

# (Even More) Recent Advances

In

## Cut Query

**Sagnik Mukhopadhyay**

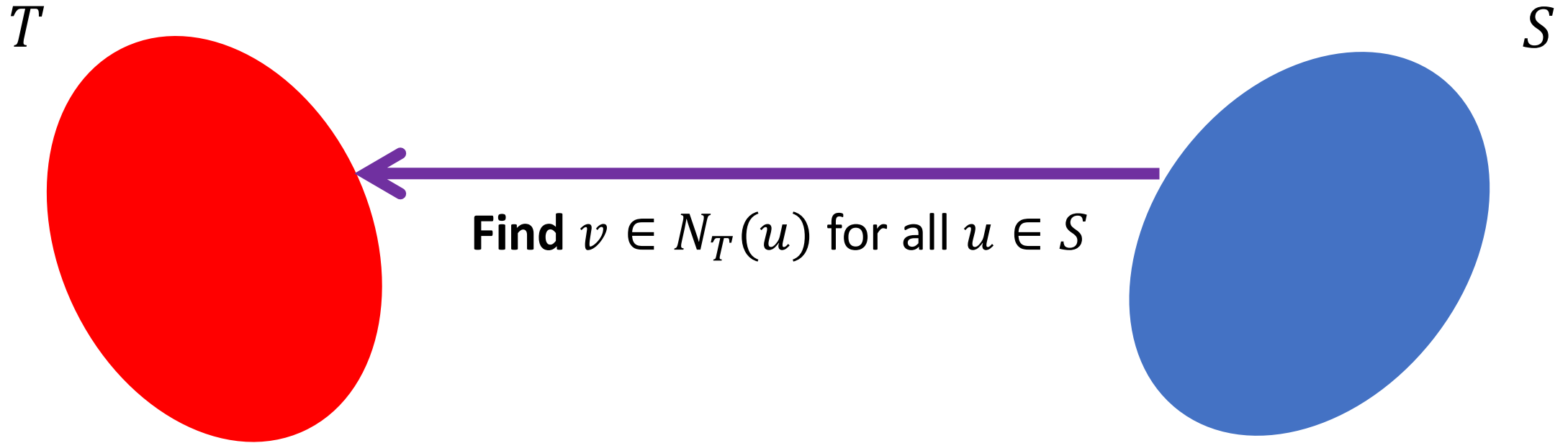


UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

Connectivity

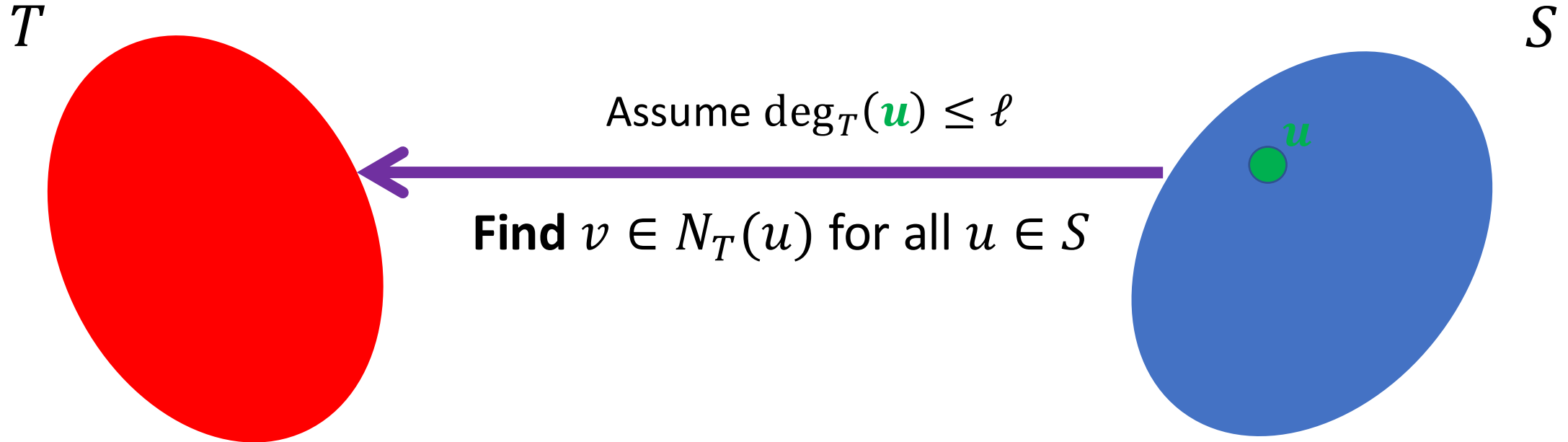
## The (Easy) Problem

- Each  $u \in S$  **finds** a neighbor  $v \in T$



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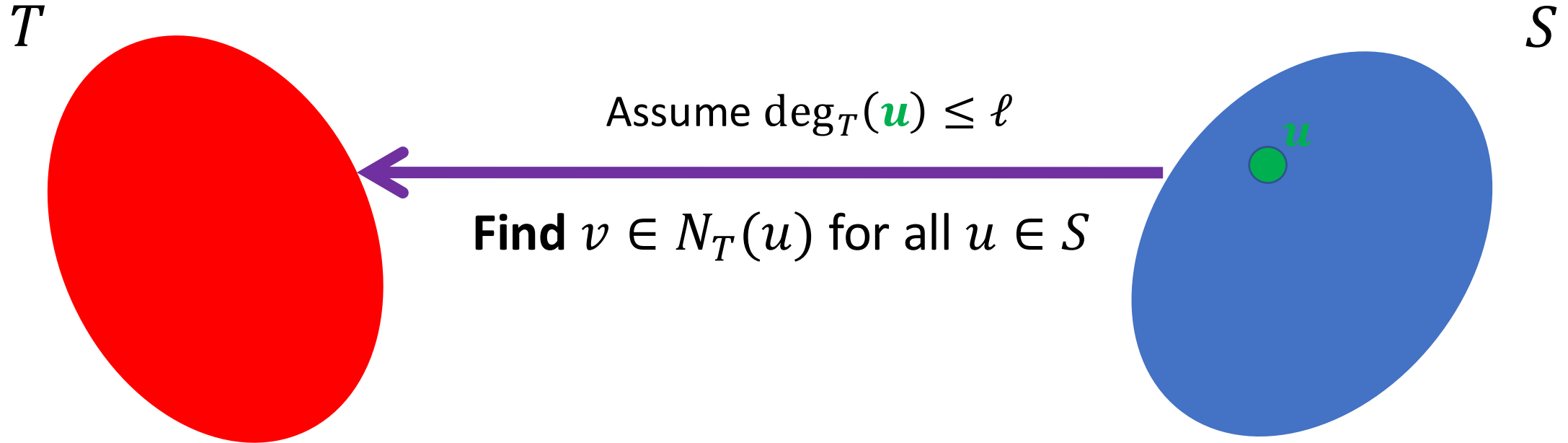


- $|S| \times |T|$  Boolean matrix  $M$ ,  $M[u, v] = 1 \leftrightarrow (u, v) \in E$
- $M$  has row sparsity  $\ell$
- Goal, learn  $M$ !

**Seperating Matrices:** Learn  $M \in \{0,1\}^{n \times n}$  of row sparsity  $\ell$  with  $O(\ell n)$  cut queries

## The (Easy) Problem

- Each  $u \in S$  **finds** a neighbor  $v \in T$



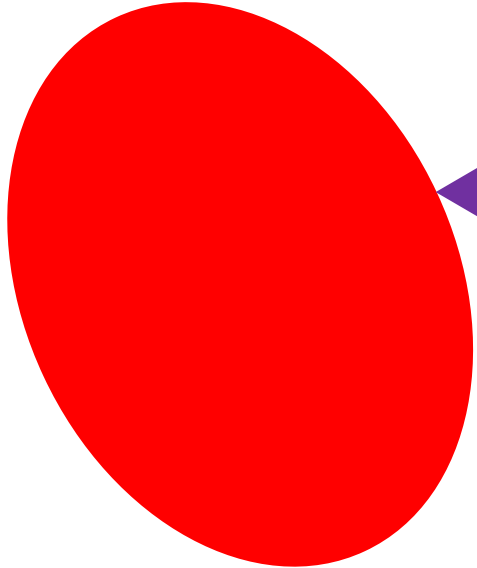
**Seperating Matrices:** Learn  $M \in \{0,1\}^{n \times n}$  of row sparsity  $\ell$  with  $O(\ell n)$  cut queries

- **Trivial:**  $O(\ell n \log n)$  cut queries using binary search.
- A cut query provides  $\Omega(\log n)$  bit of information.
- Can be used to shave the log factor.

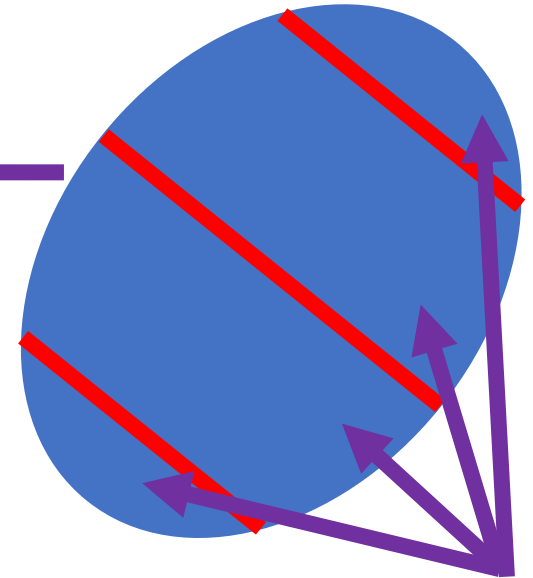
## The (Easy) Problem

- Each  $u \in S$  **finds** a neighbor  $v \in T$

$T$



$S$



**Find**  $v \in N_T(u)$  for all  $u \in S$   
Trivial:  $O(n \log n)$

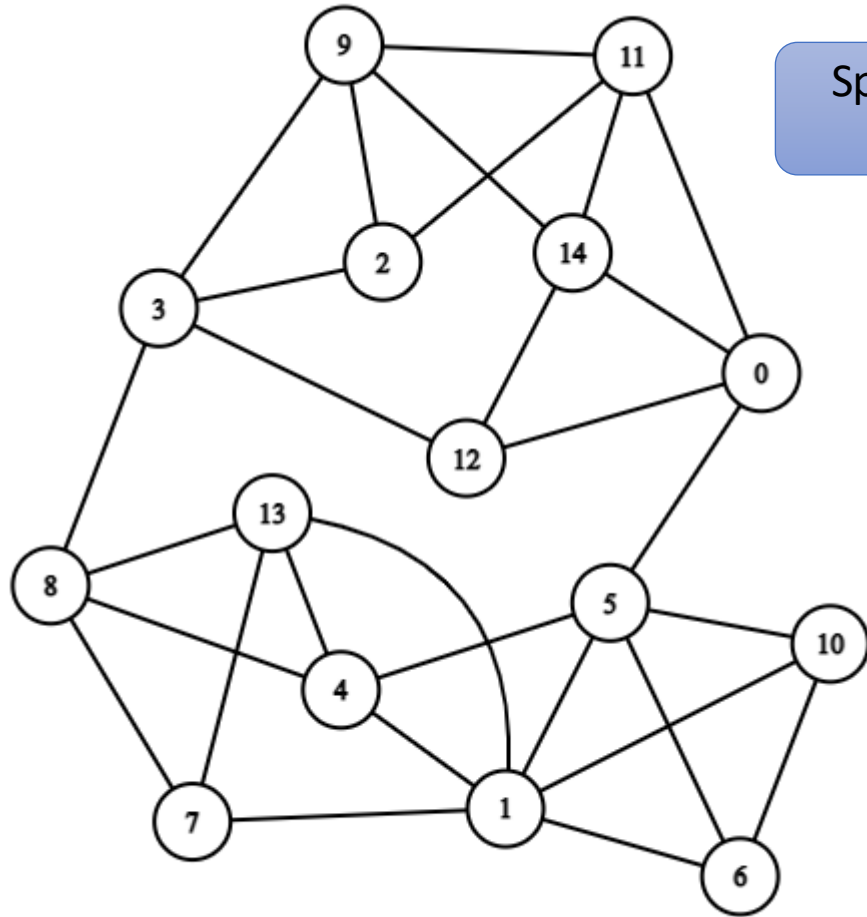
- Learn  $M \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times n}$  of row sparsity  $\ell$  with  $O(\ell n)$  cut queries
- Sampling Lemma**: Solve The (Easy) Problem in  $O(|S|)$  cut queries, in expectation
- Immediate corollary: **Connectivity** in expected  $O(n)$  cut queries!

Degree buckets  $[2^i, 2^{i+1}]$   
Sample w.p.  $\frac{1}{2^i}$  for  $O(1)$  sparsity



# Minimum Cut on Simple Graphs

## Background: Basic Algorithm



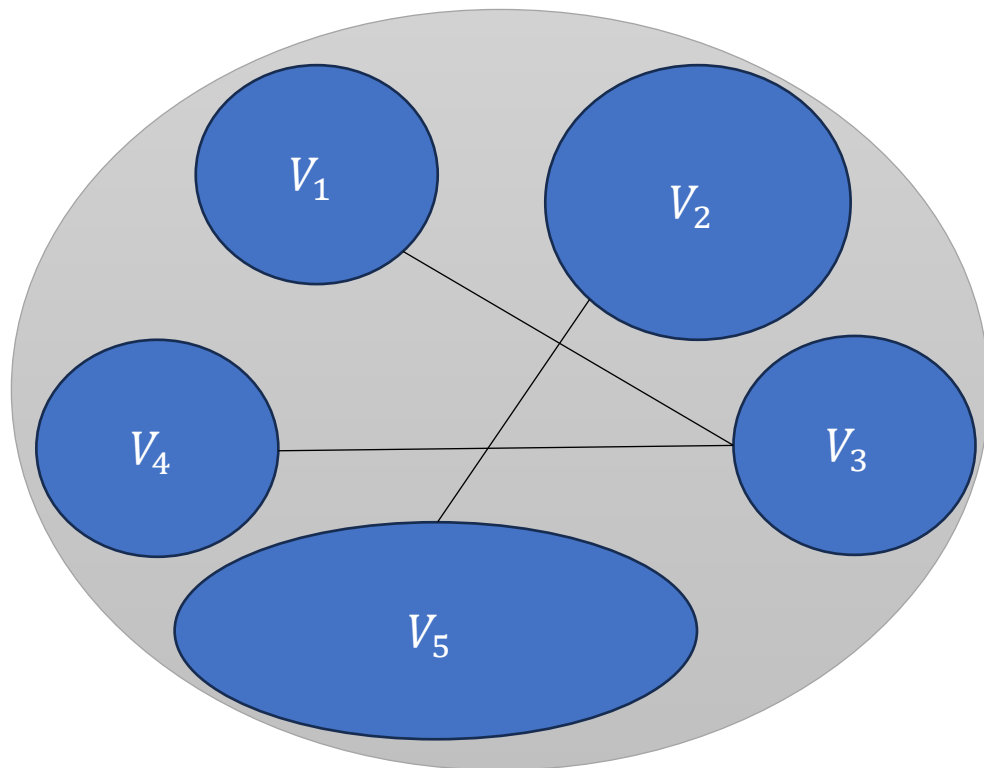
Spanning tree:  $\tilde{O}(n)$   
queries

- Pack  $\delta$  spanning trees.
  - Each tree must cross every cut at least once.
  - $\delta \geq \lambda$ .
- Complexity:  $\tilde{O}(n\delta)$   
 $\rightarrow O(n\delta)$ .
- Can we do any better?

Separating matrices



# Background: Min-cut Preserving Clustering [Kawarabayashi, Thorup 2015]



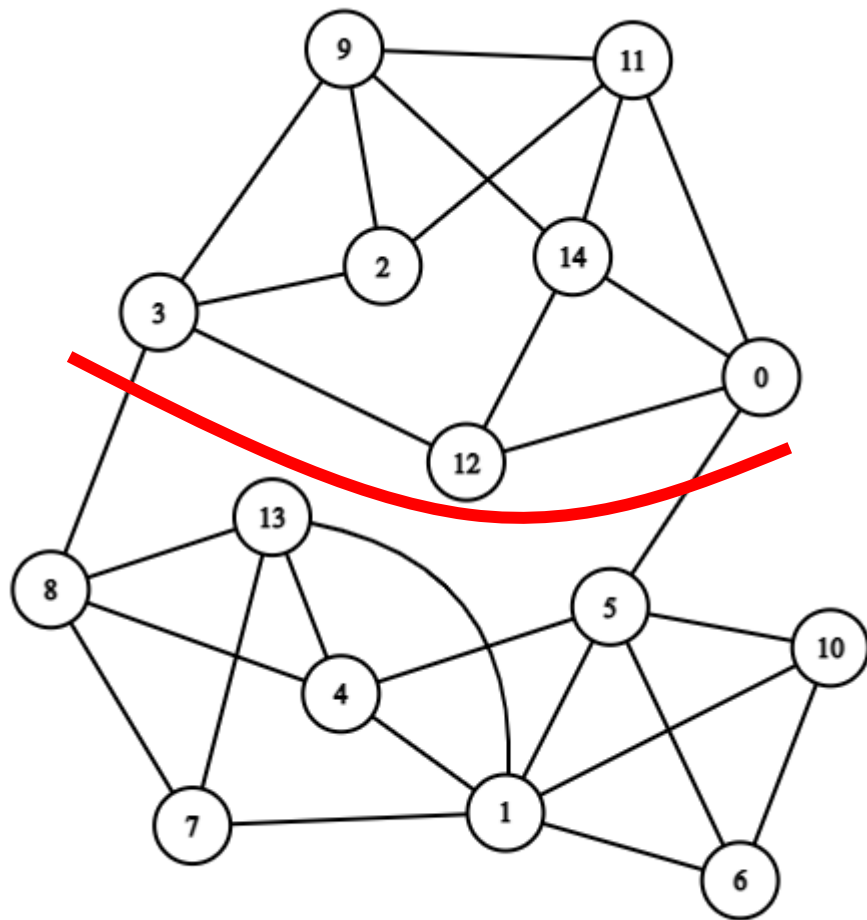
$G = (V, E)$

- Simple graph  $G$  with min deg  $\delta$ .
- Contract:  $G \rightarrow G'$  such that
  - $G'$  has  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{n}{\delta}\right)$  vertices and  $\tilde{O}(n)$  edges.
  - All non-trivial min-cuts are preserved.

$$\text{Min-cut}(G) = \text{Min-cut}(G')$$

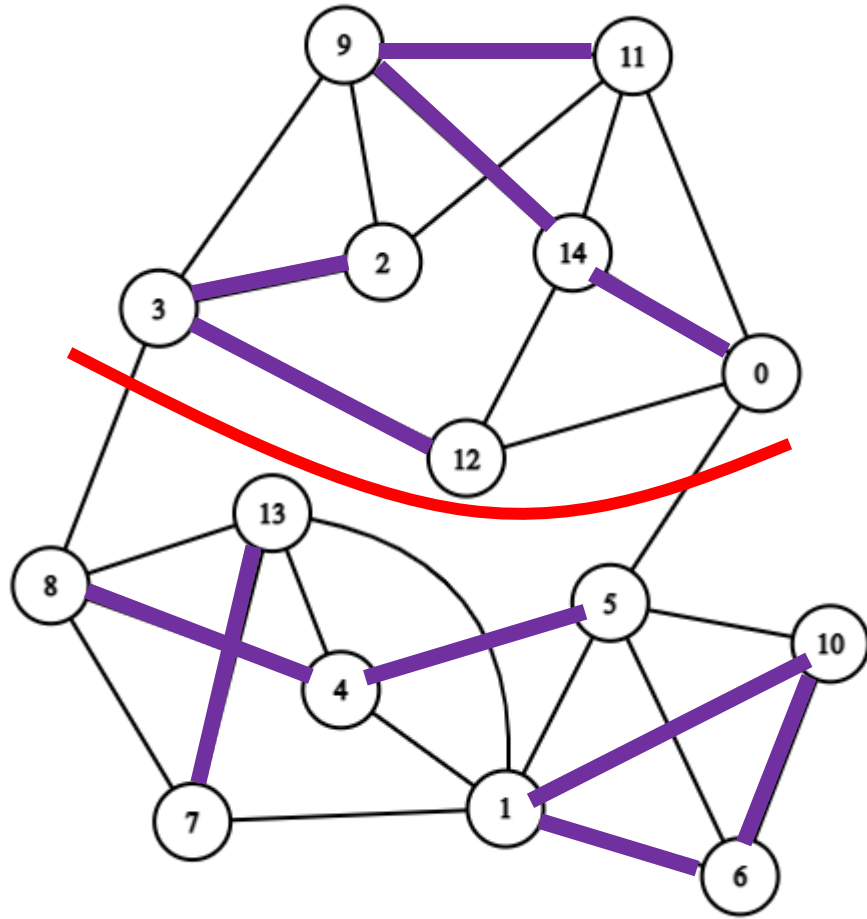
- Pack  $\delta$  spanning trees in  $G'$ 
  - Almost linear complexity

## Background: One-out contraction



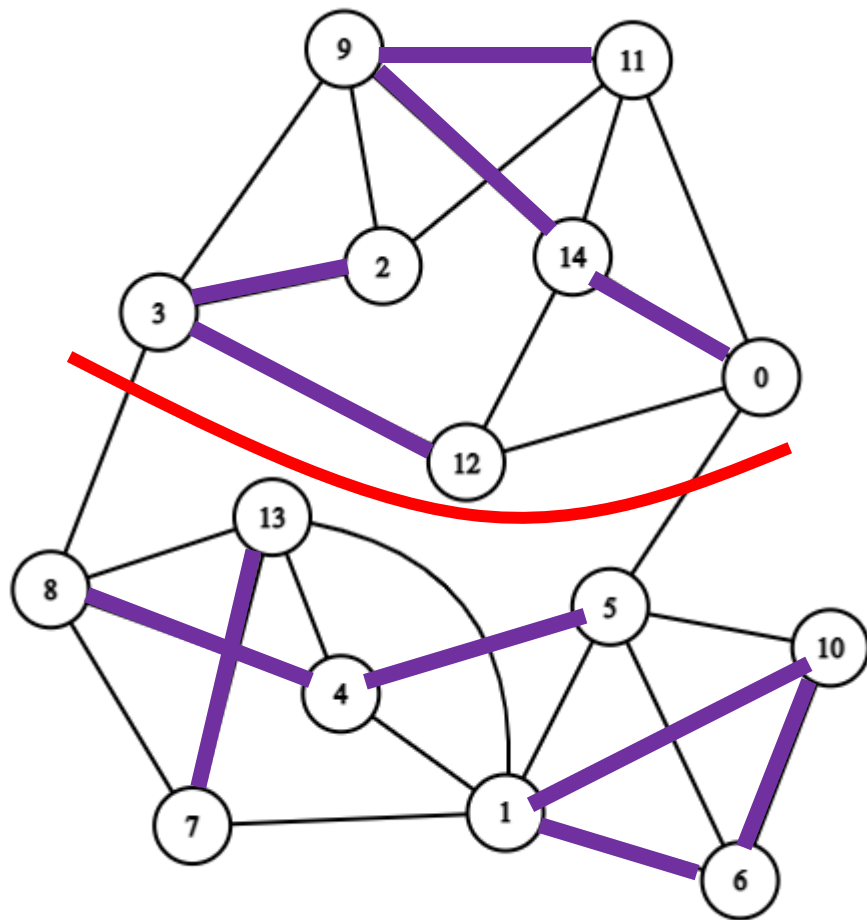
- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be some min cut. Every vertex  $v$  chooses uniformly random neighbor  $u \in N(v)$ .

## Background: One-out contraction



- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be some min cut. Every vertex  $v$  chooses uniformly random neighbor  $u \in N(v)$ .
- **$S$ -sampled edges.**
- $\Pr[S \cap \mathcal{C} = \emptyset]$ ?
- $\Pr[S \cap \mathcal{C} = \emptyset] \geq \frac{1^4}{2} = \frac{1}{16}$
- Constant Prob!

## Background: One-out contraction



- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be some min cut. Every vertex  $v$  chooses uniformly random neighbor  $u \in N(v)$ .

- $S$ -sampled edges:**

- $\Pr[S \cap \mathcal{C} = \emptyset] = \prod_{v \in N(\mathcal{C})} \left(1 - \frac{c(v)}{d(v)}\right)$

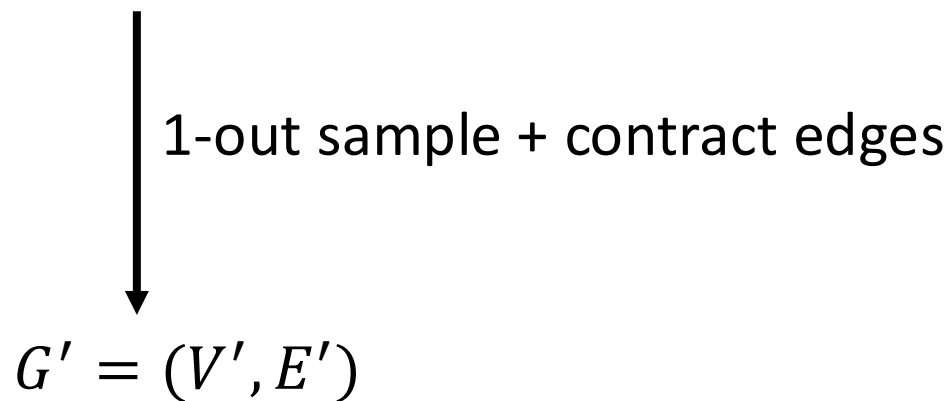
$$\geq \frac{1}{16}$$

$$\frac{c(v)}{d(v)} \leq 1/2 \text{ for every } v \in N(\mathcal{C})$$

$$\sum_{v \in N(\mathcal{C})} \frac{c(v)}{d(v)} \leq 2 \frac{|\mathcal{C}|}{\delta(G)} \leq 2.$$

## Background: One-out contraction

- $G = (V, E)$



- With constant probability,  $\lambda(G) = \lambda(G')$
- Solve on multigraph  $G'$ ?
- One can show: Exists graphs s.t.  $|V'| = \Theta\left(\frac{n}{\sqrt{\delta}}\right)$  w.h.p.

**We want:  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta}\right)$**

## Background: **Two**-out contraction [Ghaffari, Nowicki, Thorup 2020]

- $G = (V, E)$

2-out sample + contract edges

$G' = (V', E')$

- With constant probability,  $\lambda(G) = \lambda(G')$
- Solve on multigraph  $G'$ .
- Non-trivial analysis:  $|V'| = O\left(\frac{n}{\delta}\right)$  w.h.p.

Room for improvement:

- Cluster diameter  $\Theta(\log^2 n)$
- Analysis made simpler

2-out sample  
complexity:  $O(n \log n)$ .

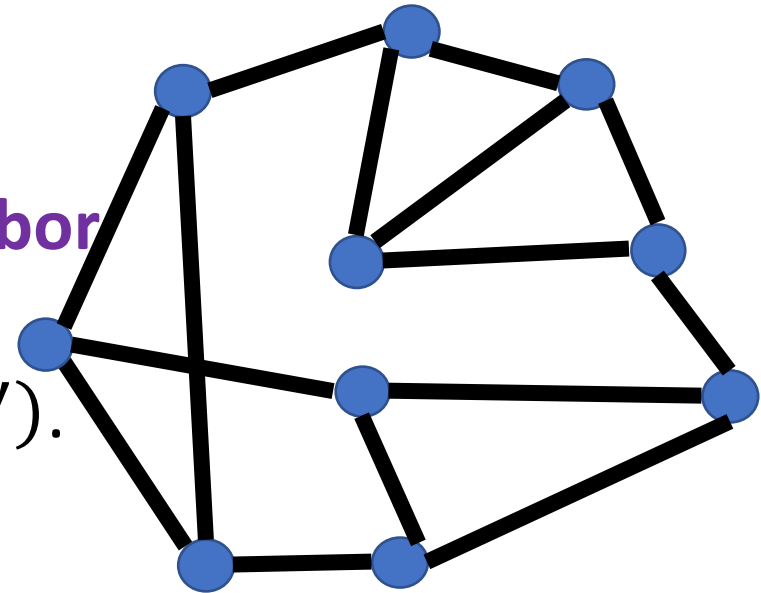
No logs!!

**Complexity:**  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta} \cdot \delta\right) = O(n)$ .

## Star-Contraction

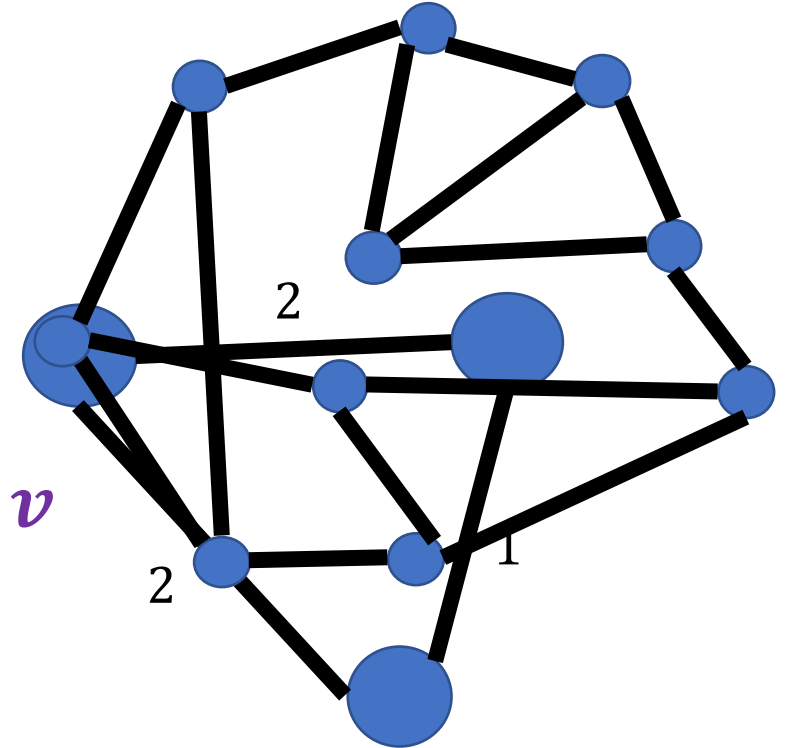
- Idea: Sample from a subset of neighbors
- **Construct set  $R$  with each  $v \in R$  w.p.  $p = \Theta\left(\frac{\log n}{\delta}\right)$**
- **Each  $u \notin R$  independently samples neighbor  $v \in N_R(u)$**
- Contract sampled edges  $S$  into  $G' = (V', E')$ .

$$\mathbb{E}_R \left[ \frac{c_R(v)}{d_R(v)} \mid d_R(v) > 0 \right] = \frac{c(v)}{d(v)} .$$



## Star-Contraction

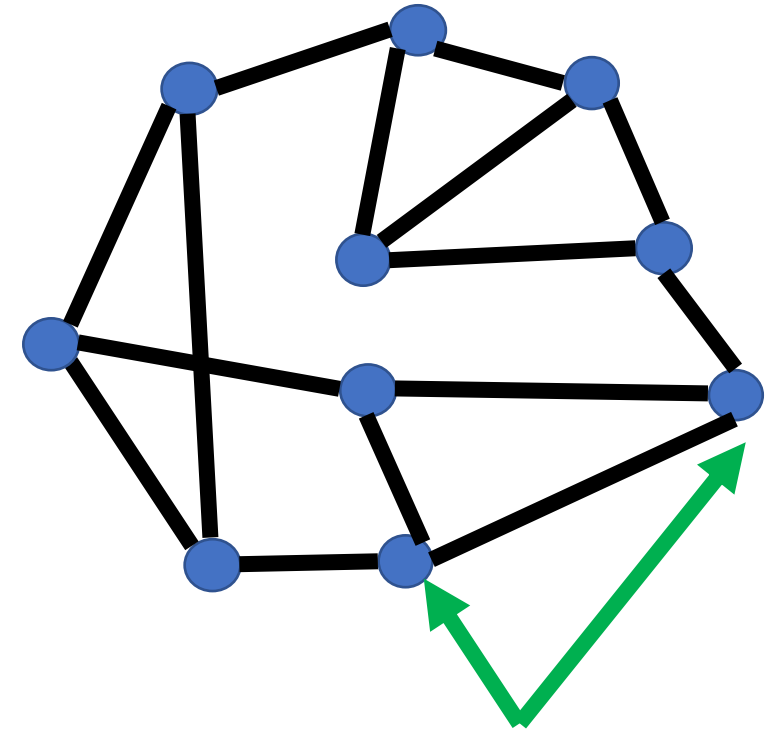
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- **Each  $u \notin R$  independently samples neighbor  $v \in N_R(u)$**
- Contract sampled edges  $S$  into  $G' = (V', E')$ .
- **Immediate:**  $|V'| = O\left(\frac{n \log n}{\delta}\right)$  w.h.p.
- $\Pr[S \cap C = \emptyset] = \Omega(1)$ .
- $\lambda$  **Complexity:**  $O\left(\frac{n}{\delta} \log n \cdot \delta\right) = O(n \log n)$ .





## Beyond $n \log n$ step 1: Refined star contraction

- $|R|$  and therefore  $|V'|$  are too large
- Replace  $p = \Theta\left(\frac{\log n}{\delta}\right)$  with  $p = \Theta\left(\frac{\log \delta}{\delta}\right)$
- **Immediate:**  $|R| = O\left(\frac{n \log \delta}{\delta}\right)$
- $|V^*| = |\{v \in V \mid N(v) \cap R = \emptyset\}| = O\left(\frac{n}{\delta}\right)$
- $V' = R \cup V^*$
- Each  $u \notin V'$ , independently samples neighbor  $v \in N_R(u)$
- Contract into  $G' = (V', E')$
- $O(n \log \delta) \Rightarrow O(n \log \log n)$  queries.



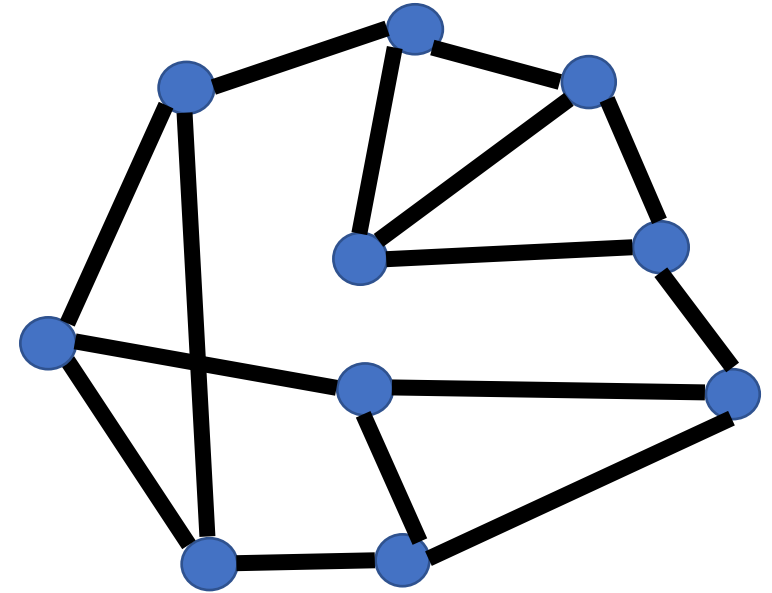
No neighbor in  $R$

If  $\delta \geq \text{polylog}(n)$ , use

**[Mukhopadhyay, Nanongkai 2020]**

## Beyond $n \log n$ step 1: Refined star contraction

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← **How?**  
Trivial:  $O(n \log n)$  **Separating Matrices**

→ If  $\delta \geq \text{polylog}(n)$ , use  
**[Mukhopadhyay, Nanongkai 2020]**

## The Problem

- Each  $u \notin V'$  independently samples neighbor  $v \in N_R(u)$

$$\Pr[S \cap C = \emptyset] = \prod_{v \in N(C)} \left(1 - \frac{c(v)}{d(v)}\right) > \frac{1}{16} \text{ as long as}$$

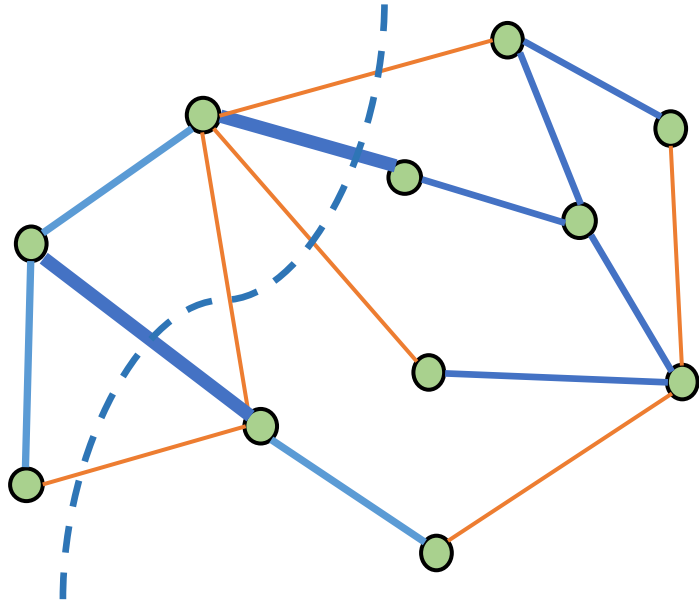
$$\frac{c(v)}{d(v)} \leq 1/2 \text{ for every } v \in N(C)$$

$$\sum_{v \in N(C)} \frac{c(v)}{d(v)} \leq 2 \frac{|C|}{\delta(G)} \leq 2.$$

Seperating Matrix Works!

# Minimum Cut on Weighted Graphs

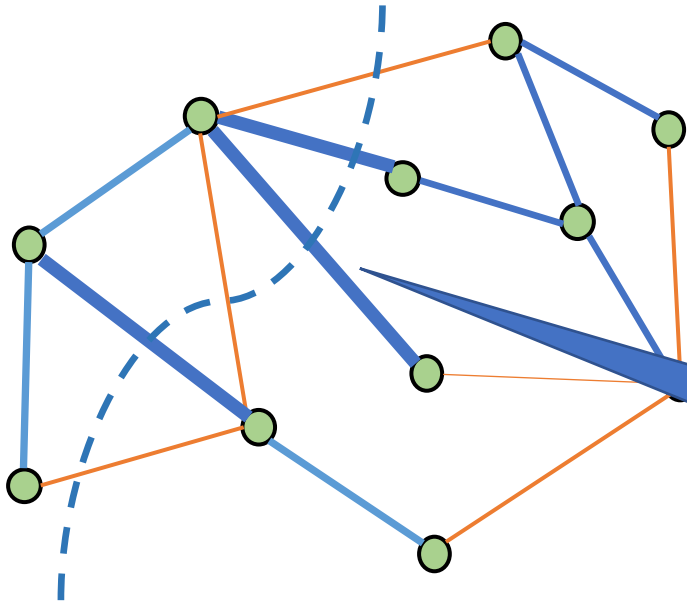
# From Approx to Exact: 2-respecting cut



- Main subroutine of Karger's algorithm.
- Spanning tree:
  - A tree  $T$  with edges from  $E(G)$  that spans all vertices.
- 2-respecting cut:
  - Cut  $C$  with at most 2 edges from  $T$ .

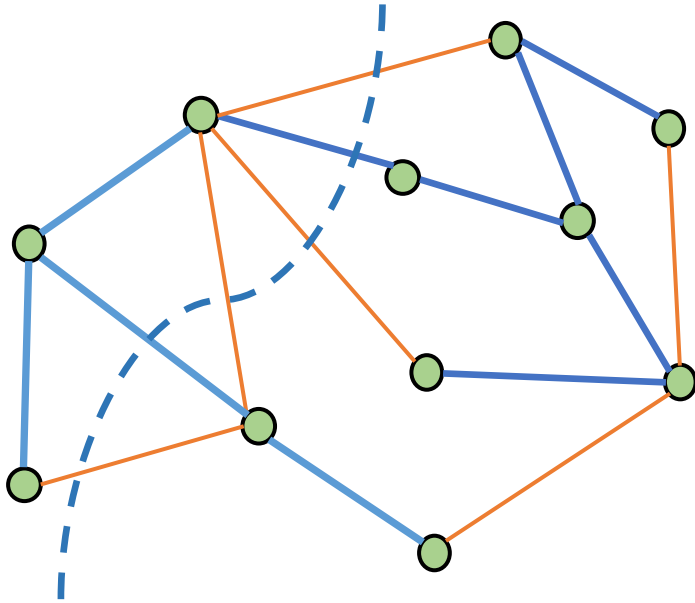
# 2-respecting cut

- Spanning tree:
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Not 2-respecting

# 2-respecting cut



- Spanning tree:

- A tree  $T$  with edges from  $E(G)$  that spans all vertices.

- 2-respecting cut:

- Cut  $C$  with at most two edges from  $T$ .

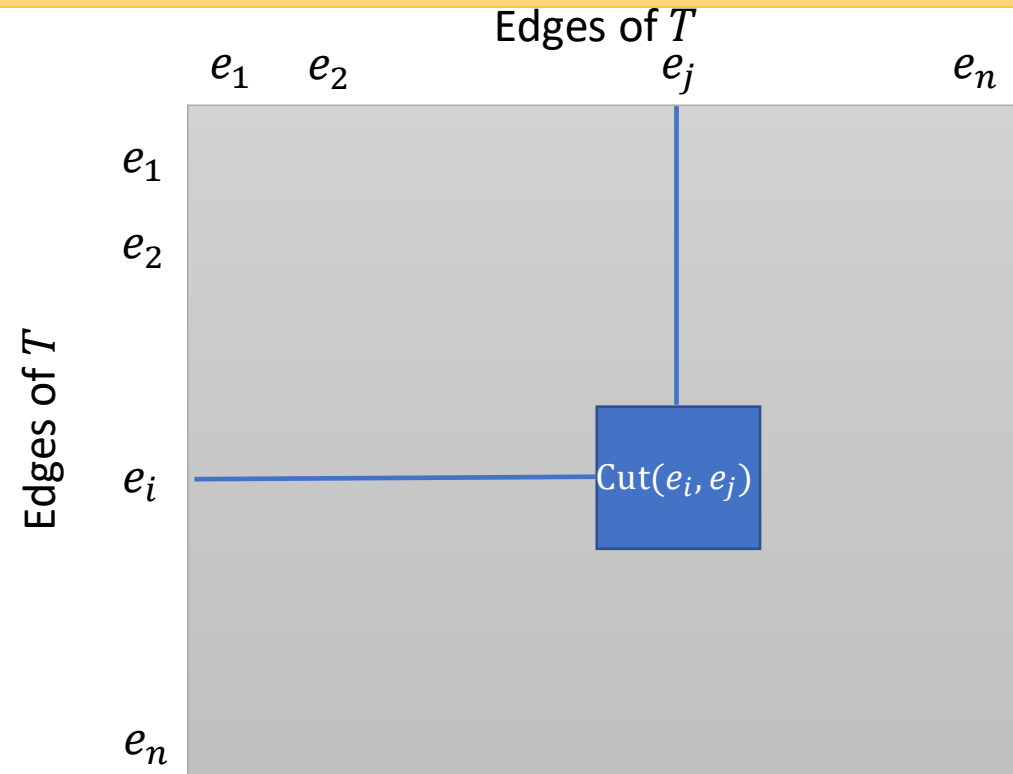
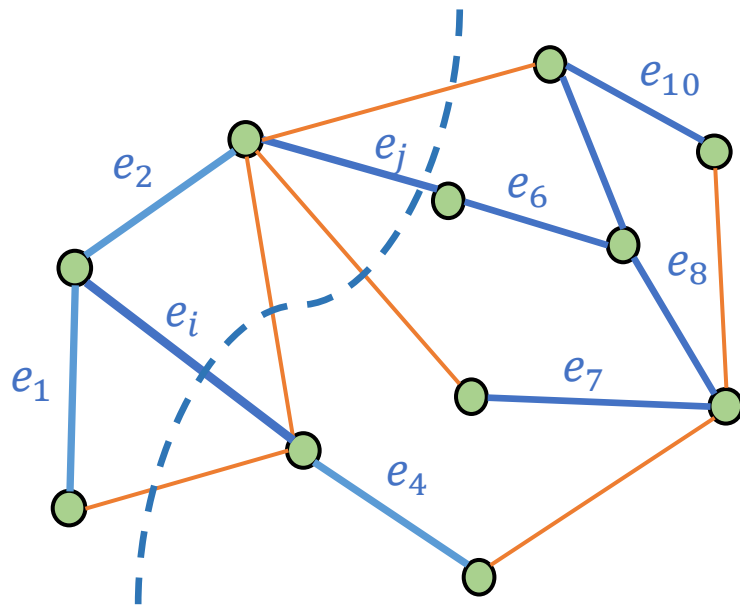
Main  
bottleneck!

**Goal:** Find a 2-respecting min-cut in a weighted graph given a spanning tree  $T$ .

**Theorem (Karger).** Efficient algorithm for solving 2-respecting min-cut implies efficient algorithm for solving min-cut.

# A closer look...

Simple and efficient algorithm for **min 2-resp cut** for all models





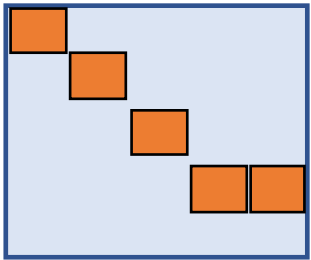


# Matrix min-entry problem

**Puzzle time!**

Input: I will write down an  $n \times n$  matrix  $M$  (you don't see  $M$  but know  $n$ ).

Promise: **Monotonicity** - column minimums *never move up as we go right*



 = min of each column

Example:

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 |

Goal: Find the minimum entry in  $M$ .

Query: You can ask for one entry at a time. **How many entries do you need?**

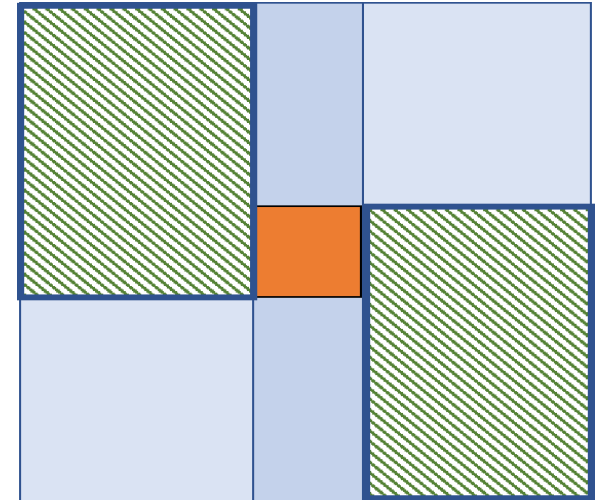


Puzzle time!

# Solution for matrix min-entry

$O(n \log n)$  queries by divide and conquer.

1. Find **min** in the middle column
  - by asking for everything in that column.
2. The recurse on both sides.
3. **Search area** decreases by half.





Technical

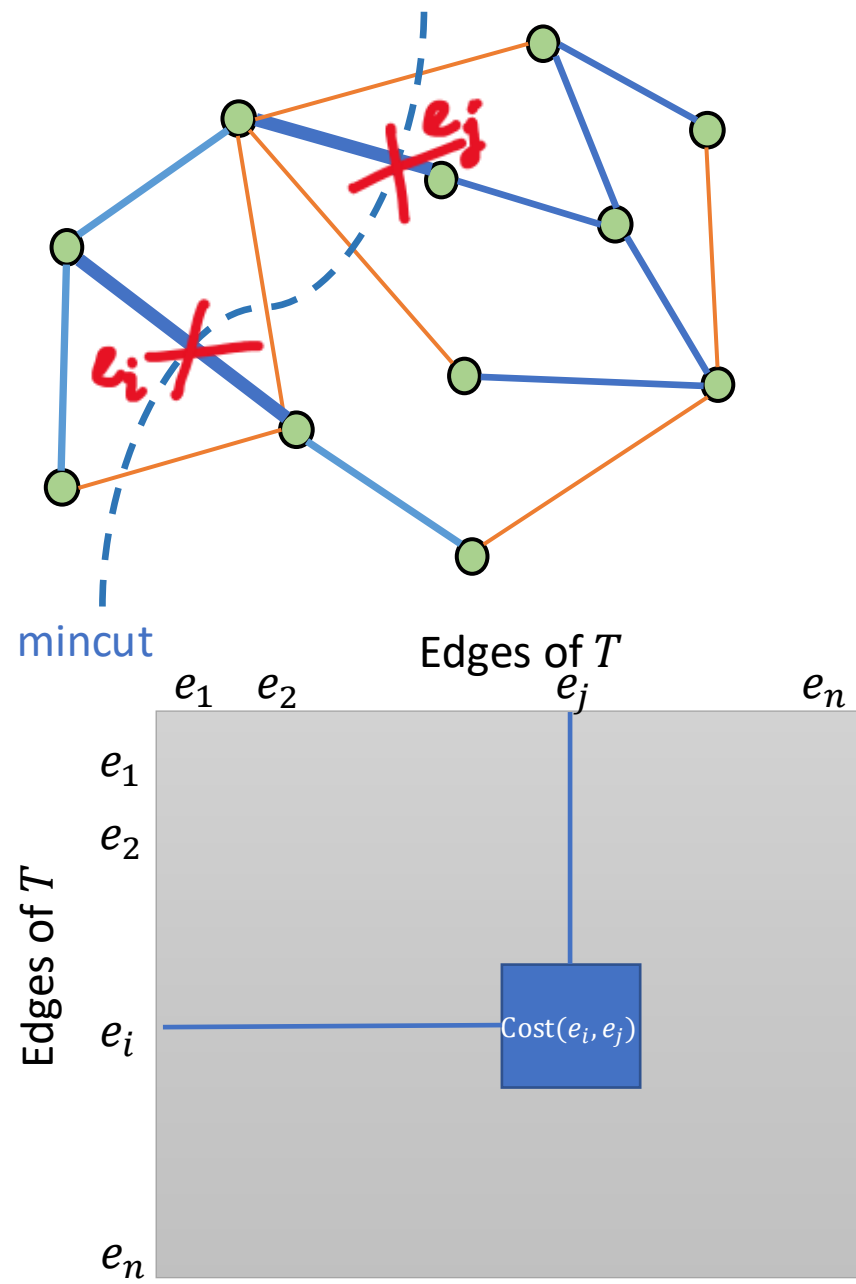
# Mincut $\rightarrow$ Matrix min-entry

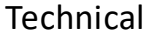
2-respecting min-cut: Easy to find spanning tree  $T$  that 2-constains the min-cut.

**Cost matrix:** Guess two tree-edges crossing the cuts  
Entries in  $n \times n$  matrix

There are  $O(n^2)$  candidate cuts

Cut-query model: Can find **1** entry by **1** query.

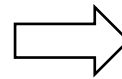
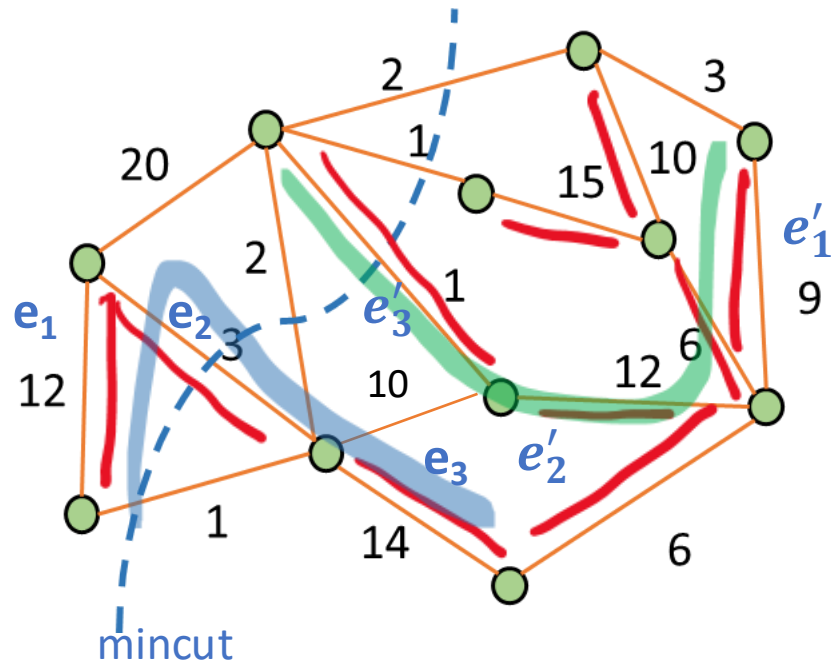




# Mincut $\rightarrow$ Matrix min-entry

**Cute trick:** Assume we know two paths in  $T$  where the best candidates are in

**Lemma:** The corresponding cost matrix is **monotone** like in the puzzle!



|       | $e'_1$ | $e'_2$ | $e'_3$ |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| $e_1$ |        |        |        |
| $e_2$ |        |        |        |
| $e_3$ |        |        |        |

## Monotone matrix



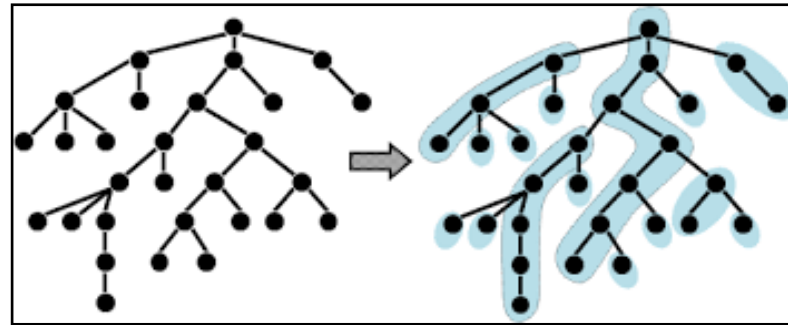
# Mincut $\rightarrow$ Matrix min-entry (2)

**Cute trick:** Assume we know two paths in  $T$  where the best candidates are in

**Lemma:** The corresponding cost matrix is **monotone** like in the puzzle!

Decompose  $T$  into paths using **path decomposition** (e.g. heavy-light, bough/layering decomposition) & the simulate matrix min-entry algorithm for **some** pairs of paths

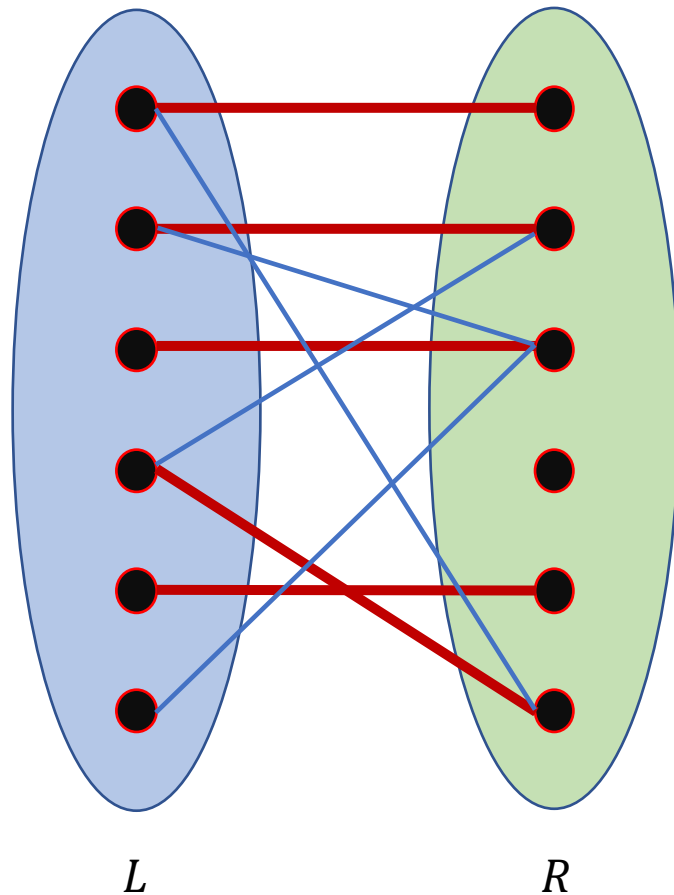
Leftover details: Picking a few pairs



Heavy-light decomposition

# Bipartite matching

# Maximum Cardinality Bipartite Matching



- Input: Bipartite graph  $G = (V = L \cup R, E)$ .
- Matching: Set of disjoint edges

Edge variables

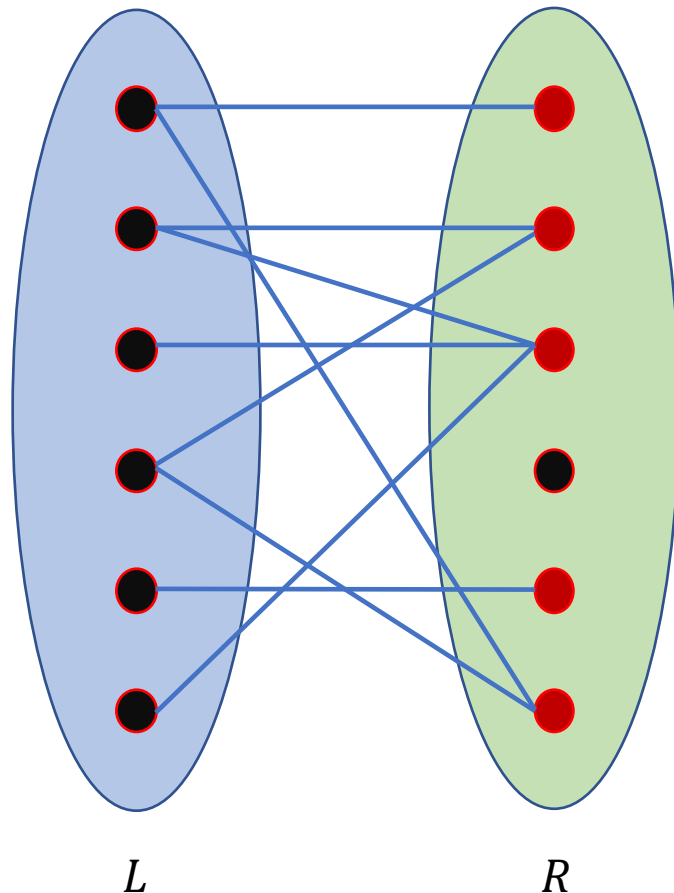
$$\text{maximize } \sum_{e \in E} z_e$$

Each vertex has at most 1 edge incident

$$\text{subject to } \sum_{e \text{ incident on } v} z_e \leq 1 \quad \text{for all node } v \in V,$$
$$z_e \in [0,1] \quad \text{for all edge } e \in E.$$

Linear program of the maximum matching

# Maximum Cardinality Bipartite Matching



$$\text{minimize } \sum_{v \in V} x_v$$

subject to  $x_u + x_v \geq 1$  for all edge  $(u, v) \in E$ ,  
 $x_v \in [0, 1]$  for all vertex  $v \in V$ .

Each edge is covered by at least 1 vertex

Vertex variables

Dual of the maximum matching

**König's Theorem:**  $G$  has minimum VC of size  $F$

Size of maximum matching is  $F$ .

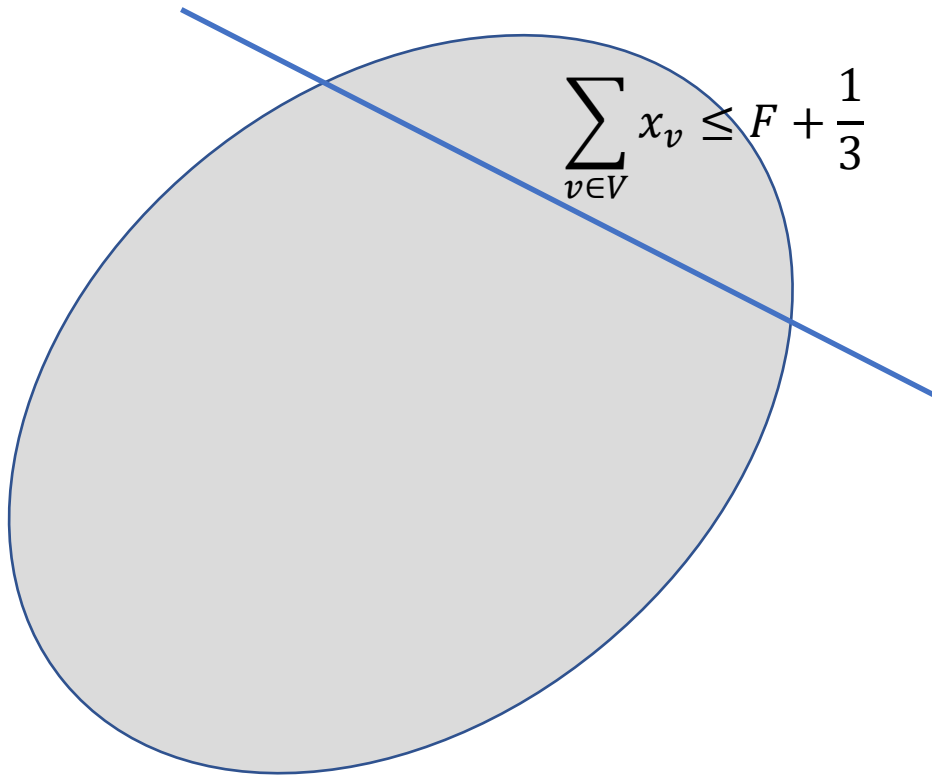
LP duality

**Goal:** To find out if the minimum VC is of size  $F$ .

Decision problem!



# Distributed Linear System Solving



$$\sum_{v \in V} x_v \leq F + \frac{1}{3}$$

$x_u + x_v \geq 1$  for all edge  $(u, v) \in E$ ,  
 $x_v \in [0, 1]$  for all vertex  $v \in V$ .

Does to change the solution!

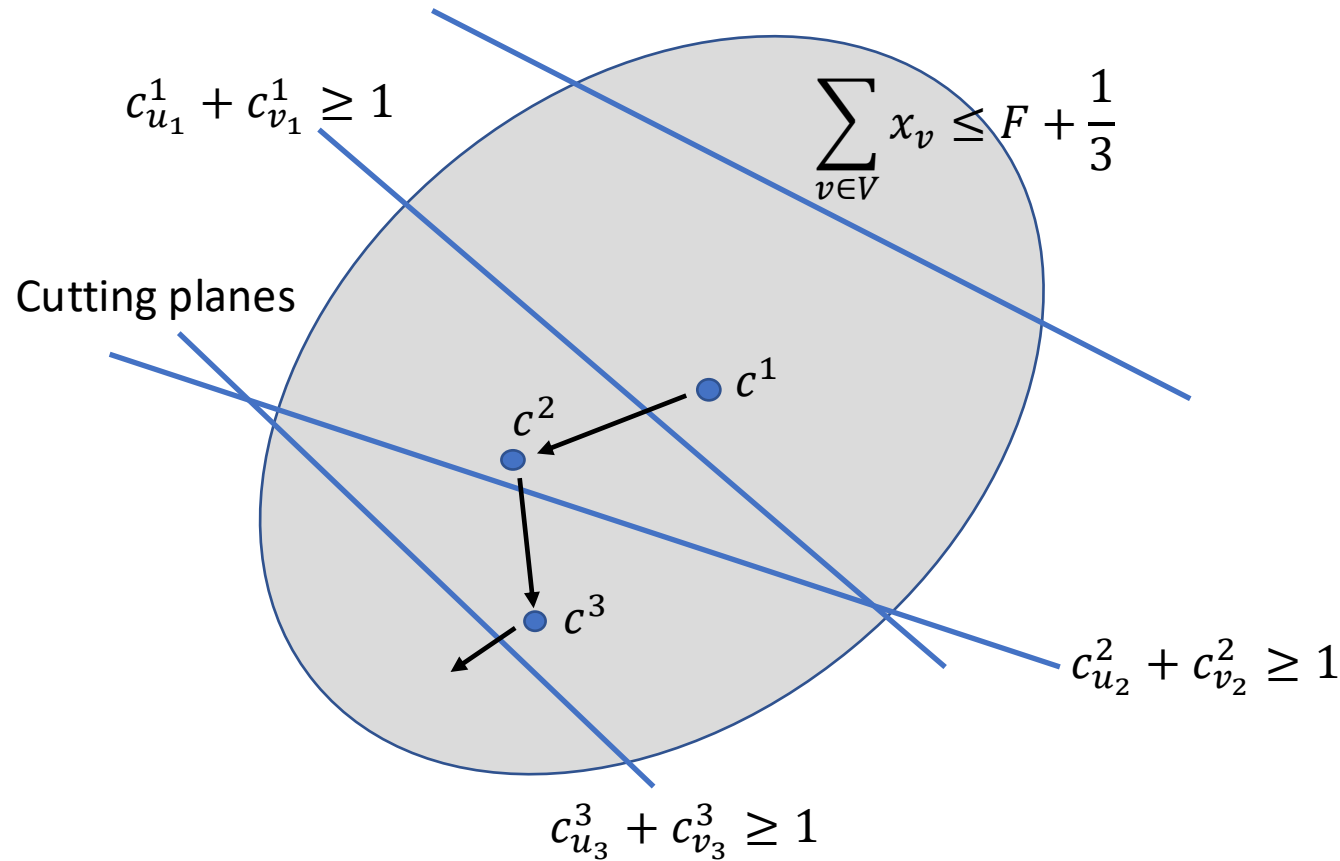
Feasibility problem

**Communication complexity of Linear System/Program.**

Fairly new and contemporary area of research!

- A good place to start: Vempala-Wang-Woodruff [SODA '20]
- For  $d$ -dimension system, their complexity is  $\Theta(d^2 L)$ .
  - $L$  = bitlength to represent coefficient.
  - $d$  = number of vertices for this case.

# Cutting Plane Method



$$\sum_{v \in V} x_v \leq F + \frac{1}{3}$$

$x_u + x_v \geq 1$  for all edge  $(u, v) \in E$ ,  
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Feasibility problem

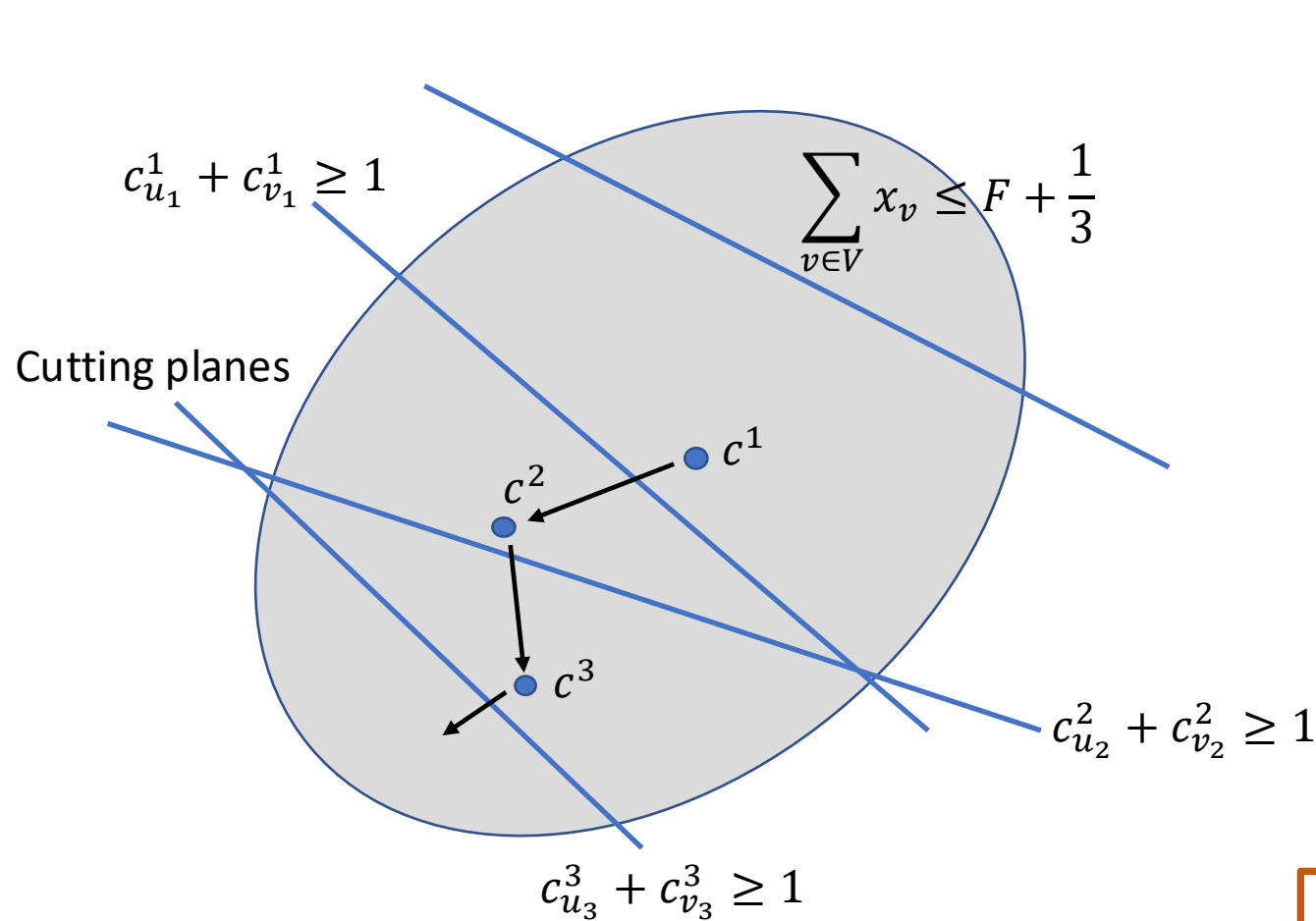
Solvable by Cutting Plane Method.

In Iteration  $i$ :

- Find a violating edge constraint on CG  $c^i$ .
- Restrict polytope on the 'feasible' side.

**Theorem [Grünbaum '60]:** Cutting plane cuts down at least a constant fraction of volume.

# Cutting Plane Method



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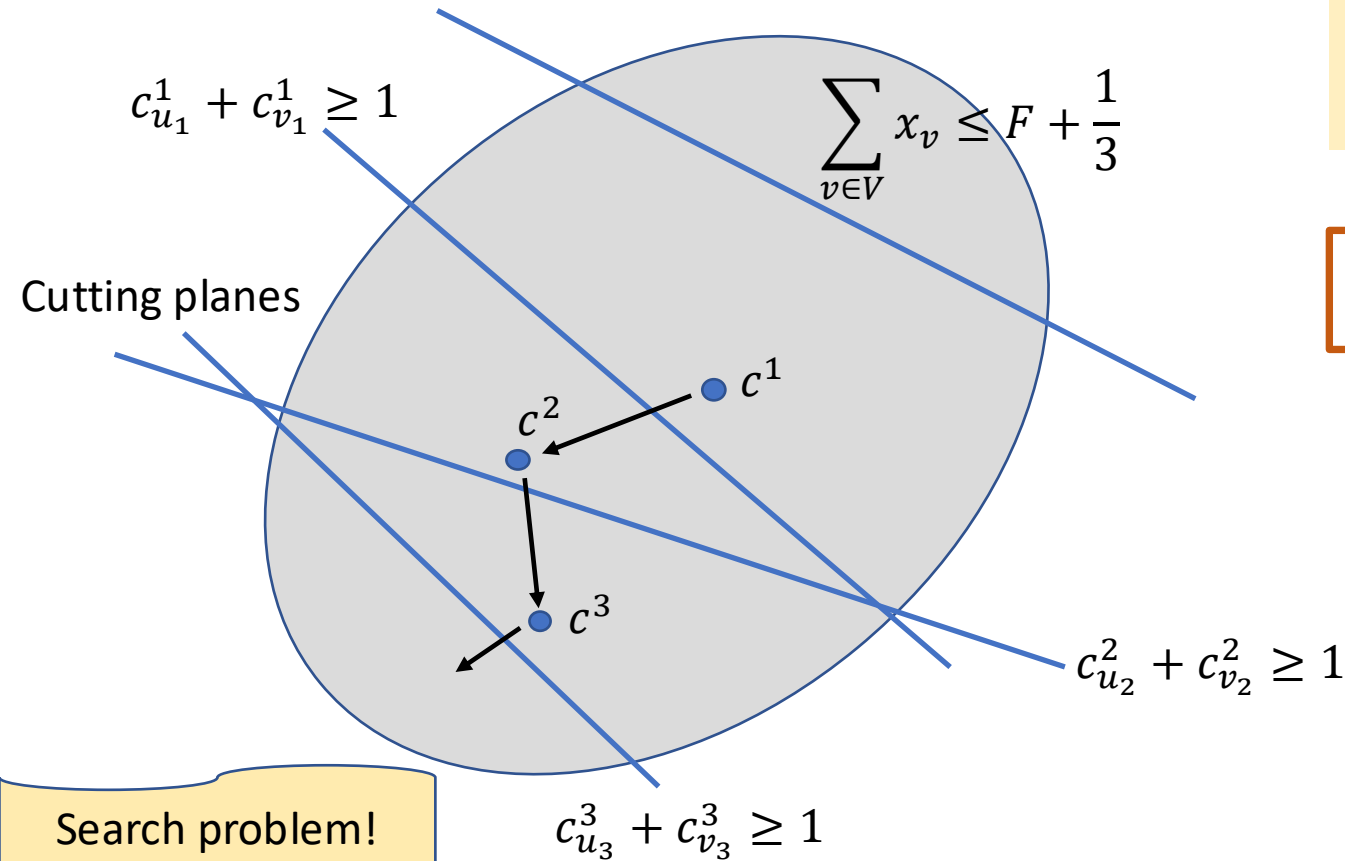
**Theorem [Grünbaum '60]:** Cutting plane cuts down at least a constant fraction of volume.

**Stopping condition:** Size of polytope  $\leq \left(\frac{1}{20n}\right)^{2n}$ .

Polytope is empty!

Does to change the solution!

# Cutting Plane Method



In Iteration  $i$ :

- Find a violating edge constraint on CG  $c^i$ .
- Restrict polytope on the 'good' side.

**Stopping condition:** Size of polytope  $\leq \left(\frac{1}{20n}\right)^{2n}$ .

- # Iterations:  $O(n \log n)$ .
- Alice or Bob can find the violating constraint and exchange.

Communication complexity =  $O(n \log^2 n)$ .

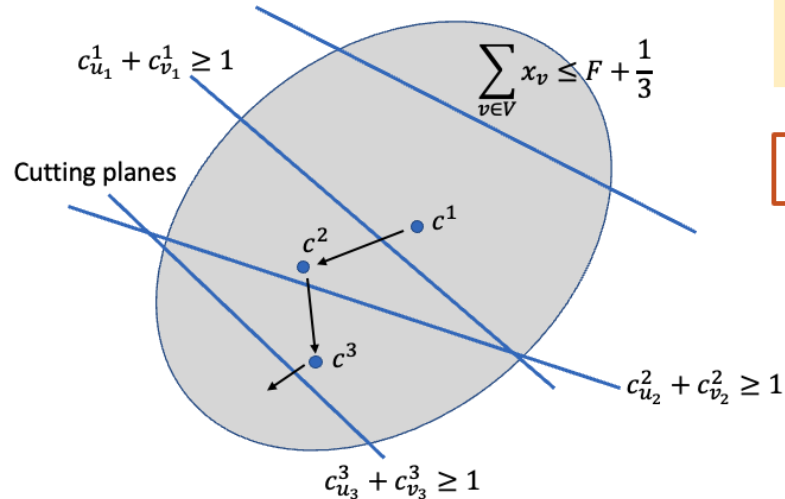


Polytope is empty



A maximum matching can be found within the violating edges.

# Ramifications



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## What about other models?

**Quantum edge query:** Allowed to ask if any edge is present from a *quantum oracle*. Answer is qubits.

**OR-query protocols:** Allowed to ask if any edge present in a subset  $S \subseteq L \times R$ .

**Step 1:** Compute possible violating edge set  $\text{Vio}(c) = \{(u, v) \mid c_u + c_v < 1\}$ .

**Step 2:** Check if any edge from  $\text{Vio}(c)$  present in  $G$ .

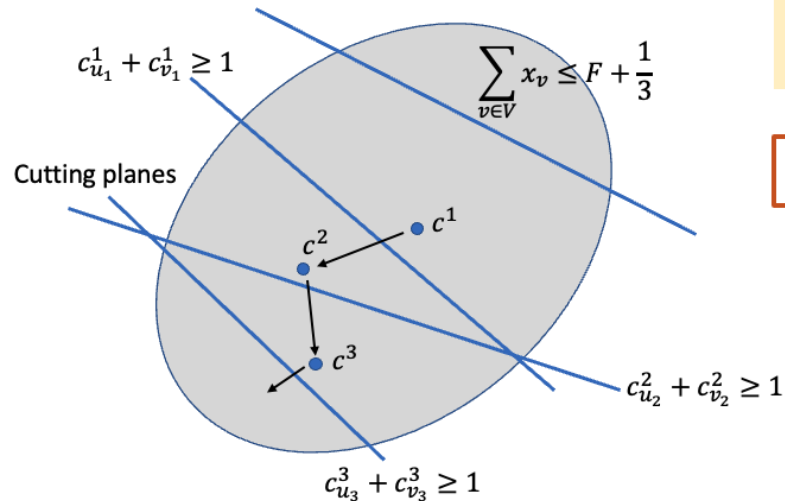
Grover search  
+  
Amortization

OR-query complexity:  $O(n \log^2 n)$ .

Quantum edge query complexity:  $O(n^{1.5} \log^2 n)$ .

Binary search!

# Ramifications



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**Quantum edge query:** Allowed to ask if any edge is present from a *quantum oracle*. Answer is qubits.

**OR-query protocols:** Allowed to ask if any edge present in a subset  $S \subseteq L$   $\times R$ .

**Step 1:** Compute possible violating edge set  $\text{Vio}(c) = \{(u, v) \mid c_u + c_v < 1\}$ .

**Step 2:** Check if any edge from  $\text{Vio}(c)$  present in  $G$ .

How about cut query?

1. If  $c$  is integral, easy to find  $\text{Vio}(c)$ . Search within  $L_{c_u=0} \times R_{c_u=0}$ .
2. If  $c$  is not integral,  $\exists$  integral  $c'$  such that  $|c'| < |c|$  and  $\text{Vio}(c) = \text{Vio}(c')$ .

Thank you.