

Point location
using the Planar
Separator Theorem

John Iacono

- Oldest method with $O(\log n)$ search cost

Separator: SICOMP 1979 Lipton / Tarjan

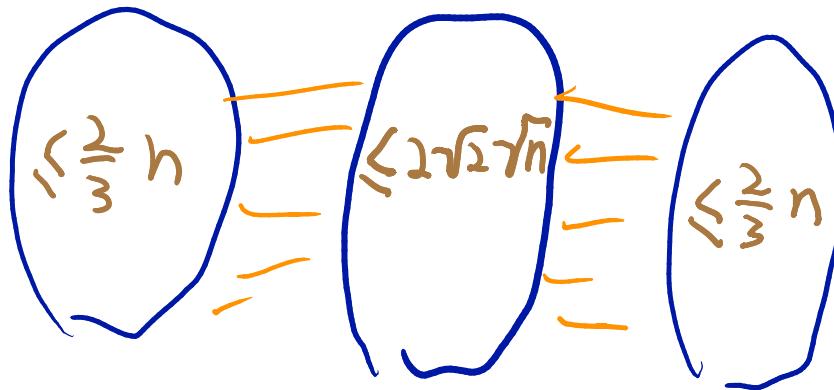
Using for point location: 1977 Lipton / Tarjan

Planar Separator Theorem

Every planar graph has a separator of size

$$2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{n}$$

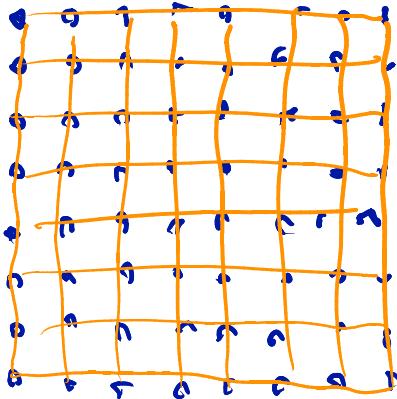
which splits the graph into 2 parts of size $\leq \frac{2}{3}n$



The separator
can be computed
in $O(n)$ time.

Planar Separator Theorem

Lower bound of \sqrt{n}



Planar Separators for Graphs of

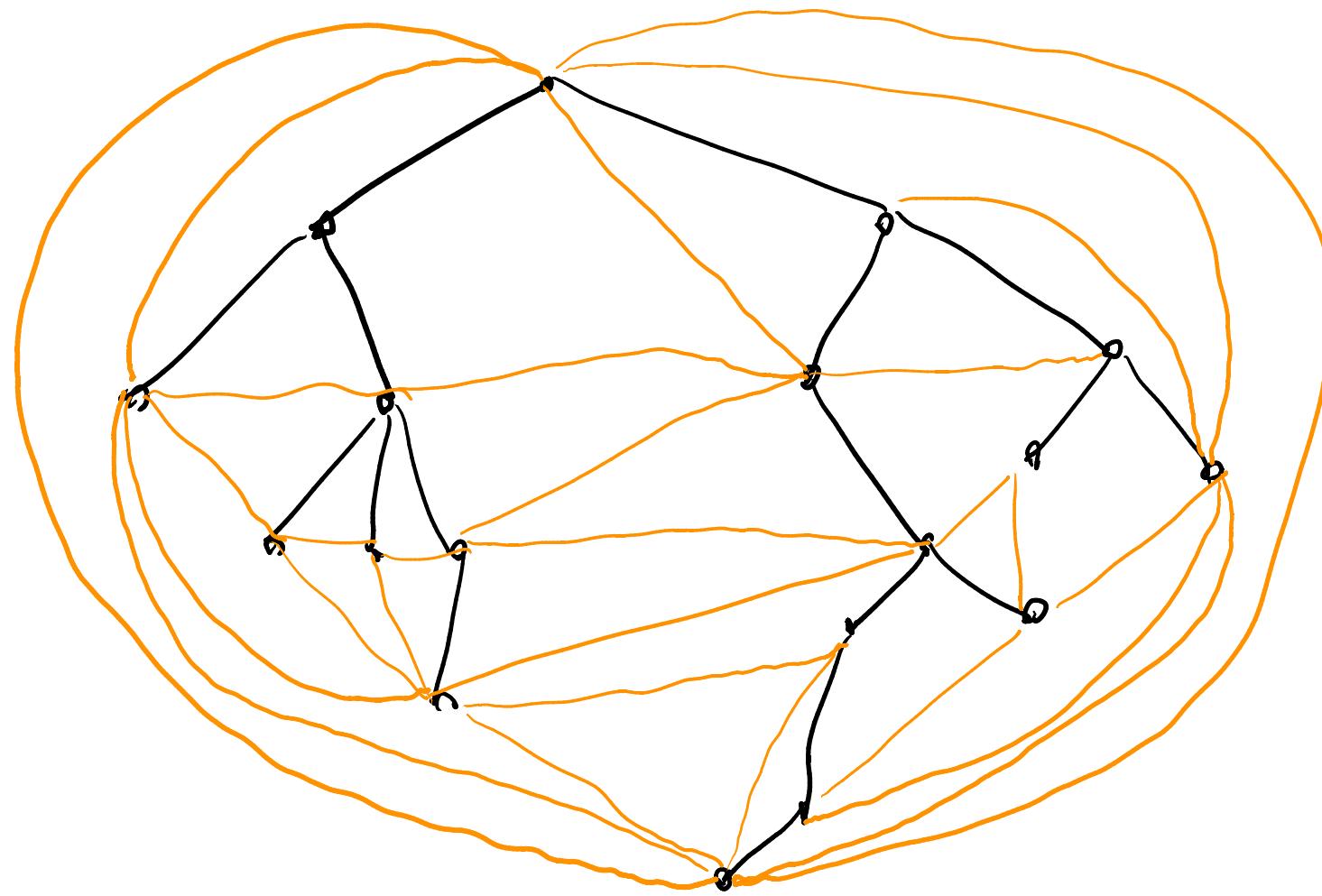
Bounded Radius

If G has a spanning tree of height r and vertex weights summing to n , there is a separator of size $2r+1$ such that the two sets have weight $\leq \frac{2}{3}n$

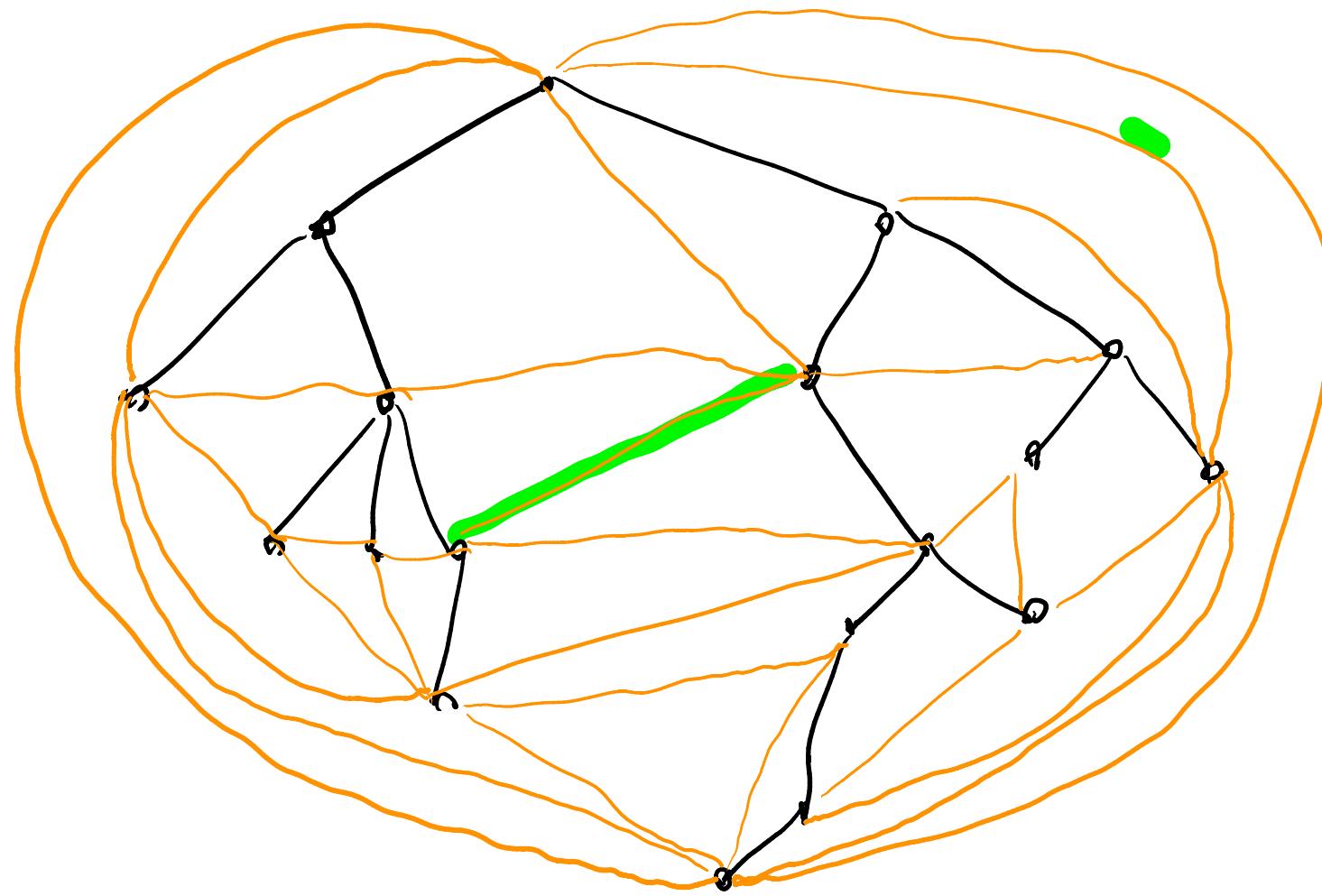
Proof: No vertex has weight $\geq \frac{1}{3}n$ (else it is a separator)

Triangulate. Each non-tree edge defines a cycle using the tree. Pick the best such edge. By several cases of an exchange argument, it must be a separator.

Planar Separators for Graphs of Bounded Radius

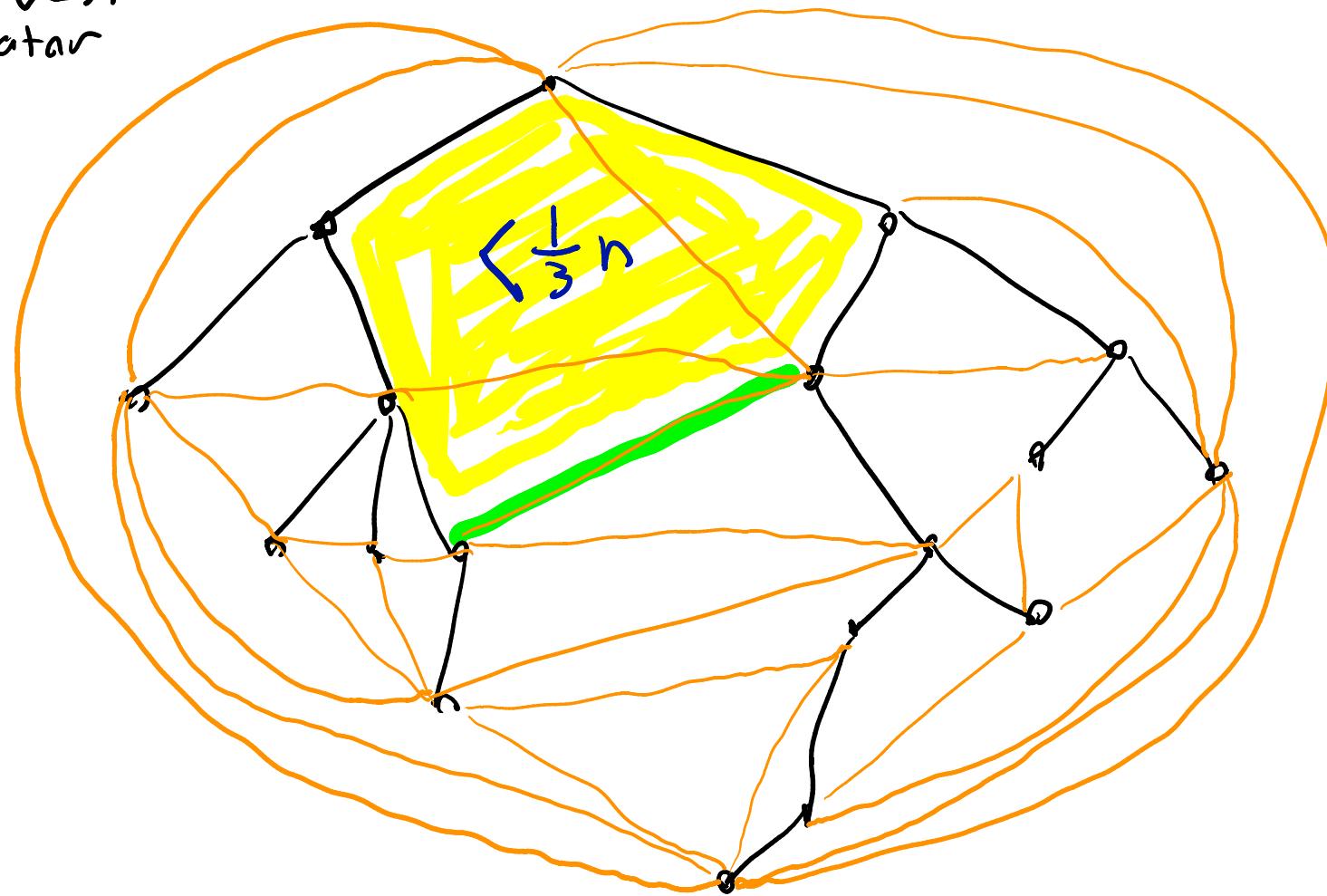


Planar Separators for Graphs of Bounded Radius



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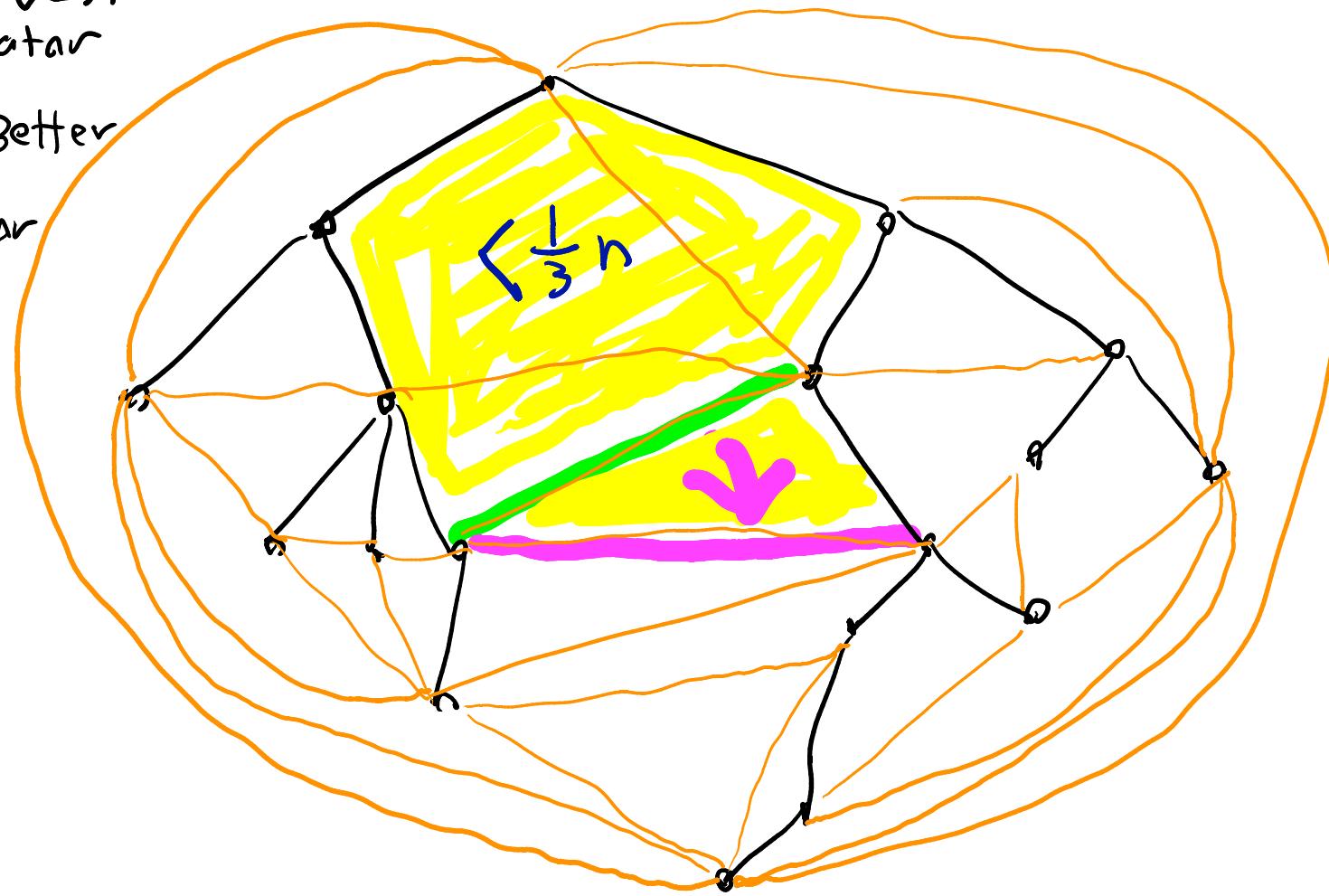
= Best
Separator



Planar Separators for Graphs of Bounded Radius

 = Best
Separator

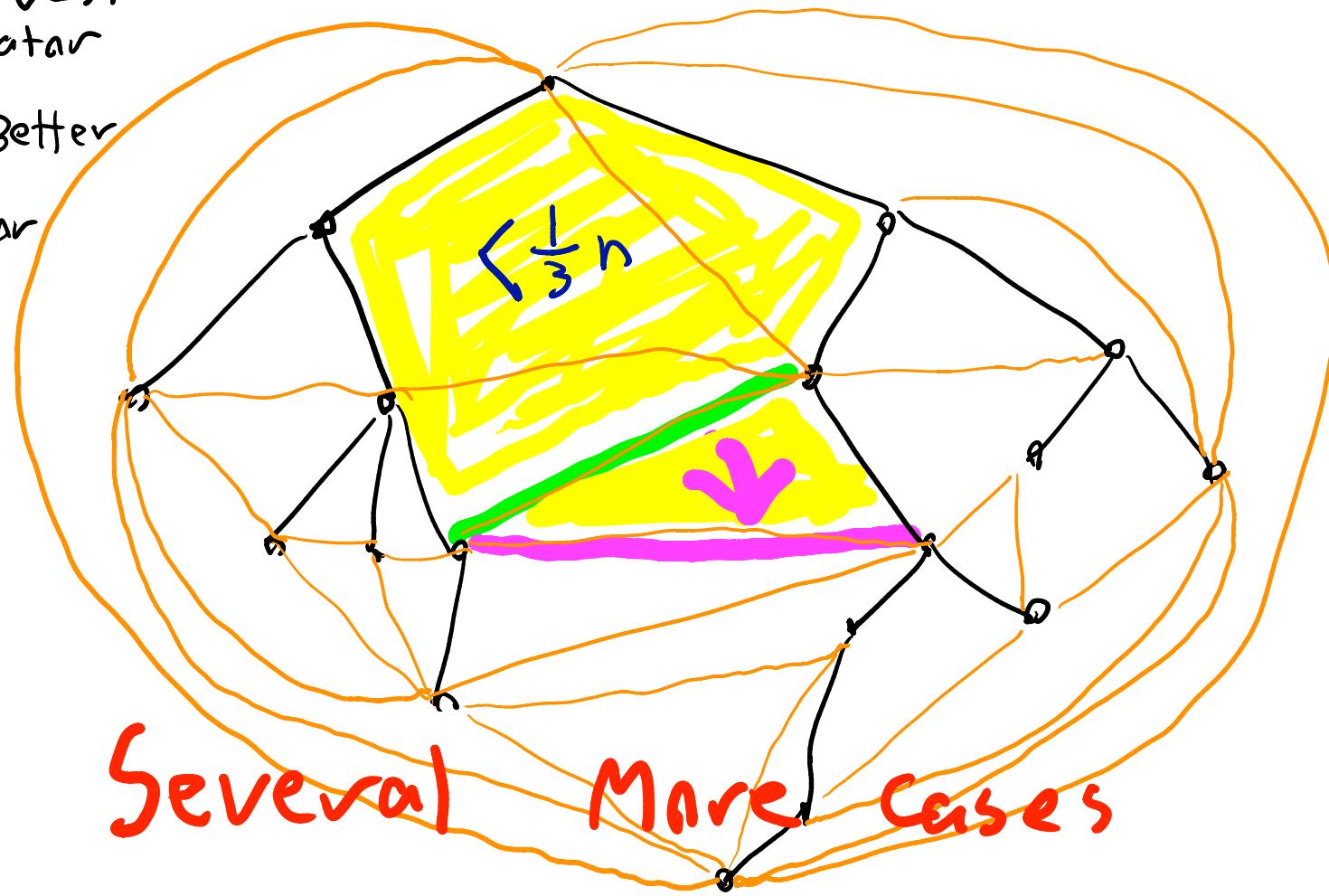
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Planar Separators for Graphs of Bounded Radius

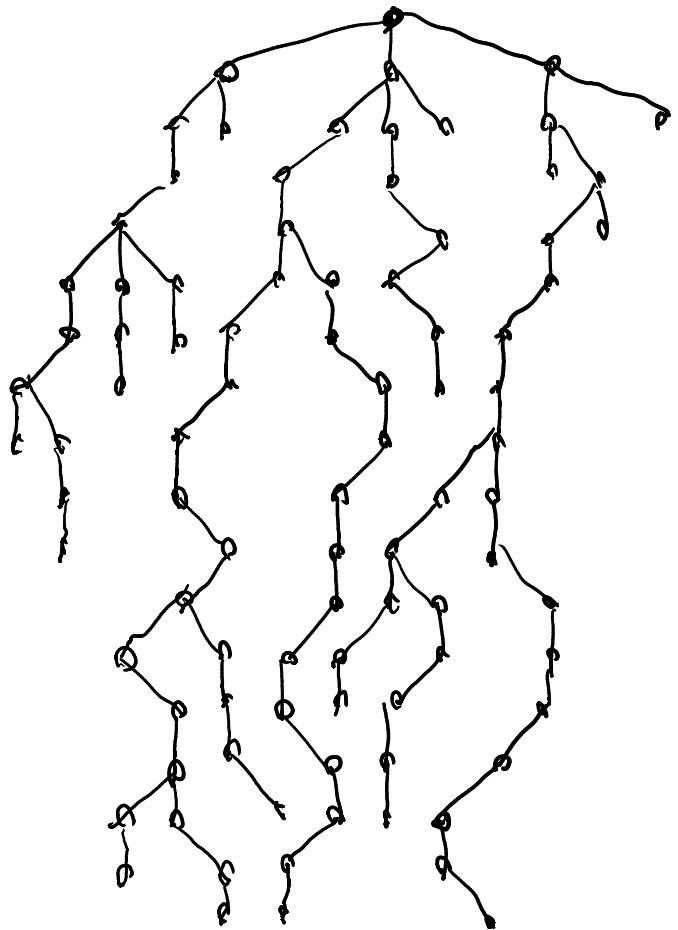
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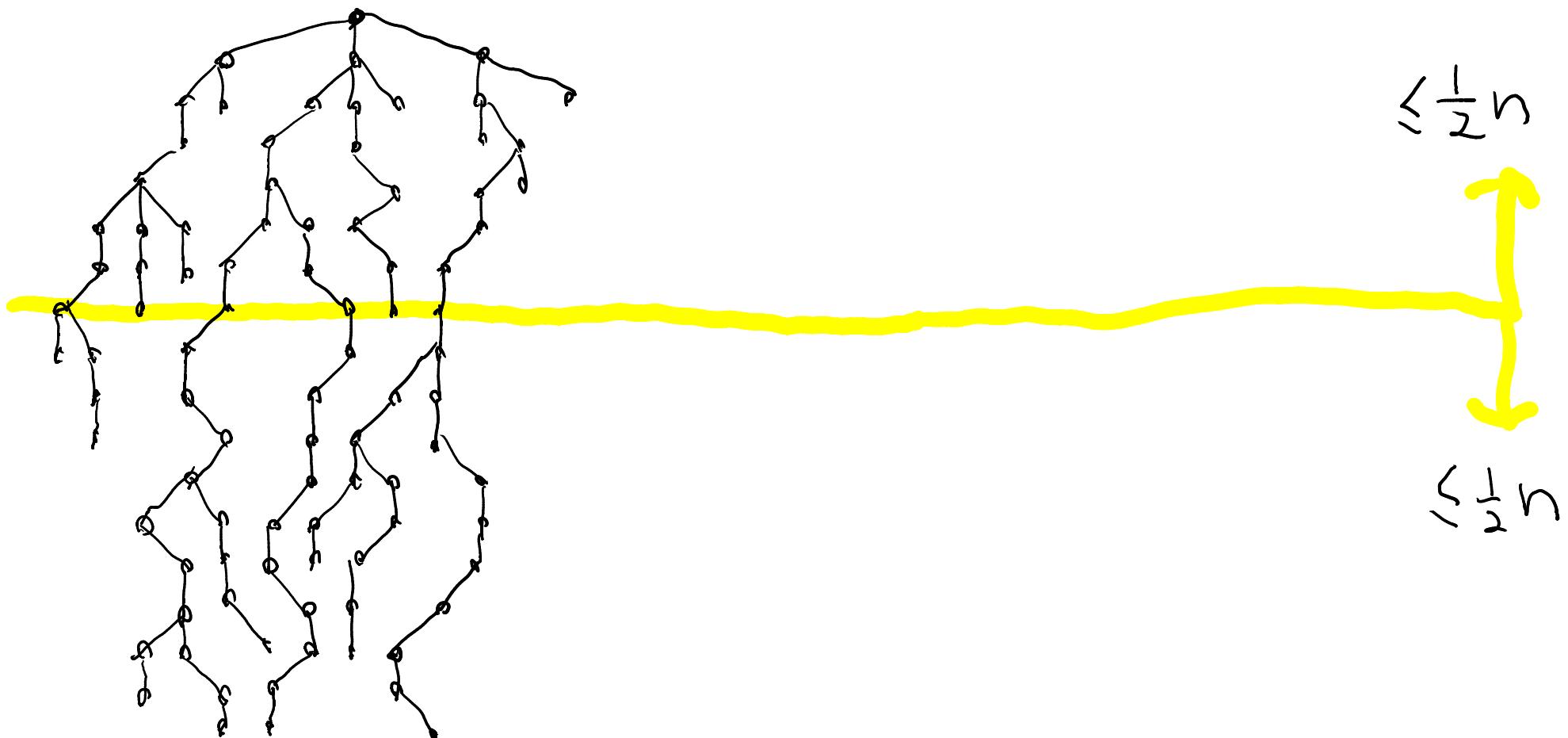


Several More Cases

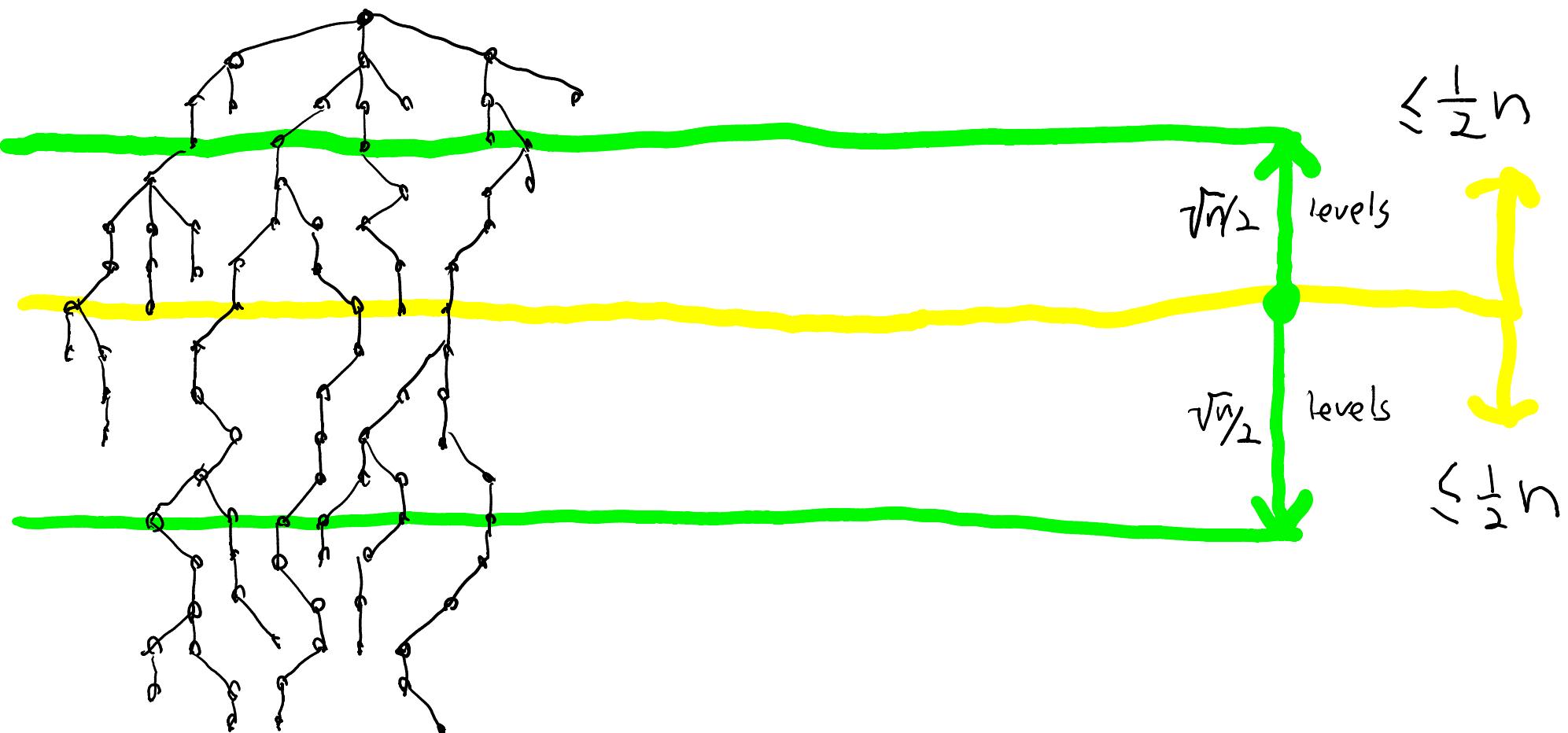
Constructing The Separator



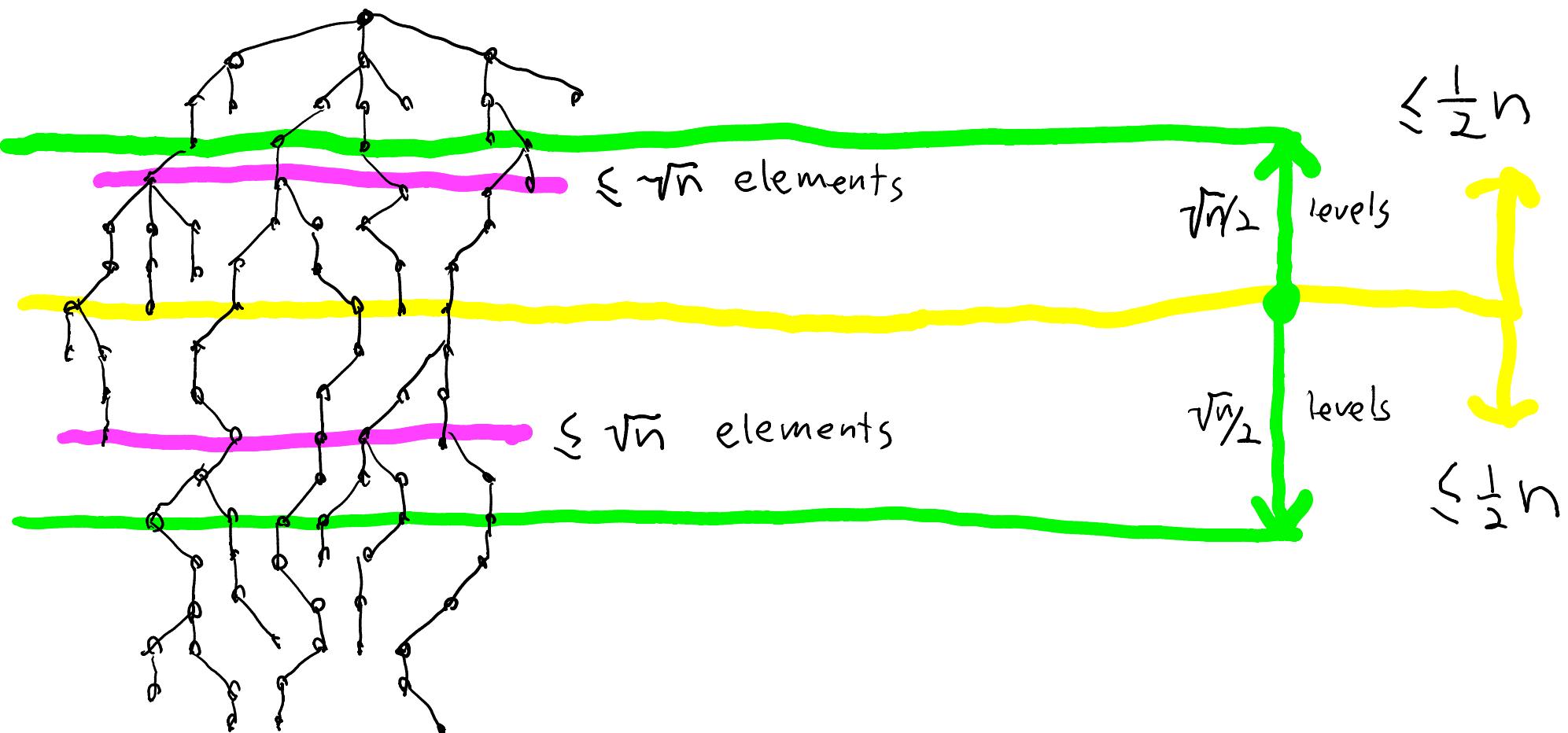
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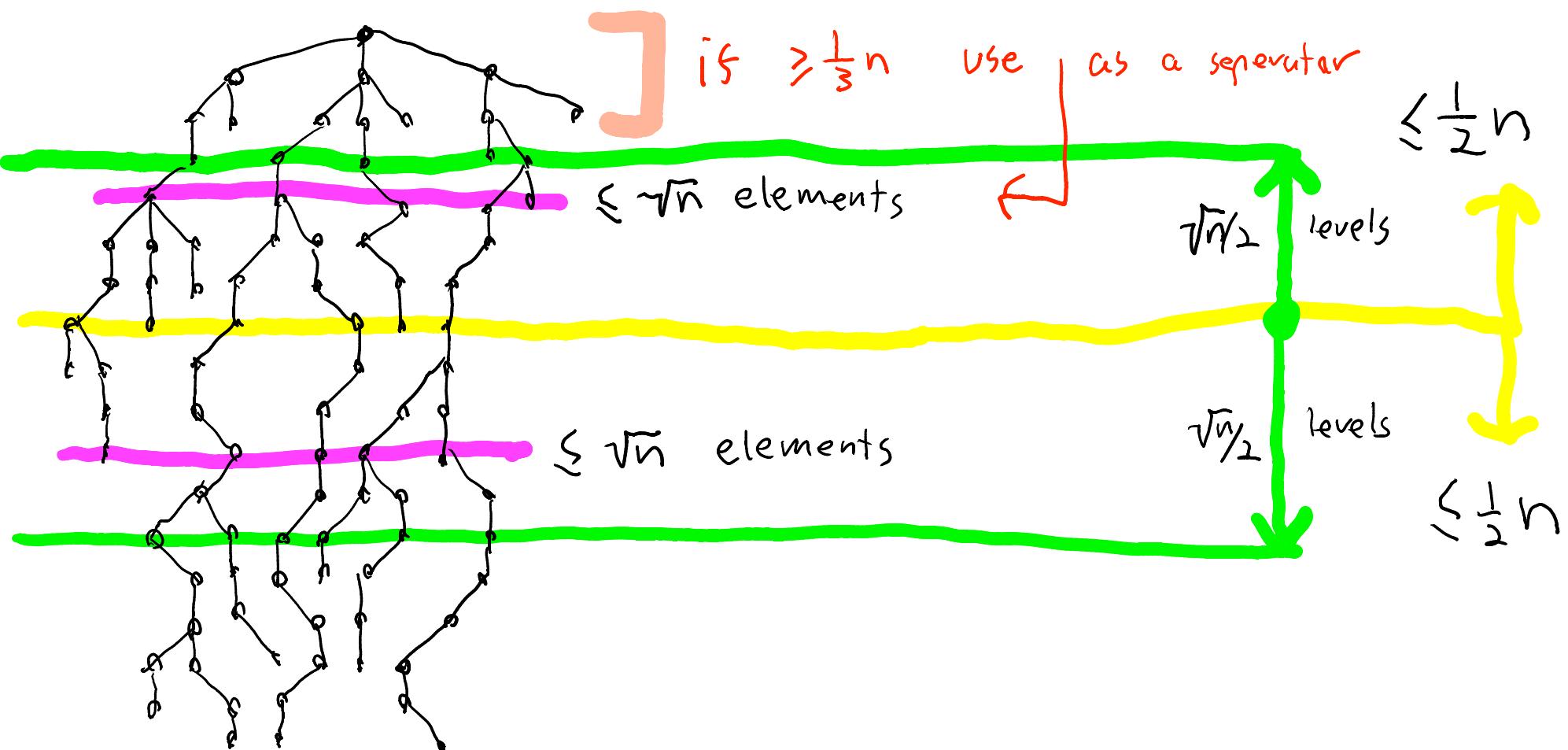
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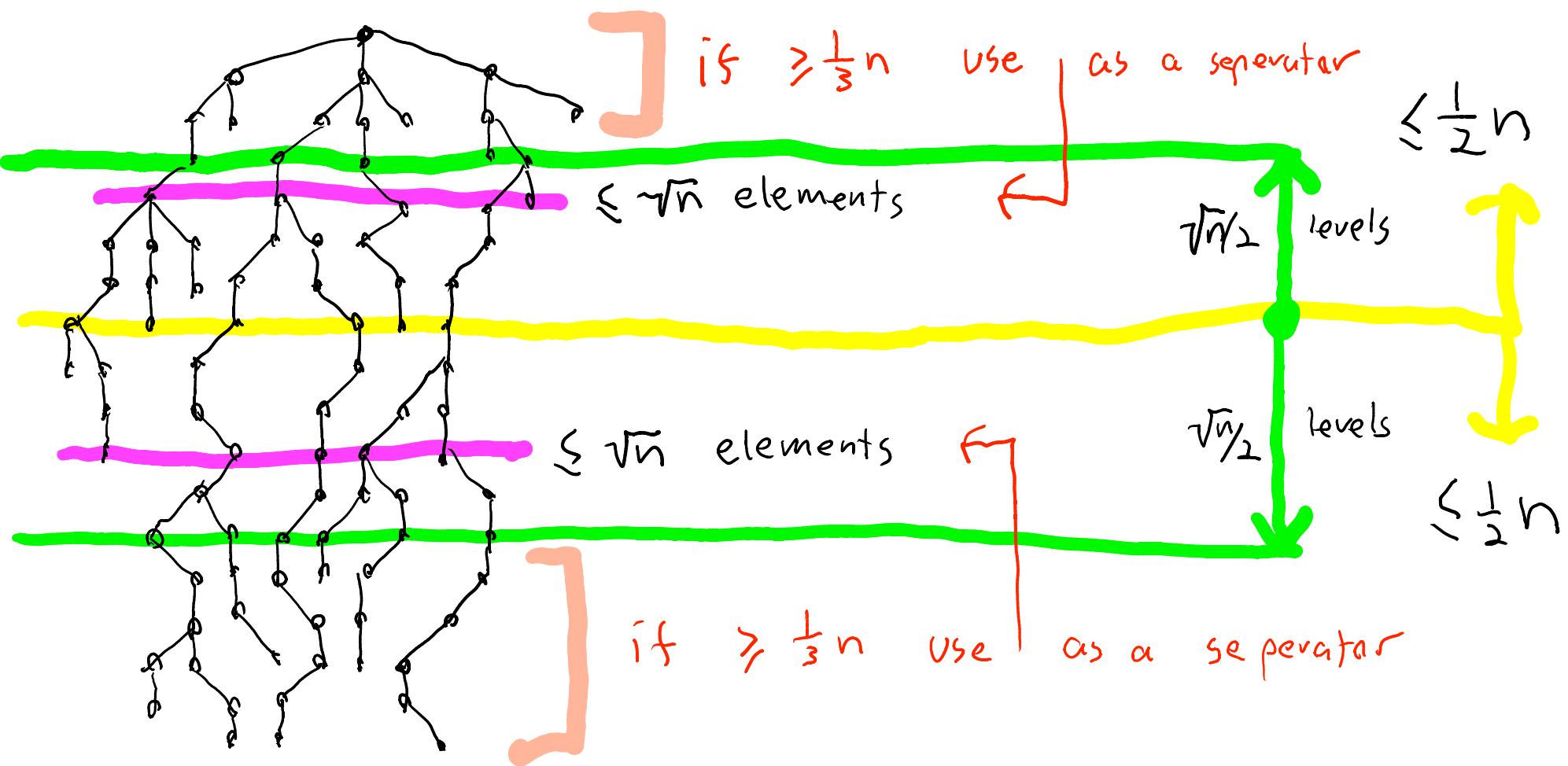
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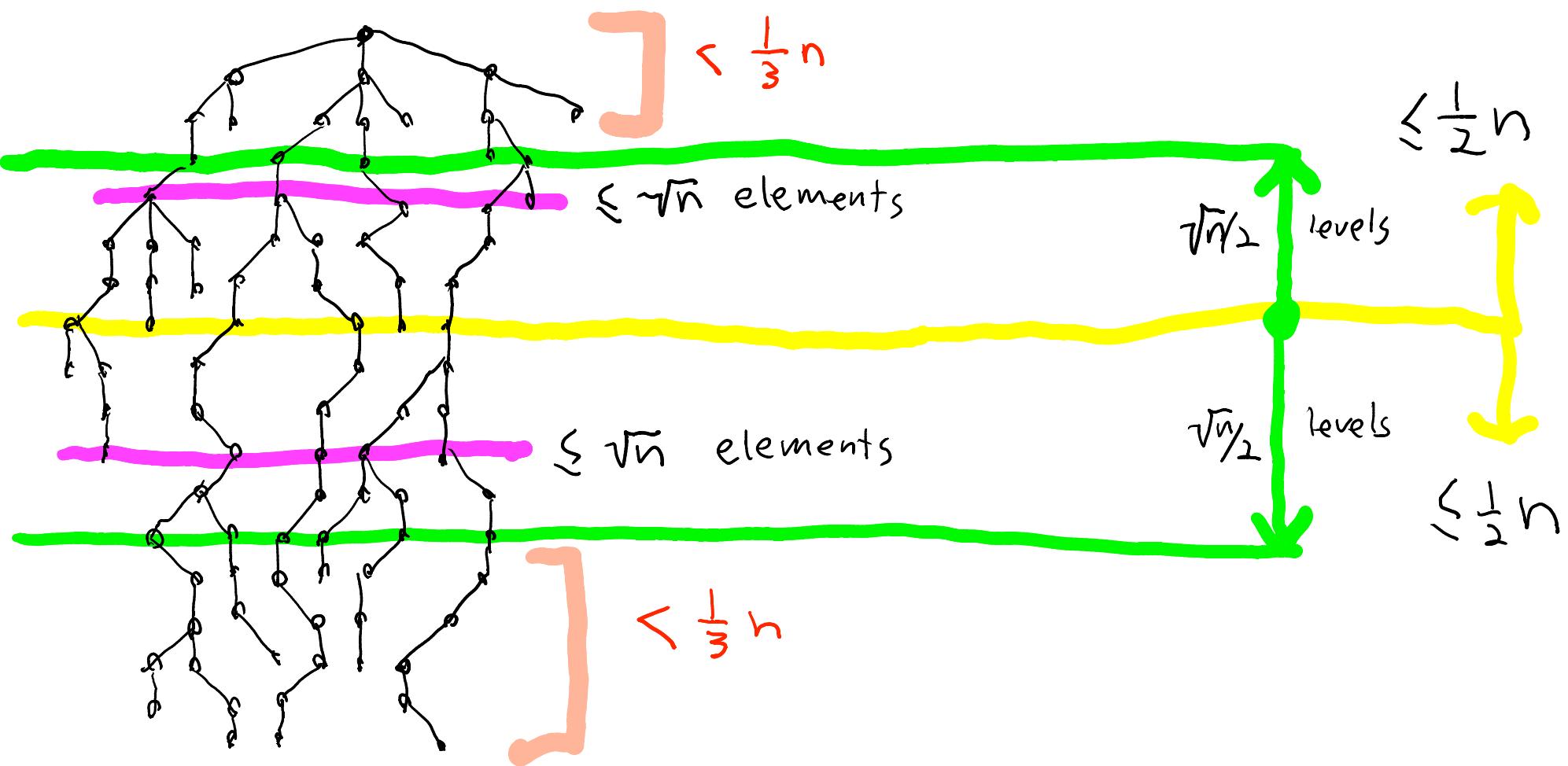
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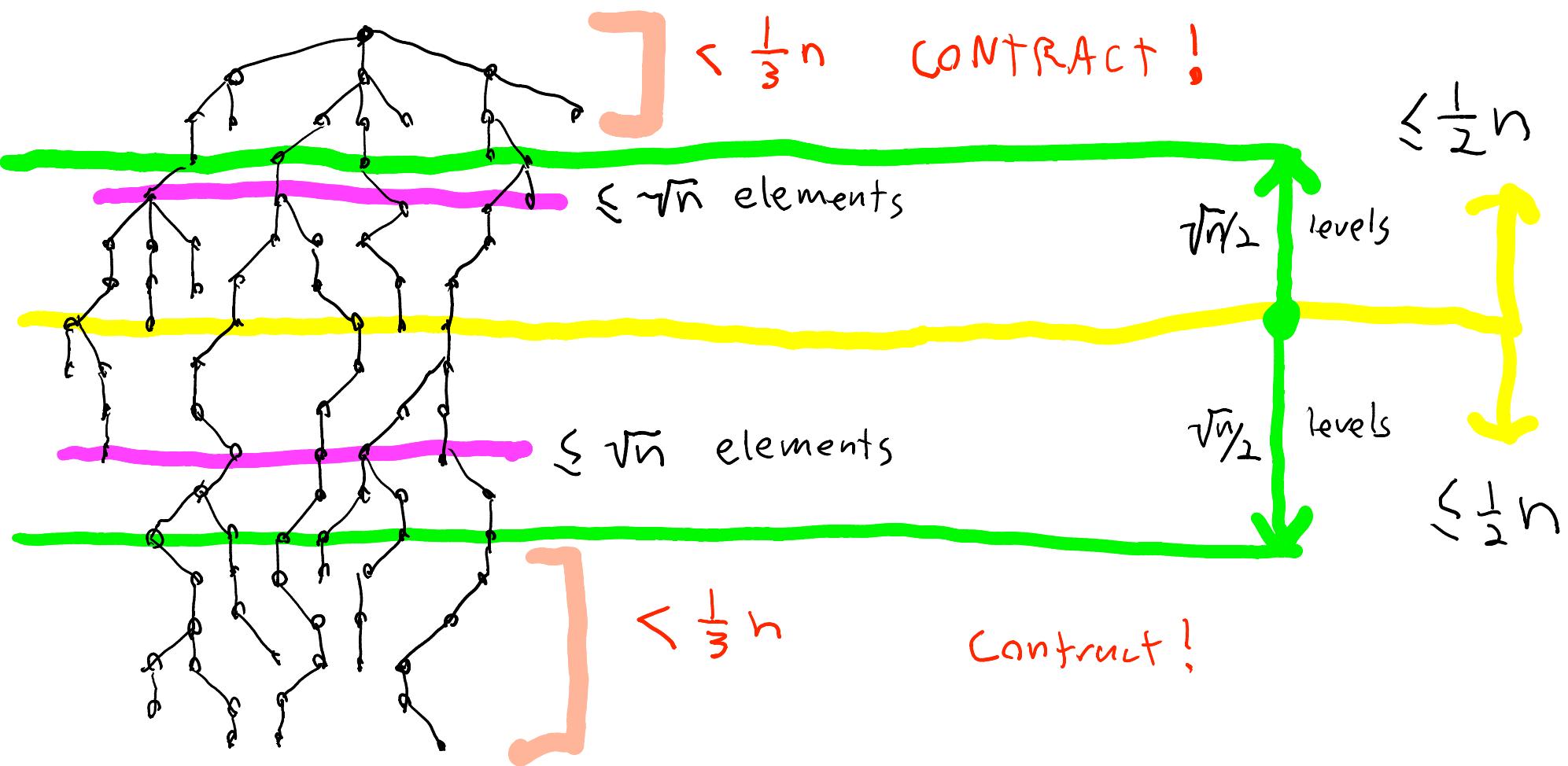
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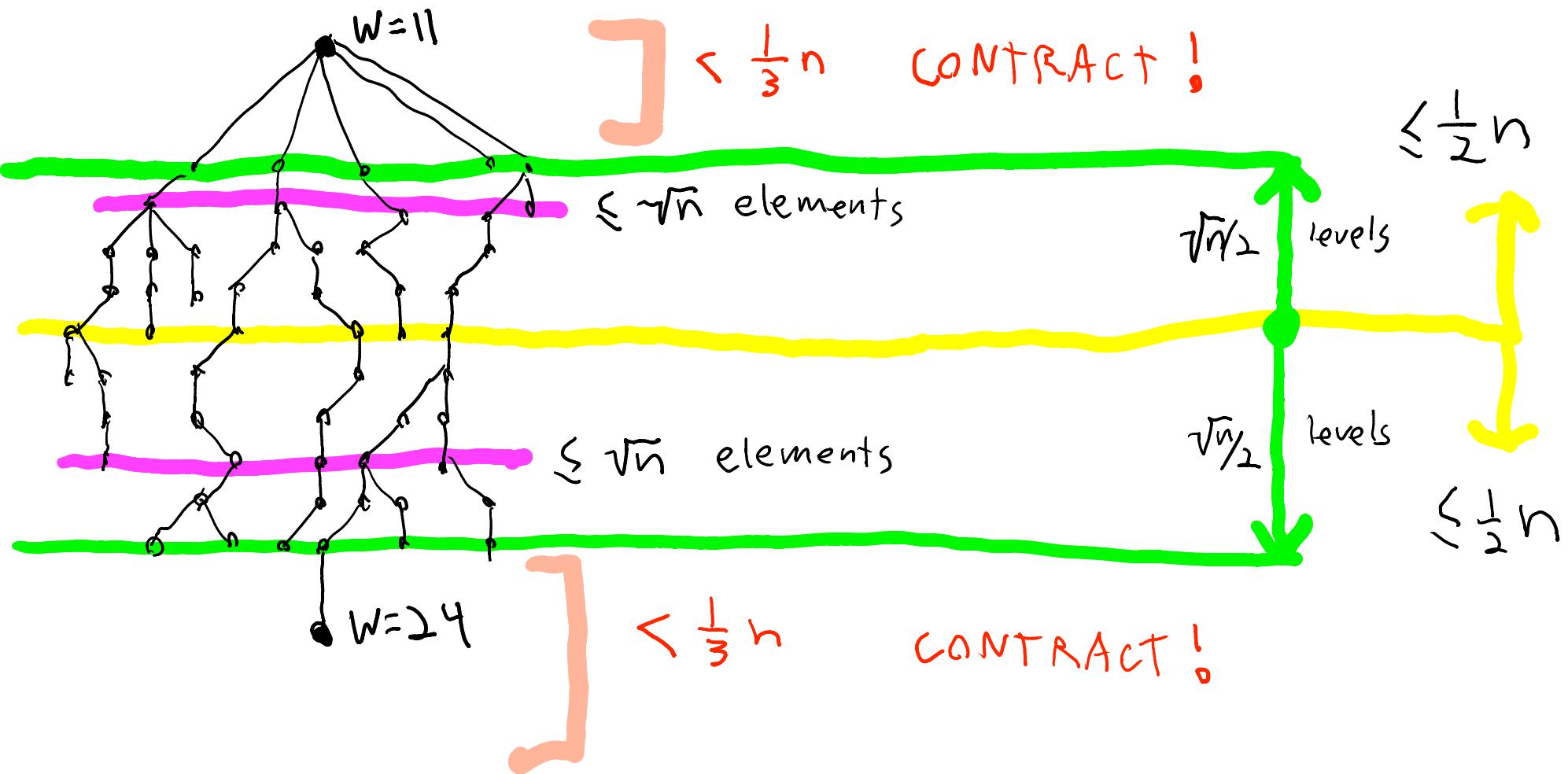
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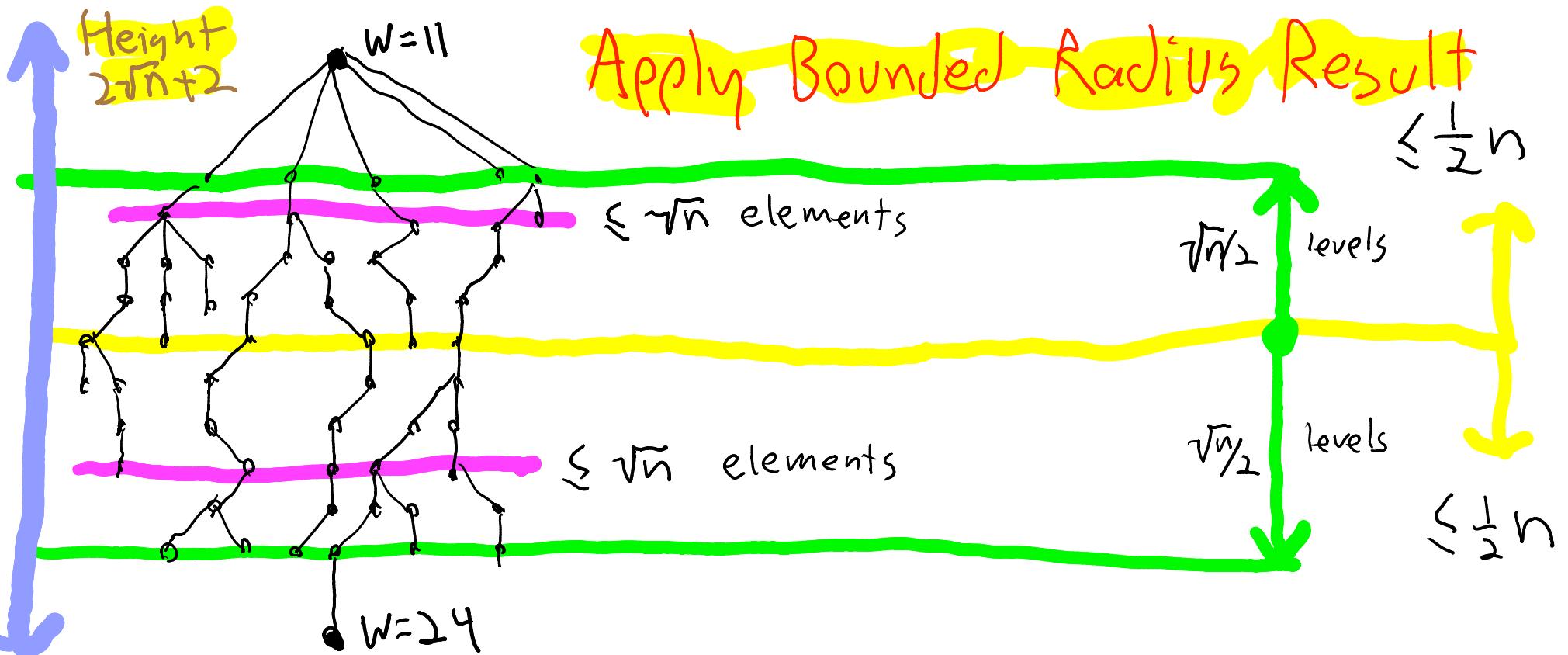
Constructing The Separator



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General Separators

Separator size

$$O(\sqrt{n})$$

$$O\left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{c}}\right)$$

$$O(n^c)$$

$$O(n^{2/3})$$

$$O(n^{3/5})$$

Component size

$$O(n)$$

$$O(n^c)$$

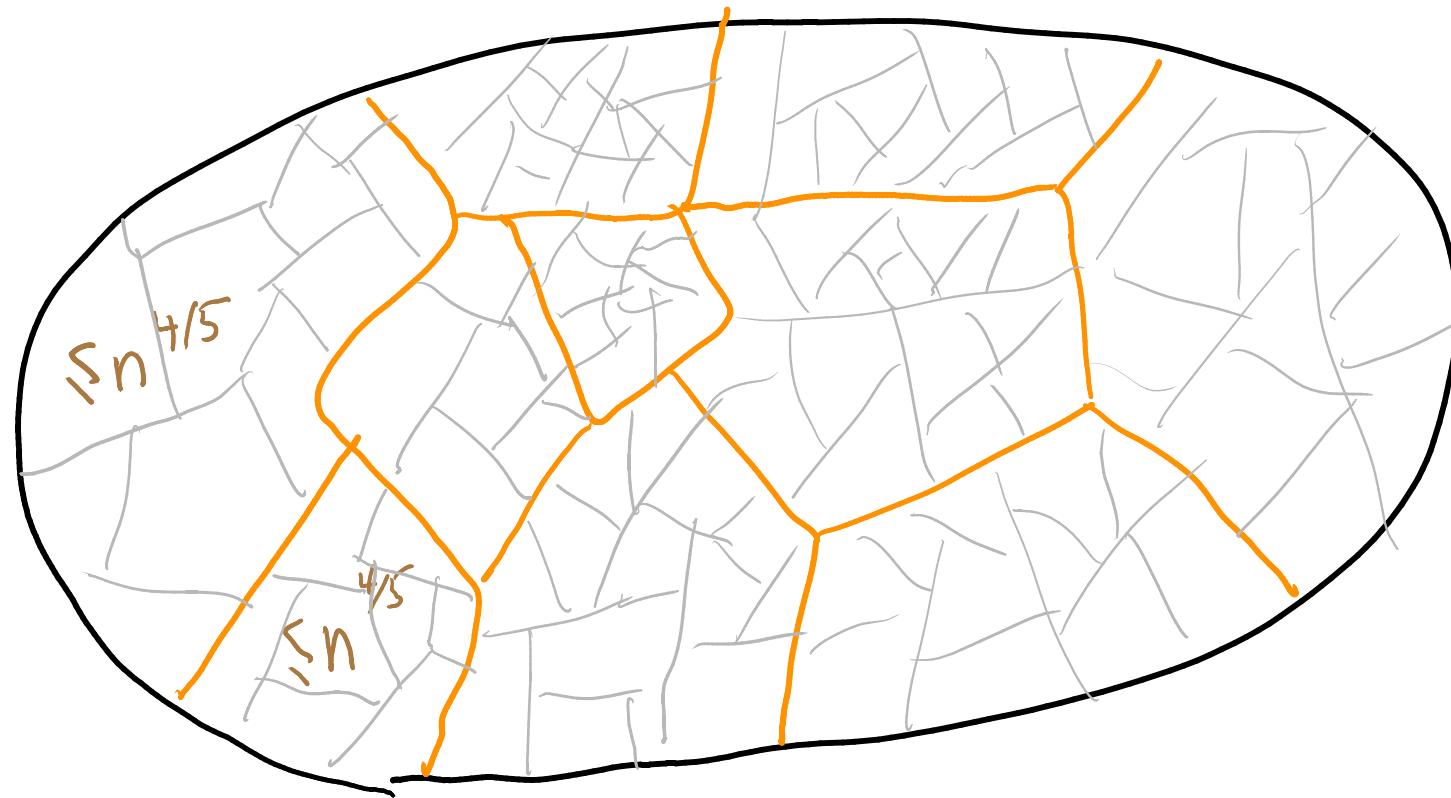
$$O(n^{2-2c})$$

$$O(n^{2/3})$$

$$O(n^{4/5})$$

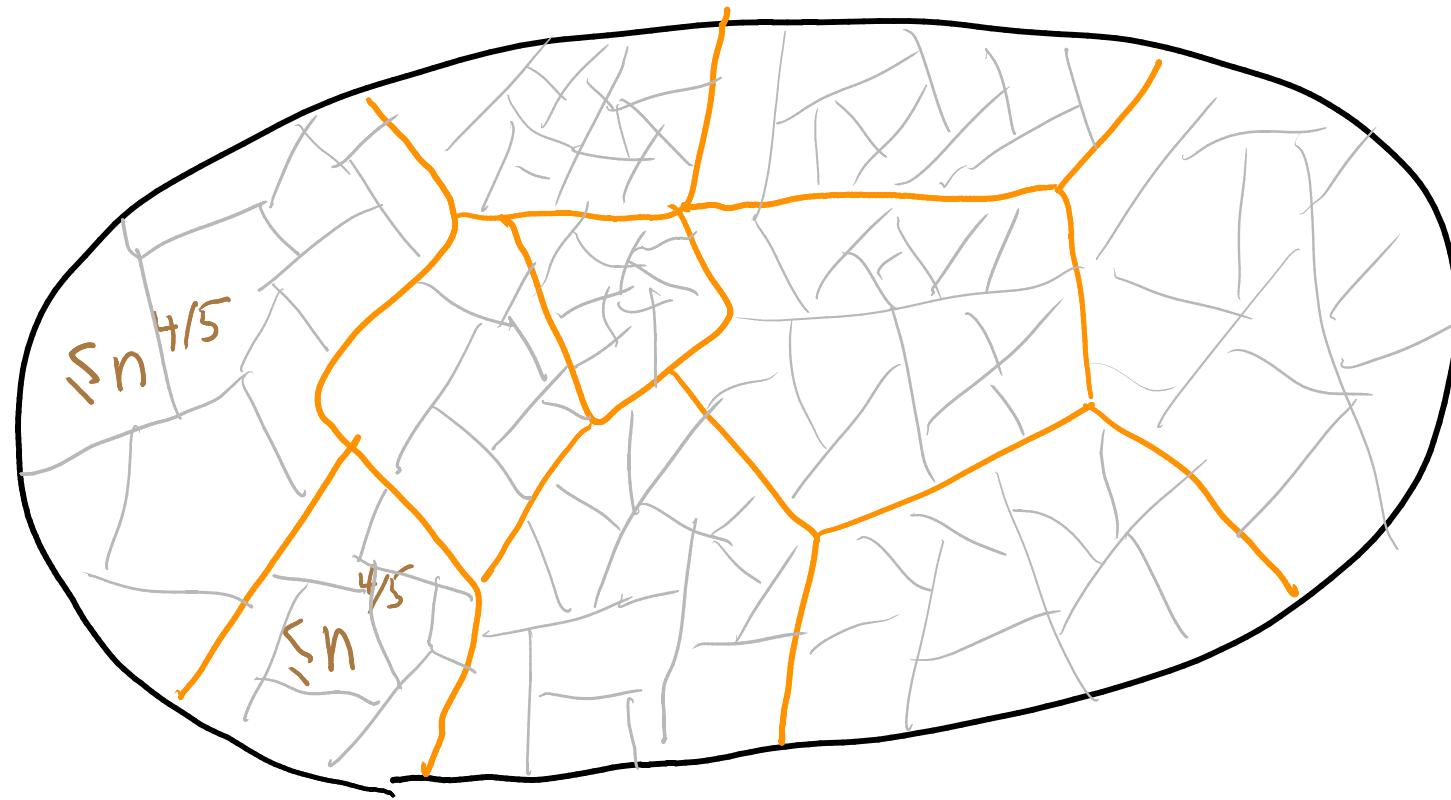
Point Location With Separators

$$mu \leq n^{3/5}$$



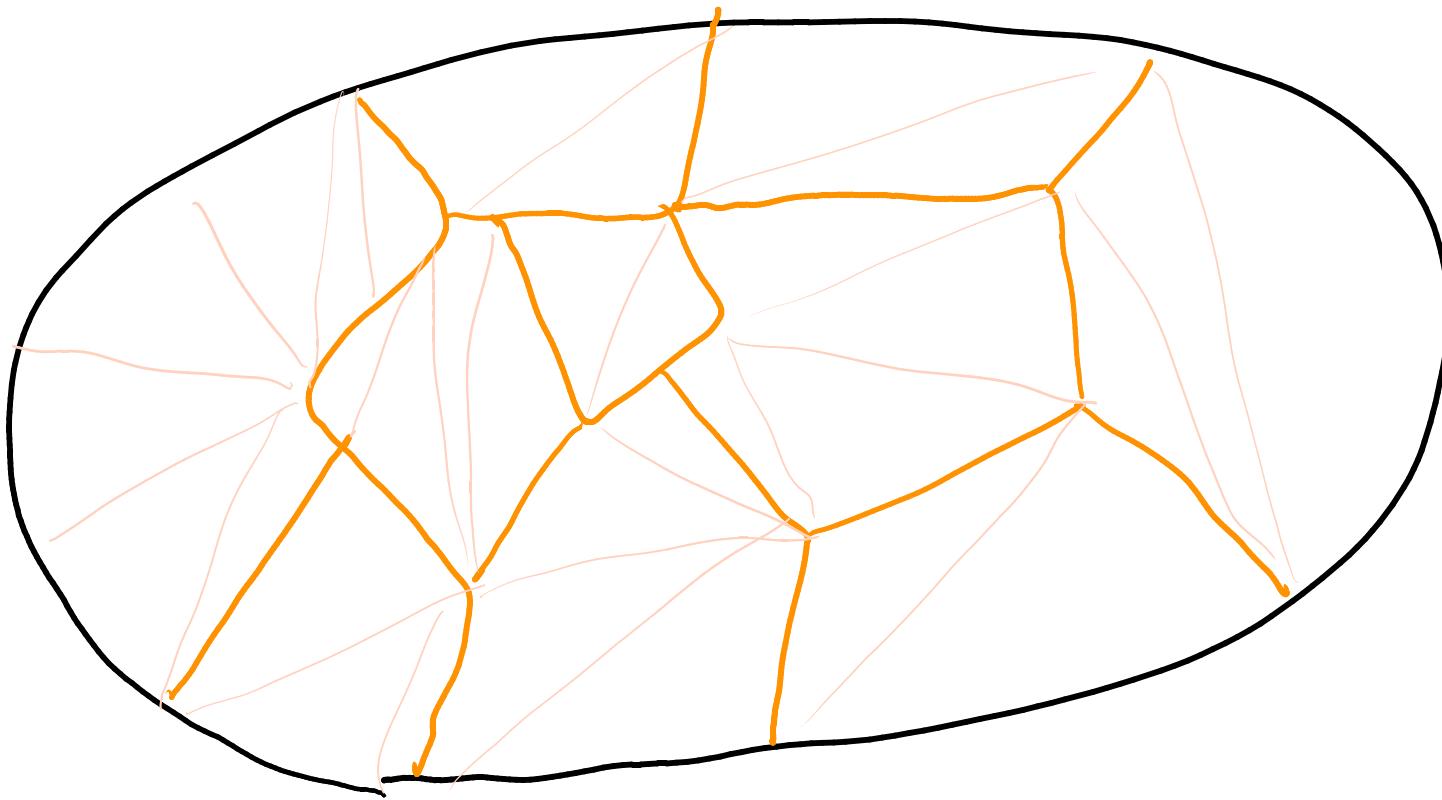
Point Location With Separators

$$mu \leq n^{3/5}$$



Point Location With Separators

$$m \leq n^{3/5}$$



- Remove non-separator edges, triangulate
- Size of this triangulation is $O(n^{3/5})$
- Build $O(\log n)$ -query $O(n^{4/5})$ space pt location structure
on this "rough" subdivision (To Be Described)

Time / Space

$$T(n) = O(\log n) + T(n^{4/5}) \quad T(n) = O(\log n)$$

$$S(n) = O(n^{4/5}) + n^{1/5} S(n^{4/5}) \quad S(n) = O(n)$$

* Assumes perfectly even split.

With some more complication
you get the real result

Need $O(\log n)$ structure that
uses $O(n^{4/5})$ space on input of $\Omega(n^{3/5})$

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Lemma 1: There is a $O(n^2)$ space $O(\log n)$ -query structure

Need $O(\log n)$ structure that
uses $O(n^{4/5})$ space on input of $O(n^{3/5})$

Lemma 1: There is a $O(n^2)$ space $O(\log n)$ -query structure

Lemma 2:

$\rightarrow O(n^{1+\epsilon})$ space $O(\log n)$ -query

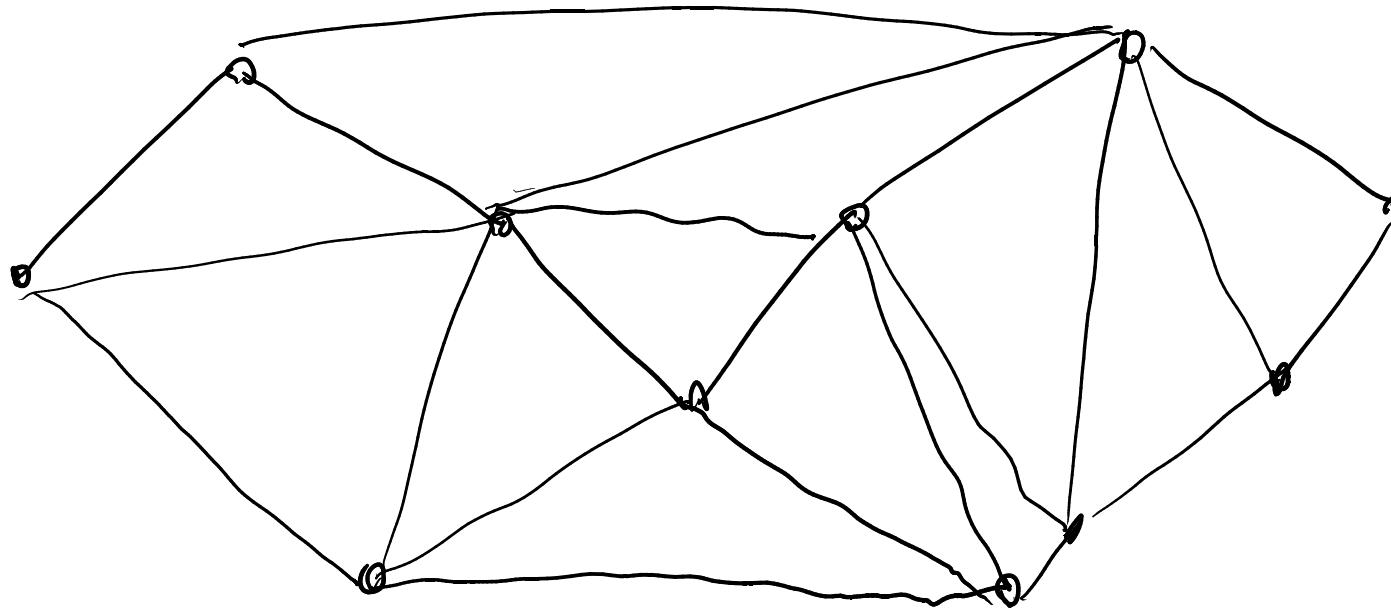
Corollary: For any ϵ there is a

$O(n^{1+\epsilon})$ space $O(\log n)$ -query

L1:

$O(n^2)$ space

$O(\log n)$ Query

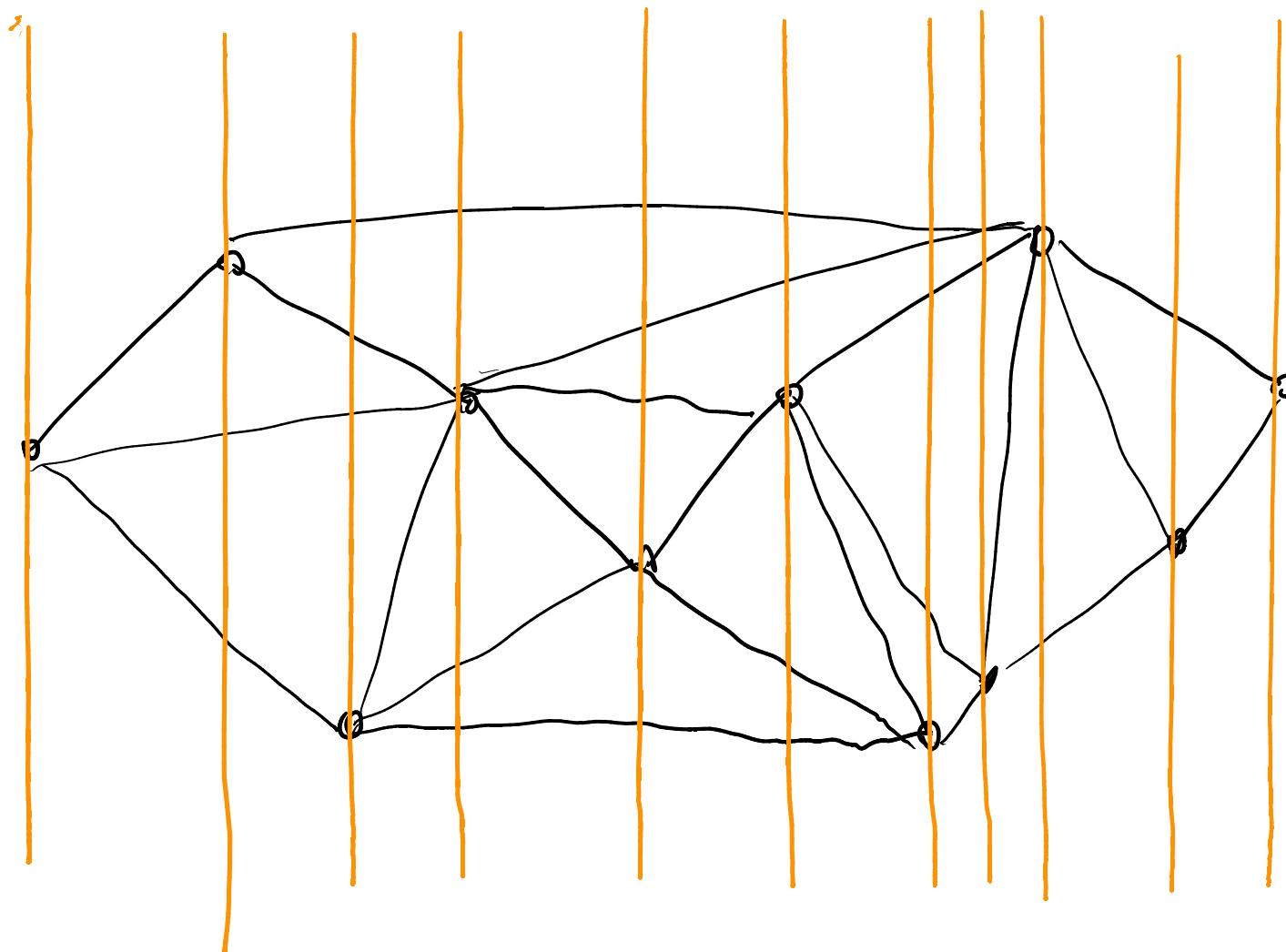


L1:

$O(n^2)$ space

$O(\log n)$ Query

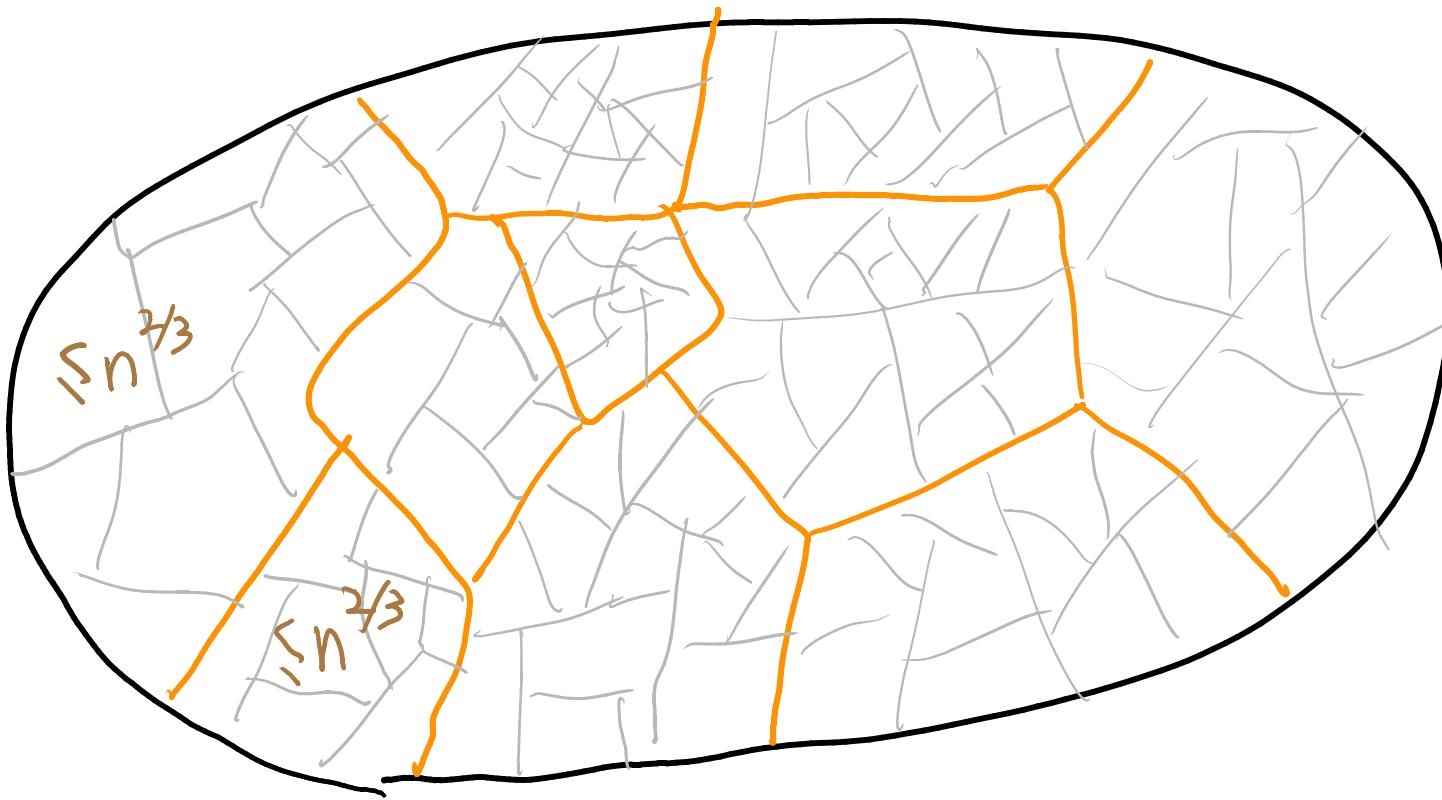
[Shamos STOC 75]



- Store each slab in a BST
- Use a BST to determine which slab you are in

L2: $O(\log n) Q$ $O(n^{1+\epsilon}) Sp \rightarrow O(\log n) Q$ $O(n^{1+\frac{2}{3}\epsilon}) Sp$

$\mu \leq n^{\frac{2}{3}} *$



Use * to store each separated cell and
the triangulation of the separator

$$\text{SPACE} \approx n^{1/3} \cdot (n^{2/3})^{1+\epsilon} = n^{1+\frac{2}{3}\epsilon}$$

Query = 2 $O(\log n)$ queries.

Summary

- $O(n)$ space
- $O(\log n)$ query
- $O(n \log n)$ construction time
- Constants terrible