# Reconfiguration of plane trees in convex geometric graphs 

Nicolas Bousquet Lucas De Meyer Théo Pierron Alexandra Wesolek

Team GOAL, LIRIS, Université de Lyon 1

November 23, 2023

## Reconfiguration

## Two solutions $A$ and $B$ of a problem $P$.

## Start

## Target

$A$

## Reconfiguration

Two solutions $A$ and $B$ of a problem $P$. Can we transform $A$ into $B$ ?


## Reconfiguration

Two solutions $A$ and $B$ of a problem $P$.
Can we transform $A$ into $B$ via a sequence of elementary steps while keeping solutions of $P$ all along?


## Reconfiguration

Two solutions $A$ and $B$ of a problem $P$.
Can we transform $A$ into $B$ via a sequence of elementary steps while keeping solutions of $P$ all along?
If yes, how many steps do we need?


## Reconfiguration

Two solutions $A$ and $B$ of a problem $P$.
Can we transform $A$ into $B$ via a sequence of elementary steps while keeping solutions of $P$ all along?
If yes, how many steps do we need?


## Reconfiguration

Two solutions $A$ and $B$ of a problem $P$.
Can we transform $A$ into $B$ via a sequence of elementary steps while keeping solutions of $P$ all along?
If yes, how many steps do we need?
Start Solutions of $P \quad$ Target
$A \rightarrow A_{1} \rightarrow A_{2} \rightarrow \cdots \cdots \cdots \rightarrow A_{k} \rightarrow B$


## Spanning trees

- Solutions: Two spanning trees on a set of $n$ points



## Spanning trees

- Solutions: Two spanning trees on a set of $n$ points
- Elem. step: Flip (remove an edge, then add another one)



## Spanning trees

- Solutions: Two spanning trees on a set of $n$ points
- Elem. step: Flip (remove an edge, then add another one)



## Spanning trees

- Solutions: Two spanning trees on a set of $n$ points
- Elem. step: Flip (remove an edge, then add another one)



## Spanning trees

- Solutions: Two spanning trees on a set of $n$ points
- Elem. step: Flip (remove an edge, then add another one)



## Reconfiguration of spanning trees


$T_{2}$


## Reconfiguration of spanning trees



## Reconfiguration of spanning trees


$T_{2}$


## Reconfiguration of spanning trees



## Reconfiguration of spanning trees



## Theorem (folklore)

A minimal transformation from a spanning tree $T_{1}$ to another spanning tree $T_{2}$ uses exactly $d\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)$ flips.

## Symmetric difference

## Definitions

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left(T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right) \cup\left(T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right) \\
d\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left|\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)\right| / 2=\left|T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right|=\left|T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right|
\end{gathered}
$$

## Symmetric difference

## Definitions

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left(T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right) \cup\left(T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right) \\
d\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left|\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)\right| / 2=\left|T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right|=\left|T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right|
\end{gathered}
$$


$T_{2}$


## Symmetric difference

## Definitions

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left(T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right) \cup\left(T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right) \\
d\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left|\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)\right| / 2=\left|T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right|=\left|T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right|<\mathrm{n}
\end{gathered}
$$



## Symmetric difference

## Definitions

$$
\begin{gathered}
\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left(T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right) \cup\left(T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right) \\
d\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)=\left|\Delta\left(T_{1}, T_{2}\right)\right| / 2=\left|T_{1} \backslash T_{2}\right|=\left|T_{2} \backslash T_{1}\right|<\mathrm{n}
\end{gathered}
$$



- $d=$ half of the size of the symmetric difference.


## Non-crossing spanning tree on a convex set

- Solutions: Two
spanning trees on a set of $n$ points



## Non-crossing spanning tree on a convex set

- Solutions: Two non-crossing spanning trees on a set of $n$ points



## Non-crossing spanning tree on a convex set

- Solutions: Two non-crossing spanning trees on a set of $n$ points in convex position



## Non-crossing spanning tree on a convex set

- Solutions: Two non-crossing spanning trees on a set of $n$ points in convex position
- Elem. step: Flip



## Non-crossing spanning tree on a convex set

- Solutions: Two non-crossing spanning trees on a set of $n$ points in convex position
- Elem. step: Flip


Tree $=$ non-crossing spanning tree on a convex set.

## Reconfiguration of n.-c. spanning trees on convex set



## Reconfiguration of n.-c. spanning trees on convex set




## Reconfiguration of $n$.-c. spanning trees on convex set

## Avis and Fukuda ('96)

For every pair of non-crossing spanning trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there exists a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using flips.

$T_{2}$


## Reconfiguration of $n$.-c. spanning trees on convex set

## Avis and Fukuda ('96)

For every pair of non-crossing spanning trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there exists a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using flips.

$T_{2}$


## Reconfiguration of $n$.-c. spanning trees on convex set

## Avis and Fukuda ('96)

For every pair of non-crossing spanning trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there exists a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using flips.

$T_{2}$


## Reconfiguration of $n$.-c. spanning trees on convex set

## Avis and Fukuda ('96)

For every pair of non-crossing spanning trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there exists a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using flips.

$T_{2}$


## Reconfiguration of $n$.-c. spanning trees on convex set

## Avis and Fukuda ('96)

For every pair of non-crossing spanning trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there exists a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using flips.

$T_{2}$


## Reconfiguration of $n$.-c. spanning trees on convex set

## Avis and Fukuda ('96)

For every pair of non-crossing spanning trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there exists a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using flips.


How many flips are needed in the worst case?

## Reconfiguration of $n$.-c. spanning trees on convex set

## Avis and Fukuda ('96)

For every pair of non-crossing spanning trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there exists a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $2 n-4$ flips.


How many flips are needed in the worst case?

## Existing results

How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).


## Existing results

How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).
- $2 d-\Omega(\log d)$ flips (Aichholzer et al., 2022+).


## Existing results

How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).
- $2 d-\Omega(\log d)$ flips (Aichholzer et al., 2022+).
- $2 n-\Omega(\sqrt{n})$ flips (Bousquet et al., 2023).


## Existing results

How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).
- $2 d-\Omega(\log d)$ flips (Aichholzer et al., 2022+).
- $2 n-\Omega(\sqrt{n})$ flips (Bousquet et al., 2023).
- Lower Bound:


## Existing results

How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).
- $2 d-\Omega(\log d)$ flips (Aichholzer et al., 2022+).
- $2 n-\Omega(\sqrt{n})$ flips (Bousquet et al., 2023).
- Lower Bound:
- $\frac{3}{2} n-5$ flips (Hernando et al., 1999).


## Existing results

## How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).
- $2 d-\Omega(\log d)$ flips (Aichholzer et al., 2022+).
- $2 n-\Omega(\sqrt{n})$ flips (Bousquet et al., 2023).
- Lower Bound:
- $\frac{3}{2} n-5$ flips (Hernando et al., 1999).


## Conjecture

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{3}{2} n$ flips.

## Existing results

## How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).
- $2 d-\Omega(\log d)$ flips (Aichholzer et al., 2022+).
- $2 n-\Omega(\sqrt{n})$ flips (Bousquet et al., 2023).
- $\approx 1.95 d$ flips.
- Lower Bound:
- $\frac{3}{2} n-5$ flips (Hernando et al., 1999).


## Conjecture

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{3}{2} n$ flips.

## Existing results

## How many flips are needed in the worst case?

- Upper Bound:
- $2 n-4$ flips (Avis and Fukuda, 1996).
- $2 d-\Omega(\log d)$ flips (Aichholzer et al., 2022+).
- $2 n-\Omega(\sqrt{n})$ flips (Bousquet et al., 2023).
- $\approx 1.95 d$ flips.
- Lower Bound:
- $\frac{3}{2} n-5$ flips (Hernando et al., 1999).
- $\frac{5}{3} d$ flips.


## Conjecture

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{3}{2} n$ flips.

## Result on upper bound

Theorem (Bousquet, dM, Pierron, Wesolek)
For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $c \cdot d$ flips with:

$$
c=\frac{1}{12}(22+\sqrt{2}) \approx 1.95
$$

## Result on upper bound

## Theorem (Bousquet, dM, Pierron, Wesolek)

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $c \cdot d$ flips with:

$$
c=\frac{1}{12}(22+\sqrt{2}) \approx 1.95
$$

$\Longrightarrow$ there is always a transformation using at most $c \cdot n$ flips.

## Very good side

Side (of a non-border edge) : one subset of the convex set when cutting along the edge, endpoints included.


## Very good side

Side (of a non-border edge) : one subset of the convex set when cutting along the edge, endpoints included.


## Very good side

Side (of a non-border edge) : one subset of the convex set when cutting along the edge, endpoints included.


## Very good side

Side (of a non-border edge) : one subset of the convex set when cutting along the edge, endpoints included.


## Proof sketch

| Existing side with <br> weaker properties |
| :--- |



## Proof sketch



## Proof sketch



## Proof sketch



## End of proof



## End of proof



## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case ?

## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case ?

$$
\text { number of flips } \leq c \cdot d \approx 1.95 d
$$

## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case ?

$$
\frac{5}{3} d \leq \text { number of flips } \leq c \cdot d \approx 1.95 d
$$

## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case?

$$
\frac{5}{3} d \leq \text { number of flips } \leq c \cdot d \approx 1.95 d
$$

Conjecture with symmetric difference
For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{5}{3} d$ flips.

## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case ?

$$
\frac{5}{3} d \leq \text { number of flips } \leq c \cdot d \approx 1.95 d
$$

## Conjecture with symmetric difference

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{5}{3} d$ flips.

## Conjecture with number of points

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{3}{2} n$ flips.

## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case ?

$$
\frac{5}{3} d \leq \text { number of flips } \leq c \cdot d \approx 1.95 d
$$

## Conjecture with symmetric difference

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{5}{3} d$ flips.

## Conjecture with number of points

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{3}{2} n$ flips.

Other models of elementary steps:

- Non-crossing flips: number of n-c flips $\leq 2 d$


## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case ?

$$
\frac{5}{3} d \leq \text { number of flips } \leq c \cdot d \approx 1.95 d
$$

## Conjecture with symmetric difference

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{5}{3} d$ flips.

## Conjecture with number of points

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{3}{2} n$ flips.

Other models of elementary steps:

- Non-crossing flips: $2 d \leq$ number of $n-c$ flips $\leq 2 d$


## Conclusion

How many flips are needed in the worst case ?

$$
\frac{5}{3} d \leq \text { number of flips } \leq c \cdot d \approx 1.95 d
$$

## Conjecture with symmetric difference

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{5}{3} d$ flips.

## Conjecture with number of points

For every pair of trees $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$, there is a transformation from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ using at most $\frac{3}{2} n$ flips.

Other models of elementary steps:

- Non-crossing flips: $2 d \leq$ number of $n-c$ flips $\leq 2 d$
- Rotations: $\frac{7}{3} d \leq$ number of rotations $\leq 3 d$


# Thanks for your attention 

## END

## Result 2 : lower bound

$\frac{3}{2} n-5$ (Hernando et al.).

## Theorem (Bousquet, dM, Pierron, Wesolek)

For every $k=0 \bmod 3$, there exists a pair of trees $T_{k}, T_{k}^{\prime}$ such that $d\left(T_{k}, T_{k}^{\prime}\right)=k$ and whose minimal transformation contains exactly $\frac{5}{3} k$ flips.


