

# Metric Dimension and Geodetic Set Parameterized by Vertex Cover

@STACS

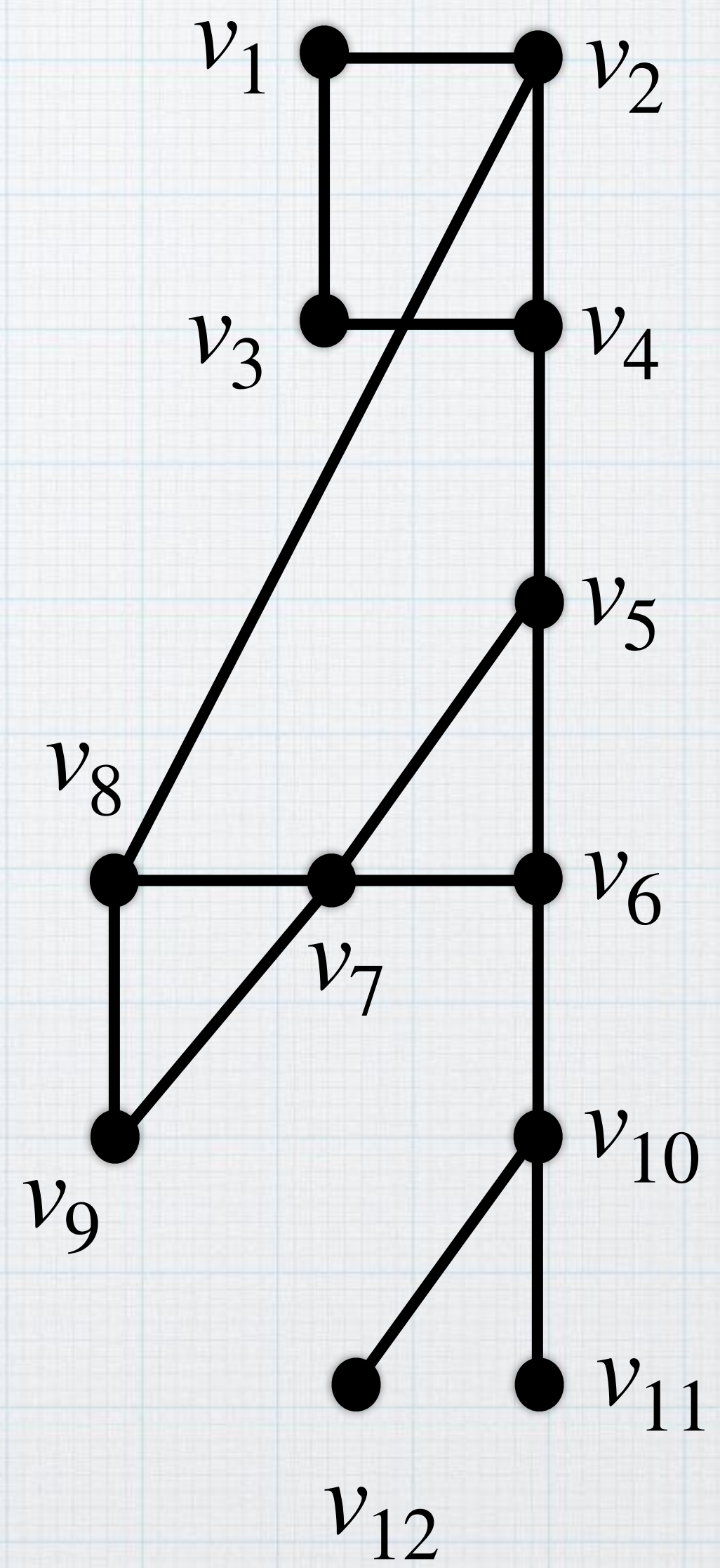
March 05, 2025

Prafullkumar Tale

Joint work with

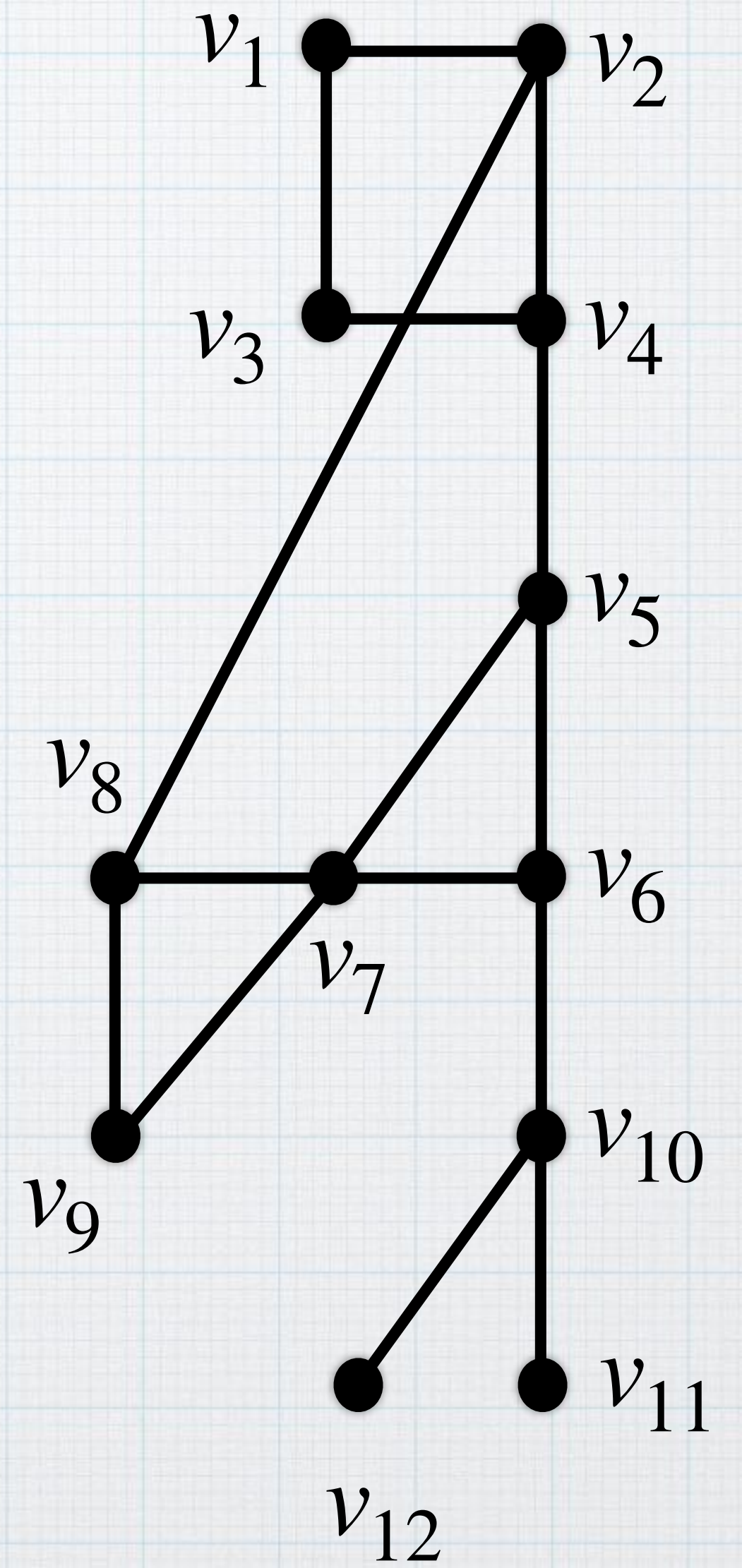
Florent Foucaud, Esther Galby, Liana Khazaliya, Shaohua Li, Fionn Mc Inerney, Roohani Sharma

# Catch the Spy



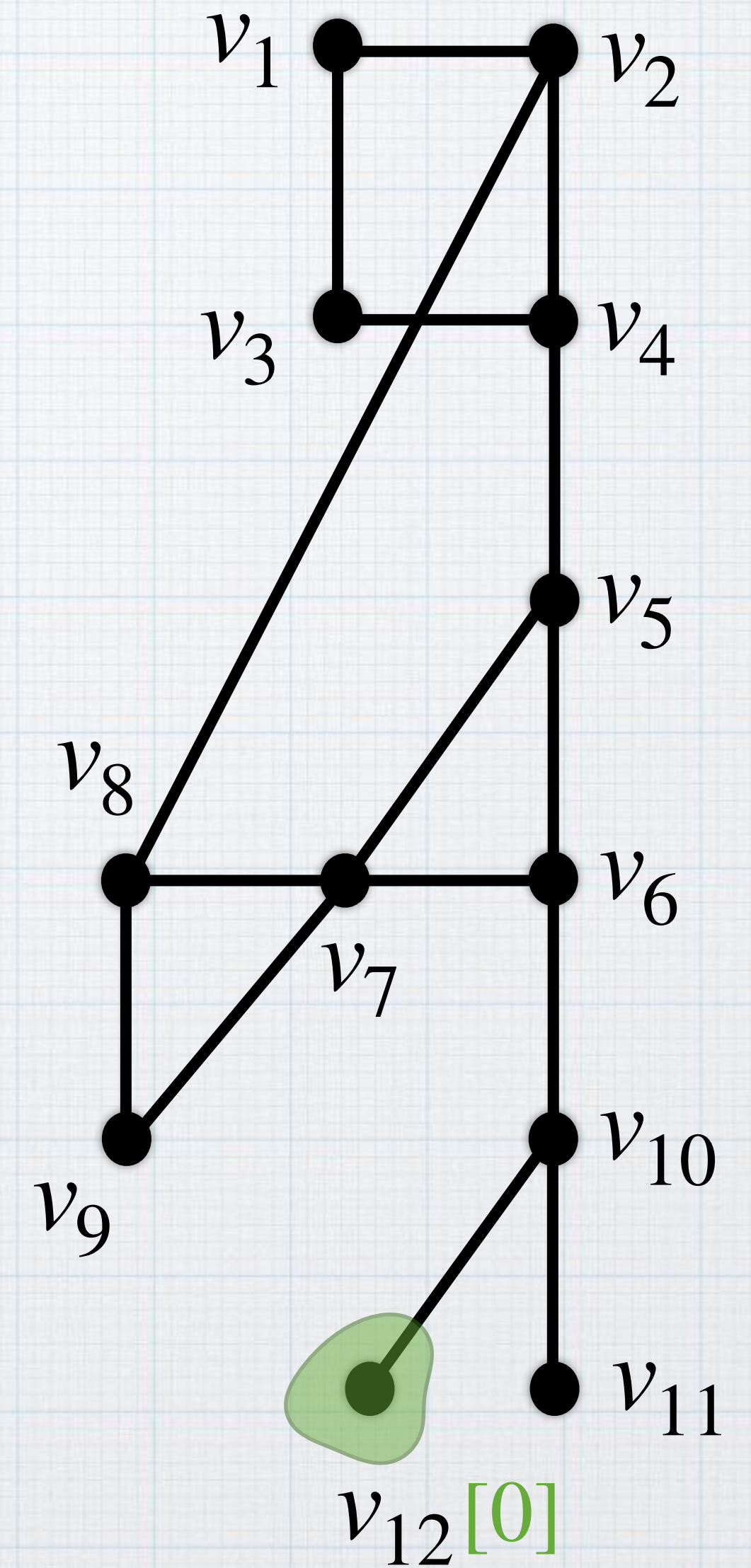
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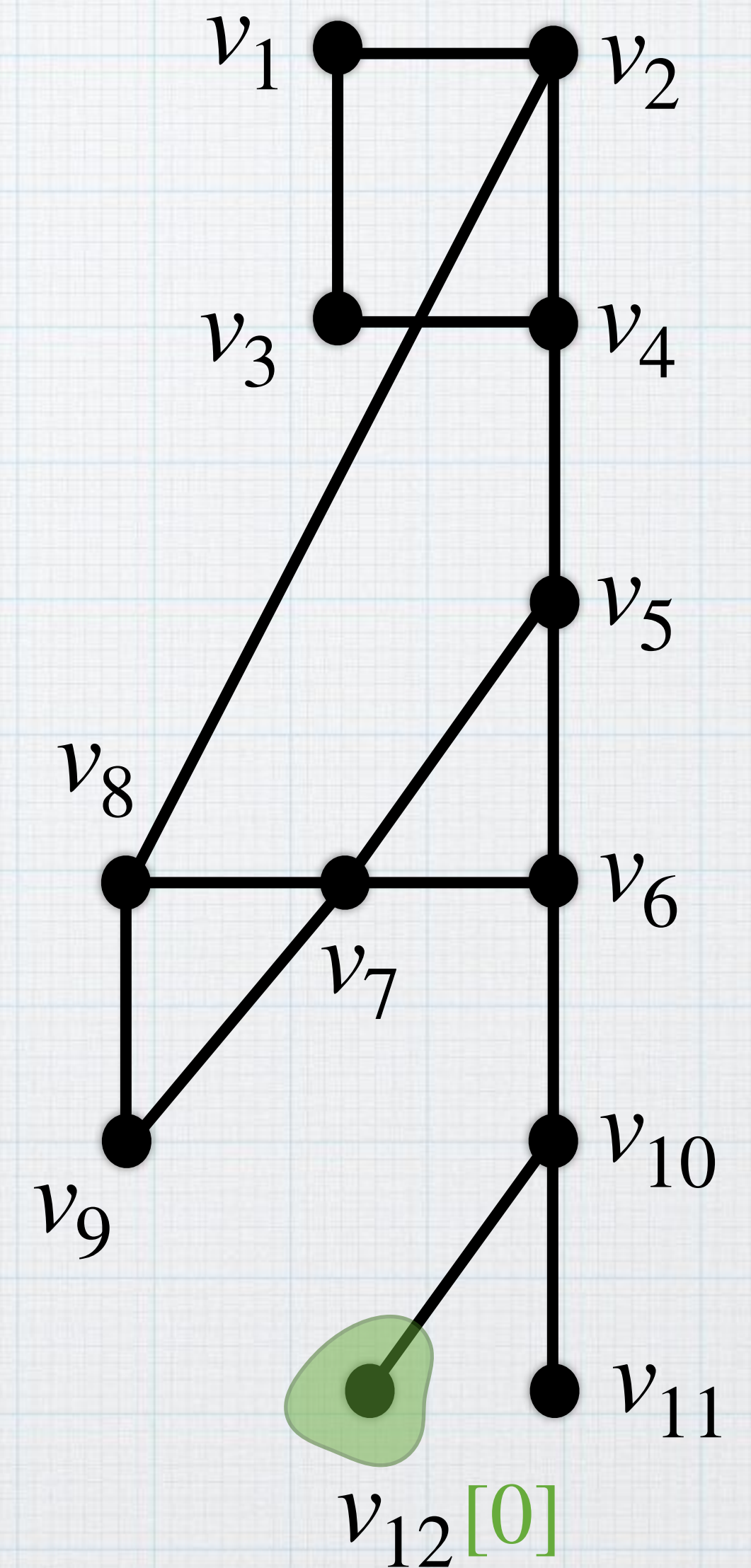
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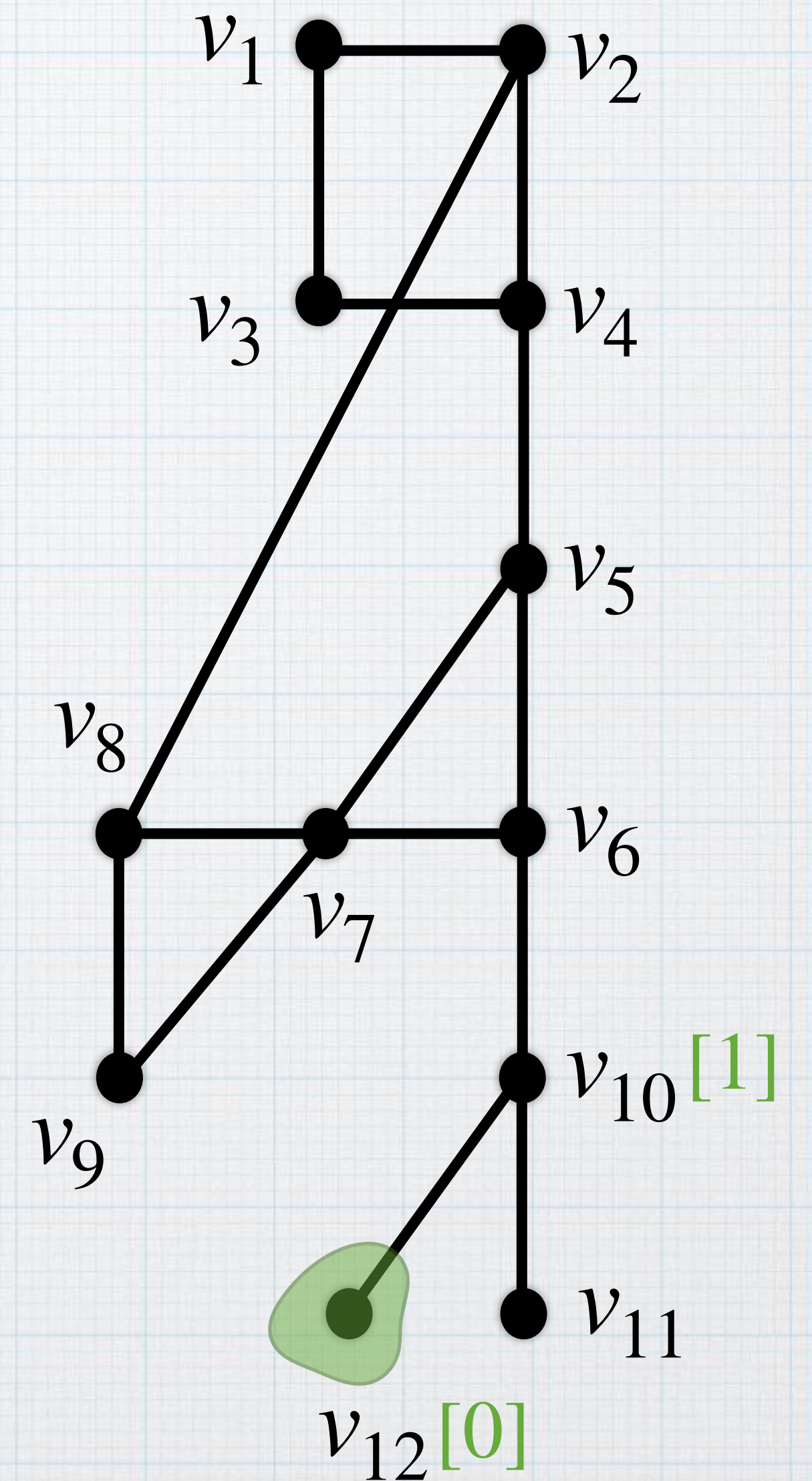
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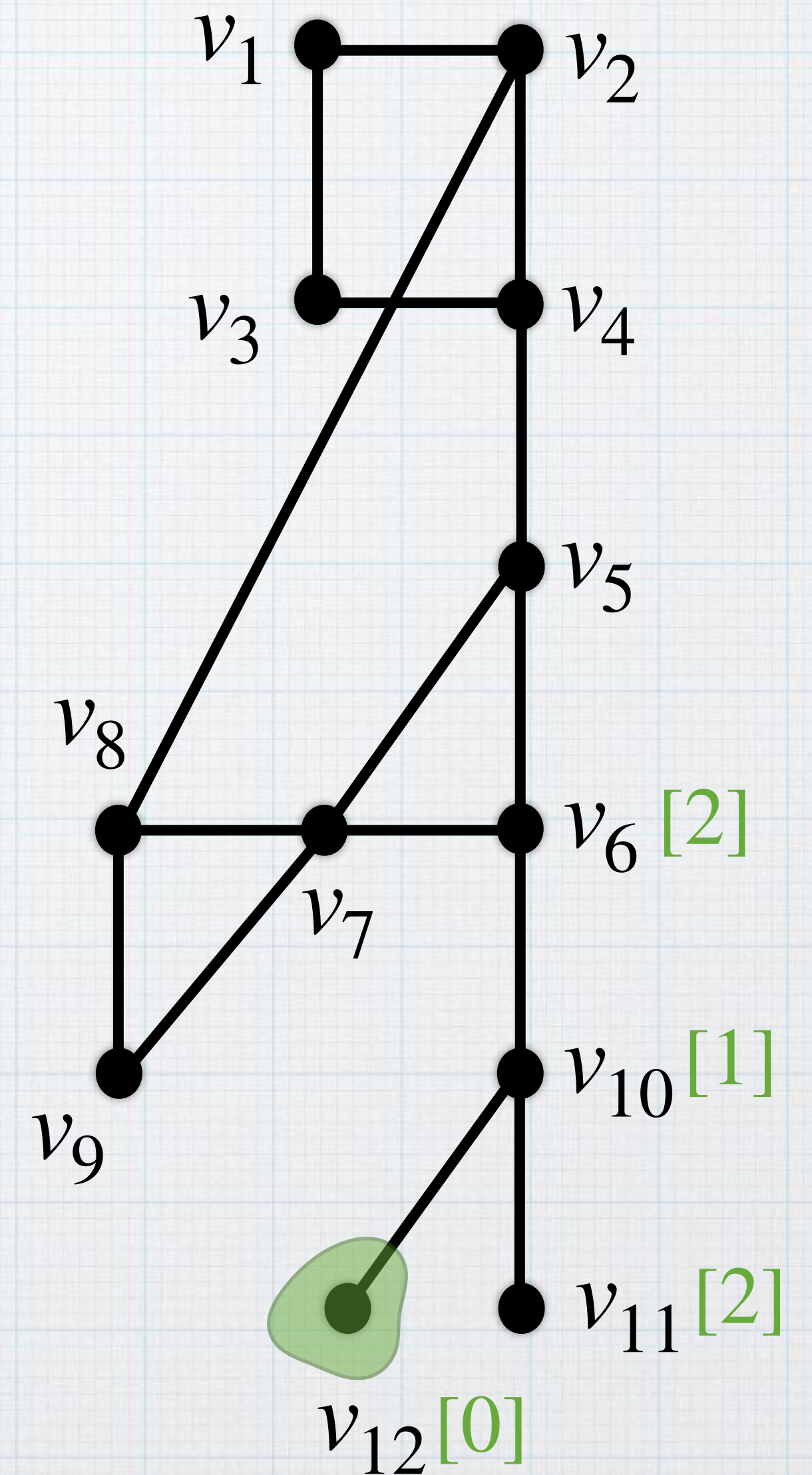
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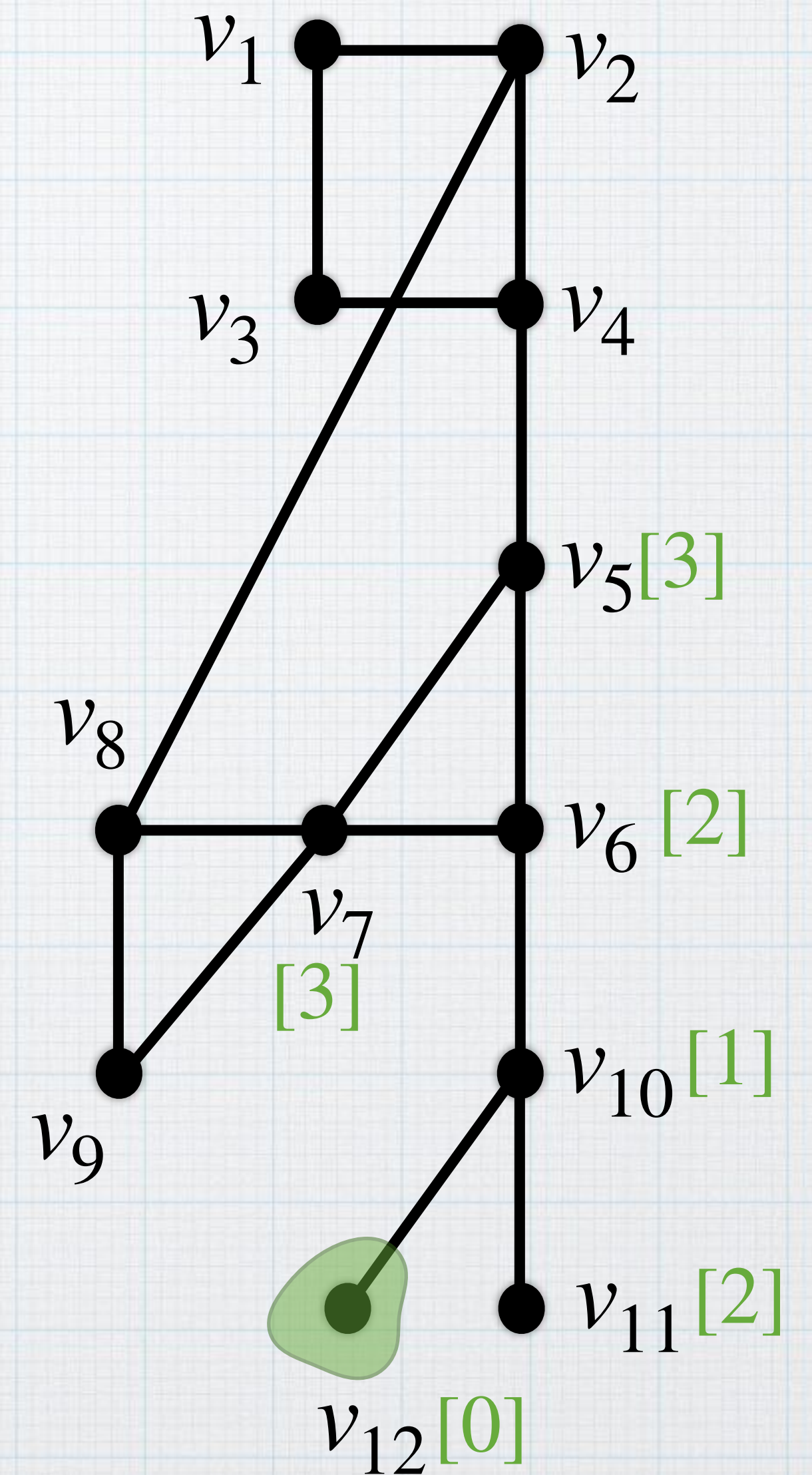
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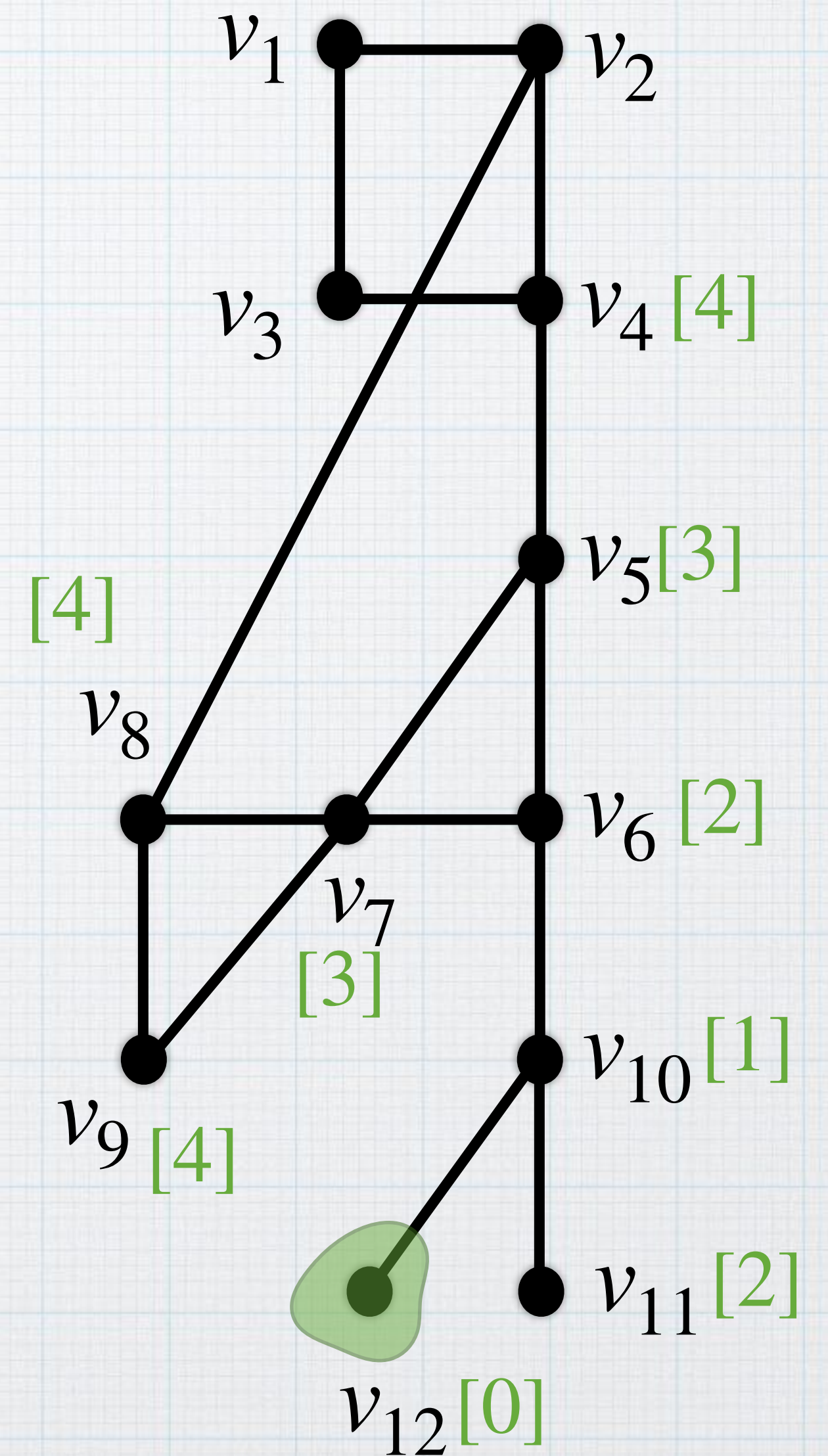
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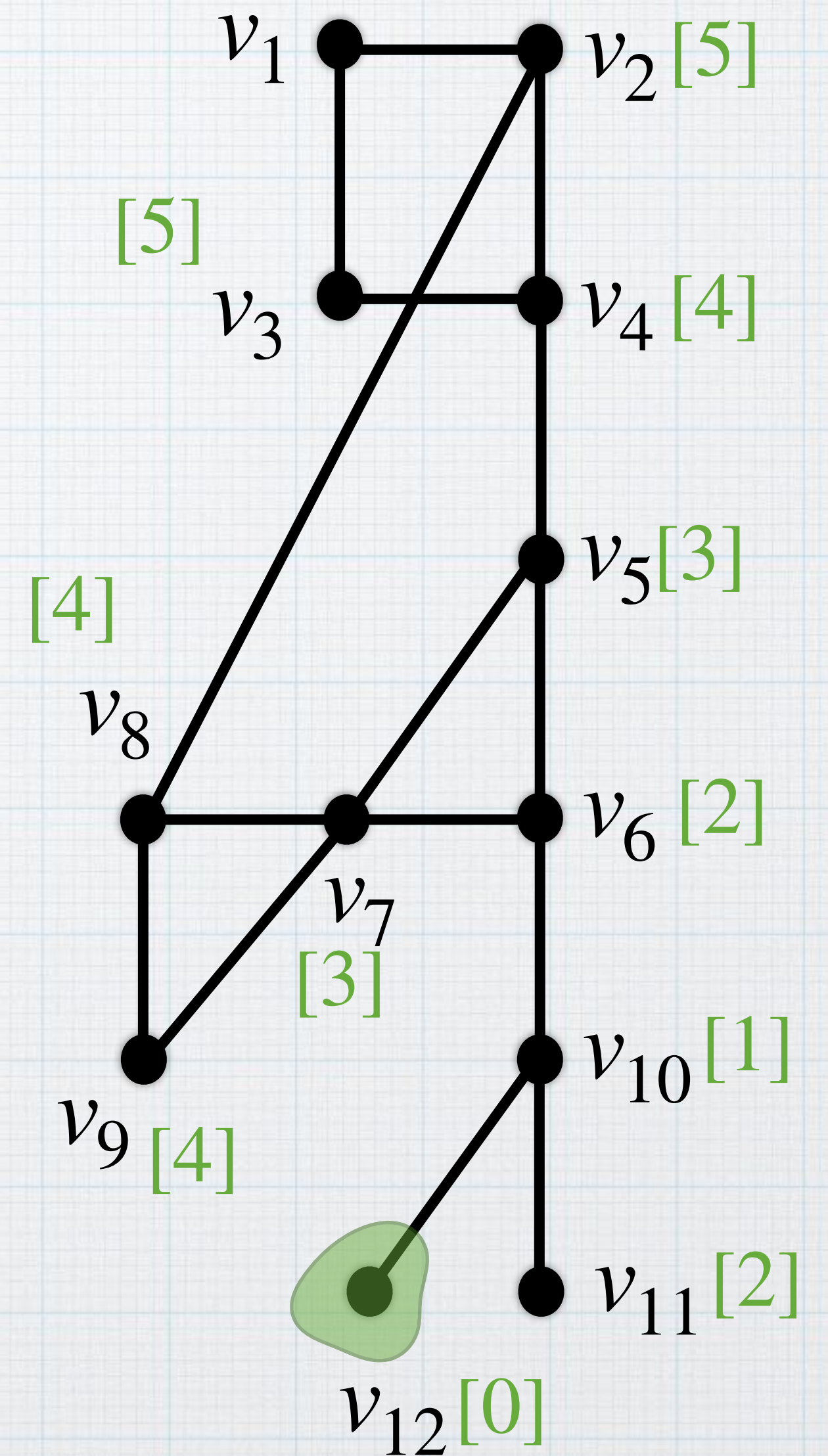
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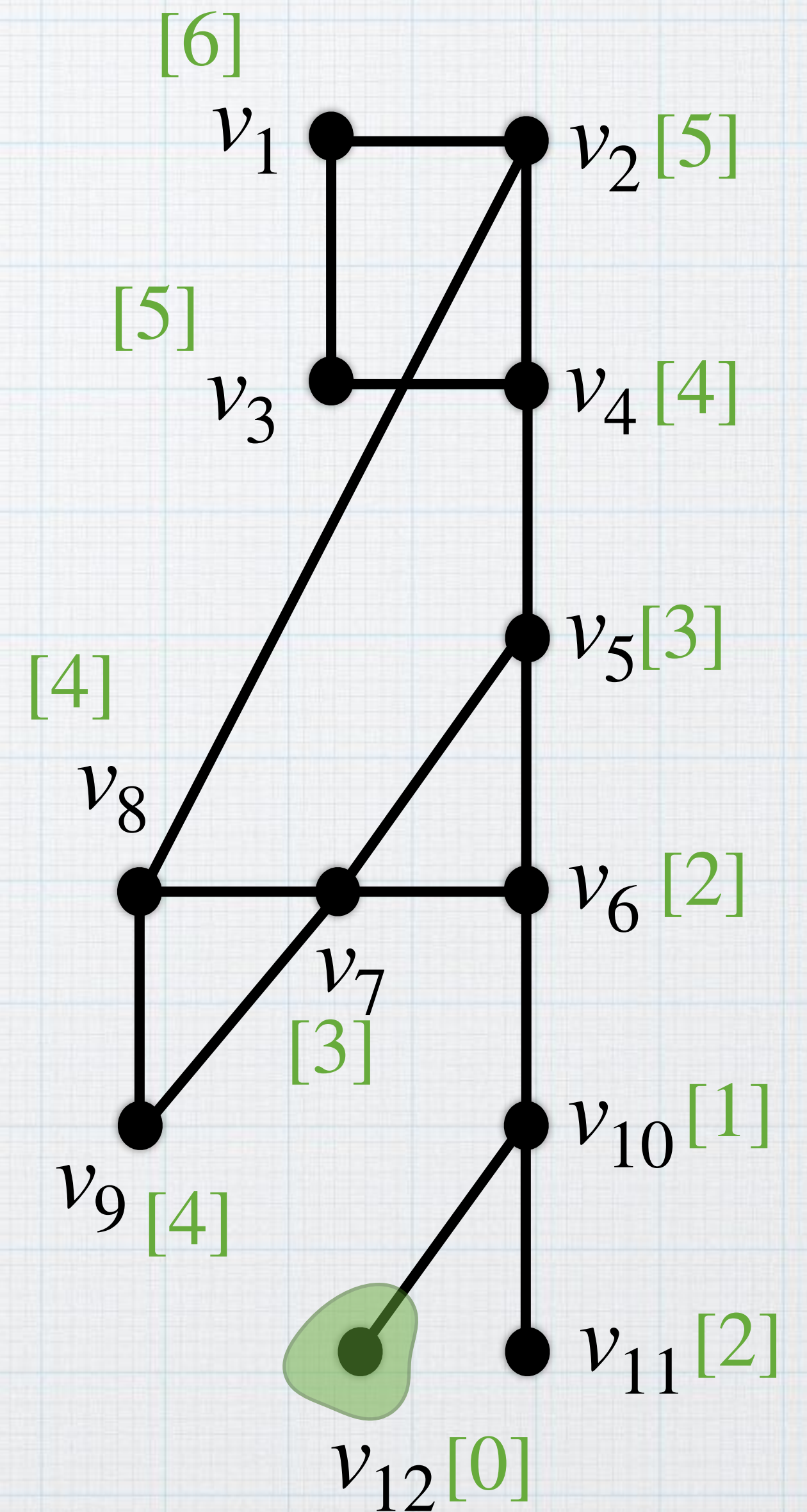
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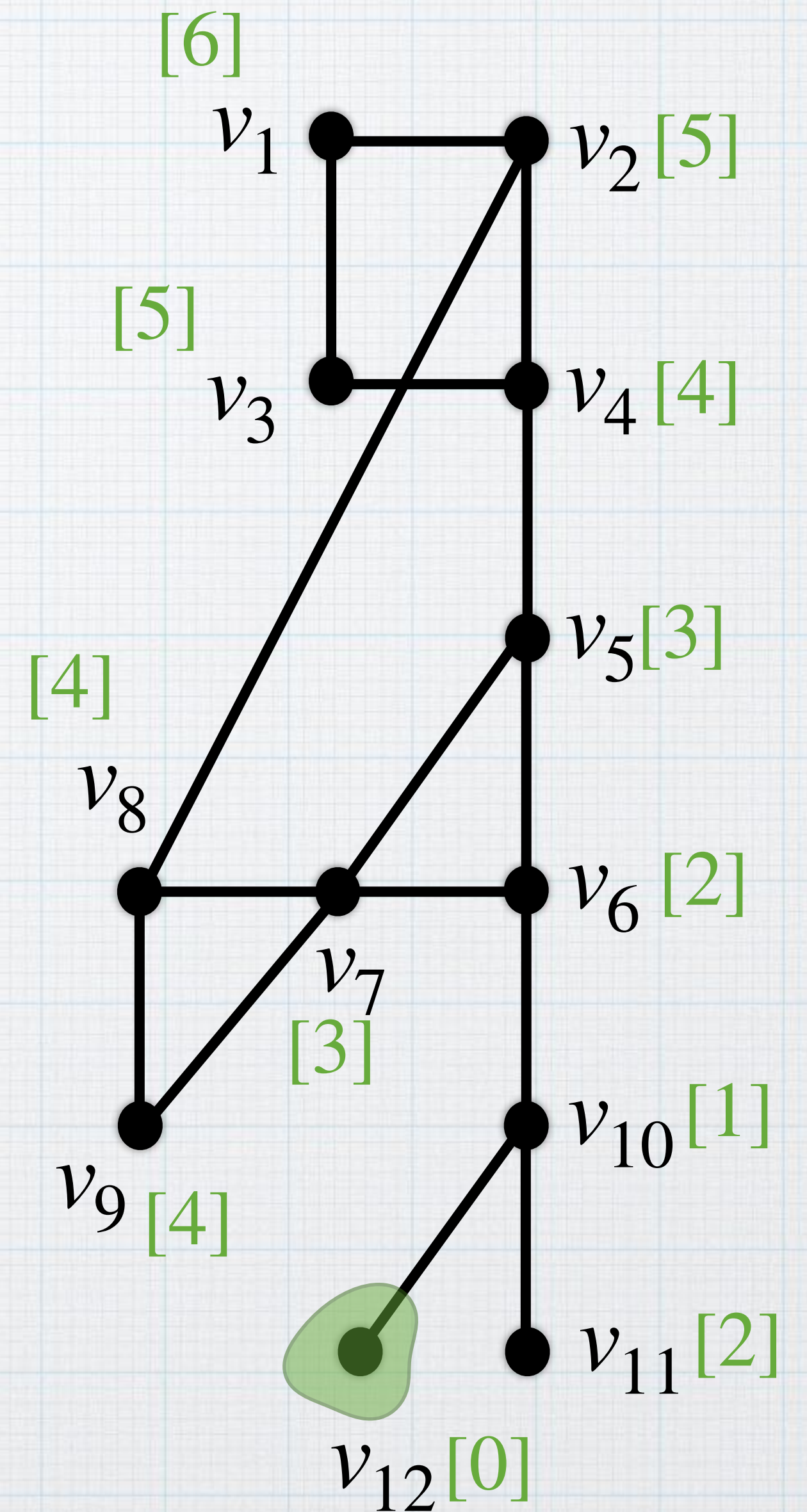
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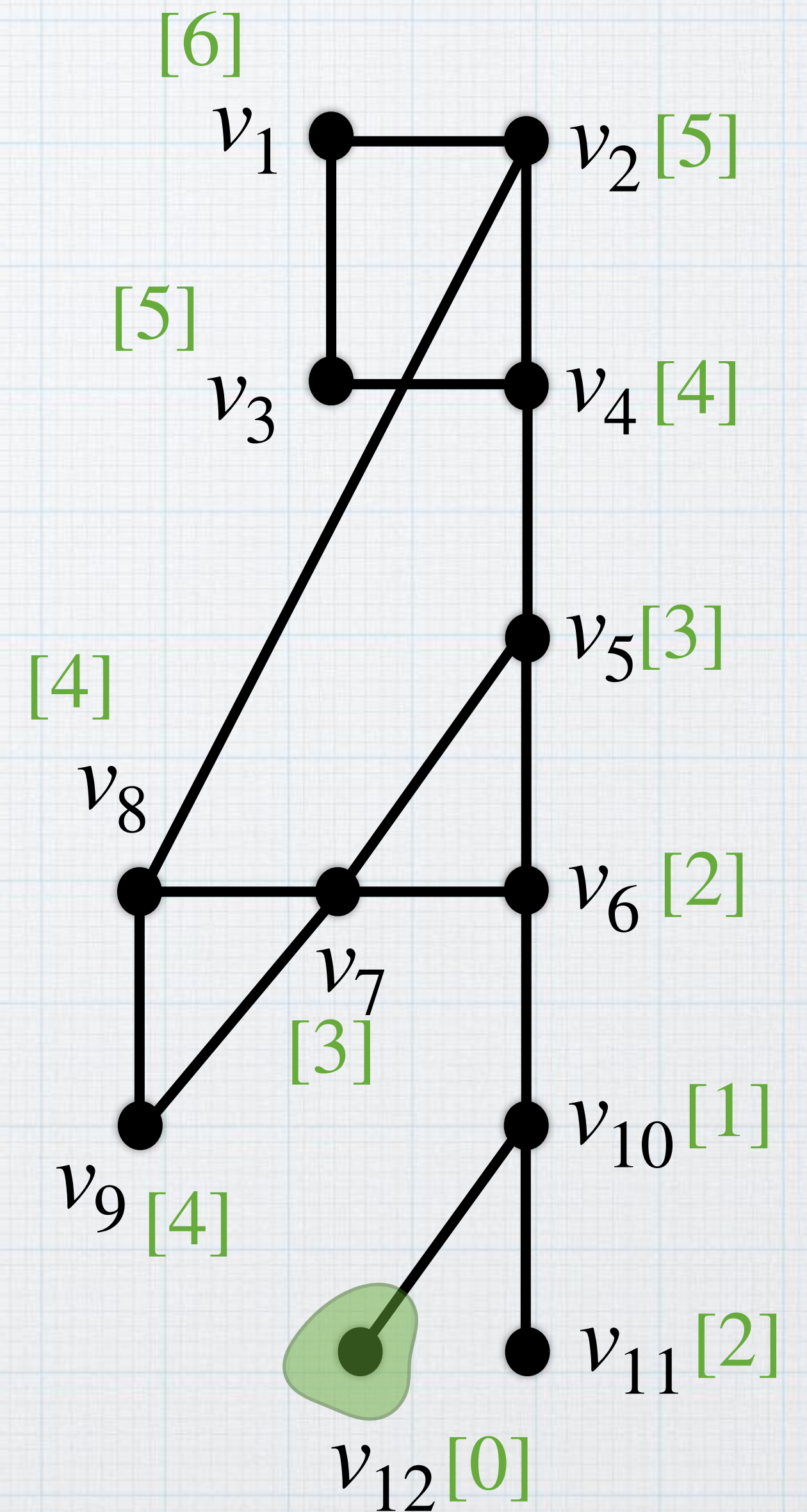
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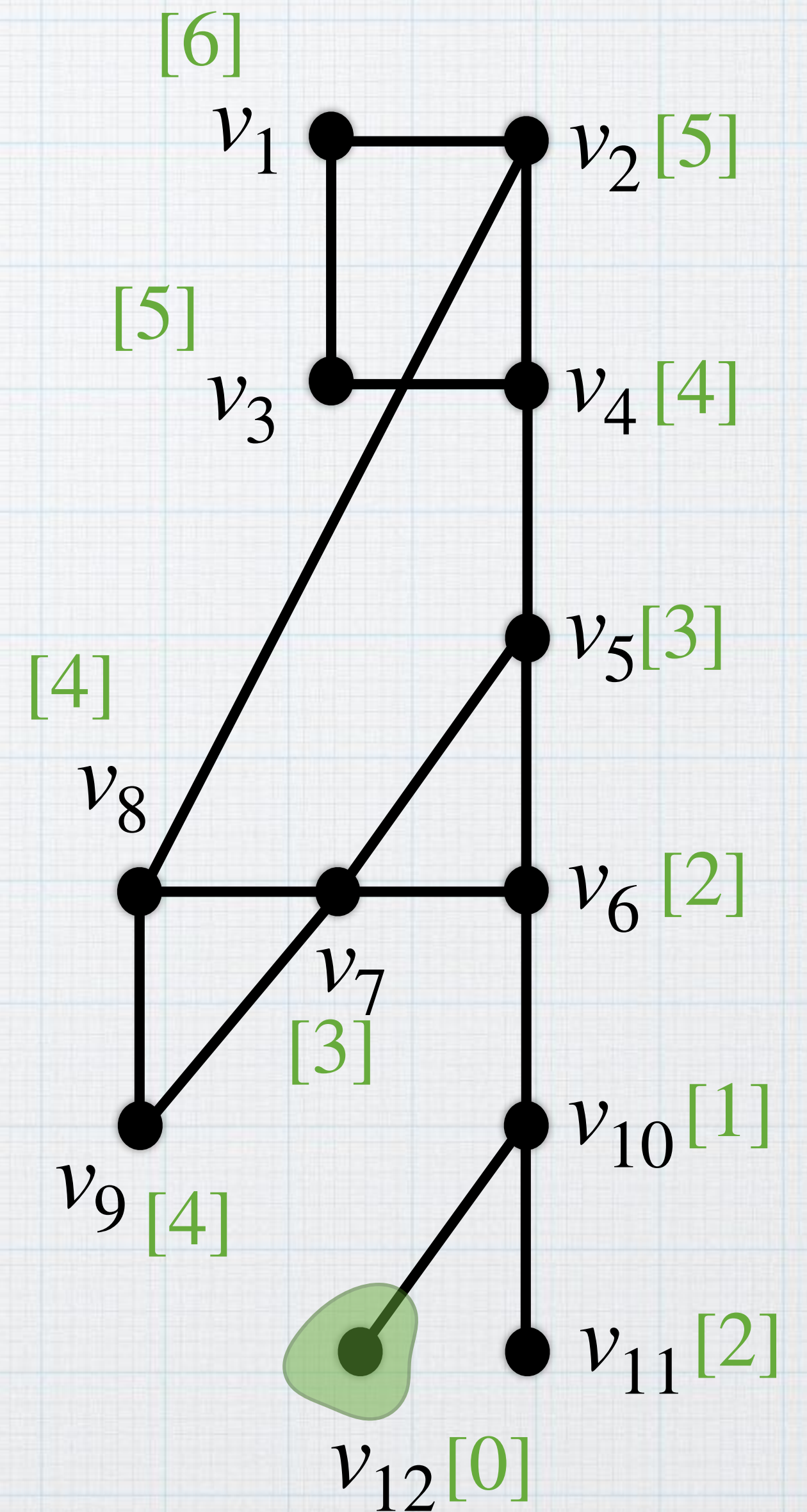


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[0] : {  $v_{12}$  } [1] : {  $v_{10}$  } [2] : {  $v_6, v_{11}$  }

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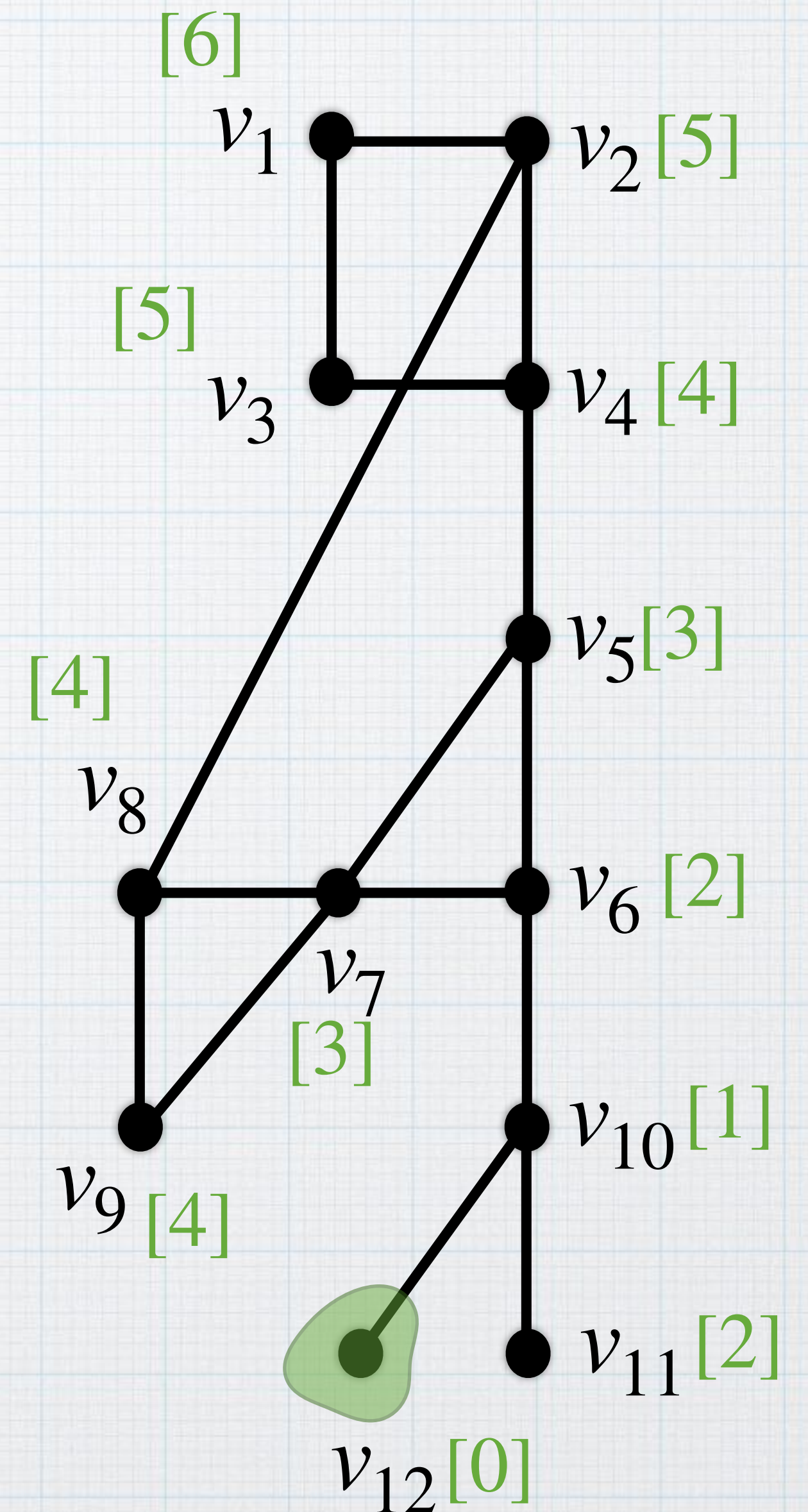
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Q: Minimum nr of messages to catch the spy?

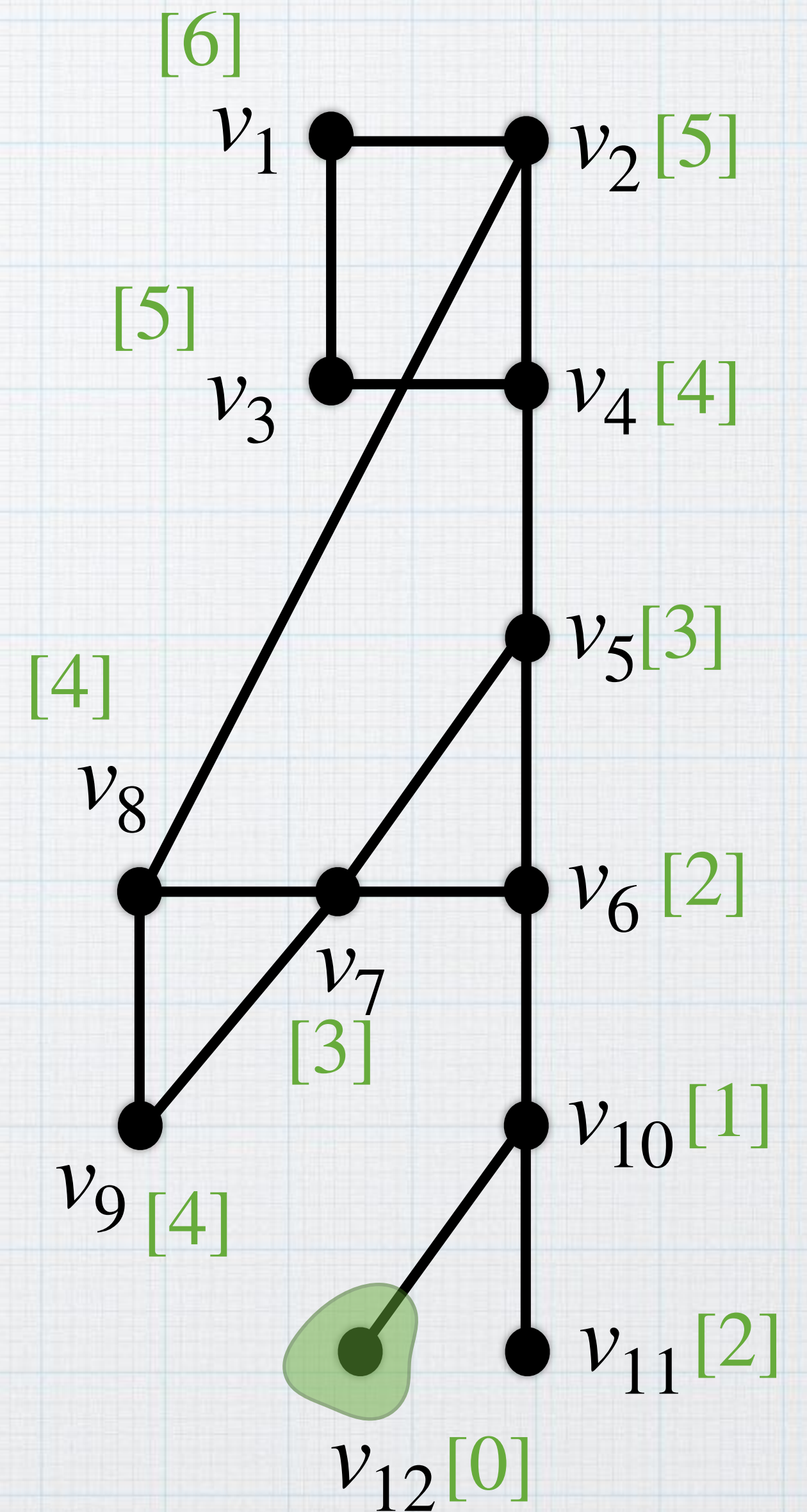


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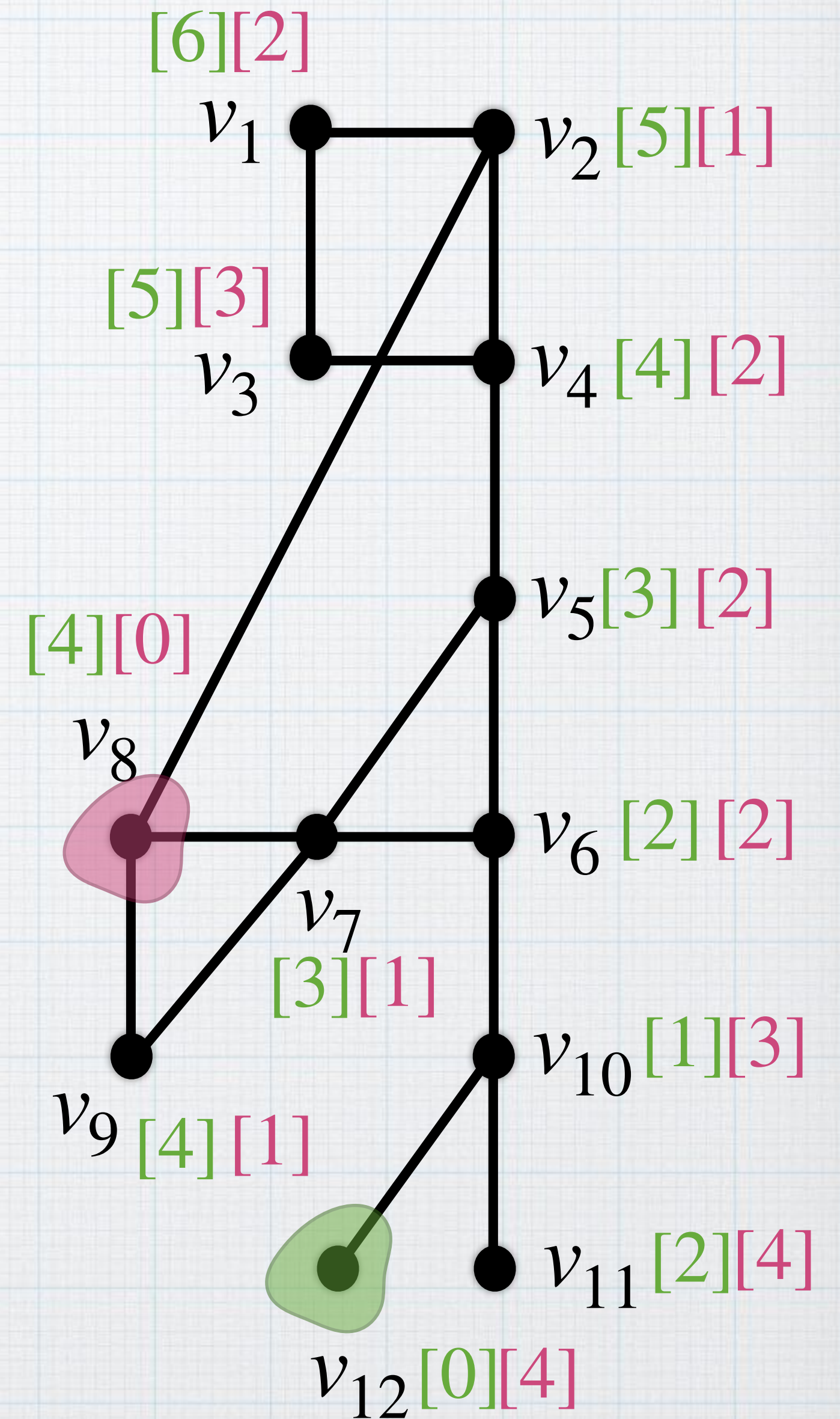
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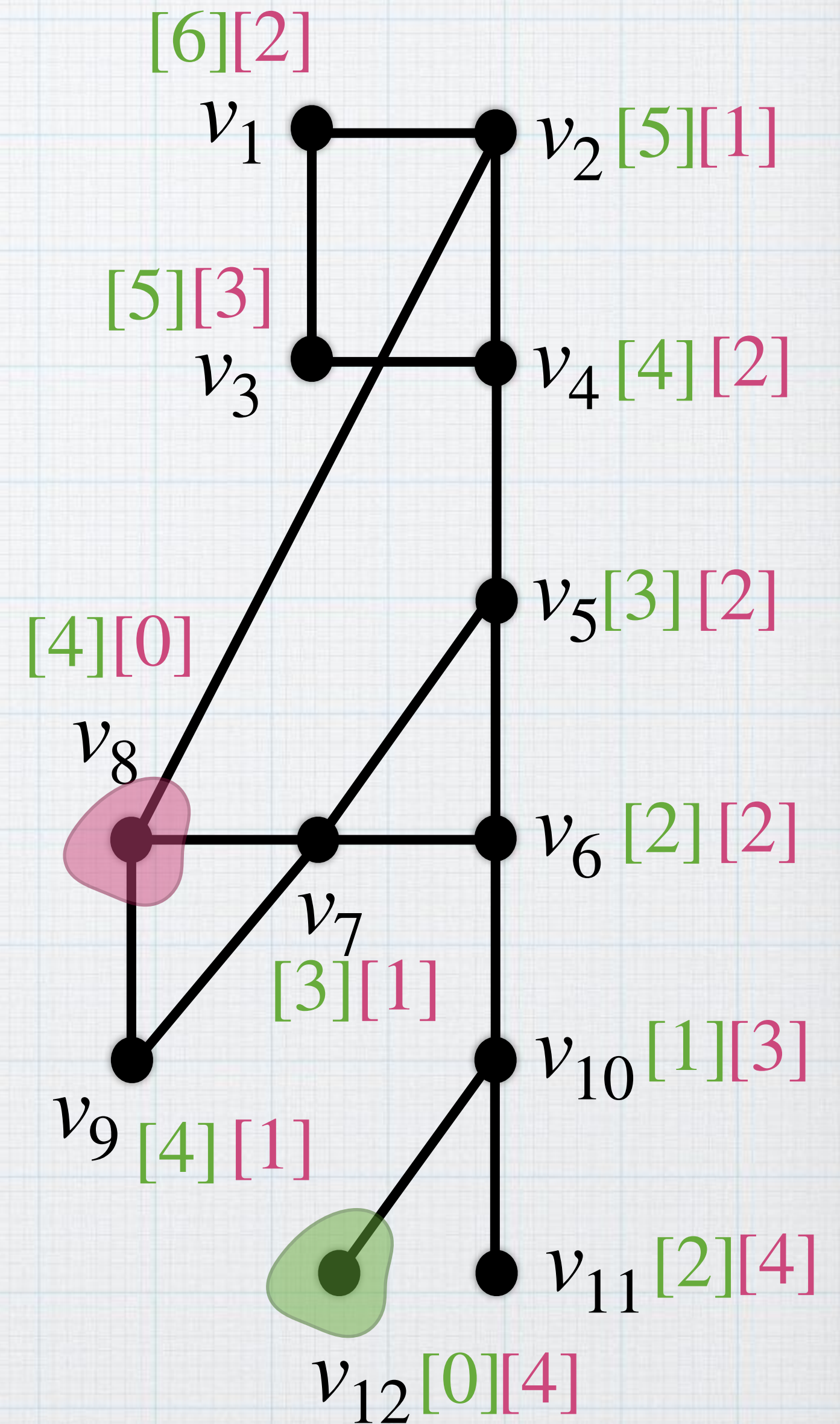
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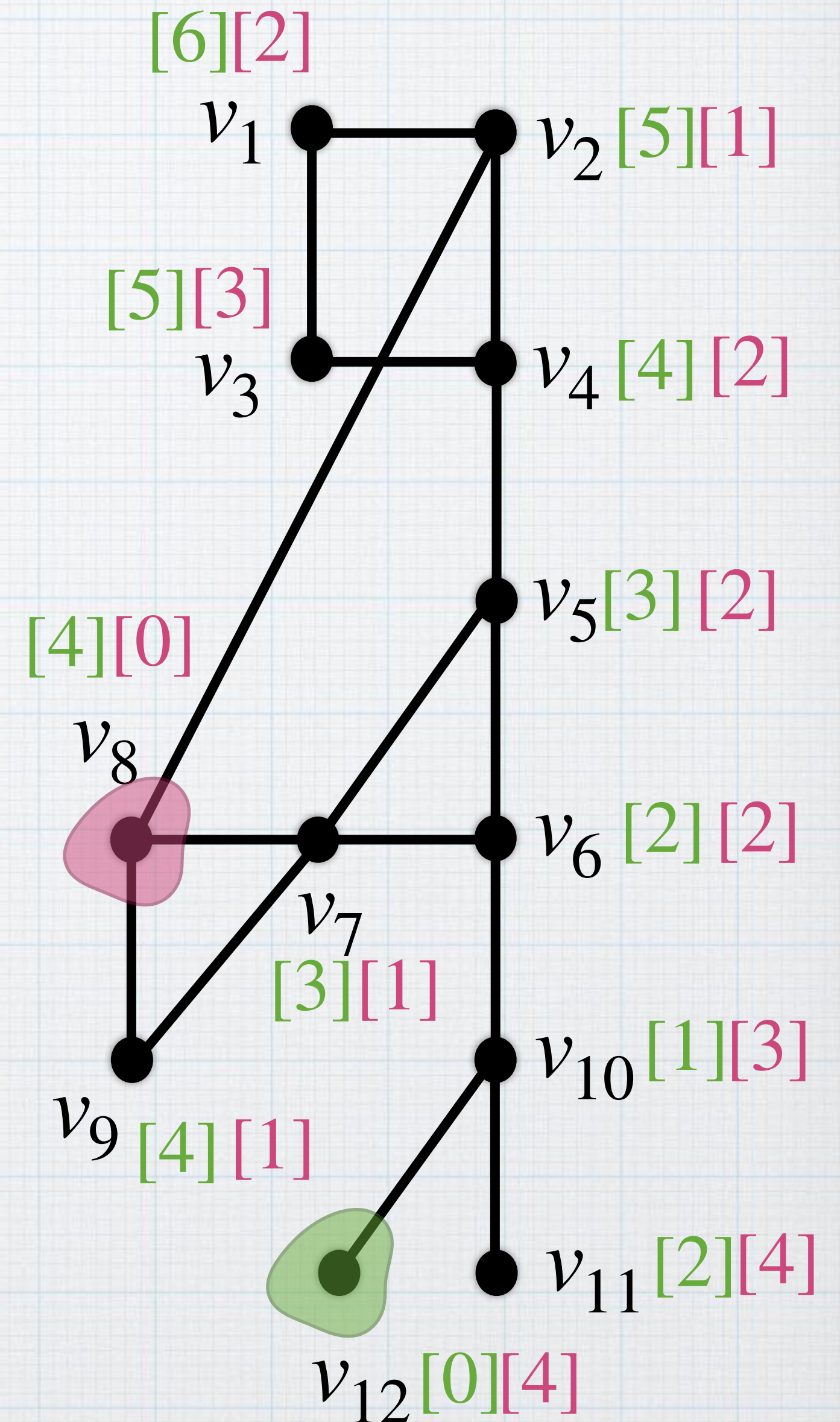
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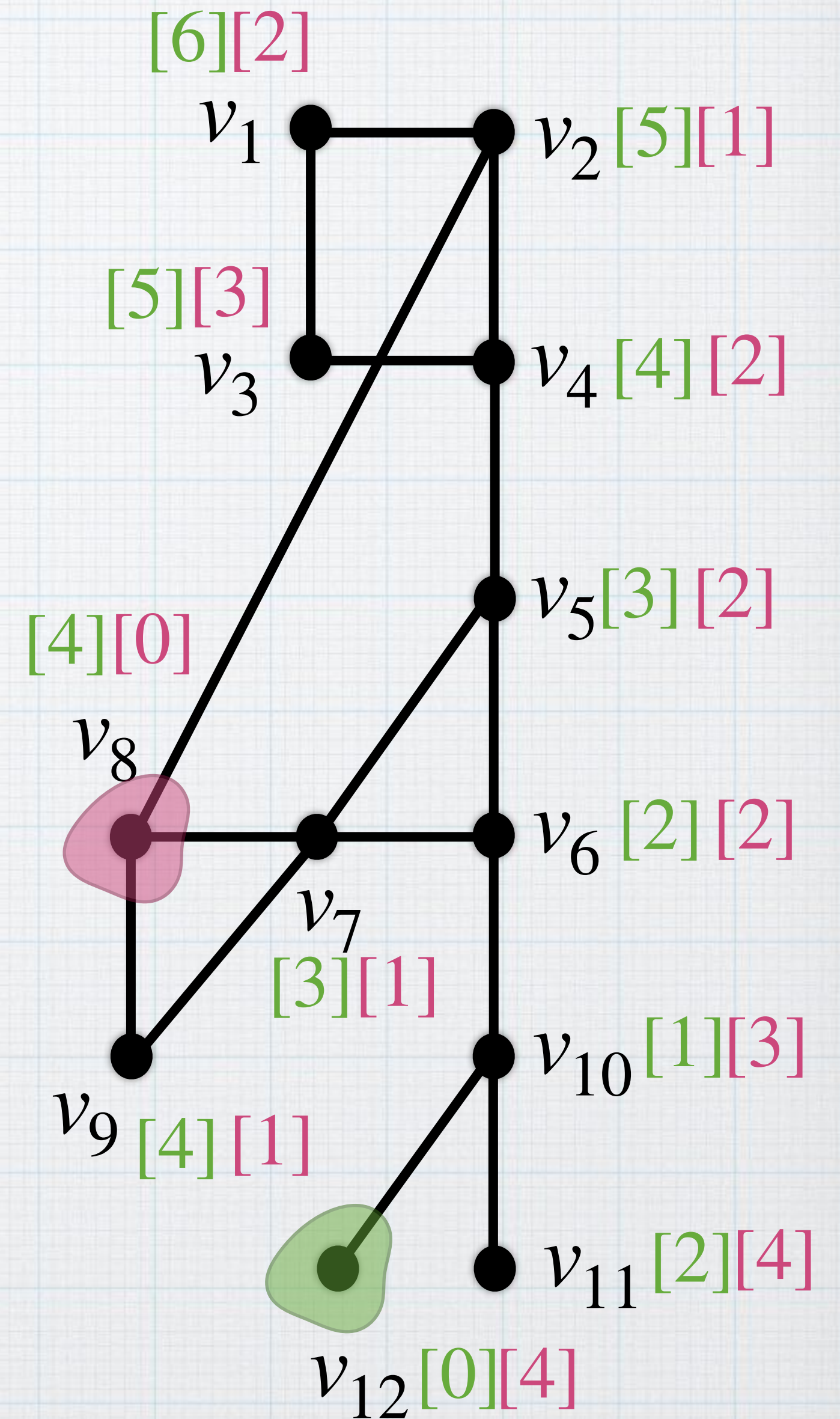
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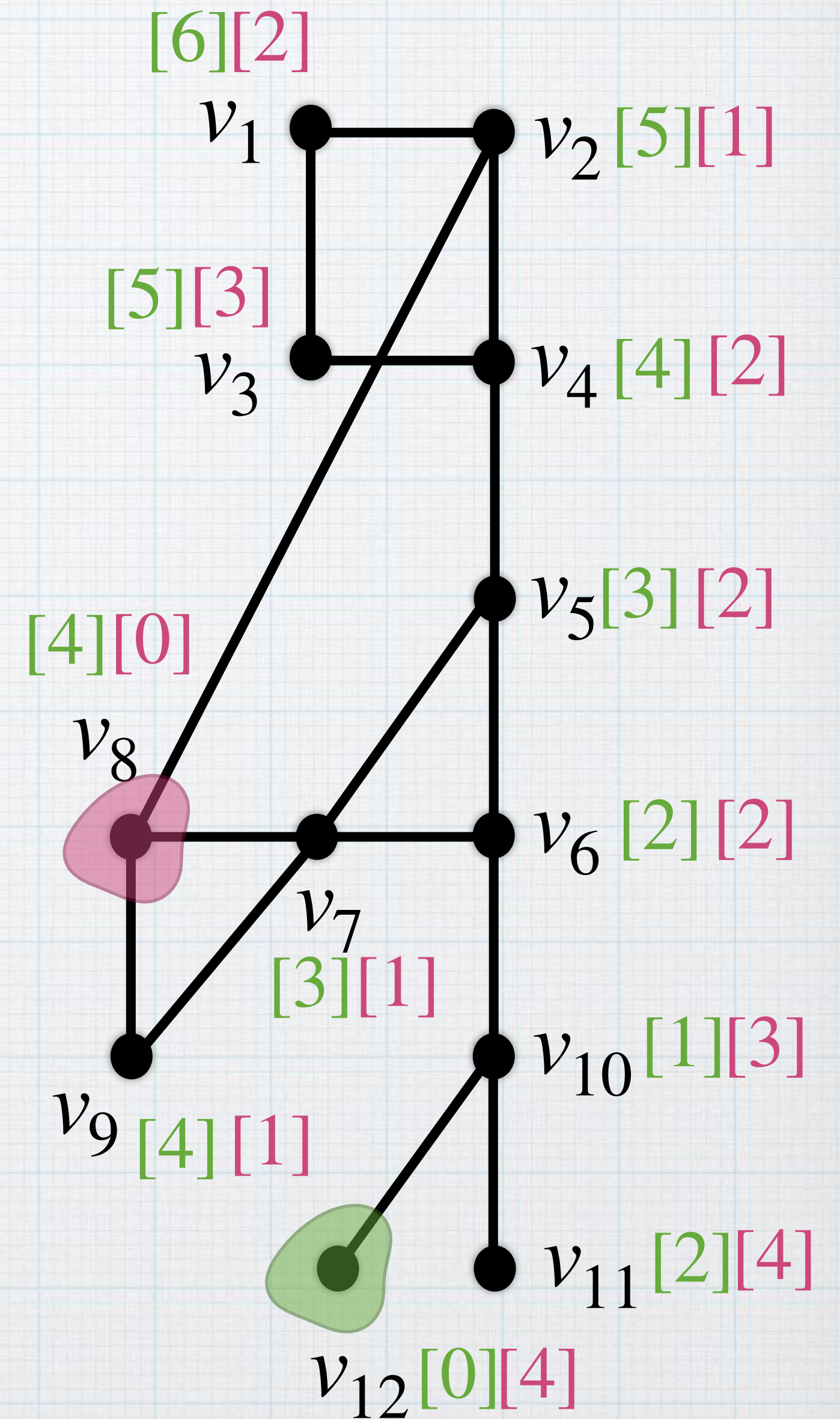


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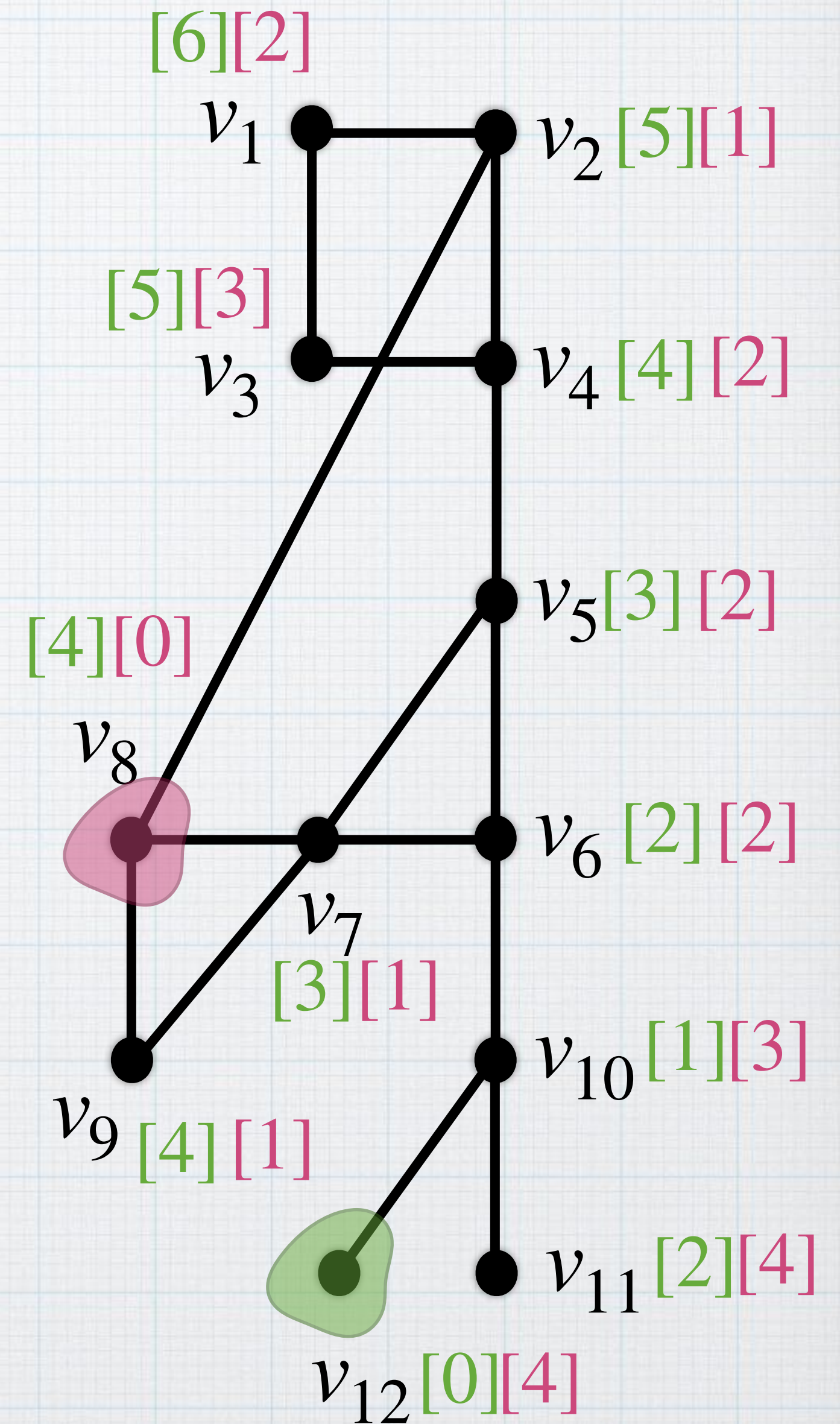
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- A **resolving set** is an ordered set

$S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots\} \subseteq V(G)$  s.t. any  $u \neq v \in V(G)$ ,

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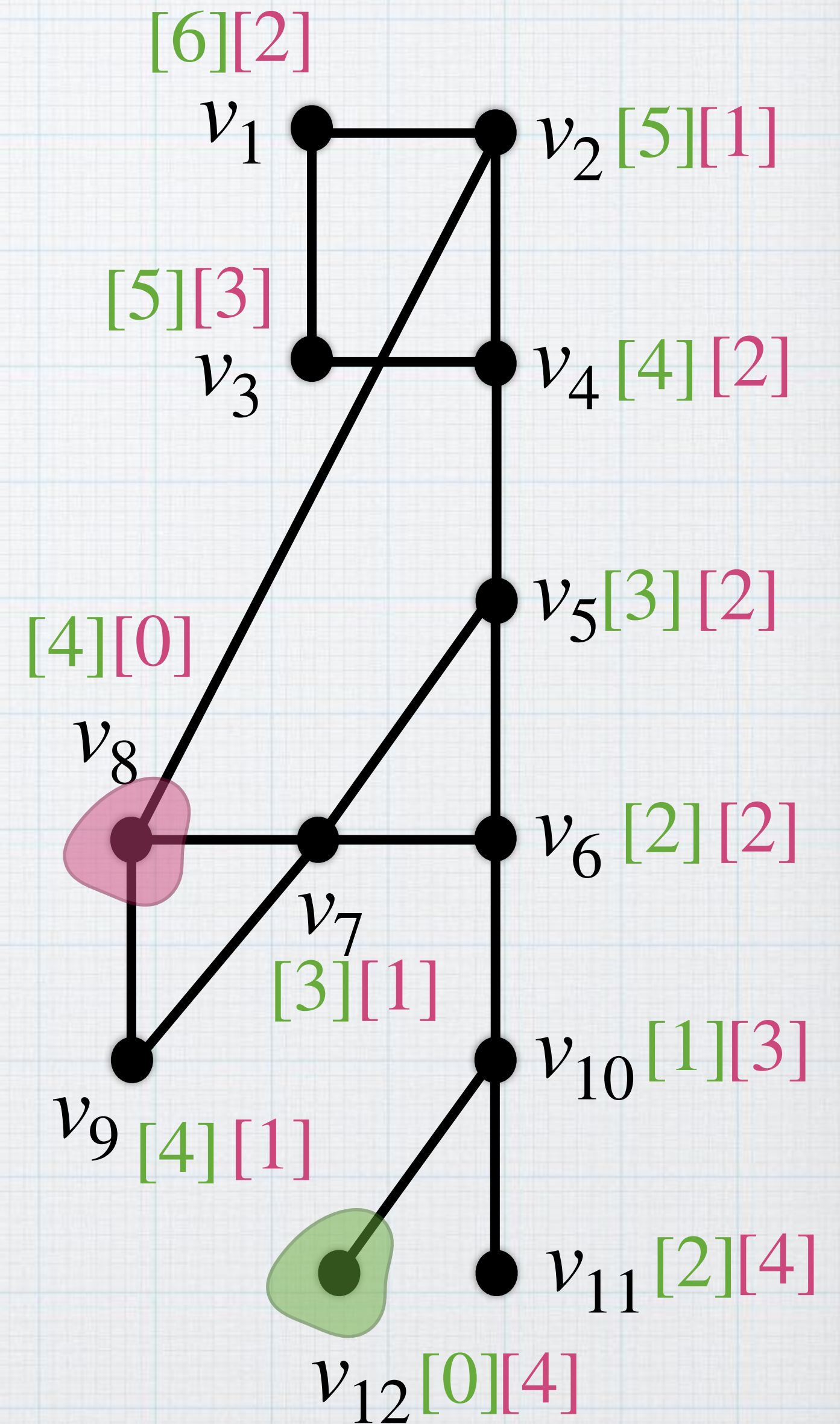


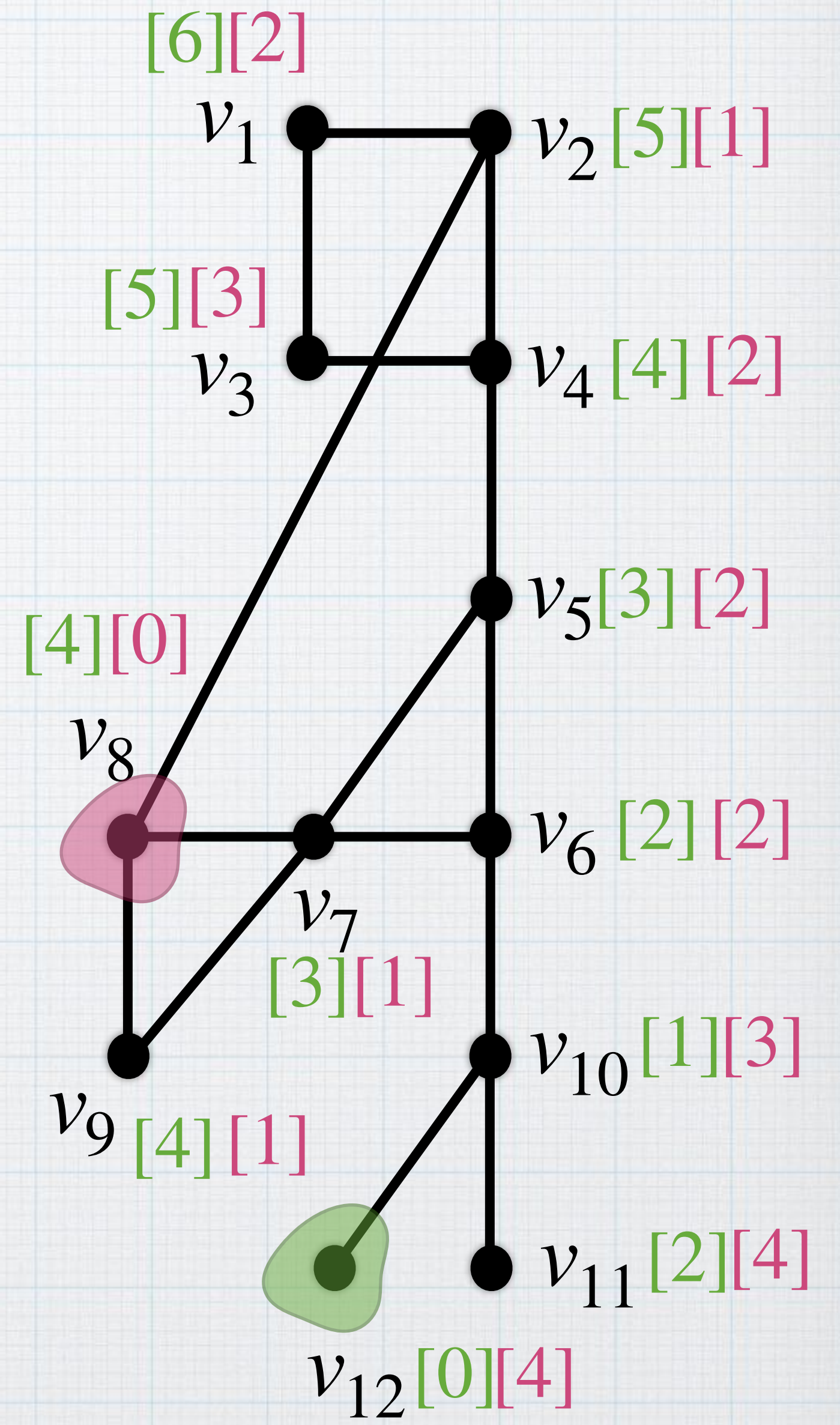
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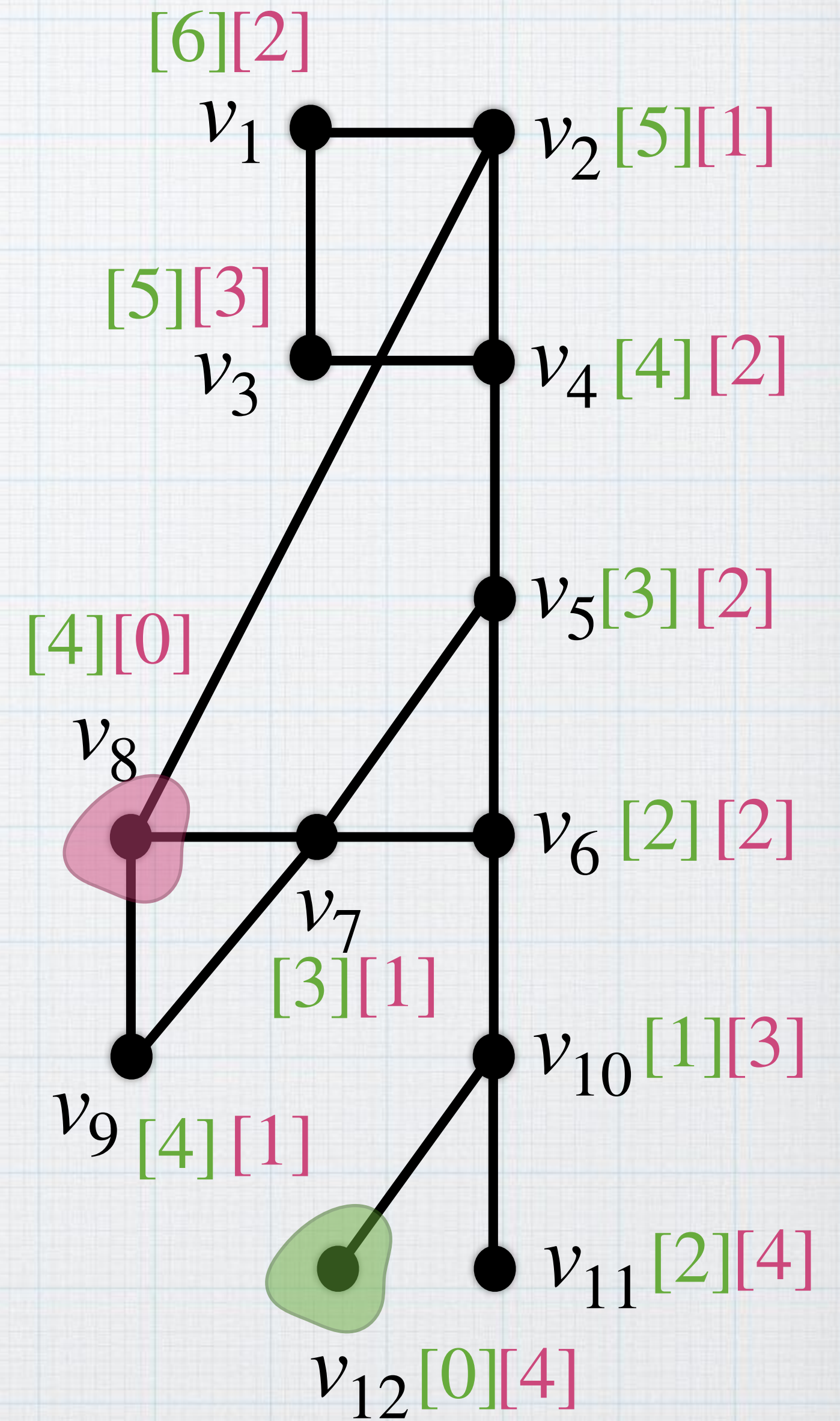
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- $d(u, s_i) =$  shortest distance from  $u$  to  $s_i$







$\text{met-dim}(G) = \text{size of smallest resolving set}$

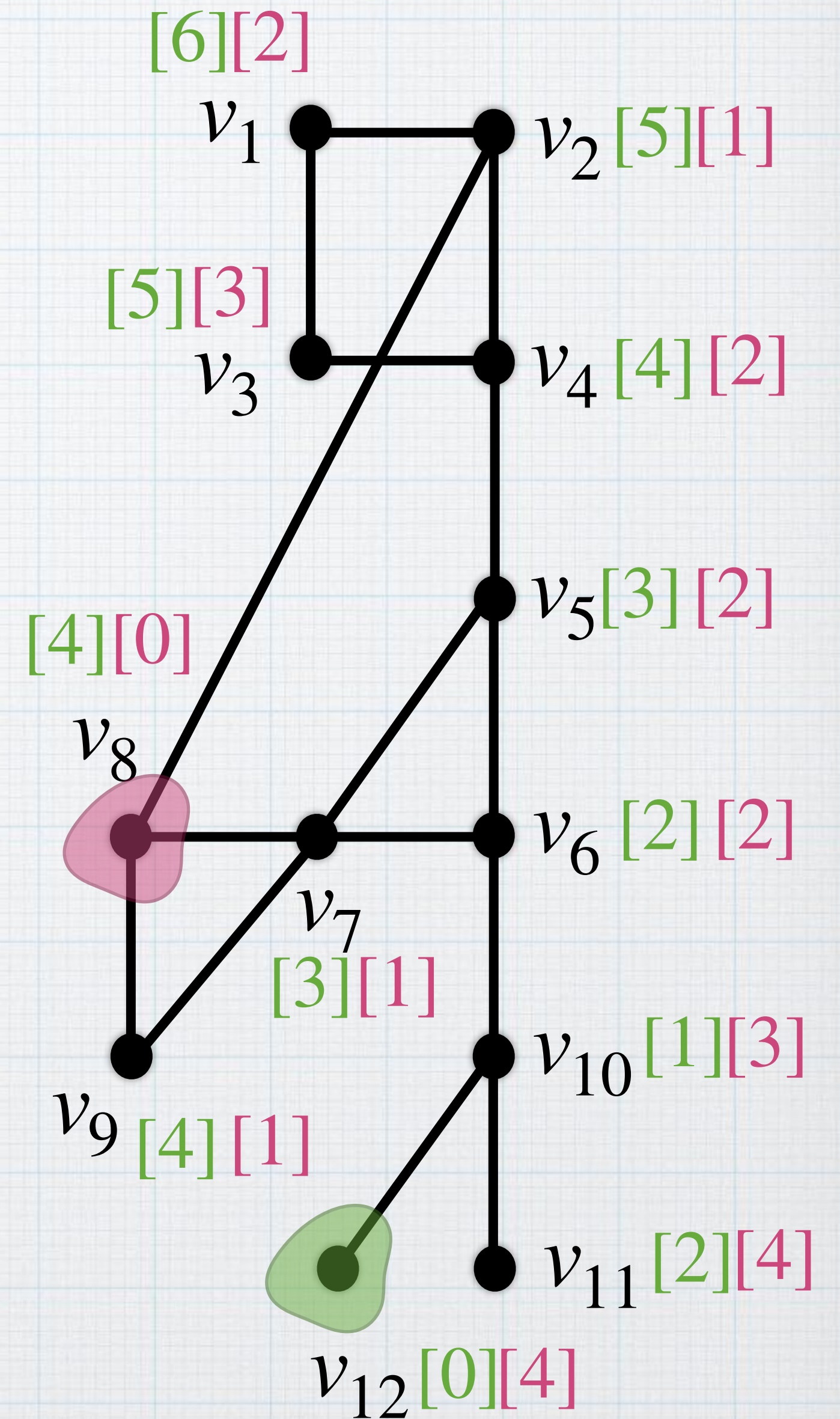


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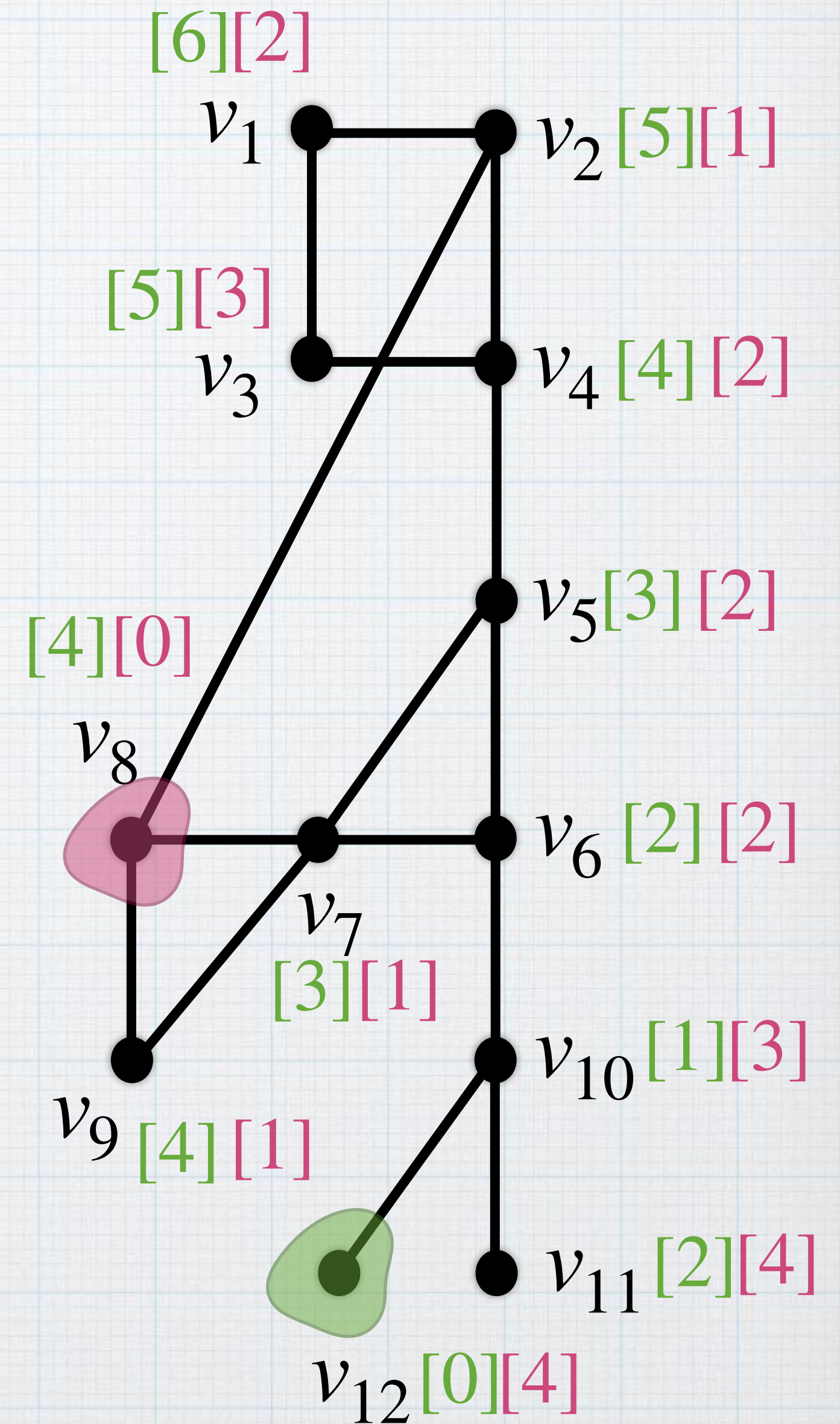
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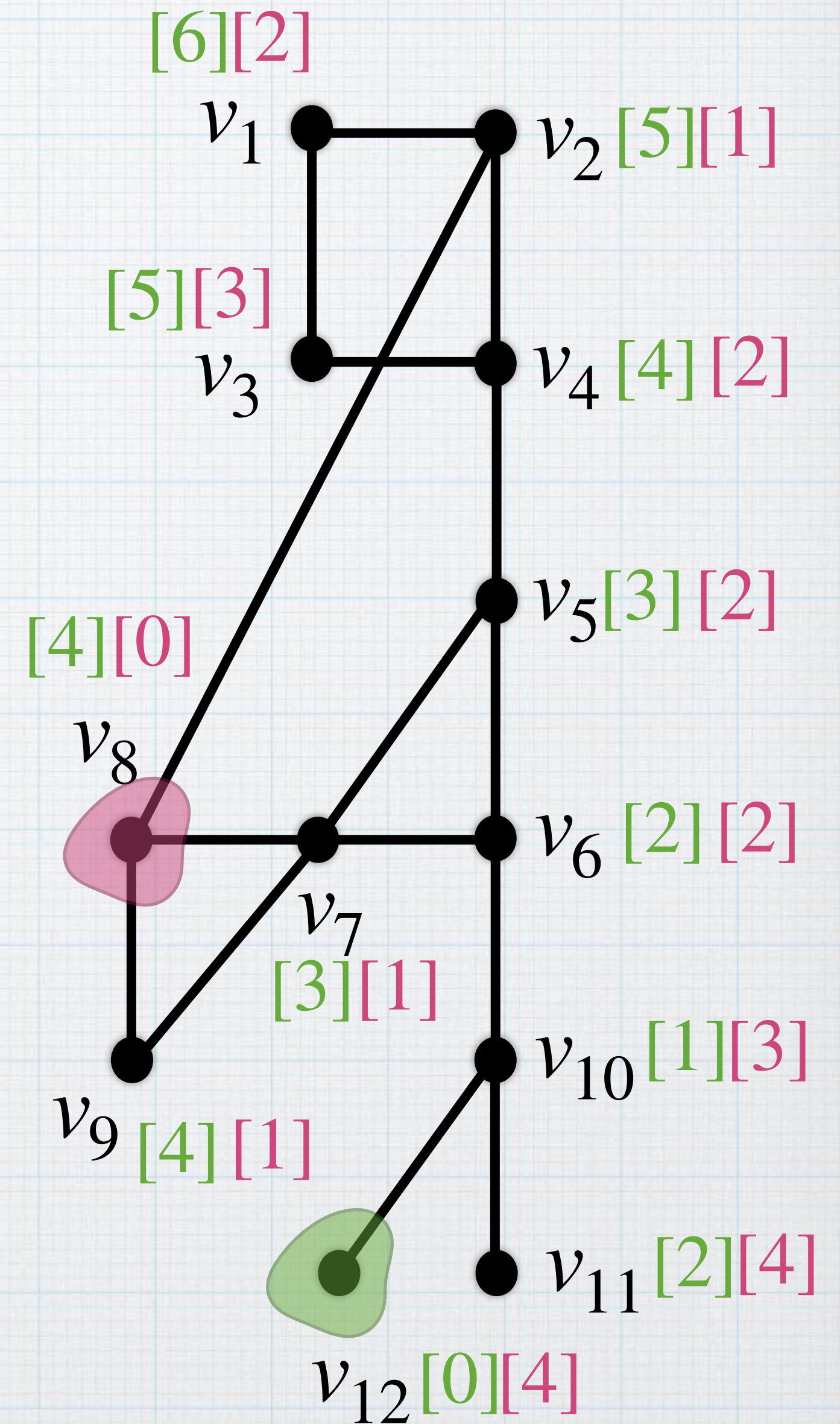
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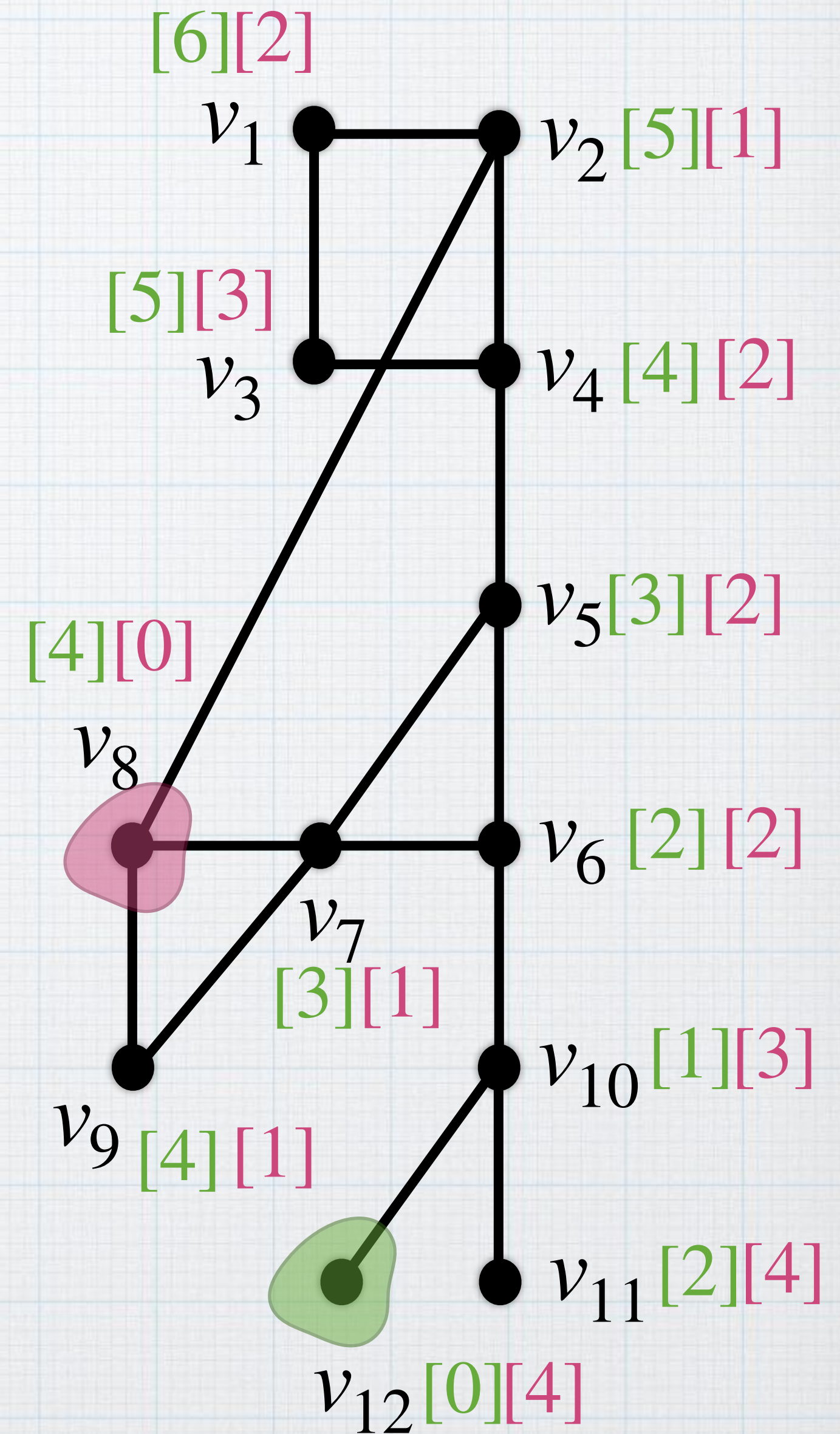
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– but also makes it ideal to obtain exotic lower bounds.



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– admits  $2^{2^{\mathcal{O}(tw)}} \cdot n^{\mathcal{O}(1)}$ -time algo, but

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How about vertex cover?

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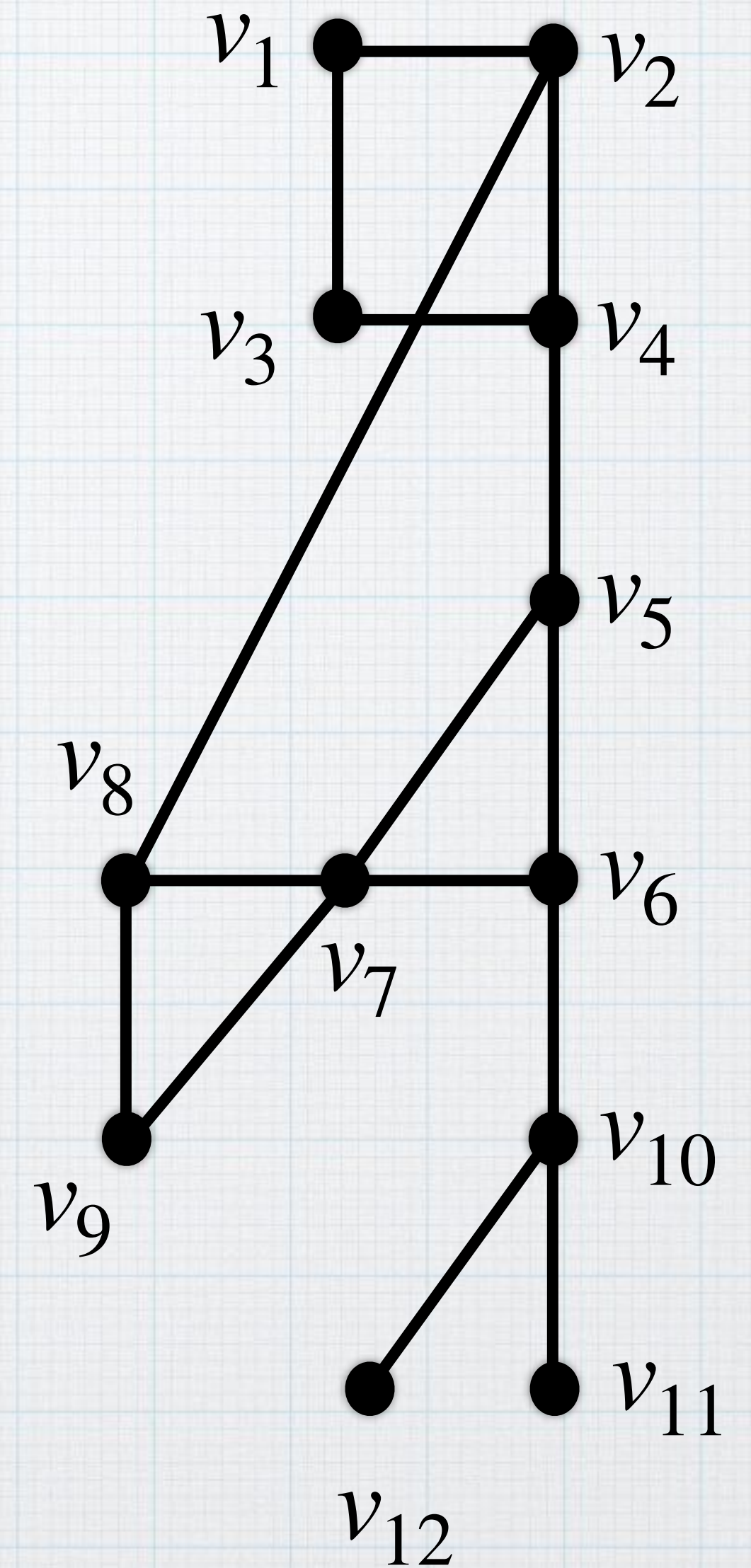
(**Edge Clique Cover** [CPP, SODA'13], **Biclique Cover** [CIK, IPEC'16],  
**Strong Met-Dim** [FGKLIST, ICALP'24])



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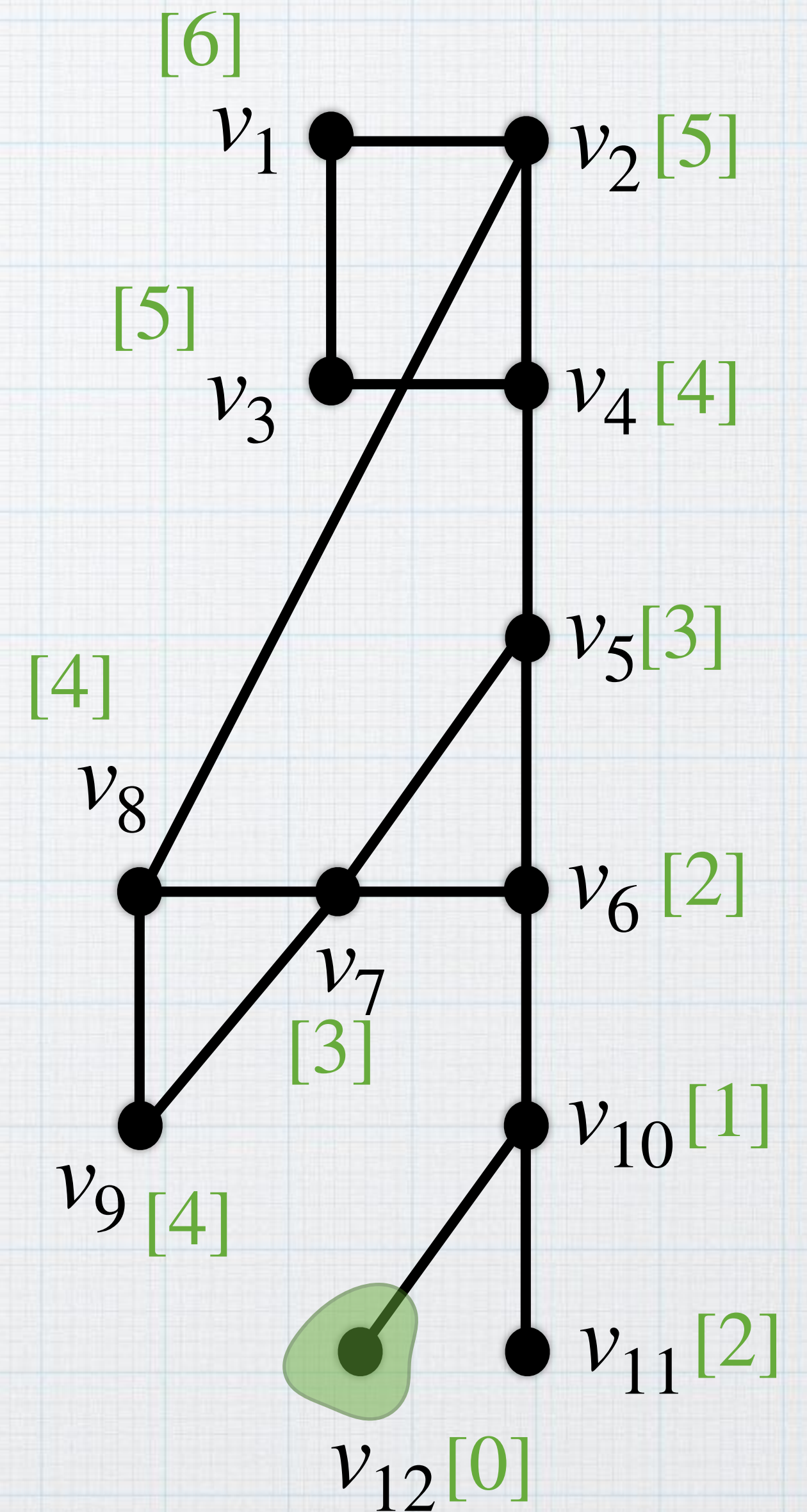
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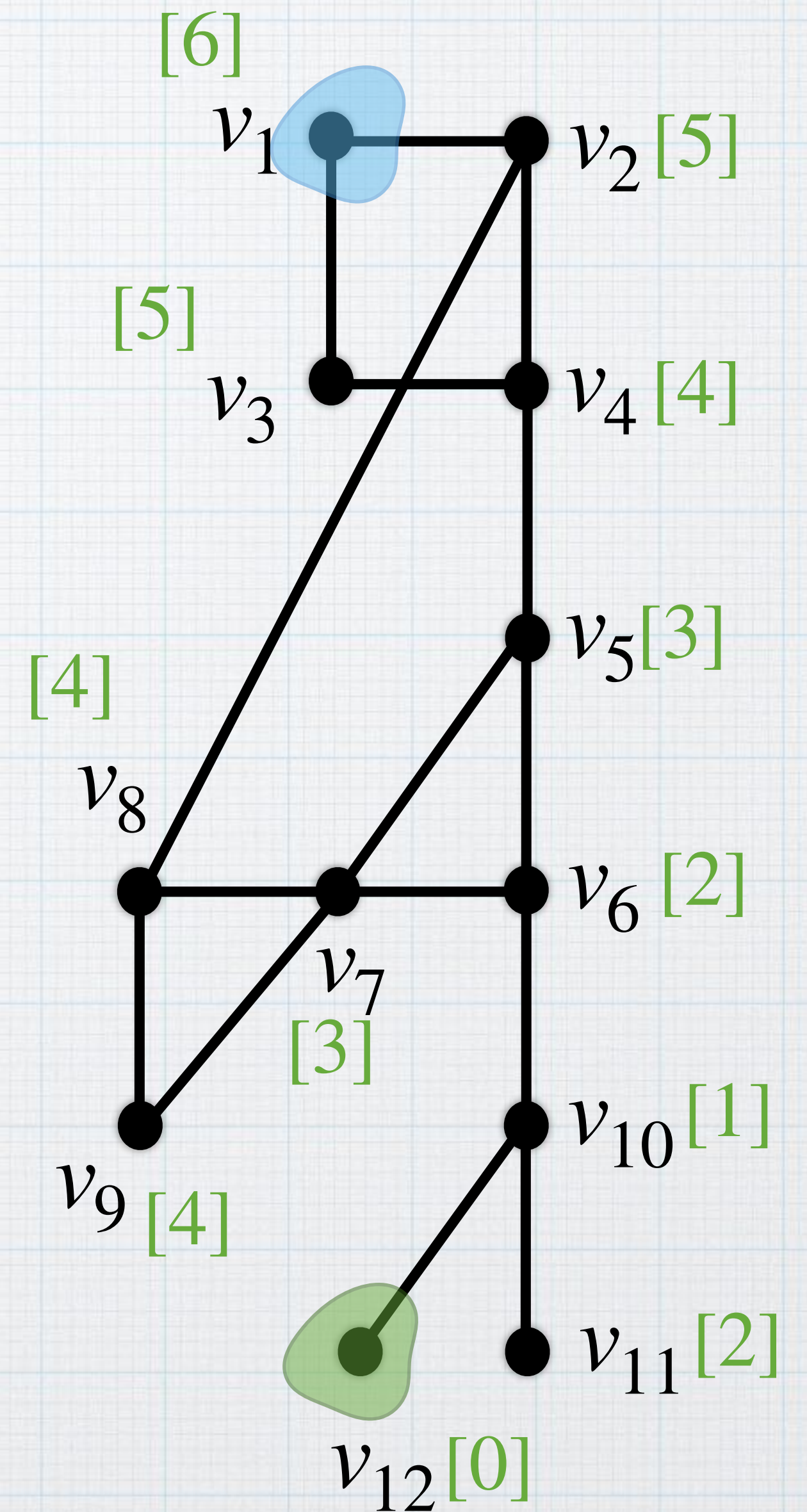
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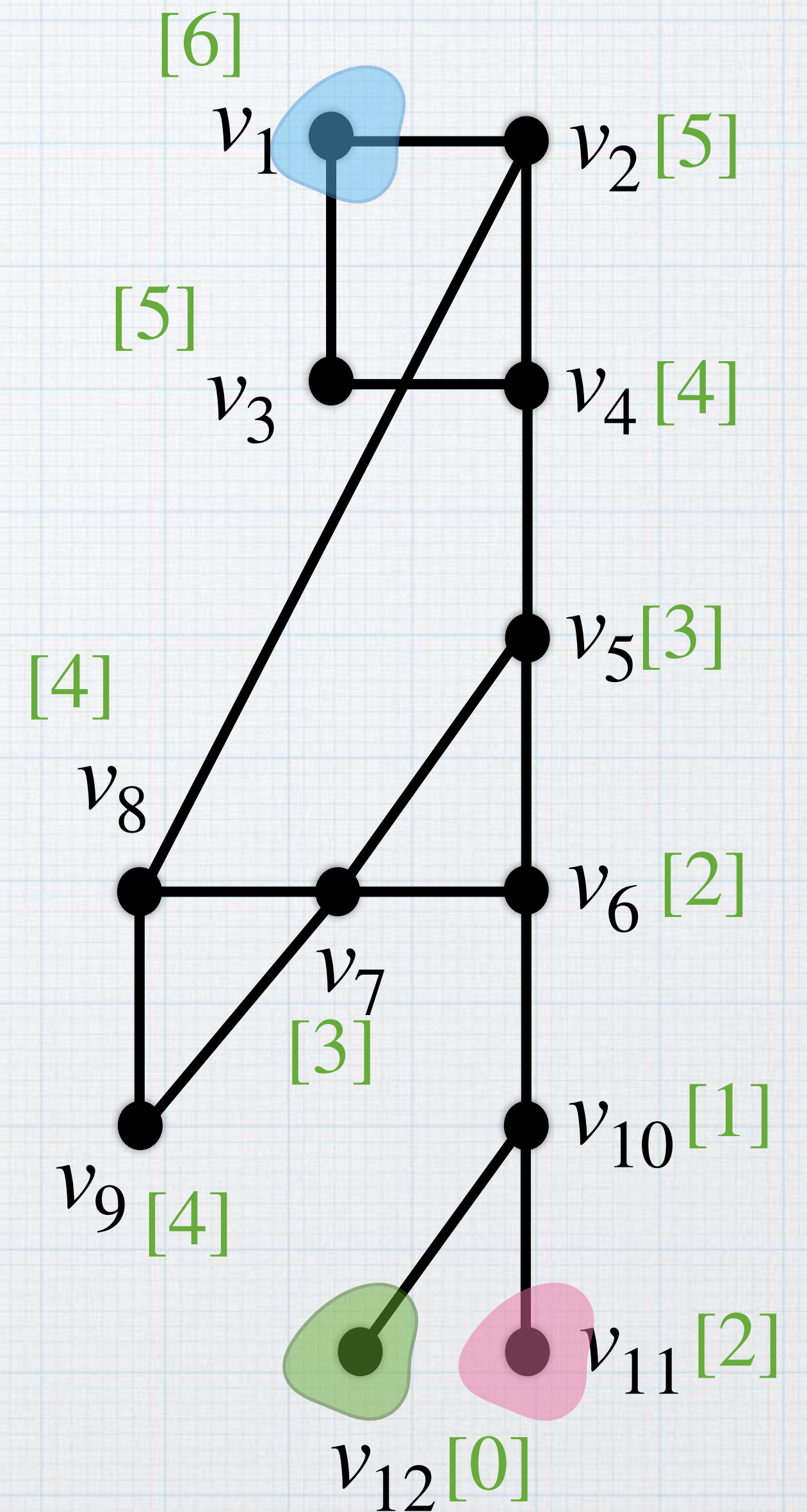
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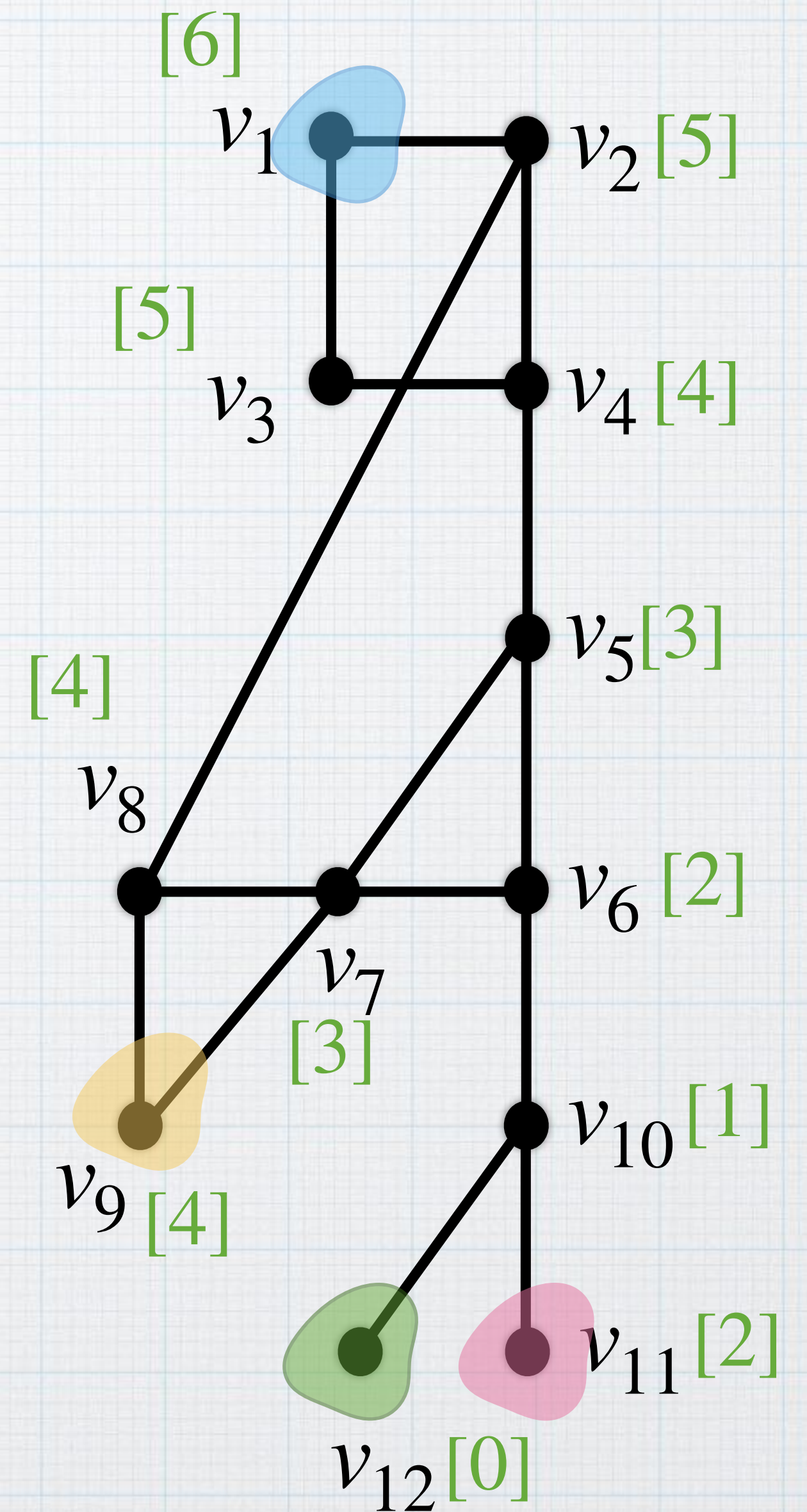
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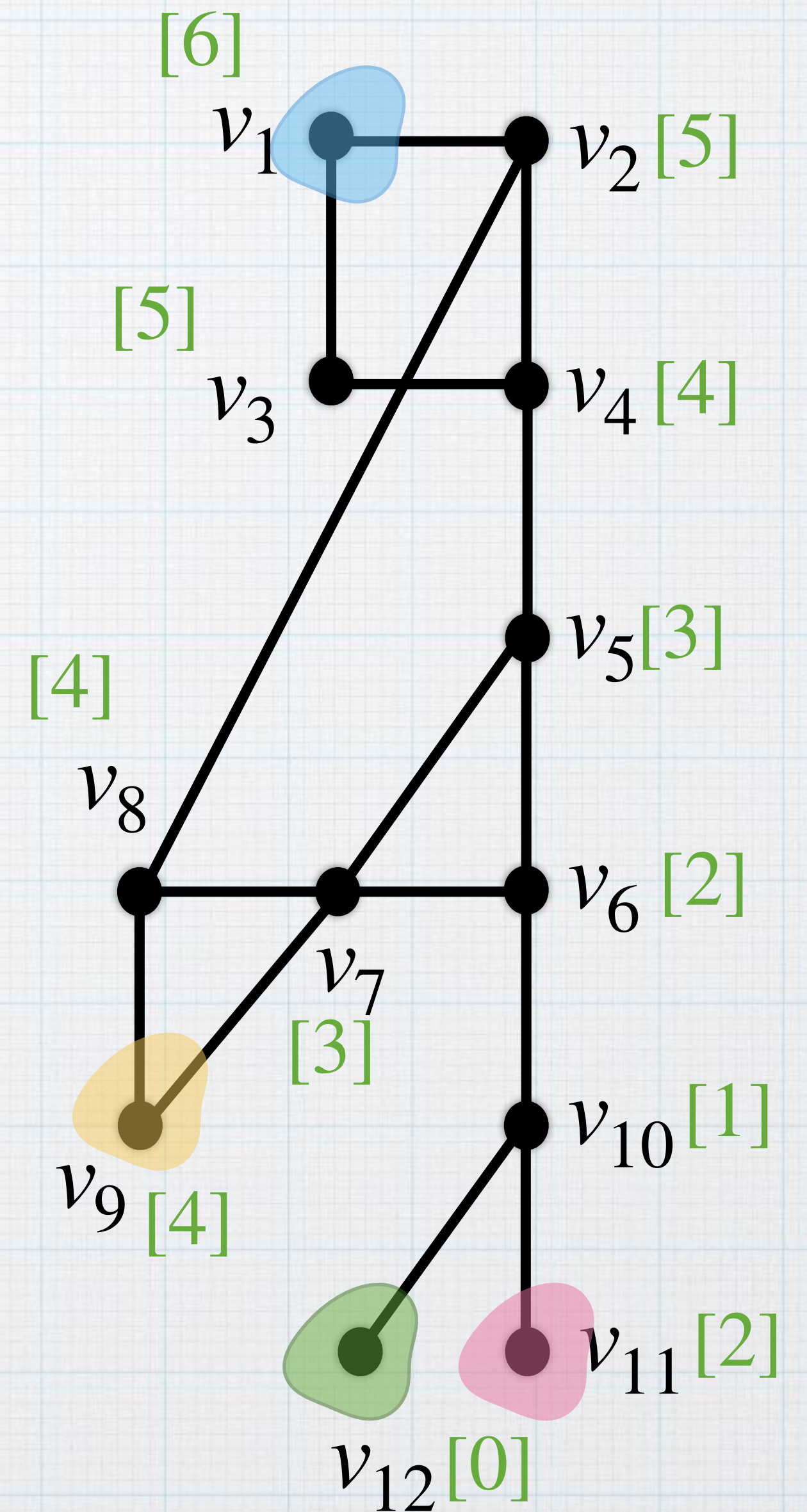
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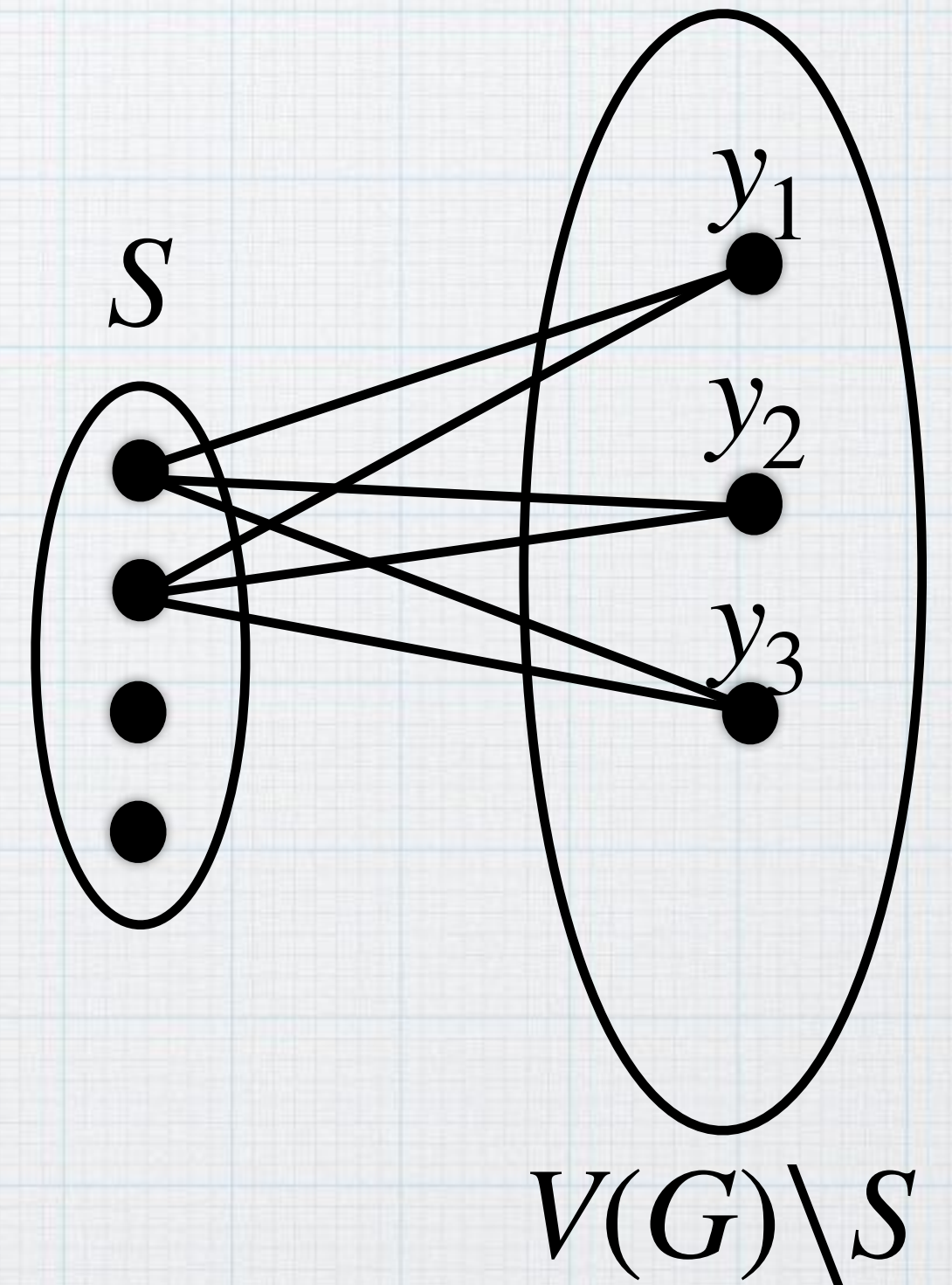
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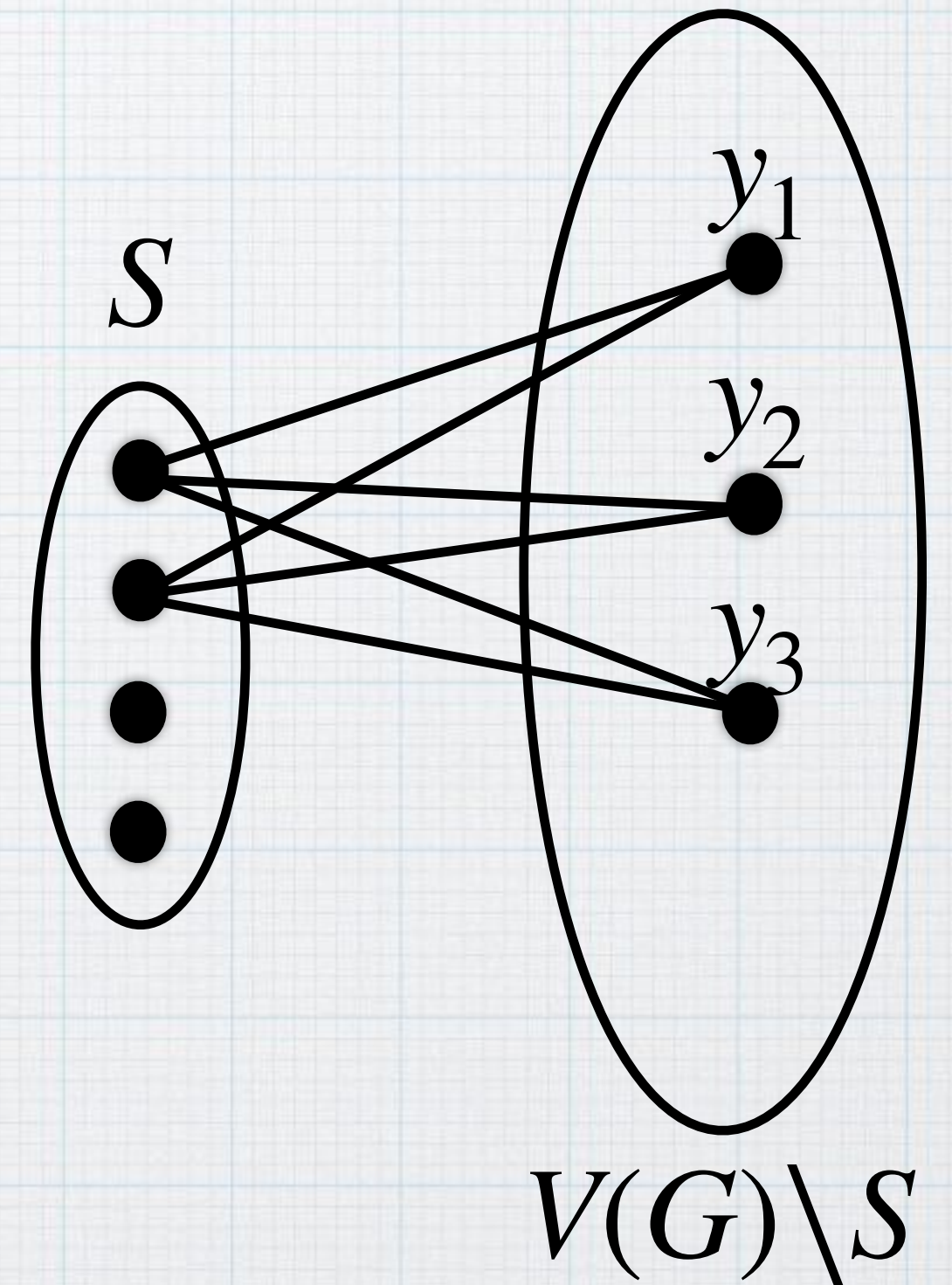
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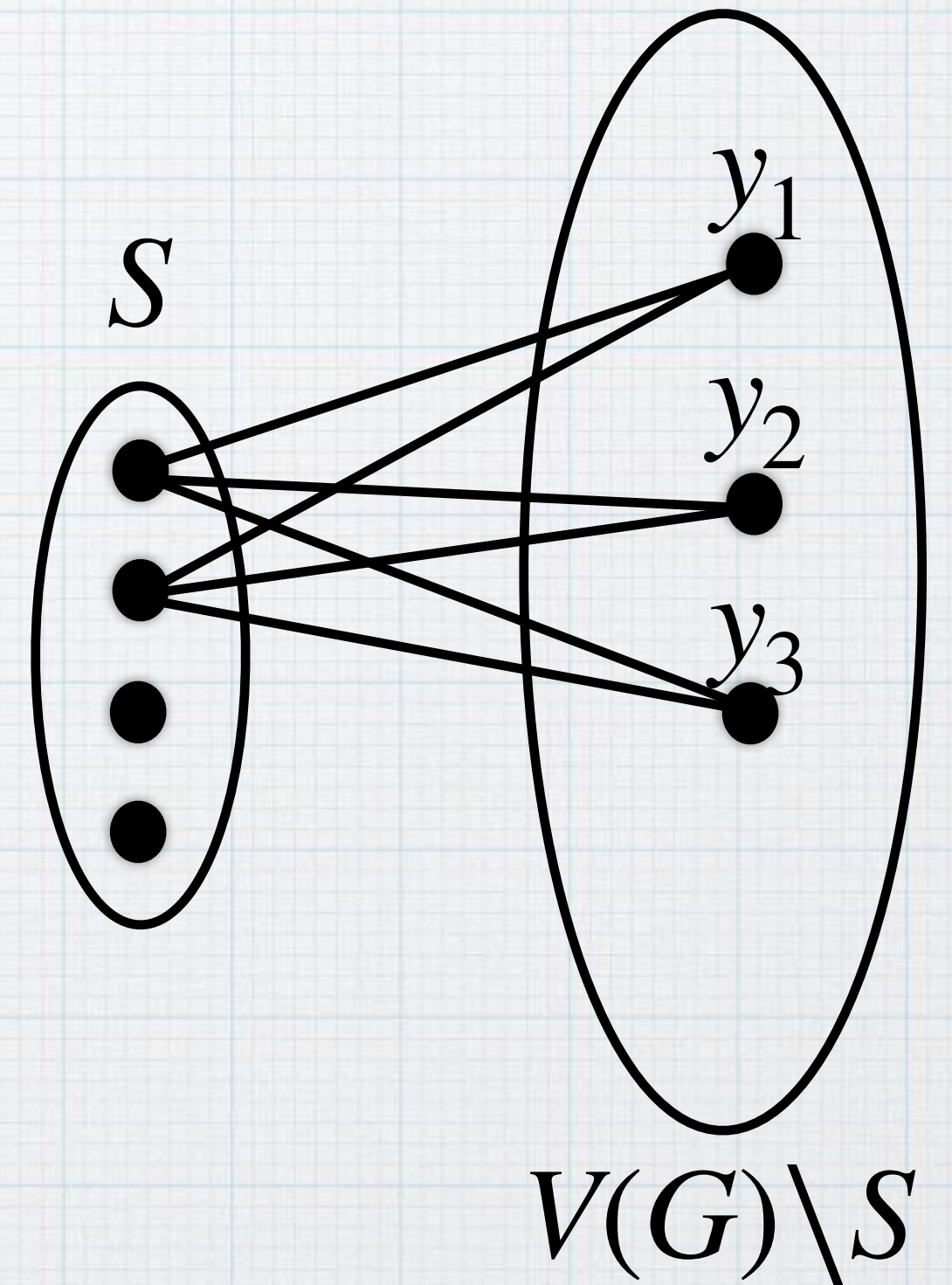
Obs: If  $N(y_1) = N(y_2) = N(y_3)$  for  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  in ind-set, then any resolving set contains at least two of them.



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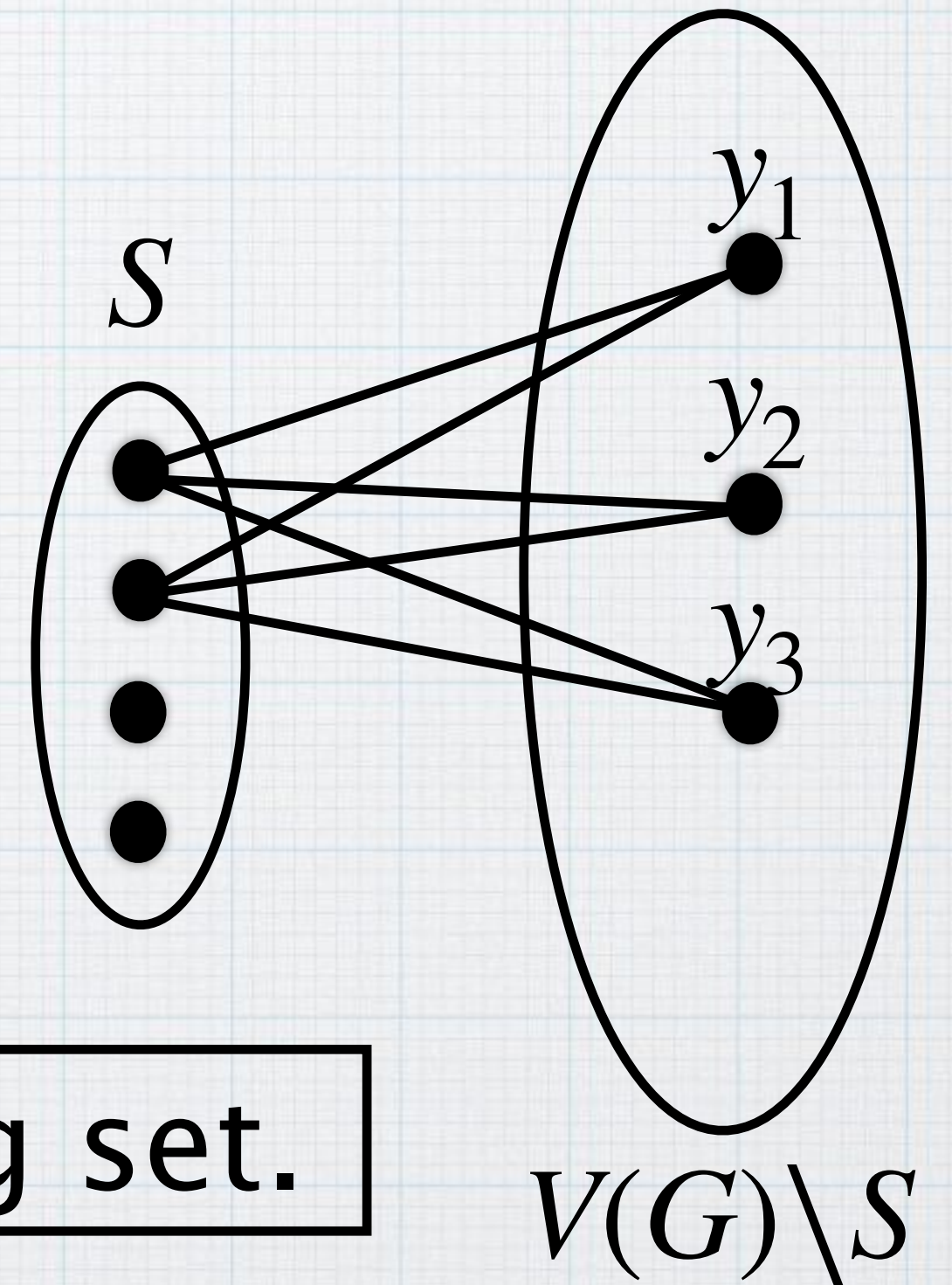


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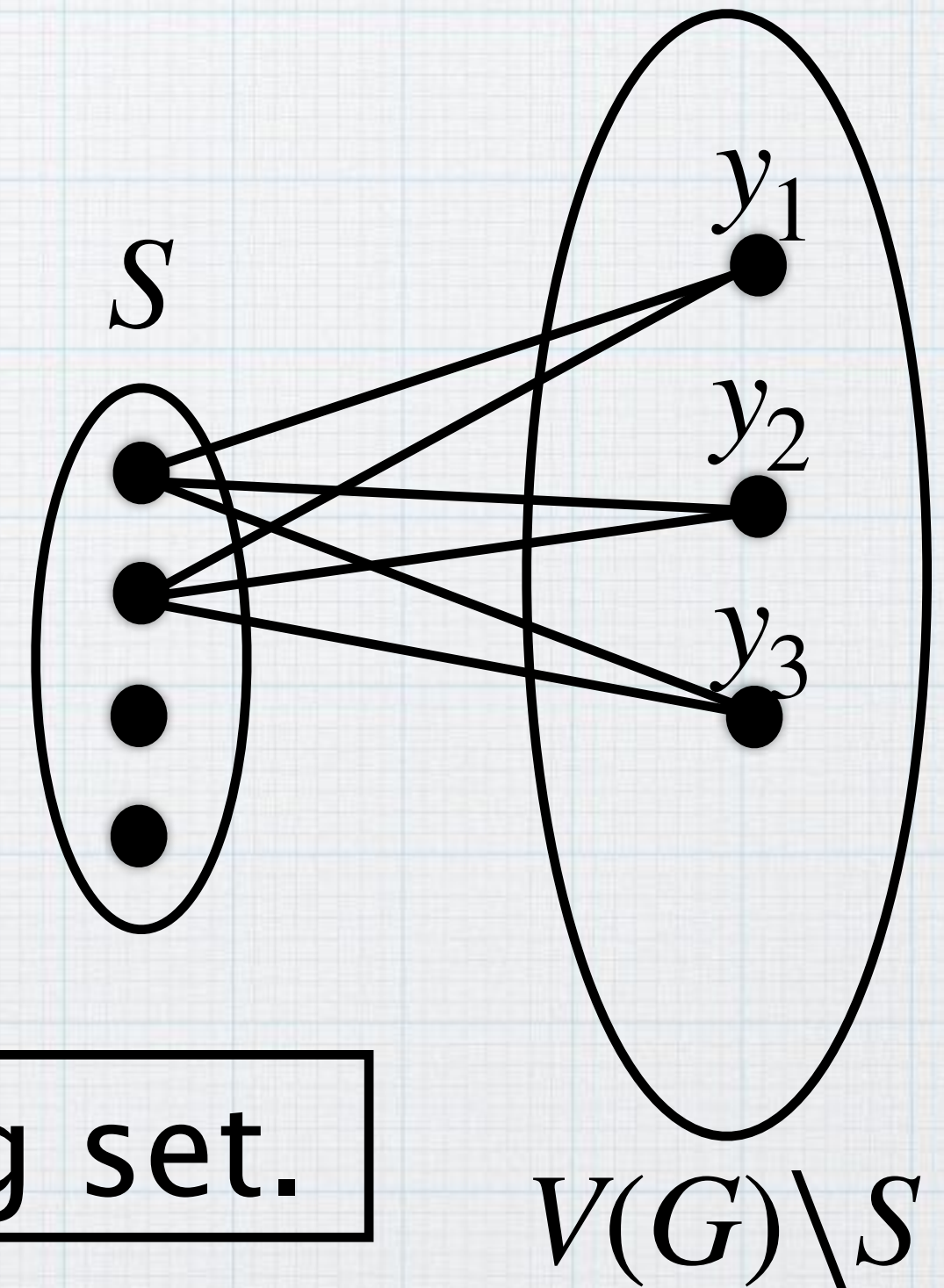
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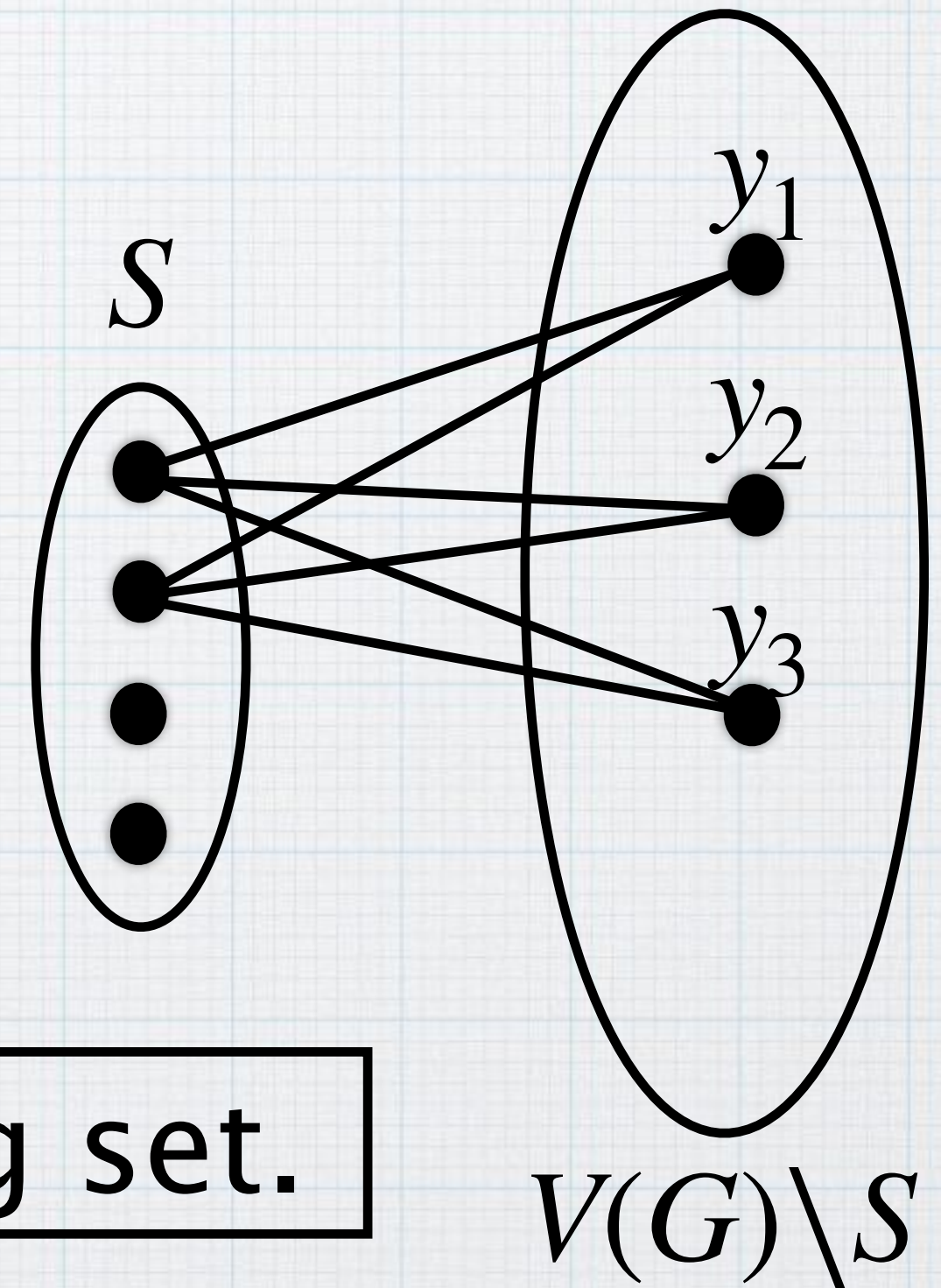
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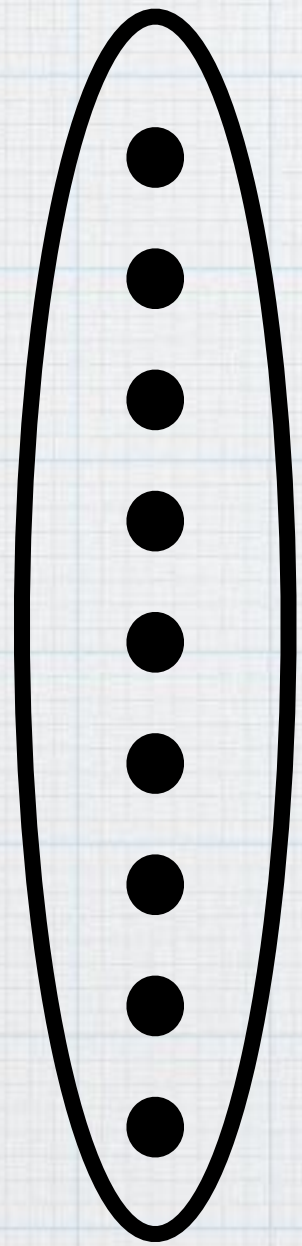
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$\Rightarrow$  algorithm with desired running time



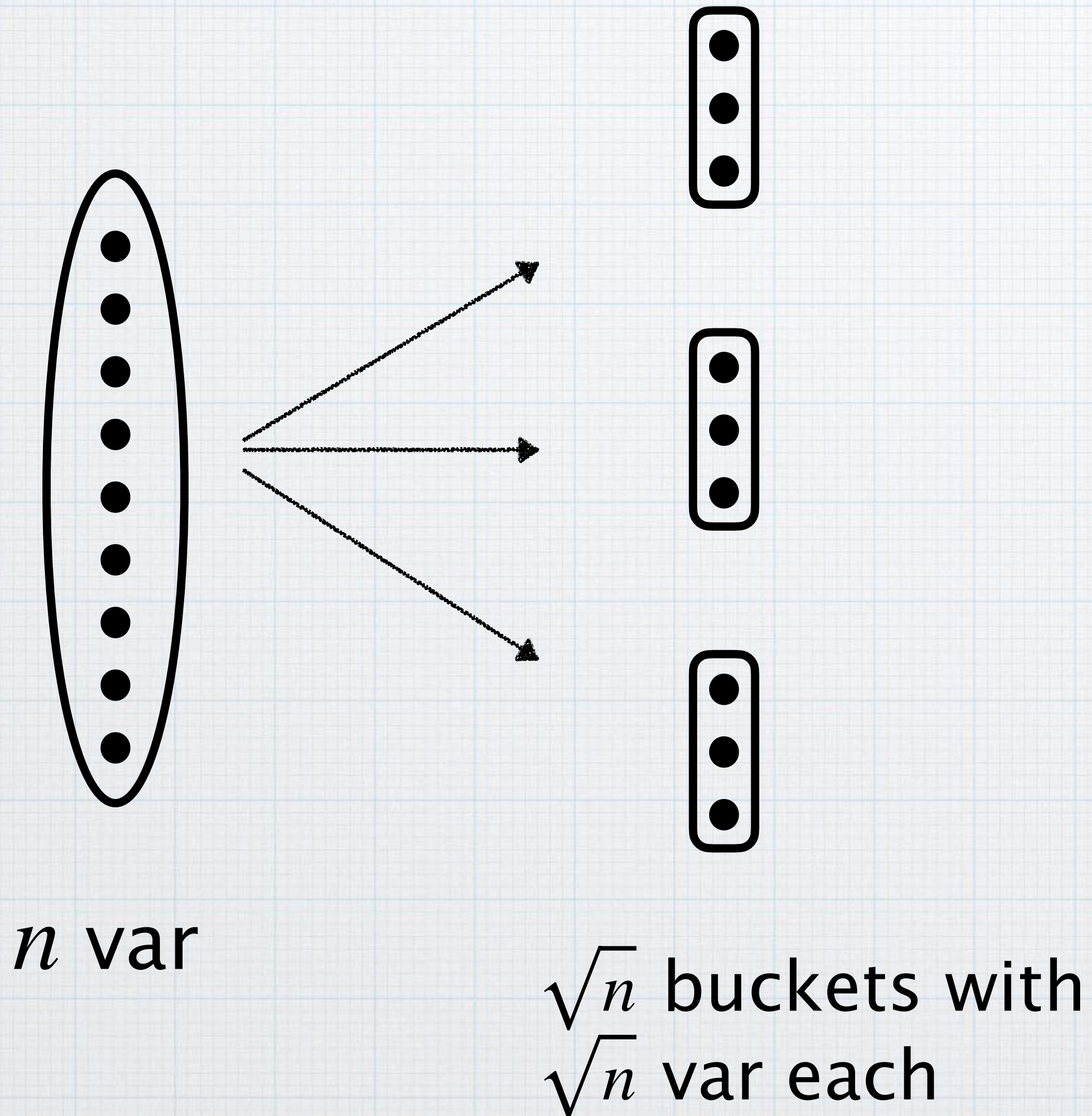
3-SAT (with  $n$  var) to Metric Dimension with  $vc = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$

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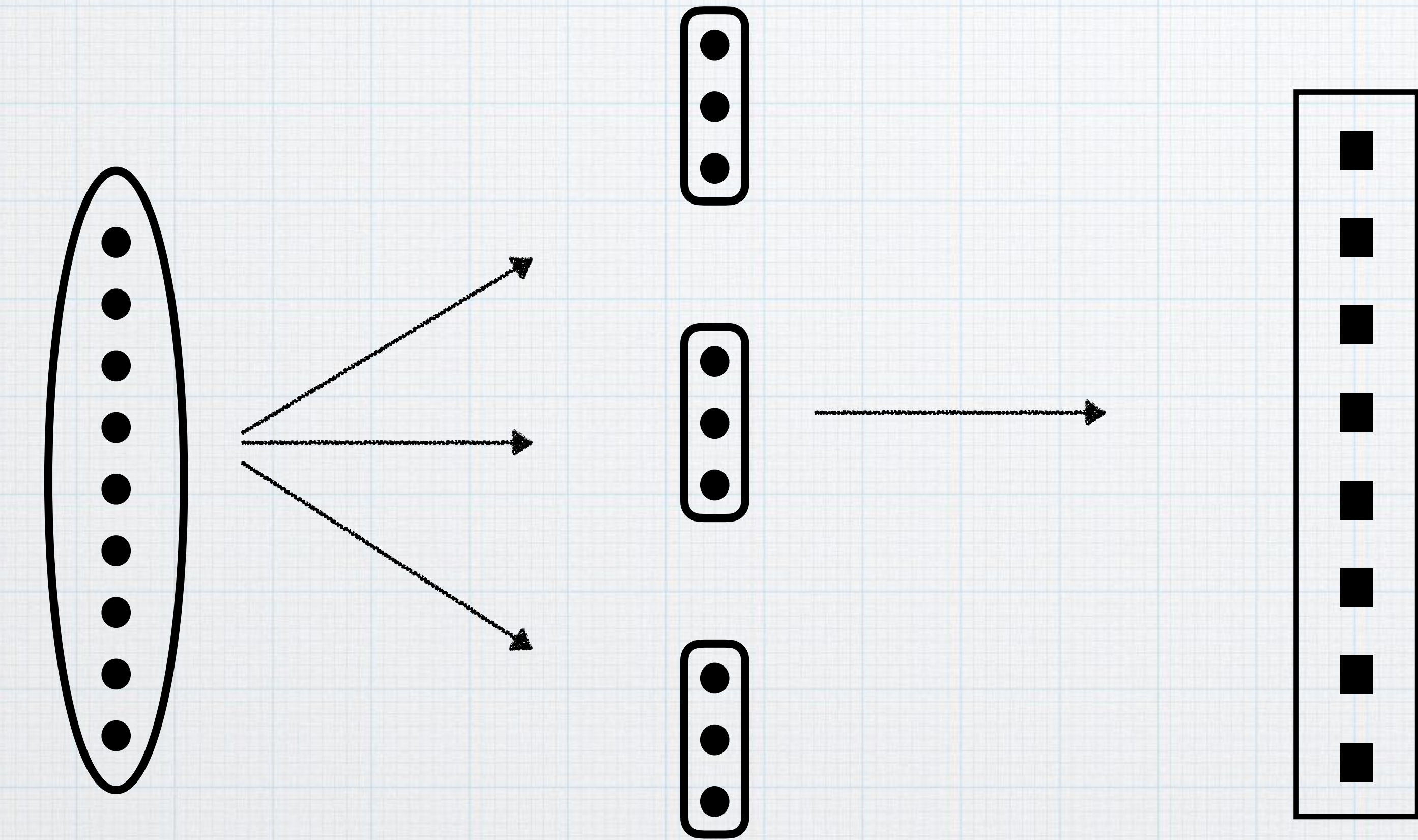
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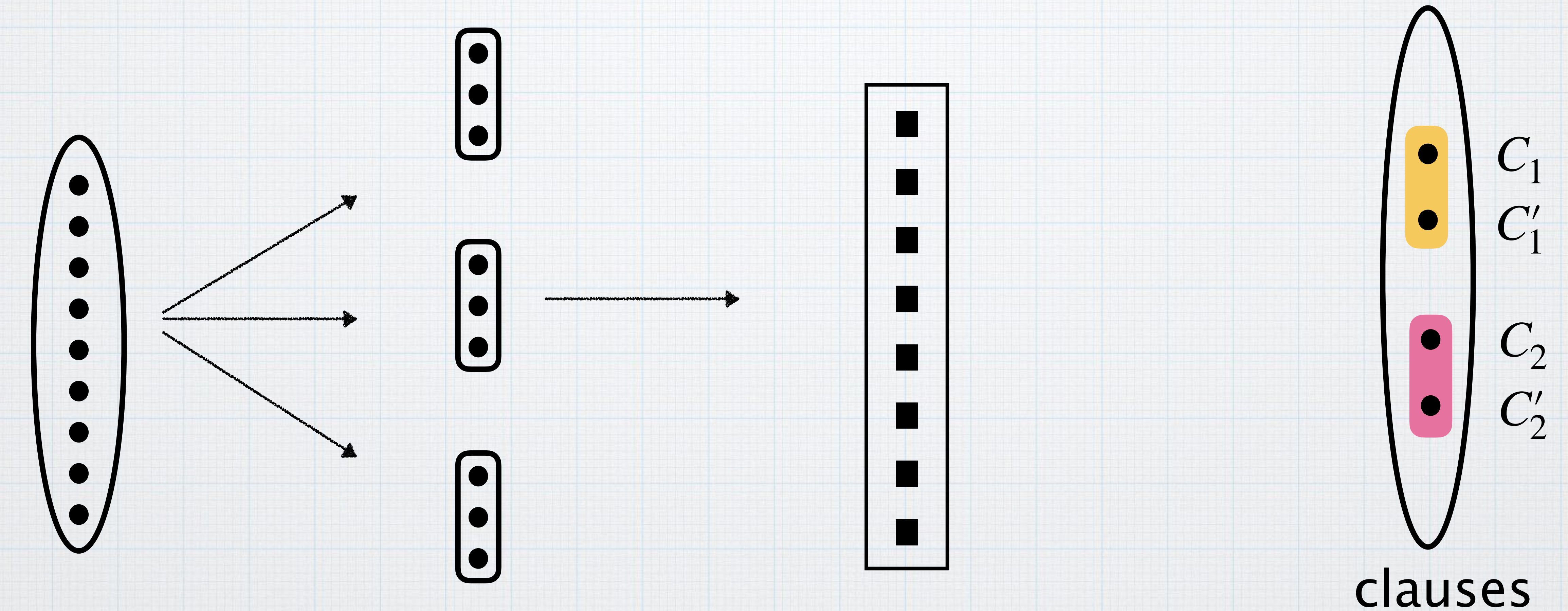


$n$  var

$\sqrt{n}$  buckets with  
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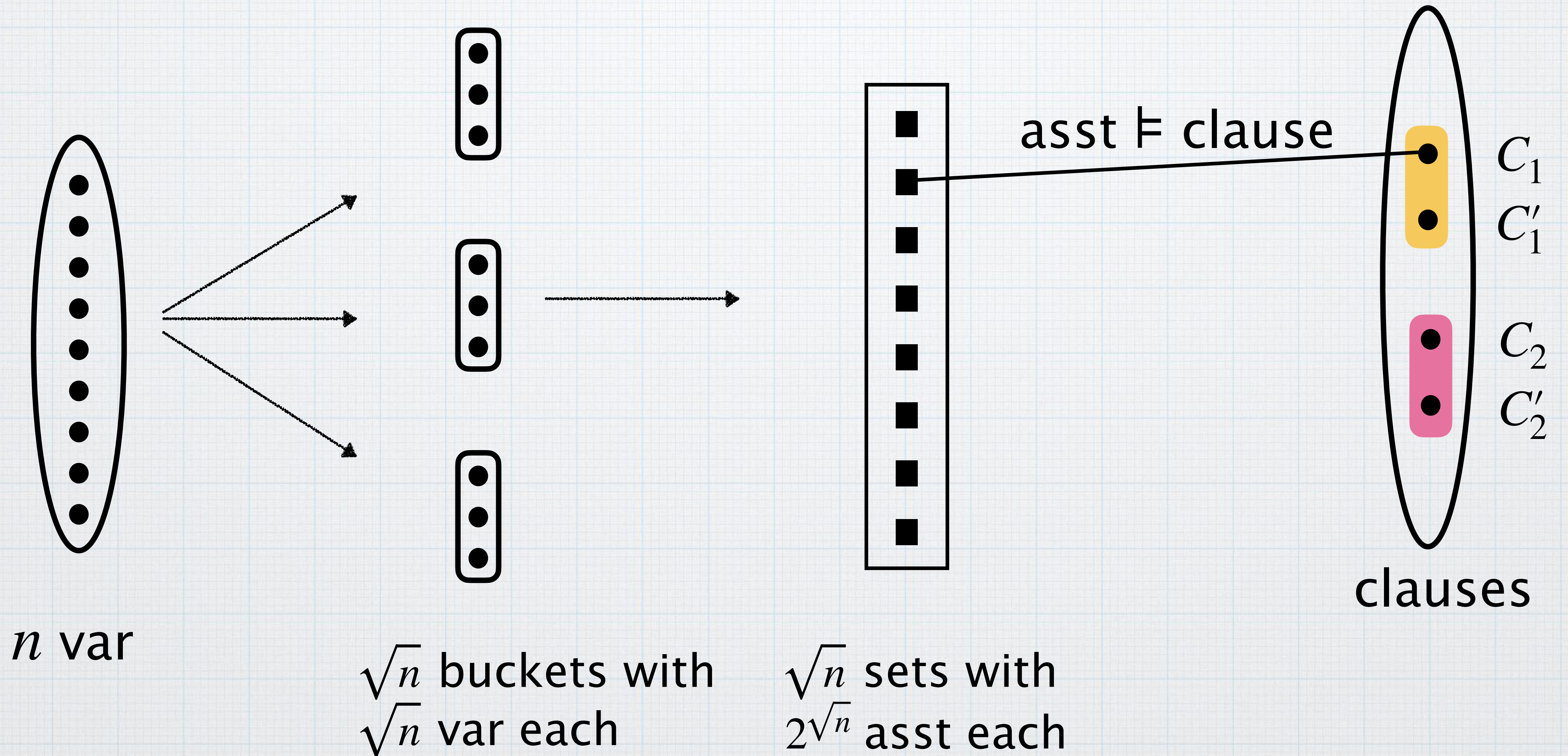


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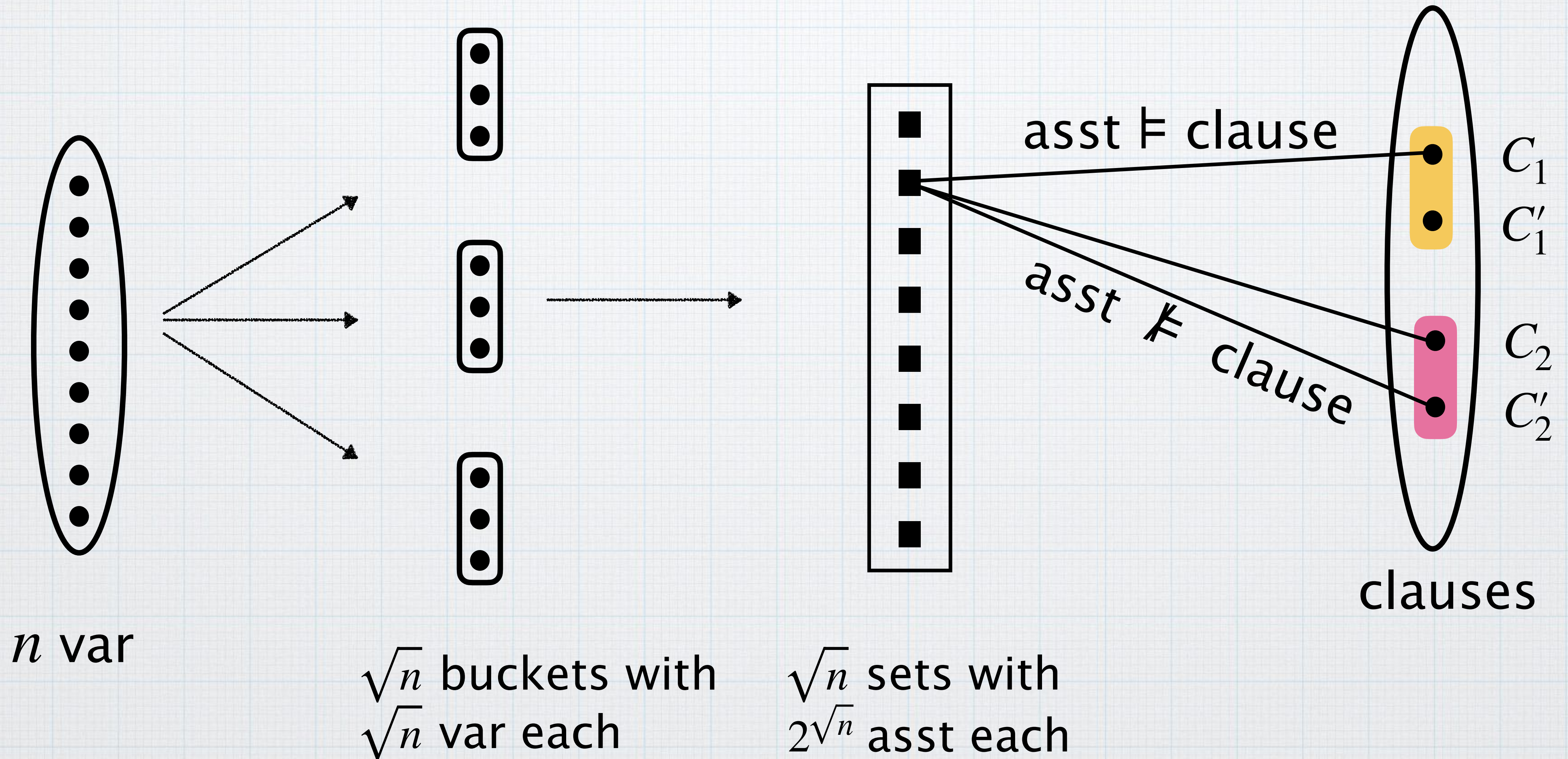
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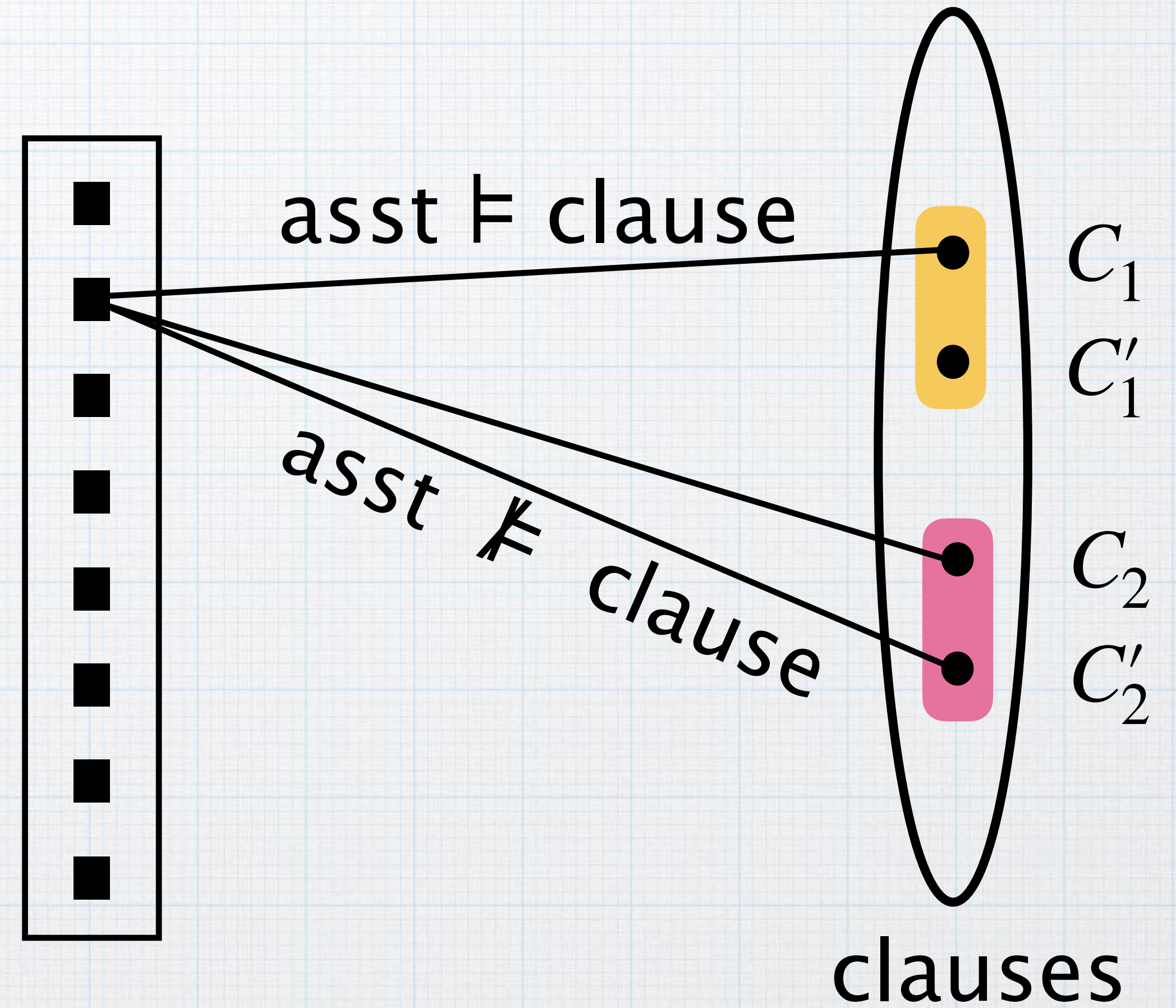
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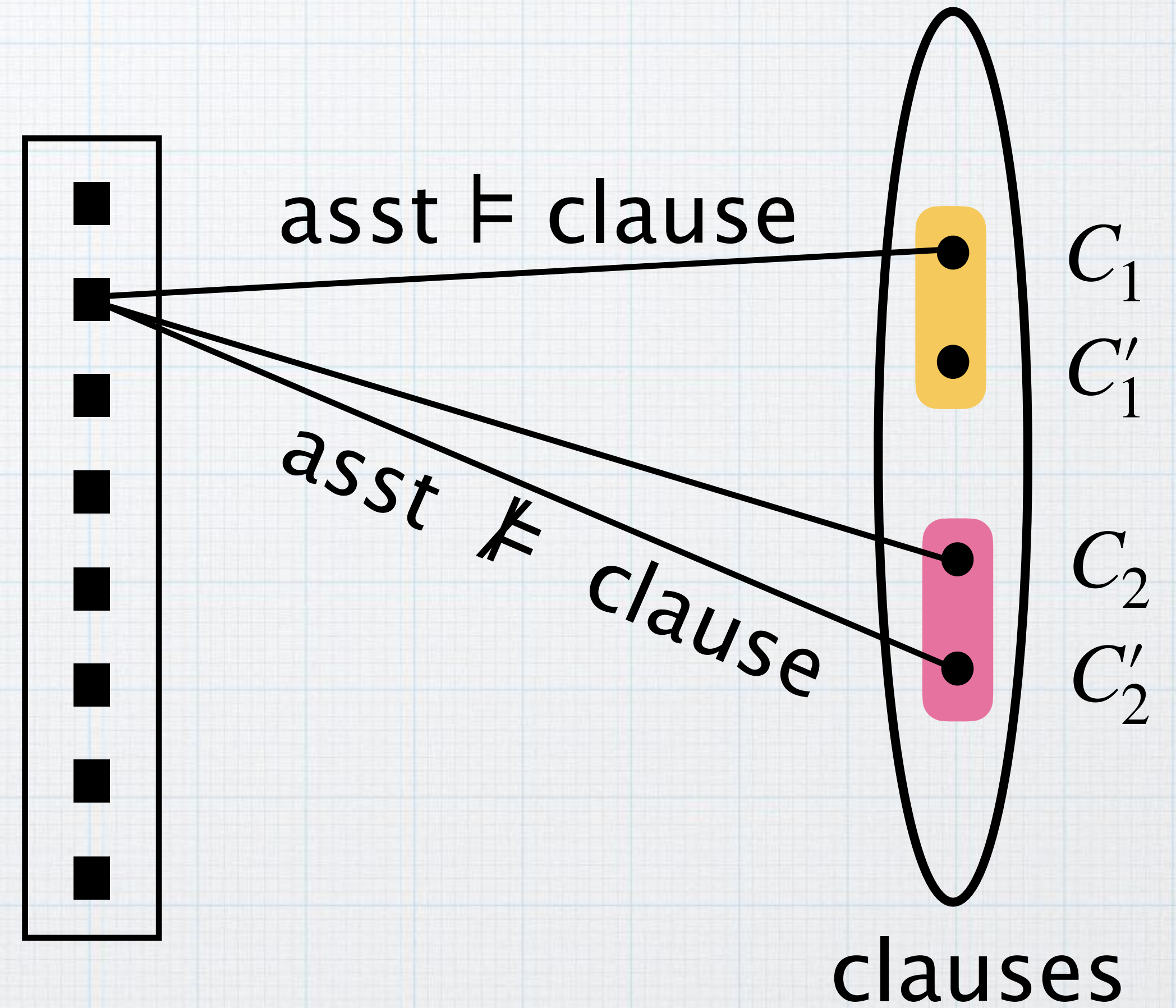
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Q: How to identify vertices corresponding to assignments?

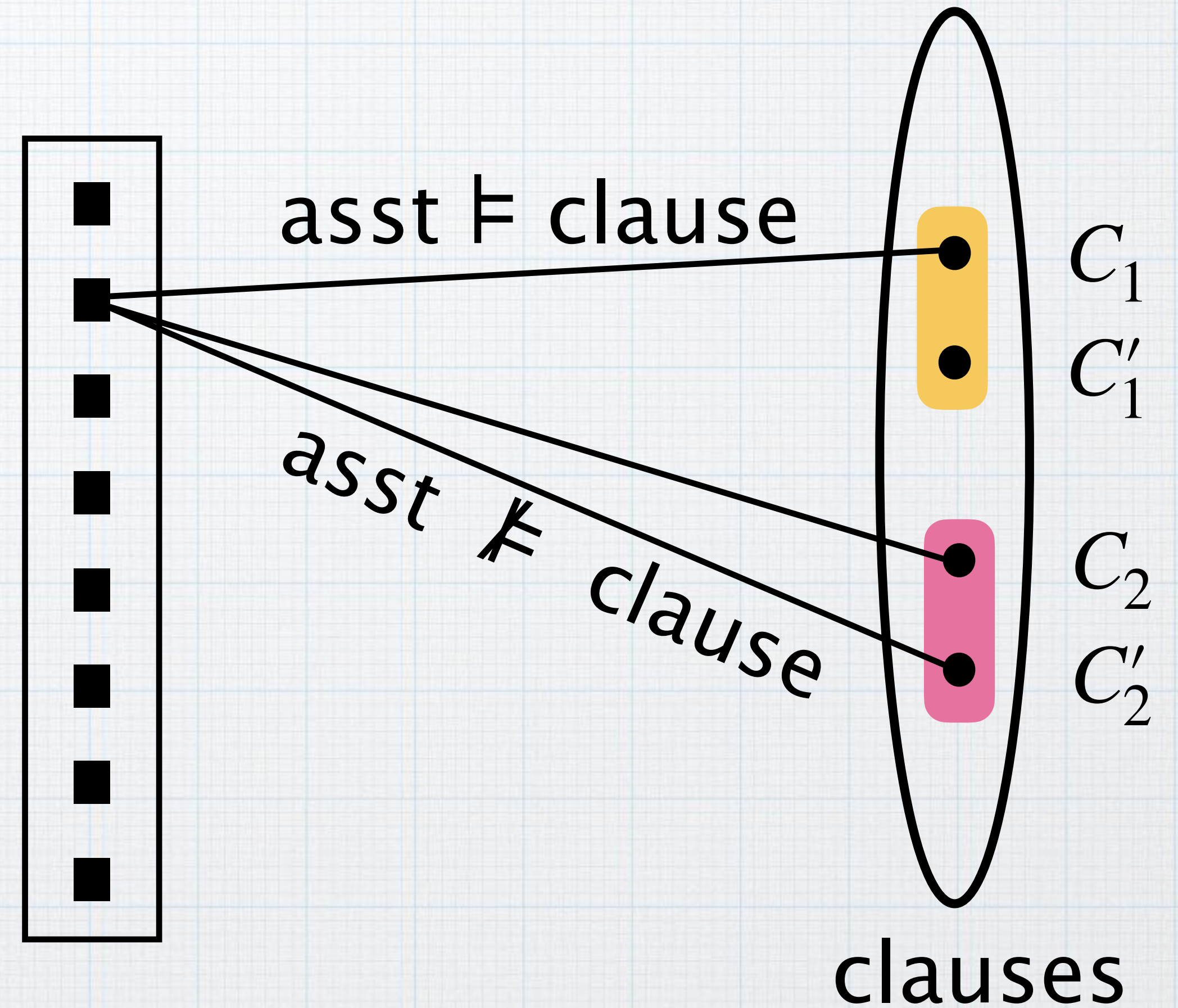


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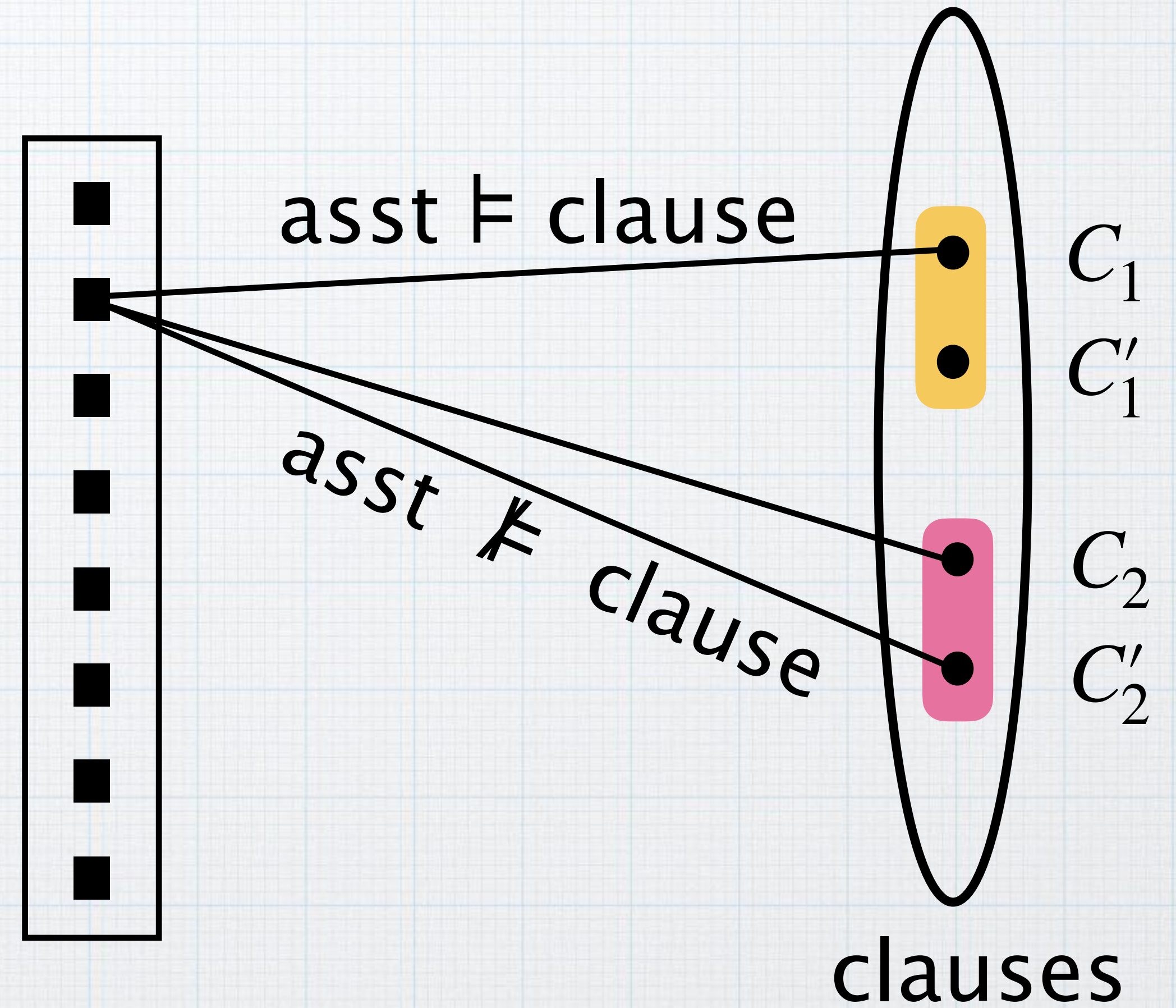
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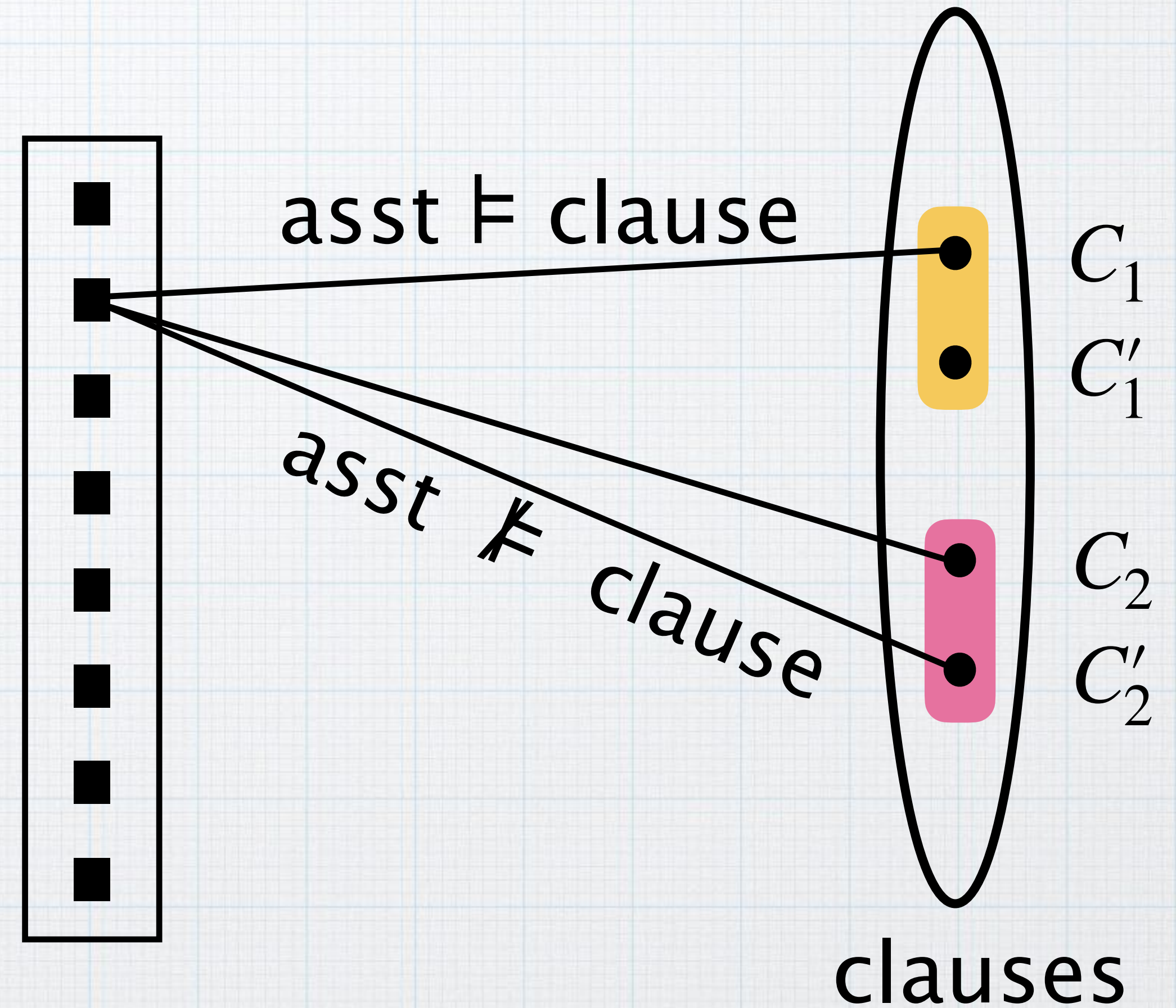
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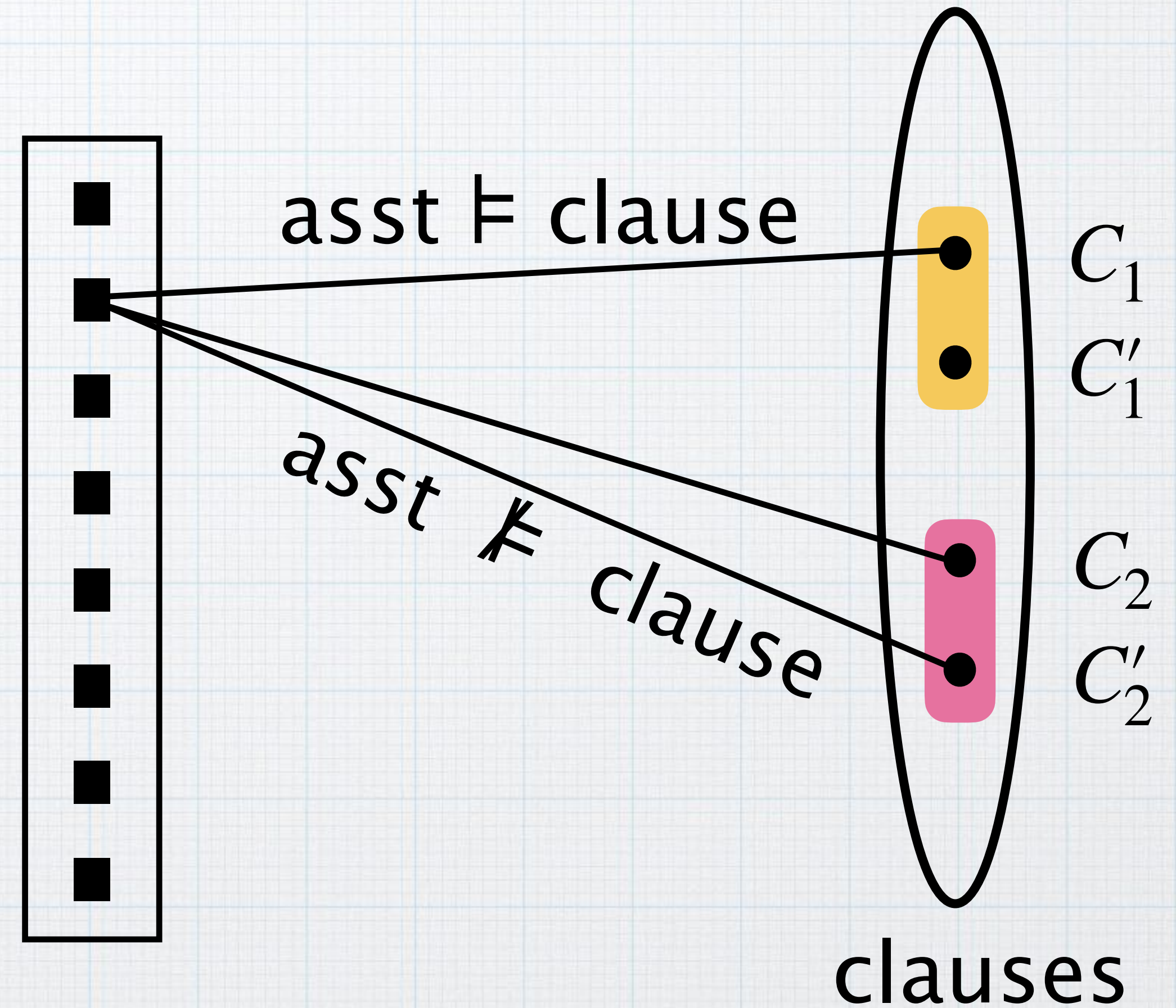
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Sperner Family

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**Sperner Family**: Collection  $\mathcal{F}$  of subsets of a universe such that for any two sets  $A_1, A_2$  in  $\mathcal{F}$  neither  $A_1 \subseteq A_2$  nor  $A_2 \subseteq A_1$ .

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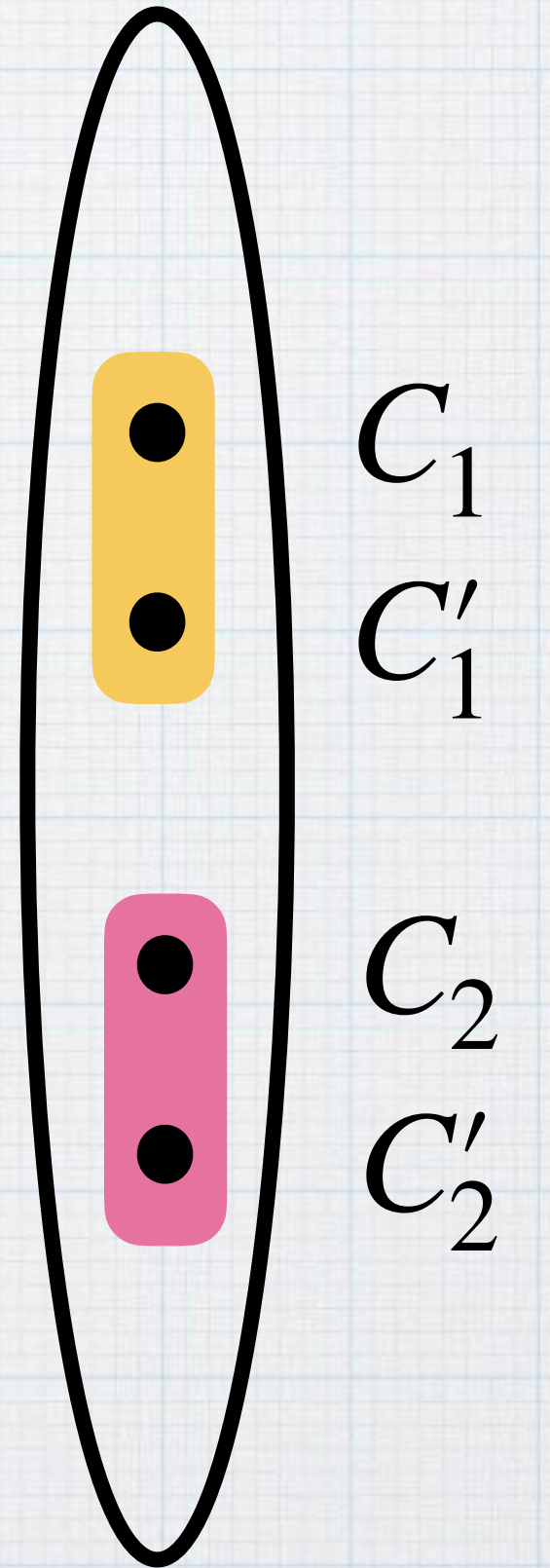
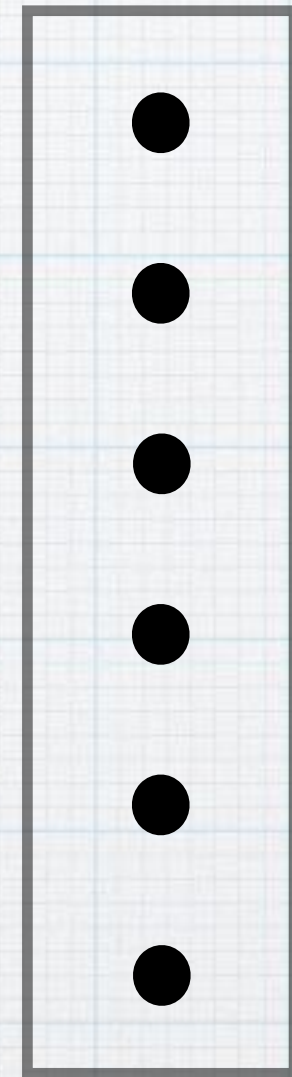
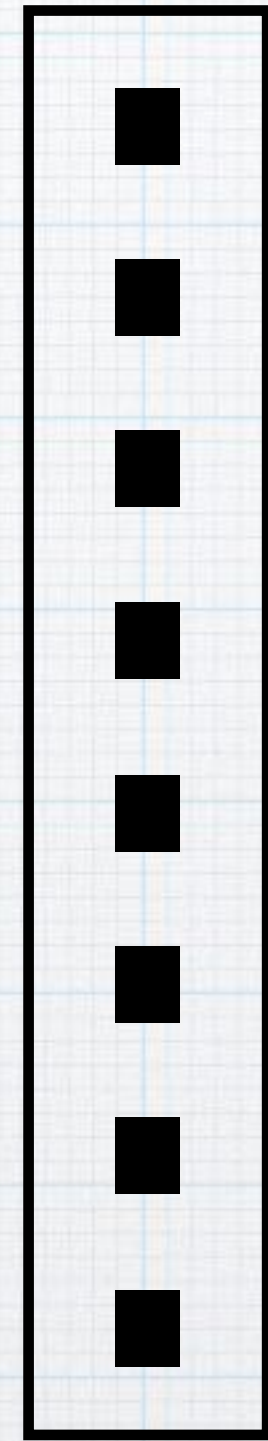
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For  $p = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  is of size  $2^{\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})}$ , i.e. unique set for each asst.

3-SAT (with  $n$  var) to Metric Dimension with  $vc = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$

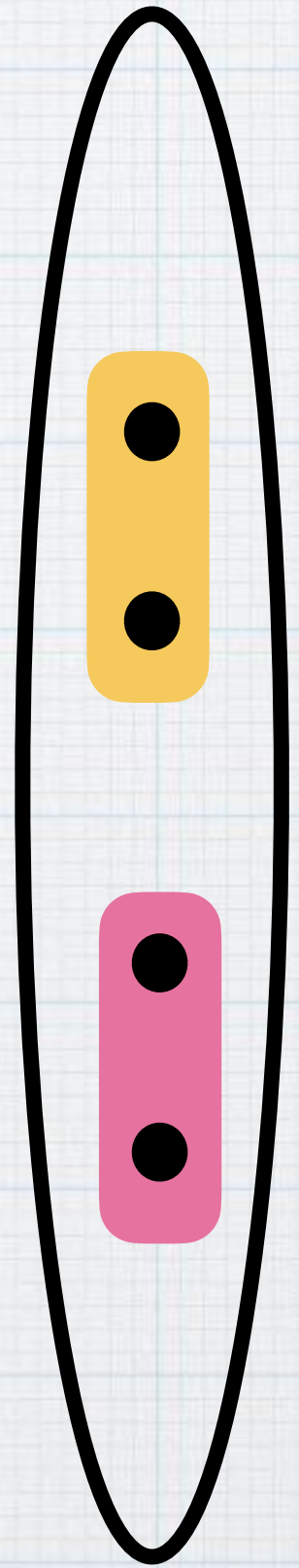
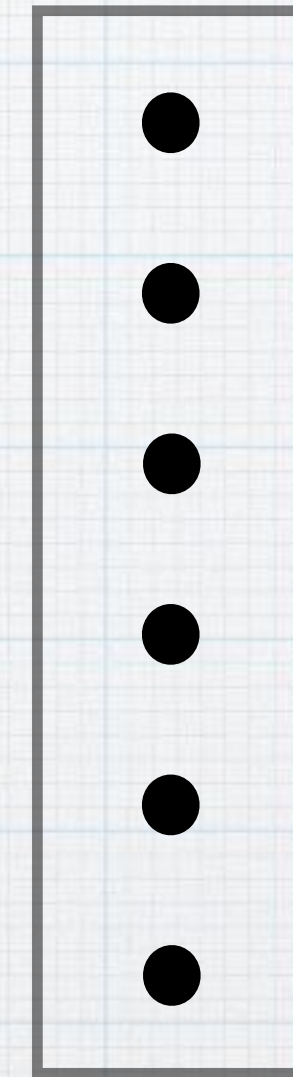
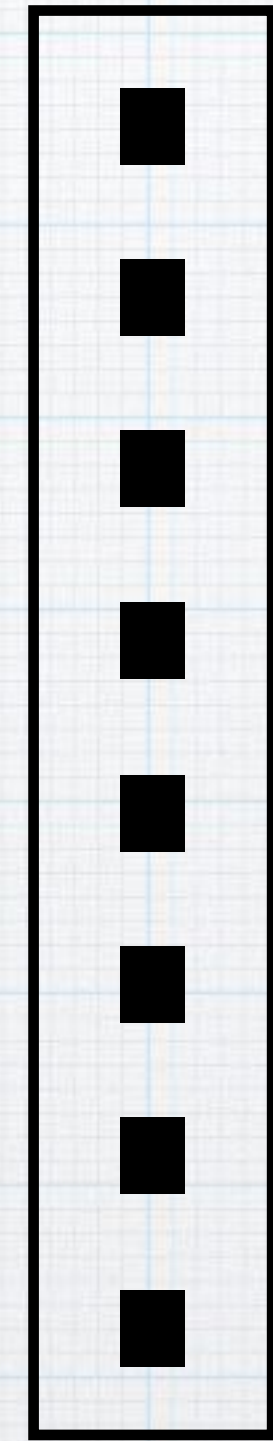


clauses

$\sqrt{n}$  sets with  
 $2\sqrt{n}$  asst each

# 3-SAT (with $n$ var) to Metric Dimension with $vc = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$

Replace direct connection via universe of **Sperner Family**



$C_1$   
 $C'_1$   
 $C_2$   
 $C'_2$

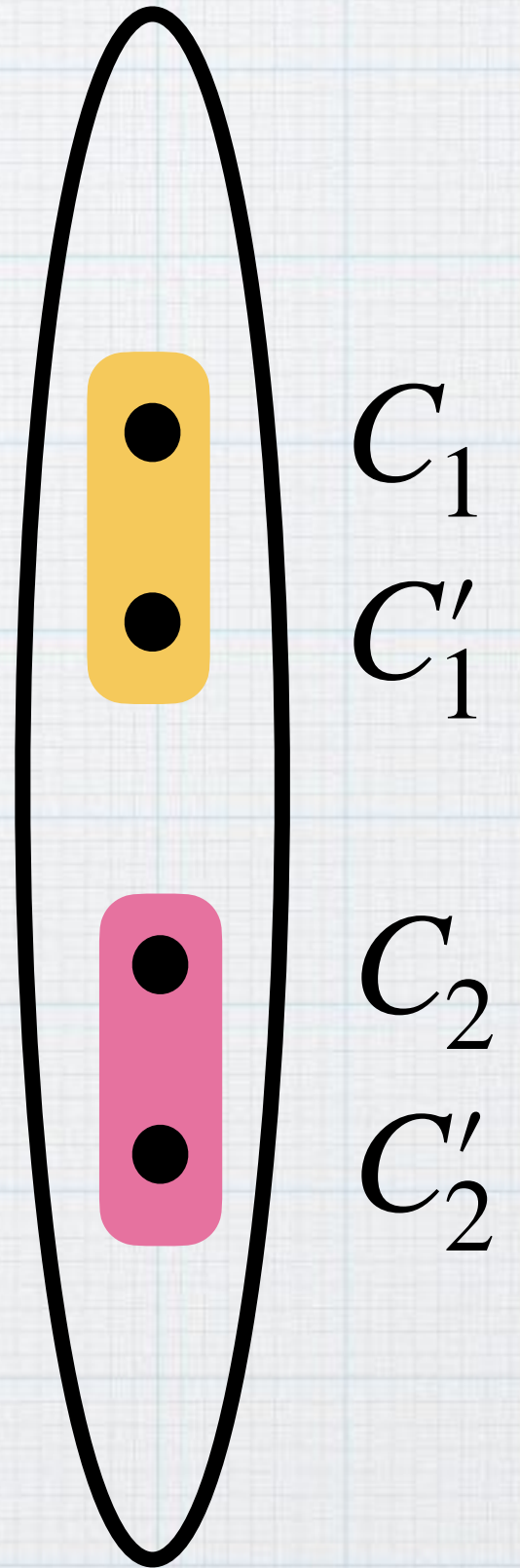
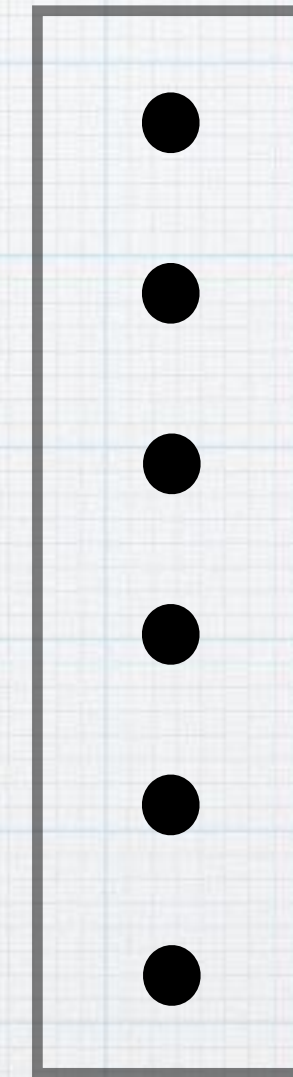
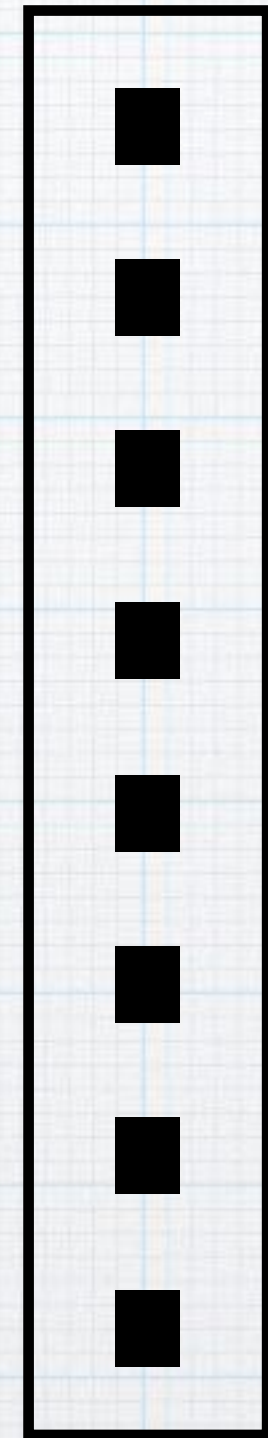
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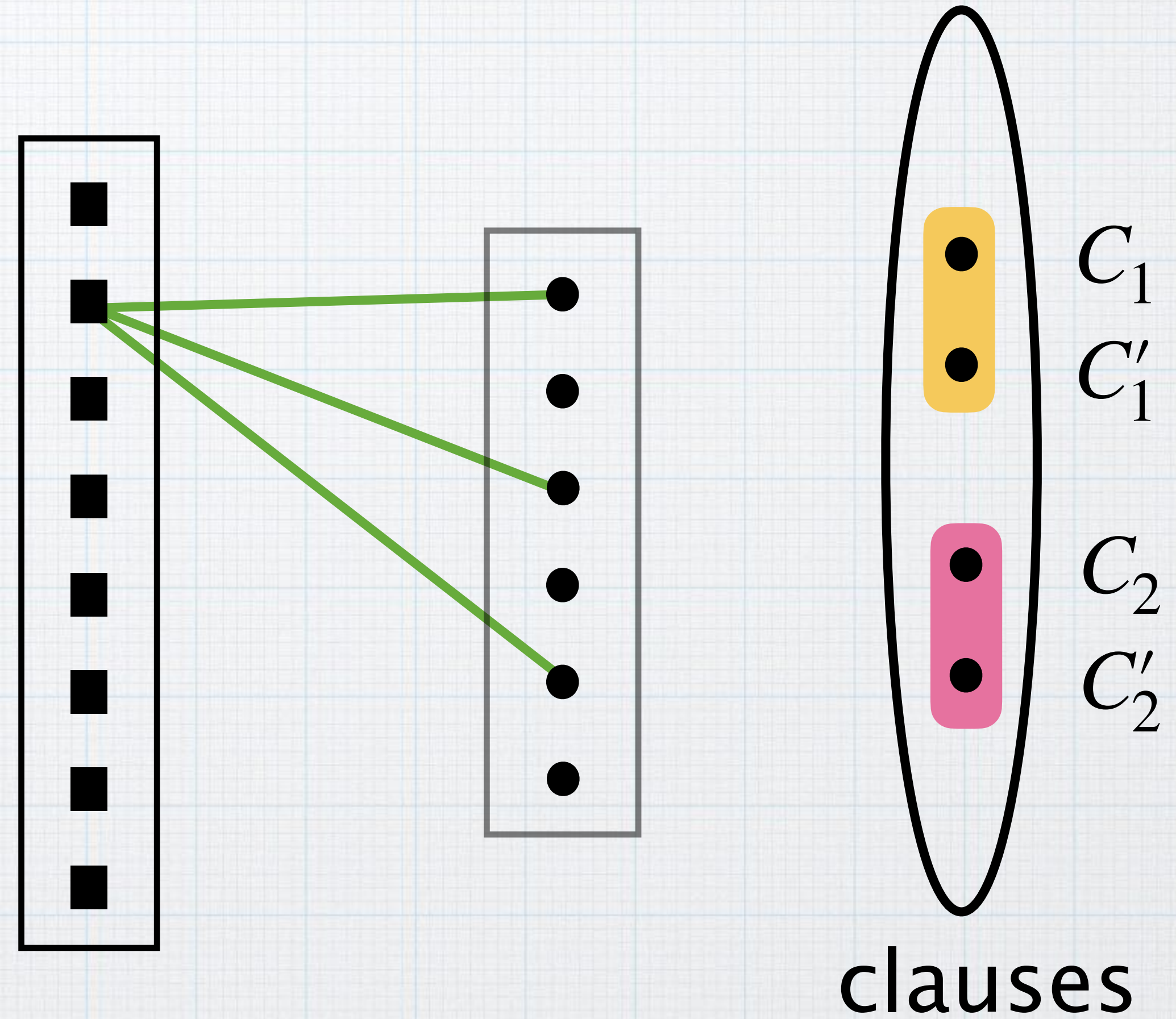
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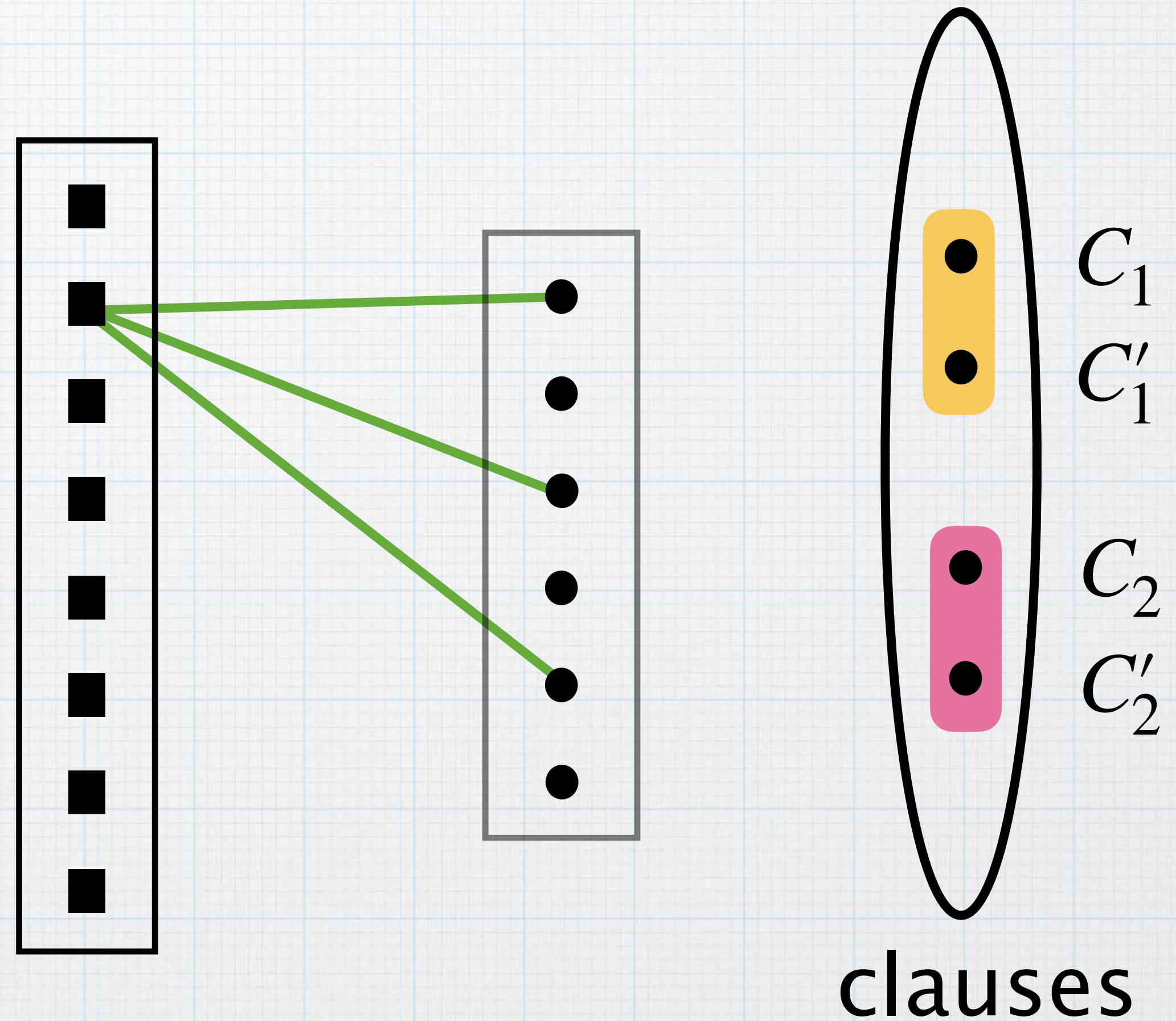
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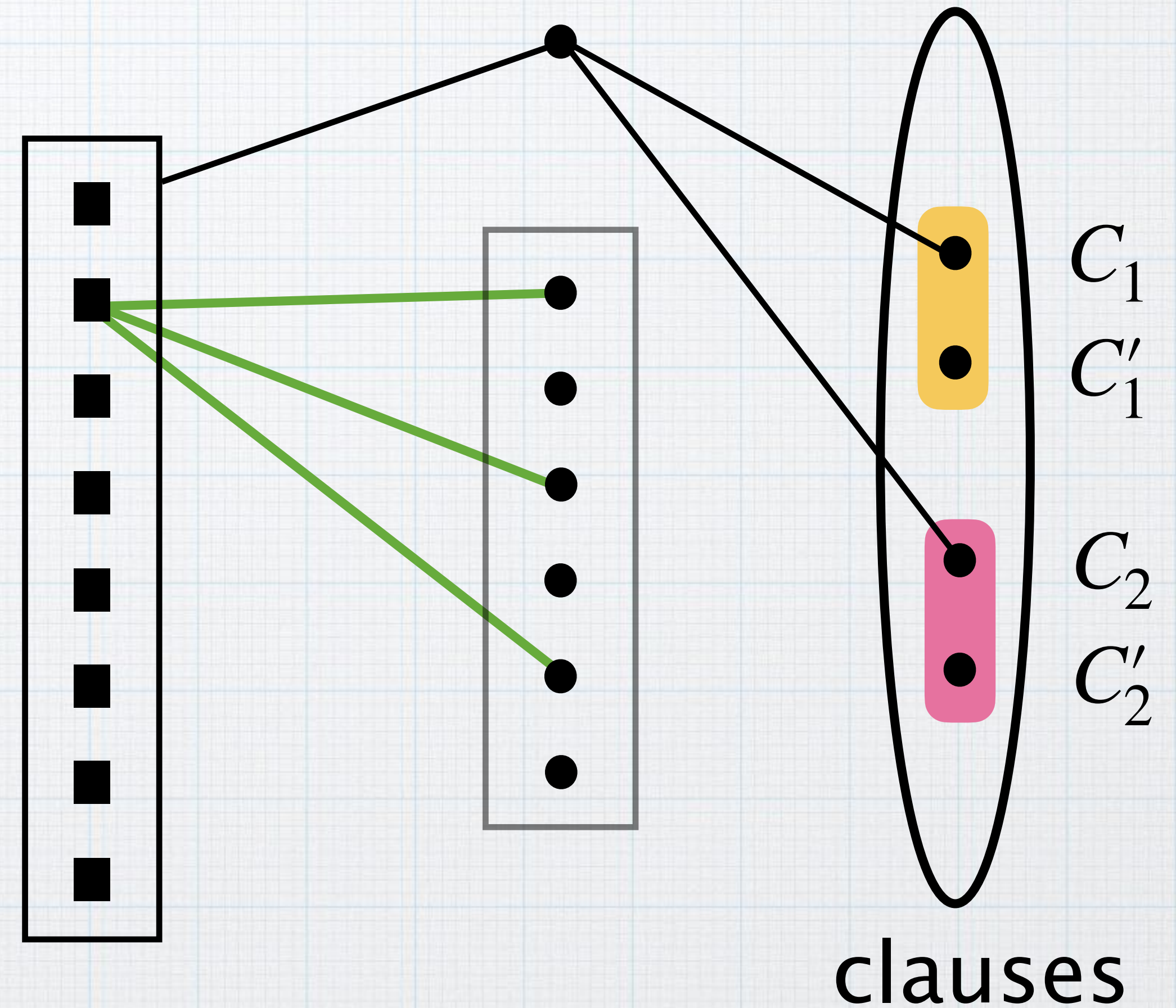
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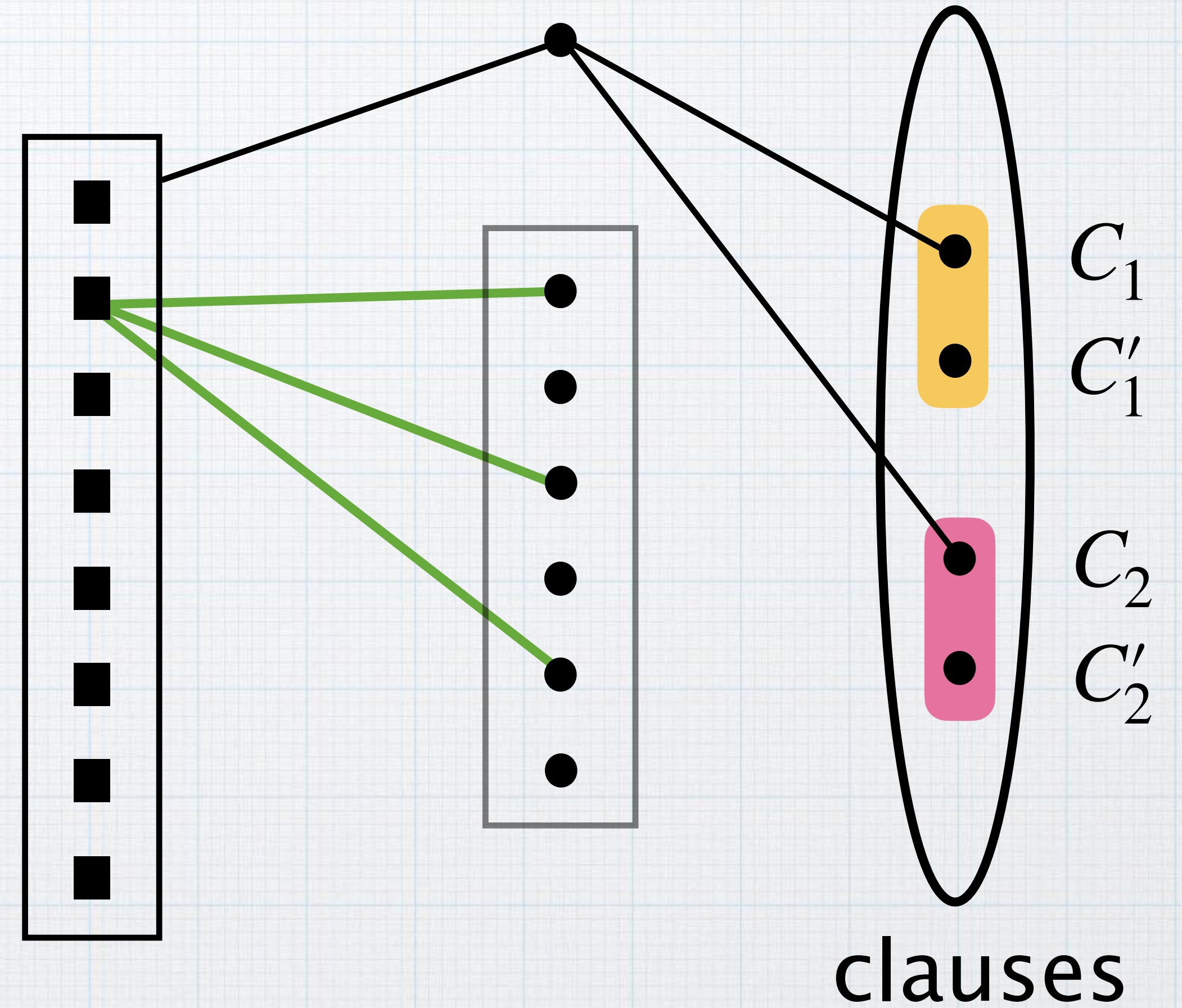
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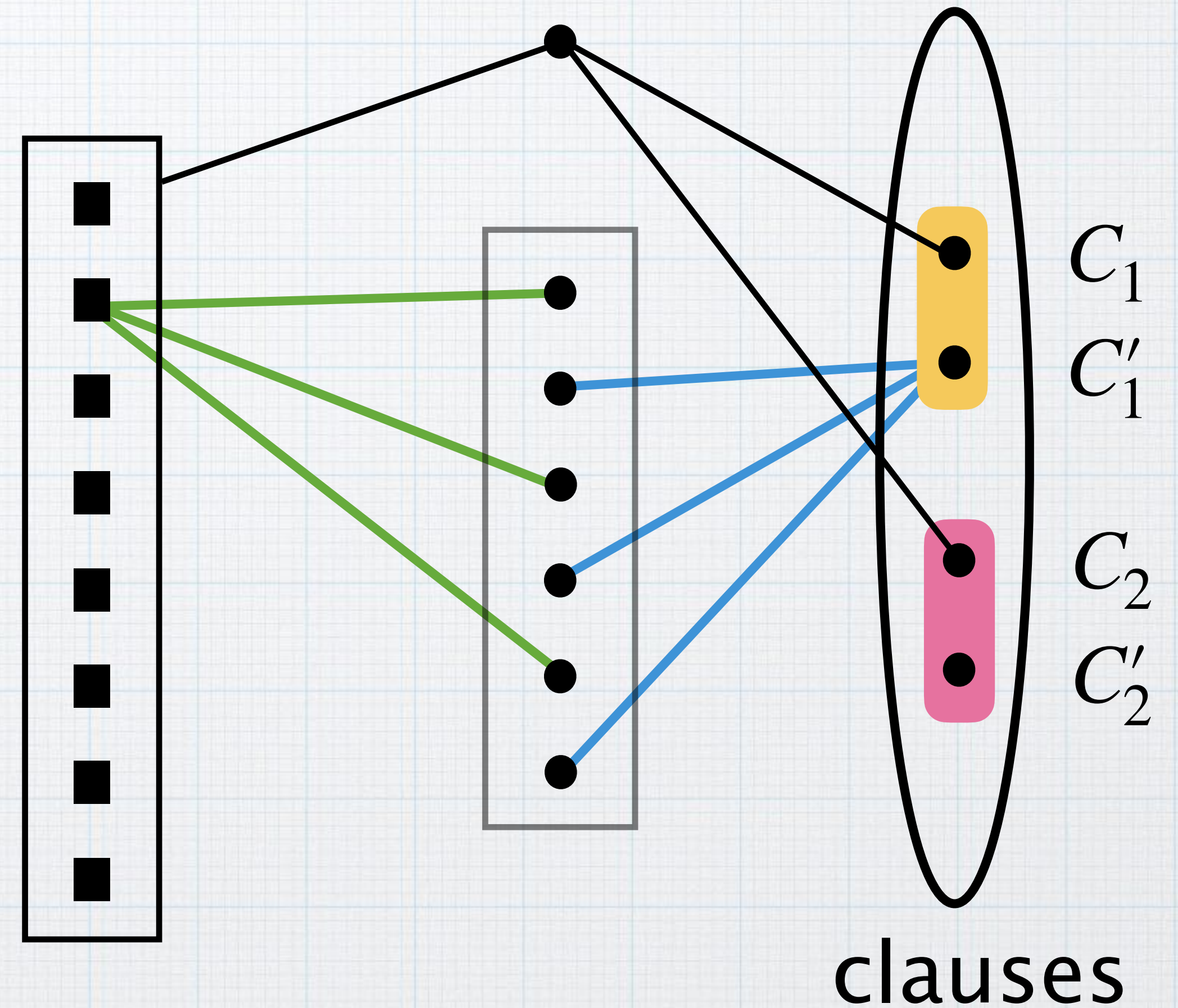
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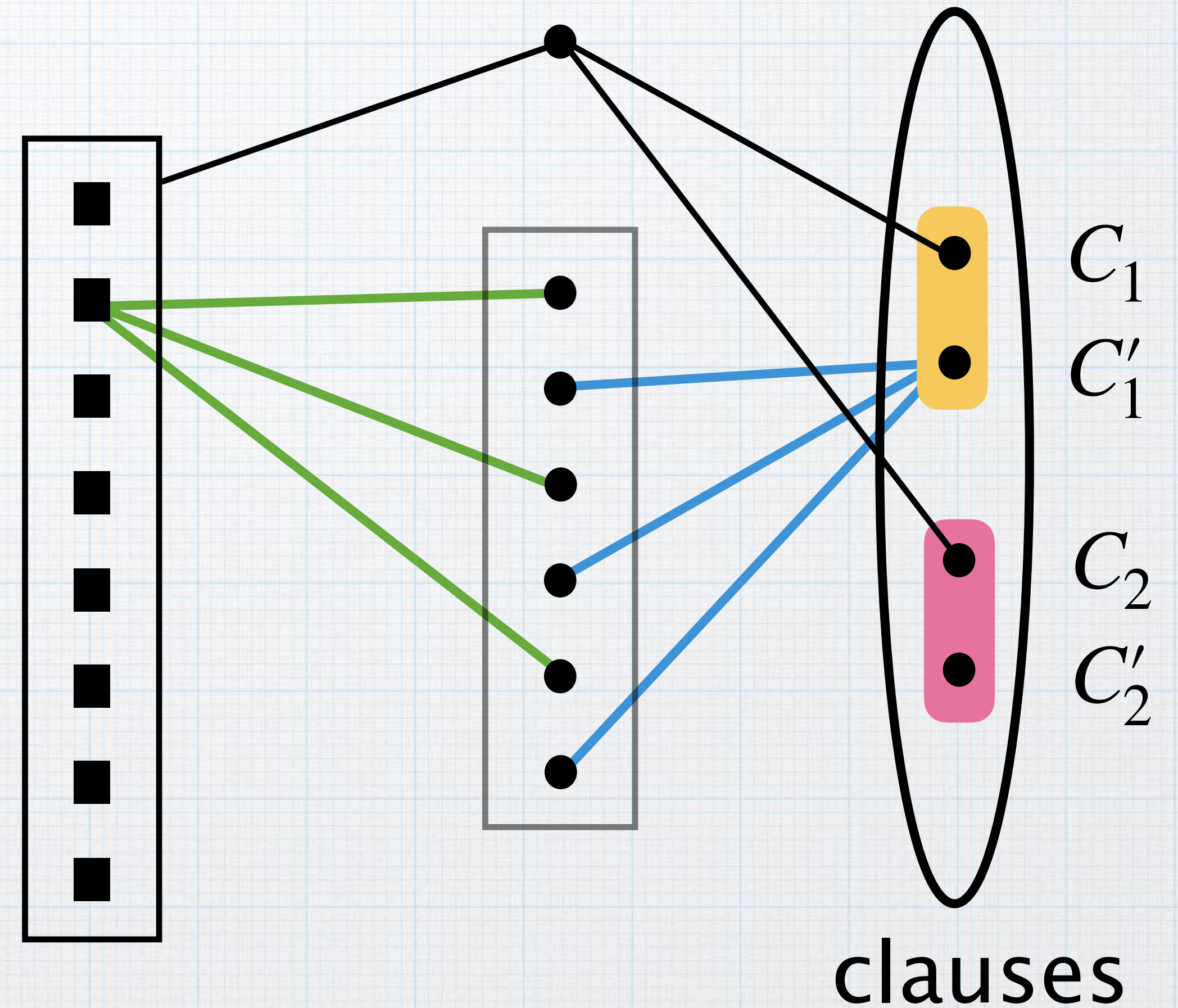
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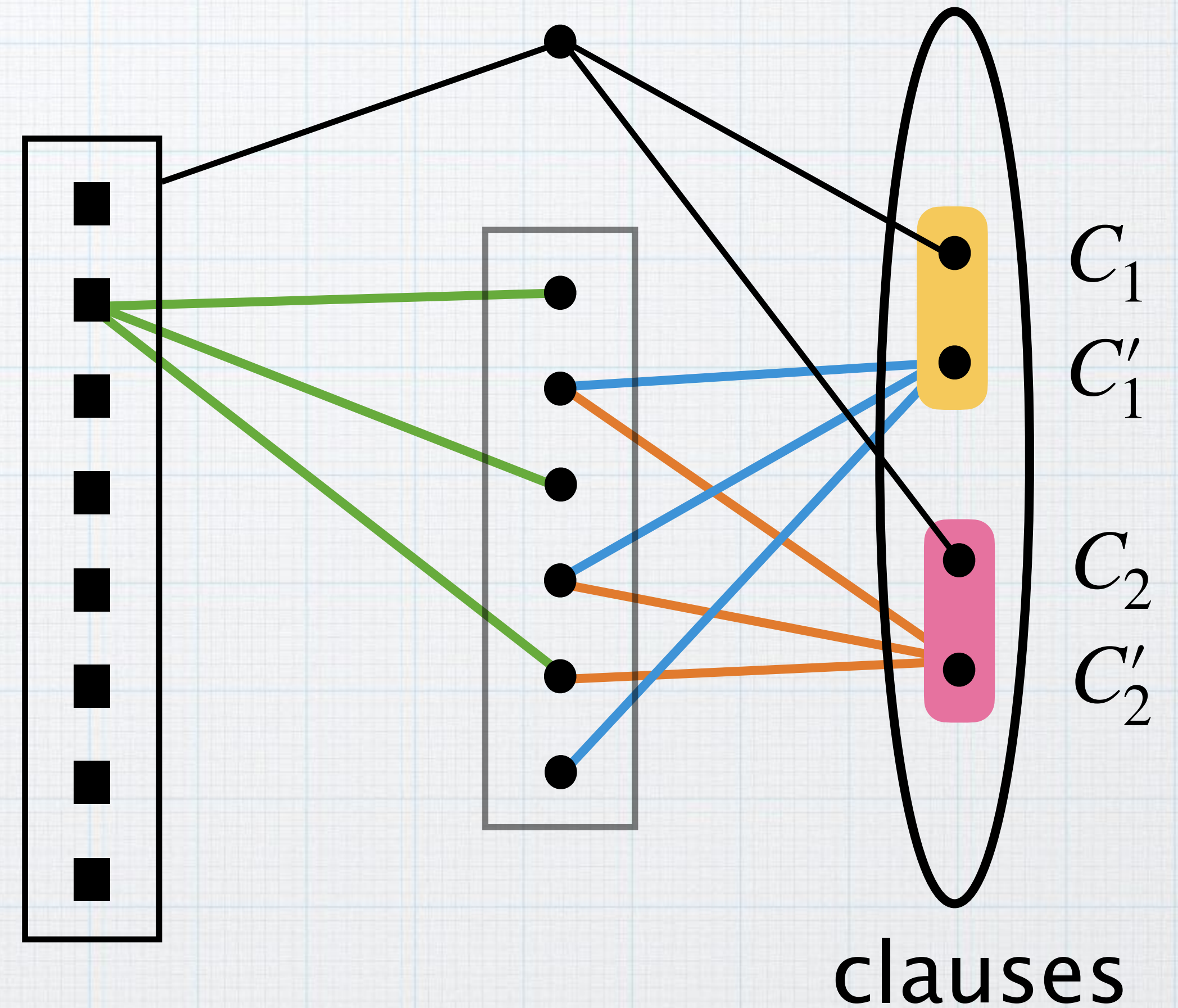
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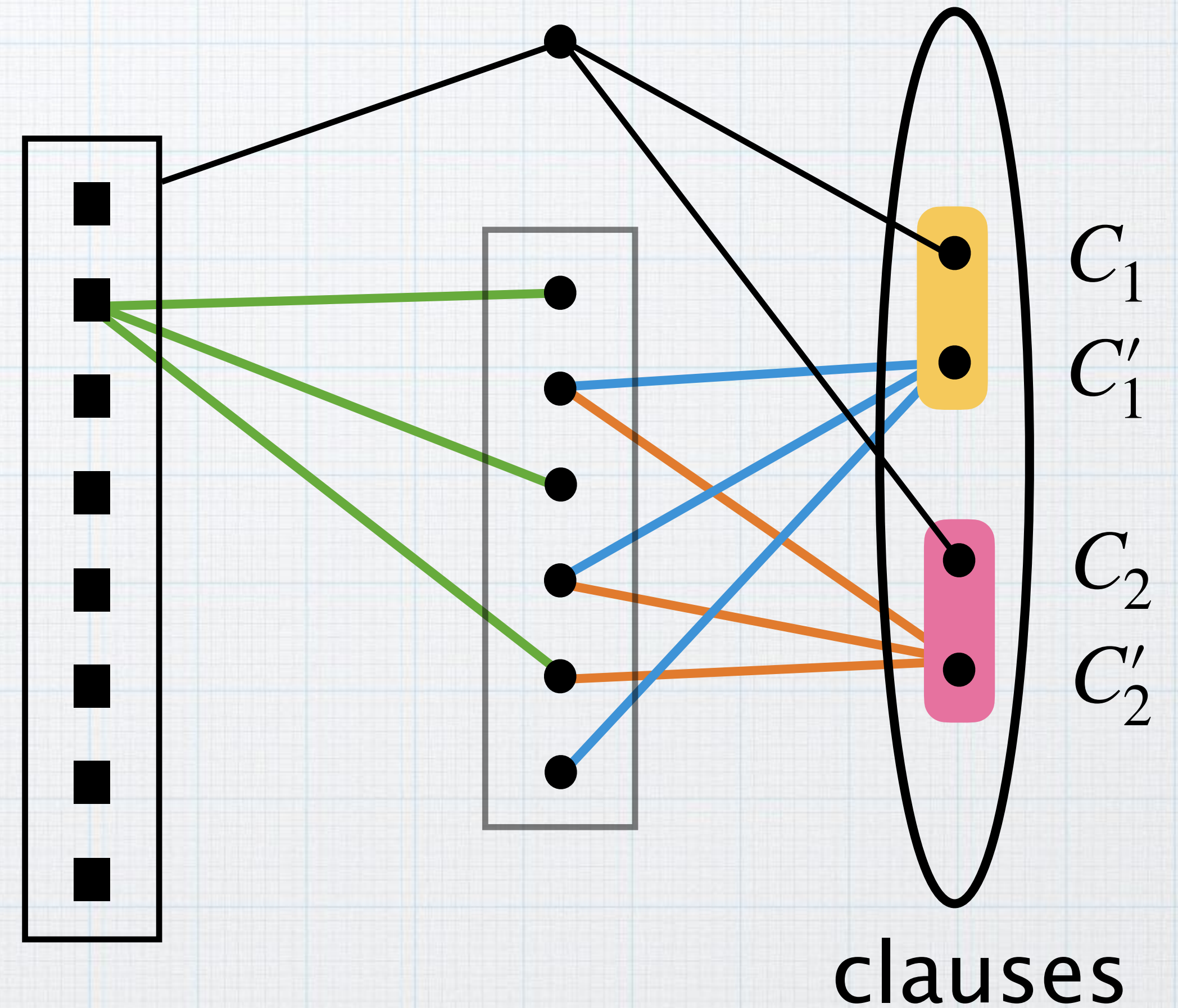
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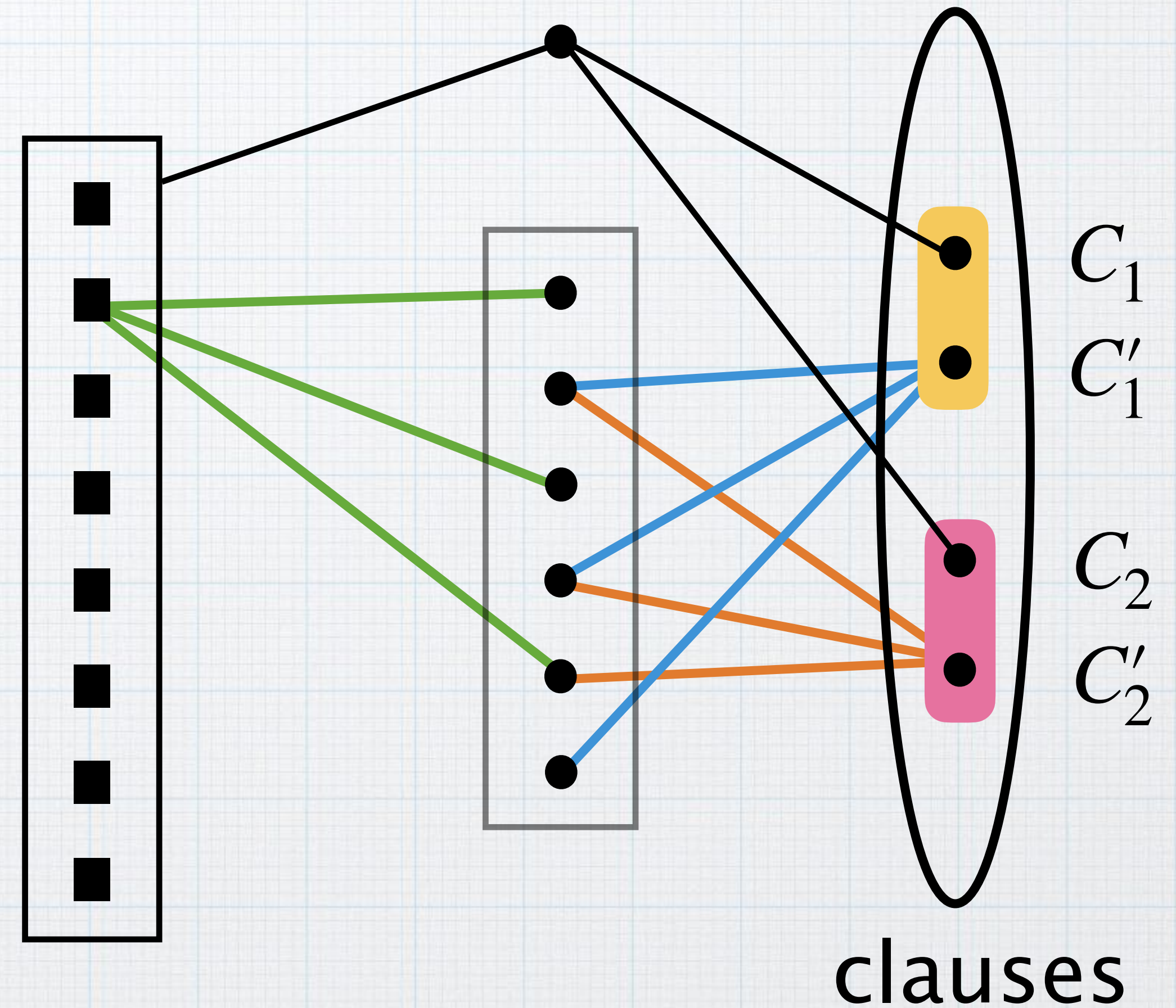
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$\Rightarrow vc(G) = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$



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Thm. **Metric Dimension** do not admit  $2^{o(\text{VC}^2)} \cdot n^{o(1)}$  algo unless the ETH fails.

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Thm. The **Metric Dimension** do not admit a kernel with  $2^{o(vc)}$  vertices unless the ETH fails.

Thm. **Metric Dimension** do not admit  $2^{o(vc^2)} \cdot n^{o(1)}$  algo unless the ETH fails.

Recall that 'free vertices' is a resolving set is at most  $vc$

Hence, kernel with  $2^{o(vc)}$  vertices will imply  $2^{o(vc^2)}$  algo.

Thm. The **Metric Dimension** do not admit a kernel with  $2^{o(vc)}$  vertices unless the ETH fails.

Any other (metric graph) NP-Complete problems that admit such lower bounds?

Thank you