

Quantum algorithms through graph composition

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April 20th, 2026



Quantum algorithmic frameworks

Quantum algorithmic frameworks

Setting:

- 1 $f : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}.$
- 2 $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n.$
- 3 $O_x : |j\rangle \mapsto (-1)^{x_j} |j\rangle.$

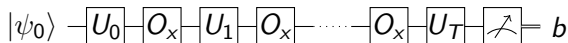
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Quantum algorithmic frameworks

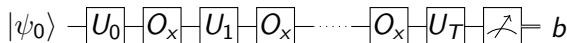
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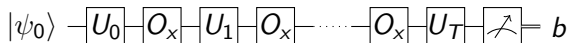
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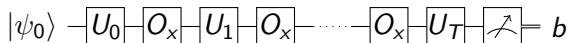
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$$f(x) = \underbrace{x_1 \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3) \vee (x_2 \wedge x_5) \vee x_3}_{\text{length } \ell}$$

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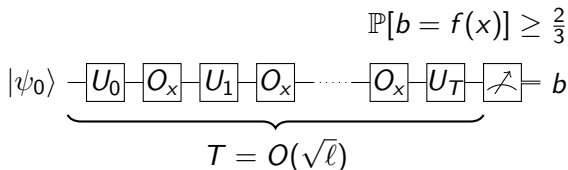
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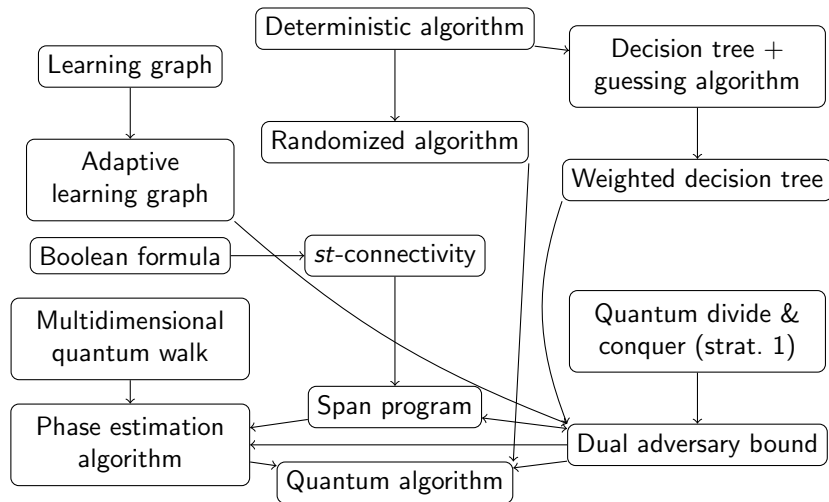


Quantum algorithmic framework landscape

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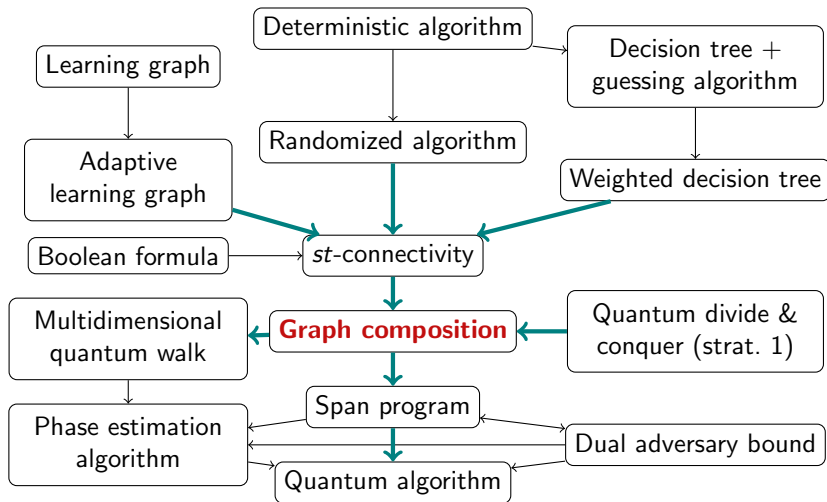
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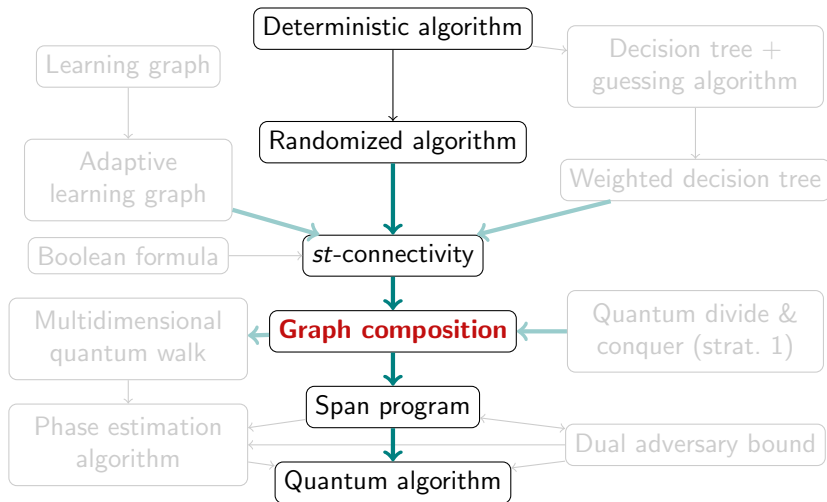
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This talk:

- 1 Span programs
- 2 Graph composition
- 3 st -connectivity examples
- 4 Randomized → st -connectivity

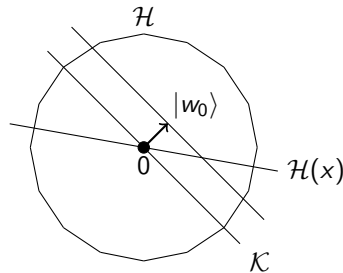


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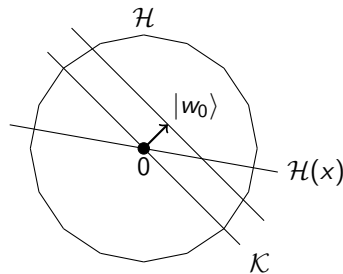
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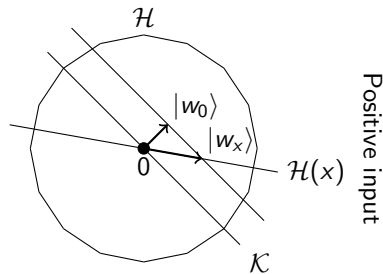
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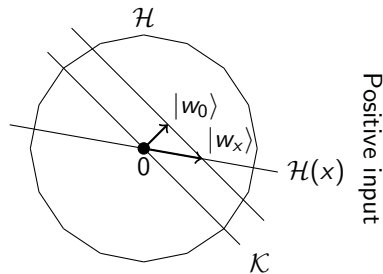
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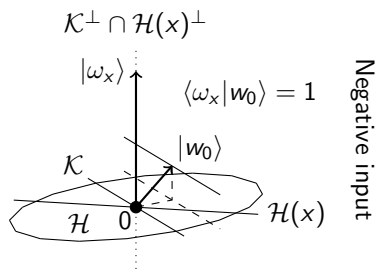
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Negative input

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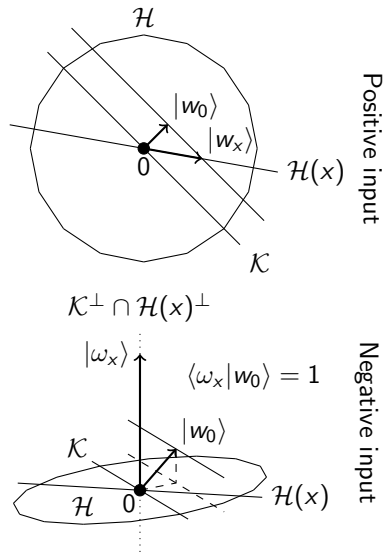
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Thm: Algorithm with $O(C(\mathcal{P}))$ queries to $2\Pi_{\mathcal{H}(x)} - I$.

$$C(\mathcal{P}) = \sqrt{\max_{x \in f^{-1}(0)} w_-(x, \mathcal{P}) \cdot \max_{x \in f^{-1}(1)} w_+(x, \mathcal{P})}.$$



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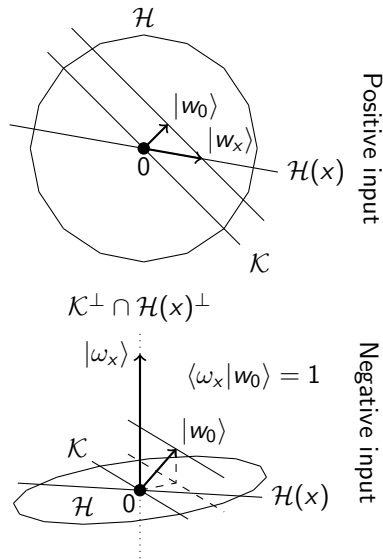
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Thm: “Complete” for computing boolean functions.



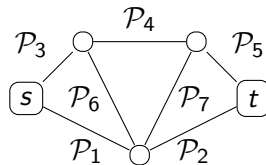
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Ingredients:

- 1 Undirected graph $G = (V, E)$.
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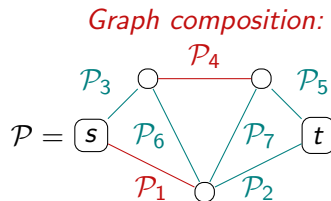
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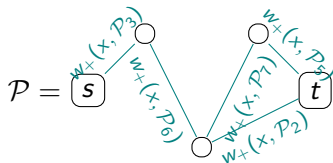
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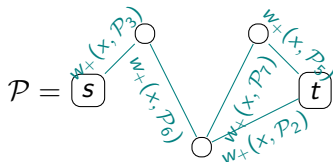
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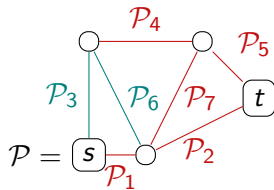
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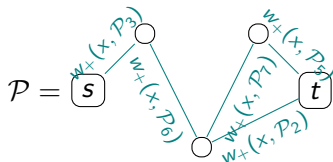
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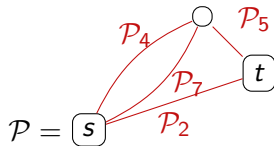
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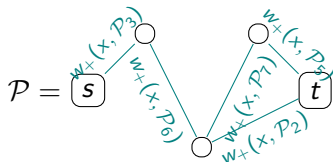
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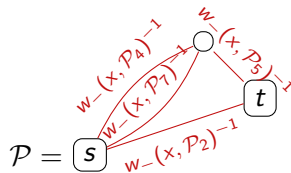
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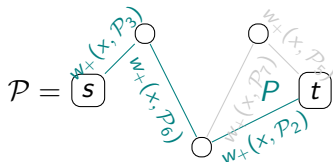
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Path-cut theorem:

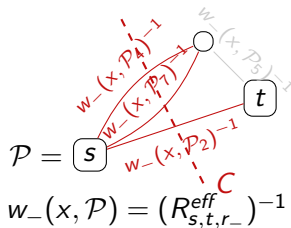
- 1 For P an st -path: $w_+(x, \mathcal{P}) \leq \sum_{e \in P} w_+(x, \mathcal{P}_e)$.
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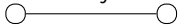
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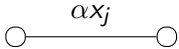
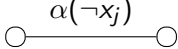
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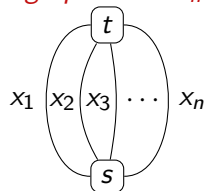
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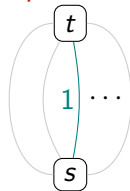
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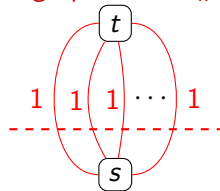
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st-graph for OR_n :



$$x = 0000 \cdots 0 \Rightarrow w_-(x) = n$$

Special case of graph composition:

- 1 *Trivial span programs:* single bit queries.

Example: The OR-function

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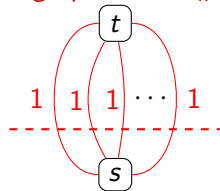
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st-connectivity [BR12,JK17,JJKP18]

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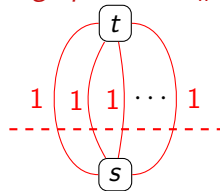
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Quadratic speed-up for search.

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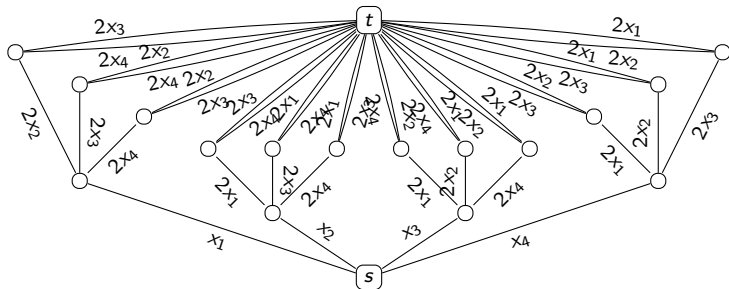
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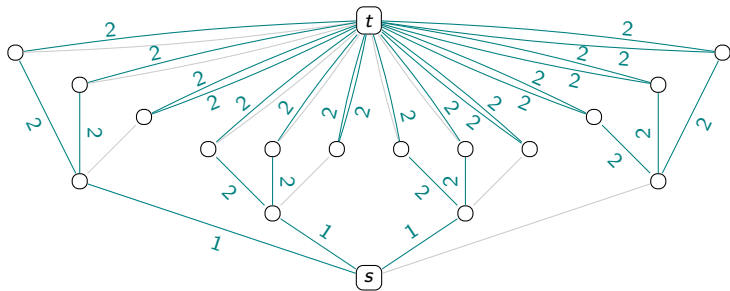
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st-graph for Th_4^3 :



$$x = 1110 \Rightarrow w_+(x) = 1$$

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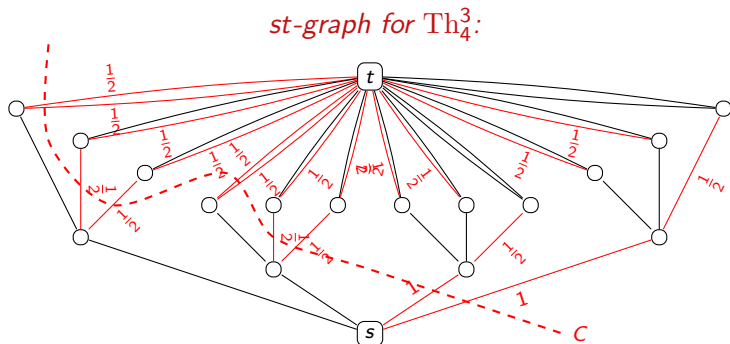
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$x = 1100 \Rightarrow w_-(x) = 6$

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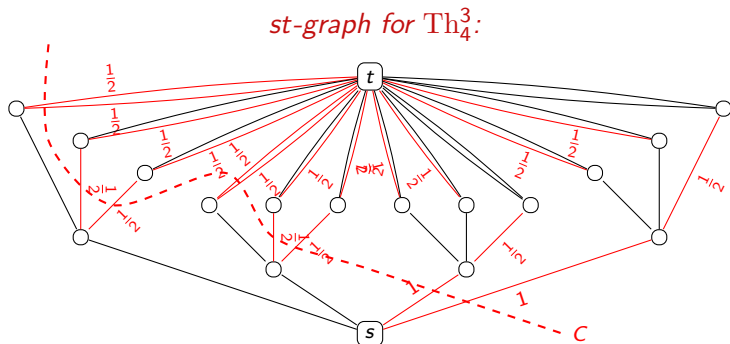
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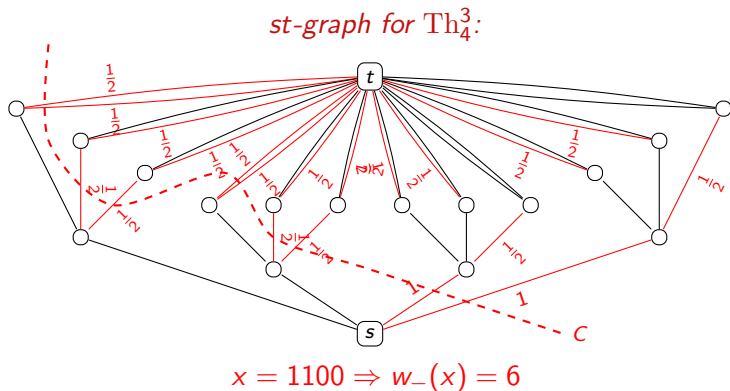
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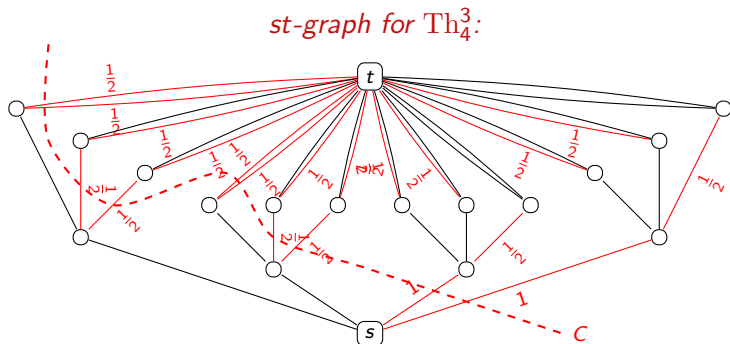
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Remark: With $k = n/2$, it also solves gapped majority in $O(1)$ queries.



Classical algorithms $\rightarrow$ *st*-connectivity

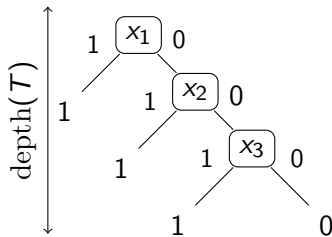
Classical algorithms $\rightarrow$ *st*-connectivity

Deterministic $\rightarrow$ *st*-connectivity:

Classical algorithms $\rightarrow$ st -connectivity

Deterministic $\rightarrow$ st -connectivity:

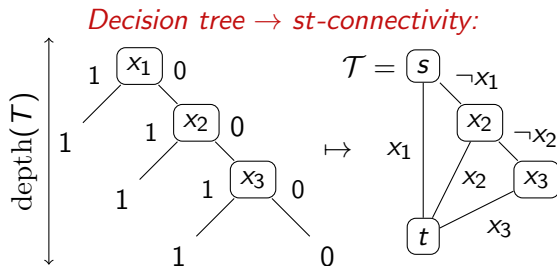
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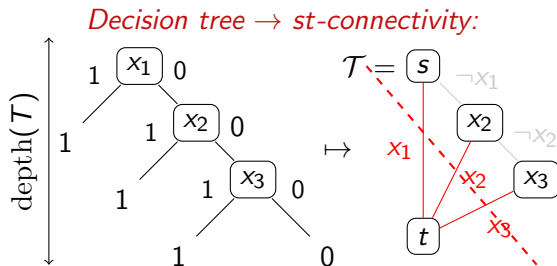
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Classical algorithms $\rightarrow$ st -connectivity

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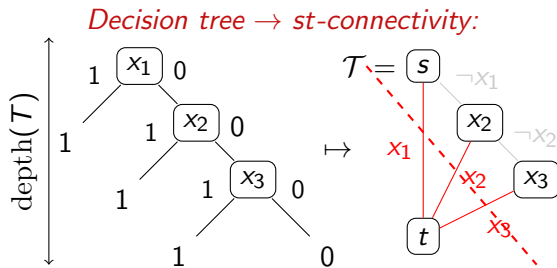
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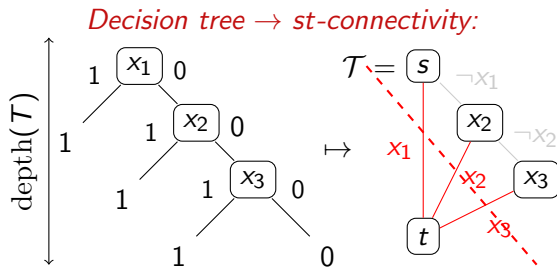


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Randomized $\rightarrow$ st -connectivity: (sketch)



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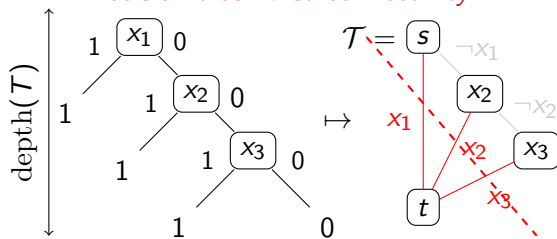
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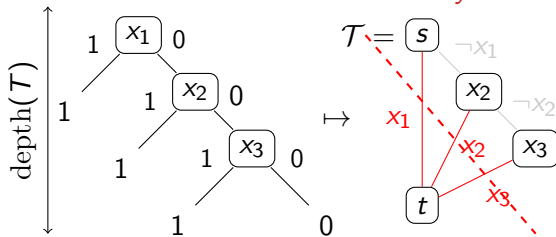
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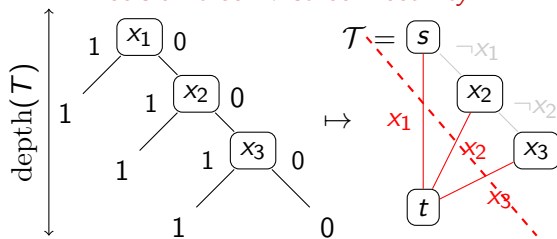


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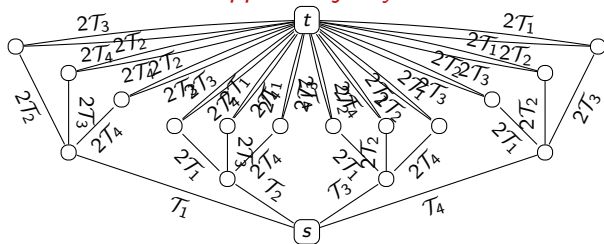
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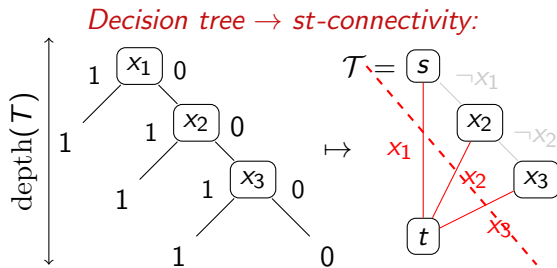
Gapped majority:



Classical algorithms $\rightarrow$ st -connectivity

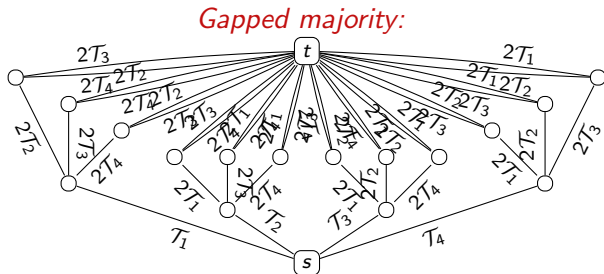
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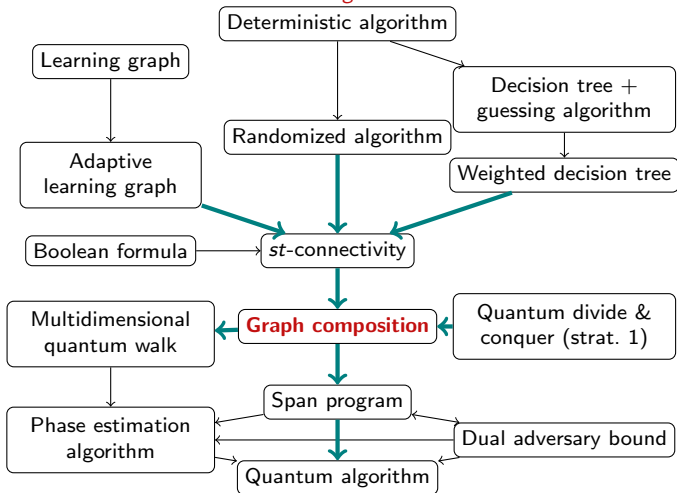
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Summary

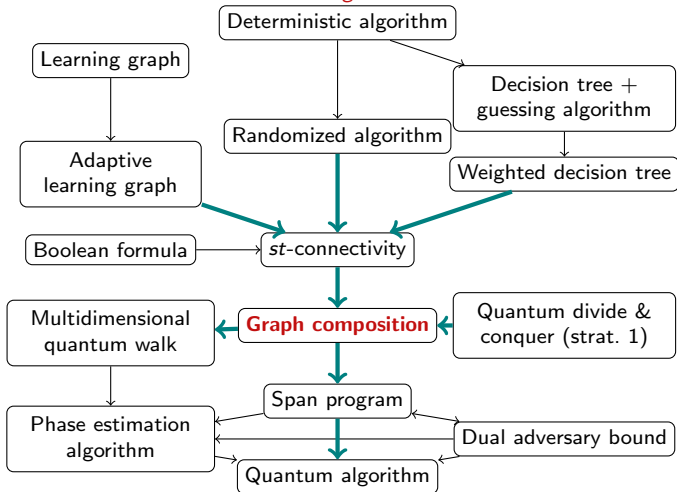
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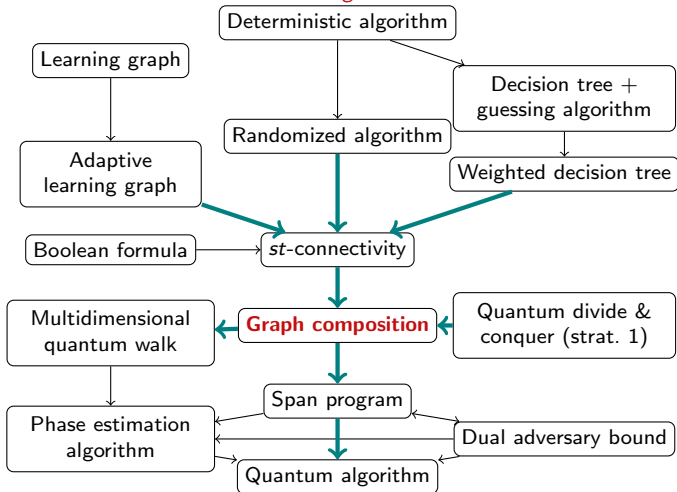


In this talk:

- 1 Span programs
- 2 Graph composition
- 3 Examples
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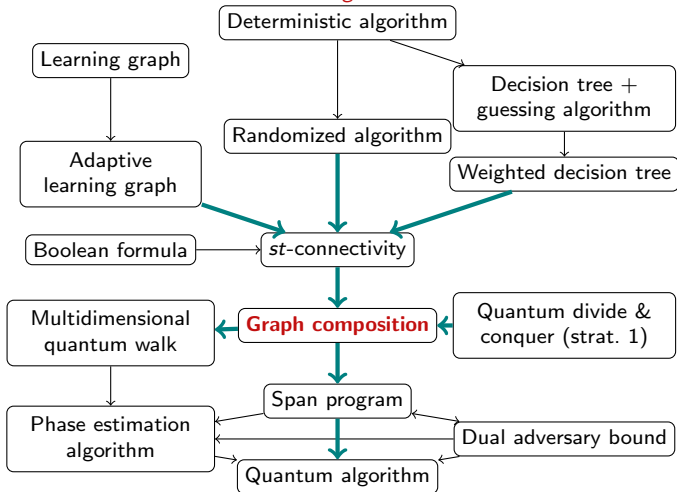
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Open question:

Limitations of st -connectivity?

Thanks!

Thanks for your attention!
`ajcornelissen@outlook.com`

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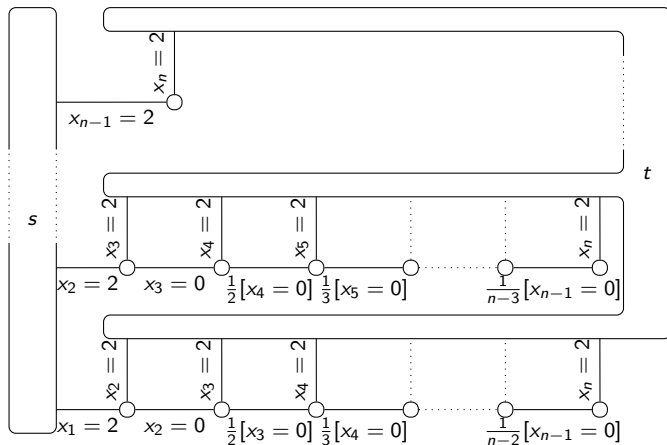
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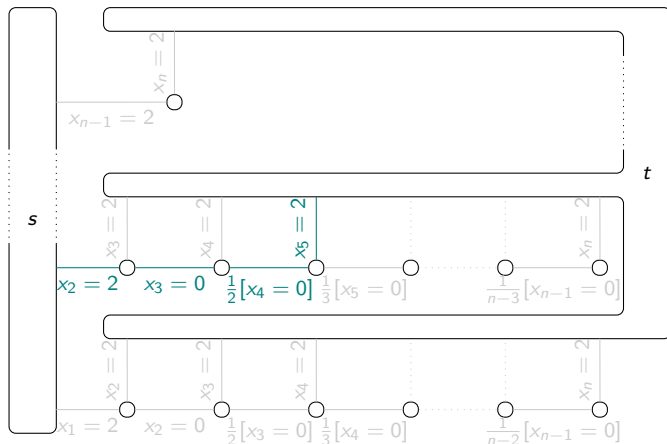
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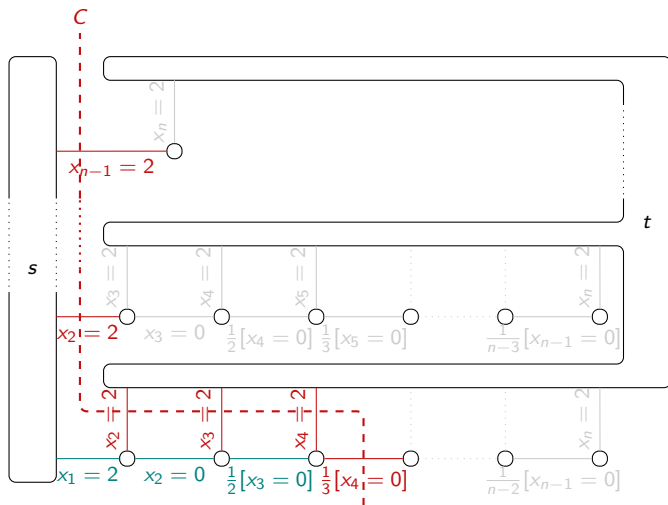
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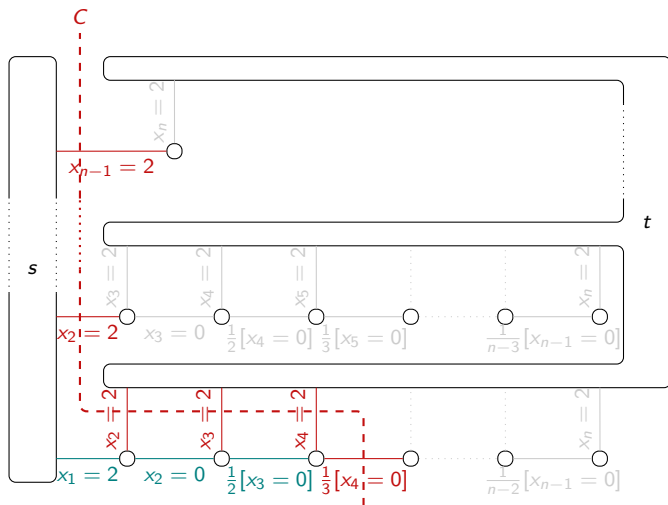
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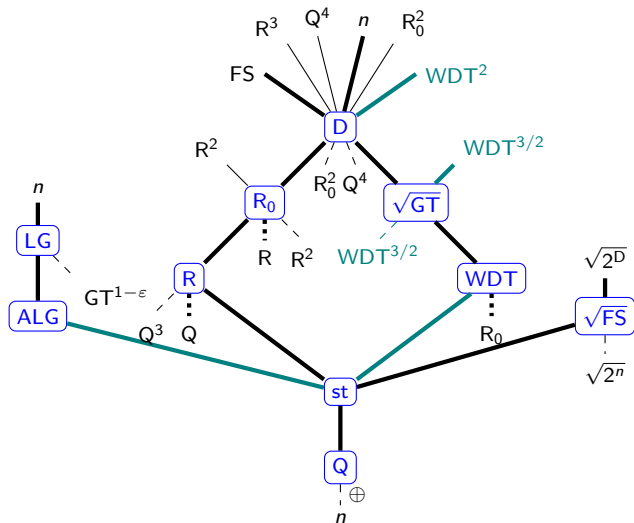
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Complexity measure relations for total boolean functions



Legend:

- ① Solid: relation.
- ② Dashed: separation.
- ③ **Fat:** for partial functions.
- ④ Dotted: unbounded separation.
- ⑤ Green: new in this work.

Open questions:

- ① Unbounded separation:
 - ① Between Q and st ?
 - ② Between st and R ?