

# Advanced Algorithms

## I. Course Intro and Sorting Networks

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Easter 2019



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

## Outline of this Course

Some Highlights

Introduction to Sorting Networks

Batcher's Sorting Network

Counting Networks



## List of Topics

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IA Algorithms

IB Complexity Theory

II Advanced Algorithms



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IA Algorithms

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- I. Sorting Networks (Sorting, Counting)
- II. Linear Programming
- III. Approximation Algorithms: Covering Problems
- IV. Approximation Algorithms via Exact Algorithms
- V. Approximation Algorithms: Travelling Salesman Problem
- VI. Approximation Algorithms: Randomisation and Rounding



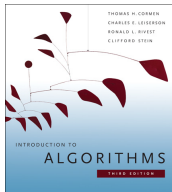
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- closely follow CLRS3 and use the same numbering
- however, slides will be self-contained ~~(mostly)~~



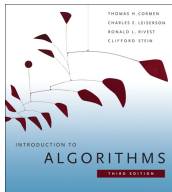
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# Linear Programming and Simplex

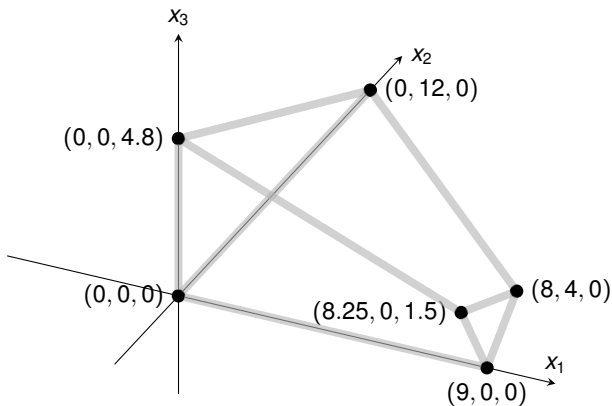
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$$\begin{array}{llllllll} \text{maximize} & 3x_1 & + & x_2 & + & 2x_3 & & \\ \text{subject to} & & & & & & & \\ & x_1 & + & x_2 & + & 3x_3 & \leq & 30 \\ & 2x_1 & + & 2x_2 & + & 5x_3 & \leq & 24 \\ & 4x_1 & + & x_2 & + & 2x_3 & \leq & 36 \\ & & & x_1, x_2, x_3 & & & \geq & 0 \end{array}$$





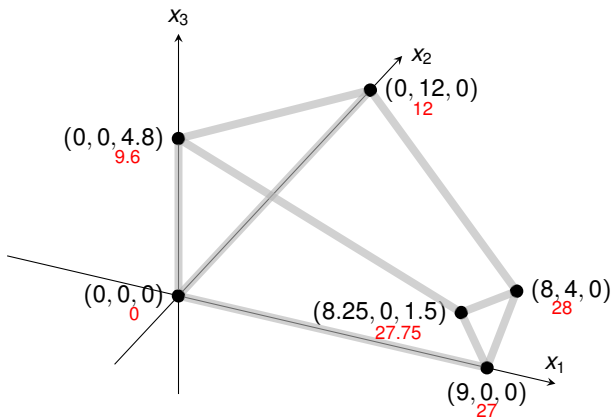
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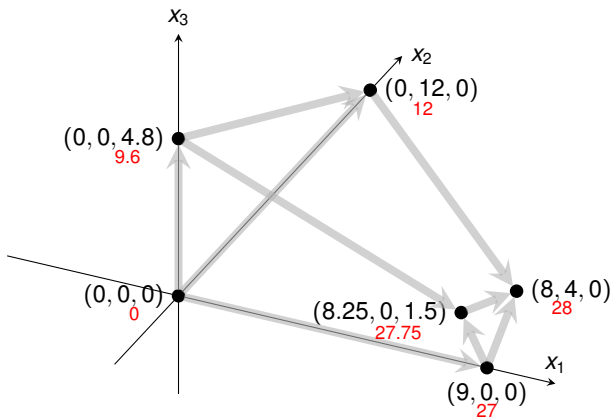
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maximize	$3x_1$	+	$x_2$	+	$2x_3$		
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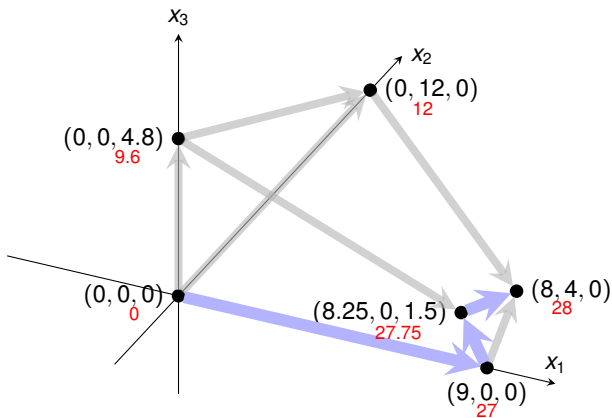
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## SOLUTION OF A LARGE-SCALE TRAVELING-SALESMAN PROBLEM\*

G. DANTZIG, R. FULKERSON, AND S. JOHNSON

*The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, California*

(Received August 9, 1954)

It is shown that a certain tour of 49 cities, one in each of the 48 states and Washington, D. C., has the shortest road distance.

THE TRAVELING-SALESMAN PROBLEM might be described as follows: Find the shortest route (tour) for a salesman starting from a given city, visiting each of a specified group of cities, and then returning to the original point of departure. More generally, given an  $n$  by  $n$  symmetric matrix  $D = (d_{IJ})$ , where  $d_{IJ}$  represents the 'distance' from  $I$  to  $J$ , arrange the points in a cyclic order in such a way that the sum of the  $d_{IJ}$  between consecutive points is minimal. Since there are only a finite number of possibilities (at most  $\frac{1}{2}(n-1)!$ ) to consider, the problem is to devise a method of picking out the optimal arrangement which is reasonably efficient for fairly large values of  $n$ . Although algorithms have been devised for problems of similar nature, e.g., the optimal assignment problem,<sup>3,7,8</sup> little is known about the traveling-salesman problem. We do not claim that this note alters the situation very much; what we shall do is outline a way of approaching the problem that sometimes, at least, enables one to find an optimal path and prove it so. In particular, it will be shown that a certain arrangement of 49 cities, one in each of the 48 states and Washington, D. C., is best, the  $d_{IJ}$  used representing road distances as taken from an atlas.



# Travelling Salesman Problem: The 42 (49) Cities

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1. Manchester, N. H.
2. Montpelier, Vt.
3. Detroit, Mich.
4. Cleveland, Ohio
5. Charleston, W. Va.
6. Louisville, Ky.
7. Indianapolis, Ind.
8. Chicago, Ill.
9. Milwaukee, Wis.
10. Minneapolis, Minn.
11. Pierre, S. D.
12. Bismarck, N. D.
13. Helena, Mont.
14. Seattle, Wash.
15. Portland, Ore.
16. Boise, Idaho
17. Salt Lake City, Utah
18. Carson City, Nev.
19. Los Angeles, Calif.
20. Phoenix, Ariz.
21. Santa Fe, N. M.
22. Denver, Colo.
23. Cheyenne, Wyo.
24. Omaha, Neb.
25. Des Moines, Iowa
26. Kansas City, Mo.
27. Topeka, Kans.
28. Oklahoma City, Okla.
29. Dallas, Tex.
30. Little Rock, Ark.
31. Memphis, Tenn.
32. Jackson, Miss.
33. New Orleans, La.
34. Birmingham, Ala.
35. Atlanta, Ga.
36. Jacksonville, Fla.
37. Columbia, S. C.
38. Raleigh, N. C.
39. Richmond, Va.
40. Washington, D. C.
41. Boston, Mass.
42. Portland, Me.
  - A. Baltimore, Md.
  - B. Wilmington, Del.
  - C. Philadelphia, Penn.
  - D. Newark, N. J.
  - E. New York, N. Y.
  - F. Hartford, Conn.
  - G. Providence, R. I.





# The (Unique) Optimal Tour (699 Units $\approx$ 12,345 miles)

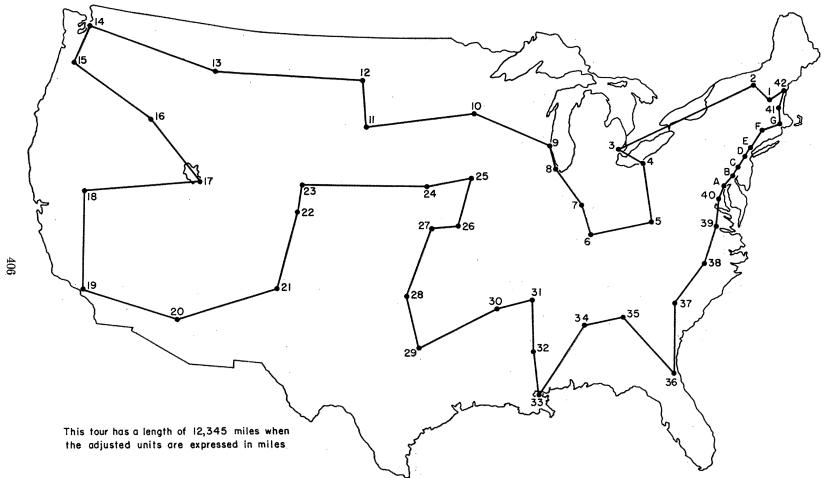


FIG. 16. The optimal tour of 49 cities.





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## Overview: Sorting Networks

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### (Serial) Sorting Algorithms

- we already know several (comparison-based) sorting algorithms: Insertion sort, Bubble sort, Merge sort, Quick sort, Heap sort
- execute one operation at a time
- can handle arbitrarily large inputs
- sequence of comparisons is not set in advance



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Simple concept, but surprisingly deep and complex theory!



## Comparison Networks

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### Comparison Network

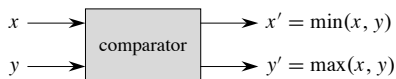
- A **comparison network** consists solely of **wires** and **comparators**:



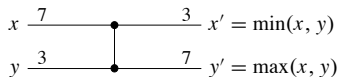
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  - **comparator** is a device with, on given two inputs,  $x$  and  $y$ , returns two outputs  $x' = \min(x, y)$  and  $y' = \max(x, y)$



(a)



(b)

**Figure 27.1** (a) A comparator with inputs  $x$  and  $y$  and outputs  $x'$  and  $y'$ . (b) The same comparator, drawn as a single vertical line. Inputs  $x = 7$ ,  $y = 3$  and outputs  $x' = 3$ ,  $y' = 7$  are shown.

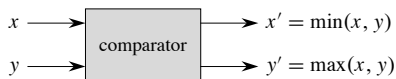


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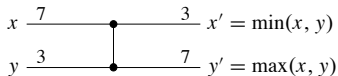
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operates in  $O(1)$



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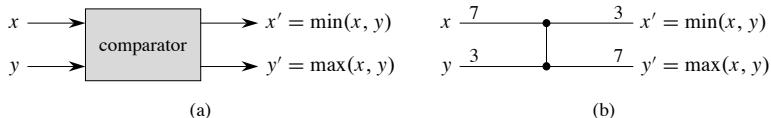




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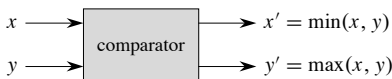
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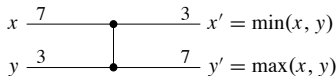
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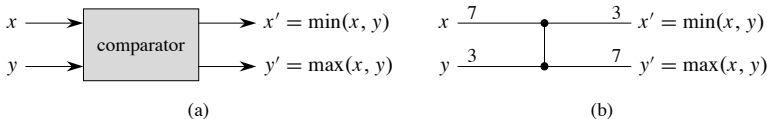


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Convention: use the same name for both a wire and its value.



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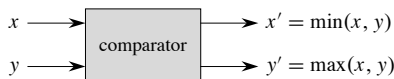


## Comparison Networks

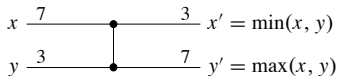
A **sorting network** is a comparison network which **works correctly** (that is, it sorts every input)

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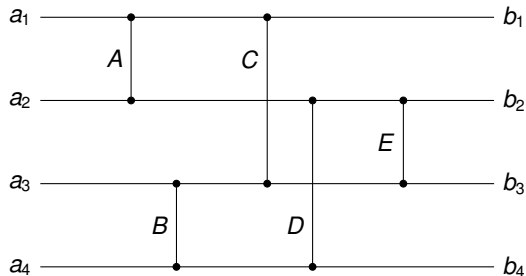


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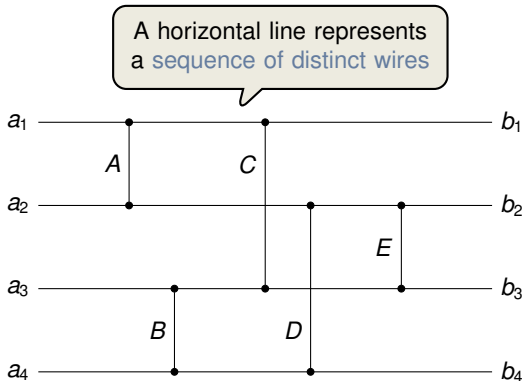
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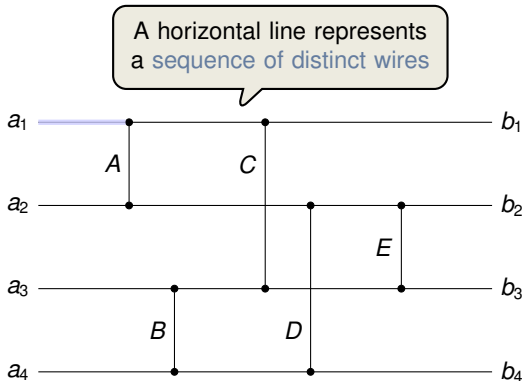
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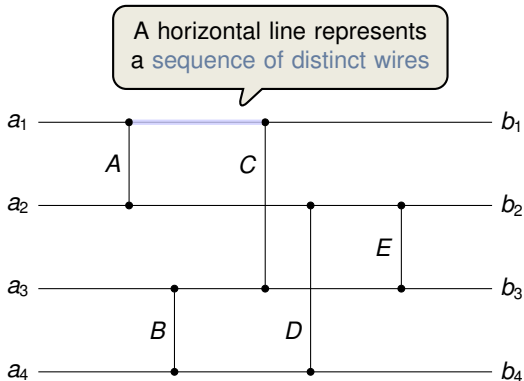
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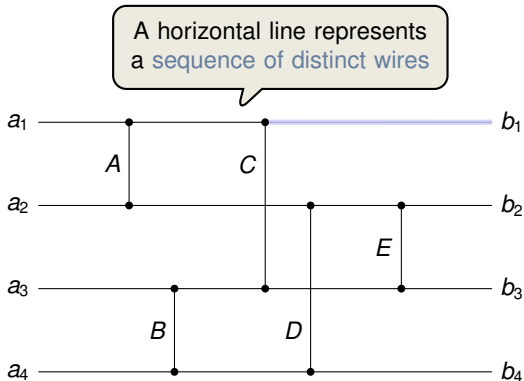


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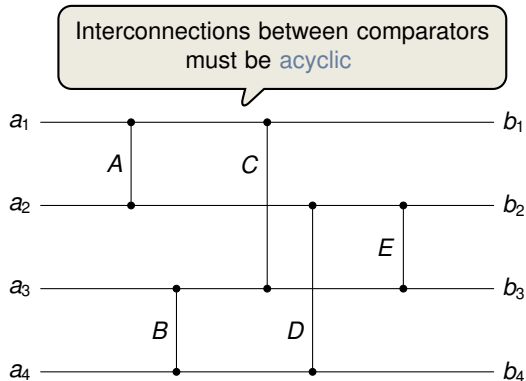




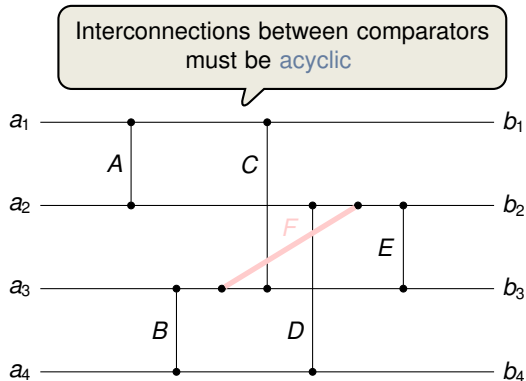
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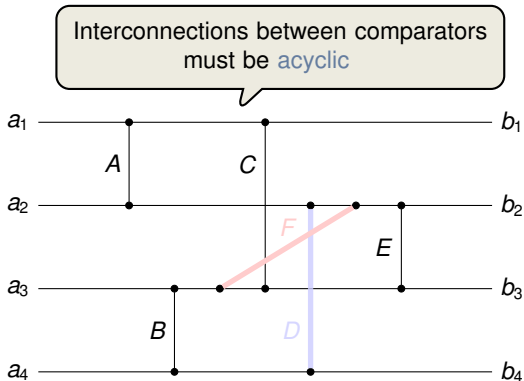
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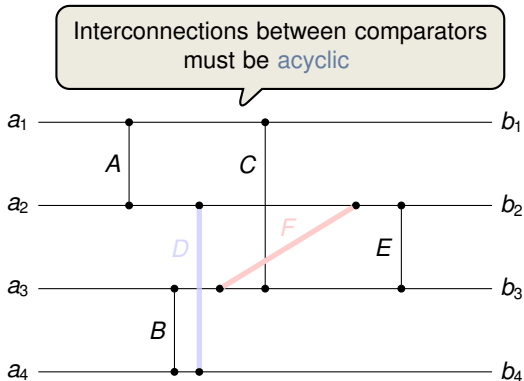
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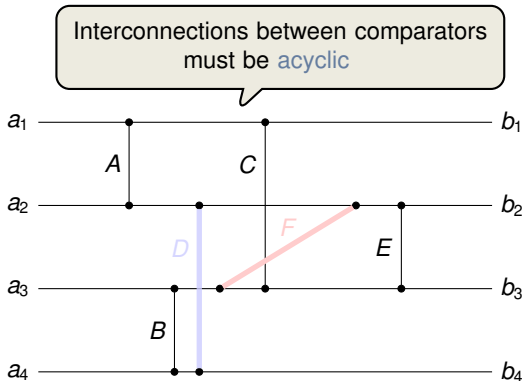
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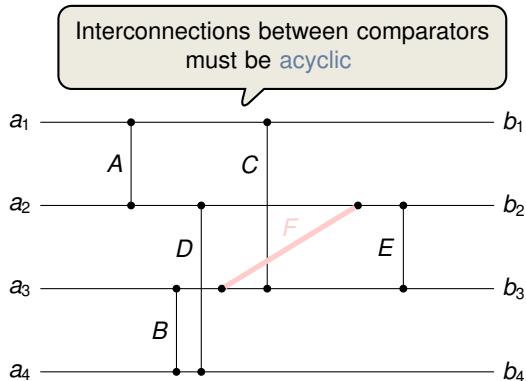
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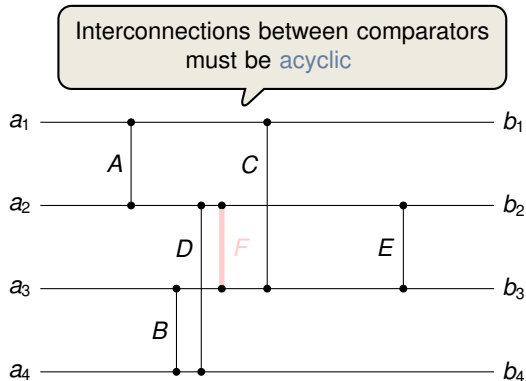
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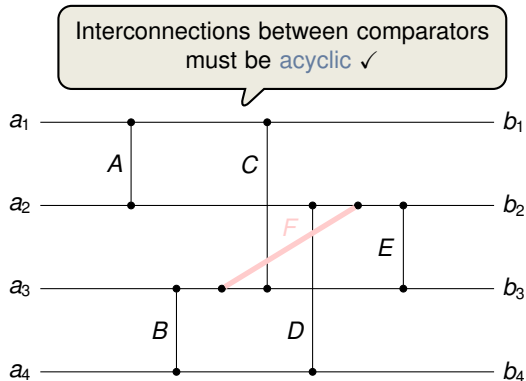


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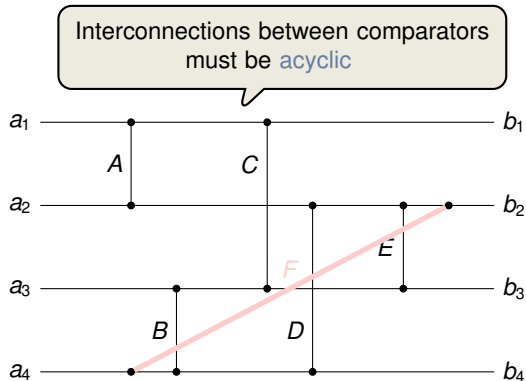




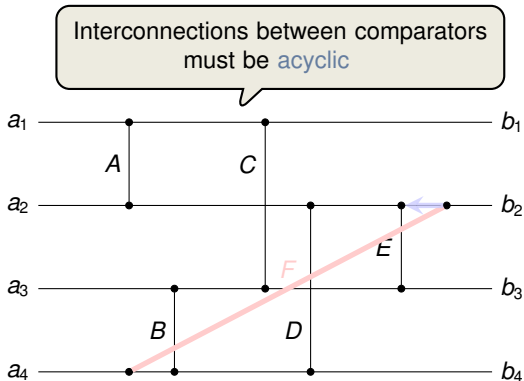
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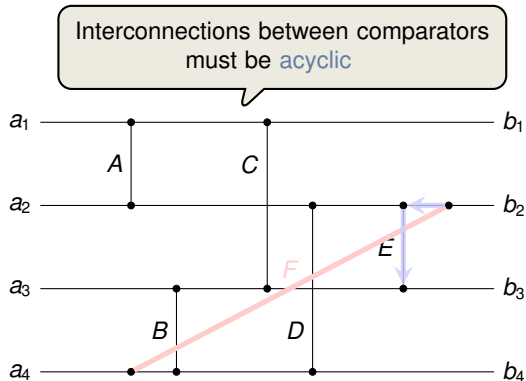
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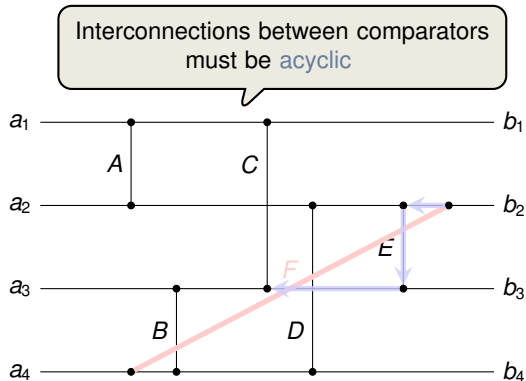
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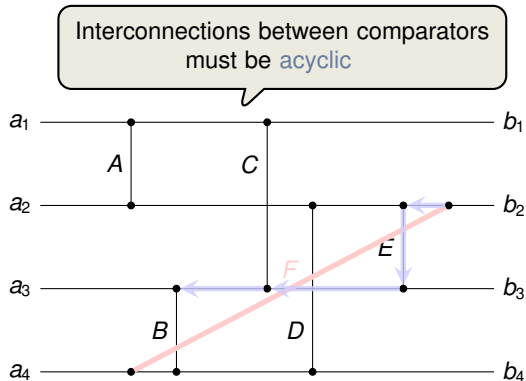
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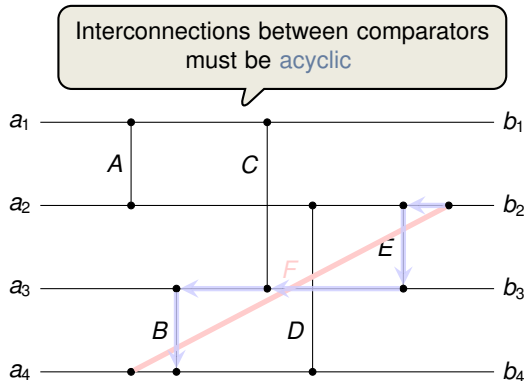
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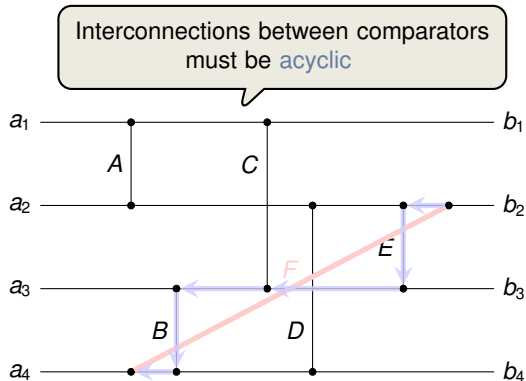
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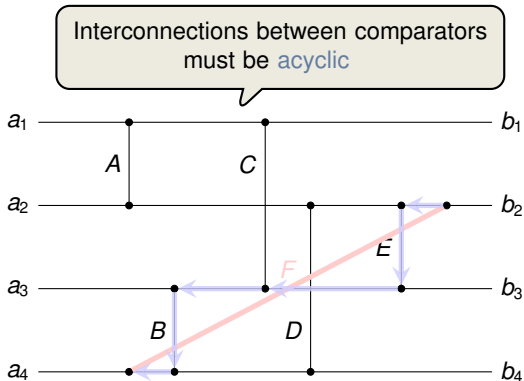


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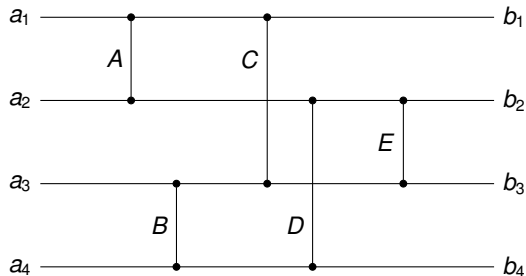
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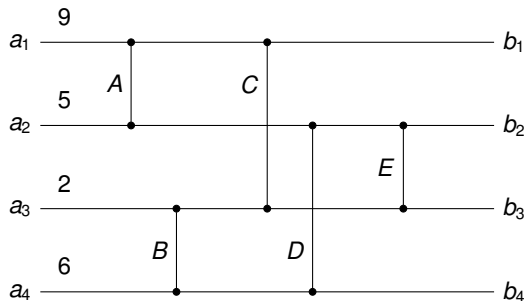
Tracing back a path must never cycle back on itself and go through the same comparator twice.



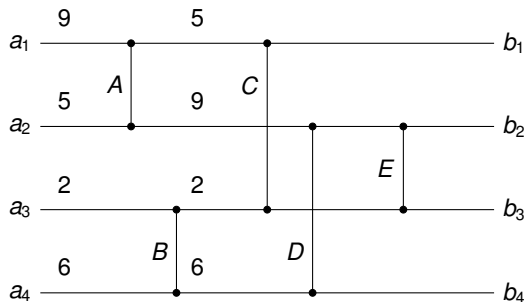
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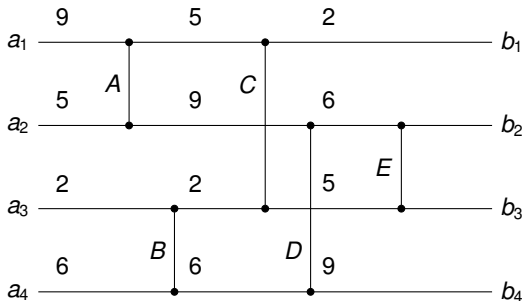
## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)



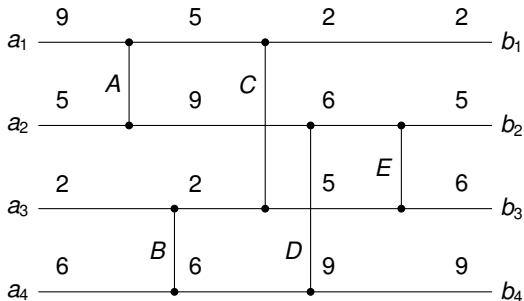
## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)



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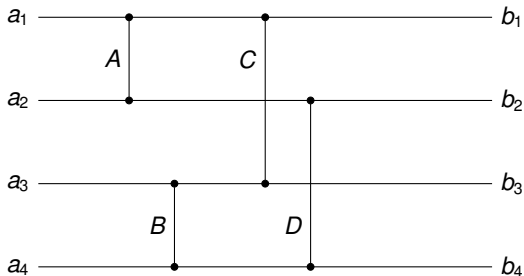
## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)



This network is in fact a sorting network (Exercise)



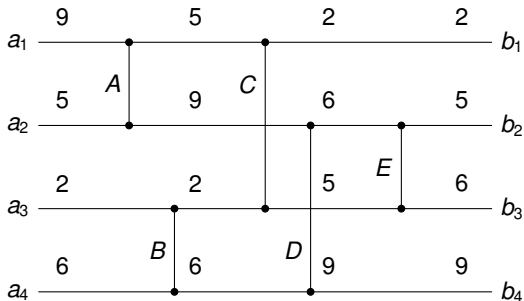
## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)



This network would not be a sorting network (Why??)



## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)

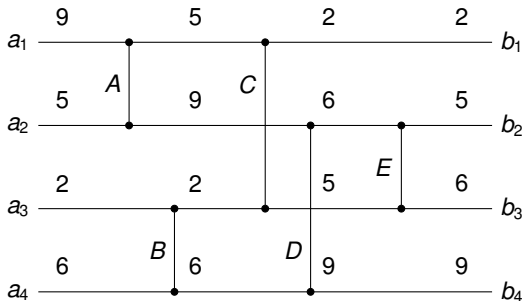


**Depth of a wire:**





## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)

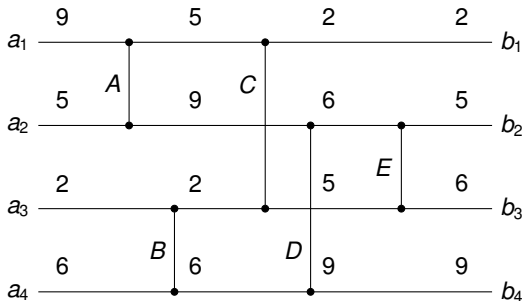


**Depth** of a wire:

- Input wire has depth 0



## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)

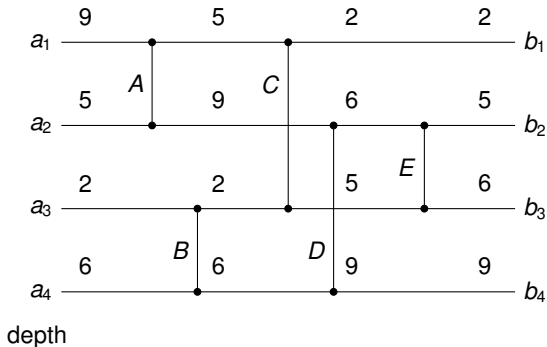


### Depth of a wire:

- Input wire has depth 0
- If a comparator has two inputs of depths  $d_x$  and  $d_y$ , then outputs have depth  $\max\{d_x, d_y\} + 1$



## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)

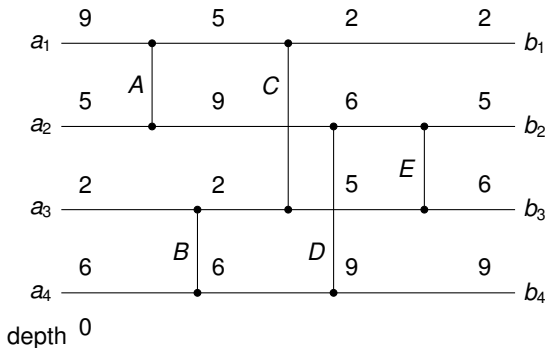


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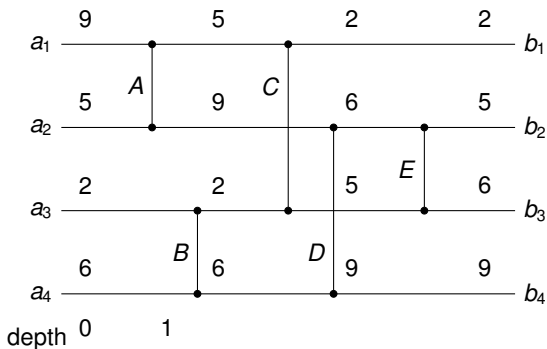


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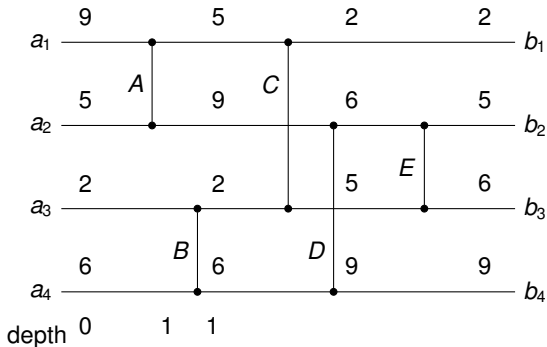


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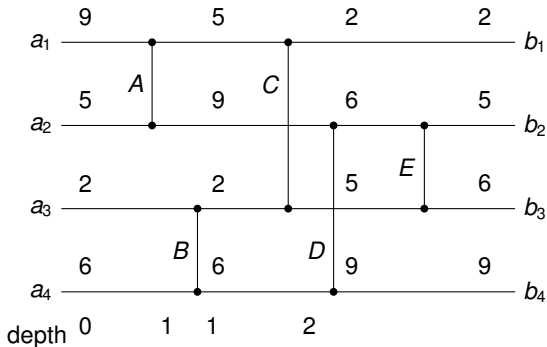


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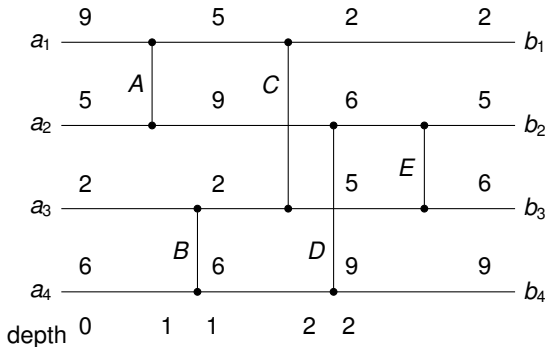


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## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)



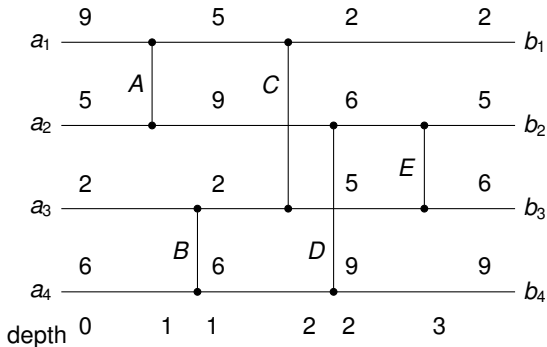
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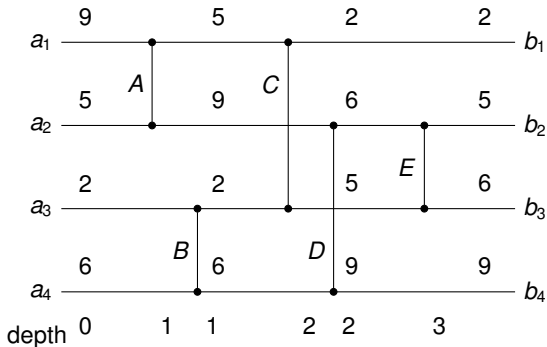


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## Example of a Comparison Network (Figure 27.2)



### Depth of a wire:

- Input wire has depth 0
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Maximum depth of an output wire equals total running time



## Zero-One Principle

---

**Zero-One Principle:** A sorting networks works correctly on arbitrary inputs if it works correctly on binary inputs.



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### Lemma 27.1

If a comparison network transforms the input  $a = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$  into the output  $b = \langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$ , then for any monotonically increasing function  $f$ , the network transforms  $f(a) = \langle f(a_1), f(a_2), \dots, f(a_n) \rangle$  into  $f(b) = \langle f(b_1), f(b_2), \dots, f(b_n) \rangle$ .

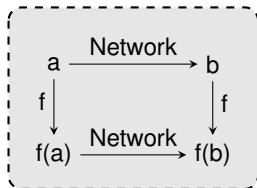
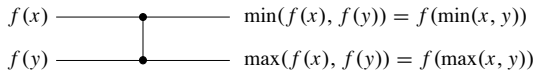


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**Figure 27.4** The operation of the comparator in the proof of Lemma 27.1. The function  $f$  is monotonically increasing.



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### Theorem 27.2 (Zero-One Principle)

If a comparison network with  $n$  inputs sorts all  $2^n$  possible sequences of 0's and 1's correctly, then it sorts all sequences of arbitrary numbers correctly.



## Proof of the Zero-One Principle

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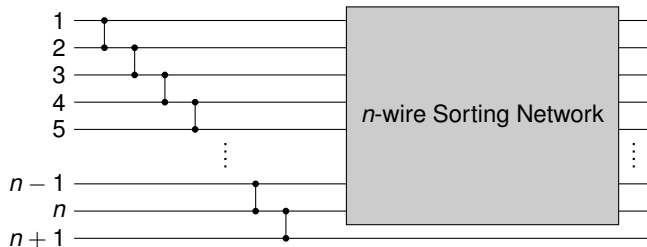
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$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \leq a_i, \\ 1 & \text{if } x > a_i. \end{cases}$$

- Since the network places  $a_j$  before  $a_i$ , by the previous lemma  $\Rightarrow f(a_j)$  is placed before  $f(a_i)$
- But  $f(a_j) = 1$  and  $f(a_i) = 0$ , which contradicts the assumption that the network sorts all sequences of 0's and 1's correctly □



## Some Basic (Recursive) Sorting Networks

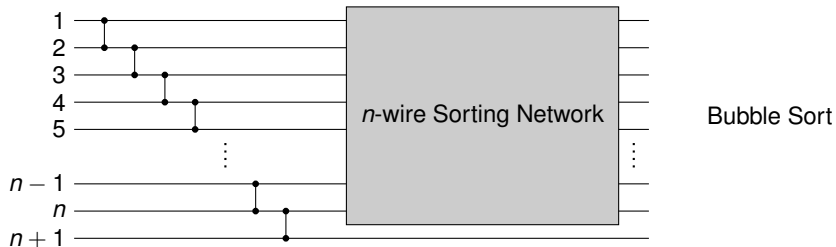


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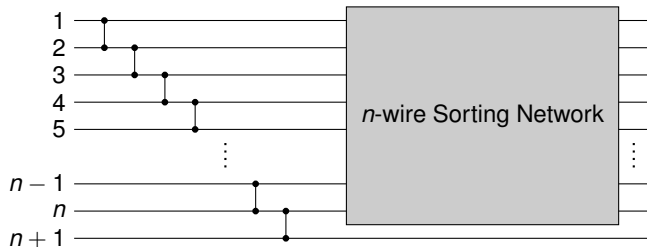




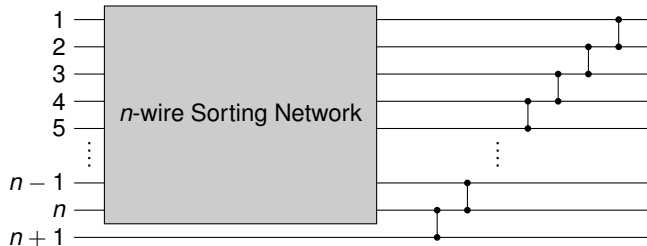
## Some Basic (Recursive) Sorting Networks



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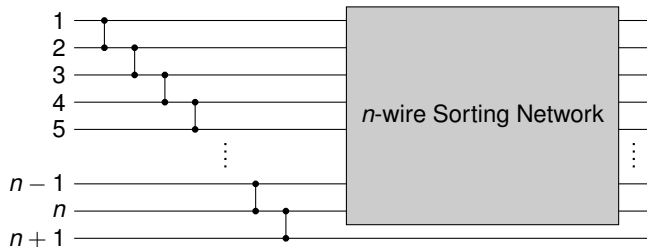
Bubble Sort



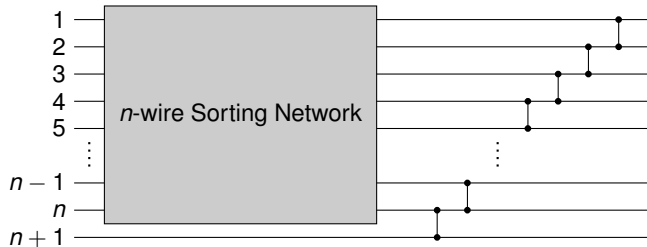
???



## Some Basic (Recursive) Sorting Networks



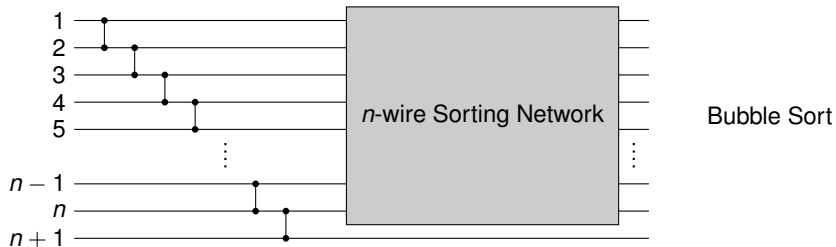
Bubble Sort



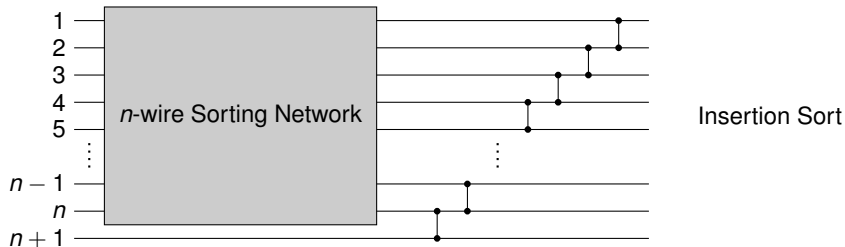
Insertion Sort



## Some Basic (Recursive) Sorting Networks



These are Sorting Networks, but with depth  $\Theta(n)$ .



# Outline

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Outline of this Course

Some Highlights

Introduction to Sorting Networks

**Batcher's Sorting Network**

Counting Networks



## Bitonic Sequences

---

### Bitonic Sequence

A sequence is **bitonic** if it monotonically increases and then monotonically decreases, or can be circularly shifted to become monotonically increasing and then monotonically decreasing.

Sequences of one or two numbers are defined to be bitonic.



## Bitonic Sequences

---

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Examples:





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### Examples:

- $\langle 1, 4, 6, 8, 3, 2 \rangle$  ?



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- $\langle 6, 9, 4, 2, 3, 5 \rangle$  ?



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- $\langle 4, 5, 7, 1, 2, 6 \rangle$  ?



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- ~~$\langle 4, 5, 7, 1, 2, 6 \rangle$~~
- binary sequences: ?



## Bitonic Sequences

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### Examples:

- $\langle 1, 4, 6, 8, 3, 2 \rangle$  ✓
- $\langle 6, 9, 4, 2, 3, 5 \rangle$  ✓
- $\langle 9, 8, 3, 2, 4, 6 \rangle$  ✓
- ~~$\langle 4, 5, 7, 1, 2, 6 \rangle$~~
- binary sequences:  $0^i 1^j 0^k$ , or,  $1^i 0^j 1^k$ , for  $i, j, k \geq 0$ .



## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

---

### Half-Cleaner

A **half-cleaner** is a comparison network of depth 1 in which input wire  $i$  is compared with wire  $i + n/2$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n/2$ .



## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

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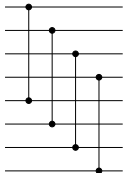
We always assume that  $n$  is even.



## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

### Half-Cleaner

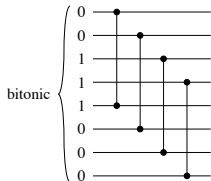
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## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

### Half-Cleaner

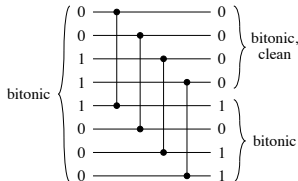
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## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

### Half-Cleaner

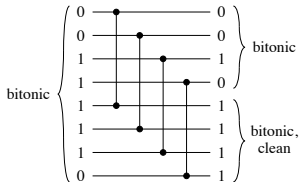
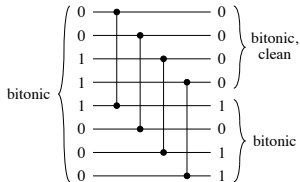
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## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

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## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

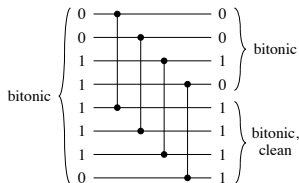
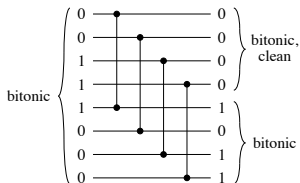
### Half-Cleaner

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### Lemma 27.3

If the input to a half-cleaner is a bitonic sequence of 0's and 1's, then the output satisfies the following properties:

- both the top half and the bottom half are **bitonic**,
- every element in the top is not larger than any element in the bottom,
- at least one half is **clean**.



## Towards Bitonic Sorting Networks

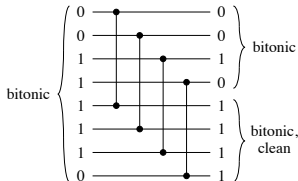
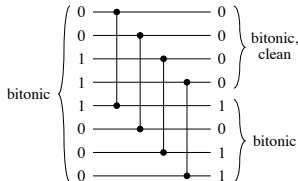
### Half-Cleaner

A **half-cleaner** is a comparison network of depth 1 in which input wire  $i$  is compared with wire  $i + n/2$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n/2$ .

### Lemma 27.3

If the input to a half-cleaner is a bitonic sequence of 0's and 1's, then the output satisfies the following properties:

- both the top half and the bottom half are bitonic,
- every element in the top is not larger than any element in the bottom,
- at least one half is clean.



## Proof of Lemma 27.3

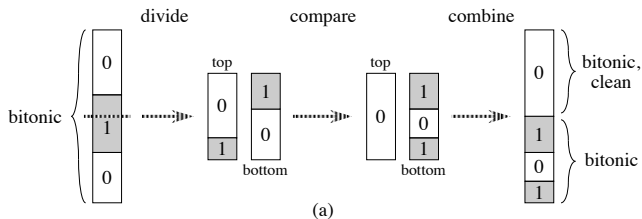
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W.l.o.g. assume that the input is of the form  $0^i 1^j 0^k$ , for some  $i, j, k \geq 0$ .



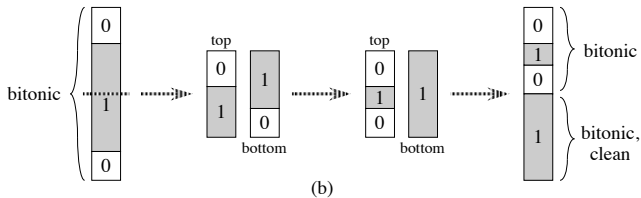
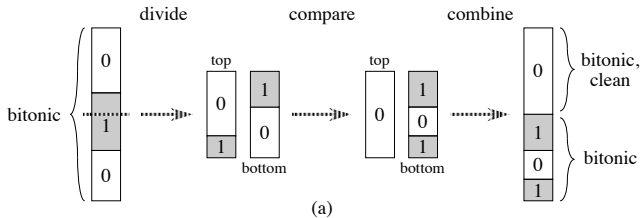
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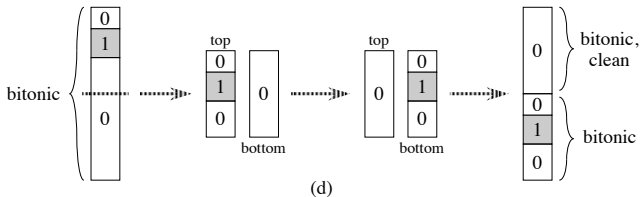
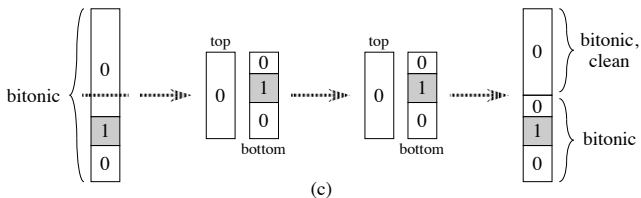
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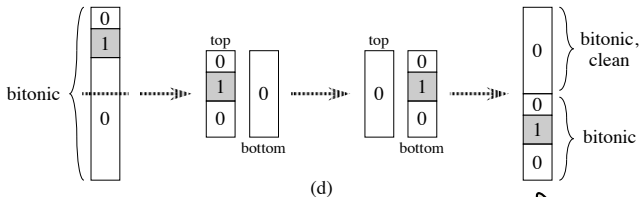
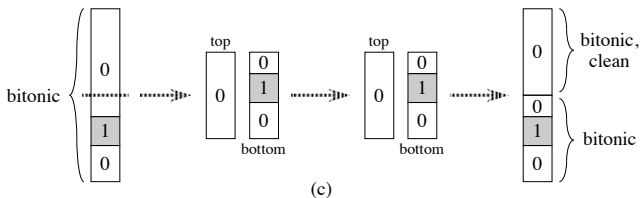
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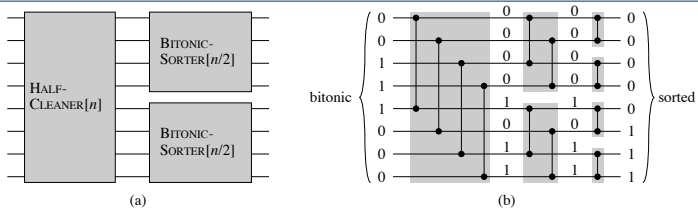
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This suggests a recursive approach, since it now suffices to sort the top and bottom half separately.



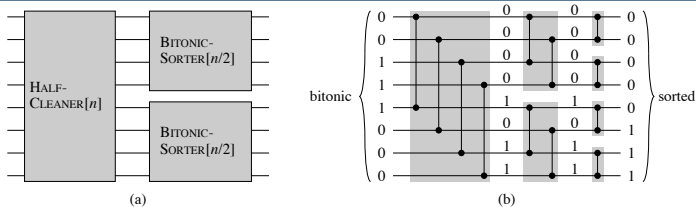
# The Bitonic Sorter



**Figure 27.9** The comparison network BITONIC-SORTER[ $n$ ], shown here for  $n = 8$ . **(a)** The recursive construction: HALF-CLEANER[ $n$ ] followed by two copies of BITONIC-SORTER[ $n/2$ ] that operate in parallel. **(b)** The network after unrolling the recursion. Each half-cleaner is shaded. Sample zero-one values are shown on the wires.



# The Bitonic Sorter



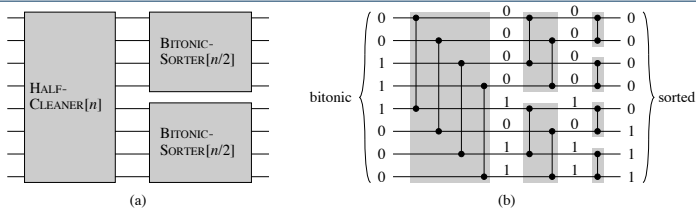
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Recursive Formula for depth  $D(n)$ :

$$D(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1, \\ D(n/2) + 1 & \text{if } n = 2^k. \end{cases}$$



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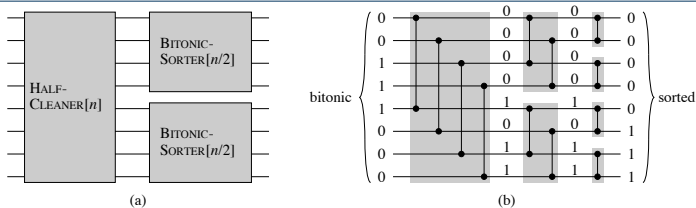
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Henceforth we will always assume that  $n$  is a power of 2.

BITONIC-SORTER[ $n$ ] has depth  $\log n$  and sorts any zero-one bitonic sequence.



## Merging Networks

---

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- can merge **two sorted** input sequences into **one sorted** output sequence
- will be based on a modification of BITONIC-SORTER[ $n$ ]



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This sequence is bitonic!

Hence in order to merge the sequences  $X$  and  $Y$ , it suffices to perform a **bitonic sort** on  $X$  concatenated with  $Y^R$ .



## Construction of a Merging Network (1/2)

---

- Given two sorted sequences  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n/2} \rangle$  and  $\langle a_{n/2+1}, a_{n/2+2}, \dots, a_n \rangle$
- We know it suffices to bitonically sort  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n/2}, a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_{n/2+1} \rangle$
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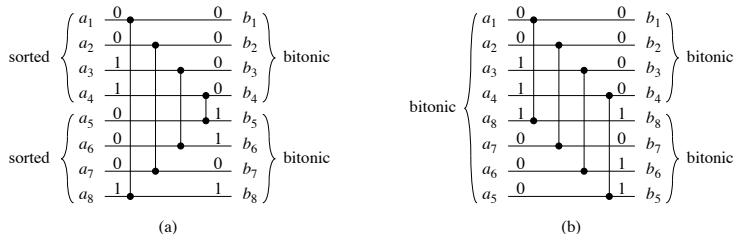
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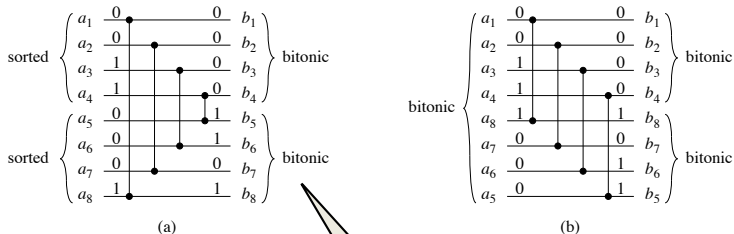


**Figure 27.10** Comparing the first stage of MERGER[ $n$ ] with HALF-CLEANER[ $n$ ], for  $n = 8$ . (a) The first stage of MERGER[ $n$ ] transforms the two monotonic input sequences  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n/2} \rangle$  and  $\langle a_{n/2+1}, a_{n/2+2}, \dots, a_n \rangle$  into two bitonic sequences  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{n/2} \rangle$  and  $\langle b_{n/2+1}, b_{n/2+2}, \dots, b_n \rangle$ . (b) The equivalent operation for HALF-CLEANER[ $n$ ]. The bitonic input sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n/2-1}, a_{n/2}, a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_{n/2+2}, a_{n/2+1} \rangle$  is transformed into the two bitonic sequences  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{n/2} \rangle$  and  $\langle b_n, b_{n-1}, \dots, b_{n/2+1} \rangle$ .



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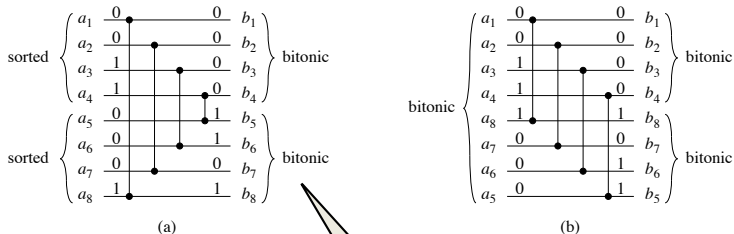
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  - Recall: first half-cleaner of BITONIC-SORTER[ $n$ ] compares  $i$  and  $n/2 + i$
- ⇒ First part of MERGER[ $n$ ] compares inputs  $i$  and  $n - i + 1$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n/2$
- Remaining part is identical to BITONIC-SORTER[ $n$ ]

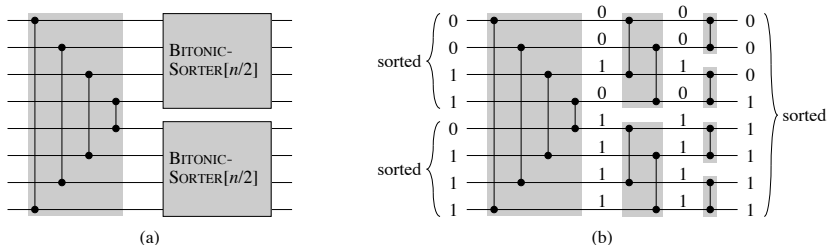


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## Construction of a Merging Network (2/2)



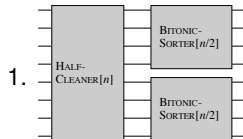
**Figure 27.11** A network that merges two sorted input sequences into one sorted output sequence. The network  $\text{MERGER}[n]$  can be viewed as  $\text{BITONIC-SORTER}[n]$  with the first half-cleaner altered to compare inputs  $i$  and  $n-i+1$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n/2$ . Here,  $n = 8$ . (a) The network decomposed into the first stage followed by two parallel copies of  $\text{BITONIC-SORTER}[n/2]$ . (b) The same network with the recursion unrolled. Sample zero-one values are shown on the wires, and the stages are shaded.



# Construction of a Sorting Network

## Main Components

1. BITONIC-SORTER[ $n$ ]
  - sorts any bitonic sequence
  - depth  $\log n$

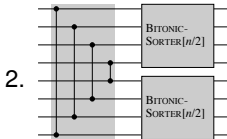
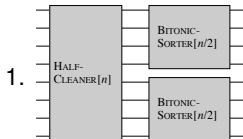




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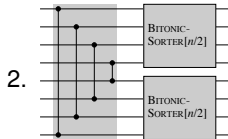
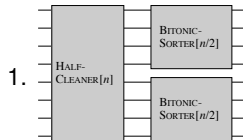
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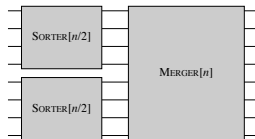
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## Batcher's Sorting Network

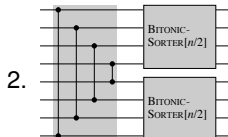
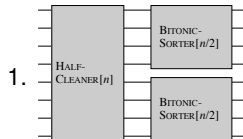
- SORTER[ $n$ ] is defined recursively:
  - If  $n = 2^k$ , use two copies of SORTER[ $n/2$ ] to sort two subsequences of length  $n/2$  each. Then merge them using MERGER[ $n$ ].
  - If  $n = 1$ , network consists of a single wire.



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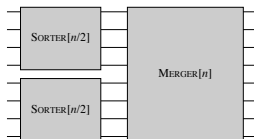
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## Batcher's Sorting Network

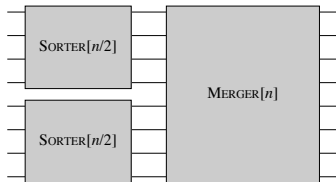
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can be seen as a parallel version of merge sort

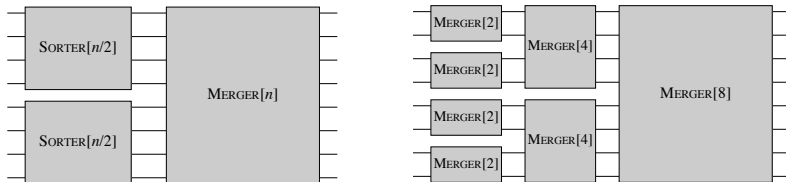


## Unrolling the Recursion (Figure 27.12)

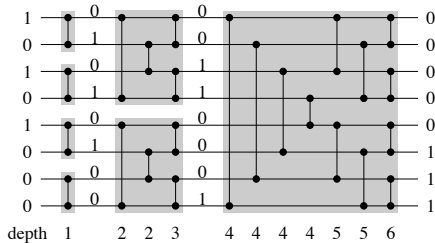
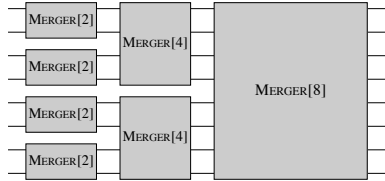
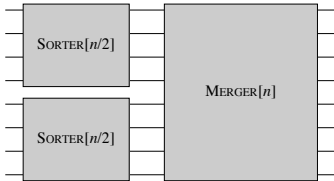
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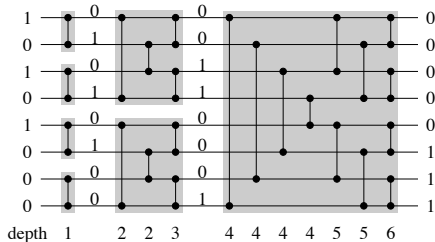
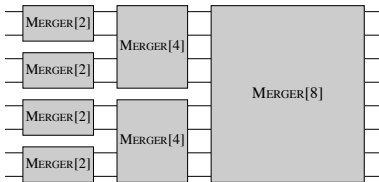
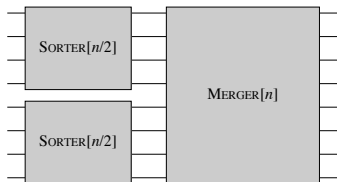
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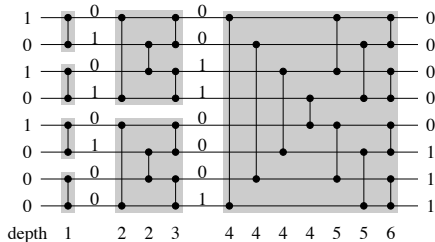
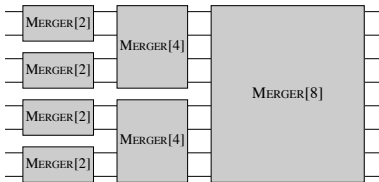
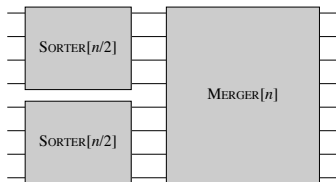


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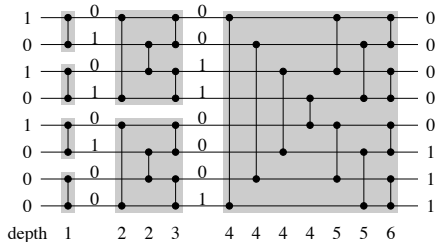
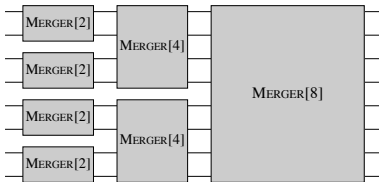
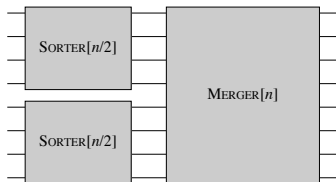
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Solution:  $D(n) = \Theta(\log^2 n)$ .





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Solution:  $D(n) = \Theta(\log^2 n)$ .

$\text{SORTER}[n]$  has depth  $\Theta(\log^2 n)$  and sorts any input.



## A Glimpse at the AKS Network

---

Ajtai, Komlós, Szemerédi (1983)

There exists a sorting network with depth  $O(\log n)$ .



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Quite elaborate construction, and involves huge constants.



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Perfect Halver

A **perfect halver** is a comparison network that, given any input, places the  $n/2$  smaller keys in  $b_1, \dots, b_{n/2}$  and the  $n/2$  larger keys in  $b_{n/2+1}, \dots, b_n$ .



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Perfect halver of depth  $\log n$  exist  $\rightsquigarrow$  yields sorting networks of depth  $\Theta((\log n)^2)$ .



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An  $(n, \epsilon)$ -**approximate halver**,  $\epsilon < 1$ , is a comparison network that for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n/2$  places at most  $\epsilon k$  of its  $k$  smallest keys in  $b_{n/2+1}, \dots, b_n$  and at most  $\epsilon k$  of its  $k$  largest keys in  $b_1, \dots, b_{n/2}$ .



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We will prove that such networks can be constructed in constant depth!



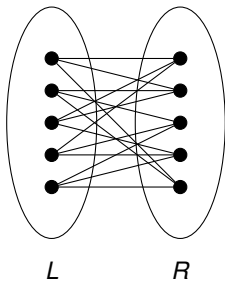
## Expander Graphs

### Expander Graphs

A bipartite  $(n, d, \mu)$ -expander is a graph with:

- $G$  has  $n$  vertices ( $n/2$  on each side)
- the edge-set is union of  $d$  perfect matchings
- For every subset  $S \subseteq V$  being in one part,

$$|N(S)| > \min\{\mu \cdot |S|, n/2 - |S|\}$$





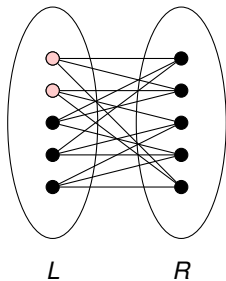
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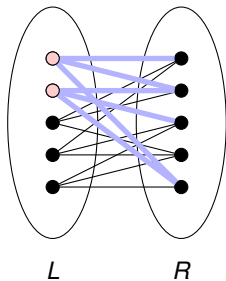
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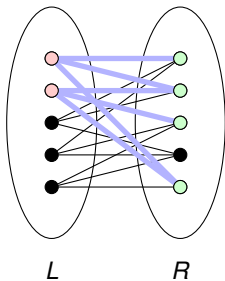
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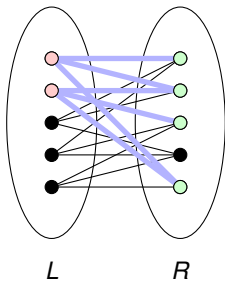
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Specific definition tailored for sorting network - many other variants exist!



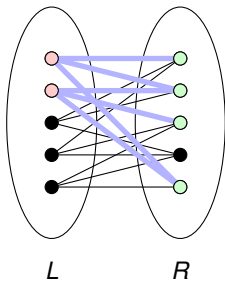
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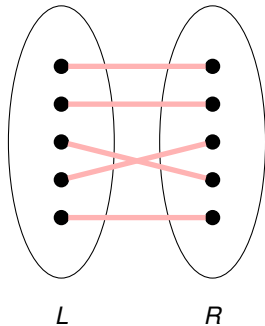
### Expander Graphs:

- **probabilistic construction** “easy”: take  $d$  (disjoint) random matchings
- **explicit construction** is a deep mathematical problem with ties to number theory, group theory, combinatorics etc.
- **many applications** in networking, complexity theory and coding theory



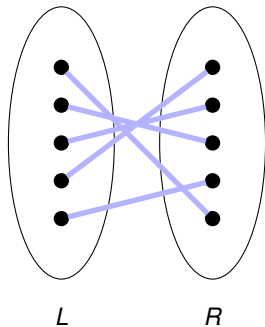
## From Expanders to Approximate Halvers

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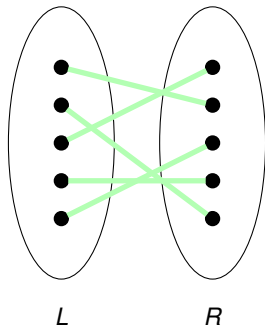
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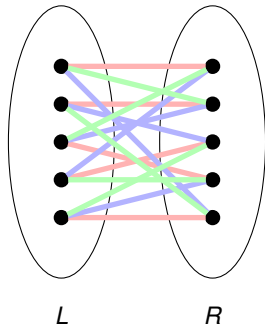
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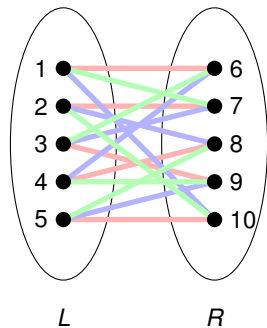
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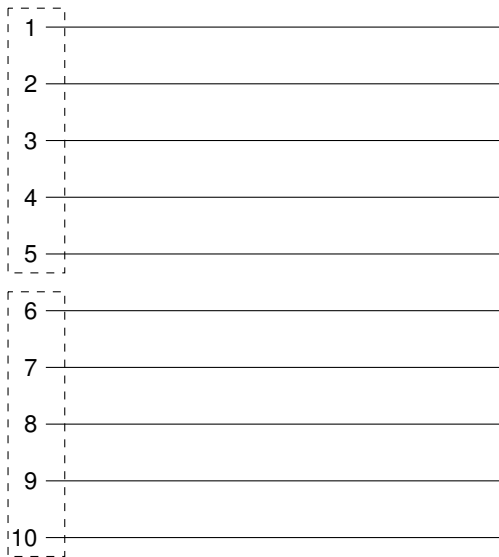
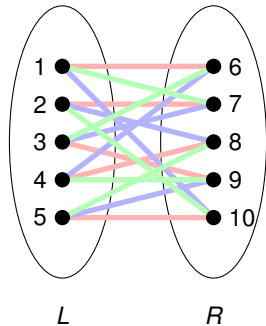


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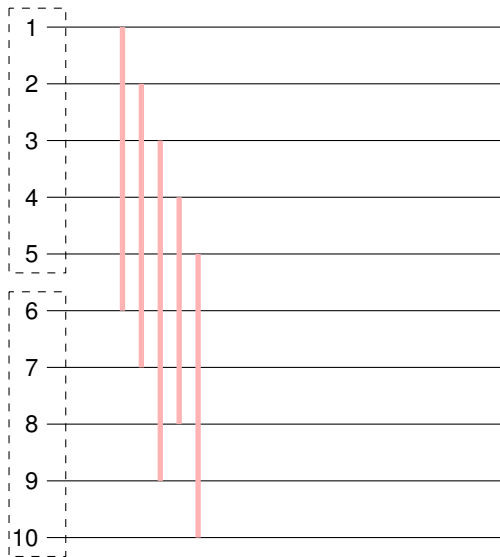
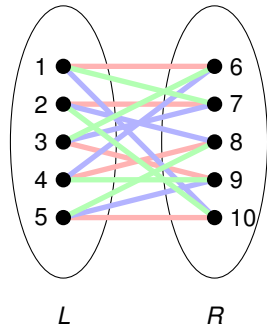
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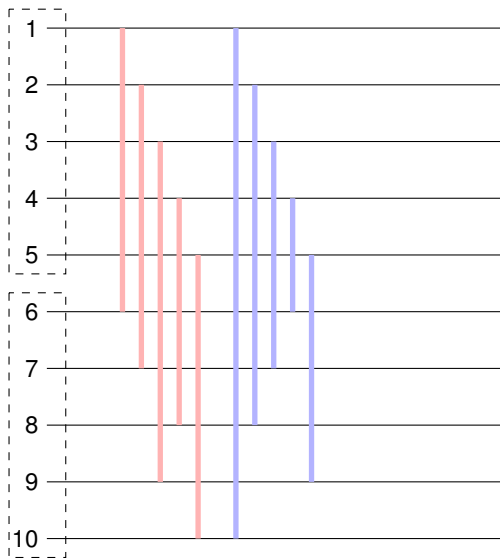
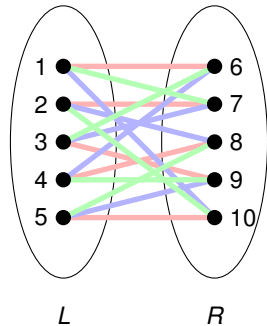
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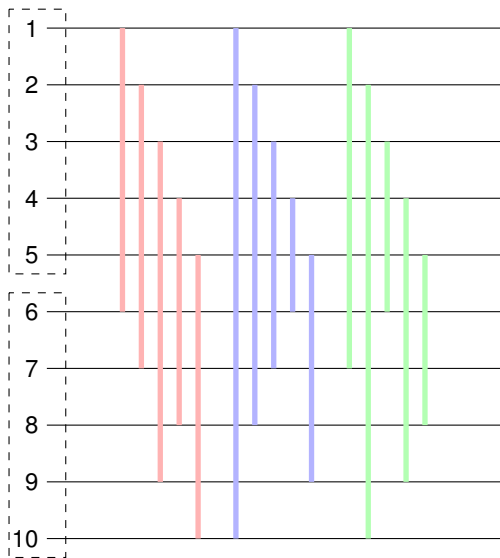
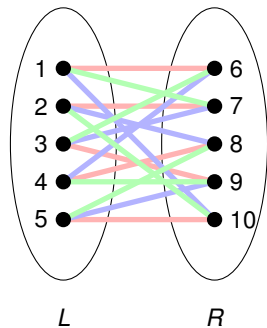
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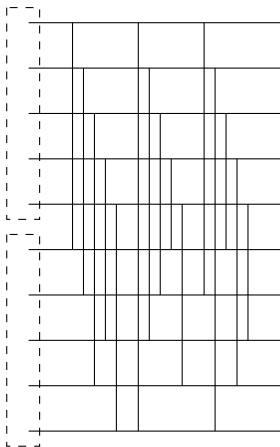


## From Expanders to Approximate Halvers



## Existence of Approximate Halvers (non-examinable)

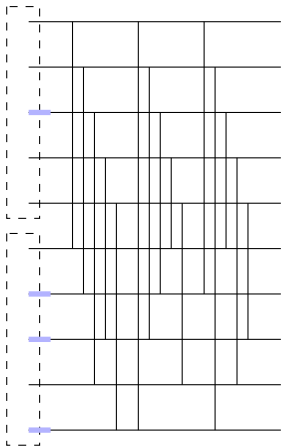
Proof:



## Existence of Approximate Halvers (non-examinable)

Proof:

- $X$  := keys with the  $k$  smallest inputs

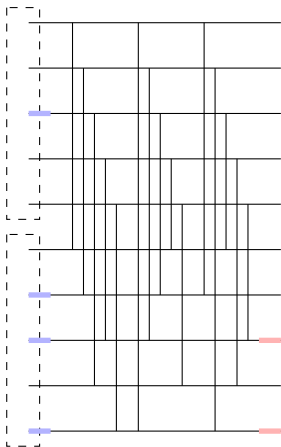




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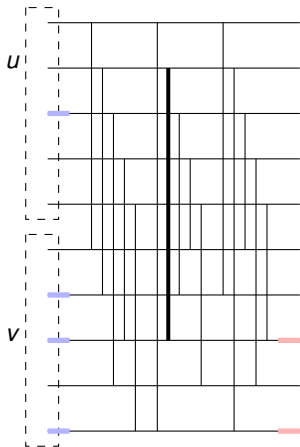
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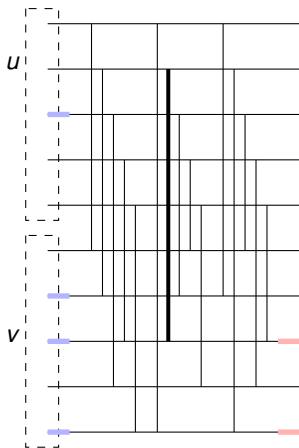
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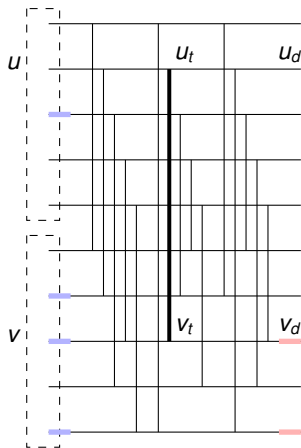
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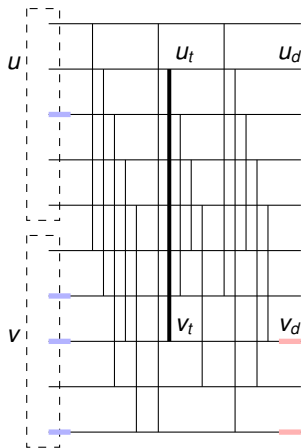
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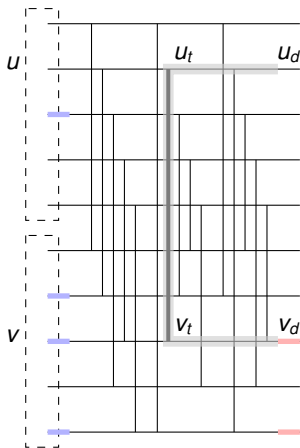
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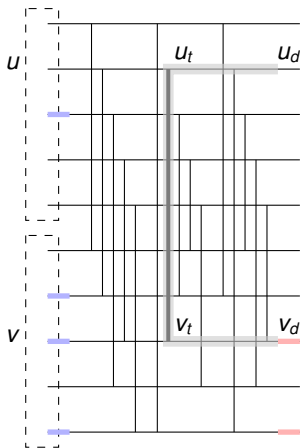


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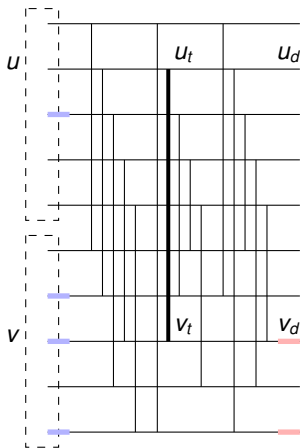
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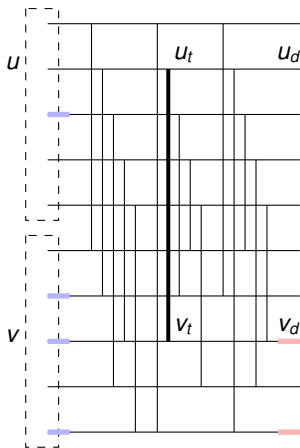
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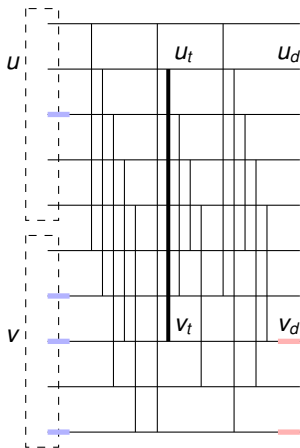
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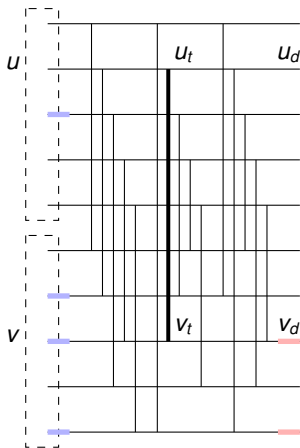
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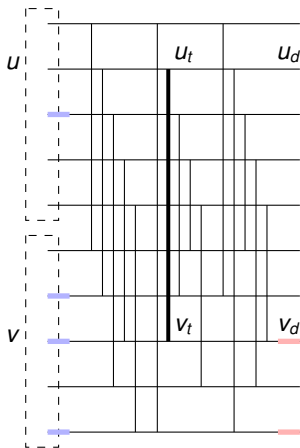
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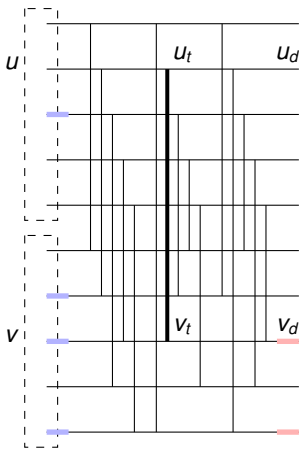
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Here we used that  $k \leq n/2$



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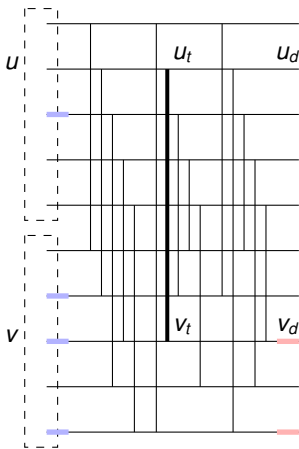
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- Combining the two bounds above yields:

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- Same argument  $\Rightarrow$  at most  $\epsilon \cdot k$ ,  
 $\epsilon := 1/(\mu + 1)$ , of the  $k$  largest input keys are  
placed in  $b_1, \dots, b_{n/2}$ .  $\square$



- typical application of expander graphs in parallel algorithms
- Much more work needed to construct the AKS sorting network



## AKS network vs. Batcher's network

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**Donald E. Knuth (Stanford)**

*“Batcher’s method is much better, unless  $n$  exceeds the total memory capacity of all computers on earth!”*



**Richard J. Lipton (Georgia Tech)**

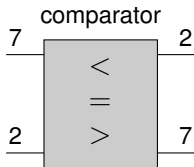
*“The AKS sorting network is **galactic**: it needs that  $n$  be larger than  $2^{78}$  or so to finally be smaller than Batcher’s network for  $n$  items.”*



## Siblings of Sorting Network

### Sorting Networks

- sorts any input of size  $n$
- special case of Comparison Networks





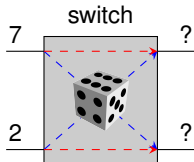
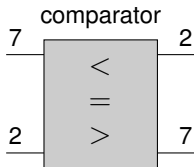
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- sorts any input of size  $n$
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### Switching (Shuffling) Networks

- creates a random permutation of  $n$  items
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## Siblings of Sorting Network

### Sorting Networks

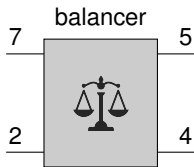
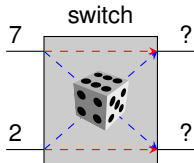
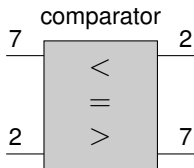
- sorts any input of size  $n$
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### Switching (Shuffling) Networks

- creates a random permutation of  $n$  items
- special case of Permutation Networks

### Counting Networks

- balances any stream of tokens over  $n$  wires
- special case of Balancing Networks



# Outline

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Outline of this Course

Some Highlights

Introduction to Sorting Networks

Batcher's Sorting Network

Counting Networks



## Counting Network

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### Distributed Counting

Processors collectively assign successive values from a given range.



## Counting Network

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### Distributed Counting

Processors collectively assign successive values from a given range.

Values could represent addresses in memories  
or destinations on an interconnection network



## Counting Network

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### Balancing Networks

- constructed in a similar manner like [sorting networks](#)
- instead of comparators, consists of [balancers](#)
- [balancers](#) are [asynchronous](#) flip-flops that forward tokens from its inputs to one of its two outputs alternately (top, bottom, top, . . .)



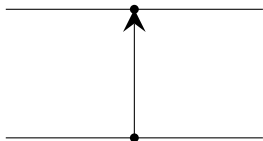
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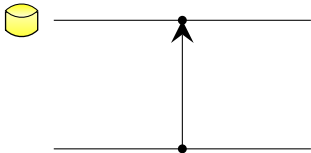
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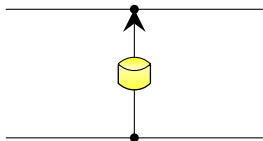
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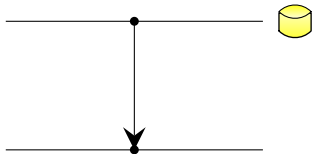
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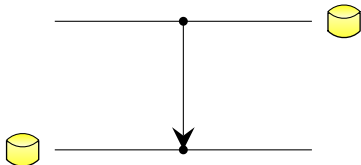
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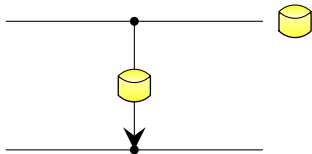
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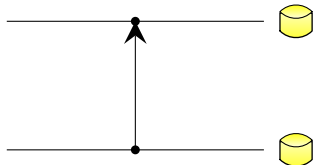
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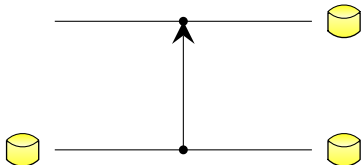
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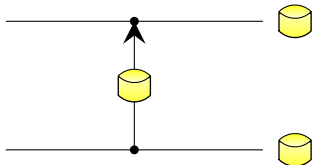
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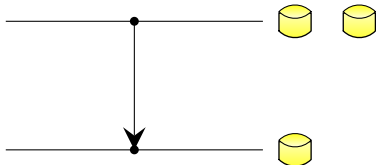
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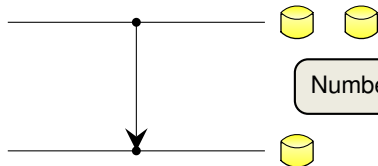
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Number of tokens differs by at most one



## Counting Network (Formal Definition)

1. Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be the number of tokens (ever received) on the designated input wires
2. Let  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  be the number of tokens (ever received) on the designated output wires



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3. In a **quiescent state**:  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$
4. A counting network is a balancing network with the **step-property**:

$$0 \leq y_i - y_j \leq 1 \text{ for any } i < j.$$



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**Bitonic Counting Network:** Take Batcher's Sorting Network and replace each comparator by a balancer.



## Correctness of the Bitonic Counting Network (non-examinable)

Facts

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  have the step property. Then:

1. We have  $\sum_{i=1}^{n/2} x_{2i-1} = \lceil \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \rceil$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n/2} x_{2i} = \lfloor \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \rfloor$
2. If  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$ , then  $x_i = y_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
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### Key Lemma

Consider a **MERGER**[ $n$ ]. Then if the inputs  $x_1, \dots, x_{n/2}$  and  $x_{n/2+1}, \dots, x_n$  have the step property, then so does the output  $y_1, \dots, y_n$ .

Proof (by induction on  $n$  being a power of 2)

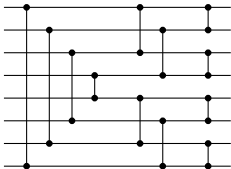


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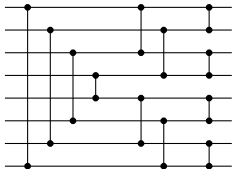


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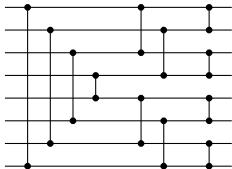


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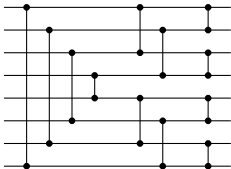


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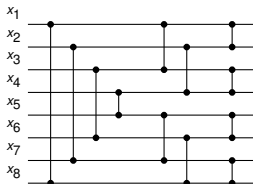


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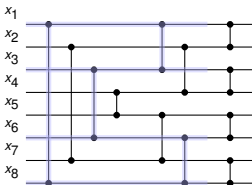


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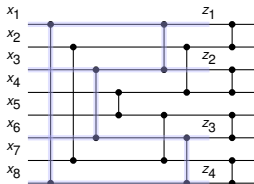


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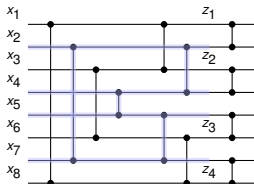


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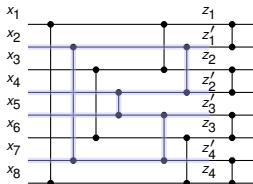


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1. We have  $\sum_{i=1}^{n/2} x_{2i-1} = \lceil \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \rceil$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^{n/2} x_{2i} = \lfloor \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \rfloor$
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Proof (by induction on  $n$  being a power of 2)

- Case  $n = 2$  is clear, since  $\text{MERGER}[2]$  is a single balancer
- $n > 2$ : Let  $z_1, \dots, z_{n/2}$  and  $z'_1, \dots, z'_{n/2}$  be the outputs of the  $\text{MERGER}[n/2]$  subnetworks
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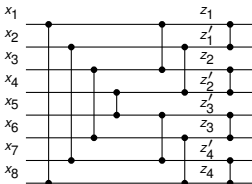


## Correctness of the Bitonic Counting Network (non-examinable)

Facts

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  have the step property. Then:

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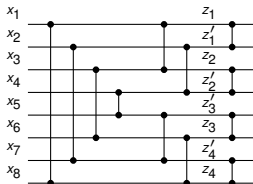


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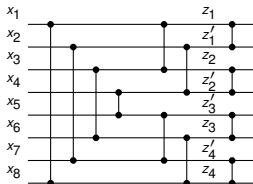


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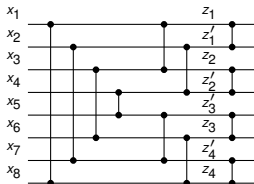


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- Case 1: If  $Z = Z'$ , then F2 implies the output of  $\text{MERGER}[n]$  is  $y_i = z_{1+\lfloor (i-1)/2 \rfloor}$  ✓

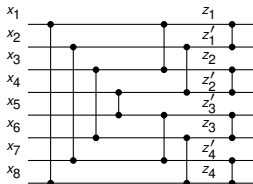


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Facts

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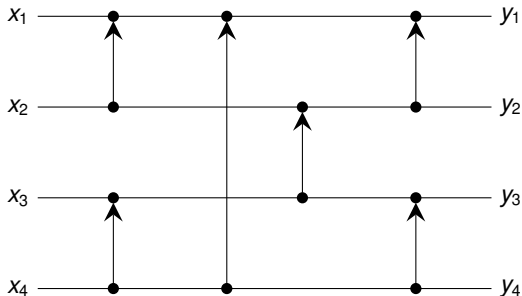


Proof (by induction on  $n$  being a power of 2)

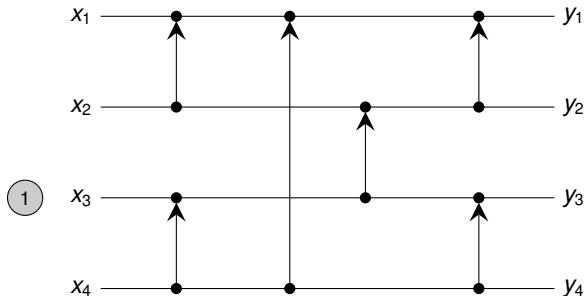
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- Case 2: If  $|Z - Z'| = 1$ , F3 implies  $z_i = z'_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n/2$  except a unique  $j$  with  $z_j \neq z'_j$ .  
Balancer between  $z_j$  and  $z'_j$  will ensure that the step property holds.



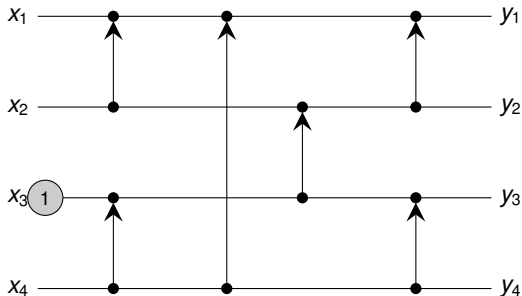
## Bitonic Counting Network in Action (Asynchronous Execution)



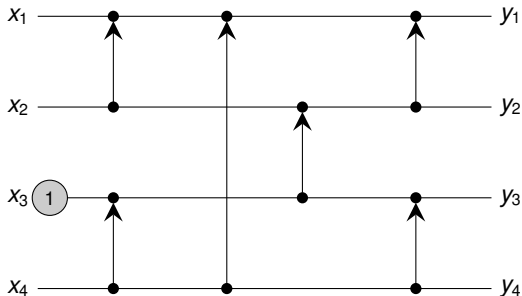
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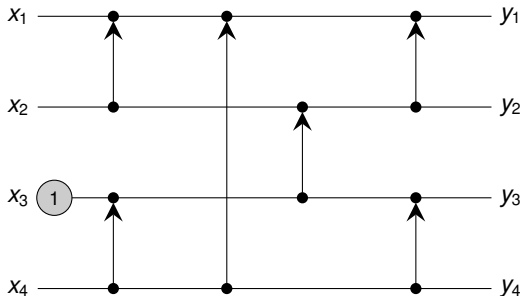


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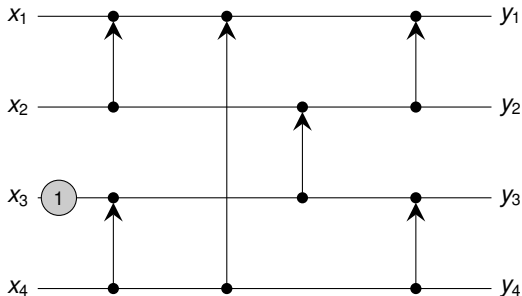




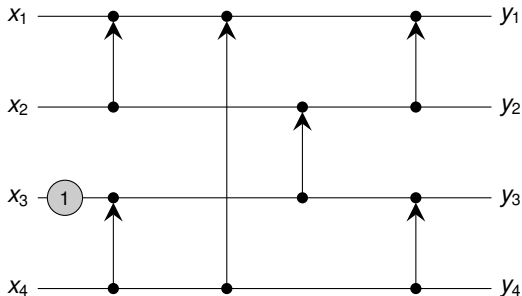
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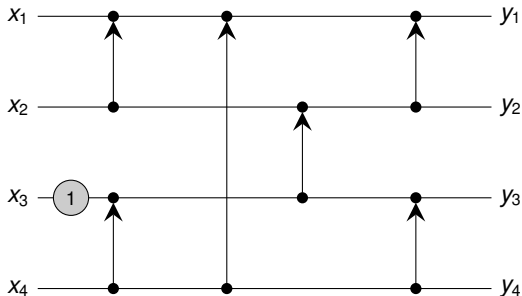
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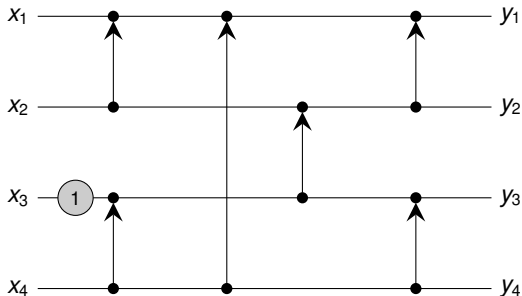
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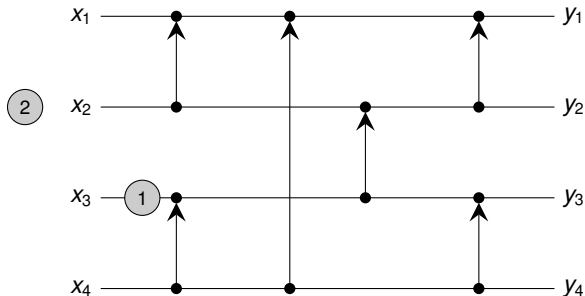
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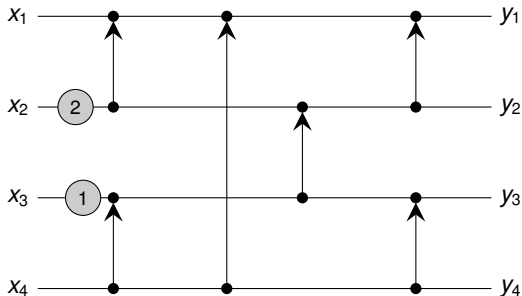
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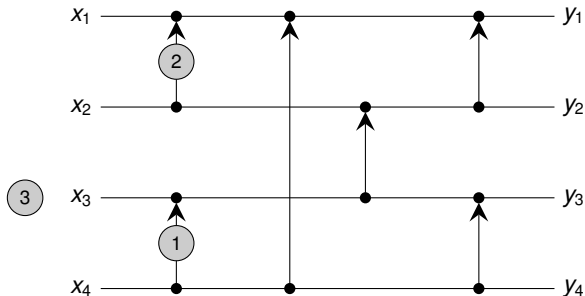
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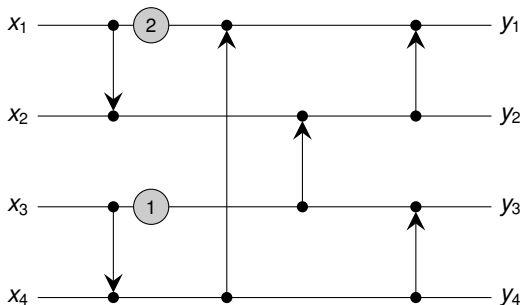


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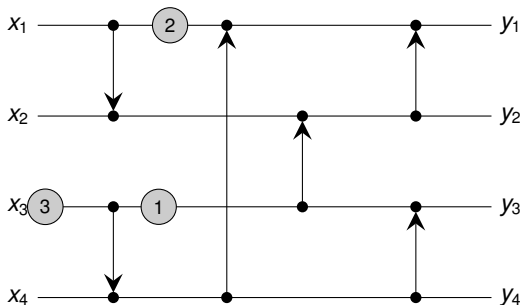




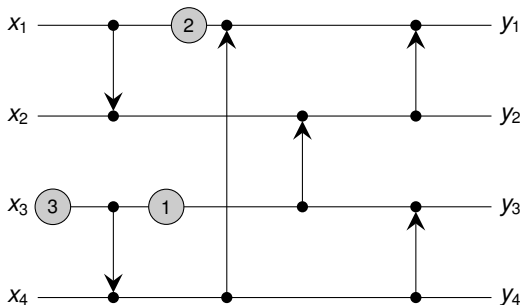
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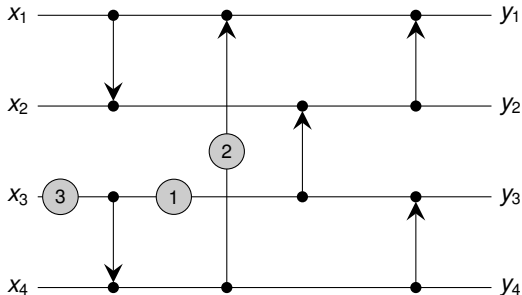
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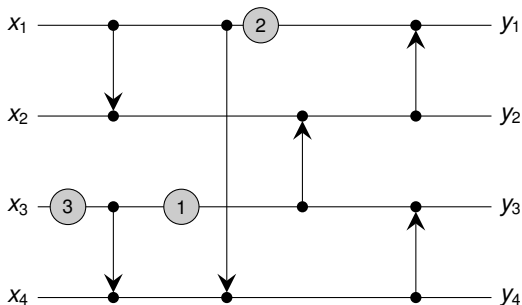
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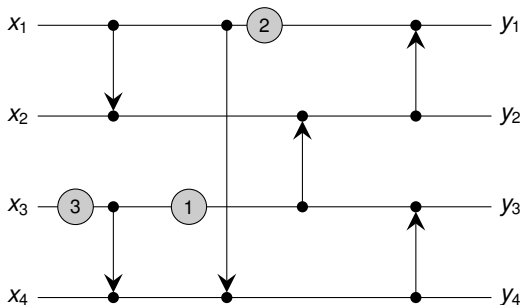
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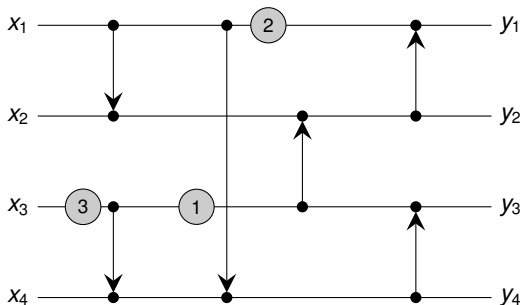
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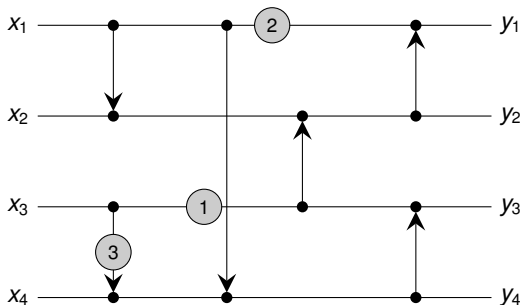
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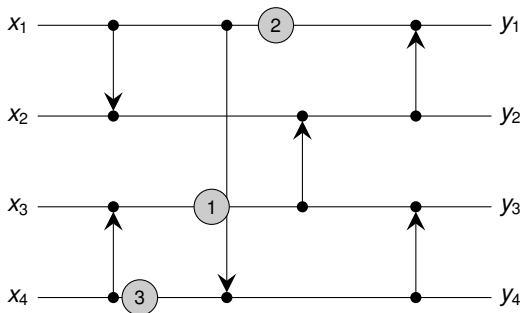


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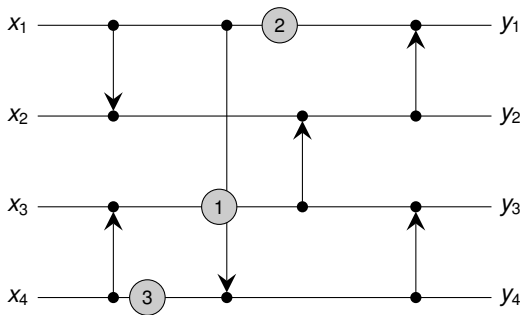




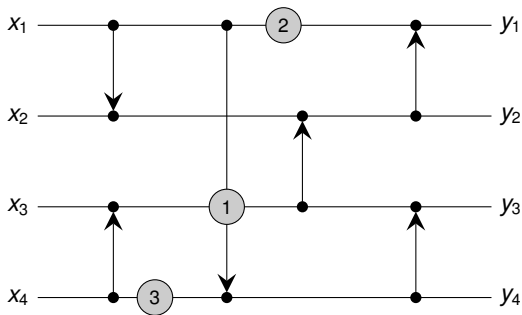
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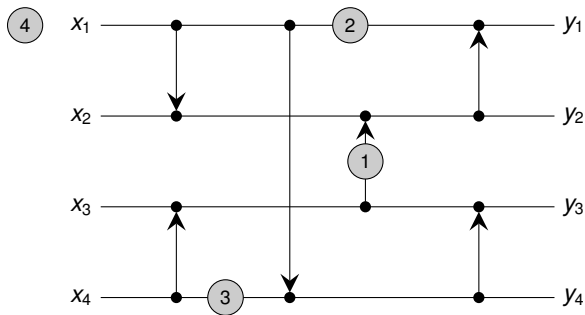
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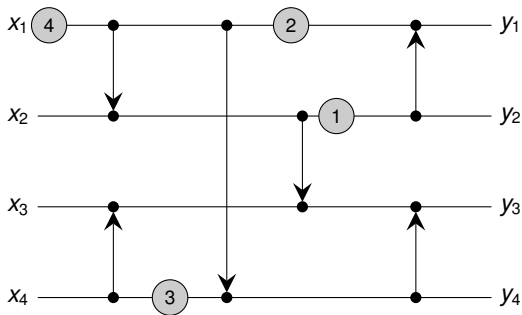
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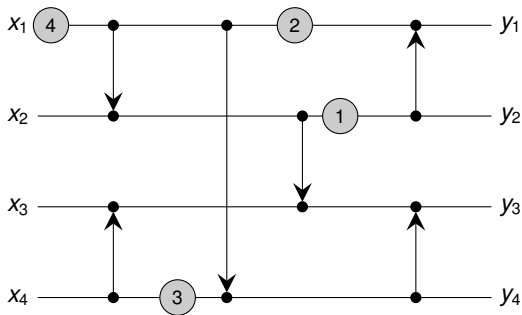
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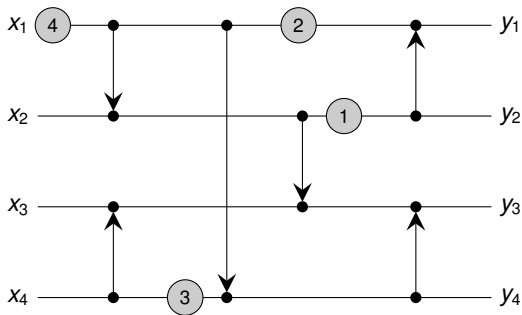
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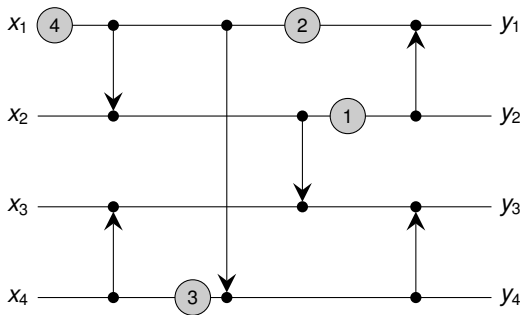
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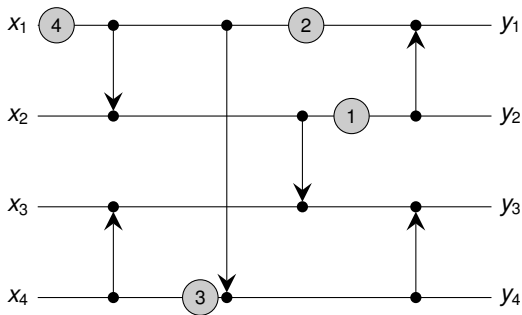


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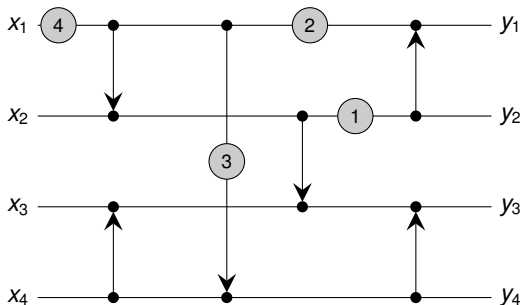




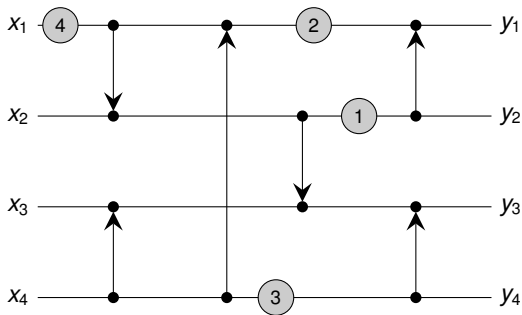
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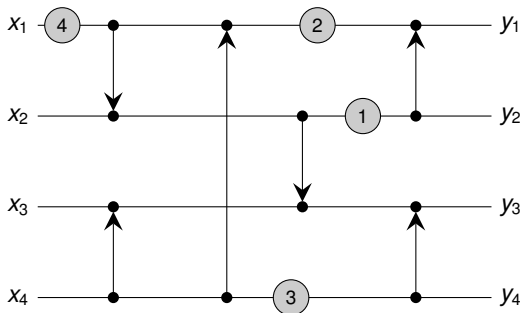
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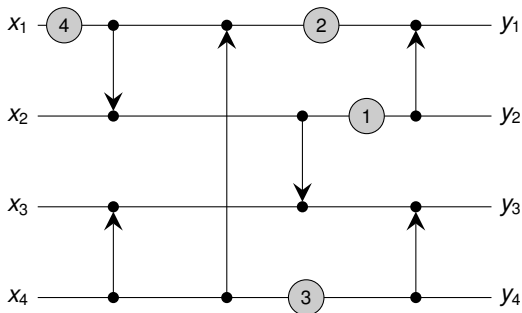
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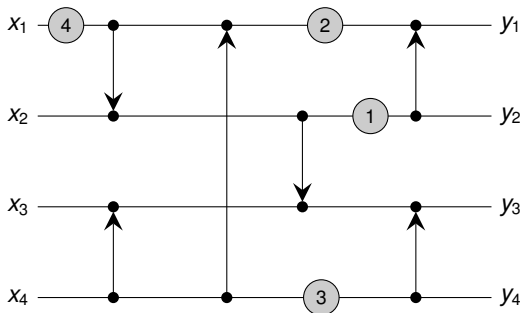
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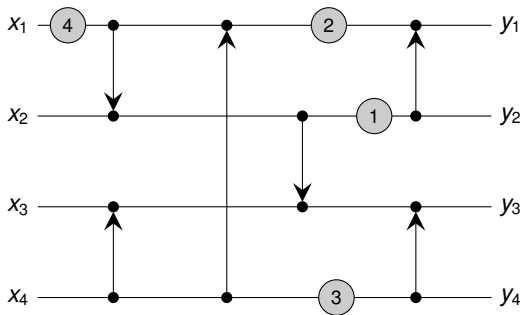
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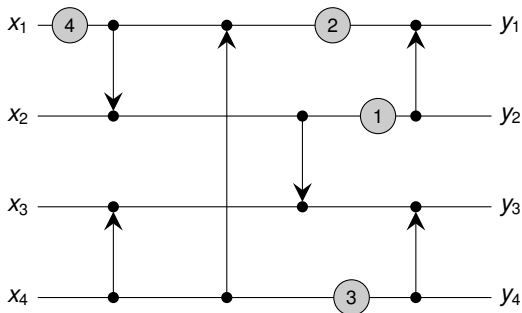
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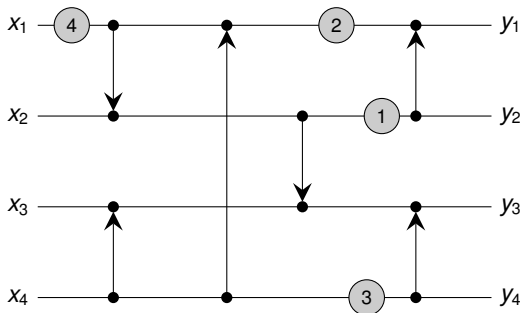


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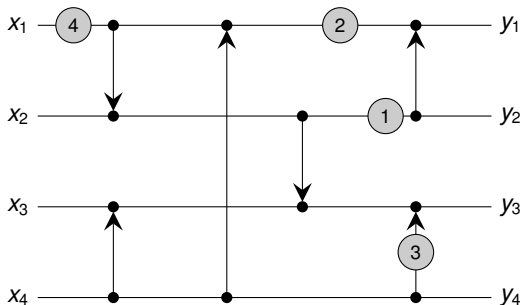




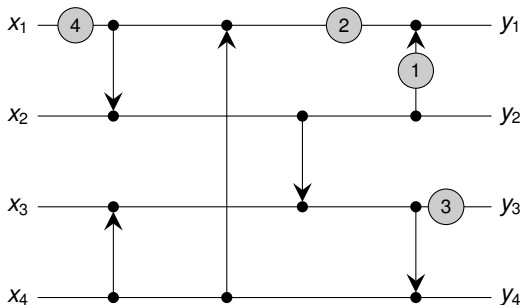
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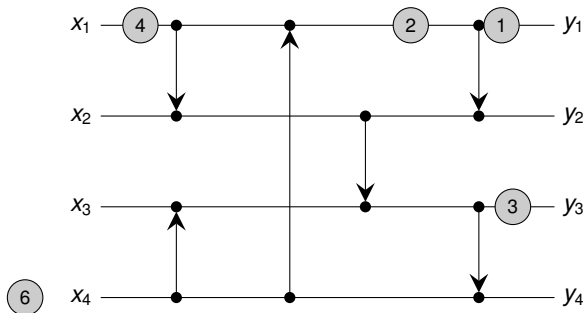
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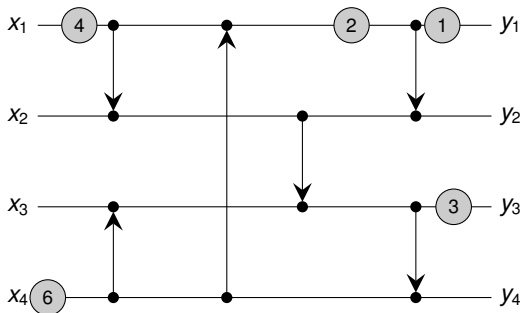
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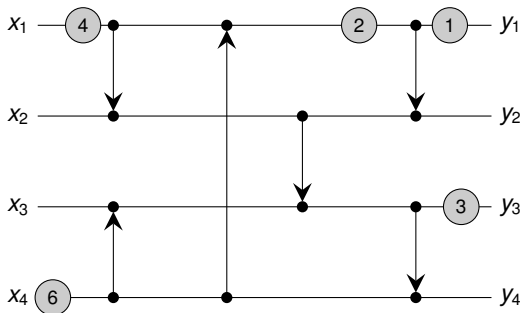


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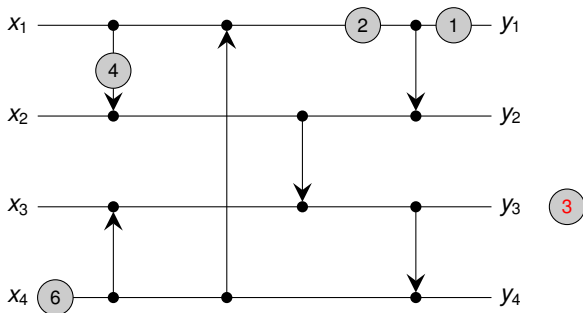




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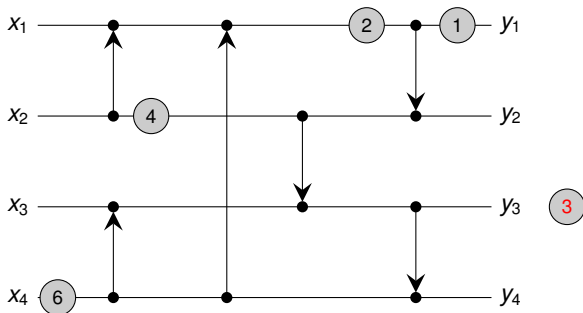


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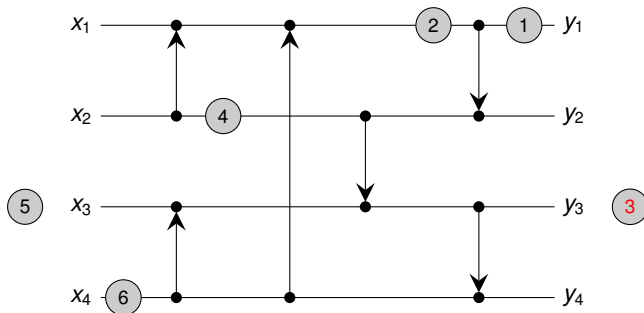




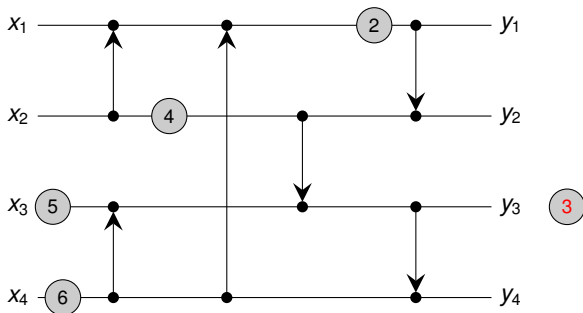
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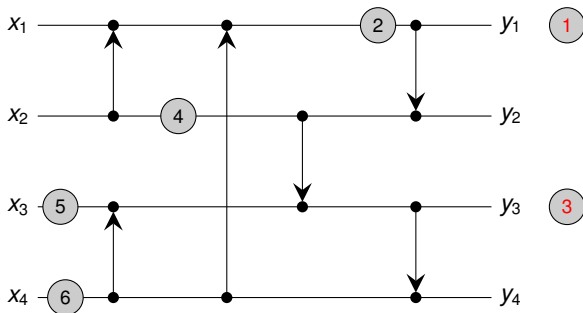
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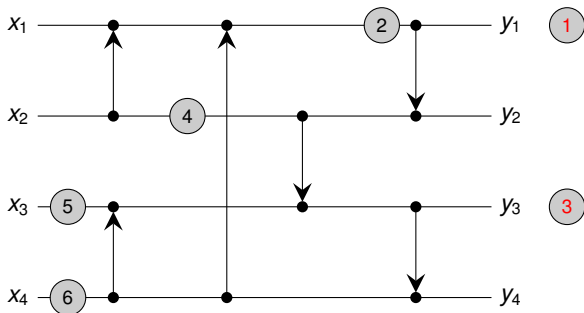
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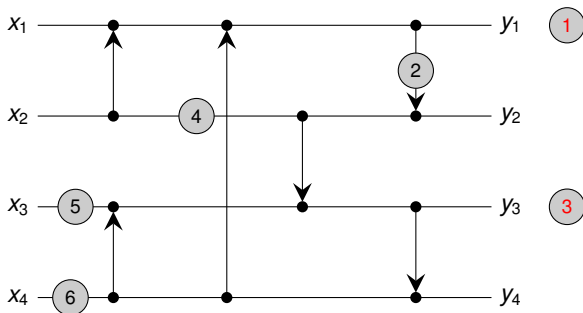
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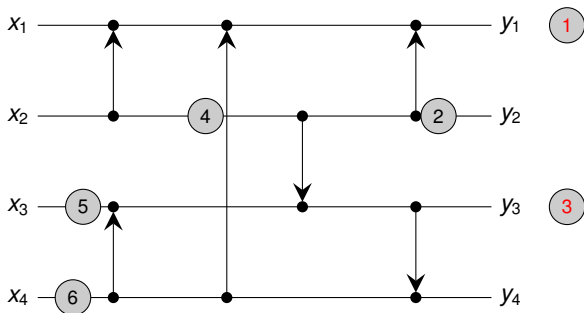
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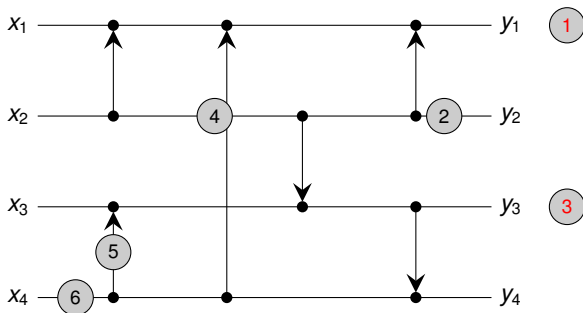
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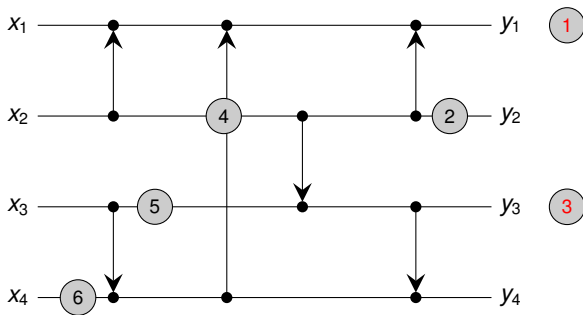


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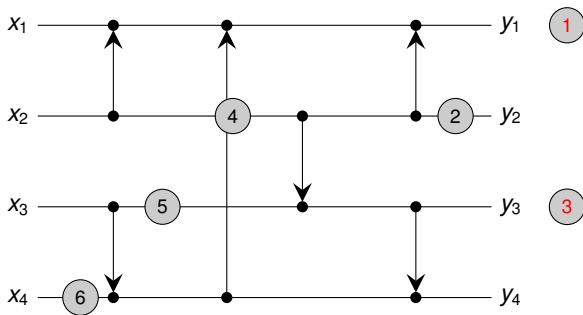




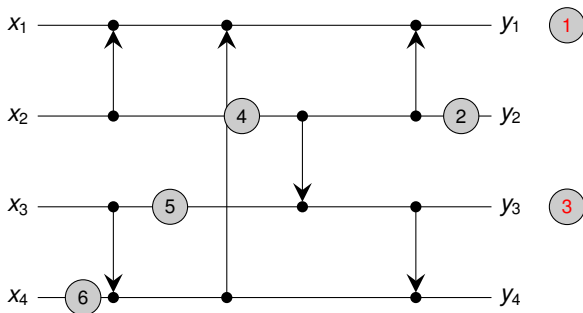
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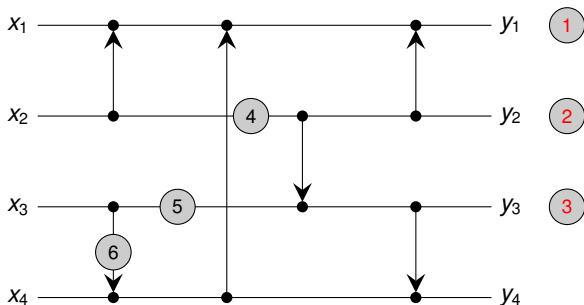
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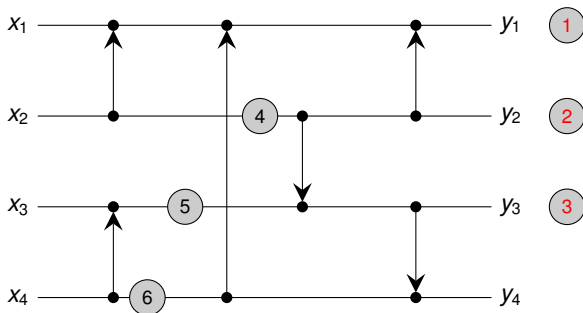
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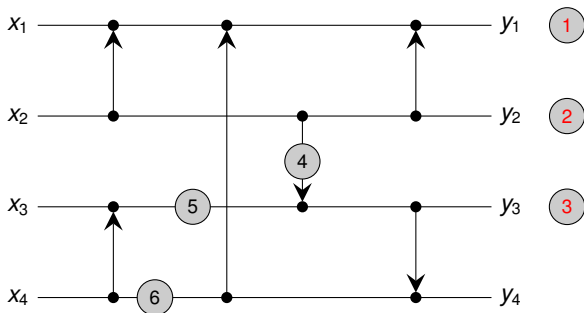
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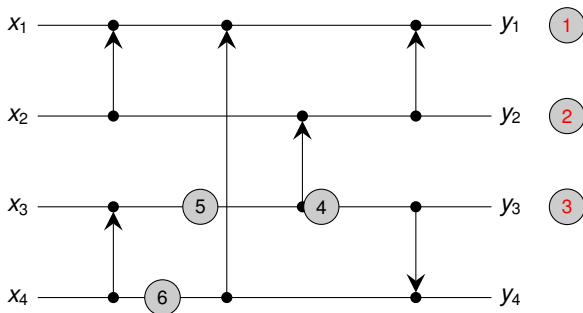
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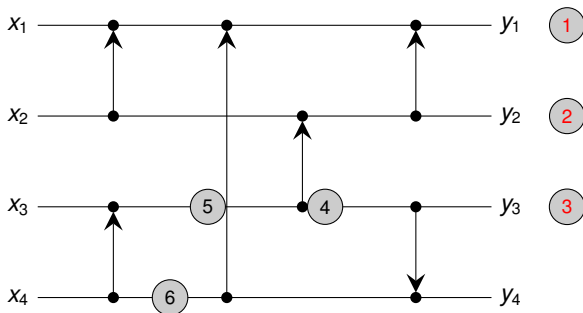
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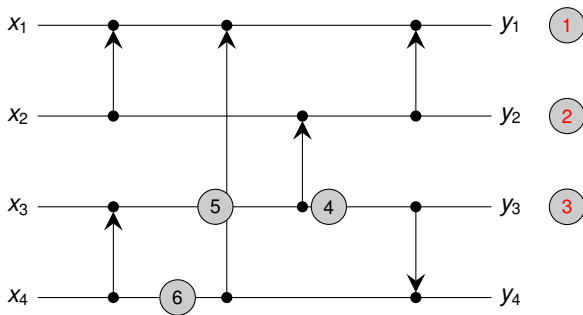


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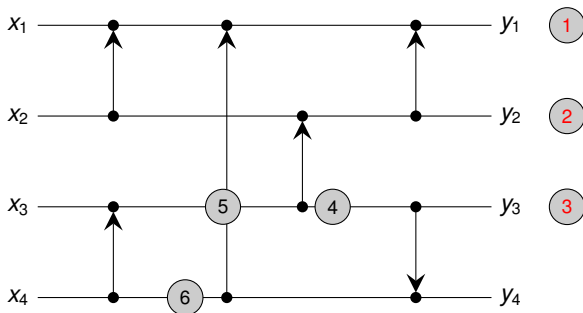




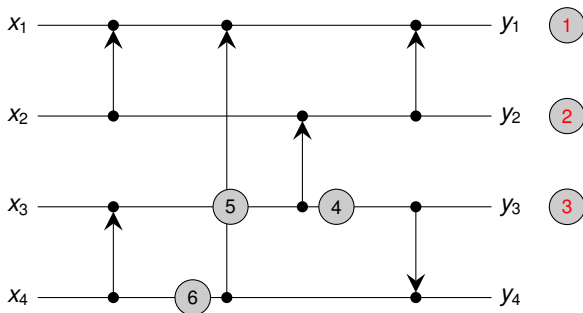
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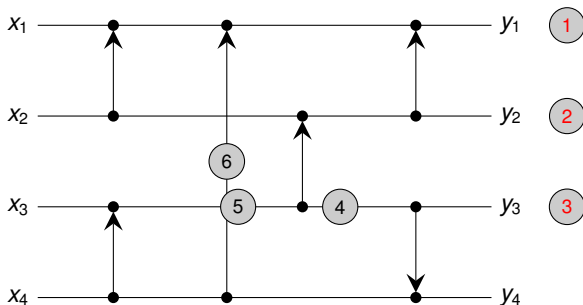
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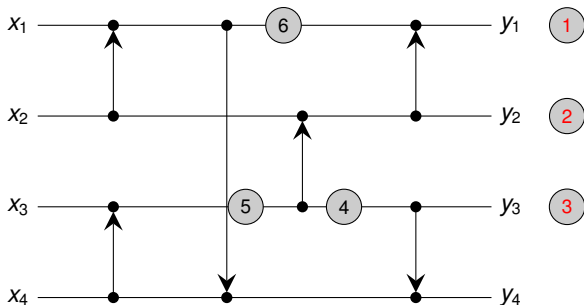
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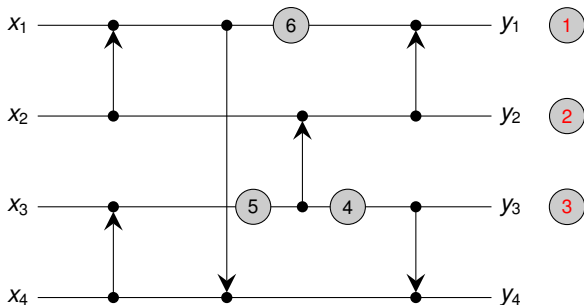
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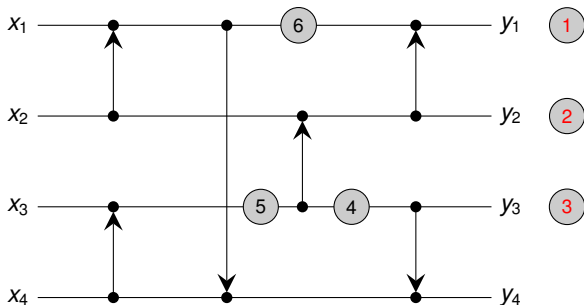
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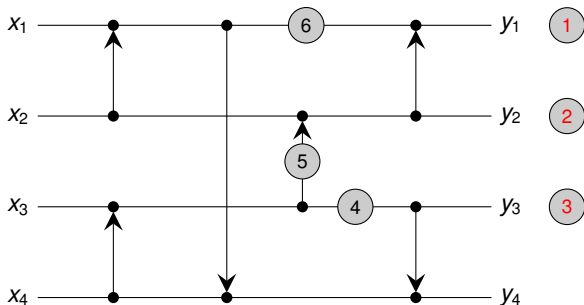
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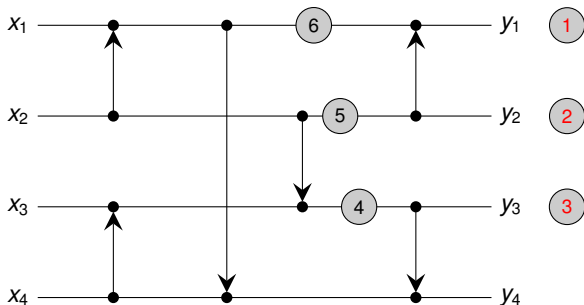


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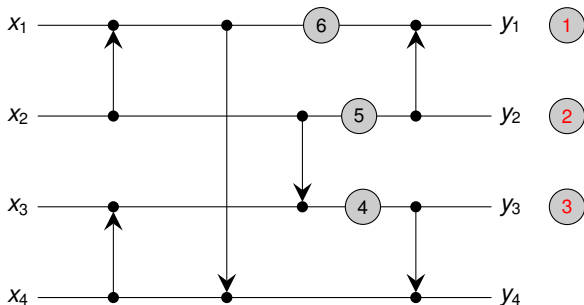




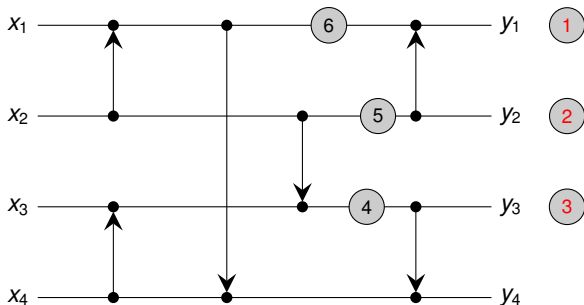
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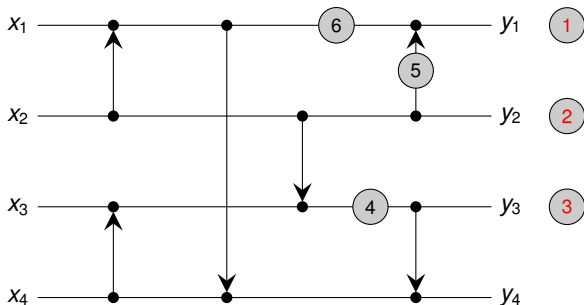
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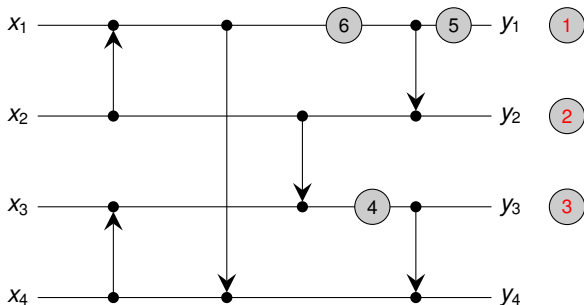
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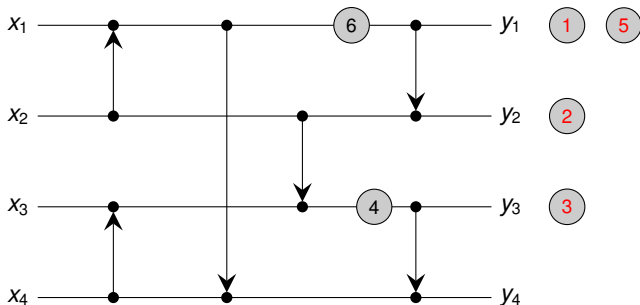
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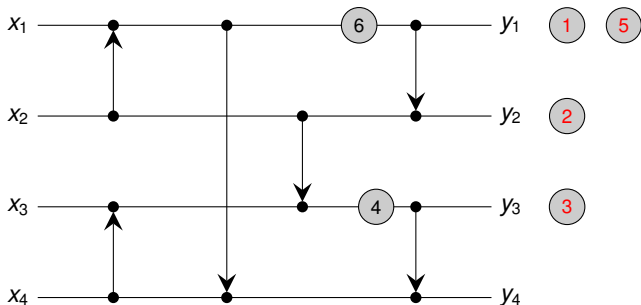
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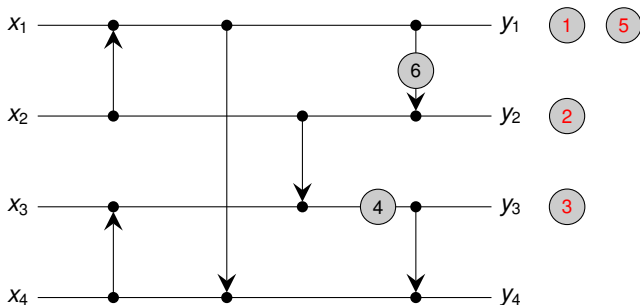
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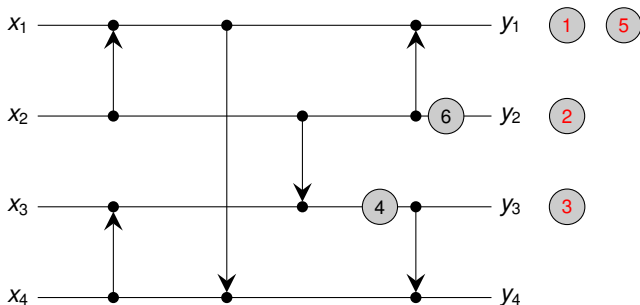


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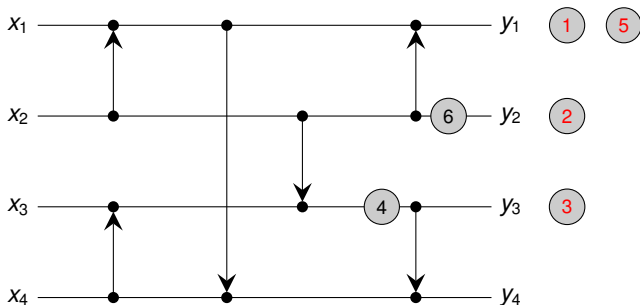




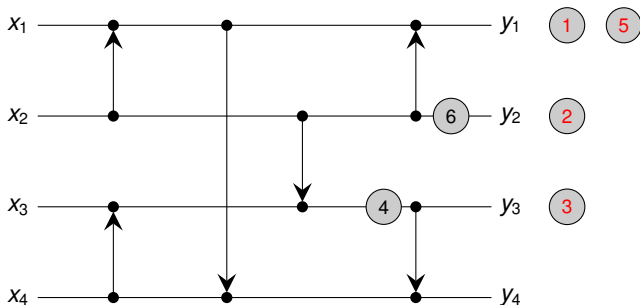
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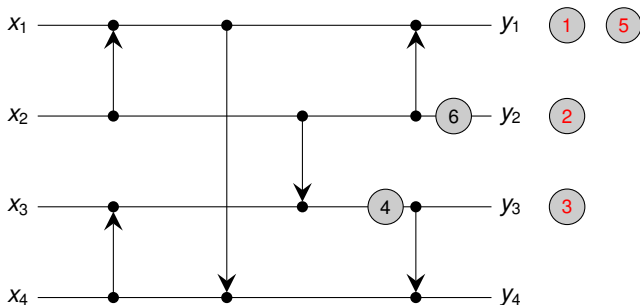
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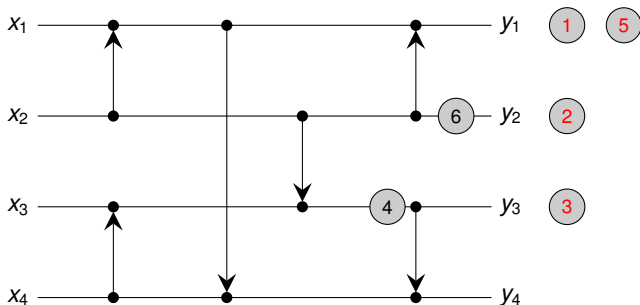
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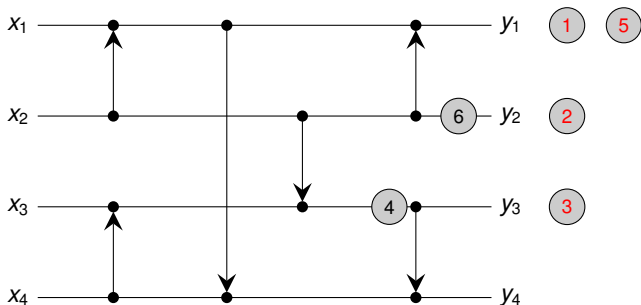
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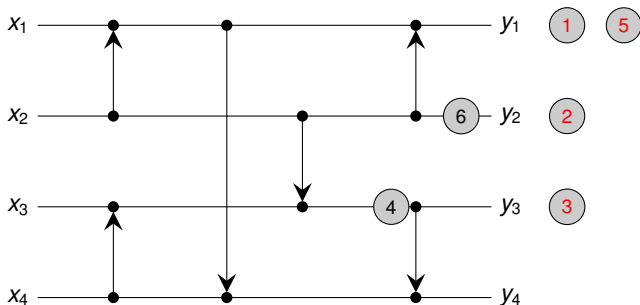
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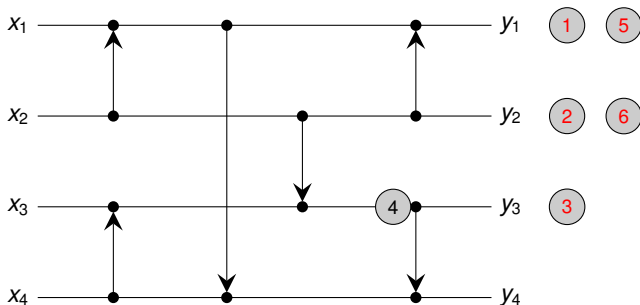
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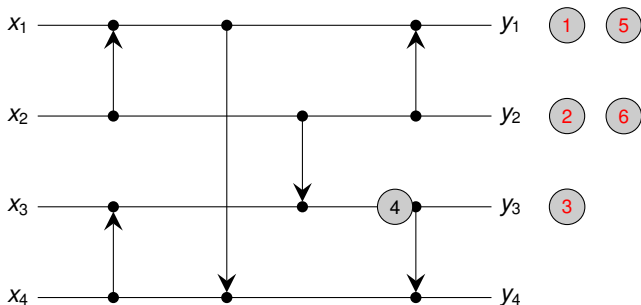


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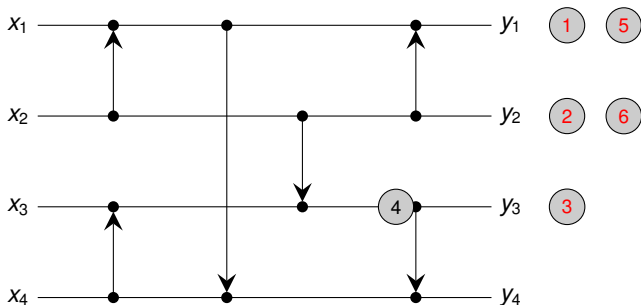




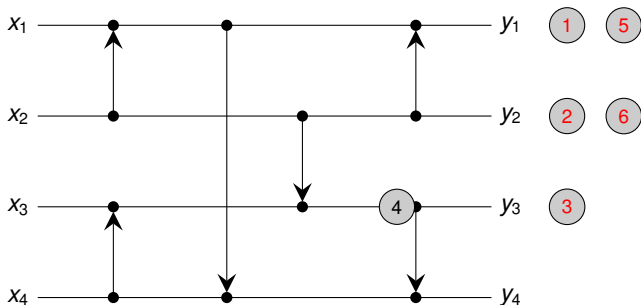
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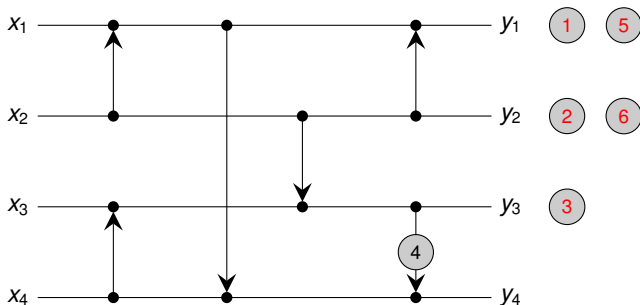
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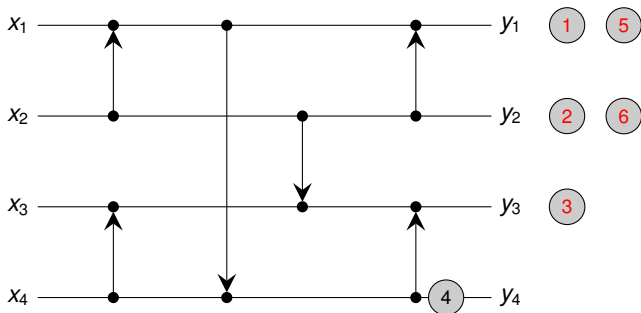
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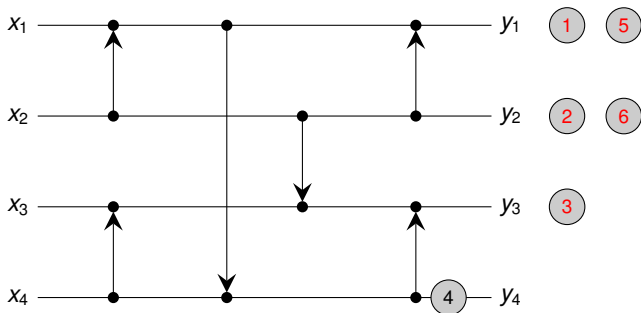
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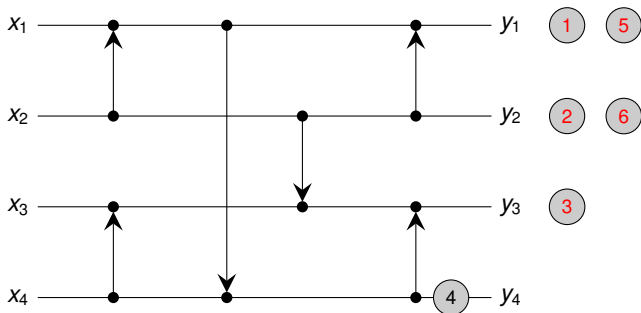
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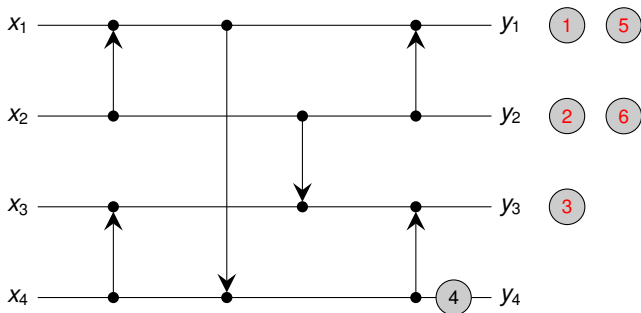
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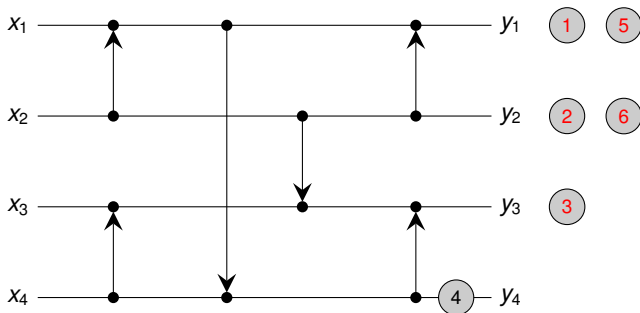


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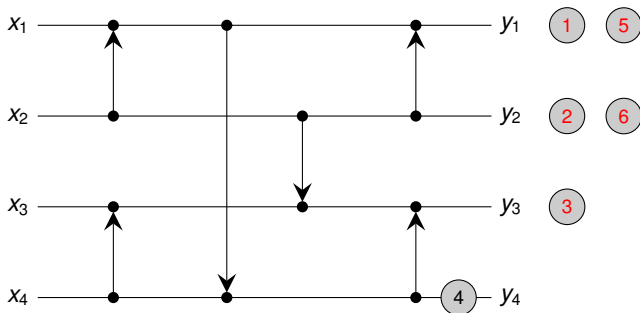




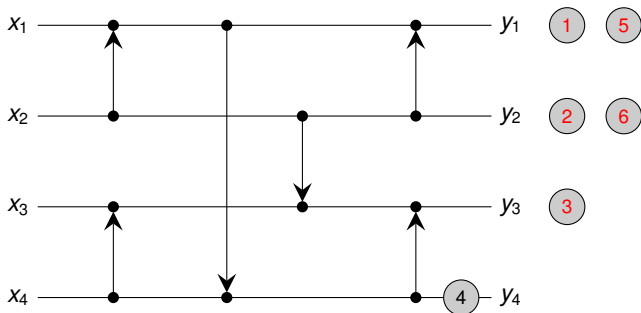
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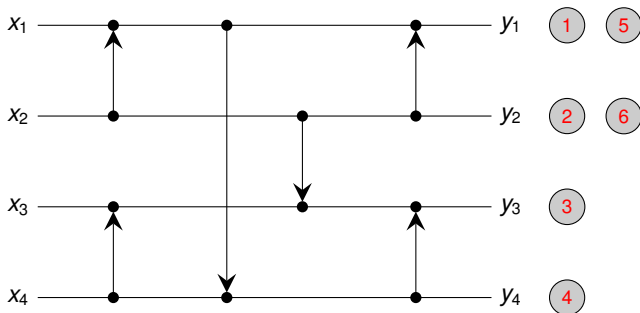
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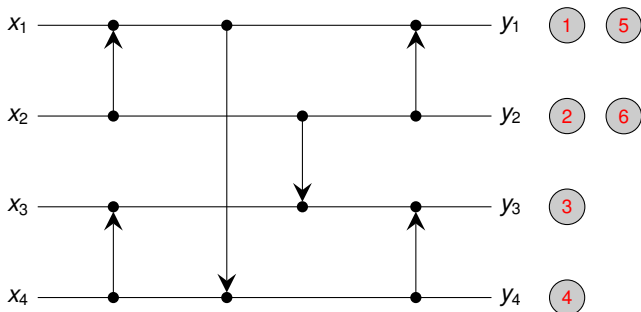
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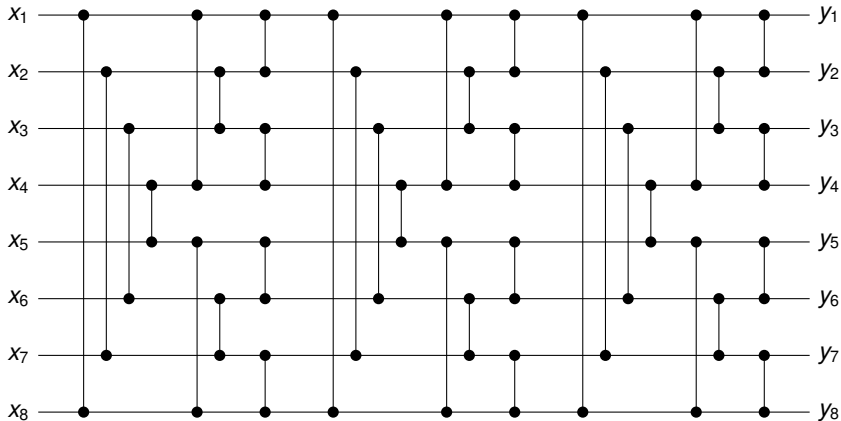
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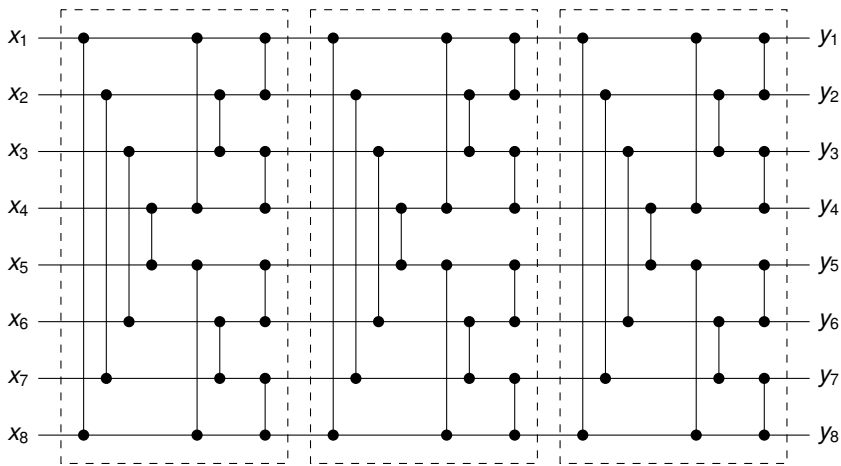
Counting can be done as follows:  
Add **local counter** to each output wire  $i$ , to  
assign consecutive numbers  $i, i + n, i + 2 \cdot n, \dots$



## A Periodic Counting Network [Aspnes, Herlihy, Shavit, JACM 1994]



## A Periodic Counting Network [Aspnes, Herlihy, Shavit, JACM 1994]



Consists of  $\log n$   $\text{BLOCK}[n]$  networks each of which has depth  $\log n$



## From Counting to Sorting

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### Counting vs. Sorting

If a network is a counting network, then it is also a sorting network.





## From Counting to Sorting

The converse is not true!

### Counting vs. Sorting

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## From Counting to Sorting

---

### Counting vs. Sorting

If a network is a counting network, then it is also a sorting network.

Proof.



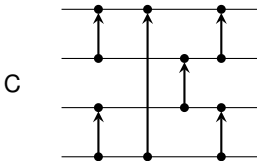
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If a network is a counting network, then it is also a sorting network.

Proof.

- Let  $C$  be a counting network, and  $S$  be the corresponding sorting network



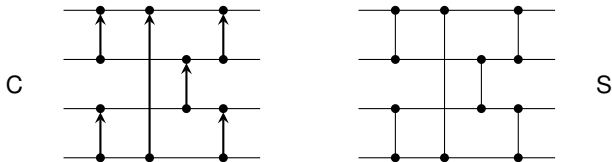
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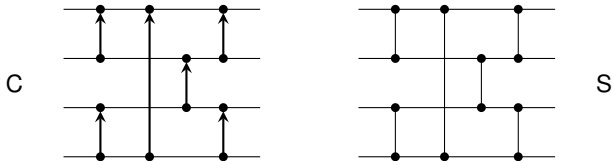
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- Consider an input sequence  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \{0, 1\}^n$  to  $S$



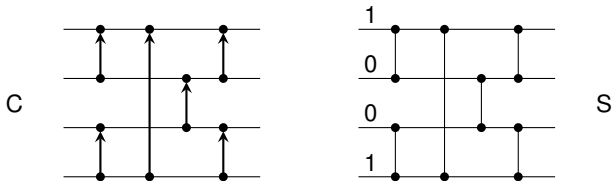
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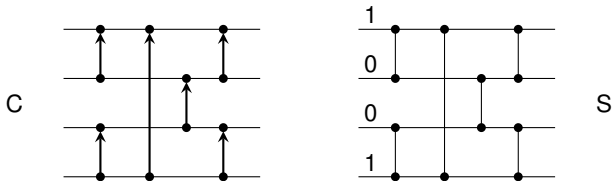
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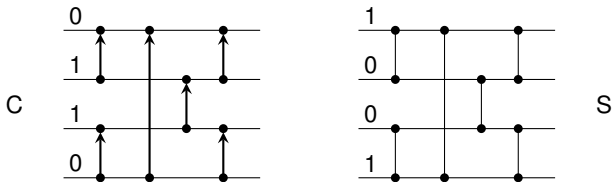
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- $C$  is a counting network  $\Rightarrow$  all ones will be routed to the lower wires





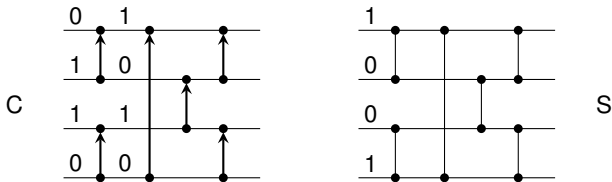
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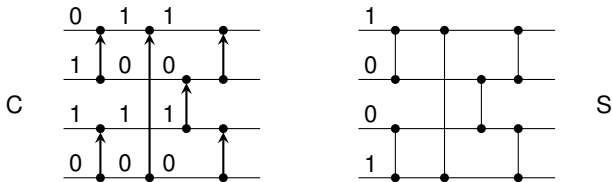
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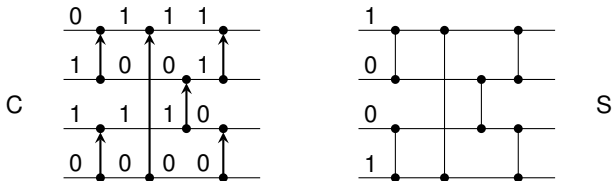
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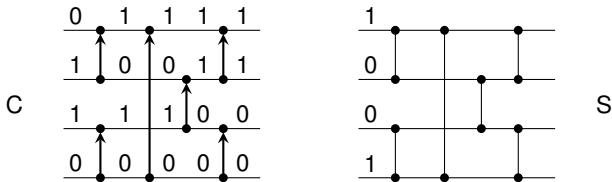
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- Define an input  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \{0, 1\}^n$  to  $C$  by  $x_i = 1$  iff  $a_i = 0$ .
- $C$  is a counting network  $\Rightarrow$  all ones will be routed to the lower wires



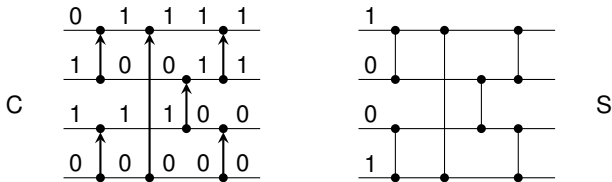
## From Counting to Sorting

### Counting vs. Sorting

If a network is a counting network, then it is also a sorting network.

### Proof.

- Let  $C$  be a counting network, and  $S$  be the **corresponding** sorting network
- Consider an input sequence  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \{0, 1\}^n$  to  $S$
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- $C$  is a counting network  $\Rightarrow$  all ones will be routed to the lower wires
- $S$  corresponds to  $C \Rightarrow$  all zeros will be routed to the lower wires



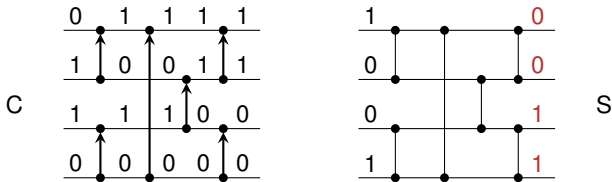
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- $C$  is a counting network  $\Rightarrow$  all ones will be routed to the lower wires
- $S$  corresponds to  $C \Rightarrow$  all zeros will be routed to the lower wires
- By the **Zero-One Principle**,  $S$  is a sorting network. □

