

# Approximating the Degree-Bounded Minimum-Diameter Spanning Tree Problem

Jochen Könemann

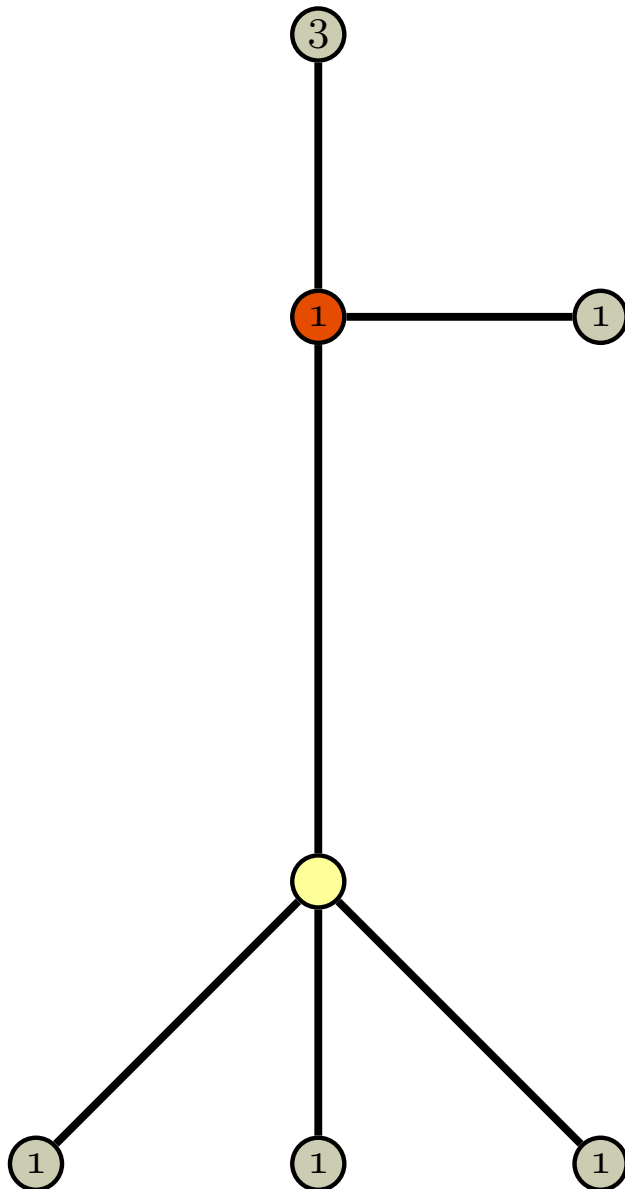
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Joint work with

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A. Sinha, Carnegie Mellon University

# A real world swarm robotics example



$k$  awake robots

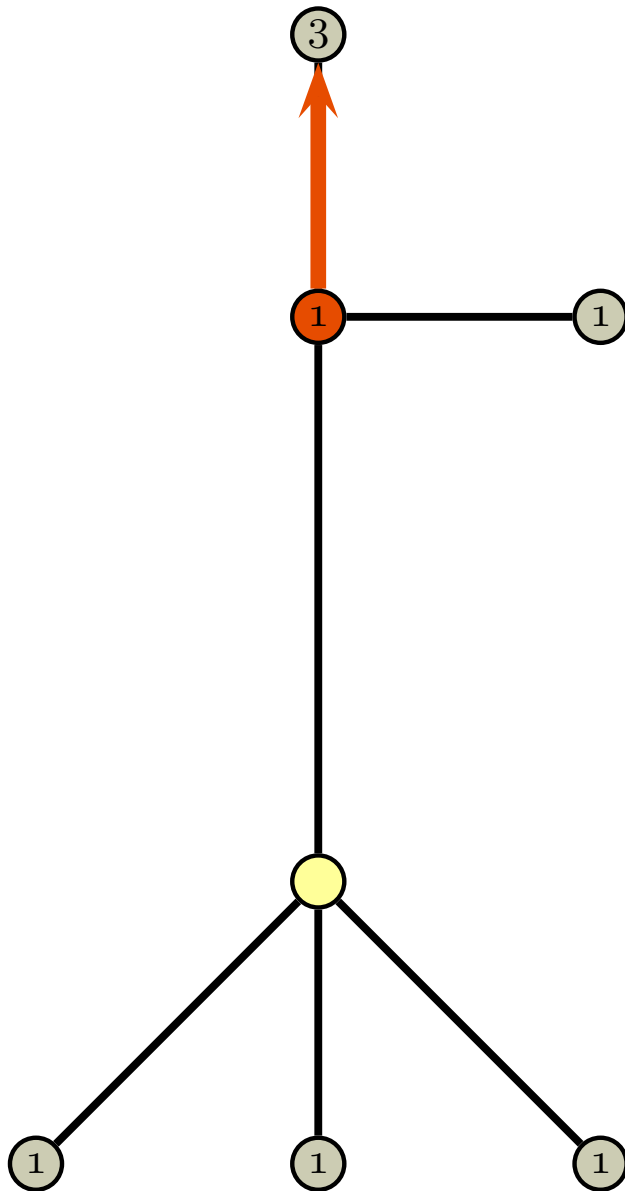
$l$  asleep robots

Given graph with one awake and many asleep robots

Awake robots can travel unit distance per time unit

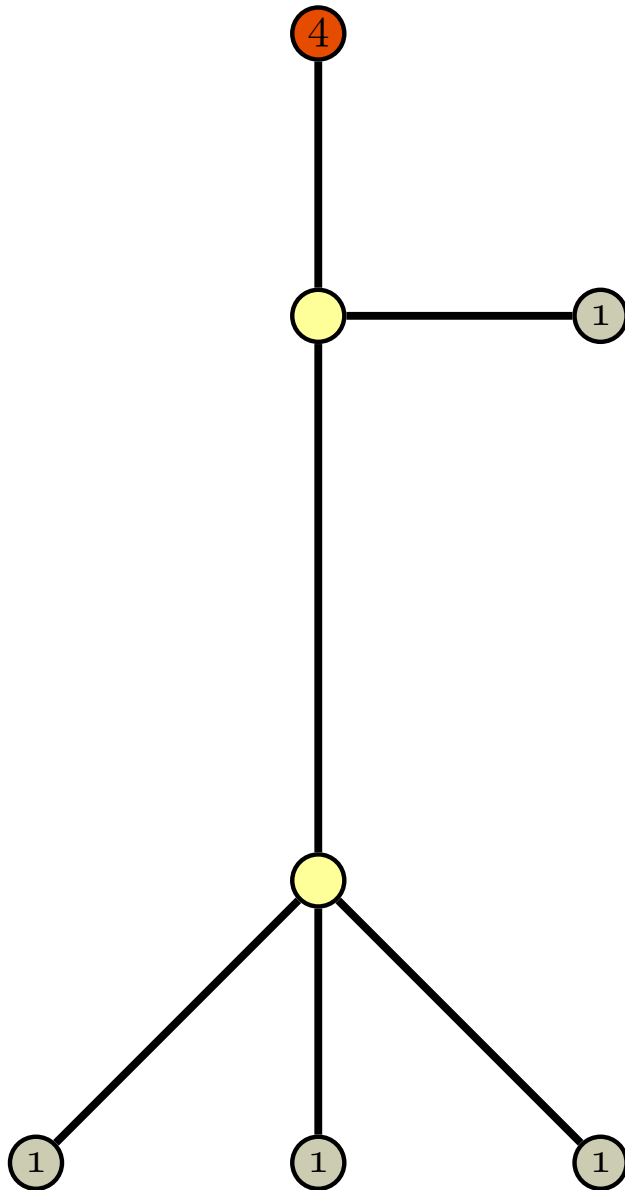
Wake up all robots as quickly as possible

# A **real** world swarm robotics example



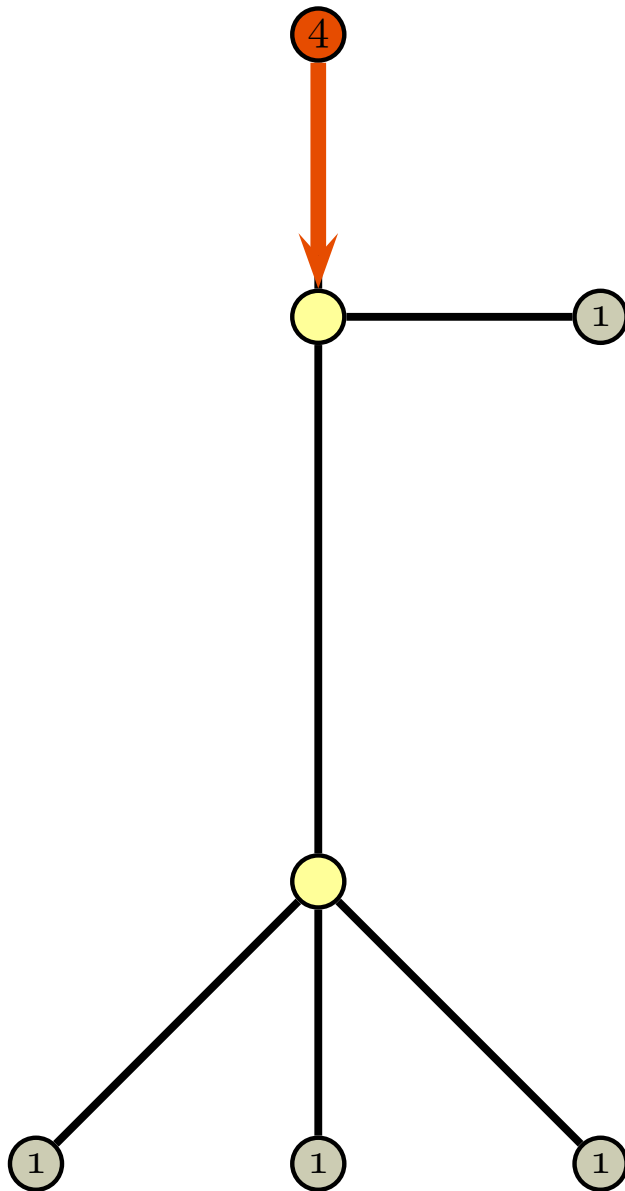
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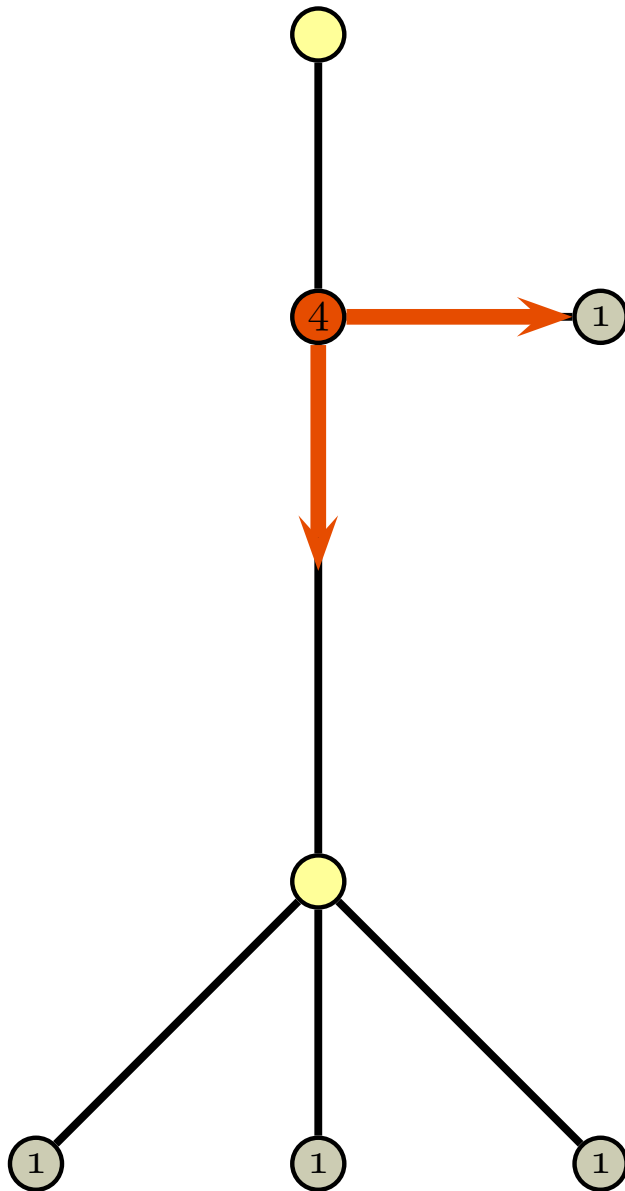
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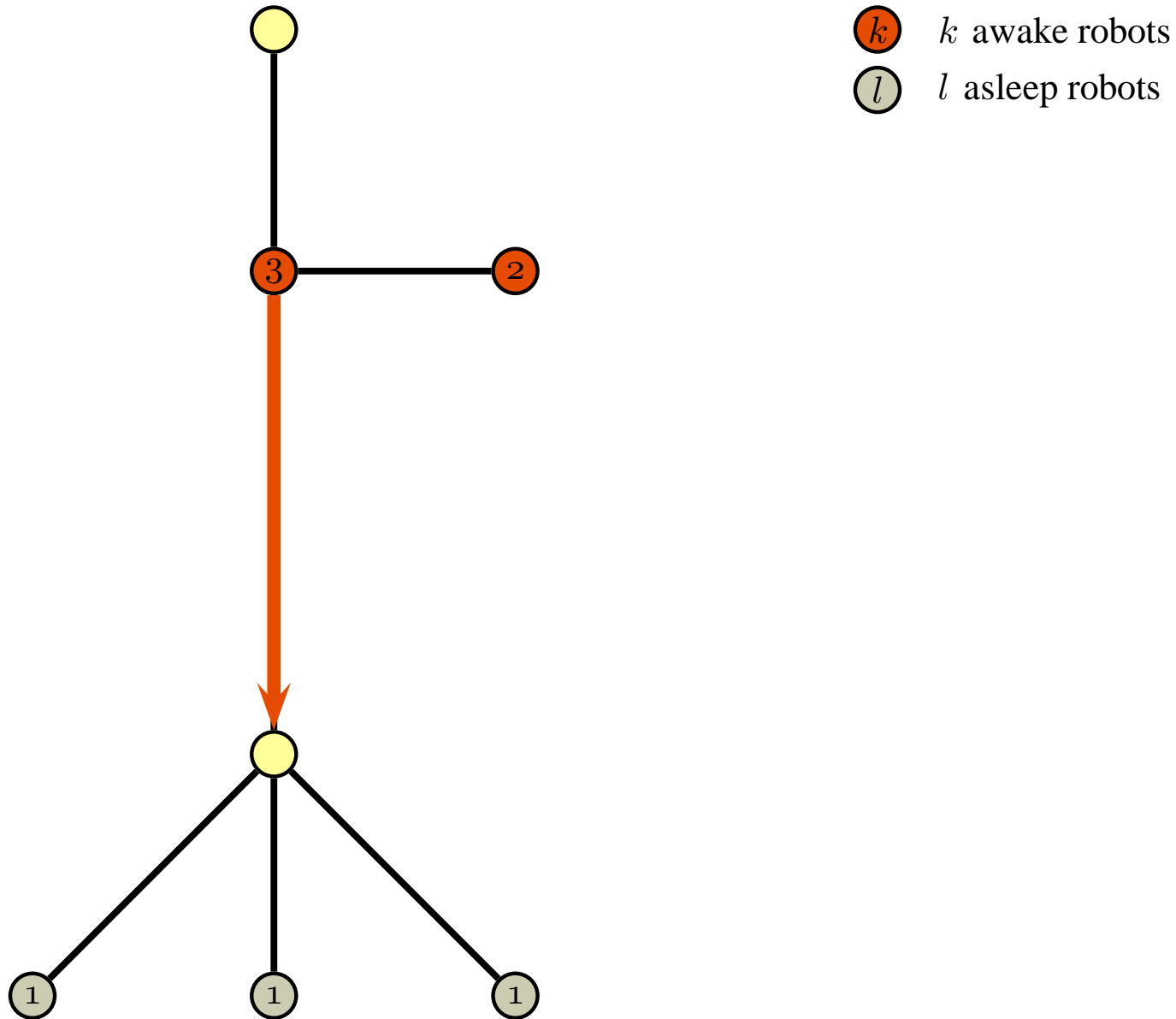
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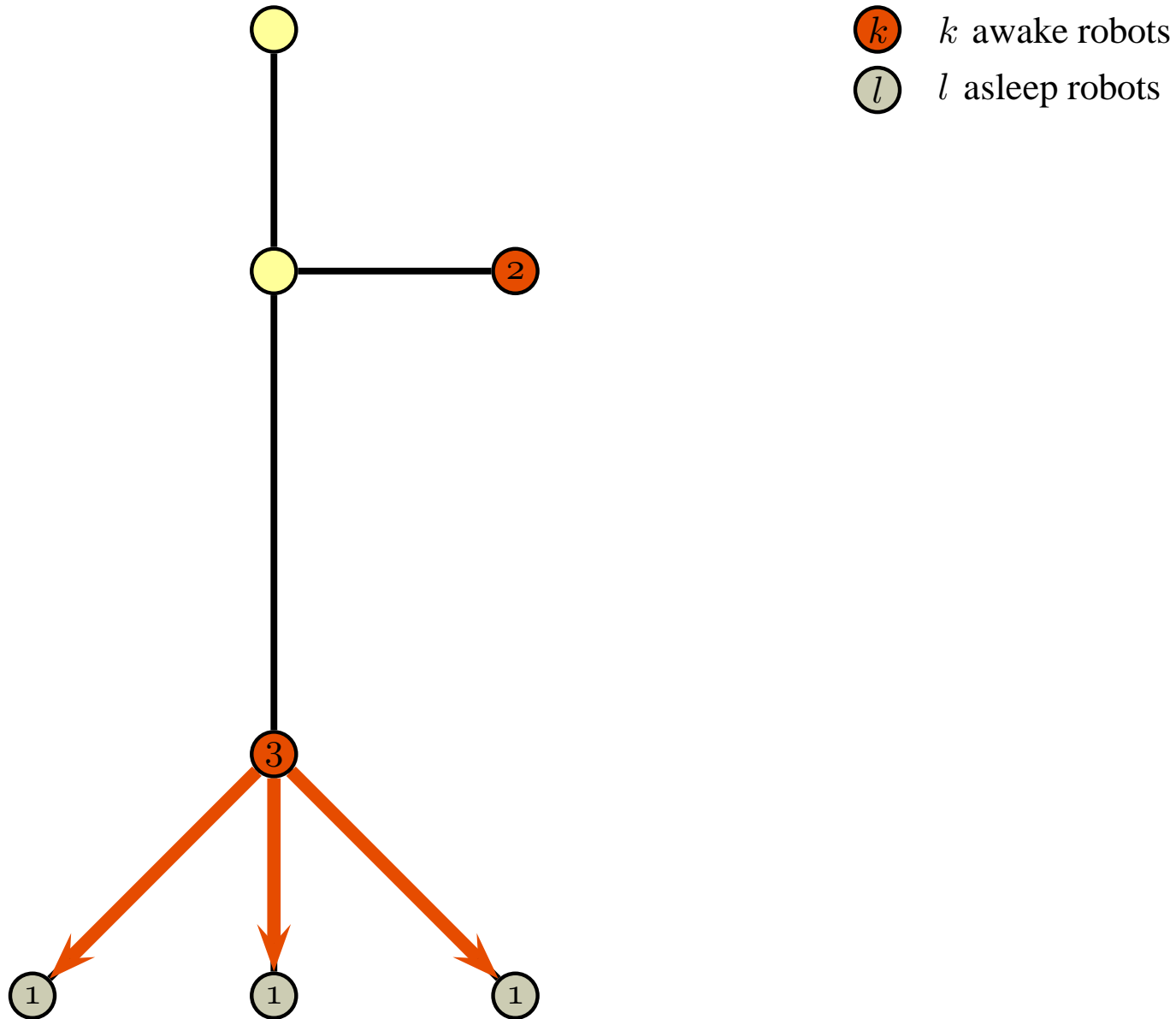


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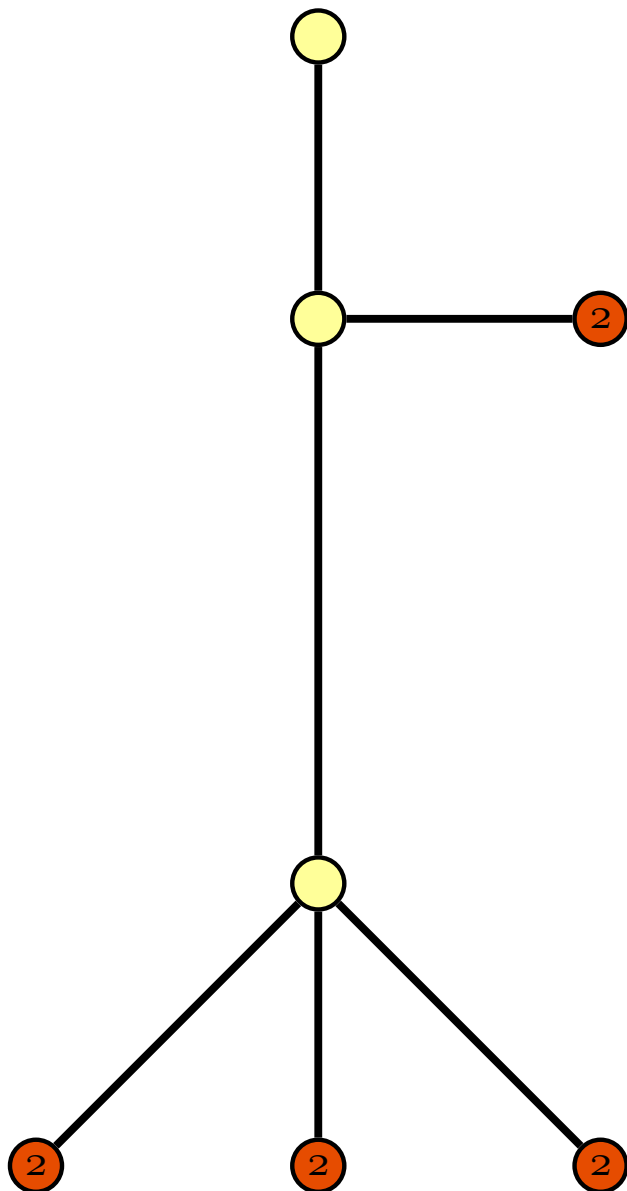


# A **real** world swarm robotics example





# A real world swarm robotics example



$k$  awake robots

$l$  asleep robots

[Arkin et al. '02] call this the **Freeze-Tag problem**.

Achieve  $O(\log n)$ -competitive online algorithm for dense  $n$ -node graphs.

**This paper:** Improve competitive ratio to  $O(\sqrt{\log n})$ .

# BDST: Degree-bounded min-diameter trees

## Definition [BDST]

**Given** Undirected complete graph  $G$  on nodes  $V$ ,  
Metric length  $\{l_{uv}\}_{u,v \in V}$ , and  
Degree-bound  $B_v > 0$  for all  $v \in V$ .

**Find** minimum-diameter spanning tree  $T$  with node-degree at most  $B_v$  for all  $v \in V$ .

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**Quiz:** Why does a  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n})$ -approx for **BDST** help to improve competitive ratio for Freeze-Tag?

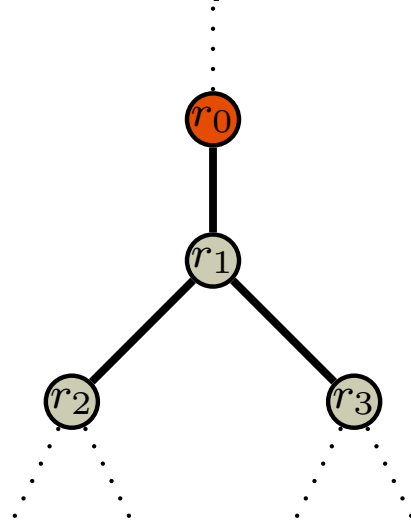
# Wake-up trees

- Define auxiliary complete graph  $G_R$  with one node for each robot.  
Distance between any two nodes  $u$  and  $v$  is distance in original graph.

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- Define auxiliary complete graph  $G_R$  with one node for each robot.  
Distance between any two nodes  $u$  and  $v$  is distance in original graph.
- A solution to a Freeze-Tag instance with maximum wake-up time  $t$  corresponds to:  
A binary spanning tree  $T$  of  $G_R$  rooted at awake robot with longest root,leaf-path of length  $t$

Idea:



$r_0$  wakes up  $r_1$  and then they both wake at most two other robots  $r_2$  and  $r_3$

# Main Result

## Theorem 1

### Given:

1. Complete graph  $G$  on node-set  $V$ ,
2. Metric  $\{l_{uv}\}_{u,v \in V}$ , and
3. Degree-bounds  $\{B_v\}_{v \in V}$ .

**We show:** Can compute spanning tree  $T$  with

1. Degree at most  $B_v$  at node  $v$  for all  $v \in V$
2. Diameter of  $T$  is  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n}) \cdot \Delta$   
( $\Delta$ : minimum diameter of any feasible solution  
 $B = \max_v B_v$ )

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Hardness [Arkin et al. '02]

Not approximable within  $5/3 - \epsilon$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$  unless  $P=NP$ .

# Previous Work

[Ravi '94]

Approximation algorithm for broadcasting

**Given:** Graph  $G(V, E)$ , (non-metric) length on edges, degree-bounds  $B_v > 0$  for all  $v \in V$

**Computes:** Tree  $T$  with degree  $O(\log^2 n) \cdot B_v$  at node  $v \in V$  and diameter  $O(\log n) \cdot \Delta$

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[Arkin et al. '02]

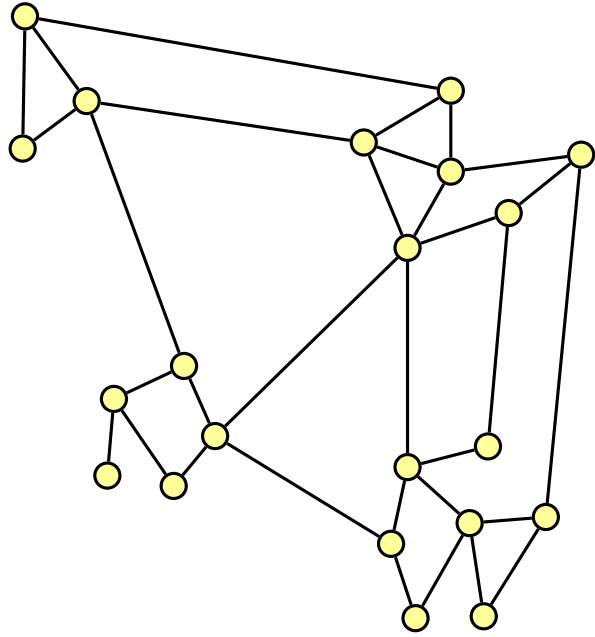
[Arkin et al. '03]

Approximation algorithms for Freeze-Tag in various topologies

Obtain a  $O(\log \Delta)$  approximation for general graphs with maximum degree  $\Delta$  and metric lengths.

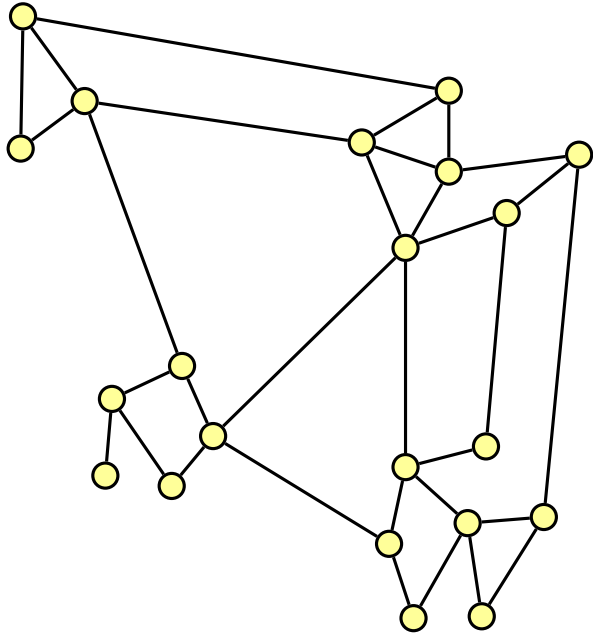


# Algorithm: Intuition



Given: Input graph  $G$  and degree bound  $B$ .

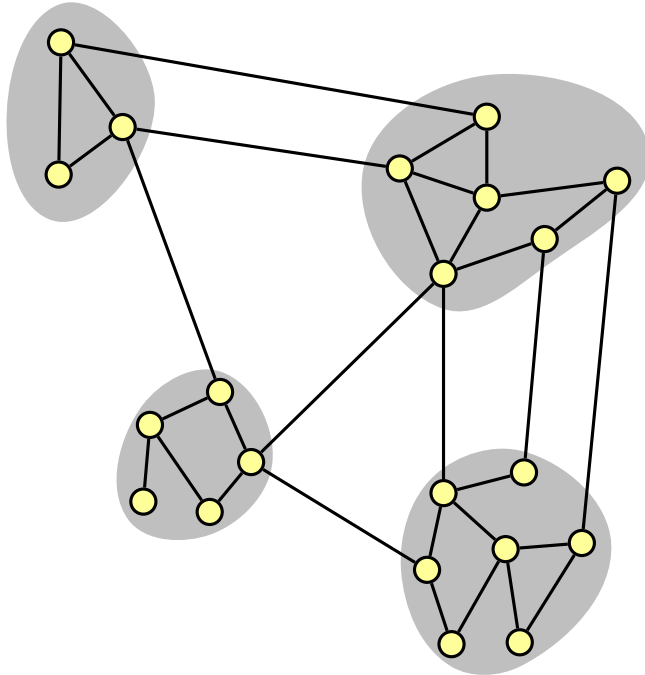
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1) Partition  $G$  into low-diameter components

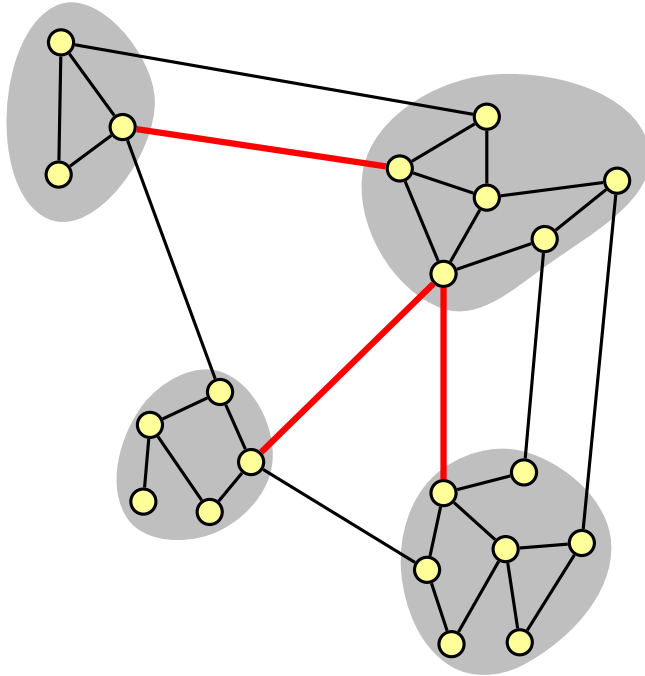
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Given: Input graph  $G$  and degree bound  $B$ .

- 1) Partition  $G$  into low-diameter components
- 2) [Global Tree] Connect components with low-diameter tree

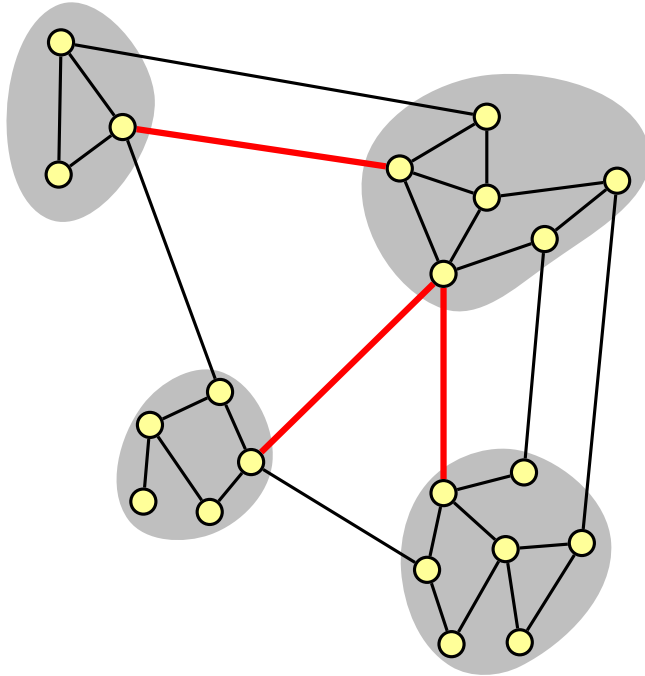
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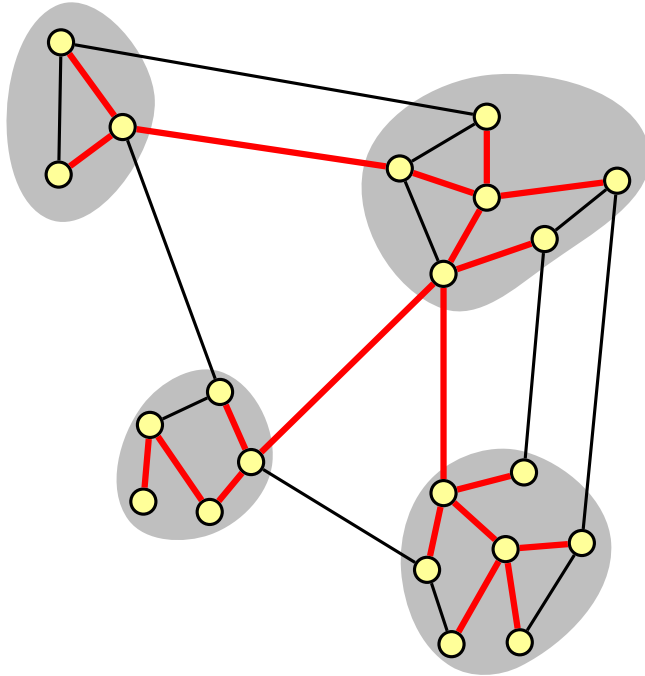
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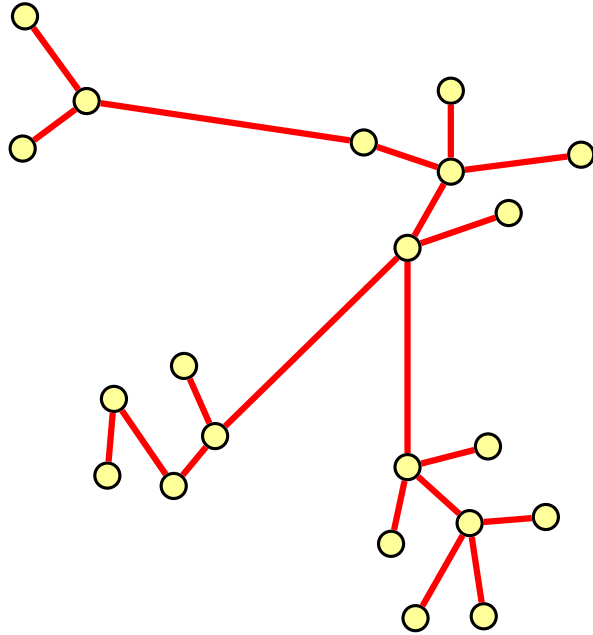
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Ensure by construction: Final tree has max-degree  $B$ .  
Diameter proof bounds **short** and **long** edges independently.

# Algorithm: Preliminaries

- Assume for rest of talk that optimum diameter  $\Delta$  is known.  
Reasonable assumption since

$$\Delta \in \left[ \max_{e \in E} l_e, n \cdot \max_{e \in E} l_e \right]$$

Can do binary search on this interval!



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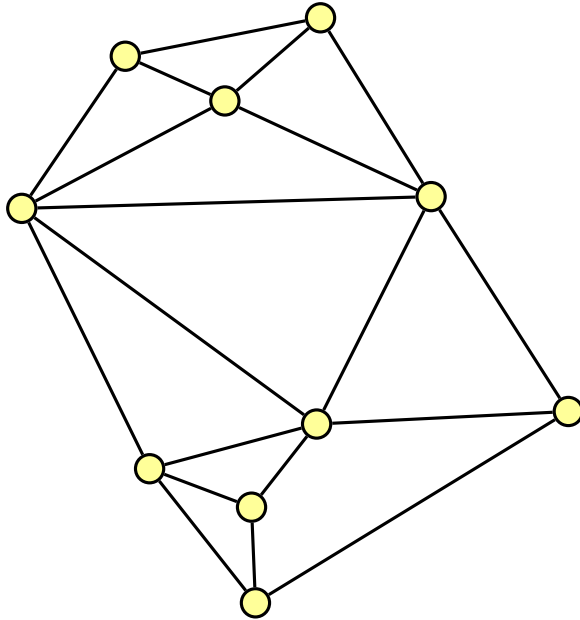
- Algorithm picks **threshold**  $\alpha$  and computes (set,center) pairs

$$\{(V_1, v_1), \dots, (V_l, v_l)\}$$

such that

1.  $V = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_l$ , and
2. For all  $i$ :  $v_i \in V_i$  and  $\text{dist}_l(v_i, u) \leq 3\alpha$  for all  $u \in V_i$

# Algorithm: Partitioning



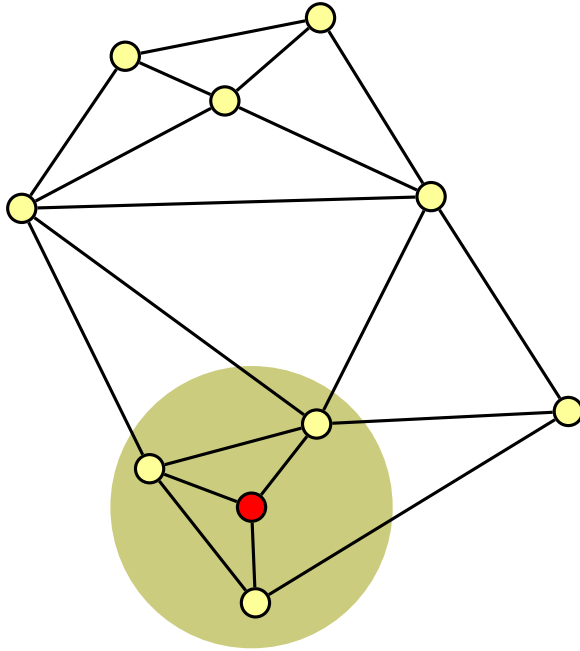
Algorithm picks **centers** iteratively.

● covered

● inactive

● center

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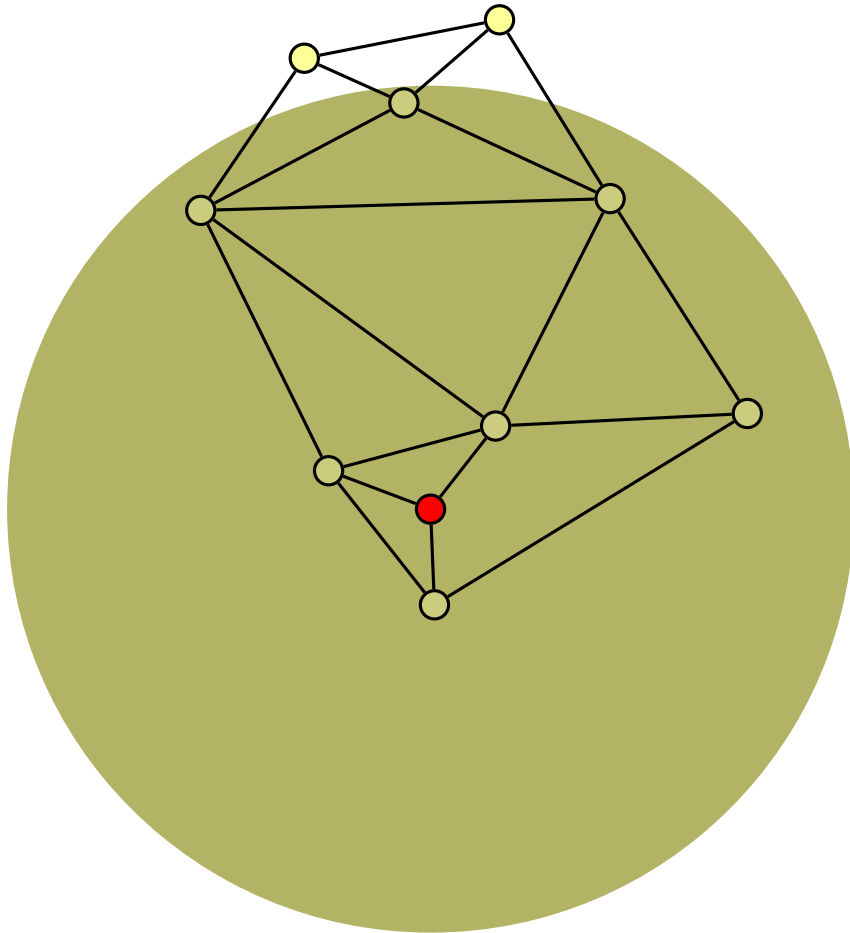
Pick active node that has most active nodes within ball of radius  $\alpha$ .

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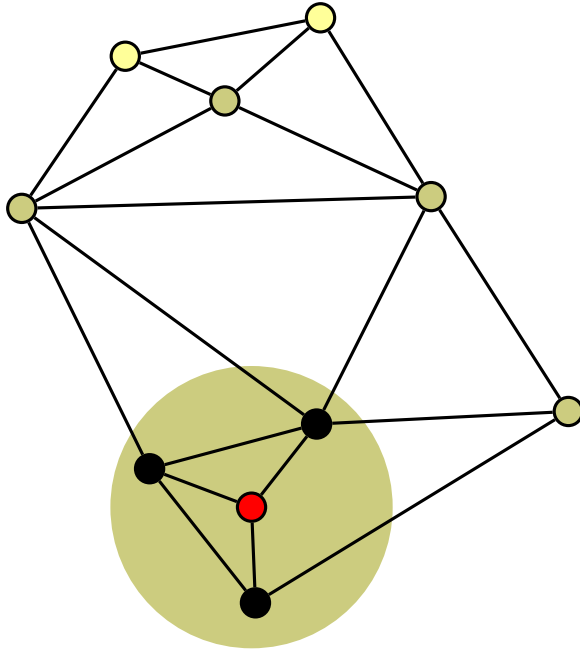
Mark all nodes within  $3\alpha$  of new center covered.

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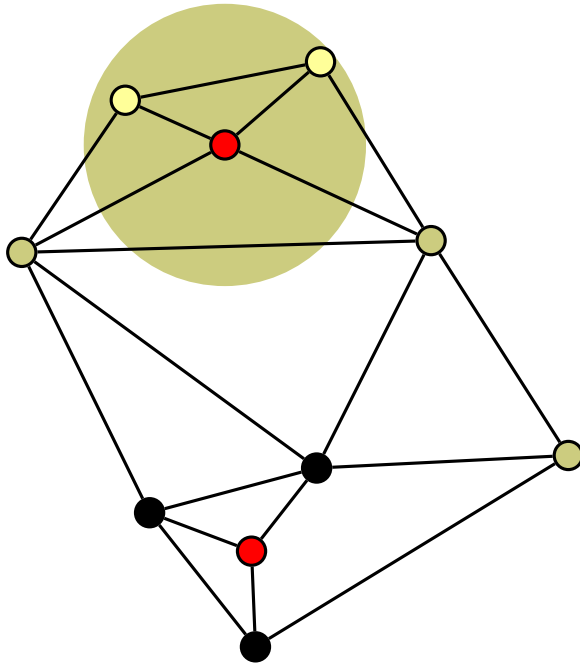
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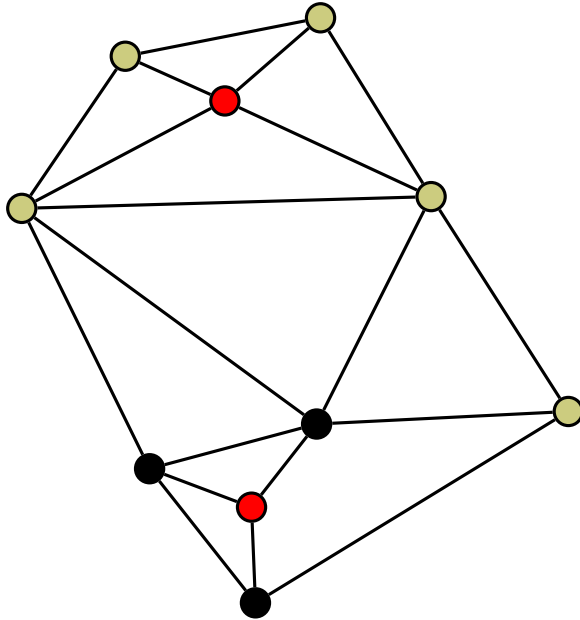
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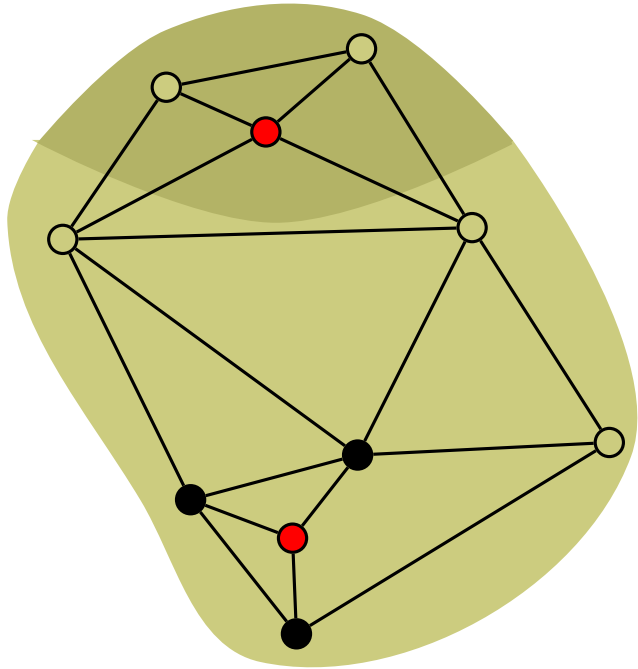
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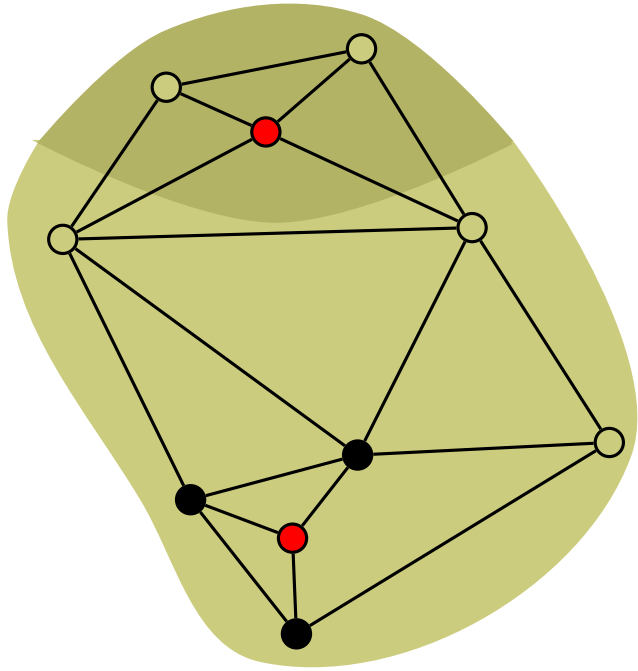
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**Result:**

Partition:  $V_1, \dots, V_l$

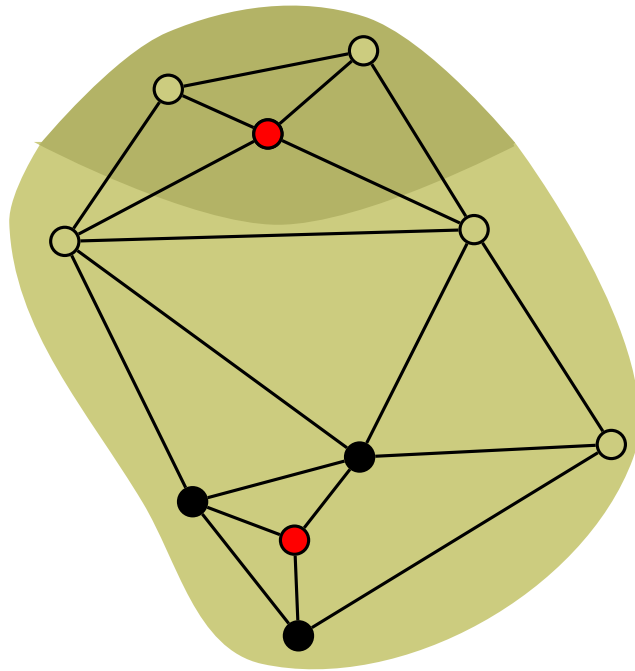
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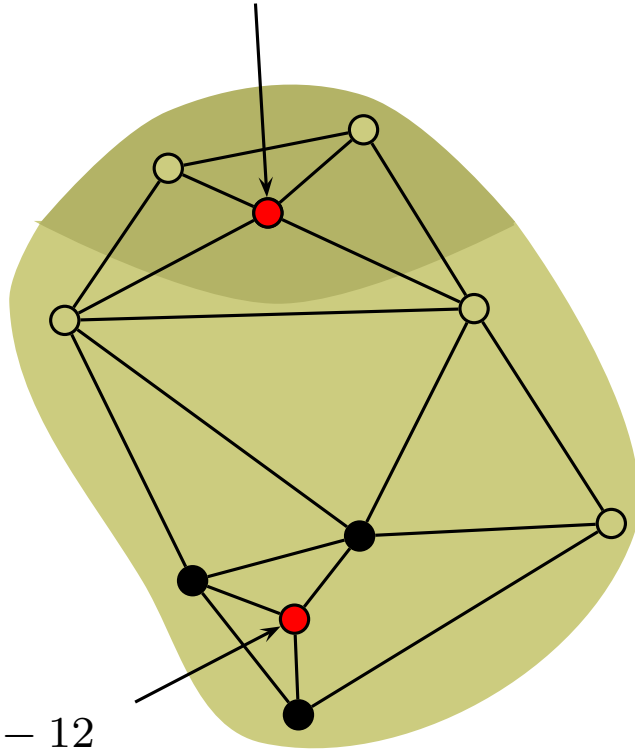
# Algorithm: Global tree



Goal: Set up global instance on center nodes.

# Algorithm: Global tree

$$B_1 = 3 \cdot B - 4$$



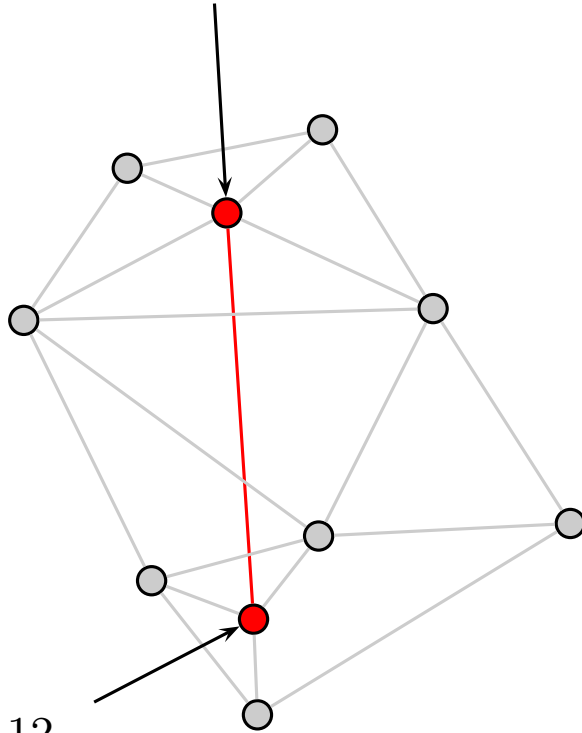
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Set new degree-bounds on center nodes.

$$B_2 = 7 \cdot B - 12$$

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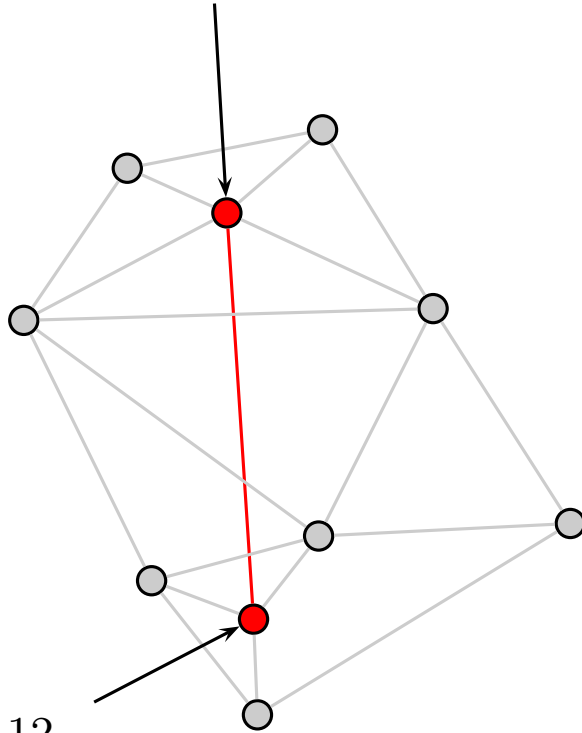


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- Consider complete graph on center nodes.

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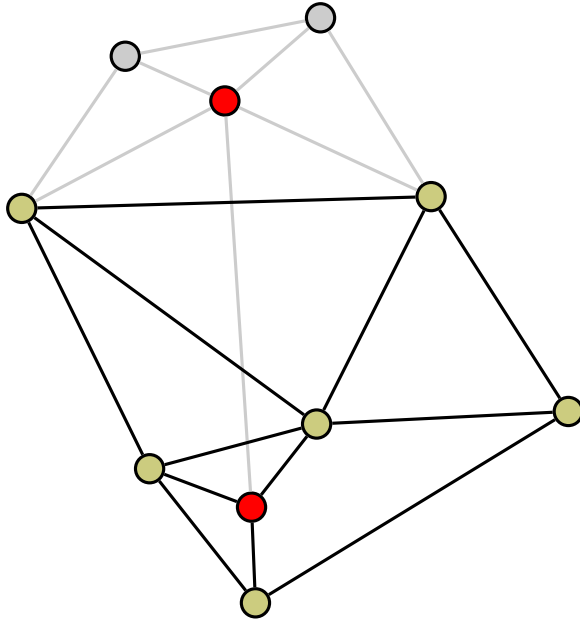
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Global Tree algorithm:

1. Order center nodes by non-increasing degree-bounds  $v_1, v_2, \dots$
2.  $v_1$  is root of global tree
3. Consider centers one by one in that order
4. Always connect next center to earliest node in list whose degree-bound is not yet exhausted

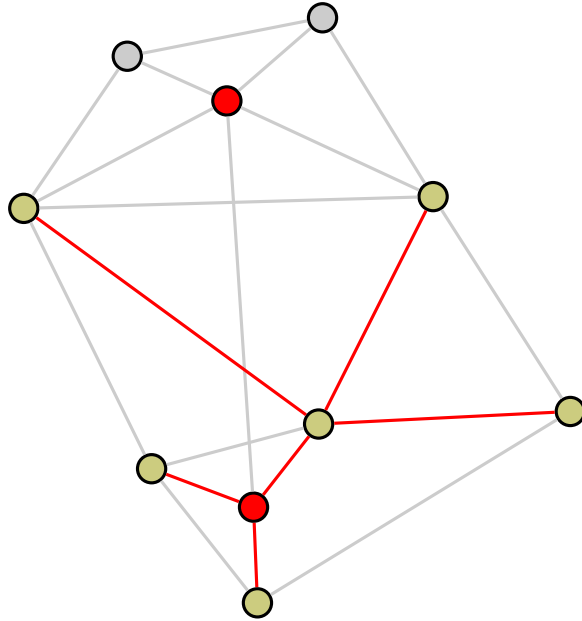
# Algorithm: Local Trees



For each set  $V_i$  in partition:

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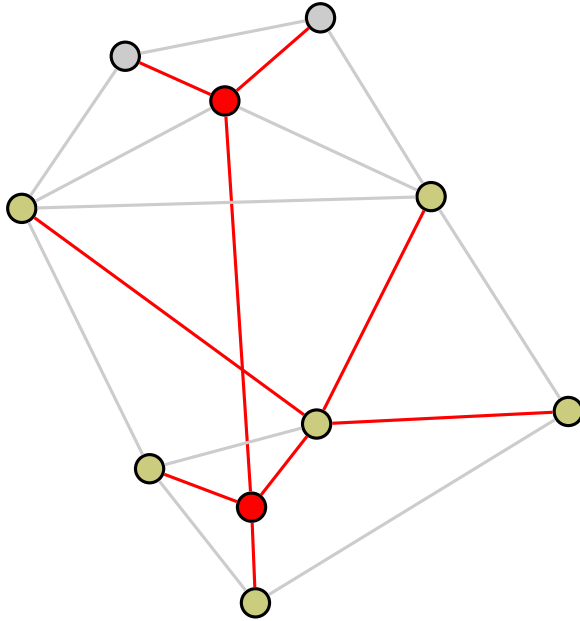
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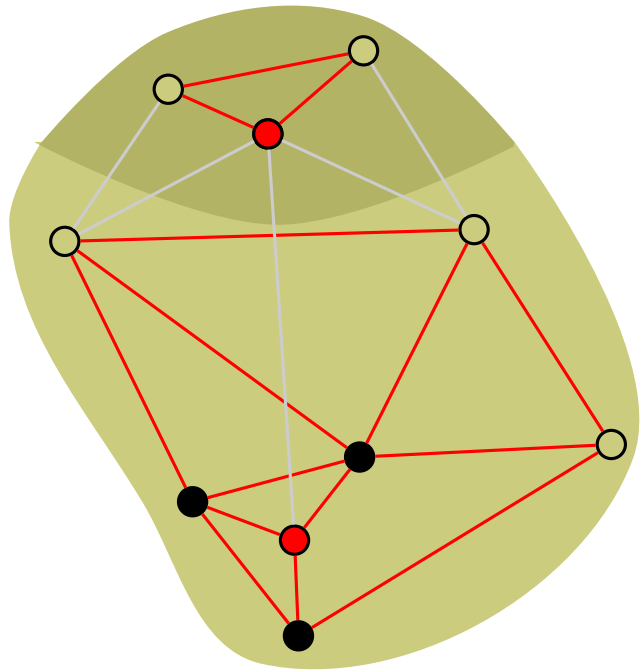
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Merge local and global trees.



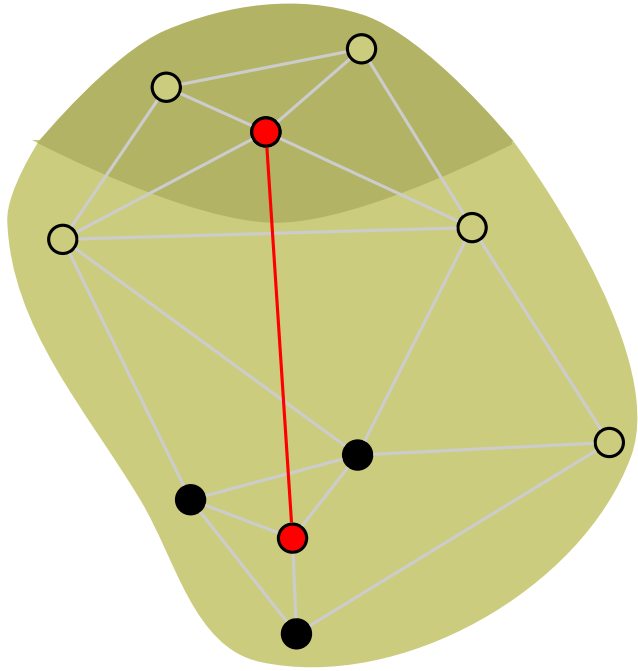
# Analysis: Short and Long Edges



Short edges connect nodes in the same set of the partition.

Their length is at most  $6\alpha$ .

# Analysis: Short and Long Edges



**Short edges** connect nodes in the same set of the partition.

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**Long edges** connect center nodes.

Their length is at most  $\Delta$

# Analysis: Outline

- Show that any root,leaf path in our tree has
  1.  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n})$  long edges, and
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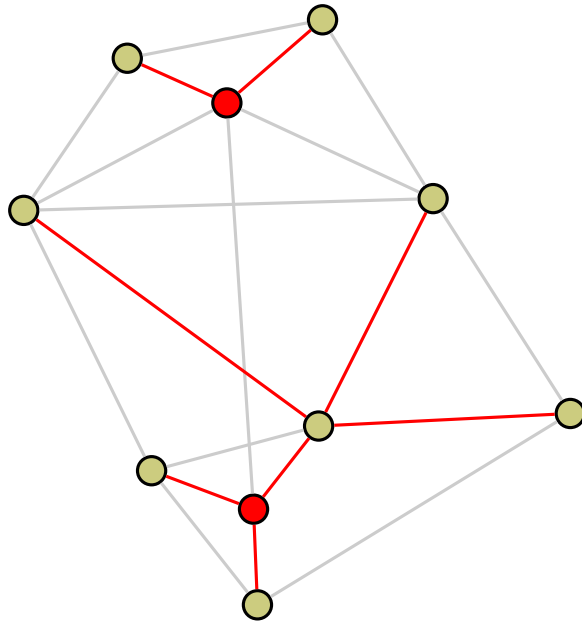
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- With  $\alpha = \Delta / \sqrt{\log_B n}$ : Length of root,leaf path is bounded by

$$O(\sqrt{\log_B n}) \cdot \Delta$$

# Analysis: Degree

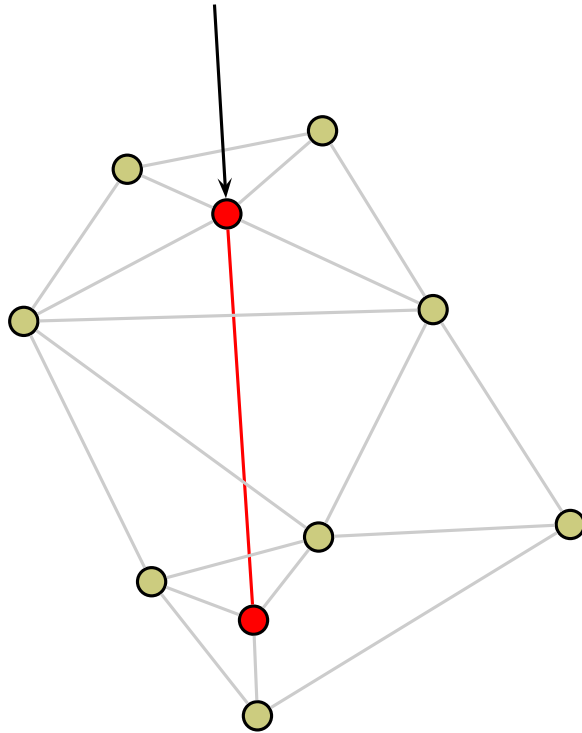


Short edges:

Each node has at most  $B$  of these incident to it.

# Analysis: Degree

$$B_1 = 3 \cdot B - 4$$



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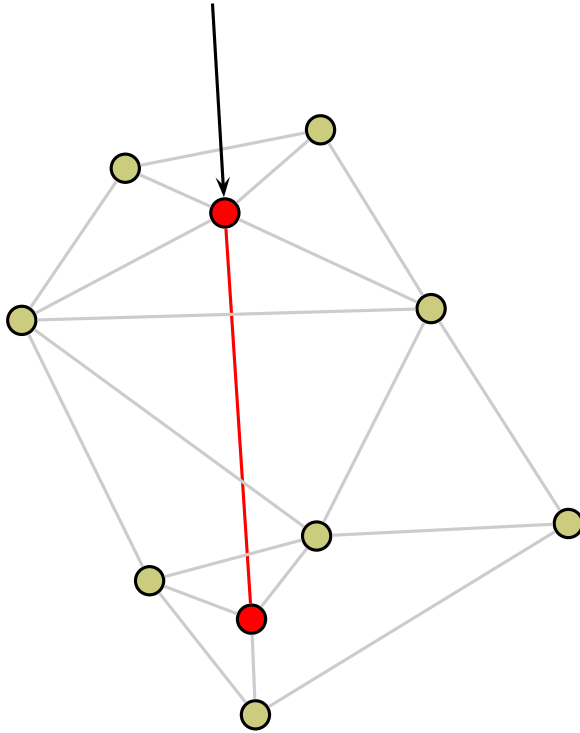
Center  $i$  has at most  $B_i$  incident to it.

**Example:** Total available degree in  $V_1$  is  $3 \cdot B$ .

Short edges consume 4. Leaves us with  $B_1 \dots$

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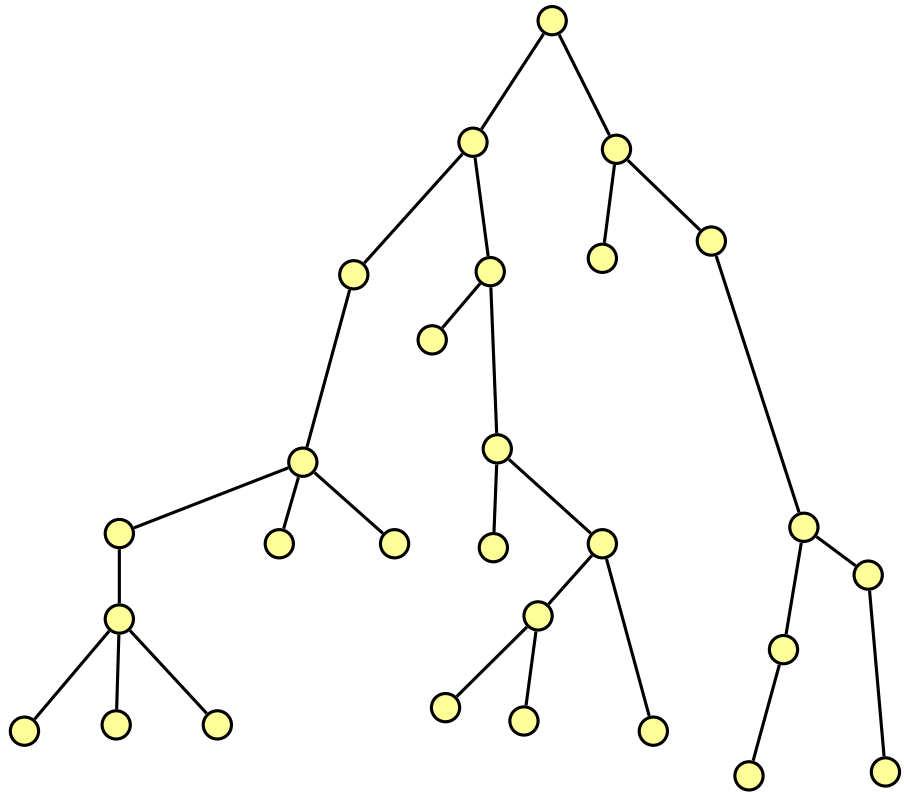
**Example:** Total available degree in  $V_1$  is  $3 \cdot B$ .

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Redistribute long edges incident to  $v_i$  over  $V_i$ !

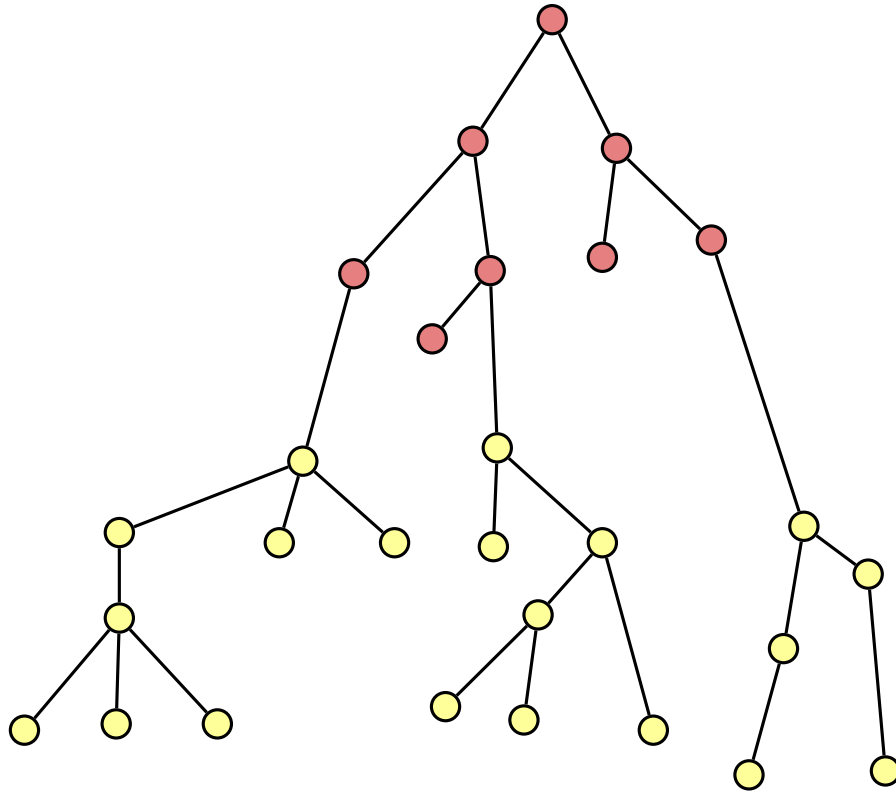


# Analysis: Long Edges



Partition an optimum solution  $T^*$ :

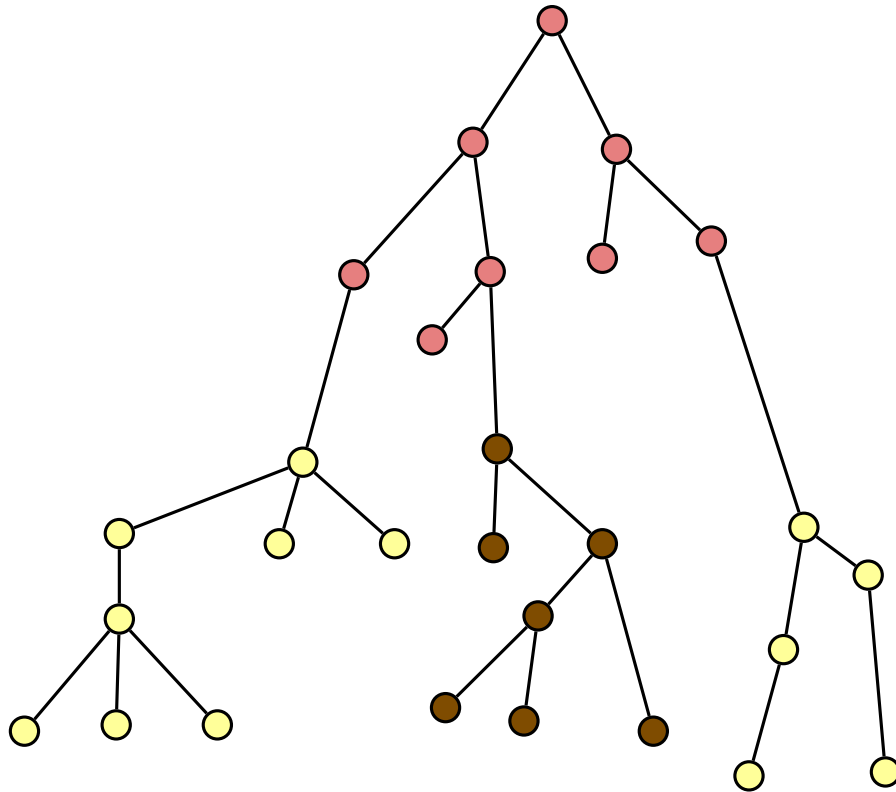
# Analysis: Long Edges



Partition an optimum solution  $T^*$ :

Start with root node and cover all nodes at distance  $\alpha$  in  $T^*$  from it.

# Analysis: Long Edges



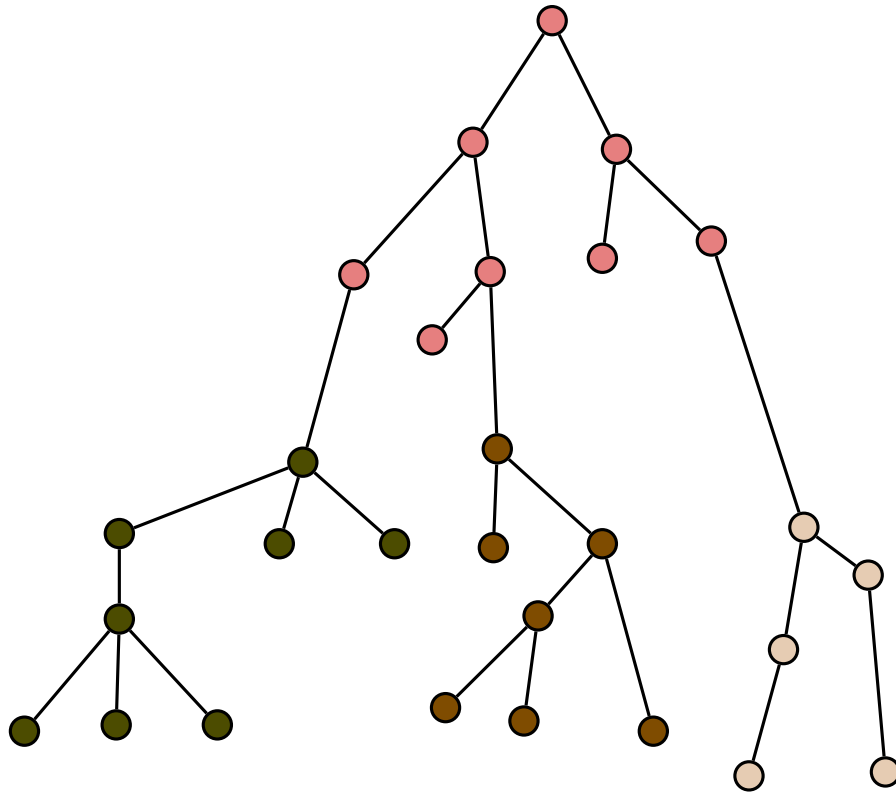
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Repeat!

Process leads to **partition**  $V_1^*, \dots, V_k^*$  with **centers**  $v_1^*, \dots, v_k^*$ .

# Analysis: Long Edges

**Observation:**  $|V_i^*|$  induces connected piece of  $T^*$ .  
Hence:  $V_i^*$  can have **at most**

$$B_i^* = |V_i^*| \cdot B - 2(|V_i^*| - 1)$$

children in  $T^*$ .

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**Have:** Two partitions

$$\{V_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq l} \text{ and } \{V_i^*\}_{1 \leq i \leq k}$$

W.l.o.g.:  $B_1 \geq \dots \geq B_l$  and  $B_1^* \geq \dots \geq B_k^*$

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W.l.o.g.:  $B_1 \geq \dots \geq B_l$  and  $B_1^* \geq \dots \geq B_k^*$

**Lemma:** We must have  $l \leq k$  and for all  $1 \leq i \leq l$

$$\sum_{j=1}^i B_j^* \leq \sum_{j=1}^i B_j$$



# Analysis: Long Edges

Have: Two partitions

$$\{V_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq l} \text{ and } \{V_i^*\}_{1 \leq i \leq k}$$

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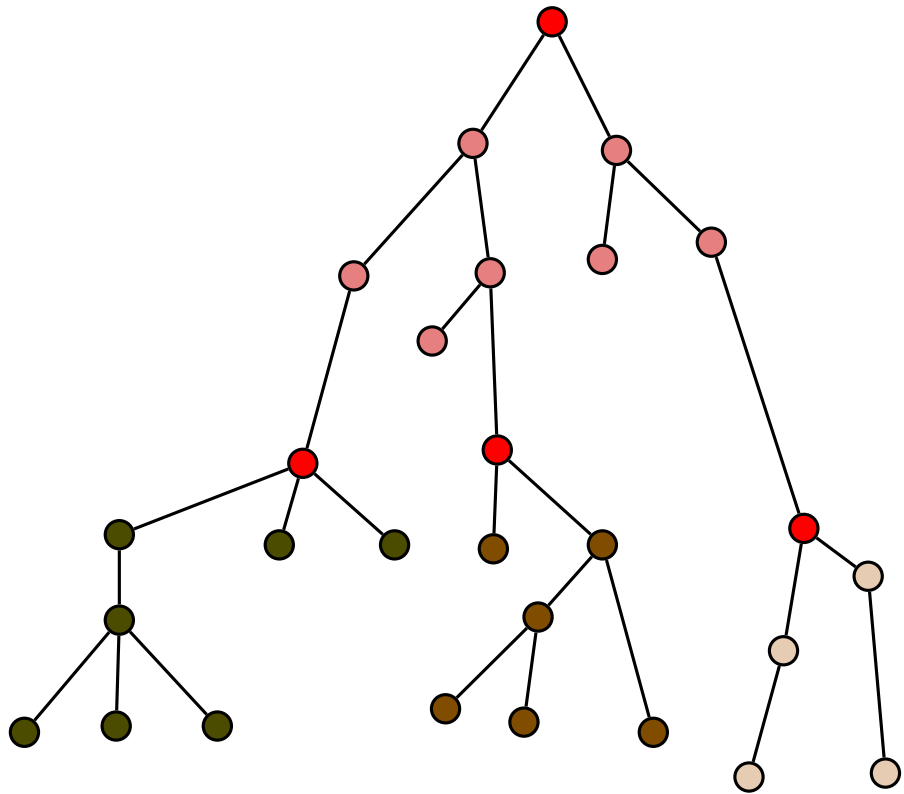
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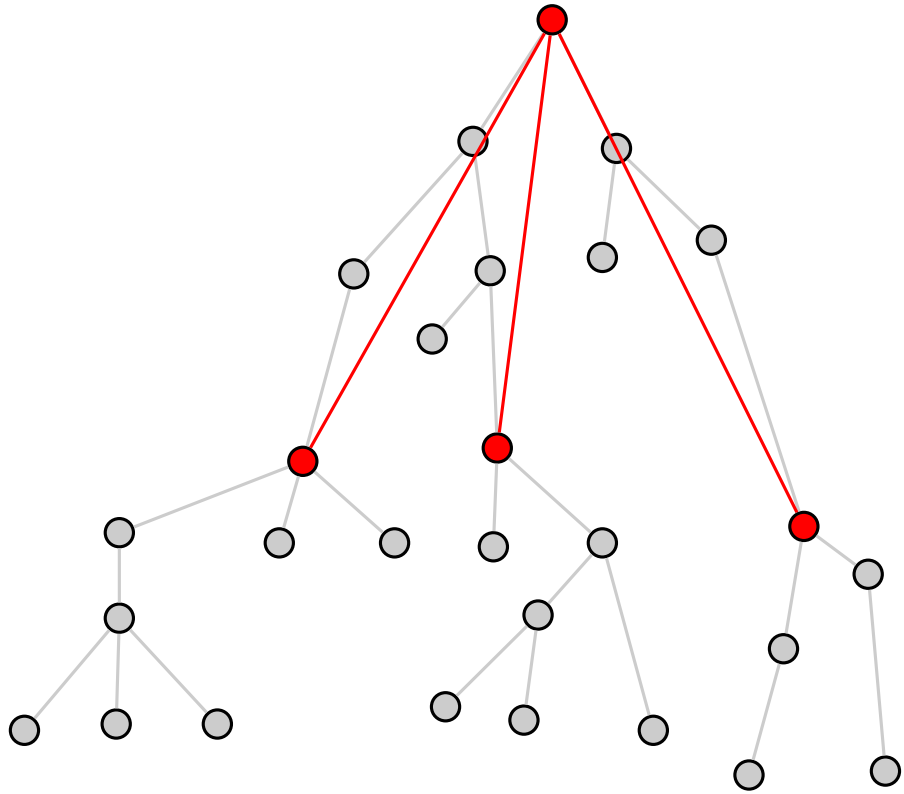
What does this imply?

# Analysis: Long Edges



Recall partition of optimum solution  $T^*$

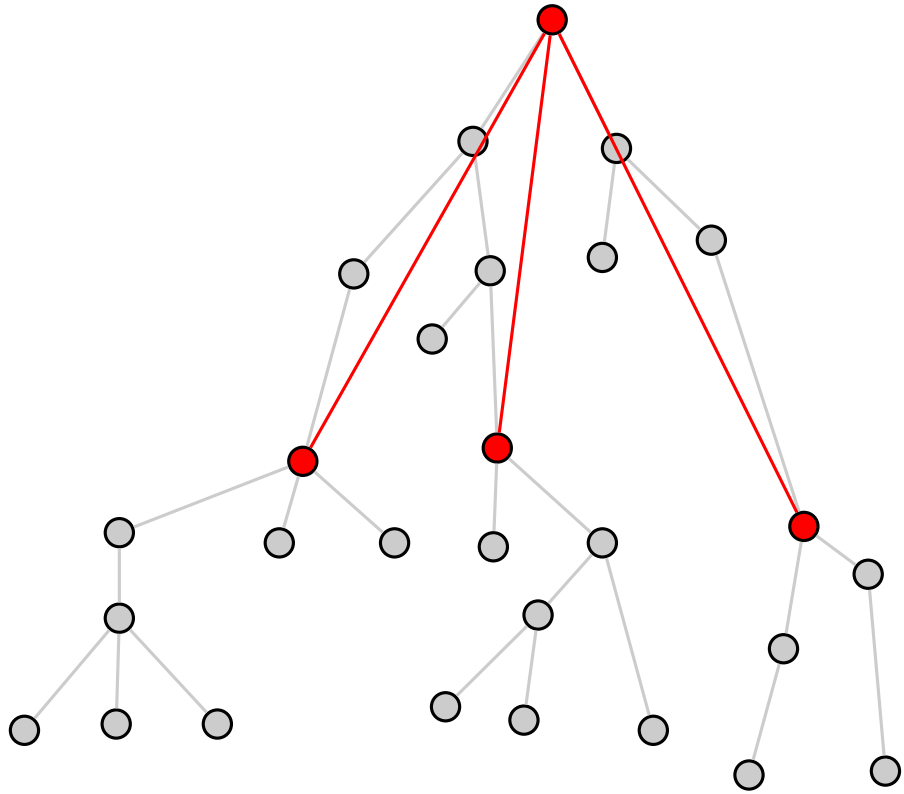
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Recall partition of optimum solution  $T^*$

Consider tree  $T^g$  induced by center nodes in  $T^*$

# Analysis: Long Edges



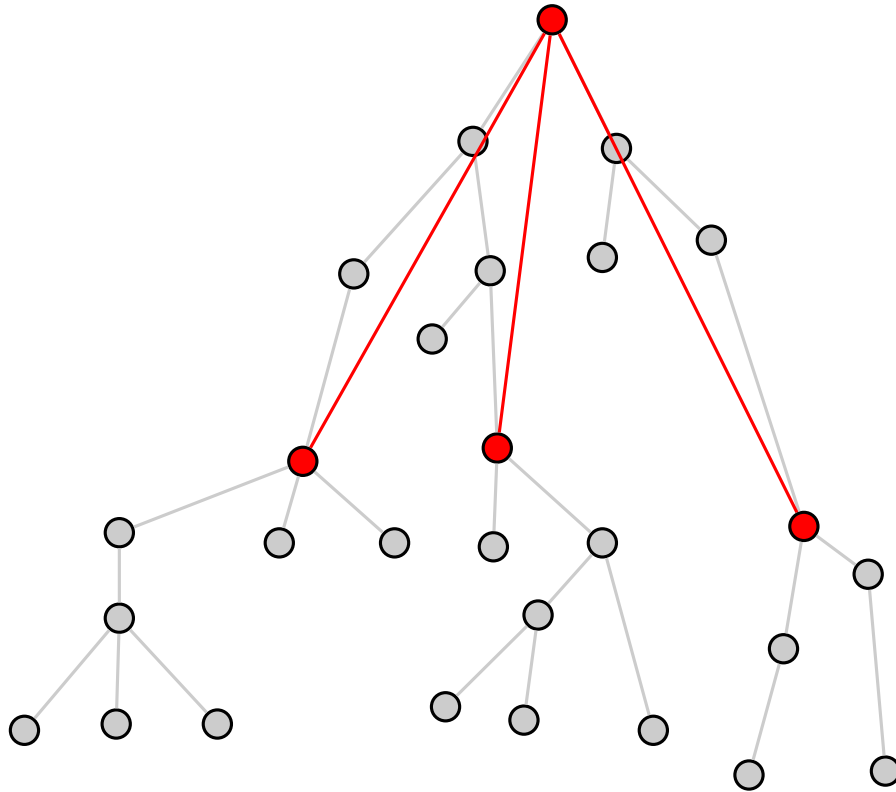
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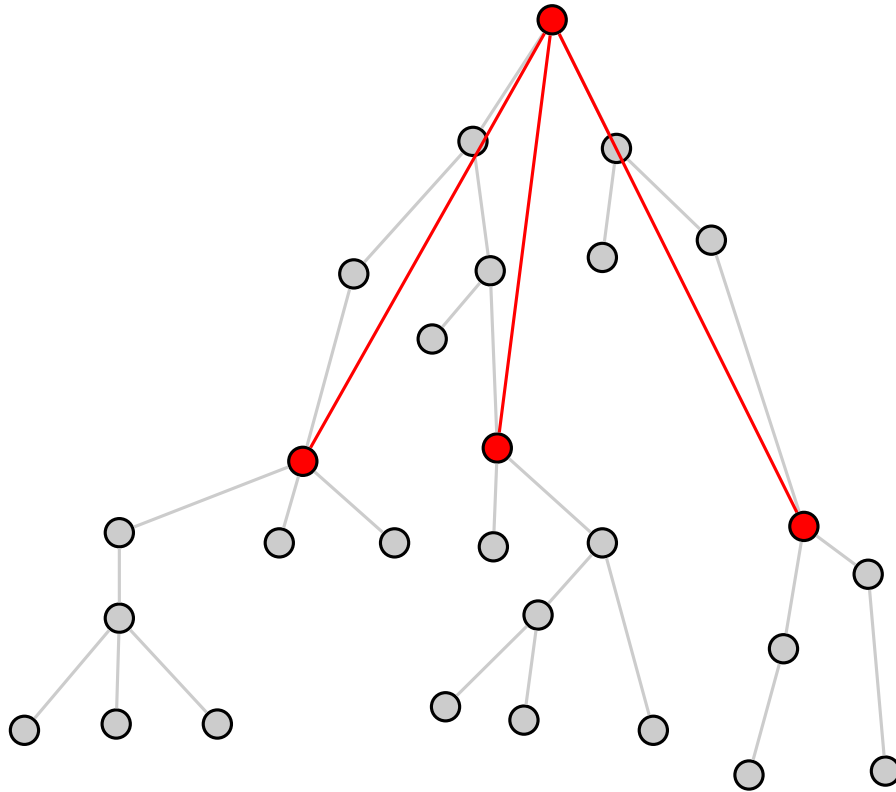
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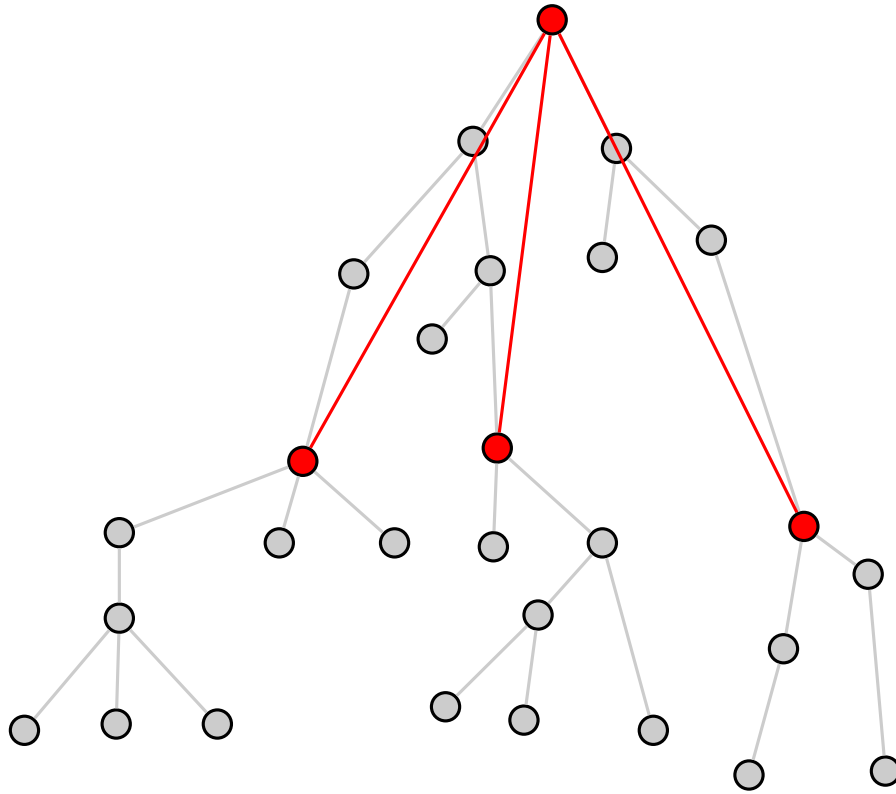
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**Lemma:** With  $\alpha = \Delta/\sqrt{\log_B n}$  we must have that the our global tree has height  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n})$ .



# Analysis: Outline

- Show that any root,leaf path in our tree has
  1.  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n})$  long edges, and
  2.  $O(\log_B n)$  short edges.
- This implies: Length of any root,leaf path is at most

$$O(\sqrt{\log_B n}) \cdot \Delta + O(\log_B n) \cdot \alpha$$

- With  $\alpha = \Delta / \sqrt{\log_B n}$ : Length of root,leaf path is bounded by

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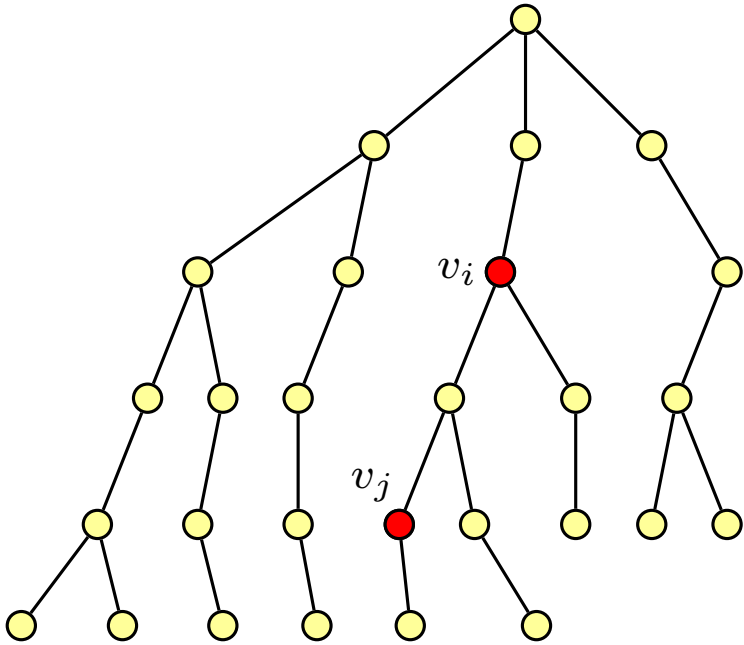
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# Analysis: Short Edges

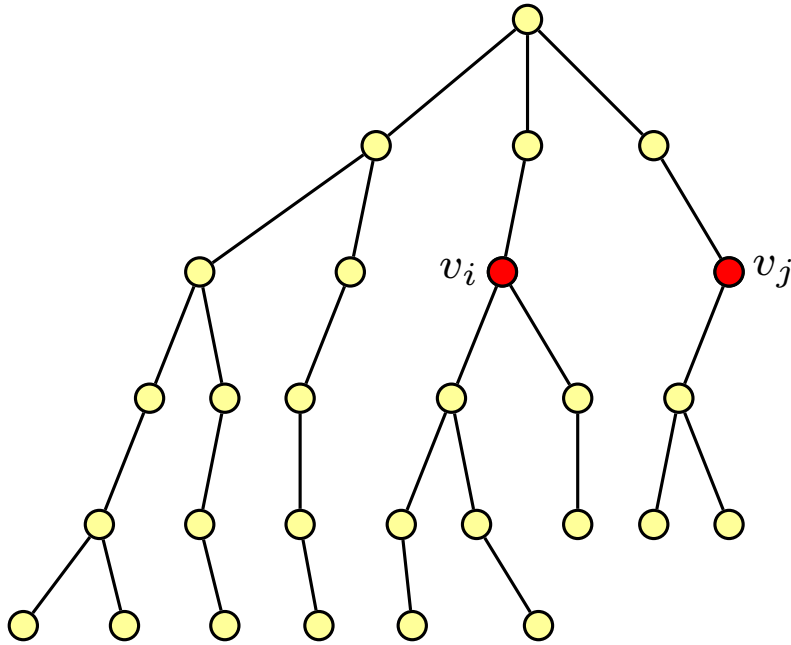


Look at **global tree** on center nodes.

**Observe:** Let  $v_i$  and  $v_j$  be to center nodes. Can organize **global tree** s.t.

1.  $|V_i| > |V_j|$  if  $\text{depth}(v_i) < \text{depth}(v_j)$

# Analysis: Short Edges



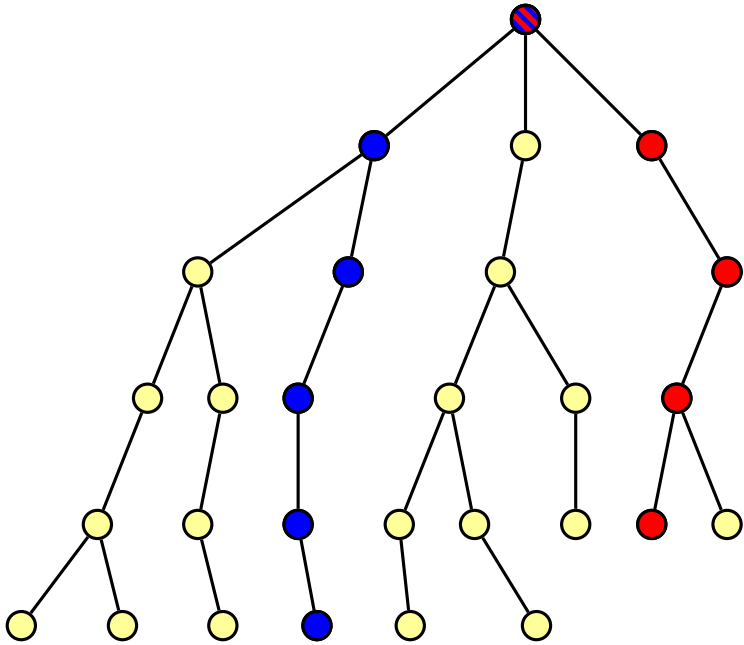
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**Consider** two root,leaf-paths

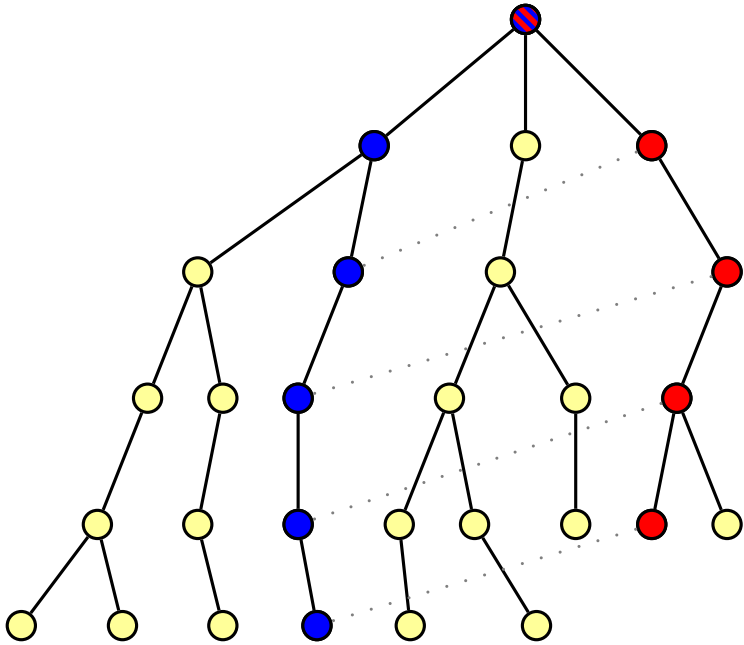
$$P_1 = \langle v_1^1, \dots, v_q^1 \rangle$$

$$P_2 = \langle v_1^2, \dots, v_r^2 \rangle$$

**Observations:**

1. Leaves in **global tree** are on consecutive layers:  $q \leq r + 1$

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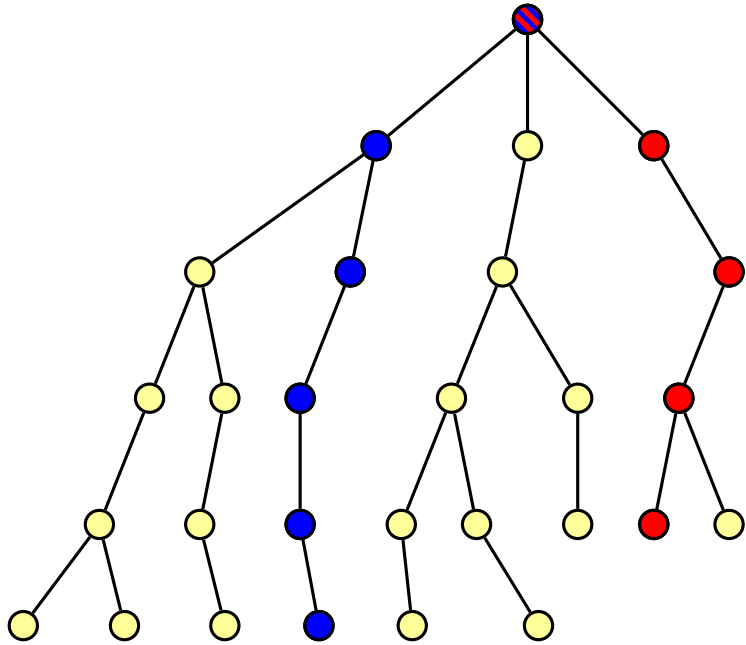
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# Analysis: Short Edges



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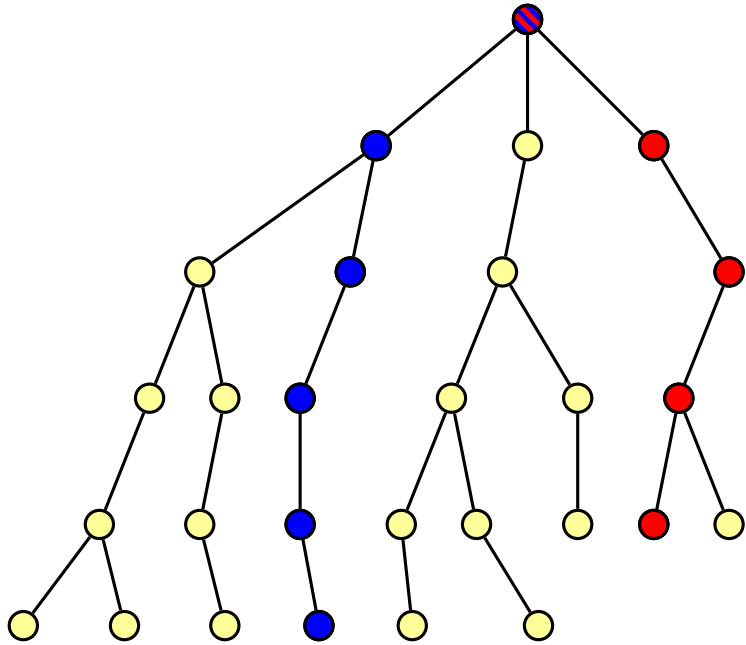
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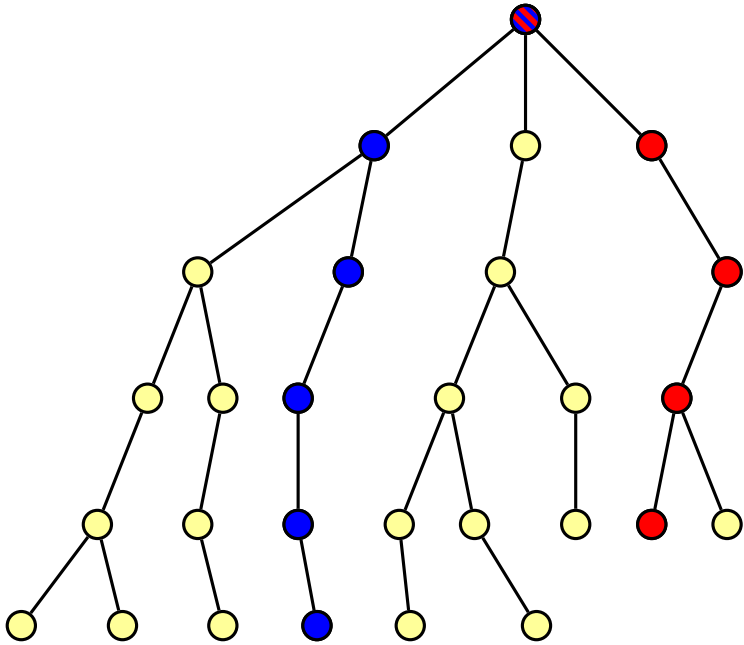
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Similar:  $|P_2|_s \leq |P_1|_s + \log_B n$

This means:

$$|P|_s \leq \gamma + 2 \log_B n \text{ for all root,leaf paths } P$$

**Lemma:**  $|P|_s = O(\log_B n)$  for all root,leaf paths in our tree.

**Proof idea:** All but  $O(\log_B n)$  nodes on any root,leaf-path have degree  $B$ .

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# Conclusion

**This talk:** We show how to compute a tree  $T$  with maximum degree  $B$  and diameter  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n}) \cdot \Delta$  in **complete metrics**

This implies:  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n})$ -competitive algorithm for **Freeze-Tag** in general graphs.

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## Open questions:

1. Close gap between  $5/3$ -hardness and  $O(\sqrt{\log_B n})$ -approximation
2. We strongly use fact that input graph is complete. Best known for incomplete graphs is still [[Ravi et al.](#)]: Can compute tree with
  - (a) Diameter  $O(\log n)\Delta$ , and
  - (b) Maximum degree  $O(\log^2 n) \cdot B$