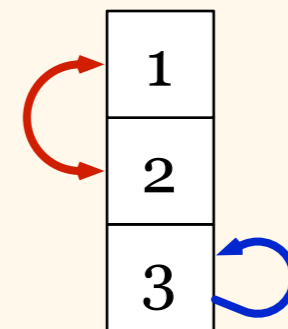
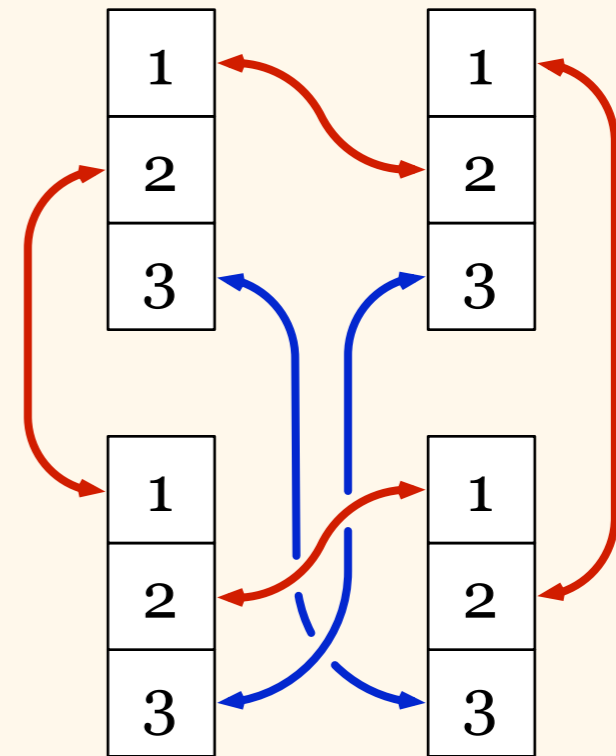


# Deterministic Distributed Algorithms

[www.iki.fi/suo/dda](http://www.iki.fi/suo/dda)

Jukka Suomela

*University of Helsinki,  
March–April 2012*



# Introduction

*DDA Course*

*Lecture 1.1*

*13 March 2012*

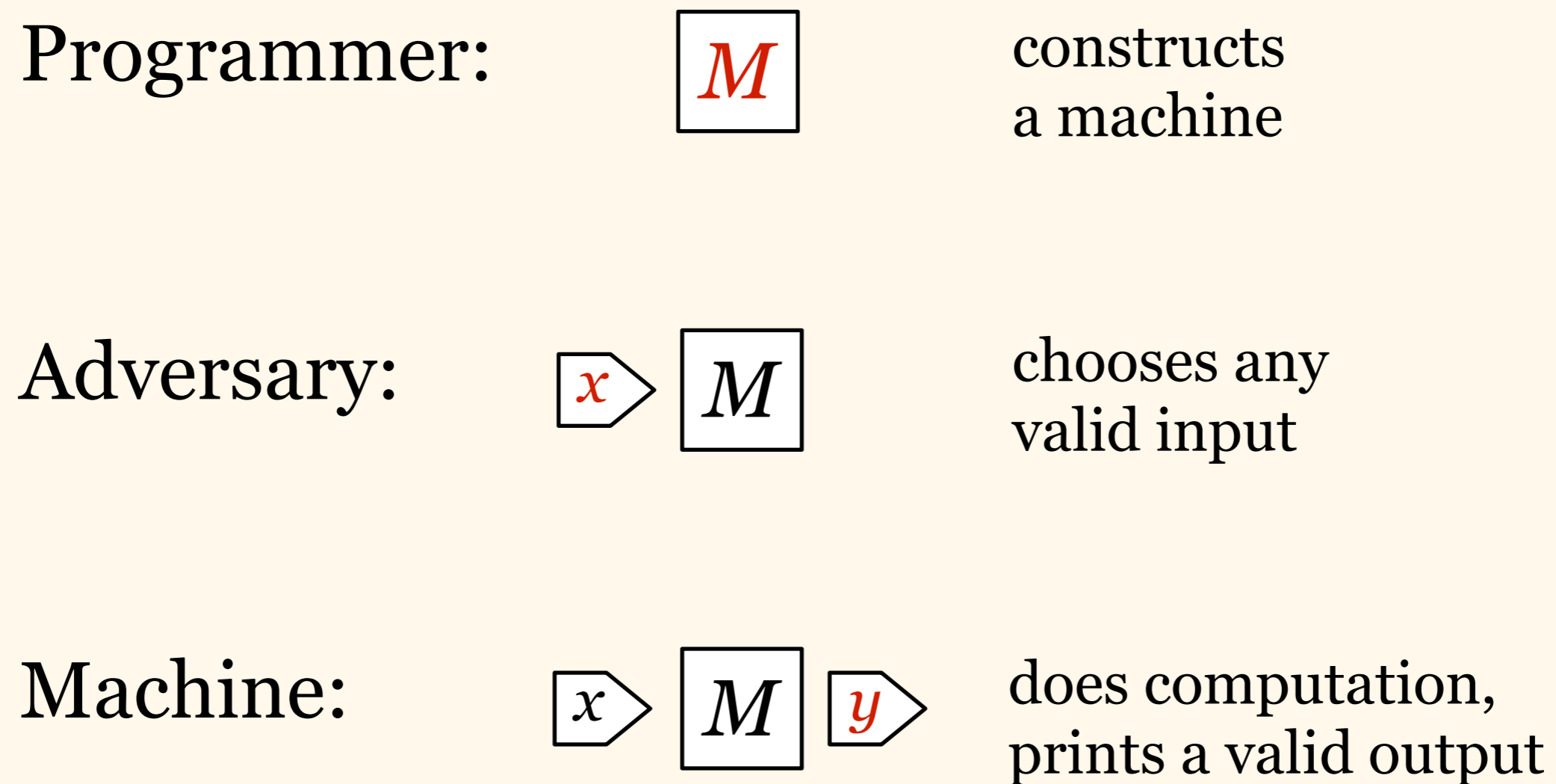
# Practicalities

- Read the course web page:  
[www.iki.fi/suo/dda](http://www.iki.fi/suo/dda)
- Pay attention to:
  - *course content* — theory, not practice
  - *course format* — not a typical lecture course
  - *course tracking system* — use it!
  - *online support* — two online forums

# Course Content

- Fundamental questions:
  - what can be computed?
  - what can be computed fast?
- Model of computation:
  - distributed systems

# Traditional Perspective



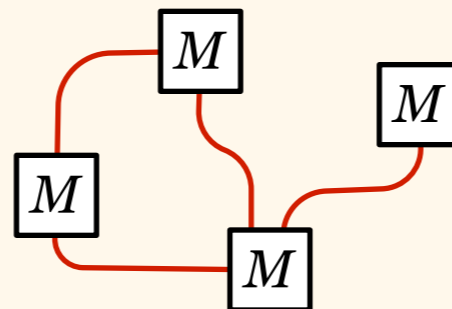
# Distributed Algorithms

Programmer:



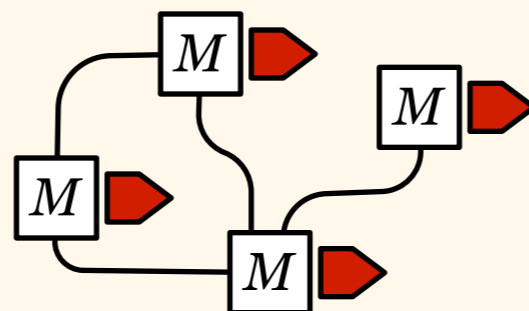
constructs  
a machine

Adversary:



constructs  
a *network*

Network:



does *communication*,  
prints a valid output

# You Will Learn...

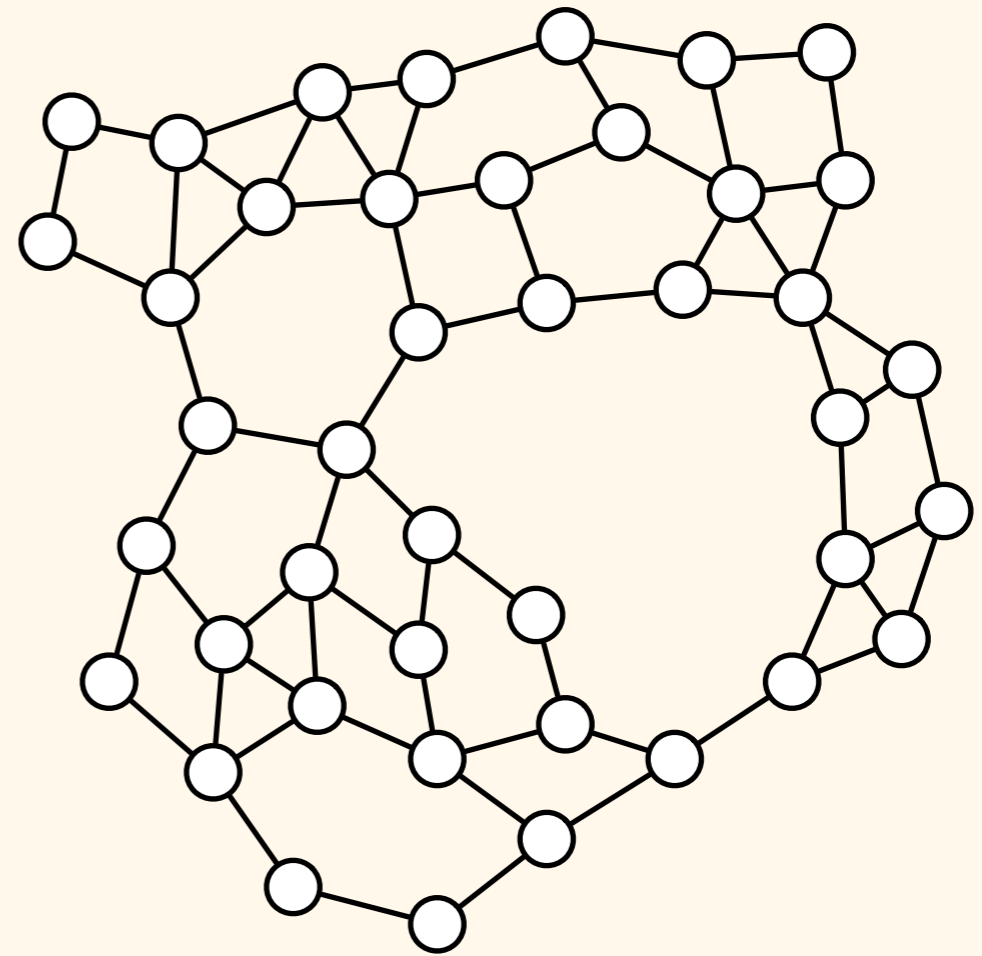
- A new mindset: how to reason about distributed and parallel systems
  - not a bad skill in the multi-core era
- Combinatorial optimisation
- Some math that has plenty of applications in computer science
  - graph theory, Ramsey theory, ...

# Plan: Two Models

- Week 1: some graph theory
- Weeks 2–4: *“port-numbering model”*
  - weeks 2 and 4: positive results,  
week 3: negative results
- Weeks 5–6: *“unique identifiers”*
  - week 5: positive results,  
week 6: negative results



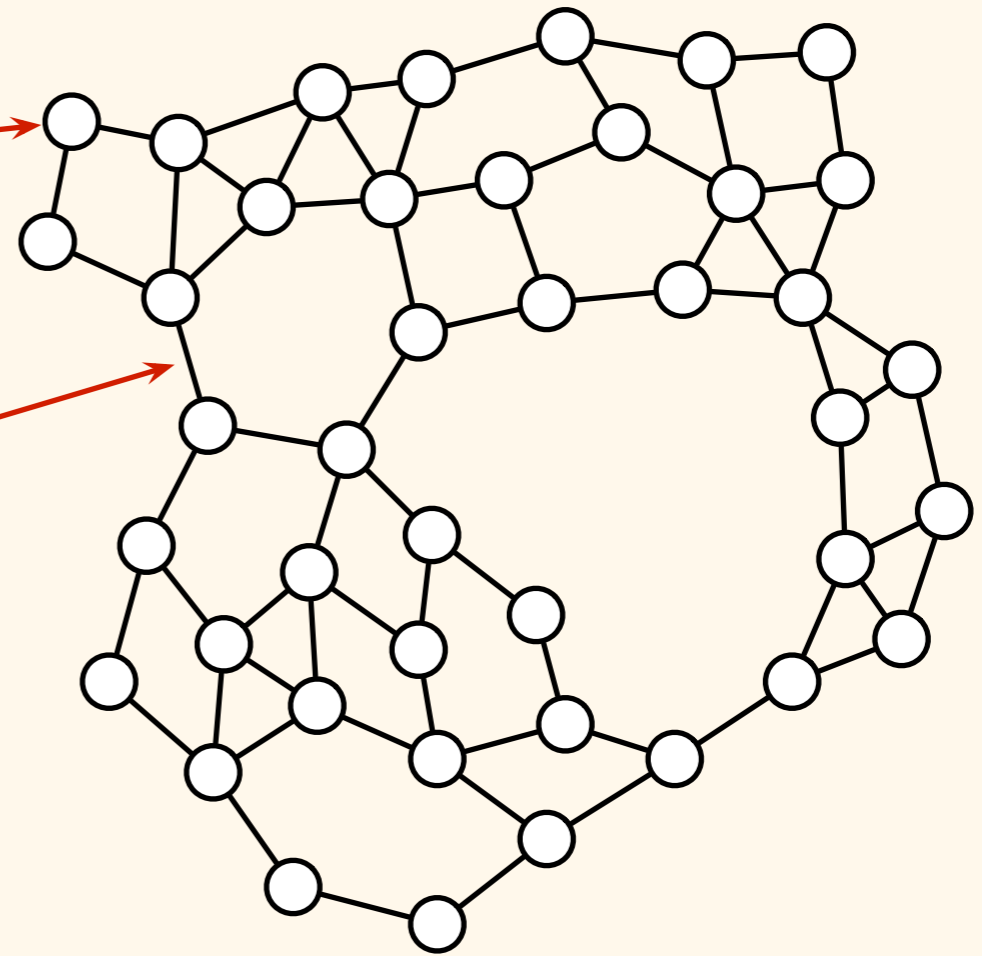
# Graphs



# Graphs

node

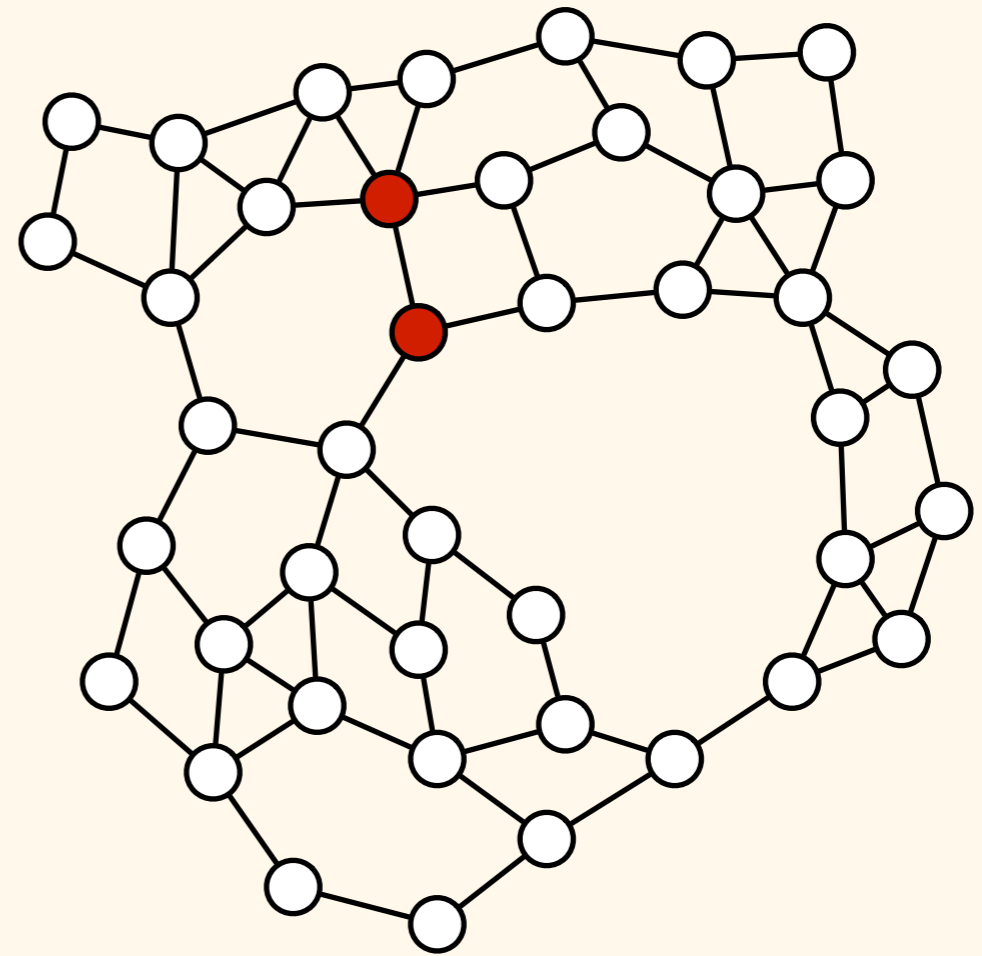
edge



# Graphs

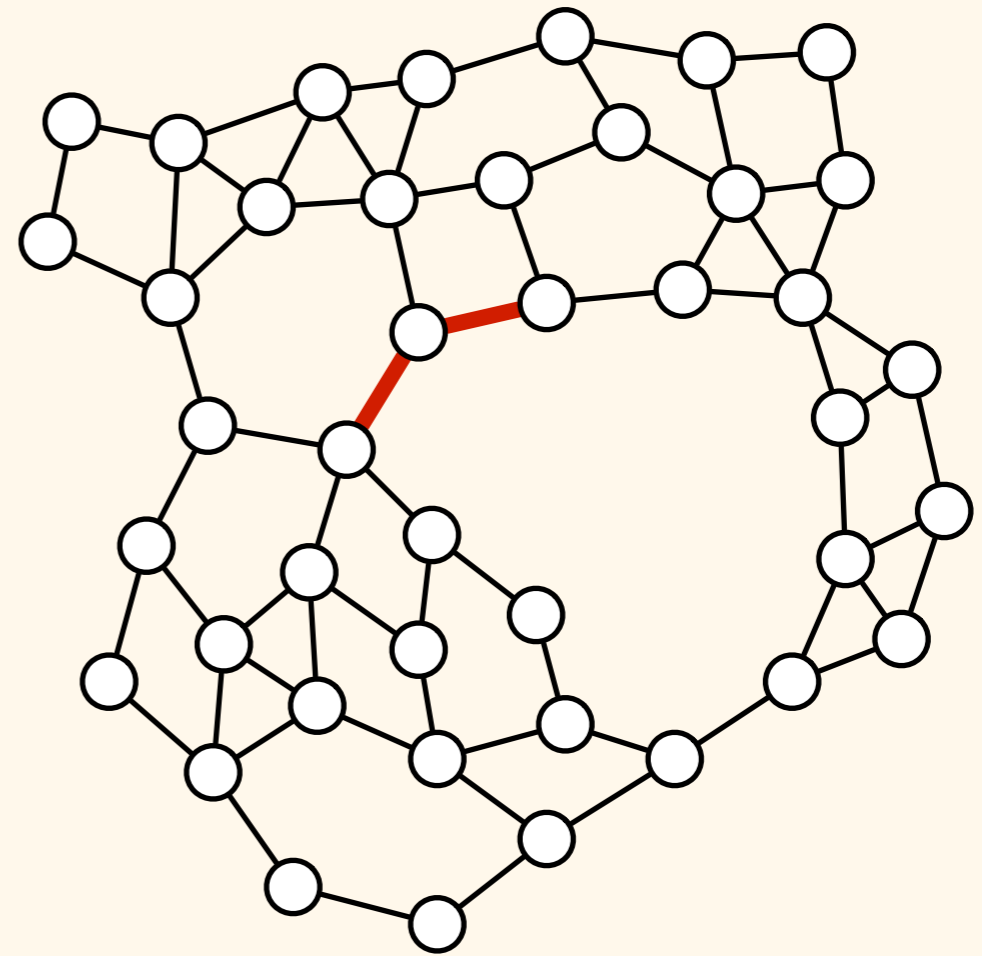
adjacent nodes

neighbours



# Graphs

adjacent edges



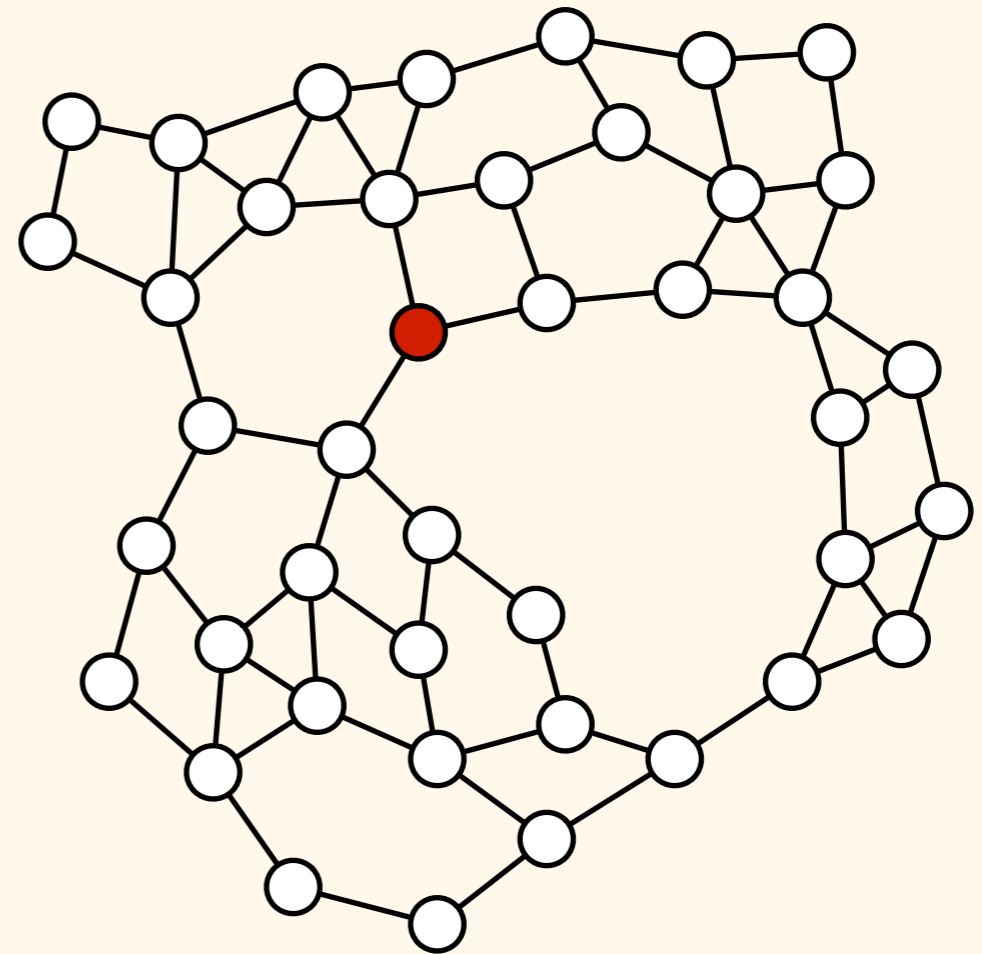
# Graphs

node with 3 neighbours

adjacent to 3 nodes

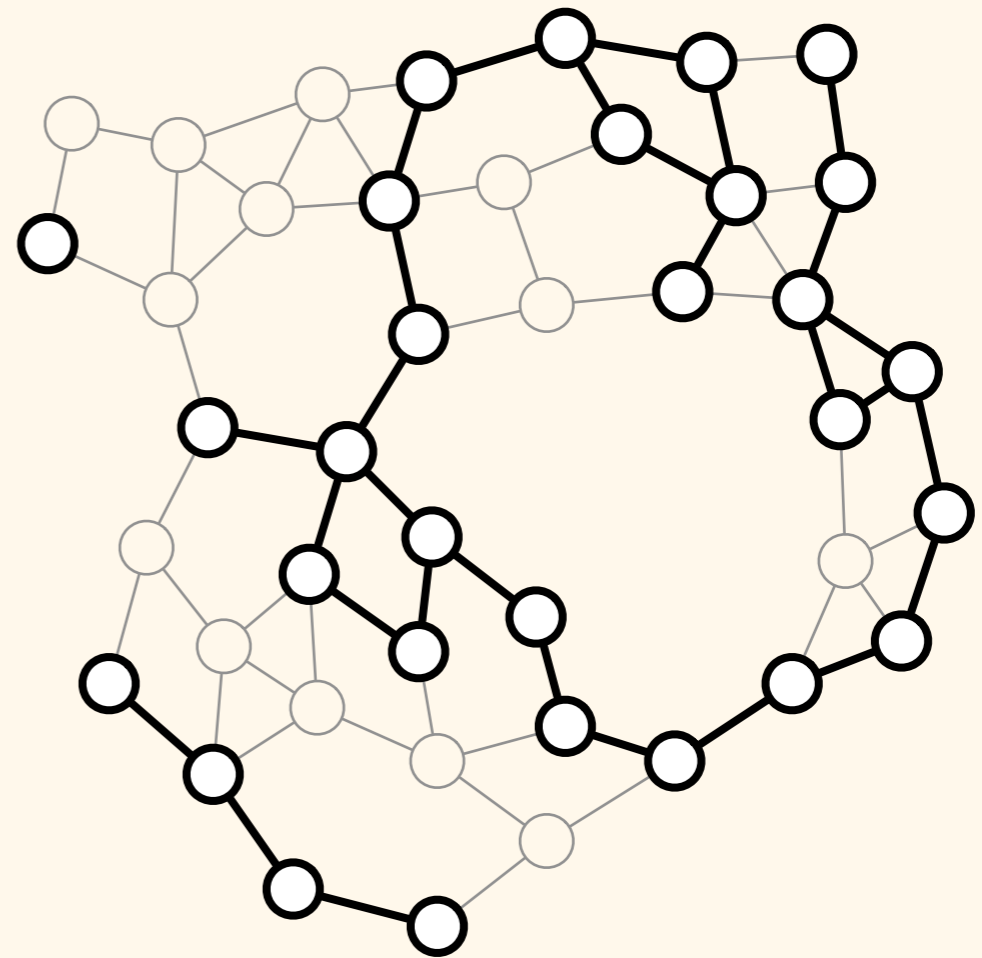
incident to 3 edges

degree is 3



# Graphs

subgraph

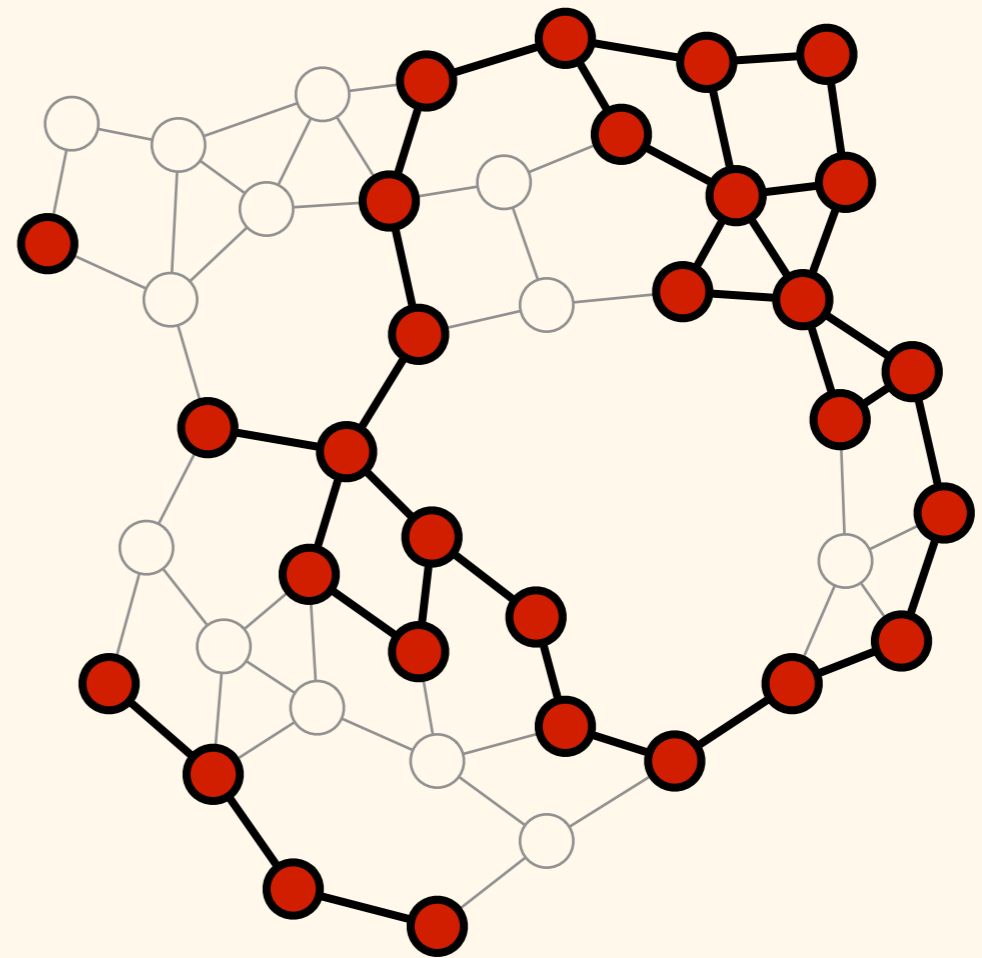


# Graphs

subgraph induced  
by the red nodes

all red nodes

all edges that join  
a pair of red nodes

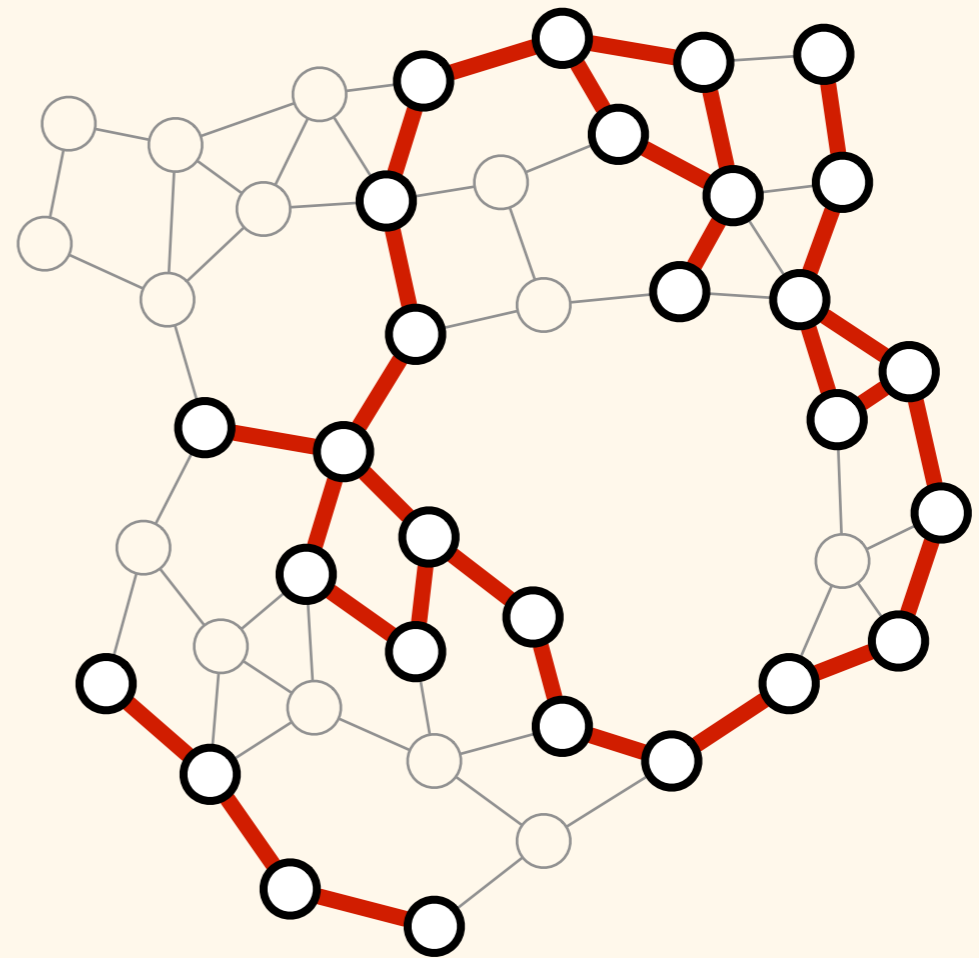


# Graphs

subgraph induced  
by the red edges

all red edges

all nodes that are  
incident to red edges



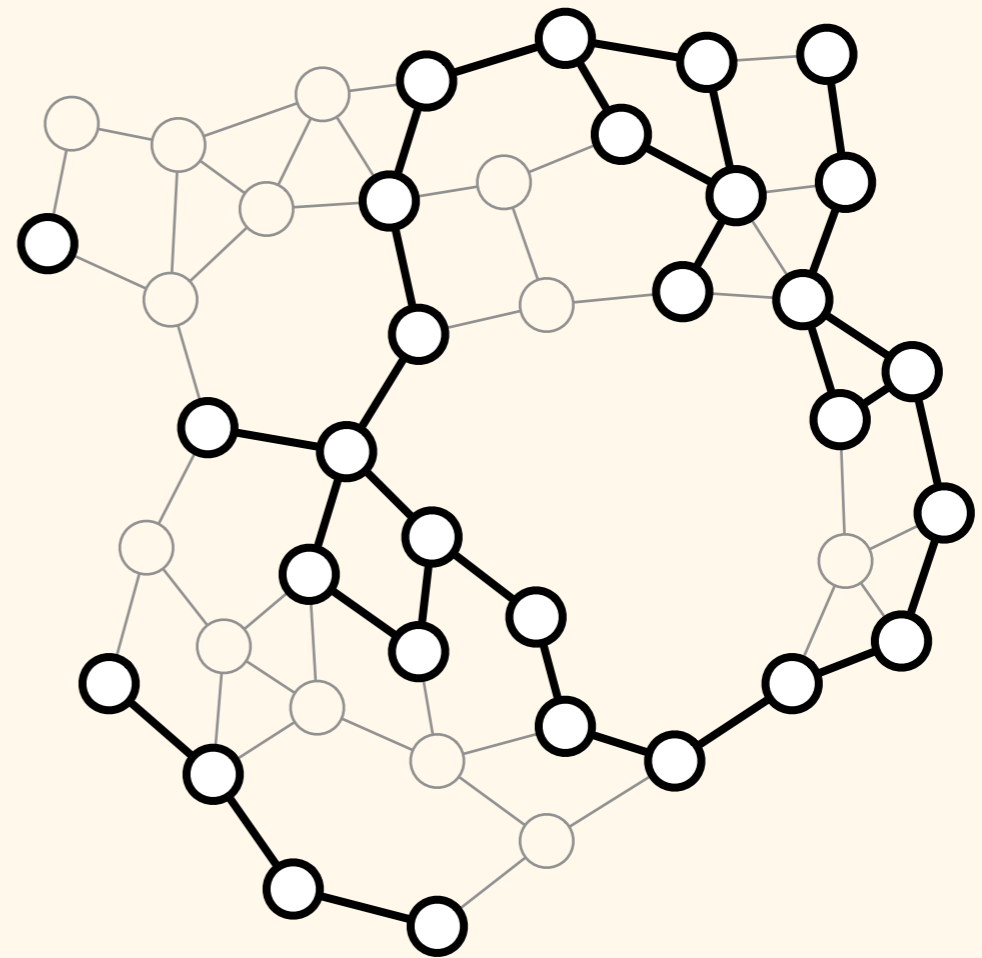


# Graphs

*not* a node-induced subgraph

*not* an edge-induced subgraph

*not* a spanning subgraph



# Graphs

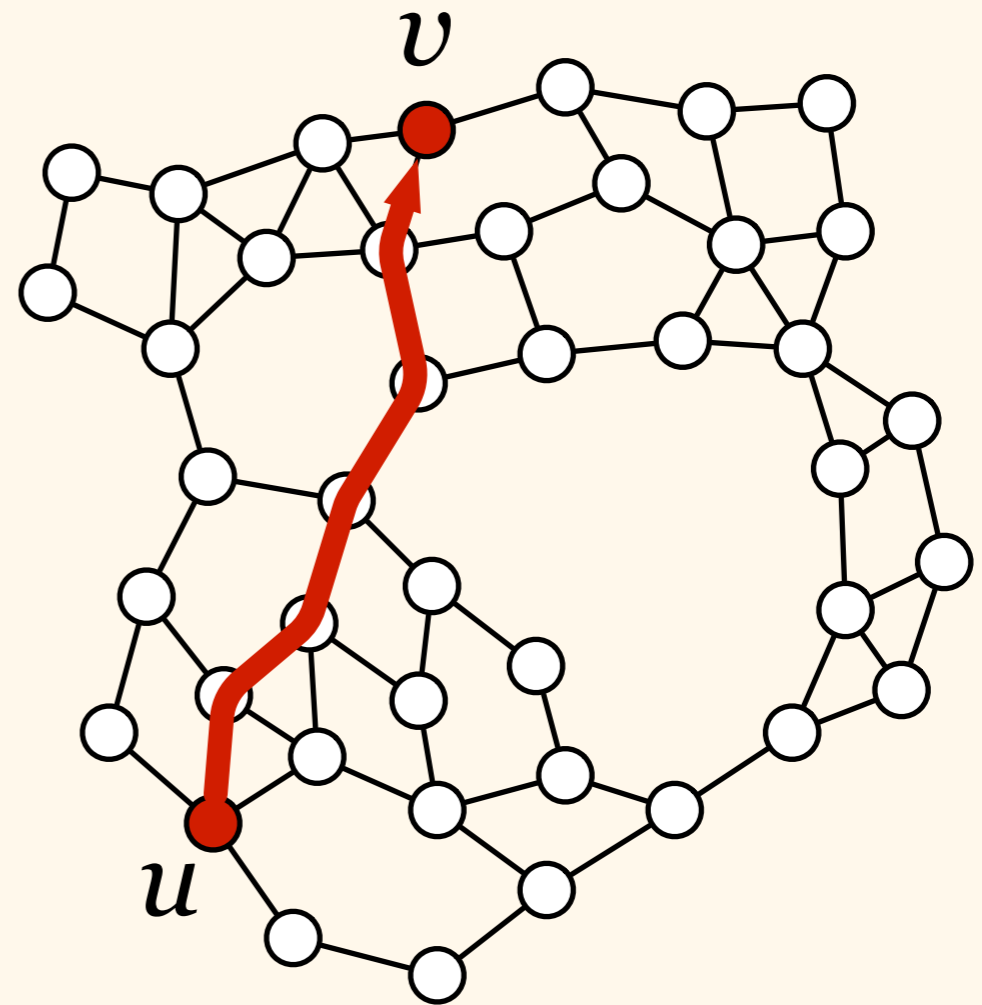
a shortest path  
from  $u$  to  $v$

length 6

(six *edges*, seven *nodes*)

$\text{dist}(u, v) = 6$

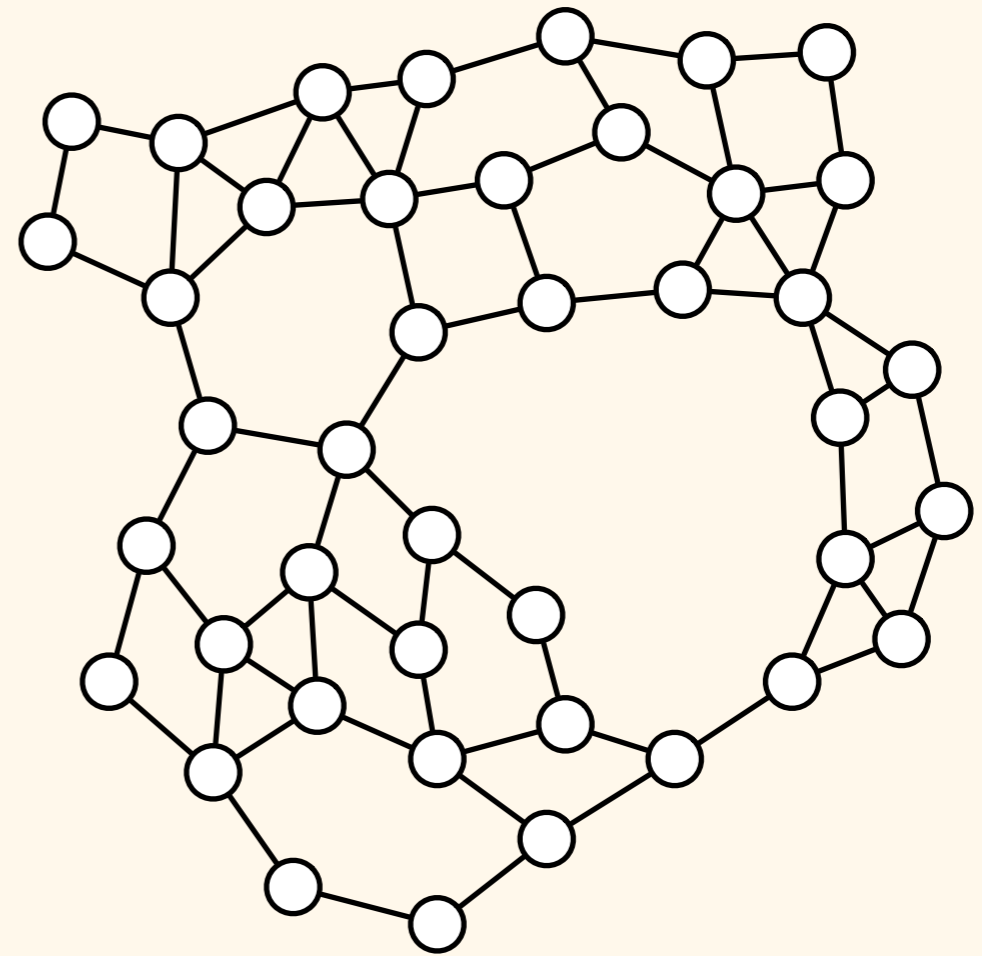
diameter  $\geq 6$



# Graphs

connected graph

one connected  
component

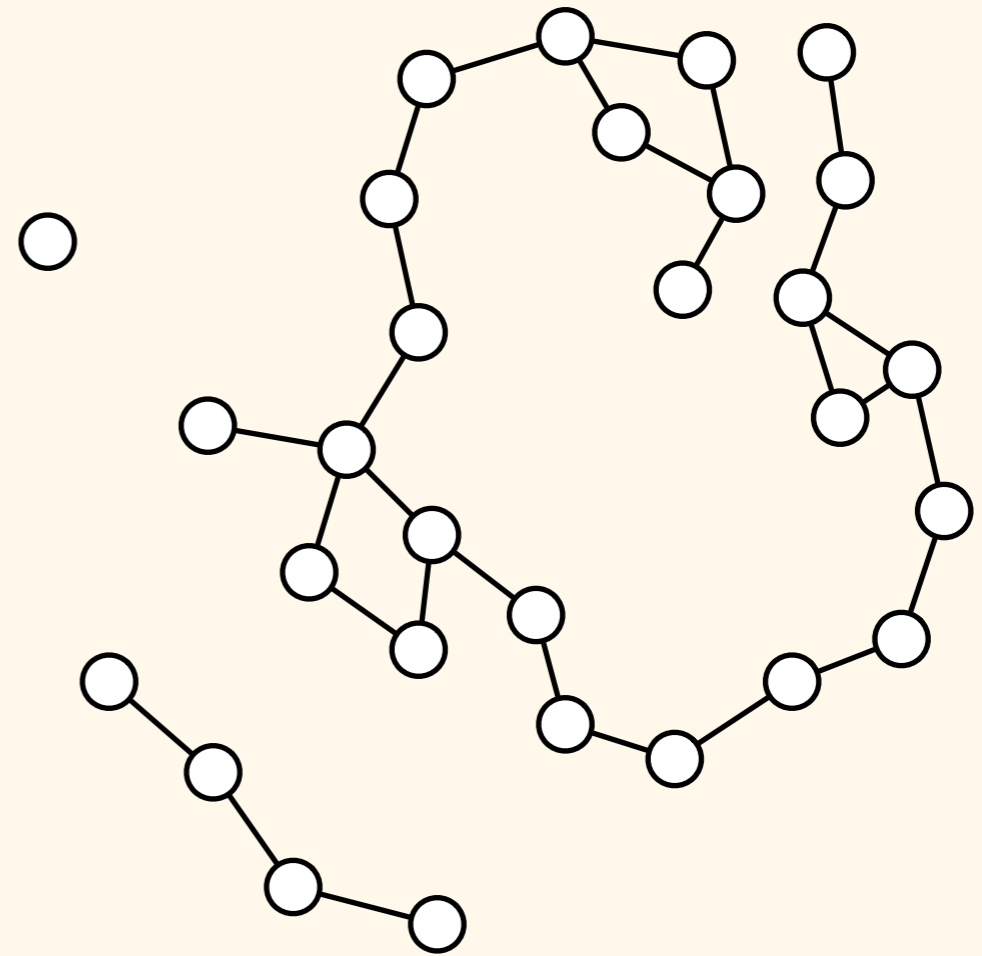


# Graphs

*not* a connected graph

three connected  
components

one isolated node

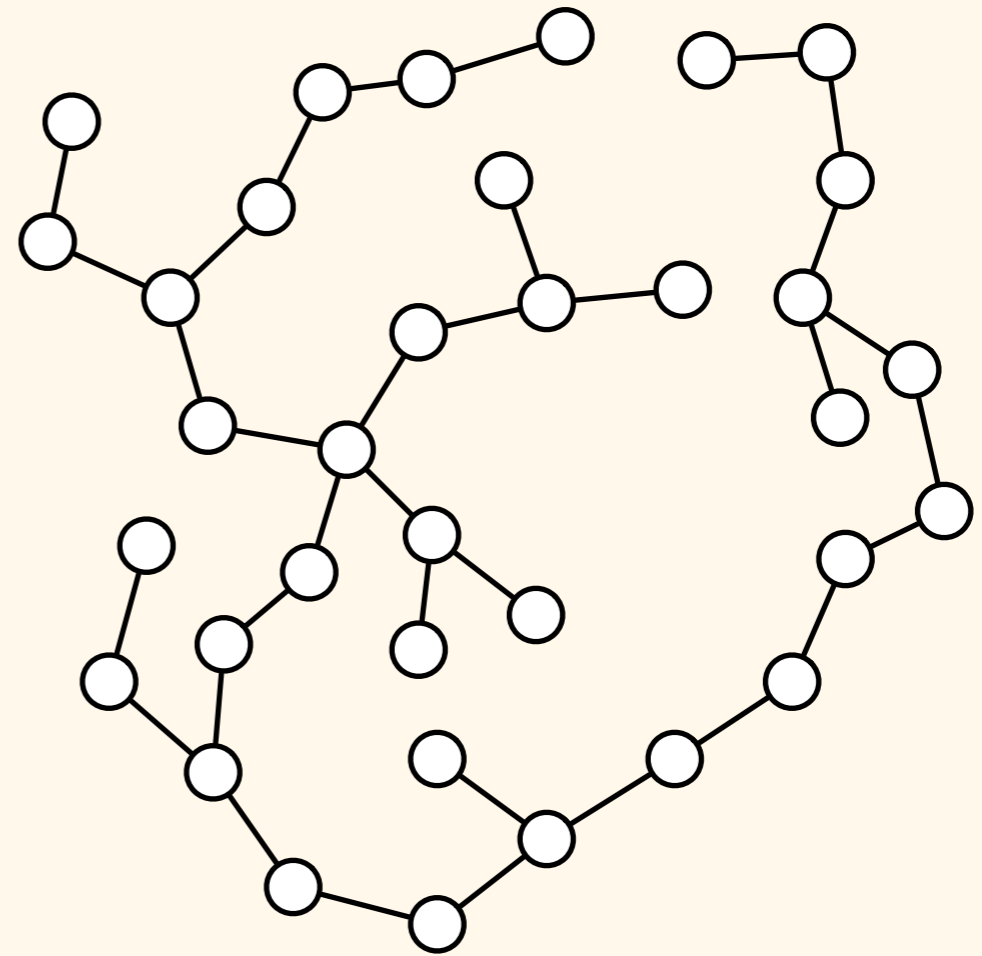


# Graphs

tree

connected

no cycles

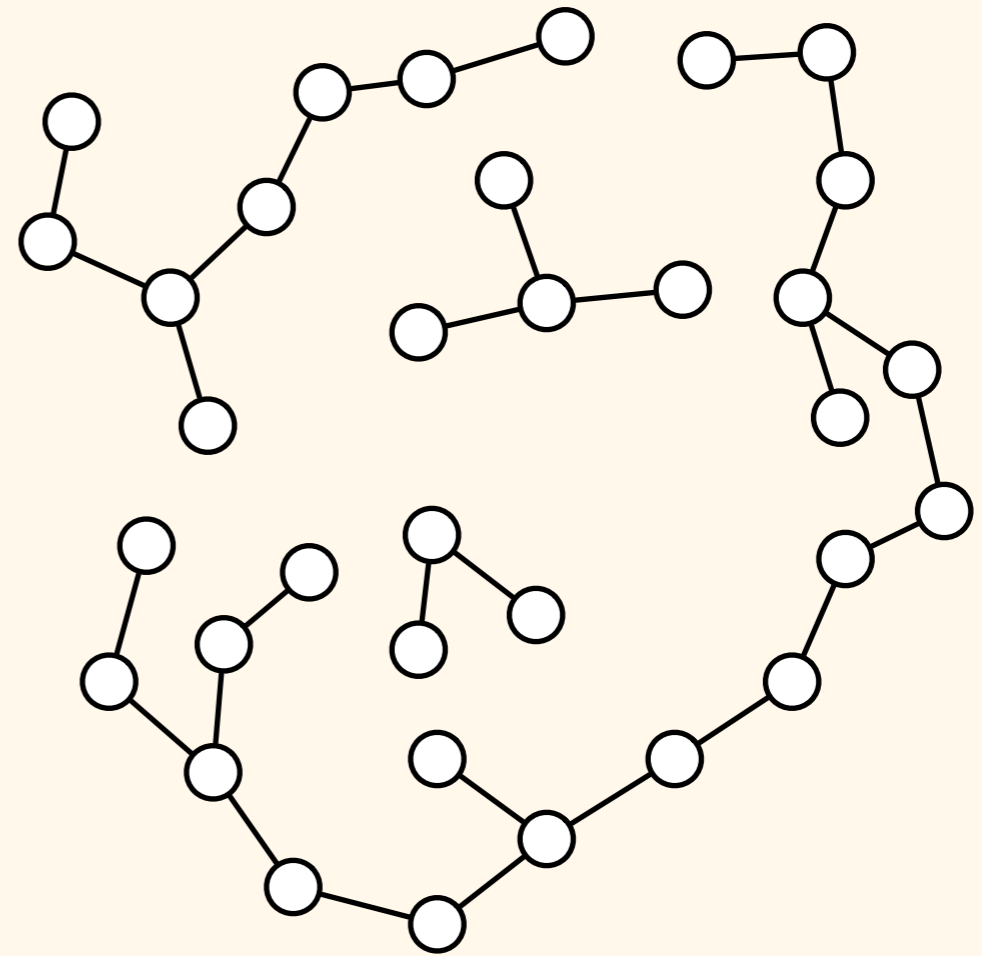


# Graphs

forest

four connected  
components

no cycles

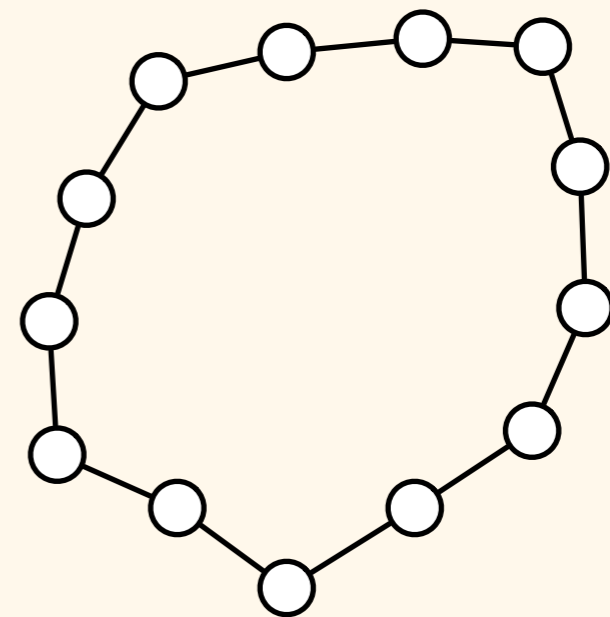


# Graphs

cycle graph

connected

2-regular



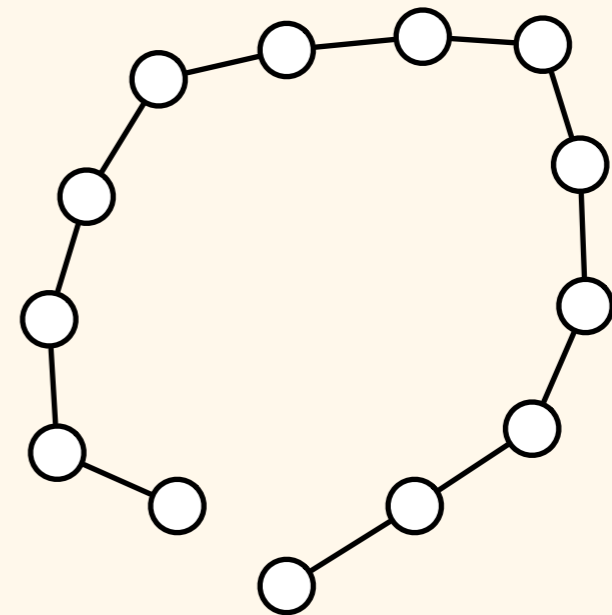
# Graphs

path graph

tree

connected

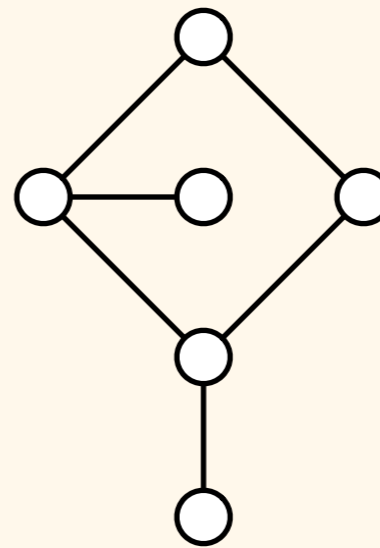
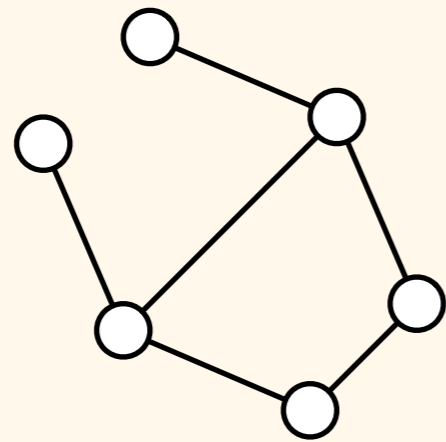
maximum degree 2





# Graphs

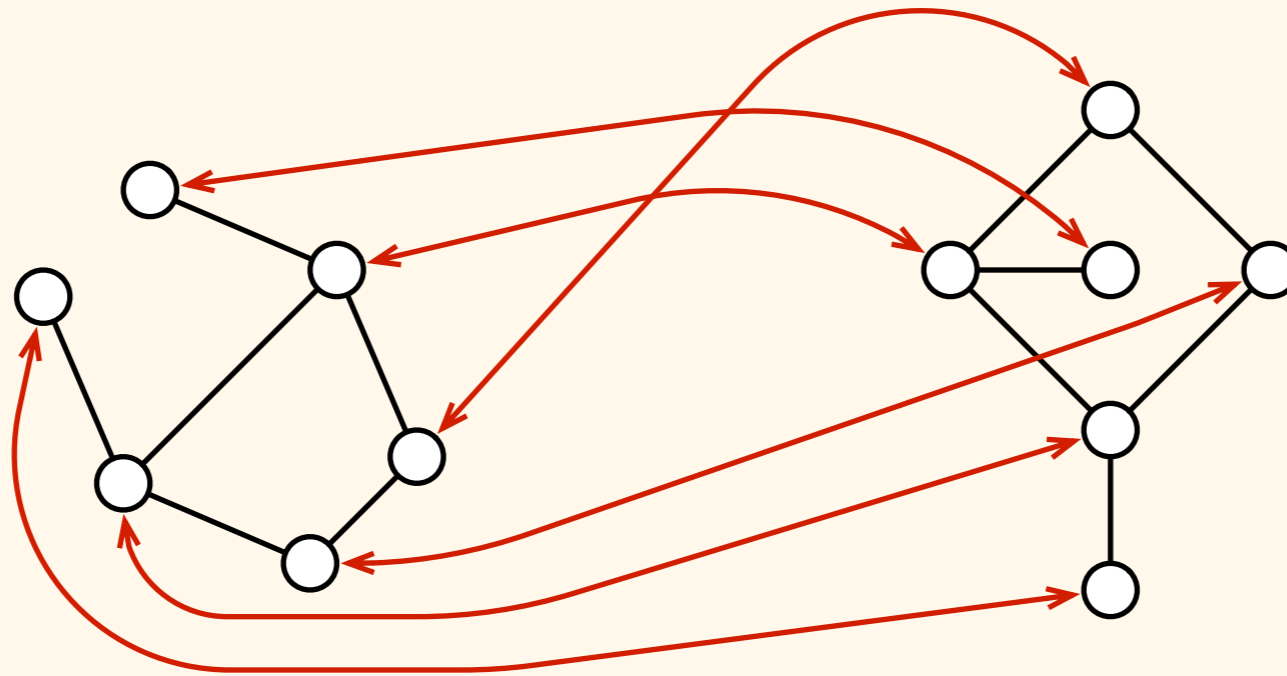
two isomorphic graphs



# Graphs

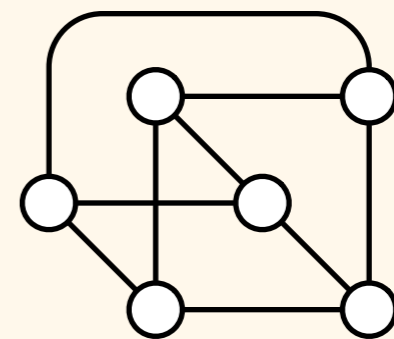
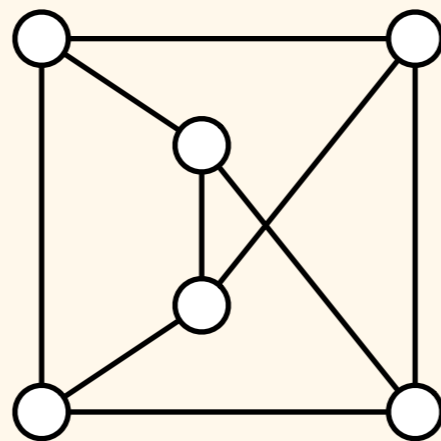
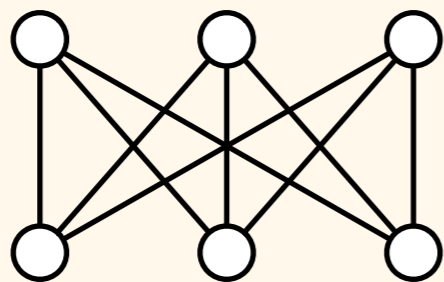
two isomorphic graphs

bijection that preserves the structure



# Graphs

three isomorphic graphs



# Graph Problems

- Recall the definitions:
  - independent set — vertex cover — dominating set
  - matching — edge cover — edge dominating set
  - vertex colouring — domatic partition
  - edge colouring — edge domatic partition
- Examples in the course material...

# Optimisation

- Maximisation problems:
  - *maximal* = cannot add anything
  - *maximum* = largest possible size
  - $\alpha$ -approximation = at least  $1/\alpha$  times maximum
- Example: independent set
  - maximal is trivial to find greedily, maximum may be very difficult to find

# Optimisation

- Minimisation problems:
  - *minimal* = cannot remove anything
  - *minimum* = smallest possible size
  - $\alpha$ -approximation = at most  $\alpha$  times minimum
- Example: vertex cover
  - minimal is trivial to find greedily,  
minimum may be very difficult to find

# Optimisation

Terminology:

“ $\alpha$ -approximation of minimum vertex cover”

implies two properties:

1. vertex cover
2. at most  $\alpha$  times as large as minimum vertex cover

Approximations are always feasible solutions!

# Exercises

- Warm-up puzzles
- Exercises of Chapter 1



# Discussion & Exercises

*DDA Course*

*Lecture 1.2*

*15 March 2012*

# Course Tracker

- **24** students registered for the course
- **7** reports in the course tracker
- Exercise 1.8: most popular, solved by 4/7
- Exercise 1.1: most difficult, 3/7 need help

# Feedback

- Difficult: “approximation”

# Plan

- Today we will:
  - review the concept of “approximation”
  - solve Exercise 1.1 together
  - discuss other exercises
- No new theory!
  - just make sure you are comfortable with the concepts of Chapter 1 by the end of the week...

# Approximation

- Let  $G = (V, E)$
- Assume that a minimum vertex cover of  $G$  has **3** nodes
- Assume that  $C \subseteq V$  is a vertex cover, and there are **3, 4, 5, or 6** nodes in  $C$
- Then “ $C$  is a **2-approximation** of a minimum vertex cover”

# Approximation

- Let  $G = (V, E)$
- Assume that a minimum vertex cover of  $G$  has at least *100* nodes
- Assume that  $C \subseteq V$  is a vertex cover, and there are at most *105* nodes in  $C$
- Then “ $C$  is a *1.05-approximation* of a minimum vertex cover”

# Approximation

- Let  $G = (V, E)$
- Assume that a maximum matching of  $G$  has **8** edges
- Assume that  $M \subseteq E$  is a matching, and there are **4, 5, 6, 7, or 8** edges in  $M$
- Then “ $M$  is a **2-approximation** of a maximum matching”

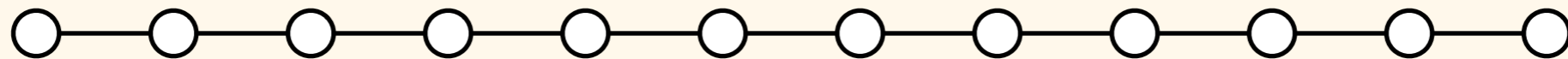
# Approximation

- Let  $G = (V, E)$
- Assume that a maximum matching of  $G$  has at most *105* edges
- Assume that  $M \subseteq E$  is a matching, and there are at least *100* edges in  $M$
- Then “ $M$  is a *1.05-approximation* of a maximum matching”

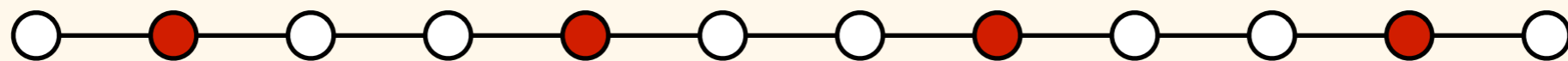


# Approximation

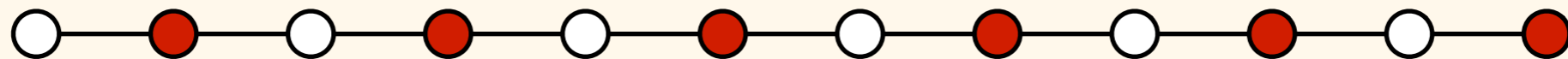
graph:



minimum dominating set:

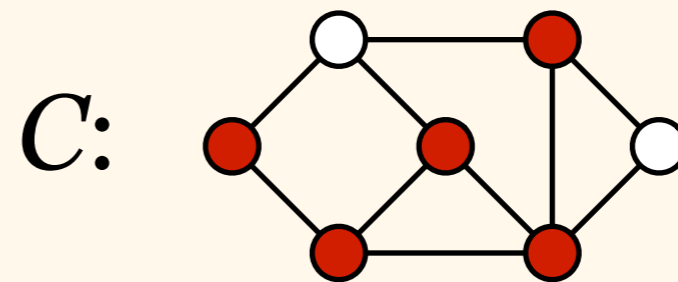
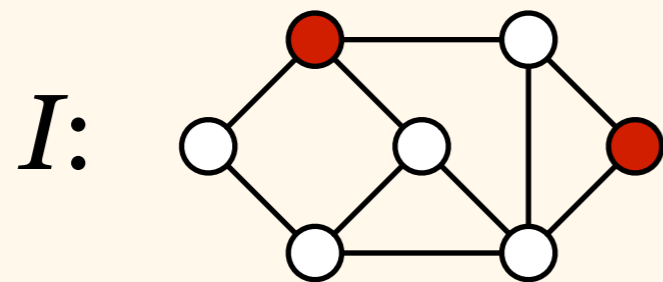


1.5-approximation of minimum dominating set:



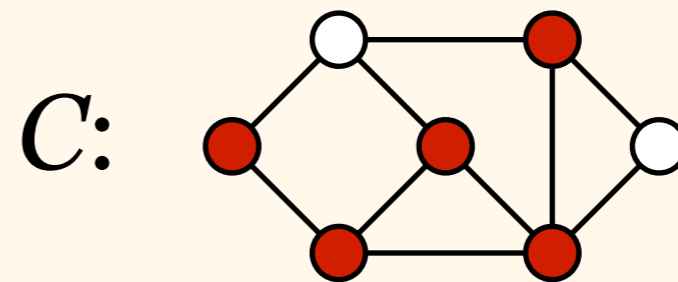
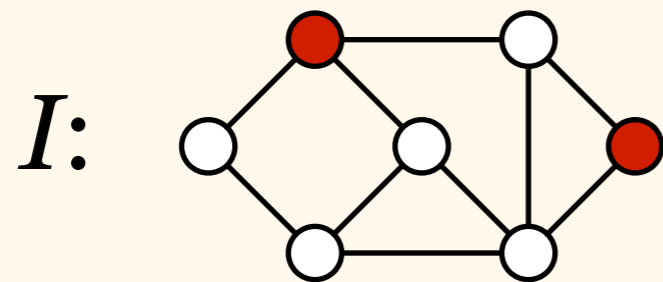
# Exercise 1.1a

- Let  $I \subseteq V$  and  $C = V \setminus I$
- *Claim:*  $I$  is an independent set iff  $C$  is a vertex cover



# Exercise 1.1a

- Let  $I \subseteq V$  and  $C = V \setminus I$
- *Claim*:  $I$  is an independent set iff  $C$  is a vertex cover
- *Idea*: verify each edge



# Exercise 1.1a

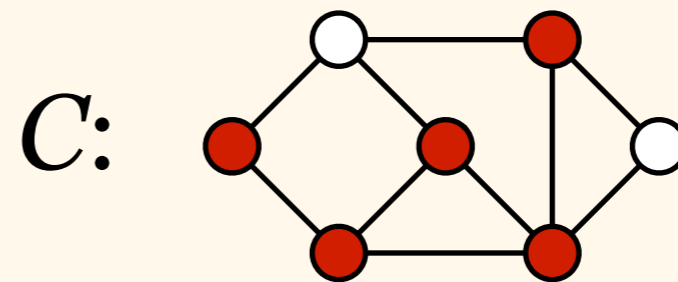
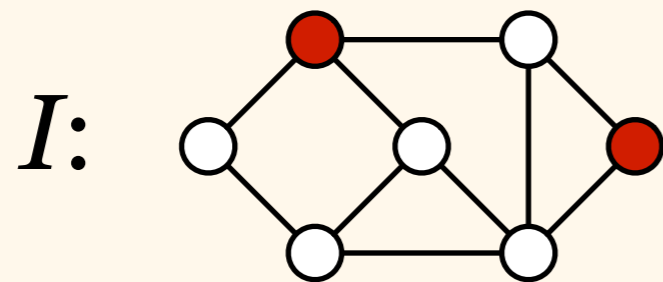
- Assume that  $I$  is an independent set:
  - let  $e \in E$
  - definition of independent set:  $|e \cap I| \leq 1$
  - edges have two endpoints:  $|e \cap V| = 2$
  - therefore  $e \cap (V \setminus I) \neq \emptyset$
- Therefore  $V \setminus I$  is a vertex cover

# Exercise 1.1a

- Assume that  $C$  is a vertex cover:
  - let  $e \in E$
  - definition of vertex cover:  $e \cap C \neq \emptyset$
  - edges have two endpoints:  $|e \cap V| = 2$
  - therefore  $|e \cap (V \setminus C)| \leq 1$
- Therefore  $V \setminus C$  is an independent set

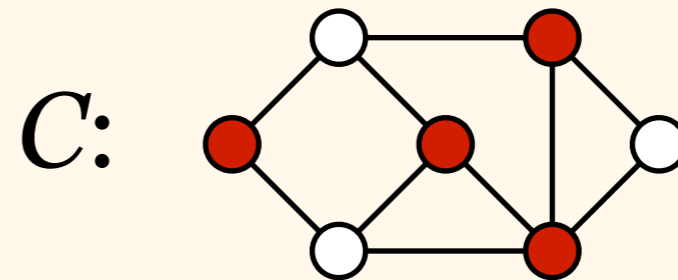
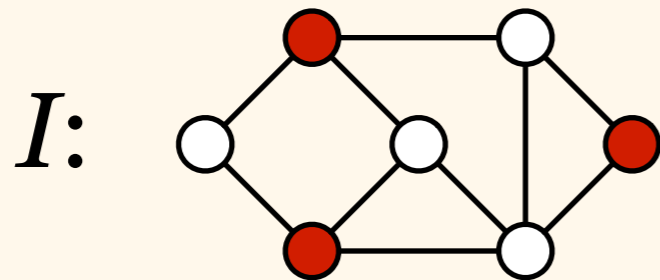
# Exercise 1.1a

- Let  $I \subseteq V$  and  $C = V \setminus I$
- *Claim:*  $I$  is an independent set iff  $C$  is a vertex cover
- *Proof:* verify each edge



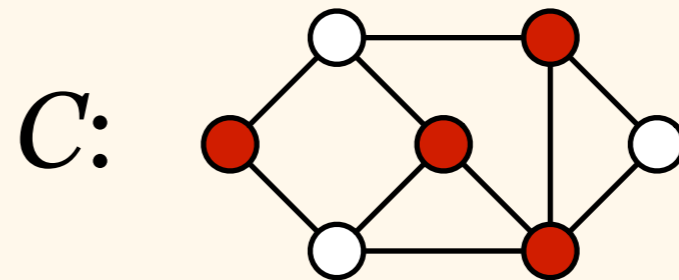
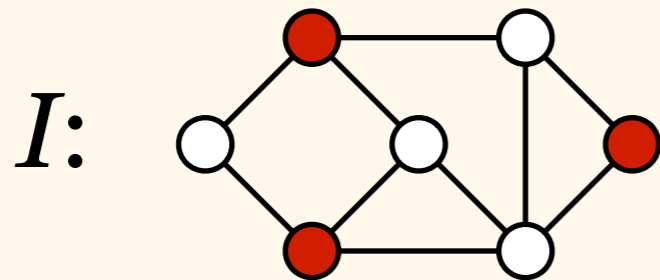
# Exercise 1.1b

- Let  $I \subseteq V$  and  $C = V \setminus I$
- *Claim:*  $I$  is a maximal independent set iff  $C$  is a minimal vertex cover



# Exercise 1.1b

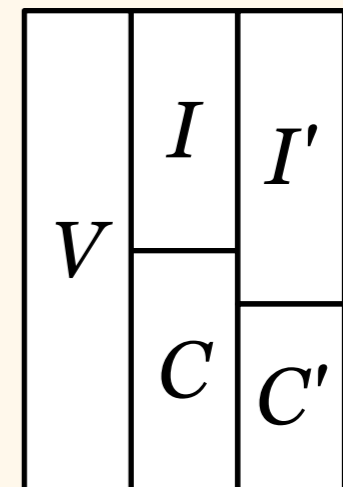
- Let  $I \subseteq V$  and  $C = V \setminus I$
- *Claim:*  $I$  is a maximal independent set iff  $C$  is a minimal vertex cover
- *Idea:* use 1.1a





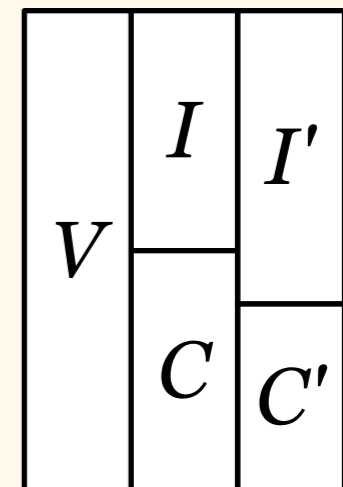
# Exercise 1.1b

- Assume:  $I$  is a maximal independent set
  - define  $C = V \setminus I$
  - then  $C$  is a vertex cover
  - assume that  $C' \subset C$  is also a vertex cover
  - then  $I' = V \setminus C'$  is an independent set
  - we have  $I' \supset I$
  - therefore  $I$  was not maximal, contradiction



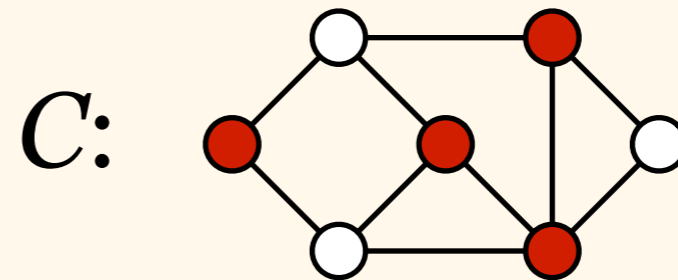
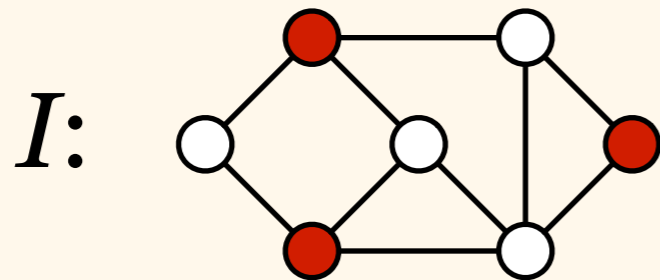
# Exercise 1.1b

- Assume:  $C$  is a minimal vertex cover
  - define  $I = V \setminus C$
  - similar: we already know that  $I$  is an independent set, only need to show maximality
  - assume that  $I$  is not maximal, then  $C$  cannot be minimal, contradiction



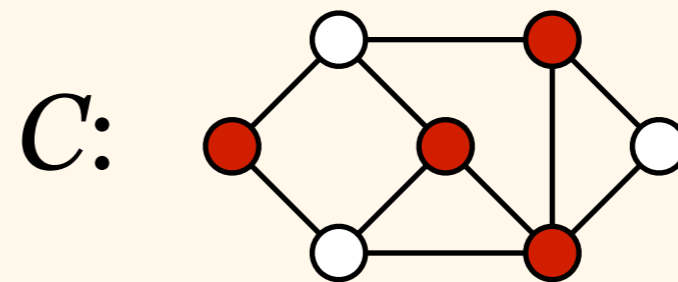
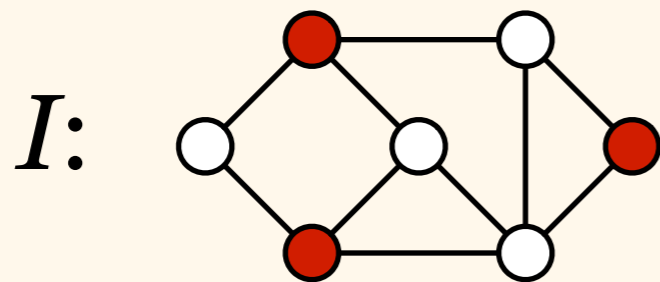
# Exercise 1.1c

- Let  $I \subseteq V$  and  $C = V \setminus I$
- *Claim:*  $I$  is a maximum independent set iff  $C$  is a minimum vertex cover



# Exercise 1.1c

- Let  $I \subseteq V$  and  $C = V \setminus I$
- *Claim:*  $I$  is a maximum independent set iff  $C$  is a minimum vertex cover
- *Idea:* use 1.1a



# Exercise 1.1c

- Assume:  $I$  is a maximum independent set
  - define  $C = V \setminus I$
  - then  $C$  is a vertex cover
  - assume that  $C'$  is also a vertex cover,  $|C'| < |C|$
  - then  $I' = V \setminus C'$  is an independent set
  - we have  $|I'| = |V| - |C'| > |V| - |C| = |I|$
  - therefore  $I$  was not of a maximum size, contradiction

# Exercise 1.1c

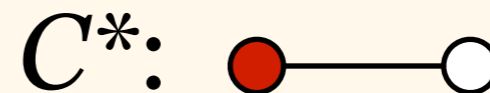
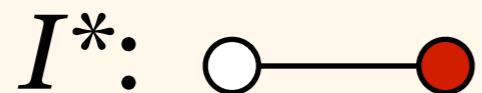
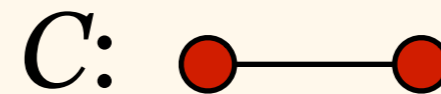
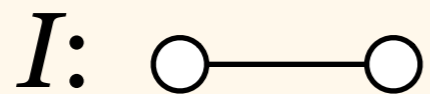
- Assume:  $C$  is a minimum vertex cover
  - define  $I = V \setminus C$
  - again we already know that  $I$  is an independent set
  - similar: assume that there is a larger independent set, then  $C$  cannot be a minimum vertex cover, contradiction

# Exercise 1.1d

- Show that the following is possible:
  - $C$  is a 2-approximation of minimum vertex cover
  - $I = V \setminus C$  is not a 2-approximation of maximum independent set

# Exercise 1.1d

- Show that the following is possible:
  - $C$  is a 2-approximation of minimum vertex cover
  - $I = V \setminus C$  is not a 2-approximation of maximum independent set



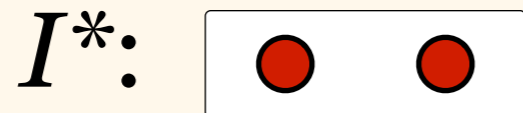
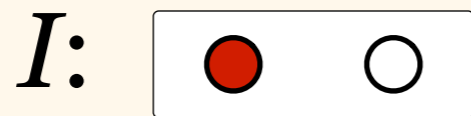


# Exercise 1.1e

- Show that the following is possible:
  - $I$  is a 2-approximation of maximum independent set
  - $C = V \setminus I$  is not a 2-approximation of minimum vertex cover

# Exercise 1.1e

- Show that the following is possible:
  - $I$  is a 2-approximation of maximum independent set
  - $C = V \setminus I$  is not a 2-approximation of minimum vertex cover



# Schedule

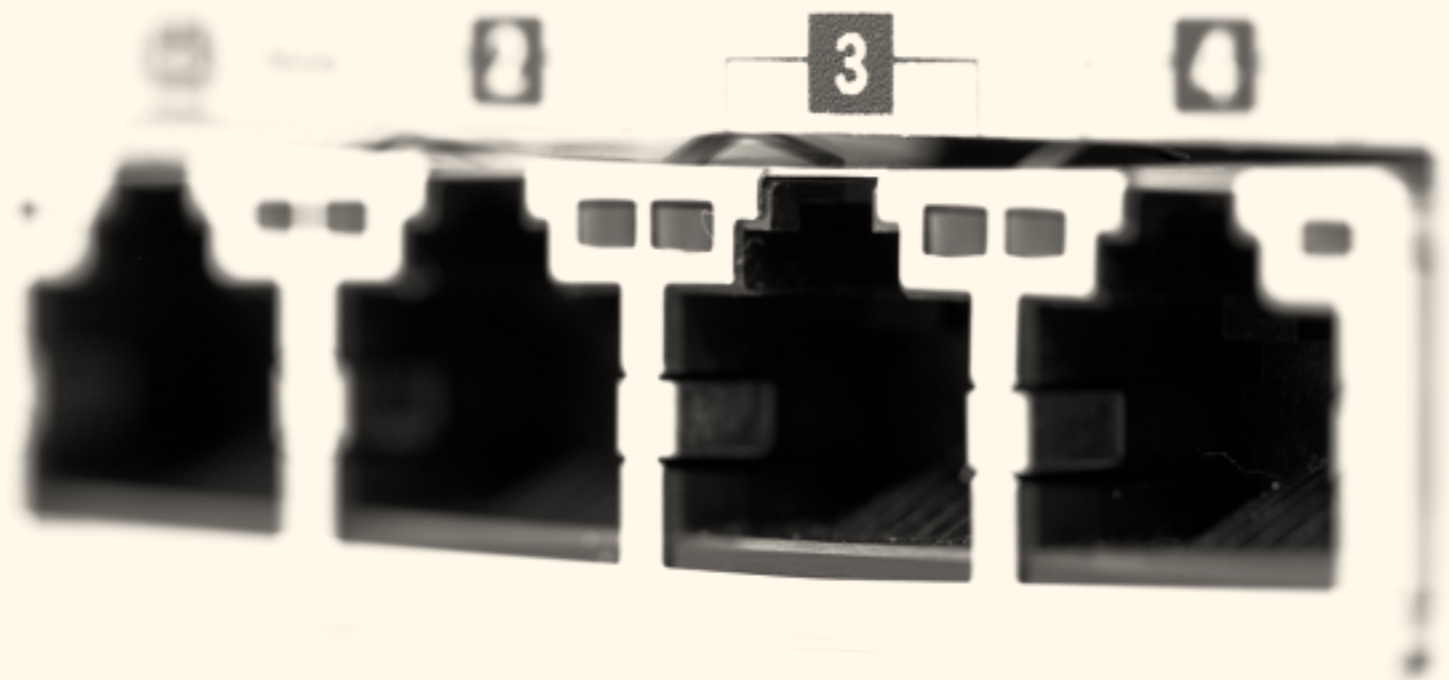
- Today:
  - questions? comments?
- Tomorrow:
  - last chance to discuss exercises of Chapter 1
- Next week:
  - Chapter 2 — remember to read it *before* the lectures

# Port-Numbering Model

*DDA Course*

*Lecture 2.1*

*20 March 2012*

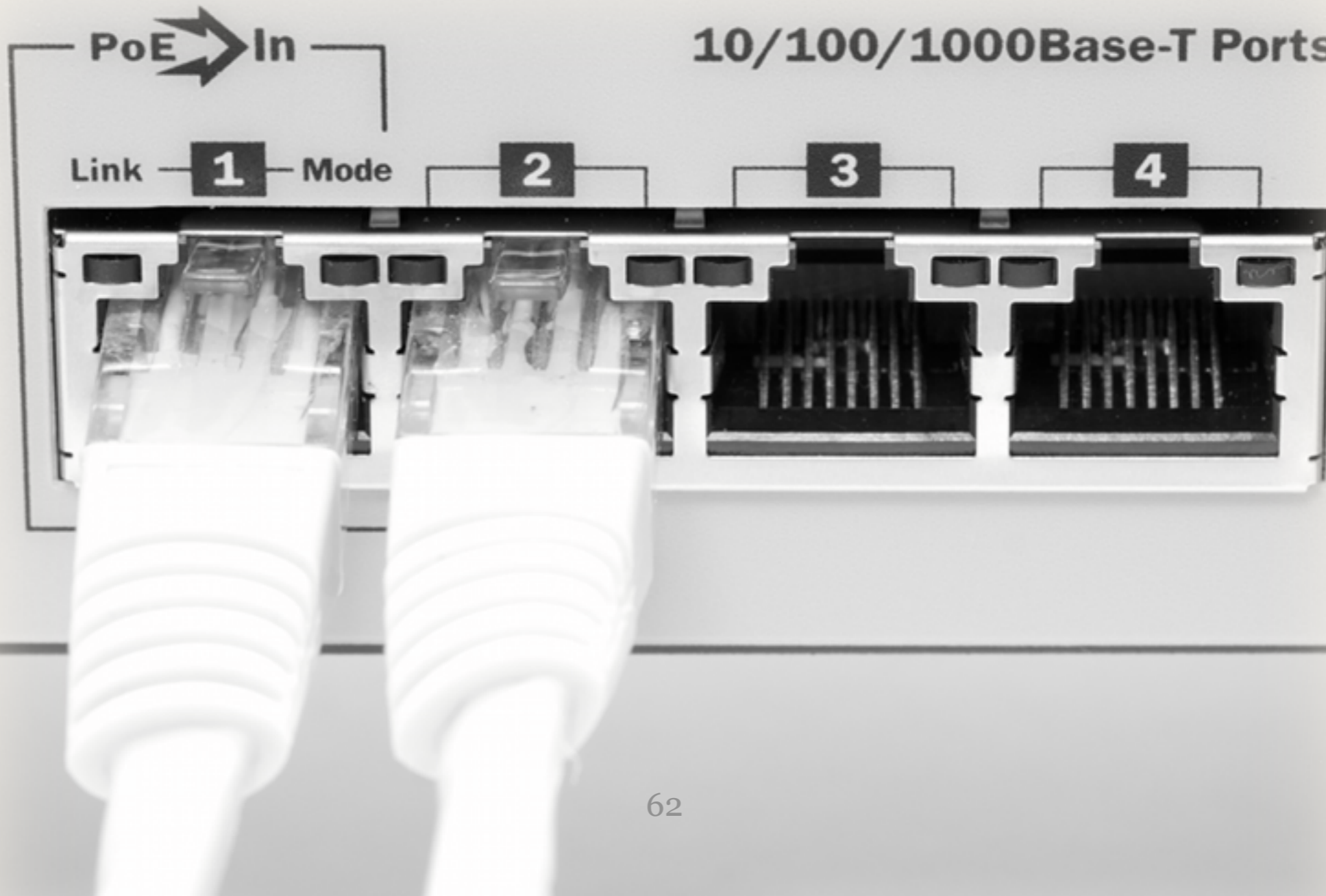


# Distributed Systems

- Intuition:
  - distributed system
    - ≈ communication network
    - ≈ network equipment + communication links
  - distributed algorithm
    - ≈ computer program
- Precisely how are we going to model this?

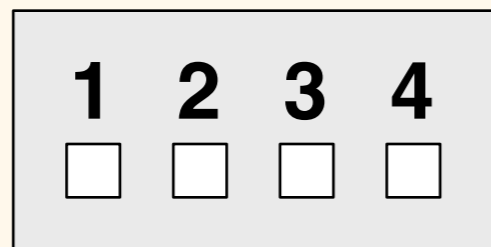
# Port Numbering

10/100/1000Base-T Ports (1 - 8)



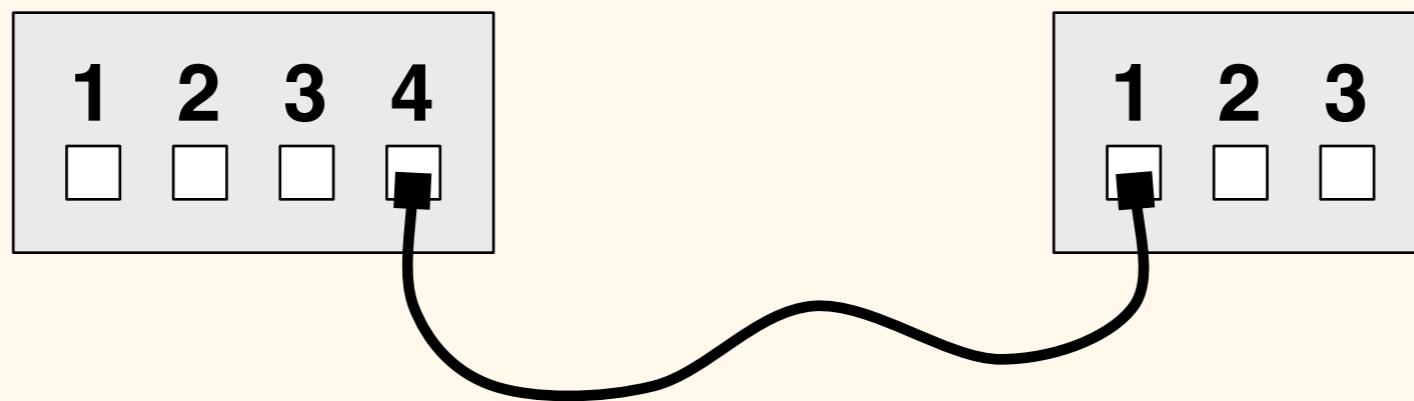
# Port Numbering

- Network device = state machine with *communication ports*
- Ports are *numbered*: 1, 2, 3, ...



# Port-Numbered Network

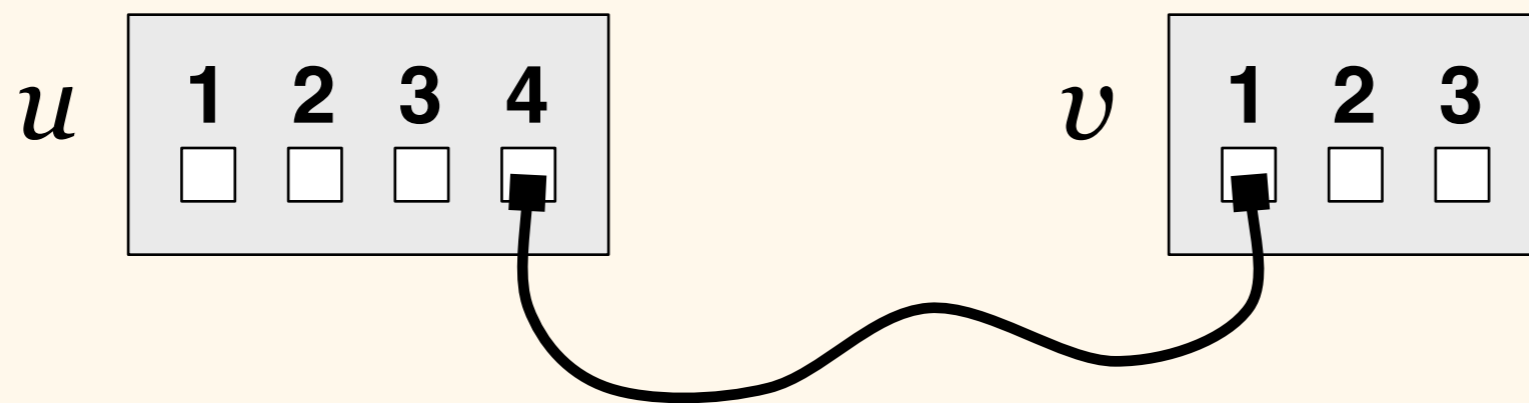
- Network = several devices, *connections* between ports
  - we will formalise it as a triple  $N = (V, P, p)$





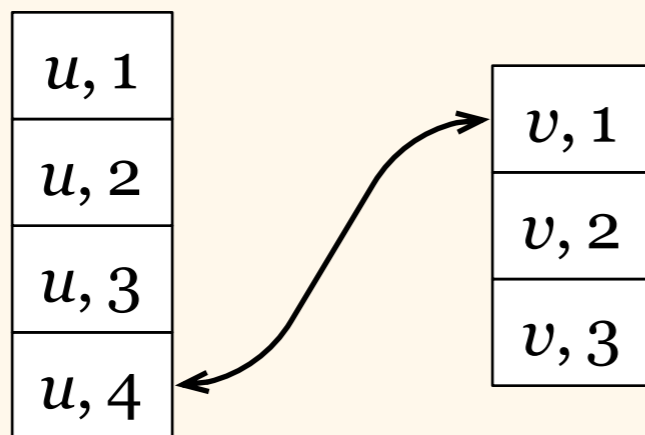
# Port-Numbered Network

- nodes  $V = \{u, v, \dots\}$
- ports  $P = \{(u, 1), (u, 2), (u, 3), (u, 4), (v, 1), (v, 2), (v, 3), \dots\}$
- connections  $p(u, 4) = (v, 1)$ ,  $p(v, 1) = (u, 4)$ , ...



# Port-Numbered Network

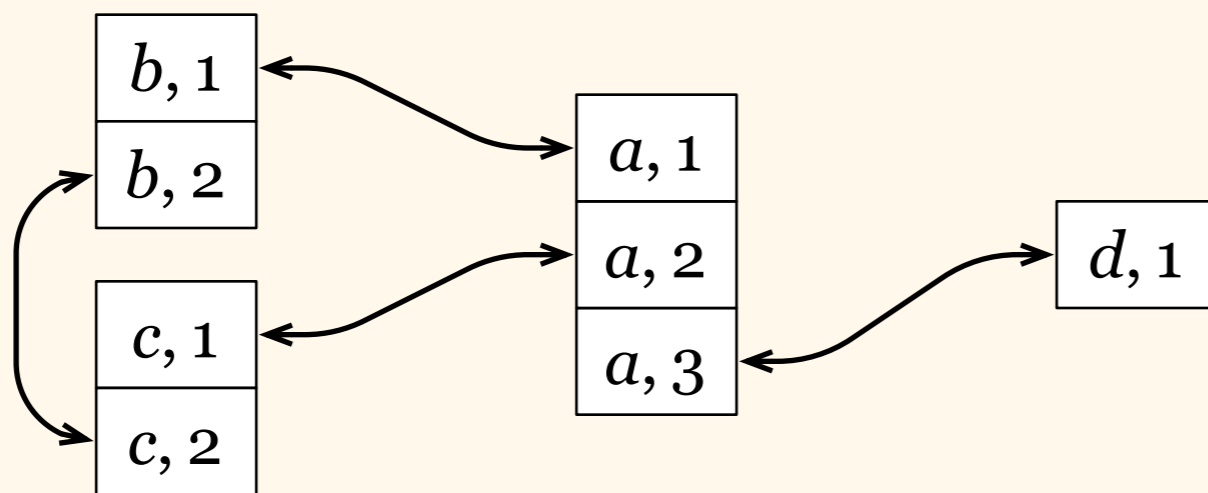
- nodes  $V = \{u, v, \dots\}$
- ports  $P = \{(u, 1), (u, 2), (u, 3), (u, 4), (v, 1), (v, 2), (v, 3), \dots\}$
- connections  $p(u, 4) = (v, 1)$ ,  $p(v, 1) = (u, 4)$ , ...



*not a complete example,  
some ports not connected!*

# Port-Numbered Network

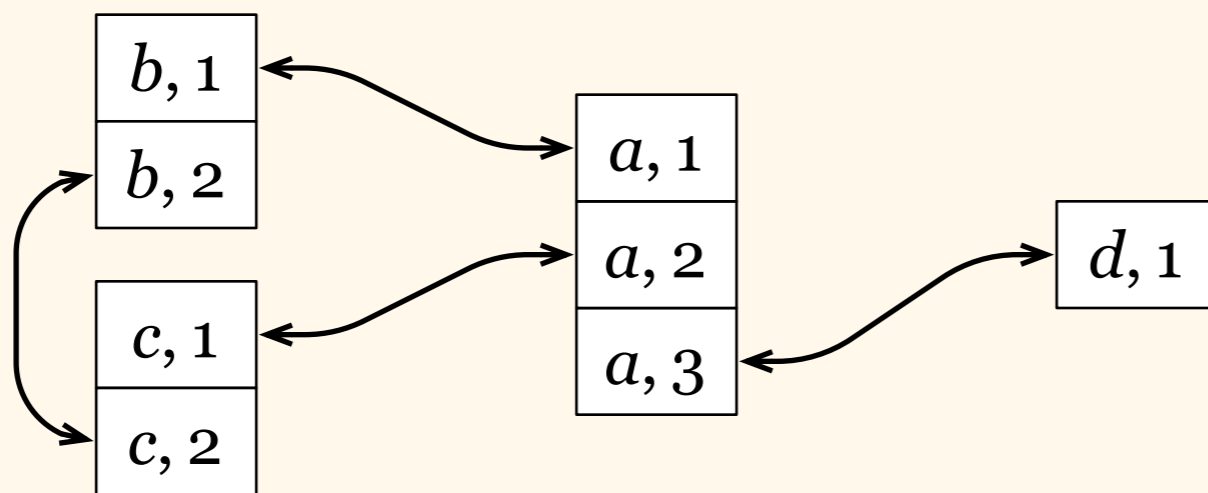
- nodes  $V = \{a, b, c, d\}$
- ports  $P = \{(a, 1), (a, 2), (a, 3), (b, 1), (b, 2), (c, 1), (c, 2), (d, 1)\}$
- connections  $p(a, 1) = (b, 1)$ ,  $p(b, 1) = (a, 1)$ , ...



*all ports connected*

# Port-Numbered Network

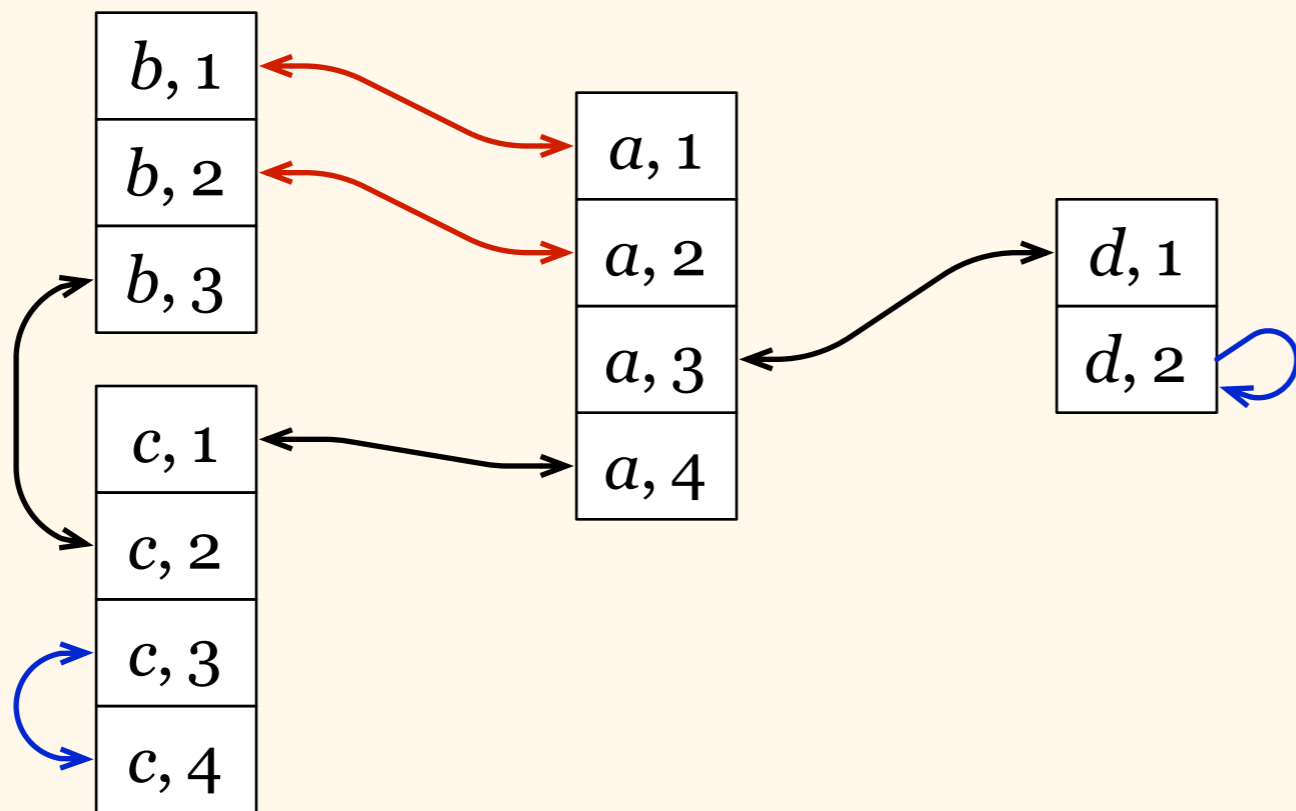
- nodes  $V =$  a finite set
- ports  $P =$  a finite set of (node, number) pairs
- connections  $p =$  an involution  $P \rightarrow P$



involution:  
 $p^{-1} = p$   
 $p(p(x)) = x$

# Port-Numbered Network

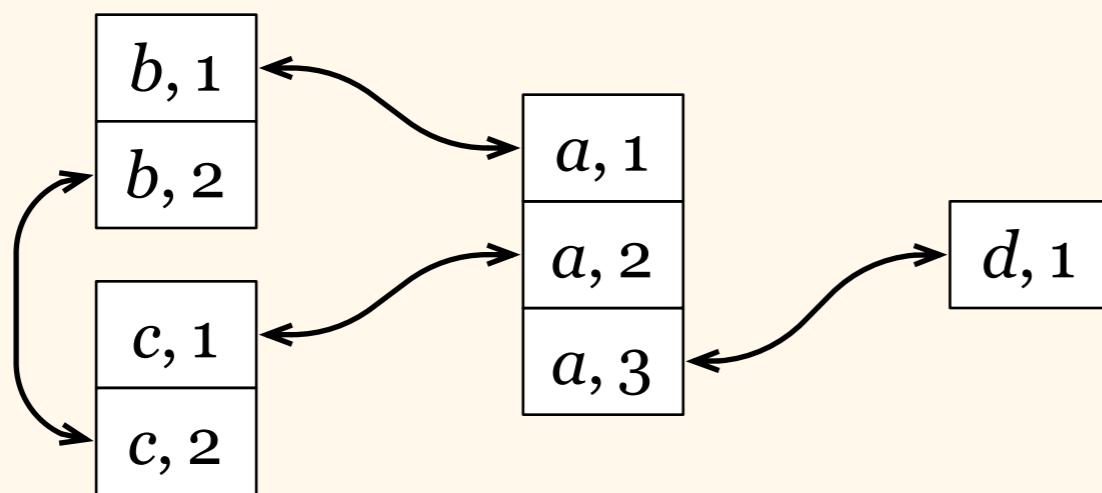
- We may have *multiple connections* or *loops*



$$\begin{aligned} p(c, 3) &= (c, 4) \\ p(c, 4) &= (c, 3) \\ p(d, 2) &= (d, 2) \end{aligned}$$

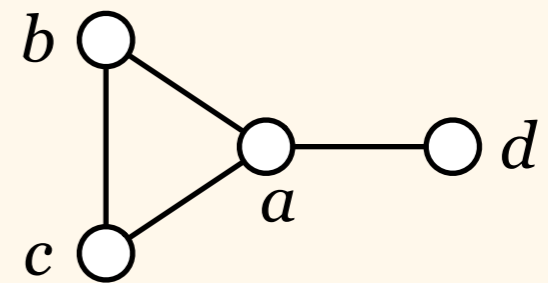
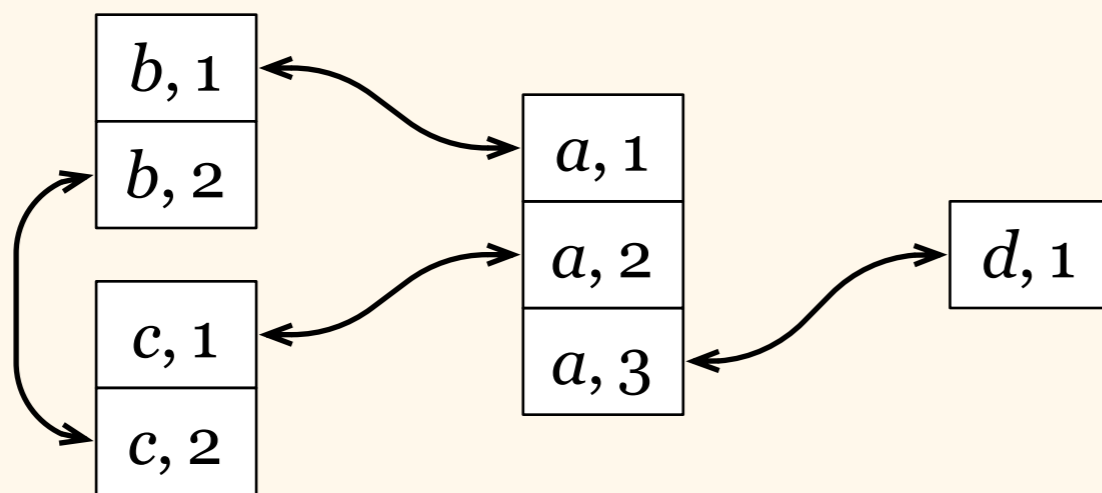
# Port-Numbered Network

- *Simple* port-numbered network:  
no multiple connections, no loops



# Port-Numbered Network

- *Underlying graph* of a simple port-numbered network



# Distributed Algorithms



# Distributed Algorithm

- State machine,  $x$  = current state:
  - $x \leftarrow \mathbf{init}(z)$ : initial state for local input  $z$
  - $\mathbf{send}(x)$ : construct *outgoing messages*
    - $\mathbf{send}(x)$  = vector, one element per port
  - $x \leftarrow \mathbf{receive}(x, m)$ : process *incoming messages*
    - $m$  = vector, one element per port

# Execution

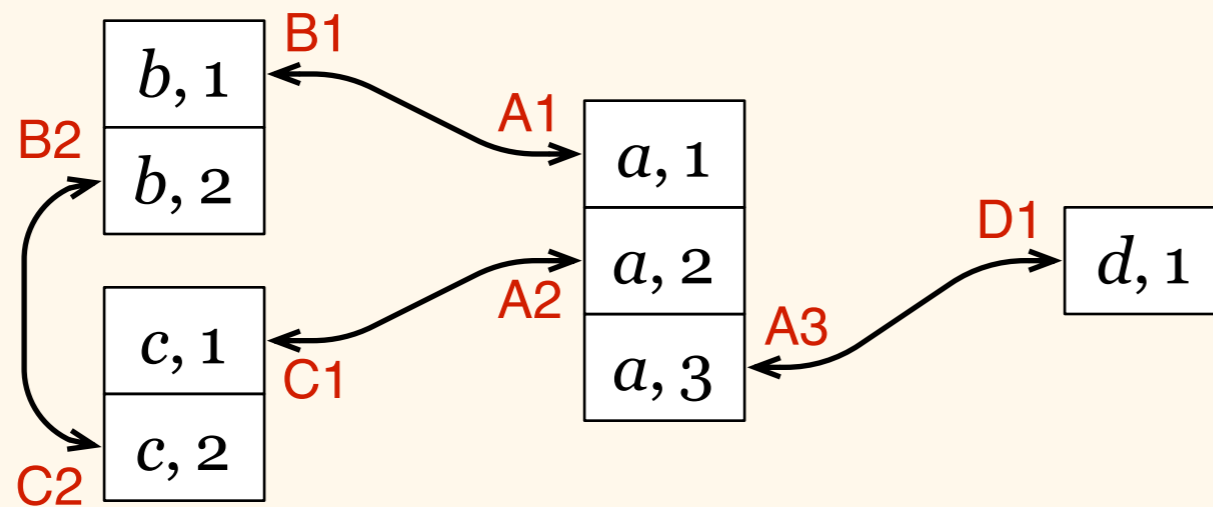
- “Execution of algorithm  $A$  in network  $N$ ”
- All nodes of  $N$  are *identical copies* of the same state machine  $A$ 
  - functions **init**, **send**, and **receive** may depend on node degree (number of ports)
  - in all other aspects the nodes are identical

# Execution

- All nodes are initialised
- Time step (*communication round*):
  - all nodes construct outgoing messages
  - messages are propagated
  - all nodes process incoming messages
- Continue until all nodes have stopped

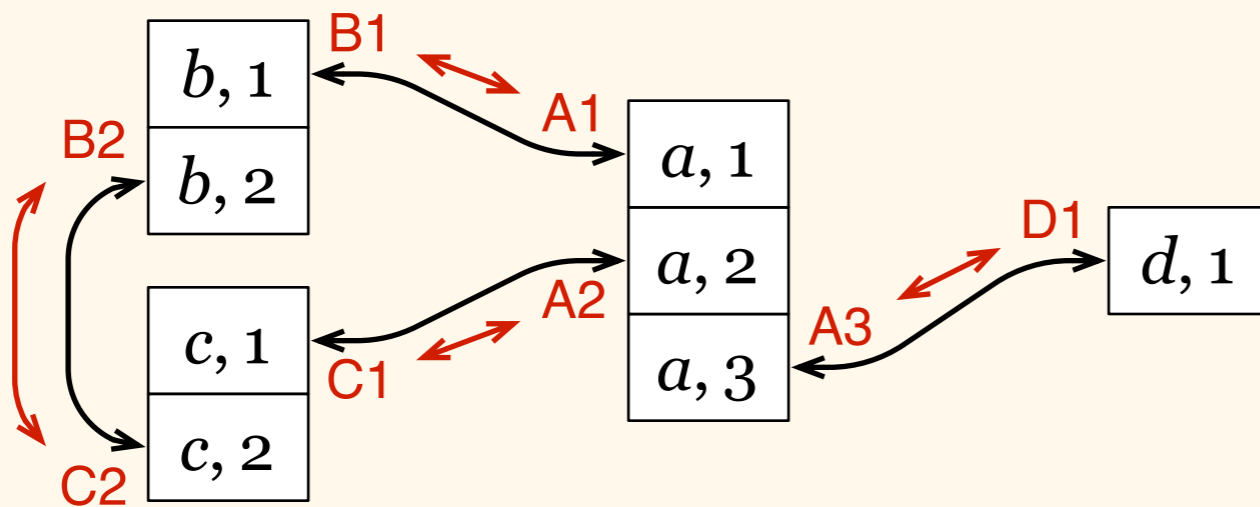
# Communication Round

- Construct *outgoing messages*



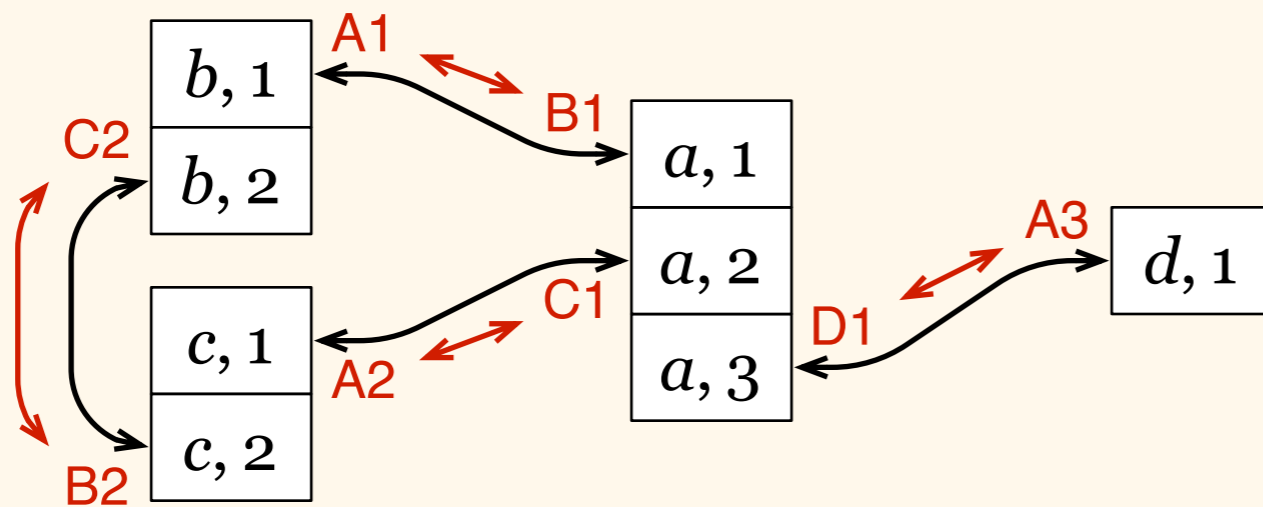
# Communication Round

- Construct outgoing messages
- Exchange messages along communication links



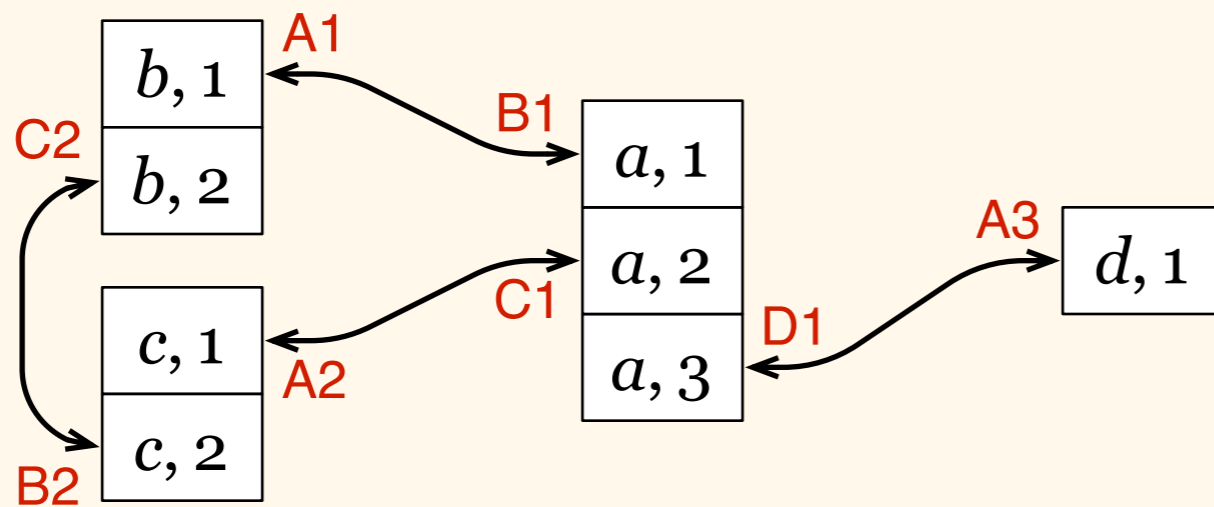
# Communication Round

- Construct outgoing messages
- Exchange messages along communication links



# Communication Round

- Construct outgoing messages
- Exchange messages along communication links
- Process *incoming messages*



# Communication Round

- Construct outgoing messages
- Exchange messages along communication links
- Process incoming messages
  
- Communication rounds are *synchronous*
- Each step happens synchronously in parallel for all nodes
- Everything is *deterministic*



# Distributed Algorithm

- Algorithm designed chooses:
  - how to initialise nodes
  - how to construct outgoing messages
  - how to process incoming messages
- Network structure determines:
  - how messages are propagated between ports

# Distributed Algorithm

- “Algorithm  $A$  solves graph problem  $\Pi$  on graph family  $\mathcal{F}$ ”:
  - for any graph  $G \in \mathcal{F}$ ,
  - for *any simple port-numbered network*  $N$  that has  $G$  as underlying graph,
  - execution of  $A$  on  $N$  stops and produces a valid solution of  $\Pi$

# Distributed Algorithm

- “Algorithm  $A$  finds a minimum vertex cover in any regular graph”:
  - for *any simple port-numbered network*  $N$  that has a regular graph as underlying graph,
  - execution of  $A$  on  $N$  stops,
  - the stopping states of the nodes are “**0**” and “**1**”,
  - nodes in state “**1**” form a minimum vertex cover

# Example

- Design a distributed algorithm that finds a *minimum vertex cover* in  $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{○—○—○—○}, \text{○—○—○—○—○}\}$



# Example

- Nodes of degree 1:

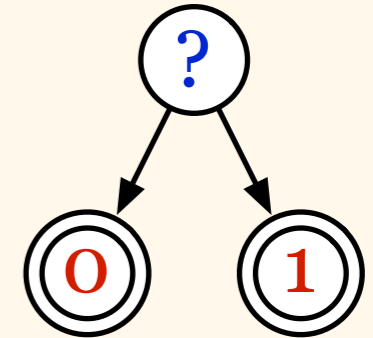
- $\text{init}_1 = ?$ ,  $\text{send}_1(?) = (A)$

- $\text{receive}_1(? , A) = 0$ ,  $\text{receive}_1(? , B) = 0$

- Nodes of degree 2:

- $\text{init}_2 = ?$ ,  $\text{send}_2(?) = (B, B)$

- $\text{receive}_2(? , A, A) = 1$ ,  $\text{receive}_2(? , A, B) = 1$ ,  
 $\text{receive}_2(? , B, A) = 1$ ,  $\text{receive}_2(? , B, B) = 0$



# Example

- Design a distributed algorithm that finds a *minimum vertex cover* in  $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{○—○—○—○}, \text{○—○—○—○—○}\}$
- Solved!
- Running time: 1 communication round

# General Principles



# General Principles

- Synchronous execution
  - “worst case”
  - synchronisers exist

# General Principles

- Synchronous execution
- Deterministic algorithms
  - cf. the name of this course
  - nodes do not have any source of randomness

# General Principles

- Synchronous execution
- Deterministic algorithms
- Anonymous networks
  - identical nodes (except for their degree)
  - Chapters 5–6: what happens if each node has a unique name

# General Principles

- Synchronous execution
- Deterministic algorithms
- Anonymous networks
- Time = number of communication rounds
  - focus on communication, not computation...

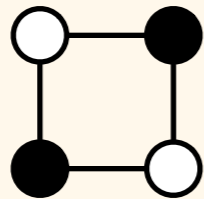
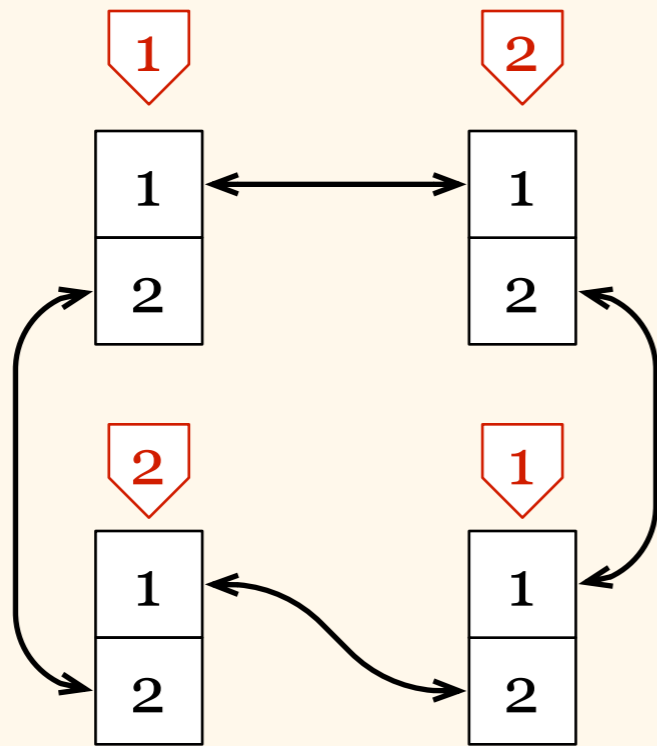
# Examples

# Maximal Matching

- We will design distributed algorithm BMM that finds a *maximal matching* in any *2-coloured graph*
  - we assume that we are given a proper 2-colouring of the underlying graph as input
  - algorithm will output a maximal matching

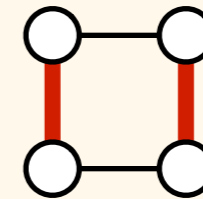
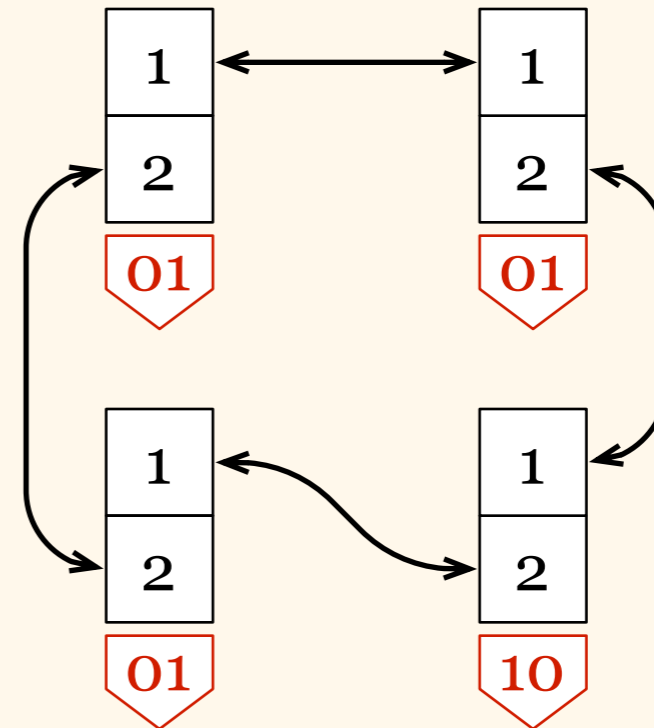
# Given

encoding of 2-colouring



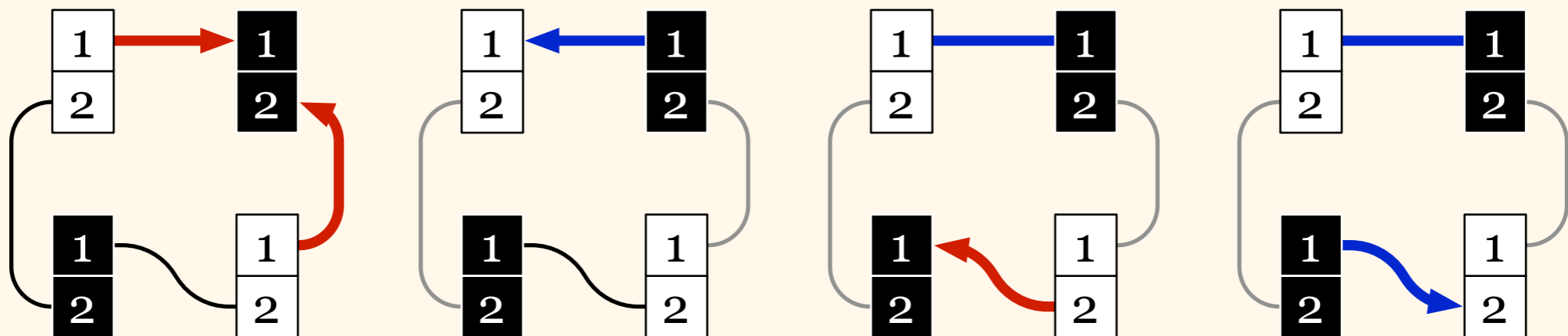
# Find

encoding of maximal matching



# Maximal Matching

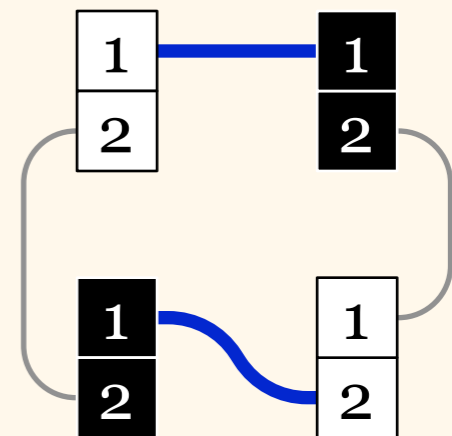
- Algorithm idea:
  - white nodes send *proposals* to their ports, one by one
  - black nodes *accept* the first proposal that they get





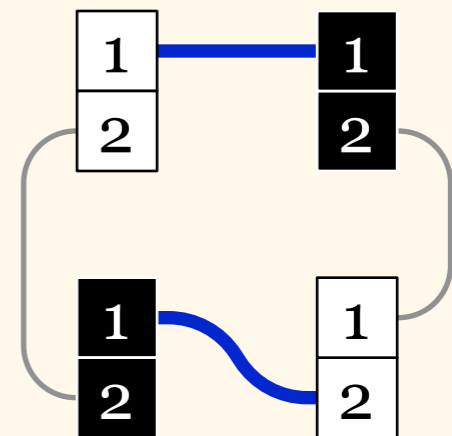
# Maximal Matching

- Algorithm idea:
  - white nodes send *proposals* to their ports, one by one
  - black nodes *accept* the first proposal that they get
  - proposal–accept pair = edge in matching
- Running time:  $O(\Delta)$ 
  - $\Delta$  = maximum degree



# Maximal Matching

- We can find a maximal matching if we are given a 2-colouring
  - some auxiliary information is necessary, as we will see in Chapter 3
- Application: vertex cover approximation
  - works correctly in any network, no need to have 2-colouring!

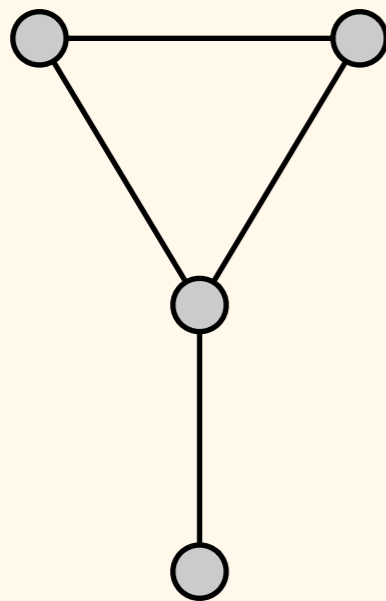


# Vertex Cover

- We will design distributed algorithm VC3 that finds a *3-approximation of minimum vertex cover* in any graph
  - each node stops and outputs “0” or “1”
  - nodes that output “1” form a 3-approximation of a minimum vertex cover for the underlying graph

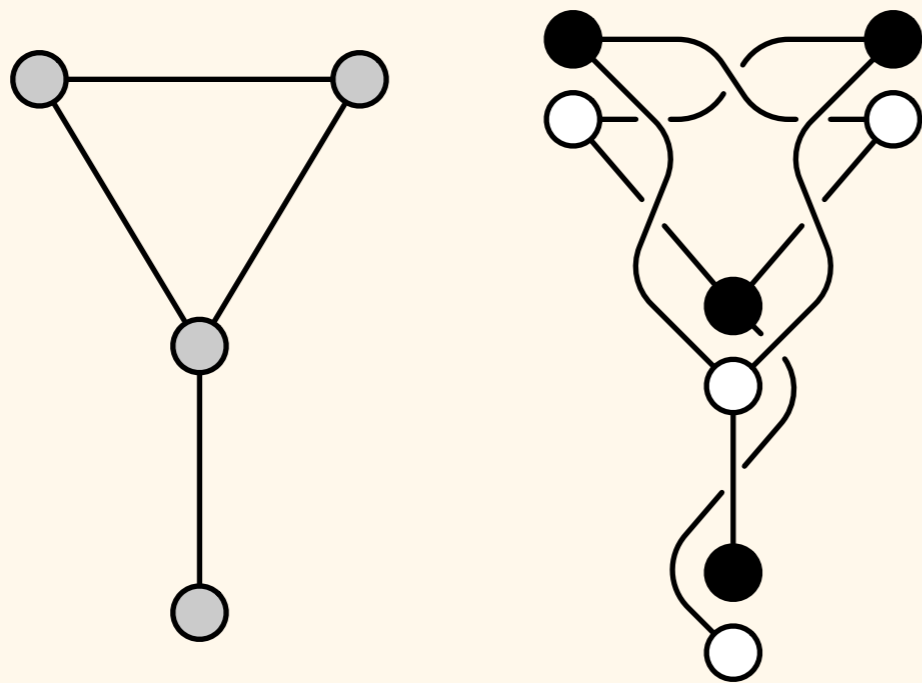
# Vertex Cover

- Given: a port-numbered network
  - drawing here just the underlying graph...



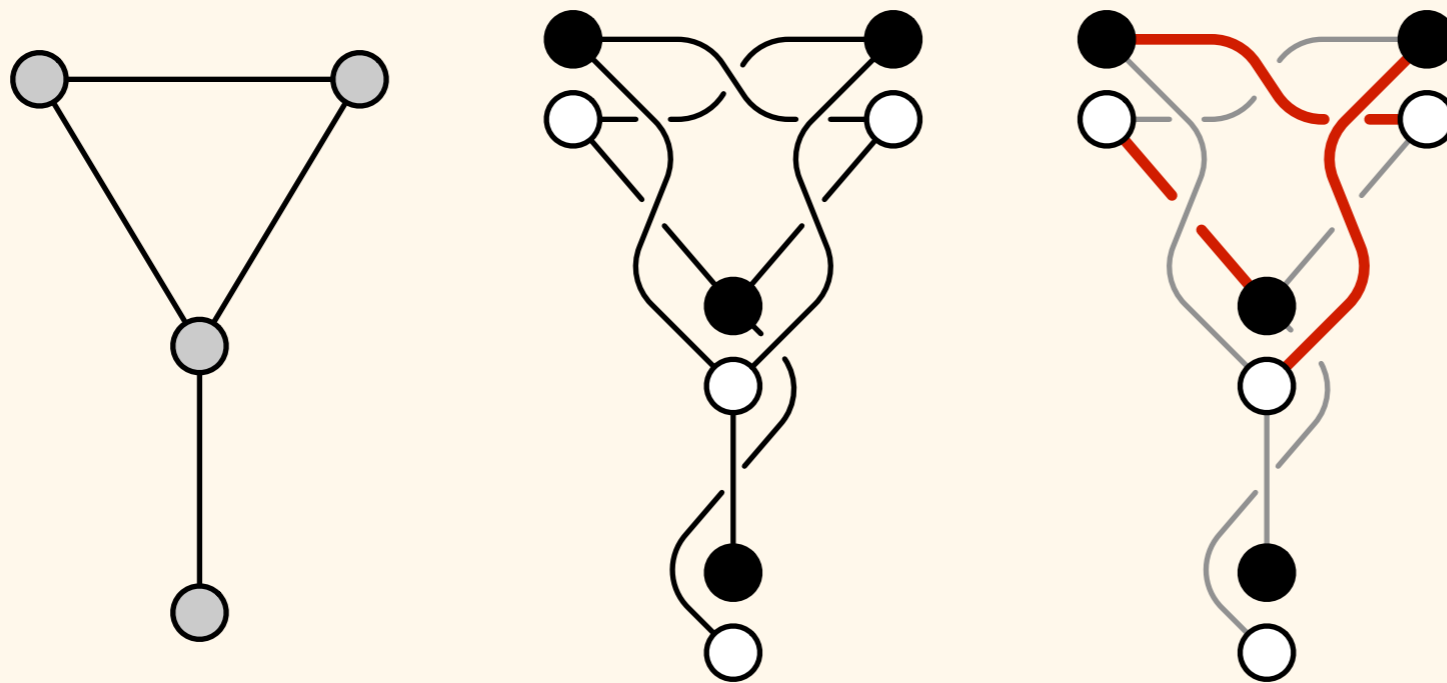
# Vertex Cover

- Construct the *bipartite double cover*: two copies of each node, edges across



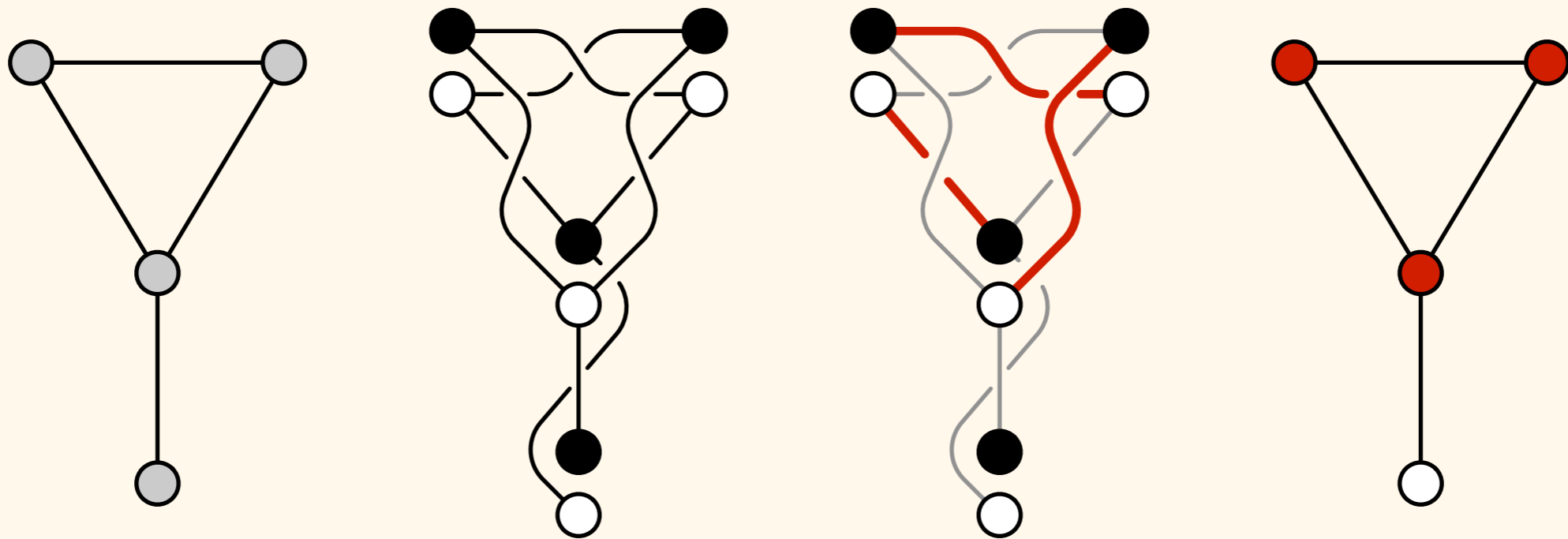
# Vertex Cover

- Simulate algorithm BMM, outputs a *maximal matching*  $M'$



# Vertex Cover

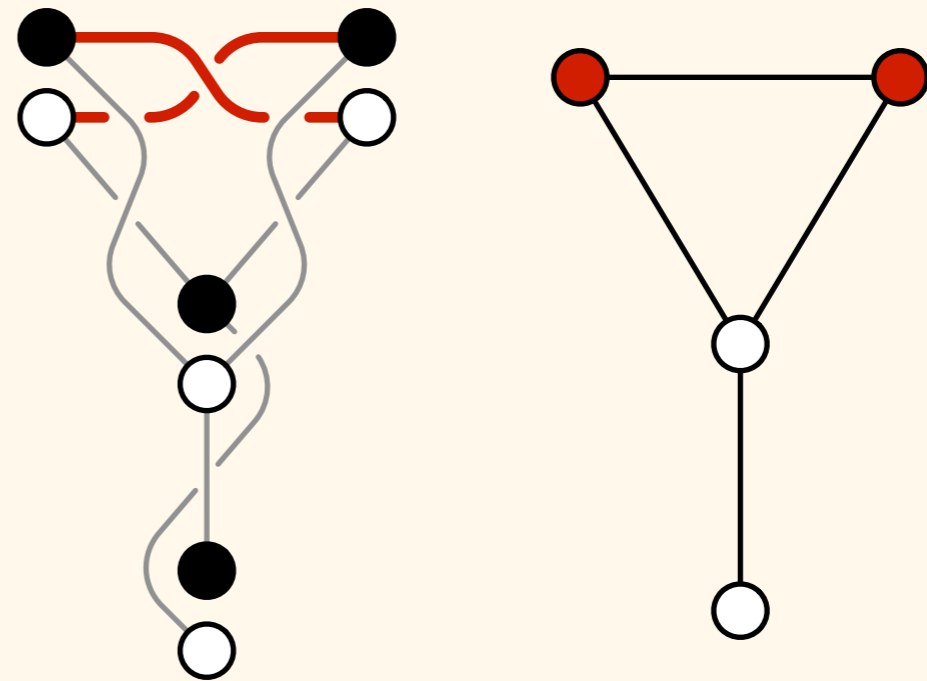
- $C$  = nodes with at least one copy matched:  
3-approximation of minimum vertex cover!



# Vertex Cover

- $C$  = nodes with at least one copy matched:  
3-approximation of minimum vertex cover!

- Why vertex cover?
  - assume that there is an uncovered edge
  - conclude that  $M'$  is not maximal

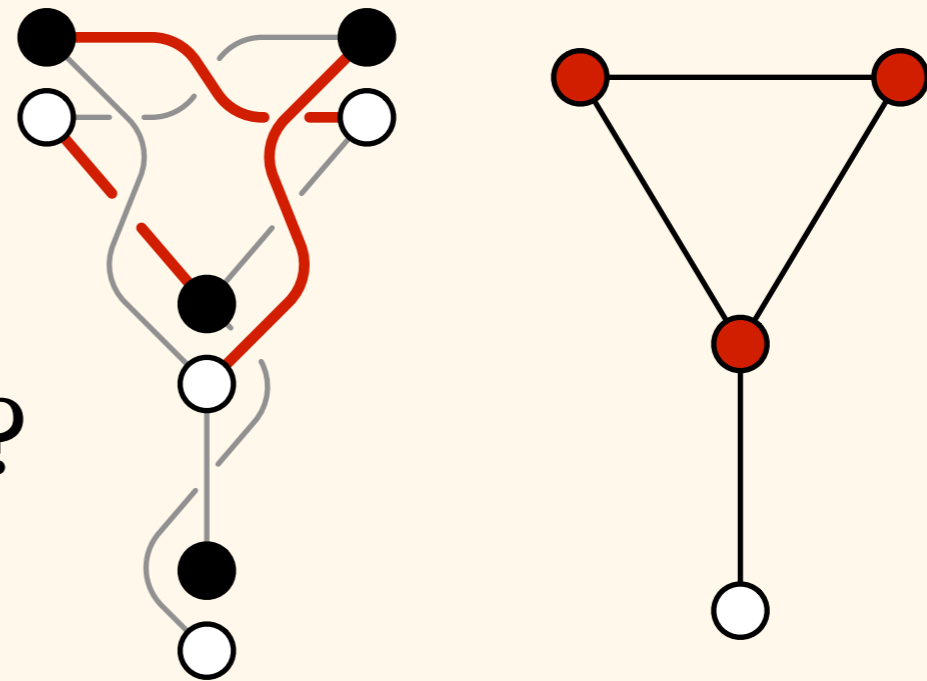




# Vertex Cover

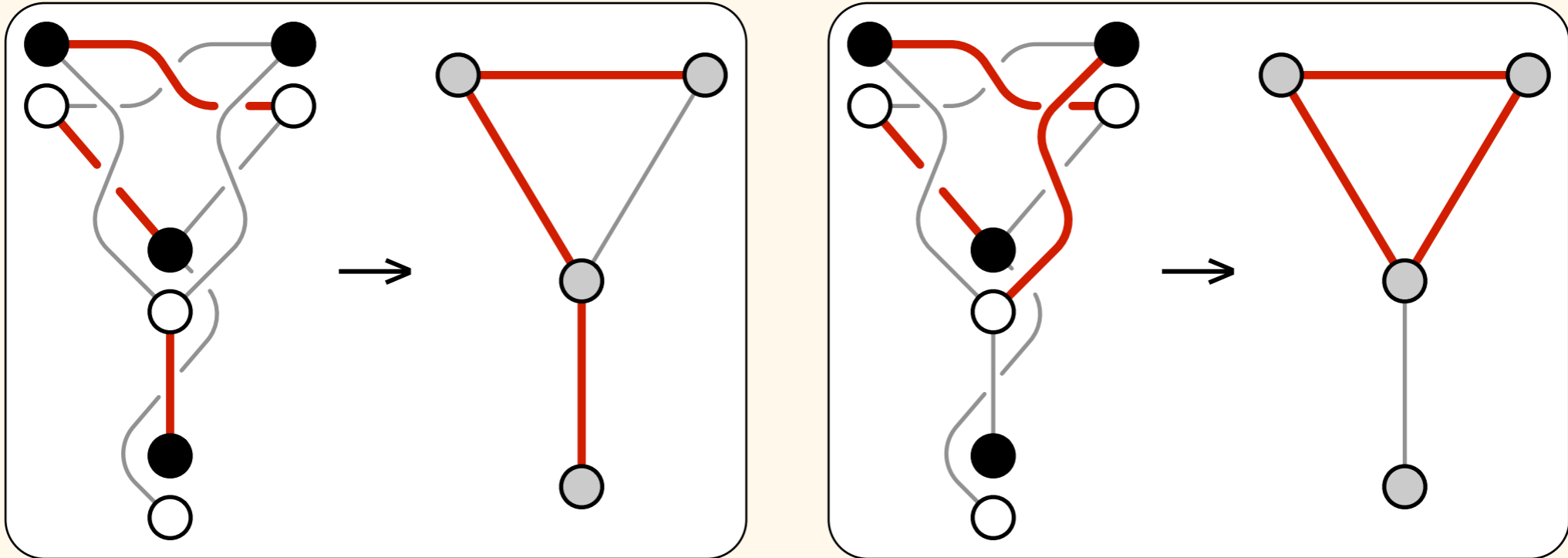
- $C$  = nodes with at least one copy matched:  
3-approximation of minimum vertex cover!

- Why vertex cover?
- Why 3-approximation?



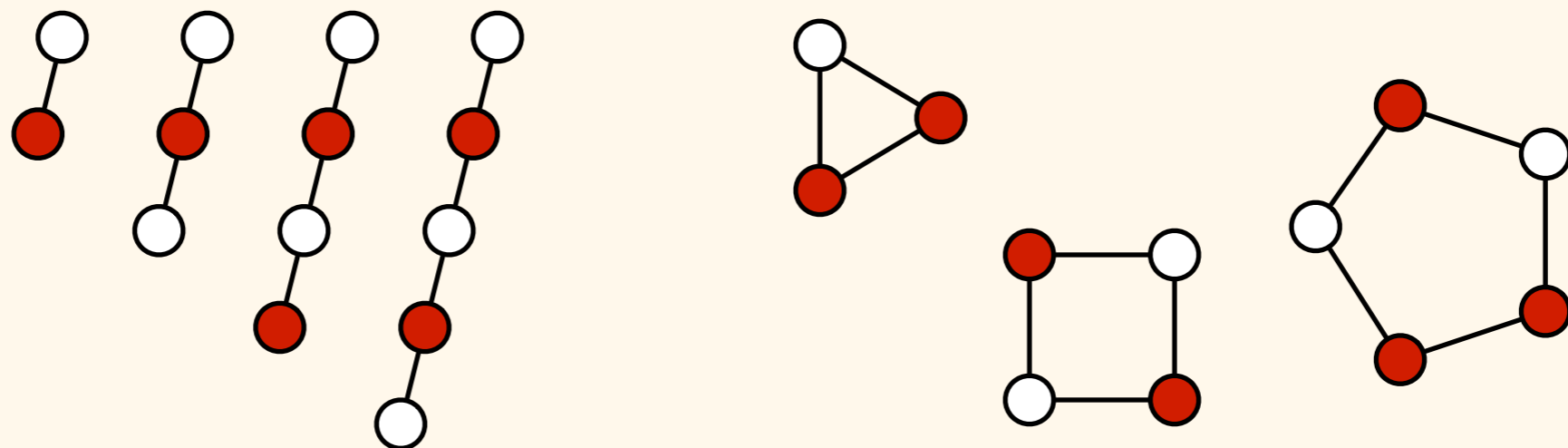
# Vertex Cover

- Idea: matching in bipartite double cover  
→ paths and/or cycles in original graph



# Vertex Cover

- Any vertex cover contains at least  $1/3$  of nodes of any path or cycle
- 3-approximation if we take all of these



# Summary

- We can solve non-trivial problems with distributed algorithms
  - e.g., 3-approximation of minimum vertex cover
- What next?
  - week 3: problems that cannot be solved at all
  - week 4: more positive results
  - weeks 5–6: what changes if the nodes have names?

# Discussion & Exercises

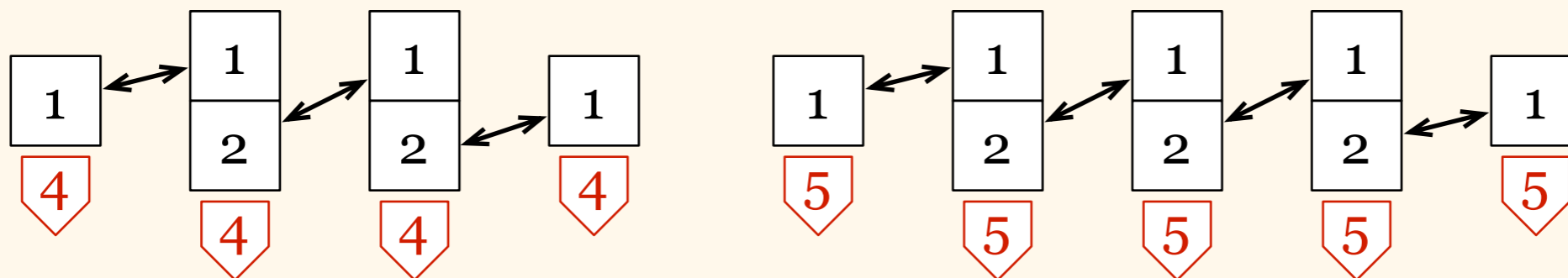
*DDA Course*

*Lecture 2.2*

*22 March 2012*

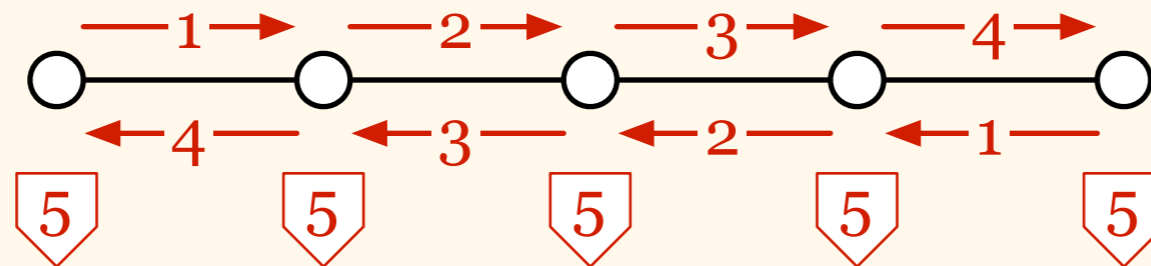
# Counting

- Design a distributed algorithm that counts the number of nodes in any *path graph*
  - given a simple port-numbered network  $N = (V, P, p)$  that has a path graph as the underlying graph, all nodes stop and output  $|V|$



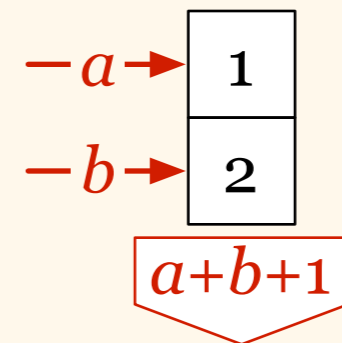
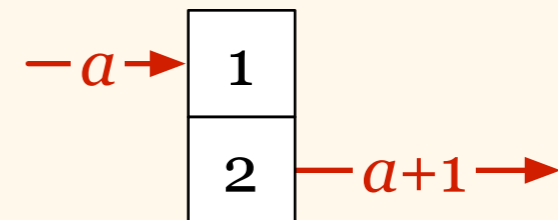
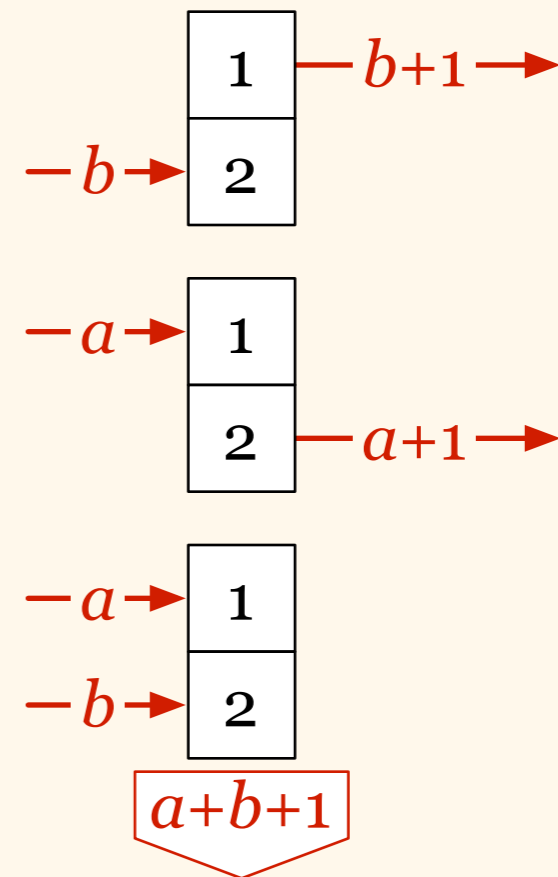
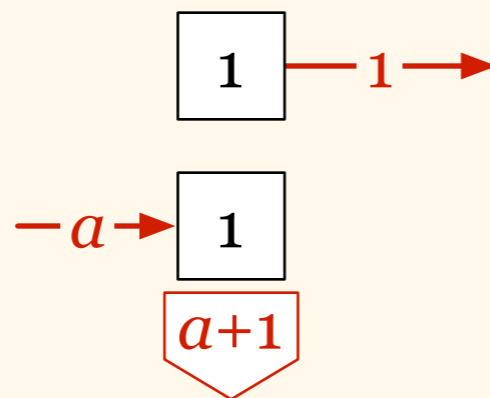
# Counting

- Design a distributed algorithm that counts the number of nodes in any *path graph*
- Algorithm idea:



# Counting

- Algorithm for path graphs
  - “arithmetic circuit”



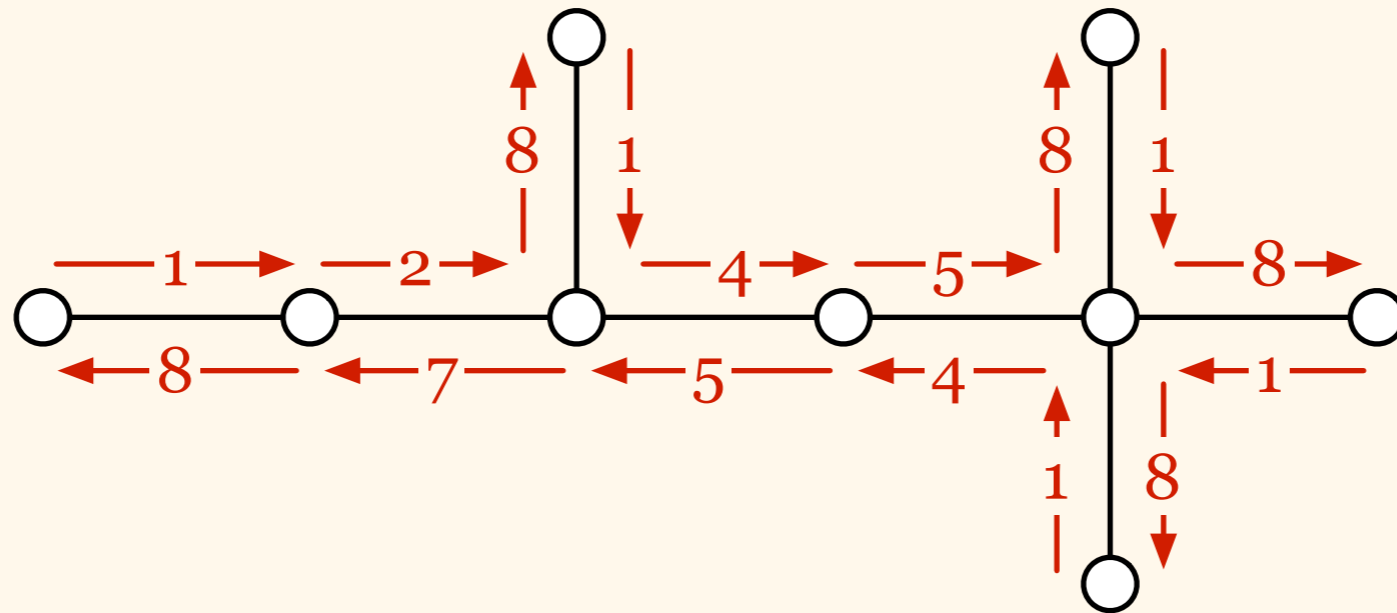


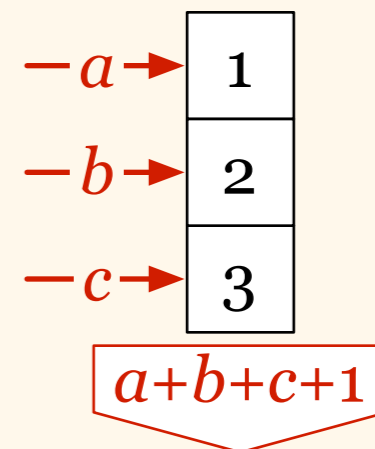
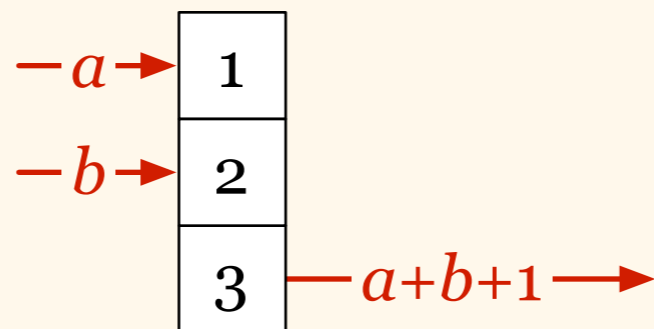
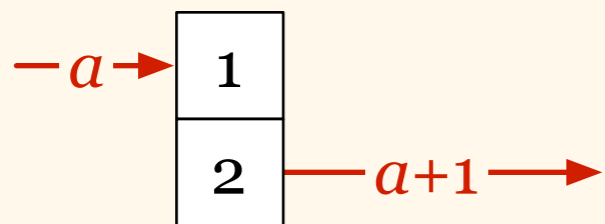
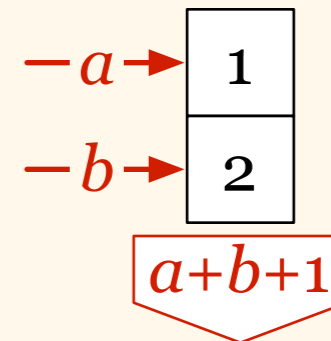
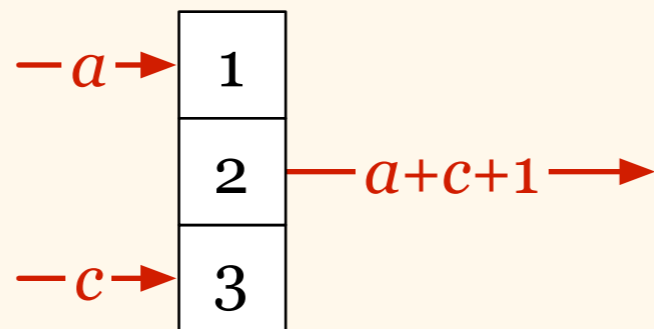
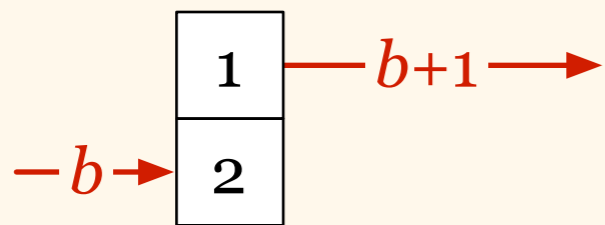
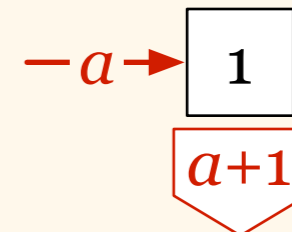
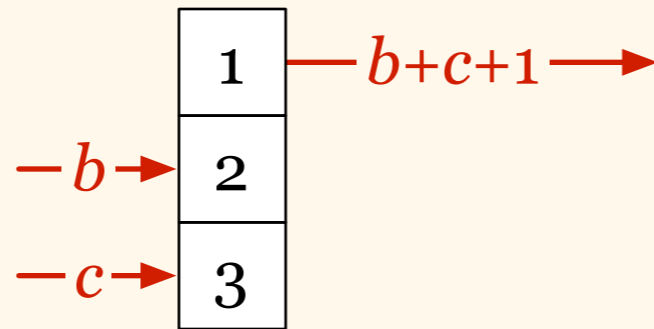
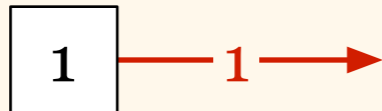
# Counting

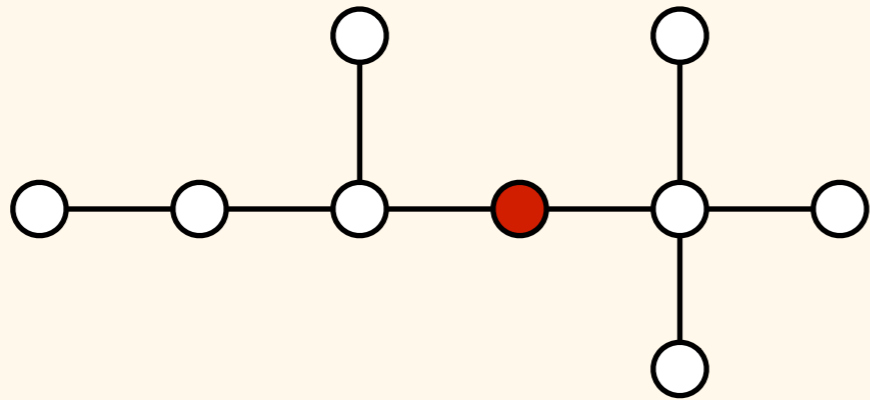
- Design a distributed algorithm that counts the number of nodes in any *tree*
  - given a simple port-numbered network  $N = (V, P, p)$  that has a tree as the underlying graph, all nodes stop and output  $|V|$

# Counting

- Design a distributed algorithm that counts the number of nodes in any *tree*



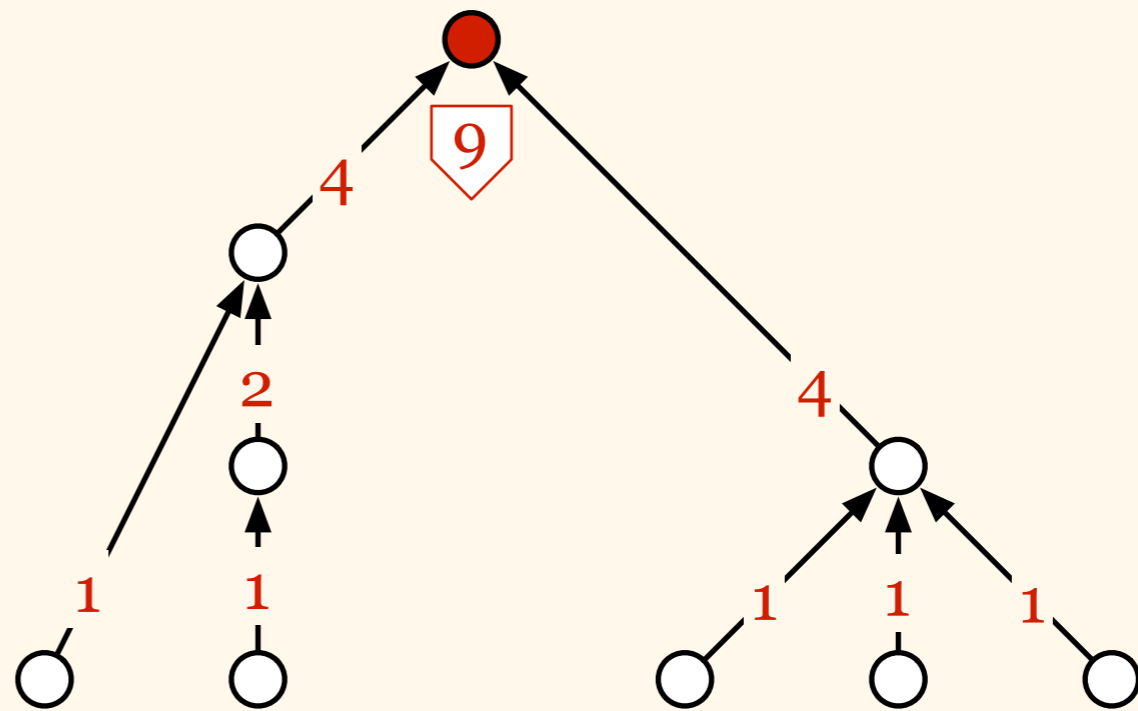




round 3

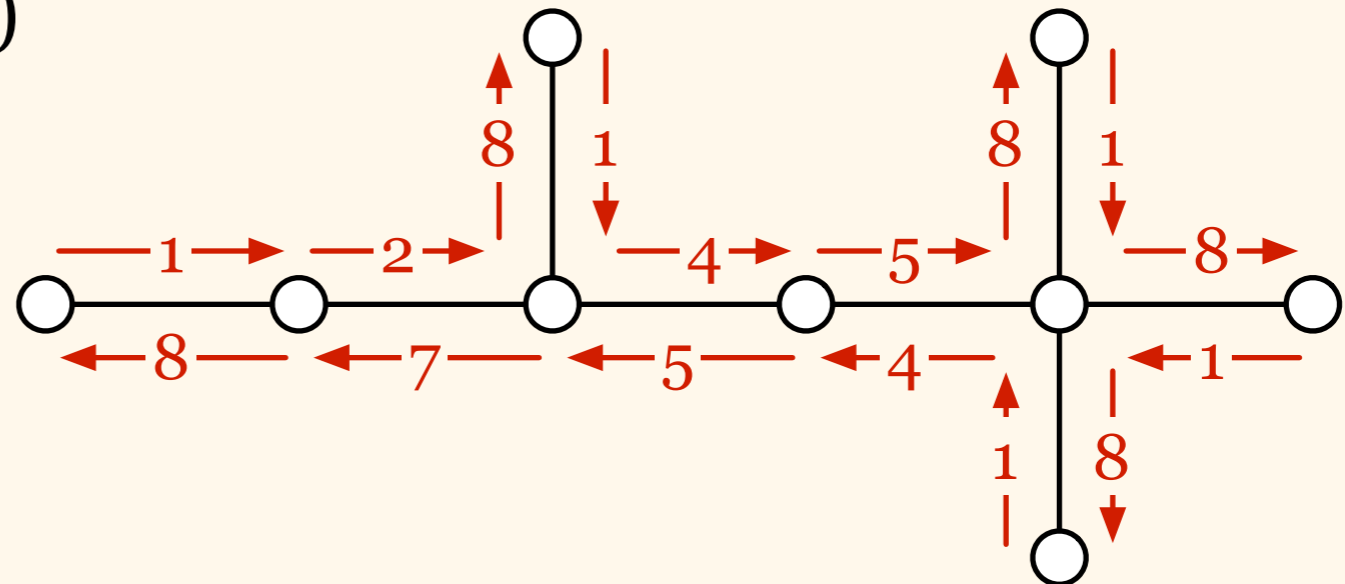
round 2

round 1



# Counting

- Distributed algorithm that counts the number of nodes in any tree
  - same idea: compute *any* property of the tree!
  - time:  $O(\text{diam}(G))$



# Impossibility

*DDA Course*

*Lecture 3.1*

*27 March 2012*

# Proof Techniques

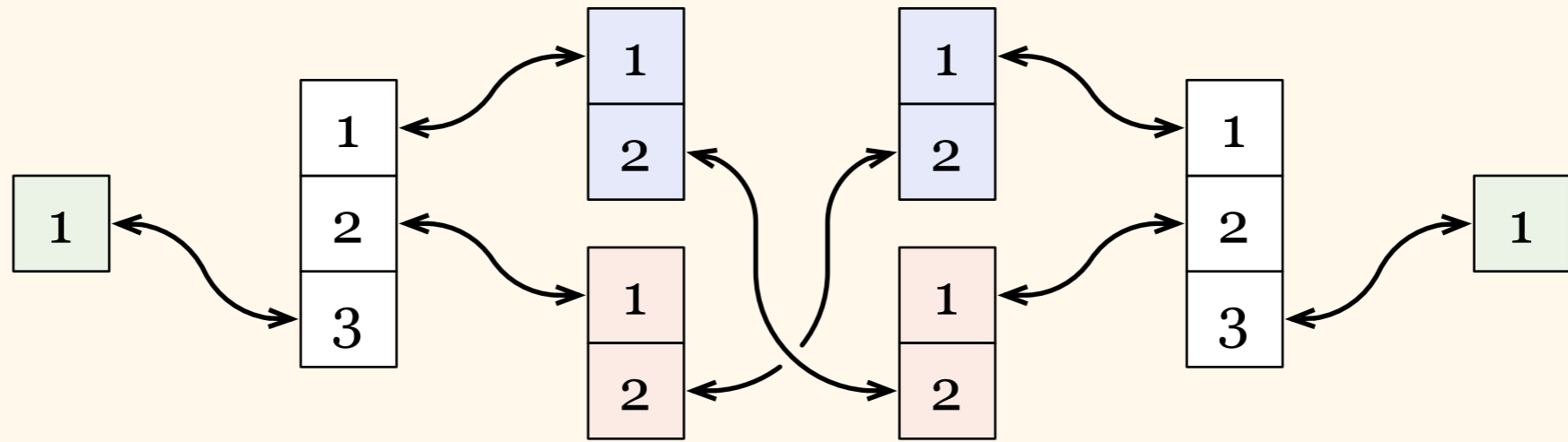
- Covering maps
  - problems that cannot be solved at all
- Isomorphic local neighbourhoods
  - problems that cannot be solved quickly

# Covering Map

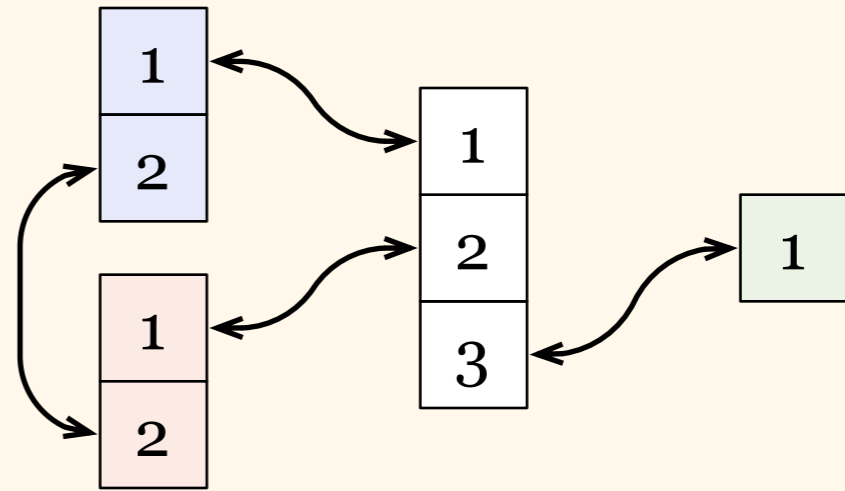
- Networks  $N = (V, P, p)$  and  $N' = (V', P', p')$
- Surjection  $\varphi: V \rightarrow V'$  that *preserves inputs, degrees, connections, and port numbers*



$N$ :



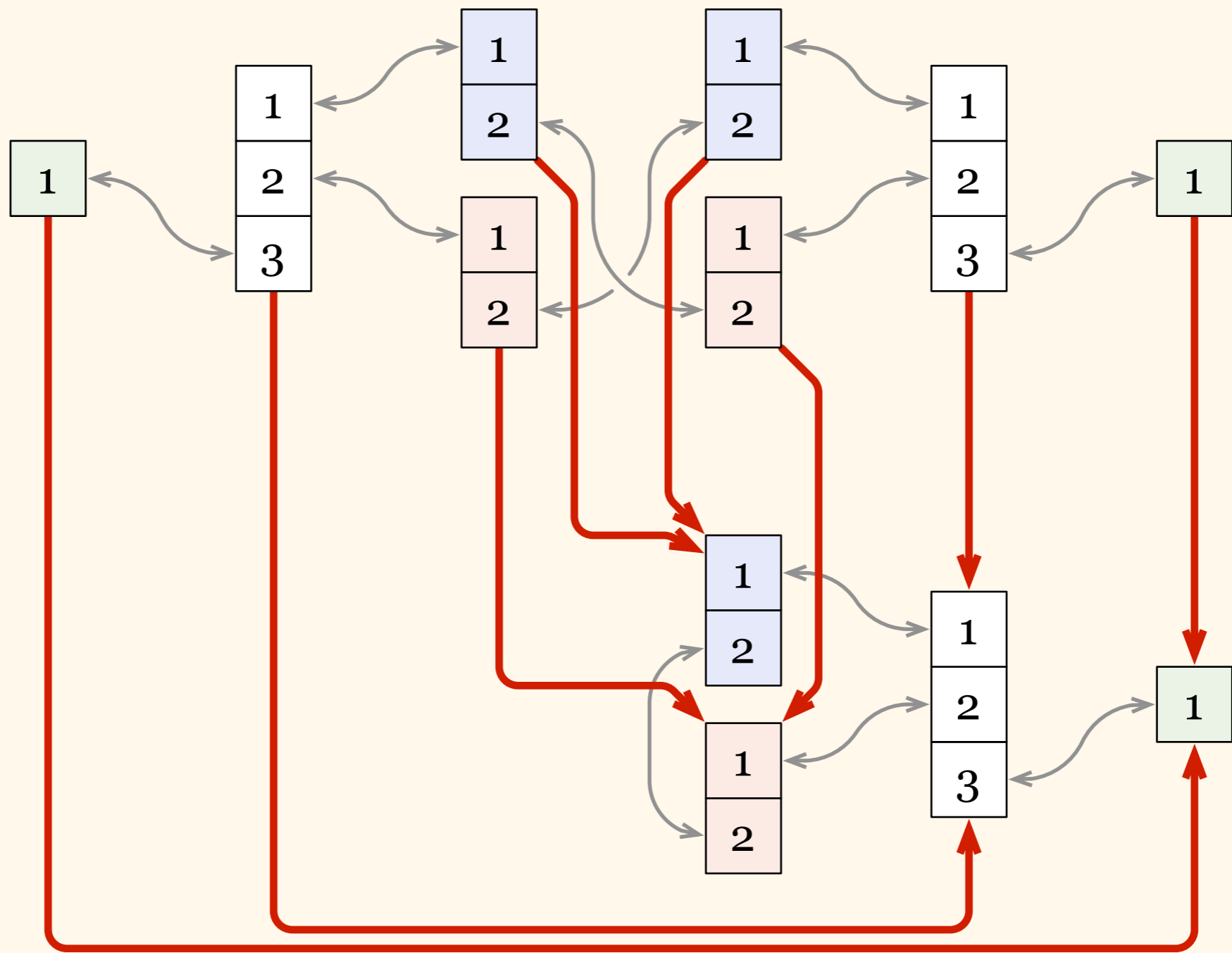
$N'$ :



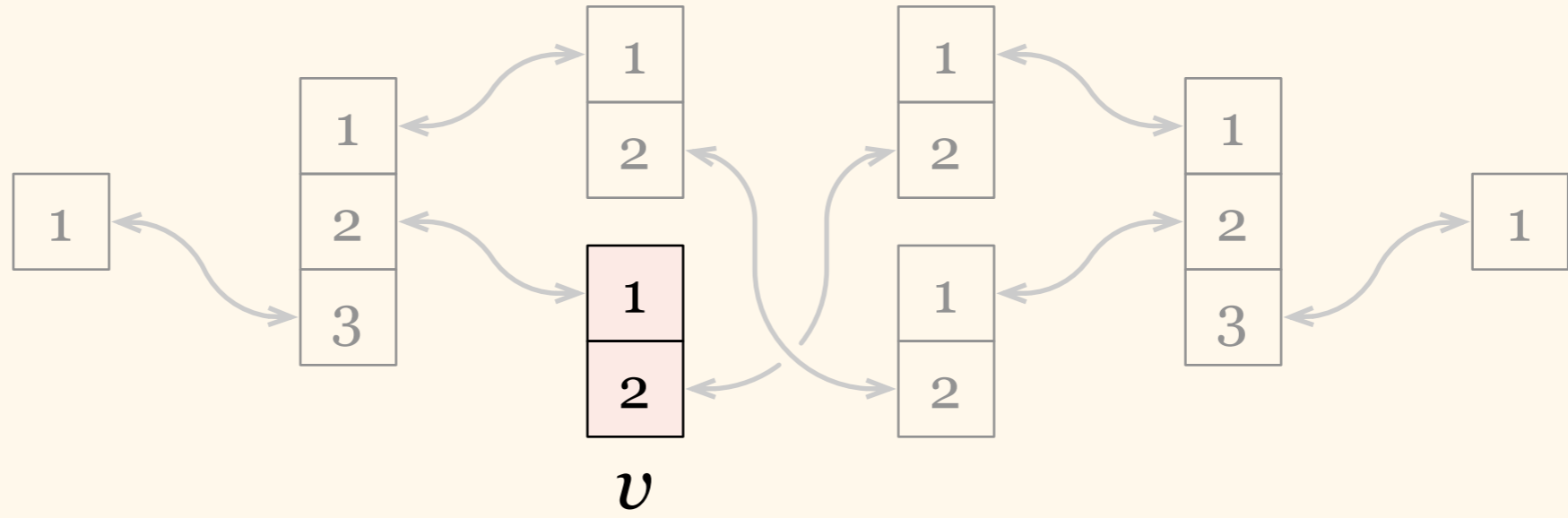
$N:$

$\varphi$

$N':$

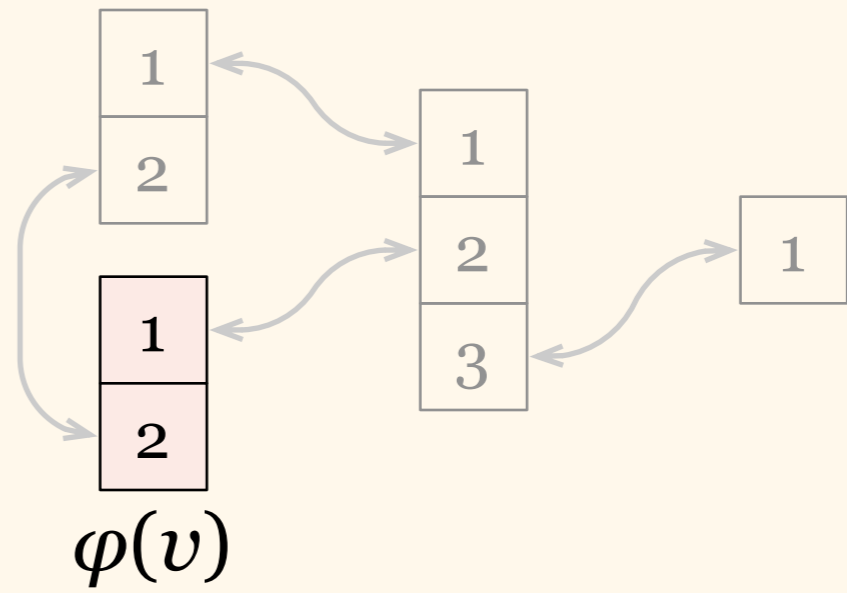


$N:$



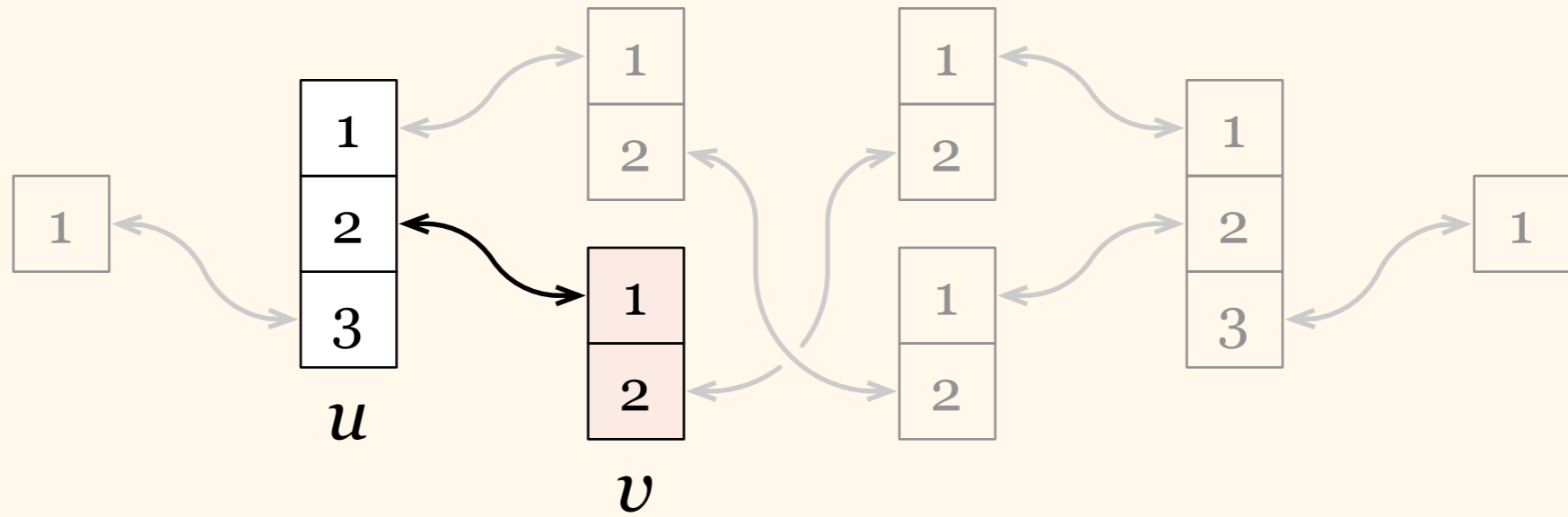
$\varphi$

$N':$



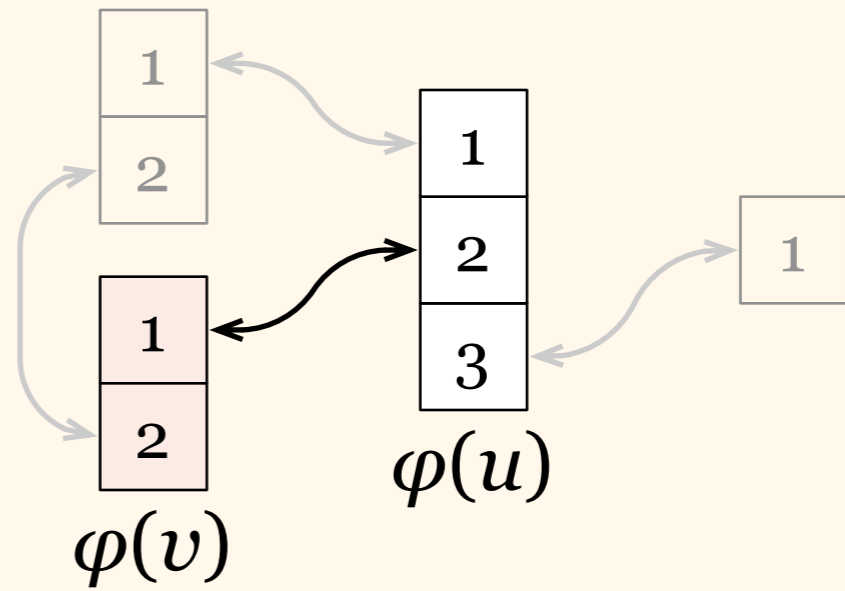
Degrees agree

$N:$

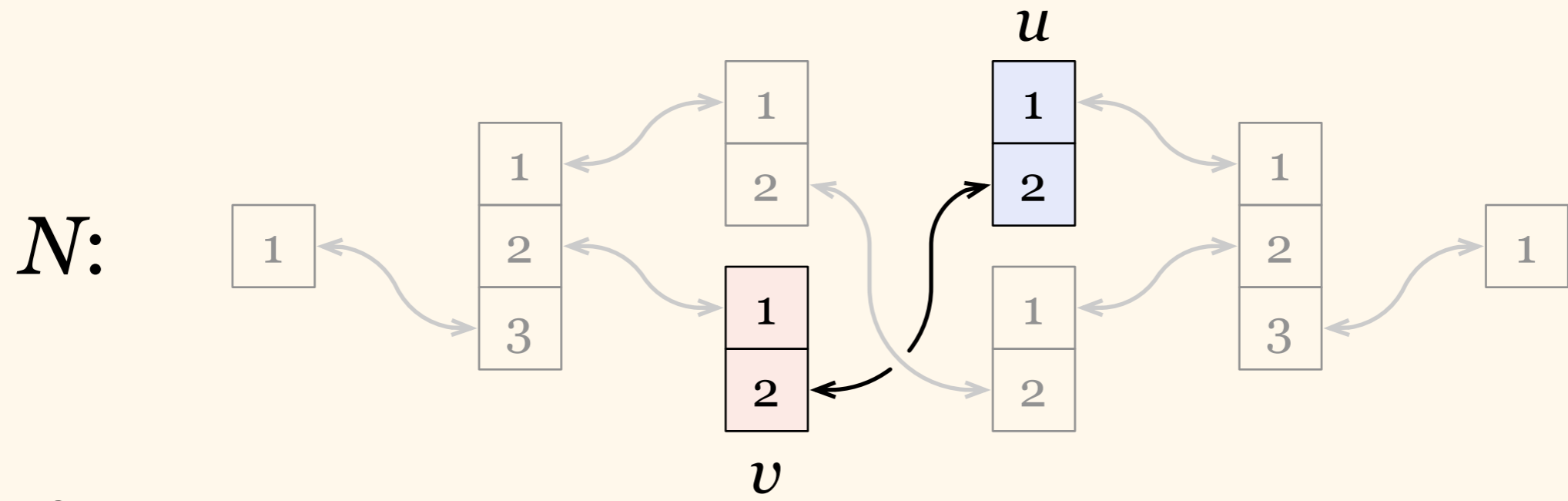


$\varphi$

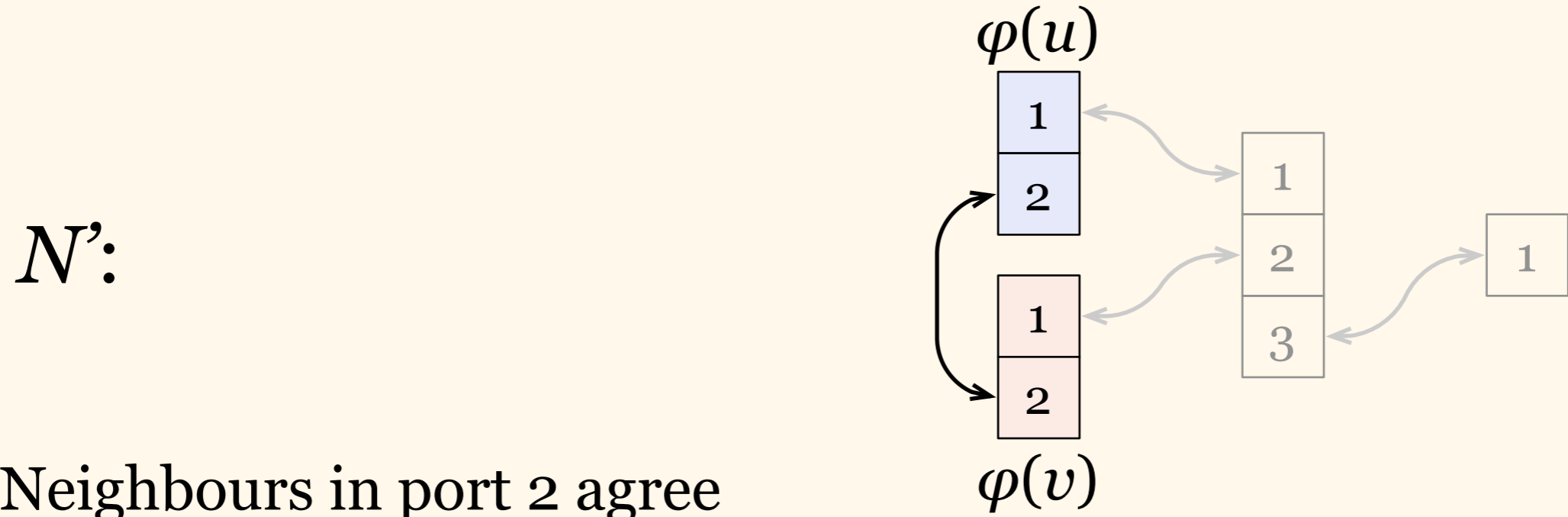
$N':$



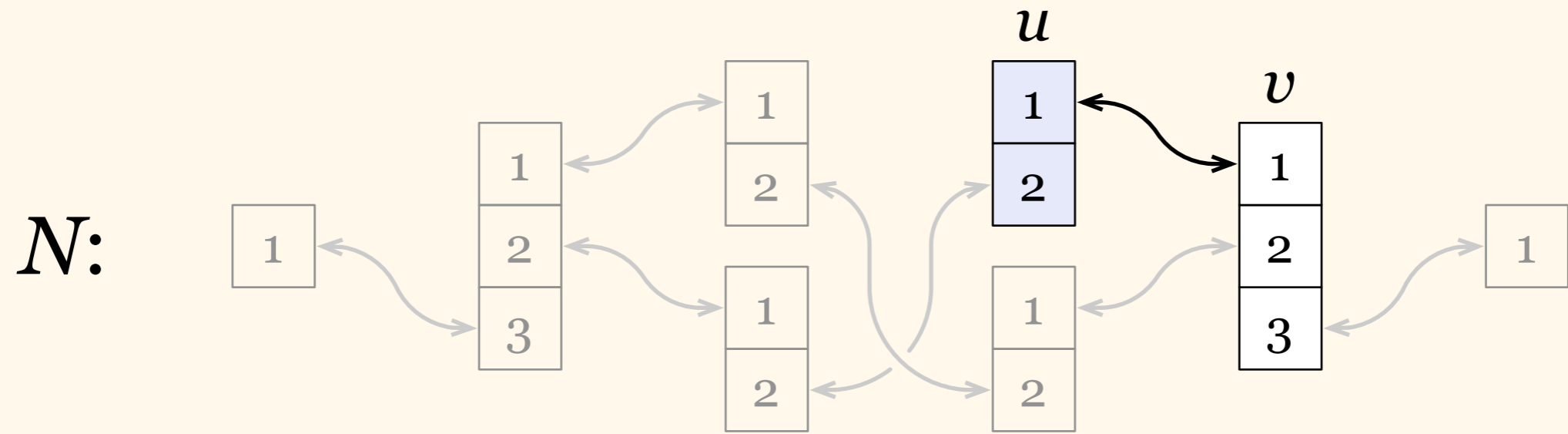
Neighbours in port 1 agree



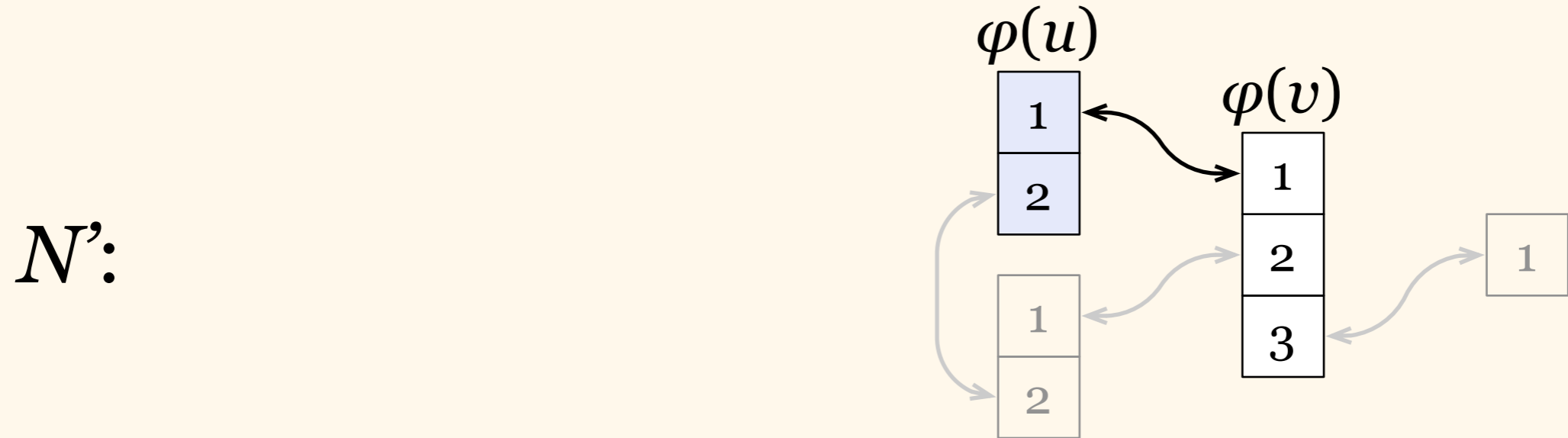
$\varphi$



Neighbours in port 2 agree

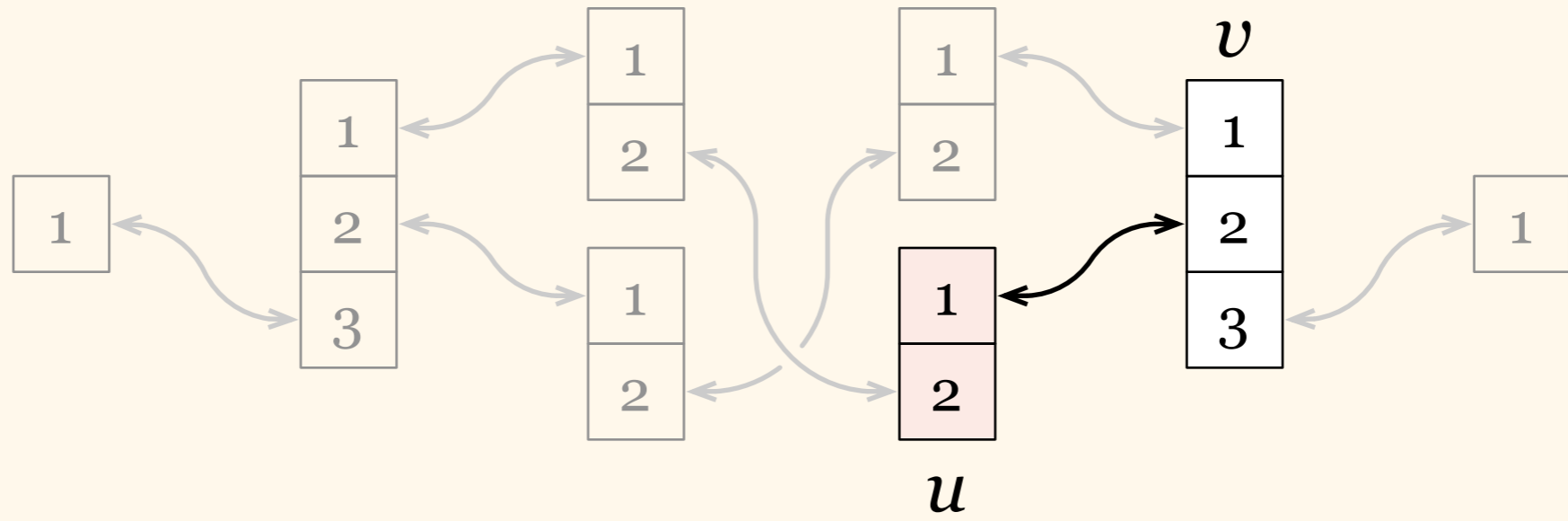


$\varphi$



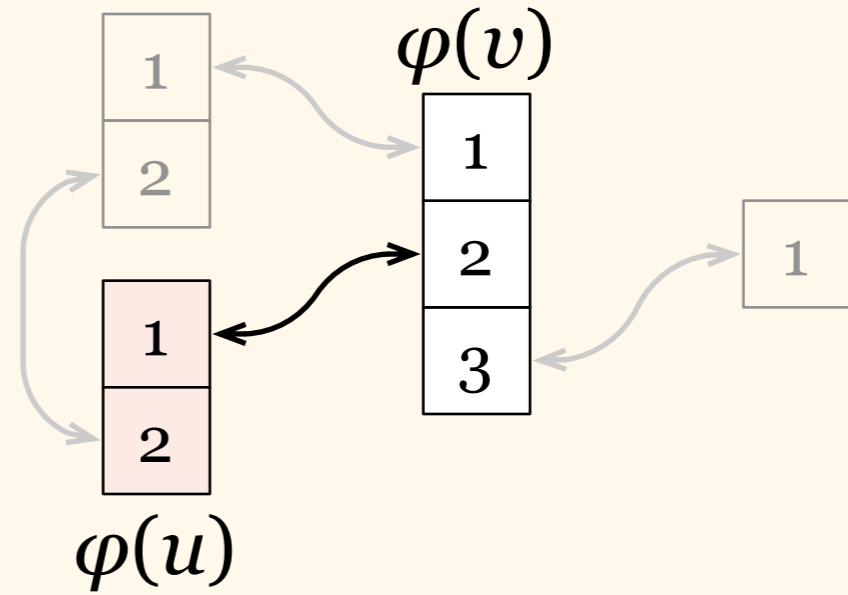
Holds for any pair of nodes

$N:$

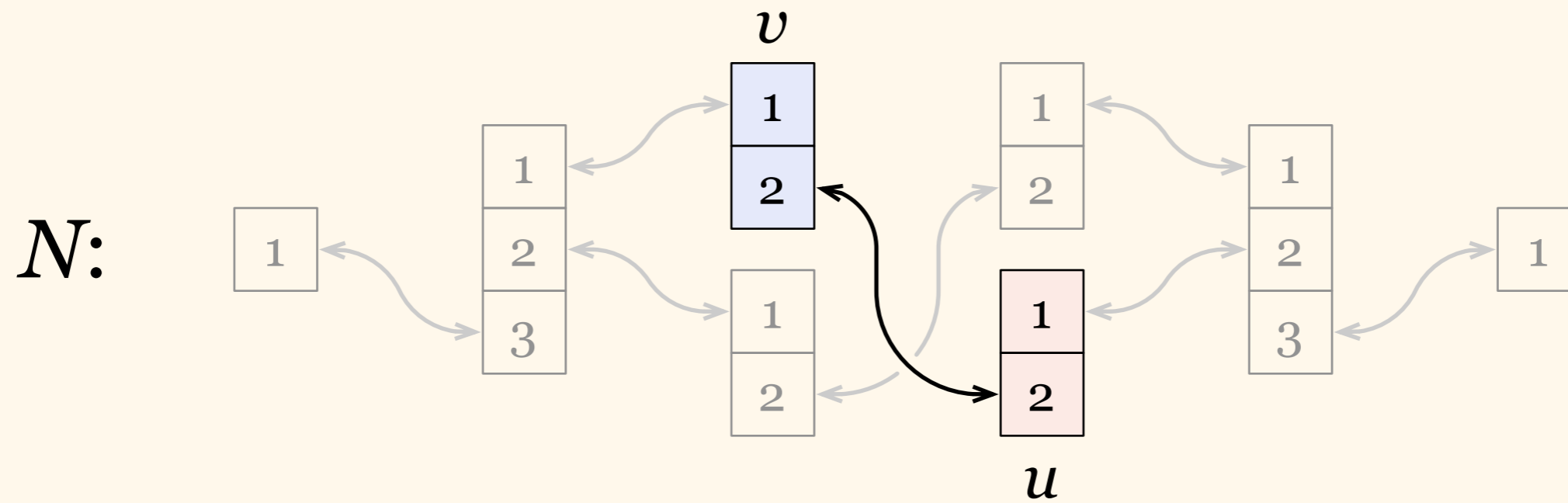


$\varphi$

$N':$

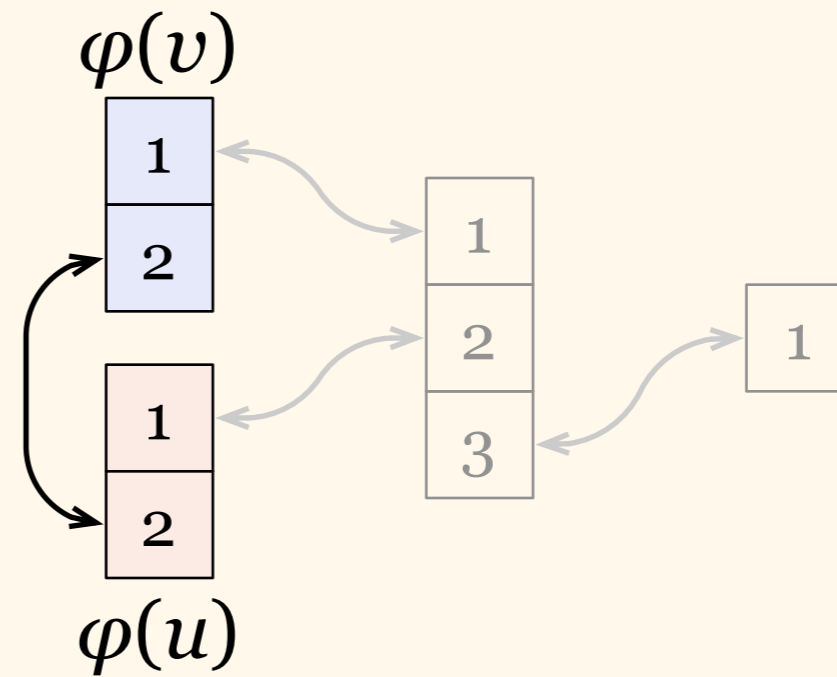


Holds for any pair of nodes



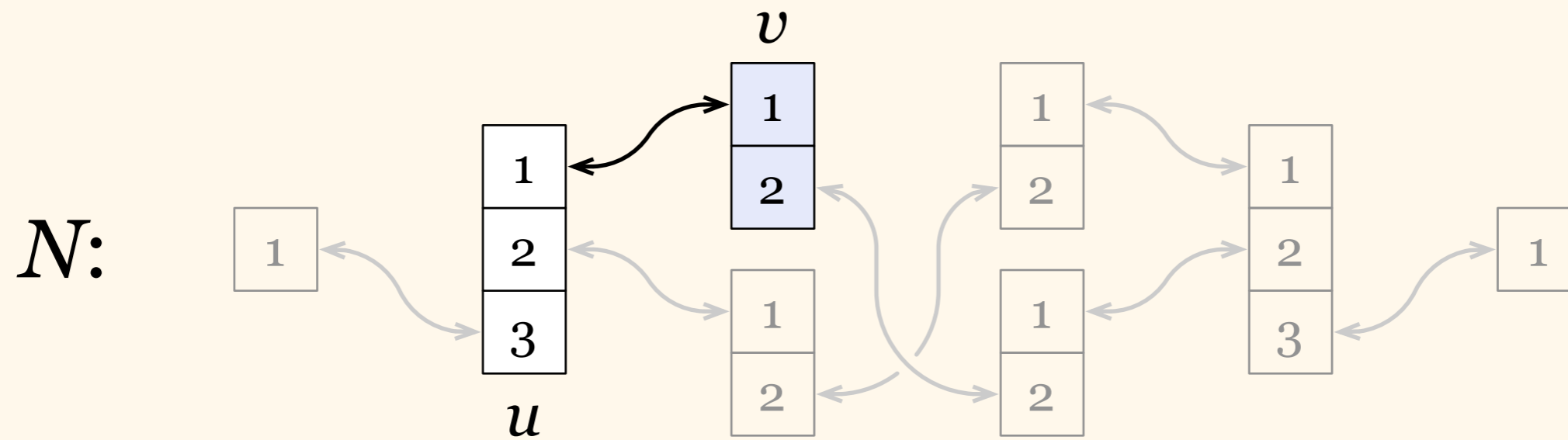
$\varphi$

$N':$

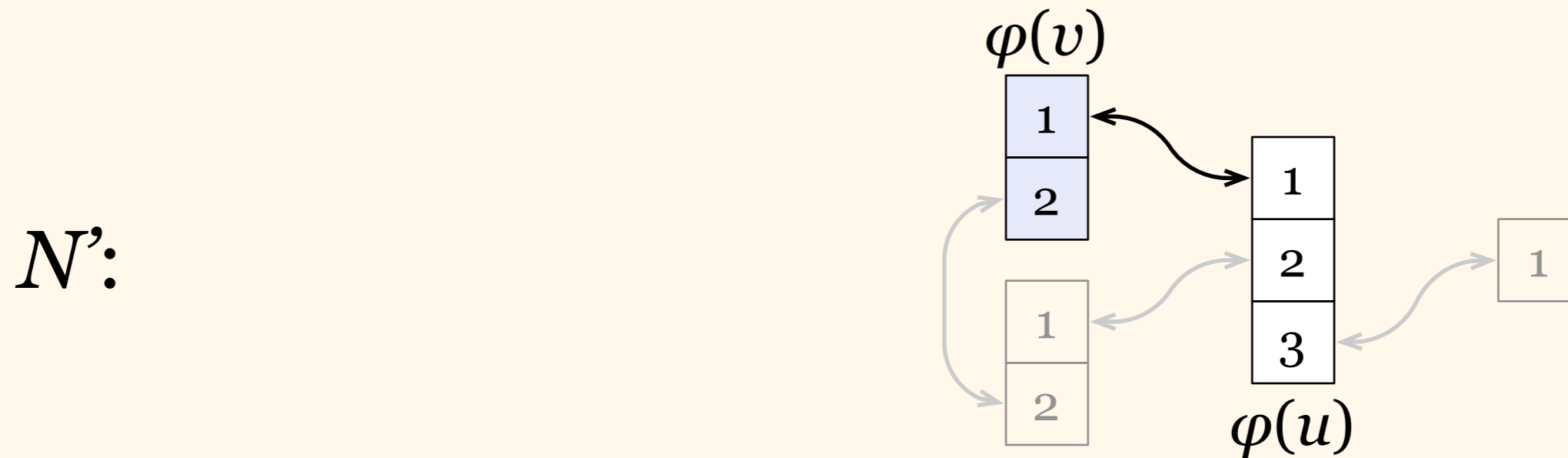


Holds for any pair of nodes



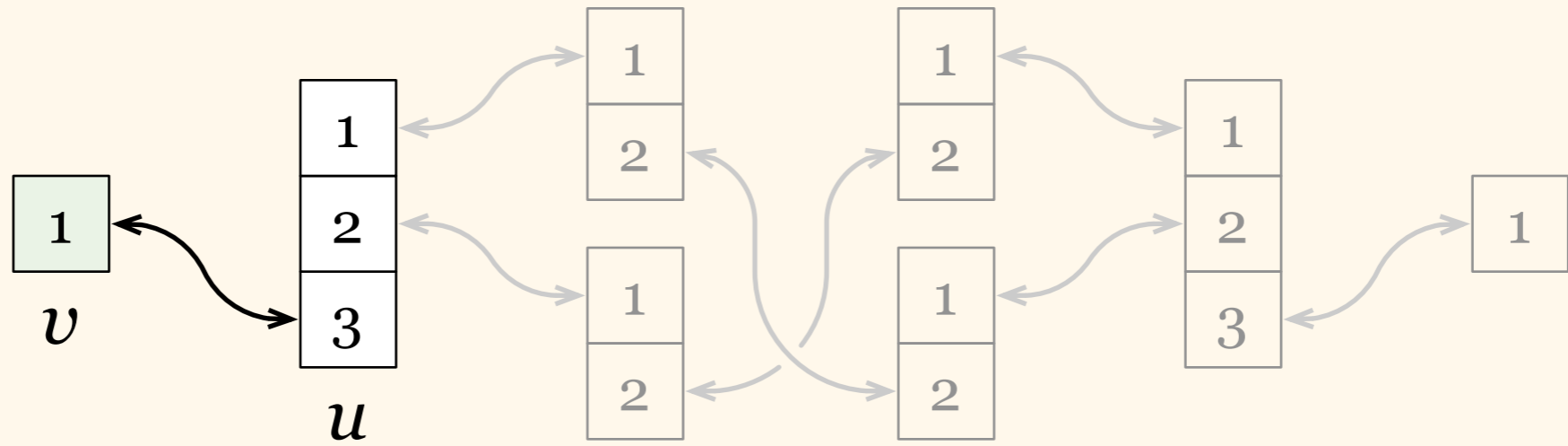


$\varphi$



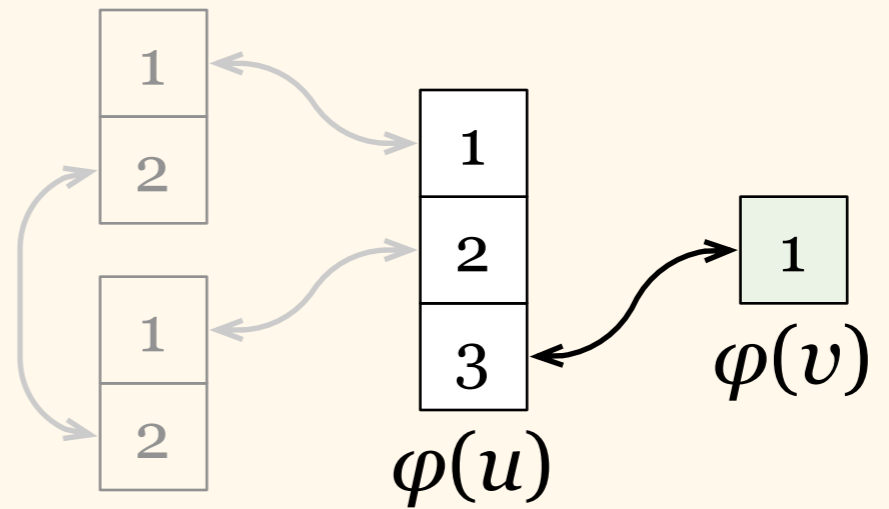
Holds for any pair of nodes

$N:$



$\varphi$

$N':$



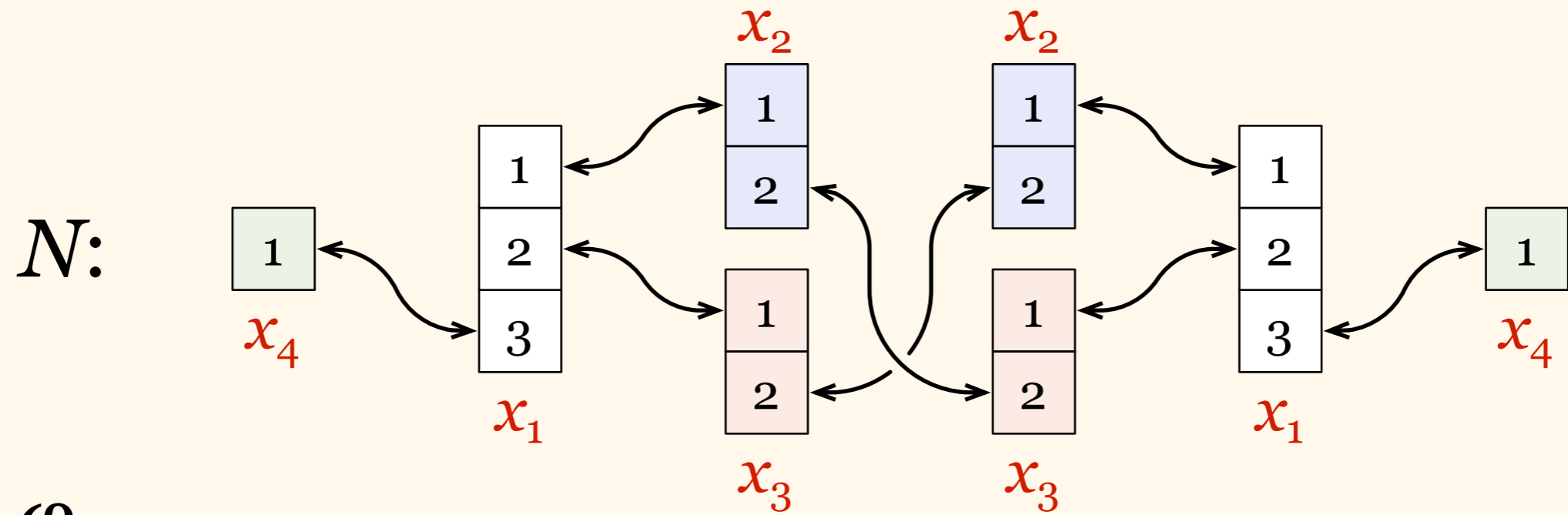
Holds for any pair of nodes

# Covering Map

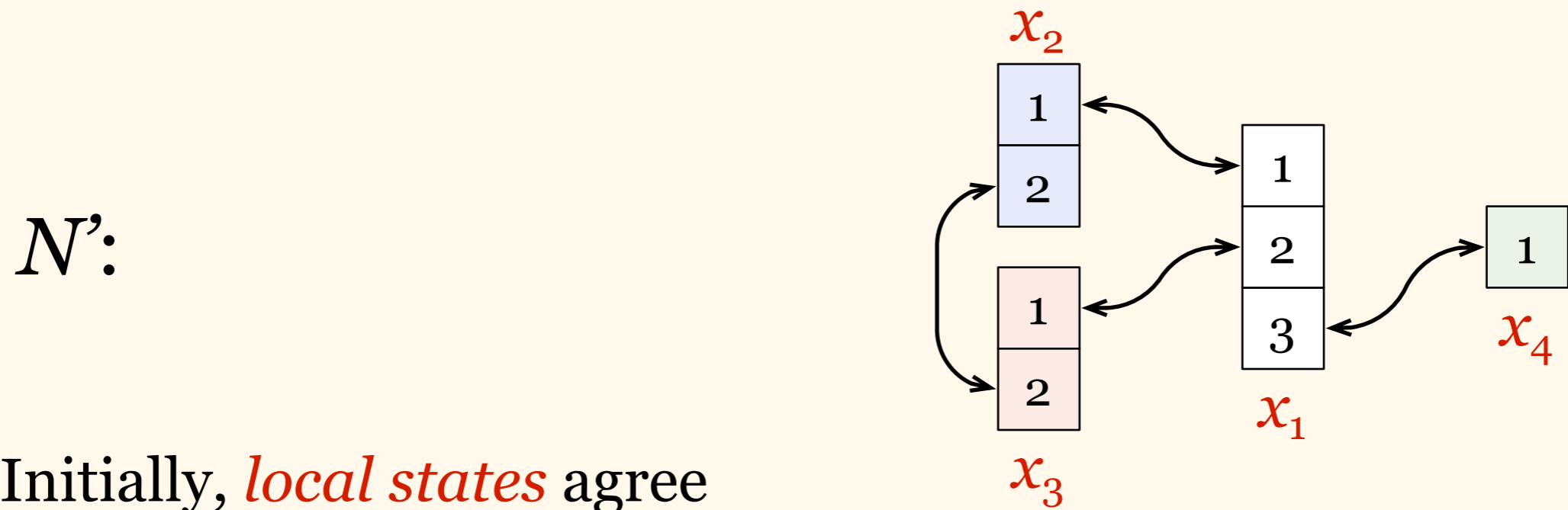
- Networks  $N = (V, P, p)$  and  $N' = (V', P', p')$
- Surjection  $\varphi: V \rightarrow V'$  that preserves inputs, degrees, connections, and port numbers
- **Theorem:** If we run an algorithm  $A$  in  $N$  and  $N'$ , then nodes  $v$  and  $\varphi(v)$  are *always in the same state*

# Covering Map

- **Theorem:** If we run an algorithm  $A$  in  $N$  and  $N'$ , then nodes  $v$  and  $\varphi(v)$  are *always in the same state*
- **Proof:** By induction
  - before round  $i$ : map  $\varphi$  preserves local states
  - during round  $i$ : map  $\varphi$  preserves messages
  - after round  $i$ : map  $\varphi$  preserves local states

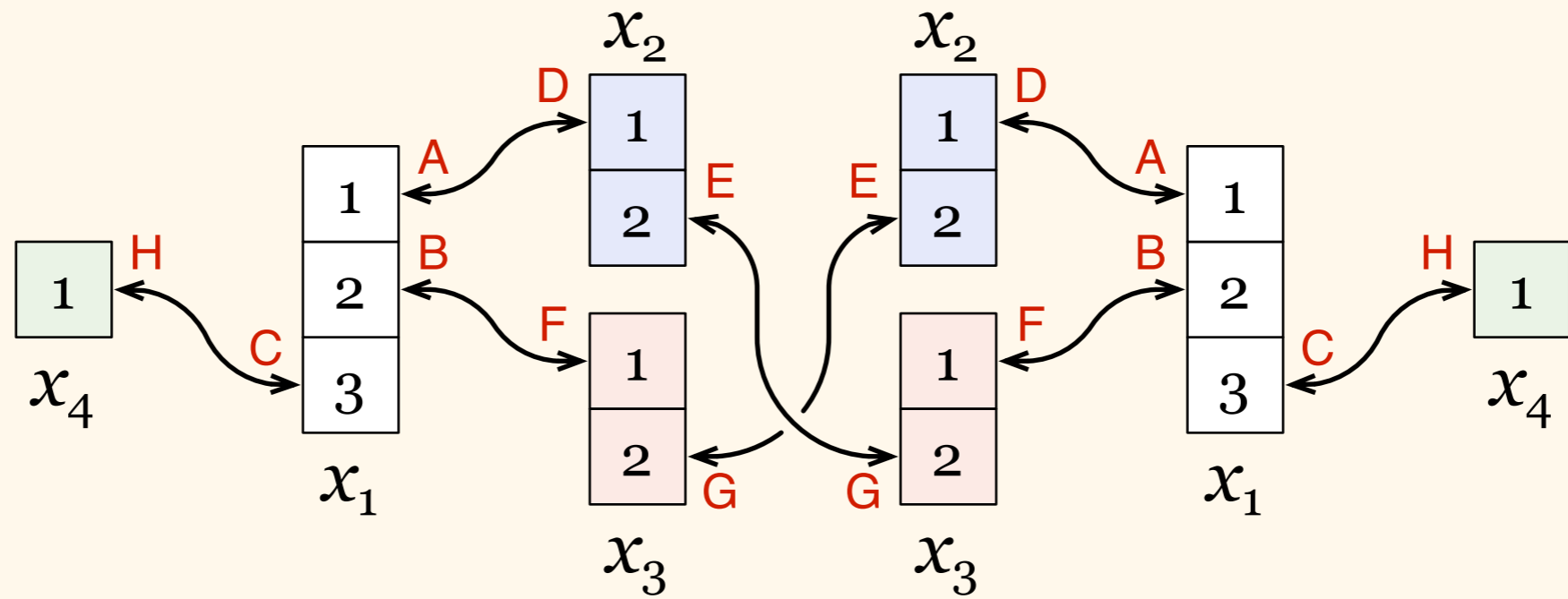


$\varphi$



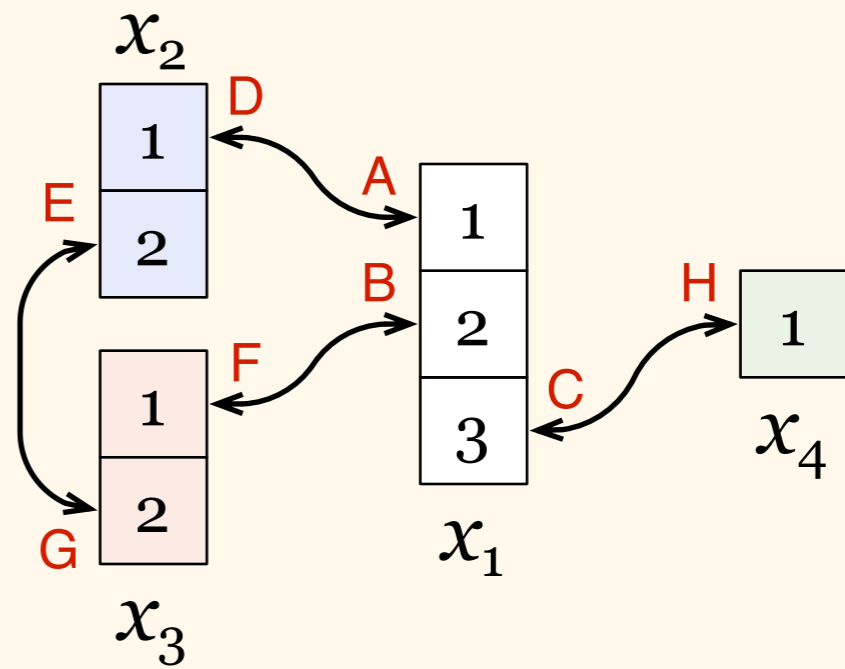
Initially, *local states* agree

$N:$



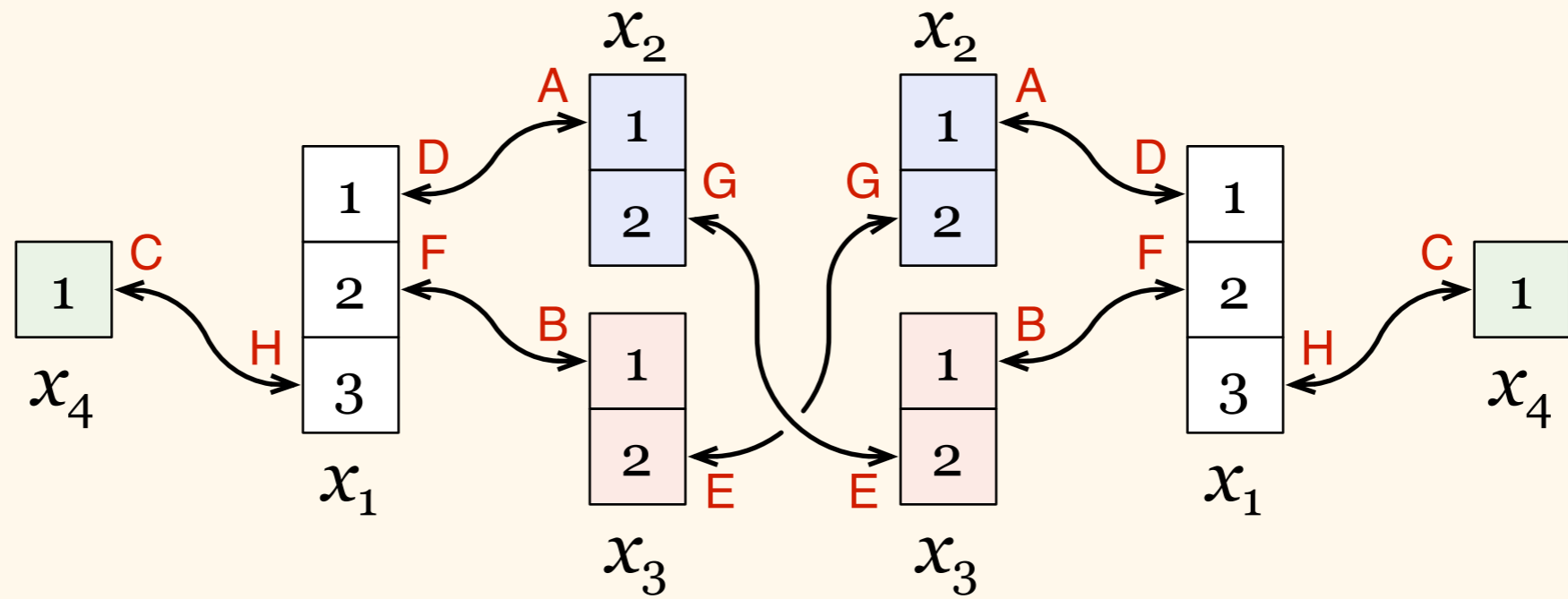
$\varphi$

$N':$



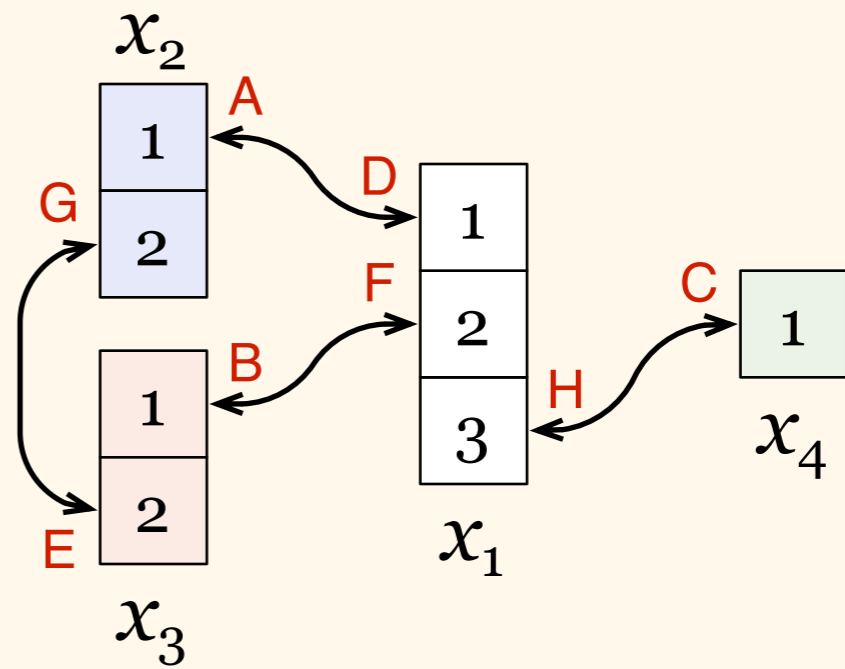
Thus *outgoing messages* agree

$N:$

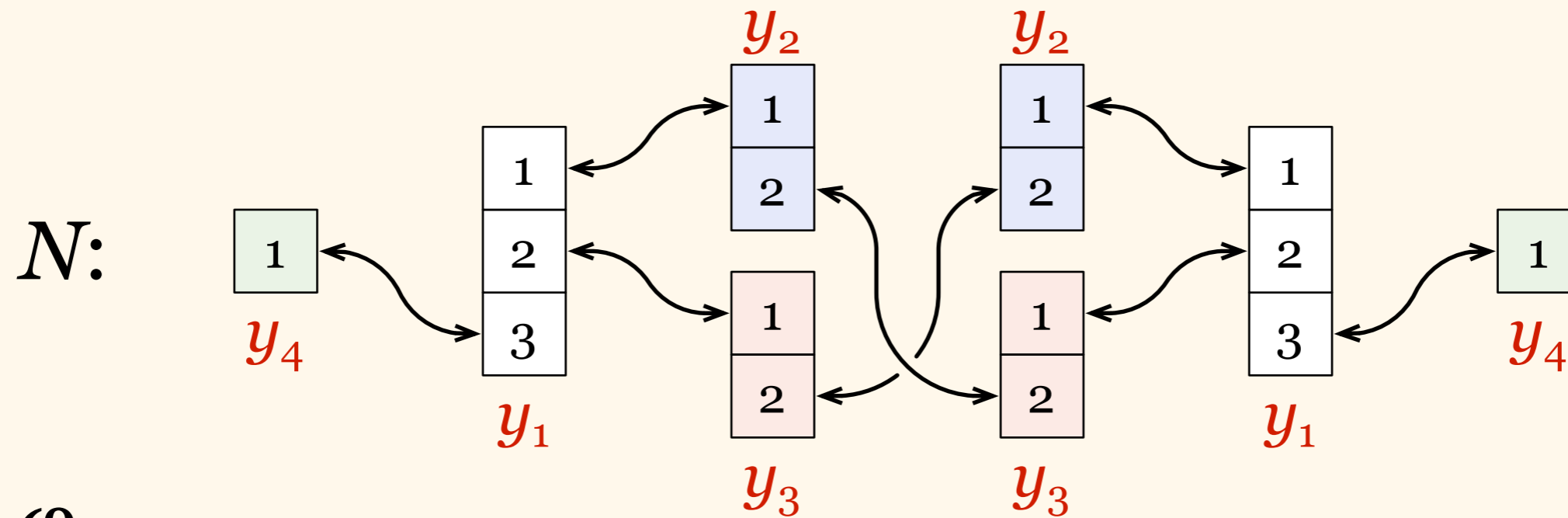


$\varphi$

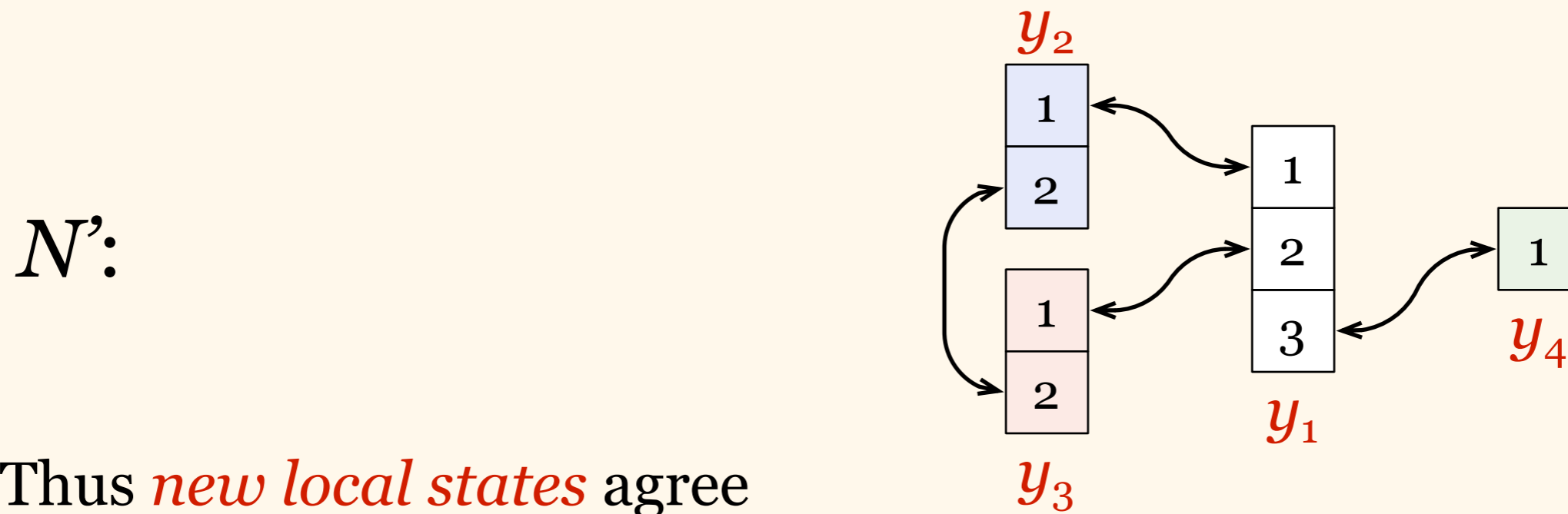
$N':$



Thus *incoming messages* agree

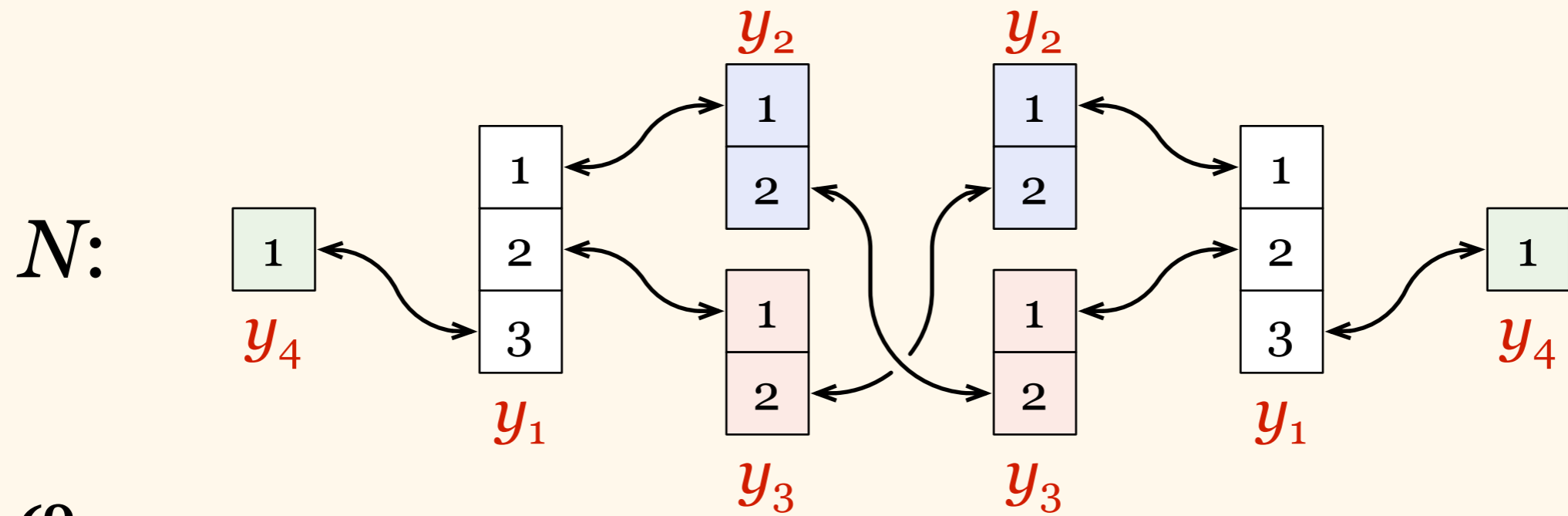


$\varphi$

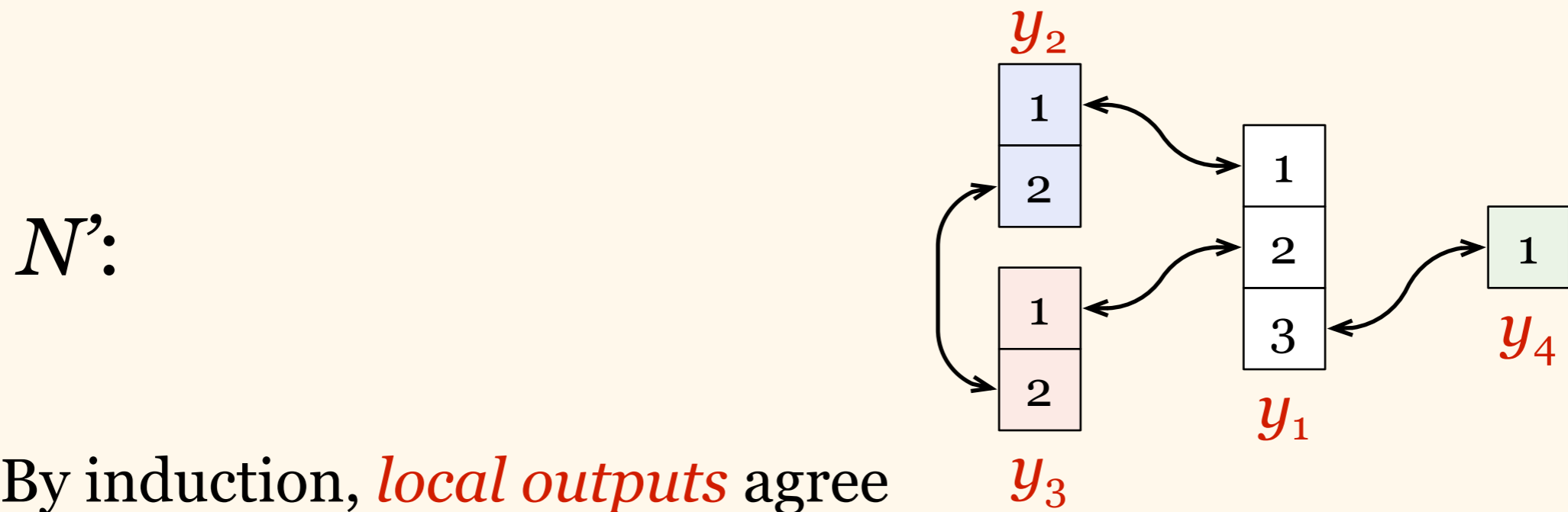


Thus *new local states* agree





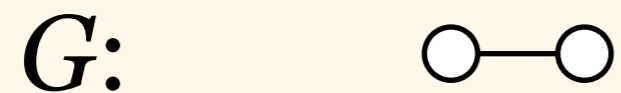
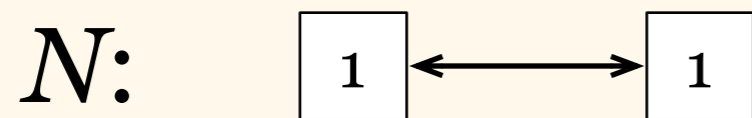
$\varphi$



By induction, *local outputs* agree

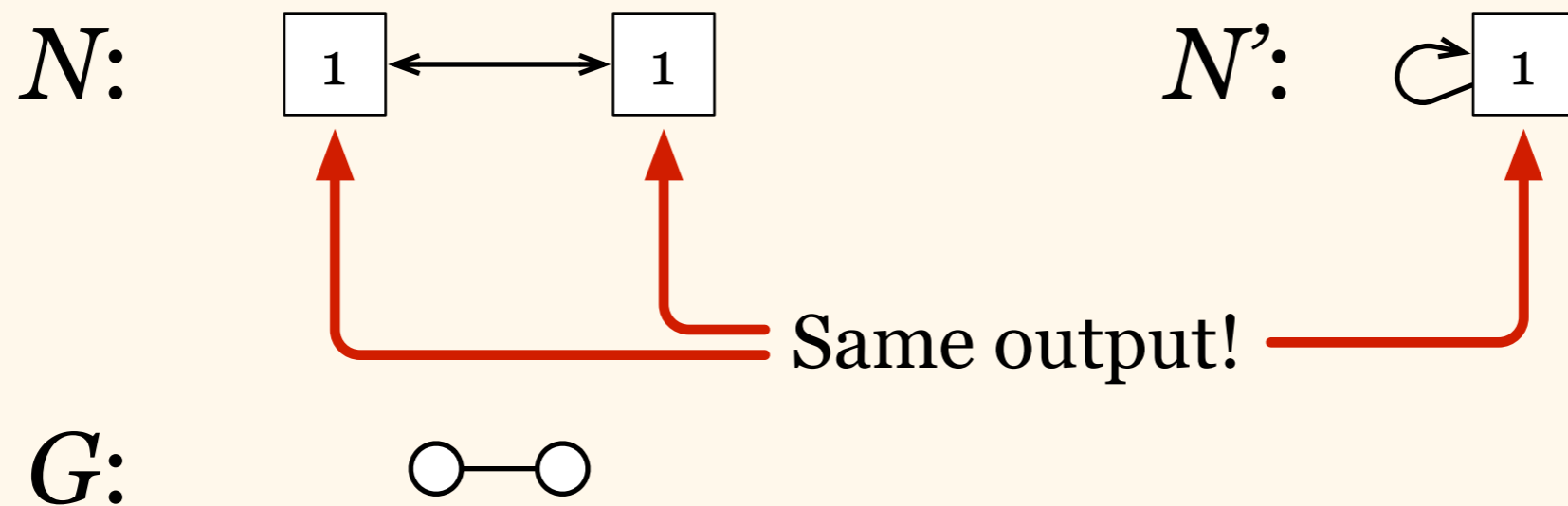
# Covering Map

- Application: symmetry breaking in a path graph



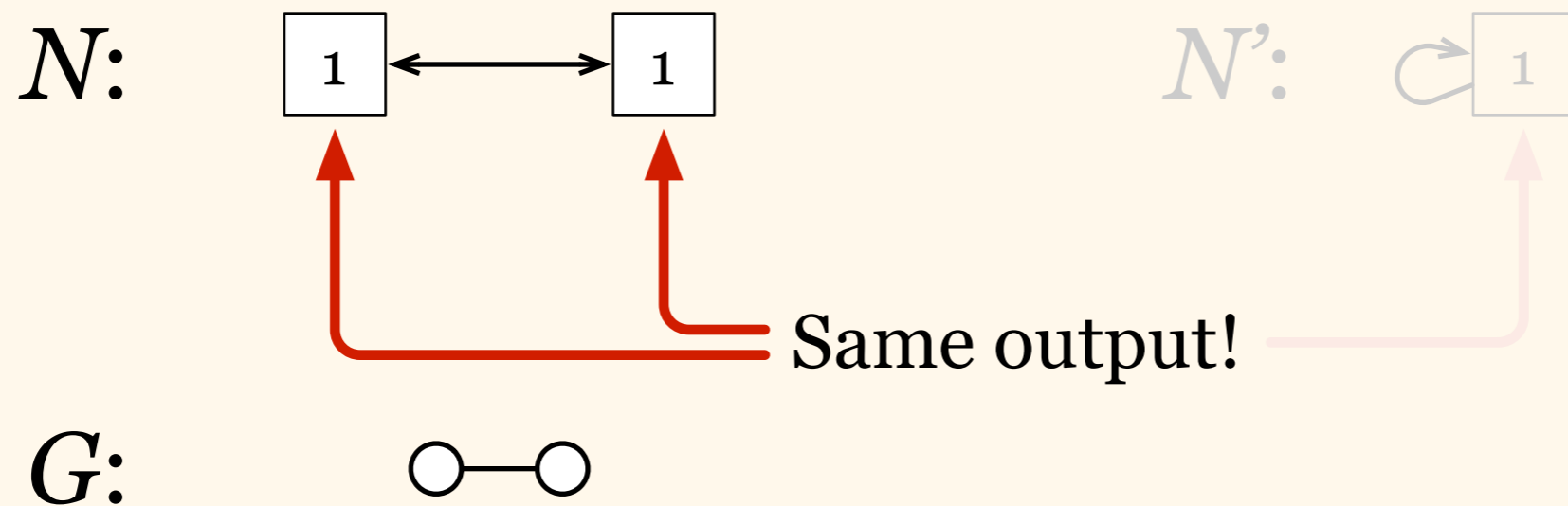
# Covering Map

- Application: symmetry breaking in a path graph



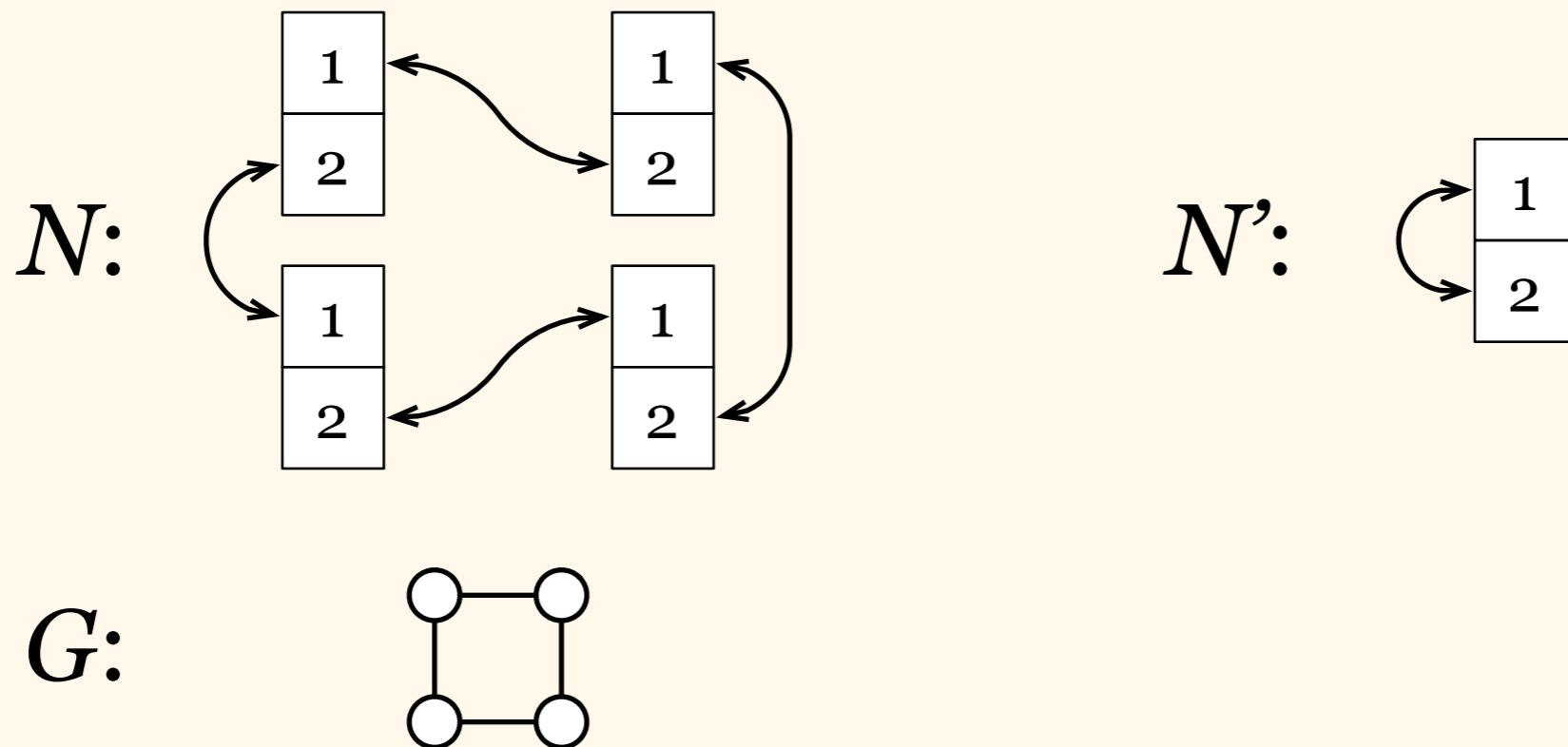
# Covering Map

- Application: symmetry breaking in a path graph



# Covering Map

- Application: symmetry breaking in a cycle

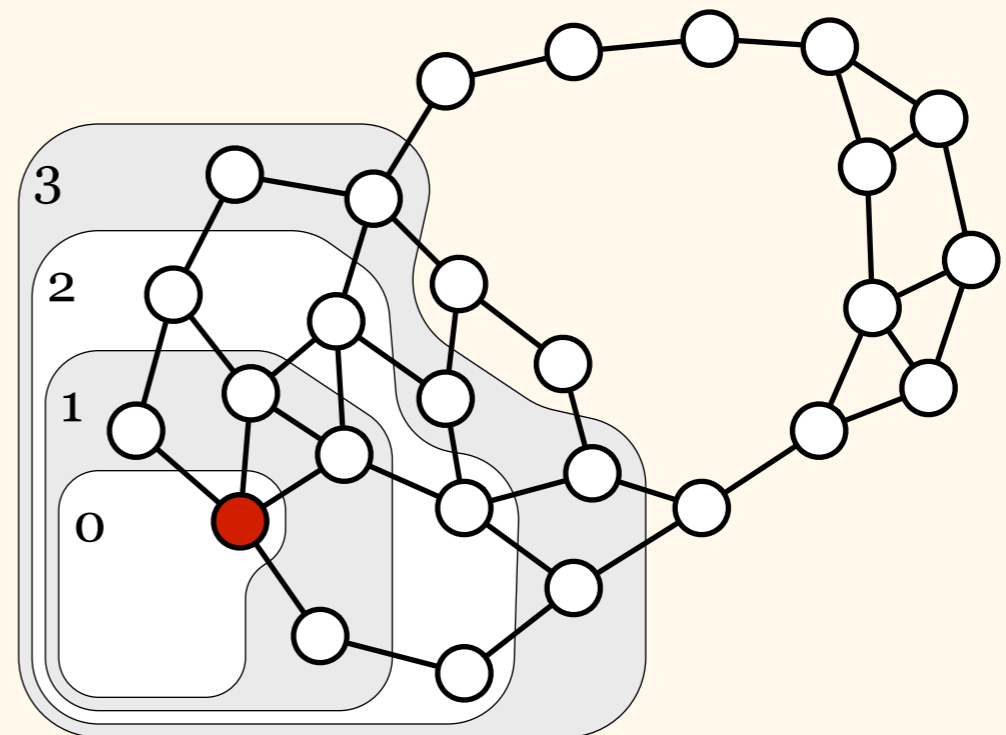
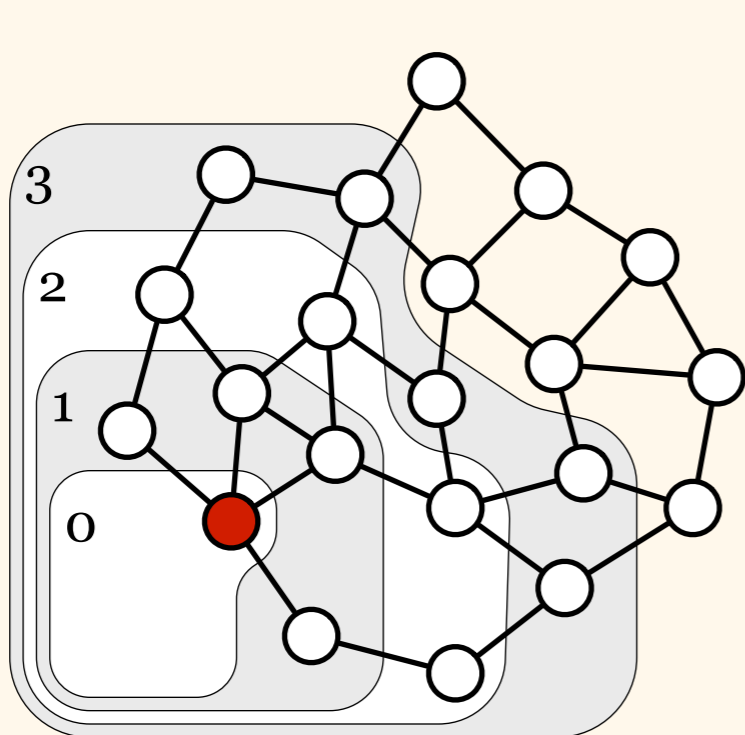


# Local Neighbourhoods

- Local neighbourhoods of nodes  $u$  and  $v$  “look identical” up to distance  $r$ 
  - isomorphism between radius- $r$  neighbourhood of  $u$  and radius- $r$  neighbourhood of  $v$
  - preserves *inputs, degrees, connections, and port numbers*

# Local Neighbourhoods

- Local neighbourhoods of nodes  $u$  and  $v$  “look identical” up to distance  $r$



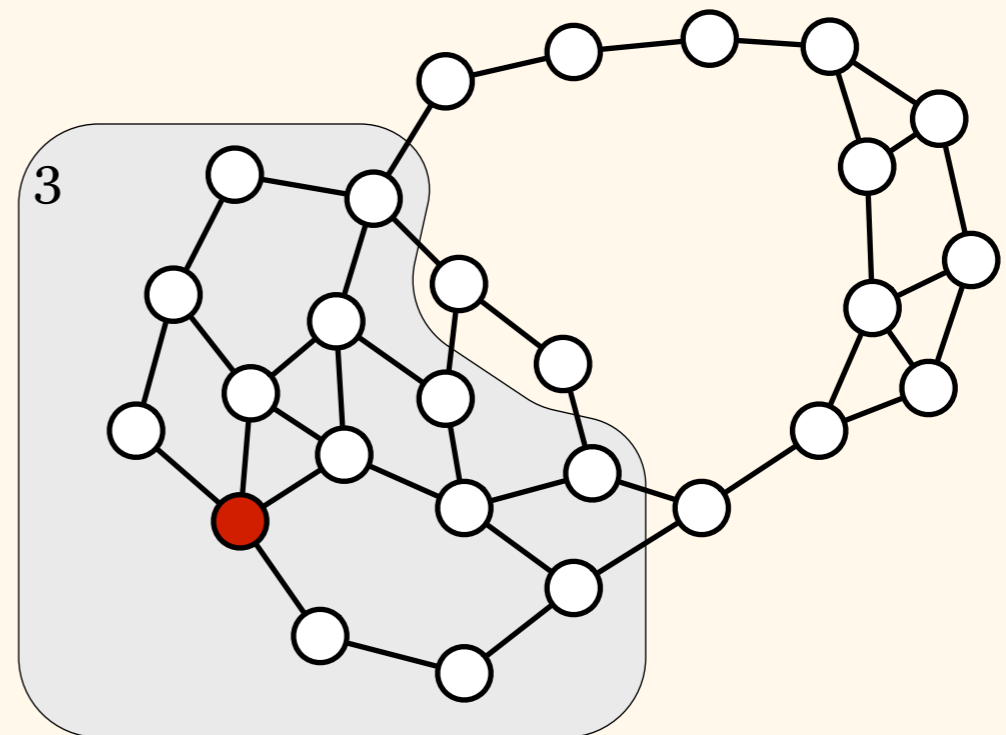
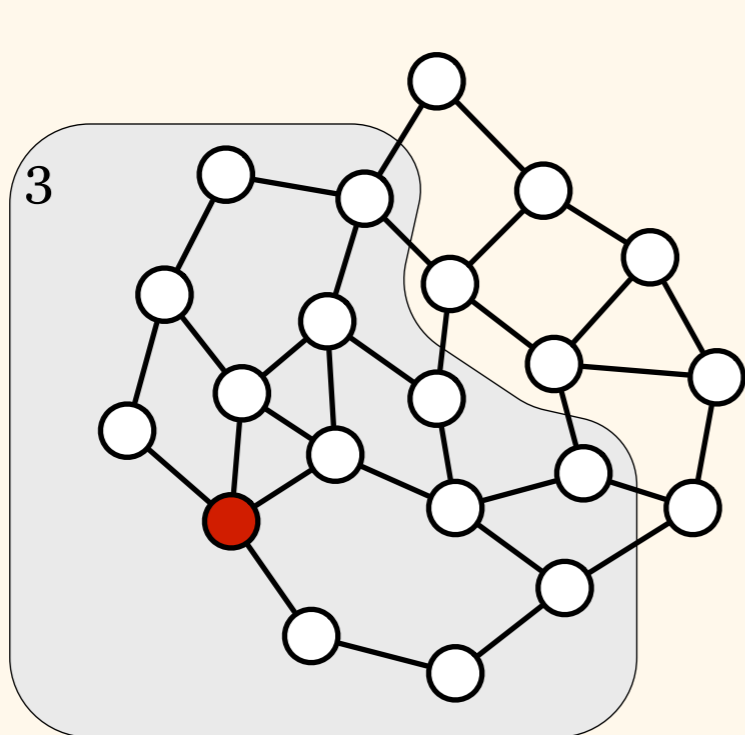
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Local neighbourhoods of nodes  $u$  and  $v$  “look identical” up to distance  $r$
- **Theorem:** In any algorithm, up to time  $r$ , the local states of  $u$  and  $v$  are identical
- *Informal proof:* time  $\approx$  distance
- *Formal proof:* by induction on time



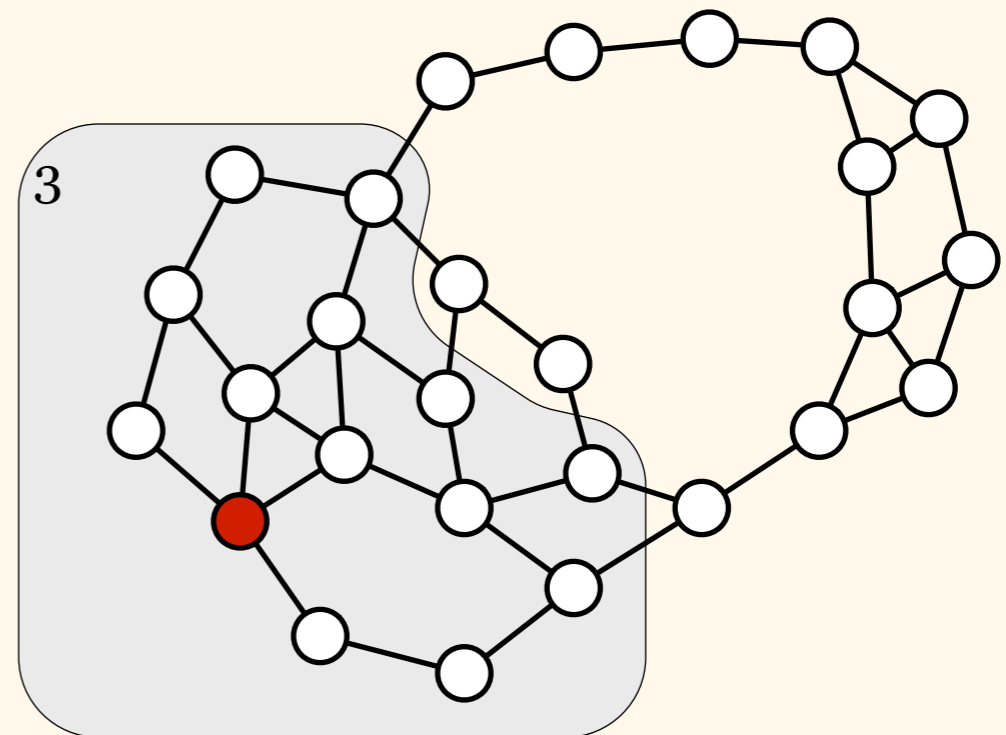
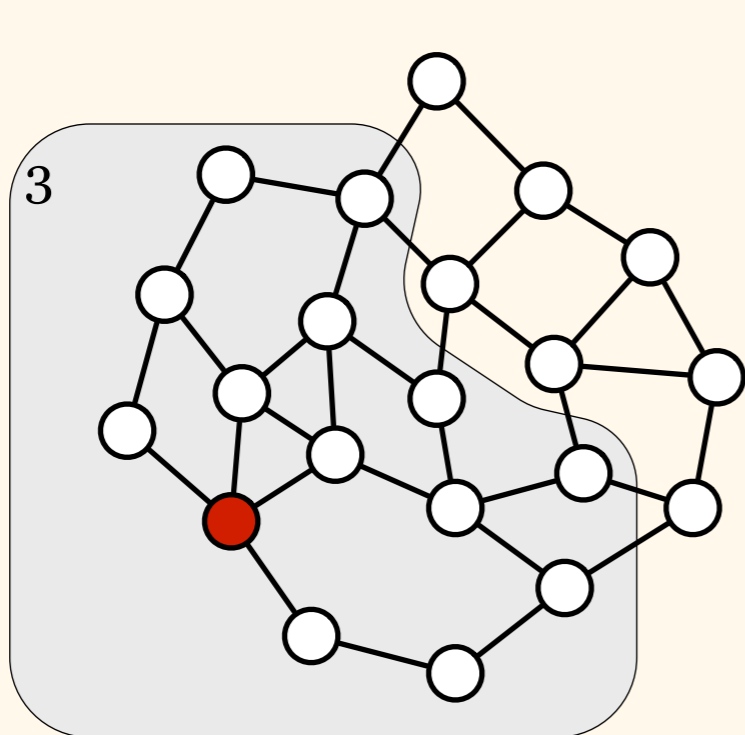
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Time 0: identical *local states* in radius- $r$  neighbourhoods



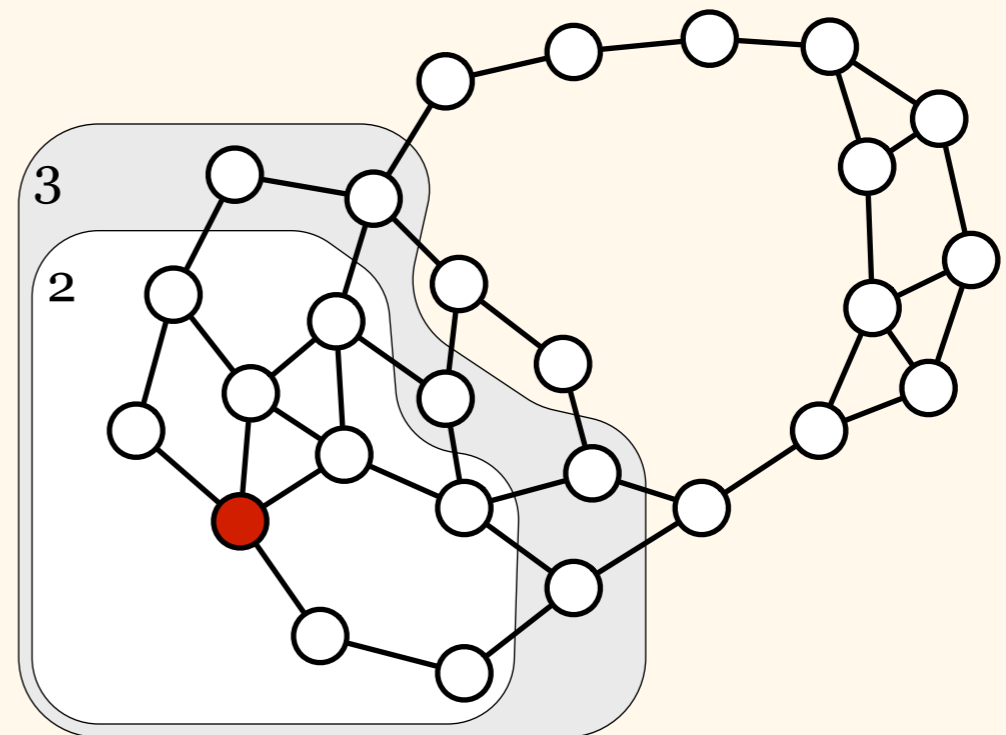
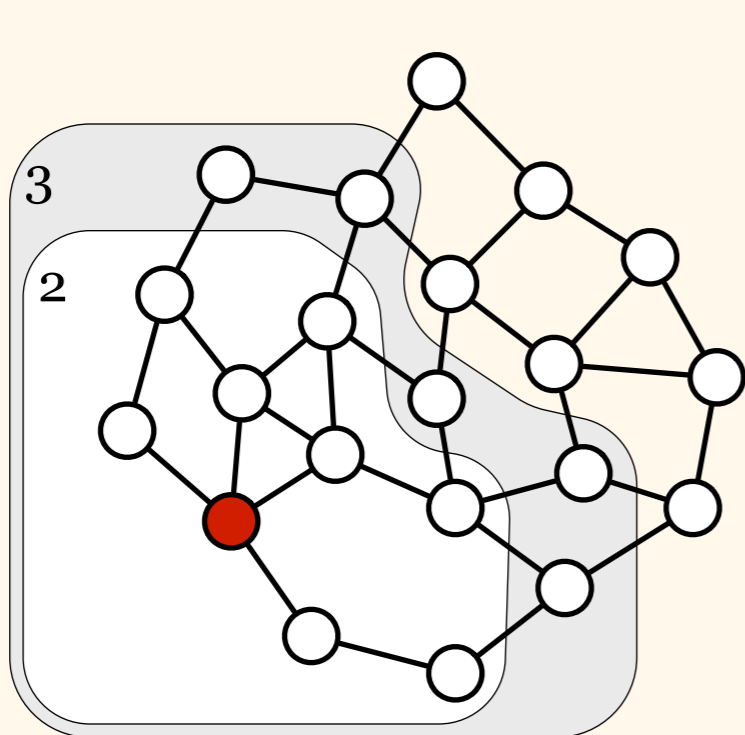
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Time 1: identical *outgoing messages* in radius- $r$  neighbourhoods



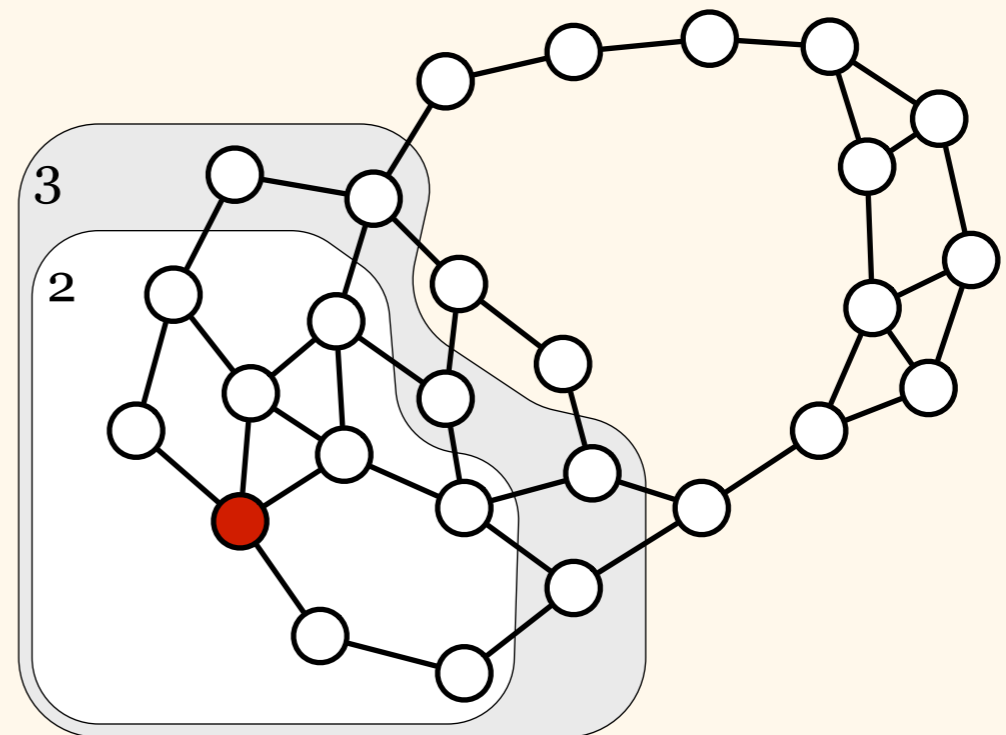
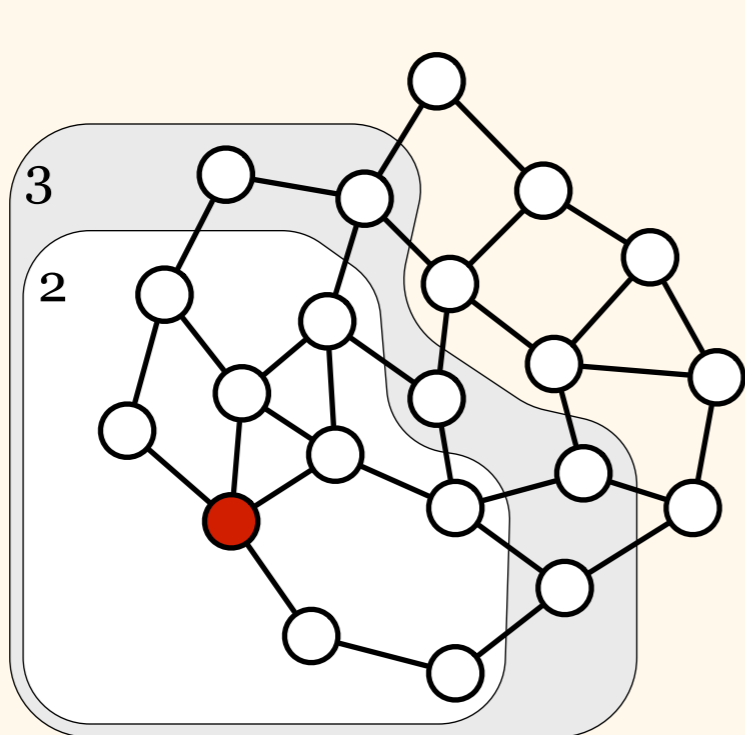
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Time 1: identical *incoming messages* in radius- $(r-1)$  neighbourhoods



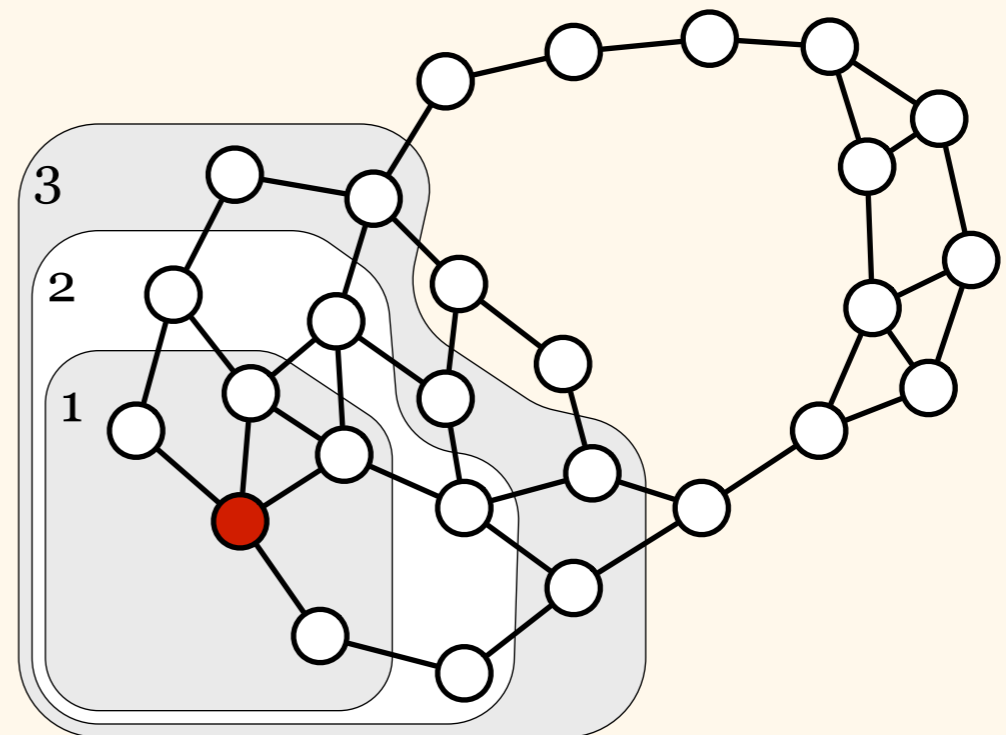
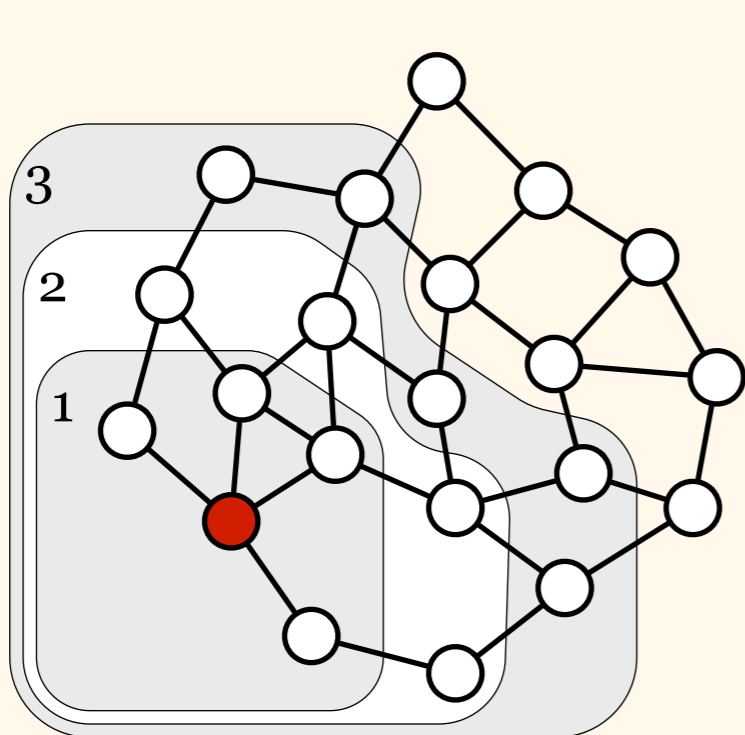
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Time 1: identical *local states* in radius- $(r-1)$  neighbourhoods



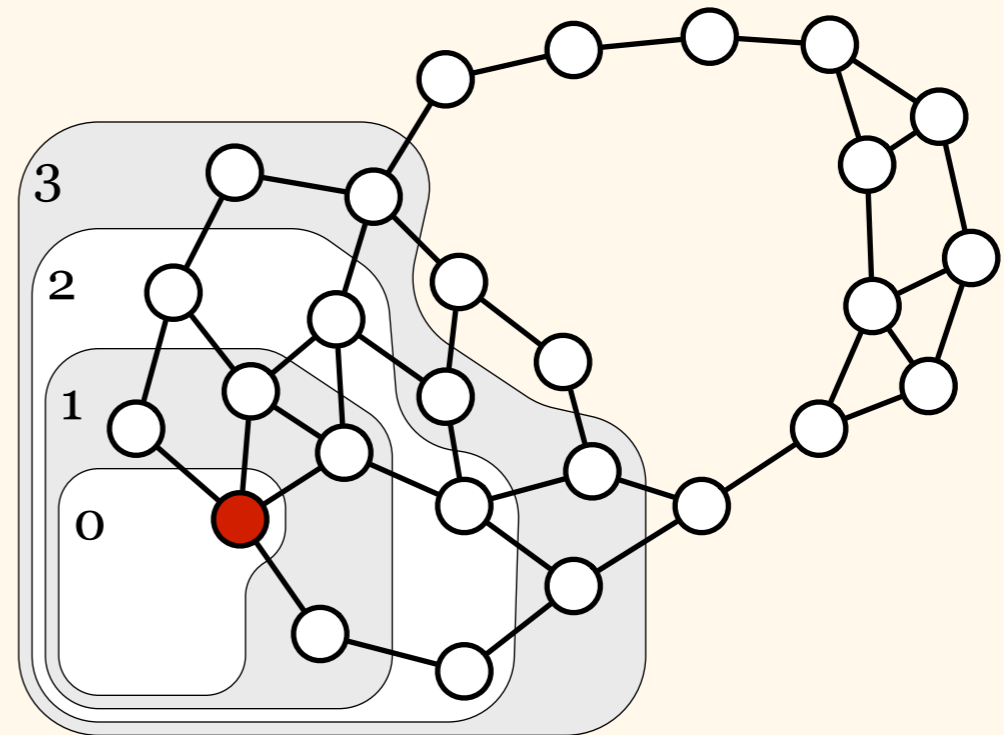
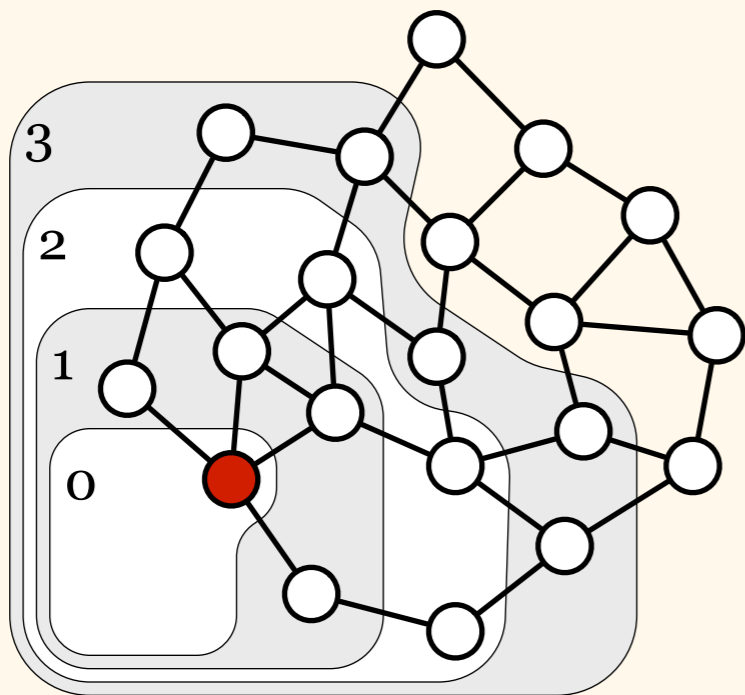
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Time  $t$ : identical *local states* in radius- $(r-t)$  neighbourhoods



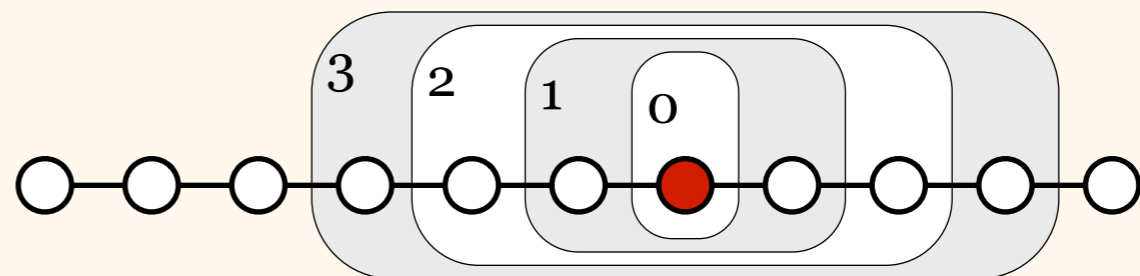
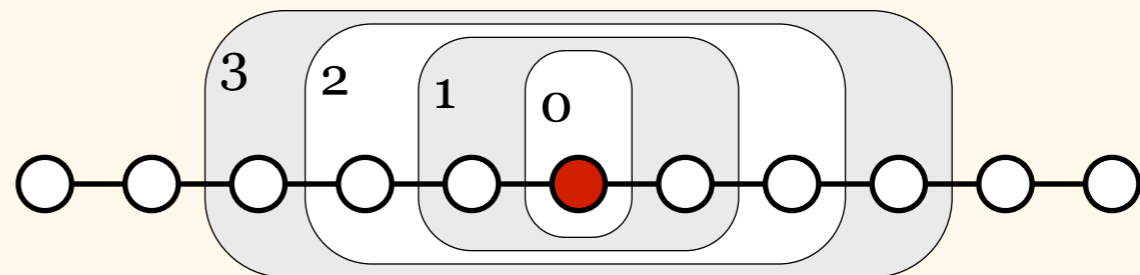
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Time  $r$ : identical *local states* in radius-0 neighbourhoods



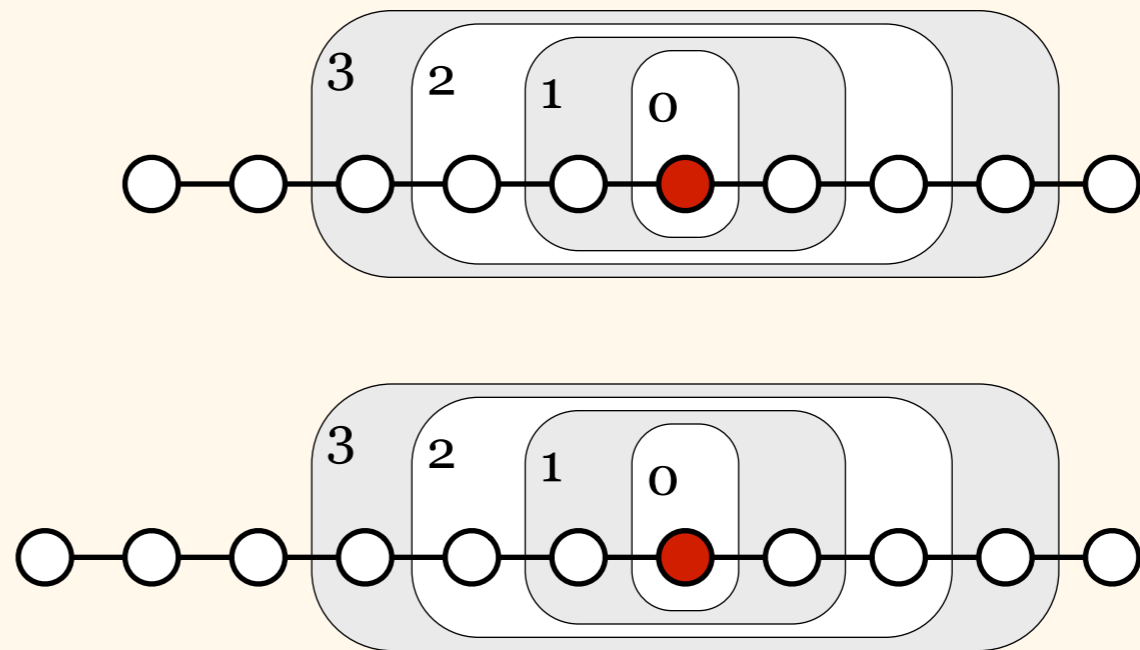
# Local Neighbourhoods

- Application: finding midpoint of a path requires  $\Omega(n)$  rounds



# Local Neighbourhoods

- Application: counting the number of nodes requires  $\Omega(n)$  rounds





# Proof Techniques

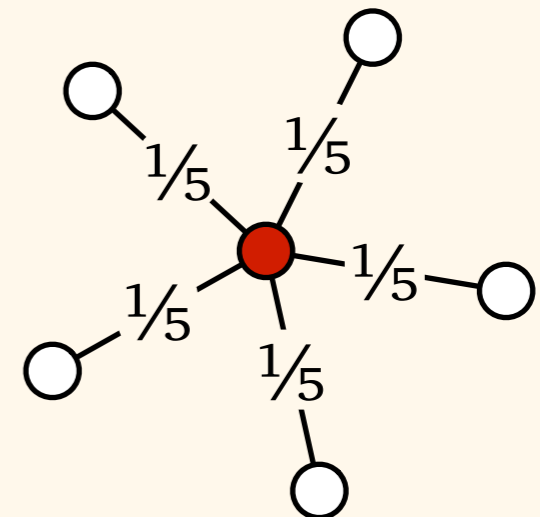
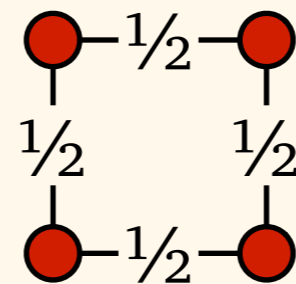
- Covering maps
  - problems that cannot be solved at all
- Isomorphic local neighbourhoods
  - problems that cannot be solved quickly
- Plenty of exercises...

# Vertex Covers & Edge Packings

*DDA Course*

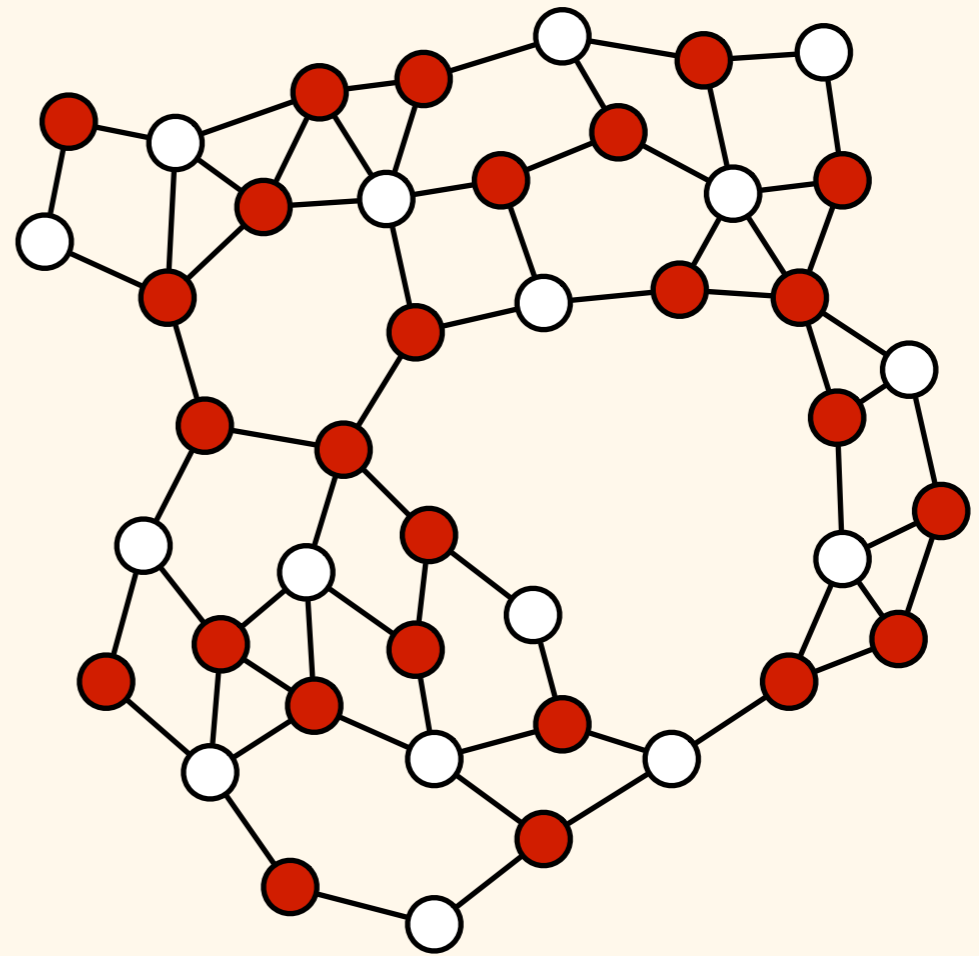
*Lecture 4.1*

*3 April 2012*



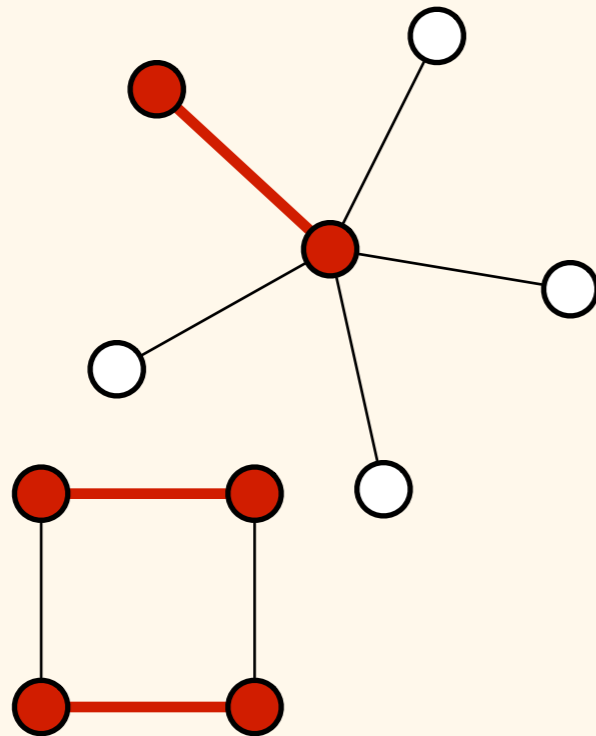
# Vertex Cover

- Finding a minimum vertex cover is hard
- How to find good approximations?
- General idea: find something else first, show that it is useful...



# Chapter 1

## maximal matching

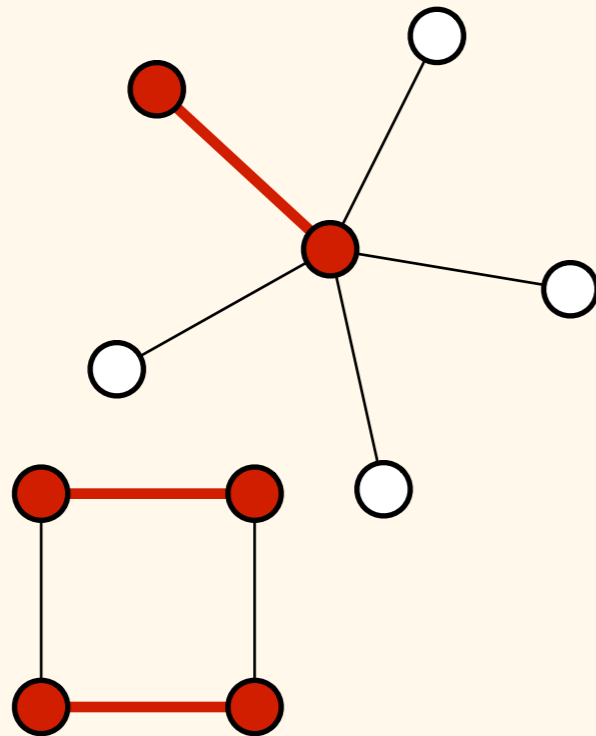


### *Exercise 1.3:*

- find any maximal matching
- take all matched nodes
- 2-approximation of minimum vertex cover

# Chapter 1

maximal matching



2-approx.

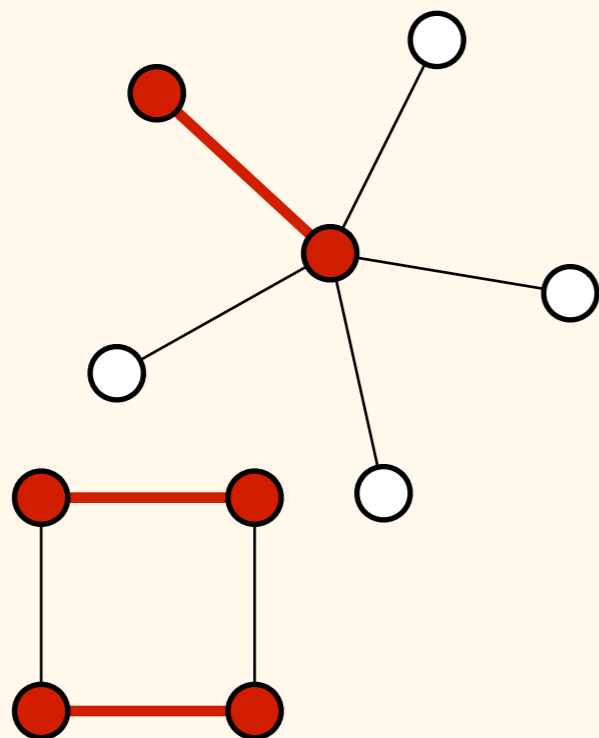
no distributed  
algorithm

*Corollary 3.3:*

- there is no distributed algorithm that finds a maximal matching

# Chapter 1

maximal matching

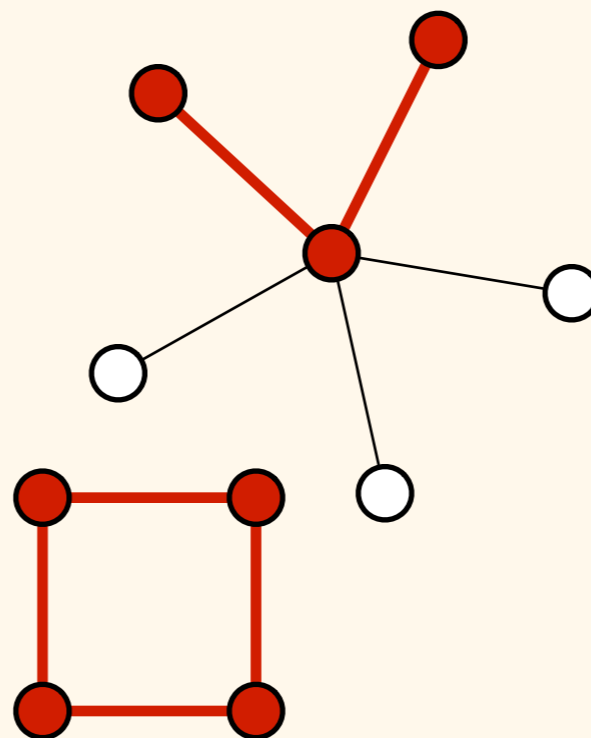


2-approx.

no distributed  
algorithm

# Chapter 2

paths & cycles



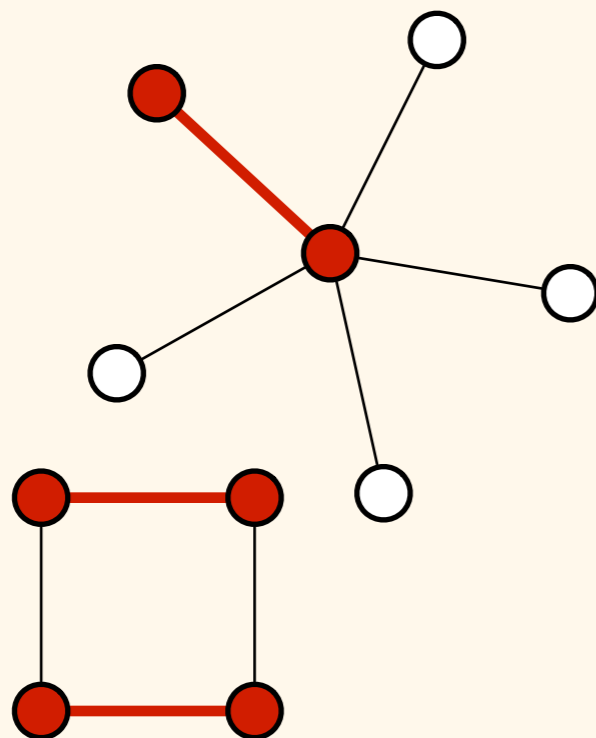
3-approx.

fast distributed  
algorithm

VC3

# Chapter 1

maximal matching

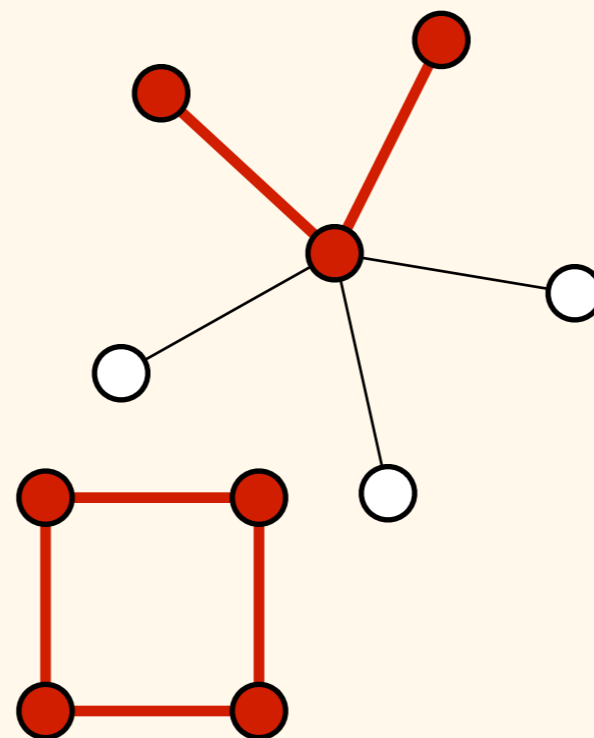


2-approx.

no distributed  
algorithm

# Chapter 2

paths & cycles

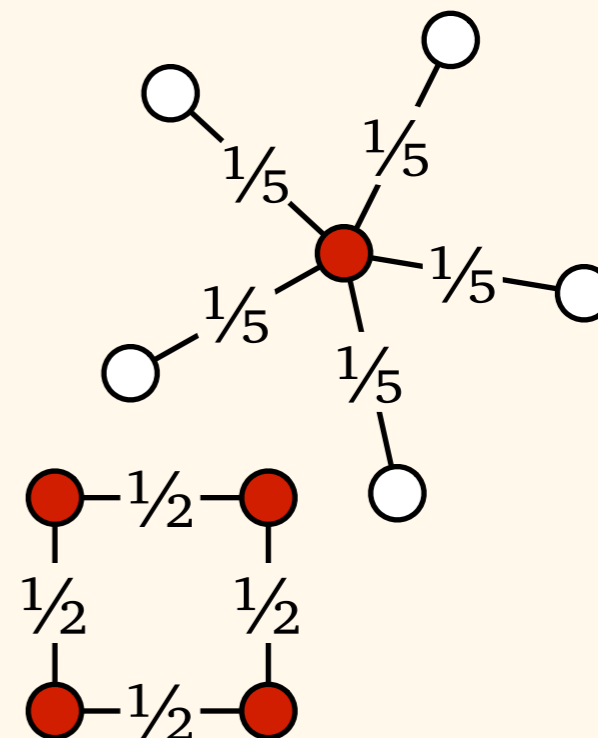


3-approx.

fast distributed  
algorithm

# Chapter 4

edge packing

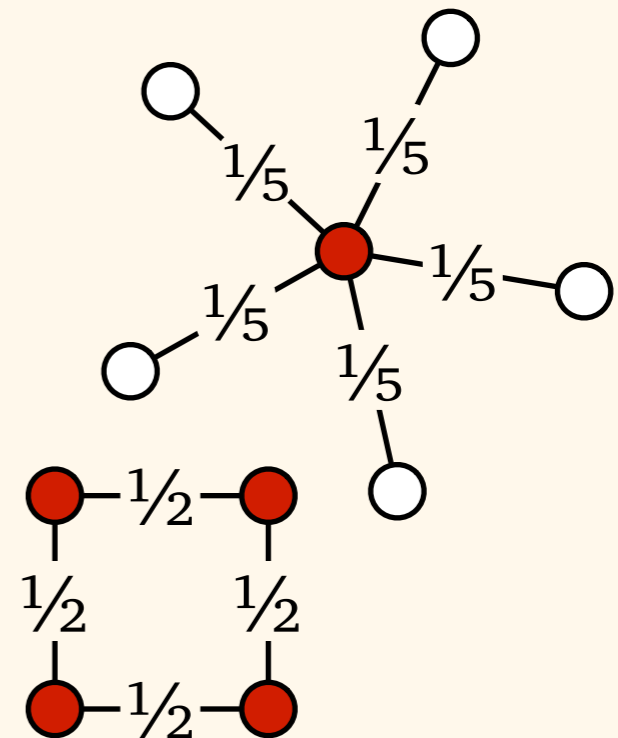


2-approx.

fast distributed  
algorithm

# Edge Packing

- Function  $f: E \rightarrow [0, 1]$ 
  - $f[v] = \text{sum of } f(e) \text{ over all edges } e \text{ incident to } v$
- Constraints:  $f[v] \leq 1$



$$f[\circ] = 1/5$$

$$f[\bullet] = 1$$



# Edge Packing

- Function  $f: E \rightarrow [0, 1]$

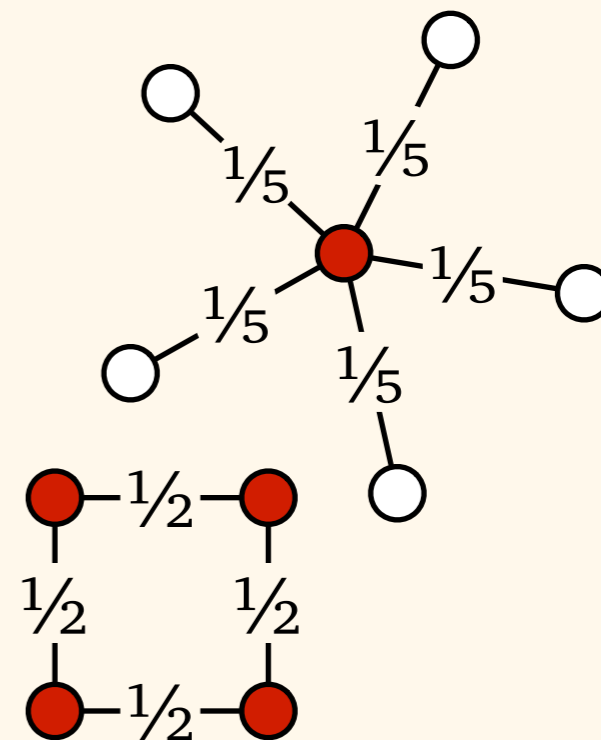
- $f[v]$  = sum of  $f(e)$  over all edges  $e$  incident to  $v$

- Constraints:  $f[v] \leq 1$

- $v$  is *saturated* if  $f[v] = 1$

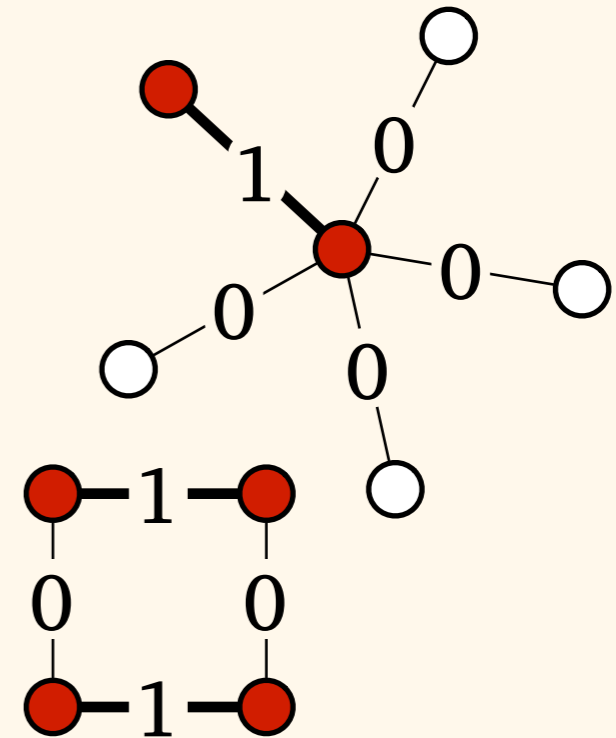
- edge  $e = \{u, v\}$  is *saturated* if  $u$  or  $v$  is saturated

- edge packing is *maximal* if all edges are saturated



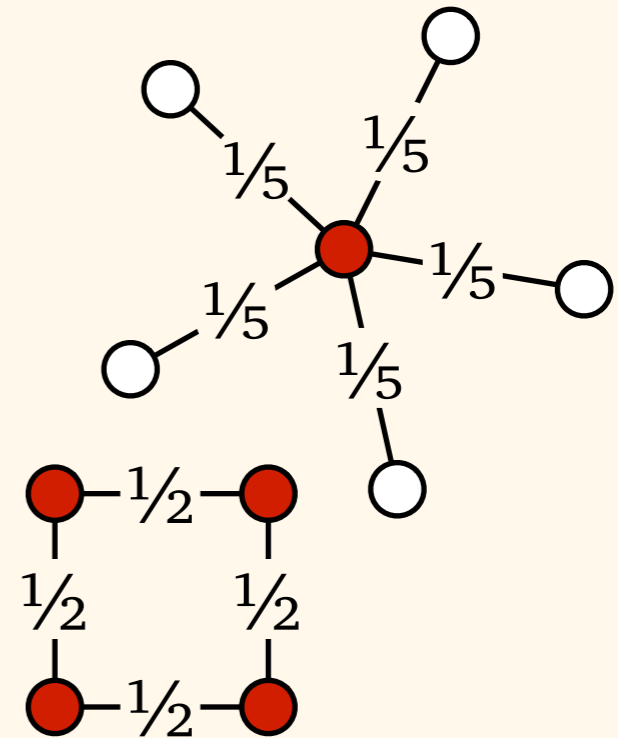
# Edge Packing

- Function  $f: E \rightarrow [0, 1]$ 
  - $f[v] = \text{sum of } f(e) \text{ over all edges } e \text{ incident to } v$
- Constraints:  $f[v] \leq 1$
- “Fractional” matching



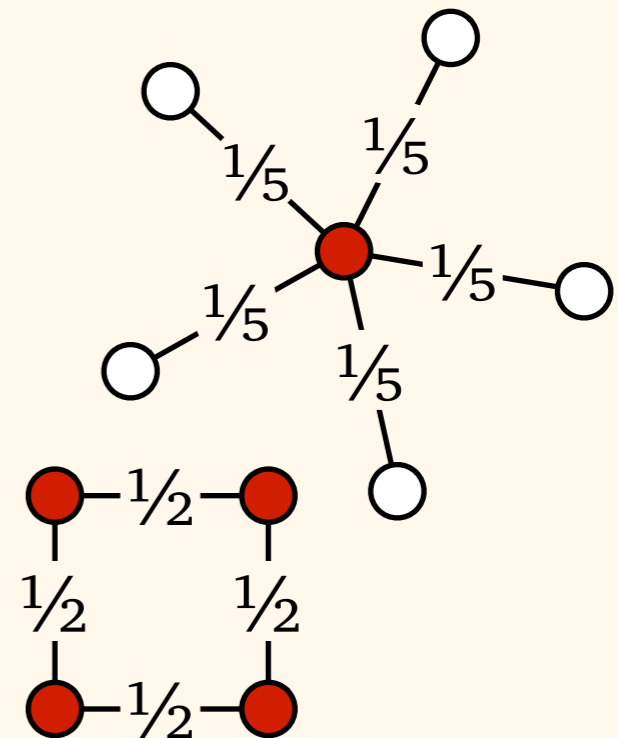
# Edge Packing

- Find any maximal edge packing
- Set of saturated nodes:  
*vertex cover*
  - *Proof*: maximal  
= each edge saturated  
= each edge has a saturated endpoint  
= saturated nodes form a vertex cover

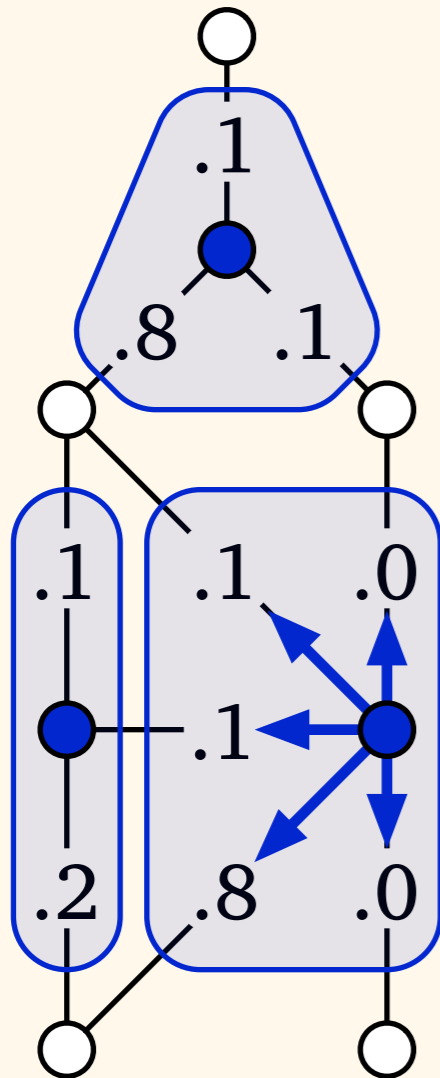


# Edge Packing

- Find any maximal edge packing
- Set of saturated nodes:  
*2-approximation of minimum vertex cover*



# Edge Packing



$C^*$

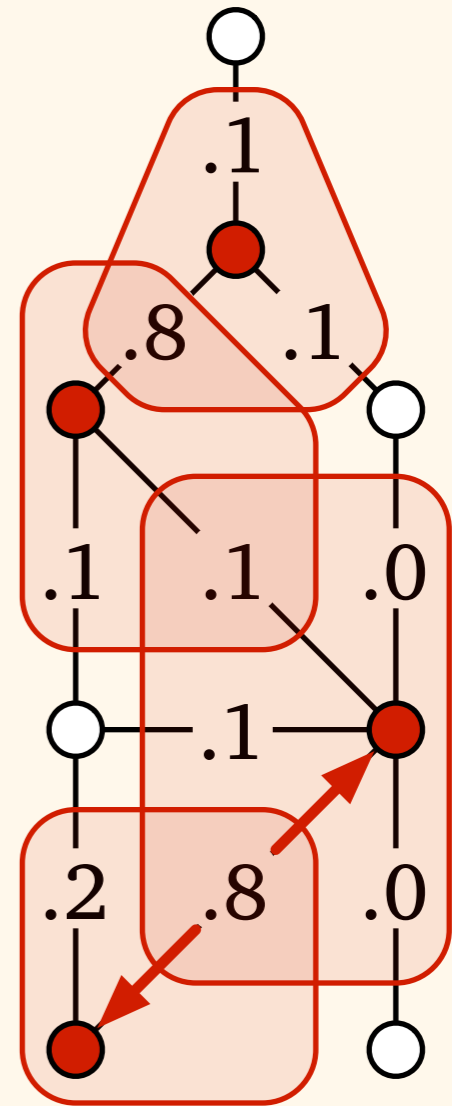
Each node  $v \in C^*$   
has 1 unit of money

Give  $f(e)$  units  
to each edge  $e$

**Double** all money

Give  $f[v] = 1$  units to each  
saturated node  $v \in C$

$$|C| \leq 2|C^*|$$

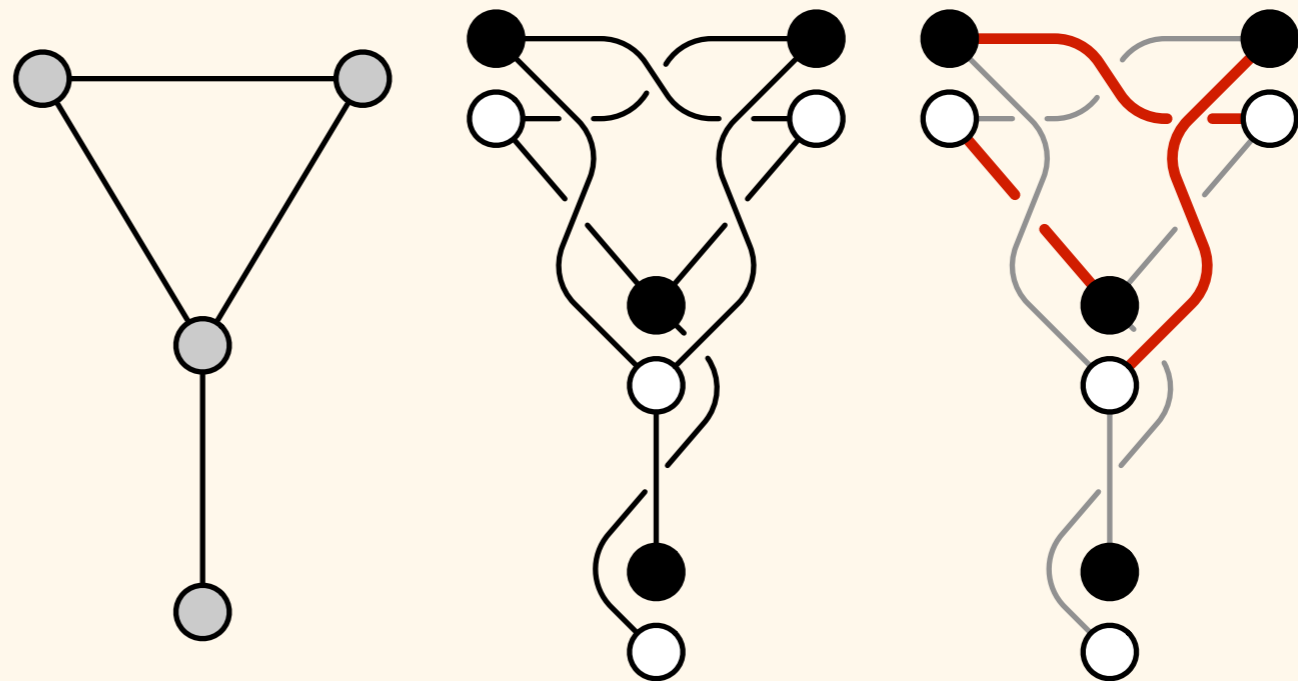


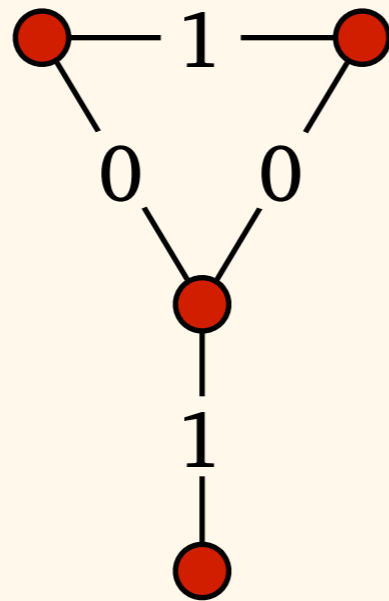
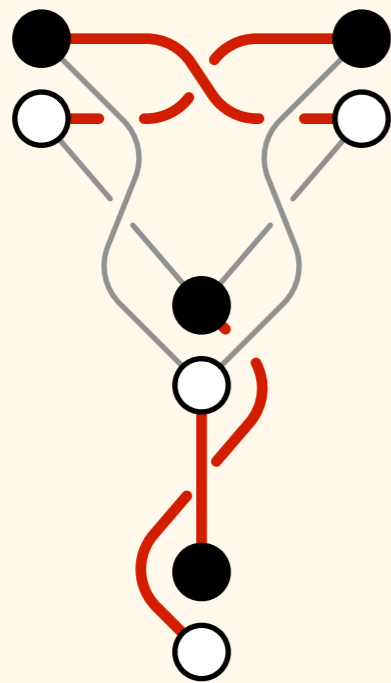
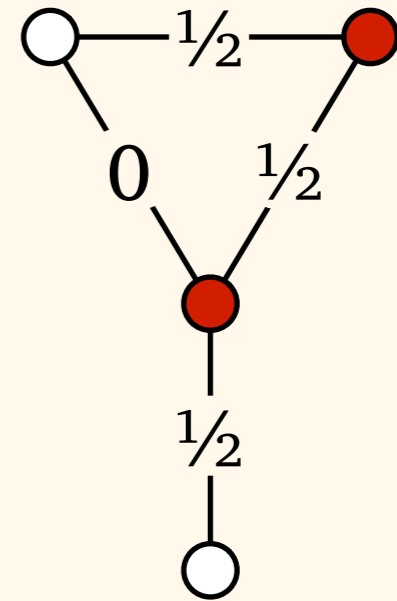
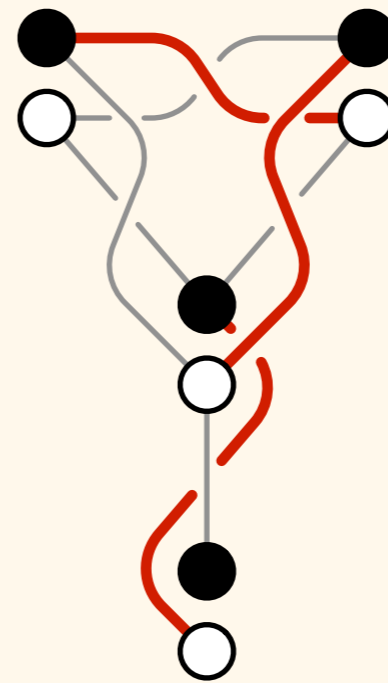
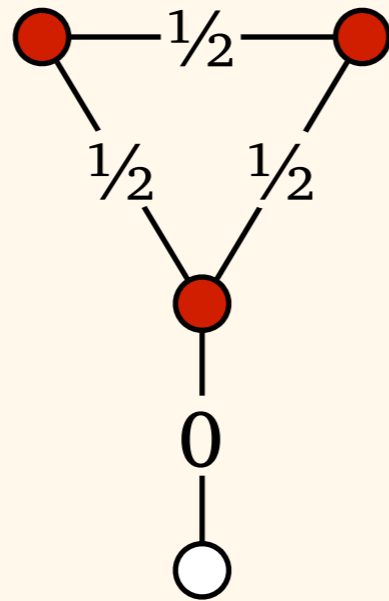
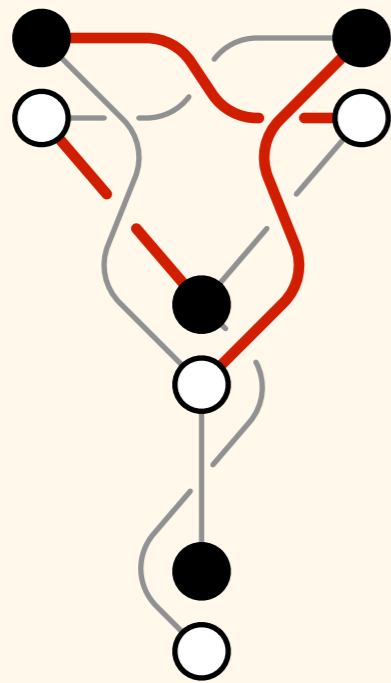
$C$

# Edge Packing

- How to find maximal edge packings?
- Basic idea:

- bipartite double covers
- maximal matching
- recursively!

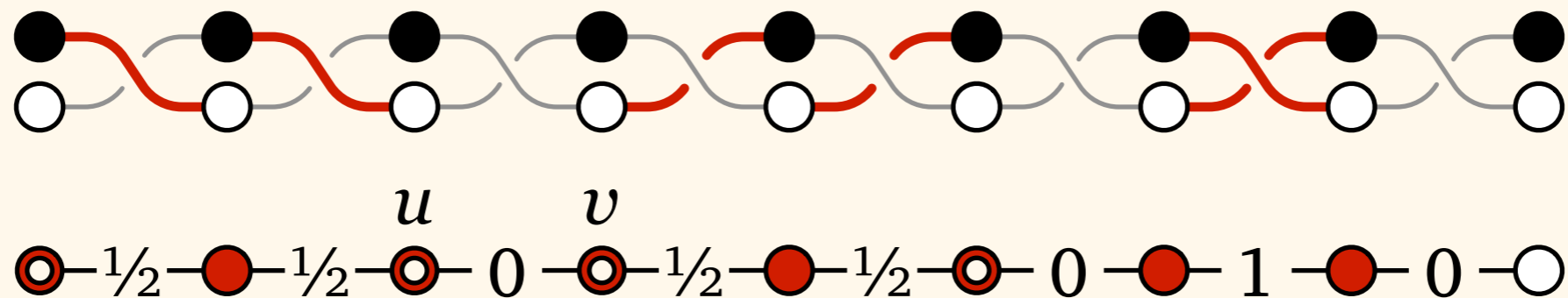




One edge:  $1/2$   
Two edges: 1

# Edge Packing

- In general only “half-saturating”



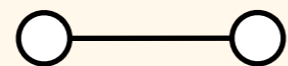
unsaturated edge  $e = \{u, v\}$   
 $f[u] = f[v] = 1/2$



*Half-saturating* edge packing:



Unsaturated subgraph (*lower degrees*):



Recursively, find a *maximal* edge packing:



Combine solutions — *maximal* edge packing:

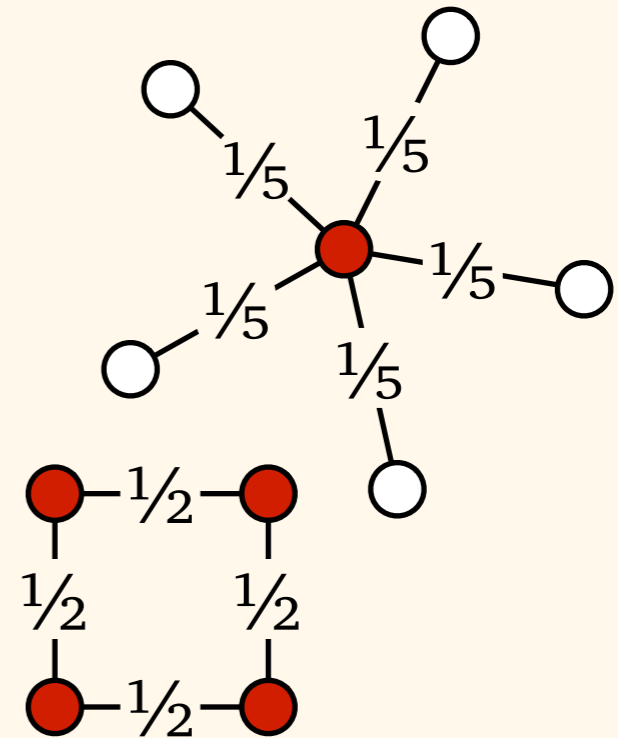
$$\begin{array}{r}
 1 \times \text{○} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{●} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{○} - 0 - \text{○} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{●} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{○} - 0 - \text{●} - 1 - \text{●} - 0 - \text{○} \\
 + \frac{1}{2} \times \text{●} - 1 - \text{●} \\
 \hline
 = \text{○} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{●} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{●} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{●} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{●} - \frac{1}{2} - \text{○} - 0 - \text{●} - 1 - \text{●} - 0 - \text{○}
 \end{array}$$

# Edge Packing

- Recursion by maximum degree  $\Delta$
- Case  $\Delta = 1$  trivial
- Assuming that case  $\Delta - 1$  has been solved:
  - find a *half-saturating* edge packing  $f$
  - recursively, find a *maximal* edge packing  $g$  for unsaturated subgraph (maximum degree  $\Delta - 1$ )
  - return *maximal* edge packing  $h = f + g/2$

# Summary

- Distributed algorithms that finds a *maximal edge packing*
  - in any graph of maximum degree  $\Delta$  in time  $O(\Delta^2)$
- Saturated nodes:  
*2-approximation of minimum vertex cover*



# Unique Identifiers



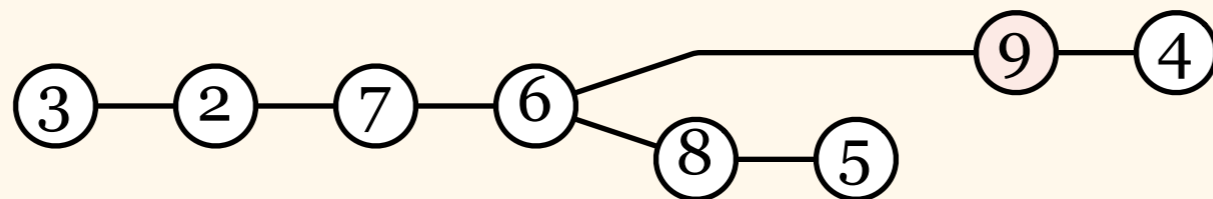
*DDA Course*

*Lecture 5.1*

*17 April 2012*

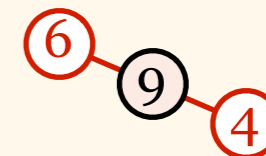
# Unique Identifiers

- Networks with *globally unique identifiers*
  - IPv4 address, IPv6 address, MAC address, IMEI number, ...
- “Everything” can be discovered
  - in a connected graph  $G$ , all nodes can discover full information about  $G$  in time  $O(\text{diam}(G))$



round 1: {2,3} {2,3} {2,7} {6,7} {5,8} {5,8} {4,9} {4,9}

{2,7} {6,7} {6,8} {6,8} {6,9}



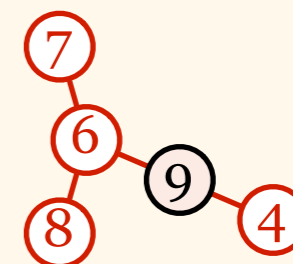
round 2: {2,3} {2,3} {2,3} {2,7} {5,8} {5,8} {4,9} {4,9}

{2,7} {2,7} {2,7} {4,9} {6,7} {6,8} {6,7} {6,9}

{6,7} {6,7} {5,8} {6,8} {6,8} {6,9}

{6,8} {6,7} {6,9}

{6,8} {6,9}



...

round 5: {2,3} {2,3} {2,3} {2,3} {2,3} {2,3} {2,3} {2,3}

{2,7} {2,7} {2,7} {2,7} {2,7} {2,7} {2,7} {2,7}

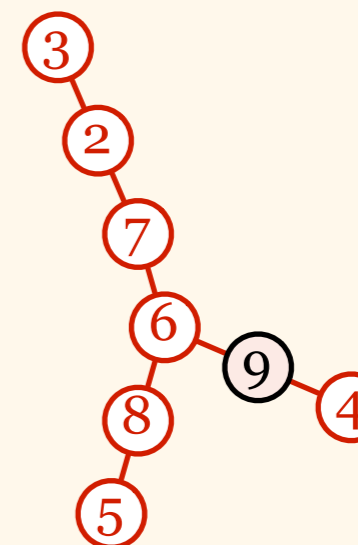
{4,9} {4,9} {4,9} {4,9} {4,9} {4,9} {4,9} {4,9}

{5,8} {5,8} {5,8} {5,8} {5,8} {5,8} {5,8} {5,8}

{6,7} {6,7} {6,7} {6,7} {6,7} {6,7} {6,7} {6,7}

{6,8} {6,8} {6,8} {6,8} {6,8} {6,8} {6,8} {6,8}

{6,9} {6,9} {6,9} {6,9} {6,9} {6,9} {6,9} {6,9}



# Unique Identifiers

- “Everything” can be discovered
  - in a connected graph  $G$ , all nodes can discover full information about  $G$  in time  $O(\text{diam}(G))$
- “Everything” can be solved
  - once all nodes know  $G$ , solving a graph problem is just a local state transition
- Key question: what can be solved *fast*?

# Graph Colouring

- Given unique identifiers, can we find a graph colouring fast?
  - unique identifiers from  $\{1, 2, \dots, x\}$  can be interpreted as a graph colouring with  $x$  colours
  - problem: huge number of colours
  - we only need to solve a *colour reduction* problem: given an  $x$ -colouring, find a  $y$ -colouring for a small  $y < x$

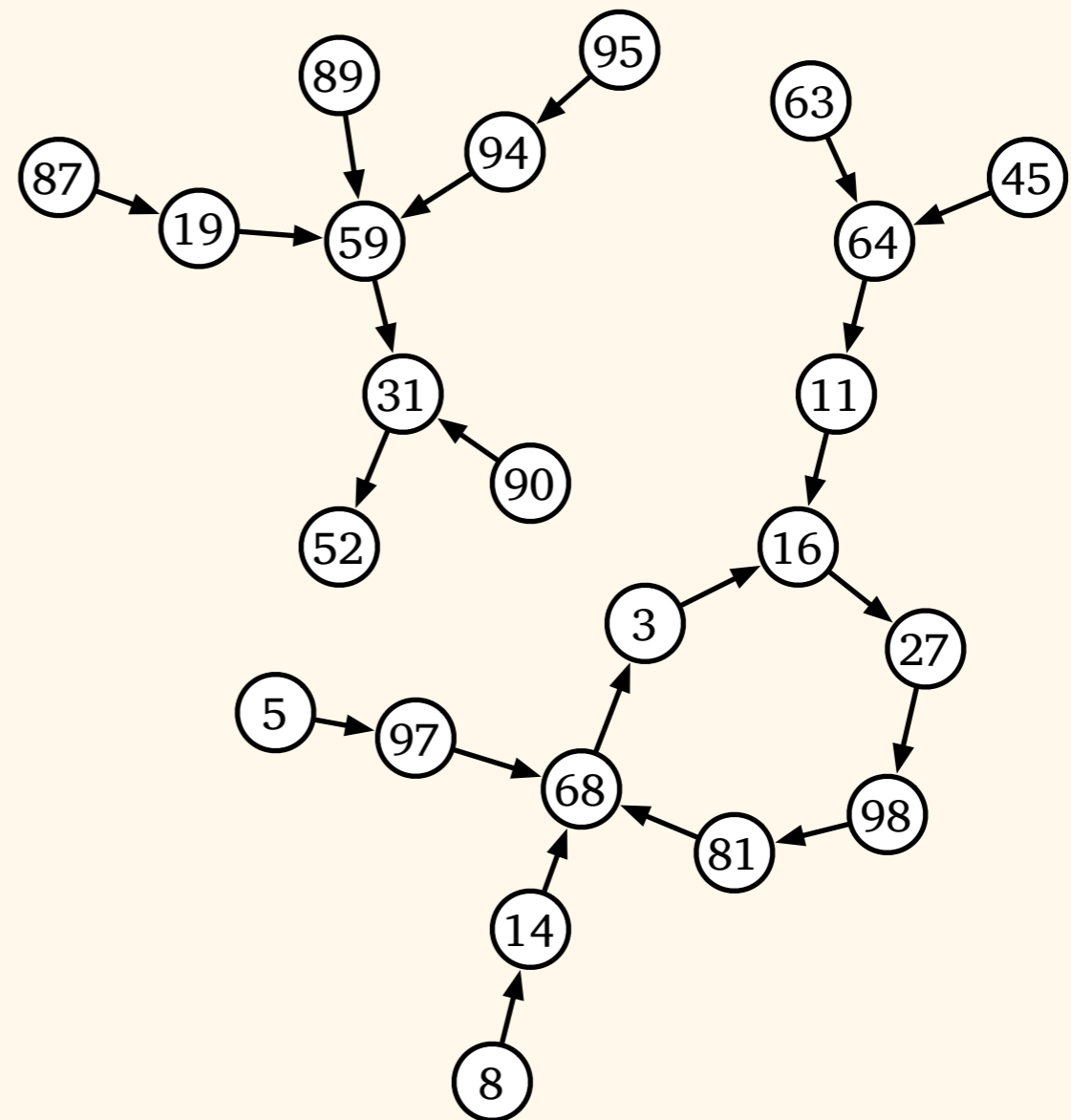


# Greedy Graph Colouring

- All nodes of colour  $x$  pick the smallest free colour in their neighbourhood
  - there is always a free colour in the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, \Delta + 1\}$
  - reduces the number of colours from  $x$  to  $x - 1$ , assuming that  $x > \Delta + 1$
- Very slow...

# Fast Graph Colouring

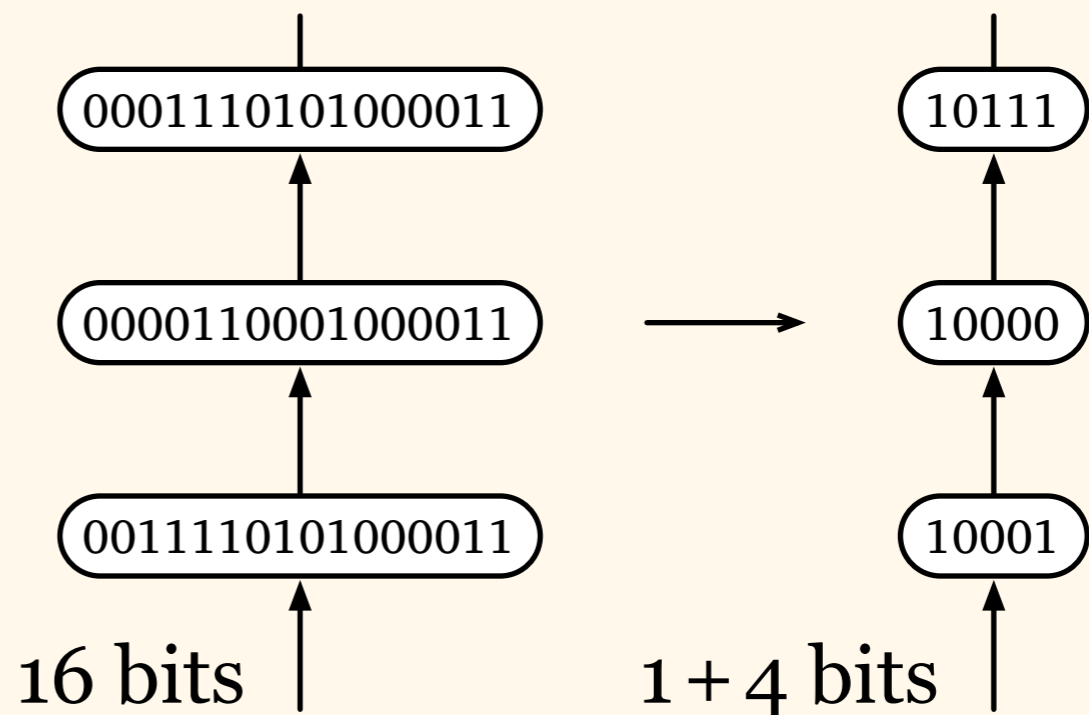
- Let's first study a special case...
- *Directed pseudoforest*
  - edges oriented
  - outdegree  $\leq 1$



# Fast Graph Colouring

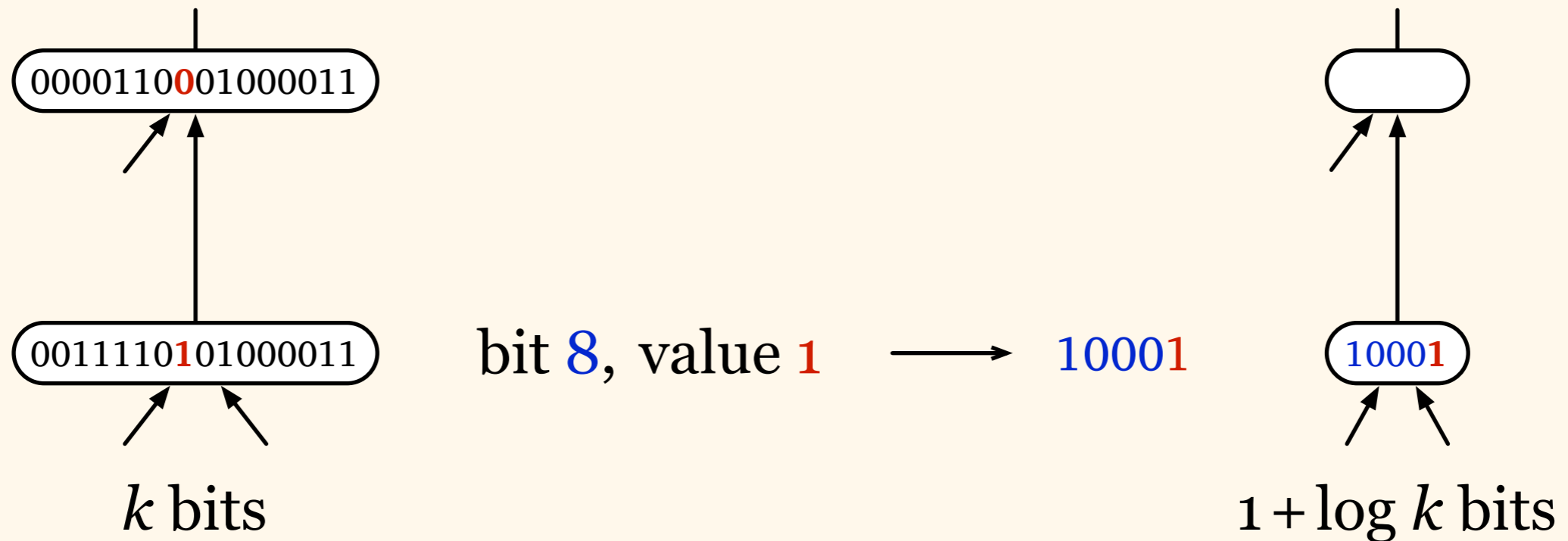
- Idea: colour = *binary string*
- Reduce colours:

- $k$  bits  $\rightarrow$   
 $1 + \log_2 k$  bits
- $2^k$  colours  $\rightarrow$   
 $2k$  colours



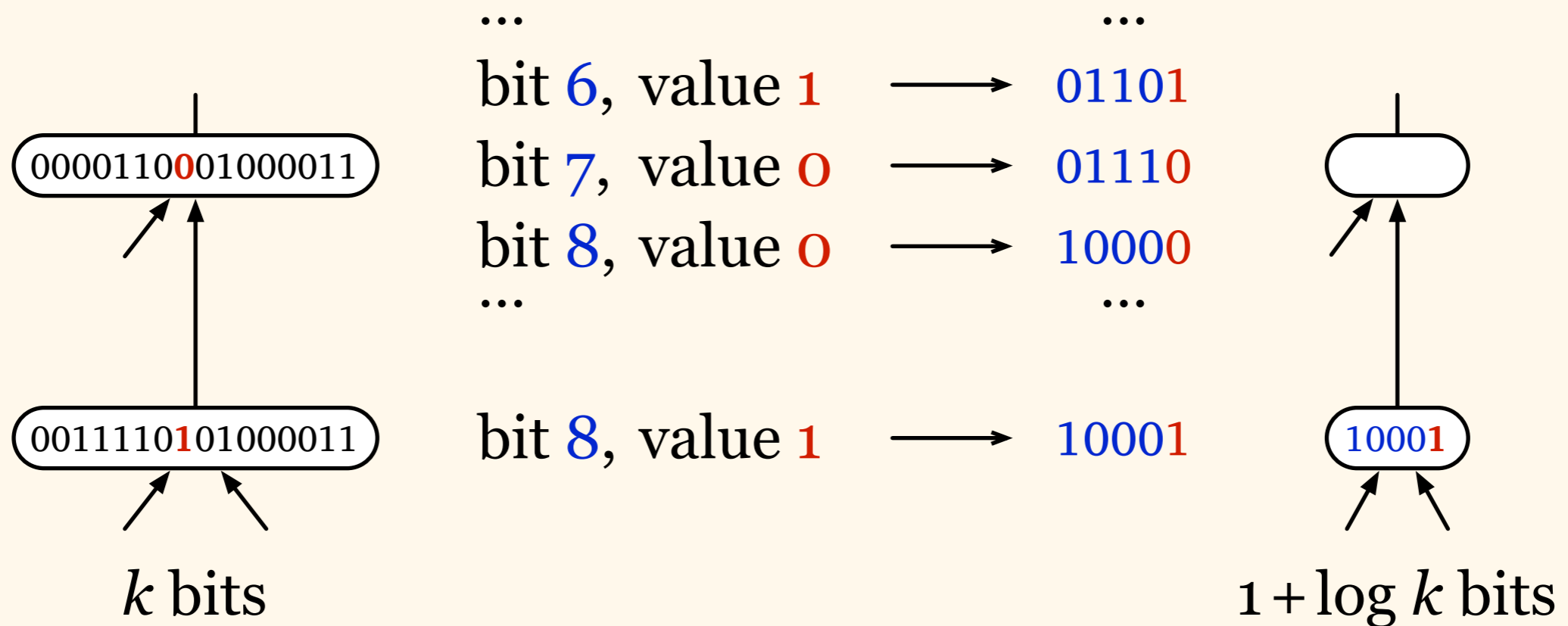
# Fast Graph Colouring

- Compare bit string with the successor, find the *first bit that differs*



# Fast Graph Colouring

- Correct, no matter what the successor does

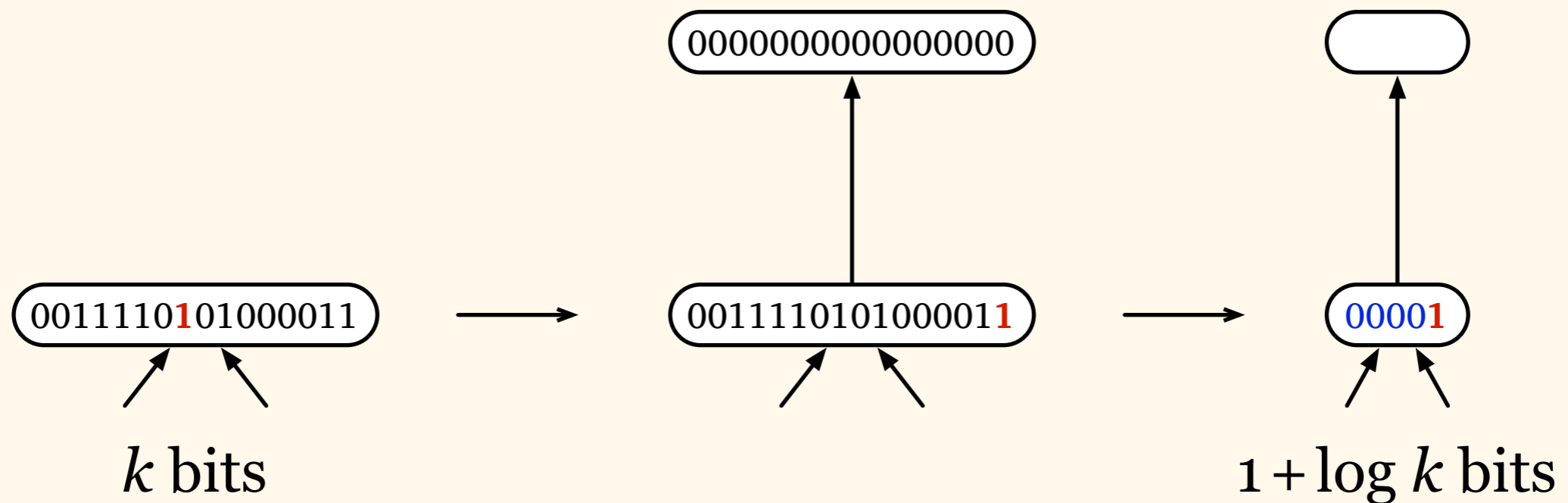


# Fast Graph Colouring

- Correct, no matter what the successor does
- For each directed edge  $(u, v)$ :
  - the new colour of node  $u$  is different from the new colour of its successor  $v$
- Proper graph colouring

# Fast Graph Colouring

- No successor?  
Pretend that there is one...



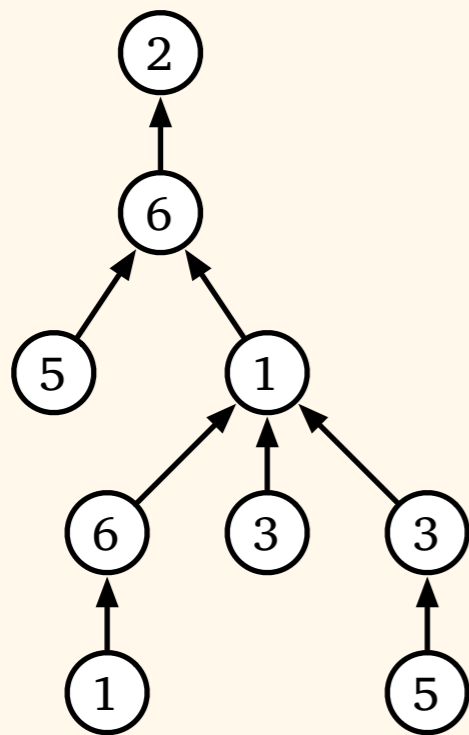
# Fast Graph Colouring

- Very fast colour reduction:
  - $2^{128}$  colours  $\rightarrow 2 \cdot 128 = 2^8$  colours
  - $2^8$  colours  $\rightarrow 2 \cdot 8 = 2^4$  colours
  - $2^4$  colours  $\rightarrow 2 \cdot 4 = 2^3$  colours
  - $2^3$  colours  $\rightarrow 2 \cdot 3 = 6$  colours
- But now we are stuck – how to get below 6?



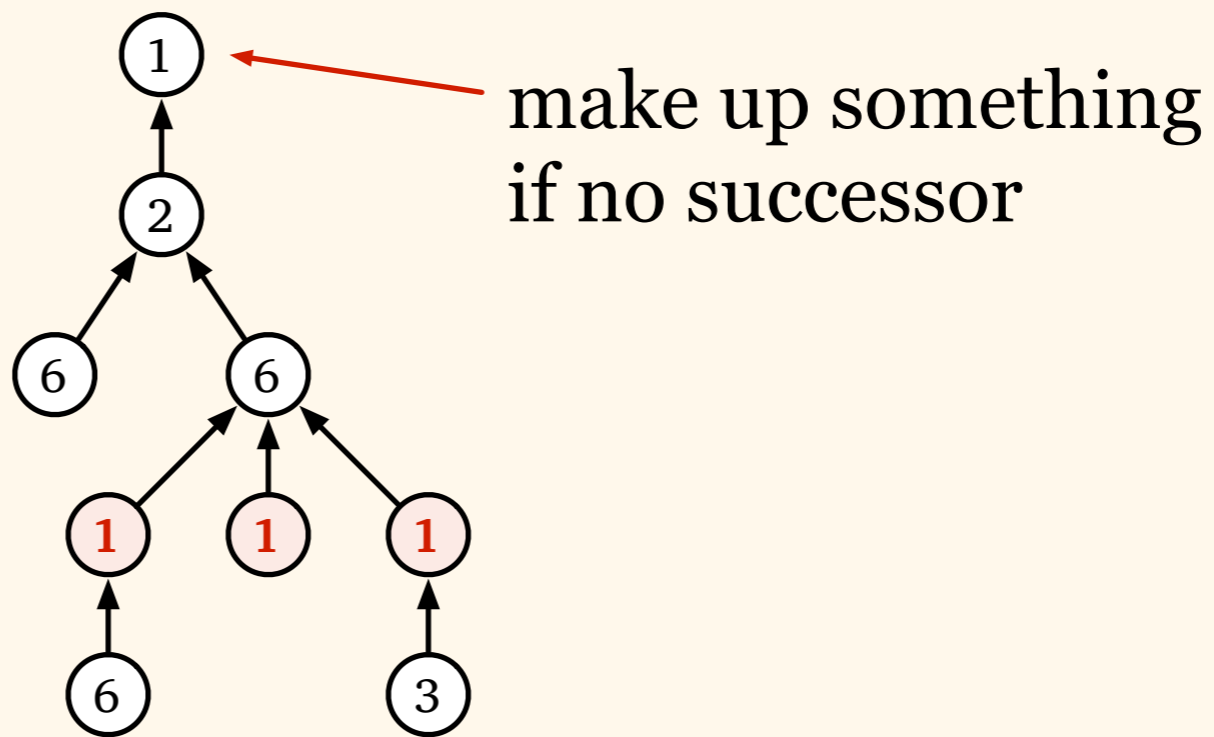
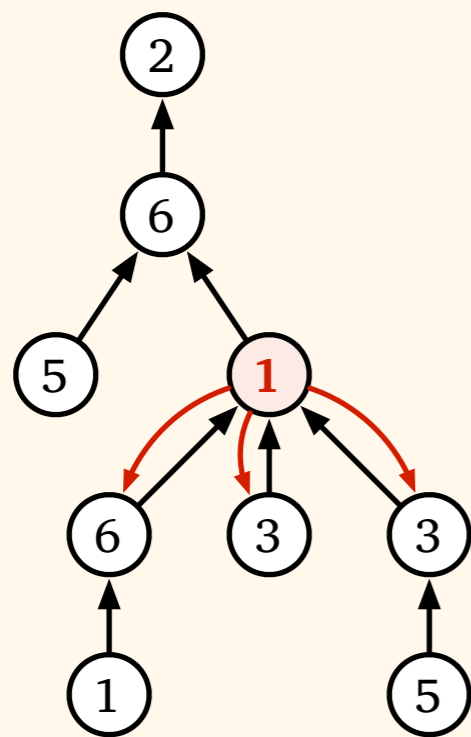
# Fast Graph Colouring

- Directed pseudotree with 6 colours:  
how to reduce the number of colours?



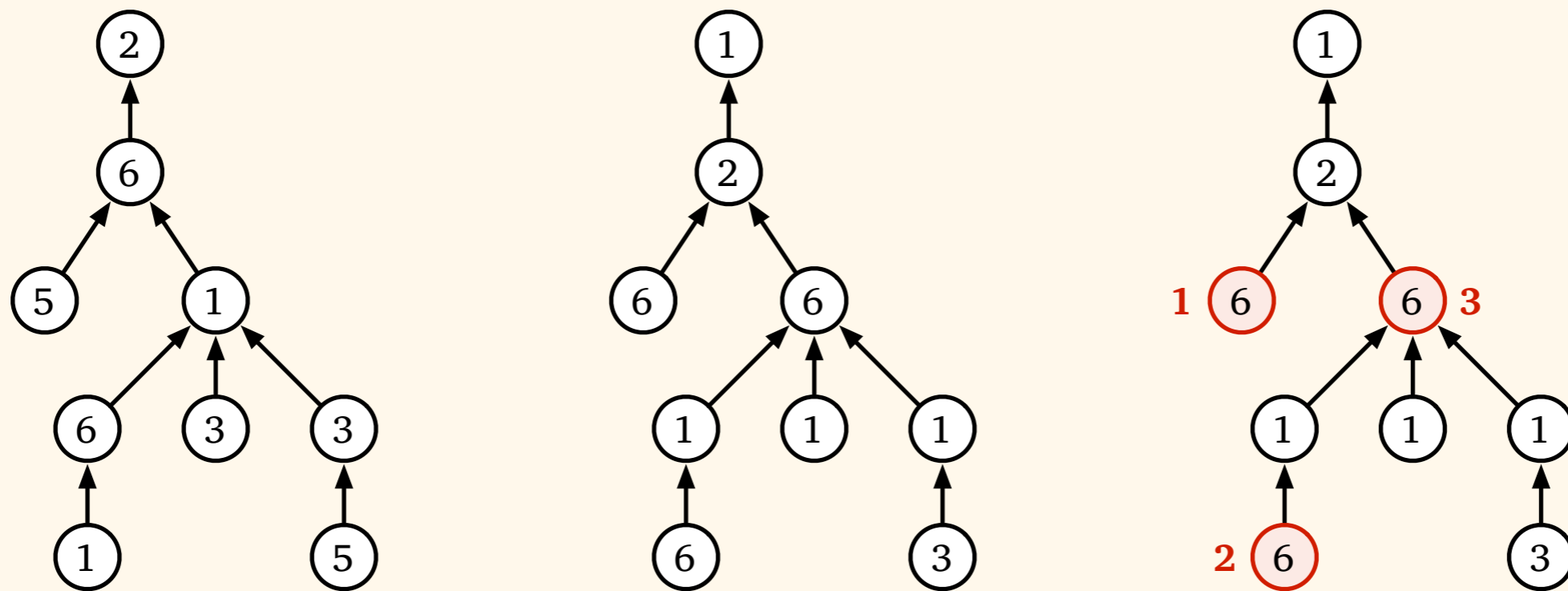
# Fast Graph Colouring

- Shift colours “down”:  
all predecessors have the same colour



# Fast Graph Colouring

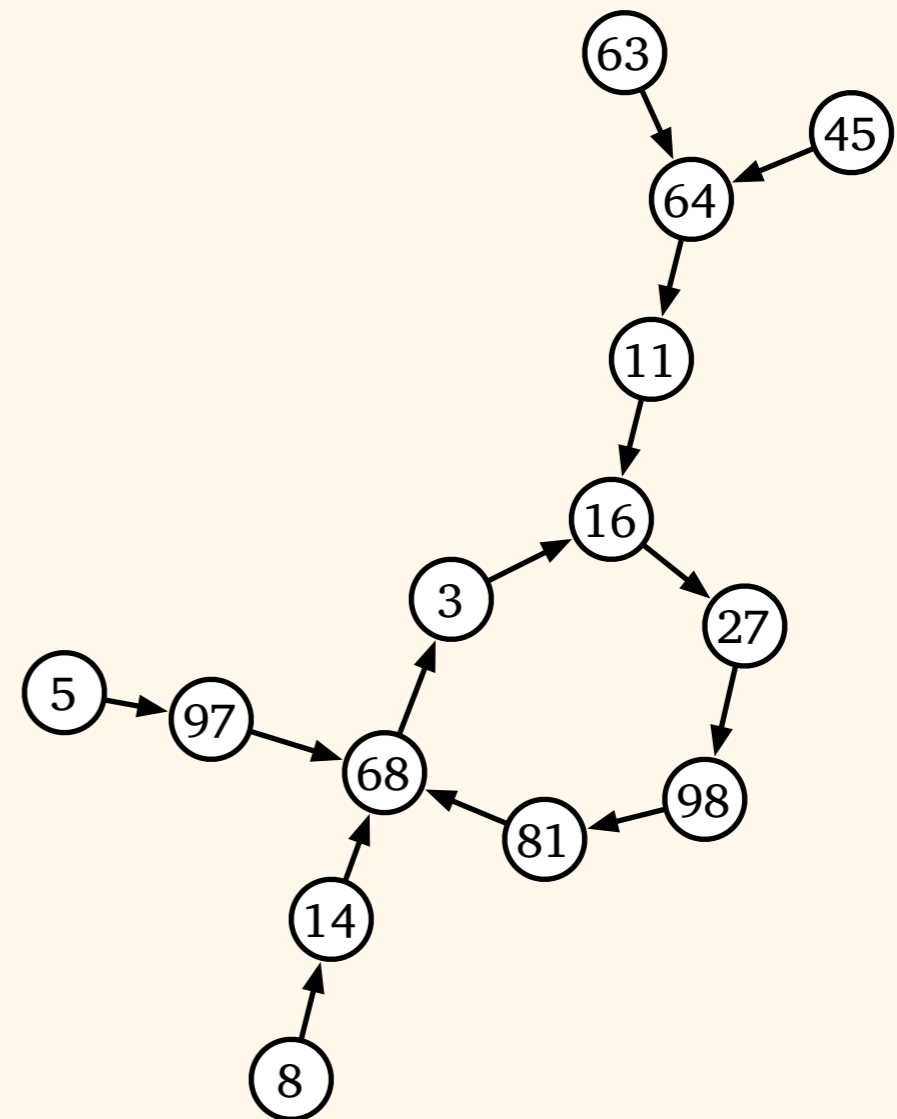
- Now greedy works very well:  
there is always a free colour in set  $\{1, 2, 3\}$





# Fast Graph Colouring

- Colour reduction in directed pseudotrees
  - next lecture:  
fast graph colouring  
for arbitrary graphs



# Graph Colouring

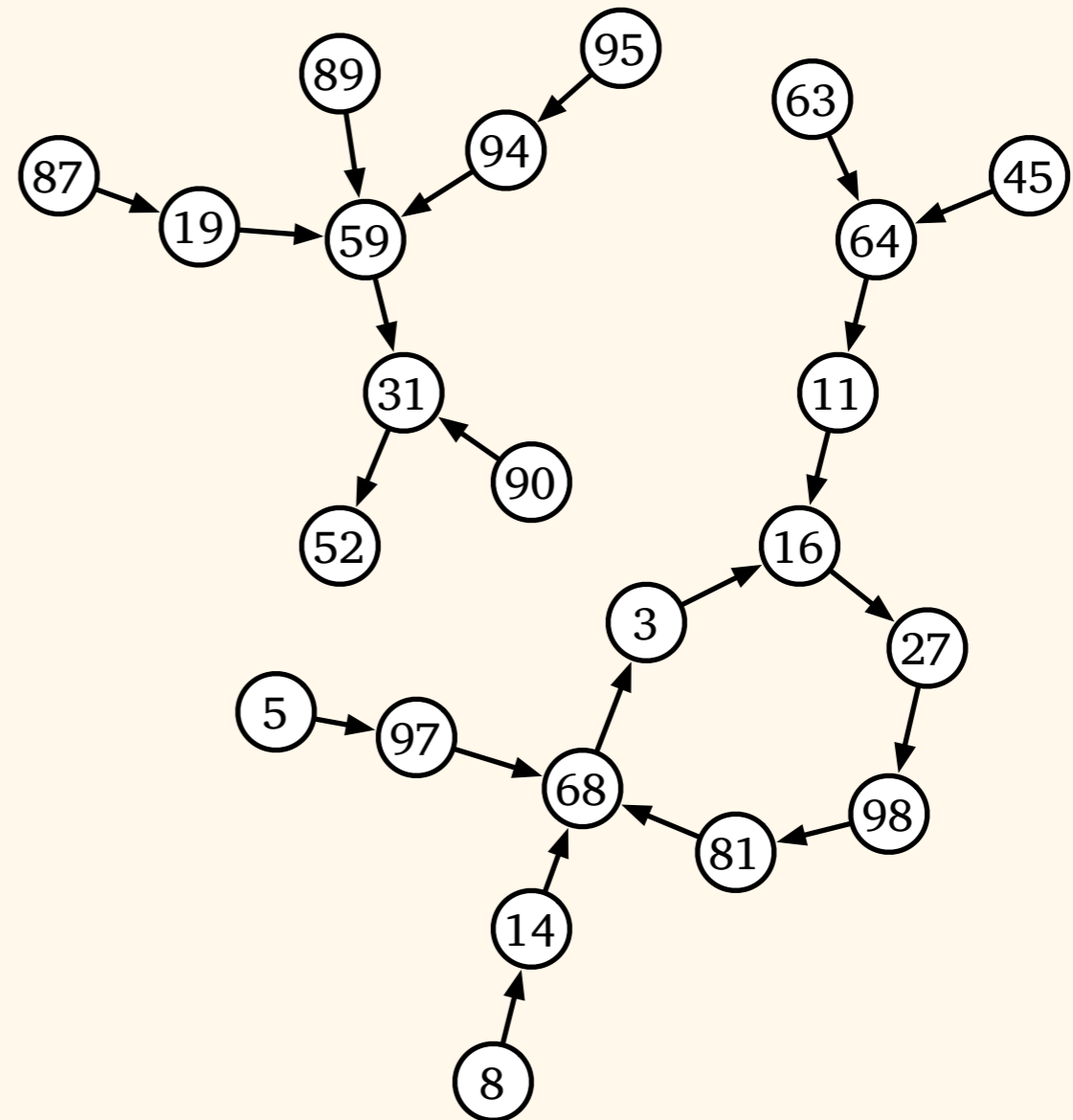
*DDA Course*

*Lecture 5.2*

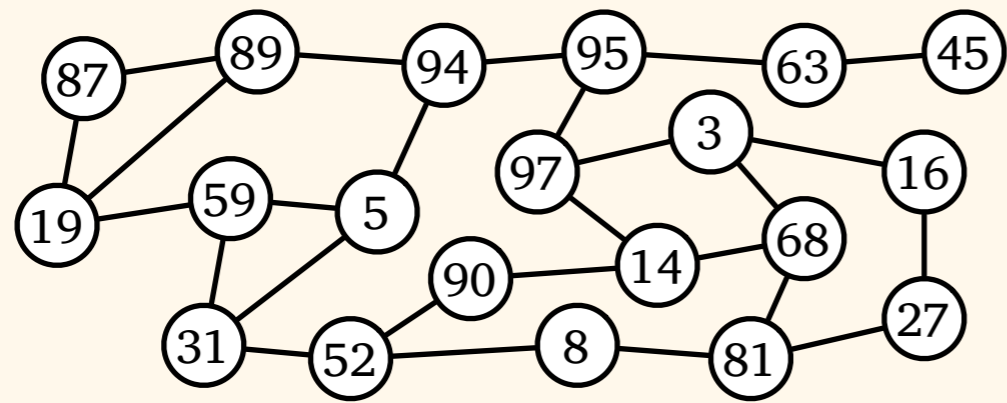
*19 April 2012*

# Fast Graph Colouring

- Previous lecture:
  - colour reduction in *directed pseudoforests*
- Today:
  - colour reduction in general graphs of maximum degree  $\Delta$

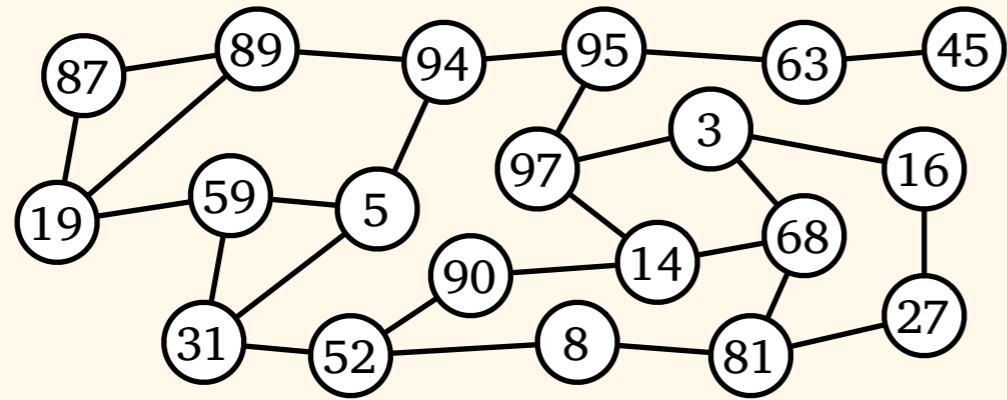


Input:

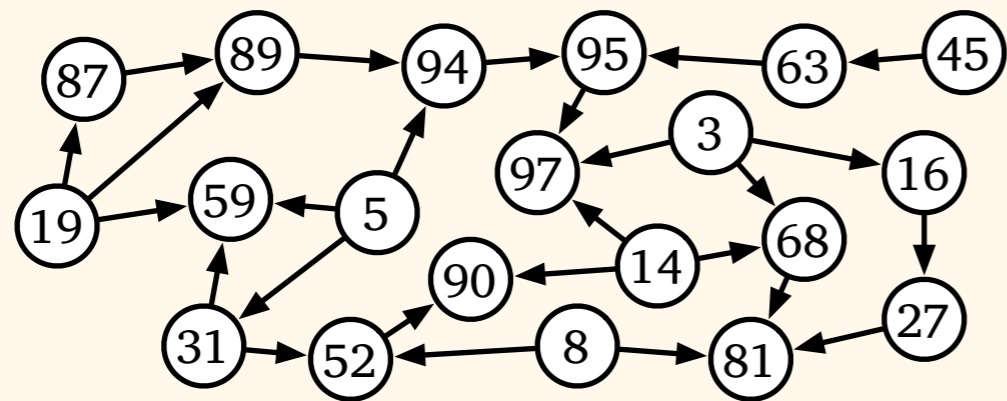




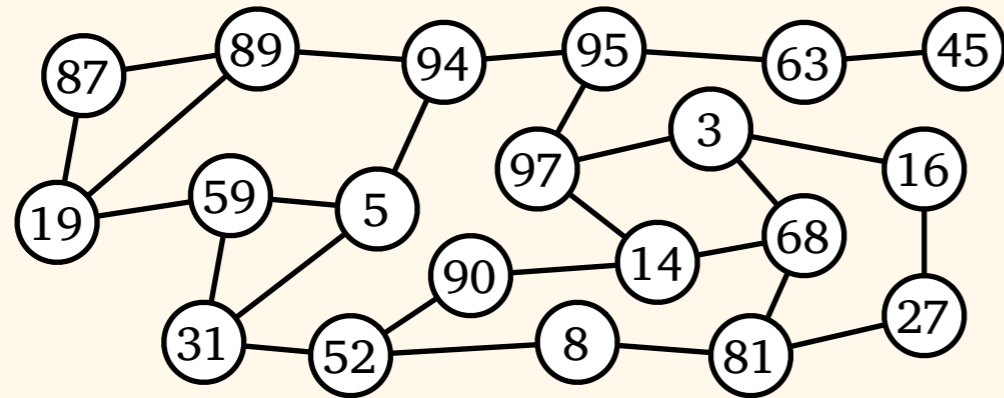
Input:



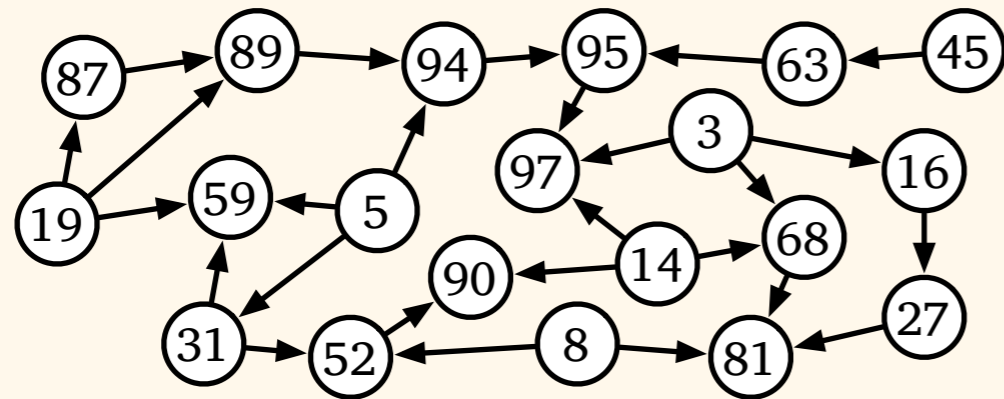
Colours  $\rightarrow$  orientation:



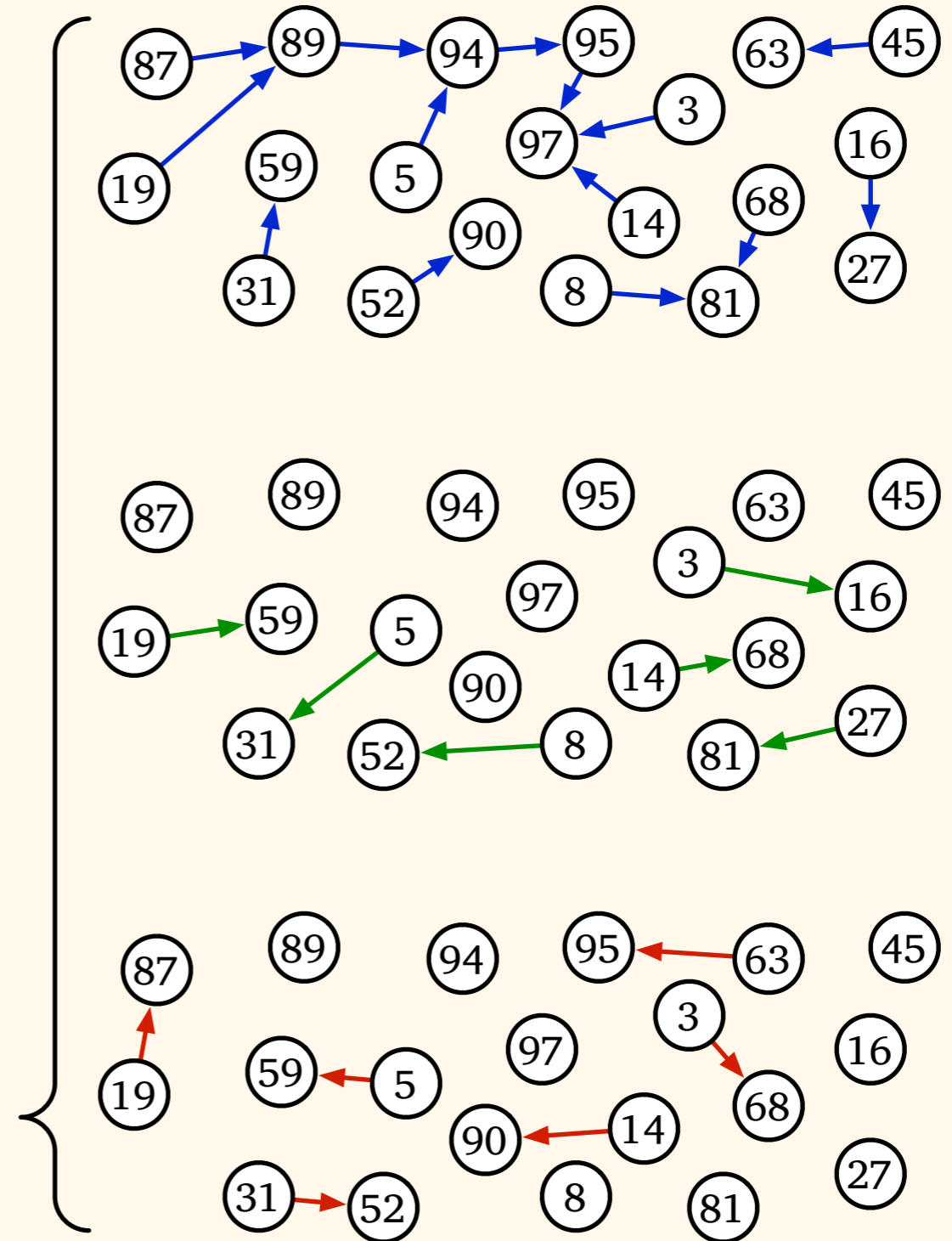
Input:



Colours  $\rightarrow$  orientation:



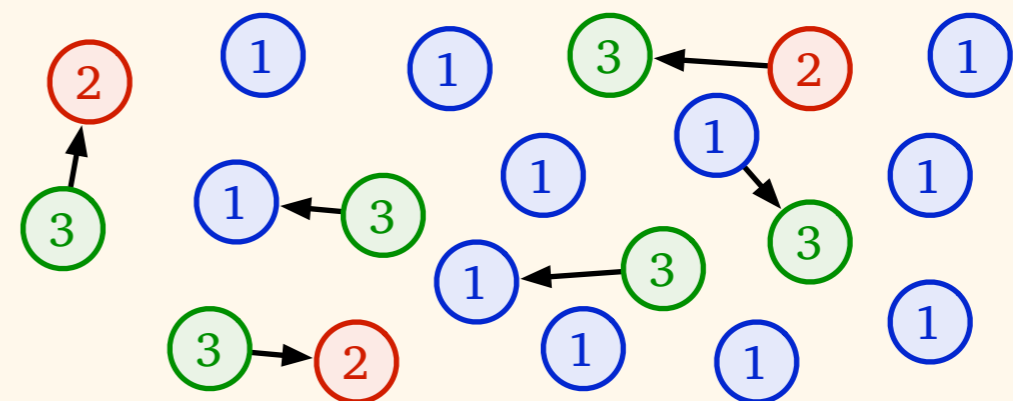
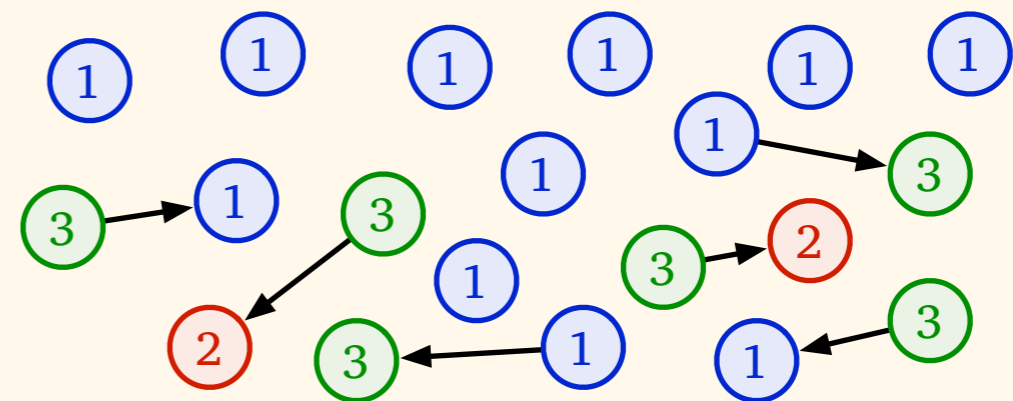
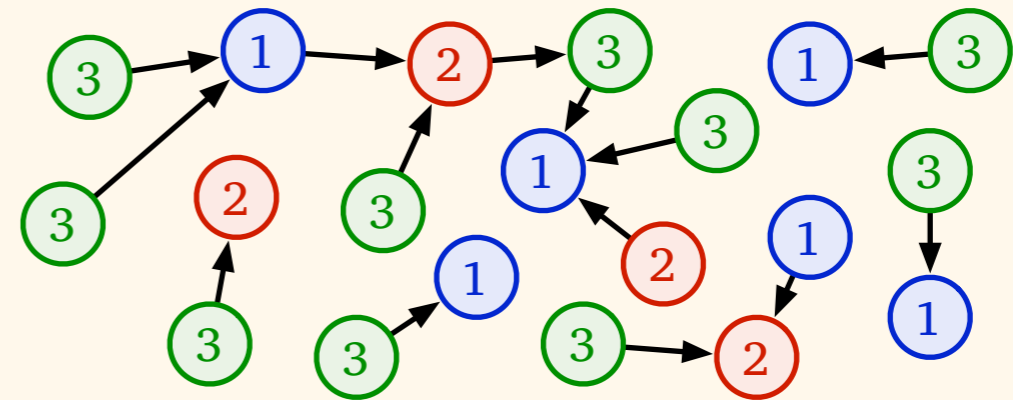
Port numbers  $\rightarrow$  partition  
in  $\Delta$  directed pseudoforests

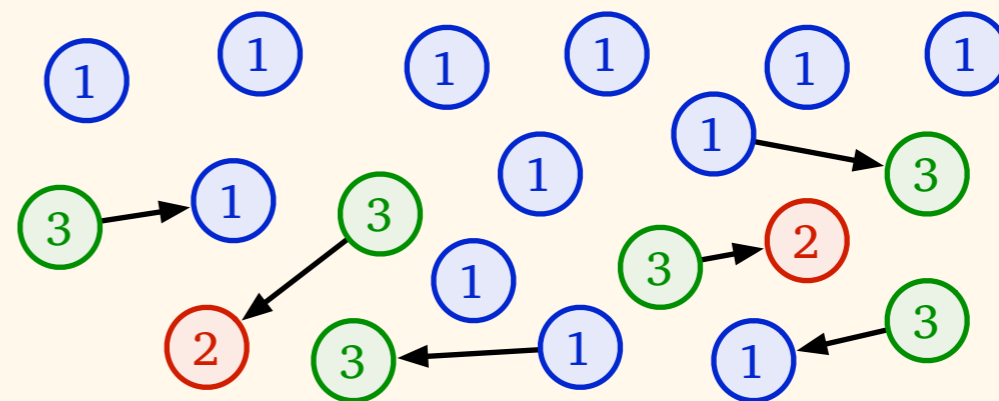
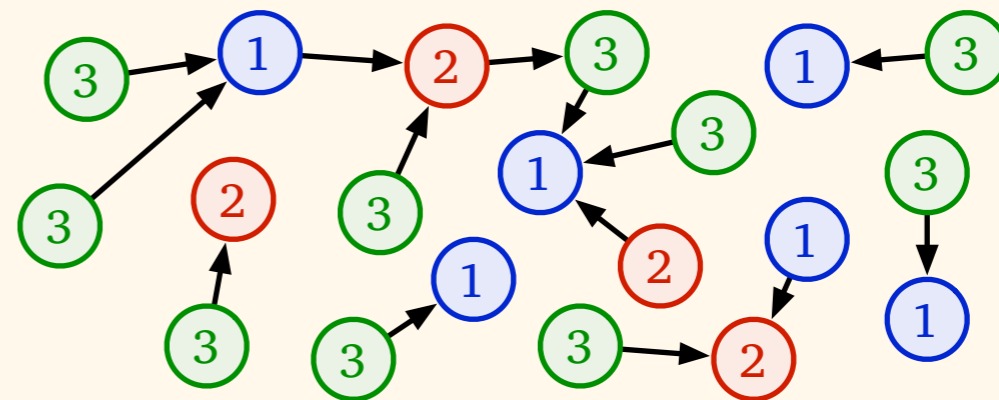
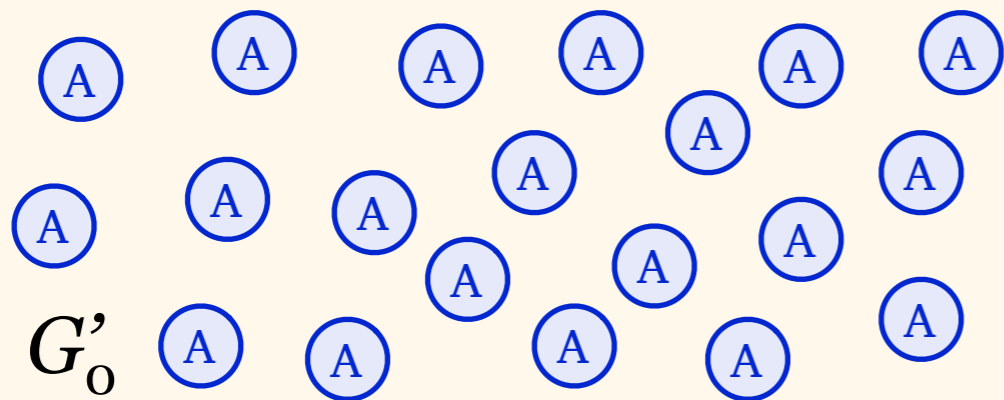


Find a 3-colouring  
for each pseudoforest

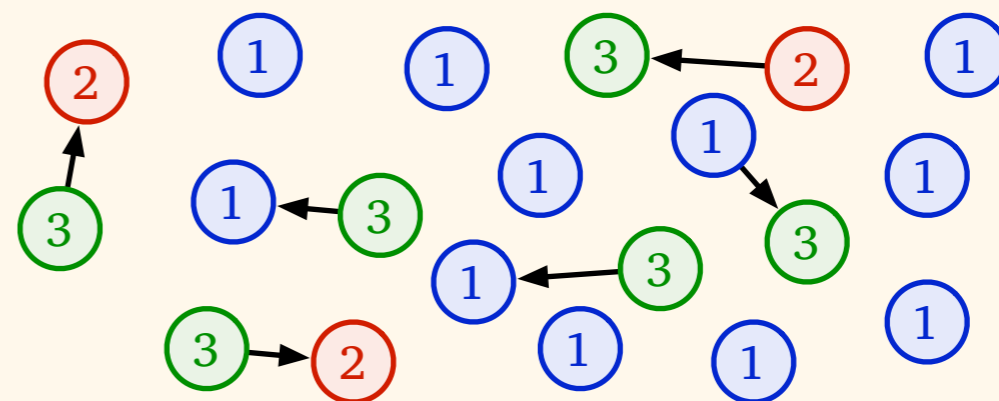
Computed in parallel,  
simulate  $\Delta$  instances of  
the algorithm

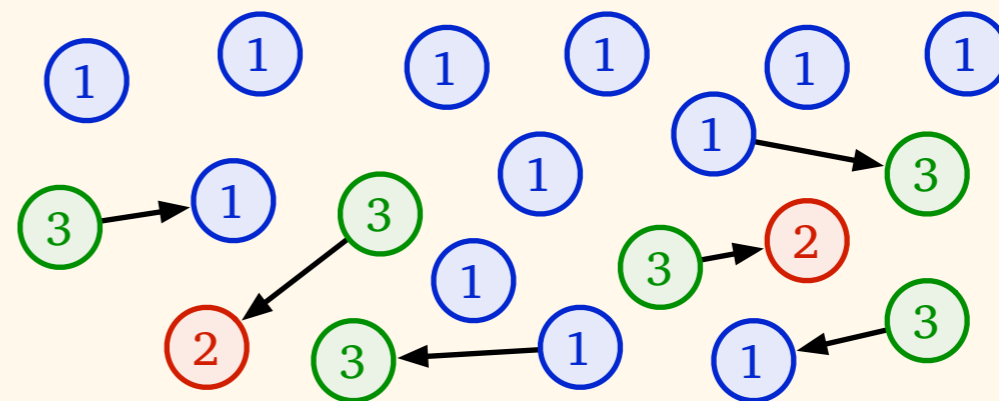
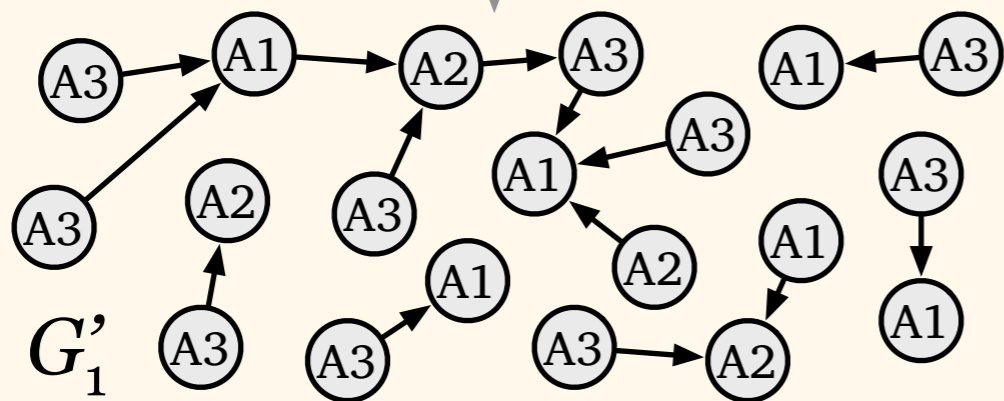
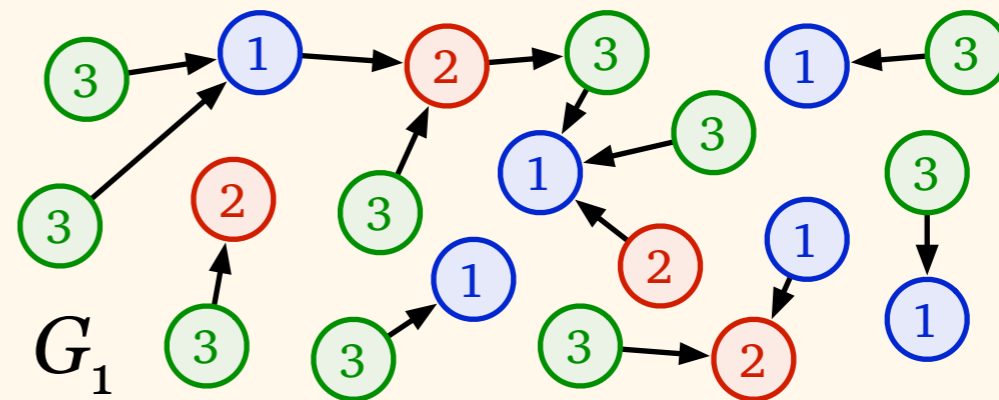
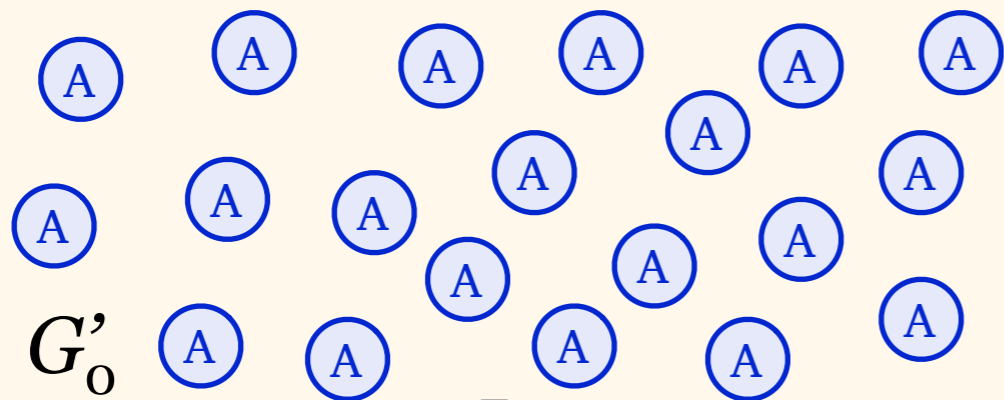
Each node has  $\Delta$  colours,  
one for each forest





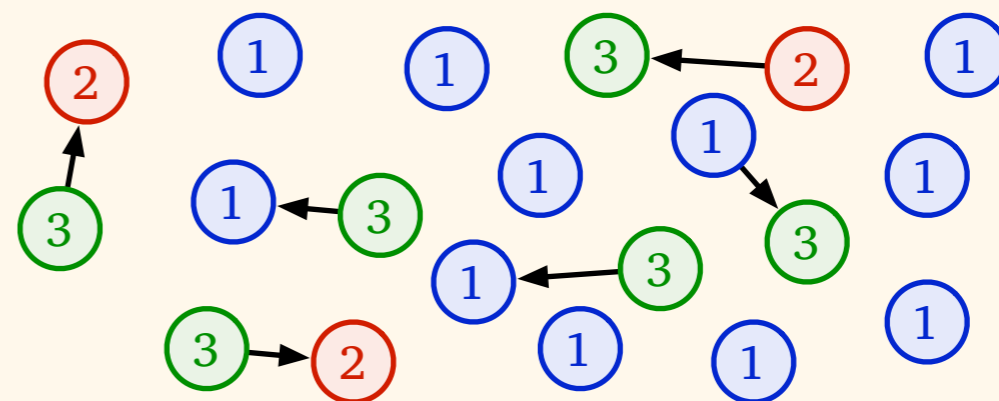
$G'_0$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured  
 – trivial, no edges

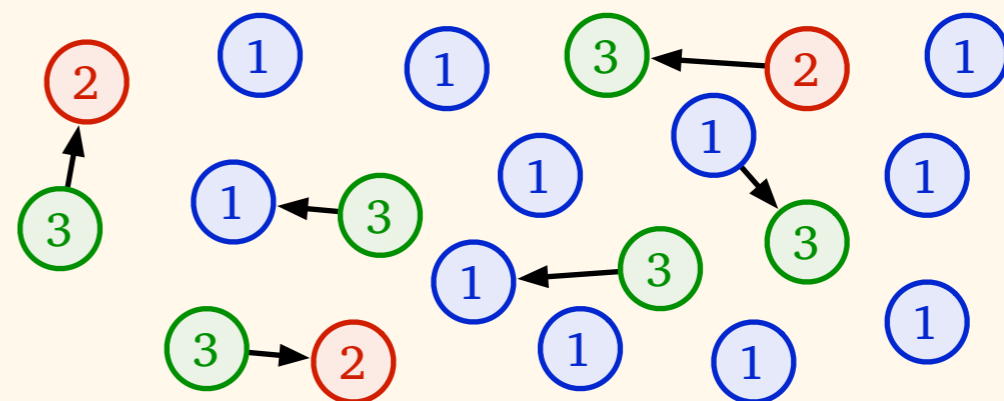
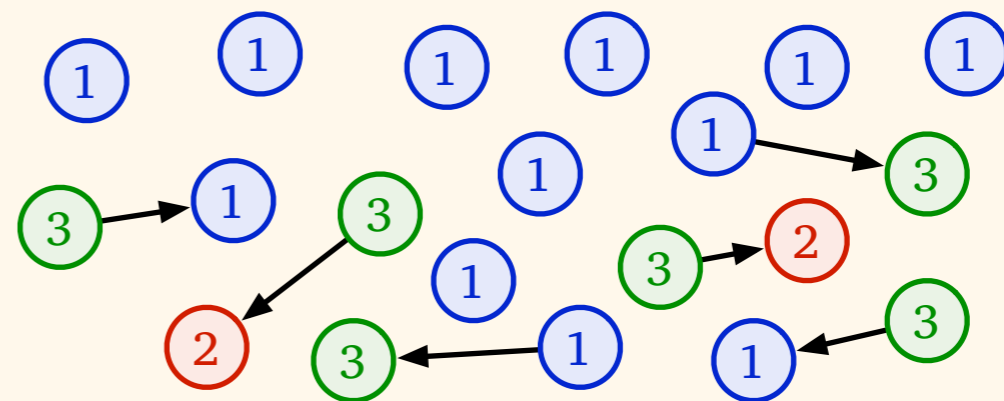
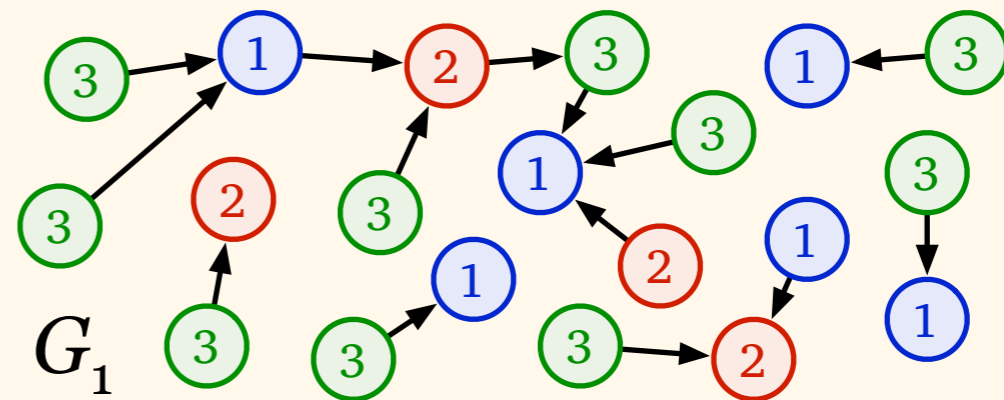
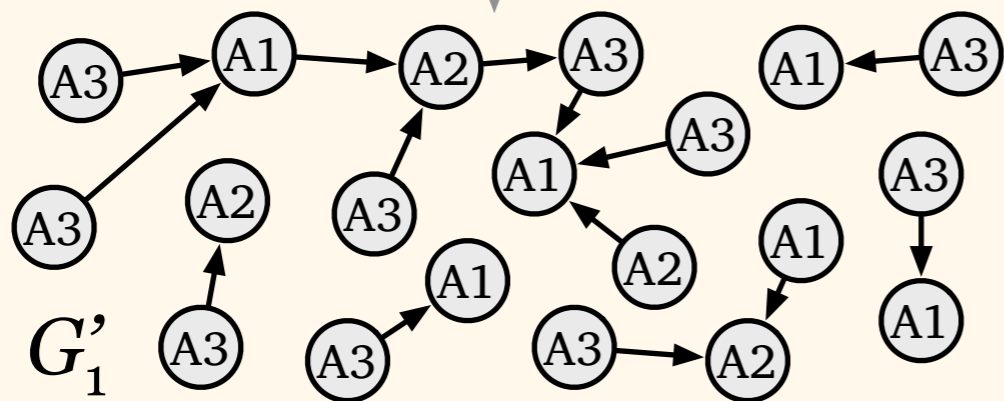
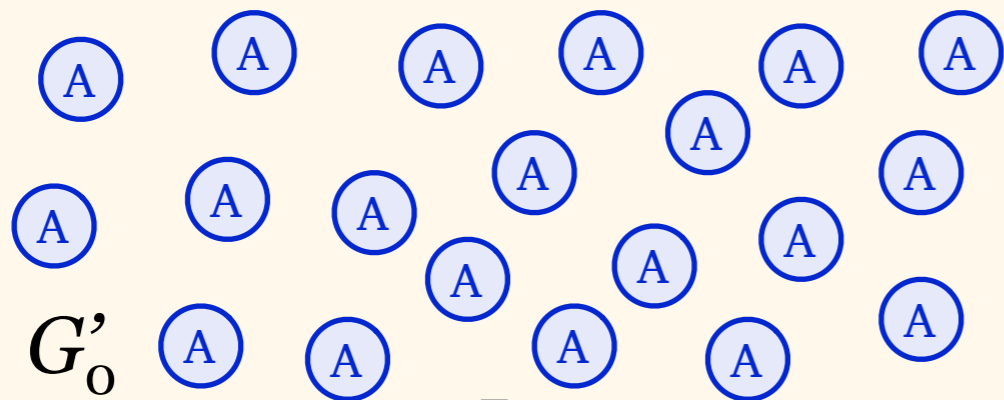




union of edges,  
combination of colours

$$a + b \rightarrow (a, b)$$

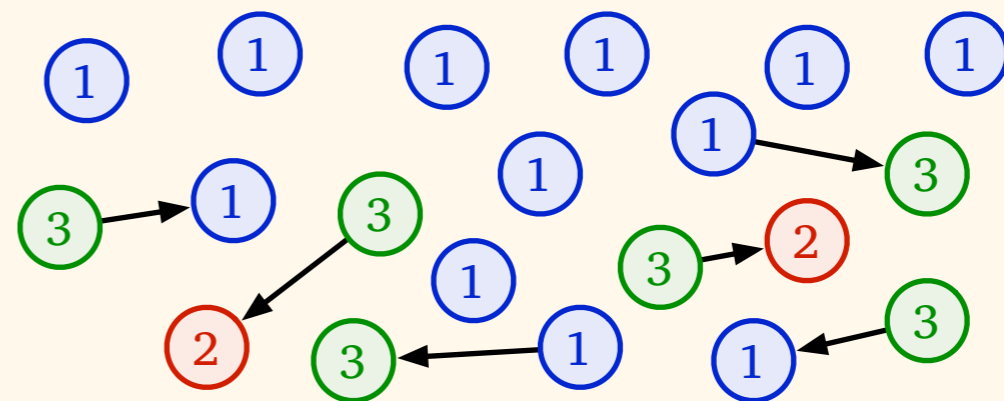
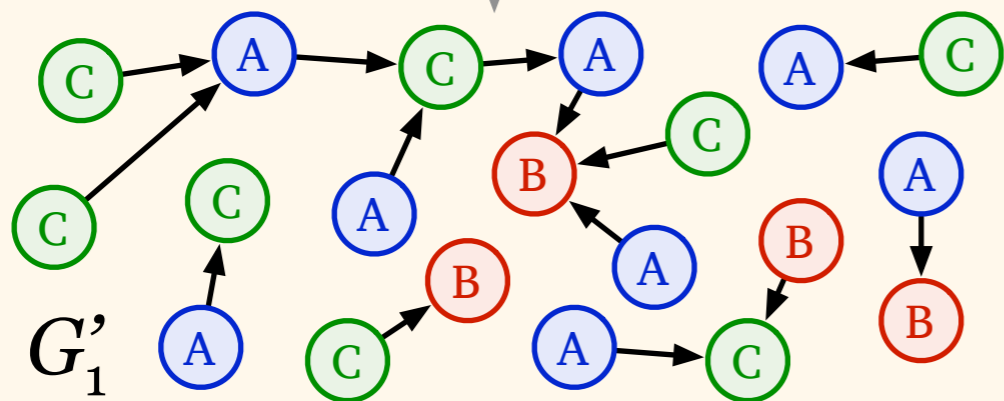
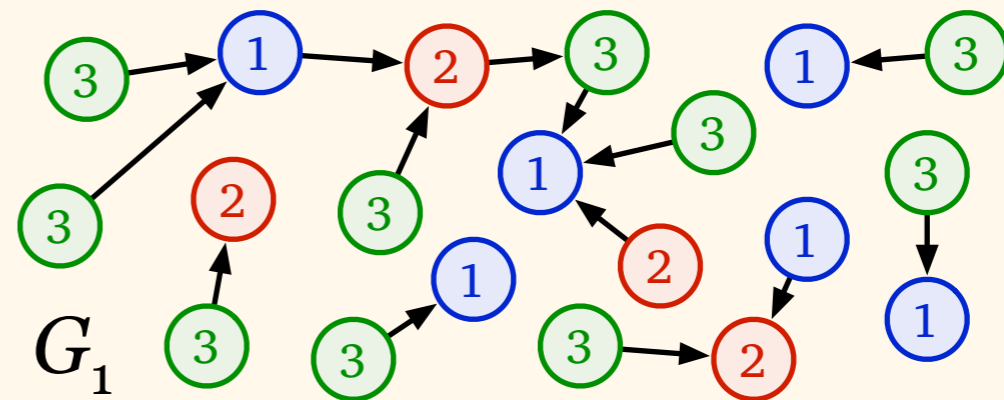
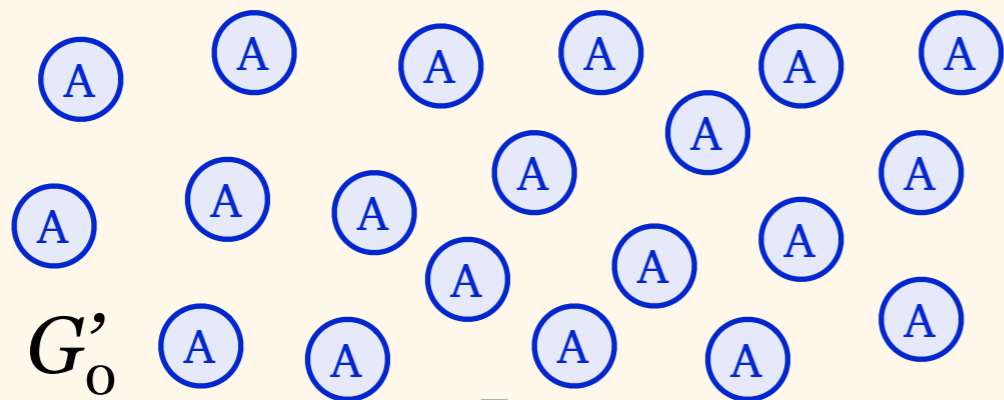




$G'_0$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured

$G_1$ : 3-coloured

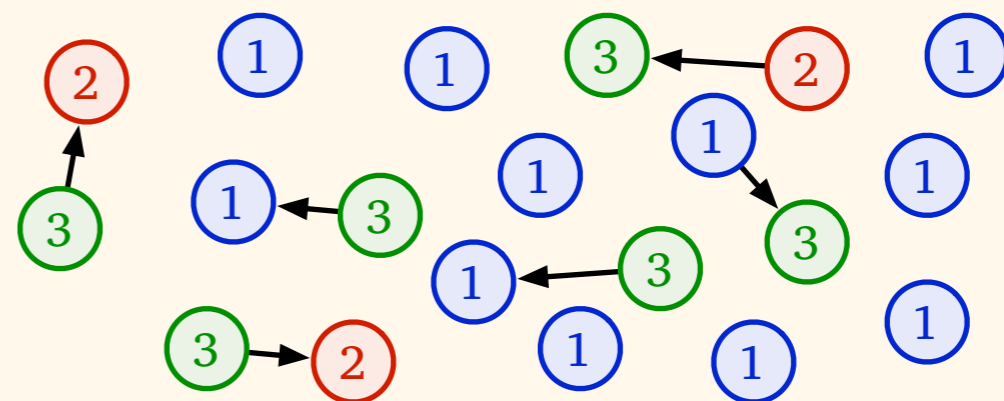
$G'_1$ :  $3(\Delta+1)$ -coloured

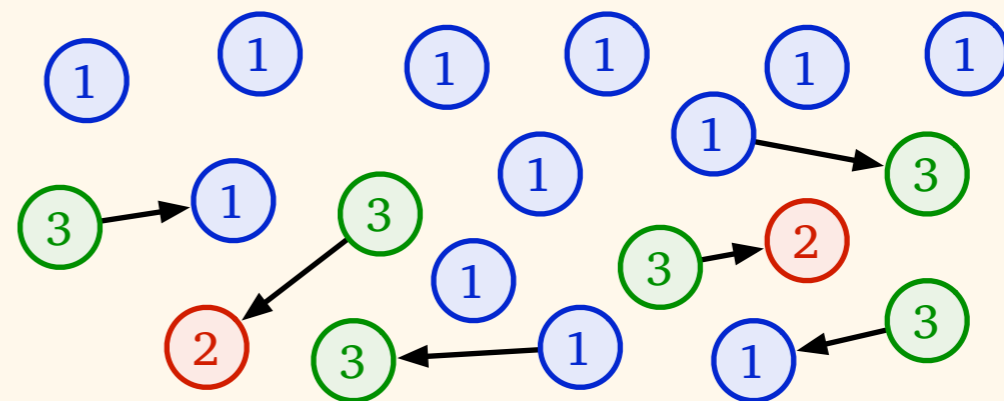
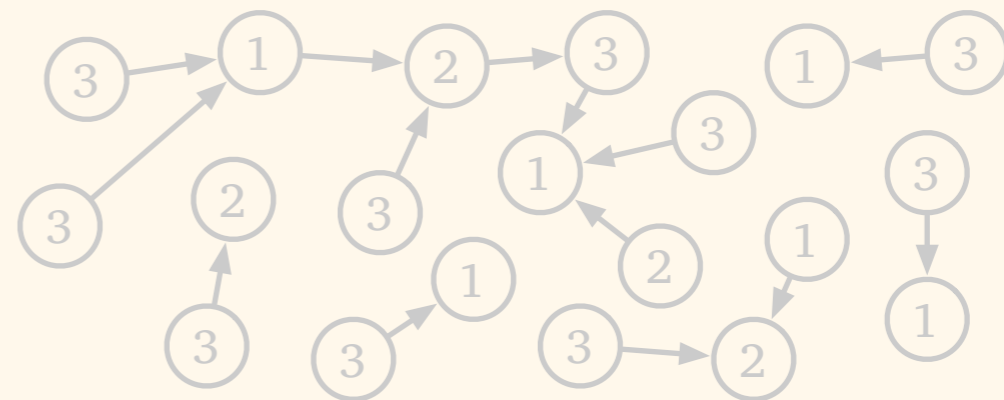
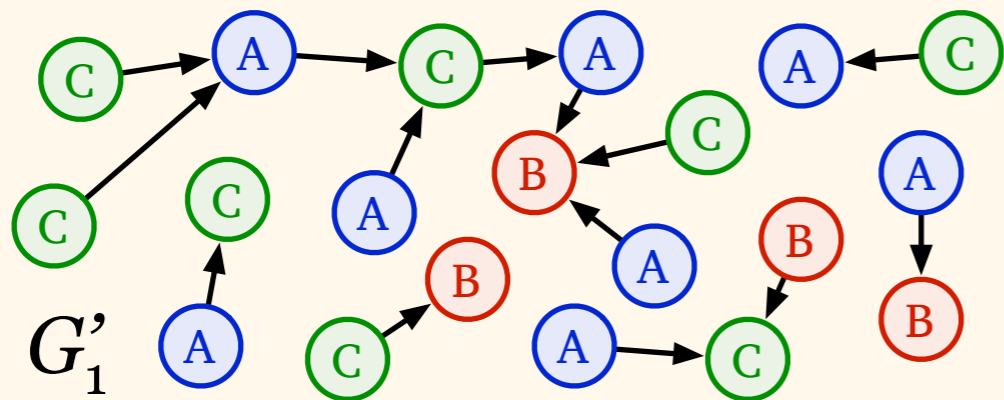


$G'_0$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured

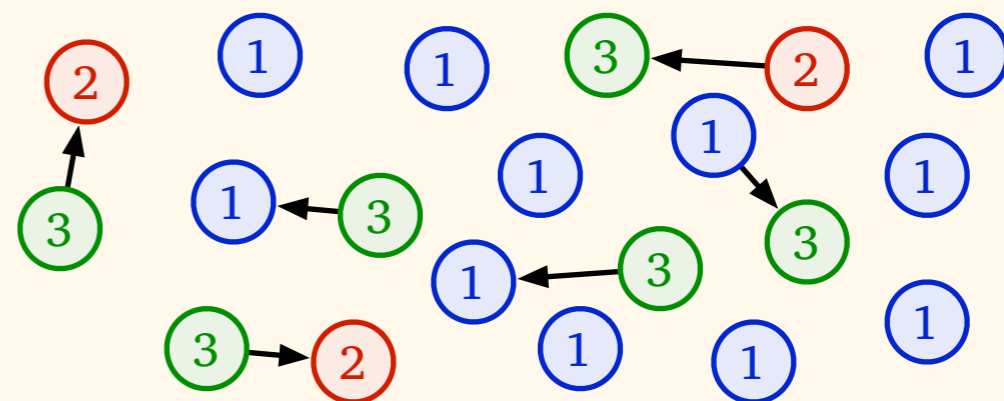
$G_1$ : 3-coloured

$G'_1$ :  $3(\Delta+1)$ -coloured,  
reduce to  $\Delta+1$  greedily

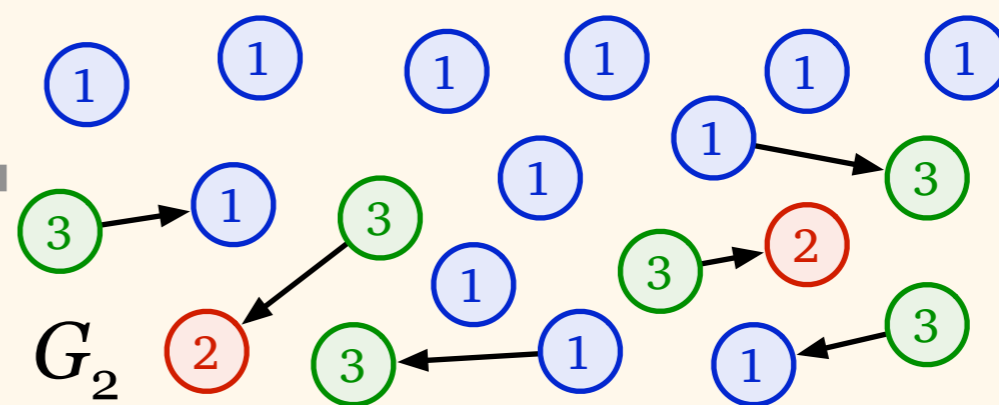
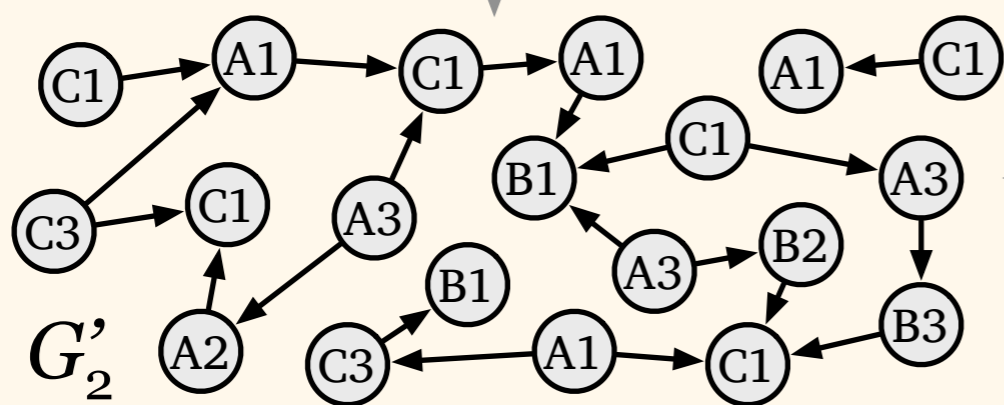
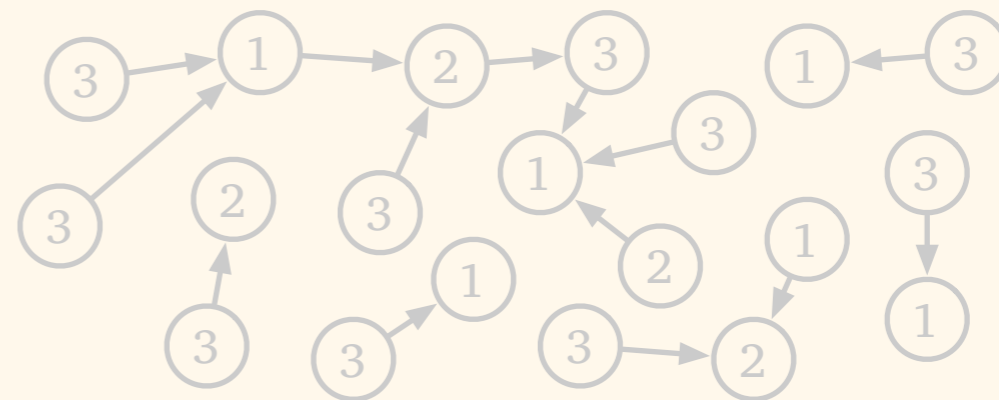
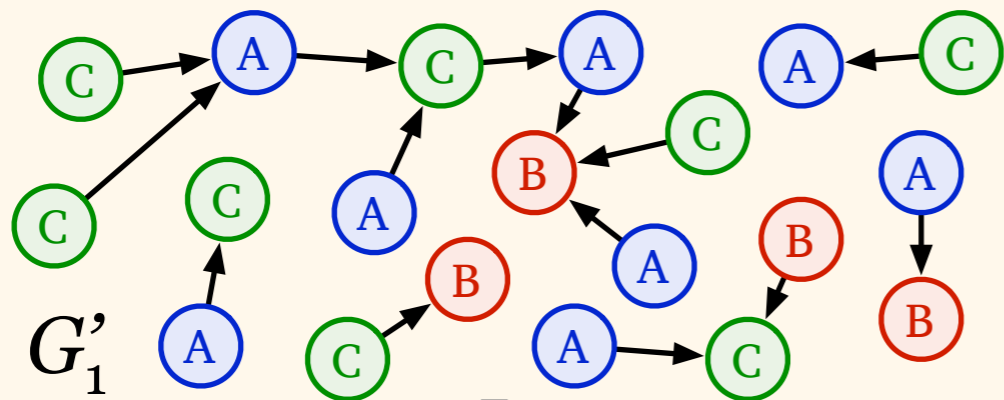




$G'_1$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured



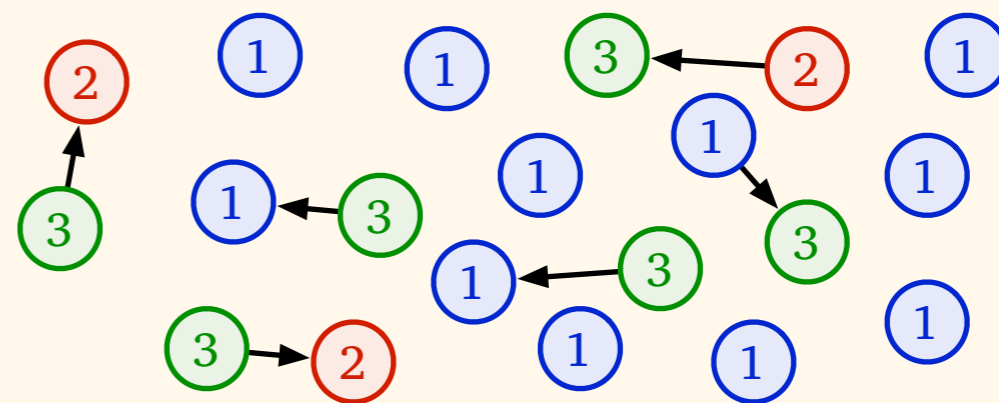


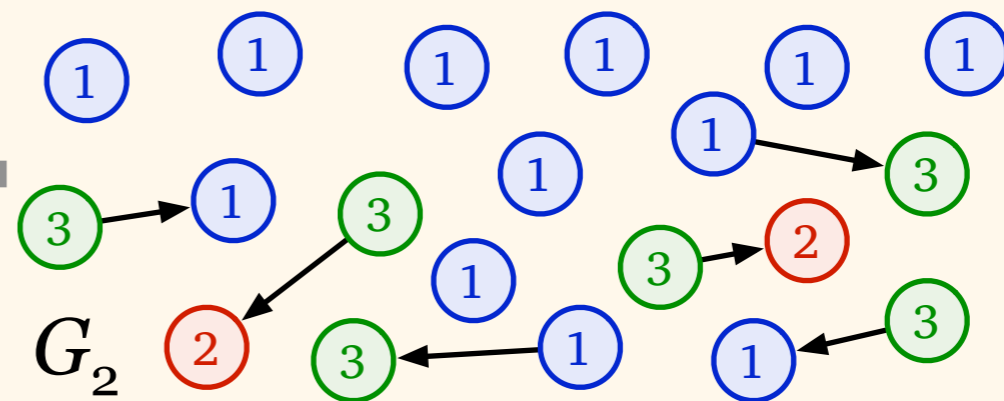
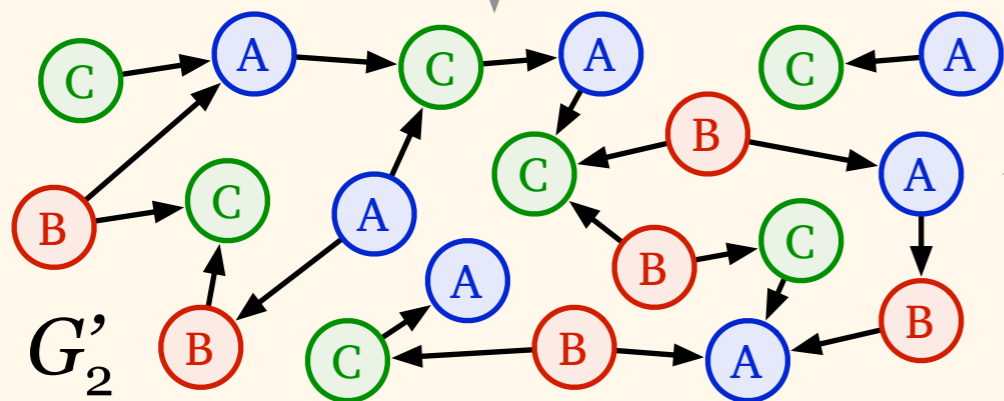
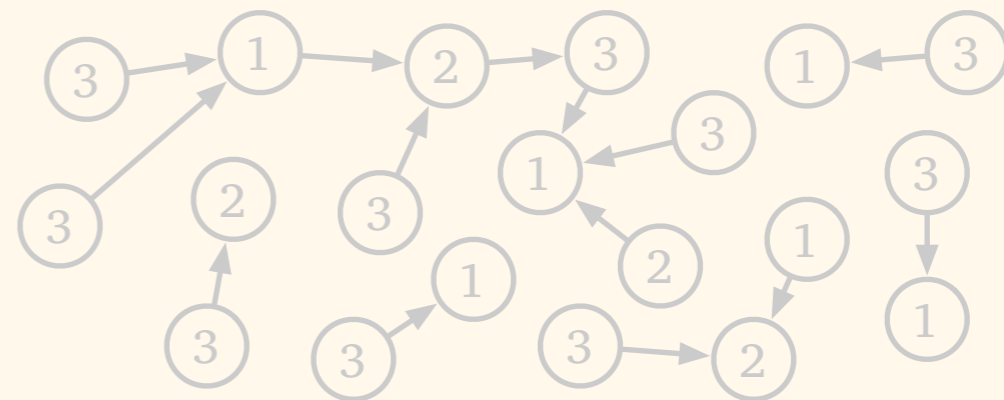
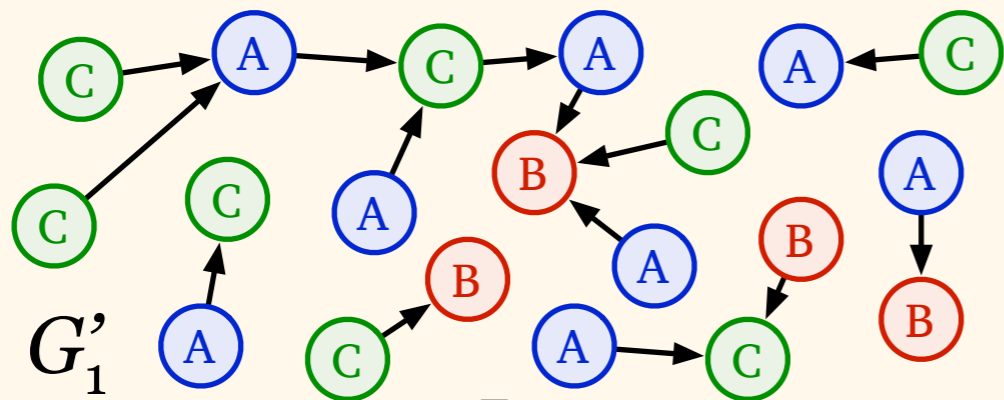


$G'_1$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured

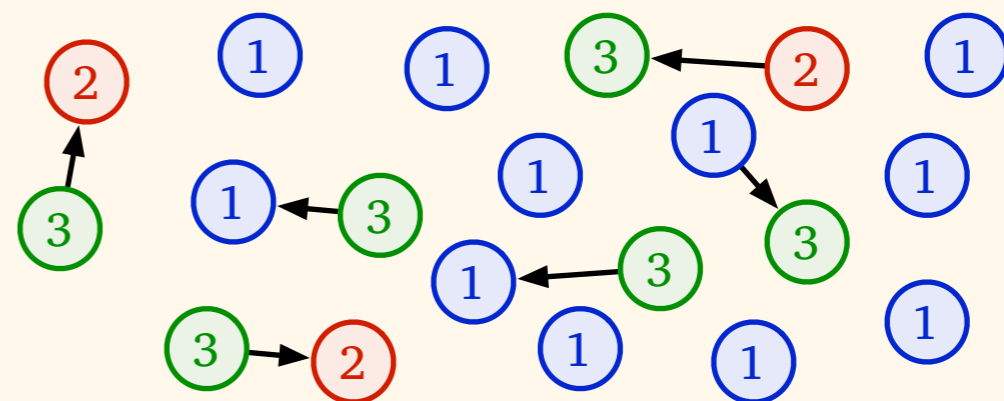
$G_2$ : 3-coloured

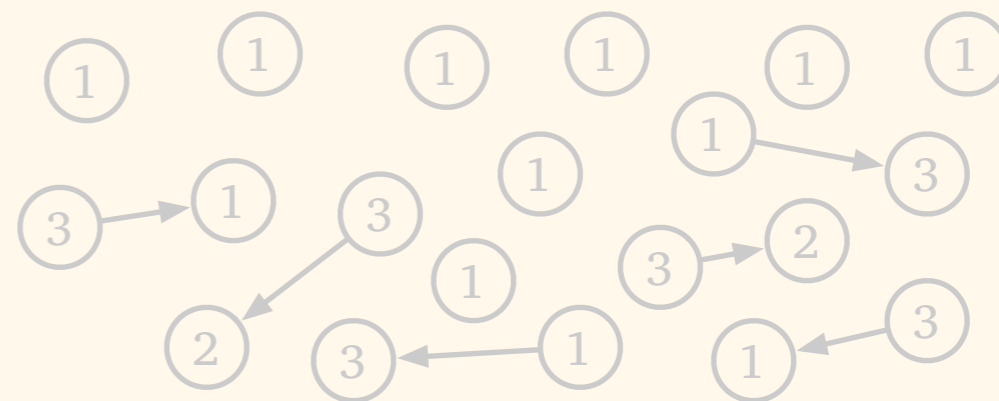
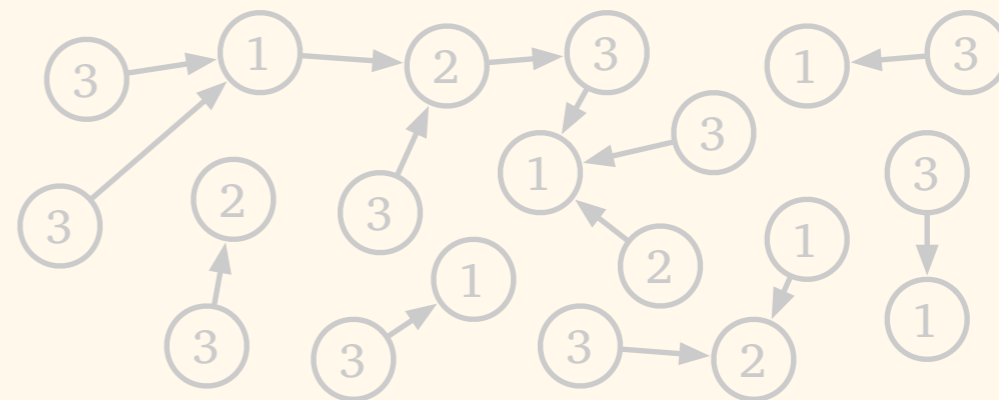
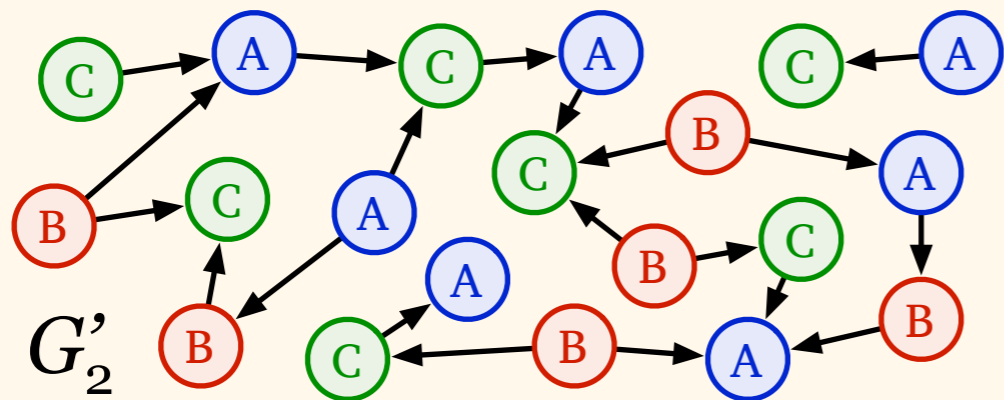
$G'_2$ :  $3(\Delta+1)$ -coloured



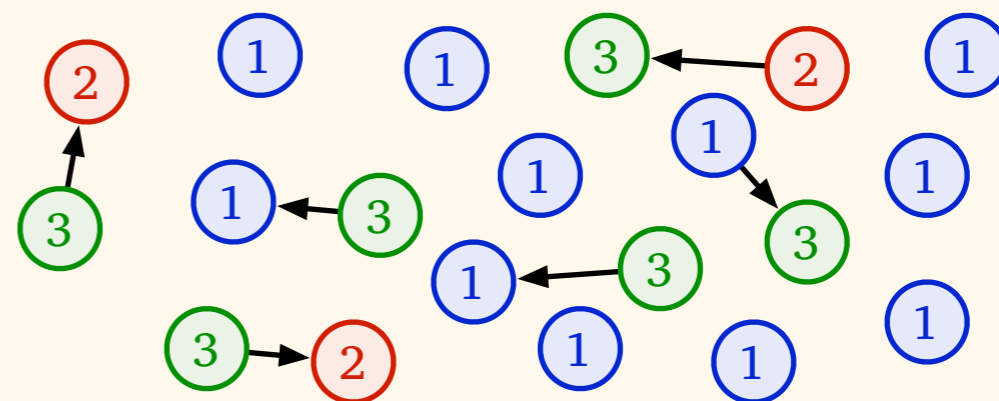


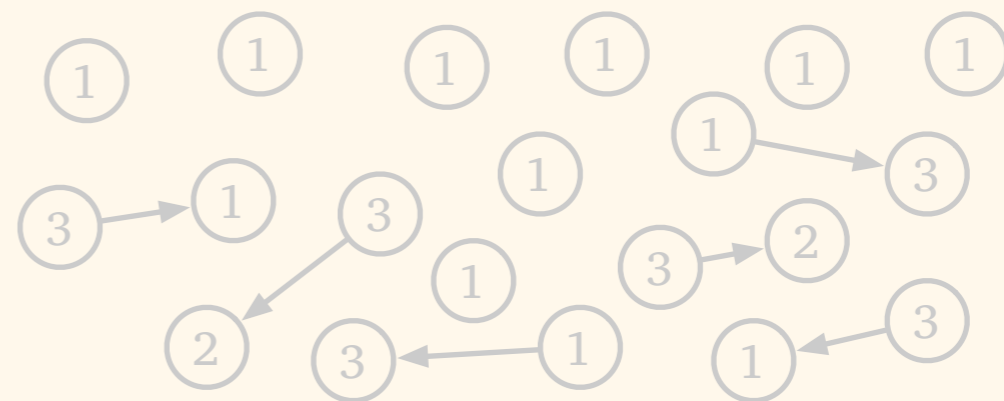
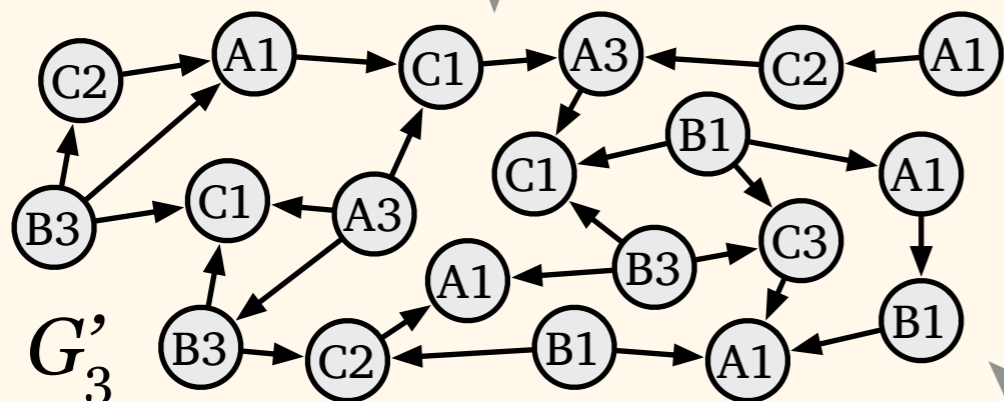
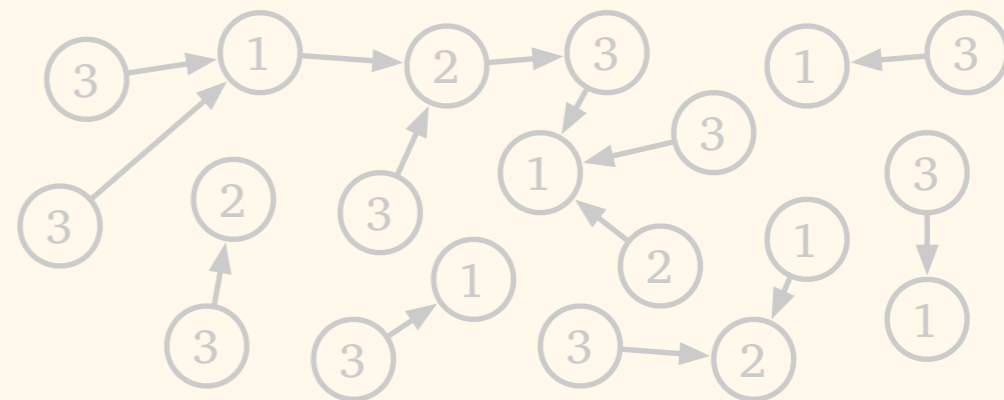
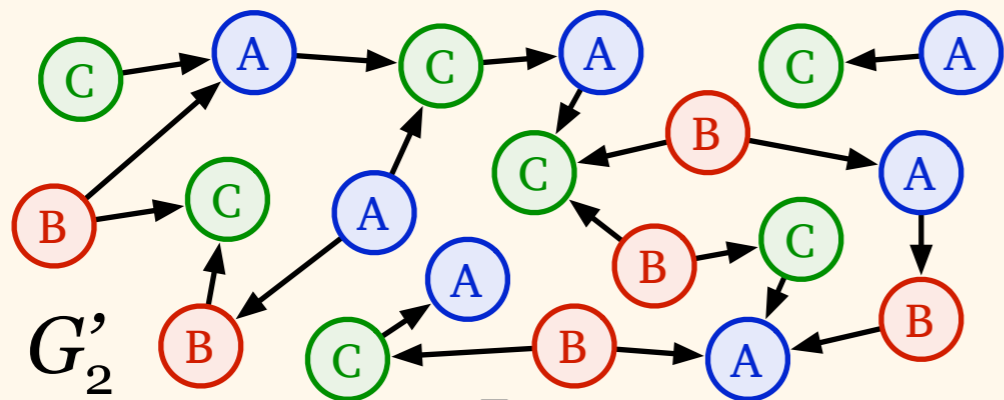
$G'_1$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured  
 $G_2$ : 3-coloured  
 $G'_2$ :  $3(\Delta+1)$ -coloured,  
 reduce to  $\Delta+1$  greedily



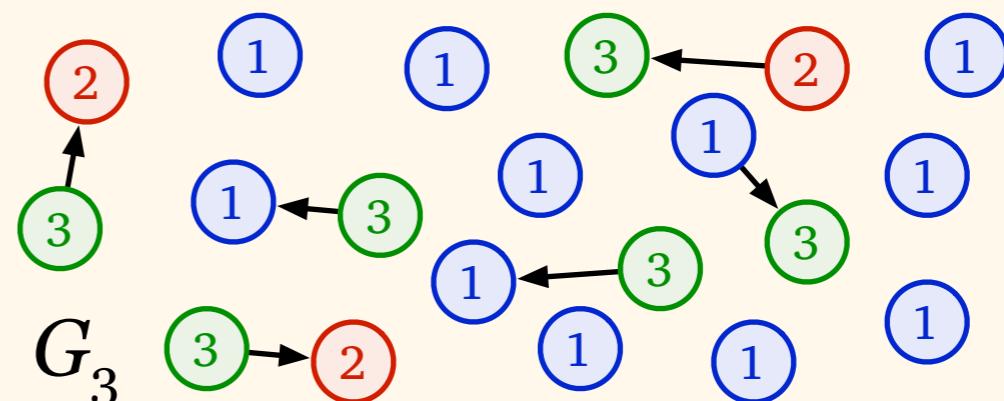


$G'_2$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured

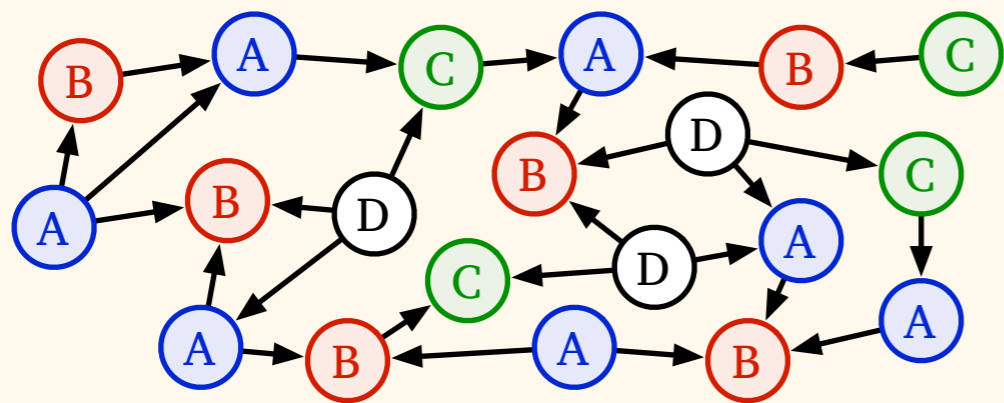




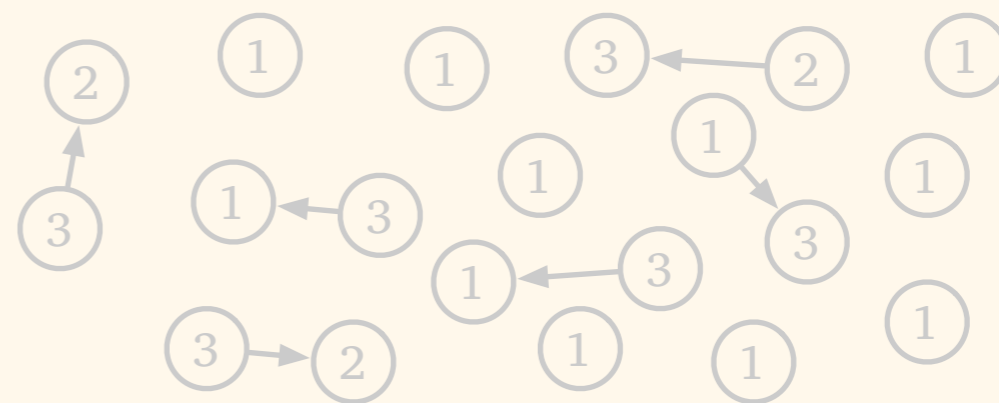
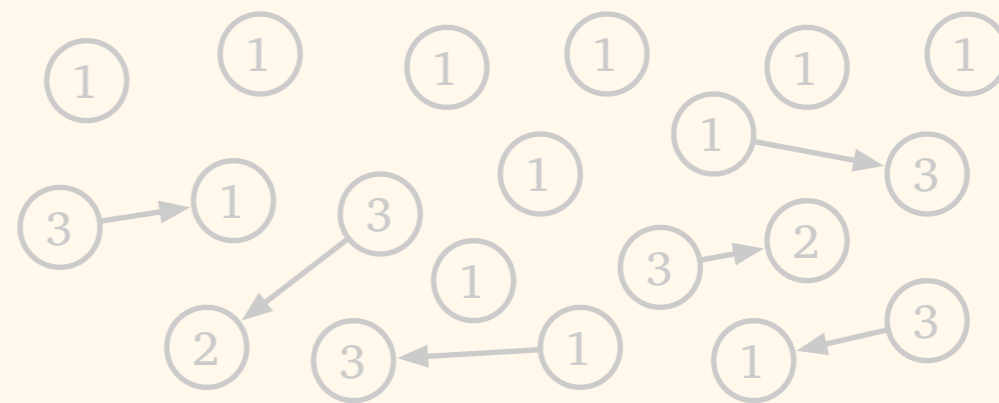
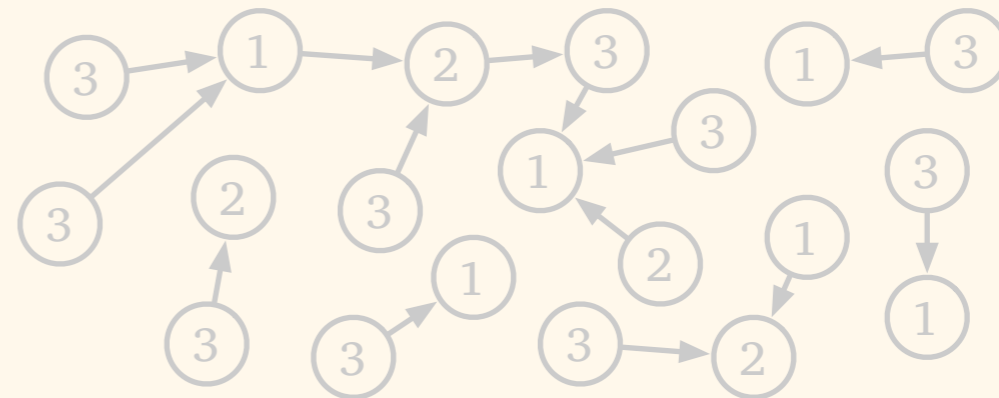
$G'_2$ :  $(\Delta+1)$ -coloured  
 $G_3$ : 3-coloured  
 $G'_3$ :  $3(\Delta+1)$ -coloured







$(\Delta+1)$ -colouring of the original graph



# Fast Graph Colouring

- Colour reduction from  $x$  to  $\Delta+1$ 
  - orientation: **1** round
  - partition: **0** rounds
  - 3-colouring:  $O(\log^* x)$  rounds — see Exercise 5.4
  - $\Delta$  phases:
    - merge & reduce  $3(\Delta+1) \rightarrow \Delta+1$ :  **$2(\Delta+1)$**  rounds
  - **total**:  $O(\Delta^2 + \log^* x)$  rounds

# Fast Graph Colouring

- Colour reduction from  $x$  to  $\Delta+1$ 
  - $O(\Delta^2 + \log^* x)$  rounds
- Plenty of applications — see exercises
- Similar techniques can be used to solve other problems

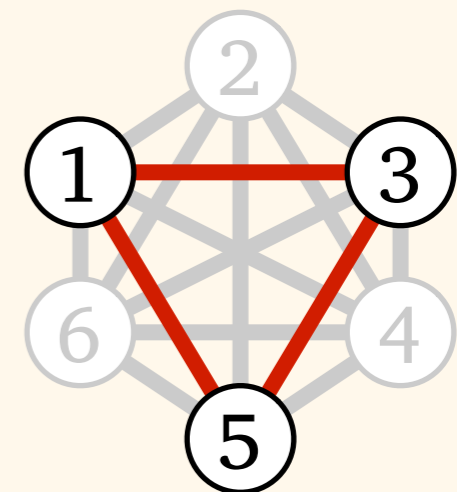
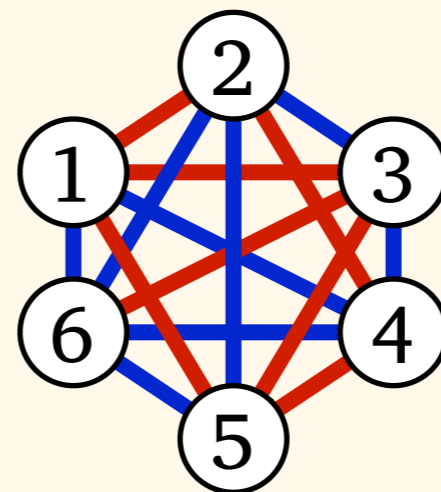


# Fast Graph Colouring

- Colour reduction from  $x$  to  $\Delta+1$ 
  - $O(\Delta^2 + \log^* x)$  rounds
- Fast, but running time depends on  $x$
- Next week:
  - dependence on  $x$  is necessary
  - even if  $\Delta = 2$ , we cannot reduce the number of colours from  $x$  to 3 in constant time, independently of  $x$

# Ramsey Theory

*DDA Course*  
*Lecture 6.1*  
*24 April 2012*



# ON A PROBLEM OF FORMAL LOGIC

*By* F. P. RAMSEY.

[Received 28 November, 1928.—Read 13 December, 1928.]

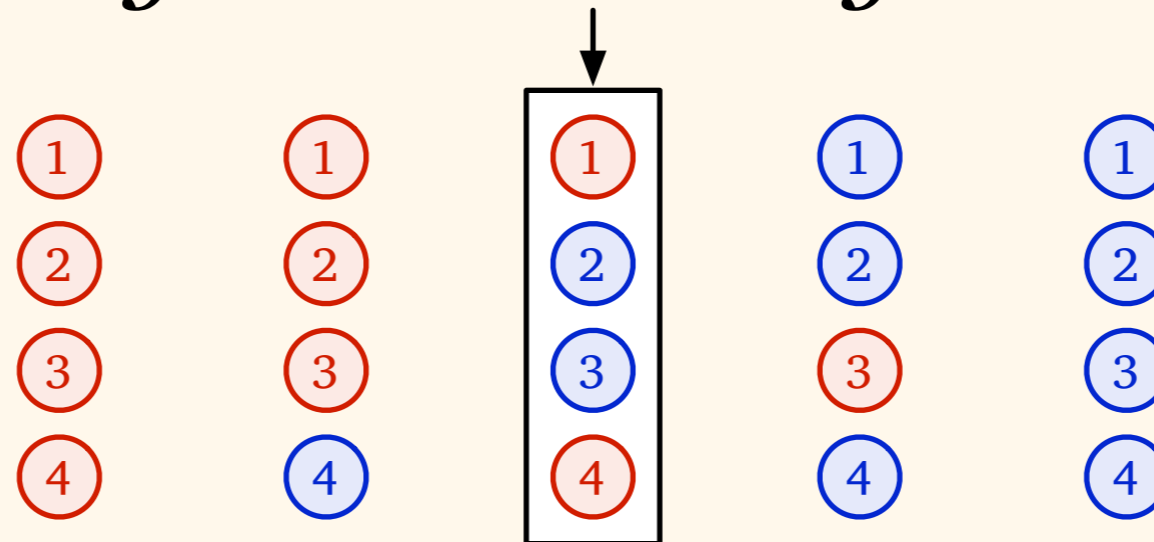
This paper is primarily concerned with a special case of one of the leading problems of mathematical logic, the problem of finding a regular procedure to determine the truth or falsity of any given logical formula\*. But in the course of this investigation it is necessary to use certain theorems on combinations which have an independent interest and are most conveniently set out by themselves beforehand.

*“... certain theorems on combinations  
which have an independent interest...”*

# Pigeonhole Principle

$N = 4$  items, colour each of them **red** or **blue**

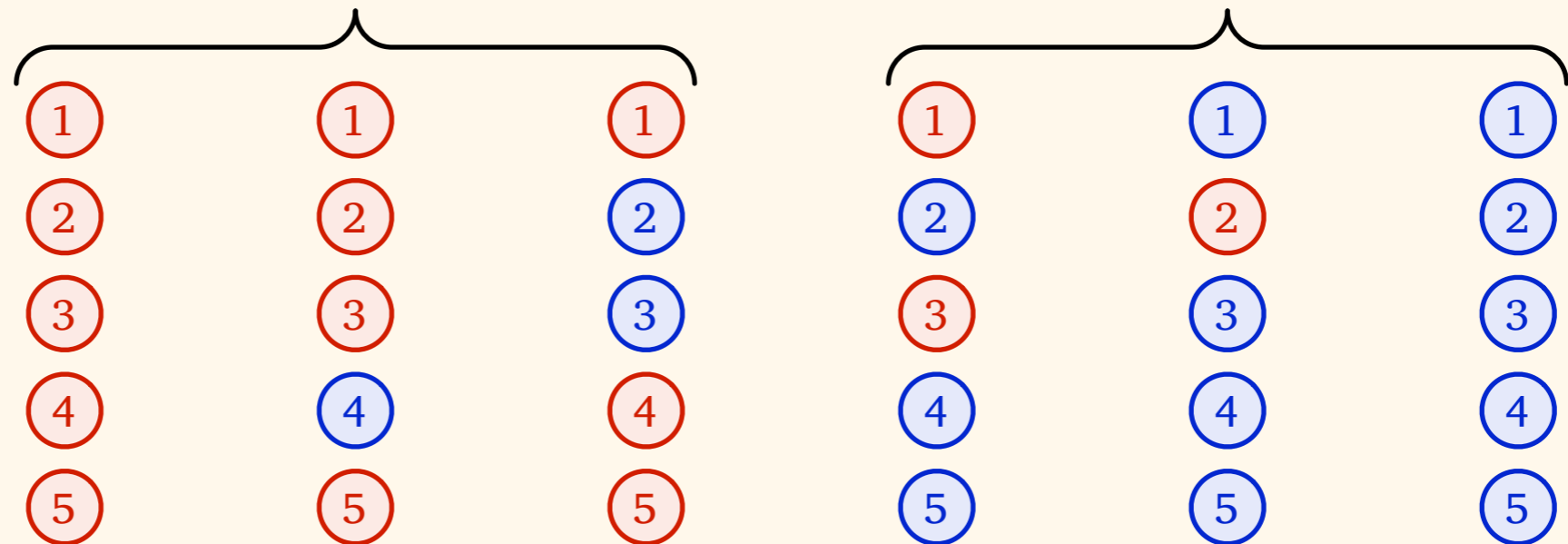
Possible: *only 2 red and only 2 blue*



# Pigeonhole Principle

$N = 5$  items, colour each of them **red** or **blue**

Always: *at least 3 red* or *at least 3 blue*



# Pigeonhole Principle

- Let  $n = 3$
- $N$  items, colour each of them **red** or **blue**
- If  $N$  is large enough, there are always
  - at least  $n$  **red** items or
  - at least  $n$  **blue** items
- Here  $N \geq 5$  is sufficient,  $N < 5$  is not

# Pigeonhole Principle

- Let  $n$  be anything
- $N$  items, colour each of them **red** or **blue**
- If  $N$  is large enough, there are always
  - at least  $n$  **red** items or
  - at least  $n$  **blue** items
- Here  $N \geq 2n - 1$  is sufficient

# Ramsey Theory

- Generalisation of pigeonhole principle
- Again, we have  $N$  items
- However, we will not colour items, we will colour **sets** of items
  - example: we colour all 2-subsets of items
  - “ $k$ -subset” = subset of size  $k$



# Ramsey Theory

- $Y$ : set with  $N$  items
  - $N = 4$ :  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
- $f$ : colouring of  $k$ -subsets of  $Y$ 
  - $k = 2$ :  $f(\{1, 2\}) = \text{red}$ ,  $f(\{1, 3\}) = \text{blue}$ , ...
- $X \subseteq Y$  is **monochromatic** if all  $k$ -subsets of  $X$  have the same colour

$$N = 4, Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, k = 2$$

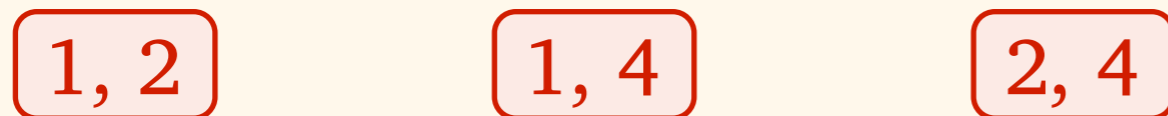
Colour each 2-subset of  $Y$ :



$\{1, 2, 3\}$  is not monochromatic:



$\{1, 2, 4\}$  is **monochromatic**:



$$N = 4, Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, k = 2$$

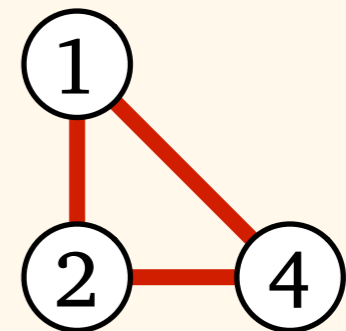
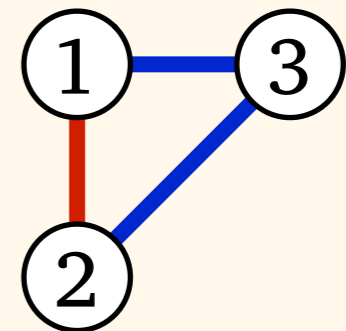
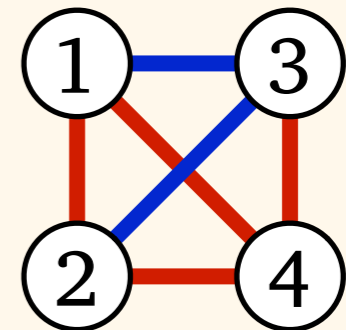
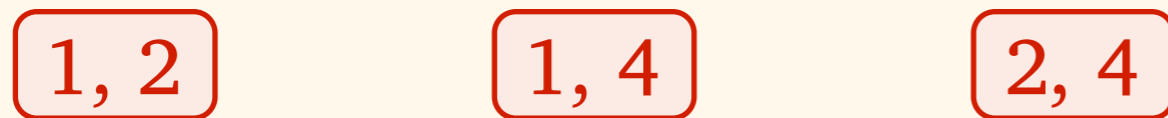
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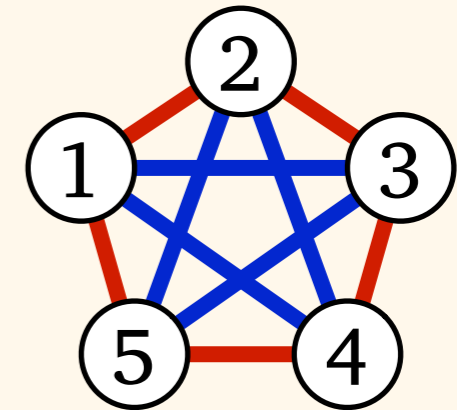
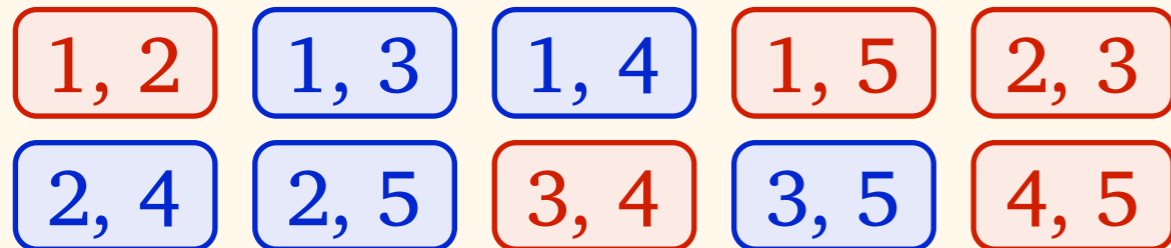


# Ramsey Theory

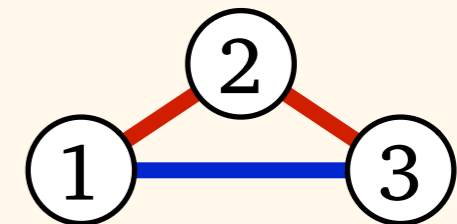
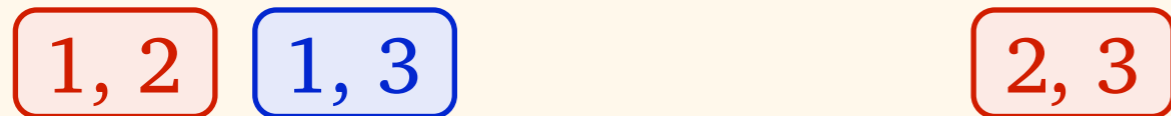
- Let  $n = 3$ ,  $k = 2$
- $N$  items, colour each  $k$ -subset **red** or **blue**
- **Claim:** if  $N$  is sufficiently large, there is always a monochromatic subset of size  $n$

$$N = 5, Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, k = 2$$

Colour each 2-subset of  $Y$ :



$\{1, 2, 3\}$  is not monochromatic:

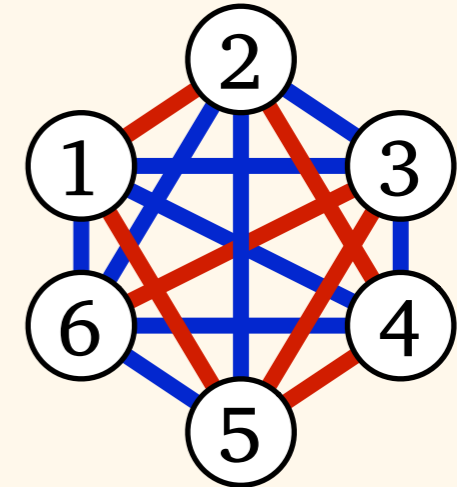
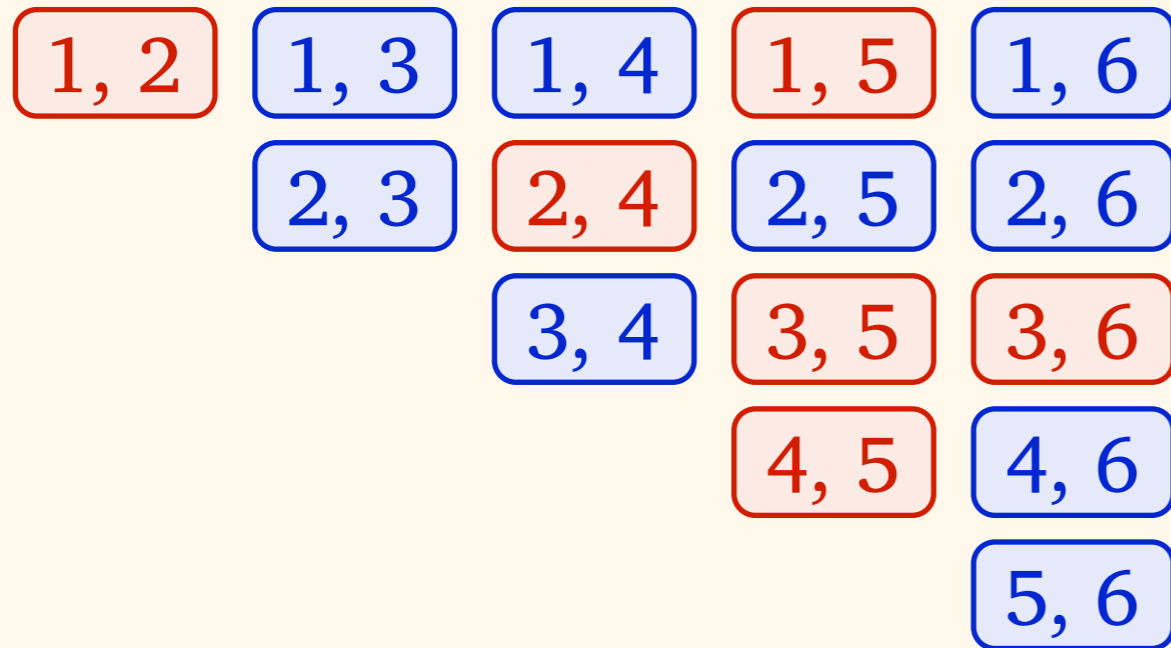


Check all possibilities:

there is no monochromatic subset of size 3

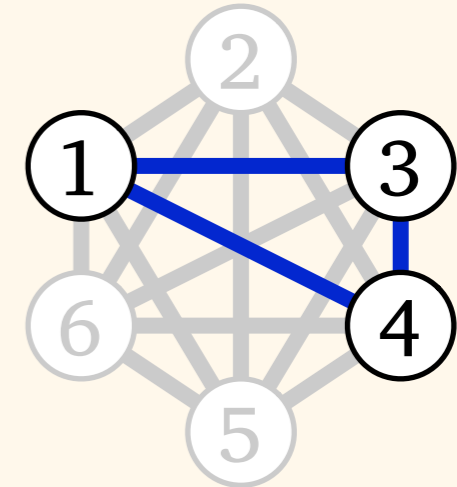
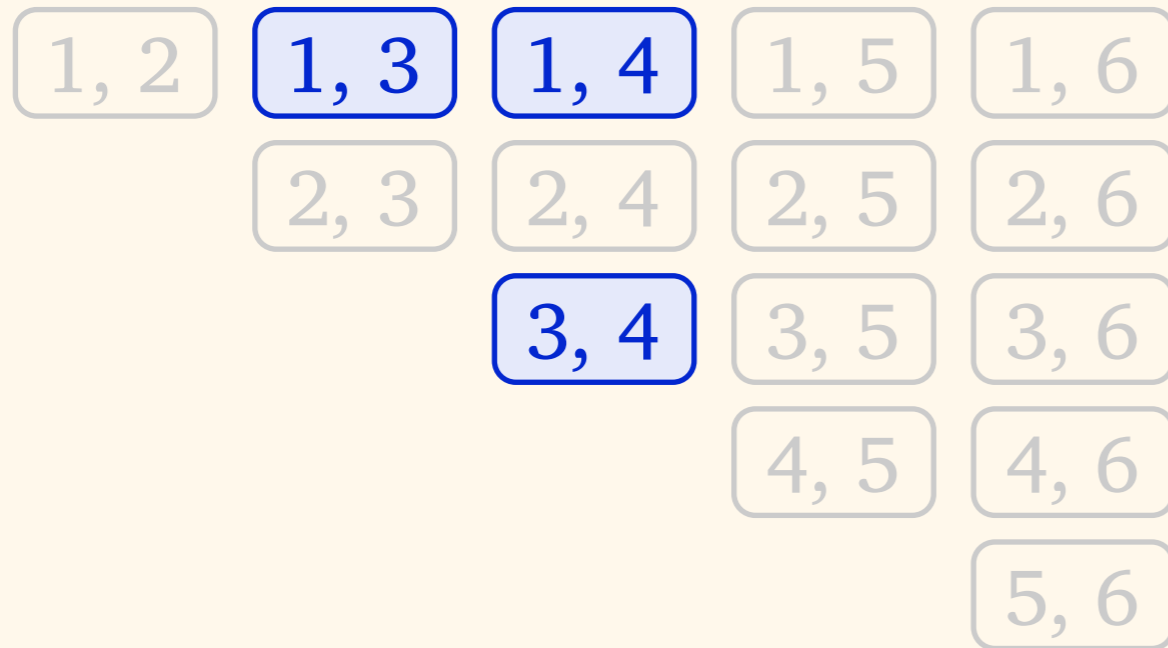
$$N = 6, Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, k = 2$$

Colour each 2-subset of  $Y$ :



$$N = 6, Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, k = 2$$

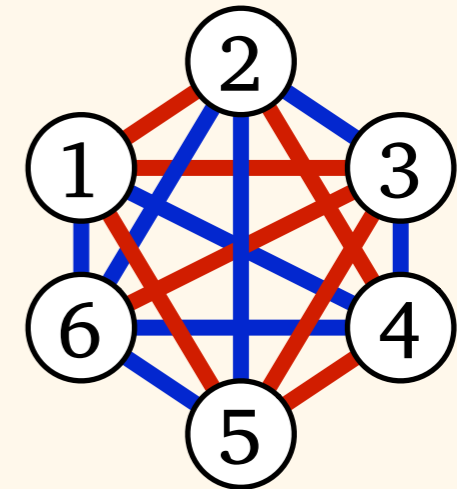
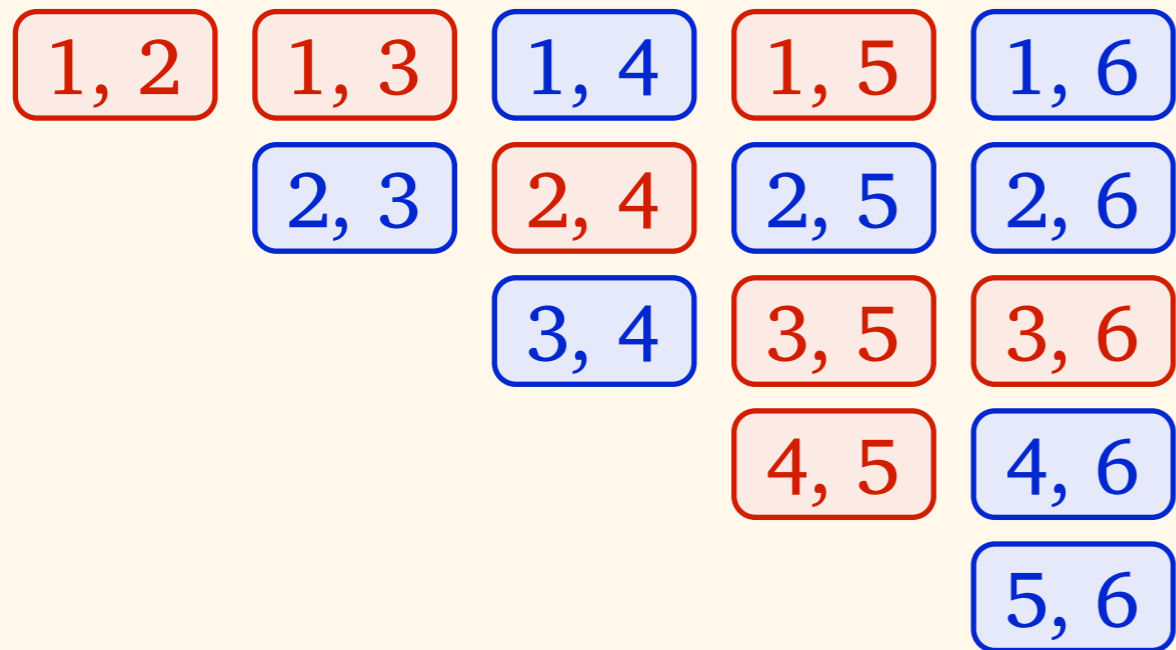
Colour each 2-subset of  $Y$ :



$\{1, 3, 4\}$  is monochromatic

$$N = 6, Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, k = 2$$

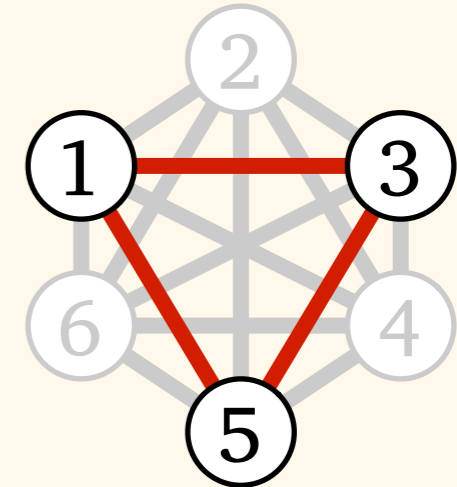
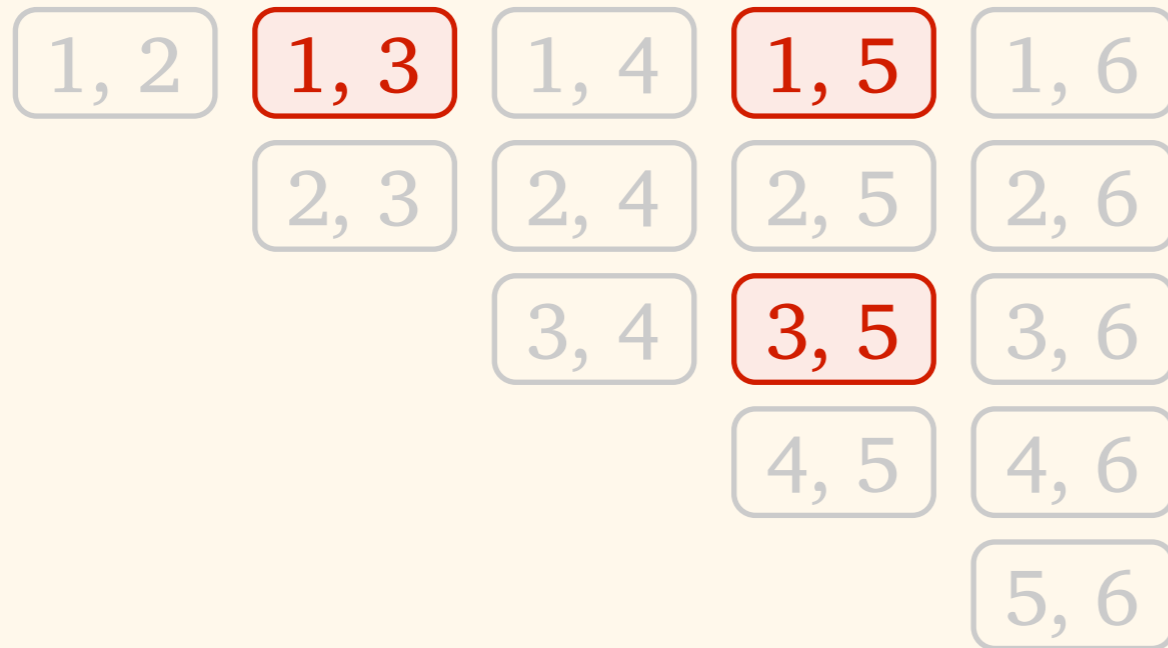
Colour each 2-subset of  $Y$ :





$N = 6, Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}, k = 2$

Colour each 2-subset of  $Y$ :



$\{1, 3, 5\}$  is monochromatic

# Ramsey Theory

- Let  $n = 3$ ,  $k = 2$
- $N$  items, colour each  $k$ -subset **red** or **blue**
- **Claim:** if  $N$  is sufficiently large, there is always a monochromatic subset of size  $n$ 
  - $N = 5$  is not enough
  - it is possible to show that  $N = 6$  is enough

# Ramsey Theory

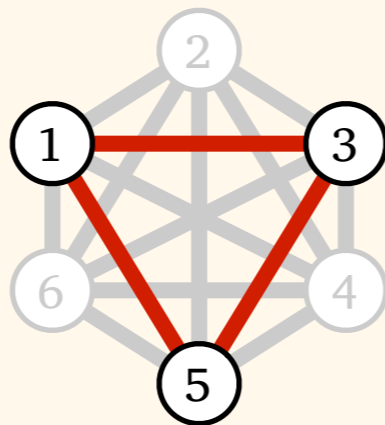
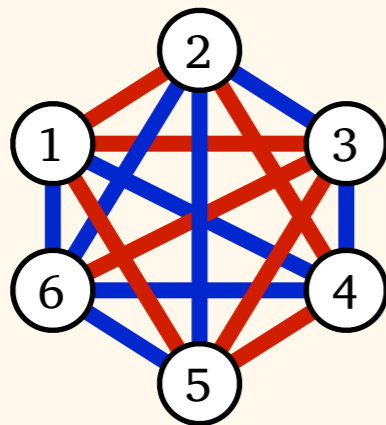
- Let  $n$  and  $k$  be any positive integers
- $N$  items, colour each  $k$ -subset **red** or **blue**
- **Claim:** if  $N$  is sufficiently large, there is always a monochromatic subset of size  $n$

# Ramsey Theory

- Let  $c$ ,  $n$ , and  $k$  be any positive integers
- $N$  items, colour each  $k$ -subset with a colour from  $\{1, 2, \dots, c\}$
- **Claim:** if  $N$  is sufficiently large, there is always a monochromatic subset of size  $n$

# Ramsey's Theorem

- **Theorem:** For all  $c$ ,  $n$ , and  $k$ , there is a number  $R_c(n; k)$  such that if you take  $N \geq R_c(n; k)$  items, and colour each  $k$ -subset with one of  $c$  colours, there is always a monochromatic  $n$ -subset



$$R_2(3; 2) = 6$$

# Ramsey's Theorem

- **Theorem:** For all  $c$ ,  $n$ , and  $k$ , there is a number  $R_c(n; k)$  such that if you take  $N \geq R_c(n; k)$  items, and colour each  $k$ -subset with one of  $c$  colours, there is always a monochromatic  $n$ -subset
  - proof: see the course material
  - numbers  $R_c(n; k)$  are called *Ramsey numbers*
  - examples:  $R_2(3; 2) = 6$ ,  $R_2(4; 2) = 18$

# Ramsey's Theorem

- No matter how you colour subsets, if the base set is large enough, we can always find a monochromatic subset
- Our application: *no constant-time algorithm for 3-colouring directed cycles*
  - no matter how you design your algorithm, if the set of possible identifiers is large enough, we can always find a “bad input”

# Colouring in Constant Time?

*DDA Course*

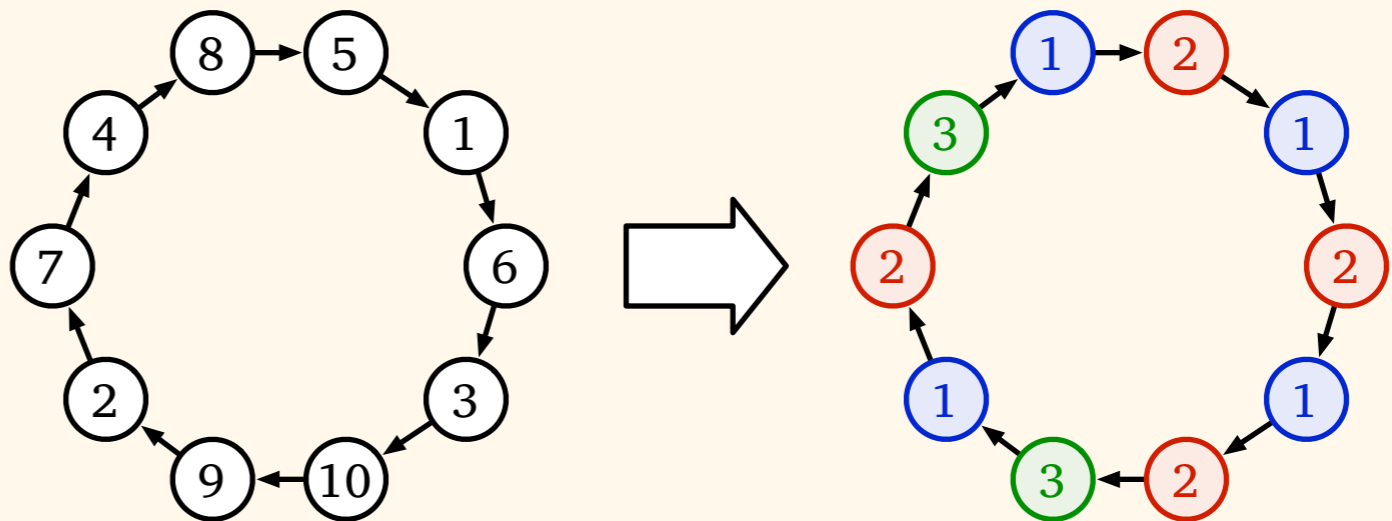
*Lecture 6.2*

*26 April 2012*



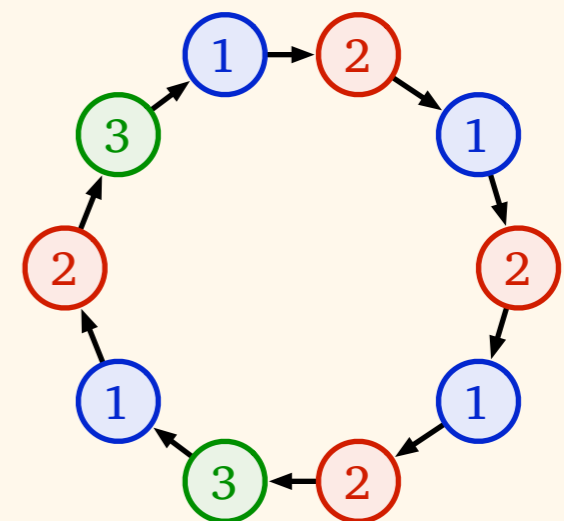
# Colouring in Cycles

- Problem: 3-colouring in *directed cycles*
  - unique identifiers from  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
  - outdegree = indegree = 1



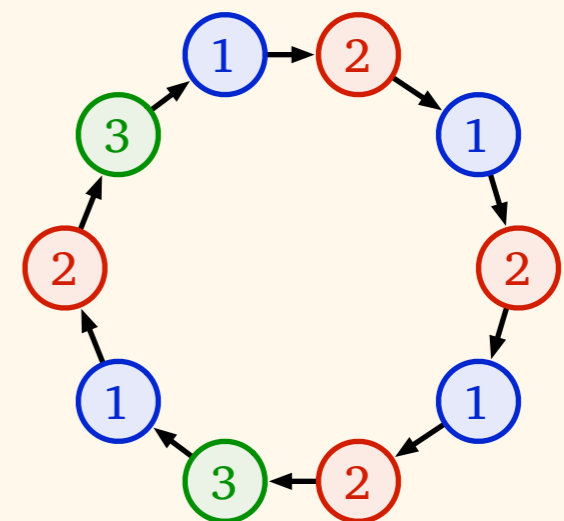
# Colouring in Cycles

- Problem: 3-colouring in *directed cycles*
  - unique identifiers from  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
  - outdegree = indegree = 1
- We know how to solve this problem in time  $O(\log^* n)$ 
  - special case of directed pseudoforests



# Colouring in Cycles

- Problem: 3-colouring in *directed cycles*
  - unique identifiers from  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
  - outdegree = indegree = 1
- We know how to solve this problem in time  $O(\log^* n)$
- Can we do it in time  $O(1)$ ?

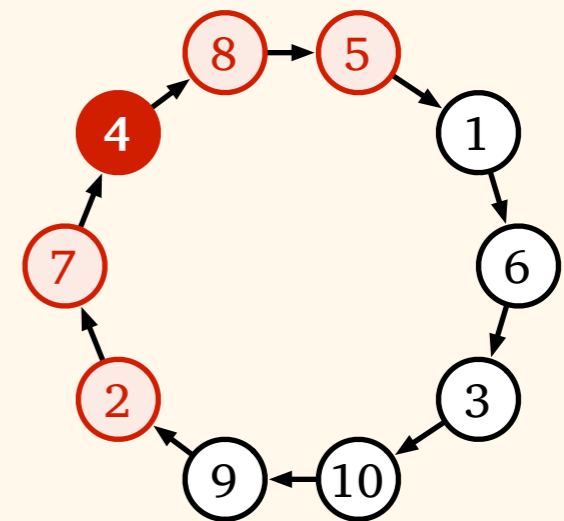


# Ramsey Says No

- Assume that algorithm  $A$ :
  - in any directed cycle,  
stops in time  $T$  for some constant  $T$
  - produces local outputs from  $\{1, 2, 3\}$
- We will use Ramsey's theorem to show that there is a directed cycle in which  $A$  fails to produce a proper vertex colouring

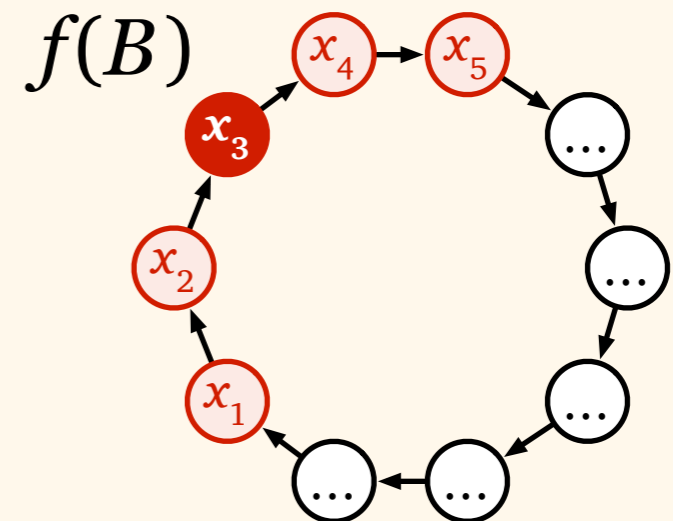
# Ramsey Says No

- Example: algorithm runs in time  $T = 2$
- Output of a node only depends on  $k = 2T + 1 = 5$  nodes around it
  - choose  $c = 3$ ,  $n = k + 1 = 6$
  - choose  $N \geq R_c(n; k)$
  - $c$ -colour  $k$ -subsets of  $\{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ :  
there is a monochromatic  $n$ -subset



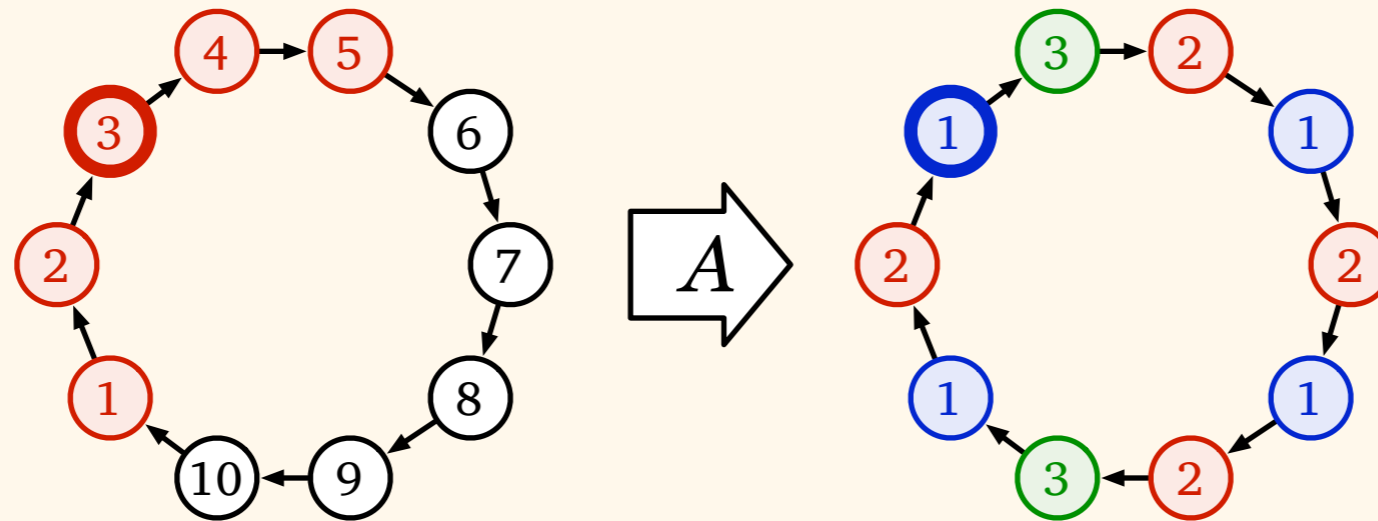
# Ramsey Says No

- Set of identifiers:  $Y = \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$
- We use algorithm  $A$  to colour  $k$ -subsets of  $Y$ 
  - for each set  $B = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq Y$ ,  
 $x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_k$
  - construct a cycle where nodes  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  are placed in this order
  - $f(B)$  = output of the middle node



Colour each  $k$ -subset of  $Y$ :

— what is the colour of  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ ?



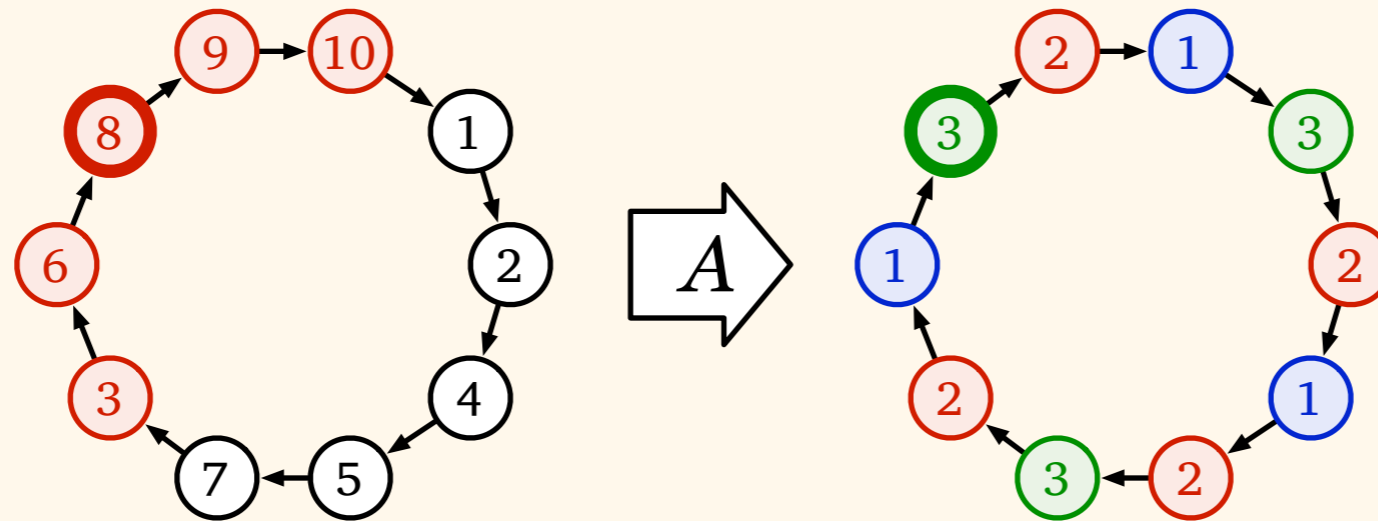
— middle node 3 outputs “blue”

— set  $f(\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}) = \text{“blue”}$

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Colour each  $k$ -subset of  $Y$ :

— what is the colour of  $\{3, 6, 8, 9, 10\}$ ?



— middle node 8 outputs “green”

— set  $f(\{3, 6, 8, 9, 10\}) = \text{“green”}$

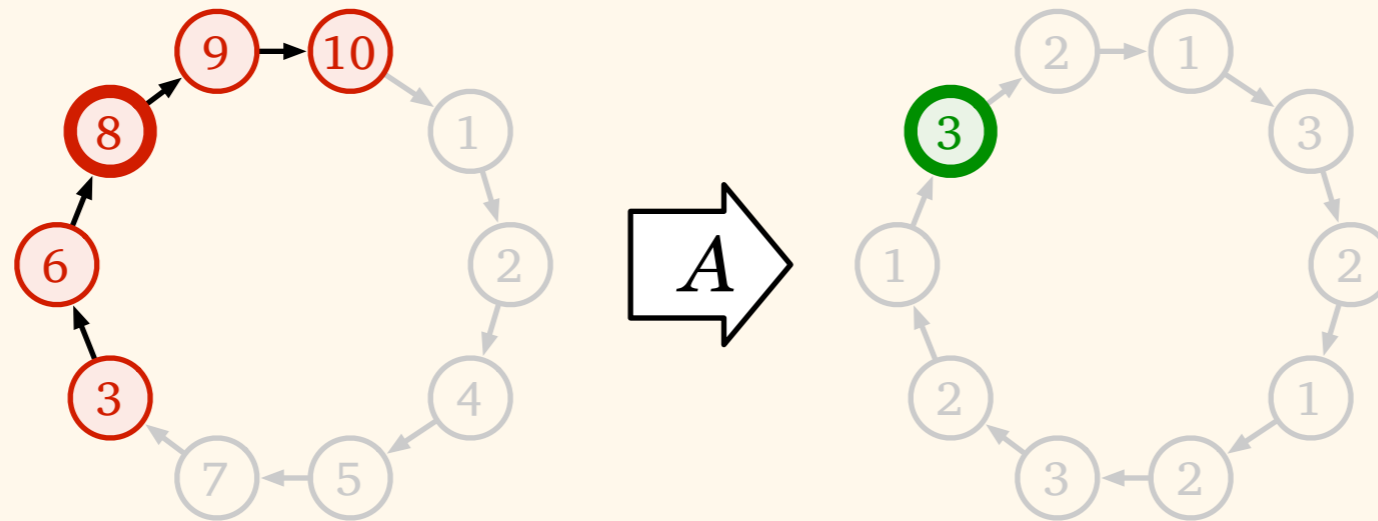
1, 2, 3, 4, 5

3, 6, 8, 9, 10



Colour each  $k$ -subset of  $Y$ :

— what is the colour of  $\{3, 6, 8, 9, 10\}$ ?



— middle node 8 outputs “green”

— set  $f(\{3, 6, 8, 9, 10\}) = \text{“green”}$

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

3, 6, 8, 9, 10

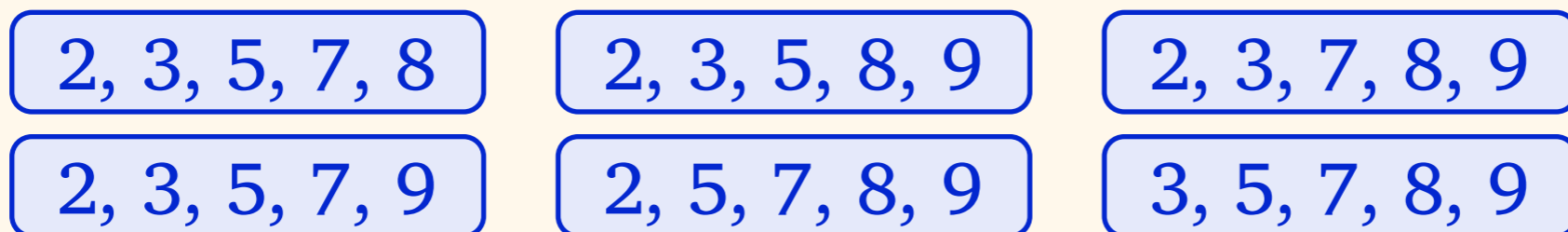
# Ramsey Says No

- We have assigned a colour  $f(B) \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  to each  $k$ -subset  $B$  of  $Y$



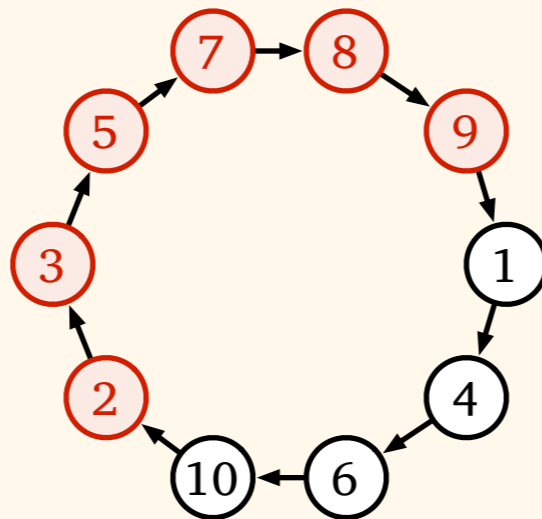
# Ramsey Says No

- We have assigned a colour  $f(B) \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  to each  $k$ -subset  $B$  of  $Y$
- Ramsey: set  $Y$  was large enough, there is a monochromatic subset of size  $n$ 
  - example:  $\{2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9\}$  is monochromatic



# Ramsey Says No

What happens here?



2, 3, 5, 7, 8

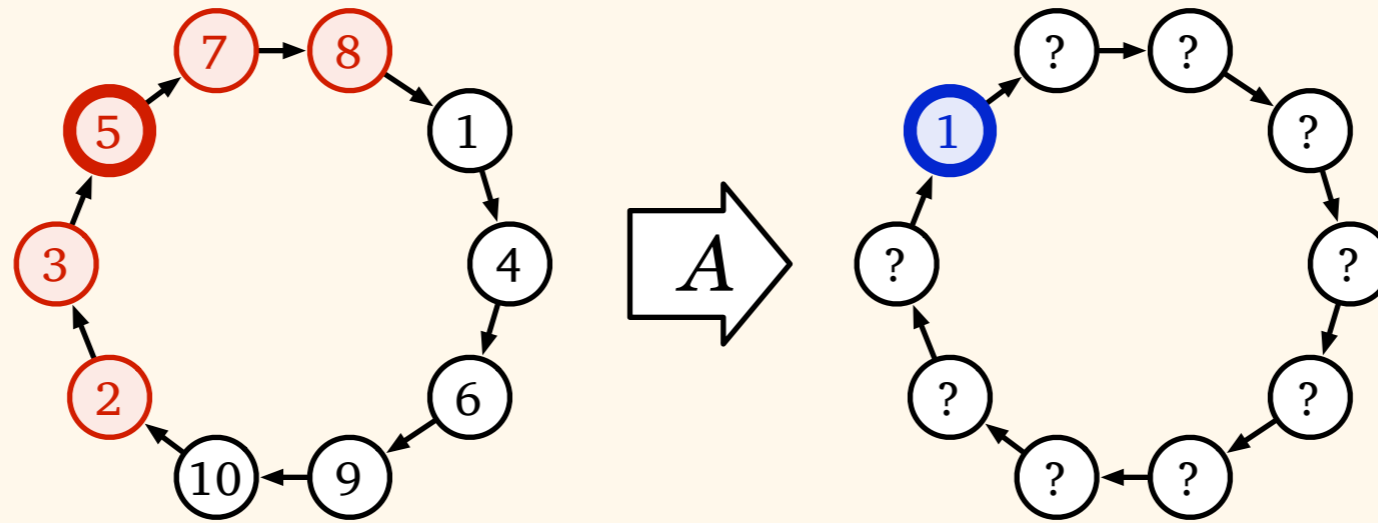
2, 3, 5, 8, 9

2, 3, 7, 8, 9

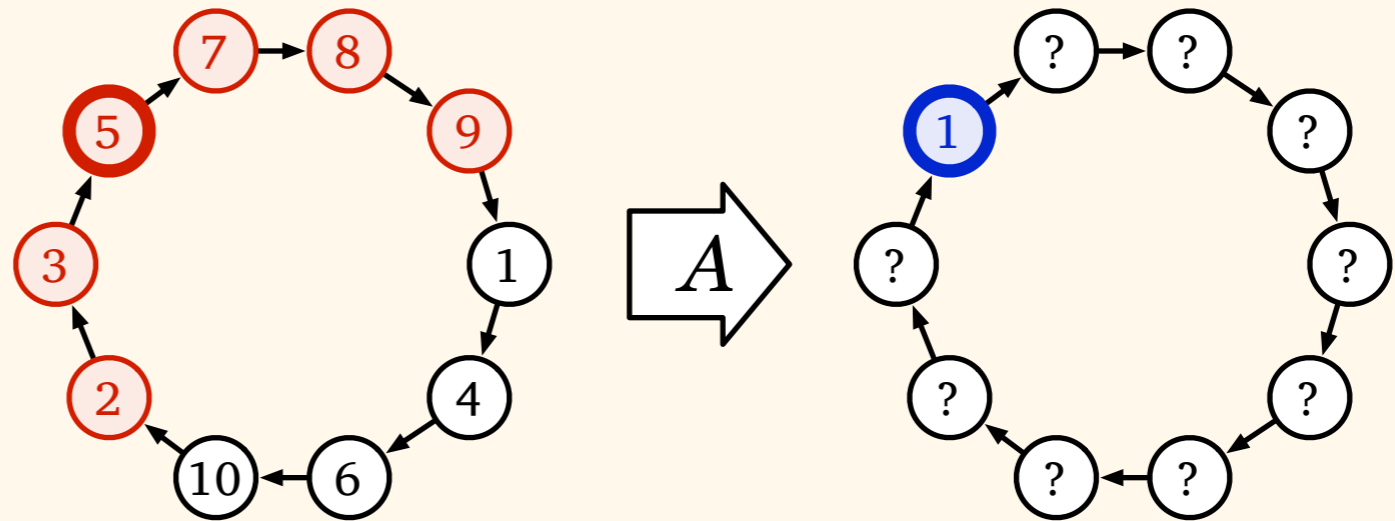
2, 3, 5, 7, 9

2, 5, 7, 8, 9

3, 5, 7, 8, 9



*same local neighbourhood,  
same output*



2, 3, 5, 7, 8

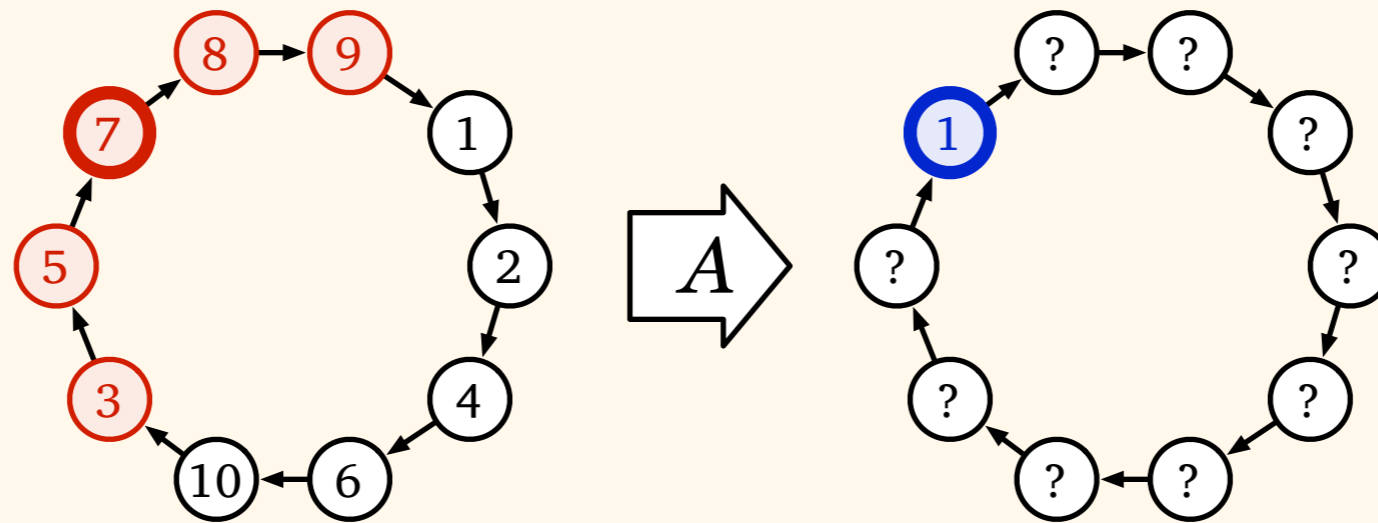
2, 3, 5, 7, 9

2, 3, 5, 8, 9

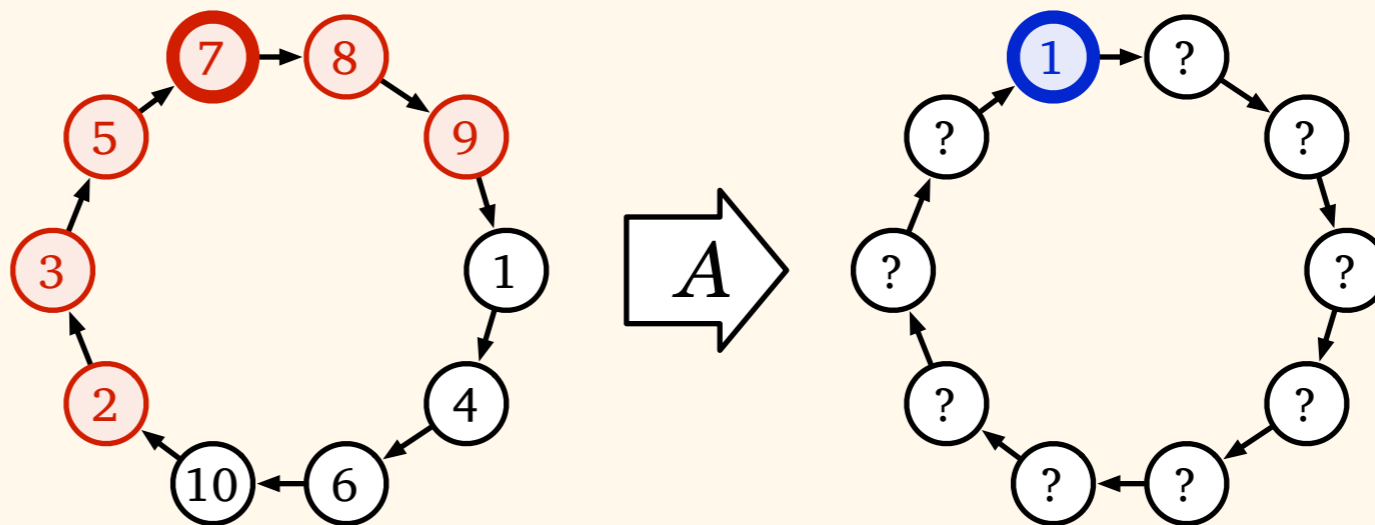
2, 5, 7, 8, 9

2, 3, 7, 8, 9

3, 5, 7, 8, 9



*same local neighbourhood,  
same output*



2, 3, 5, 7, 8

2, 3, 5, 7, 9

2, 3, 5, 8, 9

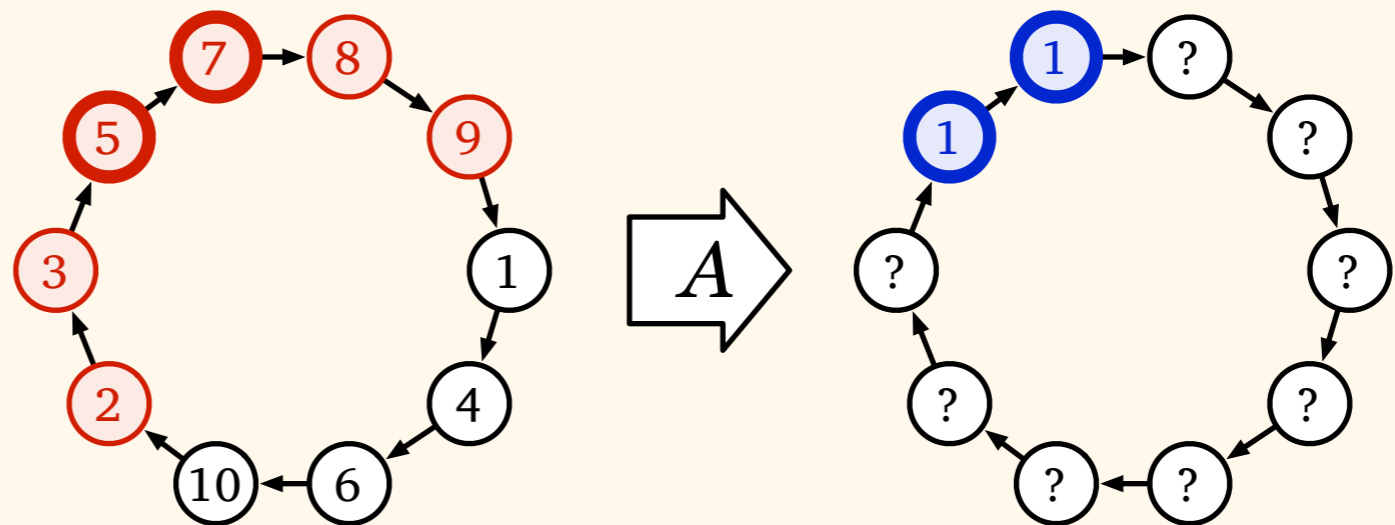
2, 5, 7, 8, 9

2, 3, 7, 8, 9

3, 5, 7, 8, 9

# Ramsey Says No

Bad output!



2, 3, 5, 7, 8

2, 3, 5, 8, 9

2, 3, 7, 8, 9

2, 3, 5, 7, 9

2, 5, 7, 8, 9

3, 5, 7, 8, 9

# Ramsey Says No

- There is no algorithm that finds a 3-colouring in time  $T$ 
  - the proof holds for any constant  $T$
  - larger  $T \rightarrow$  need a (much) larger identifiers space  $Y$



# Summary

# Distributed Algorithms

- Two models
- Port-numbering model
  - key question: what is computable?
- Unique identifiers
  - key question: what can be computed fast?

# Algorithm Design

- *Colouring* is a powerful symmetry-breaking tool
- Port-numbering model
  - bipartite double covers  $\rightarrow$  2-colouring...
- Unique identifiers
  - identifiers  $\rightarrow$  colouring  $\rightarrow$  colour reduction...

# Lower Bounds

- Port-numbering model
  - covering maps
  - local neighbourhoods
- Unique identifiers
  - Ramsey's theorem
  - local neighbourhoods

# That's all.

- Exam: 4 May 2012
  - check the learning objectives!
- What next?
  - course feedback
  - seminar course, autumn 2012
  - Master's thesis topics available

