

# Computational and Communication Complexity in Massively Parallel Computation

**Grigory Yaroslavtsev**

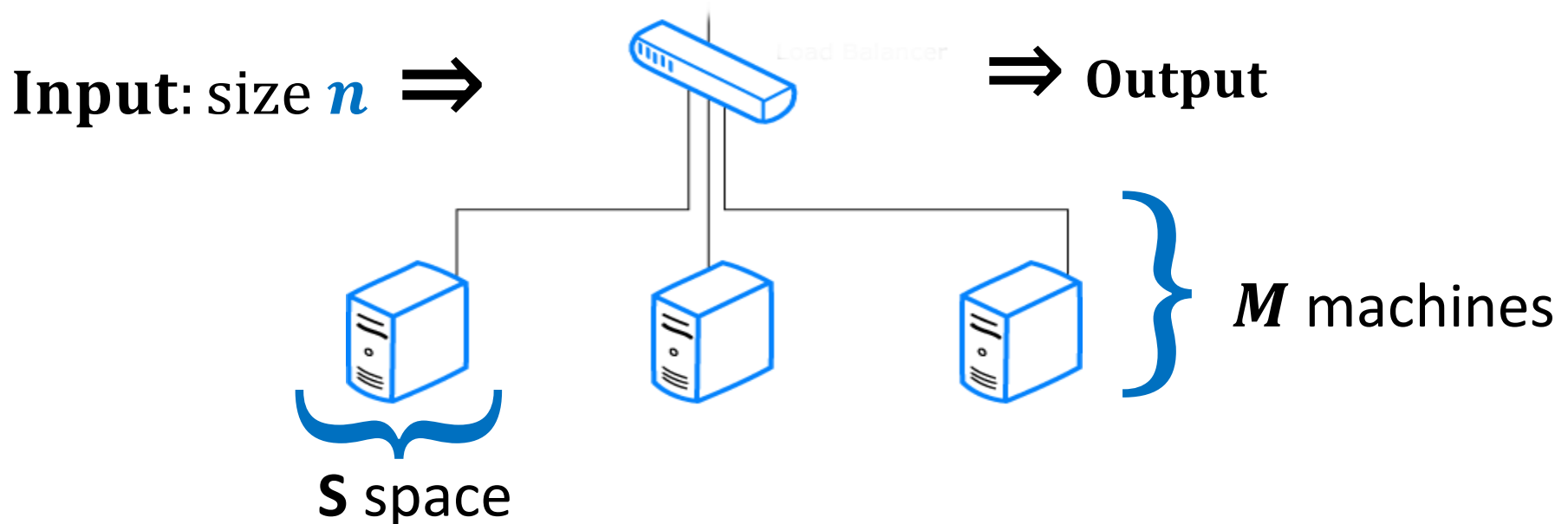
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<http://grigory.us>



# Cluster Computation (a la BSP)

- **Input:** size  $n$  (e.g.  $n$  = billions of edges in a graph)
- $M$  Machines,  $S$  Space (RAM) each
  - Constant overhead in RAM:  $M \cdot S = O(n)$
  - $S = n^{1-\epsilon}$ , e.g.  $\epsilon = 0.1$  or  $\epsilon = 0.5$  ( $M = S = O(\sqrt{n})$ )
- **Output:** solution to a problem (often size  $O(n)$ )
  - Doesn't fit in local RAM ( $S \ll n$ )

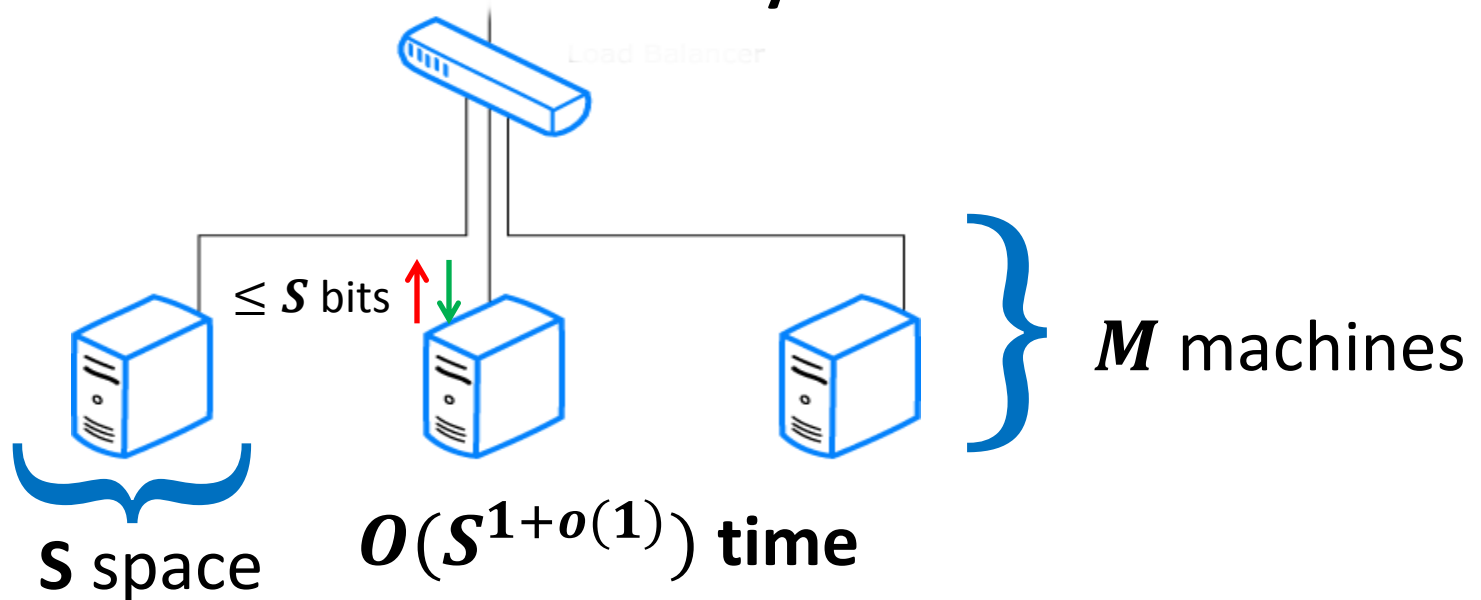


# Cluster Computation (a la BSP)

- Computation/Communication in  $R$  rounds:
  - Every machine performs a **near-linear time** computation => Total user time  $O(S^{1+o(1)}R)$
  - Every machine **receives at most  $S$  bits** of information => Total communication  $O(nR)$ .

**Goal:** Minimize  $R$ .

**Ideally:**  $R = \text{constant}$ .

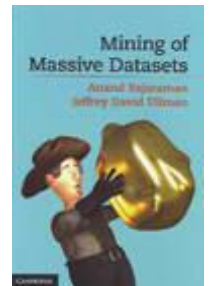


# MapReduce-style computations



What I won't discuss today

- PRAMs (**shared memory**, multiple processors) (see e.g. [\[Karloff, Suri, Vassilvitskii'10\]](#))
  - Computing XOR requires  $\tilde{\Omega}(\log n)$  rounds in CRCW PRAM
  - Can be done in  $O(\log_s n)$  rounds of MapReduce
- Pregel-style systems, Distributed Hash Tables (see e.g. [Ashish Goel's](#) class notes and papers)
- Lower-level implementation details (see e.g. [Rajaraman-Leskovec-Ullman](#) book)



# Models of parallel computation

- **Bulk-Synchronous Parallel Model (BSP)** [Valiant,90]

**Pro:** Most general, generalizes all other models

**Con:** Many parameters, hard to design algorithms

- **Massive Parallel Computation** [Feldman-Muthukrishnan-Sidiropoulos-Stein-Svitkina'07, Karloff-Suri-Vassilvitskii'10, Goodrich-Sitchinava-Zhang'11, Beame, Koutris, Suciu'13, Andoni, Onak, Nikolov, Y.'14]

**Pros:**

- Inspired by **modern** systems (MapReduce, Dryad, Spark, Giraph, ...)
- Few parameters, **simple** to design algorithms
- **New algorithmic ideas**, robust to the exact model specification
- **# Rounds** is an information-theoretic measure => can prove unconditional results

**Con:** sometimes not enough to model more complex behavior

# Getting hands dirty

- Cloud computing platforms (all offer free trials):

- Amazon EC2 (1 CPU/12mo)
- Microsoft Azure (\$200/1mo)
- Google Compute Engine (\$200/2mo)



- Distributed Google Code Jam

- First time in 2015:

[https://code.google.com/codejam/distributed\\_index.html](https://code.google.com/codejam/distributed_index.html)







- Caveats:

- Very basic aspects of distributed algorithms (few rounds)
- Small data ( $\sim 1$  GB, with hundreds MB RAM)
- Fast query access ( $\sim 0.01$  ms per request), “data with queries”



# Business perspective

- Pricings:
  - <https://cloud.google.com/pricing/>
  - <https://aws.amazon.com/pricing/>
- ~Linear with **space** and **time** usage
  - 100 machines: 5K \$/year
  - 10000 machines: 0.5M \$/year
- You pay **a lot more** for using provided algorithms
  - <https://aws.amazon.com/machine-learning/pricing/>

Compute Engine	
100 x	 
73,000 total hours per month	
VM class: regular	
Instance type: f1-micro	
Region: United States	
<a href="#">Sustained Use Discount</a> : 30% ?	
<a href="#">Effective Hourly Rate</a> : \$0.0056	
Estimated Component Cost: \$4,905.60 per 1 year	
1000 x	 
730,000 total hours per month	
VM class: regular	
Instance type: f1-micro	
Region: United States	
<a href="#">Sustained Use Discount</a> : 30% ?	
<a href="#">Effective Hourly Rate</a> : \$0.0056	
Estimated Component Cost: \$49,056.00 per 1 year	
10000 x	 
7,300,000 total hours per month	
VM class: regular	
Instance type: f1-micro	
Region: United States	
<a href="#">Sustained Use Discount</a> : 30% ?	
<a href="#">Effective Hourly Rate</a> : \$0.0056	
Estimated Component Cost: \$490,560.00 per 1 year	

# Sorting: Terasort

- Sort Benchmark: <http://sortbenchmark.org/>
- Sorting  $n$  keys on  $M = O(n^\epsilon)$  machines
  - Would like to partition keys uniformly into blocks: first  $n/M$ , second  $n/M$ , etc.
  - Sort the keys locally on each machine
- Build an approximate histogram:
  - Each machine takes a sample of size  $s$
  - All  $M * s \leq S = n^{1-\epsilon}$  samples are sorted locally
  - Blocks are computed based on the samples
- By Chernoff:  $M * s = O\left(\frac{\log n}{\alpha^2}\right)$  samples suffice to compute all block sizes up to  $\pm \alpha n$  error with high probability
- Take  $\alpha = n^{-\epsilon}$ : error  $O(S)$
- $M * s = \widetilde{O}(n^{3\epsilon}) \leq O(n^{1-\epsilon})$  for  $\epsilon \leq 1/4$



# Connectivity

- **Input:**  $n$  edges of a graph (arbitrarily partitioned between machines)
- **Output:** is the graph connected? (or # of connected components)
- **Question:** how many rounds does it take?
  1.  $O(1)$
  - ✓ 2.  $O(\log^\alpha n)$
  3.  $O(n^\alpha)$
  4.  $O(2^{\alpha n})$
  5. Impossible

# Algorithms for Graphs

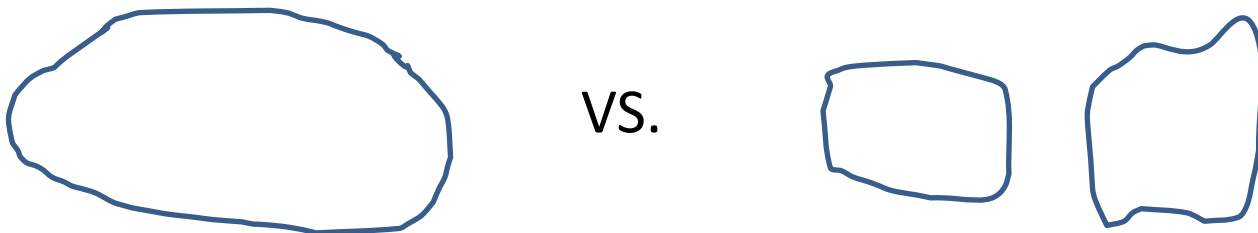
- **Dense graphs vs. sparse graphs**

- **Dense:**  $S \gg |V|$

- Linear sketching: one round
    - “Filtering” (Output fits on a single machine) [Karloff, Suri Vassilvitskii, SODA’10; Ene, Im, Moseley, KDD’11; Lattanzi, Moseley, Suri, Vassilvitskii, SPAA’11; Suri, Vassilvitskii, WWW’11]

- **Sparse:**  $S \ll |V|$  (or  $S \ll$  solution size)

Sparse graph problems appear hard (**Big open question:** connectivity in  $o(\log n)$  rounds?)



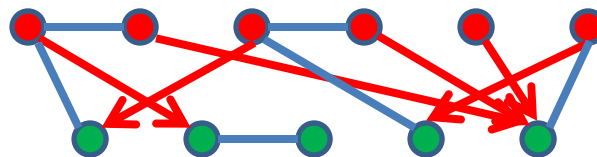
# Algorithm for Connectivity

- Version of **Boruvka's algorithm**:
  - All vertices assigned to different components
  - Repeat  $O(\log n)$  times:
    - Each component chooses a neighboring component
    - All pairs of chosen components get merged

- How to avoid **chaining**?



- If the graph of components is bipartite and only one side gets to choose then no chaining



- **Randomly** assign components to the sides

# Algorithm for Connectivity: Setup

Data:  $n$  edges of an undirected graph.

Notation:

- $\pi(v) \equiv$  unique id of  $v$
- $\Gamma(S) \equiv$  set of neighbors of a subset of vertices  $S$ .

**Labels:**

- Algorithm assigns label  $\ell(v)$  to each  $v$ .
- $L_v \equiv$  set of vertices with label  $\ell(v)$  (invariant: subset of the connected component containing  $v$ ).

**Active** vertices:

- Some vertices will be called **active** (exactly one per  $L_v$ ).

# Algorithm for Connectivity

- Mark every vertex as **active** and let  $\ell(v) = \pi(v)$ .
- For phases  $i = 1, 2, \dots, O(\log n)$  do:
  - Call each **active** vertex a **leader** with probability  $1/2$ .  
If  $v$  is a **leader**, mark all vertices in  $L_v$  as **leaders**.
  - For every **active non-leader** vertex  $w$ , find the smallest **leader** (by  $\pi$ ) vertex  $w^*$  in  $\Gamma(L_w)$ .
  - Mark  $w$  **passive**, relabel each vertex with label  $w$  by  $w^*$ .
- **Output:** set of connected components based on  $\ell$ .

# Algorithm for Connectivity: Analysis

- If  $\ell(u) = \ell(v)$  then  $u$  and  $v$  are in the same CC.
- **Claim:** Whp unique labels in CC in  $O(\log N)$  phases
- # active vertices reduces by a constant factor:
  - Half of the active vertices declared as non-leaders.
  - Fix an active **non-leader** vertex  $v$ .
  - If at least two different labels in the CC of  $v$  then there is an edge  $(v', u)$  such that  $\ell(v) = \ell(v')$  and  $\ell(v') \neq \ell(u)$ .
  - $u$  marked as a **leader** with probability  $1/2 \Rightarrow$  half of the active non-leader vertices will change their label.
  - Overall, expect  $1/4$  of labels to disappear.

# Algorithm for Connectivity: Implementation Details

- Distributed data structure of size  $O(|V|)$  to maintain labels, ids, leader/non-leader status, etc.
  - $O(1)$  rounds per stage to update the data structure
- Edges stored locally with all auxiliary info
  - Between stages: use distributed data structure to update local info on edges
- For every **active non-leader** vertex  $w$ , find the smallest **leader** (w.r.t  $\pi$ ) vertex  $w^* \in \Gamma(L_w)$ 
  - Each (**non-leader, leader**) edge sends an update to the distributed data structure
- Much faster with Distributed Hash Table Service (DHT)  
[Kiveris, Lattanzi, Mirrokni, Rastogi, Vassilvitskii'14]

# MPC and Computation Complexity

- Class  $MRC^i$  = solvable in  $O(\log^i n)$  rounds of MPC
- $MRC = \bigcup_i MRC^i$  where union is over all constant  $i$
- [Karloff, Suri, Vassilvitskii SODA'10]
  - If  $P \subsetneq NC$  then deterministic  $MRC \subsetneq NC$
  - Can simulate  $t$ -time CRCW PRAM algorithm in  $O(t)$  rounds
- [Jacob, Lieber, Sitchinnava, MFCS'14]
  - Only known unconditional LB:  $\Omega(\log n)$  for Guided Interval Fusion
- [Fish, Kun, Lelkes, Reyzin, Turan DISC'15]
  - Can recognize regular languages in  $O(1)$  rounds
  - Some (conditional) hierarchy theorems for MPC
- [Roughgarden, Vassilvitskii, Wang SPAA'16]
  - Show  $\Omega(\log_s n)$  lower bounds using degree bound
  - Certain type of  $\Omega(1)$ -round MPC lower bounds implies  $P \subsetneq NC^1$



# MPC for Specific Problems

- Combinatorial Optimization
  - Matchings
    - Large constant approx. in  $O(\log \log^2 n)$  rounds [“6 Poles”]
    - Small constant approximation in  $O(\log n)$  rounds
  - Submodular Maximization [BENW, STOC’16]
  - $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approx. Euclidean Bichromatic Matching Size in  $O(1)$  rounds for constant dimension [ANOY’14, STOC’14]
  - $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approx. Euclidean MST in  $O(1)$  rounds for constant dimension [ANOY’14, STOC’14]

# MPC for Specific Problems

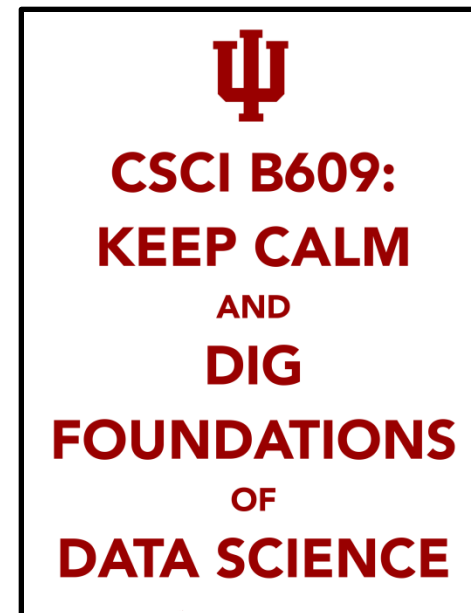
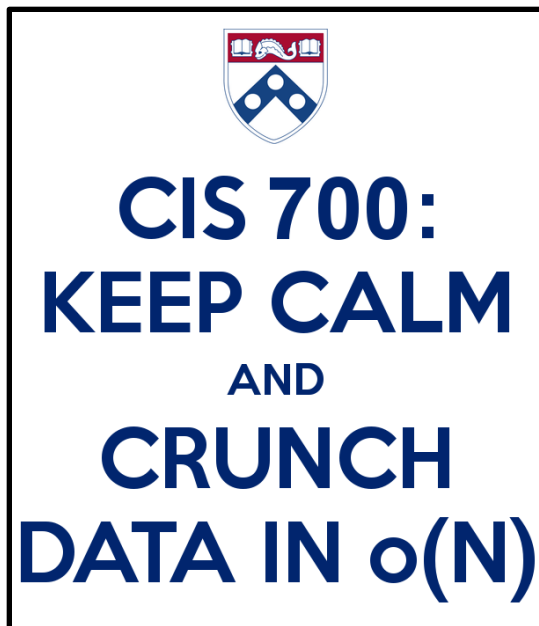
- Clustering
  - K-means: [BMVKV, VLDB'12][BEL, NIPS'13]
  - K-center, K-median: [EIM, KDD'11]
  - Correlation Clustering: [CDK, KDD'14]
  - Single-Linkage Clustering: [Vadapalli, Y '17]
- See my talk at Facebook for details on clustering

# MPC for Specific Problems

- Dynamic Programming
  - [Im, Moseley, Sun STOC'17]:
    - Optimal Binary Search Tree
    - Weighted Interval Selection
    - Longest Increasing Subsequence
  - Active area of research right now
- Other problems
  - Triangle Counting
  - ...

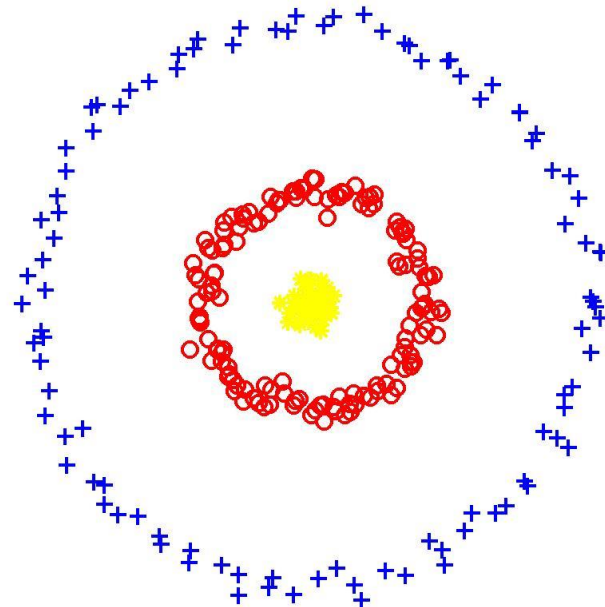
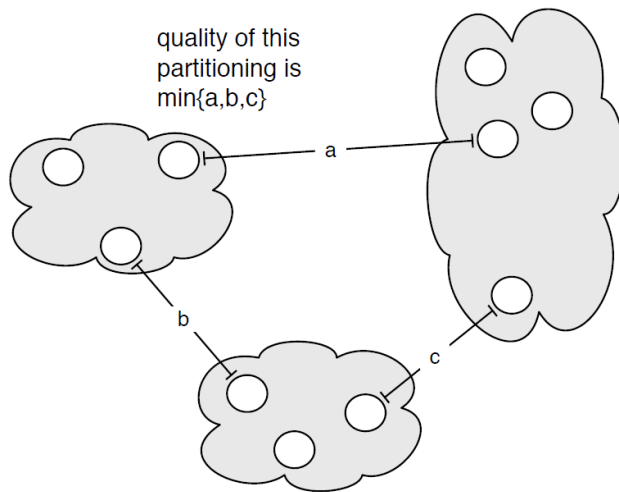
# Thanks! Questions?

- Slides will be available on <http://grigory.us>
- More about algorithms for massive data:  
<http://grigory.us/blog/>
- More in the classes I teach:



# Example: Single Linkage Clustering

- [Zahn'71] **Clustering** via Minimum Spanning Tree:  
 $k$  clusters: remove  $k - 1$  longest edges from MST
- Maximizes **minimum** intercluster distance



[Kleinberg, Tardos]

# Large geometric graphs

- Graph algorithms: **Dense graphs** vs. sparse graphs
  - **Dense:**  $S \gg |V|$ .
  - **Sparse:**  $S \ll |V|$ .
- Our setting:
  - Dense graphs, sparsely represented:  $O(n)$  space
  - Output doesn't fit on one machine ( $S \ll n$ )
- **Today:**  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate MST [Andoni, Onak, Nikolov, Y.]
  - $d = 2$  (easy to generalize)
  - $R = \log_S n = O(1)$  rounds ( $S = n^{\Omega(1)}$ )

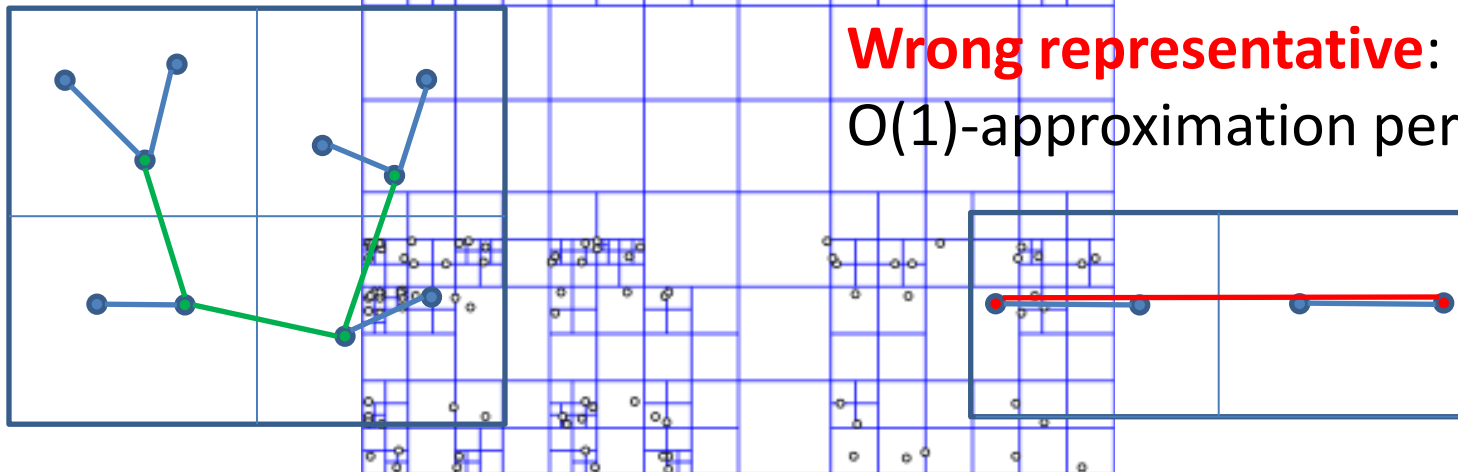
# $O(\log n)$ -MST in $R = O(\log n)$ rounds

- Assume points have integer coordinates  $[0, \dots, \Delta]$ , where  $\Delta = O(n^2)$ .

Impose an  $O(\log n)$ -depth quadtree

Bottom-up: For each cell in the quadtree

- compute optimum MSTs in subcells
- Use only **one representative** from each cell on the next level



**Wrong representative:**

$O(1)$ -approximation per level

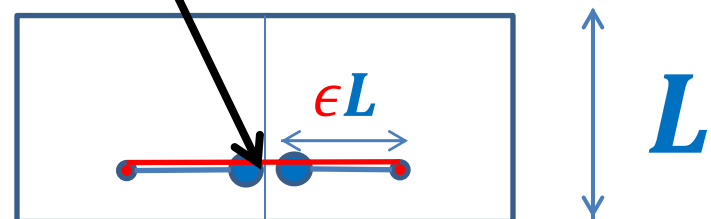
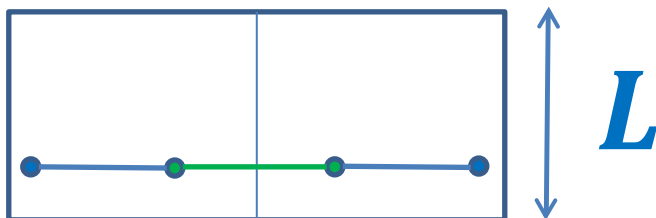
# $\epsilon L$ -nets

- $\epsilon L$ -net for a cell  $C$  with side length  $L$ :  
Collection  $S$  of vertices in  $C$ , every vertex is at distance  $\leq \epsilon L$  from some vertex in  $S$ . (Fact: Can efficiently compute  $\epsilon$ -net of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ )

Bottom-up: For each cell in the quadtree

- Compute optimum MSTs in subcells
- Use  $\epsilon L$ -net from each cell on the next level

- **Idea:** Pay only  $O(\epsilon L)$  for an **edge** cut by cell with side  $L$
- Randomly shift the quadtree:  
 $\Pr[\text{cut edge of length } \ell \text{ by } L] \sim \ell/L$  – charge errors  $O(1)$ -approximation per level





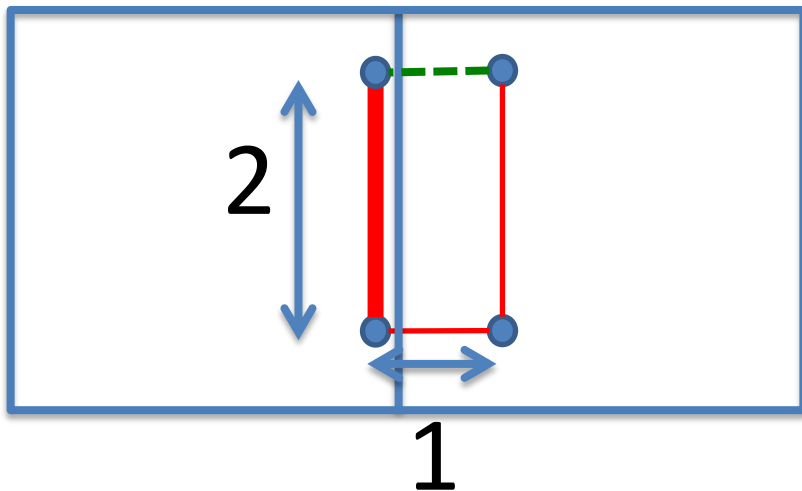
# Randomly shifted quadtree

- Top cell shifted by a random vector in  $[0, L]^2$

Impose a **randomly shifted** quadtree (top cell length  $2\Delta$ )

Bottom-up: For each cell in the quadtree

- Compute optimum MSTs in subcells
- Use  $\epsilon L$ -net from each cell on the next level



Pay **5** instead of **4**  
**Bad Cut**  
 $\Pr[\text{Bad Cut}] = \Omega(1)$

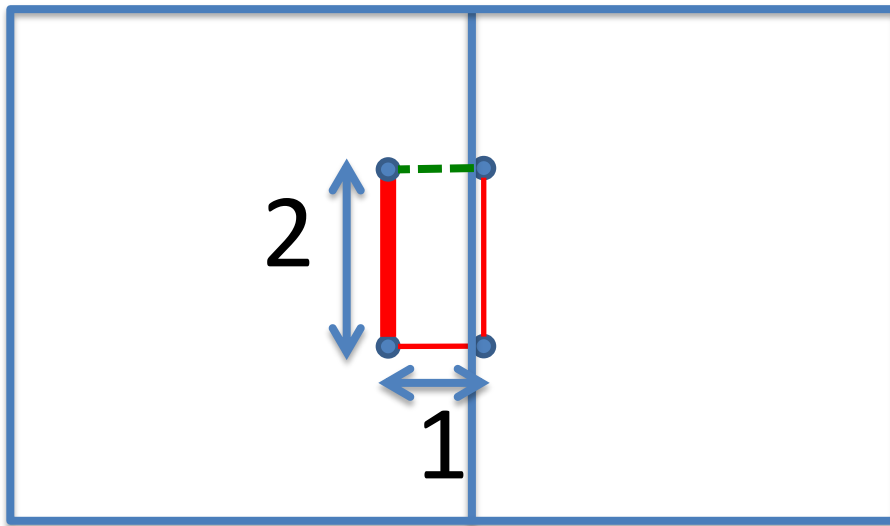
# $(1 + \epsilon)$ -MST in $\mathbf{R} = O(\log n)$ rounds

- **Idea:** Only use short edges inside the cells

Impose a **randomly shifted** quadtree (top cell length  $\frac{2\Delta}{\epsilon}$ )

Bottom-up: For each node (cell) in the quadtree

- compute optimum Minimum Spanning **Forests** in subcells, **using edges of length  $\leq \epsilon L$**
- Use only  $\epsilon^2 L$ -net from each cell on the next level

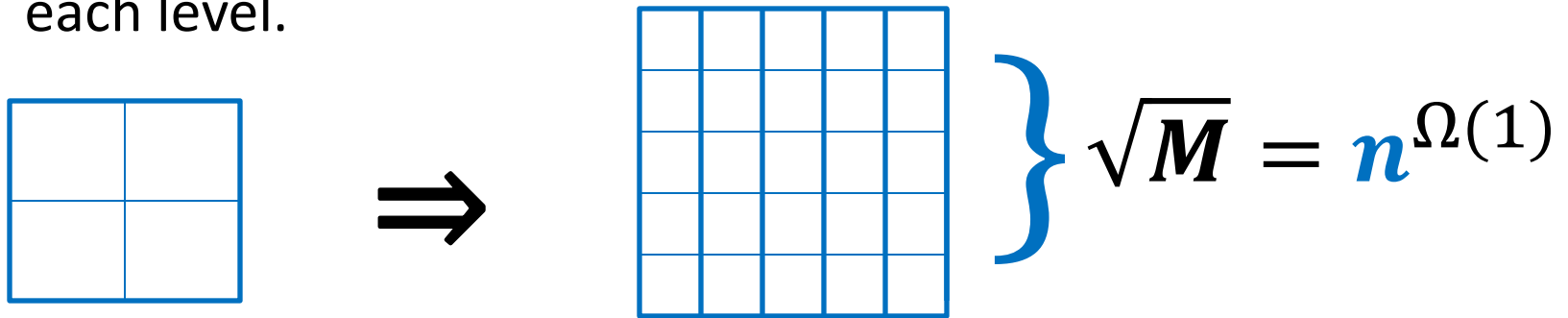


$$L = \Omega\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$$

$$\Pr[\mathbf{Bad\ Cut}] = O(\epsilon)$$

# $(1 + \epsilon)$ -MST in $\mathbf{R} = O(1)$ rounds

- $O(\log n)$  rounds  $\Rightarrow O(\log_S n) = O(1)$  rounds
  - Flatten the tree:  $(\sqrt{M} \times \sqrt{M})$ -grids instead of  $(2 \times 2)$  grids at each level.



Impose a **randomly shifted**  $(\sqrt{M} \times \sqrt{M})$ -tree

Bottom-up: For each node (cell) in the tree

- compute optimum MSTs in subcells via edges of length  $\leq \epsilon L$
- Use only  $\epsilon^2 L$ -net from each cell on the next level

# $(1 + \epsilon)$ -MST in $R = O(1)$ rounds

**Theorem:** Let  $l = \#$  levels in a random tree  $P$

$$\mathbb{E}_P[\mathbf{ALG}] \leq (1 + O(\epsilon l d)) \mathbf{OPT}$$

**Proof (sketch):**

- $\Delta_P(u, v)$  = cell length, which first partitions  $(u, v)$
- **New weights:**  $w_P(u, v) = ||u - v||_2 + \epsilon \Delta_P(u, v)$

$$||u - v||_2 \leq \mathbb{E}_P[w_P(u, v)] \leq (1 + O(\epsilon l d)) ||u - v||_2$$


- Our algorithm implements Kruskal for weights  $w_P$

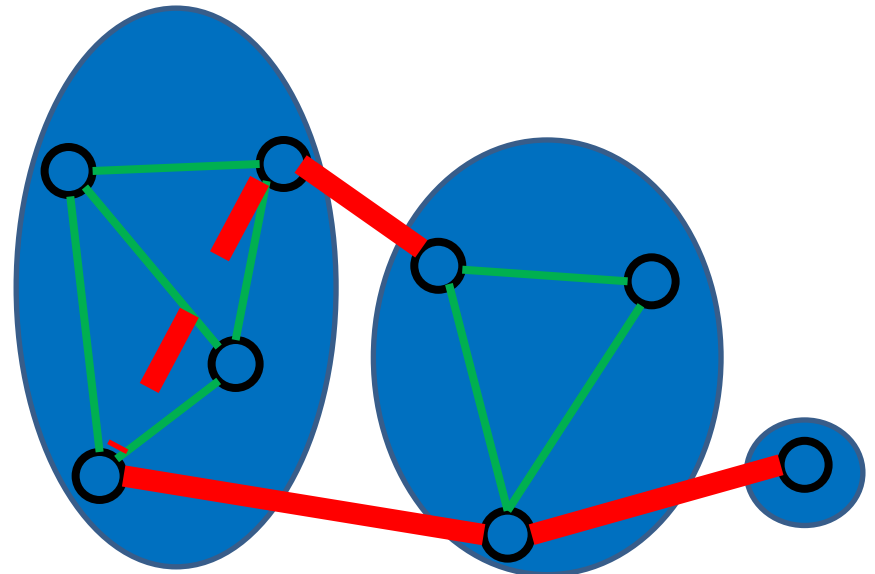
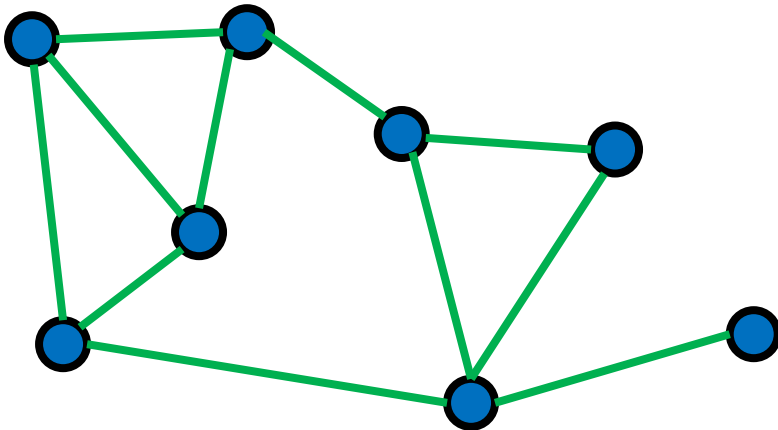
# Technical Details

$(1 + \epsilon)$ -**MST**:

- “**Load balancing**”: partition the tree into parts of the same size
- **Almost linear time locally**: Approximate Nearest Neighbor data structure [Indyk'99]
- Dependence on dimension **d** (size of  **$\epsilon$** -net is  $O\left(\frac{d}{\epsilon}\right)^d$ )
- Generalizes to bounded **doubling dimension**

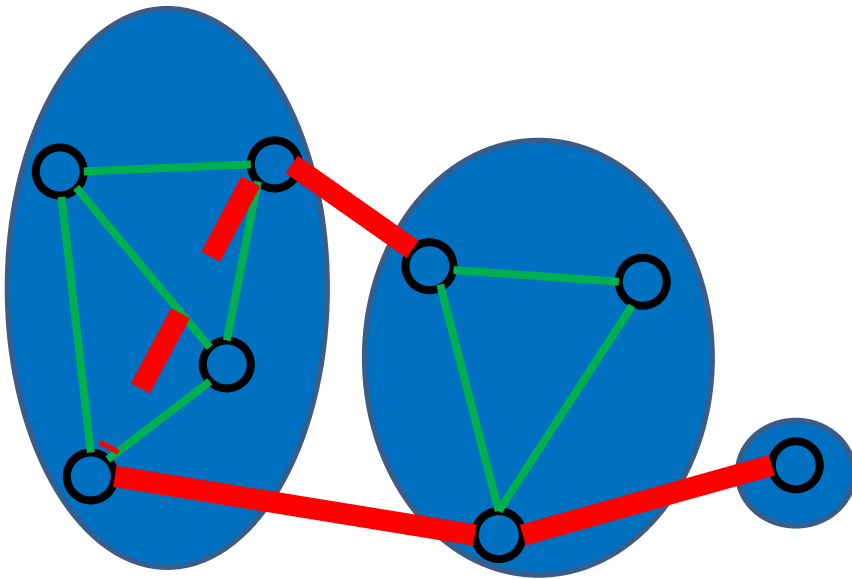
# Problem 2: Correlation Clustering

- Inspired by machine learning at  WhizBang! LABS
- Practice: [Cohen, McCallum '01, Cohen, Richman '02]
- Theory: [Blum, Bansal, Chawla '04]



# Correlation Clustering: Example

- **Minimize # of incorrectly classified pairs:**  
# Covered non-edges + # Non-covered edges



**4** incorrectly classified =  
**1** covered non-edge +  
**3** non-covered edges

# Approximating Correlation Clustering

- **Minimize # of incorrectly** classified pairs
  - $\approx 20000$ -approximation [Blum, Bansal, Chawla'04]
  - [Demaine, Emmanuel, Fiat, Immorlica'04],[Charikar, Guruswami, Wirth'05], [Ailon, Charikar, Newman'05] [Williamson, van Zuylen'07], [Ailon, Liberty'08],...
  - $\approx 2$ -approximation [Chawla, Makarychev, Schramm, Y. '15]
- **Maximize # of correctly** classified pairs
  - $(1 - \epsilon)$ -approximation [Blum, Bansal, Chawla'04]



# Correlation Clustering

One of the most successful clustering methods:

- Only uses **qualitative information** about similarities
- **# of clusters unspecified** (selected to best fit data)
- Applications: document/image **deduplication** (data from crowds or black-box machine learning)
- **NP-hard** [Bansal, Blum, Chawla '04], admits **simple approximation algorithms** with good provable guarantees

# Correlation Clustering

More:

- **Survey** [Wirth]
- **KDD'14** tutorial: “Correlation Clustering: From Theory to Practice” [Bonchi, Garcia-Soriano, Liberty]  
[http://francescobonchi.com/CCtuto\\_kdd14.pdf](http://francescobonchi.com/CCtuto_kdd14.pdf)
- **Wikipedia** article:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Correlation clustering](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Correlation_clustering)

# Data-Based Randomized Pivoting

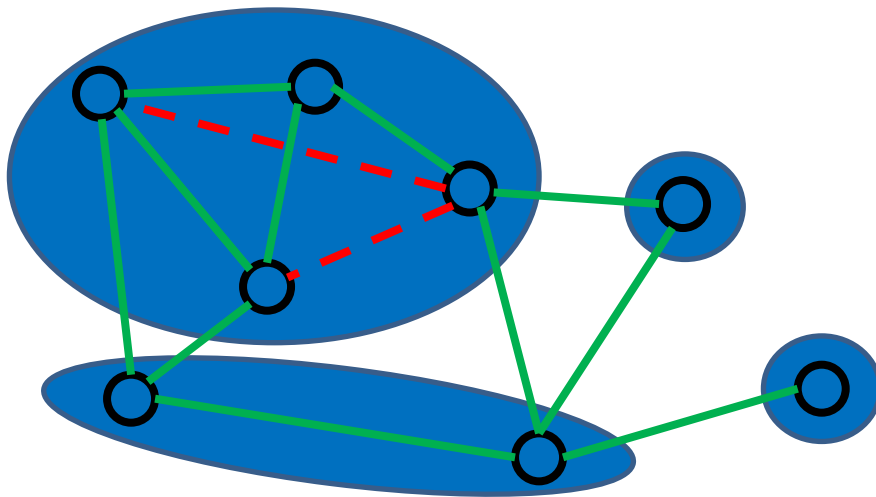
3-approximation (expected) [Ailon, Charikar, Newman]

Algorithm:

- Pick a random pivot vertex  $v$
- Make a cluster  $v \cup N(v)$ , where  $N(v)$  is the set of neighbors of  $v$
- Remove the cluster from the graph and repeat

# Data-Based Randomized Pivoting

- Pick a random pivot vertex  $p$
- Make a cluster  $p \cup N(p)$ , where  $N(p)$  is the set of neighbors of  $p$
- Remove the cluster from the graph and repeat



**8** incorrectly classified =  
**2** covered non-edges +  
**6** non-covered edges

# Parallel Pivot Algorithm

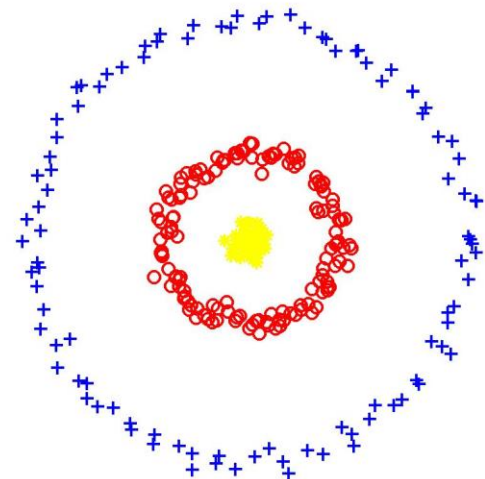
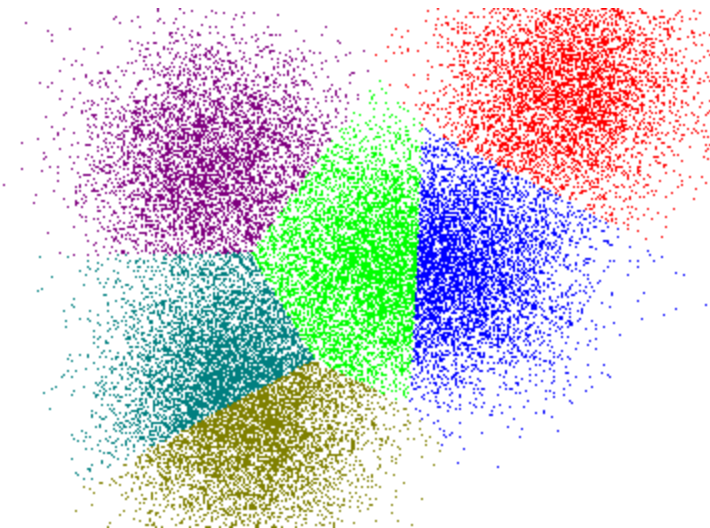
- $(3 + \epsilon)$ -approx. in  $O(\log^2 n / \epsilon)$  rounds  
[Chierichetti, Dalvi, Kumar, KDD'14]
- Algorithm: while the graph is not empty
  - $D$  = current maximum degree
  - Activate each node independently with prob.  $\epsilon/D$
  - Deactivate nodes connected to other active nodes
  - The remaining nodes are **pivots**
  - Create cluster around each pivot as before
  - Remove the clusters

# Parallel Pivot Algorithm: Analysis

- **Fact:** Halves max degree after  $\frac{1}{\epsilon} \log n$  rounds  
 $\Rightarrow$  terminates in  $O\left(\frac{\log^2 n}{\epsilon}\right)$  rounds
- **Fact:** Activation process induces **close to uniform** marginal distribution of the pivots  
 $\Rightarrow$  analysis similar to regular pivot gives  $(3 + \epsilon)$ -approximation

# Part 2: Clustering Vectors

- Input:  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 
  - Feature vectors in ML, word embeddings in NLP, etc.
  - (Implicit) weighted graph of pairwise distances
- Applications:
  - Same as before + Data visualization

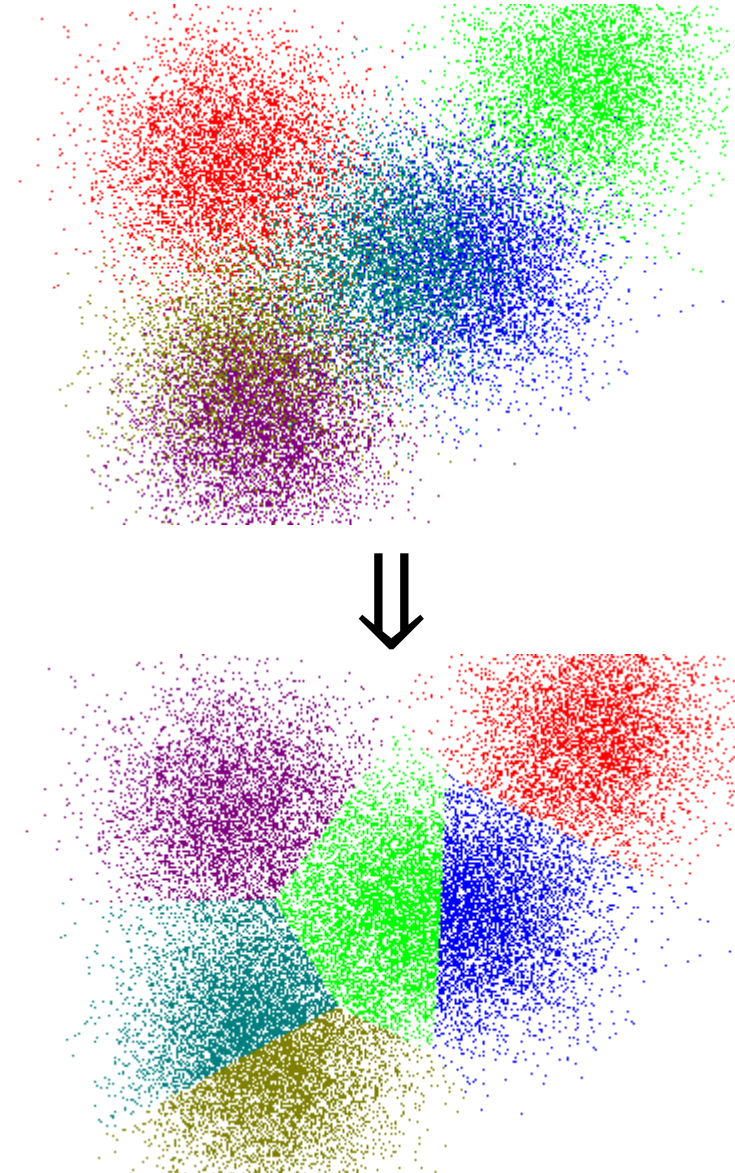


# Problem 3: K-means

- Input:  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Find  $k$  centers  $c_1, \dots, c_k$
- Minimize sum of squared distance to the closest center:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \min_{j=1}^k \|v_i - c_j\|_2^2$$

- $\|v_i - c_j\|_2^2 = \sum_{t=1}^d (v_{it} - c_{jt})^2$
- NP-hard





# K-means++ [Arthur,Vassilvitskii'07]

- $C = \{c_1, \dots, c_t\}$  (collection of centers)
- $d^2(v, C) = \min_{j=1}^k ||v - c_j||_2^2$

K-means++ algorithm (gives  $O(\log k)$ -approximation):

- Pick  $c_1$  uniformly at random from the data
- Pick centers  $c_2 \dots, c_k$  sequentially from the distribution where point  $v$  has probability

$$\frac{d^2(v, C)}{\sum_{i=1}^n d^2(v_i, C)}$$

# K-means|| [Bahmani et al. '12]

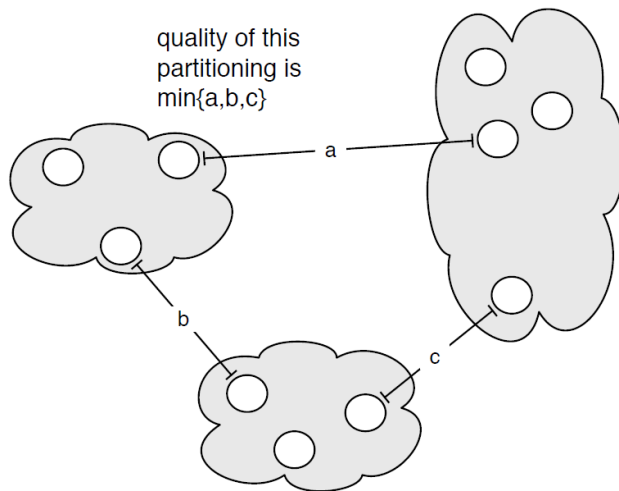
- Pick  $C = c_1$  uniformly at random from data
- Initial cost:  $\psi = \sum_{i=1}^n d^2(v_i, c_1)$
- Do  $O(\log \psi)$  times:
  - Add  $O(\mathbf{k})$  centers from the distribution where point  $v$  has probability

$$\frac{d^2(v, C)}{\sum_{i=1}^n d^2(v_i, C)}$$

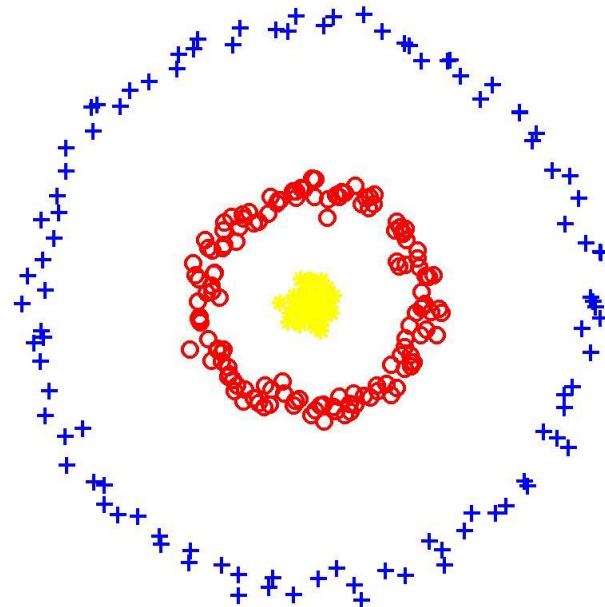
- Solve k-means for these  $O(\mathbf{k} \log \psi)$  points locally
- **Thm.** If final step gives  $\alpha$ -approximation  
 $\Rightarrow O(\alpha)$ -approximation overall

# Problem 4: Single Linkage Clustering

- [Zahn'71] **Clustering** via Minimum Spanning Tree:  
 $k$  clusters: remove  $k - 1$  longest edges from MST
- Maximizes **minimum** intercluster distance



[Kleinberg, Tardos]



# Large geometric graphs

- Graph algorithms: **Dense graphs** vs. sparse graphs
  - **Dense:**  $S \gg |V|$ .
  - **Sparse:**  $S \ll |V|$ .
- Our setting:
  - Dense graphs, sparsely represented:  $O(n)$  space
  - Output doesn't fit on one machine ( $S \ll n$ )
- **Today:**  $(1 + \epsilon)$ -approximate MST [Andoni, Onak, Nikolov, Y.]
  - $d = 2$  (easy to generalize)
  - $R = \log_S n = O(1)$  rounds ( $S = n^{\Omega(1)}$ )

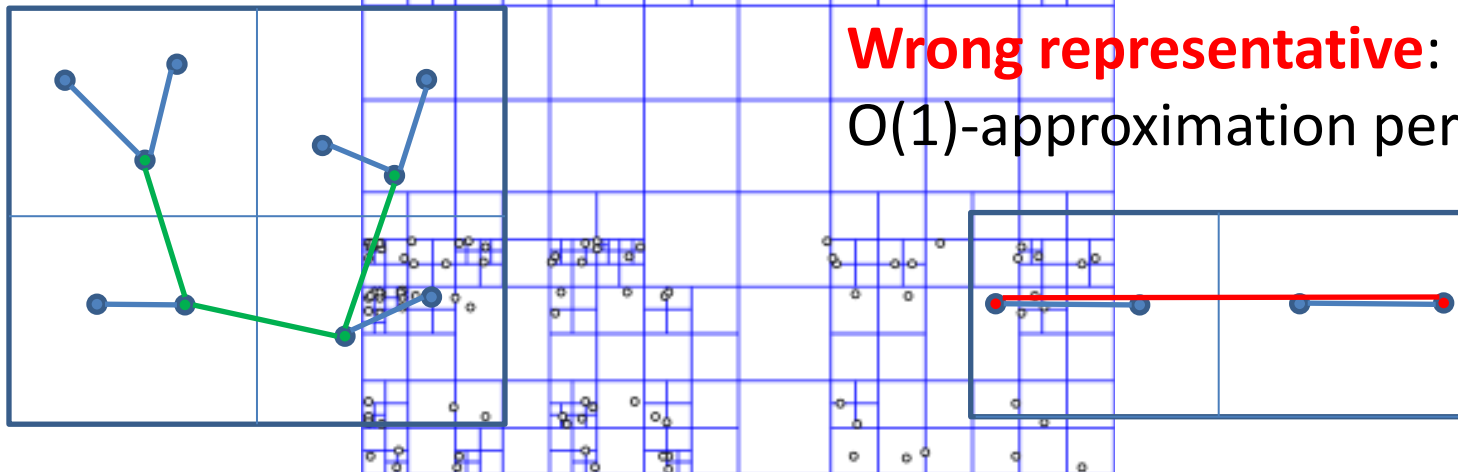
# $O(\log n)$ -MST in $R = O(\log n)$ rounds

- Assume points have integer coordinates  $[0, \dots, \Delta]$ , where  $\Delta = O(n^2)$ .

Impose an  $O(\log n)$ -depth quadtree

Bottom-up: For each cell in the quadtree

- compute optimum MSTs in subcells
- Use only **one representative** from each cell on the next level



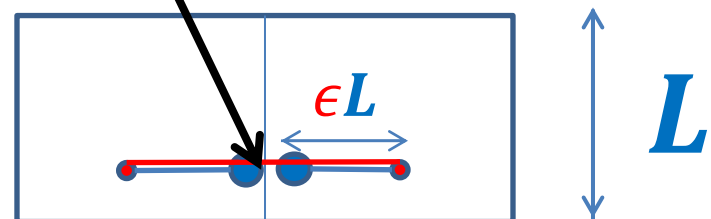
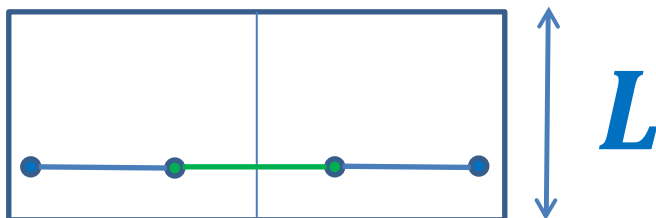
# $\epsilon L$ -nets

- $\epsilon L$ -net for a cell  $C$  with side length  $L$ :  
Collection  $S$  of vertices in  $C$ , every vertex is at distance  $\leq \epsilon L$  from some vertex in  $S$ . (Fact: Can efficiently compute  $\epsilon$ -net of size  $O\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ )

Bottom-up: For each cell in the quadtree

- Compute optimum MSTs in subcells
- Use  $\epsilon L$ -net from each cell on the next level

- **Idea:** Pay only  $O(\epsilon L)$  for an **edge** cut by cell with side  $L$
- Randomly shift the quadtree:  
 $\Pr[\text{cut edge of length } \ell \text{ by } L] \sim \ell/L$  – charge errors  $O(1)$ -approximation per level



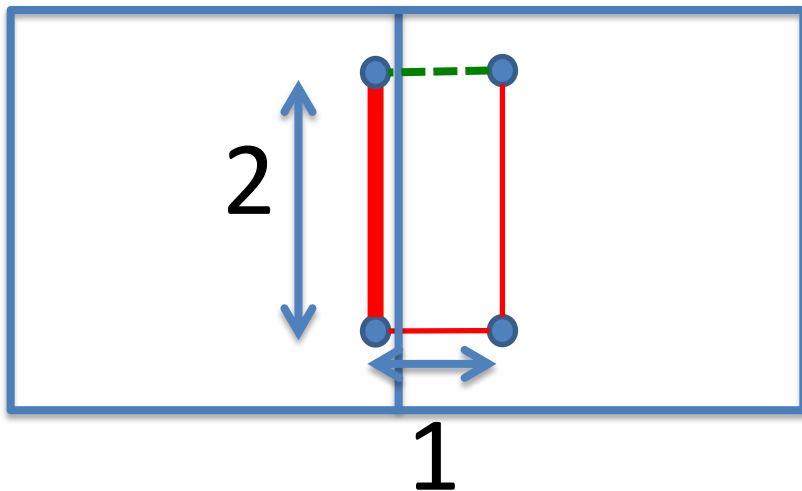
# Randomly shifted quadtree

- Top cell shifted by a random vector in  $[0, L]^2$

Impose a **randomly shifted** quadtree (top cell length  $2\Delta$ )

Bottom-up: For each cell in the quadtree

- Compute optimum MSTs in subcells
- Use  $\epsilon L$ -net from each cell on the next level



Pay **5** instead of **4**  
**Bad Cut**  
 $\Pr[\text{Bad Cut}] = \Omega(1)$

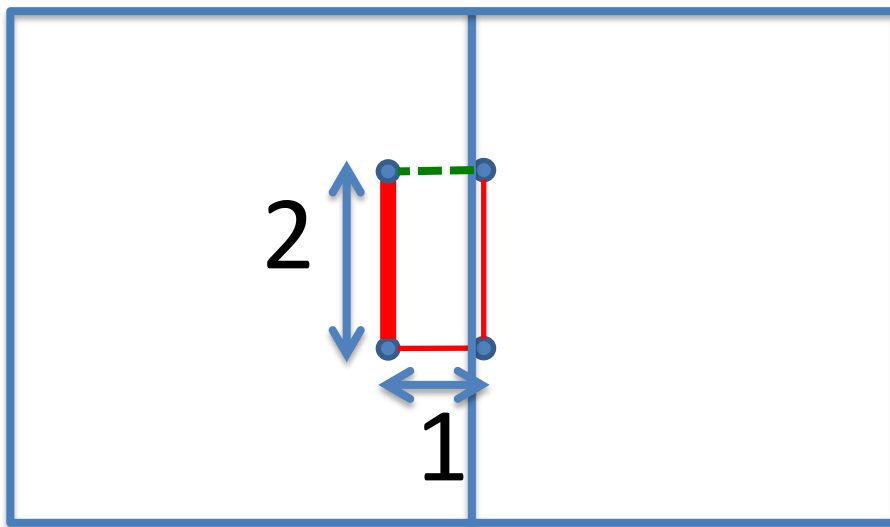
# $(1 + \epsilon)$ -MST in $\mathbf{R} = O(\log n)$ rounds

- **Idea:** Only use short edges inside the cells

Impose a **randomly shifted** quadtree (top cell length  $\frac{2\Delta}{\epsilon}$ )

Bottom-up: For each node (cell) in the quadtree

- compute optimum Minimum Spanning **Forests** in subcells, **using edges of length  $\leq \epsilon L$**
- Use only  $\epsilon^2 L$ -net from each cell on the next level



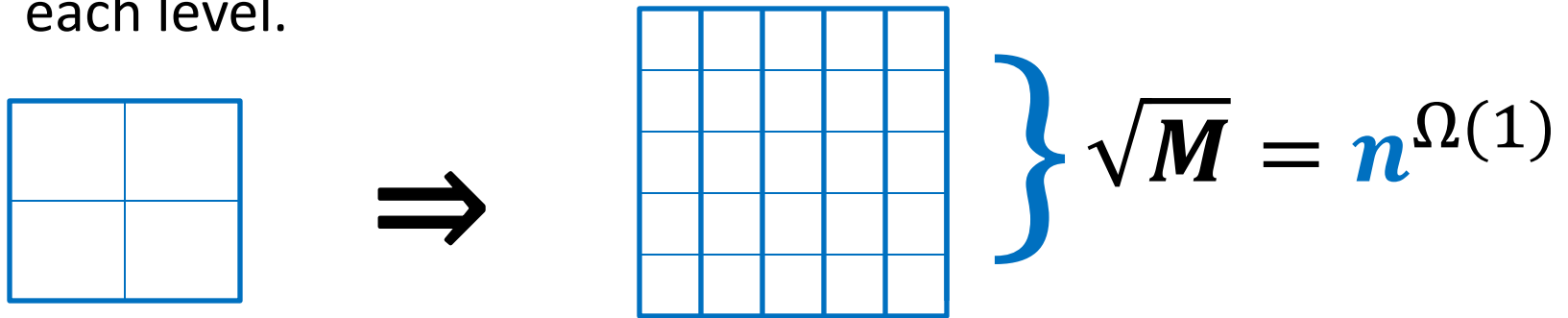
$$L = \Omega\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon}\right)$$

$$\Pr[\mathbf{Bad\ Cut}] = O(\epsilon)$$



# $(1 + \epsilon)$ -MST in $\mathbf{R} = O(1)$ rounds

- $O(\log n)$  rounds  $\Rightarrow O(\log_S n) = O(1)$  rounds
  - Flatten the tree:  $(\sqrt{M} \times \sqrt{M})$ -grids instead of  $(2 \times 2)$  grids at each level.



Impose a **randomly shifted**  $(\sqrt{M} \times \sqrt{M})$ -tree

Bottom-up: For each node (cell) in the tree

- compute optimum MSTs in subcells via edges of length  $\leq \epsilon L$
- Use only  $\epsilon^2 L$ -net from each cell on the next level

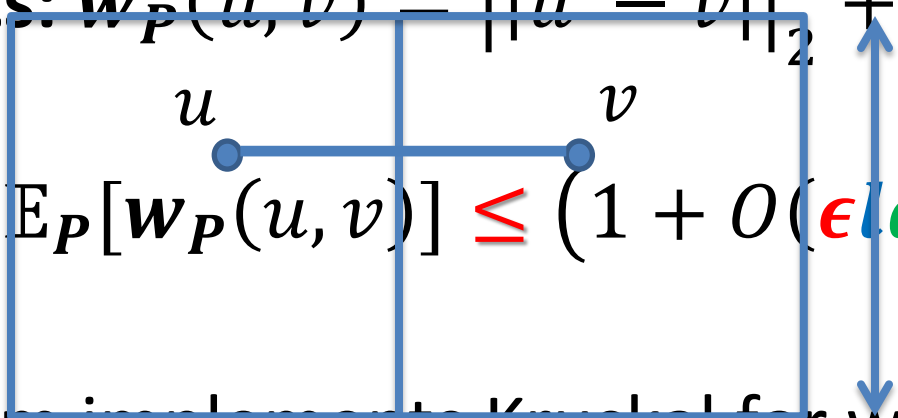
# $(1 + \epsilon)$ -MST in $R = O(1)$ rounds

**Theorem:** Let  $l = \#$  levels in a random tree  $P$

$$\mathbb{E}_P[\mathbf{ALG}] \leq (1 + O(\epsilon l d)) \mathbf{OPT}$$

**Proof (sketch):**

- $\Delta_P(u, v)$  = cell length, which first partitions  $(u, v)$
- **New weights:**  $w_P(u, v) = ||u - v||_2 + \epsilon \Delta_P(u, v)$

$$||u - v||_2 \leq \mathbb{E}_P[w_P(u, v)] \leq (1 + O(\epsilon l d)) ||u - v||_2$$


- Our algorithm implements Kruskal for weights  $w_P$

# Technical Details

$(1 + \epsilon)$ -**MST**:

- “**Load balancing**”: partition the tree into parts of the same size
- **Almost linear time locally**: Approximate Nearest Neighbor data structure [Indyk'99]
- Dependence on dimension **d** (size of  **$\epsilon$** -net is  $O\left(\frac{d}{\epsilon}\right)^d$ )
- Generalizes to bounded **doubling dimension**