

# NEW SUBLINEAR ALGORITHMS AND LOWER BOUNDS FOR LIS ESTIMATION

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University of Haifa



# Talk outline

- LIS, distance to sortedness, and a brief history of LIS estimation

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- Overview of our results
- Overview of techniques in the design of our nonadaptive LIS estimation algorithm
- Conclusions and open problems

# Longest Increasing Subsequence (LIS)

2   4   1   6   -100   -20   -80   0   1   10   12

- LIS = Longest nondecreasing sequence of array values
- Determining length of LIS: a fundamental problem

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Today: Sublinear-Time Approximation  
Algorithms for LIS



# LIS length and distance to sortedness

- Distance of array to sortedness (monotonicity) = Minimum number of values to be removed to get a sorted subsequence

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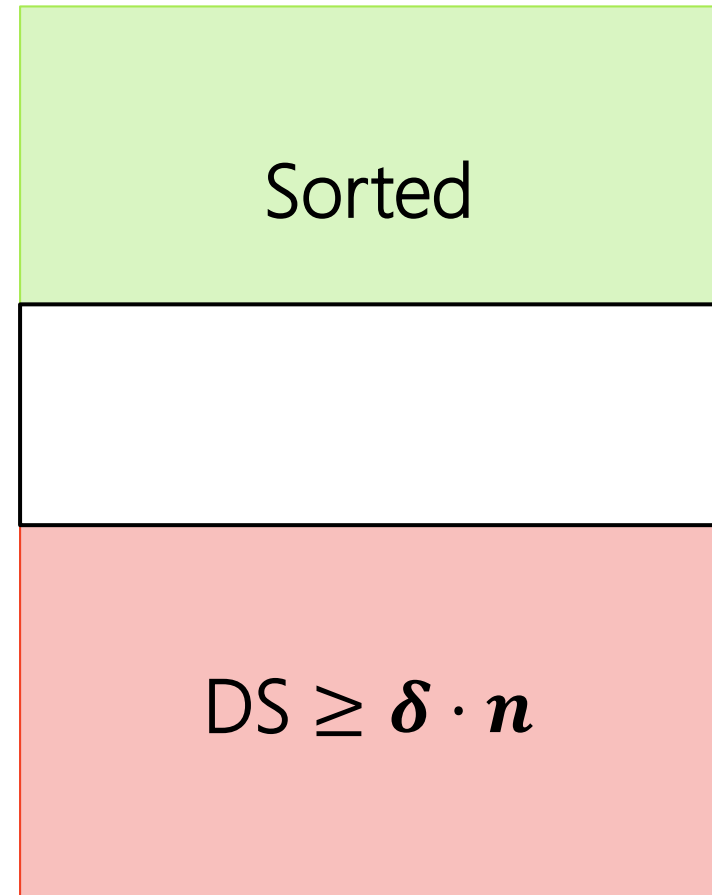
- Distance to sortedness (DS) + LIS length = Array length

$$DS + LIS = n$$

# Testing sortedness

- Decision problem in the property testing model  
[RubinfeldSudan96,  
GoldreichGoldwasserRon98]

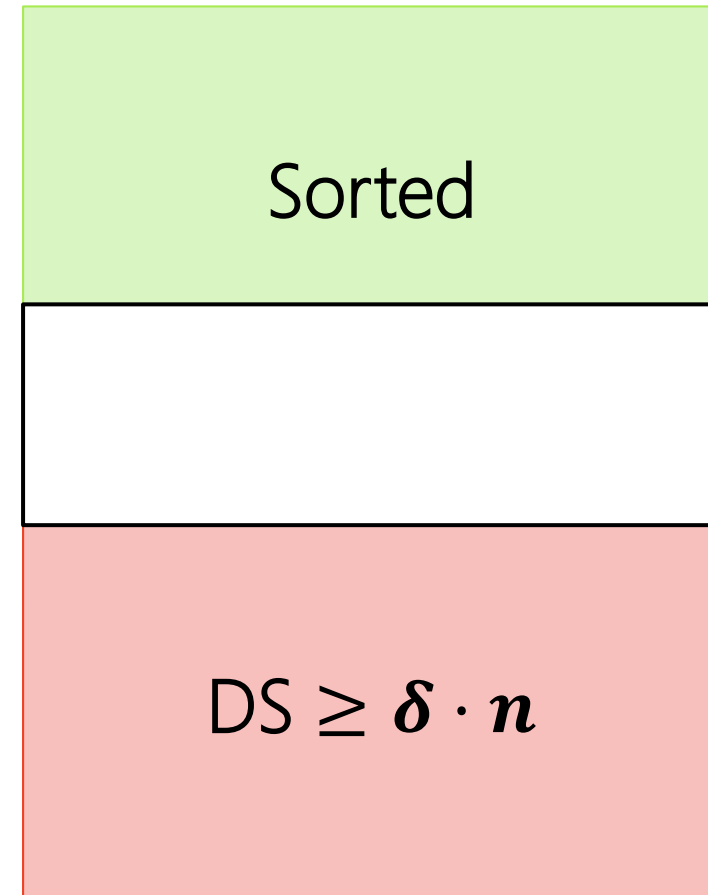
Universe of arrays



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[RubinfeldSudan96, GoldreichGoldwasserRon98]
- Studied by [Ergun Kannan Kumar Rubinfeld Vishvanathan00, Fischer04, Bhattacharya Grigorescu Jung Raskhodnikova Woodruff12, Chakrabarty Seshadhri13, Pallavoor Raskhodnikova Varma 18, Belovs18,..].

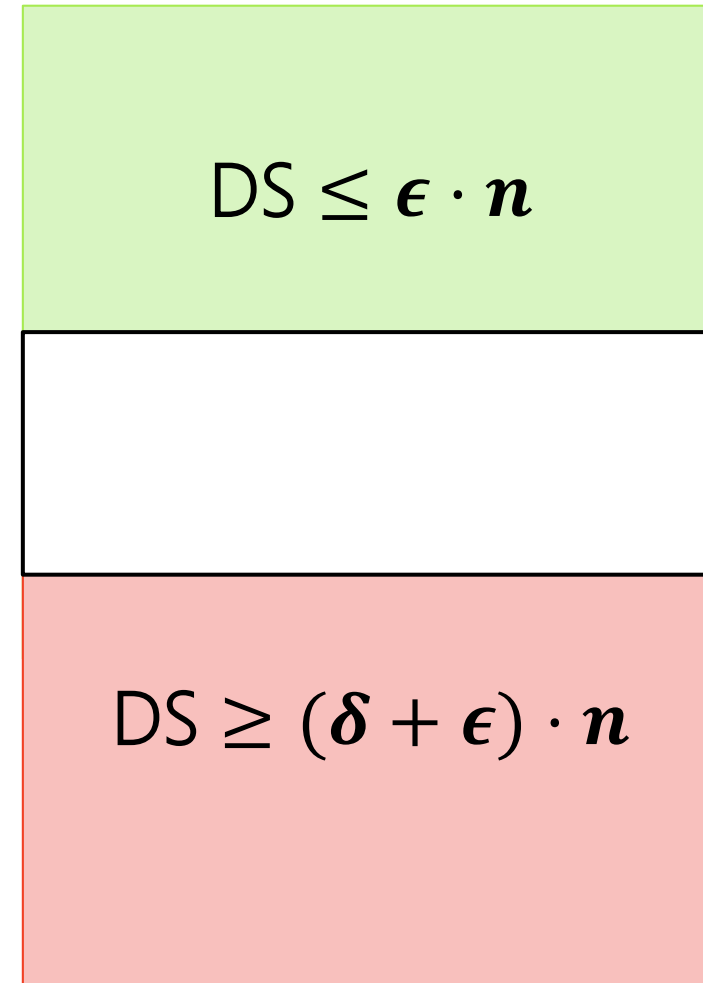
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# Tolerant testing sortedness

- Decision problem in the tolerant property testing model [Parnas Ron Rubinfeld 06]

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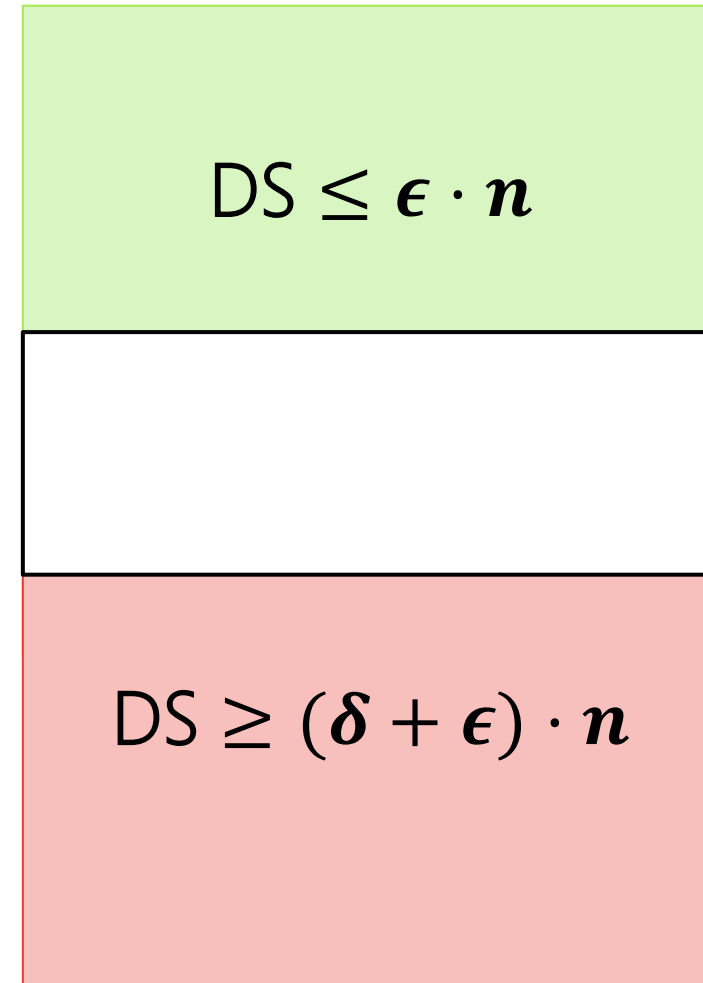


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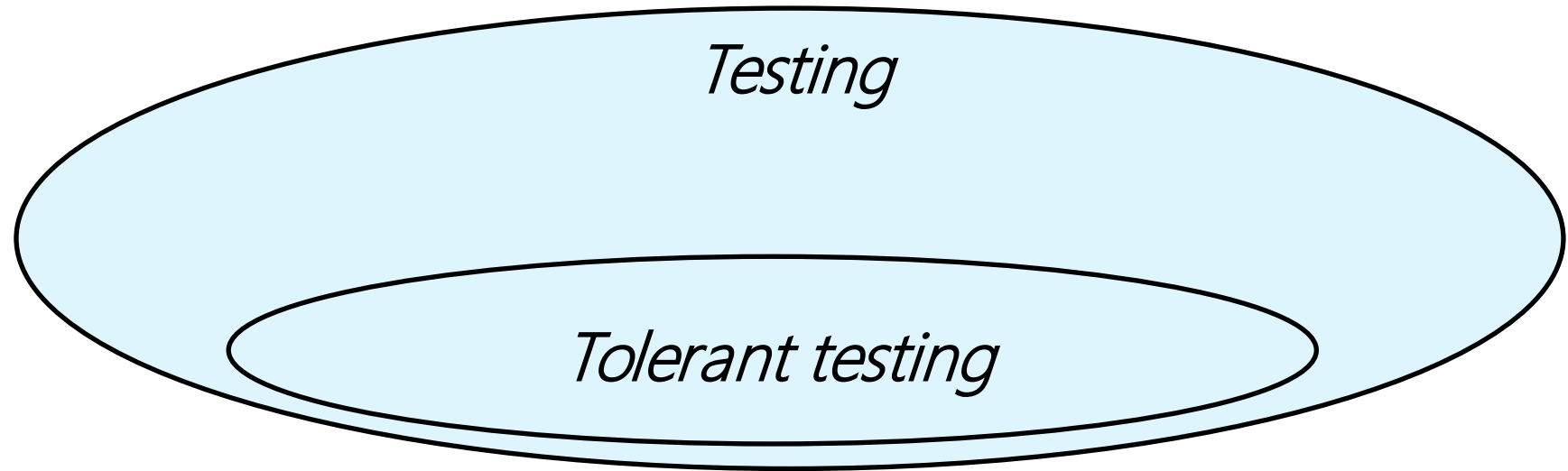
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Can solve this if one can estimate DS or LIS to within  $\pm(\delta/2)n$

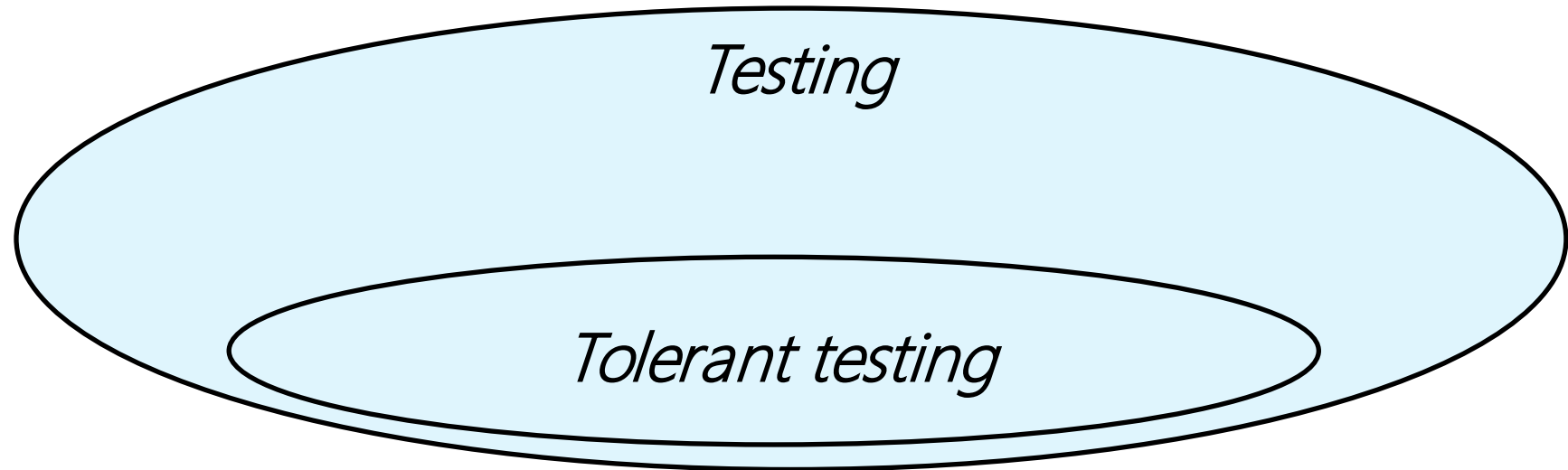
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# Relationship between models



# Relationship between models



Lower bound on query complexity of testing is a lower bound on query complexity of additive error LIS estimation



# LIS estimation algorithms

$\pm n/2$  approximation  $\log^{O(1)} n$   
queries

[ParnasRonRubinfeld06,  
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$\pm \delta n$   
approximation  
for  $\delta \in (0,1)$   $\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\right)^{O\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\right)} \cdot \log^{O(1)} n$   
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[SaksSeshadhri17]

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Meaningful only  
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[SaksSeshadhri17]

- Algorithms are **adaptive**
- Query complexity not sublinear as soon as  $\delta \leq 1/\log n$

# LIS estimation algorithms

Let  $\lambda$  denote LIS/ $n$

---

$\Omega(\lambda^3)$  multiplicative  
approximation

$\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n} \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\lambda}))$   
nonadaptive queries

[RubinsteinSeddighinSongSun19]

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$\Omega(\lambda^\epsilon)$  multiplicative approximation for  $\epsilon \in (0,1)$

$\tilde{O}(n^{1-\Omega(\epsilon)} \cdot (\frac{1}{\lambda})^{o(\frac{1}{\epsilon})})$   
queries

[MitzenmacherSeddighin21]

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  - For Boolean arrays,  $\pm\delta n$  error LIS estimation possible with  $O(\frac{1}{\delta^2})$  queries [Berman Raskhodnikova Yaroslavtsev 14]

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  - For Boolean arrays,  $\pm\delta n$  error LIS estimation possible with  $O(\frac{1}{\delta^2})$  queries [Berman Raskhodnikova Yaroslavtsev 14]
  - For testing sortedness (and monotonicity), [Pallavoor Raskhodnikova V. 18] studied the number of distinct values  $r$  in an array and bridged a similar gap between the cases of Boolean and the real-valued arrays.

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# Erasure-resilient testing sortedness

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- Completion is a filling up of the erased values

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Universe of arrays with or without erasures

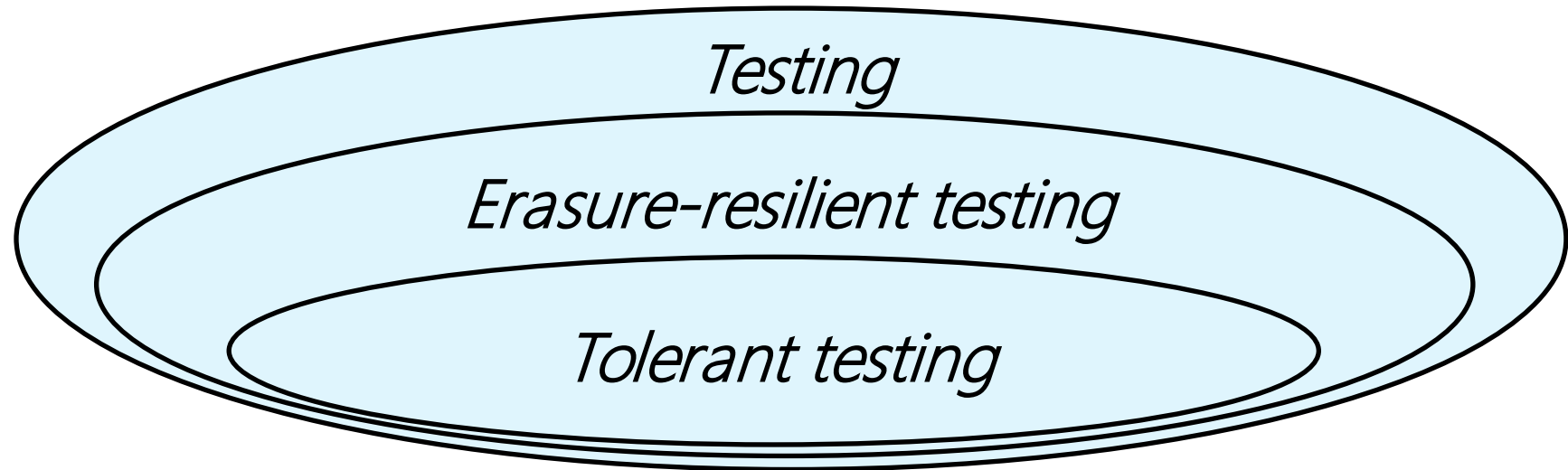
Sorted completion exists

For every completion,  
 $DS \geq \delta \cdot n$



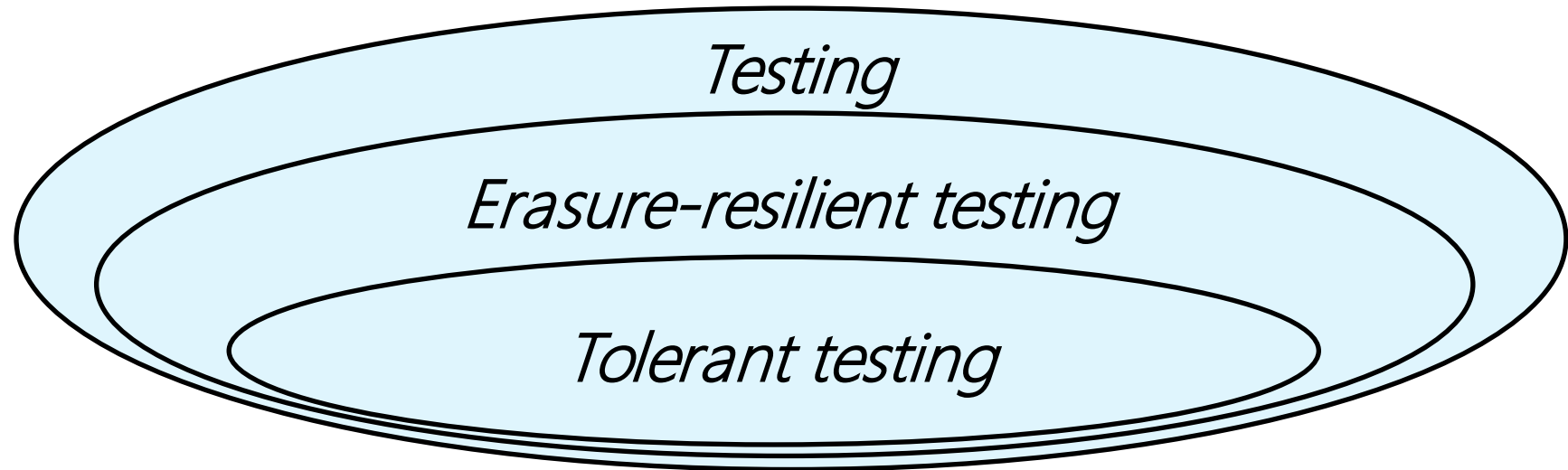
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[Dixit, Raskhodnikova, Thakurta & Varma '18]



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Lower bound on query complexity of testing, or erasure-resilient testing sortedness is a lower bound on query complexity of additive error LIS estimation

# Towards LIS estimation lower bounds

Testing sortedness

$\Omega(\log n)$  queries

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Erasure-resilient  
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Erasure-resilient  
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$O(\log n)$   
nonadaptive  
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[our work]

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[our work]

The only lower bound on query complexity LIS estimation we can get this way is  $\Omega(\log n)$

# LIS estimation lower bound: Our result

LIS estimation up to error $\pm \delta n$	$\log^{\Omega(\log \frac{1}{\delta})} n$ nonadaptive queries <span style="color: red;">[our work]</span>
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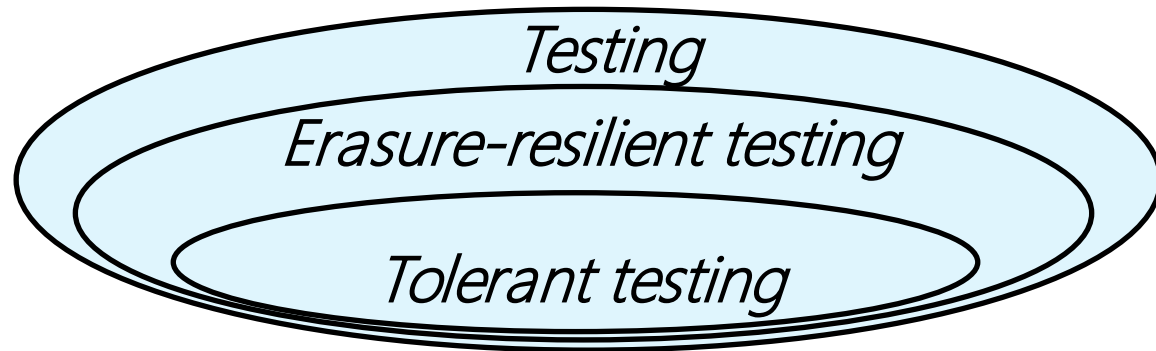
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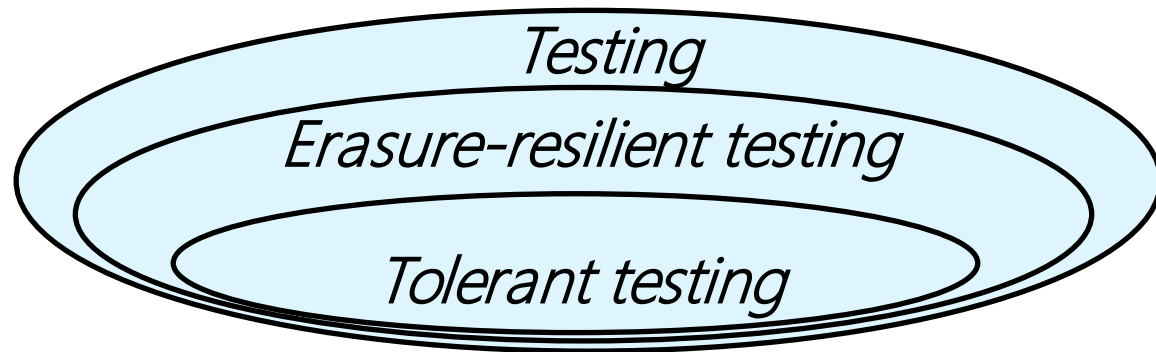
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- ❑ Adaptivity helps in tolerant testing sortedness

# LIS estimation lower bound: Consequence

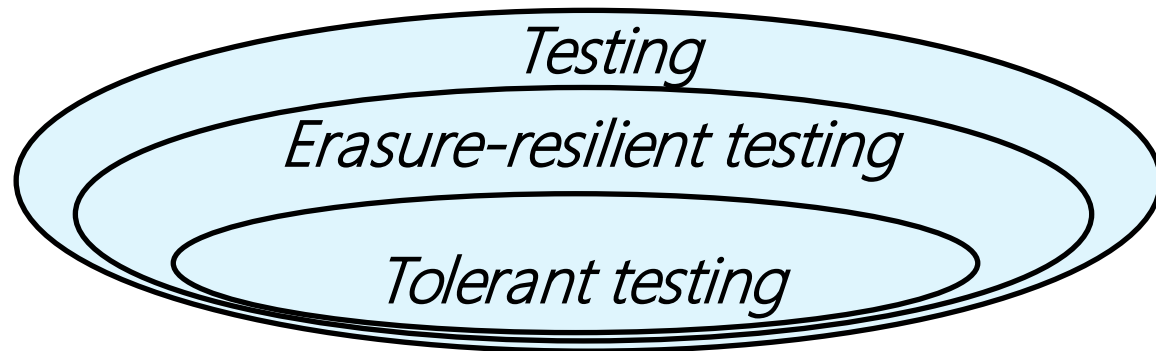


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These containments are strict [Fischer Fortnow 06], [Dixit Raskhodnikova Thakurta Varma 18], [Raskhodnikova Ron-Zewi Varma 19].

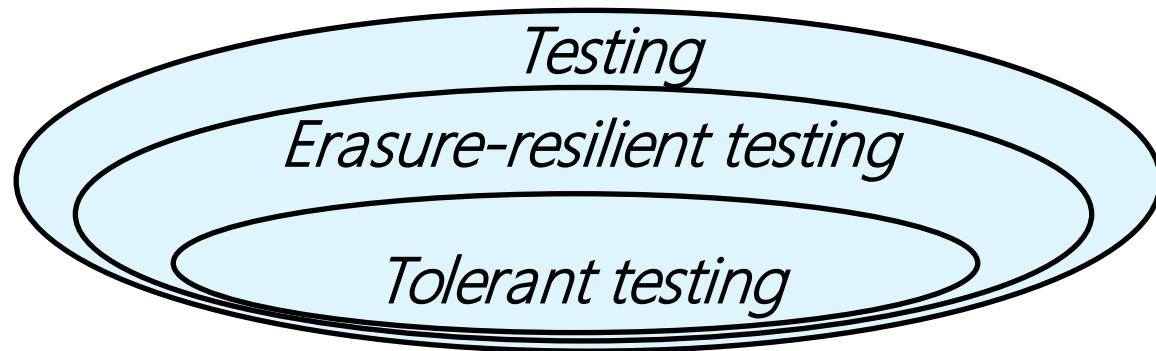
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Open Question [RRV19]: Are there natural properties for which such strict separations exist?

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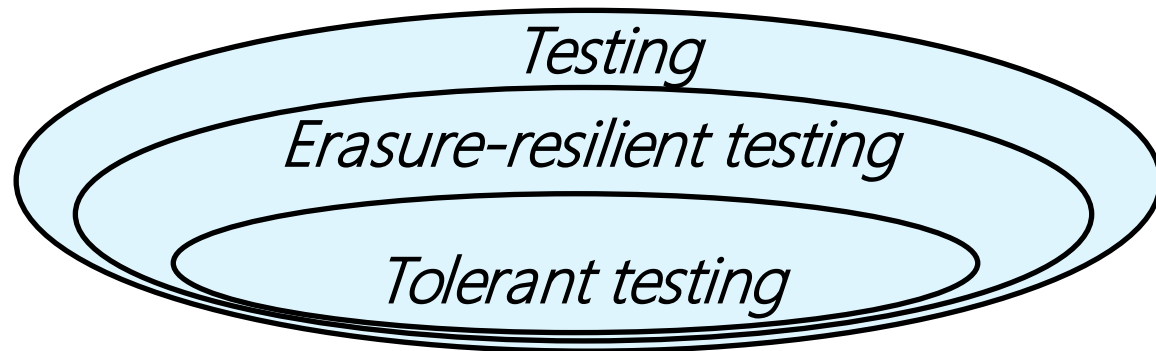
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Testing vs. Tolerant testing

Unateness of  $f: \{0,1\}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}$   
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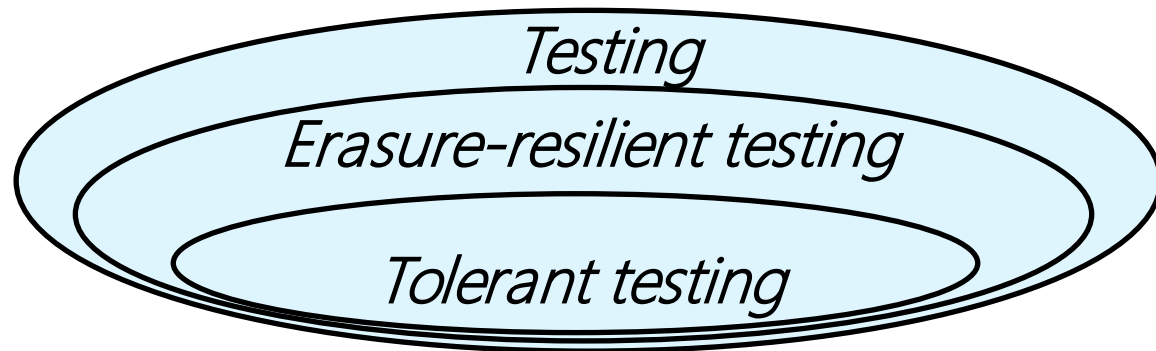


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Testing vs. Tolerant testing	Unateness of $f: \{0,1\}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ [Levi Waingarten 19]
Testing vs. Erasure-resilient testing	Monotonicity of $f: \{0,1\}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ ; for nonadaptive algorithms [Pallavoor Raskhodnikova Waingarten 20]

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Erasure-resilient testing vs. Tolerant testing	Sortedness; for nonadaptive algorithms [our work]



# LIS estimation algorithms: Our results

Let  $r \leq n$  denote the number of distinct values in the input array

$\pm \delta n$ approximation for $\delta \in (0,1)$	$\tilde{O}\left(\frac{r}{\delta^3}\right)$ uniform queries <span style="color: red;">[our work]</span>
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- ❑ Only truly sublinear time algorithm with this approximation guarantee when  $\delta \ll \frac{1}{\log n}$  (holds when  $r = o(n)$ )
- ❑ Moreover, our algorithm is nonadaptive and makes uniform queries

# LIS estimation algorithms: Our results

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$\Omega(\lambda)$  multiplicative  
approximation,  
where  $\lambda = \text{LIS}/n$

$\tilde{O}(\sqrt{r} \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\lambda}))$   
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nonadaptive queries

[RubinsteinSeddighinSongSun19]

- ❑ Better approximation guarantee than the  $\Omega(\lambda^3)$  guarantee
- ❑ Better running time when  $r \ll n$

# Nonadaptive algorithm for LIS estimation

- **Problem:** Given access to array  $A$  with at most  $r$  distinct values, output an estimate  $\text{est}$  such that

$$\Omega(\lambda \cdot \text{LIS}) \leq \text{est} \leq O(\text{LIS}),$$

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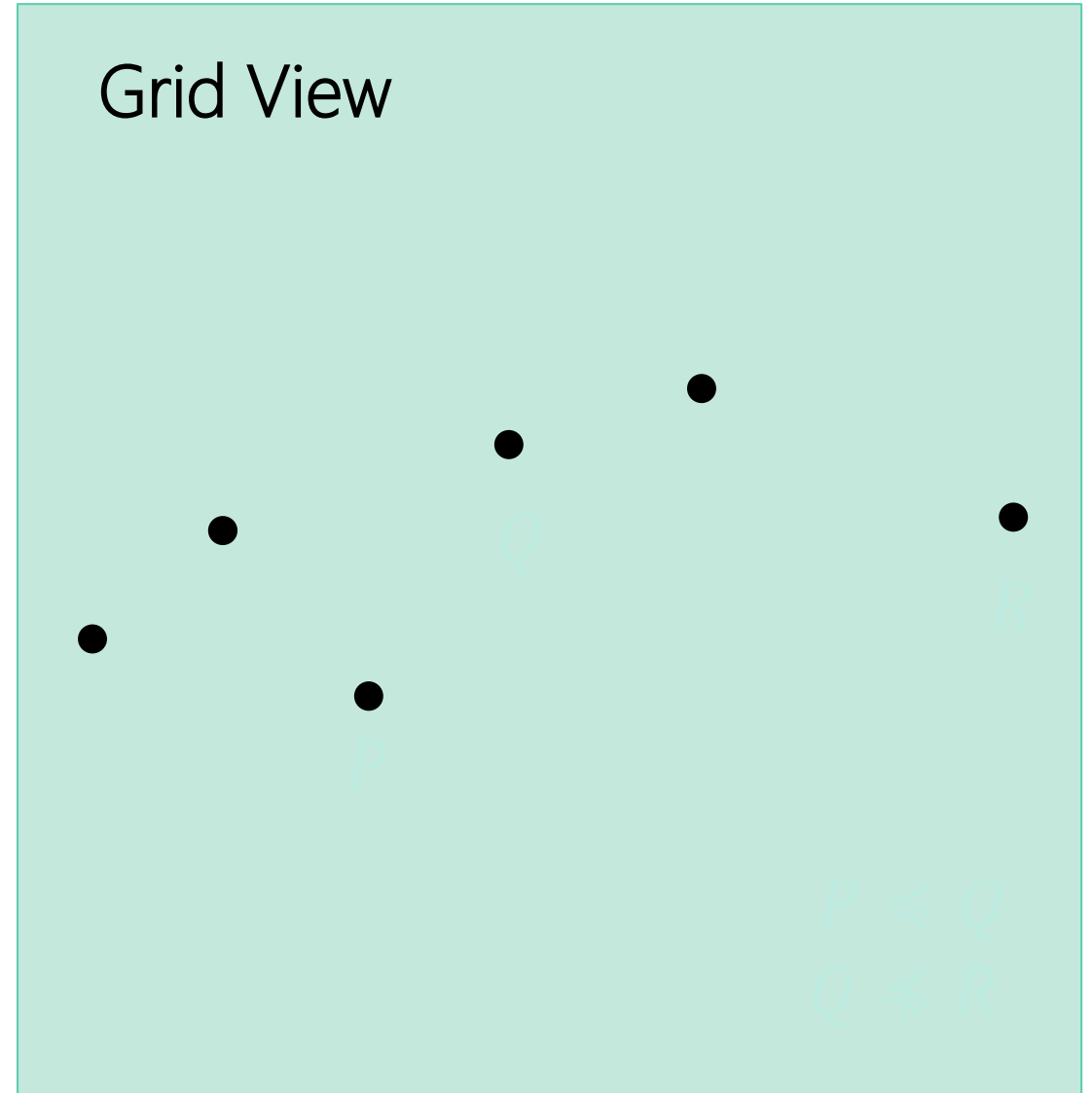
- **Simplifications:**

- We will describe a  $\tilde{O}(\sqrt{n} \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\lambda}))$  query algorithm
- No value occurs more than  $\sqrt{n}$  times
- We know a lower bound on  $\lambda$



# Nonadaptive algorithm

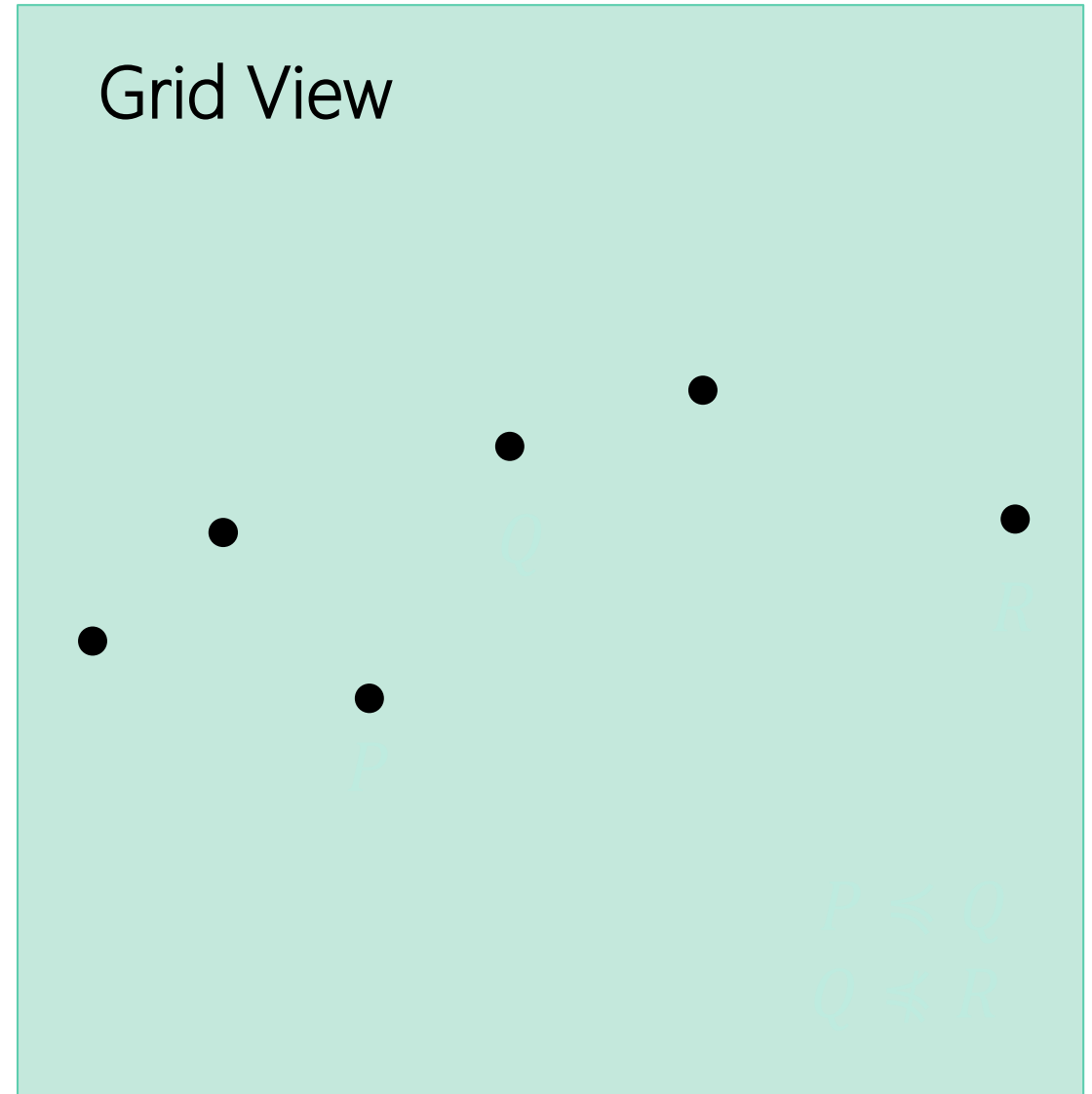
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1 2 3 . . . n

# Nonadaptive algorithm

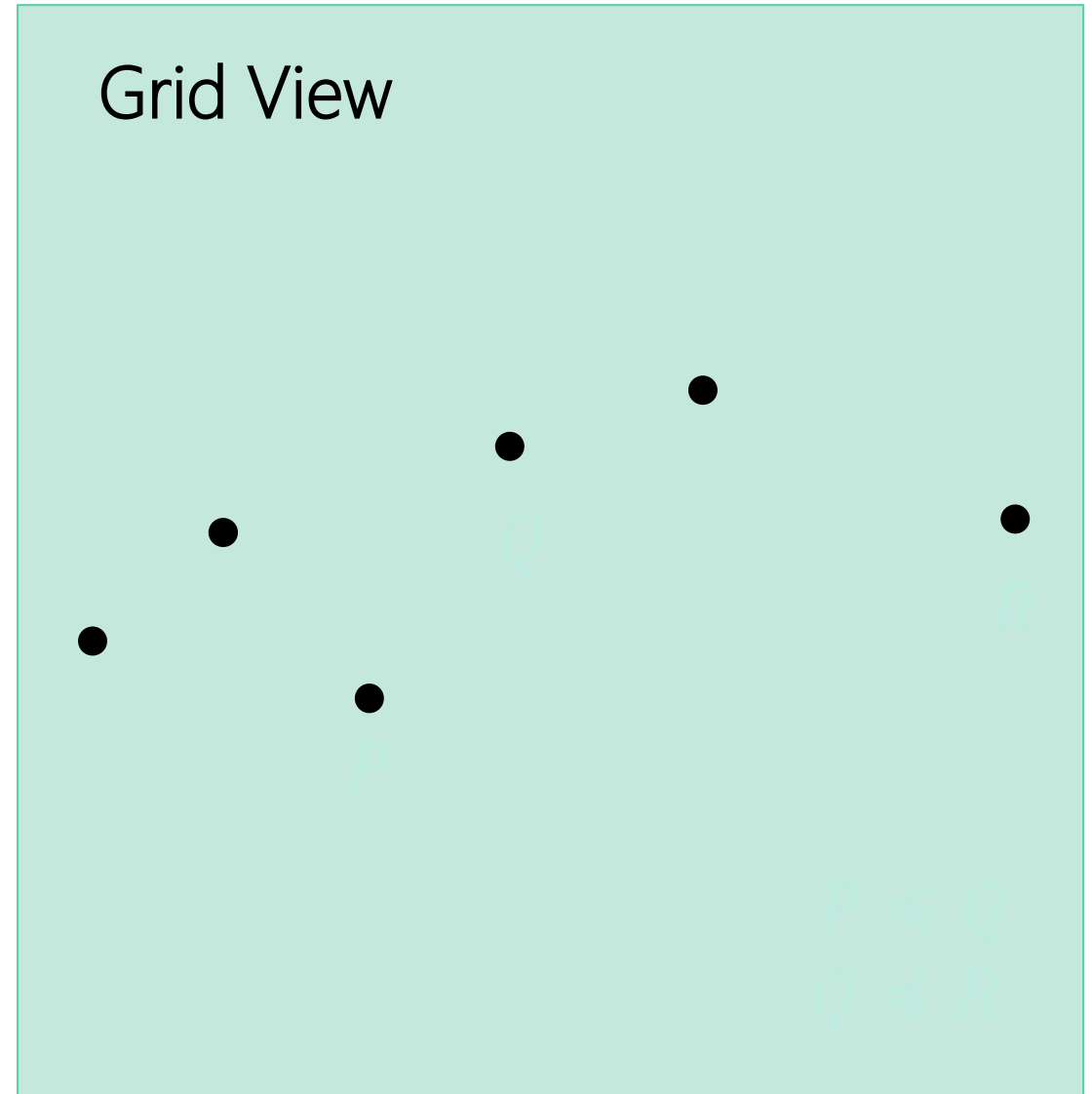
- Array of length  $n$  containing at most  $r$  distinct values
- Let  $\lambda$  be a known lower bound on LIS/ $n$



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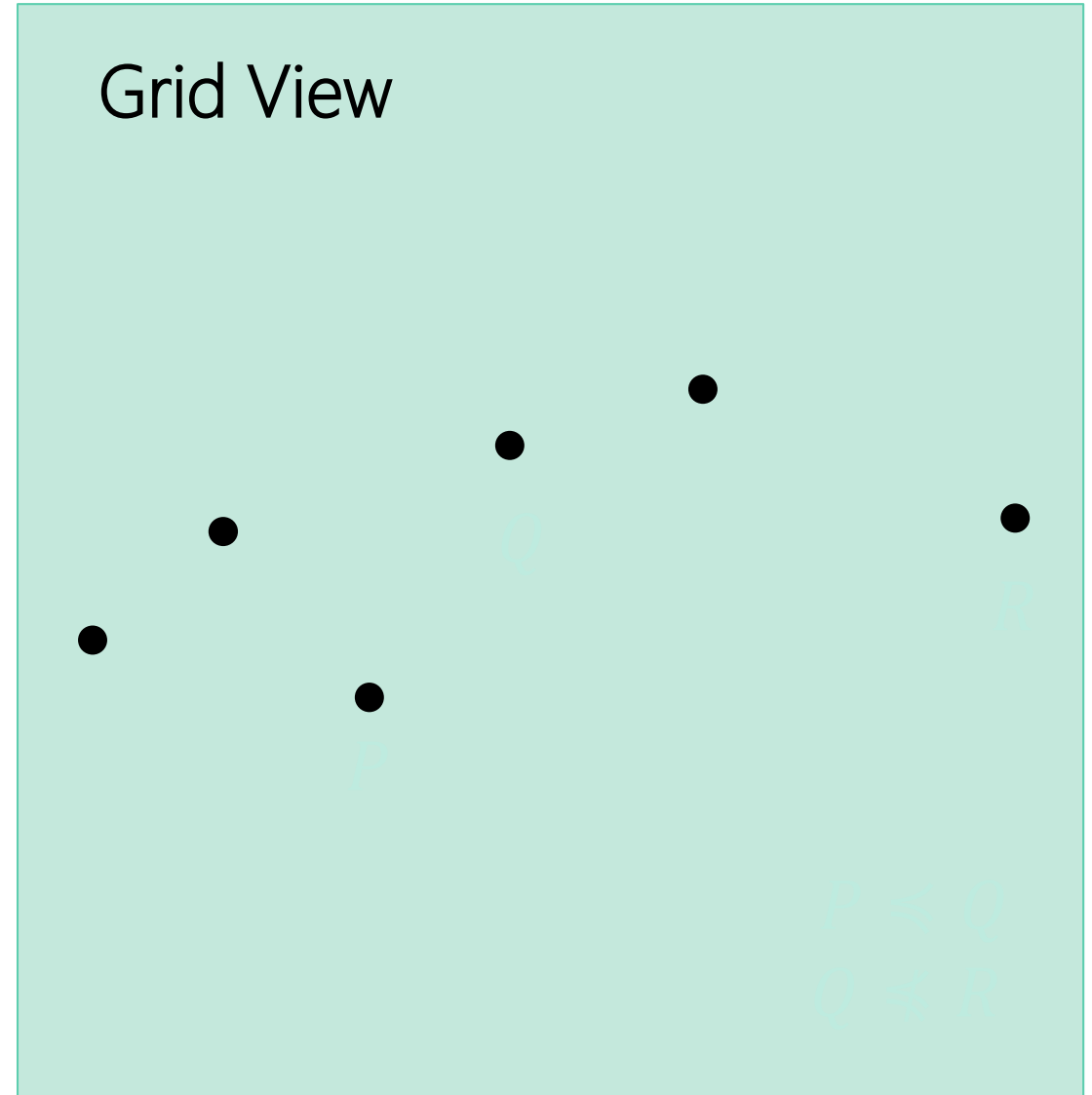
# Nonadaptive algorithm

- Array of length  $n$  containing at most  $r$  distinct values
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- Visualize as a grid of (index, value) pairs



# Nonadaptive algorithm

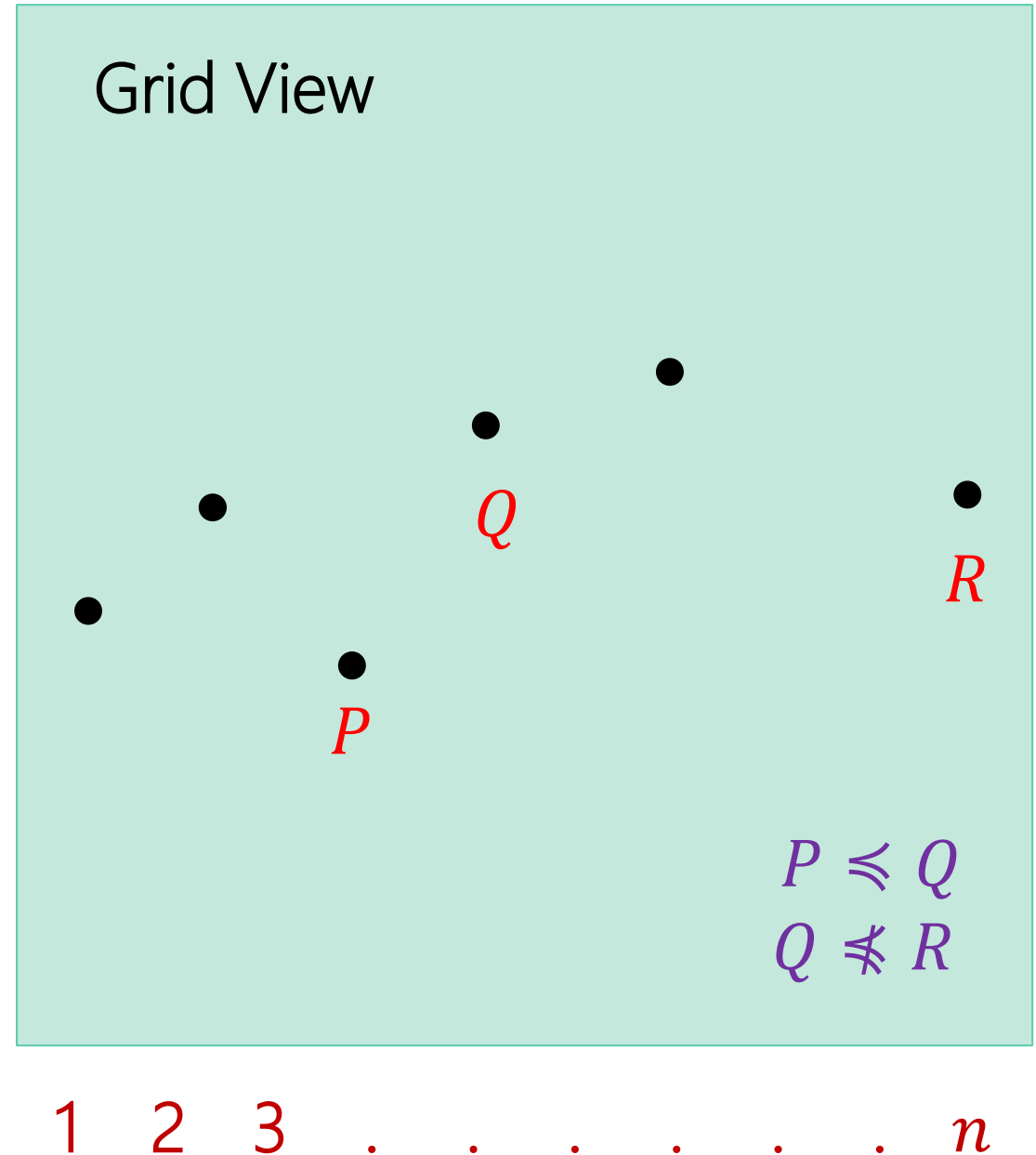
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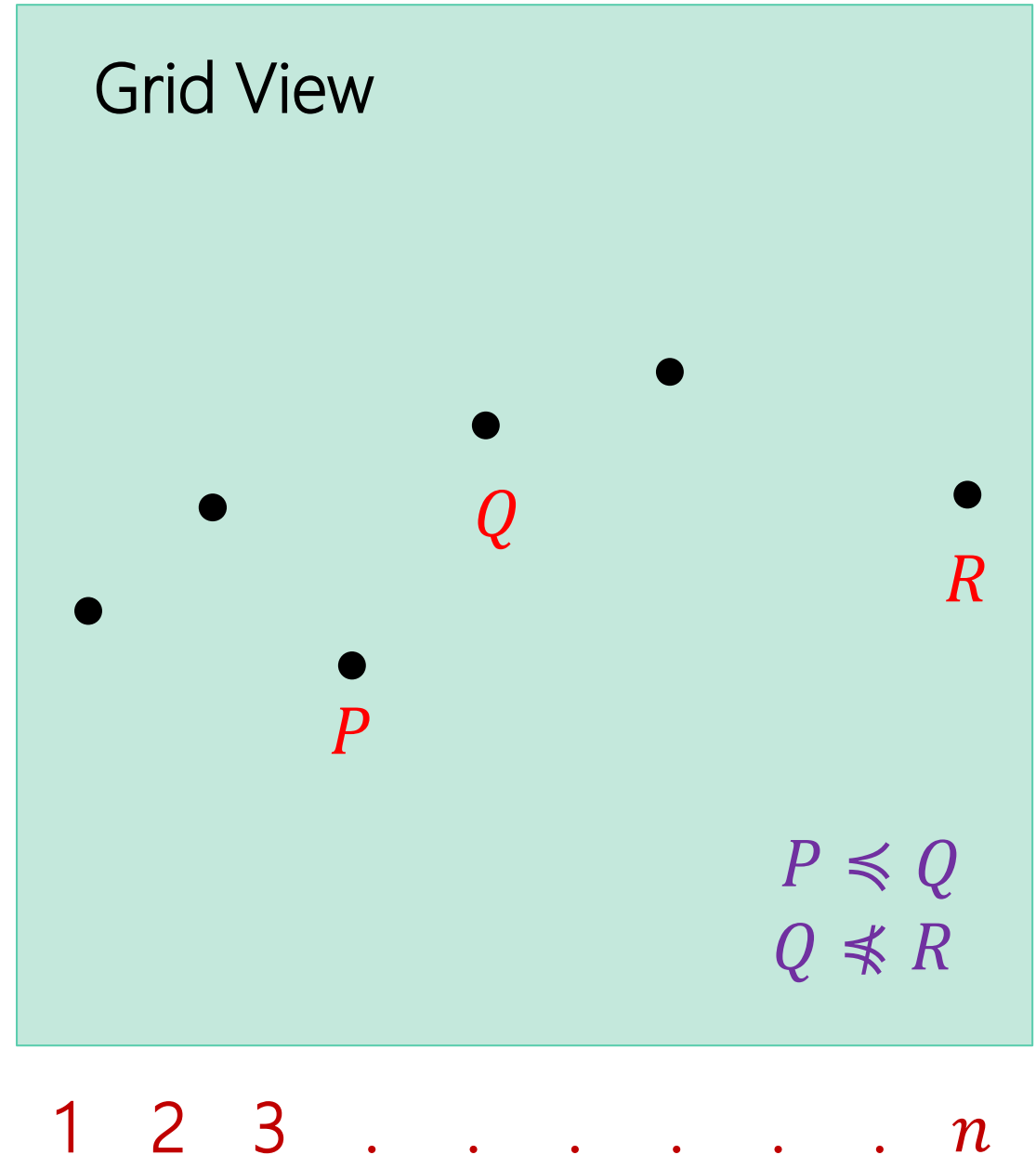
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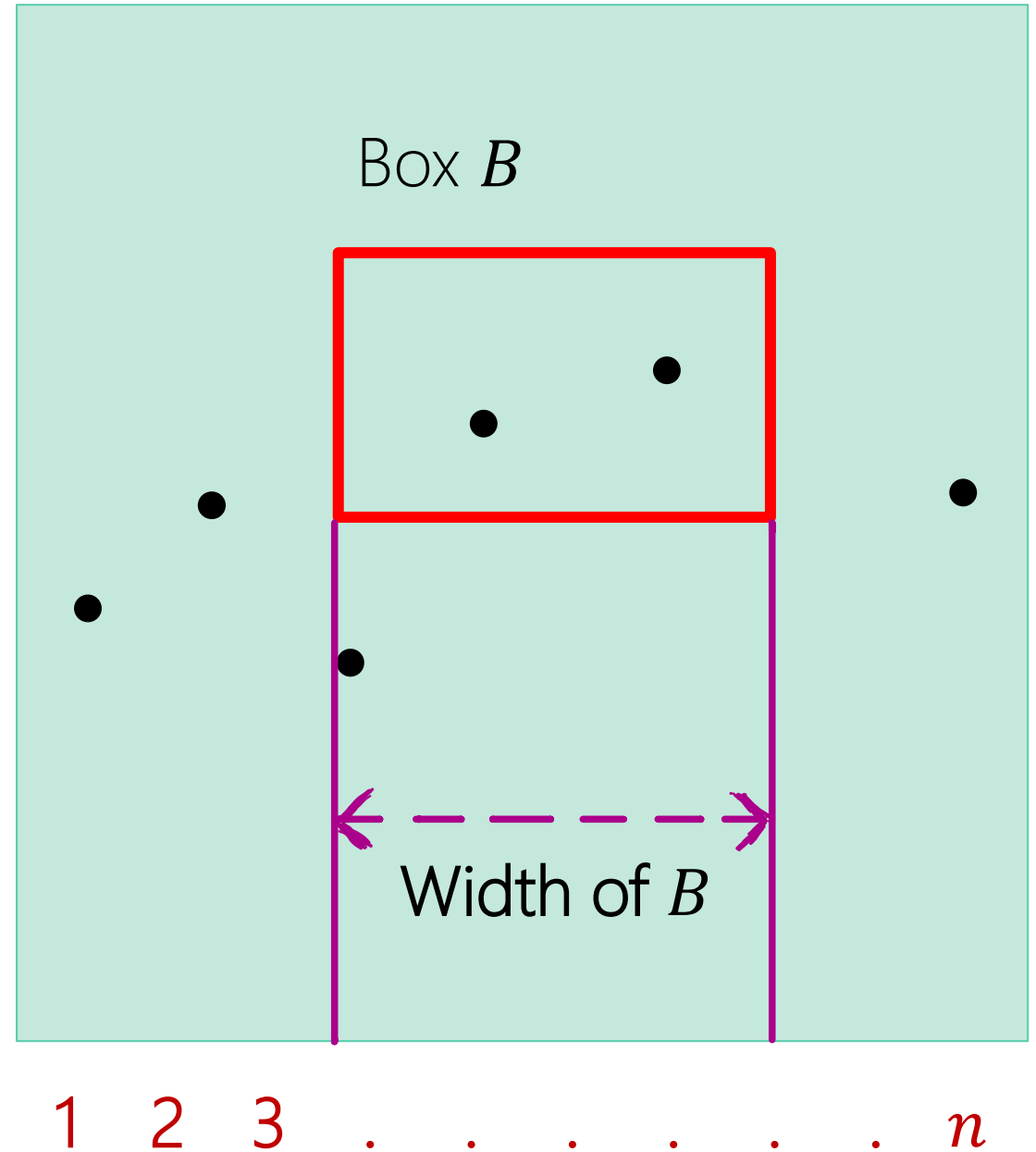
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- Let  $\lambda$  be a known lower bound on LIS/ $n$
- Visualize as a grid of (index, value) pairs
- Natural poset on points
- LIS = Longest chain in the poset of points



# Density of boxes

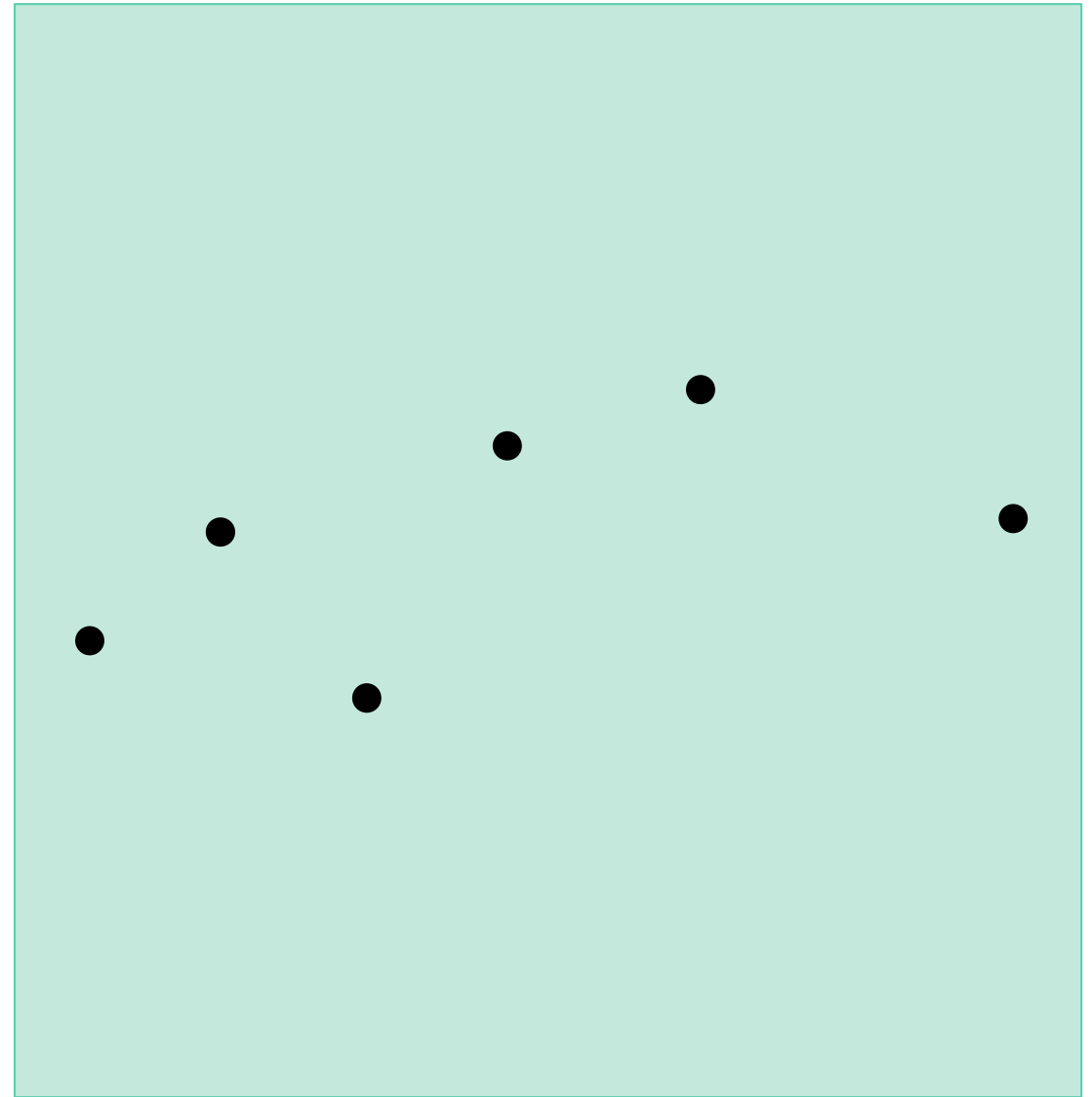
- Density of  $B$ :

$$\frac{\text{No. of points in } B}{\text{Width of } B}$$



# Layering

Let  $\epsilon \in (0,1)$  be a parameter



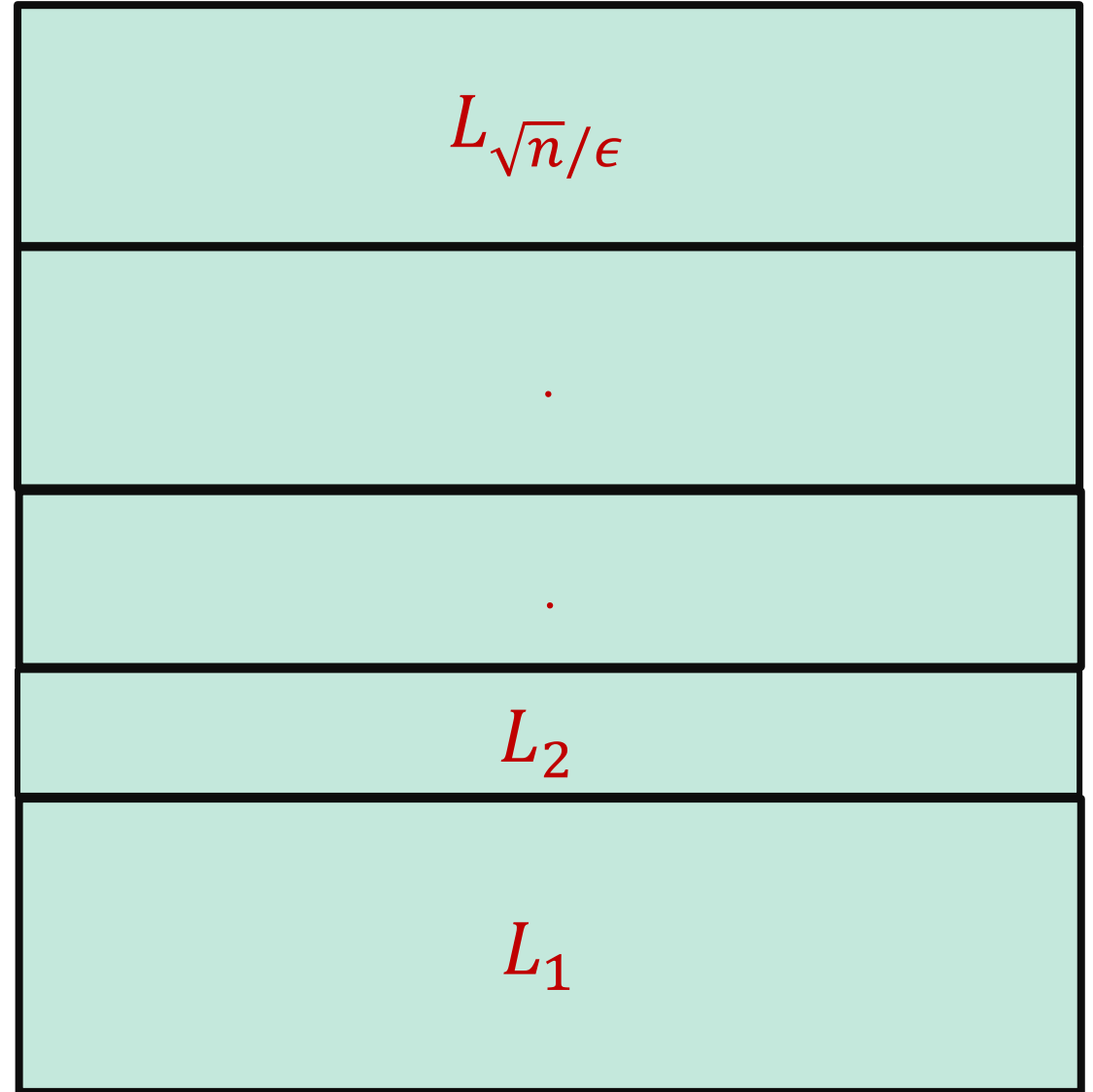
1 2 3 . . . . . n



# Layering

Let  $\epsilon \in (0,1)$  be a parameter

Sample  $\tilde{\Theta}(\sqrt{n})$  points uniformly at random and equipartition the range into roughly  $\sqrt{n}/\epsilon$  intervals of equal density



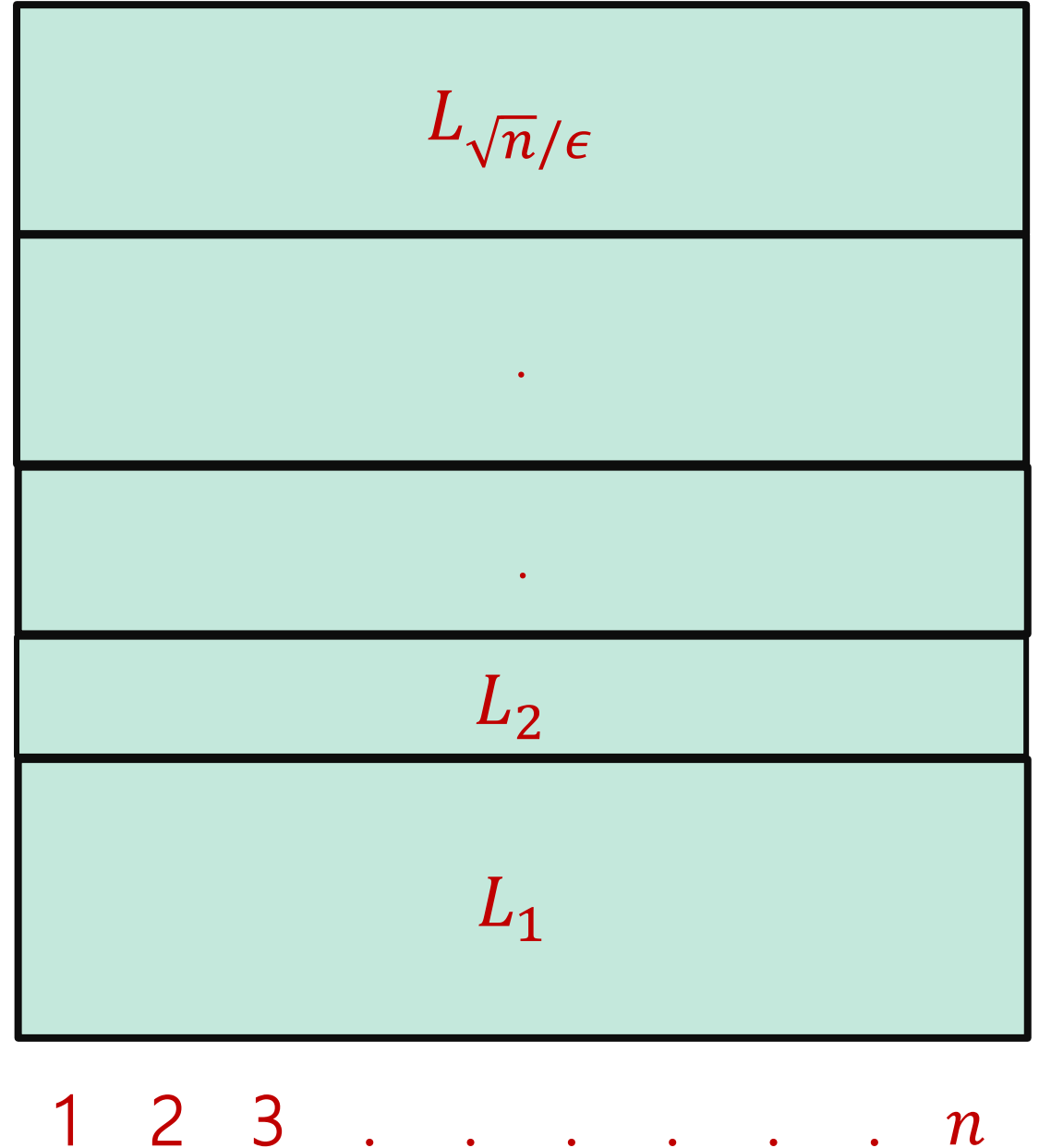
1 2 3 . . . . . n

# Layering

Let  $\epsilon \in (0,1)$  be a parameter

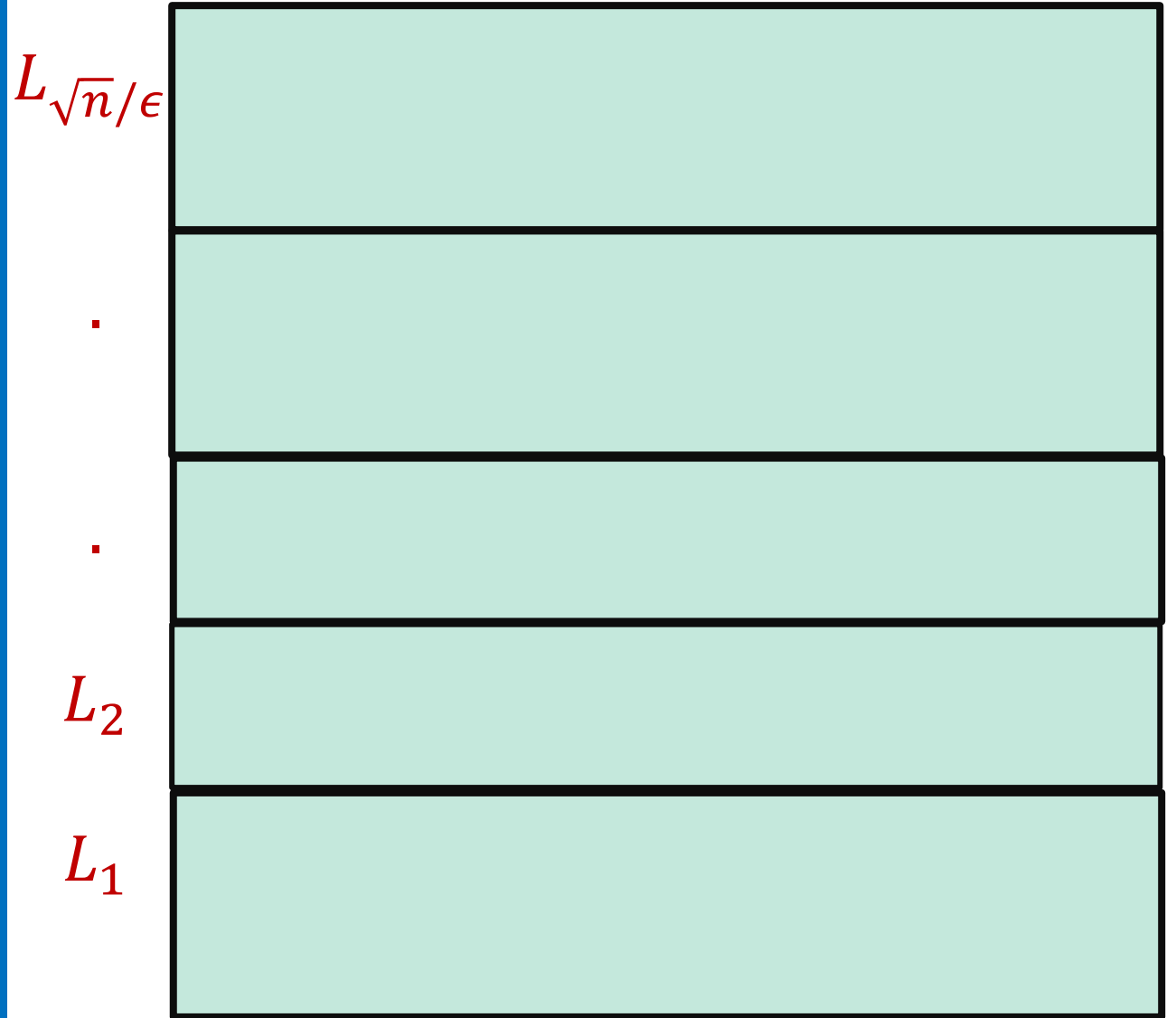
Sample  $\tilde{\Theta}(\sqrt{n})$  points uniformly at random and equipartition the range into roughly  $\sqrt{n}/\epsilon$  intervals of equal density

Density of each layer is roughly  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$



# Layering

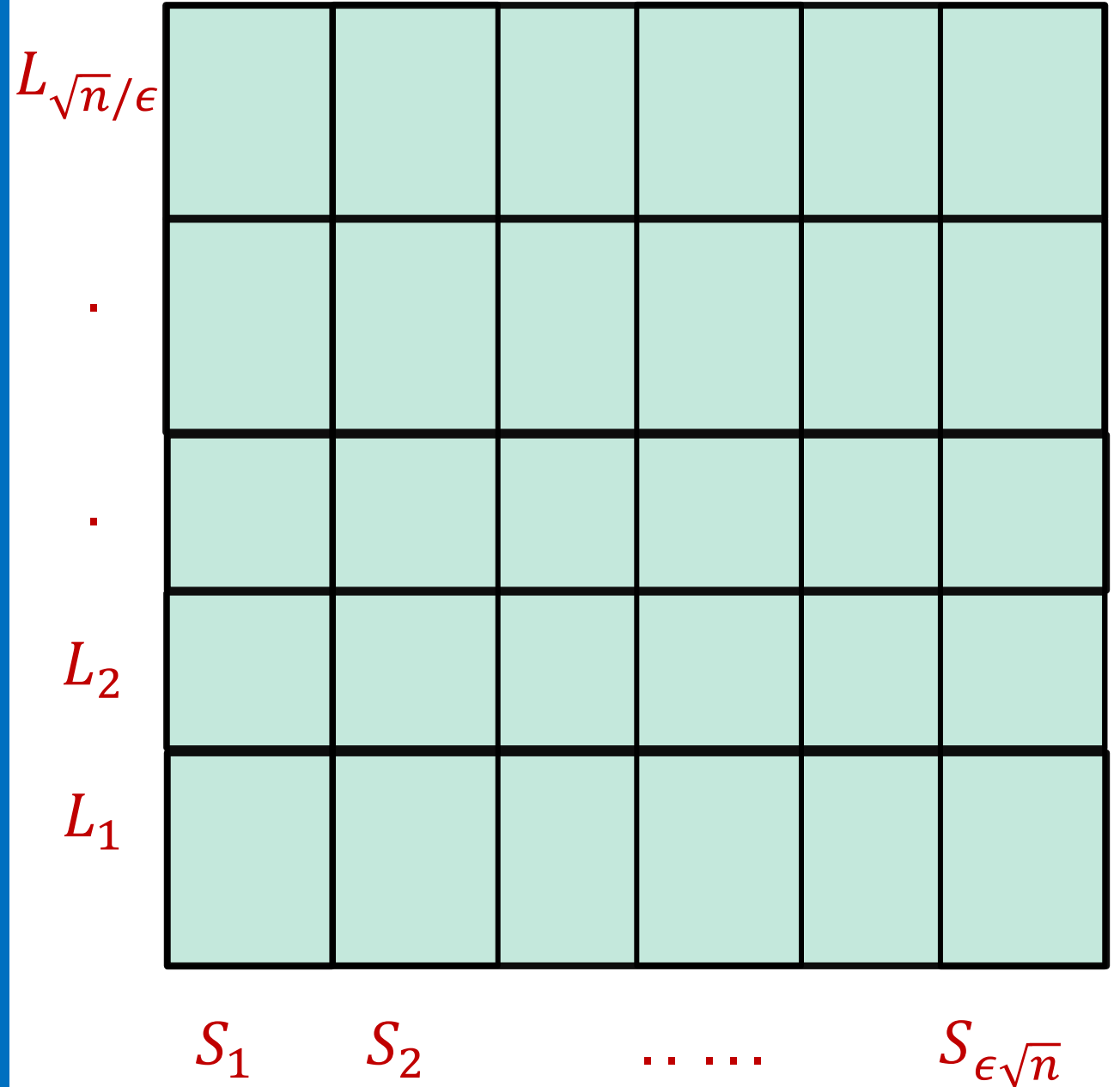
Partition the range into  $\sqrt{n}/\epsilon$  horizontal layers of equal density



# Layering

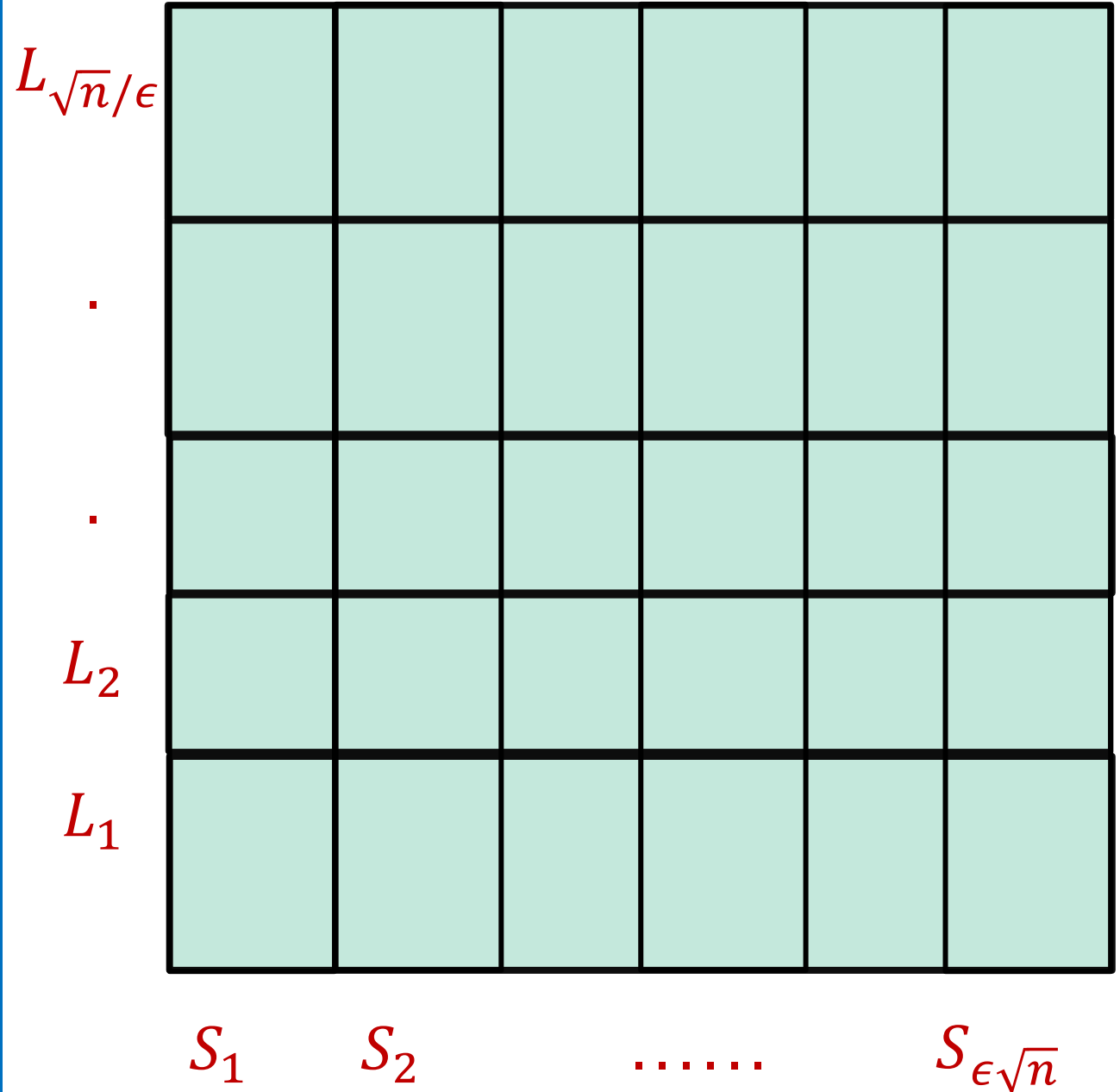
Partition the range into  $\sqrt{n}/\epsilon$  horizontal layers of equal density

Equipartition index set into  $\epsilon\sqrt{n}$  vertical stripes



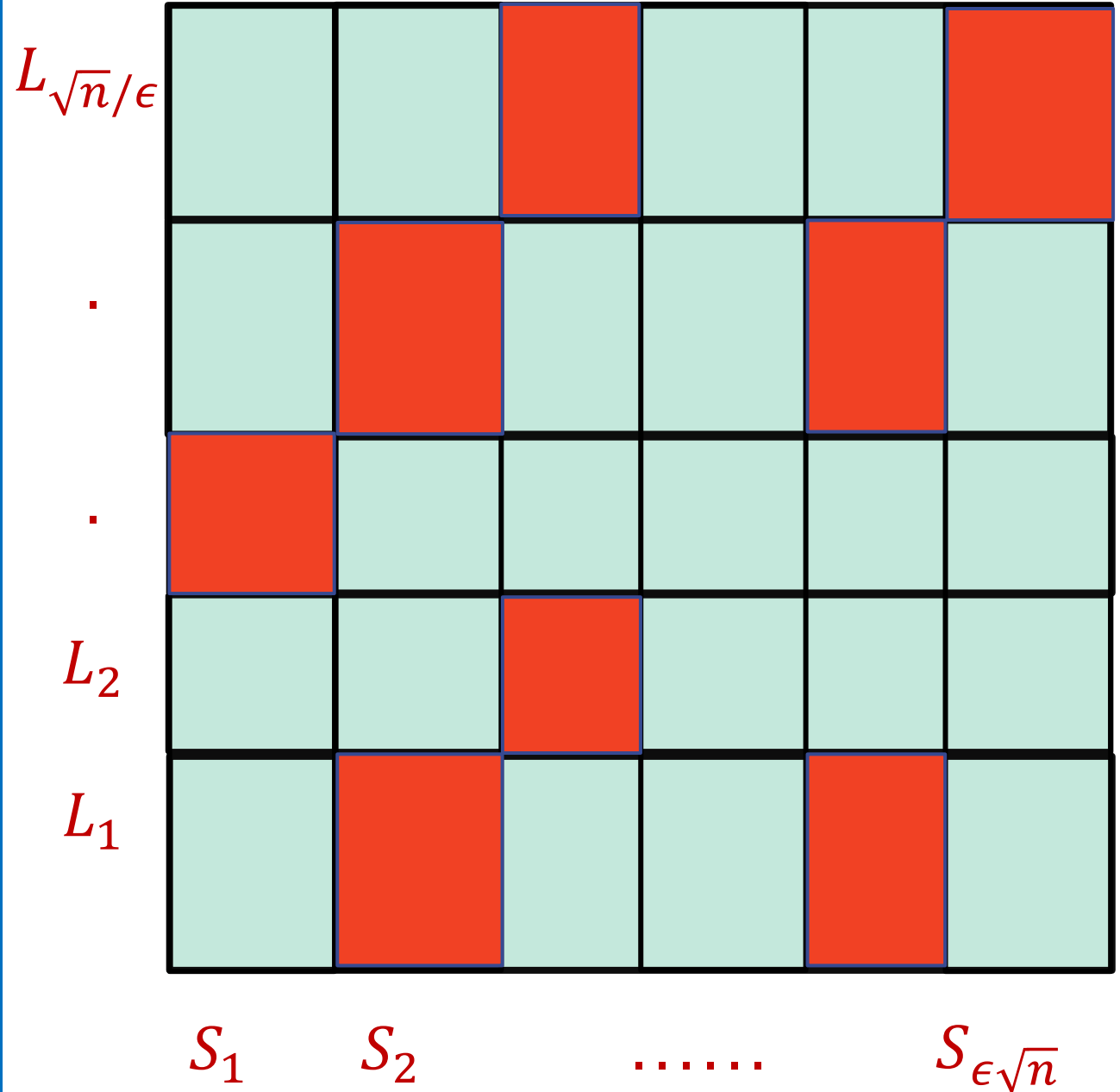
# Tagging dense boxes

- Let  $\beta = \epsilon^3 \lambda$ , where  $\lambda$  is a known lower bound on  $\text{LIS}/n$



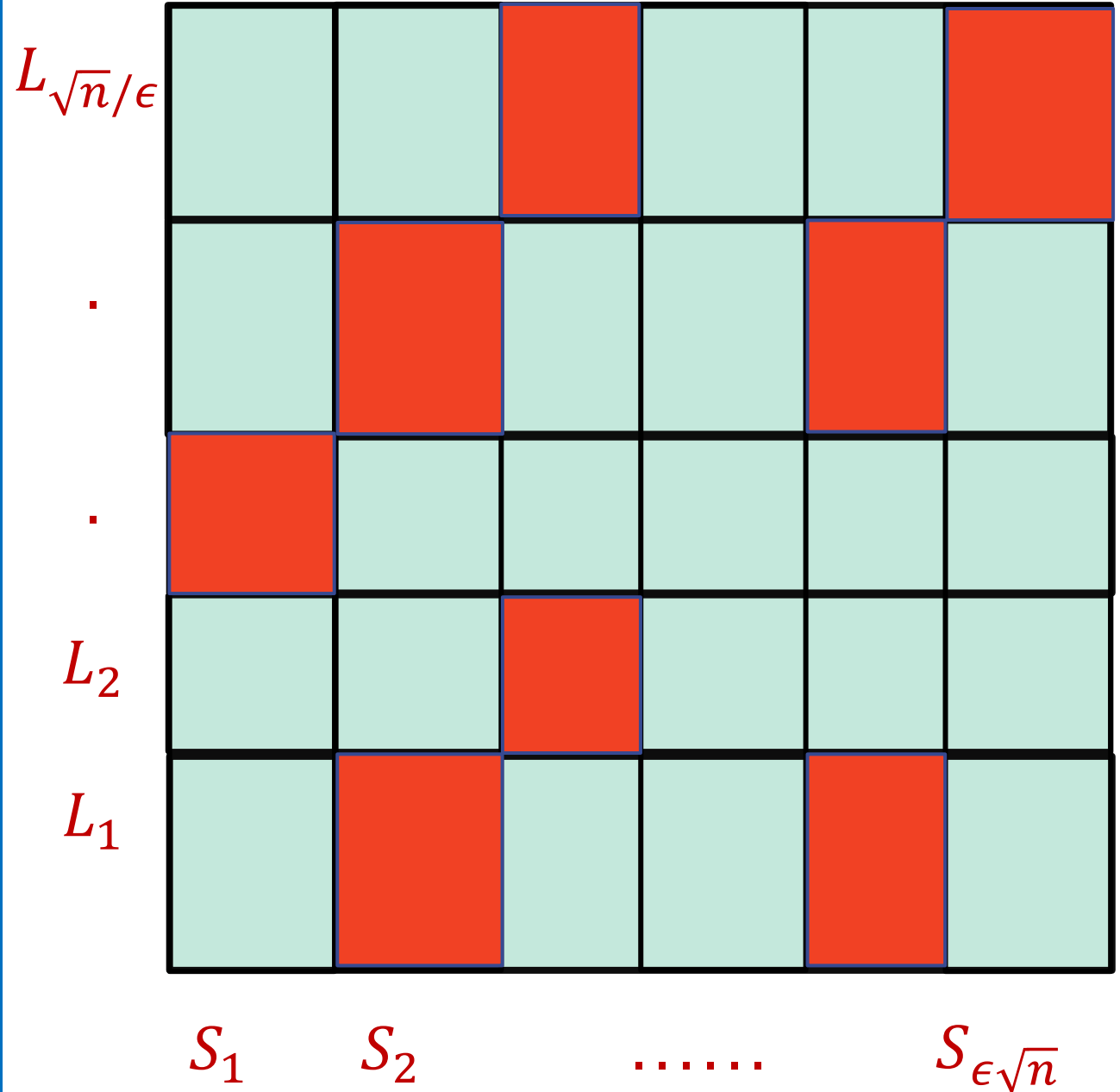
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- Identify boxes that contain  $\beta$  fraction of points in its stripe



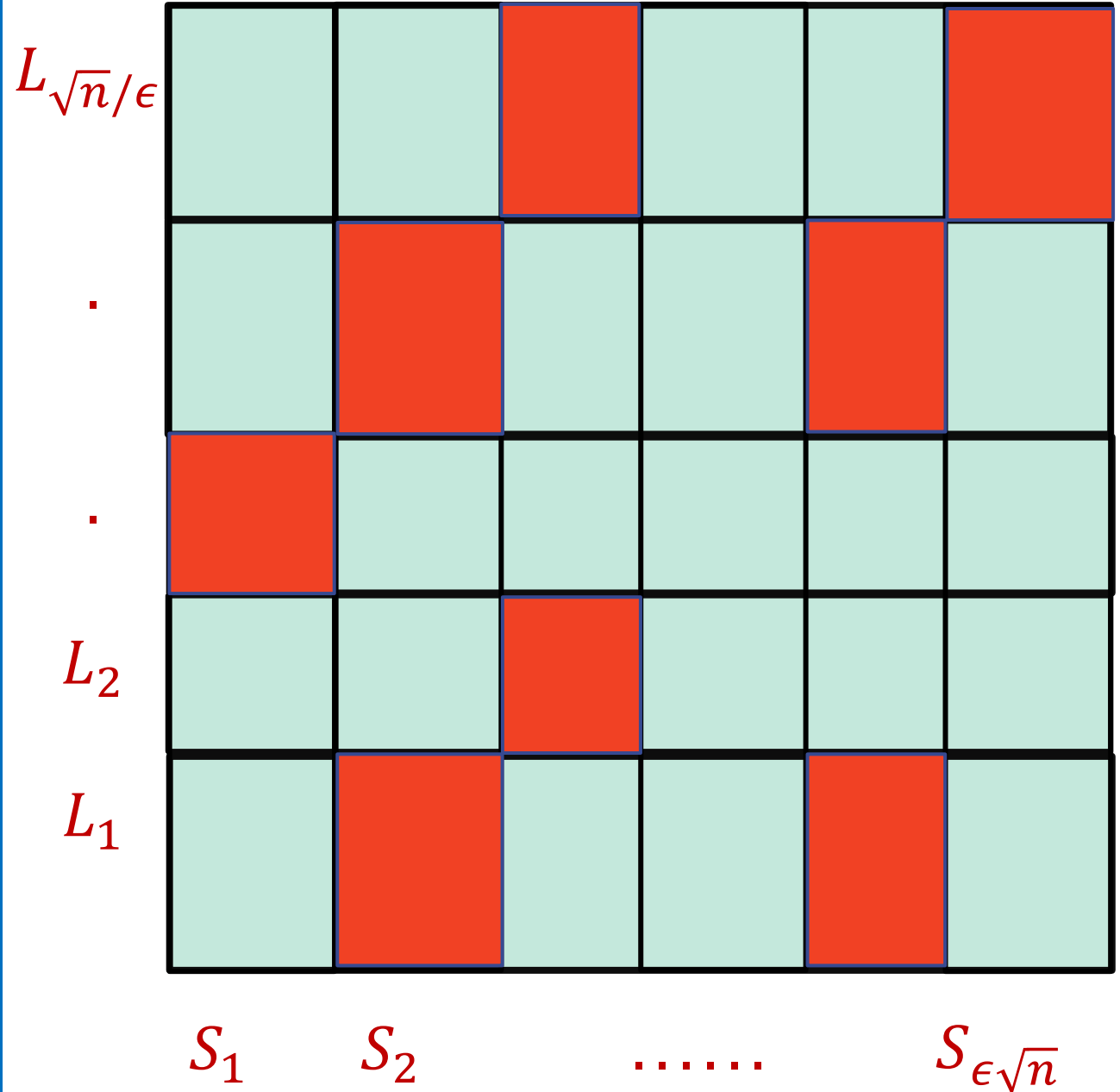
# Tagging dense boxes

- Let  $\beta = \epsilon^3 \lambda$ , where  $\lambda$  is a known lower bound on  $\text{LIS}/n$
- Identify boxes that contain at least  $\beta$  fraction of points in its stripe by making  $\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{1}{\beta})$  queries from each stripe.



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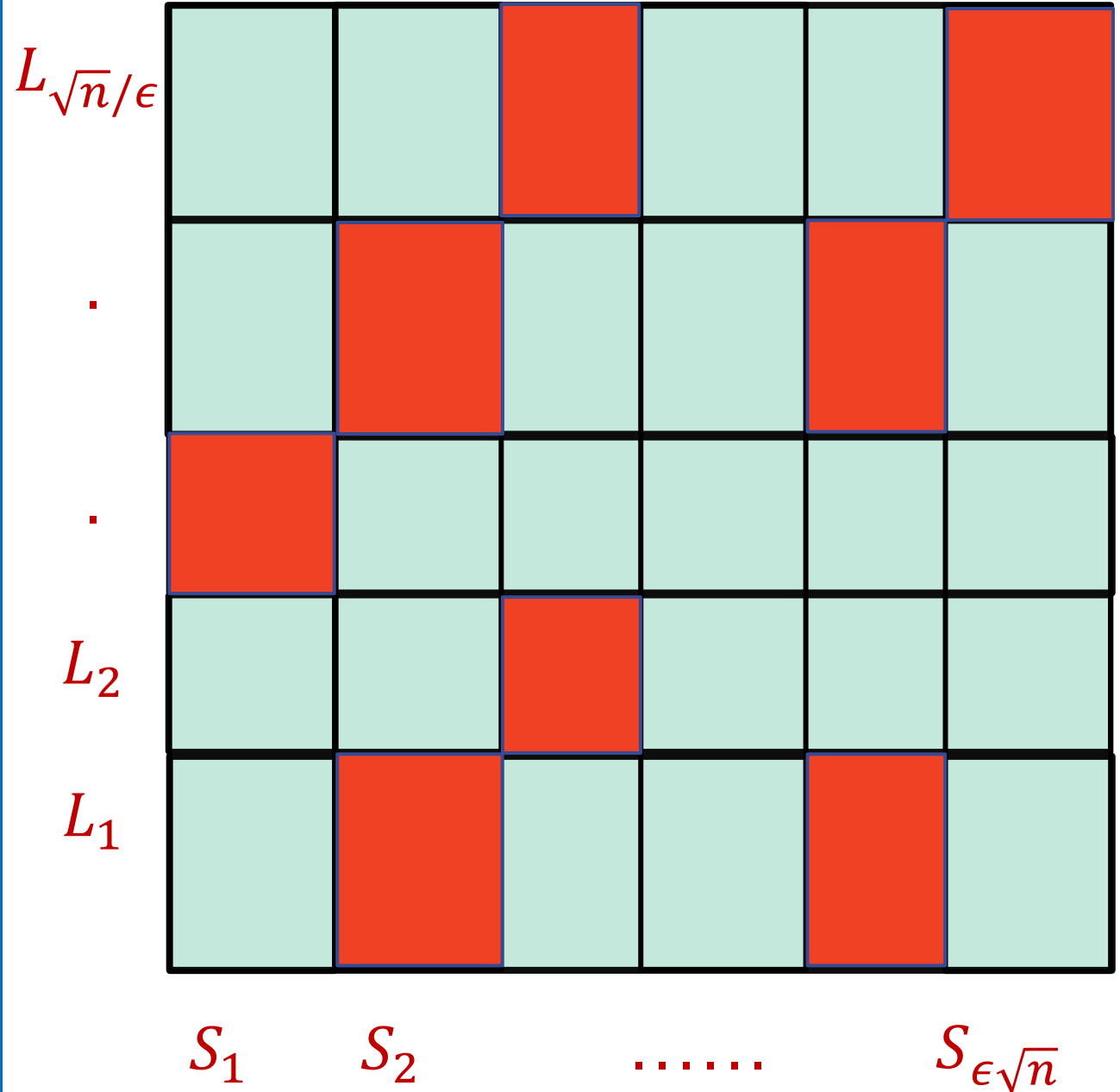




# Tagging dense boxes

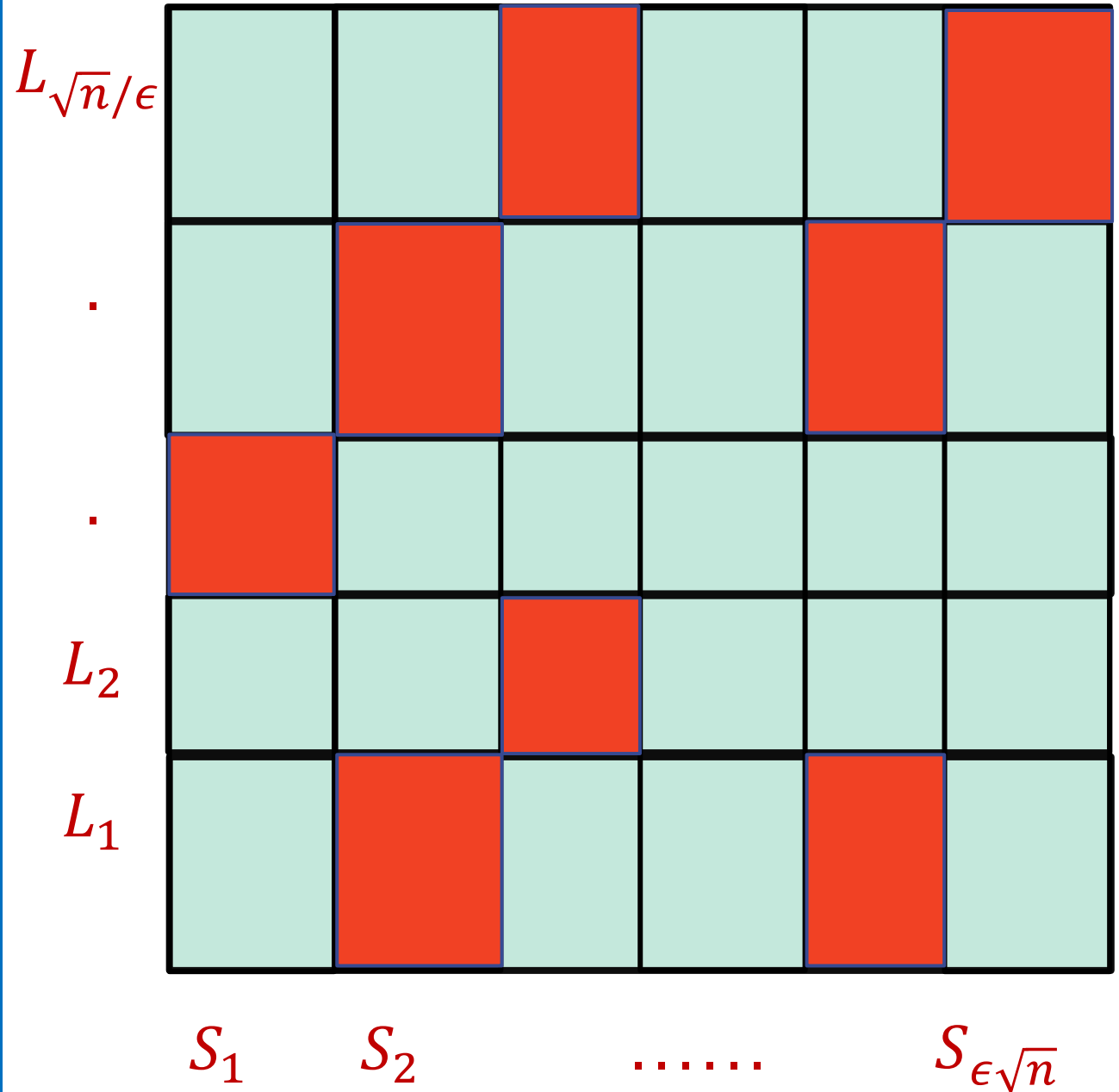
- Let  $\beta = \epsilon^3 \lambda$ , where  $\lambda$  is a known lower bound on  $\text{LIS}/n$
- Identify boxes that contain at least  $\beta$  fraction of points in its stripe by making  $\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{1}{\beta})$  queries from each stripe.
- Overall  $\tilde{\Theta}(\sqrt{n})$  queries

Assume that the boxes have roughly  $\beta$  fraction of points



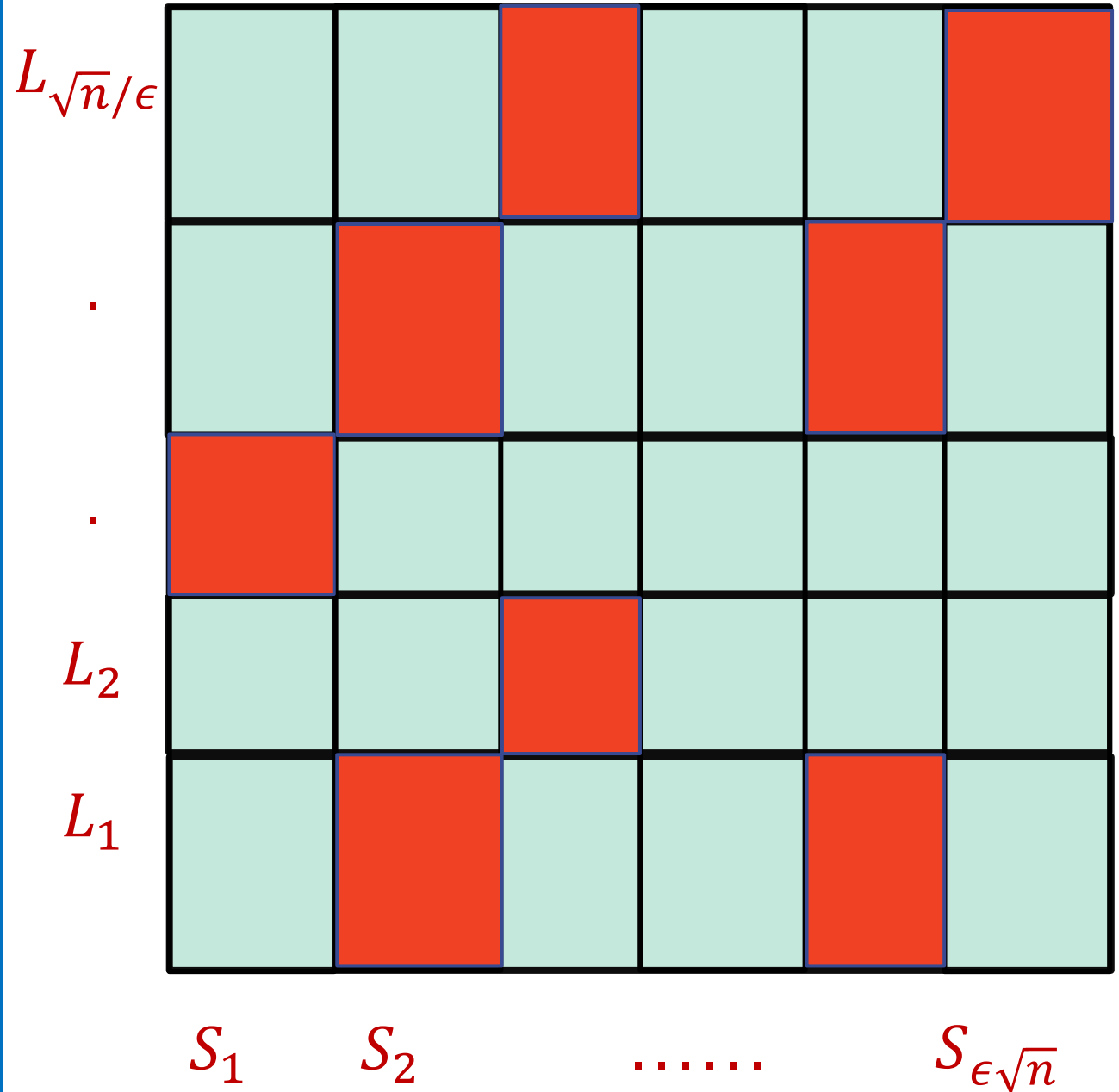
# Ignore all non-dense boxes!

- At most  $2\sqrt{n}/\epsilon$  boxes in any LIS



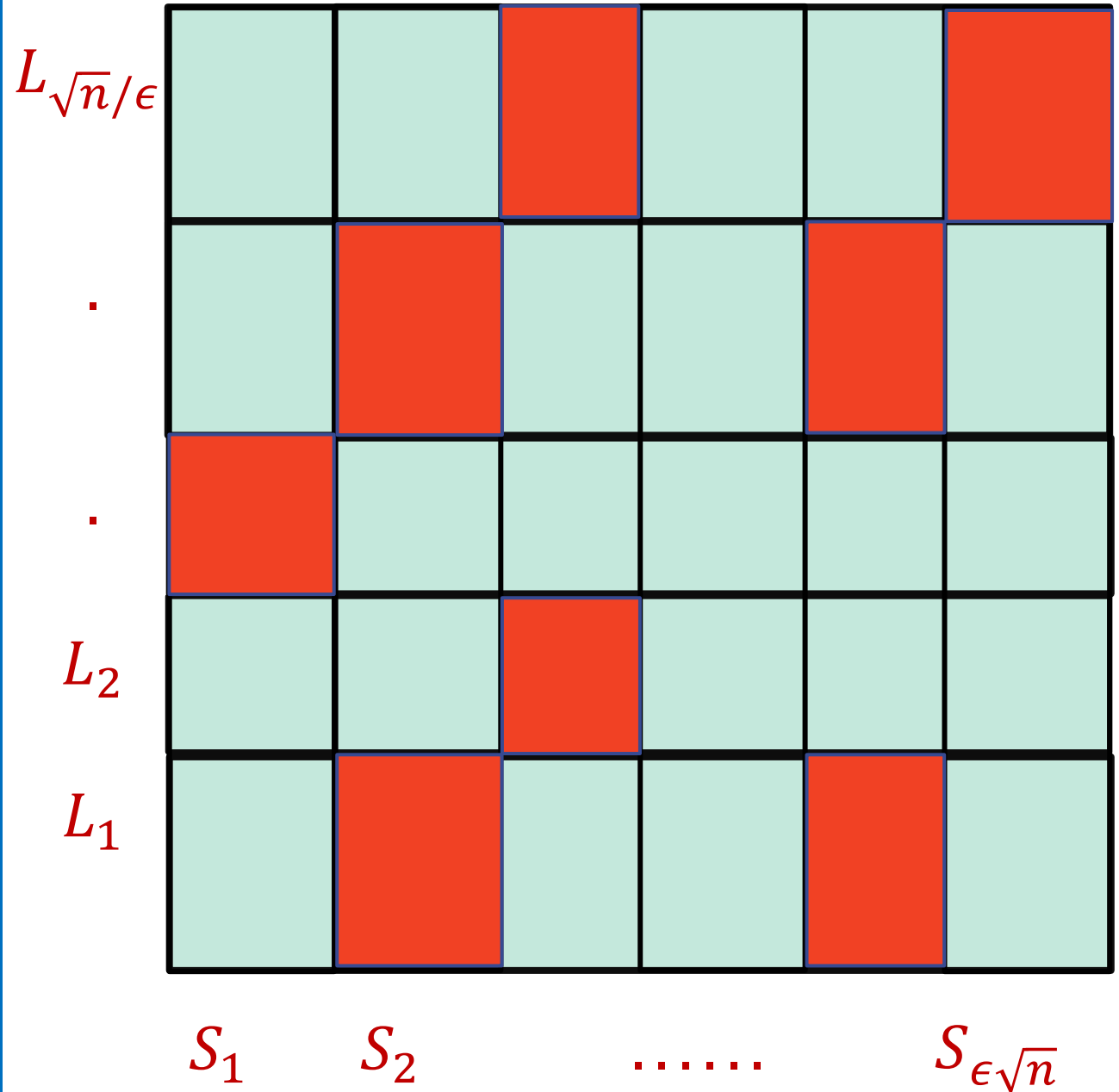
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- At most  $2\sqrt{n}/\epsilon$  boxes in any LIS
- Each non-dense box contributes at most  $\beta\sqrt{n} = \epsilon^3\lambda\sqrt{n}$  points



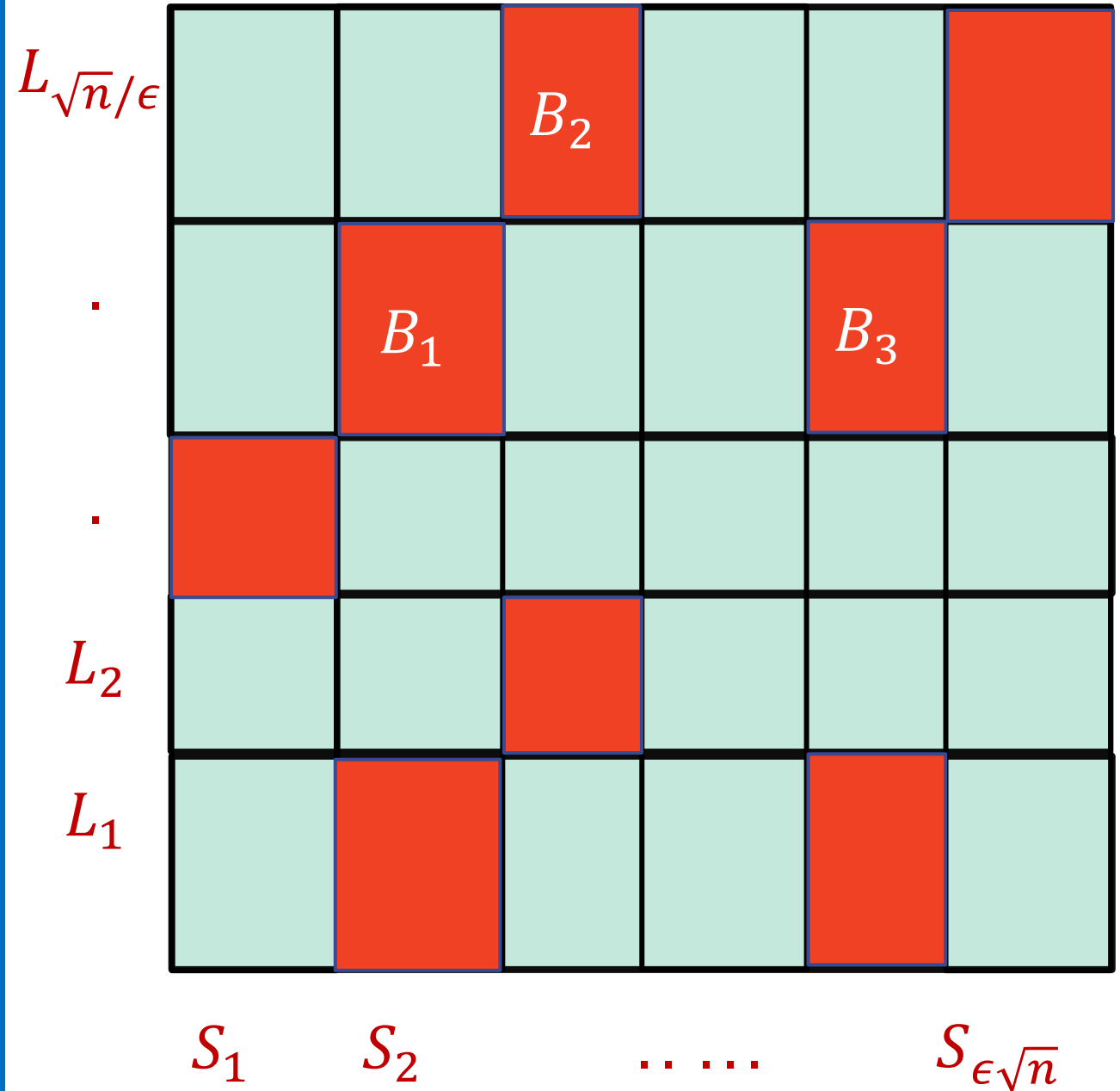
# Ignore all non-dense boxes!

- At most  $2\sqrt{n}/\epsilon$  boxes in any LIS
- Each non-dense box contributes at most  $\beta\sqrt{n} = \epsilon^3\lambda\sqrt{n}$  points
- By ignoring non-dense boxes, we lose  $2\epsilon^2\lambda n \leq 2\epsilon^2 \cdot \text{LIS}$  many points



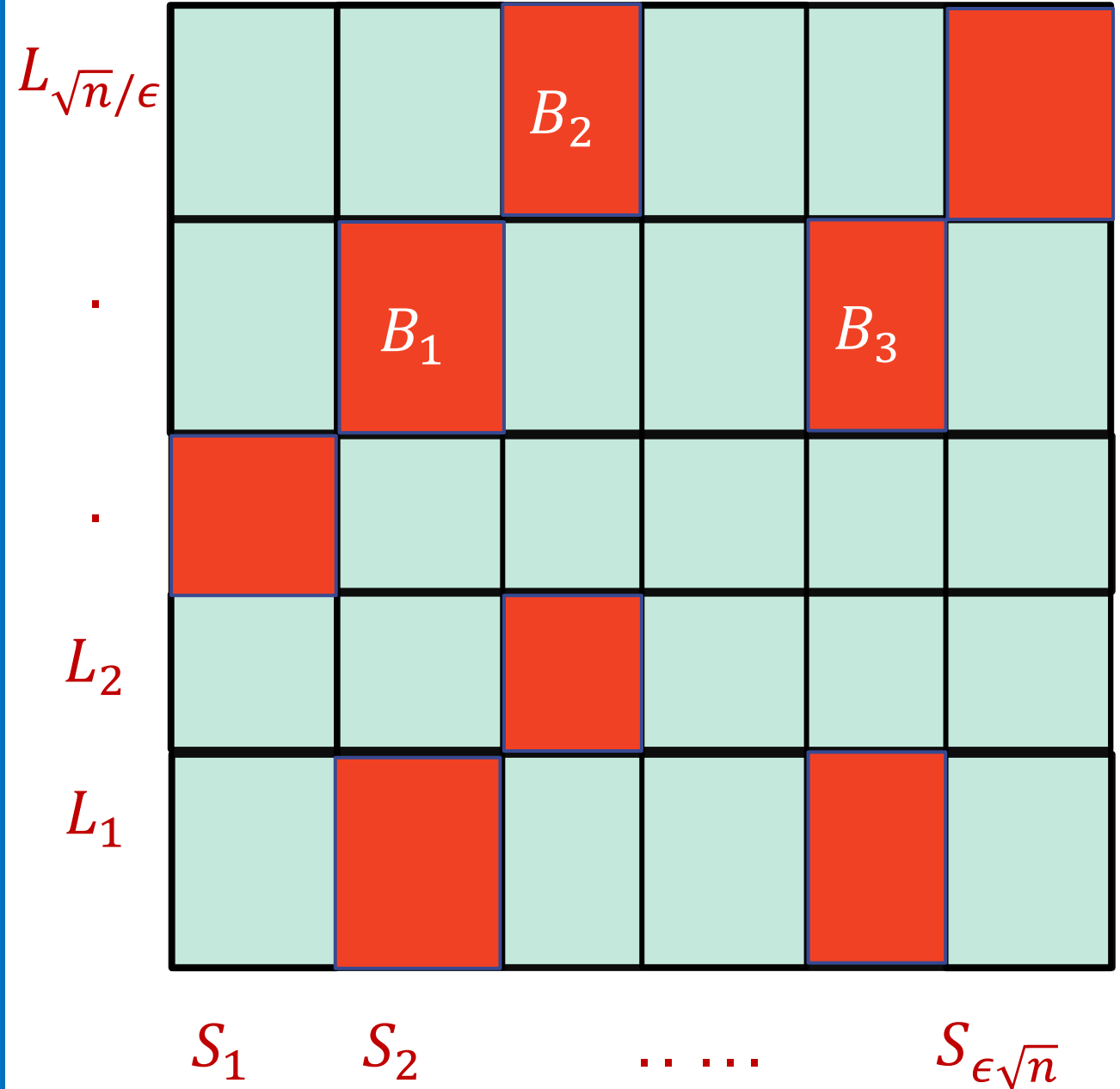
# Poset, chains, and LIS

- $\langle P, \preceq \rangle$  : Natural poset on dense boxes



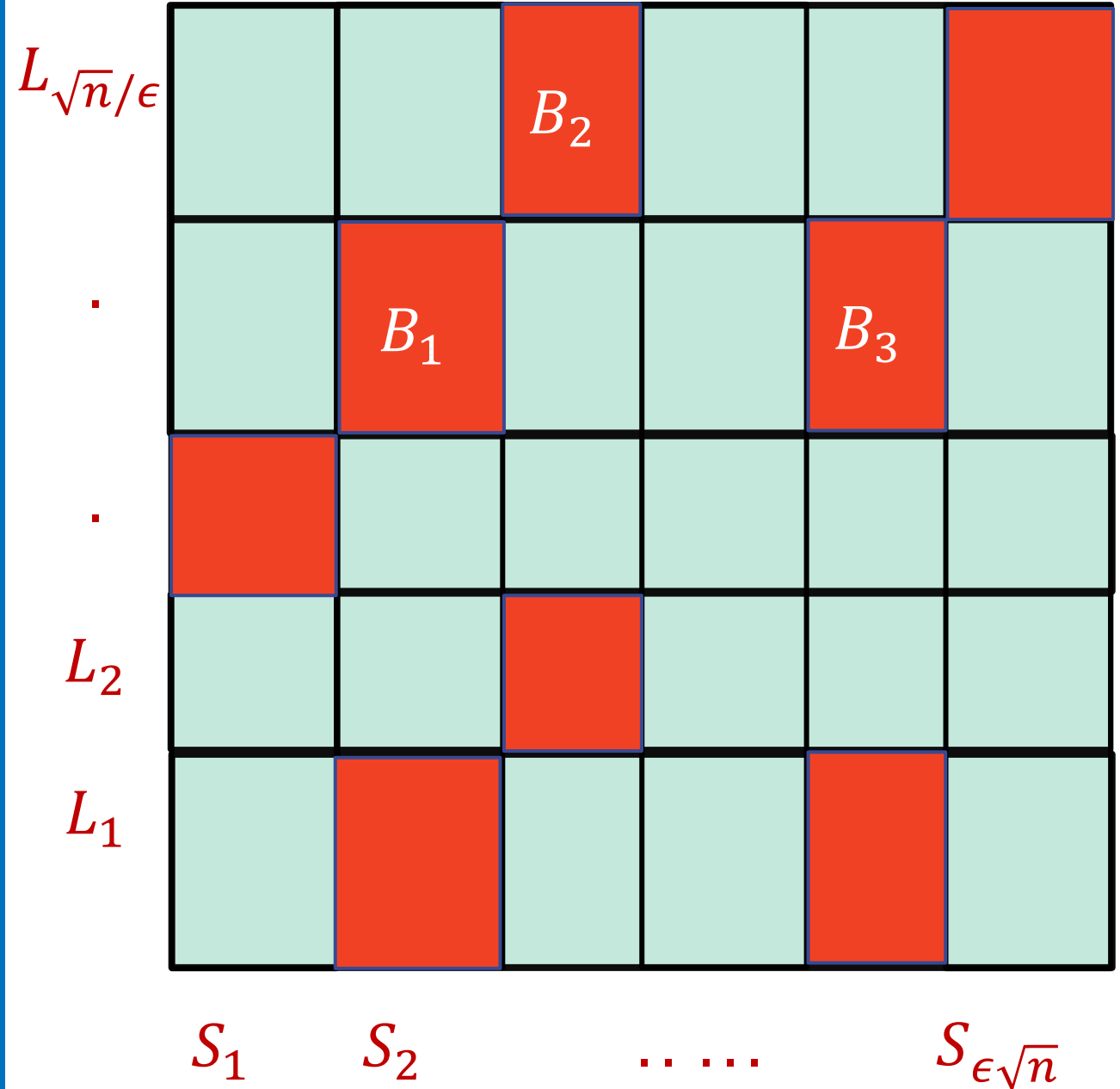
# Poset, chains, and LIS

- $\langle P, \preceq \rangle$  : Natural poset on dense boxes
- Set of boxes through which LIS passes is a chain in  $P$



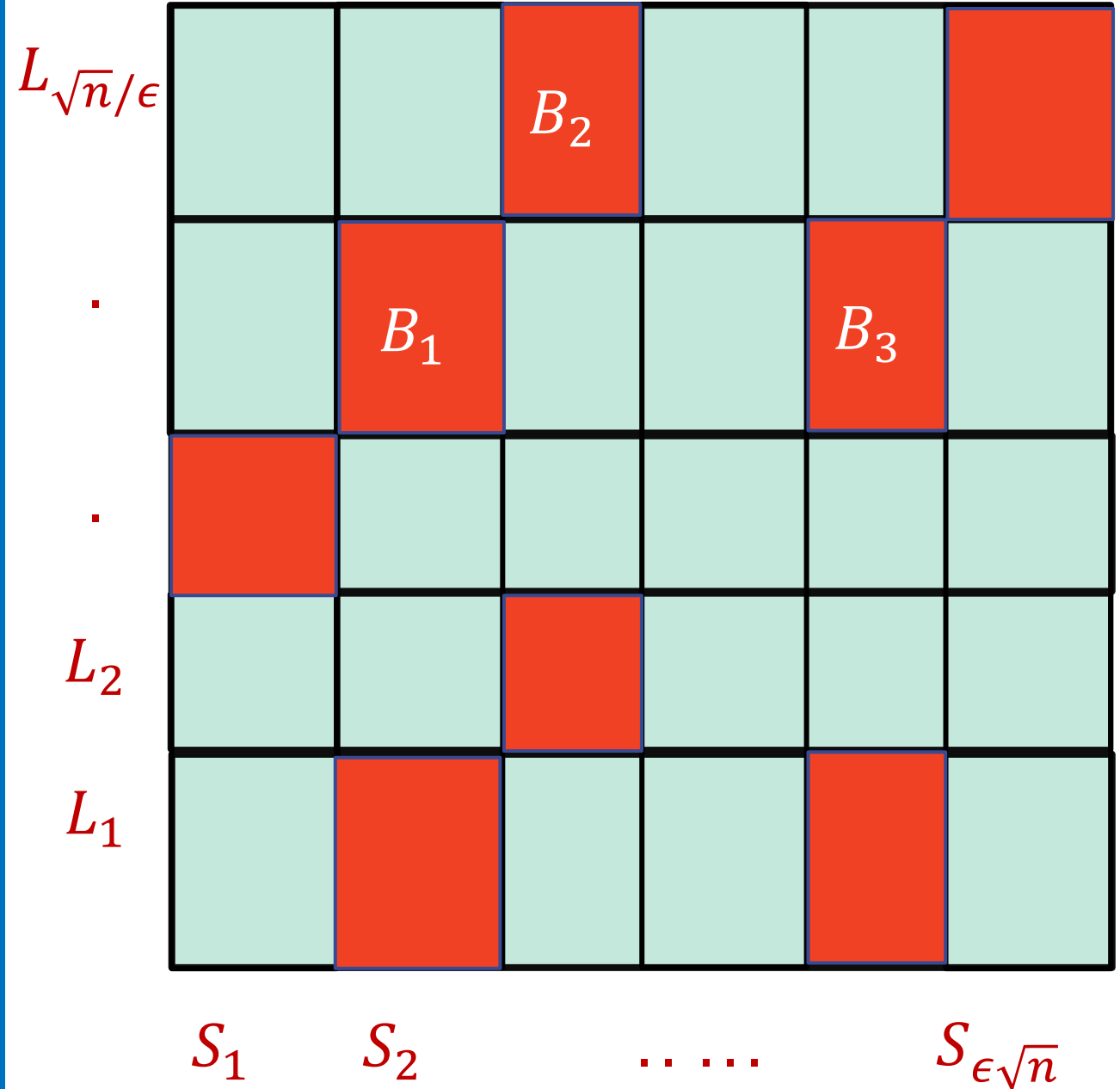
# Poset, chains, and LIS

- $\langle P, \preceq \rangle$  : Natural poset on dense boxes
- Set of boxes through which LIS passes is a chain in  $P$
- Each chain in  $P$  corresponds to an increasing sequence



# Poset, chains, and LIS

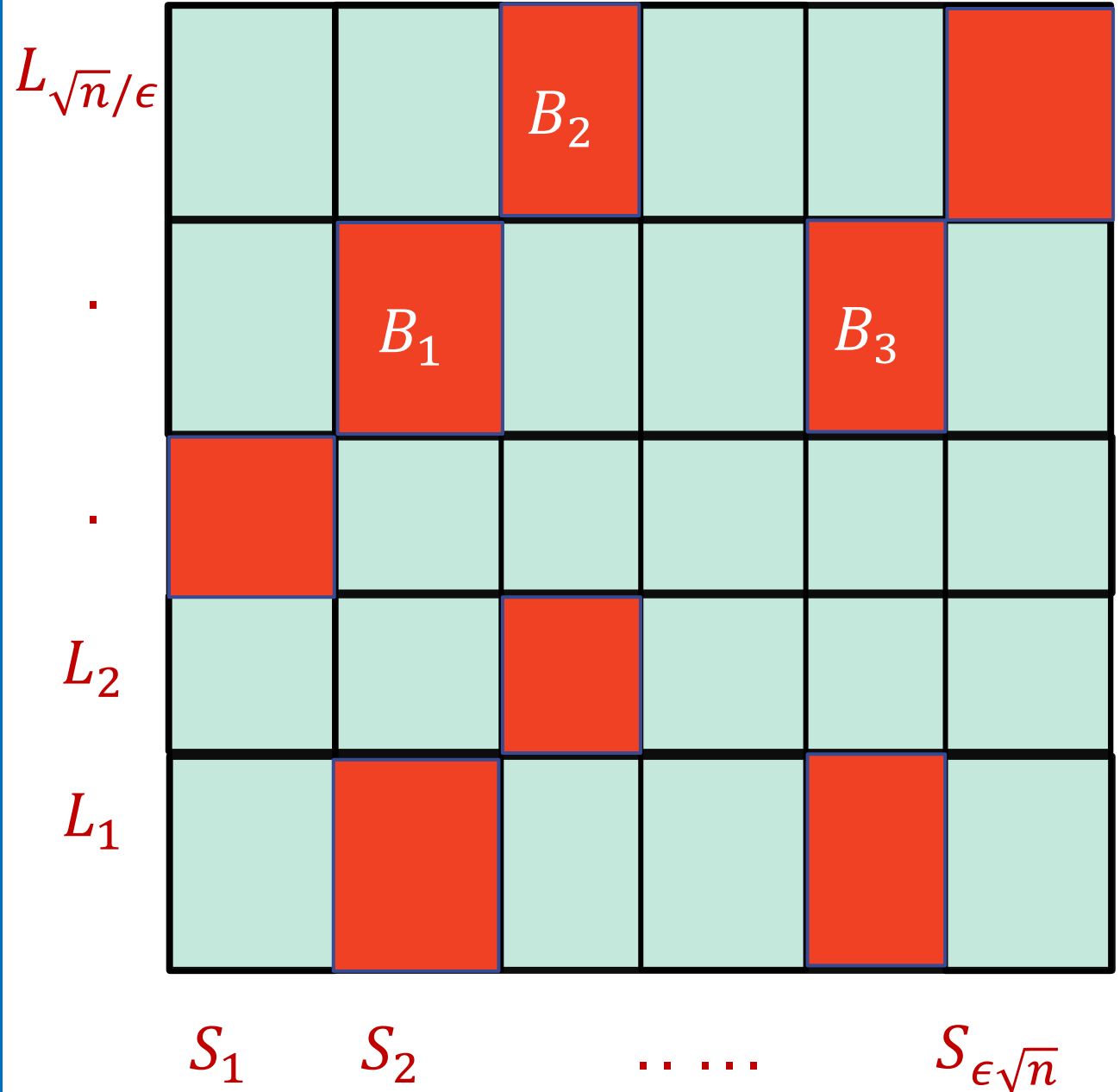
- **Strategy:** Estimate the lengths of each chain in  $P$  and output the max. value





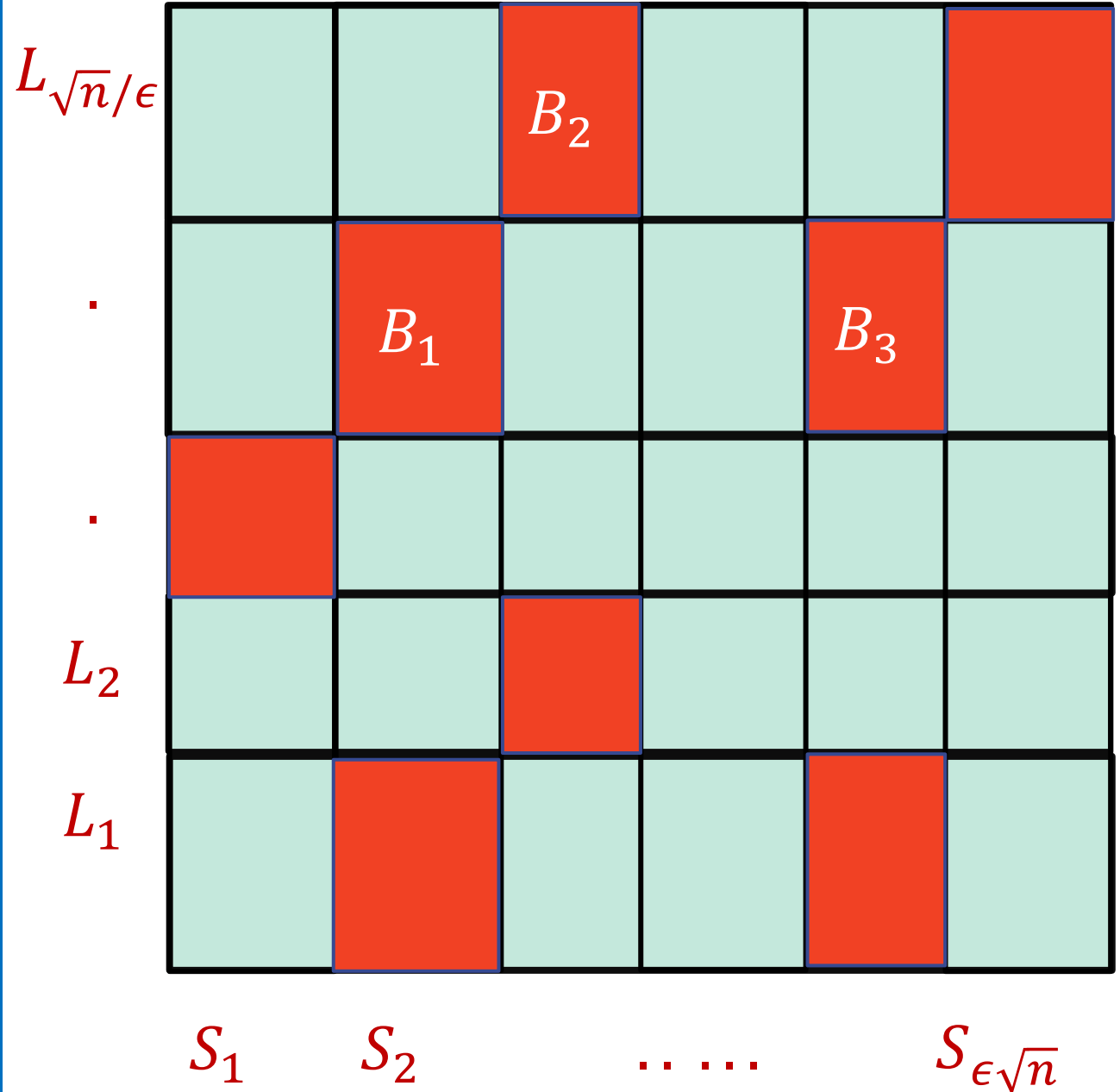
# Poset, chains, and LIS

- **Strategy:** Estimate the lengths of each chain in  $P$  and output the max. value
- **Issue:** Too many chains!



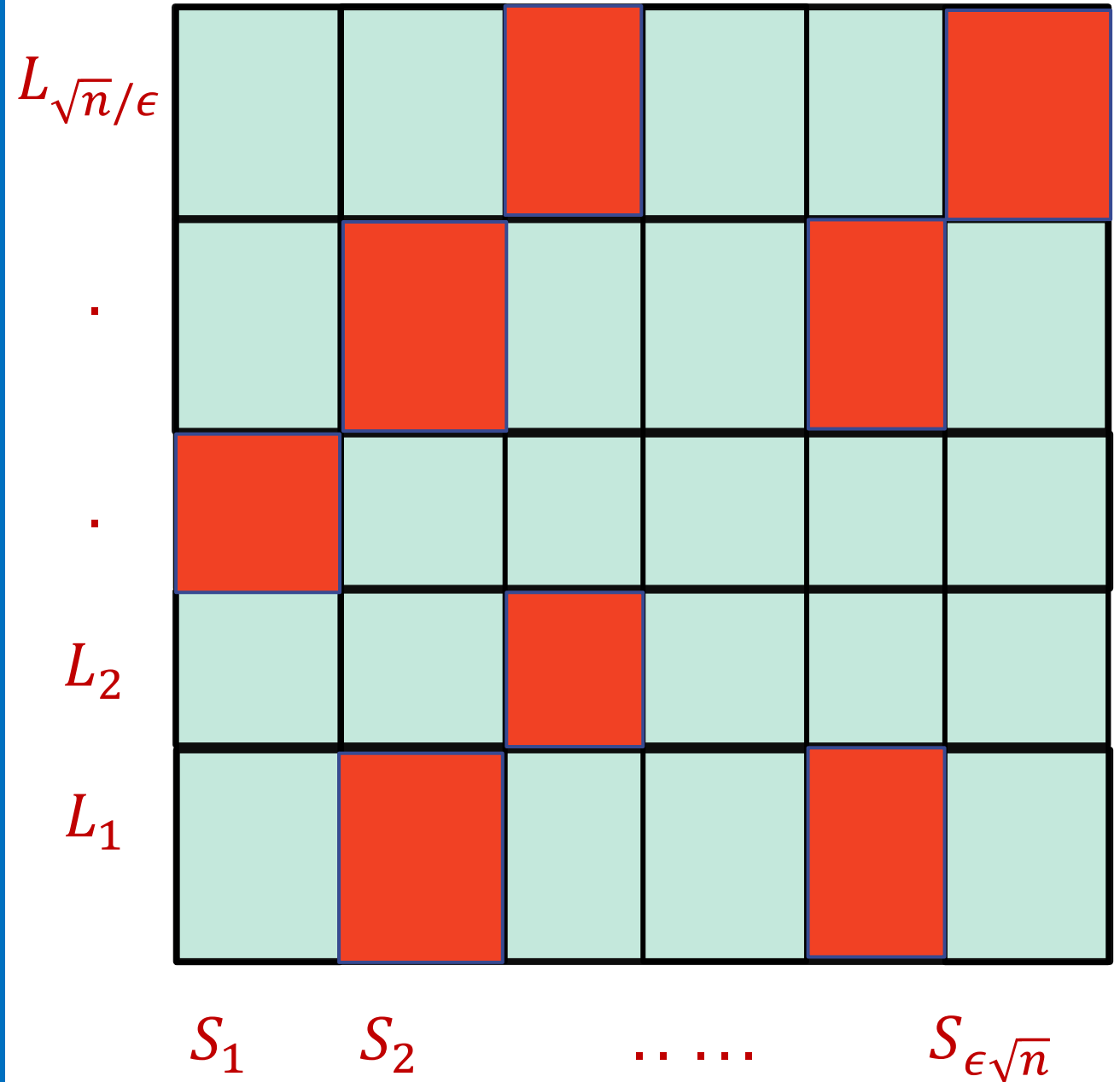
# Poset, chains, and LIS

- **Strategy:** Estimate the lengths of each chain in  $P$  and output the max. value
- **Issue:** Too many chains!
- **Fix:** Reduce the number of chains by removing large antichains



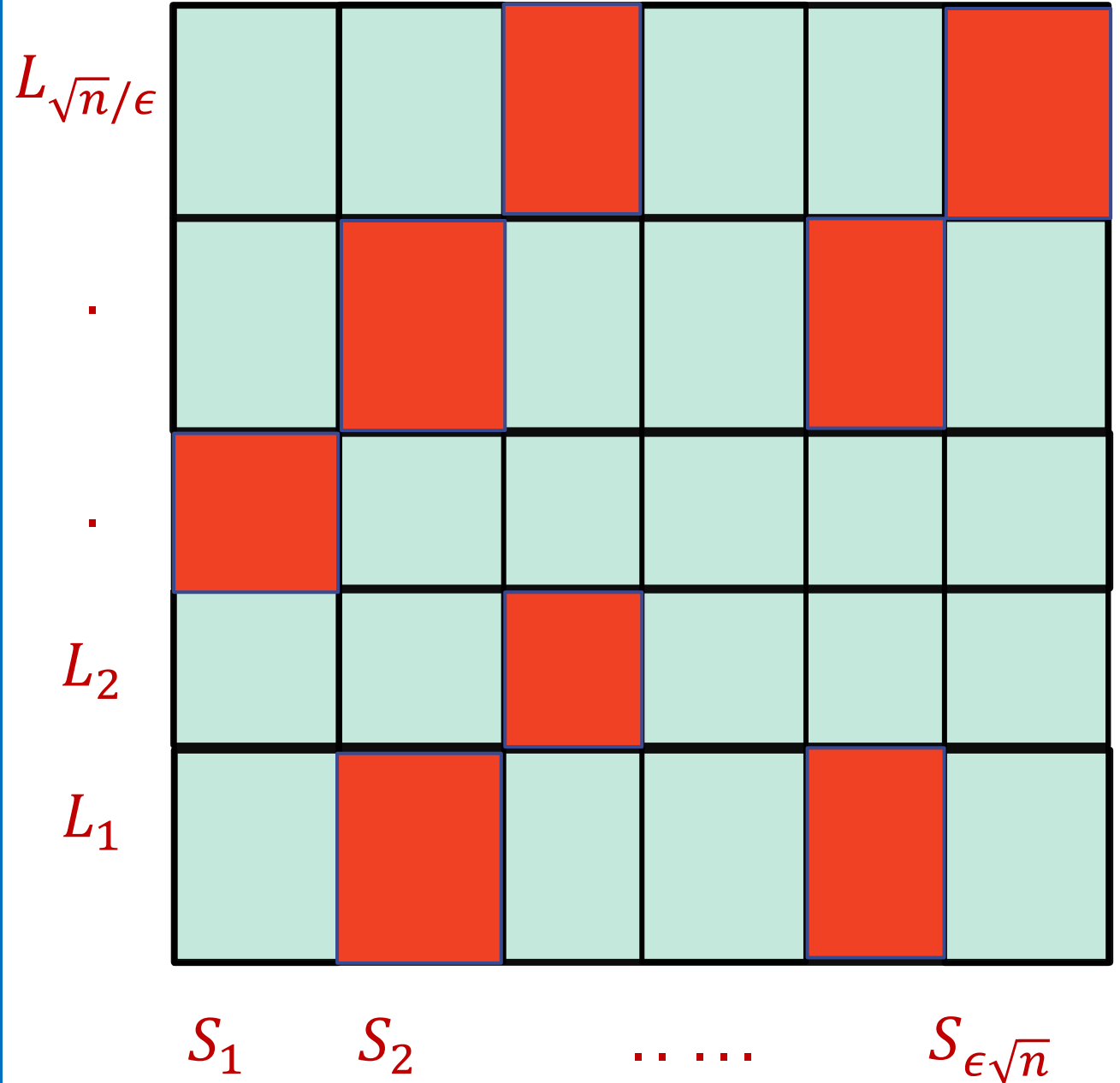
# Chain reduction

- Set of cells through which LIS passes is a chain in  $P$



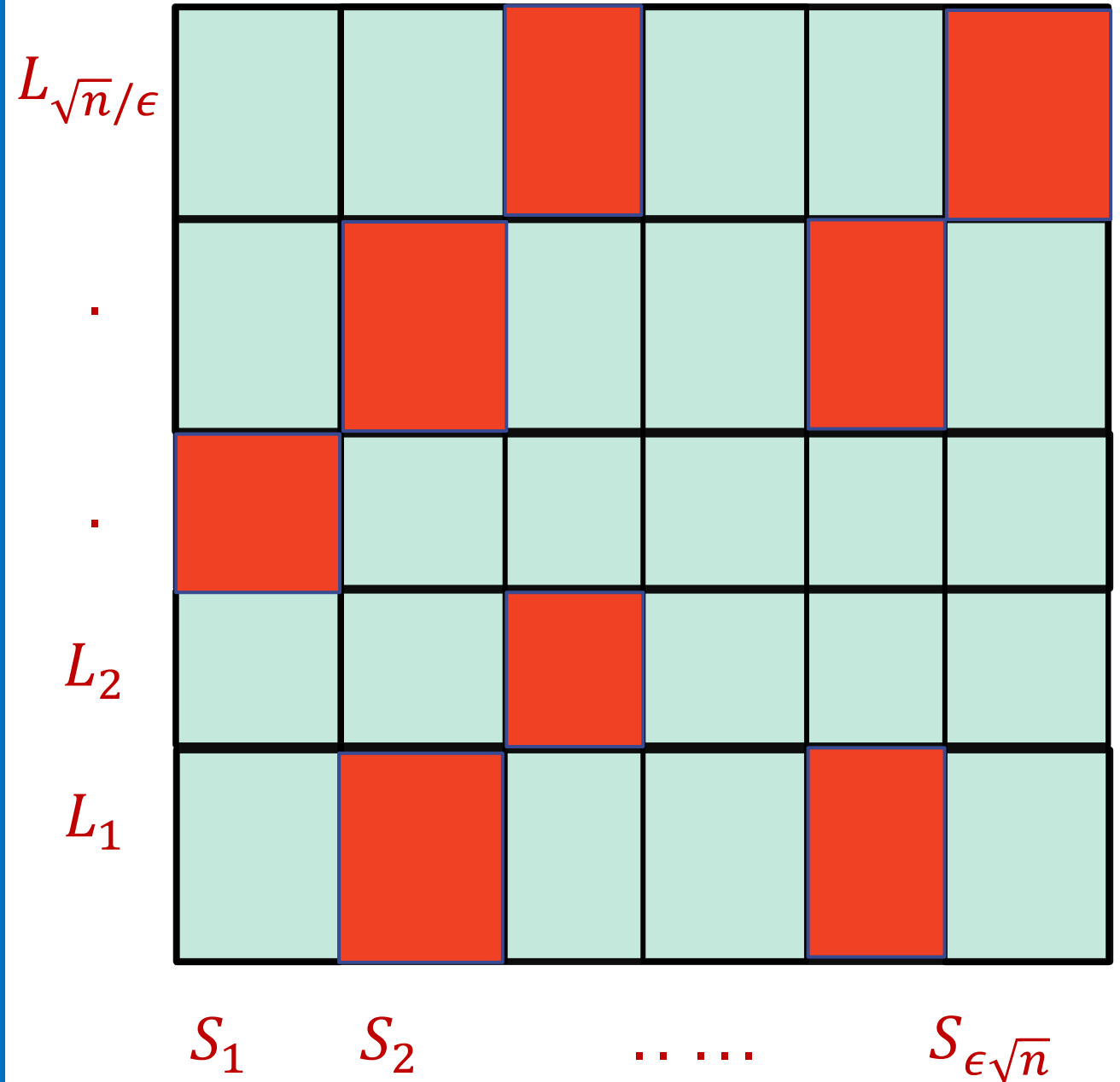
# Chain reduction

- Set of cells through which LIS passes is a chain in  $P$
- **Chain reduction:** Repeatedly remove antichains in  $P$  consisting of  $\Theta(\frac{1}{\lambda})$  dense cells each



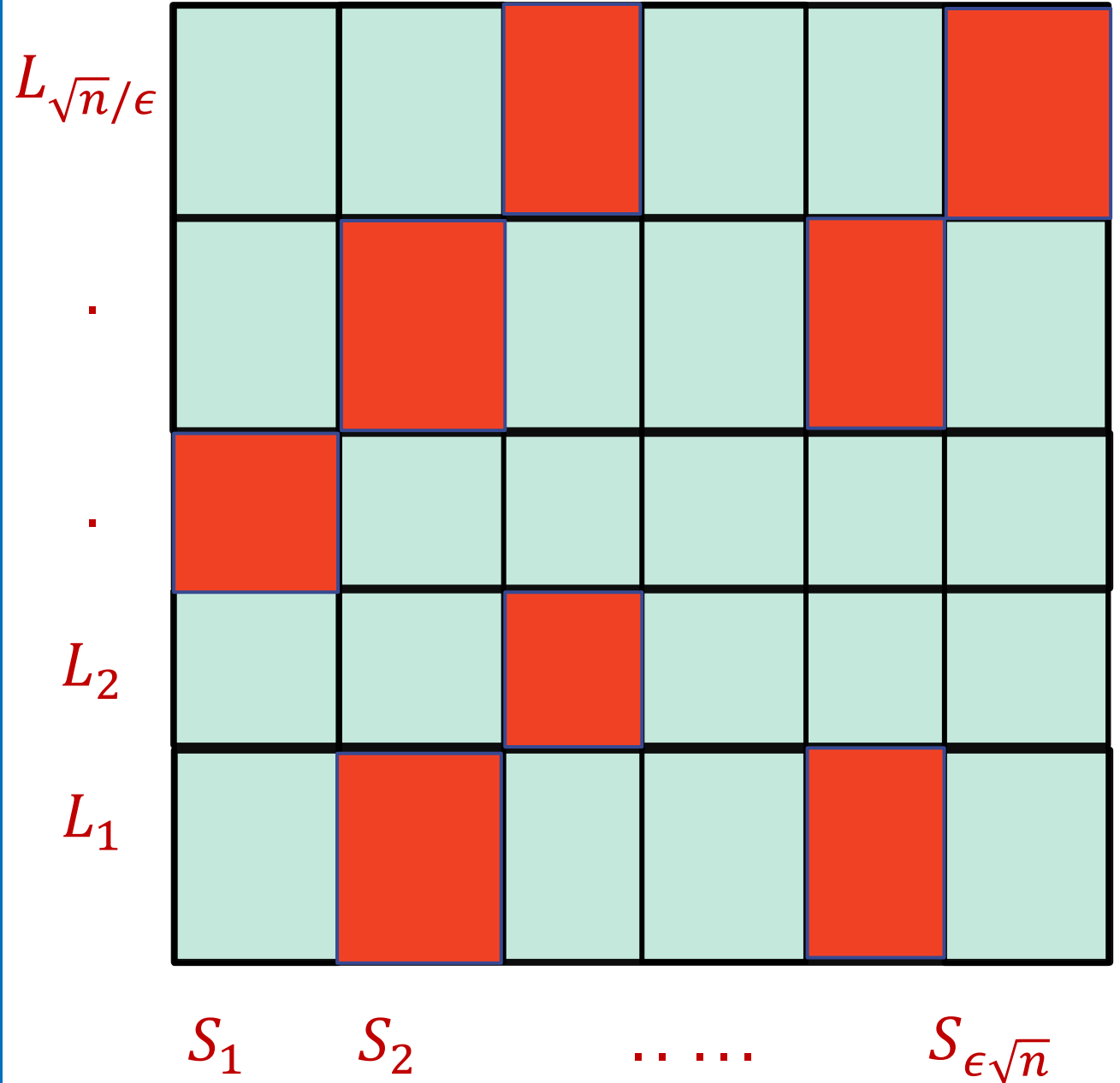
# Chain reduction does not hurt much

- At most  $\epsilon\sqrt{n}/\epsilon^3\lambda$  dense cells



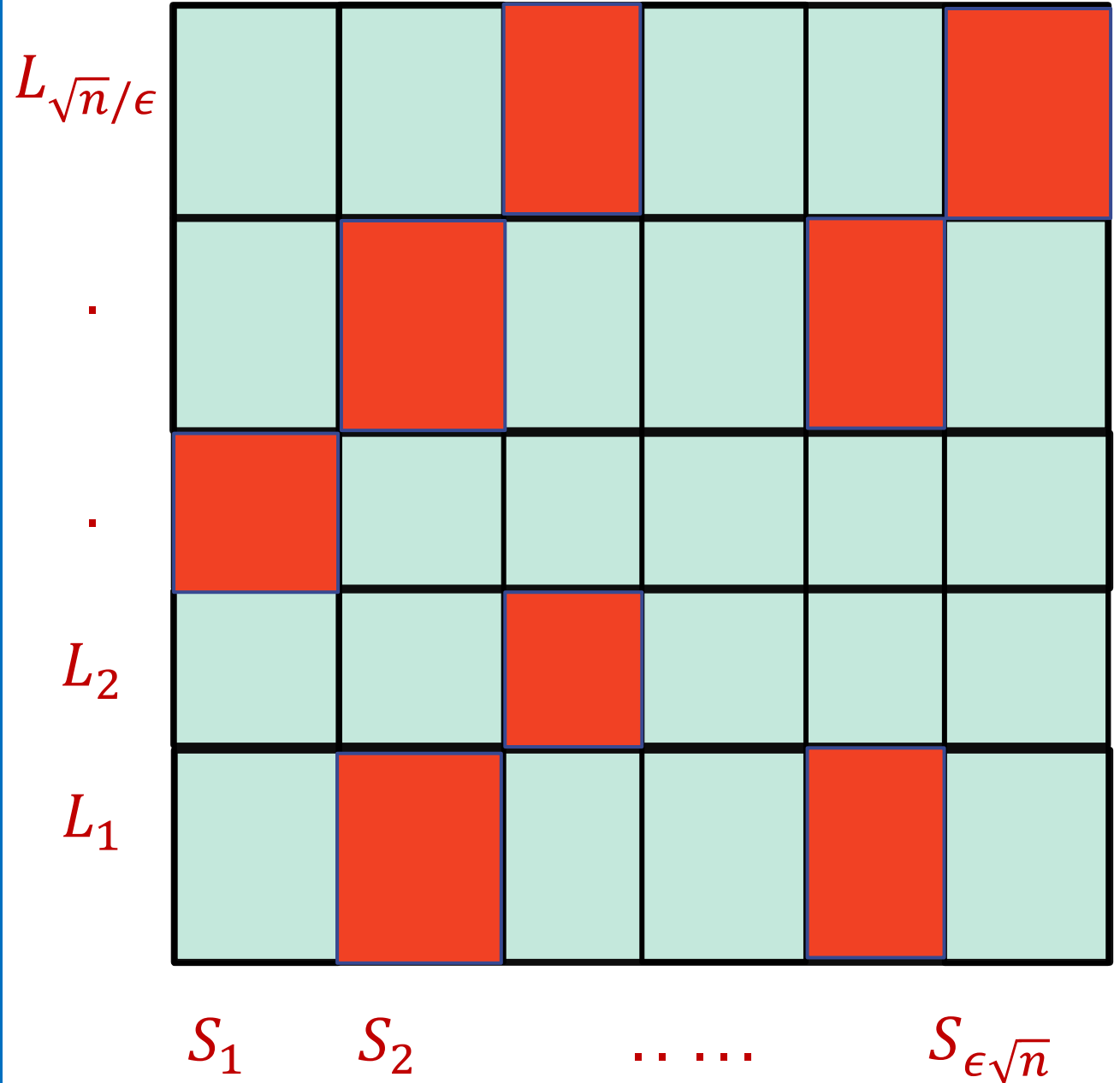
# Chain reduction does not hurt much

- At most  $\epsilon\sqrt{n}/\epsilon^3\lambda$  dense cells
- Antichain removal can be done at most  $(\sqrt{n}/(\epsilon^2\lambda))/(1/\lambda) = \sqrt{n}/\epsilon^2$  times



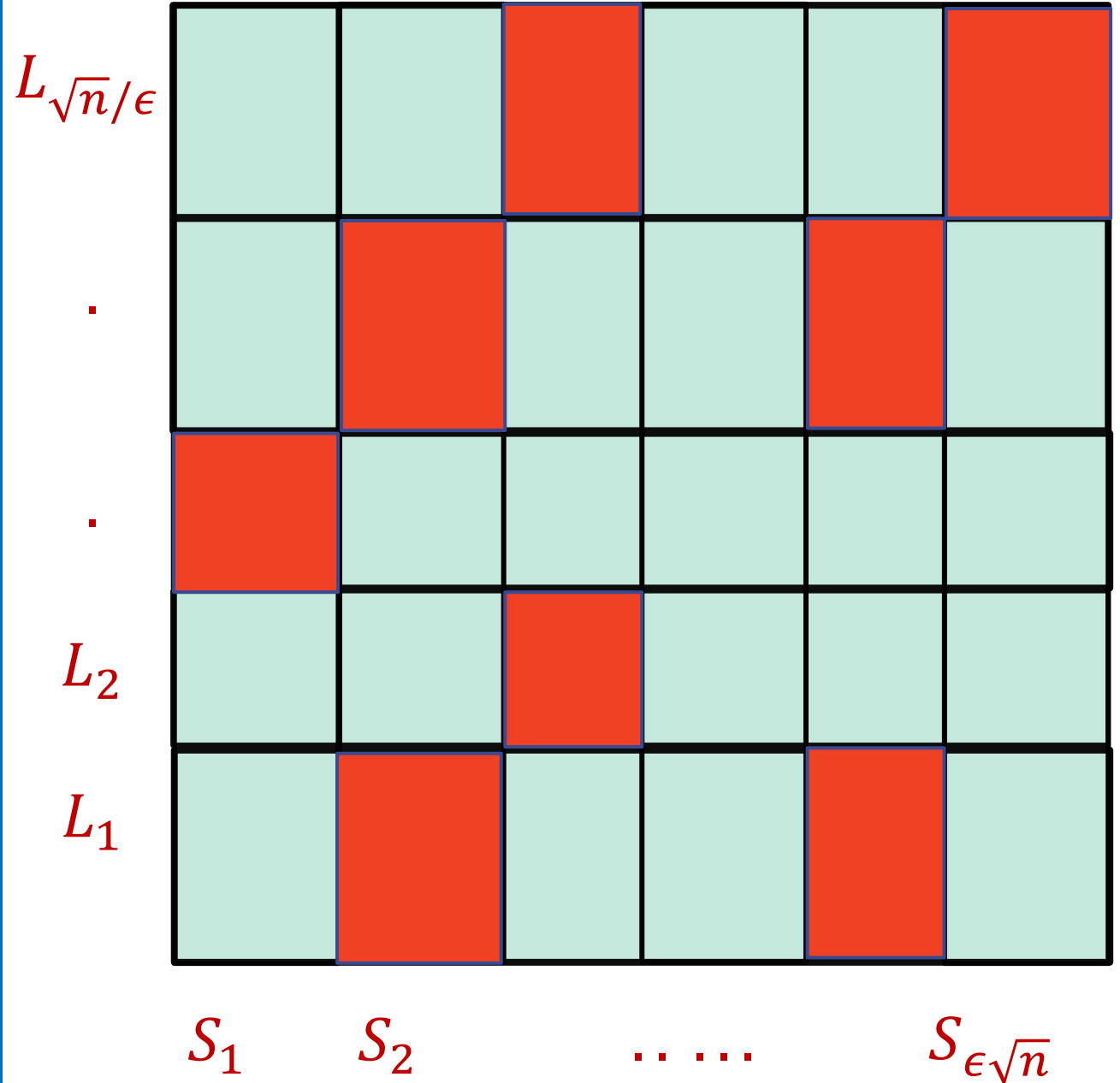
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- Each antichain removal hits one dense cell from an LIS



# Chain reduction does not hurt much

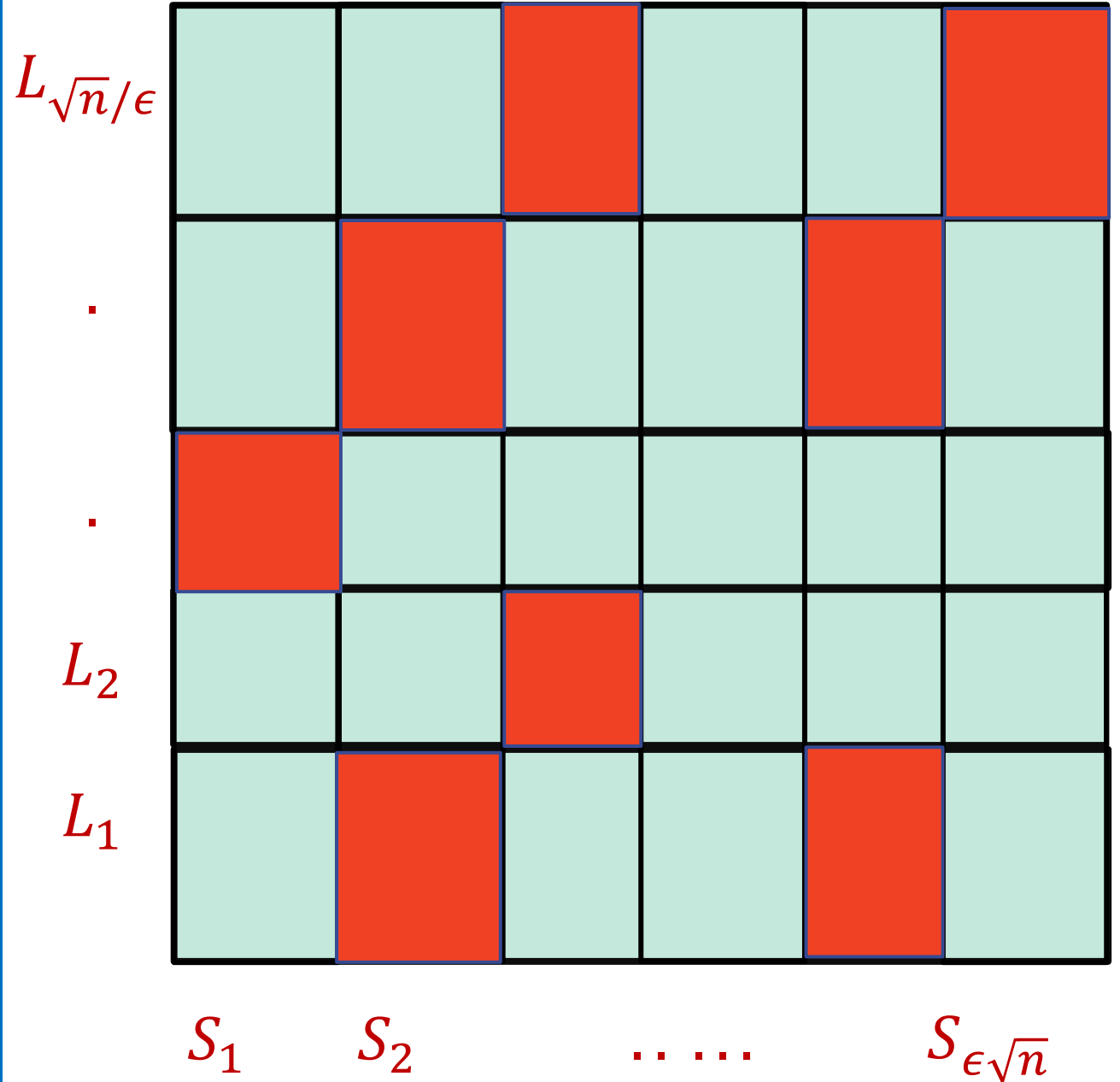
- At most  $\epsilon\sqrt{n}/\epsilon^3\lambda$  dense cells
- Antichain removal can be done at most  $(\sqrt{n}/(\epsilon^2\lambda))/(1/\lambda) = \sqrt{n}/\epsilon^2$  times
- Each antichain removal hits one dense cell from an LIS
- Total loss to LIS at most  $\epsilon\lambda n = \epsilon \cdot \text{LIS points}$





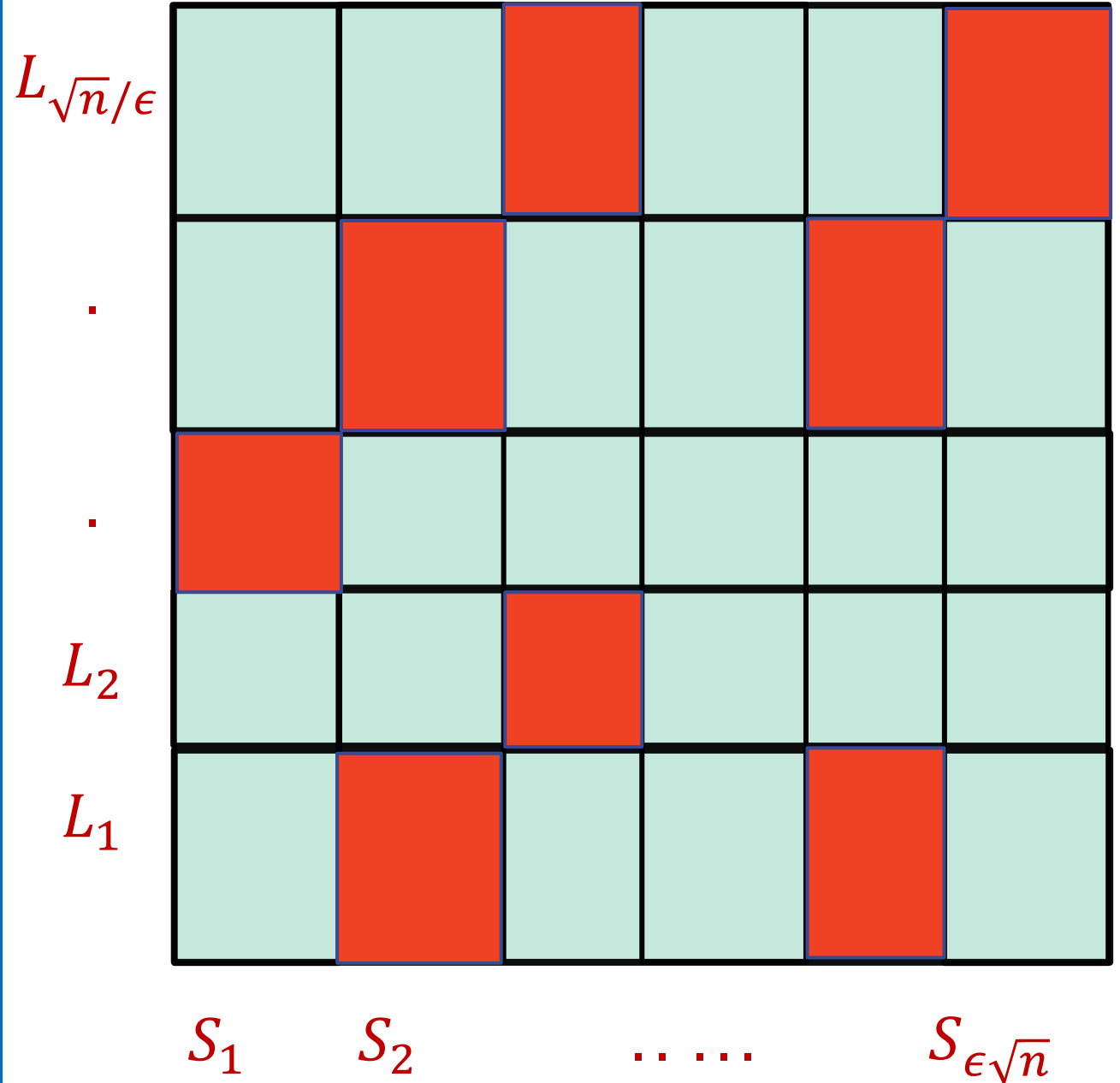
# After chain reduction

- After chain reduction,  $P$  can be covered with at most  $O(\frac{1}{\lambda})$  chains



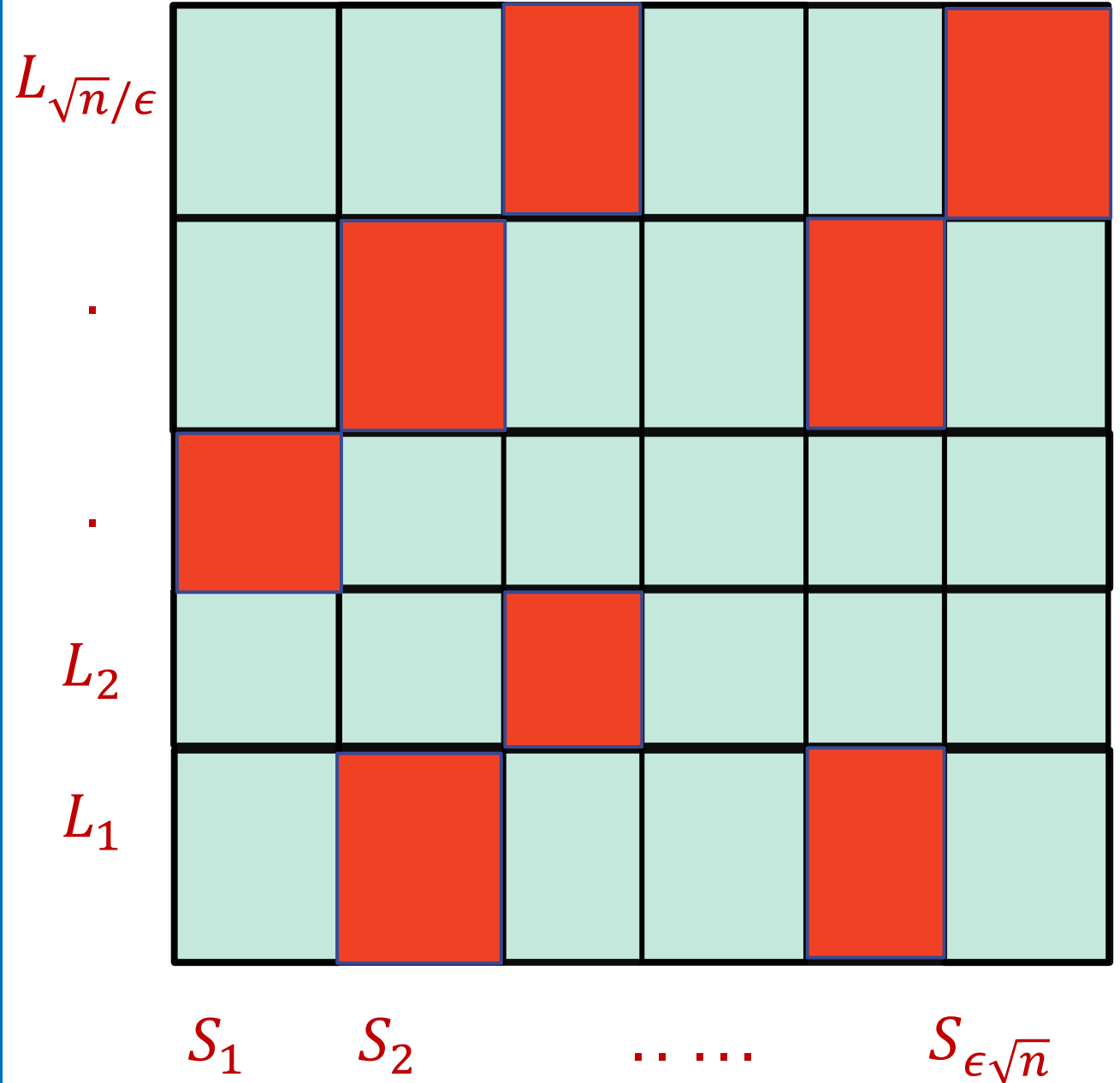
# After chain reduction

- After chain reduction,  $P$  can be covered with at most  $O(\frac{1}{\lambda})$  chains
- Estimate LIS in these chains



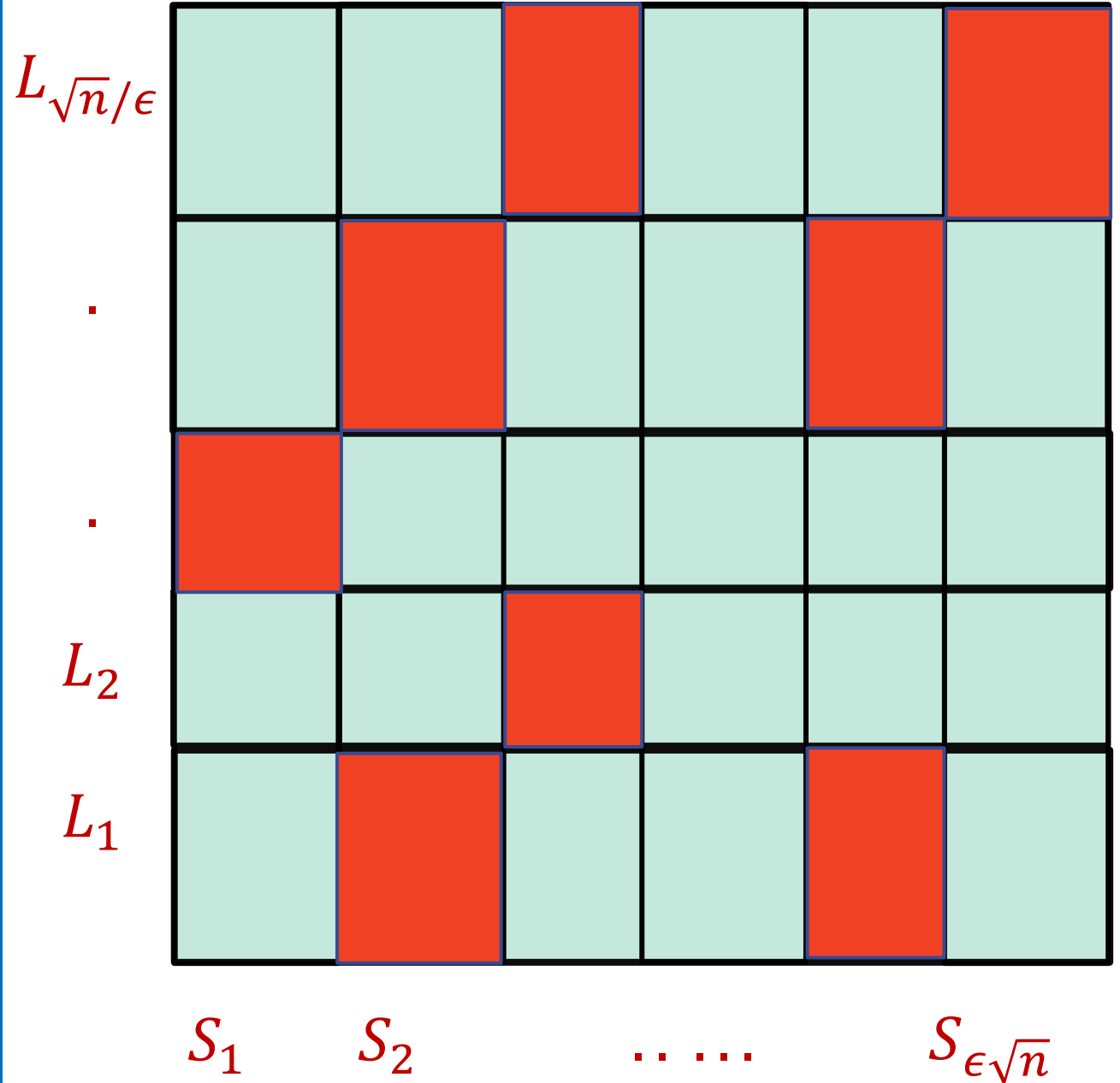
# After chain reduction

- After chain reduction,  $P$  can be covered with at most  $O(\frac{1}{\lambda})$  chains
- Estimate LIS in these chains
- Output the max. value estimated

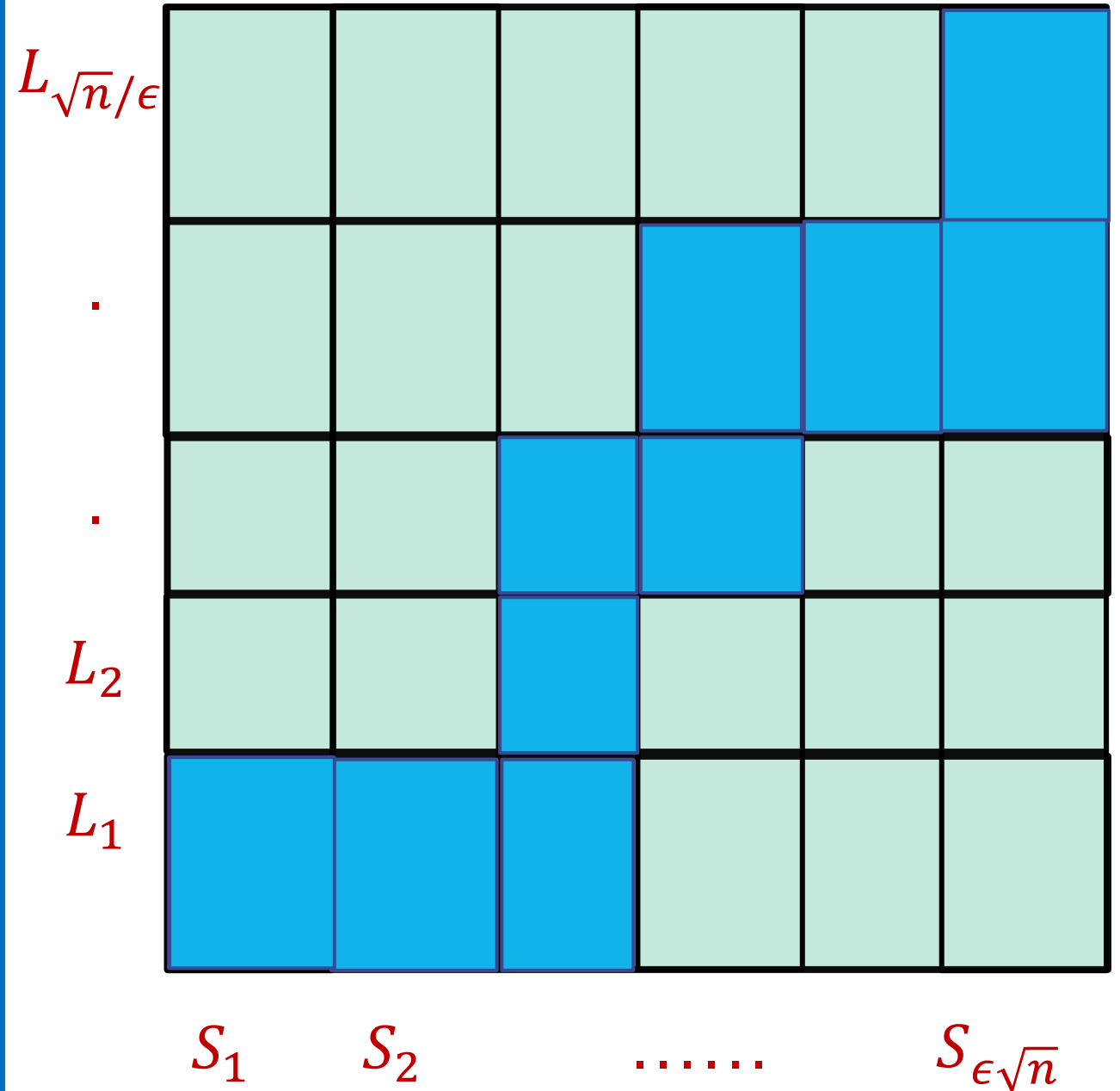


# After chain reduction

- After chain reduction,  $P$  can be covered with at most  $O(\frac{1}{\lambda})$  chains
- Estimate LIS in these chains
- Output the max. value estimated
- Loss to LIS incurred by a factor of  $\lambda$

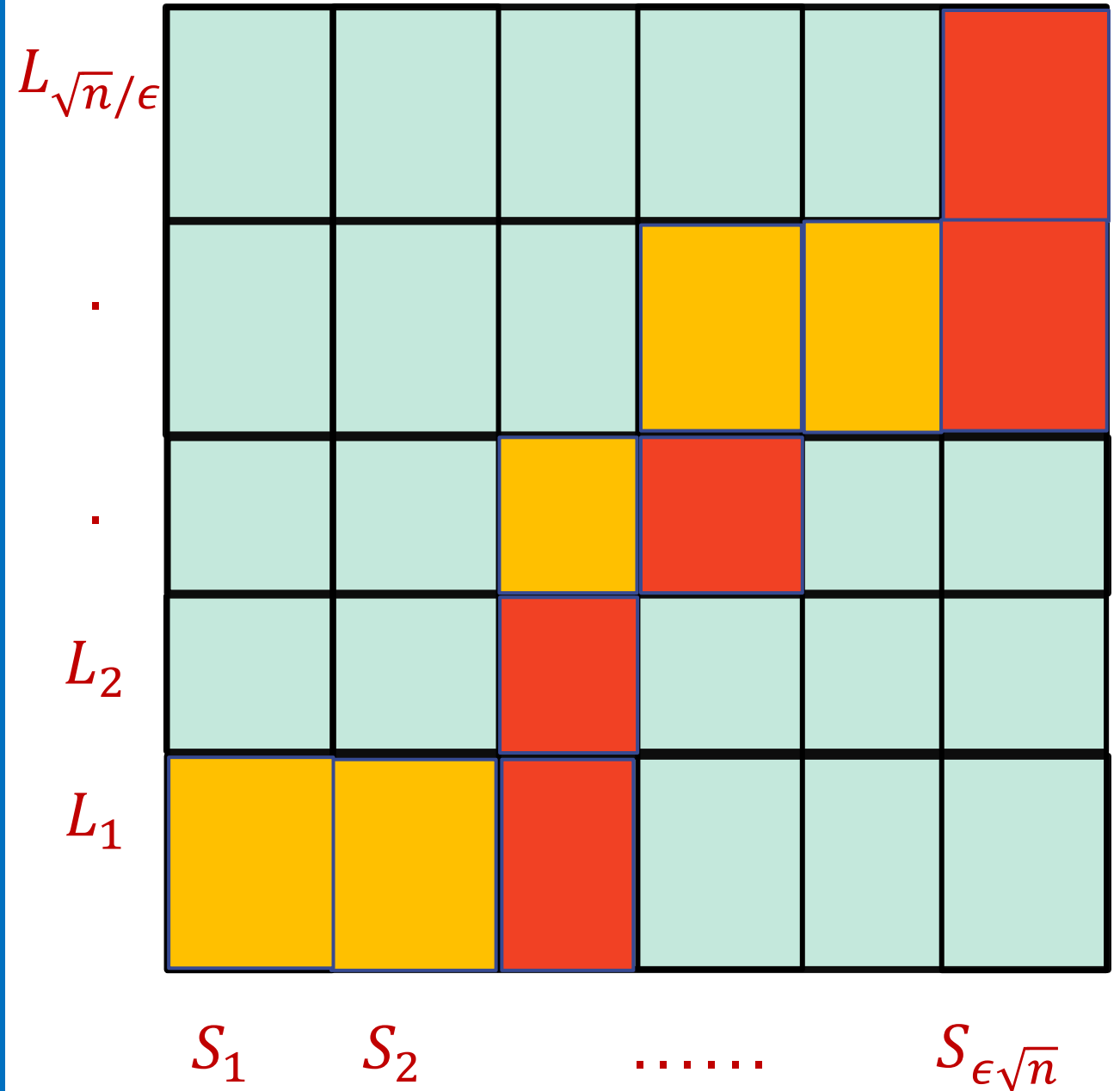


# Estimating LIS in one chain



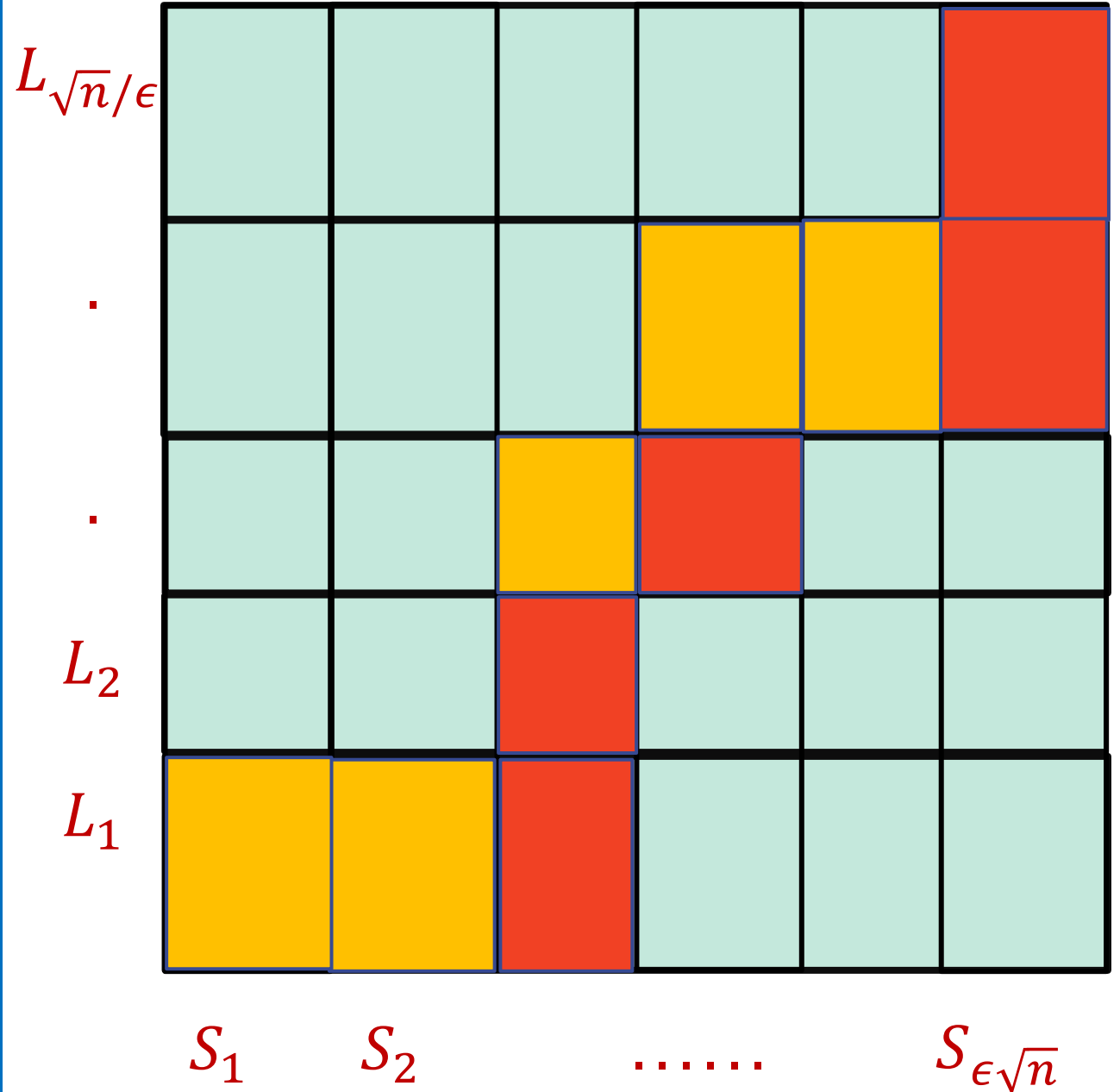
# Estimating LIS in one chain

- Partition into horizontal and vertical chains



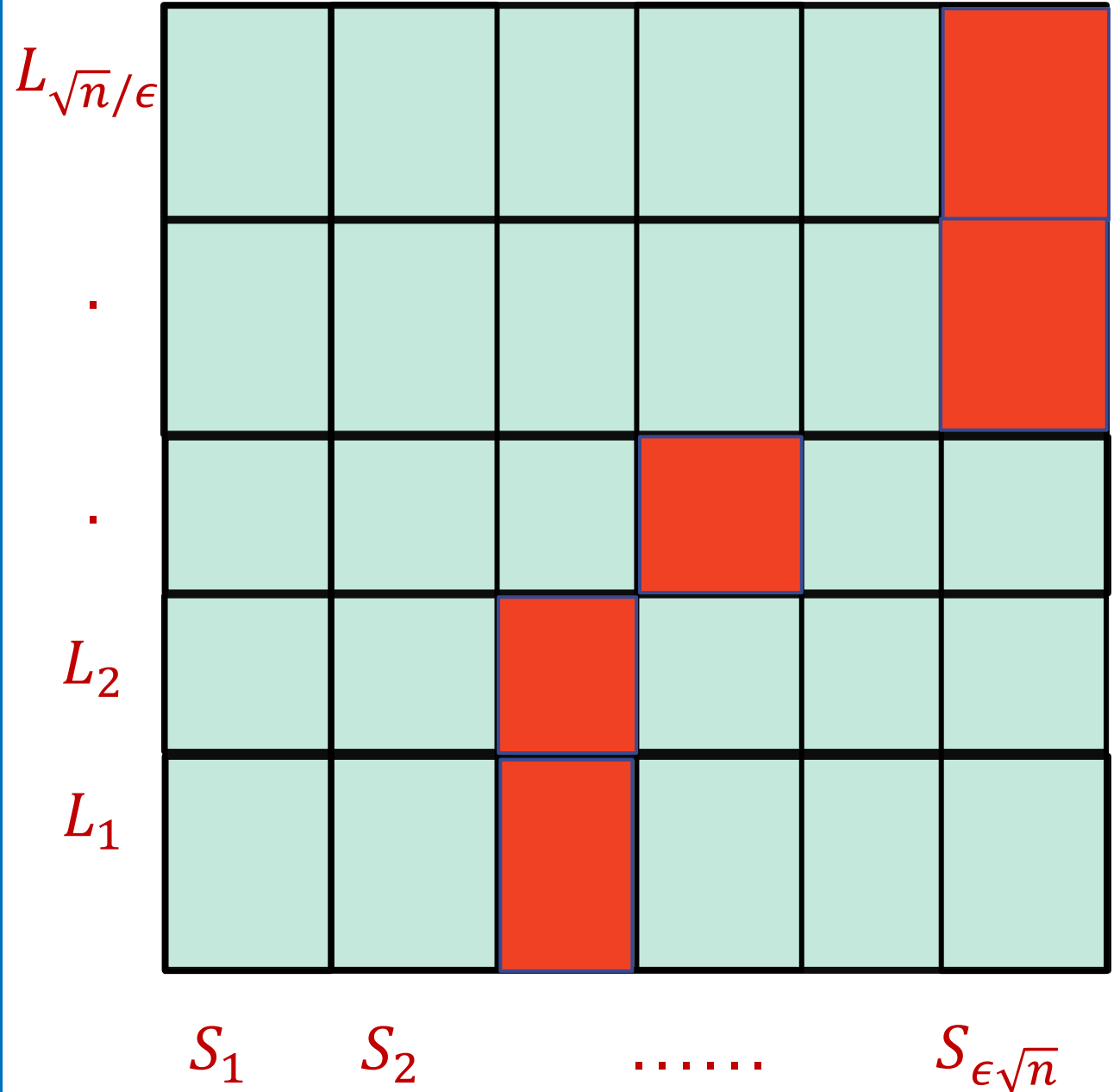
# Estimating LIS in one chain

- Partition into horizontal and vertical chains
- Estimate LIS separately for vertical and horizontal chains



# Vertical chains

- For each vertical block, can evaluate the LIS by making  $\sqrt{n}$  queries
- Sample a constant number of vertical blocks and evaluate LIS in the sampled blocks to estimate LIS in the vertical chain
- Above step can be made nonadaptive

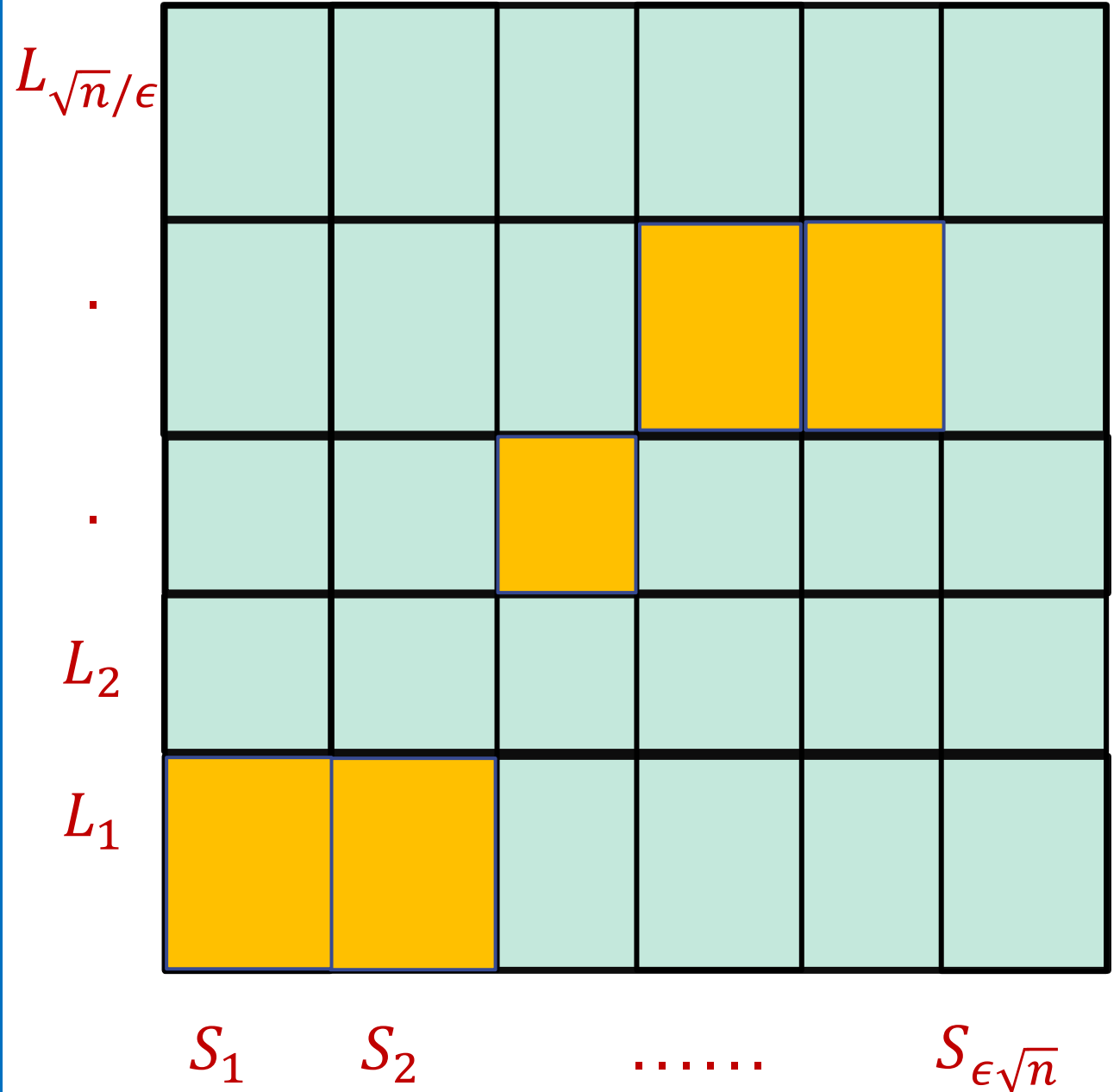




# Horizontal chains

Let  $\ell = \epsilon/\lambda^2$ .

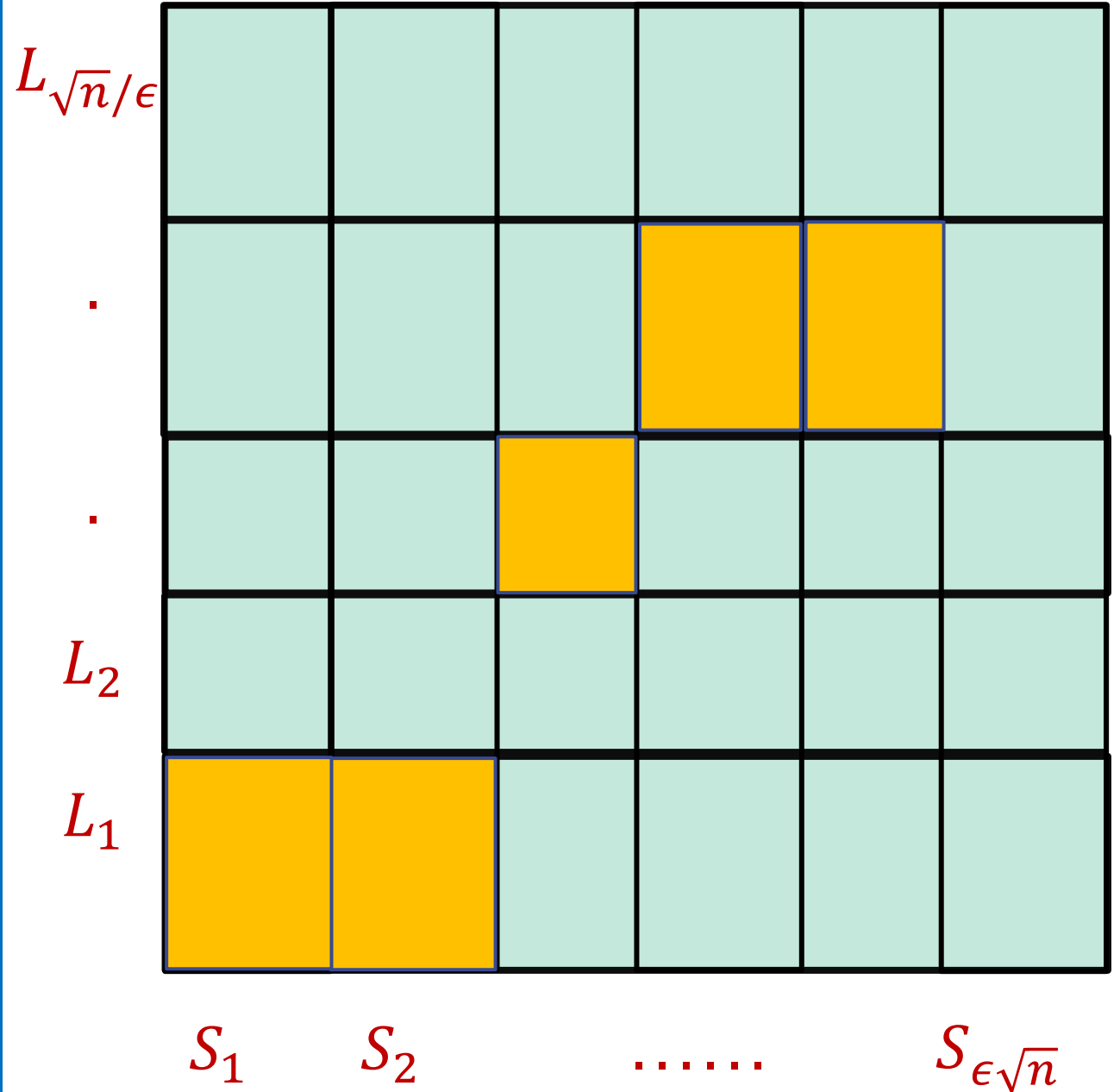
- It is "okay to delete" all horizontal blocks with more than  $\ell$  boxes.



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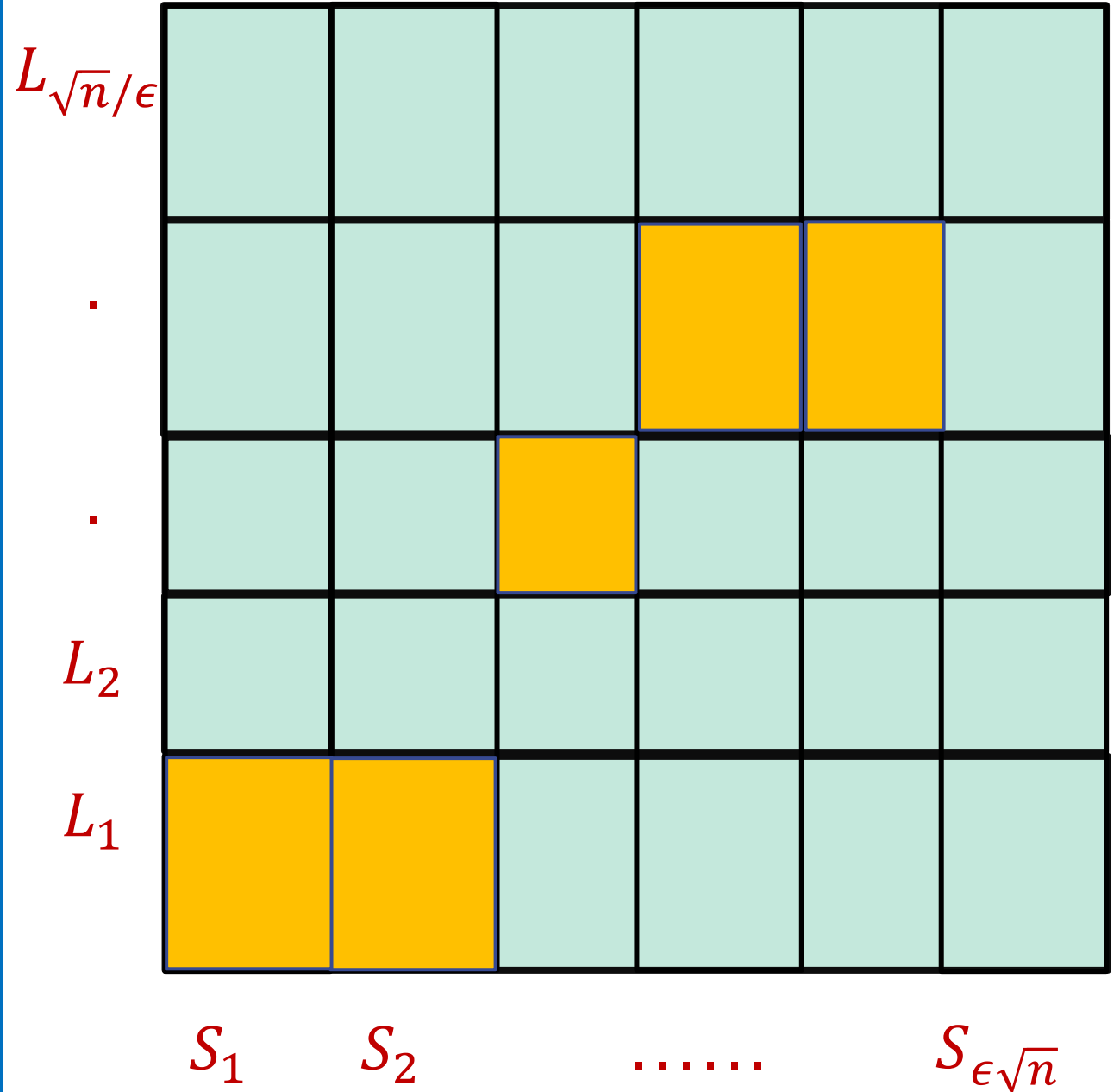
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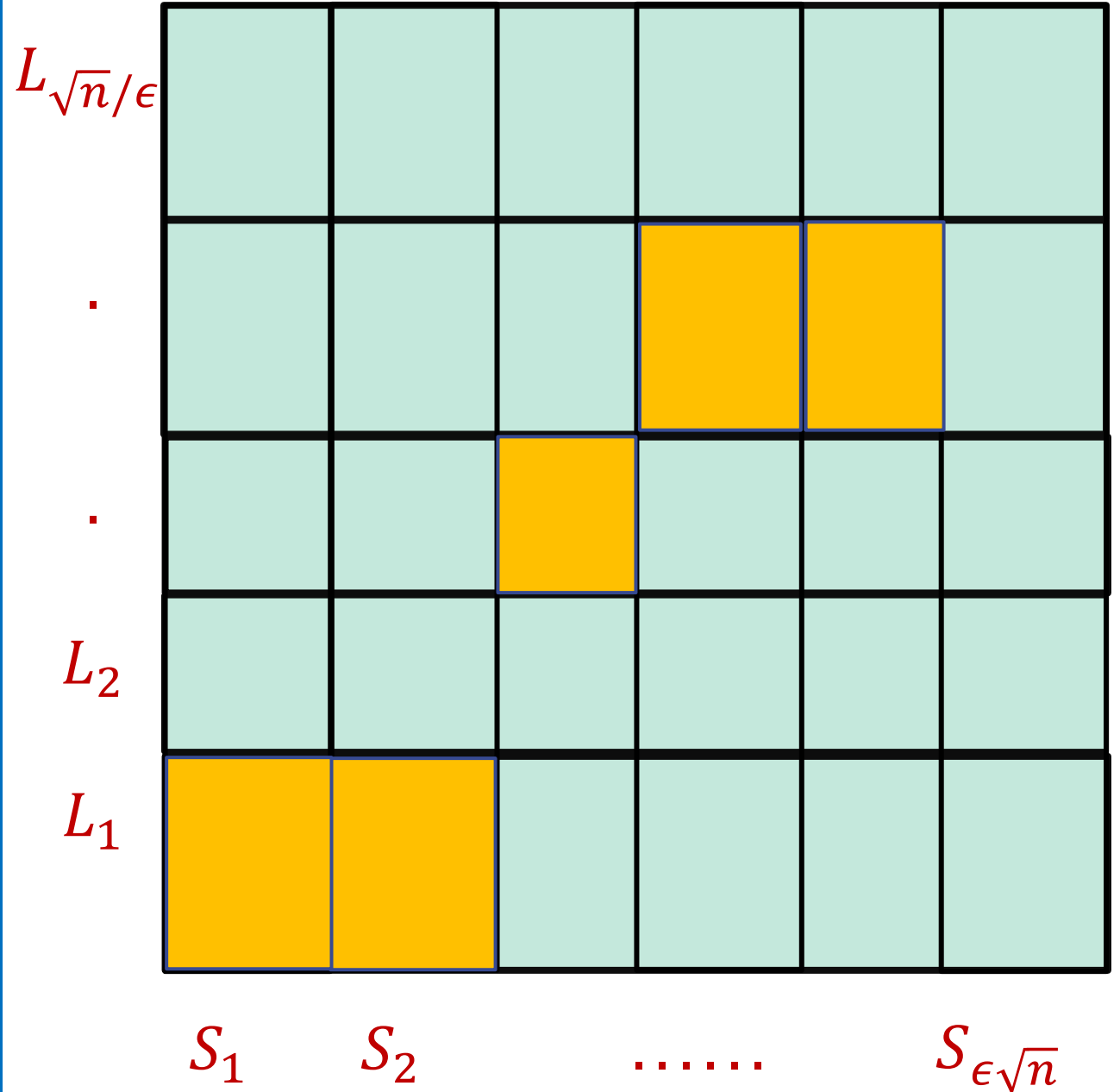
- It is “okay to delete” all horizontal blocks with more than  $\ell$  boxes.
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# Horizontal chains

Let  $\ell = \epsilon/\lambda^2$ .

- It is “okay to delete” all horizontal blocks with more than  $\ell$  boxes.
- Sample a constant number of remaining horizontal blocks, exactly compute the LIS in each by querying  $O(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{\lambda^2})$  points per block, and estimate the LIS length in the chain



# Analysis idea

- **Query Complexity:** Layering, Tagging of boxes, Finer layering per vertical stripe, and estimating the length of horizontal and vertical chains overall take  $\tilde{\Theta}(\sqrt{n} \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\lambda}))$  queries

# Analysis idea

- **Query Complexity:** Layering, Tagging of boxes, Finer layering per vertical stripe, and estimating the length of horizontal and vertical chains overall take  $\tilde{\Theta}(\sqrt{n} \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\lambda}))$  queries
- **Approximation ratio:** Significant loss incurred is by restricting attention to  $\Theta(\frac{1}{\lambda})$  chain of dense cells, by a factor of  $\Omega(\lambda)$

# LIS estimation algorithm

Let  $r \leq n$  denote the number of distinct values in the input array

---

$\Omega(\lambda)$  multiplicative approximation,  
where  $\lambda = \text{LIS}/n$

$O(\sqrt{r} \cdot \text{poly}(\frac{1}{\lambda}))$   
nonadaptive queries

---

# Summary of our contributions

- First nontrivial lower bound on the query complexity of LIS estimation algorithms
- Nonadaptive LIS estimation algorithms with better approximation guarantees than state of the art algorithms while providing the same running time
- Parameterizing the complexity of sublinear-time algorithms for LIS estimation
- Separation between erasure-resilient and tolerant testing models for the natural property of sortedness



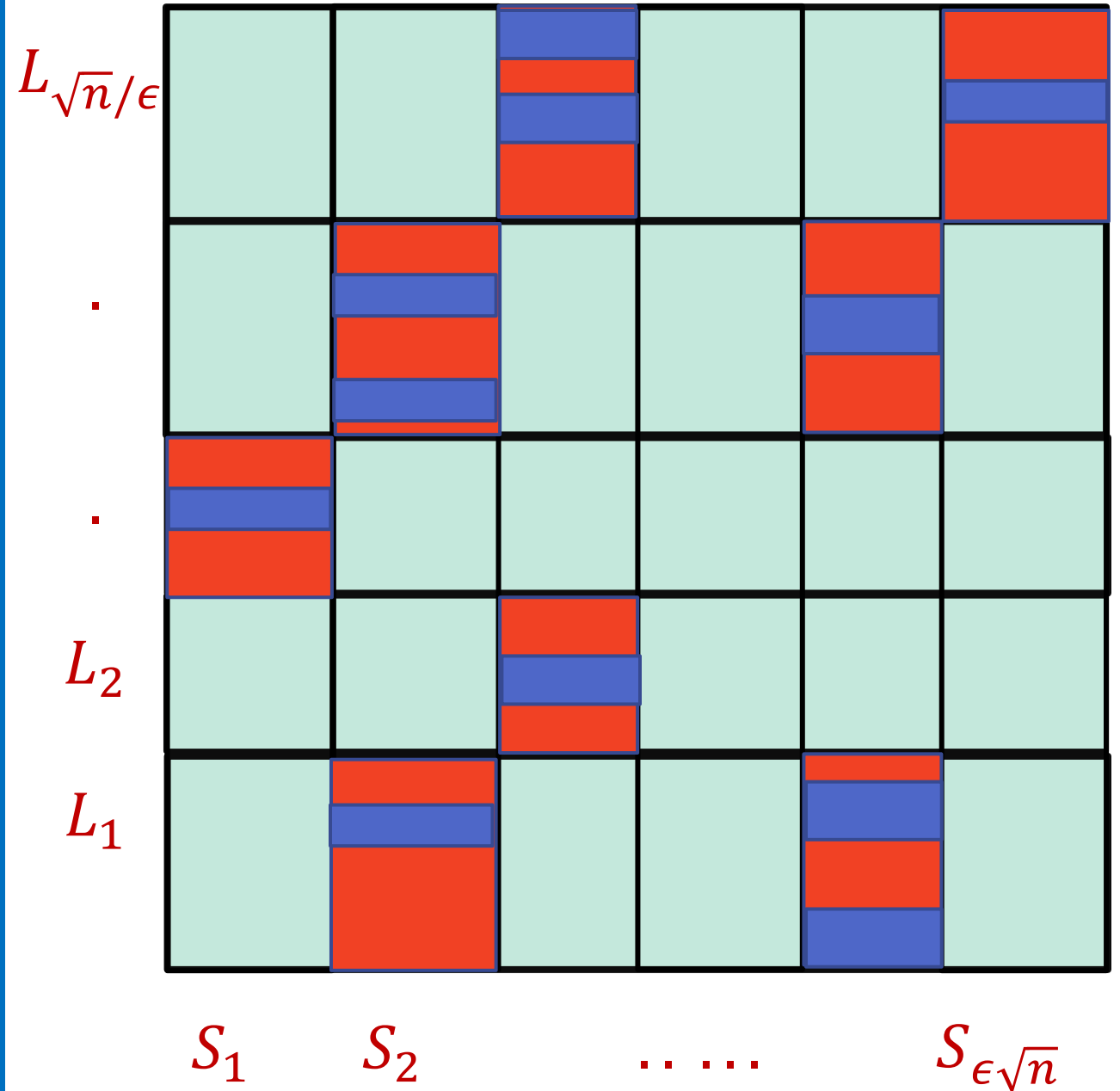
# Open problems

- Good lower bounds for adaptive or nonadaptive LIS estimation tasks, with either approximation guarantees
- Improving the algorithm of Saks and Seshadhri in terms of:
  - Query complexity
  - Adaptivity

Thank you!

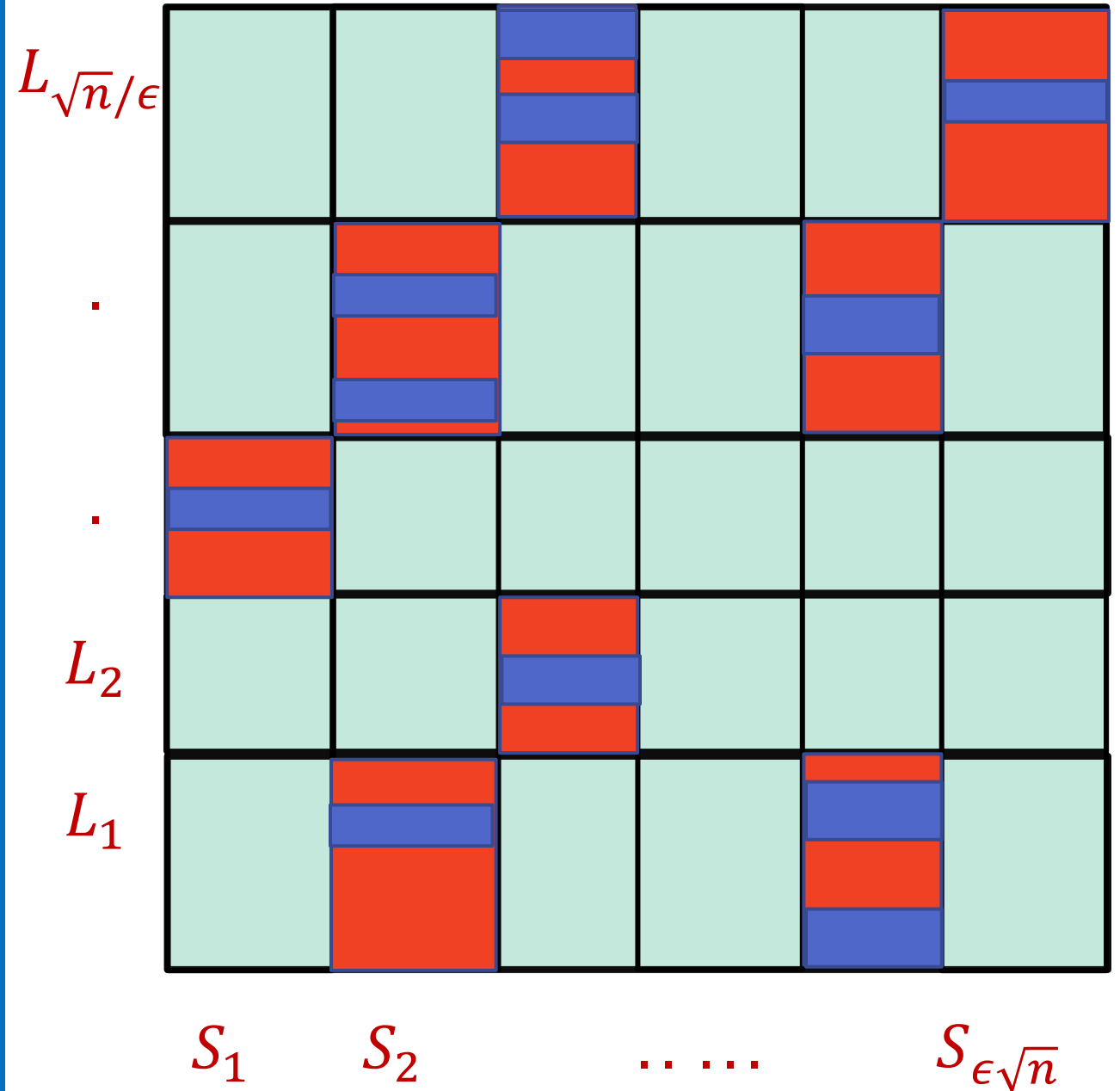
# Finer layering

- Subdivide each dense box into cells of containing roughly  $\beta$  fraction of points in its stripe



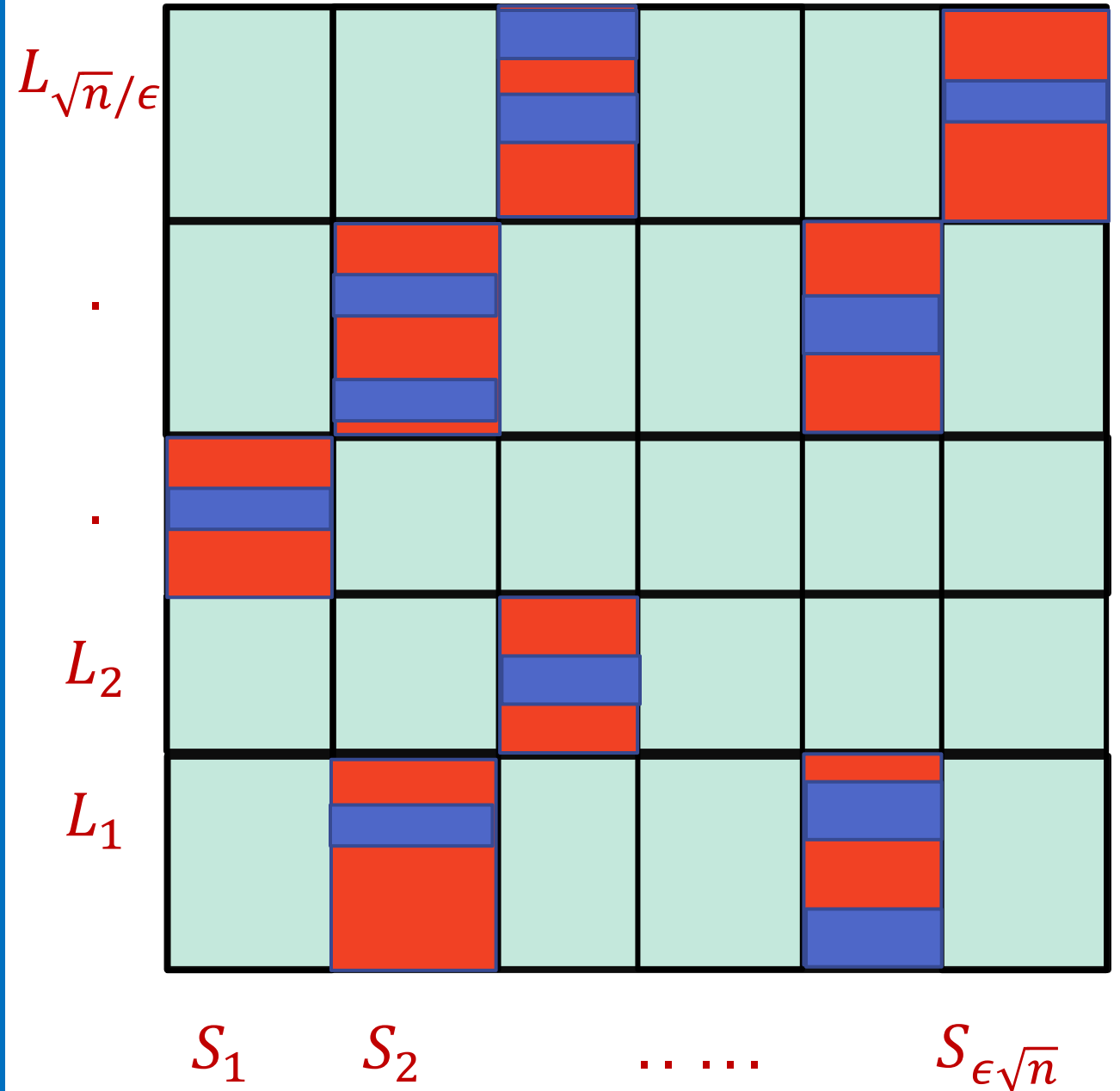
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# Finer layering

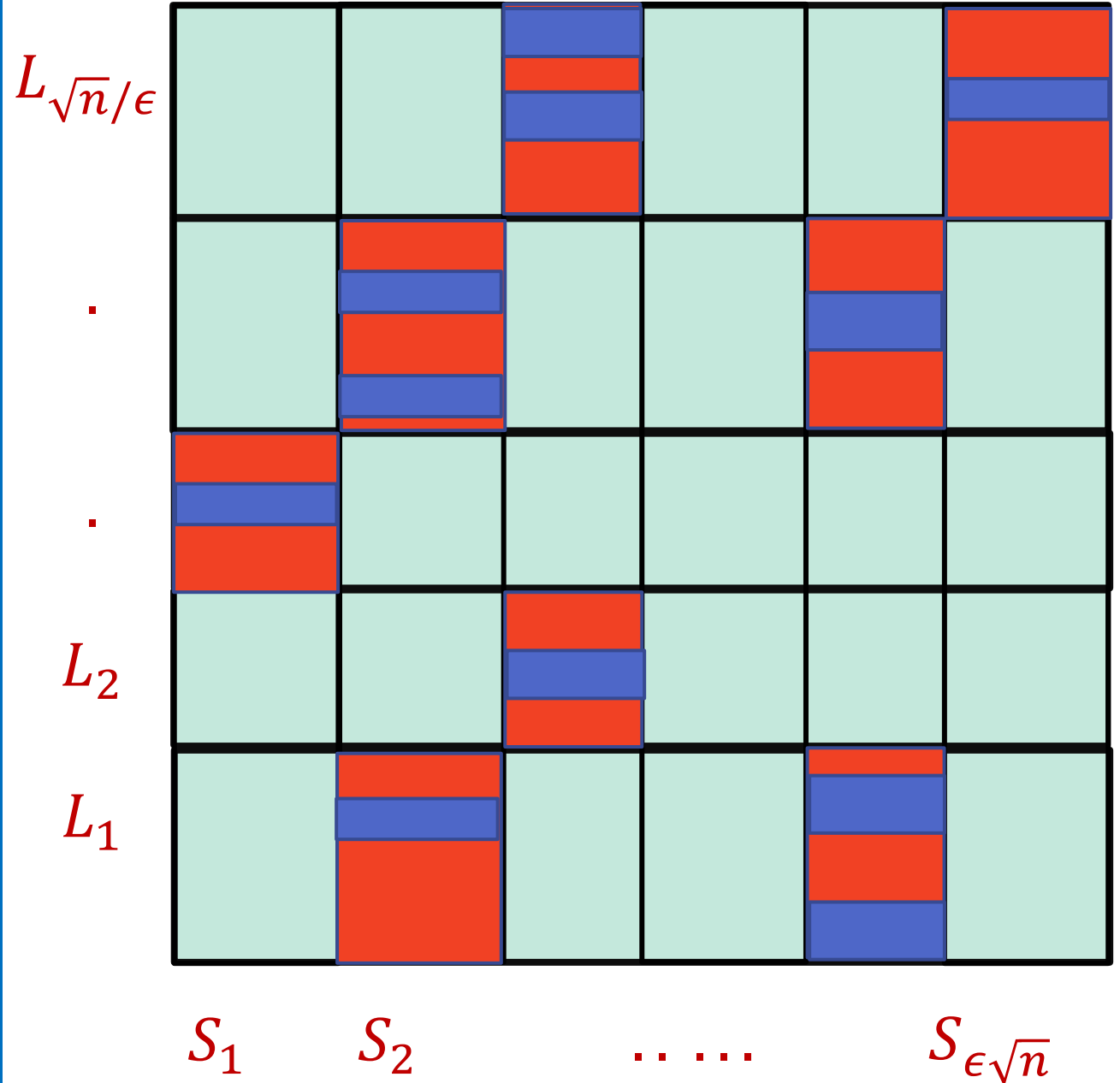
- Subdivide each dense box into cells of containing roughly  $\beta$  fraction of points in its stripe by making  $\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{1}{\beta})$  queries from each stripe.
- Overall  $\tilde{\Theta}(\sqrt{n})$  queries



# Two posets

$\langle P, \preceq \rangle$  : Natural poset on dense boxes

$\langle P^*, \preceq^* \rangle$  : Poset on dense cells



# Two posets

$\langle P, \preceq \rangle$  : Natural poset on dense boxes

$\langle P^*, \preceq^* \rangle$  : Poset on dense cells

$$B_1 \preceq B_2$$

$$C_1 \preceq^* C_2 \preceq^* C_3$$

$$C_2 \preceq^* C_4$$

