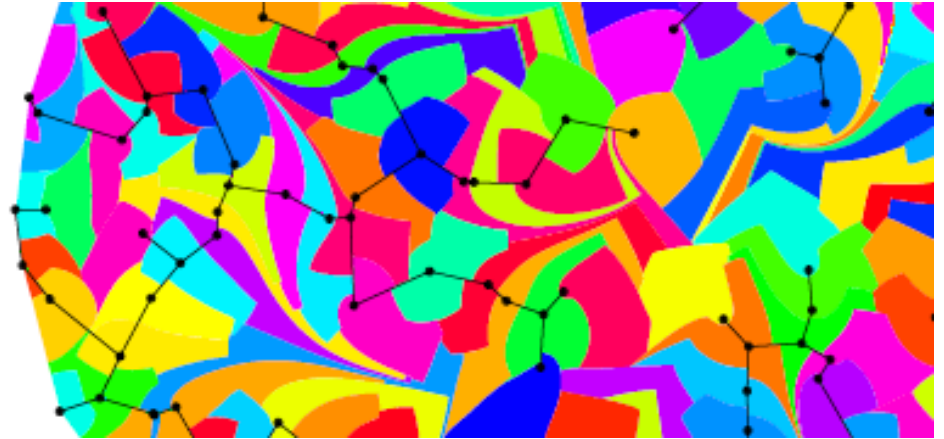
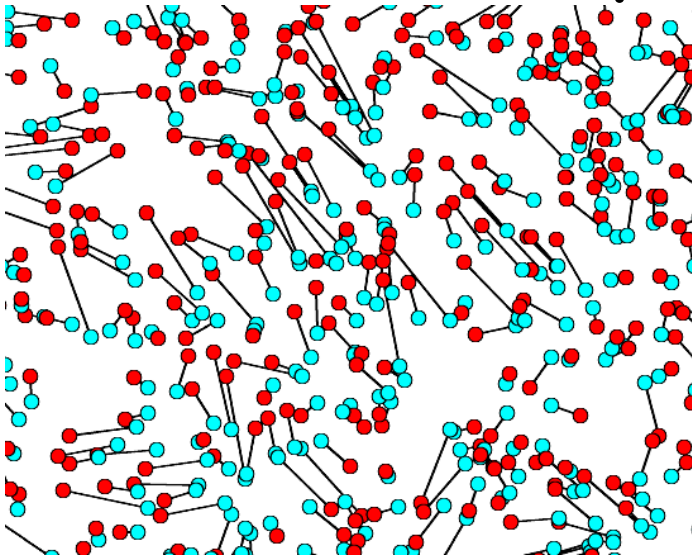


# Matching, allocation and coupling for point processes



Red points

Blue points

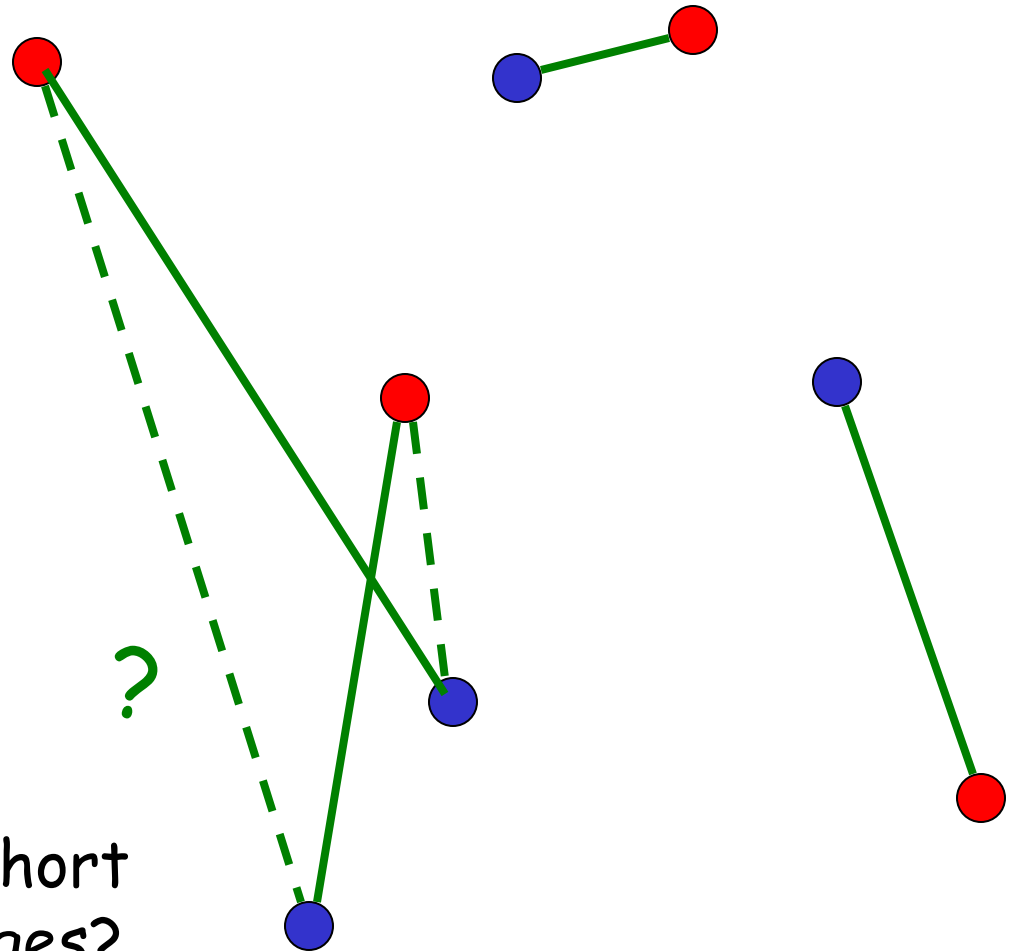
Perfect matching

Questions:

Quantitative- how short  
can we make the edges?

Geometric...

Local/greedy/non-random  
matching rules?



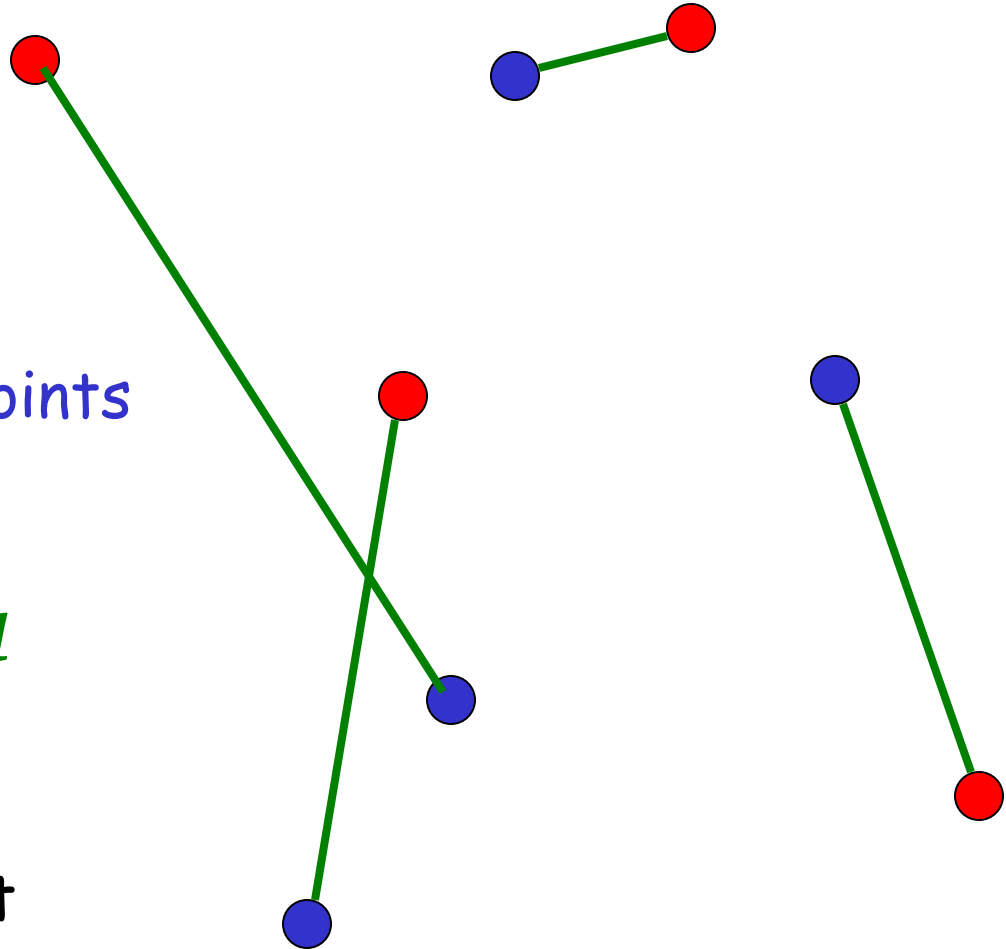
$\mathbb{R}^d$

Intensity-1 Poisson  
process  $\mathcal{R}$  of  
red points

Independent  
intensity-1 Poisson  
process  $\mathcal{B}$  of blue points

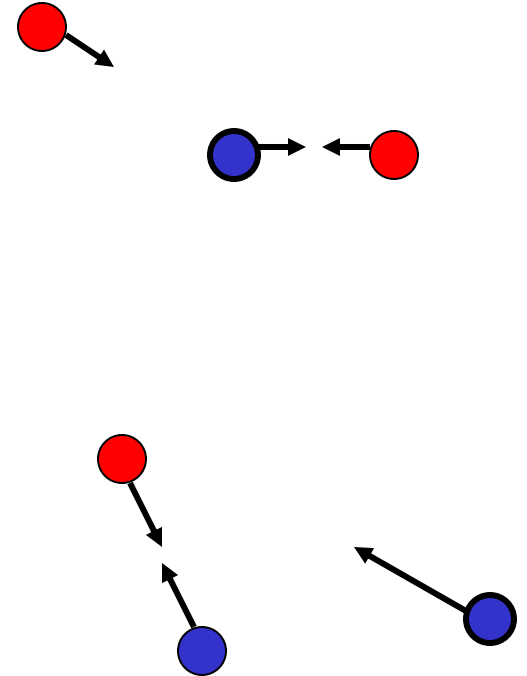
Random perfect  
matching scheme  $\mathcal{M}$

Assume  $(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{M})$   
translation-invariant  
in law



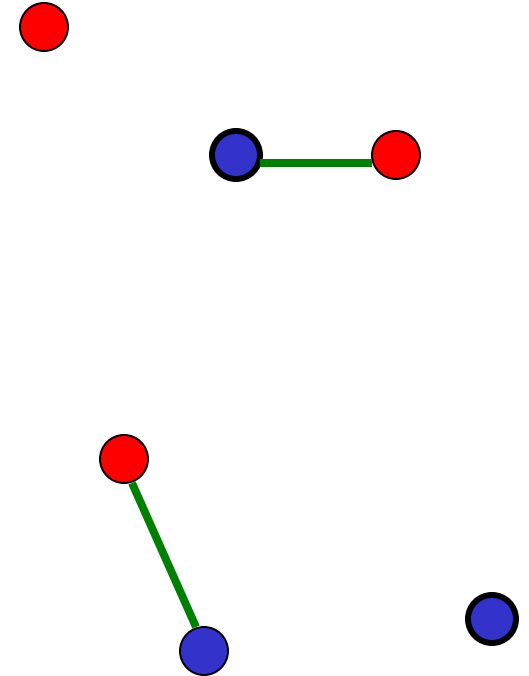
# Example: Gale-Shapley stable matching.

- Match all *mutually closest* red/blue pairs.



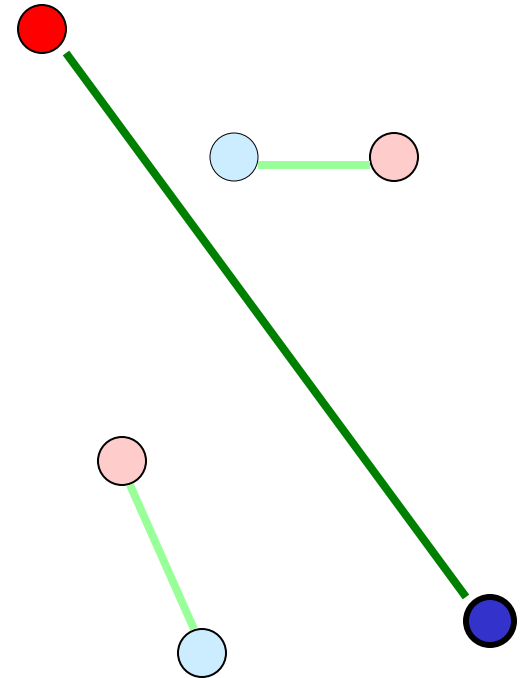
# Example: Gale-Shapley stable matching.

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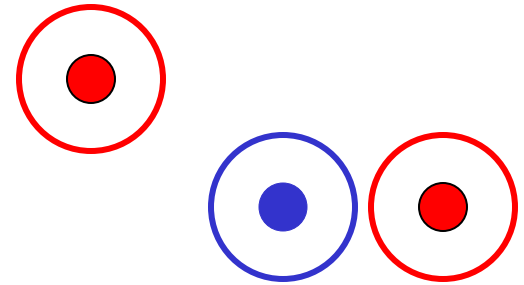
## Example: Gale-Shapley stable matching.

- Match all *mutually closest* red/blue pairs.
- Remove them
- Repeat indefinitely

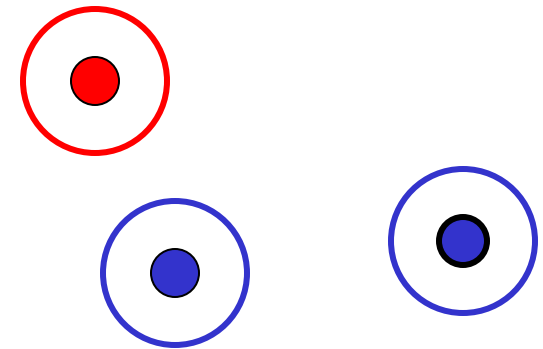


## Example: Gale-Shapley stable matching.

- Match all *mutually closest* red/blue pairs.
- Remove them
- Repeat indefinitely



**Alternative description:**  
ball-growing

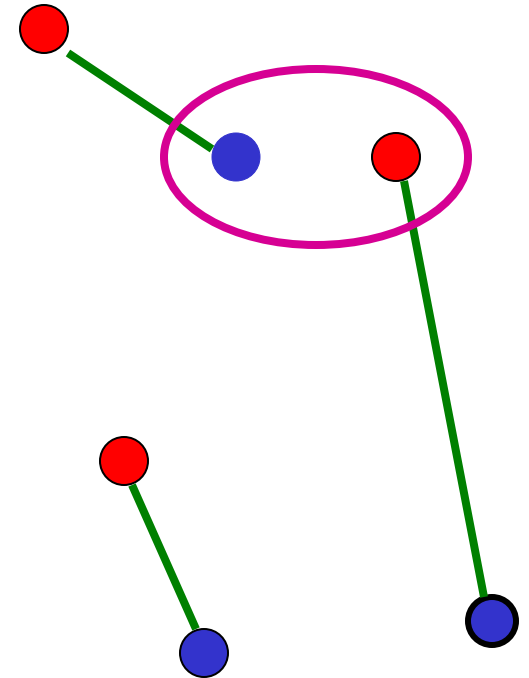


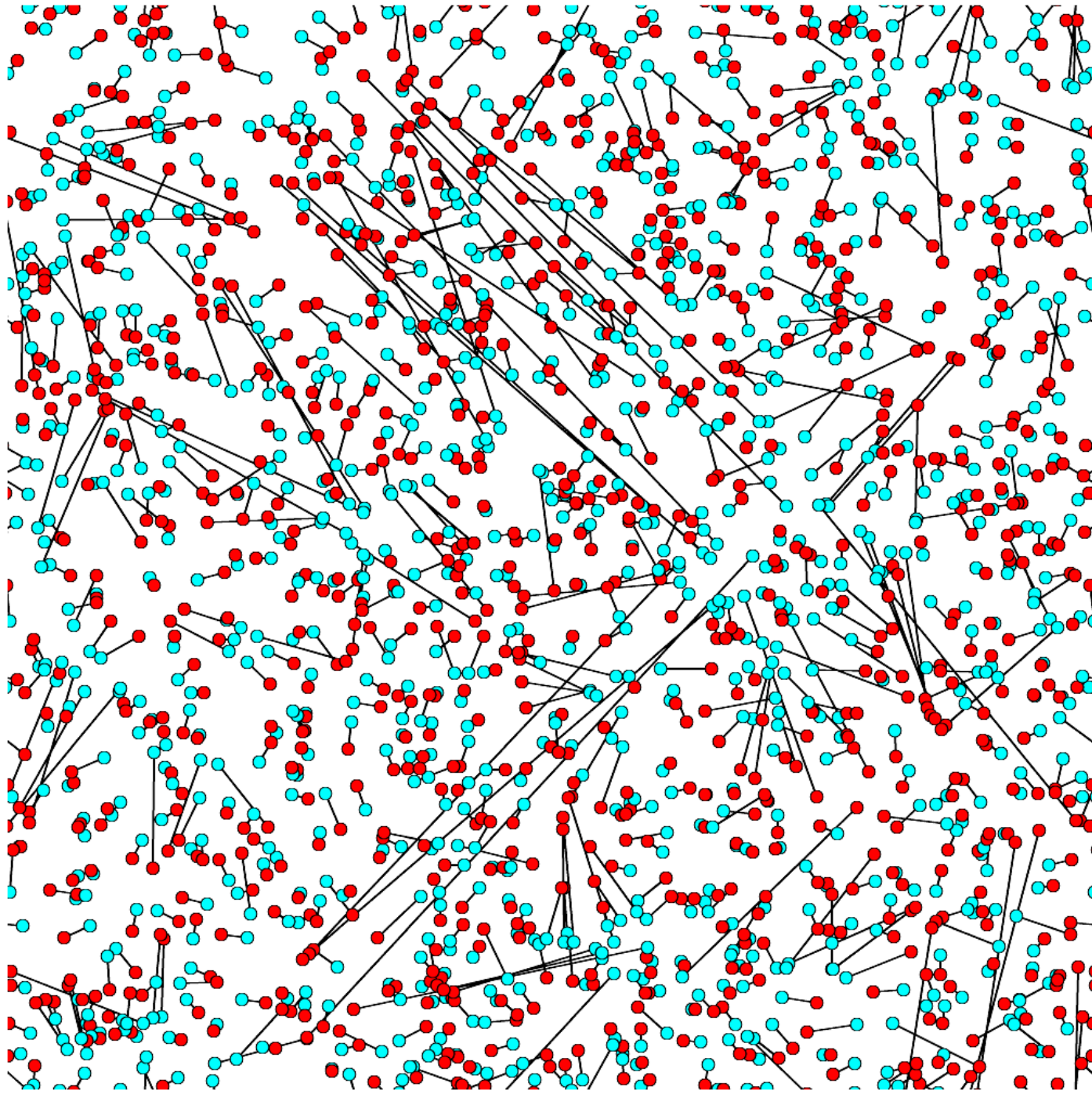
## Example: Gale-Shapley stable matching.

- Match all *mutually closest* red/blue pairs.
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**Alternative description:**  
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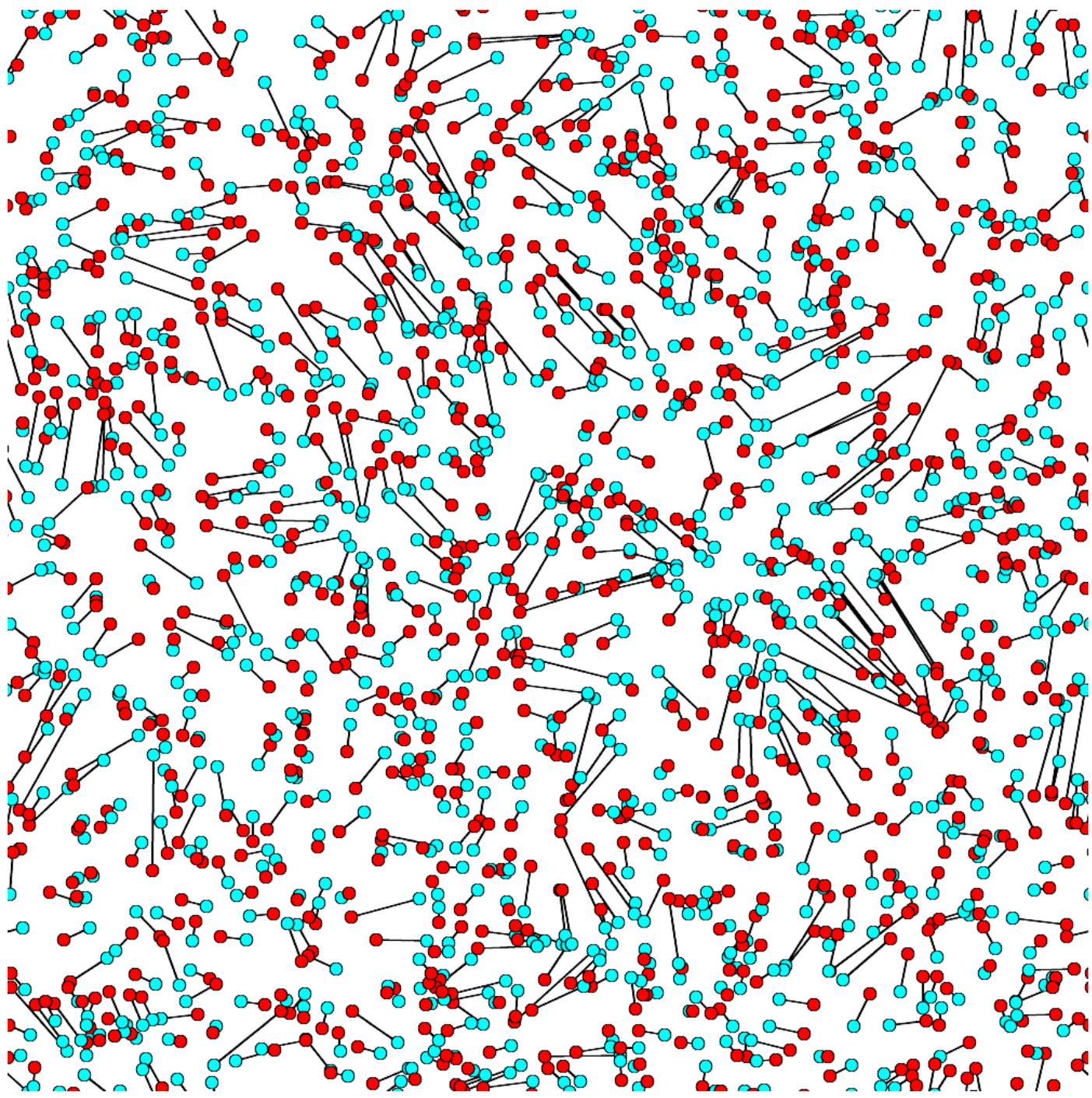
**Alternative description:**  
unique matching with  
no *unstable* pairs





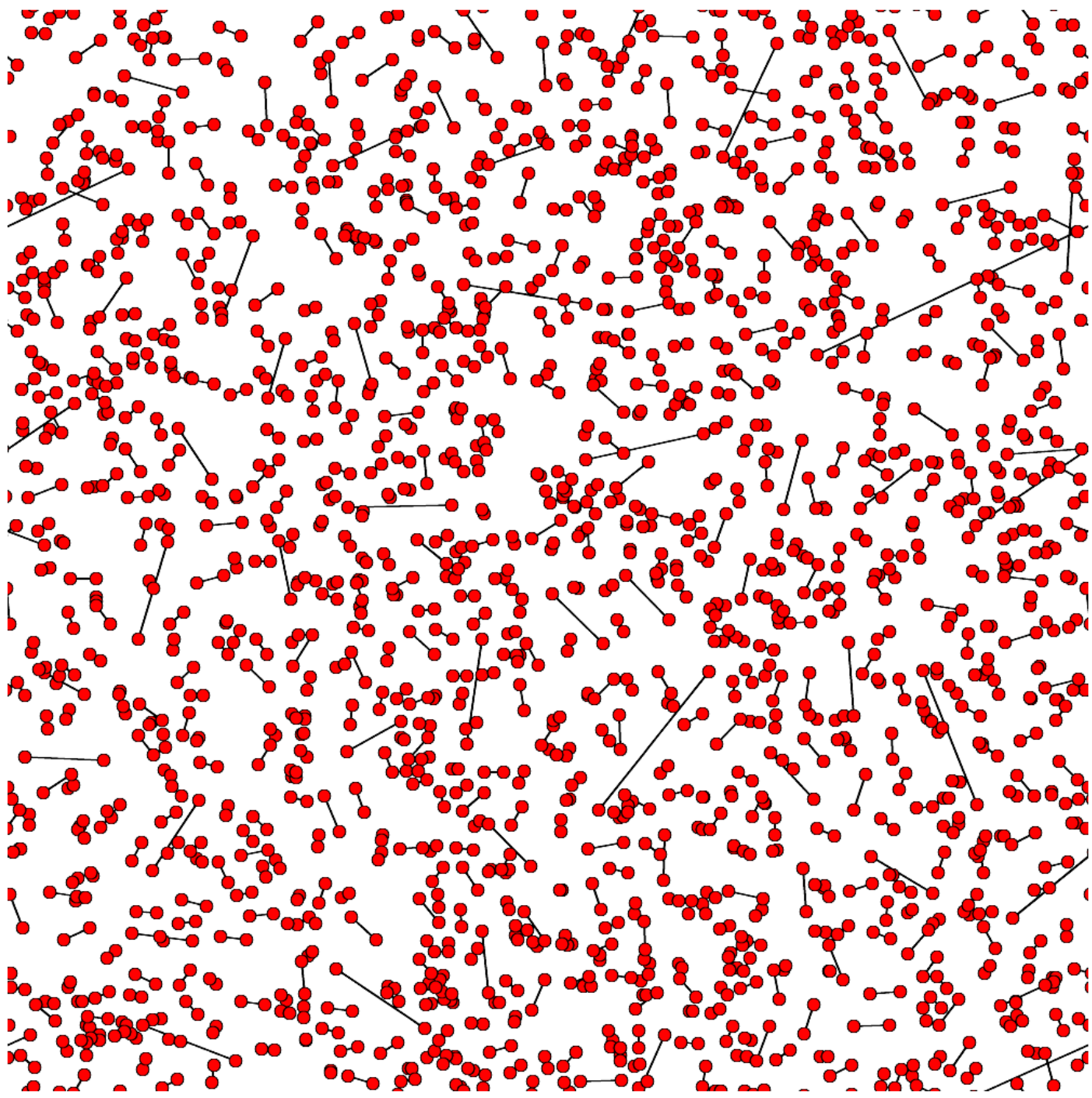
Two-colour  
stable  
matching

(on torus)



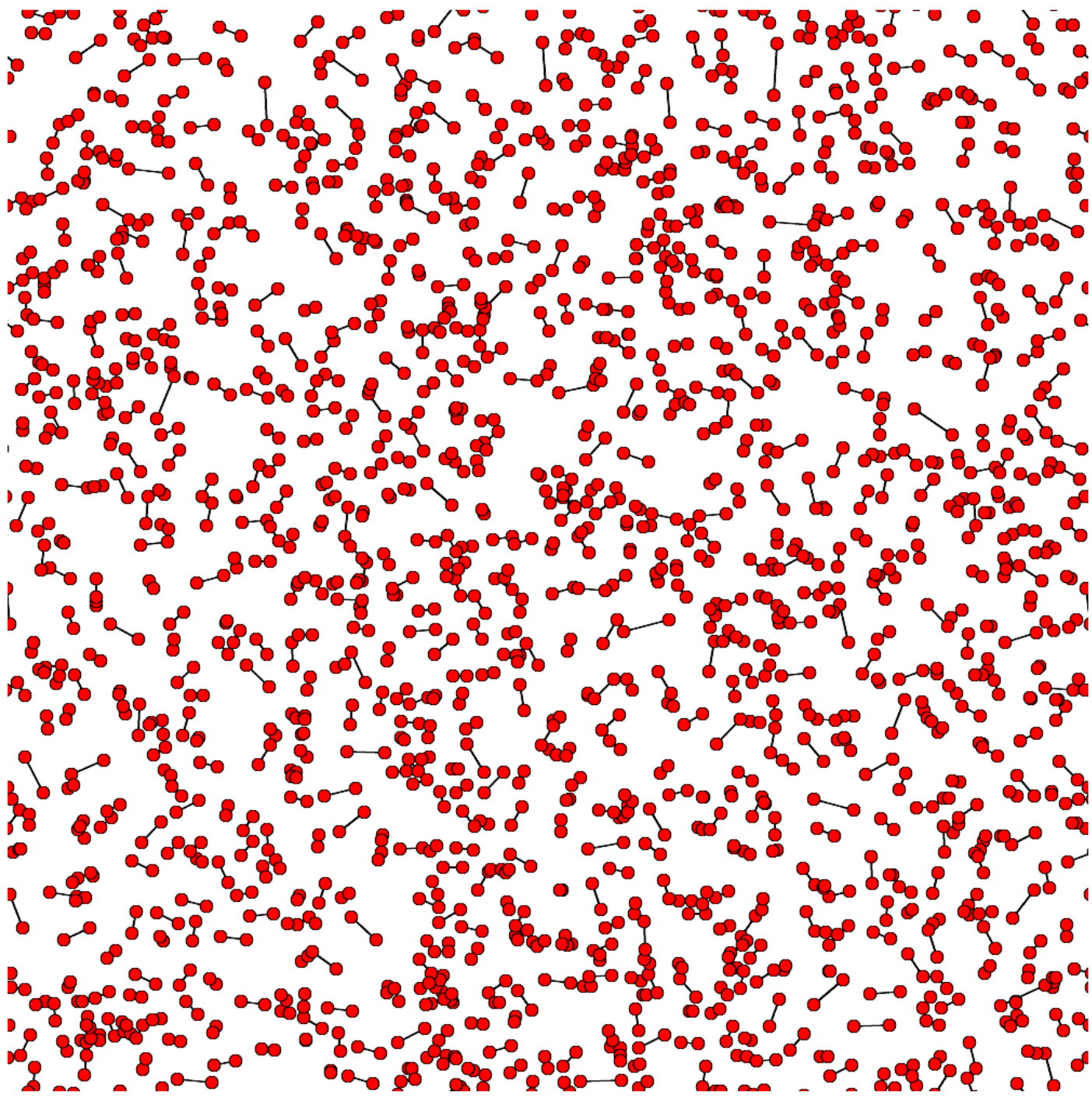
Two-colour  
minimum-  
length  
matching

(on torus)



One-colour  
stable  
matching

(on torus)



One-colour  
minimum-  
length  
matching

(on torus)

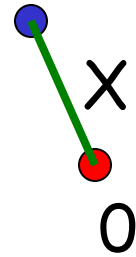
Call a matching scheme

- a *factor* if  $\mathcal{M} = f(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{B})$   
(e.g. stable matching)
- *randomized* if not

Given a matching scheme  $\mathcal{M}$ ,

denote  $X = \text{length of "typical edge"}$

$$= |0 - \mathcal{M}(0)| \text{ "conditioned" on } \{0 \text{ is red}\} \\ \text{(Palm measure } P^*)$$



i.e.  $P^*(X \leq r) :=$

$$E \# \{\text{red points } z \in [0,1]^d \text{ with } |z - \mathcal{M}(z)| \leq r\}$$

**Question:** how small can we make  $X$   
(in terms of tail behaviour)?

**A trivial lower bound:** for any matching,

$$P^*(X > r) \geq P^*(\exists \text{ no other point in } B(0,r)) \geq e^{-cr^d}$$

i.e.  $E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$

More results (H., Pemantle, Peres, Schramm 2008):

<b>One color</b>		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1 d $\geq$ 2		
Factor	d=1 d $\geq$ 2		
Stable	All d		

<b>Two color</b>		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1 d=2 d $\geq$ 3		
Factor	d=1 d=2 d $\geq$ 3		
Stable	d=1 d=2 d $\geq$ 3		

One color		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
	$d \geq 2$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
Factor	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
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Stable	All d	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	

Two color		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
	d=2	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
Factor	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
	d=2	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
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Stable	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
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Stable	All d	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	

Two color		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
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Two color		Lower bound	Upper bound
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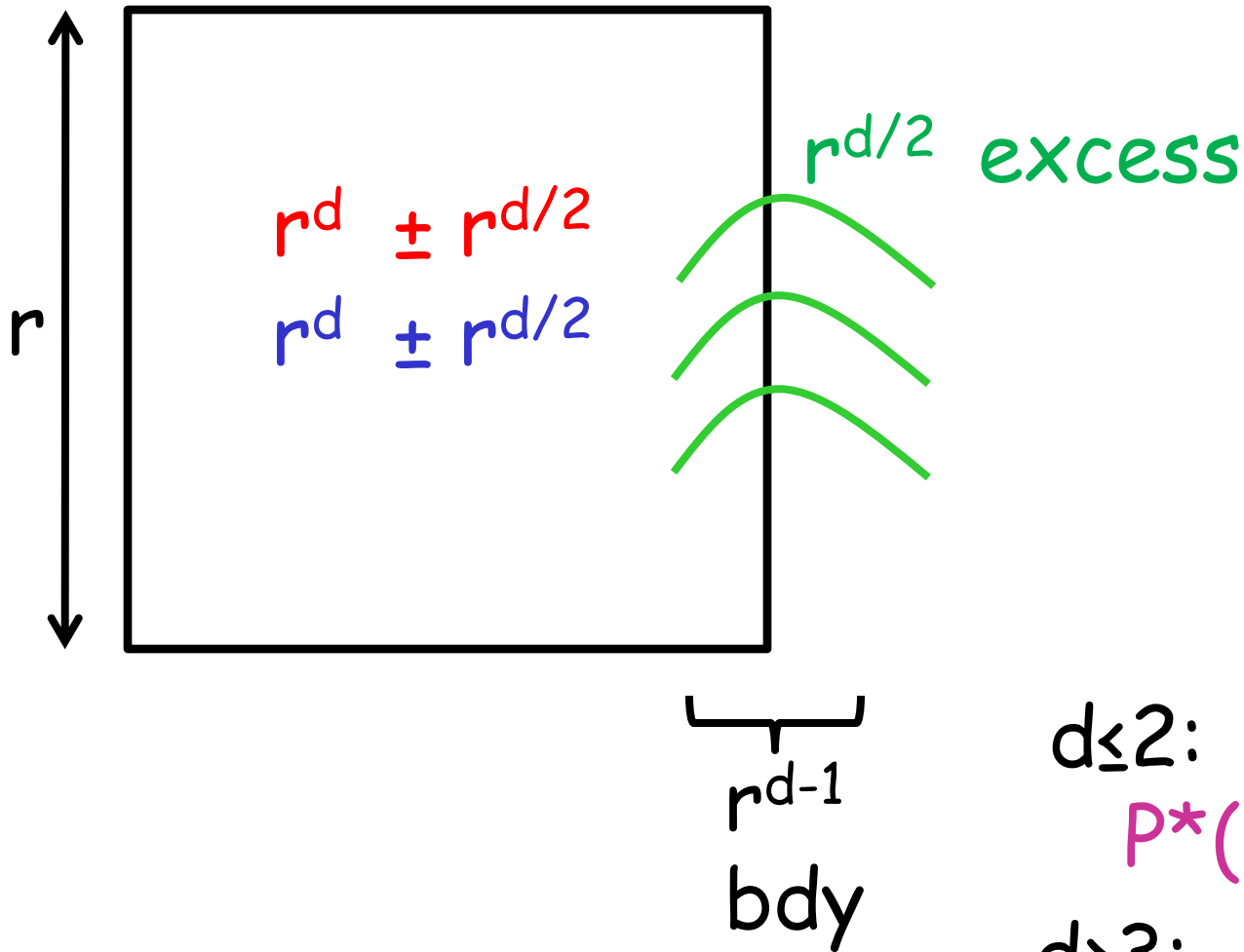
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	$d \geq 3$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^d} < \infty$ [from Talagrand]
Factor	$d=1$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
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# Heuristic reason:



$$d \leq 2: r^{d/2} \geq r^{d-1}$$

$$P^*(X > r) \approx r^{d/2} / r^d$$

$$d \geq 3: r^{d/2} \ll r^{d-1}$$

match "locally"

One color		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
	$d \geq 2$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
Factor	d=1	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	
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Stable	All d	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	

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Factor	d=1	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
	d=2	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-2/3+\epsilon}$ [Soo]
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-2d/(d+4)+\epsilon}$ [Soo]
Stable	d=1	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
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	d=2	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1}$ [Timar]
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Two color		Lower bound	Upper bound
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Stable	$d=1$	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
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Two color		Lower bound	Upper bound
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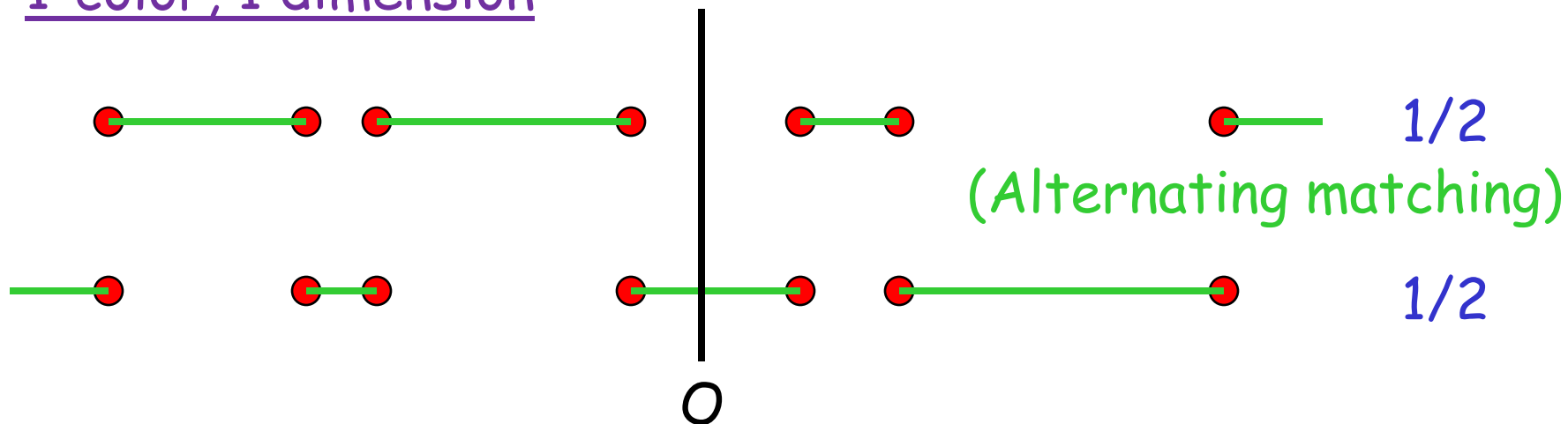
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	$d \geq 2$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^d} < \infty$
Factor	$d=1$	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1}$
	$d \geq 2$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^d} < \infty$
Stable	All $d$	$E^* X^d = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-d}$

Two color		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	$d=1$	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
	$d=2$	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1}$
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^d} < \infty$
Factor	$d=1$	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
	$d=2$	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1}$ [Timar]
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^{d-2}} < \infty$ [Timar]
Stable	$d=1$	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
	$d=2$	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-0.496\dots}$
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* X^d = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-s(d)}$

One color		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1	$E^* e^{cX} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX} < \infty$
	$d \geq 2$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^d} < \infty$
Factor	d=1	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1}$
	$d \geq 2$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^d} < \infty$
Stable	All d	$E^* X^d = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-d}$

Two color		Lower bound	Upper bound
Randomized	d=1	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
	d=2	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1}$
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^d} < \infty$
Factor	d=1	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
	d=2	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1}$ [Timar]
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* e^{cX^d} = \infty$	$E^* e^{cX^{d-2}} < \infty$ [Timar]
Stable	d=1	$E^* X^{1/2} = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-1/2}$
	d=2	$E^* X = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-0.496\dots}$
	$d \geq 3$	$E^* X^d = \infty$	$P^*(X > r) < C r^{-s(d)}$

## 1-color, 1 dimension

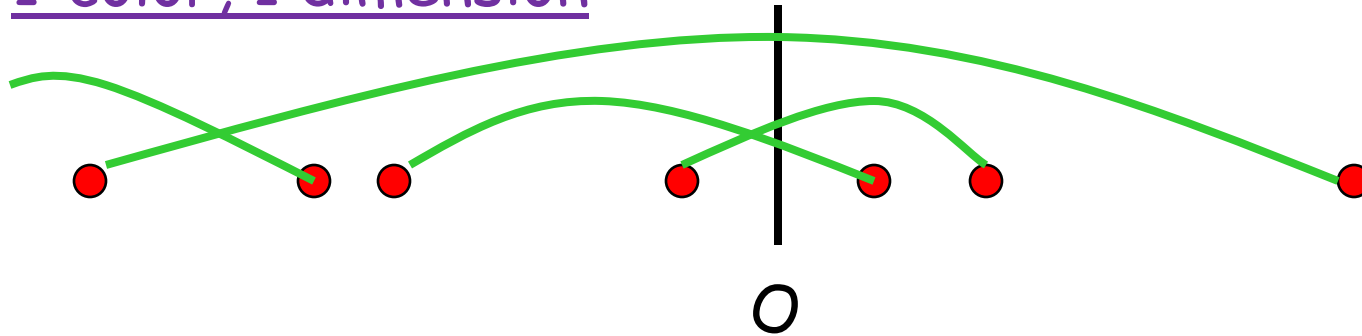


$\Rightarrow \exists$  a randomized matching with  $P^*(X > r) = e^{-r}$

$\nexists$  a factor alternating matching

Any factor matching has  $E^*X = \infty$ . Proof:

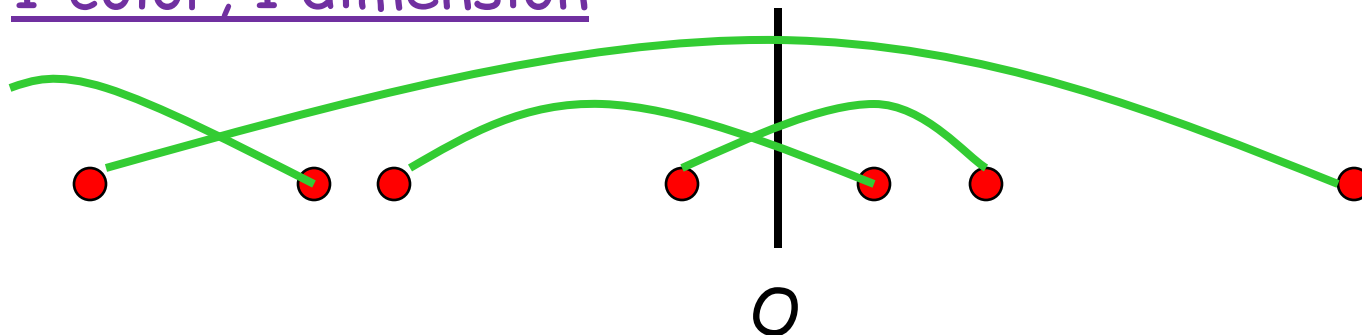
1-color, 1 dimension



Enough to show:

$$E(\# \text{ edges crossing } O) = \infty$$

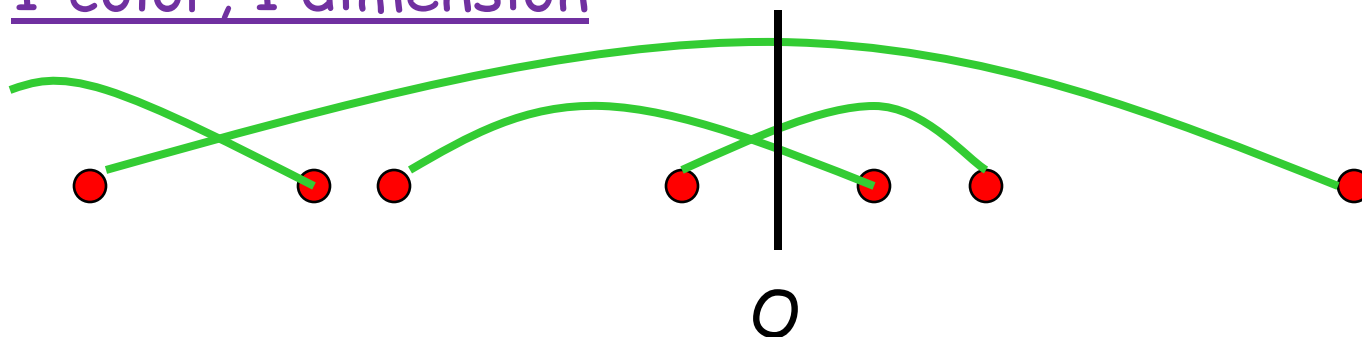
1-color, 1 dimension



Enough to show:

$$P(\# \text{ edges crossing } O = \infty) = 1$$

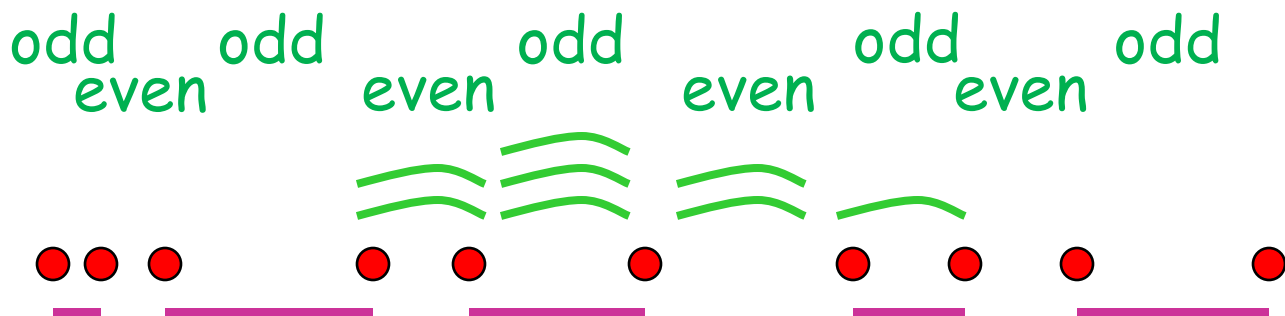
# 1-color, 1 dimension



Suppose:

$$P(\# \text{ edges crossing } O < \infty) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P(< \infty \text{ edges crossing every site}) = 1$$

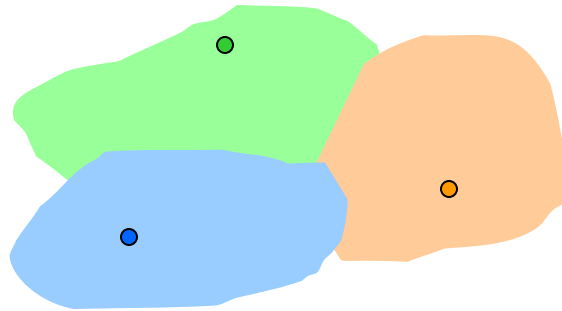


Rematch

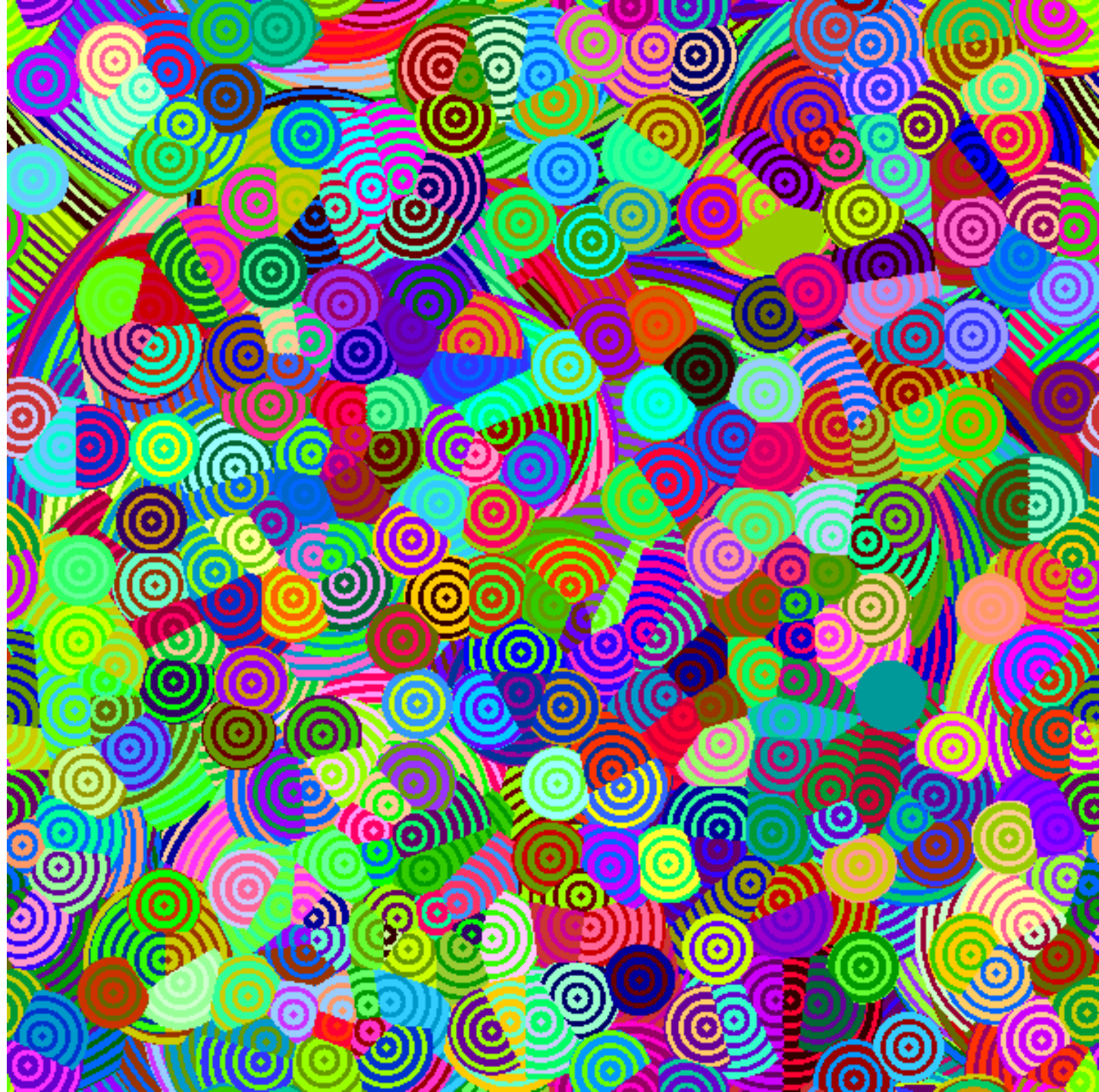
$\Rightarrow$  factor alternating matching! #

## Variant problem: **allocation**

Given a point process of intensity 1 in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , partition space into cells of volume 1, with each cell allocated to a point, in a translation-invariant way.



E.g. stable allocation:  
(Hoffman, H., Peres, 2005, 2009)



Application: let

$\Pi$  = any translation-invariant ergodic point process

$\Pi^*$  = associated Palm process: i.e.  $\Pi$  "conditioned" on  $\{O \in \Pi\}$

(E.g., if  $\Pi$  = Poisson process, then  $\Pi^* = \Pi \cup O$  )

Theorem (Thorisson, 2000):

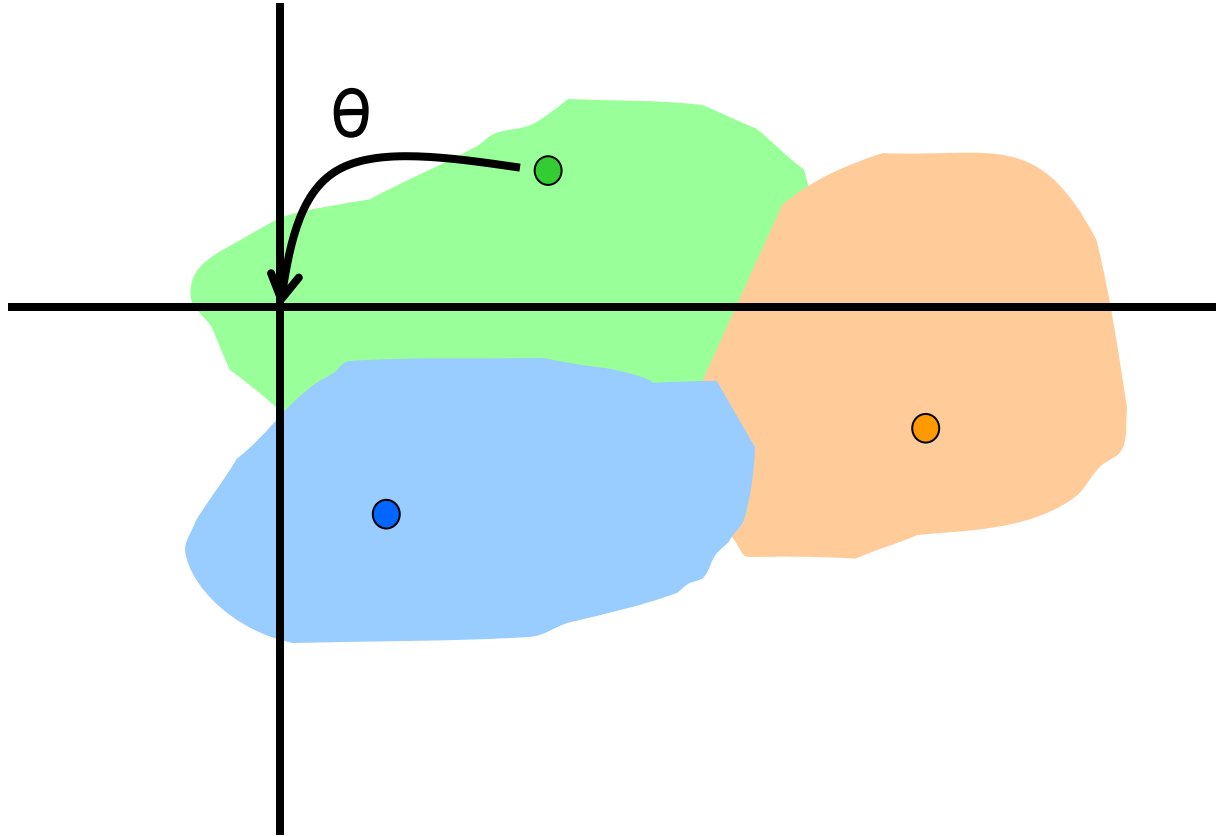
$\Pi$  and  $\Pi^*$  can be **shift-coupled**;

i.e. can define  $\Pi$ ,  $\Pi^*$  and a random translation  $\theta$ ,  
all on same prob. space, s.t.  $\Pi^* = \theta \Pi$ .

Theorem (H, Peres, 2005): can do this even with

$\theta = f(\Pi)$  (but not  $\theta = g(\Pi^*)$  ).

Proof: Take any translation-invariant factor allocation (e.g. stable allocation).



Let  $\theta$  shift (point allocated to  $\text{cell}(O)$ ) to  $O$



Many extensions (Last, Thorisson, 2009 ...)

## Quantitative results similar to 2-color matching:

$D = \text{diam}(\text{cell}(O))$ :

- power tails in  $d \leq 2$ , exponential tails in  $d \geq 3$
- stable alloc: power law bounds in all  $d$

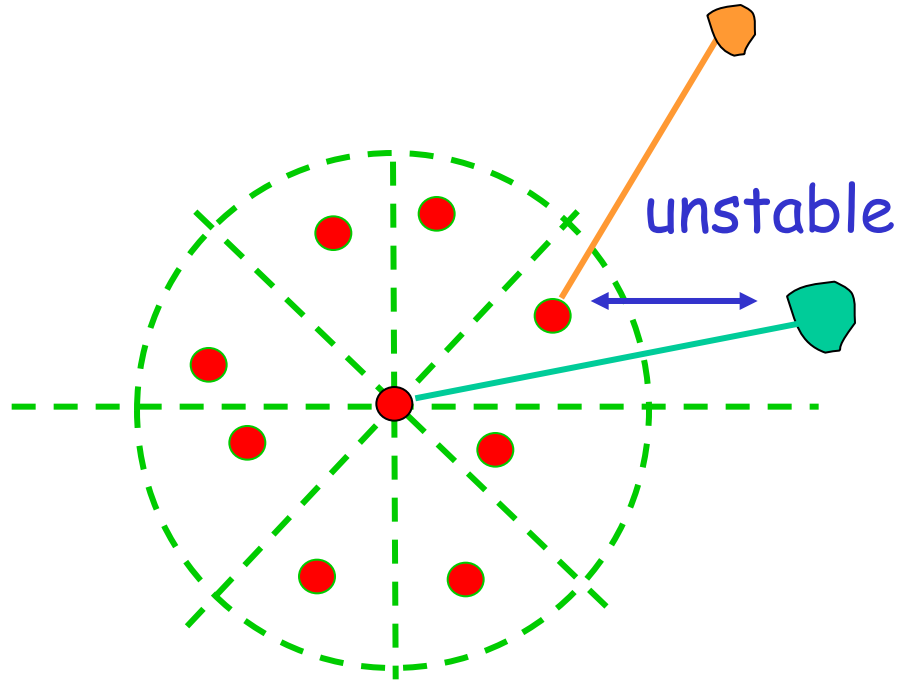
## Geometric properties:

E.g. Theorem (Hoffman, H., Peres): in stable allocation, each cell is a union of finitely many bounded components.

Proof that all cells are bounded: E.g.  $d=2$ .

**Bad point:** has unbounded cell.

If bad points exist, form an invariant point process of positive intensity.



Each sector contains  
a bad centre

## Other allocation rules:

Theorem (Chatterjee, Peled, Peres, Romik, to appear). For Poisson process in  $d \geq 3$ , *gravitational allocation* gives

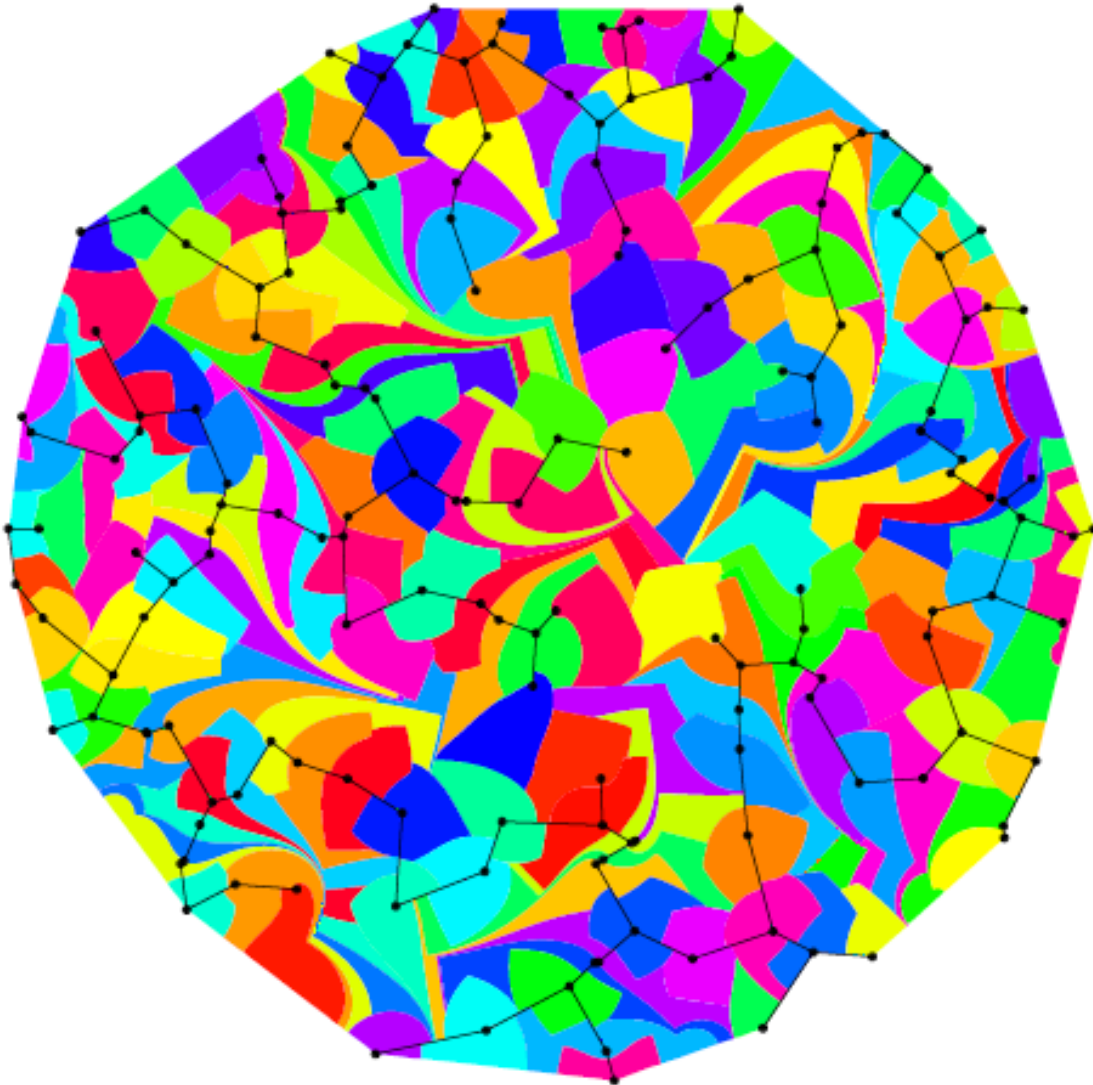
$$P(D > r) < \exp [-c r (\log r)^a]$$

(Cell = basin of attraction of point for a inertialess particle under Newtonian gravity)



## Other allocation rules:

Theorem (Krikun, 2008). For Poisson process in  $d = 2$ , there is an allocation with all cells **connected**.

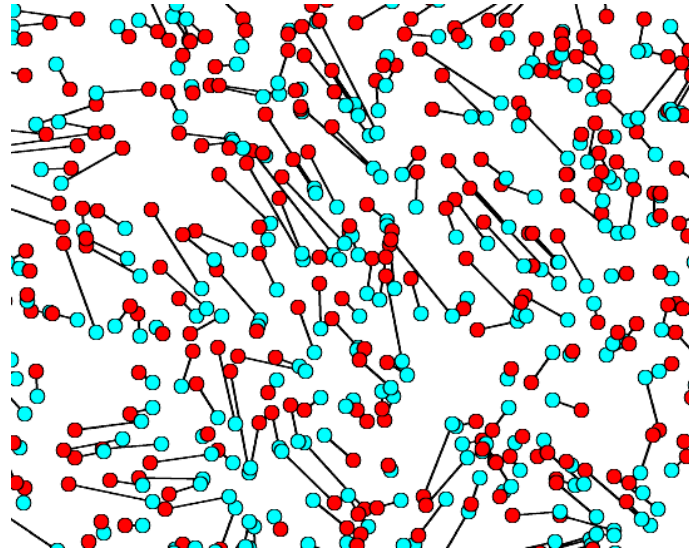


(conformally map complement of min. spanning tree to half-plane, take variant of stable alloc).

Q: are cells bounded?

## Geometric questions for matchings:

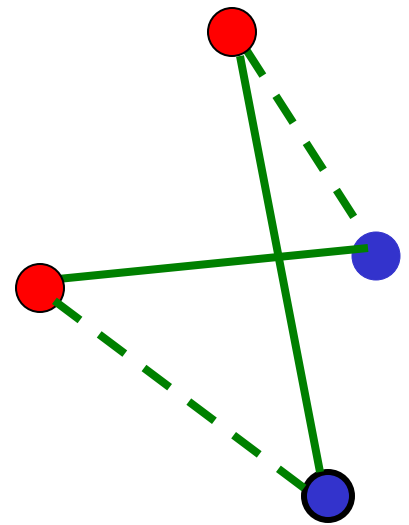
Q: For independent **red** and **blue** intensity-1 Poisson processes in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , does there exist a translation-invariant matching in which line segments joining matched pairs **do not cross**?



Proposition (H. 2009) Yes if we drop invariance, or for one color, or allow partial matching, or curved edges!

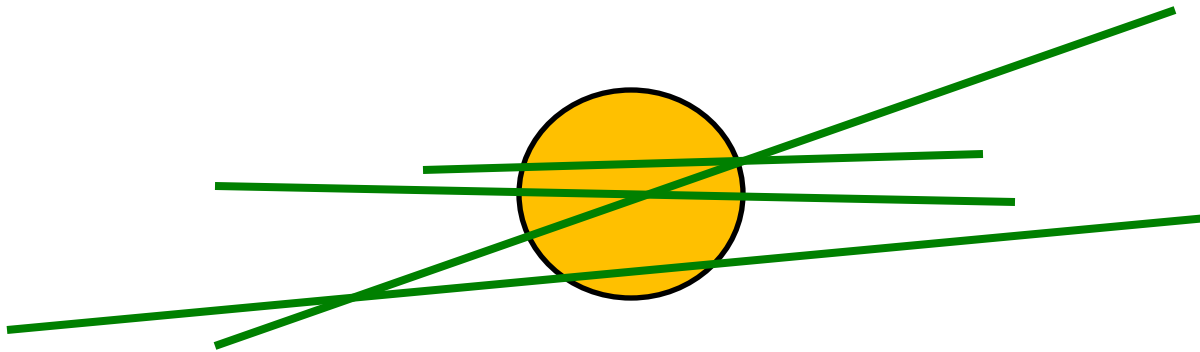
Q: For independent **red** and **blue** intensity-1 Poisson processes in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , does there exist a **minimal** translation-invariant matching, i.e. s.t. every finite set of edges minimizes the total length?

(If yes, then it would have no crossings)

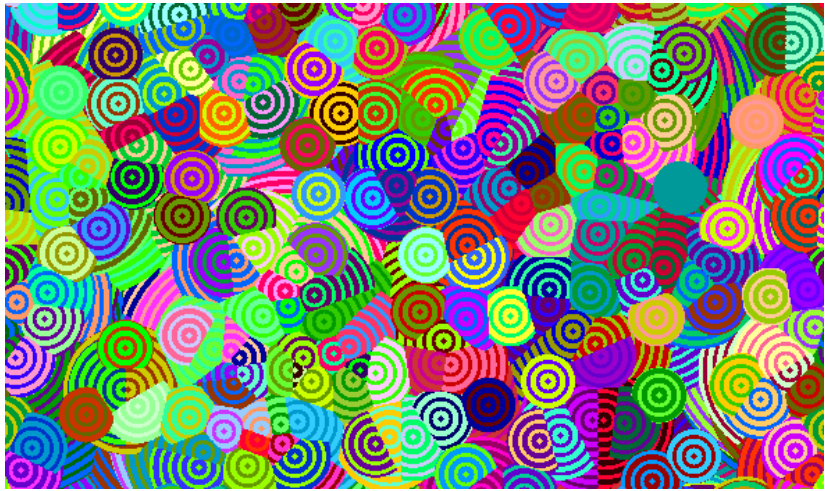
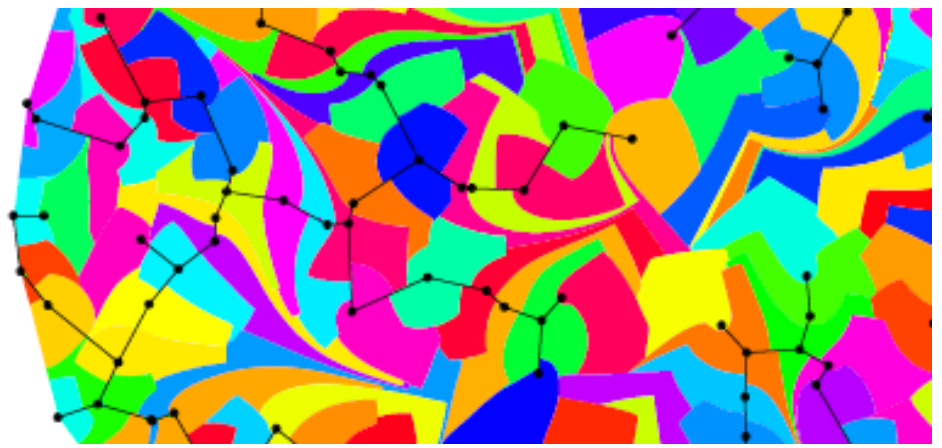
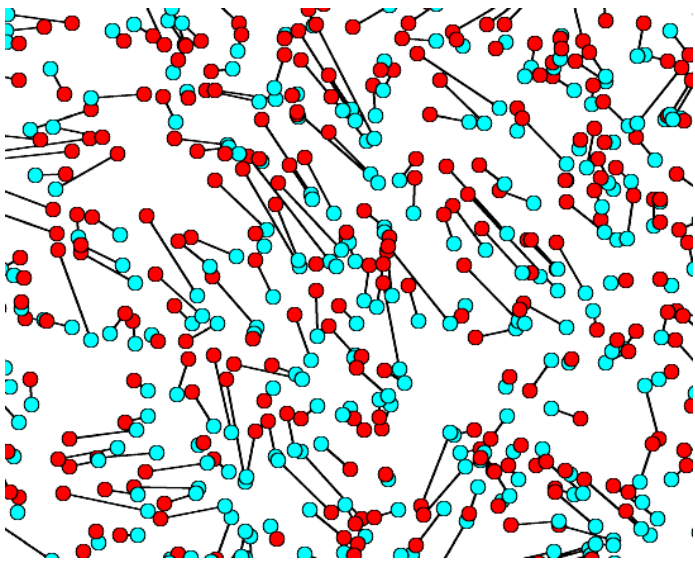


Theorem (H. 2009) Yes in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d=1$  and  $d \geq 3$   
No in strip  $\mathbb{R} \times [0,1]$

For independent **red** and **blue** intensity-1 Poisson processes, does there exist a **locally finite** translation-invariant matching, i.e. s.t. any bounded set meets only finitely many edges?



Theorem (H. 2009) Yes in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d \geq 2$   
No in  $d=1$ , and strip



Thanks!