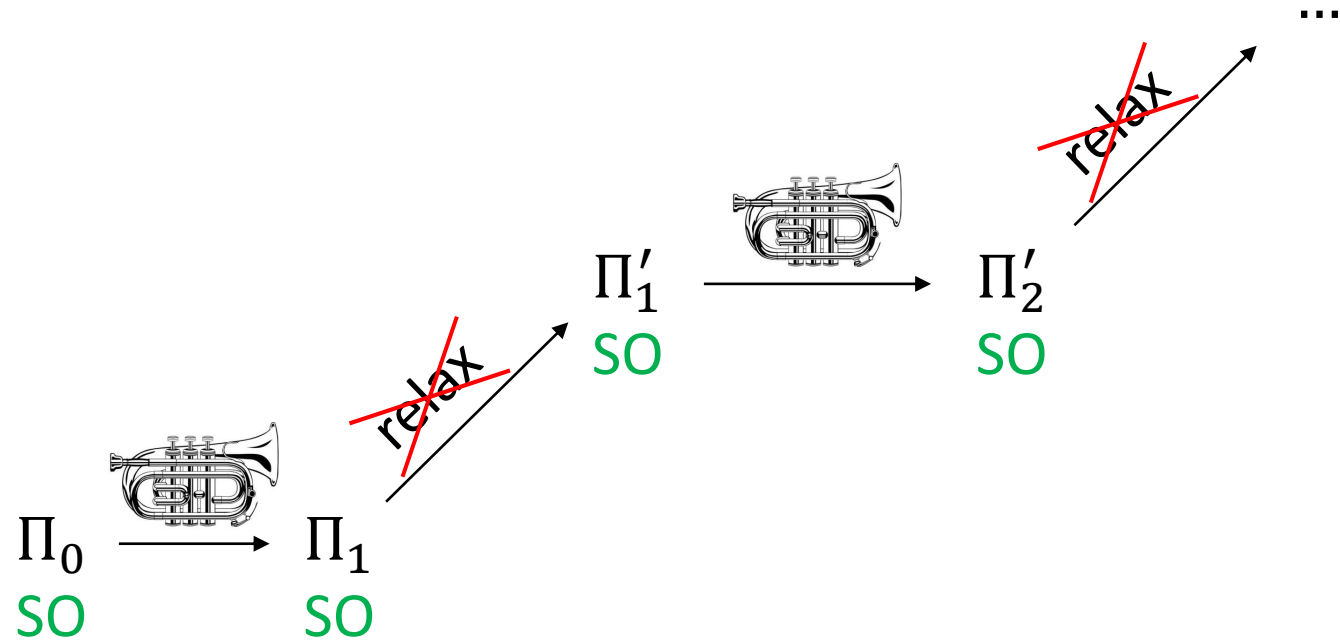
Π_0 Π_1

Complexity

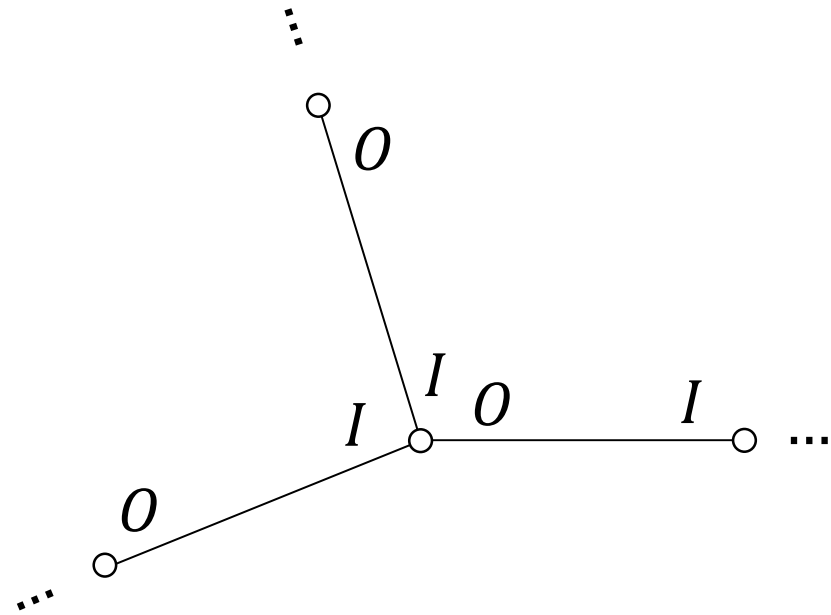
$T(n, \Delta)$ $T(n, \Delta) - 1$

Π_0 has complexity at least k .

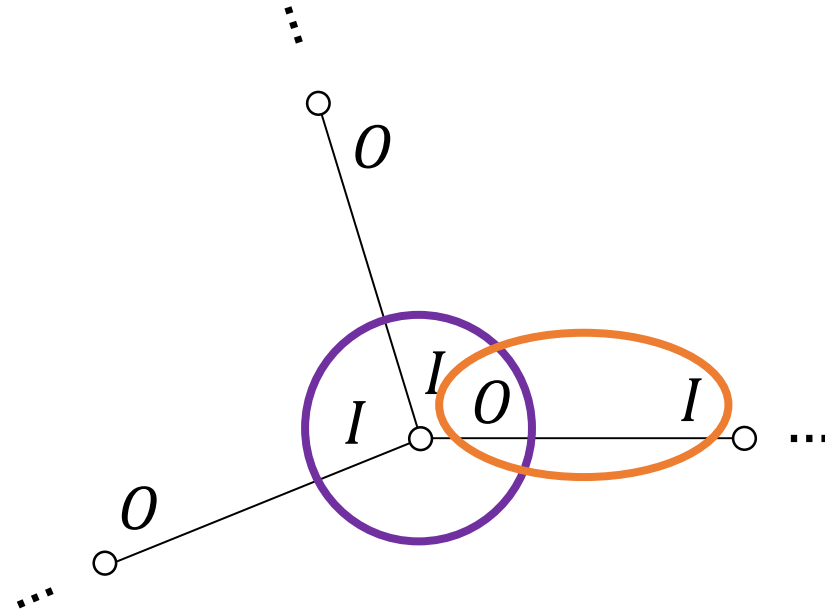
Sinkless Orientation



Under the Hood



Under the Hood



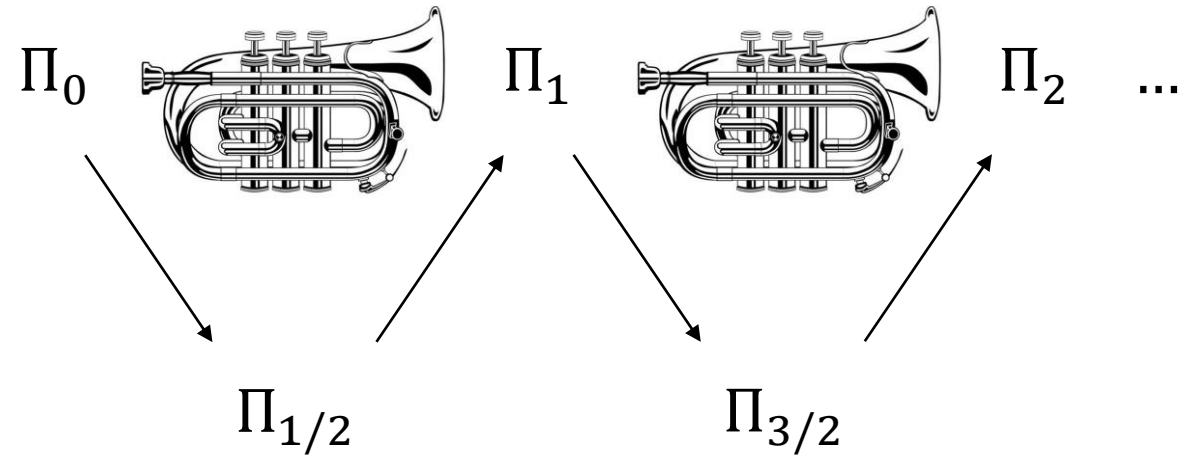
Node Configurations:

{ 0 0 0 ,
0 0 I ,
0 I I }

Edge Configurations:

{ 0 I }

Under the Hood



Under the Hood

Output Labels

Node Configurations

Edge Configurations

Π_0

Y, N

$Y \ N \ N$

$Y \ N,$
 $N \ N$

Under the Hood

Output Labels

Node Configurations

Edge Configurations

Π_0

Y, N

$Y \ N \ N$

$Y \ N,$
 $N \ N$

all sets
↓

$\Pi_{1/2}$

$\{Y\}, \{N\}, \{Y, N\}$

Under the Hood

Output Labels

Node Configurations

Edge Configurations

Π_0

Y, N

$Y \ N \ N$

$Y \ N,$
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all sets
↓

\forall
↓

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$\{Y, N\} \ \{N\},$
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Under the Hood

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Under the Hood

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Node Configurations

Edge Configurations

Π_0

Y, N

$Y \ N \ N$

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 $N \ N$

all sets
↓

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$\Pi_{1/2}$

$\{Y\}, \{N\}, \{Y, N\}$

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$\{Y, N\} \ \{N\},$
 ~~$\{Y\} \ \{N\},$~~
 ~~$\{N\} \ \{N\}$~~

Maximality

Under the Hood

Output Labels

Node Configurations

Edge Configurations

Π_0

Y, N

$Y \ N \ N$

$Y \ N,$
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all sets
↓

\exists
↓

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$\Pi_{1/2}$

~~$\{Y\}, \{N\}, \{Y, N\}$~~

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Under the Hood

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all sets
↓

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$\{N\}, \{Y, N\}$

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$\{Y, N\} \ \{N\}$

Under the Hood

Output Labels

Node Configurations

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Π_0

Y, N

$Y \ N \ N$

$Y \ N,$
 $N \ N$

all sets \downarrow

$\exists \downarrow$

$\forall \downarrow$

$\Pi_{1/2}$

I, O

$O \ O \ O,$
 $O \ O \ I,$
 $O \ I \ I$

$O \ I$

Under the Hood

Output Labels

Node Configurations

Edge Configurations

Π_0

Y, N

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all sets
↓

\exists
↓

\forall
↓

$\Pi_{1/2}$

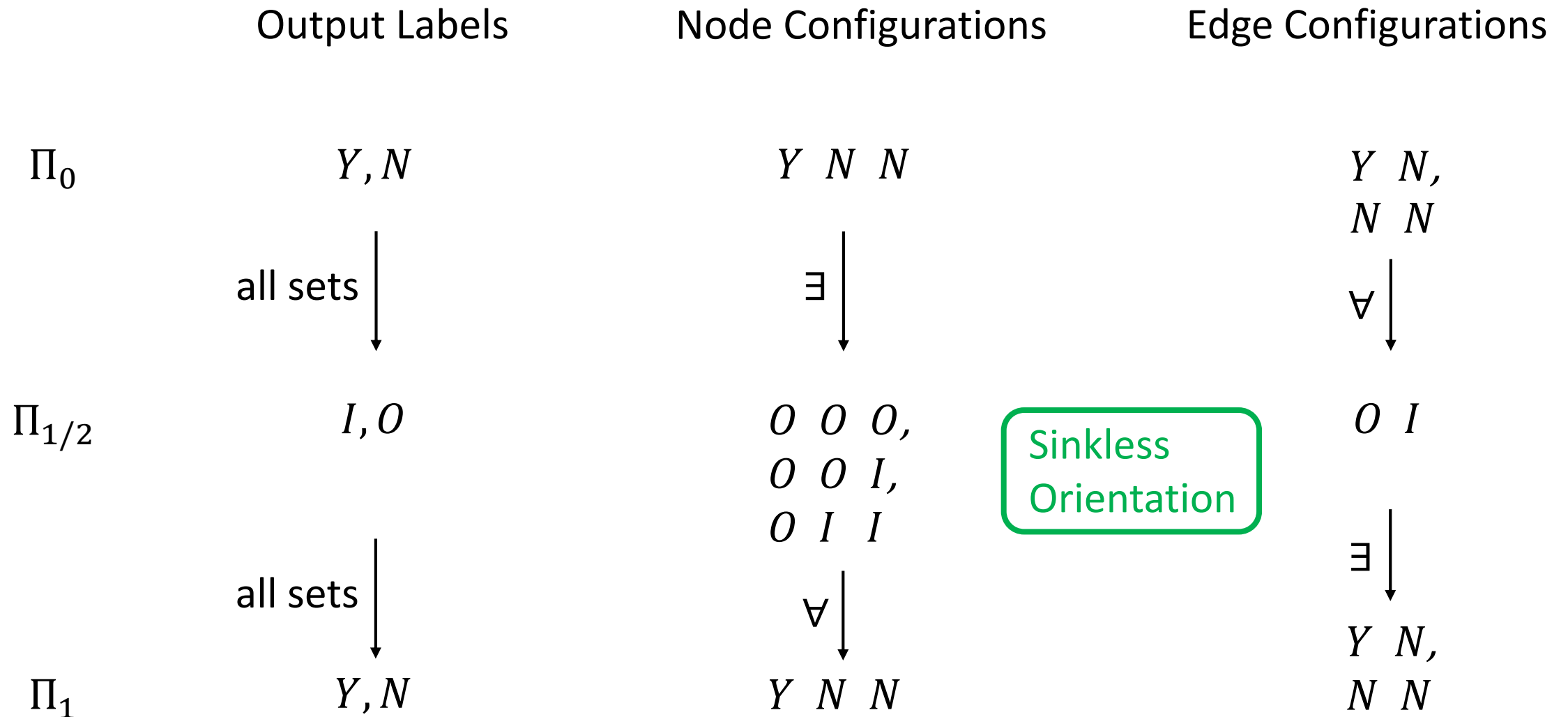
I, O

$O \ O \ O,$
 $O \ O \ I,$
 $O \ I \ I$

Sinkless
Orientation

$O \ I$

Under the Hood



Maximal Matching

There is no **randomized** MM algorithm with complexity

$$o(\Delta) + o\left(\frac{\log \log n}{\log \log \log n}\right).$$

There is no **deterministic** MM algorithm with complexity

$$o(\Delta) + o\left(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}\right).$$

Maximal Matching

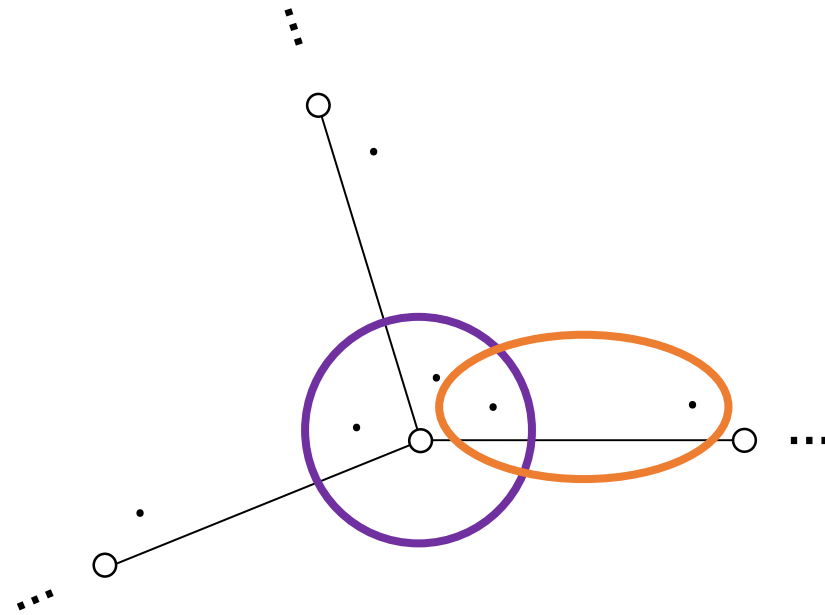
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Bipartite Round Elimination



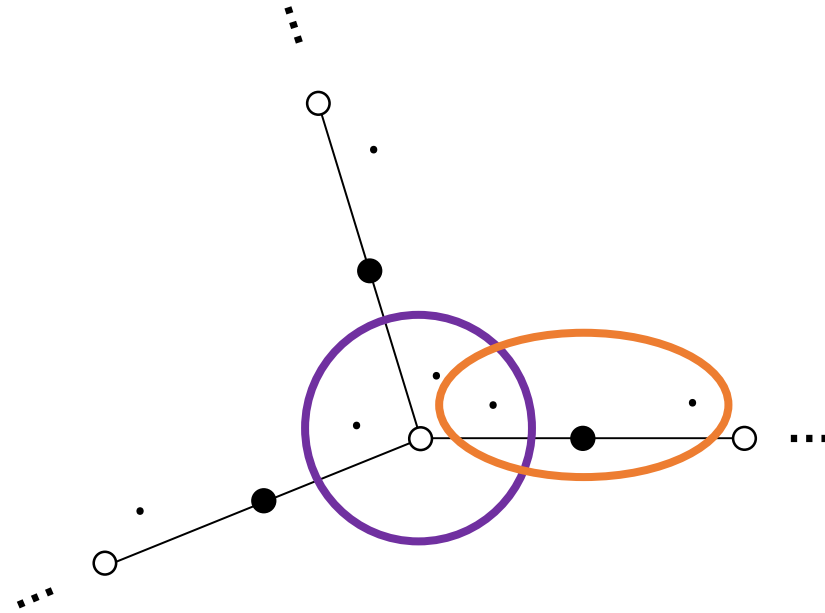
Node Configurations:

{ ... }

Edge Configurations:

{ ... }

Bipartite Round Elimination



White Configurations:

{ ... }

Black Configurations:

{ ... }

Maximal Matching

White Configurations:

$$\{ M, O, \dots, O, \\ P, P, \dots, P \}$$

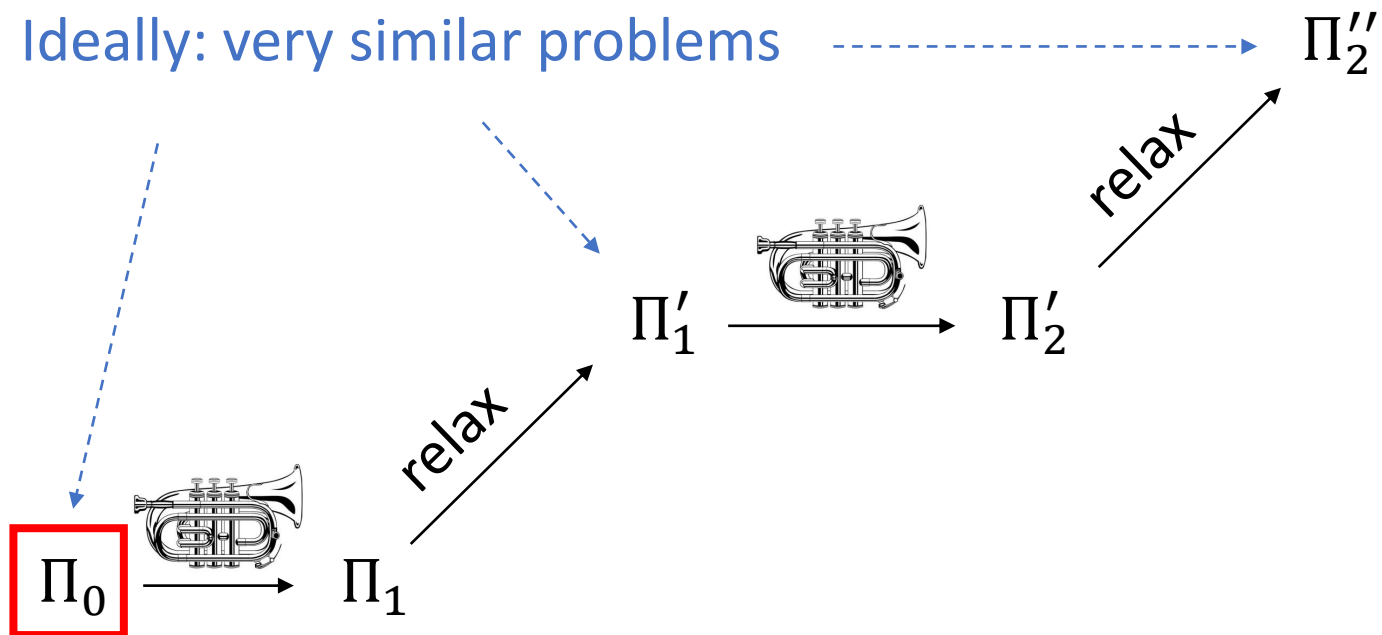
Black Configurations:

$$\{ M, \overset{P}{O}, \dots, \overset{P}{O}, \\ O, O, \dots, O \}$$

Maximal Matching

White Configurations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, O, \dots, O \\ P, P, \dots, P \end{array} \right\}$$



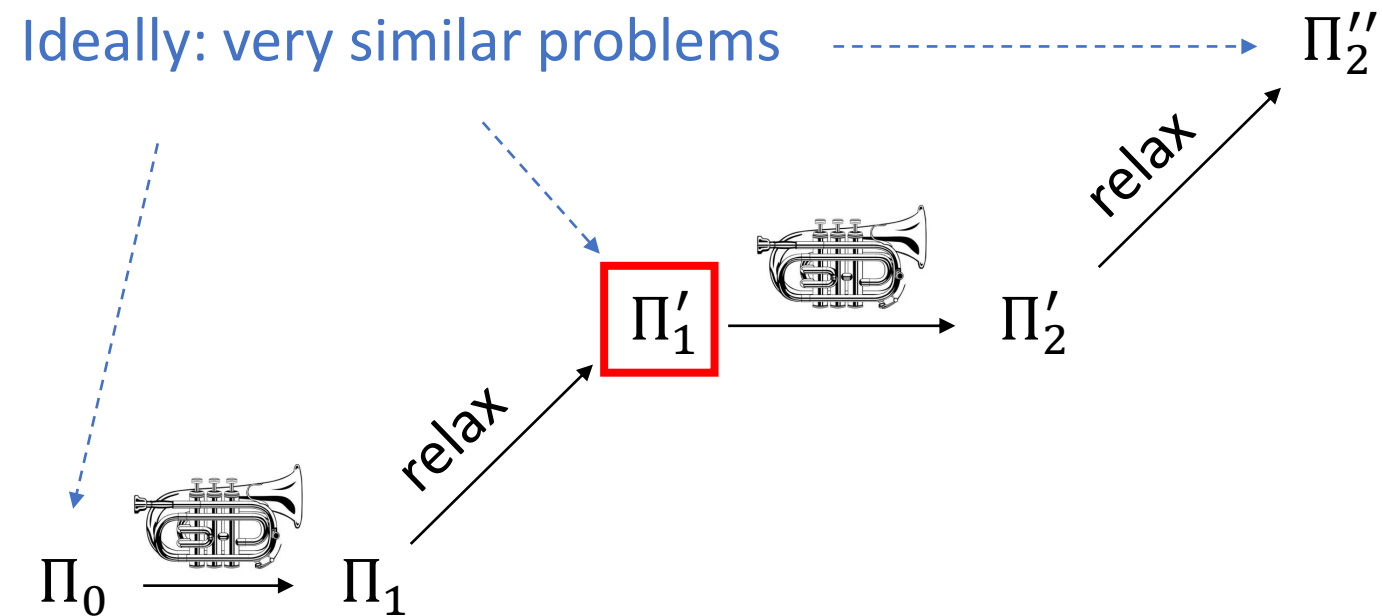
Black Configurations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, P, \dots, P \\ O, O, \dots, O \end{array} \right\}$$

Maximal Matching

White Configurations:

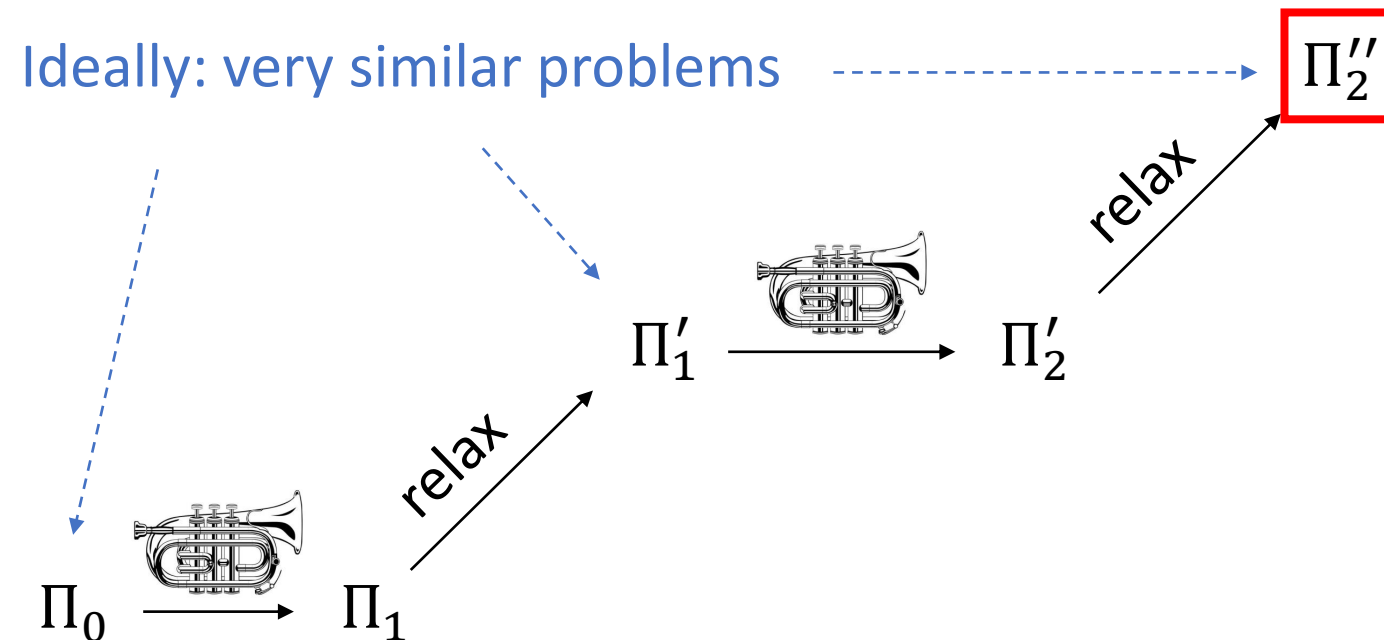
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, O, \dots, O, X, \\ P, P, \dots, P, X \end{array} \right\}$$



Black Configurations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, O^P, \dots, O^P, X, \\ O, O, \dots, O, X, \\ \dots \end{array} \right\}$$

Maximal Matching



White Configurations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, \\ P, P, \dots, P, X, X, Y \end{array} \right\}$$

Black Configurations:

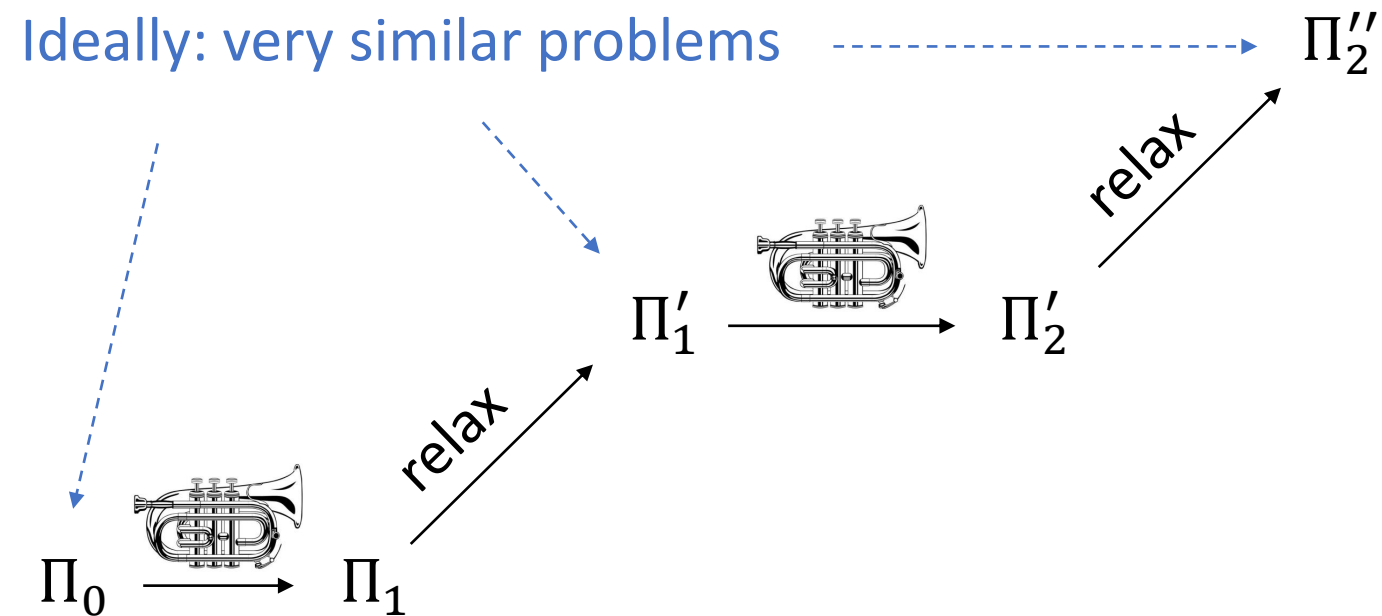
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, O^P, \dots, O^P, X, X, Y, \\ O, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, \\ \dots \end{array} \right\}$$

Maximal Matching

Π_3'''

White Configurations:

{ $M, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y,$
 $P, P, \dots, P, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y$ }



Black Configurations:

{ $M, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y,$
 $O, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y,$
 ... }

Maximal Matching

Π_3'''

In each step:

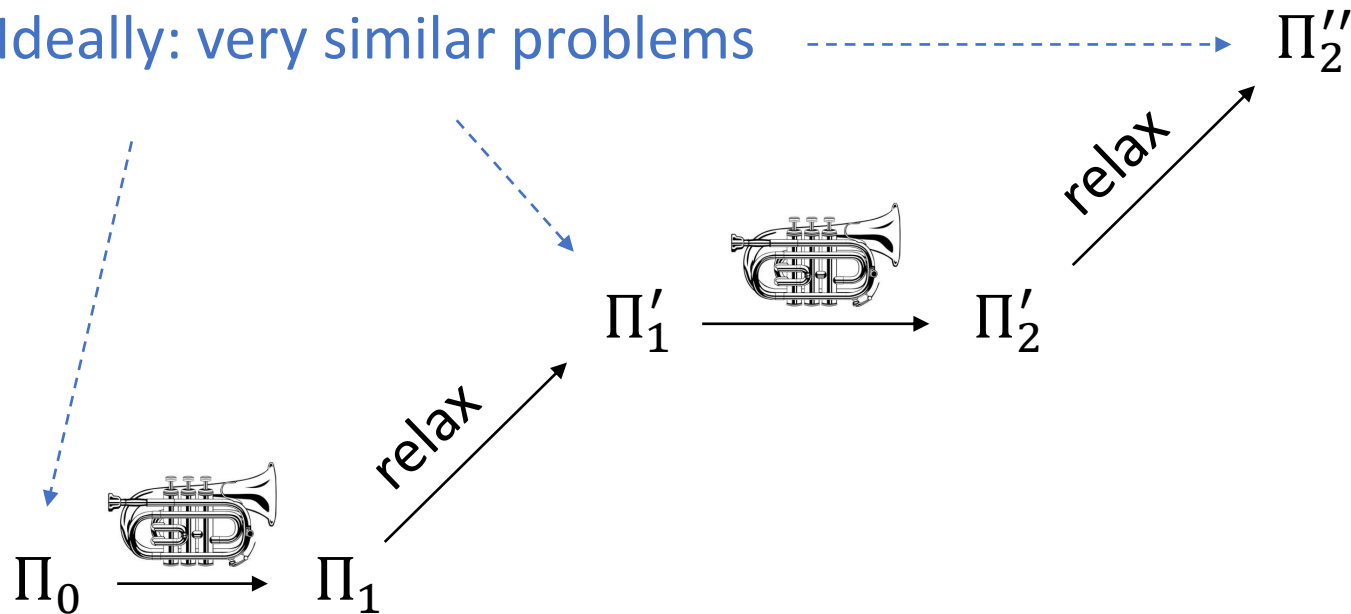
$$\#X_{\text{new}} = \#X_{\text{old}} + 1$$

$$\#Y_{\text{new}} = \#Y_{\text{old}} + \#X_{\text{old}}$$

White Configurations:

{ $M, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y,$
 $P, P, \dots, P, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y$ }

Ideally: very similar problems



Black Configurations:

{ $M, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y,$
 $O, O, \dots, O, X, X, Y, X, Y, Y,$
 ... }

Maximal Matching

In each step:

$$\#X_{\text{new}} = \#X_{\text{old}} + 1$$

$$\#Y_{\text{new}} = \#Y_{\text{old}} + \#X_{\text{old}}$$

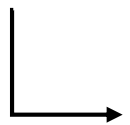
White Configurations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, O, \dots, O, \\ P, P, \dots, P \end{array} \right\}$$

Black Configurations:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M, \overset{P}{O}, \dots, \overset{P}{O}, \\ O, O, \dots, O \end{array} \right\}$$

If $\#X + \#Y < \frac{\Delta}{2}$, then there exists no 0-round algorithm for the problem.



No $o(\sqrt{\Delta})$ -round algorithm for $\Pi_0 = \text{Maximal Matching}$.

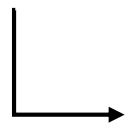
Maximal Matching

In each step:

$$\#X_{\text{new}} = \#X_{\text{old}} + 1$$

$$\#Y_{\text{new}} = \#Y_{\text{old}} + \#X_{\text{old}}$$

If $\#X + \#Y < \frac{\Delta}{2}$, then there exists no 0-round algorithm for the problem.



No $o(\sqrt{\Delta})$ -round algorithm for $\Pi_0 = \text{Maximal Matching}$.

White Configurations:

$\{ M, O, \dots, O, X, \dots, X, \}$

$\{ P, P, \dots, P, \underbrace{X, \dots, X}_{\sqrt{\Delta}} \}$

New Π_0

Black Configurations:

$\{ M, \overset{P}{O}, \dots, \overset{P}{O}, X, \dots, X, \}$

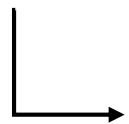
$\{ O, O, \dots, O, X, \dots, X \}$

Maximal Matching

In each step:

$$\#X_{\text{new}} = \#X_{\text{old}} + 1$$
$$\#Y_{\text{new}} = \#Y_{\text{old}} + \#X_{\text{old}}$$

If $\#X + \#Y < \frac{\Delta}{2}$, then there exists no 0-round algorithm for the problem.



No $o(\sqrt{\Delta})$ -round algorithm for $\Pi_0 = \text{Maximal } \sqrt{\Delta}\text{-Matching}$.

White Configurations:

$\{ M, O, \dots, O, X, \dots, X, \}$

$\{ P, P, \dots, P, \underbrace{X, \dots, X}_{\sqrt{\Delta}} \}$

New Π_0

Black Configurations:

$\{ M, O^P, \dots, O^P, X, \dots, X, \}$

$\{ O, O, \dots, O, X, \dots, X \}$

Maximal Matching

Maximal $\sqrt{\Delta}$ -Matching = Maximal Matching, where each node can be matched to up to $\sqrt{\Delta}$ neighbors.

Maximal Matching

Maximal $\sqrt{\Delta}$ -Matching = Maximal Matching, where each node can be matched to up to $\sqrt{\Delta}$ neighbors.

$o(\Delta)$ -round algorithm for maximal matching



$o(\sqrt{\Delta})$ -round algorithm for maximal $\sqrt{\Delta}$ -matching

Maximal Matching

Maximal $\sqrt{\Delta}$ -Matching = Maximal Matching, where each node can be matched to up to $\sqrt{\Delta}$ neighbors.

no $o(\Delta)$ -round algorithm for maximal matching



no $o(\sqrt{\Delta})$ -round algorithm for maximal $\sqrt{\Delta}$ -matching

Maximal Matching

no $o(\Delta)$ -round algorithm for maximal matching



explicitly incorporating
error probabilities

no **randomized** $o(\Delta) + o\left(\frac{\log \log n}{\log \log \log n}\right)$ -round
algorithm for maximal matching



different techniques

no **deterministic** $o(\Delta) + o\left(\frac{\log n}{\log \log n}\right)$ -round
algorithm for maximal matching

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

on high-girth graphs

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

on high-girth graphs

crucial ingredient!

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

on high-girth graphs

general randomized
round elimination?

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

on high-girth graphs

round elimination for
other "local" models?

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

on high-girth graphs

general guarantees?

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

on high-girth graphs

nothing better than
 $\Omega(\log n)$ possible

$O(\text{poly } \log n)$ known
for many problems

[Rozhon, Ghaffari '19+]

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

not only!

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

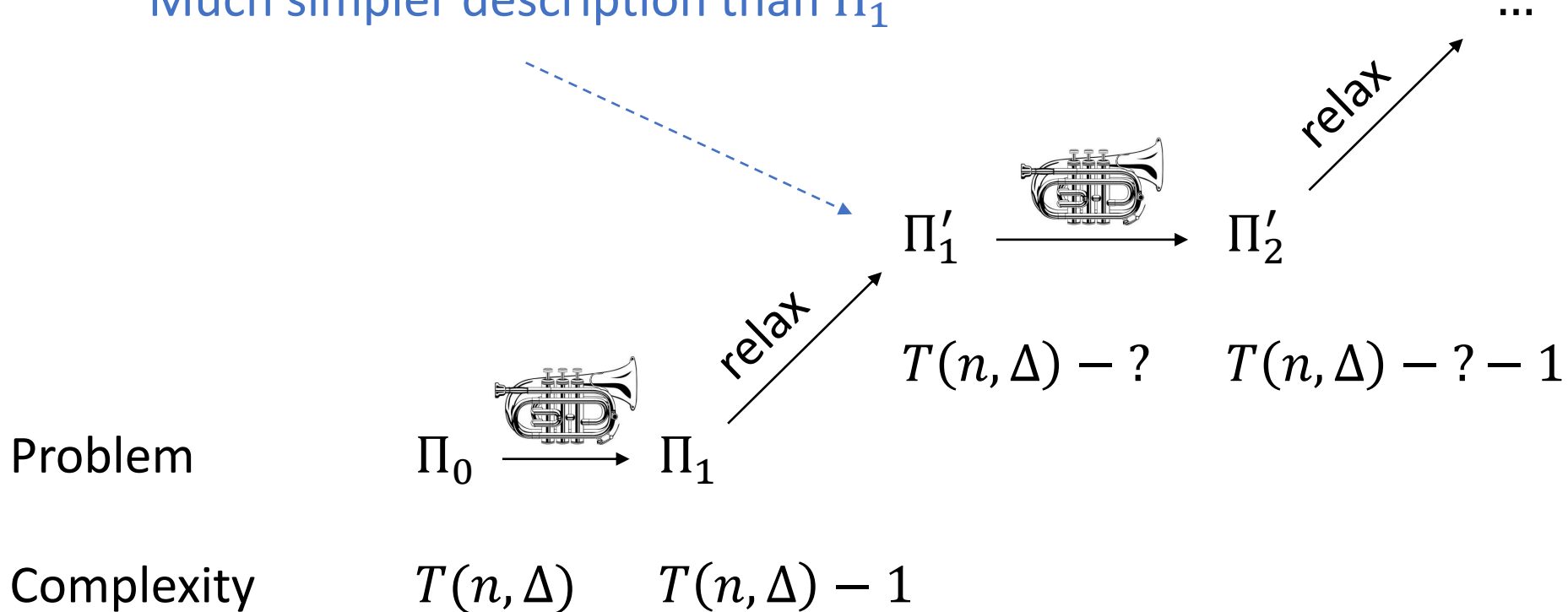
on high-girth graphs

Lower Bounds

Π_k^*

0

Much simpler description than Π_1



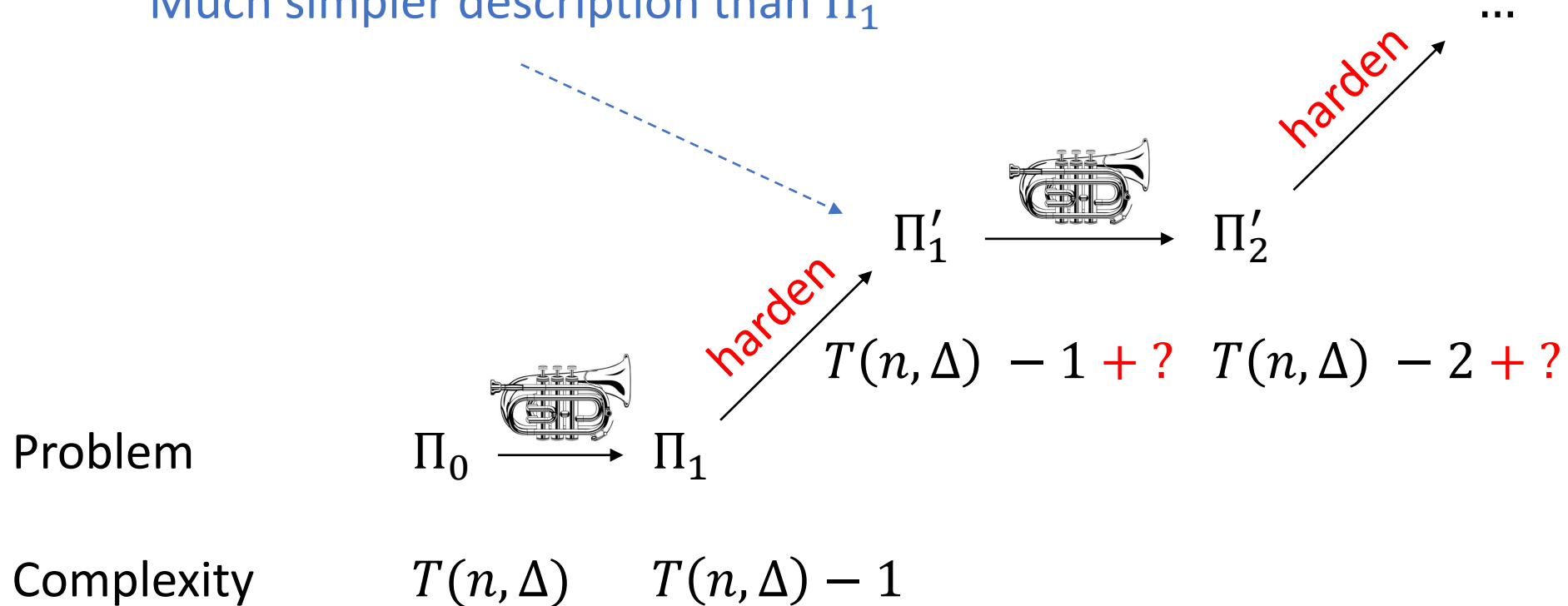
Π_0 has complexity at least k .

Upper Bounds

Π_k^*

0

Much simpler description than Π_1



Π_0 has complexity **at most** k .

Current Limitations

lower bound technique

for deterministic algorithms

in the LOCAL model

without unique IDs

for locally checkable problems

on high-girth graphs

The Future

new bounds for more problems

$(\Delta + 1)$ -vertex coloring?

$(2\Delta - 1)$ -edge coloring?

The Future

new bounds for more problems

$(\Delta + 1)$ -vertex coloring?

$(2\Delta - 1)$ -edge coloring?

Odd-Degree Weak 2-Coloring ✓

[B., PODC'19]

The Future

new bounds for more problems

understand the process

Node Configurations

Edge Configurations

Π_0

...

...

$\exists \downarrow$

$\forall \downarrow$

$\Pi_{1/2}$

...

...

$\forall \downarrow$

$\exists \downarrow$

Π_1

...

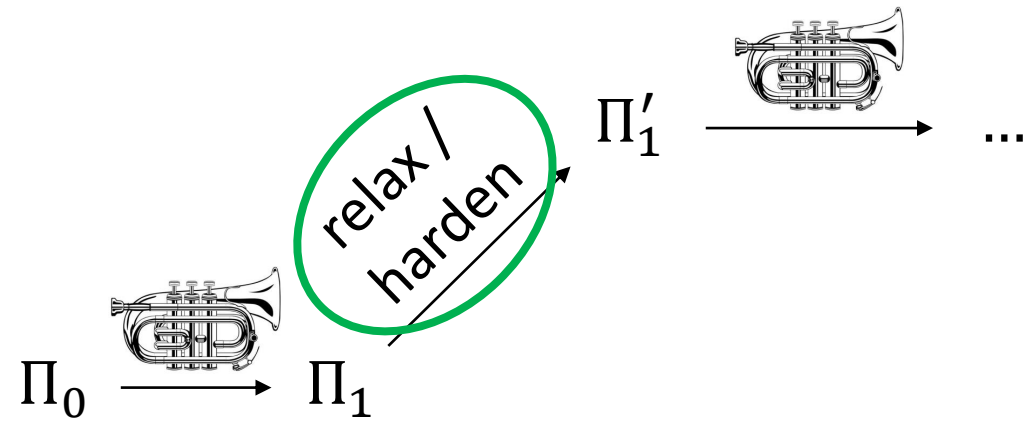
...

The Future

new bounds for more problems

understand the process

understand relaxations



The Future

new bounds for more problems

understand the process

understand relaxations

complete classification of
locally checkable problems
on high-girth graphs??

Close

The problem is NOT zero rounds solvable.

<https://github.com/olidennis/round-eliminator>

[Dennis Olivetti, '19+]

Active (Before Renaming)
Any choice satisfies previous Passive

Passive (Before Renaming)
Exists choice satisfying previous Active

Renaming
Old and new labels

Active
Any choice satisfies previous Passive

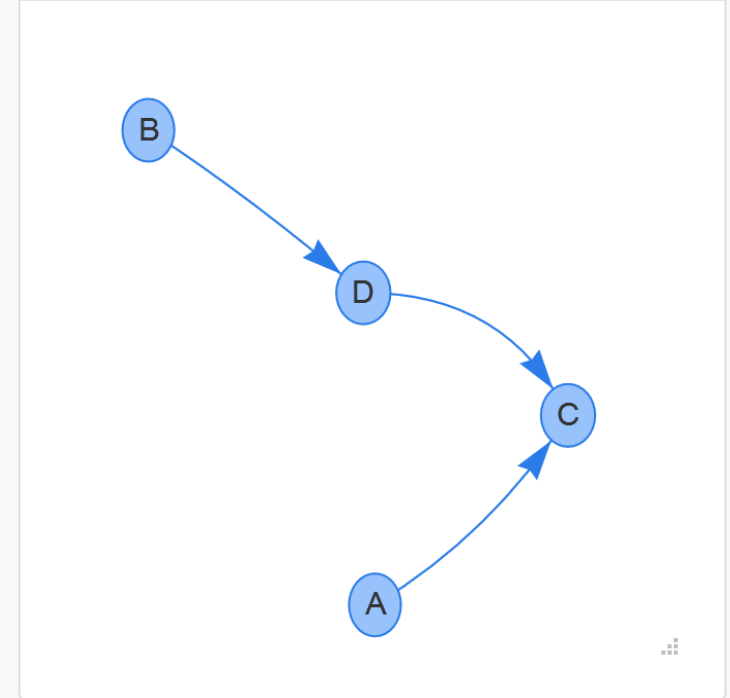
Passive
Exists choice satisfying previous Active

Diagram
Strength of right side labels

Tools
Speedup, edit, simplifications, ...

D	D	D	A
C	B	B	B

BCD	BCD	BCD	AC
D	D	D	D



Speedup Edit

Simplifications

Harden

Automatic Lower Bound

Automatic Upper Bound

New Renaming