

Packing and covering: planar separator and shifting

Sándor Kisfaludi-Bak

Computational Geometry
Summer semester 2020



Overview

- Planar separator theorem (slides by Mark de Berg)

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- Independent set in planar graphs (slides by MdB)

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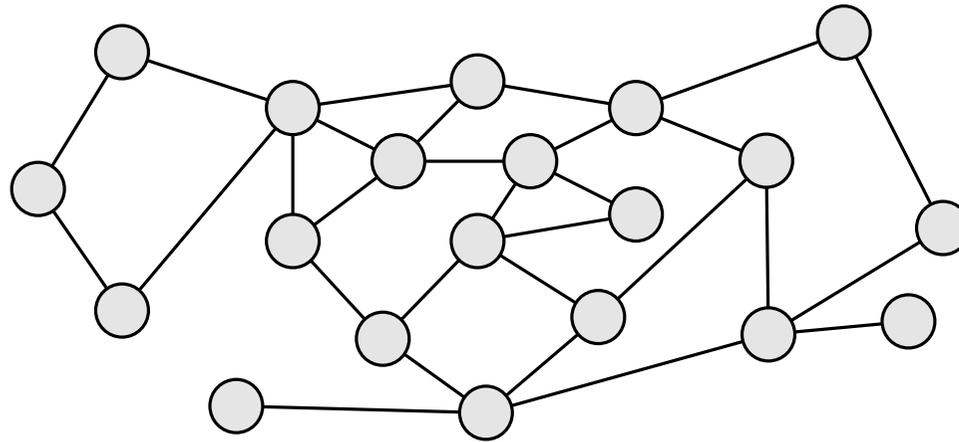
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- Exact algorithms for packing and covering

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- Independent set in planar graphs (slides by MdB)
- Exact algorithms for packing and covering
- Shifting strategy: approximation schemes

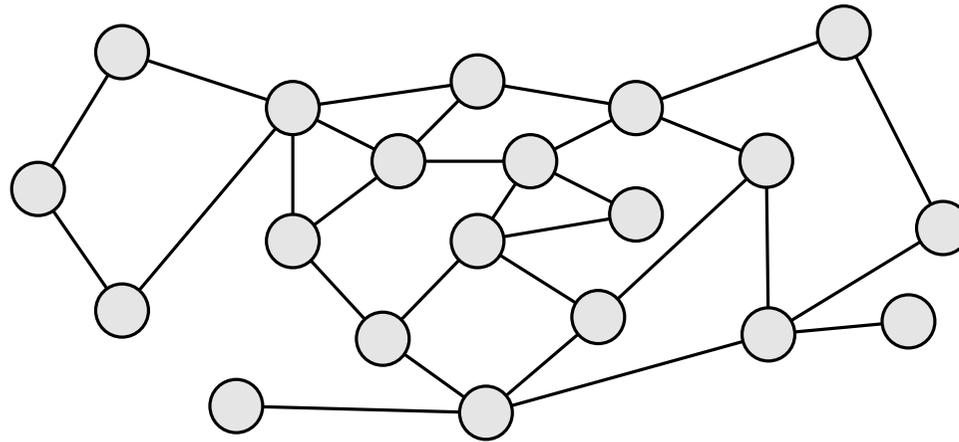
Planar graphs

Planar graphs: graphs that can be drawn without crossing edges



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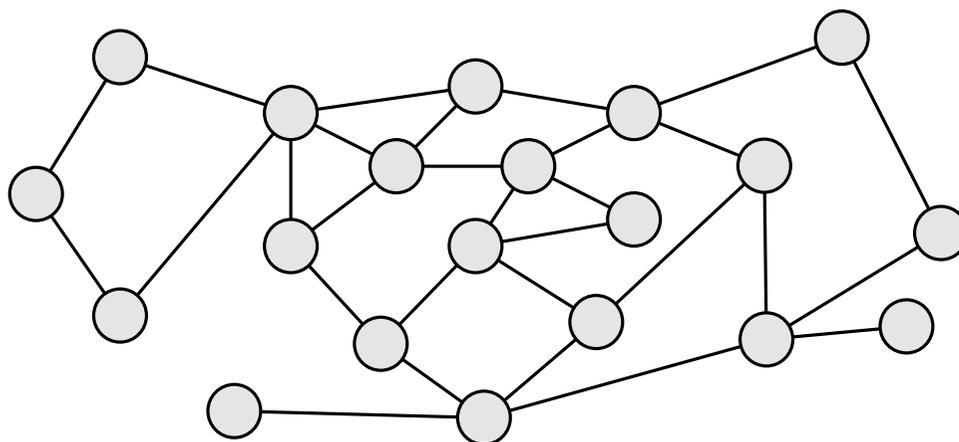
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Planar Separator Theorem (Lipton, Tarjan 1979)

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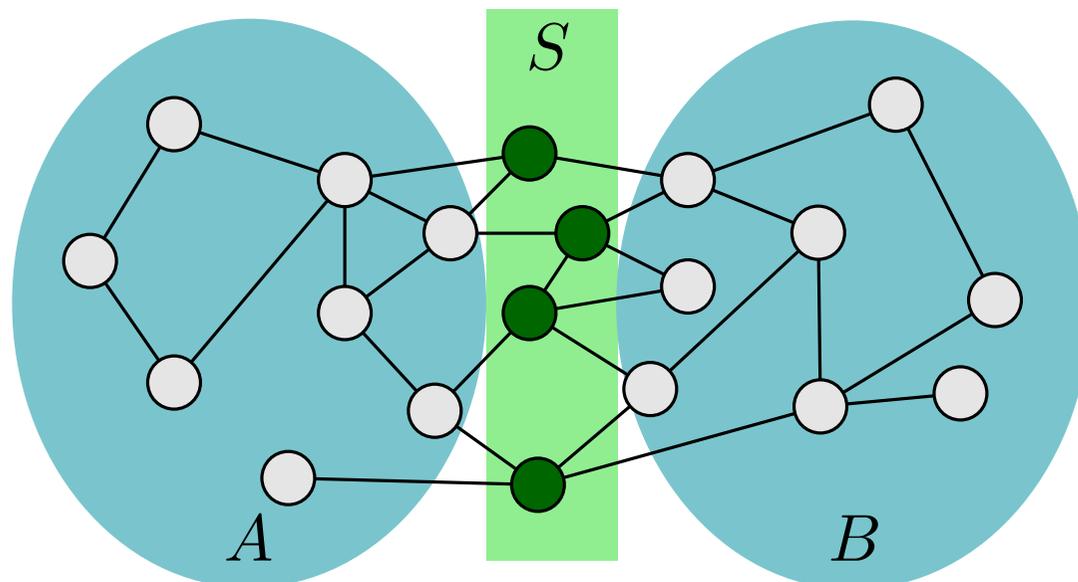


Planar Separator Theorem (Lipton, Tarjan 1979)

For any planar graph $G = (V, E)$ there is a **separator** $S \subset V$ of size $O(\sqrt{n})$ such that $V \setminus S$ can be partitioned into subsets A and B , each of size at most $\frac{2}{3}n$ and with no edges between them.

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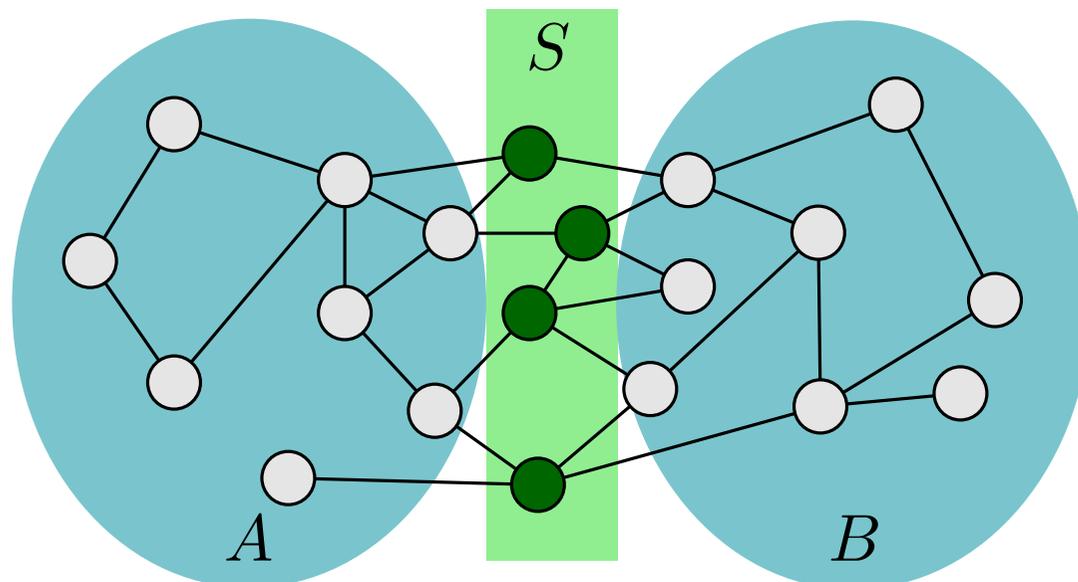


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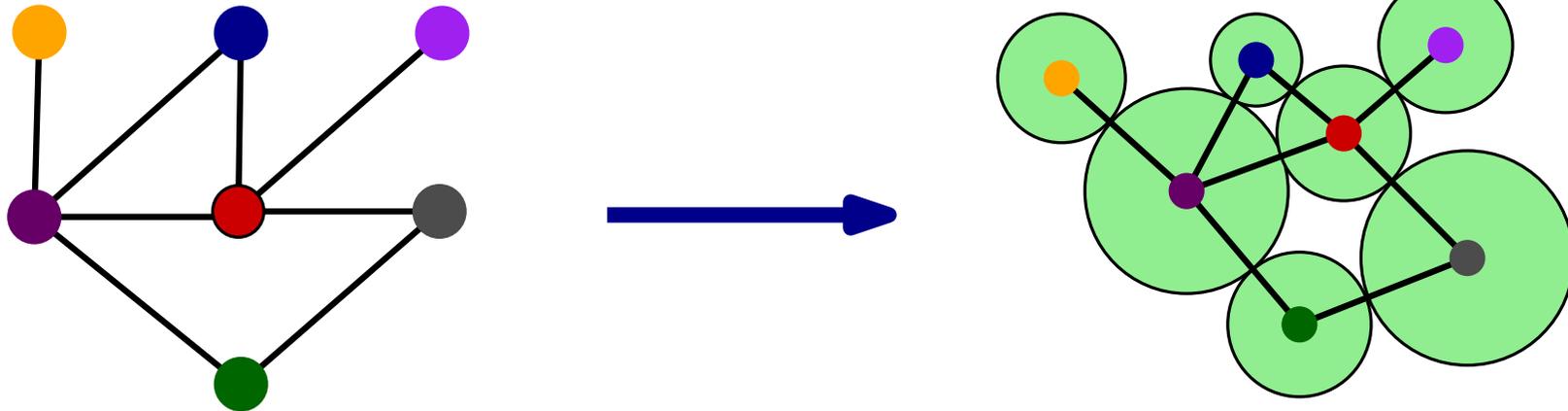
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Such a $(2/3)$ -balanced separator can be computed in $O(n)$ time.

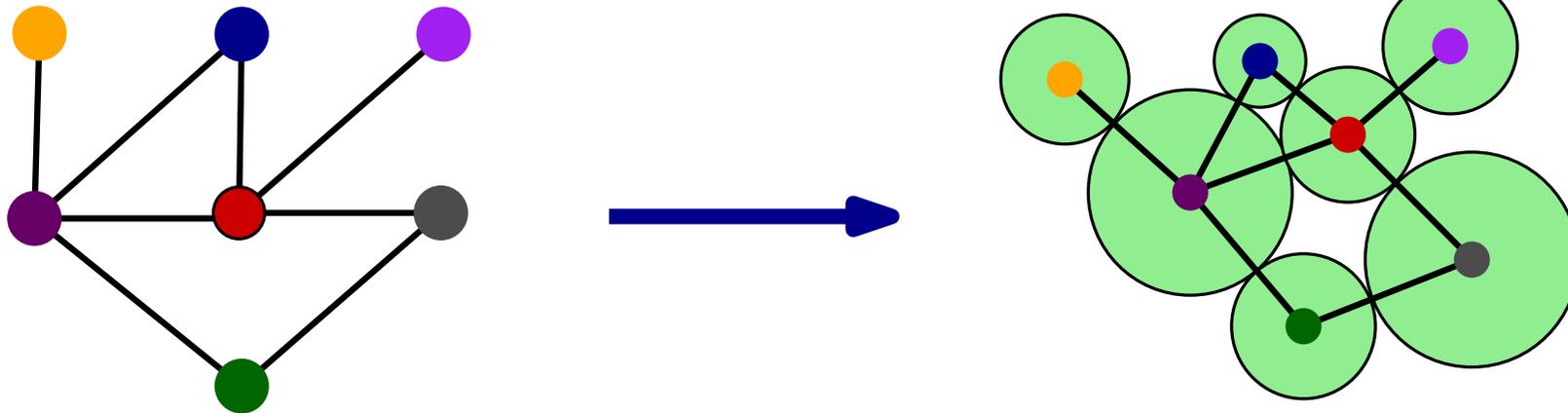
A geometric proof of the Planar Separator Theorem

Fact: Any planar graph is the contact graph of a set of interior-disjoint disks.

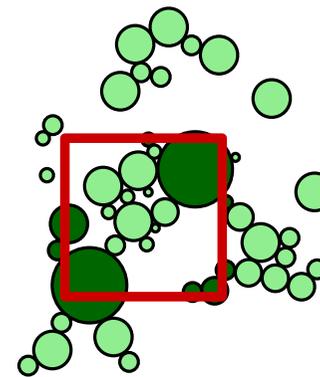


A geometric proof of the Planar Separator Theorem

Fact: Any planar graph is the contact graph of a set of interior-disjoint disks.



Proof idea: Find a square σ intersecting $O(\sqrt{n})$ disks that is a balanced separator.



A geometric proof of the Planar Separator Theorem

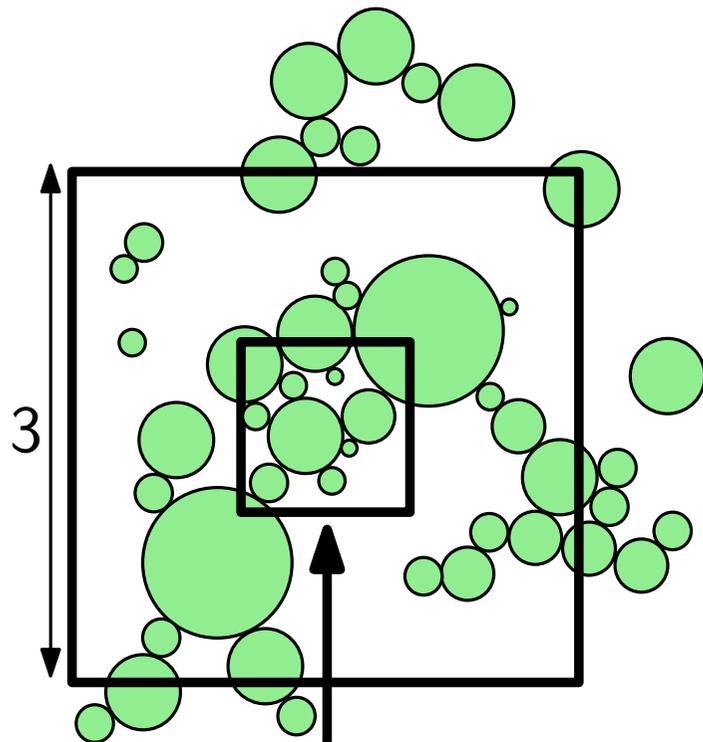
Theorem. For any contact graph of n interior-disjoint disks, there is an α -balanced separator of size $O(\sqrt{n})$, where $\alpha = 36/37$.

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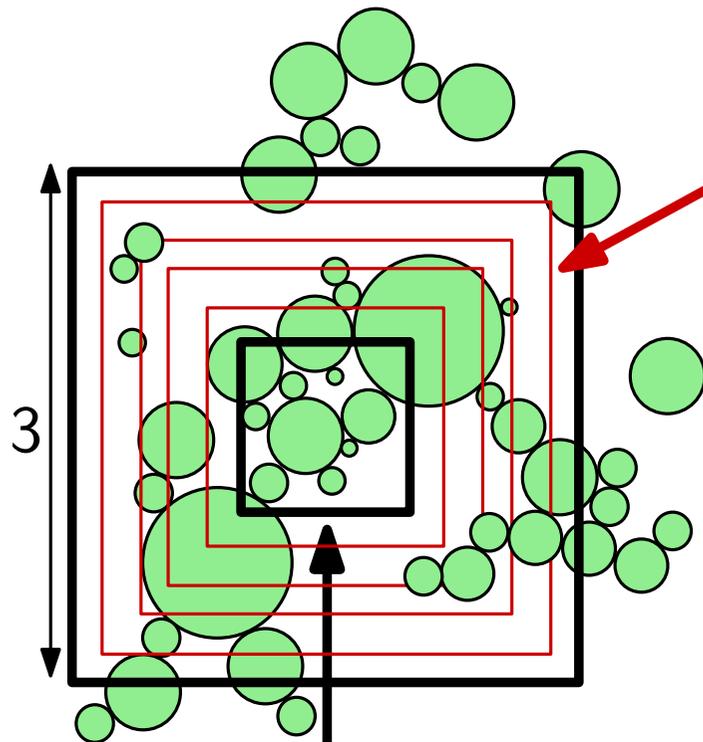


smallest square
containing at least
 $n/37$ disks

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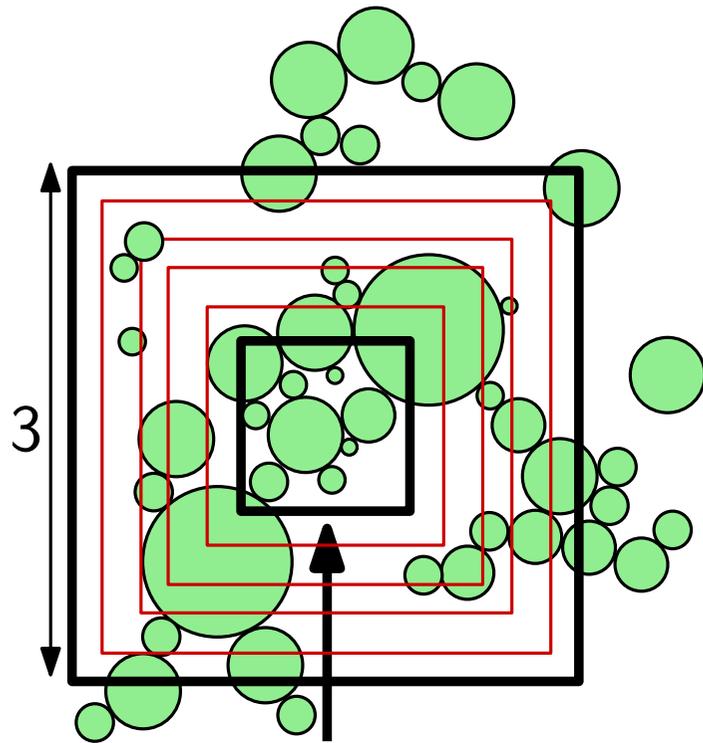
\sqrt{n} squares $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{\sqrt{n}}$
at distance $1/\sqrt{n}$ from each other

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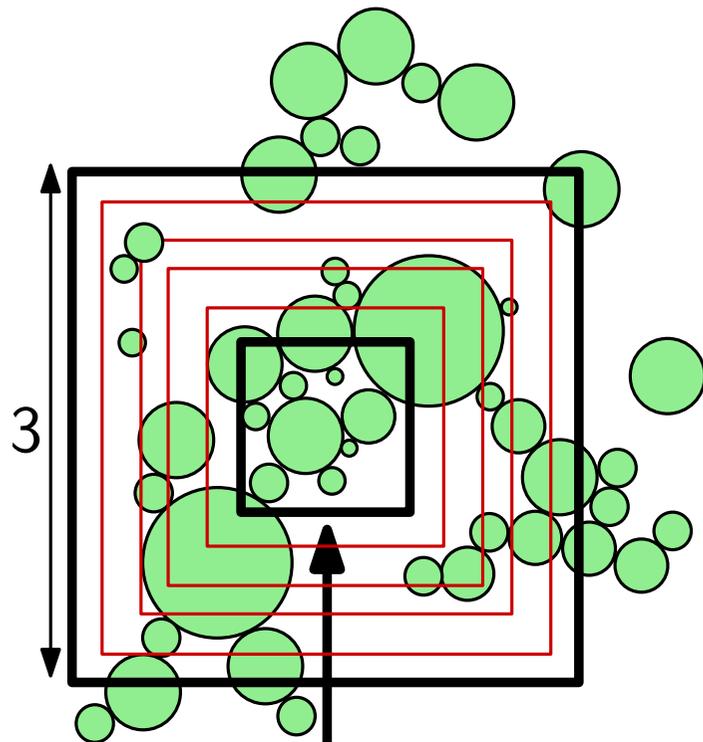
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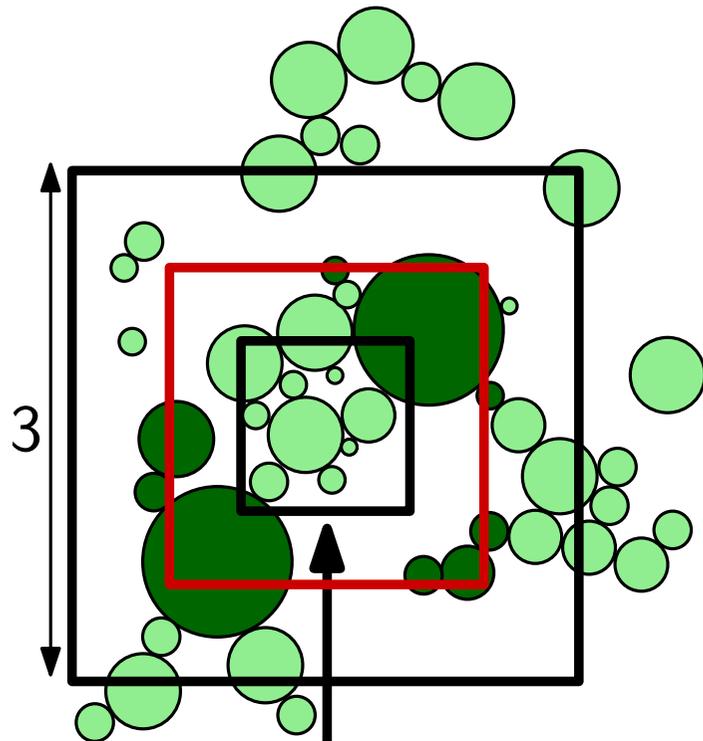
Constructing the separator:

Select a square σ_i that intersects
 $O(\sqrt{n})$ disks and put these disks
into the separator.

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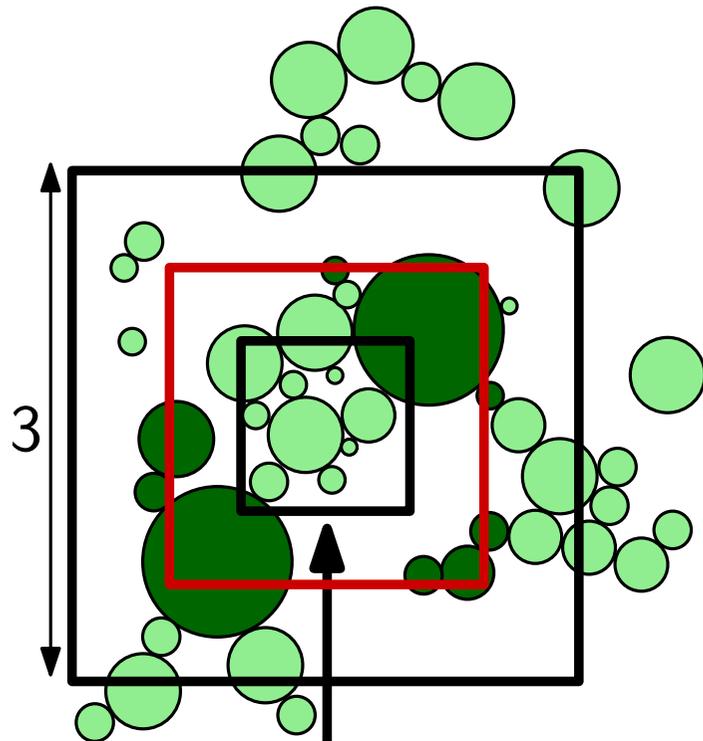
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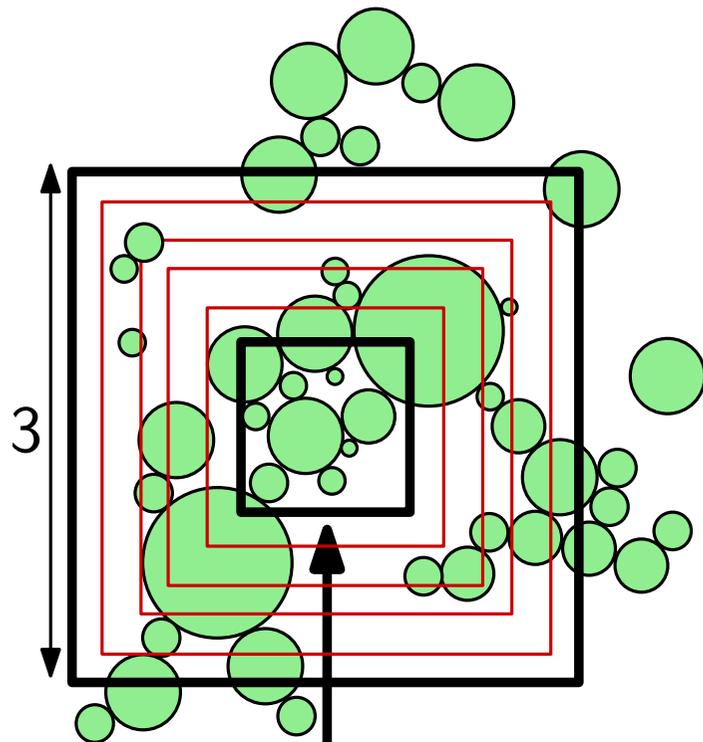
Things to check

- separator is $(36/37)$ -balanced
- does square σ_i with the desired property actually exist ??

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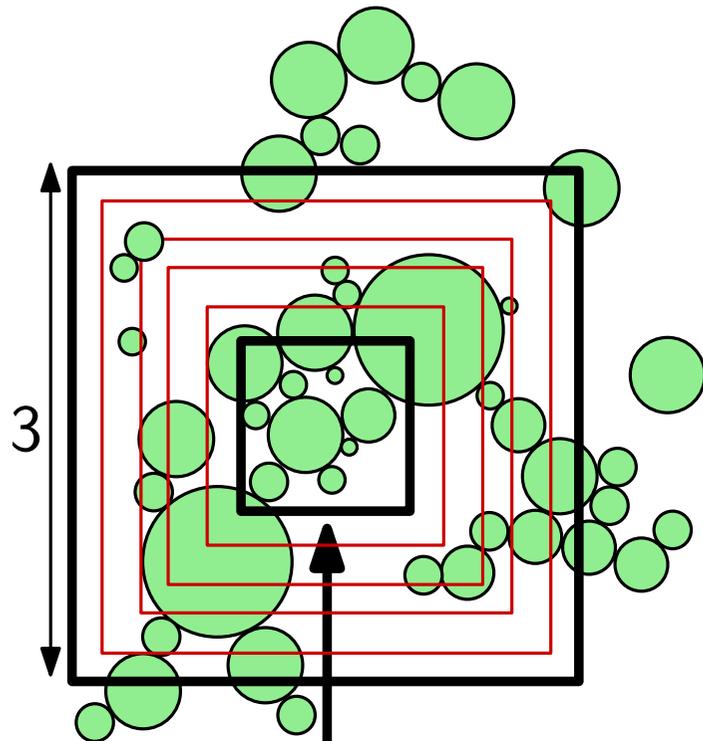
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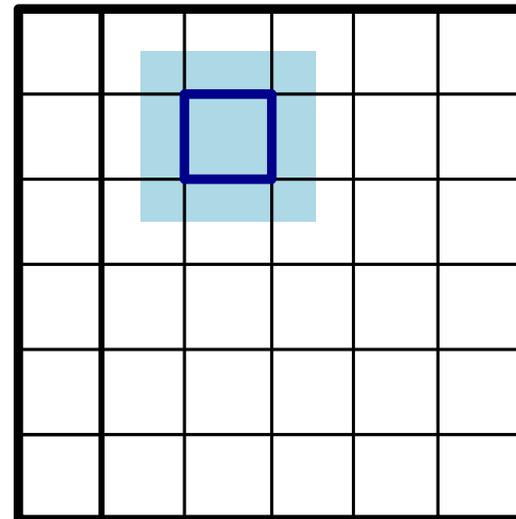
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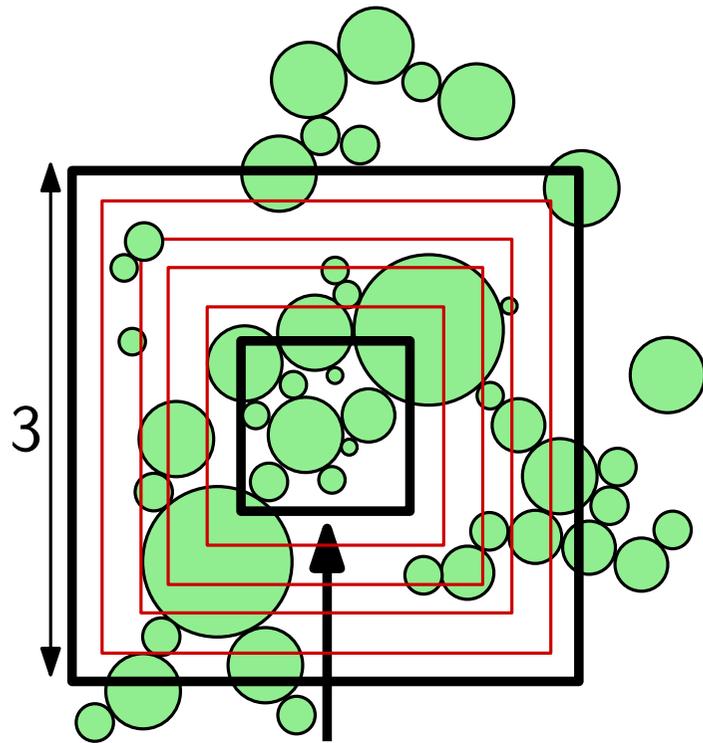
- at least $n/37$ disk inside
- at most $36n/37$ disks inside



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Does σ_i intersecting $O(\sqrt{n})$ disks exist?

total number of disk-square intersections

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{small}}} (1 + \text{diam}(D_i) \cdot \sqrt{n}) \\ &\leq n_{\text{small}} + O(\sqrt{n}) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{small}}} \sqrt{\text{area}(D_i)} \\ &= O(n) \end{aligned}$$

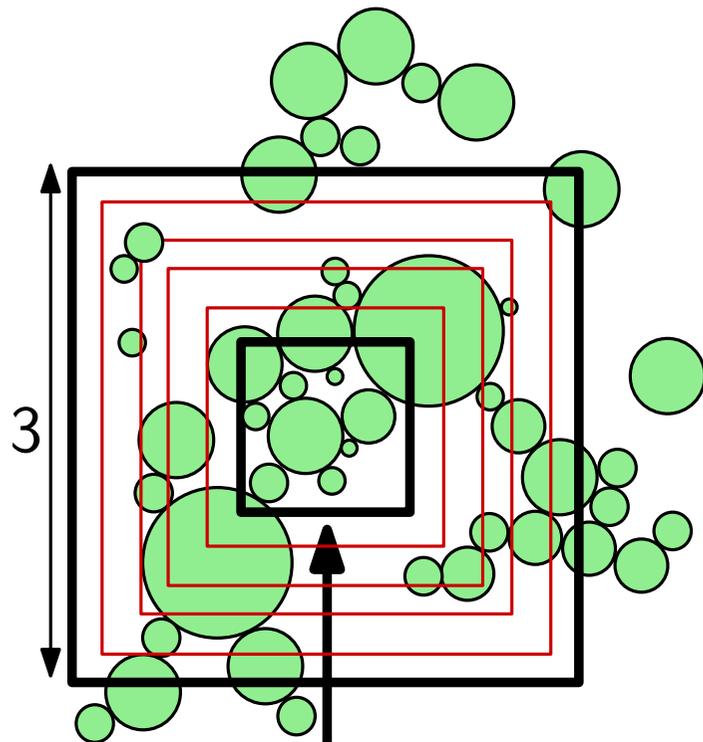
last step uses

- $\sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{small}}} \text{area}(D_i) = O(1)$ (sort of ...)
- $\sum_{i=1}^k \sqrt{a_i} \leq \sum_{i=1}^k \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^k a_i}{k}}$

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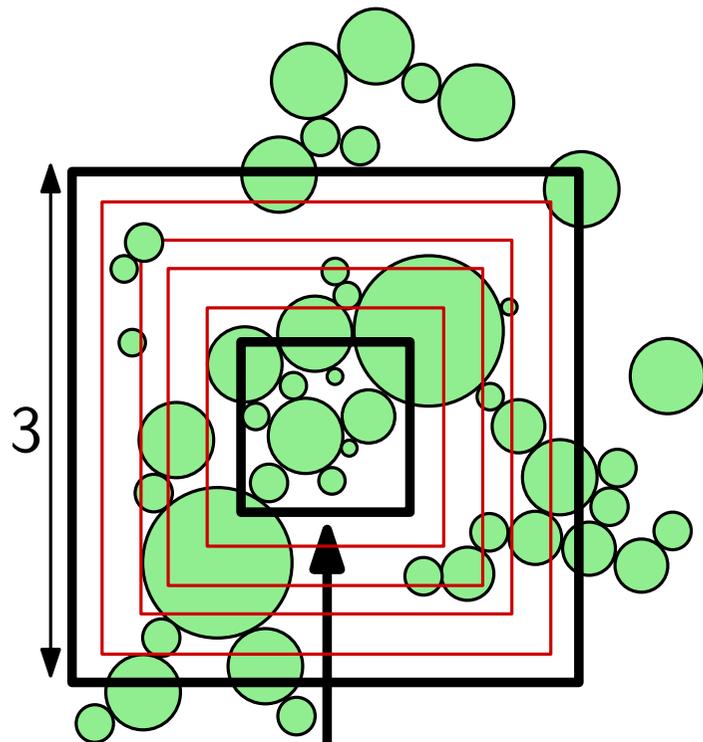
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\Rightarrow one of the σ_i 's intersects $O(\sqrt{n})$ disks

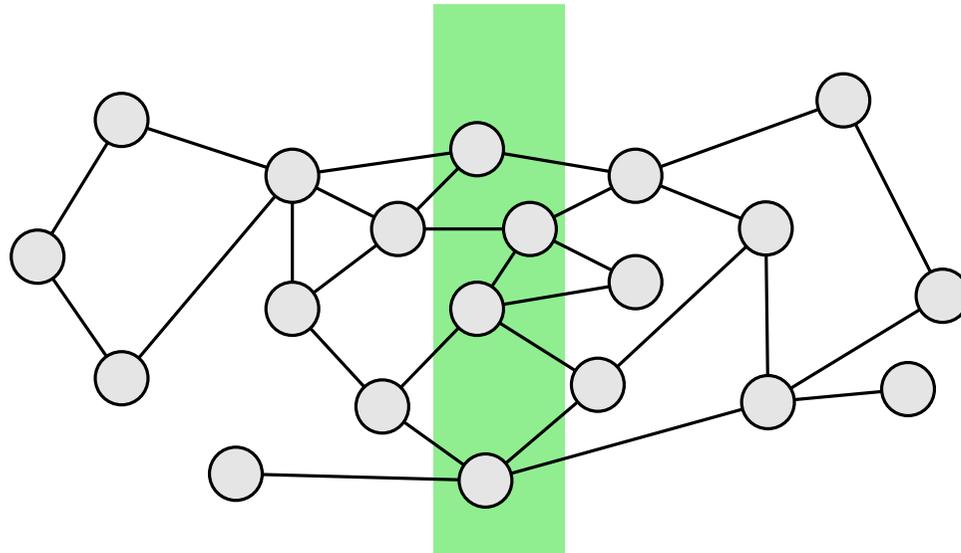


Subexponential algorithms on planar graphs

Theorem. INDEPENDENT SET can be solved in $2^{O(\sqrt{n})}$ time in planar graphs.

Subexponential algorithms on planar graphs

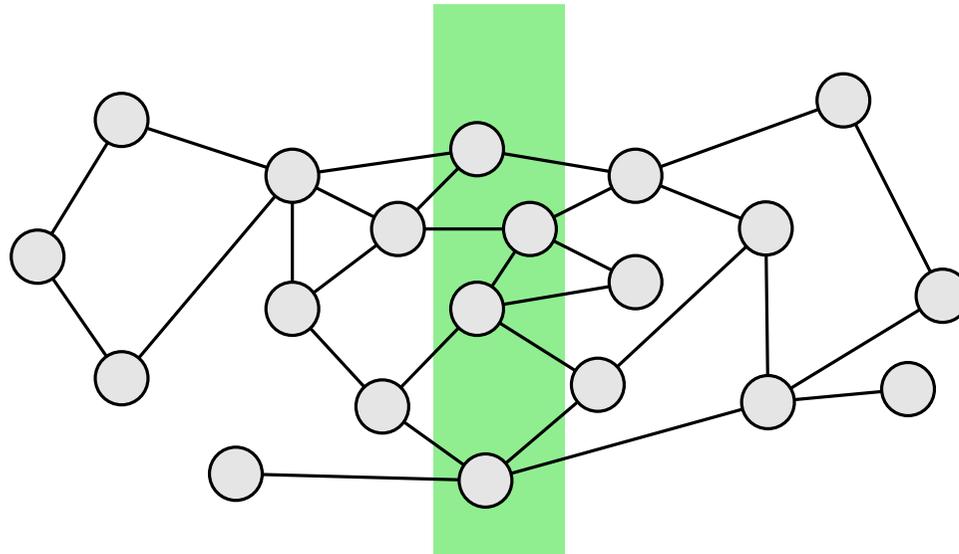
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1. Compute $(2/3)$ -balanced separator S of size $O(\sqrt{n})$.
2. For each independent set $I_S \subseteq S$ (including empty set) do
 - (a) Recursively find max independent set I_A for $A \setminus \{\text{neighbors of } I_S\}$
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 - (c) $I(S) := I_S \cup I_A \cup I_B$
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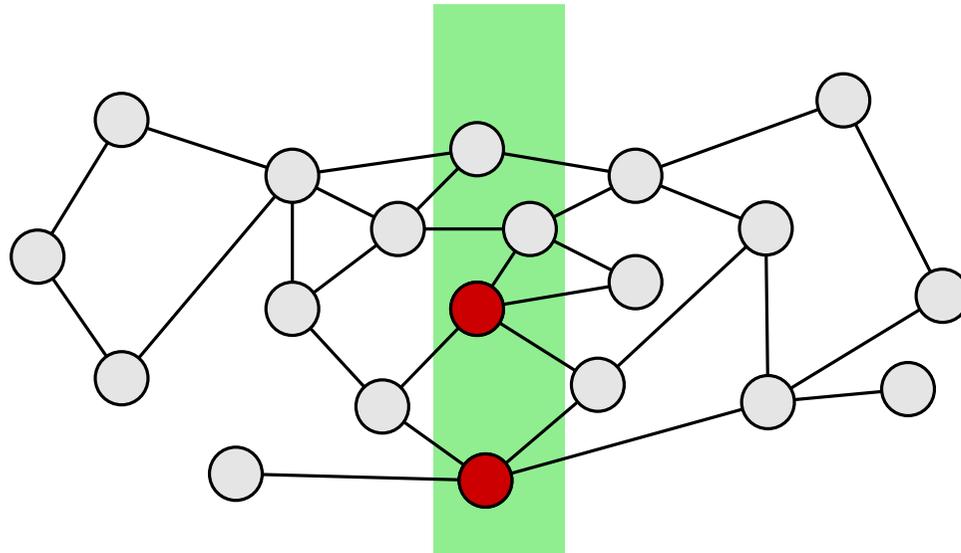
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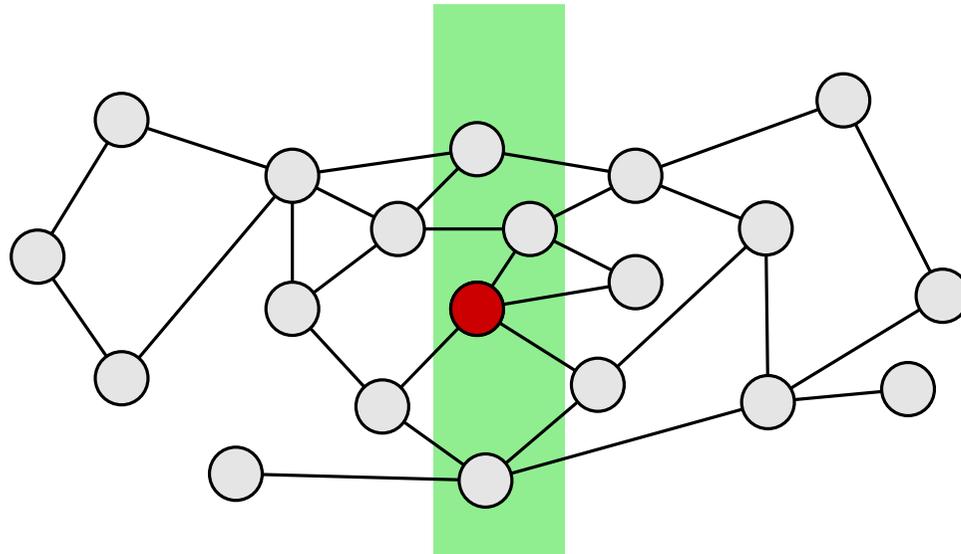
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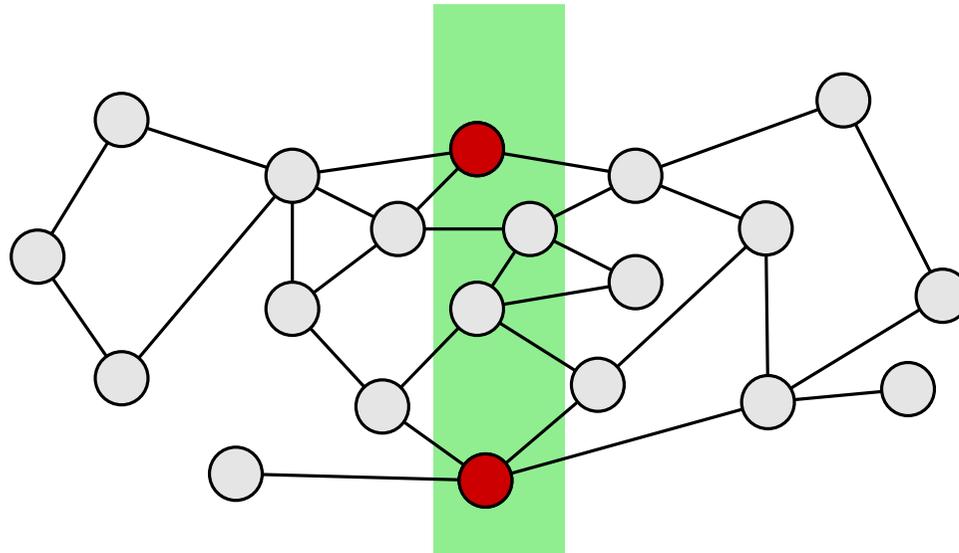
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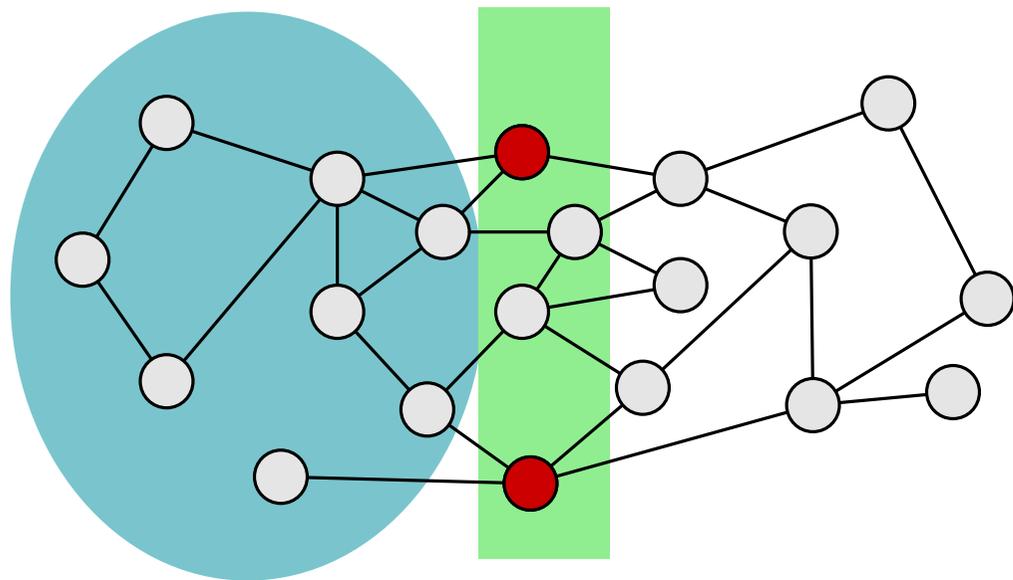
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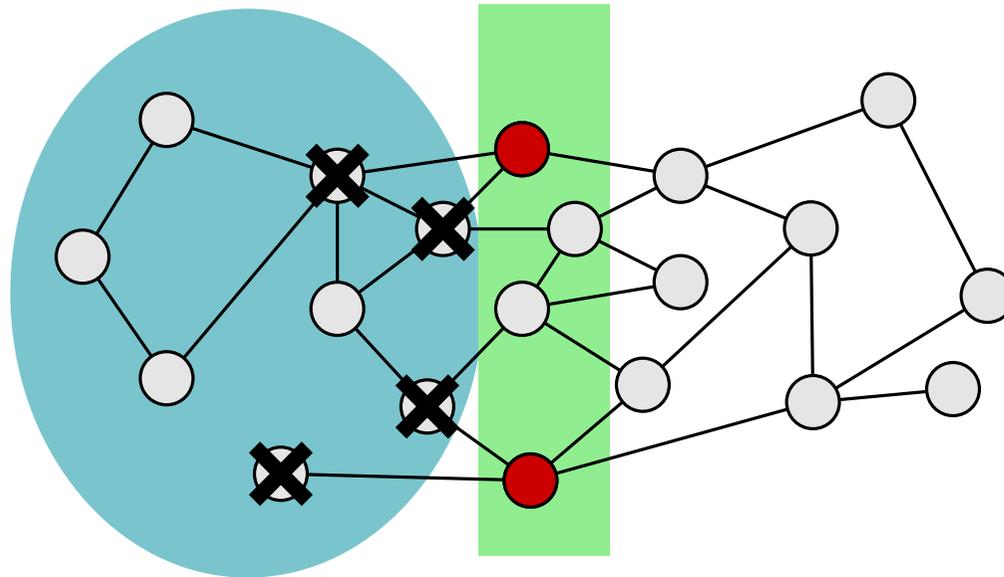
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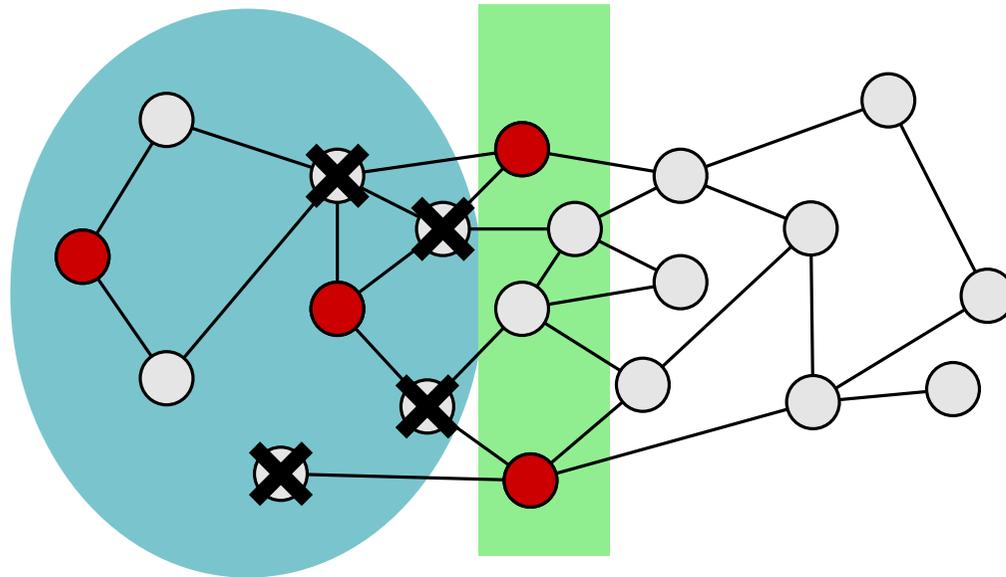
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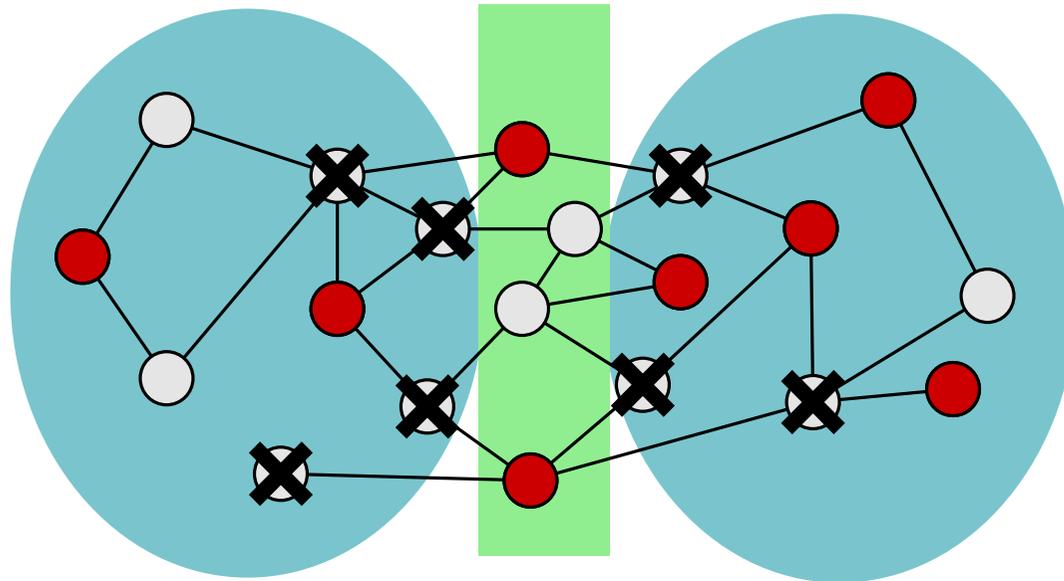
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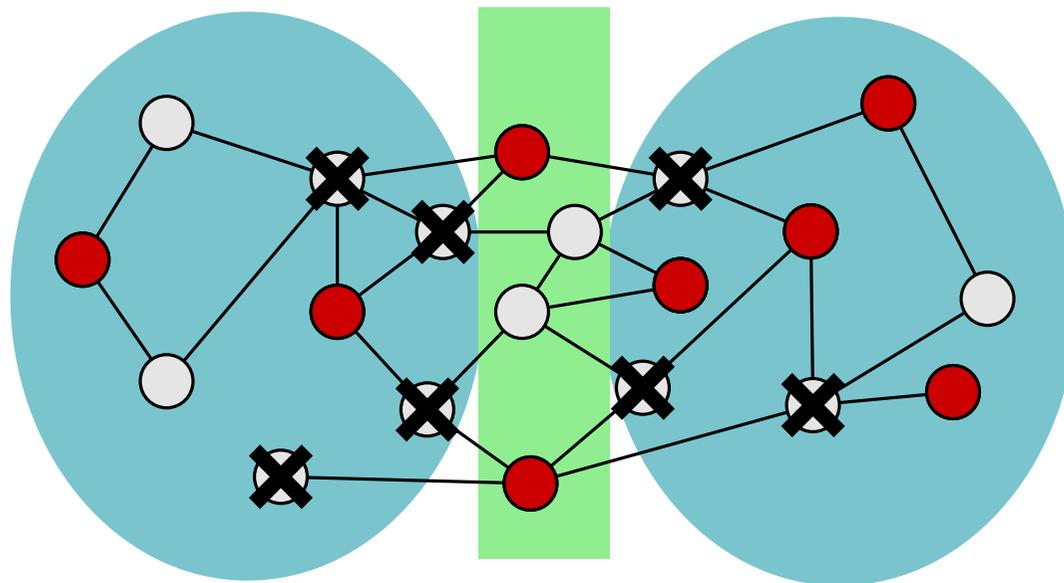
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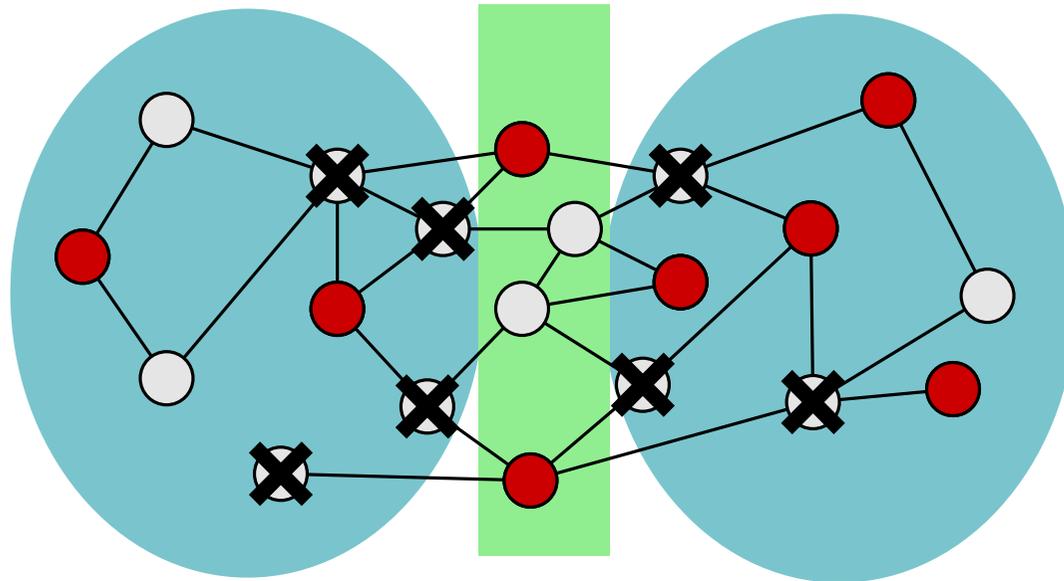
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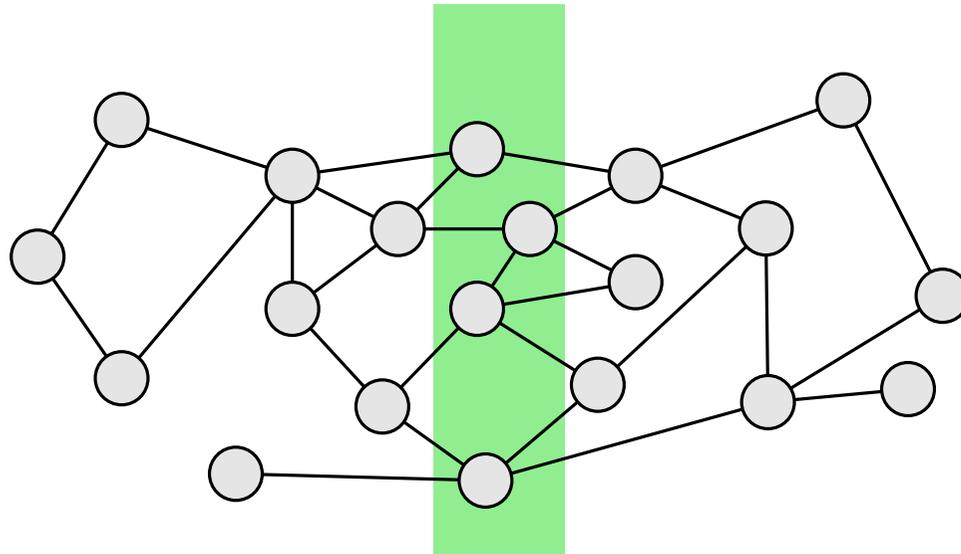
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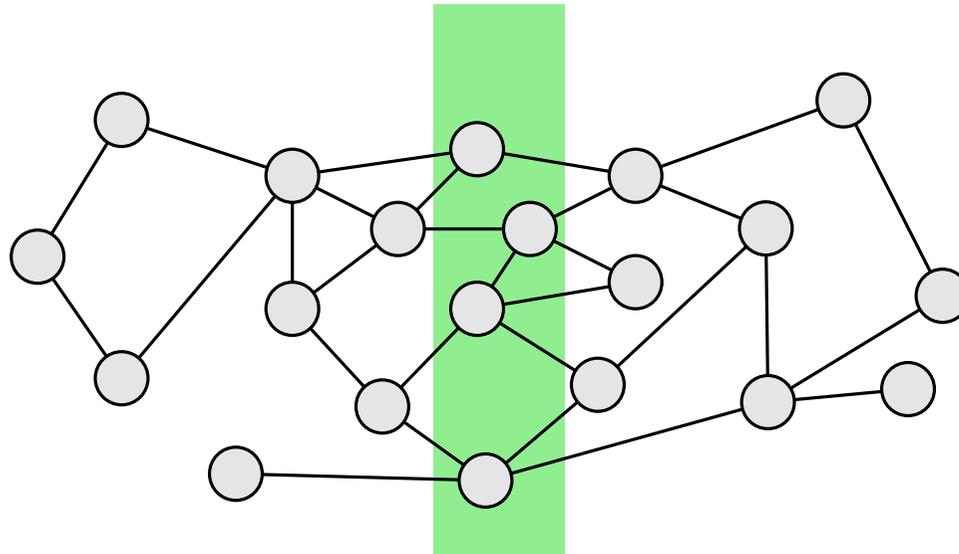
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Running time

Subexponential algorithms on planar graphs

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Running time

$$T(n) \leq O(n) + 2^{O(\sqrt{n})} \cdot T(2n/3) \quad \implies \quad T(n) = 2^{O(\sqrt{n})}$$

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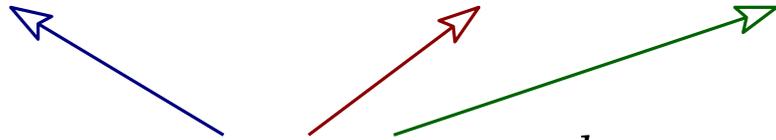
Intersection graphs

Given a set S of n objects in \mathbb{R}^d , their *intersection graph* has vertex set S and edge set

$$E[S] := \{ss' \mid s, s' \in S \text{ and } s \cap s' \neq \emptyset\}$$

Intersection graphs

arbitrary subset of \mathbb{R}^d ball (disk) axis-parallel box

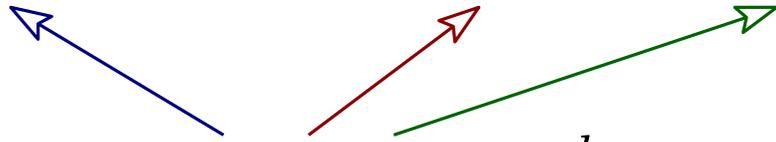


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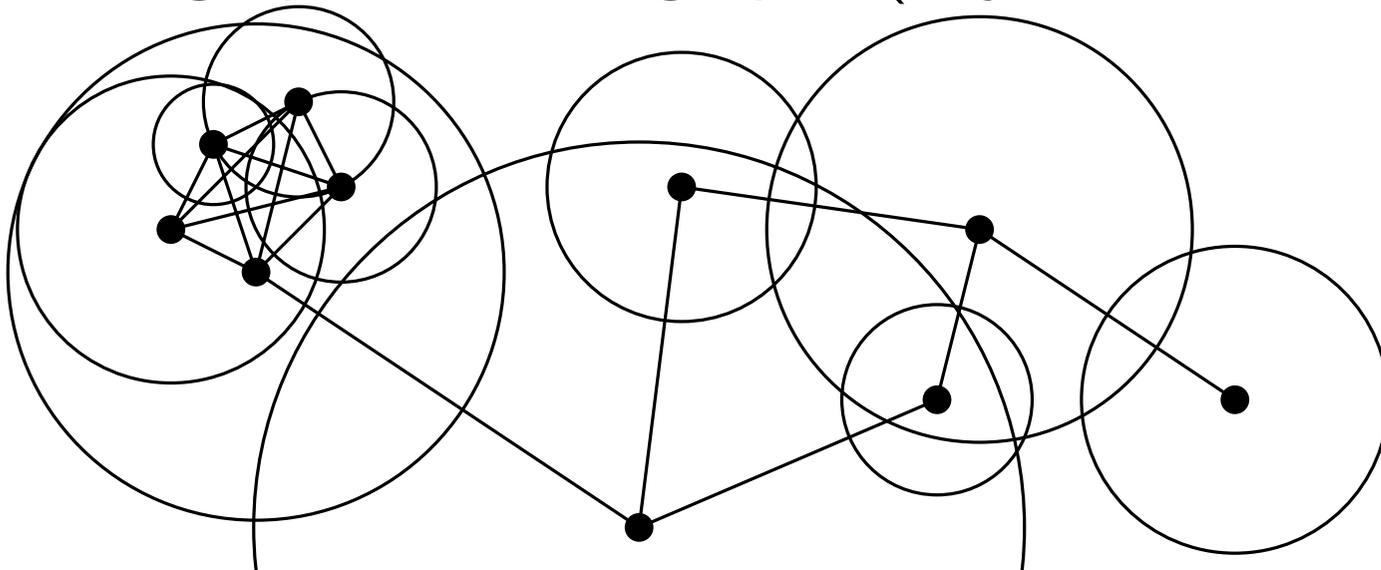
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Planar graphs \subset Disk graphs (object: disks in \mathbb{R}^2)



Packing: discrete vs continuous

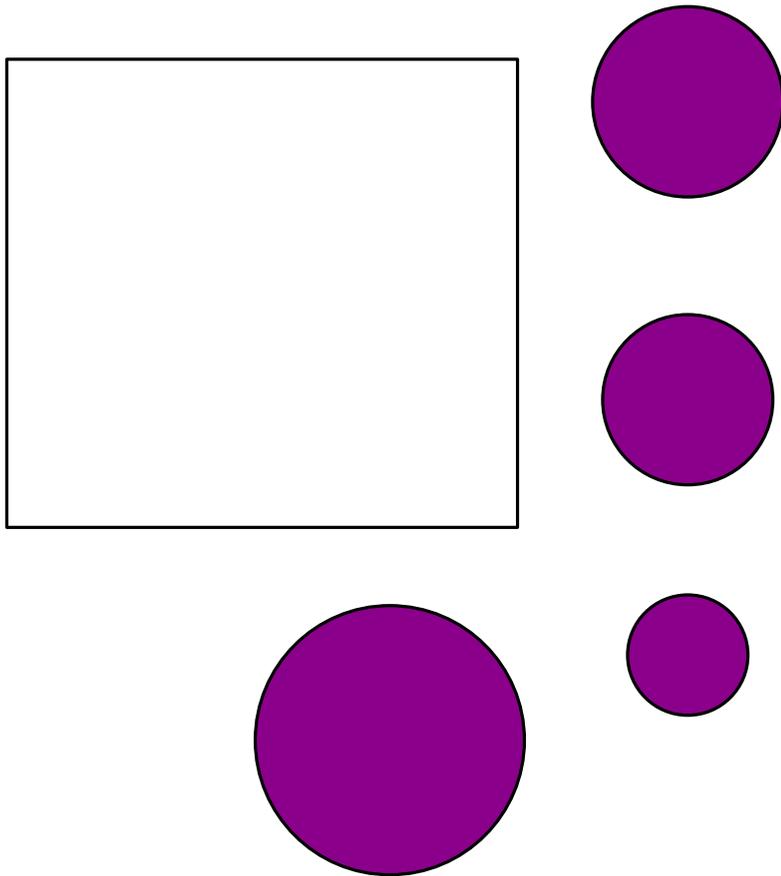
Continuous:

Given n objects, do they fit
in some other object without
overlap?

Packing: discrete vs continuous

Continuous:

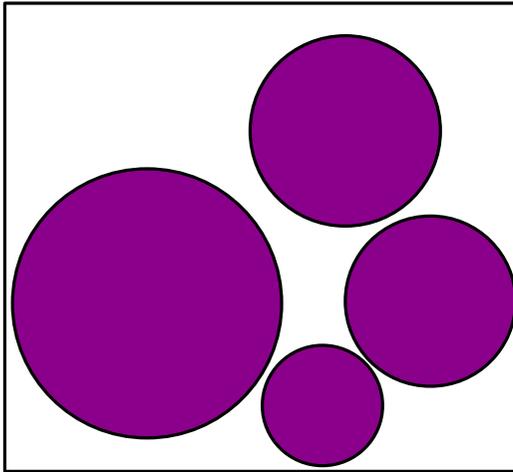
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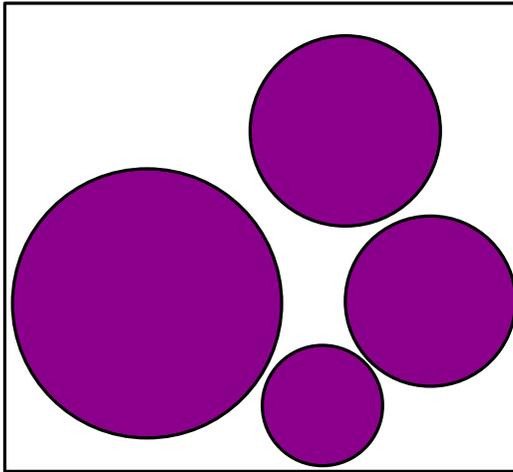
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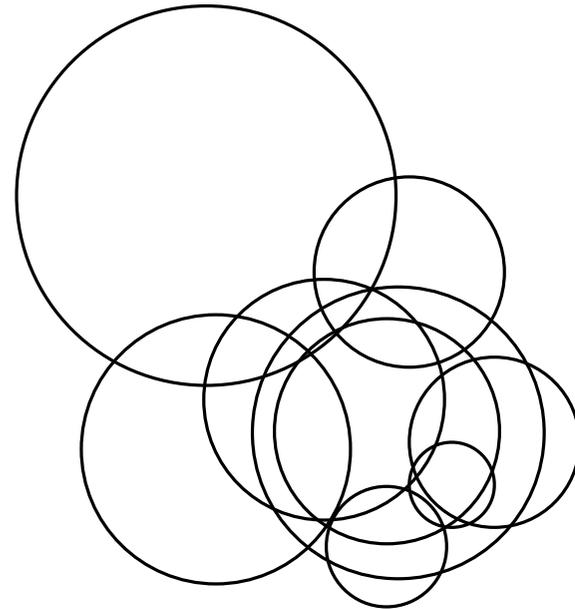
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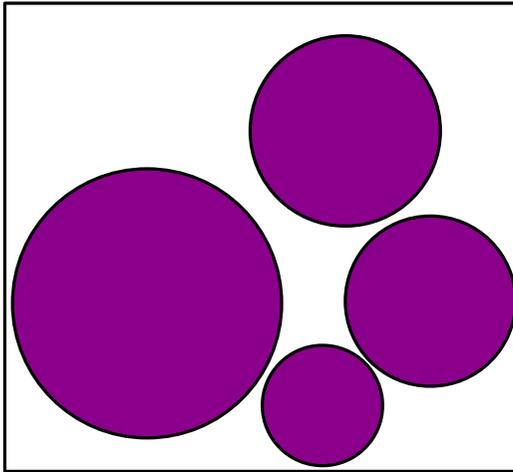
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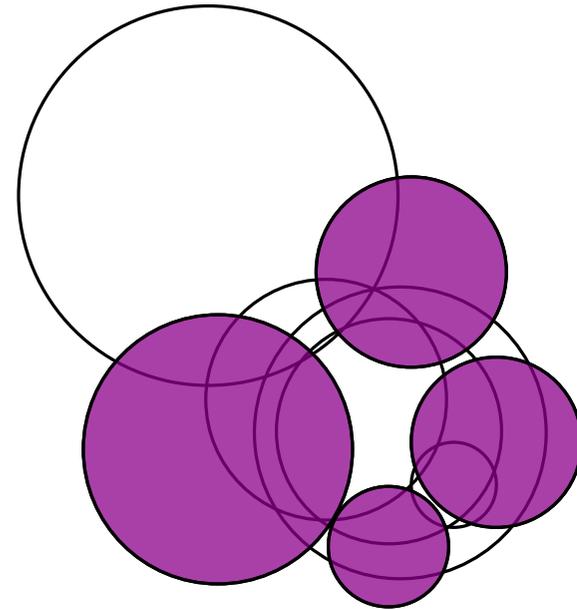
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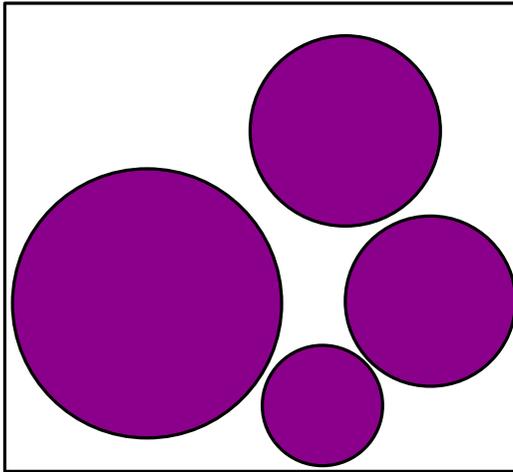
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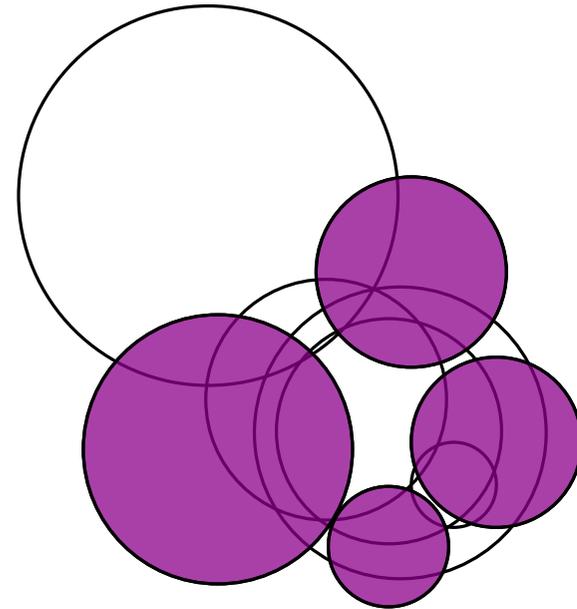
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Same as max. independent set in intersection graph

Exact algorithm for discrete packing

Theorem. Independent set in intersection graphs of disks can be solved in $n^{O(\sqrt{k})}$ time, where $k =$ size of max indep. set.

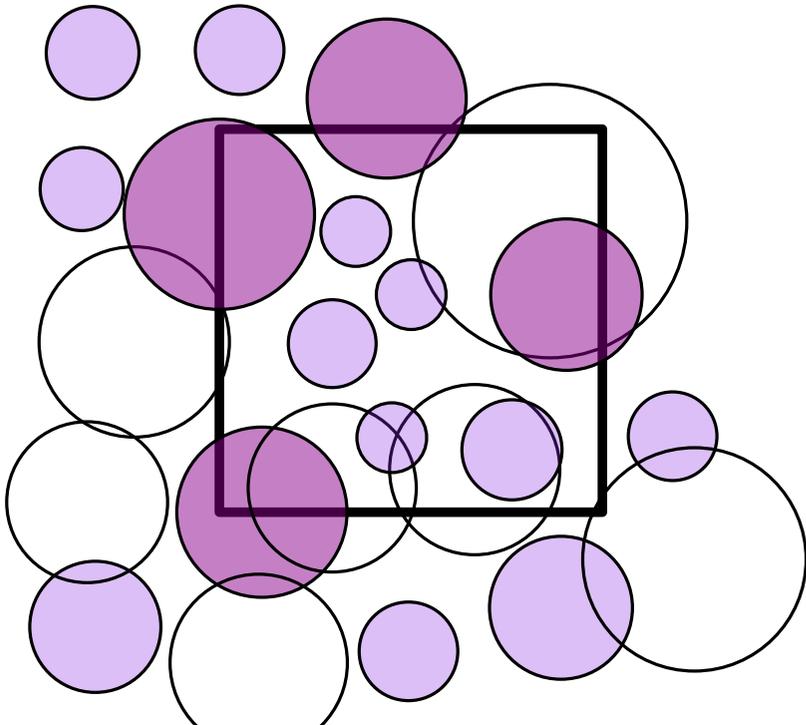
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There is a balanced separator square σ intersecting $O(\sqrt{k})$ disks from I .



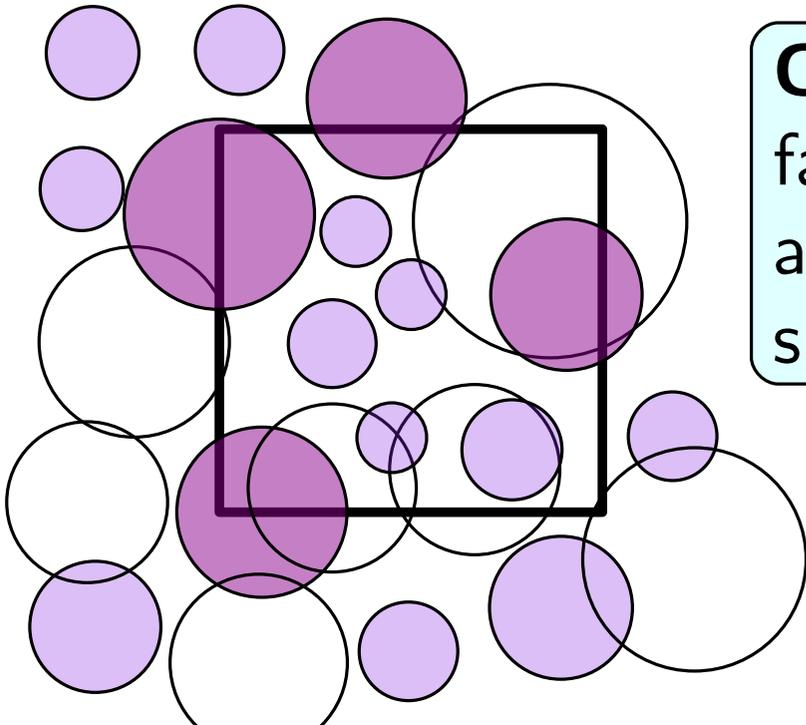
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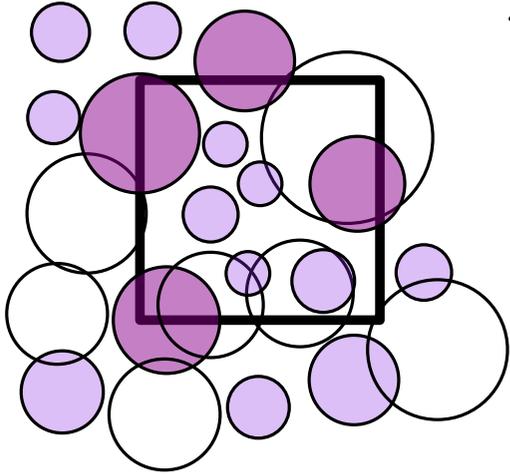
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Claim. Given S , we can compute a family Y of $\text{poly}(n)$ squares containing all attainable square separators of all subsets of S .

Exact algorithm for discrete packing II



for each separator $\sigma \in Y$ **do**

for each intersecting $I_\sigma \subset S$ of size $O(\sqrt{k})$ **do**

Remove disks in S intersecting σ

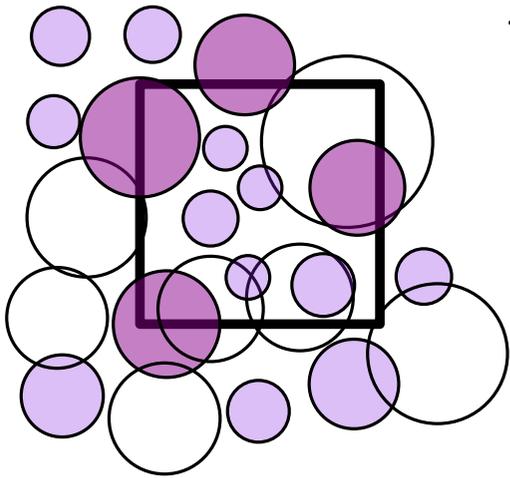
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Recurse on disks inside σ

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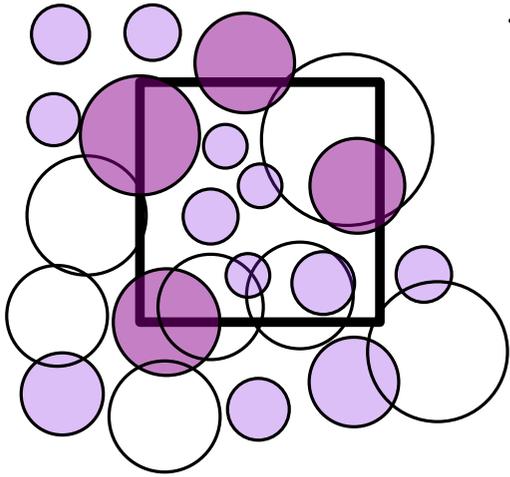
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Geometric set cover: discrete vs continuous

Set cover: given m subsets of $\{1, \dots, n\}$, are there k among them whose union is $\{1, \dots, n\}$

very hard, can't be approximated efficiently

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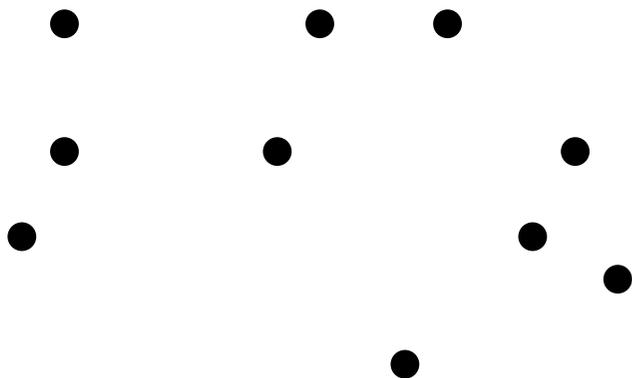
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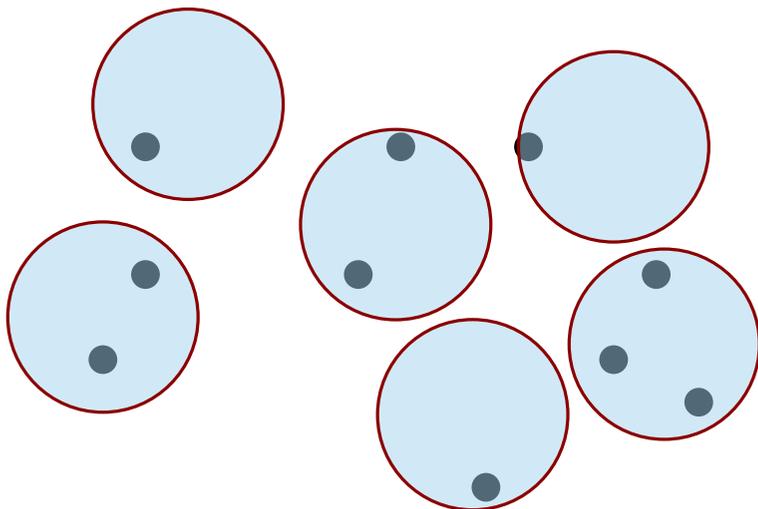
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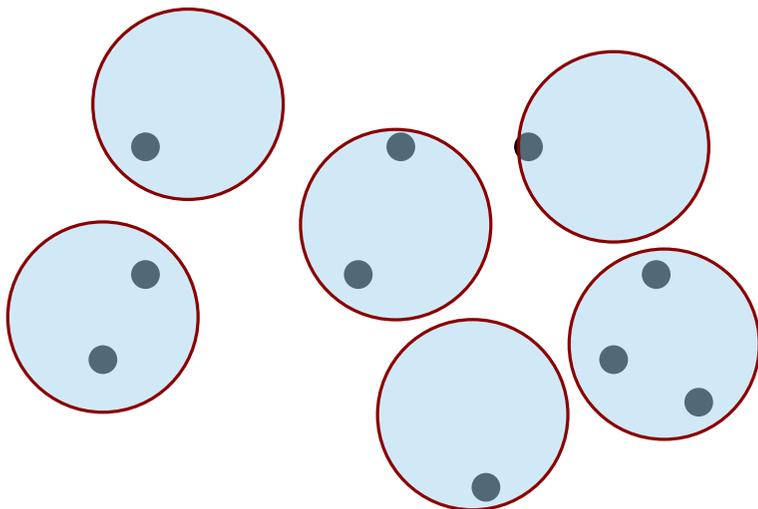
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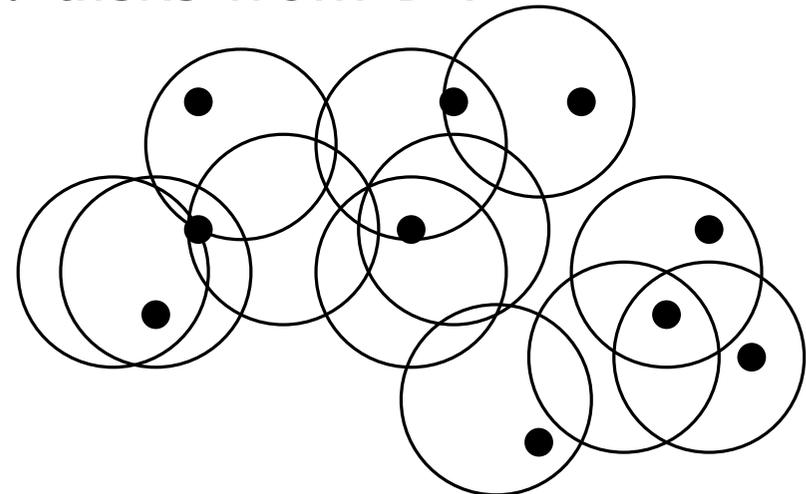
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Discrete:

Given $P \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and m unit disks \mathcal{D} , can we cover P with k disks from \mathcal{D} ?



Exact algorithms for covering

Theorem (Marx–Pilipczuk, 2015) Discrete geometric set cover with disks can be solved in $m^{O(\sqrt{k})} \text{poly}(n)$ time, where $k = \text{size of min cover}$.

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Proof based on guessing separator in solution's Voronoi diagram.

Theorem (Marx–Pilipczuk, 2015). There is no $f(k)(m + n)^{o(\sqrt{k})}$ algorithm for covering points with disks for any computable f , unless ETH fails.

Shifting grids
Approximation schemes
Hochbaum–Maass 1985

PTASes

Definition. A polynomial time approximation scheme (PTAS) for a minimization problem is an algorithm, which given $\varepsilon > 0$ and the input instance, outputs a feasible solution of value at most $(1 + \varepsilon)OPT$ in $\text{poly}_\varepsilon(n)$ time.

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Example: Independent set is APX-hard on general graphs.

But! Independent set in planar graphs has a PTAS. (Baker '83)

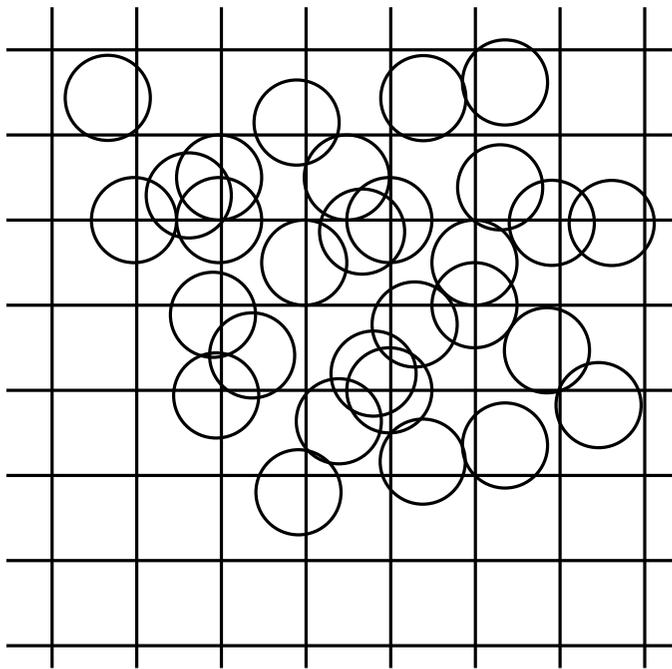
Packing unit disks via shifting

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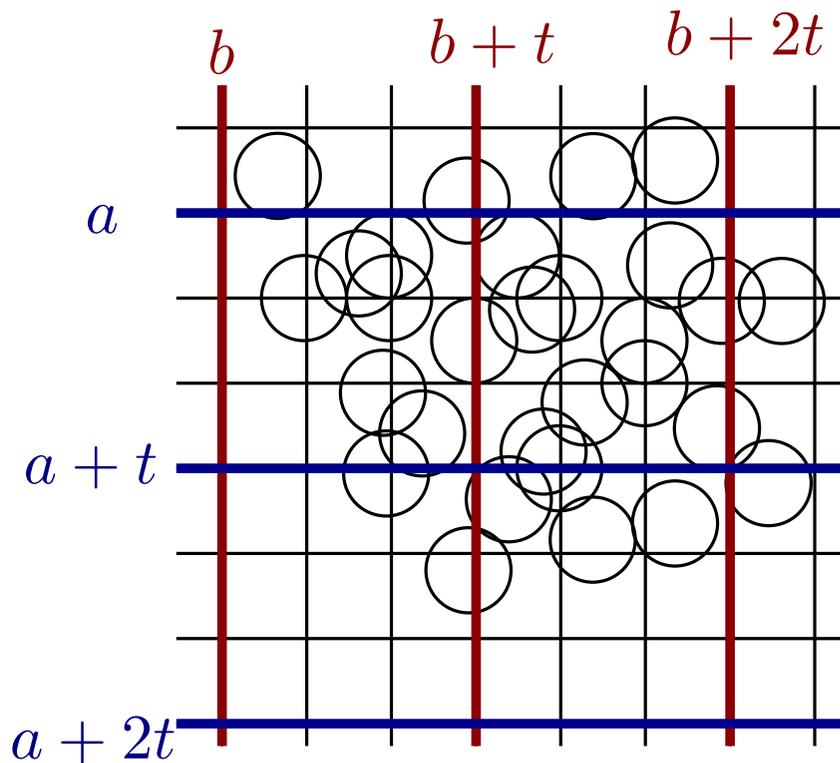
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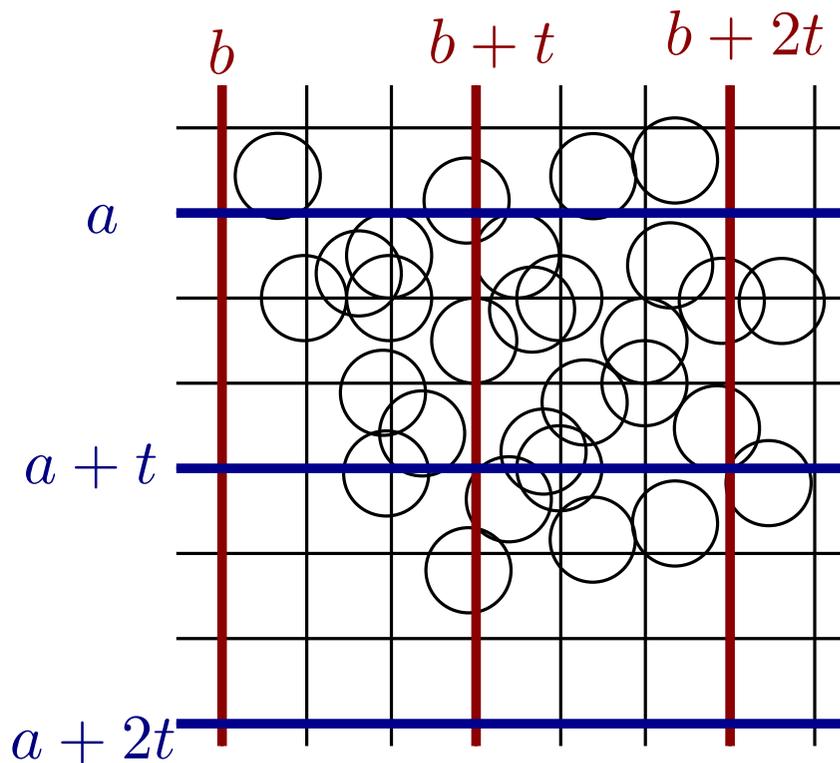
Let $t = \lceil 2/\varepsilon \rceil$.

For a shift (a, b) ($a, b \in \{0, \dots, t-1\}$),
select horizontal lines $a, a+t, a+2t, \dots$
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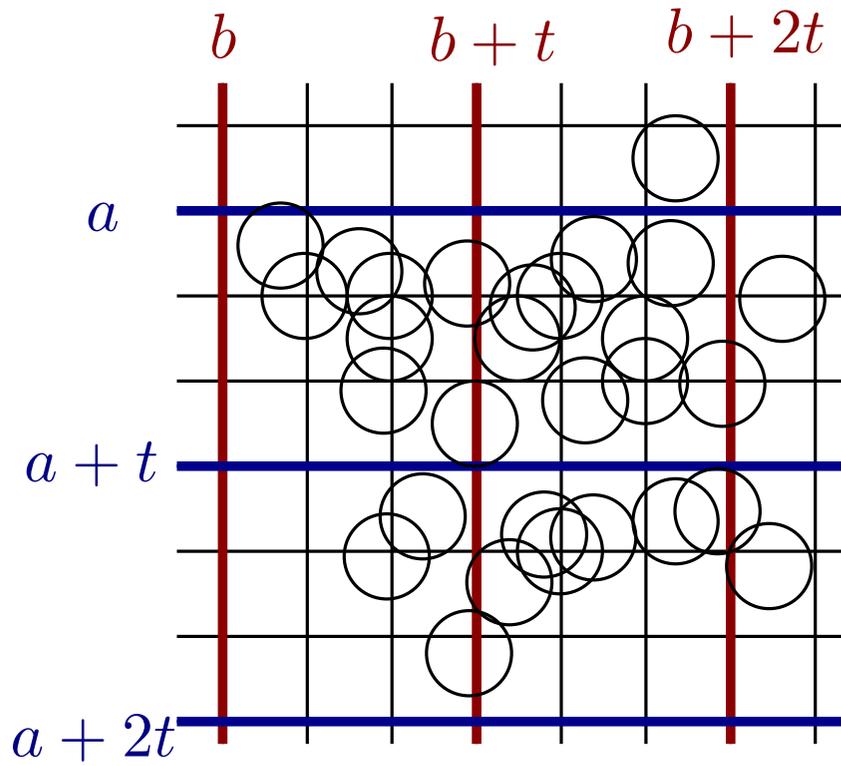
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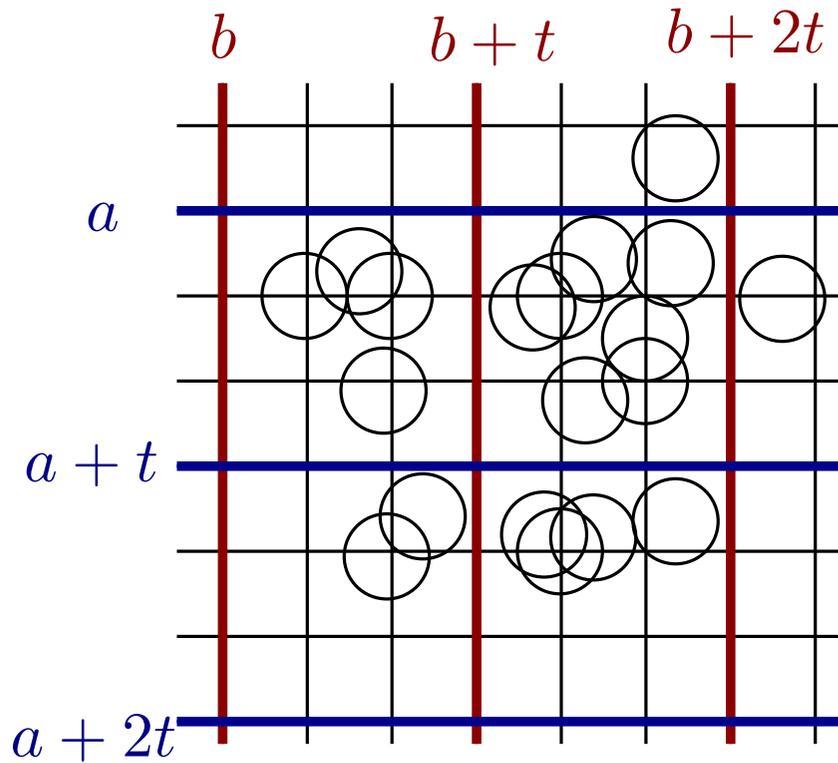
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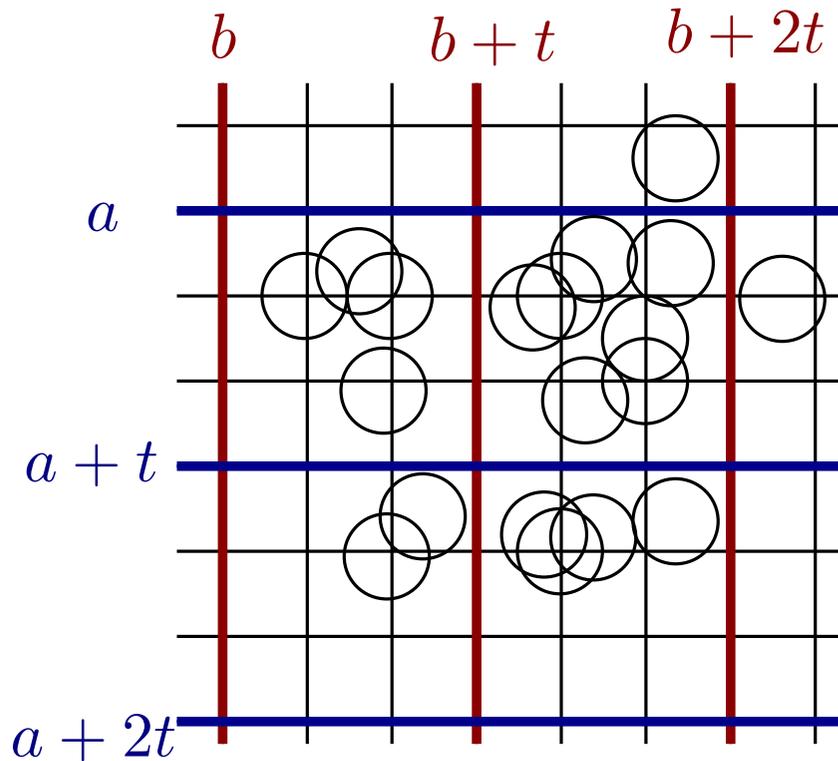
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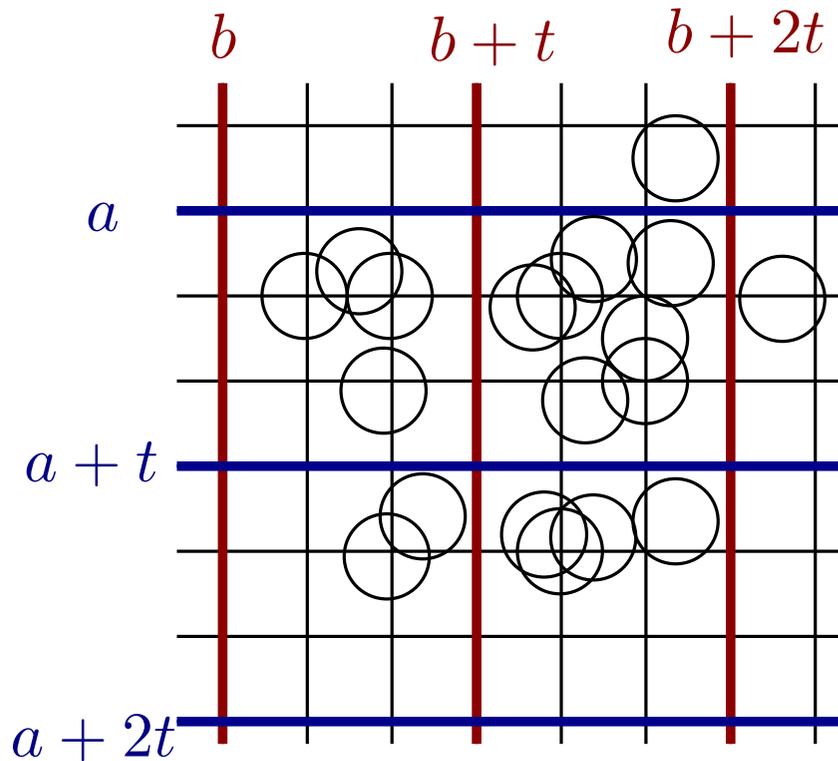
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Proof. Of the $t = \lceil 2/\varepsilon \rceil$ shifts for horizontals, there is some $a \in \{0, \dots, t - 1\}$ intersecting $\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}OPT$ solution disks. Similarly there is b s.t. verticals intersect $\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}OPT$.
 $\Rightarrow (a, b)$ works.



Discrete packing outlook

- Extends to unit balls in higher dimensions: $n^{O(1/\varepsilon^{d-1})}$
- $n^{O(1/\varepsilon)}$ is essentially tight in \mathbb{R}^2 (Marx 2007)
- Local search: slower PTAS for “pseudodisks” (last lecture?)

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Is there a PTAS for Independent set of axis-parallel rectangles?
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Best known: $n^{O((\log \log n/\varepsilon)^4)}$ (Chuzhoy–Ene 2016)

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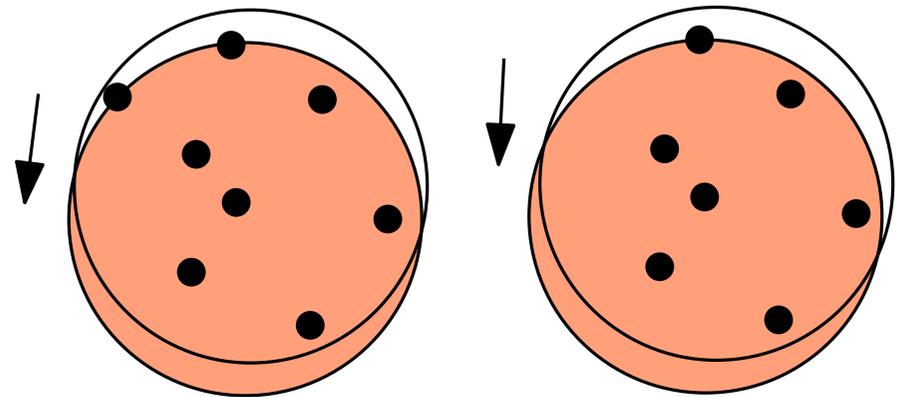
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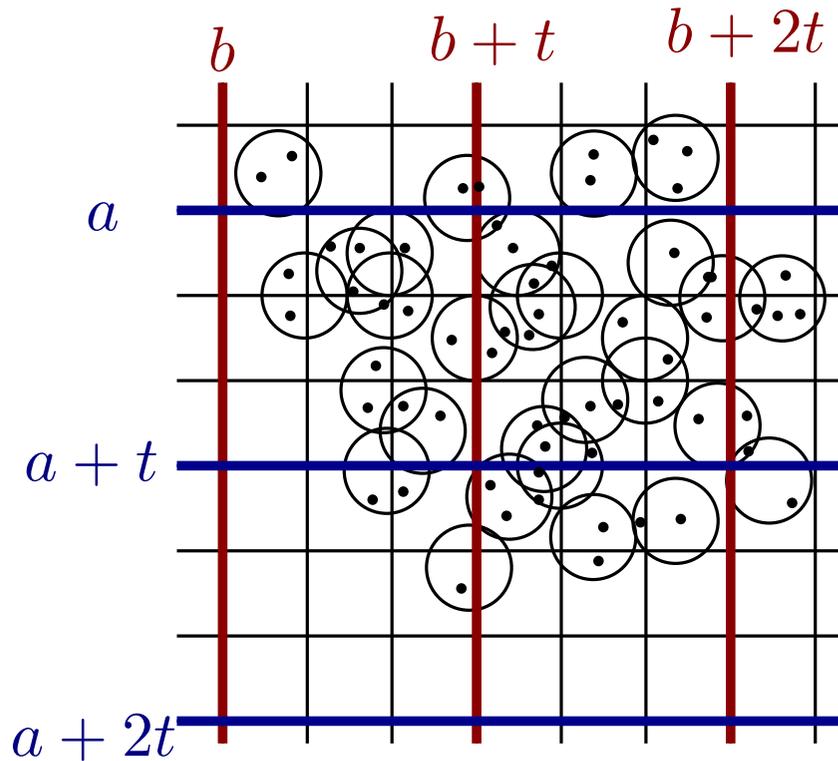
There is a cover of size $k \Leftrightarrow$ there is a canonical cover of size k .

2 disks per point pair $p, p' \in P$,
one disk for each $p \in P$

$2\binom{n}{2} + n \leq n^2$ canonical disks



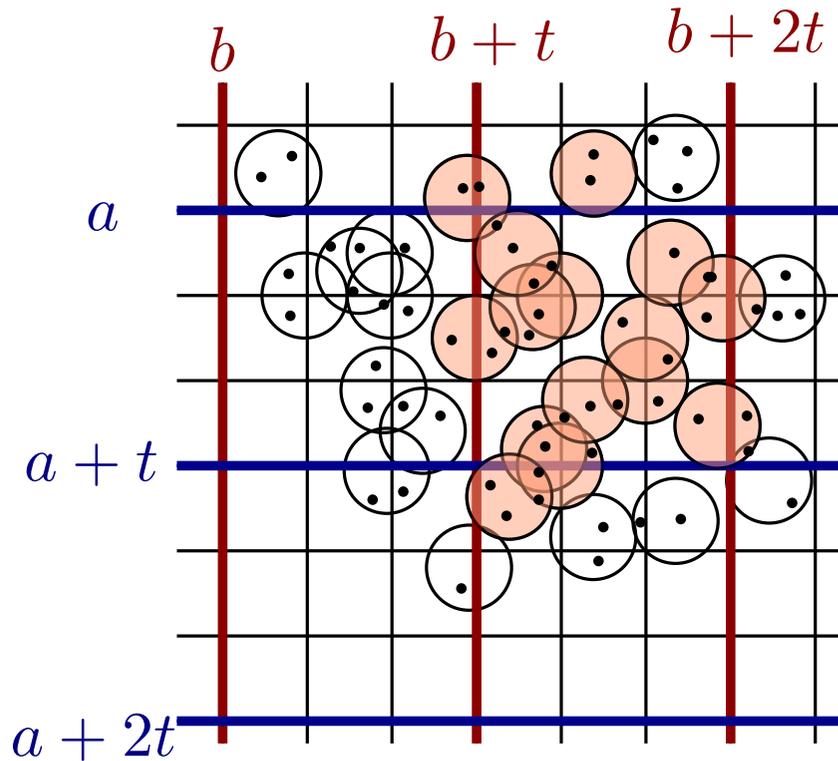
Shifting for set cover with unit disks



Grid of side length 2, set $t = \lceil 6/\varepsilon \rceil$

Cell disks: canonical disks inside
and those intersecting the boundary

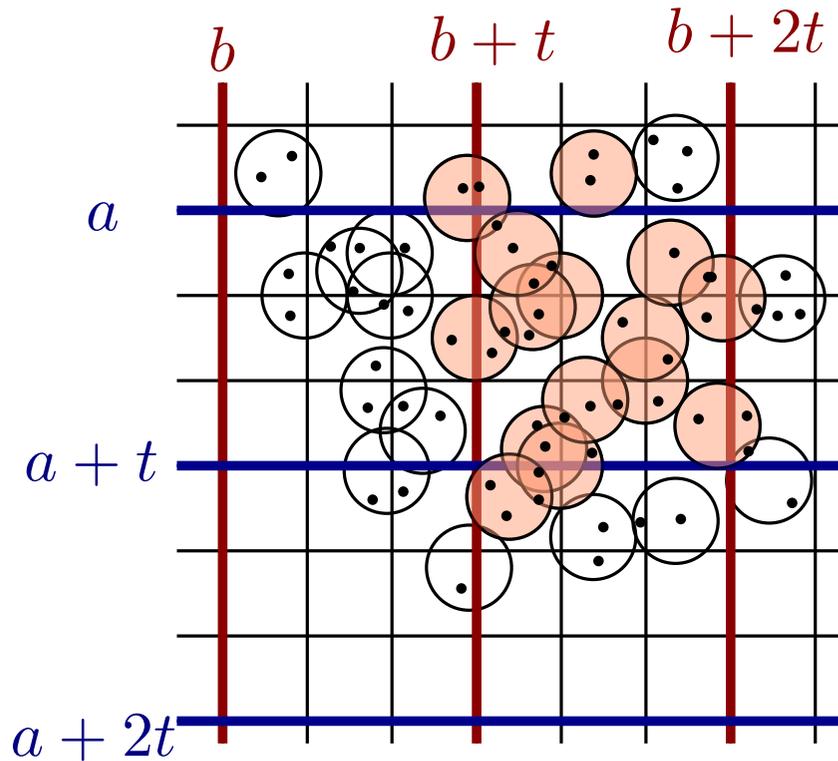
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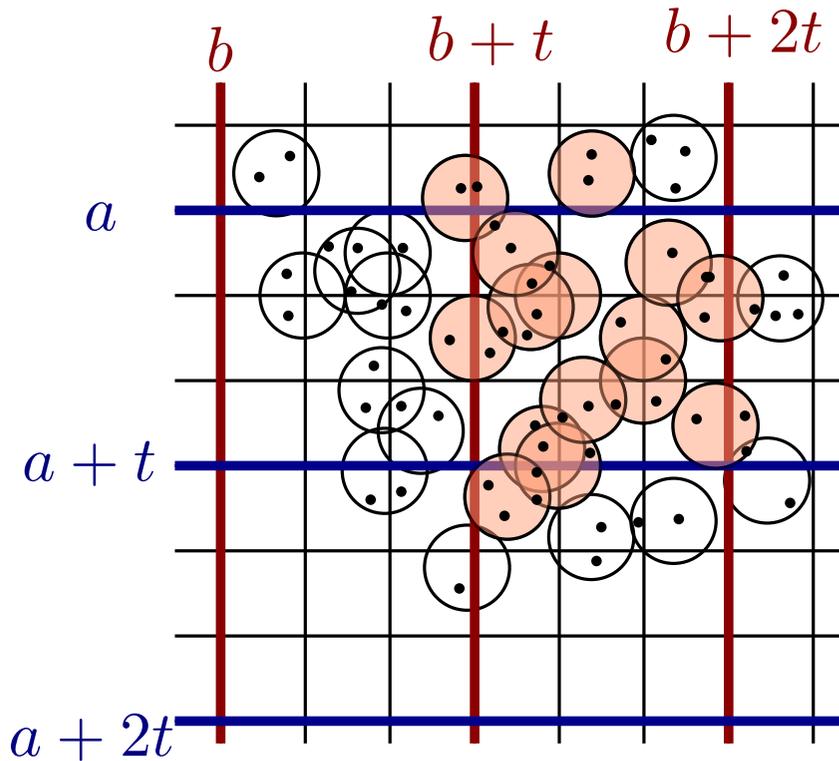
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For some shift a blue intersects $\leq |OPT|/t$ disks.

$\Rightarrow \exists(a, b)$ intersecting $2|OPT|/t \leq \varepsilon|OPT|/3$ disks.

Each disk of OPT counted in ≤ 4 cells.

$$|U| \leq \sum_C |OPT(C)| \leq |OPT| + 3\varepsilon|OPT|/3 = (1 + \varepsilon)|OPT|$$

