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BYZANTINE AGREEMENT - A FEW THEORETICAL RESULTS.

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NUMBER OF PROCESSES FOR BYZ – LEMMA 6.26

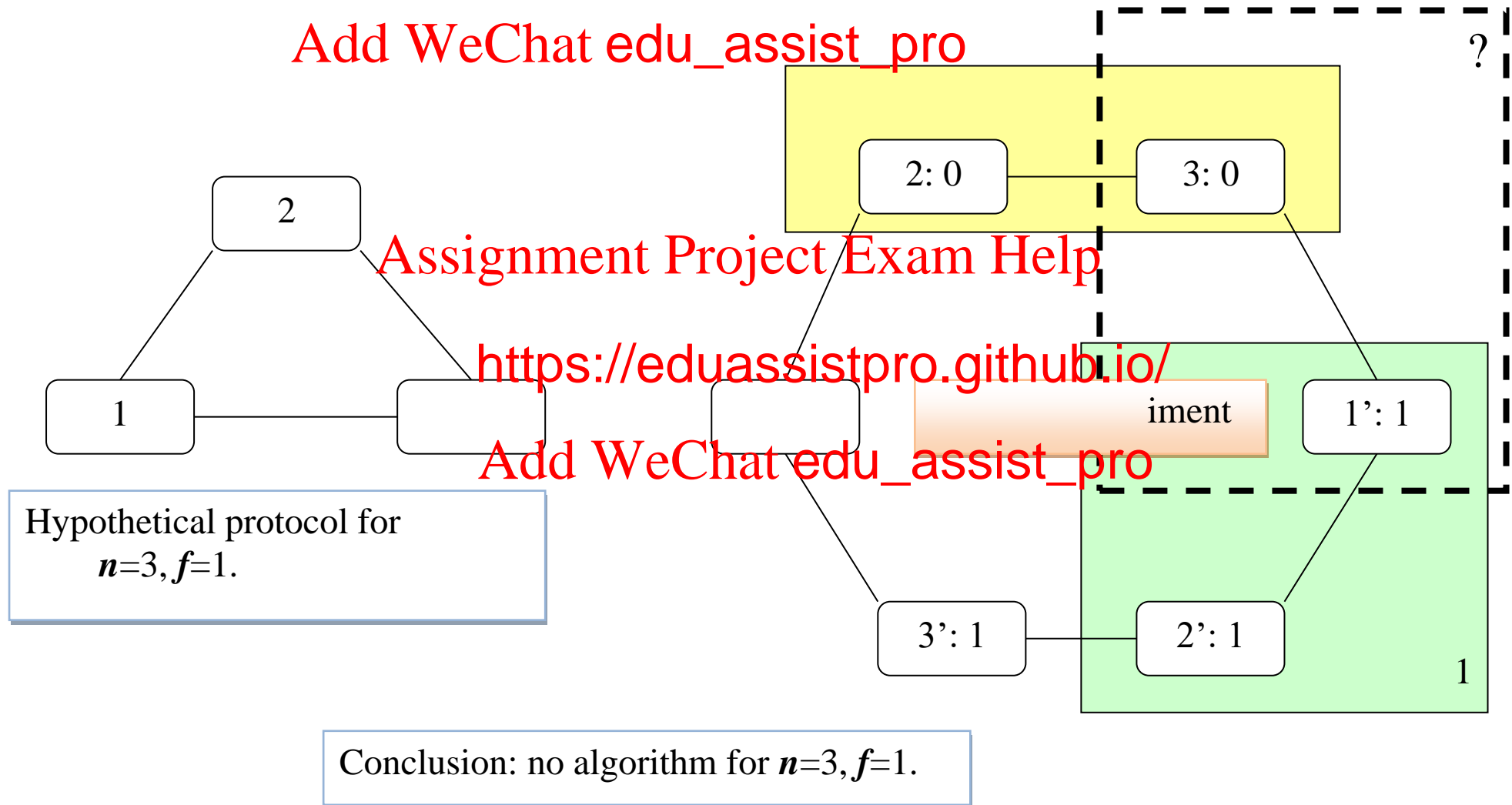
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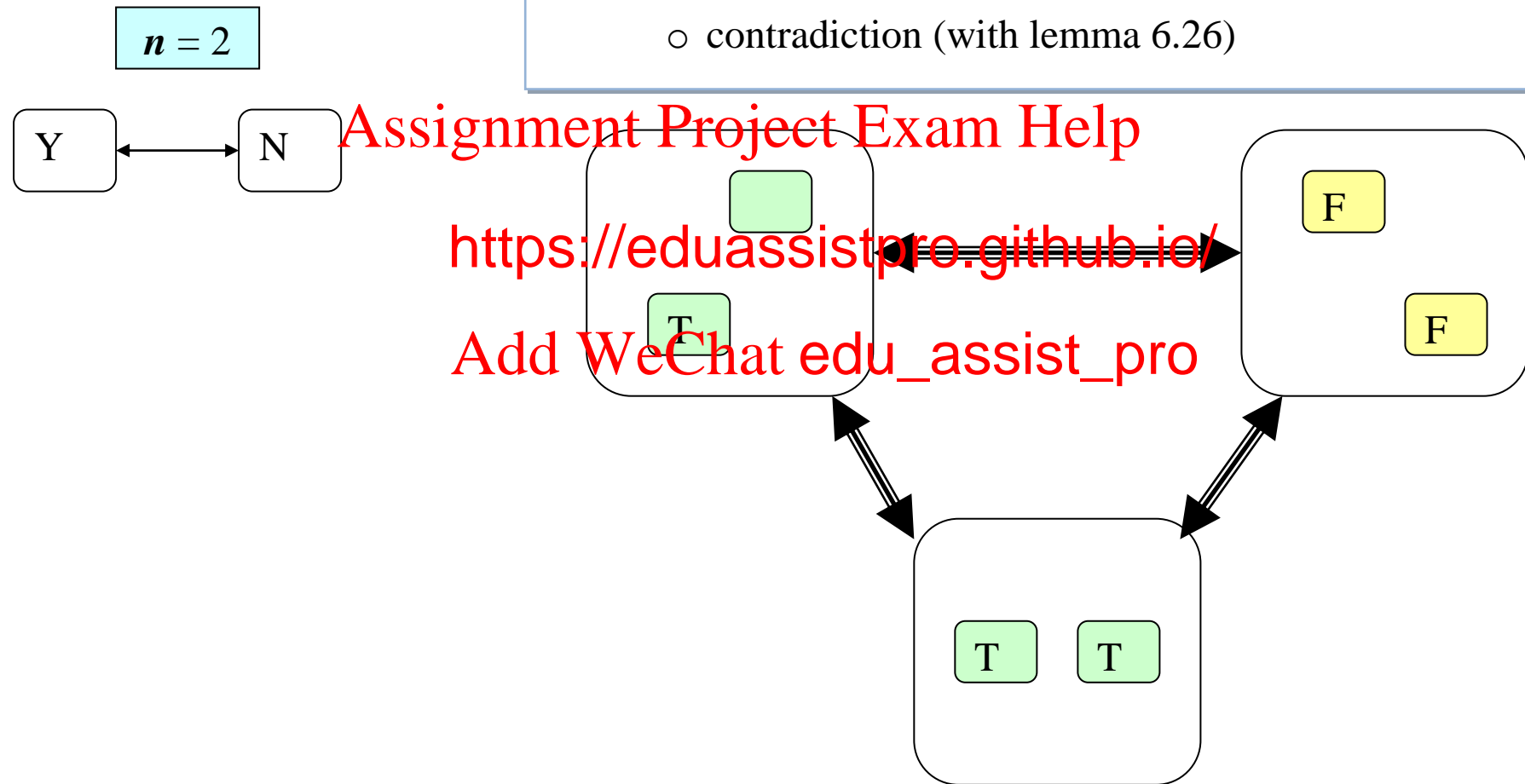
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THEOREM 6.27No solution for $2 \leq n \leq 3f$ for $3 \leq n \leq 3f$

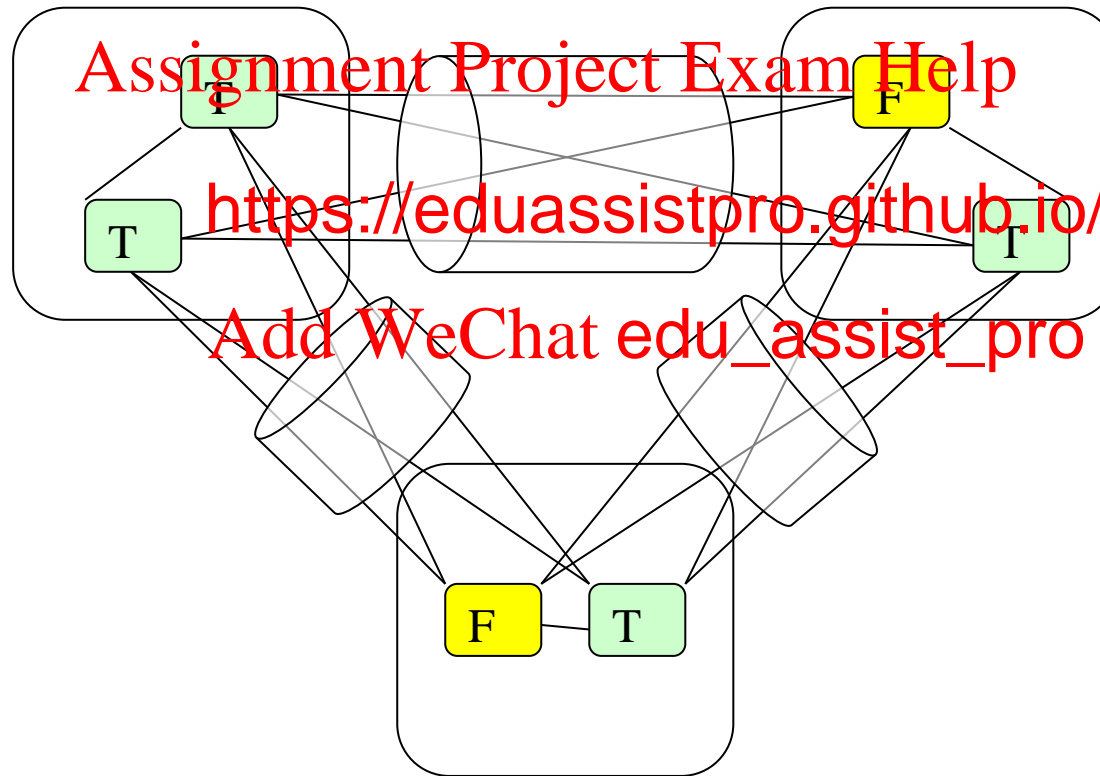
- 3 “subnets” with at most f processes in each
- there is an algorithm that can solve the or such an n , and we construct an algorithm that can solve the problem for 3 processes,
- contradiction (with lemma 6.26)



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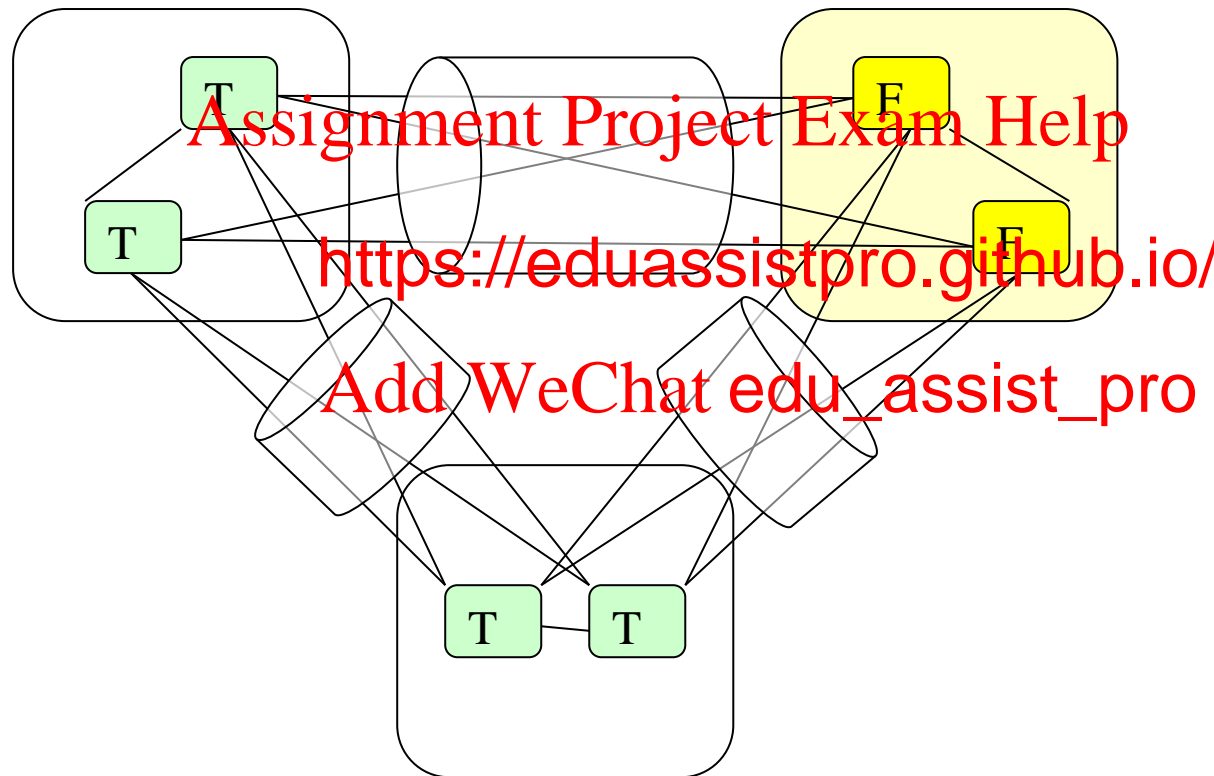
Proof by contradiction

- We assume that the n “small” processes are unaware of the Byz problem, if at most f are faulty – regardless how these f faulty nodes are distributed
- These “small” processes are totally unaware that they are now clustered into 3 “large” nodes, connected by 3 “large” channels



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- Replacing an arbitrary one “large” Byzantine node is tantamount to replacing its content by the same if faulty nodes (w/ their channels)
- Not doing this will be easily detected, by the others, as wrongly formatted messages



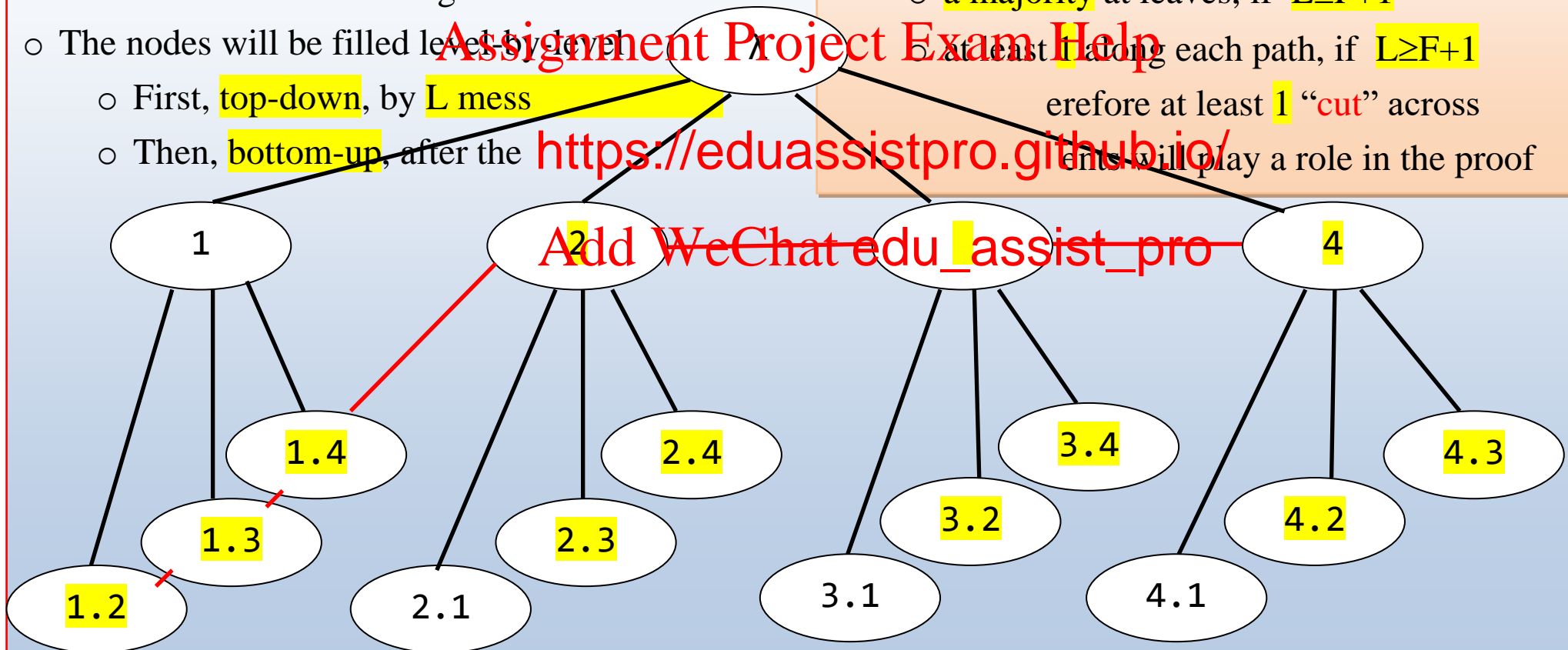
AN EIG TREE WITH $N=4$ (# OF PROCESSES) AND $L=2$ (LEVELS)

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- Level #1 : 1 group with $N=4$ siblings
- Level #2 : 4 groups with $N-1=3$ siblings
 - Level # L : each group has $N-L+1$ si
- For Byz agreement, $L=F+1$, here $F=1$, $L=2$
- Observe the node labelling scheme
- The nodes will be filled level by level
 - First, top-down, by L mess
 - Then, bottom-up, after the

consider that process #1 is “faulty”

- but #2, #3, #4 are “non-faulty”
- Observe the distribution of labels ending in one of 2,3,4
 - a majority at leaves, if $L \leq F+1$
 - at least 1 along each path, if $L \geq F+1$
- therefore at least 1 “cut” across
- cuts will play a role in the proof



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Tree nodes with labels ending in the number of a non-faulty process play a critical role!

- Examples (prev. slide): 2, 1.2, 2.3

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The number of levels, L , is a well-chosen critical number!

- If $L \geq F+1$, then each root-to-leaves branch contains at least one such tree node

Except λ , there are $F+1$ tree nodes (in each branch), but only F faulty processes (and labels cannot contain duplicates)

- If $L \leq F+1$, then each sibling group has a strict majority of such tree nodes

The smallest sibling group (at the leaves) has L tree nodes, thus

$N-L+1 = N-(F+1)+1 = N-F \geq 3F+1-F = 2F+1$ tree nodes at least,

out of which at most F can end in numbers of faulty processes

- The algorithm chooses $L = F+1$!

COMMON NODES (THOSE ON WHICH A COMMON DECISION IS TAKEN)

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A tree node with label x is **common** if it has the same **newval**() across all *non-faulty* processes, i.e., $\text{newval}(x)_i = \text{newval}(x)_j$ for all i, j that are *non-faulty* processes

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Note: $\text{val}(x)_i$ and $\text{val}(x)_j$ m

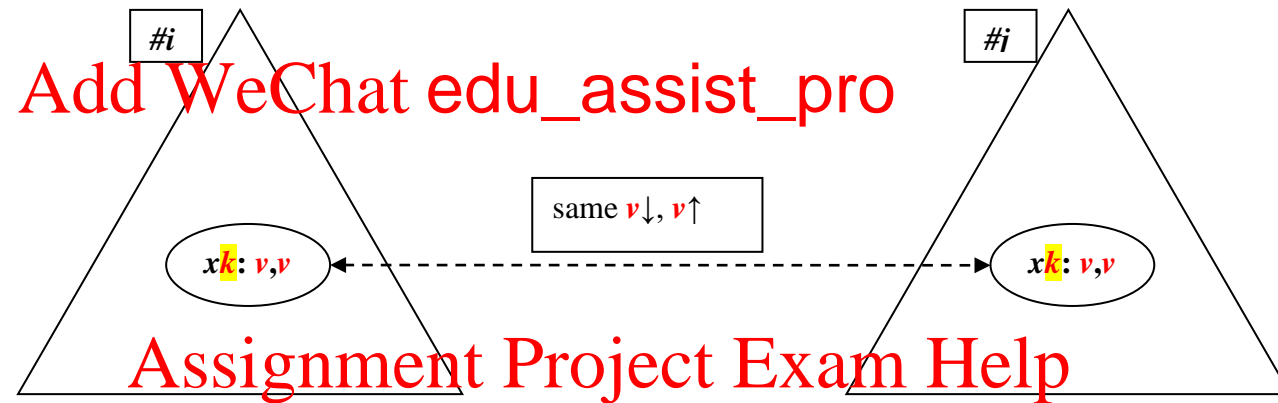
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- A set of tree nodes which contains at least one tree (root to leaves) path is called a **path covering**.
- The red “**cut**” across the previous sample EIG tree is a **path covering**.

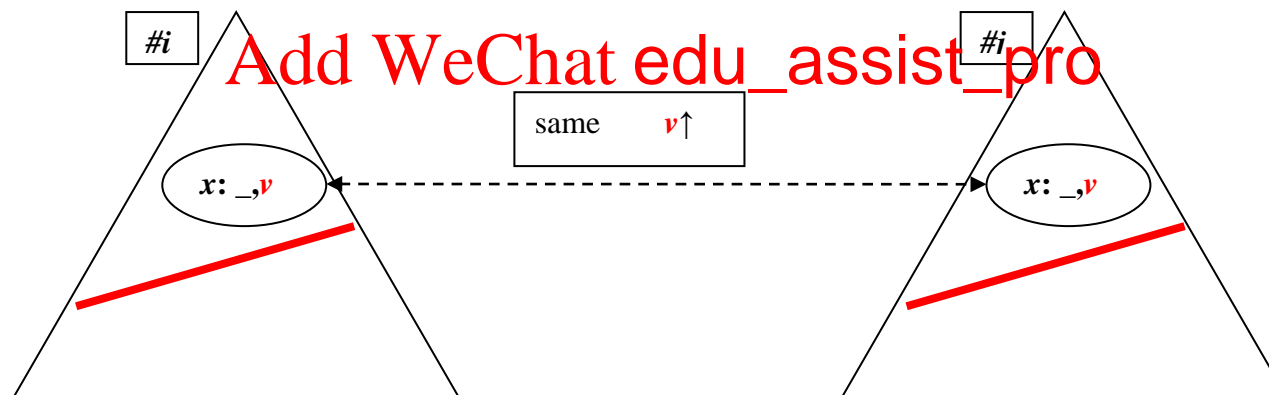
- A **common path covering** is a **path covering** where all tree nodes are **common**.
- As we will see, the red “**cut**” across the previous sample EIG tree is also a **common path covering**.

THE ESSENCE OF THE PROOF – BIRD'S EYE VIEW

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THE ESSENCE OF THE PROOF – MORE DETAILS

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- **All** nodes above a **common path covering** are **common**, because **all** their children are **common** – although these may have different **newval()**'s.
- Thus the **root λ** is also **common**.

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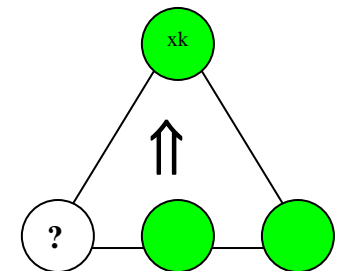
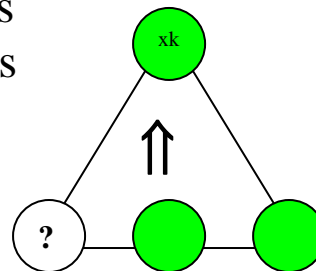
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- **all** nodes are **common**

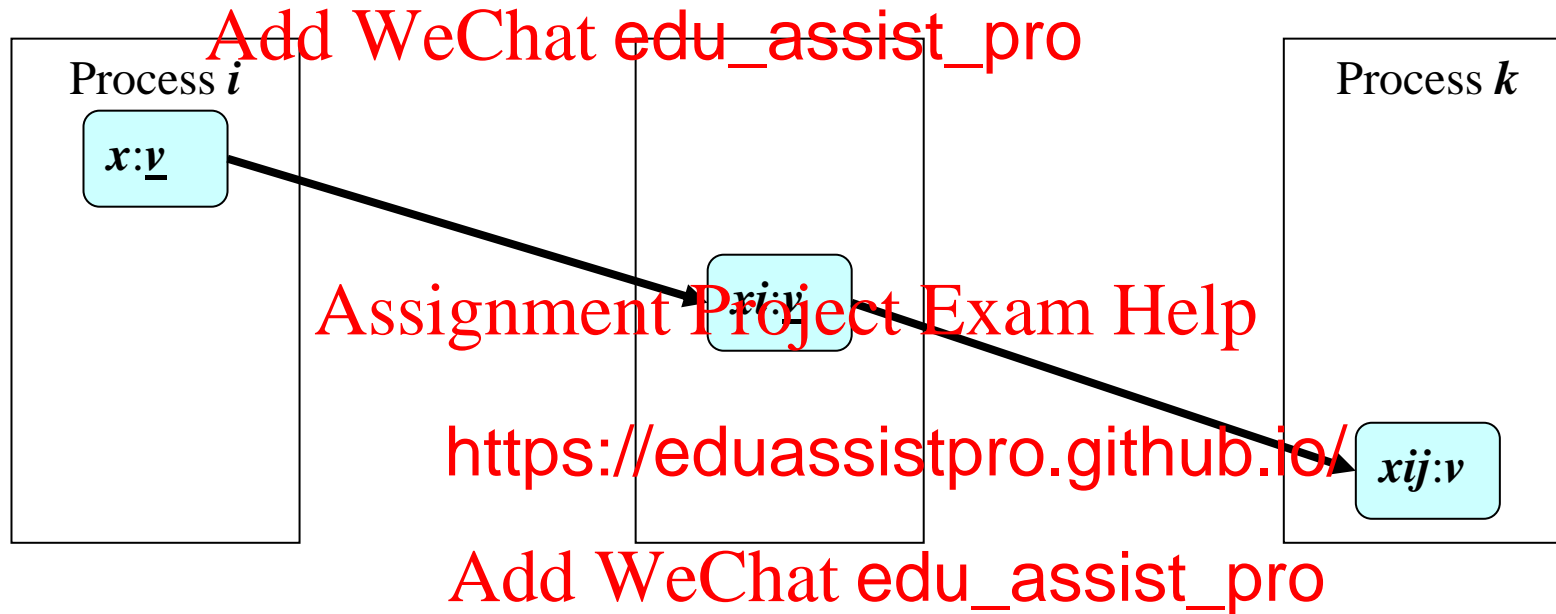
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- All **xk** nodes are **common** because they have a **strict majority** of **xkl xkl'** ... **common** children sharing the **same** **val()** and **newval()**

- **xk ... common** nodes
- other **common** nodes
- non-common nodes

 xk common path covering **xk common path covering**

TOP-DOWN MESSAGING IN THE FIG PROTOCOL (RECALL)



assume that x does not contain i, j

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LEMMA 6.15

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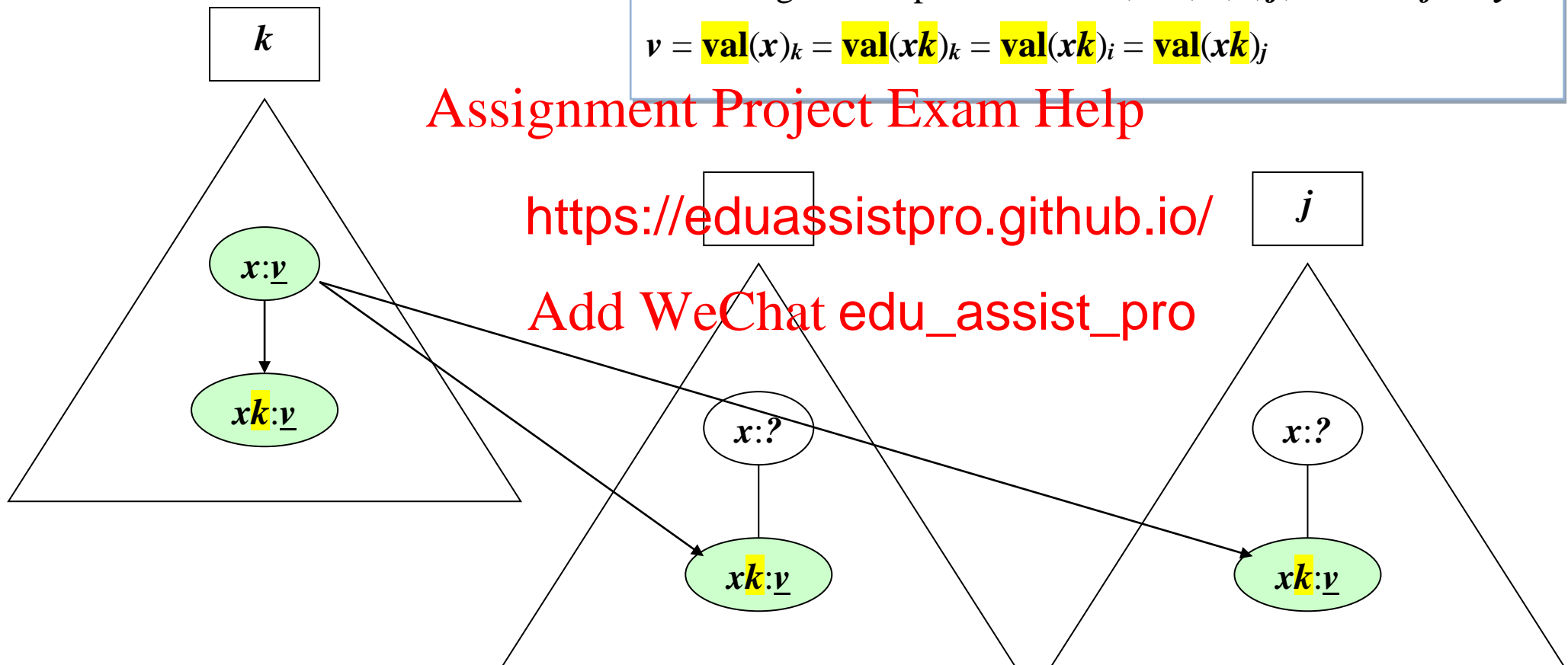
Assuming that all processes here, i.e., k, i, j , are *non-faulty*

$$v = \text{val}(x)_k = \text{val}(xk)_k = \text{val}(xk)_i = \text{val}(xk)_j$$

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LEMMA 6.16

All nodes with labels of the form xk , with x a *non-faulty* process, have the same **val()** and **newval()** across all *non-faulty* processes

$\text{newval}(xk)_i = \text{val}(xk)_i = \text{val}(xk)_j = \text{newval}(xk)_j$ for all i, j that are *non-faulty* processes

As a corollary, all such nodes are **common**!

In fact, they are “more than **common**” — they are also equal, to the same value

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The proof follows on next slides

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As we will further see:

- The condition of lemma 6.16 is **not necessary**, i.e., there could also be other **common** nodes with labels of the form xk' , where k' is a faulty process.
- All first level nodes are **common**! This result ensures a **common decision at the root λ** .

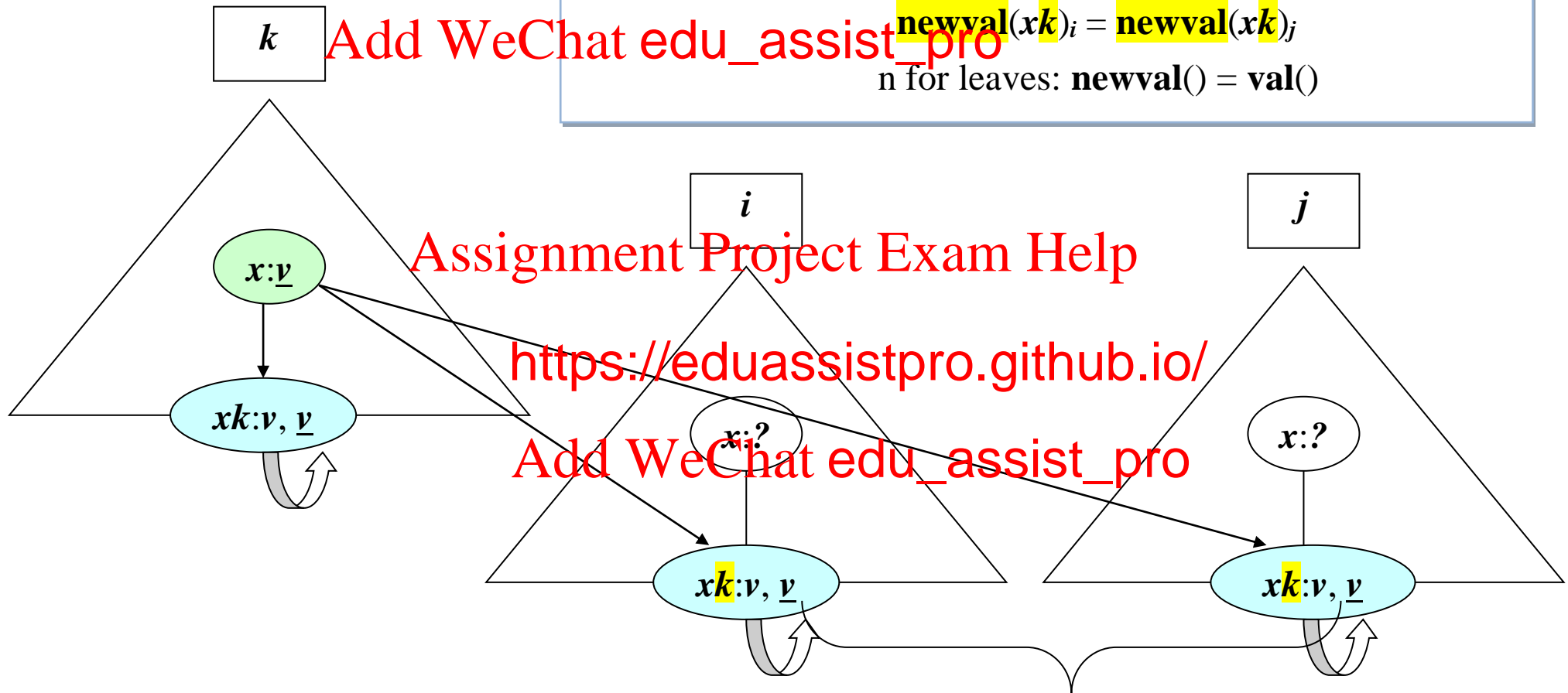
LEMMA 6.16 FOR LEAVES

○ Assuming that all processes here, i.e., k, i, j , are *non-faulty*

$$v = \text{val}(x)_k = \text{val}(xk)_k = \text{val}(xk)_i = \text{val}(xk)_j =$$

$$\text{newval}(xk)_i = \text{newval}(xk)_j$$

n for leaves: $\text{newval}() = \text{val}()$



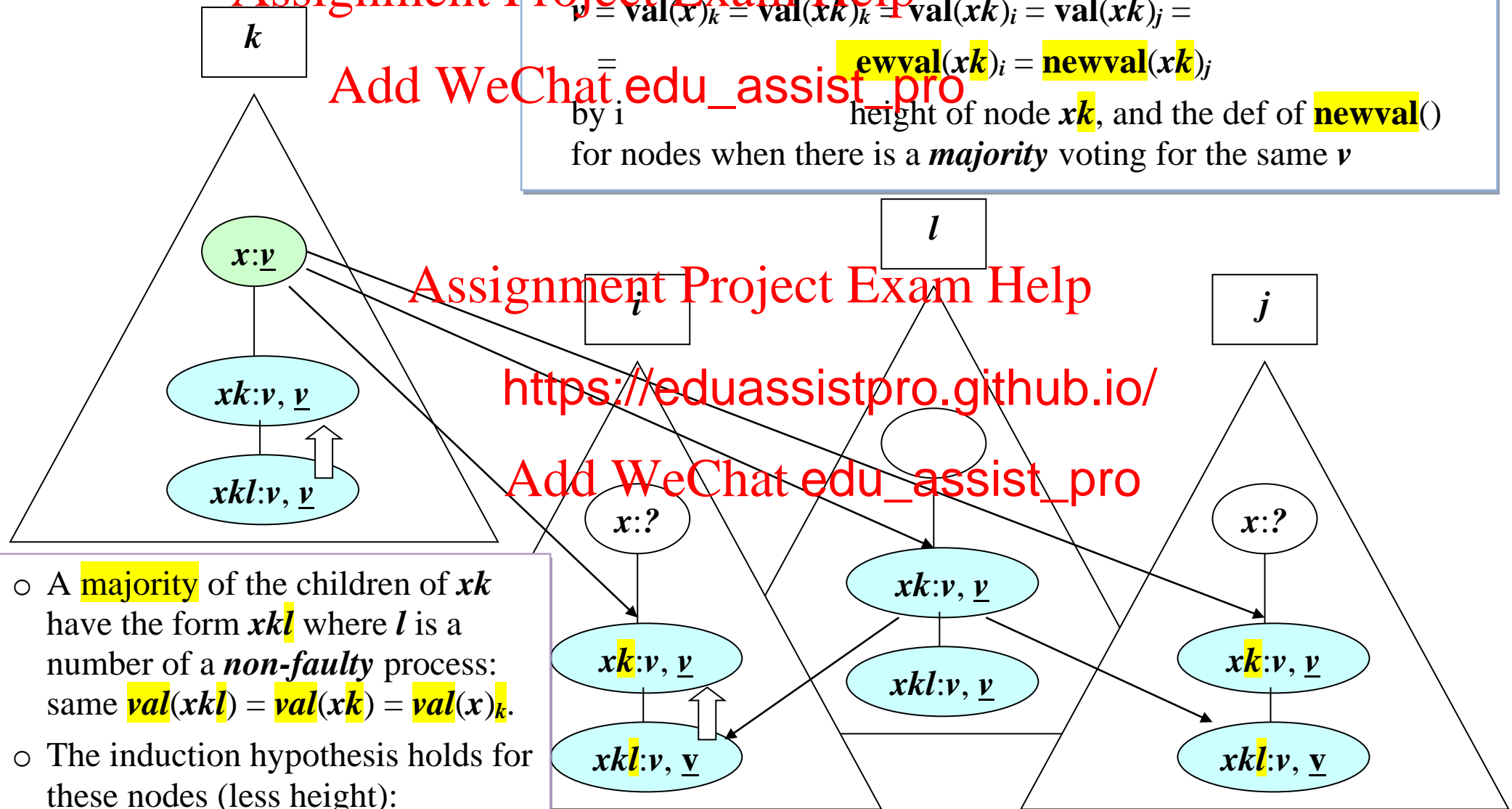
LEMMA 6.16 FOR NON-LEAVES

- Assuming all processes here, i.e., k, l, i, j , are *non-faulty*

$$v = \text{val}(x)_k = \text{val}(xk)_k = \text{val}(xk)_i = \text{val}(xk)_j =$$

$$= \text{newval}(xk)_i = \text{newval}(xk)_j$$

by i height of node xk , and the def of **newval()**
for nodes when there is a *majority* voting for the same v

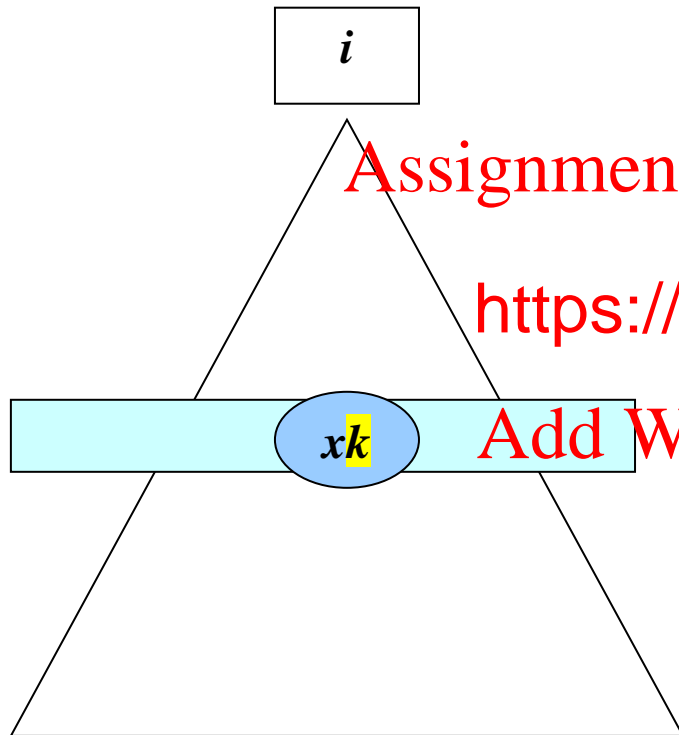


- A **majority** of the children of xk have the form xkl where l is a number of a *non-faulty* process: same $\text{val}(xkl) = \text{val}(xk) = \text{val}(x)_k$.
- The induction hypothesis holds for these nodes (less height): same **newval**(xkl)

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common path covering the whole EIG tree!



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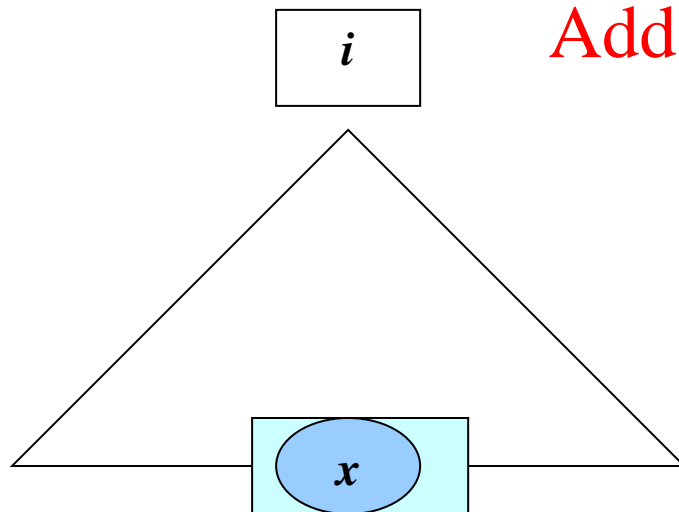
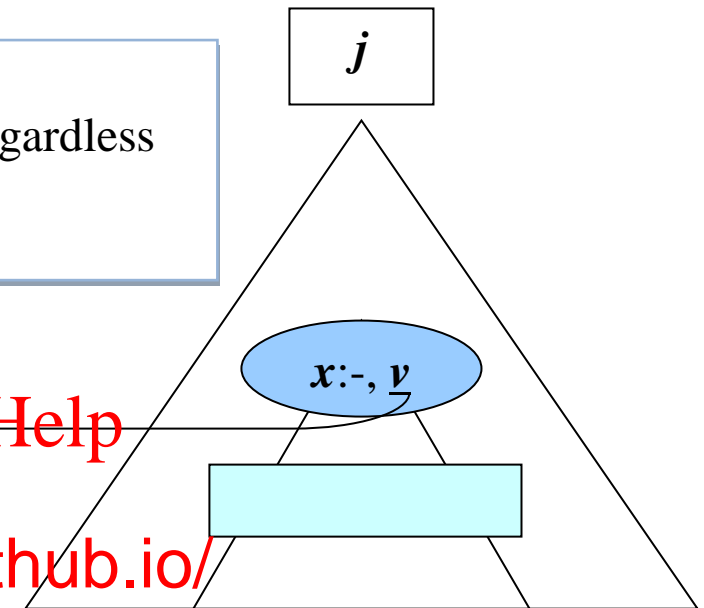
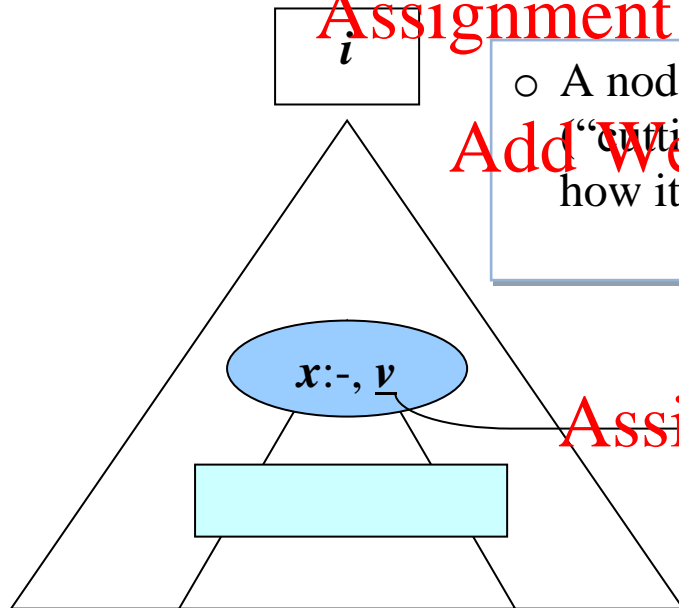
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- How to build such a common path covering?
- Top down on each branch, until we find a **tree node** which ends with the label of a non-faulty process
 t end with k , where k is a **non-**cess (there is such a label on each
- As w such tree nodes have common **new**
- Thus, this is **common path covering** of the EIG tree!

LEMMA 6.19 – FOR LEAVES

- A node that has **covering** (“cutting”) its **common** (regardless how its label e

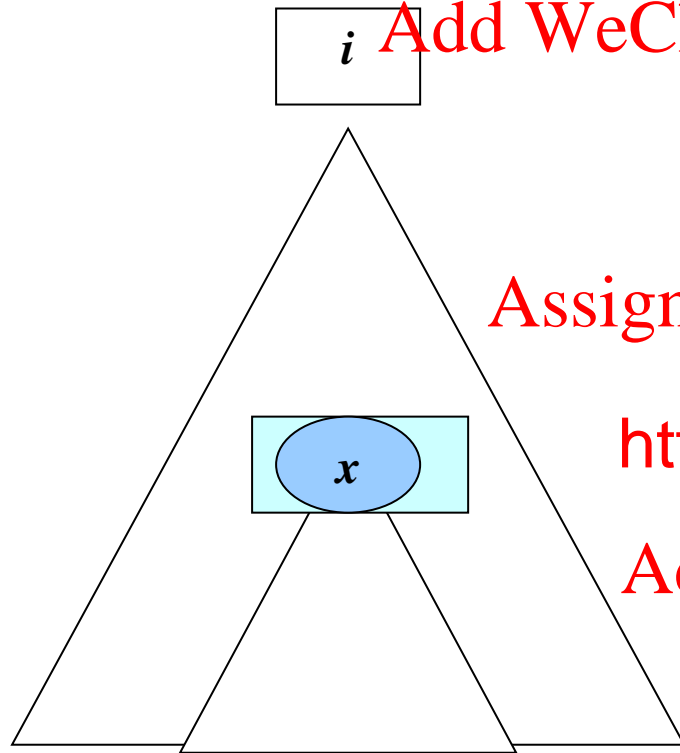


- Base case for leaves
- The subtree of a leaf **x** is the leaf itself.
- Thus any leaf **x** which is part of the **common path covering**... is **common**, qed.

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LEMMA 6.19 – FOR NON-LEAVES

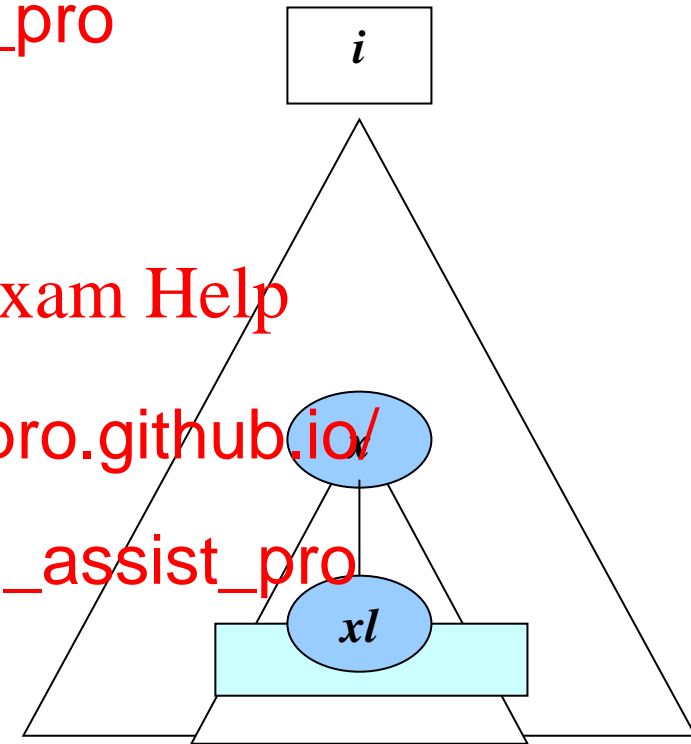
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- If x is itself part of the **common path covering**, then, well, it is **common**, qed.

- **Otherwise**, all its children - such as xl (no matter if l is or not faulty) will be **common** by **induction** (height-1)
- And then x will be **common** by the definition of **newval()**

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LEMMA 6.20

i

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x_k

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- All nodes above a **common path covering** the tree are also **common**, including the root λ .
- Thus, they have the same **newval()** across all non-faulty processes
- **Agreement!**

- We **almost** proved that the EIG algorithm solves the Byz agreement problem.
- We have now the **agreement**
- What is still **missing**?

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- **Termination** is straightforward. ps after $F+1$ messaging rounds

- What else?

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LEMMA 6.17

Validation!

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Assume that all processes start with the same initial value v

Proof - using LEMMA 6.16

$\text{newval}(xk)_i = \text{val}(xk)_i = \text{val}(xk)_j = \text{newval}(xk)_j$, for all non-faulty k, i, j

In particular

$\text{newval}(k)_i = \text{val}(k)_i$ for all non-faulty k, i, j

Thus, all first level nodes corresponding to non-faulty k share the same $\text{newval}() = v$

And they form a strict majority, so the root decision is **validity** !

THEOREM 6.21

The EIG algorithm solves the Byz agreement problem!