

## Constructing Graph Spanners

The girth of a graph (shortest cycle) is critical for bounding the "stretch" of a spanner.

In particular 
$$\frac{\delta_{G_s}(x,y)}{\delta_G(x,y)} \geq g-1$$

where  $g$  is the girth

A complete bipartite graph has girth  $g=4$   
 $\Rightarrow$  any spanner has stretch  $\geq 3$

Observe that -the denser the graph  
 -the smaller is the girth

There are provable trade offs between  
 # edges and girth of a graph  
 a  $n$ -vertex

If a graph  $\geq m$  edges then girth

$$\leq f(m, n)$$

for some function of  $m$

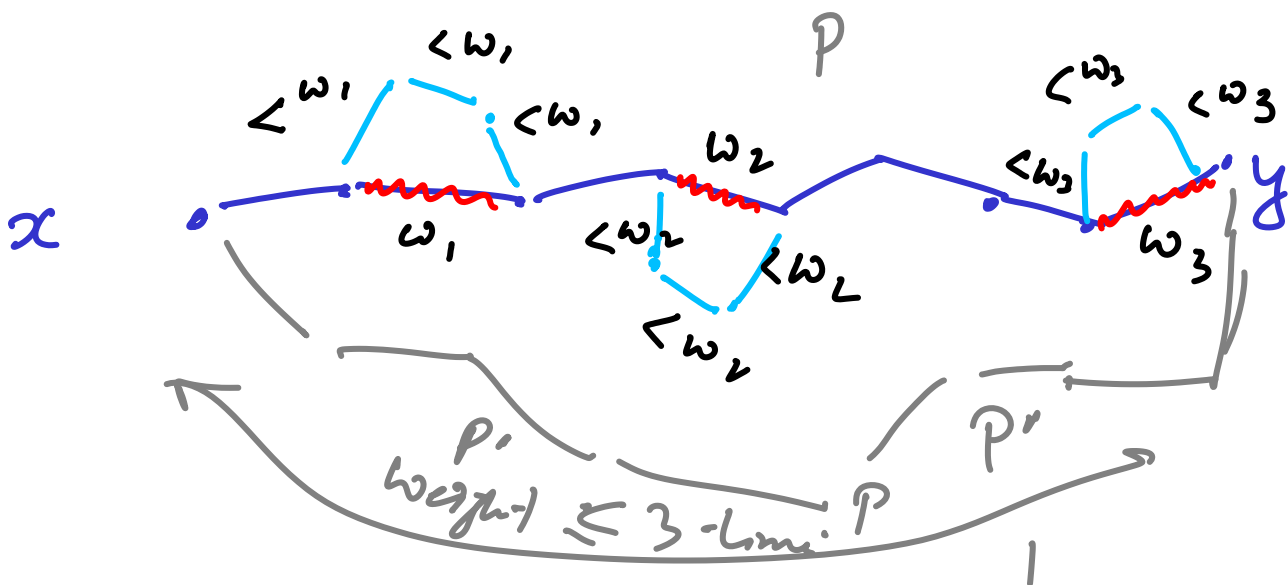
There are graphs with  $m = kn^{1+\frac{1}{k}}$  edges that have girth  $\leq 2k$  for any integer  $k$

Eg.  $k=2$   $n^{1+\frac{1}{2}}$  :  $n^{3/2}$  has a cycle  $\leq 4$  stretch 3

$k=3$   $n^{4/3}$  edges girth : 6 stretch 5

$\vdots$   $k = \log n$   $m = \log n \cdot n \cdot n = n \log n$  girth  $\sim 2 \log n$  stretch  $\sim \log n$

stretch : girth - 1



Phase 1 : ① Choose  $\sqrt{n}$  vertices

$G = (V, E)$   
 $G_S = (V, E_S)$

randomly, say  $R \subset V$   
"Choose every vertex independ. with prob  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ "

For  $v \in V - R$ , we find the nearest sampled neighbour

$n_v$  in  $R$  and form clusters based on  $n_v$

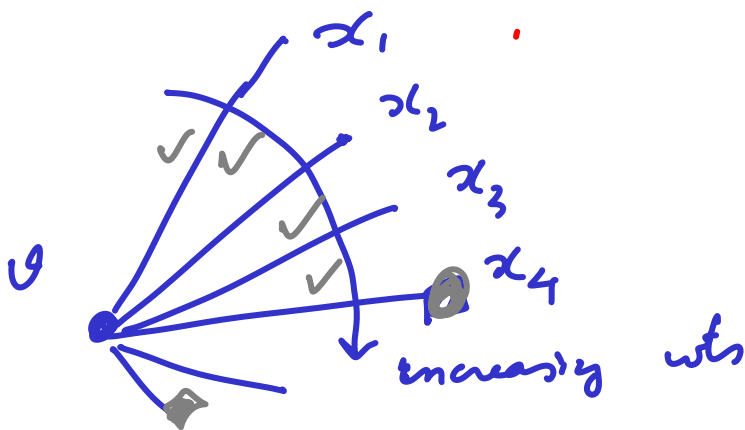
$n_v$  is undefined if none of the neighbours  $N(v)$  are sampled

So there are  $\sqrt{n}$  clusters - one for each of the sampled vertices

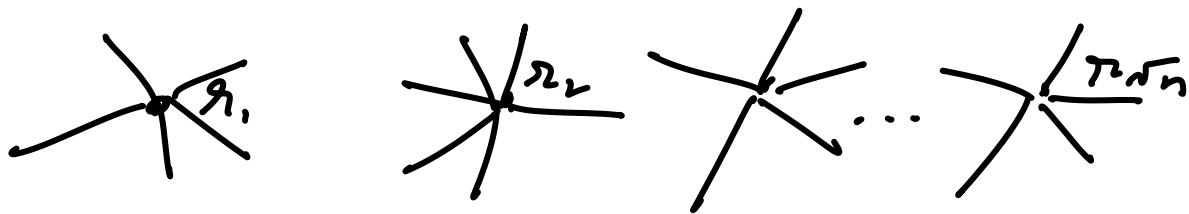
② For every vertex  $v \in V - R$ , choose all edges  $(v, x)$  to include in  $E_S$  s.t.  $w(v, x) \leq w(v, n_v)$

nearest sampled vertex

If no neighbour of  $v$  is sampled, add all edges out of  $v$

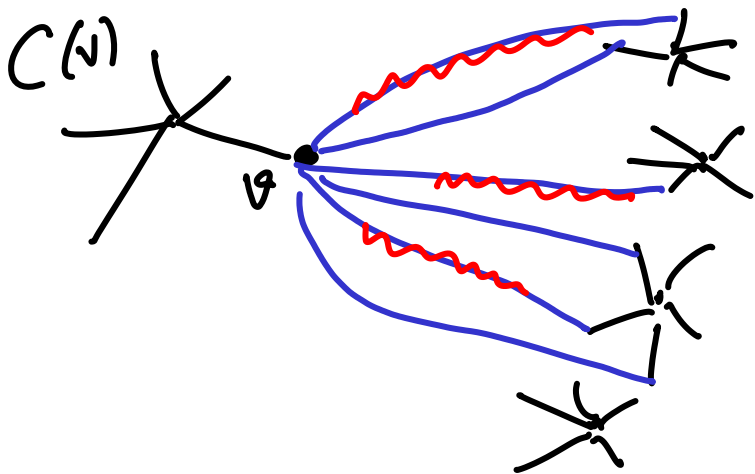


## Phase 2



$\sqrt{n}$  clusters

For any vertex  $v$ , consider the "inter-cluster" edges



$C(v)$  is the cluster of  $v$

Among the inter-cluster edges, choose the least weighted for every cluster and add to  $E_S$

Total # of edges added to  $E_S$  in phase 2 :  $n \times \sqrt{n}$  (# clusters)

Expected # edges added to  $E_S$  in phase 1

Total :  $n \cdot \sqrt{n}$  per vertex using linearity of Exp.

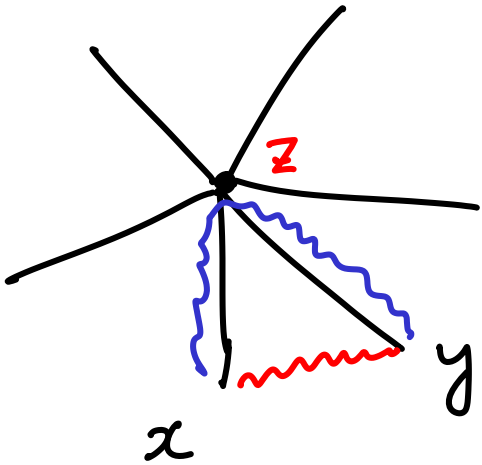
Sketch of the graph  $G_s = (V, E_s)$

Consider an edge  $(x, y) \in E - E_s$

Case 1

$x, y$  belong to the same cluster

$$C(y) = C(x)$$

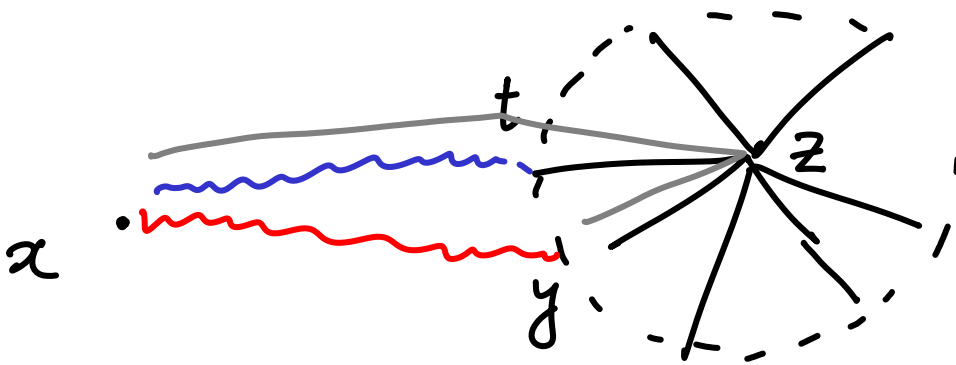


$$n_x = n_y = z$$

$$w(x, z)$$

Case 2

$$C(x) \neq C(y)$$



$$w(x, t)$$

$$\leq w(x, y)$$

$$w(z, t) \leq w(x, t)$$

$$\leq w(x, y)$$

$$w(y, z)$$

$$\leq w(x, y)$$

What is the running-time of  
Phases I and II?