

# Algorithms and Complexity

Lecture 6

Introduction to Exponential Time:  
Clever Enumeration

# Continuation of course

- 4 weeks remaining
  - These lectures
  - Lecture notes
  - Set of exercises for practice
  - Homework
- Due to education commitments in Maastricht, the lectures on October 30 and November 6 will **only** be offered online. Sorry!

# Exact Exponential & FPT Algorithms

- What to do in case of NP-completeness?
  1. Heuristic approaches: no guarantees
  2. Approximation algorithms: guarantee on time, loss of solution quality quantified
  3. Solvers (ILP,...): guarantee on solution quality, no meaningful guarantee on time
  4. Exact Exponential algorithms: guarantee on both quality and time
  5. Fixed-Parameter Tractable algorithms (FPT): more fine-grained analysis of running time

# CNF-SAT

- Recall the definition of CNF-formula
  - **literal  $l_i$** : expression of the type  $v_i$  or  $\neg v_i$ .
  - **clause  $C_i$** : disjunction of literals (e.g.  $v_i \vee \neg v_j$ )
  - **CNF-formula**: conjunction of clauses (e.g.  $C_i \wedge C_j$ )
  - **k-CNF-formula**: all clauses of size at most k
- Examples:
  - $v_1 \wedge (\neg v_2 \vee v_3 \vee v_4)$
  - $(v_2 \vee v_1) \wedge (v_2 \vee \neg v_3) \wedge (\neg v_3 \vee v_5)$
- (k-)CNF-SAT: is the given (k-)CNF-formula satisfiable?
  - n denotes #vars, m denotes #clauses

# CNF-SAT: *brute force*

- Easy  $O(2^n nm)$  time algorithm:

**Algorithm** CNF – sat( $\varphi$ )

$\varphi$  is a CNF-formula on variables  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ .

**Output:** Whether there exists an assignment  $(v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{true, false\}^n$  such that  $\varphi$  is true.

1: **for all**  $(v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{true, false\}^n$  **do**

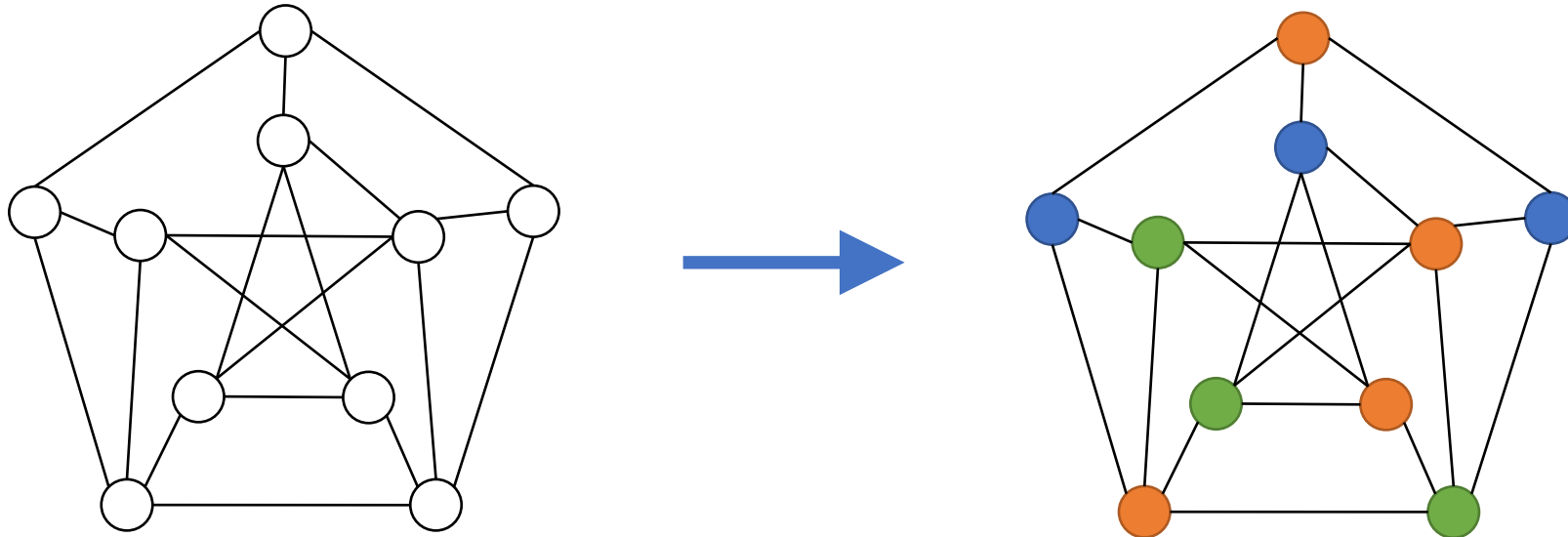
2:   **if**  $\varphi$  is satisfied by  $v$  **then return true** Check is easily done in time linear in formula size.

3: **return false**

- Consider a 1GHz computer: can solve  $n = 36$  in 1 hour
- Footnote: nothing substantially better is known!
  - (the ‘Strong Exponential Time Hypothesis’ even states  $O(1.99^n(n+m)^c)$  is not possible).

# 3-coloring

- k-coloring of  $G=(V,E)$ : map  $c: V \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\}$  s.t.  $c(u) \neq c(v)$ , for every  $(u, v) \in E$ .
- Brute force algorithm?  $\rightarrow 3^n$



# 3-coloring smarter brute force in $O(2^n(n+m))$

**Algorithm 3colv2( $G$ ).**

**Output:** Whether a 3-coloring exists.

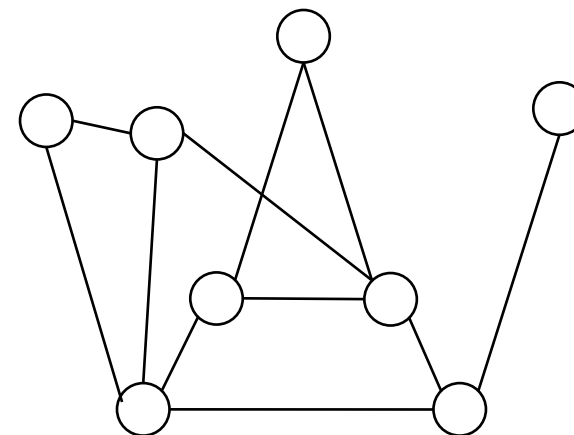
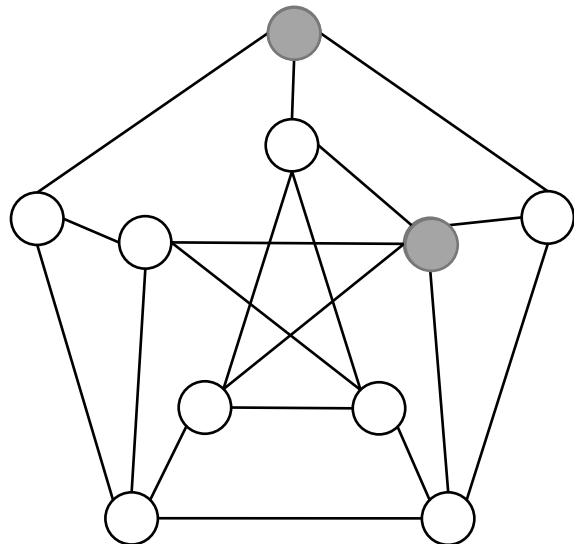
1: for all  $X \subseteq V$  do

2: if  $X$  is an independent set of  $G$  then

For  $G = (V, E)$  and  $X \subseteq V$ ,  $G[X]$  denotes the graph  $(X, \{e \in E : e \subseteq X\})$ .

3: if 2colorable( $G[V \setminus X]$ ) then return true

4: return false



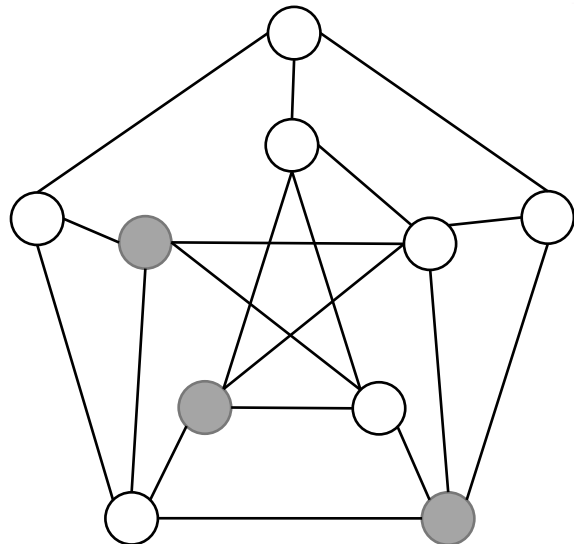
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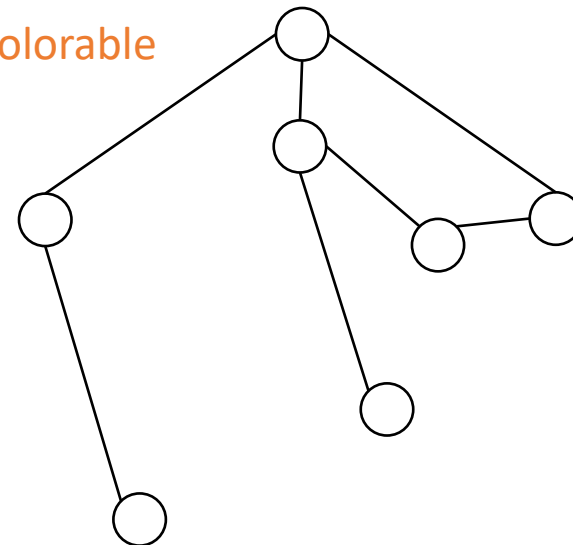
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2-colorable



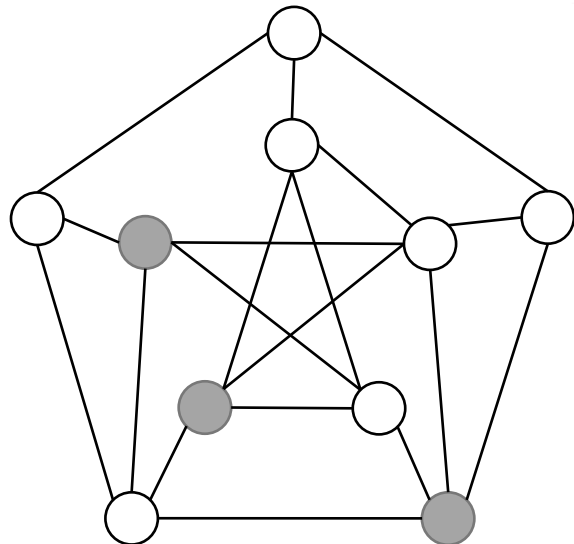


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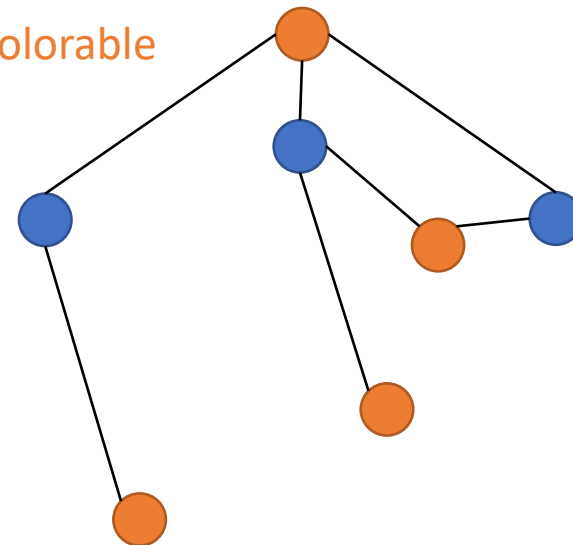
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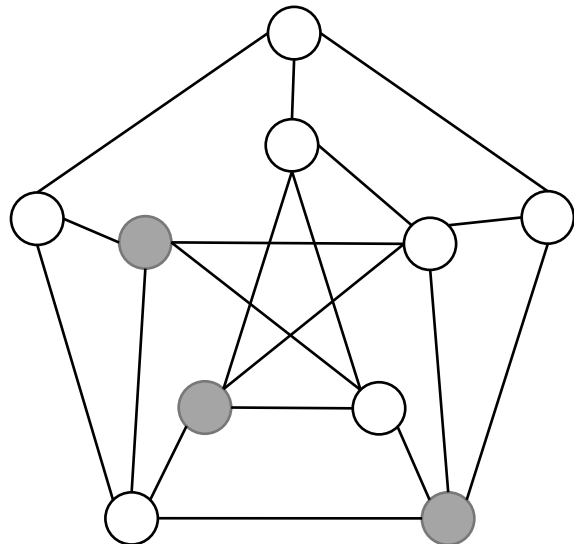
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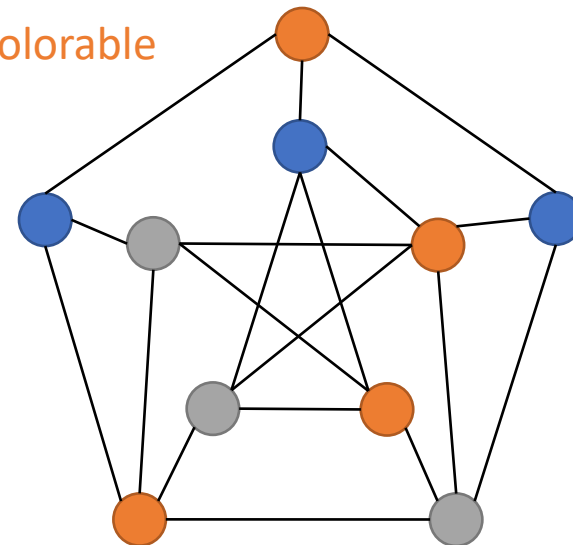
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2-colorable



# 3-SAT: *branching*

**Algorithm** CNF – sat( $\varphi, v'$ )

$\varphi$  is a 3-CNF-formula on variables  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ ;

$(v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{true, false, unassigned\}^n$  is a partial assignment.

**Output:** Whether there exists an assignment  $(v_1, \dots, v_n) \in \{true, false\}^n$  such that  $\varphi$  is true.

1: **if**  $\varphi$  does not contain any clause with 3 unassigned variables **then**

2:   **if** there is a satisfying assignment for the unassigned variables **then**

3:     **return true**

2-CNF is solvable in  $O(n + m)$

4:   **else**

5:     **return false**

6: **else**

7:   Let  $c$  be a clause with 3 unassigned variables  $v_i, v_j, v_k$

8:   **for all** Extensions  $v''$  of  $v'$  with assignments to  $v_i, v_j, v_k$  that satisfy  $c$  **do**

9:     **if** CNF – sat( $\varphi, v''$ ) **then return true**

10: **return false**

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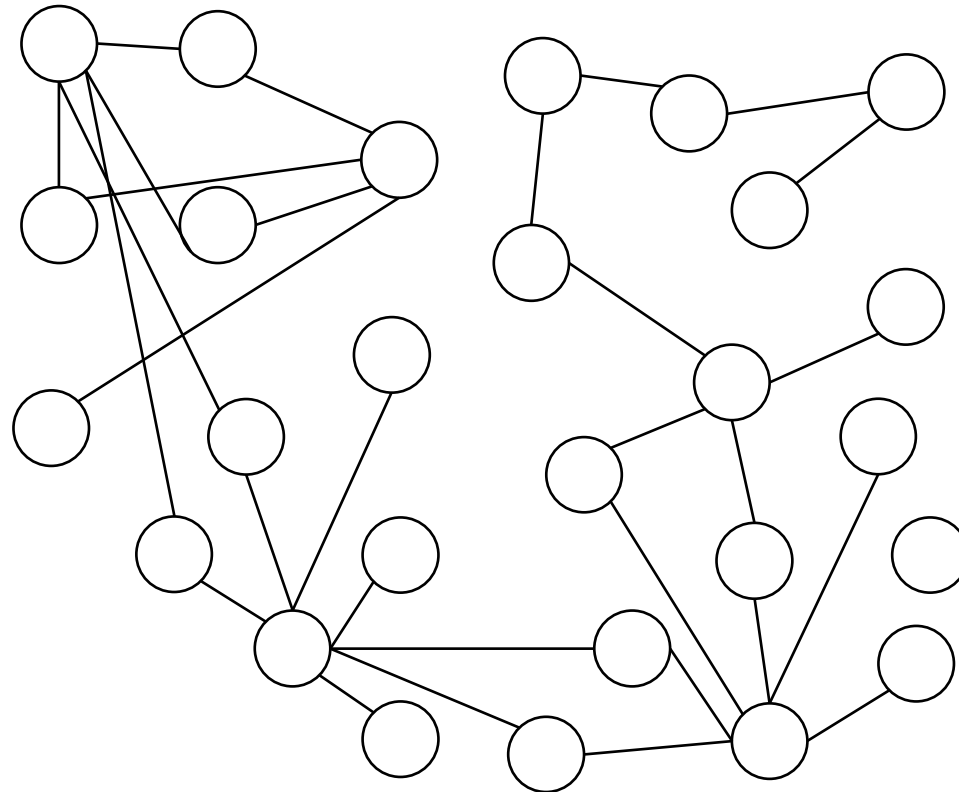
10: **return false**

• 7 branches per 3 variables:  $7^{n/3} = \left(\sqrt[3]{7}\right)^n$

•  $O(1.913^n)$                        $n = 39$  on 1GHz computer

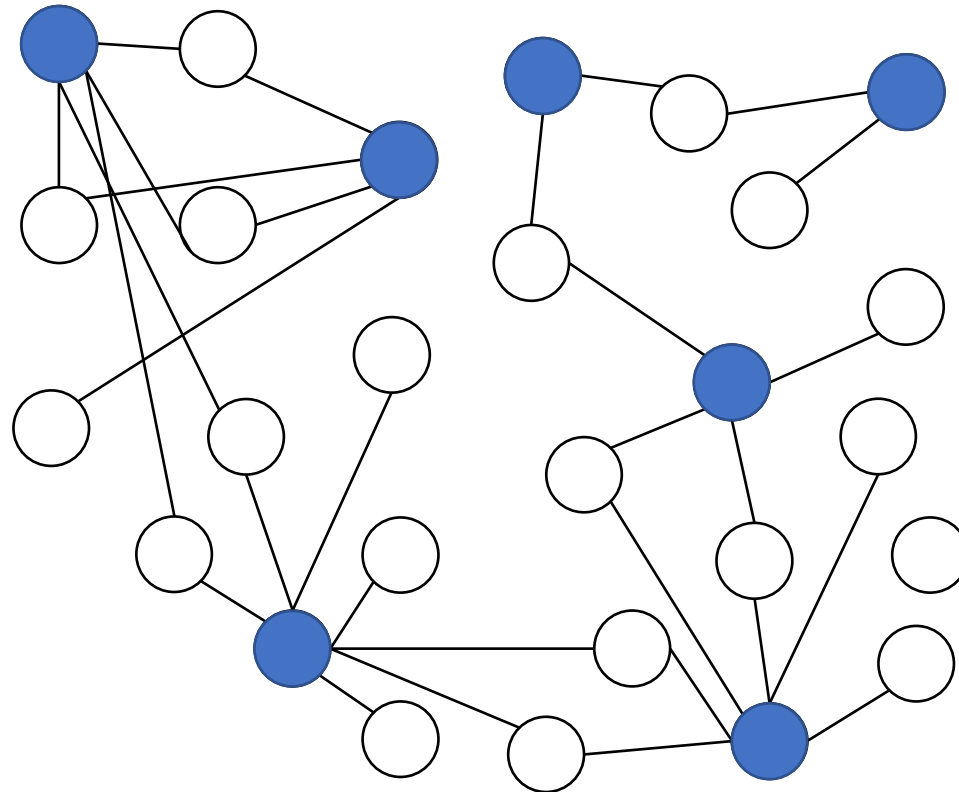
# Vertex Cover

- A vertex cover of  $G=(V,E)$  is a subset  $X \subseteq V$  such that for every edge  $(u, v) \in E$ ,  $u \in X$  or  $v \in X$ .
- Can you find a vertex cover of size 7 in the graph below?



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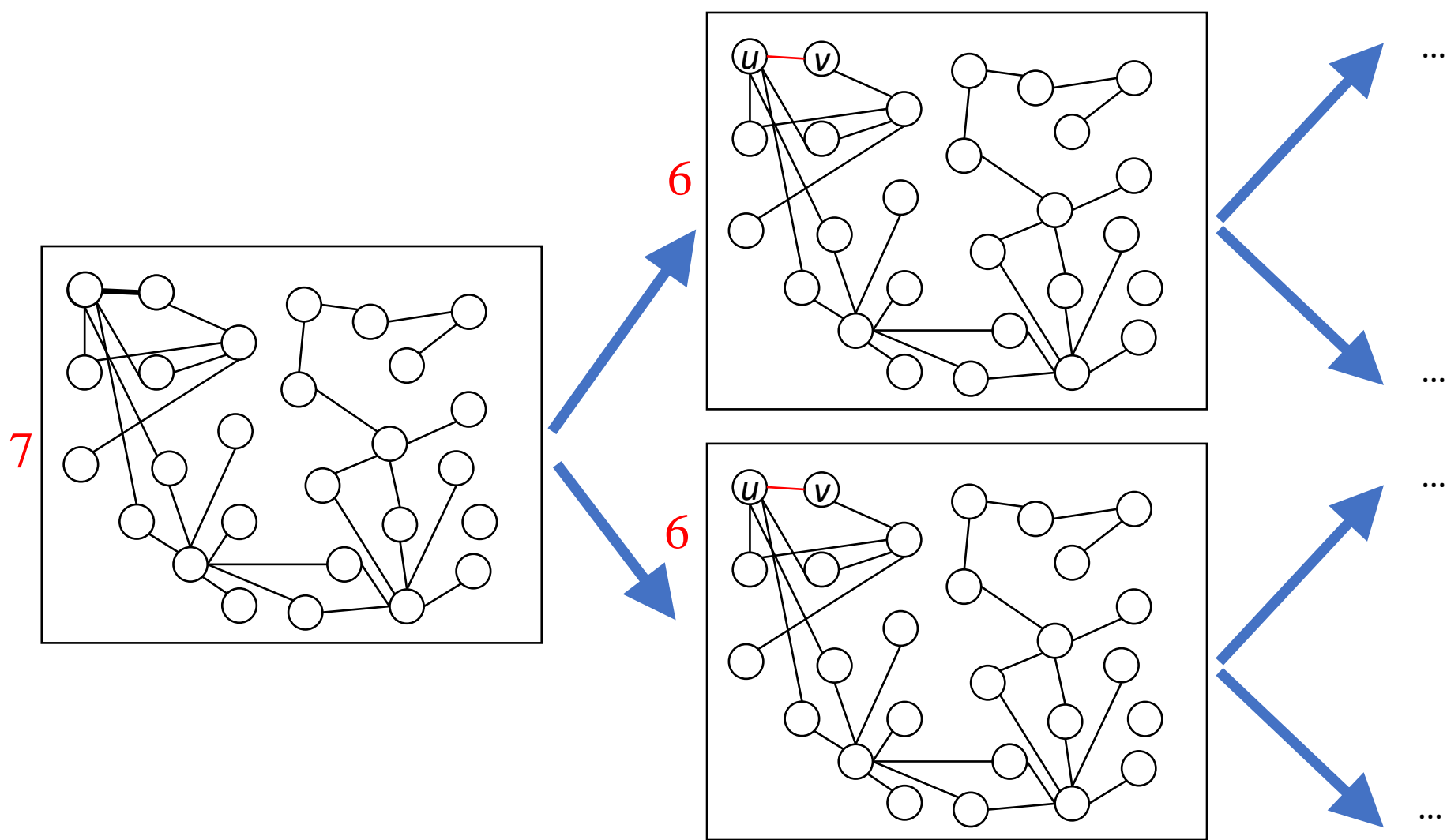


# First algorithm for vertex cover

**Algorithm**  $\text{vc}(G = (V, E), k)$

**Output:** Whether  $G$  has a vertex cover of size at most  $k$ .

- 1: **if**  $E = \emptyset$  **and**  $k \geq 0$  **then return true**
- 2: **if**  $k \leq 0$  **then return false**
- 3: Let  $(u, v) \in E$
- 4: **return**  $\text{vc}(G[V \setminus u], k - 1) \vee \text{vc}(G[V \setminus v], k - 1)$



**Algorithm**  $\text{vc}(G = (V, E), k)$

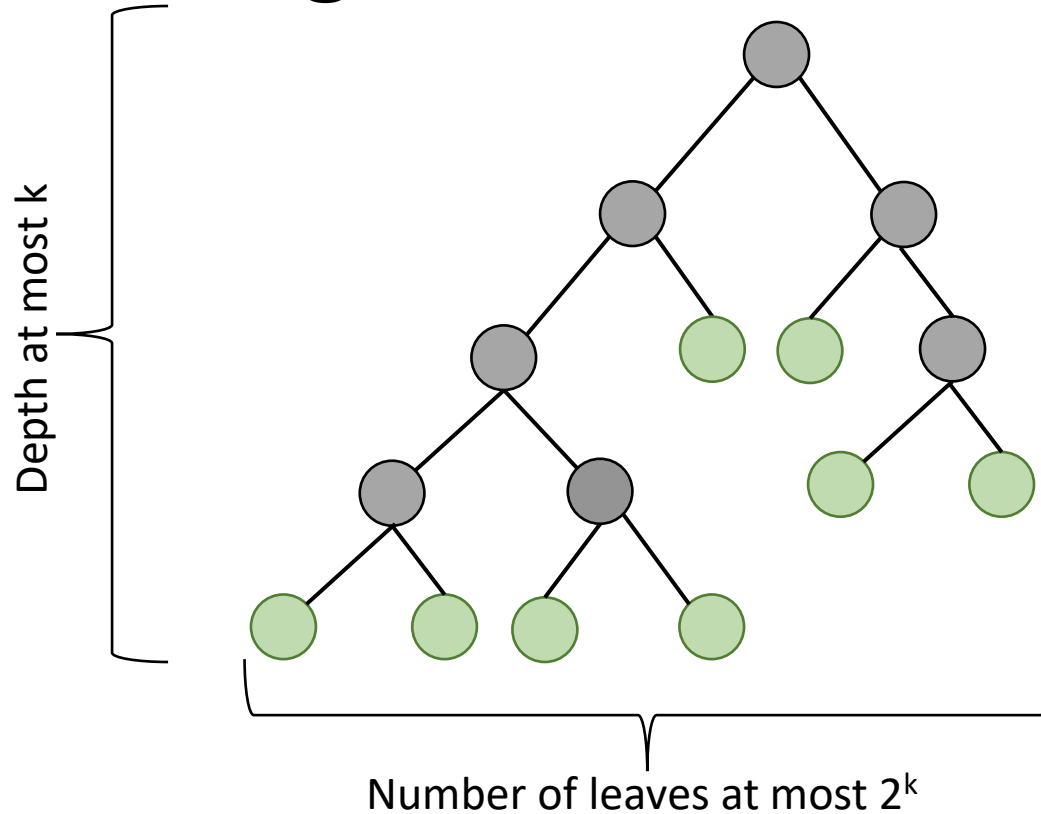
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# Time Bound and Branching tree

- We spend at most  $O(n+m)$  time per recursive call
- Recursion depth is at most  $k$
- Thus, the number of recursive calls is at most  $k \cdot \# \text{non-rec. calls}$ .
- Let  $T(k)$  be  $\# \text{non-rec calls}$
- $T(0) = 1$
- $T(k) \leq T(k-1) + T(k-1)$
- $T(k) \leq 2^k$
- Running time:  $O((n+m)k2^k)$



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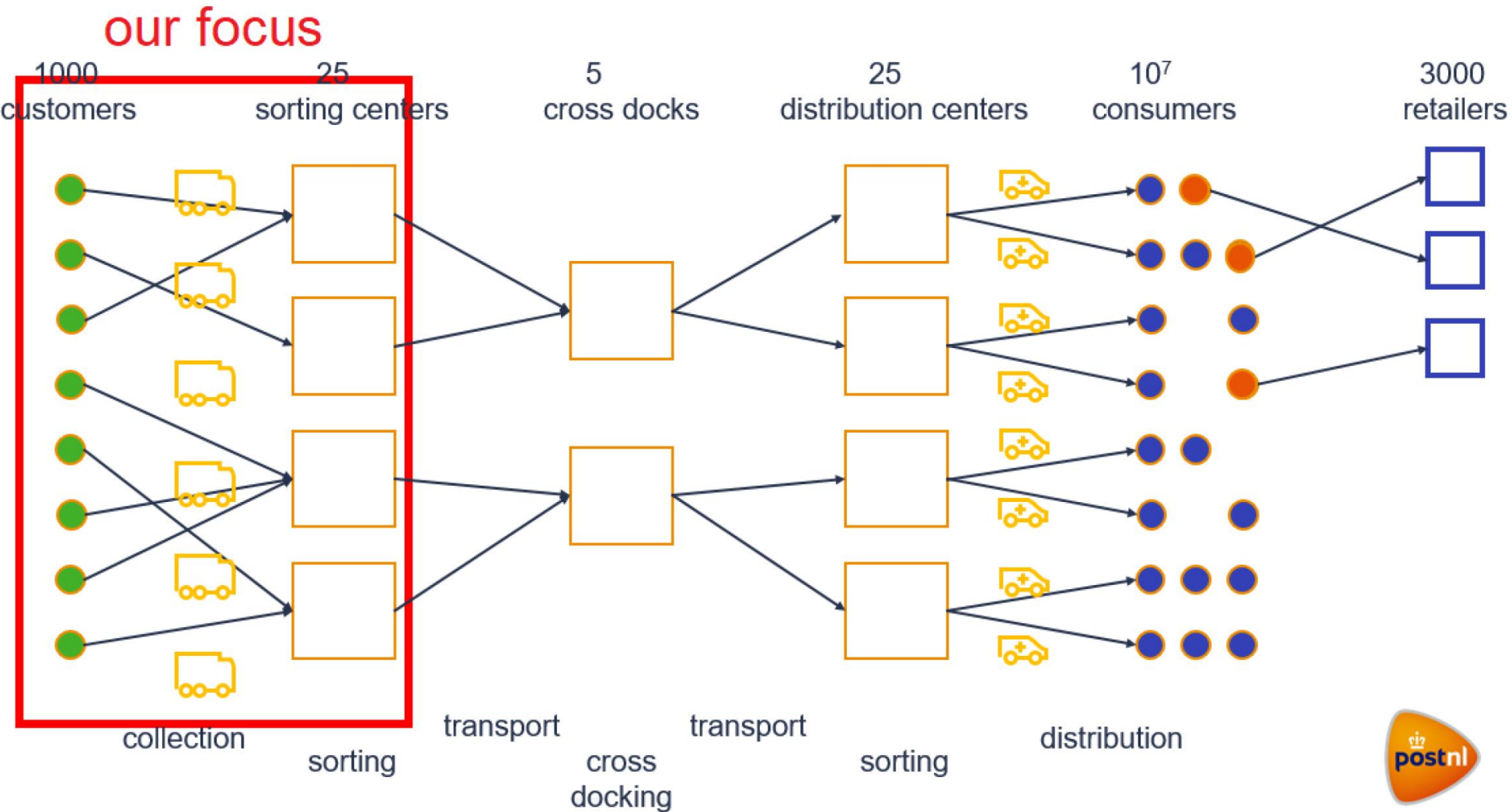
# Parameterized Complexity

- As long as  $k$  is constant,  $O((n + m)k2^k)$  is linear time.
- In our example  $n=27$ ,  $k=7$ ,
  - $2^{27} = 134217728$ ,  $2^7 = 128$
- In general, we can often isolate the exponential dependency of the RT in a parameter that is often small.

A **parameterized problem** is a language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^* \times \mathbb{N}$ . For an instance  $(x, k) \in \{0,1\}^* \times \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x$  is called the *input*, and  $k$  is called the *parameter*. A parameterized problem is called **Fixed Parameter Tractable (FPT)** if there exists an algorithm for it that runs in time  $f(k)|x|^c$ , for some constant  $c$  and function  $f(\cdot)$ .

- So, vertex cover parameterized by  $k$  is FPT

# Real-world example: PostNL



# Second algorithm for vertex cover

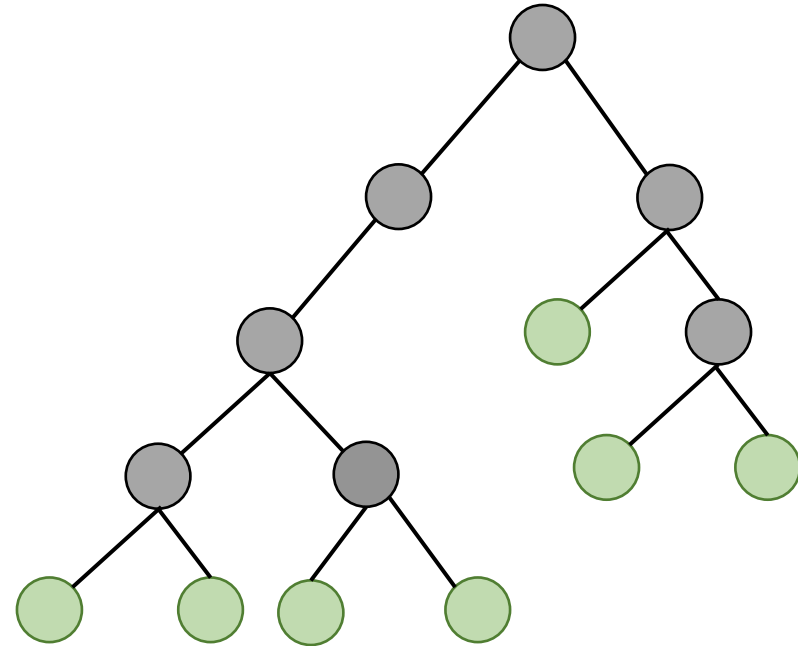
**Algorithm**  $\text{vc2}(G = (V, E), k)$

**Output:** Whether  $G$  has a vertex cover of size at most  $k$

- 1: **if**  $E = \emptyset$  and  $k \geq 0$  **then return true**
- 2: **if**  $k \leq 0$  **then return false**
- 3: **if**  $\exists u \in V : \text{deg}(u) \geq 2$  **then**
- 4:     **return**  $\text{vc2}(G[V \setminus u], k - 1) \vee \text{vc2}(G[V \setminus N[u]], k - \text{deg}(u))$
- 5: **else**
- 6:     **if**  $k \geq |E|$  **then return true** **else return false**

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- $T(0) = 1$
- $T(k) \leq \max_{d \geq 2} T(k-1) + T(k-d)$
- $T(k) \leq 1.62^k$
- Running time:  $O((n+m)k1.62^k)$



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- $T(k) \leq 1.62^k$
- Running time:  $O((n+m)k1.62^k)$
- How to guess  $T(k) \leq 1.62^k$ ?
- Since it's a linear recurrence,  $T(k) = c^k$
- $T(k) \leq \max_{d \geq 2} c^{k-1} + c^{k-d}$  (want)
- $\leq c^{k-1} + c^{k-2} \leq c^k$ ,
- Dividing both sides by  $c^k$  gives  $c^{-1} + c^{-2} \leq 1$
- So for any  $c$  satisfying this,  $T(k) \leq c^k$ .
- Use educated guess or a numerical method for finding min  $c$  (there is no easy formula).

**Algorithm**  $\text{vc2}(G = (V, E), k)$

**Output:** Whether  $G$  has a vertex cover of size at most  $k$

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# Table of FPT races

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The results gradually keep improving. Please add your latest to the table.

NEWS: Edge clique cover does not have polynomial kernel (see 35). It was open for some time. Very nice paper to read, so enjoy! — Saket

Problem	$f(k)$	vertices in kernel	Reference/Comments
Vertex Cover	$1.2738^k$	$2k$	1
Connected Vertex Cover	$2^k$	no $k^{O(1)}$	26, randomized algorithm
Multiway Cut	$2^k$	not known	21, 38: $O(k^{s+1})$ -vertex kernel with $s$ terminals
Directed Multiway Cut	$2^{O(k^3)}$	no $k^{O(1)}$	34
Almost-2-SAT (VC-PM)	$2.3146^k$	$O(k^6)$	37, 38, randomized kernel
Multicut	$2^{O(k^3)}$	no $k^{O(1)}$	22, 35
Pathwidth One Deletion Set	$4.65^k$	$O(k^2)$	28
Undirected Feedback Vertex Set	$3.460^k$	$4k^2$	36, deterministic algorithm
Undirected Feedback Vertex Set	$2.7^k$	$4k^2$	23, randomized algorithm
Subset Feedback Vertex Set	$4^k$	not known	39
Directed Feedback Vertex Set	$4^k k!$	not known	27
Odd Cycle Transversal	$2.3146^k$	$O(k^{4.5})$	37, 38, randomized kernel; kernel is for signed graph generalization
Edge Bipartization	$2^k$	$\tilde{O}(k^3)$	25, 38, randomized kernel; kernel is for signed graph generalization
Planar DS	$2^{11.98\sqrt{k}}$	$67k$	3
1-Sided Crossing Min	$2^{O(\sqrt{k} \log k)}$	$O(k^2)$	4
Max Leaf	$3.72^k$	$3.75k$	5
Directed Max Leaf	$3.72^k$	$O(k^2)$	6
Set Splitting	$1.8213^k$	$k$	7
Nonblocker	$2.5154^k$	$5k/3$	8
Edge Dominating Set	$2.3147^k$	$2k^2 + 2k$	10
k-Path	$2.851^k$	no $k^{O(1)}$	40, deterministic algorithm
k-Path	$1.66^k$	no $k^{O(1)}$	11b, randomized algorithm

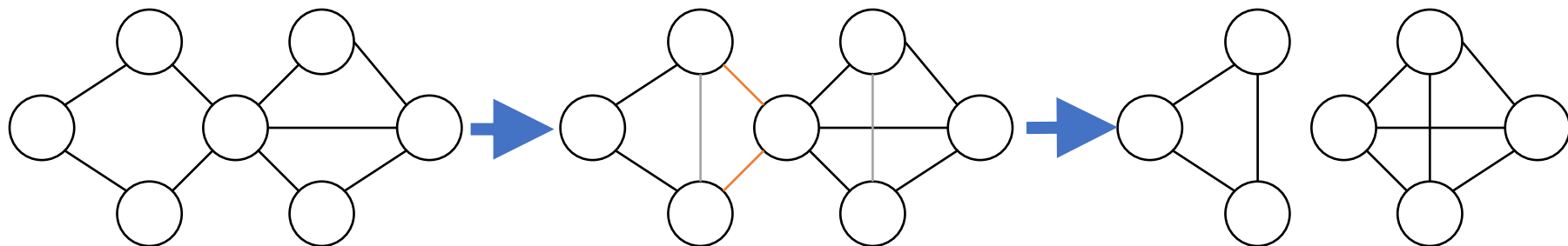
# FPT and $W[1]$ -hardness

- Not all problems are known to have FPT algorithms
- E.g., for Independent Set parameterized by solution size  $k$  no FPT algorithm is known
- Independent Set is  **$W[1]$ -complete** with respect to  $k$
- $W[1]$ -hard is to FPT as NP-hard is to P
- Can show  $W[1]$ -hardness by parameterized reductions



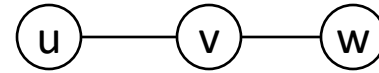
# Cluster Editing

- Given graph  $G=(V,E)$ , a cluster editing of size  $k$  is a set of  $k$  'modifications' to  $G$ , such that each connected component is a clique (cluster graph),
  - modification: addition or deletion of an edge.
- Models biological questions: partition species in families, where available data contains mistakes
- NP-complete.
- Example with  $k=4$ :



# Cluster Editing via induced $P_3$ 's

- $G$  is a cluster graph if and only if it does not contain an induced  $P_3$

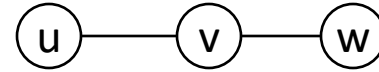


- If cluster graph, clearly no induced  $P_3$
- If not cluster graph, there are non-adjacent  $u$  and  $x$  in same connected component. Let  $u, v_1, \dots, x$  be a shortest path from  $u$  to  $x$ .

Then  $u, v_1, v_2$  is an induced  $P_3$ .

# Cluster Editing via induced $P_3$ 's

- $G$  is a cluster graph if and only if it does not contain an induced  $P_3$



- $G$  has cluster editing of size at most  $k$  if and only if at least one of the graphs

$$(V, E \setminus uv), (V, E \setminus vw), (V, E \cup uw)$$

has a cluster editing of size at most  $k-1$ .

**Algorithm**  $\text{ce}(G = (V, E), k)$

**Output:** Whether  $G$  has a cluster editing of size at most  $k$ .

- 1: **if**  $k = 0$  **then return true** if  $G$  is cluster graph, **return false** otherwise
- 2: **if**  $\exists$  induced  $P_3 (u, v, w)$  in  $G$  **then**
- 3:     **return**  $\text{ce}((V, E \cup uw), k - 1) \vee \text{ce}((V, E \setminus uv), k - 1) \vee \text{ce}((V, E \setminus vw), k - 1)$
- 4: **return true**

- Runs in  $O(3^k n^3)$  time.  $O^*(\ )$  suppresses factors poly in input size

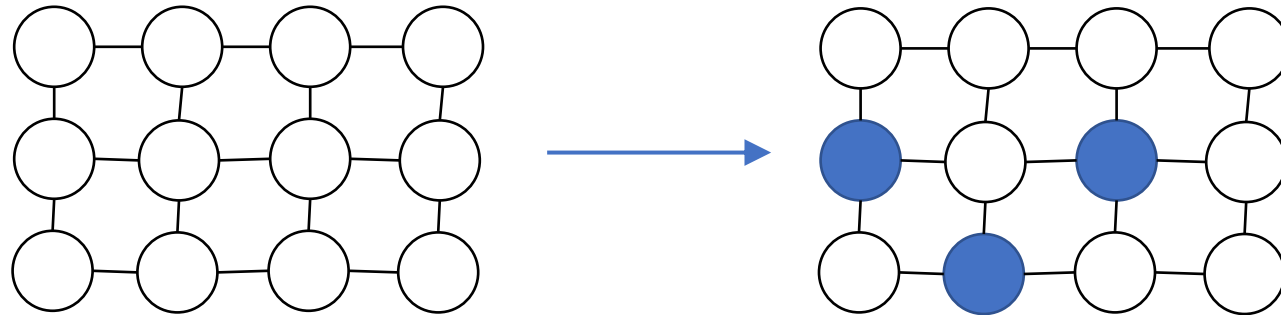
- Usually we focus on  $f(k)$ :  $O^*(3^k)$  time.

# Parametrization by Structural Parameters

- So far, we have parameterized by the solution size  $k$
- ... but we can parameterize by anything that we want!
- E.g., **structural parameters**: parameterize by some measure of how complex the instance is (e.g.: maximum degree of a graph, number of distinct weights in a knapsack instance,...)

# Feedback Vertex Set

- A feedback vertex set (FVS) of an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a subset  $X \subseteq V$  such that  $G[V \setminus X]$  is a forest.



- In operating systems, feedback vertex sets play a prominent role in the study of deadlock recovery. In the wait-for graph of an operating system, each directed cycle corresponds to a deadlock situation. In order to resolve all deadlocks, some blocked processes have to be aborted.

# FVS as structural parameter

- Many problems are easy to solve on forests/trees:
  - Independent Set
  - Vertex Cover
  - ...
- This often leads to FPT algorithms
- E.g., Independent Set and Vertex Cover can be solved in  $O^*(2^{|fvs(G)|})$
- After branching on FVS vertices, we are left with a forest

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  - ...
- This often leads to FPT algorithms
- E.g., Independent Set and Vertex Cover can be solved in  $O^*(2^{|fvs(G)|})$
- After branching on FVS vertices, we are left with a forest
- ... requires first finding a FVS!

# Feedback Vertex Set by Iterative Compression

- FVS is FPT parameterized by solution size  $k$
- Idea: we can use the fact that the graph has a small FVS to speed up the search for one
- Given a FVS of size  $k + 1$ , we can find (if it exists) a FVS of size  $k$  in FPT time (compression)



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- Given a FVS of size  $k + 1$ , we can find (if it exists) a FVS of size  $k$  in FPT time (compression)
- ...but we cannot start with FVS of size  $n$ , since compression would not be FPT

- Iterative compression?
- Crux: it helps if we are given a FVS of size  $k+1$
  - Iterative compression allows us to assume this

**Algorithm**  $FVS(G = (V, E), k)$

**Output:** Whether  $G$  has a feedback vertex set of size at most  $k$

1: Let  $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$

2: Let  $X = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$

3: **for**  $i = k + 1, \dots, n$  **do**

4:    $X \leftarrow X \cup v_i$

$X$  is a FVS of  $G[\{v_1, \dots, v_i\}]$  of size at most  $k + 1$

    start compression

5:

6:     Use  $X$  to find the minimum FVS of  $G[\{v_1, \dots, v_i\}]$ . Write the found FVS to  $X$  again

7:

8:

    end compression

9:   **if**  $|X| = k + 1$  **then return false**

check whether the compression was successful

10: **return true**

We can start with a FVS of size  $k$  of the graph induced by the first  $k$  vertices

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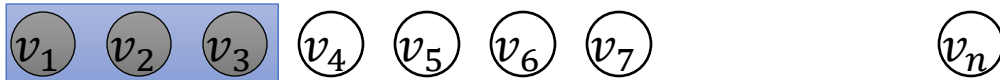
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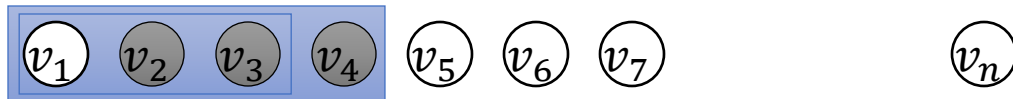
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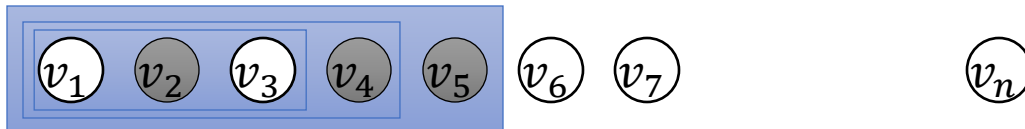
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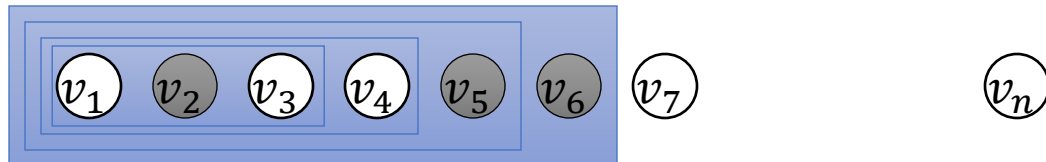
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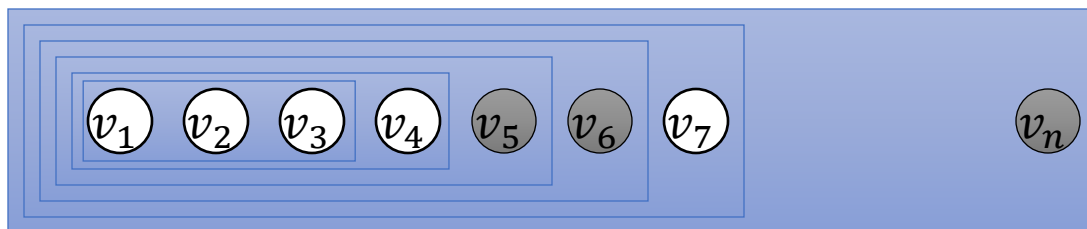
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# Compression step for Feedback Vertex Set

- Given FVS  $X$  of size  $k + 1$ , find FVS  $X'$  of size  $k$
- Guess which part  $Y = X \cap X'$  of  $X$  we “keep”

**Algorithm** FVS( $G = (V, E), k$ )

**Output:** Whether  $G$  has a feedback vertex set of size at most  $k$

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2: Let  $X = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$

3: **for**  $i = k + 1, \dots, n$  **do**

4:    $X \leftarrow X \cup v_i$

$X$  is a FVS of  $G[\{v_1, \dots, v_i\}]$  of size at most  $k + 1$

start compression

5:   **for**  $Y \subseteq X$  **do**

6:     **if** disjFVS( $G[V \setminus Y], X \setminus Y, k - |Y|$ ) **then**

7:       Construct the FVS  $X'$  of  $G[V \setminus Y]$  of size  $k - |Y|$  using self-reduction

8:        $Z \leftarrow X' \cup Y; X \leftarrow Z$

in order to be able to refer to  $Z$  in the analysis

end compression

9:   **if**  $|X| = k + 1$  **then return false**

check whether the compression was successful

10: **return true**

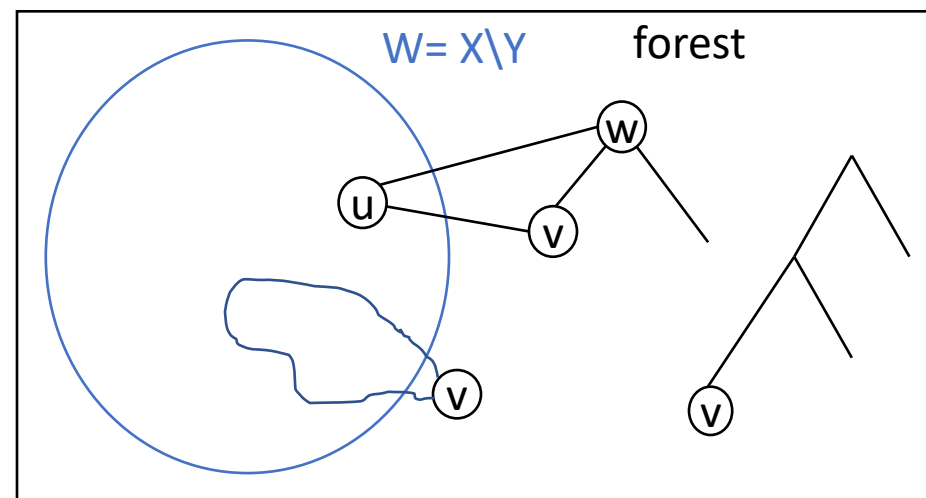


**Algorithm**  $\text{disjFVS}(G = (V, E), W, k)$   $W$  is a FVS of  $G$

**Output:** Whether  $G$  has a feedback vertex set of size at most  $k$  disjoint from  $W$

- 1: **if**  $k < 0$  **then return false**
- 2: **if**  $k = 0$  **then return true** if  $G$  is a forest, **return false** otherwise
- 3: **if**  $\exists v \in V$  such that  $\deg(v) \leq 1$  **then**
- 4:     **return**  $\text{disjFVS}(G \setminus v, W, k)$
- 5: **if**  $\exists v \in V \setminus W$  such that  $G[W \cup \{v\}]$  contains a cycle **then**
- 6:     **return**  $\text{disjFVS}(G \setminus v, W, k - 1)$
- 7: **if**  $\exists v \in V \setminus W$  such that  $\deg(v) = 2$  and at least one neighbor from  $v$  in  $G$  is in  $V \setminus W$  **then**
- 8:     Let  $G'$  be obtained from  $G$  by adding the edge between both neighbors of  $v$  and removing  $v$   
    Note: if there was such an edge already, there are multiple edges now!
- 9:     **return**  $\text{disjFVS}(G', W, k)$
- 10: Let  $x \in V$  such that  $x$  has at most one neighbor in  $V \setminus W$  and at least two neighbors in  $W$ .
- 11: **return**  $\text{disjFVS}(G \setminus x, W, k - 1) \vee \text{disjFVS}(G, W \cup x, k)$

- L3:  $v$  is not on any cycle so not relevant
- L5: the only way to hit the cycle is to pick  $v$
- L7: if  $N(v) = \{u, w\}$ , all cycles including  $v$  also include  $u$  and  $w$ .
  - In any FVS  $v$  can be replaced with  $u, w$
  - Thus we may discard including  $v$
  - Delete  $v$ , account for the connections via  $v$  by adding  $uw$ .

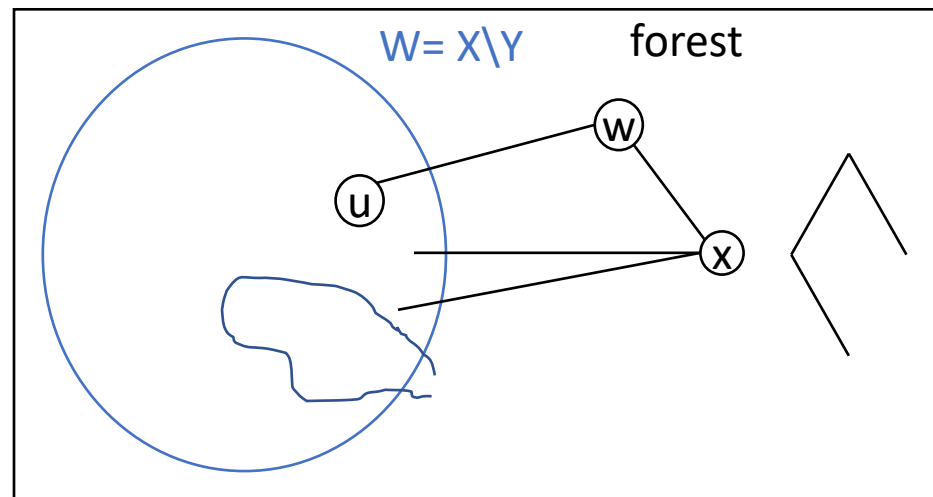


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- Let  $x$  be leaf in forest with  $\geq 2$  nbs in  $W$ 
  - if  $x$  has no such neighbor, L3 applies
  - if  $x$  has 1 such neighbor, L7 applies.
- Now decide whether  $x$  is in or not.
  - if it is, simply remove it
  - if it is not, discard by adding to  $W$
- Finishes correctness

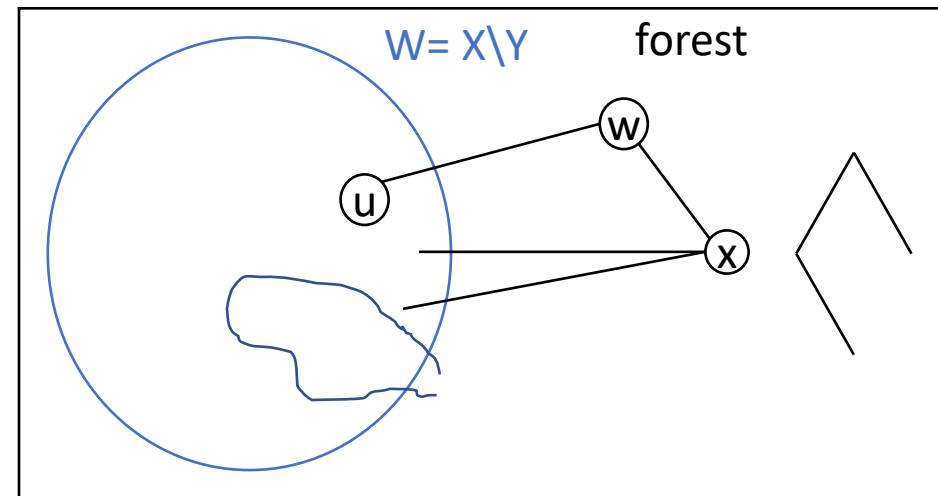


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- Running time:
  - Does not decrease  $k$  every time.
  - But surely instance should get easier?!
- $k + \#\text{cc}(G[W])$  does decrease
  - $k$  decreases in first branch
  - $\#\text{cc}(G[W])$  in second (L5)
- So as in previous analyses, algo runs in
  - $O^*(2^{k + \#\text{cc}(G[W])}) = O^*(4^k)$
- Total running time:  $O^*(8^k)$ .



# Subset Sum

- Given integers  $w_1, \dots, w_n, t$  find  $X \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $\sum_{i \in X} w_i = t$
- $\{1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6\ 7\ 8\ 9\ 10\ 11\ 12\}$ ,  $t = 23$
- We'll see  $O^*(2^{n/2})$  time algorithm here.
- 2SUM: given  $a_1, \dots, a_m, b_1, \dots, b_m, t$  find  $i, j$  such that  $a_i + b_j = t$ .
- We'll see: 2SUM in  $O(m \lg m)$  time.

# Subset Sum via 2SUM

- Use as follows; suppose  $n$  even.
  - Create an int  $a_i = \sum_{e \in X} w_e$  for all  $X \subseteq \{1, \dots, n/2\}$
  - Create an int  $b_i = \sum_{e \in Y} w_e$  for all  $Y \subseteq \{n/2 + 1, \dots, n\}$
- There exist  $i, j$  with  $a_i + b_j = t$  iff there exists  $X \subseteq \{1, \dots, n/2\}, Y \subseteq \{n/2 + 1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $\sum_{e \in X} w_e + \sum_{e \in Y} w_e = t$  ( $X \cup Y$  is a solution)
- 2SUM in  $O(m \lg m)$  time,  $m = 2^{n/2}$ .

# Linear Time for 2SUM

**Algorithm** 2SUM( $L, R, t$ )  $L$  and  $R$  are lists of length  $m$  of integers,  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$

**Output:** Whether there exist  $l \in L, r \in R$  such that  $l + r = t$

- 1: Sort  $L, R$  to obtain lists  $l_1, \dots, l_m$  and  $r_1, \dots, r_m$
- 2:  $i \leftarrow 1, j \leftarrow m$ .
- 3: **while**  $i \leq n \wedge j \geq 1$  **do**
- 4:   **if**  $l_i + r_j = t$  **then return true**
- 5:   **if**  $l_i + r_j < t$  **then**  $i \leftarrow i + 1$  **else**  $j \leftarrow j - 1$
- 6: **return false**

$l_1, l_2, \dots, l_{m-1}, l_m$

$r_1, r_2, \dots, r_{m-1}, r_m$

**Linear Search**

- If  $l_i + r_j < t \rightarrow$  increase  $i$ ,
- If  $l_i + r_j > t \rightarrow$  decrease  $j$ ,
- If  $l_i + r_j = t \rightarrow$  solution
- Declare NO if  $i$  or  $j$  out of range

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- Clearly correct if it returns true
- If there exists  $x, y$  such that  $l_x + r_y = t$ ,
  - consider the first moment where  $i = x$  or  $j = y$
  - say it is  $i = x$ , since  $y < j$ ,  $j$  will be lowered until  $l_x + r_j = t$ . Case  $j = y$  is similar
- Clearly runs in  $O(m \lg m)$  time.

# Subset Sum via 2SUM

- To solve subset sum:
  - Enumerate 2 lists of  $2^{n/2}$  subset sums of  $n/2$  elements
  - 2SUM in  $O(m \lg m)$  time,  $m = 2^{n/2}$
- $O^*(2^{n/2}) = O^*(\sqrt{2}^n) = O^*(1.412^n)$
- Roughly doubles the  $n$  we can handle in the same time
  
- “Meet in the middle”
- Useful as optimisation for many problems, e.g., A\* pathfinding