

# Reduction from SAT to IND-SET

$$\text{SAT} \leq \text{IND-SET}$$

This will prove that IND-SET is NP-hard.

IND-SET: Given a graph  $G$  and number  $k$ , does  $G$  have an independent set of size  $k$ ?

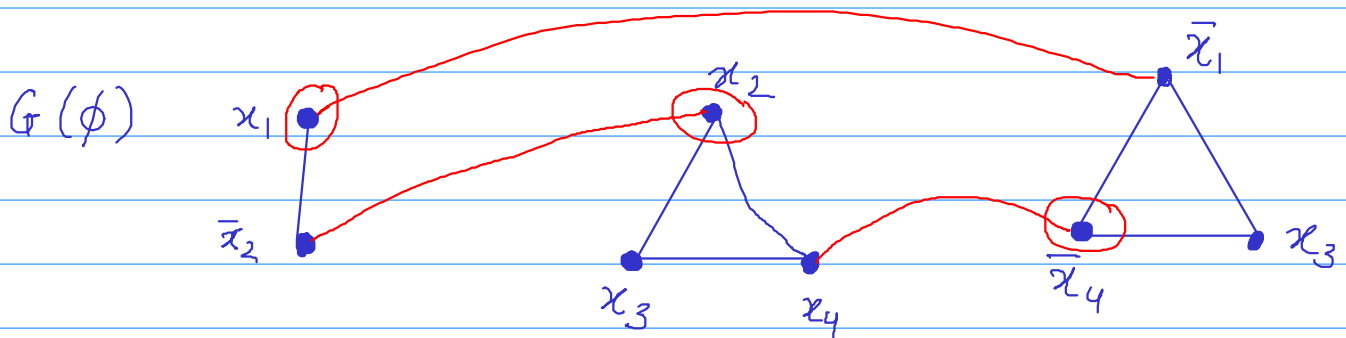
**Reduction:** Boolean formula  $\phi \longrightarrow$  Graph  $G(\phi)$ , number  $k(\phi)$

such that  $\phi$  is satisfiable  
if and only if  
 $G(\phi)$  has an independent set of size  $k(\phi)$

Without loss of generality, we will assume that  $\phi$  is in conjunctive normal form (CNF)

AND of OR clauses

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_3 \vee \bar{x}_4)$$



$$k = 3$$

$$x_1 = T \quad x_2 = T \quad x_4 = F \\ x_3 = T/F$$

## Construction of $G(\phi)$

1. for each clause with  $p$  literals, create a complete graph with  $p$  vertices, with the literals as labels.
2. For any two vertices labeled  $x_i$  and  $\bar{x}_i$ , connect them with an edge.

$k(\phi) =$  number of clauses

Claim:  $\phi$  is satisfiable

if and only if

$G(\phi)$  has an independent set of size  $k(\phi)$

Proof: ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Say  $\phi$  is satisfiable with some assignment  
 $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \{\text{True}, \text{False}\}$

Each clause must have at least one literal set to True.

$\rightarrow$  Take the corresponding vertex from each clause graph.

This set is an **independent set** because the edges across different clauses are of the kind  $(x_i, \bar{x}_i)$  and both  $x_i, \bar{x}_i$  could not have been true.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Say there is an independent set  $S$  in  $G(\phi)$  with size  $k(\phi)$ .

$S$  must have **exactly one** vertex from each clause graph.

Set the corresponding literals to true.

There is no problem because an independent set cannot have both  $x_i$  and  $\bar{x}_i$ .

It gives us a satisfying assignment.

## HW

1. IND-SET  $\leq$  Vertex Cover

2. Vertex Cover  $\leq$  Feedback vertex set