

# Lecture 19 - P vs. NP - Search Problems

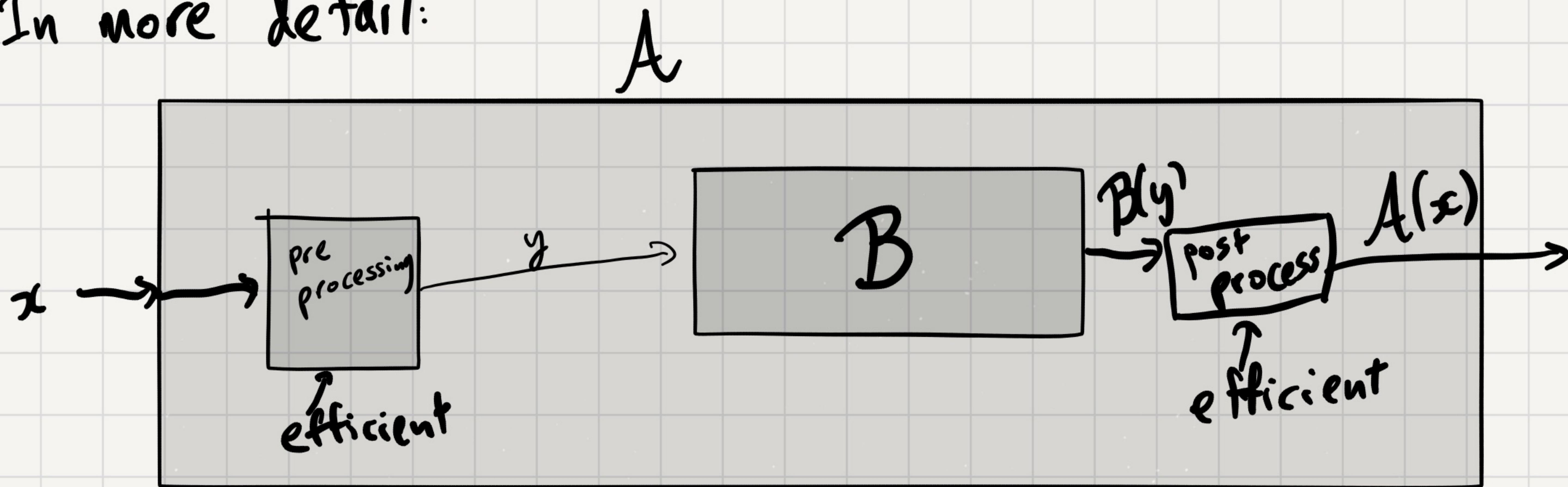
- Announcements:
- Project will be released this week.  
start figuring out project teams. (up to 3 per team)
  - New section: Mondays 2PM  
Annamira & Adnaan. } see Piazza for more details
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# Recap: Reductions

"a problem  $A$  reduces to a problem  $B$  if any subroutine to solve  $B$  can be used to solve  $A$ "

In more detail:



- ⊛ an efficient alg for  $B \Rightarrow$  an efficient alg for  $A$ .  $A \rightarrow B$
- A reduction = pre-processing + post-processing.
- ⊛  $\exists$  an efficient alg for  $B \Leftarrow \exists$  an efficient alg for  $A$ .  $A \leq B$

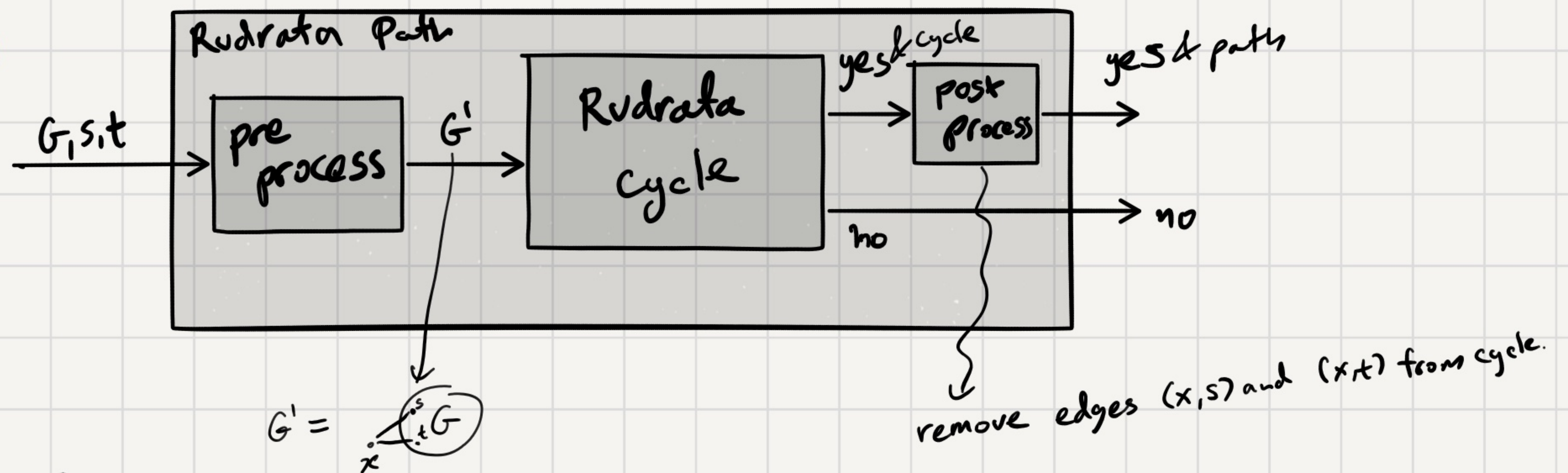


# Recap: Rudrata Cycle & Rudrata Path

Rudrata Cycle Problem: Given an undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$   
a.k.a Hamiltonian Cycle Is there a cycle that visit each vertex exactly once?

Rudrata st-path Problem: Given an undirected graph  $G=(V,E)$ , nodes  $s$  &  $t$ .  
Is there a path from  $s$  to  $t$  that visits each vertex exactly once?

**RudPath  $\leq$  RudCycle**



To prove correctness:

$G$  has an st-Rudrata Path  $\Rightarrow G'$  has a Rudrata Cycle

$G$  has no st-Rudrata Path  $\Rightarrow G'$  has no Rudrata Cycle

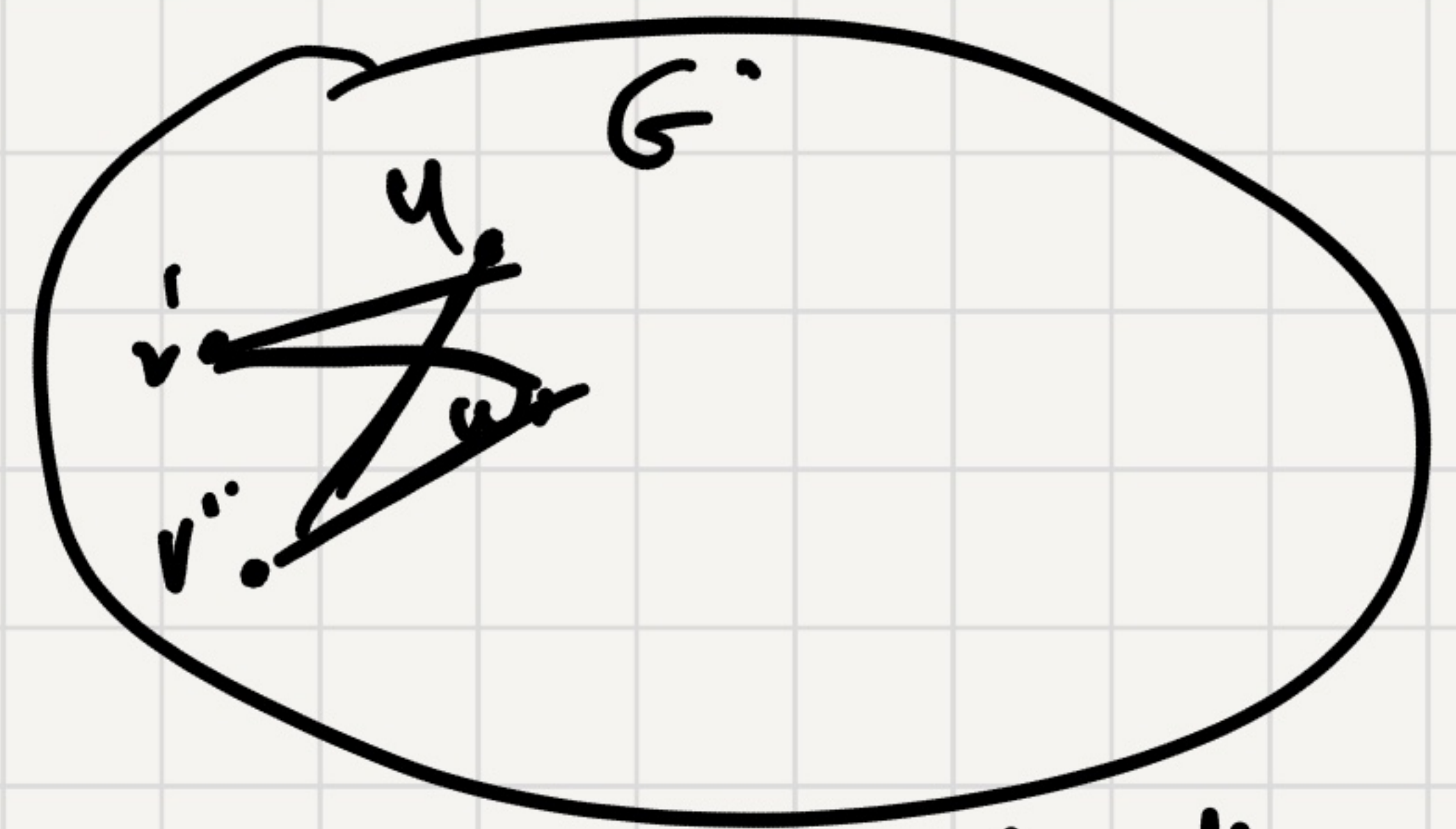
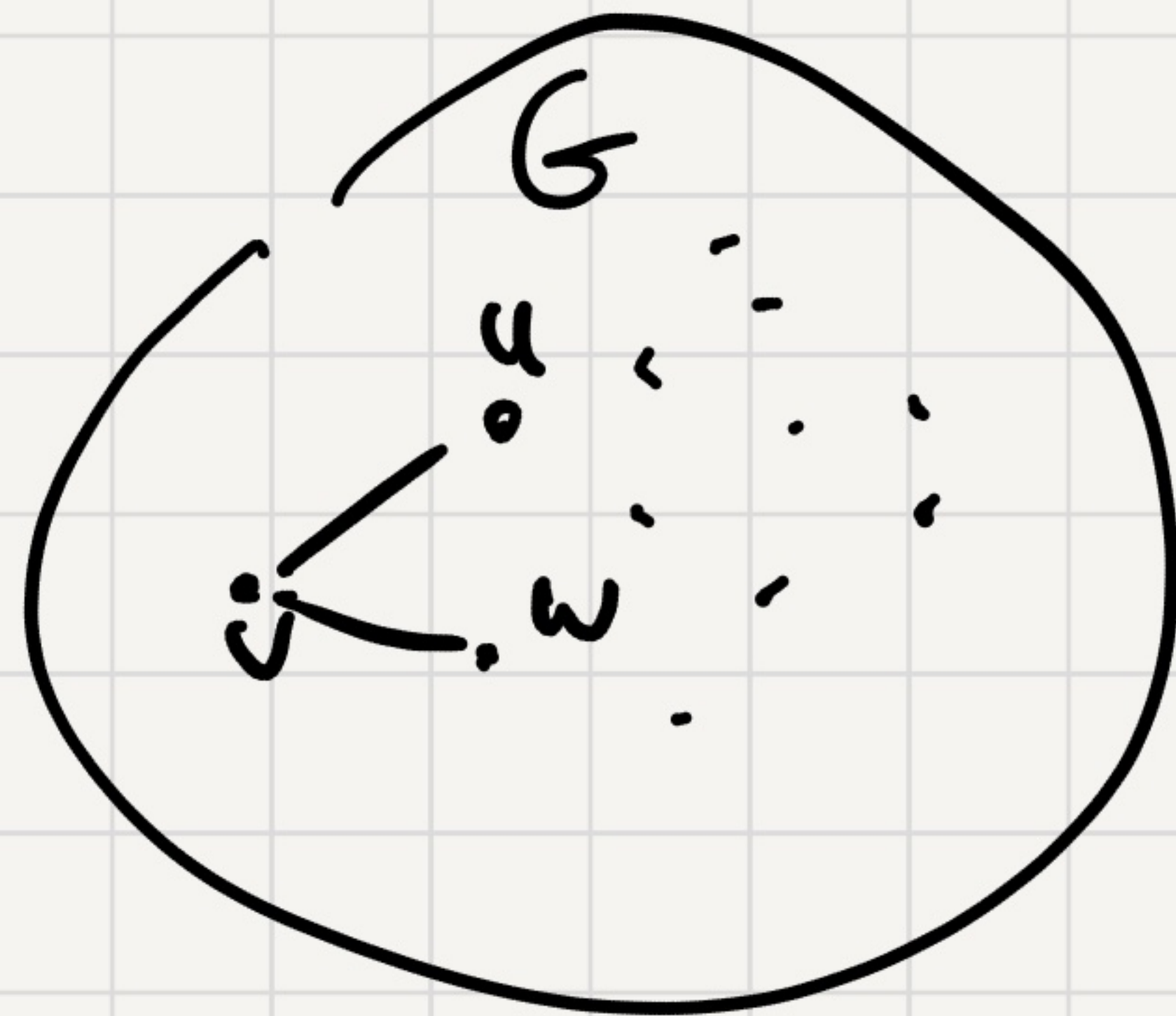


Exercise from last time

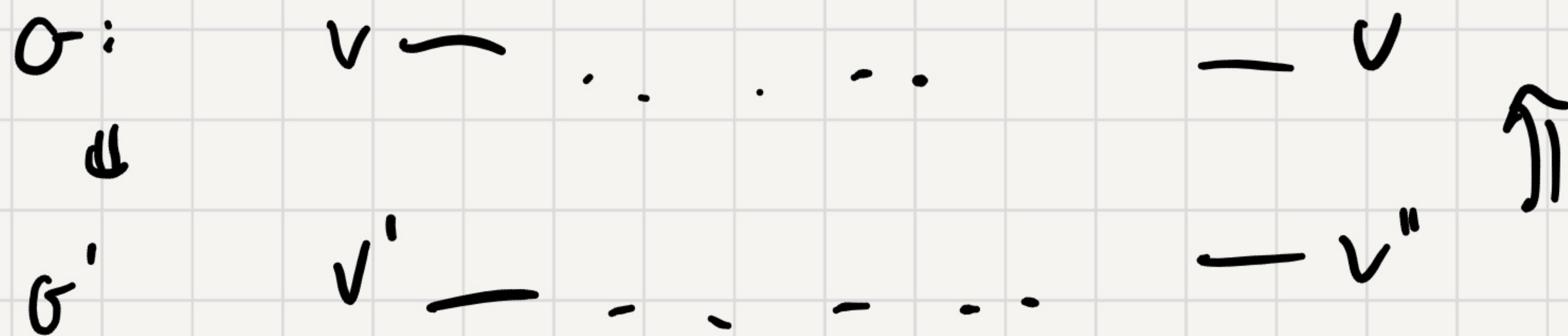
RedCycle  $\leq$  RedPath?

Given  $G$

Pick some vertex  $v \Rightarrow$  duplicate it  $v', v''$   
and both  $v', v''$  have same neighbors as  $v$



Claim:  $G$  has RedCycle  $\Leftrightarrow G'$  has a RedPath from  $v'$  to  $v''$ .





# Search, Decision & Optimization Problems

So far we talked mainly about optimization problems.

- For Example:
1. Find shortest path from  $s$  to  $t$ .
  2. Find Best prefix-free Encoding.
  3. Find Maximum Flow.

## Search Problems:

- Examples
1. Given  $G, s, t$  & Budget  $B$ , find a path of length  $\leq B$  from  $s$  to  $t$  (if one exists)
  2. Given  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  & Budget  $B$ , find a prefix-free tree of cost  $\leq B$  (if one exists)
  3. Given  $G$  find a Rudrata Cycle (if one exists)

## Decision Problems:

Given  $G, s, t$  & Budget  $B$ , is there a path of length  $\leq B$  from  $s$  to  $t$ ?







observe: If  $R$  is "efficiently verifiable" then  
Decide( $R$ ) can be solved  $2^{\text{poly}(|x|)}$  time.

Proof: Given  $x$ :

1. For every possible  $y \in \{0, 1\}^{\text{poly}(|x|)}$ :  
check whether  $(x, y) \in R$ . (poly-time).  
    ↙ yes  
    accept      ↘ no  
                  continue.
2. Reject.

$2^{\text{poly}(|x|)} \cdot \text{poly}(|x|)$  time.



# P, NP

$P = \{ L(R) \text{ s.t. Decide}(R) \text{ can be solved efficiently} \}$

$NP = \{ L(R) \text{ s.t. } R \text{ is efficiently verifiable} \}$   
↑  
non-deterministic

$R = \{ (\underbrace{(G, s, t, B)}_x, \underbrace{P}_y) : P \text{ is a path from } s \text{ to } t \text{ with length } \leq B \}$

Decide(R) efficiently? Yes, Dijkstra  $L(R) \in P$ .

$R = \{ (G, C) : C \text{ is a Rudrata Cycle in } G \}$

$L(R) \in NP$

$L(R) \notin P$ .

$P \subseteq NP$ .

$L \quad R_L = \{ (x, 1) : x \in L \}$



Does  $P = NP$ ?



# NP Completeness

Def: A problem  $A$  is NP-Hard if  $\forall B \in NP$   
 $B \rightarrow A$ . ( $B \leq A$ )

Def: A problem  $A$  is NP-complete if  $A$  is NP-hard  
 &  $A \in NP$

There exist NP-complete problems!

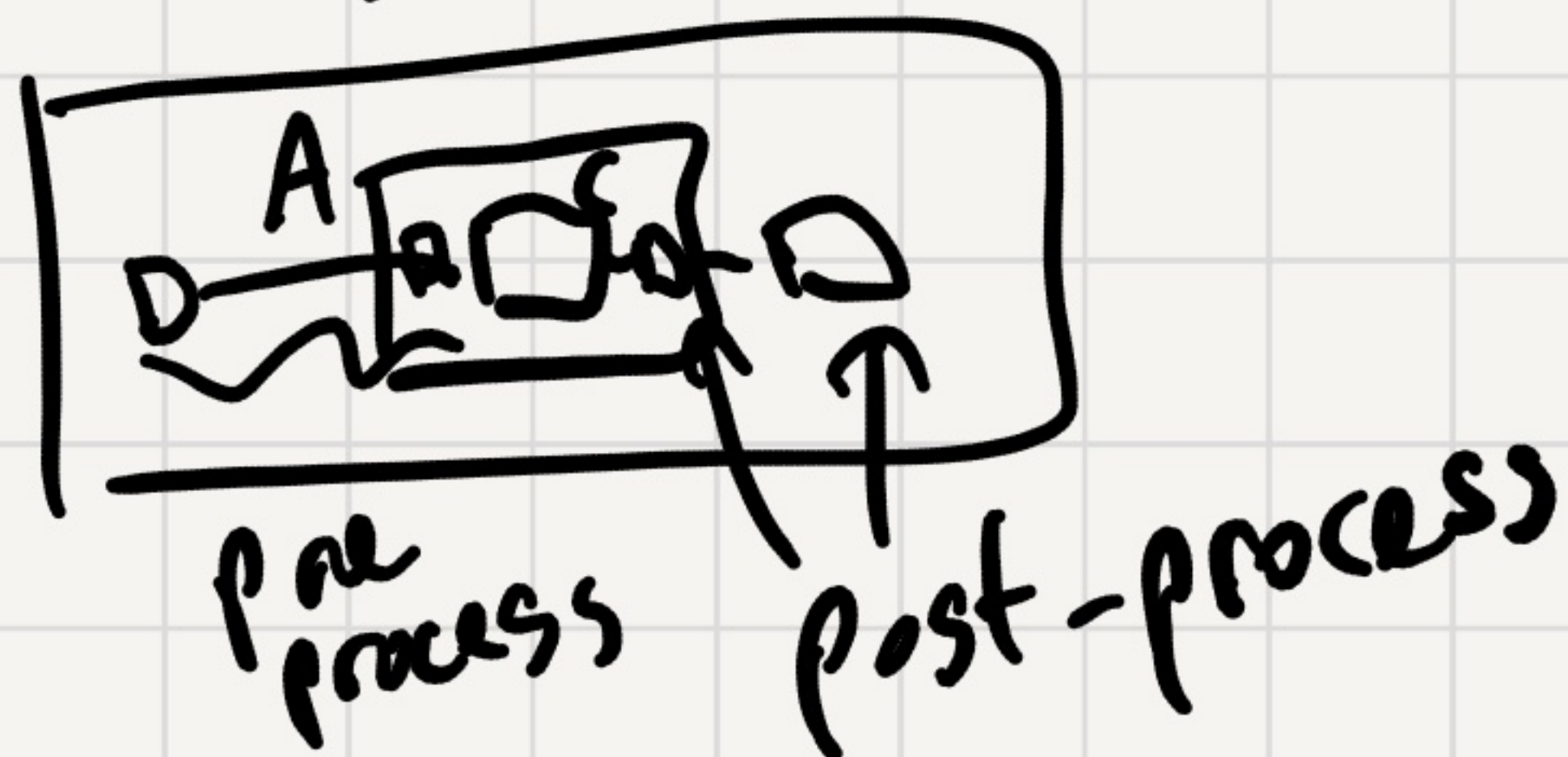
$B \rightarrow A$  is NPC }  $C$  is NPC.

$A \rightarrow C$

$C$  is in NP

$B \rightarrow A \rightarrow C$

$\Downarrow$   
 $B \rightarrow C$





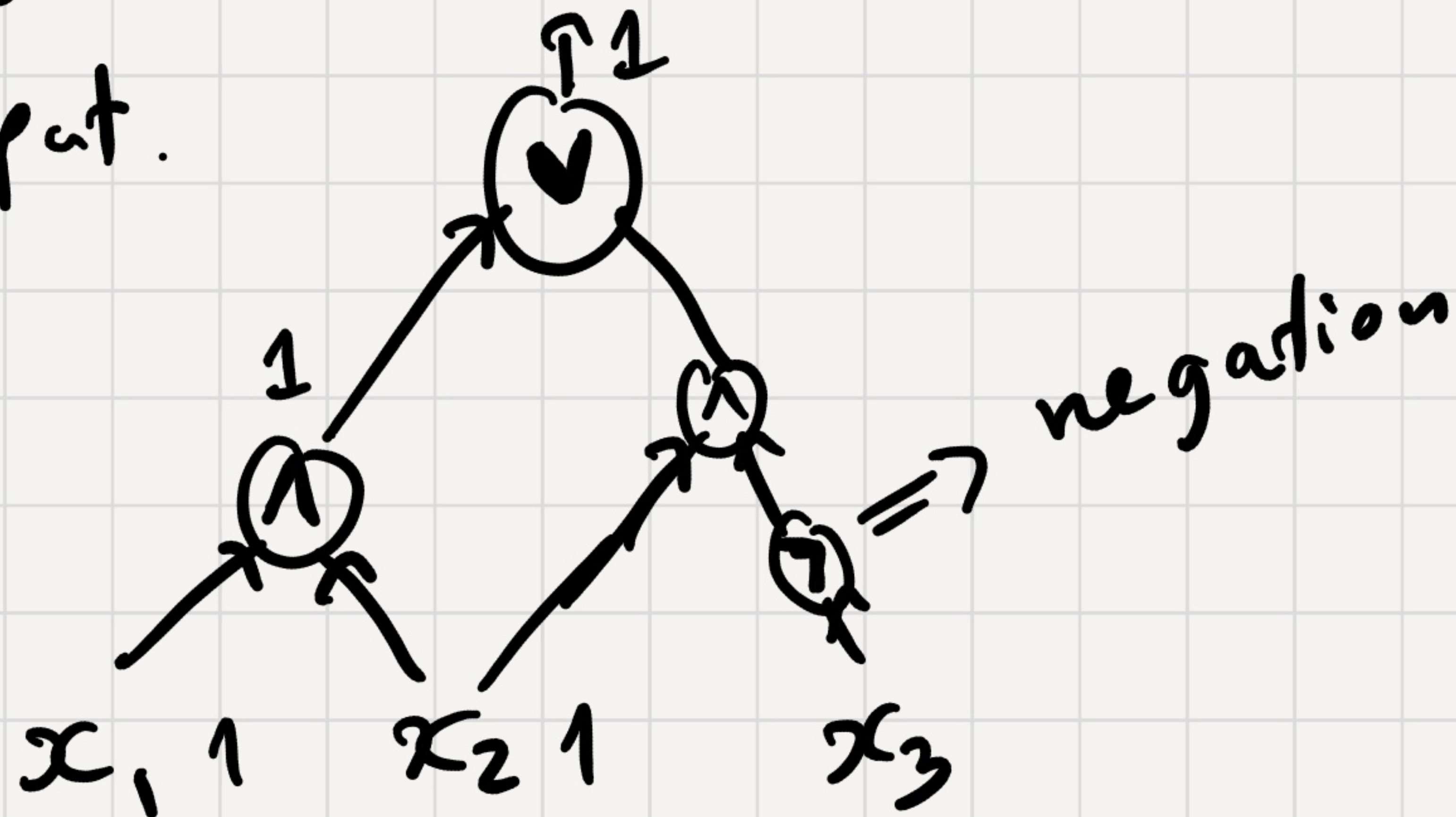
$$B \leq A \leq C$$

$$\Rightarrow B \leq C.$$



Def'n: A circuit is a directed acyclic graph with input nodes marked by  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  & gates: OR gate, AND gate, NOT gate. 1 output.

Example:



size = # of gates

Def'n: CSAT (circuit satisfiability) Given circuit  $C$  on inputs  $y_1, \dots, y_m$

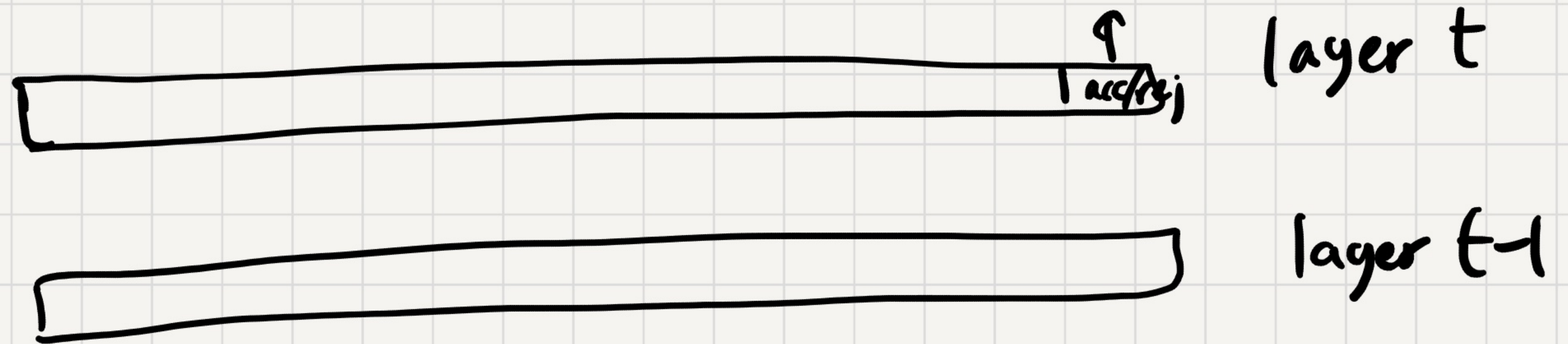
Decide whether  $\exists y \in \{0,1\}^m$  s.t.  $C(y) = 1$ .



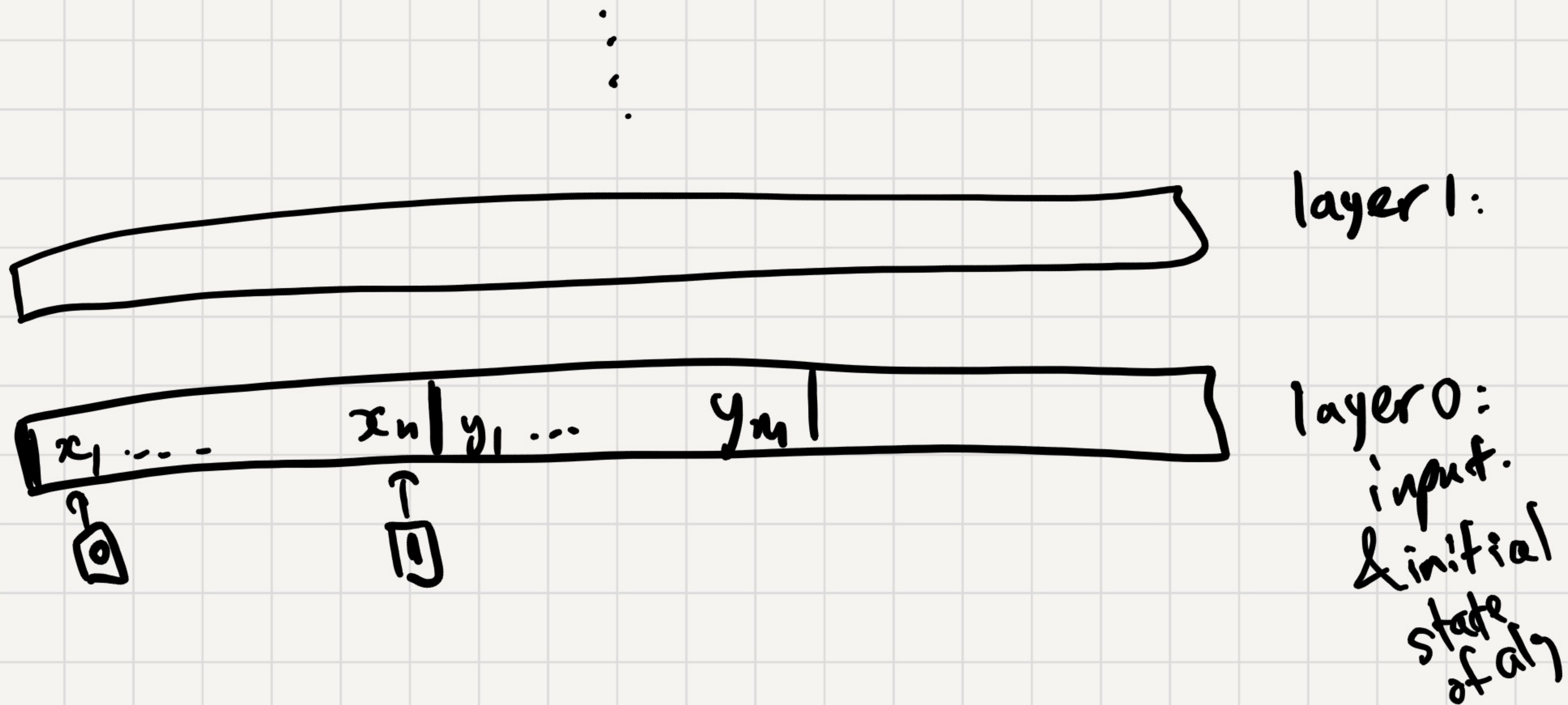
"Claim": Suppose algorithm  $A$  runs on inputs of length  $n$  in time  $\leq t$ .

Then, there exists a circuit of size  $O(t^2 \cdot n)$  that "simulates"  $A$ .

Idea:



layer  $i$  →  
state of memory & registers after  $i$  steps

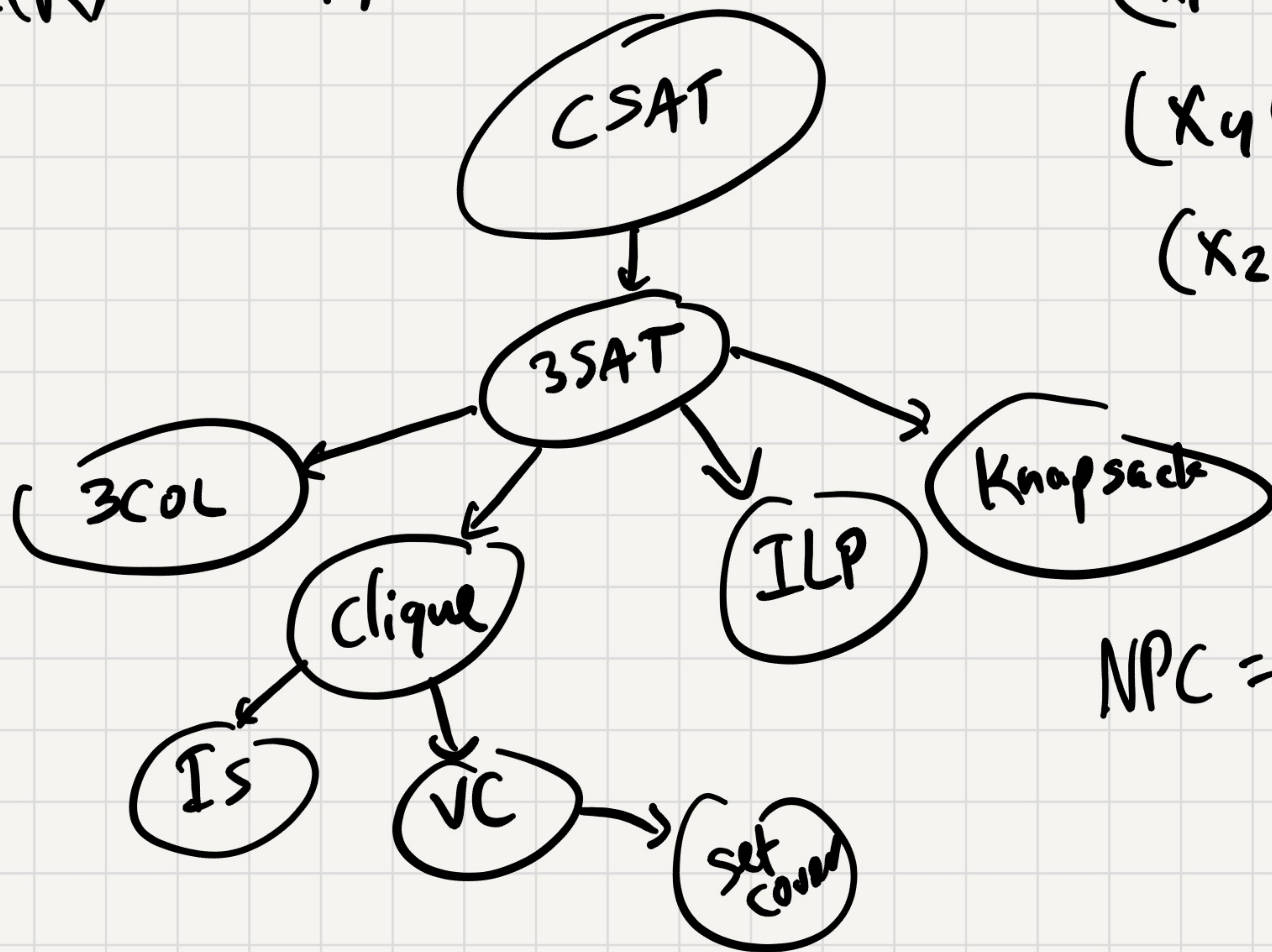




CSAT NPC

$$R = \{(C, y) : C(y) = 1\}$$

$$L(R) = \text{CSAT.}$$



$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge$$
$$(x_4 \vee x_5 \vee x_7) \wedge$$
$$(x_2 \vee \bar{x}_5 \vee \bar{x}_8) \wedge$$

?

$$\text{NPC} = \underbrace{\text{NPH}} + \text{NP.}$$