

# Distance and Path Oracles in Spatial Databases

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# Overview

1. Motivation: Want to find the shortest path and network distance between points A and B without having to store the  $n^2$  shortest paths and network distances between all pairs
  - Willing to expend a little bit of time like  $O(\log n)$
  - Willing to accept  $\epsilon$  error in accuracy of distance
2. Goal: Efficient shortest path and distance computation in a spatial network
  - Avoid applying Dijkstra's algorithm for each query which visits almost all of the vertices
3. Strategy: Determine groups of source and destination vertices that share common vertices in their shortest paths and precompute it
4. Result:
  - Can determine an intermediate vertex between any pair of vertices in a spatial network in  $O(\log n)$  time and  $O(n)$  storage
  - Can determine  $\epsilon$ -approximate distance between any pair of vertices in spatial network in  $O(\log n)$  time and  $O(n/\epsilon^d)$  storage
  - Enable expressing operations using relational operators

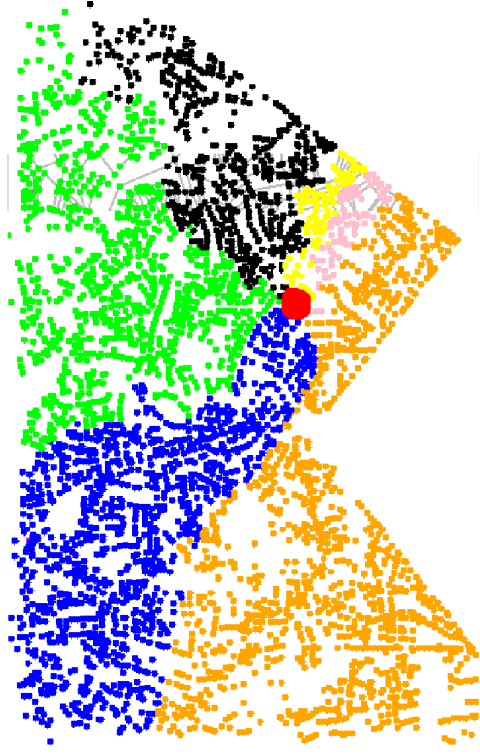
## Path Coherence Beyond SILC

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- The SILC framework captures the path coherence in the shortest paths

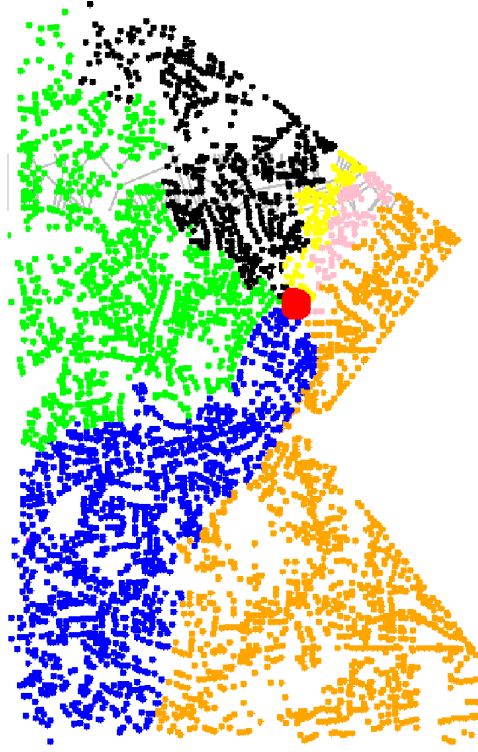
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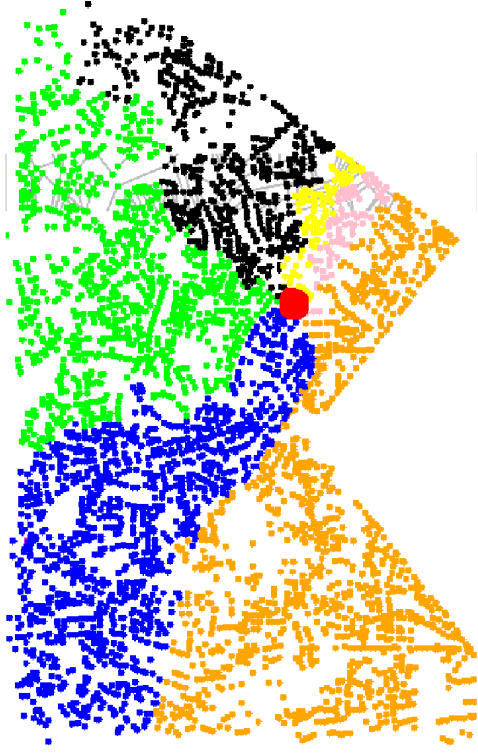
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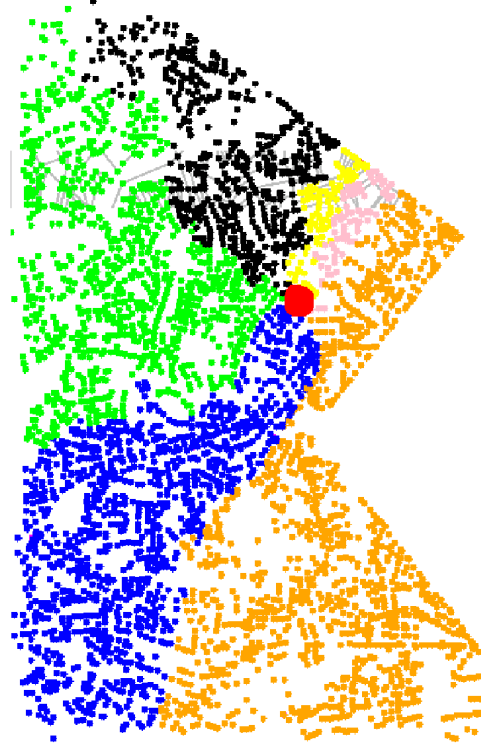
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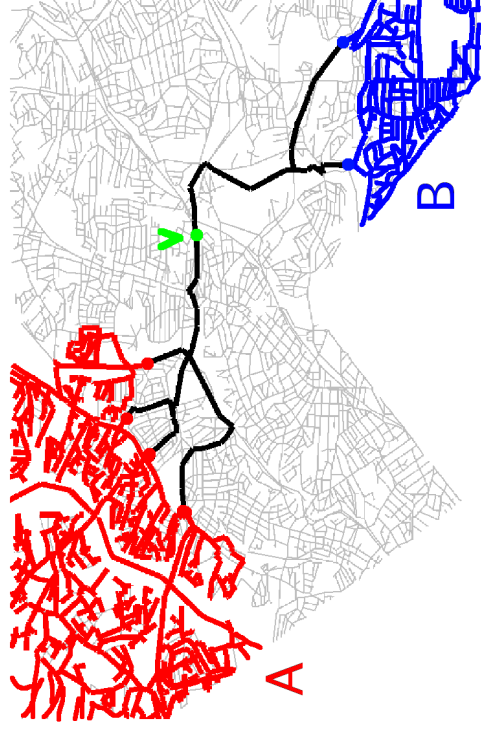
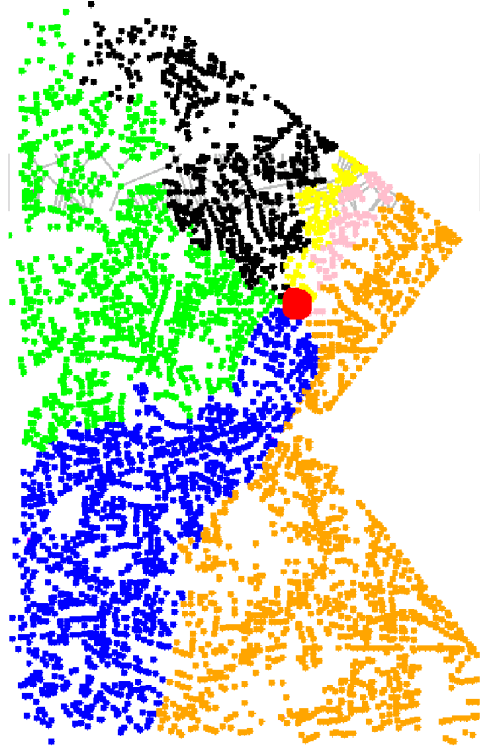
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  - A PCP is denoted by:  $(A, B, v)$ 
    - A is a set of source vertices
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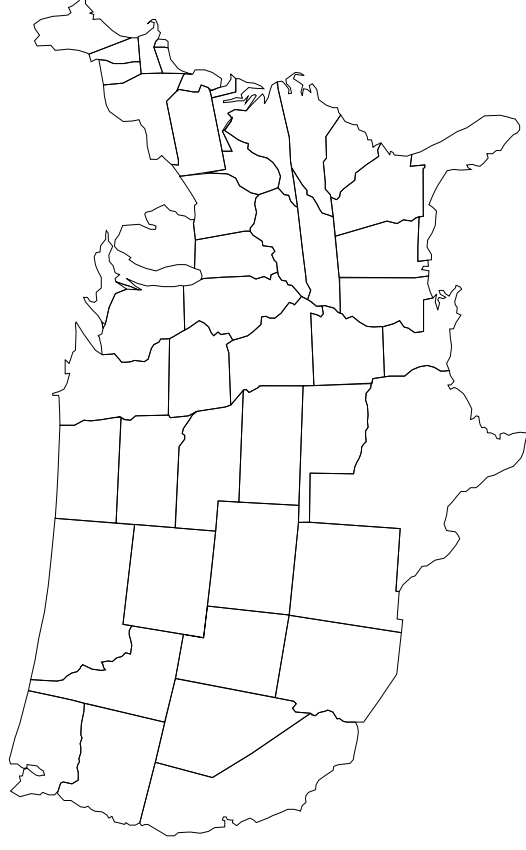
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  - Example of a path coherent pair





# Finding Path Coherent Pairs in Spatial Networks

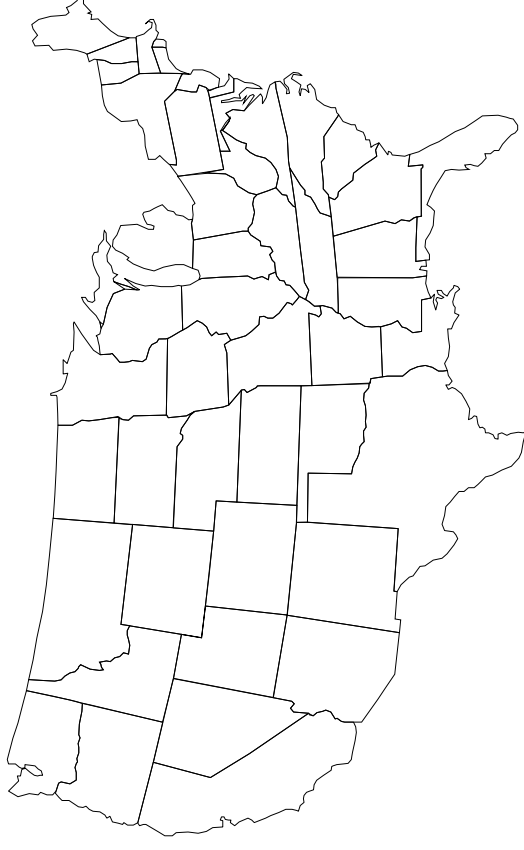
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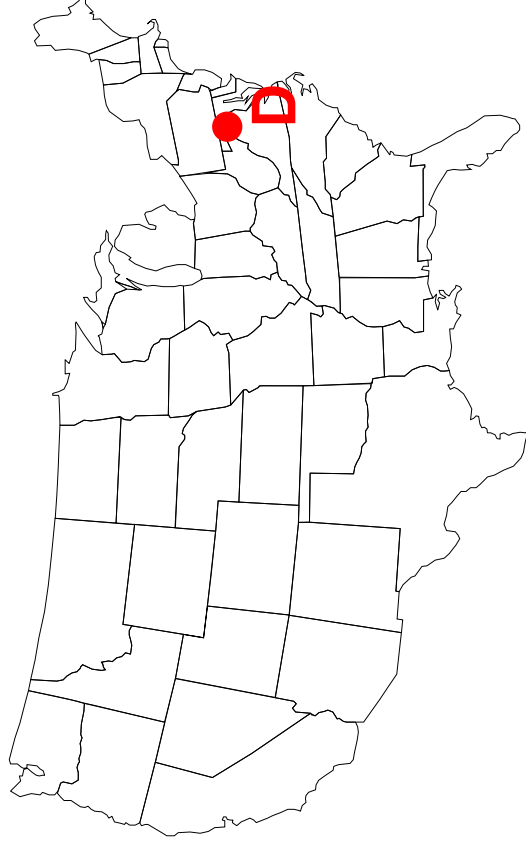
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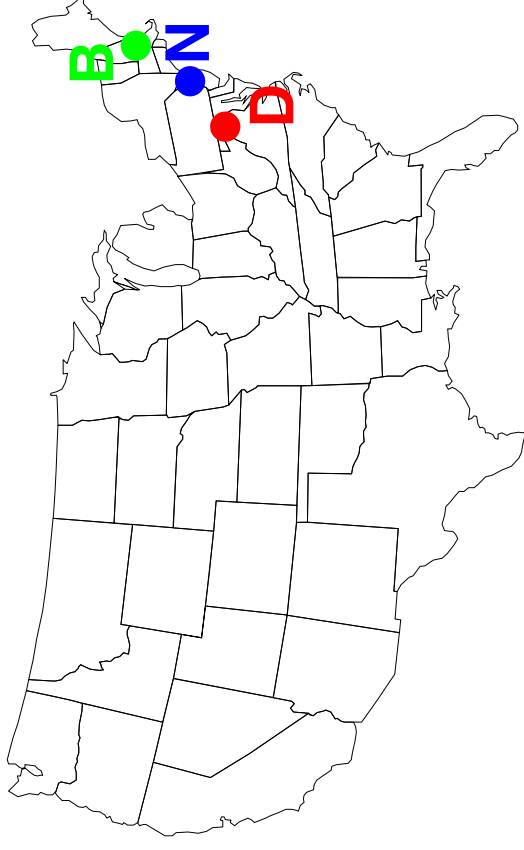
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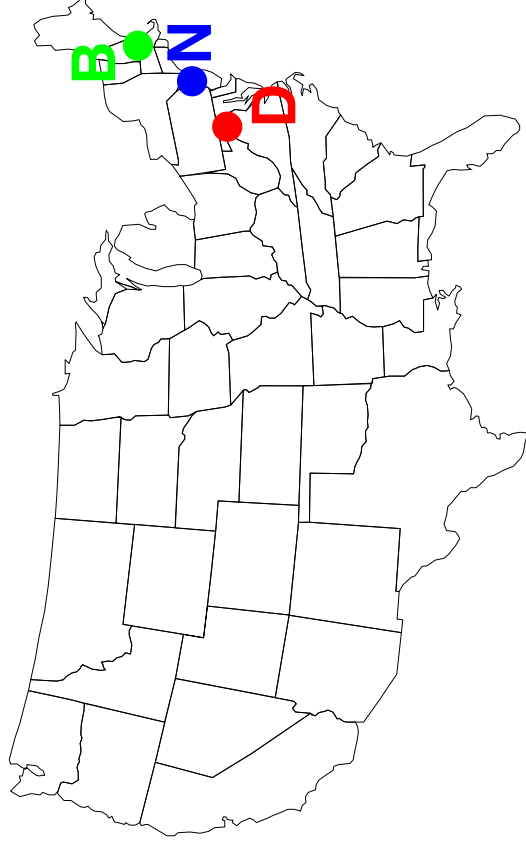
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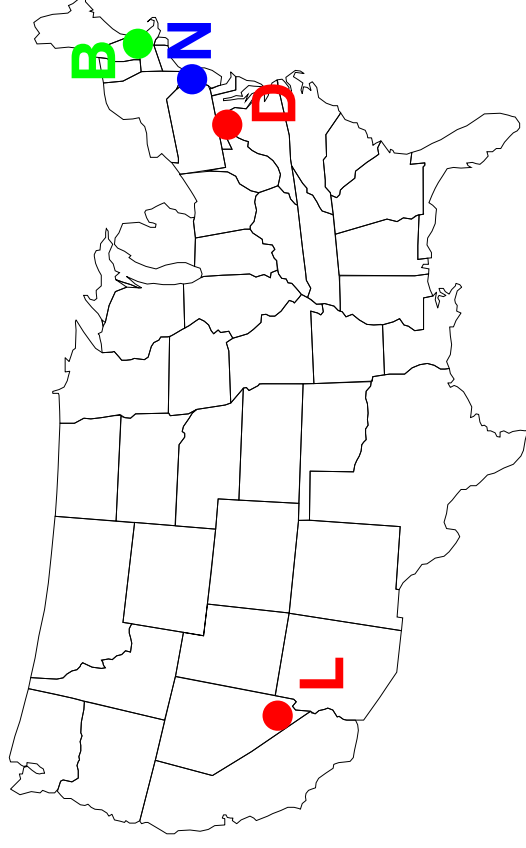
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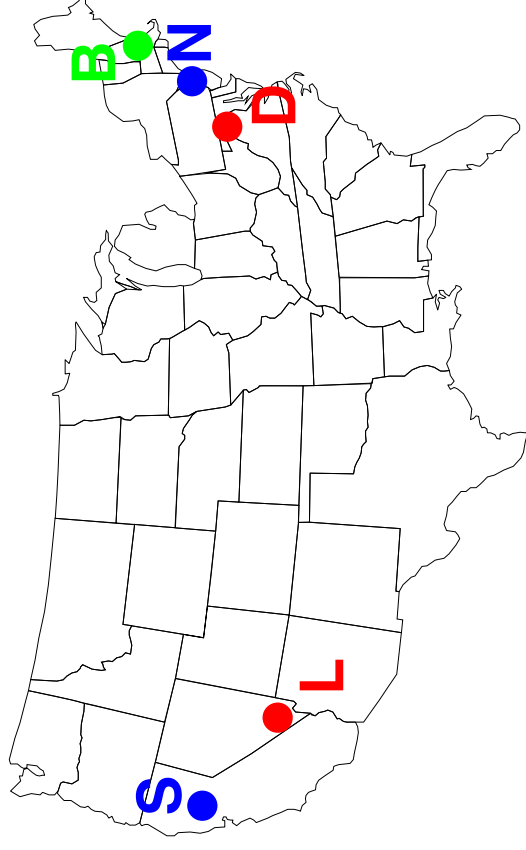
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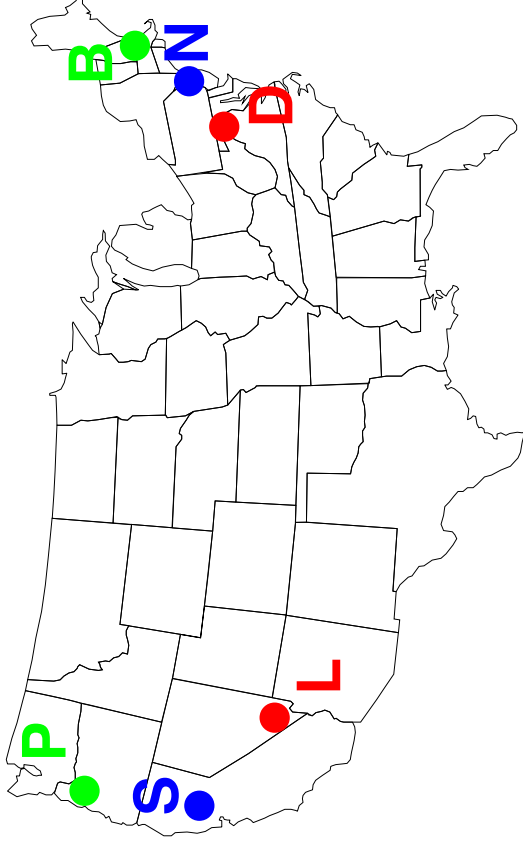
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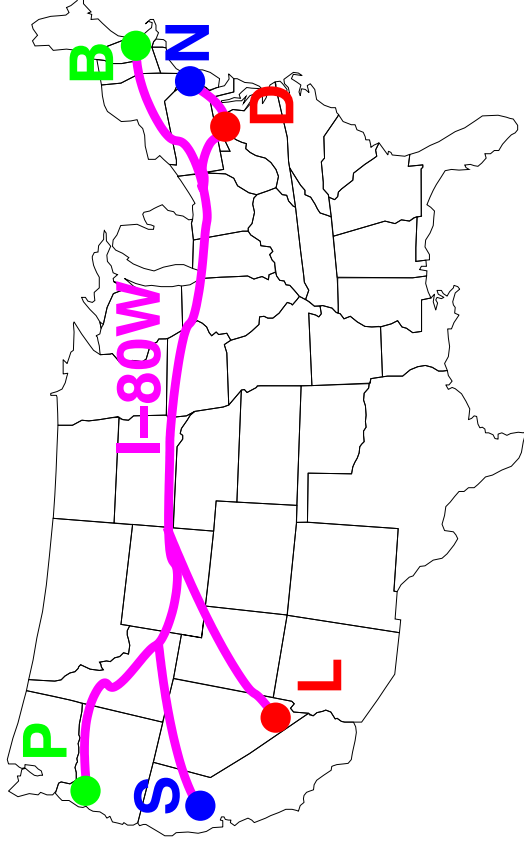
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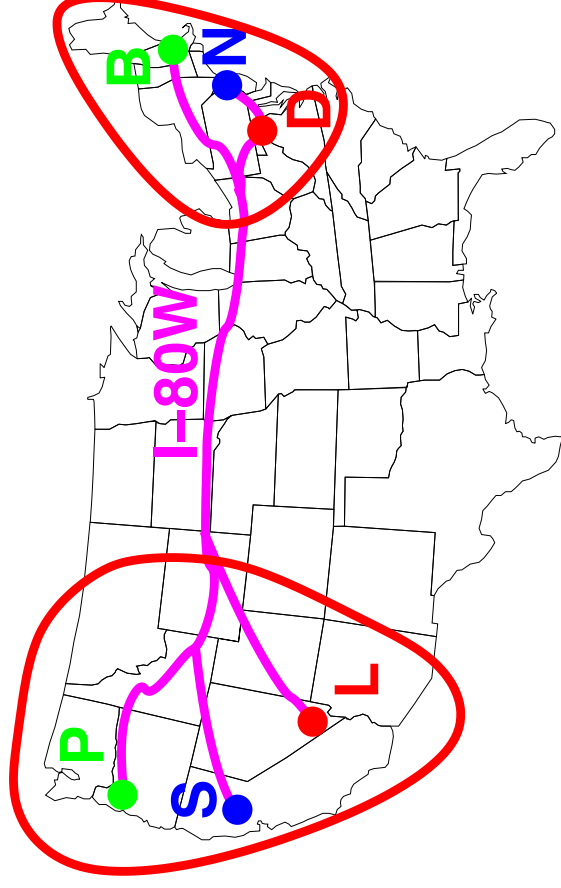
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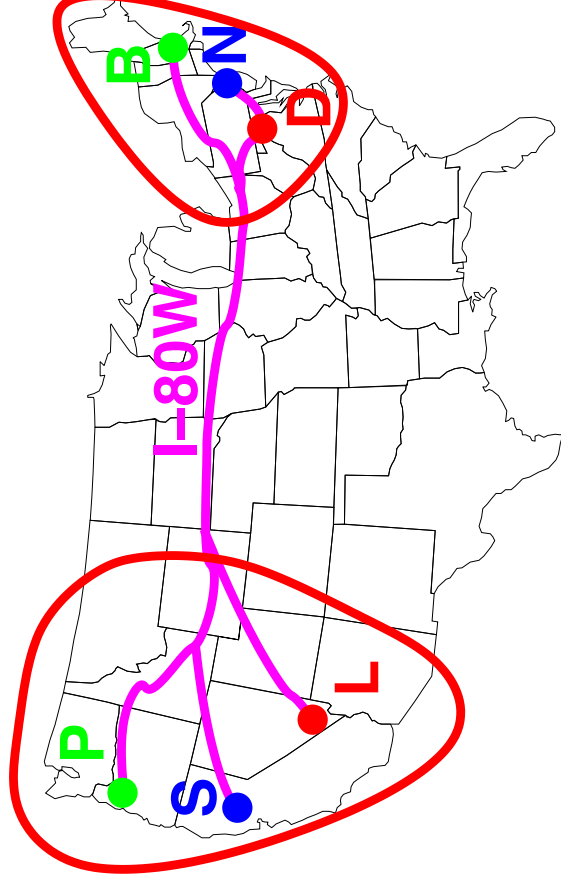
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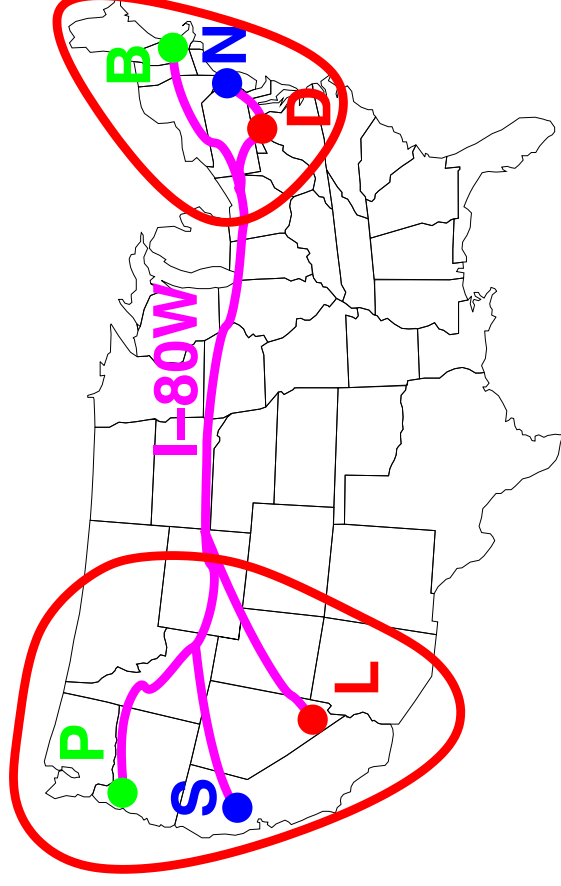


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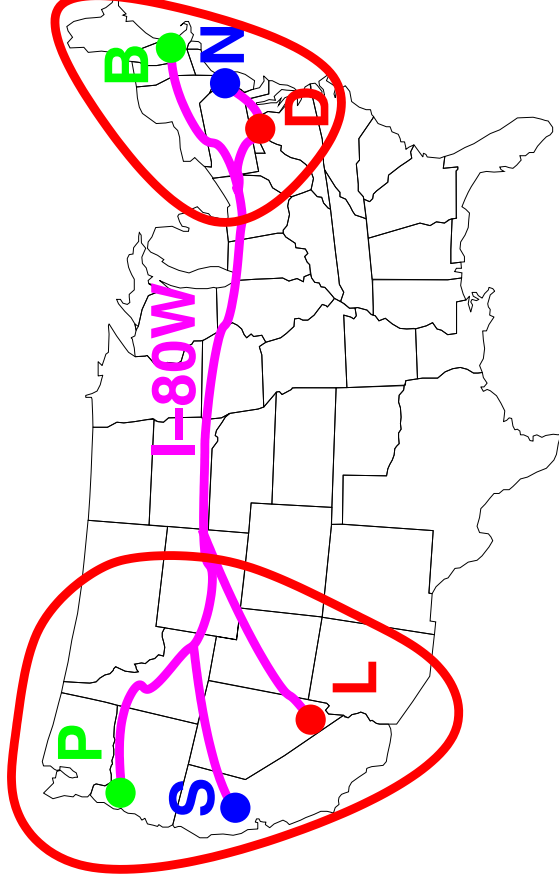
- Decompose road network into PCPs:

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- Key idea is the analogy to the well-separated pairs in computational geometry



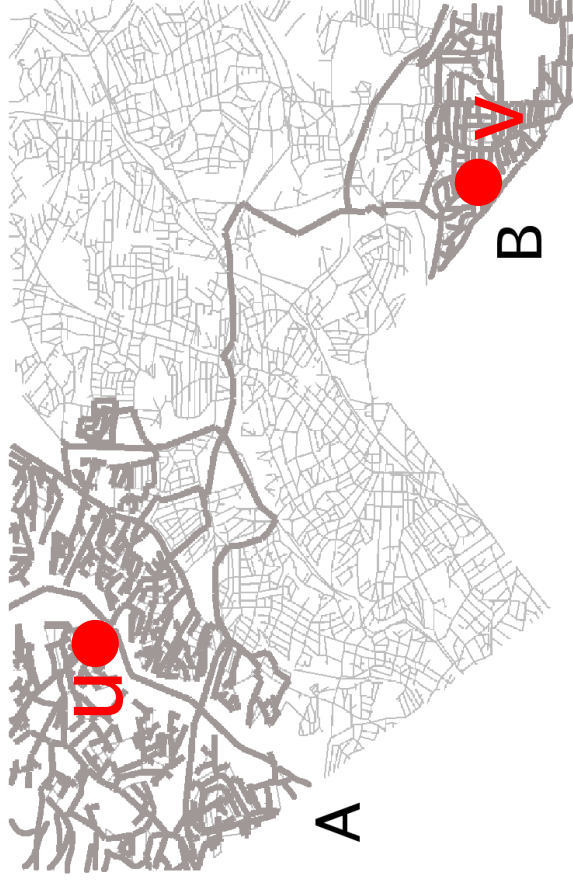
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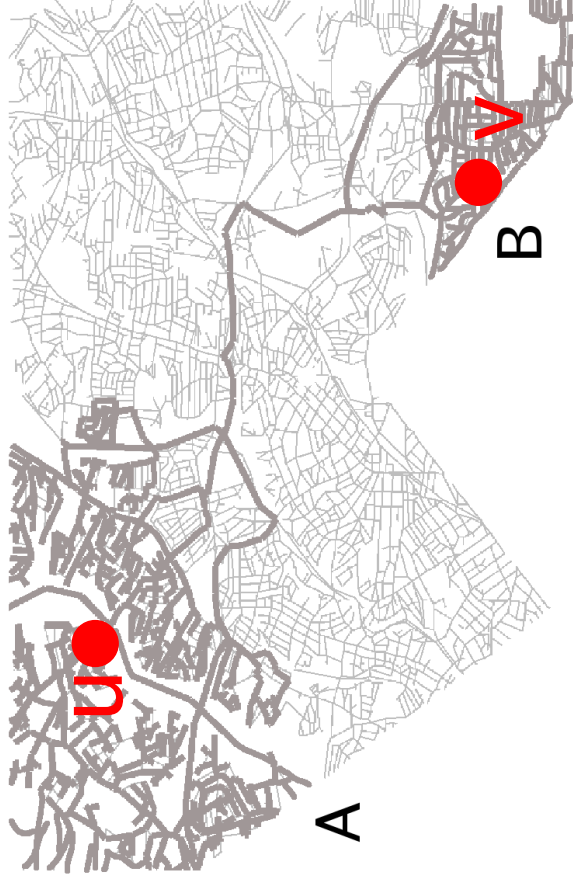
- Provide near instantly an intermediate vertex between **a source  $u$**  and **a destination  $v$**





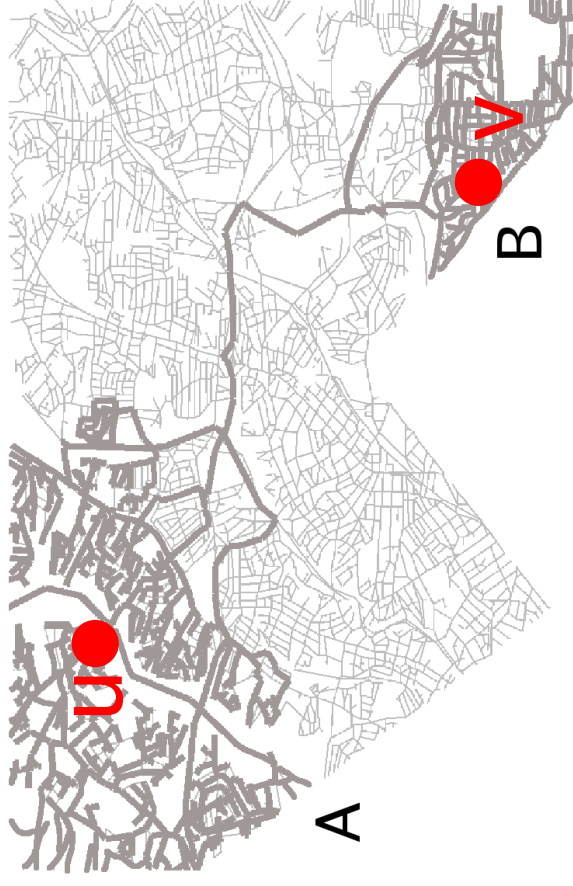
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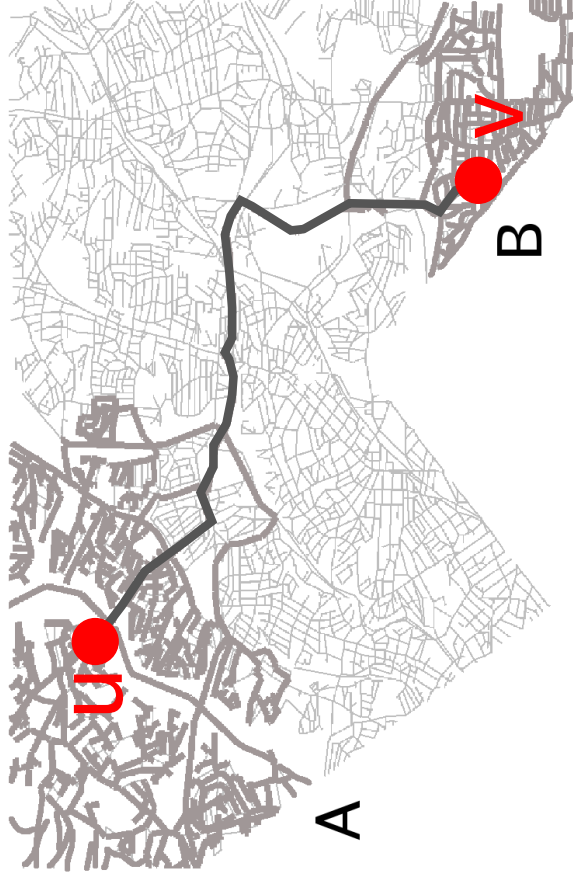
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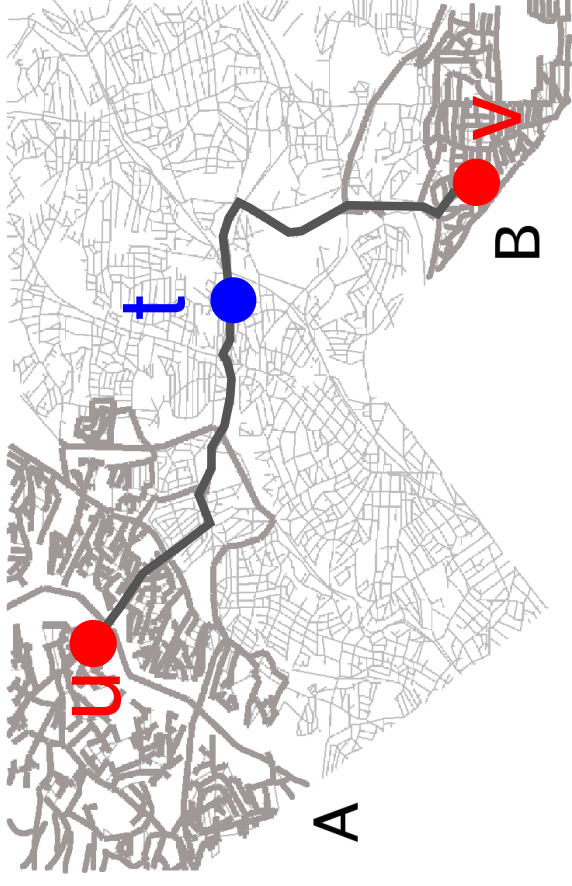
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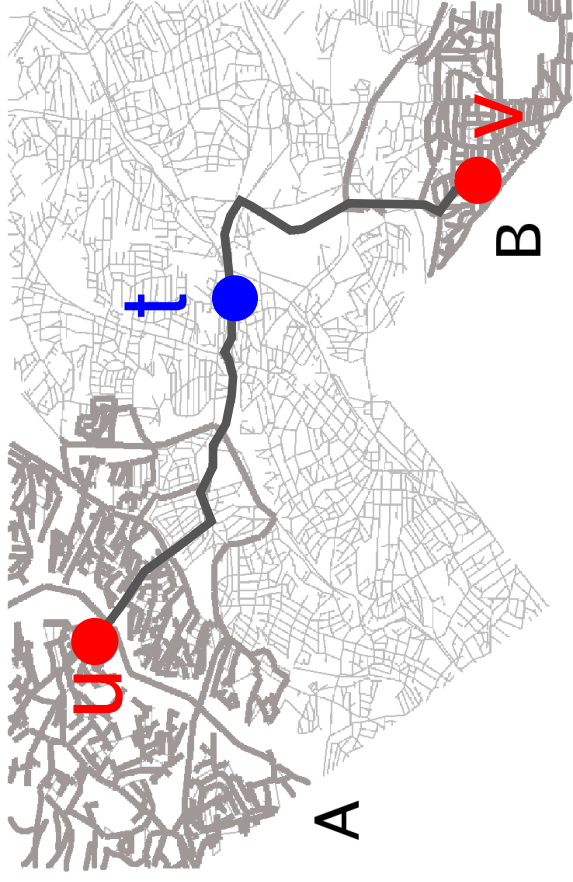
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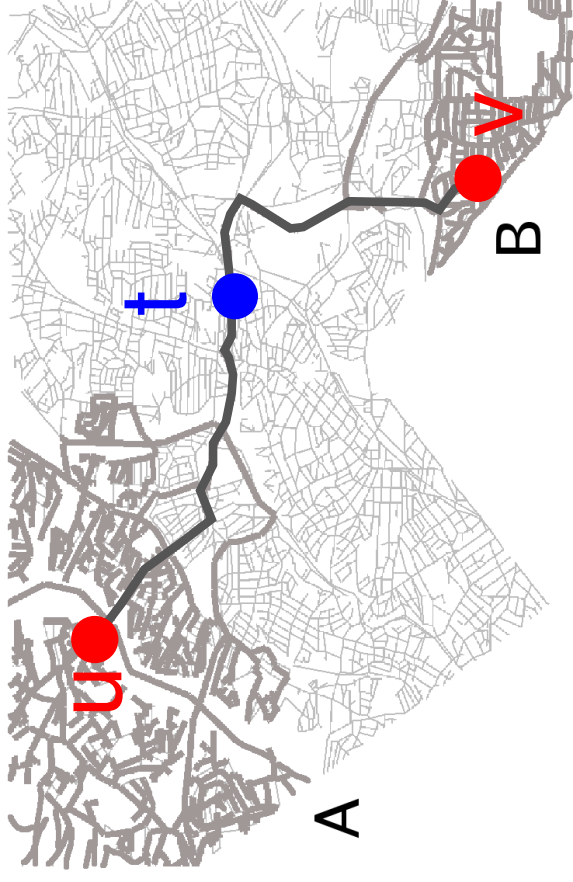
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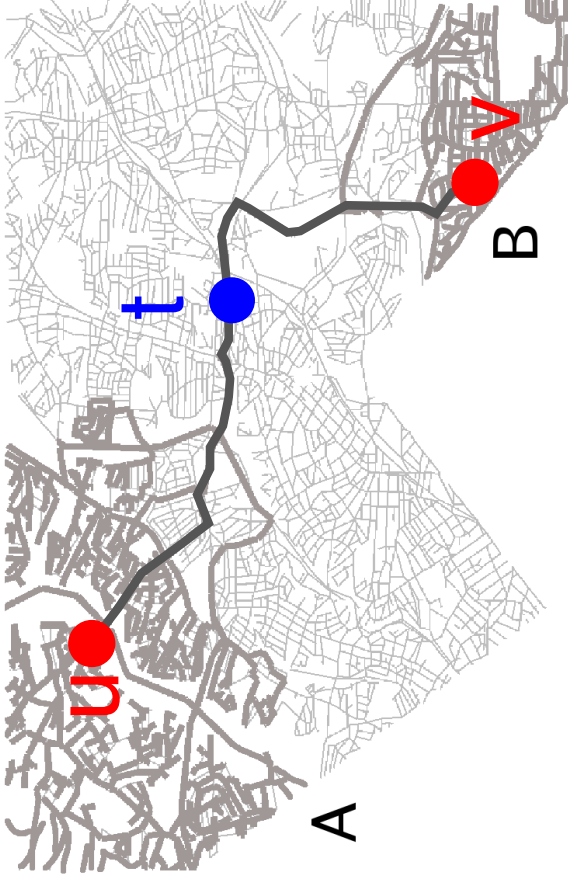
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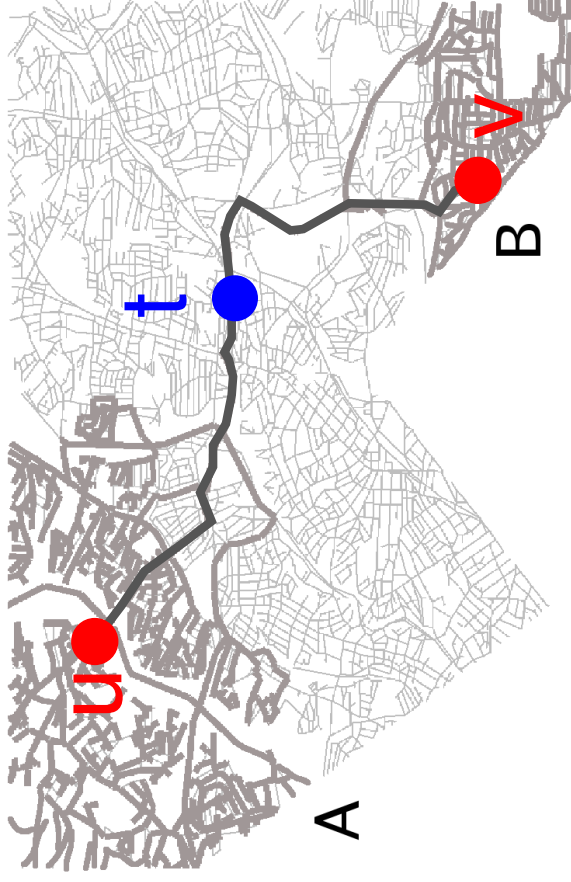
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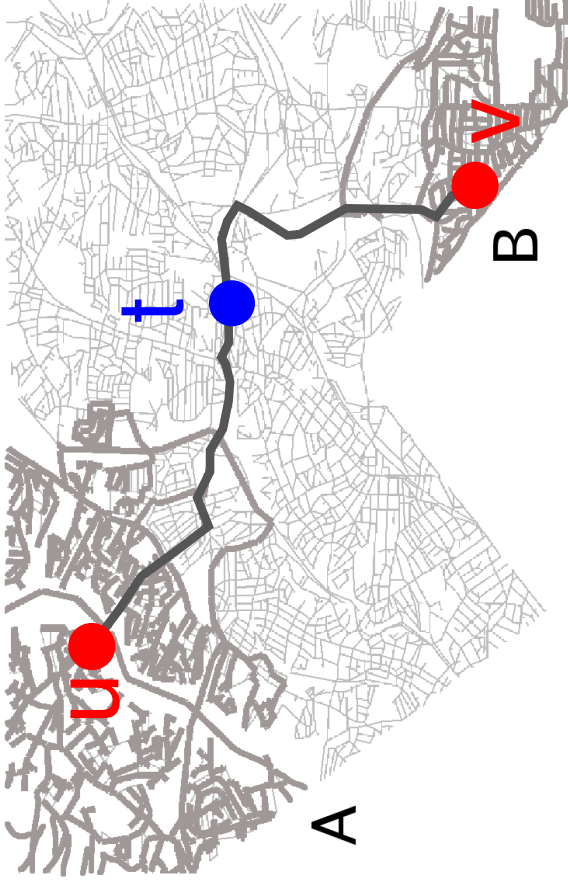
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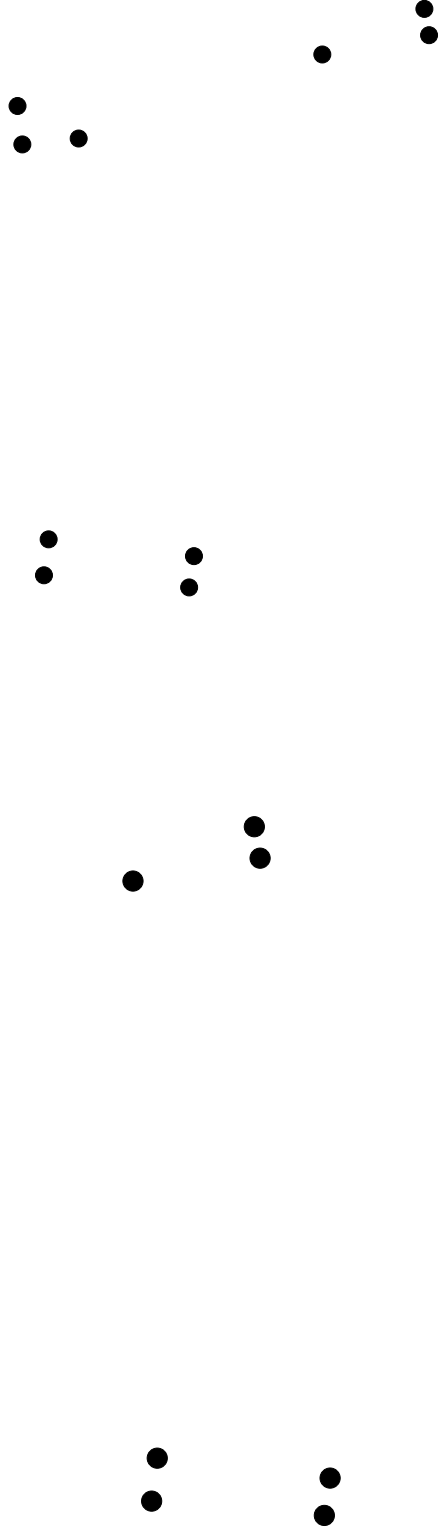
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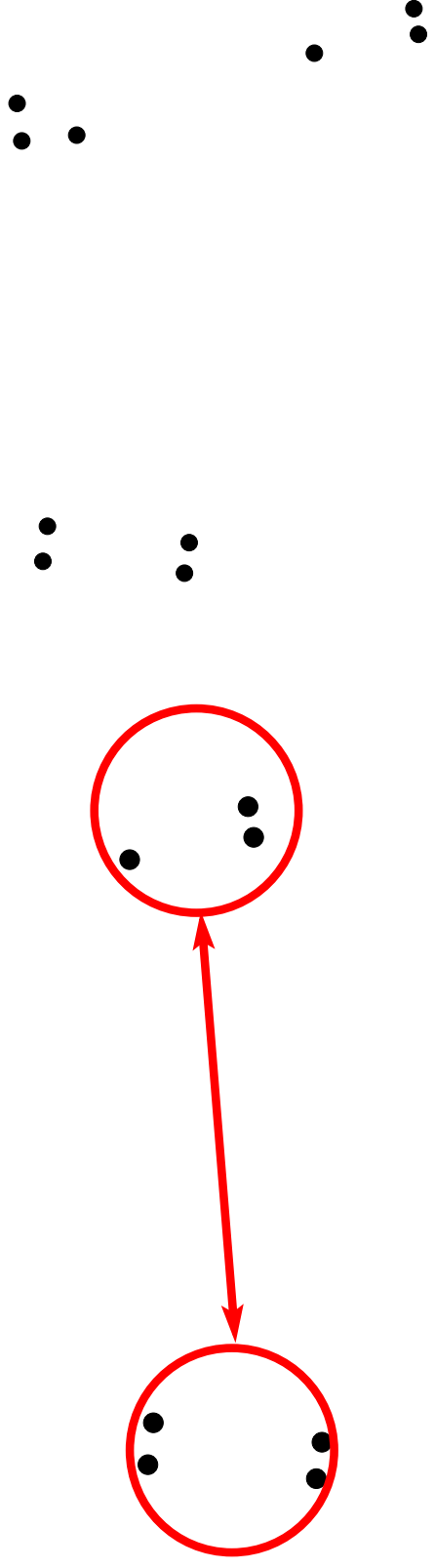
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    - Using a hash table, access in  $O(1)$  time

# Definition of Well-Separated Pairs (WSPs)



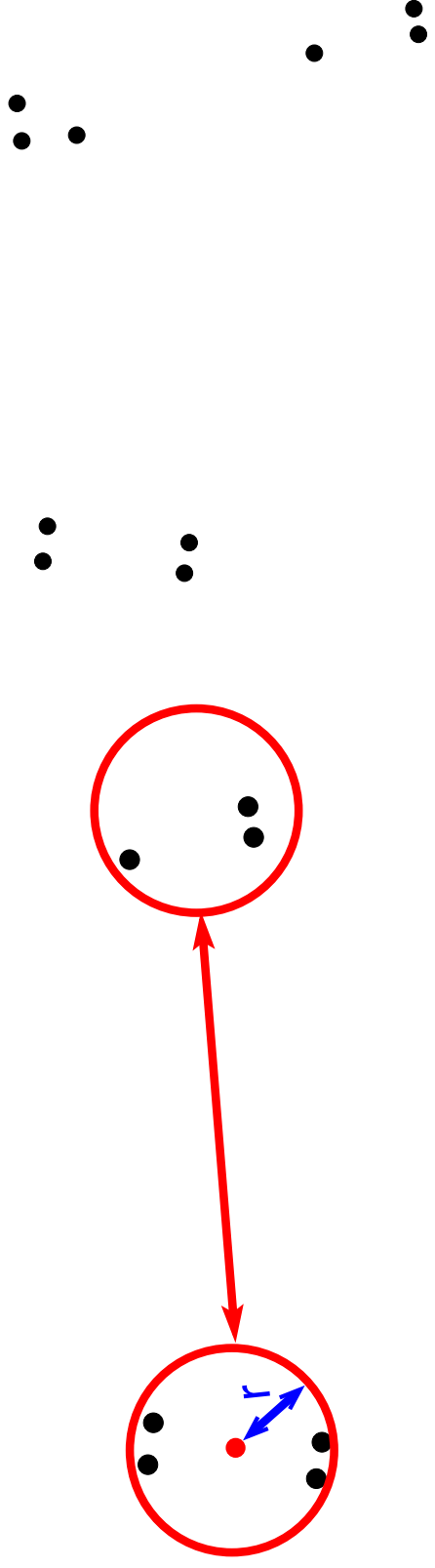
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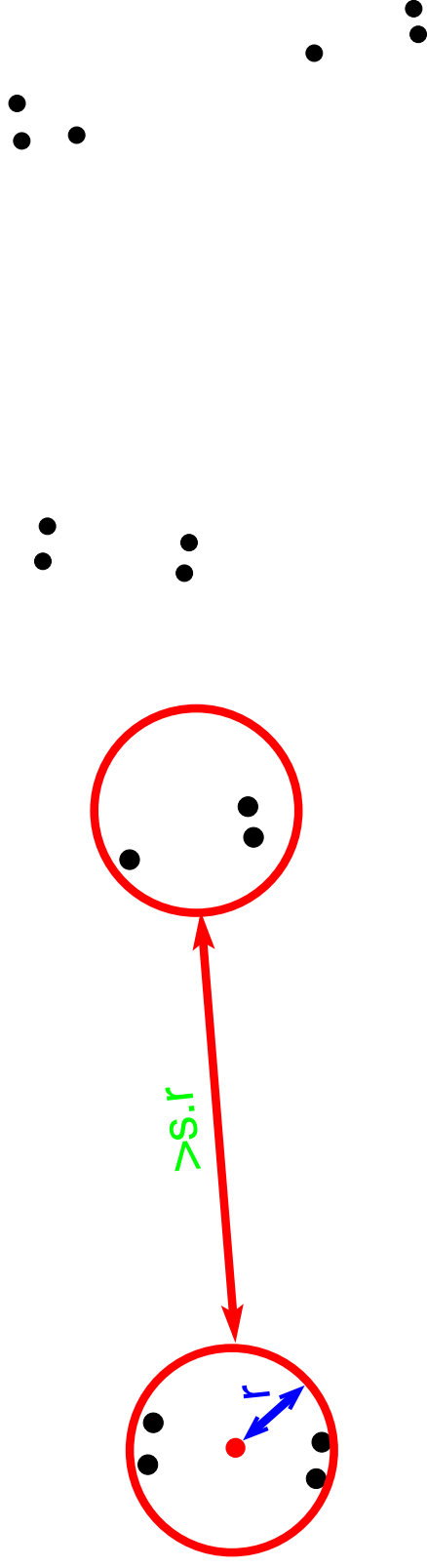
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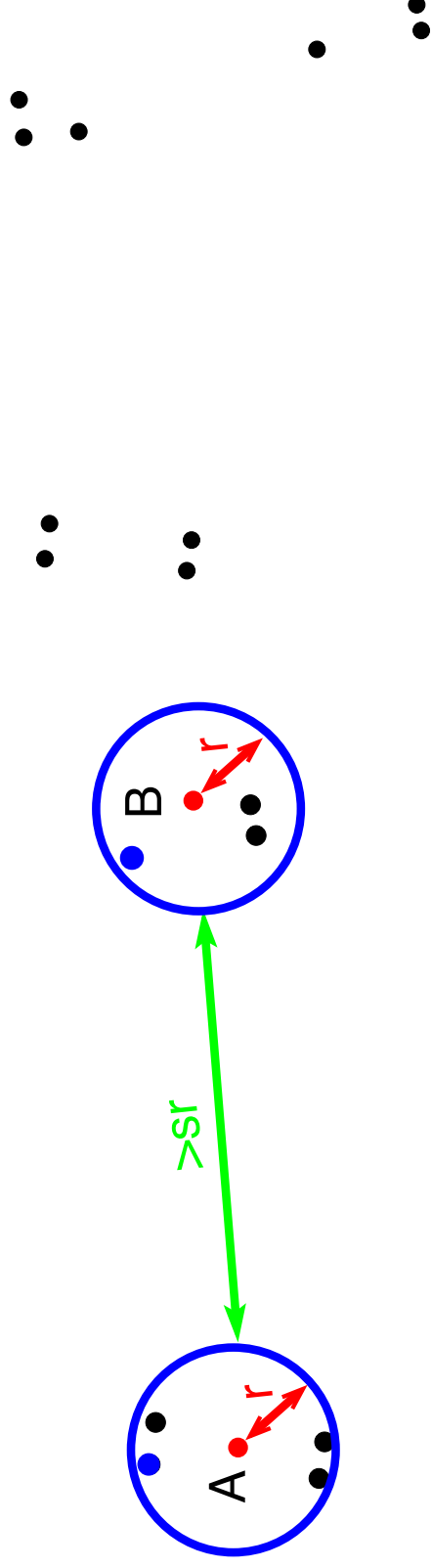
- Let  $s > 0$  be the separation factor
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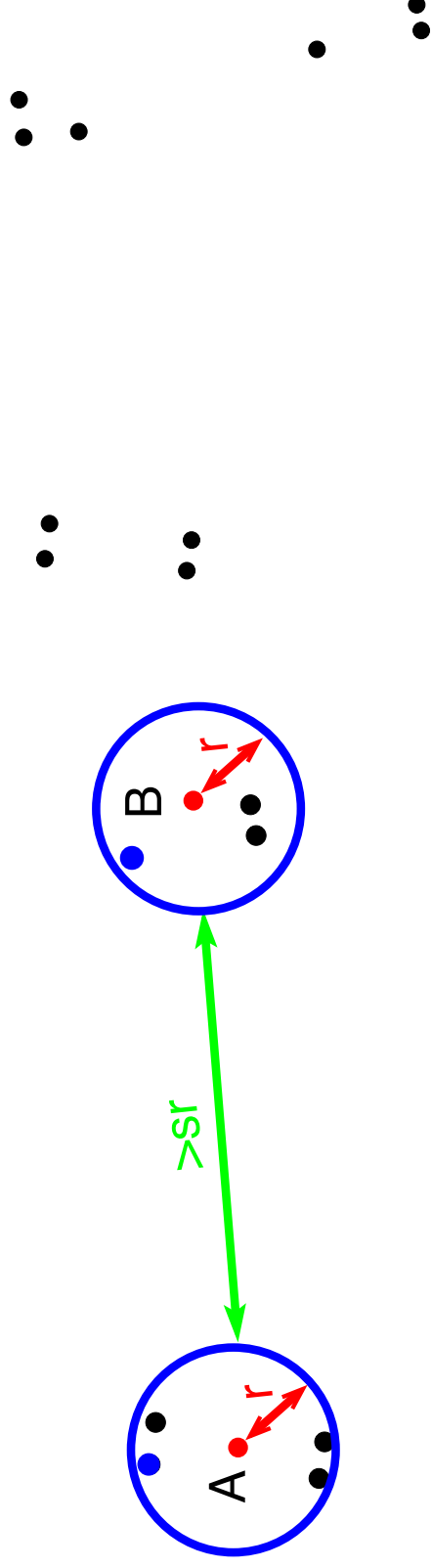
- Let  $s > 0$  be the separation factor
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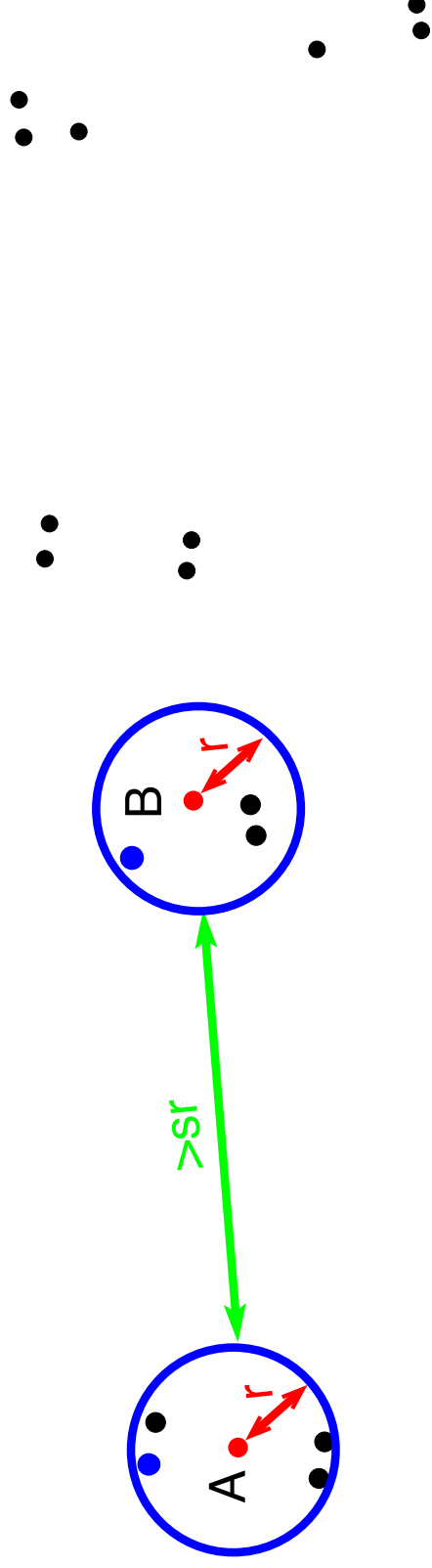
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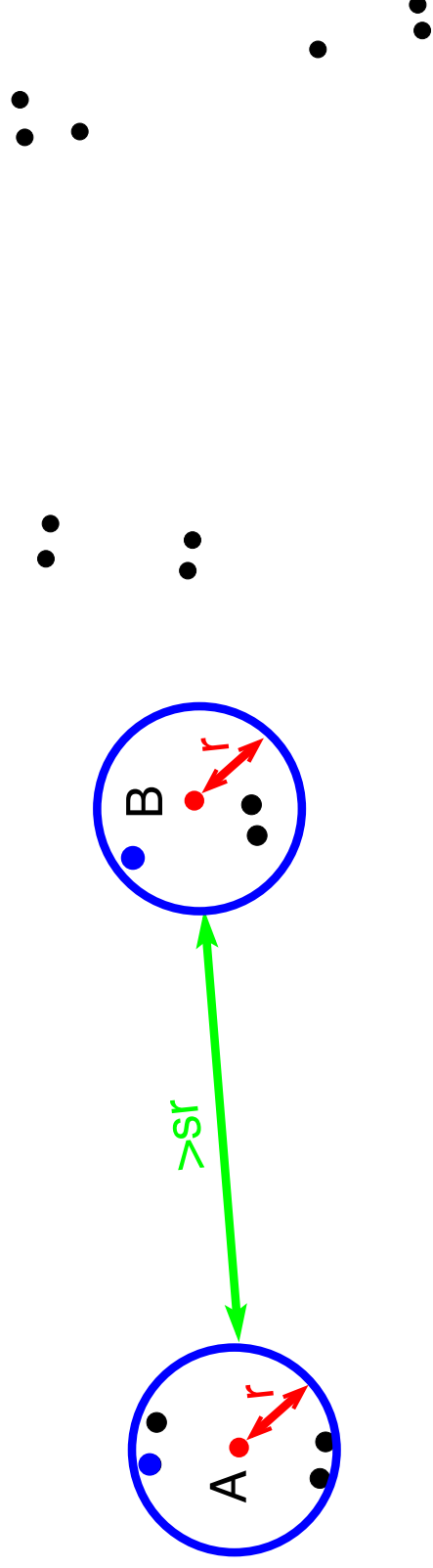
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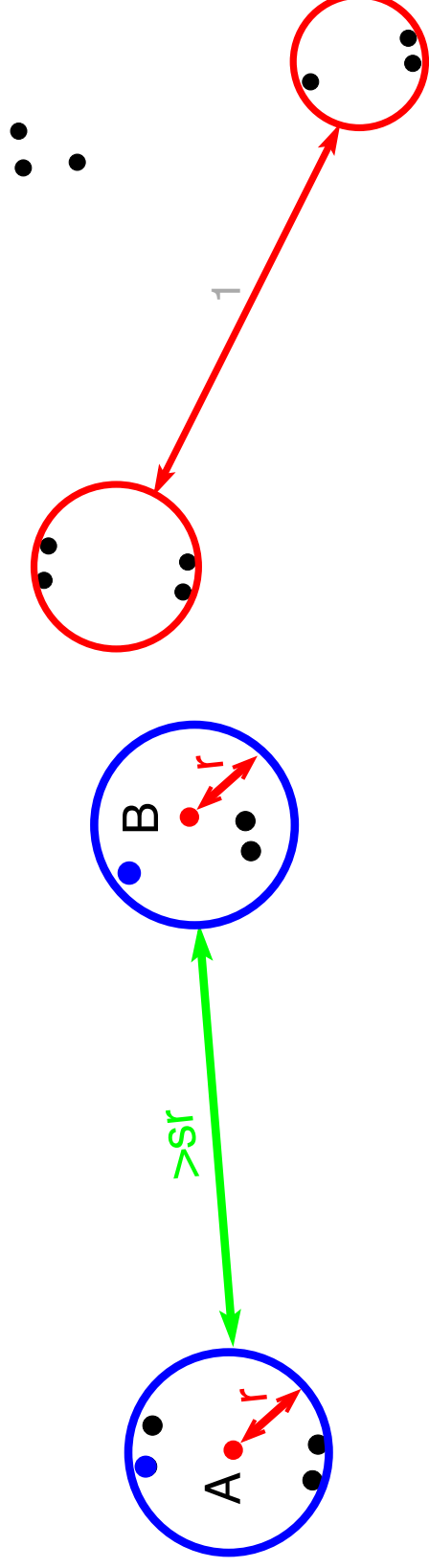


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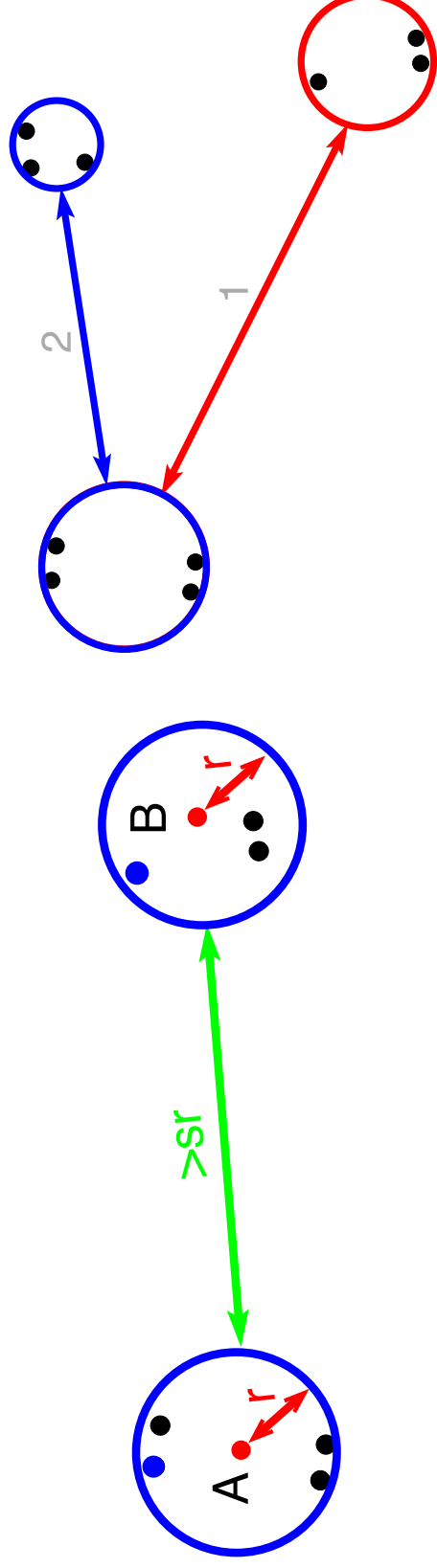
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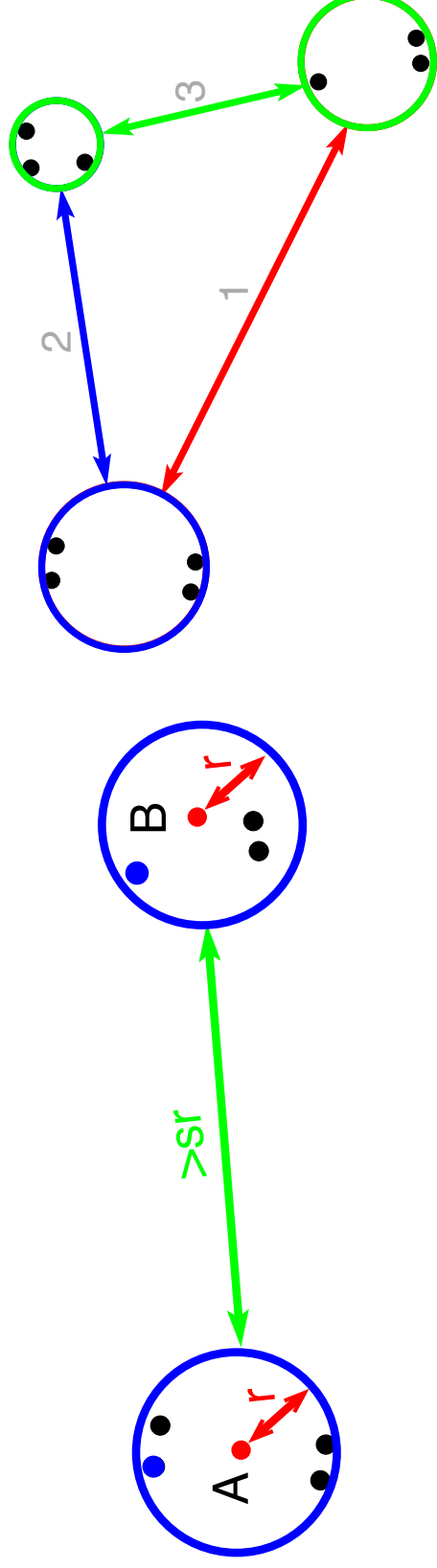
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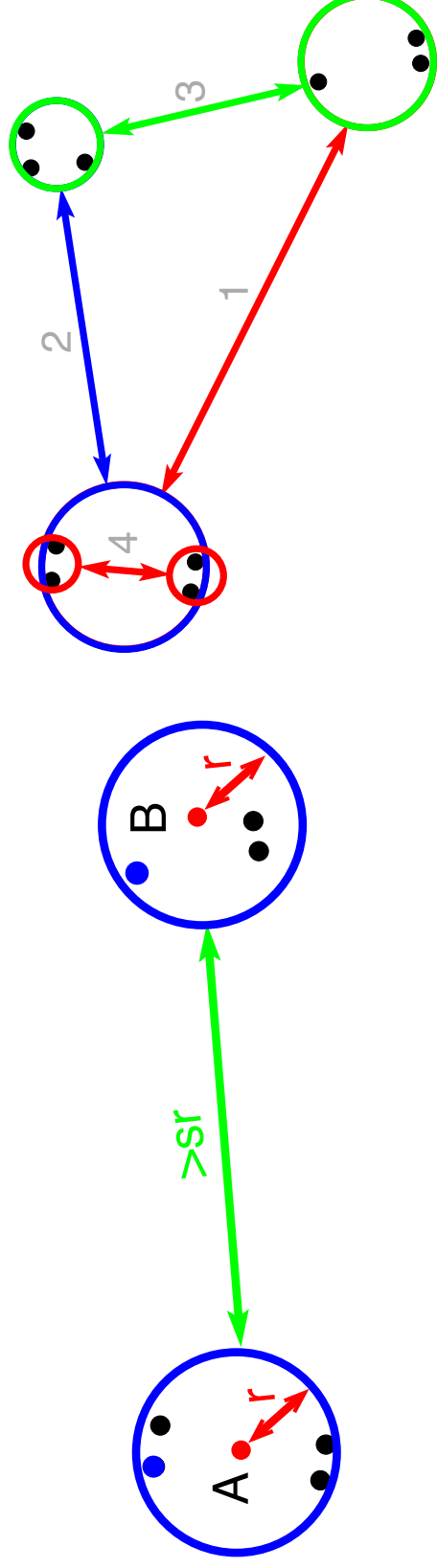
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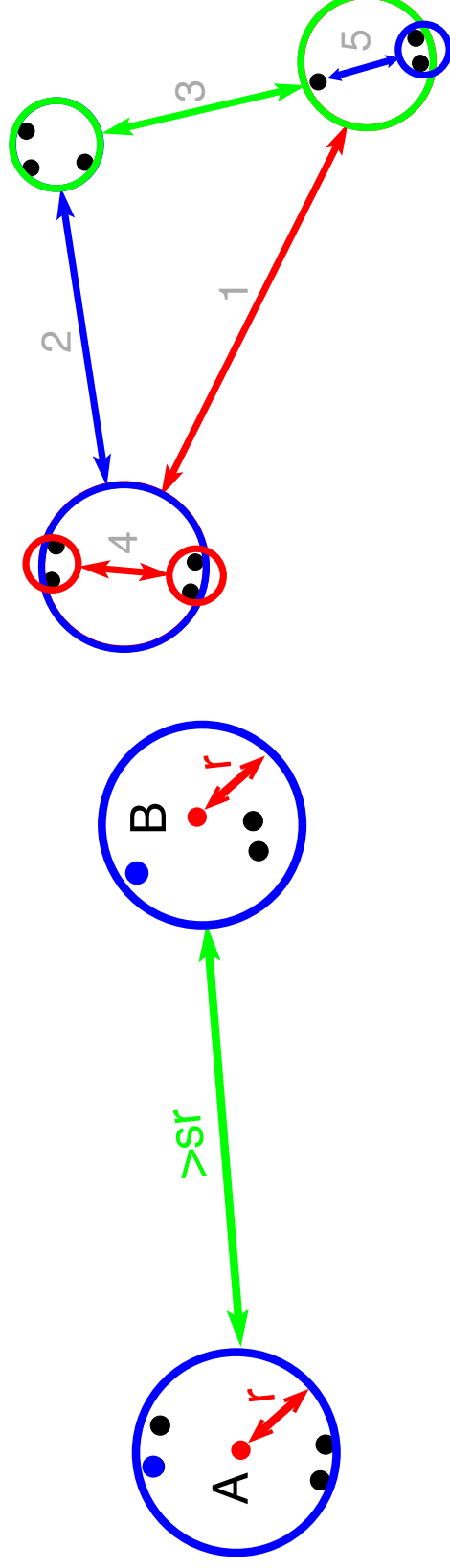
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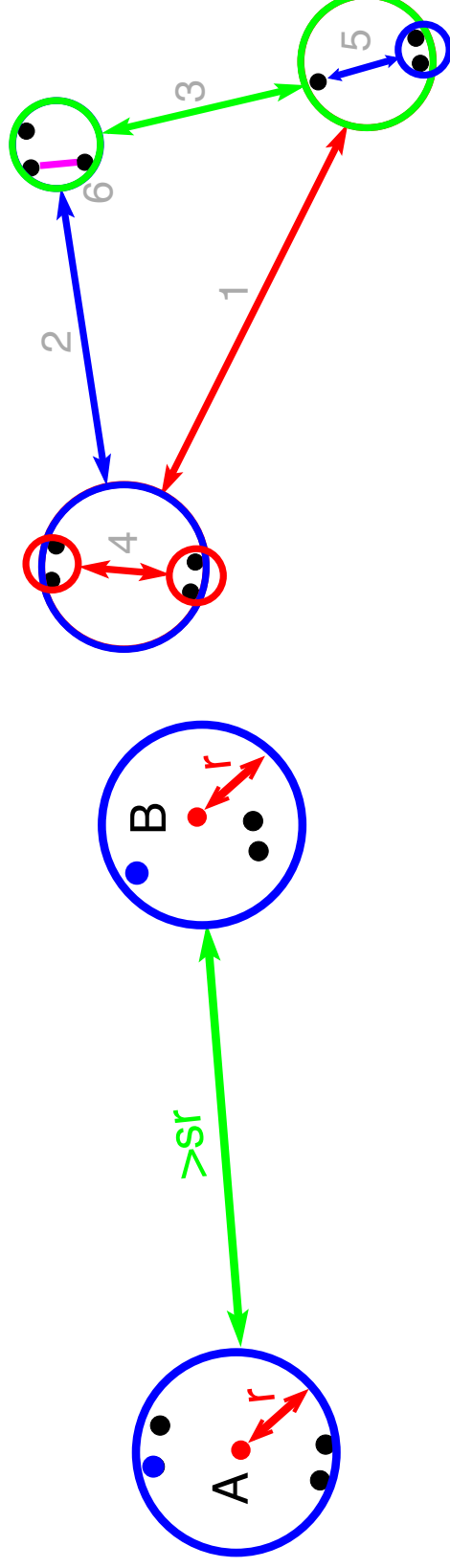
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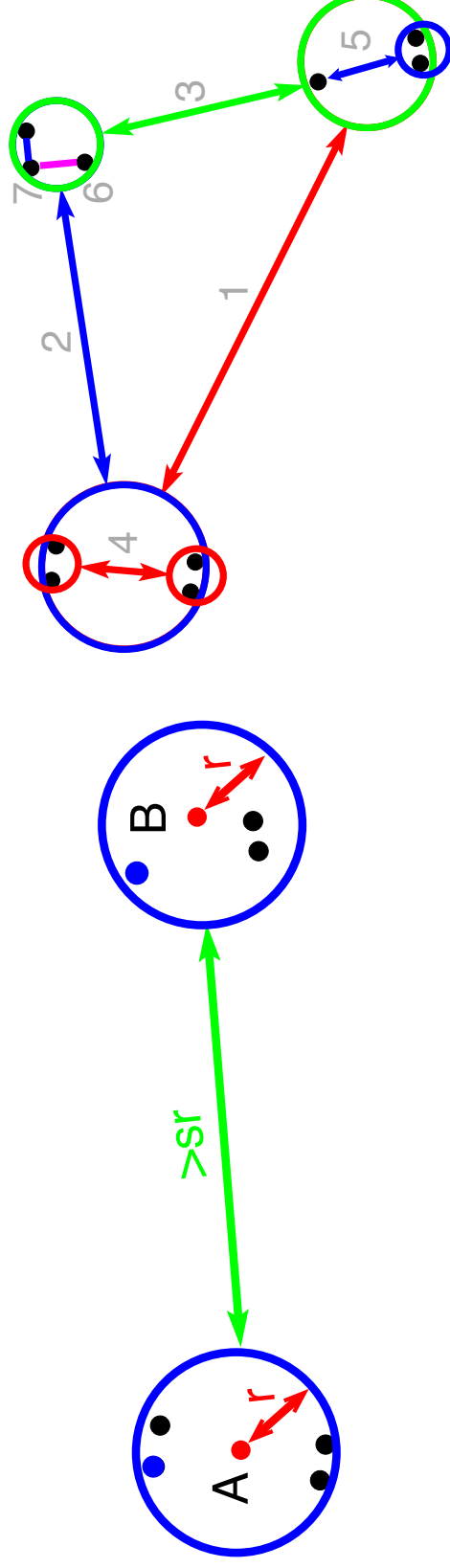
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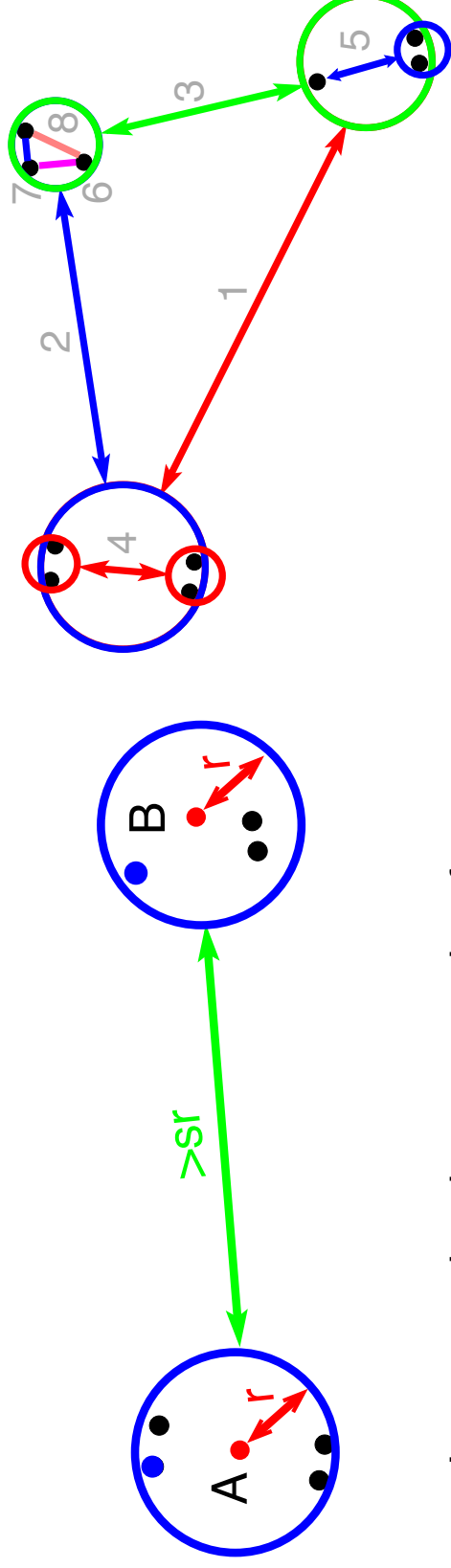
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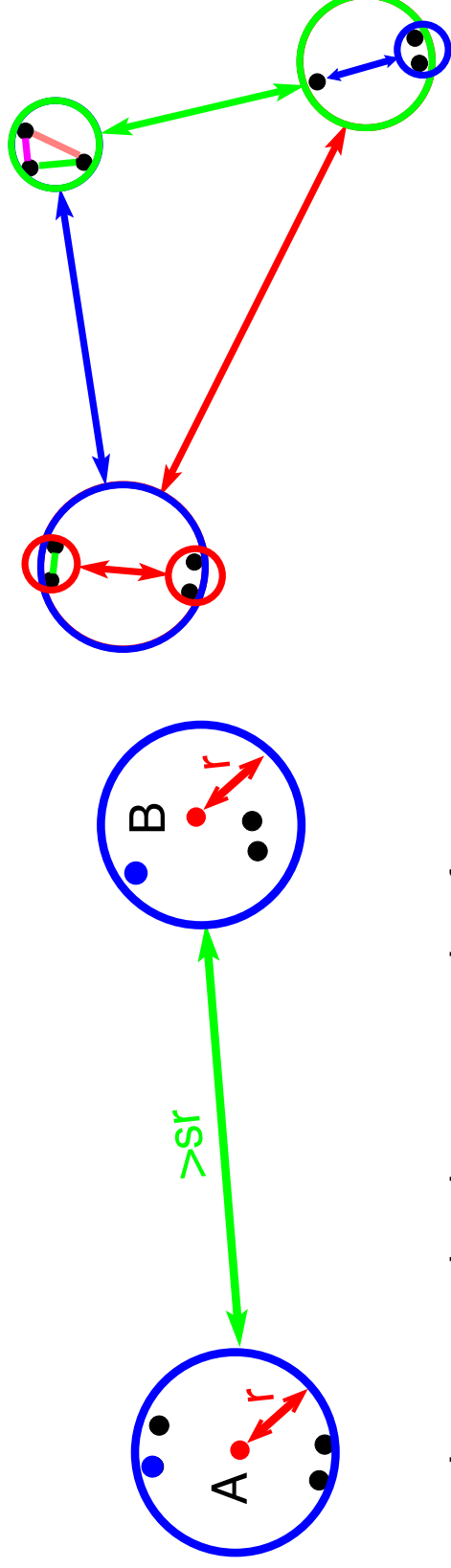


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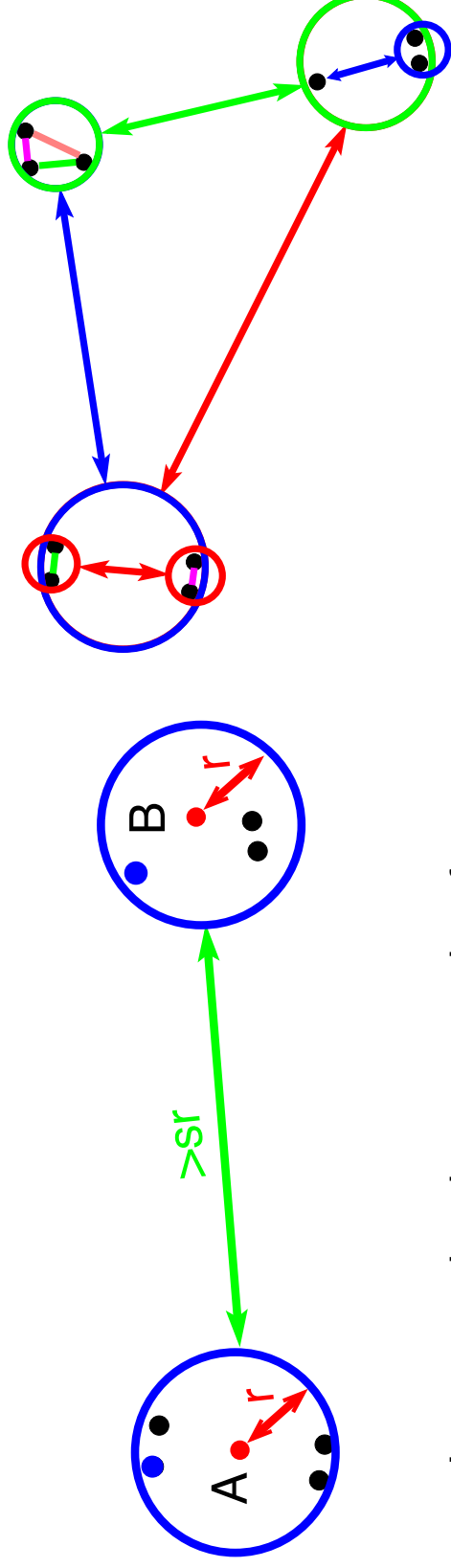
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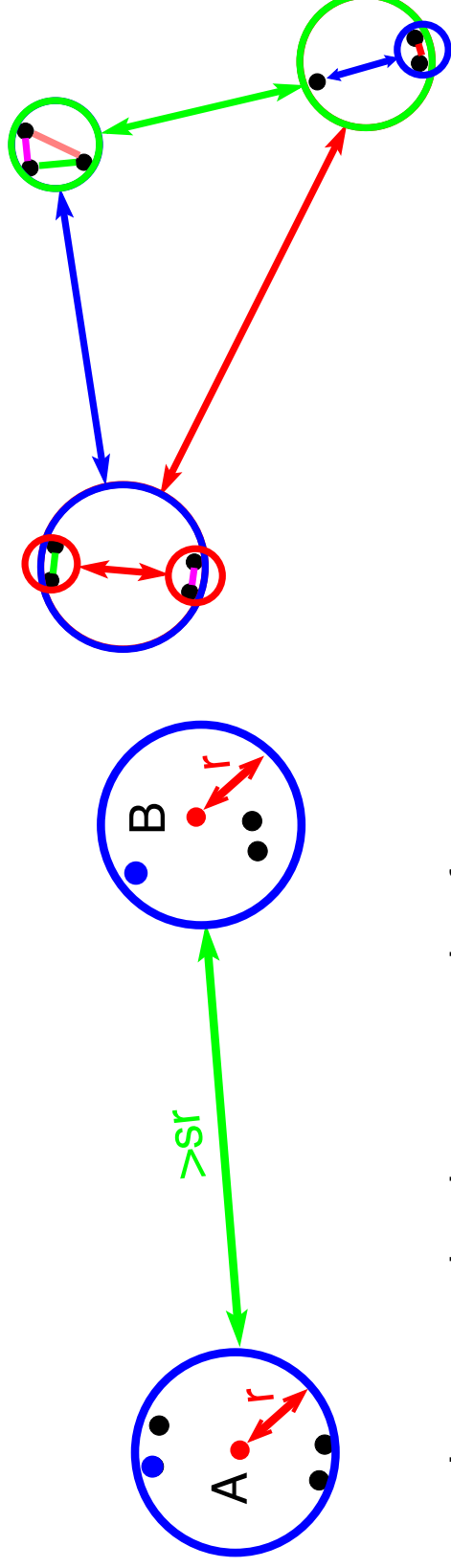
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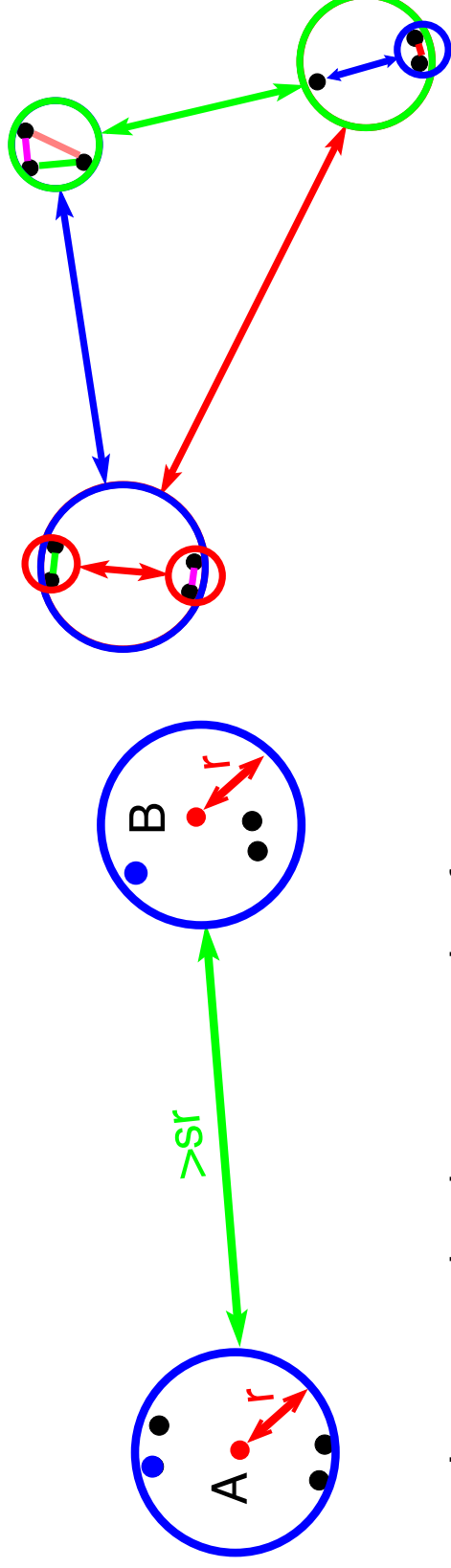
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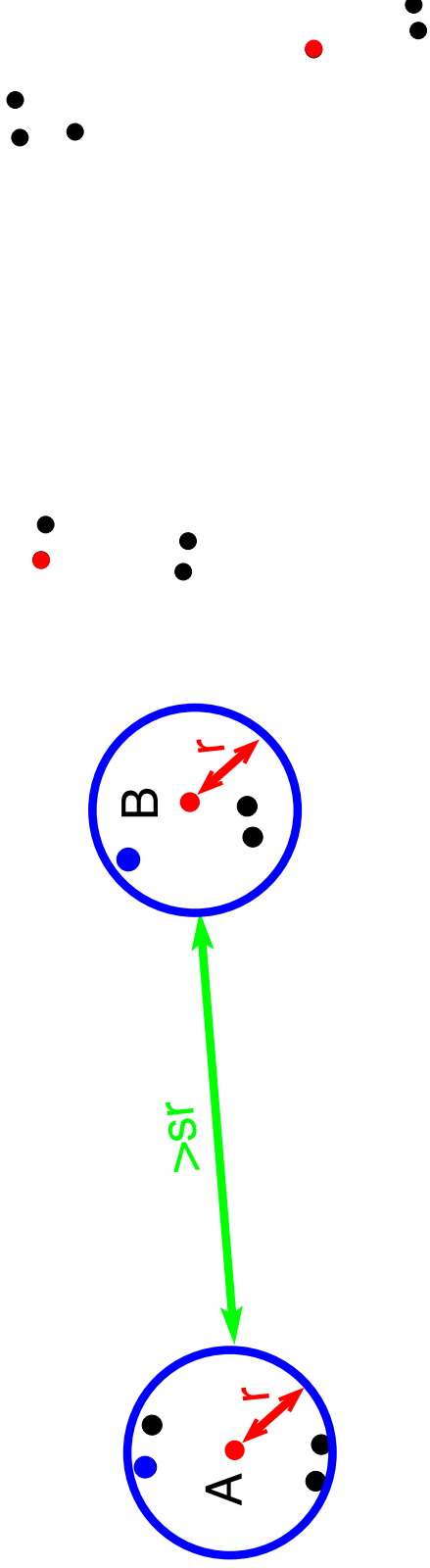
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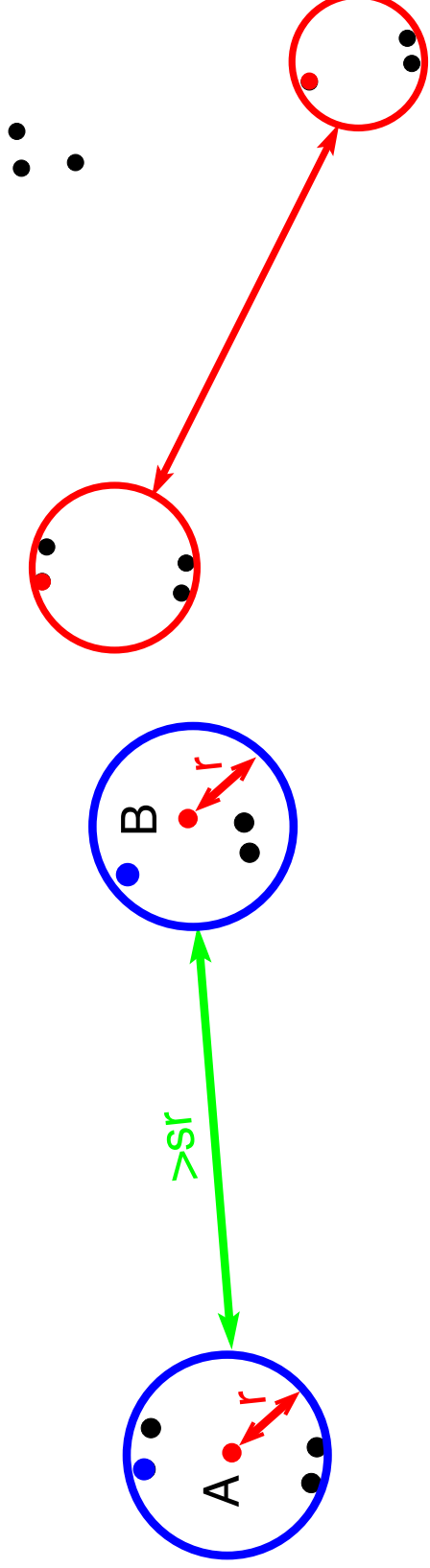
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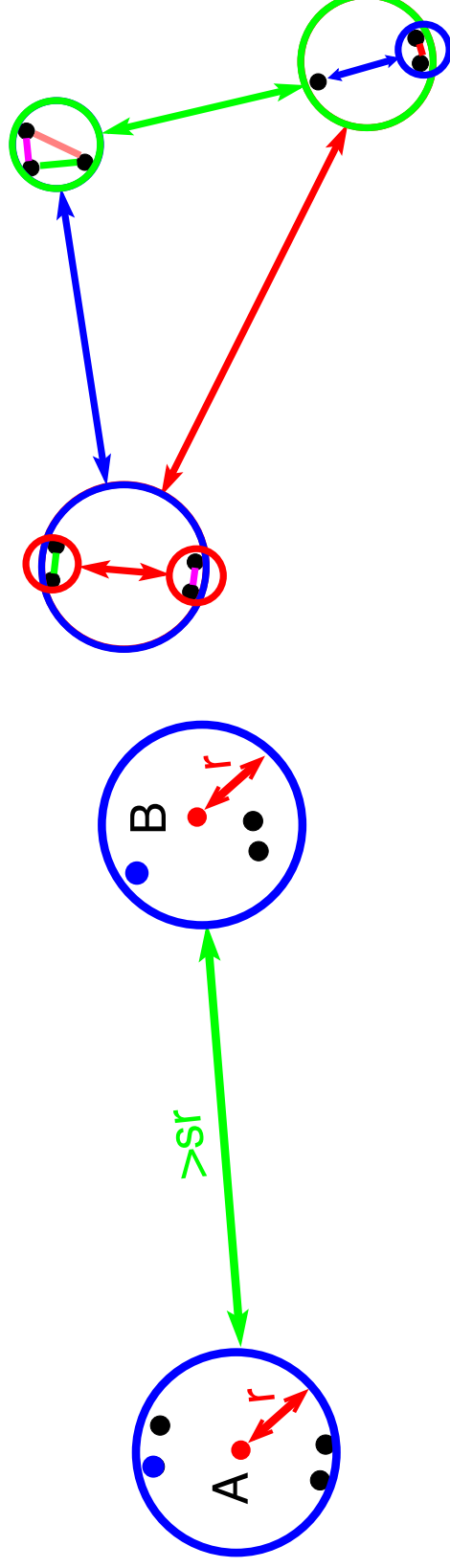
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- WSP decomposition (WSPD) contains  $O(s^d n)$  WSPs [Callahan et al., 1995]



# PCP Decomposition

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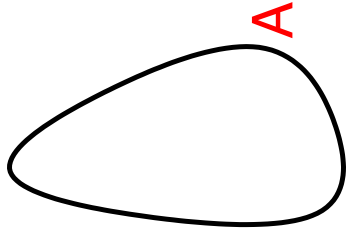
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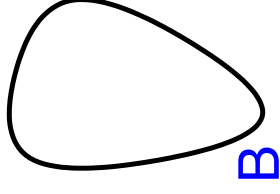
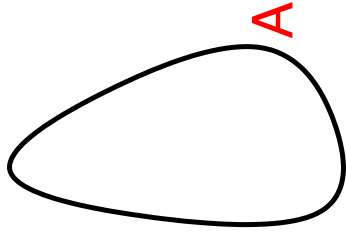
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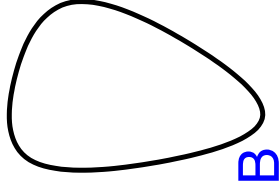
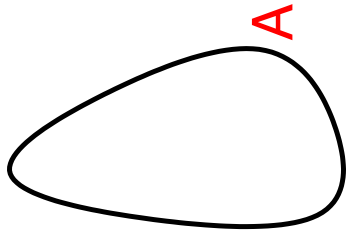
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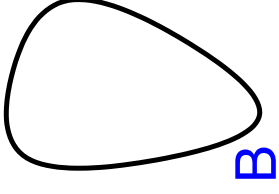
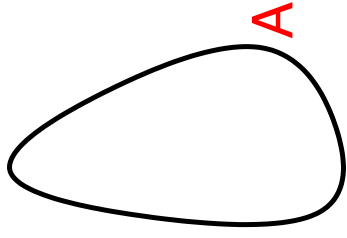
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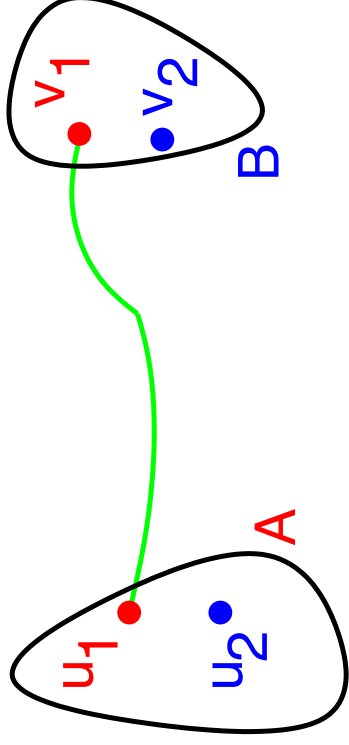
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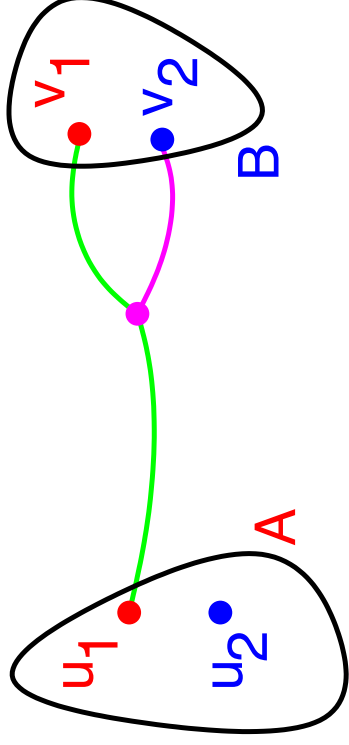
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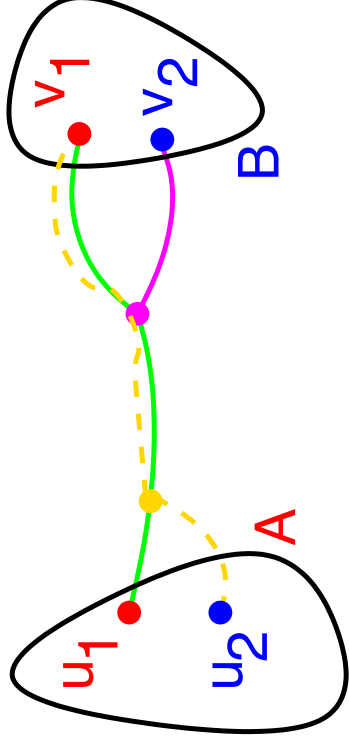
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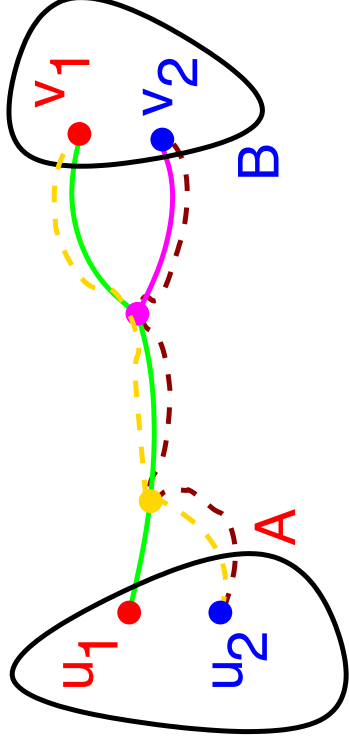
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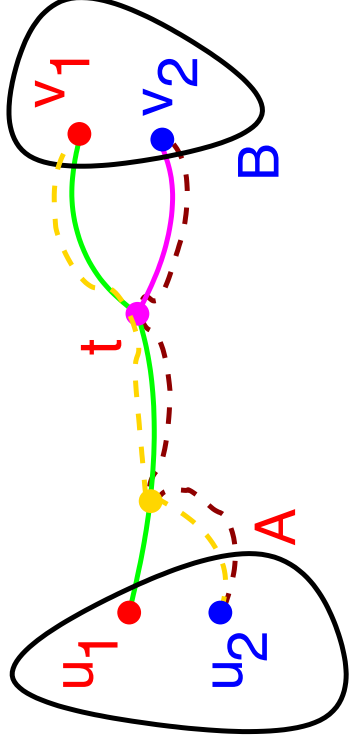
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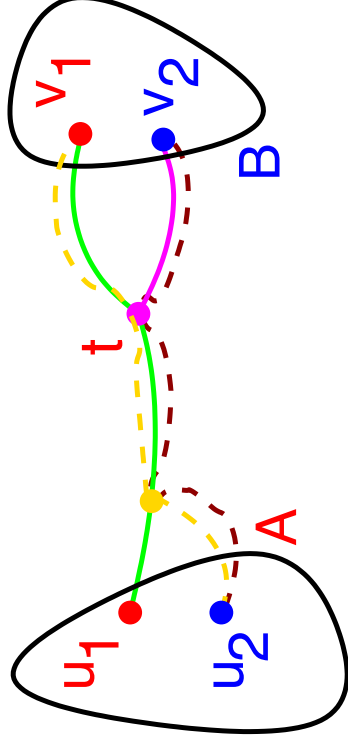
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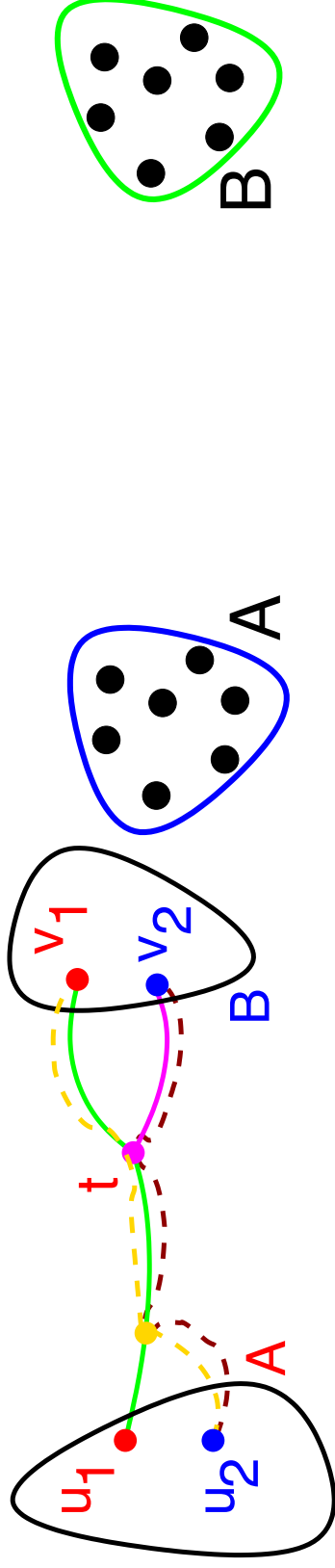
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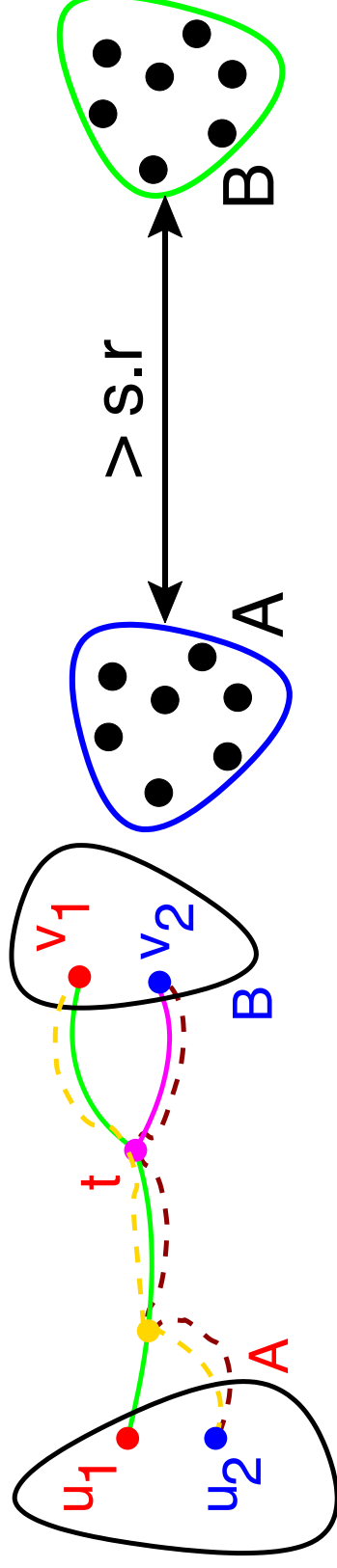
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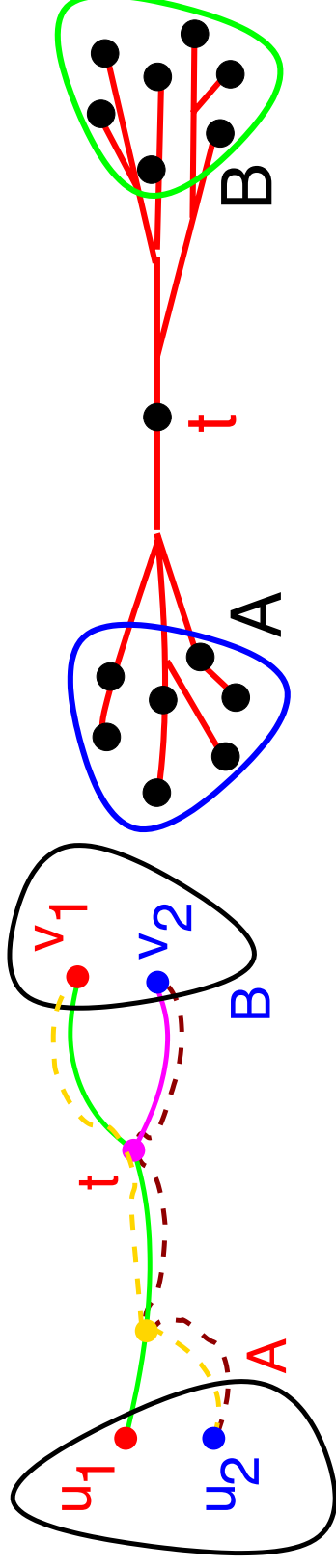
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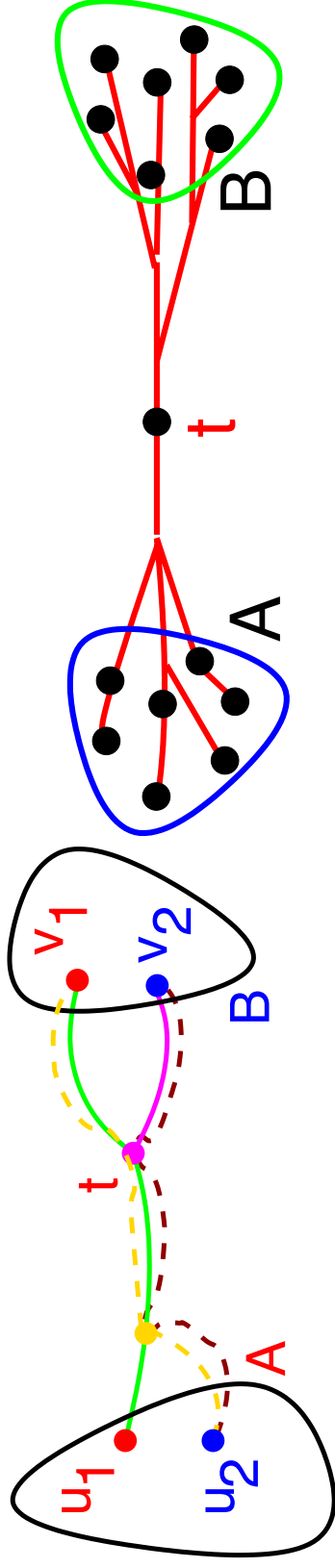
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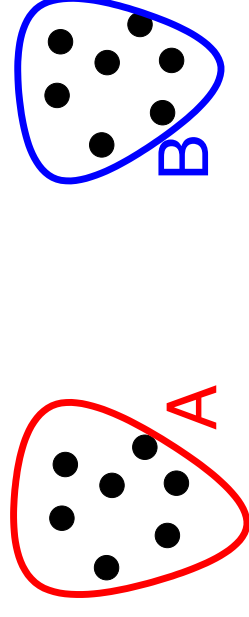


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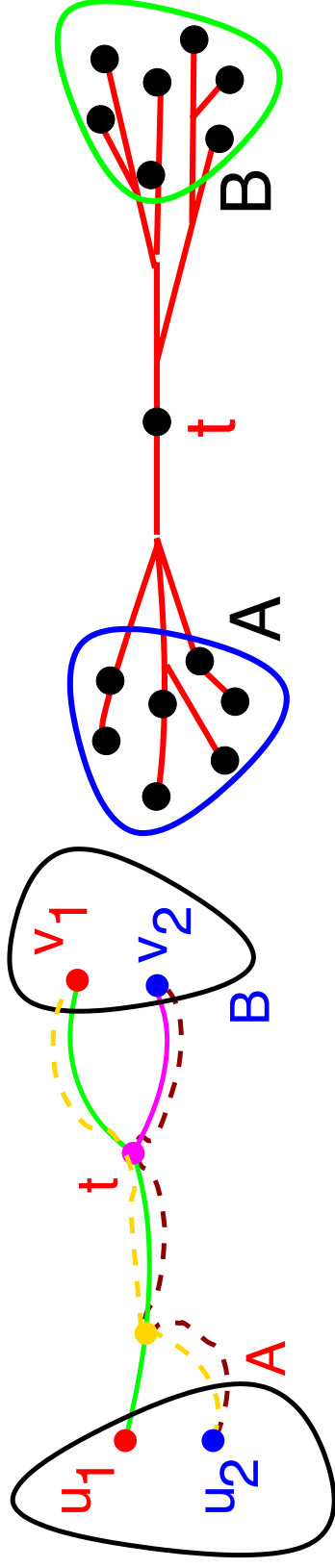


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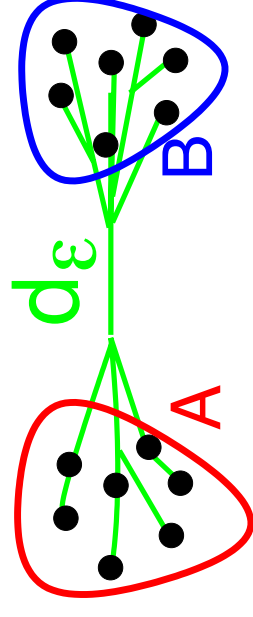


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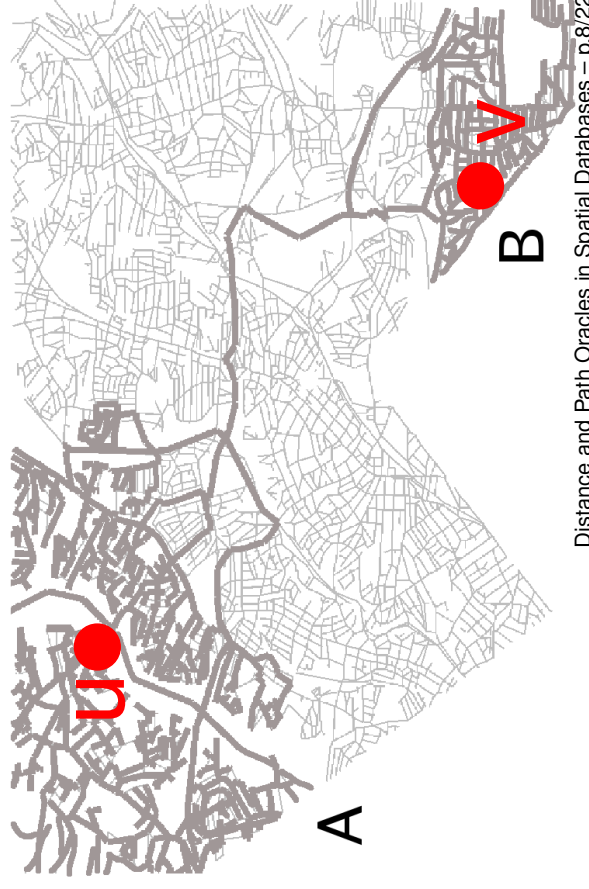
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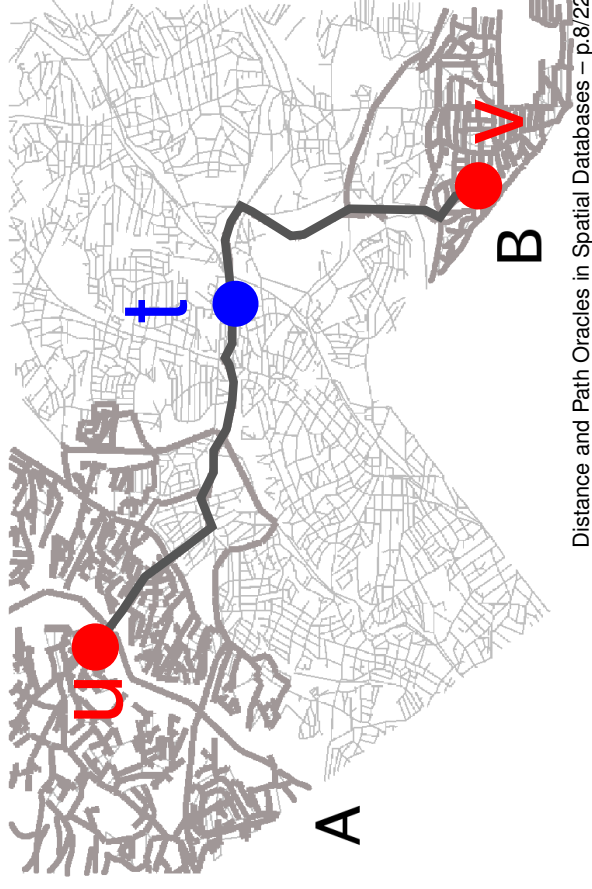






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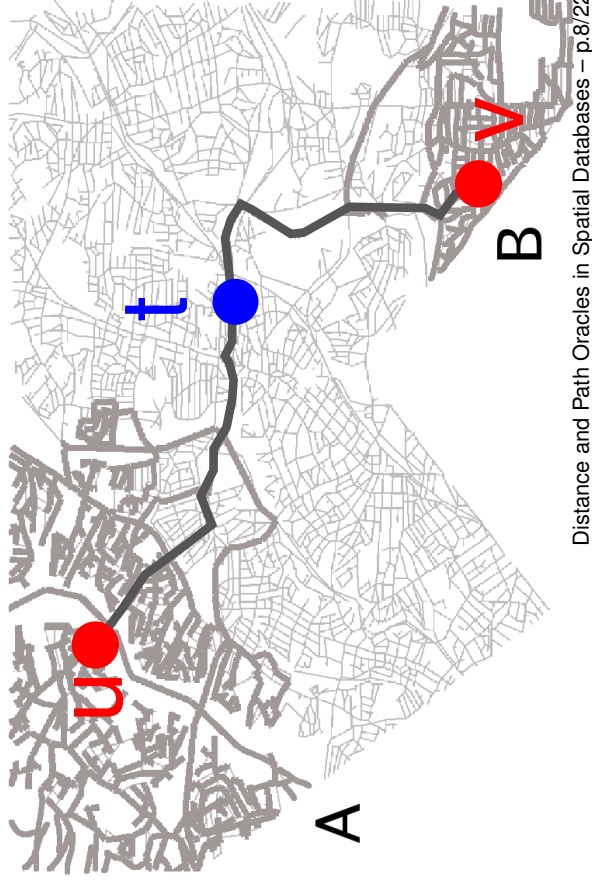


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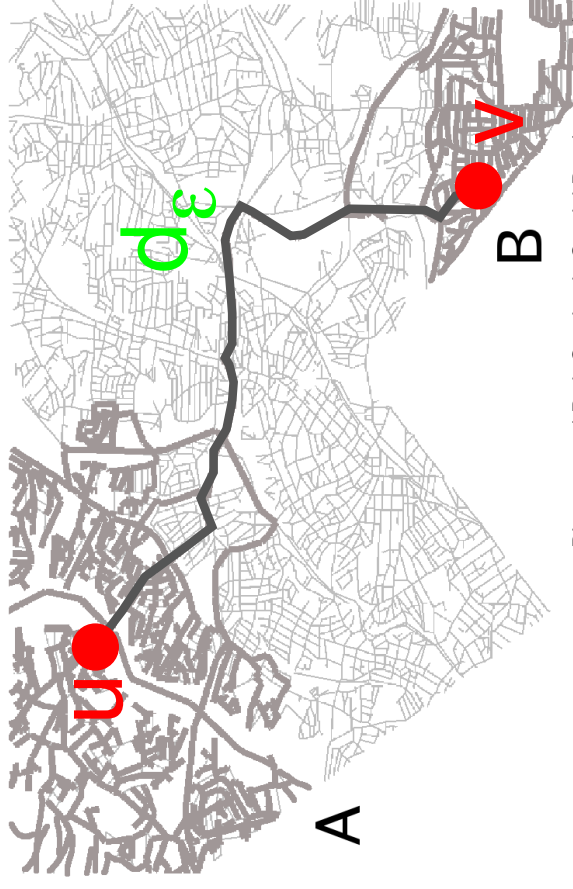
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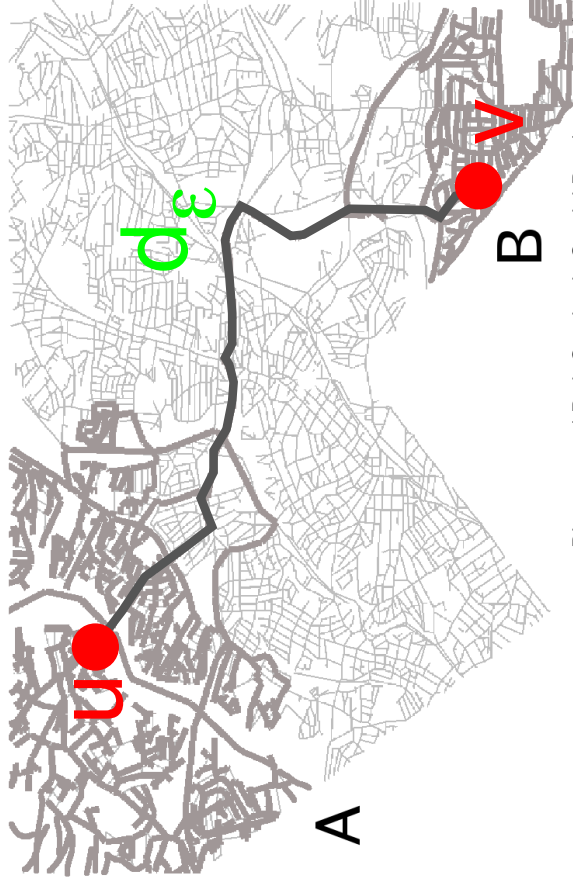
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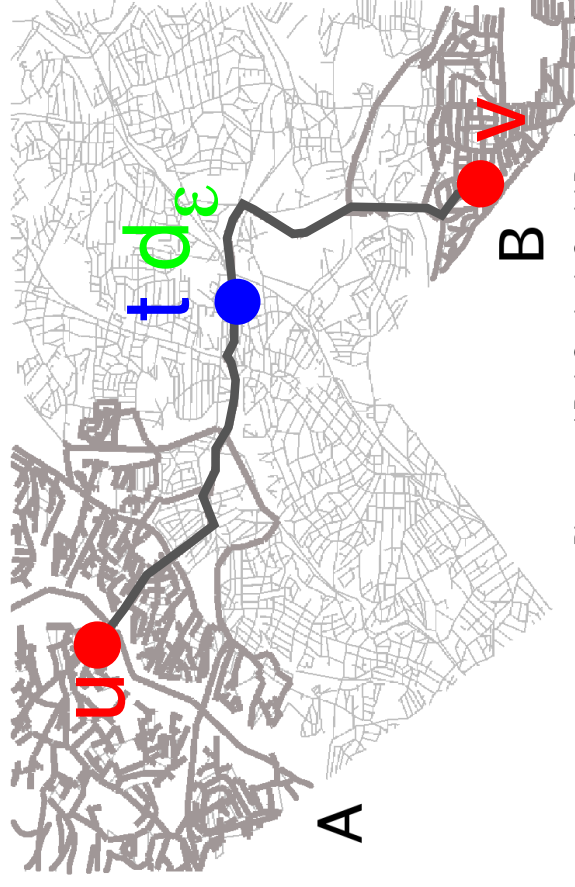
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3. Path-Distance oracle returns both an intermediate vertex and  $\epsilon$ -approximate network distance [VLDB 2009]



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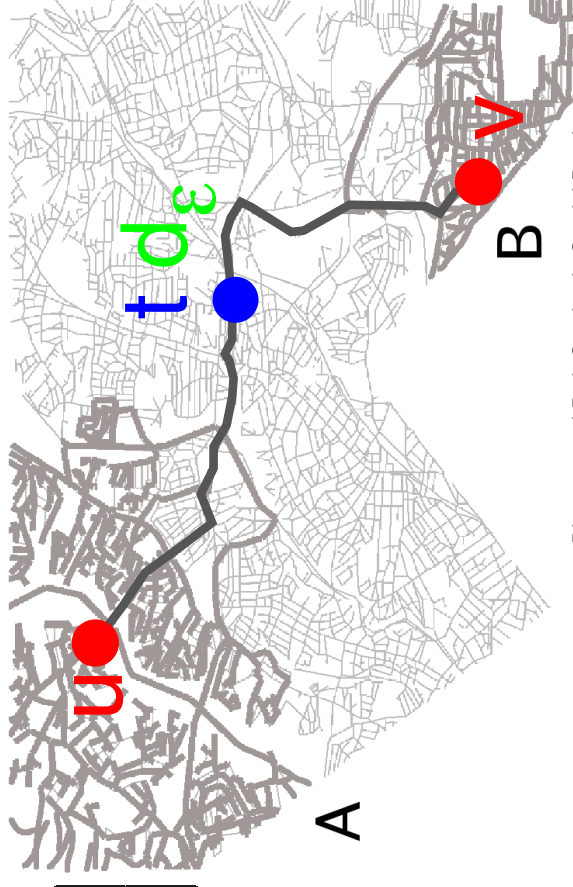
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$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon}n)$	$\approx 2.5\frac{1}{\epsilon}n$	B-tree	$O(\log n)$	$\approx 10\text{s of } \mu\text{sec}$
$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon}n \log n)$		Hash		$O(1)$

3. Path-Distance oracle returns both an intermediate vertex and  $\epsilon$ -approximate network distance [VLDB 2009]

$O(\max(s, \frac{1}{\epsilon})^2n)$		B-tree	$O(\log n)$
$O(\max(s, \frac{1}{\epsilon})^2n \log n)$		Hash	$O(1)$



# Shortest Path Retrieval

---

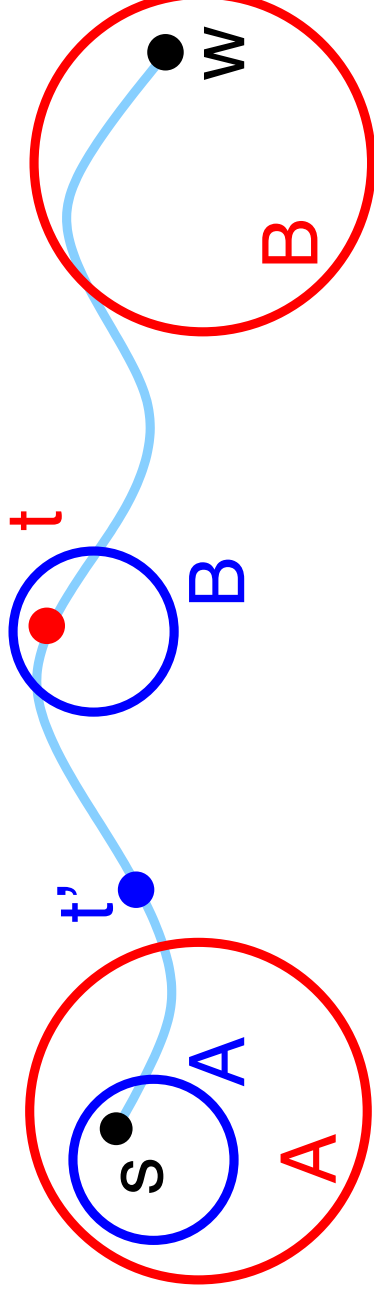
- Find the shortest path from a source  $p$  to destination  $q$ :





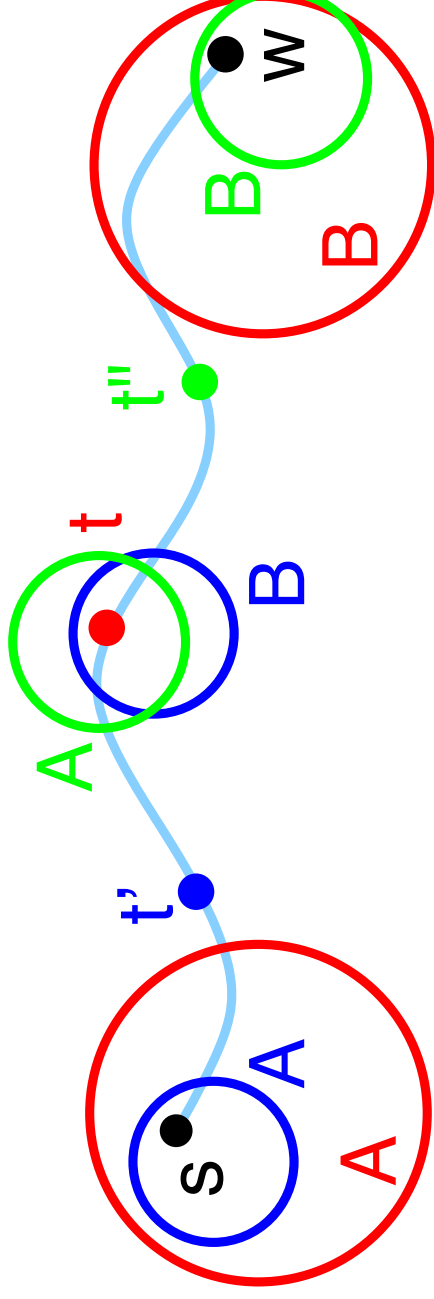
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- Find the shortest path from a source  $p$  to destination  $q$ :
  1. Find the PCP  $(A, B, t)$  such that  $A$  contains  $p$  and  $B$  contains  $q$



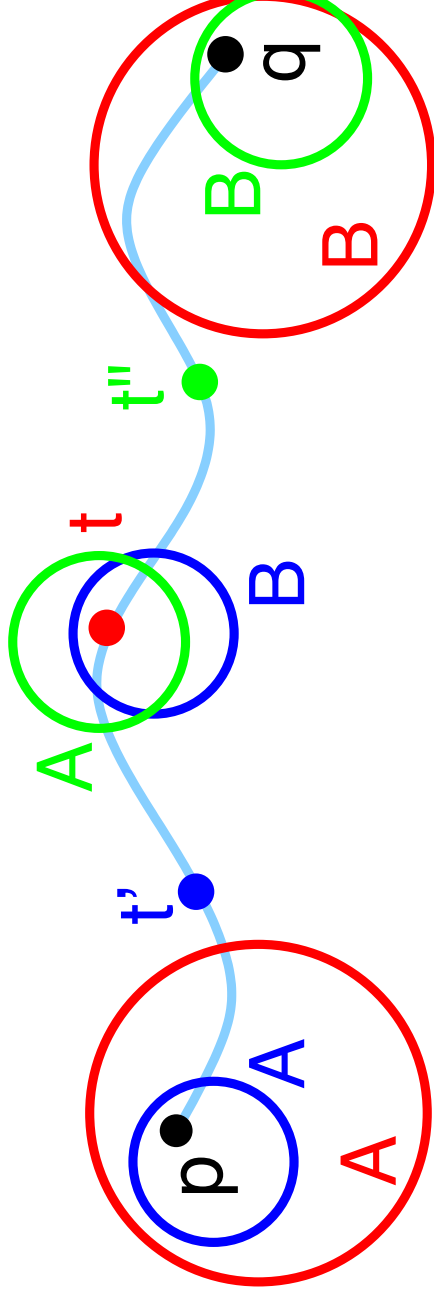
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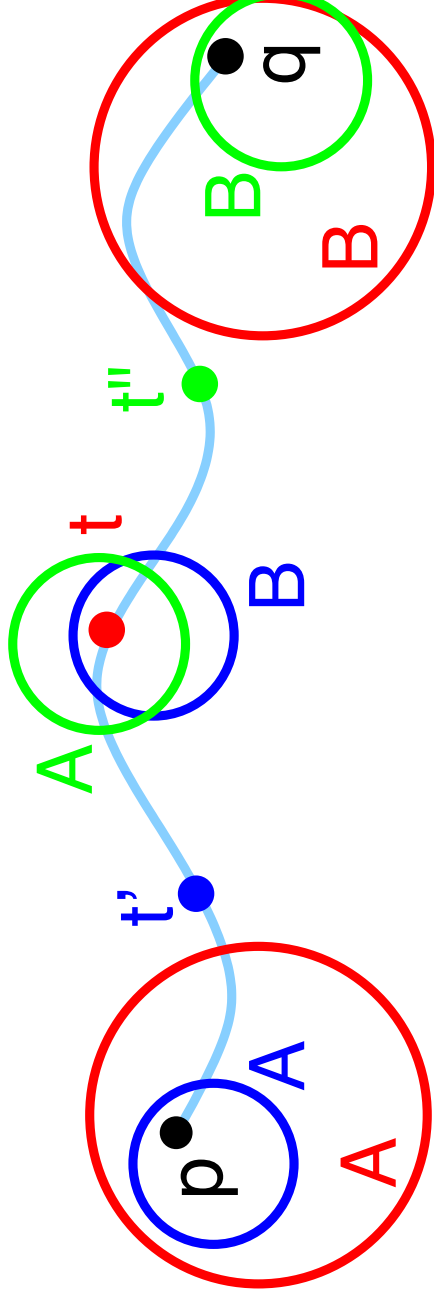
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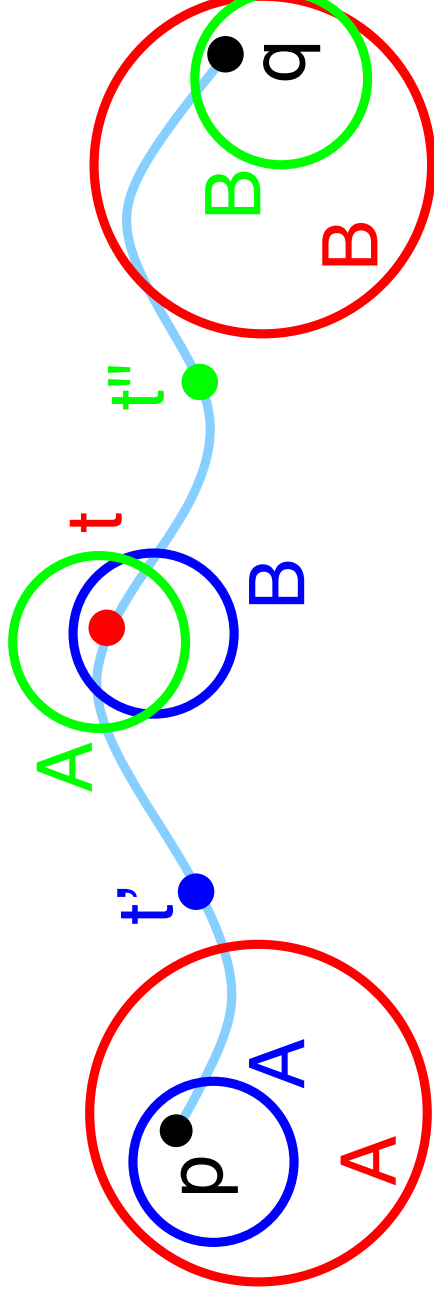
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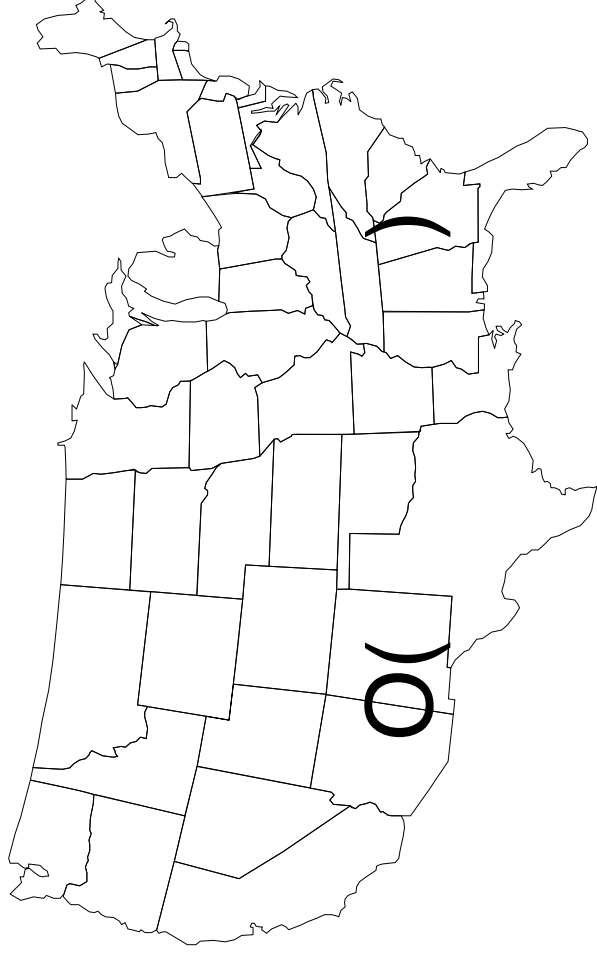
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  3. ...
- Finding next vertex in shortest path takes  $O(\log n)$  time



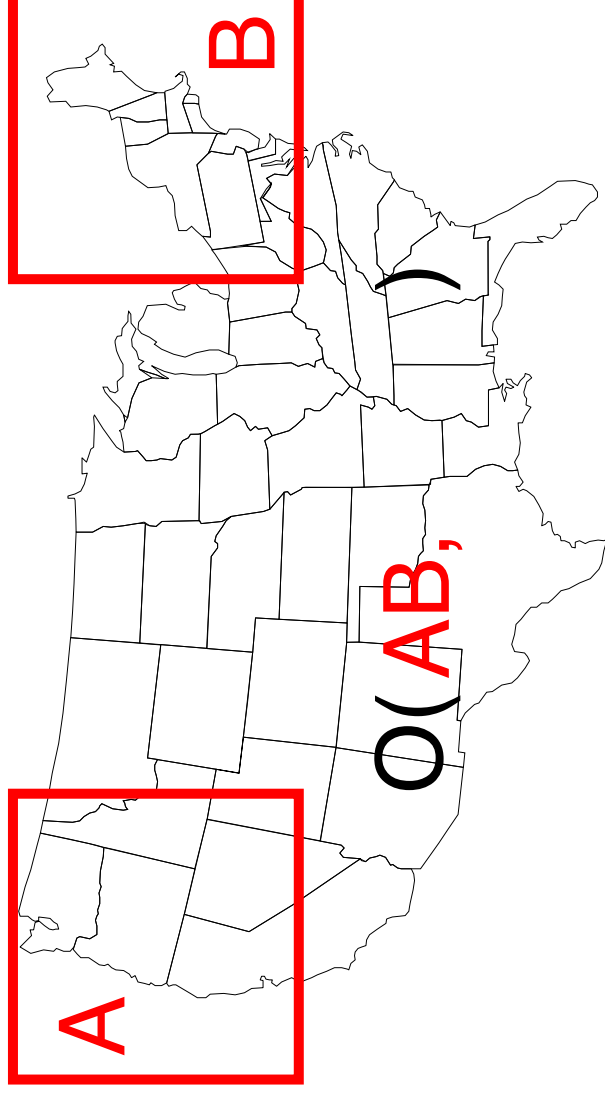
# Query Processing using Oracles [TKDE 2010]

- Path-distance stored as a relation  $O$ 
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  - Access time  $O(\log n)$ ; tens of  $\mu$ second
- Schema of path-distance oracle:  $O(AB, \Psi, d_\epsilon)$



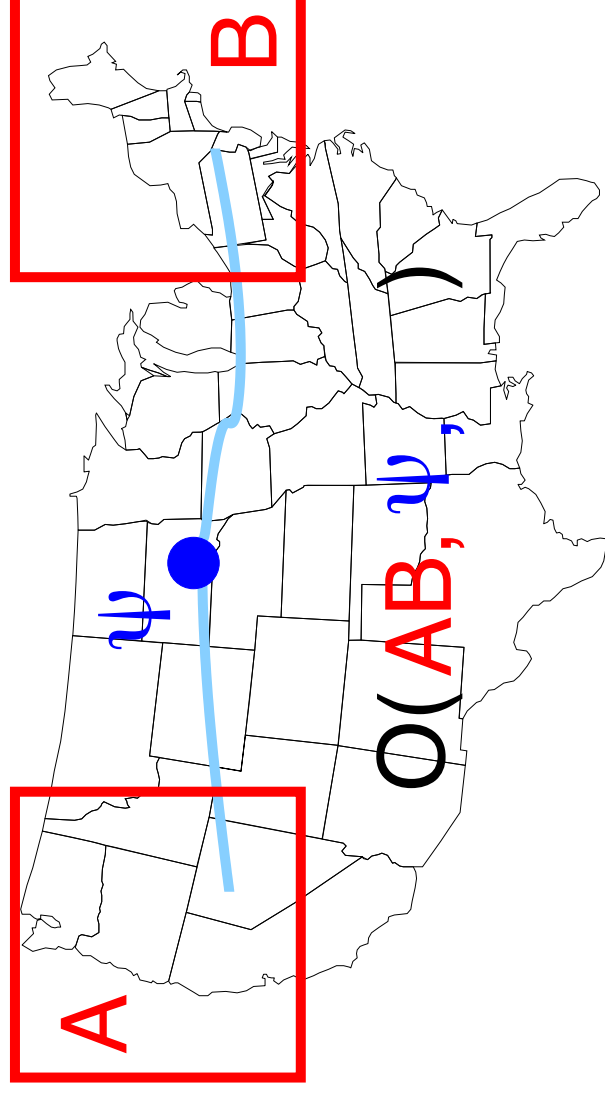
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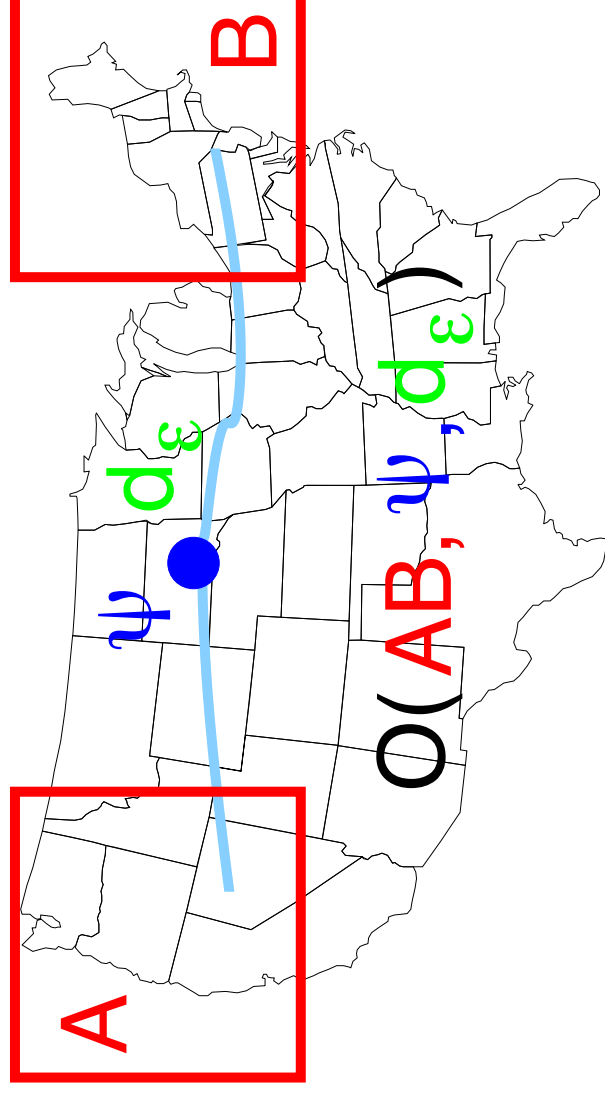
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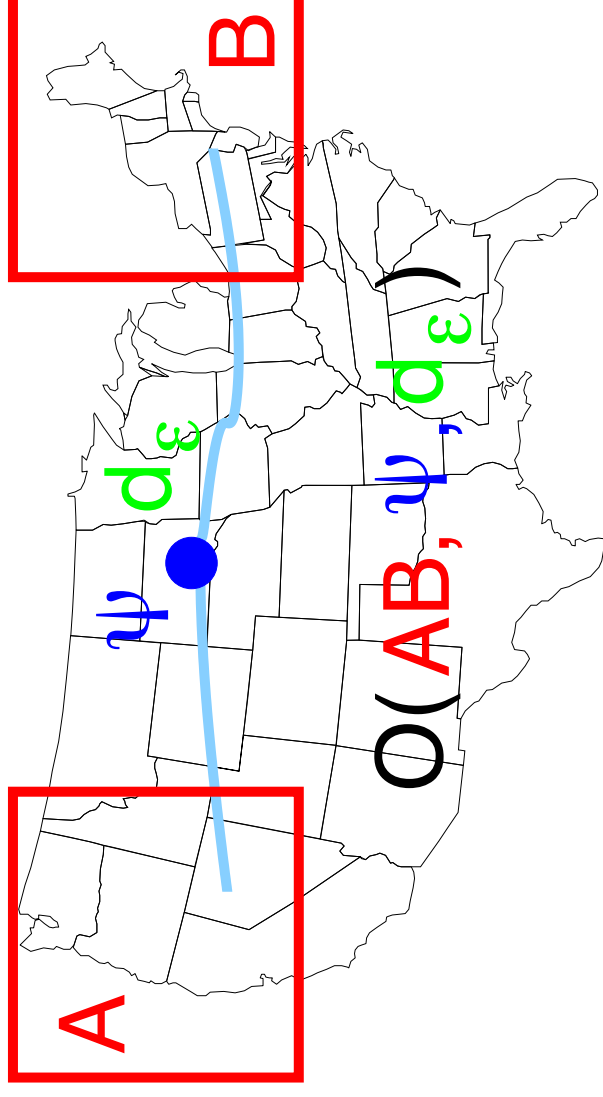
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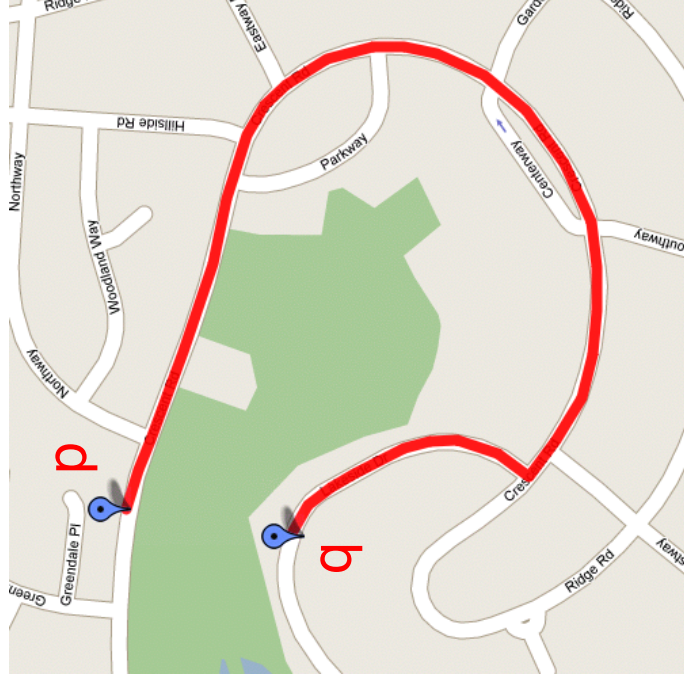


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- $Z_4: (\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ : Function to convert points to Morton code

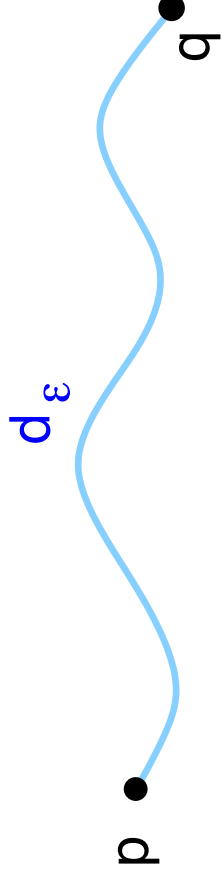
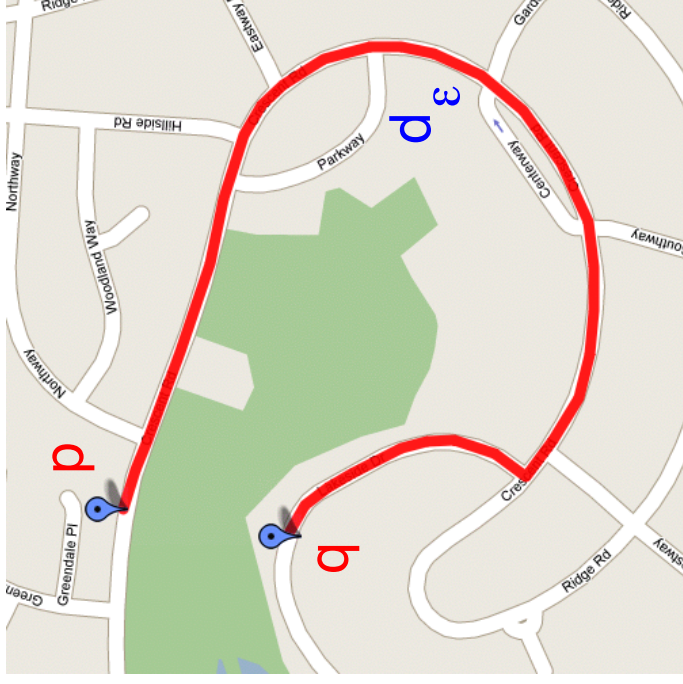


# Path and Network Distance Query



- Find network distance  $d_\epsilon$  from p to q of approximation  $\epsilon$

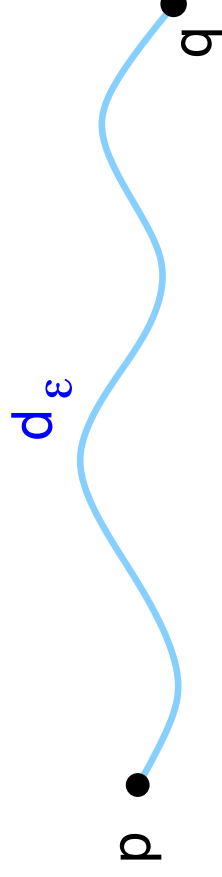
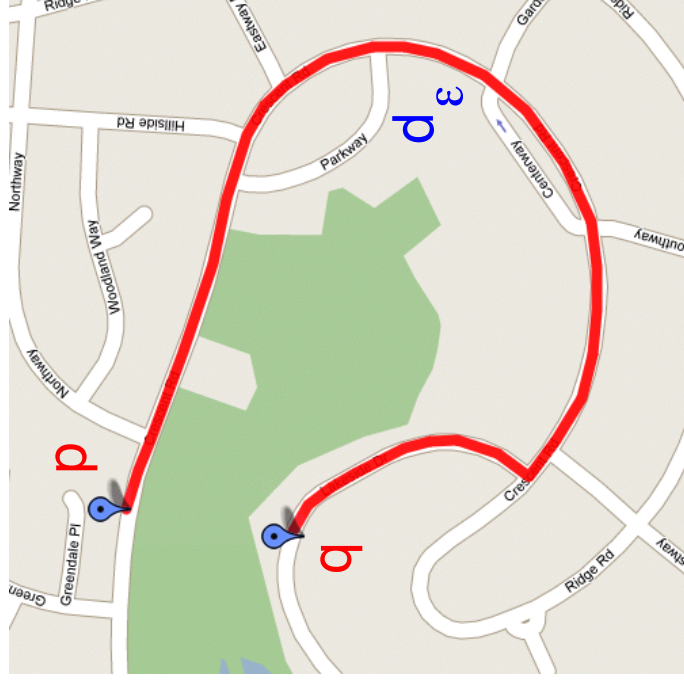
# Path and Network Distance Query



■ Find network distance  $d_\epsilon$  from p to q of approximation  $\epsilon$

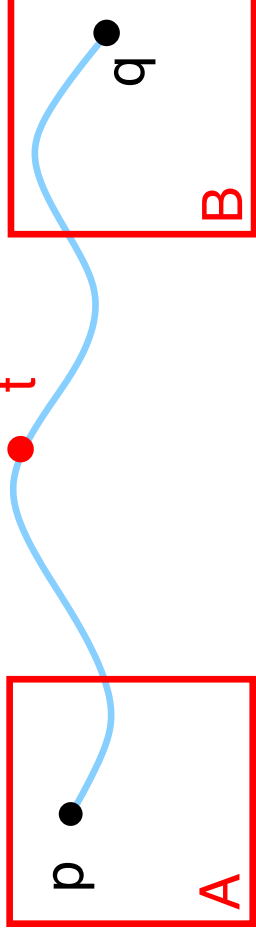
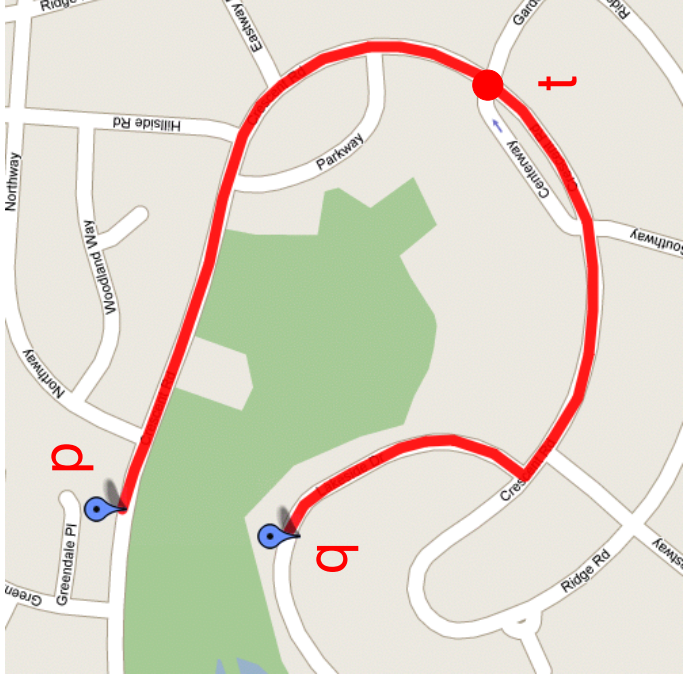
■ `SELECT O.d_ε FROM O WHERE O.AB = Z4(p, q)`

# Path and Network Distance Query



- Find network distance  $d_\epsilon$  from p to q of approximation  $\epsilon$ 
  - `SELECT O.d_ε FROM O WHERE O.AB = Z4(p, q)`
- Find shortest path from p to q

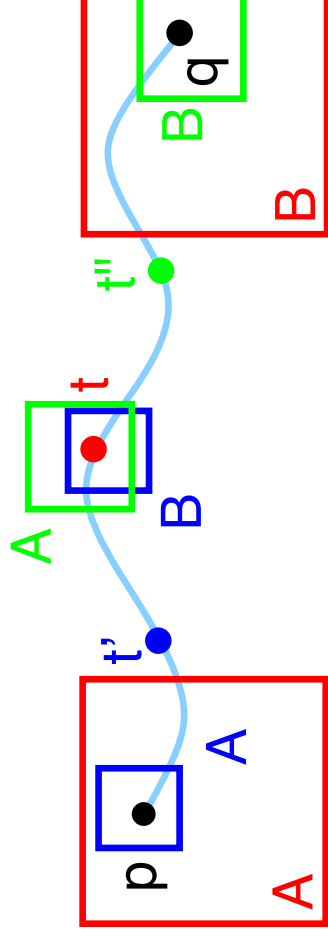
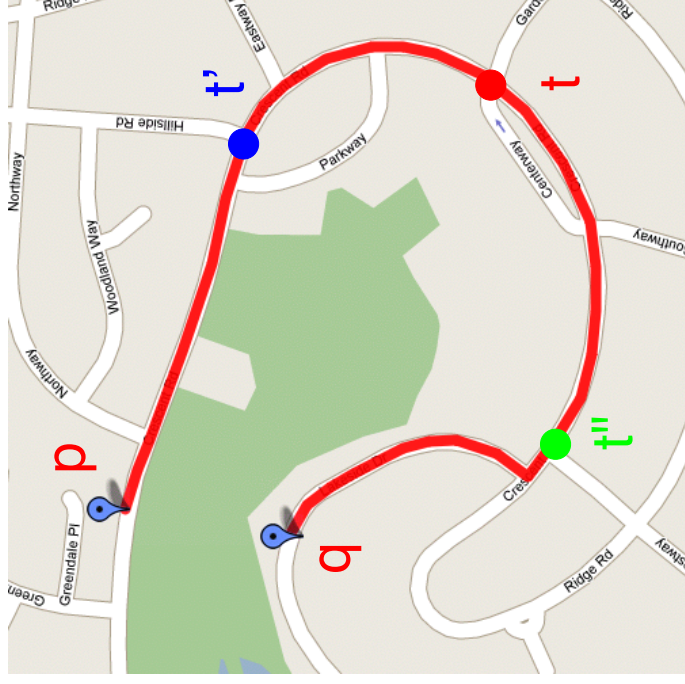
# Path and Network Distance Query



- Find network distance  $d_\epsilon$  from p to q of approximation  $\epsilon$ 
  - `SELECT O.d_ϵ FROM O WHERE O.AB = Z4(p, q)`
- Find shortest path from p to q
  1. `SELECT O.Ψ AS t FROM O WHERE O.AB = Z4(p, q)`



# Path and Network Distance Query



■ Find network distance  $d_\epsilon$  from p to q of approximation  $\epsilon$

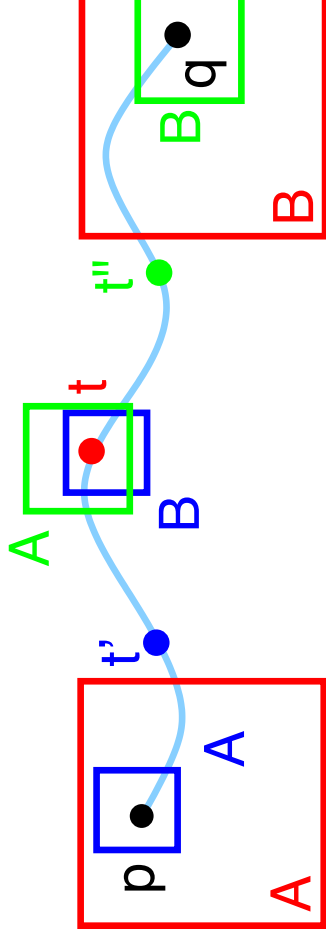
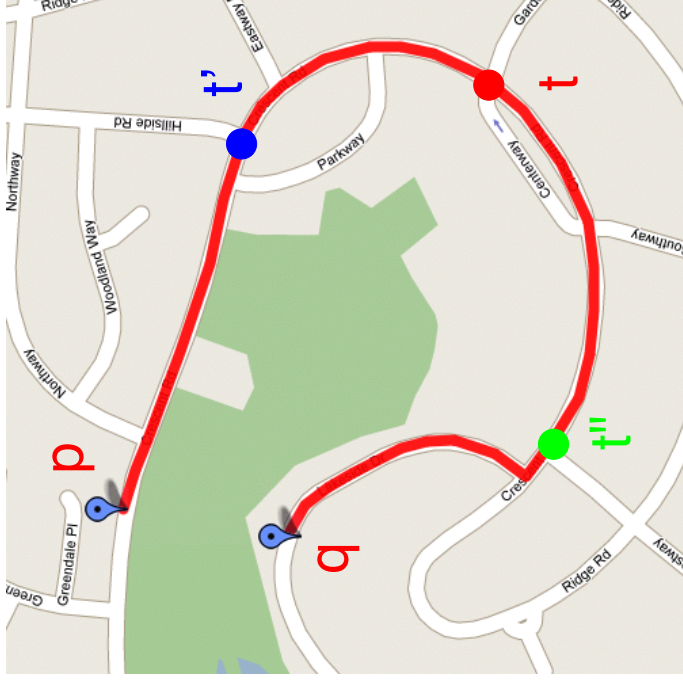
■ **SELECT**  $O.d_\epsilon$  **FROM**  $O$  **WHERE**  $O.AB = Z_4(p, q)$

■ Find shortest path from p to q

1. **SELECT**  $O.\Psi$  **AS**  $t$  **FROM**  $O$  **WHERE**  $O.AB = Z_4(p, q)$
2. **SELECT**  $O.\Psi$  **AS**  $t'$  **FROM**  $O$  **WHERE**  $O.AB = Z_4(p, t)$
3. **SELECT**  $O.\Psi$  **AS**  $t''$  **FROM**  $O$  **WHERE**  $O.AB = Z_4(t, q)$



# Path and Network Distance Query



■ Find network distance  $d_\epsilon$  from p to q of approximation  $\epsilon$

■ **SELECT**  $O.d_\epsilon$  **FROM**  $O$  **WHERE**  $O.AB = Z_4(p, q)$

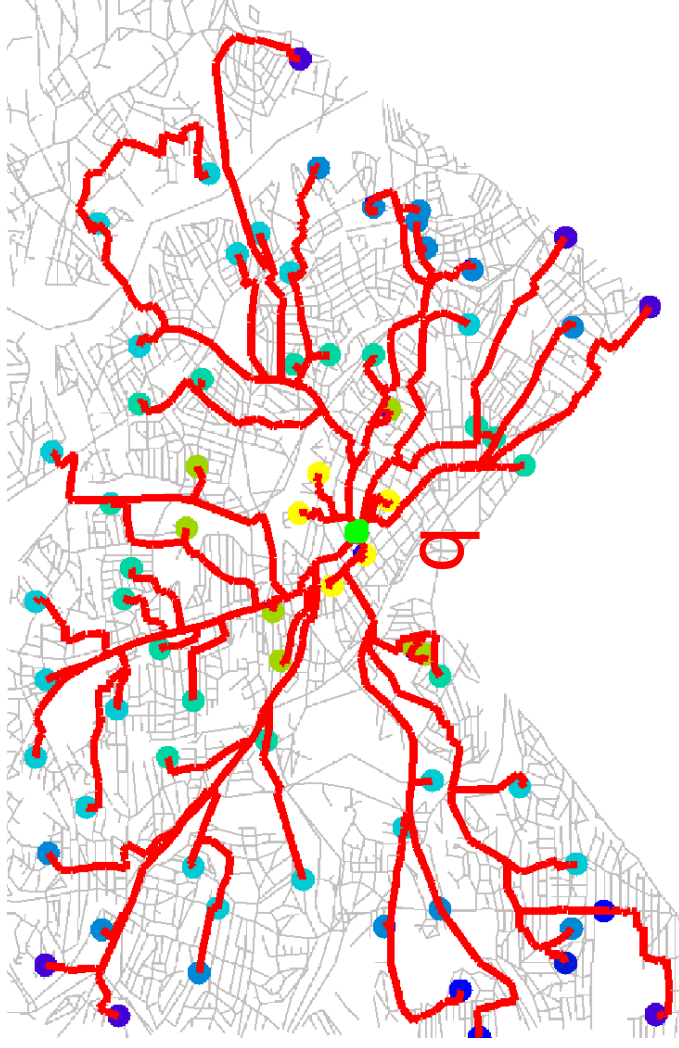
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# Range Query

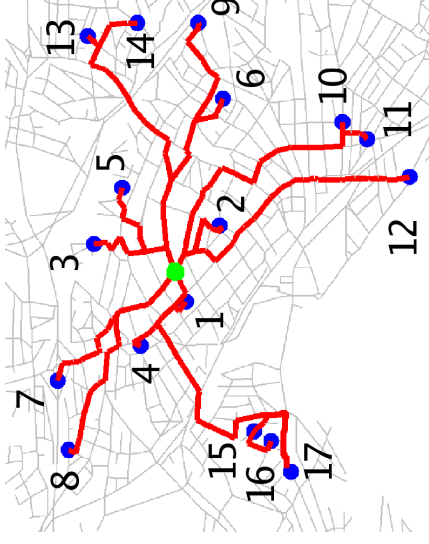
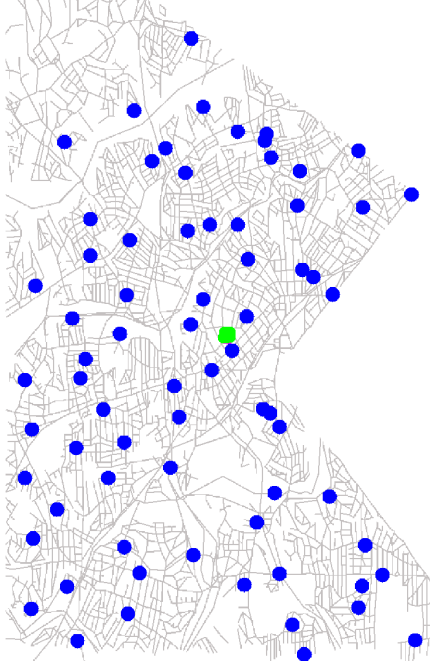
- Find all restaurants in  $R(\text{pos}, \text{type})$  within 10 miles of  $q$  of approximation  $\epsilon$



```
SELECT R.pos, O.dε FROM R, O WHERE  
O.AB = Z4(q, R.pos) and dε ≤ 10 MILES
```

# Nearest Neighbor Query

- Find  $k$  nearest Italian restaurants in  $R(\text{pos, type})$  to  $q$  of error  $\epsilon$



Query object  $q$  and a set of restaurants  $R$

Ordering based on network distance from  $q$

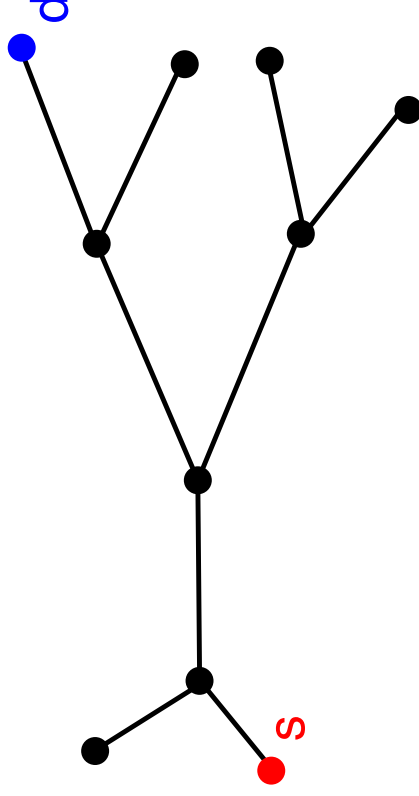
```
SELECT R.pos, O.d $\epsilon$  FROM R, O WHERE  
O.AB = Z $_4$ ( $q$ , R.pos) and R.type = "Italian"  
ORDER BY O.d $\epsilon$  LIMIT k
```

# Foundations of $k$ Nearest Neighbor Finding (kNN)

- A non-incremental best-first algorithm
  - Set of objects (with spatial information)
  - A spatial data structure (e.g., a quadtree or R-tree) on objects
  - Shortest-path quadtrees for the spatial network
  - Note decoupling of data (objects) from domain (spatial network)
  - Cost Justification for Precomputing: Provision to reuse computations across queries and across datasets
- Primitive operations using Progressive Refinement

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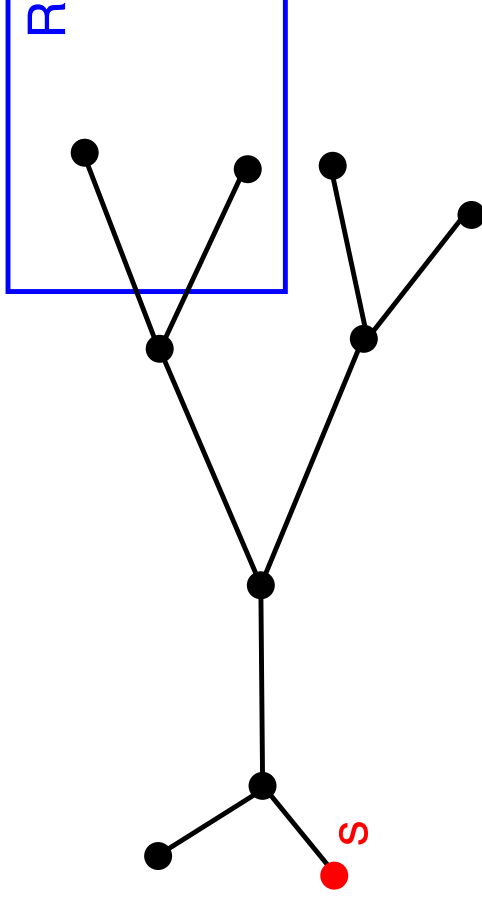
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- `DISTANCE_INTERVAL(object,object)`

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- `DISTANCE_INTERVAL(object,object)`
- `DISTANCE_INTERVAL(object,Region)`

## Properties of kNN Algorithm

- Neighbors produced in increasing order of distance from  $q$
- Use a priority queue  $Q$  of objects and blocks
- $Q$  contains network distance interval  $[\delta^-, \delta^+]$  of objects from  $q$
- Additional information stored with each object  $o$  in  $Q$ 
  1. An intermediate vertex  $u$  in shortest path from  $q$  to  $u$
  2. network distance  $d$  from  $q$  to  $u$
- Uses another priority queue  $L$  in addition to  $Q$ 
  - Stores  $k$  objects found so far in increasing order of  $\delta^+$
  - $D_k$  is the maximum of the distance interval of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  element in  $L$
  - **Idea:** Prune elements  $e$  from  $Q$  such that  $\delta_e^- \geq D_k$
- Elements are removed from  $Q$  in increasing order of the minimum of their distance interval  $\delta^-$  from  $q$ 
  - Objects may be reinserted in  $Q$  if  $\delta^- < D_k$
  - Terminate when  $\delta^- \geq D_k$
- Advantages over Incremental best-first kNN (INN)
  - Smaller size of  $Q$
  - Faster than INN



# kNN Algorithm

---

1. Initialize priority queue  $Q$  by inserting the quadtree root  $T$  of restaurants
2. Retrieve top element  $p$  in  $Q$  at each iteration and halt if minimum distance from  $q$  is  $> D_k$

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  - Collision:
    - Remove  $p$  from  $L$  if  $\delta^+ \leq D_k$
    - Apply refinement to improve distance interval of  $p$  and reinsert  $p$  in  $L$  if  $\delta^+ \leq D_k$  and in  $Q$  if  $\delta^- < D_k$  and go to Step 2
  - No collision:

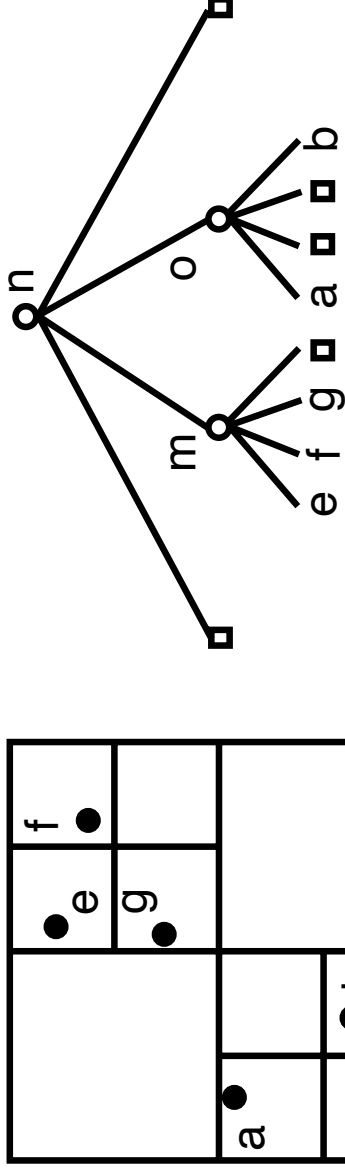
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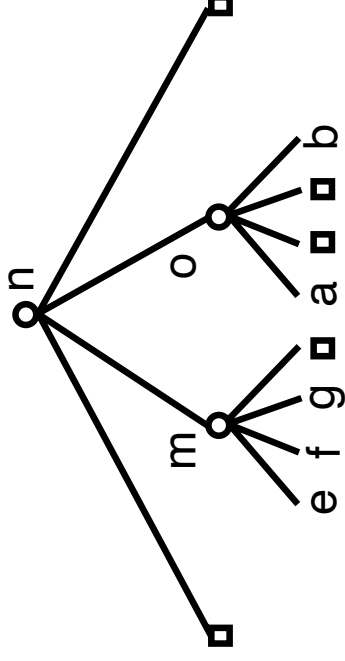
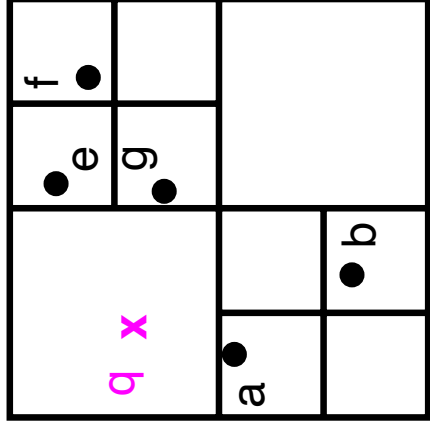
# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$



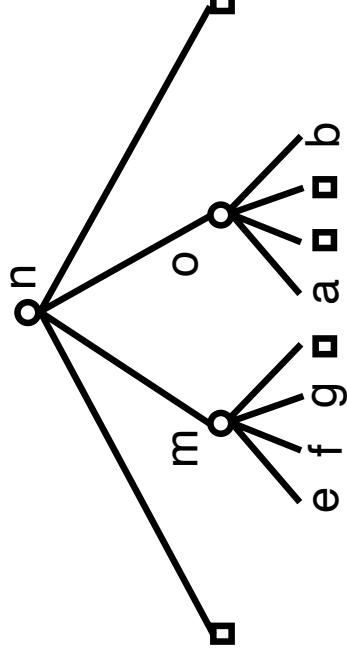
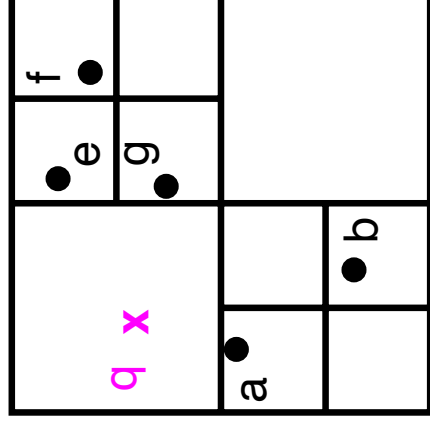
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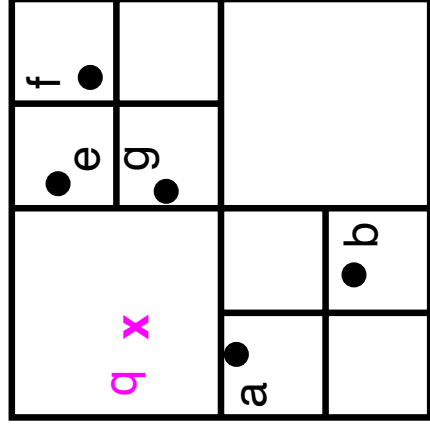
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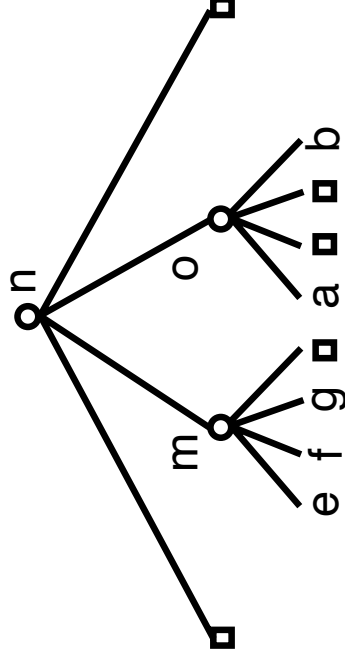
front  
L Queue

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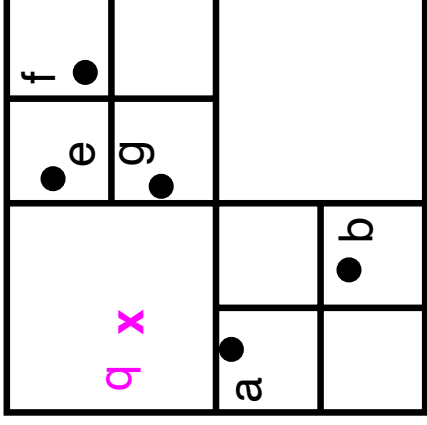
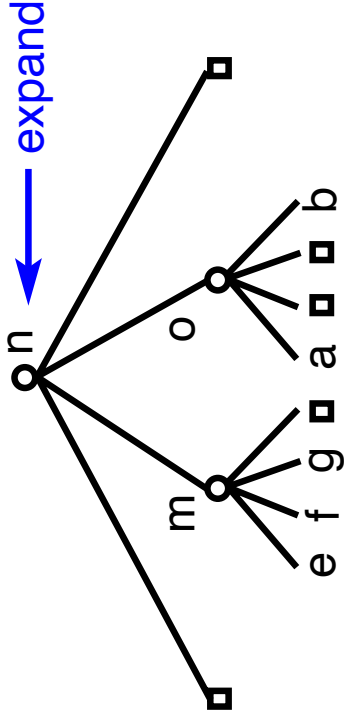


1. Insert  $n$  into Queue.

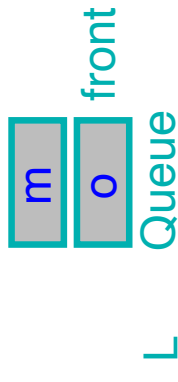


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

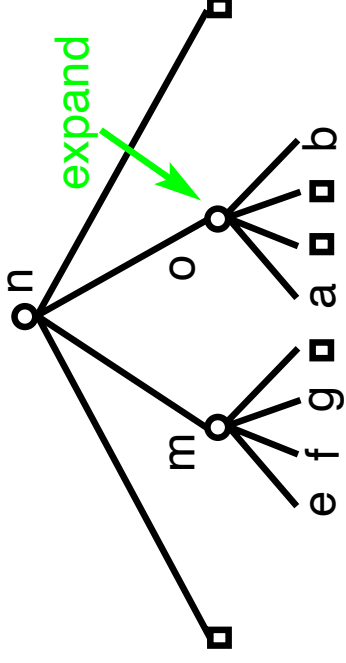
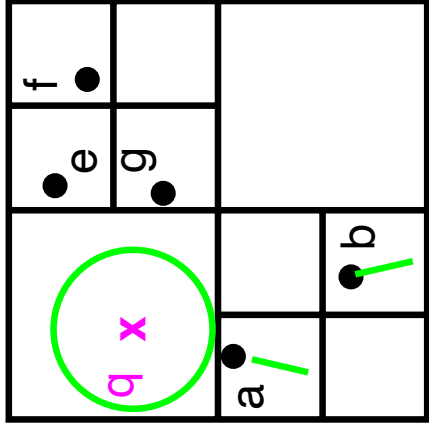


1. Insert  $n$  into Queue.
2. Expand  $n$ . Insert  $o, m$  into Queue.

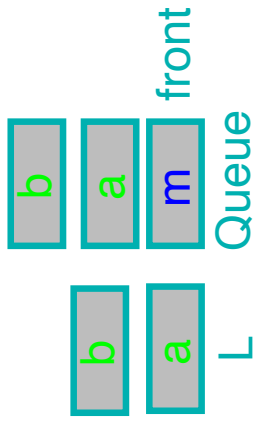


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

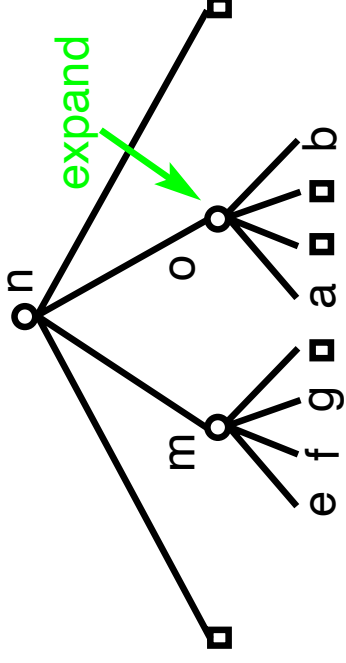
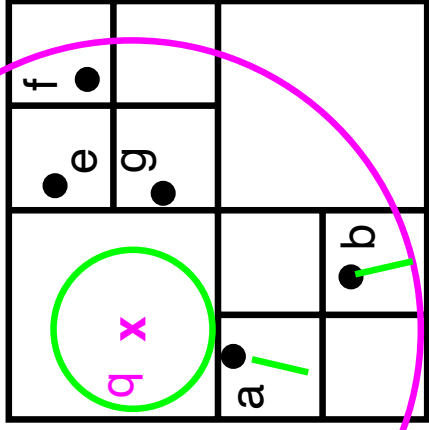


1. Insert  $n$  into Queue.
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3. Expand  $o$ . Insert  $a, b$  into Queue,  $L$ .

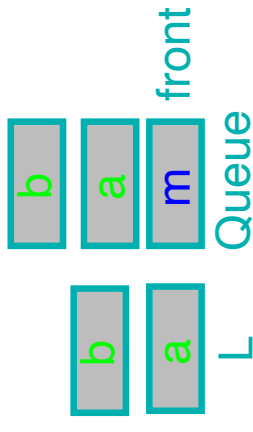


# Example of an Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

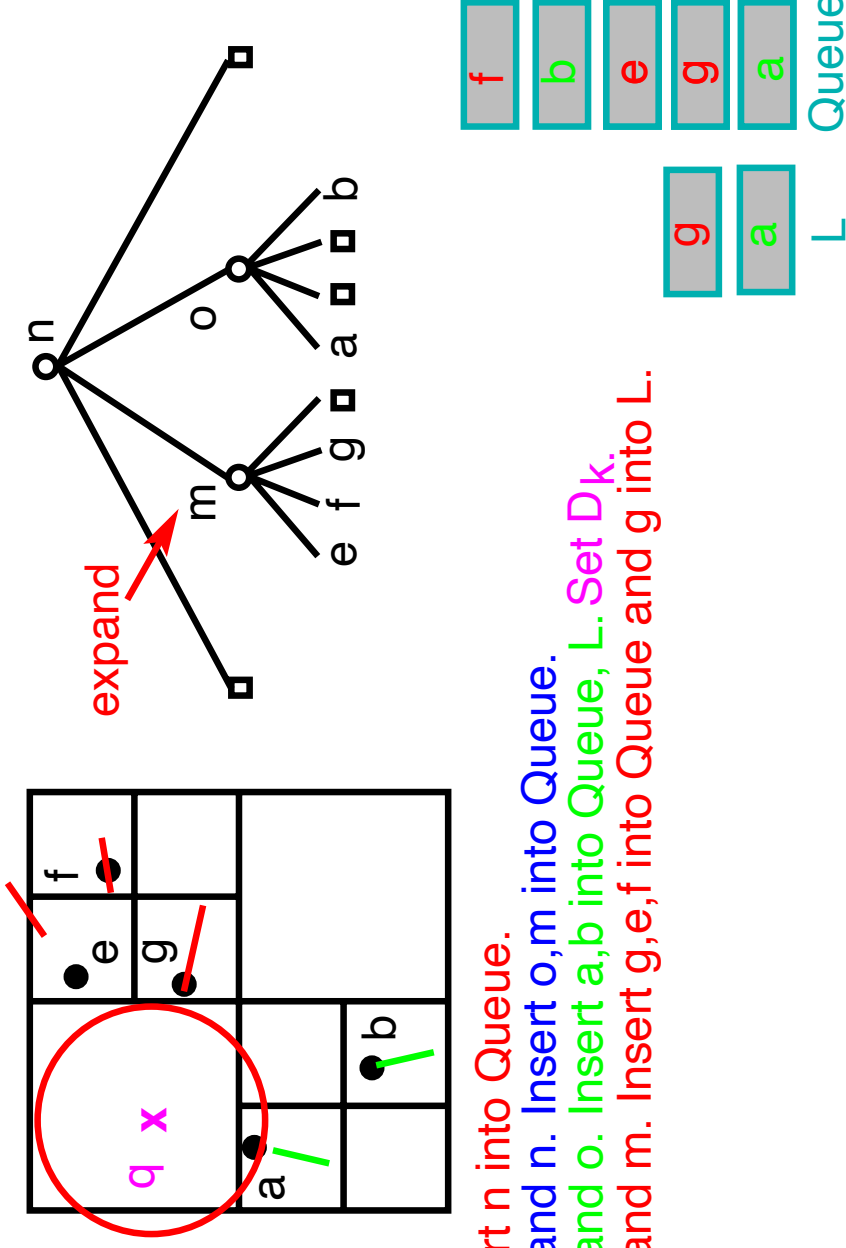


1. Insert  $n$  into Queue.
2. Expand  $n$ . Insert  $o, m$  into Queue.
3. Expand  $o$ . Insert  $a, b$  into Queue,  $L$ . Set  $D_k$ .



# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

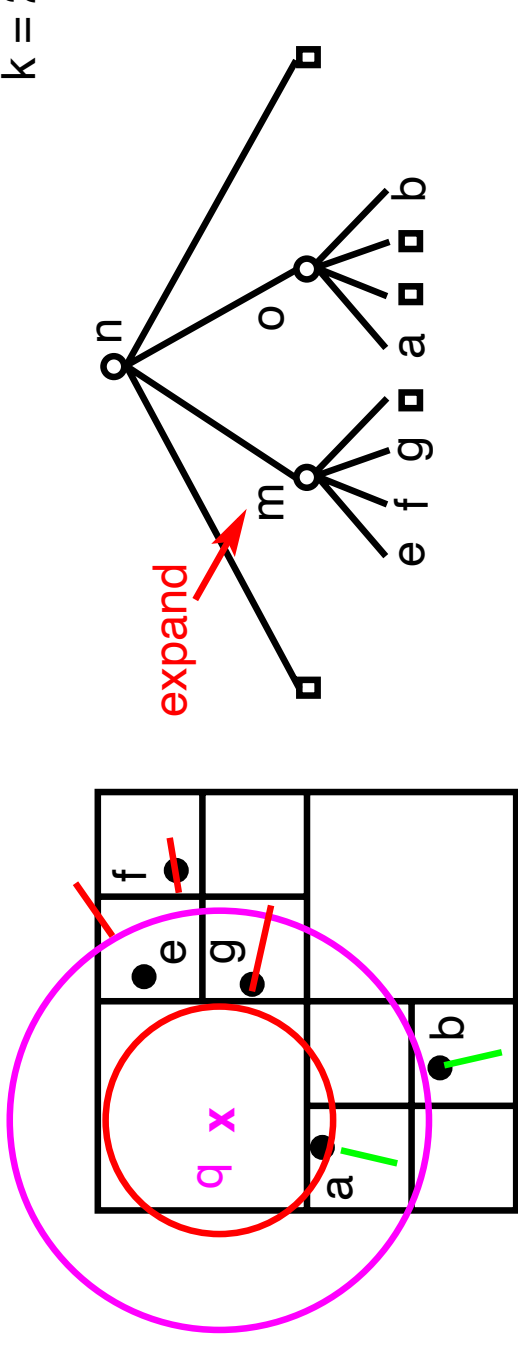


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3. Expand  $o$ . Insert  $a, b$  into Queue,  $L$ . Set  $D^k$ .
4. Expand  $m$ . Insert  $g, e, f$  into Queue and  $g$  into  $L$ .

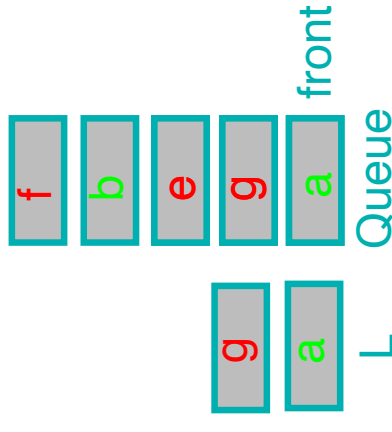


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

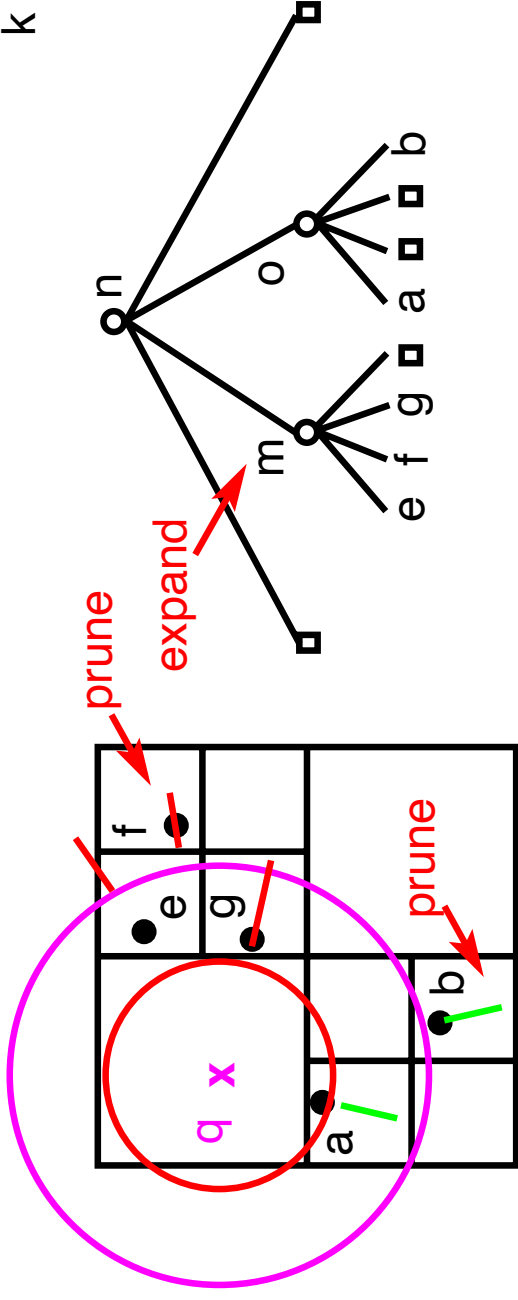


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4. Expand  $m$ . Insert  $g, e, f$  into Queue and  $g$  into  $L$ .  
Update  $D^k$ .

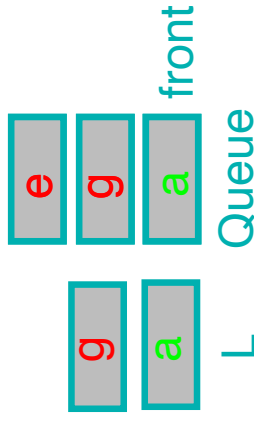


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

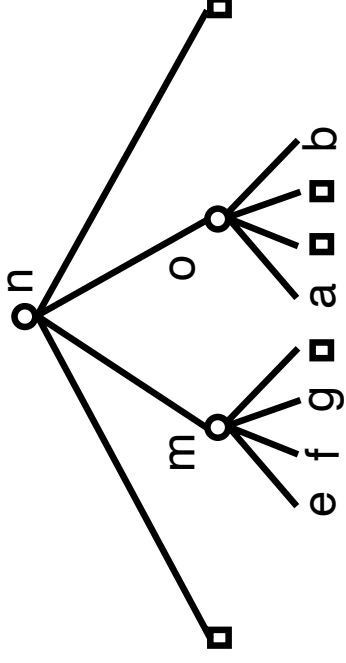
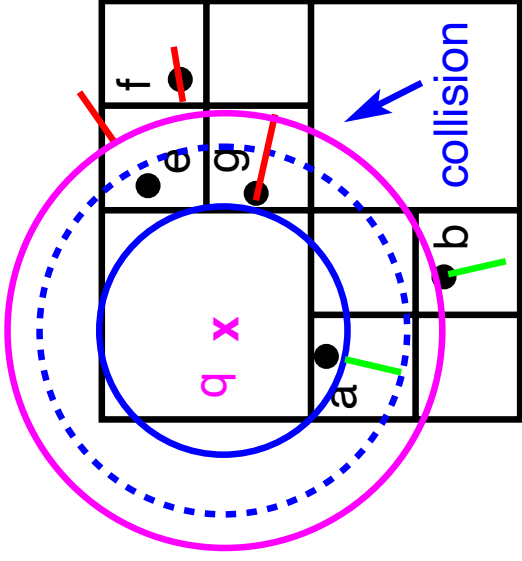


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4. Expand  $m$ . Insert  $g, e, f$  into Queue and  $g$  into  $L$ . Update  $D_k$ . Prune  $f$  and  $b$  from Queue.

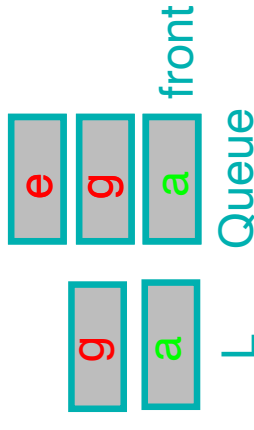


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

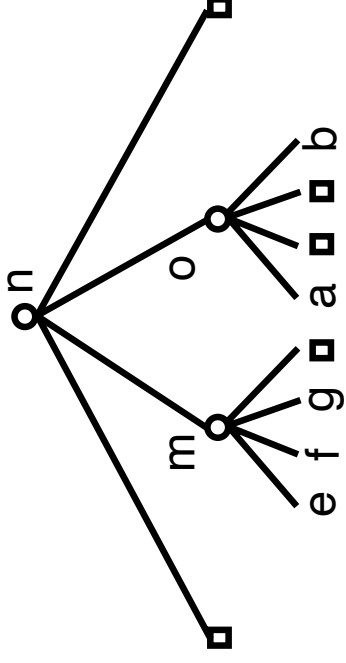
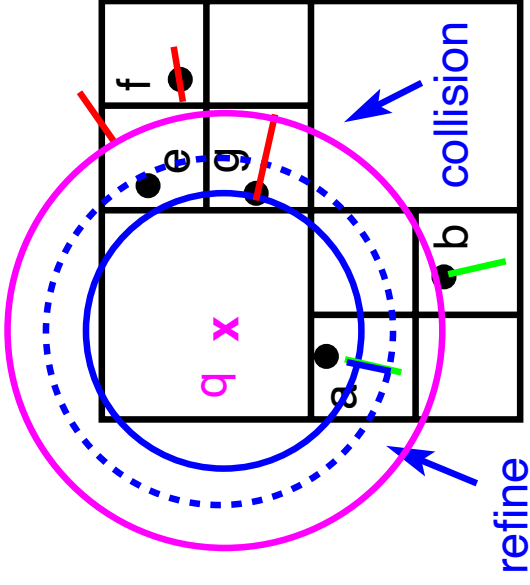


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Update  $D^k$ . Prune  $f$  and  $b$  from Queue.
5. Process  $a$ . Collision of  $a$  with  $g$ .

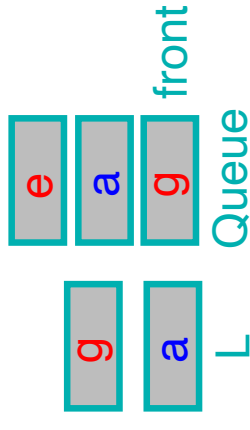


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

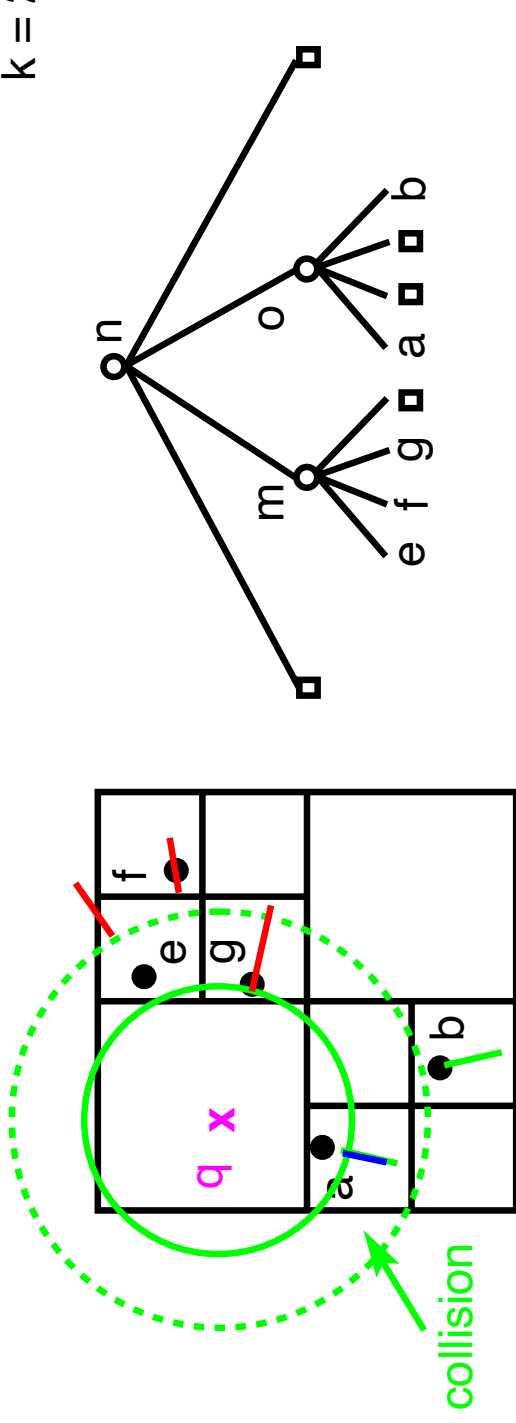


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3. Expand  $o$ . Insert  $a, b$  into Queue,  $L$ . Set  $D^k$ .
4. Expand  $m$ . Insert  $g, e, f$  into Queue and  $g$  into  $L$ .  
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5. Process  $a$ . Collision of  $a$  with  $g$ .  
Refine  $a$ . Reinsert  $a$  into Queue and  $L$ .

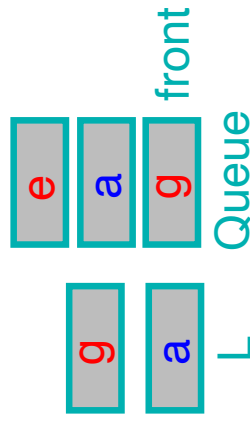


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

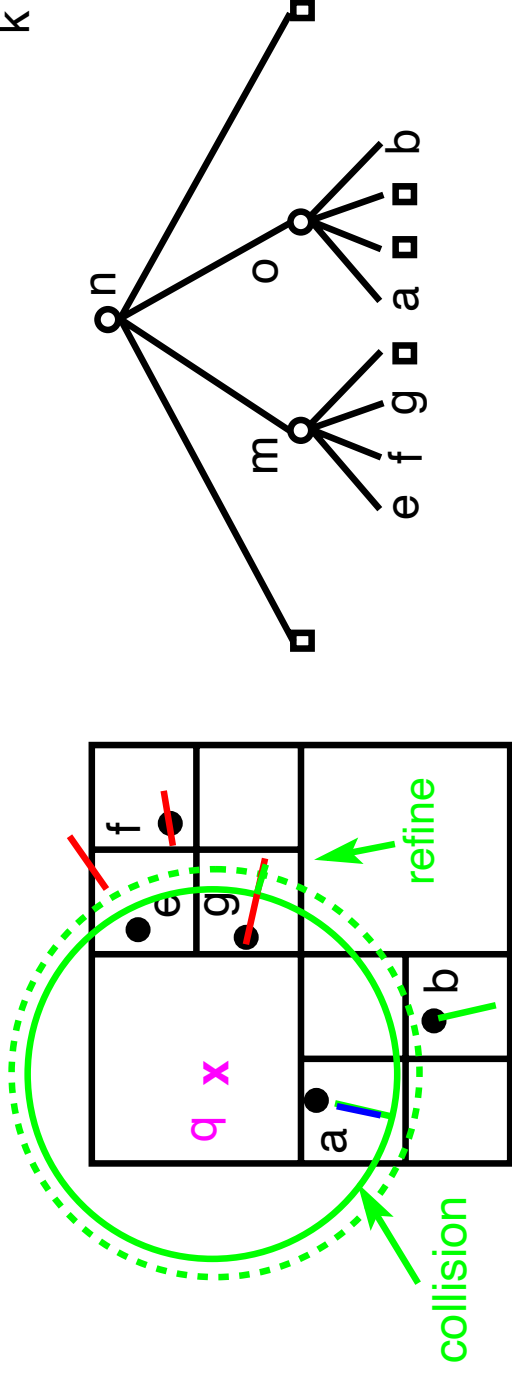


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Refine  $a$ . Reinsert  $a$  into Queue and  $L$ .
6. Process  $g$ . Collision of  $g$  with  $a$ .

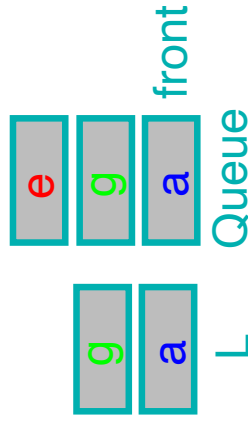


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

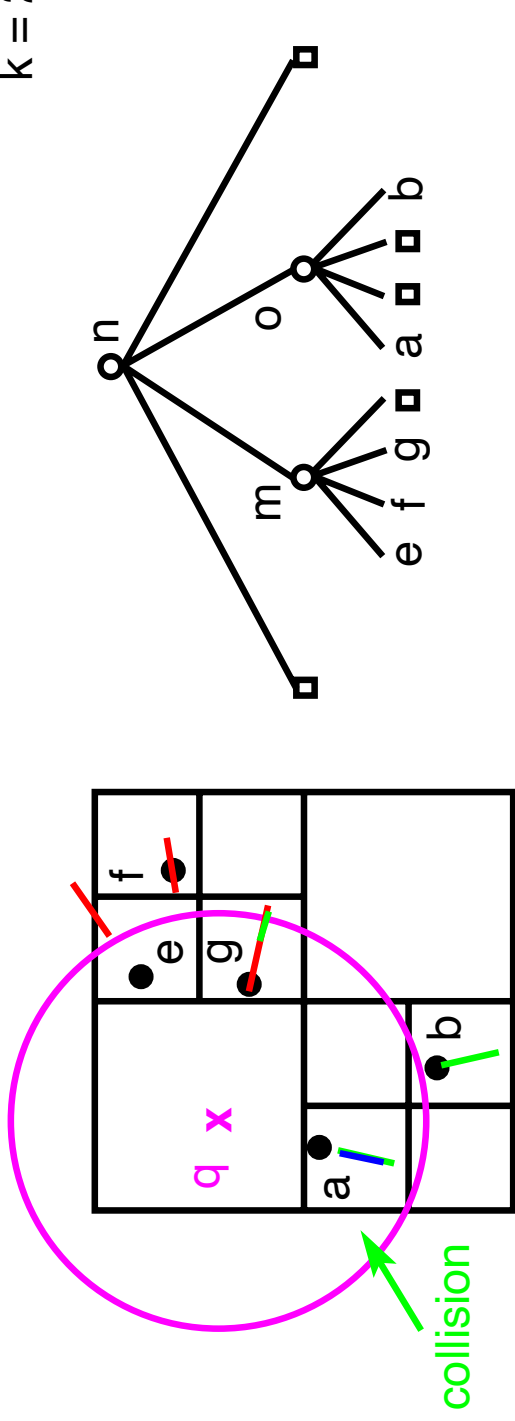


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Update  $D^k$ . Prune  $f$  and  $b$  from Queue.
5. Process  $a$ . Collision of  $a$  with  $g$ .  
Refine  $a$ . Reinsert  $a$  into Queue and  $L$ .
6. Process  $g$ . Collision of  $g$  with  $a$ .  
Refine and Reinsert  $g$  into Queue and  $L$ .

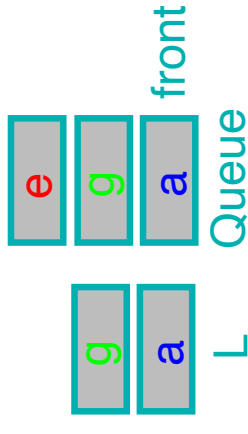


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

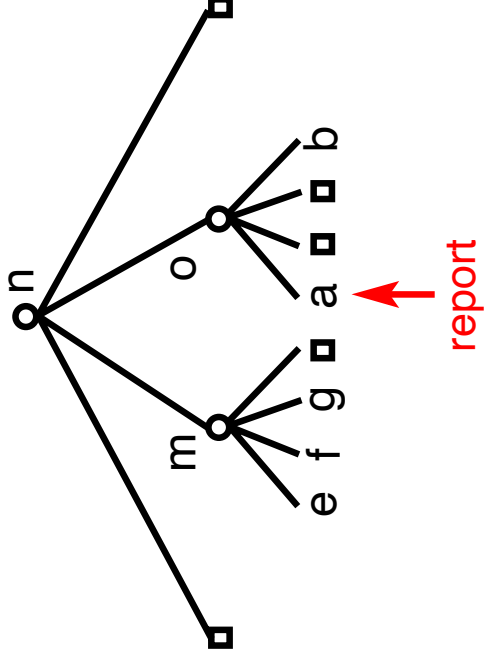
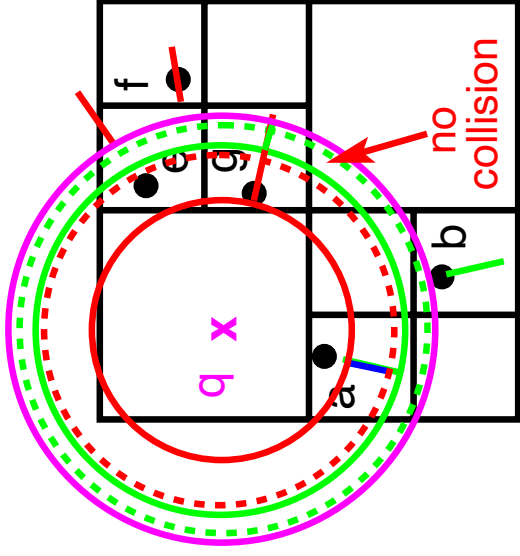


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Update  $D^k$ . Prune  $f$  and  $b$  from Queue.
5. Process  $a$ . Collision of  $a$  with  $g$ .  
Refine  $a$ . Reinsert  $a$  into Queue and  $L$ .
6. Process  $g$ . Collision of  $g$  with  $a$ .  
Refine and Reinsert  $g$  into Queue and  $L$ . Update  $D^k$ .

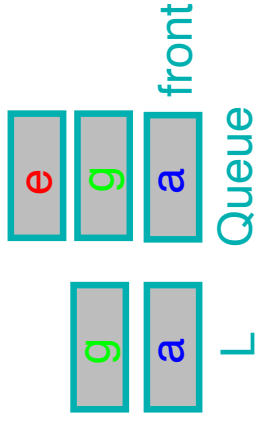


# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$

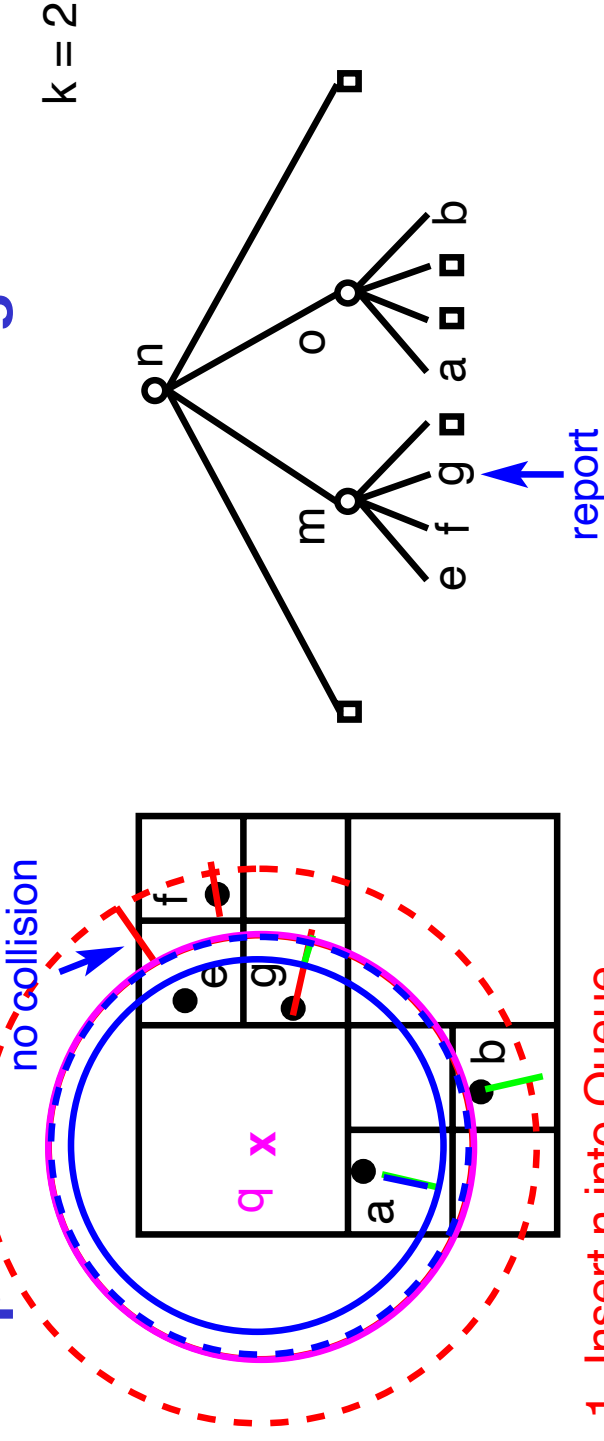


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4. Expand  $m$ . Insert  $g, e, f$  into Queue and  $g$  into  $L$ .  
Update  $D^k$ . Prune  $f$  and  $b$  from Queue.
5. Process  $a$ . Collision of  $a$  with  $g$ .  
Refine  $a$ . Reinsert  $a$  into Queue and  $L$ .
6. Process  $g$ . Collision of  $g$  with  $a$ .  
Refine and Reinsert  $g$  into Queue and  $L$ . Update  $D^k$ .
7. Process  $a$ . No collision of  $a$  with  $g$ . No need to refine  $a$  further.

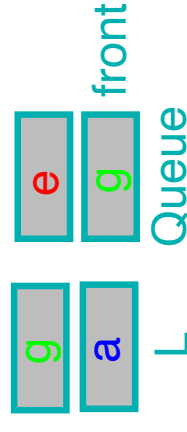




# Example of an Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

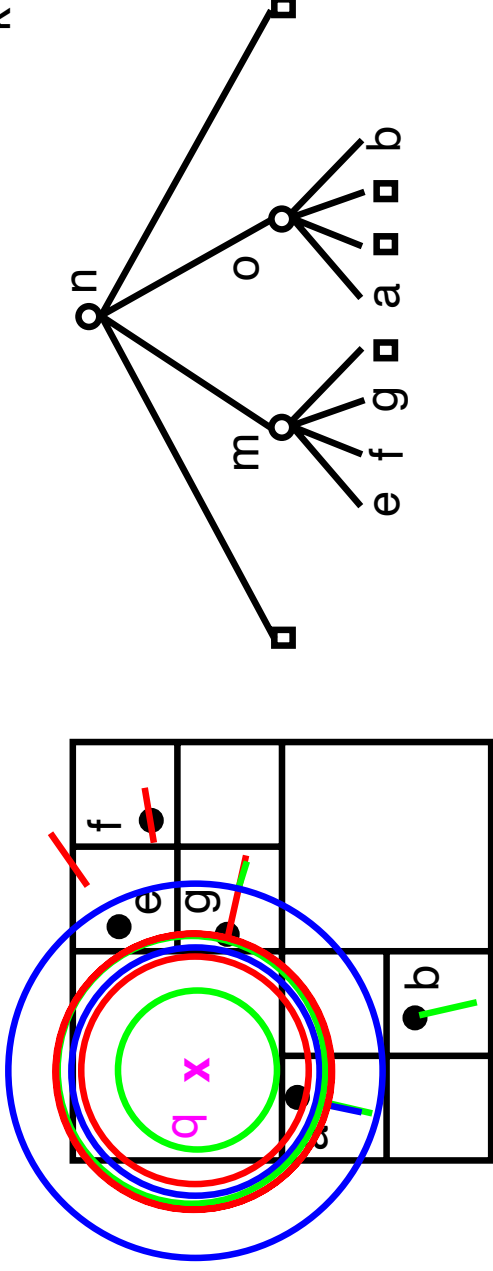


1. Insert  $n$  into Queue.
2. Expand  $n$ . Insert  $o, m$  into Queue.
3. Expand  $o$ . Insert  $a, b$  into Queue,  $L$ . Set  $D^k$ .
4. Expand  $m$ . Insert  $g, e, f$  into Queue and  $g$  into  $L$ .  
Update  $D^k$ . Prune  $f$  and  $b$  from Queue.
5. Process  $a$ . Collision of  $a$  with  $g$ .  
Refine  $a$ . Reinsert  $a$  into Queue and  $L$ .
6. Process  $g$ . Collision of  $g$  with  $a$ .  
Refine and Reinsert  $g$  into Queue and  $L$ . Update  $D^k$ .
7. Process  $a$ . No collision of  $a$  with  $g$ . No need to refine  $a$  further.
8. Process  $g$ . No collision of  $g$  with  $e$ .  
No need to refine  $g$  further. Report  $L$ .



# Example of a Non-incremental $k$ Neighbor Search

$k = 2$



1. Insert n into Queue.
  2. Expand n. Insert o, m into Queue.
  3. Expand o. Insert a, b into Queue, L. Set  $D^k$ .
  4. Expand m. Insert g, e, f into Queue and g into L.  
Update  $D^k$ . Prune f and b from Queue.
  5. Process a. Collision of a with g.  
Refine a. Reinsert a into Queue and L.
  6. Process g. Collision of g with a.  
Refine and Reinsert g into Queue and L. Update  $D^k$ .
  7. Process a. No collision of a with g. No need to refine a further.
  8. Process g. No collision of g with e.  
No need to refine g further. Report L.
- Example of a best-first nearest neighbor algorithm.  
(Search radius to first element in Queue)

# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie

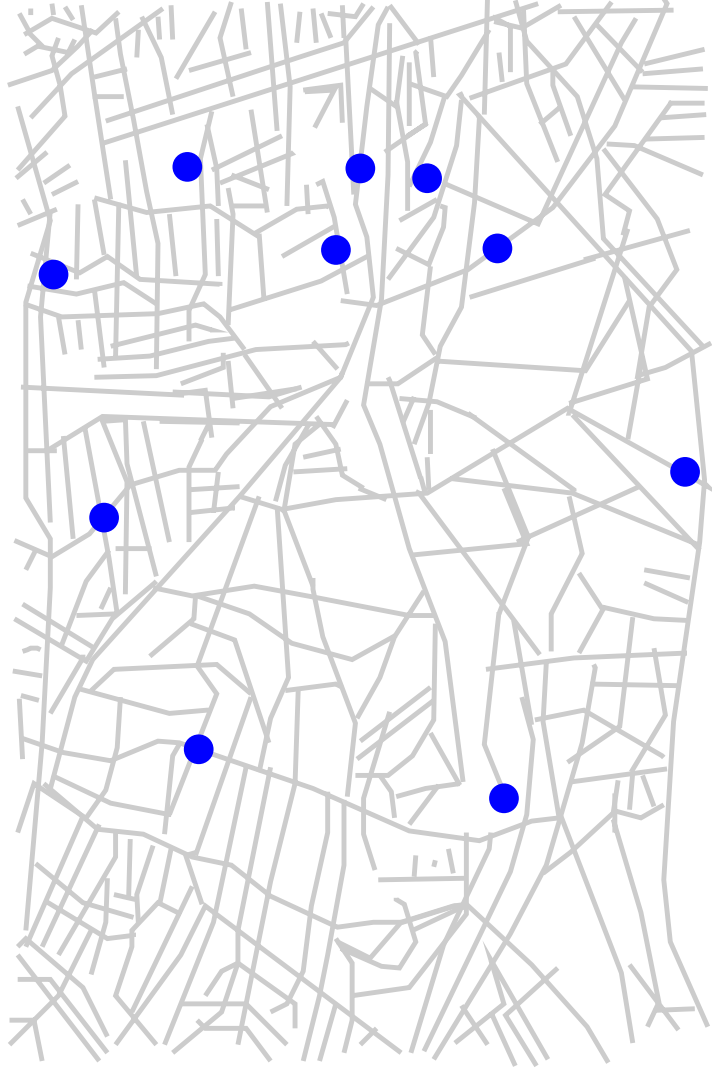
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# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie

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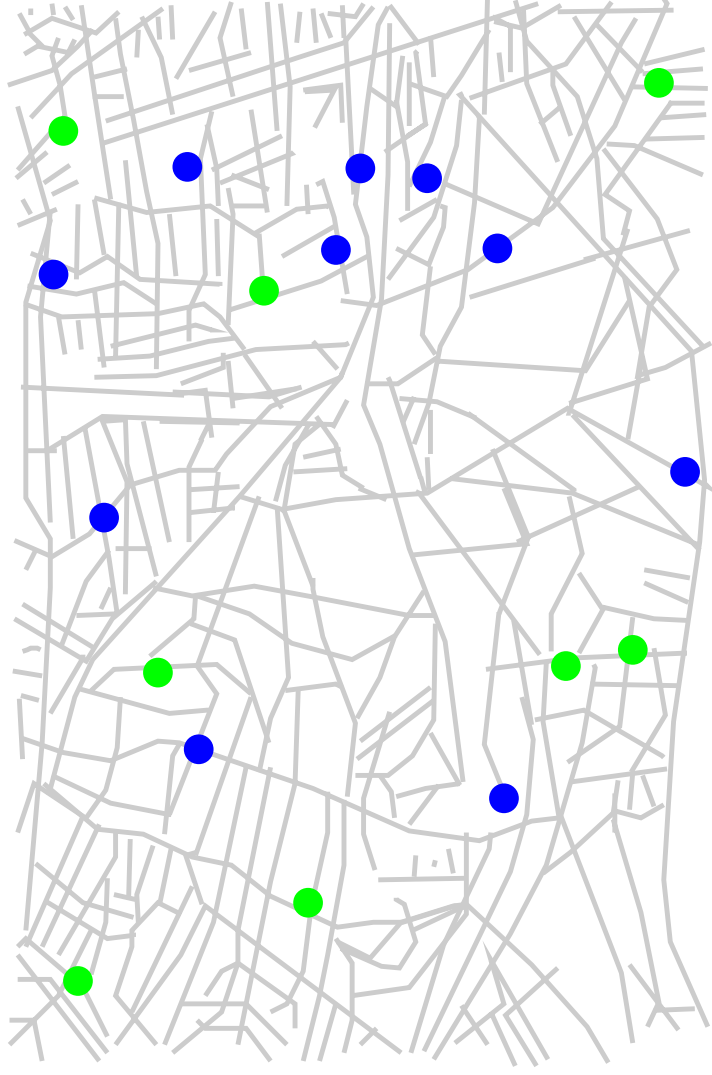


# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



Restaurants R

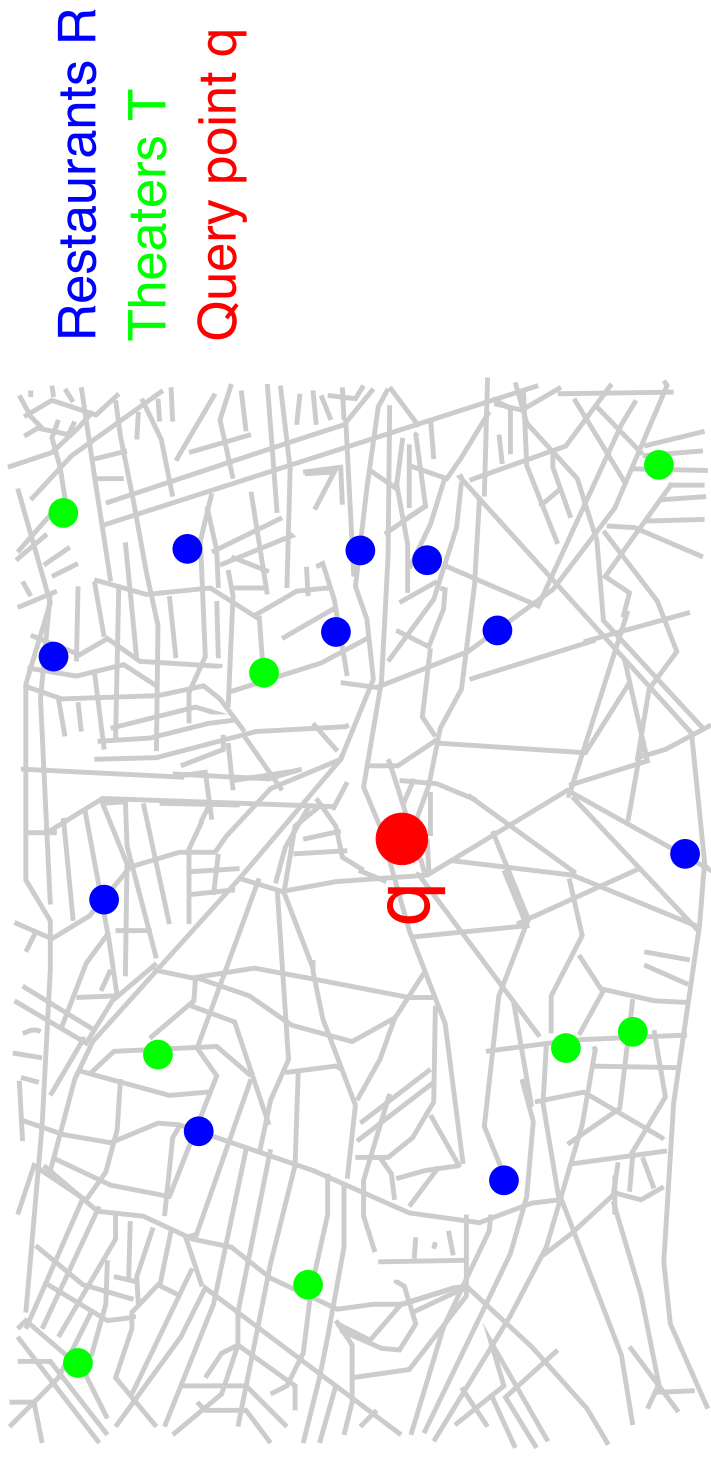
# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



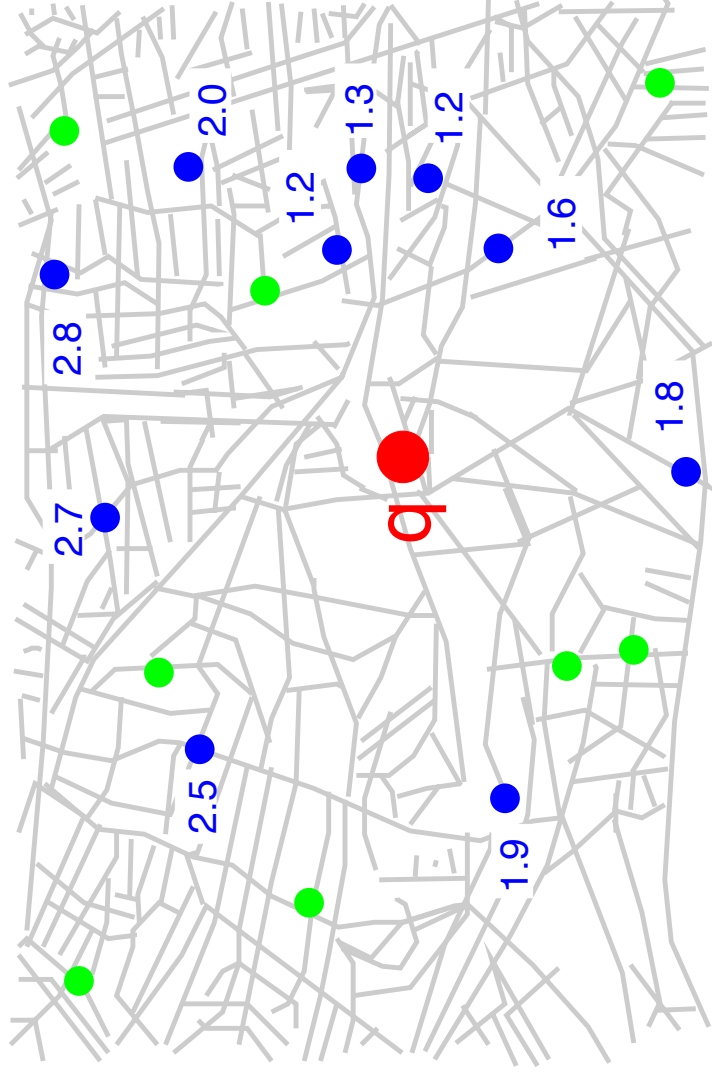
Restaurants R

Theaters T

# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



Restaurants R

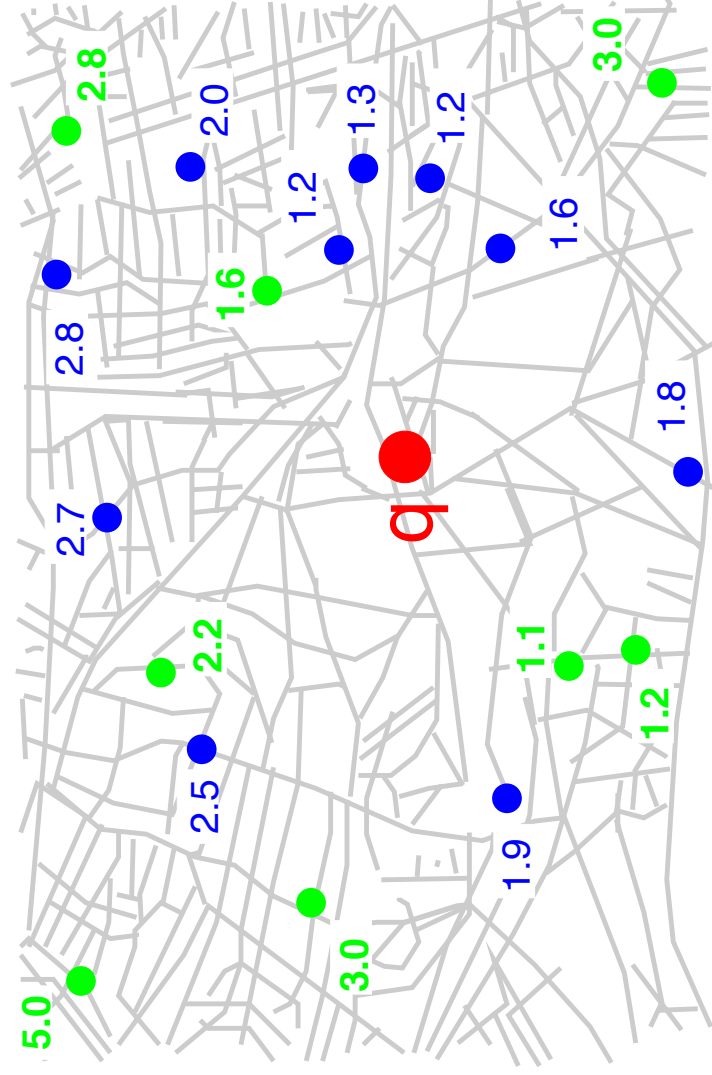
Theaters T

Query point q

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to R



# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



Restaurants R

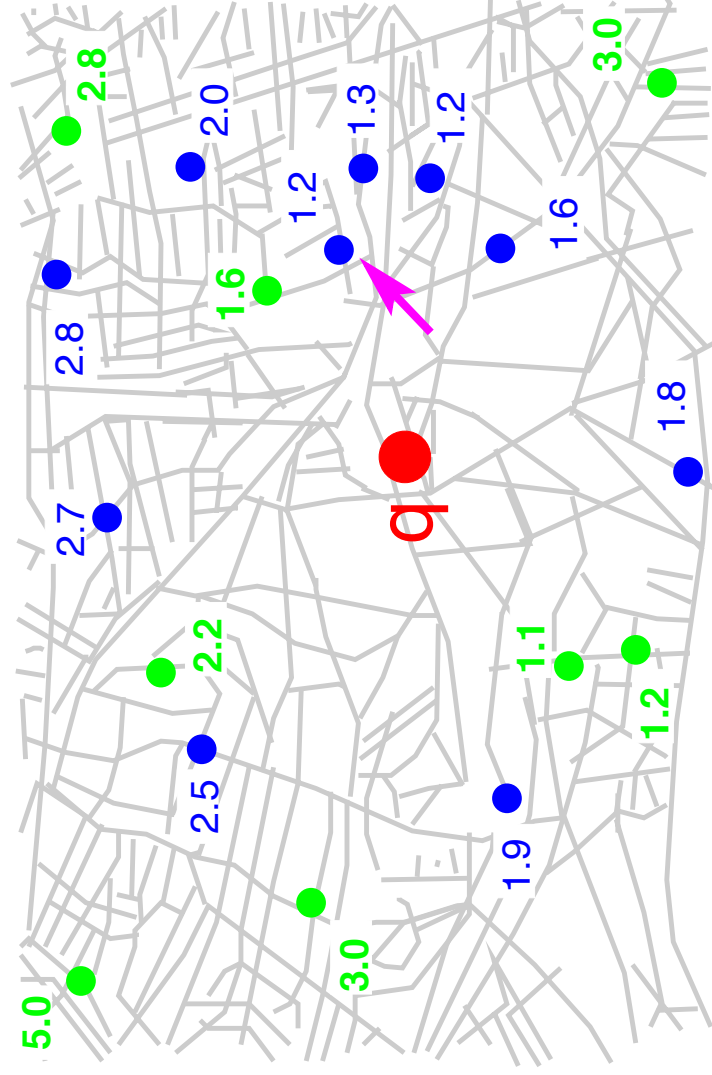
Theaters T

Query point q

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to R

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to T

# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



Restaurants R

Theaters T

Query point q

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to R

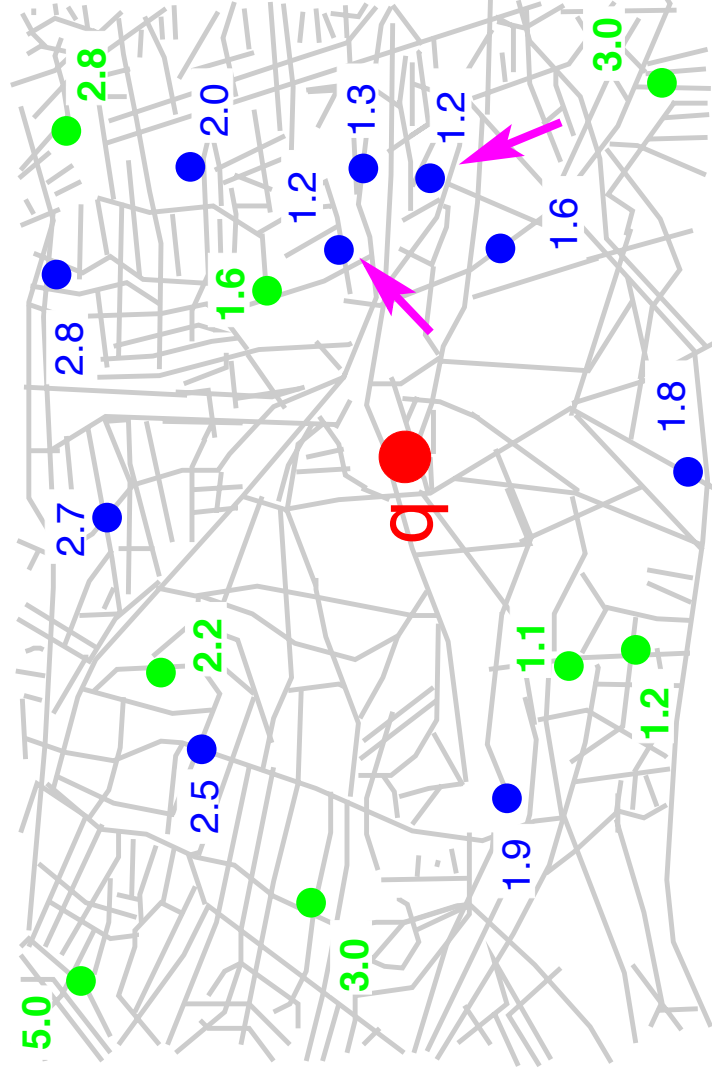
Dijkstra's algorithm from q to T

For each restaurant r in R

Dijkstra's algorithm from r to T

Update k best answer buffer

# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



Restaurants R

Theaters T

Query point q

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to R

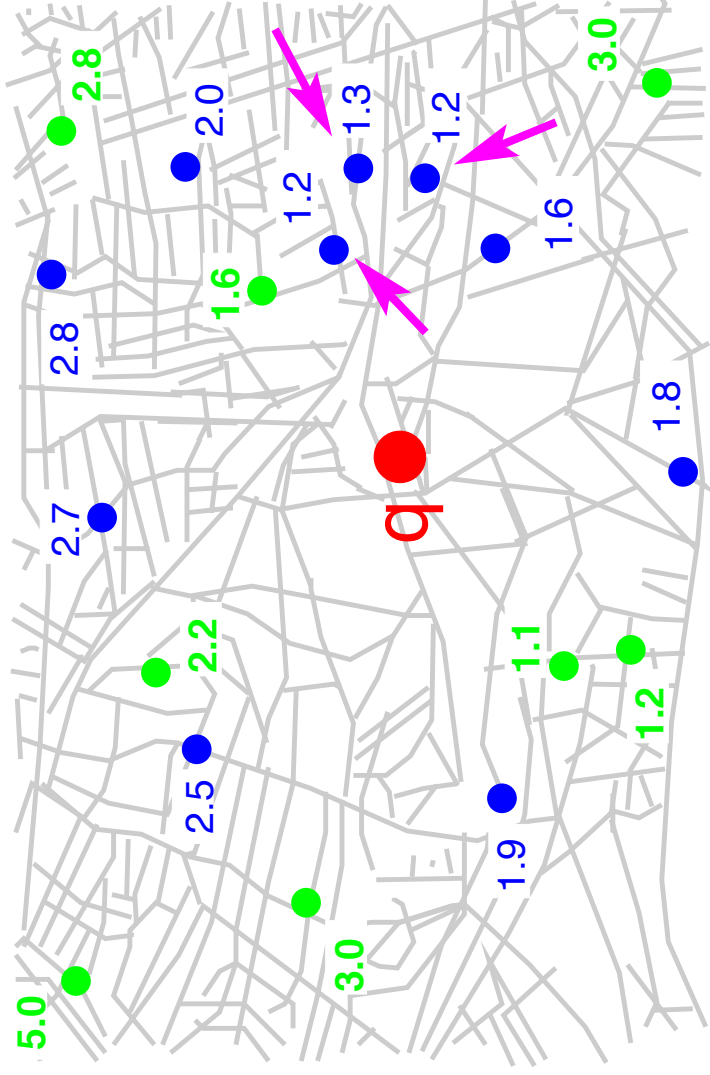
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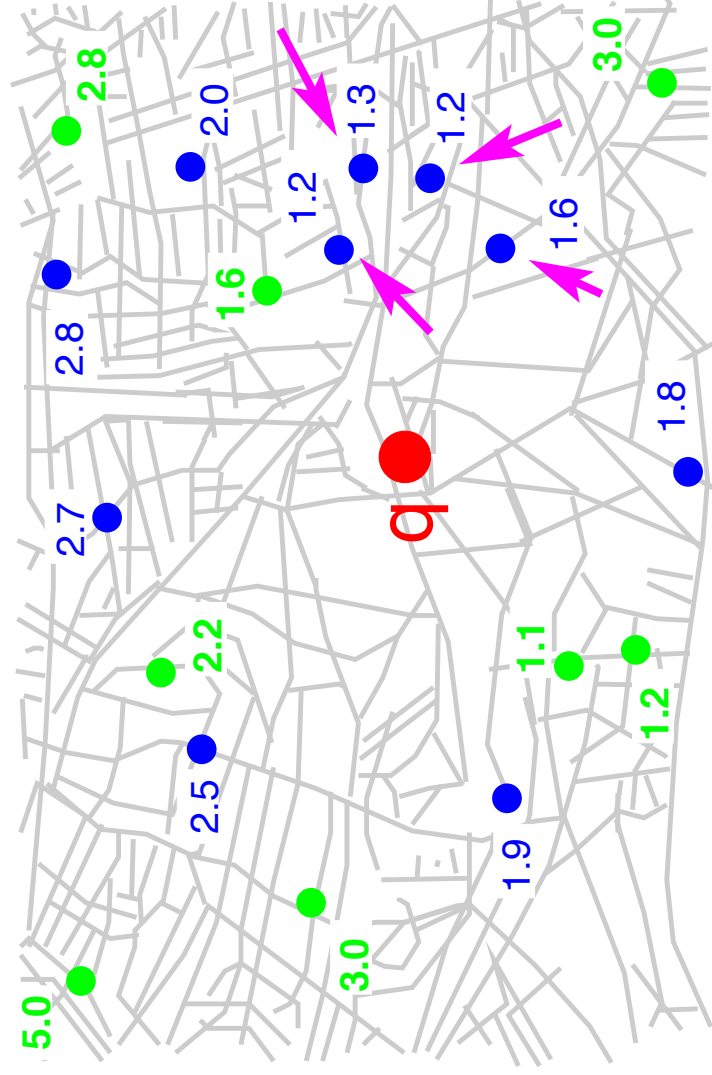
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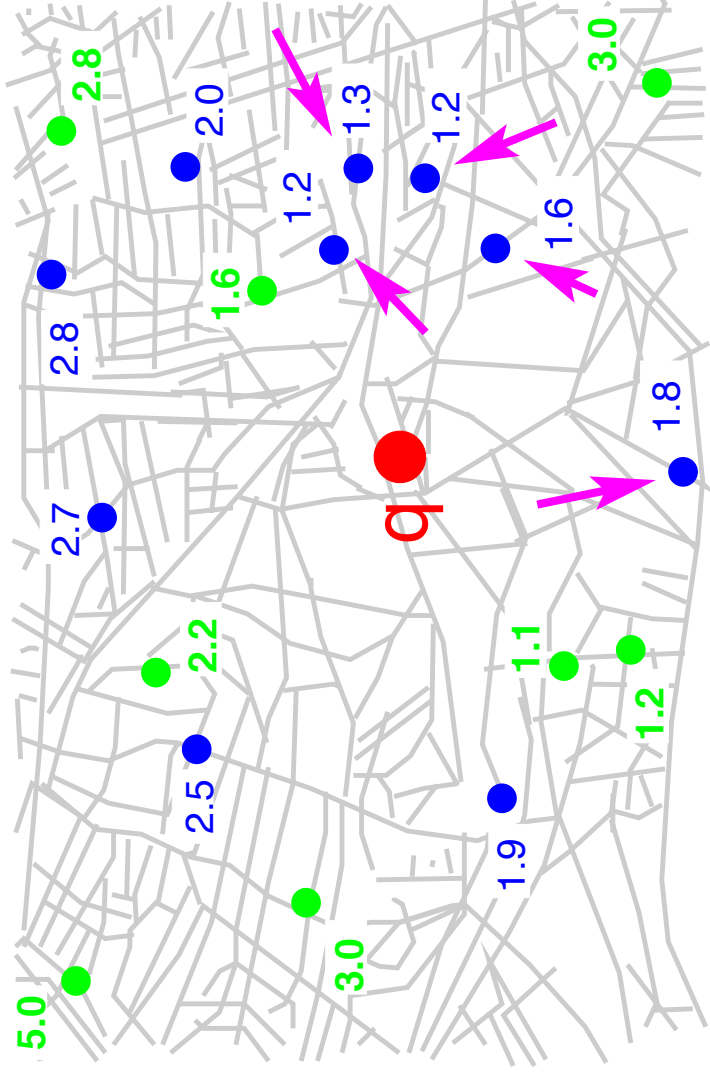
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Theaters T

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Dijkstra's algorithm from q to R

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to T

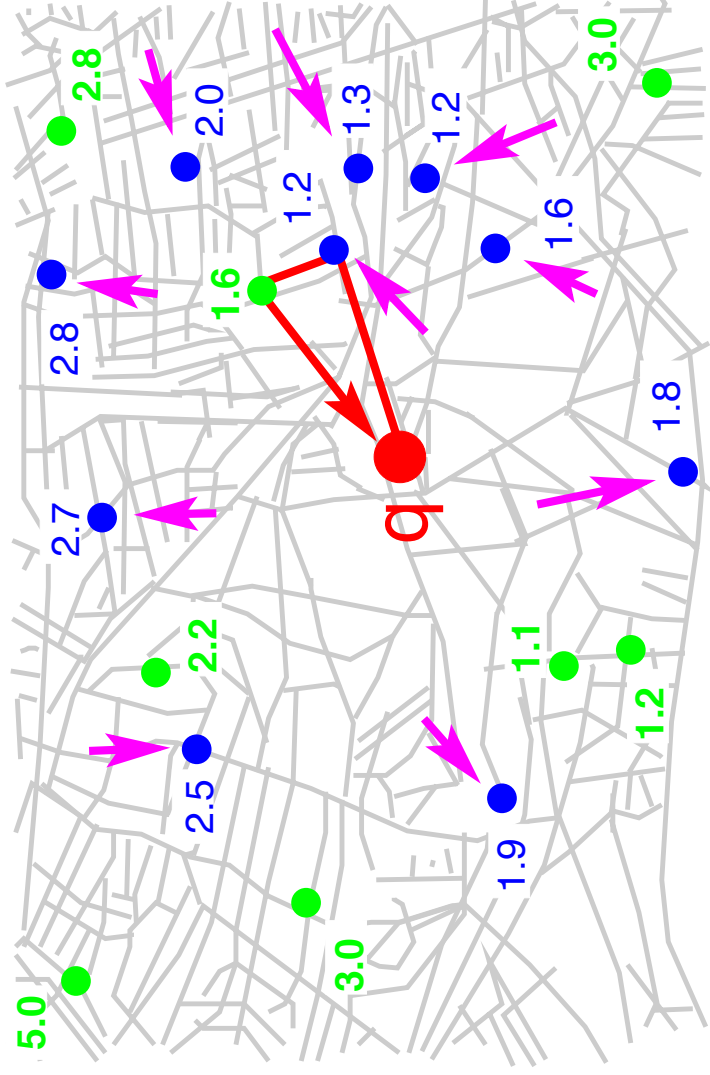
For each restaurant r in R

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Update k best answer buffer



# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



Restaurants R

Theaters T

Query point q

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to R

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to T

For each restaurant r in R

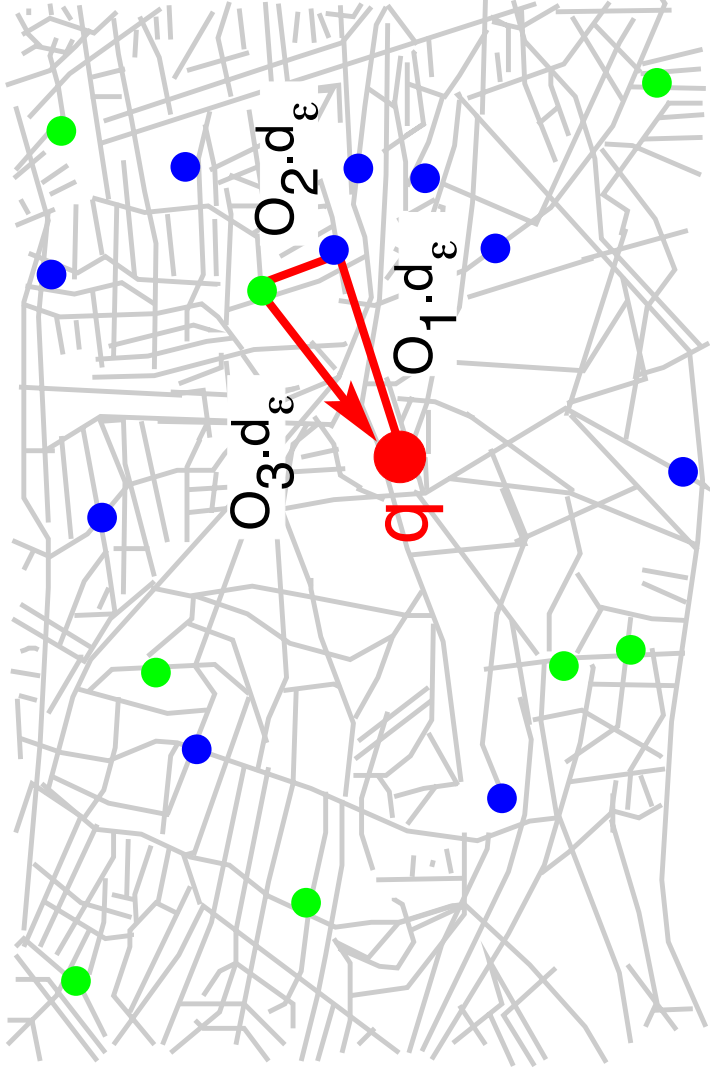
Dijkstra's algorithm from r to T

Update k best answer buffer

Report top k answers



# Application in Two Minutes: Dinner and a Movie



Restaurants R

Theaters T

Query point q

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to R

Dijkstra's algorithm from q to T

For each restaurant r in R

Dijkstra's algorithm from r to T

Update k best answer buffer

Report top k answers

■ In contrast, using an oracle:

```
SELECT R.pos, T.pos, (O1.dε + O2.dε + O3.dε) AS TOTAL
```

```
FROM R, T, O AS O1, O AS O2, O AS O3
```

```
WHERE O1.AB = Z4(q, R.pos) AND
```

```
       O2.AB = Z4(R.pos, T.pos) AND
```

```
       O3.AB = Z4(T.pos, q)
```

```
ORDER BY TOTAL LIMIT k
```

# Summary

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1. **Geometric view** of spatial networks
2. Observation of **path coherence**
  - Interplay between spatial and connectivity
  - Transformation of graph-based in to geometric operations
3. **Scalable** framework for query processing
  - Precomputation shown to be a feasible strategy
  - Oracles are linear in the size of the spatial network
4. Operations expressed using **relational operators**
  - Efficient query processing in the context of a database

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