

Tight Approximation and Kernelization Bounds for Vertex-Disjoint Shortest Paths

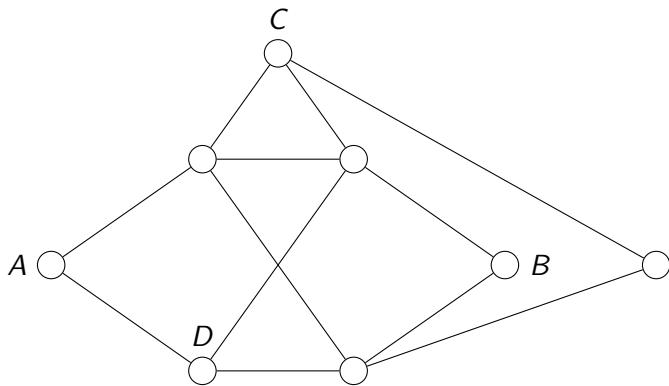
Matthias Bentert Fedor V. Fomin Petr A. Golovach

University of Bergen

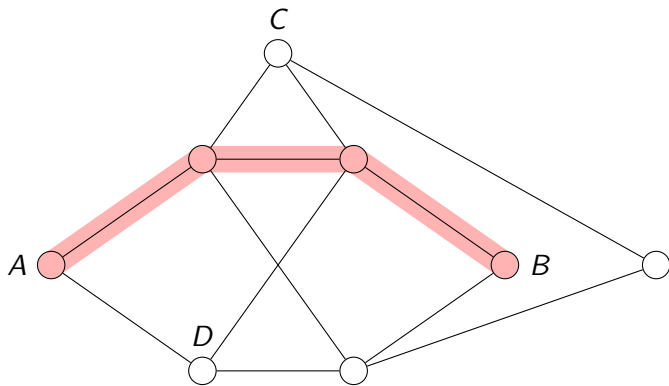
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(STACS)

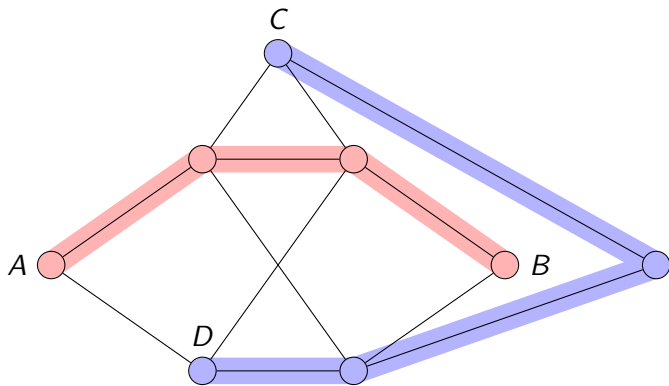
Moving



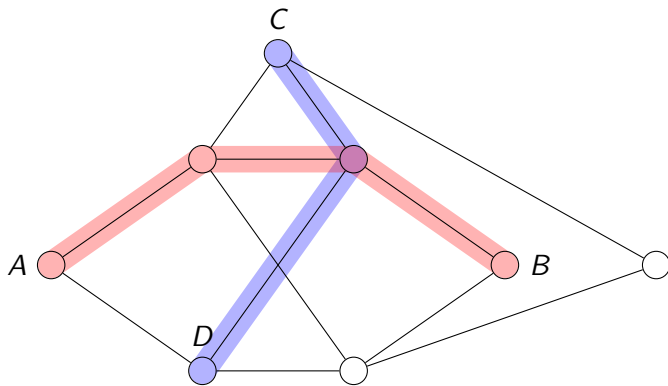
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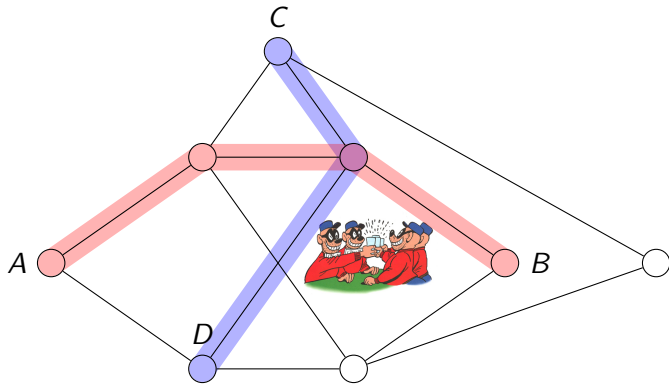
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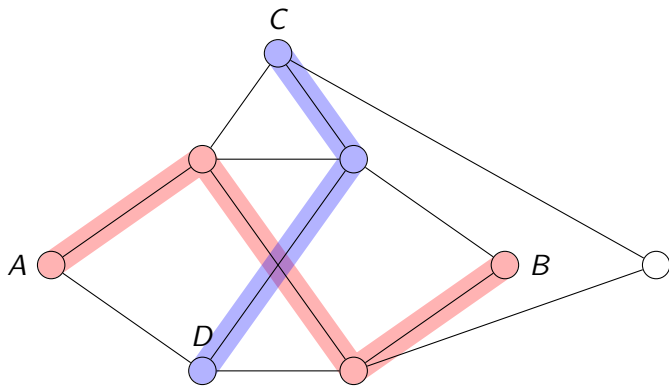
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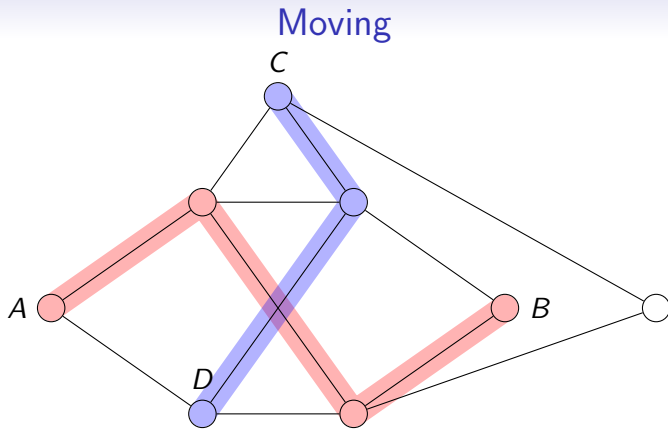


Moving



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Disjoint Shortest Paths

Input: An undirected graph G and vertex pairs $(s_i, t_i)_{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}}$.

Task: Connect as many terminal pairs as possible via vertex-disjoint shortest s_i - t_i -paths.

Related Work

- **2 Disjoint Shortest Paths**

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- undirected graphs: $O(n^8)$, $O(n^6)$, $O(nm)$, $O(n + m)$ time

[Eilam-Tzoref. Discrete Applied Mathematics 1998]

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- solvable in polynomial time on directed planar graphs if all terminals are incident to two faces (even min-sum)

[Coli n de Verdière and Schrijver. ACM TALG 2011]

Our Results

Parameter	Exact	Approximation
	NP-complete	$m^{1/2-\epsilon}$ -approximation is NP-hard

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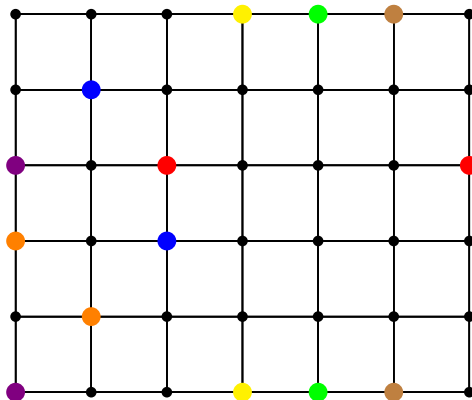
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Upper and Lower (FPT) Approximation Bounds

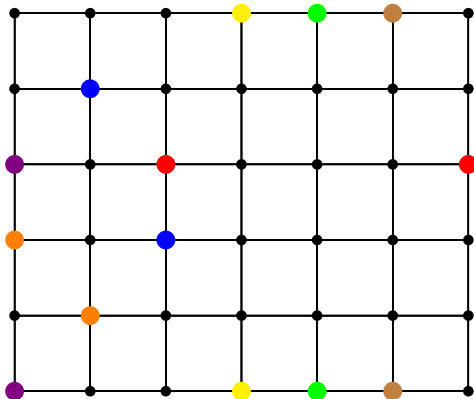
A Polynomial-time Approximation Algorithm

- find terminal pair of minimum distance



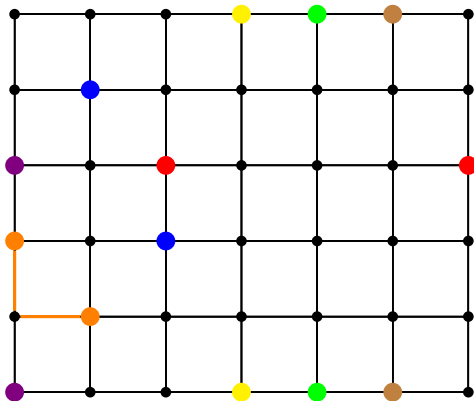
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- find terminal pair of minimum distance
- connect by any shortest path



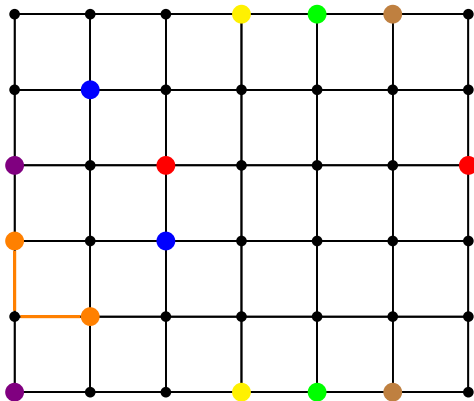
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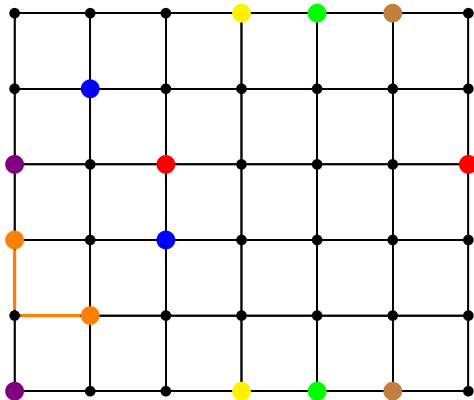
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- find terminal pair of minimum distance
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- remove all vertices in the path and all terminal pairs whose distance increases



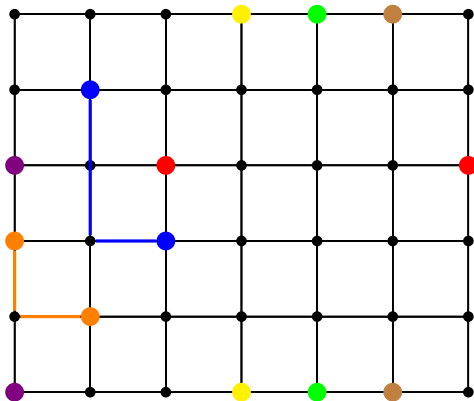
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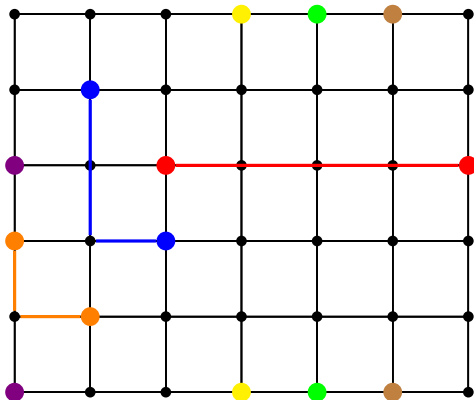
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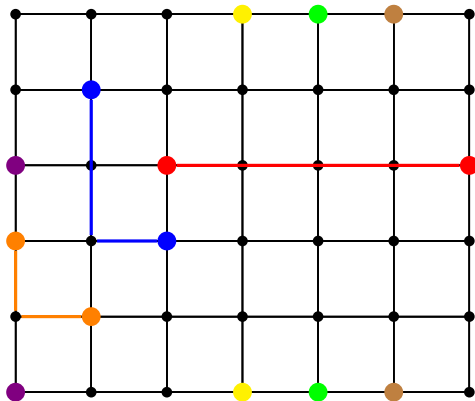
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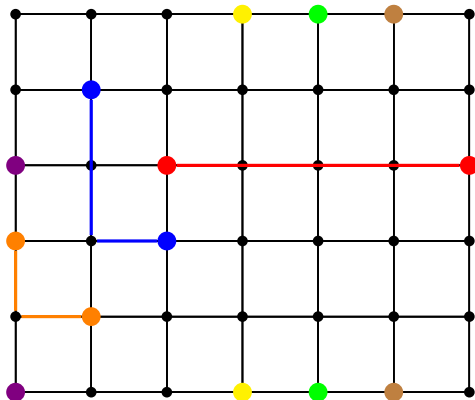
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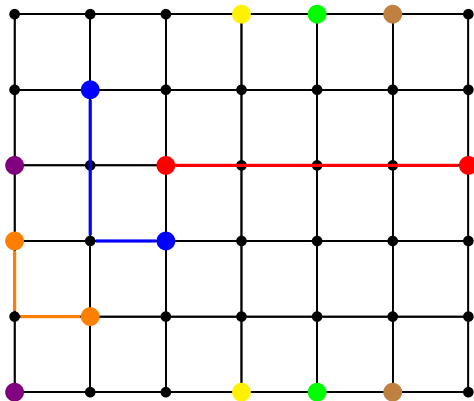
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- ↪ $\sqrt{\ell}$ -approximation in polynomial time



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for excluding $m^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ -approximations

- Computing a $n^{1-\varepsilon}$ -approximation for CLIQUE is NP-hard.

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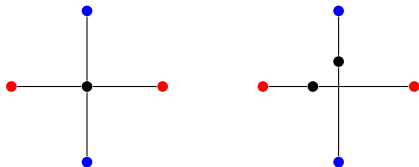
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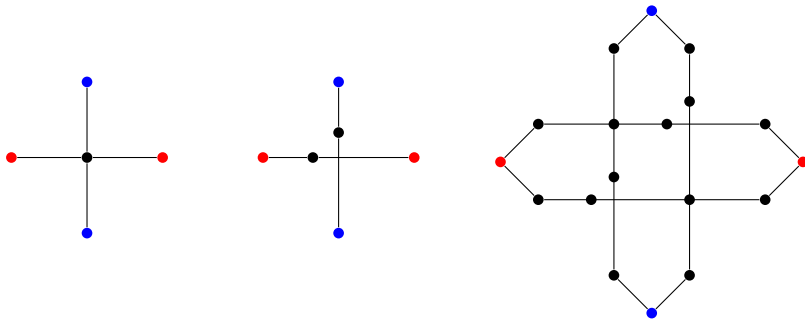
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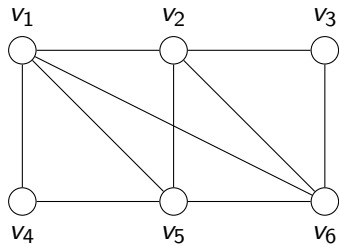
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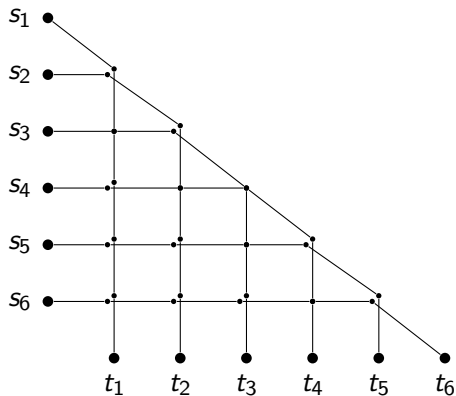
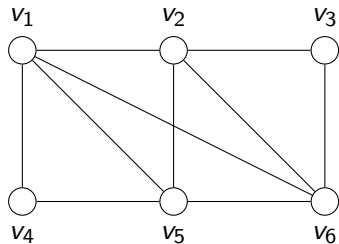
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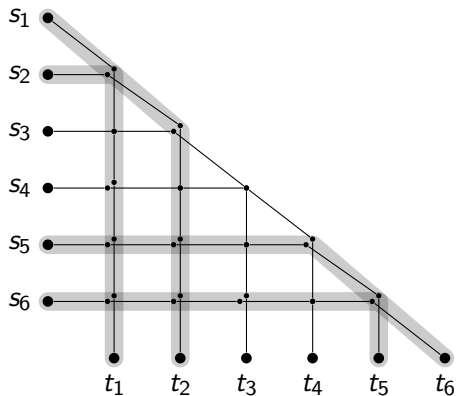
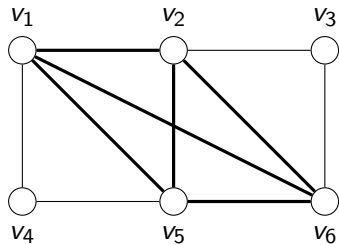
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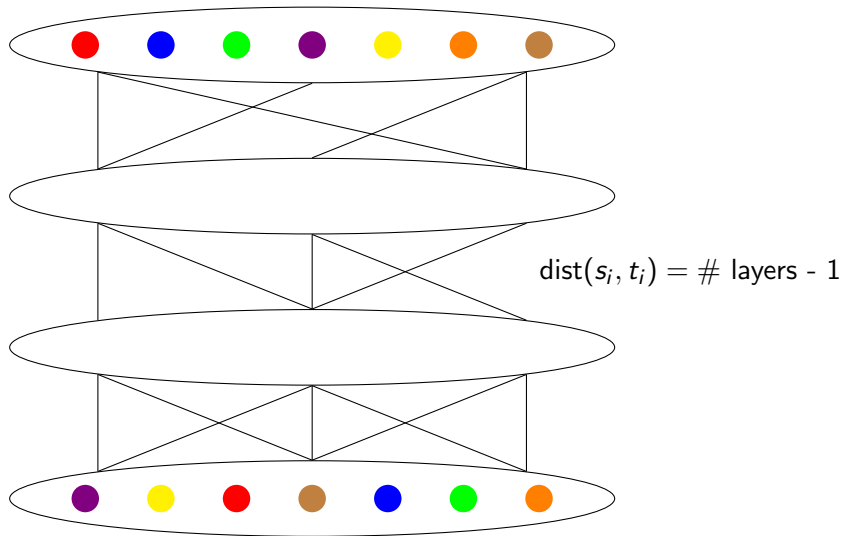


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Excluding Polynomial Kernels

A Special Case



Or Composition

input: t instances I_1, I_2, \dots, I_t of special case
all with same number of layers and
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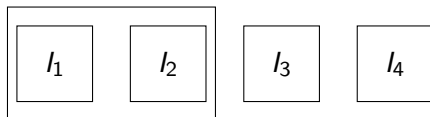
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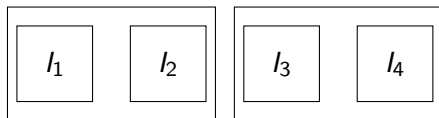
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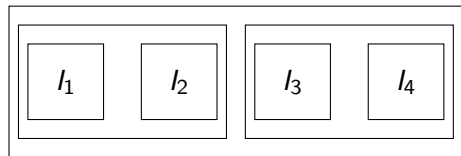
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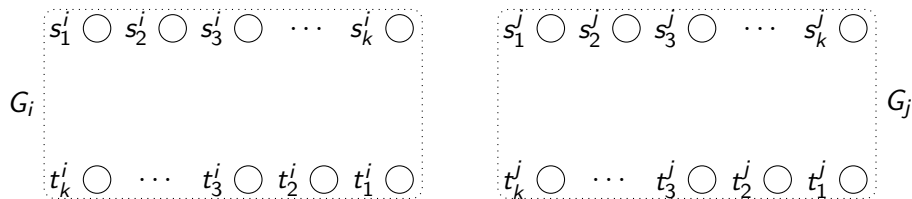
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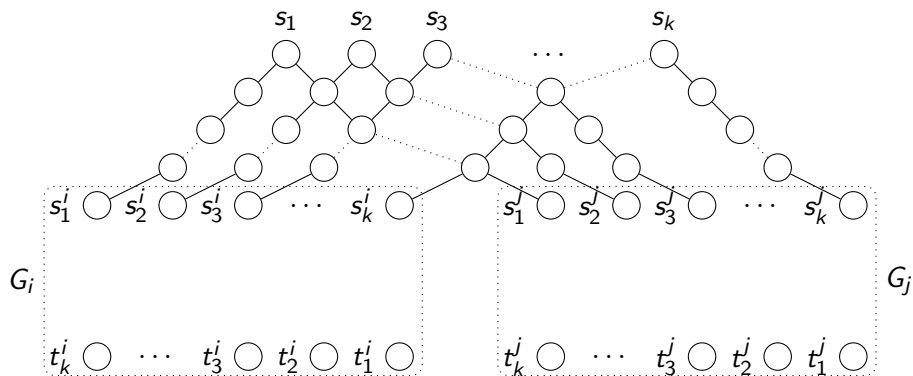
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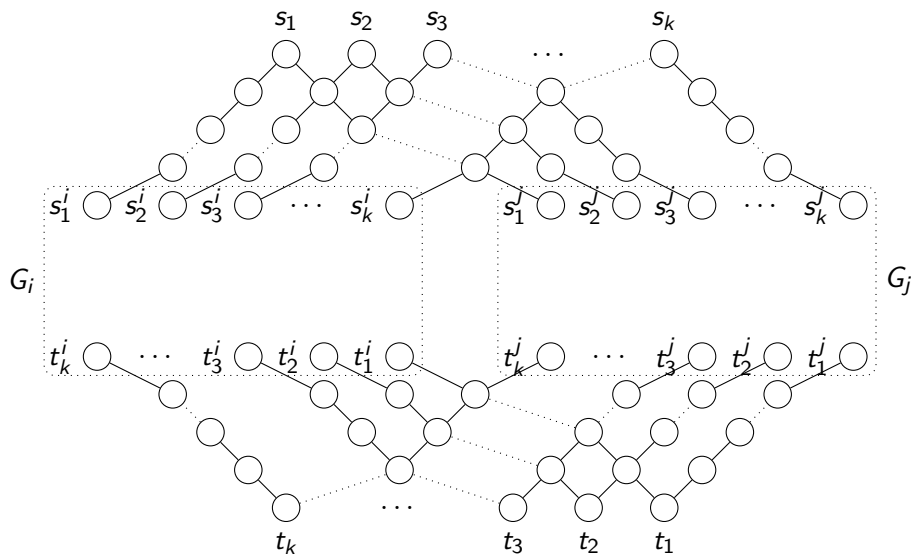
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