

# Algorithms

## Lecture 17: NP-Completeness (Part 3)

Anxiao (Andrew) Jiang

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

How to prove a problem  $L$  is NP-complete (NPC):

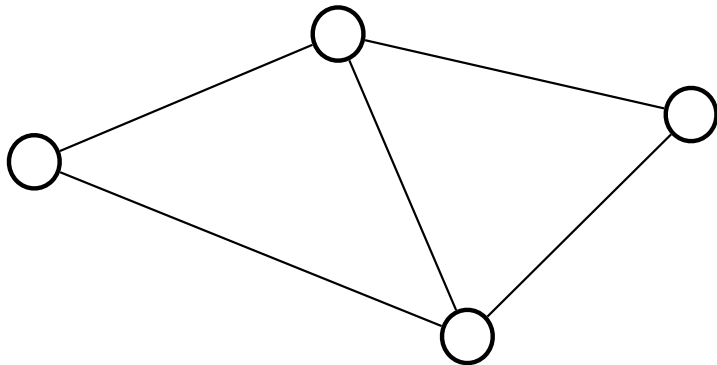
- 1) Show that  $L \in NP$  (by showing a “certificate” and polynomial-time verification for YES-instances).
- 2) Pick a known NPC problem  $A$  and show  $A \leq_p L$ 
  - 2.1) Show mapping from  $A$  to  $L$
  - 2.2) Show the mapping preserves the “YES/NO” answer
  - 2.3) Show the mapping takes polynomial time

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Clique Problem

**Clique:** Given a graph  $G=(V,E)$ ,  
a clique in  $G$  is a  
subgraph of  $G$  that  
is a complete graph.

**Size of Clique:** its number of nodes.



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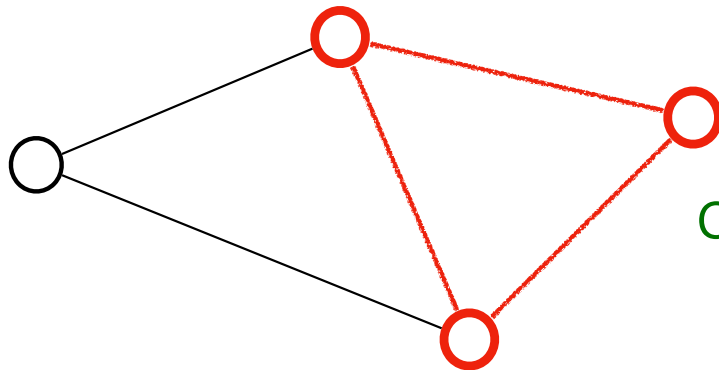
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Clique of size 3

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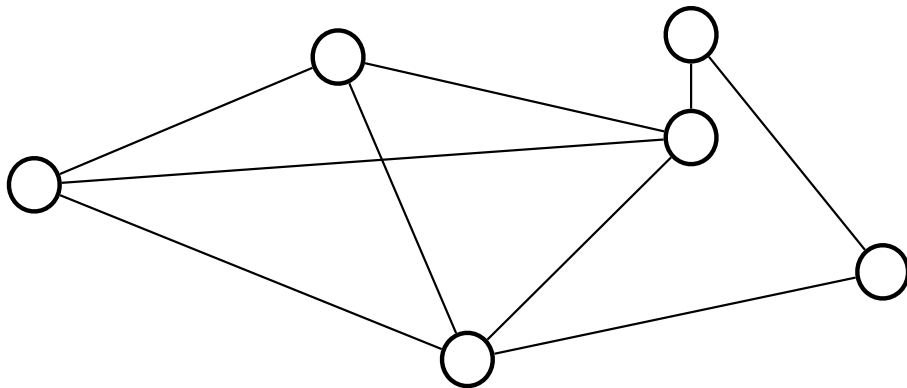
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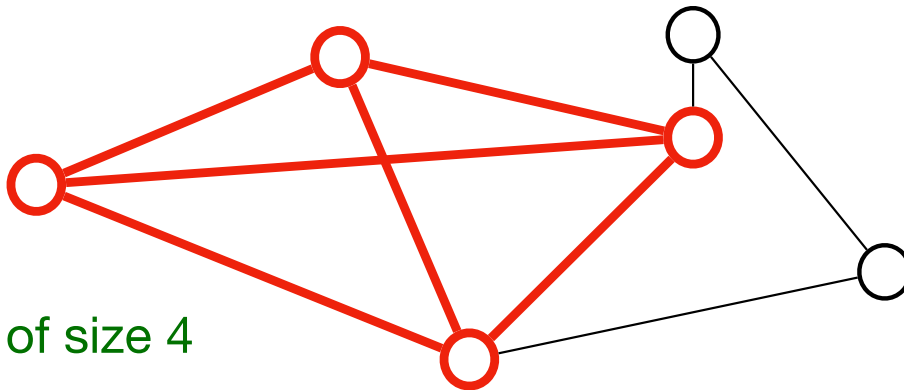
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Clique of size 4

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Clique Problem:

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

A positive integer  $k$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  have a clique of size  $k$ ?

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**Theorem: The Clique Problem is NPC.**



## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Clique Problem:

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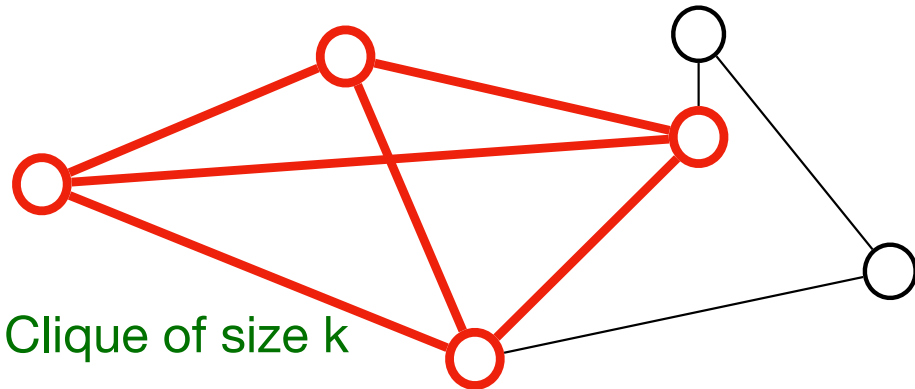
**Question:** Does  $G$  have a clique of size  $k$ ?

How to prove a problem  $L$  is NP-complete (NPC):

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**Theorem: The Clique Problem is NPC.**

**Proof:** 1) Clique Problem  $\in NP$ .



Certificate: a Clique of size  $k$

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Clique Problem:

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .  
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**Theorem:** The Clique Problem is NPC.

**Proof:** 1) Clique Problem  $\in NP$ .

2) What known NPC problem shall we reduce to the Clique Problem?

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

3-CNF SAT Problem: a known NPC problem.

**Boolean logic:** AND operation :  $0 \wedge 0 = 0, 0 \wedge 1 = 0, 1 \wedge 0 = 0, 1 \wedge 1 = 1$

OR operation :  $0 \vee 0 = 0, 0 \vee 1 = 1, 1 \vee 0 = 1, 1 \vee 1 = 1$

NOT operation :  $\bar{0} = 1, \bar{1} = 0$

**Boolean variables:**  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \{0,1\}$

**Boolean literal:**  $x_i, \bar{x}_i$

**Boolean formula:**  $(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_4 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_5)$

clause

clause

clause

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**CNF: Conjunctive Normal Form**

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

3-CNF SAT Problem: a known NPC problem.

### 3-CNF SAT Problem:

**Input:** A CNF formula with  $n$  variables and  $k$  clauses,  
where each clause is the “OR” of 3 literals.

**Question:** Does there exist a solution to the variables that make the formula be true?

Instance:  $(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_4 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_5)$

$n=5$  variables

$k=4$  clauses

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

3-CNF SAT Problem: a known NPC problem.

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**Input:** A CNF formula with  $n$  variables and  $k$  clauses,  
where each clause is the “OR” of 3 literals.

**Question:** Does there exist a solution to the variables that make the formula be true?

We now show a polynomial-time reduction from the 3-CNF SAT Problem to Clique Problem.

Instance:  $(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_4 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_5)$   
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3-CNF SAT Problem:

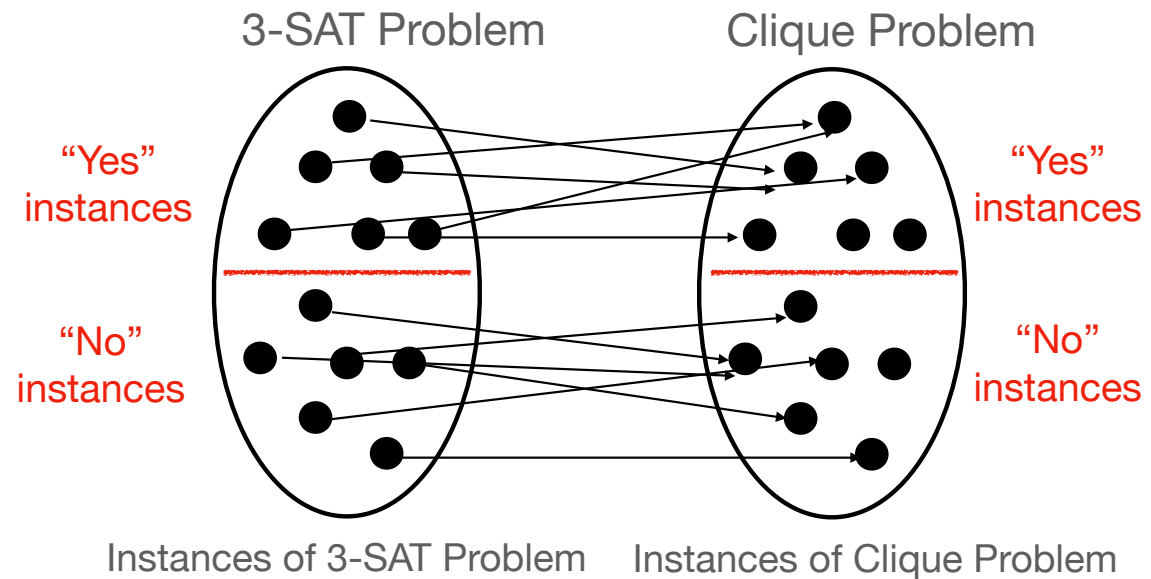
Example of Instance:  $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)$

### 3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

Polynomial-time reduction:



### 3-CNF SAT Problem:

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$x_1$     $\bigcirc$

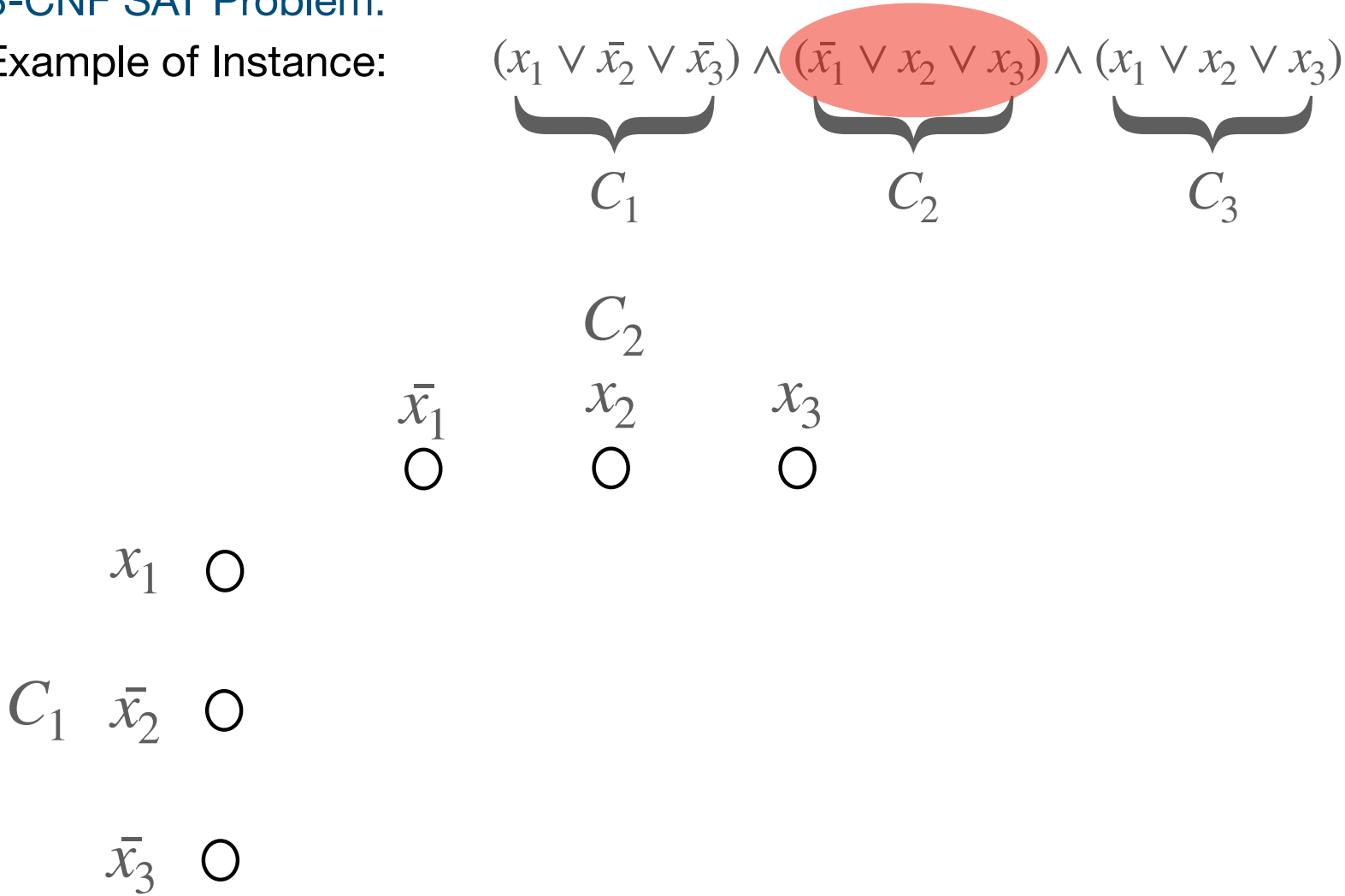
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$\bar{x}_3$     $\bigcirc$



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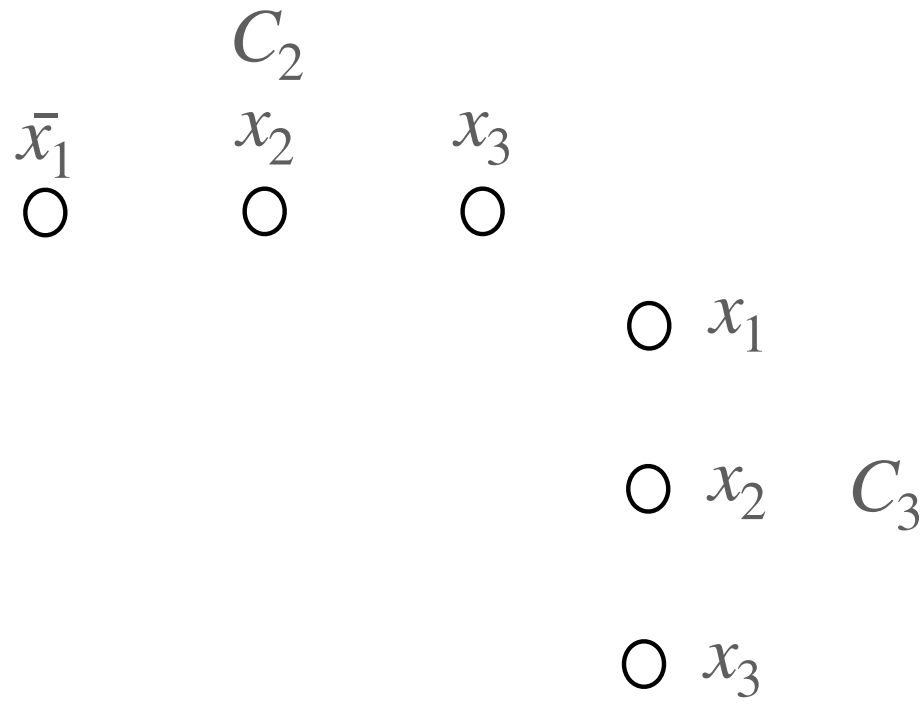


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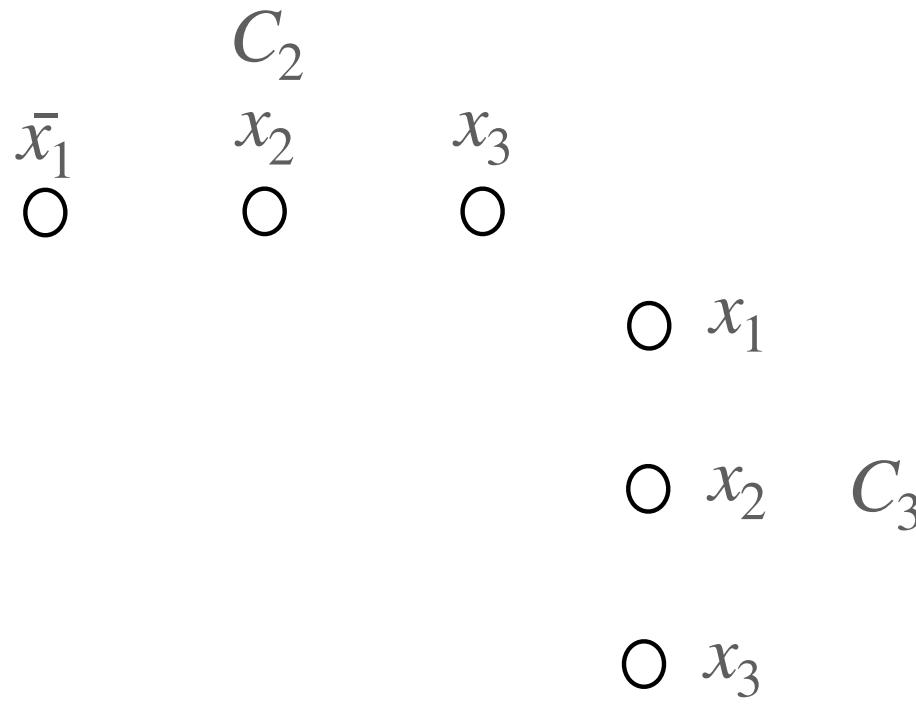
In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.



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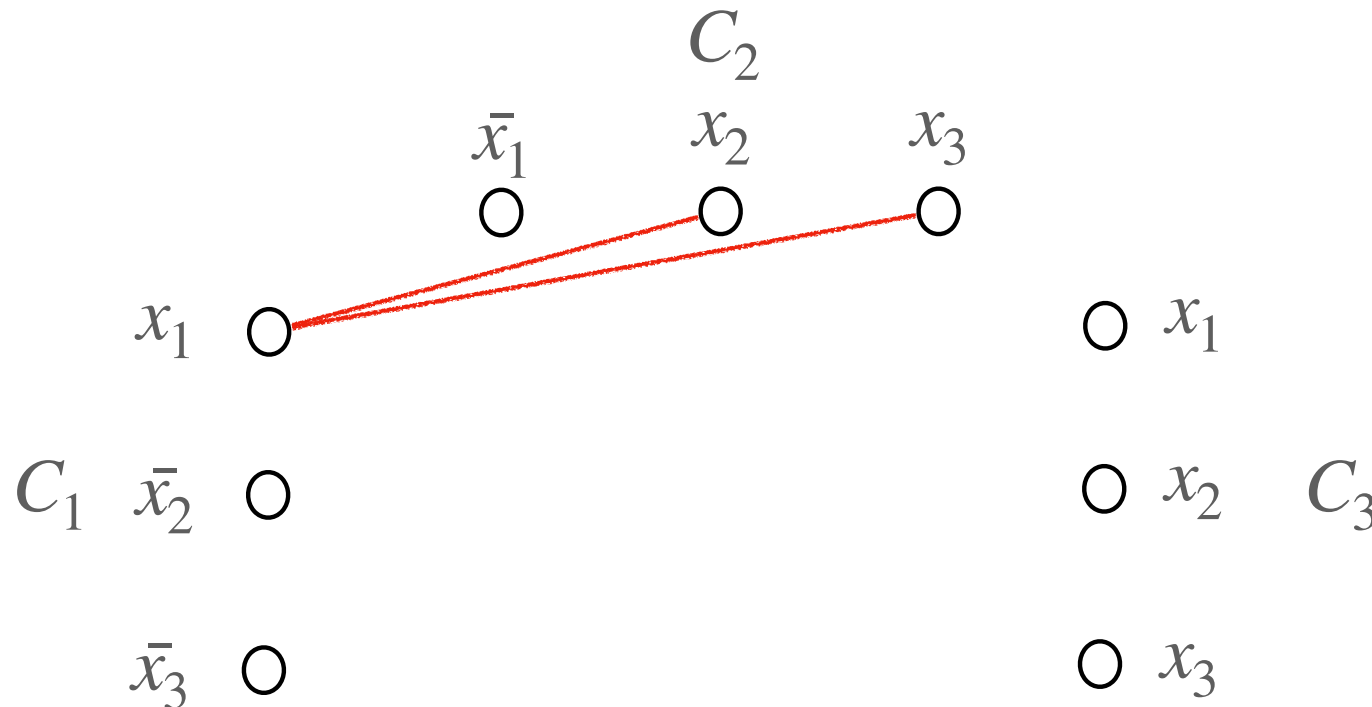
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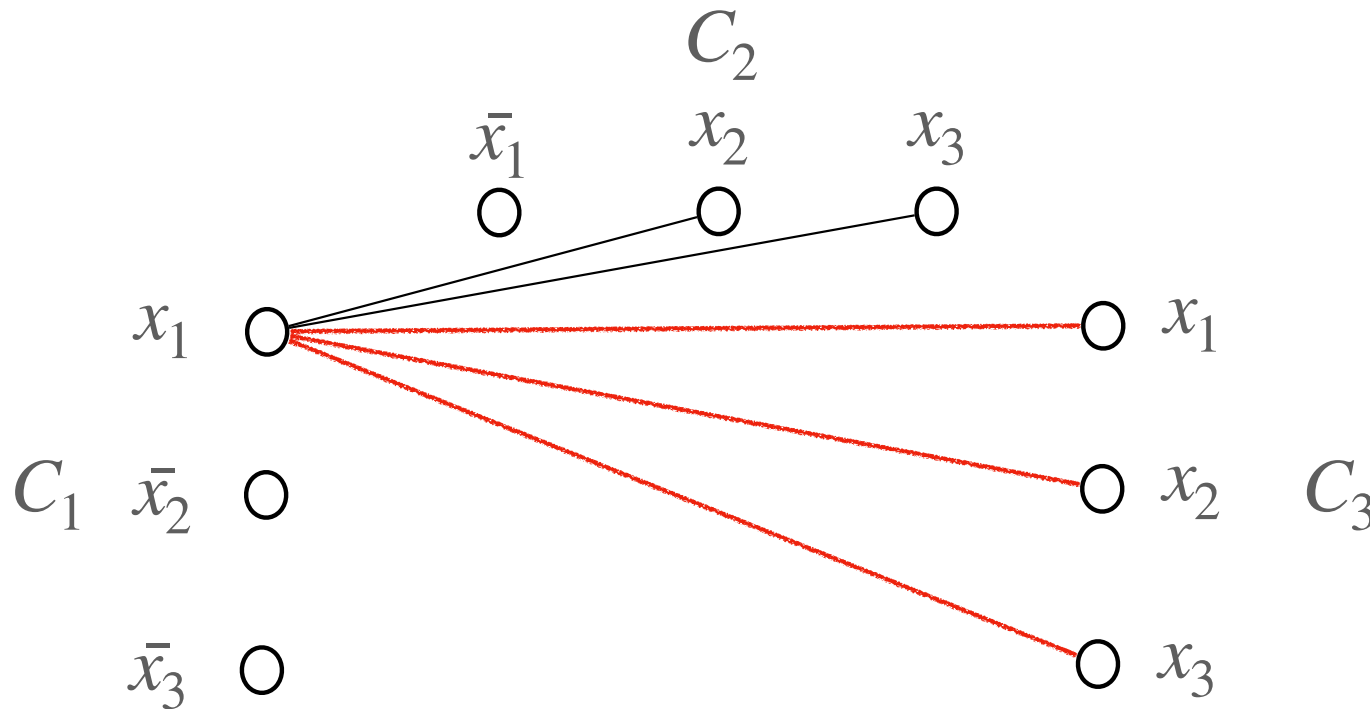
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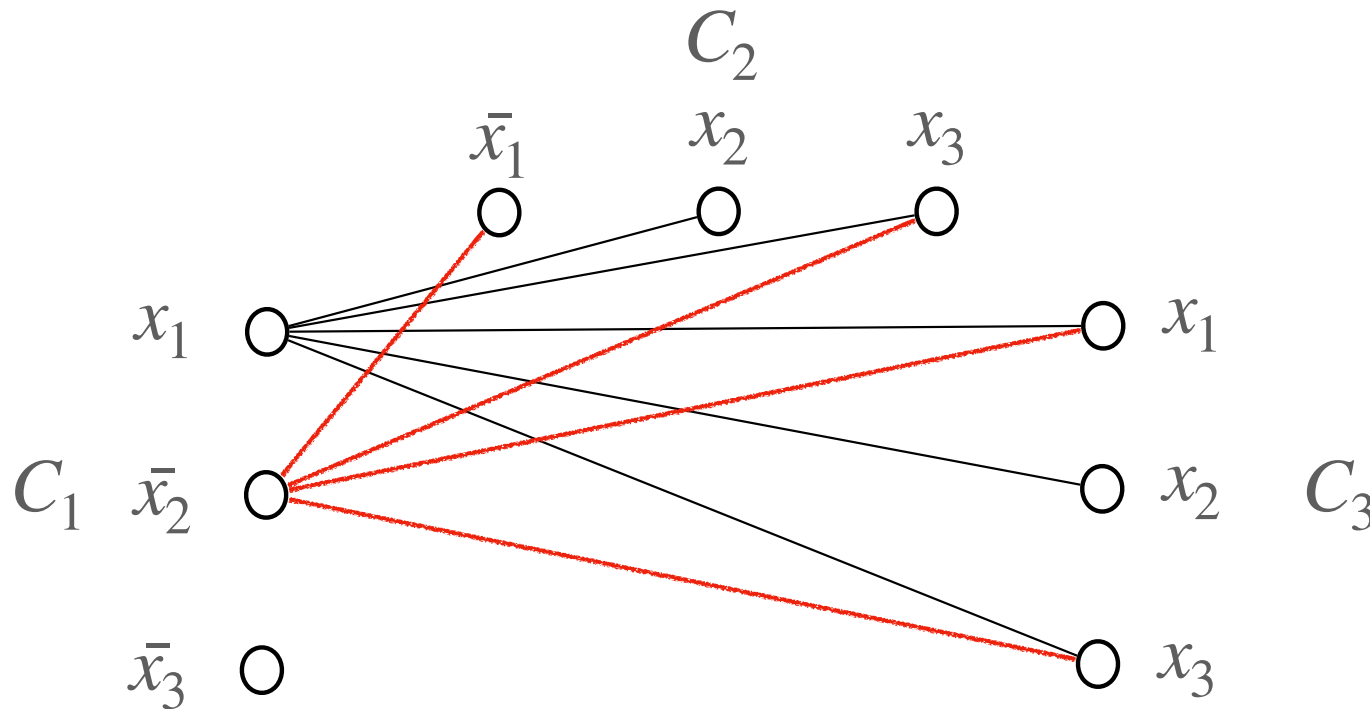
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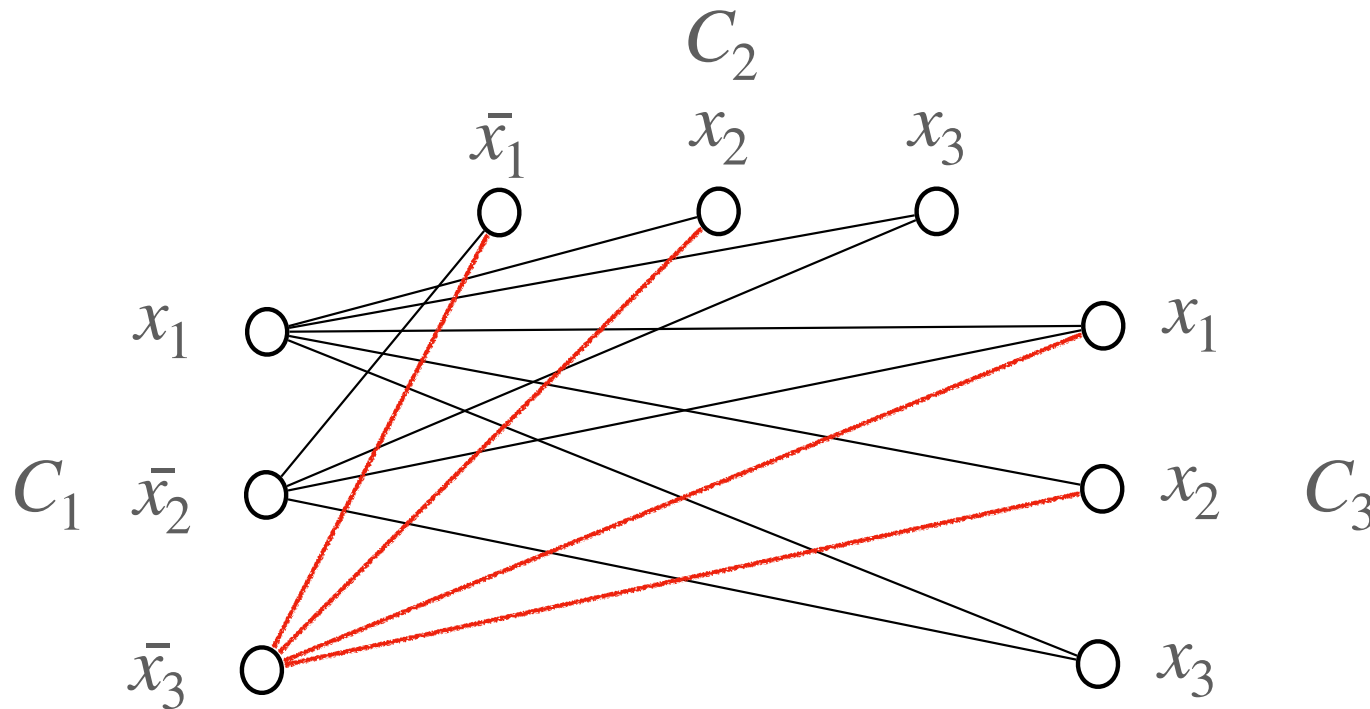
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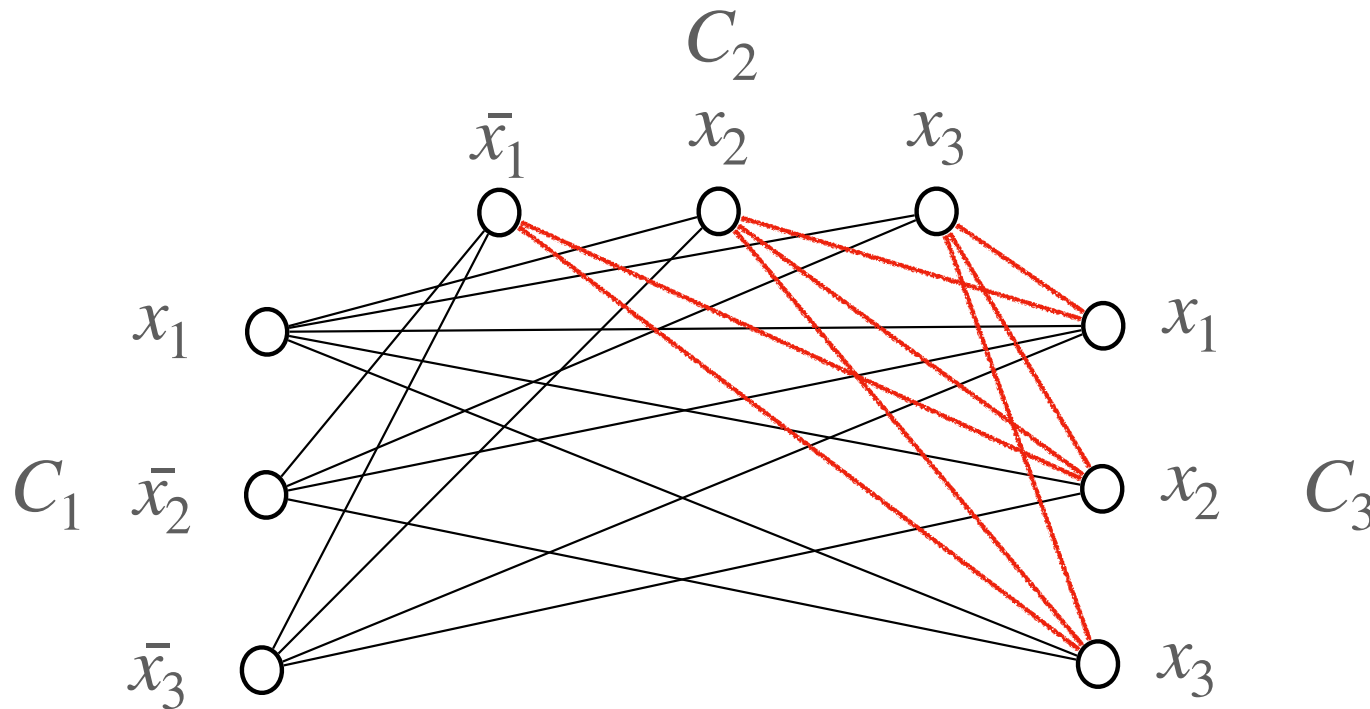
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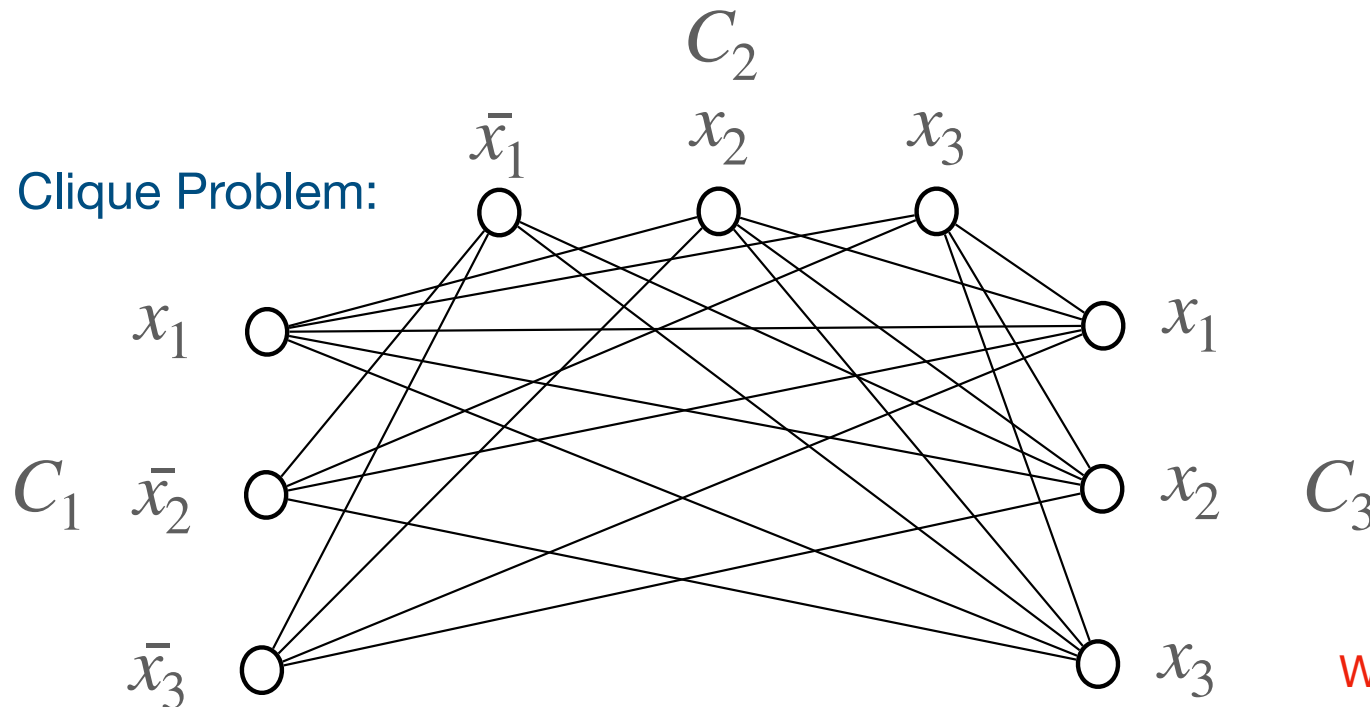
3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

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Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

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Two nodes u and v have an edge if:

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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

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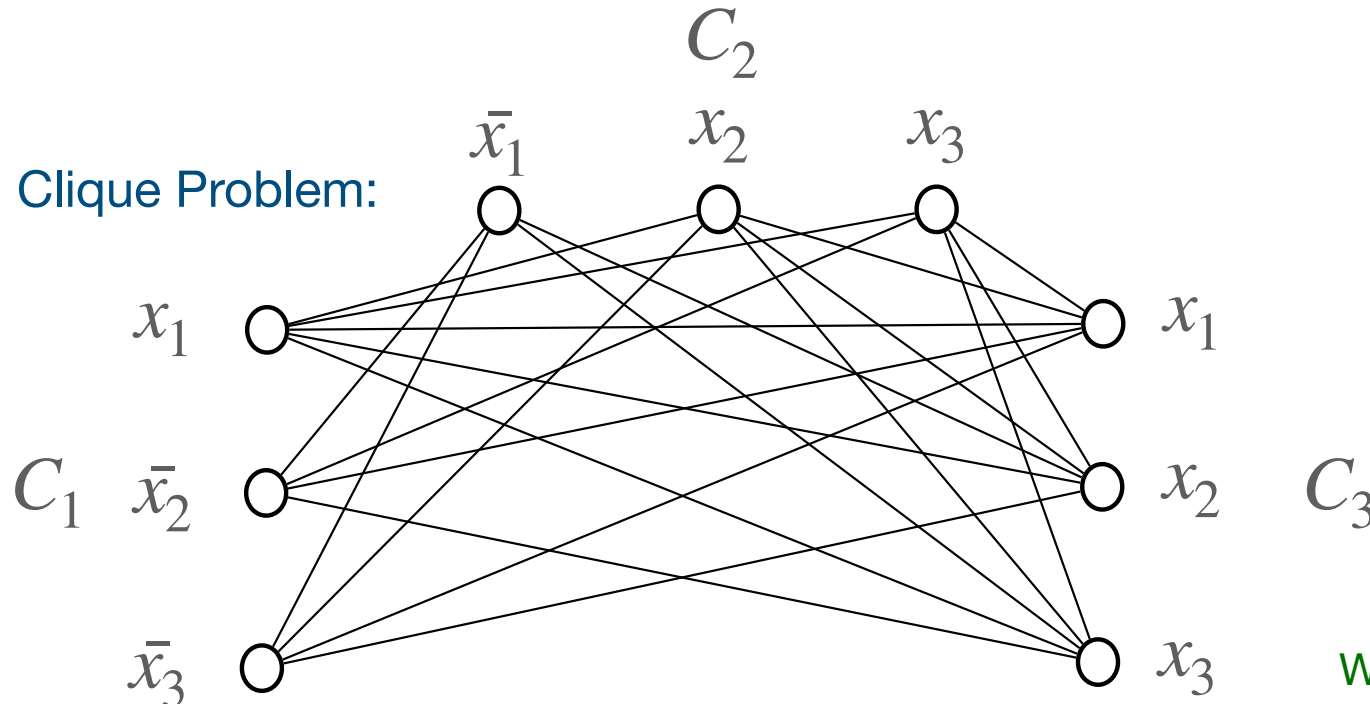
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We now prove the mapping preserves “YES/NO” answers.

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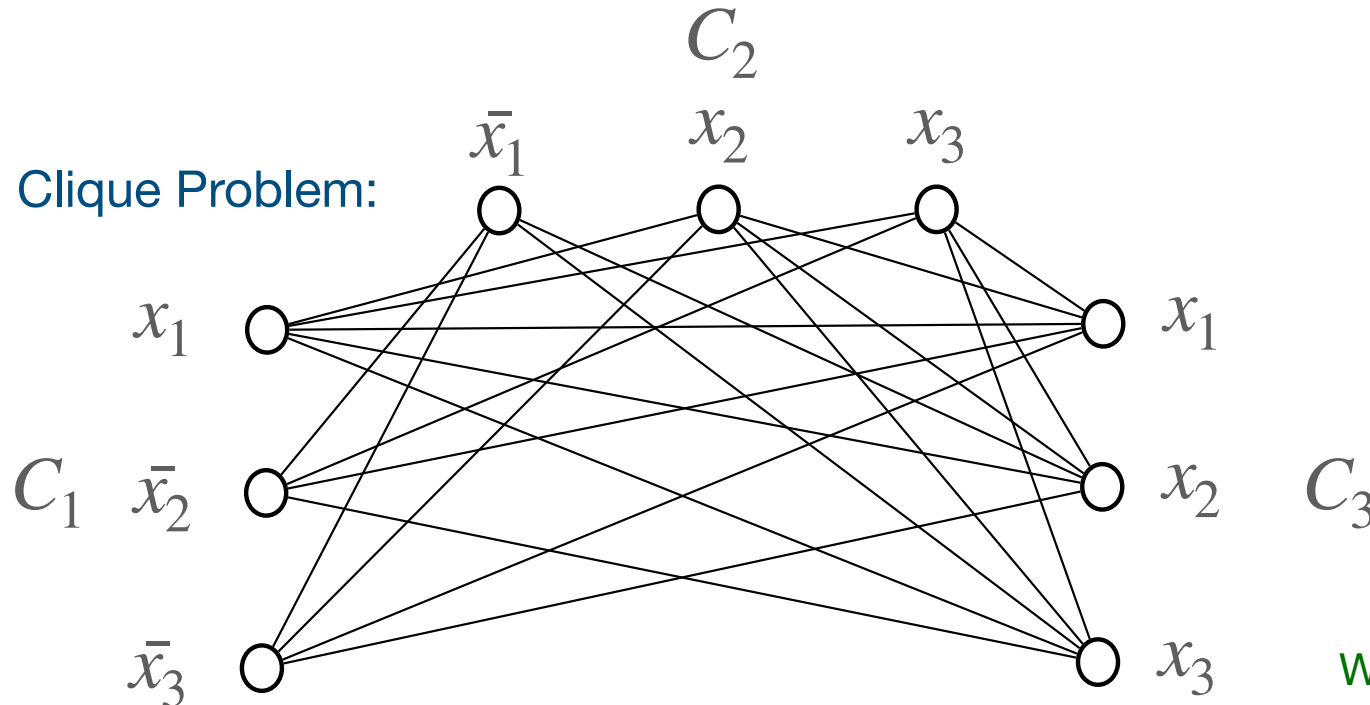
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We now prove: “YES for 3-SAT” implies “YES for Clique Problem”.

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3-CNF SAT Problem: Question: Can this formula (of  $k$  clauses) be satisfied?

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## A solution to 3-SAT:

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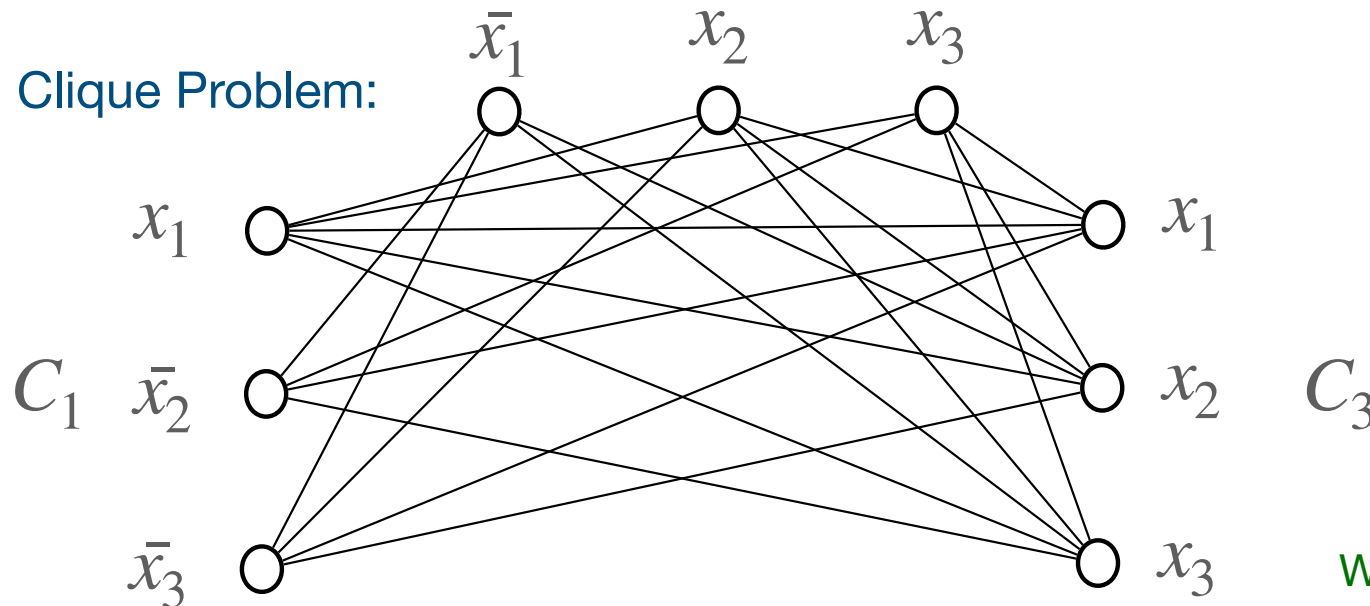
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$$C_2$$

In general,  $k$  clauses will lead to  $3k$  nodes.

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Question: Does this graph have a clique of size  $k$ ?

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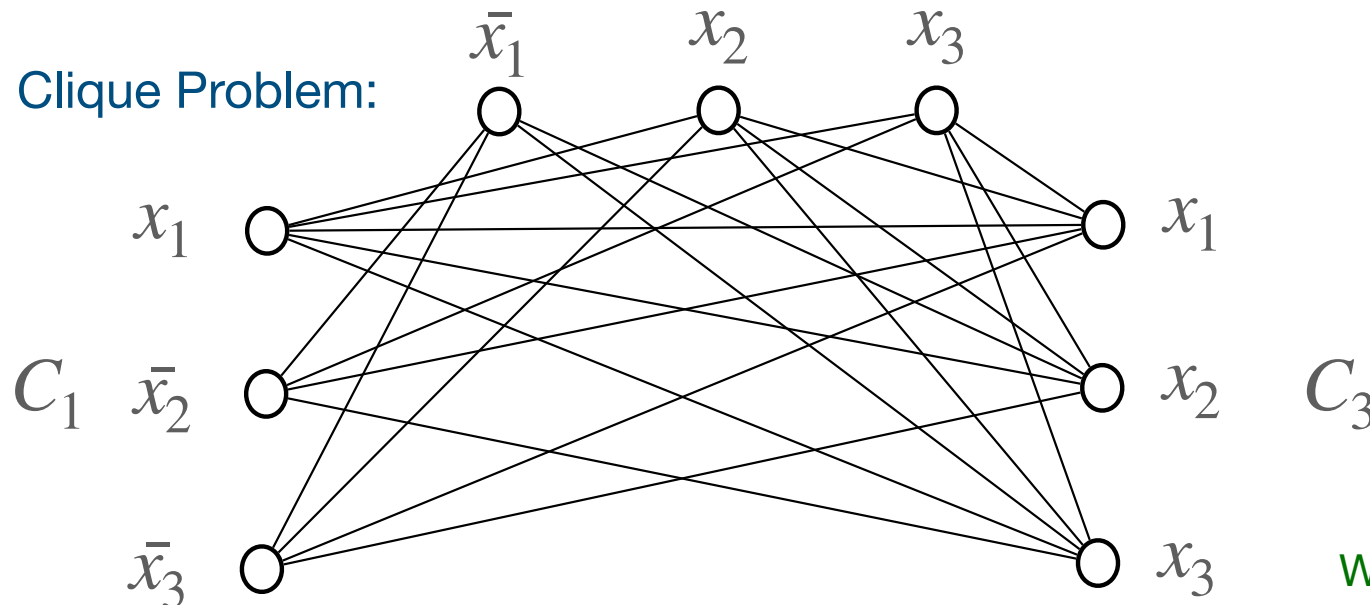
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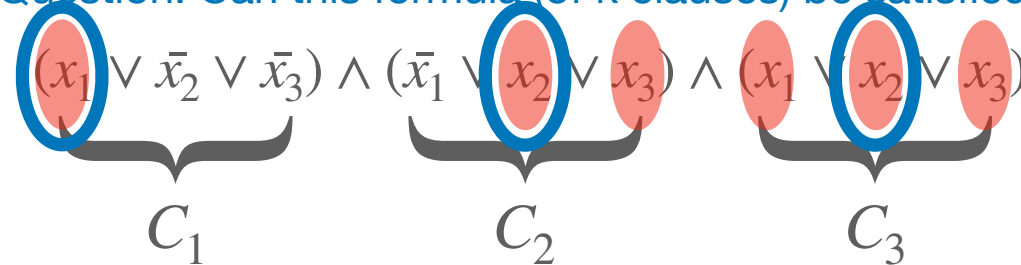
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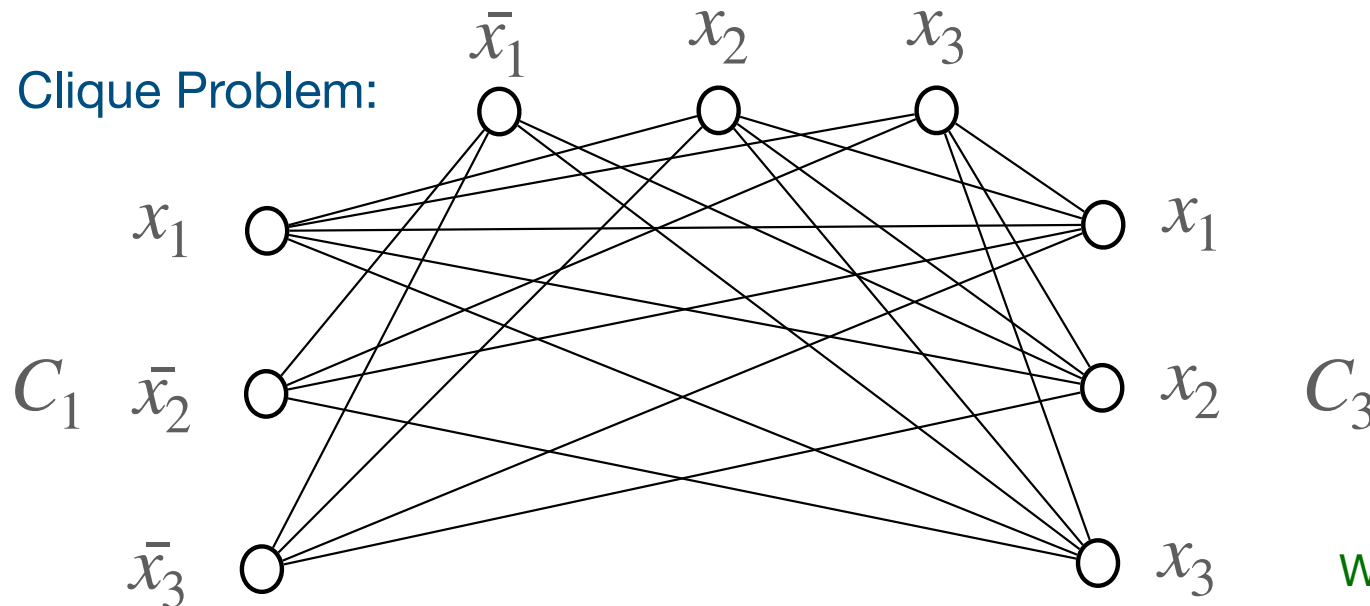
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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

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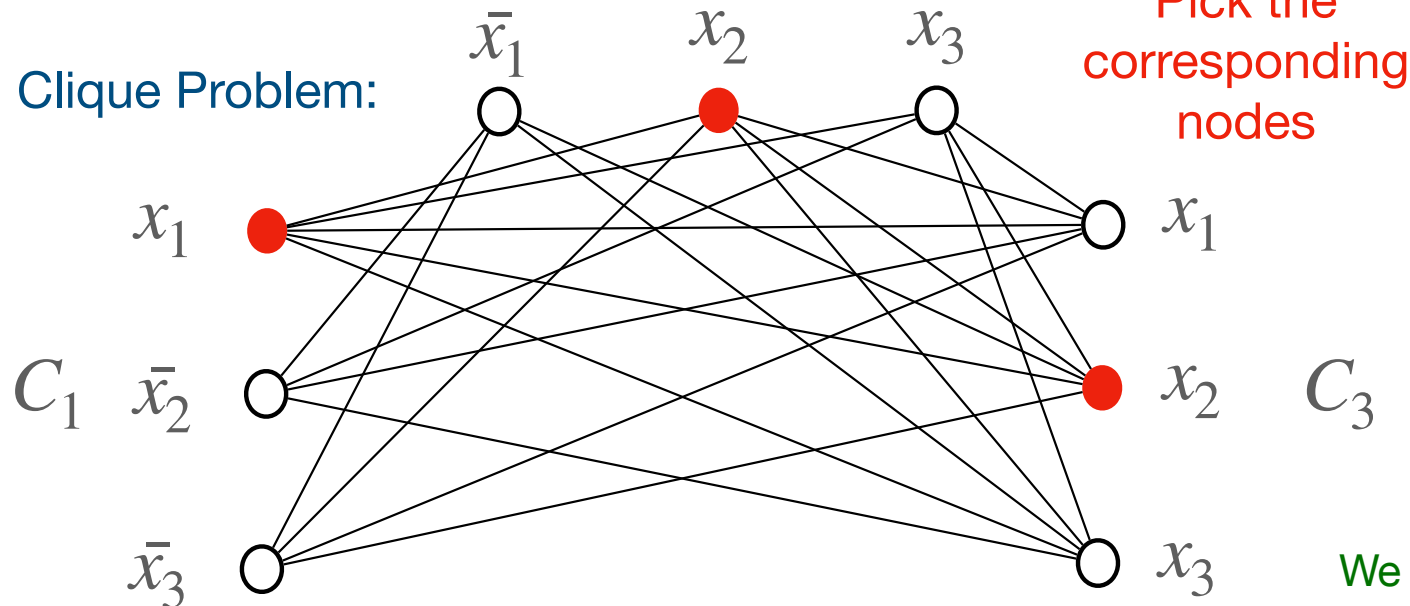
A solution to 3-SAT:

$$x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 1$$

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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

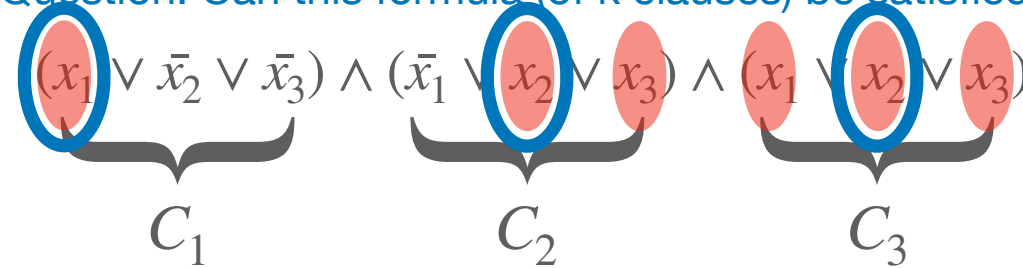
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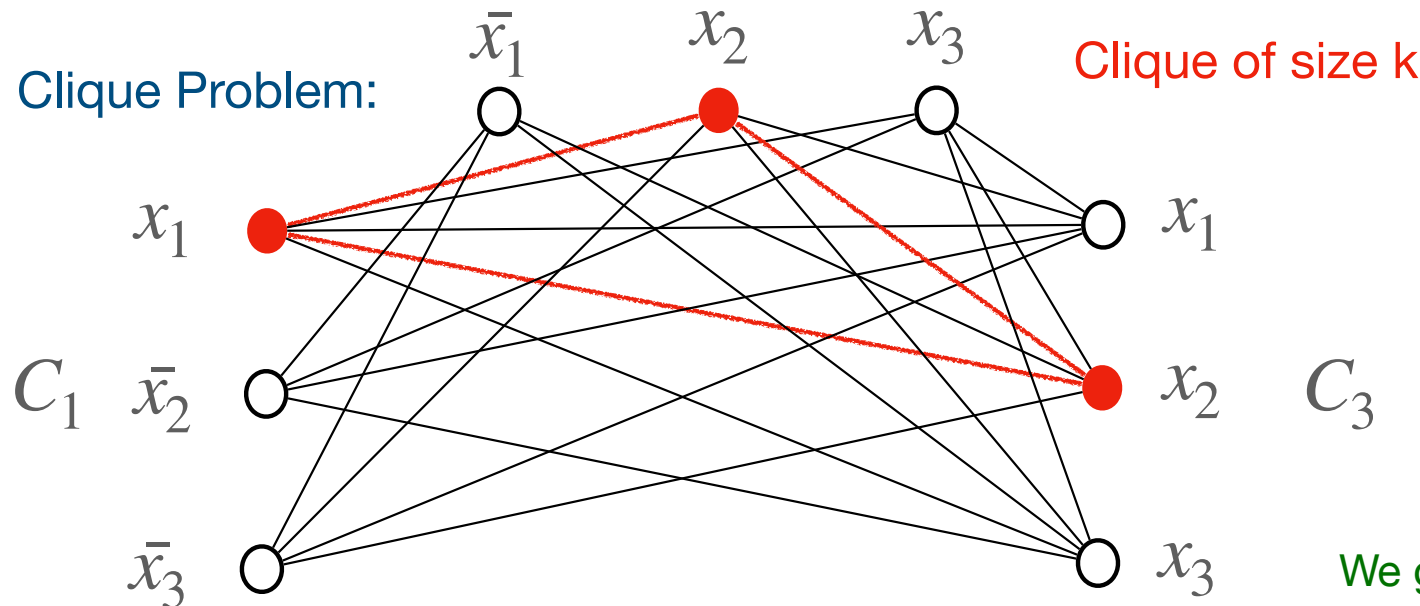


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Clique of size k

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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

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$$x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 1$$

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

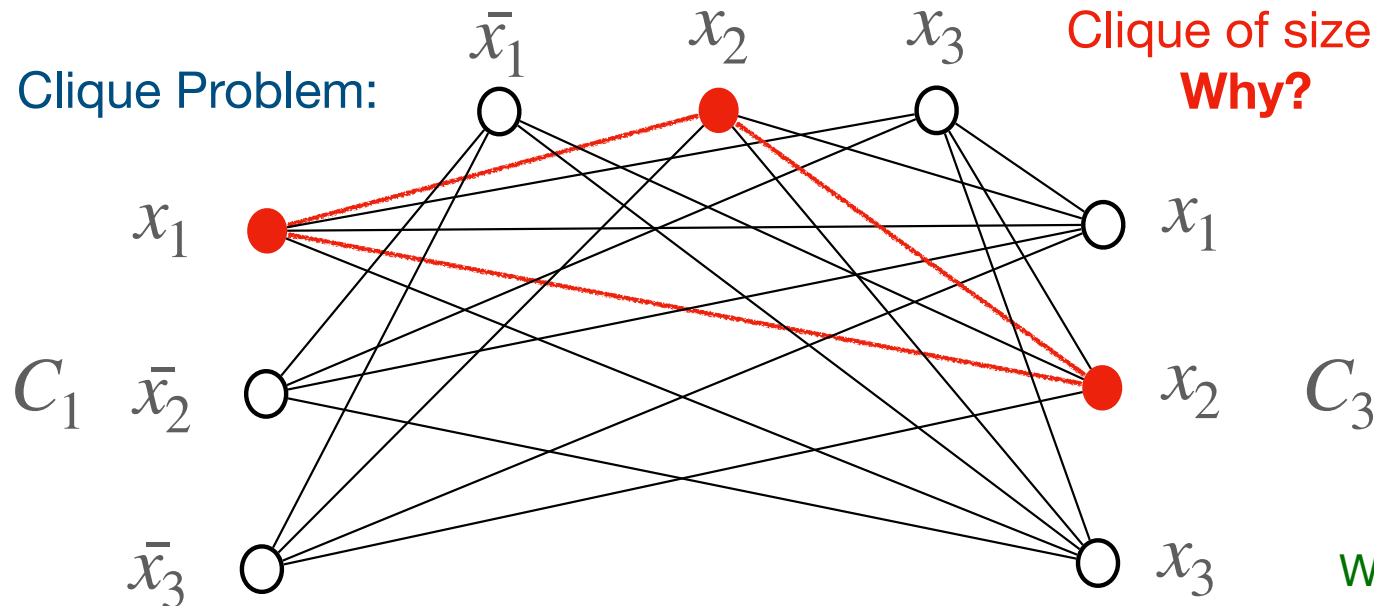
$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

We now prove: “YES for 3-SAT” implies “YES for Clique Problem”.

$C_2$

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.

Clique Problem:



Clique of size k.  
Why?

Two nodes u and v have an edge if:

- 1) u and v are in two different clauses.
- 2) u and v are not “NOT” of each other.

We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

3-CNF SAT Problem:

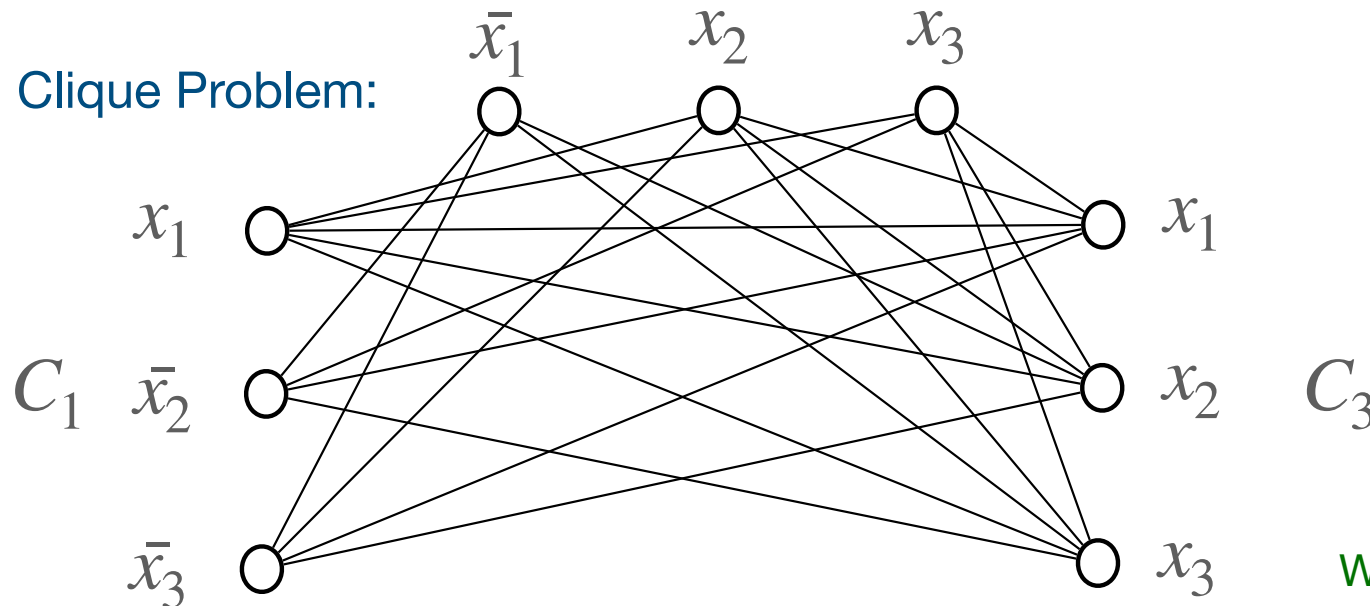
Example of Instance:

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

Clique Problem:



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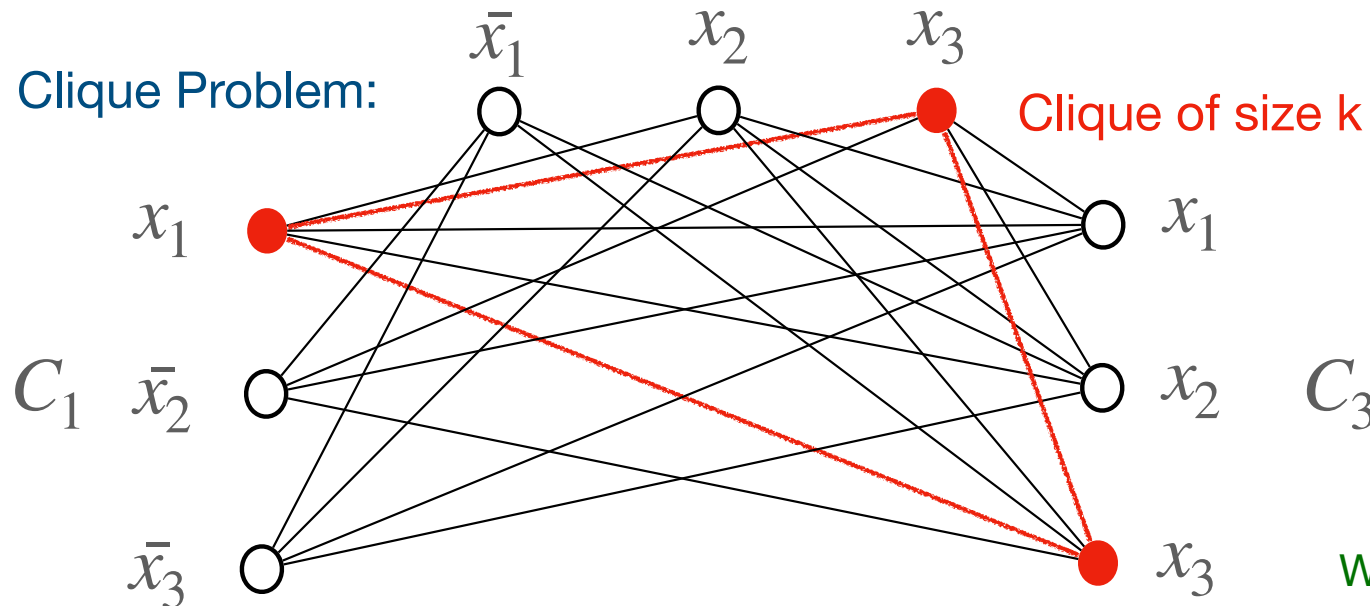
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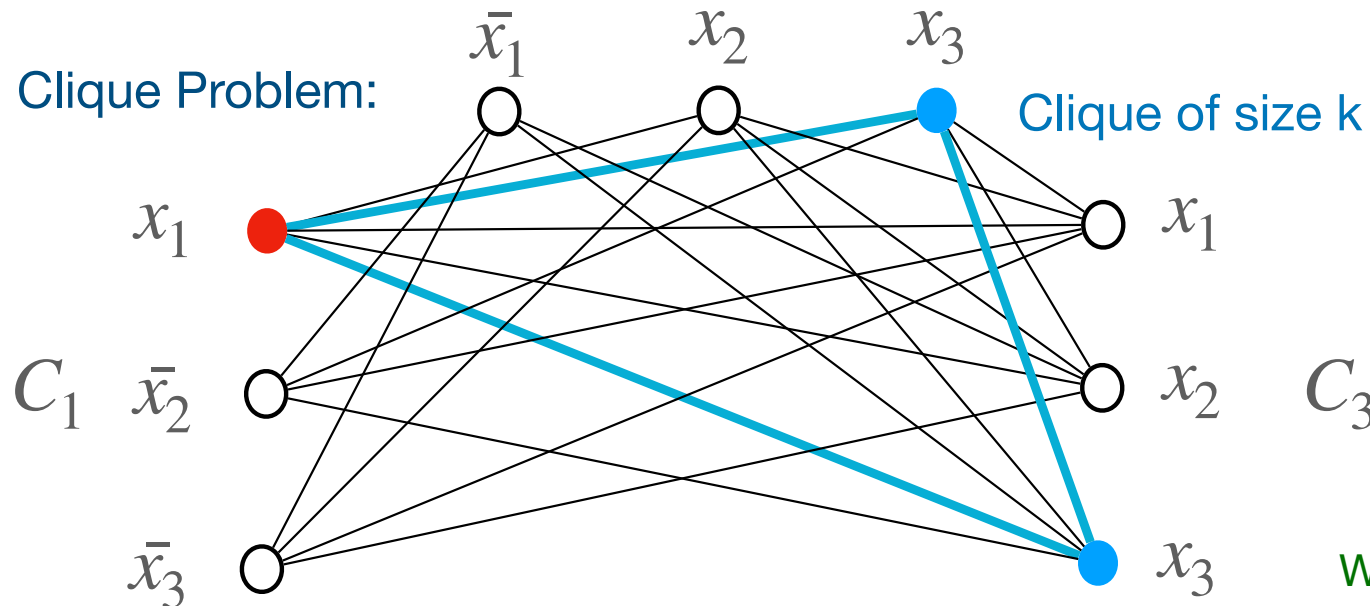
$$x_1 = ?$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

$C_2$

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.

Clique Problem:



Two nodes u and v have an edge if:

- 1) u and v are in two different clauses.
- 2) u and v are not “NOT” of each other.

We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

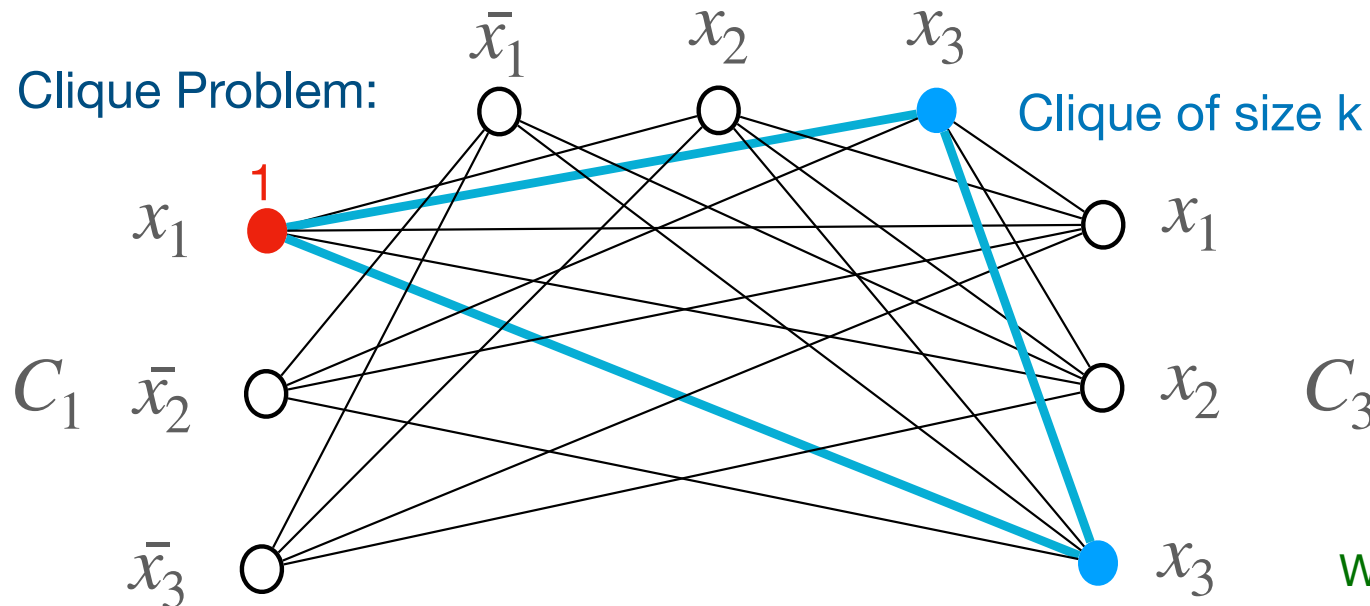
$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.

Clique Problem:



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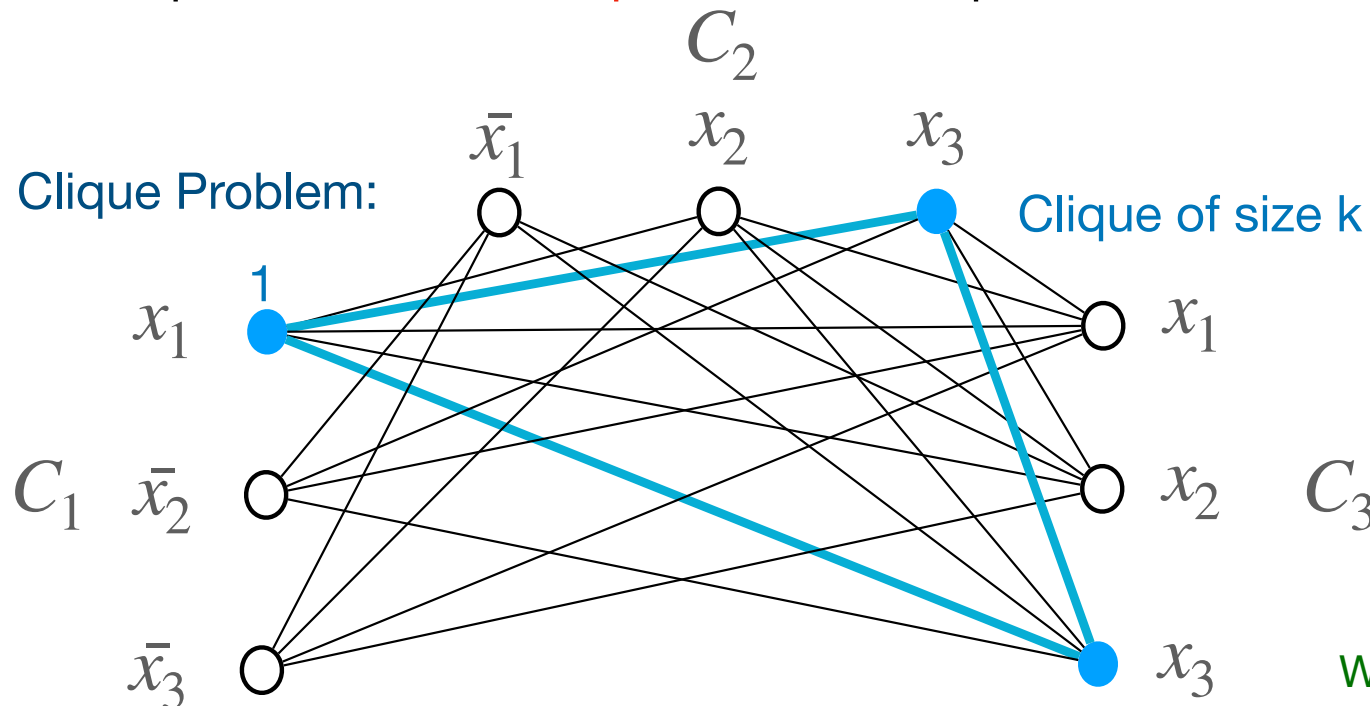
Example of Instance:

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 = 1 \\ x_2 = ? \end{array}$$

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In general, k clauses will lead to  $3k$  nodes.

Two nodes  $u$  and  $v$  have an edge if:

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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

$$(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)$$

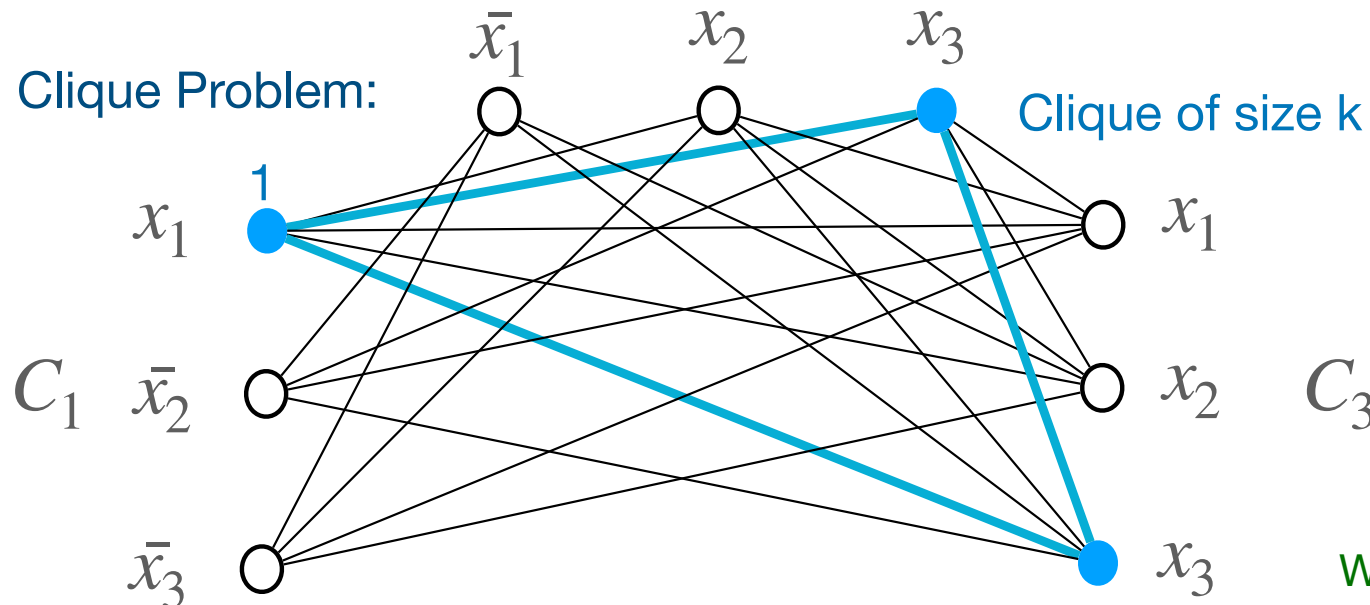
$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_1} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_2} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_3}$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 1 \\ x_2 &= 0 \text{ or } 1 \end{aligned}$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.

Clique Problem:



Two nodes u and v have an edge if:

- 1) u and v are in two different clauses.
- 2) u and v are not “NOT” of each other.

We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

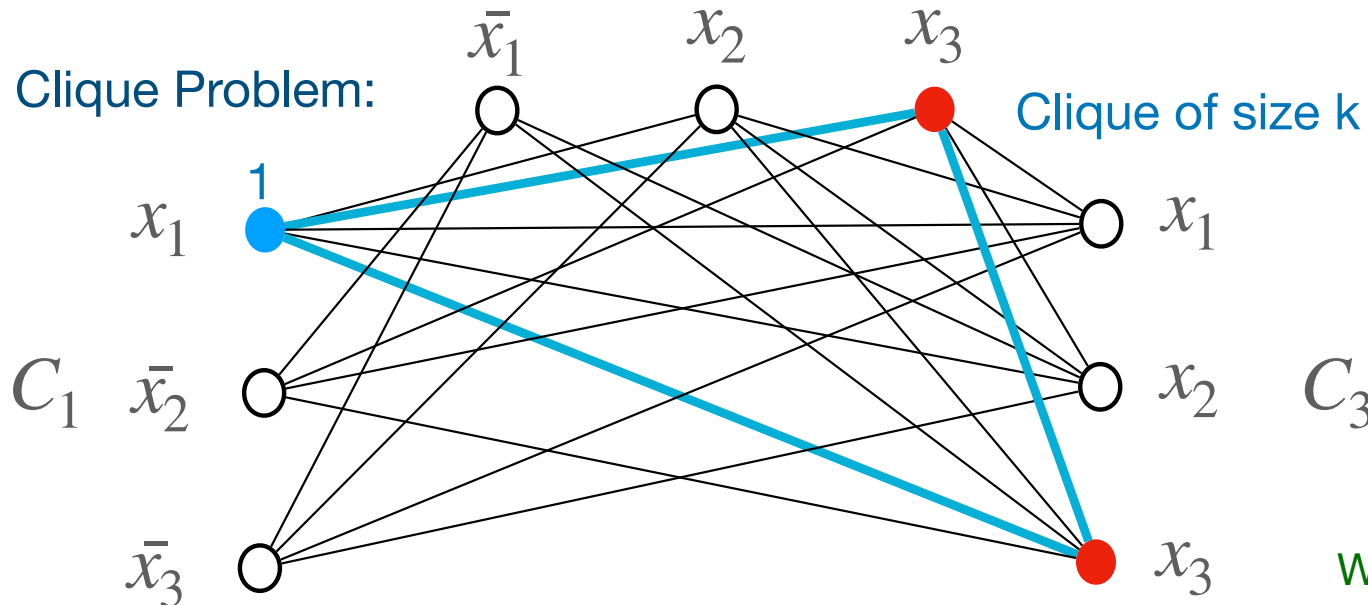
Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 1 \\ x_2 &= 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ x_3 &= ? \end{aligned}$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.



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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?



3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

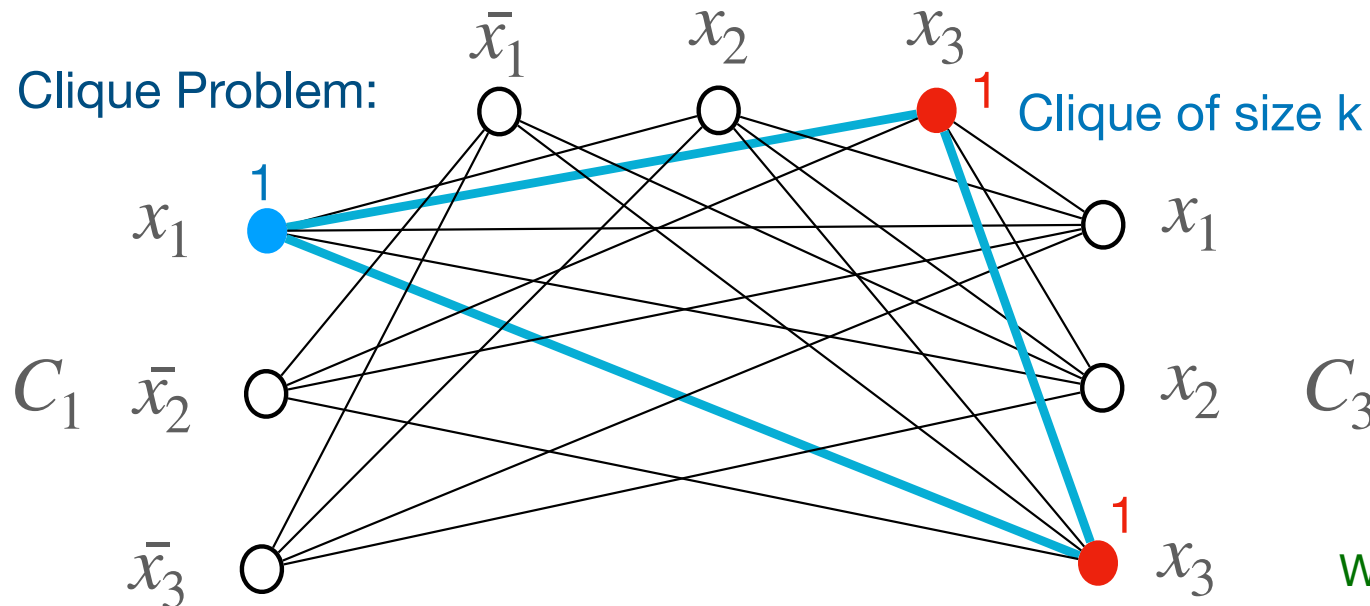
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$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 1 \\ x_2 &= 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ x_3 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

Clique Problem:



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3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

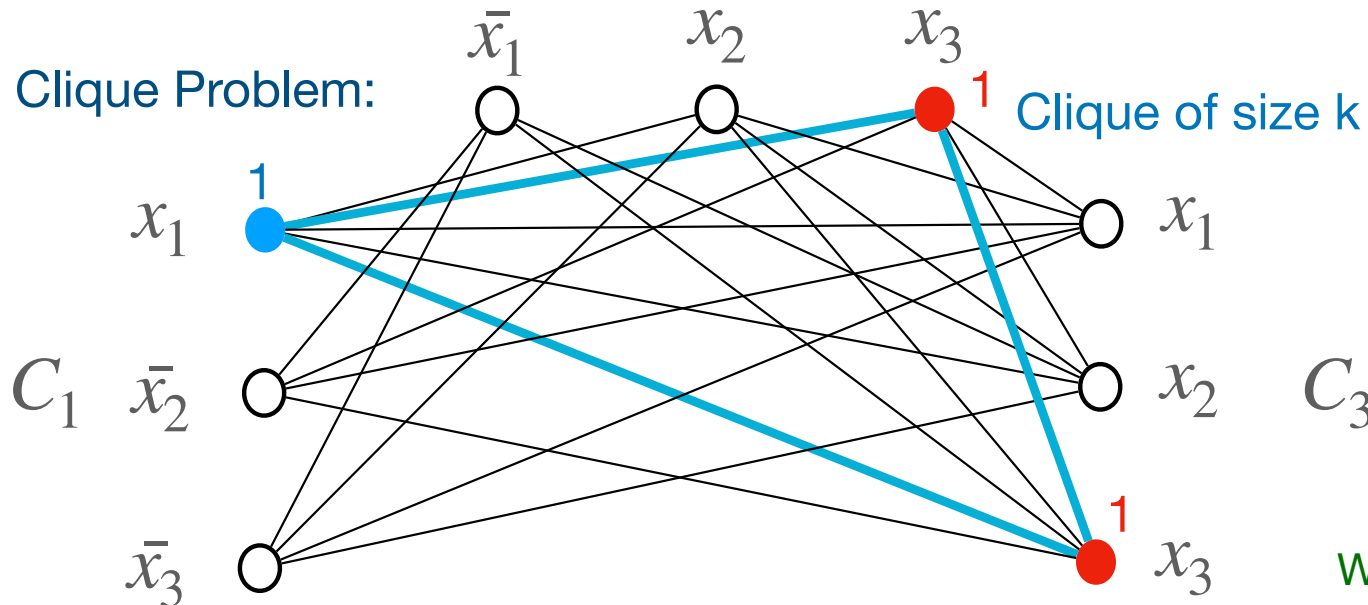
$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 1 \\ x_2 &= 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ x_3 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

3-SAT formula is satisfied!

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.



Two nodes u and v have an edge if:

- 1) u and v are in two different clauses.
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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

How about we try again?

3-CNF SAT Problem:

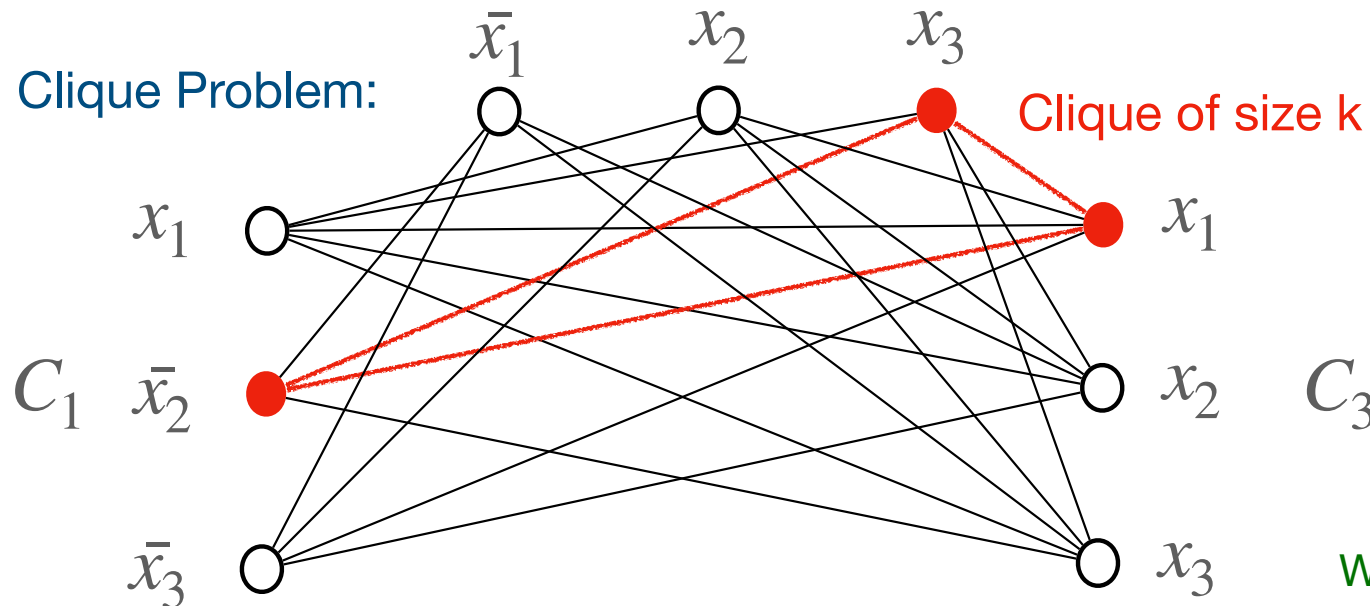
Example of Instance:

Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

Clique Problem:



In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.

Two nodes u and v have an edge if:

- 1) u and v are in two different clauses.
- 2) u and v are not “NOT” of each other.

We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

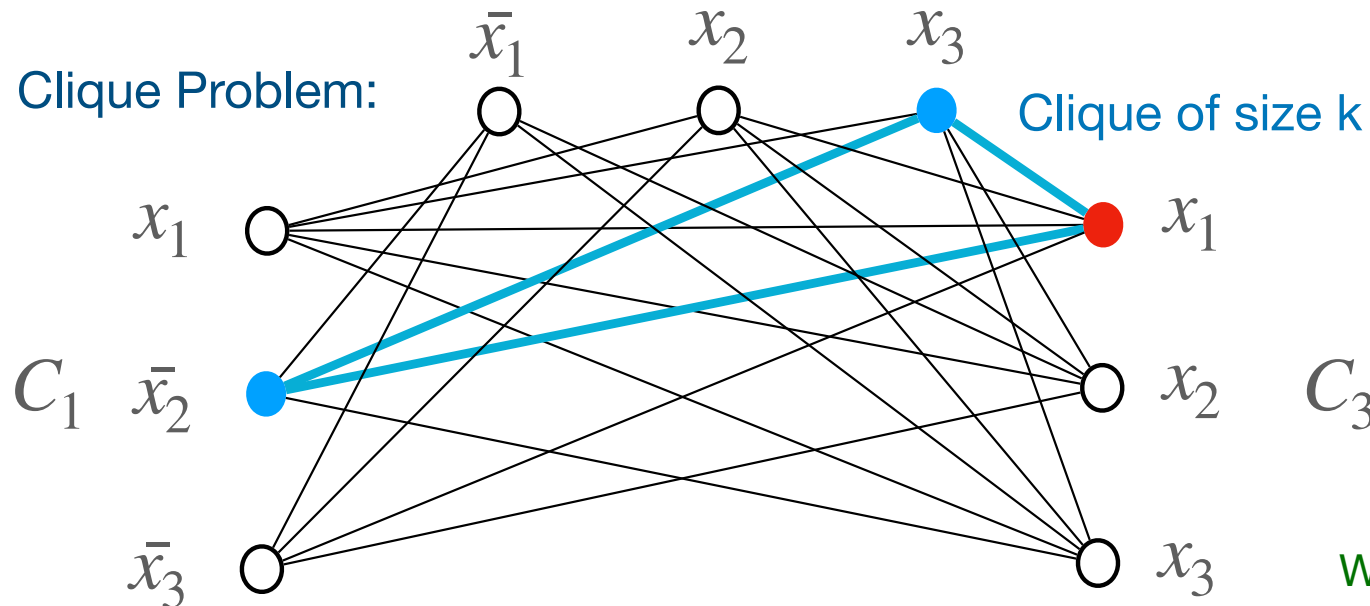
Question: Can this formula (of k clauses) be satisfied?

$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

$$x_1 = ?$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

Clique Problem:



Clique of size k

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.

Two nodes u and v have an edge if:

- 1) u and v are in two different clauses.
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We get a polynomial-time mapping.

Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

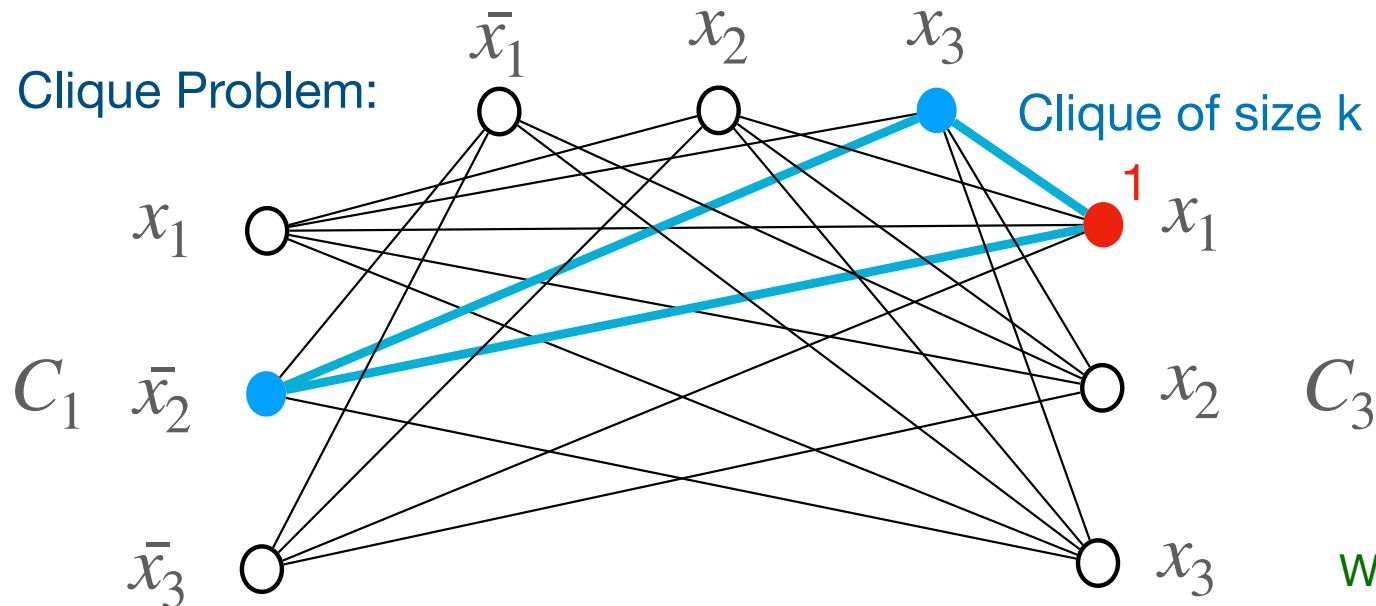
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$$\underbrace{(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)}_{C_1} \wedge \underbrace{(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_2} \wedge \underbrace{(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)}_{C_3}$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

We now prove: “YES for Clique Problem” implies “YES for 3-SAT”.

Clique Problem:



Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?

In general, k clauses will lead to 3k nodes.

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3-CNF SAT Problem:

Example of Instance:

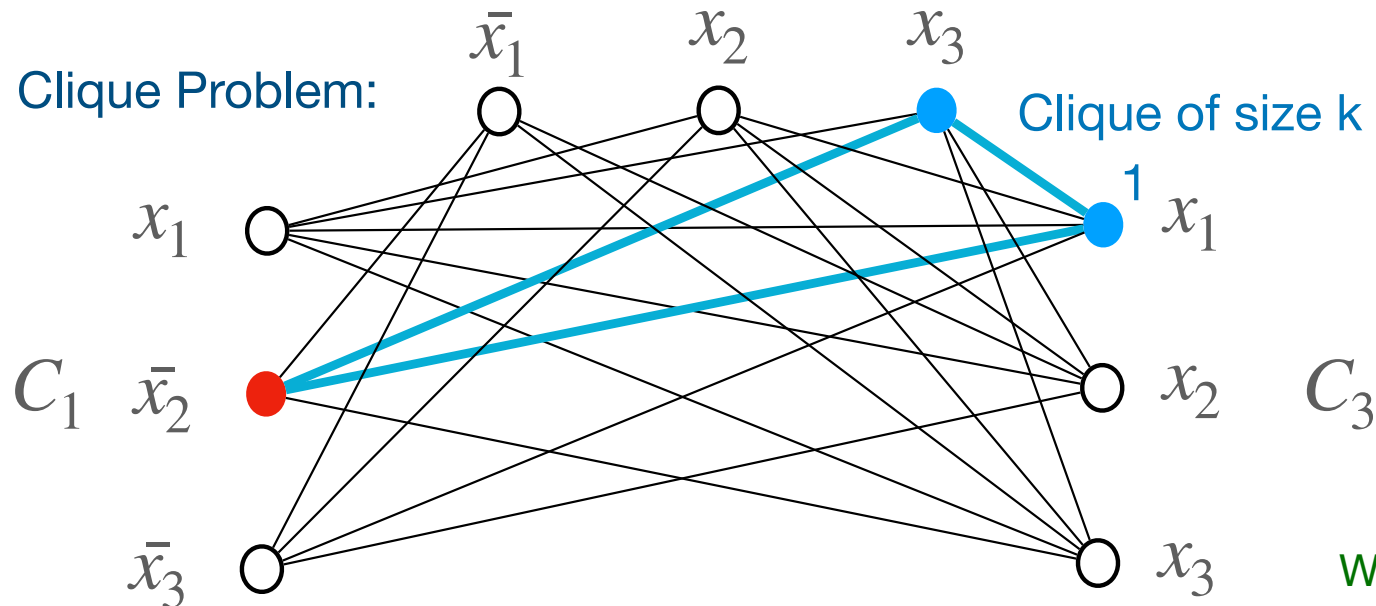
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$$\begin{array}{lcl} x_1 & = & 1 \\ x_2 & = & ? \end{array}$$

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Clique Problem:



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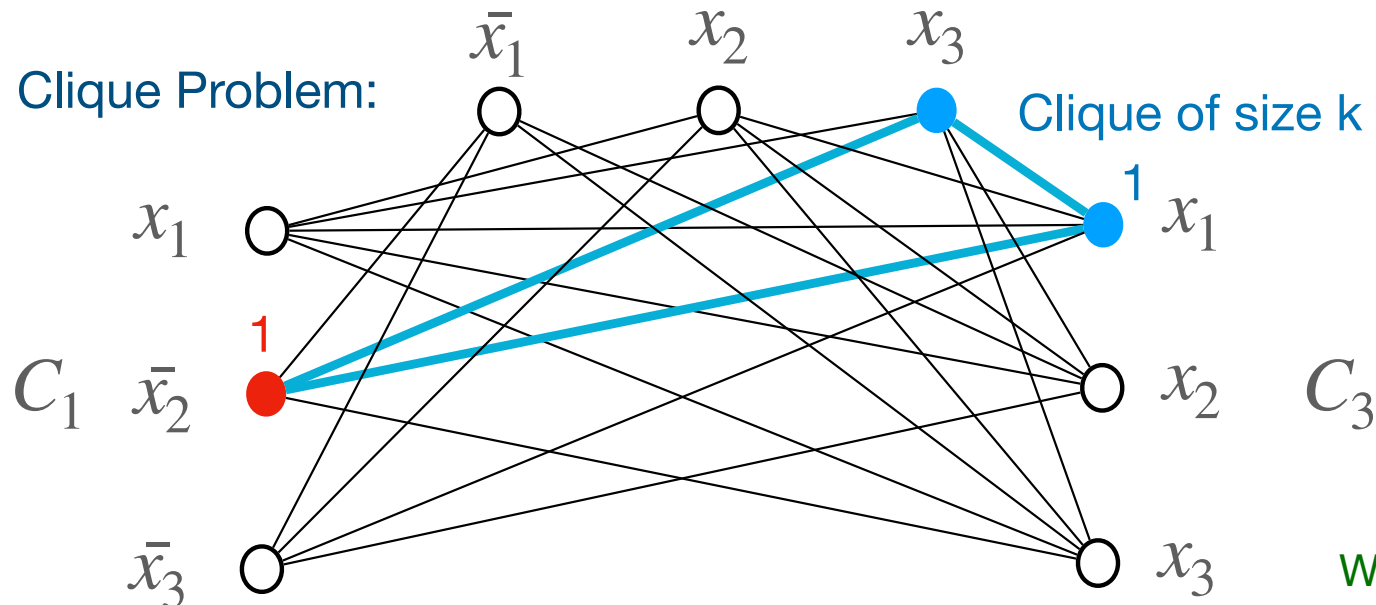
$$(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_1} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_2} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_3}$

$x_1$	$=$	1
$x_2$	$=$	0

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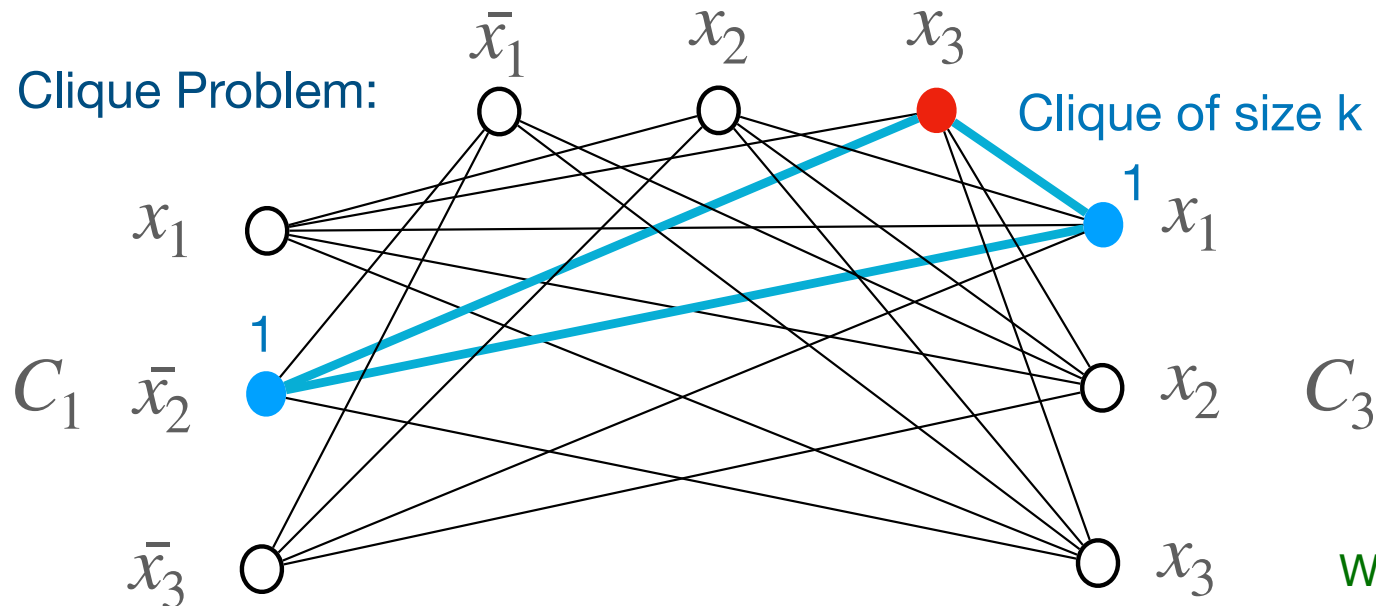
$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_1} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_2} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{C_3}$

$x_1$	$=$	1
$x_2$	$=$	0
$x_3$	$=$	?

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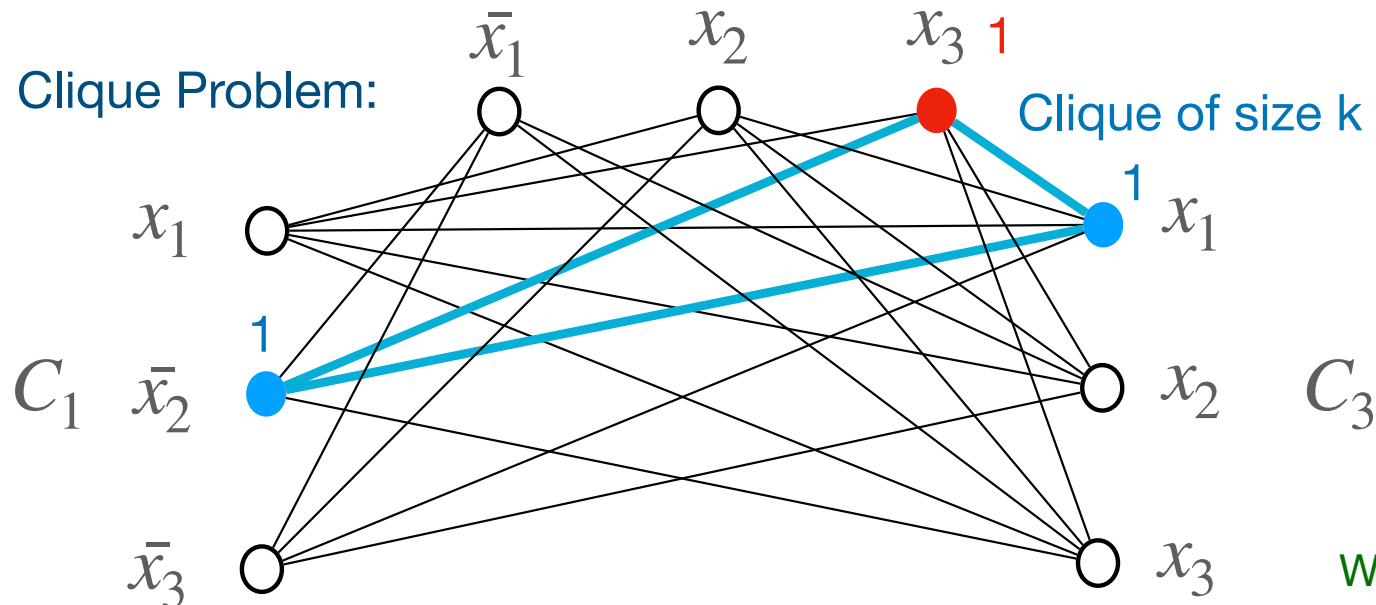
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$x_1$	$=$	1
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Example of Instance:

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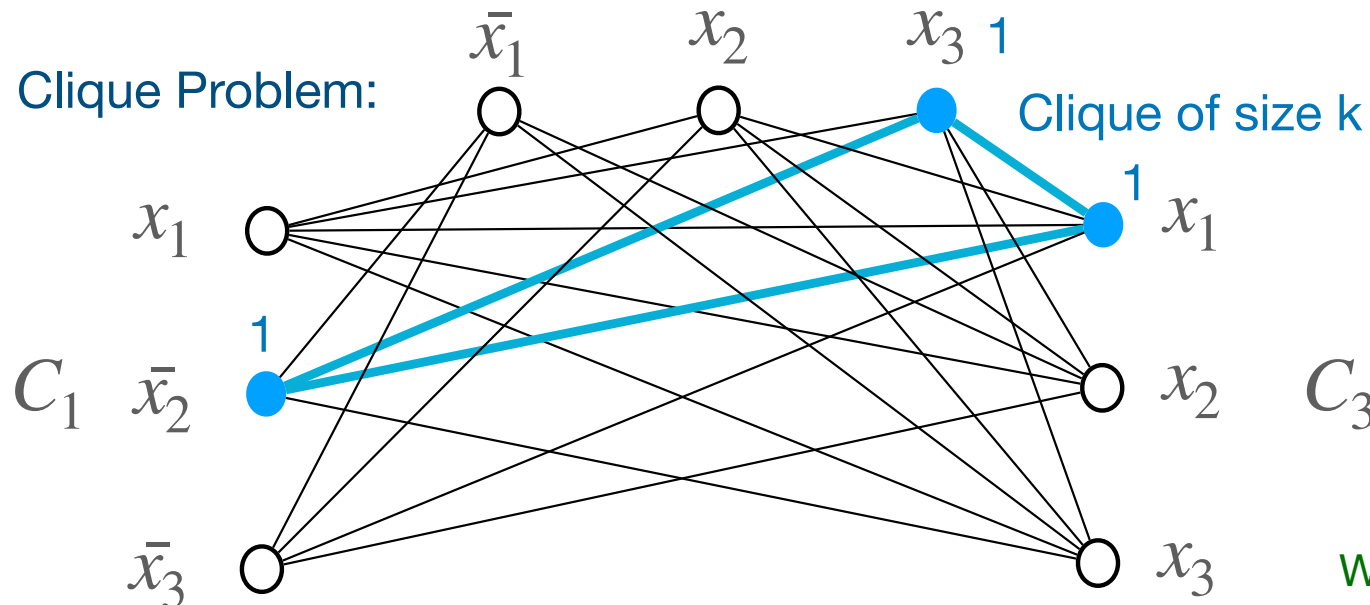
$x_1$	$=$	1
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Question: Does this graph have a clique of size k?


We have proved:

“YES” for 3-CNF SAT Problem  “YES” for Clique Problem


We have proved:

“YES” for 3-CNF SAT Problem  “YES” for Clique Problem


It automatically implies:

“NO” for 3-CNF SAT Problem  “NO” for Clique Problem

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So the reduction preserves the “YES/NO” answer.

We have proved:

“YES” for 3-CNF SAT Problem  “YES” for Clique Problem

It automatically implies:

“NO” for 3-CNF SAT Problem  “NO” for Clique Problem

So the reduction preserves the “YES/NO” answer.

3-CNF SAT Problem  $\leq_p$  Clique Problem

Note: the reduction we showed is from “3-CNF SAT Problem” to “Clique Problem”, not vice versa.

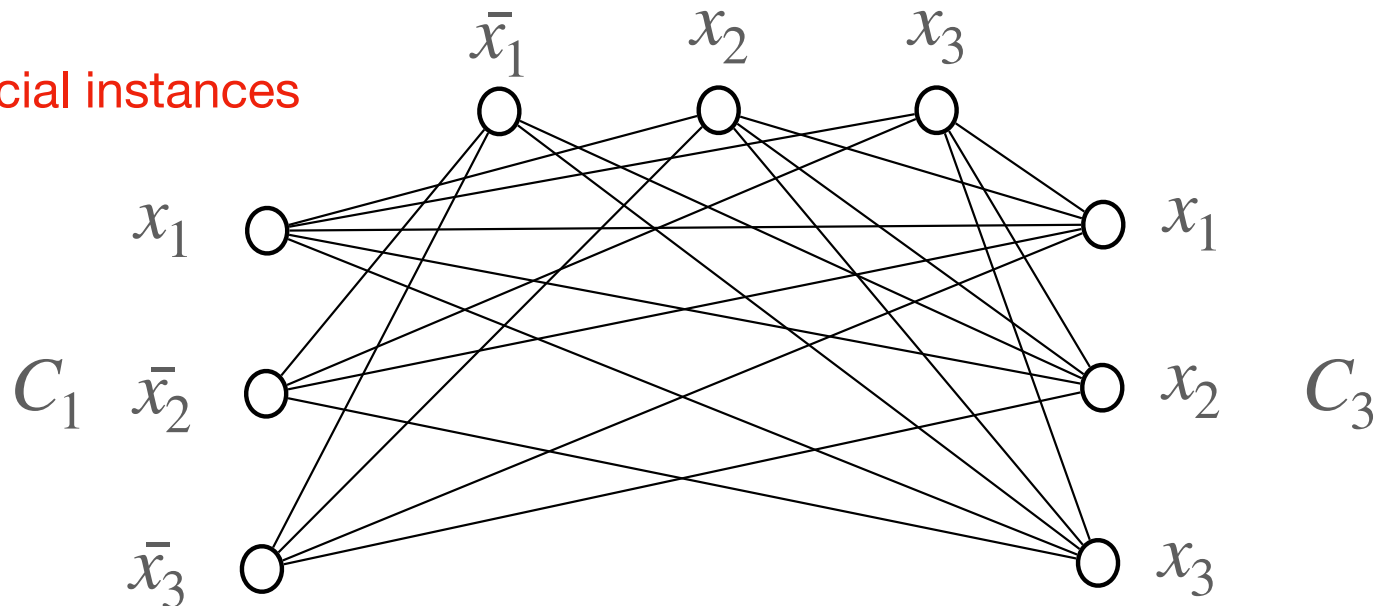
3-CNF SAT Problem:  $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)$

General, any instance is OK

$C_1$   $C_2$   $C_3$

Clique Problem:

Only special instances





Note: the reduction we showed is from “3-CNF SAT Problem” to “Clique Problem”, not vice versa.

$$\text{3-CNF SAT Problem} \leq_p \text{Clique Problem}$$

All the instances of “3-CNF SAT Problem” are mapped to **some instances** of the “Clique Problem”.



But since  $\text{3-CNF SAT Problem} \in \text{NPC}$  and  $\text{Clique Problem} \in \text{NP}$ ,  
we also have

$$\text{Clique Problem} \leq_p \text{3-CNF SAT Problem}$$

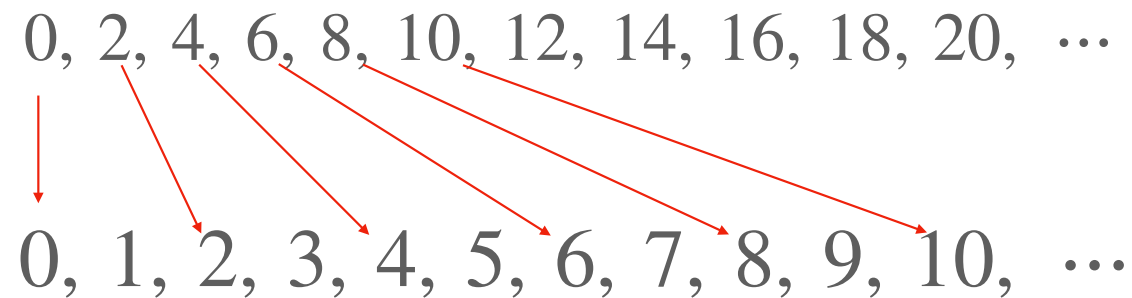
So there is a reduction from “Clique Problem” to the “3-CNF SAT Problem”. **It is a different reduction.**

Here all the instances of “Clique Problem” are mapped to **some instances** of the “3-CNF SAT Problem”.

But then, who has more instances, “3-CNF SAT” or “Clique Problem”?

Answer: both have infinitely many instances.

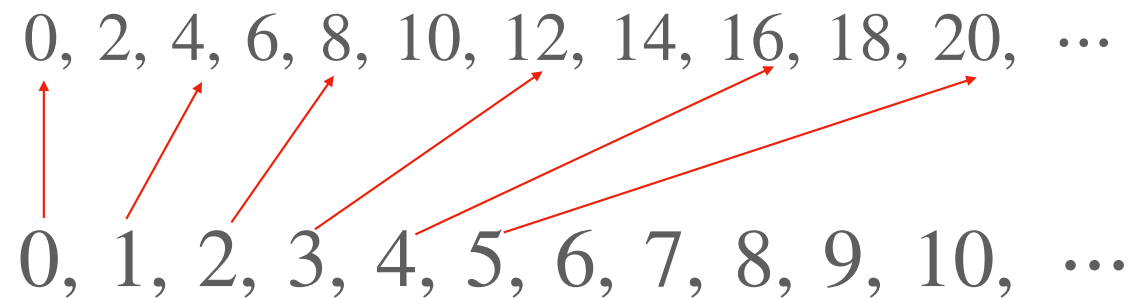
Who has more numbers?



But then, who has more instances, “3-CNF SAT” or “Clique Problem”?

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Who has more numbers?



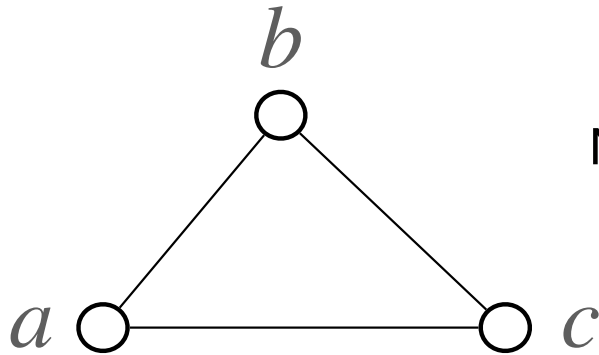
## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Vertex Cover Problem

Known NPC Problems:

- 1) 3-CNF SAT Problem
- 2) Clique Problem

**Vertex Cover:** Given an undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ , a vertex cover of  $G$  is a subset  $S \subseteq V$  of vertices such that for every edge  $(u, v) \in E$ , either  $u \in S$  or  $v \in S$ .



**Size of vertex cover:**

Number of vertices in the vertex cover, namely,  $|S|$ .

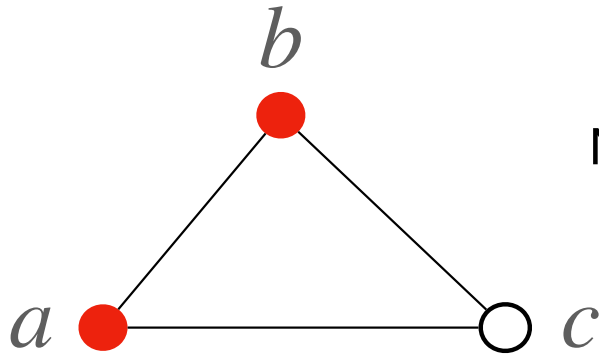
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$\{a, b\}$  is a Vertex Cover of size 2.

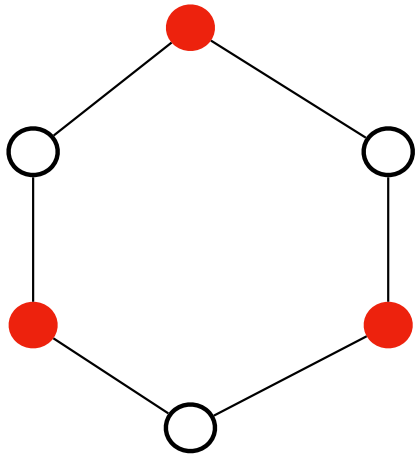
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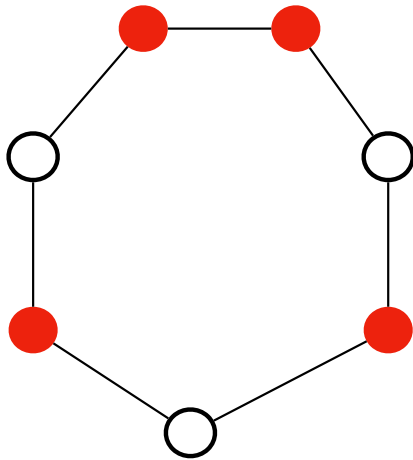
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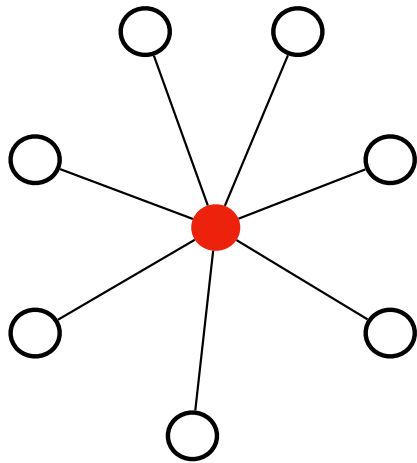
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**Size of vertex cover:**

Number of vertices in the vertex cover, namely,  $|S|$ .



## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Vertex Cover Problem

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

An integer  $k$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  have a vertex cover of size  $k$ ?

**Theorem:** Vertex Cover Problem  $\in NPC$ .

Known NPC Problems:

- 1) 3-CNF SAT Problem
- 2) Clique Problem

## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Vertex Cover Problem

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

An integer  $k$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  have a vertex cover of size  $k$ ?

**Theorem:** Vertex Cover Problem  $\in NPC$ .

**Proof:** 1) Vertex Cover Problem  $\in NP$ .

Certificate: a vertex cover of size  $k$ .

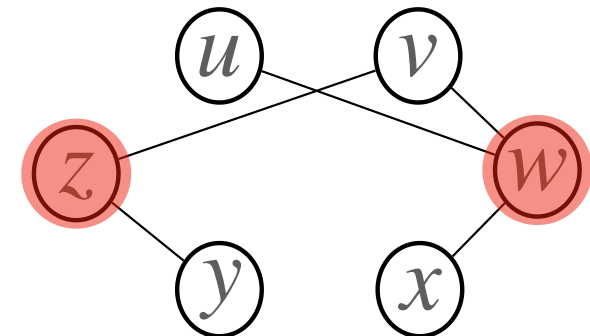
Polynomial-time verification.

Known NPC Problems:

1) 3-CNF SAT Problem

2) Clique Problem

Example:  $k=2$



## CH 34. NP-Completeness

### Vertex Cover Problem

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2) Clique Problem  $\leq_p$  Vertex Cover Problem

Known NPC Problems:

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### Clique Problem:

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

A positive integer  $k$ .

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### Vertex Cover Problem

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G' = (V', E')$ .

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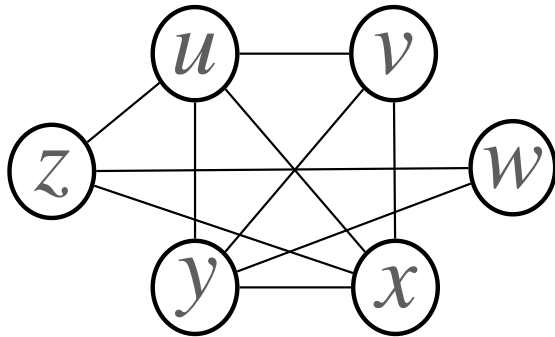
An integer  $k'$ .

**Question:** Does  $G'$  have a vertex cover of size  $k'$ ?

Example of instance:

$G = (V, E)$

$k = 4$



### Clique Problem:

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

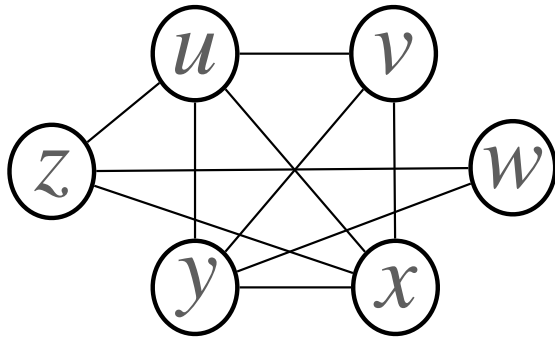
A positive integer  $k$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  have a clique of size  $k$ ?

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### Vertex Cover Problem

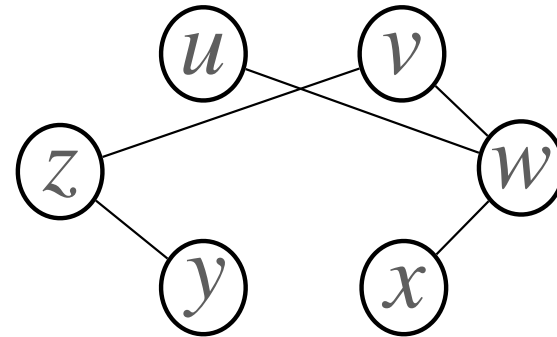
**Input:** An undirected graph  $G' = (V', E')$ .

An integer  $k'$ .

**Question:** Does  $G'$  have a vertex cover of size  $k'$ ?

Corresponding instance:

$G' = (V', E')$ . **Compliment graph of  $G$ .**



$$k' = |V| - k$$
$$= 6 - 4 = 2$$

**Polynomial-time mapping.**

**Is the “YES/NO” answer preserved?**

### Clique Problem:

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### Vertex Cover Problem

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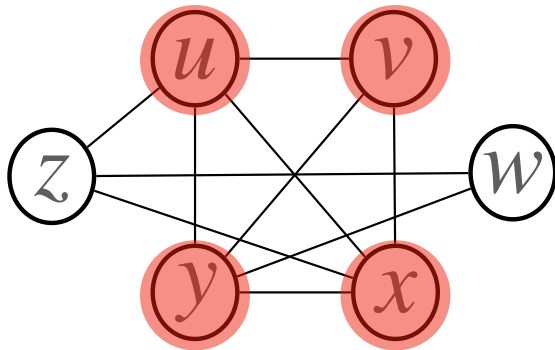
An integer  $k'$ .

**Question:** Does  $G'$  have a vertex cover of size  $k'$ ?

Example of instance:

$G = (V, E)$

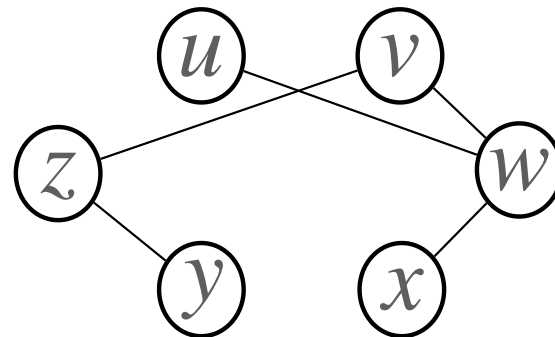
$k = 4$



Assume “YES” for Clique Problem.

Corresponding instance:

$G' = (V', E')$ . Compliment graph of  $G$ .



$$k' = |V| - k$$

$$= 6 - 4 = 2$$

### Clique Problem:

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

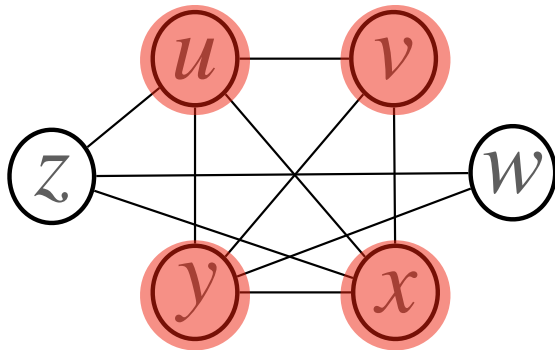
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**Question:** Does  $G$  have a clique of size  $k$ ?

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$G = (V, E)$

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Assume “YES” for Clique Problem.

### Vertex Cover Problem

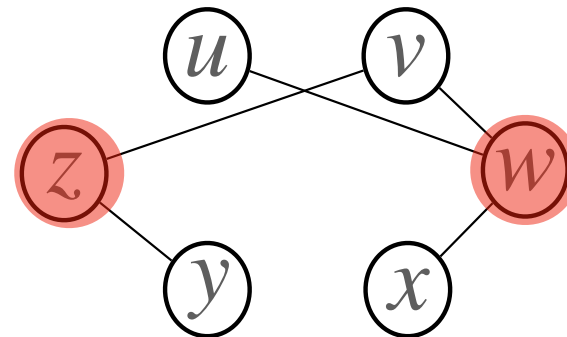
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Corresponding instance:

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$$k' = |V| - k$$

$$= 6 - 4 = 2$$

“YES” for Vertex Cover Problem.

**Why?**



### Clique Problem:

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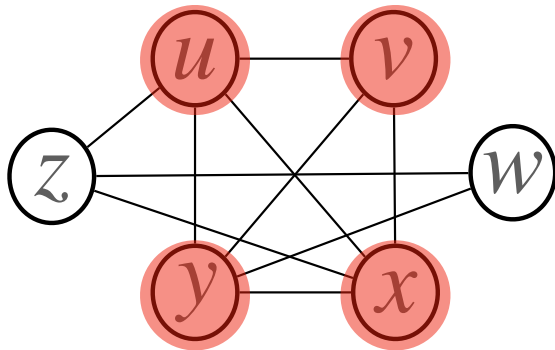
A positive integer  $k$ .

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Example of instance:

$G = (V, E)$

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Assume “YES” for Clique Problem.

### Vertex Cover Problem

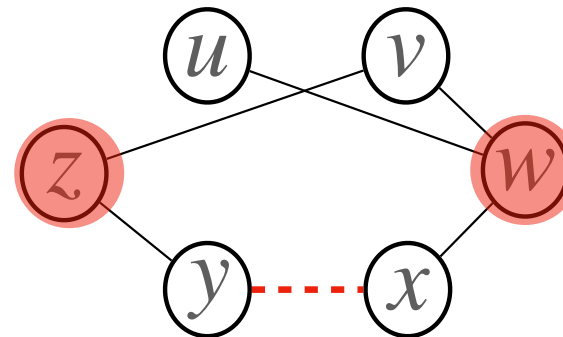
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An integer  $k'$ .

**Question:** Does  $G'$  have a vertex cover of size  $k'$ ?

Corresponding instance:

$G' = (V', E')$ . Complement graph of  $G$ .



$$k' = |V| - k$$

$$= 6 - 4 = 2$$

There cannot be an edge between two un-selected vertices.

“YES” for Vertex Cover Problem.

**Why?**

### Clique Problem:

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

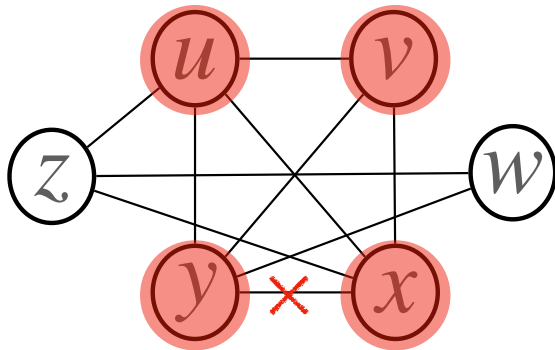
A positive integer  $k$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  have a clique of size  $k$ ?

Example of instance:

$G = (V, E)$

$k = 4$



Otherwise it will not be a clique.

Assume “YES” for Clique Problem.



### Vertex Cover Problem

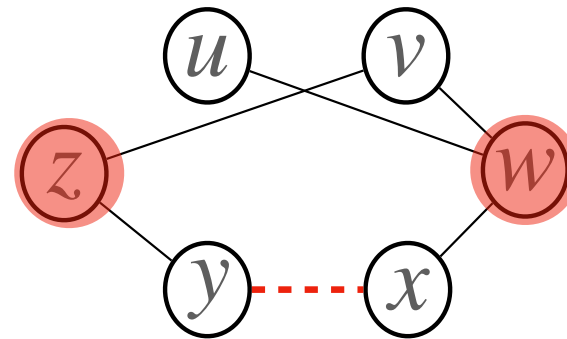
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An integer  $k'$ .

**Question:** Does  $G'$  have a vertex cover of size  $k'$ ?

Corresponding instance:

$G' = (V', E')$ . Compliment graph of  $G$ .



$$k' = |V| - k$$

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There cannot be an edge between two un-selected vertices.



“YES” for Vertex Cover Problem.

### Clique Problem:

**Input:** An undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ .

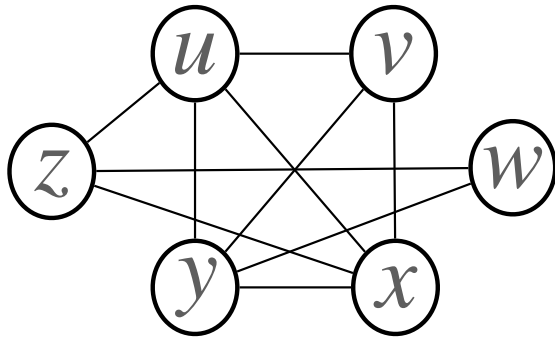
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### Vertex Cover Problem

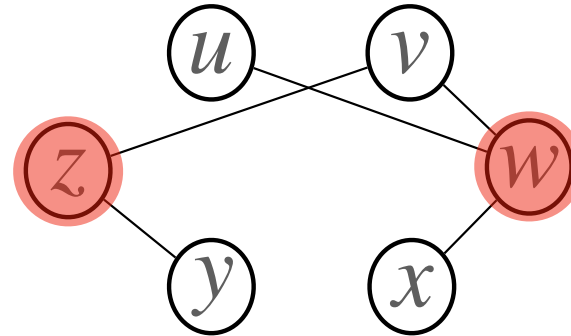
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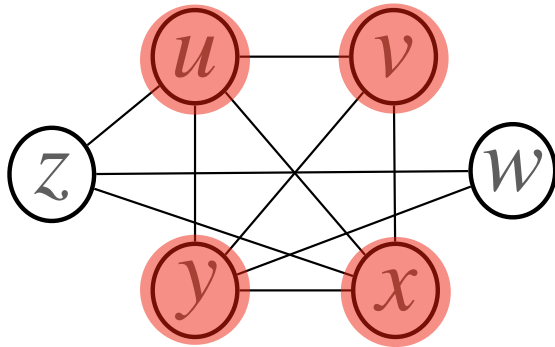
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“YES” for Clique Problem.

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### Vertex Cover Problem

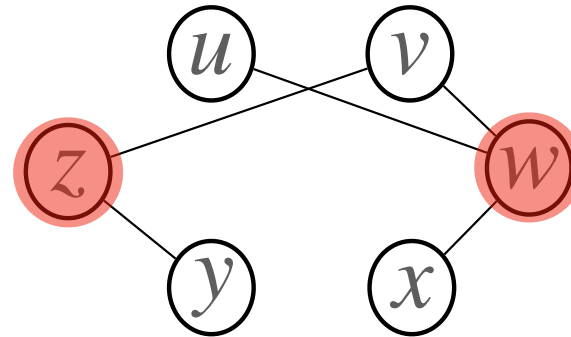
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Assume “YES” for Vertex Cover Problem.

### Clique Problem:

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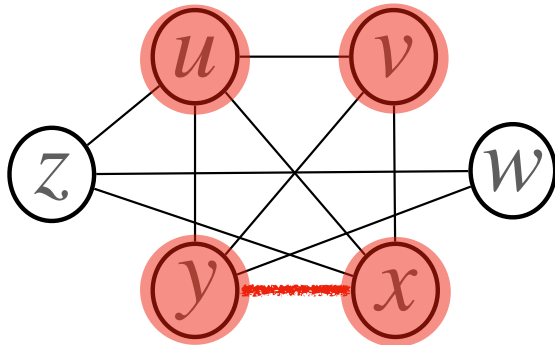
A positive integer  $k$ .

**Question:** Does  $G$  have a clique of size  $k$ ?

Example of instance:

$G = (V, E)$

$k = 4$



There must be an edge between every two clique vertices.

“YES” for Clique Problem.

**Why?**



### Vertex Cover Problem

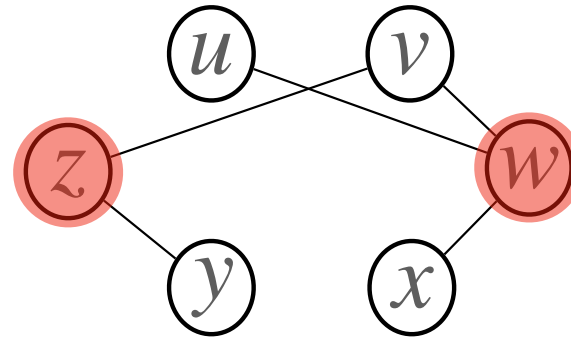
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Assume “YES” for Vertex Cover Problem.

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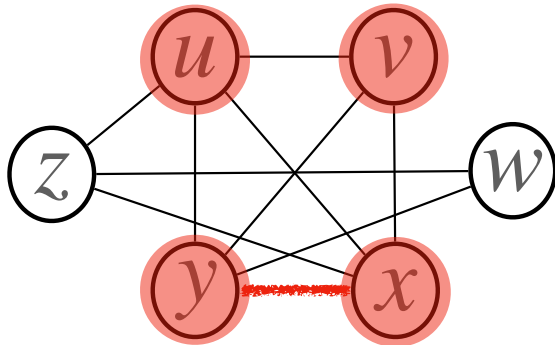
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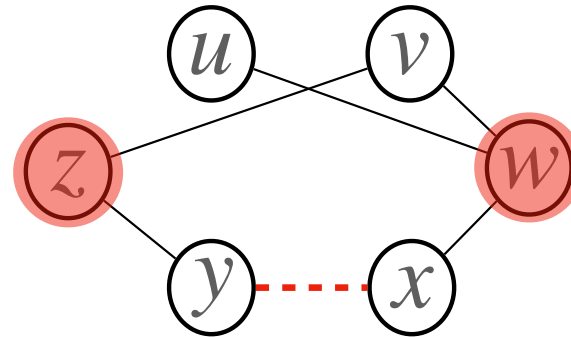
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Otherwise this edge will not be covered.

Assume “YES” for Vertex Cover Problem.



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Clique Problem  $\leq_p$  Vertex Cover Problem

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