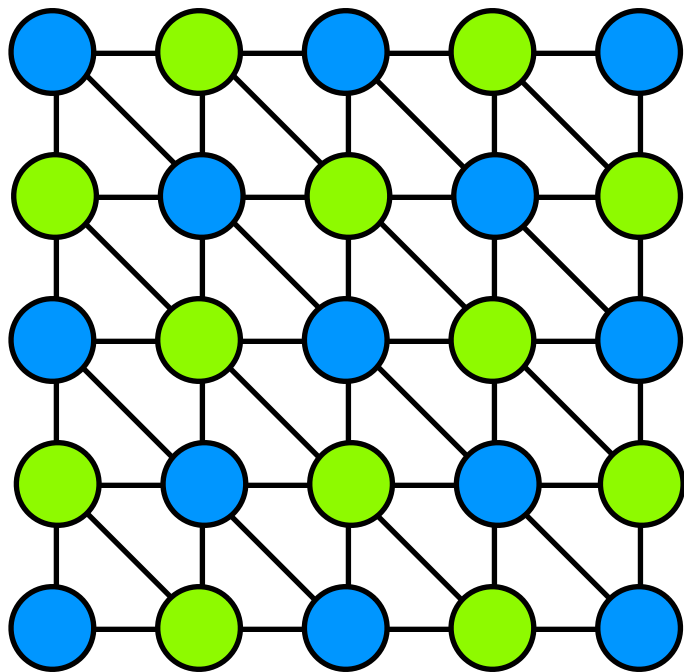


# Approximate Counting *via* Correlation Decay *in* Spin Systems

Yitong Yin  
Nanjing University

Joint work with  
**Liang Li** (Peking U) and **Pinyan Lu** (MSRA)

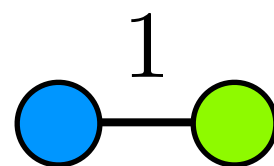
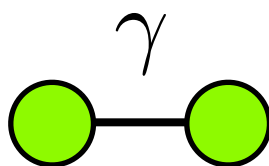
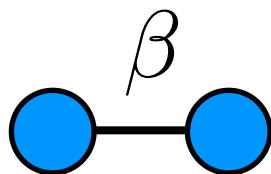
# Two-State Spin System



graph  $G=(V,E)$     2 states  $\{0,1\}$

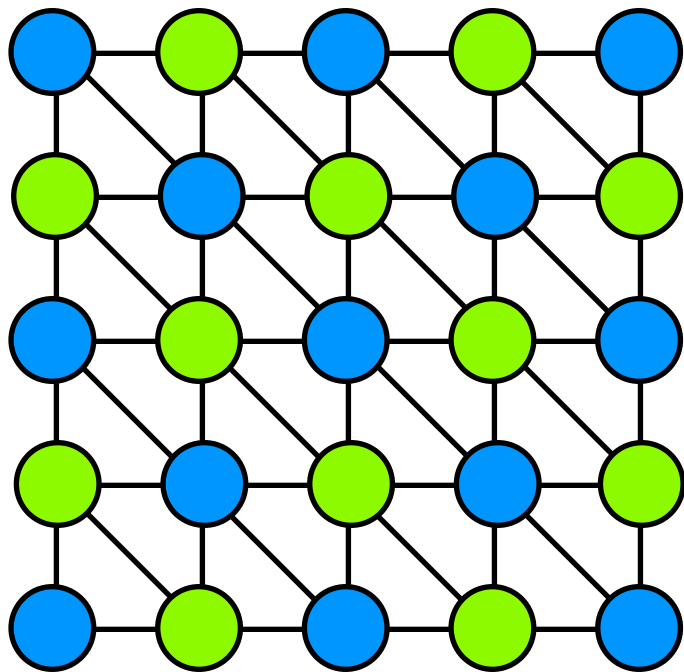
**configuration**  $\sigma : V \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

contributions of local interactions:



weight:  $w(\sigma) = \prod_{e \in E} \text{contribution}(e)$

# Two-State Spin System

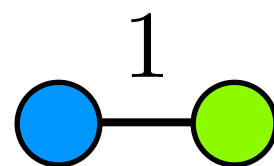
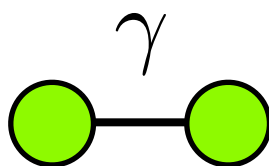
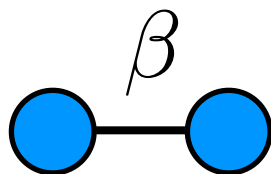


graph  $G=(V,E)$  2 states  $\{0,1\}$

**configuration**  $\sigma : V \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

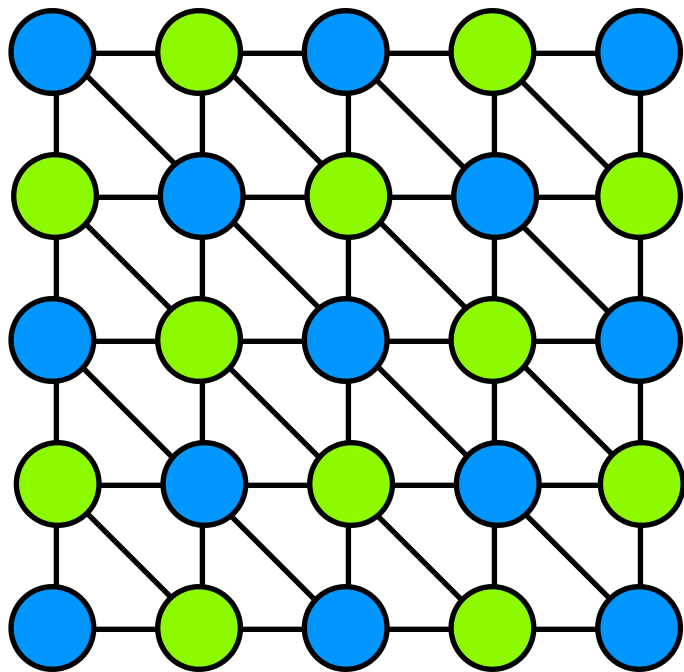
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{0,0} & A_{0,1} \\ A_{1,0} & A_{1,1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta & 1 \\ 1 & \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

contributions of local interactions:



weight:  $w(\sigma) = \prod_{(u,v) \in E} A_{\sigma(u), \sigma(v)}$

# Two-State Spin System



graph  $G=(V,E)$  2 states  $\{0,1\}$

**configuration**  $\sigma : V \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

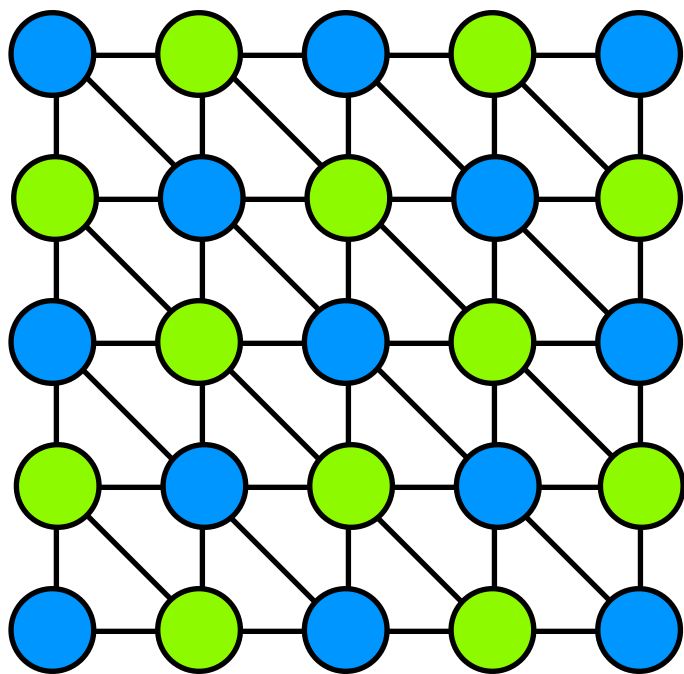
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{0,0} & A_{0,1} \\ A_{1,0} & A_{1,1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta & 1 \\ 1 & \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

**weight:**  $w(\sigma) = \prod_{(u,v) \in E} A_{\sigma(u),\sigma(v)}$

**Gibbs measure:**  $\mu(\sigma) = \frac{w(\sigma)}{Z_A(G)}$

**partition function:**  $Z_A(G) = \sum_{\sigma \in \{0,1\}^V} w(\sigma)$

# Partition Function



graph  $G=(V,E)$  2 states  $\{0,1\}$

**configuration**  $\sigma : V \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{0,0} & A_{0,1} \\ A_{1,0} & A_{1,1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta & 1 \\ 1 & \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

**partition function:**

$$Z_A(G) = \sum_{\sigma \in \{0,1\}^V} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} A_{\sigma(u),\sigma(v)}$$

$\beta = 0, \gamma = 1$     # independent set    # vertex cover

weighted Boolean CSP with one symmetric relation

# Approximate Counting

$$\text{fix } A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{0,0} & A_{0,1} \\ A_{1,0} & A_{1,1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta & 1 \\ 1 & \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

partition function:

$$Z_A(G) = \sum_{\sigma \in \{0,1\}^V} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} A_{\sigma(u), \sigma(v)}$$

is a well-define computational problem

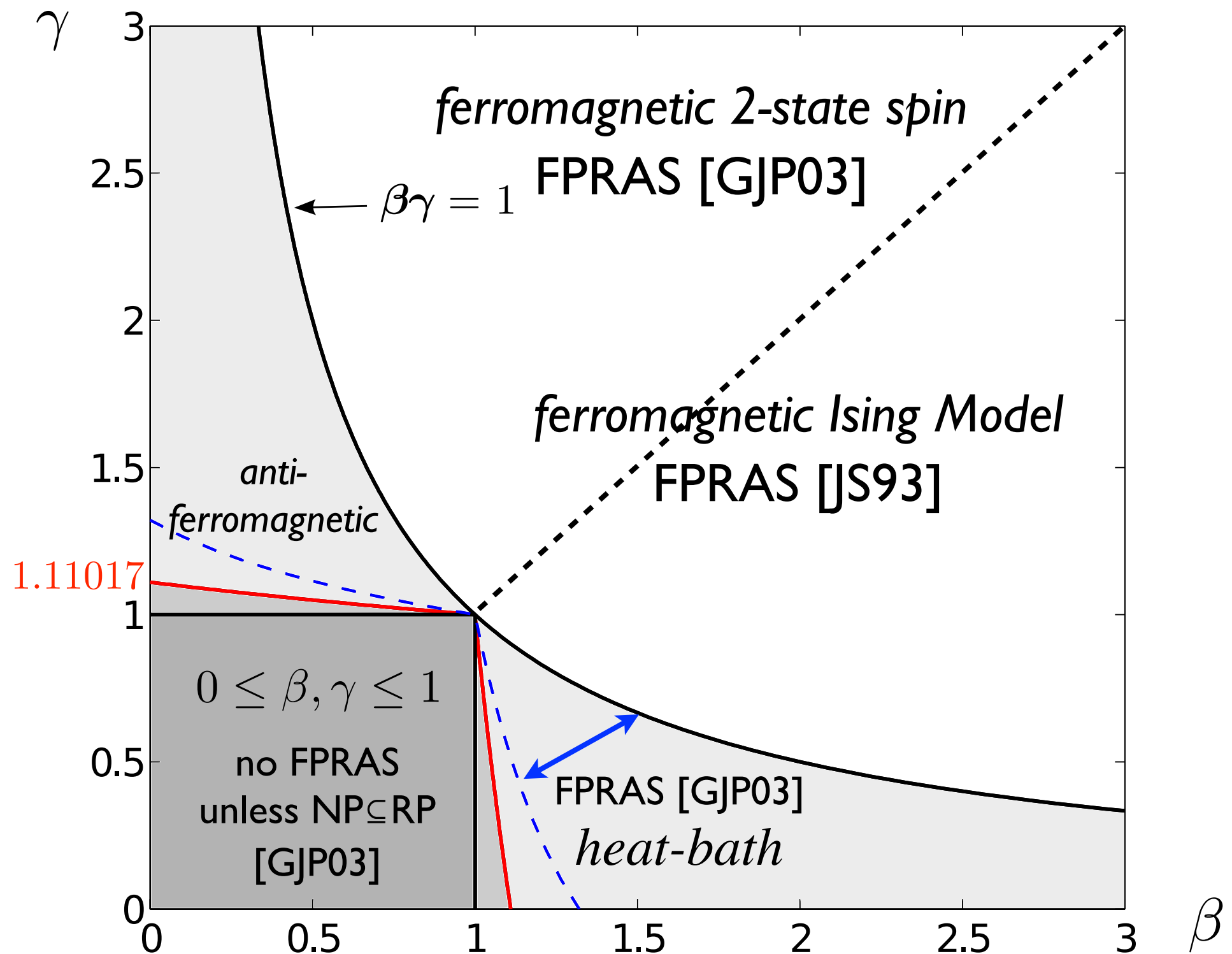
poly-time computable if  $\beta\gamma = 1$  or  $(\beta, \gamma) = (0, 0)$

#P-hard if otherwise

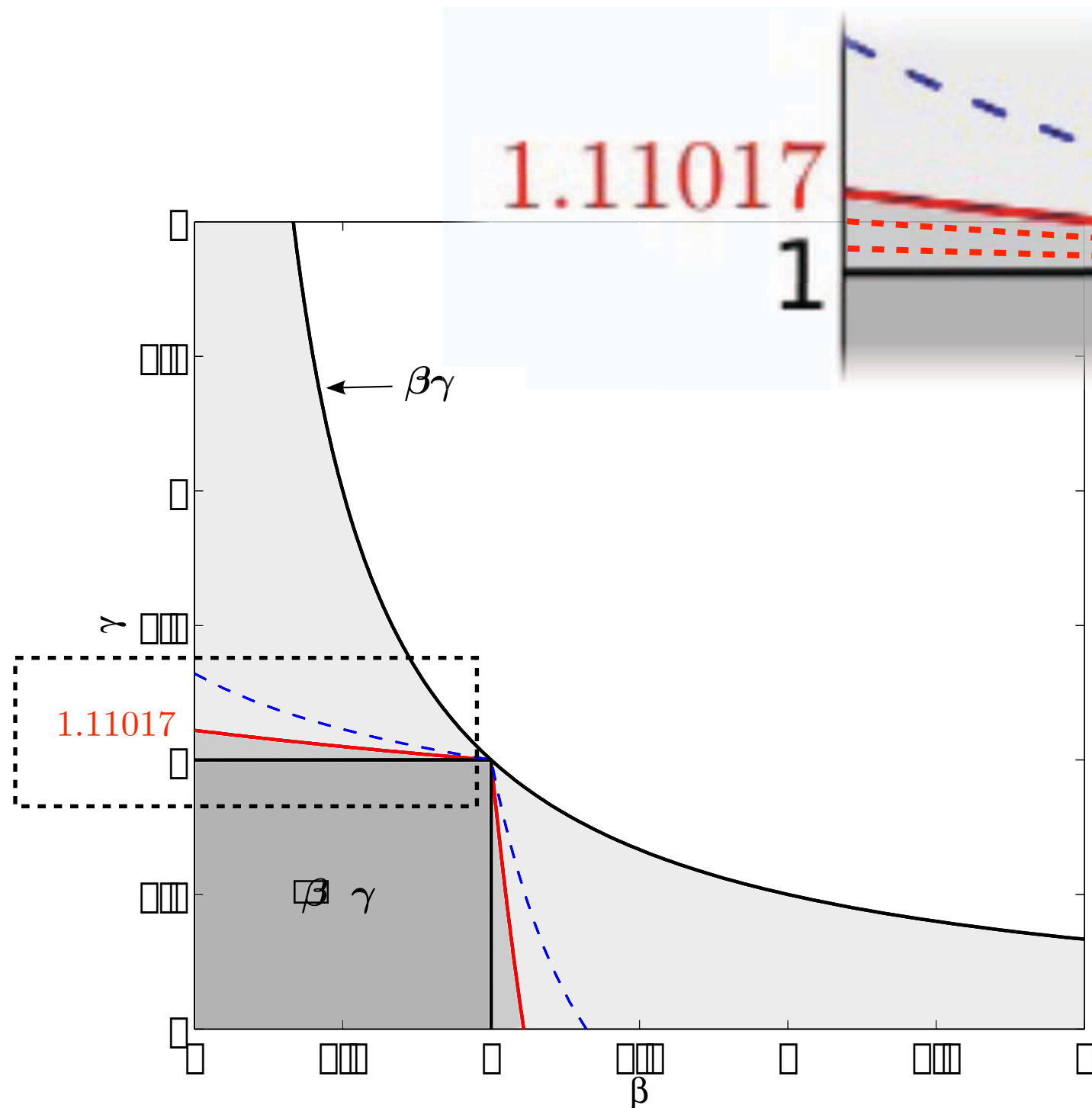
Approximation!

[JS93] Jerrum-Sinclair'93

[GJP03] Goldberg-Jerrum-Paterson'03



# Uniqueness Threshold



$$f(x) = \left( \frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma} \right)^d$$

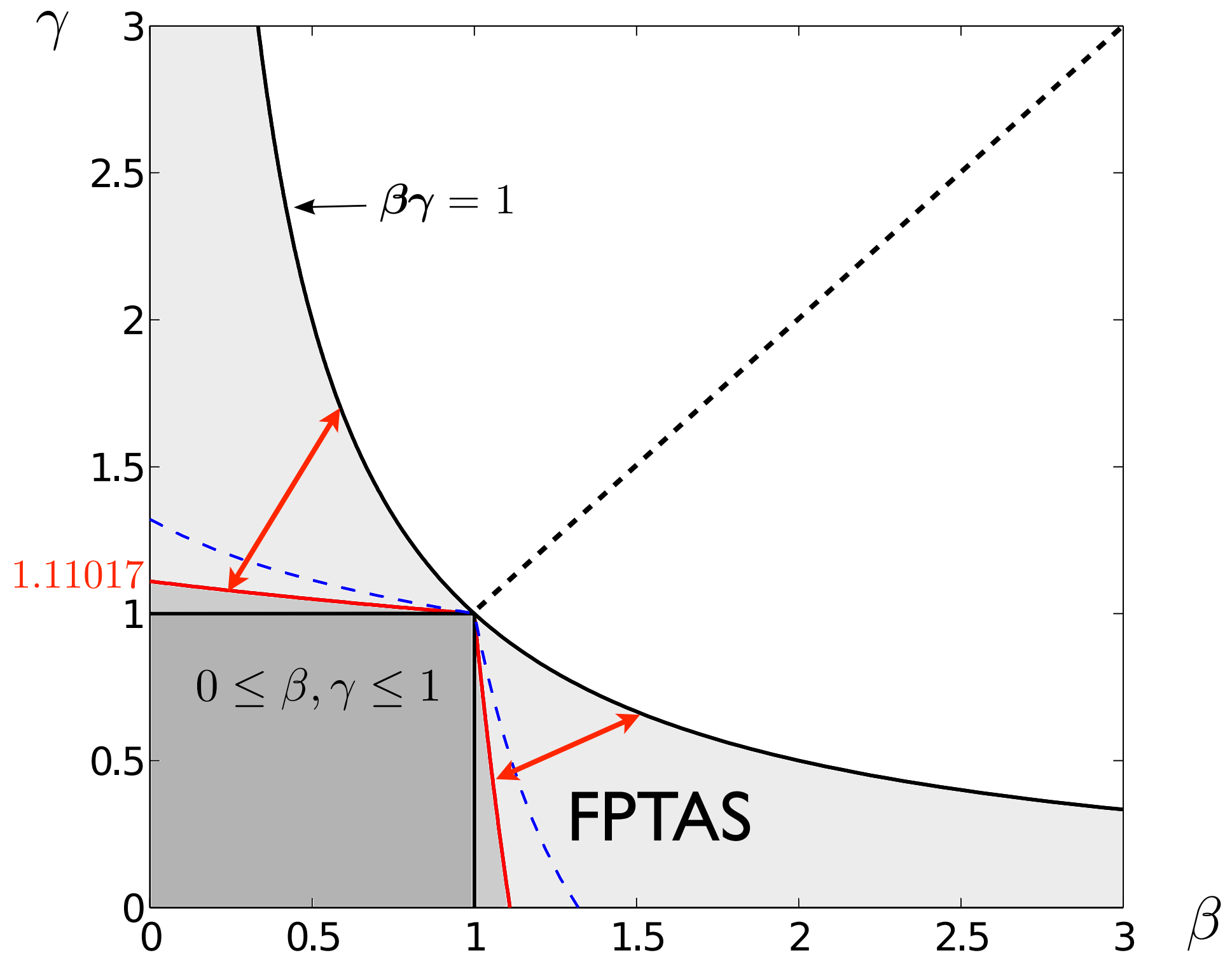
$$\hat{x} = f(\hat{x})$$

$$|f'(\hat{x})| < 1$$

for all  $d$

$$0 \leq \beta < 1 < \gamma$$

# Our Result



# Marginal Distribution

weight:  $w(\sigma) = \prod_{(u,v) \in E} A_{\sigma(u), \sigma(v)}$

Gibbs measure:  $\mu(\sigma) = \frac{w(\sigma)}{Z_A(G)}$

$$Z_A(G) = \sum_{\sigma \in \{0,1\}^V} \prod_{(u,v) \in E} A_{\sigma(u), \sigma(v)}$$

marginal distributions at vertex  $v$ :

$$p_v = \Pr_{\sigma \sim \mu} [\sigma(v) = 0]$$

$$\Lambda \subset V \quad \sigma_\Lambda \in \{0, 1\}^\Lambda \quad \text{fixed } v \in \Lambda \quad \text{free } v \notin \Lambda$$

$$p_v^{\sigma_\Lambda} = \Pr_{\sigma \sim \mu} [\sigma(v) = 0 \mid \sigma(\Lambda) = \sigma_\Lambda]$$

# Self-reduction

(Jerrum-Valiant-Vazirani)

$$\Lambda \subset V \quad \sigma_\Lambda \in \{0, 1\}^\Lambda \quad p_v^{\sigma_\Lambda} = \Pr_{\sigma}[\sigma(v) = 0 \mid \sigma(\Lambda) = \sigma_\Lambda]$$

$$V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \quad \sigma_i : v_1, v_2, \dots, v_i \mapsto 1$$

$$\Pr(\sigma_n) = \Pr_{\sigma}[\sigma : v_1, \dots, v_n \mapsto 1]$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \Pr_{\sigma}[\sigma(v_i) = 1 \mid \sigma : v_1, \dots, v_{i-1} \mapsto 1]$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - p_{v_i}^{\sigma_{i-1}})$$

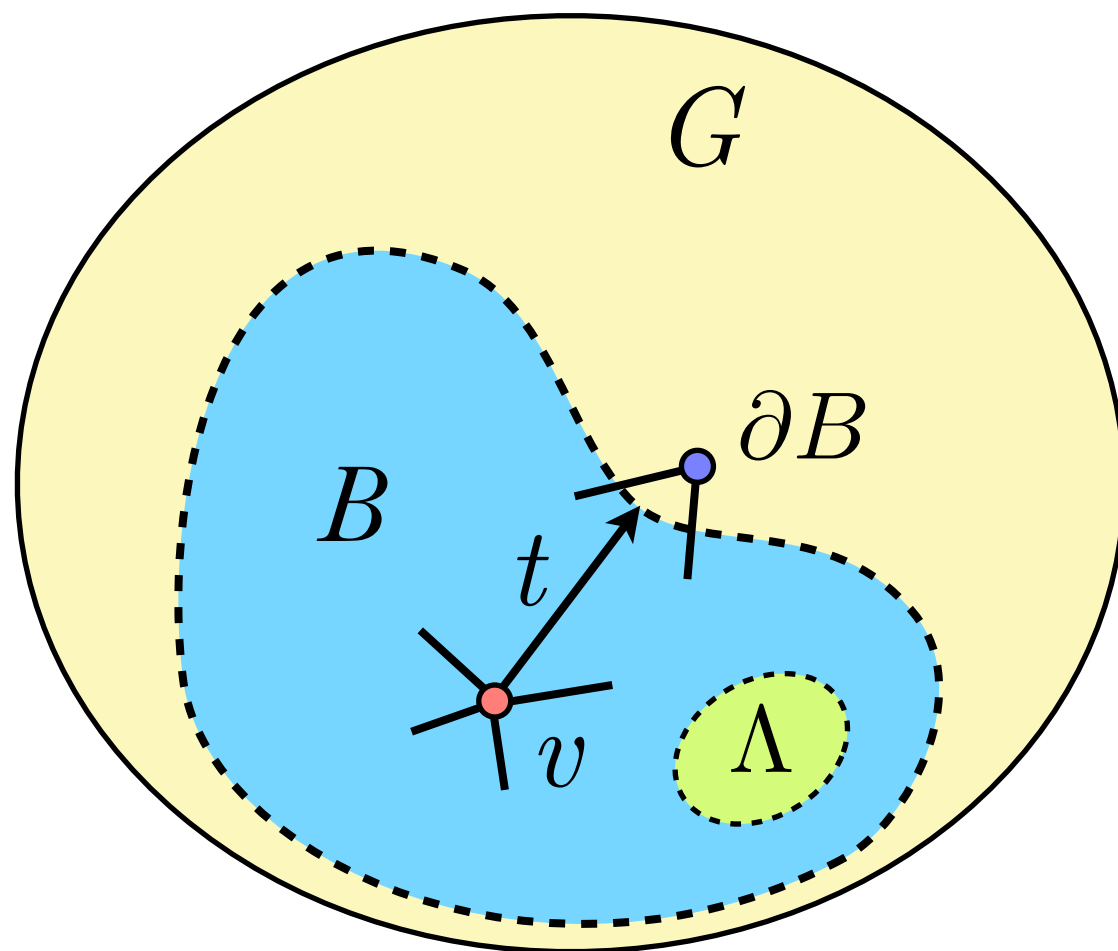
$$\Pr(\sigma_n) = \frac{w(\sigma_n)}{Z(G)} = \frac{\gamma^{|E|}}{Z(G)} \Rightarrow Z(G) = \frac{\gamma^{|E|}}{\prod_{i=1}^n (1 - p_{v_i}^{\sigma_{i-1}})}$$

# Correlation Decay

$$\forall \sigma_{\partial B}, \tau_{\partial B} \in \{0, 1\}^{\partial B}$$

$$\Pr_{\sigma}[\sigma(v) = 0 \mid \sigma_{\partial B}] \approx \Pr_{\sigma}[\sigma(v) = 0 \mid \tau_{\partial B}]$$

$$p_v^{\sigma_{\Lambda}} \approx \Pr_{\sigma}[\sigma(v) = 0 \mid \sigma_{\partial B}, \sigma_{\Lambda}] \approx \Pr_{\sigma}[\sigma(v) = 0 \mid \tau_{\partial B}, \sigma_{\Lambda}]$$

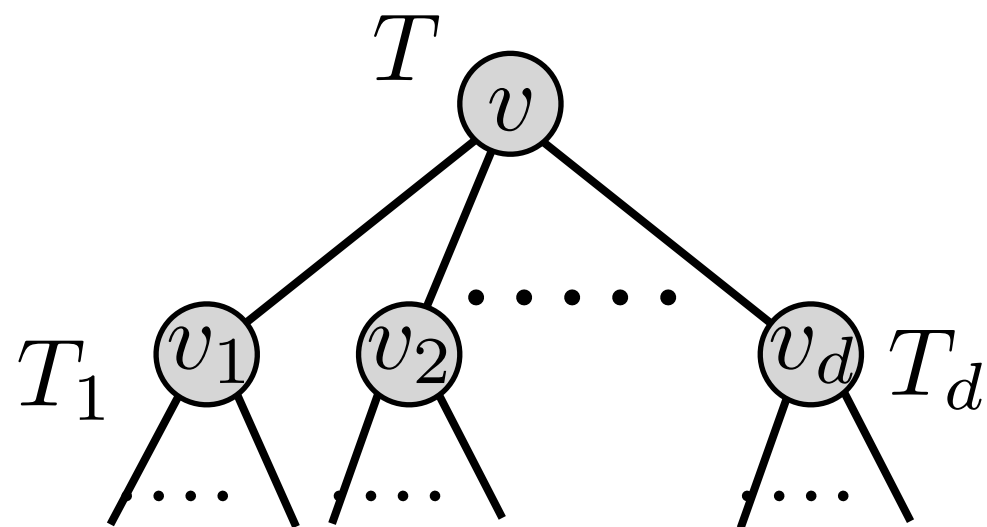


$$\text{error} < \exp(-t)$$

exponential  
correlation decay

**“strong spatial mixing”** in [Weitz’06]

# Recursion for Tree



$$\Lambda \subset V \quad \sigma_\Lambda \in \{\textcolor{blue}{0}, \textcolor{green}{1}\}^\Lambda$$

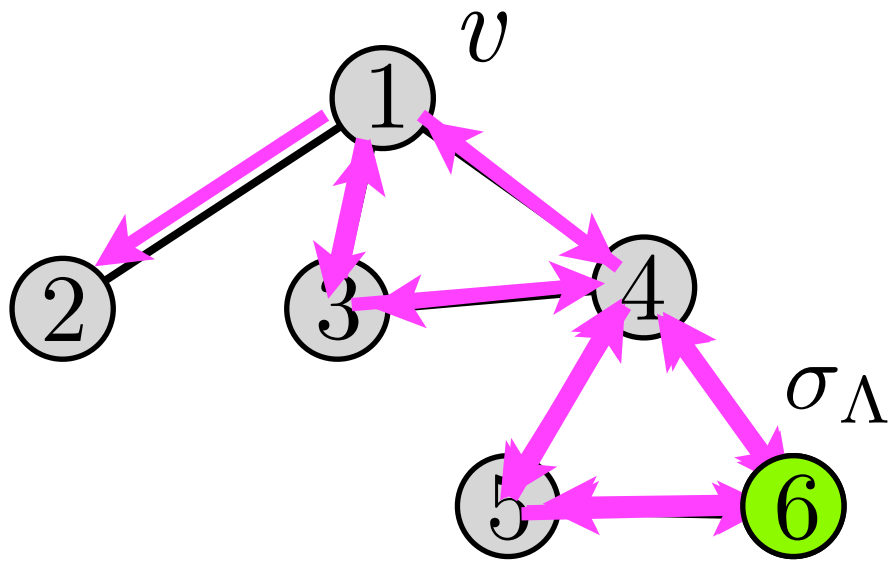
$$\begin{aligned} R_T^{\sigma_\Lambda} &= \frac{p_v^{\sigma_\Lambda}}{1 - p_v^{\sigma_\Lambda}} \\ &= \frac{\Pr_{\sigma \sim \mu | \sigma_\Lambda} [\sigma(v) = \textcolor{blue}{0}]}{\Pr_{\sigma \sim \mu | \sigma_\Lambda} [\sigma(v) = \textcolor{green}{1}]} \end{aligned}$$

$$R_T^{\sigma_\Lambda} = \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta R_{T_i}^{\sigma_\Lambda} + 1}{R_{T_i}^{\sigma_\Lambda} + \gamma}$$

$$\frac{w(\sigma_T : v \mapsto \textcolor{blue}{0})}{w(\sigma_T : v \mapsto \textcolor{green}{1})} = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^d (\beta w(\sigma_{T_i} : v_i \mapsto \textcolor{blue}{0}) + w(\sigma_{T_i} : v_i \mapsto \textcolor{green}{1}))}{\prod_{i=1}^d (w(\sigma_{T_i} : v_i \mapsto \textcolor{blue}{0}) + \gamma w(\sigma_{T_i} : v_i \mapsto \textcolor{green}{1}))}$$

# Self-Avoiding Walk Tree

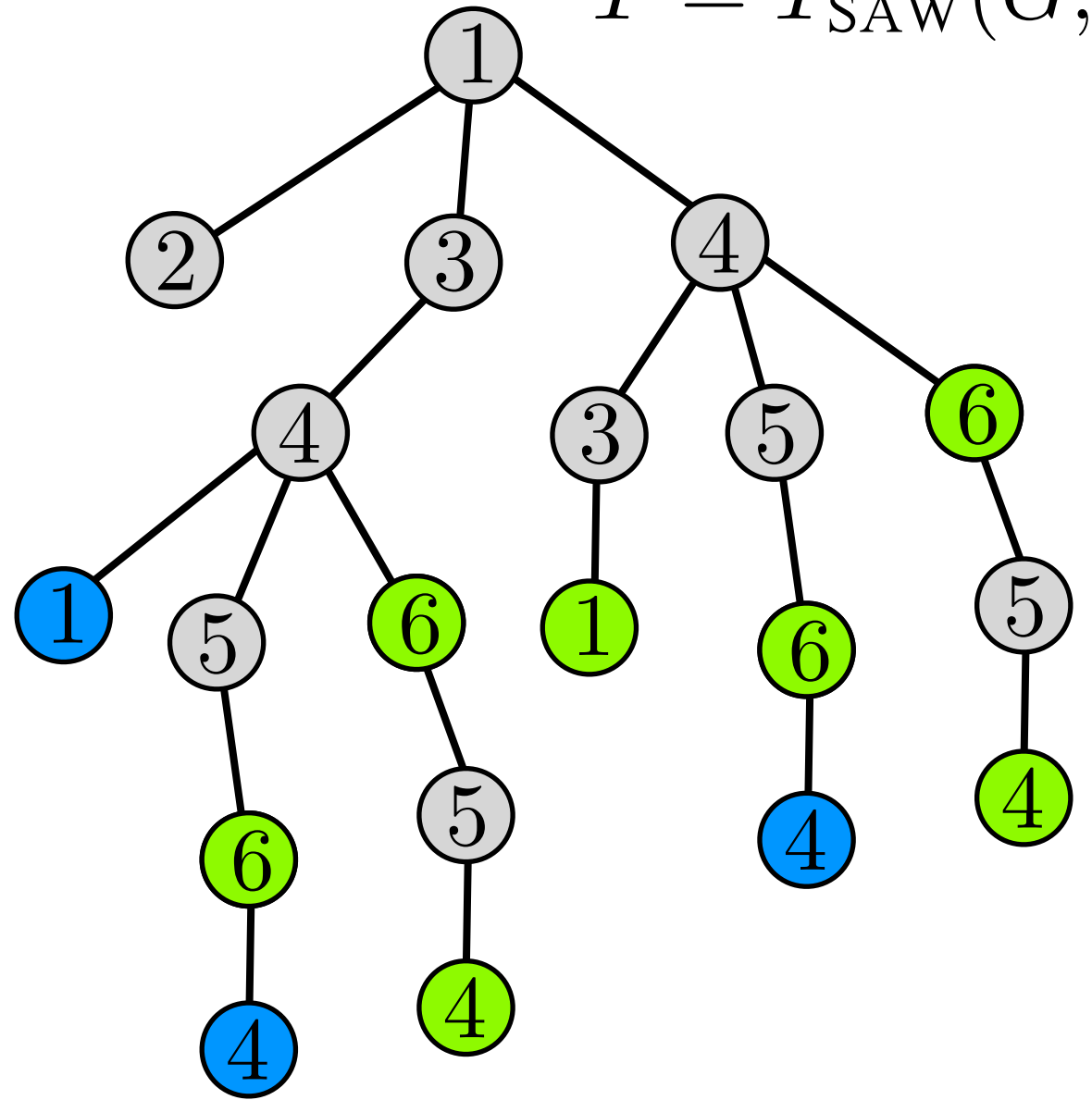
due to Weitz (2006)

$$G=(V,E)$$
$$T = T_{\text{SAW}}(G, v)$$


$$R_{G,v}^{\sigma_\Lambda} = \frac{p_v^{\sigma_\Lambda}}{1 - p_v^{\sigma_\Lambda}}$$

# Weitz (2006)

$$R_{G,v}^{\sigma\Lambda} = R_T^{\sigma\Lambda}$$



- if cycle closing  $>$  cycle starting
- if cycle closing  $<$  cycle starting

# Approximation Algorithm

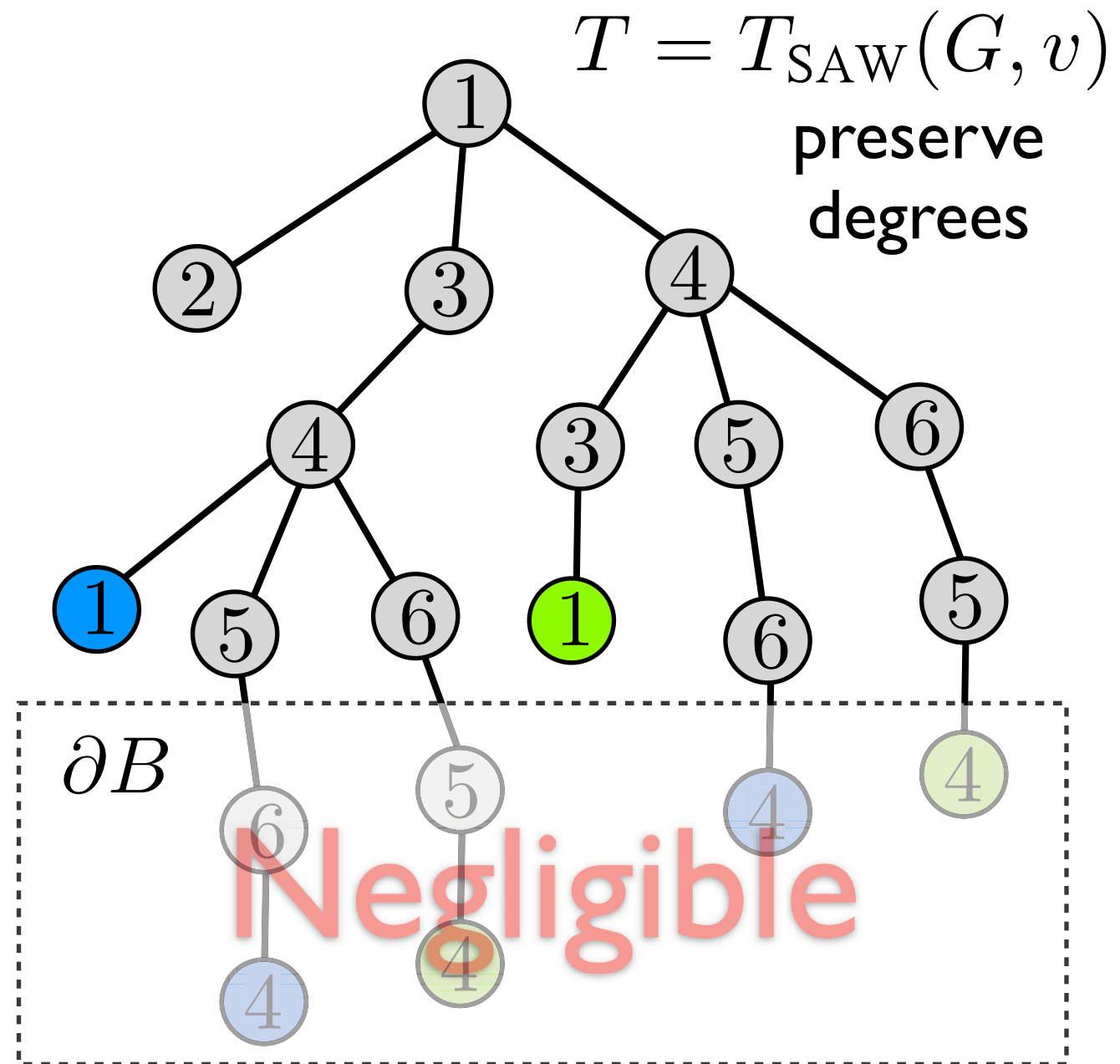
# exponential

## correlation decay:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{error} &= R_{\text{upper}}^{\sigma_{\Lambda \cap B}} - R_{\text{lower}}^{\sigma_{\Lambda \cap B}} \\ &= \exp(-\text{depth to } \partial B) \end{aligned}$$

error decreases  
exponentially in depth

poly-time on  
 $O(1)$ -degree graphs



# Correlation Decay!

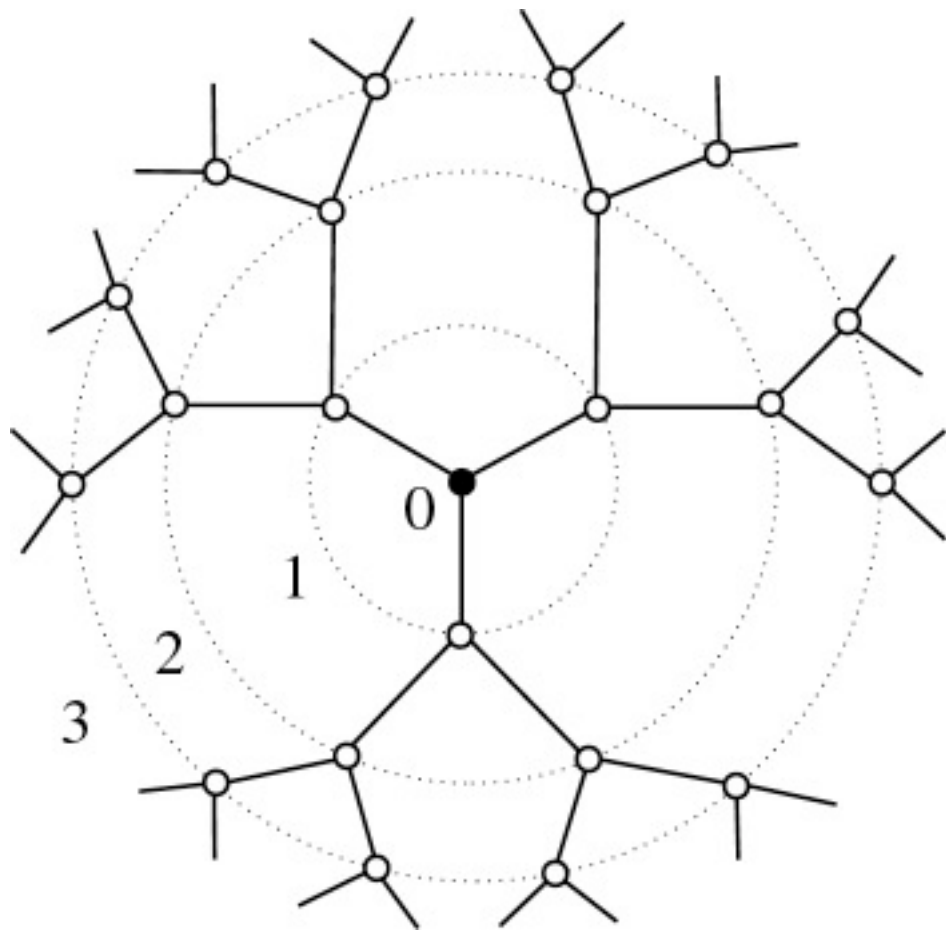
# Technique

- *amortized* analysis of decay:
  - the *potential method*;
- *Computationally Efficient Correlation Decay*:  
dealing with unbounded-degree graphs;

# Uniqueness Threshold

$\hat{\mathbb{T}}_d$  infinite  $(d+1)$ -regular tree  
(Bethe lattice, Cayley tree)

**Uniqueness of  
Gibbs measure**

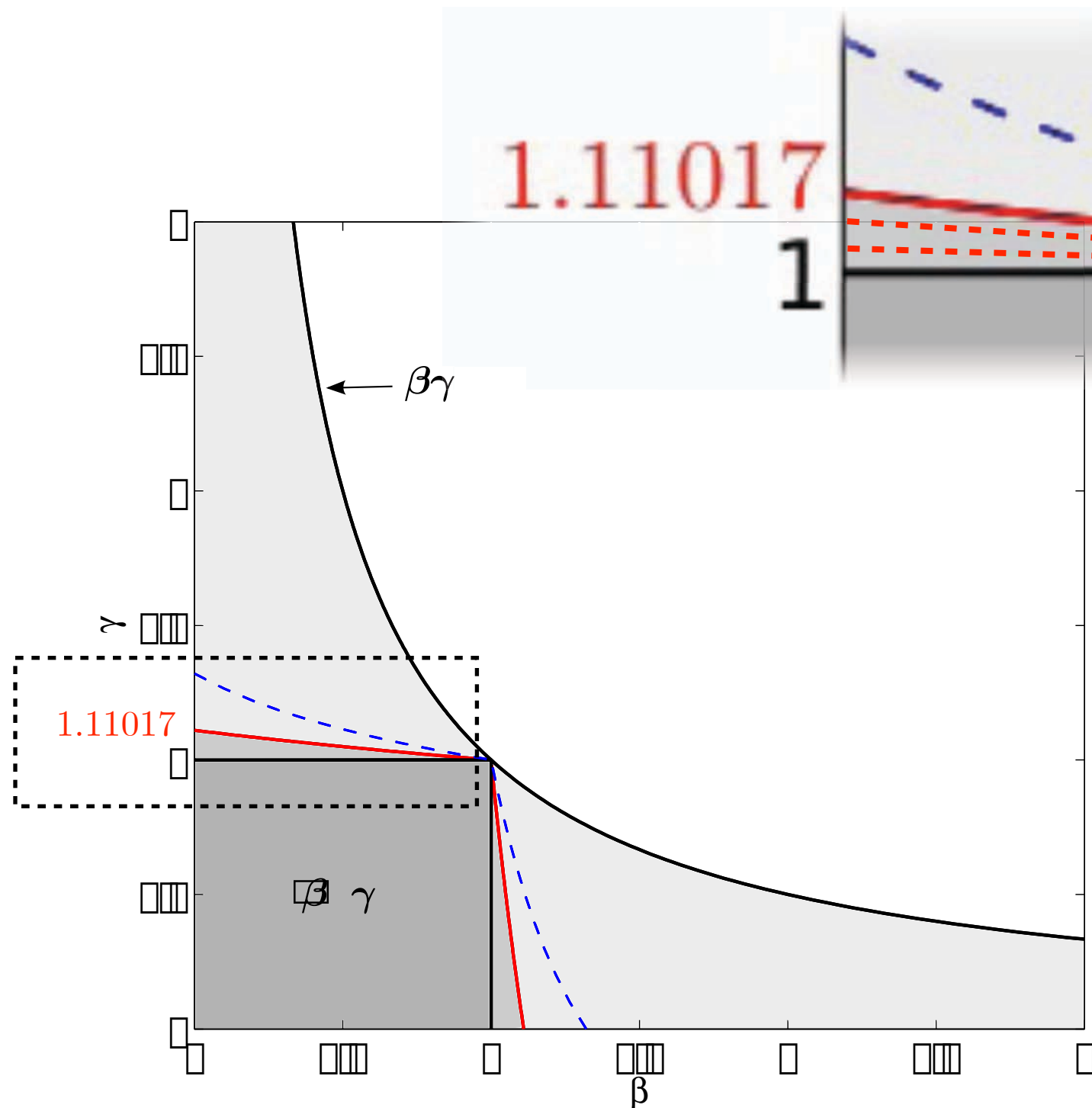


$$f(x) = \left( \frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma} \right)^d$$

$$\hat{x} = f(\hat{x})$$

$$|f'(\hat{x})| < 1$$

# Uniqueness Threshold



$$f(x) = \left(\frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma}\right)^d$$

$$\hat{x} = f(\hat{x})$$

$$|f'(\hat{x})| < 1$$

for all  $d$

$$0 \leq \beta < 1 < \gamma$$

# Correlation Decay

anti-ferromagnetic  $\beta\gamma < 1$

$$R_T^{\sigma_\Lambda} = f(R_{T_1}^{\sigma_\Lambda}, \dots, R_{T_d}^{\sigma_\Lambda}) = \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta R_{T_i}^{\sigma_\Lambda} + 1}{R_{T_i}^{\sigma_\Lambda} + \gamma}$$

monotonically decreasing

upper bound =  $f$ (lower bounds)

lower bound =  $f$ (upper bounds)

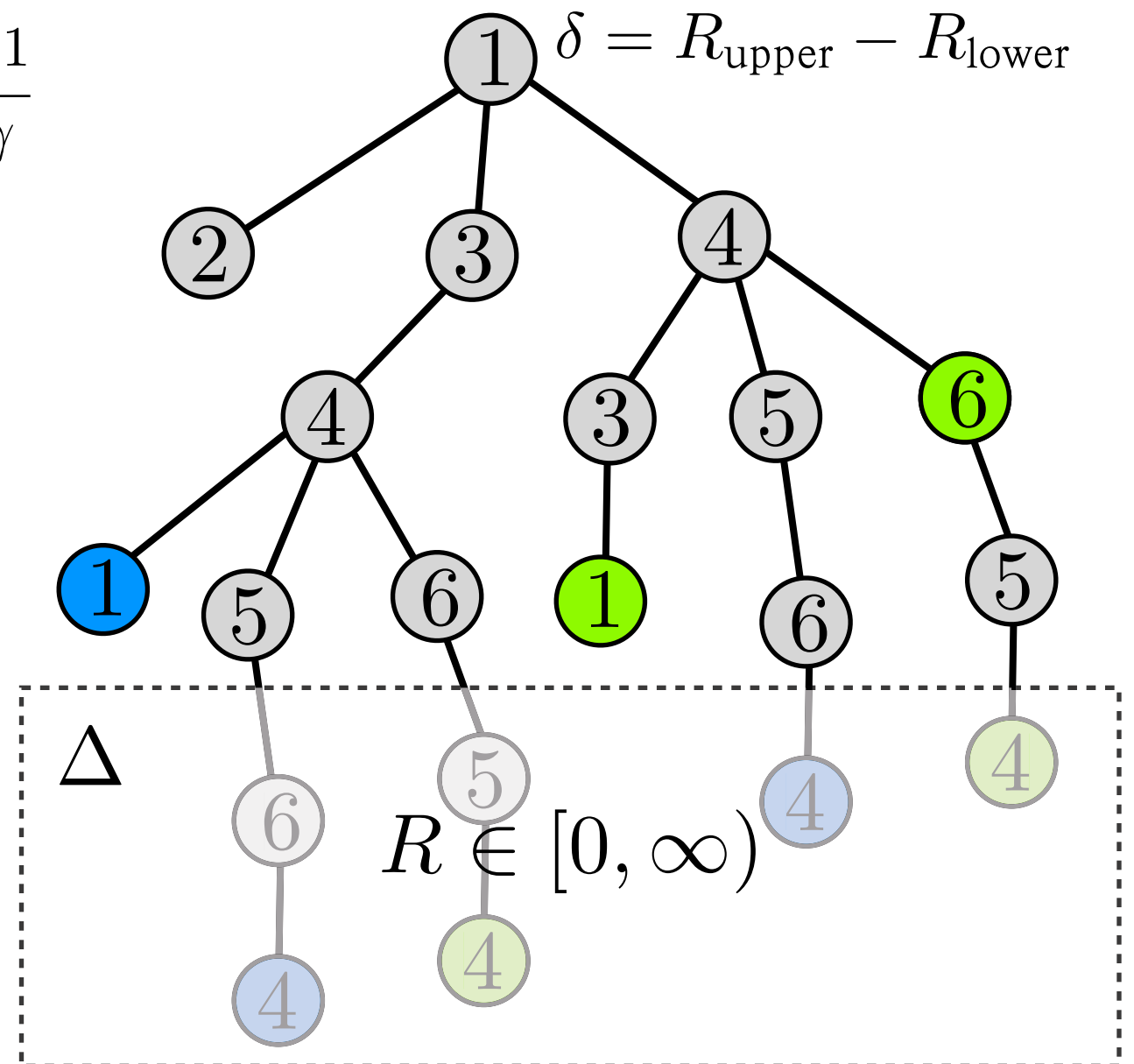
$v \in \Lambda$  fixed to be 0

lower=upper=  $\infty$

$v \in \Lambda$  fixed to be 1

lower=upper= 0

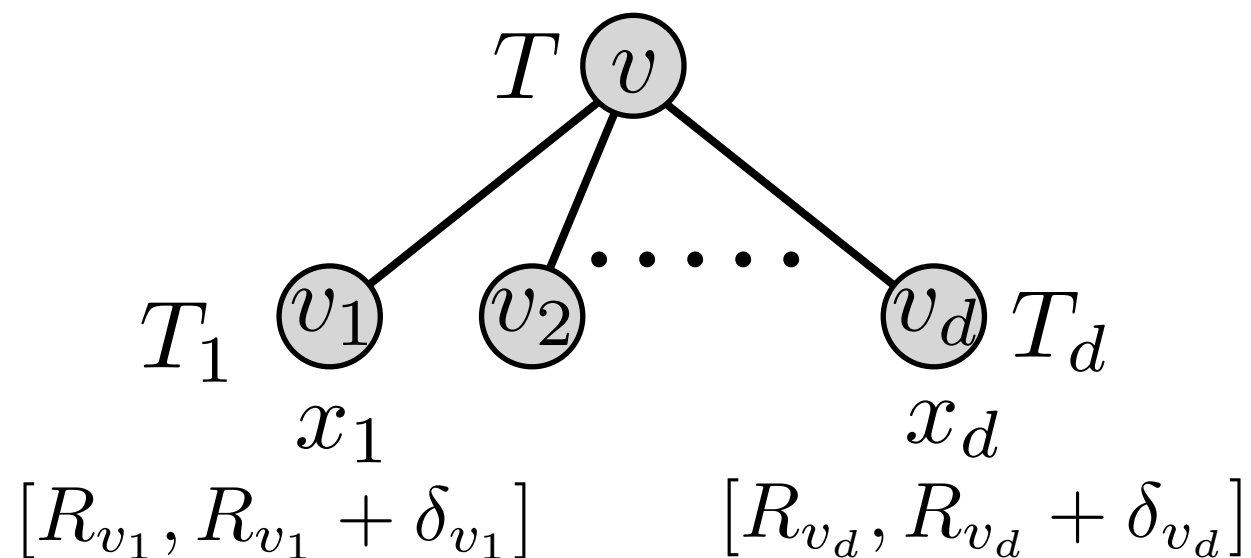
$$T = T_{\text{SAW}}(G, v)$$



**Goal:**  $\delta = \exp(-\Omega(\text{depth to } \Delta))$

$$R_v \leq R_T^\sigma \leq R_v + \delta_v$$

$$x \in [R_v, R_v + \delta_v]$$



$$f(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta x_i + 1}{x_i + \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\delta_{\text{parent}}}{\Phi(x_{\text{parent}})} \leq \alpha \cdot \frac{\delta_{\text{child}}}{\Phi(x_{\text{child}})}$$

$$\Phi(x) = x^{\frac{D+1}{2D}} (\beta x + 1)$$

**Cheating:**

$$f(x) = \left( \frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma} \right)^d$$

$$\delta_{\text{parent}} = f(R_{\text{child}}) - f(R_{\text{child}} + \delta_{\text{child}})$$

$$= |f'(x)| \cdot \delta_{\text{child}}$$

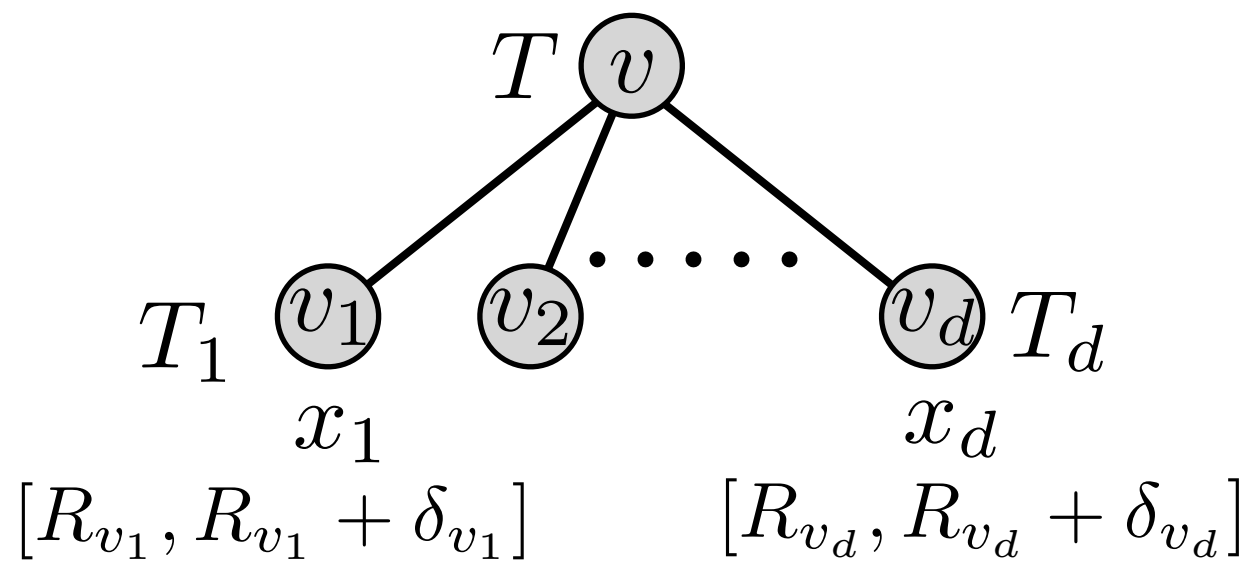
$$x \in [R_{\text{child}}, R_{\text{child}} + \delta_{\text{child}}]$$

**we do not always have**

$$|f'(x)| < 1$$

$$\alpha = \frac{|f'(x)| \Phi(x)}{\Phi(f(x))} < 1$$

$$x \in [R_v, R_v + \delta_v]$$



$$f(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta x_i + 1}{x_i + \gamma}$$

$$\Phi(x) = x^{\frac{D+1}{2D}} (\beta x + 1)$$

$$\frac{\delta_v}{\Phi(x)}$$

$$= \frac{f(R_{v_1}, \dots, R_{v_d}) - f(R_{v_1} + \delta_{v_1}, \dots, R_{v_d} + \delta_{v_d})}{\Phi(x)}$$

..... Mean Value Thms

$$\leq \alpha(d; x_1, \dots, x_d) \cdot \max_{1 \leq i \leq d} \frac{\delta_{v_i}}{\Phi(x_i)}$$

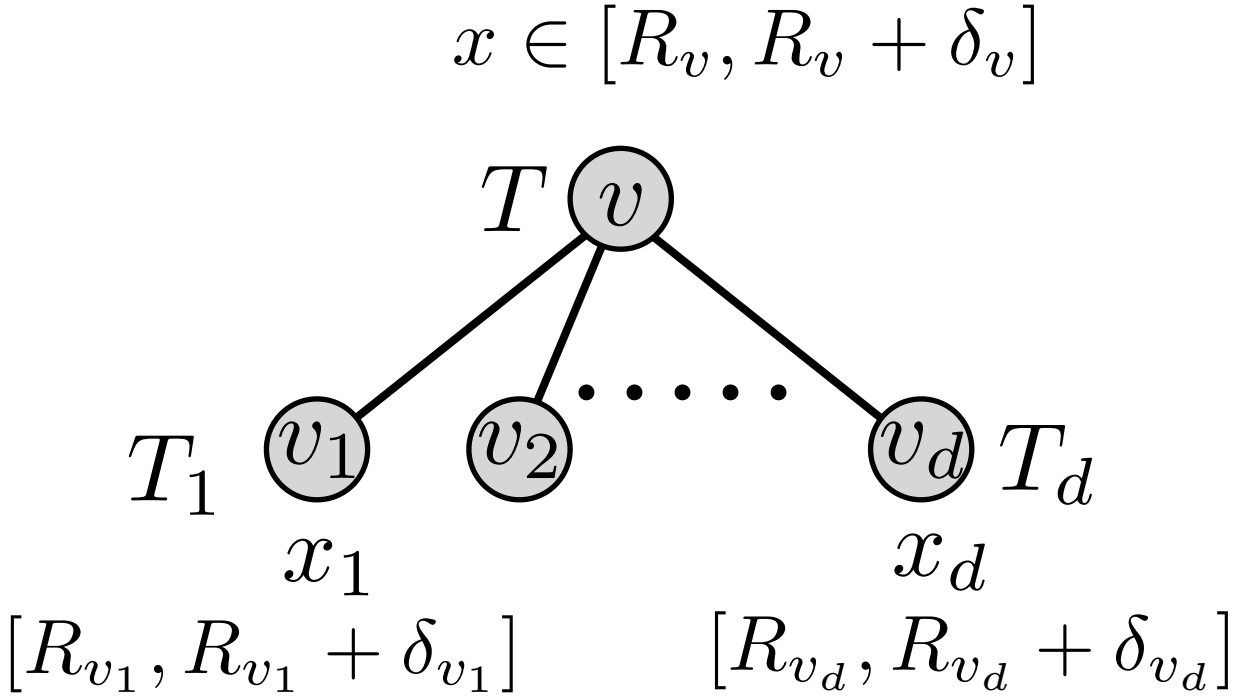
$$\alpha(d; x_1, \dots, x_d) = \frac{(1 - \beta\gamma) \left( \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta x_i + 1}{x_i + \gamma} \right)^{\frac{D-1}{2D}}}{\beta \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta x_i + 1}{x_i + \gamma} + 1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{x_i^{\frac{D+1}{2D}}}{x_i + \gamma}$$

$$\alpha(d; x_1, \dots, x_d) = \frac{(1 - \beta\gamma) \left( \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta x_i + 1}{x_i + \gamma} \right)^{\frac{D-1}{2D}}}{\beta \prod_{i=1}^d \frac{\beta x_i + 1}{x_i + \gamma} + 1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{x_i^{\frac{D+1}{2D}}}{x_i + \gamma}$$

## Jensen's Inequality

$$\leq \alpha(d, x) = \frac{d(1 - \beta\gamma)x^{\frac{D+1}{2D}}(\beta x + 1)^{\frac{d(D-1)}{2D}}}{(x + \gamma)^{1 + \frac{d(D-1)}{2D}} \left( \beta \left( \frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma} \right)^d + 1 \right)}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{\Phi(x)}{\Phi(f(x))} |f'(x)|}$$

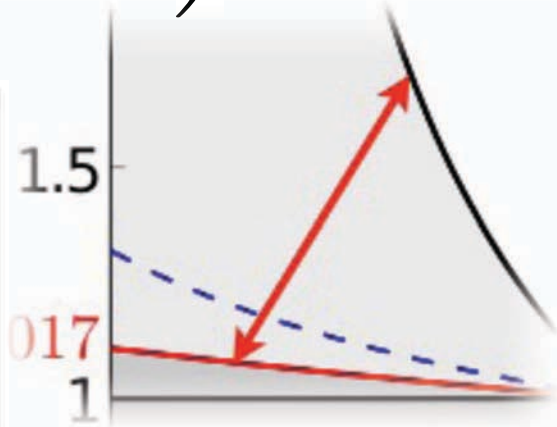


$$\Phi(x) = x^{\frac{D+1}{2D}} (\beta x + 1)$$

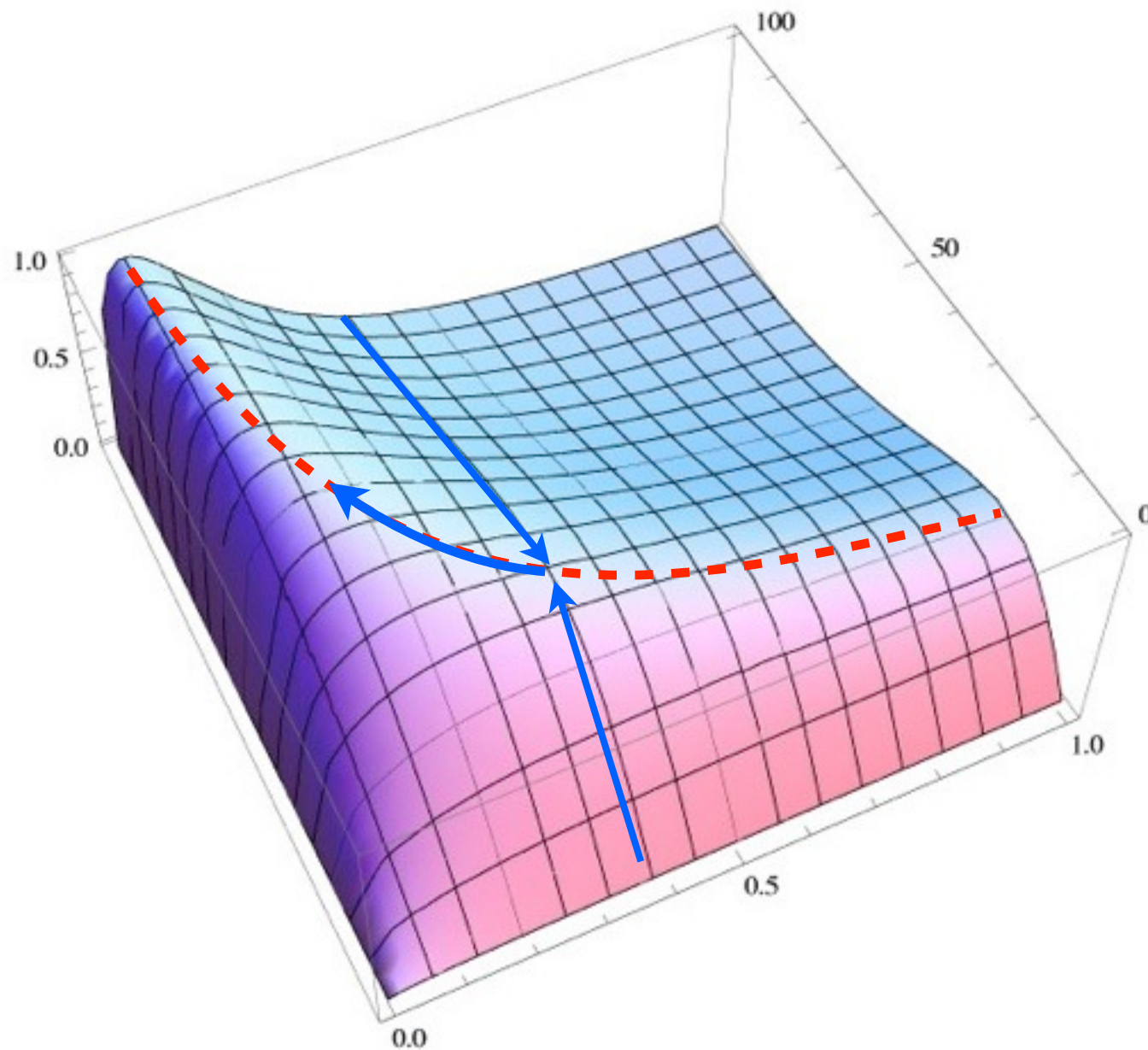
$$\frac{\delta_v}{\Phi(x)} \leq \alpha(d, x) \cdot \max_{1 \leq i \leq d} \frac{\delta_{v_i}}{\Phi(x_i)}$$

$$\alpha(d, x) = \frac{d(1 - \beta\gamma)x^{\frac{D+1}{2D}} (\beta x + 1)^{\frac{d(D-1)}{2D}}}{(x + \gamma)^{1 + \frac{d(D-1)}{2D}} \left( \beta \left( \frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma} \right)^d + 1 \right)}$$

$$\alpha(d, x) \leq 1 \quad \text{if} \quad \Gamma \leq \gamma < \frac{1}{\beta}$$

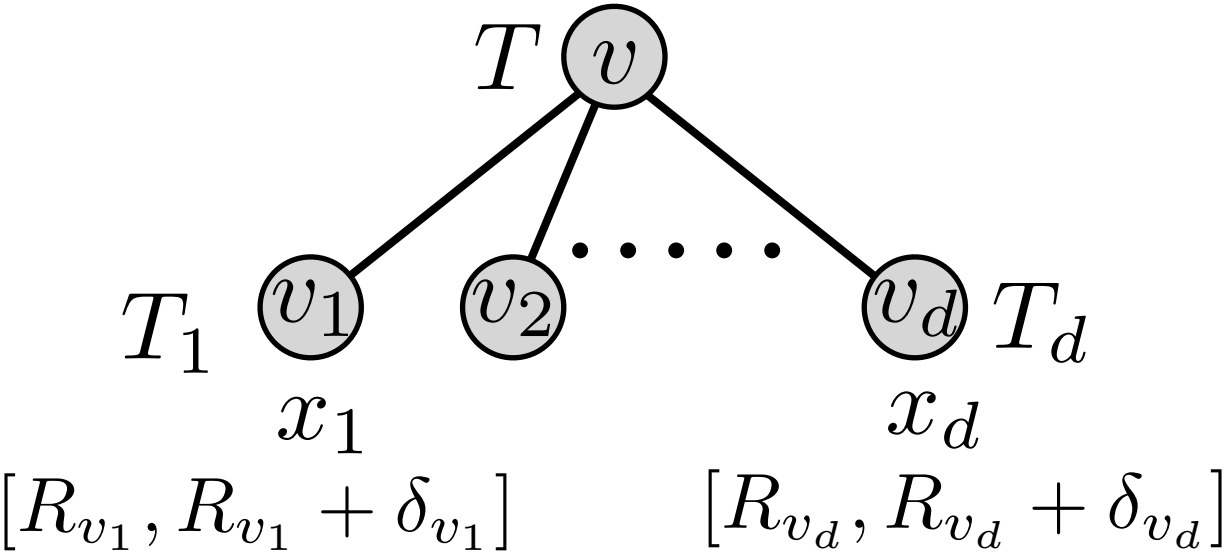


$$\alpha(d, x) = \frac{d(1 - \beta\gamma)x^{\frac{D+1}{2D}}(\beta x + 1)^{\frac{d(D-1)}{2D}}}{(x + \gamma)^{1 + \frac{d(D-1)}{2D}} \left( \beta \left( \frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma} \right)^d + 1 \right)}$$

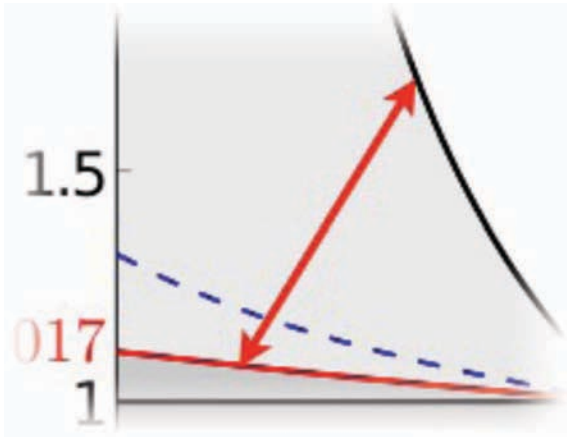


$$R_v \leq R_T^\sigma \leq R_v + \delta_v$$

$$x \in [R_v, R_v + \delta_v]$$



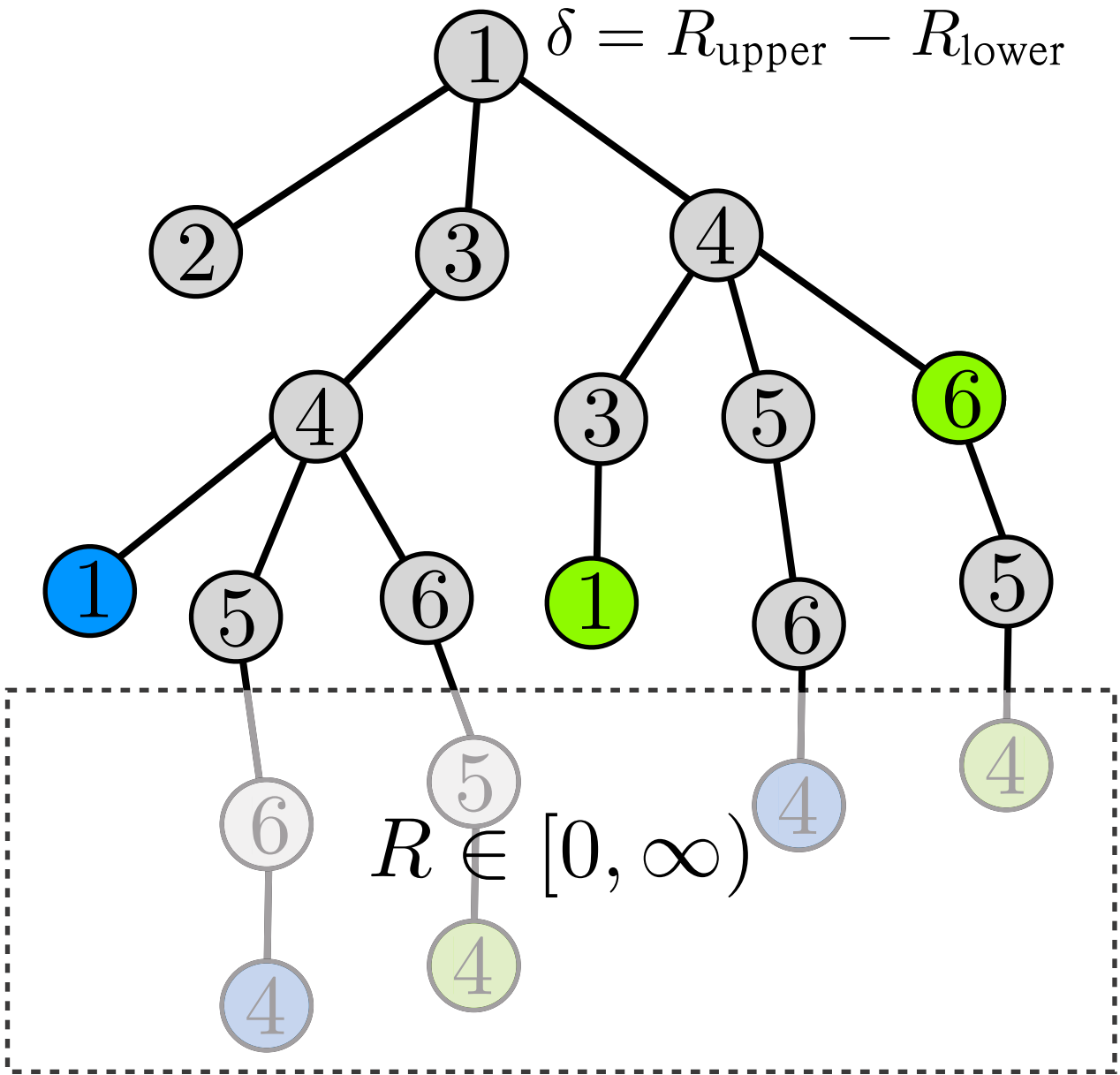
$$\frac{\delta_v}{\Phi(x)} \leq \alpha(d, x) \cdot \max_{1 \leq i \leq d} \frac{\delta_{v_i}}{\Phi(x_i)}$$



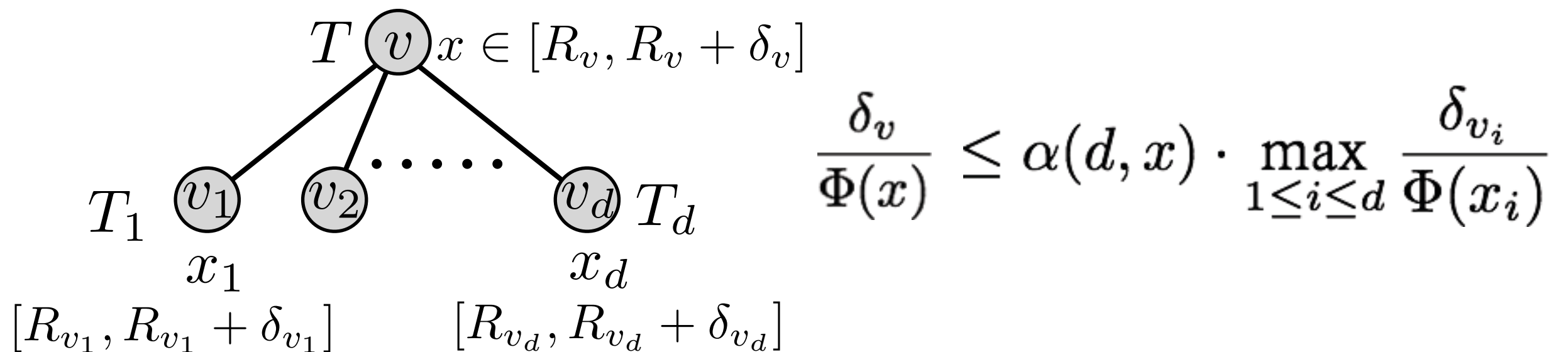
$$\alpha(d, x) < 1$$

$$\delta = \exp(-\Omega(\text{depth to } \Delta))$$

$$T = T_{\text{SAW}}(G, v)$$



# Computationally Efficient Correlation Decay



$$\alpha(d, x) = \frac{d(1 - \beta\gamma)x^{\frac{D+1}{2D}}(\beta x + 1)^{\frac{d(D-1)}{2D}}}{(x + \gamma)^{1 + \frac{d(D-1)}{2D}} \left( \beta \left( \frac{\beta x + 1}{x + \gamma} \right)^d + 1 \right)}$$

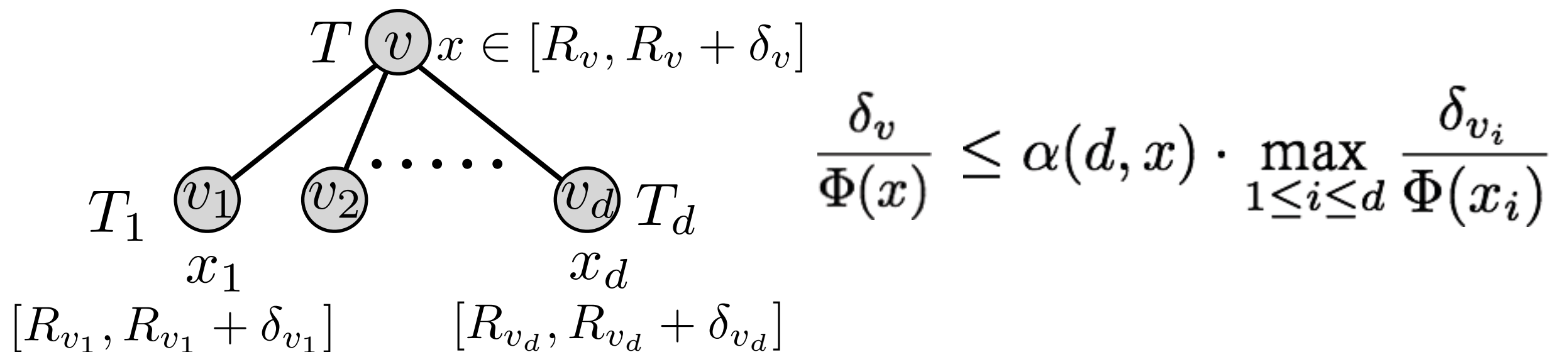
$$\leq \frac{d}{\gamma^{d \frac{D-1}{2D}}} \leq \alpha^{\lceil \log_M(d+1) \rceil}$$

$$\gamma > 1$$

for some  $\alpha < 1$

$$M > 1$$

# Computationally Efficient Correlation Decay



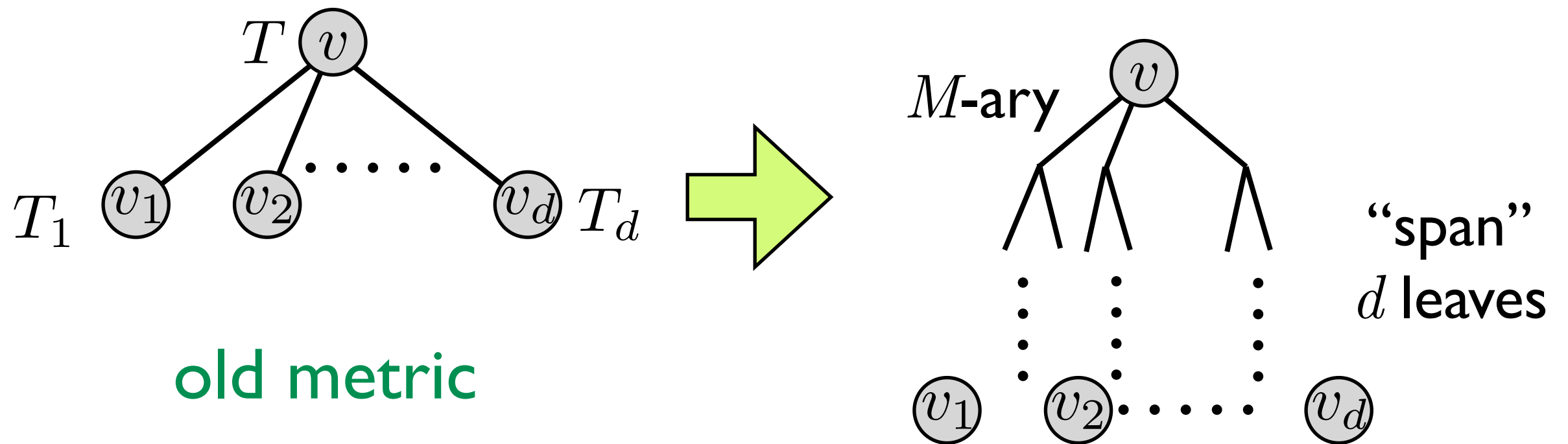
$$\alpha(d, x) \leq \alpha^{\lceil \log_M(d+1) \rceil} \quad \text{for some } \alpha < 1 \quad M > 1$$

for **small**  $d < M$  one-step recursion decays  $\alpha$

for **large**  $d \geq M$  one-step recursion decays  $\alpha^{\lceil \log_M(d+1) \rceil}$

behaves like  $\lceil \log_M(d+1) \rceil$  steps!

# Computationally Efficient Correlation Decay



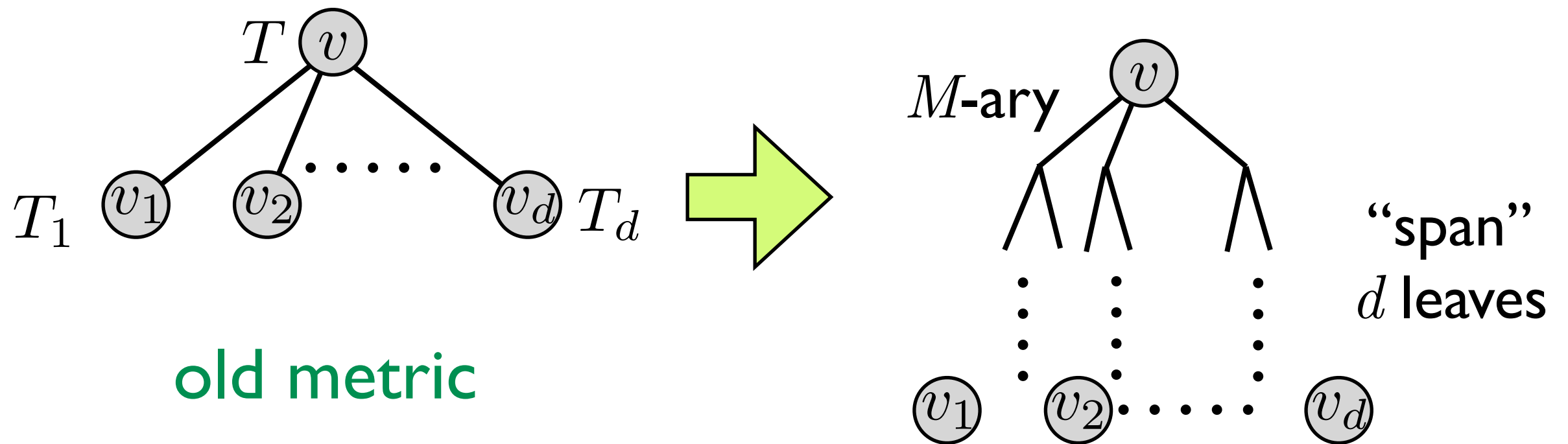
exponential decay in new metric

for small  $d < M$  one-step recursion decays  $\alpha$

for large  $d \geq M$  one-step recursion decays  $\alpha^{\lceil \log_M(d+1) \rceil}$

behaves like  $\lceil \log_M(d+1) \rceil$  steps!

# Computationally Efficient Correlation Decay



exponential decay in **new metric**  $\alpha^{\text{distance}}$

only moderately grows  $M^{\text{distance}}$

distance =  $O(\log n)$  1/poly-precision in poly-time

# Conclusion

- FPTAS for 2-state spin system up to uniqueness threshold (conjectured to be the boundary of approximability).
- Computationally Efficient Correlation Decay (the first time that Correlation Decay is used to deal with arbitrary graphs).

**Thank You!**