

**Detecting Feedback Vertex Sets
of Size k in $O^*(2.7^k)$ Time**

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With Jesper Nederlof (TU Eindhoven)

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Introduction

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Equivalently, F hits all cycles of G

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Want time **FPT in k** : $f(k) \cdot \text{poly}(n)$

Goal in FPT setting: **minimize function $f(k)$** .

$\text{poly}(n)$ factor does not matter

Prior Work

Downey and Fellows '92: $f(k) = k^{O(k)}$

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Cygan et al. [CNP+'11]: $f(k) = 3^k$, randomized

- actually runs in 3^{tw} time, given a tree decomposition of width tw

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This talk: $(3 - \epsilon)^k$, or how to break 3^k .

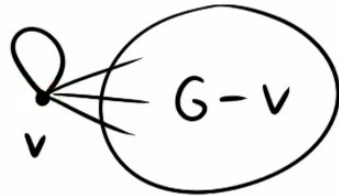
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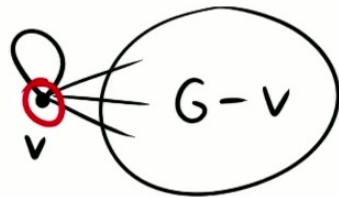
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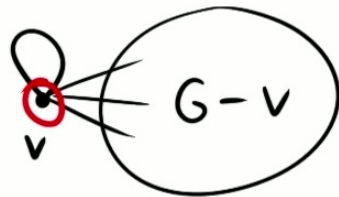
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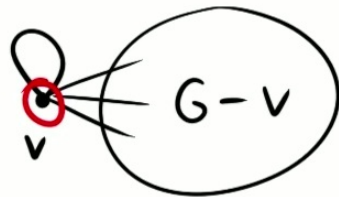
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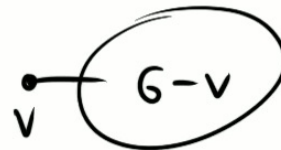


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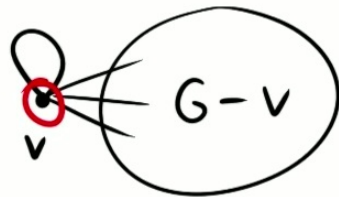
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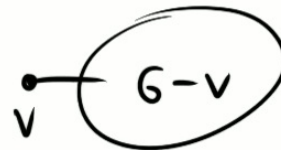


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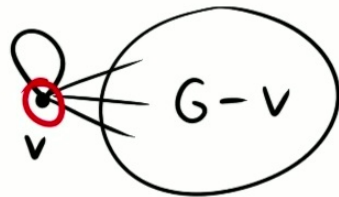
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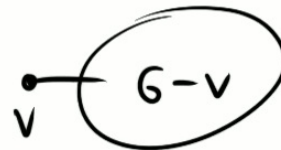


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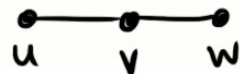
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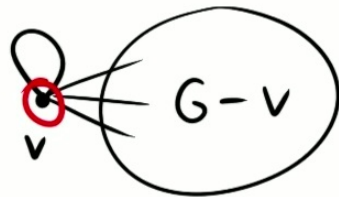
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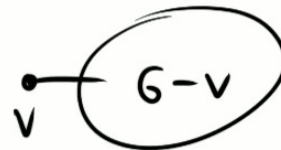


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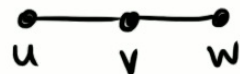
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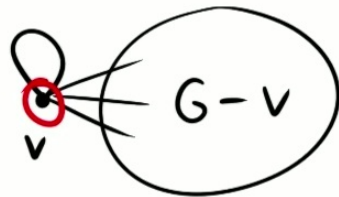
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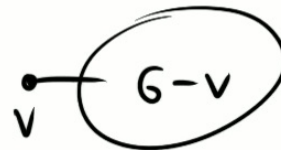


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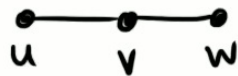
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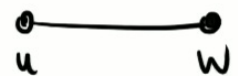
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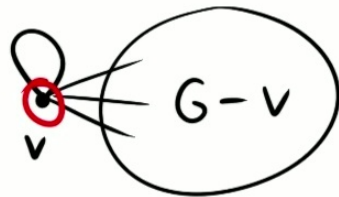


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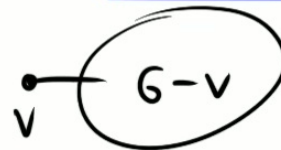
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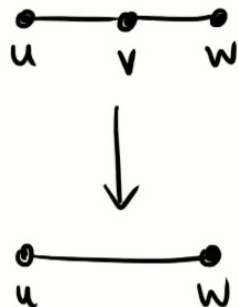
When (1),(2),(3) no longer apply:
- no self-loops
- minimum degree 3

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Theorem: if G has minimum degree ≥ 3 and a FVS of size k , then with probability $\geq 1/4$, v is in the FVS

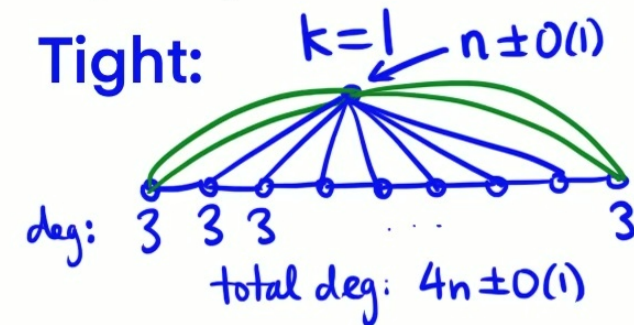
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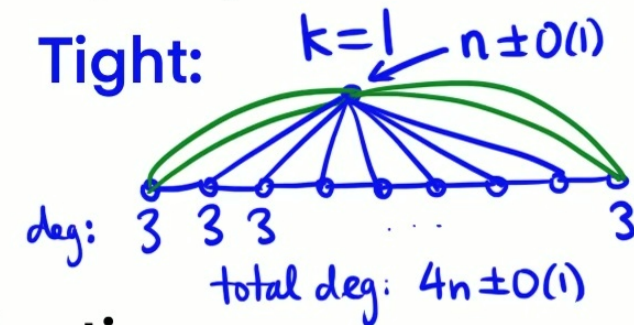
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Prob. $1/4$ to decrease k by 1 and preserve reduction

\Rightarrow prob. $1/4^k$ to go all the way. Repeat 4^k times: $O^*(4^k)$ algo.



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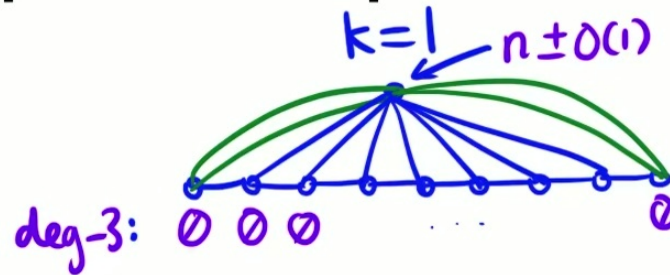
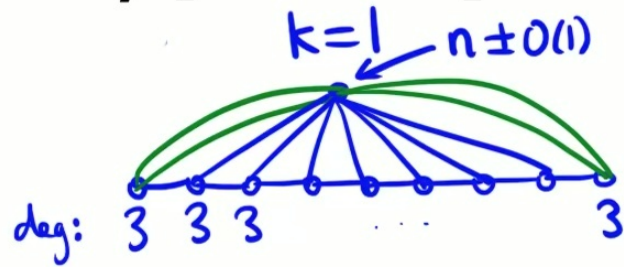
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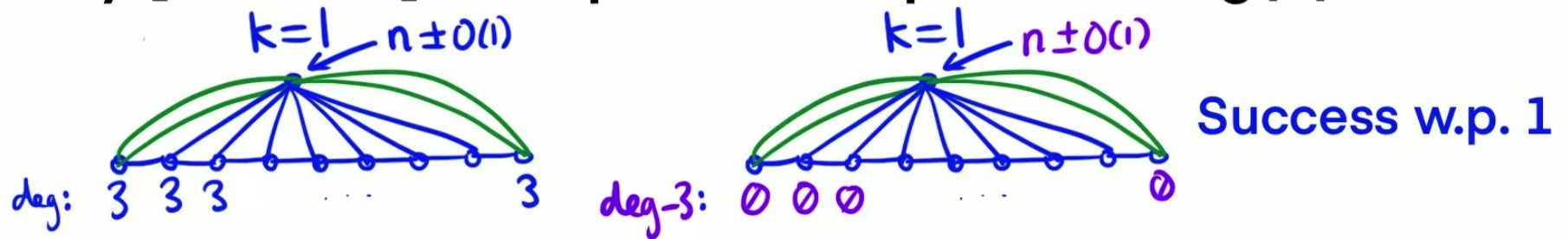
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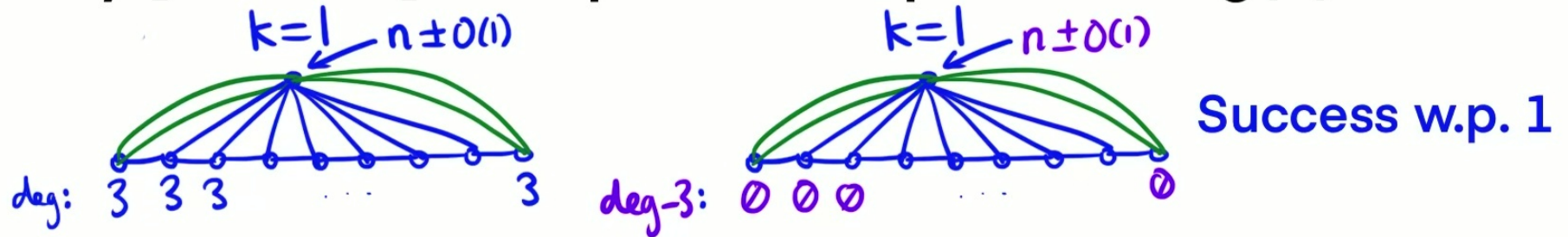
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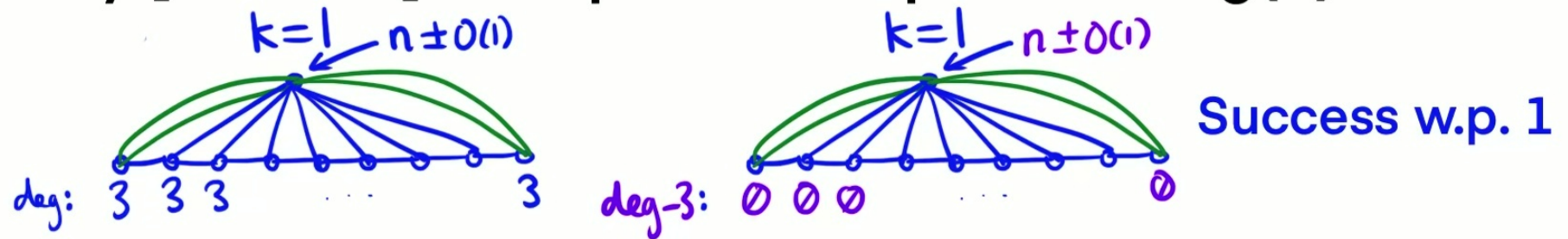
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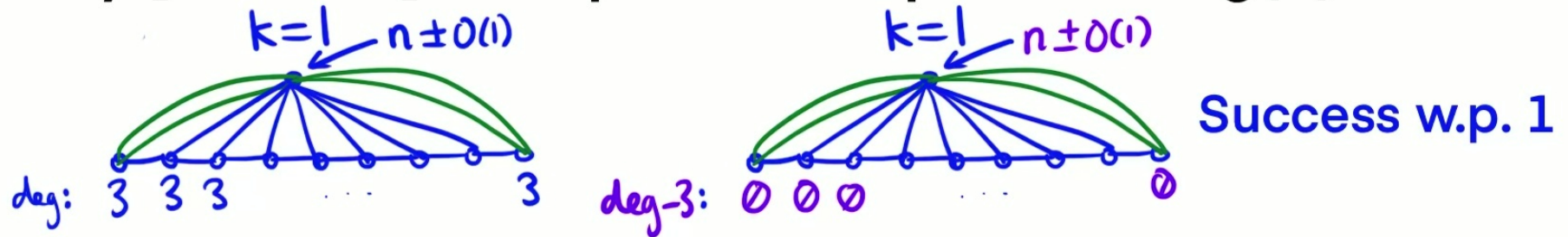
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$$\deg(V) - \deg(F) \leq \deg(F) + 2(|V \setminus F| - 1)$$

$$\deg(F) \geq \frac{1}{2}(2m - 2(n - k - 1)) \geq m - n + k$$

$$\sum_{v \in F} (\deg(v) - 3) = \deg(F) - 3|F| \geq m - 4n \geq 0.8m$$

$$\sum_{v \in V} (\deg(v) - 3) \leq \deg(V) - 3n = 2m - 3n$$

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Proof:

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Each contributes $+2$ to $\deg(V \setminus F)$, for a total of $\leq 2(|V \setminus F| - 1)$

- Every edge between F and $V \setminus F$ contributes $+1$ to both $\deg(F)$ and $\deg(V \setminus F)$

If $n \geq 4k$ and F has size k :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{v \notin F} (\deg(v) - 3) &= \deg(V \setminus F) - 3|V \setminus F| \\ &\leq \deg(F) + 2(|V \setminus F| - 1) - 3|V \setminus F| \\ &\leq \deg(F) - 3|V \setminus F| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} n \geq 4k: |V \setminus F| \geq 3k = 3|F| \\ \leq \deg(F) - 3|F| = \sum_{v \in F} (\deg(v) - 3) \end{aligned}$$

choose $v \in F$ w.p. $\geq 1/2$

If $m \geq 20n$ and F has size k :

$$\deg(V) - \deg(F) \leq \deg(F) + 2(|V \setminus F| - 1)$$

$$\deg(F) \geq \frac{1}{2}(2m - 2(n - k - 1)) \geq m - n + k$$

$$\sum_{v \in F} (\deg(v) - 3) = \deg(F) - 3|F| \geq m - 4n \geq \underline{0.8m}$$

$$\sum_{v \in V} (\deg(v) - 3) \leq \deg(V) - 2m = \underline{2m} \quad \frac{0.8m}{2m} \Rightarrow \text{success w.p. } \geq 0.4$$

Dense case: $m \gg O(k)$

Lemma: Let F be a FVS of graph G . Then,

$$\deg(V \setminus F) \leq \deg(F) + 2(|V \setminus F| - 1), \text{ where } \deg(S) := \sum_{v \in S} \deg(v)$$

Proof:

- $G-F$ is forest
- Each component of $G-F$ has at most one cycle
- Every edge in $G-F$ is either a leaf edge or an edge in a cycle

So if success prob $\leq 1/2.99$, then must have
 $m \leq 20n \leq 80k \Rightarrow m \leq O(k)$

$G-F$.

and $\deg(V \setminus F)$

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Iterative Compression

Original problem: given graph G , find FVS size k , or determine none exist.

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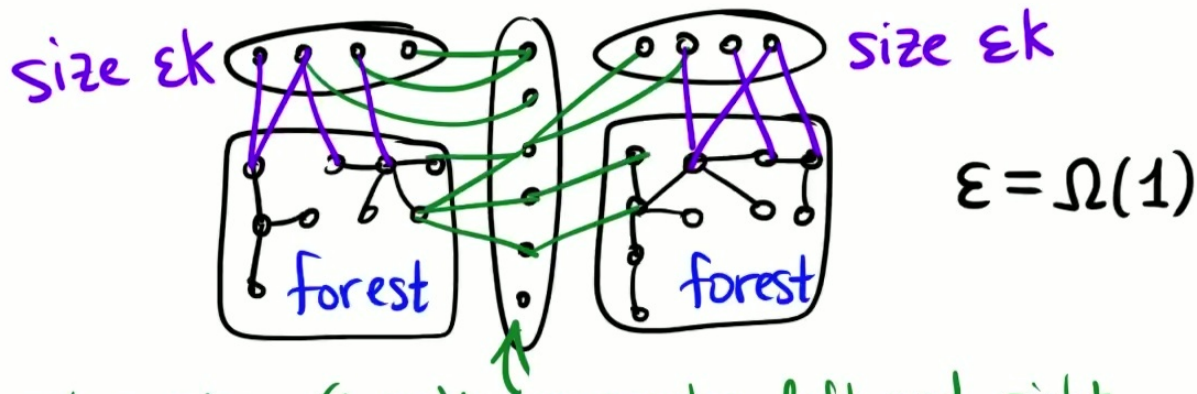
- Get size $(k+1)$ FVS as input **for free**

Sparse case

Lemma: Given a graph with $m \leq 100k$, and given a
FVS of size $k+1$,

Sparse case

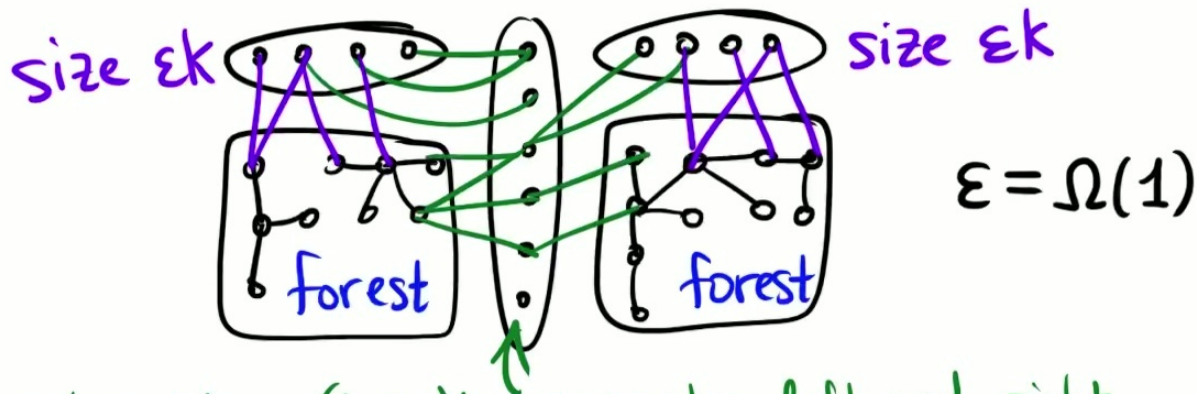
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separator size $(1-2\epsilon)k$, separates left and right

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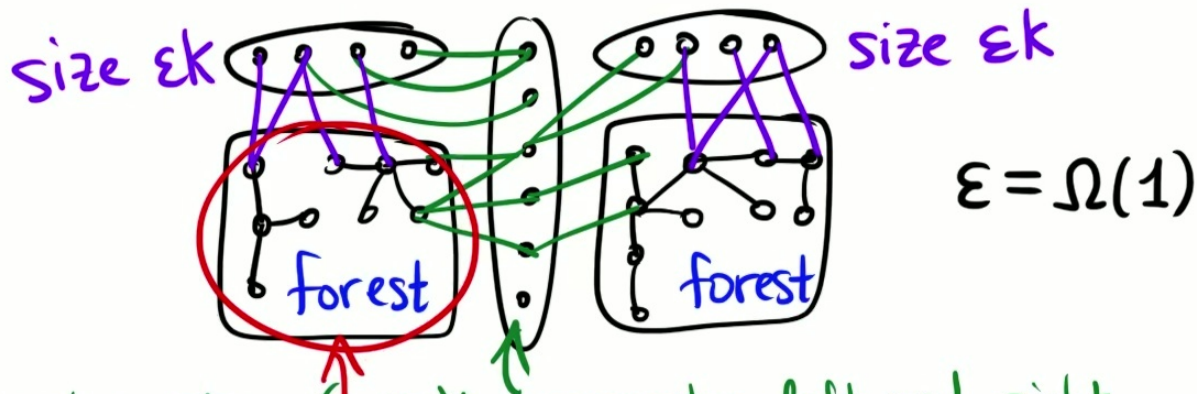
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Claim: a graph with this decomposition has treewidth $(1-\Omega(1))k$

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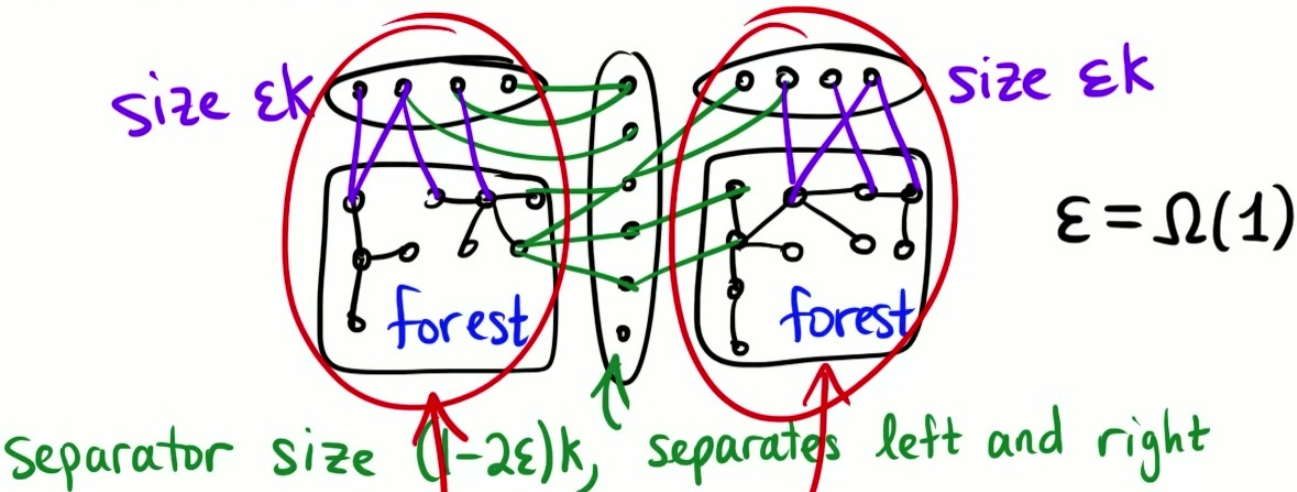
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$$tw(\text{forest}) = 1$$

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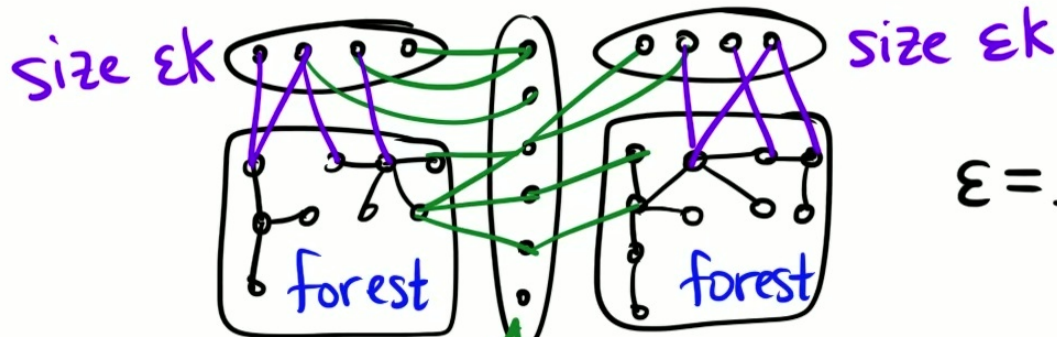
$$tw(\text{part}) \leq 1 + \epsilon k \quad (\text{forest} + \epsilon k \text{ vertices})$$

$$tw(G) \leq 1 + \epsilon k + (1-2\epsilon)k \quad (\text{add last } (1-2\epsilon)k \text{ vertices})$$

$$= (1 - \Omega(1))k$$

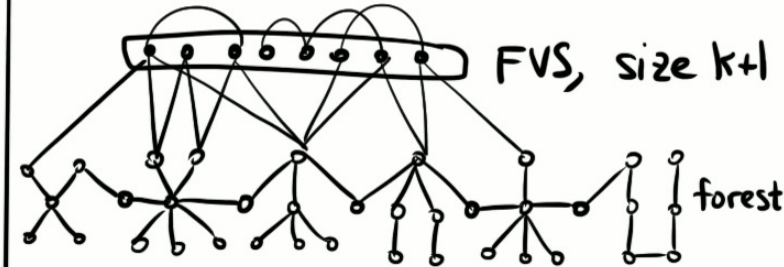
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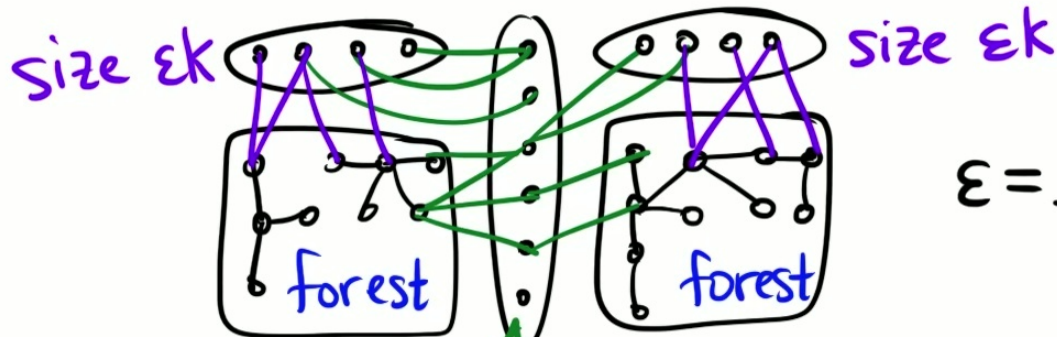
Proof of Lemma:



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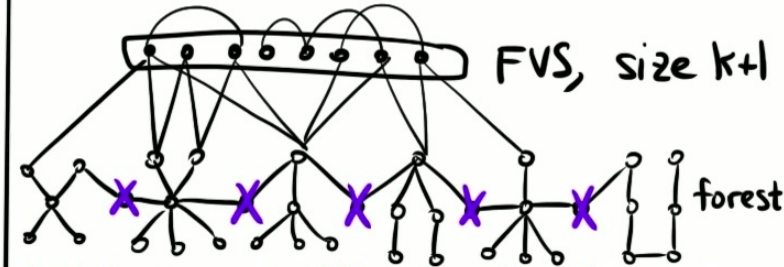
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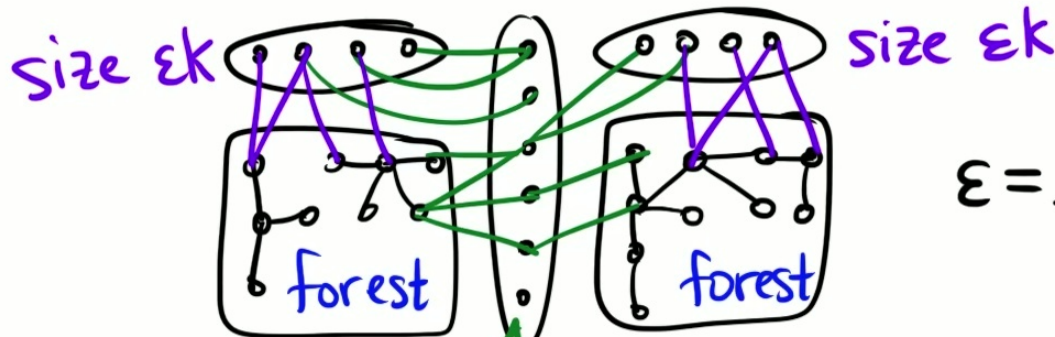


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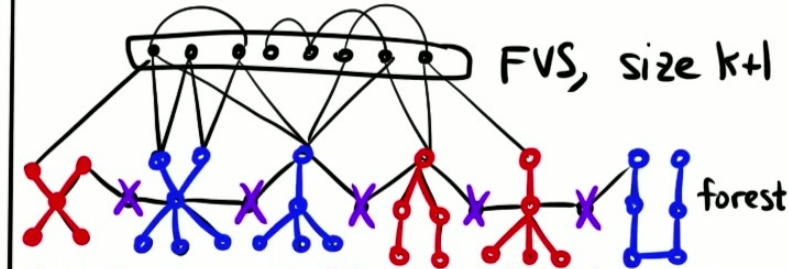
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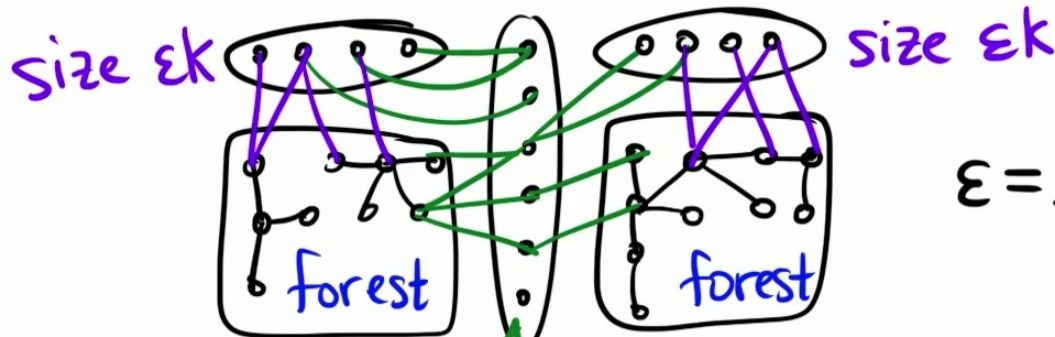


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Sparse case

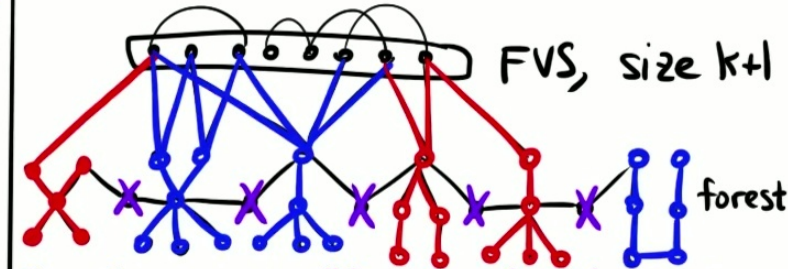
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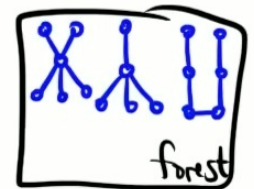
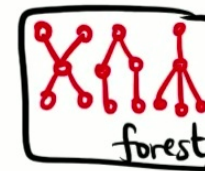
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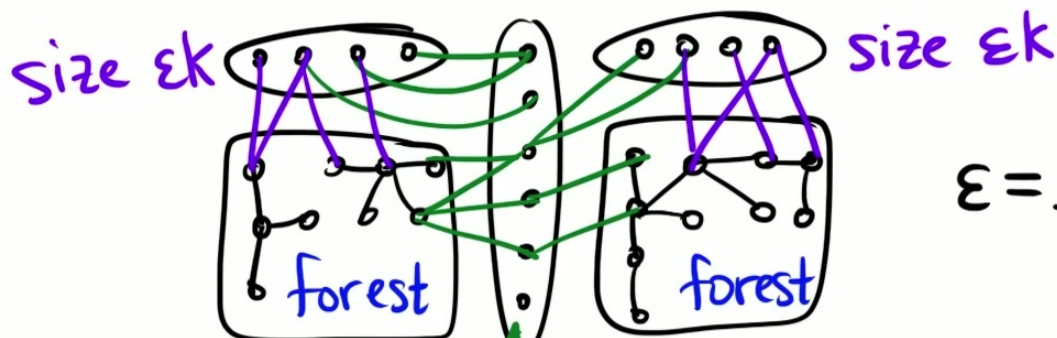
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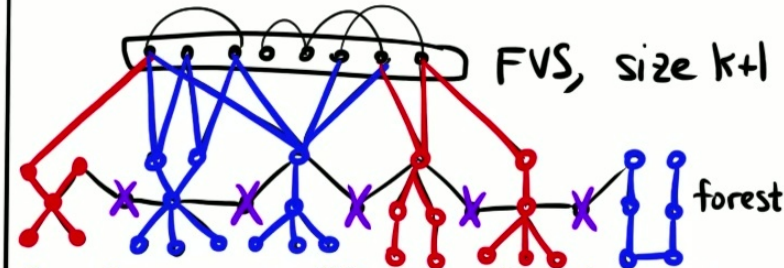
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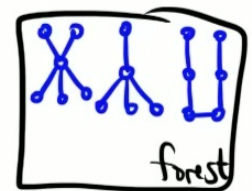
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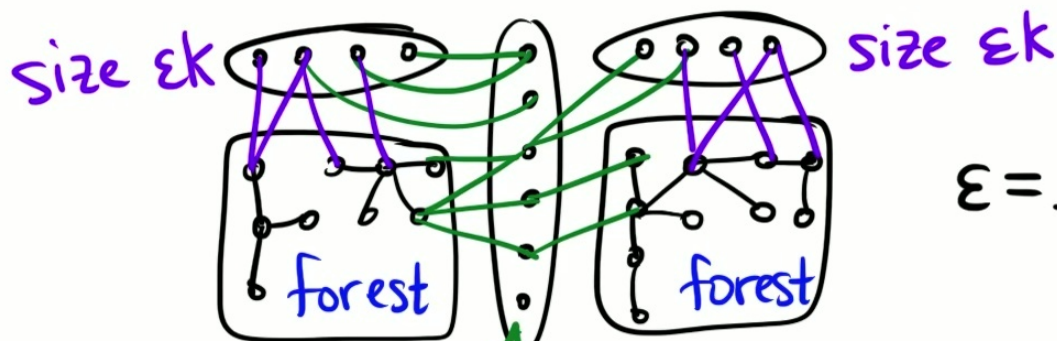
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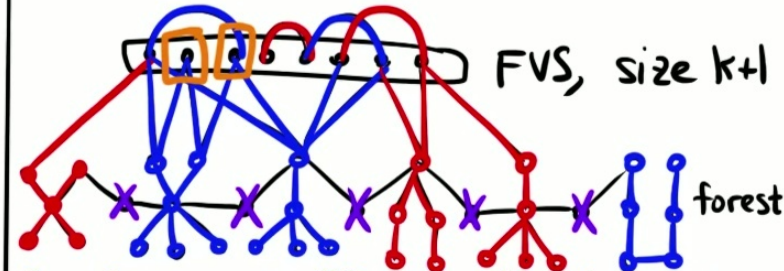
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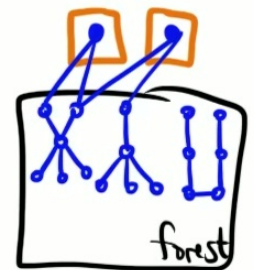
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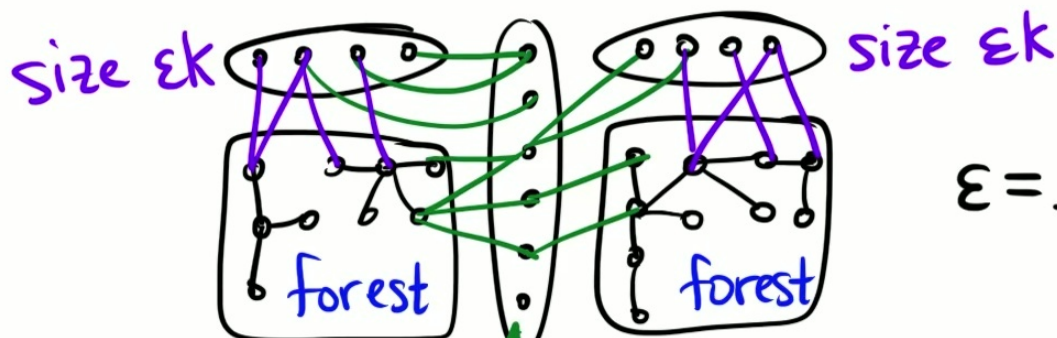
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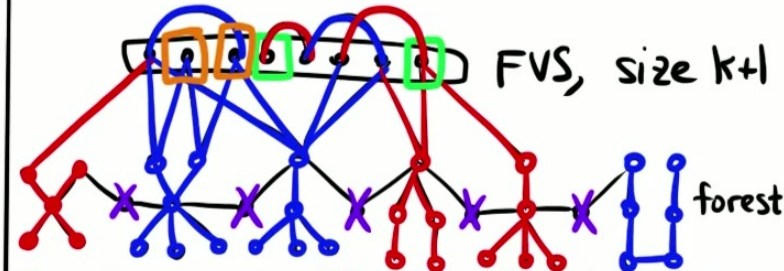
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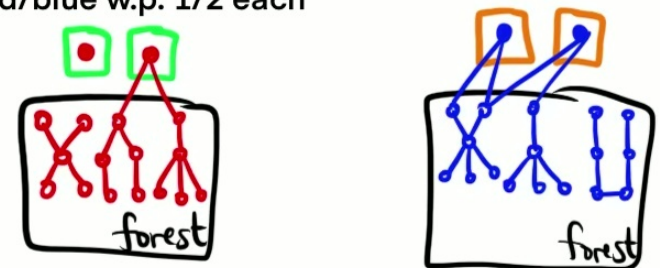
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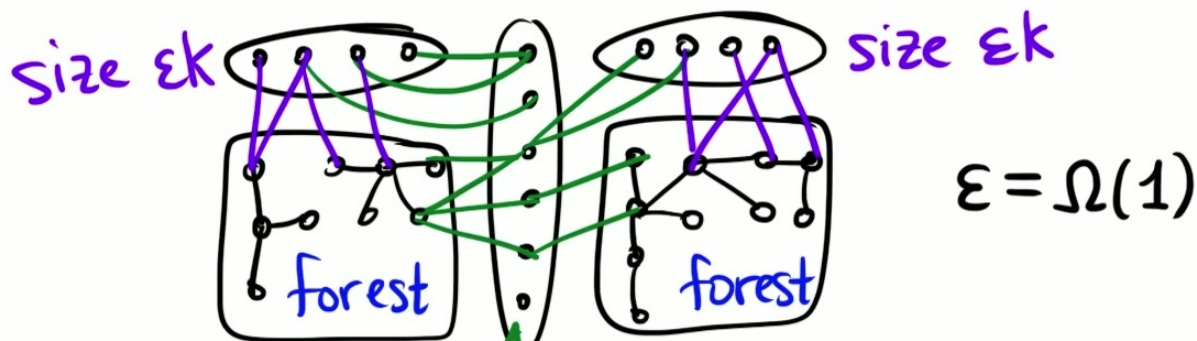
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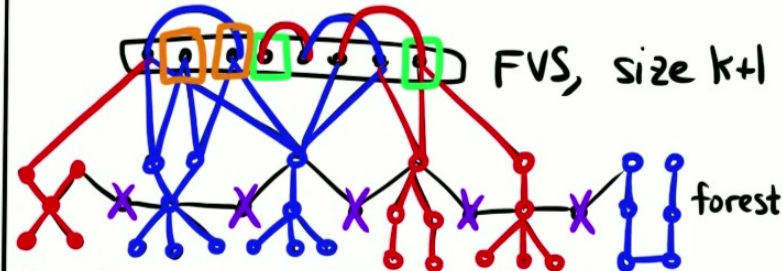
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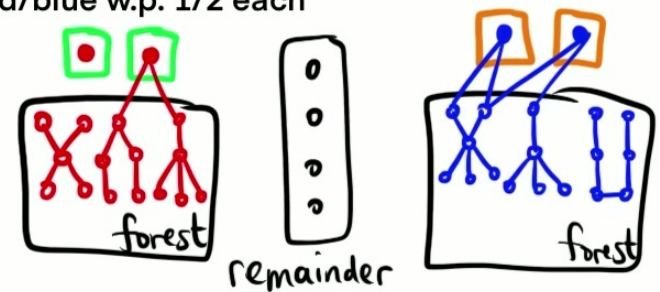
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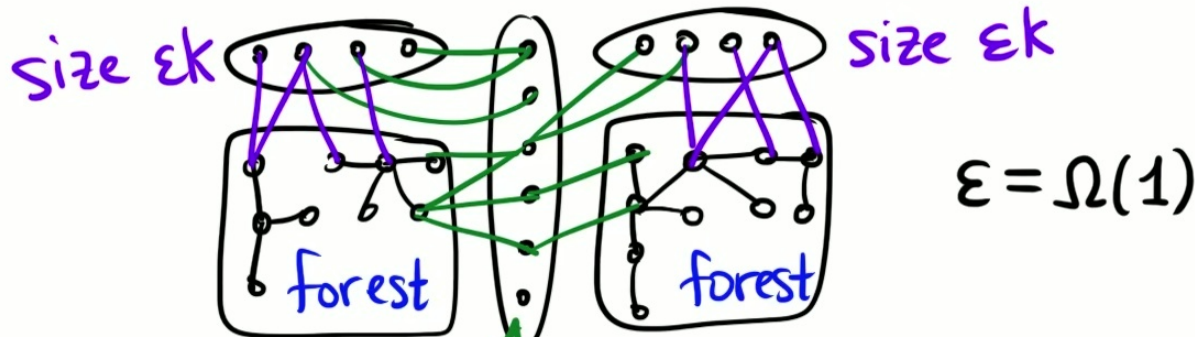
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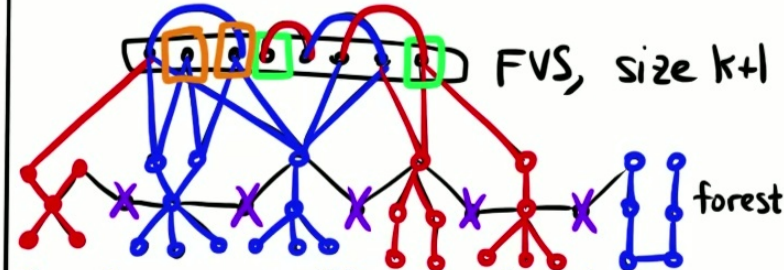
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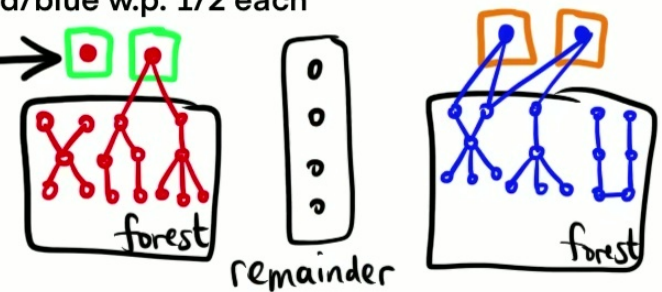
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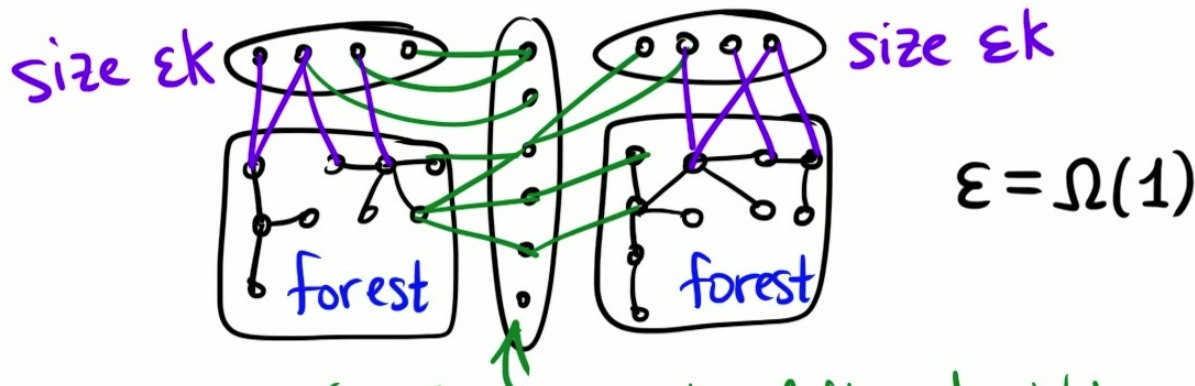
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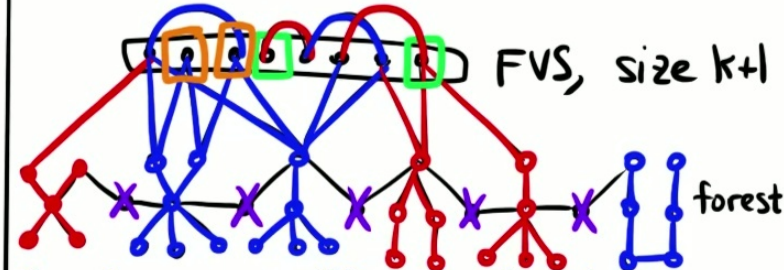


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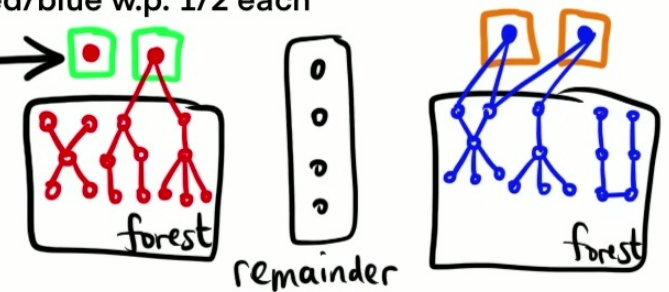
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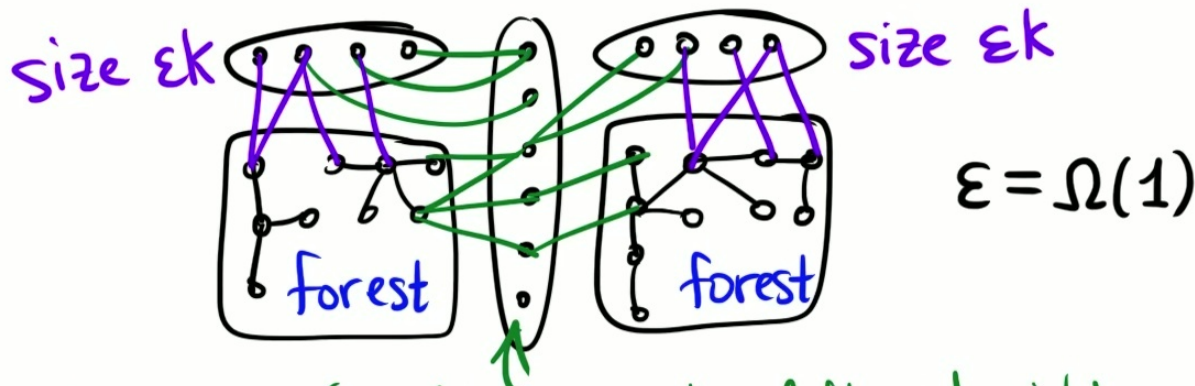
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$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Jensen} \\ & \geq |\text{FVS}| \cdot 2^{-(\text{avg deg})} \end{aligned}$$

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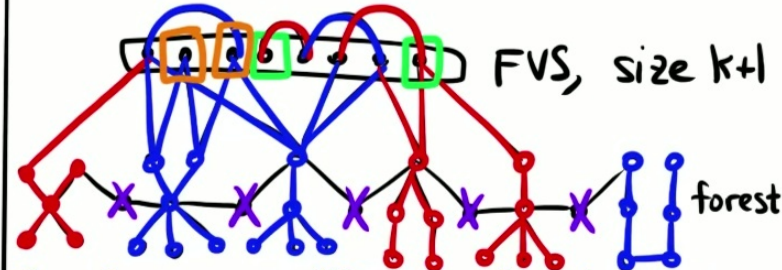
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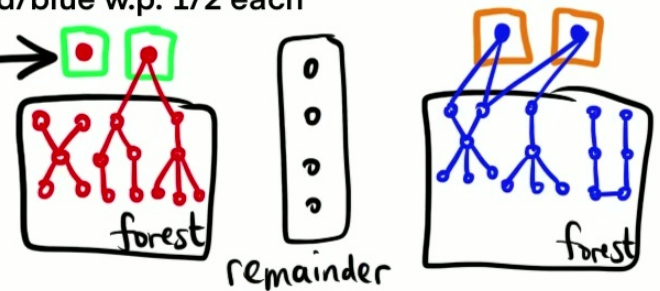
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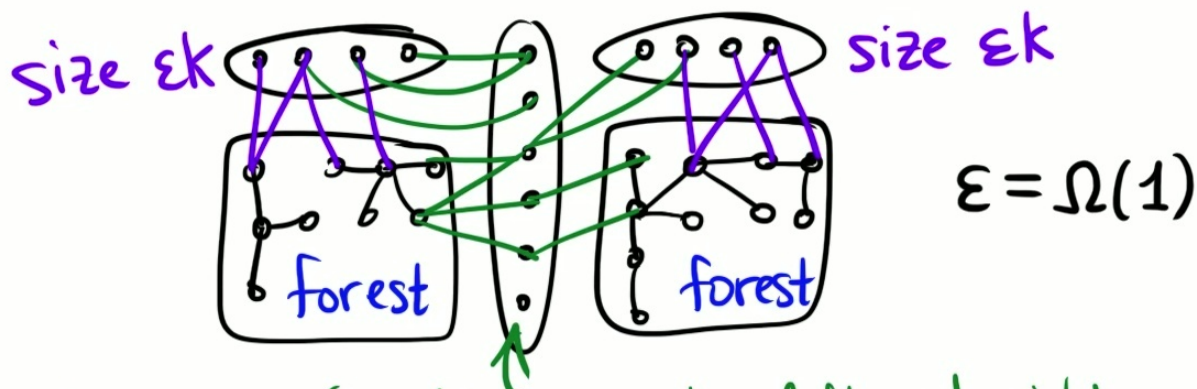
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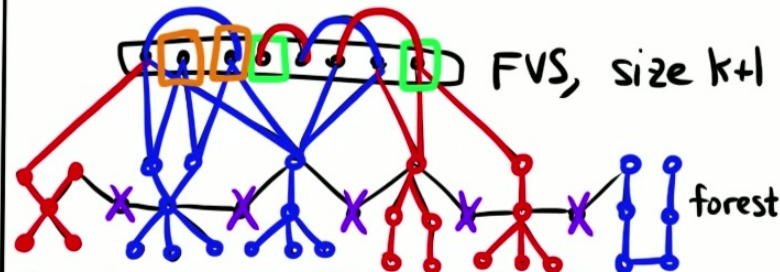
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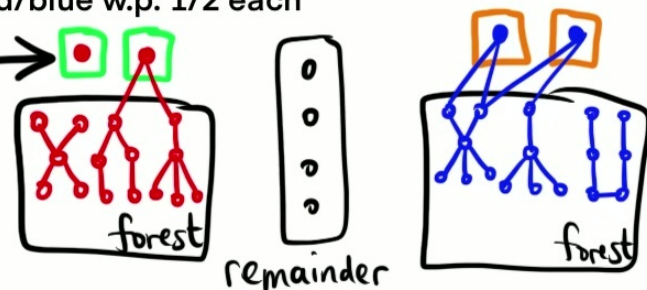
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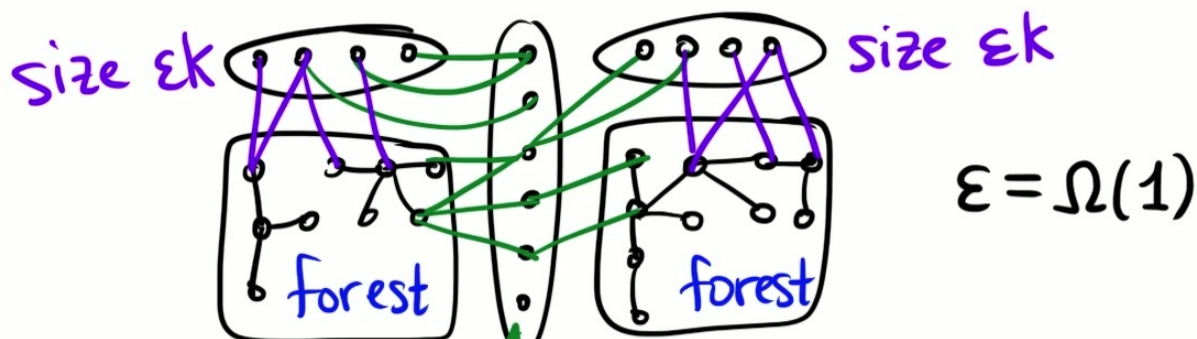
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Chernoff bound (since each \mathcal{X} is "small"): $\# \text{ } \square \approx \# \text{ } \square \approx \epsilon k$ for some $\epsilon \geq 2^{-200}$

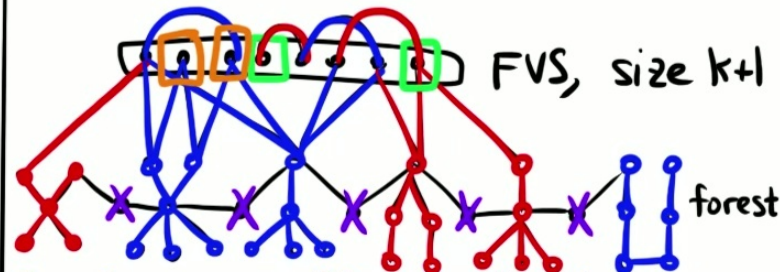
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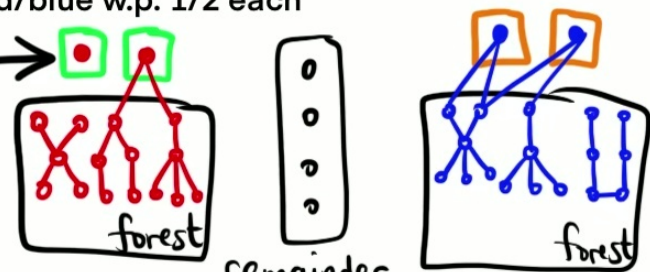
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size $\approx (1-2\epsilon+O(1))k$

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Speedup: $O^*(2.7^k)$ time

- Tighten $(\deg(v)-3)$ analysis and open 3^{tw} algorithm [CNP+11]
- [CNP+11] actually solves a **counting** problem
 - special arithmetic structure: speed up via **fast matrix multiplication**

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Open problems

- Our main conceptual message: 3^k can be broken (randomized)
 - Faster deterministic algorithm? [BBG'00] is inherently randomized
- 2^k possible?
- SETH lower bound? No 1.00001^k lower bound known!