

# Broadcasting on Random Networks

Anuran Makur, Elchanan Mossel, and Yury Polyanskiy

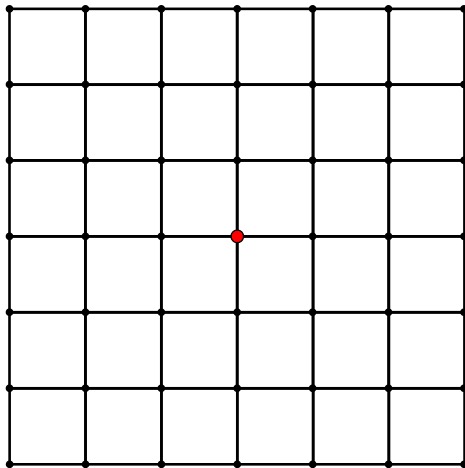
EECS and Mathematics Departments  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

ISIT 2019

- 1 Introduction
  - Motivation
  - Formal Model and Broadcasting Problem
  - Related Models in the Literature
- 2 Results on Random DAGs
- 3 Deterministic Broadcasting DAGs
- 4 Conclusion

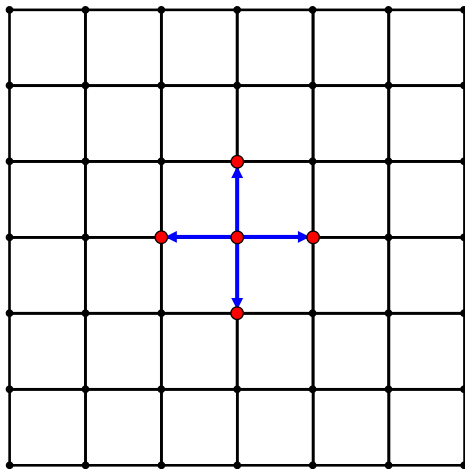
# Motivation: Information Propagation in 2D Grid

- How does information spread in time?



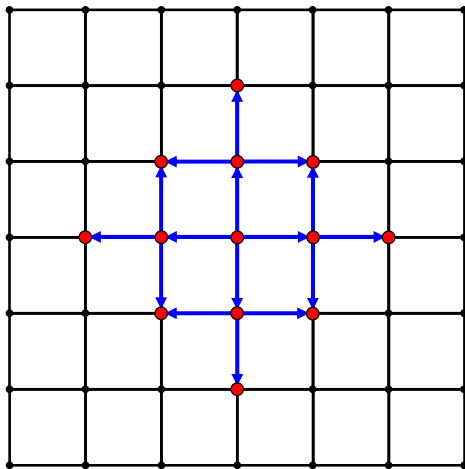
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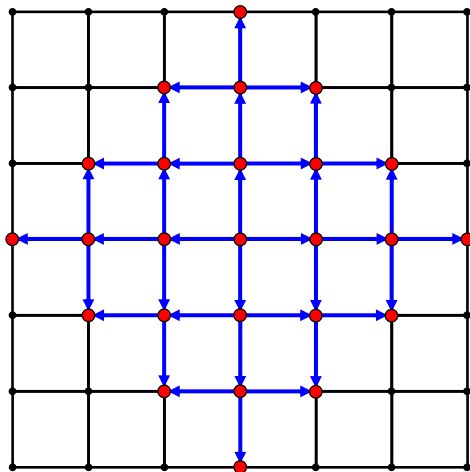
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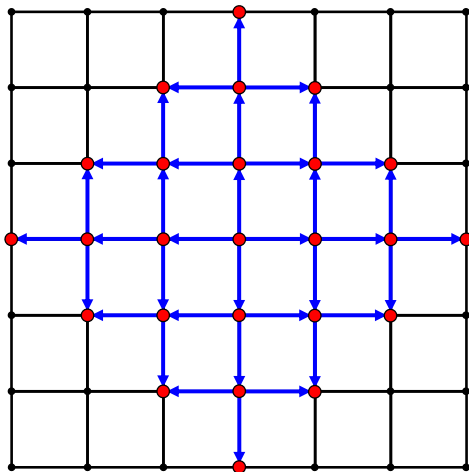
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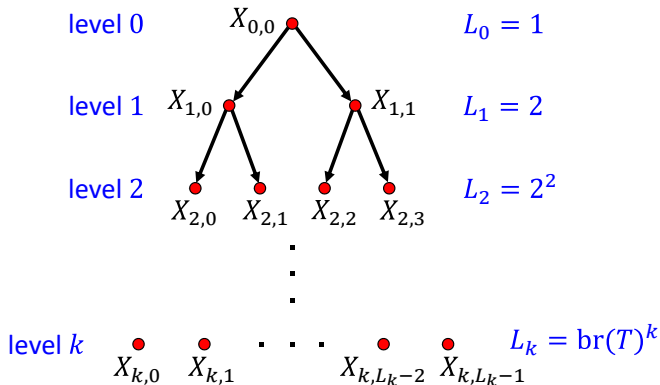
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- How does information spread in time?
- Can we invent relay functions so that far boundary contains non-trivial information about the original bit?



# Motivation: Broadcasting on Trees

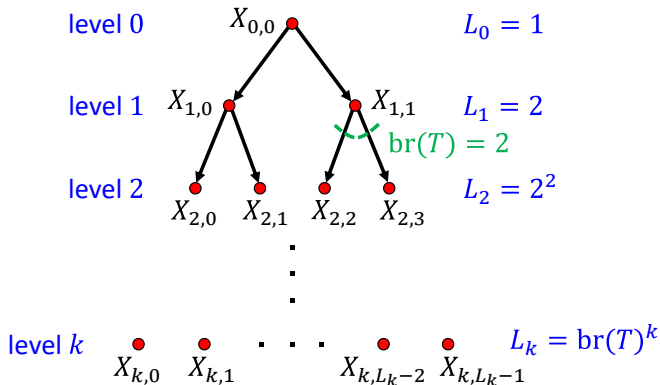
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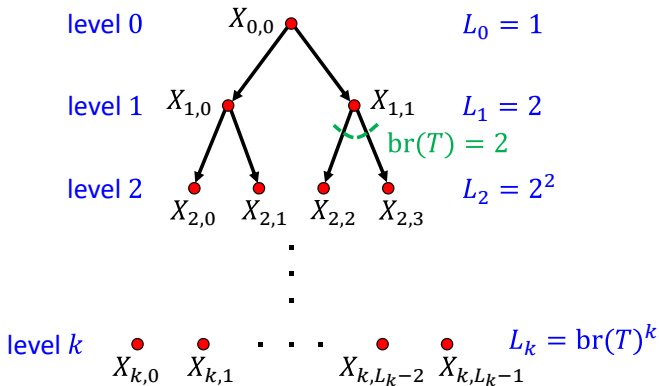
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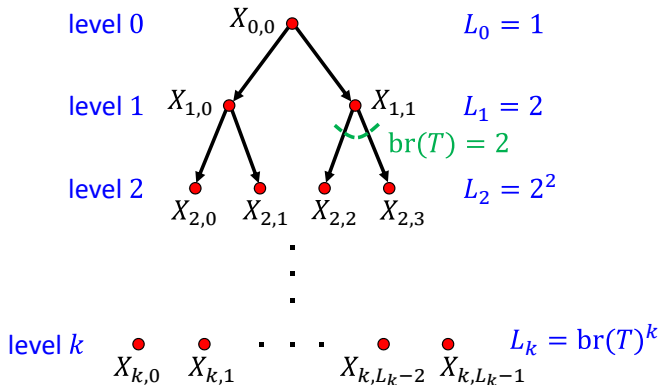
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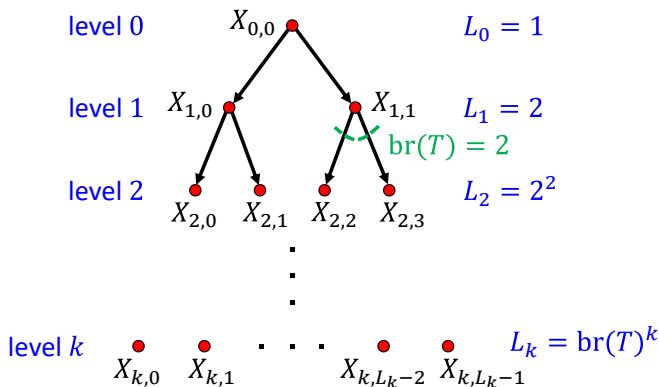
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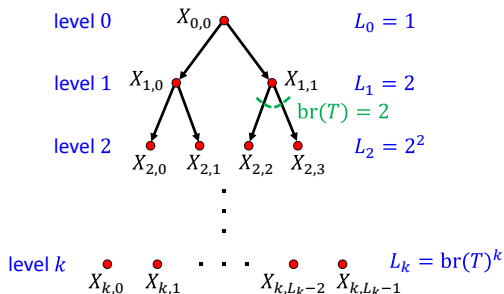
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- Let  $P_{\text{ML}}^{(k)} = \mathbb{P}(\hat{X}_{\text{ML}}^k(X_k) \neq X_{0,0})$ , where  $X_k = (X_{k,0}, \dots, X_{k, \text{br}(T)^k - 1})$ .



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## Theorem (Phase Transition for Trees [KS66, BRZ95, EKPS00])

- If  $\delta < \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\text{br}(T)}}$ , then reconstruction possible:  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} P_{\text{ML}}^{(k)} < \frac{1}{2}$ .
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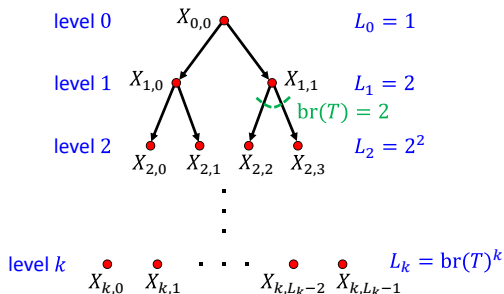


# Motivation: Broadcasting on Trees

## Theorem (Phase Transition for Trees [KS66, BRZ95, EKPS00])

- If  $(1 - 2\delta)^2 \text{br}(T) > 1$ , then reconstruction possible:  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} P_{\text{ML}}^{(k)} < \frac{1}{2}$ .
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**Proof Idea:** Strong data processing inequality [AG76, ES99]



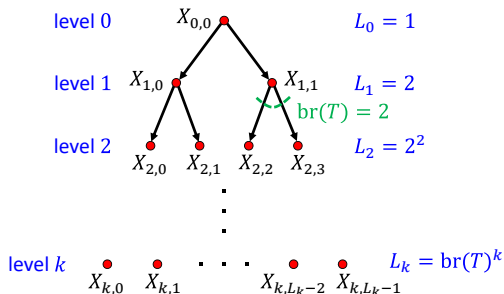
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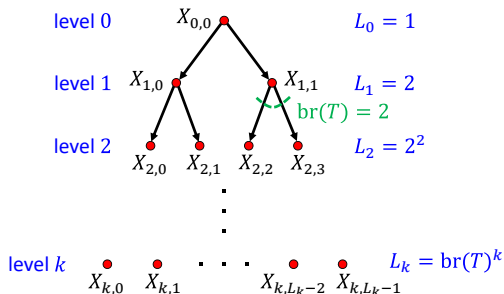
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- For any  $0 \leq j < \text{br}(T)^k$ ,  
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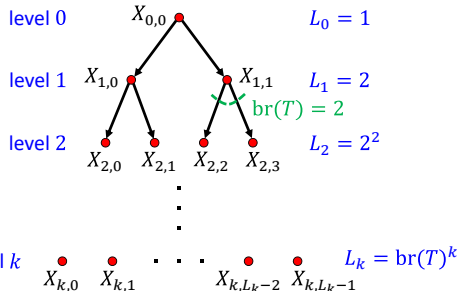
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- For any  $0 \leq j < \text{br}(T)^k$ ,  
 $I(X_{0,0}; X_{k,j}) \leq (1 - 2\delta)^{2k}$ .
- $\text{br}(T)^k$  paths from  $X_0$  to  $X_k$ :  
 $I(X_0; X_k) \leq (\text{br}(T)(1 - 2\delta)^2)^k$ .



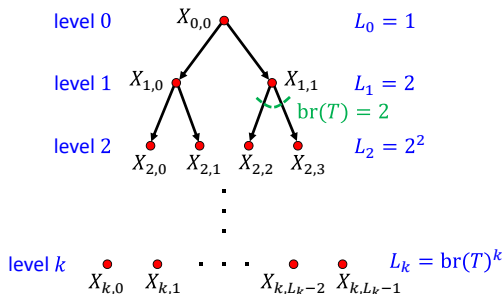
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Layers grow by  $\text{br}(T)$  and information contracts by  $(1 - 2\delta)^2$ . So, whichever effect wins determines reconstruction.



# Motivation: Broadcasting on Trees

- **Intuition:** In tree  $T$ , **layers grow exponentially** with rate  $\text{br}(T)$  and information contracts with rate  $(1 - 2\delta)^2$ .  
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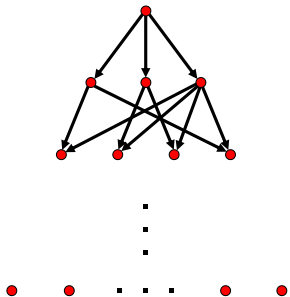
**Can there be any graph with sub-exponentially growing layer sizes such that reconstruction possible?**

**Surprise:** Yes, and in fact, even logarithmic growth suffices (doubly-exponential reduction compared to trees (!)).

But need nice loops to aggregate information.

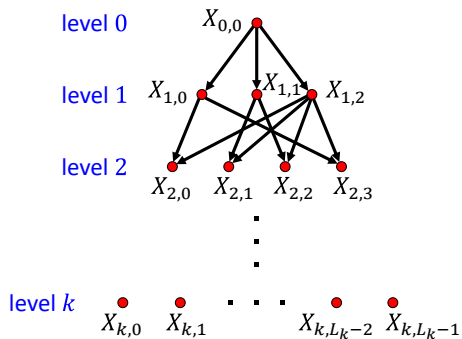
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- Fix infinite **directed acyclic graph (DAG)** with single source node.



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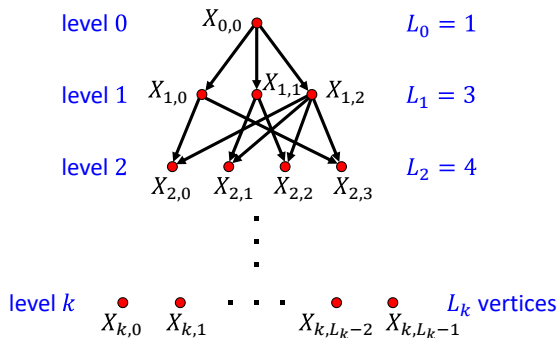
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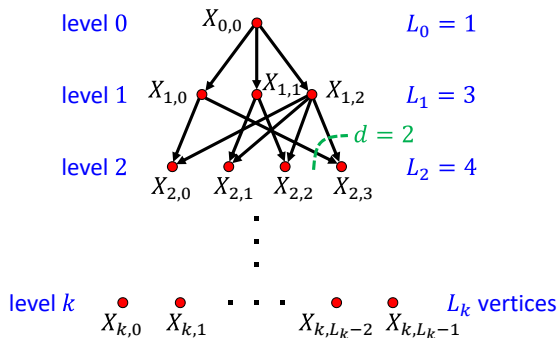
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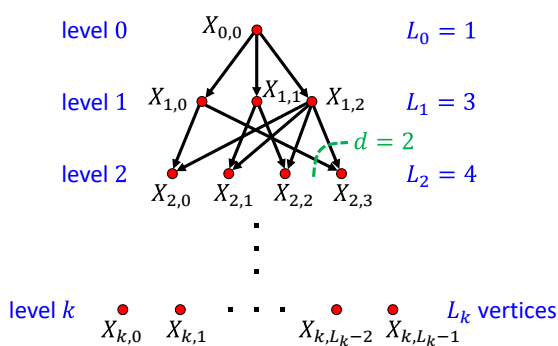
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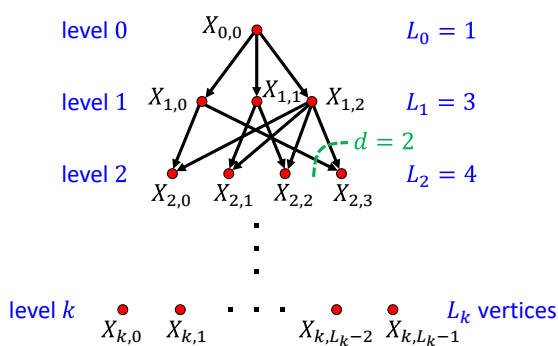
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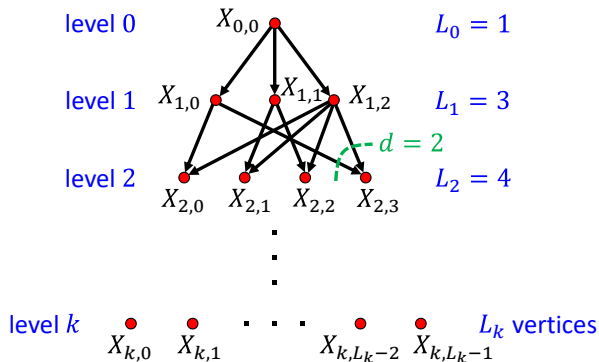
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- Nodes combine inputs with  **$d$ -ary Boolean functions**.
- This defines joint distribution of  $\{X_{k,j}\}$ .

# Broadcasting Problem

- Let  $X_k \triangleq (X_{k,0}, \dots, X_{k,L_k-1})$ .
- Can we decode  $X_0$  from  $X_k$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ?



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**For which  $\delta$ ,  $d$ ,  $\{L_k\}$ , and Boolean processing functions is reconstruction possible?**

- **Communication Networks:**

Sender **broadcasts** single bit through network.

# Related Models in the Literature

- **Communication Networks:**  
Sender broadcasts single bit through network.
- **Reliable Computation and Storage:** [vNe56, HW91, ES03, Ung07]  
Broadcasting model is **noisy circuit to remember a bit** using perfect gates and faulty wires.

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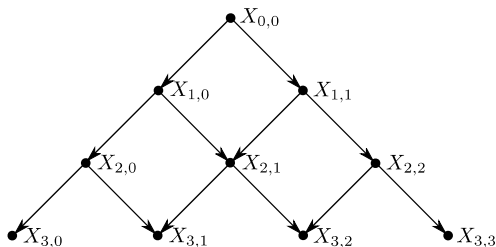
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Impossibility of broadcasting on **2D regular grid** parallels ergodicity of 1D probabilistic cellular automata.



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- **Ferromagnetic Ising Models:** [BRZ95, EKPS00]

Reconstruction impossible on *tree*  $\Leftrightarrow$  Free boundary Gibbs state of Ising model on tree is *extremal*.

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  - Impossibility Results for Broadcasting
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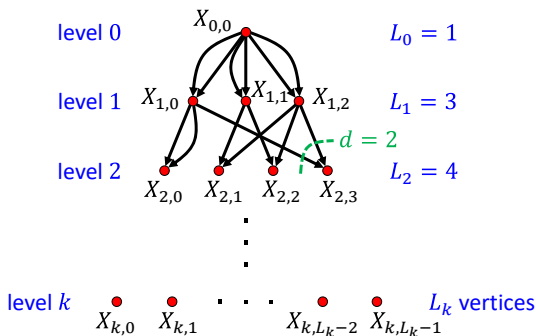


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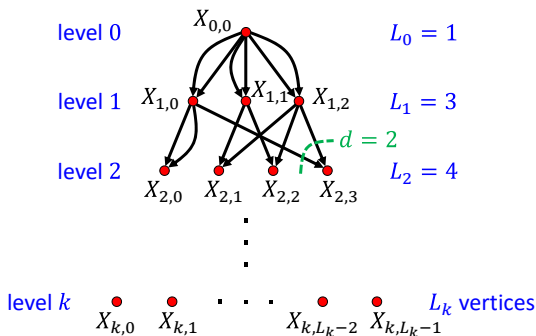
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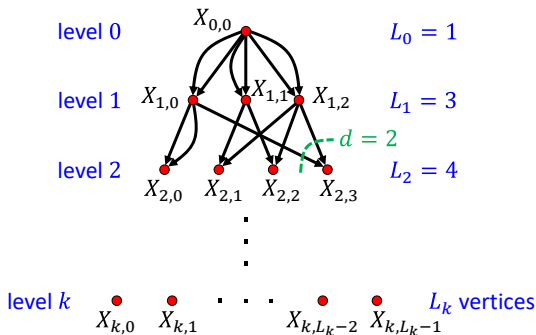
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- $P_{\text{ML}}^{(k)}(G)$  – ML decoding probability of error for DAG  $G$
- $\sigma_k \triangleq \frac{1}{L_k} \sum_{j=0}^{L_k-1} X_{k,j}$  – **sufficient statistic** of  $X_k$  for  $\sigma_0 = X_{0,0}$  in the **absence of knowledge of  $G$**



## Theorem (Phase Transition for $d \geq 3$ )

Consider random DAG model with  $d \geq 3$  and **majority processing** (with ties broken randomly). Let  $\delta_{\text{maj}} \triangleq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2^{d-2}}{\lceil d/2 \rceil \binom{d}{\lceil d/2 \rceil}}$ .

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$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\hat{S}_k \neq X_{0,0}) < \frac{1}{2}$$

where  $\hat{S}_k \triangleq \mathbb{1}\{\sigma_k \geq \frac{1}{2}\}$  is **majority decoder**.

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Consider random DAG model with  $d \geq 3$  and majority processing (with ties broken randomly). Let  $\delta_{\text{maj}} \triangleq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2^{d-2}}{\lceil d/2 \rceil \binom{d}{\lceil d/2 \rceil}}$ .

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$X_{k,j}$   $\stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim}$  majority(Bernoulli( $\sigma * \delta$ ), Bernoulli( $\sigma * \delta$ ), Bernoulli( $\sigma * \delta$ ))

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$$\begin{aligned} g_\delta(\sigma) &\triangleq \mathbb{E}[\sigma_k | \sigma_{k-1} = \sigma] = \mathbb{P}(X_{k,j} = 1 | \sigma_{k-1} = \sigma) \\ &= (\sigma * \delta)^3 + 3(\sigma * \delta)^2(1 - \sigma * \delta). \end{aligned}$$

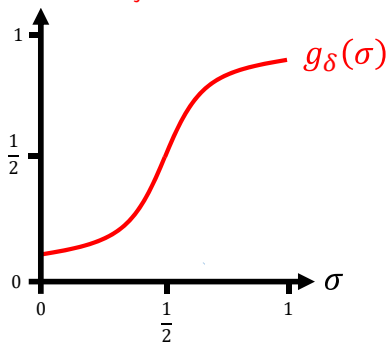
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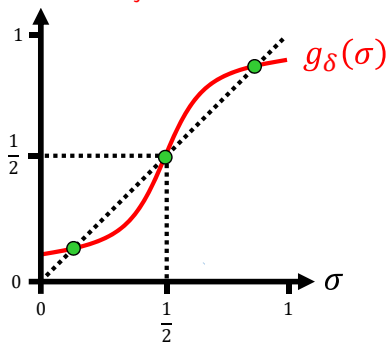
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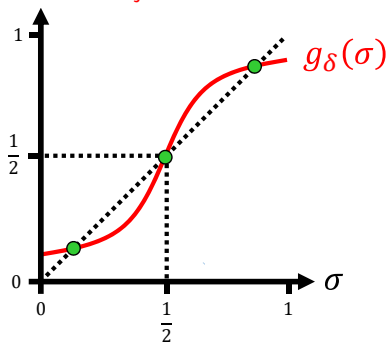
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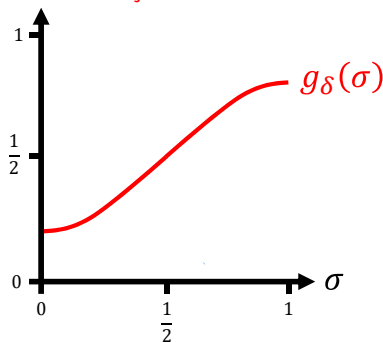
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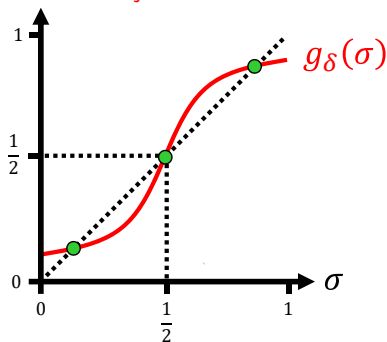




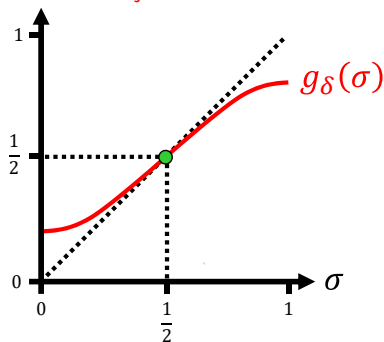
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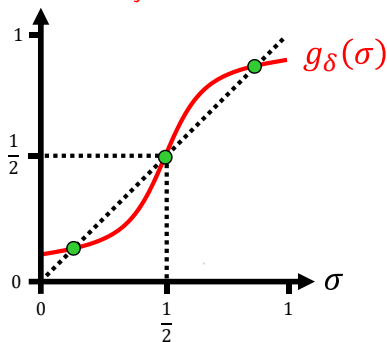
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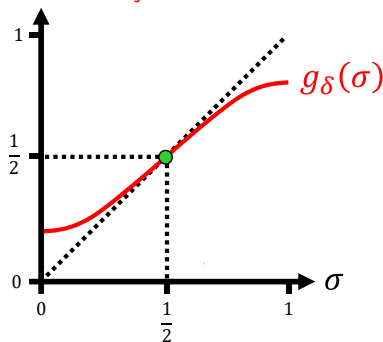
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- **Concentration:** For large  $k$ ,  $\sigma_k \approx g_\delta(\sigma_{k-1})$  given  $\sigma_{k-1}$ .
- **Converse** uses key property:  $\text{Lip}(g_\delta) \leq 1 \Leftrightarrow g_\delta$  has unique fixed point.

Case  $\delta < \delta_{\text{maj}}$ : 3 fixed points



Case  $\delta > \delta_{\text{maj}}$ : 1 fixed point



## Theorem (Phase Transition for $d \geq 3$ )

Consider random DAG model with  $d \geq 3$  and majority processing (with ties broken randomly). Let  $\delta_{\text{maj}} \triangleq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2^{d-2}}{\lceil d/2 \rceil \binom{d}{\lceil d/2 \rceil}}$ .

- Suppose  $\delta \in (0, \delta_{\text{maj}})$ . Then, there exists  $C(\delta, d) > 0$  such that if  $L_k \geq C(\delta, d) \log(k)$ , then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ P_{\text{ML}}^{(k)}(G) \right] < \frac{1}{2}$ .
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## Remarks:

- $\delta_{\text{maj}} = \frac{1}{6}$  for  $d = 3$  appears in **reliable computation** [vNe56, HW91].
- $\delta_{\text{maj}}$  for odd  $d \geq 3$  also relevant in reliable computation [ES03].
- $\delta_{\text{maj}}$  for  $d \geq 3$  relevant in **recursive reconstruction on trees** [Mos98].

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## Questions:

- Broadcasting possible with sub-logarithmic  $L_k$ ?
- Broadcasting possible when  $\delta > \delta_{\text{maj}}$  with other processing functions?
- What about  $d = 2$ ?

**Broadcasting possible with sub-logarithmic  $L_k$ ?**

## Proposition (Layer Size Impossibility Result)

For any deterministic DAG, if:

$$L_k \leq \frac{\log(k)}{d \log\left(\frac{1}{2\delta}\right)},$$

then reconstruction impossible for all processing functions:

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**No, broadcasting impossible with sub-logarithmic  $L_k$ !**

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## Proposition (Single Vertex Reconstruction)

Consider random DAG model with  $d \geq 3$ .

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- If  $\delta \in [\delta_{\text{maj}}, \frac{1}{2})$ ,  $d$  is odd,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} L_k = \infty$ , and  $\inf_{n \geq k} L_n = O(d^{2k})$ , then **single vertex reconstruction impossible for all processing functions (which may be graph dependent):**

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| P_{X_{k,0}|G, X_{0,0}=1} - P_{X_{k,0}|G, X_{0,0}=0} \right\|_{\text{TV}} \right] = 0.$$

**Remark:** Converse uses reliable computation results [HW91, ES03].

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Proposition (Information Percolation [ES99, PW17])

For any deterministic DAG, if:

$$\delta > \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{d}} \quad \text{and} \quad L_k = o\left(\frac{1}{((1-2\delta)^2 d)^k}\right)$$

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### Theorem (Phase Transition for $d = 2$ )

Consider random DAG model with  $d = 2$  and **NAND processing** functions.

Let  $\delta_{\text{nand}} \triangleq \frac{3-\sqrt{7}}{4}$ .

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**Remark:**  $\delta_{\text{nand}}$  appears in reliable computation [EP98, Ung07].

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Results on Random DAGs
- 3 Deterministic Broadcasting DAGs
  - Existence of DAGs where Broadcasting is Possible
  - Construction of DAGs where Broadcasting is Possible
- 4 Conclusion



# Existence of DAGs where Broadcasting is Possible

## Probabilistic Method:

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**Can we construct such DAGs for any  $\delta \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ ?**

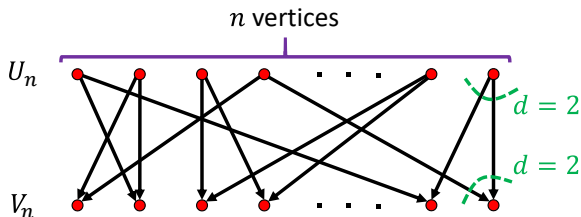
# Regular Bipartite Expander Graphs

## Proposition (Existence of Expander Graphs [Pin73, SS96])

For all (large)  $d$  and all sufficiently large  $n$ , there exists  $d$ -regular bipartite graph  $B_n = (U_n, V_n, E_n)$  with disjoint vertex sets  $U_n, V_n$  of cardinality  $|U_n| = |V_n| = n$ , edge multiset  $E_n$ , and the lossless expansion property:

$$\forall S \subseteq U_n, \quad |S| = \frac{n}{d^{6/5}} \Rightarrow |\Gamma(S)| \geq \left(1 - \frac{2}{d^{1/5}}\right) d|S|$$

where  $\Gamma(S) \triangleq \{v \in V_n : \exists u \in S, (u, v) \in E_n\}$  is neighborhood of  $S$ .



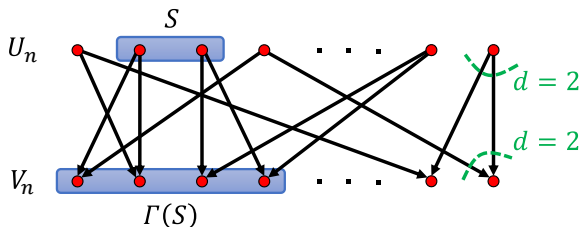
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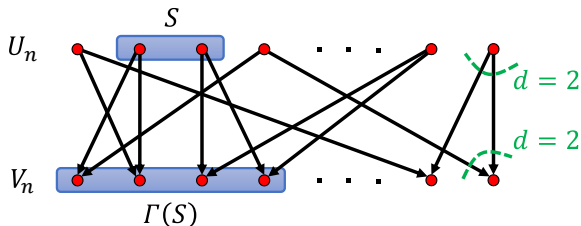
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**Intuition:** Expander graphs are **sparse**, but have **high connectivity**.



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$$\forall r \geq 1, M^{2^{r-1}} < k \leq M^{2^r}, \quad L_k = 2^r N$$

such that  $L_k = \Theta(\log(k))$ .



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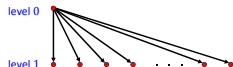
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Both edge multisets  $X_k \rightarrow (X_{k+1,0}, \dots, X_{k+1,L_k-1})$  and  $X_k \rightarrow (X_{k+1,L_k}, \dots, X_{k+1,L_{k+1}-1})$  given by expander  $B_{L_k}$ .

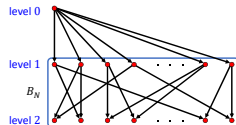
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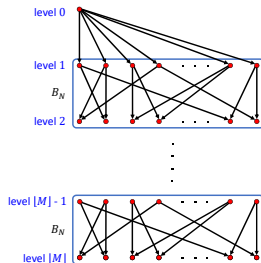
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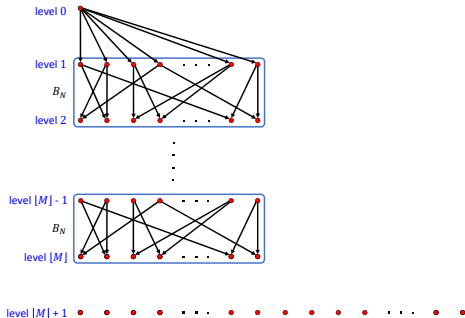
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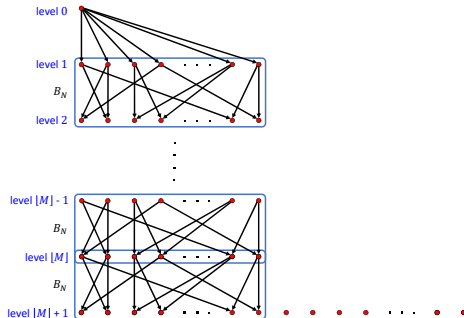
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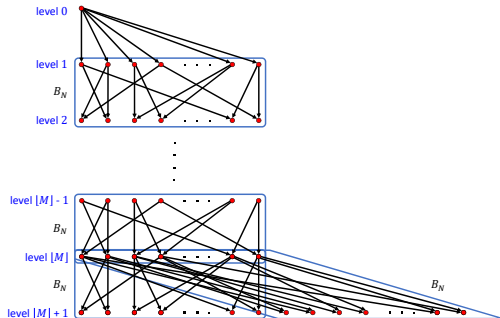
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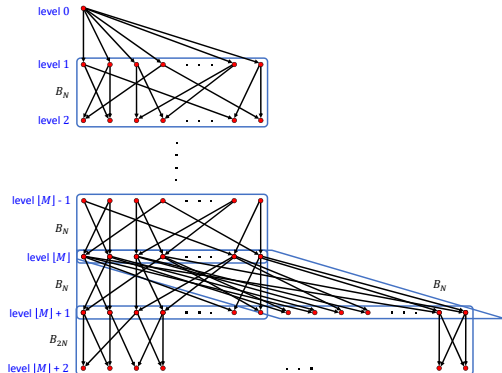
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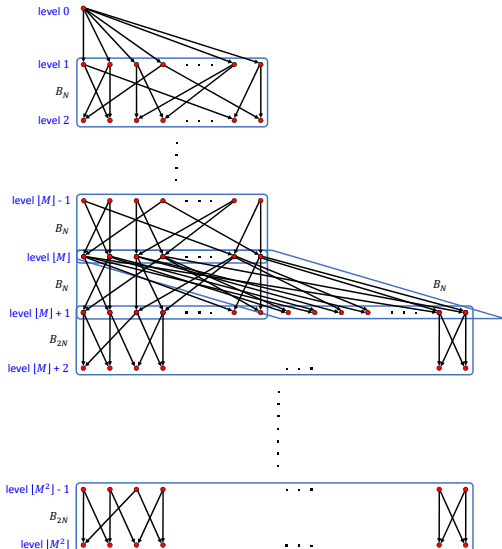
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## Theorem (Broadcasting in Expander DAG)

For “expander DAG” with **majority processing**, reconstruction possible:

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\hat{S}_k \neq X_{0,0}) < \frac{1}{2}$$

where  $\hat{S}_k = \mathbb{1}\{\sigma_k \geq \frac{1}{2}\}$  is **majority decoder**.

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- If  $X_{0,0} = 0$ , then  $|\mathcal{S}_k|$  likely to remain small as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

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## Proposition (Computational Complexity of DAG Construction)

For any  $\delta \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ , the  $d$ -regular bipartite expander graphs for levels  $0, \dots, k$  of “expander DAG” can be constructed in:

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**Remark:** Enumerate all  $d$ -regular bipartite graphs and test expansion.

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with positive success probability (which depends on  $\delta$  but not  $k$ ).

**Remark:** Generate uniform random  $d$ -regular bipartite graphs.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Results on Random DAGs
- 3 Deterministic Broadcasting DAGs
- 4 Conclusion

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- **Construct DAGs with arbitrary  $d \geq 3$  and  $\delta < \delta_{\text{maj}}$ , or  $d = 2$  and  $\delta < \delta_{\text{nand}}$ , such that broadcasting possible.**

Thank You!