

Approximation Algorithms for Aligning Points

Sergio Cabello and Marc van Kreveld



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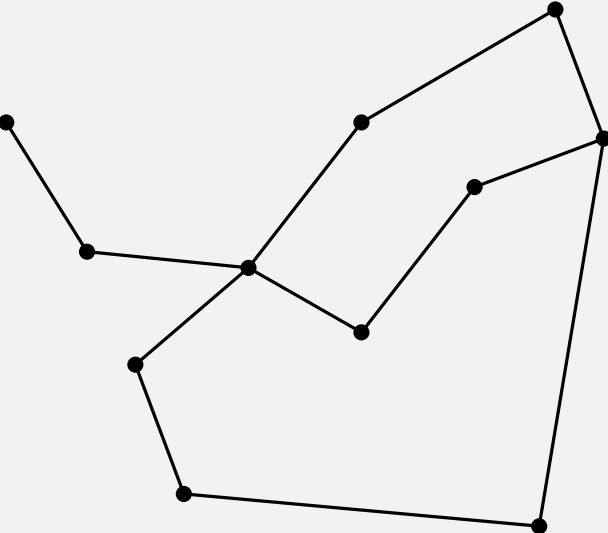
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- RESULTS II: PTAS FOR TREES
- RESULTS III: PLANAR GRAPHS
- RESULTS IV: PTAS FOR AXIS-ALIGNED PROBLEMS
- WHAT DID I EXPLAIN?



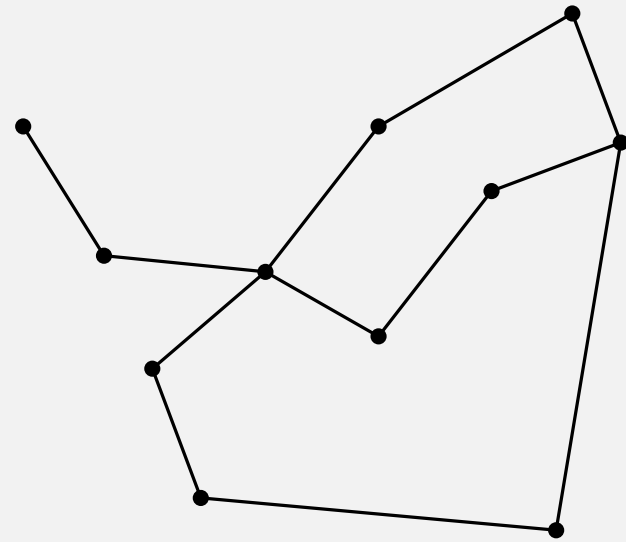
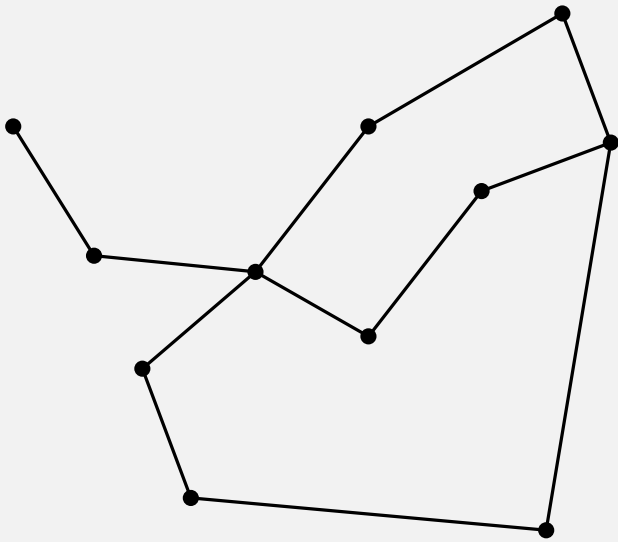
MOTIVATION + PROBLEM STATEMENT



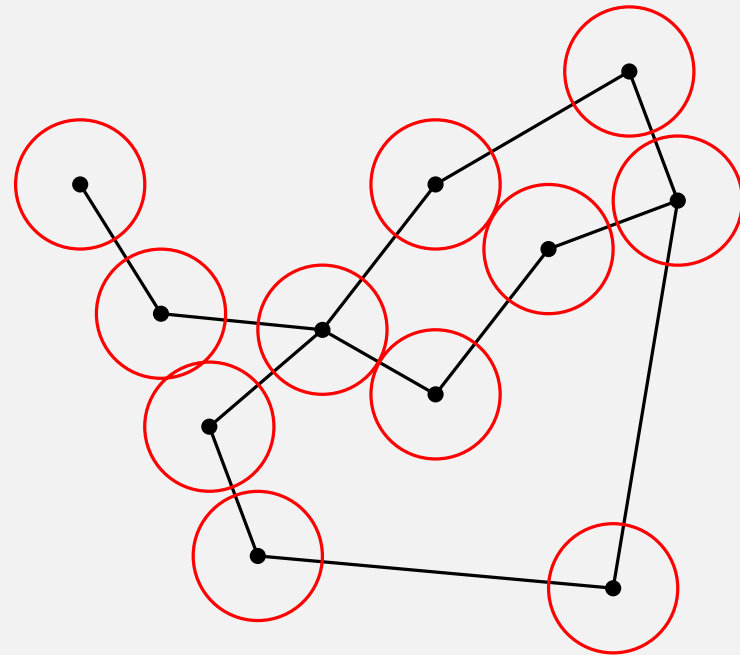
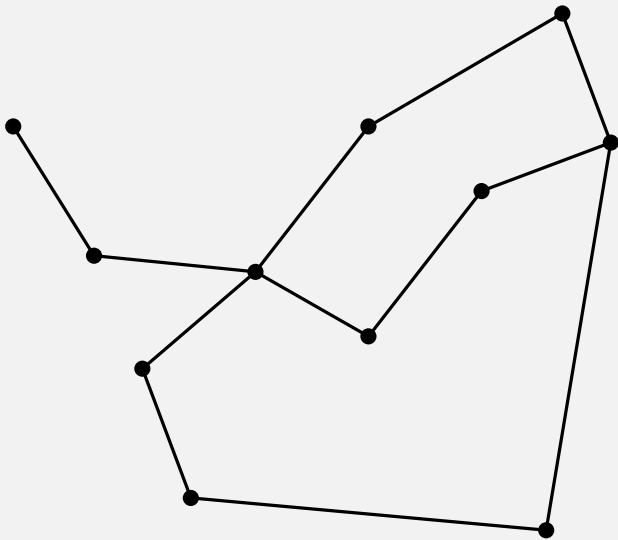
ABSTRACTION FROM THE MOTIVATION



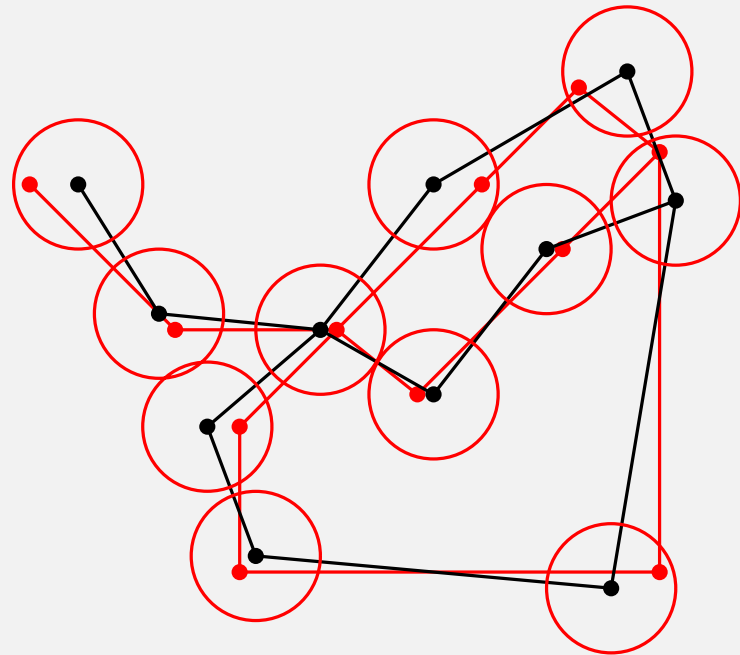
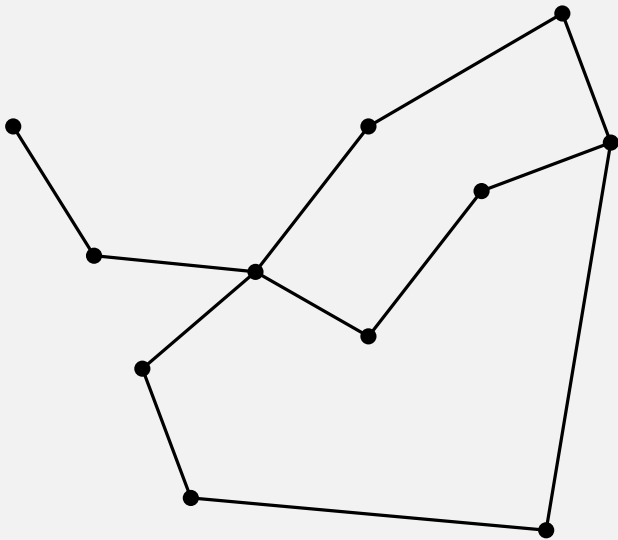
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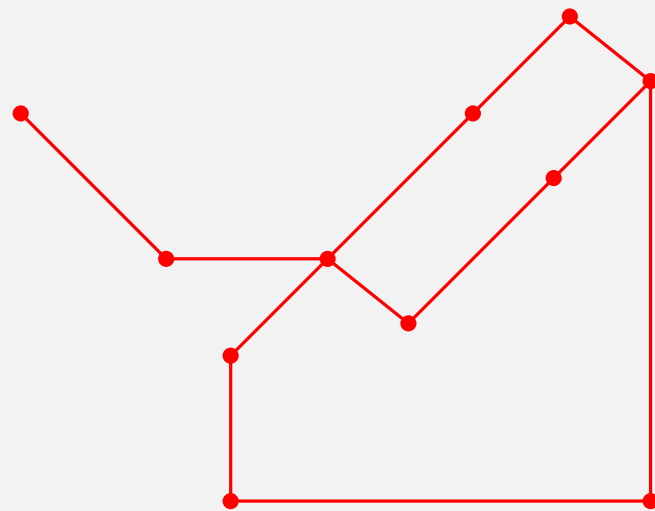
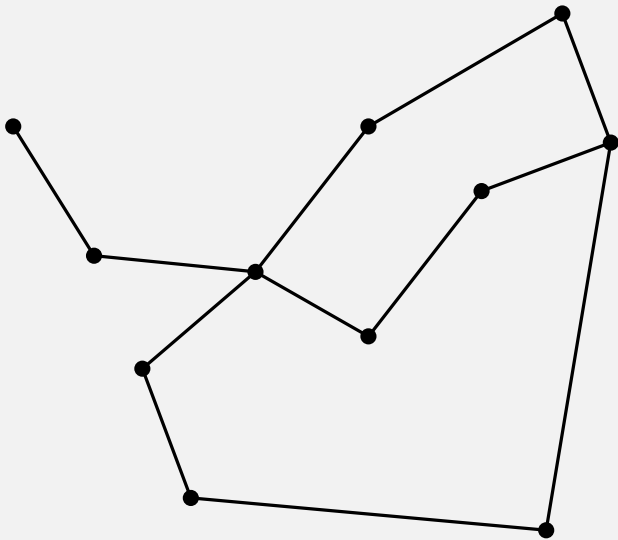
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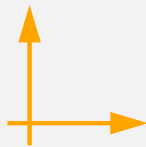


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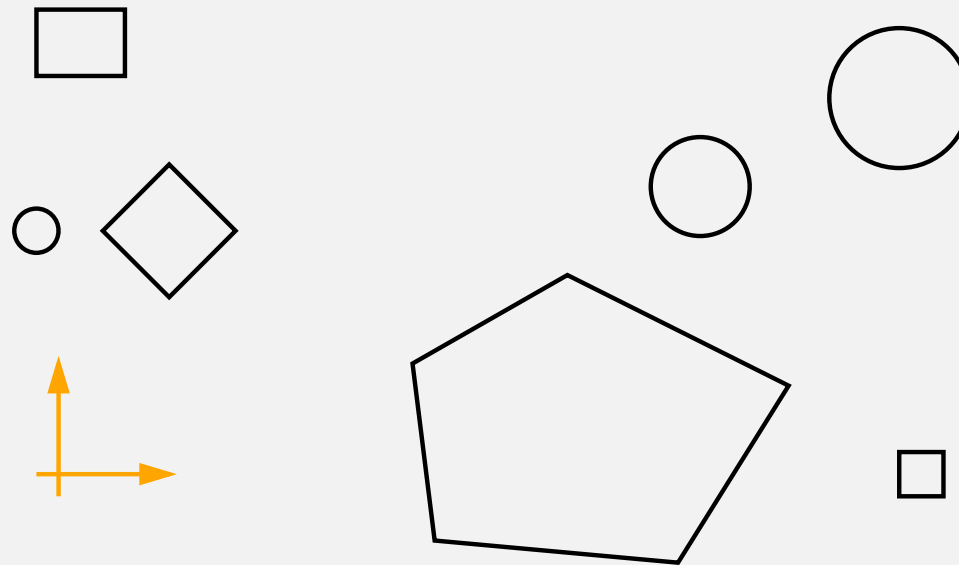
O set of orientations



PROBLEM STATEMENT

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$S = \{S_0, \dots, S_{n-1}\}$ set of n convex regions

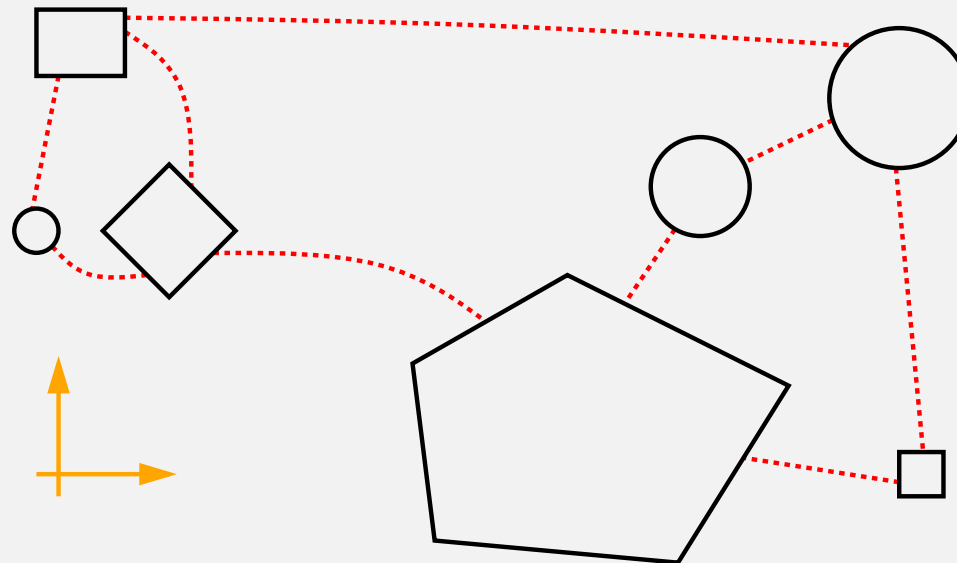


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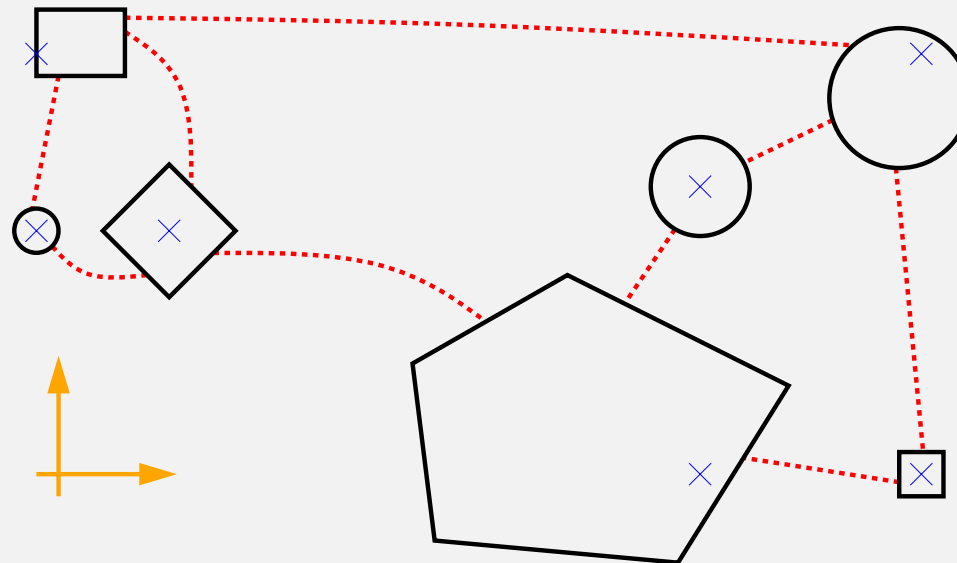
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Goal: place $p_0 \in S_0, \dots, p_{n-1} \in S_{n-1}$



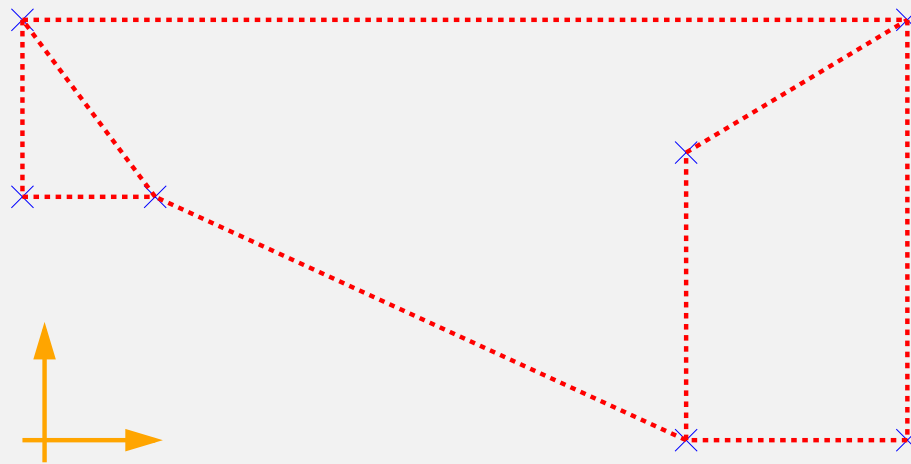
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maximizing the edges with orientation in O .

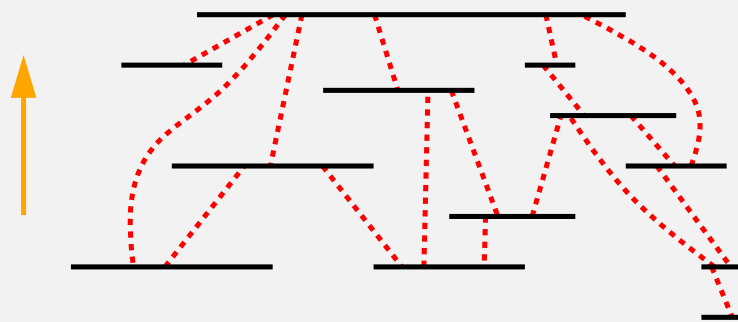


RESULTS I: HARDNESS

O the vertical orientation

$S = \{S_0, \dots, S_{n-1}\}$ horizontal segments

$G = (S, E)$ graph

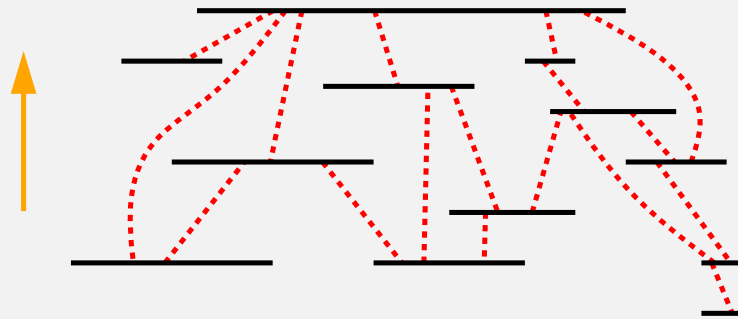


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Theorem:

G planar \Rightarrow NP-hard to maximize vertical edges

G non-planar \Rightarrow NP-hard to $\frac{15}{16} + \epsilon$ -approximate the maximum

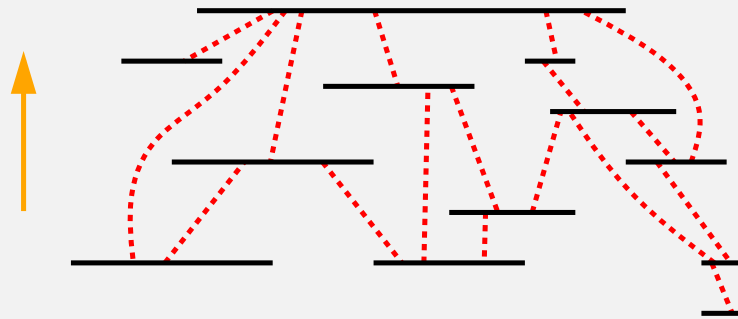


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Proof: reduction from E3-SAT.



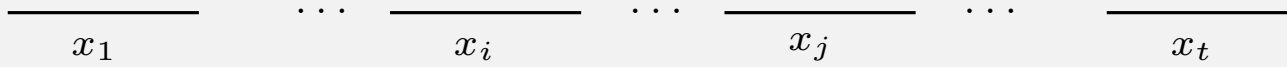
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x_1, \dots, x_t variables, m clauses



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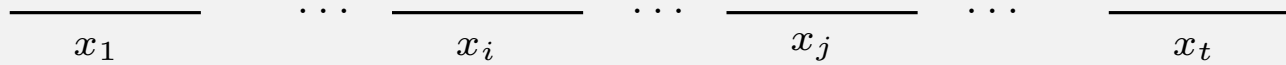
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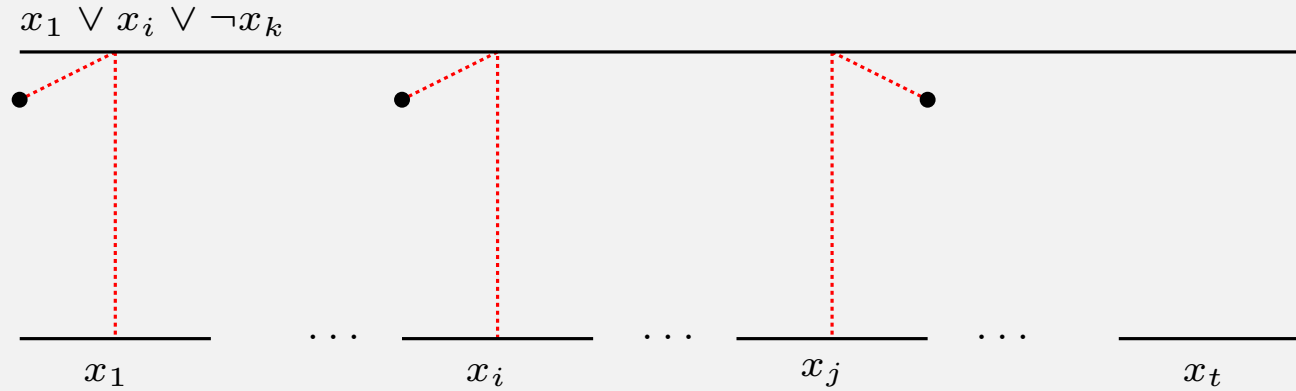
x_1, \dots, x_t variables, m clauses

$$x_1 \vee x_i \vee \neg x_k$$



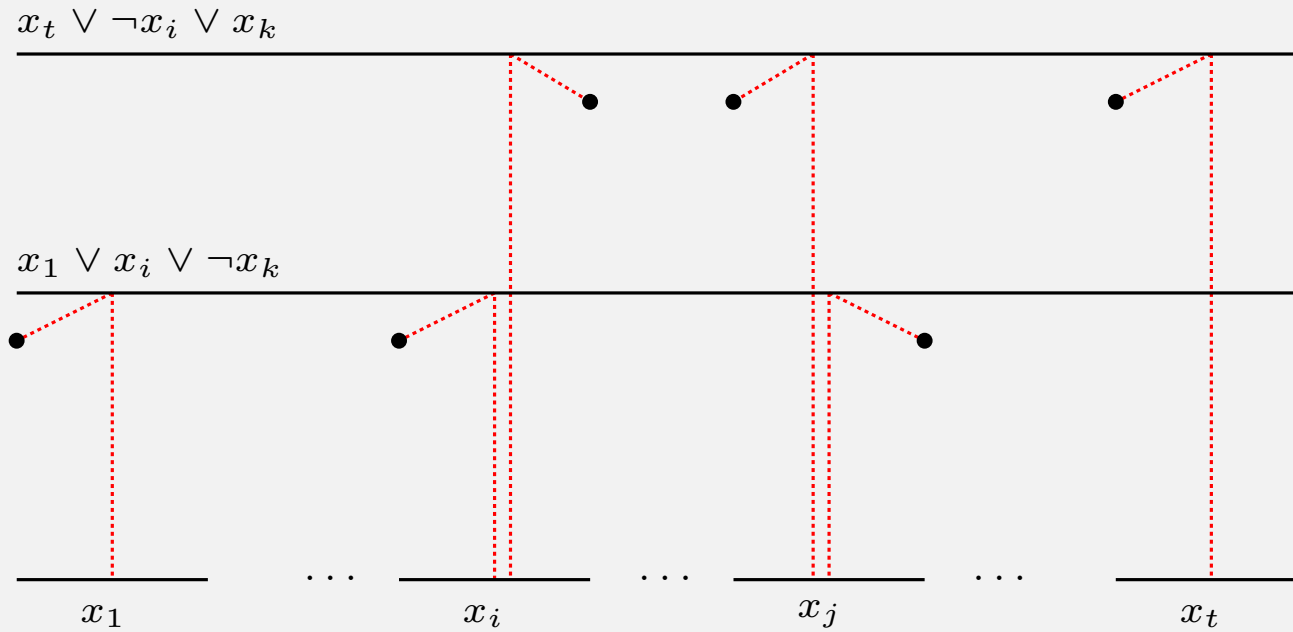
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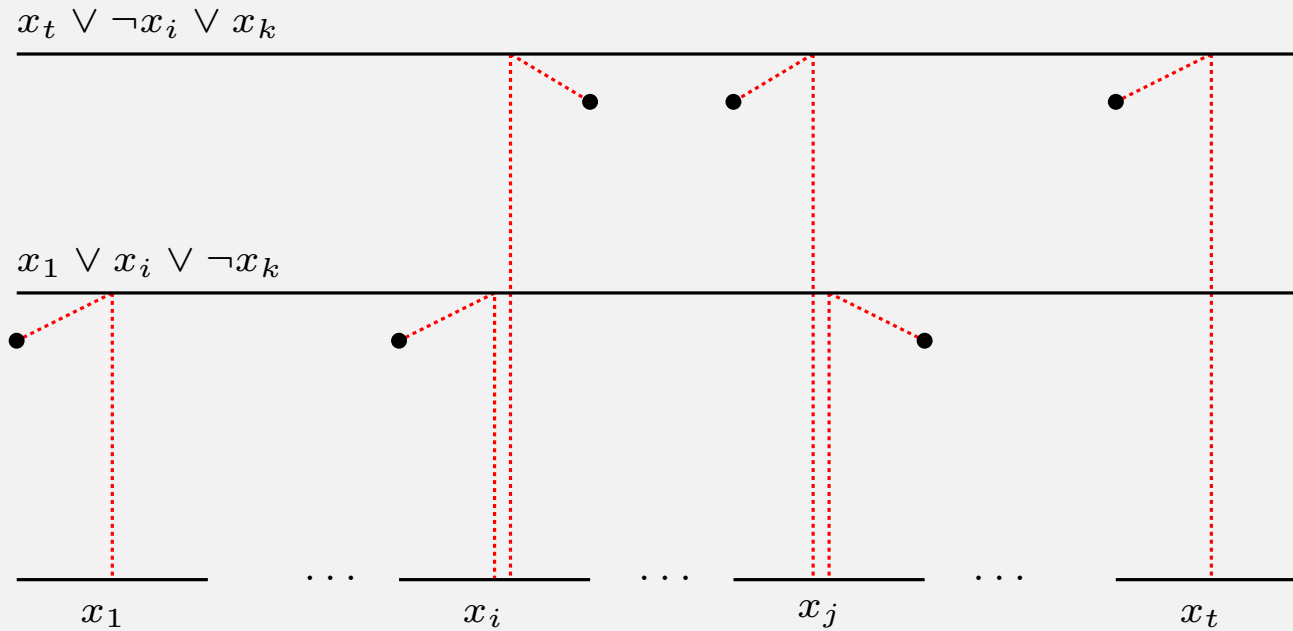
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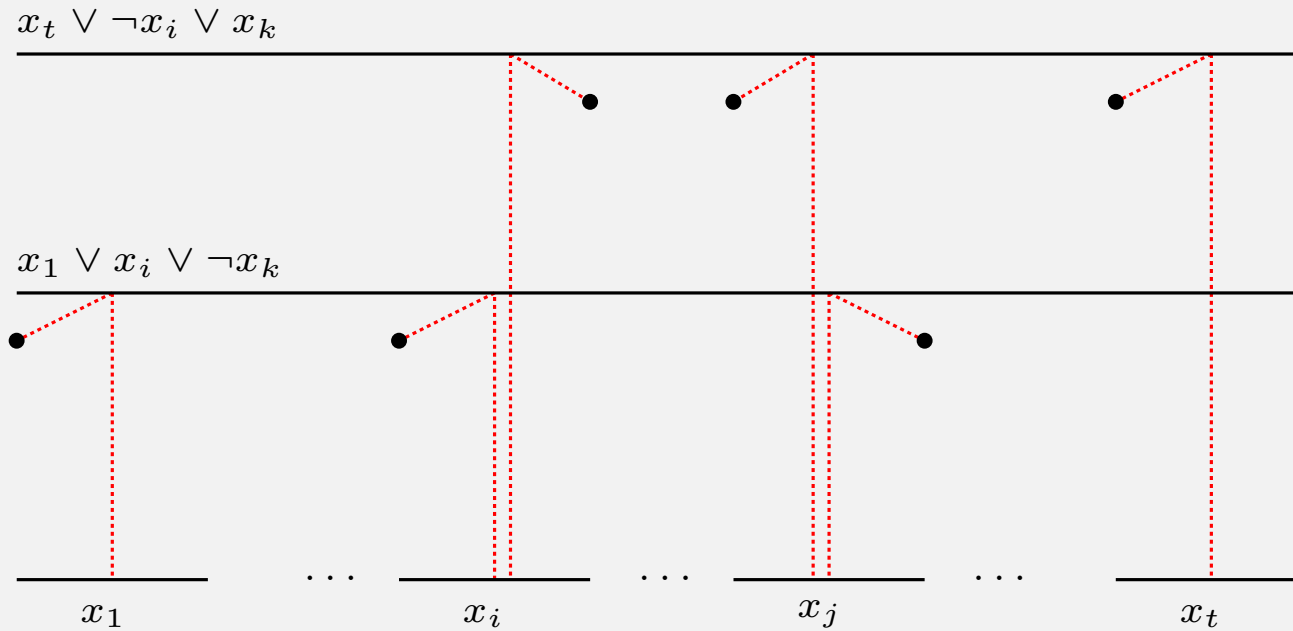
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Non-satisfiable clause \Leftrightarrow 1 vertical edge



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Satisfiable clause \Leftrightarrow 2 vertical edges

Non-satisfiable clause \Leftrightarrow 1 vertical edge

\Rightarrow s clauses satisfiable \Leftrightarrow $m + s$ vertical edges

\diamond

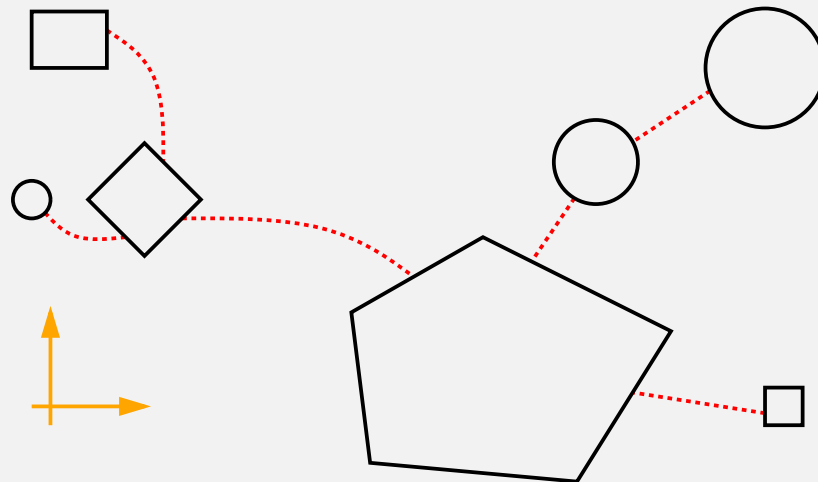


RESULTS II: PTAS FOR TREES

O with two orientations

$S = \{S_0, \dots, S_{n-1}\}$ convex regions

$T = (S, E)$ a tree



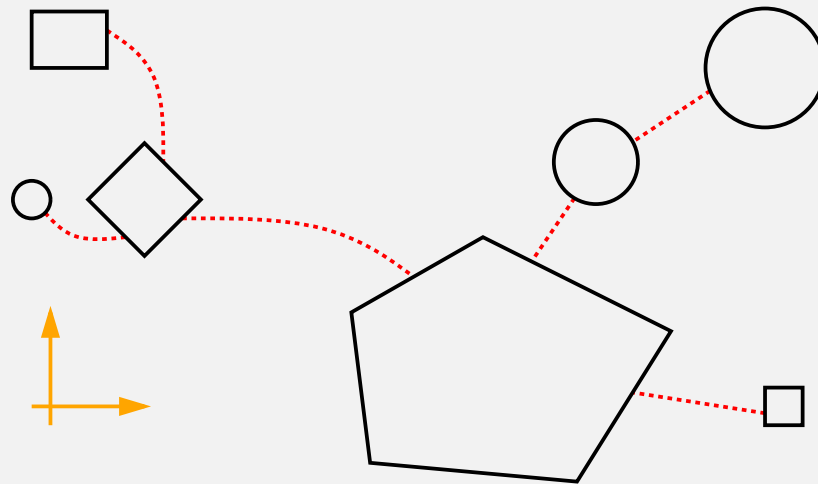
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Lemma: If T has height k , we can compute a placement maximizing the alignments in $O(9^k n^2)$ time.



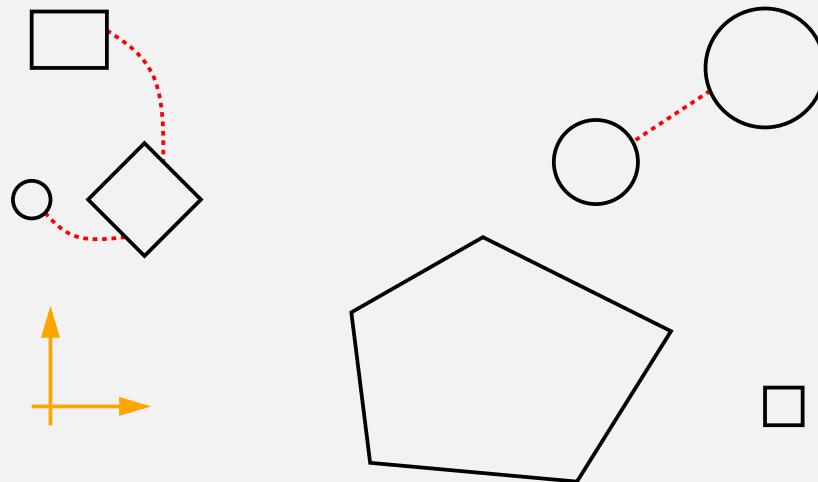
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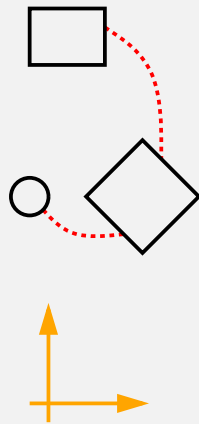
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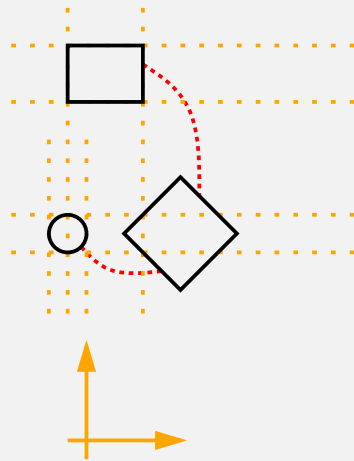
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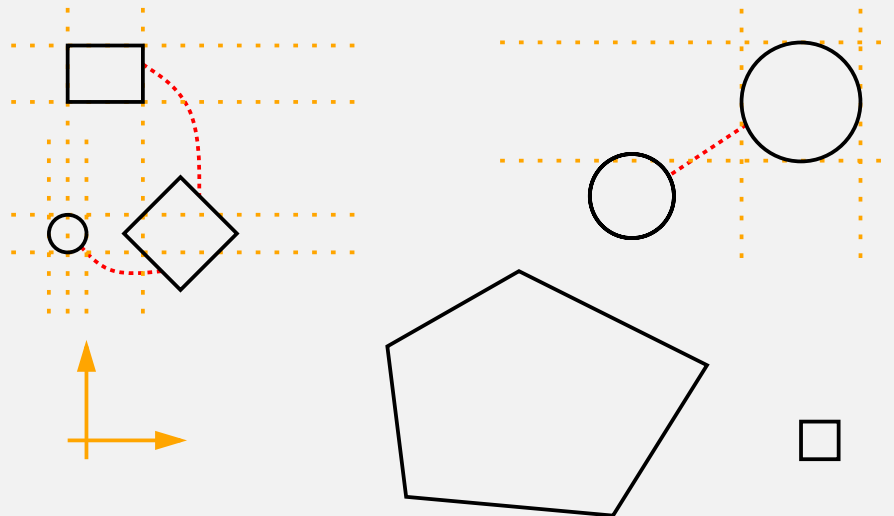
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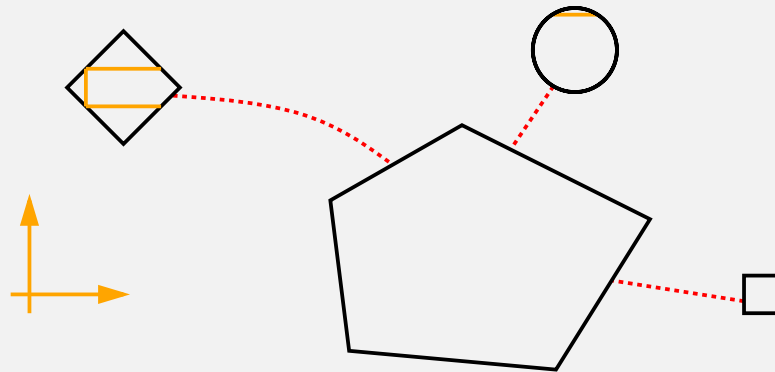
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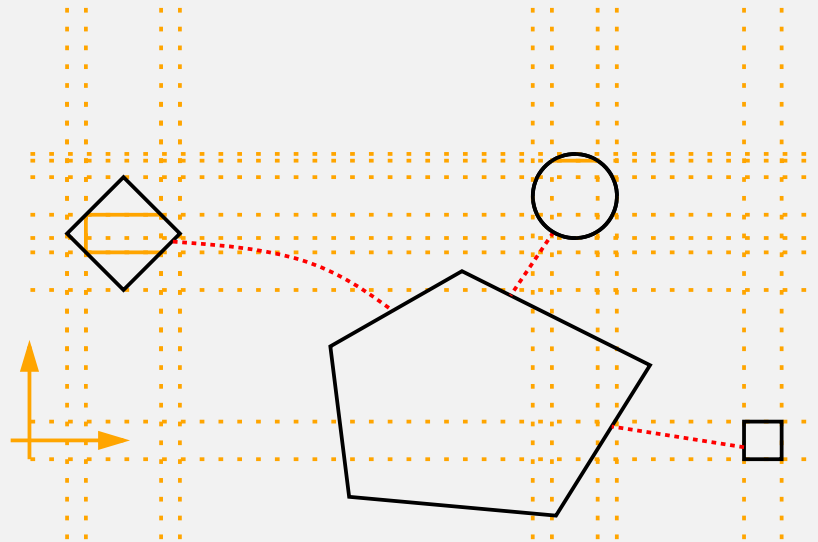
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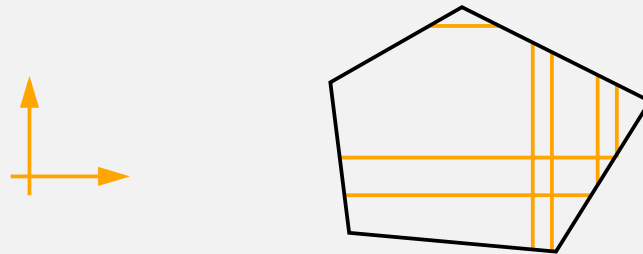
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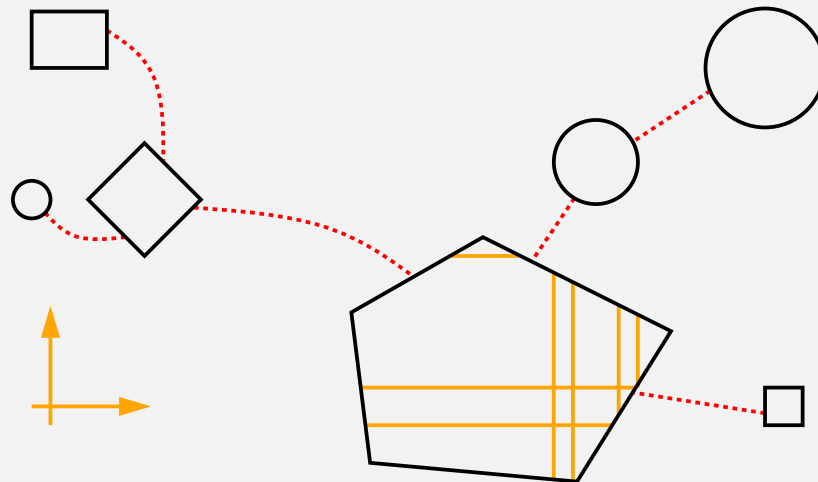
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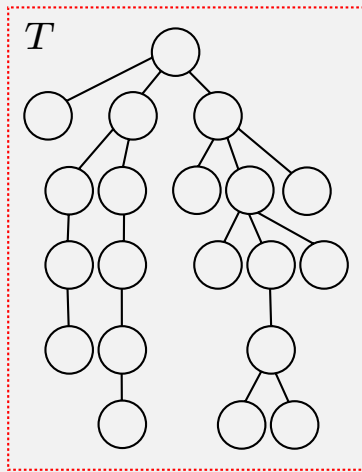
RESULTS II: PTAS FOR TREES

O with two orientations, $S = \{S_0, \dots, S_{n-1}\}$ convex regions

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Theorem: Given $k > 0$, we can compute a $\frac{k}{k+1}$ -approximation of the best alignment in $O(k9^k n^2)$ time.

Proof: Shifting technique of Hochbaum and Maass. (k=2)



RESULTS II: PTAS FOR TREES

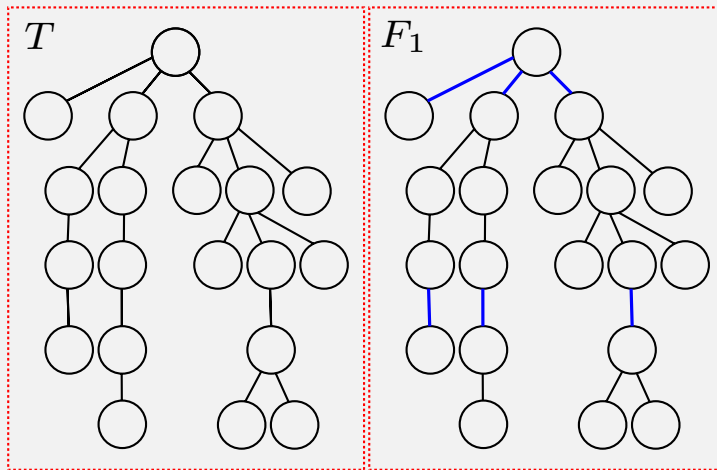
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Compute $\max(F_1)$.



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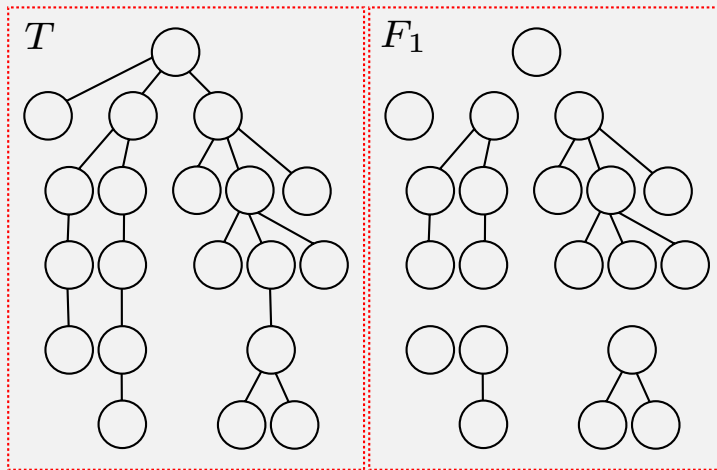
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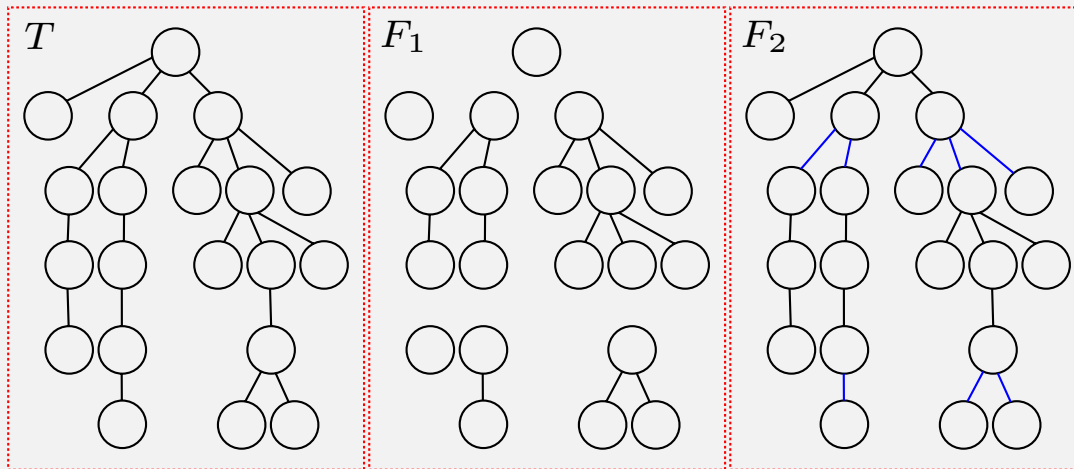
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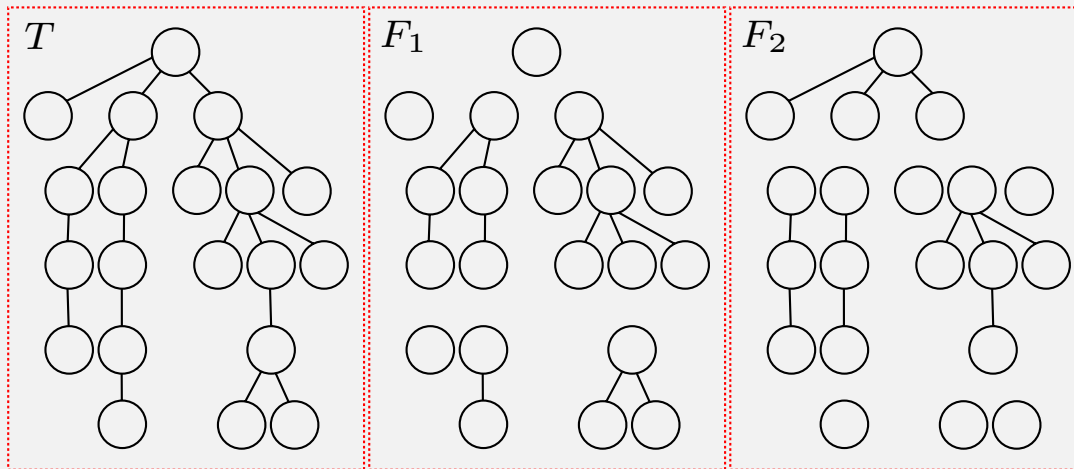
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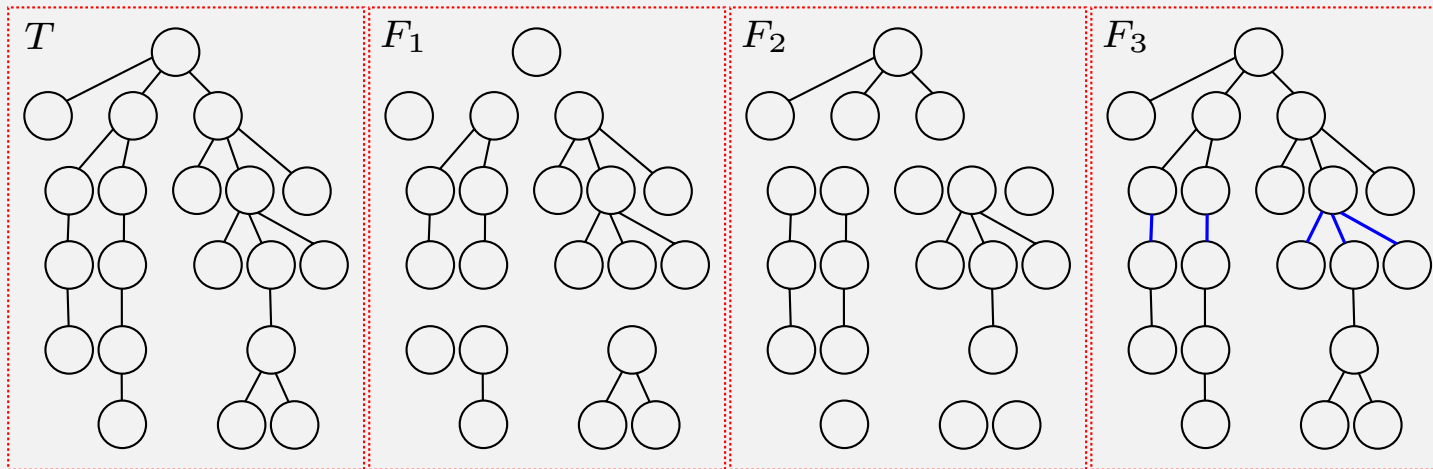
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Compute $\max(F_1)$, $M(F_2)$, $\max(F_3)$, and take the maximum.



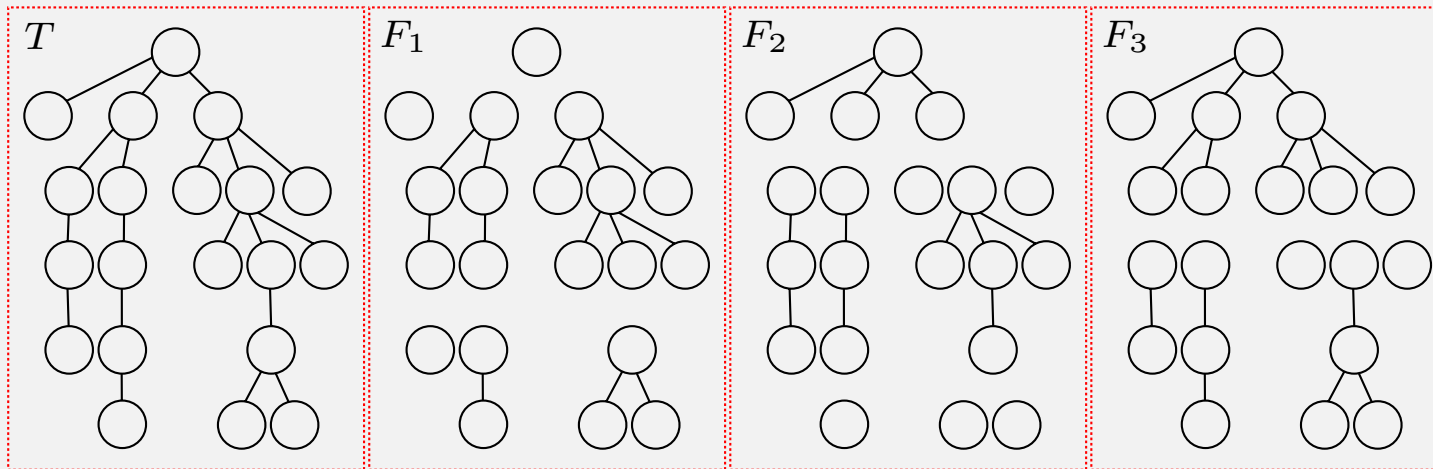
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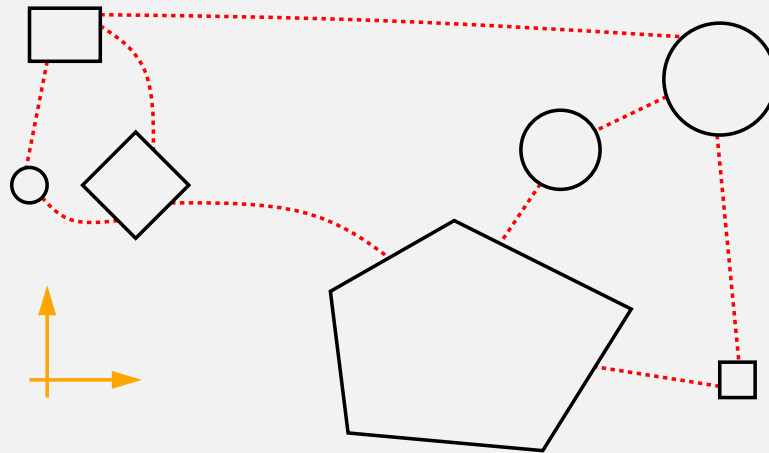


Compute $\max(F_1)$, $\max(F_2)$, $\max(F_3)$, and take the maximum.



RESULTS III: PLANAR GRAPHS

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 $G = (S, E)$ a planar graph.

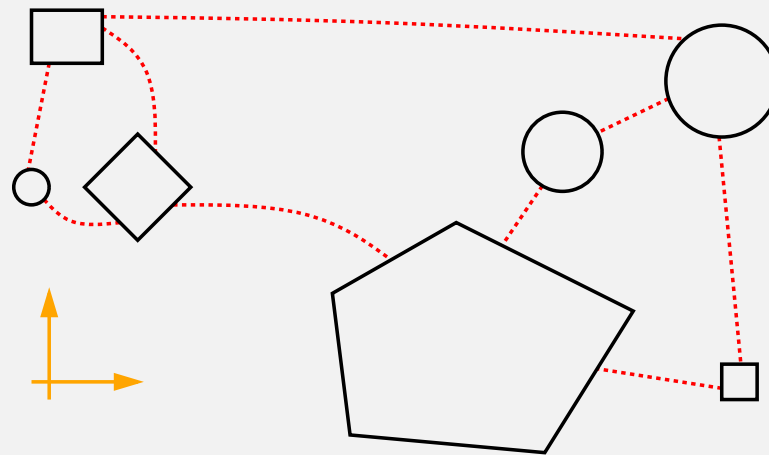


RESULTS III: PLANAR GRAPHS

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Theorem: Given $k > 0$, we can compute a $\frac{k}{3(k+1)}$ -approximation of the best alignment in $O(k9^k n^2)$ time.

Proof: Decompose G into three edge-disjoint forests + Results II

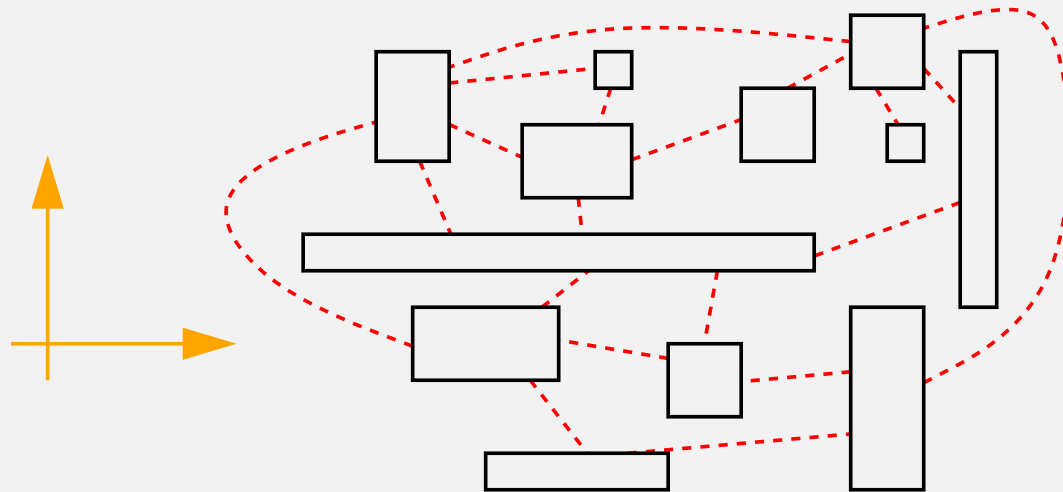


RESULTS IV: PTAS FOR AXIS-ALIGNED PROBLEMS

O orientations of the coordinate axes

$S = \{S_0, \dots, S_{n-1}\}$ n disjoint, axis-parallel rectangles

$G = (S, E)$ a planar graph.



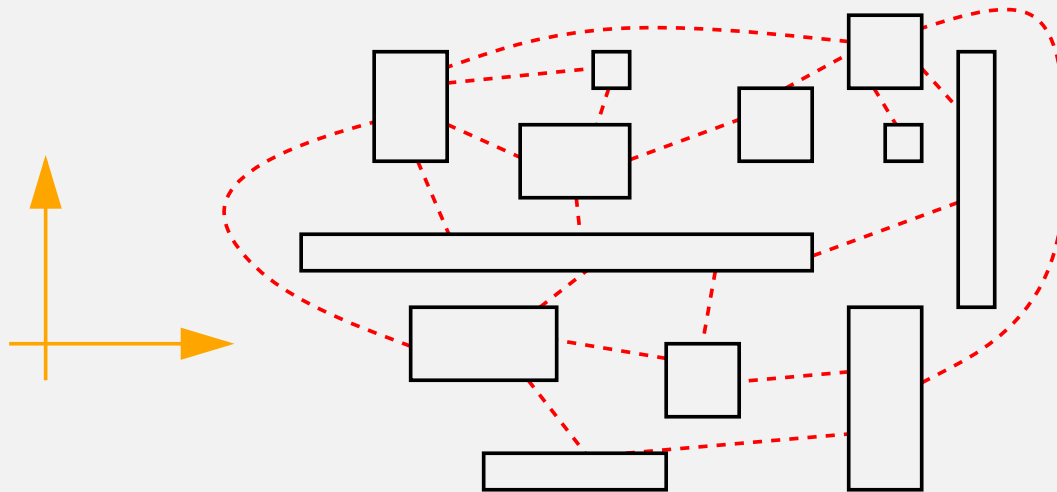
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Theorem: For any natural number k , we can place $p_0 \in S_0, \dots, p_{n-1} \in S_{n-1}$ that yields a $\frac{k-1}{k}$ -approximation of the best placement in $O(k(2n)^{3k+1})$ time.



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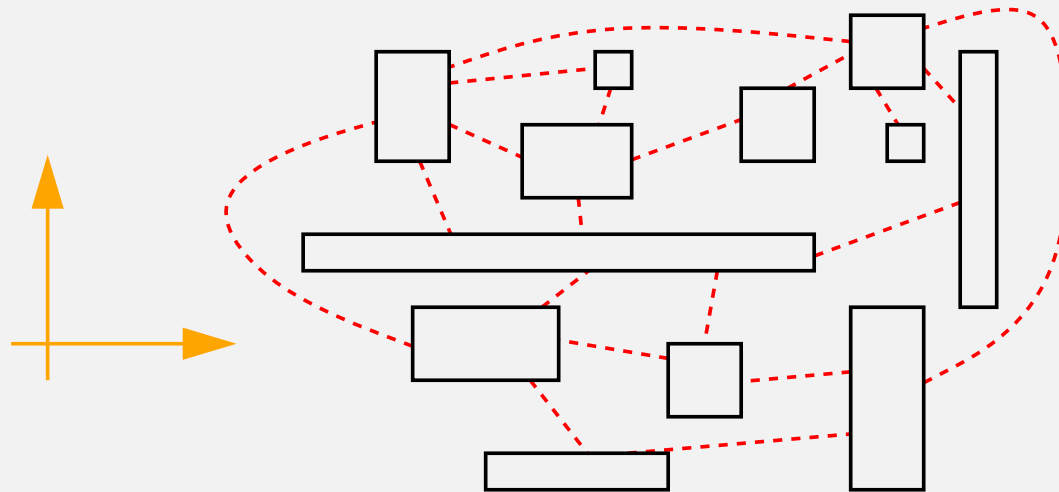
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Proof: Baker's slices + shifting technique.



WHAT DID I EXPLAIN?

- Aligning problem: a geometric optimization problem with applications in cartography
- Aligning is hard
- PTAS for trees
- $(\frac{1}{3} - \epsilon)$ -approximation for planar graphs
- PTAS for "planar, axis-aligned problems"

