

# Approximating **Directed Steiner** Problems via Tree Embedding

Bundit Laekhanukit

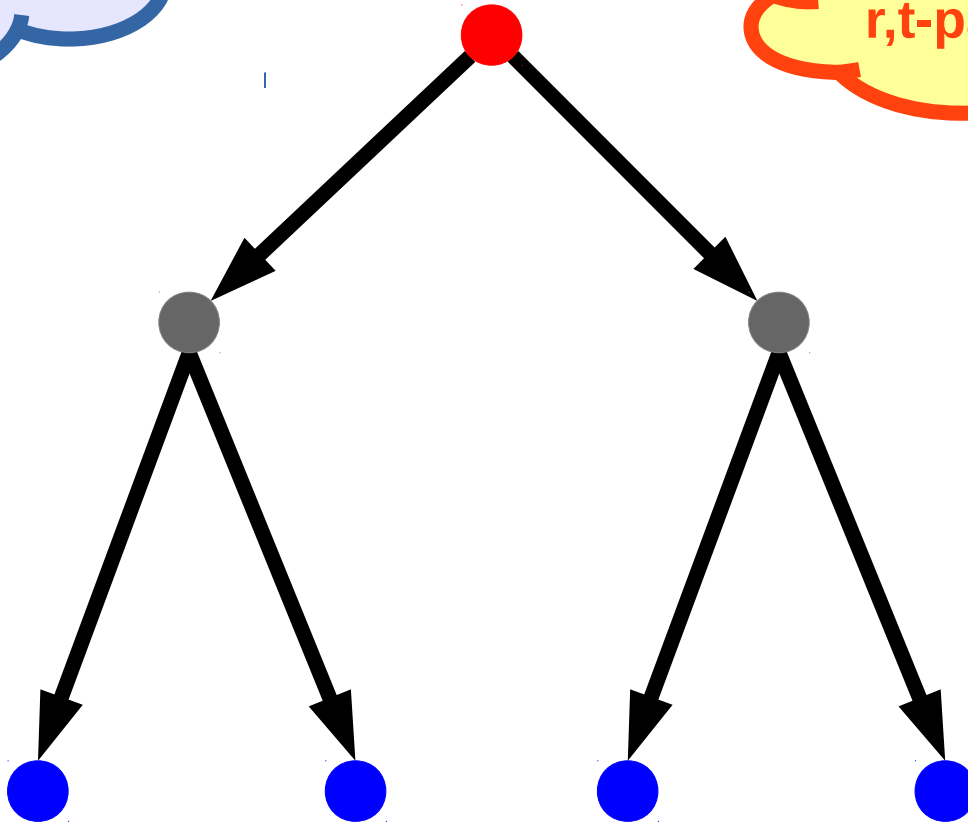
Weizmann Institute of Science  
Rehovot, Israel

We study a **natural**  
generalization of  
**Directed Steiner Tree.**

# Directed Steiner Tree (DST)

Given Digraph  $G$ ,  
Root  $r$ ,  
Set of Terminals  $T$

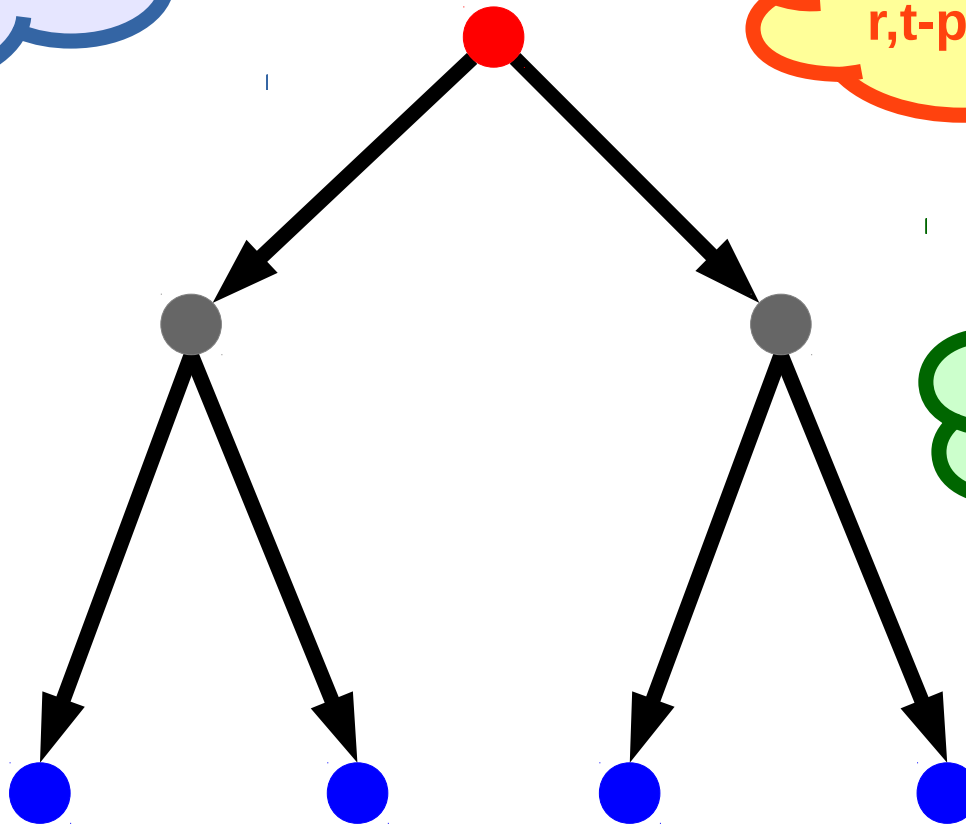
Find min-cost  
subgraph  $H$  with  
 $r, t$ -path for all  $ter. t$



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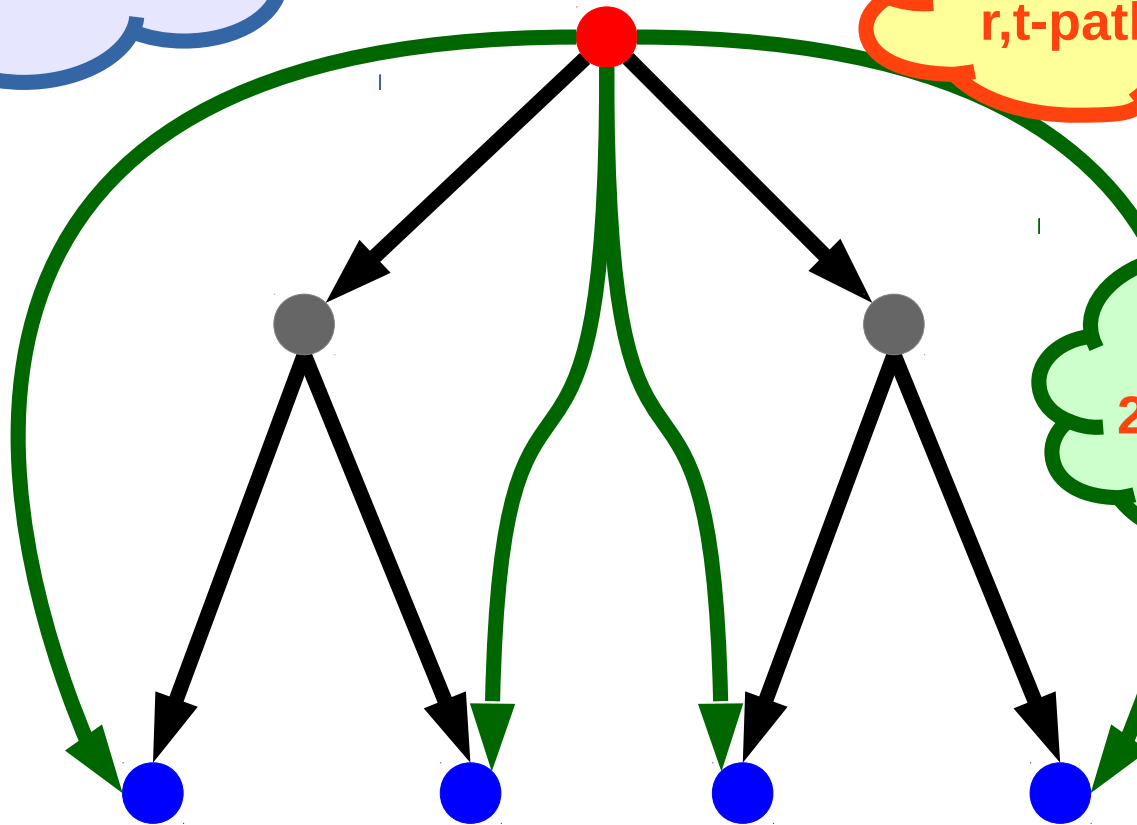
Can we have  
**2-disj**  $r, t$ -paths?

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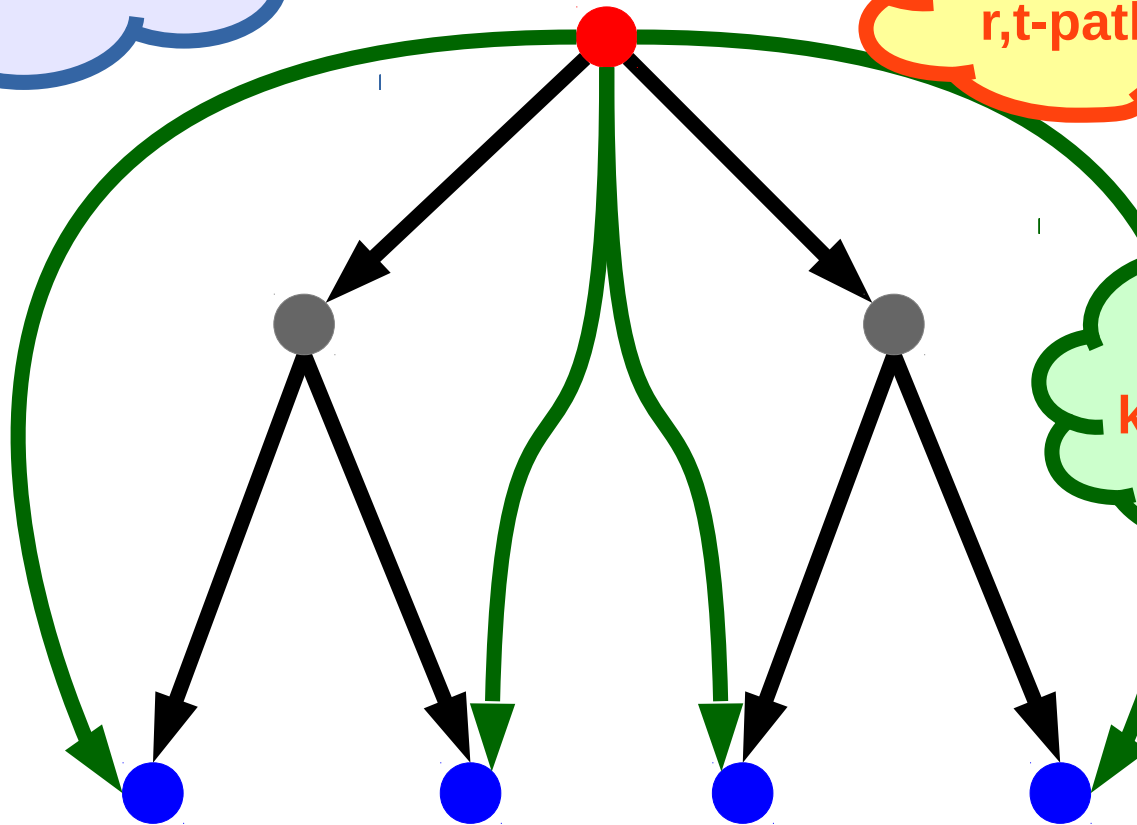


# k-Connected DST (k-DST)

Given Digraph  $G$ ,  
Root  $r$ ,  
Set of Terminals  $T$

Find min-cost  
subgraph  $H$  with  
 $r, t$ -path for all  $ter. t$

Can we have  
**k-disj**  $r, t$ -paths?



**“A problem that we  
do not know anything for”**

**G. Kortsarz**

# What're known in late 90's

Algorithms		
DST	PolyTime	$ T ^c$ , for $c > 0$ [CCCDGGL'99]
	QPolyTime	$(\log  T )^3$ [CCCDGGL'99]
k-DST		

Hardness	
DST	Set Cover Hard
k-DST	DST Hard



# What're known in 2000's

Algorithms		
DST	PolyTime	$ T ^c$ , for $c > 0$ [CCCDGGL'99]
	QPolyTime	$(\log  T )^3$ [CCCDGGL'99]
k-DST		

Hardness		
DST	$(\log  T )^{2-\epsilon}$	[HK'02]
k-DST	DST Hard	

# Currently known

Algorithms		
DST	PolyTime	$ T ^c$ , for $c > 0$ [CCCDGGL'99]
	QPolyTime	$(\log  T )^3 / \log \log  T $ [GL'15]
k-DST		

Hardness		
DST	$(\log  T )^{(2-\epsilon)}$ [HK'02]	
2-DST	DST Hard	
k-DST ( $k \gg 2$ )	$k \ll  T $	$k^{1/2}$ [L'14]
	$k \gg  T $	$ T ^{1/4}$ [L'14]
	General	$n^c, \exists c > 0$ [CLNV'12]

# This Talks

## k-DST

**$O(D k^{\{D-1\}} \log n)$  Approx for D-Shallow [L'15]**  
[Depth-D DAG is a special case]

## 2-DST

**$\tilde{O}((\log n)^2 (\log |T|)^2)$  Approx for General [GL'16]**  
[in Quasi-Polynomial-Time]

# This Talks

## k-DST

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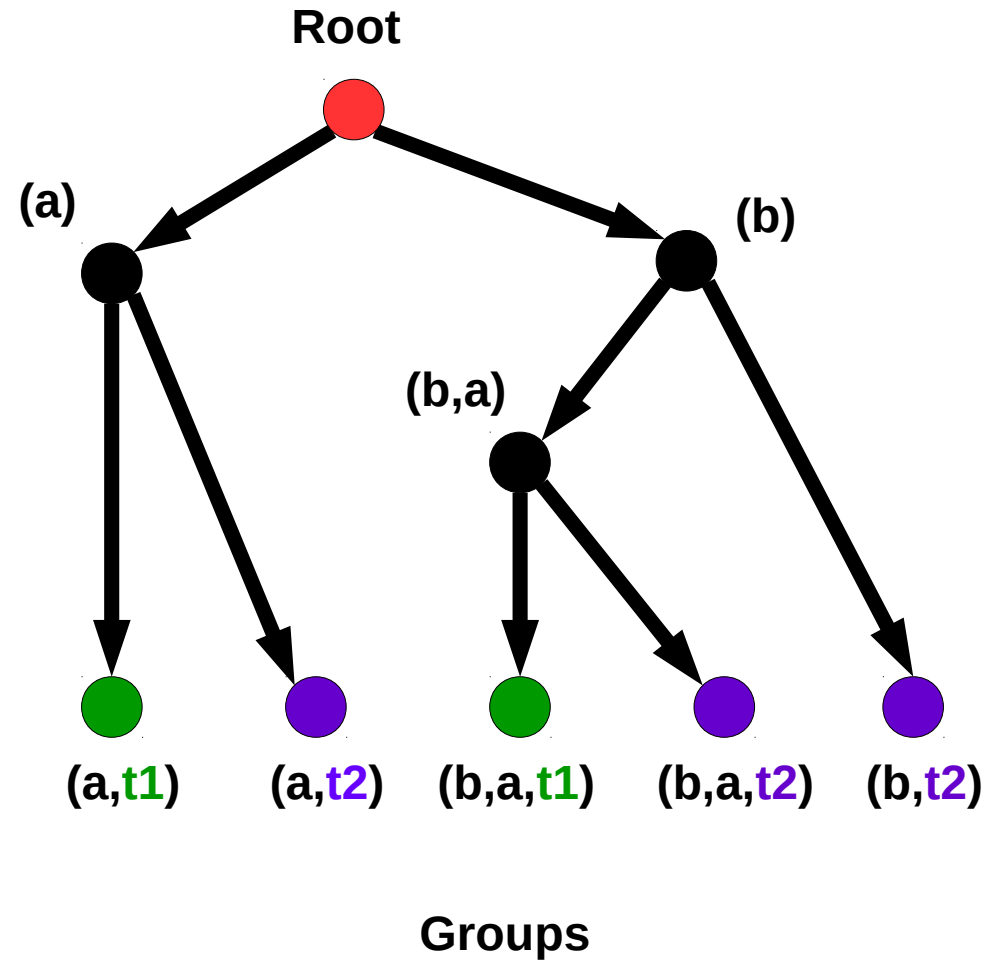
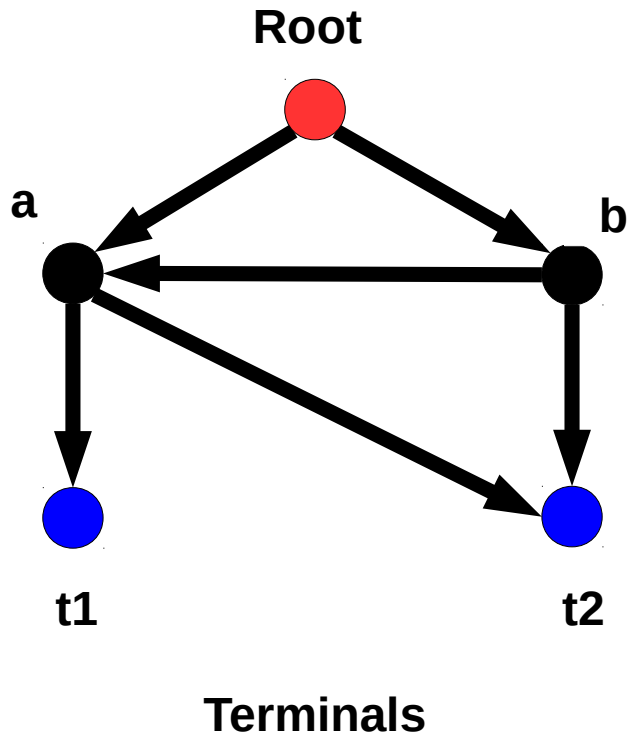
Please blame me  
for any bug!

Our **key ingredient** is  
a reduction from DST to  
**Group Steiner Tree**  
(GST) on Trees

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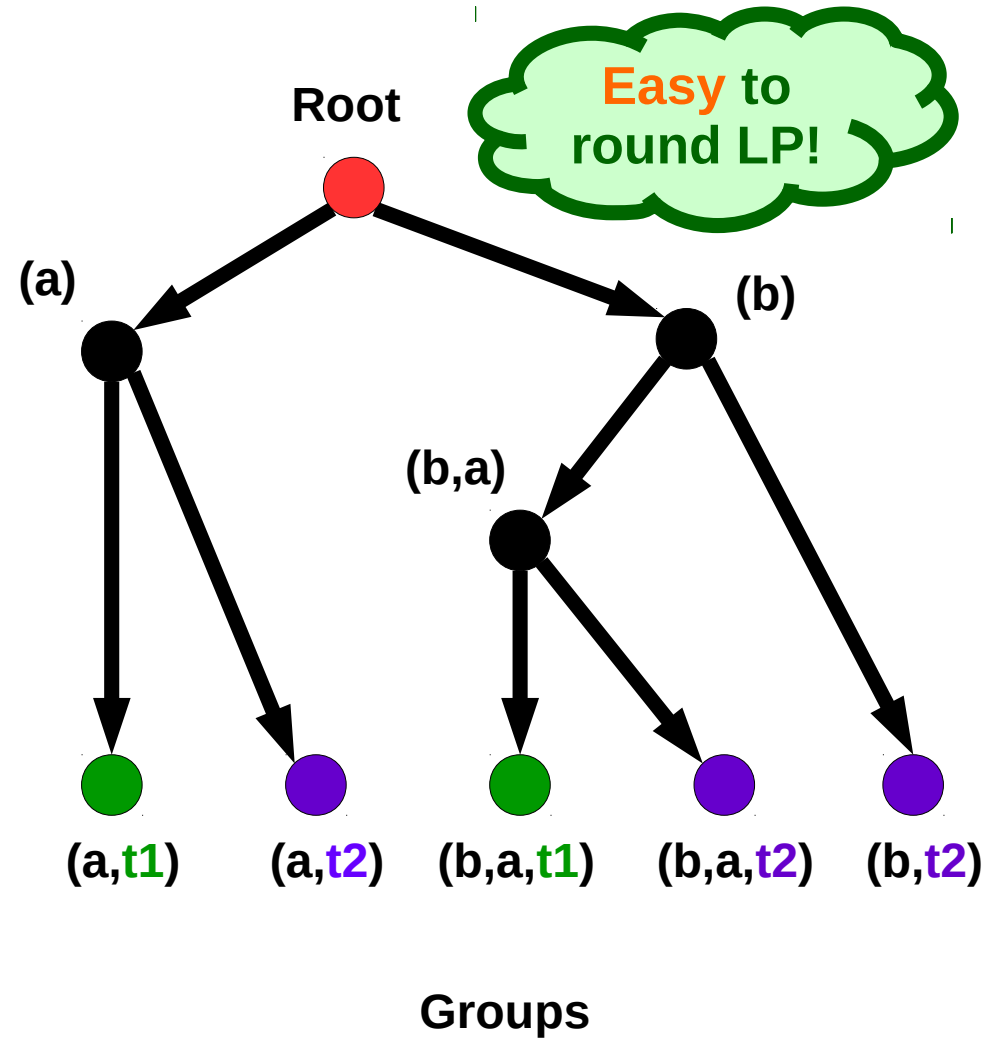
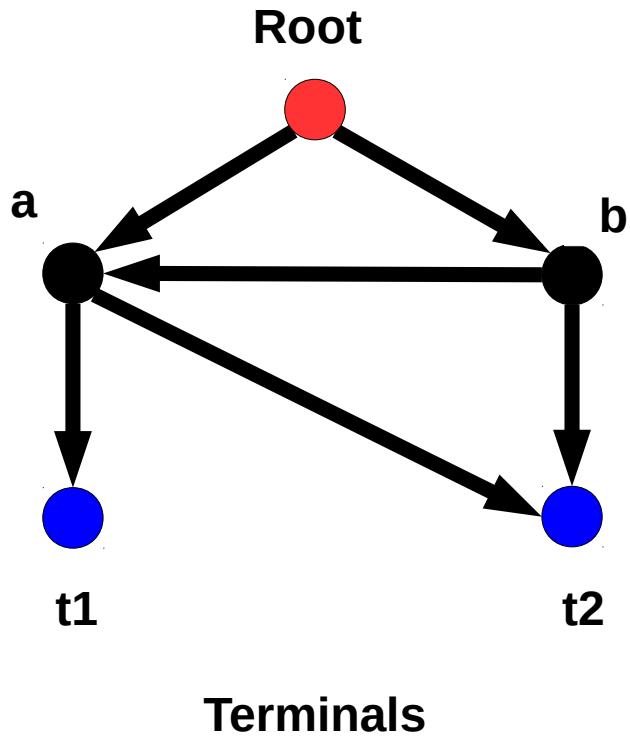
which **does not** work  
for k-DST at all!

# DST to GST on Trees



List All paths (of length D)

# DST to GST on Trees



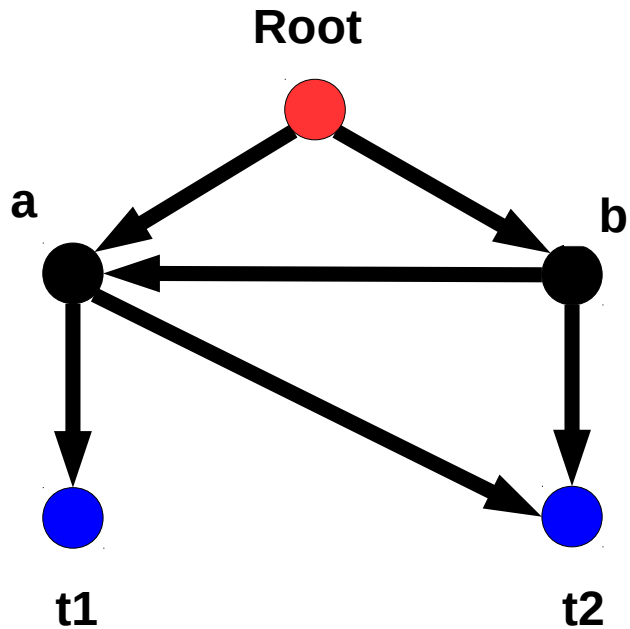
List All paths (of length D)



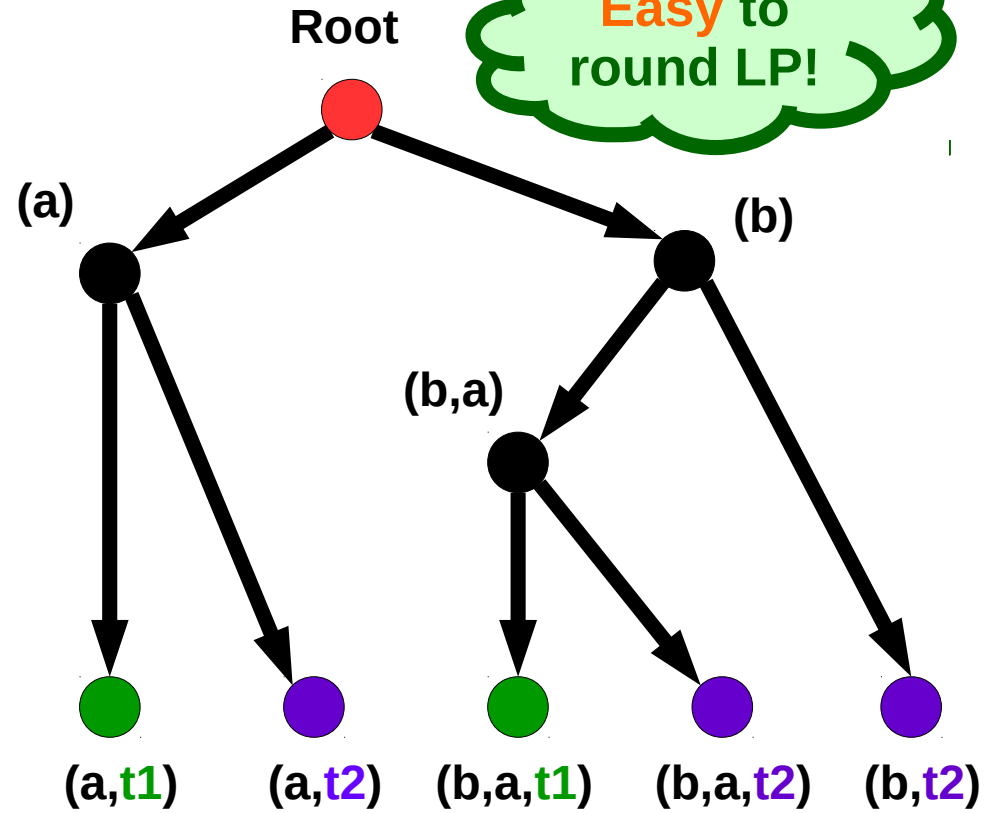
# DST to GST on Trees

[GKR'00]

Easy to round LP!



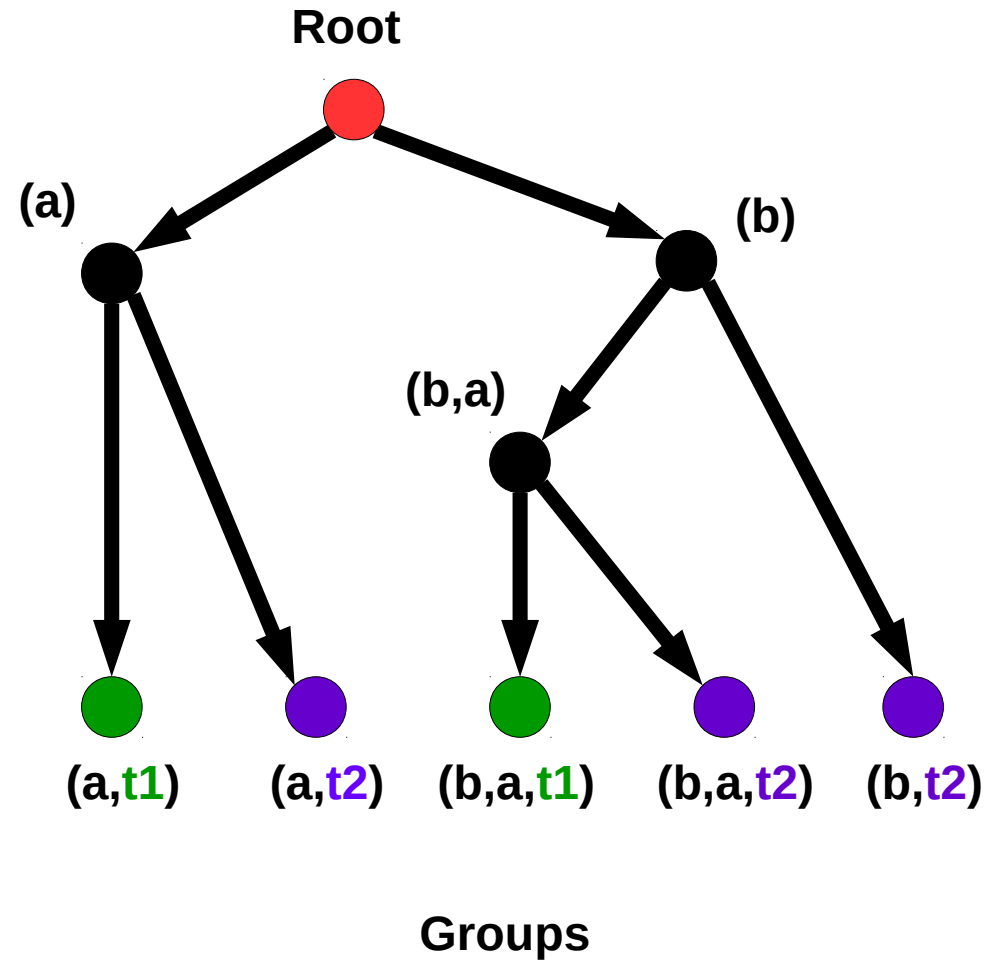
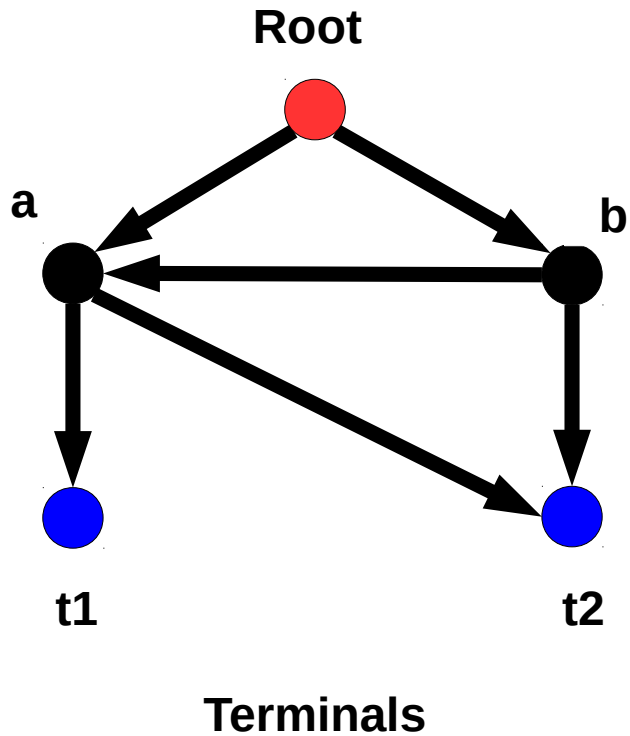
Terminals



Groups

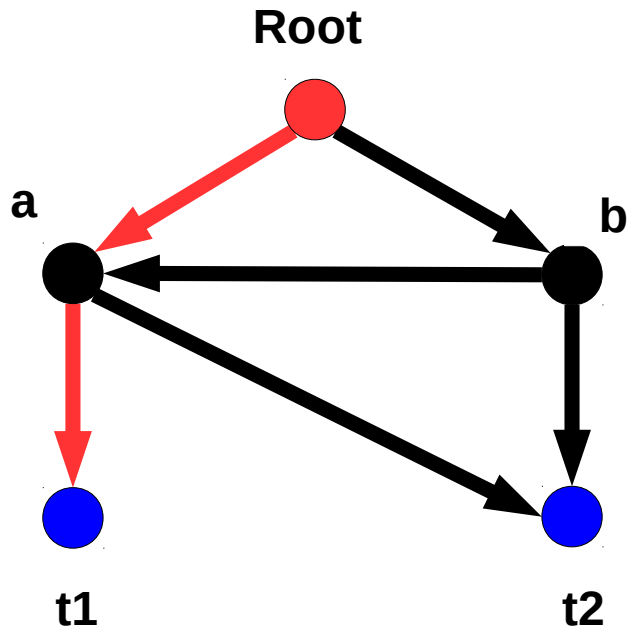
List All paths (of length D)

# k-DST to GST on Trees?

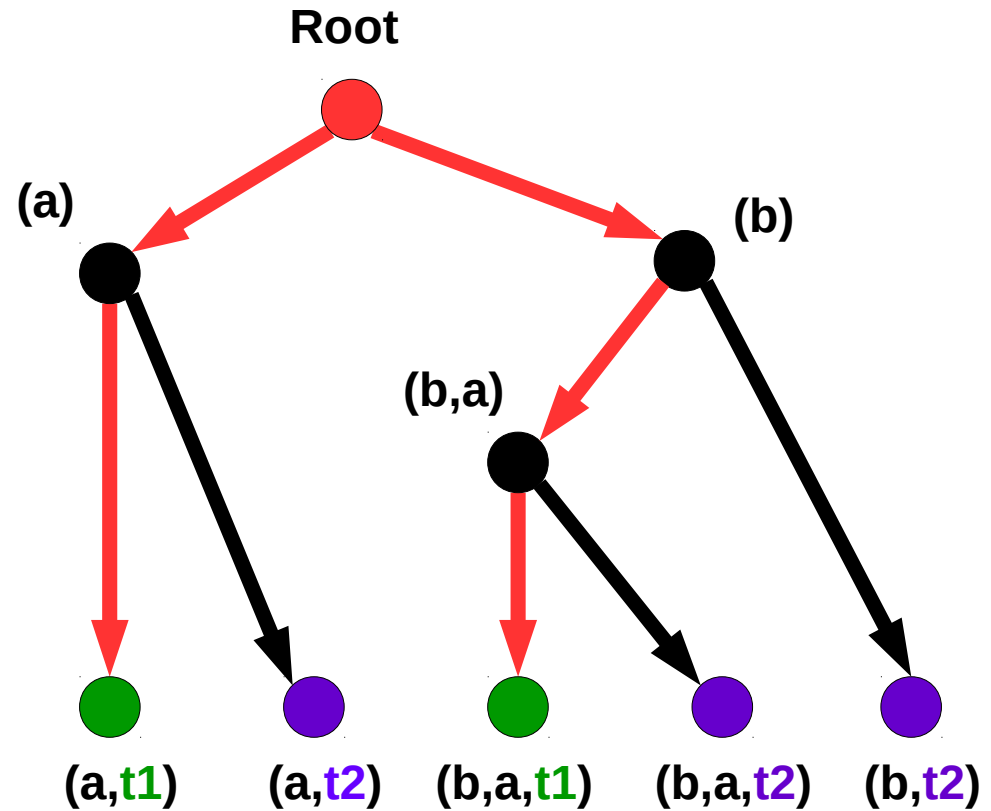


List All paths (of length D)

# k-DST to GST on Trees?



Terminals



Groups

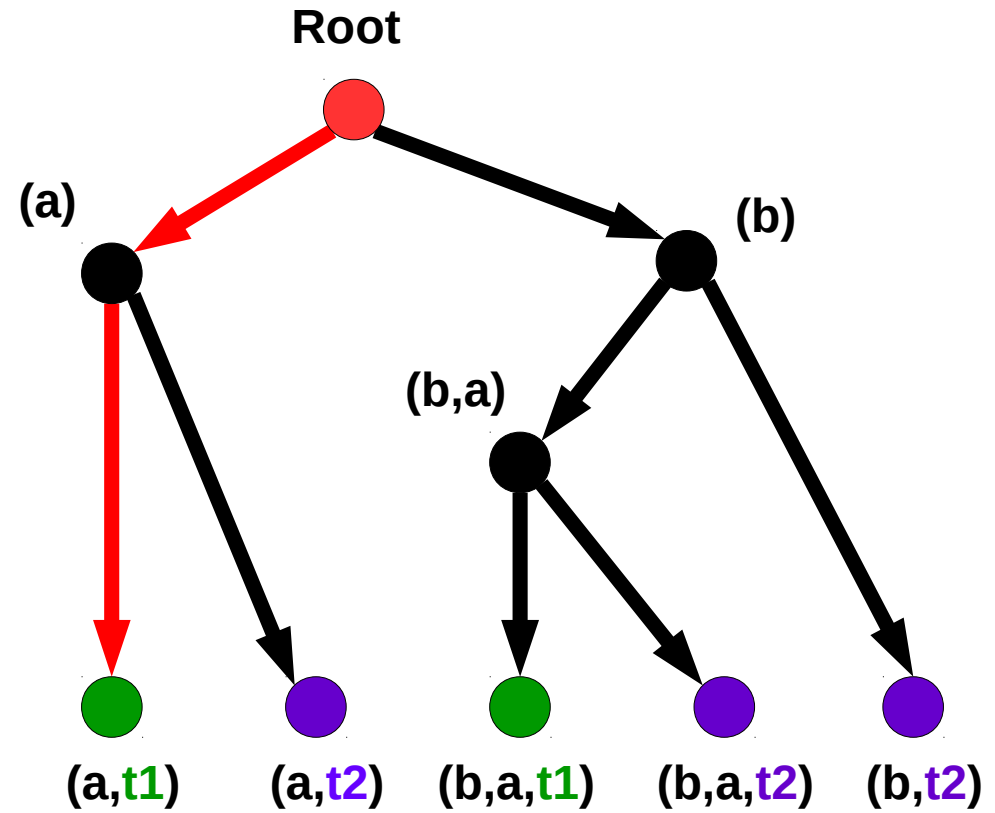
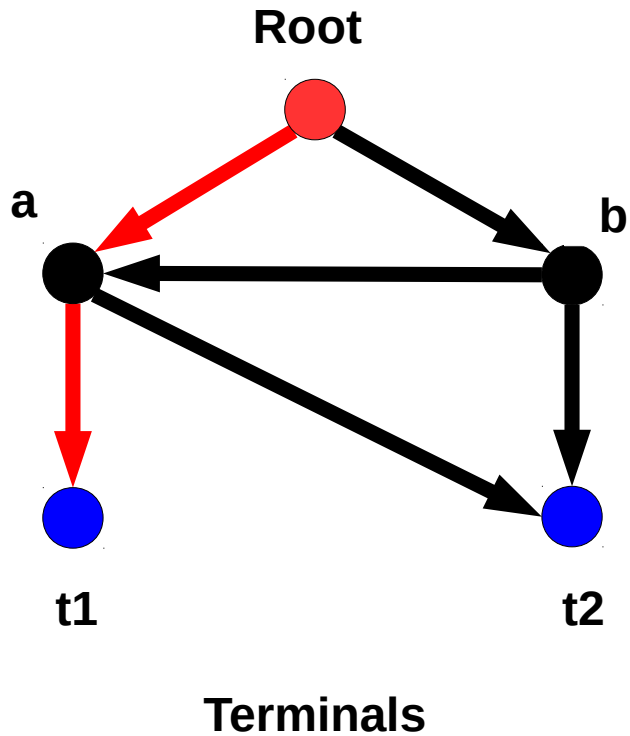
This **does not** preserve connectivity!

List All paths (of length D)

How to make it work?

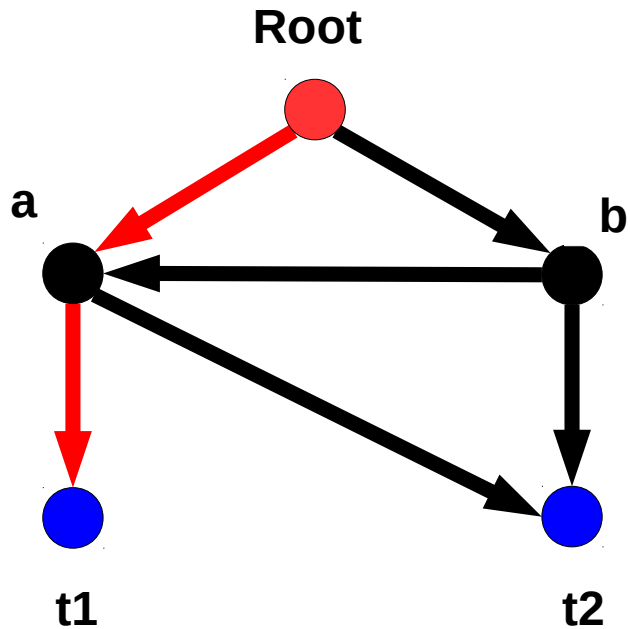


# k-DST to GST on Trees?



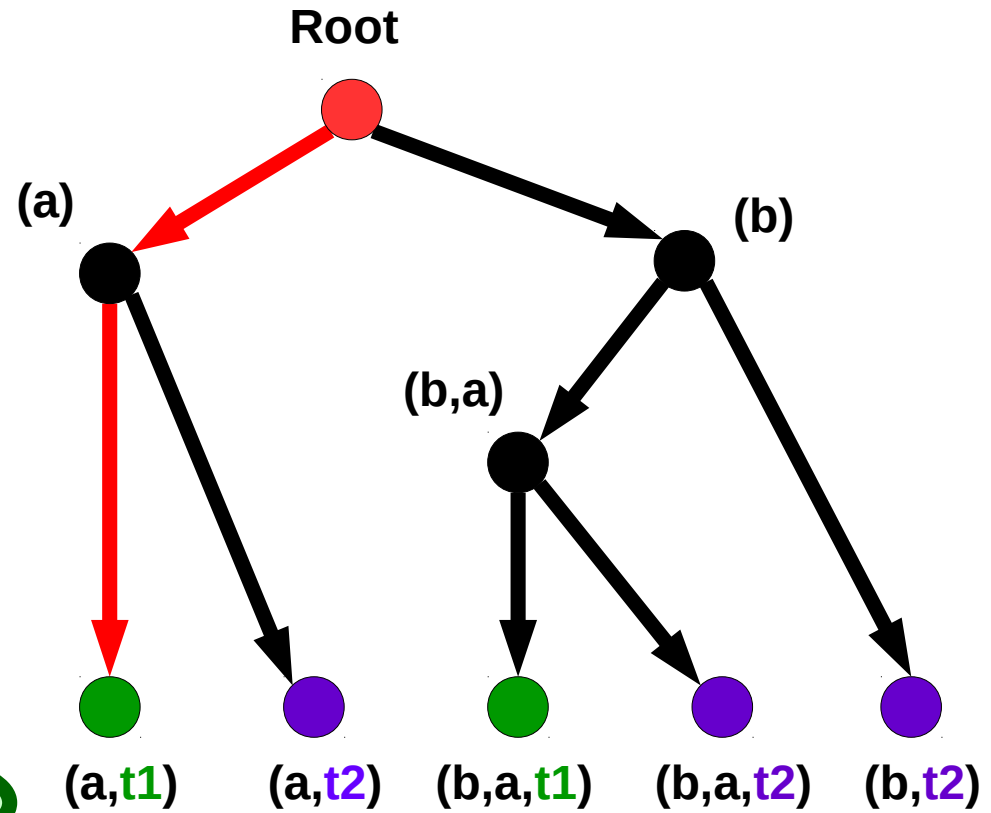
There is a 1-1 map of paths.

# k-DST to GST on Trees?



Terminals

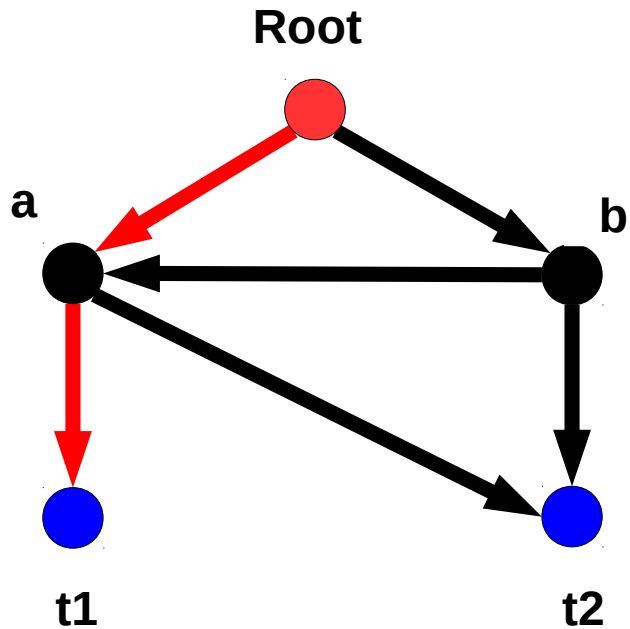
Two graphs share flow-paths



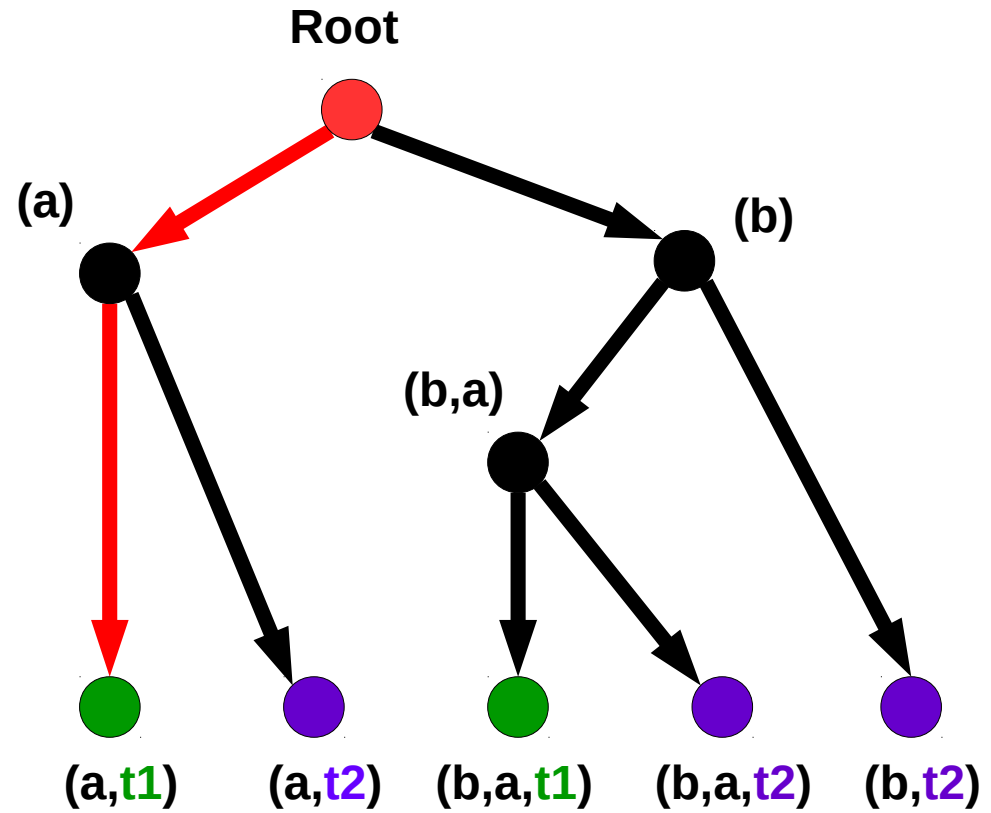
Groups

There is a 1-1 map of paths.

# k-DST to GST on Trees!!!



Terminals



Groups

Consolidate two graphs with LP

# Analysis

Pay  $O(k^{\{D-2\}})$  for k-DST  $\Rightarrow$  Tree-GST

Round Tree-GST  $O(k D \log n)$  times

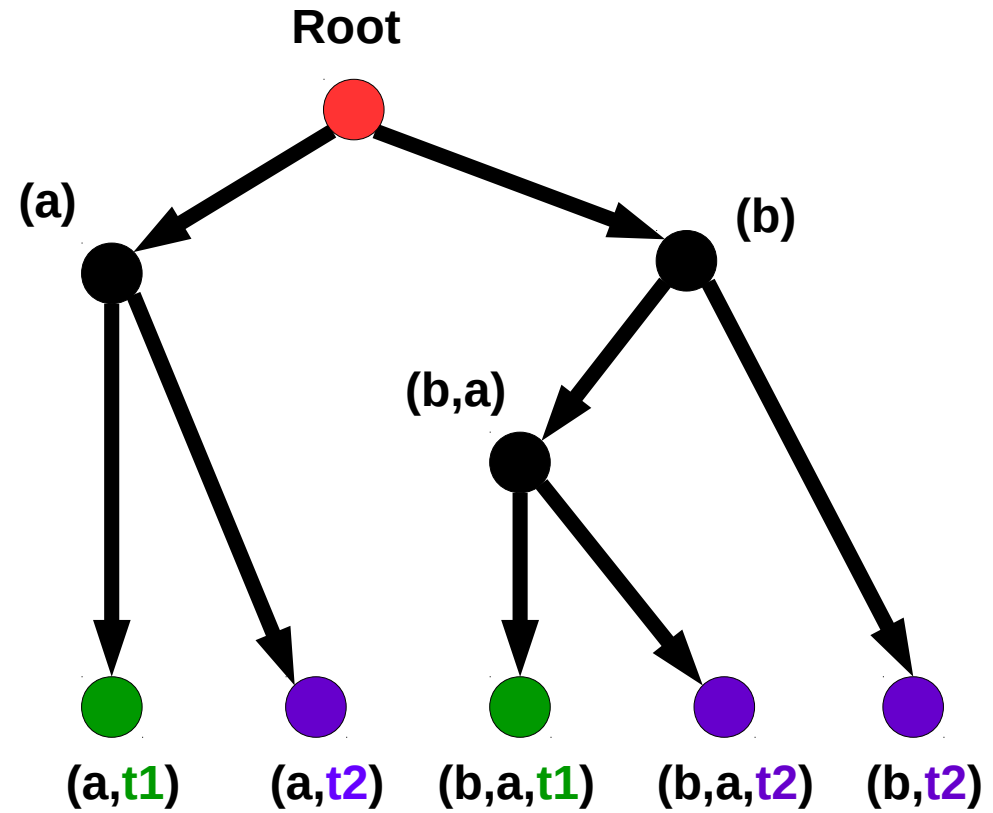
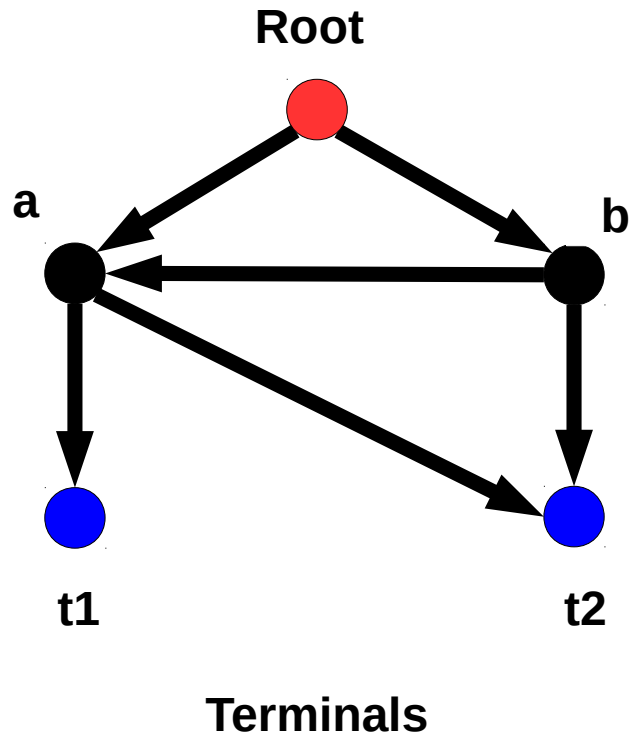
 Total Cost =  $O(D k^{\{D-1\}} \log n)$  OPT





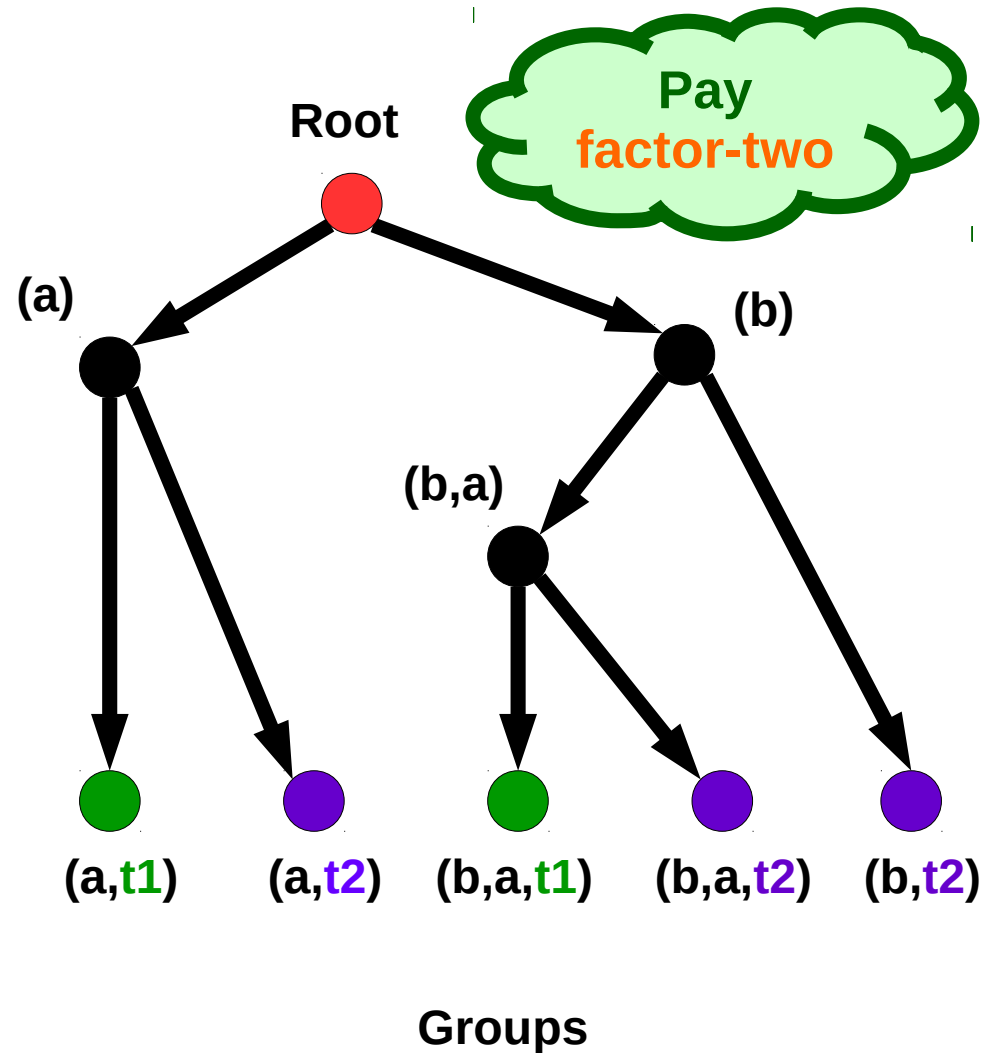
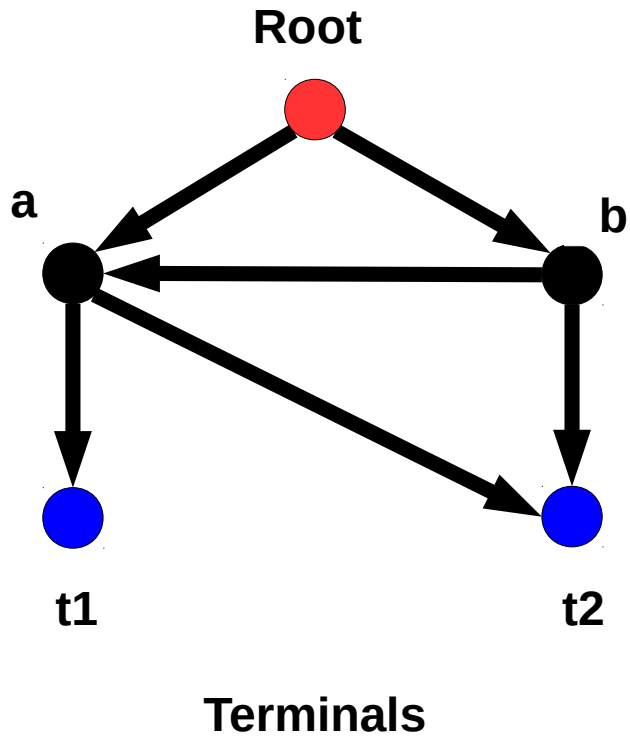
**Generalization to 2-DST  
on General Graphs.**

# 2-DST to GST on Trees



List All paths (of every length)

# 2-DST to GST on Trees

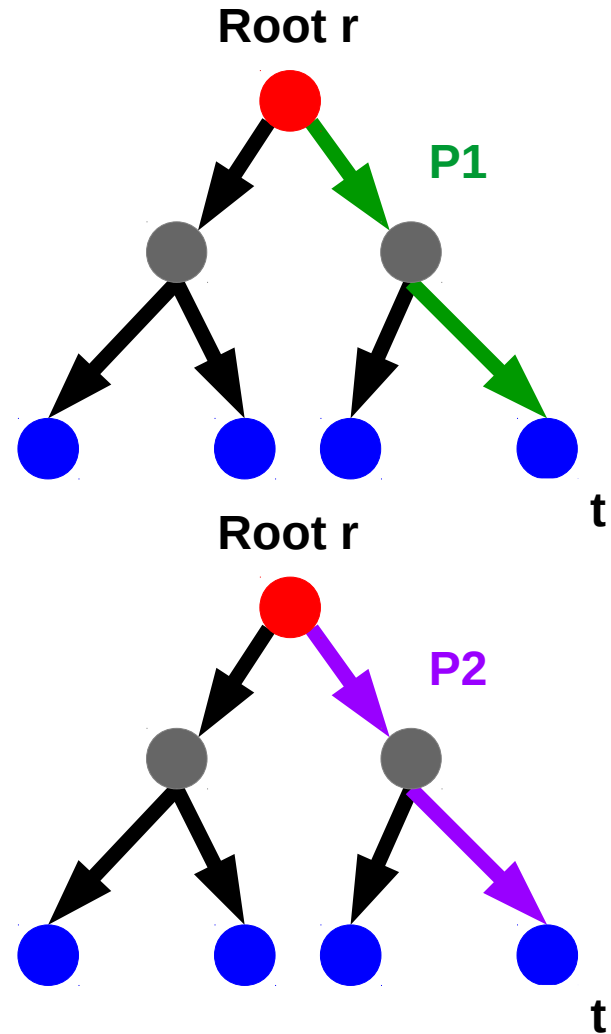
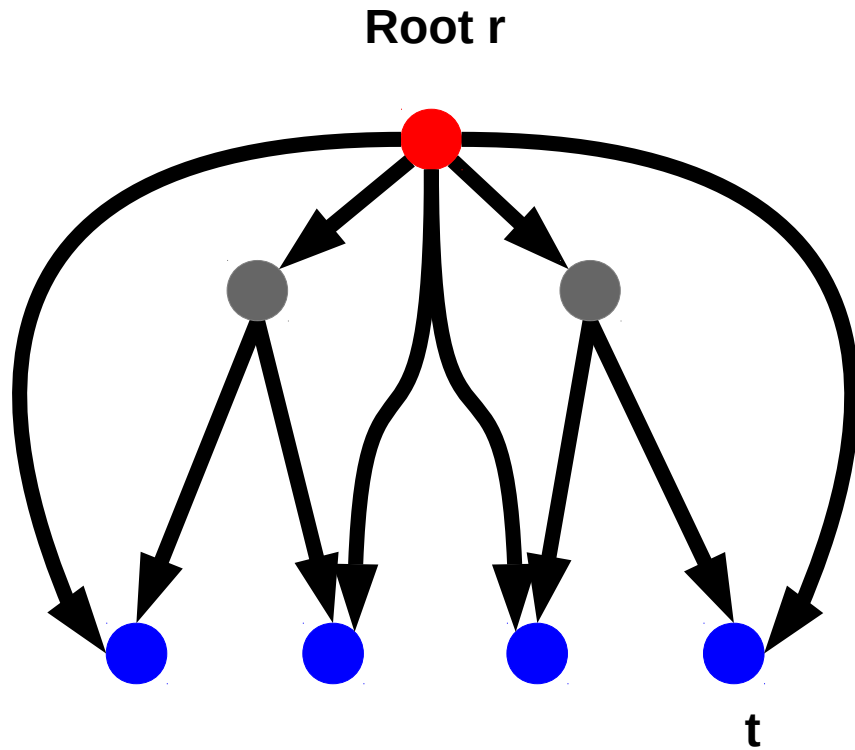


List All paths (of every length)

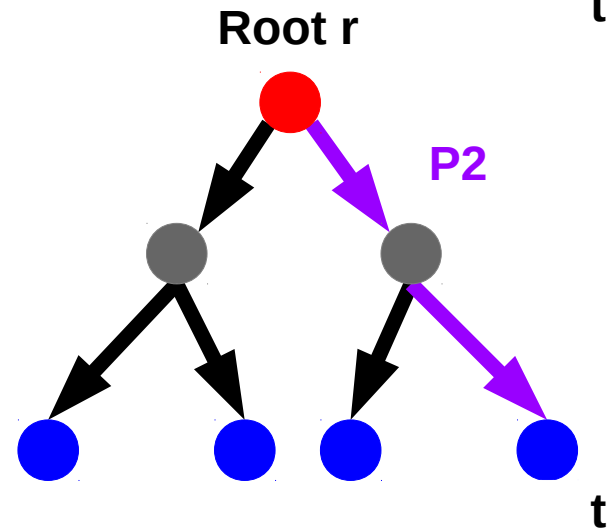
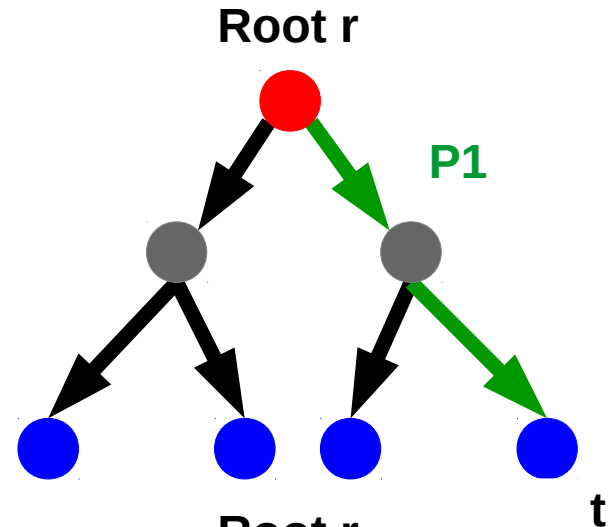
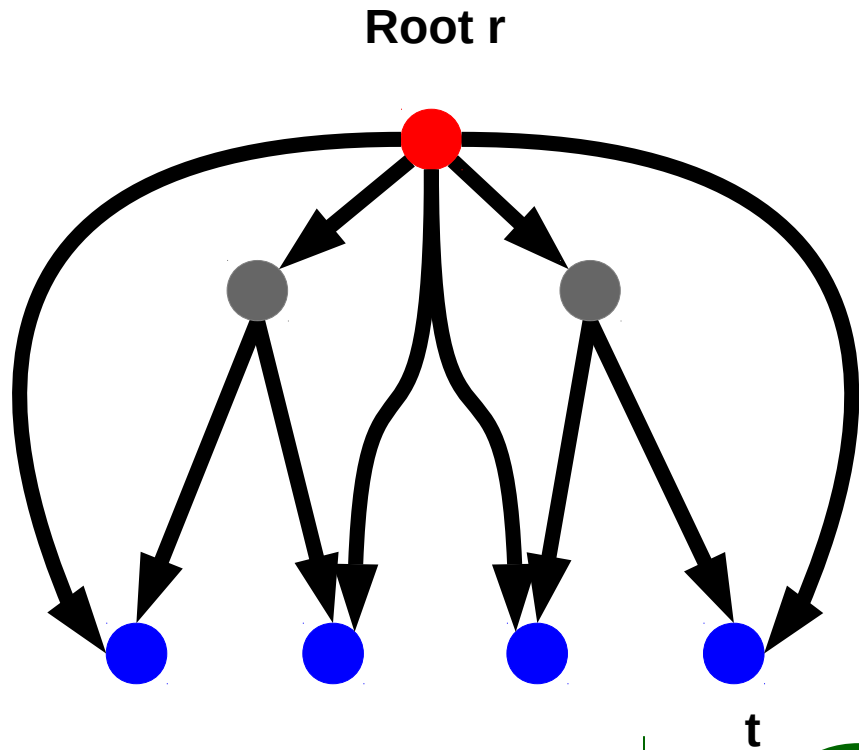


**How can we pay only  
factor-two?**

# Independent Trees

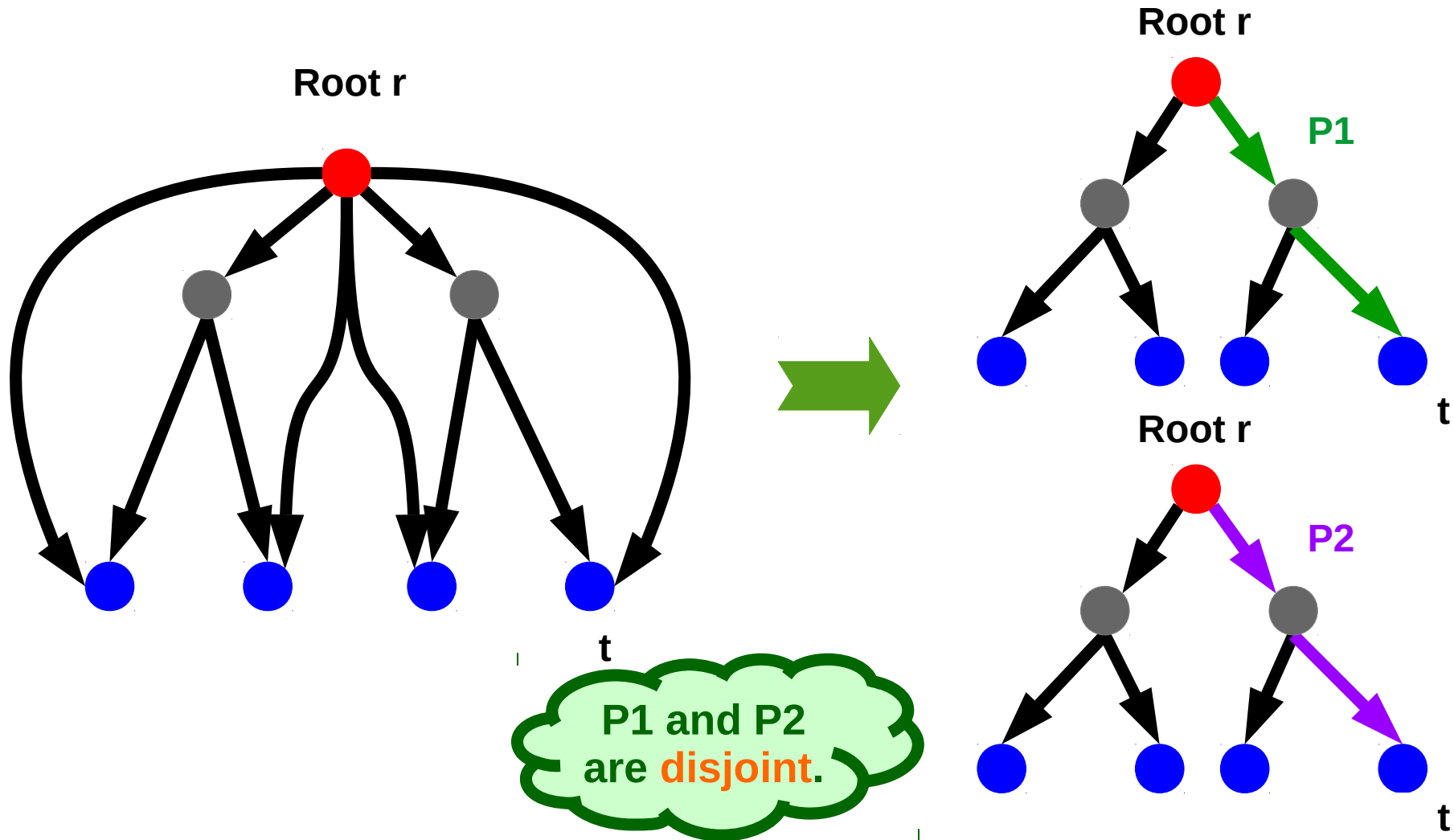


# Independent Trees



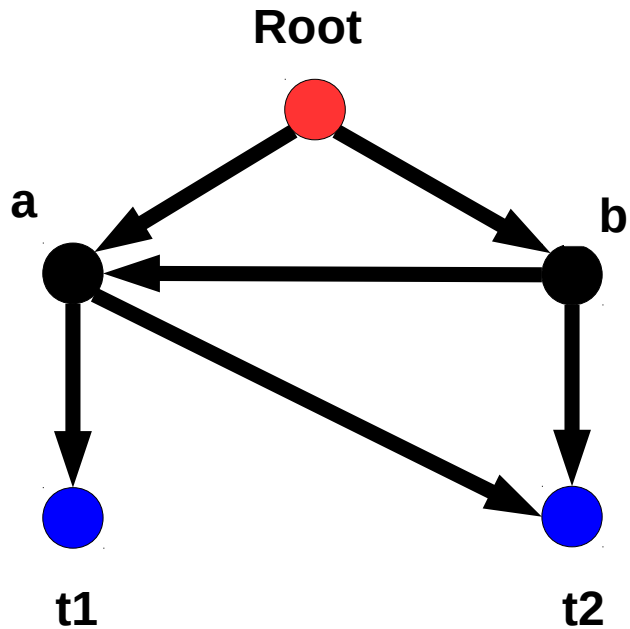
P1 and P2  
are **disjoint**.

# Independent Trees

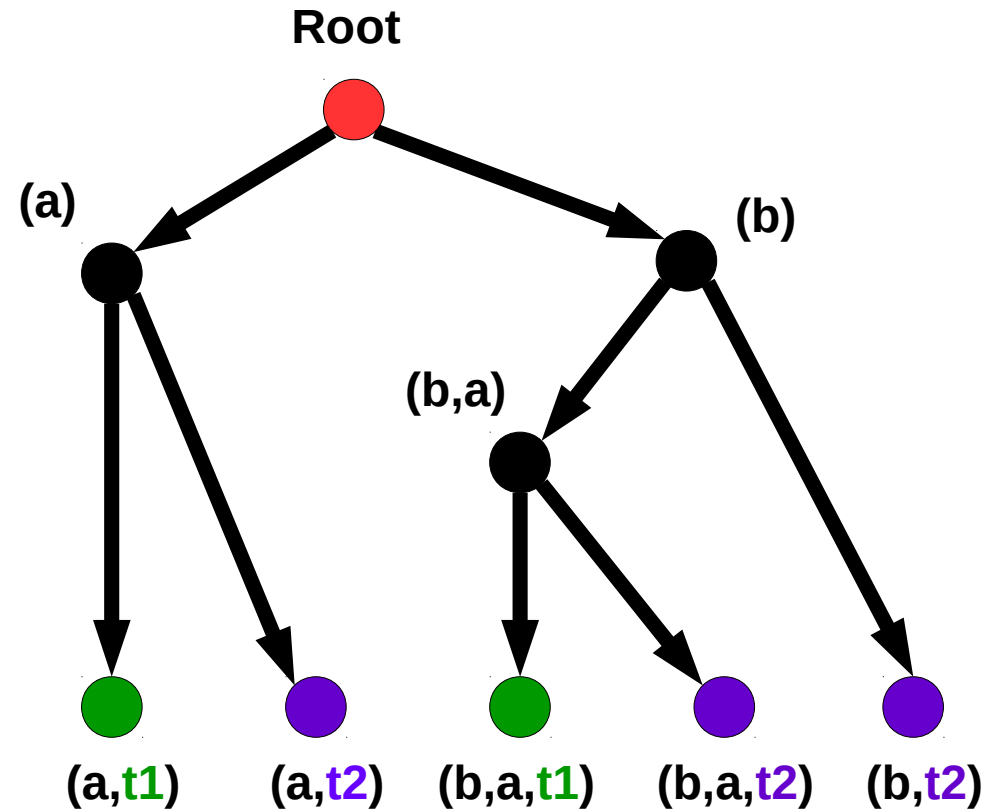


2-DST has 2 Indep. Trees [GT05,K11] (but not Edge Disjoint)

# Consolidate LPs **again?**



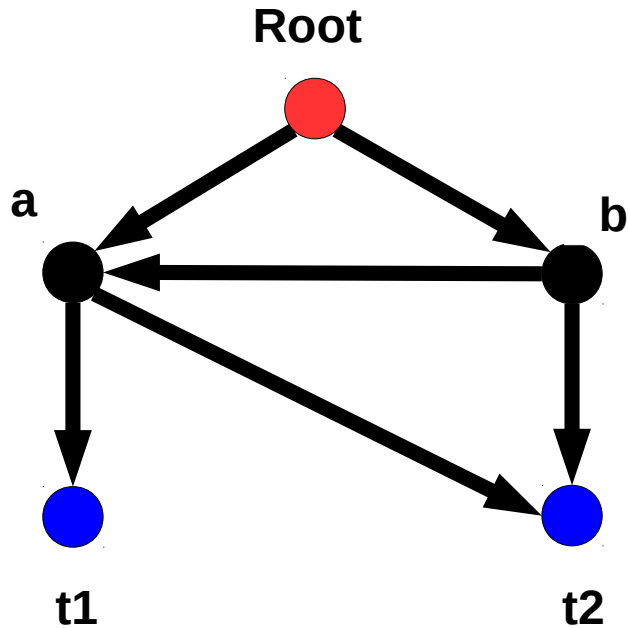
LP1: **LP-DST**



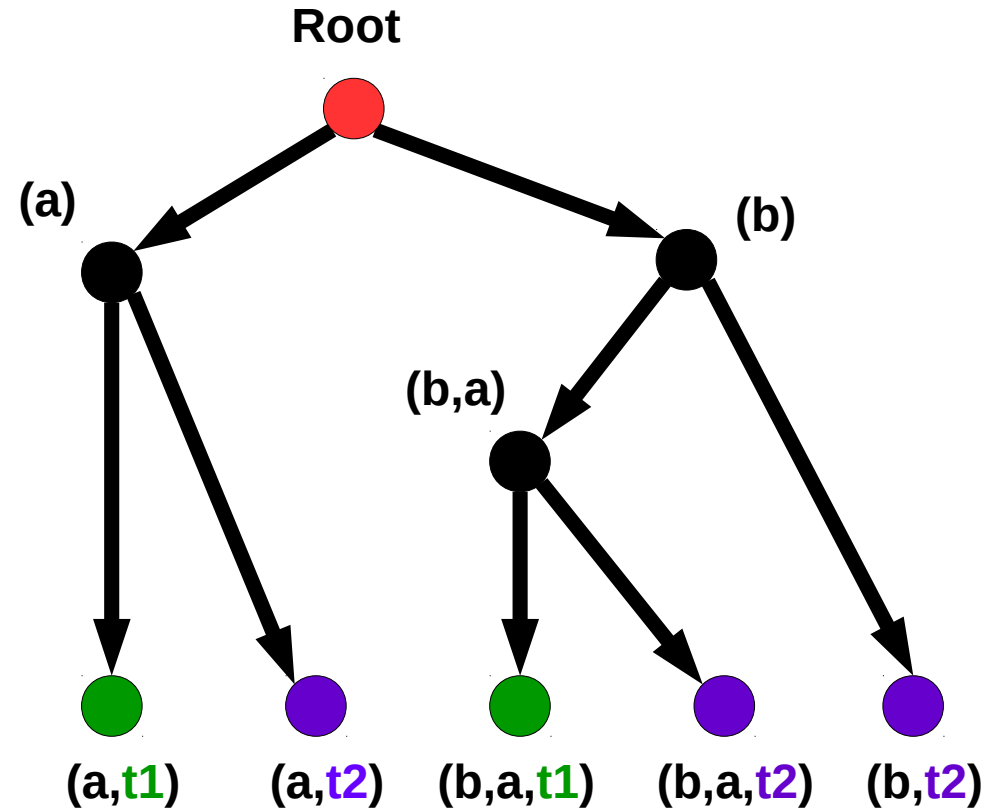
LP2: **LP-GST**



# Consolidate LPs **again?**



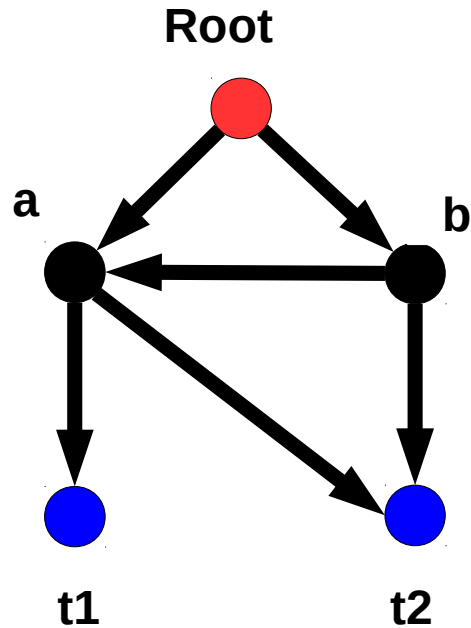
LP1: **LP-DST**



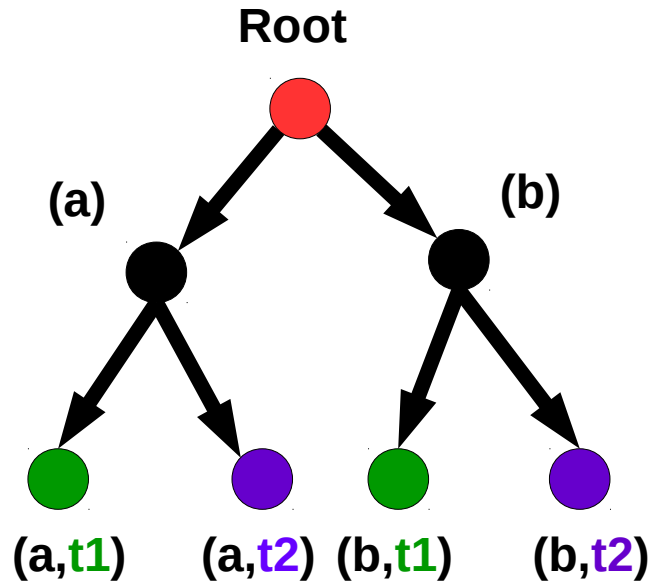
LP2: **LP-GST**

Problematic!  
LP2 has **expo-size**

# Apply Zelikovsky's Height Reduction!



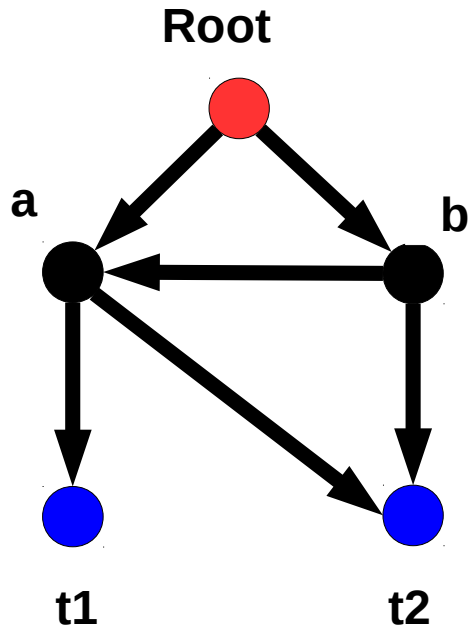
LP1: LP-DST



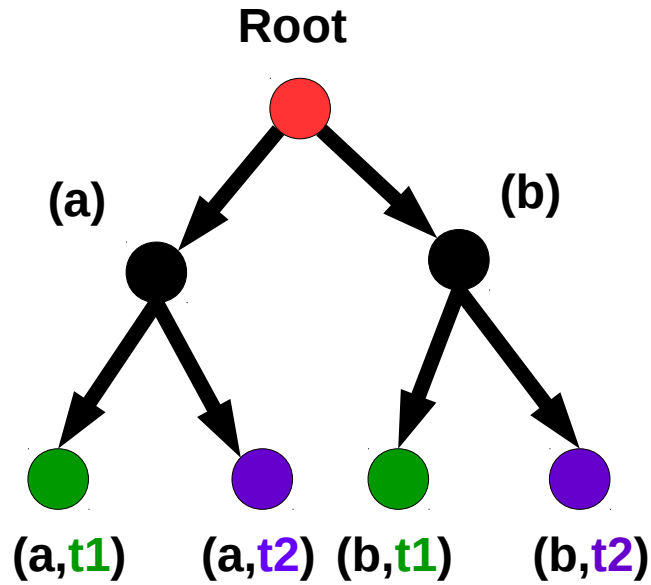
LP2: LP-GST (low-depth)

Problematic!  
No metric-completion

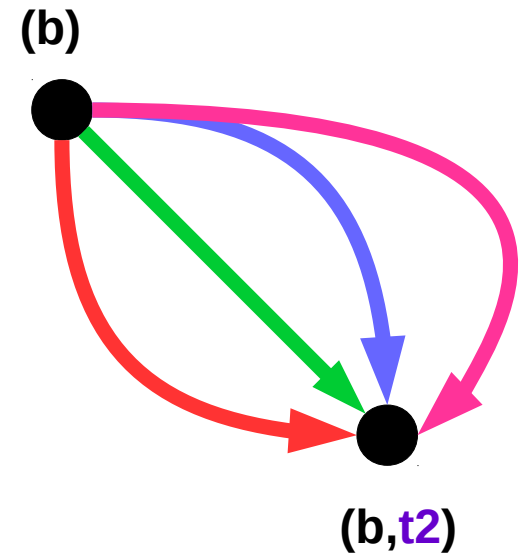
# Apply Zelikovsky's Height Reduction!



LP1: LP-DST



LP2: LP-GST (low-depth)



LP3: Mapping-LP

Let LP find a mapping!  
Then **consolidate** all LPs!

# Analysis

Pay  $O(\beta)$  for 2-DST  $\Rightarrow$  Short Tree-GST

Round Tree-GST  $O(D \log n)$  times

(Rand.) Path-Mapping  $O(\beta \log D)$  times

 Total Cost =  $O(\beta^2 D \log D \log n)$  OPT

$\beta$  = Height-Reduction  
Factor

# Conclusion

$O(D k^D \log n)$ -Approx for **k-DST**  
on **D-shallow** instances.

Polylog-Approx for **2-DST**  
on **General Graphs**  
(in Quasi-Poly time).

# Open Problem

3-DST does not have  
3 indep.trees [BK'11].

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Can we decompose  $k$ -DST into  
 $f(k) \log^c n$  trees s.t.  $k$  trees  
support  $k$ -disj paths?

**Thank you!**