# An Oblivious Spanning Tree for Single-Sink Buy-at-Bulk in Low Doubling-Dimension Graphs 

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#### Abstract

We consider the problem of constructing a single spanning tree for the single-sink buy-at-bulk network design problem for doubling-dimension graphs. We compute a spanning tree to route a set of demands along a graph $G$ to or from a designated sink node. The demands could be aggregated at (or symmetrically distributed to) intermediate edges where the fusion-cost is specified by a non-negative concave function $f$. We describe a novel approach for developing an oblivious spanning tree in the sense that it is independent of the number and location of data sources (or demands) and cost function at the edges. We present a deterministic, polynomial-time algorithm for constructing a spanning tree in low doubling-dimension graphs that guarantees a $\log ^{3} D$-approximation over the optimal cost, where $D$ is the diameter of the graph $G$. With a constant fusion-cost function, our spanning tree gives a $O\left(\log ^{3} D\right)$-approximation for every Steiner tree that includes the sink. We also provide a $\Omega(\log n)$ lower-bound for any oblivious tree in low doubling-dimension graphs. To our knowledge, this is the first paper to propose a single spanning tree solution to the single-sink buy-at-bulk network design problem (as opposed to multiple overlay trees).


Index Terms-Spanning Tree, Buy-at-Bulk, Network Design, Approximation Algorithm, Doubling-Dimension Graph, Data Fusion, Data Structure.

## 1 Introduction

A typical client-server model has many clients and one server where a subset of the client set wishes to route a certain amount of data to the server at any given time. The set of clients and the server are assumed to be geographically far apart. To enable communication among them, there needs to be a network of cables deployed. Moreover, the deployment of network cables has to be of minimum cost that also minimizes the communication cost among the various network components. This is what we roughly call a typical network design problem. The same problem can be easily applied to many similar practical scenarios such as oil/gas pipelines and telephone network.
The "Buy-at-Bulk" network design considers the economies of scale into account. As observed in [2], in a telecommunication network, bandwidth on a link can be purchased in some discrete units $u_{1}<u_{2}<$ $\ldots<u_{n}$ with costs $c_{1}<c_{2}<\ldots<c_{n}$ respectively. The economies of scale exhibits the property where the cost per bandwidth decreases as the number of units purchased increases: $c_{1} / u_{1}>c_{2} / u_{2}>\ldots>c_{n} / u_{n}$. This property is the reason why network capacity is

[^0]bought/sold in "wholesale", or why vendors provide "volume discount".
There are different variants of buy-at-bulk network design problems that arise in practice. One of them is "single-sink buy-at-bulk" network design (SSBB). This SSBB problem has a single "destination" node where all the demands from other nodes has to be routed to. Typically, the demand flows are in discrete units and are unsplittable (indivisible), i.e., the flow follows a single path from the demand node to the destination. These problems are often called "discrete cost network optimization" in operations research.
As mentioned in [3], if information flows from $x$ different sources over a link, then, the cost of total information that is transmitted over that link is proportional to $f(x)$, where $f: \mathbb{Z}^{+} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{+}$. The function $f$ is called a canonical fusion function if it is concave, non-decreasing, $f(0)=0$ and has the subadditive property $f\left(x_{1}+x_{2}\right) \leq f\left(x_{1}\right)+f\left(x_{2}\right)$, $\forall x_{1}, x_{2},\left(x_{1}+x_{2}\right) \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}$. Generally, SSBB problems use the subadditive property to ensure that the 'size' of the aggregated data is smaller than the sum of the sizes of individual data. If the set of demand nodes is known in advance and $f$ is constant, then, this is a well-known Steiner tree problem.

We study the oblivious single-sink buy-at-bulk (SSBB) network design problem with the following constraints: an unknown number of source (or demand) nodes and an unknown concave transportation cost function $f$. An abstraction of this problem can be found in many applications, one of which is data fusion in wireless sensor networks where constraints
such as the number and location of source nodes are assumed unknown or vary over time. Others include design of VLSI power circuitry, Transportation \& Logistics (railroad, water, oil, gas pipeline construction) etc. For simplicity, we consider data fusion problems in communication networks. Our solution holds for both data distribution and aggregation problems in doubling-dimension graphs. Informally, a graph has doubling-dimension $\rho$, if there is a smallest $\rho$ such that for every radius $r>0$, every ball of radius $2 r$ can be covered by at most $2^{\rho}$ balls of radius $r$. When $\rho$ is small (constant), the graph is of low doublingdimension.

Doubling-dimension graphs have been used in many different contexts including compact routing in wired networks [4], [5], [6], hierarchical routing and low-diameter networks [7], [8] traveling salesman, navigability and problems related to modeling the structural properties of the Internet distance matrix for distance estimation [9], [10]. As noted in [11], it has become a key concept to measure the ability of networks to support efficient algorithms or to realize specific tasks efficiently. For wireless networks, this concept has found many uses in solving many distributed communication problems [12], distributed resourcemanagement [13], information exchange among producers and consumers [14], and for determining other performance qualities such as energy-conservation in wireless sensor networks [15].

### 1.1 Problem Statement

Assume that we are given a weighted graph $G=$ $(V, E, w)$, with edge weights $w: E \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}$, with a sink $s \in V$. We denote $w_{e}$ to be the weight of edge $e$. Let $A=\left\{v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{d}\right\}, A \subseteq V$ be the set of demand nodes. Let each node $v_{i} \in A$ have a nonnegative unit demand. A demand from $v_{i}$ induces a unit of flow to sink $s$ and this flow is unsplittable. The demands from various demand nodes have to be sent to the destination node $s$ possibly routed through multiple edges in the graph $G$. This forms a set of paths $P(A)=\left\{p\left(v_{1}\right), p\left(v_{2}\right), \ldots, p\left(v_{d}\right)\right\}$, where $p\left(v_{i}\right)$ is the path from $v_{i} \in A$ to $s$. The output for a given graph $G, \operatorname{sink} s$ and a set of demand nodes $A$ is a set of paths $P$ from the nodes in $A$ to $s$. We seek to find such a set of paths with minimal cost with respect to a cost function described below.

There is an arbitrary concave fusion-cost function $f$ at every edge where data aggregates. This $f$ is the same for all the edges in $G$. Let $p(v)$ be the path taken by a flow from $v$ to $s$ in $G$. Let $\varphi_{e}(A):\{p(v): e \in$ $p(v) \wedge v \in A\}$ denote the set of paths originating from nodes in $A$ that use an edge $e \in E$. Then, we define the cost of an edge $e$ to be $C_{e}(A)=f\left(\left|\varphi_{e}(A)\right|\right) \cdot w_{e}$. The total cost of the set of paths is defined to be $C(A)=$ $\sum_{e} C_{e}(A)$.

For a given set $A$ of demand nodes in $G$, the corresponding set of paths $P(A)$ would incur a total
cost denoted by $C(A)$. For this set $A$, there is an optimal set of paths $P^{*}(A)$ with respect to the total cost denoted by $C^{*}(A)$. The competitive ratio for the cost of these two sets of paths is given by $\frac{C(A)}{C^{*}(A)}$.

The oblivious case arises when we do not know the set of demand nodes in advance. So, given a graph $G=(V, E)$ with sink $s \in V$, an oblivious algorithm, $\mathcal{A}_{\text {obl }}$, must compute a set of paths $P(V)$ which induces $P(A)$ for any set $A \subseteq V$. The competitive ratio of this oblivious algorithm is given by:

$$
C \cdot R \cdot\left(\mathcal{A}_{o b l}\right)=\max _{A \subseteq V} \frac{C(A)}{C^{*}(A)}
$$

We aim to find an oblivious algorithm that minimizes the above competitive ratio. We note that SSBB is NP-Hard as the Steiner tree problem is a special of case of SSBB (when $f(x)=1$ ) [16].

### 1.2 Contribution

We seek to find a spanning tree $T$ rooted at sink $s$ for any doubling-dimension graph $G$. The spanning tree $T$ we build produces a set of unique paths $P(V)$ from $\forall v \in V$ to the $\operatorname{sink} s$. This $T$ is oblivious since it is independent of the data sources, and can accommodate any canonical fusion-cost function. Our approach gives a deterministic, polynomial-time algorithm that guarantees $O\left(2^{17 \rho} \log ^{3} D\right)$ competitive ratio for graphs with doubling-dimension $\rho$. Therefore, for low doubling-dimension graphs, we obtain a $O\left(\log ^{3} D\right)$ competitive ratio. When $f(\cdot)=c$, a constant, our spanning tree solution provides a $O\left(\log ^{3} D\right)$-approximation to any Steiner tree that contains the sink $s$. To our knowledge, these are the first spanning tree solutions to the oblivious SSBB problem and also for the oblivious Steiner tree problem. We also give a lower bound in $n \times n$ grids for the competitive ratio for any oblivious SSBB spanning tree $T$ to be of $\Omega(\log n)$.

It is well-known in the research community that tree structures provide a very efficient solution for managing data dissemination and aggregation in largescale distributed systems. Prominent architectures like the content-based publish-subscribe, peer-to-peer communication, muticasting etc take advantage of efficient routing in trees and distributed maintenance of the tables in each node of the network.

The motivation for us to build a spanning tree not only comes from the above mentioned advantages and current use, but also because of the fact that it has the most compact form of data structure in the sense that they have the minimum number of edges connecting all the nodes $(n-1)$. Furthermore, their inherent acyclic property conveniently avoids inefficient use of the network due to unnecessary cyclic data traversal and hence avoids increased costs. Since there are no routing loops formed during the tree construction, any design of routing algorithms on trees is greatly simplified.

We build a spanning tree based on the following technique. We partition the nodes in a hierarchical fashion. The selection of nodes for a given 'level' of hierarchy is based on finding $d$-independent nodes, where $d$ is proportional to that level. Nodes of successive levels are connected by bounded length paths. The intersecting paths that may potentially form cycles are appropriately modified to result in a spanning tree. A modified spanning tree is built from the spanning tree to ensure that all paths have appropriate end-nodes. Analysis is done on this modified tree.

To demonstrate the basic techniques and concepts, we initially build an overlay tree and produce a $\log D$ competitive ratio. An overlay tree is a tree where each edge in the tree could be a path in the underlying physical infrastructure. Shortest paths in an overlay tree, when projected to its underlying network, could have several intersections leading to cycles. Our initial overlay tree construction and analysis gives an insight for the analysis of the spanning tree that we build subsequently. Since the overlay tree may result in having cycles, our main algorithm for constructing a spanning tree extends the overlay tree algorithm to obtain a competitive ratio of $O\left(\log ^{3} D\right)$.

We perform simulation to compare the cost of the spanning tree with trees from several prior related work and a few well known trees (Minimum Spanning Tree and Shortest-Paths Tree). For comparison, we generate the trees and costs by simulation using NetworkX [17]. The simulations corroborate the analytical results and show that the oblivious spanning tree provides very competitive costs and in fact provides better costs than the well known trees.

### 1.3 Related Work

### 1.3.1 Non-Oblivious SSBB

There has been a lot of research work in the area of approximation algorithms for network design. Since network design problems have several variants with several constraints, only a partial list has been mentioned in the following paragraphs.

SSBB problems have been primarily considered in both Operations Research and Computer Science literatures in the context of flows with concave costs. SSBB problem was first introduced by Salman et al. [16]. They presented an $O(\log n)$-approximation for SSBB in Euclidean graphs by applying the method of Mansour and Peleg [18]. Bartal's tree embeddings [19] can be used to improve their ratio to $O(\log n \log \log n)$. A $O\left(\log ^{2} n\right)$-approximation was given by Awerbuch et al. [20] for graphs with general metric spaces. Bartal et al. [21] further improved this result to $O(\log n)$. Guha [22] provided the first constant-factor approximation to the problem, whose ratio was estimated to be around 9000 by Talwar [23].

Some other special cases of the problem have also constant factor approximations. Algorithms by Ku-
mar et al. [24] and Gupta et al. [25] provide constant factor approximation algorithms for the rent-orbuy variation of the problem. They provide a 76.8approximation algorithm for the splittable-SSBB problem. Talwar [23] proposed an LP rounding approach for the SSBB problem with an approximation ratio of 216. Raja Jothi et al. [26] provide an improvement over Talwar's with a 145.6-approximation and guaranteeing that each flow follows a single path to the sink. Their work also proposes a technique for the splittable-flow SSBB problem which reduces the previous best ratio of 72.8 to $\alpha_{K}$ which is less than 65.49 for all $K$-types of cables (each type has a specified capacity and cost per unit length).

Another variant is the "capacitated" buy-at-bulk network design problem where each edge (link) of the network has an upper-bound on the amount of demand flows it can route through it. This problem is otherwise known as network loading problem. Many heuristic and branch-cut approaches have been used to solve such problems. Frangioni et al. [27] show that a non-trivial 0-1 reformulation of the MultiCommodity Network Design (MCND) provides the same LP bound obtained by adding exponentially many residual capacity inequalities to the LP relaxation of the general integer formulation. Gendron textitet al. [28] provide a survey of methods that solve MCND, particularly through LP relaxations. The methods highlighted are the simplex-based cutting plane algorithms, Lagrangean relaxation and heuristics. Öncan [29] provides a fast approximate reasoning algorithm, which is based on the Esau-Williams savings heuristic and fuzzy logic rules to solve this problem.

### 1.3.2 Oblivious SSBB

Below, we present the related work in oblivious SSBB and Table 1 summarizes most these results and compares our work with their's. What distinguishes our work with the others' is the fact that we provide a spanning tree while others provide an overlay tree that may have cycles.

Goel et al. in [3] build an overlay tree on a graph that satisfies the triangle-inequality. Their technique is based on a maximum matching algorithm that guarantees $(1+\log k)$-approximation, where $k$ is the number of sources. Their solution is oblivious with respect to the fusion-cost function $f$. An overlay tree, if projected to a graph, may not be a tree (could have cycles). In a related paper [32], Goel et al. construct (in polynomial time) a set of overlay trees from a given general graph such that the expected cost of a tree for any $f$ is within an $O(1)$-factor of the optimum cost for that $f$.

Jia et al. in [30] build a Group Independent Spanning Tree Algorithm (GIST) that constructs an overlay tree for randomly deployed nodes in an Euclidean 2 dimensional plane. The tree (that is obliv-

TABLE 1: Our results and comparison with previous results for data-fusion schemes. $n$ is the total number of nodes in the topology, $k$ is the total number of source nodes. Note that our work gives a spanning tree and others provide an overlay tree that may have cycles.

| Related Work | Algorithm <br> Type | Graph Type | Oblivious <br> Function $f$ | Oblivious Sources | Approx Factor | Tree Type |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lujun Jia et al. [30] | Deterministic | Random <br> Deployment | $\times$ | $\checkmark$ | $O(\log n)$ | One Overlay |
| Lujun Jia | Deterministic | Arbitrary Metric | $\times$ | $\checkmark$ | $O\left(\frac{\log ^{4} n}{\log \log (n)}\right)$ | Universal Steiner Tree (Overlay) |
| et al. [31] | Deterministic | Doubling Metric | $\times$ | $\checkmark$ | $O(\log (n))$ | Universal Steiner Tree (Overlay) |
| Ashish Goel et al. [3] | Randomized | General Graph $\triangle$-inequality | $\checkmark$ | $\times$ | $O(\log k)$ | One Overlay |
| Ashish Goel et al. [32] | Probabilistic | General Graph | $\checkmark$ | $\times$ | $O(1)$ | Multiple Overlay |
| Anupam Gupta | Randomized | General Graph | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $O\left(\log ^{2} n\right)$ | Multiple Overlay |
| et al. [33] | Randomized | Low Doubling | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $O(\log n)$ | Multiple Overlay |
| This paper | Deterministic | Low Doubling Dimension | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $O\left(\log ^{3} D\right)$ | One Spanning |

ious to the number of data sources) simultaneously achieves $O(\log n)$-approximate fusion-cost and $O(1)$ approximate delay. However, their solution assumes a constant fusion-cost function. We summarize and compare the related work in Table 1.
Lujun Jia et al. [31] provide approximation algorithms for TSP, Steiner Tree and set cover problems. They present a polynomial-time $(O(\log (n)), O(\log (n)))$-partition scheme for general metric spaces. An improved partition scheme for doubling metric spaces is also presented that incorporates constant dimensional Euclidean spaces and growth-restricted metric spaces. The authors present a polynomial-time algorithm for Universal Steiner Tree (UST) that achieves polylogarithmic stretch with an approximation guarantee of $O\left(\log ^{4} n / \log \log (n)\right)$ for arbitrary metrics and derive a logarithmic stretch, $O(\log (n))$ for any doubling, Euclidean, or growth-restricted metric space over $n$ vertices.
Gupta et al. [33] develop a framework to model oblivious network design problems and give algorithms with poly-logarithmic competitive ratio. They develop oblivious algorithms that approximately minimize the total cost of routing with the knowledge of aggregation function, the class of load on each edge and nothing else about the state of the network. Their results show that if the aggregation function is summation, their algorithm provides a $O\left(\log ^{2} n\right)$ competitive ratio and when the aggregation function is $\max$, the competitive ratio is $O\left(\log ^{2} n \log \log n\right)$. The authors claim to provide a deterministic solution by derandomizing their approach. But, the complexity of this derandomizing process is unclear.
Chuzhoy et al. [34] consider the Fixed Charge Net-
work Flow (FCNF) problem and show that this problem and several other basic network design problems cannot be approximated better than $\Omega(\log \log n)$ unless $N P \subseteq \operatorname{DTIME}\left(n^{O(\log \log \log n)}\right)$. They show that this inapproximability threshold holds for the PrioritySteiner Tree problem, single-sink Cost-Distance problem and the single-sink FCNF problem.

A lower bound for the summation aggregation function is provided in the online Steiner tree problem by Imase and Waxman [35]. This provides an $\Omega(\log n)$ competitive ratio for planar graphs. However, the specific planar graph they used is not of low doublingdimension. For this reason, we provide an alternative lower bound for low doubling graphs, in particular for two dimensional grids.

## Organization

In the next section, we present some definitions and notations used throughout the rest of the paper. Section 3 provides the description and analysis of an overlay tree which will be useful for the analysis of the spanning tree that we build later. In section 4, we describe a spanning tree algorithm. Section 5 contains the modified spanning tree construction algorithm. Section 6 provides the analysis of the modified spanning tree as well as the main theorem of this paper. Section 7 discusses the lower bound analysis. In section 8, we briefly describe our simulation results comparing our tree with several well-known trees. Finally, we discuss our contribution and future work in section 9 .

## 2 Definitions

Consider a weighted graph $G=(V, E, w), w: E \longrightarrow$ $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}$. Let $s \in V$ be the sink node. For any two nodes
$u, v \in V$ let $\operatorname{dist}(u, v)$ denote the distance between $u, v$ (measured as the total weight of the shortest path that connects $u$ and $v$ ). Given a subset $V^{\prime} \subseteq V$, we denote $\operatorname{dist}\left(u, V^{\prime}\right)$ the smallest distance between $u$ and any node in $V^{\prime}$. Let $D$ denote the diameter of $G$, that is, $D=\max _{u, v \in V} \operatorname{dist}(u, v)$. For any path $p$ denote its length (number of edges) as $|p|$.

A set of nodes $I$ is said to be a d-independent set if for each pair $u, v \in I, u \neq v, \operatorname{dist}(u, v) \geq d$. Given a set of nodes $H \subseteq V$ and parameter $d$, we define Maximal Independent Set of $G$ for distance $d$ as $I=\operatorname{MIS}(G, H, d)$ to be an arbitrary maximal $d$-independent set of nodes in $G$ such that $H \subseteq I$. Note that, to begin with, the nodes in the given set $H$ must also be $d$-independent. $\operatorname{MIS}(G, H, d)$ can be constructed in polynomial time with a simple greedy algorithm.

Given a graph $G=(V, E)$, the $r$-neighborhood of any vertex $u \in V$ denoted $N(u, r)$, is defined as the set of nodes whose distance is at most $r$ from $u$; namely, $N(u, r)=\{v \mid \operatorname{dist}(u, v) \leq r\}$. The $r$-neighborhood of a set of vertices $V^{\prime} \in V$ denoted by $N\left(V^{\prime}, r\right)$, is defined as the set of nodes whose distance is atmost $r$ from any node in $v^{\prime}$. We adapt the definition of doublingdimension graph from [36], [37].

Definition 2.1 (doubling-dimension of a Graph). The doubling-dimension of a graph $G$ is the smallest $\rho$ such that every r-neighborhood is a subset of the union of at most $2^{\rho}$ sets of r/2-neighborhoods. If $\rho$ is constant, then we say that $G$ is of low doubling-dimension.

Observation 2.2. For a graph with doubling-dimension $\rho$, any 1-neighborhood contains at most $2^{\rho}$ nodes. Any $2^{k}$ neighborhood, can be covered by at most $2^{(k-l) \rho}$ number of $2^{l}$-neighborhoods, where $k \geq l \geq 0$.
Lemma 2.3. In any $2^{k}$-neighborhood, the size of any $2^{l}$ independent set of nodes does not exceed $2^{(k-l+3) \rho}$, where $k \geq l \geq 0$.

Proof: Let $U$ be $2^{k}$-neighborhood of a node $v$. Let $I$ be a $2^{l}$-independent set of nodes in the $2^{k}$ neighborhood of a node $v$. If $0 \leq l \leq 2$, then $|I| \leq|U| \leq 2^{(k+1) \rho} \leq 2^{(k-l+3) \rho}$ (from Observation 2.2). If, $l \geq 3$, from Observation 2.2, $U$ can be covered by at most $2^{(k-l+3) \rho}$ number of $2^{l-3}$-neighborhoods. Therefore, have that $|I| \leq 2^{(k-l+3) \rho}$.

## 3 Overlay Tree

We describe how to construct an overlay tree from a connected graph $G=(V, E)$. This will be useful for the design and analysis of the spanning tree algorithm.

The overlay tree $T=\left(V_{T}, E_{T}\right)$ is built as follows. Let $\kappa=\lceil\log D\rceil$, where $D$ is the diameter of graph $G$. The overlay tree $T$ consists of $\kappa+1$ levels of node sets, $V_{T}=I_{0} \cup \cdots \cup I_{\kappa}$, which are selected in a top down manner. The root of $T$ is $s$ and $I_{\kappa}=\{s\}$. Given $I_{i+1}$, we define $I_{i}=\operatorname{MIS}\left(G, I_{i+1}, 2^{i}\right)$. The leaves of $T$ are
all the nodes in $G$, namely, $I_{0}=V$. Members of $I_{i}$ are also called leaders at level $i$. Note that some leaders could belong to multiple levels (eg., the sink $s$ is a member of all levels). For any node $u \in I_{i}, i<\kappa$, its parent in $T$ is chosen to be a leader in $I_{i+1} \cap N\left(u, 2^{i+2}-\right.$ 2) which is closest to $s$ (a parent is guaranteed to exist due to the maximal independent set property of $I_{i+1}$ ).

For every edge $(u, v) \in E_{T}$, where $u \in I_{i}$ and $v \in$ $I_{i+1}$, we select one of the shortest paths from $u$ to $v$ to be the designated path from $u$ to $v$ to represent edge $(u, v)$. In case $u=v$, the designated shortest path has length zero. For any node $v$ the tree $T$ defines a unique path $q(v)=\left(e_{0}, e_{1}, \ldots, e_{\kappa-1}\right) \in T$ from the leaf $v$ to the root $s$. The path $q(v)$ is translated to a unique path $p(v)=\left(p_{0}(v), p_{1}(v), \ldots, p_{\kappa-1}(v)\right)$ from $v$ to $s$ in $G$ by replacing each edge $e_{i} \in q(v)$ with the respective designated shortest path $p_{i}(v)$. We will refer to $p_{i}(v)$ as the layer- $i$ subpath of $p(v)$.

### 3.1 Basic Properties of Overlay Tree

For each node $u \in I_{i}$, let $Z_{i}^{u}$ denote all the leaves in $T$ which appear in the subtree of $T$ rooted at $u$ at level $i$. The overlay tree $T$ naturally defines a hierarchical partition of $G$ because for any $v \neq u, Z_{i}^{u} \neq Z_{i}^{v}$ and for all $y \in G, y \in Z_{i}^{x}$ for any $x$.

We will use the following parameters for the analysis of overlay trees. Please note that the same set of parameters with appropriately modified values will be later used in section 6 for the modified tree analysis.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mu_{i} & =2^{i+2} / / \text { upper bound on }\left|p_{i}(u)\right| \\
\delta_{i} & =2^{i+2} / / \text { upper bound on the radius of } Z_{i}^{u} \\
\phi_{i} & =2^{i} / / \text { lower bound on } \operatorname{dist}\left(s, Z_{i}^{u}\right), u \neq s \\
\xi_{i} & =2 \delta_{i}+2 \phi_{i} / / \text { coloring radius } \\
\chi & =2^{7 \rho} / / \text { coloring of } I_{i} \text { with radius } \xi_{i}
\end{aligned}
$$

For each path $p_{i}(v)$ we have $\left|p_{i}(v)\right| \leq 2^{i+2}-2<\mu_{i}$, and hence we obtain:

Observation 3.1. For any node $v \in V,\left|p_{i}(v)\right|<\mu_{i}$.
Lemma 3.2. For any $v \in Z_{i}^{u}, \operatorname{dist}(v, u)<\delta_{i}$.
Proof: Let $p^{\prime}(v)=\left(p_{0}(v), p_{1}(v), \ldots, p_{i-1}(v)\right)$ be the respective path in the overlay tree from $v$ to $u$. From Observation 3.1, $\left|p_{j}(v)\right|<\mu_{j}=2^{j+2}$. Thus, $\left|p^{\prime}(v)\right|=$ $\sum_{j=0}^{i-1}\left|p_{j}(v)\right|<\sum_{j=0}^{i-1} 2^{j+2}<2^{i+2}=\delta_{i}$.
Lemma 3.3. $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right) \subseteq Z_{i}^{s}$.
Proof: Consider a node $v \in Z_{i}^{s}$, with $v \neq s$. Suppose that $v \in I_{j}$, where $j<i$. Let $\ell_{j+1}$ denote the parent of $v$. According to the parent selection criterion, $\ell_{j+1} \in I_{j+1} \cap N\left(v, 2^{j+2}-2\right)$ and $\ell_{j+1}$ is closest to s.

We first show that if $v \in N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$ then $\ell_{j+1} \in$ $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$. We only need to show that $B=I_{j+1} \cap$ $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right) \neq \emptyset$. Let $r_{v}$ denote the shortest path from $v$ to $s$. If $\left|r_{v}\right| \leq 2^{j+2}-2$ then $s \in B$, and $B \neq \emptyset$.

Suppose that $\left|r_{v}\right|>2^{j+2}-2$. Take a node $x \in r_{v}$ such that $\operatorname{dist}(x, v)=2^{j+1}-1$. Let $r_{x}$ denote the subpath of $r_{v}$ from $x$ to $s$. If we consider a neighborhood $N\left(x, 2^{j+1}-1\right)$, then, there is a node $y \in I_{j+1}$ such that $y \in N\left(x, 2^{j+1}-1\right)$ and $\operatorname{dist}(x, y) \leq 2^{j+1}-1$. Let $r_{y}$ denote the shortest path from $y$ to $s$. We have that $\left|r_{y}\right| \leq\left|r_{x}\right|+2^{j+1}-1=\left|r_{v}\right|$. Consequently, $y \in B$, and $B \neq \emptyset$.

We can easily see that if $v \in I_{i-1}$ and $v \in N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$, then the parent of $v$ is $s$, and thus $v \in Z_{i}^{s}$. Using an induction on $j=i-1, \ldots, 0$, we obtain that if $v \in I_{j}$ and $v \in N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$ then $v \in Z_{i}^{s}$. Consequently, when we consider $j=0$, we obtain that $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right) \subseteq Z_{i}^{s}$.

From Lemma 3.3, we obtain the following corollary:
Corollary 3.4. For any $u \in I_{i}, u \neq s, \operatorname{dist}\left(s, Z_{i}^{u}\right) \geq \phi_{i}$.
Let $X_{i}=\left(I_{i}, E_{X_{i}}\right)$, be a graph such that for any two $u, v \in I_{i},(u, v) \in E_{X_{i}}$ if and only if $\operatorname{dist}(u, v) \leq \xi_{i}$.

Lemma 3.5. Graph $X_{i}$ admits a vertex coloring with at most $\chi$ colors.

Proof: Let $v \in I_{i}$. The nodes adjacent to $v$ in $I_{i}$ is the set $Y=N\left(v, \xi_{i}\right) \cap I_{i}$. Since $I_{i}$ is a $2^{i}$-independent set, and $\xi_{i}=2 \delta_{i}+2 \phi_{i}=2^{i+3}+2^{i+1} \leq 2^{i+4}$, from Lemma 2.3, we obtain $|Y| \leq 2^{((i+4)-i+3) \rho}=2^{7 \rho}$. Consequently, graph $X_{i}$ has degree at most $2^{7 \rho}-1$, and by a greedy algorithm it can be colored with at most $\chi=2^{7 \rho}$ colors.

### 3.2 Competitive Analysis of Overlay Tree

Let $A \subseteq V$ denote an arbitrary set of source nodes. Let $C^{*}(A)$ denote the cost of the of the optimal path set from $A$ to $s$. Let $C(A)$ denote the cost of the paths given by the overlay tree $T$. We will bound the competitive ratio $C(A) / C^{*}(A)$.

The cost $C(A)$ can be bounded as a summation of costs from the different layers as follows. For any edge $e$ let $\varphi_{e, i}(A)=\left\{p_{i}(v):(v \in A) \wedge\left(e \in p_{i}(v)\right)\right\}$ be the set of layer- $i$ subpaths that use edge $e$. Recall that the fusion-cost function $f: \mathbb{Z}^{+} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{+}$is concave, nondecreasing and has the subadditive property $f\left(x_{1}+\right.$ $\left.x_{2}\right) \leq f\left(x_{1}\right)+f\left(x_{2}\right), \forall x_{1}, x_{2},\left(x_{1}+x_{2}\right) \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}$where $f(0)=0$. Denote by $C_{e, i}(A)=f\left(\left|\varphi_{e, i}(A)\right|\right) \cdot w_{e}$ the cost on the edge $e$ incurred by the level- $i$ subpaths. Since $f$ is subadditive, we get $C_{e}(A) \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-1} C_{e, i}(A)$. Let $C_{i}(A)=\sum_{e \in E} C_{e, i}(A)$ denote the cost incurred by the layer- $i$ subpaths. Since $C(A)=\sum_{e \in E} C_{e}(A)$, we have that:

$$
\begin{equation*}
C(A) \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-1} C_{i}(A) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let $A_{i}^{u}=A \cap Z_{i}^{u}$. We obtain the following lower bound on $C^{*}(A)$ :

Lemma 3.6. For any $\xi_{i}$-independent set $I^{\prime} \subseteq I_{i}, C^{*}(A) \geq$ $R\left(I^{\prime}\right)$, where $R\left(I^{\prime}\right)=\sum_{u \in I^{\prime} \backslash s} f\left(\left|A_{i}^{u}\right|\right) \cdot \phi_{i}$.

Proof: From Lemma 3.2, any node in $A_{i}^{u}$ is at distance at most $\delta_{i}-1$ from $u$. Since any pair $u, v \in I^{\prime} \backslash\{s\}$, $u \neq v$, are at least $\xi_{i}=2 \delta_{i}+2 \phi_{i}$ distance apart, any two nodes $x \in A_{i}^{u}$ and $y \in A_{i}^{v}$ are at least $2 \phi_{i}$ distance apart. From Corollary 3.4, $s \notin N\left(A_{i}^{u}, \phi_{i}-1\right)$. Let $Y\left(A_{i}^{u}\right)$ be the set of edges with one node in $N\left(A_{i}^{u}, \phi_{i}-1\right)$ and the other outside $N\left(A_{i}^{u}, \phi_{i}-1\right)$. The set $Y\left(A_{i}^{u}\right)$ forms a cut that has to be crossed by the paths in $A_{i}^{u}$ in order to reach $s$. The smallest cost for crossing the cut is when the paths of $A_{i}^{u}$ are combined through the fusion function $f$. Therefore, each path from $A_{i}^{u}$ requires length at least $\phi_{i}$ in order to reach $s$. Thus, we have that the optimal cost of sending the demands from $A_{i}^{u}$ to $s$ is at least $f\left(\left|A_{i}^{u}\right|\right) \cdot \phi_{i}$. Since for each $u \in I^{\prime} \backslash s$ the respective cuts are disjoint, we obtain: $C^{*}(A) \geq \sum_{u \in I^{\prime} \backslash s} f\left(\left|A_{i}^{u}\right|\right) \cdot \phi_{i}$.

Lemma 3.7. $C_{i}(A) \leq Q_{i}$ where $Q_{i}=$ $\sum_{u \in I_{i} \backslash\{s\}} f\left(\left|A_{i}^{u}\right|\right) \cdot \mu_{i}$.

Proof: Note that $\varphi_{e, i}(A)=\bigcup_{u \in I_{i}} \varphi_{e, i}\left(A_{i}^{u}\right)$. Since $f$ is subadditive, for any edge $e$,

$$
C_{e, i}(A)=f\left(\left|\varphi_{e, i}(A)\right|\right) \cdot w_{e} \leq \sum_{u \in I_{i}} f\left(\left|\varphi_{e, i}\left(A_{i}^{u}\right)\right|\right) \cdot w_{e}
$$

Since for $e \in p_{i}(u),\left|\varphi_{e, i}\left(A_{i}^{u}\right)\right|=\left|A_{i}^{u}\right|$, and for $e \notin p_{i}(u)$, $\left|\varphi_{e, i}\left(A_{i}^{u}\right)\right|=0$, using Observation 3.1 we obtain:

$$
\left.\left.C_{i}(A) \leq \sum_{u \in I_{i}} f\left(\mid A_{i}^{u}\right) \mid\right) \cdot\left|p_{i}(u)\right| \leq \sum_{u \in I_{i} \backslash\{s\}} f\left(\mid A_{i}^{u}\right) \mid\right) \cdot \mu_{i}
$$

Lemma 3.8. $C_{i}(A) \leq C^{*}(A) \cdot \chi \cdot \mu_{i} / \phi_{i}$.
Proof: From Lemma 3.5, graph $X_{i}$ accepts a vertex coloring with at most $\chi$ colors. Let $I_{i}^{j}$ denote the set of nodes of $X_{i}$ which receive color $j \in \Psi=\{1, \ldots, \chi\}$. Note that $I_{i}=\sum_{j \in \Psi} I_{i}^{j}$, and $I_{i}^{j} \cap I_{i}^{k}=\emptyset$ for any $j \neq k$. Let $Q_{i}^{j}=\sum_{u \in I_{i}^{j} \backslash\{s\}} f\left(\left|A_{i}^{u}\right|\right) \cdot \mu_{i}$. We have that $Q_{i}=$ $\sum_{j \in \Psi} Q_{i}^{j}$. Let $Q_{i}^{j^{*}}=\max _{j \in \Psi} Q_{i}^{j}$. Thus, $Q_{i} \leq|\Psi| \cdot Q_{i}^{j^{*}} \leq$ $\chi \cdot Q_{i}^{j^{*}}$. From Lemma 3.7, we have that $C_{i}(A) \leq Q_{i} \leq$ $\chi \cdot Q_{i}^{j^{*}}$. Further, from Lemma 3.6, $C^{*}(A) \geq R\left(I_{i}^{j^{*}}\right)=$ $Q_{i}^{j^{*}} \cdot \phi_{i} / \mu_{i}$. Consequently, $C_{i}(A) \leq C^{*}(A) \cdot \chi \cdot \mu_{i} / \phi_{i}$.

Since $A$ is chosen arbitrarily, the following theorem follows immediately from Equation 1 and Lemma 3.8:

Theorem 3.9 (Oblivious Competitive Ratio of Overlay Tree). The oblivious competitive ratio of the overlay tree $T$ is $C . R .(T) \leq \chi \cdot(1+\log D) \cdot \max _{i}\left\{\mu_{i} / \phi_{i}\right\}$.

From Theorem 3.9, we immediately obtain the following corollary when we replace the values of the parameters.

Corollary 3.10. The oblivious competitive ratio of the overlay tree $T$ is $C . R .(T)=O\left(2^{7 \rho} \cdot \log D\right)$.

## 4 Spanning Tree Construction

We start with an informal description of the construction of the spanning tree. We build the tree in
a hierarchical manner that has $\kappa=O(\log D)$ levels. A formal description appears in Algorithm 1. The terms and notations used here are the same as defined for the overlay tree construction.

```
Algorithm 1: Spanning Tree
    Input: Graph \(G\) with sink \(s\).
    Output: A spanning tree \(T_{s}\).
    \(P \leftarrow \emptyset ; I_{\kappa} \leftarrow\{s\} ; \quad / / \kappa \leftarrow\lceil\log D\rceil\)
    \(P^{r e g} \leftarrow \emptyset ; P^{p r} \leftarrow \emptyset ; / /\) List of regular and
    pruned paths
    foreach level \(i=\kappa-1\) to 0 do
        \(I_{i} \leftarrow M I S\left(G, I_{i+1}, 2^{i}\right) ;\)
        foreach \(v \in I_{i}\) do
                \(p_{i}(v) \leftarrow\) FindPath \((v, i)\);
                if \(p_{i}(v)\)
                intersects any path at level \(>i\) at point \(u\)
                then
                    // Prune path \(p_{i}(v)\) by removing
                    segment from \(u\) to \(\ell\)
                    \(p_{i}^{\prime}(v) \leftarrow\) path segment from \(v\) to \(u\);
                    \(P_{i}^{p r} \leftarrow P_{i}^{p r} \cup p_{i}^{\prime}(v)\);
                else
                    \(\mid P_{i}^{r e g} \leftarrow P_{i}^{r e g} \cup p_{i}(v) ;\)
            end
        end
    end
    \(P \leftarrow \bigcup_{i=0}^{i=\kappa-1} P_{i}^{r e g} \cup \bigcup_{i=0}^{i=\kappa-1} P_{i}^{p r} ;\)
    return \(T_{s}\); \(\quad / /\) Formed by paths in \(P\)
```

The construction of the hierarchical levels of independent nodes is top-down. $I_{i}$ is computed by $M I S\left(G, I_{i+1}, 2^{i}\right)$, for $0 \leq i \leq \kappa-1$. $I_{i}$ will contain all the $2^{j}$-independent nodes of higher levels $j, i<j \leq \kappa$ as well as a $2^{i}$-independent set of nodes. We enforce the constraint that $s \in I_{i}$ for every $I_{i}$. Note that each node $v \in I_{i} \backslash I_{i+1}$ has to be within distance $2^{i+2}-2$ to at least one node in $I_{i+1}$ (otherwise $v$ must be a member of $I_{i+1}$ ).

Paths are also constructed in a top-down fashion. The path from any level $i$, denoted $p_{i}(v)$, starts at some leader $v$ at level $i$ and ends at a leader at level $i+1$. The set of all paths at level $i$ is denoted as $P_{i}$ and the set of all paths of all levels is denoted by $P=\left\{P_{\kappa-1}, P_{\kappa-2}, \ldots, P_{2}, P_{1}, P_{0}\right\}$. The path computation is detailed in the function FindPath.

The main objective of FindPath function is to ensure that any node $u$ at level $i$ is in $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$ and that all the nodes in that neighborhood falls inside the subtree $Z_{i}^{s}$ rooted at $s$ at level $i$. The function FindPath enforces this condition by computing paths that have the following properties:

1) If there is a node $u$ at level $i \leq j+3$, a shortest path to $s$ is directly built.
2) If there is a node $u$ at level $i>j+3$ and is close to a fixed ring $r_{k}$, then, it finds a $(i+1)$-level leader
```
Function FindPath \((u, j)\)
    Input: Node \(u\) at level \(j\).
    Output: A path \(p_{j}(u)\), that connects \(u\) to
                \(\ell_{j+1} \in I_{j+1}\).
    Let \(r_{k}\) be fixed rings with radius \(2^{k}-1\) around \(s\),
    \(\forall k \leq \kappa\) and \(k>j+3\);
    if \(\operatorname{dist}(u, s) \leq 2^{j+3}-1\) then
        \(\ell_{j+1} \leftarrow s ;\)
        \(p_{j}(u) \leftarrow\) Shortest path from \(u\) to \(\ell_{j+1}\);
        return \(p_{j}(u)\);
    end
    Let \(r_{k}\) be the first fixed ring intercepted by the
    shortest path from \(u\) to \(s\);
    if \(\operatorname{dist}\left(u, r_{k}\right) \leq 2^{j+2}-2\) then
        Let \(y\) be the intersection point on the ring \(r_{k}\)
        with the shortest path from \(u\) to \(s\);
        \(/ / \operatorname{dist}(u, y) \leq 2^{j+2}-2\)
        Let \(q_{1}\) be a path segment from \(u\) to \(y\);
        Let \(x\) be a point on the shortest path from \(u\)
        to \(s\) and \(\operatorname{dist}(y, x)=2^{k-1}-1\);
        Let \(q_{2}\) be a path segment from \(y\) to \(x\);
        \(u^{\prime} \leftarrow v \in N\left(s, 2^{k}-1\right) \cap I_{j+1}\) and
        \(\operatorname{dist}(x, v) \leq 2^{k-1}-1\);
        Let \(q_{3}\) be a path segment from \(x\) to \(u^{\prime}\);
        \(p_{j}(u) \leftarrow q_{1}+q_{2}+q_{3}\);
        return \(p_{j}(u)\);
    end
    if \(\operatorname{dist}\left(u, r_{k}\right)>2^{j+2}-2\) then
        Let \(x\) be a point on the shortest path from \(u\)
        to \(s\) and \(\operatorname{dist}(u, x)=2^{k-1}-1\);
        Let \(q_{1}\) be a path segment from \(u\) to \(x\);
        \(u^{\prime} \leftarrow v \in N\left(s, 2^{k}-1\right) \cap I_{j+1}\) and
        \(\operatorname{dist}(x, v) \leq 2^{k-1}-1\);
        Let \(q_{2}\) be a path segment from \(x\) to \(u^{\prime}\);
        \(p_{j}(u) \leftarrow q_{1}+q_{2}\);
        return \(p_{j}(u)\);
    end
```

inside the $\left(2^{k}-1\right)$-ring. Once a leader is chosen, a special path $p_{i}(u)$ is built from $u$ to $\ell_{i+1}$. Path $p_{i}(u)$ is built such that for each node $v \neq u$ on $p_{i}(u), \operatorname{dist}(v, s) \leq \operatorname{dist}(u, s)$. The existence of such a leader $\ell_{i+1}$ is guaranteed.

The Function FindPath ensures that if path $p_{i}(u)$ crosses a fixed ring $r_{k}$, then, the path does not cross back and go outside $r_{k}$. In order to satisfy this property, FindPath guarantees to find a leader inside $r_{k}$. Hence, any path from a node that is inside $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$ stays within that neighborhood. This guarantees that $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right) \subseteq Z_{i}^{s}$. Details are in Lemma 6.3.

When paths for all levels are built, the resulting structure may not be a tree. It could result in a graph that might have intersecting paths. Define regular paths as paths that do not intersect any (higher-level) path on their way to their end-nodes. The paths of
$P_{\kappa-1}$, are regular paths, since there were no higherlevel paths to intersect and are included in $P_{\kappa-1}^{r e g}$.

Define pruned paths as those paths that intersect paths of higher level. If a path $p_{i}(v)$ intersects a path $p_{j}\left(v^{\prime}\right)(j>i)$ along its way to $\ell_{i+1}, p_{i}(v)$ is pruned from the intersection point to its destination. Such paths are included in $P_{i}^{p r}$. This pruning of intersecting paths ensures the structural property of a spanning tree (see Figure 1).

Note that regular paths of the same level could intersect and continue on different directions to reach a common leader. In this case, one of the paths is modified to use the same segment as the other after the intersection point. Another scenario is when two paths (say from $u$ and $v$ of level $i$ ) intersect at $m$ and proceed to their respective end nodes $x$ and $y$. In this case, either $v$ or $u$ will choose a common leader and appropriately modify its path. In both these scenarios, the resulting paths remain regular and avoids cycles when they overlap. Note that in both the cases, the path segments, after intersection, should have the same length. We have not mentioned this aspect in Algorithm 1.
The spanning tree algorithm executes in polynomial time with respect to the size of the graph.

## 5 Modified Tree Construction

The pruned paths in the spanning tree $T$ will not have leaders as end-nodes. To ensure that end-nodes of all paths are leaders, we modify $T$ to $\bar{T}$. The main goal is to merge pruned paths to form longer paths whose end nodes are leaders in some level. We then find 'pseudo-leaders' $\bar{I}_{i}$ among the intermediate nodes in the merged paths that serve as end nodes for these pruned paths.

We begin with an overview of the modified tree construction. We construct $\bar{T}$ from $T$ by assigning alternate leaders to those paths whose 'upper' sections have been pruned. We first begin by assigning levels to all the nodes of regular paths by AssignLevels function in AssignLevels and including those paths in $\bar{T}$. Then, we begin a top-down, level-by-level process where we 'modify' the pruned paths by extending the pruned paths to their newly assigned alternate leaders. Note that a modified path could be a concatenation of multiple pruned paths. Then, we assign levels to the nodes of the recently modified path as well and include this modified path in $\bar{T}$. The end of this process results in a modified tree $\bar{T}$. A more formal description appears in Algorithm 2 Modified Tree .

Define AssignLevels $\left(p_{i}(v), H, i\right)$, where $H$ is a pair of end-nodes of $p_{i}(v)$, to assign levels to all the nodes of $p_{i}(v)$ by identifying maximal independent nodes (excluding the end nodes of $p_{i}(v)$ ). This is given in more detail in the function AssignLevels. Levels are assigned in the range $(i-1)$ to 0 . A modified path
is connected to an alternate leader called pseudo-leader by the function ModifyPath $\left(p_{i}(u), p_{j}(v)\right)$ which chooses the nearest level- $(i+1)$ node on $p_{j}(v)$ from the intersection point. The existence of a pseudo-leader in any given path $p_{j}(v), j>i$, is justified by the Lemma 5.1.

```
Function AssignLevels \(\left(p_{i}(v), H, i\right)\)
    Input: Path \(p_{i}(v)\), set of end-nodes \(H\) of \(p_{i}(v)\),
            level \(i\).
    Output: Assignment of levels to all nodes in
                \(p_{i}(v)\).
    \(L_{\lambda} \leftarrow \phi ; / /\) Set of \(2^{\lambda}\)-independent nodes
    for \(\lambda \leftarrow(i-1)\) to 0 do
        // Find \(2^{\lambda}\)-independent nodes at
        levels \(\lambda=(i-1),(i-2), \ldots, 1,0\).
        \(L_{\lambda} \leftarrow \operatorname{MIS}\left(p_{i}(v), H, 2^{\lambda}\right)\);
        Assign level \(\lambda\) to nodes in \(L_{\lambda}\).
    end
```

```
Function ModifyPath \(\left(p_{i}(u), p_{j}(v)\right)\)
    Input: Paths \(p_{j}(v)\) and \(p_{i}(u)\) where \(p_{i}(u)\)
        intersects \(p_{j}(v)\) and \(j>i\)
    Output: A modified path \(\bar{p}_{i}(u)\).
    // Let \(p_{i}(u)\) start from \(u \notin p_{j}(v)\) and
        intersect at \(y \in p_{j}(v)\) along its
        path to its leader \(\ell_{i+1}\).
\(1 v^{\prime} \leftarrow\) Identify a level- \((i+1)\) node \(v^{\prime} \in p_{j}\) that is
    close to \(y\) and in the direction of \(s\);
\(2 p_{i}^{a}(u) \leftarrow\) subpath from \(u\) to \(y\) in \(p_{i}(u)\);
\(3 p_{i}^{b}(y) \leftarrow\) subpath from \(y\) to \(v^{\prime}\) in \(p_{j}(v)\);
\(4 \bar{p}_{i}(u) \leftarrow p_{i}^{a}(u)+p_{i}^{b}(y) ; / /\) Concatenate \(p_{i}^{a}(u)\)
    and \(p_{i}^{b}(y)\).
5 return \(\bar{p}_{i}(u)\);
```

Lemma 5.1 (Presence of a Pseudo-Leader). The ModifyPath $\left(p_{i}(u), p_{j}(v)\right)$ function guarantees selection of a $(i+1)$-level pseudo-leader.

Proof: Suppose path $p_{i}(u)$ intersects a higher-level path $p_{j}(v), i<j$. Let the start-node of $p_{i}$ be $u$ and let the end-node of $p_{j}(v)$ be $w$. Note that a path $p_{j}(v)$ goes from level $j$ to level $j+1$. There could be two cases for the presence of a pseudo-leader in $p_{j}(v)$. If level of $w$ is $i+1$, then, $w$ itself acts as a pseudo-leader for $u$. If level of $w$ is greater than $i+1$, then, $p_{j}(v)$ must have some nodes (within its end-nodes) that have been assigned to level $i+1$ (by the AssignLevels function). Hence, in either case, a pseudo-leader is guaranteed to be found in $p_{j}(v)$ for $u$.

Consider that we are at some level $i$ where $0 \leq i \leq$ $\kappa-1$ and suppose that there are several pruned paths in $P_{i}$. Let $p_{i}(u) \in P_{i}$ be one such path and let $y \in p_{j}(v)$ be the intersection point, where $j>i$. A pseudo-leader,

```
Algorithm 2: Modified Tree
    Input: Spanning Tree \(T\) rooted at \(s\).
    Output: A modified tree \(\bar{T}\).
    \(\bar{T} \leftarrow \phi ; \quad / / T=P=\left\{P_{\kappa-1}, P_{\kappa-2}, \ldots, P_{1}, P_{0}\right\}\)
    // Assign Levels to all nodes in all
        regular paths in \(T\).
    \(2 i \leftarrow \kappa-1\); // start from second level
    from top
    while \(i \geq 0\) do
        foreach \(p_{i}(v) \in P_{i}^{r e g}\) do
                // \(v\) and \(w\) are the start and end
                nodes of path \(p_{i}\)
                \(H \leftarrow\{v, w\} ; / / v\) is at same level
                as that of \(i\).
                AssignLevels \(\left(p_{i}(v), H, i\right)\);
                \(\bar{T} \leftarrow \bar{T} \cup p_{i}(v) ;\)
        end
        \(i \leftarrow i-1 ;\)
    end
    // Pruned paths in \(\bar{T}\) - Modify paths
        and assign levels.
    \(i \leftarrow \kappa-2\);
    while \(i>0\) do
        foreach \(p_{i}(u) \in P_{i}^{p r}\) do
            \(\bar{p}_{i}(u) \leftarrow \operatorname{ModifyPath}\left(p_{i}(u), p_{j}(v)\right) ;\)
            // \(p_{i}(u)\) intersects \(p_{j}(v), j>i\) and
            \(v^{\prime}\) be the elected pseudo-leader.
            \(p_{j}(v)\) may be a modified path
            itself.
            \(\bar{T} \leftarrow \bar{T} \cup \bar{p}_{i}(u) ;\)
            \(H \leftarrow\left\{u, v^{\prime}\right\} ; \quad / / u\) and \(v^{\prime}\) are the
            start and end nodes of \(\bar{p}_{i}(u)\).
            AssignLevels \(\left(\bar{p}_{i}(u), H, i\right)\);
        end
        \(i \leftarrow i-1 ;\)
    end
    return \(\bar{T}\);
```

$v^{\prime}$, is chosen on $p_{j}(v)$ using ModifyPath $\left(p_{i}(u), p_{j}(v)\right)$ in ModifyPath. This pseudo-leader is chosen in such a way that it is closer to both $s$ and $y$. Such a leader is always guaranteed to exist because the connection from a pruned path occurs to a modified path that has already elected new pseudo-leaders towards the direction of $s$. Note that this may alter $I_{j}$ to $\bar{I}_{j}$ by replacing the original leader by the pseudo-leader. The path $p_{i}(u)$ is extended from $y$ to $v^{\prime}$ and this new extended path, denoted by $\bar{p}_{i}(u)$, replaces $p_{i}(u)$ in the modified tree $\bar{T}$. The the upper bound on the length of $\bar{p}_{i}(u)$ is given by Lemma 6.1. Once a new path $\bar{p}_{i}(u)$ is established, all the nodes in it are assigned levels using (AssignLevels $\left(\bar{p}_{i}(u), H, i\right)$ ), where $H$ is the set of end-nodes of $\bar{p}_{i}(u)$ ). This procedure of modifying pruned paths, replacing the old pruned paths by new, extended, modified paths and assigning
levels to all nodes in those paths is repeated for all levels down to 0 . The resulting tree is a modified tree with normal leaders and pseudo-leaders for respective types of paths.

Figure 1 gives an example of intersecting path and its modification to reach a pseudo-leader and form a modified path. At level $\kappa-2$, we see there is a path from $u$ to $v$. The path from $b^{\prime}$ to $v^{\prime}$ intersects the former path at $x$. This path is pruned from the point of intersection $x$ till $v^{\prime}$ and a new connection is made from $x$ to $v$, resulting in a new path from $b^{\prime}$ to $v$.

## 6 Analysis of Modified Tree

We will analyze the performance of the modified tree $\bar{T}$. The analysis is similar to the analysis of the overlay tree in section 3 . We will focus on finding in $\bar{T}$ the respective values of the parameters $\mu_{i}, \delta_{i}, \phi_{i}, \xi_{i}$ and $\chi$ given in Section 3.1. With these values, we can immediately apply the results of section 3.2 to obtain a competitive ratio of $\bar{T}$.

The modified tree $\bar{T}$ naturally defines a hierarchical partition of $G$. This tree has $\kappa$ levels of pseudo-leaders $\bar{I}_{0}$ to $\bar{I}_{\kappa}=s$. For each node $u \in \bar{I}_{i}$, let $\bar{Z}_{i}^{u}$ denote all the leafs in $\bar{T}$ which appear in the subtree of $\bar{T}$ rooted at $u$ at level $i$. For our analysis, we will use the following parameters:
$\bar{\mu}_{i}=2^{i+3} / /$ upper bound on $\left|\bar{p}_{i}(u)\right|$
$\bar{\delta}_{i}=2^{i+3} / /$ upper bound on the radius of $\bar{Z}_{i}^{u}$
$\bar{\phi}_{i}=2^{i} / /$ lower bound on $\operatorname{dist}\left(s, \bar{Z}_{i}^{u}\right), u \neq s$
$\bar{\xi}_{i}=2 \bar{\delta}_{i}+2 \bar{\phi}_{i} / /$ coloring radius
$\bar{\chi}=2^{17 \rho} \log ^{2} D / /$ coloring of $\bar{I}_{i}$ with radius $\xi_{i}$
A path $\bar{p}_{i}^{j}(v)$ could be intersected by multiple lowerlevel paths. Even though the leaders at a level $i$ are sufficiently far off, due to intersection by other paths, the leader at level $i$ might be close to many leaders of lower level paths. However, the number of such leaders that are close is limited. Lemmas 6.5, 6.6 and 6.7 establishes the maximum number of pseudoleaders in a given neighborhood.
Lemma 6.1. $\left|\bar{p}_{i}(u)\right|<\bar{\mu}_{i}$.
Proof: Consider a path $p_{i}(u) \in T$ that starts at $u \notin p_{j}(v),(j>i)$, and intersects another path $p_{j}(v)$ at $y \in p_{j}(v)$. Since $p_{i}(u)$ is a pruned path, its length from $u$ to the intersection point $y$ is at most $2^{i+2}-3$ (if it was $2^{i+2}-2$ or more, point $y$ would have been its original leader). ModifyPath will attempt to seek an $(i+1)$-level node (pseudo-leader) on $p_{j}(v)$ that is close to $y$ and in the direction of $s$ (Lemma 5.1). Note that $y$ itself cannot be the pseudo-leader for $u$ because, if it was, then, $p_{i}(u)$ would not have been a pruned path. The distance from $y$ to a pseudo-leader $v^{\prime}$ on $p_{j}(v)$ would be at most $2^{i+2}-2$ because if this distance was more than $2^{i+2}-2$, we would have found another


Fig. 1: Pruning and Tree Modification.
pseudo-leader $v^{\prime \prime}$ that is $2^{i+1}$ distance away from $v^{\prime}$ and closer to $y$. This is due to the presence of $\left(2^{i+1}\right)$ independent set nodes on this path $p_{j}(v)$ computed by AssignLevels. Note that $y$ cannot be an end-node of $p_{j}(v)$ and $v^{\prime}$ could be one of the end-nodes of $p_{i}(v)$. Hence, the length of $\bar{p}_{i}(u)$, denoted by $\bar{\mu}_{i}$, could be at most $\left(2^{i+2}-3\right)+\left(2^{i+2}-2\right)<2^{i+3}$. Note that $p_{j}(v)$ itself could be a stretched pruned path and the upper bound holds irrespective of the length of $p_{j}(v)$.
Lemma 6.2. For any $v \in \bar{Z}_{i}^{u}, \operatorname{dist}(v, u)<\bar{\delta}_{i}$.
Proof: Consider a path $\bar{p}_{i}(v) \in \bar{Z}_{i}^{u}$. In the worst case, this path could be a concatenation of several modified paths, ranging from level 0 to $i-1$. The total length of $\bar{p}_{i}(v)$ would be equal to the sum of maximum lengths of each of those segments: $\sum_{j=0}^{i-1}\left(2^{i+2}\right)<$ $2^{i+3}$.
Lemma 6.3. $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right) \subseteq \bar{Z}_{i}^{s}$.
Proof: Consider a node $v \in N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right), v \neq s$. Suppose that $v \in \bar{I}_{j}$, where $j<i$. Let $\bar{\ell}_{j+1}$ denote the parent of $v$. This parent $\bar{\ell}_{j+1}$ could be a pseudo-leader on a modified path $\bar{p}_{j}(v)$.

We observe that all the nodes in $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$ use internal special paths to $s$ due to FindPath algorithm. This is because a path from a node $v$ to its leader is always towards $s$. A pseudo-leader $\bar{\ell}_{j+1}$ for a modified path can be found within $2\left(2^{i+2}-2\right)$ distance from $v$ such that $\bar{\ell}_{j+1}$ is within $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$ and closer to sink $s$, due to Lemma 6.1. Since the pseudo-leader of $v$ is found inside $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right), v \in \bar{Z}_{i}^{s}$. By induction on $j=i-1, \ldots, 0$, we obtain that if $v \in \bar{I}_{j}$ and $v \in N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right)$, then $v \in \bar{Z}_{i}^{s}$. Consequently, when we consider $j=0$, we obtain that $N\left(s, 2^{i}-1\right) \subseteq \bar{Z}_{i}^{s}$.

From Lemma 6.3, we obtain the following corollary:
Corollary 6.4. For any $u \in \bar{I}_{i}, u \neq s, \operatorname{dist}\left(s, \bar{Z}_{i}^{u}\right) \geq \bar{\phi}_{i}$.
Lemma 6.5 (Max path segments). The total number of path segments $p(v) \in T$ at level $i$ or higher that cross $N\left(x, 2^{i+5}\right)$ is at most $2^{10 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)$.
of a path $p_{i+j}(v) \in T$ is at most $2^{i+j}$ where $0 \leq j \leq$ ( $\kappa-i$ ) and that there is at most one leader $\ell_{i+j} \in \bar{I}_{i}$ within $N\left(x, \frac{2^{i+j}}{2}\right)$. Since we are looking at the number of path segments $p_{i+j}(v)$ that go through $N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$, where $r=i+5$, consider a large neighborhood $N\left(x,\left(2^{i+j}+2^{r}\right)\right)$ and determine the number of neighborhoods of radius $\frac{2^{i+j}}{2} ; N\left(x, \frac{2^{i+j}}{2}\right)$. If $r<(i+j)$, then, $\left(2^{i+j}+2^{r}\right)<2 \cdot 2^{i+j}$. From Lemma 2.3, the number of path segments at level $i$ or higher that cross $N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$ is at most $2^{\rho((i+j+1)-(i+j-1)+3)}=2^{5 \rho}$. If $r \geq(i+j)$, then, $\left(2^{i+j}+2^{r}\right)<2 \cdot 2^{r}=2^{r+1}$. From Lemma 2.3, the number of path segments at level $i$ or higher that cross $N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$ is at most $2^{\rho((r+1)-(i+j-1)+3)}=2^{\rho(r-i+5)}$. Since $r=i+5, \max \left(2^{4 \rho}, 2^{\rho(r-i+5)}\right)=\max \left(2^{4 \rho}, 2^{10 \rho}\right)=$ $2^{10 \rho}$. For all paths that span the levels from $i$ to $\kappa$, the total number of path segments that cross $N\left(x, 2^{i+j-1}\right)$ is equal to $2^{10 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)$.

Lemma 6.6 (Max modified paths in a path segment). Consider a path segment $p(v) \in T$ that crosses $N\left(x, 2^{i+5}\right)$. The total number of modified paths $\bar{p}(v) \in \bar{T}$ at level $i$ or higher that use nodes in $p(v) \cap N\left(x, 2^{i+5}\right)$ is at most $2^{7 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)$.

Proof: Let $Q=p(v) \cap N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$, where $r=i+5$. From Lemma 6.1, we know that the maximum length of any modified path $\bar{p}_{i+j}(v)$ would be $2^{i+j+3}$. To find the total number of modified paths $\bar{p}_{i+j}(v)$ that passes through $Q$, we consider a larger neighborhood $N\left(x, 2^{i+j+3}+2^{r}\right)$ and find the number of $N\left(y, 2^{\frac{i+j+3}{2}}\right)$ that would cover the larger neighborhood. Note that each $\bar{p}_{i+j}(v)$ has start node in $I_{i+j}$. If $r<(i+j+3)$, then, $\left(2^{i+j+3}+2^{r}\right)<2 \cdot 2^{i+j+3}=2^{i+j+4}$. By Lemma 2.3, the number of path segments at level $i$ or higher that cross $N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$ is at most $2^{\rho((i+j+4)-(i+j+2)+3)}=$ $2^{5 \rho}$. If $r \geq(i+j+3)$, then, $\left(2^{i+j+3}+2^{r}\right)<2$. $2^{r}=2^{r+1}$. From Lemma 2.3, the number of path segments at level $i$ or higher that cross $N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$ is at most $2^{\rho((r+1)-(i+j+2)+3)}=2^{\rho(r-i+2)}$. We consider $\max \left(2^{4 \rho}, 2^{\rho(r-i+2)}\right)=\max \left(2^{4 \rho}, 2^{7 \rho}\right)=2^{7 \rho}$ for our analysis. Since $j \in[0,(\kappa-i)]$, the total number of paths that would cross $N\left(x, 2^{i+j+2}\right)$ is equal to $2^{7 \rho} .(\kappa-i+1)$.

Lemma 6.7. The total number of pseudo-leaders at level $i$, which are inside $N\left(x, 2^{i+5}\right)$ is at most $2^{17 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)^{2}$.

Proof: From Lemma 6.5, there are $2^{10 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)$ path segments $p_{i+j}(v) \in T, j \geq 0$, crossing $N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$, where $r=i+5$. From Lemma 6.6, each such path segment can have multiple modified path segments at level $i$ or higher passing through it $\left(\leq 2^{7 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)\right)$, the total number of modified path segments that cross $N\left(x, 2^{r}\right)$ would be at most $2^{17 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)^{2}$. This gives also an upper bound to the number of pseudo-leaders at level $i$ or higher.

Let $\bar{X}_{i}=\left(\bar{I}_{i}, \bar{E}_{\bar{X}_{i}}\right)$, be a graph such that for any two $u, v \in \bar{I}_{i},(u, v) \in \bar{E}_{\bar{X}_{i}}$ if and only if $\operatorname{dist}(u, v) \leq \bar{\xi}_{i}$.
Lemma 6.8. Graph $\bar{X}_{i}$ admits a vertex coloring with at most $\bar{\chi}=2^{17 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)^{2}$ colors.

Proof: Let $v \in \bar{I}_{i}$. The nodes adjacent to $v$ in $\bar{I}_{i}$ is the set $Y_{-}=N\left(v, \bar{\xi}_{i}\right) \cap \bar{I}_{i}$. Since $\bar{I}_{i}$ is a $2^{i}$-independent set, and $\bar{\xi}_{i}=2 \bar{\delta}_{i}+2 \bar{\phi}_{i} \leq 2 \cdot 2^{i+3}+2 \cdot 2^{i}=2^{i+4}+2^{i+2} \leq$ $2^{i+5}$. From Lemma 6.7, we obtain $|Y| \leq 2^{17 \rho}$. $(\kappa-i+1)^{2}$.

Consequently, graph $\bar{X}_{i}$ has degree at most $\left[2^{17 \rho}\right.$. $\left.(\kappa-i+1)^{2}\right]-1$, and by a greedy algorithm it can be colored with at most $\bar{\chi}=2^{17 \rho} \cdot(\kappa-i+1)^{2} \leq 2^{17 \rho} \log ^{2} D$ colors.

Now, the remaining part of the analysis identical to that in Overlay Tree (3.2), where instead of the parameters $\mu_{i}, \delta_{i}, \phi_{i}, \xi_{i}$ and $\chi$, we use $\bar{\mu}_{i}, \bar{\delta}_{i}, \bar{\phi}_{i}, \bar{\xi}_{i}$ and $\bar{\chi}$. We derive the competitive ratio of the modified tree as below.

Theorem 6.9 (Oblivious Competitive Ratio of Modified Tree). The oblivious competitive ratio of the modified tree $\bar{T}$ is C.R. $(\bar{T}) \leq \bar{\chi} \cdot(1+\log D) \cdot \max _{i}\left\{\bar{\mu}_{i} / \bar{\xi}_{i}\right\}$.

From Theorem 6.9, we immediately obtain the following corollary when we replace the values of the parameters.
Corollary 6.10. The oblivious competitive ratio of the modified tree $\bar{T}$ is $C . R .(\bar{T})=O\left(2^{17 \rho} \log ^{3} D\right)$.

## 7 Lower Bound

We now present an overview of the technique used for computing the lower-bound. The lower-bound given by Imase and Waxman in [35] doesn't work in our case. Their technique works for non-low-doublingdimension planar graphs. Therefore, we give a new lower-bound for the spanning tree construction for low doubling-dimension graphs.

For our study, we consider a special class of planar graphs commonly called grid graphs or lattice graphs. A grid graph $G$ is an Euclidean $n \times n$ graph for some positive integer $n$ where the nodes are situated at each of the $n^{2}$ grid points. Any two vertices are connected by an edge if and only if their Euclidean distance is one unit and a node has at most 4 neighbors. For example, see figure 4 .

Let there be an arbitrary tree $T$ that spans the grid vertices. Assume that the root $r$ of the tree $T$ is one of the corners of the grid. We compare the cost of a path from a set of grid vertices to the root $r$ to the cost of the tree path of those vertices.

We show that there exists a vertical (or horizontal) line in the grid that contains pairs of nodes whose distances in $T$ sum to $\theta(n \log n)$, whereas, the shortest path along the grid vertices would be $\Omega(n)$.

Define a $U^{x}$-Path as a path between any two adjacent nodes in an $n \times n$ grid. Define a reference node to a $U^{x}$-Path as one of its end nodes. All the distances in any $U^{x}$-Path will be measured from its respective reference node.

A $U^{x}$-Path could extend at least $x / 2-1$ distance from its reference node. A $U^{x}$-Path has the following properties:

1) The total length of the path is at least $x-1$.
2) The $U^{x}$-Path has a node that is $x / 2$ away from its reference node. In other words, the path will intersect a node in its $x / 2$-radius from one of its end nodes. Informally, we call it 'width'.
Consider any two adjacent nodes $u$ and $v$ (with respect to $G$ ) that forms a $U^{x}$-Path. Let $u$ be its reference node. Let there be a node $p \in U^{x}$-Path such that $\operatorname{dist}(u, p) \geq x / 2-1$. If the vertical distance of node $p$ from $u$ is greater than or equal to the horizontal distance of it from $u$, then, we say that the $U^{x}$-Path is vertical. Otherwise, it is horizontal. We shall refer to such paths as V-Paths and H-Paths respectively.

Lemma 7.1. In a $x \times x$ subgrid of $G$, there is at least one $U^{x}$-Path in $T$ with its end-nodes in the perimeter of the subgrid.

Proof: For contradiction, let us suppose that all the pairs of nodes in the subgrid have a $U^{x}$-Path of length at most $x-1$. This formation will lead to two observations. The center (a square of unit length) of the subgrid will not be reached by any of the paths. This will result in a cycle. This leads to a contradiction. Hence, there must be at least one $U^{x}$-Path that is longer that $x-1$.

Define an $x$-class to be a decomposition of $G$ into $x \times x$ subgrids where two adjacent subgrids share a common edge. The number of such subgrids would be $n^{2} / x^{2}$. There will be $\log n$ classes of such subgrids based on the value of $x,(=n, n / 2, n / 4, \ldots, 1)$.

Let $U^{x / 2}$-Core be a $x / 2 \times x / 2$ subgrid centered within an $x \times x$ subgrid of $G$ as given in Figure 2. We observe that the $U^{x / 2}$-Paths from adjacent node pairs along the perimeter of the $U^{x / 2}$-Core would extend either internally or externally to a maximum distance (width) of $x / 4$. The minimum distance they would extend will be $x / 8$.

Each $x \times x$ subgrid will have either a H-Path or a V-Path in it, as shown in Fig 3. This identifies the 'type' of that subgrid (namely H-Type or V-Type). Consider a certain $x$-class decomposition of $G$. There


Fig. 2: $U^{x / 2}$-Paths originating from a $x / 2 \times x / 2$ subgrid centered in a $x \times x$ subgrid of $G$.
will be a mix of H -Type and V-Type subgrids totaling $n^{2} / x^{2}$ subgrids that constitutes this decomposition. If the number of H-Type subgrids is larger $\left(>n^{2} / 2 x^{2}\right)$ than the number of V-Type subgrids, then, we say that the $x$-class decomposition is of type H. Otherwise, it is of type V. Therefore, out of the $\log n$ classes of decomposition of $G$, some of them will be "H-Type" and some will be "V-Type". Without loss of generality, assume that the majority is of H-Type.

Consider a H-Type $x$-class of $G$. Define $x$-width column as one of the columns in $G$ where $G$ is divided into several columns of width $x$. Consider a vertical line $\ell \in G$ of length $n$. This line will span $n / x$ subgrids. Those $n / x$ subgrids will possibly be a mixture of H-Type and V-Type subgrids. Observe that $\ell$ will intersect zero or more ( $\leq n / x$ ) H-Paths present in those subgrids. We say that $\ell$ is a 'good vertical line' for the $x$-class $\left(\mathrm{GVL}_{x}\right)$ if it intersects a constant $(n / 2 x)$ number of H-Paths at a position less than or equal to $3 / 4^{t h}$ of the 'width' of those H-Paths measured from their respective end-nodes. The constraint associated with the intersection point on the H-Path is to ensure that the length of the U-Path from the intersection points still remains significantly long.

Lemma 7.2 gives the total number of GVLs in $G$. We choose the one that intersects the largest number of H-Paths ( $c_{1}$ is the largest among all) and refer to that line as $G V L_{x}^{*}$. For each of the $\log n$ classes of subgrids, there will be a respective $G V L_{x}^{*}$ (or a $G H L_{x}^{*}$ if the class is a V-Type).

Lemma 7.2. The total number of GVLs in an $x$-class of $G$ is $3 n / 128$.

Proof: Consider a H-Type $x$-class decomposition of $G$. The 'width' of any H-Path in a subgrid is at least $x / 8$. Hence, the number of vertical lines that


Fig. 3: An example of a GVL in a grid where each $x \times x$ subgrid has either an H-Path or a V-Path.
can intersect such a H-Path is $x / 8$. But a GVL would intersect only within $3 / 4^{t h}$ of the width of any H-Path. On an average, in an $x$-width column, there will be $\frac{n}{2 x}$ H-paths. And, by pigeonhole principle, on an average, at least half of the columns in $G$ will have average number of H-Paths. Therefore, the total number of GVLs in $G$ for $x$-class will be $\frac{n}{2 x} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x}{8} \cdot \frac{3}{4}=\frac{3 n}{128}$.

A GVL for a class $n / 2^{k}$ will have $2^{k}$ such pairs of vertices. Each pair of these vertices forms a HPath of length $\theta\left(n / 2^{k}\right)$. Now, we shift our focus to finding one GVL for all the $\log n$ classes. To find such a line, we first find GVLs for all the individual classes $n, n / 2, n / 4, \ldots, 1$. We form an overlay of all such GVLs and find the one that overlaps all the classes. Such a GVL would be the line that would have pairs of nodes that has $U$-paths of all the different lengths, and each path would contribute a length of $n$.
Lemma 7.3. There is a GVL (denoted by GVL*) that is common to a constant fraction of the total number of horizontal classes.

Proof: The number of classes that are of type H is at least $\frac{\log n}{2}$. The number of GVLs in all the $\frac{\log n}{2}$ classes will be $\frac{3 n}{128} \frac{\log n}{2}=\frac{3 n \log n}{256}$. Therefore, the number of $G V L^{*}$ s that overlaps a constant number of these classes would be $\frac{\frac{3 n \log n}{256}}{n}=\frac{3 \log n}{256}$. This proves the existence of at least one $G V L^{*}$.

Now, we are ready to present the central theorem of this section.

Theorem 7.4. There exists a set $S$ of nodes in $G$ such that (i) $S$ constitutes $\theta(n)$ nodes (ii) Optimal tree $T^{*}$ for $S$ has cost $O(n)$ and (iii) The induced subtree $T(S)$ has $\Omega(n \log n)$ cost.

Proof: From Lemma 7.3, we observe that GVL* crosses H-Paths that belong to different (a constant number of) $x$-classes. For an arbitrary class $x_{i}$, it will


Fig. 4: Paths in an $n \times n$ grid.
have $\theta\left(n / x_{i}\right)$ paths of length $\theta\left(n / x_{i}\right)$. An example of this scenario can be seen in Fig 4. Since there will be a constant number of classes ( $\geq \log n / 2$ ) that belong to H-Type, the total cost of the induced paths will be $x_{i}\left(n / x_{i}\right)+x_{j}\left(n / x_{j}\right)+\ldots=\theta(n \log n)$. Hence, the least cost along the tree path would be $\Omega(n \log n)$.
Note that there will be overlaps in the H-Paths from different classes. An H-Path from an $x_{i}$-class can contain an H-Path from an $x_{j}$-class where $x_{i}>x_{j}$. The overlaps can go further such that an H-Path from an $x_{i}$-class can contain one or more H-Paths from classes that are smaller that $x_{i}$. In effect, the number of overlaps will halve the number of H -paths of smaller classes and hence the effective path length is half of its contribution.
From Lemma 7.4, we obtain the following corollary:
Corollary 7.5. In any $n \times n$ grid, any spanning tree $T$ will have C.R. $(T)=\Omega(\log n)$.

## 8 Simulation Results

We simulated our algorithm, denoted by Oblivious Spanning Tree (OST) and compared its performance (fusion-cost) with GRID_GIST [30] and other common trees such as MST (Minimum Spanning Tree) and SPT (Shortest-Paths Tree). We used an $n \times n$ grid topology for our simulation using NetworkX [17]. $n \times n$ grids are a special case of doubling-dimension graphs and they fall under a variation of the Steiner tree problem called "Rectilinear Steiner Problem" (RSP) where the tree structure has only vertical and horizontal lines that interconnect all points and is proved to be NPComplete [38]. Since calculating a minimum weight tree structure in an $n \times n$ grid topology (a doublingdimension graph) is essentially an RSP, the problem we are addressing is NP-Hard.
We build a single spanning tree in a grid with $n^{2}=1600$ nodes. We simulate it for random sets of data sources, up to 1445 , that are randomly placed.


Fig. 5: fusion-cost for varying set of source nodes in a 1600 -node grid.

The random data sets (of known size) are generated using Python's random sampling method without replacement from the given population. Note that GRID_GIST is a special algorithm designed for grids and ours is a generalized algorithm. Hence, GRID_GIST performs slightly better than OST (in Fig 5).

## 9 Conclusions and Future Work

We provide a spanning tree algorithm for a variant of the single-sink buy-at-bulk network design problem in low constant doubling-dimension graphs. Contrary to many related work where the sourcedestination pairs were already given, or when the source-set was given, we assumed the obliviousness of the set of source nodes. Moreover, we considered an unknown fusion-cost function at every edge of the tree. We presented nontrivial upper and lower bounds for the cost of the set of paths in the spanning tree. We have demonstrated that a simple, deterministic, polynomial-time algorithm based on appropriately defined distance-based independent sets can provide single spanning tree for data fusion. We have shown that this algorithm guarantees $\left(\log ^{3} D\right)$ approximation. As part of our future work, we are looking into the same problem on planar graphs, arbitrary graphs and also the general buy-at-bulk network design problem.

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    An earlier version of our work with preliminary results in the context of data aggregation in graphs of low doubling-dimension appeared as a brief announcement in [1].

