

# Min-sum and network flows

**Patrick Rebeschini**

**(joint work with Sekhar Tatikonda)**

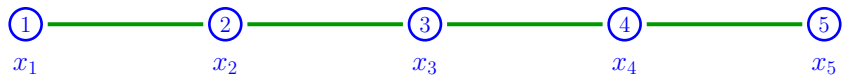


Optimization and Inference for Physical Flows on Networks  
Banff International Research Station

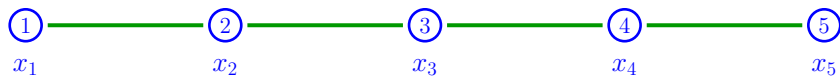
March 8, 2017

(NSF Grant: *Locality in Network Optimization*, Award no. 1609484, ECCS)

## Min-sum: path graph

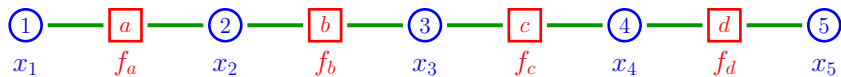


# Min-sum: path graph



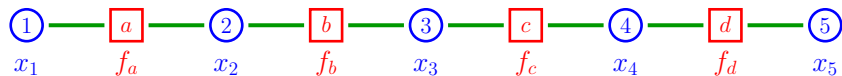
$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \min_{x_4} \min_{x_5} \underbrace{\left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + f_c(x_3, x_4) + f_d(x_4, x_5) \right)}_{f(x)}$$

# Min-sum: path graph



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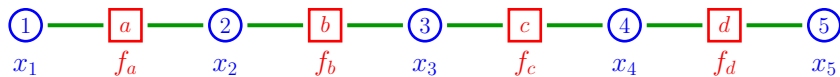
# Min-sum: path graph



$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \min_{x_4} \min_{x_5} \underbrace{\left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + f_c(x_3, x_4) + f_d(x_4, x_5) \right)}_{f(x)}$$

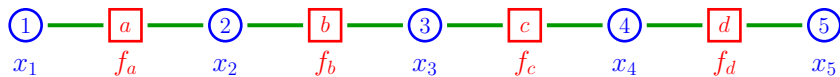
$x_i \in \{0, 1\}$     **naive algorithm**  $O(2^n)$

# Min-sum: path graph



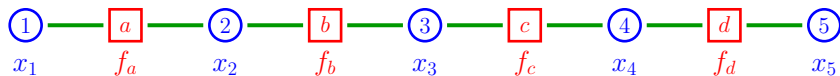
$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \min_{x_4} \min_{x_5} \left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + f_c(x_3, x_4) + f_d(x_4, x_5) \right)$$

# Min-sum: path graph



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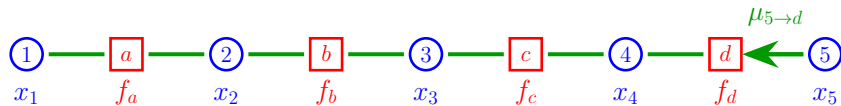
# Min-sum: path graph



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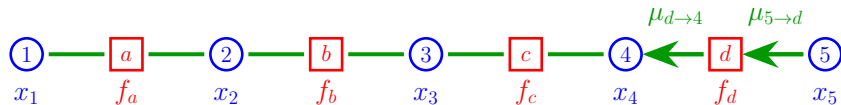
# Min-sum: path graph



$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \min_{x_4} \left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + f_c(x_3, x_4) + \min_{x_5} f_d(x_4, x_5) \right)$$

$$\mu_{5 \rightarrow d} = 0$$

# Min-sum: path graph

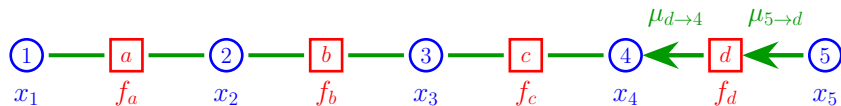


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$$\mu_{d \rightarrow 4}(\star) = \min_{x_5} (f_d(\star, x_5) + \mu_{5 \rightarrow d}(x_5))$$

# Min-sum: path graph

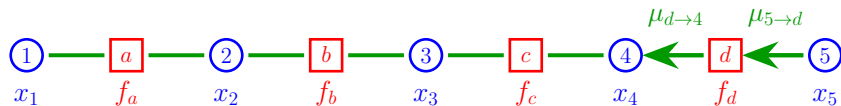


$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \min_{x_4} \left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + f_c(x_3, x_4) + \mu_{d \rightarrow 4}(x_4) \right)$$

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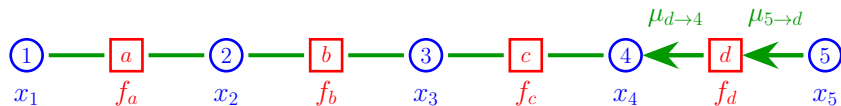


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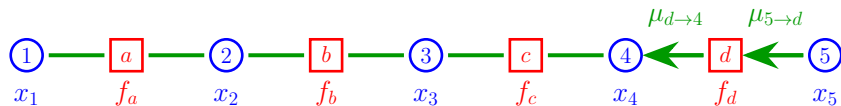


$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + \boxed{\min_{x_4}} \left( f_c(x_3, x_4) + \mu_{d \rightarrow 4}(x_4) \right) \right)$$

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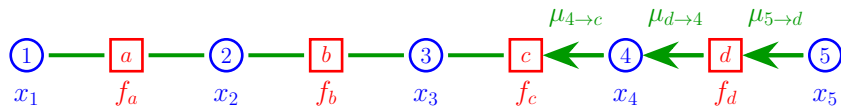


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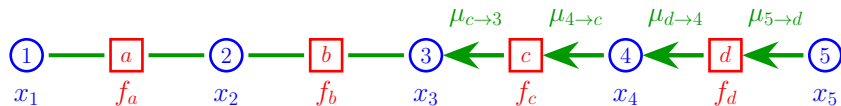
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# Min-sum: path graph



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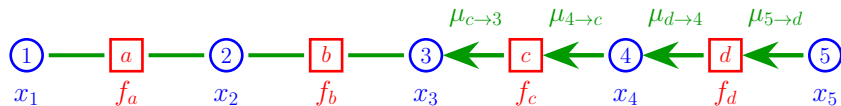
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# Min-sum: path graph



$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + \mu_{c \rightarrow 3}(x_3) \right)$$

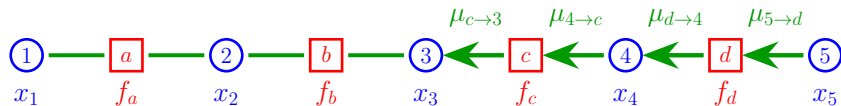
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# Min-sum: path graph



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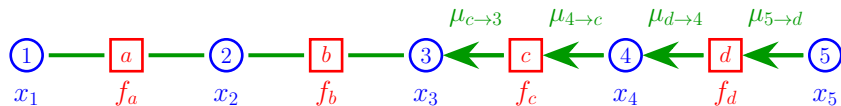
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# Min-sum: path graph



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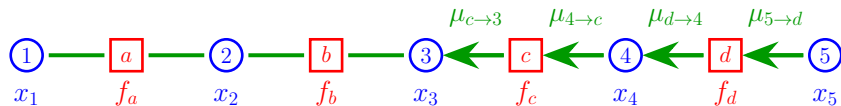
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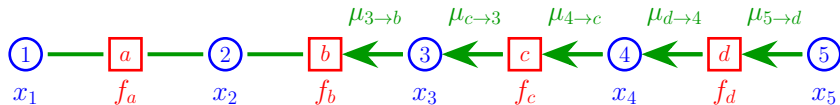
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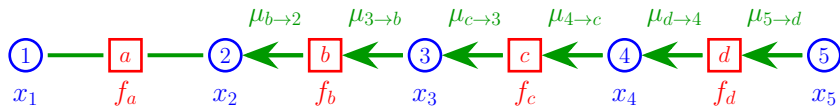
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# Min-sum: path graph



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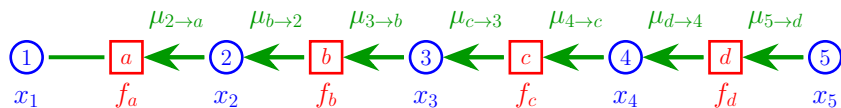
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$$\mu_{b \rightarrow 2}(\star) = \min_{x_3} (f_b(\star, x_3) + \mu_{c \rightarrow 3}(x_3))$$

# Min-sum: path graph



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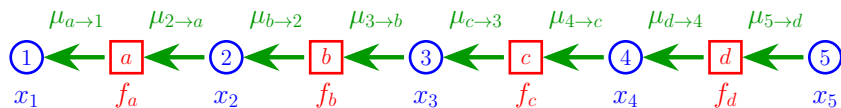
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# Min-sum: path graph



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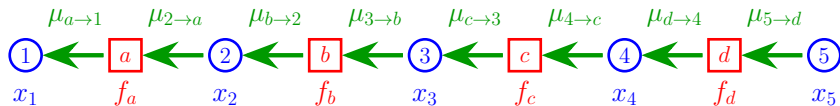
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# Min-sum: path graph



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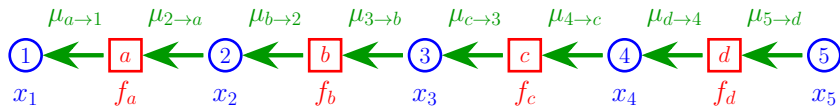
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# Min-sum: path graph



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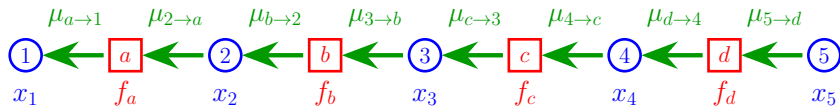
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$$\mu_{2 \rightarrow a} = \mu_{b \rightarrow 2}$$

# Min-sum: path graph



$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + \mu_{b \rightarrow 2}(x_2) \right)$$

$$\mu_{5 \rightarrow d} = 0$$

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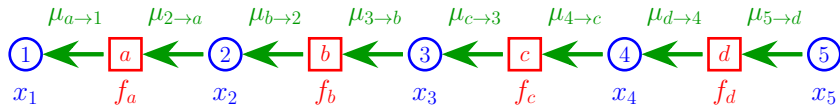
$$\mu_{2 \rightarrow a} = \mu_{b \rightarrow 2}$$

$$\mu_{a \rightarrow 1}(\star) = \min_{x_2} (f_a(\star, x_2) + \mu_{b \rightarrow 2}(x_2))$$

# Min-sum: path graph

$O(n)$

## Dynamic Programming



$$\min_{x_1} \mu_{a \rightarrow 1}(x_1)$$

$$\mu_{5 \rightarrow d} = 0$$

$$\mu_{4 \rightarrow c} = \mu_{d \rightarrow 4}$$

$$\mu_{3 \rightarrow b} = \mu_{c \rightarrow 3}$$

$$\mu_{2 \rightarrow a} = \mu_{b \rightarrow 2}$$

$$\mu_{d \rightarrow 4}(\star) = \min_{x_5} (f_d(\star, x_5) + \mu_{5 \rightarrow d}(x_5))$$

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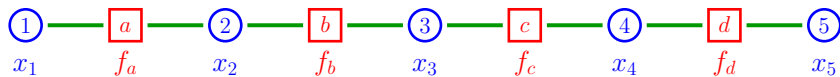
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# Min-sum: path graph

$O(n)$

# Dynamic Programming

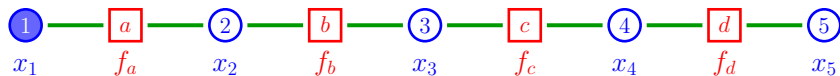


$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \min_{x_3} \min_{x_4} \min_{x_5} \underbrace{\left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) + f_c(x_3, x_4) + f_d(x_4, x_5) \right)}_{f(x)}$$

## Min-sum: path graph

$O(n)$

## Dynamic Programming

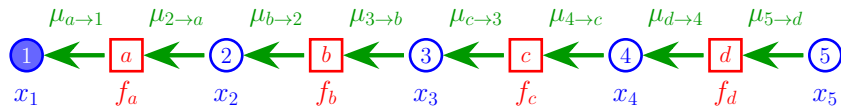


$$\min_{x_1} \min_{x_2} \left( f_a(x_1, x_2) + \min_{x_3} \left( f_b(x_2, x_3) + \min_{x_4} \left( f_c(x_3, x_4) + \min_{x_5} f_d(x_4, x_5) \right) \right) \right)$$

# Min-sum: path graph

$O(n)$

## Dynamic Programming



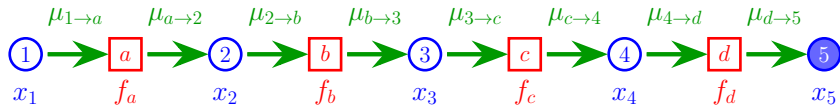
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$$= \min_{x_1} \mu_{a \rightarrow 1}(x_1)$$

# Min-sum: path graph

$O(n)$

# Dynamic Programming



$$\min_{x_5} \min_{x_4} \left( \min_{x_3} \left( \min_{x_2} \left( \min_{x_1} f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3) \right) + f_c(x_3, x_4) \right) + f_d(x_4, x_5) \right)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\mu_{a \rightarrow 2}(x_2)}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\mu_{b \rightarrow 3}(x_3)}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{20em}}_{\mu_{c \rightarrow 4}(x_4)}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{25em}}_{\mu_{d \rightarrow 5}(x_5)}$

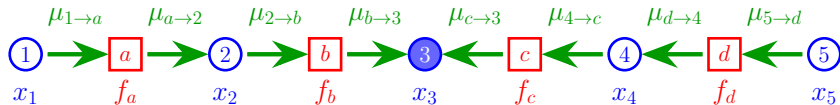
$$= \min_{x_5} \mu_{d \rightarrow 5}(x_5)$$



# Min-sum: path graph

$O(n)$

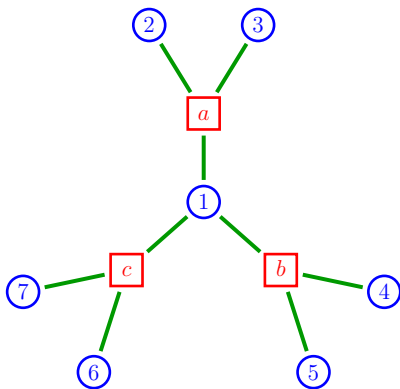
# Dynamic Programming



$$\min_{x_3} \left( \underbrace{\min_{x_2} \left( \underbrace{\min_{x_1} f_a(x_1, x_2) + f_b(x_2, x_3)}_{\mu_{a \rightarrow 2}(x_2)} \right)}_{\mu_{b \rightarrow 3}(x_3)} \right) + \min_{x_4} \left( \underbrace{f_c(x_3, x_4) + \underbrace{\min_{x_5} f_d(x_4, x_5)}_{\mu_{d \rightarrow 4}(x_4)}}_{\mu_{c \rightarrow 3}(x_3)} \right)$$

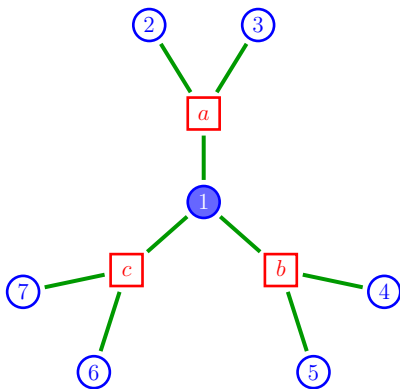
$$= \min_{x_3} \left( \mu_{b \rightarrow 3}(x_3) + \mu_{c \rightarrow 3}(x_3) \right)$$

## Min-sum: trees



$$\min_x \left( f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3) + f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5) + f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right)$$

## Min-sum: trees

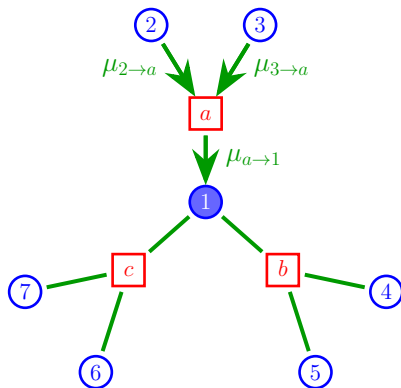


**Dynamic  
Programming**  
 $O(n)$

$$\min_x \left( f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3) + f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5) + f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right)$$

$$= \min_{x_1} \left( \min_{x_2, x_3} f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3) + \min_{x_4, x_5} f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5) + \min_{x_6, x_7} f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right)$$

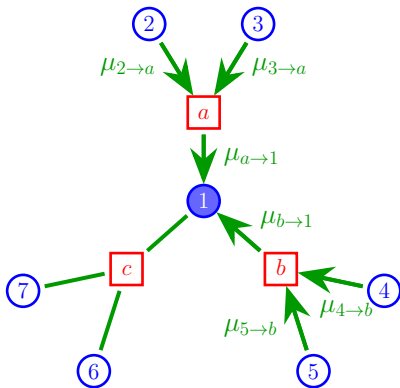
## Min-sum: trees



**Dynamic  
Programming**  
 $O(n)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_x \left( f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3) + f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5) + f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right) \\ &= \min_{x_1} \left( \underbrace{\min_{x_2, x_3} f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3)}_{\mu_{a \rightarrow 1}(x_1)} + \min_{x_4, x_5} f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5) + \min_{x_6, x_7} f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right) \end{aligned}$$

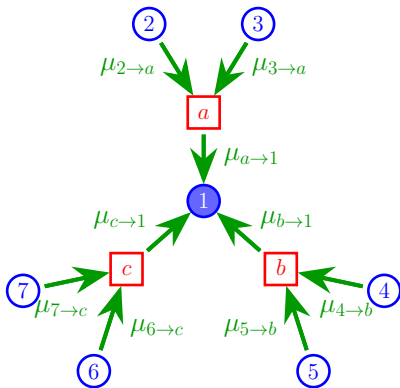
# Min-sum: trees



**Dynamic  
Programming**  
 $O(n)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_x \left( f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3) + f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5) + f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right) \\ &= \min_{x_1} \left( \underbrace{\min_{x_2, x_3} f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3)}_{\mu_{a \rightarrow 1}(x_1)} + \underbrace{\min_{x_4, x_5} f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5)}_{\mu_{b \rightarrow 1}(x_1)} + \min_{x_6, x_7} f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Min-sum: trees



**Dynamic  
Programming**  
 $O(n)$

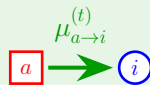
$$\begin{aligned} & \min_x \left( f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3) + f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5) + f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7) \right) \\ &= \min_{x_1} \left( \underbrace{\min_{x_2, x_3} f_a(x_1, x_2, x_3)}_{\mu_{a \rightarrow 1}(x_1)} + \underbrace{\min_{x_4, x_5} f_b(x_1, x_4, x_5)}_{\mu_{b \rightarrow 1}(x_1)} + \underbrace{\min_{x_6, x_7} f_c(x_1, x_6, x_7)}_{\mu_{c \rightarrow 1}(x_1)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



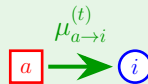
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(x_i) =$$

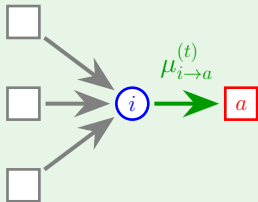
factor  $\rightarrow$  variable





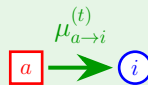
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



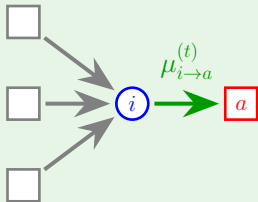
$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(x_i) =$$

factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



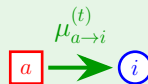
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



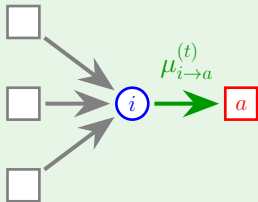
$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(x_i) = \sum_{b \in \partial i \setminus a} \mu_{b \rightarrow i}^{(t-1)}(x_i)$$

factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



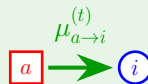
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(x_i) = \sum_{b \in \partial i \setminus a} \mu_{b \rightarrow i}^{(t-1)}(x_i)$$

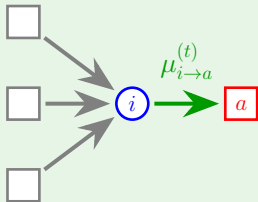
factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



$$\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}(x_i) =$$

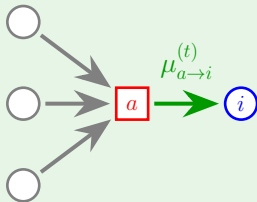
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(x_i) = \sum_{b \in \partial i \setminus a} \mu_{b \rightarrow i}^{(t-1)}(x_i)$$

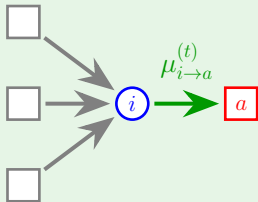
factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



$$\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}(x_i) =$$

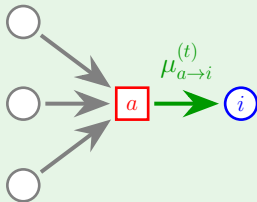
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(x_i) = \sum_{b \in \partial i \setminus a} \mu_{b \rightarrow i}^{(t-1)}(x_i)$$

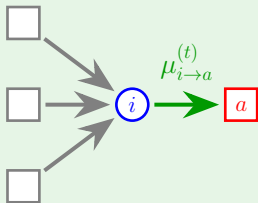
factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



$$\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}(x_i) = \sum_{j \in \partial a \setminus i} \mu_{j \rightarrow a}^{(t-1)}(x_j)$$

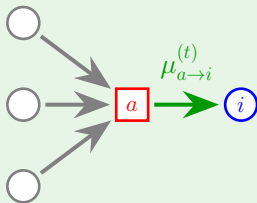
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i) = \sum_{b \in \partial i \setminus a} \mu_{b \rightarrow i}^{(t-1)}(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

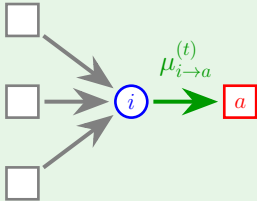
factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



$$\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i) = \sum_{j \in \partial a \setminus i} \mu_{j \rightarrow a}^{(t-1)}(\mathbf{x}_j) + f_a(\mathbf{x}_{\partial a \setminus i}, \mathbf{x}_i)$$

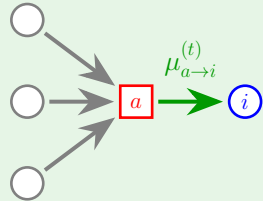
# Messages

variable  $\rightarrow$  factor



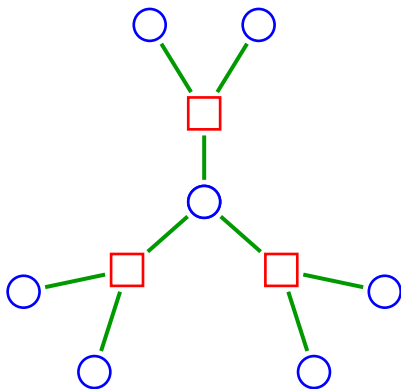
$$\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(t)}(x_i) = \sum_{b \in \partial i \setminus a} \mu_{b \rightarrow i}^{(t-1)}(x_i)$$

factor  $\rightarrow$  variable



$$\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}(x_i) = \min_{x_{\partial a \setminus i}} \left( \sum_{j \in \partial a \setminus i} \mu_{j \rightarrow a}^{(t-1)}(x_j) + f_a(x_{\partial a \setminus i}, x_i) \right)$$

## Min-sum: beyond trees?



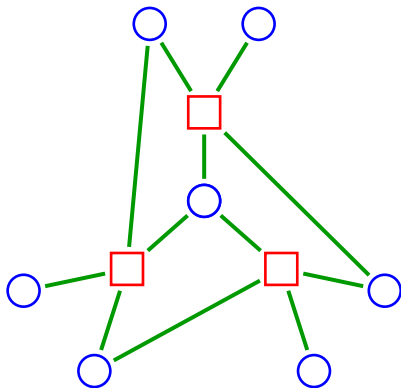
**Optimal solution:**

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$



Min-sum: beyond trees?

?

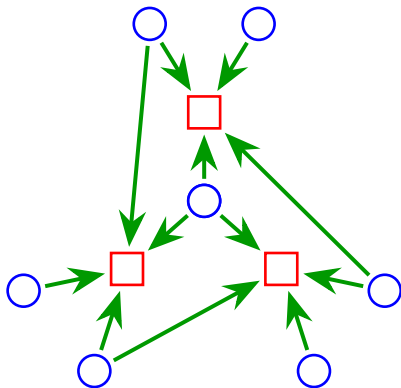


**Optimal solution:**

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

# Min-sum: beyond trees?

time 1:  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(1)} = 0\}$



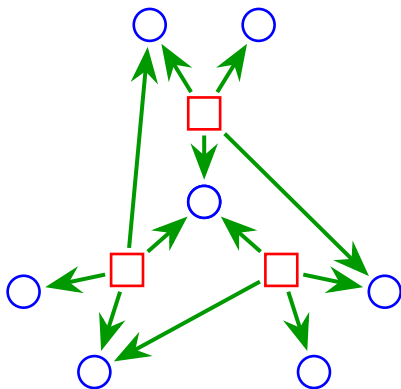
**Optimal solution:**

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

# Min-sum: beyond trees?

**time 1:**  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(1)} = 0\}$

**time 2:**  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(2)}\}$



**Optimal solution:**

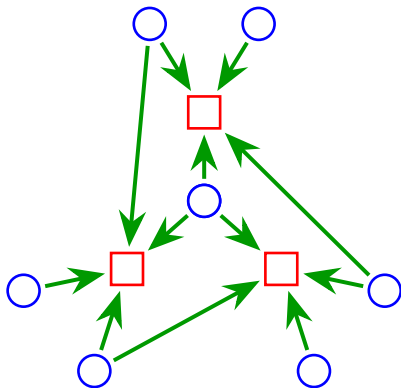
$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

# Min-sum: beyond trees?

**time 1:**  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(1)} = 0\}$

**time 2:**  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(2)}\}$

**time 3:**  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(3)}\}$



**Optimal solution:**

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

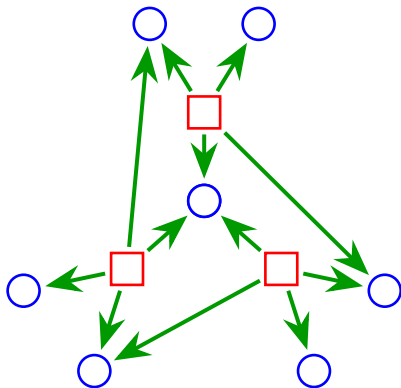
# Min-sum: beyond trees?

**time 1:**  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(1)} = 0\}$

**time 2:**  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(2)}\}$

**time 3:**  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(3)}\}$

**time 4:**  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(4)}\}$



**Optimal solution:**

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

# Min-sum: beyond trees?

time 1:  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(1)} = 0\}$

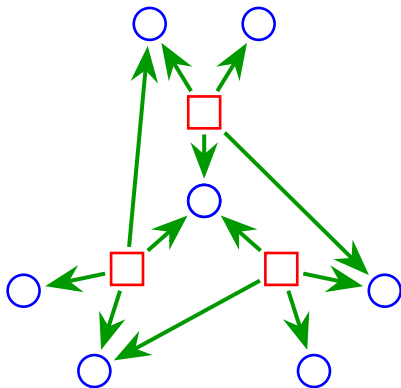
time 2:  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(2)}\}$

time 3:  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(3)}\}$

time 4:  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(4)}\}$

⋮

time t:  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}\}$



**Optimal solution:**

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

# Min-sum: beyond trees?

**time 1:**  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(1)} = 0\}$

**time 2:**  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(2)}\}$

**time 3:**  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(3)}\}$

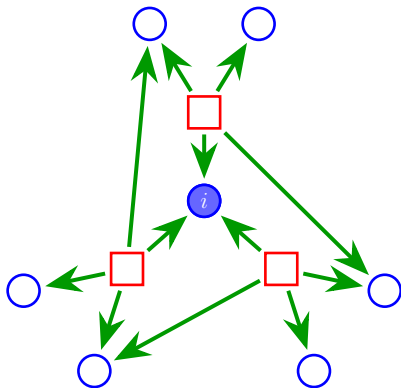
**time 4:**  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(4)}\}$

$\vdots$

**time t:**  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}\}$

**Estimate time t:**

$$\hat{x}_i^{(t)} := \arg \min_{x_i} \sum_{a \in \partial i} \mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}(x_i)$$



**Optimal solution:**

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

# Min-sum: beyond trees?

time 1:  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(1)} = 0\}$

time 2:  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(2)}\}$

time 3:  $\{\mu_{i \rightarrow a}^{(3)}\}$

time 4:  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(4)}\}$

⋮

time t:  $\{\mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}\}$

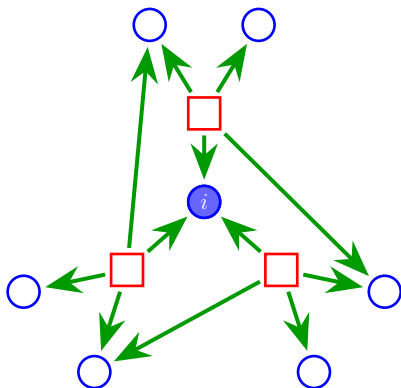
Estimate time t:

$$\hat{x}_i^{(t)} := \arg \min_{x_i} \sum_{a \in \partial i} \mu_{a \rightarrow i}^{(t)}(x_i)$$

?

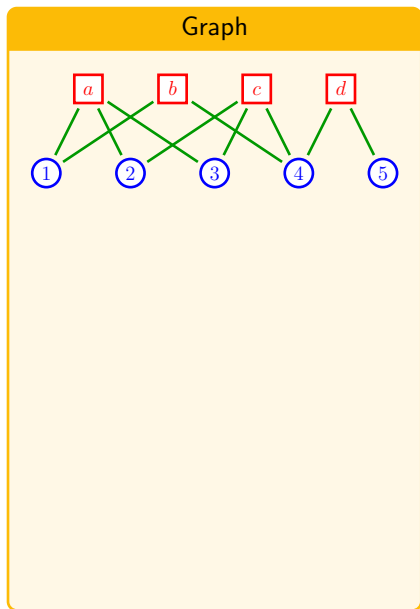
Optimal solution:

$$x^* := \arg \min_x \sum_{a \in \text{factors}} f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

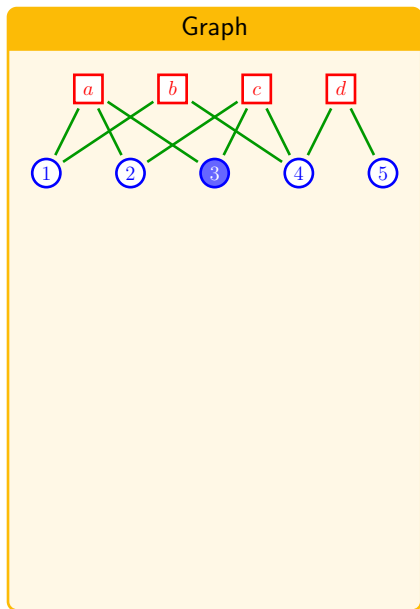




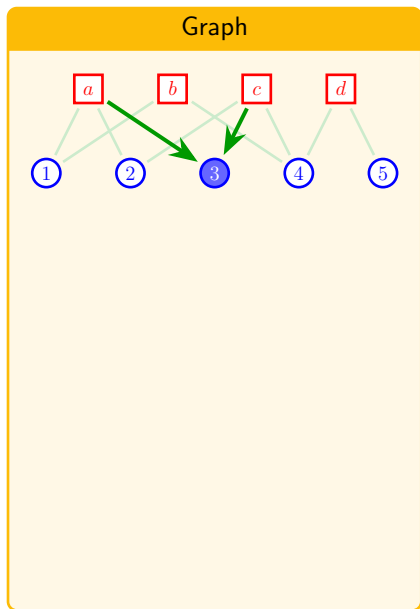
# Computation tree



# Computation tree

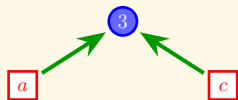


# Computation tree

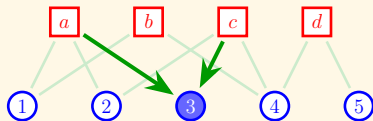


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

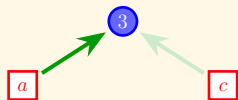


Graph

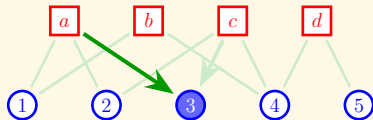


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

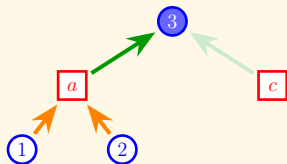


Graph

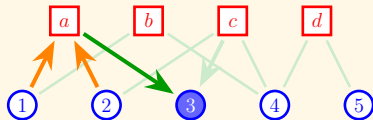


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

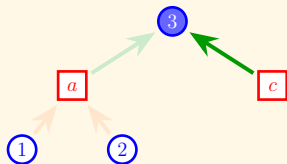


Graph

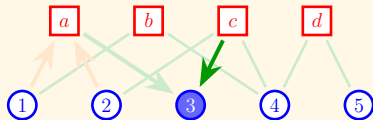


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

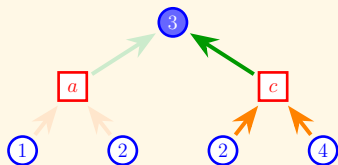


Graph

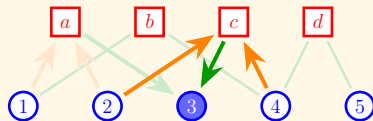


# Computation tree

Computation Tree



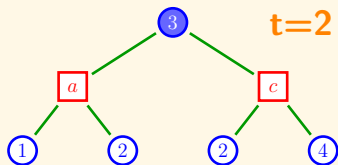
Graph



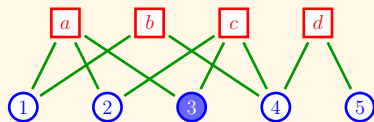


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

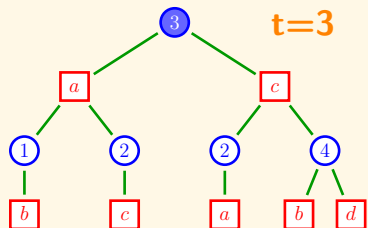


Graph

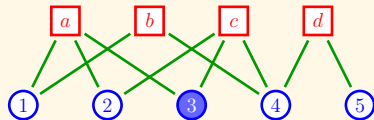


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

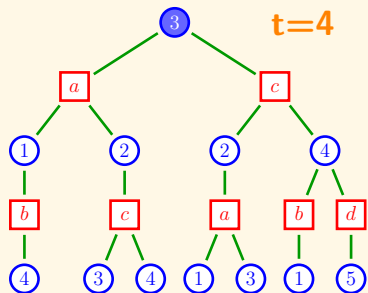


Graph

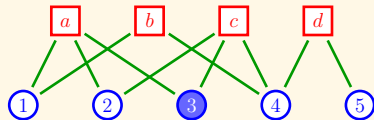


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

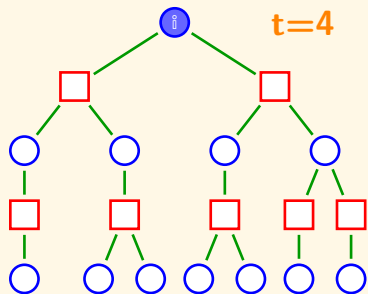


Graph

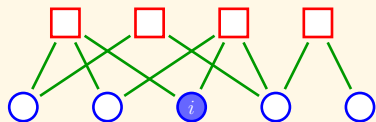


# Computation tree

Computation Tree

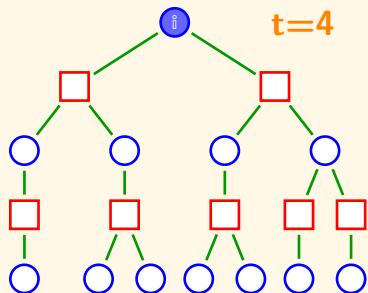


Graph

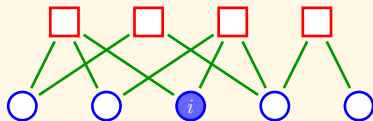


# Computation tree

Computation Tree



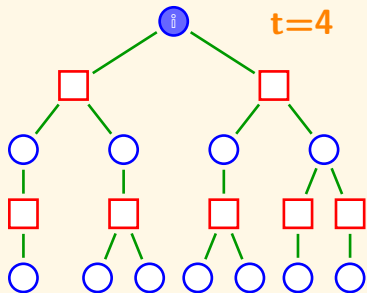
Graph



$$\overbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors graph}} f_a(x \partial a)}^{f(x)}$$

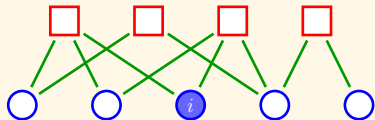
# Computation tree

Computation Tree



$$\underbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors tree}} f_a(x \partial_a)}_{f(x)}$$

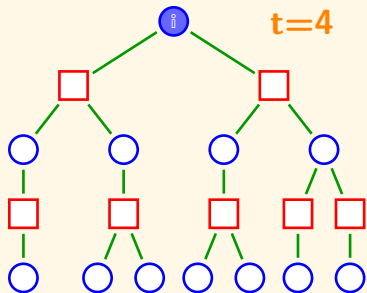
Graph



$$\underbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors graph}} f_a(x \partial_a)}_{f(x)}$$

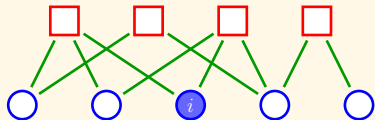
# Computation tree

Computation Tree



$$x^* := \arg \min_x \overbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors tree}} f_a(x \partial a)}^{f(x)}$$

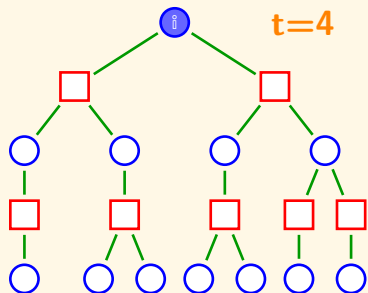
Graph



$$x^* := \arg \min_x \overbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors graph}} f_a(x \partial a)}^{f(x)}$$

# Computation tree

Computation Tree

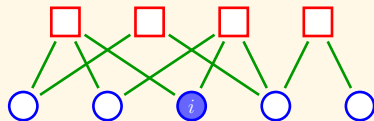


$$x^* := \arg \min_x \overbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors tree}} f_a(x \partial a)}^{f(x)}$$

**Lemma:**

$$\hat{x}_i^{(t)} = x_i^*$$

Graph

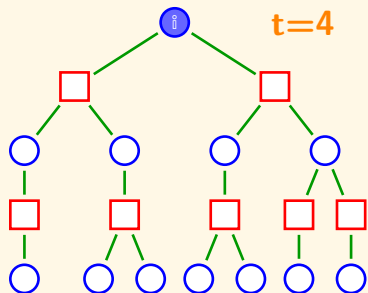


$$x^* := \arg \min_x \overbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors graph}} f_a(x \partial a)}^{f(x)}$$



# Computation tree

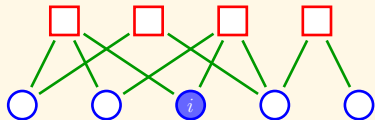
Computation Tree



$$x^* := \arg \min_x \overbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors tree}} f_a(x \partial a)}^{f(x)}$$

**Lemma:**  $\hat{x}_i^{(t)} = x_i^*$

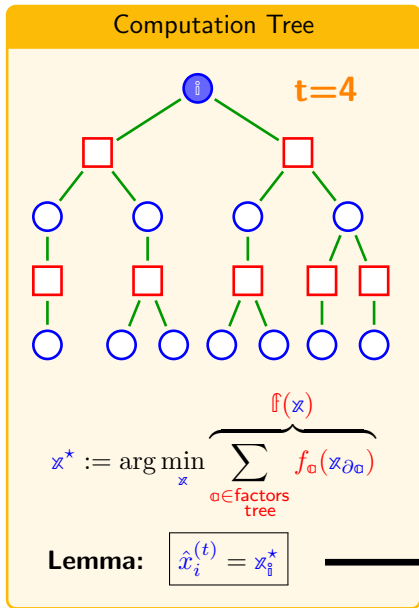
Graph



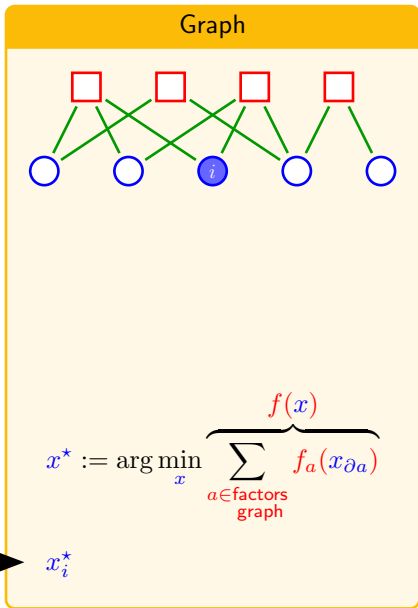
$$x^* := \arg \min_x \overbrace{\sum_{a \in \text{factors graph}} f_a(x \partial a)}^{f(x)}$$

$$x_i^*$$

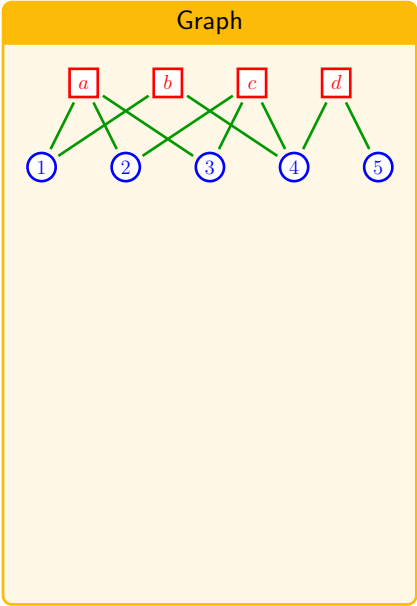
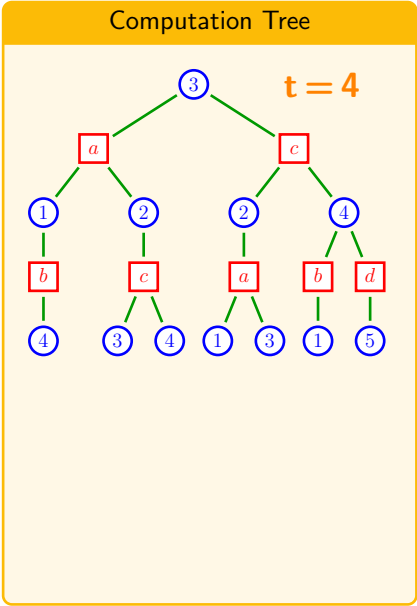
# Computation tree



?

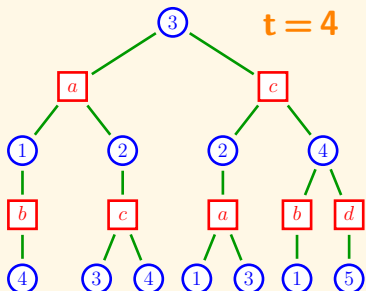


# Correctness

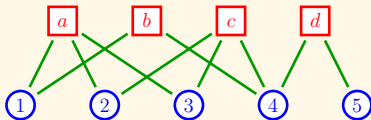


# Correctness

## Computation Tree



## Graph

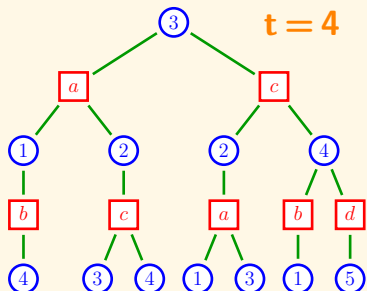


**Optimality condition:**

$$\sum_{a \in \partial_j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_a(x^*) = 0 \quad \forall j$$

# Correctness

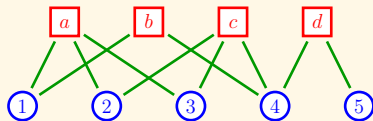
## Computation Tree



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## Graph

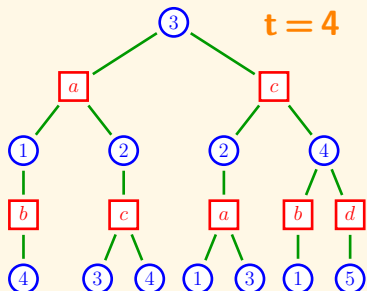


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# Correctness

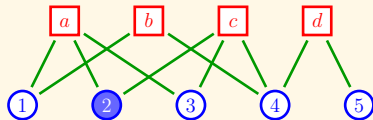
## Computation Tree



**Optimality condition:**

$$\overbrace{\sum_{a \in \partial_j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_a(x^*)}^{\frac{d}{dx_j} f(x)} = 0 \quad \forall j$$

## Graph



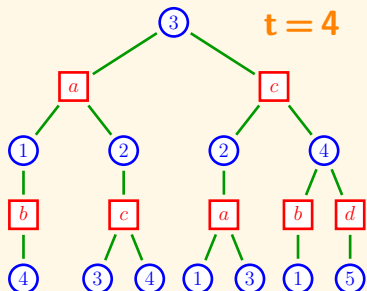
$$\frac{df_a(x_1^*, x_2^*, x_3^*)}{dx_2} + \frac{df_c(x_2^*, x_3^*, x_4^*)}{dx_2} = 0 \quad j = 2$$

**Optimality condition:**

$$\overbrace{\sum_{a \in \partial_j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_a(x^*)}^{\frac{d}{dx_j} f(x)} = 0 \quad \forall j$$

# Correctness

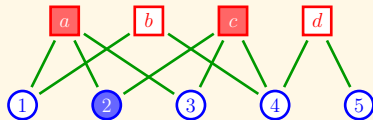
## Computation Tree



**Optimality condition:**

$$\overbrace{\sum_{\alpha \in \partial_j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_{\alpha}(x^*_{\partial \alpha})}^{\frac{d}{dx_j} f(x)} = 0 \quad \forall j$$

## Graph



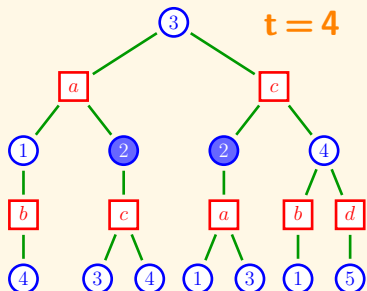
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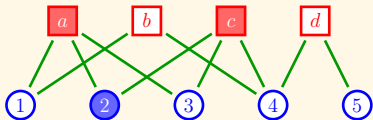
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## Graph



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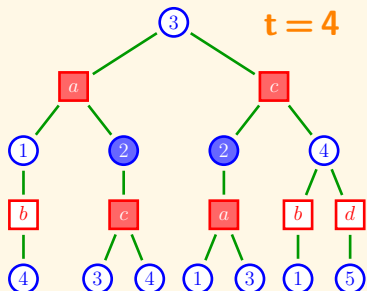
**Optimality condition:**

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# Correctness

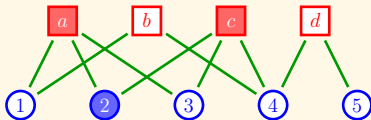
## Computation Tree



**Optimality condition:**

$$\underbrace{\frac{d}{dx_j} f(x)}_{\sum_{a \in \partial_j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_a(x^*_{\partial a})} = 0 \quad \forall j$$

## Graph



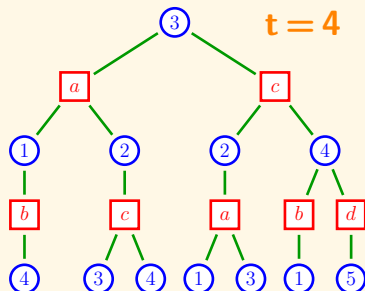
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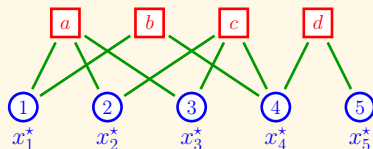
$$\underbrace{\frac{d}{dx_j} f(x)}_{\sum_{a \in \partial_j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_a(x^*_{\partial a})} = 0 \quad \forall j$$

# Correctness

## Computation Tree



## Graph



**Optimality condition:**

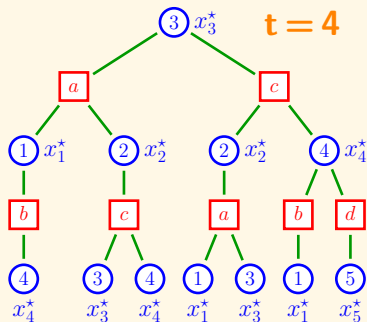
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# Correctness

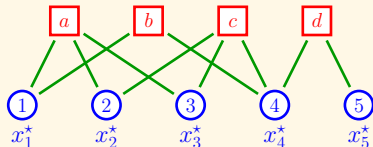
## Computation Tree



**Optimality condition:**

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## Graph



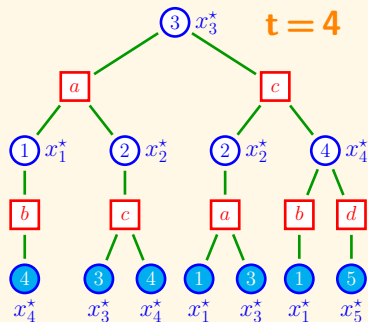
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# Correctness

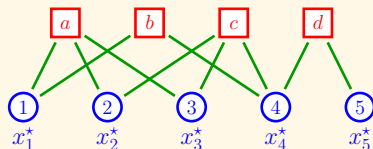
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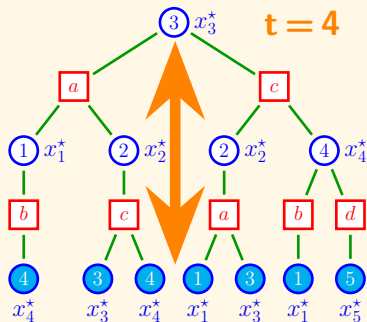
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# Correctness

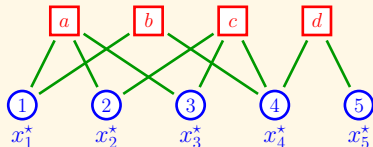
## Computation Tree



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## Graph



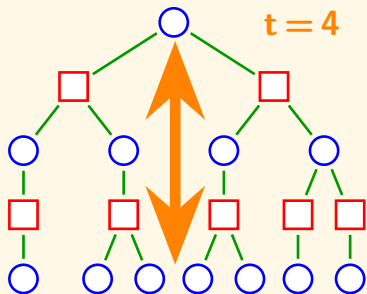
**Optimality condition:**

$$\underbrace{\sum_{a \in \partial j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_a(x^*)}_{\frac{d}{dx_j} f(x)} = 0 \quad \forall j$$



# Convergence

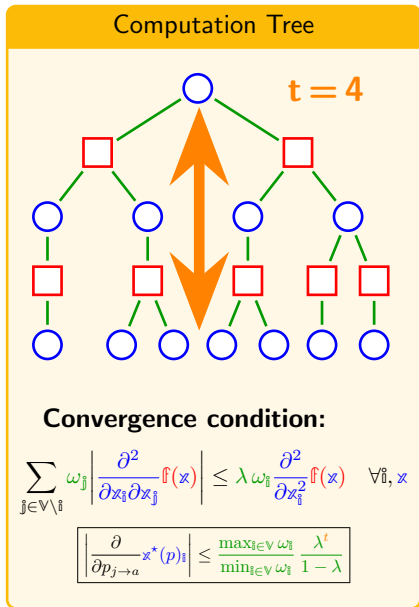
## Computation Tree



**Convergence condition:**

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V} \setminus i} \omega_j \left| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} f(x) \right| \leq \lambda \omega_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} f(x) \quad \forall i, x$$

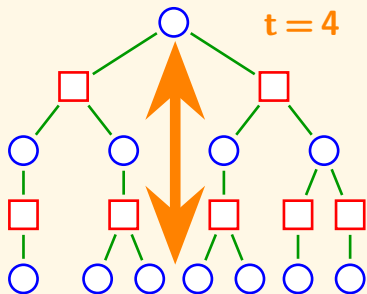
# Convergence



**(Algorithmic)  
Locality**

# Convergence

Computation Tree

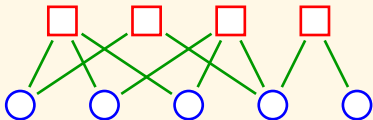


**Convergence condition:**

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$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{j \rightarrow a}} x^*(p)_i \right| \leq \frac{\max_{i \in V} \omega_i}{\min_{i \in V} \omega_i} \frac{\lambda^t}{1 - \lambda}$$

Graph



**Convergence condition:**

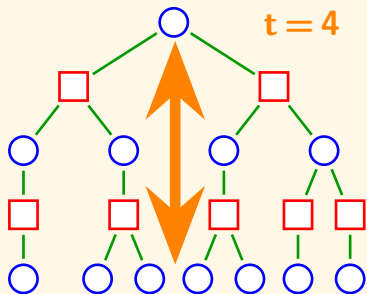
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**$(\lambda, \omega)$ -scaled  
diagonal dominance**



# Convergence

Computation Tree

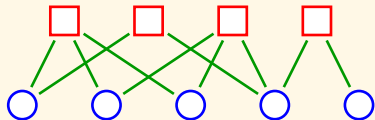


**Convergence condition:**

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Graph



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**$(\lambda, \omega)$ -scaled  
diagonal dominance**

## Scaled diagonal dominance or walk summability

Computation Tree

$$\sum_{j \in V \setminus i} \omega_j \left| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} f(x) \right| \leq \lambda \omega_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} f(x) \quad \forall i, x$$

Graph

$$\sum_{j \in V \setminus i} \omega_j \left| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} f(x) \right| \leq \lambda \omega_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} f(x) \quad \forall i, x$$



# Scaled diagonal dominance or walk summability

## Computation Tree

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## Graph

$$\sum_{j \in V \setminus i} \omega_j \left| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} f(x) \right| \leq \lambda \omega_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} f(x) \quad \forall i, x$$



$$\rho(|R(x)|) < 1$$

$$\text{with } R(x) := I - D^{-1/2} \nabla^2 f(x) D^{-1/2}$$

# Scaled diagonal dominance or walk summability

## Computation Tree

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V} \setminus i} \omega_j \left| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} f(x) \right| \leq \lambda \omega_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} f(x) \quad \forall i, x$$



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## Graph

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# Scaled diagonal dominance or walk summability

**Computation Tree**

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with  $R(x) := I - D^{-1/2} \nabla^2 f(x) D^{-1/2}$

**Graph**

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(Weiss, Freeman, 2001) (Malioutov, Johnson, Willsky, 2006) (Moallemi, Van Roy, 2010)


# Scaled diagonal dominance or walk summability

**Computation Tree**

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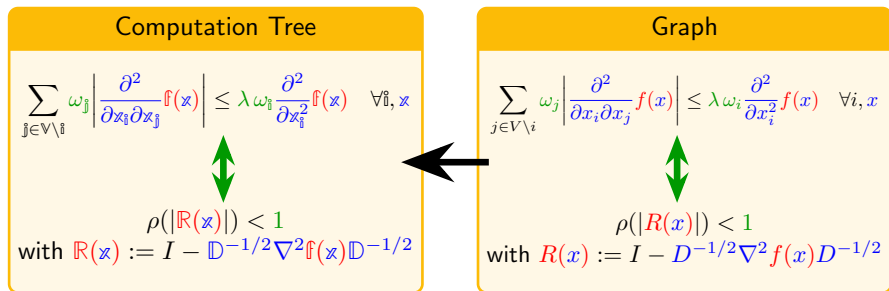
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(Weiss, Freeman, 2001) (Malioutov, Johnson, Willsky, 2006) (Moallemi, Van Roy, 2010)

**Limitations:**

# Scaled diagonal dominance or walk summability

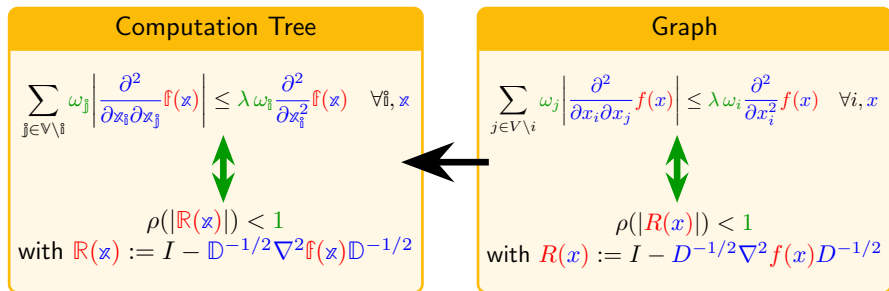


(Weiss, Freeman, 2001) (Malioutov, Johnson, Willsky, 2006) (Moallemi, Van Roy, 2010)

## Limitations:

- Inheritance does not capture convergence behavior on the **tree**.

# Scaled diagonal dominance or walk summability



(Weiss, Freeman, 2001) (Malioutov, Johnson, Willsky, 2006) (Moallemi, Van Roy, 2010)

## Limitations:

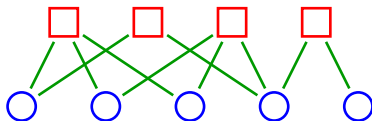
- ▶ Inheritance does not capture convergence behavior on the **tree**.
- ▶ Condition can **not** be applied to **constrained problems**:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a}) \\ & \text{subject to} && Ax = b \end{aligned}$$



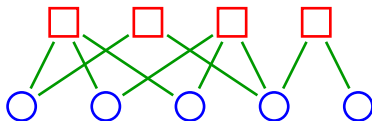
# Constrained problems

$$\text{minimize } \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a})$$



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$$\text{minimize } \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

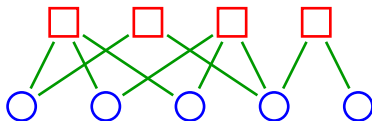


$$\text{minimize } \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

$$\text{subject to } h_b(x_{\partial b}) = 0, \quad \forall b$$

# Constrained problems

$$\text{minimize } \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a})$$

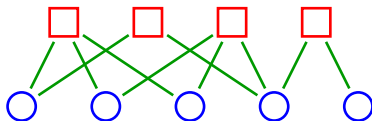


$$\text{minimize } \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a}) + \sum_b \chi(h_b(x_{\partial b}))$$

$$\chi(z) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } z = 0 \\ \infty & \text{if } z \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

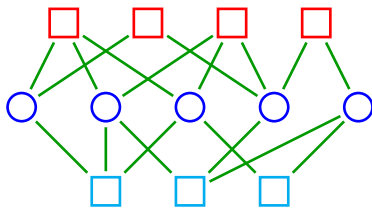
# Constrained problems

$$\text{minimize } \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a})$$



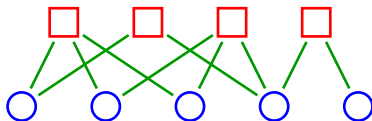
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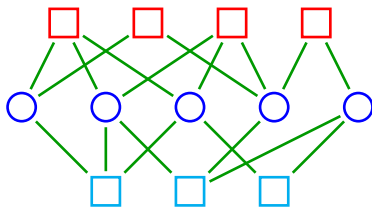
# Constrained problems

$$\text{minimize } \sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a})$$



$$\text{minimize } \overbrace{\sum_a f_a(x_{\partial a}) + \sum_b \chi(h_b(x_{\partial b}))}^{g(x)}$$

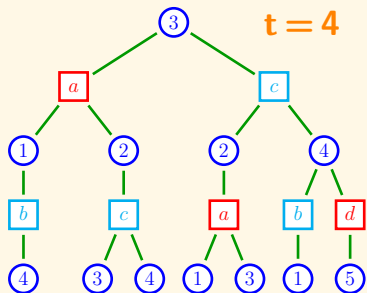
$$\chi(z) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } z = 0 \\ \infty & \text{if } z \neq 0 \end{cases}$$



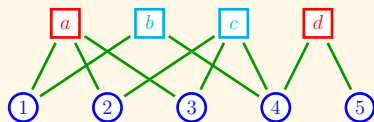
**We can run Message Passing. Need different analysis!**

# Correctness (with constraints!)

Computation Tree

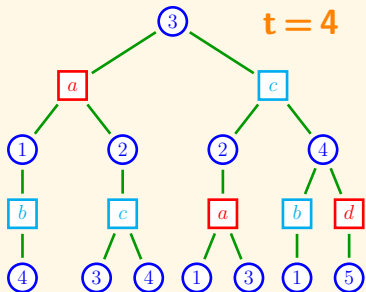


Graph

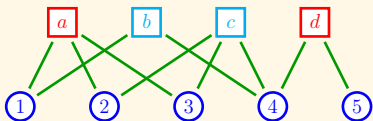


# Correctness (with constraints!)

Computation Tree



Graph



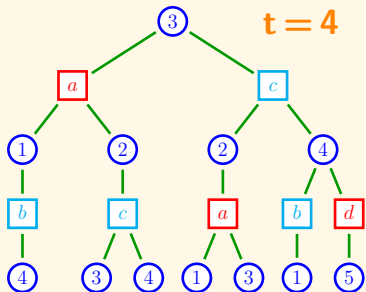
**KKT optimality conditions:**

$$\sum_{a \in \partial_j} \frac{d}{dx_j} f_a(x_{\partial a}^*) + \sum_{b \in \partial_j} \nu_b^* \frac{d}{dx_j} h_b(x_{\partial b}^*) = 0 \quad \forall j$$

$$h_b(x_{\partial b}^*) = 0 \quad \forall b$$

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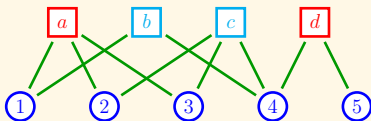


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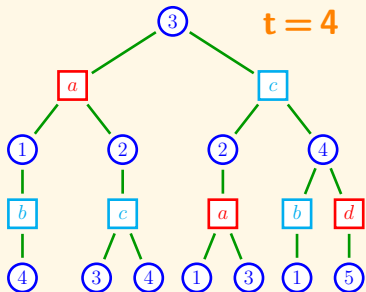
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# Correctness (with constraints!)

Computation Tree

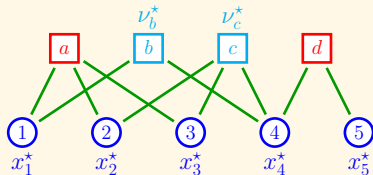


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# Correctness (with constraints!)

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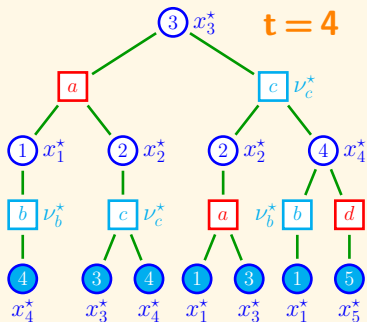
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# Correctness (with constraints!)

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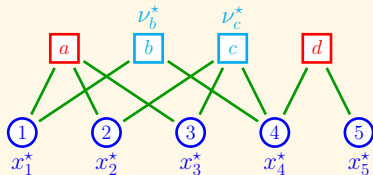


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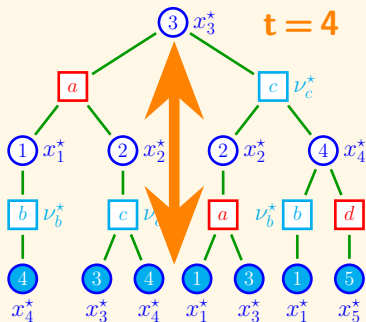
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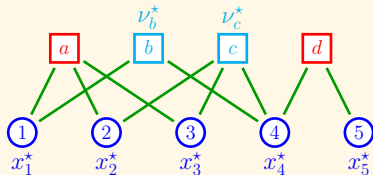


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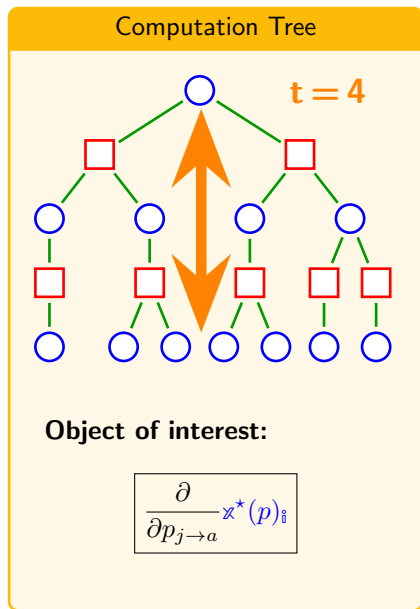
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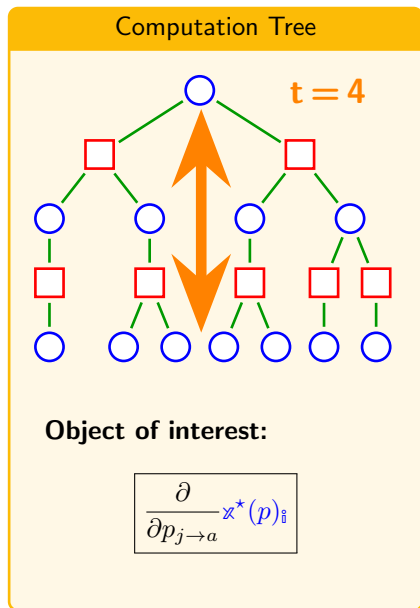
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# Convergence (with constraints!)



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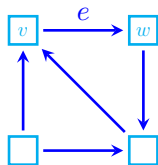


**Beyond  
scale-diagonal  
dominance?**

Application

Network Flows & Laplacian  
Solvers

# Network Flows



Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$

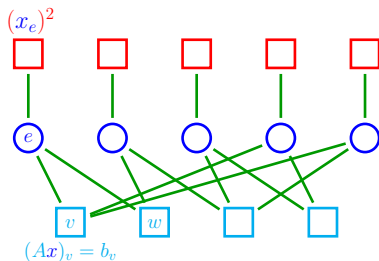
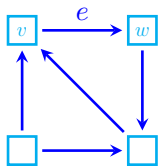
$$\text{minimize} \quad \sum_{e \in E} \overbrace{f_e(x_e)}^{(x_e)^2}$$

$$\text{subject to} \quad Ax = b$$

$$A_{ve} := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } e \text{ leaves } v, \\ -1 & \text{if } e \text{ enters } v, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



# Network Flows



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# Connection to Laplacian solvers

- ▶ **Dual problem:**  $\min_{\nu \in \mathbb{R}^V} \frac{\nu^T L \nu}{2} - \nu^T b$ . **Laplacian:**  $\nu^T L \nu = \sum_{\{v,w\} \in E} (\nu_v - \nu_w)^2$
- ▶ Solving  $L\nu^* = b$  is key for:
  - PDEs via Finite Element Method
  - Interior Point Methods for Optimization
  - Learning on graphs
  - Faster flow algorithms
  - Graph partitioning
  - Sampling random spanning trees
  - Graph sparsification
- ▶ State-of-the-art algorithms (Spielman-Teng, 2004 — Gödel price 2015):
  - **quasi-linear**  $O(|E| \log^c(|V|) \log \frac{1}{\epsilon})$ ;
  - **centralized**;
  - **involved** (randomized, many graph-theoretic constructions).

**Q:** What about message-passing?

# Message Passing

---

**Algorithm 5:** Min-sum, flow problem, quadratic messages, no leaves

---

**Input:** Initial messages  $\{R_{e \rightarrow v}^0\}, \{r_{e \rightarrow v}^0\}, e \in \vec{E}, v \in \partial e;$

**for**  $s \in \{1, \dots, t\}$  **do**

    Compute, for each  $e \in \vec{E}, v \in \partial e$ , with  $w = \partial e \setminus v$

$$R_{e \rightarrow v}^s = R_{ee} + \frac{1}{\sum_{f \in \partial w \setminus e} 1/R_f^{s-1}}, \quad r_{e \rightarrow v}^s = -A_{we} \frac{\sum_{f \in \partial w \setminus e} A_{wf} r_{f \rightarrow w}^{s-1} / R_{f \rightarrow w}^{s-1} + b_w}{\sum_{f \in \partial w \setminus e} 1/R_f^{s-1}};$$

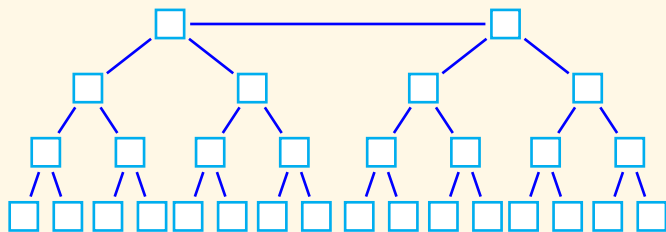
**Output:**  $\hat{x}_e^t = -\frac{r_{e \rightarrow v}^t + r_{e \rightarrow w}^t}{R_{e \rightarrow v}^t + R_{e \rightarrow w}^t - R_{ee}},$  for  $e = (v, w) \in \vec{E}.$

---

**Distributed, Simple**

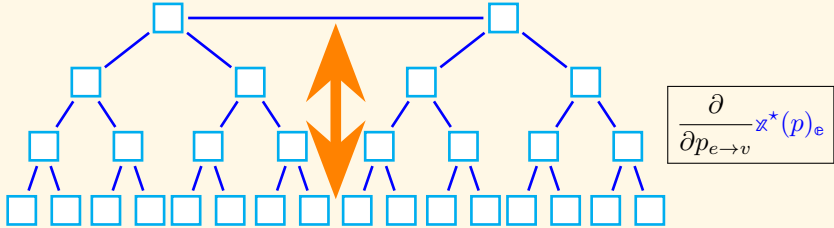
# Results

Computation Tree for any  $d$ -regular graph



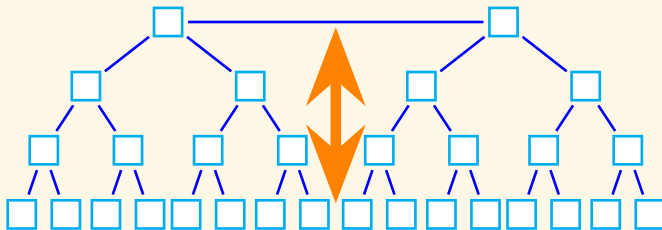
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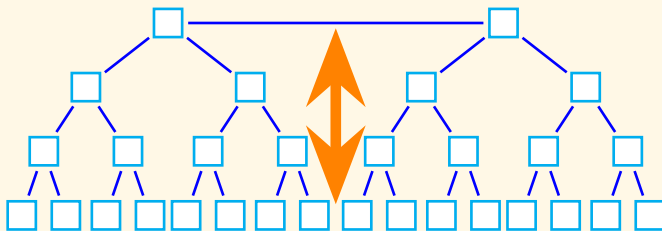


Theorem (Rebeschini, Tatikonda 2016)

$$x_{(v,w)}^* - \hat{x}_{(v,w)}^{(t)} = \sum_{z \in V} (P_{vz}^{(t)} - P_{wz}^{(t)}) \nu_z^*$$

# Results

## Computation Tree for any $d$ -regular graph



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial p_{e \rightarrow v}} x^*(p)_e$$

## Theorem (Rebeschini, Tatikonda 2016)

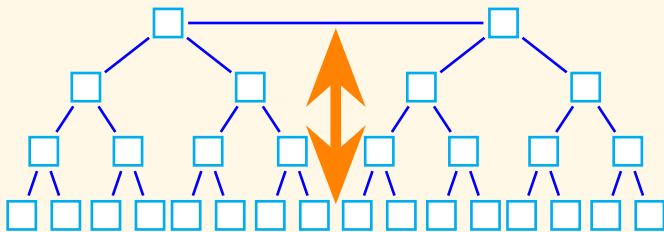
$$x_{(v,w)}^* - \hat{x}_{(v,w)}^{(t)} = \sum_{z \in V} (P_{vz}^{(t)} - P_{wz}^{(t)}) \nu_z^*$$

## Corollary

$$\|x^* - \hat{x}^{(t)}\|_{\infty} \leq \|\nu^*\|_{\infty} \sum_{z \in V} |P_{vz}^{(t)} - P_{wz}^{(t)}|$$

# Results

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### Theorem (Rebeschini, Tatikonda 2016)

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### Corollary

$$\|x^* - \hat{x}^{(t)}\|_{\infty} \leq \|\nu^*\|_{\infty} \sum_{z \in V} |P_{vz}^{(t)} - P_{wz}^{(t)}|$$

For some graphs  
(rings, grids, etc)

$$\max_{\{v,w\} \in E} \sum_{z \in V} |P_{vz}^{(t)} - P_{wz}^{(t)}| \sim \frac{1}{t^{\gamma}}$$

Hence,  $O\left(|E| \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{1/\gamma}}\right)$



## MAIN MESSAGE:

**General toolbox** for message passing in convex optimization.

- ▶ **General framework** for message-passing with constraints.
- ▶ **Simple, distributed, fast** algorithm for Laplacian and Network Flows algorithms.

A new approach to Laplacian solvers and flow problems, **arXiv:1611.07138**