

FO model checking on graphs of bounded twin- width

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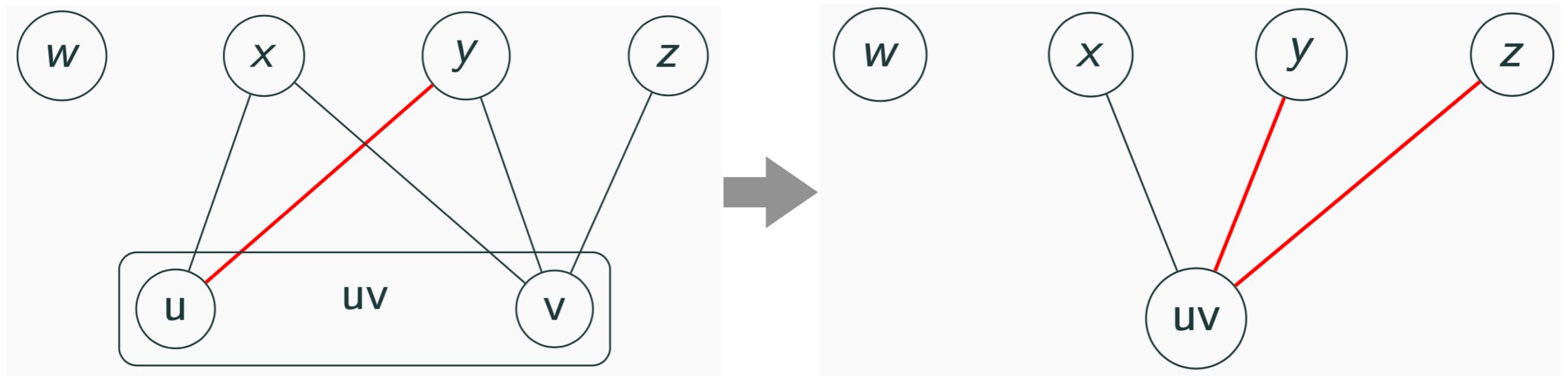
20èmes Journées de Combinatoire et d'Algorithmes du Littoral Méditerranéen
(JCALM'23)

13 December 2023, Montpellier, France

Contraction in a trigraph

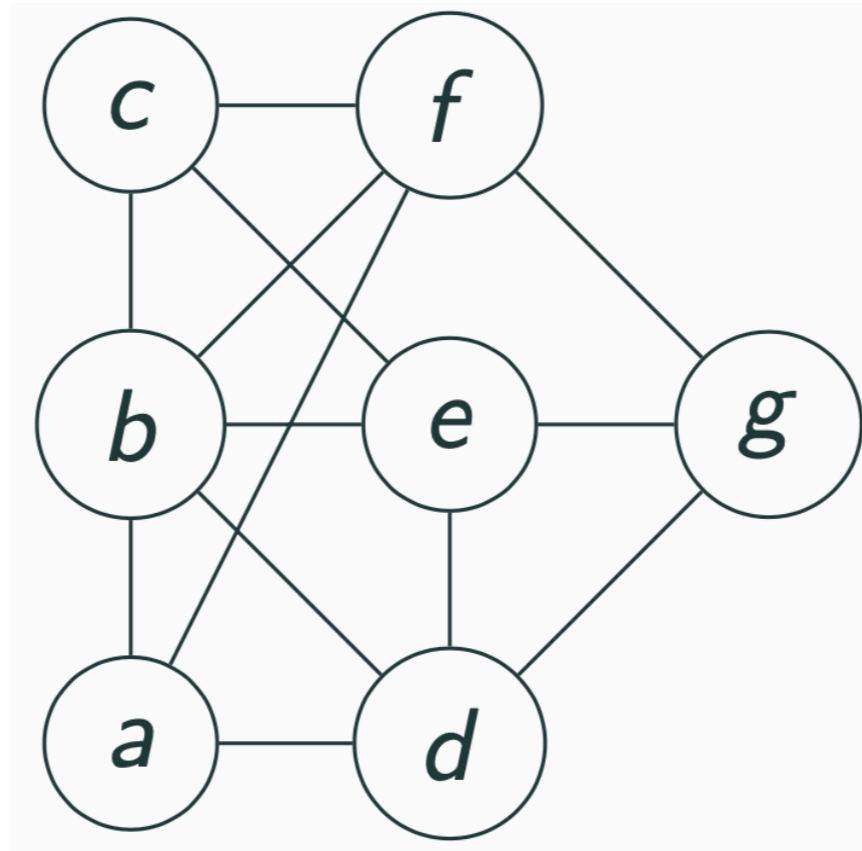
Trigraph has three types of adjacency: (black) edge, non-edge, red edge

Identification of two vertices, not-necessarily adjacent



- edges with $N(u) \triangle N(v)$ turn red
- red edges stay red

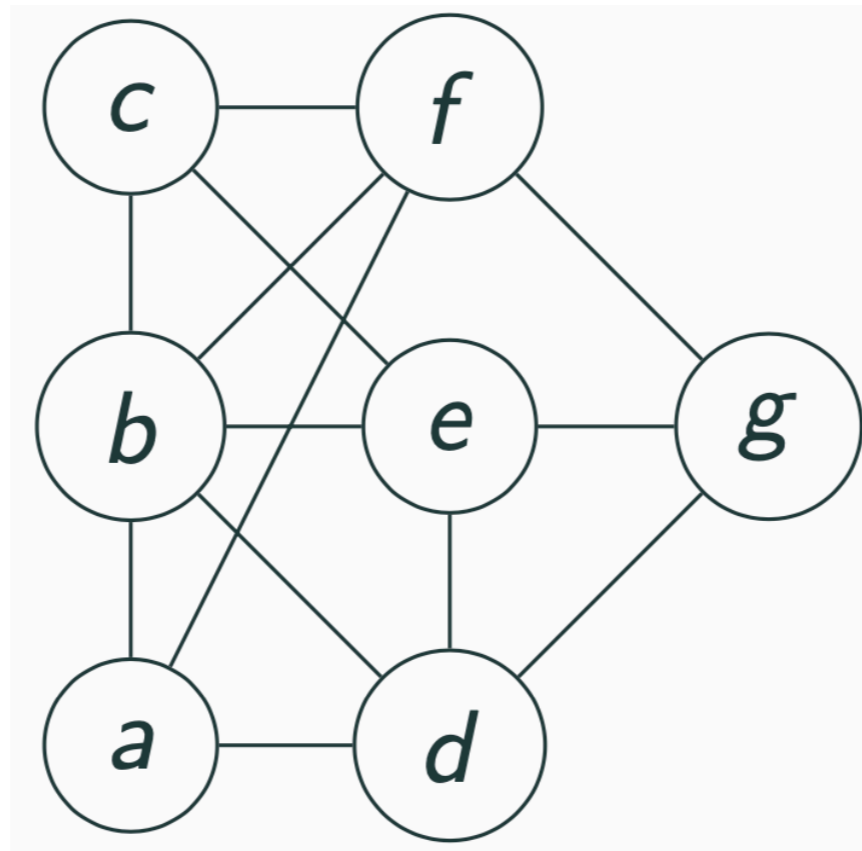
Contraction Sequence



A contraction sequence of $G =$

a sequence of trigraphs $G = G_n, G_{n-1}, \dots, G_1 =$ single-vertex graph
such that G_i is obtained from G_{i+1} by one contraction

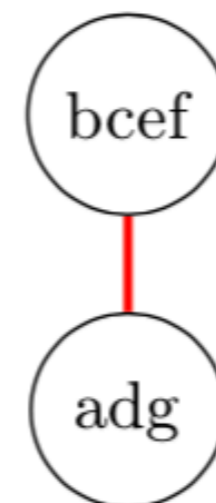
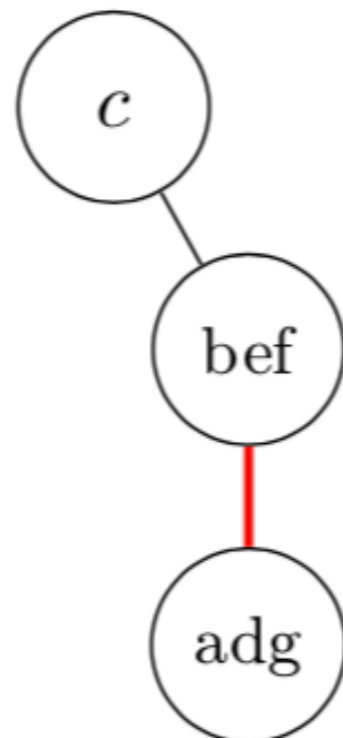
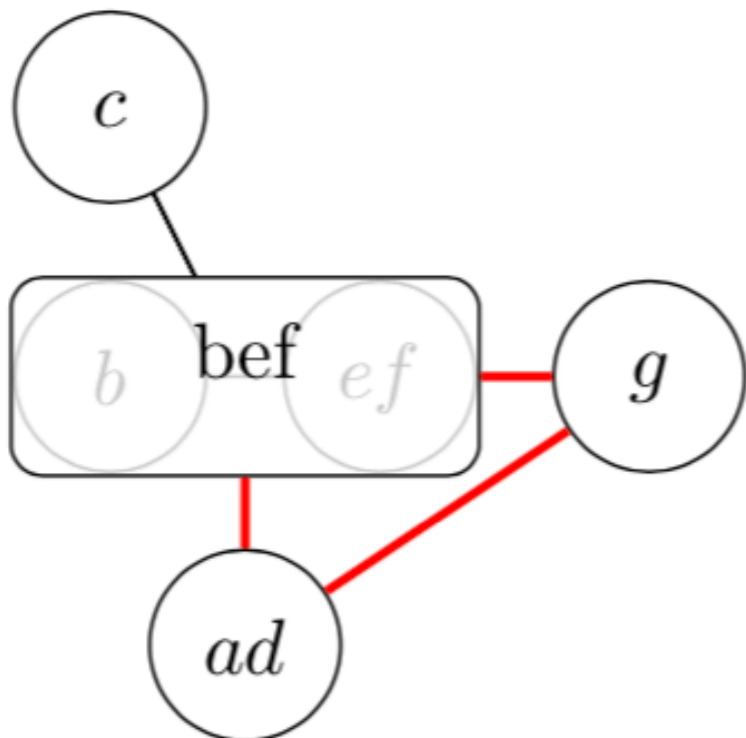
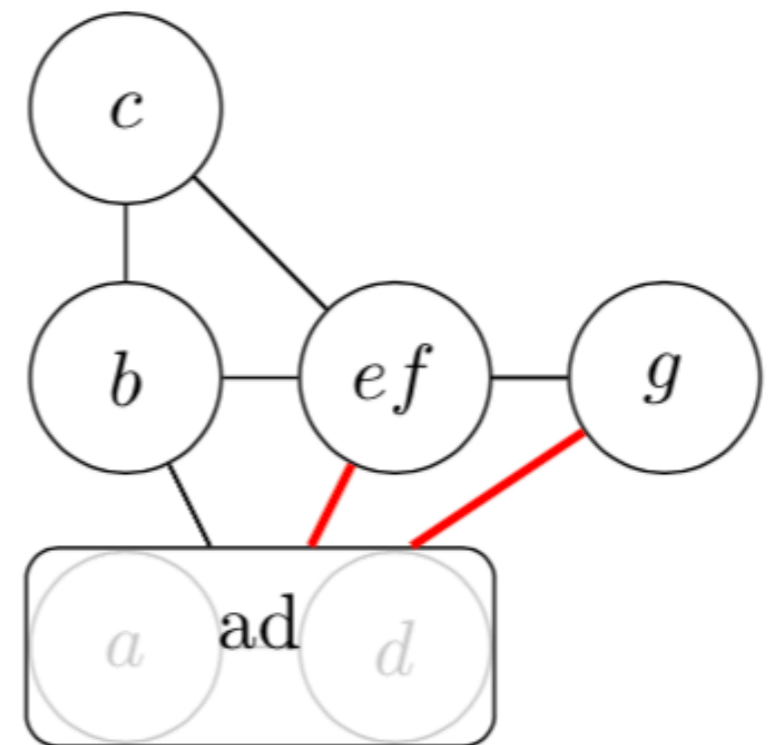
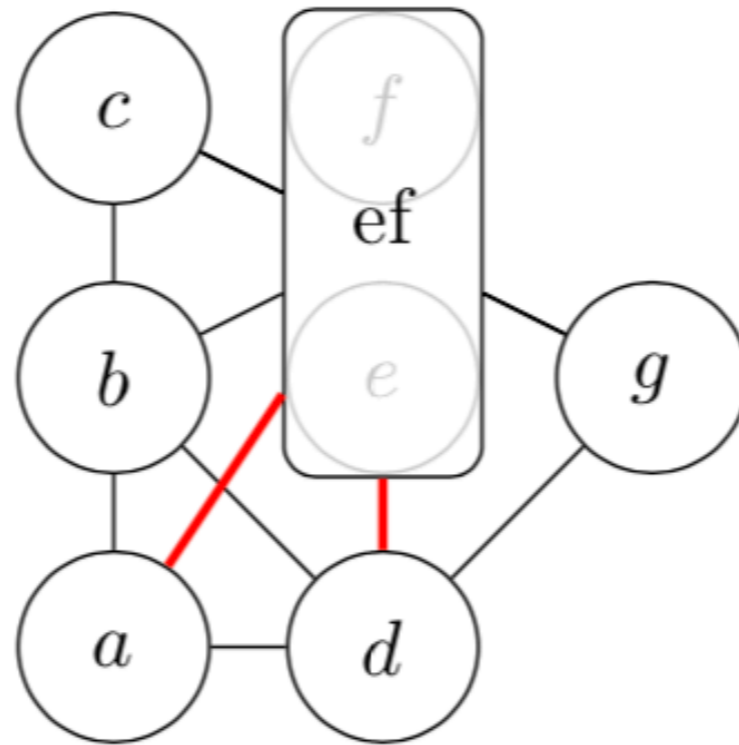
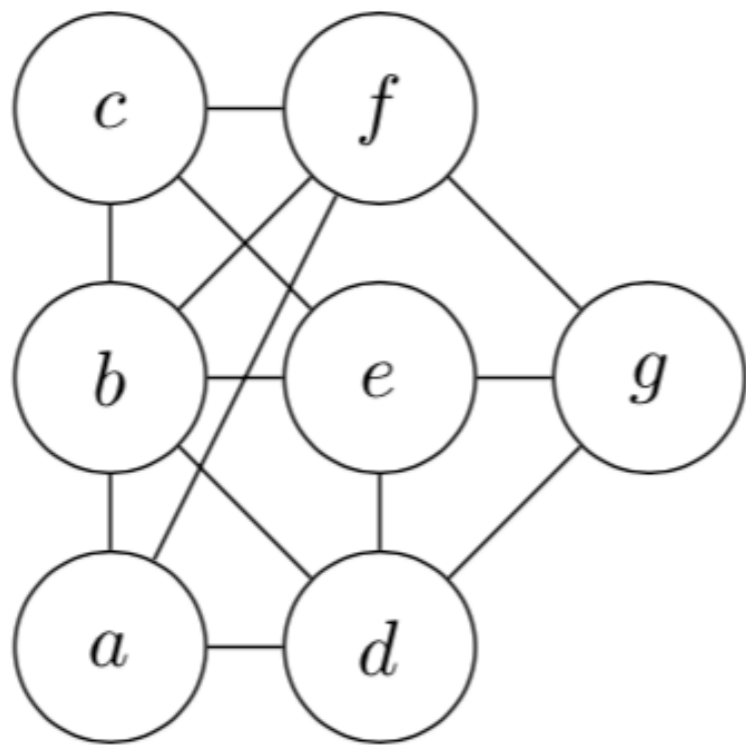
Contraction Sequence



A **d**-contraction sequence of $G =$

a sequence of trigraphs $G = G_n, G_{n-1}, \dots, G_1 =$ single-vertex graph
such that G_i is obtained from G_{i+1} by one contraction
and the max **red degree** of each G_i is at most **d**.

2-contraction sequence



Twin-width of a graph

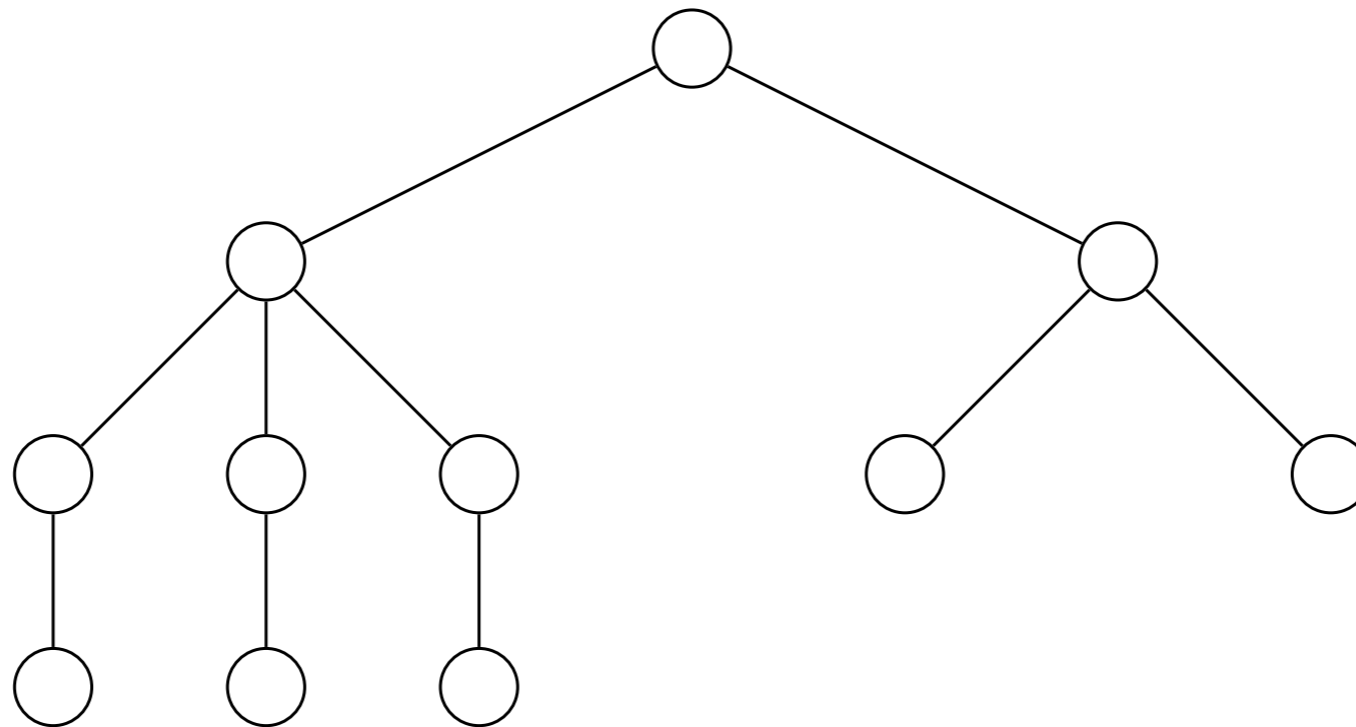
Twin-width of $G =$

the smallest d s.t. \exists d -contraction sequence of G .

**What is the (upper-bound of) twin-width
of ...**

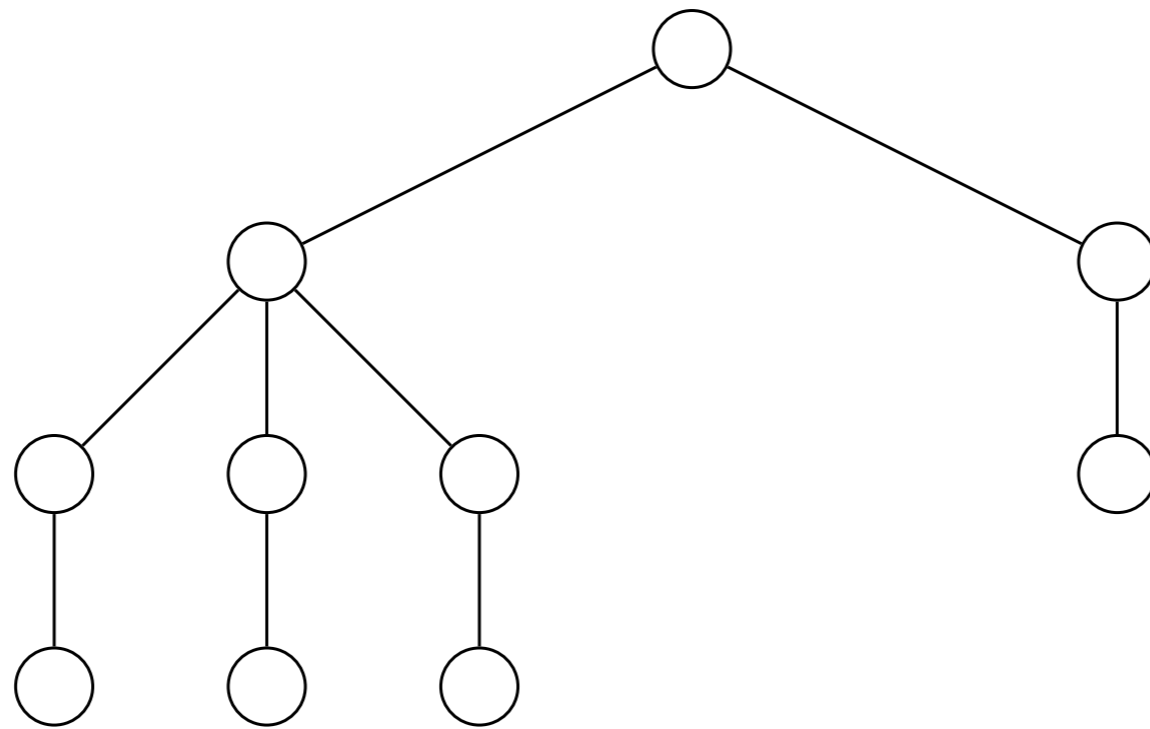
- **clique?**
- **disjoint union of G and H ?**
- **complete join of G and H ?**
- **cograph?**
- **path?**
- **tree?**
- **planar graphs?**

Trees



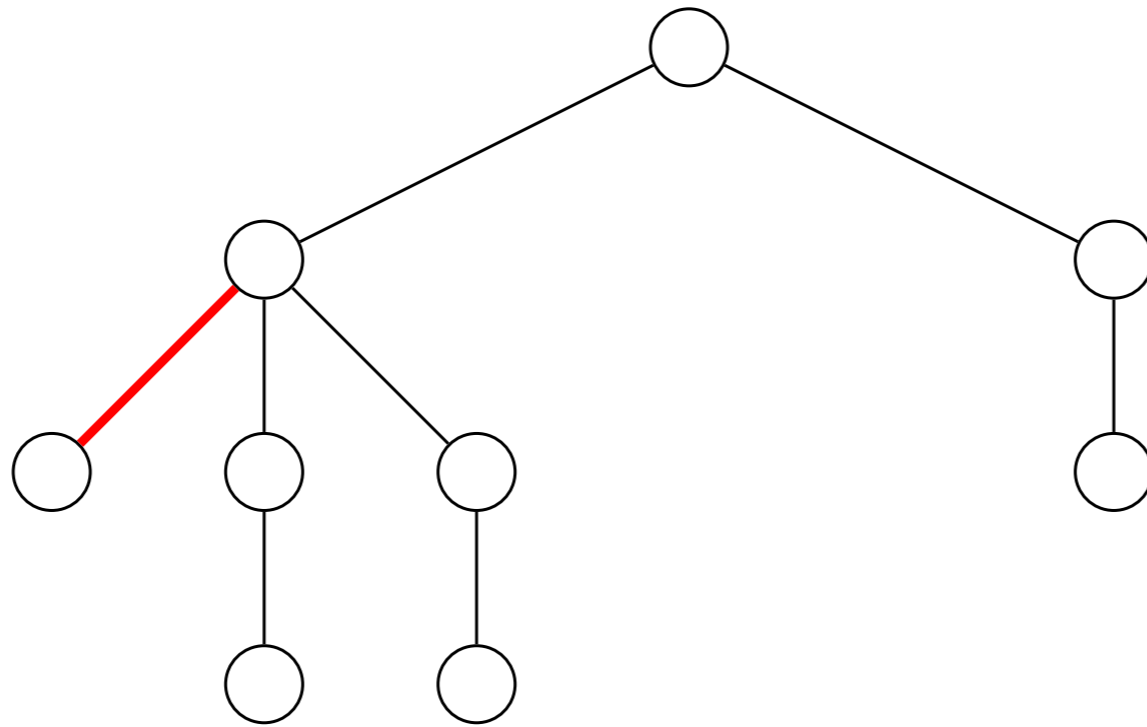
If possible, contract two twin leaves

Trees



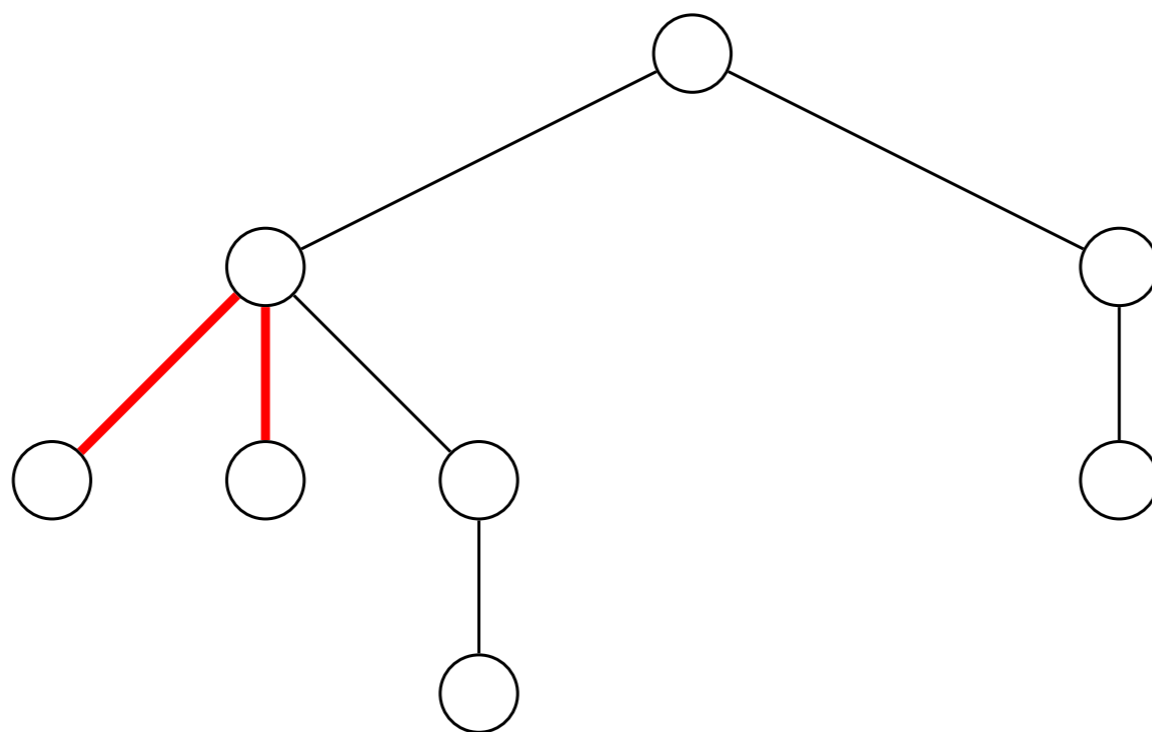
If not, contract a deepest leaf with its parent

Trees



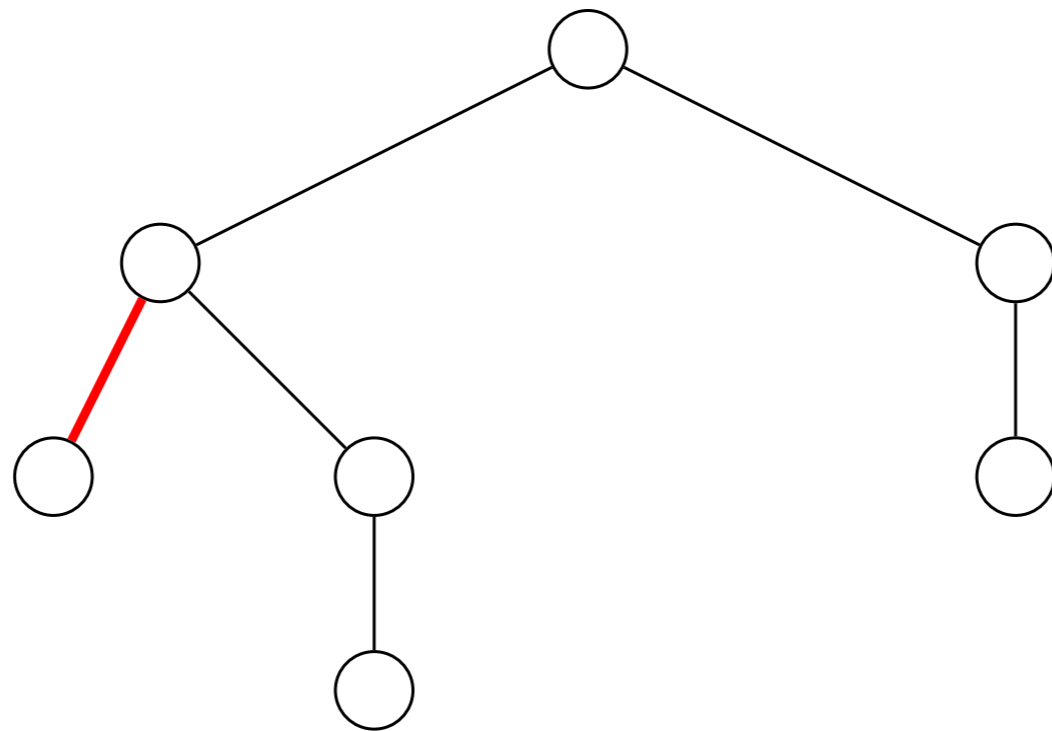
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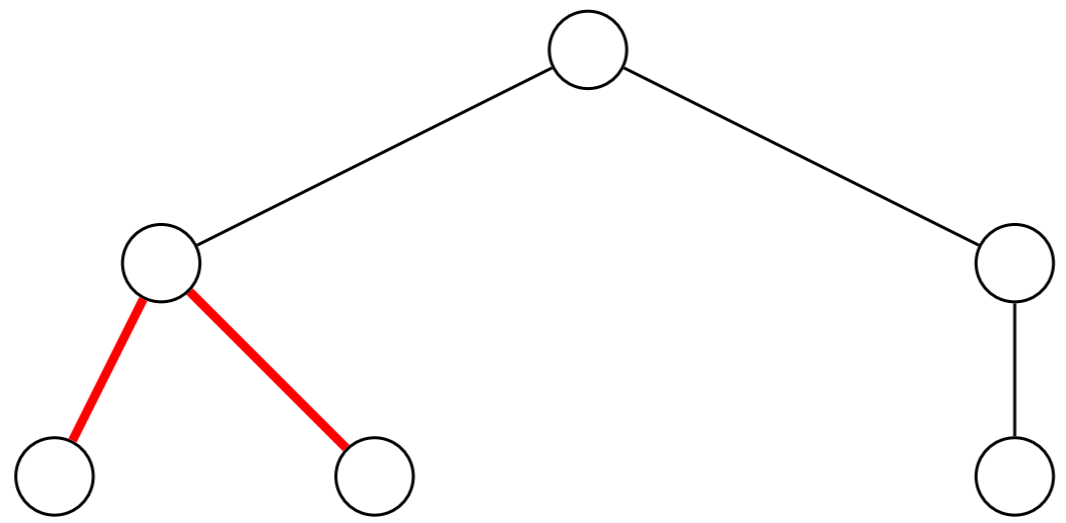
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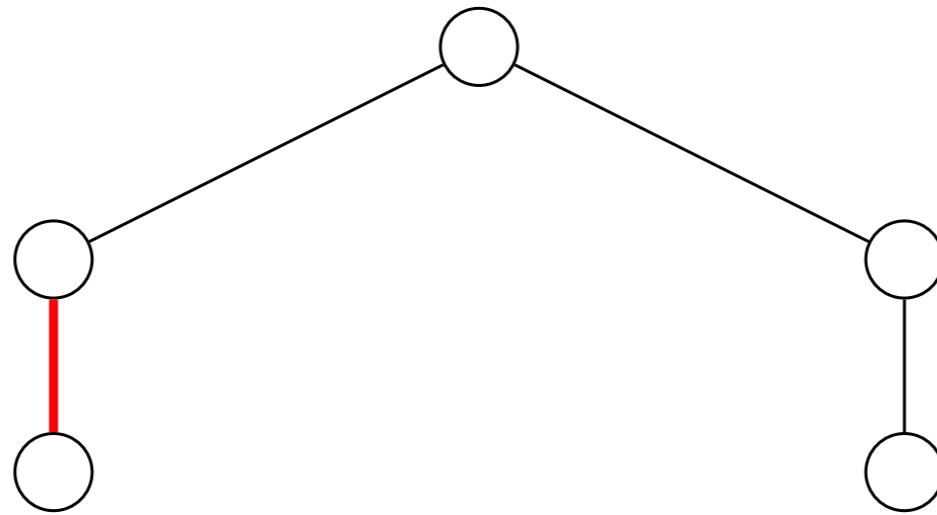
Cannot create a red degree-3 vertex

Trees



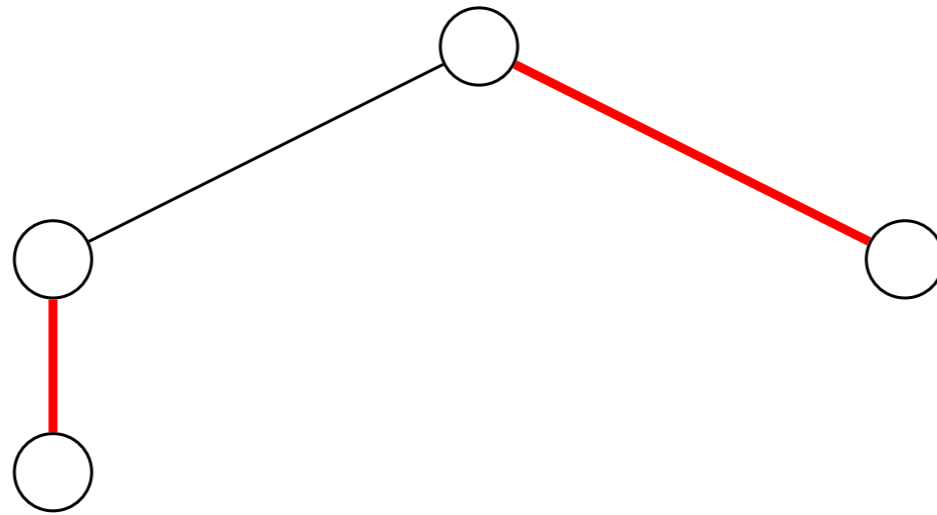
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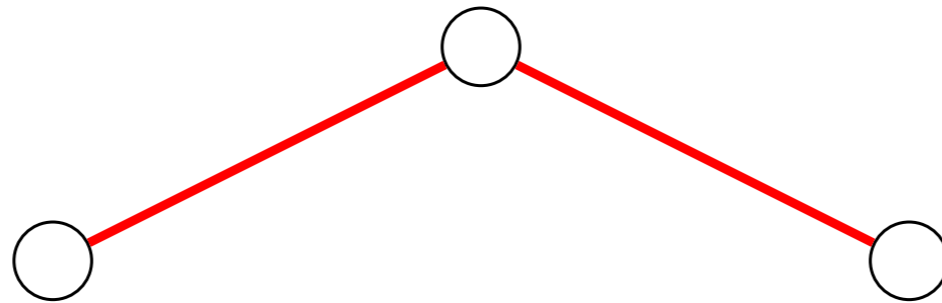
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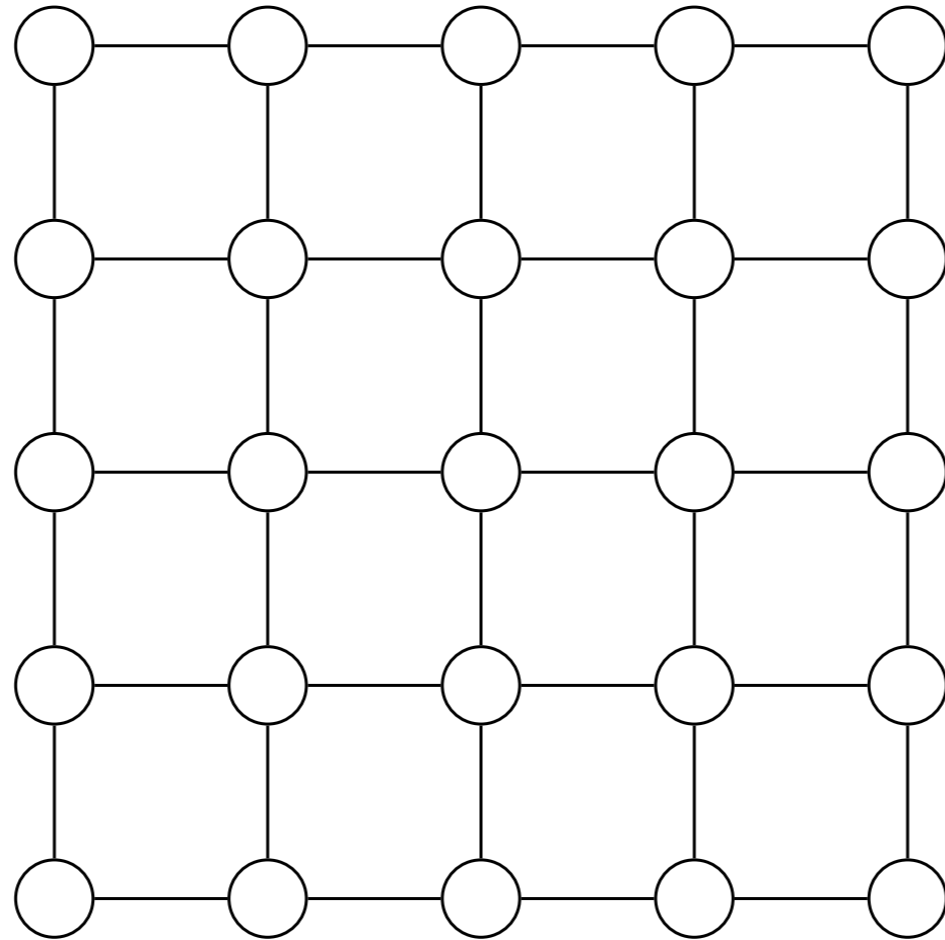
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Trees

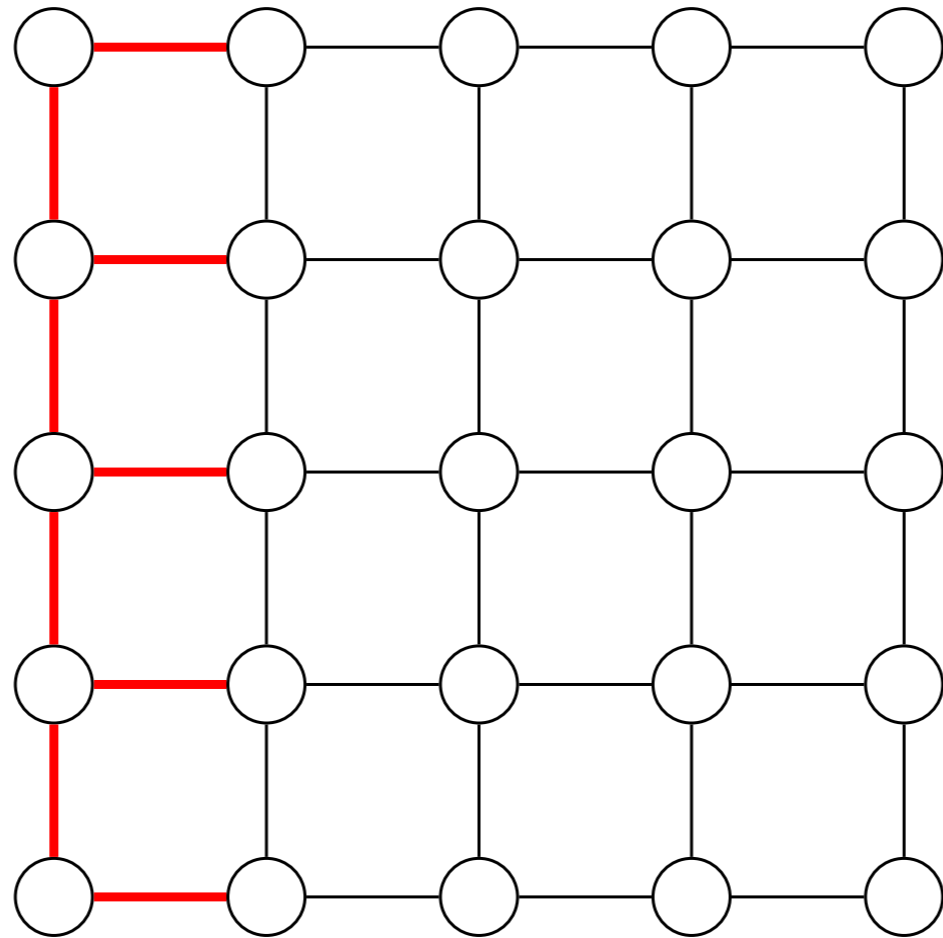


Generalization to bounded *treewidth* and even bounded *rank-width*

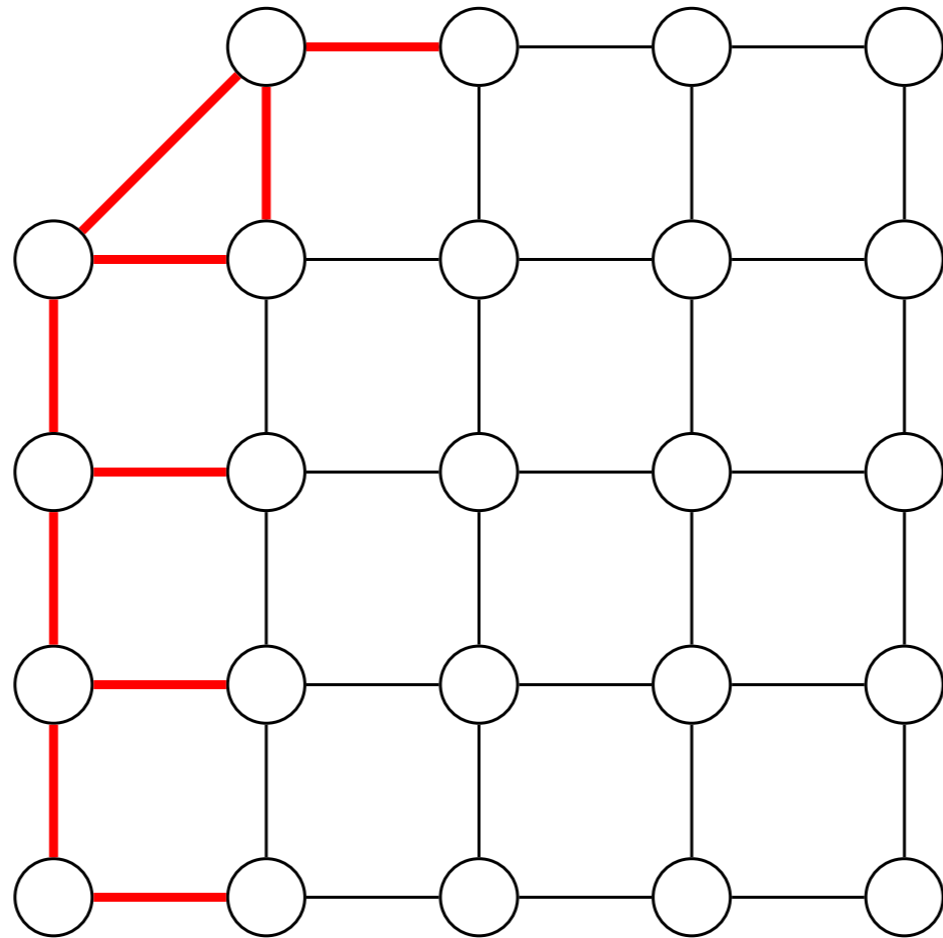
Grids



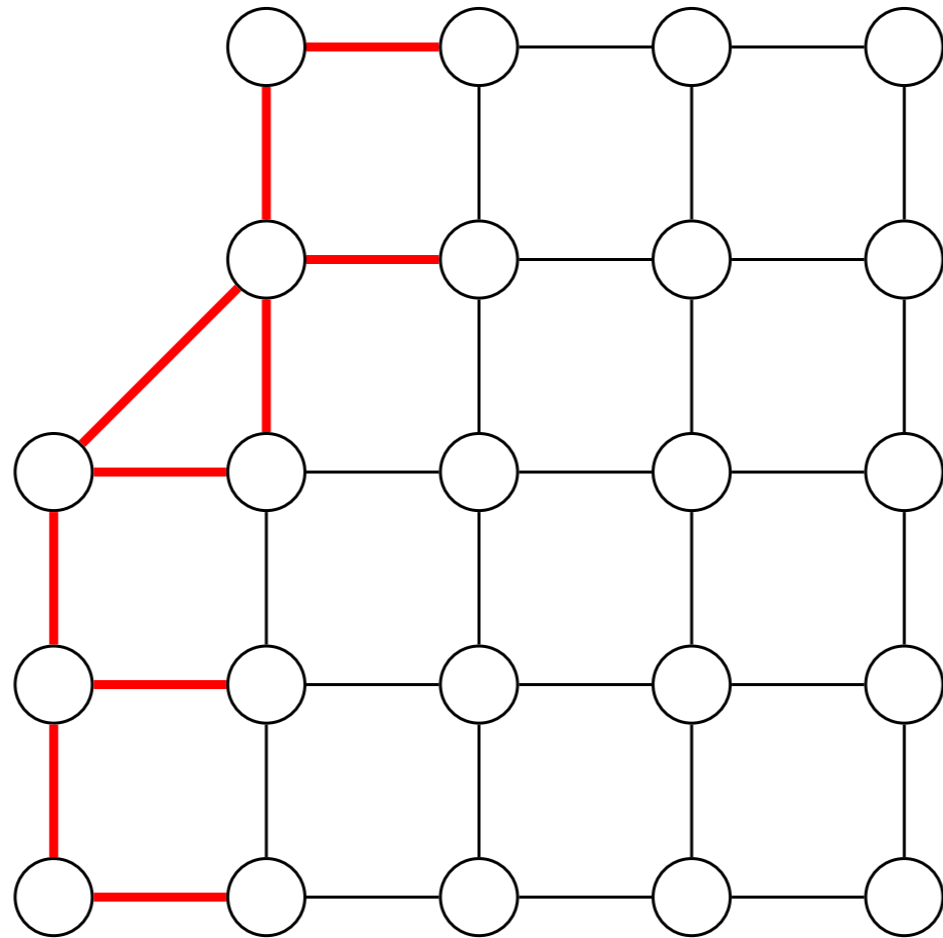
Grids



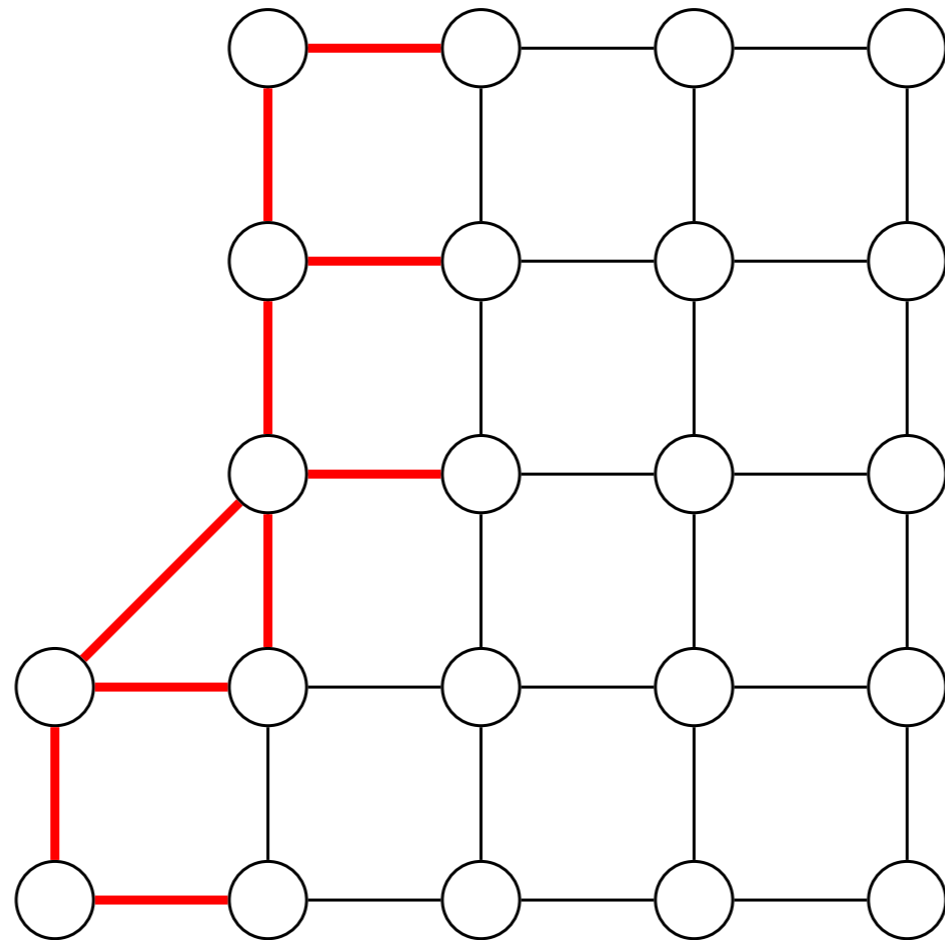
Grids



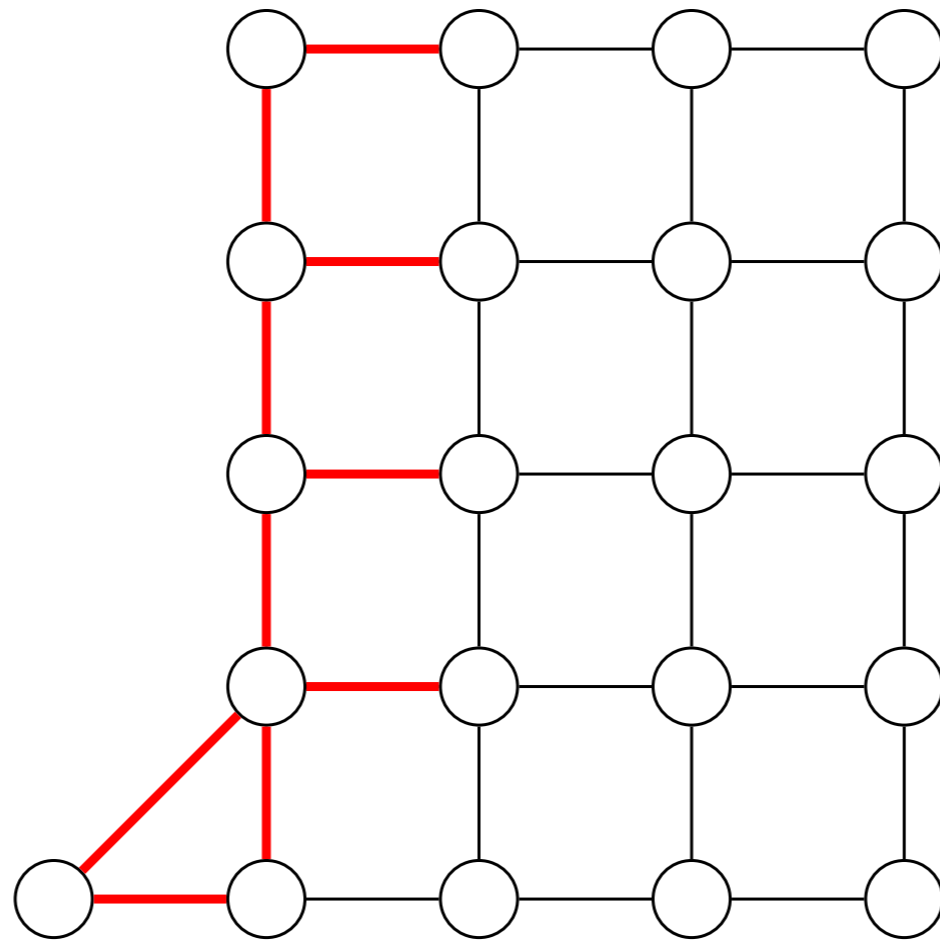
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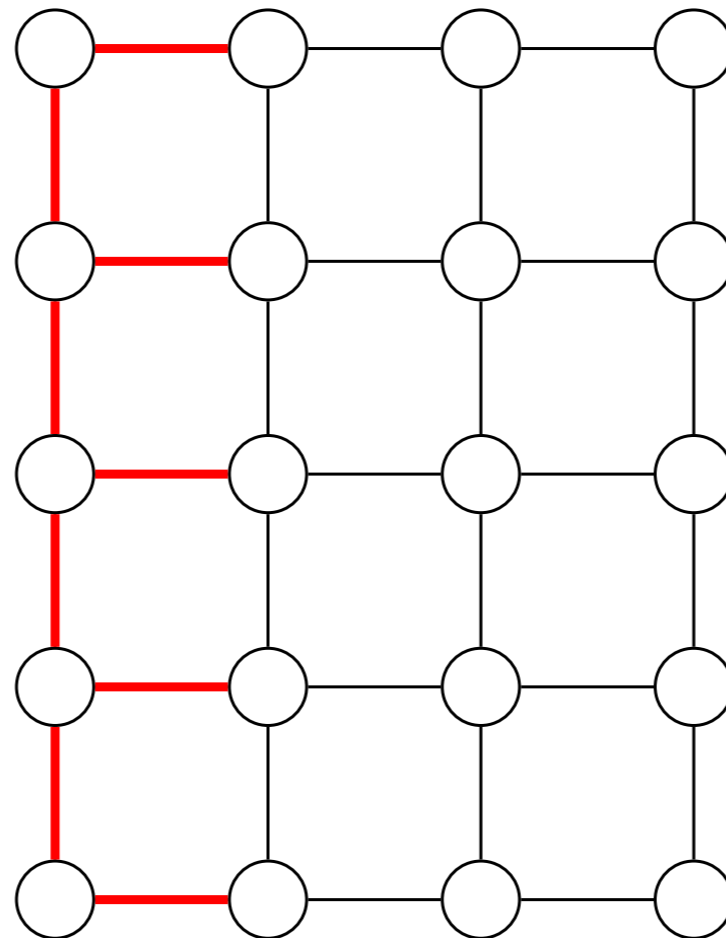
Grids



Grids



Grids



4-sequence for planar grids

Graph classes of small twin-width

[Bonnet, Geniat, K, Thomassé, Watrigant '20, '21]

- trees, graphs of bounded tree-width
- bounded clique-width (rank-width) graphs
- unit interval graphs
- strong products of two graphs of bounded tww, one with bounded degree
- $\Omega(\log n)$ -subdivision of all n -vertex graphs, etc.
- (subgraphs of) d -dimensional grids
- K_t -free unit ball graphs in dimension d
- hereditary proper subclass of permutation graphs
- posets of bounded antichain size
- K_t -minor-free graphs
- square of planar graphs
- map graphs
- k -planar graphs
- bounded degree string graphs

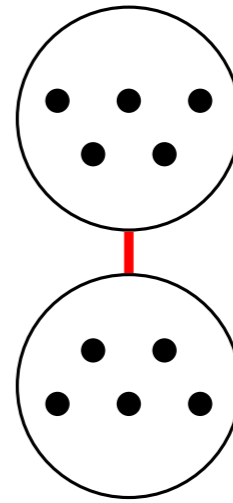
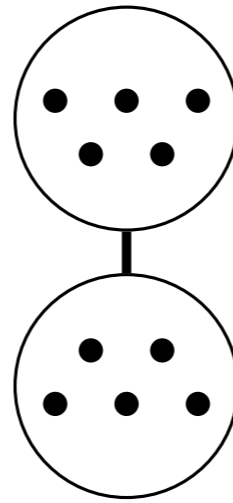
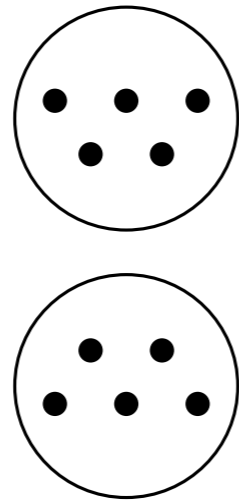
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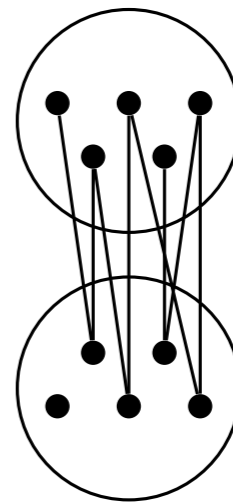
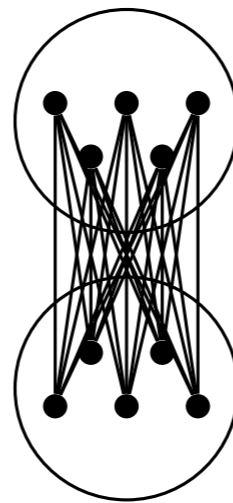
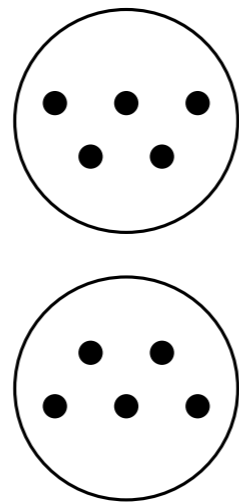
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- map graphs
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- bounded degree string graphs

The class of all cubic graphs have unbounded twin-width

given two bags:



it means in the original graph:

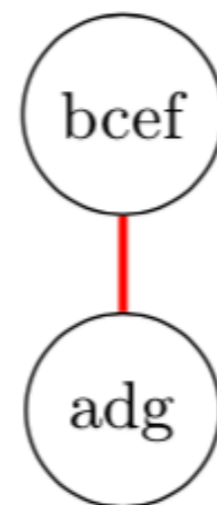
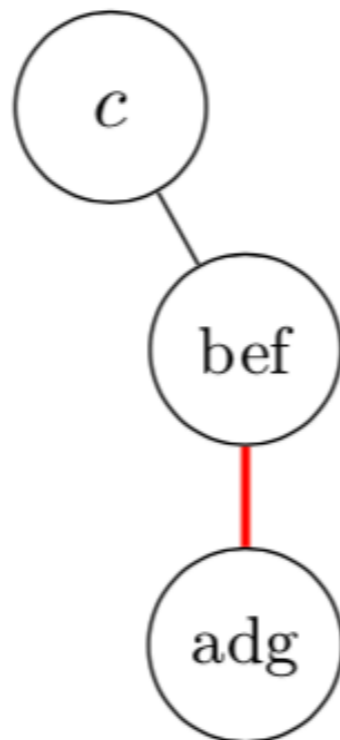
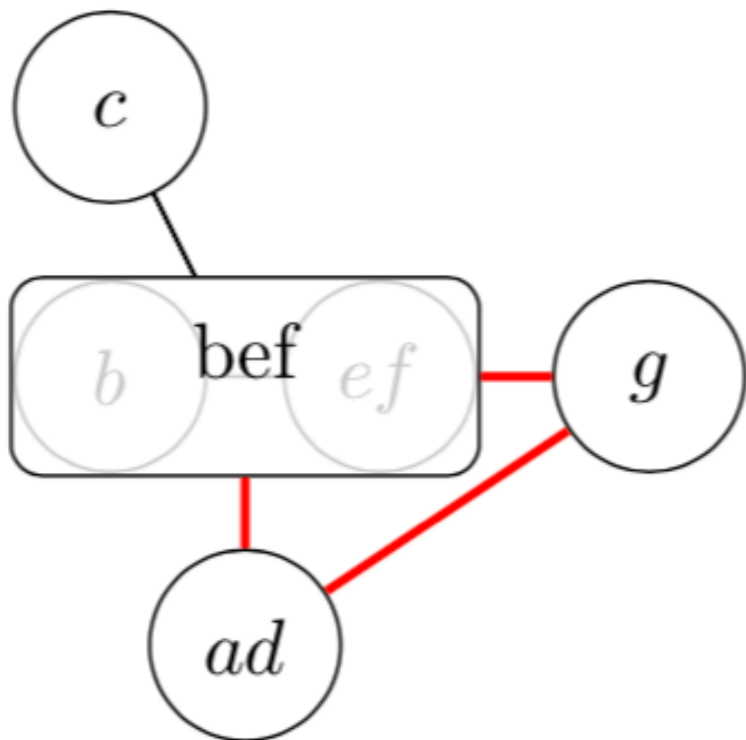
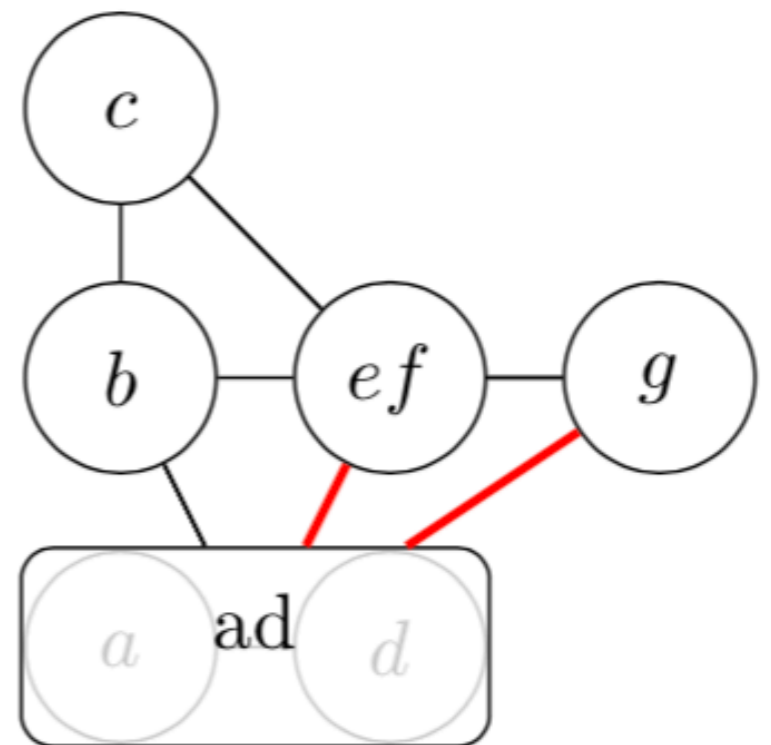
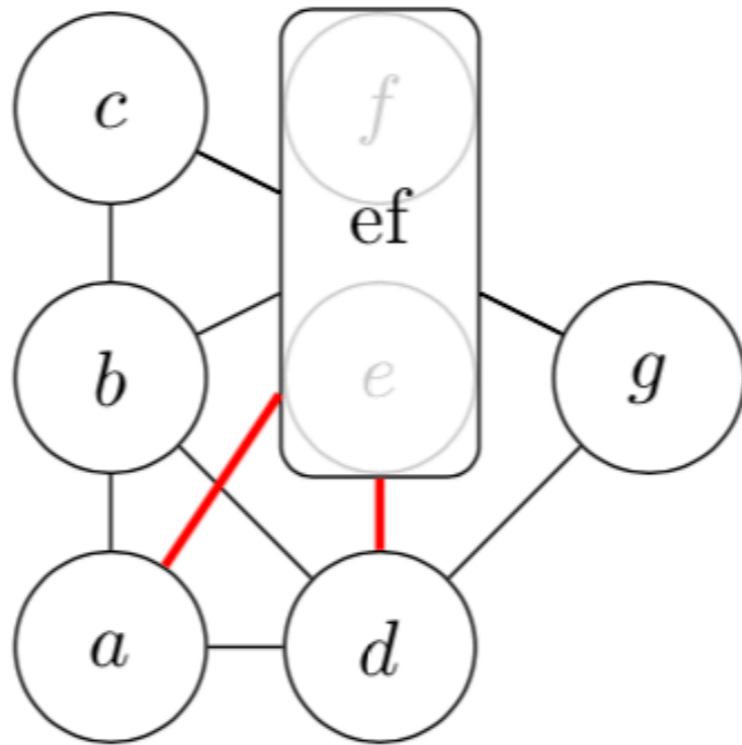
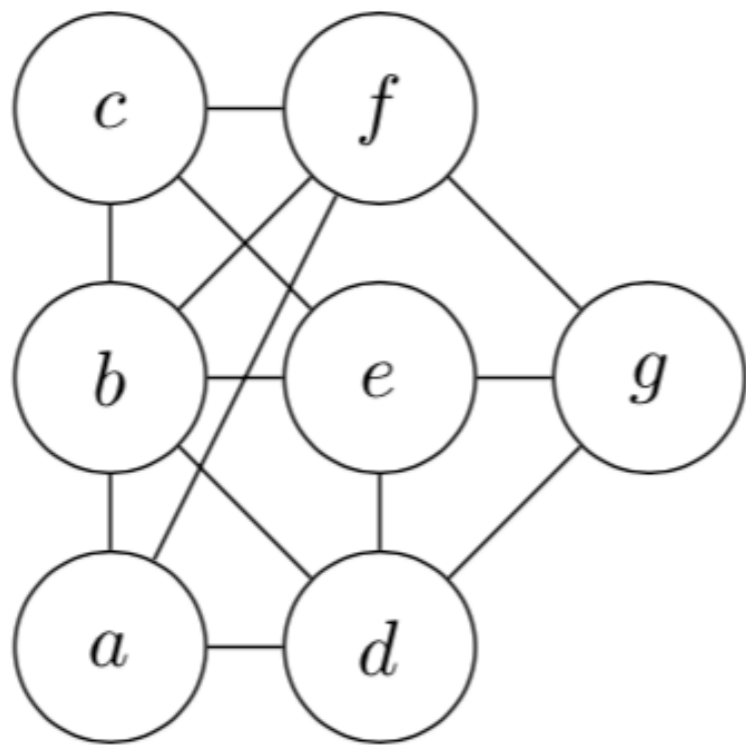


no edge

all edges

at least one edge,
at least one non-edge

2-partition sequence



Twin-width of a graph

A **d**-contraction sequence of $G =$

a sequence of partitions

$\mathcal{P}_n = \{\{v\} : v \in V(G)\}, \mathcal{P}_{n-1}, \dots, \mathcal{P}_i, \dots, \mathcal{P}_1 = \{V(G)\}$ such that \mathcal{P}_i is obtained from \mathcal{P}_{i+1} by merging two parts

and the max **red degree** of each quotient graph G/\mathcal{P}_i is at most **d**.

Twin-width of $G =$

the smallest d s.t. \exists d -partition sequence of G .

[Bonnet, K, Thomassé, Watrigant '20]

FO model checking can
be done in time $f(d, |\phi|) \cdot n$

when a d -contraction sequence is given.

[Bonnet, K, Thomassé, Watrigant '20]

Input: a graph G , first-order sentence ϕ .
Question: $G \models \phi$?

FO model checking can
be done in time $f(d, |\phi|) \cdot n$

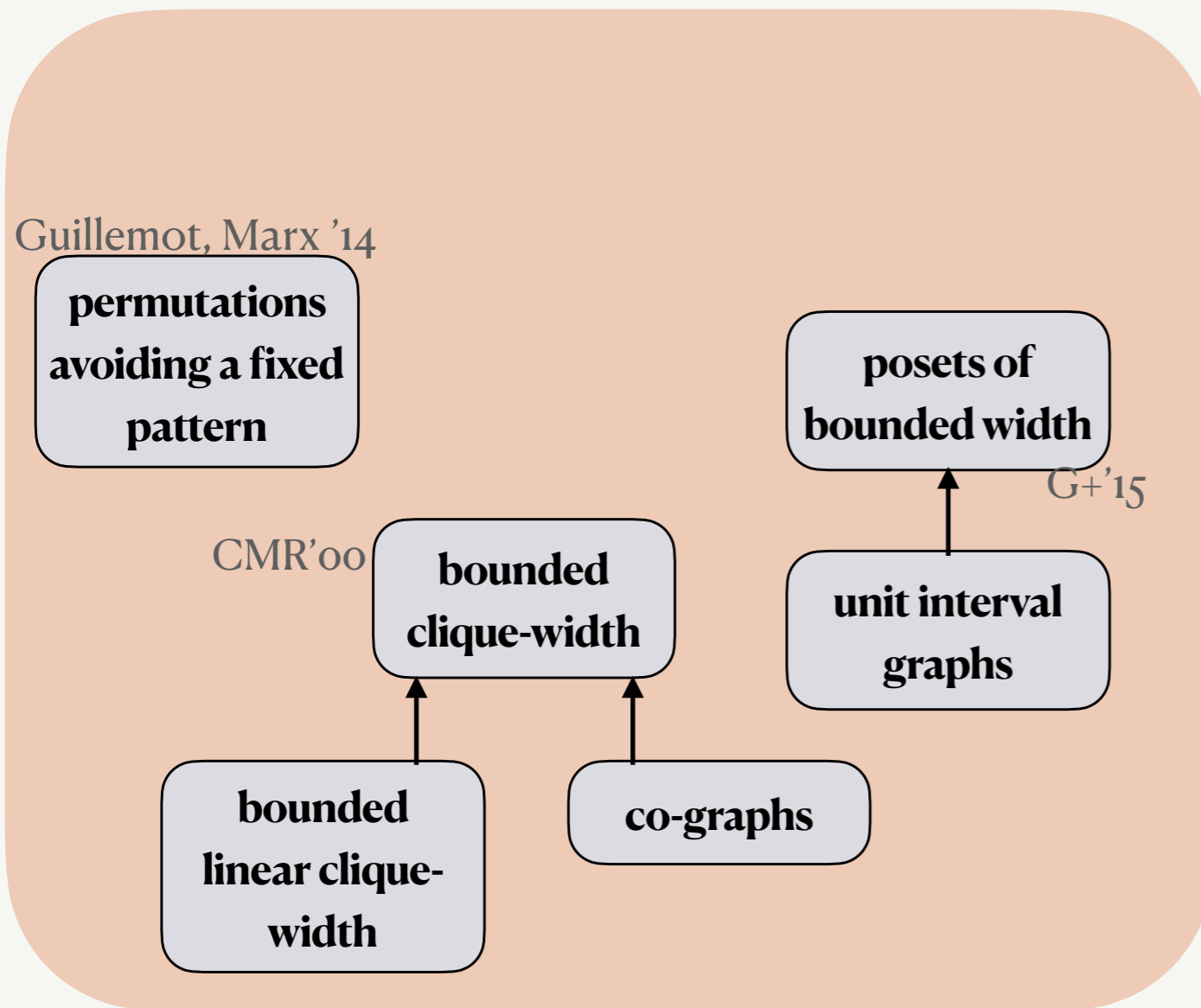
when a d -contraction sequence is given.

$$\Phi := \exists x_1 \exists x_2 \cdots \exists x_k \forall u \bigvee_{1 \leq i \leq k} ((x_i = u) \vee E(x_i, u))$$

$\leadsto G \models \Phi$ iff G has a dominating set of size k .

FO-model checking is FPT [BKTW'20]

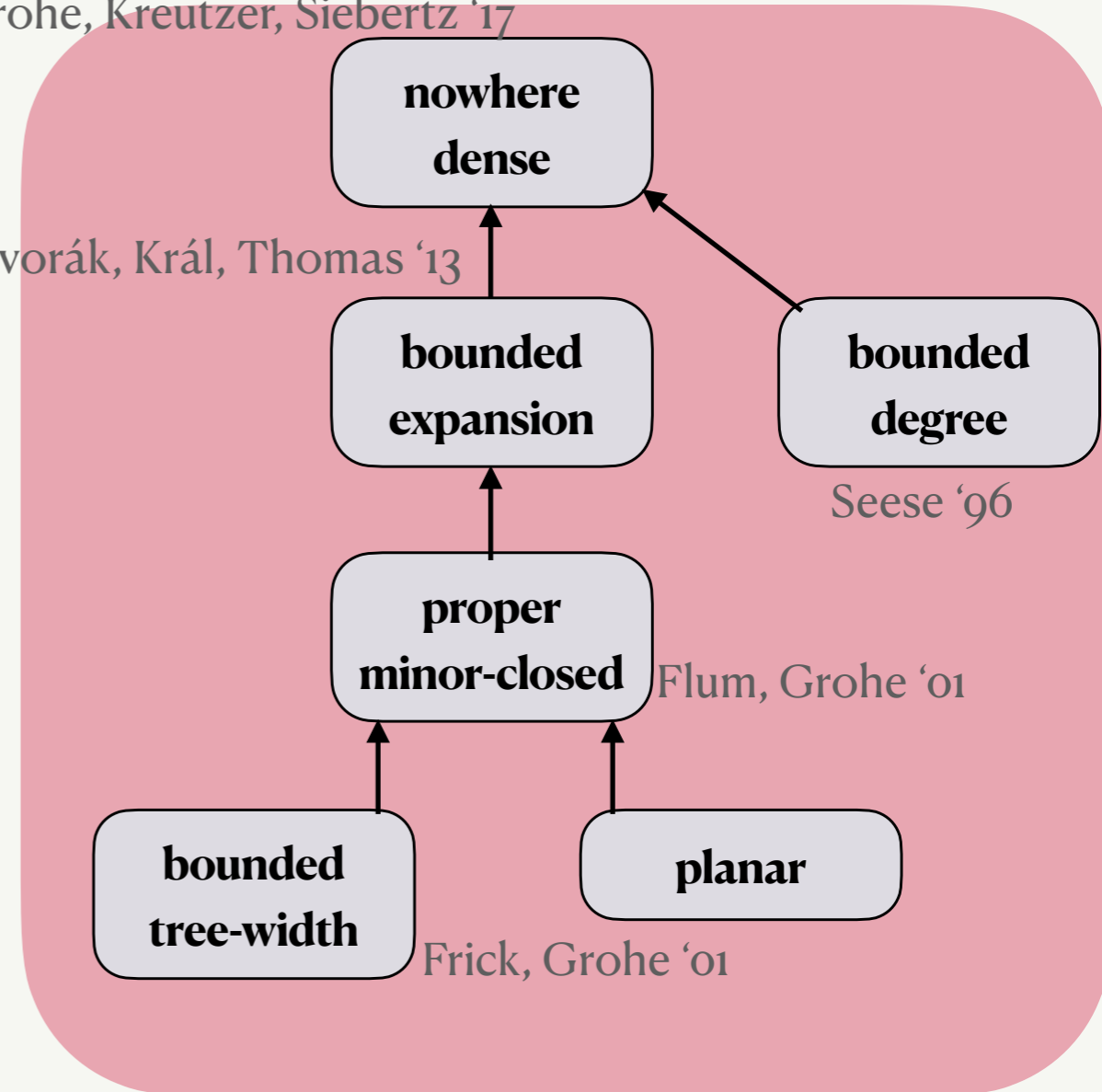
dense classes



sparse classes

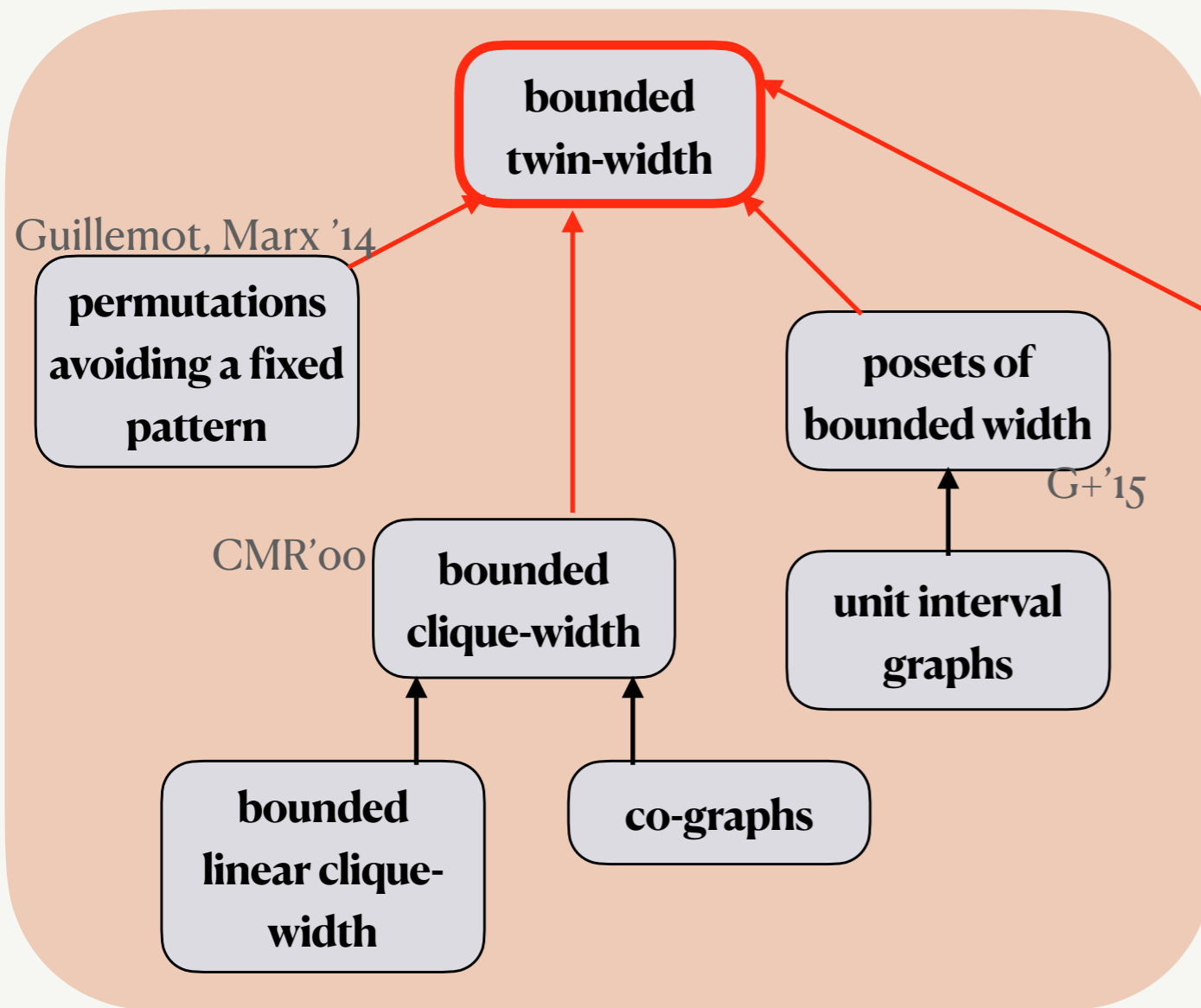
Grohe, Kreutzer, Siebertz '17

Dvorák, Král, Thomas '13

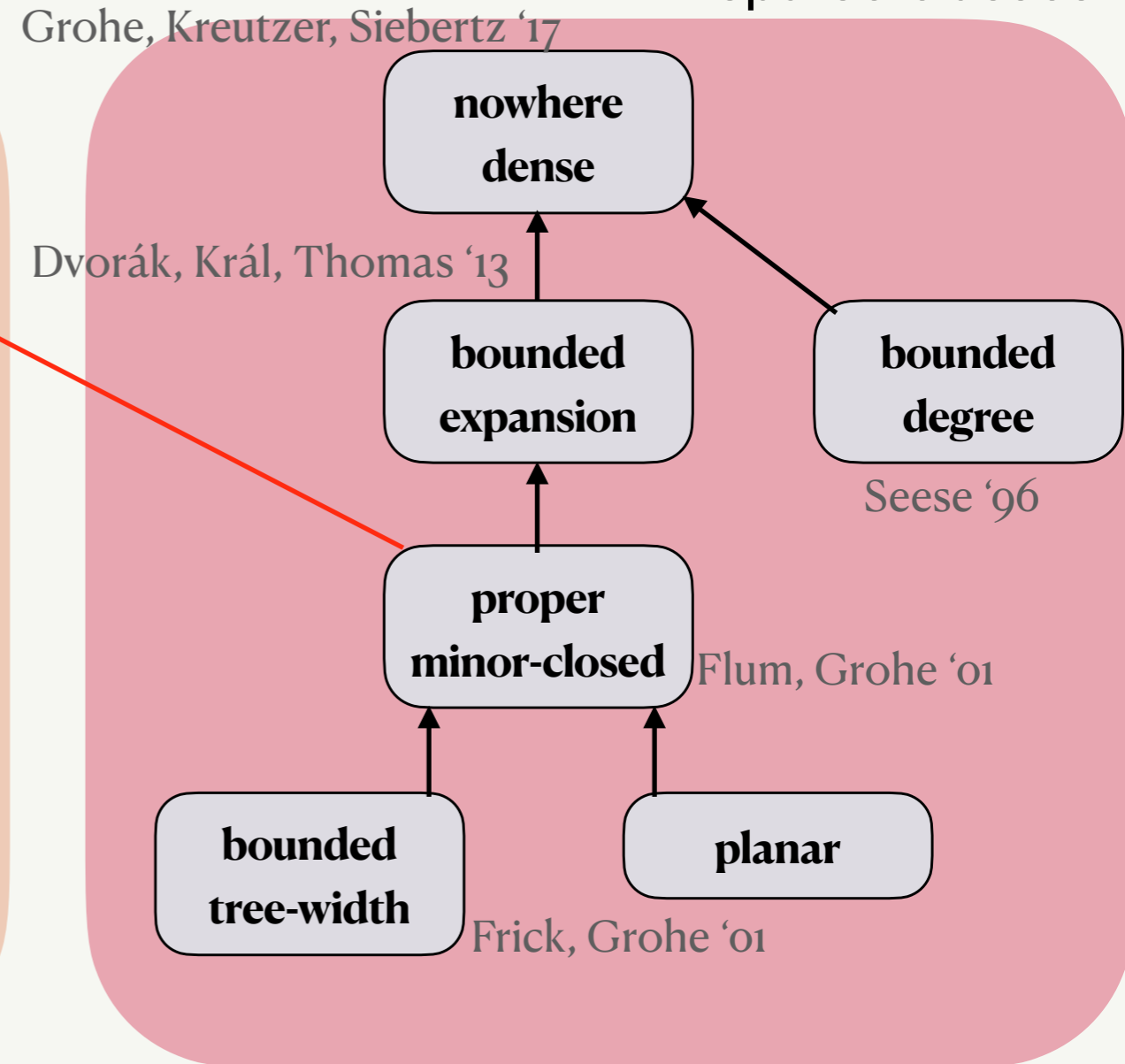


FO-model checking is FPT [BKTW'20]

dense classes



sparse classes



**FO model checking
algorithm when a d-
partition sequence is given**

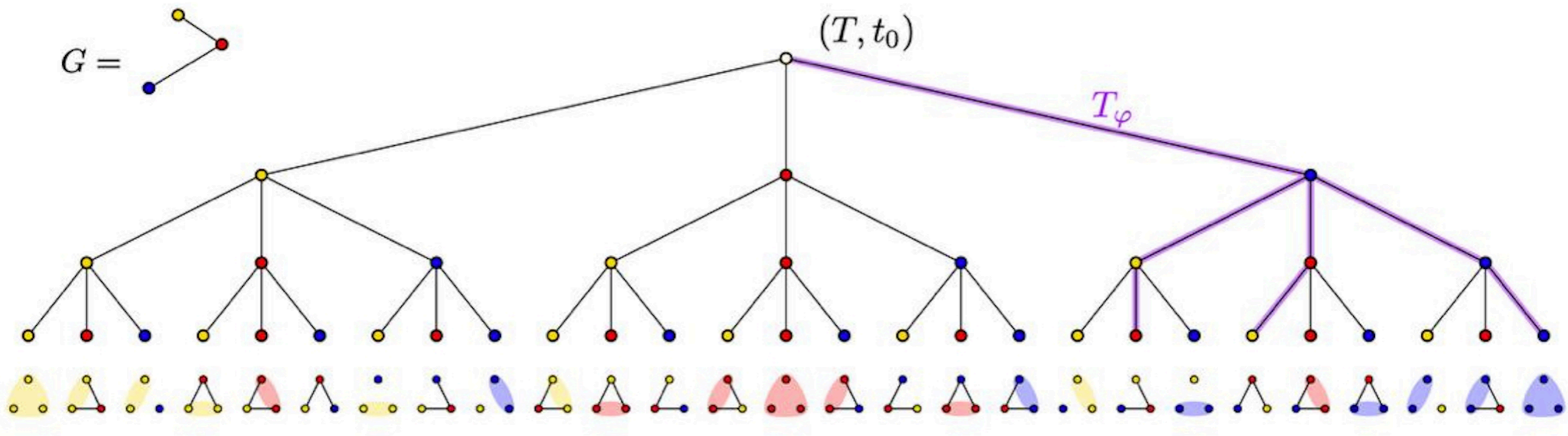
Prenex Normal Form

$$\varphi = Q_1x_1Q_2x_2\cdots Q_\ell x_\ell\phi^*$$

- each Q_i is a non-negated quantifier (\forall, \exists)
- ϕ^* is a quantifier-free sentence; a boolean combination of $(x_i = x_j)$ and $E(x_i, x_j)$
- Any FO-sentence of quantifier rank q can be rewritten as a prenex sentence of depth $f(q)$ for some f .
- We assume that the FO sentence we want to test is given in prenex form.

ℓ -Morphism Tree (Game tree) in G

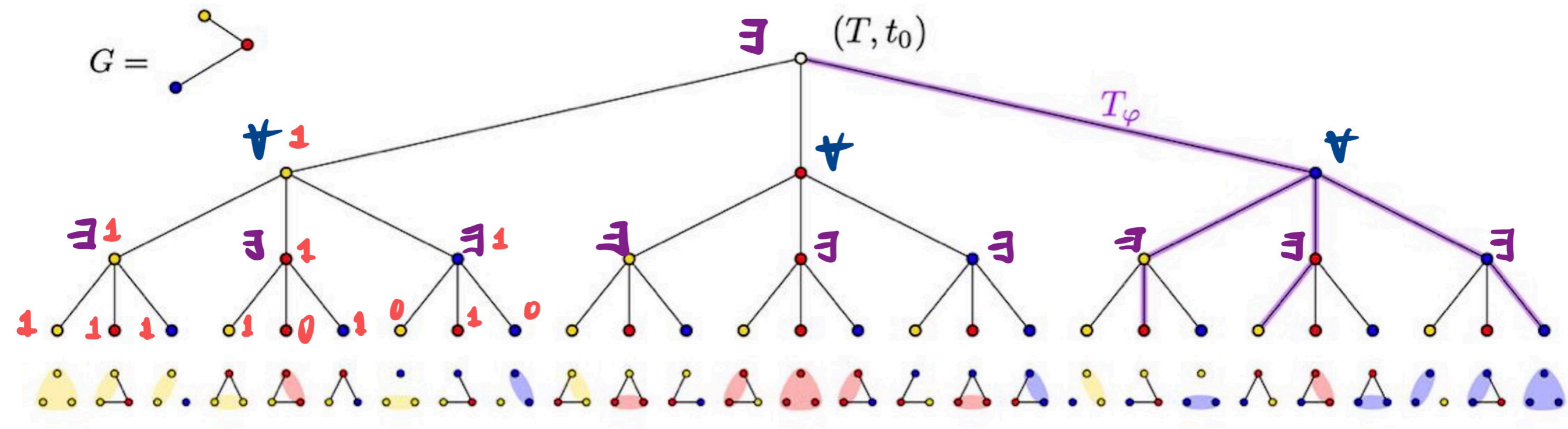
$$\varphi = \exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 (x_1 = x_2 \vee E(x_2, x_3))$$



- all possible ℓ -tuples of vertices can be described as a game tree rooted at ε , called a complete ℓ -morphism tree $MT_\ell(G)$.
- For any prenex sentence φ of depth ℓ , $G \models \varphi$ can be tested using $MT_\ell(G)$.

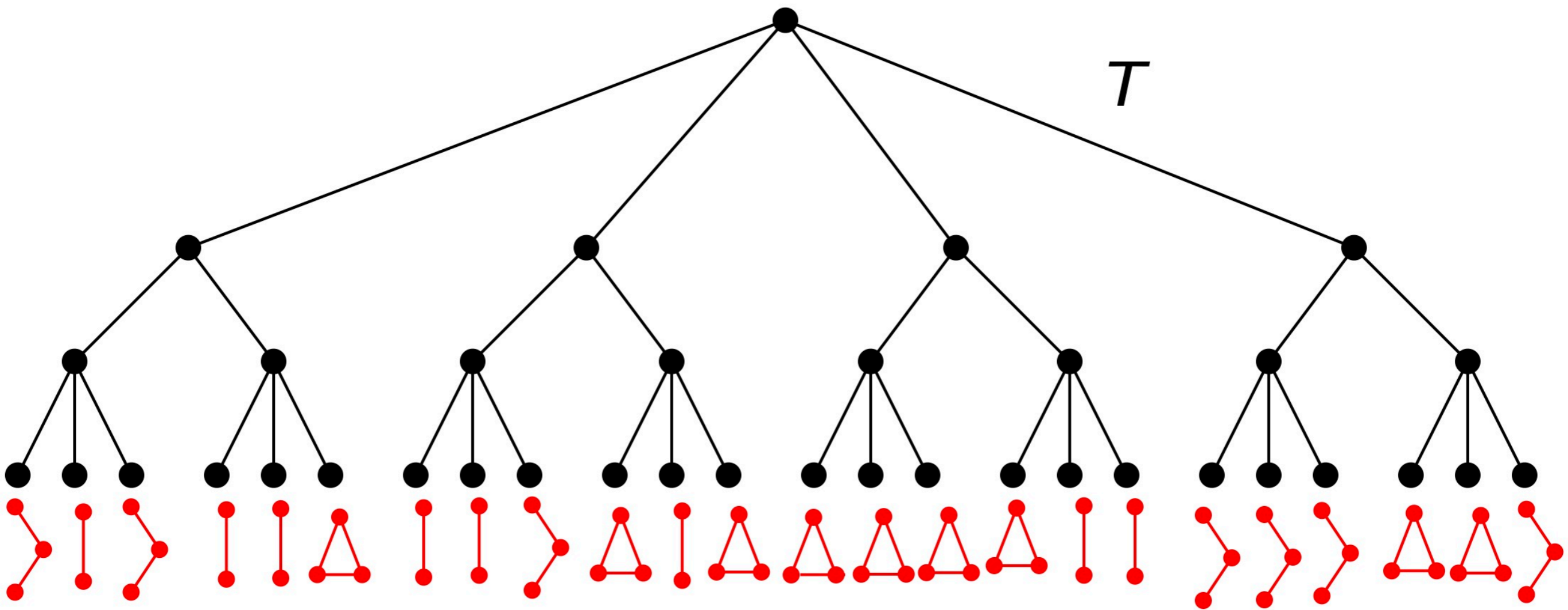
Testing $G \models \varphi$ using $MT_\ell(G)$

$$\varphi = \exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists x_3 (x_1 = x_2 \vee E(x_2, x_3))$$

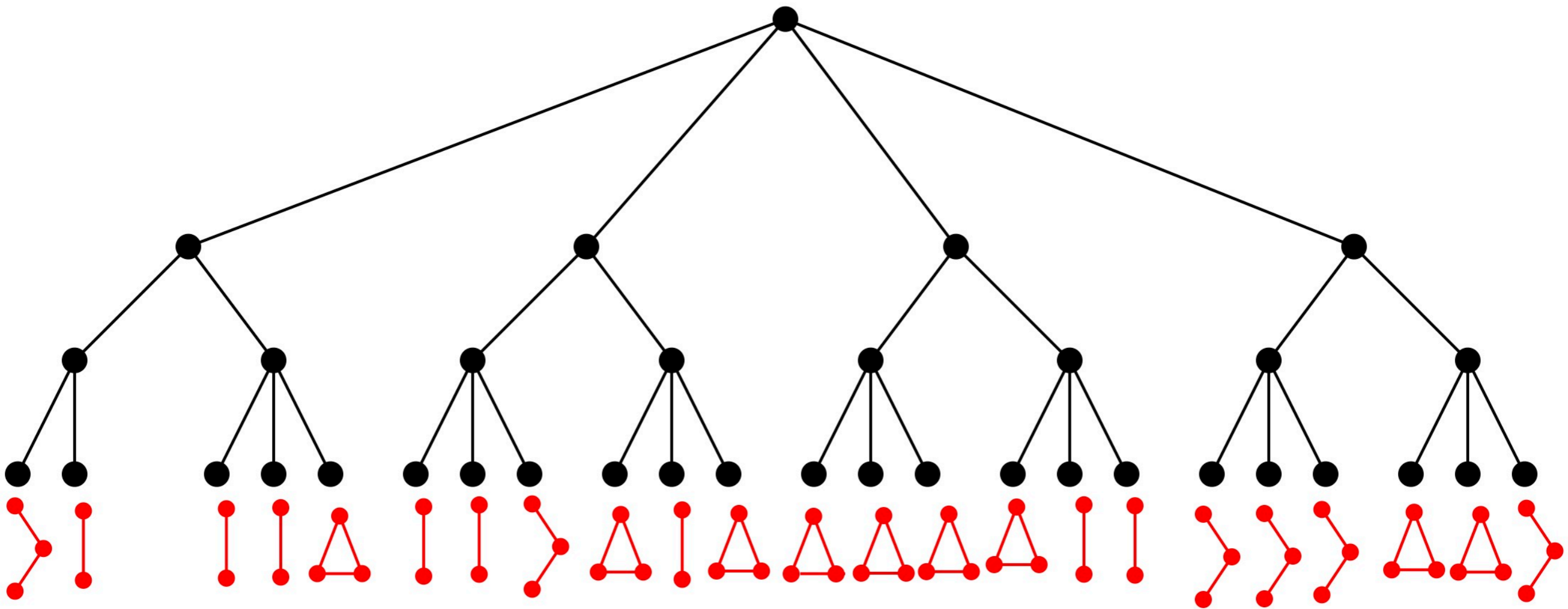


- $MT_\ell(G)$ has size n^ℓ . Let's reduce the size to make it more useful.

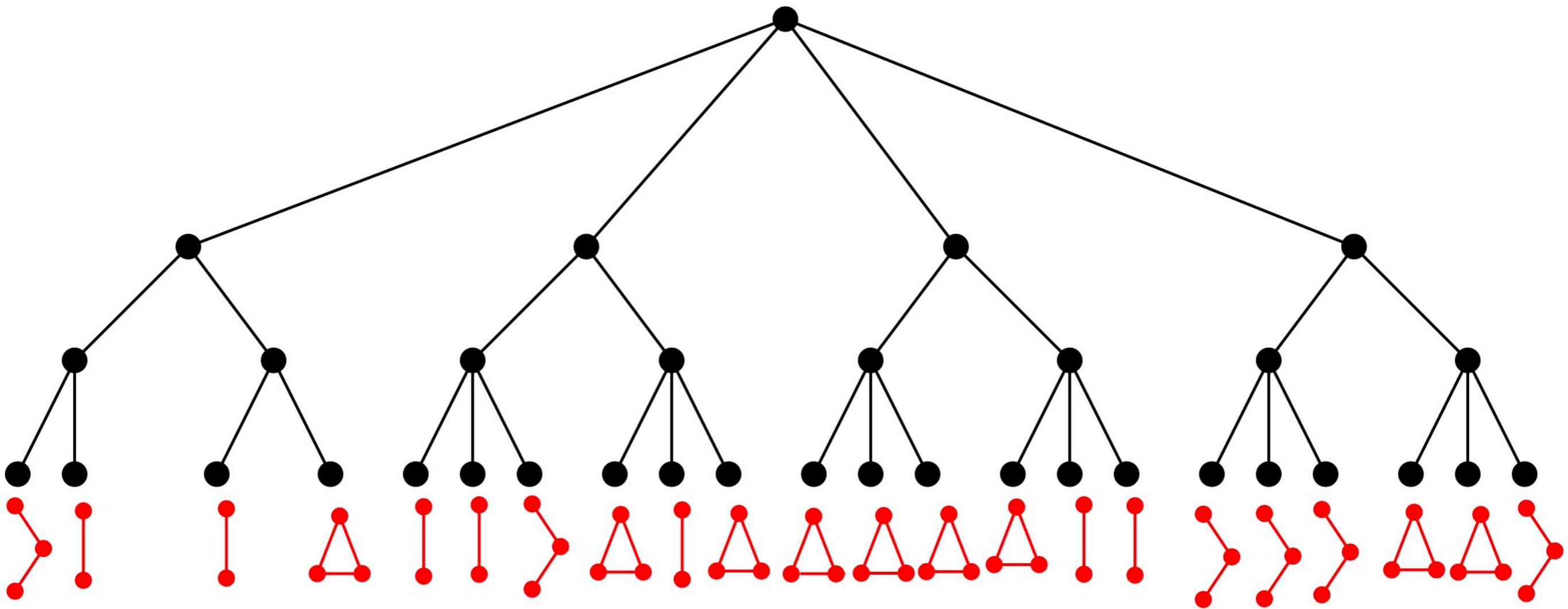
(Full) Reduction of ℓ -Morphism Tree



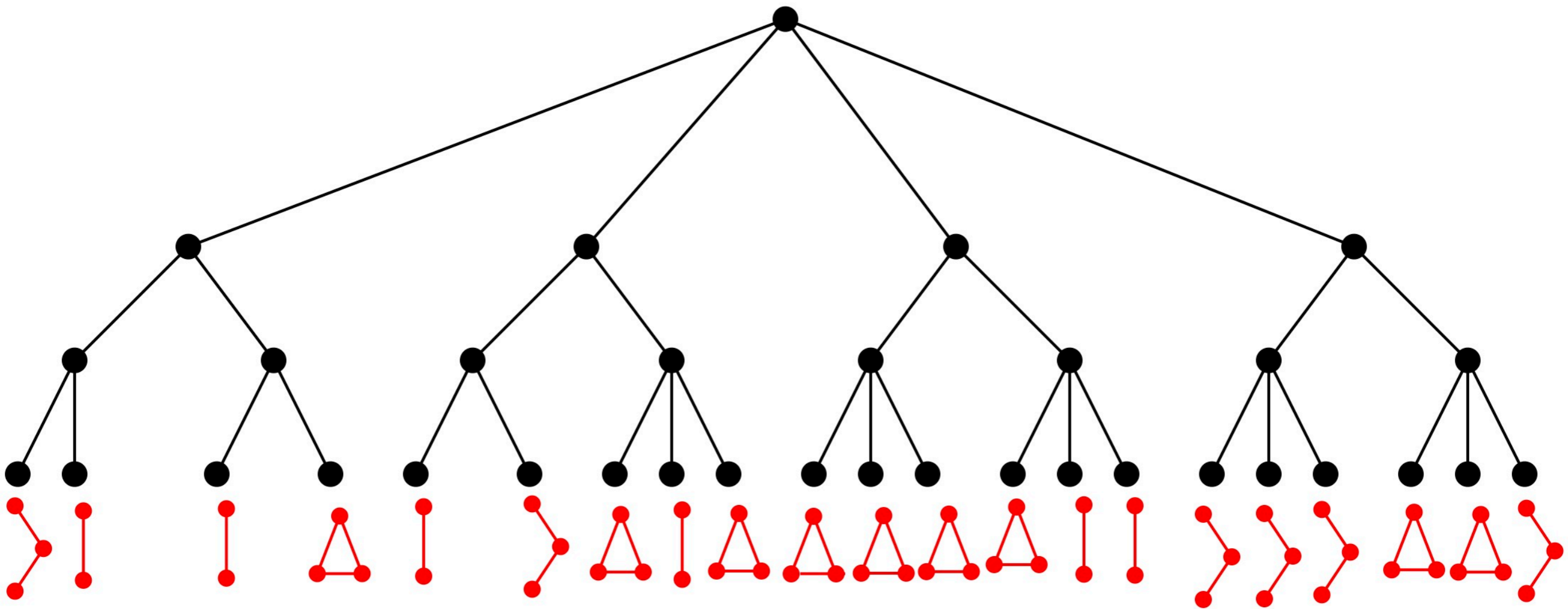
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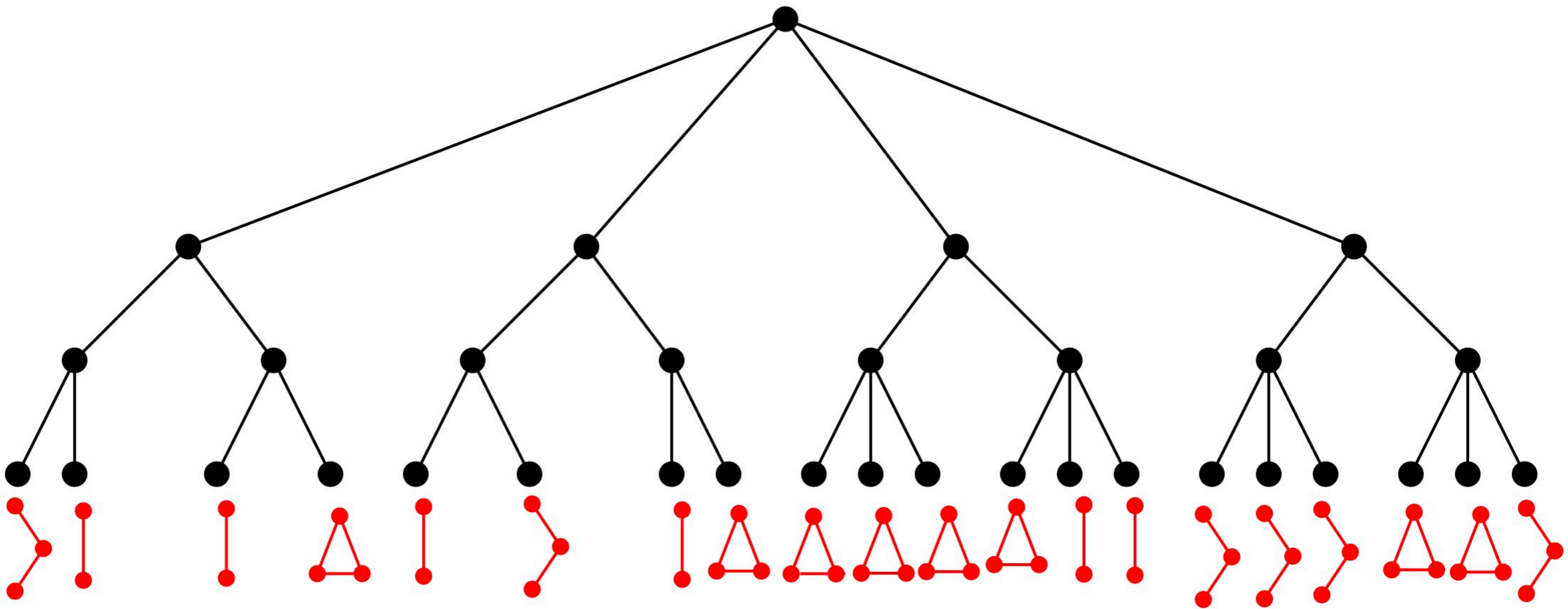
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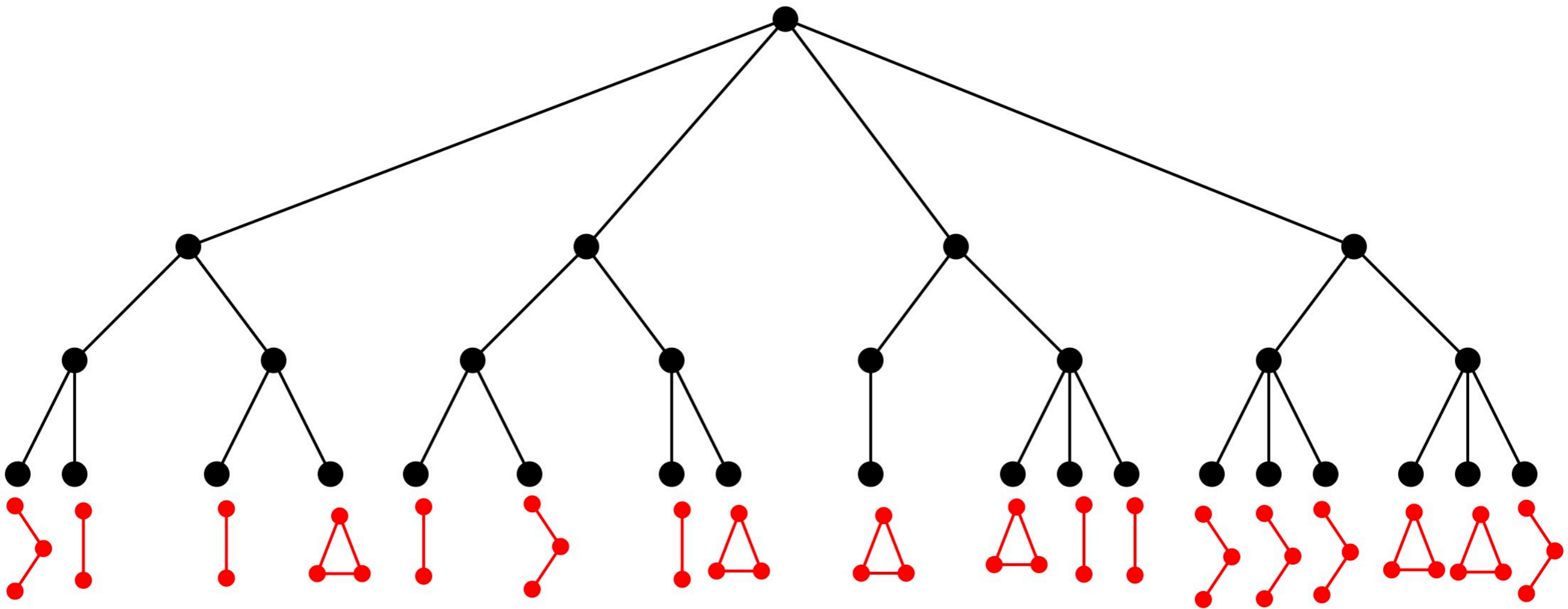
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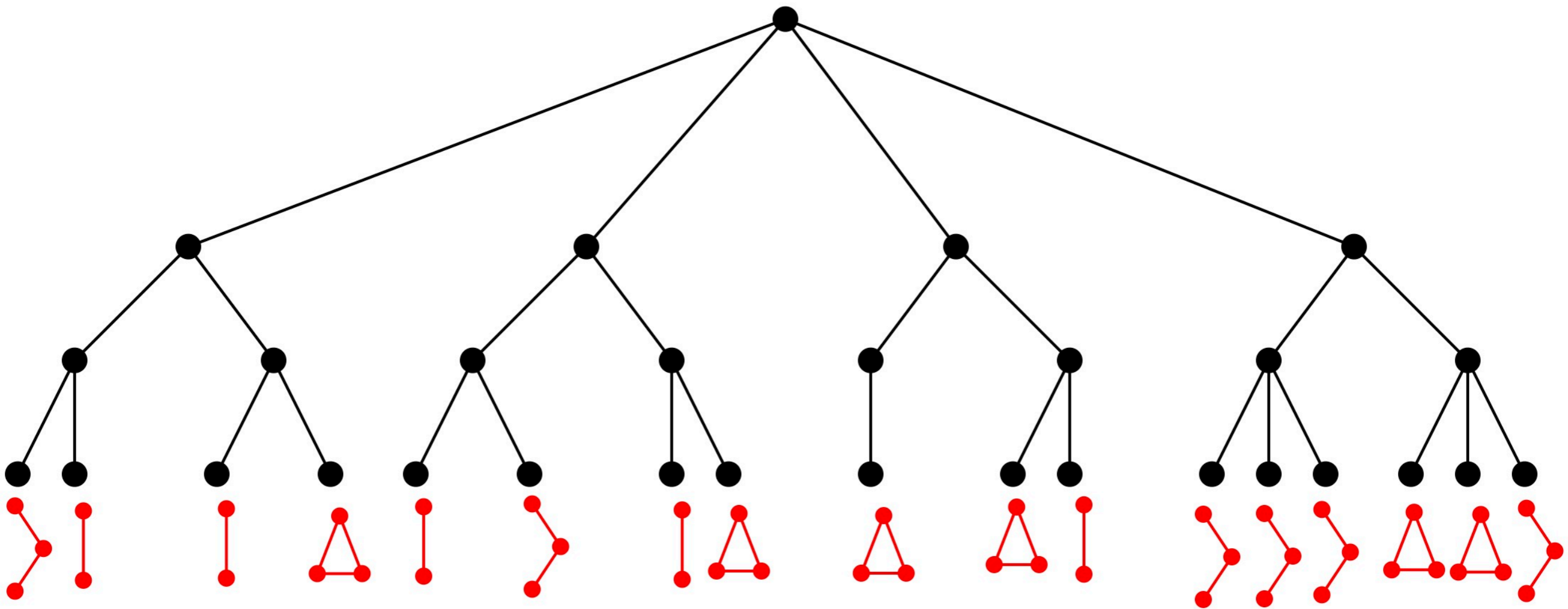
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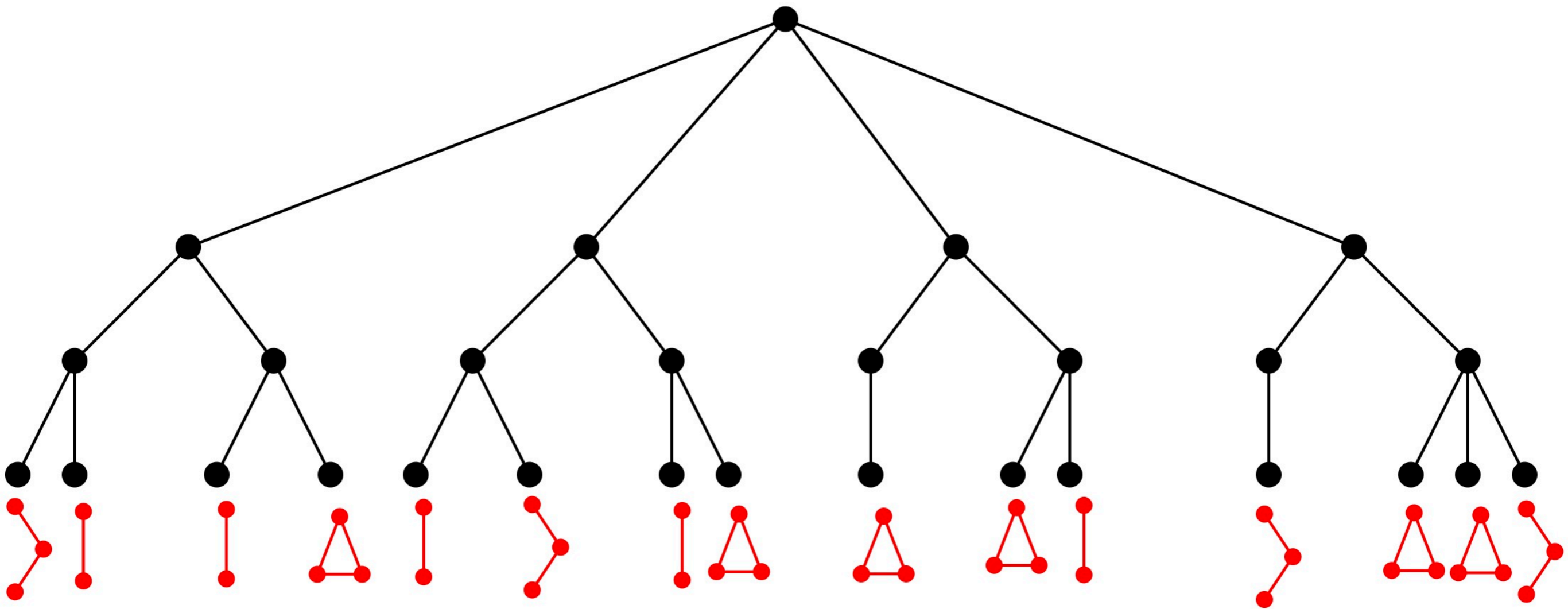
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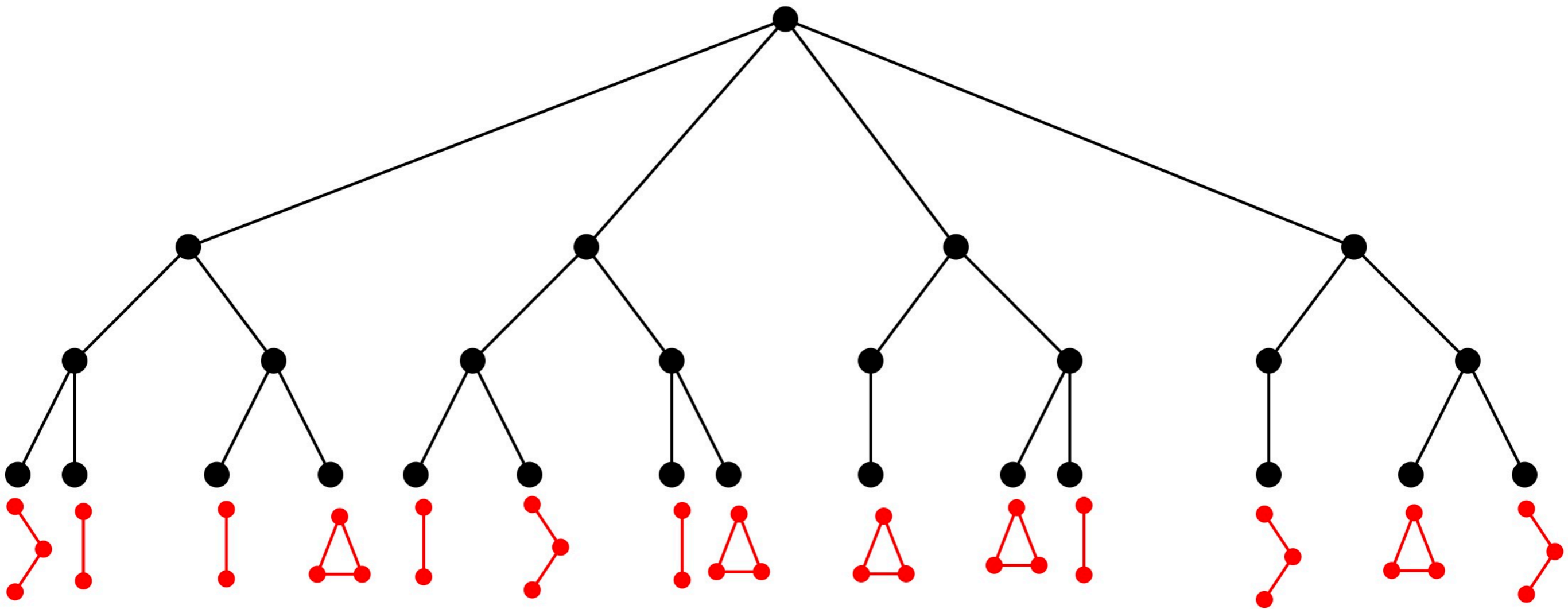
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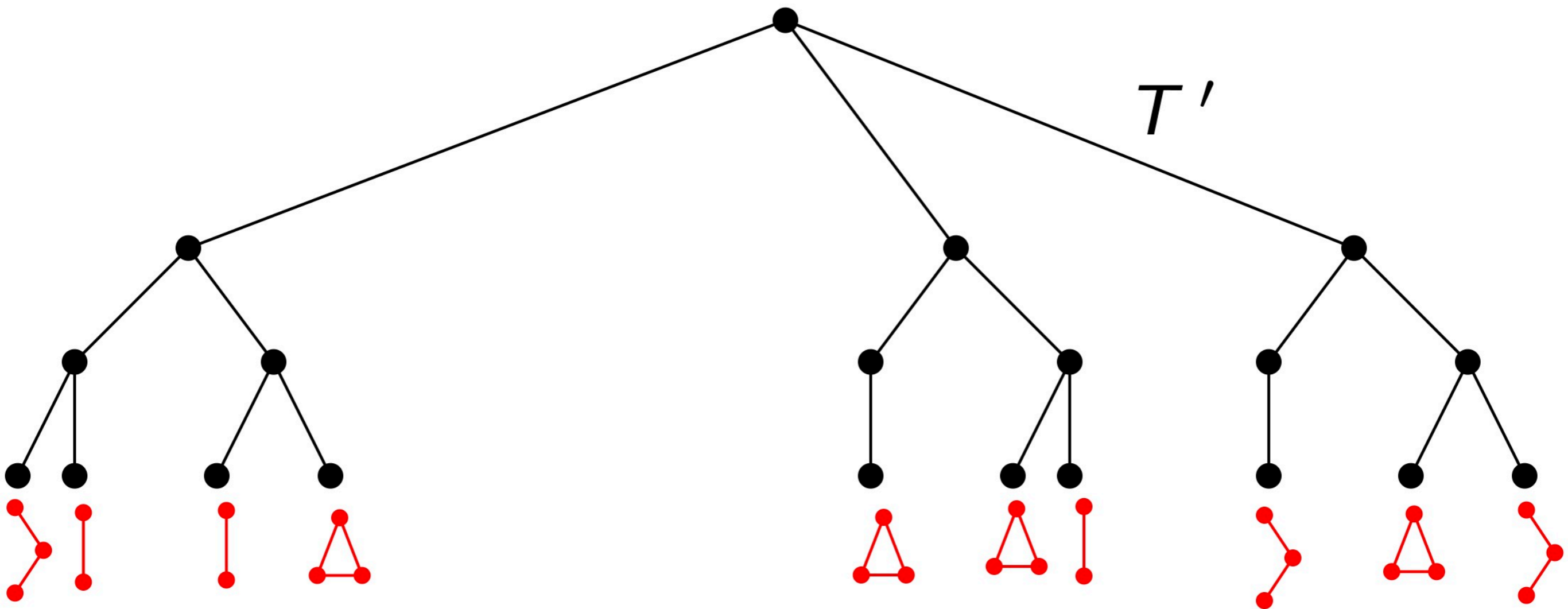
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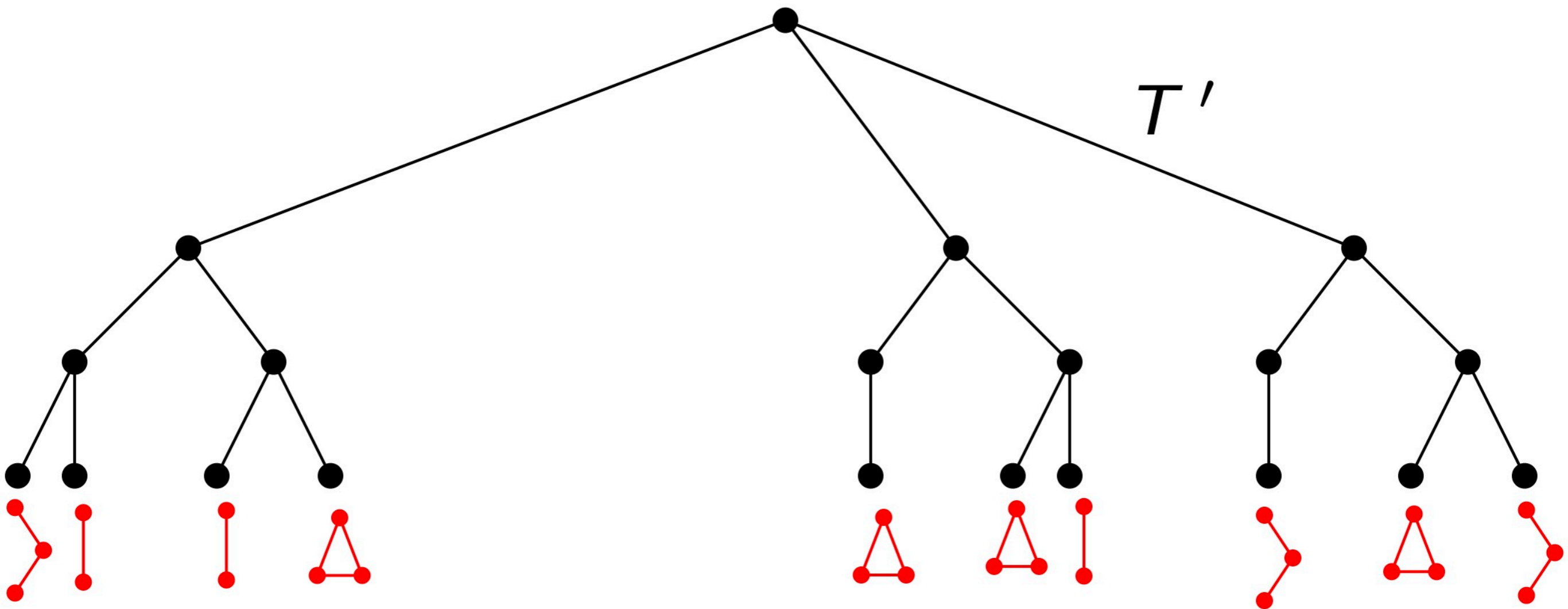
(Full) Reduction of ℓ -Morphism Tree



(Full) Reduction of ℓ -Morphism Tree



(Full) Reduction of ℓ -Morphism Tree



Full Reduction $MT'_\ell(G)$ of ℓ -Morphism Tree $MT_\ell(G)$

- The size of a full reduction $MT'_\ell(G)$ is bounded by a function of ℓ .
- If $MT'_\ell(G_1) = MT'_\ell(G_2) \rightarrow G_1$ and G_2 satisfies precisely the same set of prenex FO sentences of depth $\leq \ell$.

- In general, we cannot compute $MT'_\ell(G)$ efficiently.
- We show that $MT'_\ell(G)$ can be computed in time $f(d, \ell) \cdot n$ when a d-partition sequence is given.

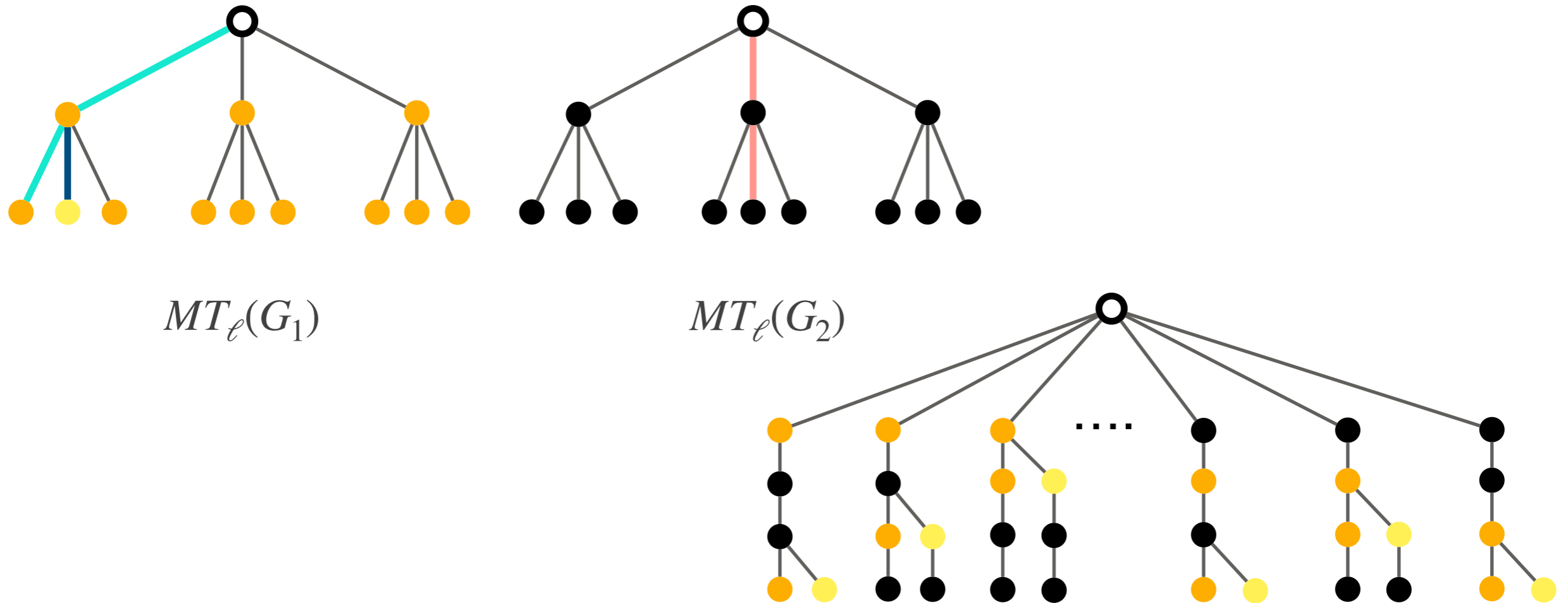
Strategy: first attempt

Maintain $MT'_\ell(G[X])$ per part $X \in \mathcal{P}$

- Following the d -partition sequence $\mathcal{P}_n, \dots, \mathcal{P}_1$
- At \mathcal{P}_i : maintain the list of $MT'_\ell(G[X])$ for each $X \in \mathcal{P}_i$
- At $\mathcal{P}_1 = \{V\}$: $MT'_\ell(G[V]) = MT'_\ell(G)$

Strategy: first attempt

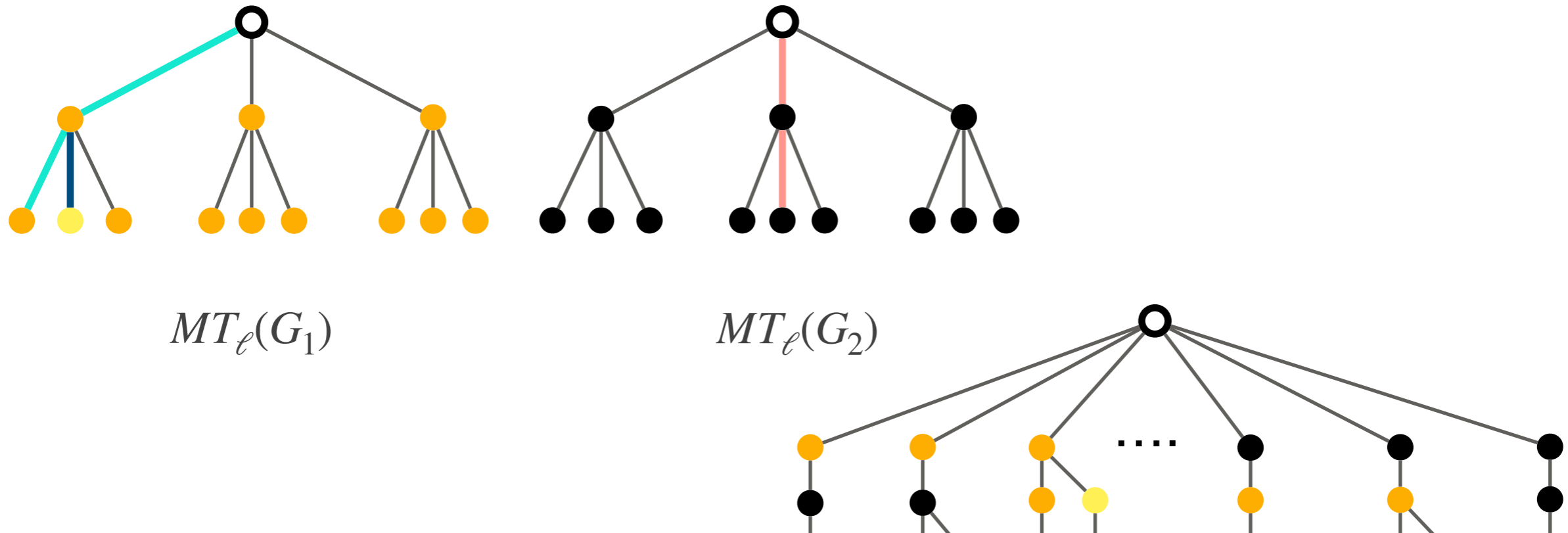
Maintain $MT'_\ell(G[X])$ per part $X \in \mathcal{P}$



$MT_\ell(G)$ can be obtained by “shuffling” all pairs of root-to-leaf paths and arranging them by prefix relations, then truncate all nodes of depth $> \ell$.

Strategy: first attempt

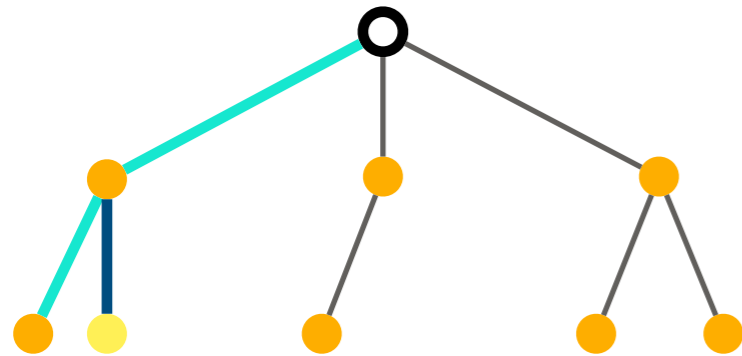
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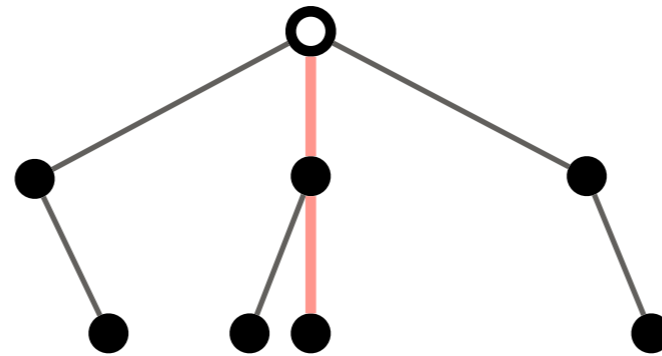
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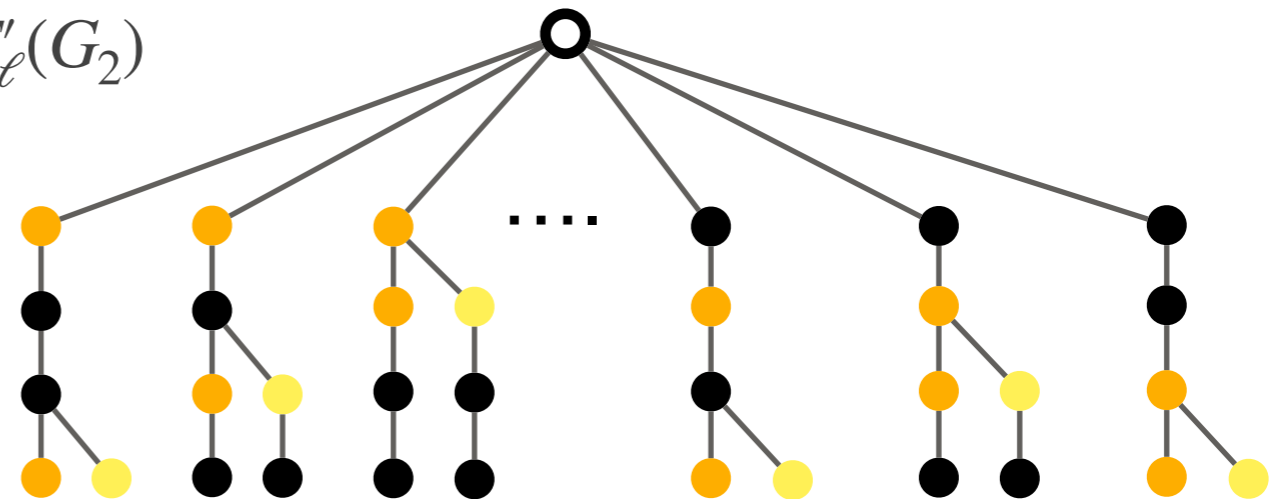
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$MT'_\ell(G_1)$



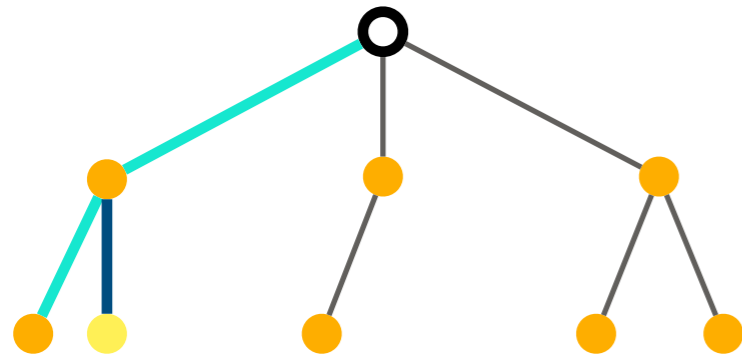
$MT'_\ell(G_2)$



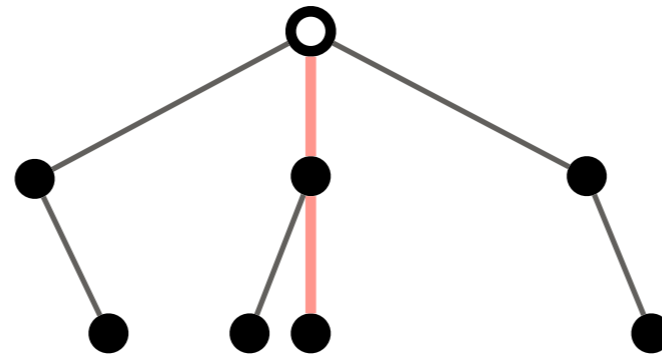
With ℓ -shuffle of (fully reduced) $MT'_\ell(G_1)$ and $MT'_\ell(G_2)$,
do we not lose information? That is,
 ℓ -shuffle of $MT'_\ell(G_1)$ and $MT'_\ell(G_2)$ is a reduction of $MT_\ell(G)$?
Yes, if it is fully (non-)adjacent between $V(G_1)$ and $V(G_2)$.

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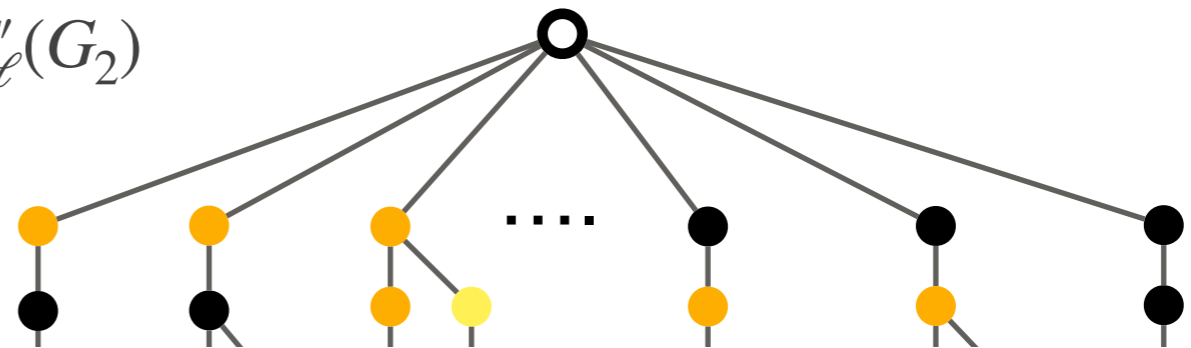
Maintain $MT'_\ell(G[X])$ per part $X \in \mathcal{P}$



$MT'_\ell(G_1)$



$MT'_\ell(G_2)$



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Strategy: first attempt

Maintain $MT'_\ell(G[X])$ per part $X \in \mathcal{P}$

“ ℓ -shuffle” $MT'_\ell(G_1)$ and $MT'_\ell(G_2)$ and reduce the obtained ℓ -morphism tree.

→ By doing this, we do not lose any information for $MT_\ell(G_1 \oplus G_2)$ (or $MT_\ell(G_1 \otimes G_2)$).

→ i.e. ℓ -shuffle of $MT'_\ell(G_1)$ and $MT'_\ell(G_2)$ is a reduction of the full morphism-tree $MT_\ell(G)$

→ This works for 0-partition sequence (i.e. cographs, **but not with d -partition sequence in general.**

Strategy

Maintain $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}, X)$ per part $X \in \mathcal{P}$

$MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}, X)$ concerns only the game move (a_1, \dots, a_ℓ) in $(X_1, \dots, X_\ell) \in \mathcal{P}^\ell$ s.t.

- $X_1 = X$
- $\text{dist}_{G_{\mathcal{P}}}(X, X_i) \leq 3^\ell$ (minus some technical condition to guarantee an efficient update of the $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}, X)$'s after contraction)

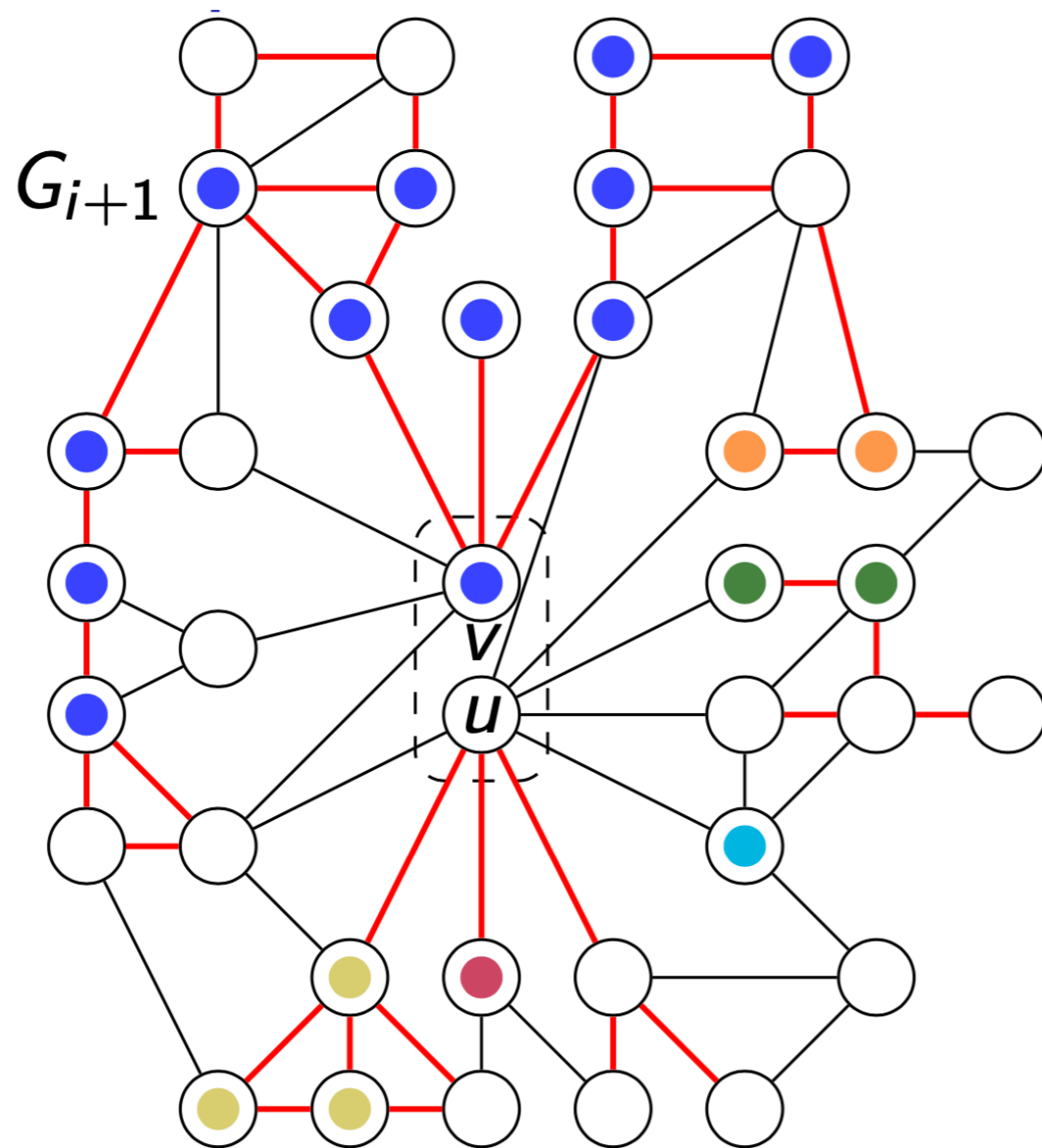
To reduce to $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}, X)$, the isomorphism between two siblings take into account the membership in parts of \mathcal{P} .

The size of $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}, X)$ is bounded by some function $h(\ell, d)$ as the number of distinct parts in the radius 3^ℓ -ball centered at X is bounded ($\leq d^{3^\ell} + 1$).

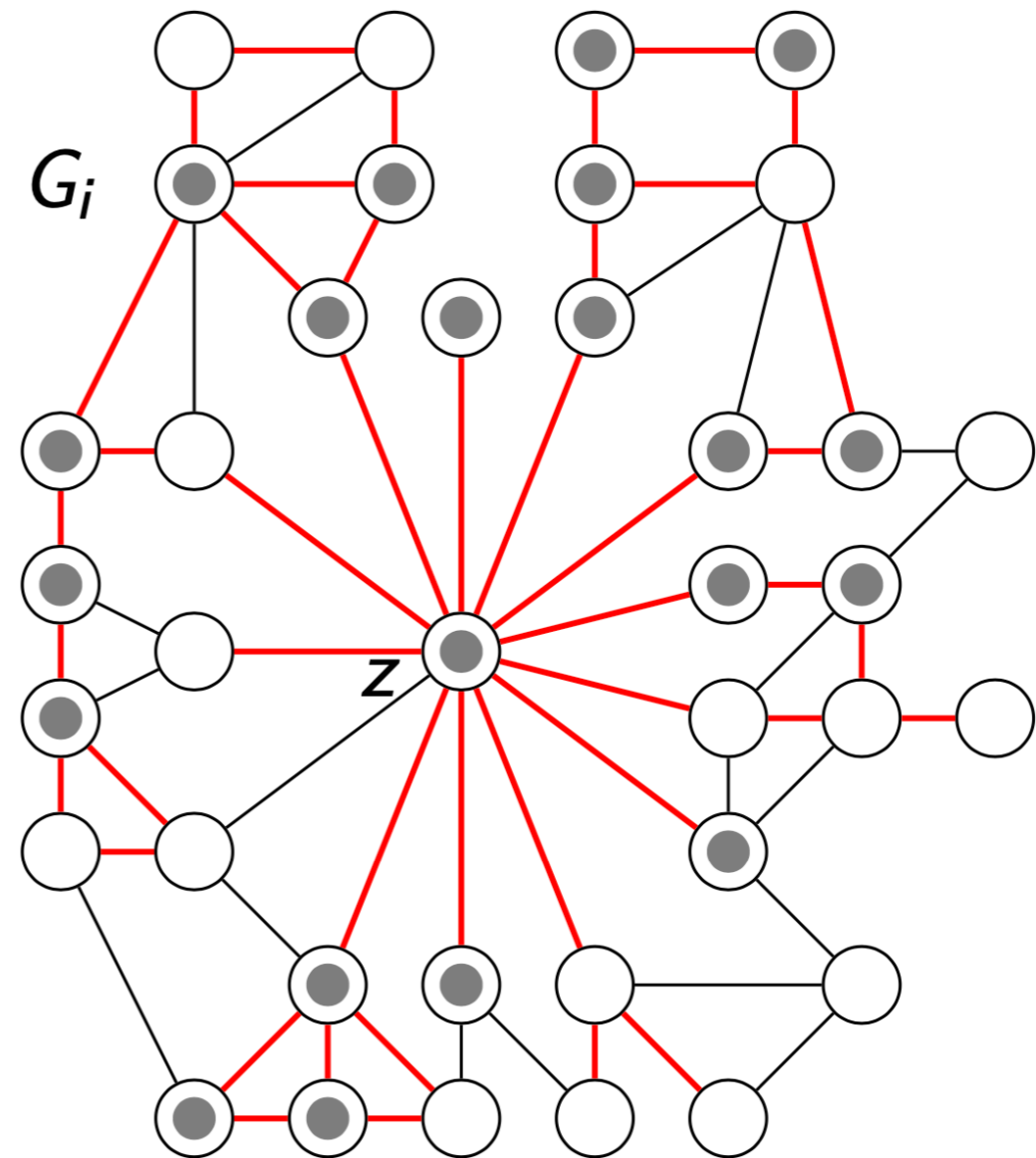
Strategy: update from \mathcal{P}_{i+1} to \mathcal{P}_i

Maintain $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}, X)$ per part $X \in \mathcal{P}$

$X_u, X_v \in \mathcal{P}_{i+1}$ are merged to form a part X_z , to yield \mathcal{P}_i



$G_{\mathcal{P}_{i+1}}$ induced by the ball R

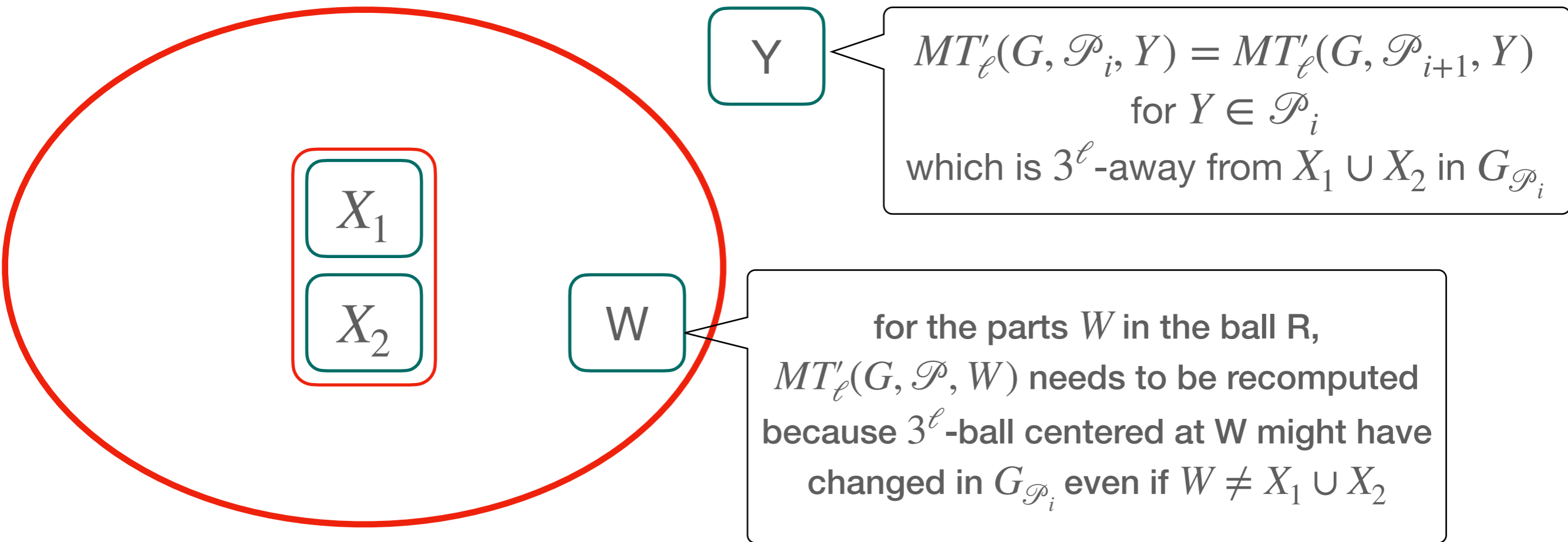


radius- 3^ℓ ball R
centered at $X_1 \cup X_2$ in the red graph $G_{\mathcal{P}_i}$

Strategy: update from \mathcal{P}_{i+1} to \mathcal{P}_i

Maintain $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}, X)$ per part $X \in \mathcal{P}$

radius- 3^ℓ ball R centered at $X_1 \cup X_2$ in the red graph $G_{\mathcal{P}_i}$



To compute $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_i, W)$, we ℓ -shuffle over the parts Z in R

‘sufficiently far’ from W in $G_{\mathcal{P}_{i+1}}$:

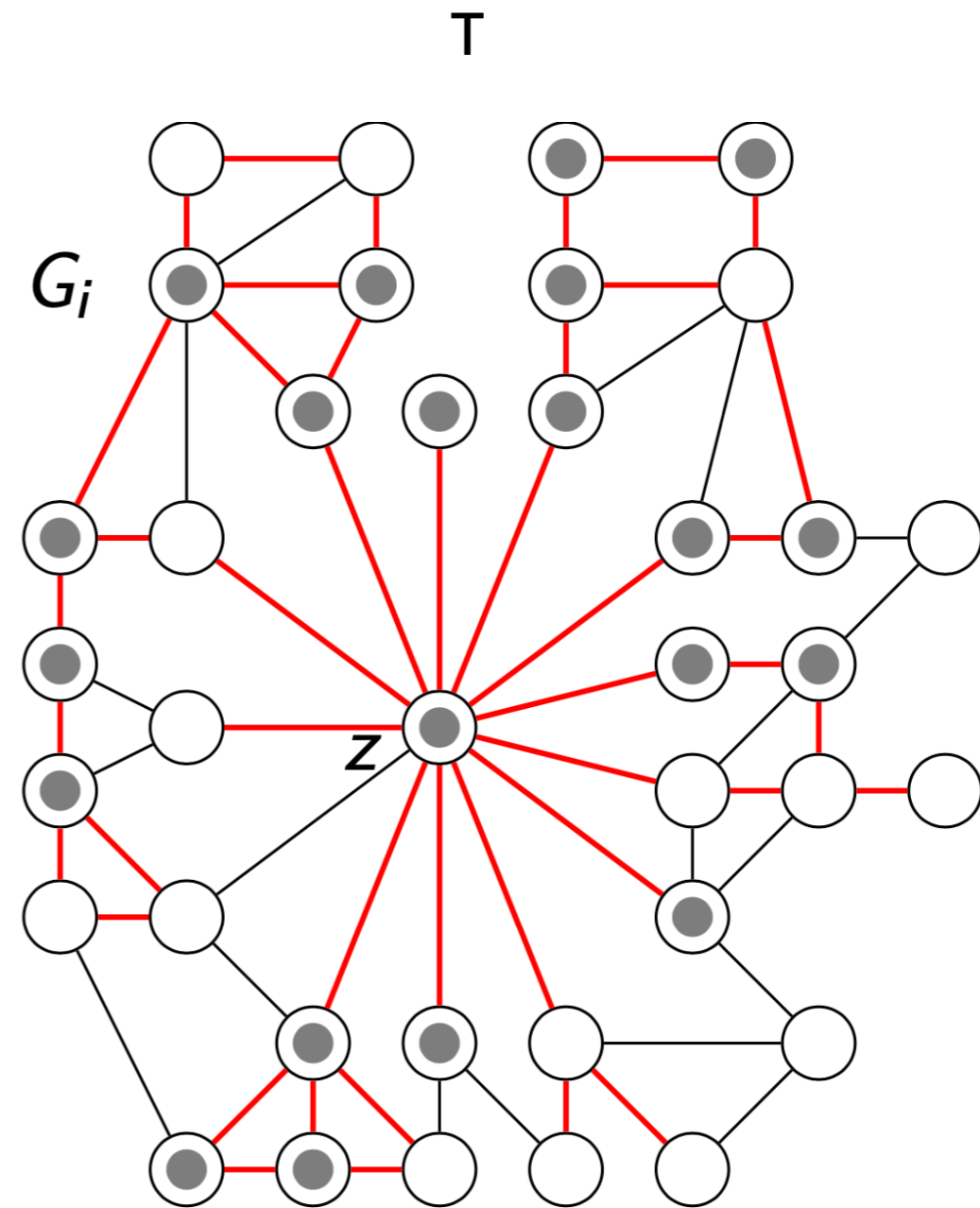
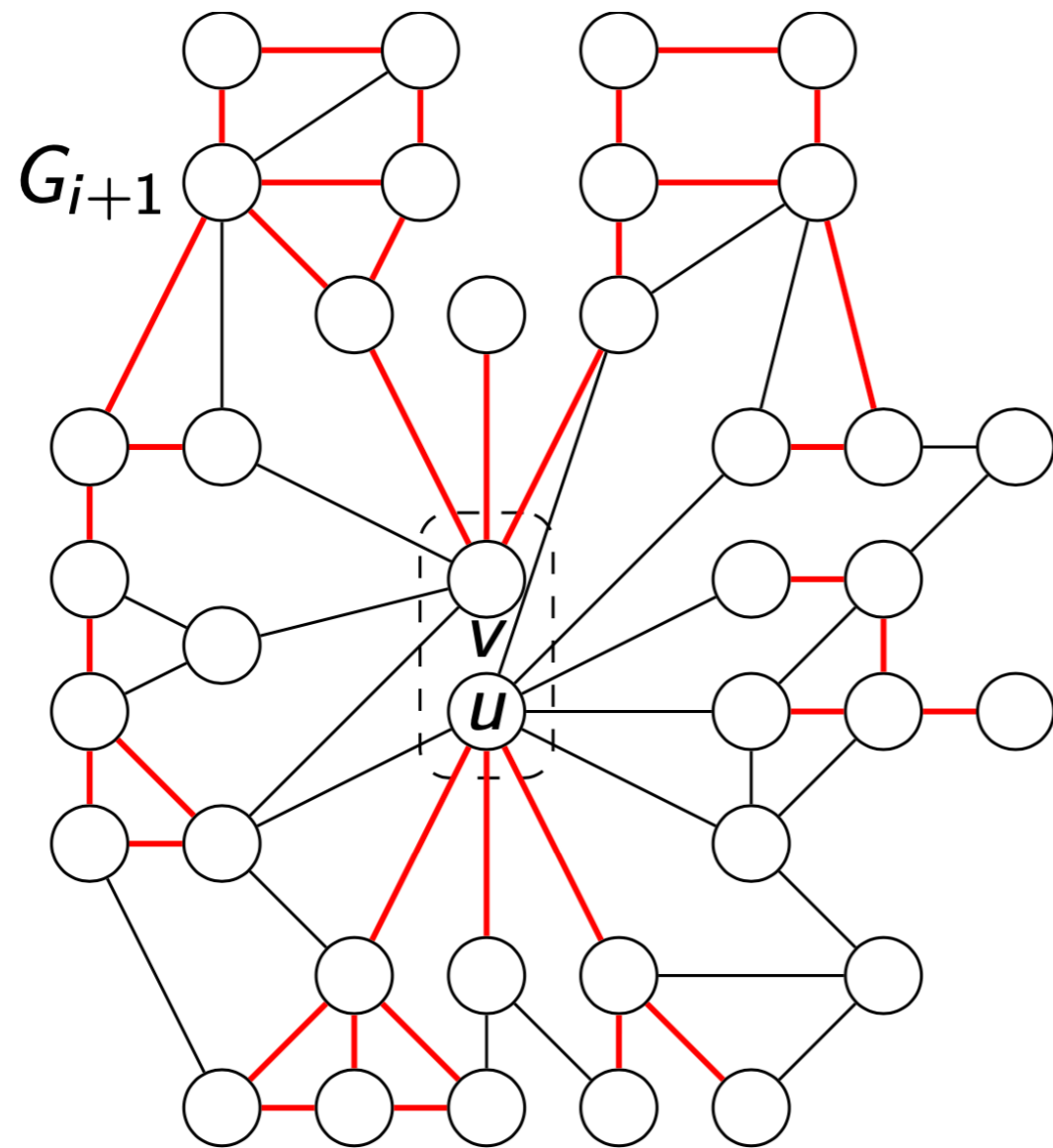
the information from $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_{i+1}, Z)$ for Z close to W are already implemented
in $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_{i+1}, W)$.

Recap of FO model checking algorithm

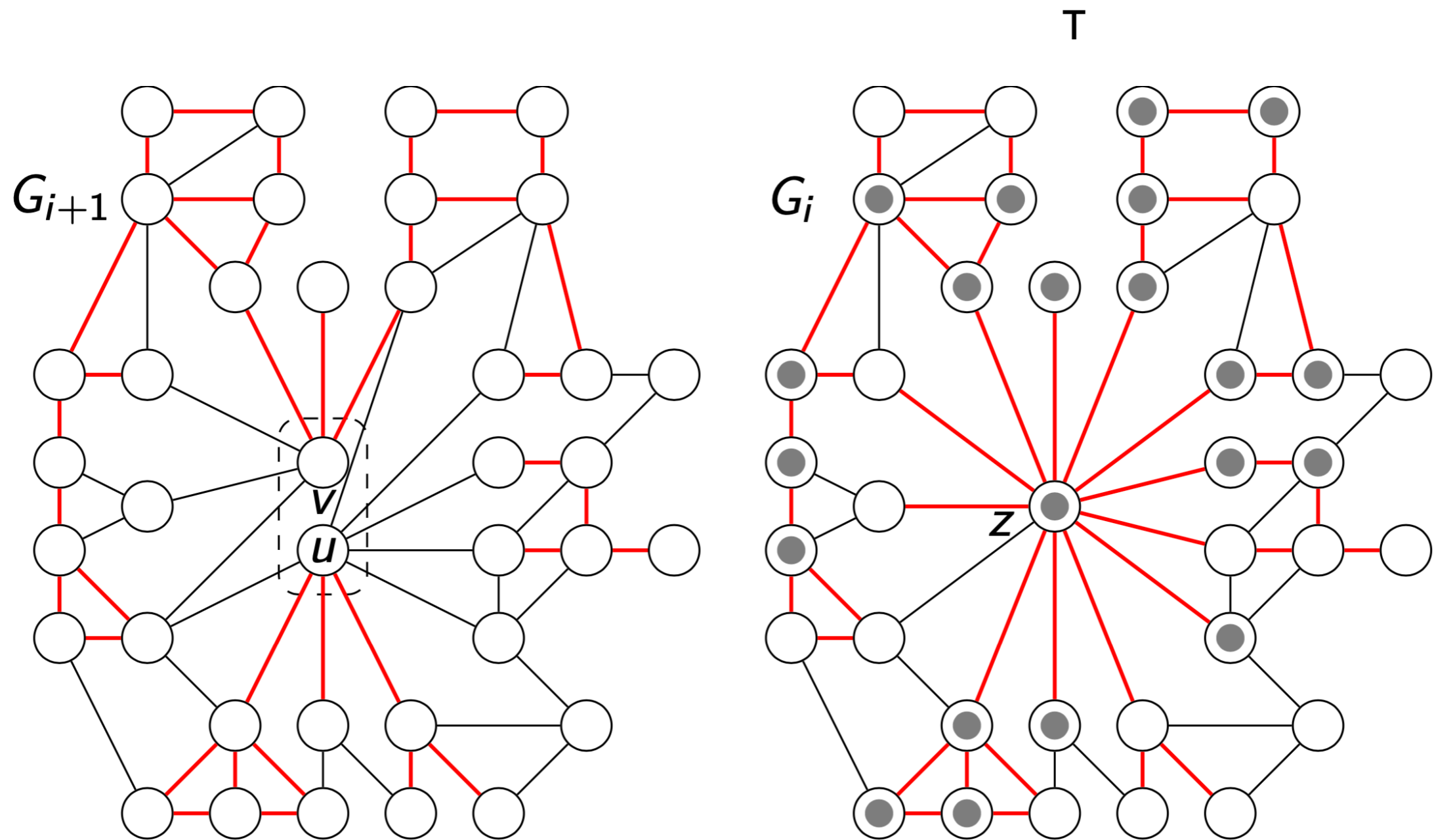
For φ in prenex form of depth ℓ ; almost true version

- Follow the d -partition sequence $\mathcal{P}_n, \mathcal{P}_{n-1}, \dots, \mathcal{P}_1$.
- Initialization for \mathcal{P}_n : $G_{\mathcal{P}_n}$ is edgeless. The fully reduced ℓ -morphism tree $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_n, \{v\})$ is a length- ℓ path, each node corresponding to $(v), (v, v), \dots$ and (v, \dots, v)
- Assume for \mathcal{P}_{i+1} : $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_{i+1}, X)$ is given for each $X \in \mathcal{P}_{i+1}$
- $\mathcal{P}_i = \mathcal{P}_{i+1} \setminus \{X_1, X_2\} \cup \{X_1 \cup X_2\}$:
 - $R = N_{G_{\mathcal{P}_i}}^{3^\ell}(X_1 \cup X_2)$
 - If $Y \notin R$: $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_i, X) := MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_{i+1}, X)$
 - If $Y \in R$: $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_i, Z)$ is the ℓ -shuffle of all $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_i, W)$ for $W \in R$ which was far from Z in $G_{\mathcal{P}_{i+1}}$.
- Check φ on $MT'_\ell(G, \mathcal{P}_1, V(G))$.

Example: k -Independent Set

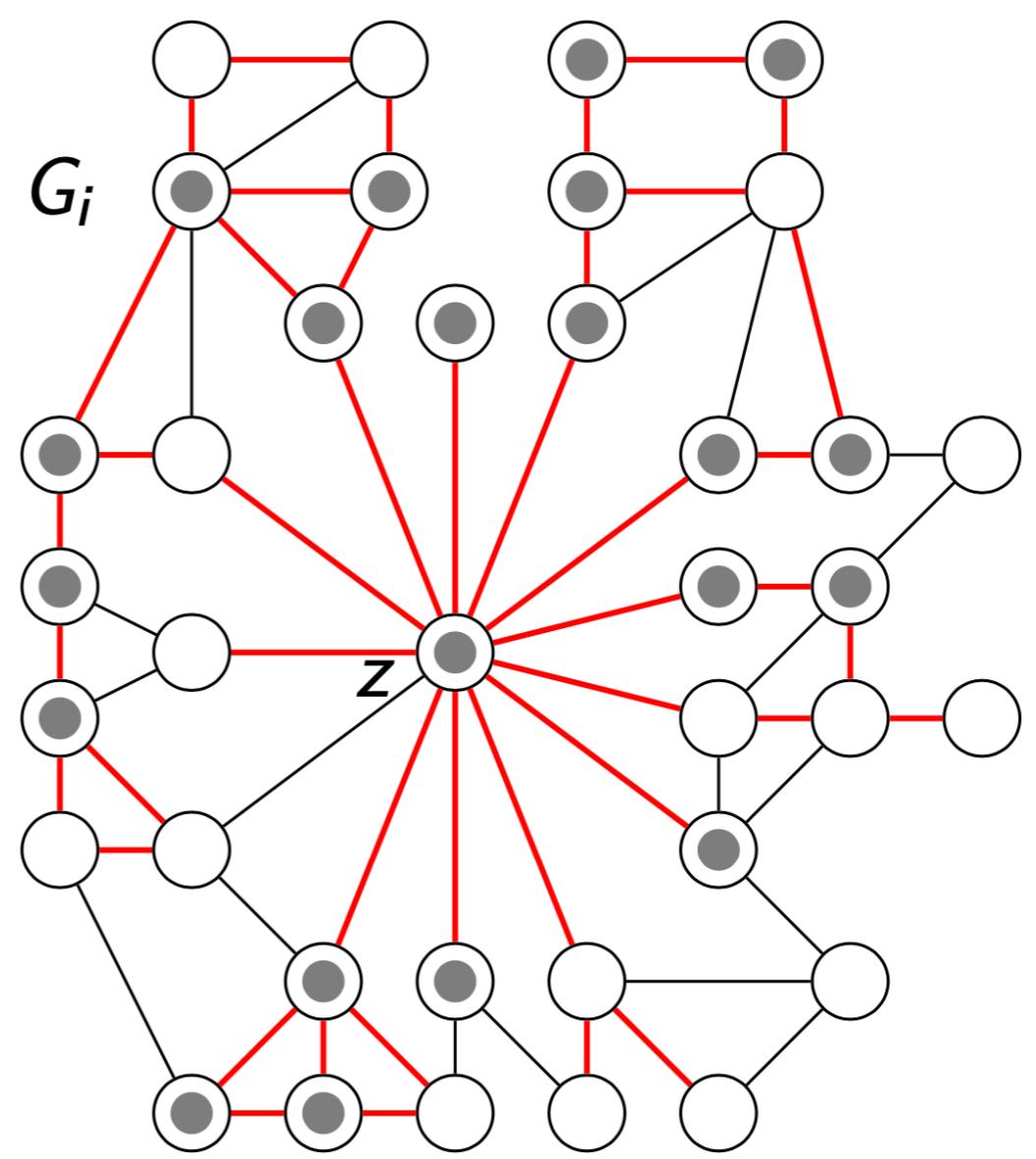
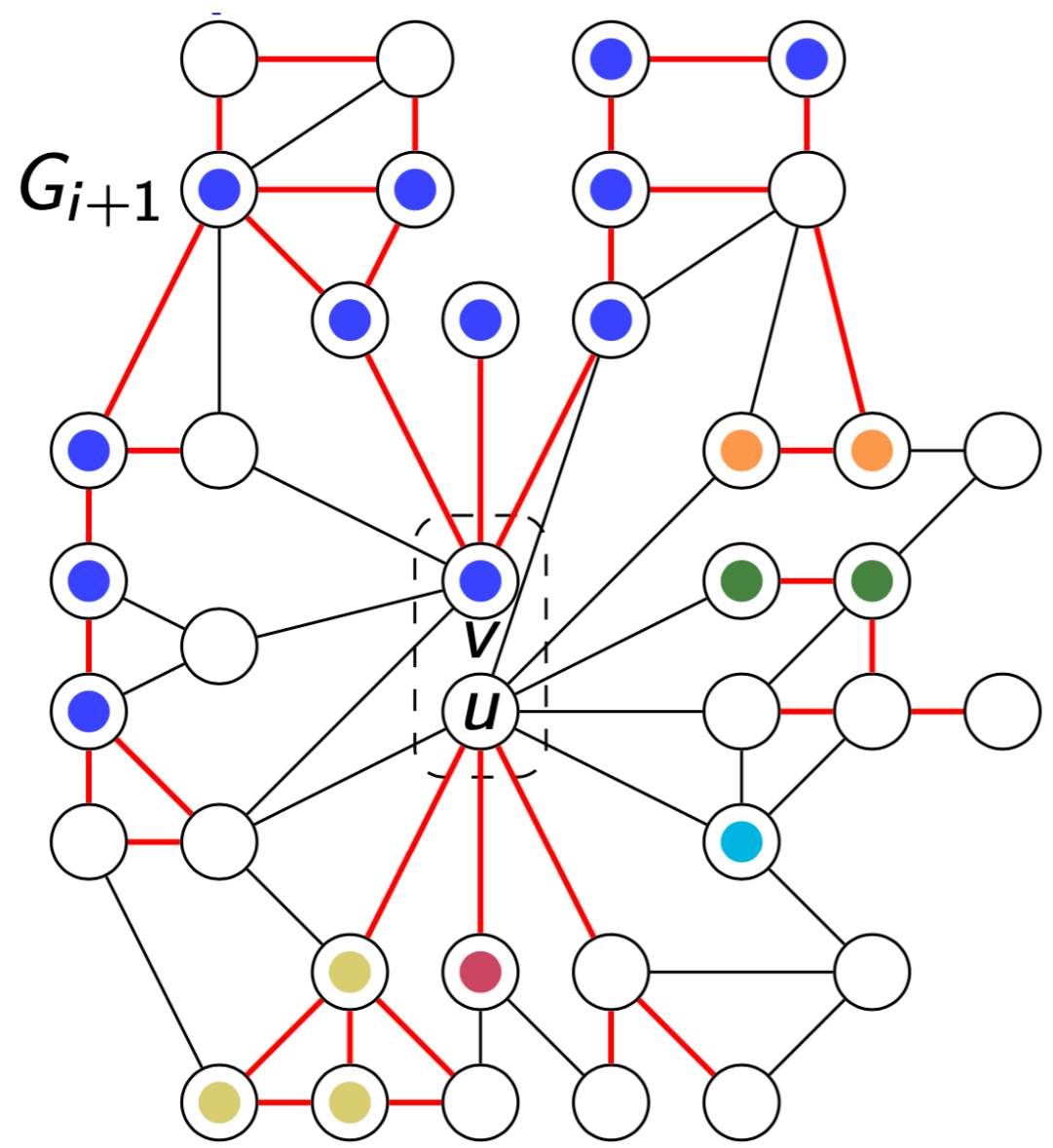


Example: k -Independent Set



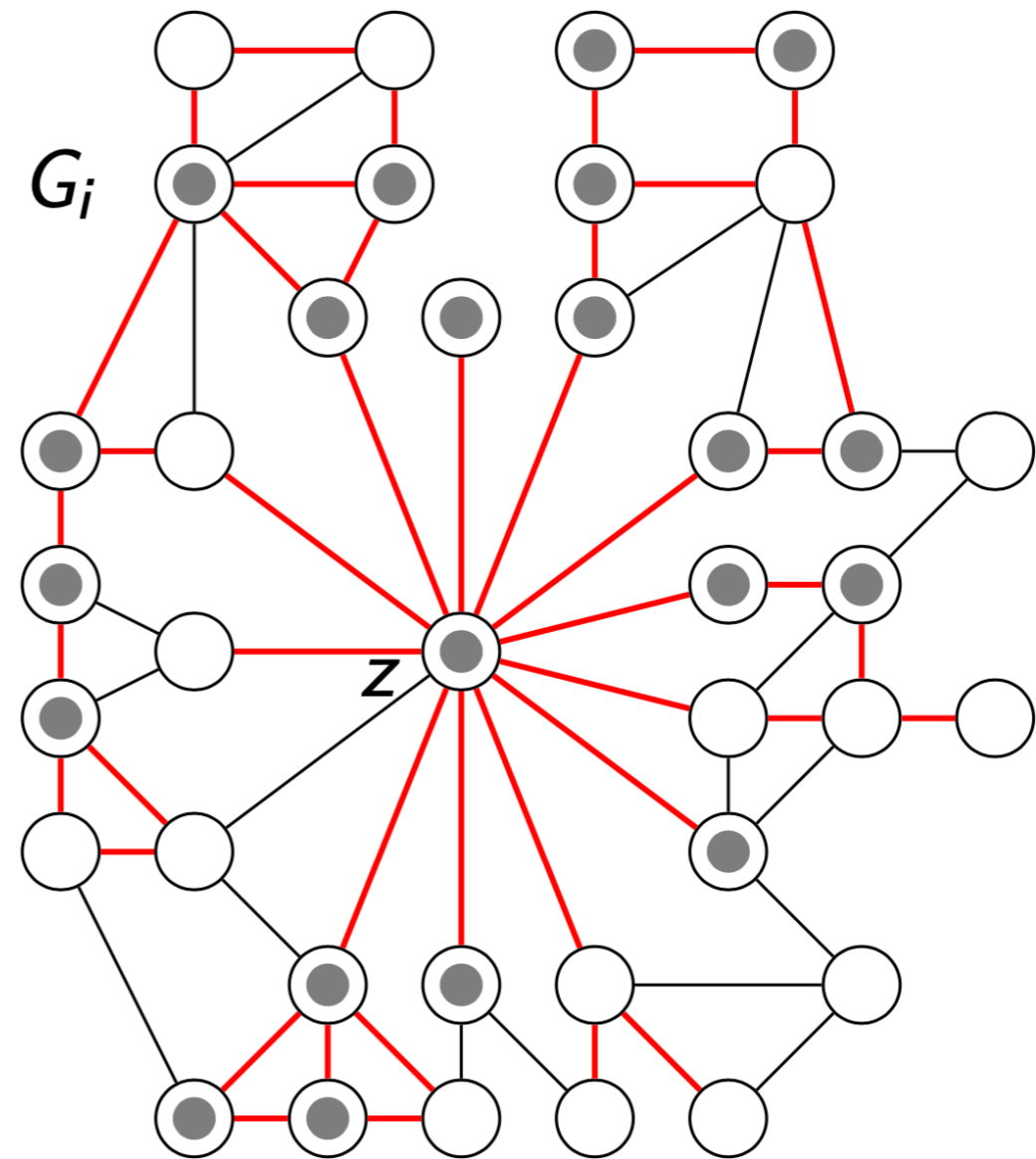
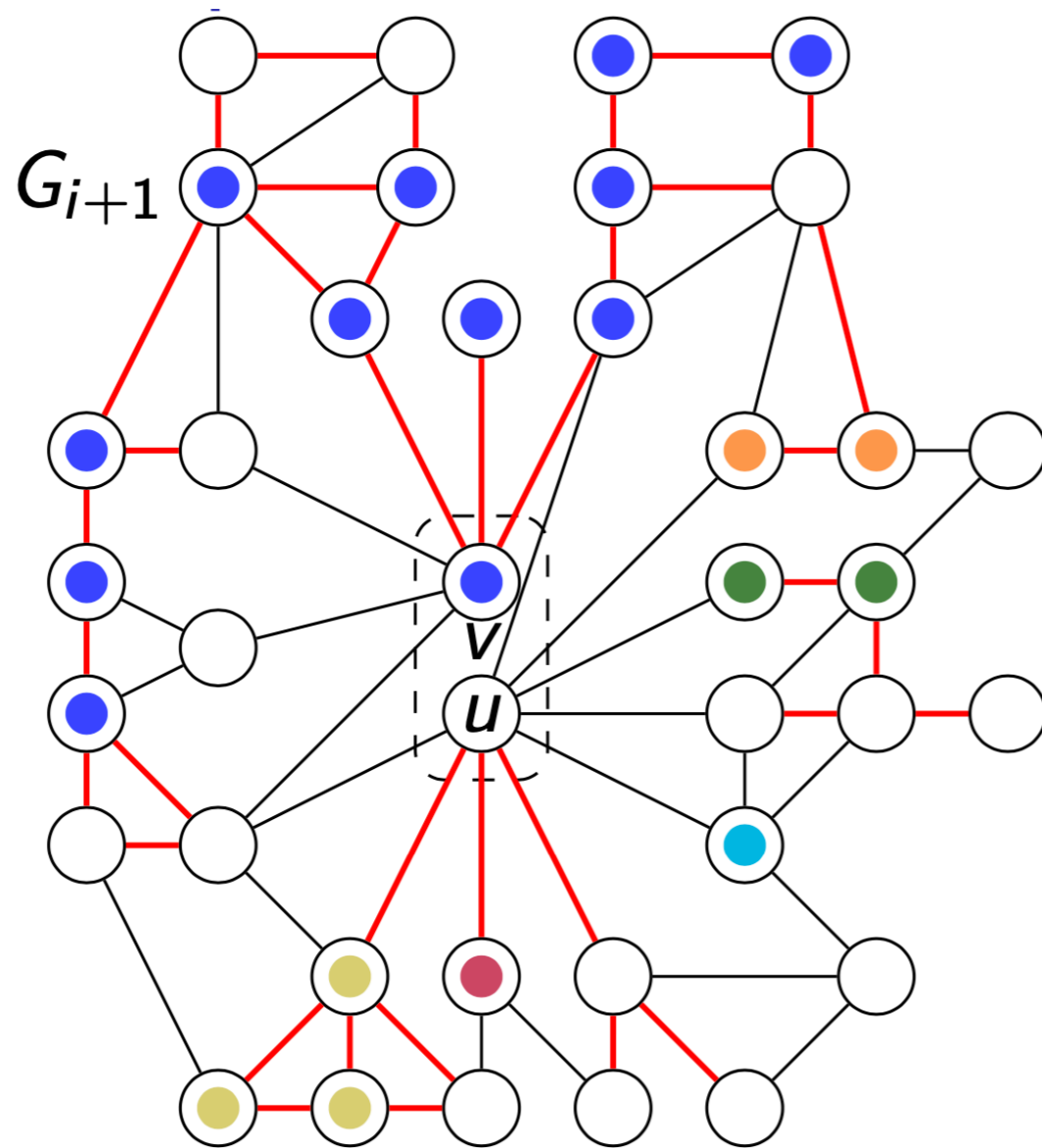
For any partial solution S realizing T , three possibilities:

(a) $T \cap G_{i+1}(u) = \emptyset$, (b) $T \cap G_{i+1}(v) = \emptyset$, (c) both sets non-empty.



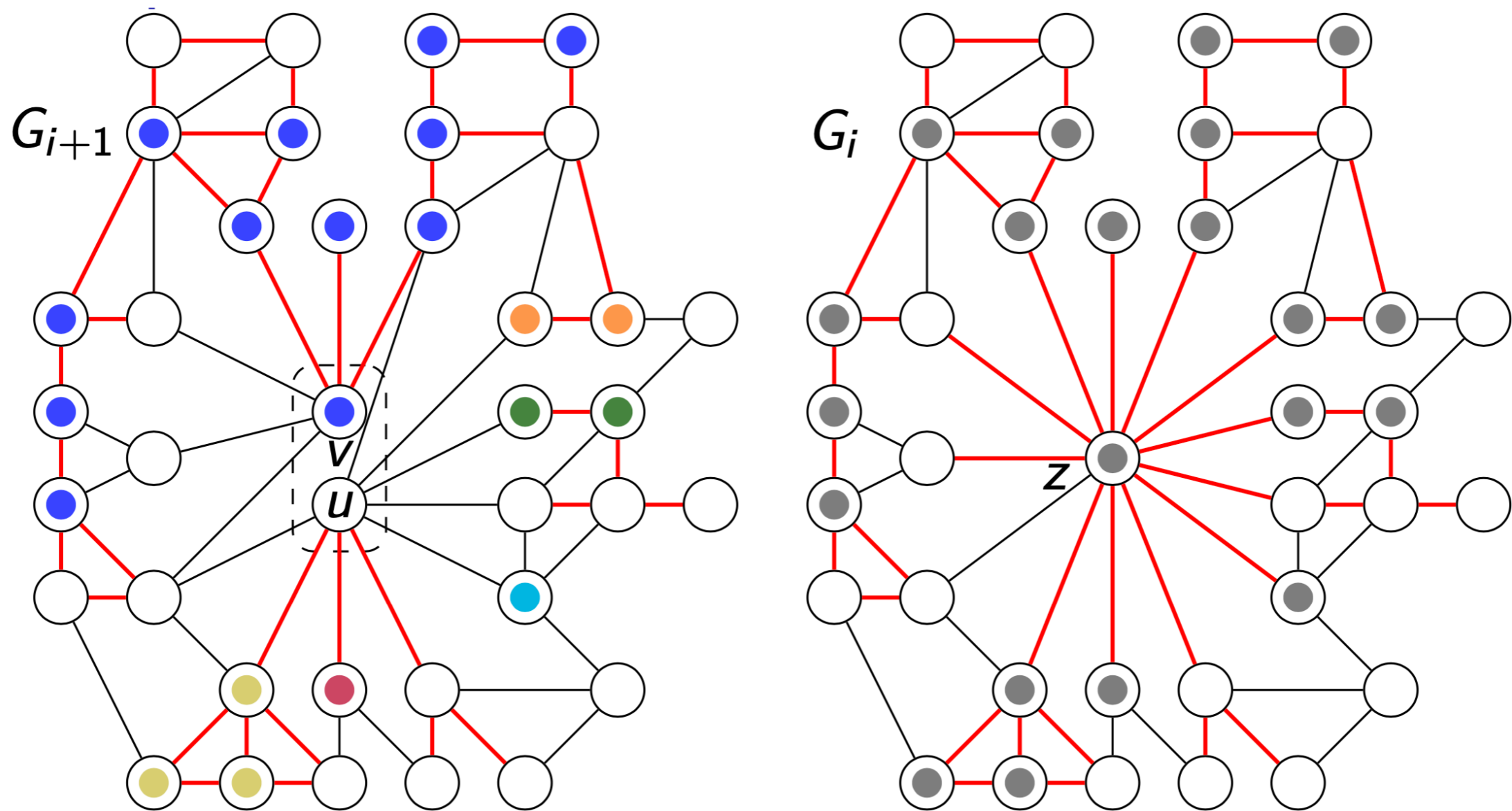
Assuming that no realizable set of size $\geq k$ was found so far,

→ Best partial solution S realizing T , induces connected red components of $T-z+u$, $T-z+v$, or $T-z+\{u,v\}$ of size at most k each.



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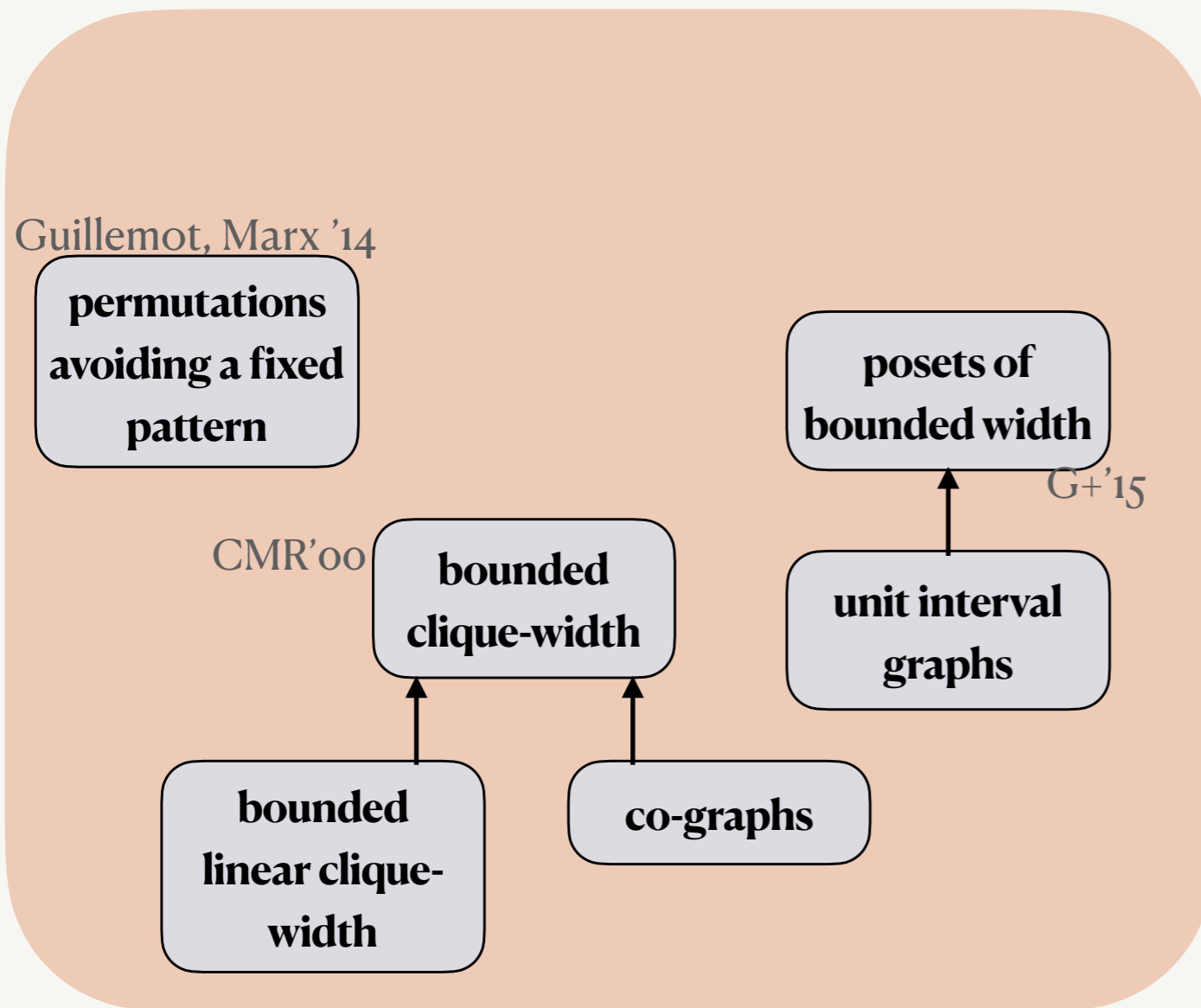
→ Best partial solution S realizing T , induces connected red components of $T-z+u$, $T-z+v$, or $T-z+\{u,v\}$ of size at most k each.



In a graph of max degree $\leq d$,
there are at most $(d^{2k-2} + 1) |X|$ connected sets of size at most k
containing a set X .

FO-model checking is FPT [BKTW'20]

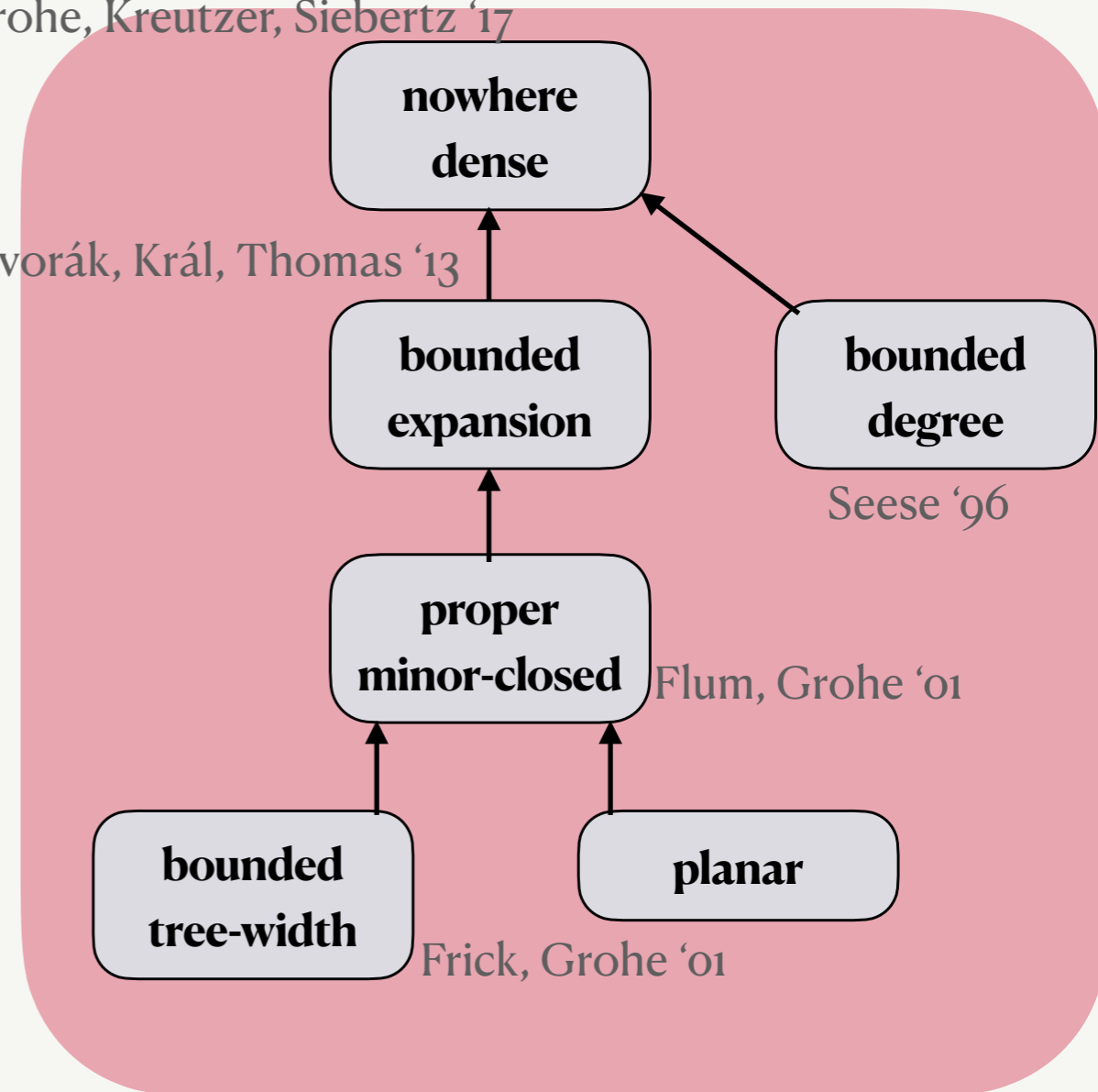
dense classes



sparse classes

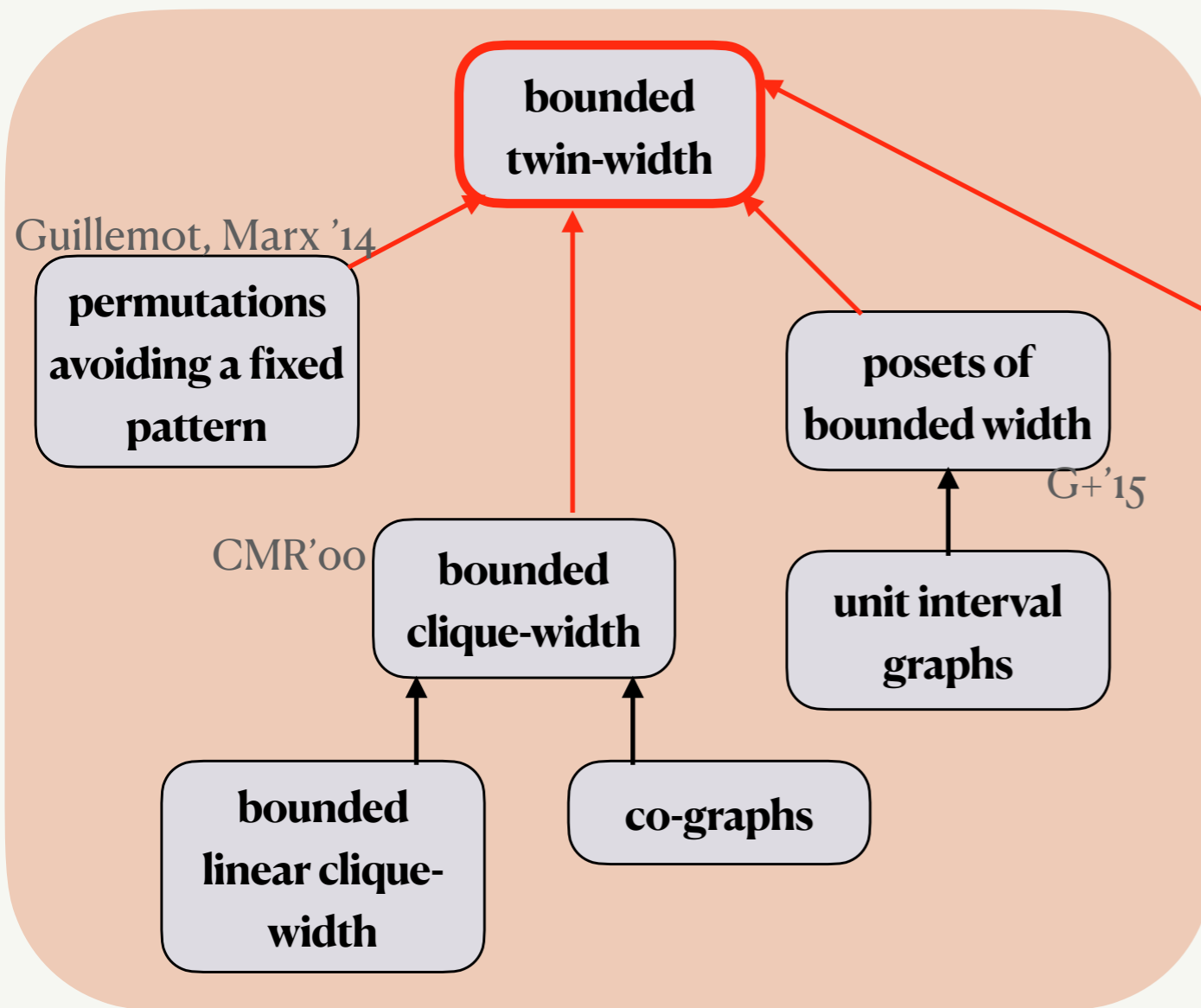
Grohe, Kreutzer, Siebertz '17

Dvorák, Král, Thomas '13

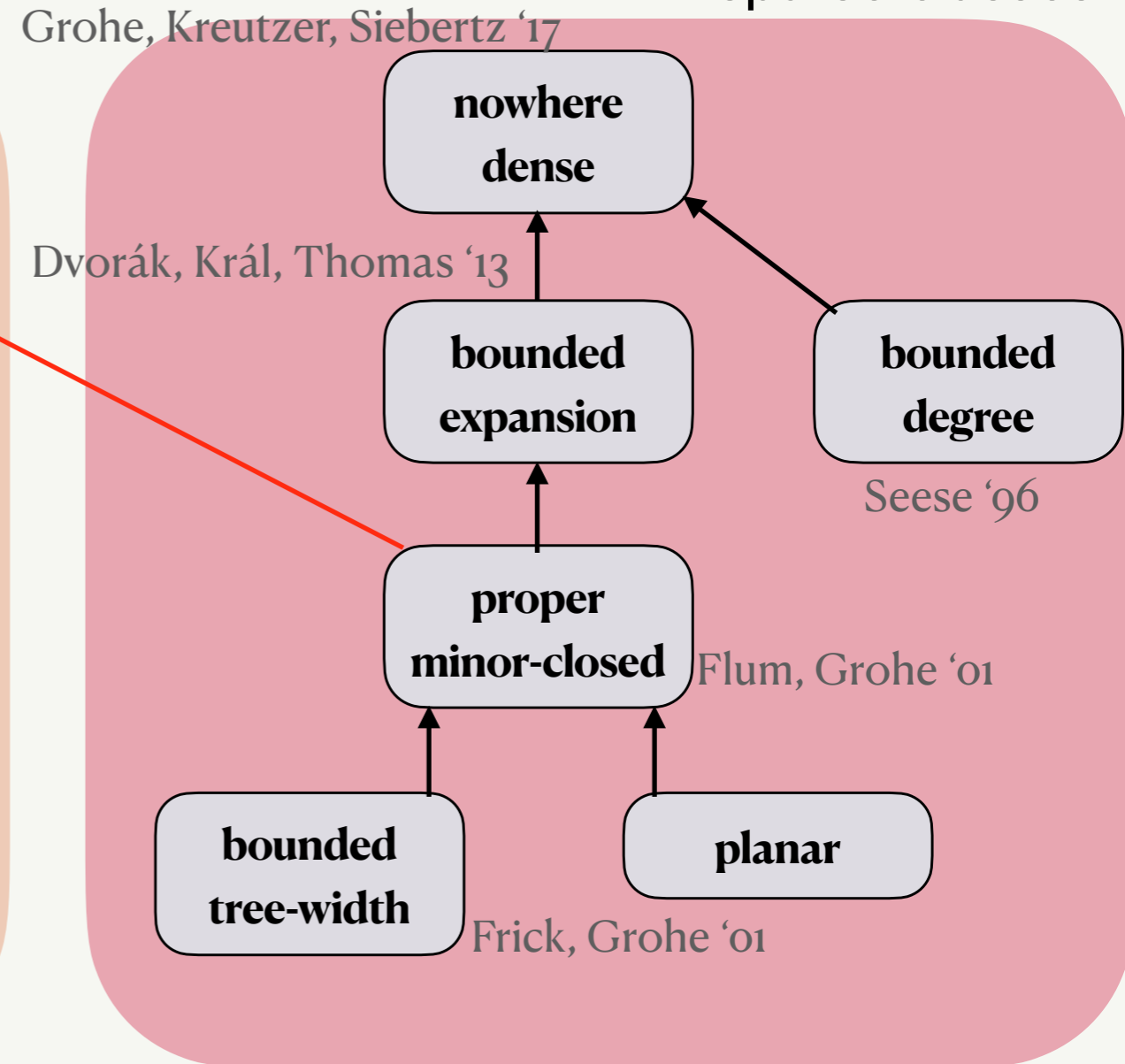


FO-model checking is FPT [BKTW'20]

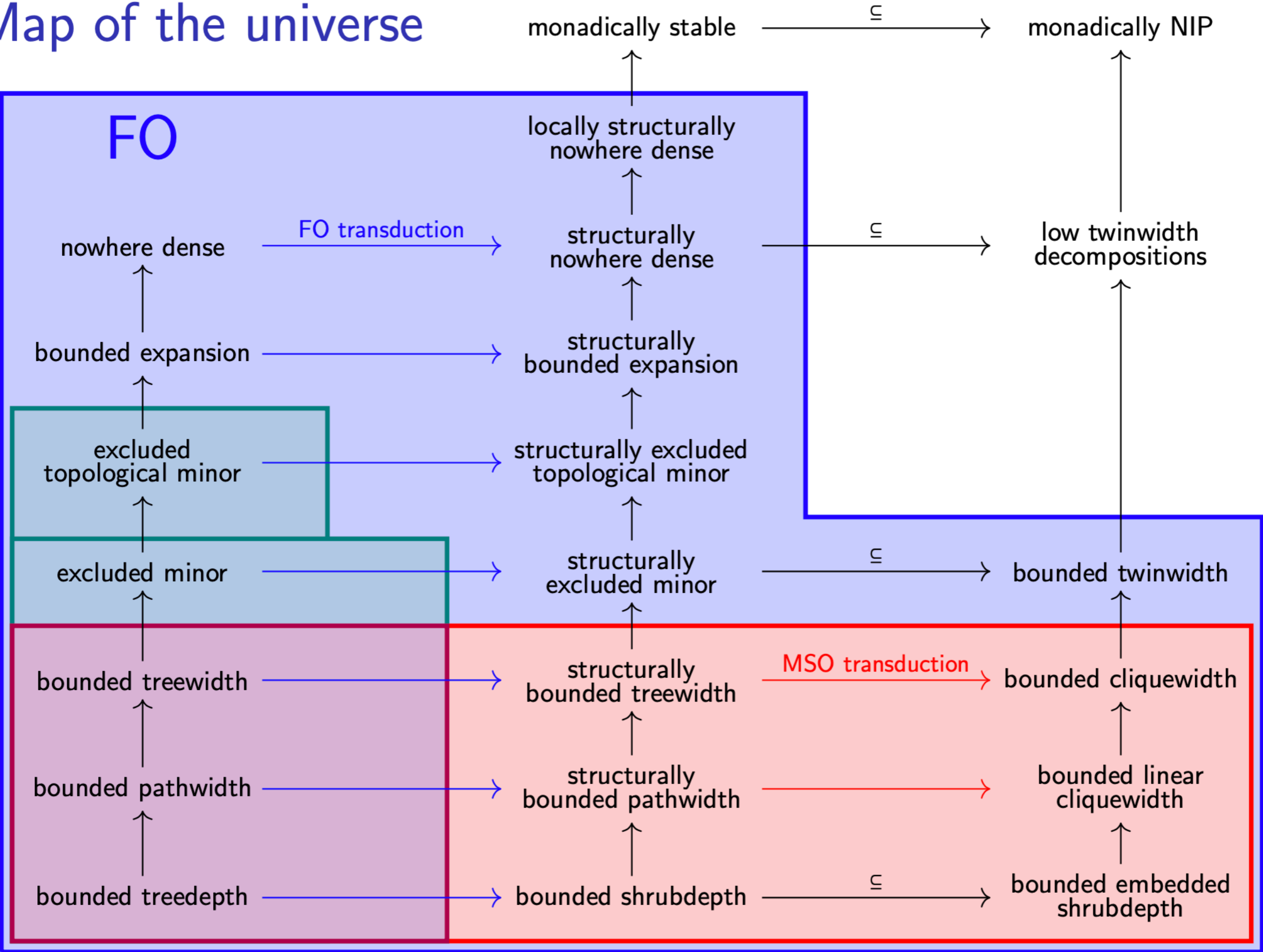
dense classes



sparse classes



Map of the universe

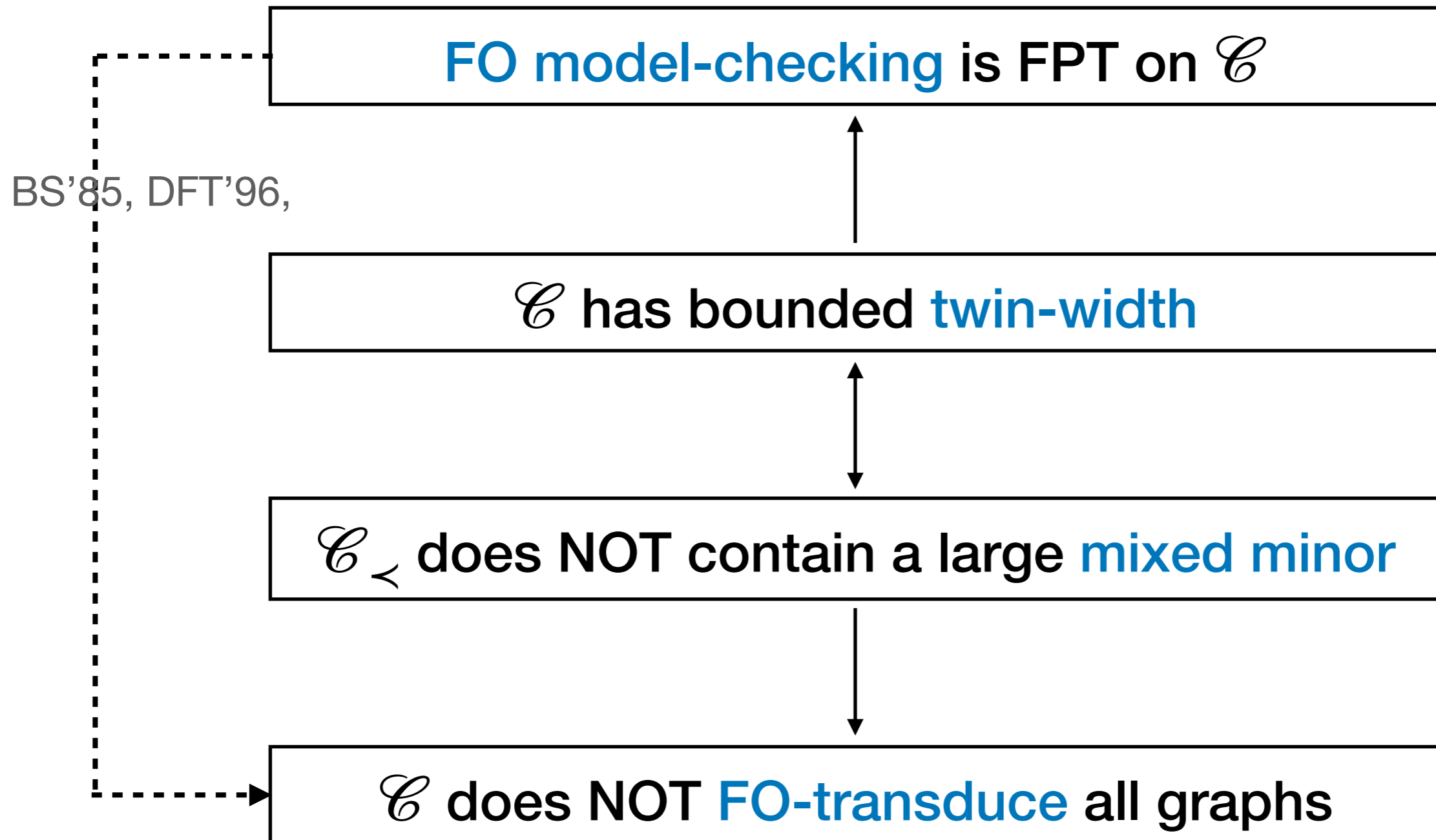


Borrowed from Sebastian Siebertz's slides

Twin

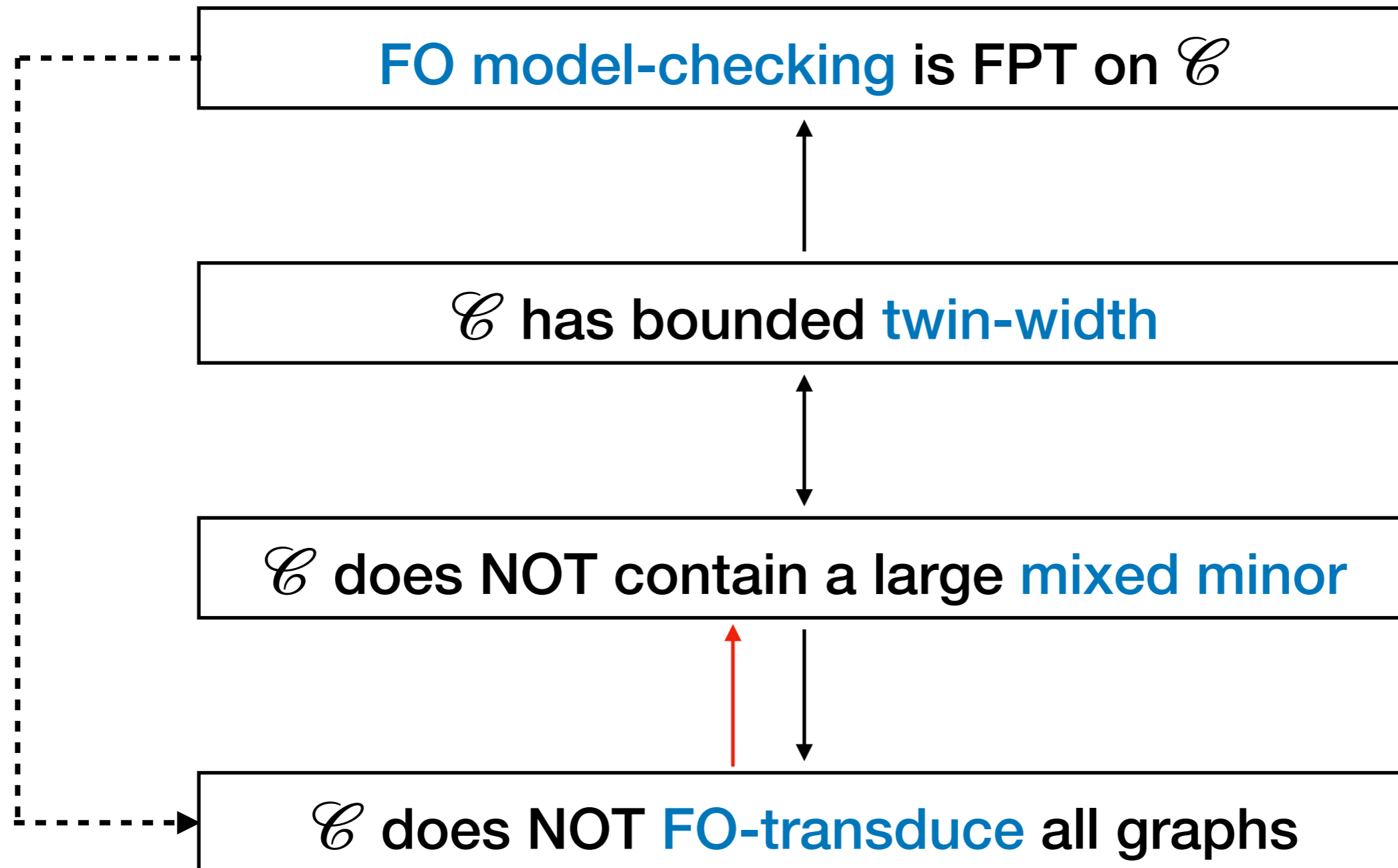
For a hereditary class \mathcal{C}

[Bonnet, K, Thomassé, Watrigant '20]



Summary II

For a hereditary class \mathcal{C} of **interval graphs | permutations | ordered graphs**
| tournaments | circle graphs | rooted directed path graphs



Concluding Remarks

- For all the classes which are known to have bounded twin-width, we know how to compute the (approximate) contraction sequence in time $f(d) \cdot n$.
- We still do not know how to compute $f(\text{tw})$ -contraction sequence in FPT, even in XP time, when the input graph is arbitrary. $O(\sqrt{n} \cdot \log n)$ -approximation (?) is recently obtained.

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- We still do not know how to compute $f(\text{tw})$ -contraction sequence in FPT, even in XP time, when the input graph is arbitrary. $O(\sqrt{n} \cdot \log n)$ -approximation (?) is recently obtained.
- Characterizing the hereditary classes on which FO model checking is in FPT is a very active topic recently.
Conjecture: FO model checking on \mathcal{C} is FPT if and only if \mathcal{C} does not transduce the class of all graphs (a.k.a. monadic NIP).
Just a few weeks ago, a combinatorial characterization of monadic NIP class was announced, perhaps we're just a few steps from the conjecture to be confirmed.

Thank you!