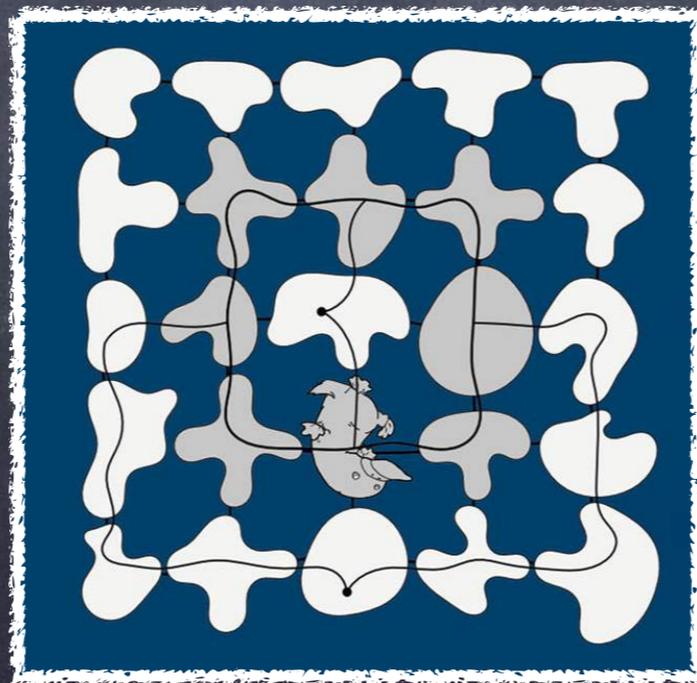


# Basics II

Fedor V. Fomin  
University of Bergen



Recent Advances in Parameterized Complexity

DECEMBER 3-7, 2017, Tel Aviv, Israel

# Plan

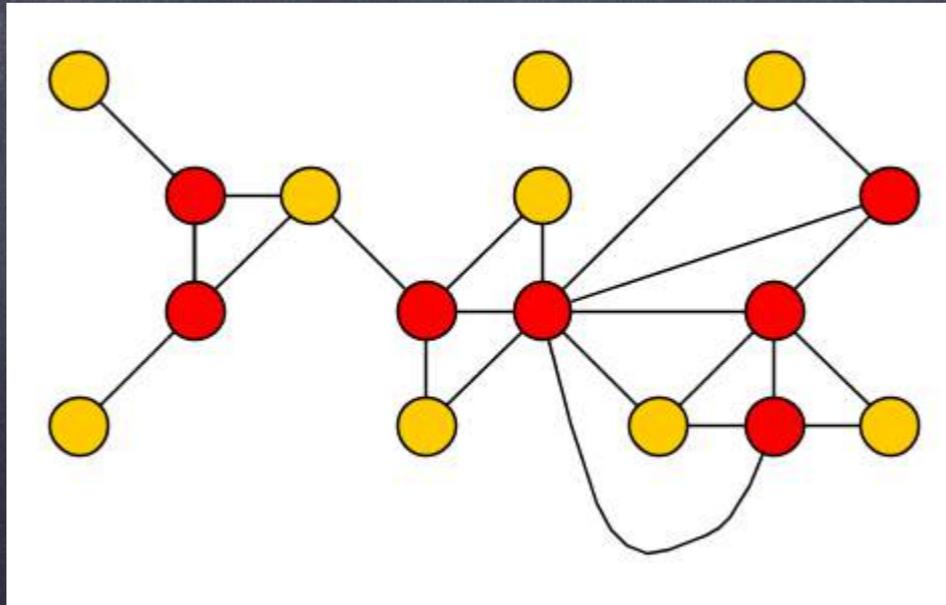
- Bounded Search Trees aka Branching
  - Vertex Cover:  $1.62^k$
  - 3-Hitting Set:  $3^k$
  - Feedback Vertex Set in Tournaments (FVST):  $3^k$
- Iterative Compression
  - FVST:  $2^k$
  - 3-Hitting Set:  $(1+VC)^k$

# Bounded Search Trees



# Vertex Cover

**Input:** A graph  $G$  and an integer  $k$   
**Parameter:**  $k$   
**Question:** Is there a set  $S$  of at most  $k$  vertices in  $G$ , such that each edge has an endpoint in  $S$ ?



## Vertex Cover

Observation. Let  $uv$  be an edge of a graph  $G$ . Then for every vc  $S$  of  $G$ , either  $u$  or  $v$  is in  $S$ .

In other words,  $(G, k)$  is a yes-instance of Vertex Cover if and only if either  $(G-u, k-1)$  or  $(G-v, k-1)$  is a yes-instance.

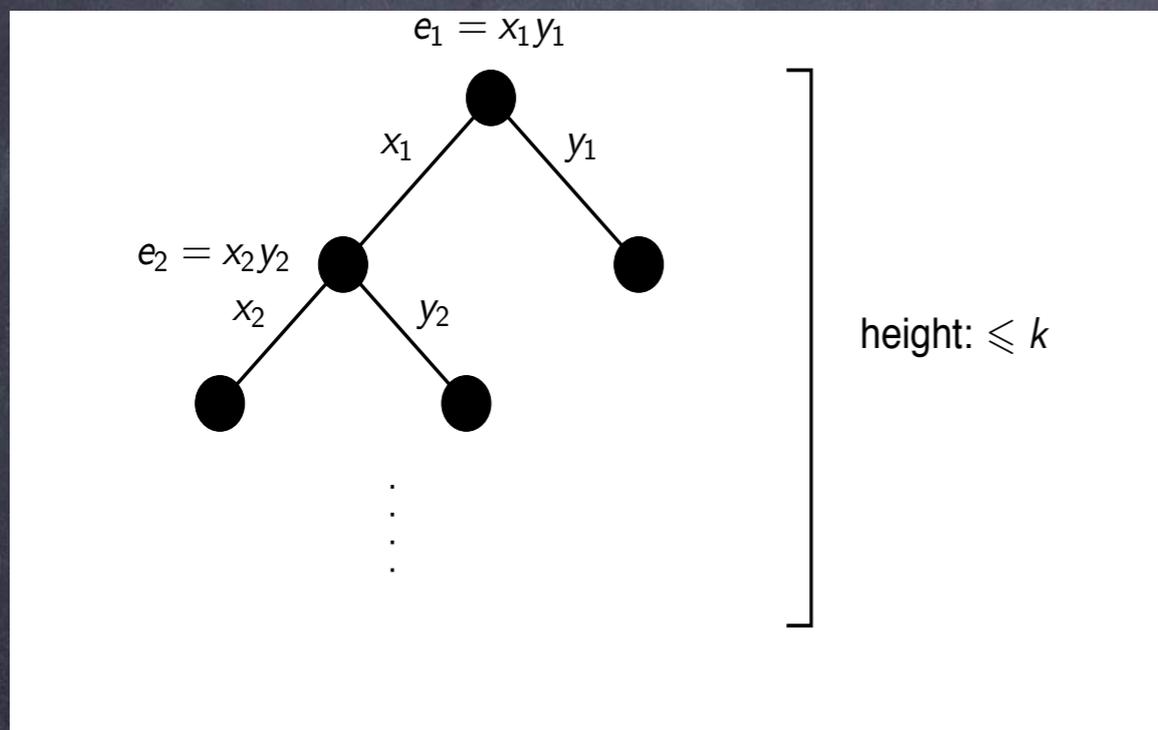
# Vertex Cover

Algorithm  $VC(G, k)$

- If  $k < 0$ , output NO
- If  $G$  has no edges, output YES
- Let  $uv$  be an edge,  
return  $VC(G-u, k-1) \vee VC(G-v, k-1)$

# Vertex Cover

## Bounded search (branching) tree

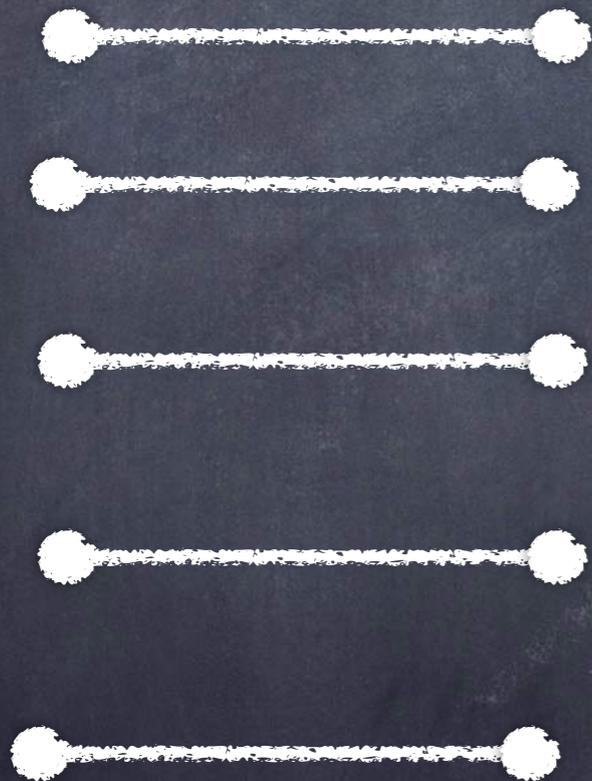


Running time proportional to the number of vertices in the branching tree

-  $T(k) = 2^k \text{poly}(n)$

# Vertex Cover

Worst-case example:  $k$  matchings



On the other hand, when all vertices are of degree at most 1, Vertex Cover is solvable in polynomial time

## Vertex Cover

Observation. Let  $v$  be a vertex of degree at least 1 of  $G$ . Then for every  $vc$   $S$  of  $G$ , either  $v$  or  $N(v)$  is in  $S$ .

In other words,  $(G, k)$  is a yes-instance of Vertex Cover if and only if either  $(G-v, k-1)$  or  $(G-N(v), k-|N(v)|)$  is a yes-instance.

## Vertex Cover

Algorithm  $VC2(G, k)$

- If  $k < 0$ , output NO
- If  $G$  has no vertex of degree at least 2, solve the problem in polynomial time
- Let  $v$  be a vertex of degree at least 2  
return  $VC2(G-v, k-1) \vee VC2(G-N(v), k-|N(v)|)$

# Vertex Cover

Running time

$$T(k) = \begin{cases} T(k-1) + T(k-2) & \text{if } k \geq 2, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$T(k) \leq c \cdot \lambda^k \quad c \cdot \lambda^k \geq c \cdot \lambda^{k-1} + c \cdot \lambda^{k-2}$$

$$T(k) = T(k-1) + T(k-2) \leq c \cdot \lambda^{k-1} + c \cdot \lambda^{k-2} \leq c \cdot \lambda^k$$

# Vertex Cover

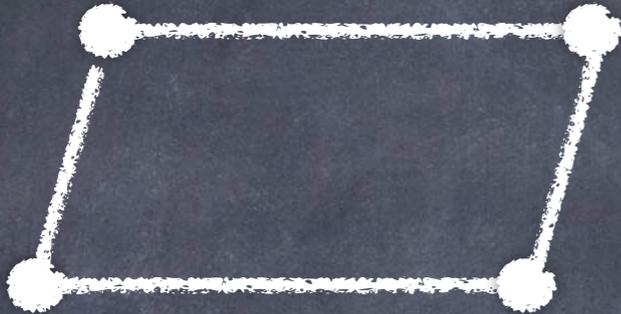
Running time

$$T(k) = T(k-1) + T(k-2) \leq c \cdot \lambda^{k-1} + c \cdot \lambda^{k-2} \leq c \cdot \lambda^k$$


$$\lambda^2 \geq \lambda + 1$$


$$\lambda = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} < 1.6181 \quad \longrightarrow \quad T(k) \leq 1.6181^k$$

# Vertex Cover



On the other hand, when all vertices are of degree at most 2, Vertex Cover is solvable in polynomial time

# Vertex Cover

Running time

$$T(k) = \begin{cases} T(k-1) + T(k-3) & \text{if } k \geq 3, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



$$\lambda^3 = \lambda^2 + 1$$



Vertex Cover is solvable in time  $1.4656^k n^{O(1)}$

# Vertex Cover

Vertex Cover is solvable in time  $1.4656^k n^{O(1)}$

Is this bound tight?

There are two questions:

Can the function  $T(k)$  be that large?

- Yes (ignoring rounding problems).

Can the bounded search tree of the Vertex Cover algorithm be that large?

- Difficult question, hard to answer in general.

Remark: the current record for VC  $1.2738^k$

# More generally

Linear recurrence

$$T(k) = T(k - d_1) + T(k - d_2) + \cdots + T(k - d_p)$$

$$\lambda^k \geq \lambda^{k-d_1} + \lambda^{k-d_2} + \cdots + \lambda^{k-d_p}$$

Characteristic polynomial

$$\lambda^d - \lambda^{d-d_1} - \lambda^{d-d_2} - \cdots - \lambda^{d-d_p} \geq 0$$

Unique root: branching number corresponding to branching vector

$$(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_p)$$

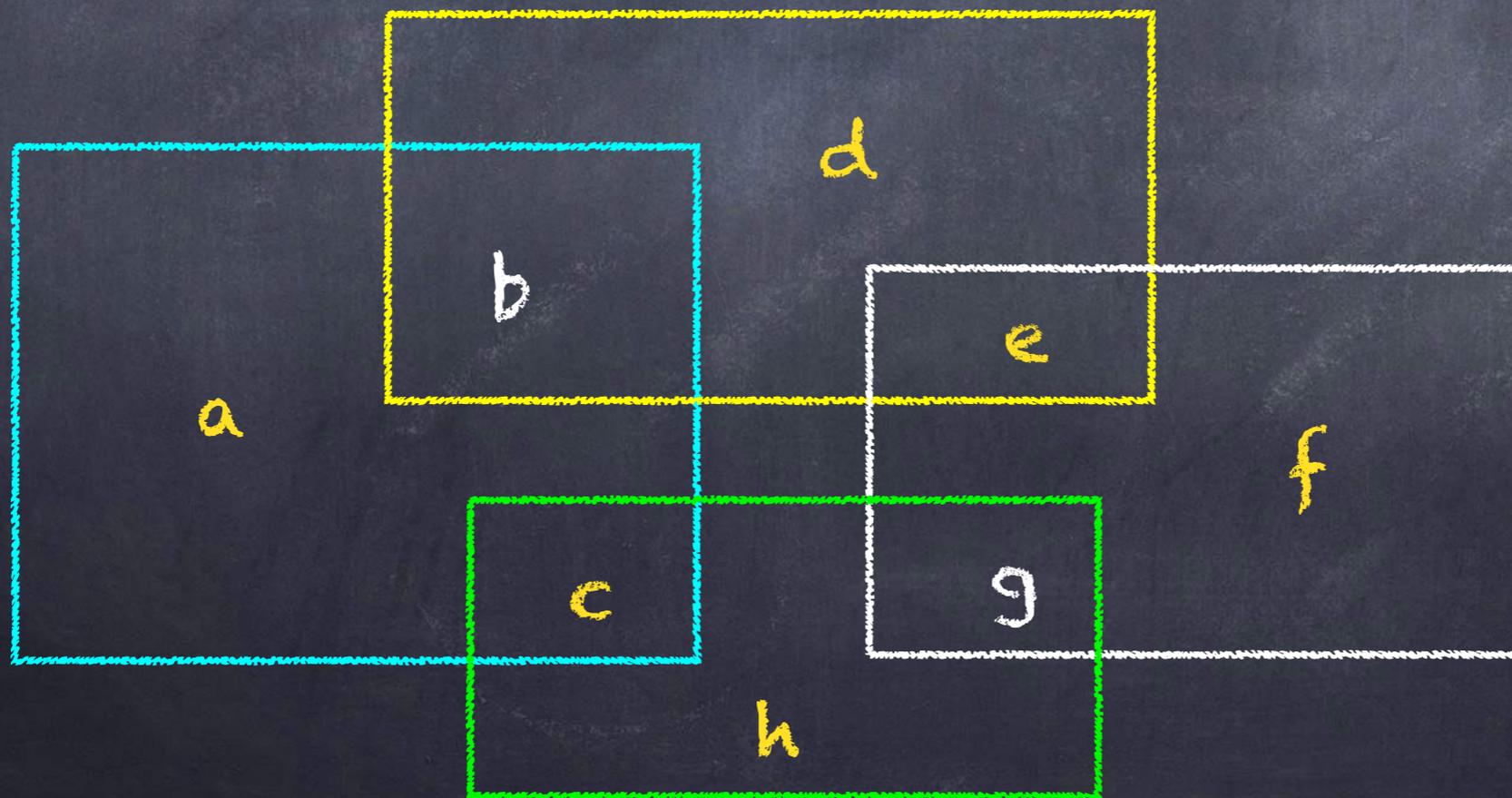
$(i, j)$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2.0000	1.6181	1.4656	1.3803	1.3248	1.2852
2		1.4143	1.3248	1.2721	1.2366	1.2107
3			1.2560	1.2208	1.1939	1.1740
4				1.1893	1.1674	1.1510
5					1.1487	1.1348
6						1.1225

Table 1: A table of branching numbers (rounded up)

# $d$ -Hitting Set

**Input:** A universe  $U$ , a family  $A$  of sets of size  $d$  over  $U$ , integer  $k$

**Question:** Does there exist a subset  $X$  of  $U$  of size  $k$  that has a nonempty intersection with every member of  $A$ ?



## 3-Hitting Set

Algorithm: Similar to Vertex Cover = 2-Hitting Set

- Let  $uv$  be an edge, return  $VC(G-u, k-1) \vee VC(G-v, k-1)$

Which is the same as

- Let  $uv$  be an edge, return  $VC(G-E(u), k-1) \vee VC(G-E(v), k-1)$

## 3-Hitting Set

Algorithm: 3-HS( $A, k$ )

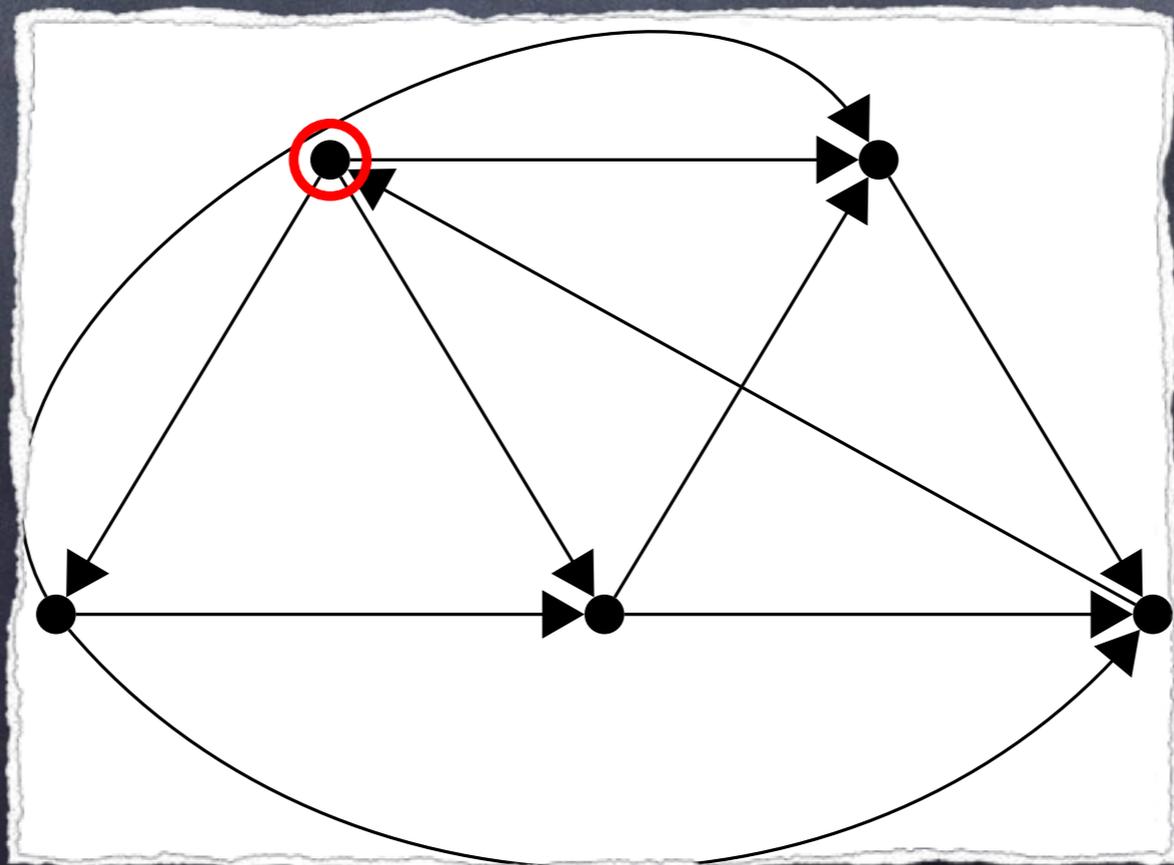
Running time  
-  $3^k \text{ poly}(n)$

- If  $A$  is empty, say YES
- If  $k < 0$ , say NO
- Let  $uvw$  be a set from  $A$ , return
- $3\text{-HS}(A - S(u), k-1) \vee 3\text{-HS}(A - S(v), k-1) \vee 3\text{-HS}(A - S(w), k-1)$

# Feedback Vertex Set in Tournament (FVST)

**Input:** A tournament (oriented clique)  $T$  and an integer  $k$

**Question:** Does there exist a subset  $X$  of  $V(T)$  of size  $k$  such that  $T-X$  is acyclic?



# FVST

Observation: A tournament is acyclic if and only if it does not contain a directed triangle.



FVST

Hitting directed triangles

3-Hitting Set

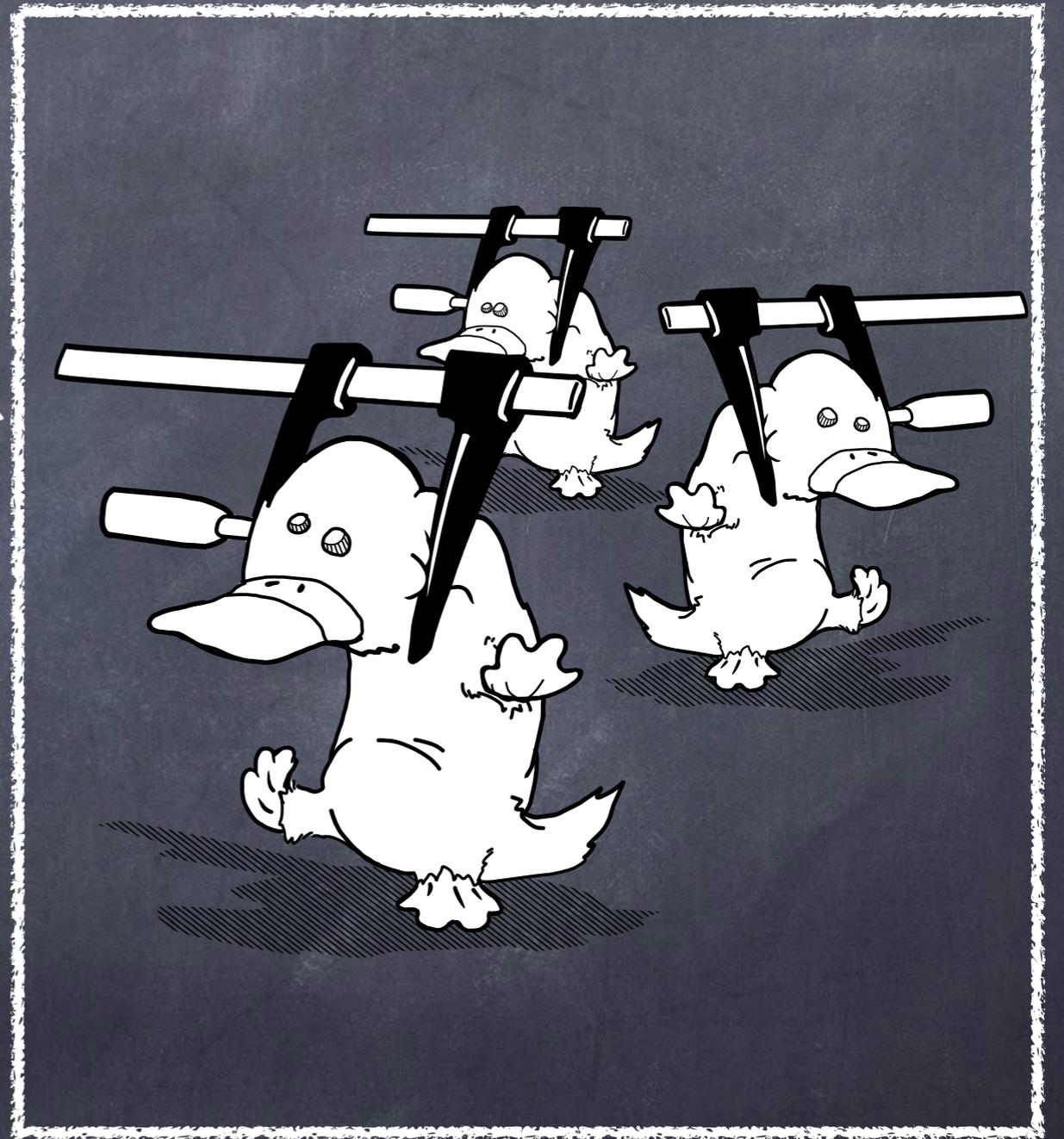
Running time  $3^k \text{ poly}(n)$

More problems to branch...

## Exercises

- Cluster Vertex Deletion:  $3^k \text{ poly}(n)$
- Minimum Fill-in:  $k^k \text{ poly}(n)$

# Iterative Compression



# Compression

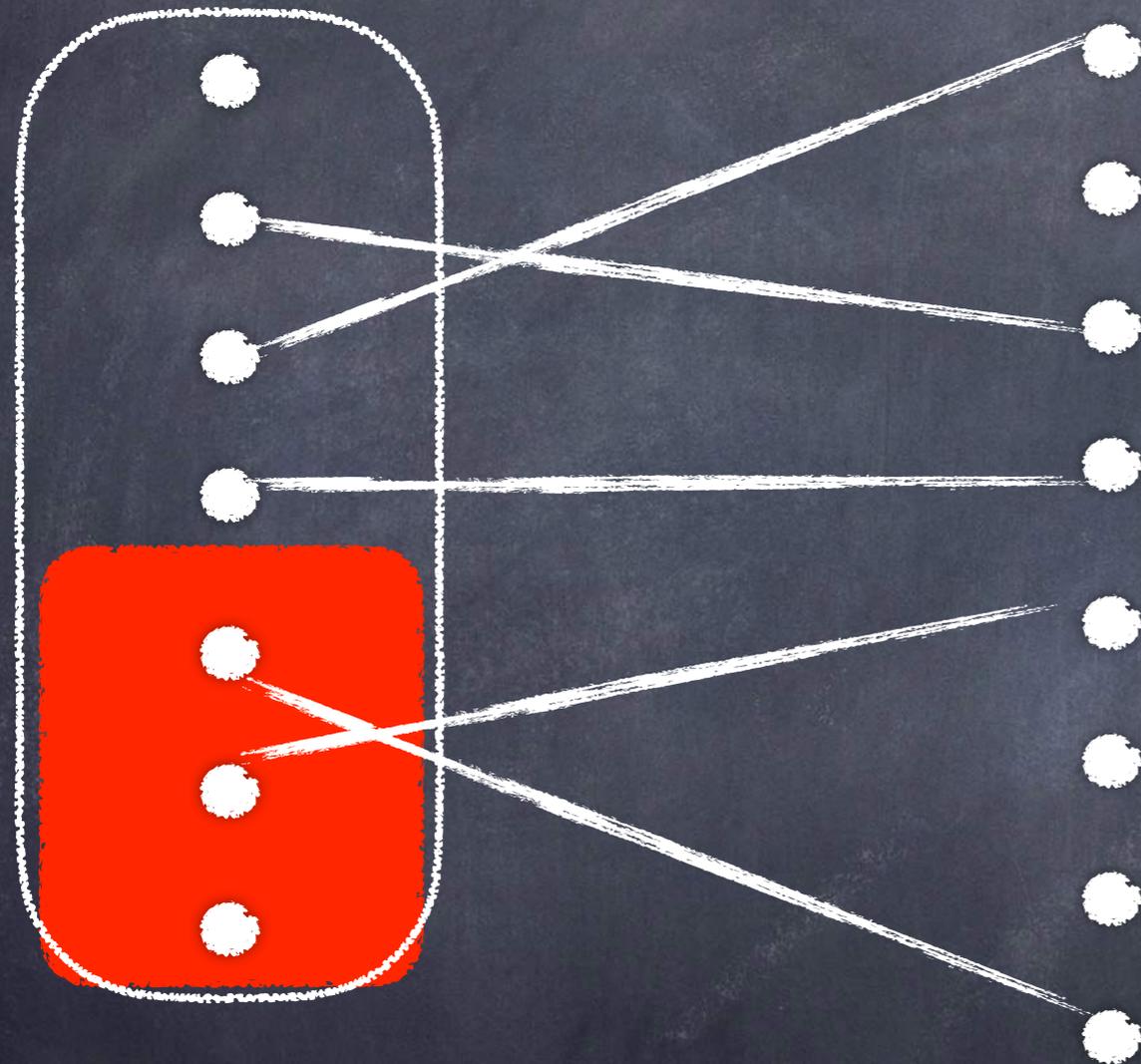
- Suppose that we found a (slightly) oversized solution
- Will it help to solve the problem?

# Compression

- Suppose we have a vertex cover of size  $k+1$
- How could it help to find a vertex cover of size  $k$ ?

# Compression

- Guess which part of  $S$  will be in new VC and which not
- Branch into  $2^{k+1}$  subproblems
- Each of the subproblems is solvable in polynomial time (Why?)



Running time  $2^k \text{ poly}(n)$

VC  $S$  of size  $k+1$

Independent Set

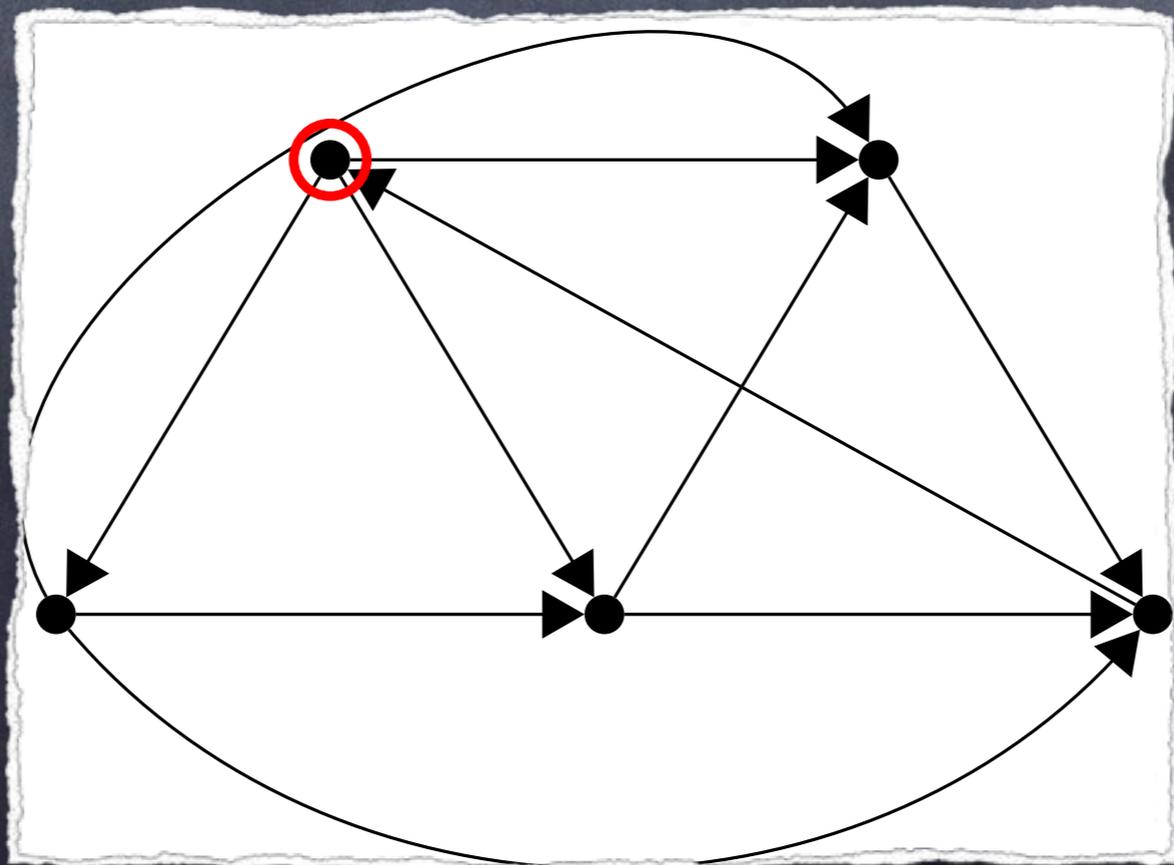
# Iterative Step

- Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  be the vertices of  $G$
- Start with a graph  $G_{k+1}$  induced by  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{k+1}$
- For graph  $G_p$  perform compression. If it has no VC of size  $k$ , reject. Otherwise, find a VC  $S$  of size  $k$ . In  $G_{p+1}$  set  $S + v_{p+1}$  is a vertex cover of size  $k+1$ . Iterate.

# Feedback Vertex Set in Tournament (FVST)

Input: A tournament (oriented clique)  $T$  and an integer  $k$

Question: Does there exist a subset  $X$  of  $V(T)$  of size  $k$  such that  $T-X$  is acyclic?



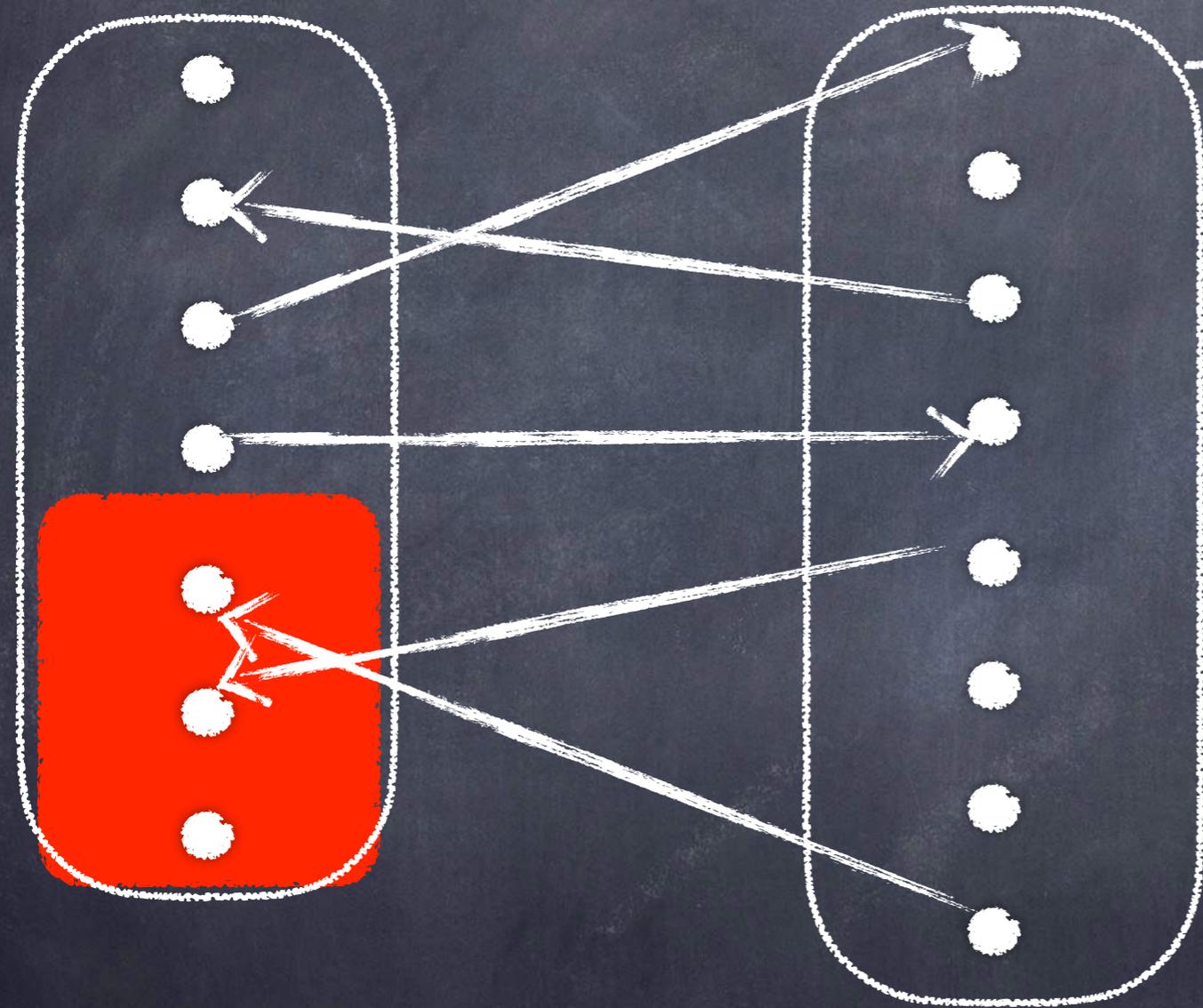
# Compression

- Suppose we have a FVST  $X$  of size  $k+1$
- How could it help to find a FVST of size  $k$ ?

# Compression

Guess which part of  $X$  will be in new FVS and which not

- Branch into  $2^{k+1}$  subproblems
- Each of the subproblems is solvable in polynomial time (needs a proof)



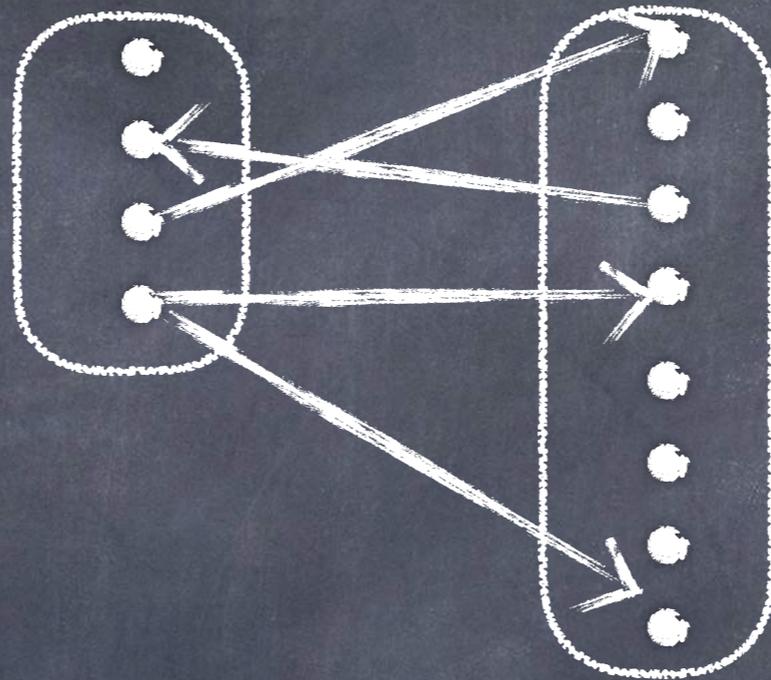
Running time  $2^k \text{poly}(n)$

FVS  $X$  of size  $k+1$

Acyclic Tournament

# Disjoint FVST

FVS  $W$  of size  $p$

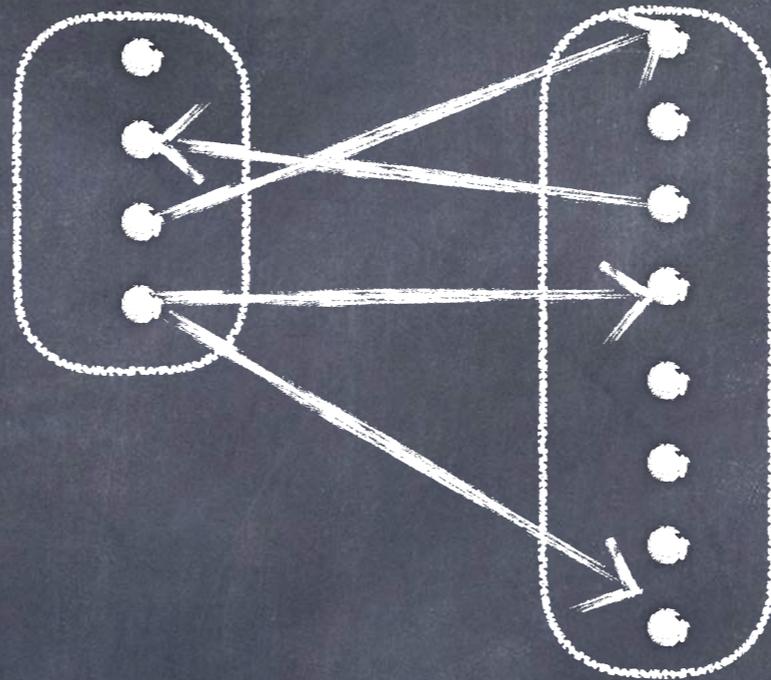


Acyclic Tournament  $A$

**INPUT:** A tournament  $T$  with a FVS  $W$  of size  $p$ .  
**TASK:** Decide, whether  $T$  has a FVS  $U$  of size  $k-p$  disjoint with  $W$

# Disjoint FVST

FVS  $W$  of size  $p$



Acyclic Tournament  $A$

What is the maximum number of vertices  $X$  from  $A$  can be added to  $W$  to keep  $T[W+X]$  acyclic?

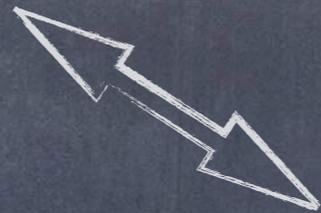
**Lemma.** Disjoint FVST is solvable in polynomial time

**In other words:** One can find the maximum number of vertices  $X$  from  $A$  such that  $T[W+X]$  acyclic in polynomial time

# Proof of Lemma.

Fact:

A tournament is acyclic

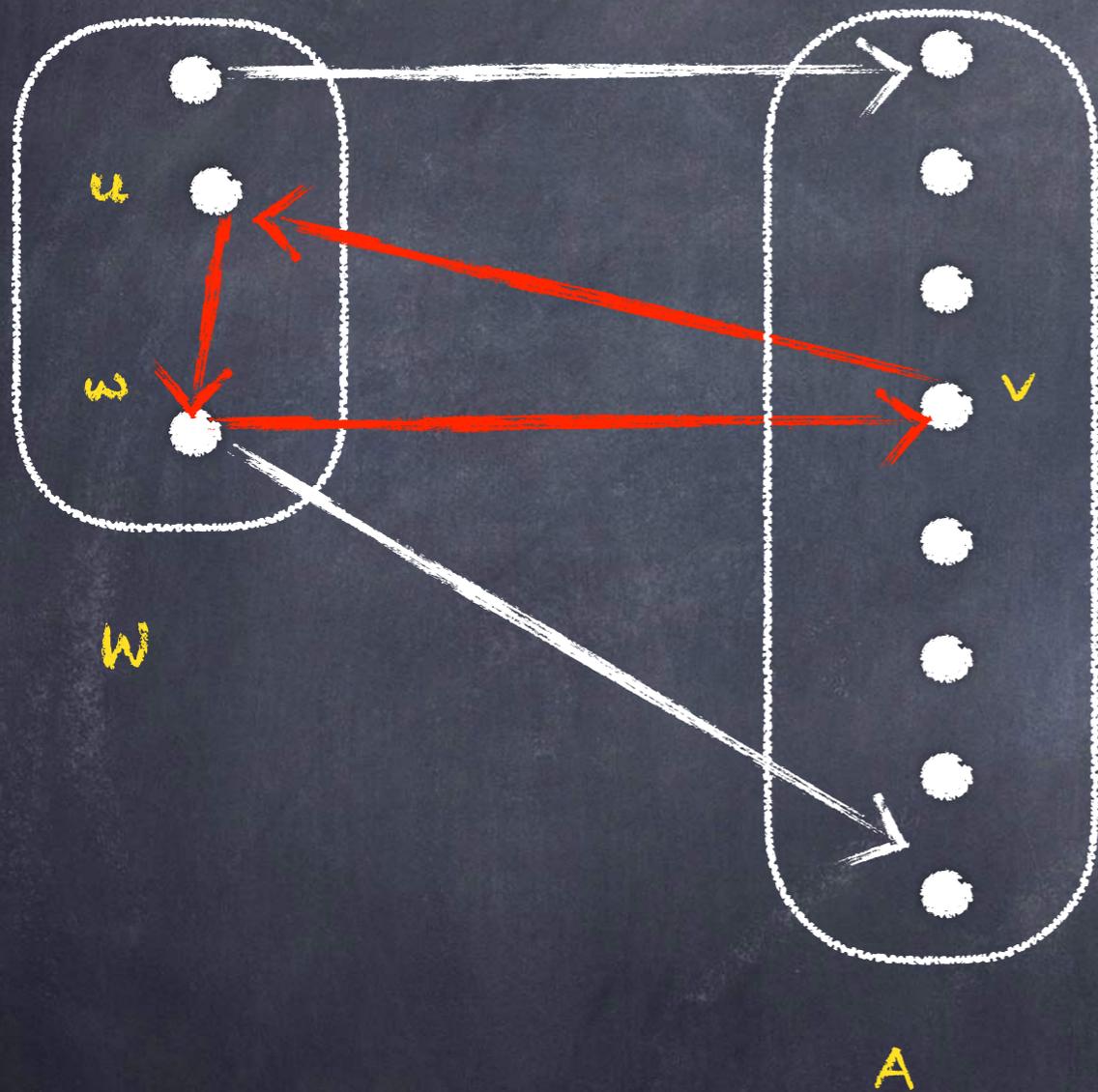


Tournament does not contain a directed triangle



Tournament contains a (unique) topological ordering

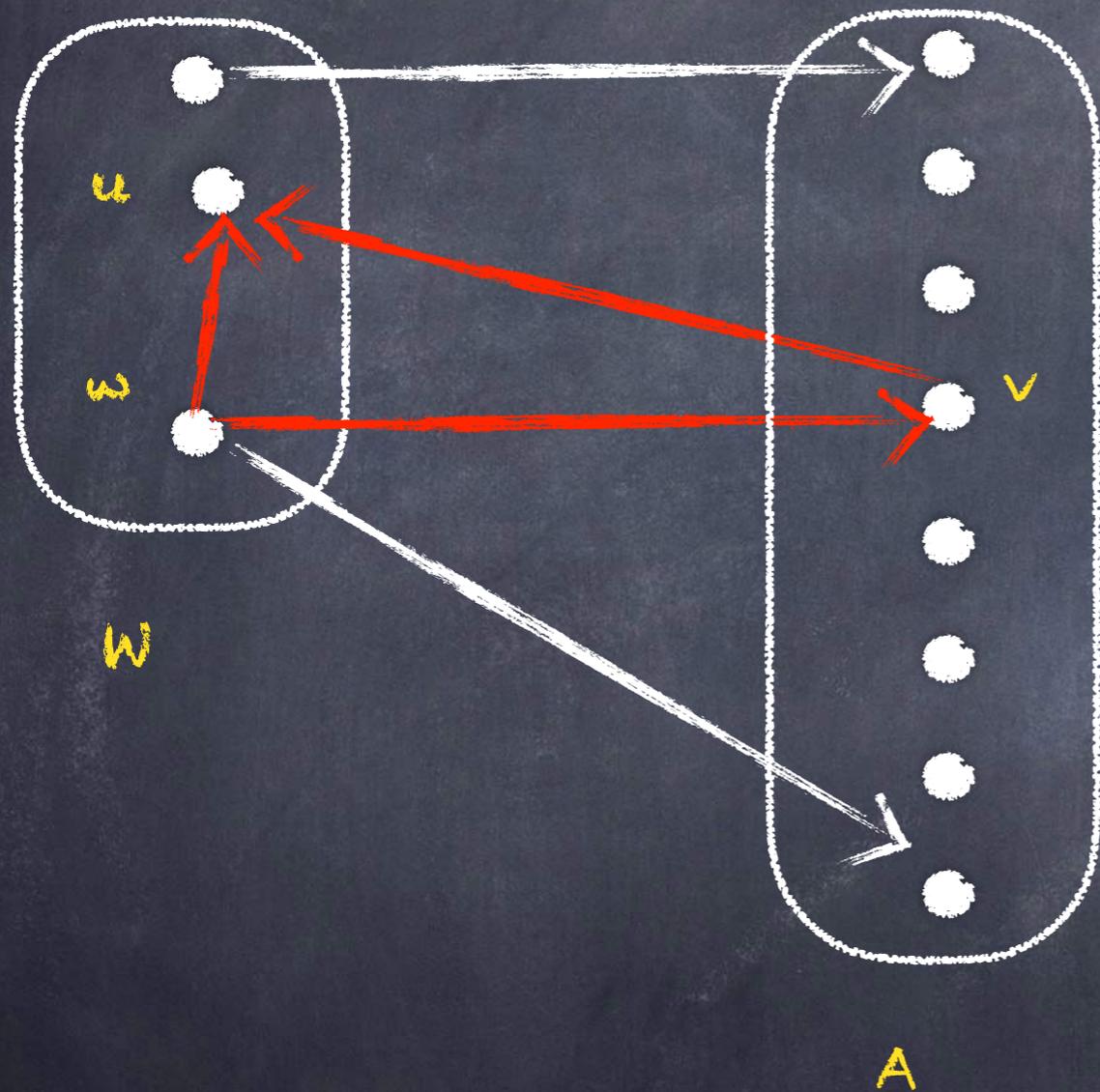
# Proof of Lemma.



If there exist  $v$  in  $A$   
and  $u, w$  in  $W$  s.t.  $vuw$   
is a triangle, then  $v$   
must be in FVS

Add  $v$  to  $W$ , decrease  
the parameter by 1

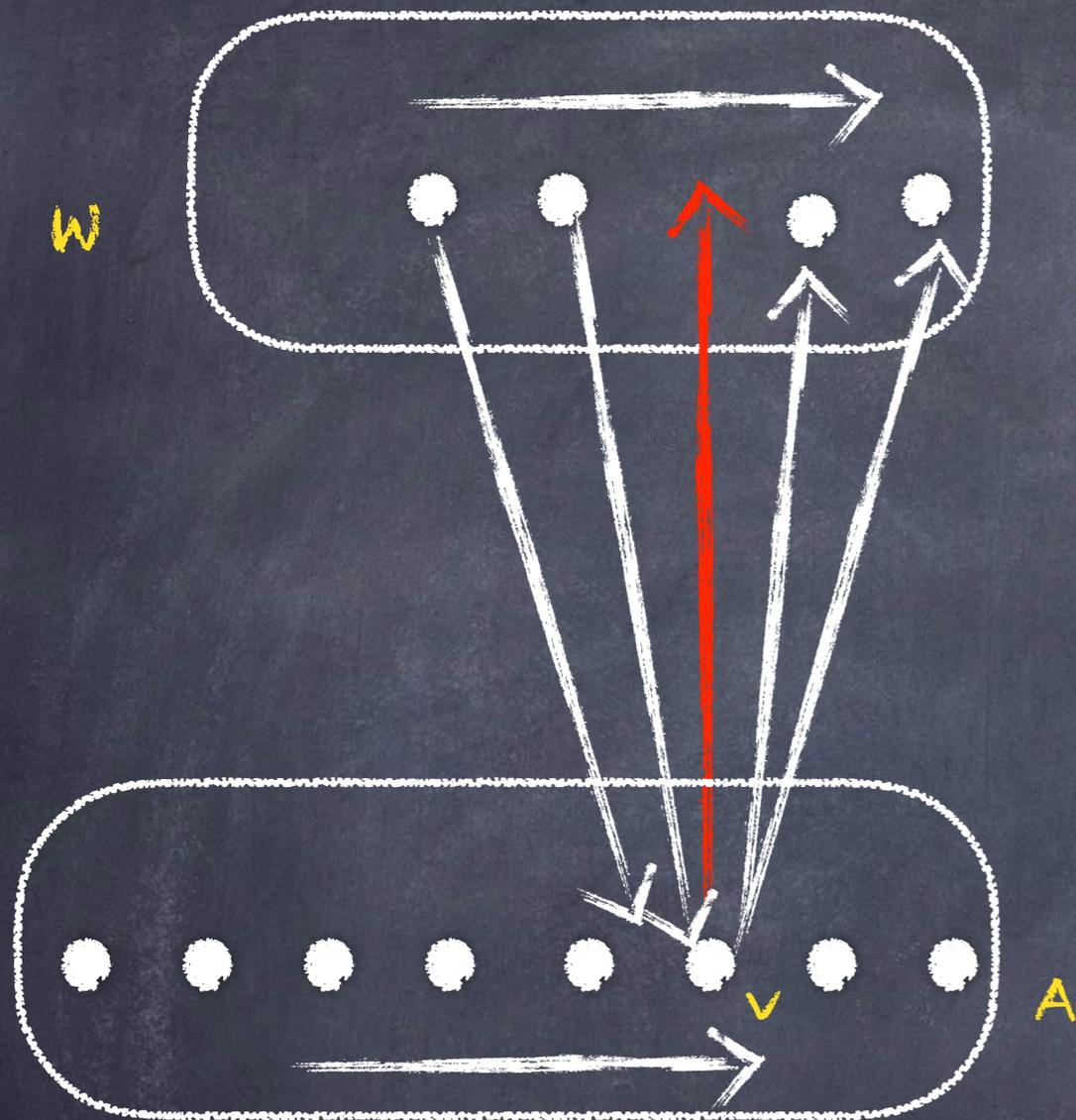
# Proof of Lemma.



After transforming the tournament, for every  $v$  in  $A$  tournament  $T[W+v]$  is acyclic.

In topological ordering of tournament  $T[W+v]$  vertex  $v$  has its unique position.

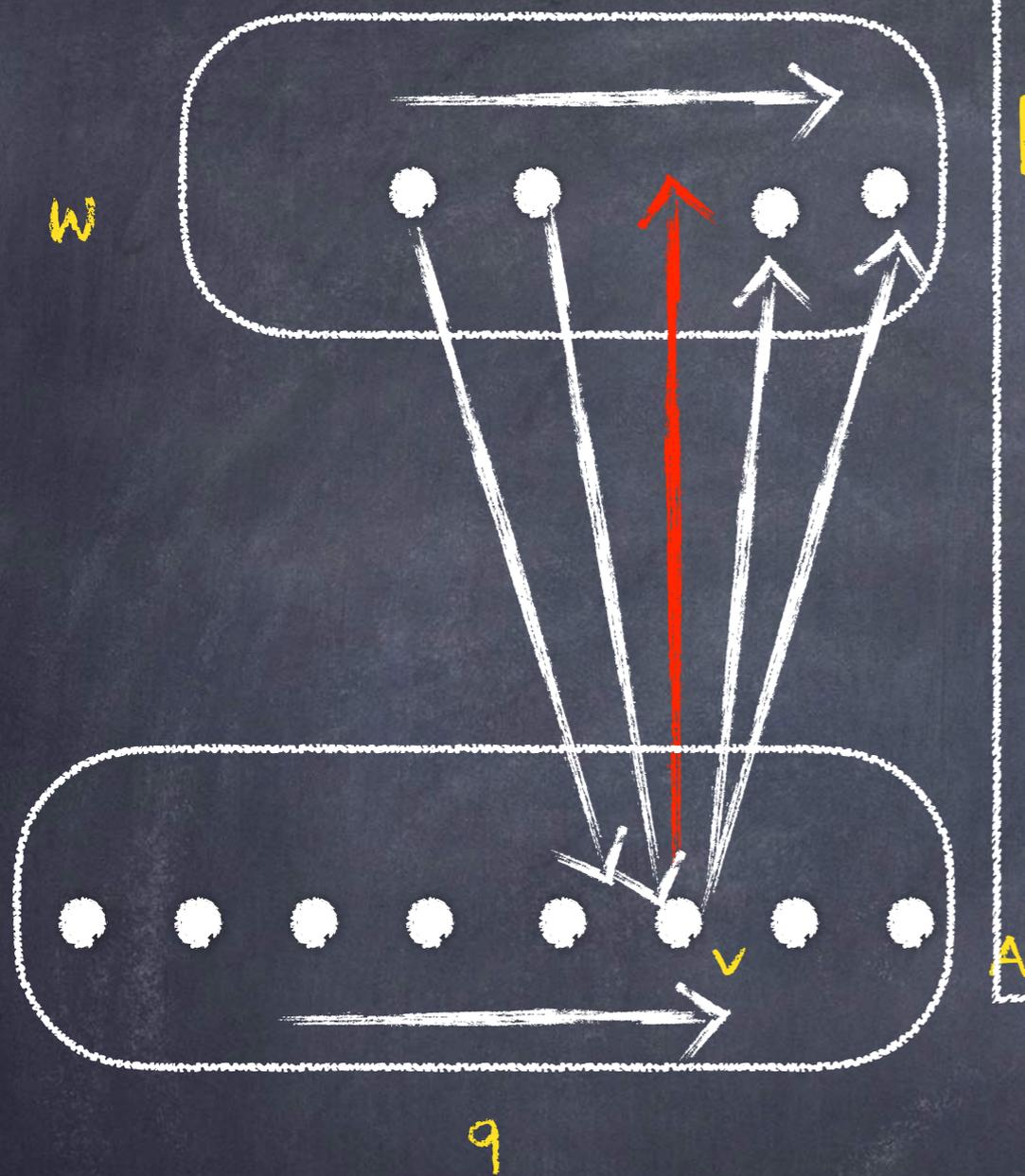
# Proof of Lemma.



In topological ordering of tournament  $T[W+v]$  vertex  $v$  has its unique position.

This defines an ordering  $p$  of  $A$

# Proof of Lemma



This defines ordering  $p$  of  $A$   
 $p[u] < p[v]$

- if position of  $u$  in t.o. of  $T[W+u]$  is smaller than position of  $v$  in t.o. of  $T[W+v]$ ,
- or  $u$  and  $v$  have equal positions but  $q[u] < q[v]$

$T[A]$  is acyclic, so  $A$  has a topological ordering  $q$

FIND THE LONGEST COMMON SUBSEQUENCE OF  $p$  and  $q$ !!!

**Lemma.** Disjoint FVST is solvable in polynomial time

Compression of FVST is doable in  $2^k$   $\text{poly}(n)$  time

**Theorem.** Disjoint FVST is solvable in  $2^k$   $\text{poly}(n)$  time

# Iterative Compression: Solving a problem (\*)

- If there exist an algorithm solving (\*)-  
**COMPRESSION** in time  $f(k) n^c$  then there exists an  
algorithm solving problem (\*) in time  $f(k) n^{c+1}$
- If **DISJOINT(\*)** is solvable in time  $g(k) n^{O(1)}$  then  
**(\*)-COMPRESSION** is solvable in time

$$\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k+1}{i} g(k-i) n^{O(1)}$$

$$g(k) = \alpha^k$$

**DISJOINT(\*)**



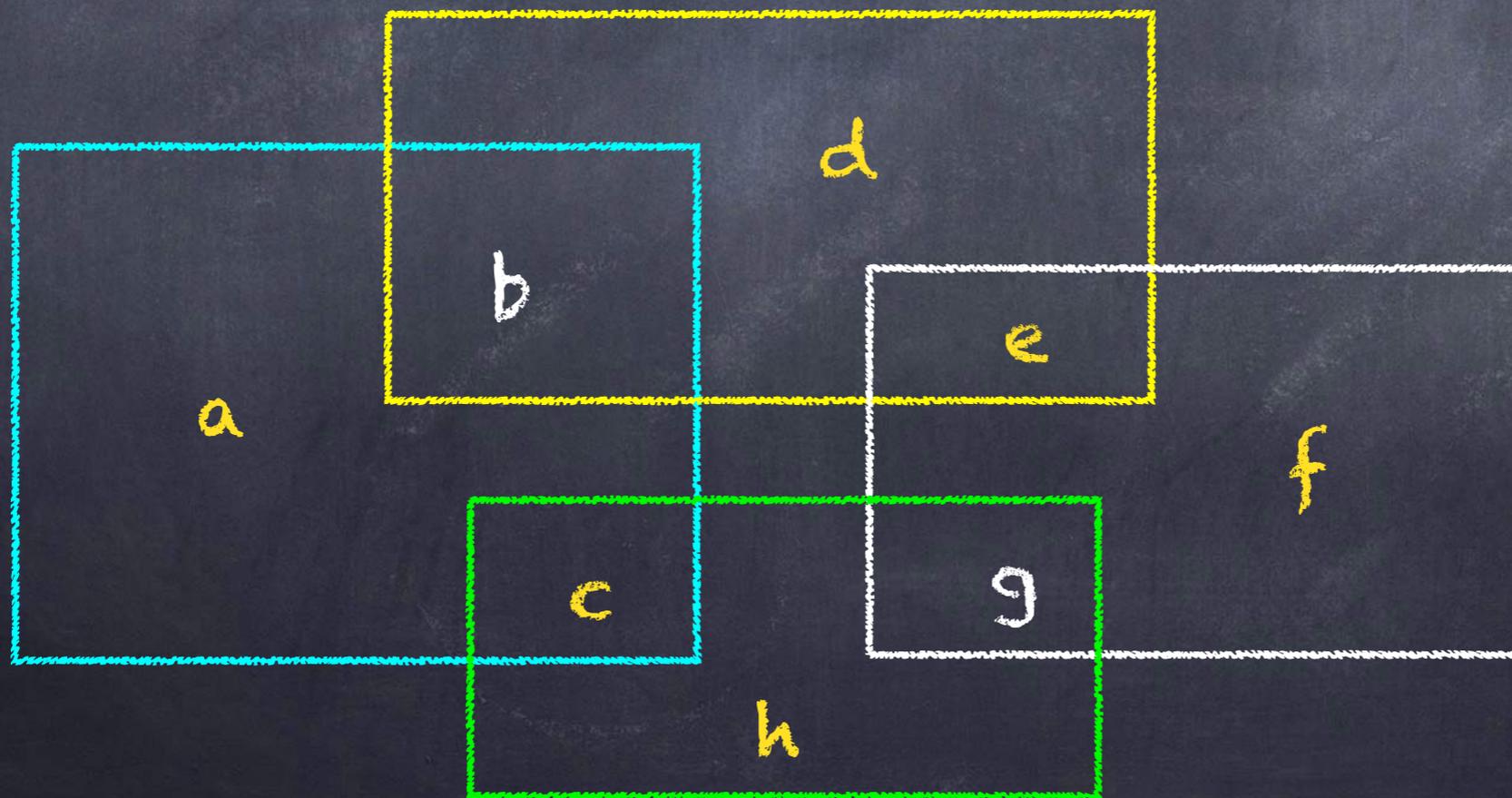
$$(1 + \alpha)^k n^{O(1)}$$

**(\*)-COMPRESSION**

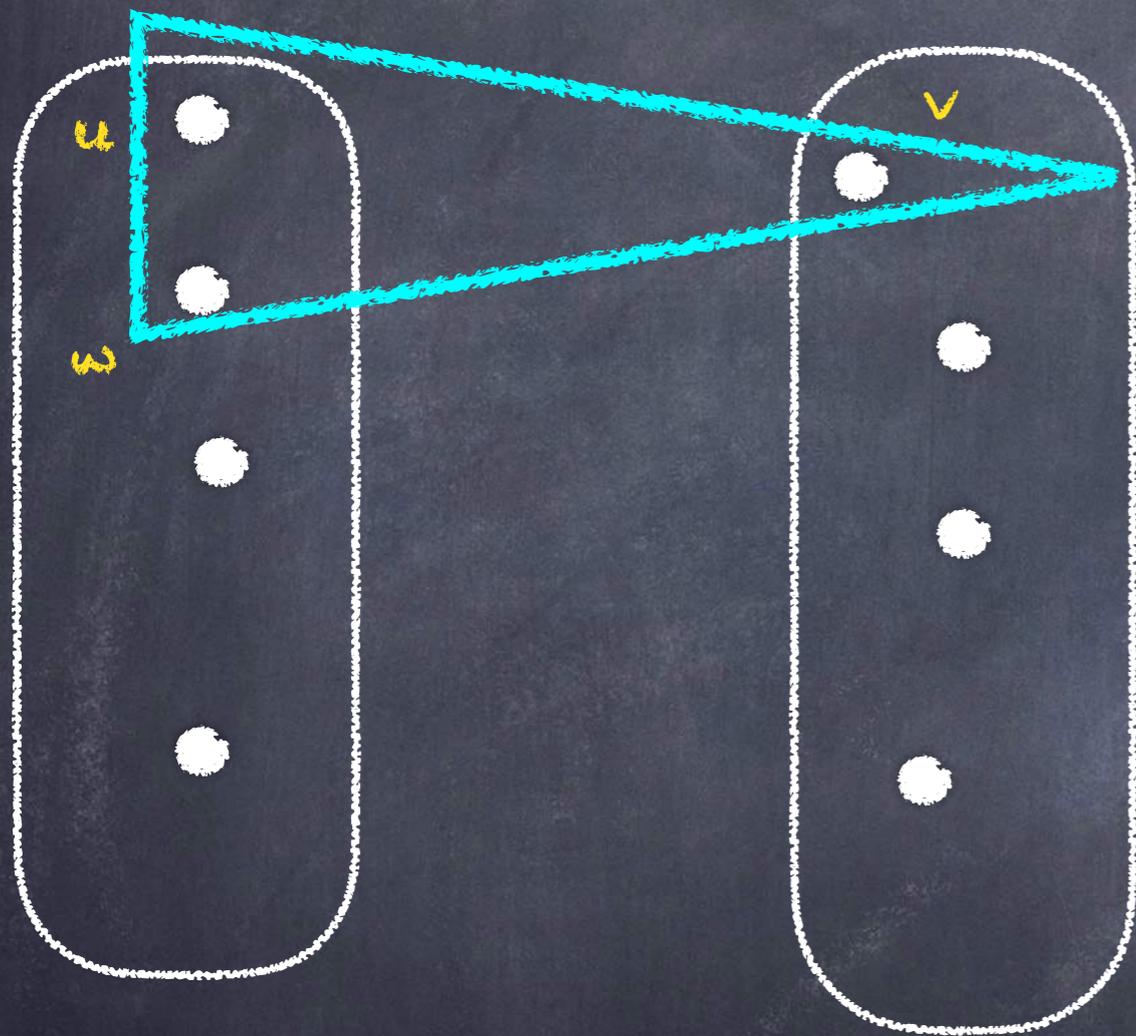
# 3-Hitting Set

Input: A universe  $U$ , a family  $A$  of sets of size 3 over  $U$ , integer  $k$

Question: Does there exist a subset  $X$  of  $U$  of size  $k$  that has a nonempty intersection with every member of  $A$ ?



# DISJOINT 3-Hitting Set



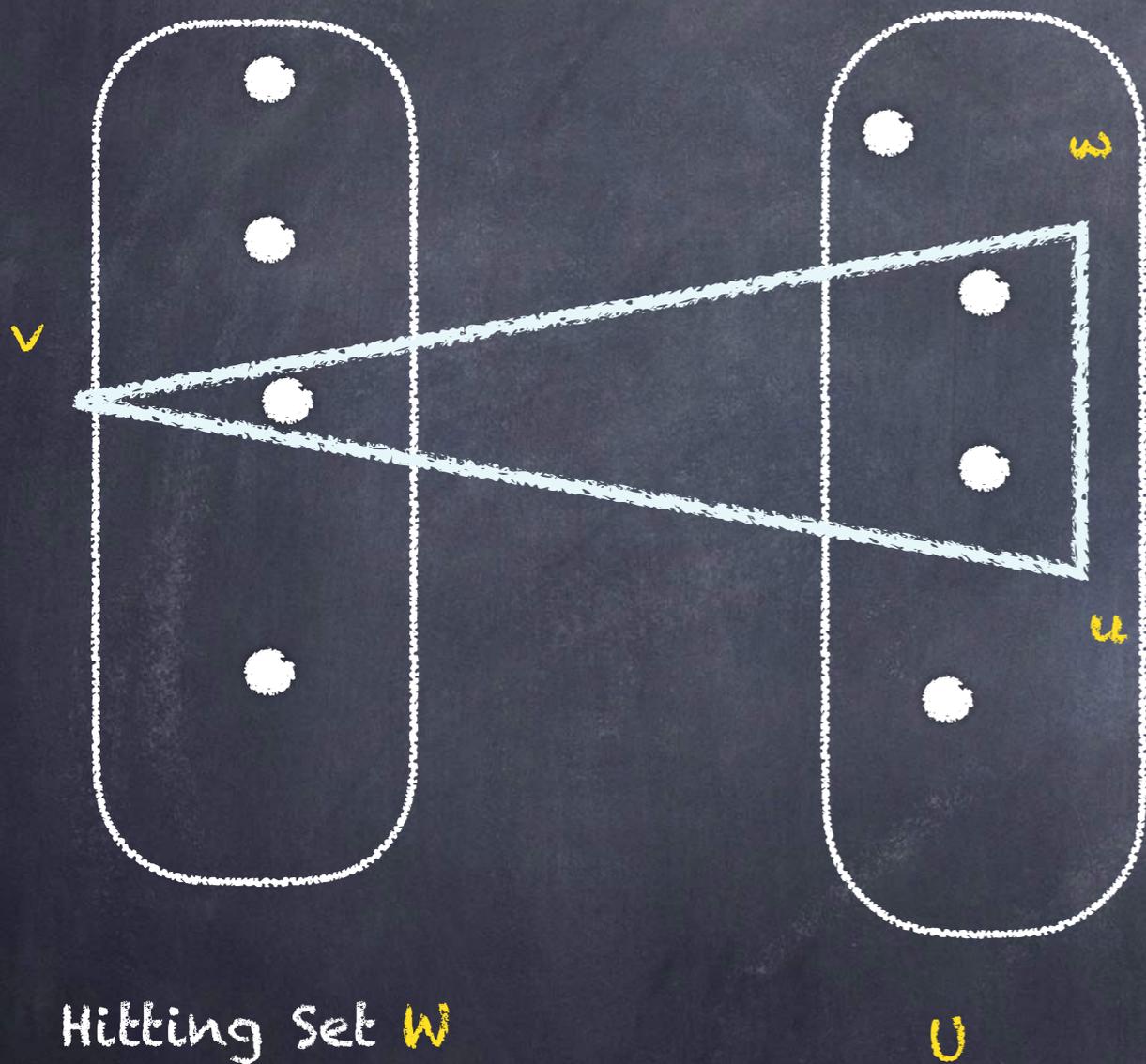
Hitting Set  $W$

$U$

If there is set  $\{v, u, w\}$   
s.t.  $v$  in  $U$  and  $u, w$  in  
 $W$ , then  $v$  must be in HS

Reduce  $k$  by 1 and  
delete from  $A$  all sets  
containing  $v$

# DISJOINT 3-Hitting Set



Now for every  $S = \{v, u, w\}$  in  $A$ ,  $v$  in  $W$  and  $u, w$  in  $U$ . Either  $u$  or  $w$  should be in HS

Build auxiliary graph  $G_U$  on  $U$ .  $u$  and  $w$  are adjacent in  $G_U$  iff they are in a set of  $A$

For every edge  $uw$  of  $G_U$  at least one of its endpoints should be in HS.

To solve

DISJOINT 3-Hitting Set

We solve

Vertex Cover

# Reminder

- If there exist an algorithm solving  $(*)$ -**COMPRESSION** in time  $f(k) n^c$  then there exists an algorithm solving problem  $(*)$  in time  $f(k) n^{c+1}$
- If **DISJOINT** $(*)$  is solvable in time  $g(k) n^{O(1)}$  then  $(*)$ -**COMPRESSION** is solvable in time

$$\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k+1}{i} g(k-i) n^{O(1)}$$

$$g(k) = \alpha^k$$



$$(1 + \alpha)^k n^{O(1)}$$

**DISJOINT** $(*)$

$(*)$ -**COMPRESSION**

**Theorem.** Let  $C$  be a constant such that VC is solvable in time  $C^k \text{poly}(n)$ . Then 3-HS is solvable in time  $(1+C)^k \text{poly}(n)$ .

# More problems to iterate...

## Exercises

- Cluster Vertex Deletion:  $2^k \text{poly}(n)$
- Feedback Vertex Set (undirected graph):  $2^{O(k)} \text{poly}(n)$
- Odd Cycle Transversal:  $2^{O(k)} \text{poly}(n)$
- $d$ -HS in time  $(1+c)^k \text{poly}(n)$ , where  $c$  is the constant for  $(d-1)$ -HS

## Summing up

# Two basic techniques for FPT algorithms

- Branching (first thing to try)
  - Vertex Cover, 3-Hitting Set, Feedback Vertex Set in Tournaments
- Iterative Compression
  - VC, FVST, 3-Hitting Set

Reading: chapters 3 and 4 of PA book