

# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 9:

MINIMUM-DEGREE SPANNING TREE  
via Local Search

Part I:

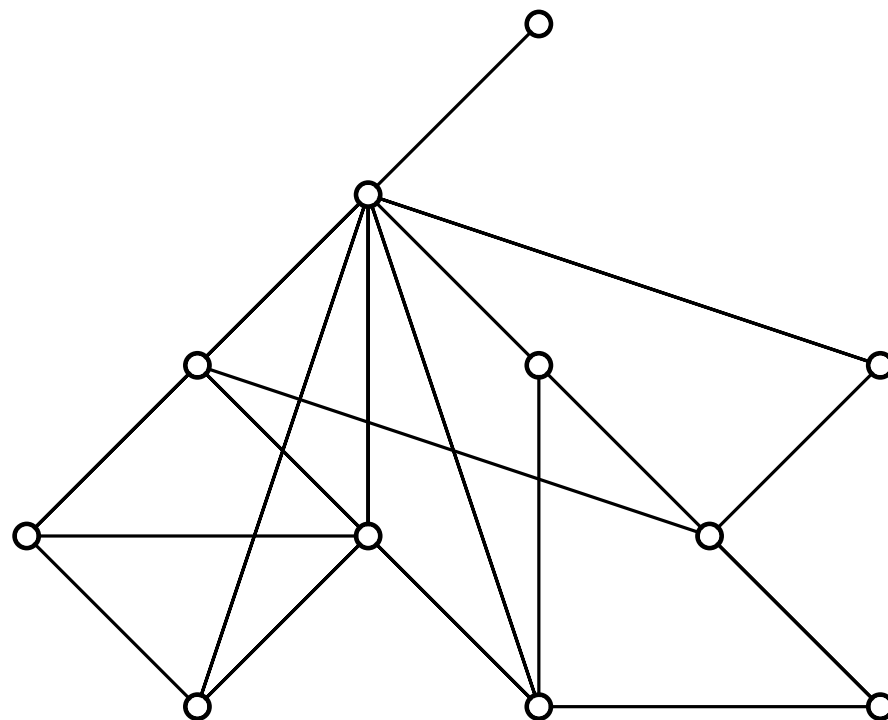
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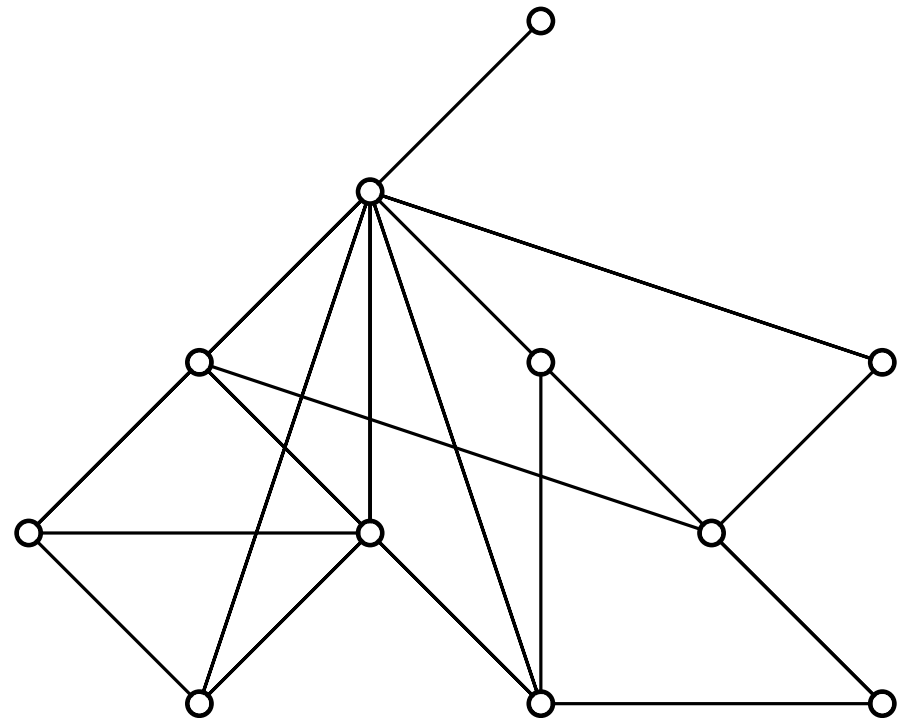
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Find a **spanning tree**  $T$  which has the minimum maximum degree  $\Delta(T)$  among all spanning trees of  $G$ .



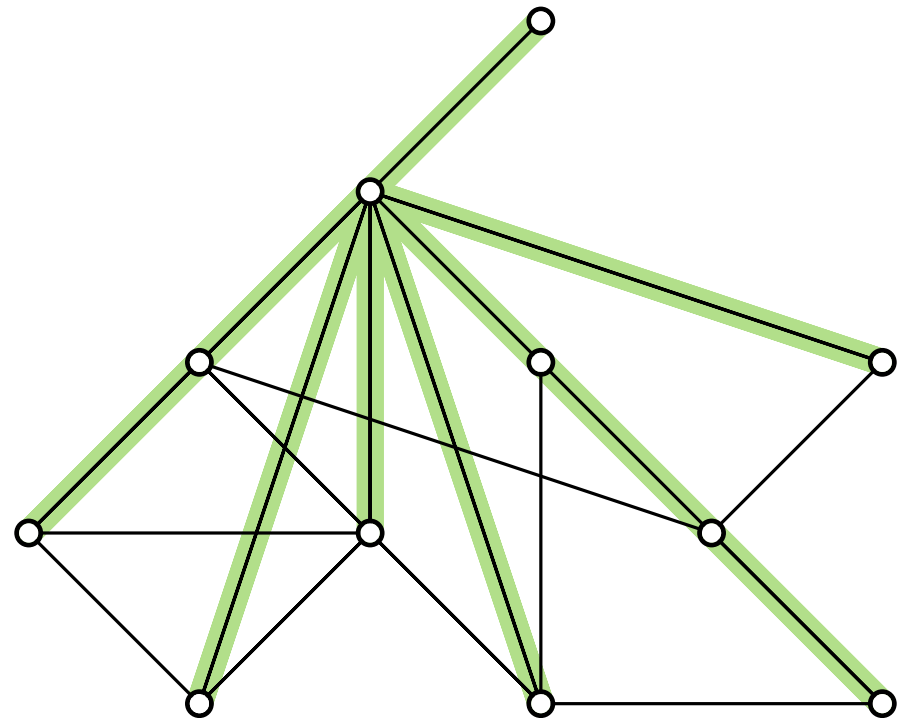
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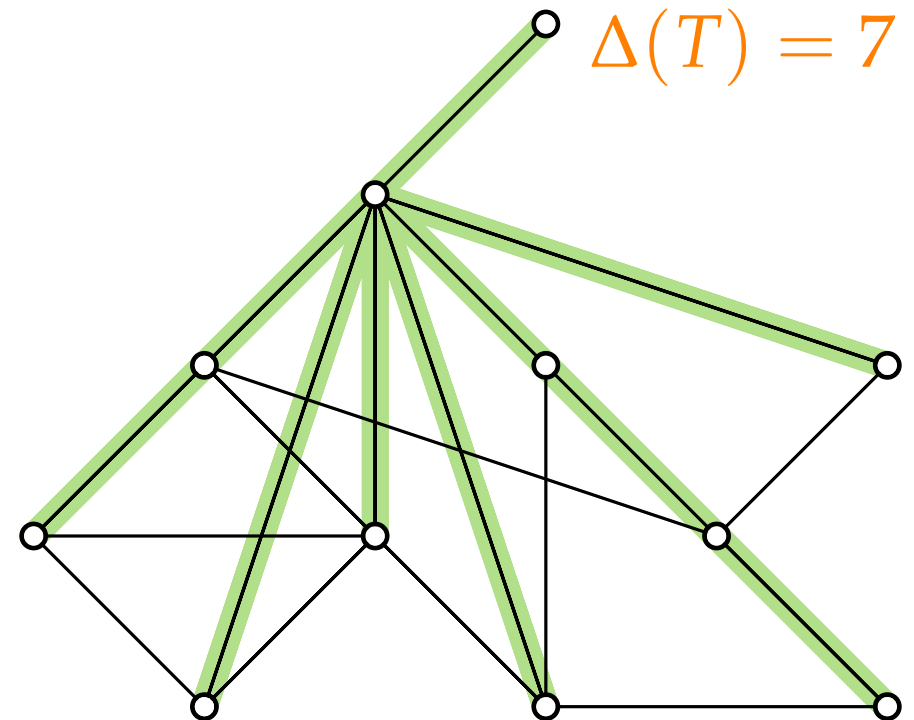
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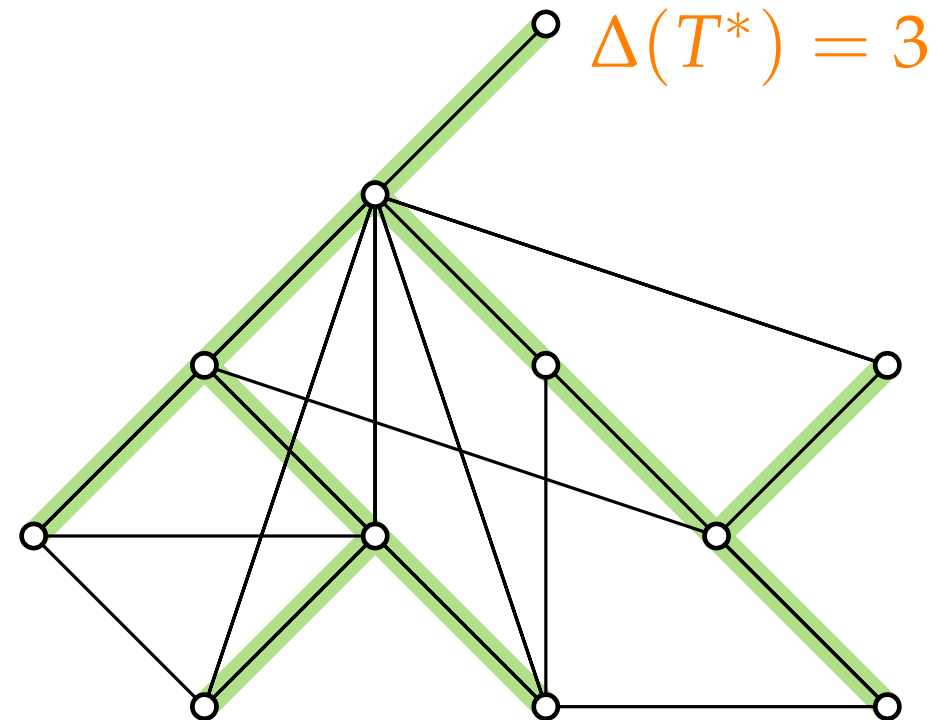
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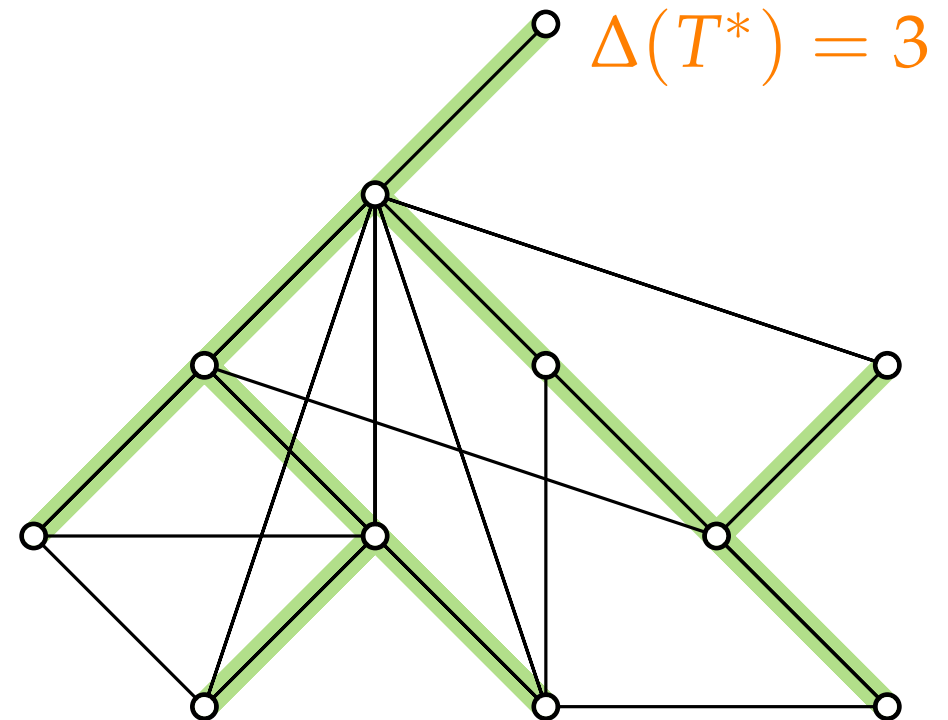
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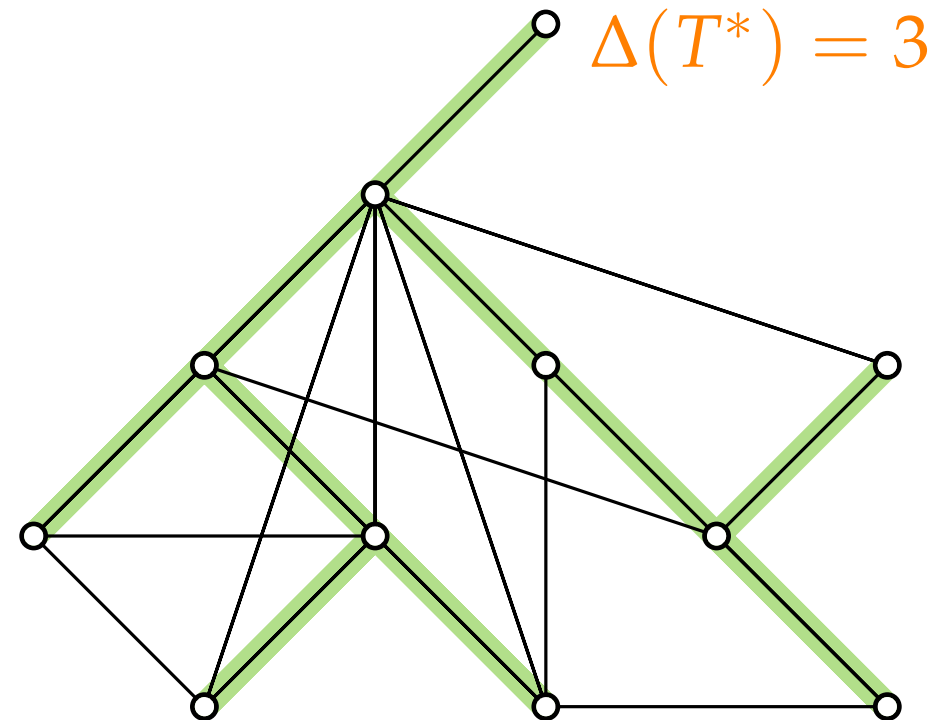
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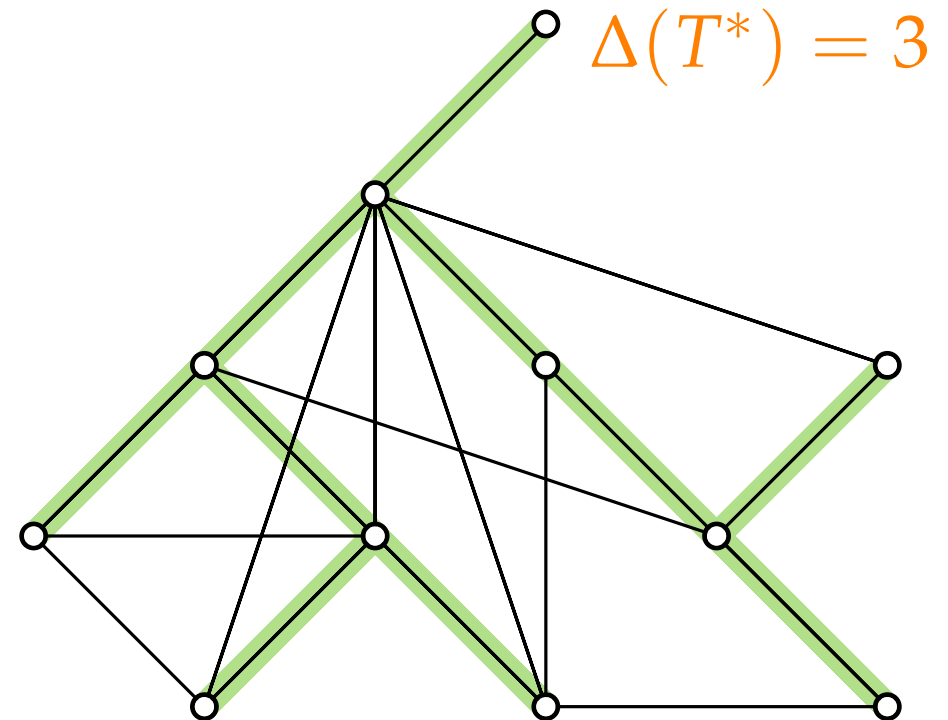
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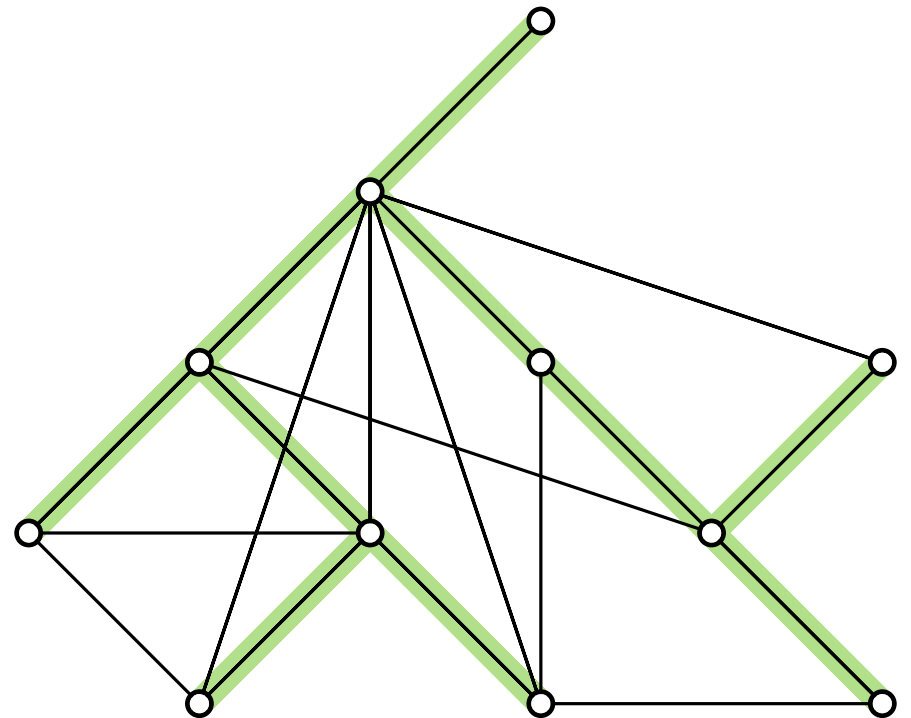
Why?

Special case of  
Hamiltonian Path!



# Warmup

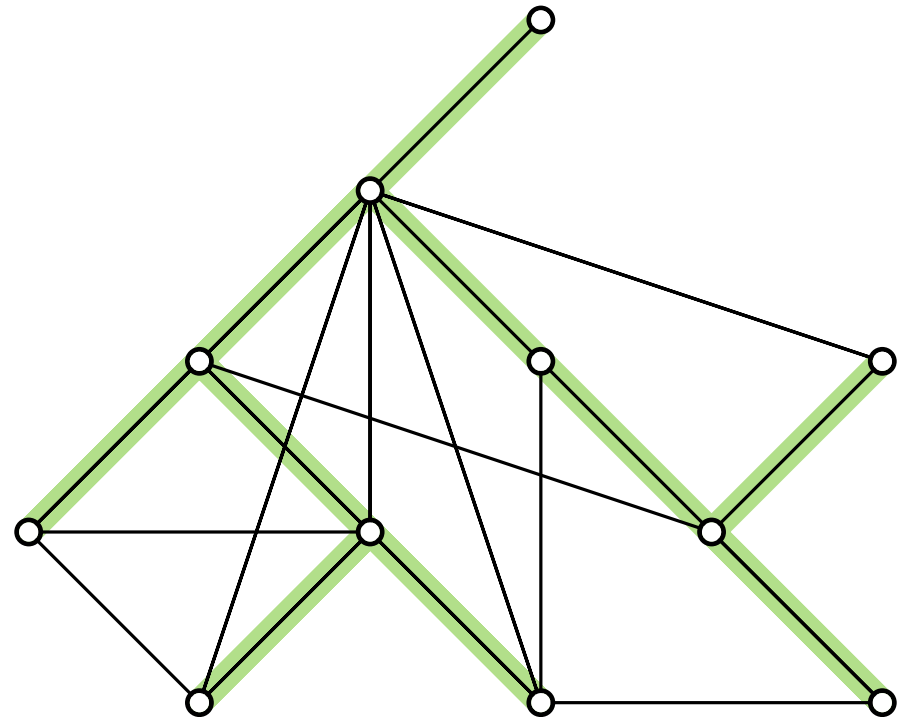
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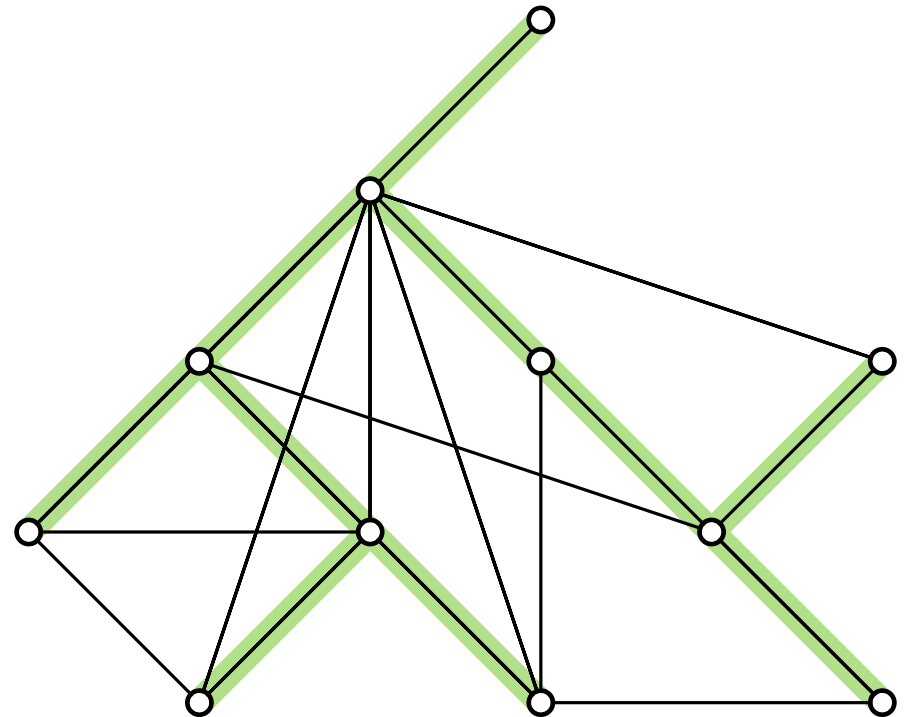


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Obs.

A spanning tree  $T$  has...

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- sum of degrees  $\sum_{v \in V} \deg_T(v) = ?$

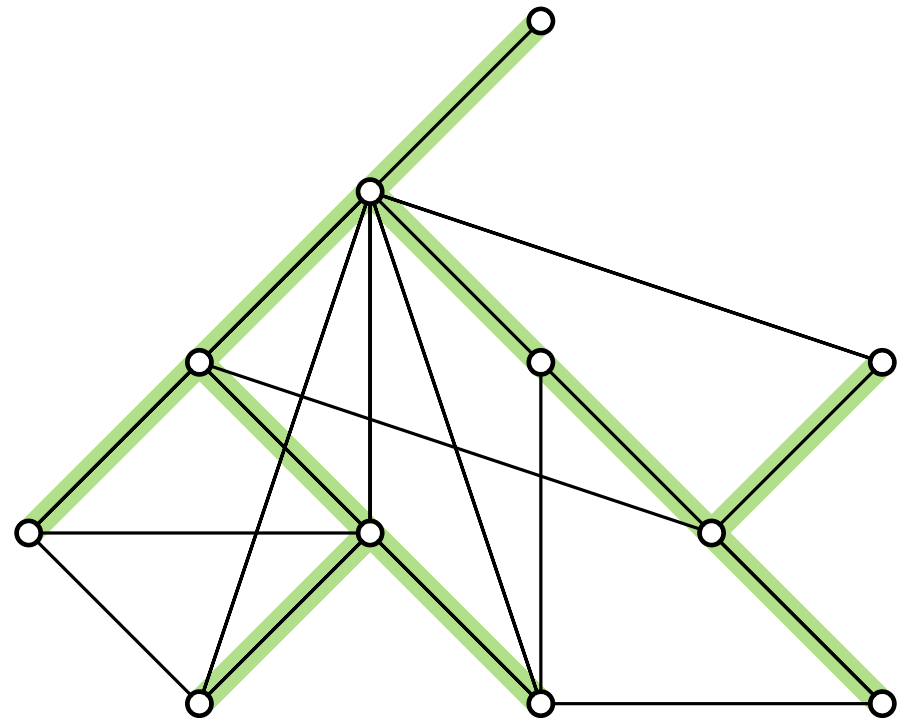


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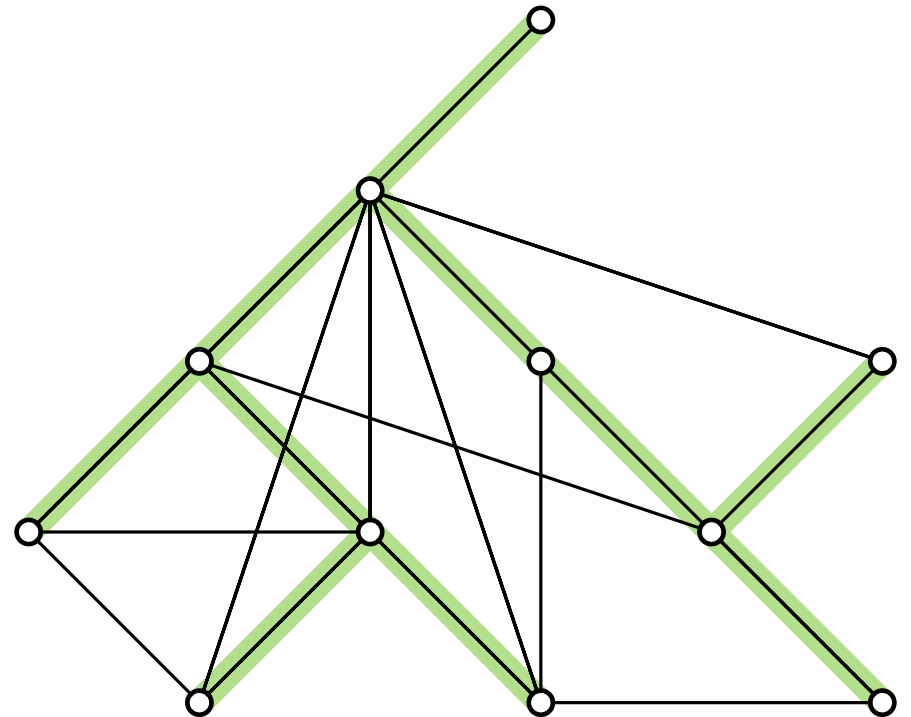


# Warmup

**Obs.**

A spanning tree  $T$  has...

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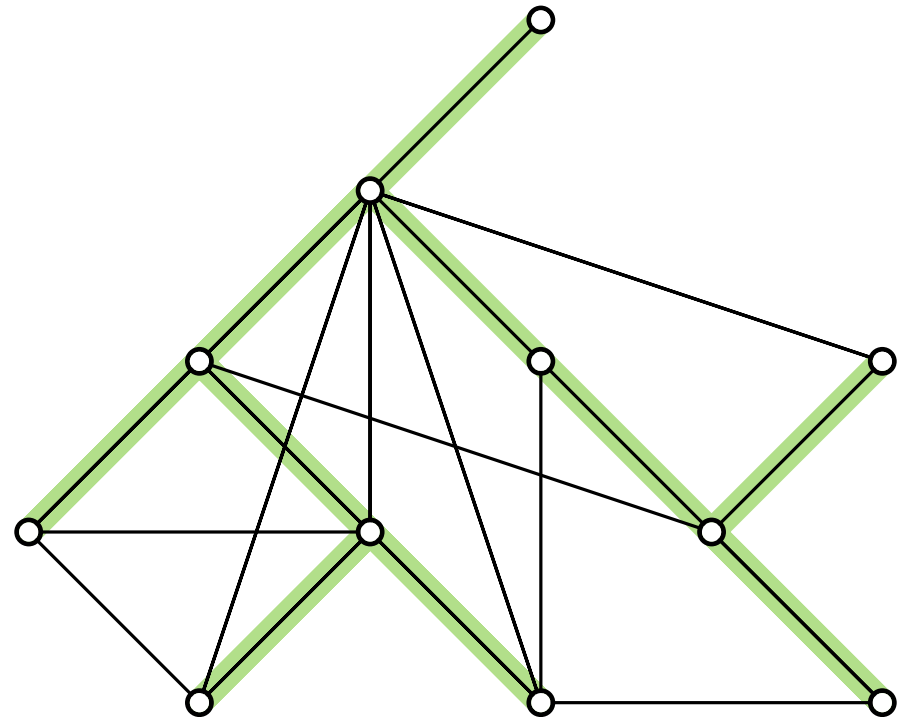


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**Obs.**

A spanning tree  $T$  has...

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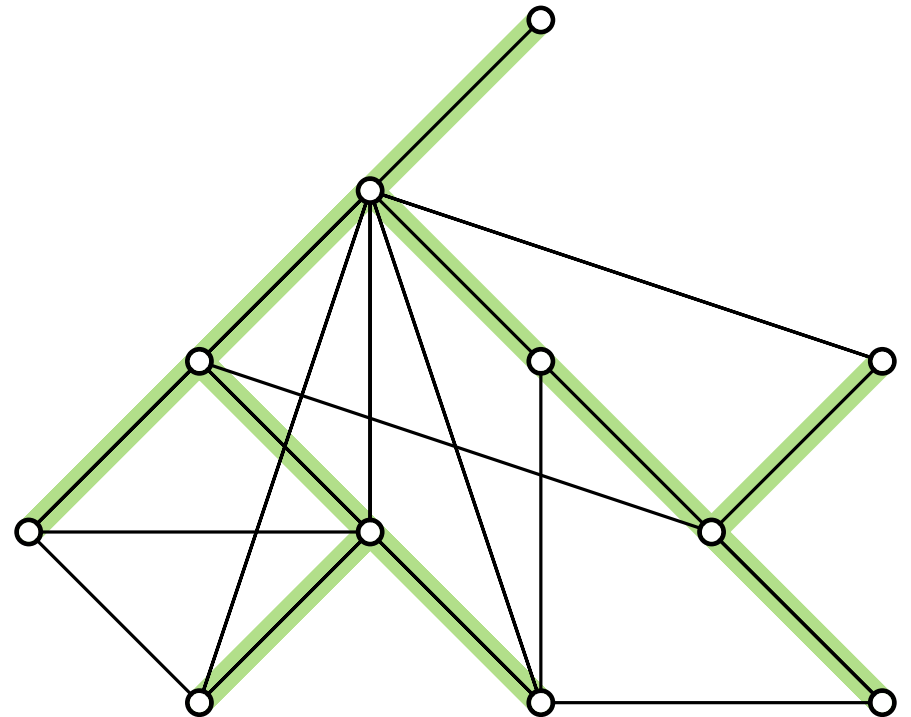


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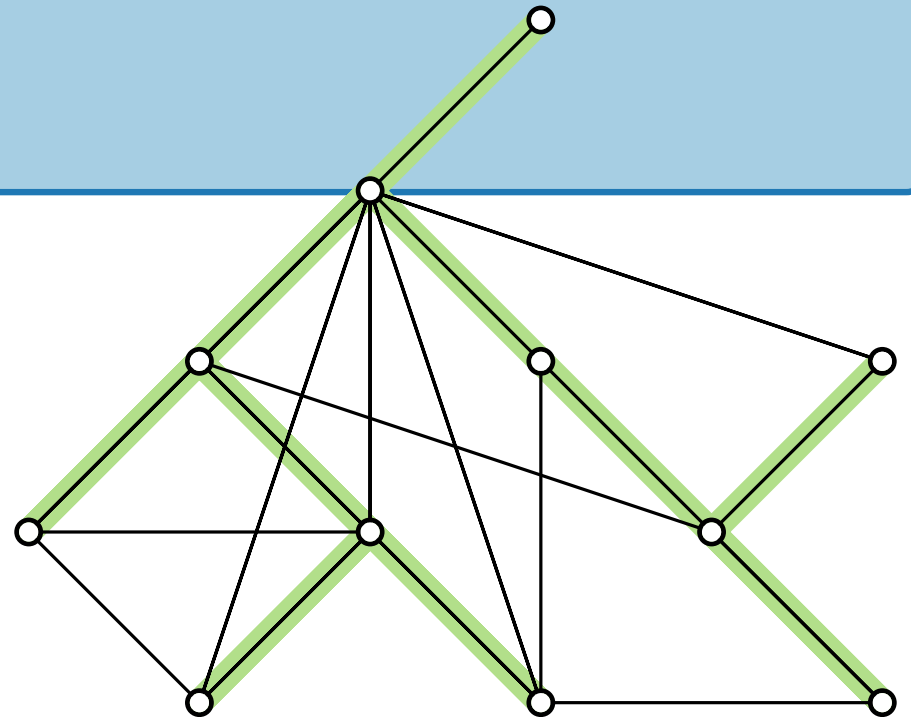
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**Obs.**

Let  $V' \subseteq V(G)$ .

Then  $\Delta(G) \geq$  ?



# Warmup

**Obs.**

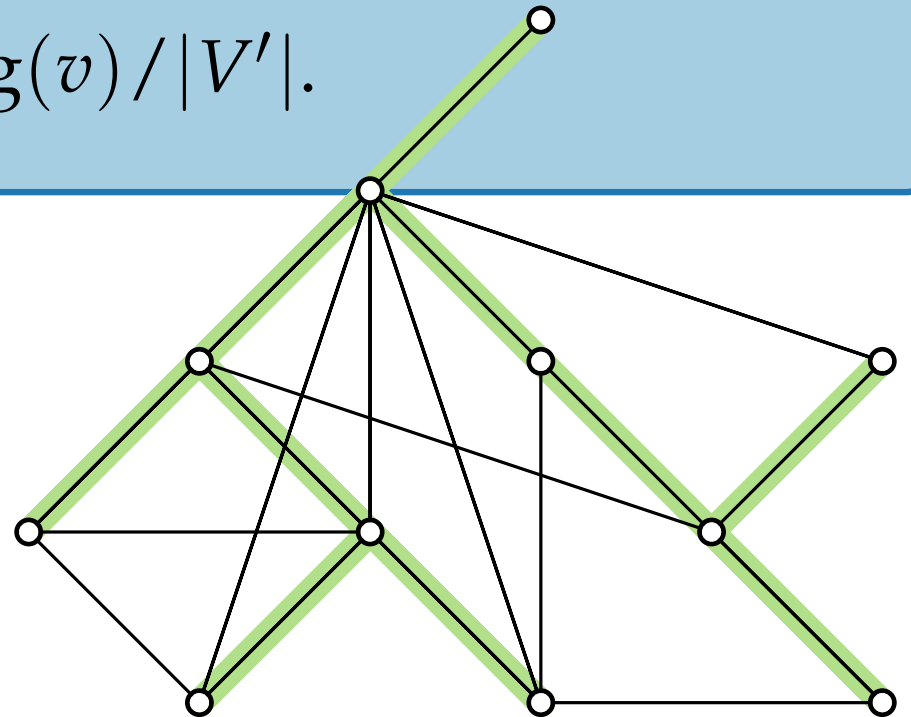
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Let  $V' \subseteq V(G)$ .

Then  $\Delta(G) \geq \sum_{v \in V'} \deg(v) / |V'|$ .

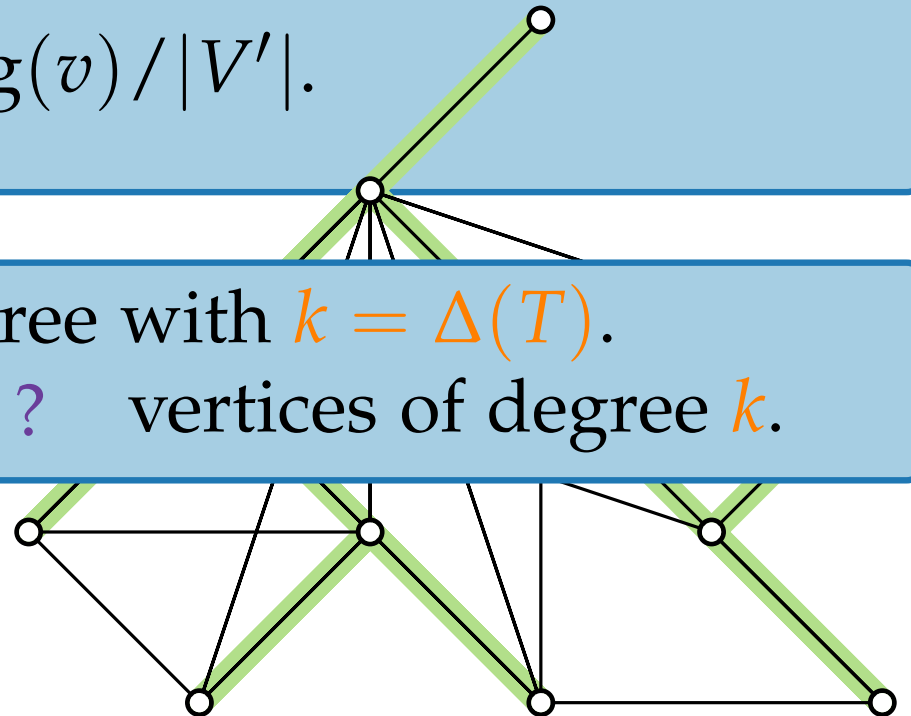


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Then  $T$  has at most ? vertices of degree  $k$ .

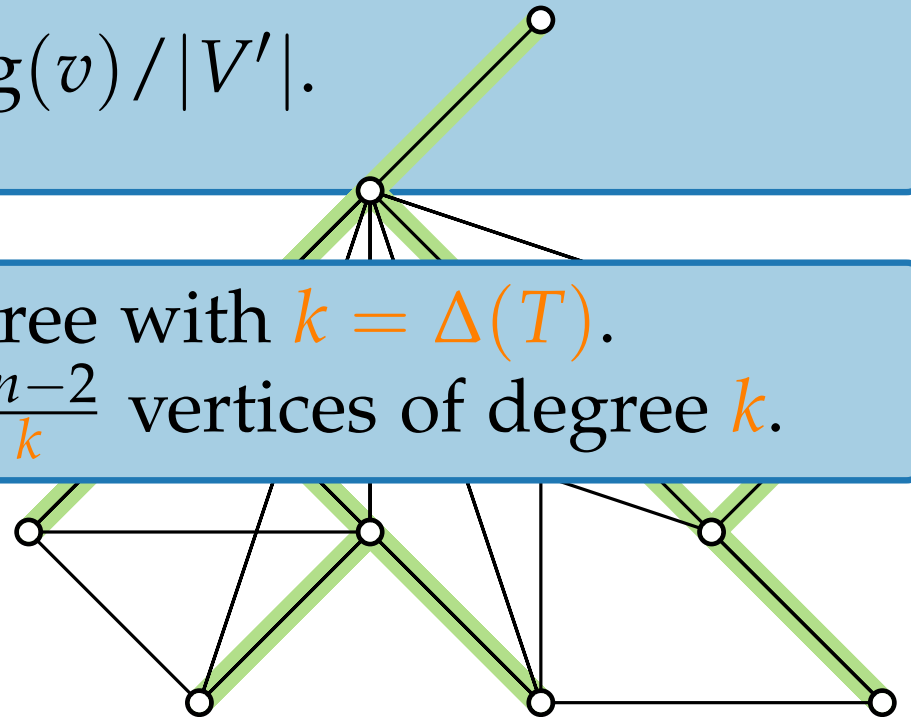


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# Approximation Algorithms

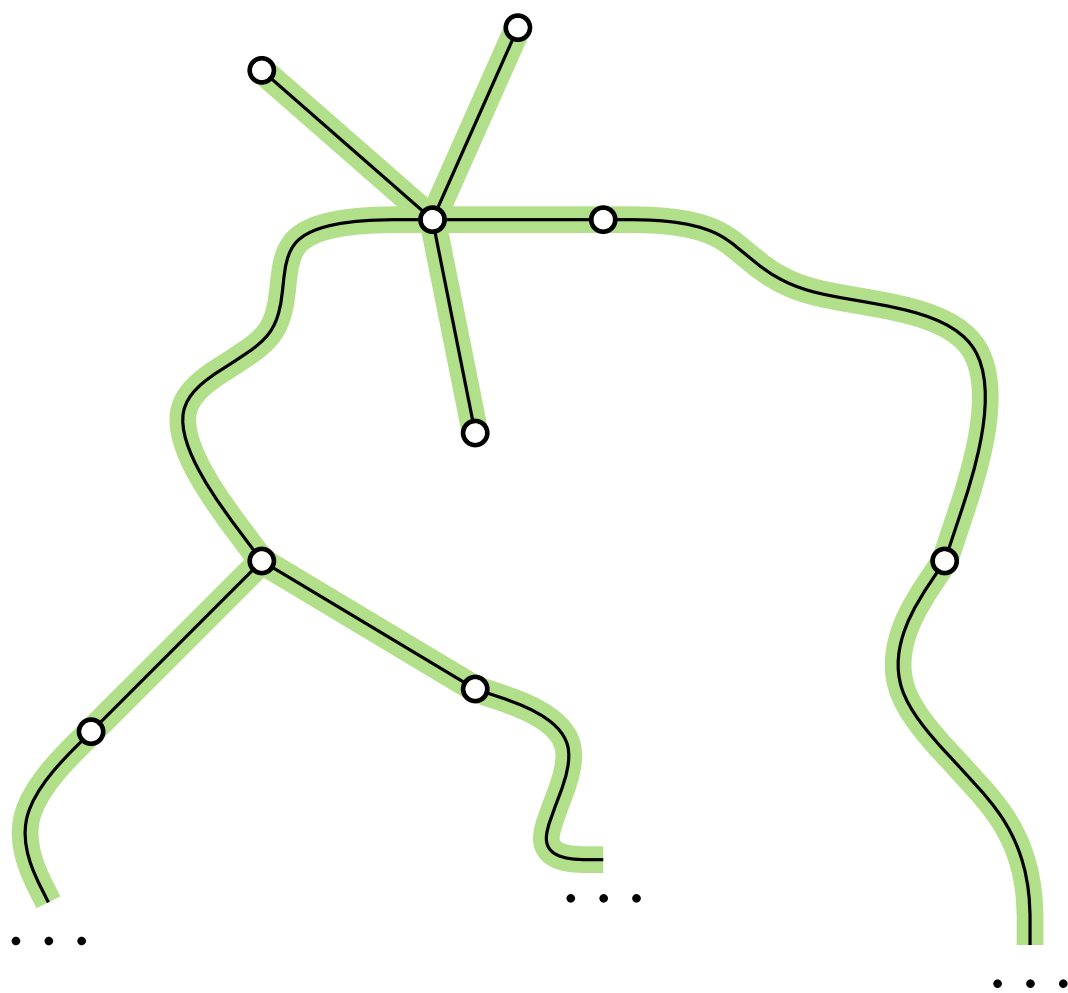
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Part II:

Edge Flips and Local Search

# Edge Flips

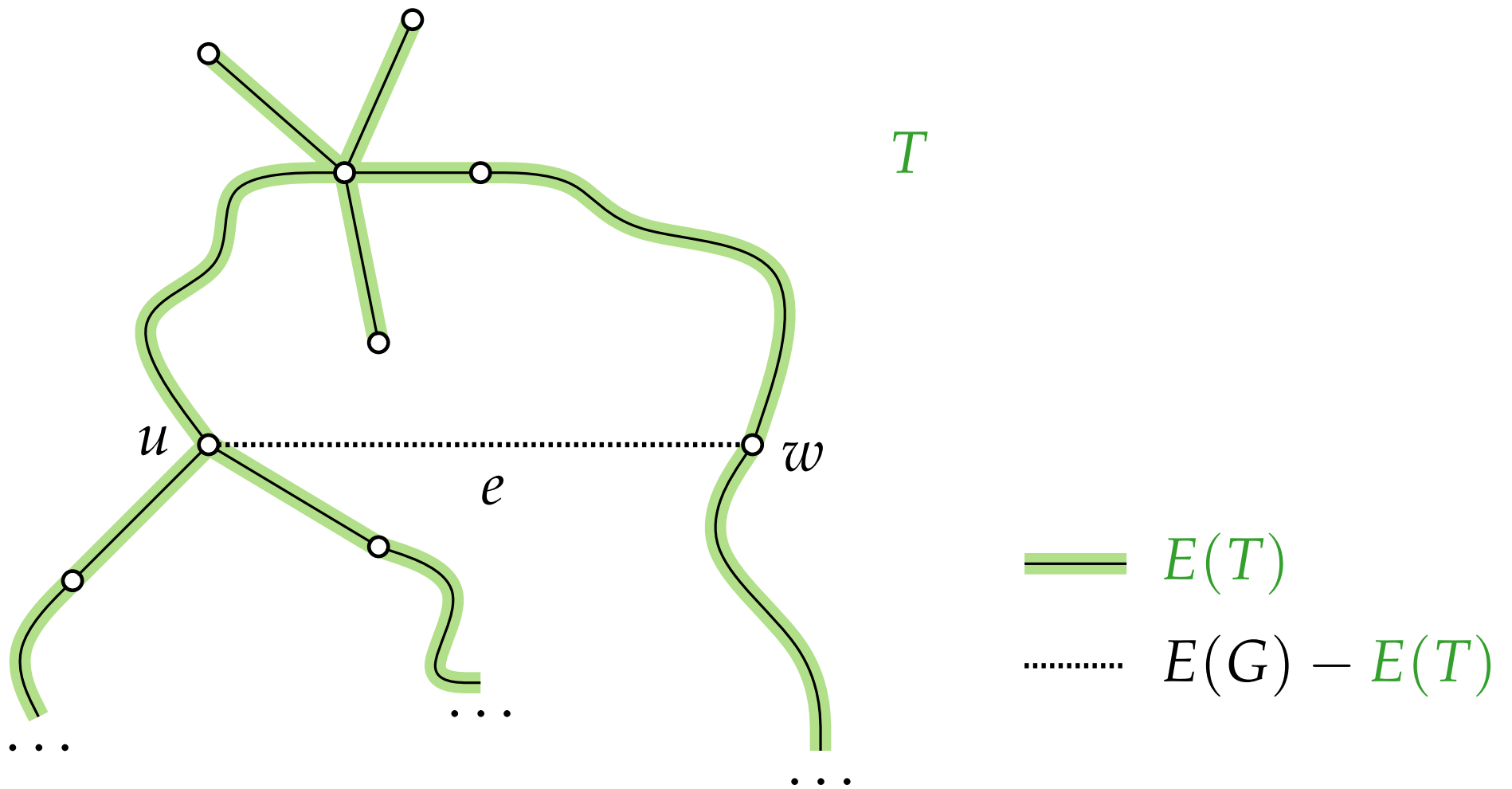


$T$

—  $E(T)$

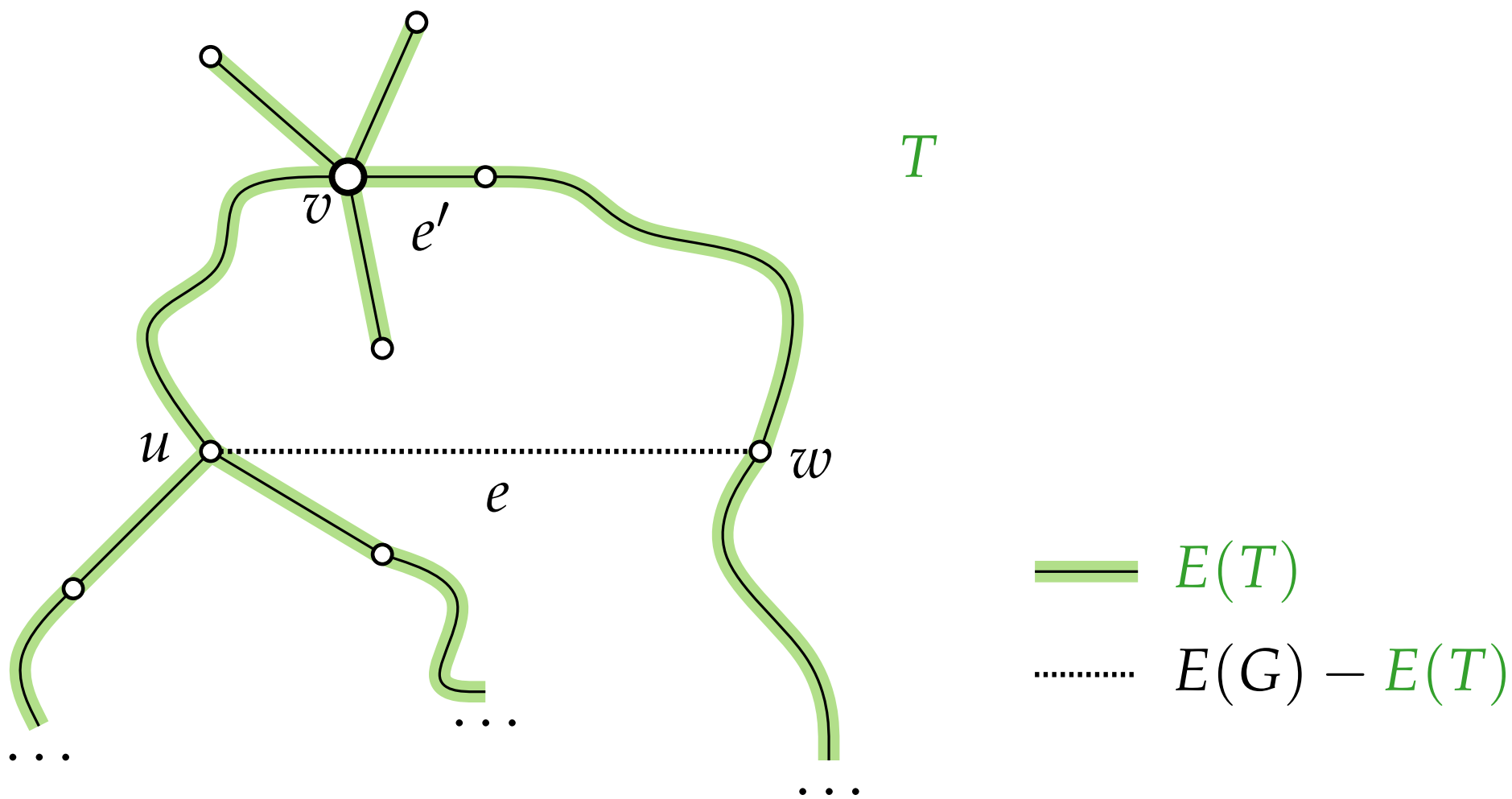
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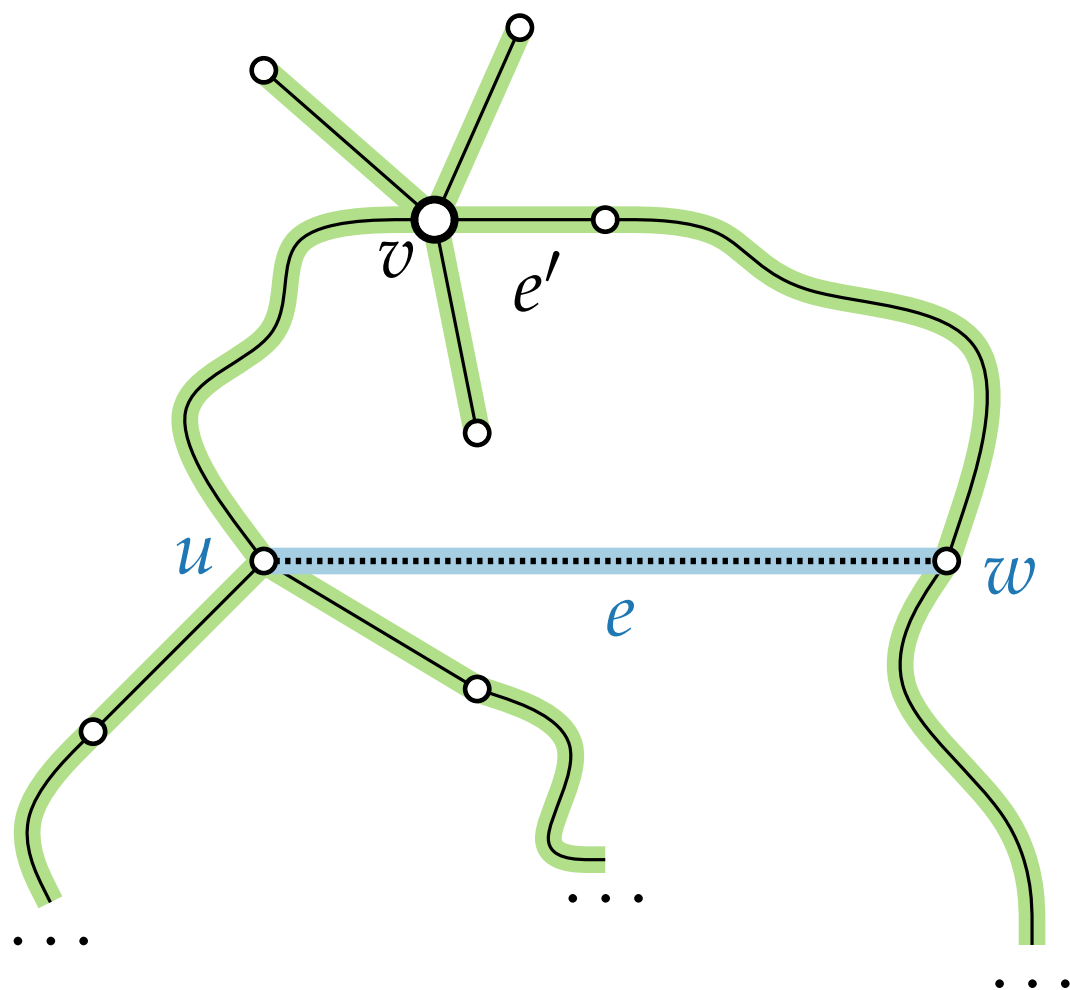




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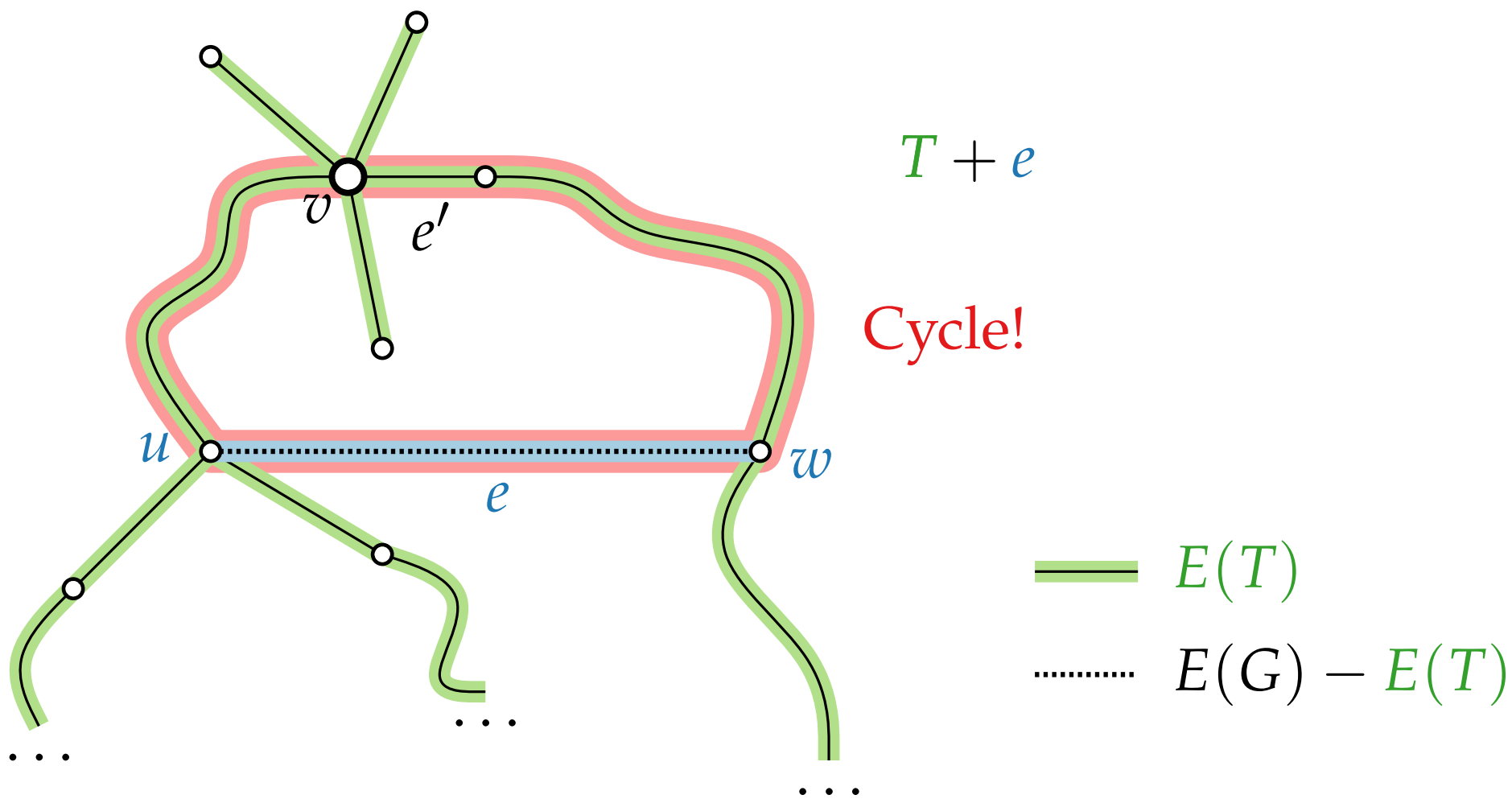


$T + e$

—  $E(T)$

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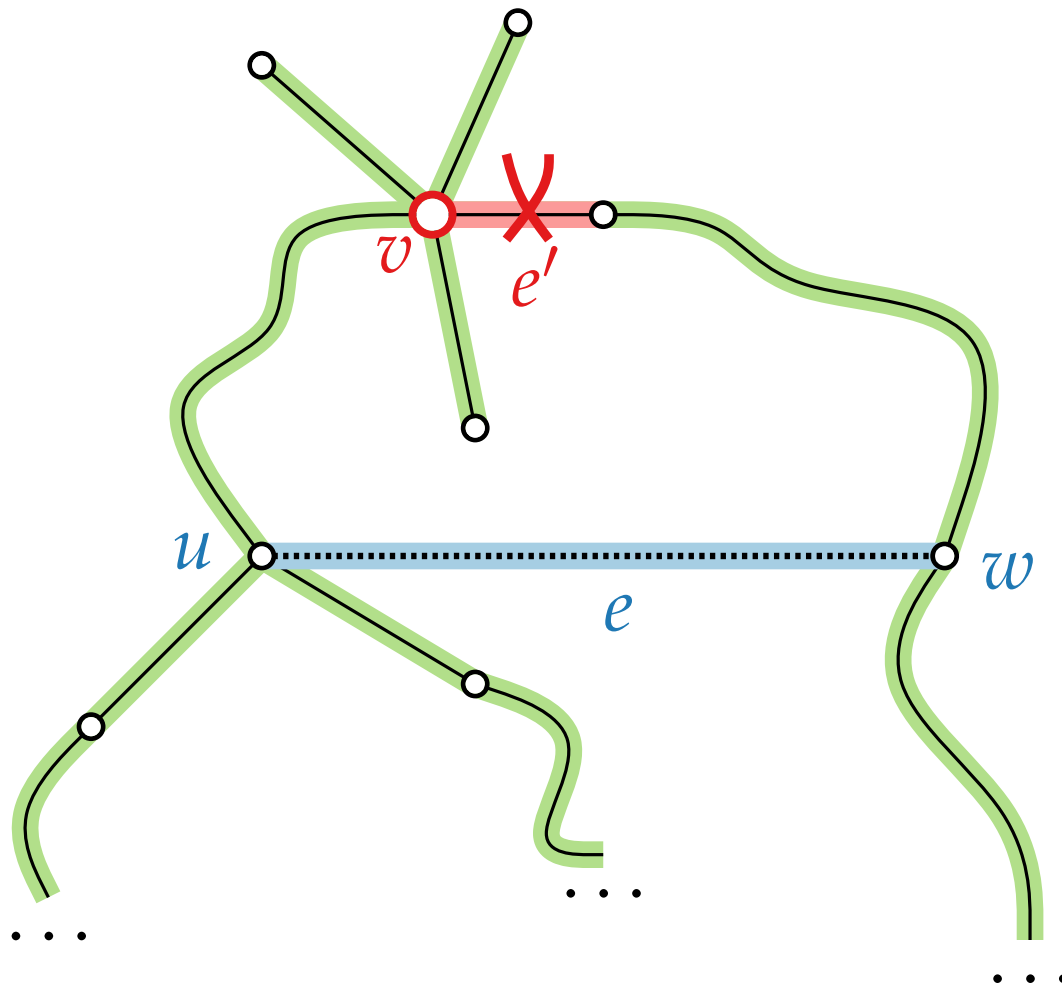
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**Def.** An **improving flip** in  $T$  for a vertex  $v$  and an edge  $uw \in E(G) \setminus E(T)$  is a flip with  $\deg_T(v) >$

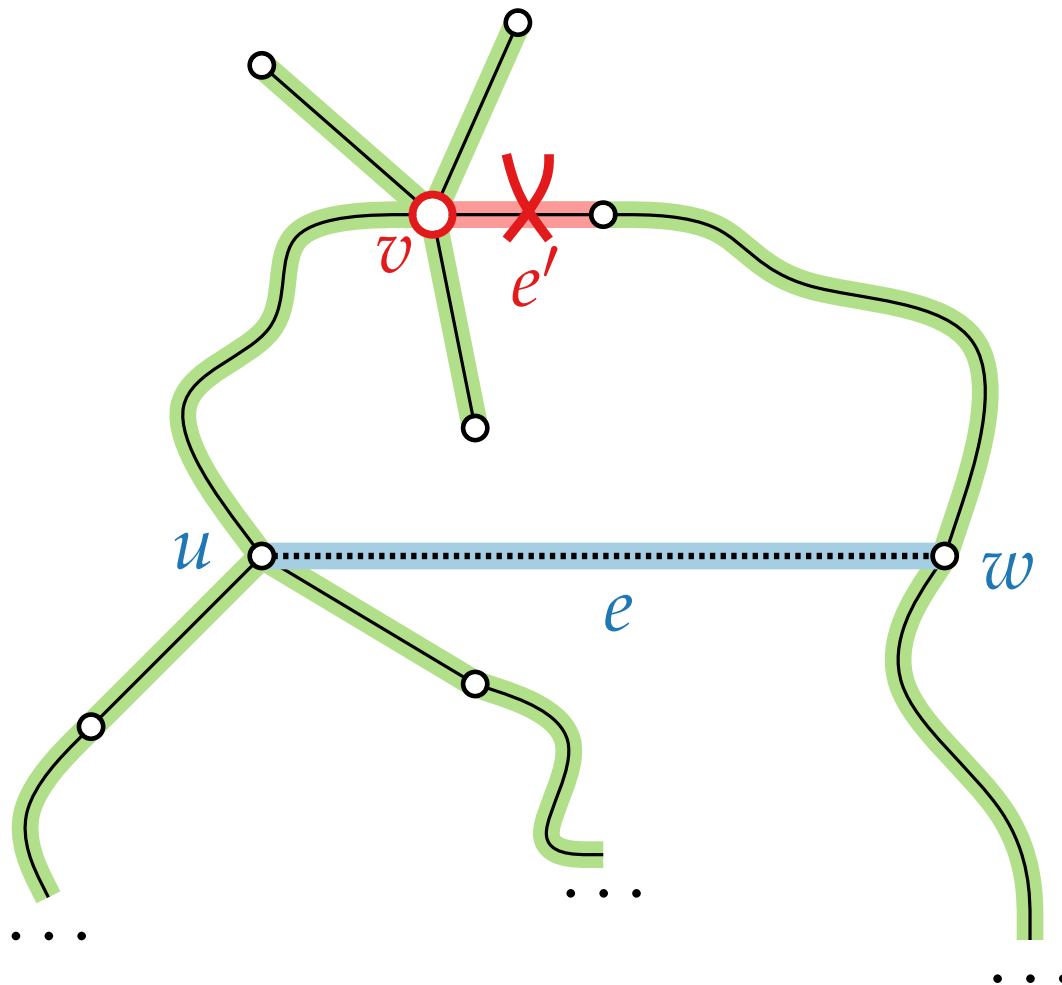


$T + e - e'$   
is a new **spanning tree**

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# Local Search

MinDegSpanningTreeLocalSearch( $G$ )

$T \leftarrow$  any spanning tree of  $G$

**while**  $\exists$  improving flip in  $T$  for a vertex  $v$

    with  $\deg_T(v) \geq \Delta(T) - \ell$  **do**

    └ do the improving flip

# Local Search

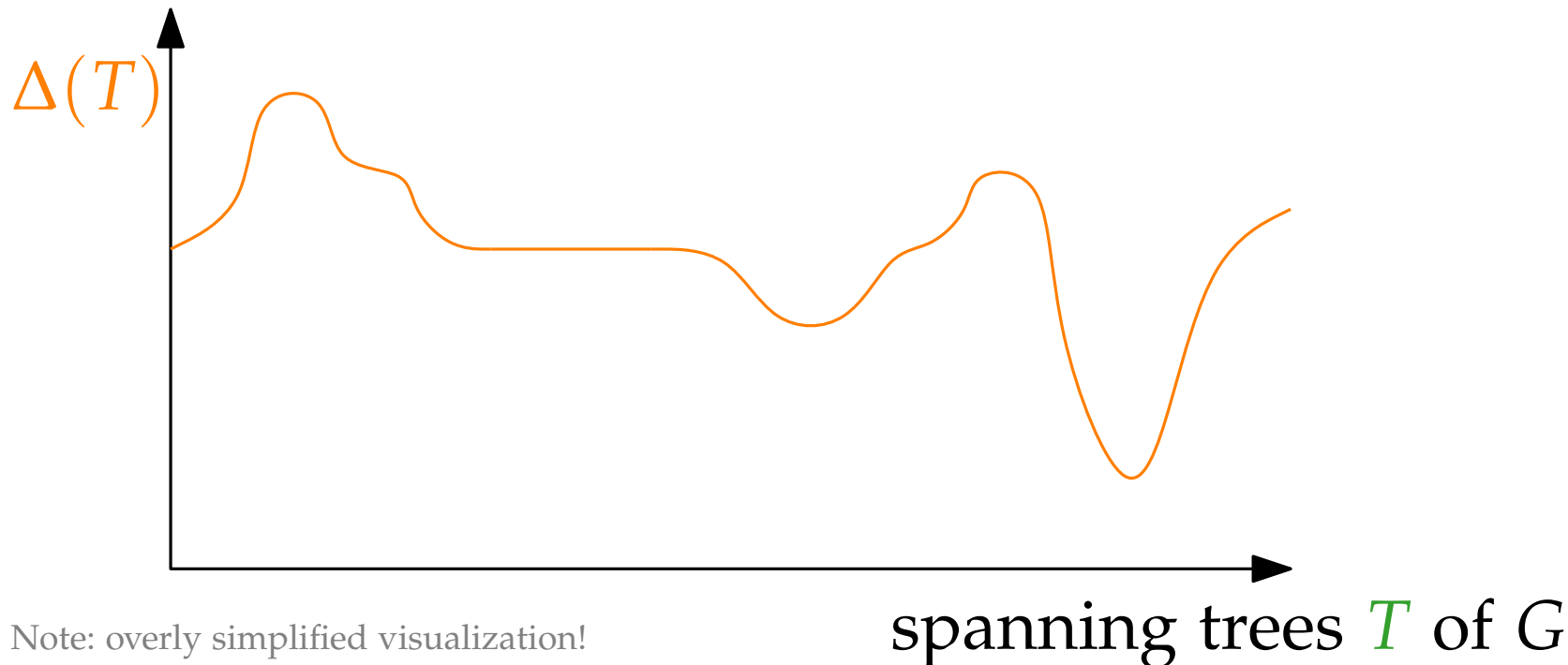
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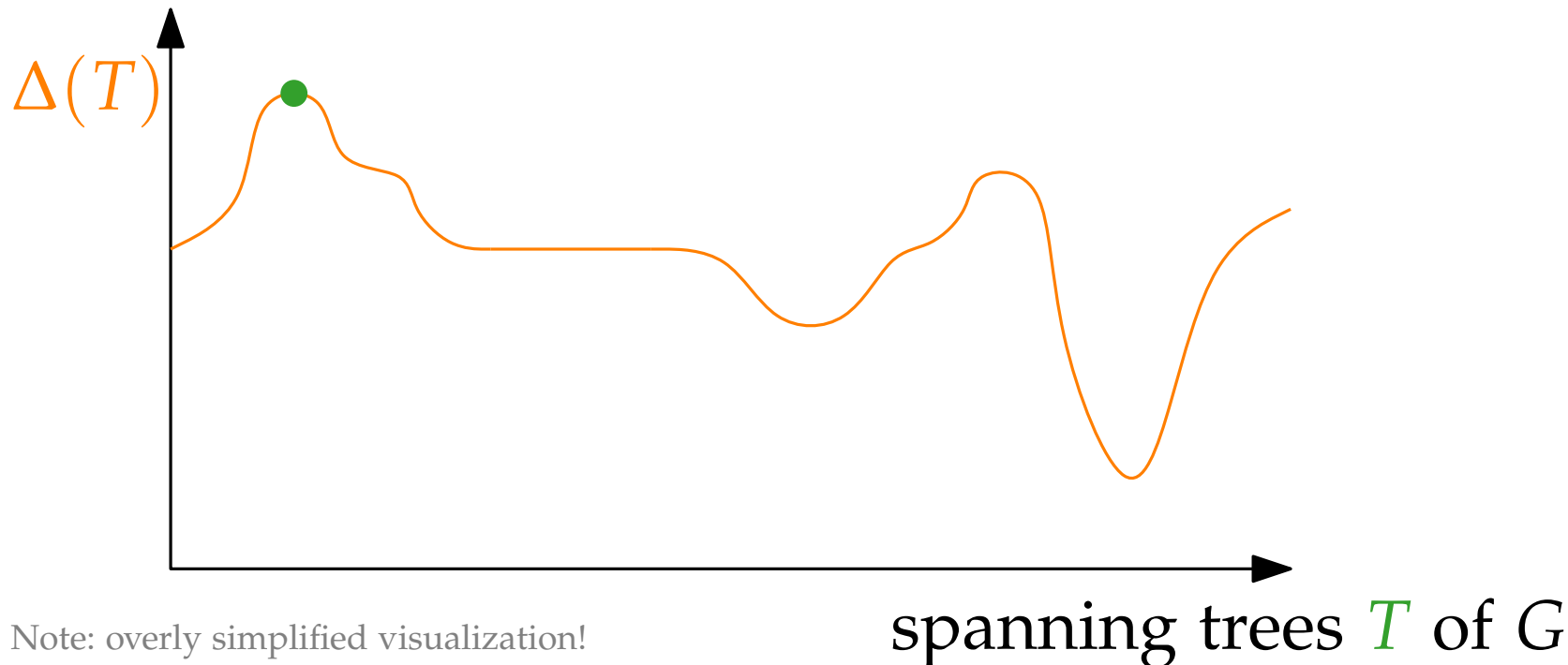
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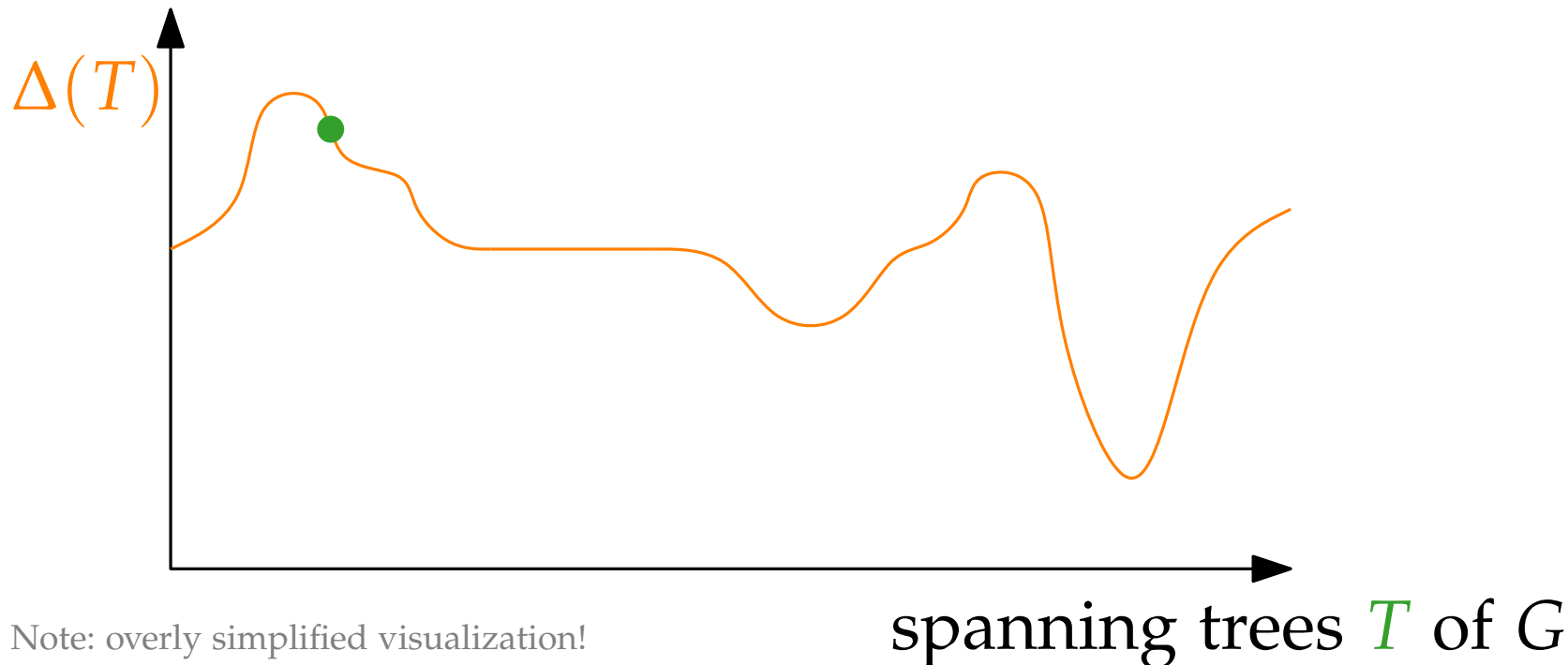
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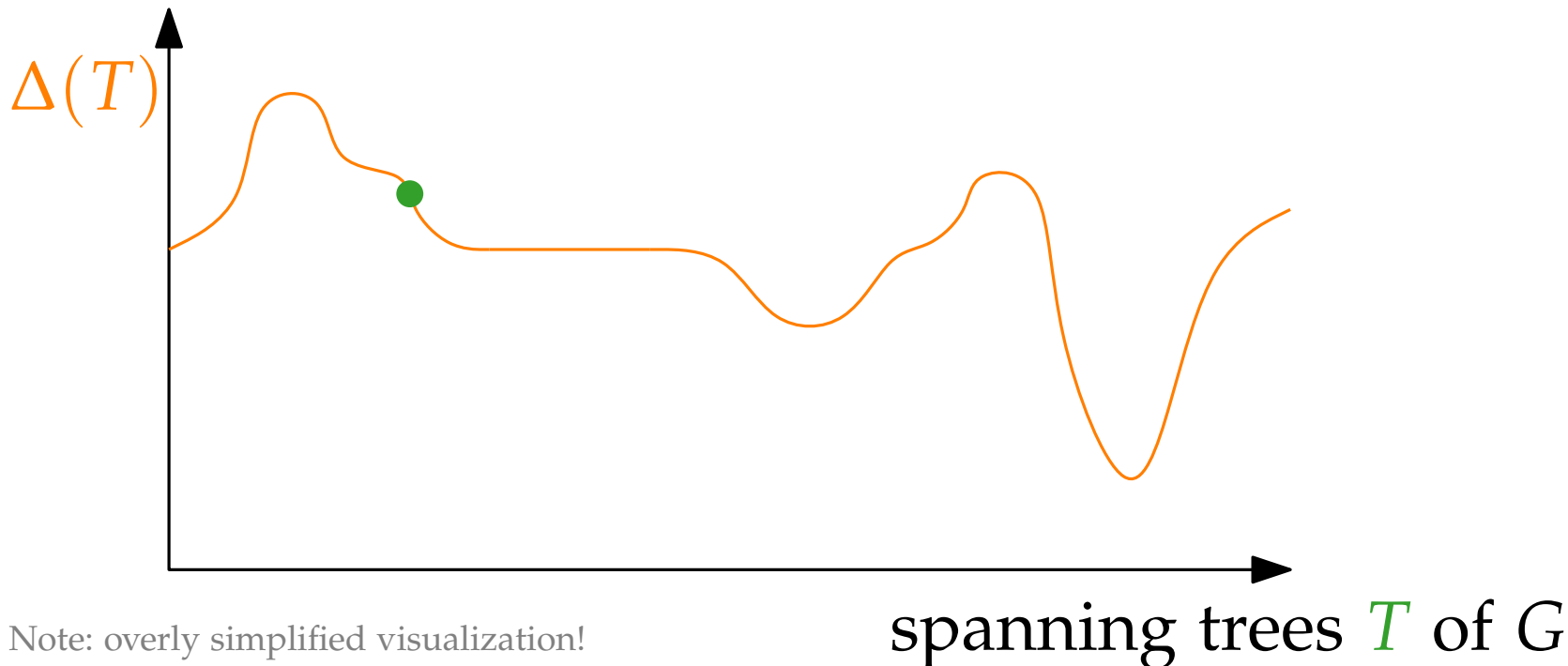
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Note: overly simplified visualization!

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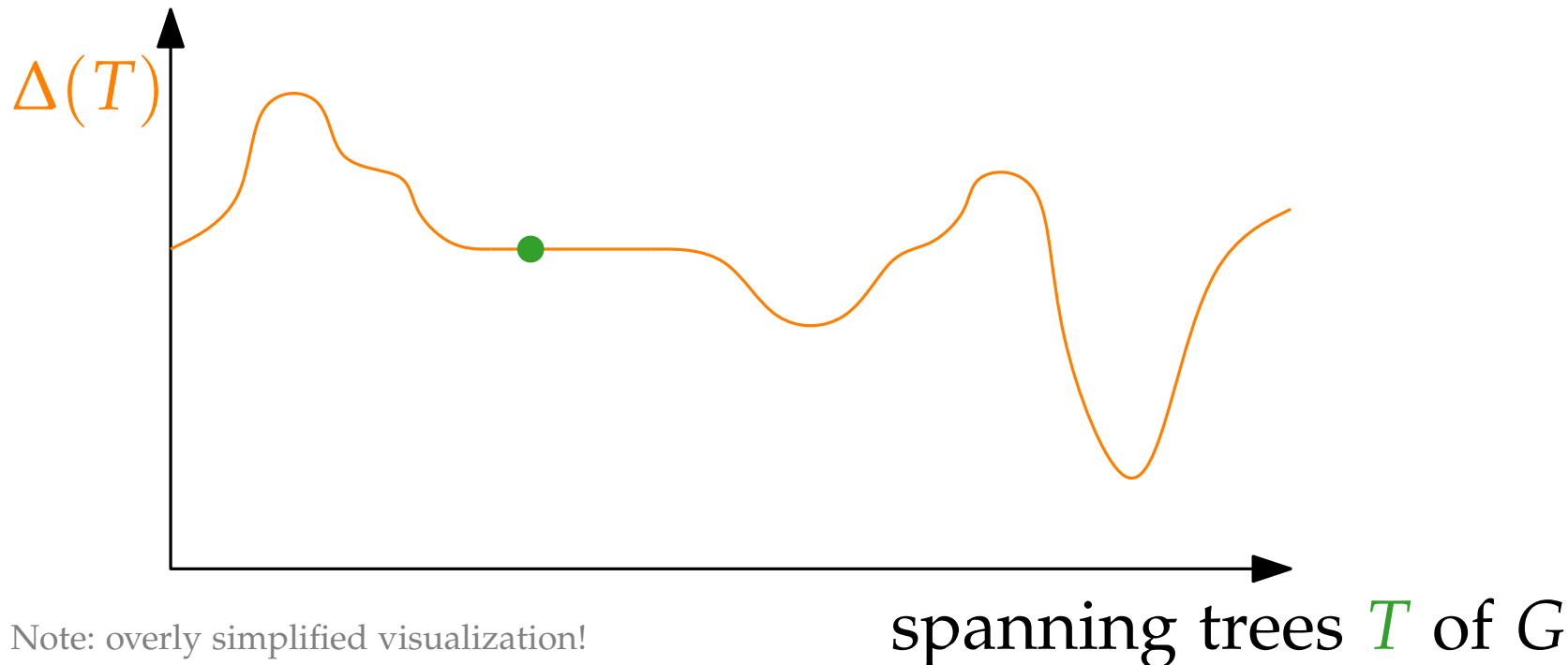
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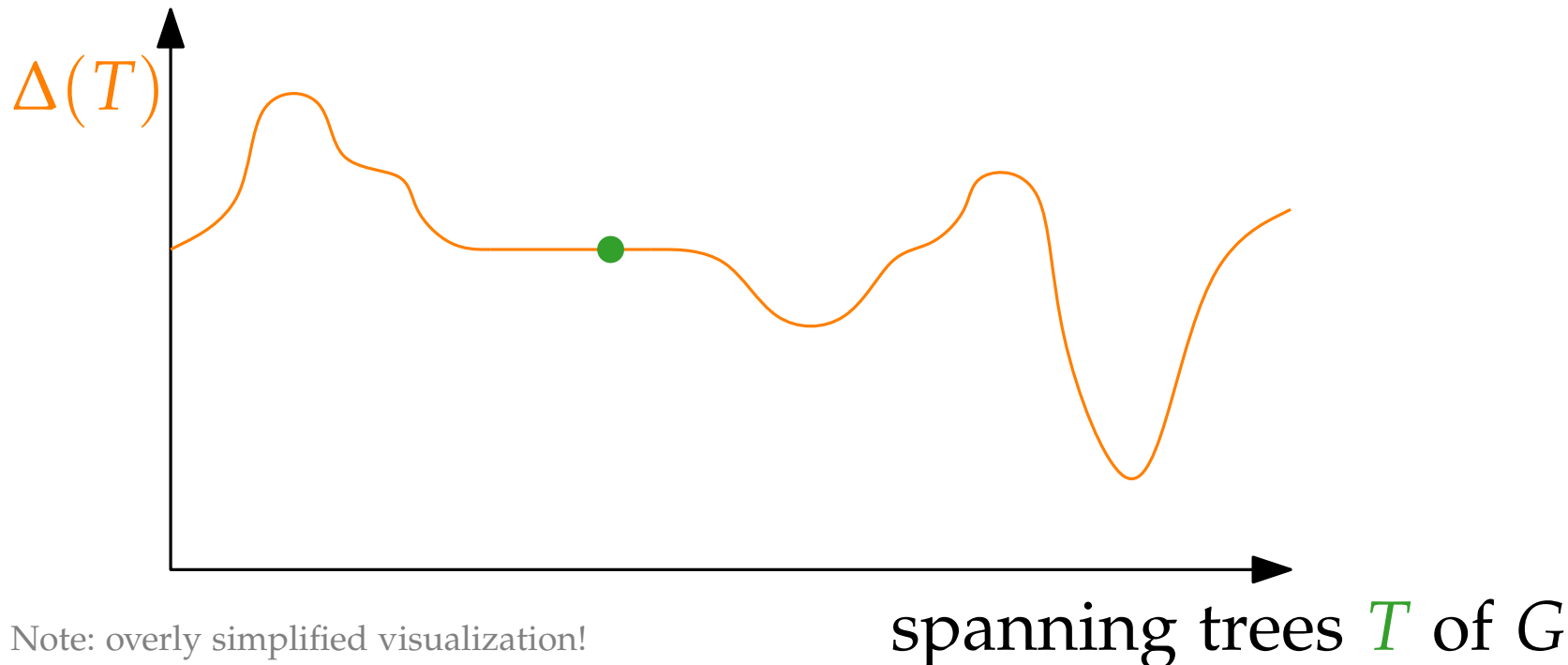
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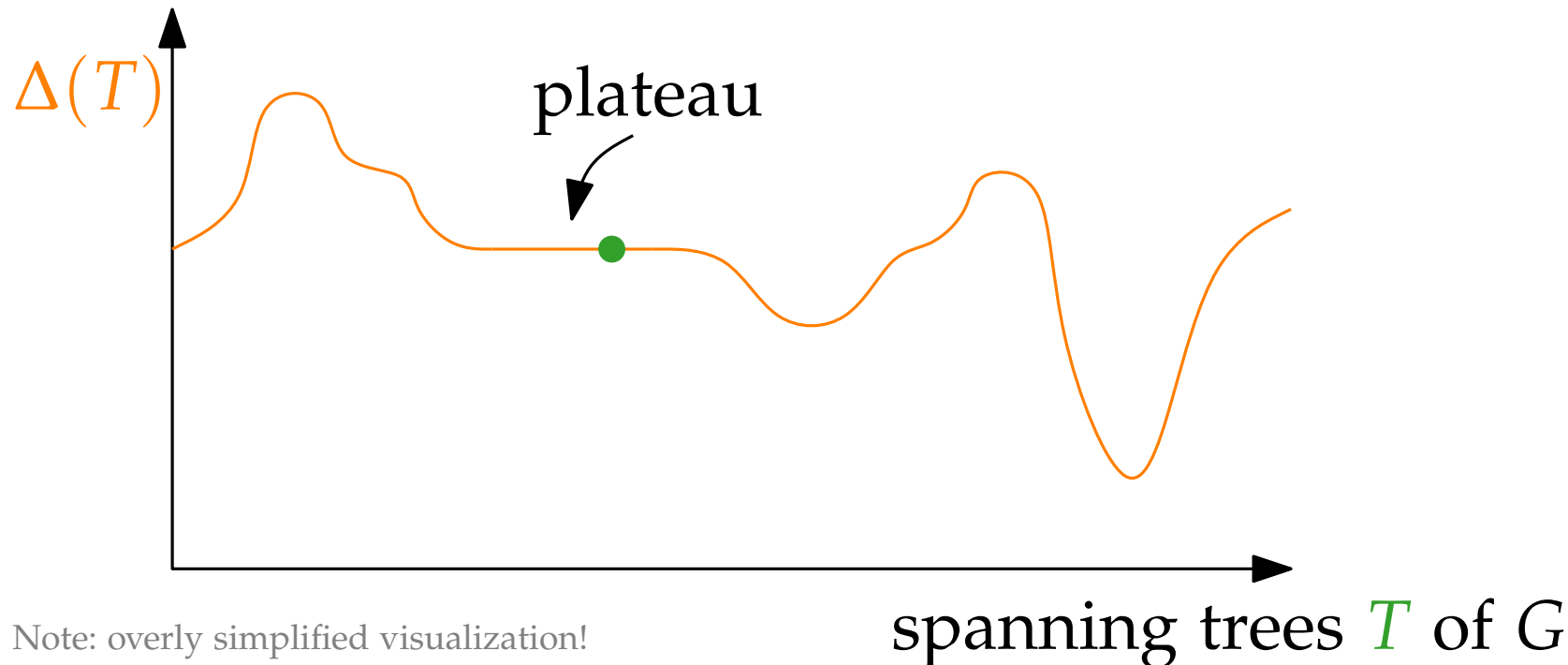
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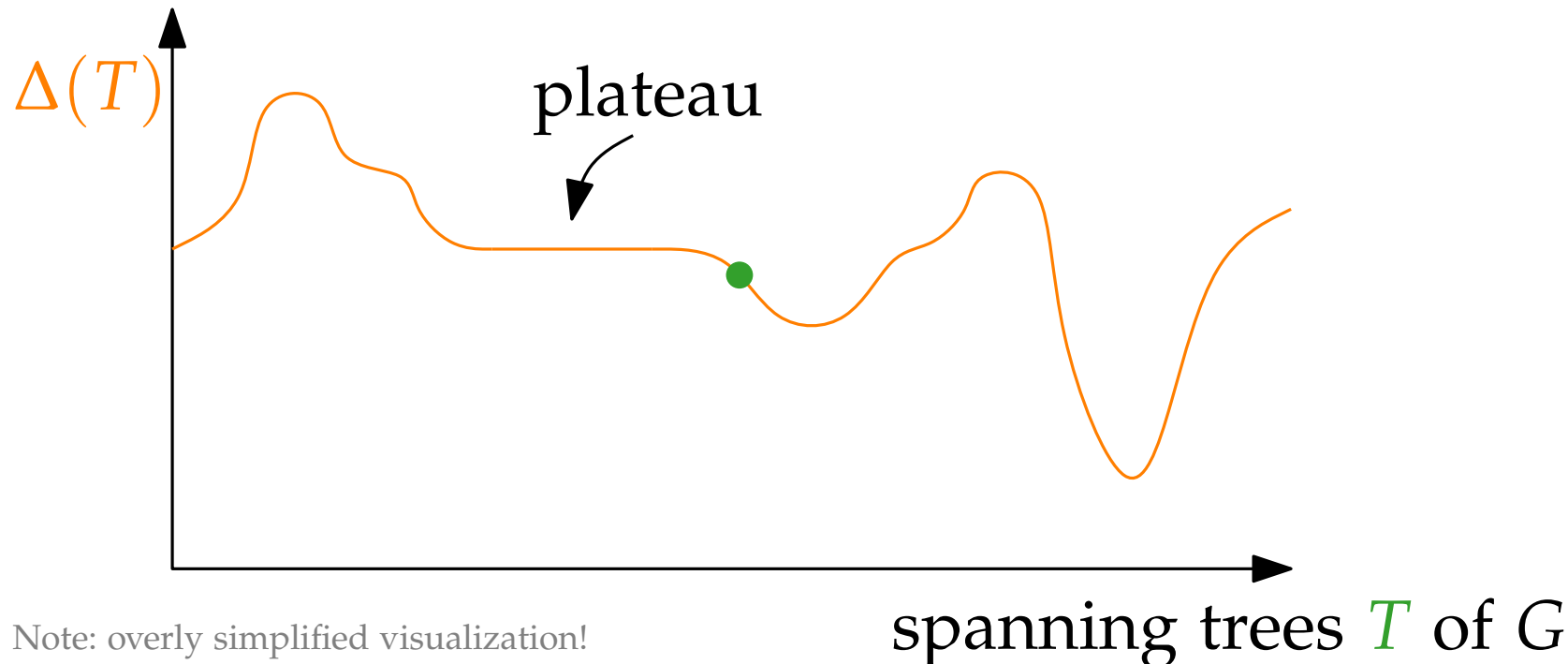
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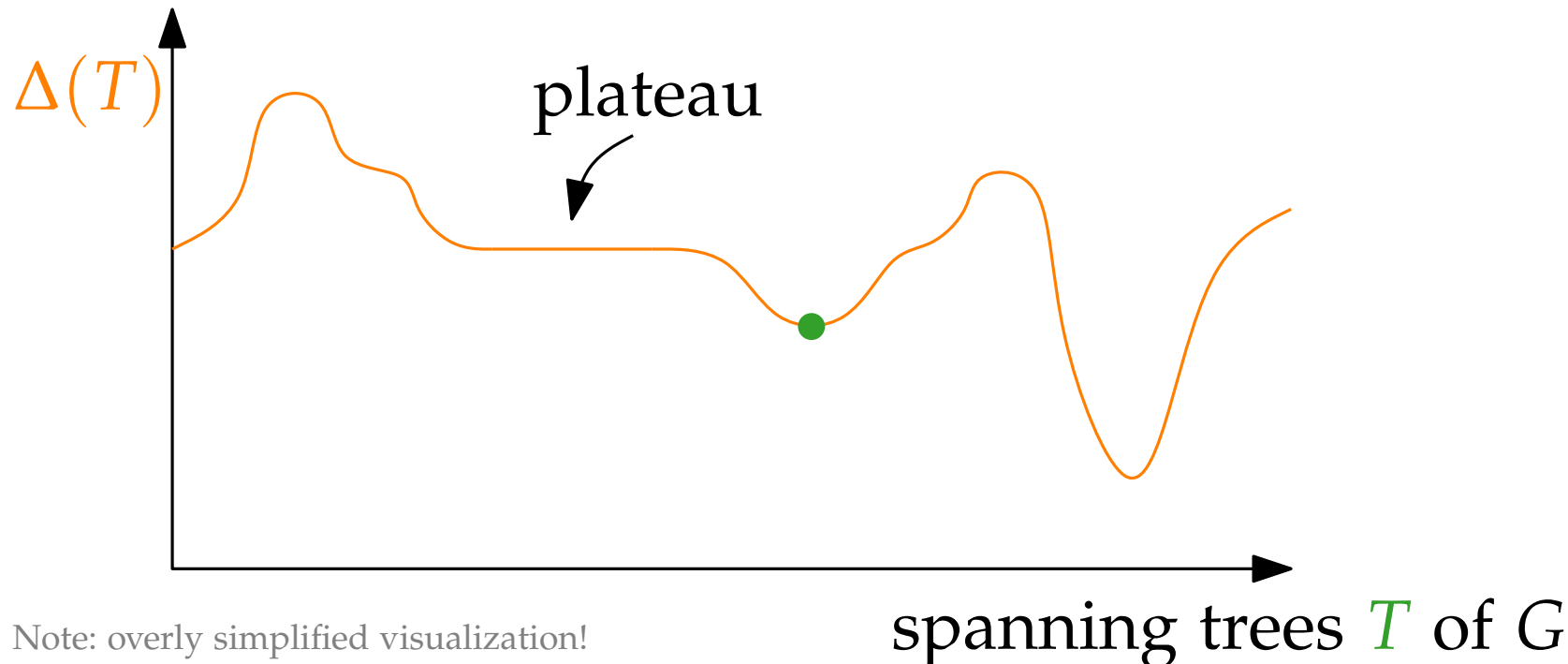
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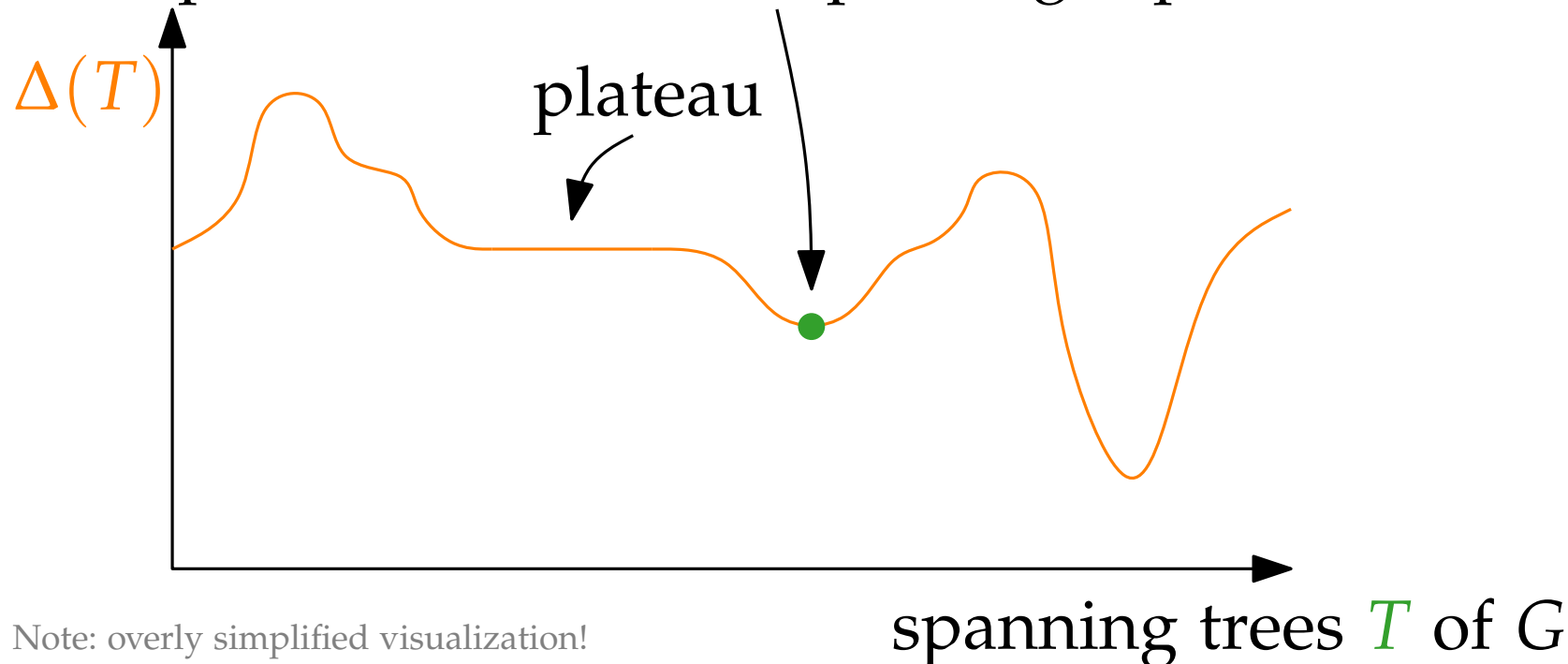
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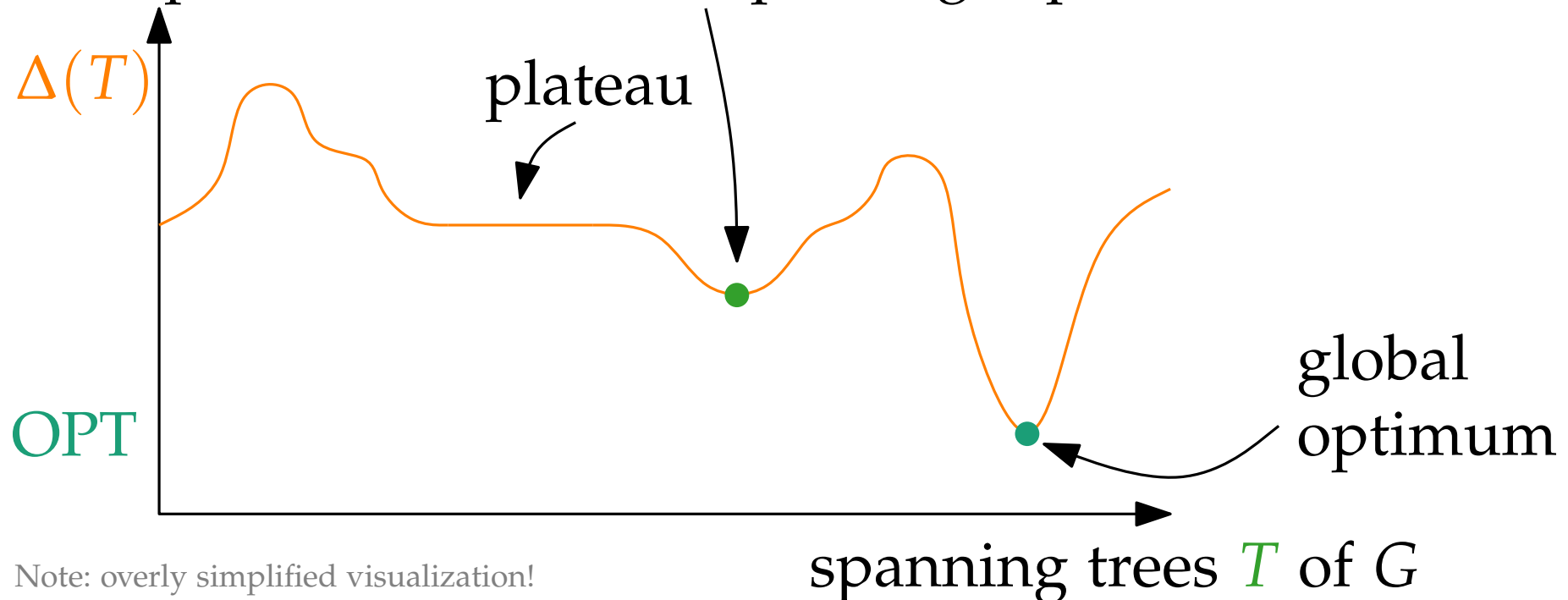
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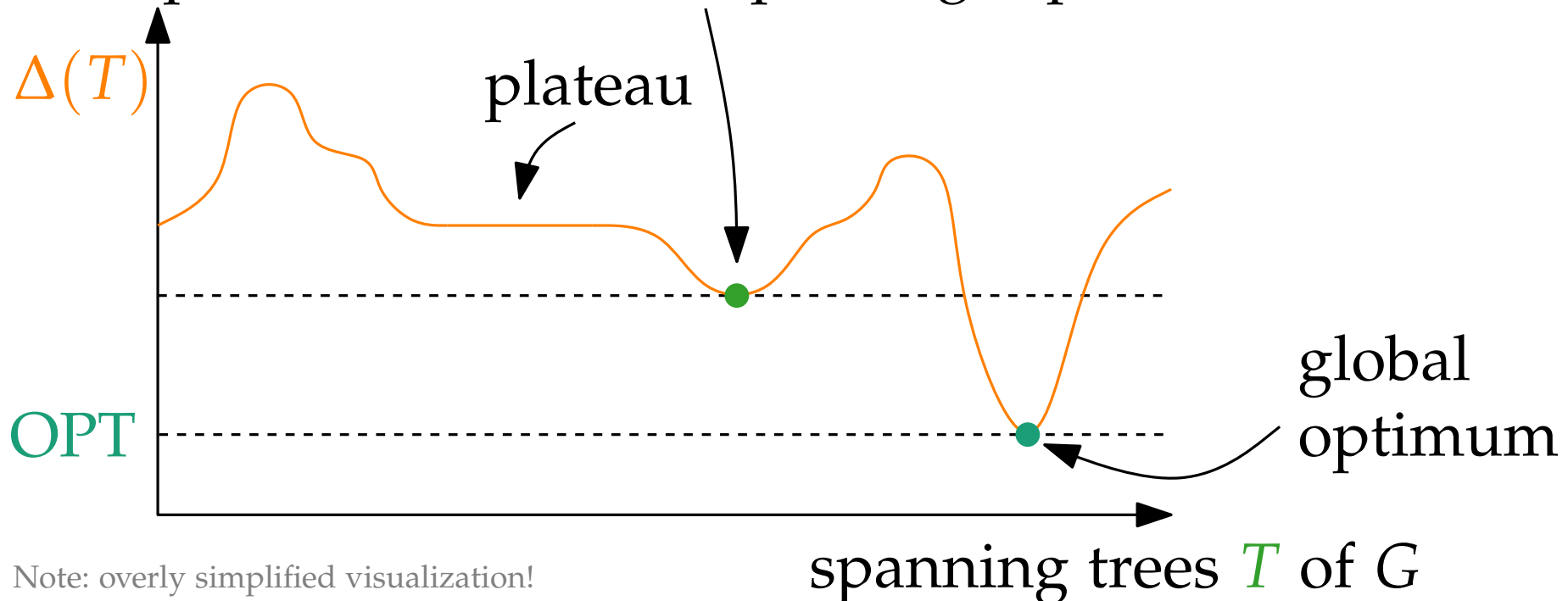
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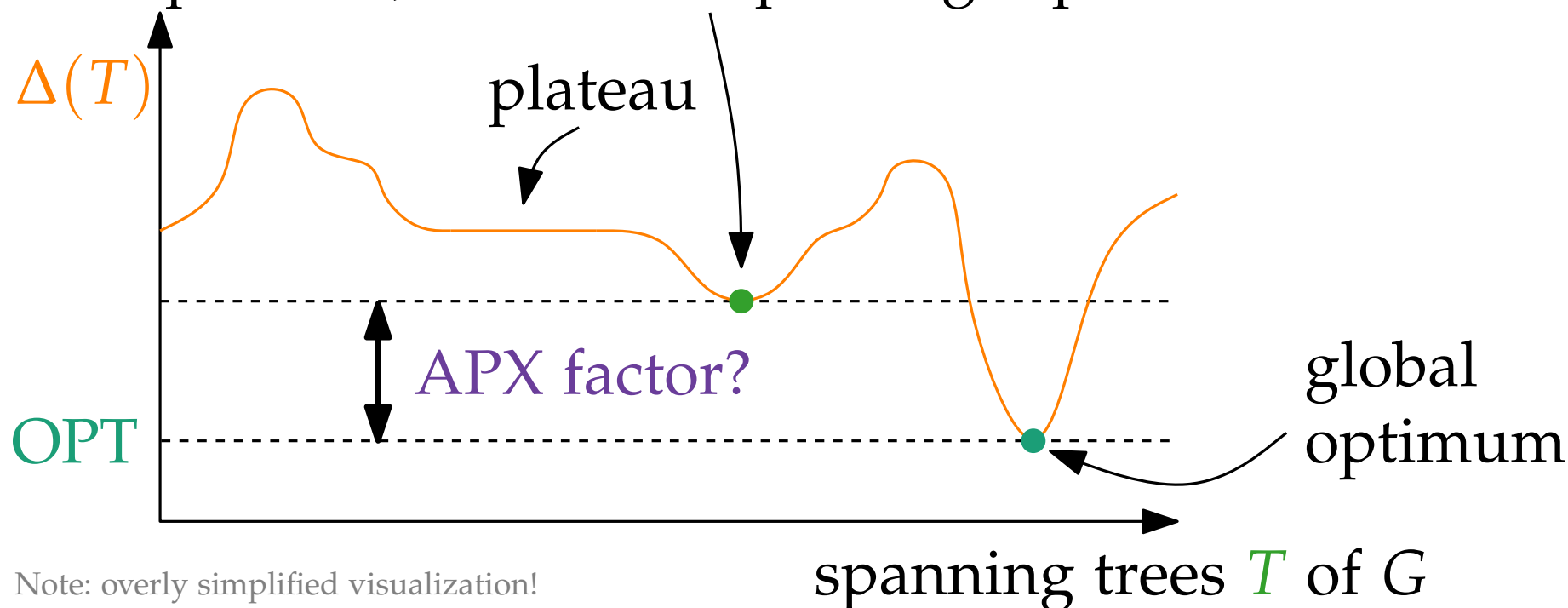
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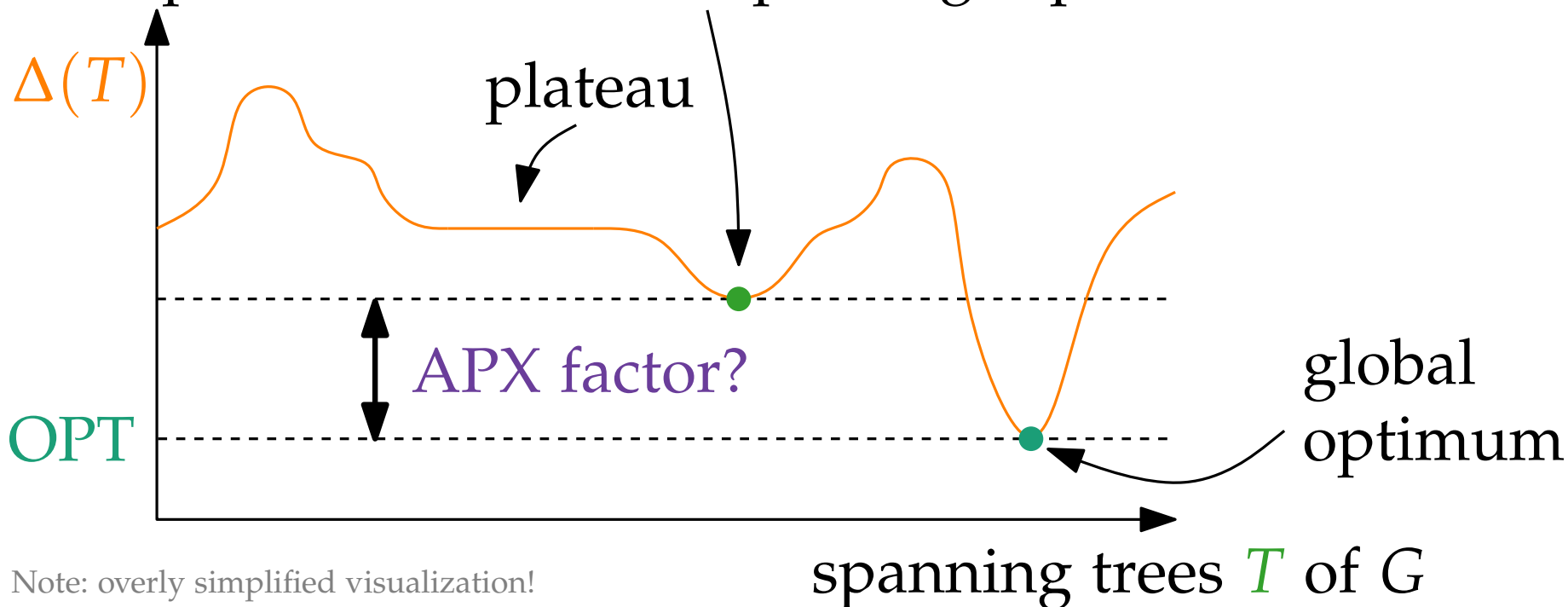
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■ Termination?

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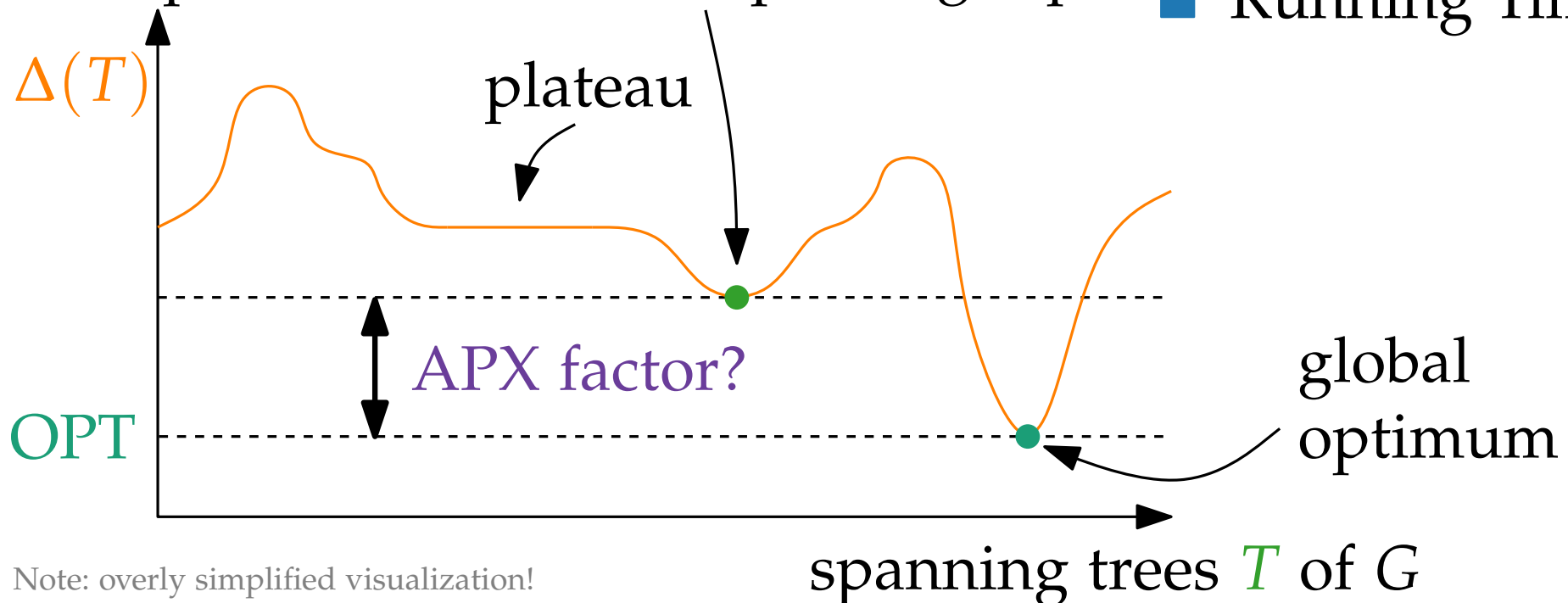
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■ Running Time?



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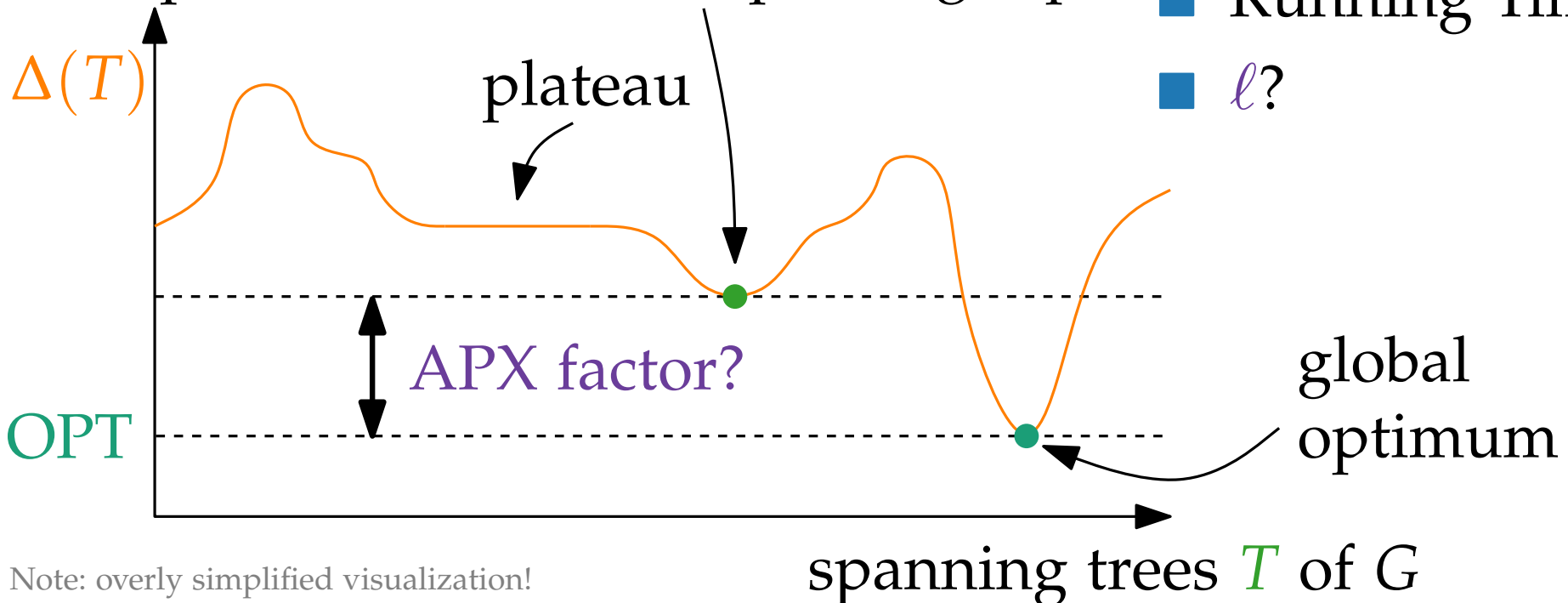
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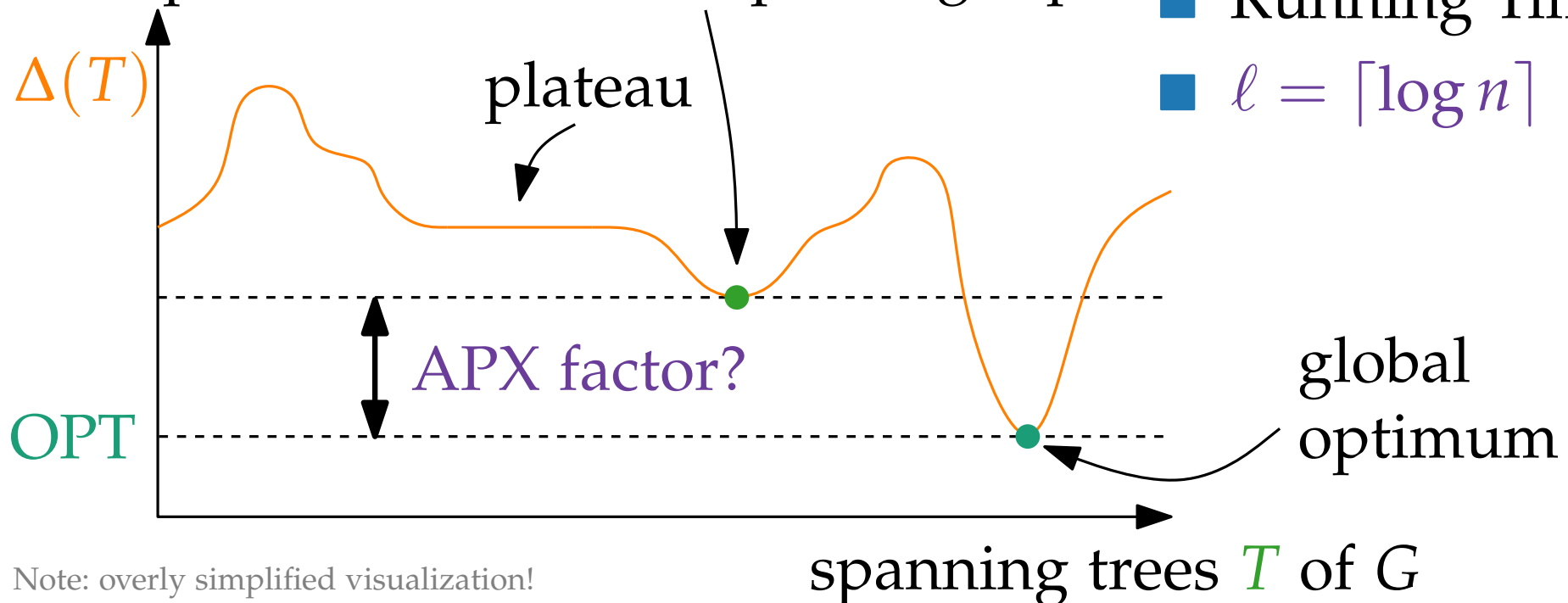
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■ Termination?

■ Running Time?

■  $\ell = \lceil \log n \rceil$



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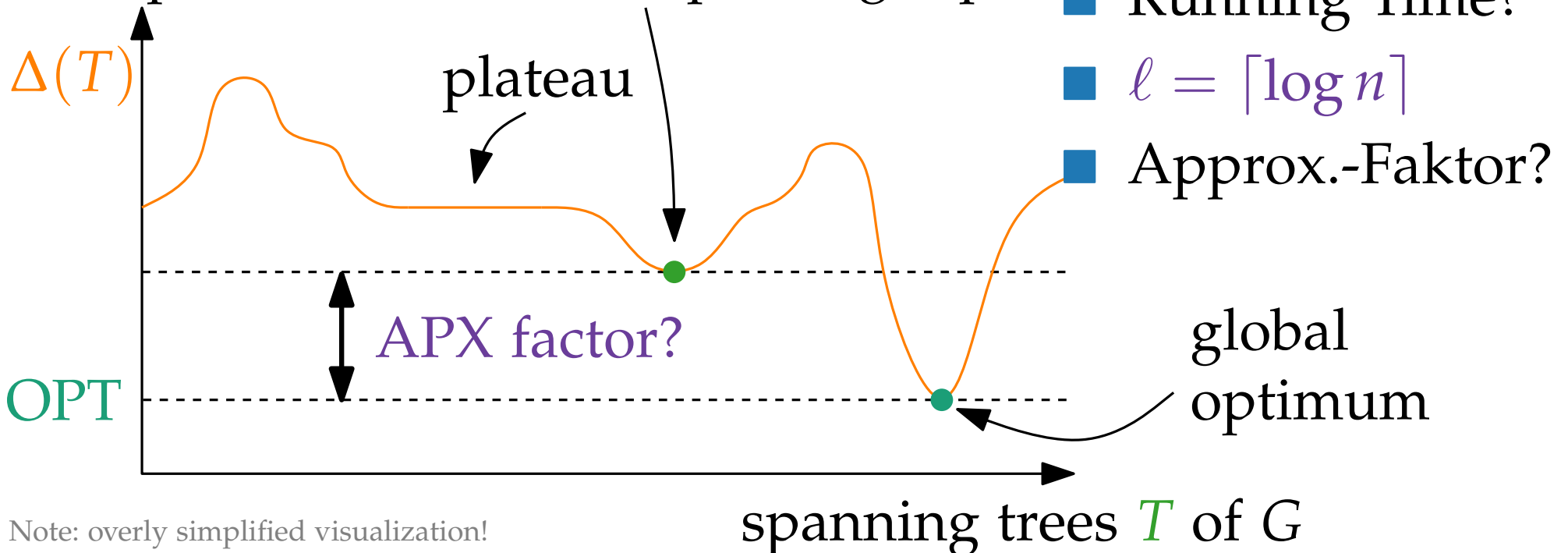
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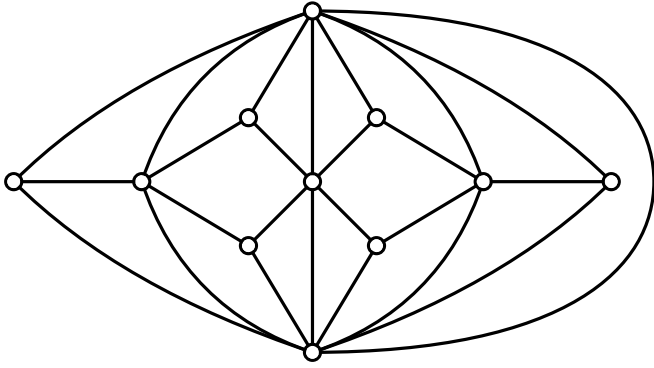
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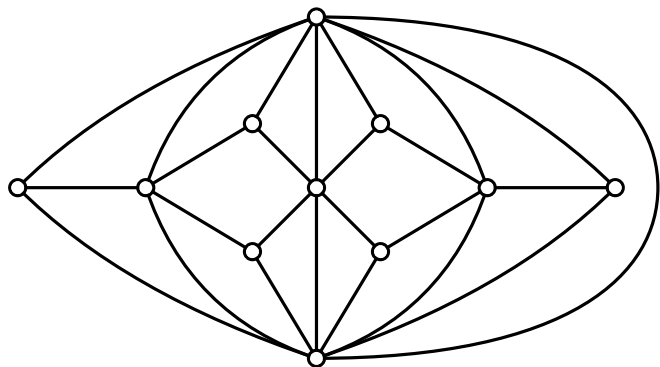


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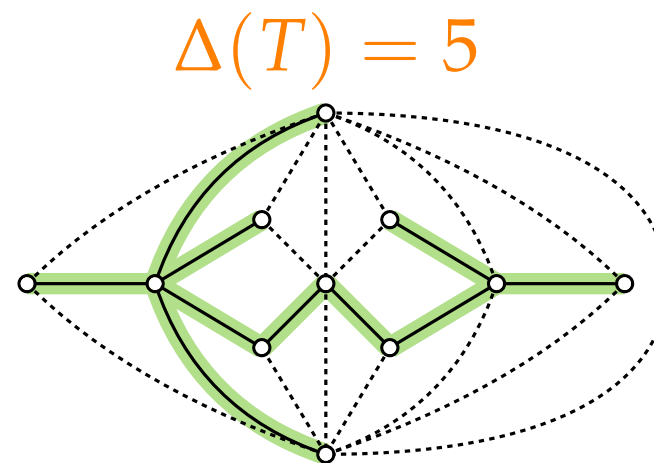
# Example



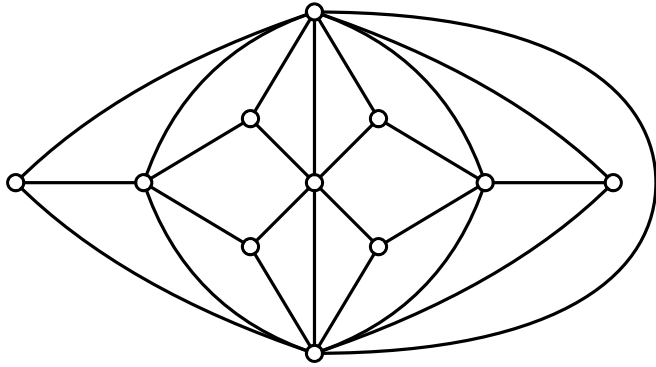
# Example



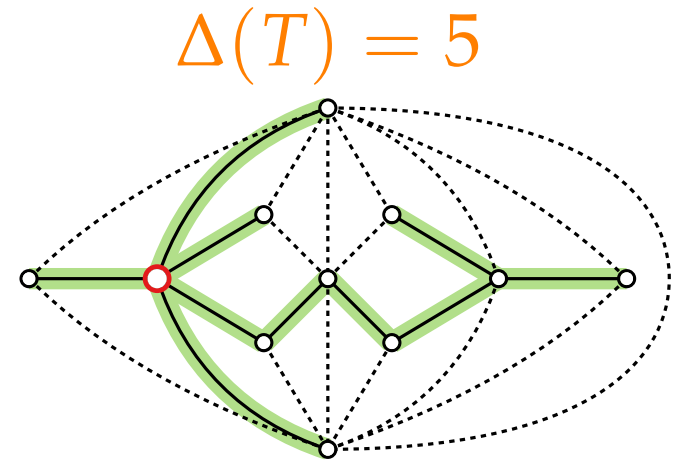
choose any  
→  
spanning tree



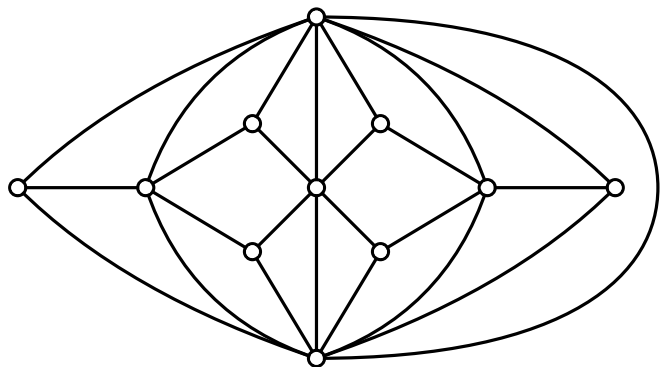
# Example



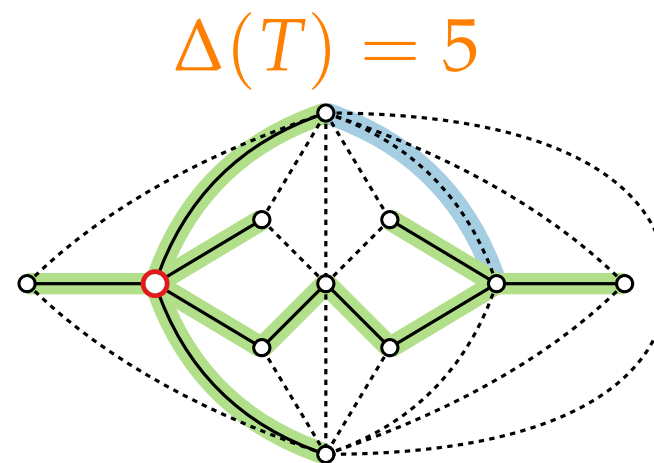
choose any  
→  
spanning tree



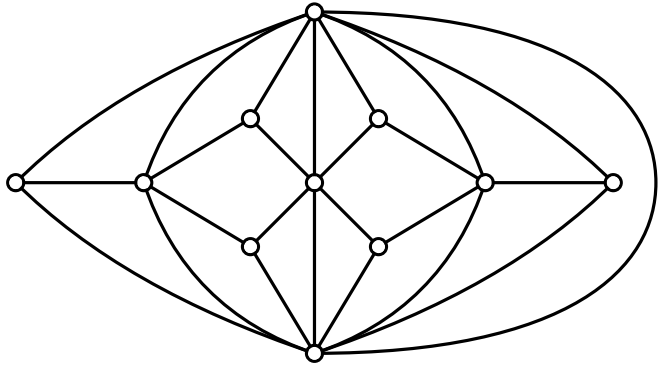
# Example



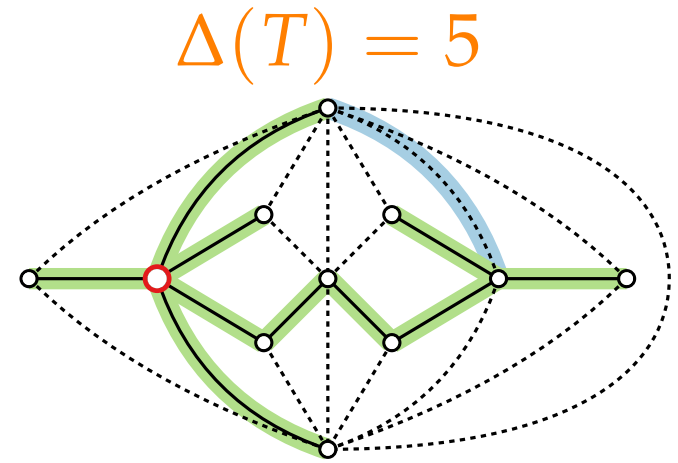
choose any  
→  
spanning tree



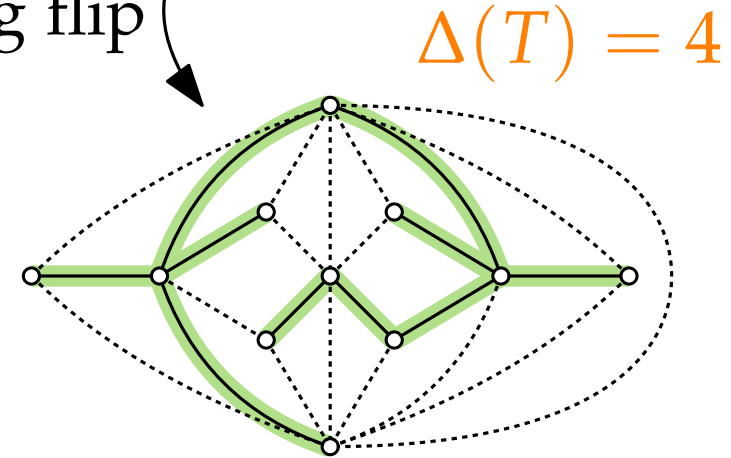
# Example



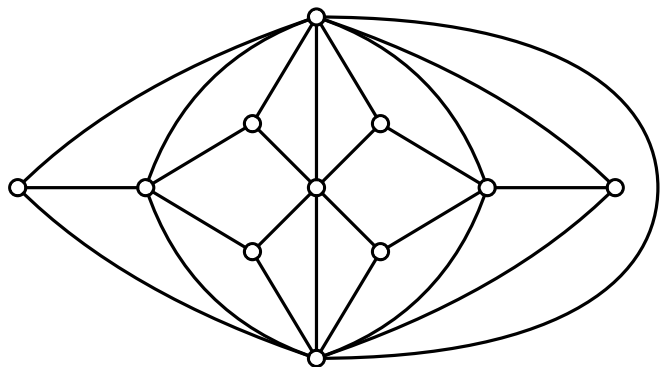
choose any  
→  
spanning tree



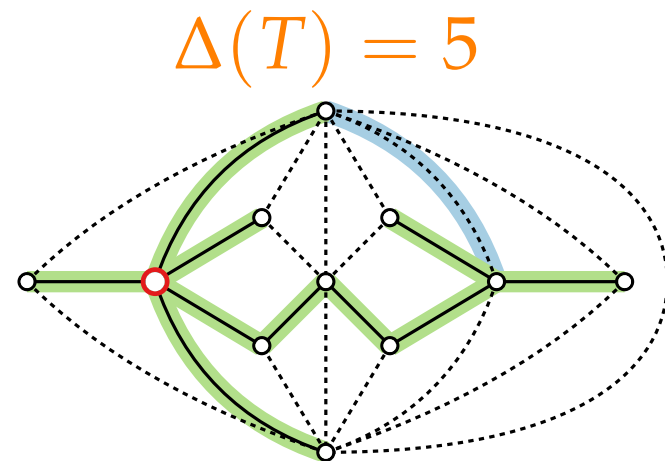
improving flip



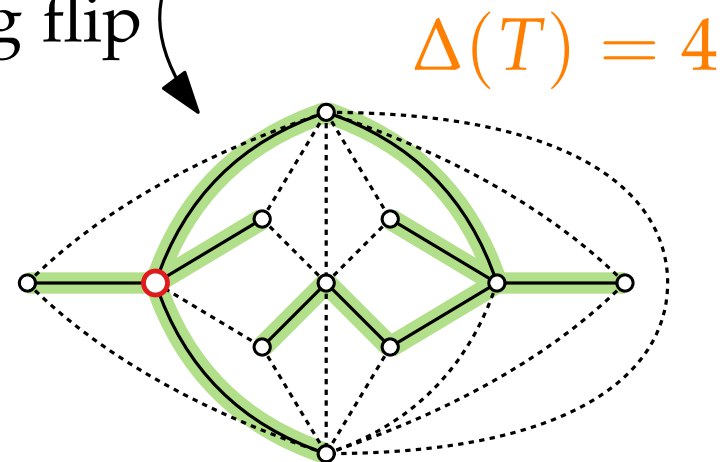
# Example



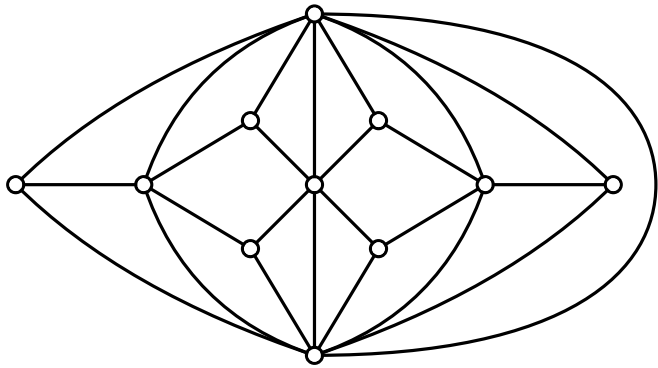
choose any  
→  
spanning tree



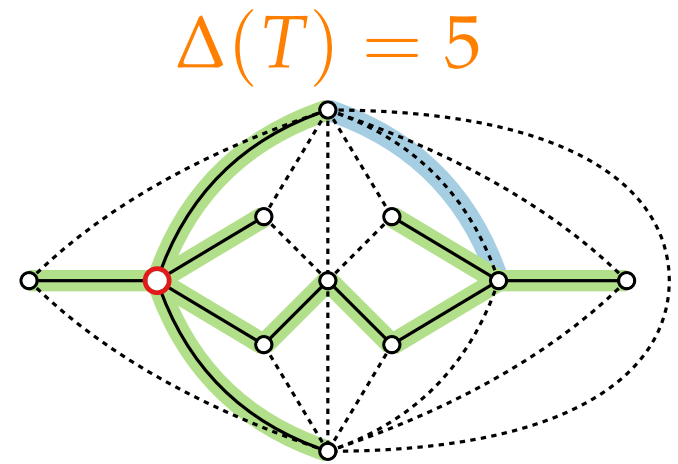
improving flip  
↙



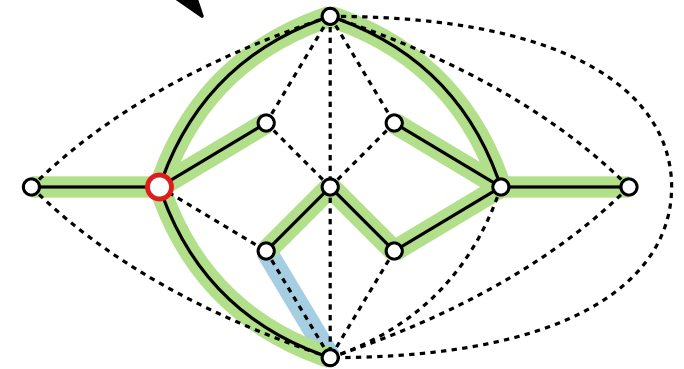
# Example



choose any  
→  
spanning tree

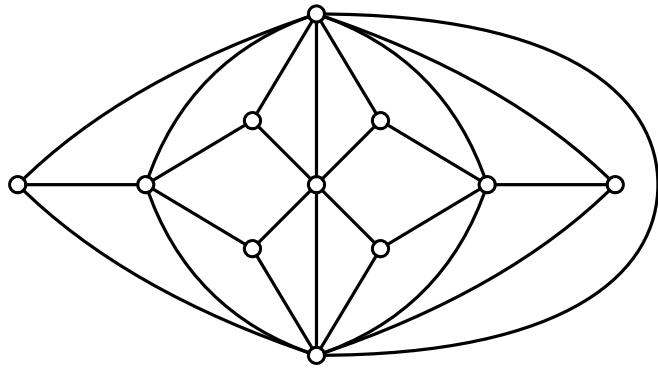


improving flip (

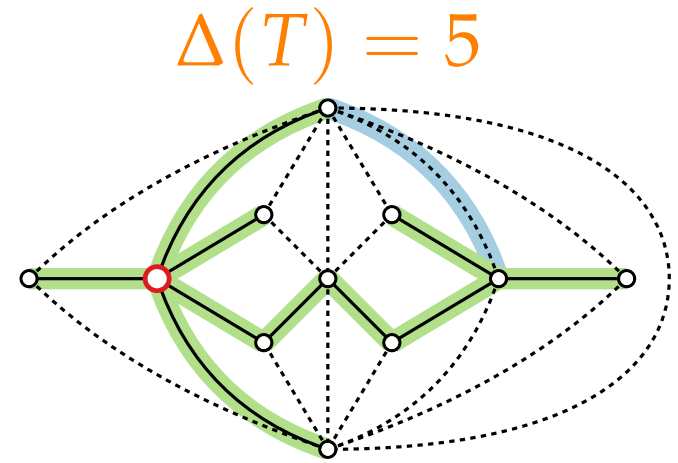




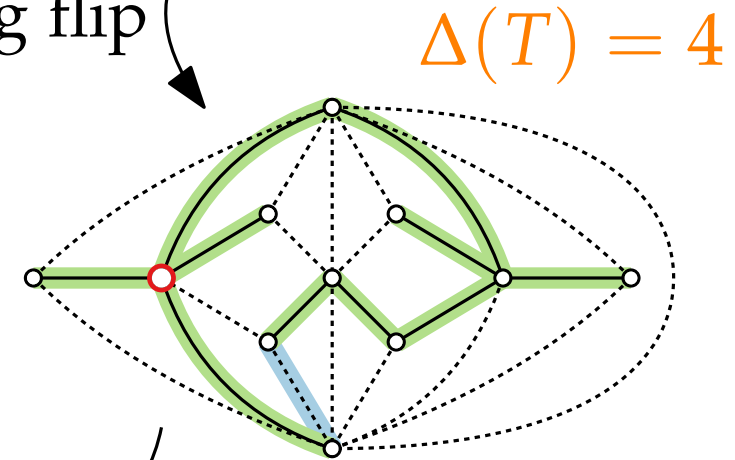
# Example



choose any  
→  
spanning tree

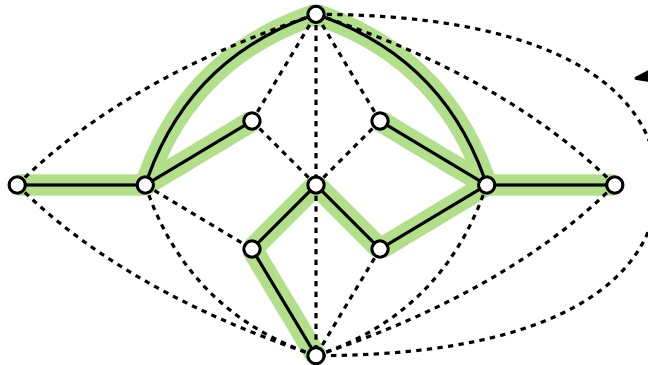


improving flip

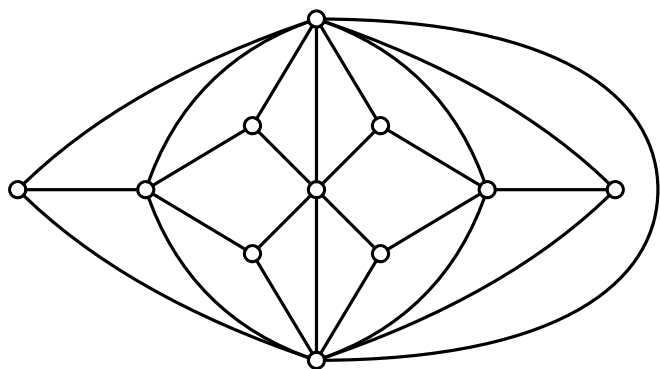


$\Delta(T) = 4$

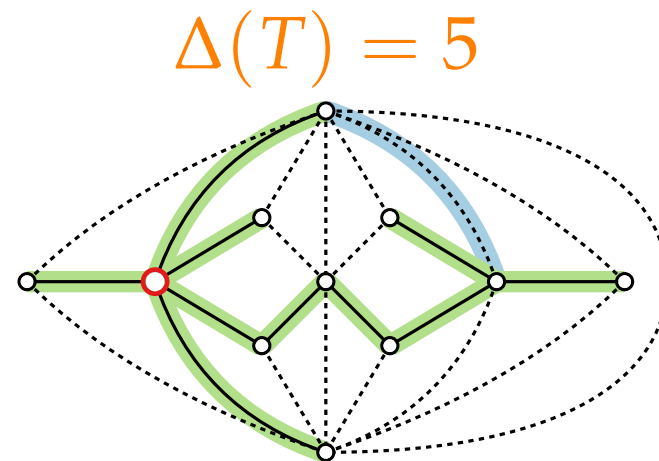
improving flip



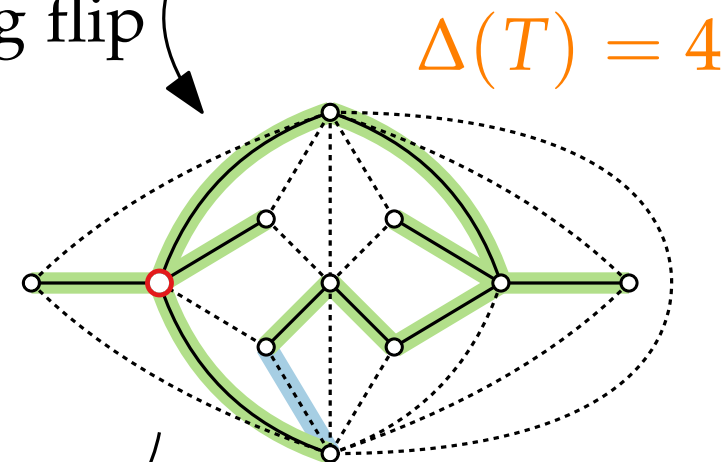
# Example



choose any  
→  
spanning tree

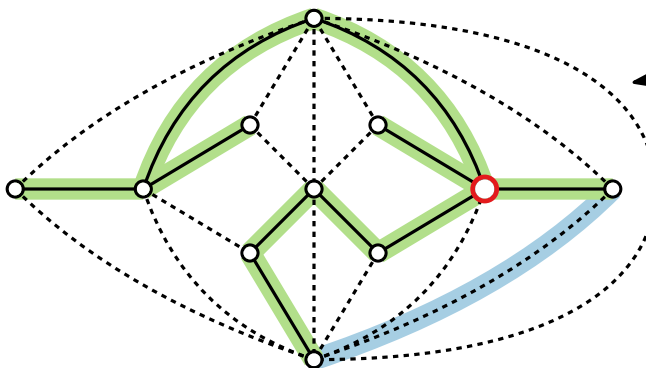


improving flip

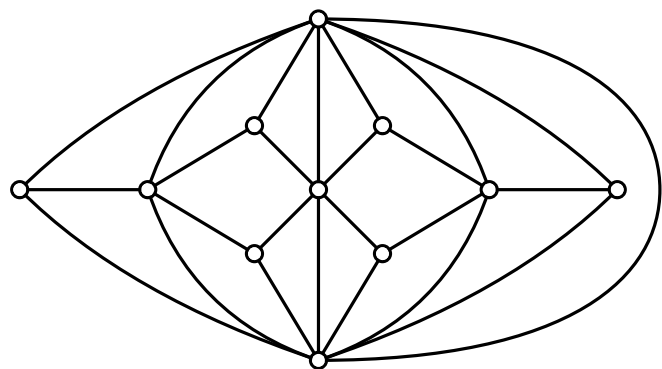


$\Delta(T) = 4$

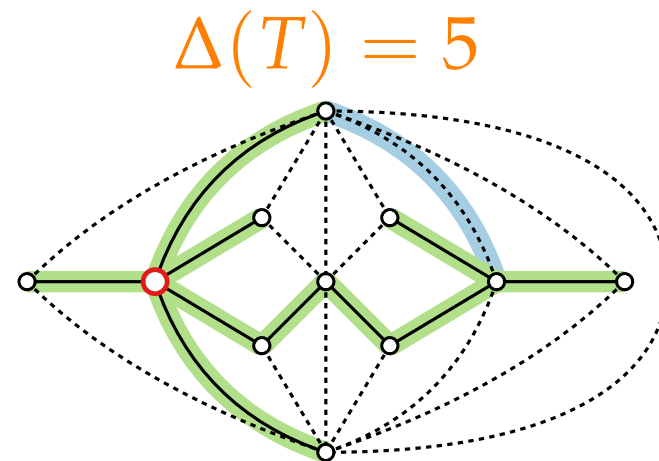
improving flip



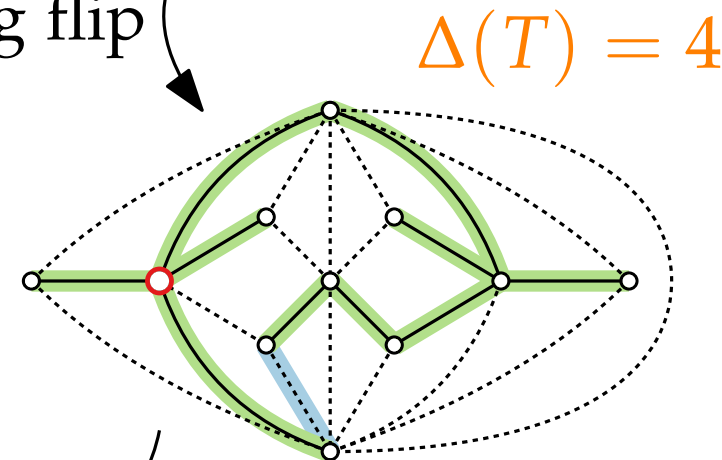
# Example



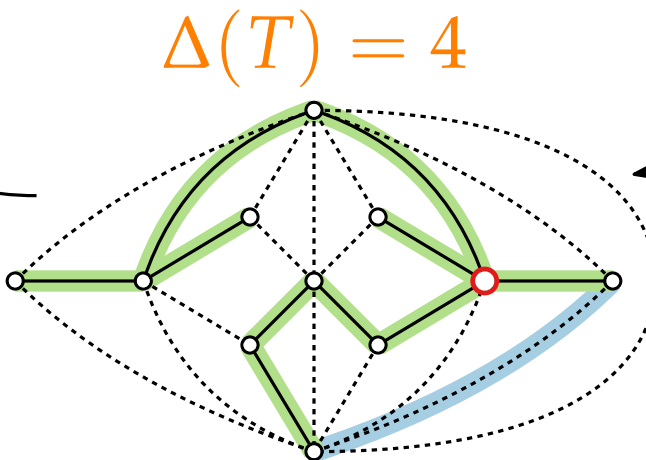
choose any  
→  
spanning tree



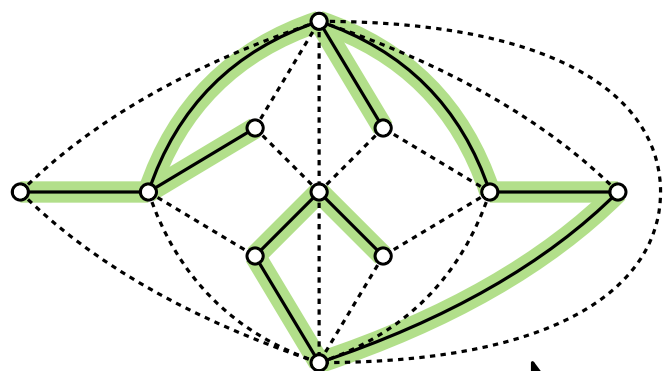
improving flip



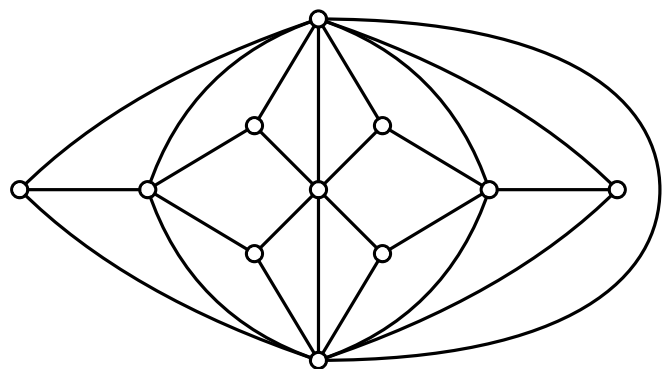
improving flip



improving flip

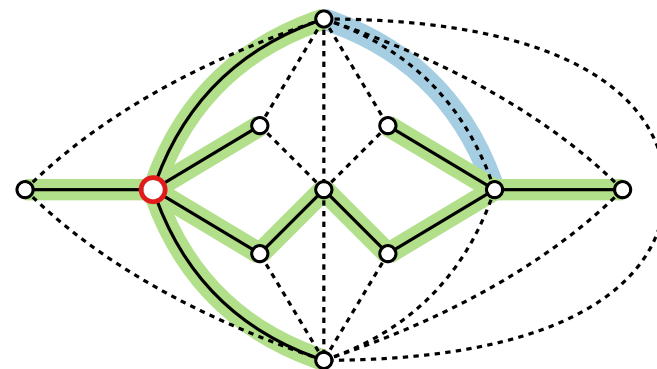


# Example



choose any  
→  
spanning tree

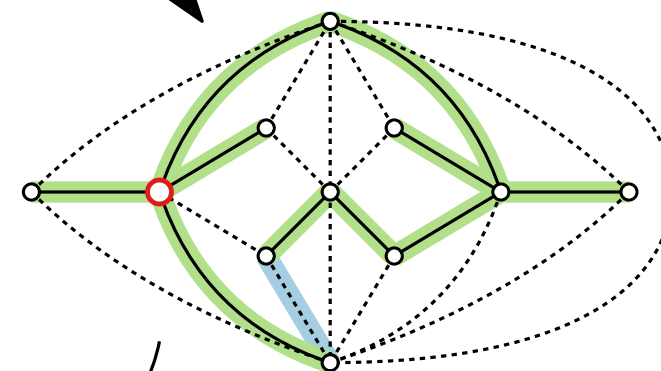
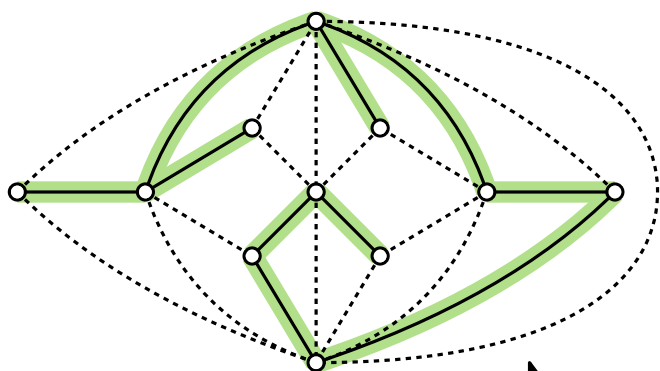
$$\Delta(T) = 5$$



$$\Delta(T) = 3 \text{ but } \Delta(T^*) = 2$$

improving flip

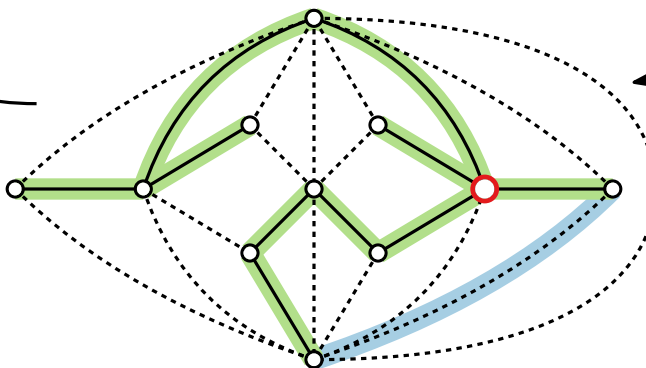
$$\Delta(T) = 4$$



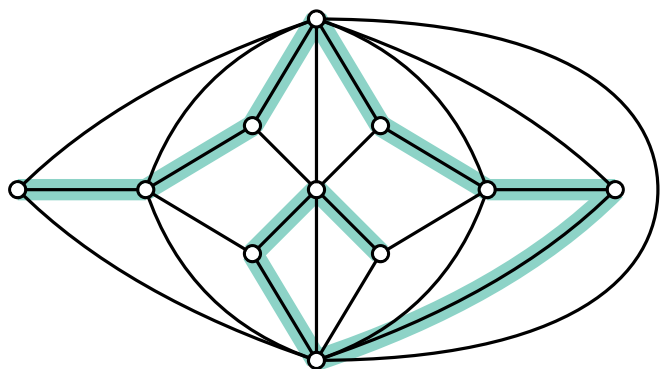
improving flip

$$\Delta(T) = 4$$

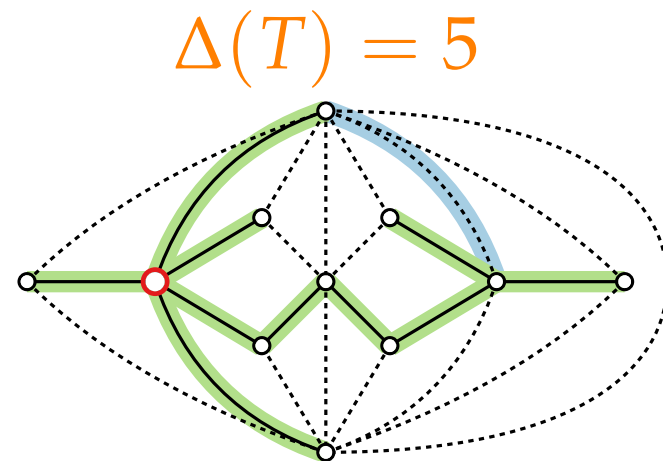
improving flip



# Example



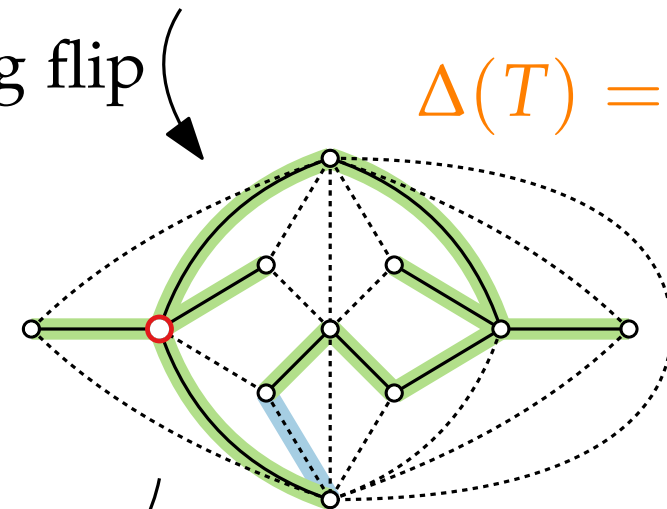
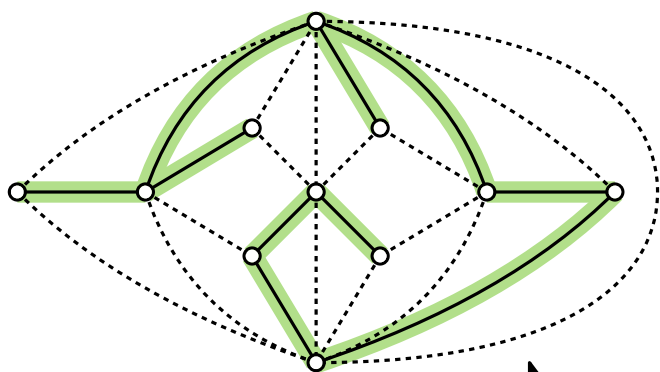
choose any  
→  
spanning tree



$\Delta(T) = 3$  but  $\Delta(T^*) = 2$

improving flip

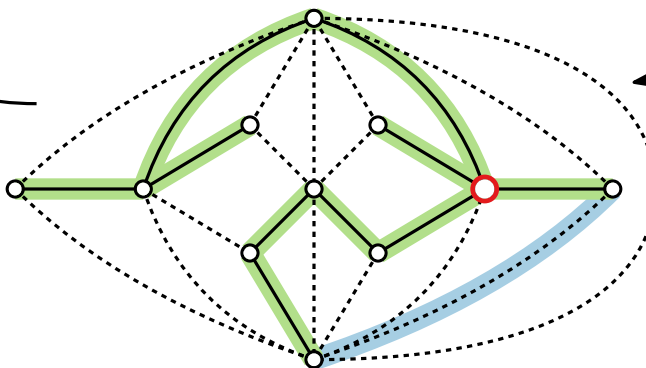
$\Delta(T) = 4$



improving flip

$\Delta(T) = 4$

improving flip



# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 9:

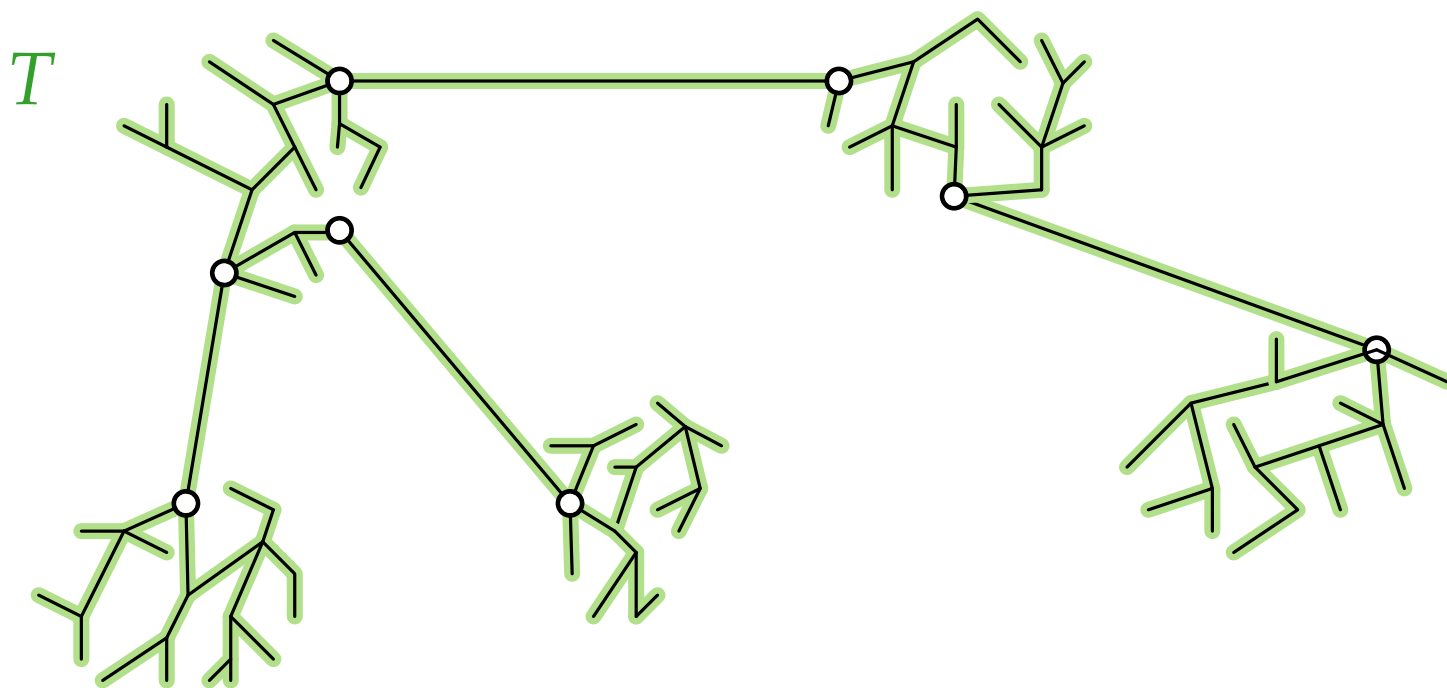
MINIMUM-DEGREE SPANNING TREE

via Local Search

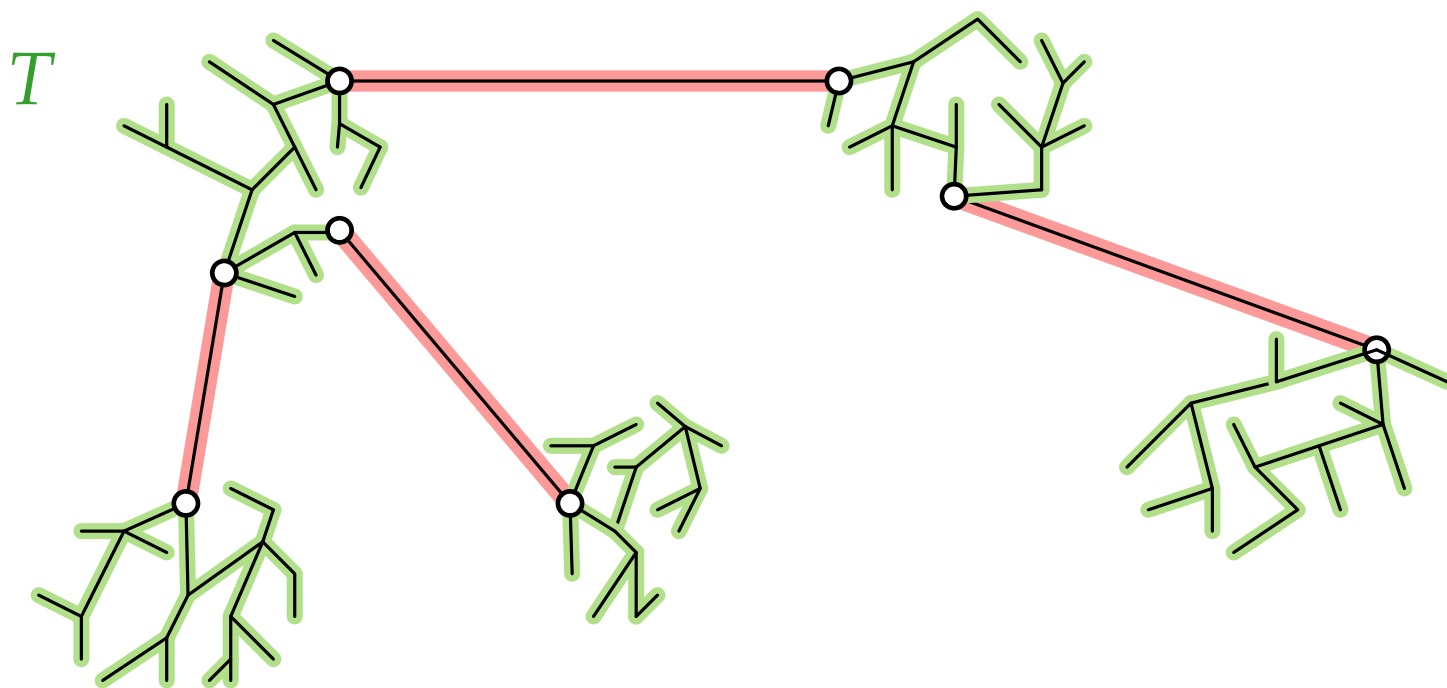
Part III:

Lower Bound

# Decomposition



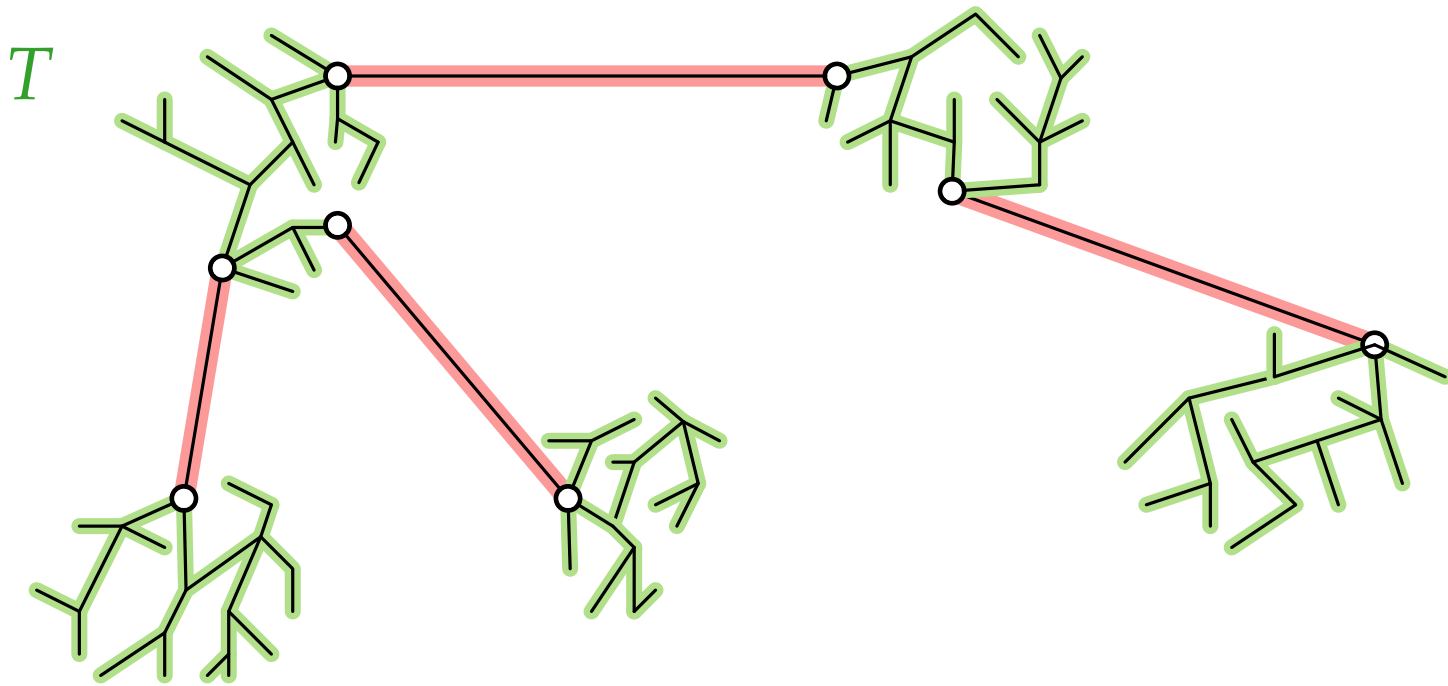
# Decomposition





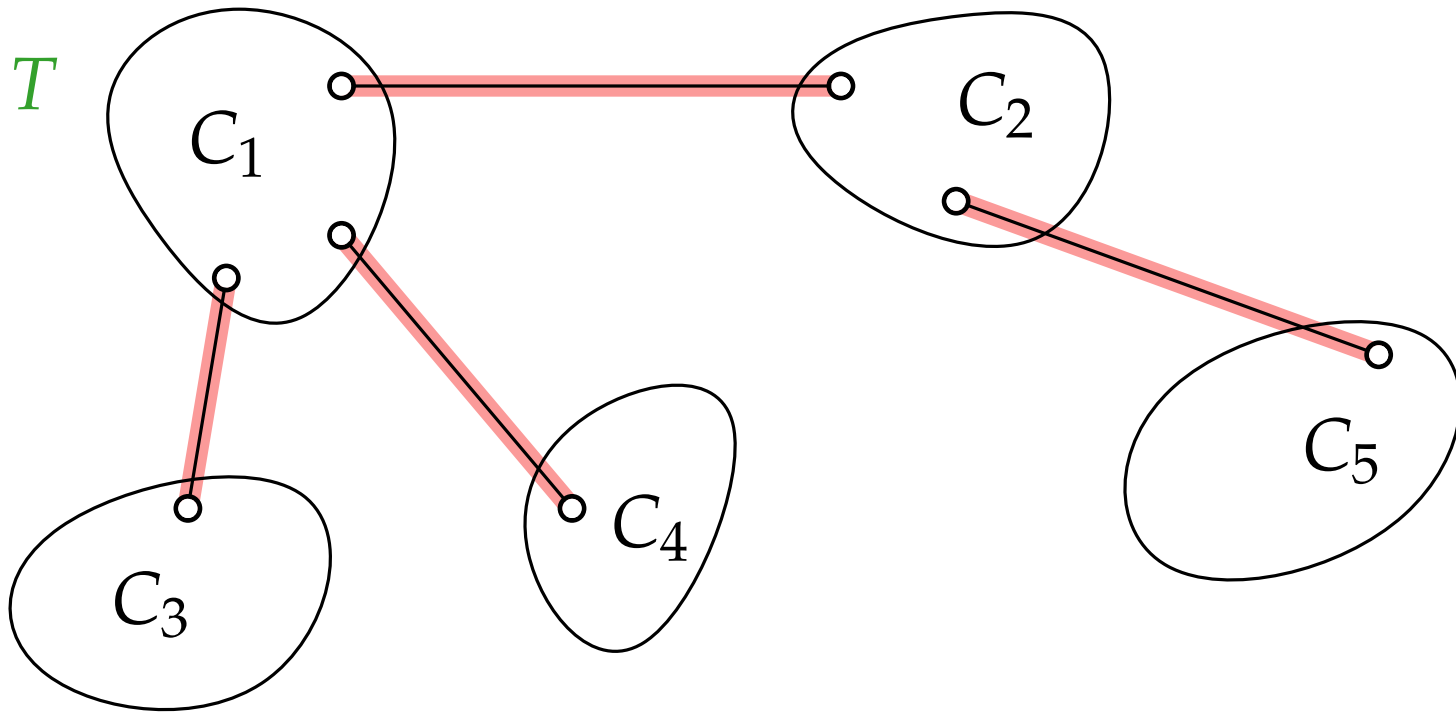
# Decomposition

- Removing  $k$  edges decomposes  $T$  into  $k + 1$  components



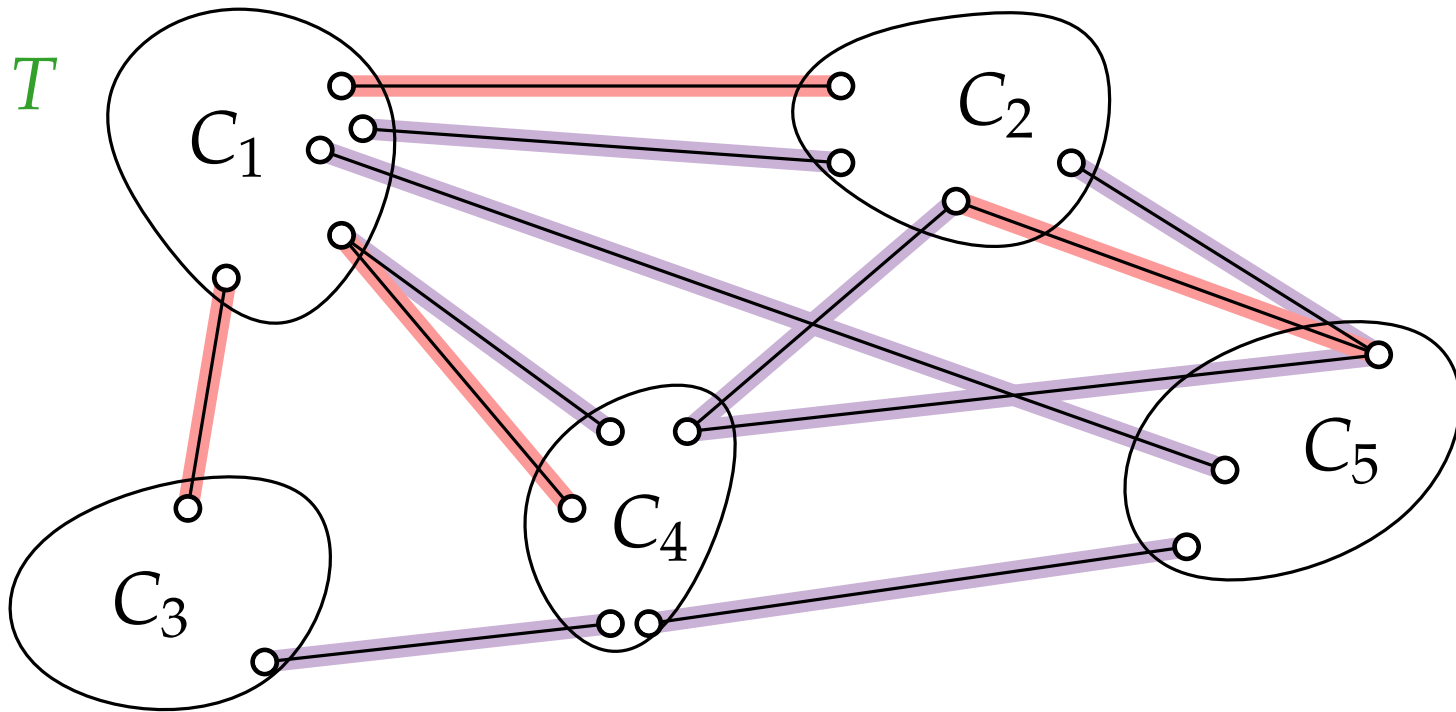
# Decomposition

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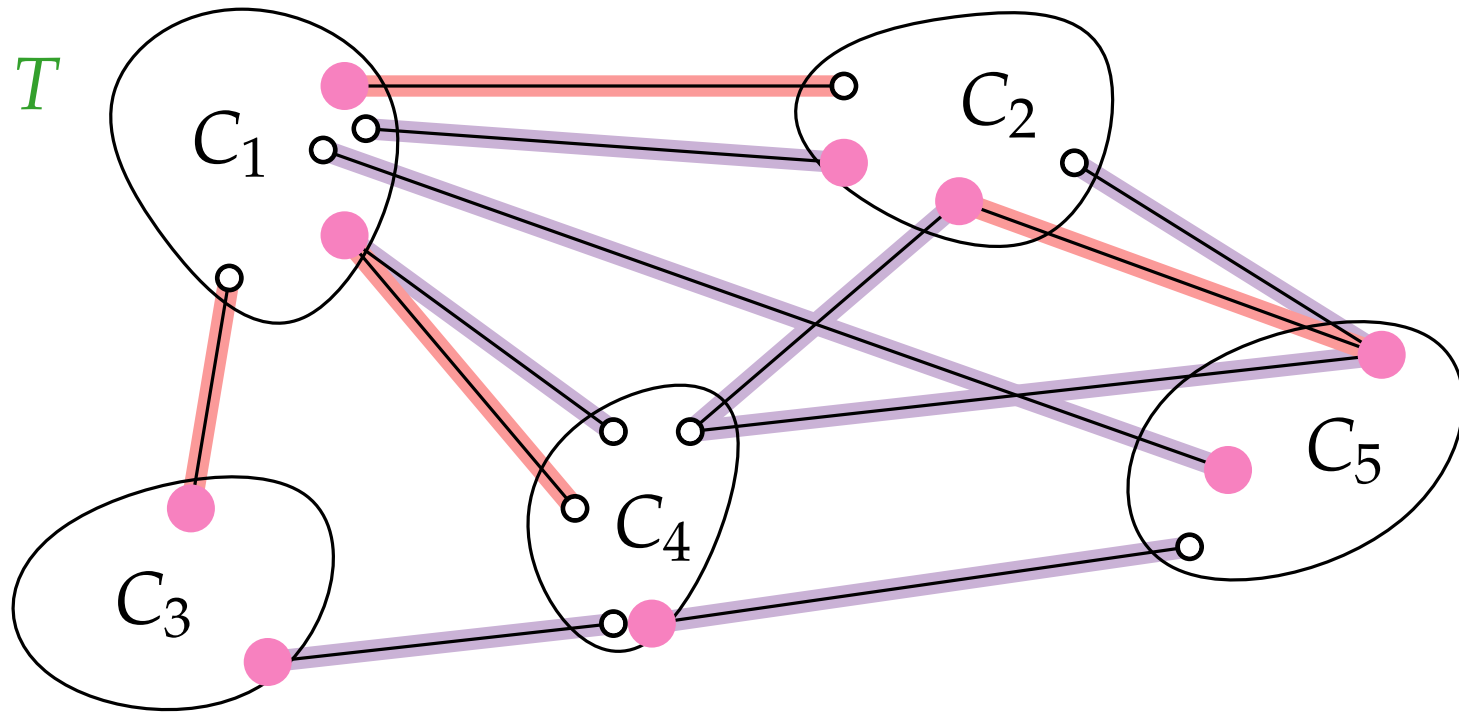
# Decomposition

- Removing  $k$  edges decomposes  $T$  into  $k + 1$  components
- $E' := \{\text{edges in } G \text{ btw. different components } C_i \neq C_j\}$ .



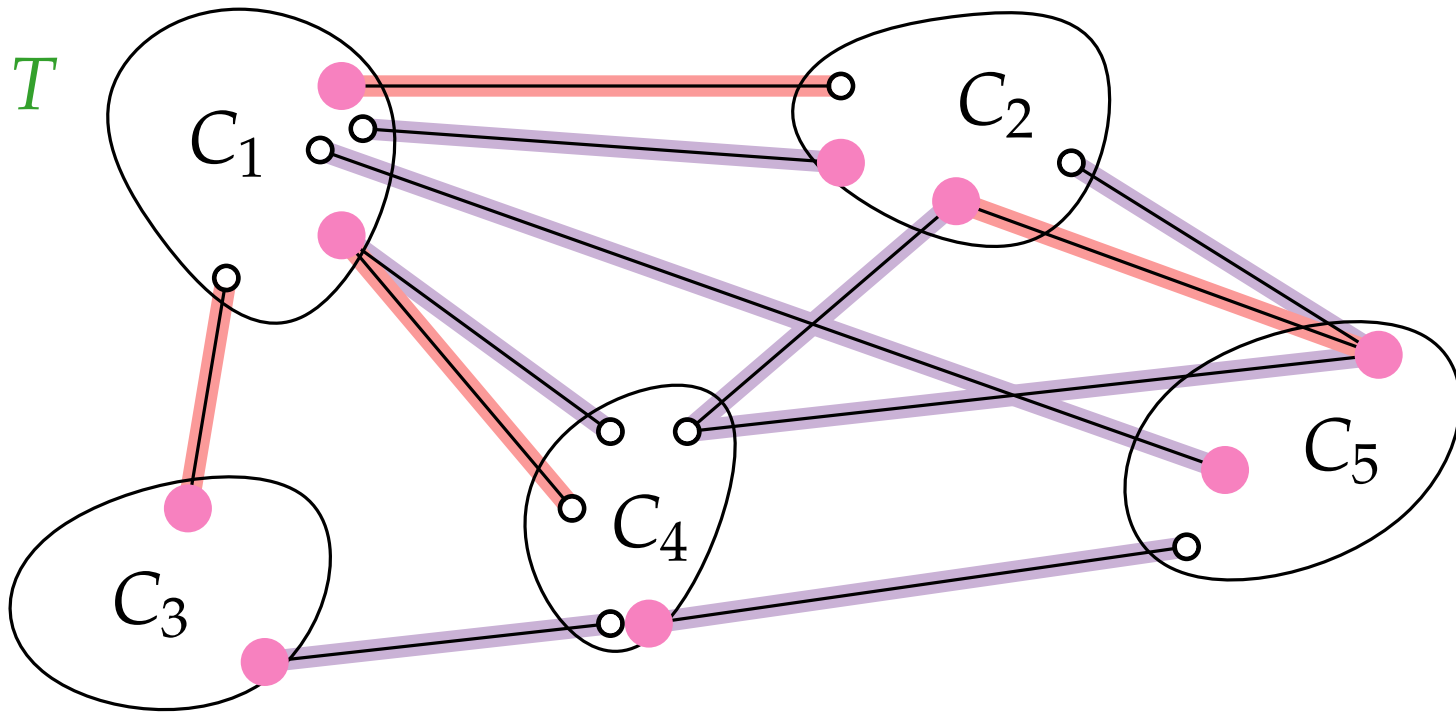
# Decomposition

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- $S := \text{vertex cover of } E'$ .



# Decomposition

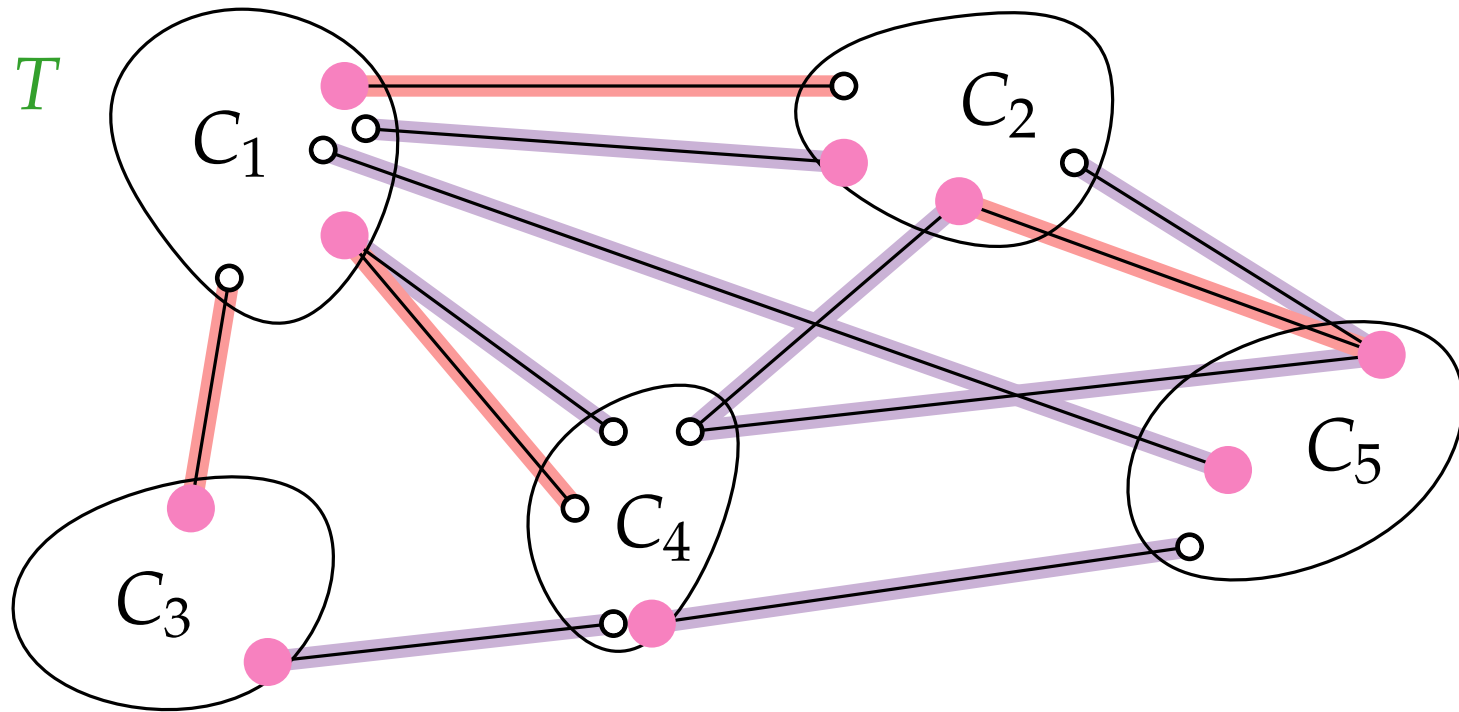
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- $E(T^*) \cap E' \geq k$  for opt. spanning tree  $T^*$

# Decomposition

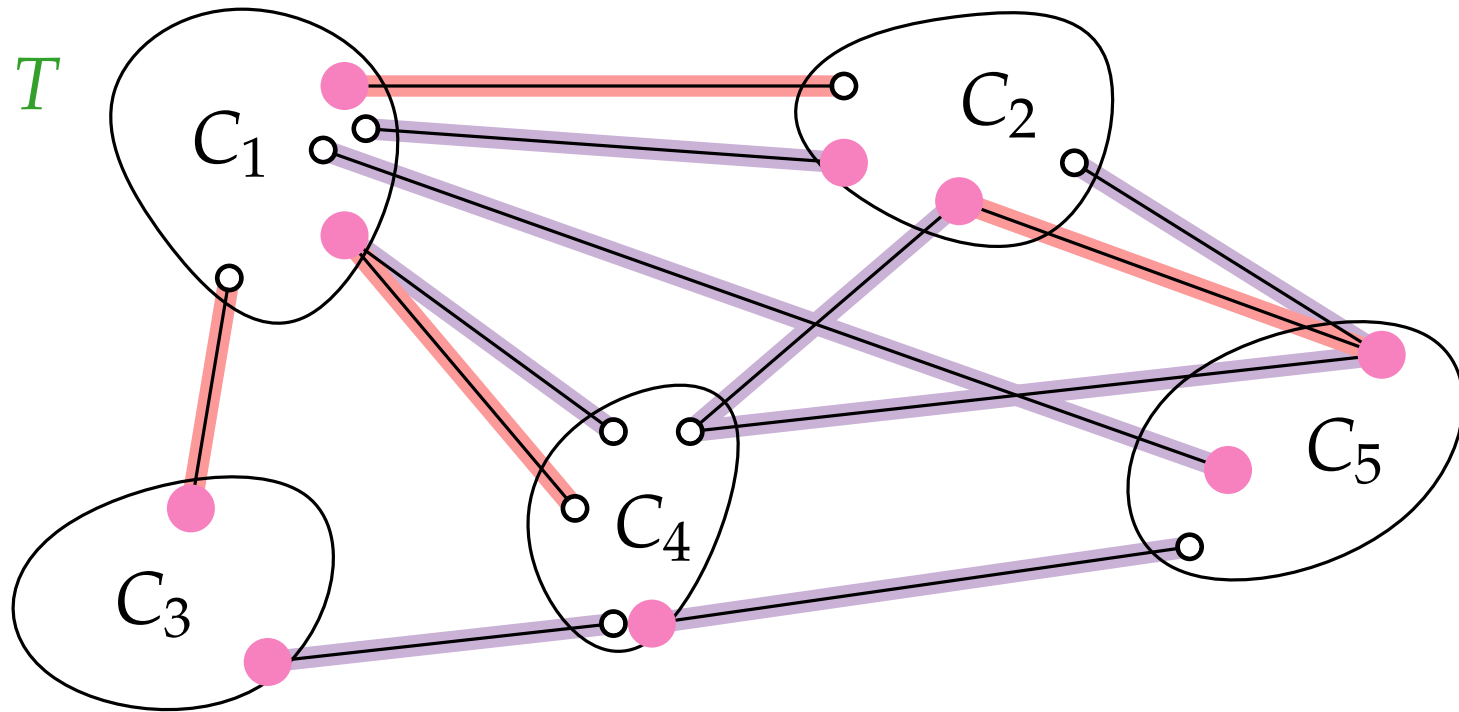
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- $E(T^*) \cap E' \geq k$  for opt. spanning tree  $T^*$
- $\sum_{v \in S} \deg_{T^*}(v) \geq k$

# Decomposition $\Rightarrow$ Lower Bound for **OPT**

- Removing  $k$  edges decomposes  $T$  into  $k + 1$  components
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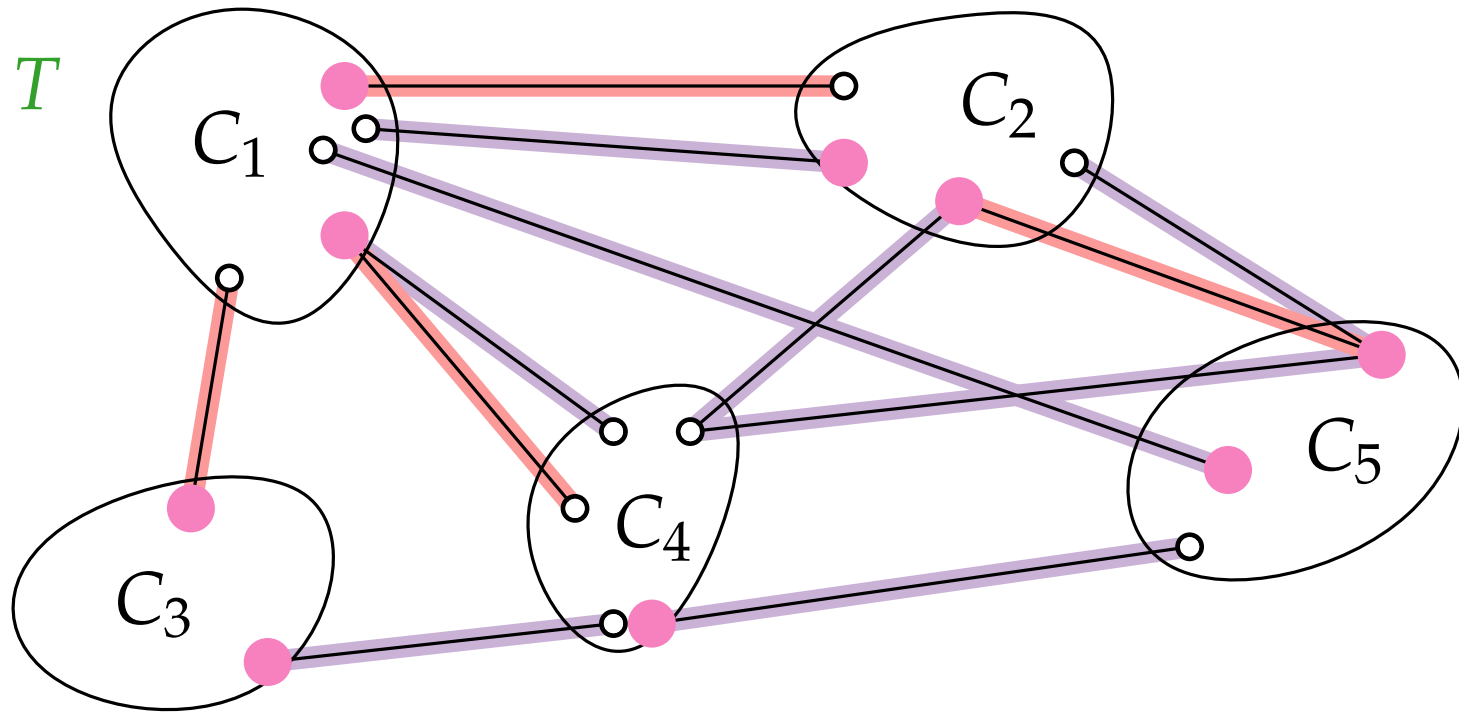


- $E(T^*) \cap E' \geq k$  for opt. spanning tree  $T^*$
- $\sum_{v \in S} \deg_{T^*}(v) \geq k$

**Lemma 1.**  
 $\Rightarrow \text{OPT} \geq$

# Decomposition $\Rightarrow$ Lower Bound for **OPT**

- Removing  $k$  edges decomposes  $T$  into  $k + 1$  components
- $E' := \{\text{edges in } G \text{ btw. different components } C_i \neq C_j\}$ .
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- $E(T^*) \cap E' \geq k$  for opt. spanning tree  $T^*$
- $\sum_{v \in S} \deg_{T^*}(v) \geq k$

**Lemma 1.**

$\Rightarrow \text{OPT} \geq k / |S|$



# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 9:

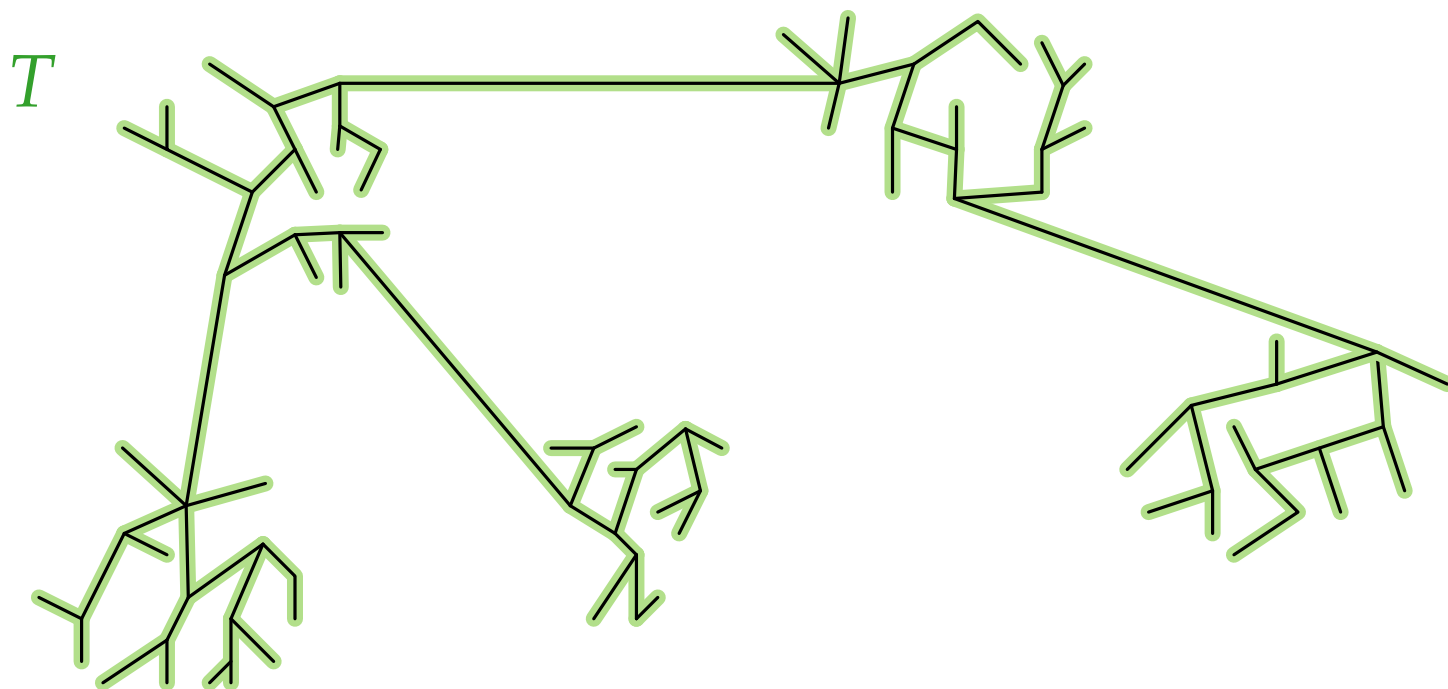
MINIMUM-DEGREE SPANNING TREE

via Local Search

Part IV:

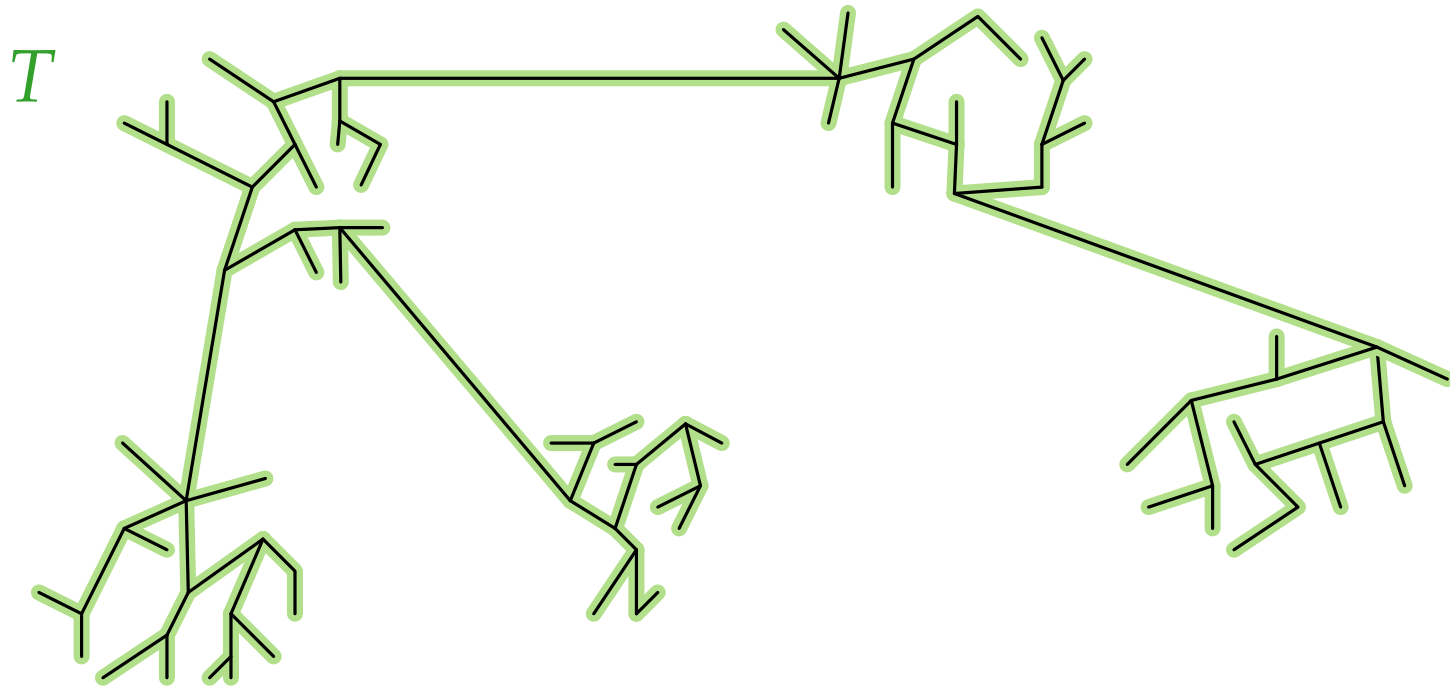
More Lemmas

# More Lemmas



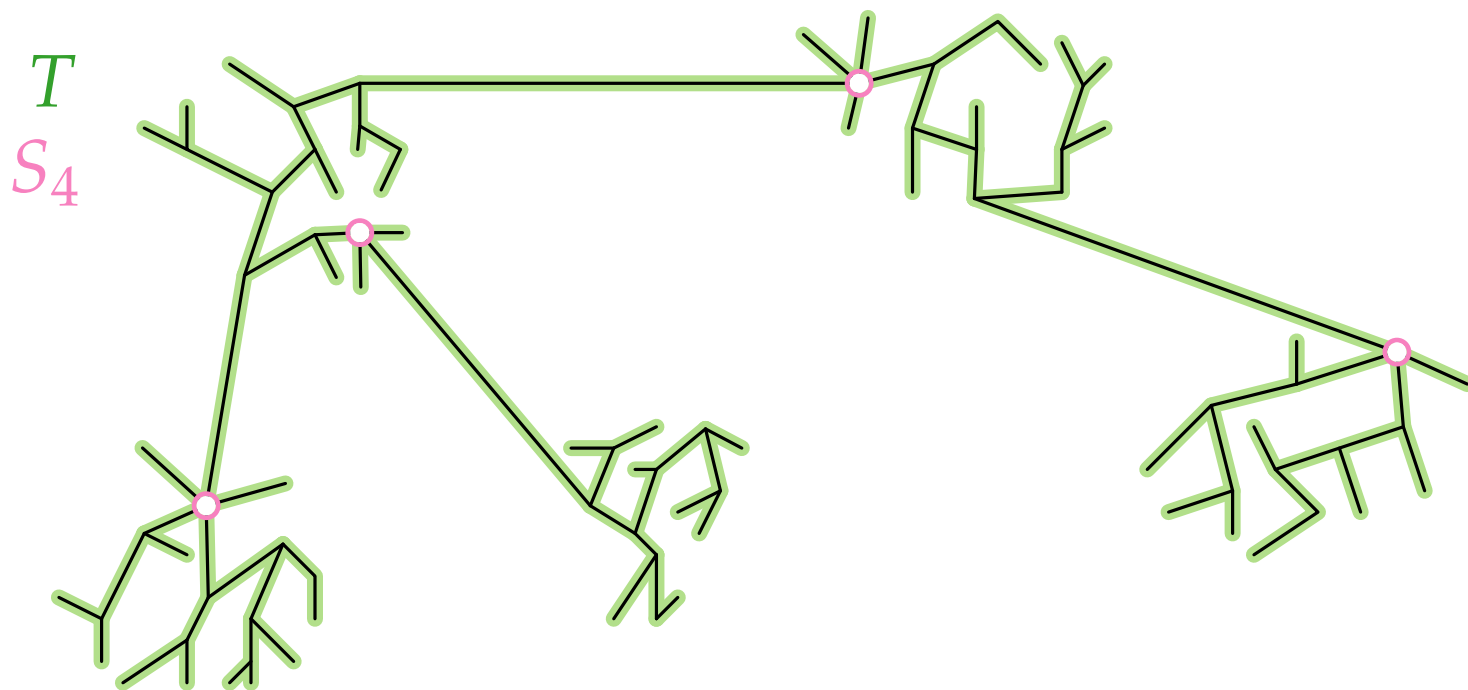
# More Lemmas

Let  $S_i$  be the vertices  $v$  in  $T$  with  $\deg_T(v) \geq i$ .



# More Lemmas

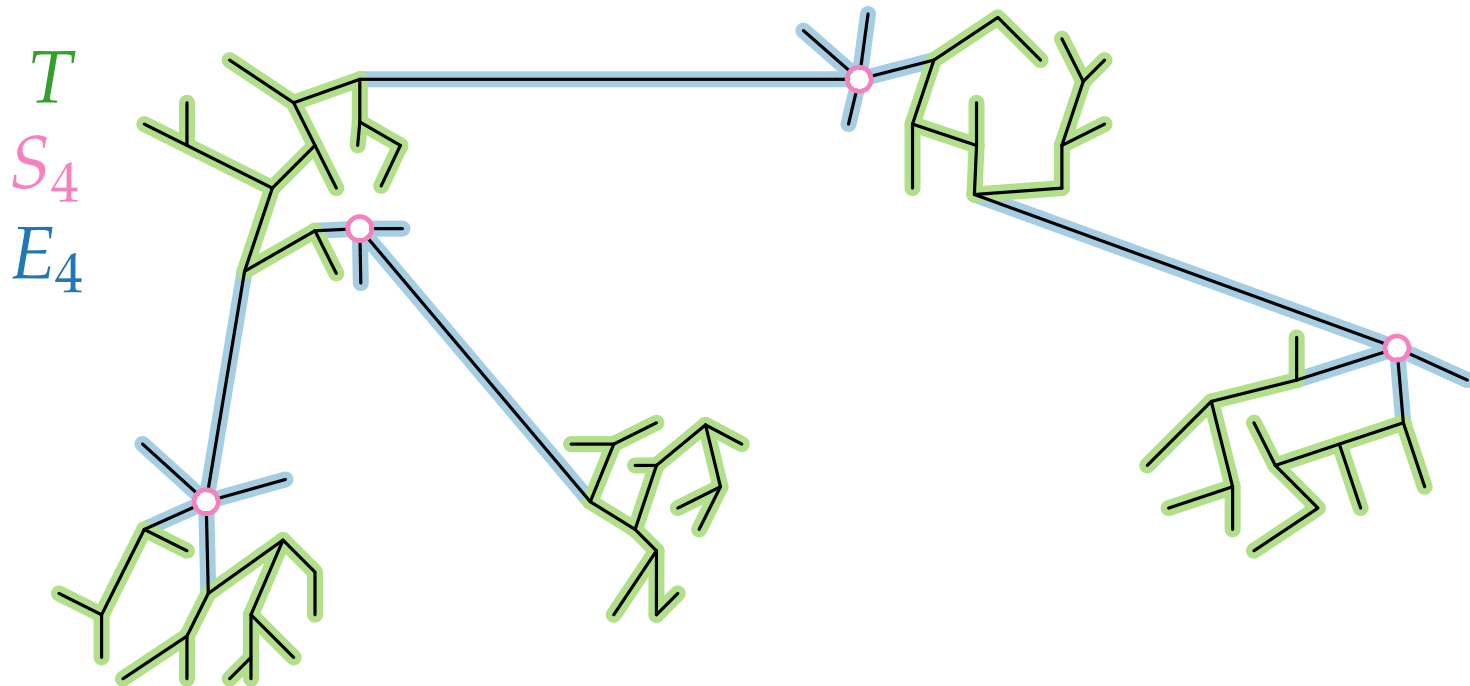
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# More Lemmas

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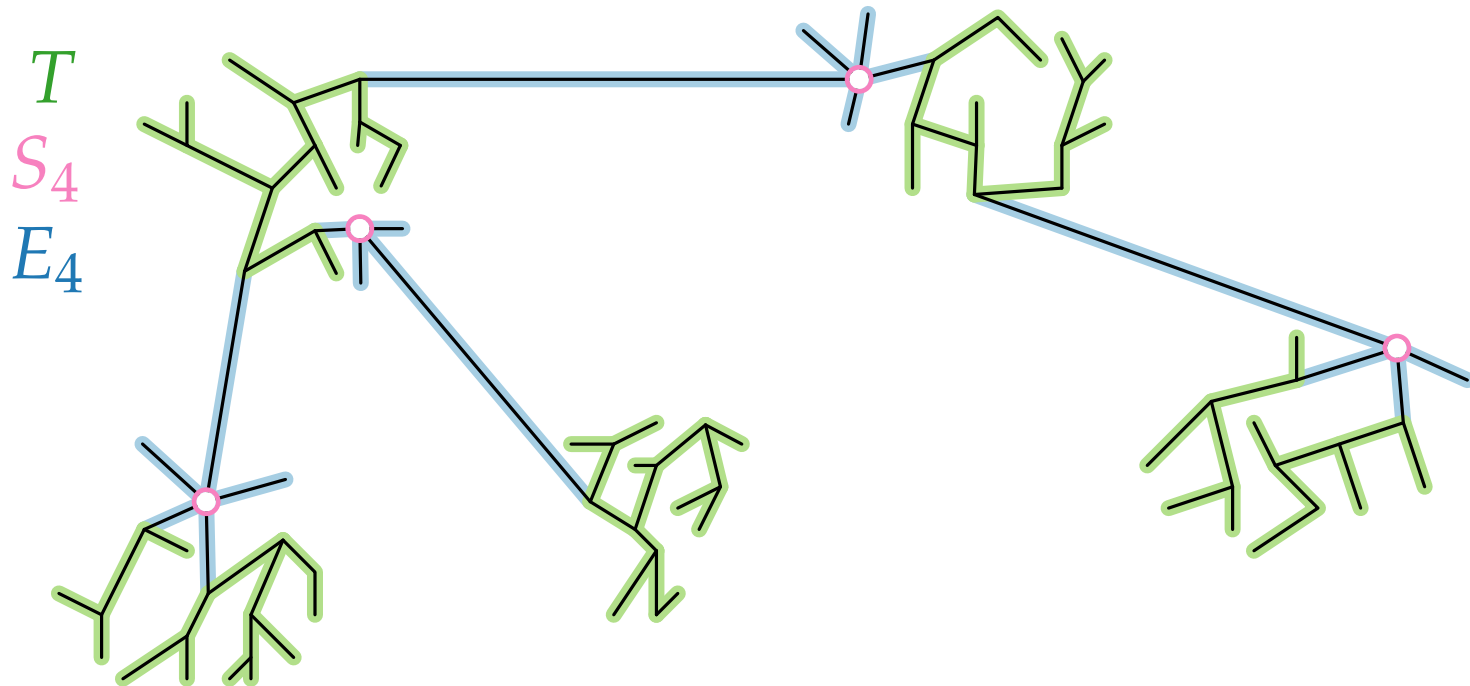
Let  $E_i$  be the edges in  $T$  incident to  $S_i$ .



# More Lemmas

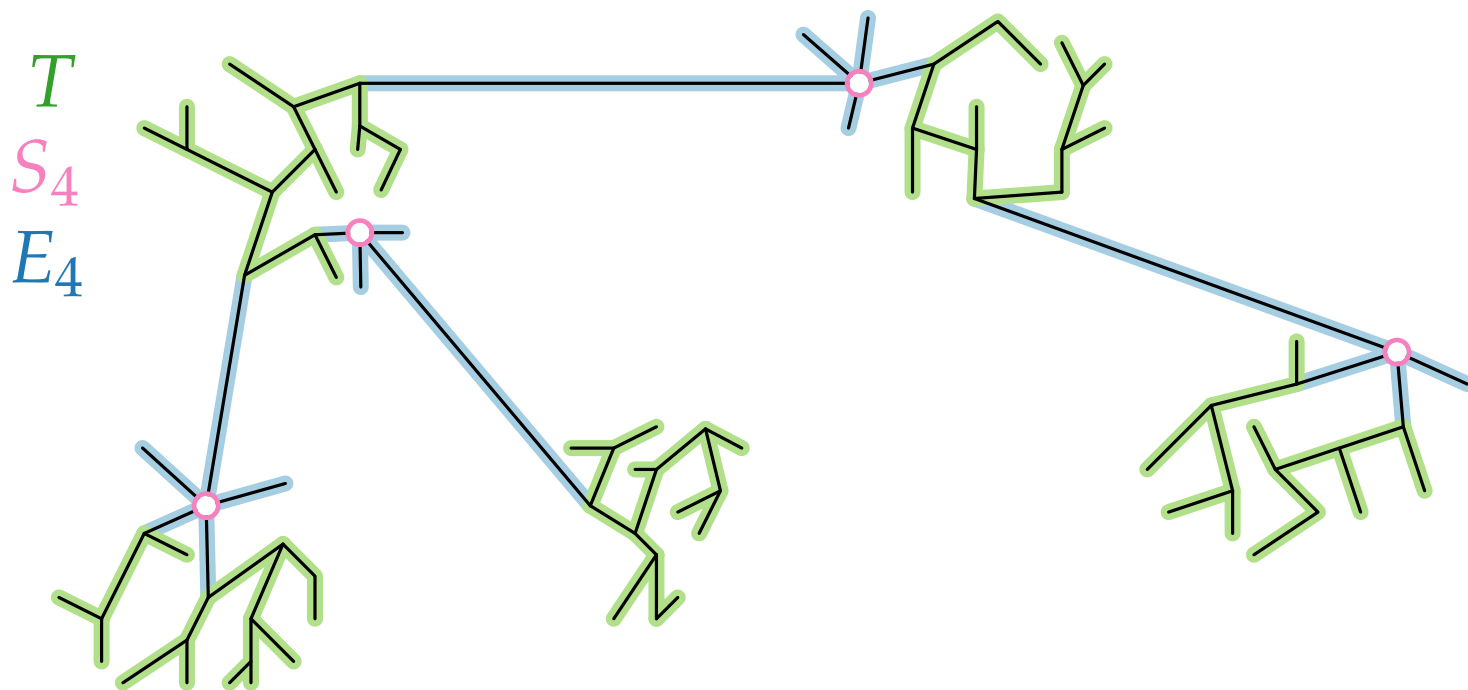
Let  $S_i$  be the vertices  $v$  in  $T$  with  $\deg_T(v) \geq i$ .

Let  $E_i$  be the edges in  $T$  incident to  $S_i$ .



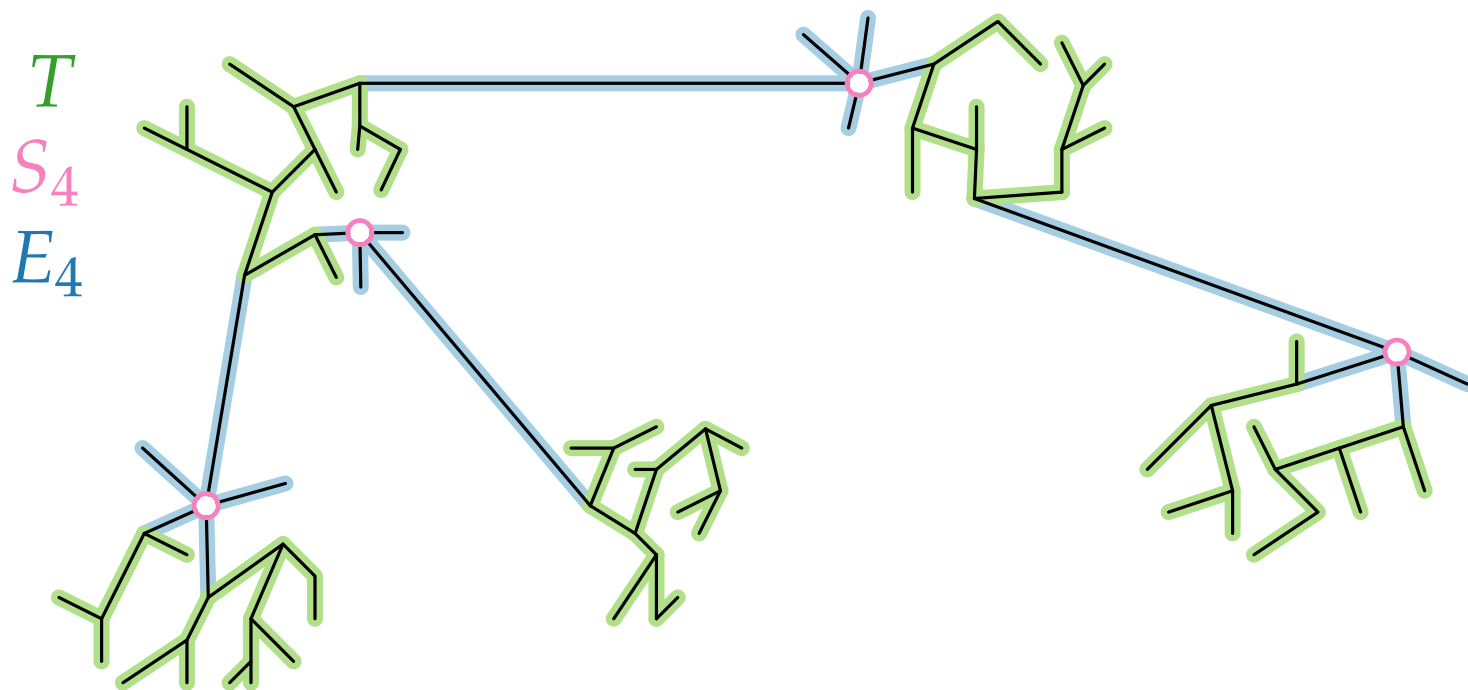
# More Lemmas

Let  $S_i$  be the vertices  $v$  in  $T$  with  $\deg_T(v) \geq i$ .  $\Rightarrow S_1 \supseteq S_2 \supseteq \dots$   
Let  $E_i$  be the edges in  $T$  incident to  $S_i$ .



# More Lemmas

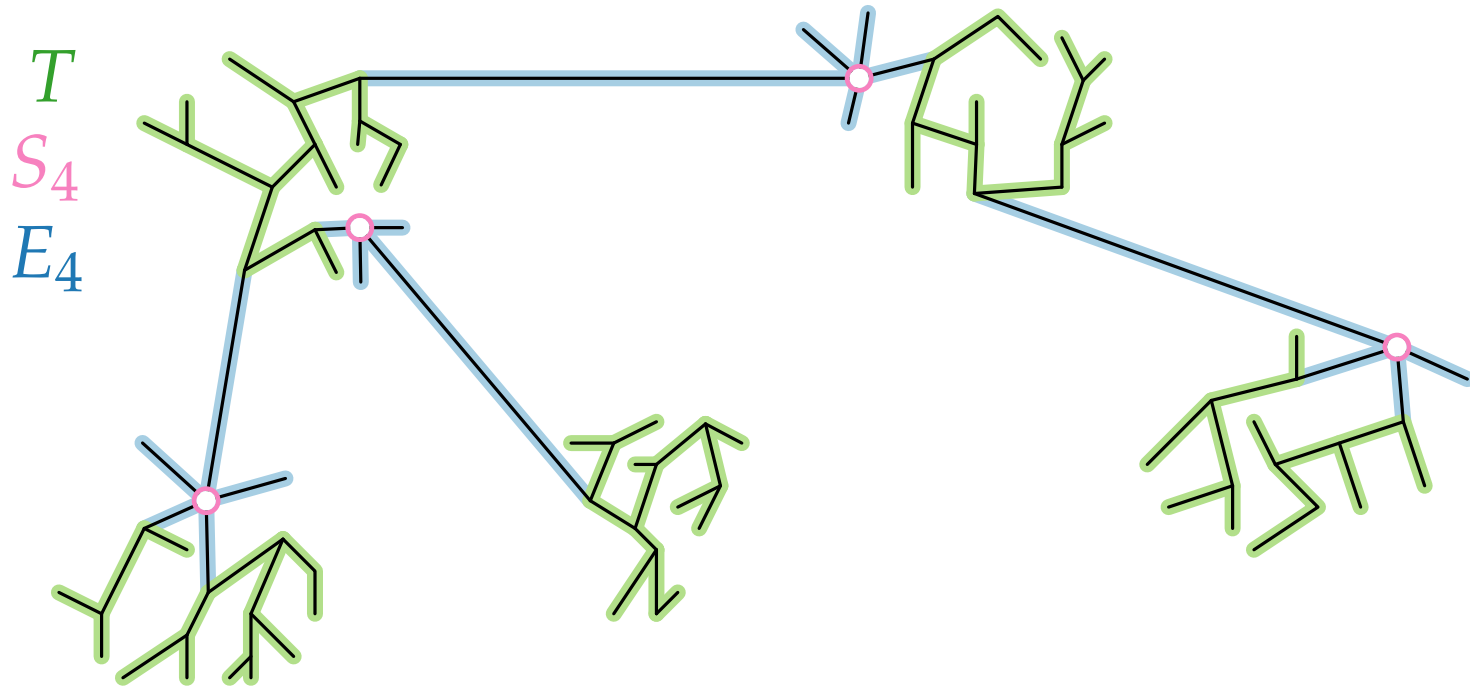
Let  $S_i$  be the vertices  $v$  in  $T$  with  $\deg_T(v) \geq i$ .  $\Rightarrow S_1 \supseteq S_2 \supseteq \dots$   
Let  $E_i$  be the edges in  $T$  incident to  $S_i$ .  $\Rightarrow S_1 = V(G)$





# More Lemmas

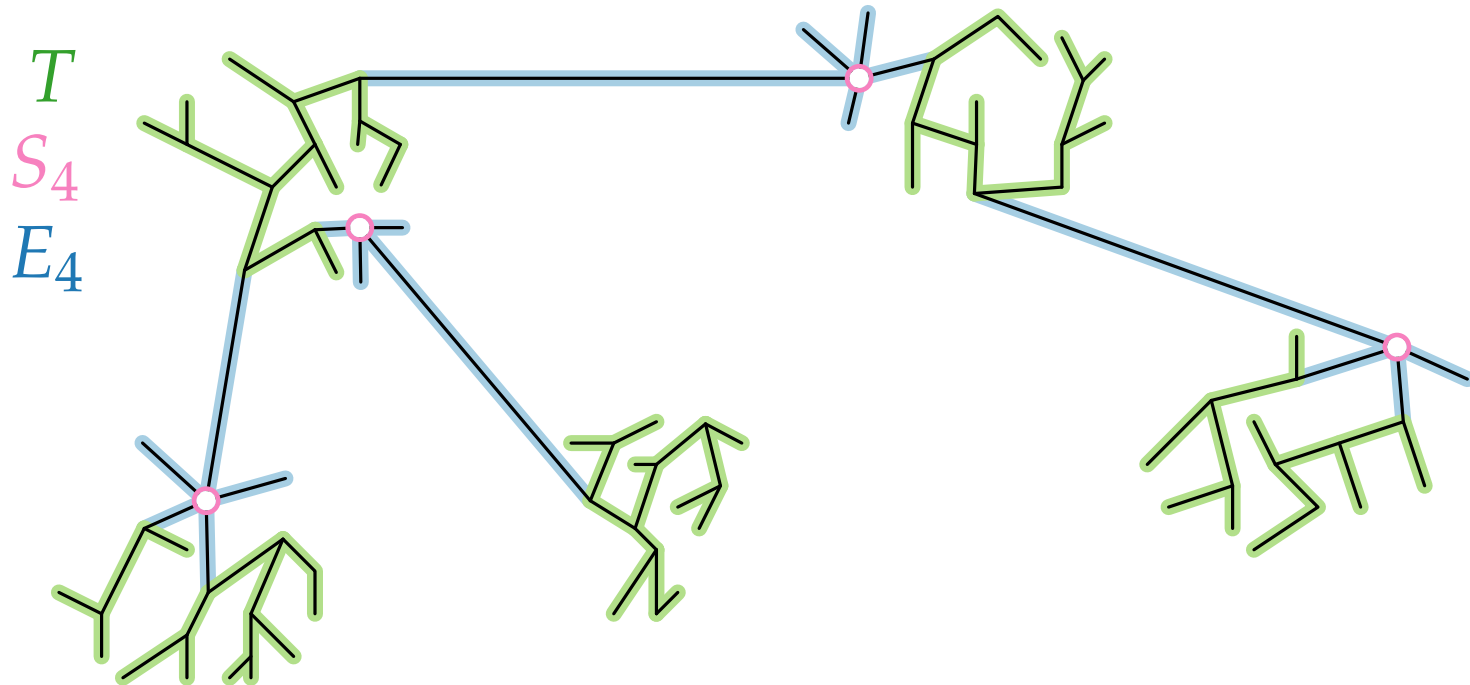
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 $\Rightarrow E_1 = E(T)$



# More Lemmas

Let  $S_i$  be the vertices  $v$  in  $T$  with  $\deg_T(v) \geq i$ .  $\Rightarrow S_1 \supseteq S_2 \supseteq \dots$   
 $\Rightarrow S_1 = V(G)$   
 Let  $E_i$  be the edges in  $T$  incident to  $S_i$ .  $\Rightarrow E_1 = E(T)$

**Lemma 2.** There is some  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$  with  $|S_{i-1}| \leq 2|S_i|$ .

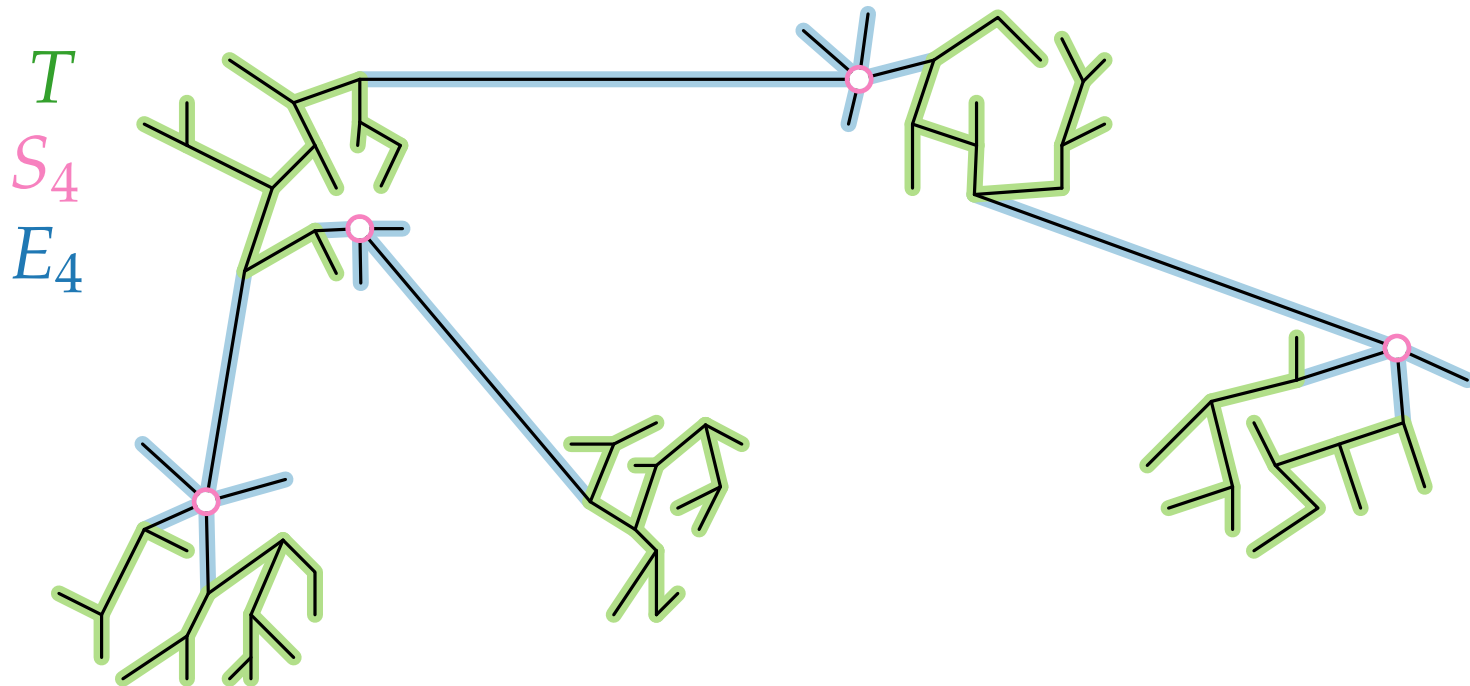


# More Lemmas

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 Let  $E_i$  be the edges in  $T$  incident to  $S_i$ .  $\Rightarrow E_1 = E(T)$

**Lemma 2.** There is some  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$  with  $|S_{i-1}| \leq 2|S_i|$ .

**Proof.**  $|S_{\Delta(T) - \ell}| > 2^\ell |S_{\Delta(T)}|$

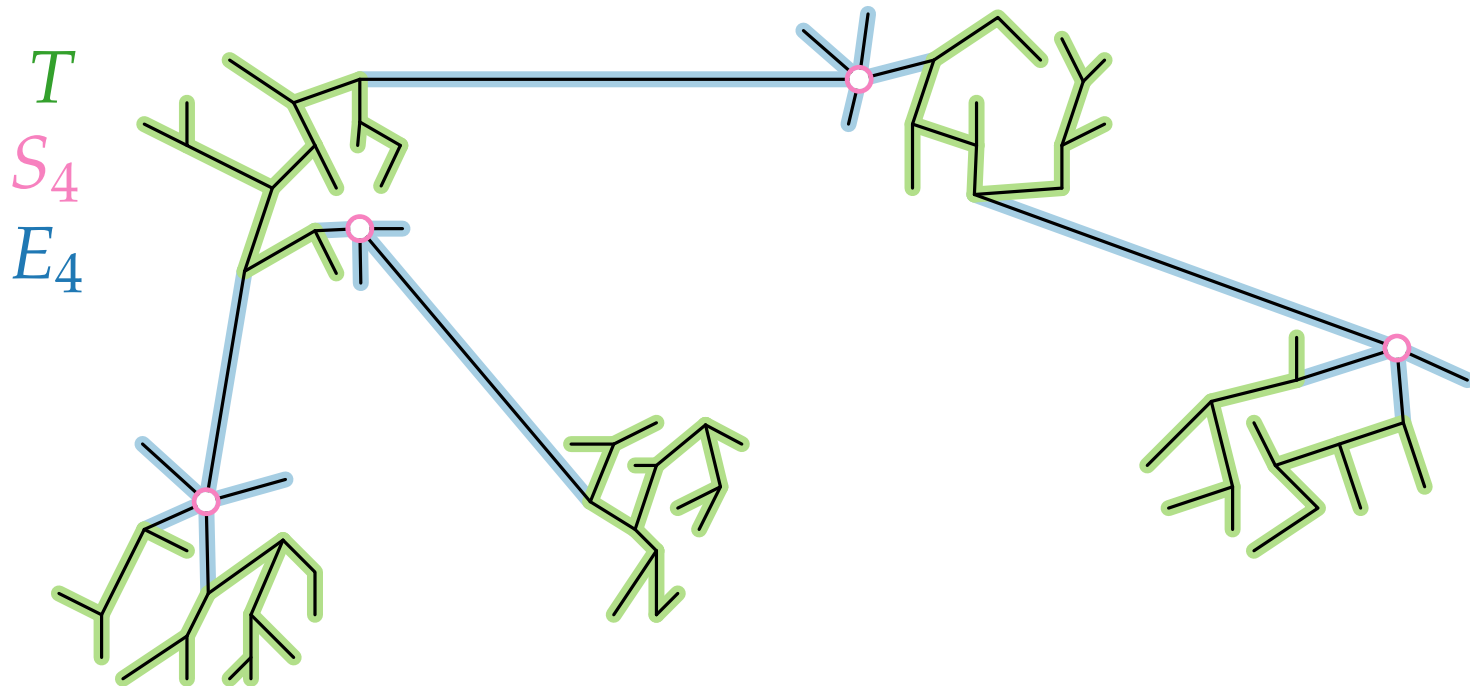


# More Lemmas

Let  $S_i$  be the vertices  $v$  in  $T$  with  $\deg_T(v) \geq i$ .  $\Rightarrow S_1 \supseteq S_2 \supseteq \dots$   
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**Lemma 2.** There is some  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$  with  $|S_{i-1}| \leq 2|S_i|$ .

**Proof.**  $|S_{\Delta(T) - \ell}| > 2^\ell |S_{\Delta(T)}| = 2^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil} |S_{\Delta(T)}|$   
 $\ell = \lceil \log_2 n \rceil$

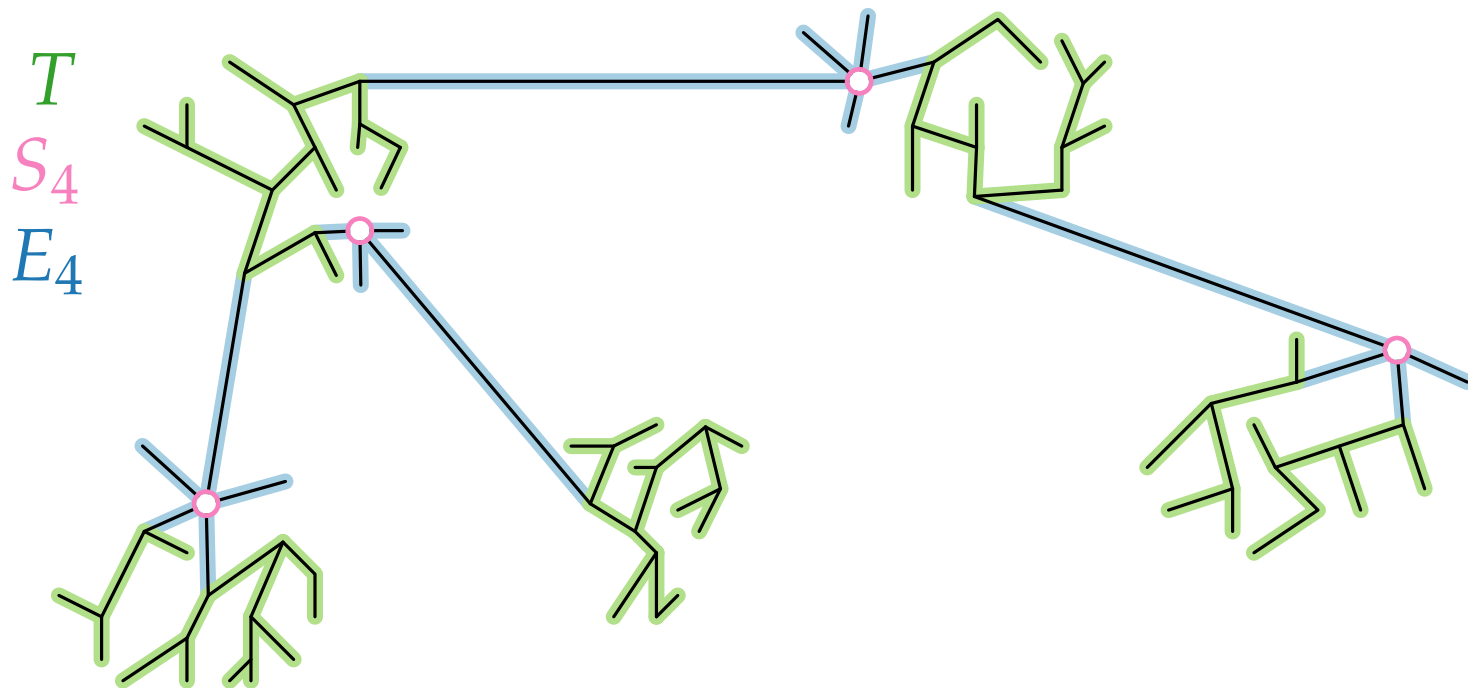


# More Lemmas

Let  $S_i$  be the vertices  $v$  in  $T$  with  $\deg_T(v) \geq i$ .  $\Rightarrow S_1 \supseteq S_2 \supseteq \dots$   
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**Lemma 2.** There is some  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$  with  $|S_{i-1}| \leq 2|S_i|$ .

**Proof.**  $|S_{\Delta(T) - \ell}| > 2^\ell |S_{\Delta(T)}| = 2^{\lceil \log_2 n \rceil} |S_{\Delta(T)}| \geq n |S_{\Delta(T)}|$   
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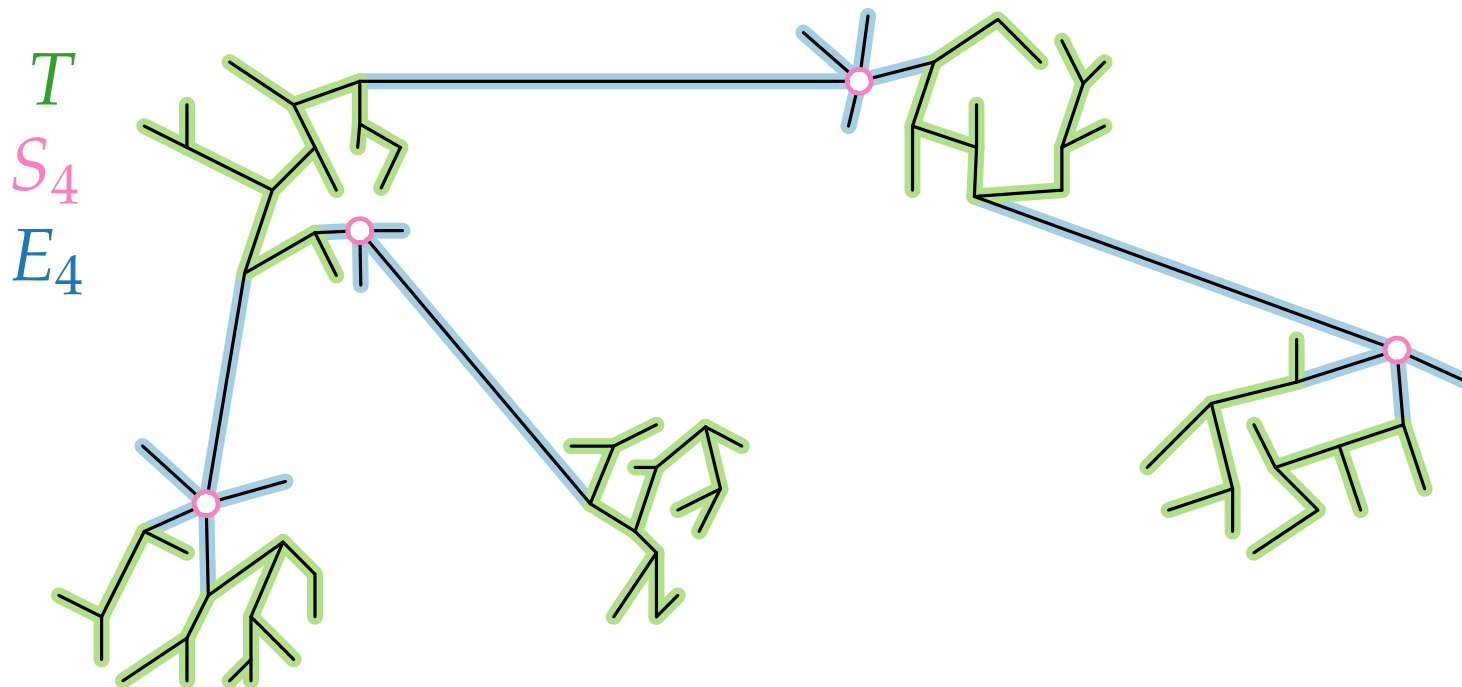


# More Lemmas

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 Let  $E_i$  be the edges in  $T$  incident to  $S_i$ .  $\Rightarrow E_1 = E(T)$

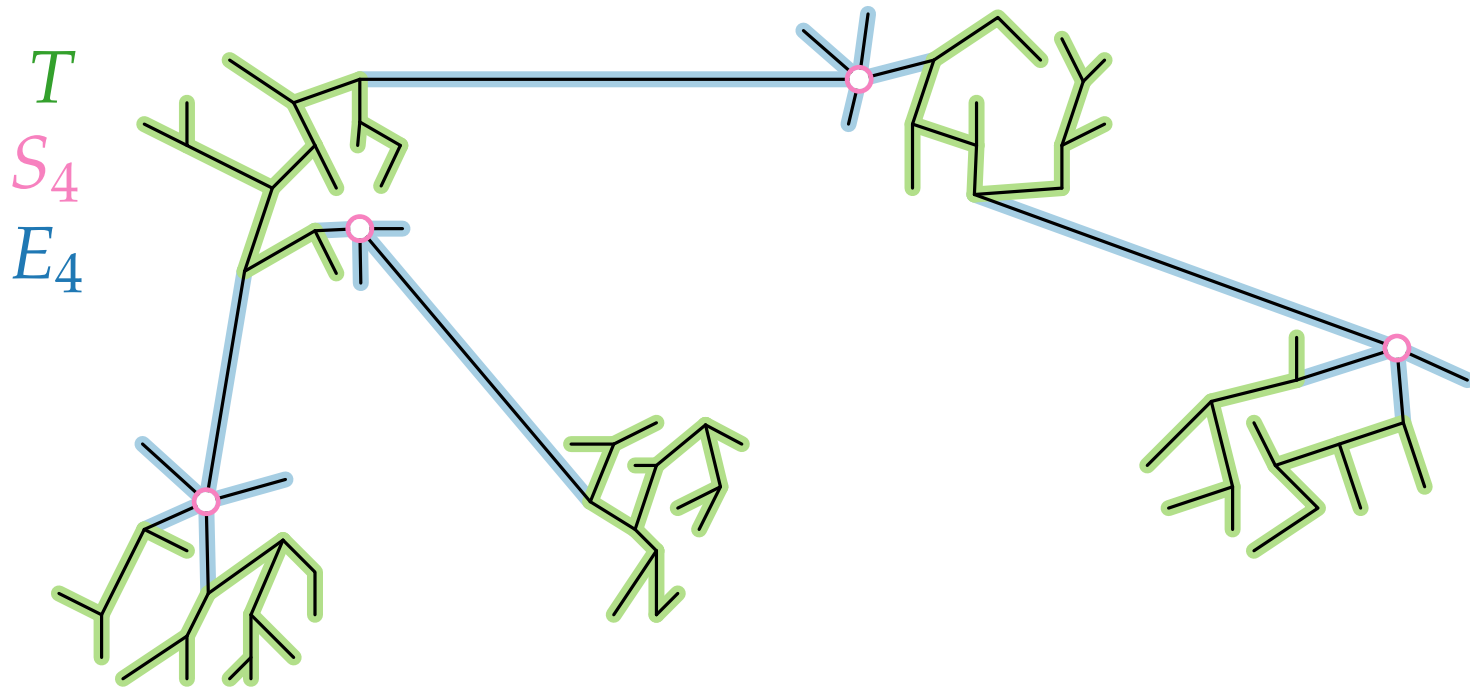
**Lemma 2.** There is some  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$  with  $|S_{i-1}| \leq 2|S_i|$ .

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# More Lemmas

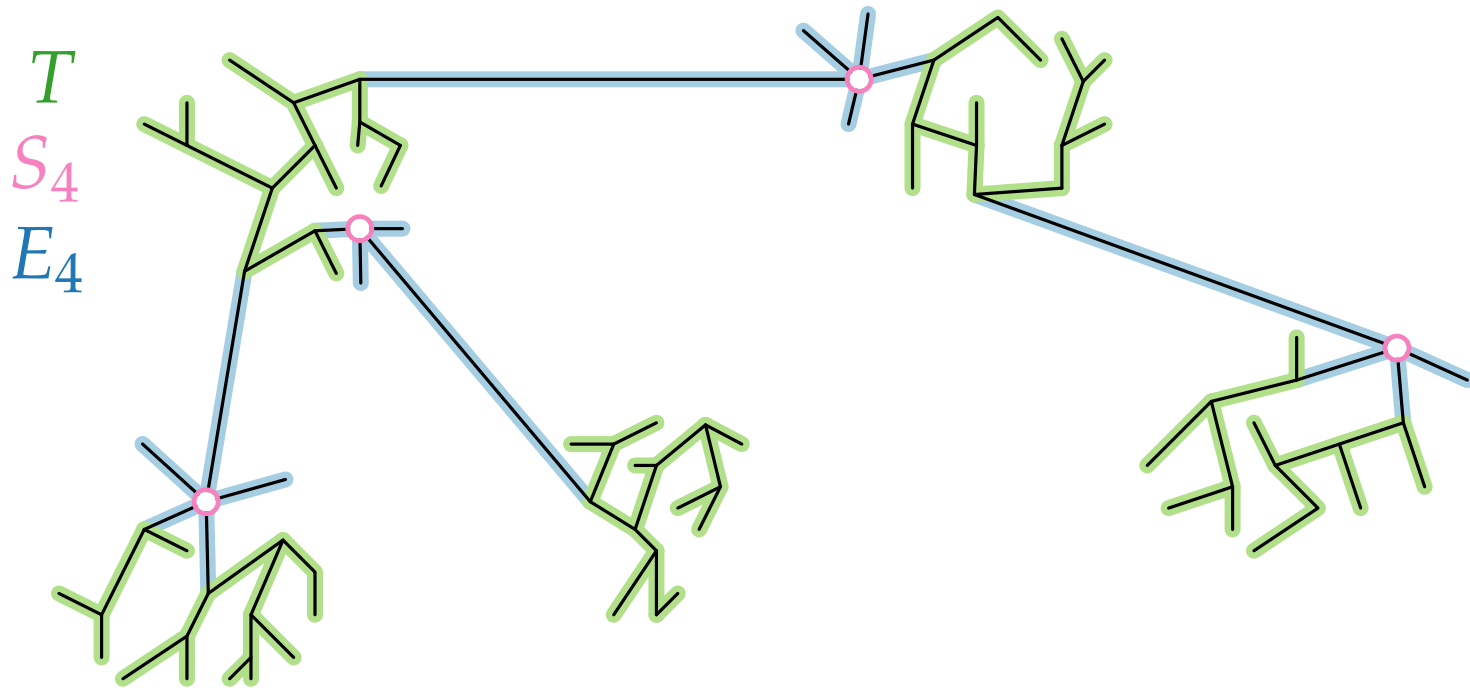
**Lemma 3.** For  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$ ,



# More Lemmas

**Lemma 3.** For  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$ ,

(i)  $|E_i| \geq (i - 1)|S_i| + 1$ ,



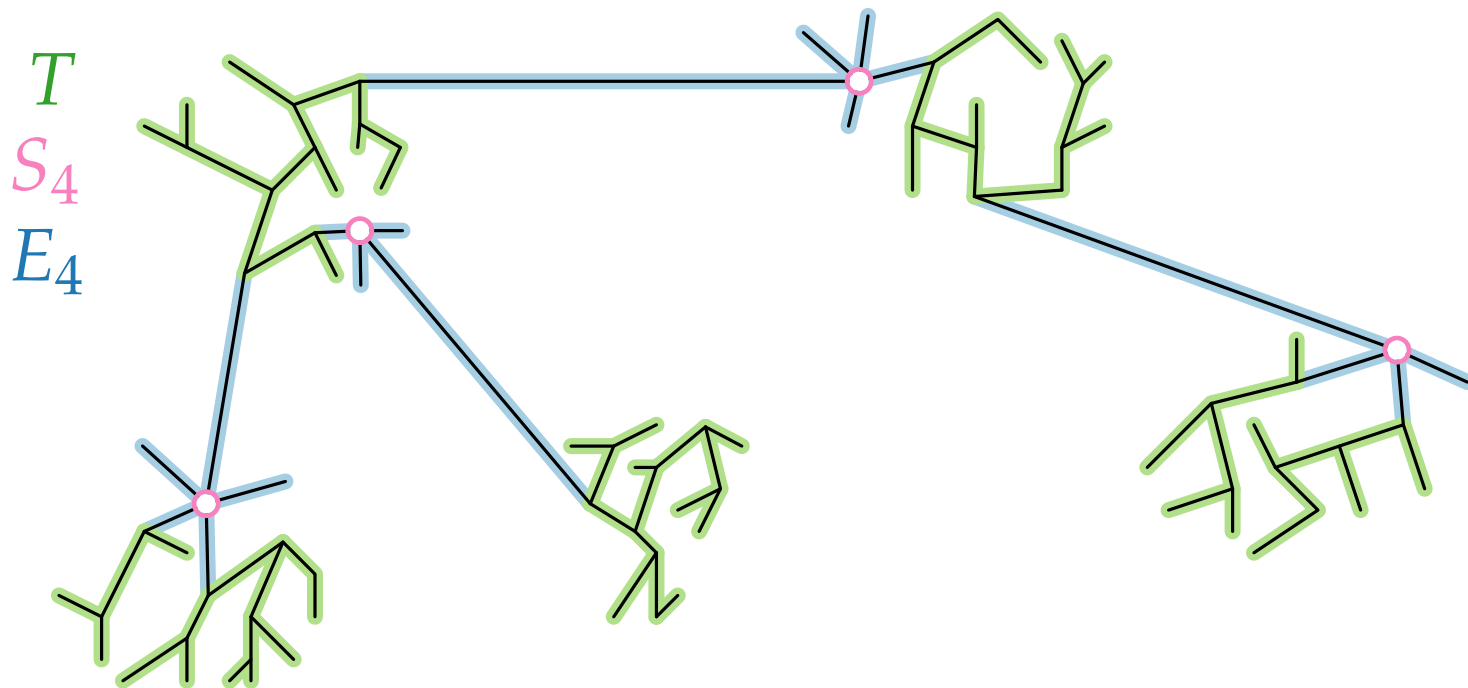


# More Lemmas

**Lemma 3.** For  $i \geq \Delta(T) - \ell + 1$ ,

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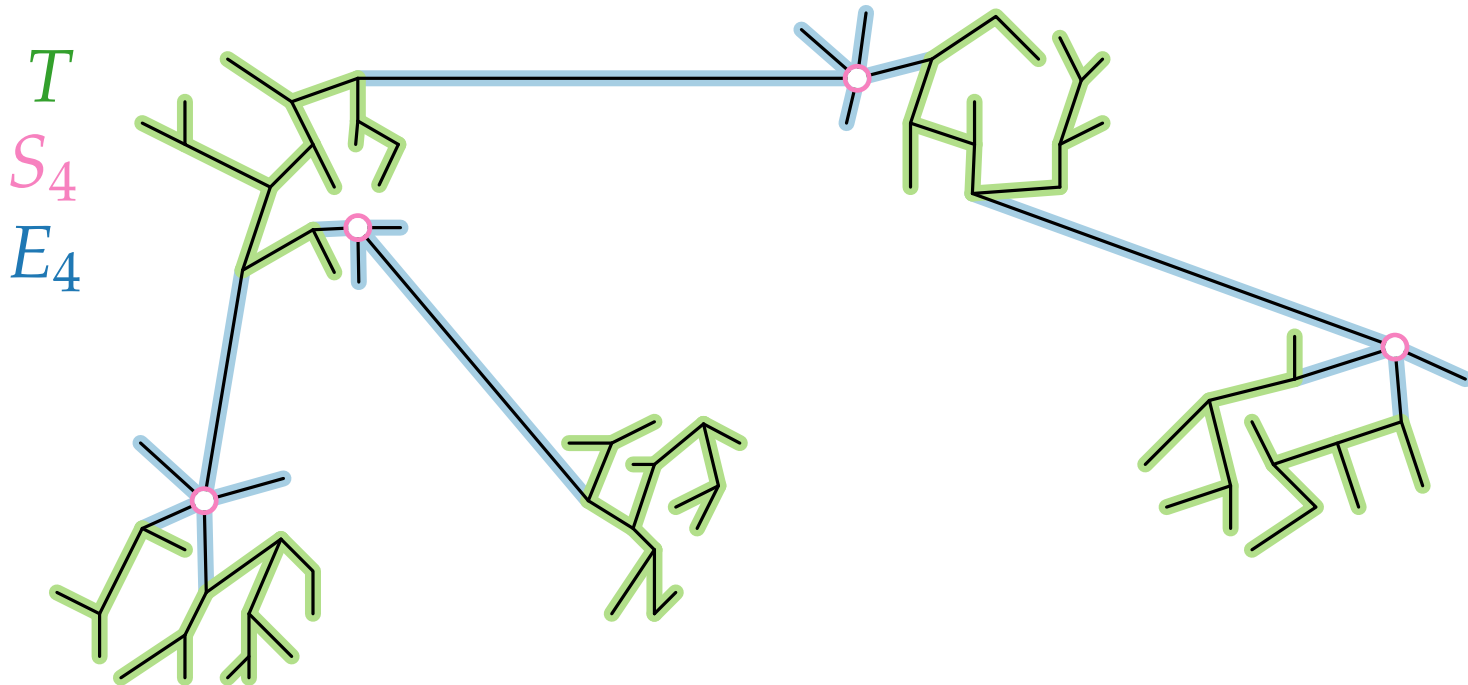
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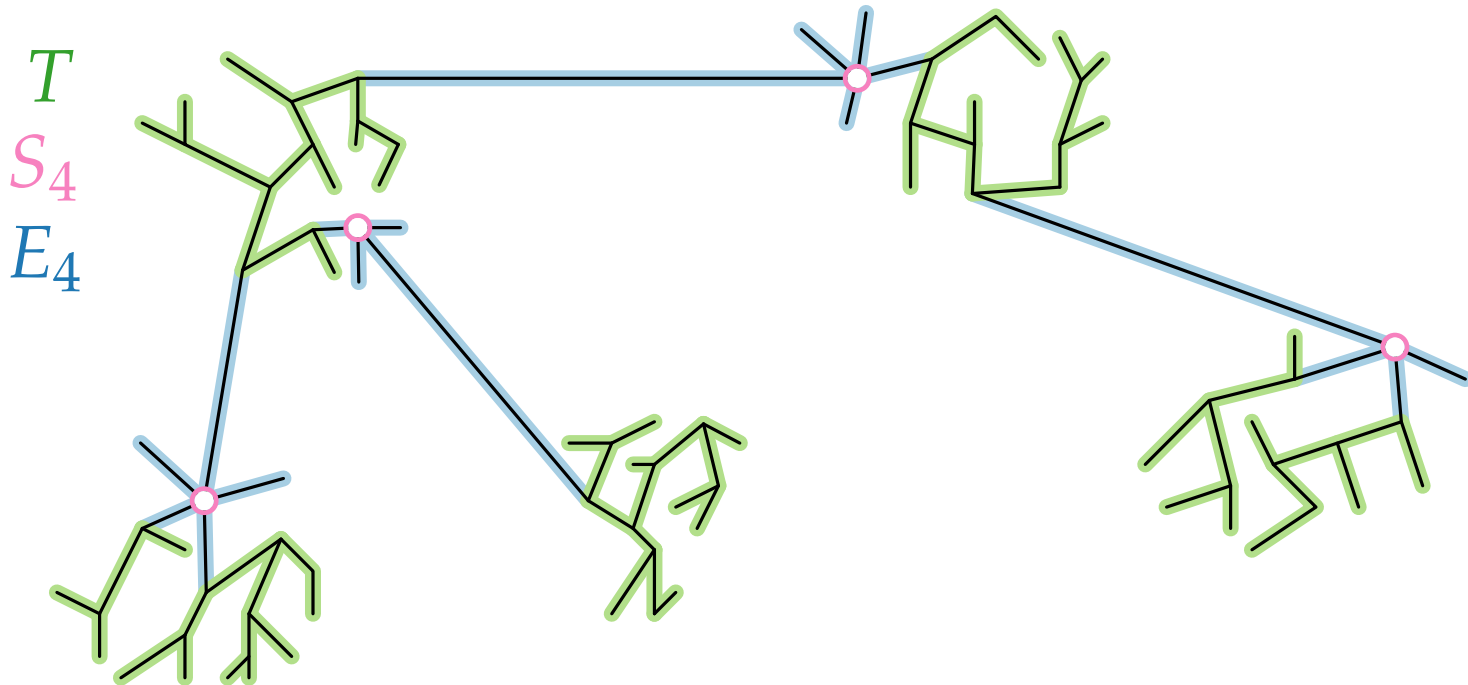
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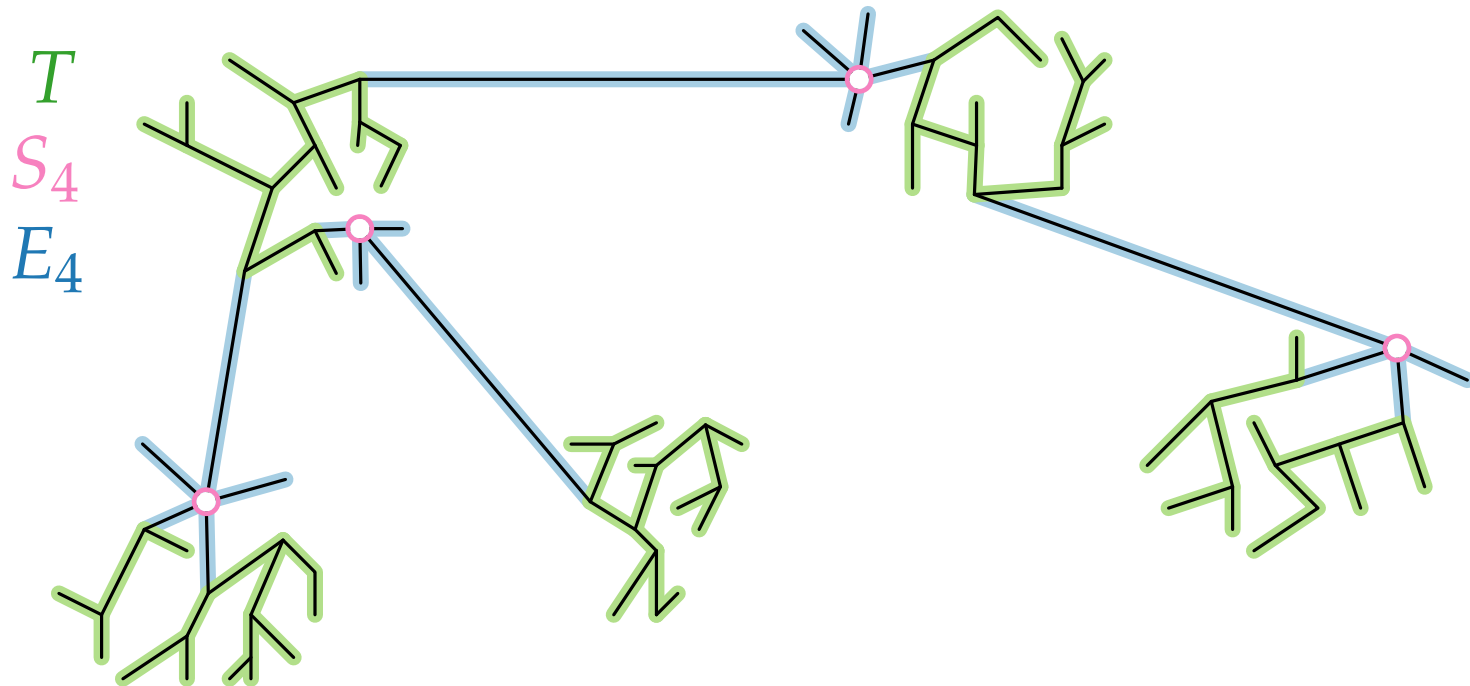
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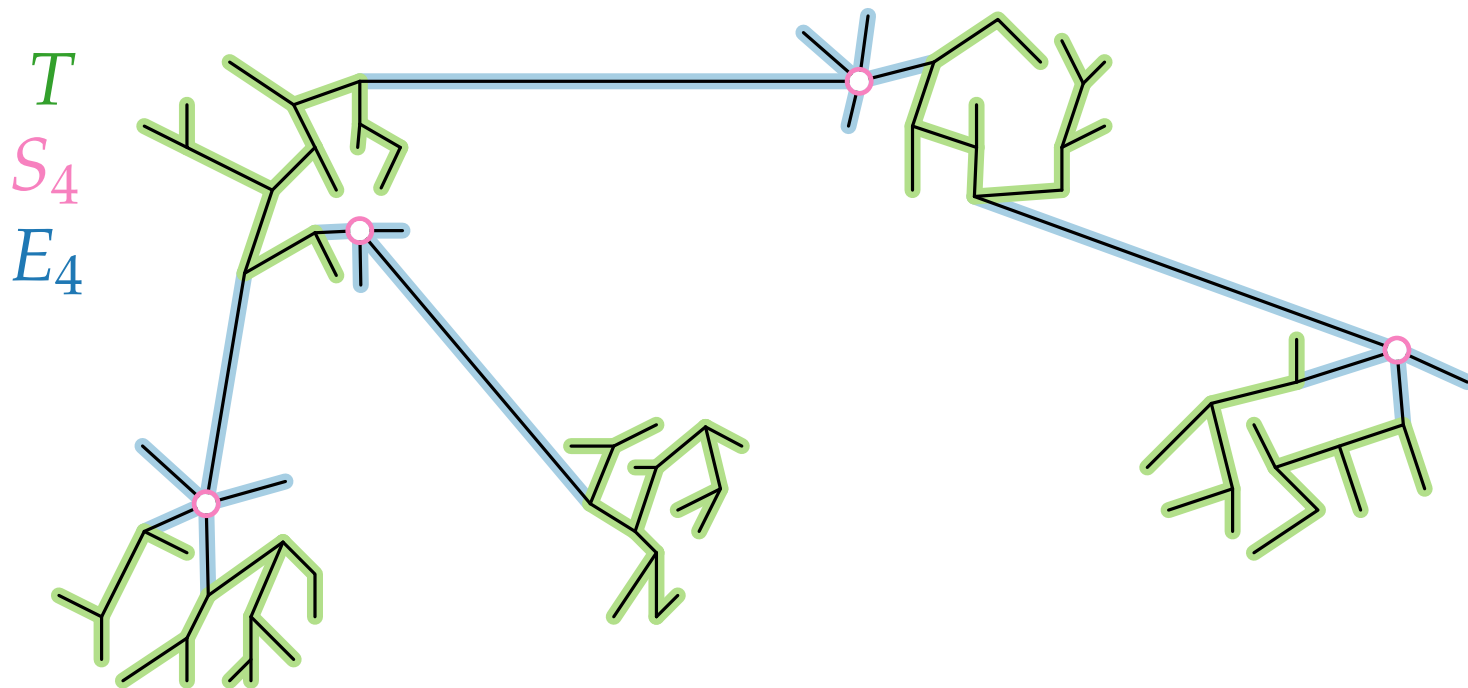
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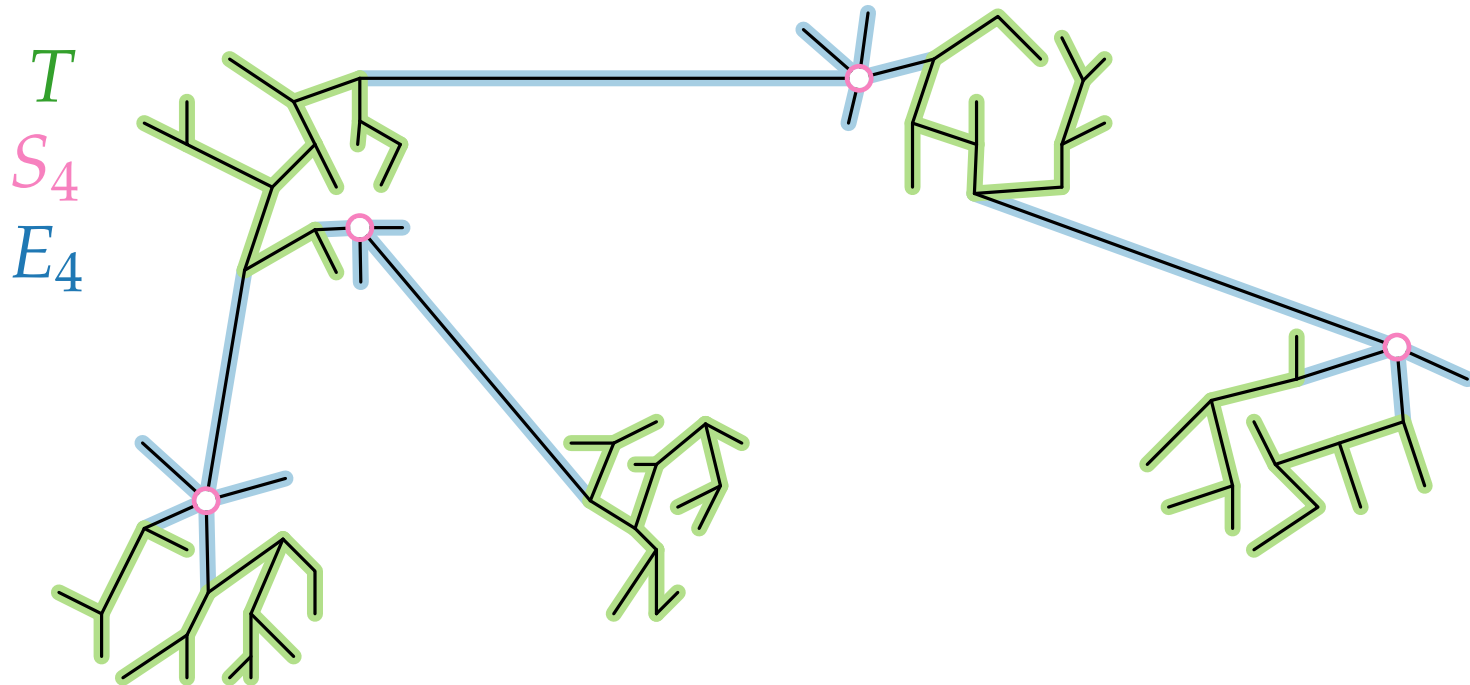
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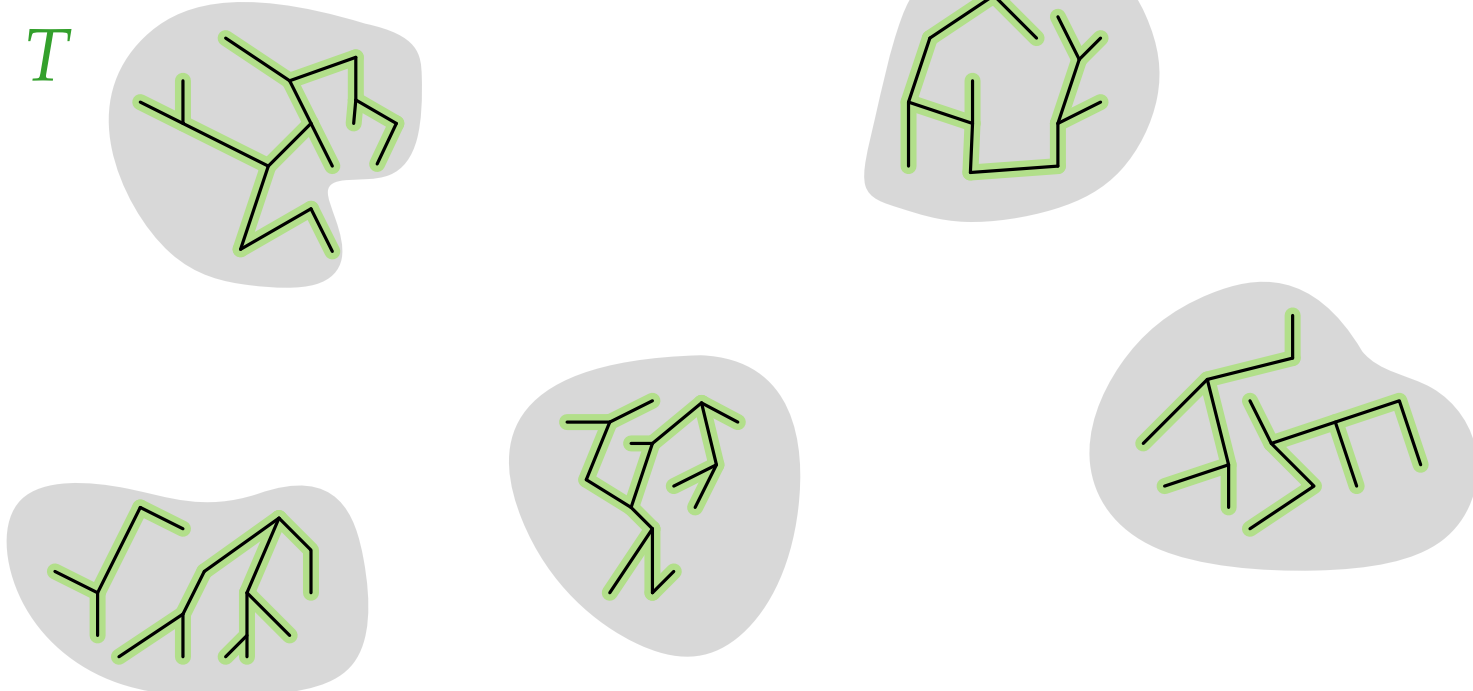
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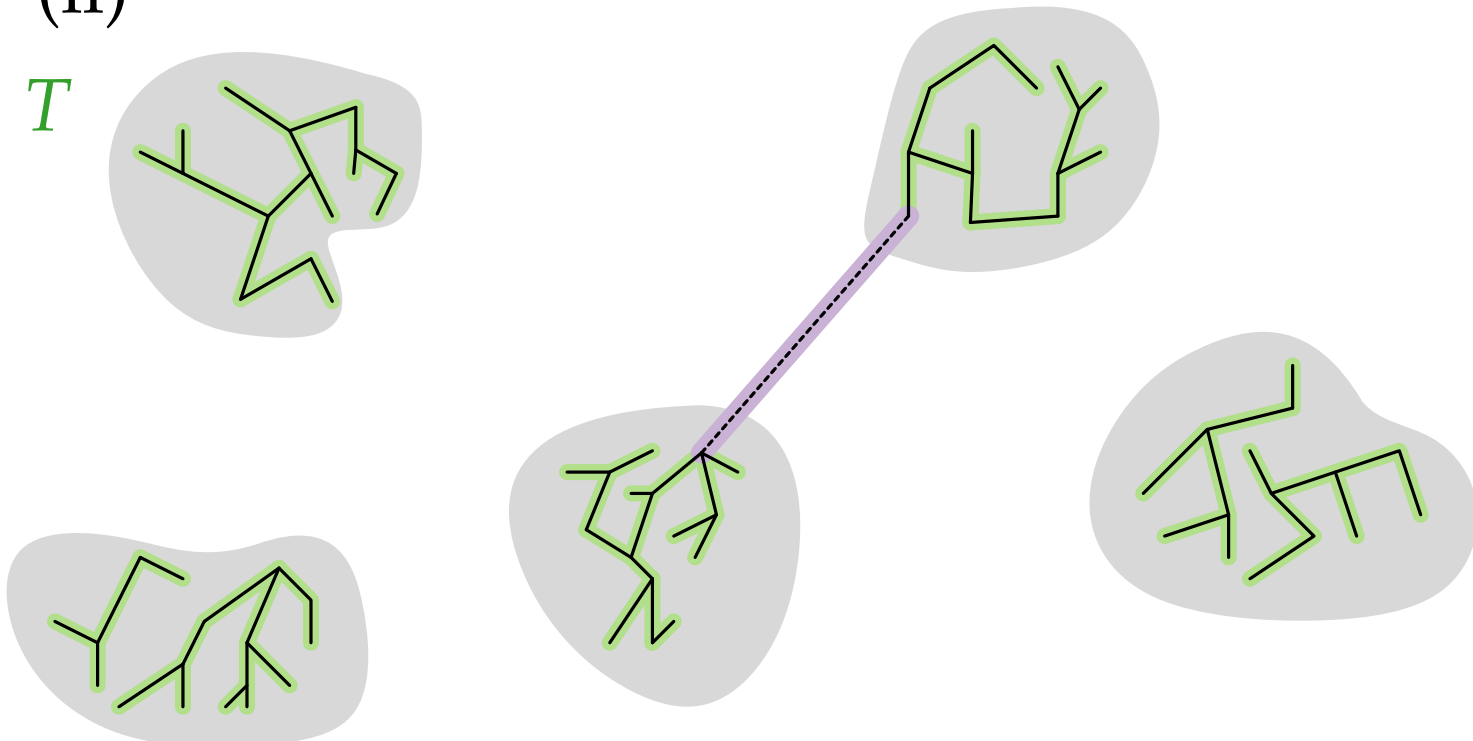
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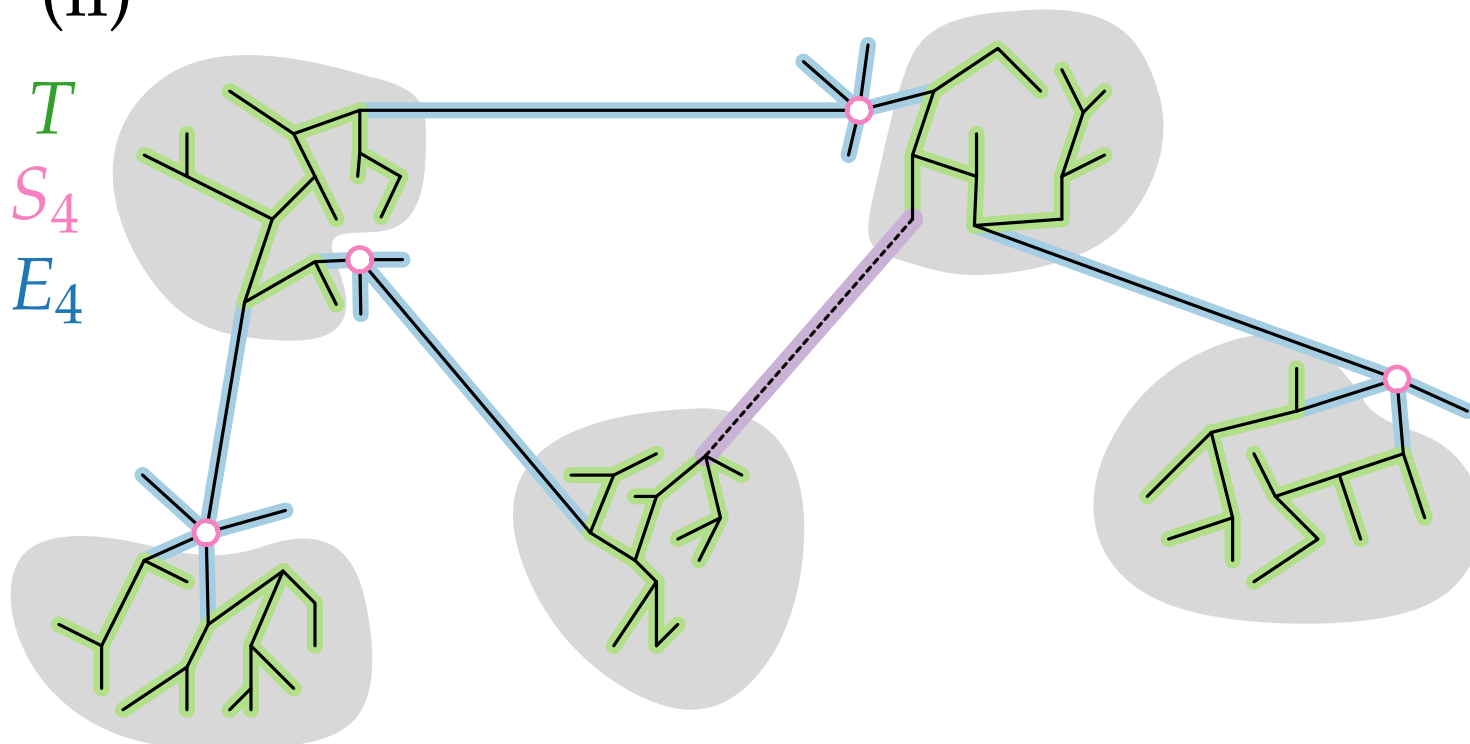
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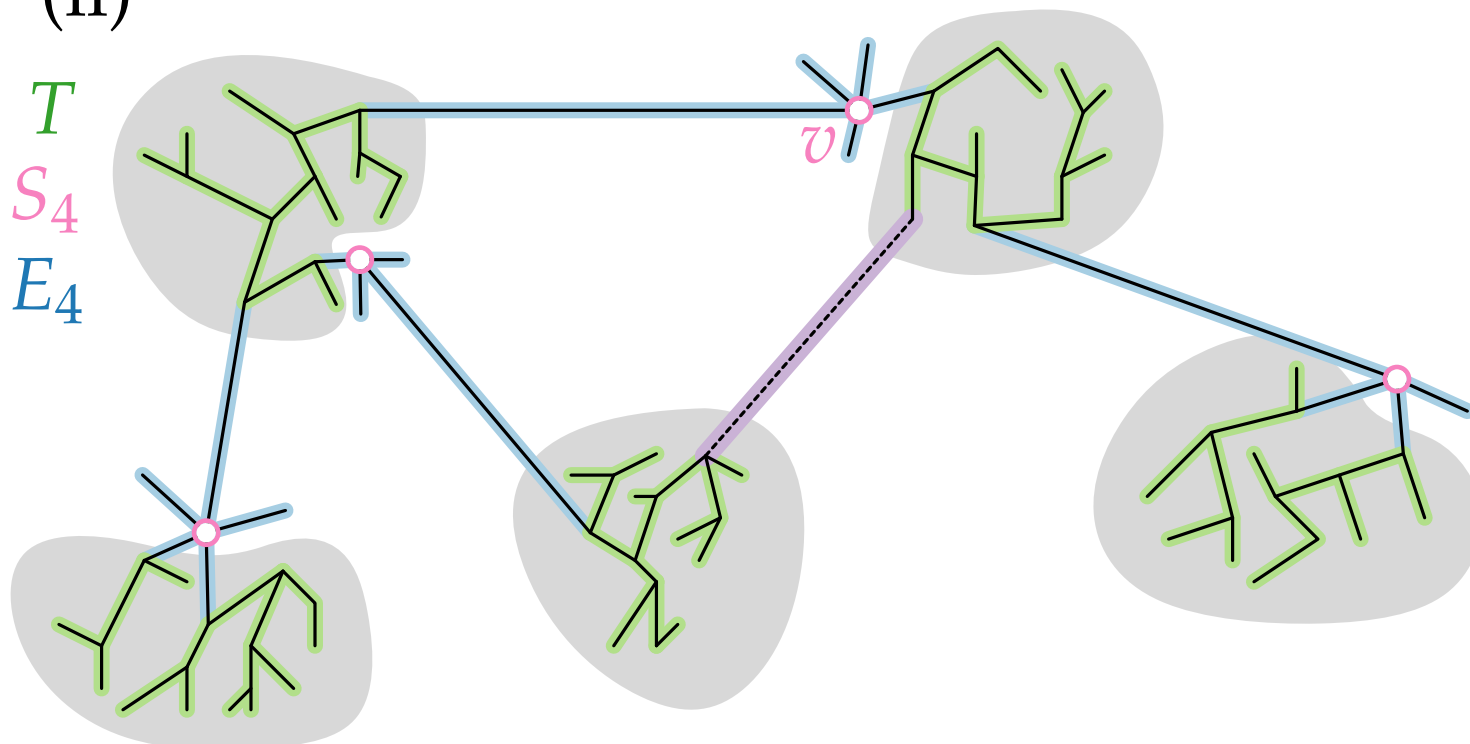
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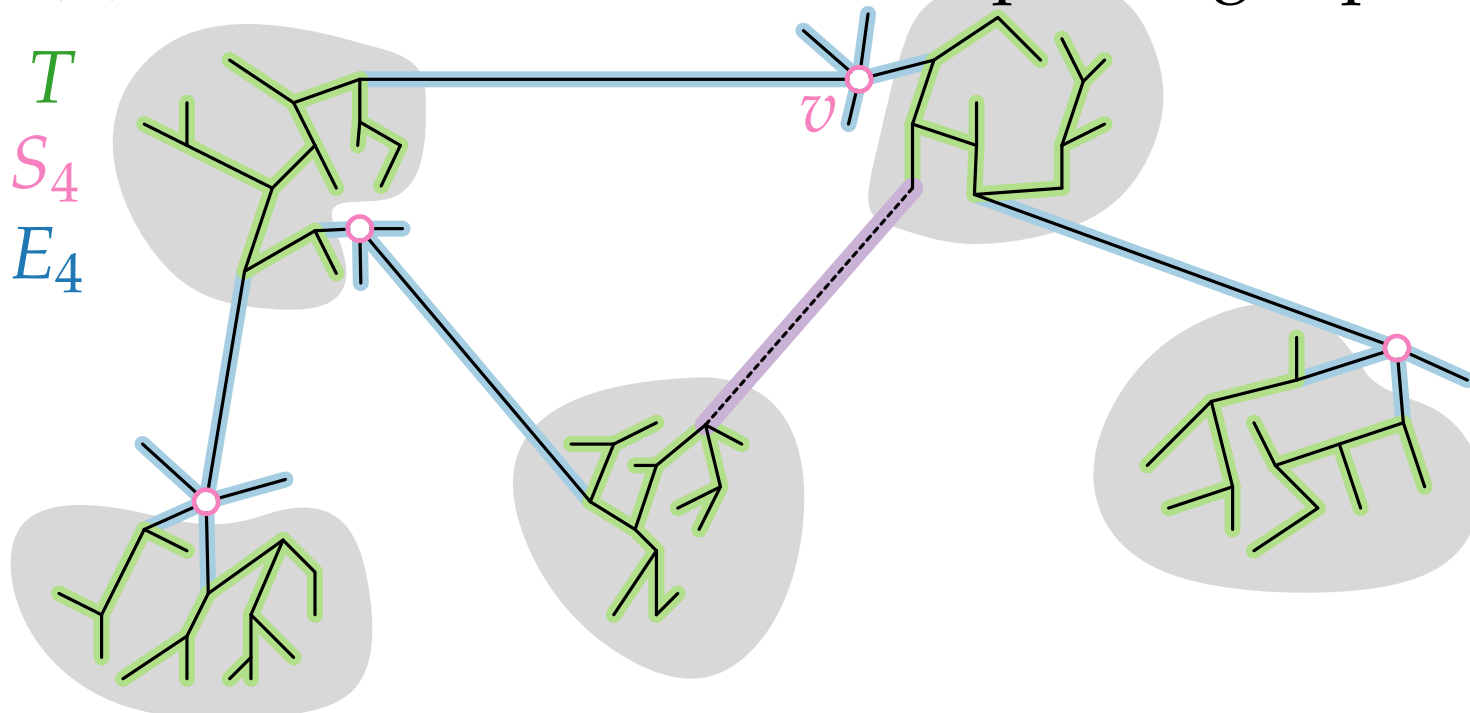
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(ii) Otherwise, there is an improving flip for  $v \in S_i$ .



# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 9:

MINIMUM-DEGREE SPANNING TREE  
via Local Search

Part V:

Approximation Factor

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□

# Approximation Algorithms

Lecture 9:

MINIMUM-DEGREE SPANNING TREE  
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Part VI:

Termination, Running Time & Extensions

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**Lemma.** After each flip  $T \rightarrow T'$ ,  $\Phi(T') \leq (1 - \frac{2}{27n^3})\Phi(T)$ .

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**Theorem.** The algorithm finds a locally optimal spanning tree after  $O(n^4)$  iterations.

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# Extensions

[Fürer & Raghavachari:  
SODA'92, JA'94]

**Corollary.** For any constant  $b > 1$  and  $\ell = \lceil \log_b n \rceil$ , the local search algorithm runs in polynomial time and produces a spanning tree  $T$  with

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**Proof.** Similar to previous pages.

**Homework**  $\square$



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**Theorem.** There is a local search algorithm that runs in  $O(EV^\alpha(E, V) \log V)$  time and produces a spanning tree  $T$  with  $\Delta(T) \leq \text{OPT} + 1$ .