

Online on NP

Proof: let us have a graph  $G$  with vertices  $V$  and edges  $E$ .

Step 1. Clique problem is an NP problem

let the clique has  $V'$ , a subset of the  $V$  vertices of the graph. For each <sup>pair of</sup> vertices in this subset we can check whether there is an edge between them in  $O(V+E)$  time. This is a polynomial time. So, the problem belongs to NP class.

Step 2. Clique problem is an ~~NP-complete~~ <sup>NP-hard</sup> problem

Let us use the 3-SAT problem to satisfy this condition. If we can reduce the 3-SAT problem to the Clique problem we can prove that the clique problem is an NP-complete problem.

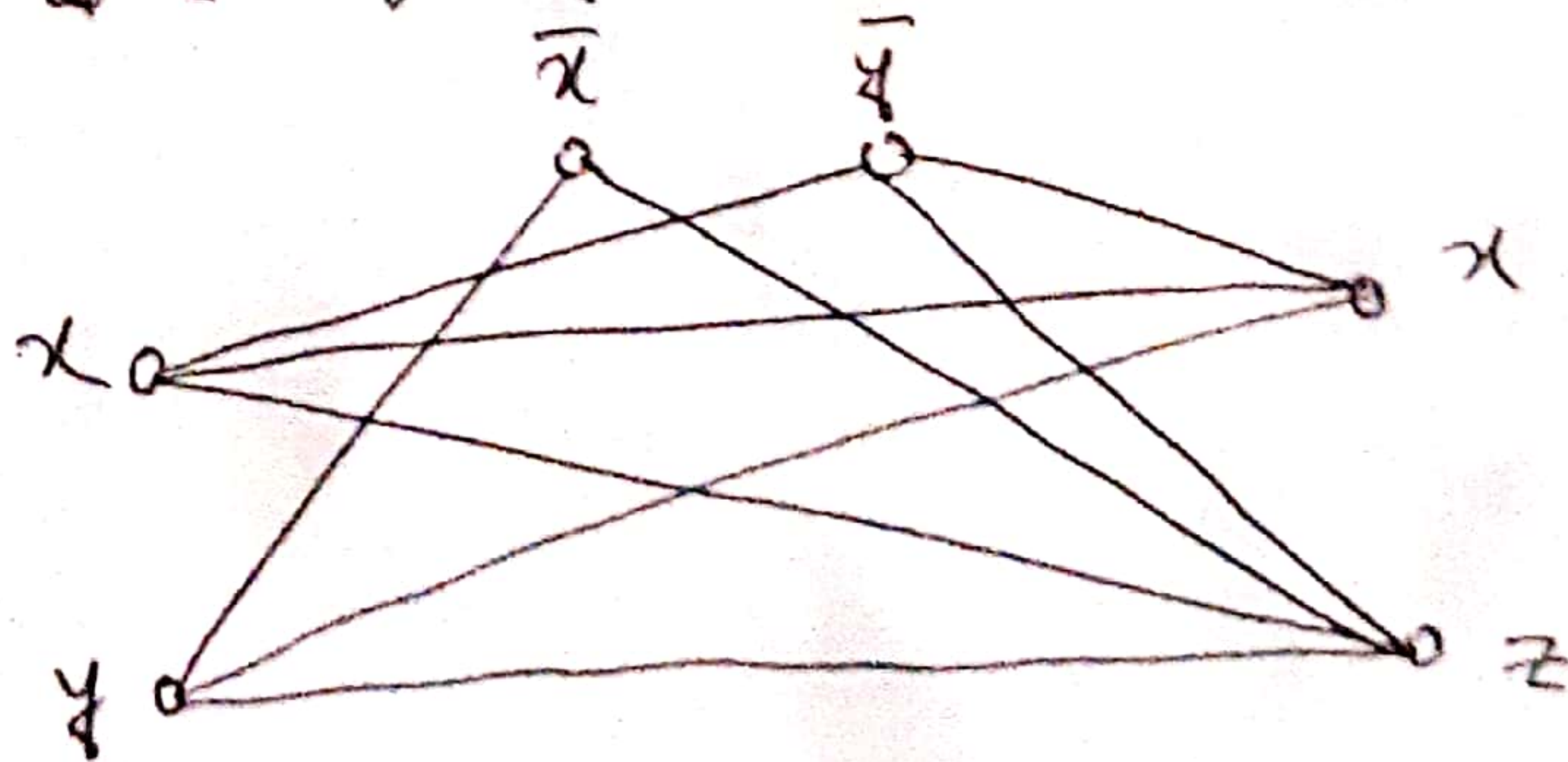
Let us take a boolean expression

$$C = (x \vee y) \wedge (\bar{x} \vee \bar{y}) \wedge (x \vee z)$$

Here,

$$V = \{x, y, z\}$$

$$E = \{(i, j) \mid i \neq j\}$$



The number of clauses is 3 and we get a clique of size 3 ( $y\bar{x}z$ )



Now, for this graph we take a boolean value for each of the vertices, such that the vertices belonging to the clique have a true value.

$$x=0, \bar{x}=1, y=1, z=1$$

$$x=0, \bar{y}=0, \bar{z}=0$$

From the Boolean expression we get,

$$C = (x \vee y) \wedge (\bar{x} \vee \bar{y}) \wedge (x \vee z)$$

$$= (0 \vee 1) \wedge (1 \vee 0) \wedge (0 \vee 1)$$

$$= 1 \wedge 1 \wedge 1$$

$$= 1$$

Thus, the 2-SAT problem is reduced to the clique ~~problem~~ problem which proves that the clique problem is NP-complete.