

# Distributed Edge Coloring in Time Polylogarithmic in $\Delta$

Alkida Balliu <sup>1</sup>, Sebastian Brandt <sup>2</sup>, Fabian Kuhn <sup>3</sup>, **Dennis Olivetti** <sup>1</sup>

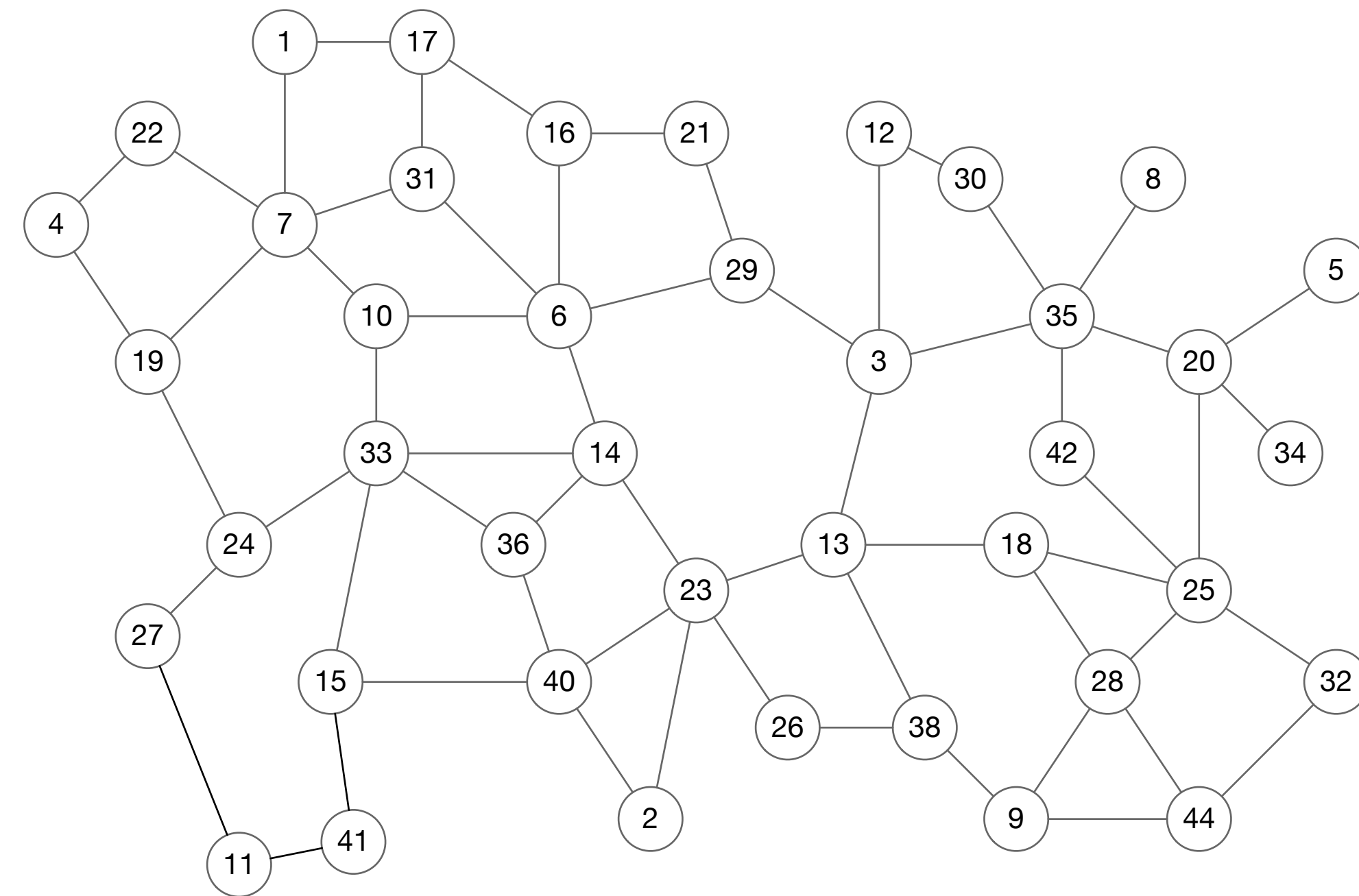
<sup>1</sup> Gran Sasso Science Institute

<sup>2</sup> CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security

<sup>3</sup> University of Freiburg

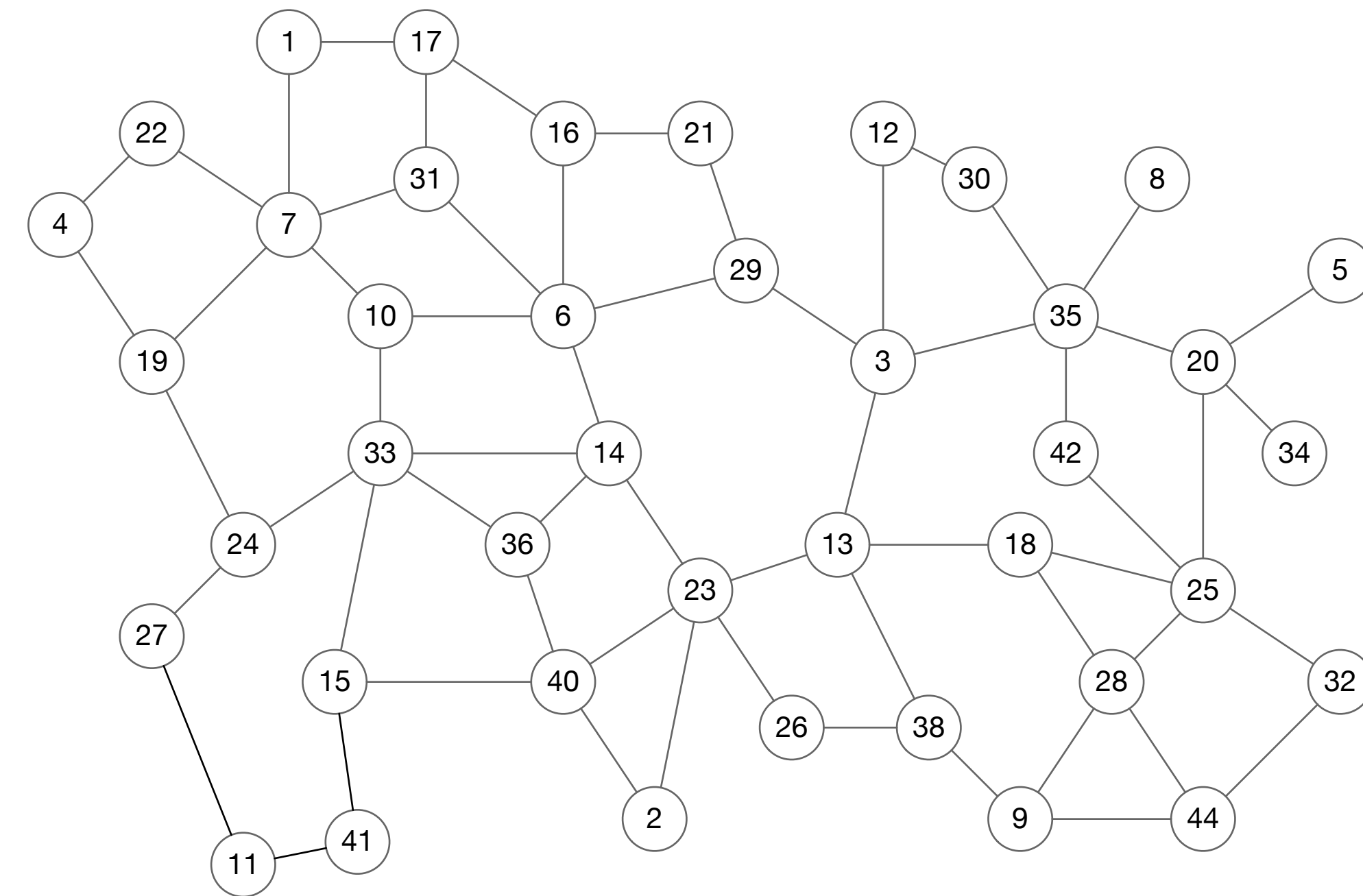
# LOCAL model

- Undirected simple graph  $G = (V, E)$  of  $n$  nodes and maximum degree  $\Delta$
- Each node has a **unique ID**
- **Synchronous** message passing model
- **Unbounded** computation
- **Unbounded** bandwidth

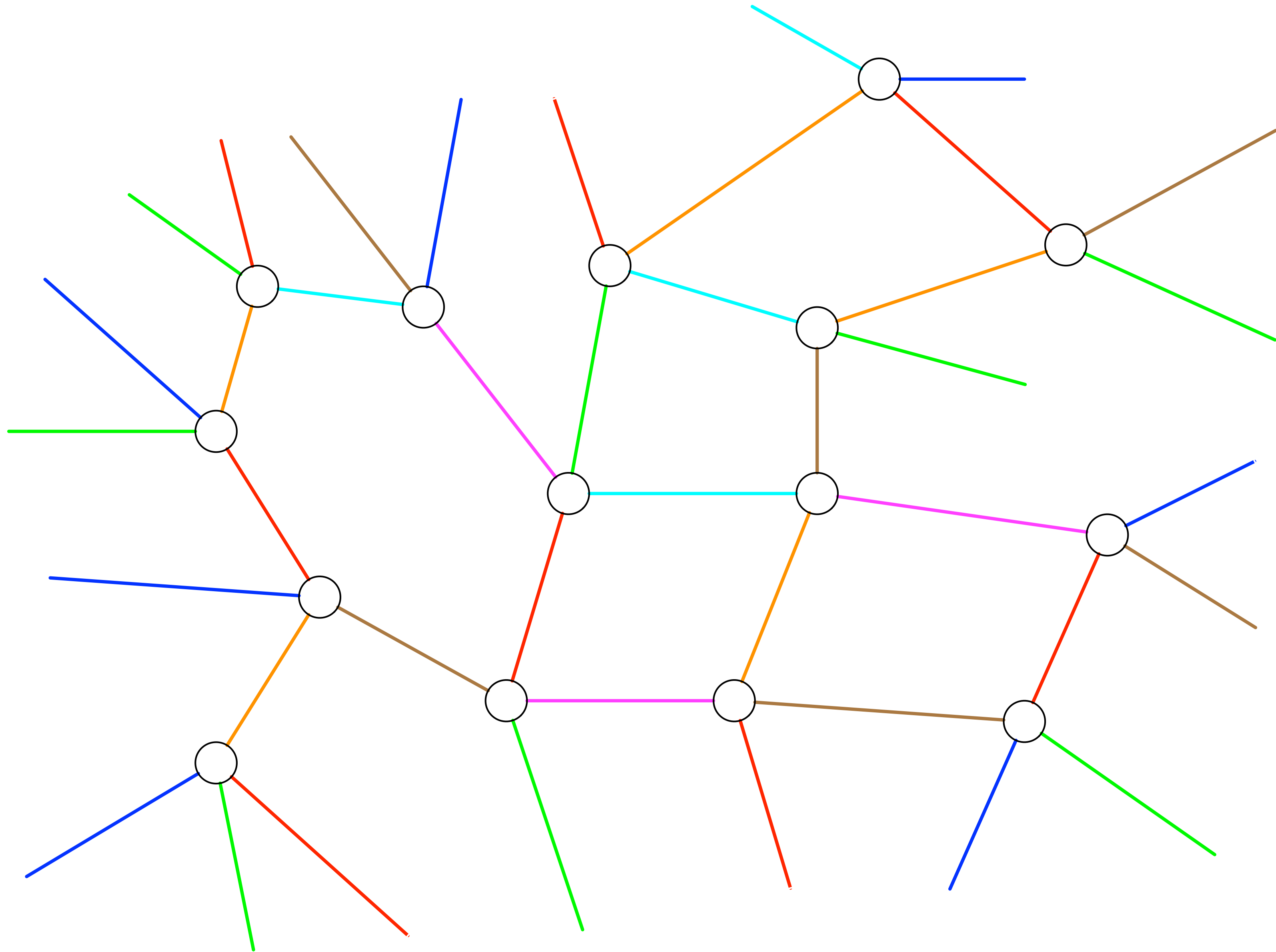


# CONGEST model

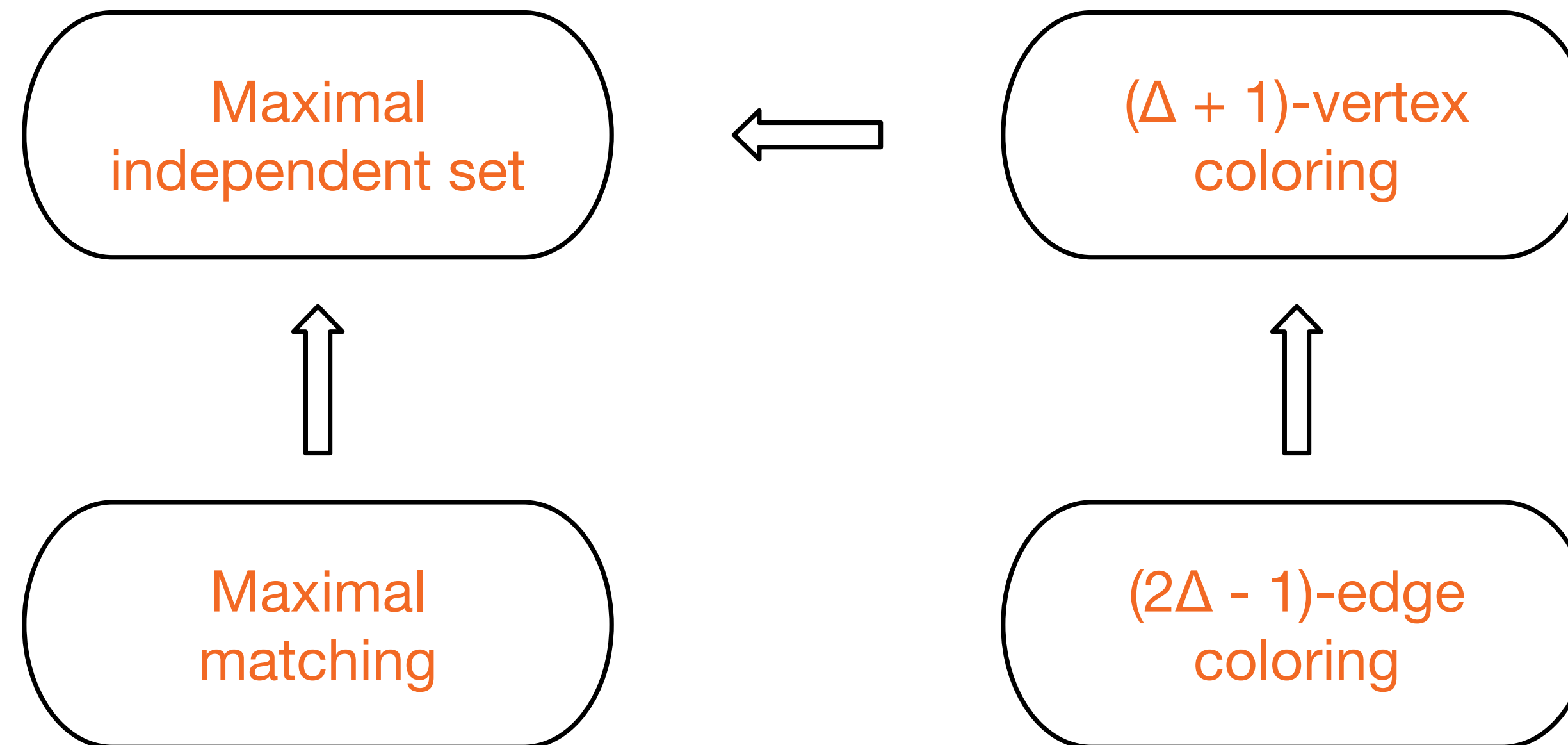
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- **Synchronous** message passing model
- **Unbounded** computation
- **$O(\log n)$ -bit** messages



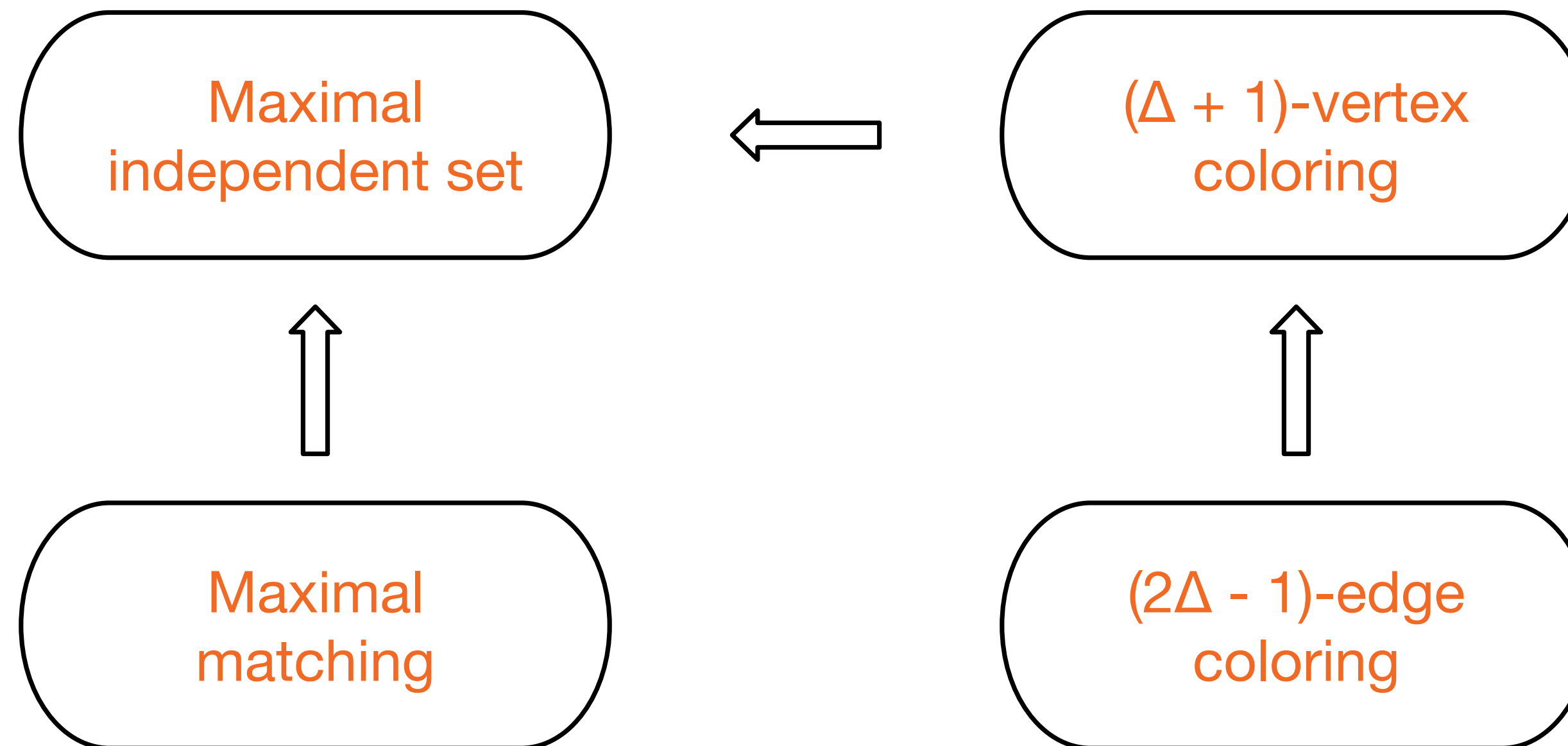
# $(2\Delta - 1)$ -Edge Coloring



# Four classical problems

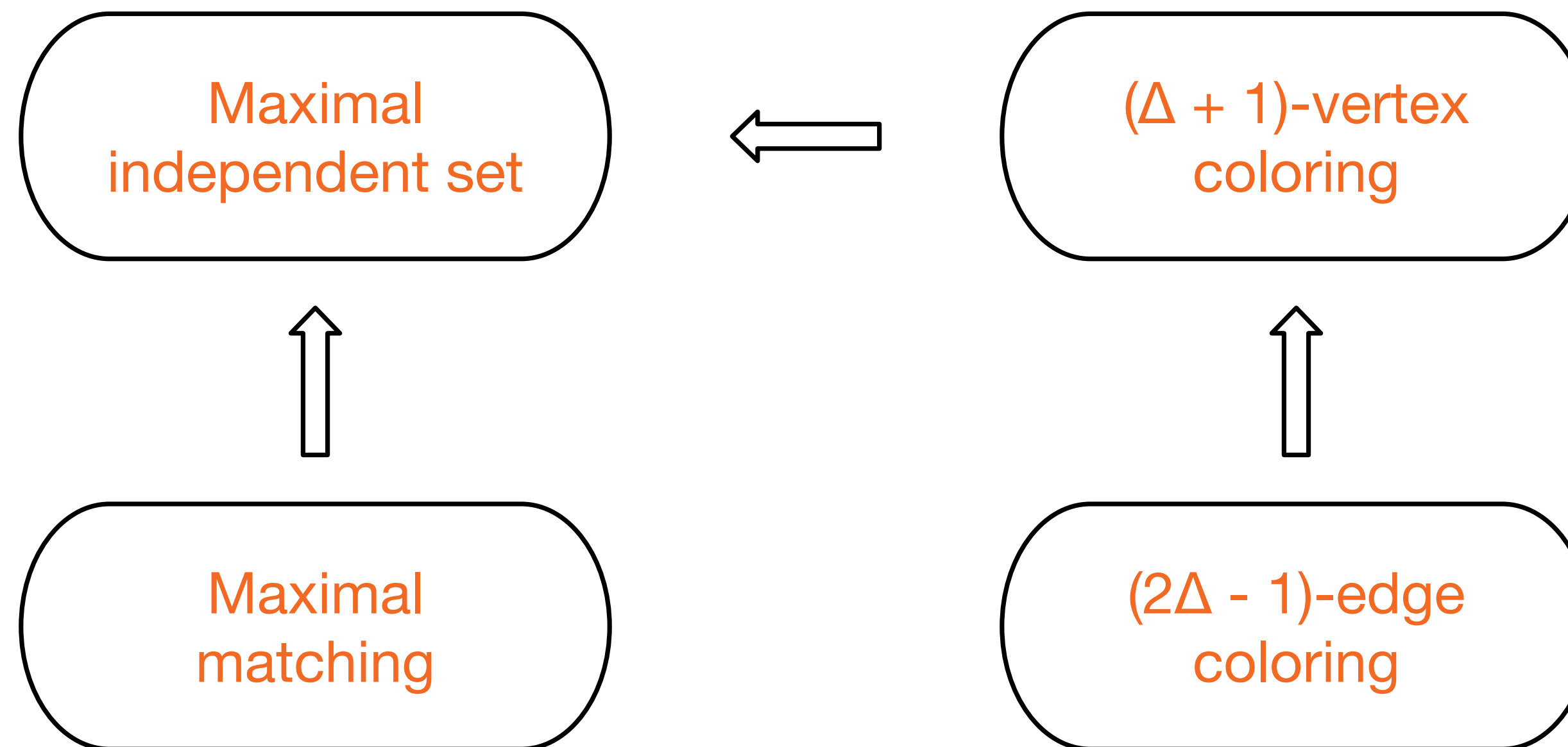


# Four classical problems



These problems can be solved in **poly log  $n$**  rounds [Rozhon, Ghaffari '20]

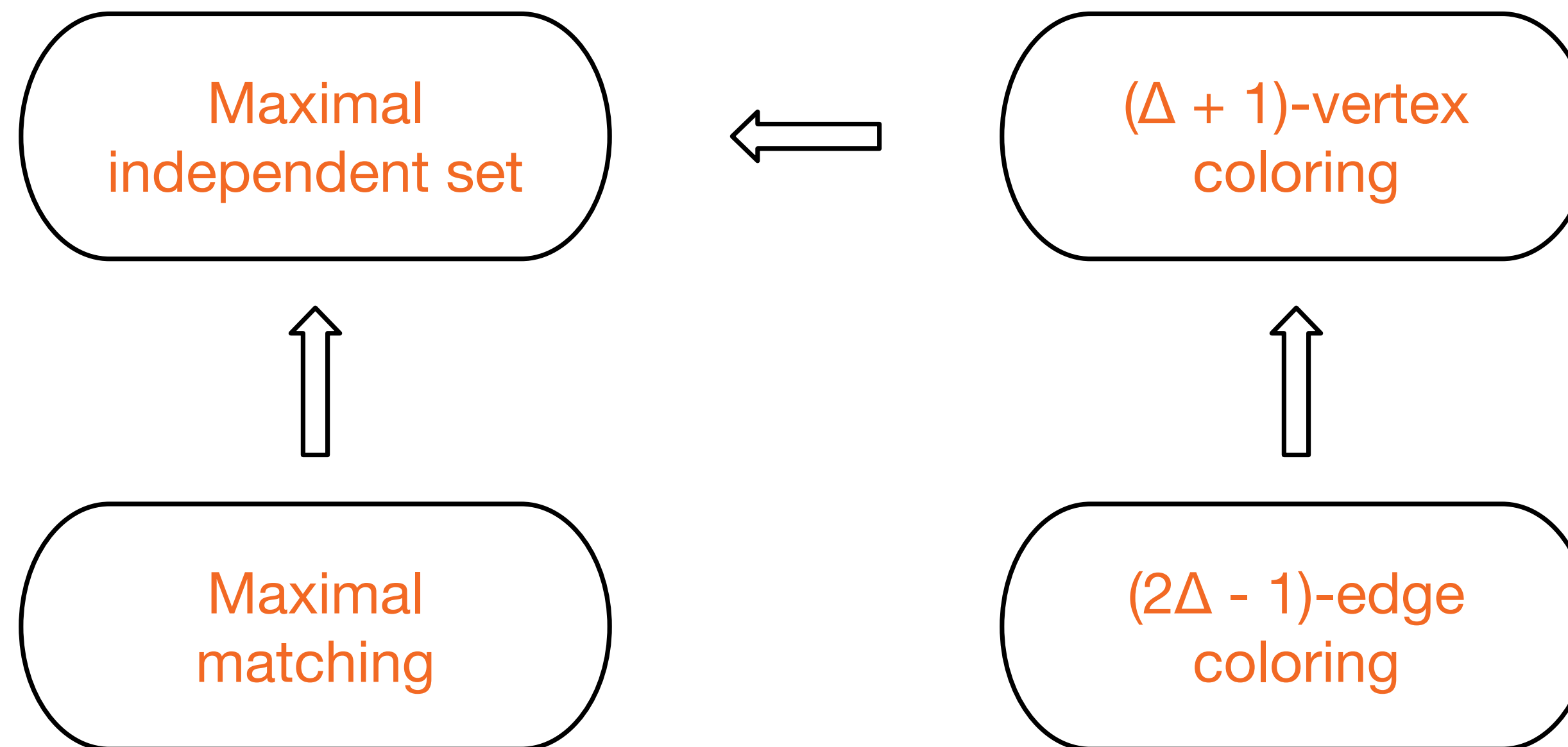
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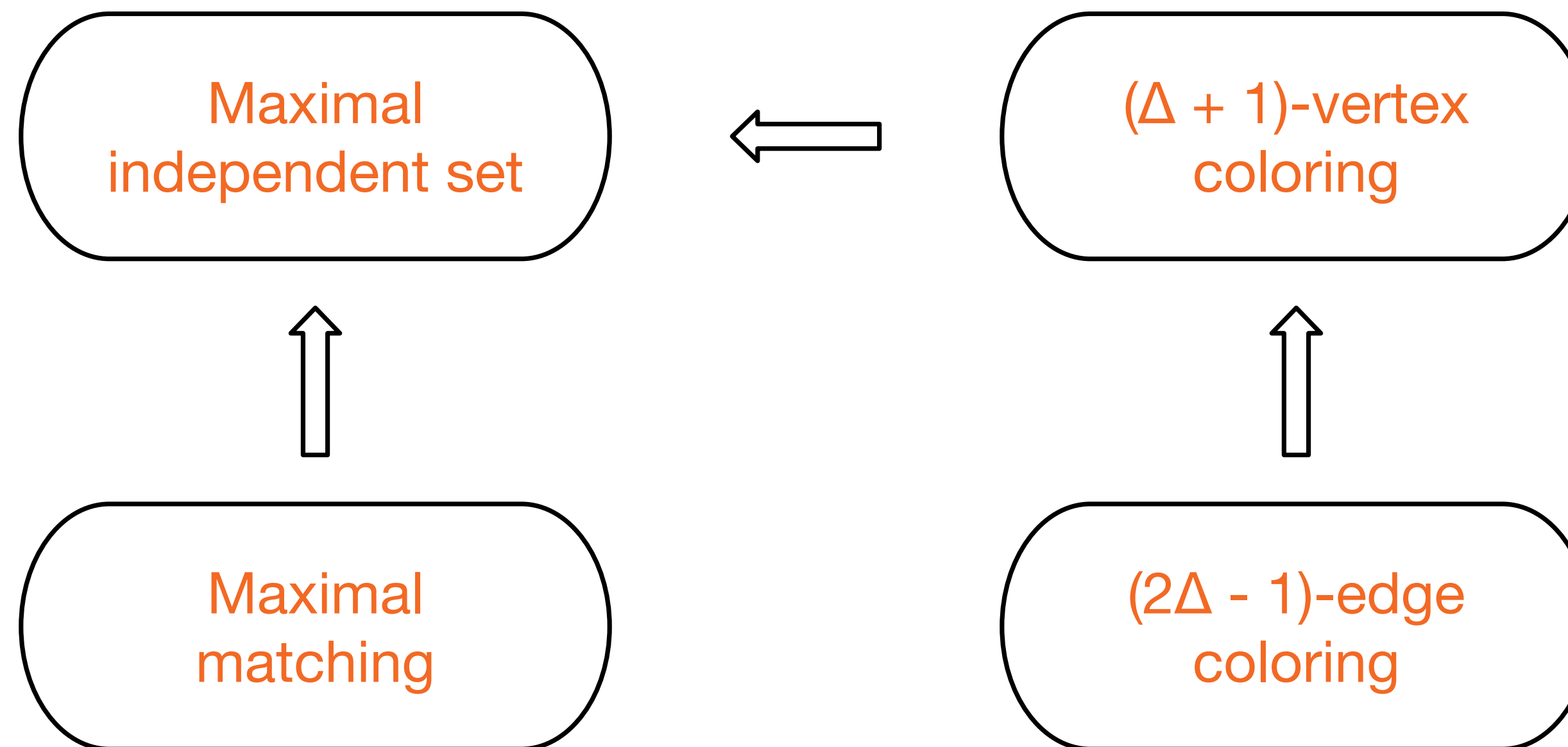
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Big question:  $f(\Delta) + O(\log^* n)$

# Four classical problems

**Maximal Matching**

$O(\Delta + \log^* n)$   
[Panconesi, Rizzi '01]

$\Omega(\min\{\Delta, \log_{\Delta} n\})$   
[BBHORS '19]

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Independent Set**

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**$(\Delta + 1)$ -Vertex  
Coloring**

$$O(\sqrt{\Delta \log \Delta} + \log^* n)$$

[FHK '16] [BEG '18] [MT '20]

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# Our results

**$(2\Delta - 1)$ -Edge  
Coloring**

$O(\text{poly log } \Delta + \log^* n)$

LOCAL  
model

**$O(\Delta)$ -Edge  
Coloring**

$O(\text{poly log } \Delta + \log^* n)$

CONGEST  
model

# Our results

**(degree + 1)-List  
Edge Coloring**

$$O(\log^7 C \cdot \log^5 \Delta + \log^* n)$$

LOCAL  
model

**$(2\Delta - 1)$ -Edge  
Coloring**

$$O(\log^{12} \Delta + \log^* n)$$

LOCAL  
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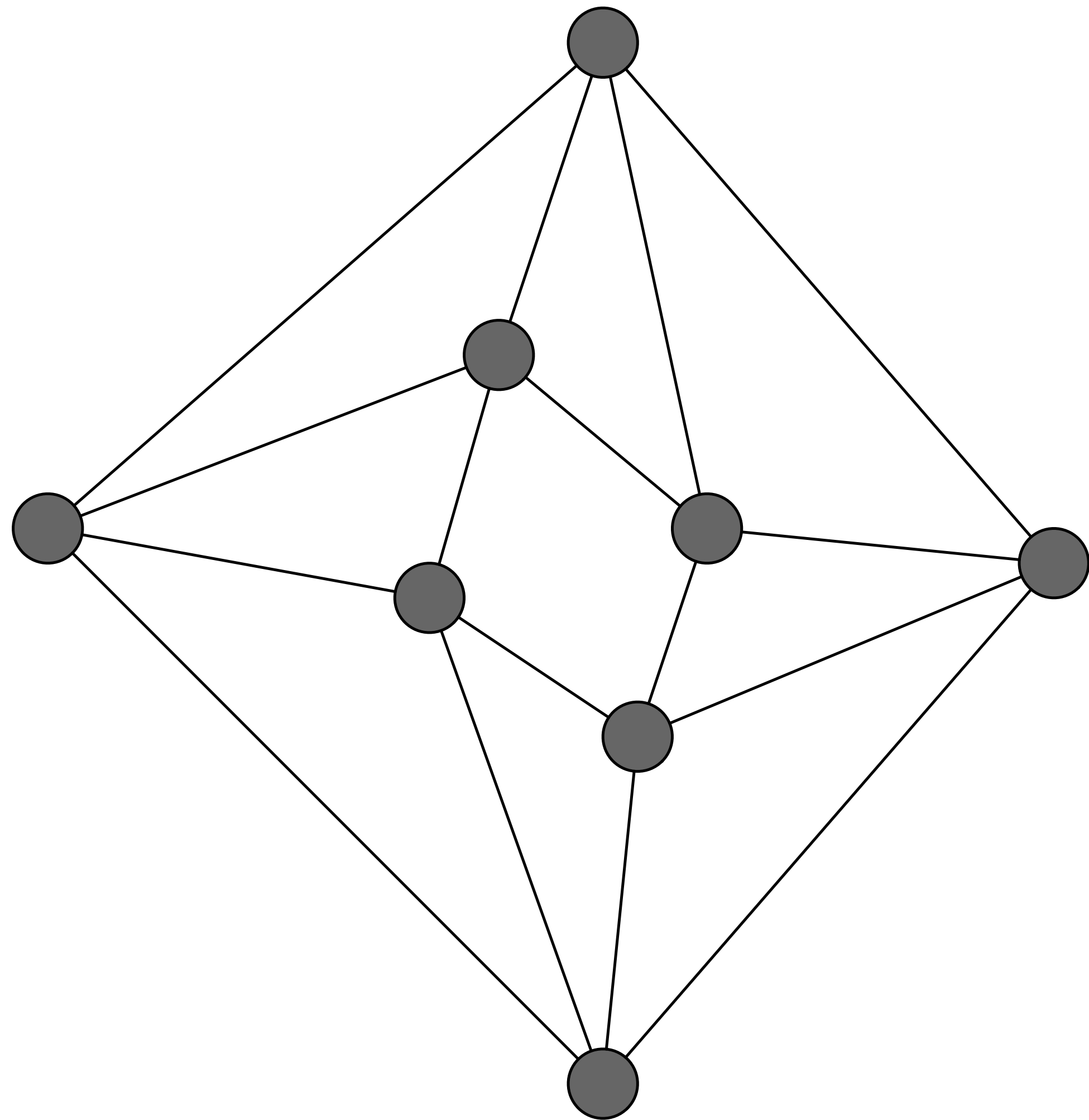
**$(8 + \varepsilon)\Delta$ -Edge  
Coloring**

$$O\left(\frac{\log^{12} \Delta}{\varepsilon^6} + \log^* n\right)$$

CONGEST  
model

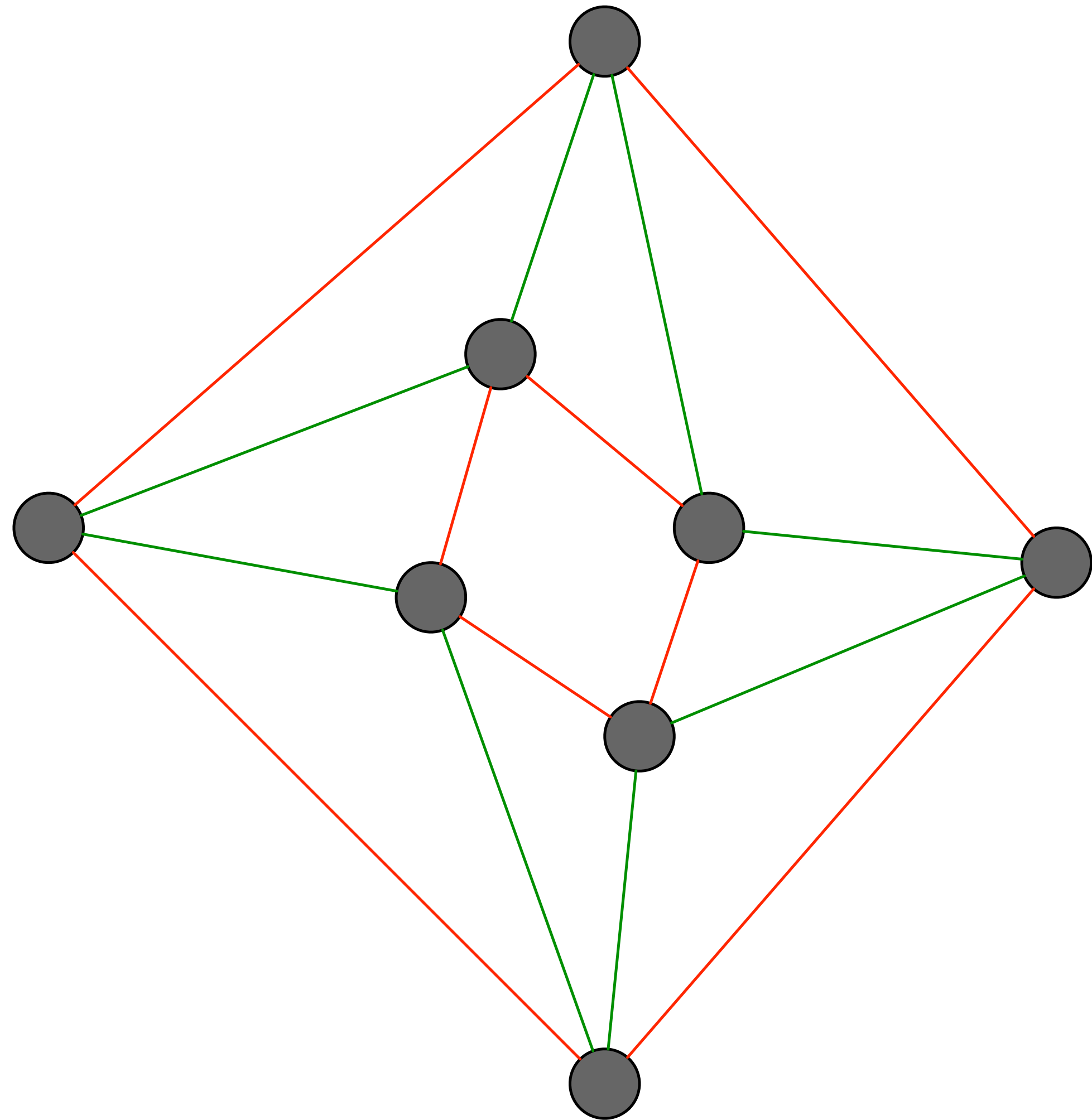


# A possible approach

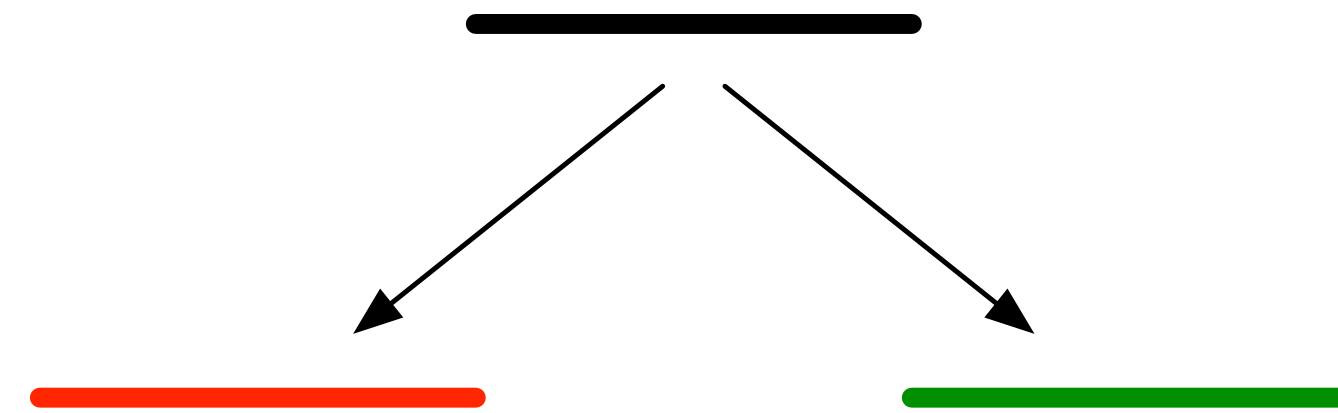


Try to **recursively color** the edges with **2 colors**, such that each node has roughly the **same amount of incident edges for each color**

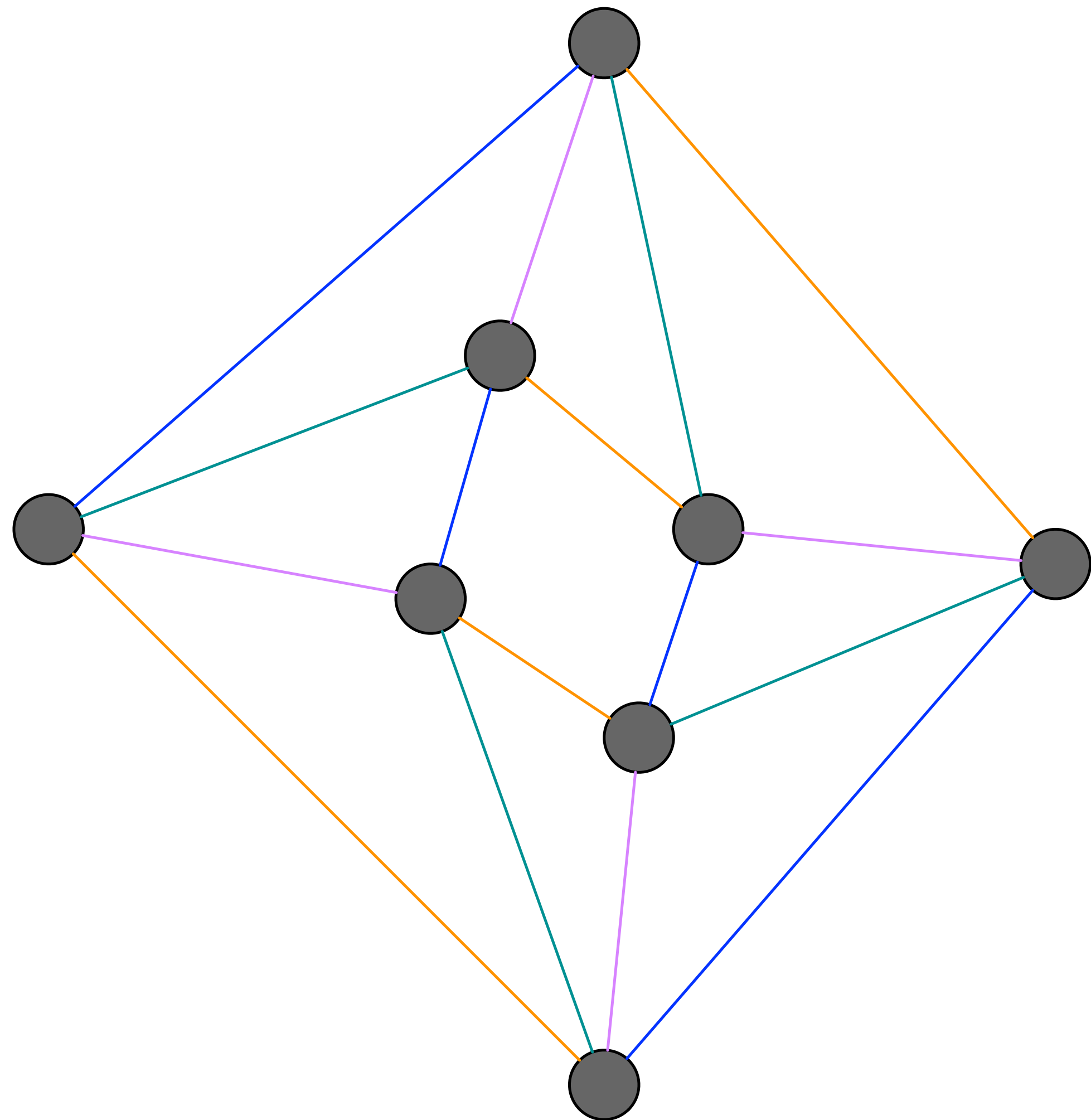
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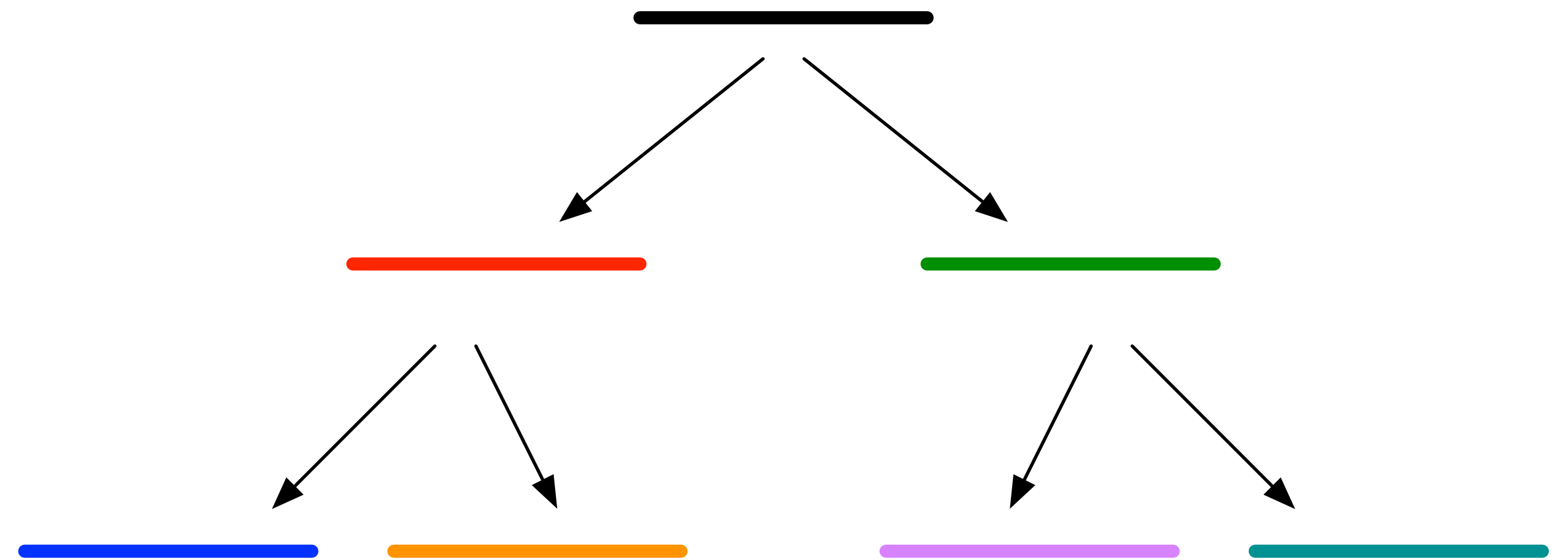
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**This requires too much!**

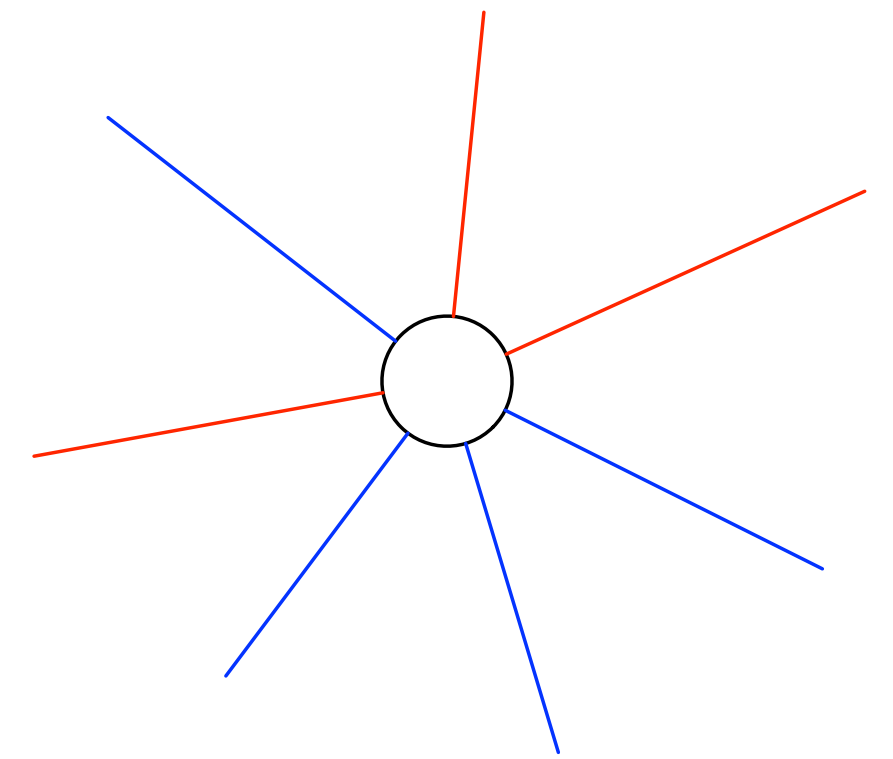
**Can be done in just  $O(\log^* n)$**

# A possible approach: the issue

- **d**-node-defective **2**-edge-coloring: **color the edges** with **2** colors such that **each node** has at most **d** incident **edges of the same color**.

This is **hard**, even for  $d \leq \Delta - 1$ .

It requires  $\Omega(\log n)$  rounds!



# A different subroutine

- **d-node-defective 2-edge-coloring**: color the edges with 2 colors such that each node has at most **d** incident edges of the same color.

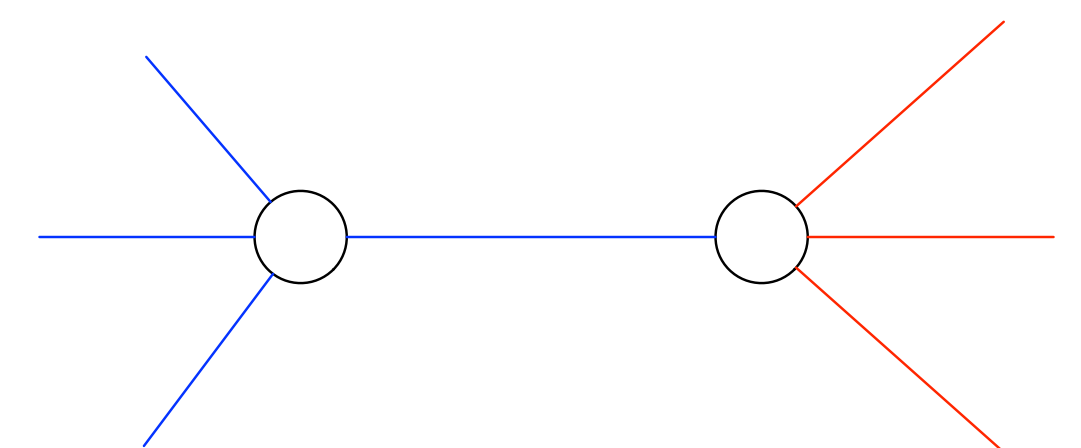
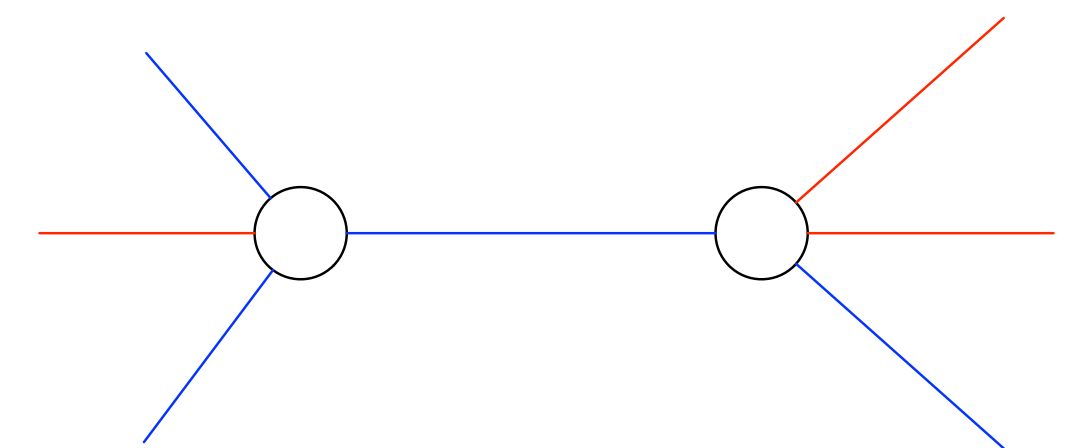
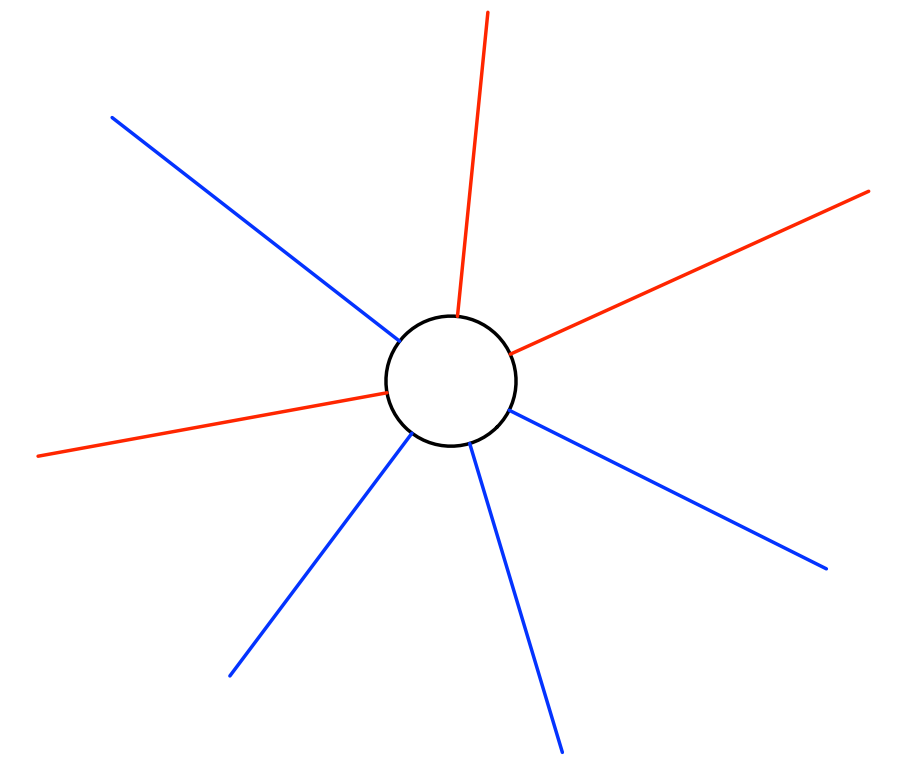
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- **d-edge-defective 2-edge-coloring**: color the edges with 2 colors such that each edge has at most **d** incident edges of its color.

This is the problem that we tried to solve, for

$$d \leq (1 + \varepsilon)\Delta$$



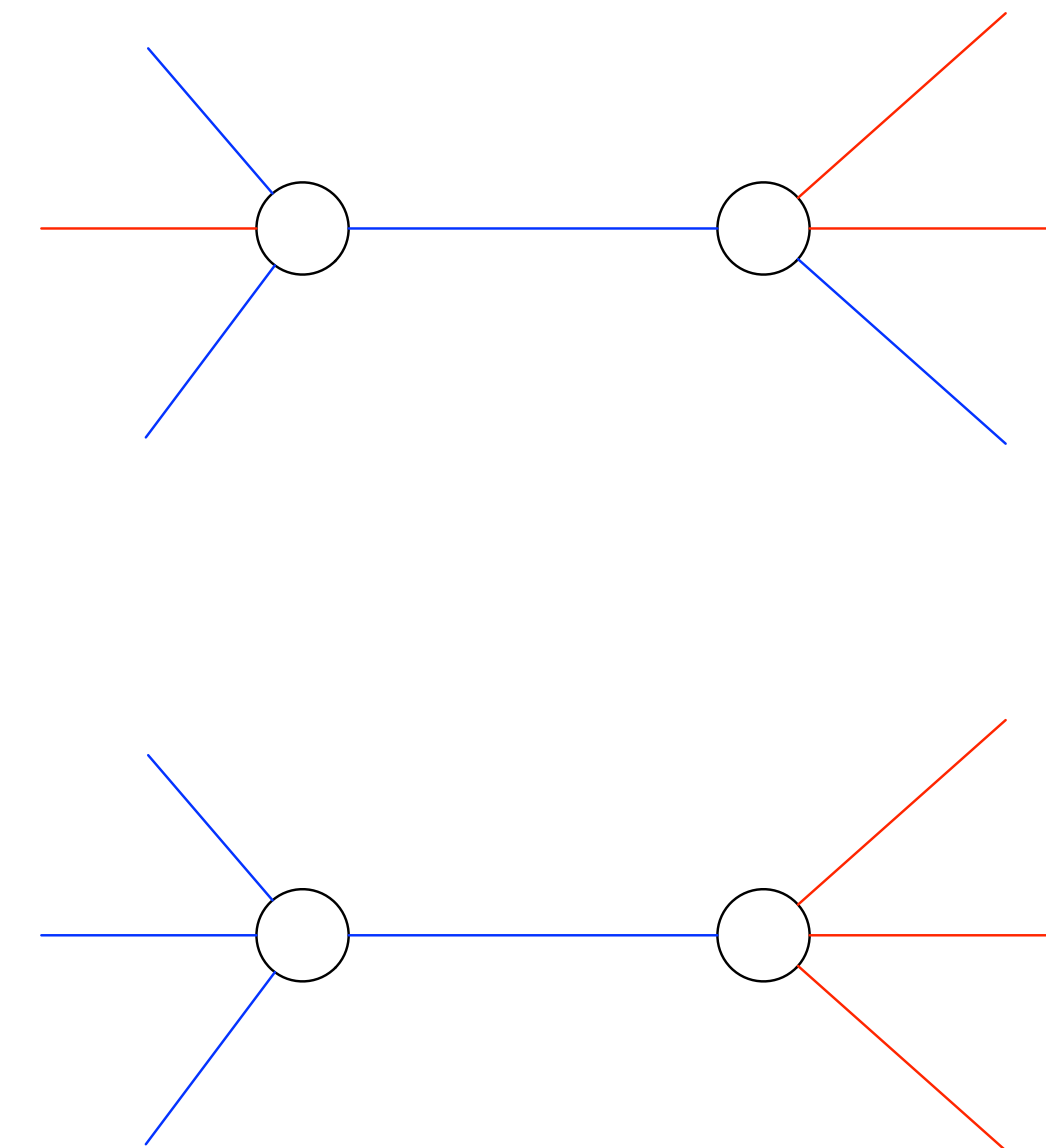
# Main Ingredient

**d**-edge-defective **2**-edge-coloring:

color the edges with **2** colors such that **each edge** has at most **d** incident **edges of its color**.

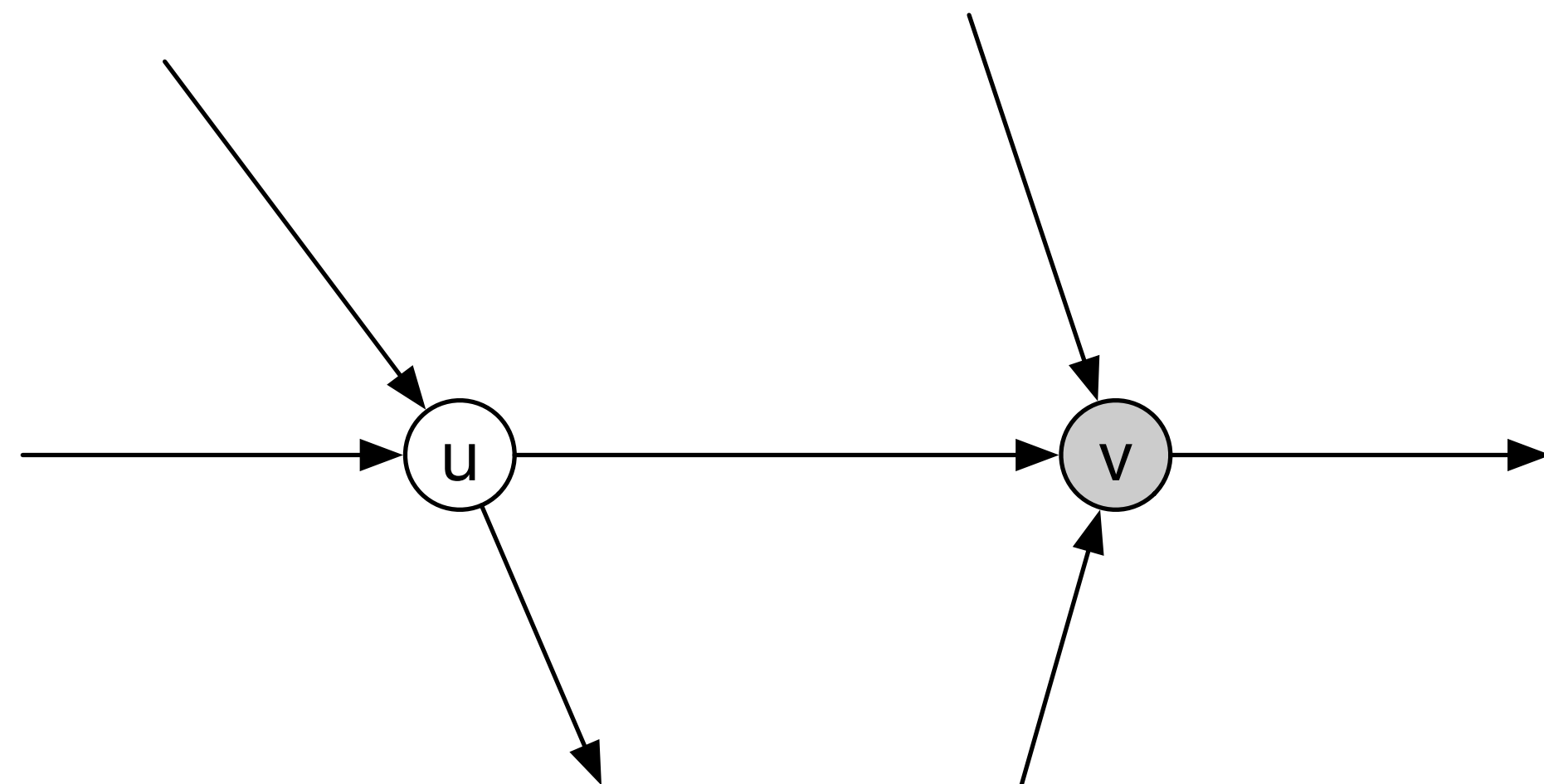
For  $d \leq (1 + \epsilon)\Delta$ , the problem can be solved in  $O(\text{poly}(1/\epsilon, \log \Delta))$  time!

(for list coloring, we need a bit more)



# Stable Orientation

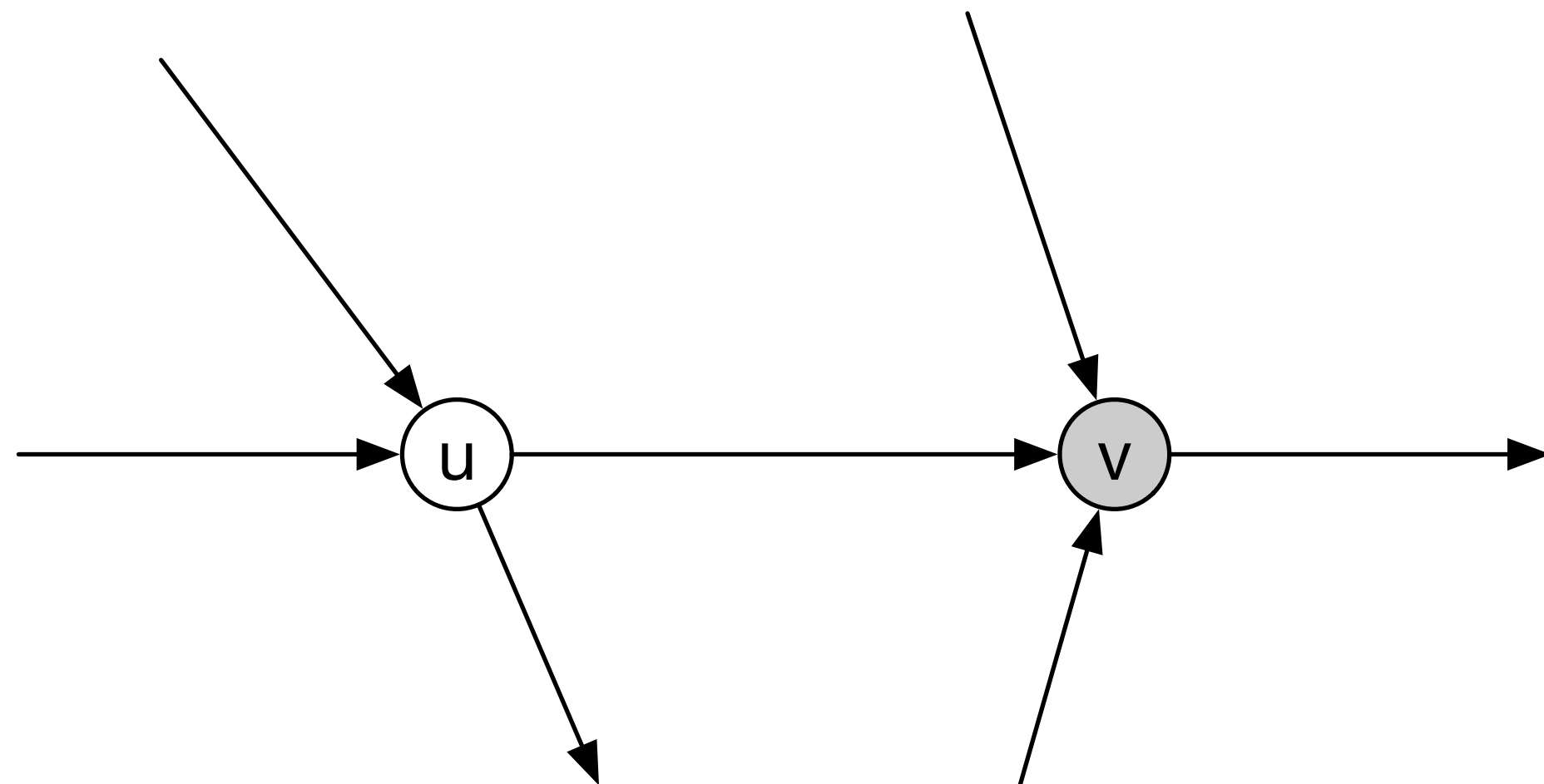
- **Orient** the edges of a graph such that, for each edge  $(u, v)$  oriented from  $u$  to  $v$ , it holds that  $\deg_{\text{in}}(v) \leq \deg_{\text{in}}(u) + 1$





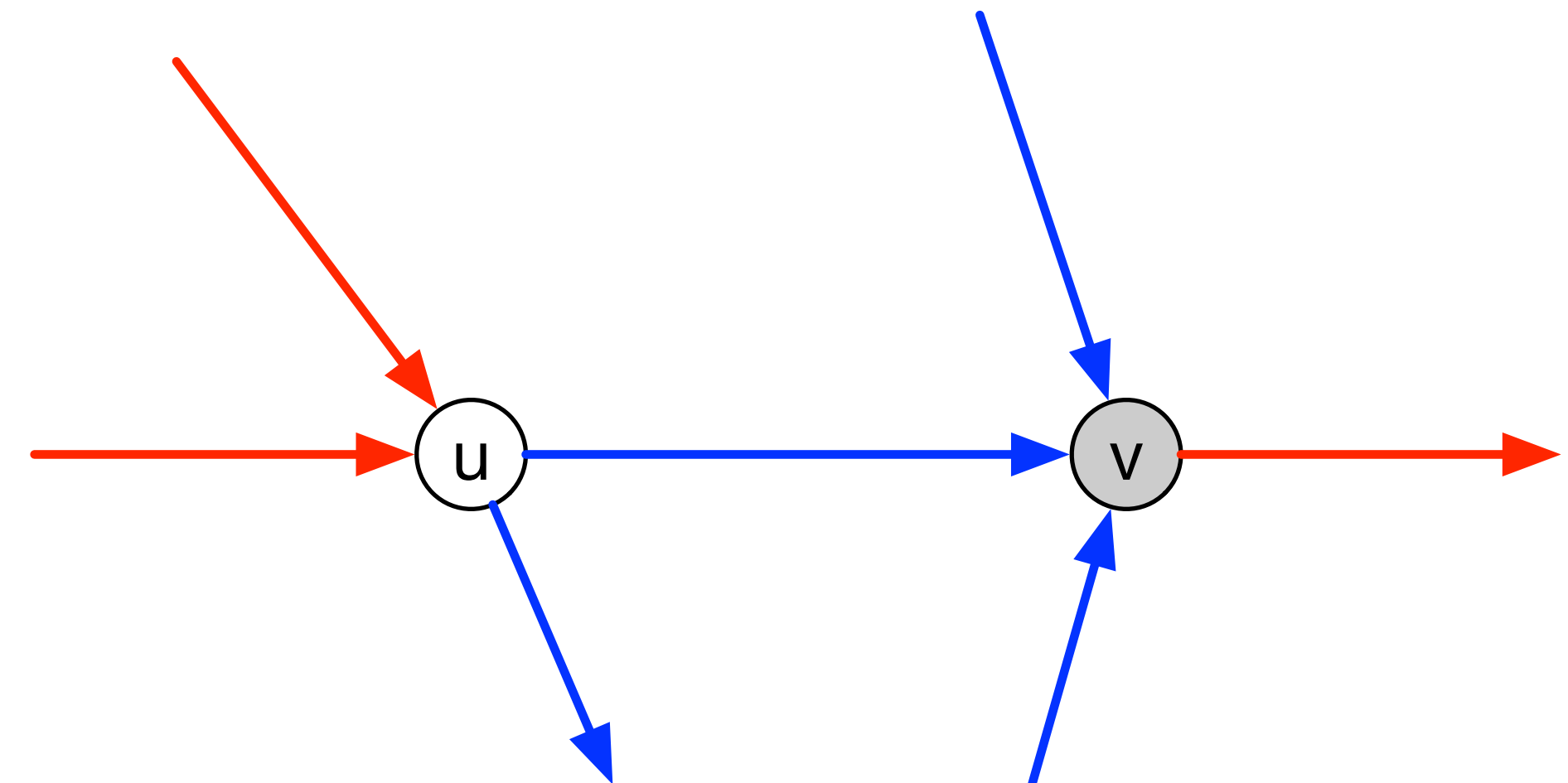
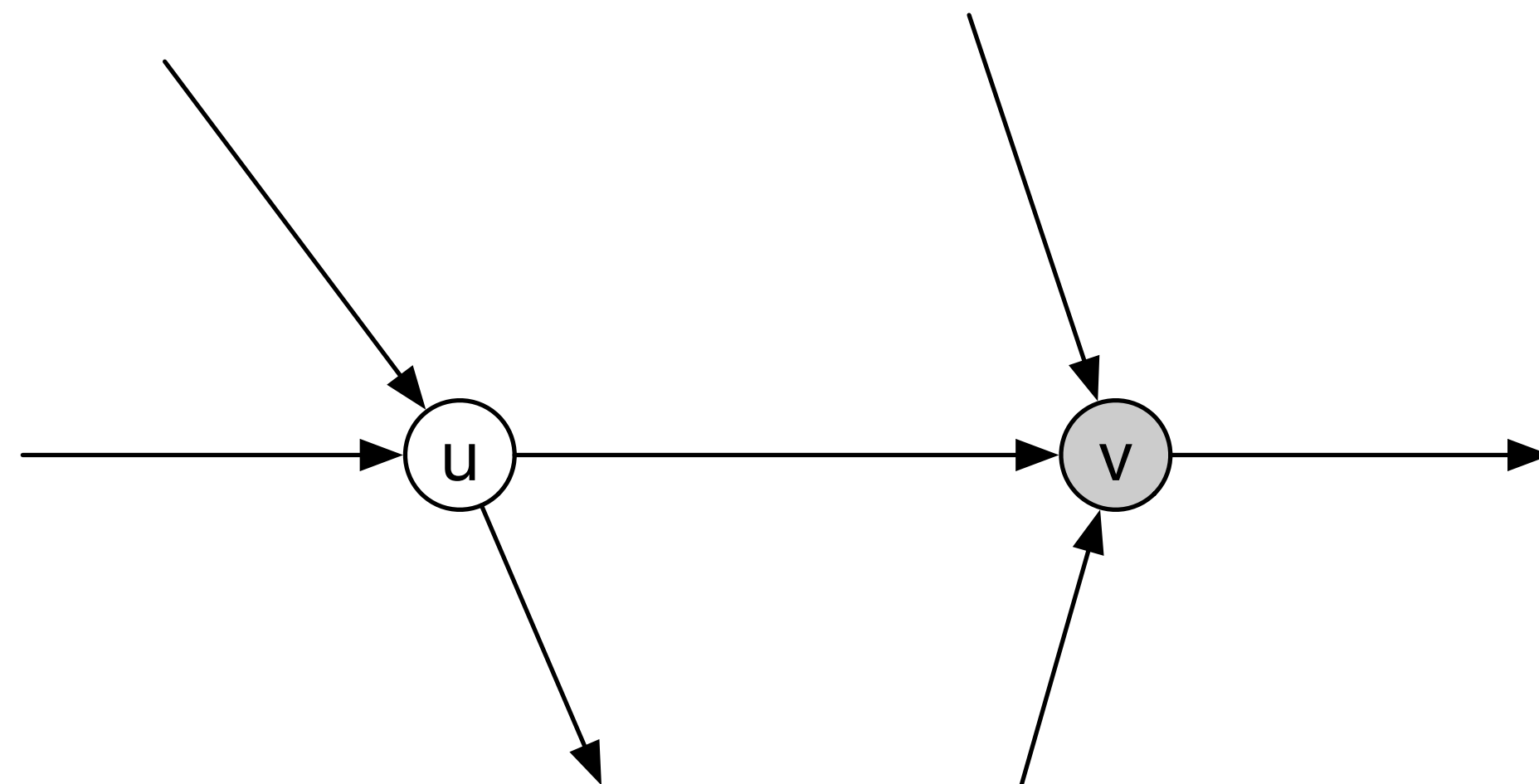
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Efficient Load-Balancing through Distributed Token Dropping

[Brandt, Keller, Rybicki, Suomela, Uitto 2021]

This problem can be solved in  $O(\Delta^4)$  rounds!

# Issues

- **Stable orientation** solves "**balanced**" edge 2-coloring, but:
  - The running time is  $O(\Delta^4)$ , we want  $O(\log^c \Delta)$
  - We can turn a stable orientation into a edge 2-coloring **only if a 2-vertex coloring is given**, **we do not have that**
  - The conversion only works on **regular graphs**, **we do not have that**
  - The recursion schema solves  $O(\Delta)$ -**edge coloring**, not  $(2\Delta - 1)$ -**edge coloring**. For a better result, we need to solve a harder variant (**list coloring**)

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- For  $k = \frac{\Delta}{\log \Delta}$ , this gives an  $O(\log^5 \Delta)$  round algorithm!



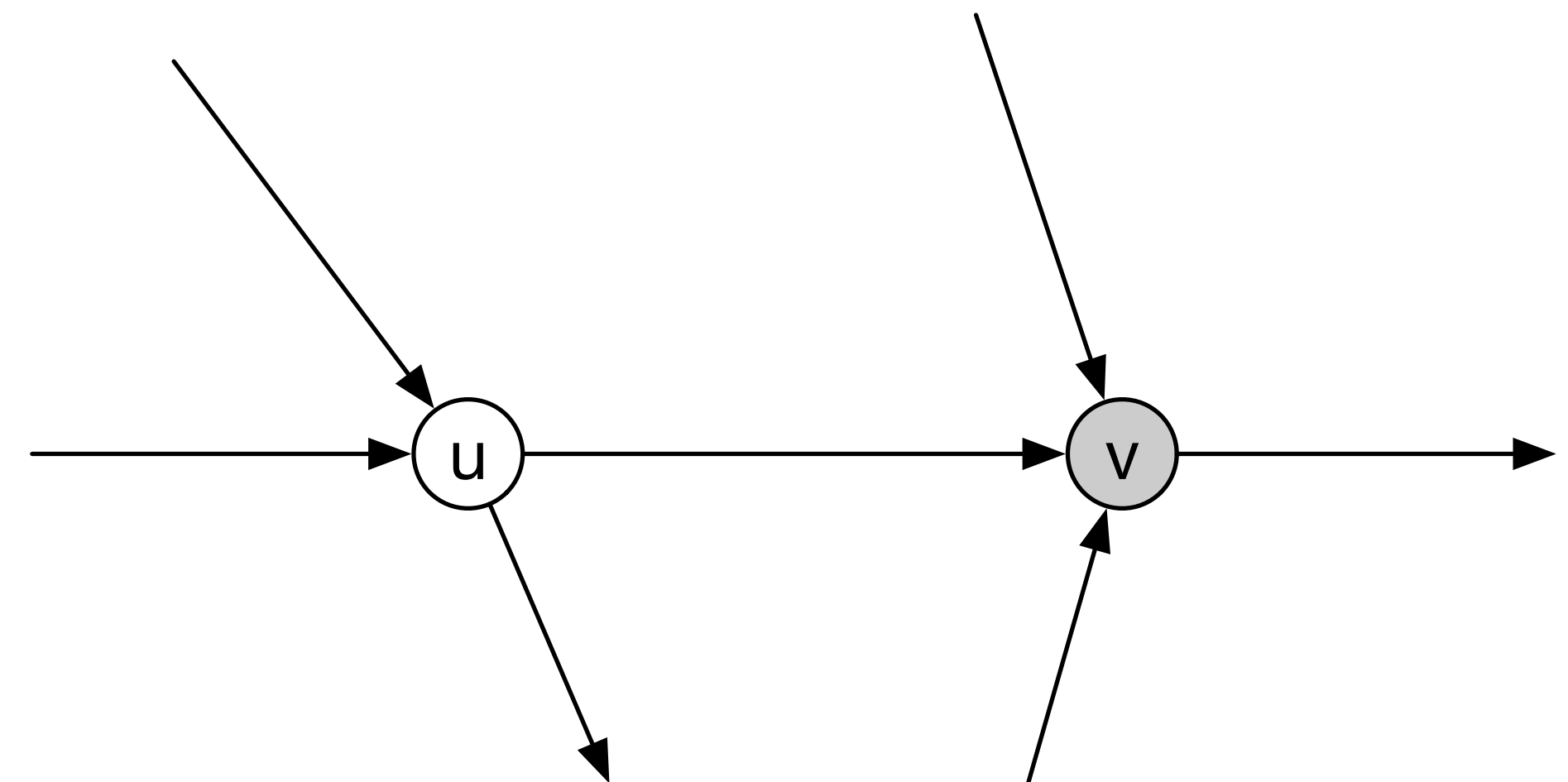
# Open questions: edge coloring

- We can solve  $(2\Delta - 1)$ -edge coloring in  $O(\log^{12} \Delta + \log^* n)$  rounds
  - Can we improve the exponent? We know a faster algorithm, but only for  $O(\Delta)$ -edge coloring
- Can we solve vertex coloring in  $\text{subpoly}(\Delta)$ ?
- Can we prove a non-trivial lower bound for solving  $(2\Delta - 1)$ -edge coloring?
  - Can we show that it cannot be solved in  $o(\log \Delta) + O(\log^* n)$ ?

# Open questions

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[Brandt, Keller, Rybicki, Suomela, Uitto 2021]
- Can we do better?



**Thank you!**