

- **Weeks 1–2: informal introduction**

- network = path



- **Week 3: graph theory**

- **Weeks 4–7: models of computing**

- what can be computed (efficiently)?

- **Weeks 8–11: lower bounds**

- what cannot be computed (efficiently)?

- **Week 12: recap**

# Recap of weeks 1-2

- Colouring paths

# Model of computing:

## **Send, receive, update**

- **All nodes in parallel:**
  - send messages to their neighbours
  - receive messages from neighbours
  - update their state
- **Stopping state = final output**
  - can send/receive, but not update any more

# Example:

## Colouring paths

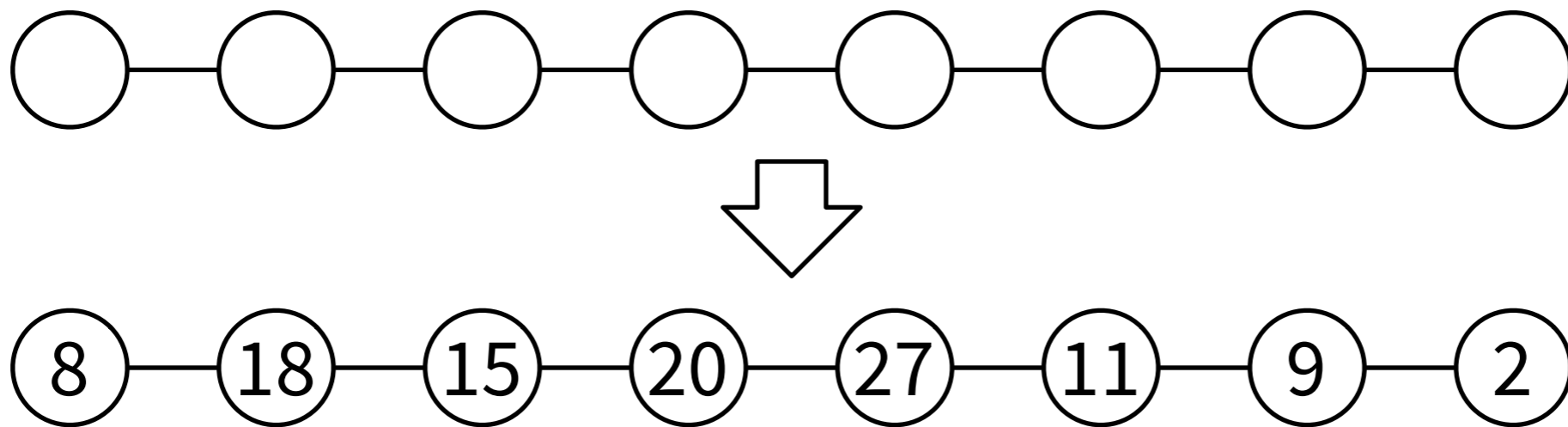
- **2-colouring paths:**
  - possible in time  $O(n)$
  - not possible in time  $o(n)$
- **3-colouring paths:**
  - possible in time  $O(\log^* n)$
  - not possible in time  $o(\log^* n)$

Assuming  
some unique  
identifiers

Assuming  
“small” unique  
identifiers

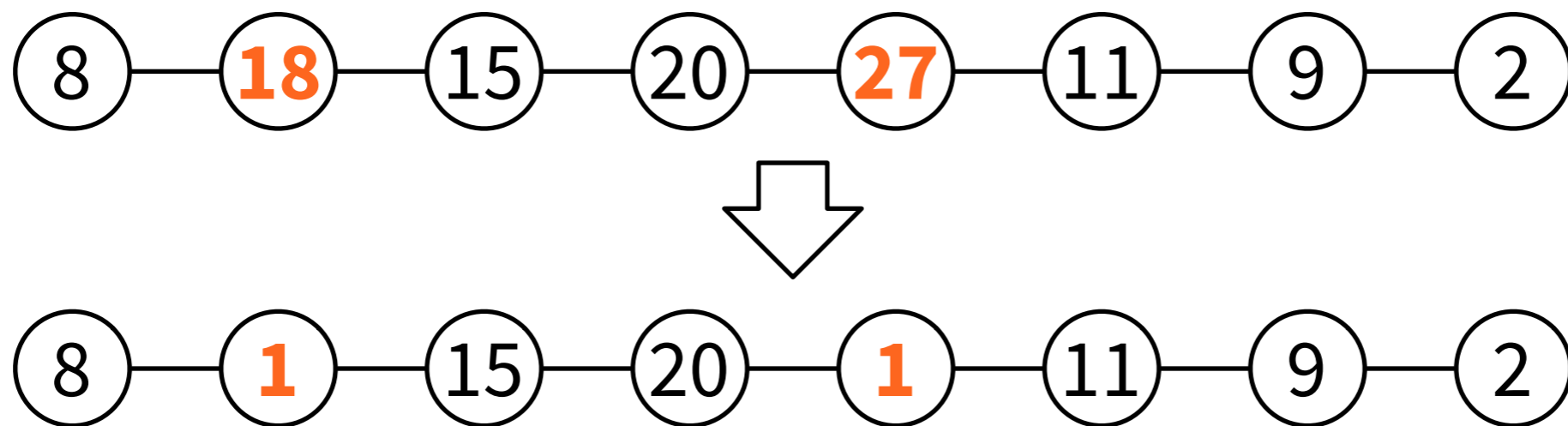
# Algorithm design techniques

- **Symmetry breaking:** use e.g. unique identifiers or randomness to break symmetry



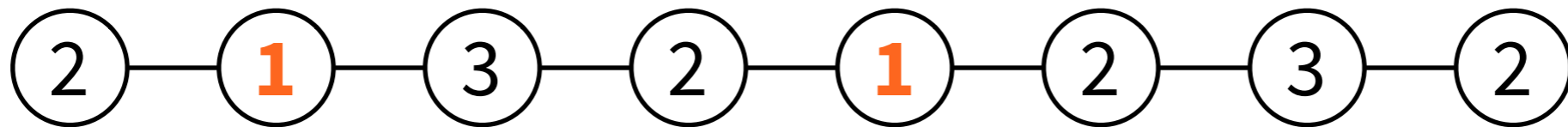
# Algorithm design techniques

- **Independence:** non-adjacent nodes can act simultaneously in parallel without conflicts



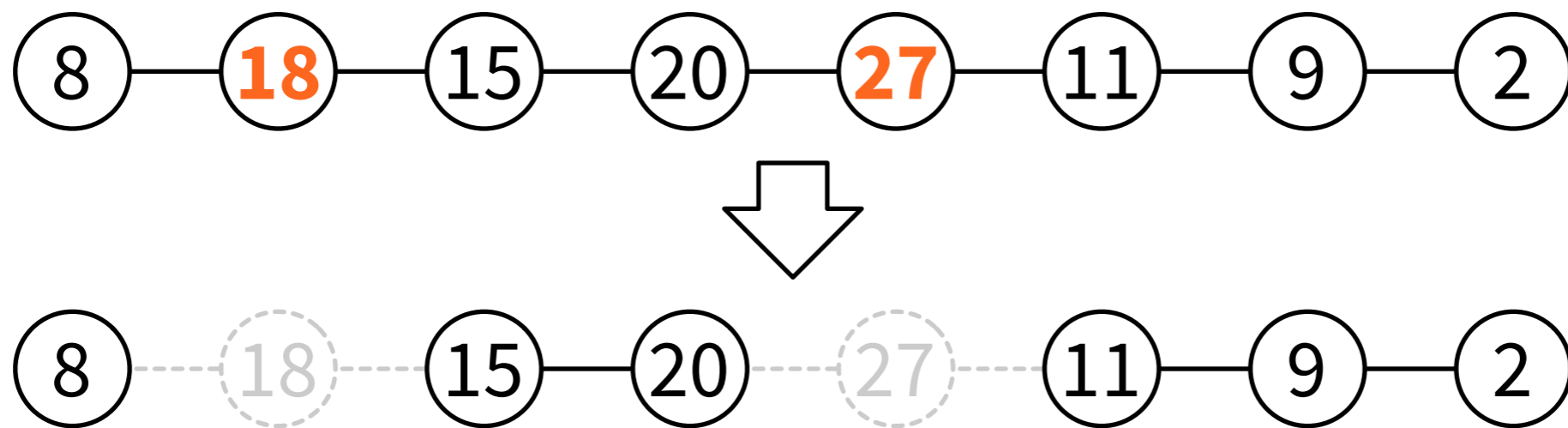
# Algorithm design techniques

- **Independence:** non-adjacent nodes can act simultaneously in parallel without conflicts
- **Colouring → independence:** each colour class is an independent set



# Algorithm design techniques

- **Divide and conquer:** split in smaller subproblems, solve recursively (in parallel)



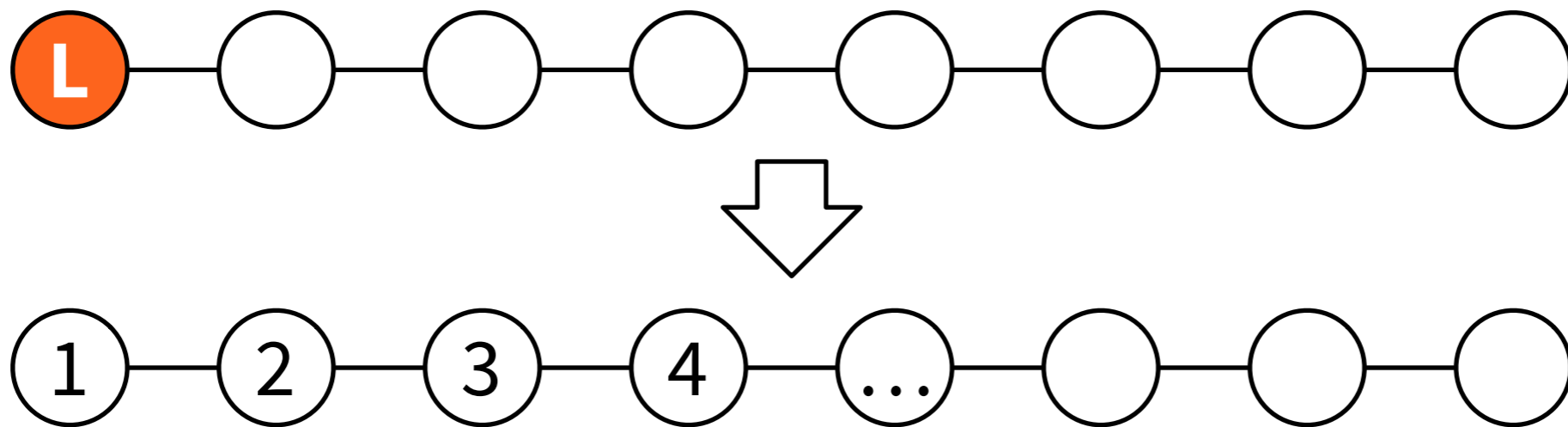


# Algorithm design techniques

- **Composition and reductions:**
  - use “subroutines”
  - prove that a solution to problem  $X$  can be used to find a solution to problem  $Y$
  - example: colourings  $\leftrightarrow$  independent sets

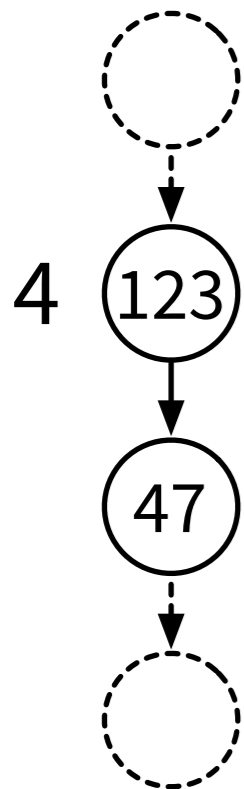
# Algorithm design techniques

- **Simulate sequential algorithms:**  
elect **leader**, process nodes one by one



# Algorithm design techniques

- **Fast colour reduction**



$$c_0 = 123 = 01111011_2 \text{ (my colour)}$$

$$c_1 = 47 = 00101111_2 \text{ (successor's colour)}$$

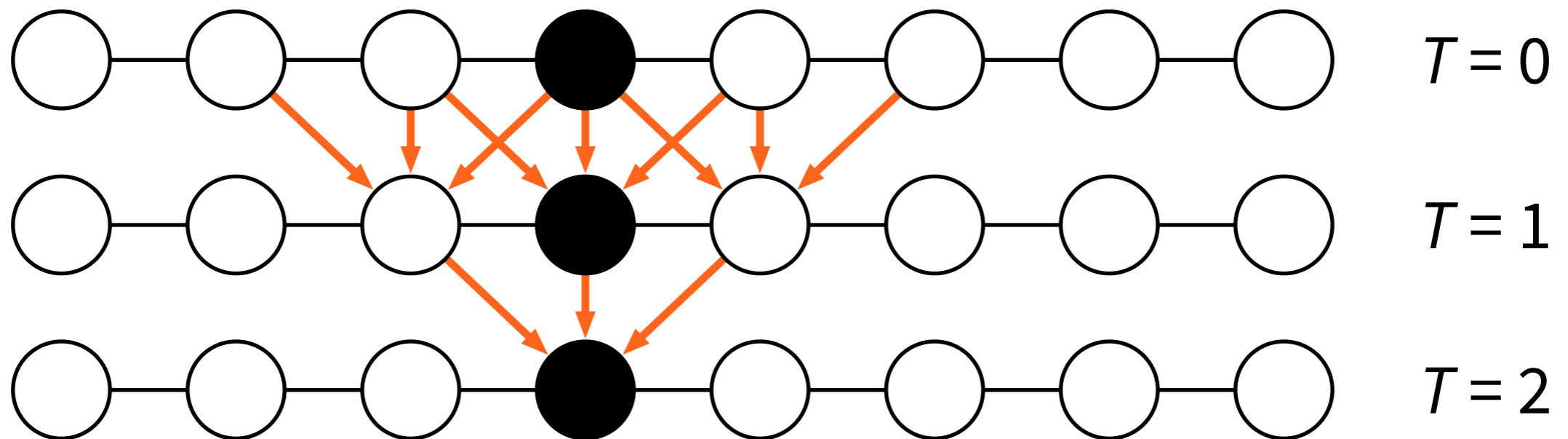
$i = 2$  (bits numbered 0, 1, 2, ... from right)

$b = 0$  (in my colour bit number  $i$  was 0)

$$c = 2 \cdot 2 + 0 = 4 \text{ (my new colour)}$$

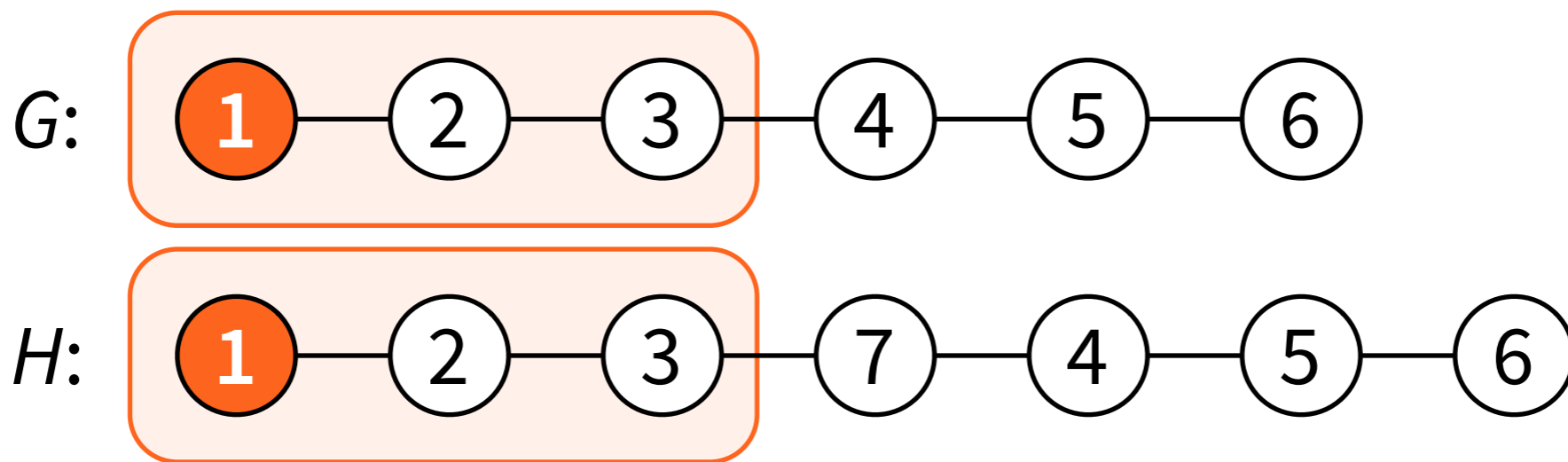
# Proving lower bounds: **Locality**

- **State at time  $T$  only depends on initial information within distance  $T$**



# Proving lower bounds: **Locality**

- **Same  $T$ -neighbourhood,  
same output after  $T$  rounds**



# Example:

# Colouring paths

- **2-colouring paths:**

- possible in time  $O(n)$
- not possible in time  $o(n)$

- **3-colouring paths:**

- possible in time  $O(\log^* n)$
- not possible in time  $o(\log^* n)$

Richard Cole and  
Uzi Vishkin (1986)

Nathan Linial (1992)

# Week 3

- Graph-theoretic foundations

# Graph $G = (V, E)$

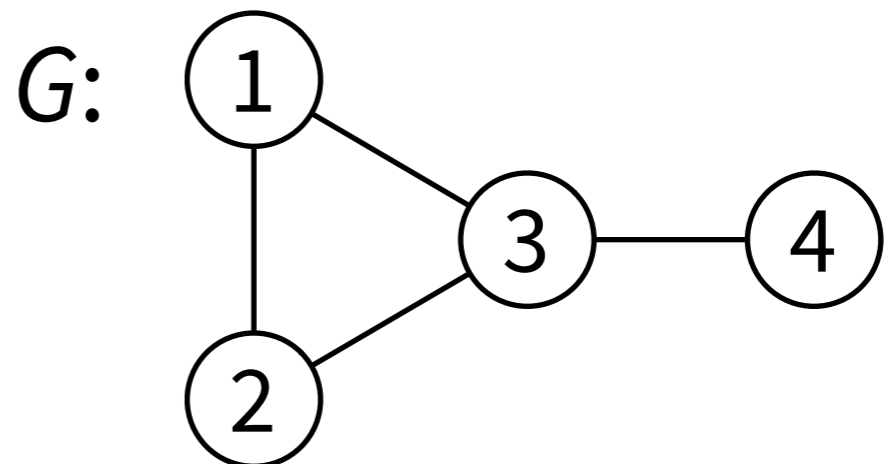
**$V$  = set of nodes** (finite, non-empty)

**$E$  = set of edges** (unordered pairs of nodes)

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{ \{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, \{3,4\} \}$$





# Graph $G = (V, E)$

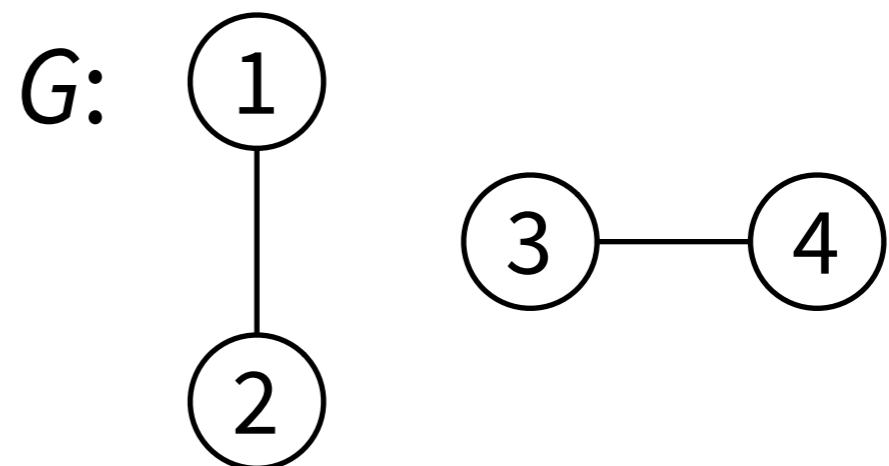
**$V$  = set of nodes** (finite, non-empty)

**$E$  = set of edges** (unordered pairs of nodes)

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{ \{1,2\}, \{3,4\} \}$$



# Graph $G = (V, E)$

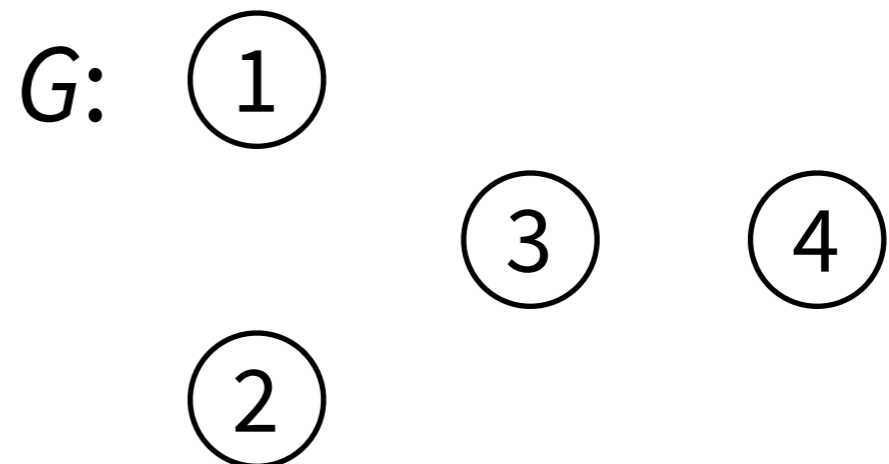
**$V$  = set of nodes** (finite, non-empty)

**$E$  = set of edges** (unordered pairs of nodes)

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \emptyset$$



# Graph $G = (V, E)$

**$V$  = set of nodes** (a.k.a. “vertices”)

**$E$  = set of edges**

Usually nodes are denoted with  $u, v$   
(if more nodes needed:  $s, t, u, v, u', v', v_1, v_2$ , etc.),  
edges are denoted with  $e, e', e_1, e_2$ , etc.

Convention:  $n = |V|, m = |E|$

# Graph $G = (V, E)$

$u$  and  $v$  are “adjacent nodes”

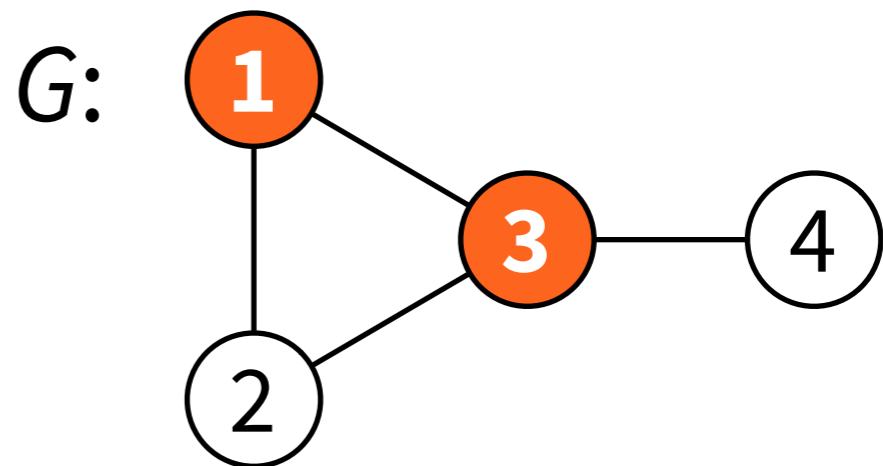
= nodes  $u$  and  $v$  are “neighbours”

= there is an edge  $\{u, v\}$

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{ \{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, \{3,4\} \}$$



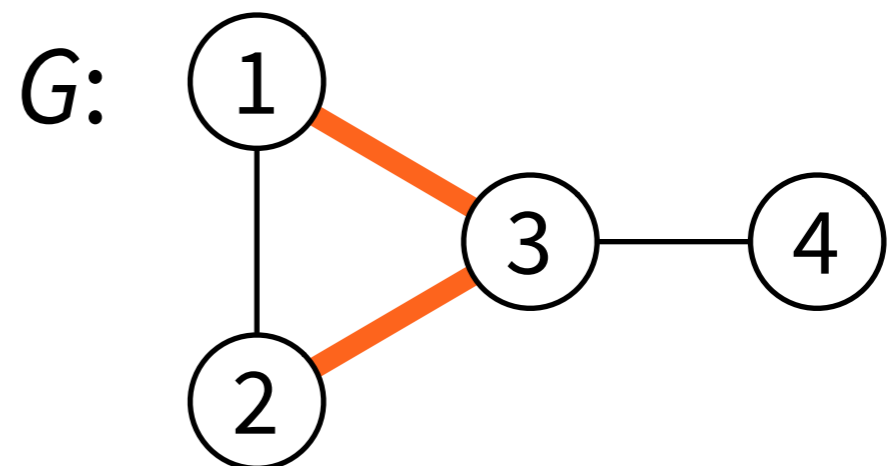
# Graph $G = (V, E)$

$e_1$  and  $e_2$  are “adjacent edges”  
= they share an endpoint  
= their intersection is non-empty

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{ \{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, \{3,4\} \}$$



# Graph $G = (V, E)$

Node  $v$  is “incident” to edge  $e$

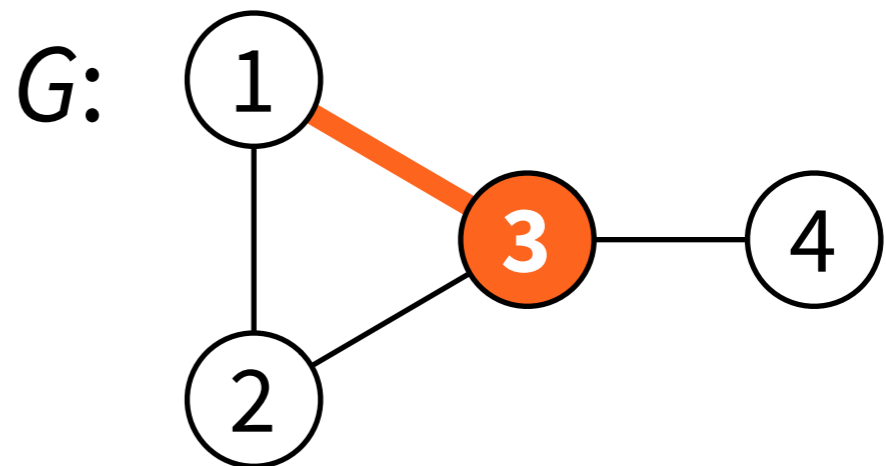
=  $v$  is an endpoint of  $e$

=  $v$  is a member of  $e$

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{ \{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, \{3,4\} \}$$



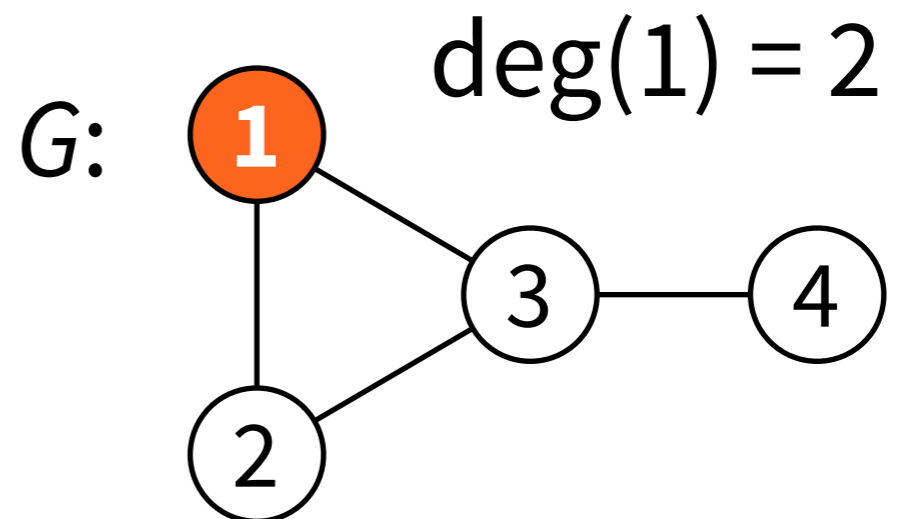
# Graph $G = (V, E)$

**Node of “degree”  $k$**   
**= node adjacent to  $k$  nodes**  
**= node incident to  $k$  edges**

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$E = \{ \{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, \{3,4\} \}$$



# Graph $G = (V, E)$

“ $k$ -regular graph”

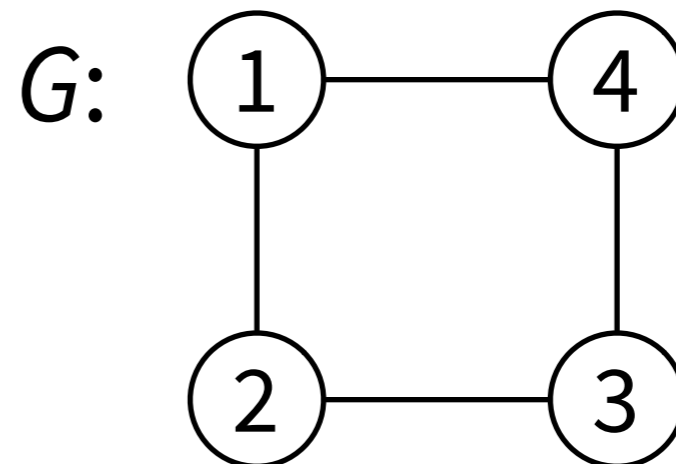
= all nodes have degree  $k$

= all nodes have  $k$  neighbours

$$G = (V, E)$$

$$V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

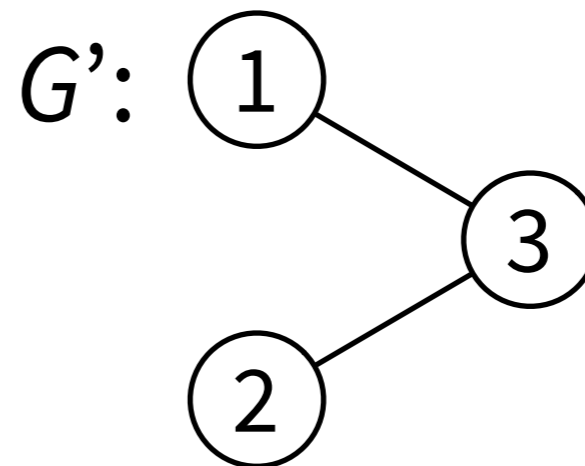
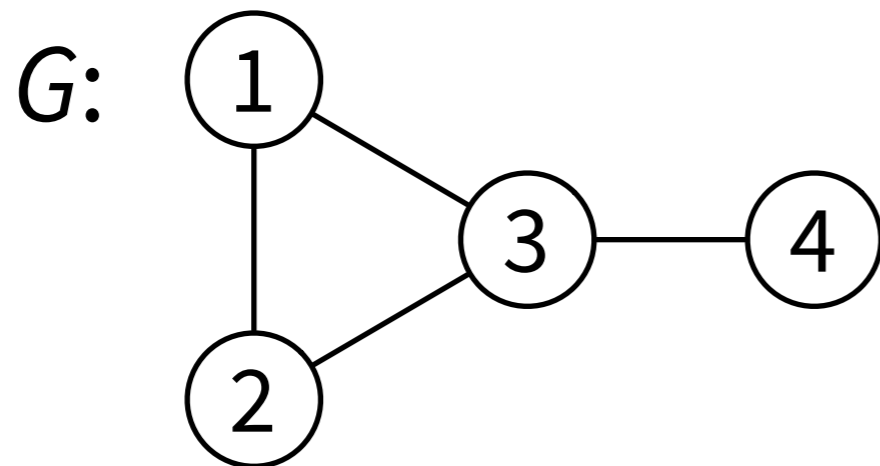
$$E = \{ \{1,2\}, \{2,3\}, \{3,4\}, \{1,4\} \}$$





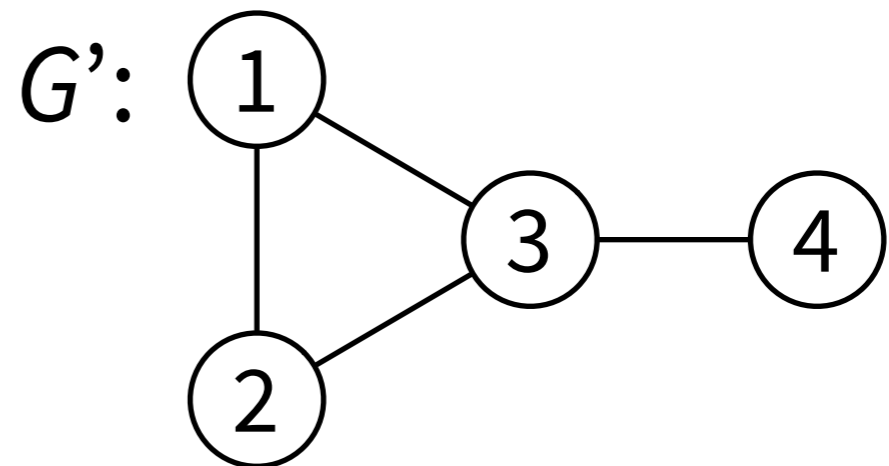
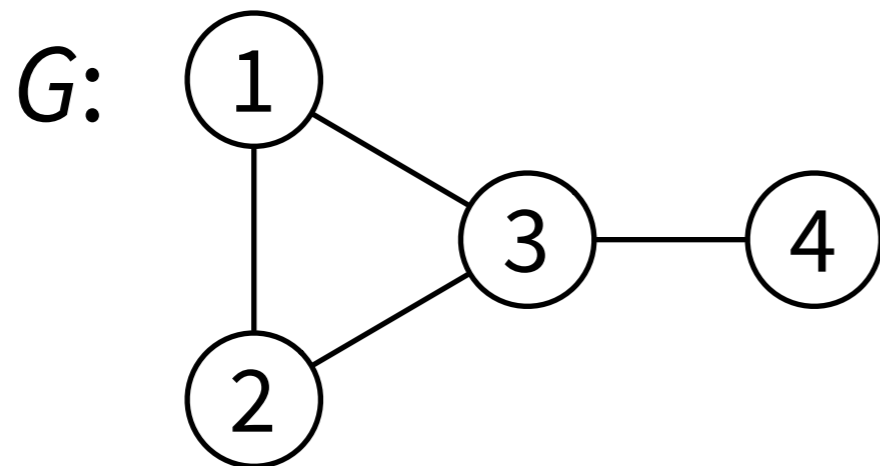
# Subgraph

Graph  $G' = (V', E')$  is a “subgraph” of  $G = (V, E)$ :  
 $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$



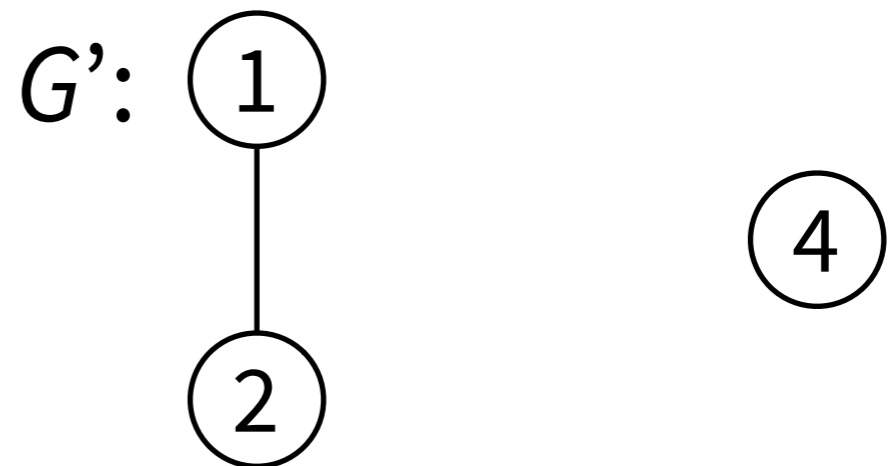
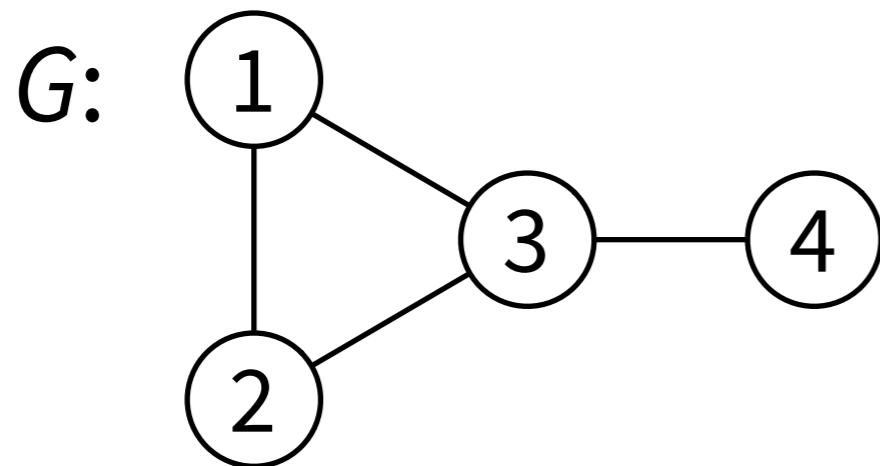
# Subgraph

Graph  $G' = (V', E')$  is a “subgraph” of  $G = (V, E)$ :  
 $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$



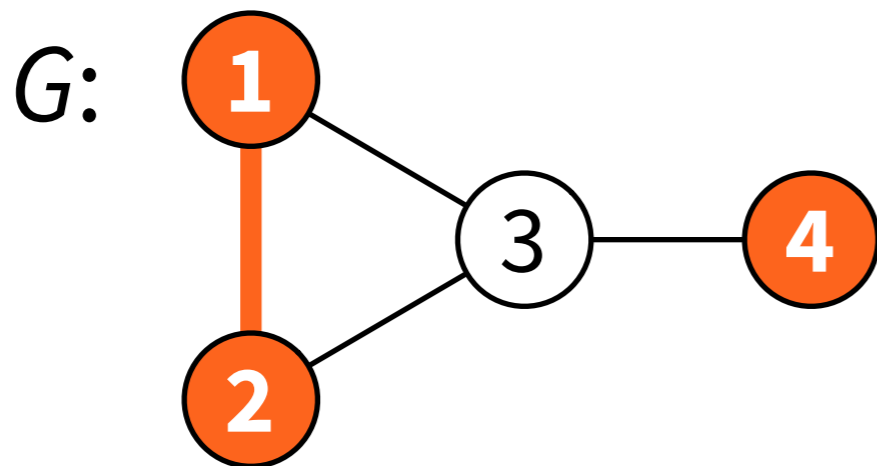
# Subgraph

Graph  $G' = (V', E')$  is a “subgraph” of  $G = (V, E)$ :  
 $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$



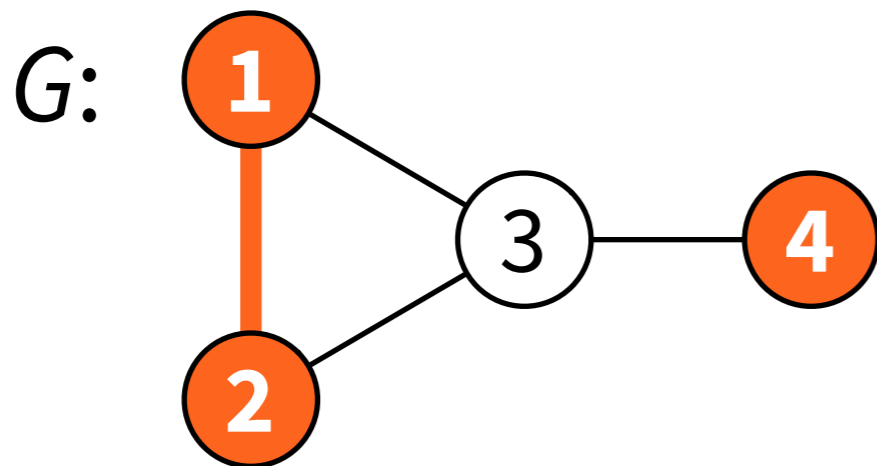
# Subgraph

Graph  $G' = (V', E')$  is a “subgraph” of  $G = (V, E)$ :  
 $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$



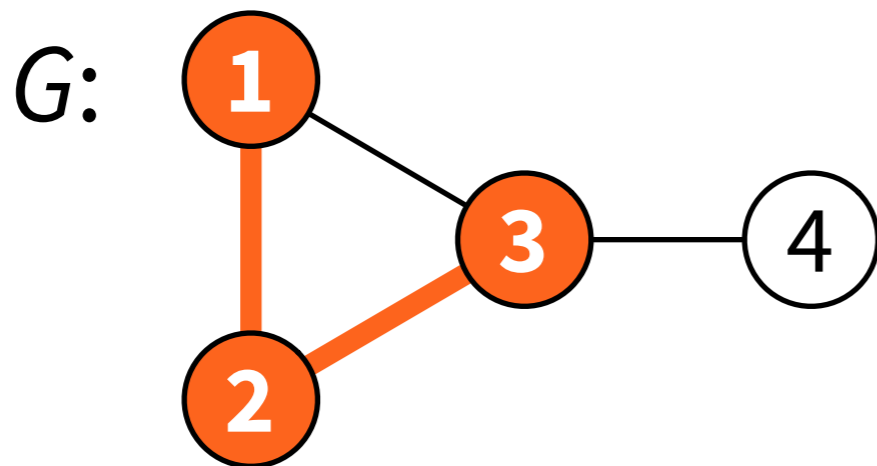
# Induced subgraph

**Subgraph “induced” by nodes  $V'$**   
**= all nodes of  $V'$  and all edges that connect them**



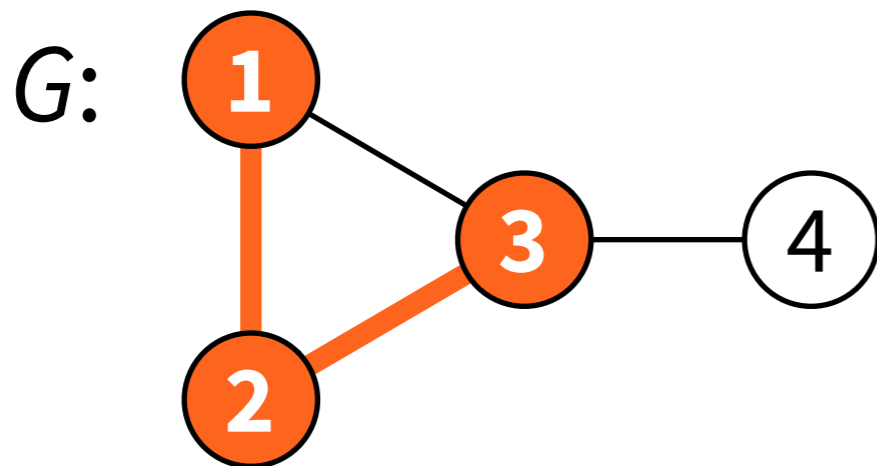
# Induced subgraph

**Subgraph “induced” by edges  $E'$**   
**= all edges of  $E'$  and all of their endpoints**



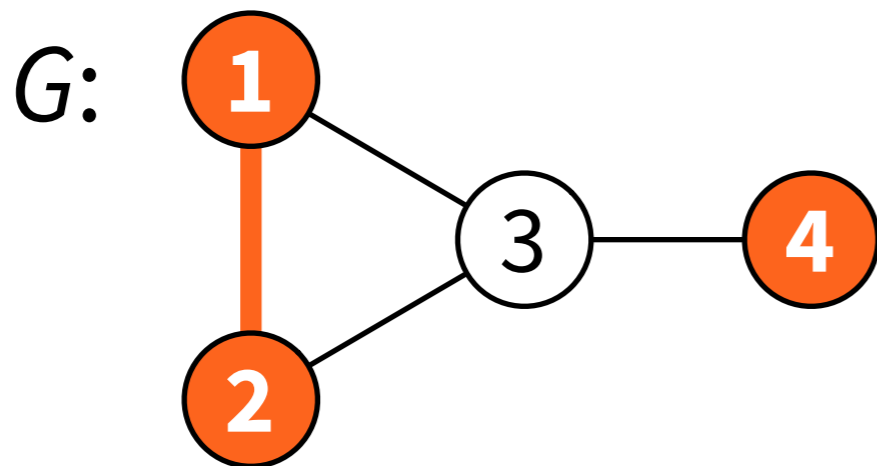
# Induced subgraph

**This is *not* a subgraph induced by any set of nodes – why?**



# Induced subgraph

This is *not* a subgraph induced by any set of edges – why?

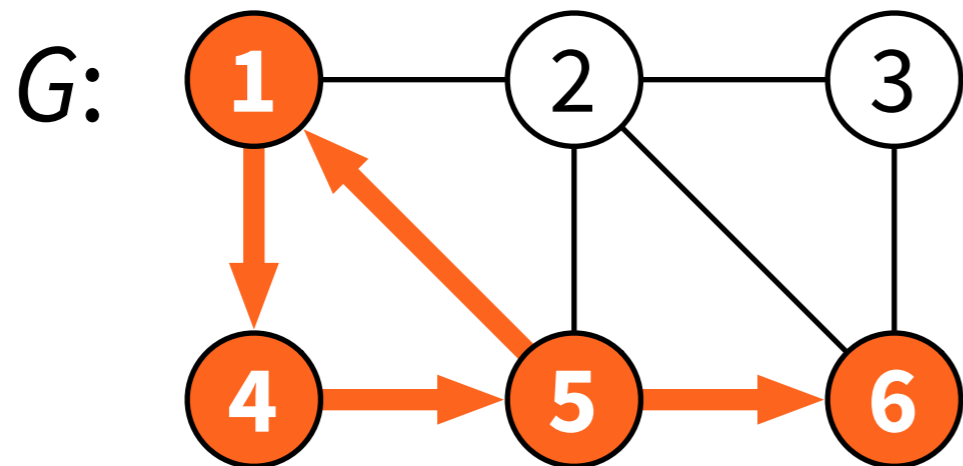




# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**“Walk” = alternating sequence of incident nodes and edges**

$$W = (5, \{5,1\}, 1, \{1,4\}, 4, \{4,5\}, 5, \{5,6\}, 6)$$

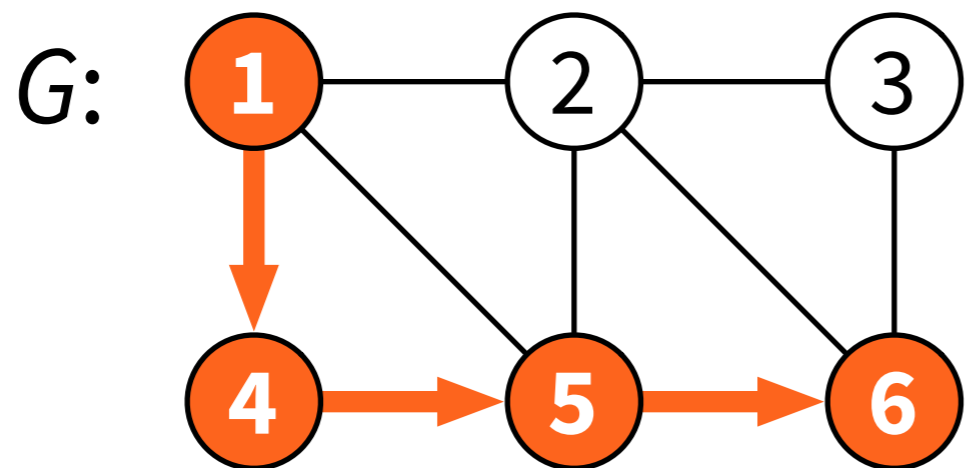


# Walks, paths, and connectivity

“Path” = walk visiting each node at most once

“Length” of a path = number of *edges*

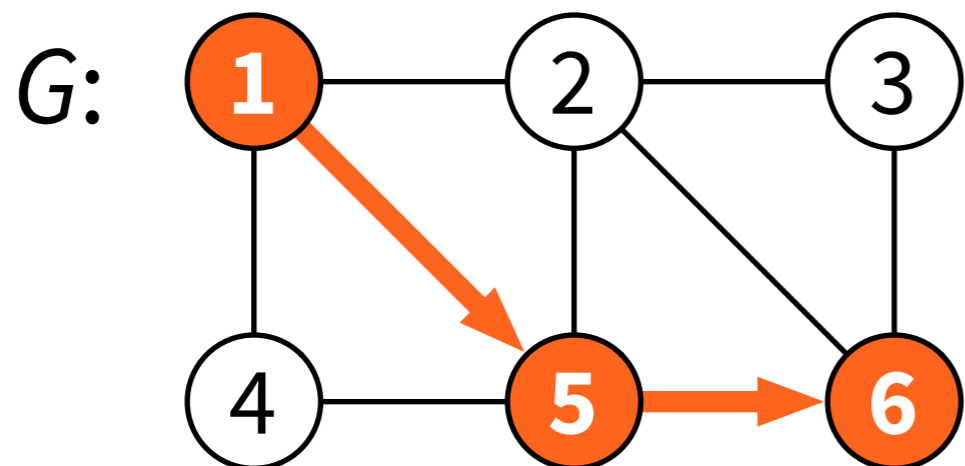
$$W = (1, \{1,4\}, 4, \{4,5\}, 5, \{5,6\}, 6)$$



# Walks, paths, and connectivity

“Distance” = length of a *shortest path*

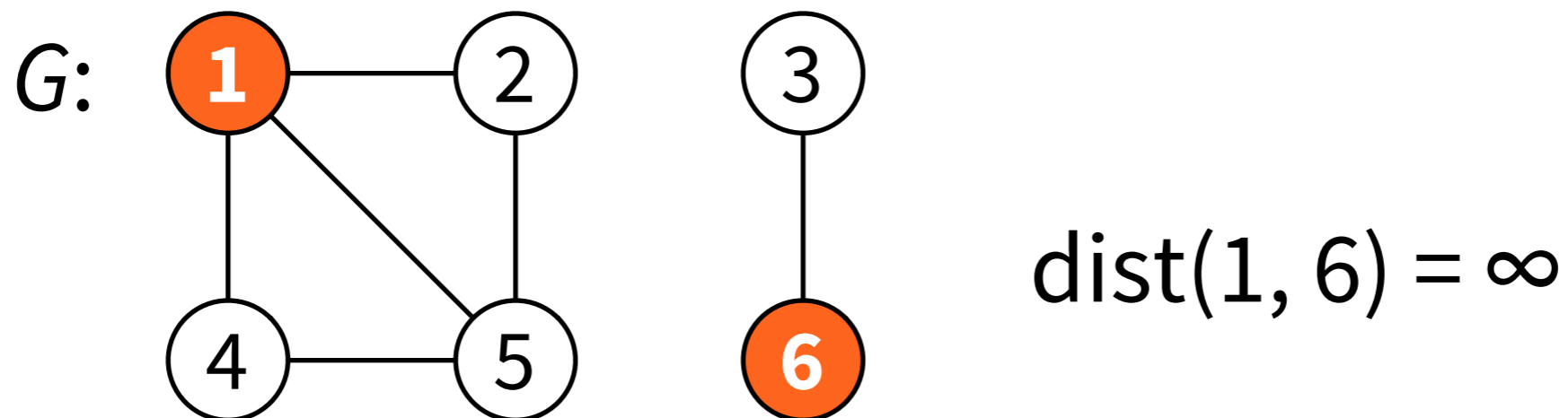
$W = (1, \{1,5\}, 5, \{5,6\}, 6)$



$\text{dist}(1, 6) = 2$

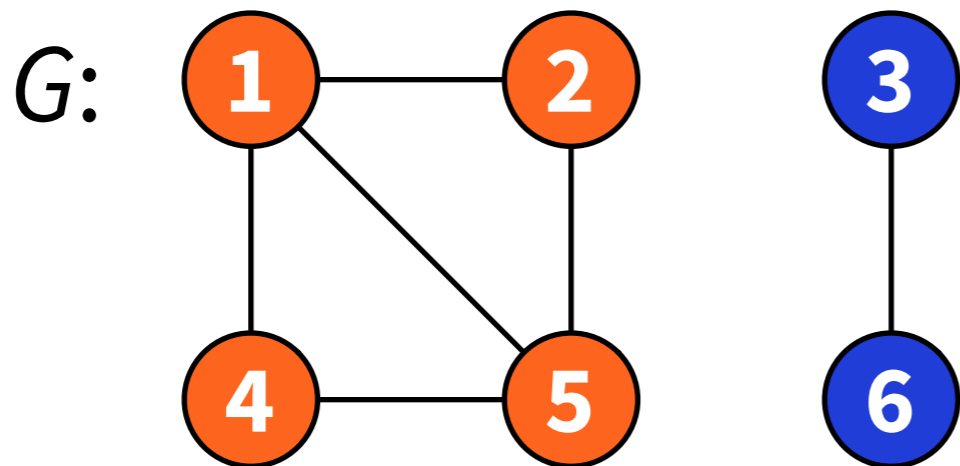
# Walks, paths, and connectivity

“Distance” = length of a *shortest path*  
(infinite if no such path exists)



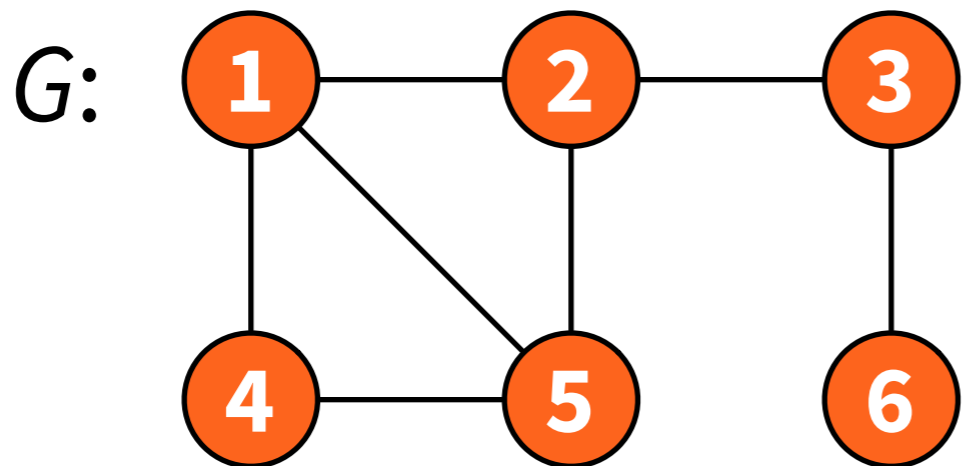
# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**“Connected component”  $C$ :**  
**there is a path between any two nodes of  $C$**



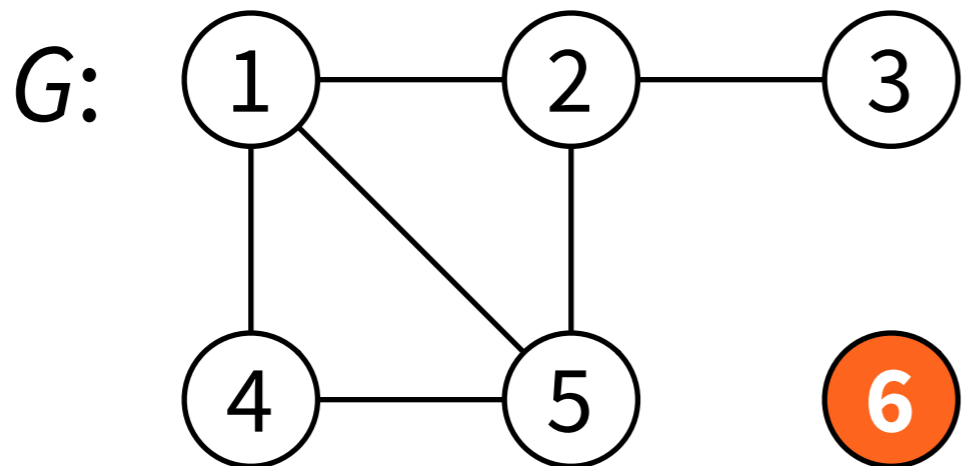
# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**Graph is “connected” if only 1 connected component**



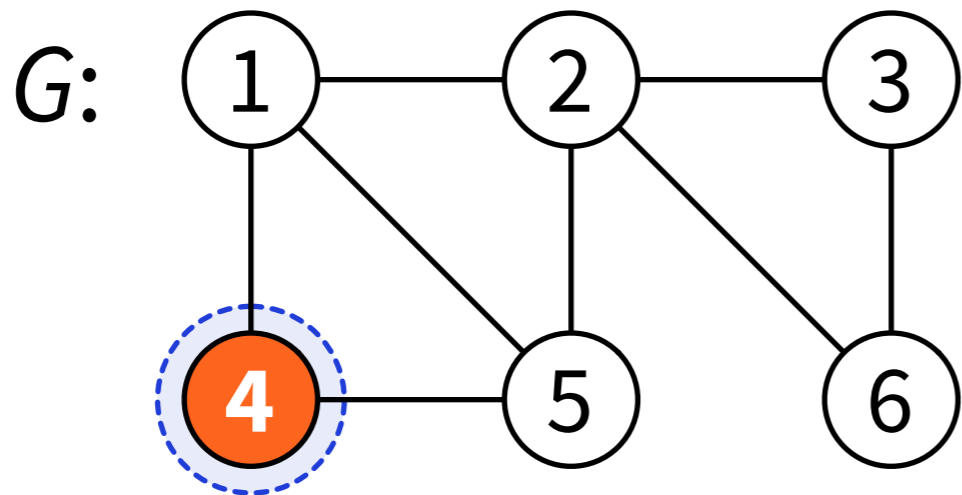
# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**“Isolated node” = node of degree 0**



# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**ball( $v, r$ ) = “radius- $r$  neighbourhood of  $v$ ”**  
**= nodes at distance at most  $r$  from node  $v$**



$$\text{ball}(4, 0) = \{4\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 1) = \{4, 1, 5\}$$

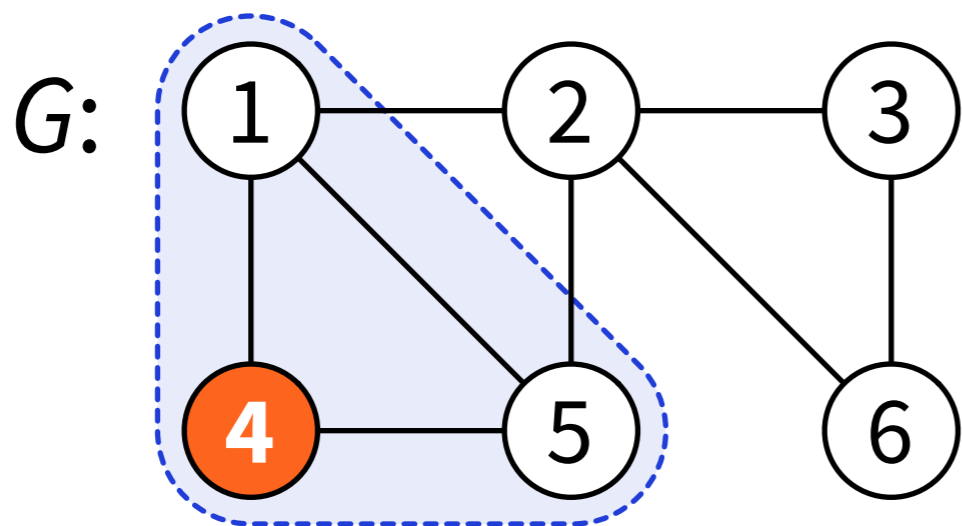
$$\text{ball}(4, 2) = \{4, 1, 5, 2\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 3) = V$$



# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**ball( $v, r$ ) = “radius- $r$  neighbourhood of  $v$ ”**  
**= nodes at distance at most  $r$  from node  $v$**



$$\text{ball}(4, 0) = \{4\}$$

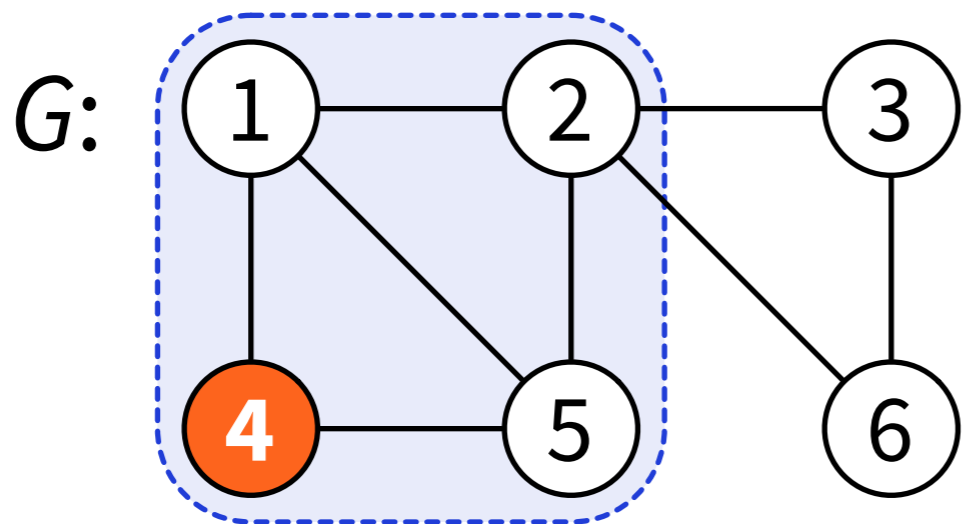
$$\text{ball}(4, 1) = \{4, 1, 5\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 2) = \{4, 1, 5, 2\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 3) = V$$

# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**ball( $v, r$ ) = “radius- $r$  neighbourhood of  $v$ ”  
= nodes at distance at most  $r$  from node  $v$**



$$\text{ball}(4, 0) = \{4\}$$

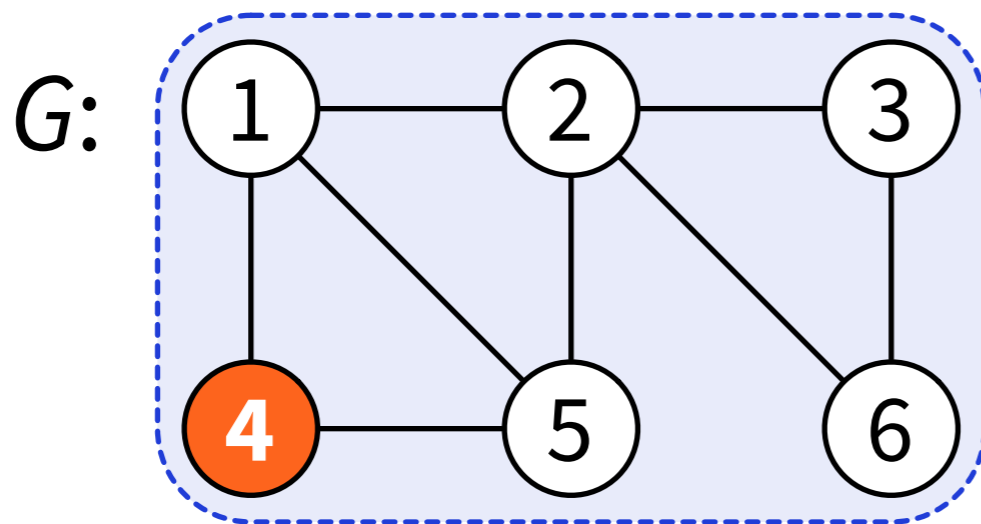
$$\text{ball}(4, 1) = \{4, 1, 5\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 2) = \{4, 1, 5, 2\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 3) = V$$

# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**ball( $v, r$ ) = “radius- $r$  neighbourhood of  $v$ ”  
= nodes at distance at most  $r$  from node  $v$**



$$\text{ball}(4, 0) = \{4\}$$

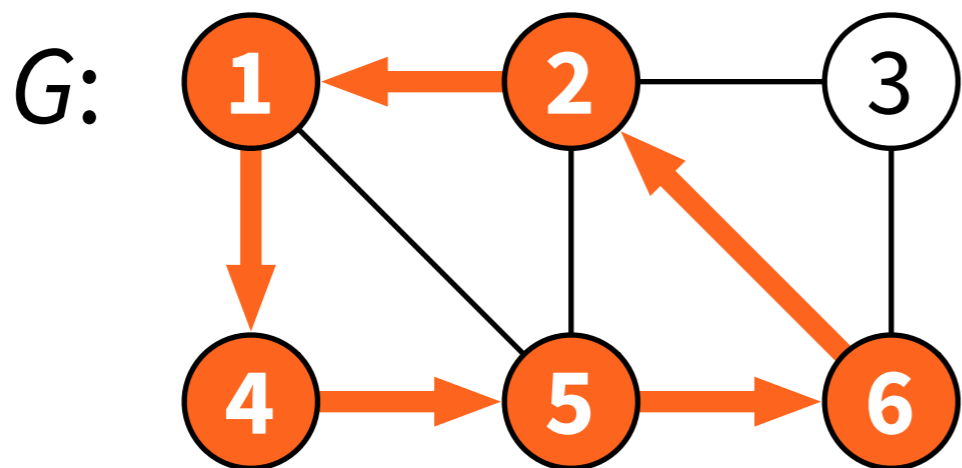
$$\text{ball}(4, 1) = \{4, 1, 5\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 2) = \{4, 1, 5, 2\}$$

$$\text{ball}(4, 3) = V$$

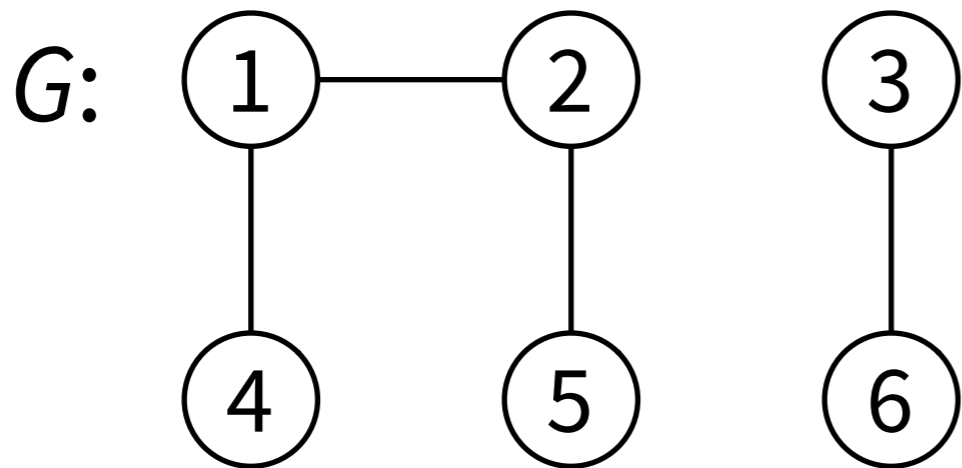
# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**“Cycle” = closed walk that visits each node and each edge at most once (length  $\geq 3$ )**



# Walks, paths, and connectivity

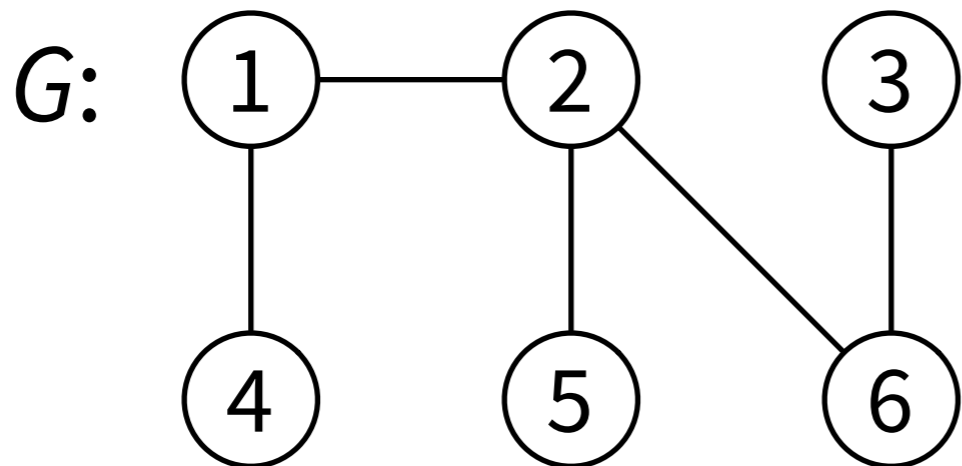
**“Acyclic graph” = graph without any cycles**



# Walks, paths, and connectivity

**“Tree” = connected acyclic graph**

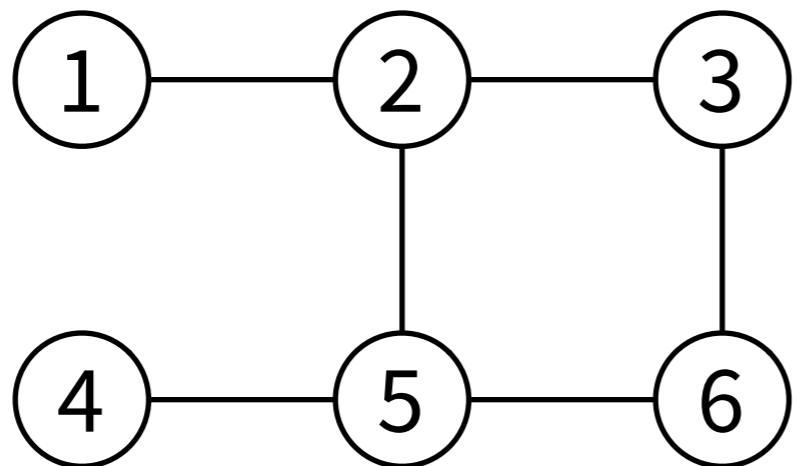
**“Forest” = acyclic graph**



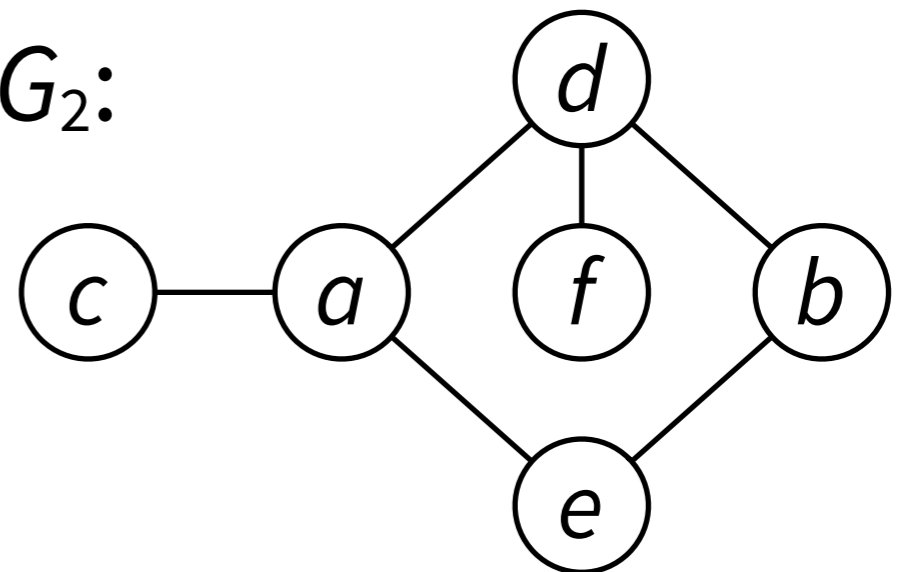
# Isomorphism

“Isomorphism” from  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  to  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ :  
bijection  $f: V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  that preserves adjacency

$G_1$ :



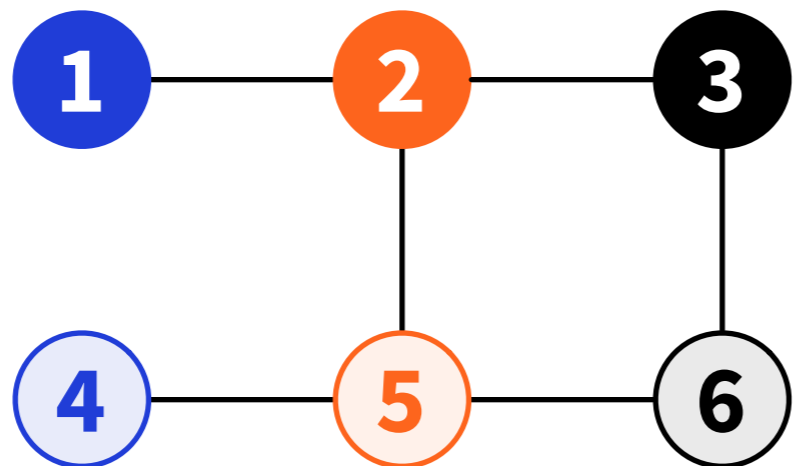
$G_2$ :



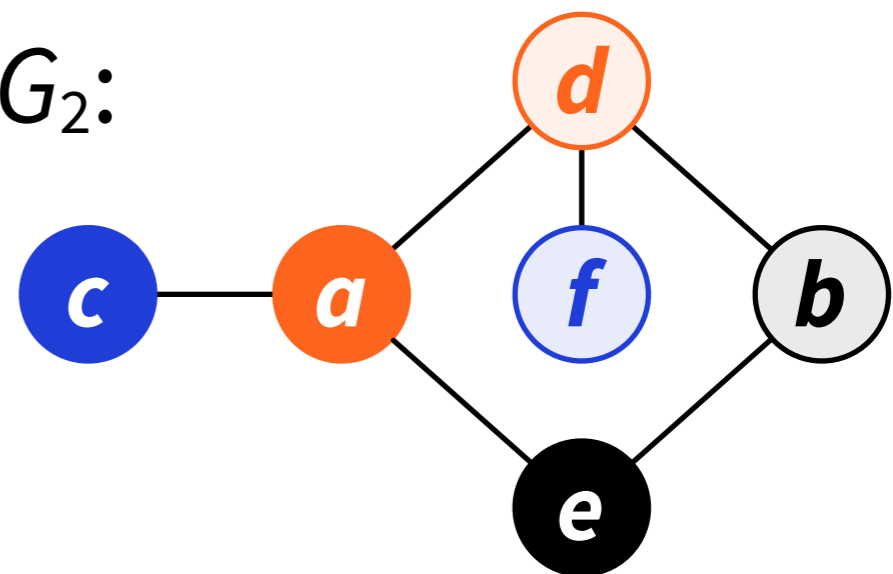
# Isomorphism

“Isomorphism” from  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  to  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ :  
bijection  $f: V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  that preserves adjacency

$G_1$ :



$G_2$ :

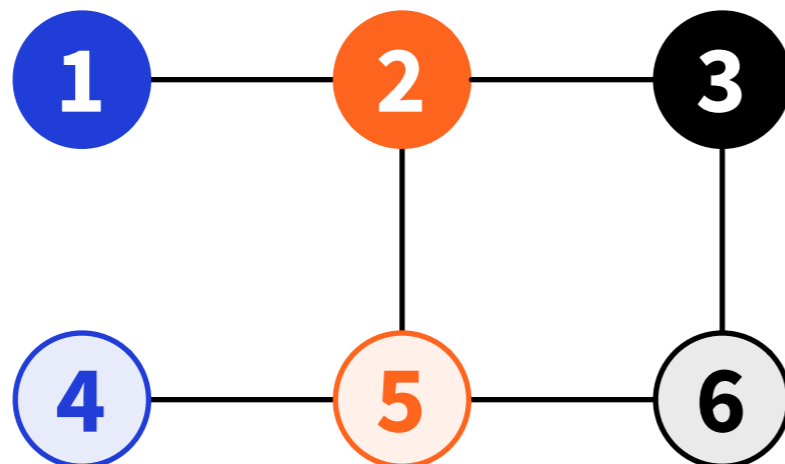




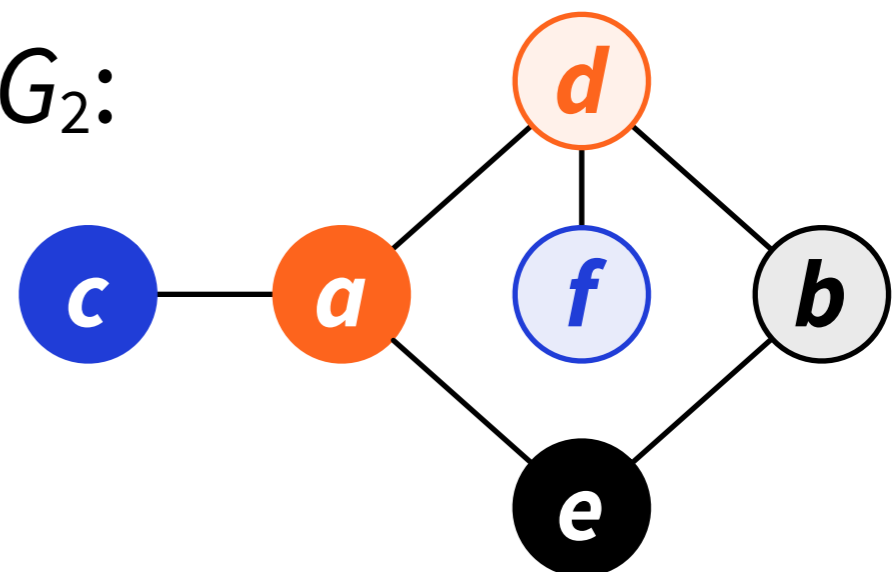
# Isomorphism

Graphs are “isomorphic” if there exists an isomorphism from one to another

$G_1$ :

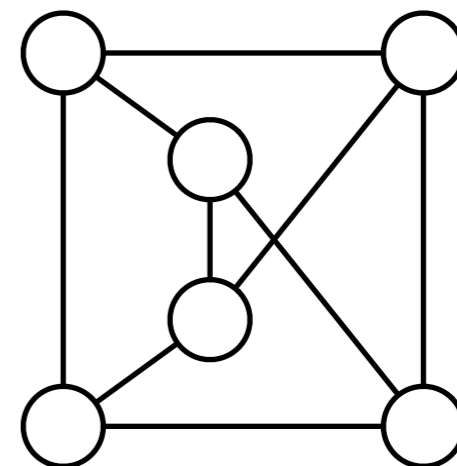
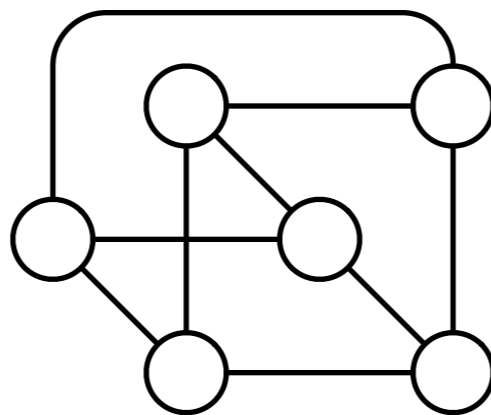
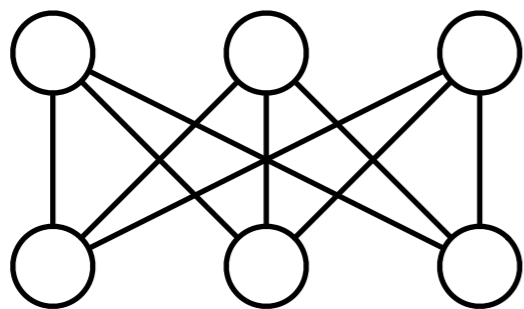


$G_2$ :



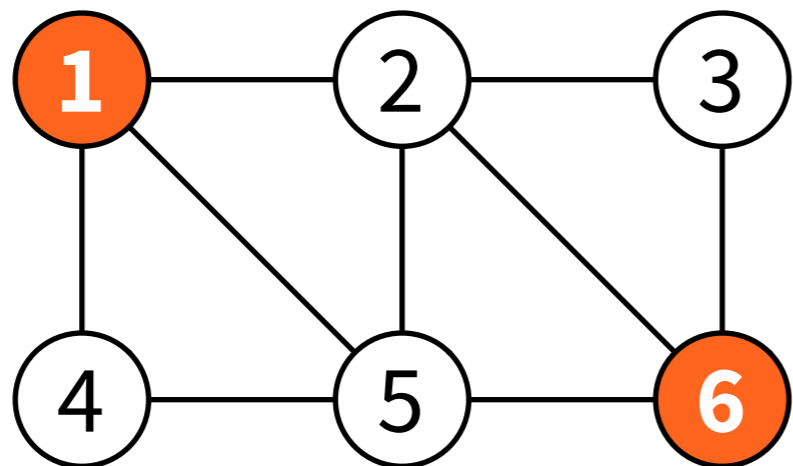
# Isomorphism

**Graphs are “isomorphic” if there exists an isomorphism from one to another**



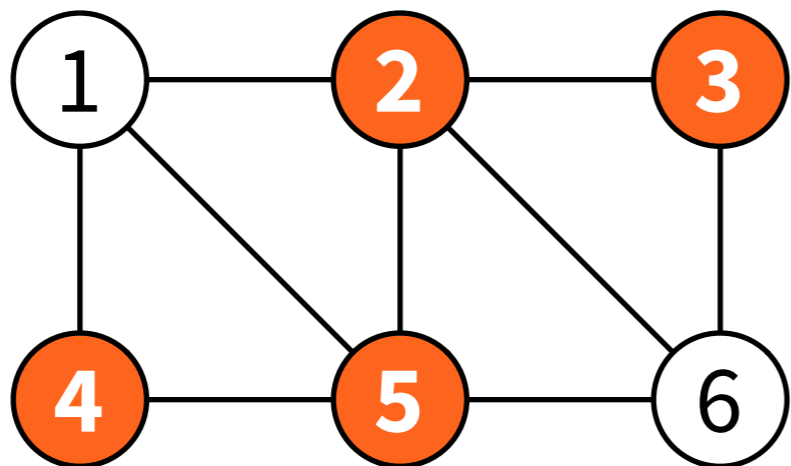
# Graph problems

**“Independent set”**: non-adjacent nodes



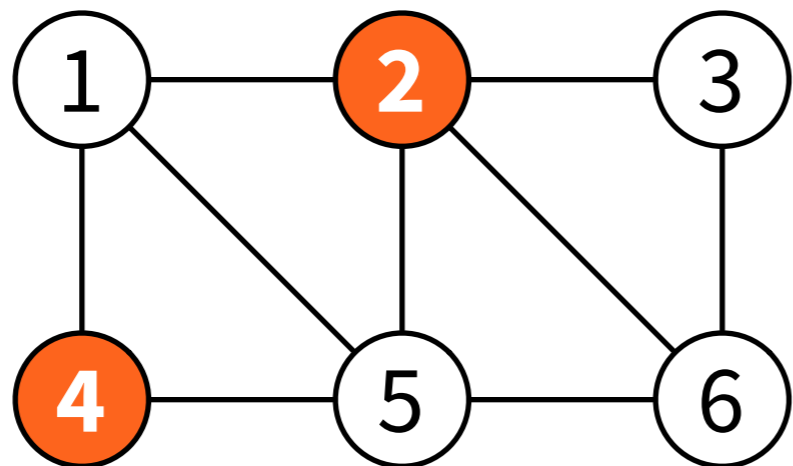
# Graph problems

**“Vertex cover”**: at least one endpoint of each edge (all edges are “covered” with these nodes)



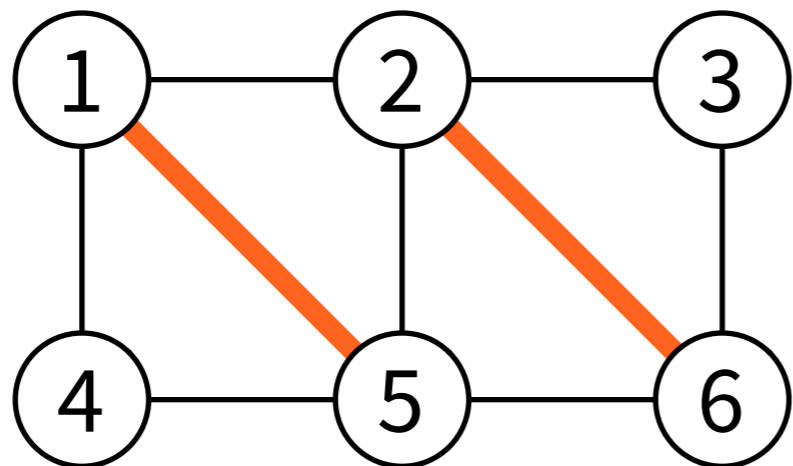
# Graph problems

**“Dominating set”**: all other nodes have a neighbour in this set



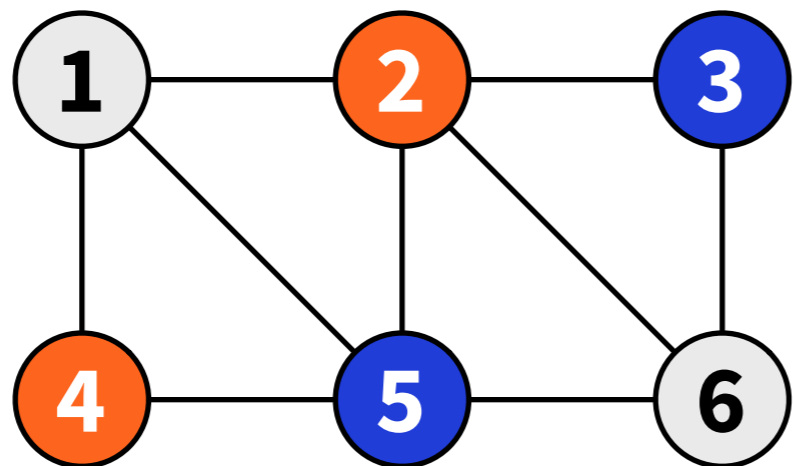
# Graph problems

**“Matching”**: non-adjacent edges



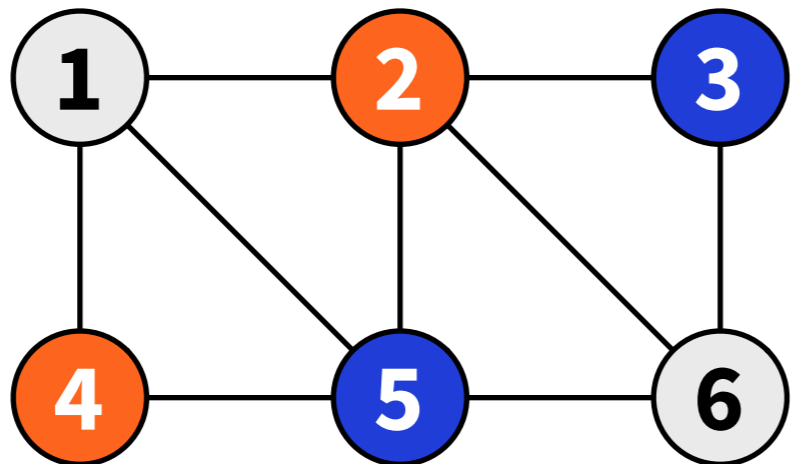
# Graph problems

**“Vertex colouring”:**  
**adjacent nodes have different colours**



# Graph problems

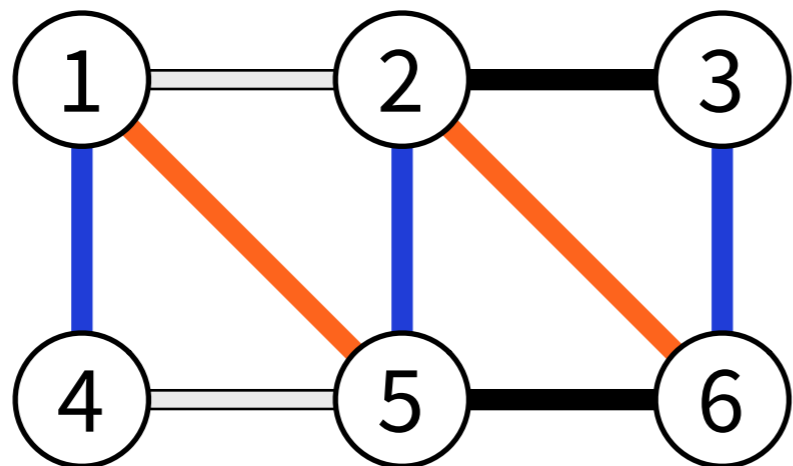
**“Vertex colouring”:**  
**each colour class is an independent set**





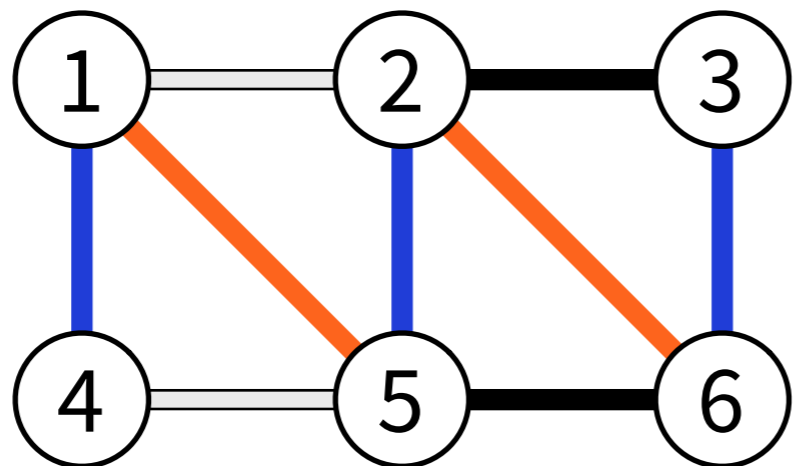
# Graph problems

**“Edge colouring”:**  
**adjacent edges have different colours**



# Graph problems

**“Edge colouring”:**  
**each colour class is a matching**



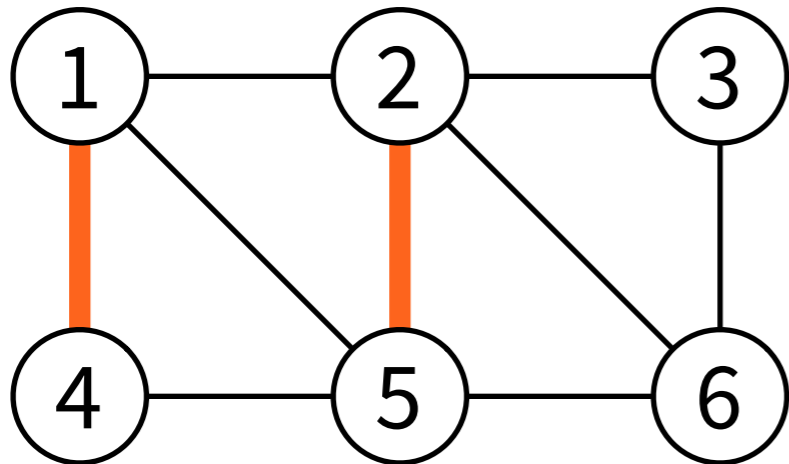
# Graph problems

- **More definitions in the textbook:**
  - edge cover, edge dominating set
  - domatic partition, edge domatic partition
  - weak colouring
  - factorisation ...

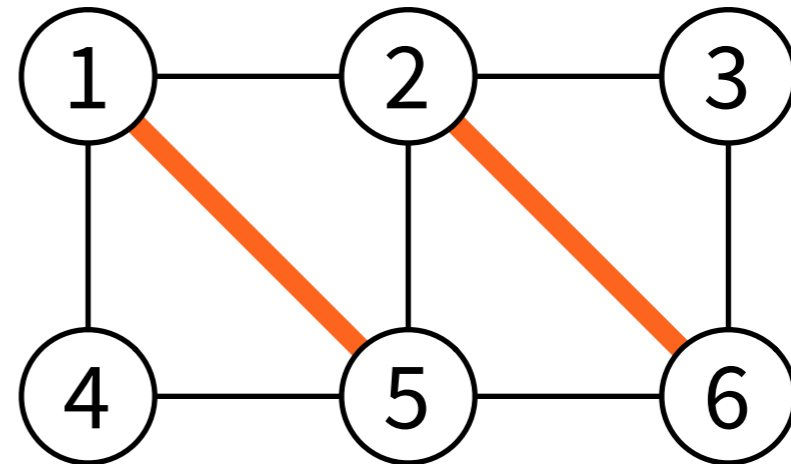
# Maximisation problems

- **maximal** = cannot add anything
- **maximum** = largest possible size
- **x-approximation** =  
at least  $1/x$  times maximum

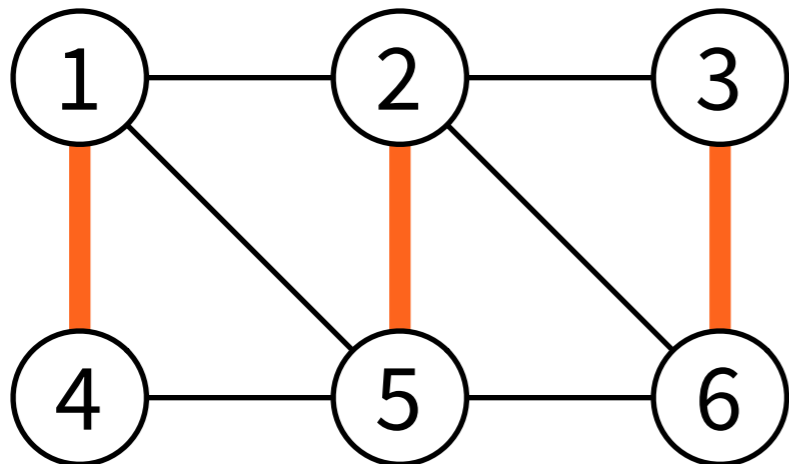
### Matching



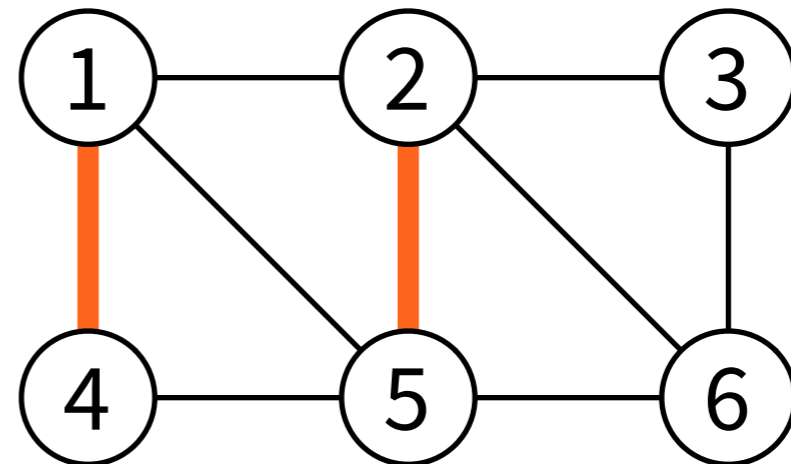
### Maximal matching



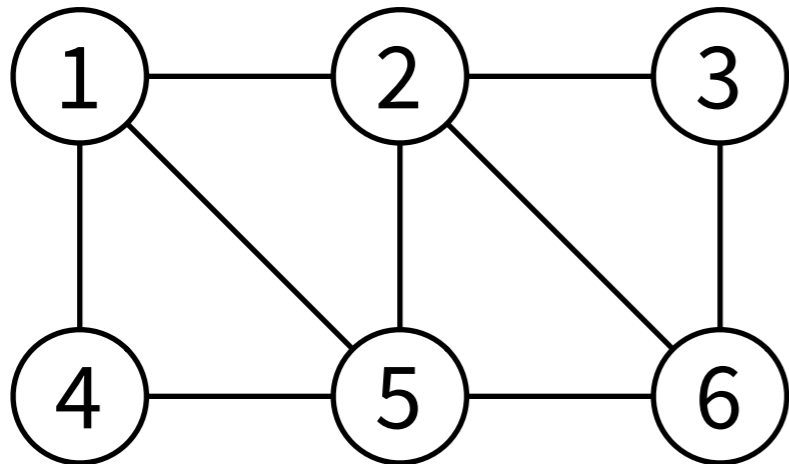
### Maximum matching



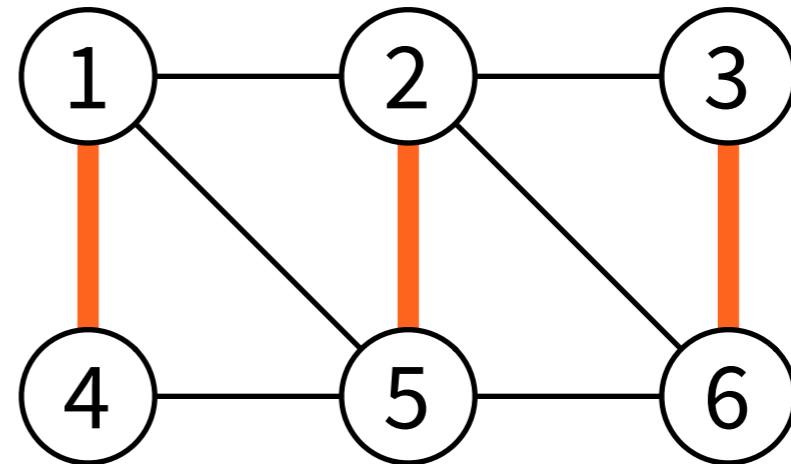
### 2-approximation



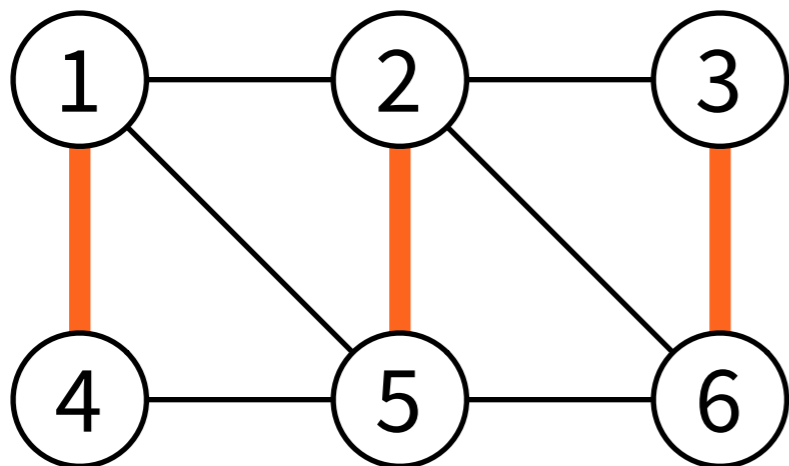
### Matching



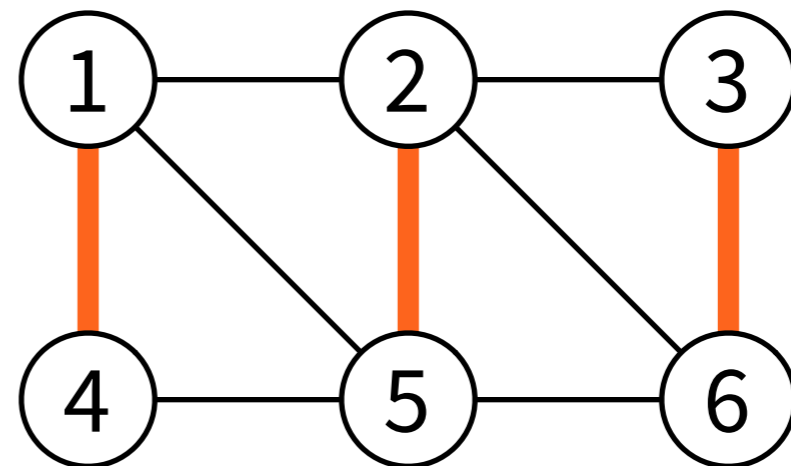
### Maximal matching



### Maximum matching



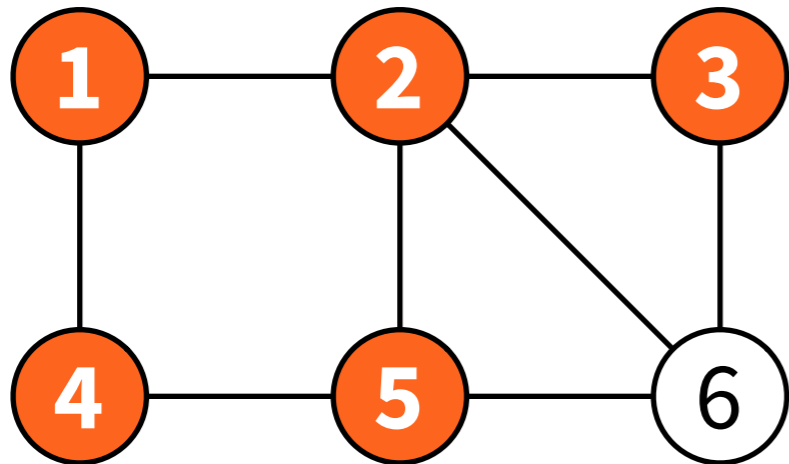
### 2-approximation



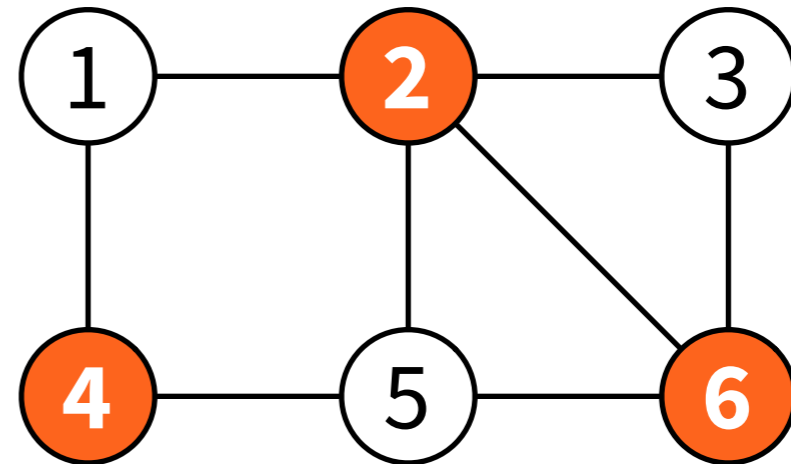
# Minimisation problems

- **minimal** = cannot remove anything
- **minimum** = smallest possible size
- **$x$ -approximation** =  
at most  $x$  times minimum

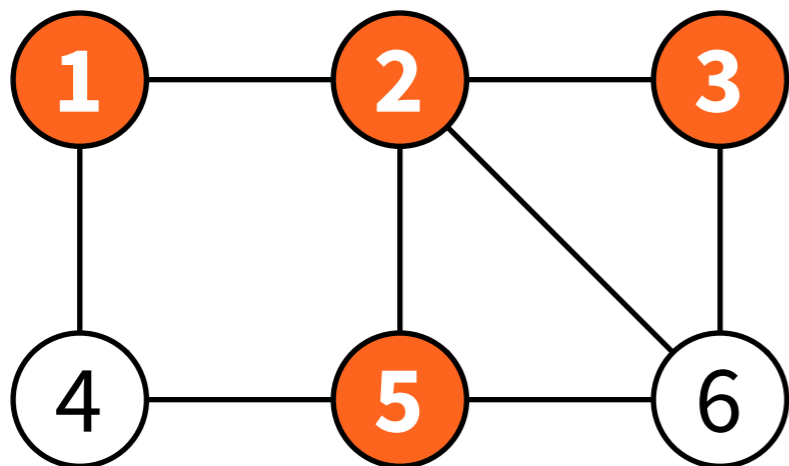
### Vertex cover (VC)



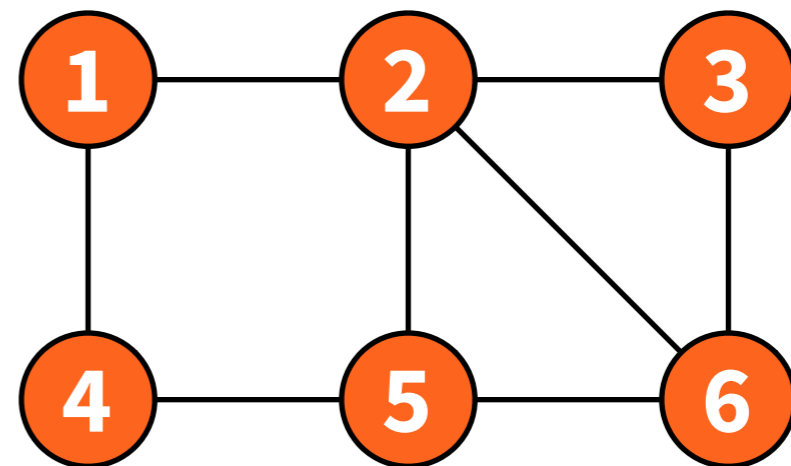
### Minimum VC



### Minimal VC



### 2-approximation





# Approximation

- **Approximations are always feasible solutions!**
- **“2-approximation of minimum vertex cover”**
  - vertex cover
  - $\leq 2$  times as large as minimum vertex cover

# Graph theory and distributed algorithms

- **Network  $\approx$  graph:** node  $\approx$  computer, edge  $\approx$  link
- **Graph theory used to:**
  - define: model of computing, what we want to solve, what we assume ...
  - prove: correctness of algorithms, time complexity, impossibility results ...

- **Weeks 1–2: informal introduction**

- network = path



- **Week 3: graph theory**

- **Weeks 4–7: models of computing**

- what can be computed (efficiently)?

- **Weeks 8–11: lower bounds**

- what cannot be computed (efficiently)?

- **Week 12: recap**