## "Root and community inference on the Latent growth process of a network" Authors: Harry Crane, Min Xu

nilavam.github.io nilava.metya@rutgers.edu

> Department of Mathematics Rutgers University

### Nilava Metya





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# The real world problems



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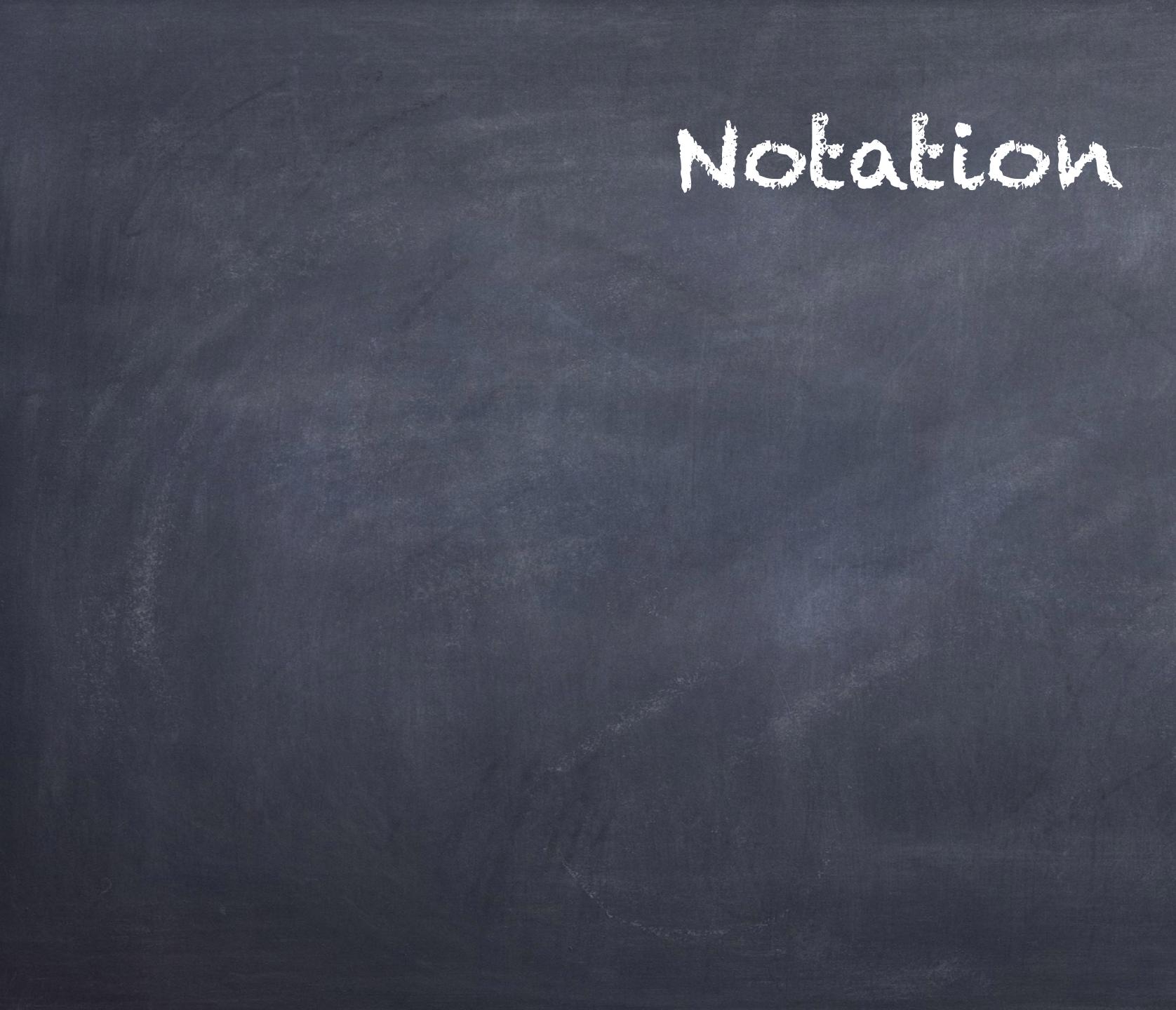
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through social networks.

We will only observe the structure of spreading after the spreading has been done. Want to find the source.

# The real world problems

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## • All graphs are undirected. Standard: g = (V, E), V = V(g), E = E(g).



Capital Letters <-> Random objects
 Lowercase Letters <-> Fixed objects

NORCECTA

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Given  $T_{t-1}$ , add a node labelled t and a random edge  $(t, w_t)$  to get  $T_t$  where  $w_t$  is

# Examples for $APA(\alpha, \beta)$

APA(1,0) gives the probability  $\frac{1}{t-1}$ . So a neighbor is chosen uniformly from  $V(T_{t-1})$ . <sup>©</sup> APA(0,1) gives the probability  $\frac{D_{T_{t-1}}(w_t)}{2(t-2)}$ . So a neighbor is chosen with probability proportional to its degree.

# Examples for $APA(\alpha, \beta)$

## $PAPER(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$

PAPER = Preferential Attachment Plus Erdös-Rényi

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We say that a random graph  $G_n$  is distributed accordion to  $PAPER(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$  if  $G_n = T_n + R_n$  if  $T_n \sim APA(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $R_n \sim Erdös - Rényi(\theta)$ .

 $PAPER(\alpha, \beta, \theta)$ 



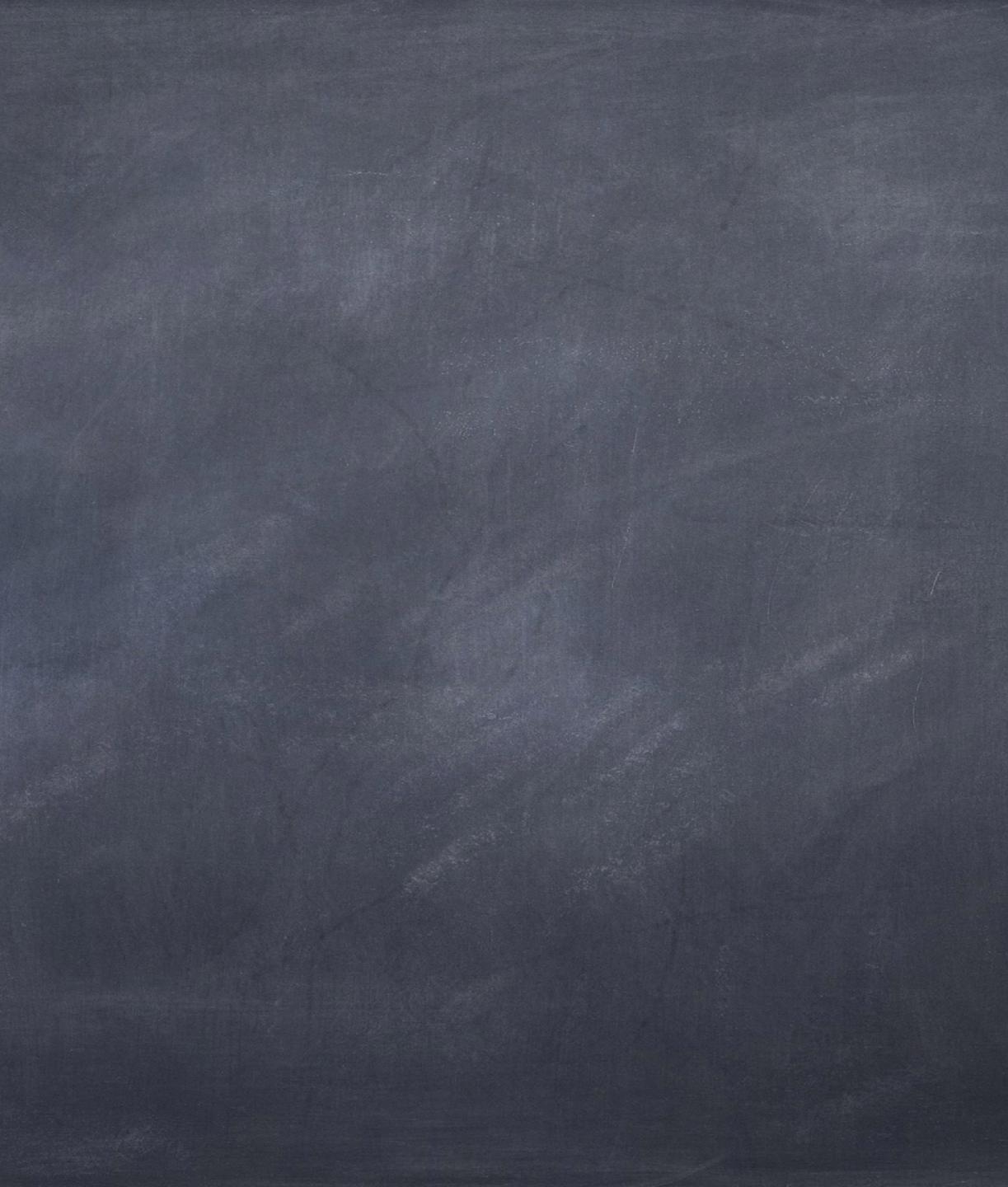
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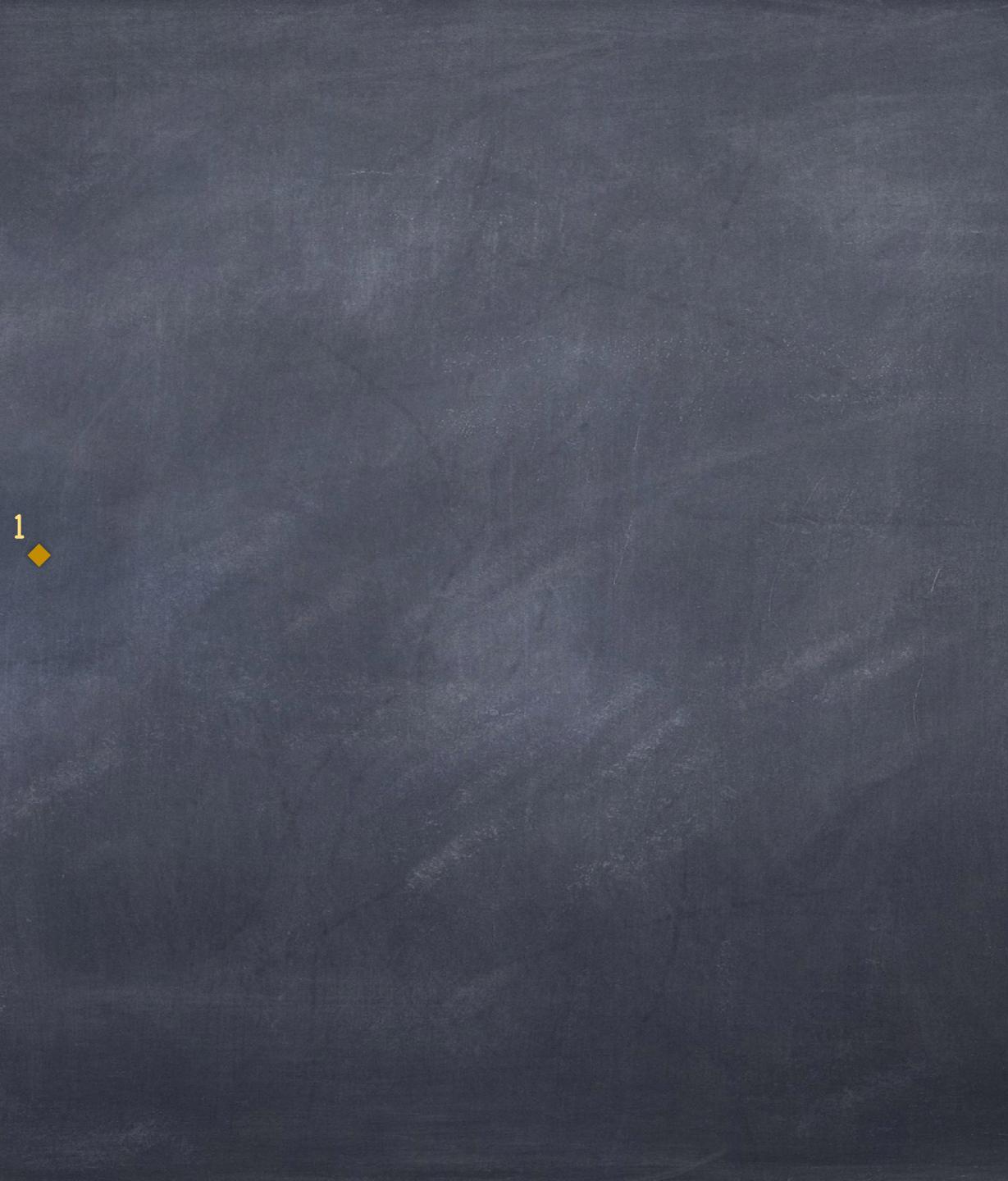
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Will drop subscript

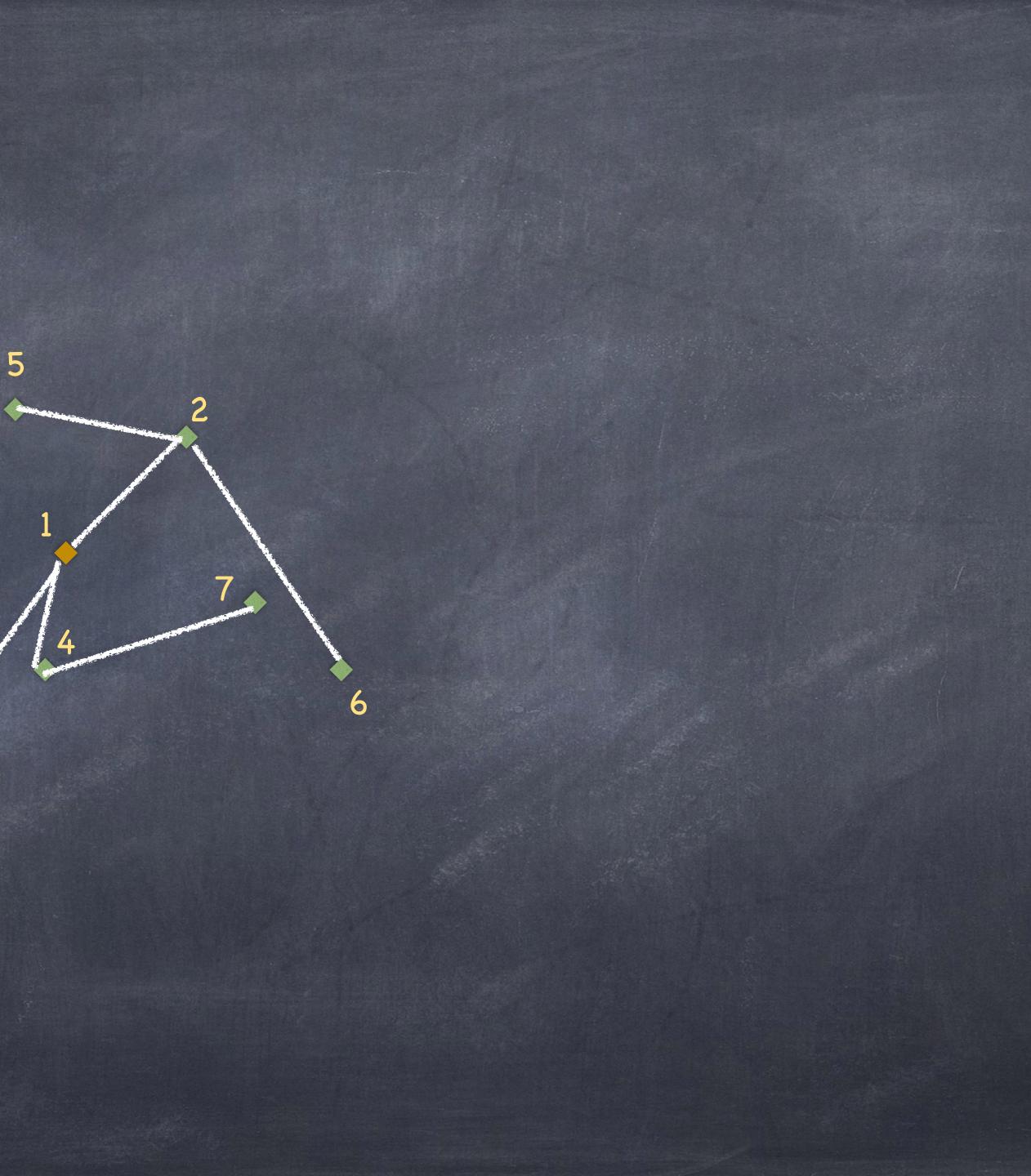
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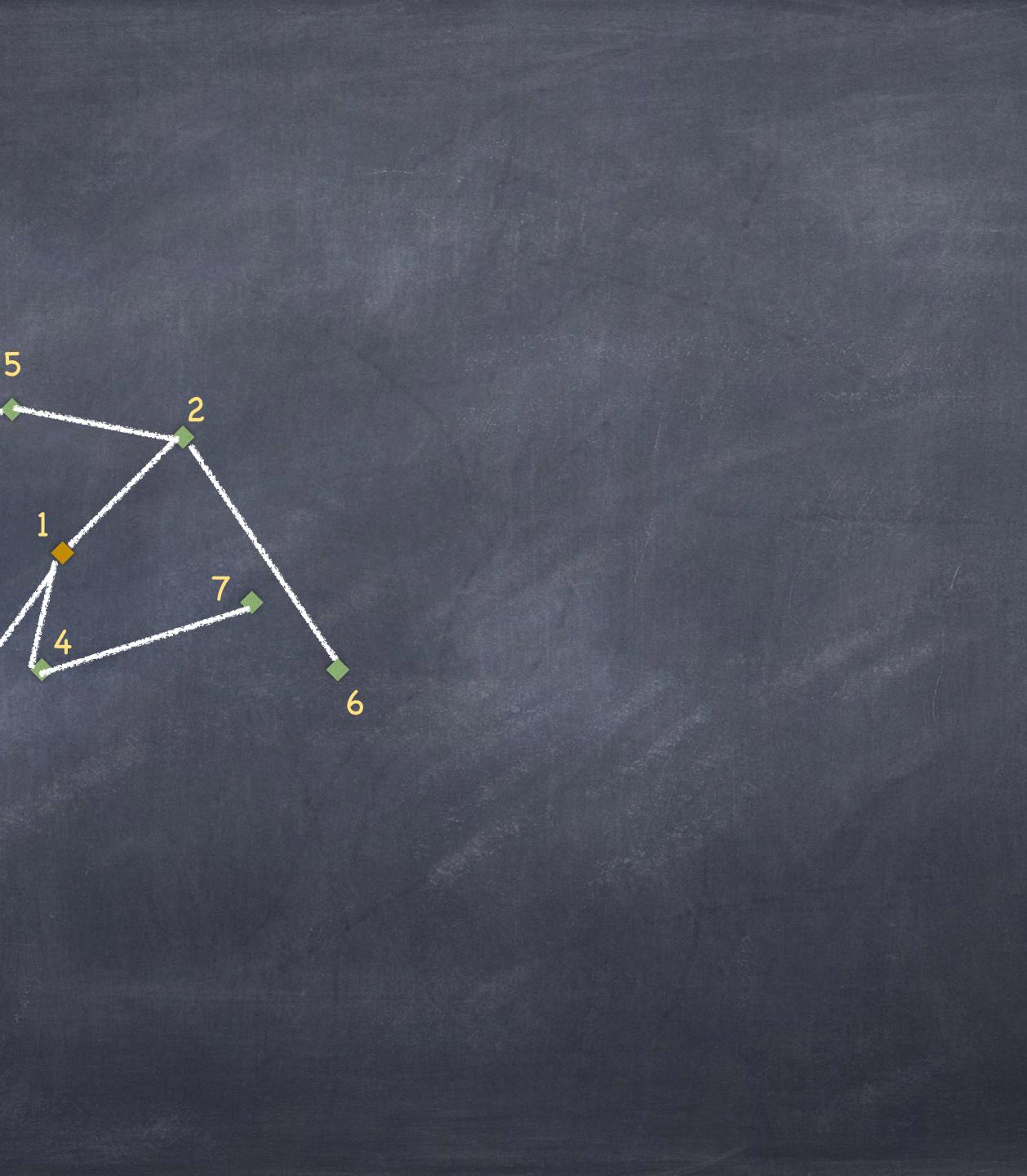


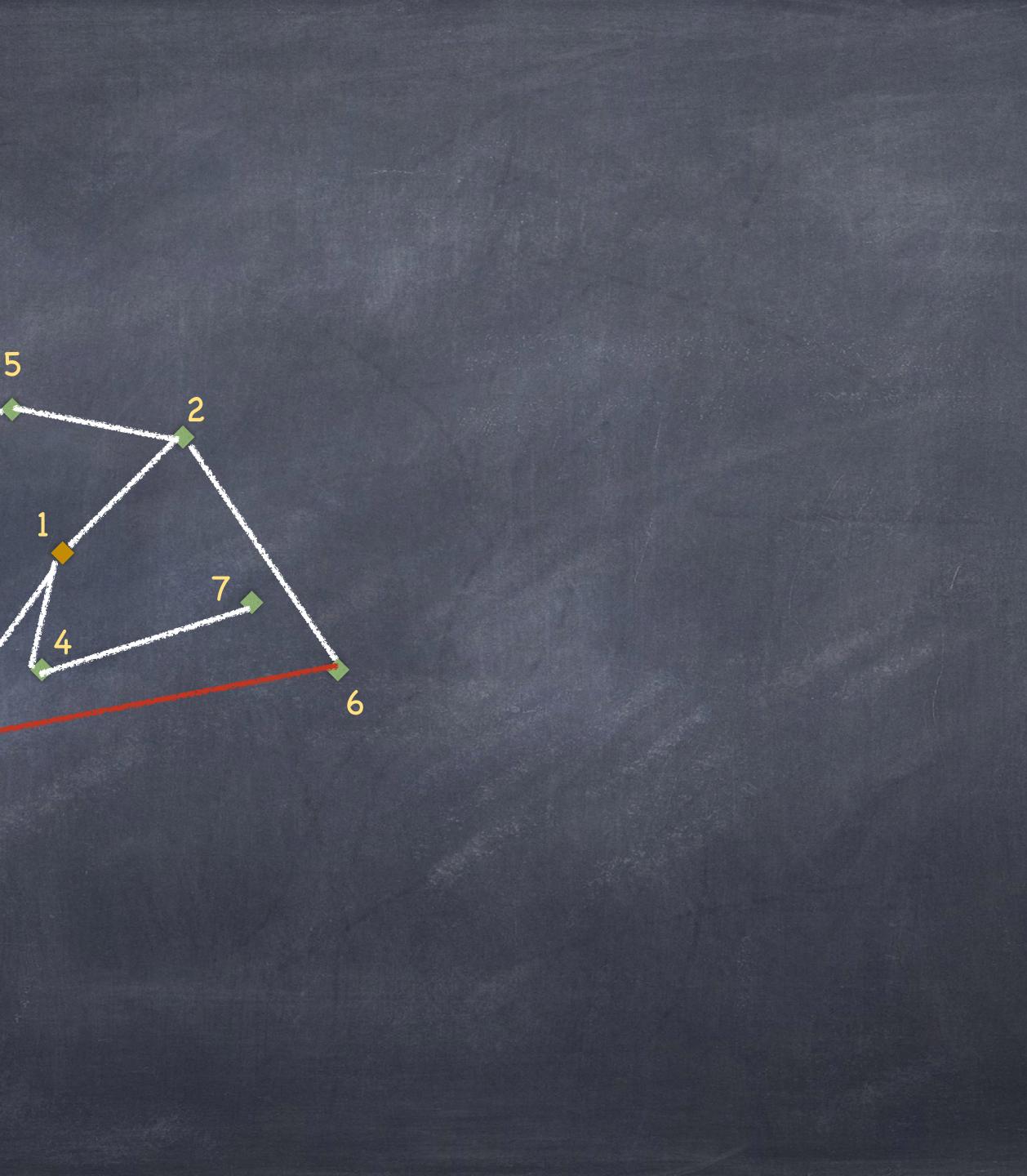


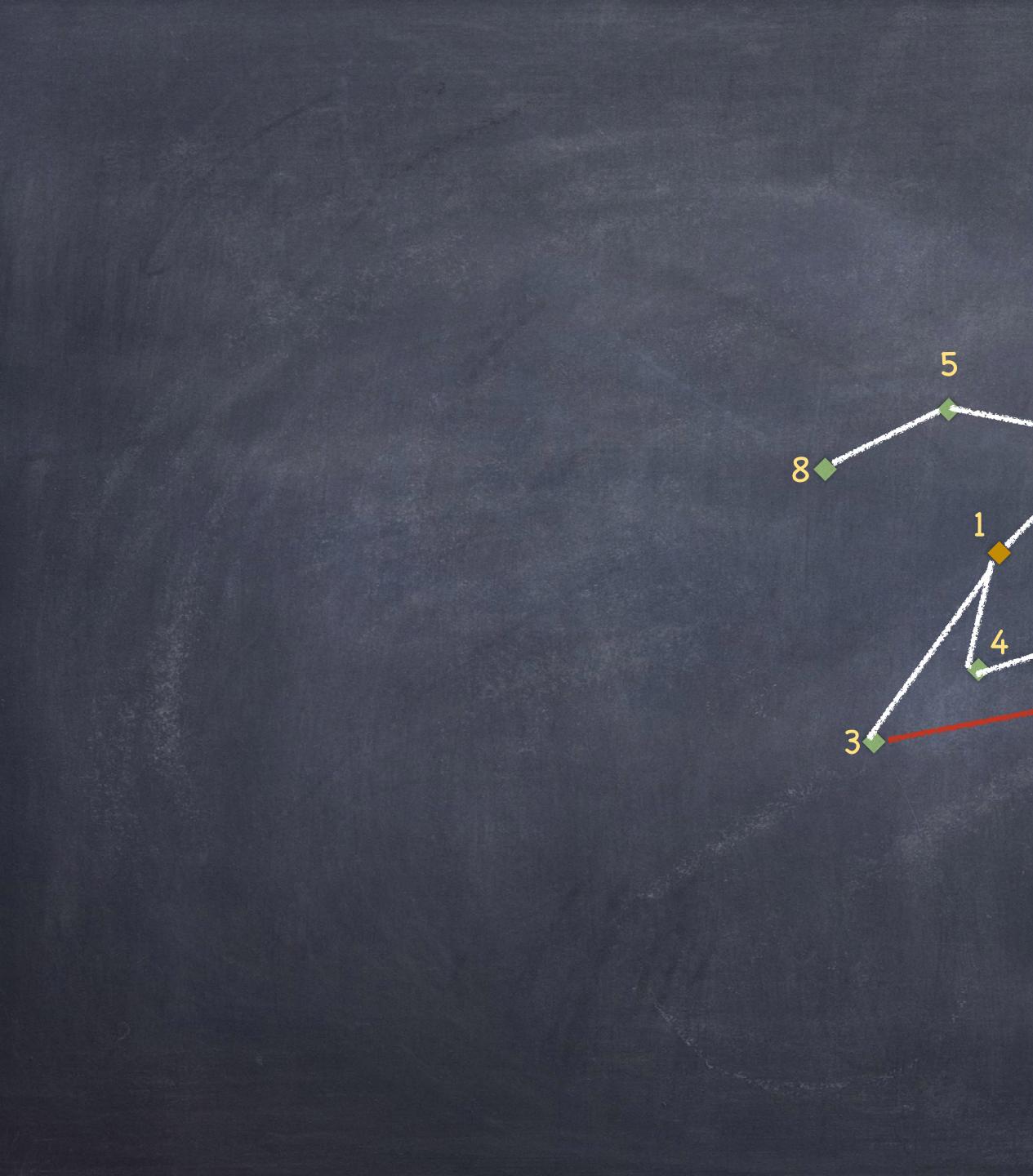




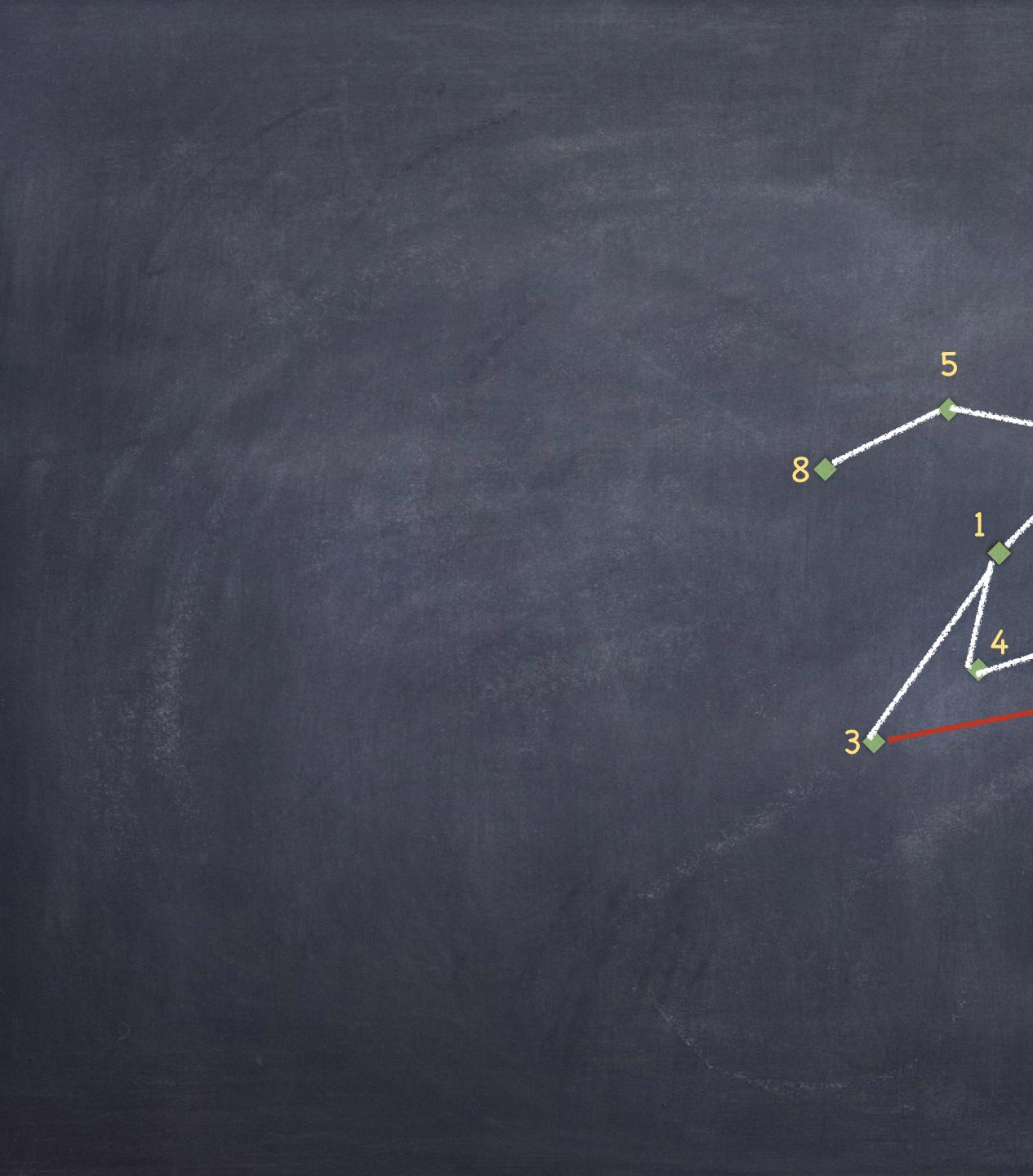




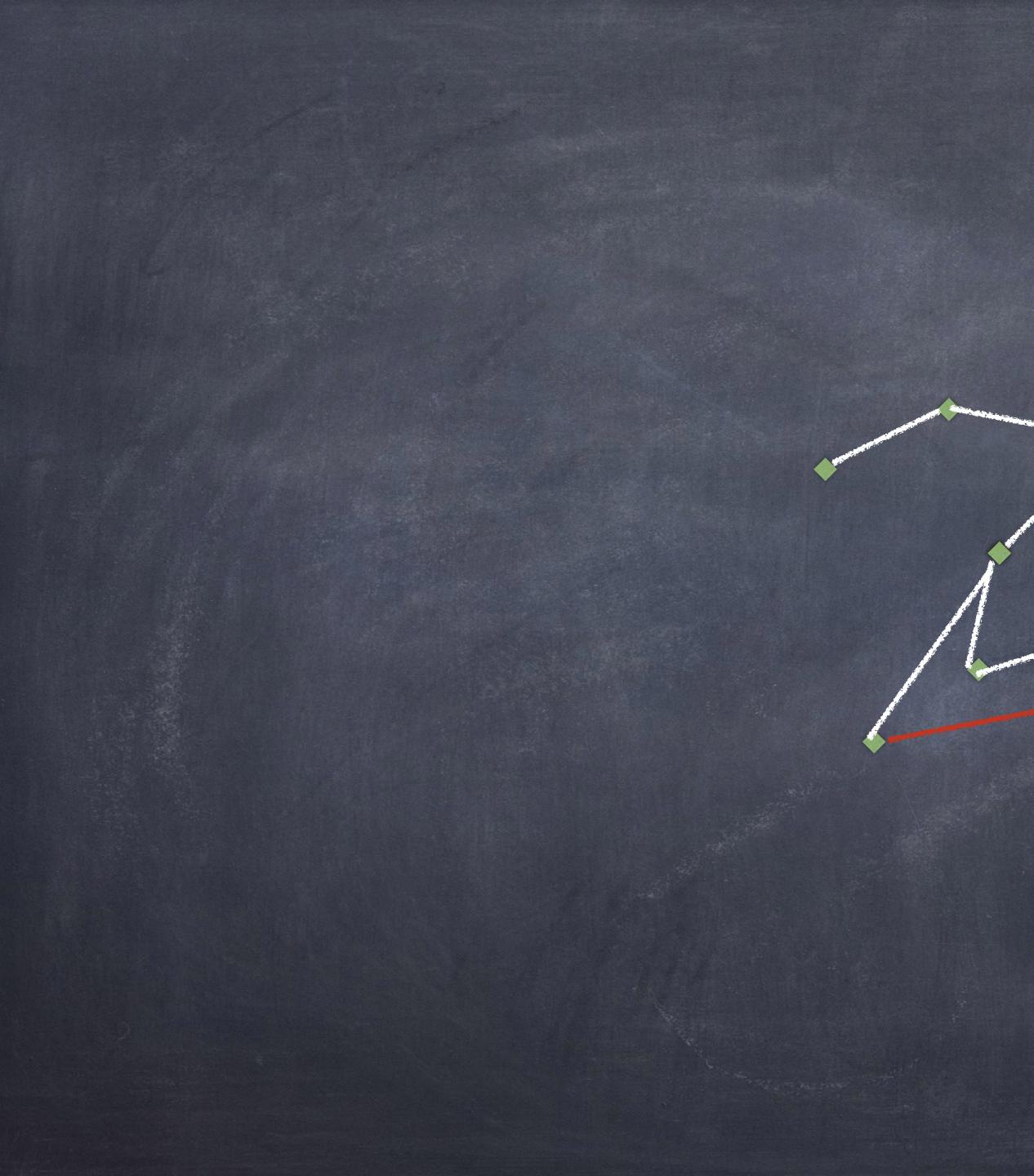




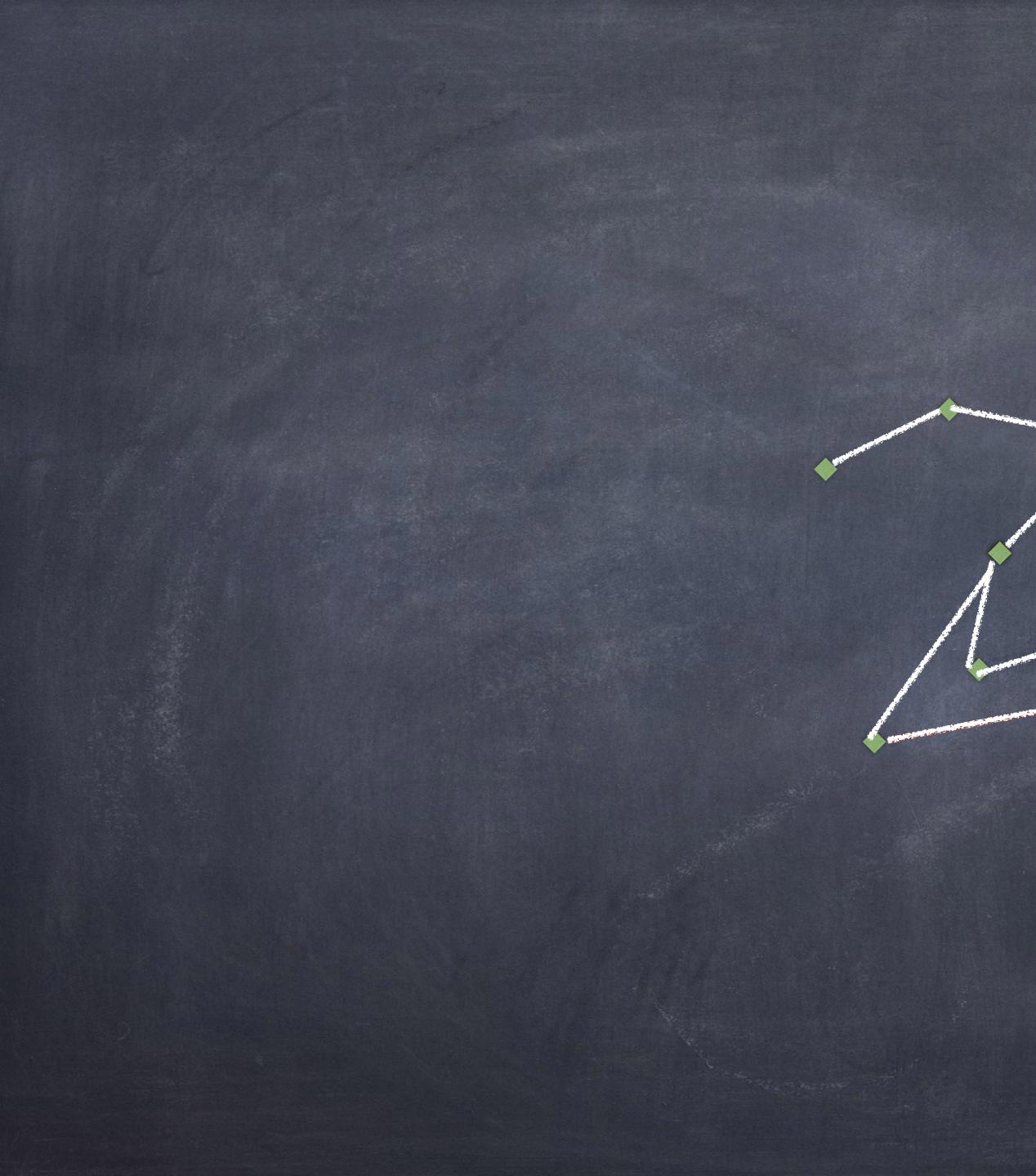






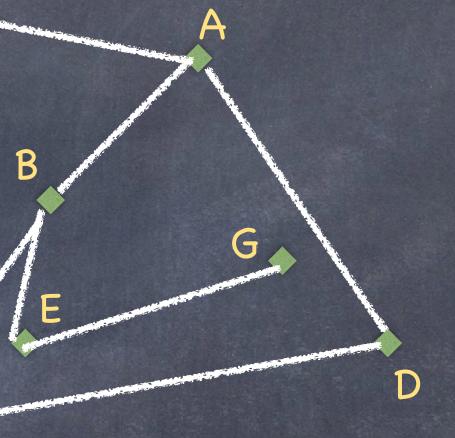


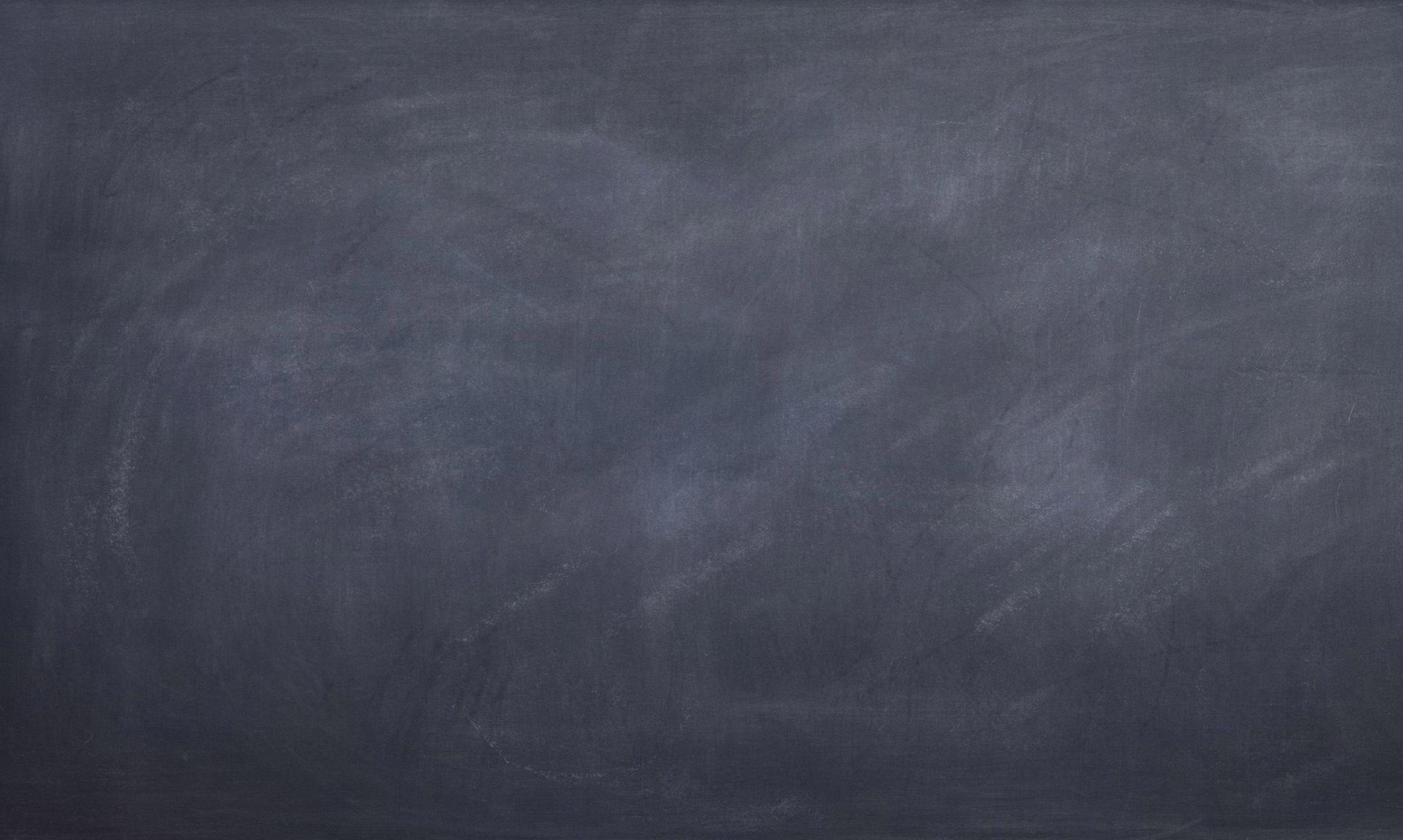






## To tackle the problem, label ourselves





# The problem: Given such an observed network, tell me about the root.

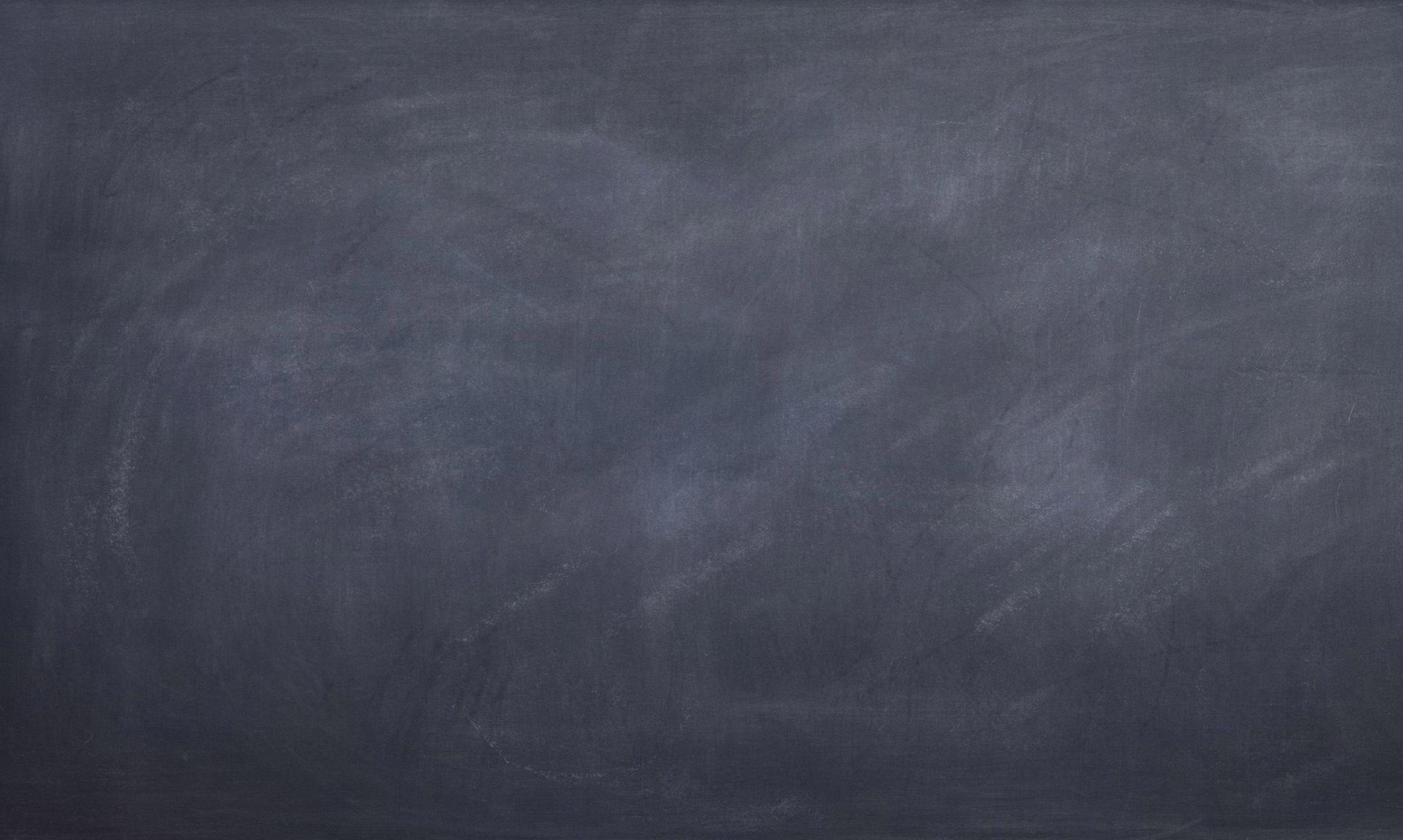
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@ More concretely: Give me a set of vertices  $C(G^*) \subseteq V(G^*)$  such that  $\mathbb{P}(\bullet \in C(G^*)) \geq 95\%$ .



## @ So our goal now: Given $\epsilon \in (0,1)$ , find $C_{\epsilon} \subseteq V = \{A, B, \dots\}$ such that $\mathbb{P}(\bullet \in C_{\epsilon}(G^*)) \ge 1 - \epsilon$ .

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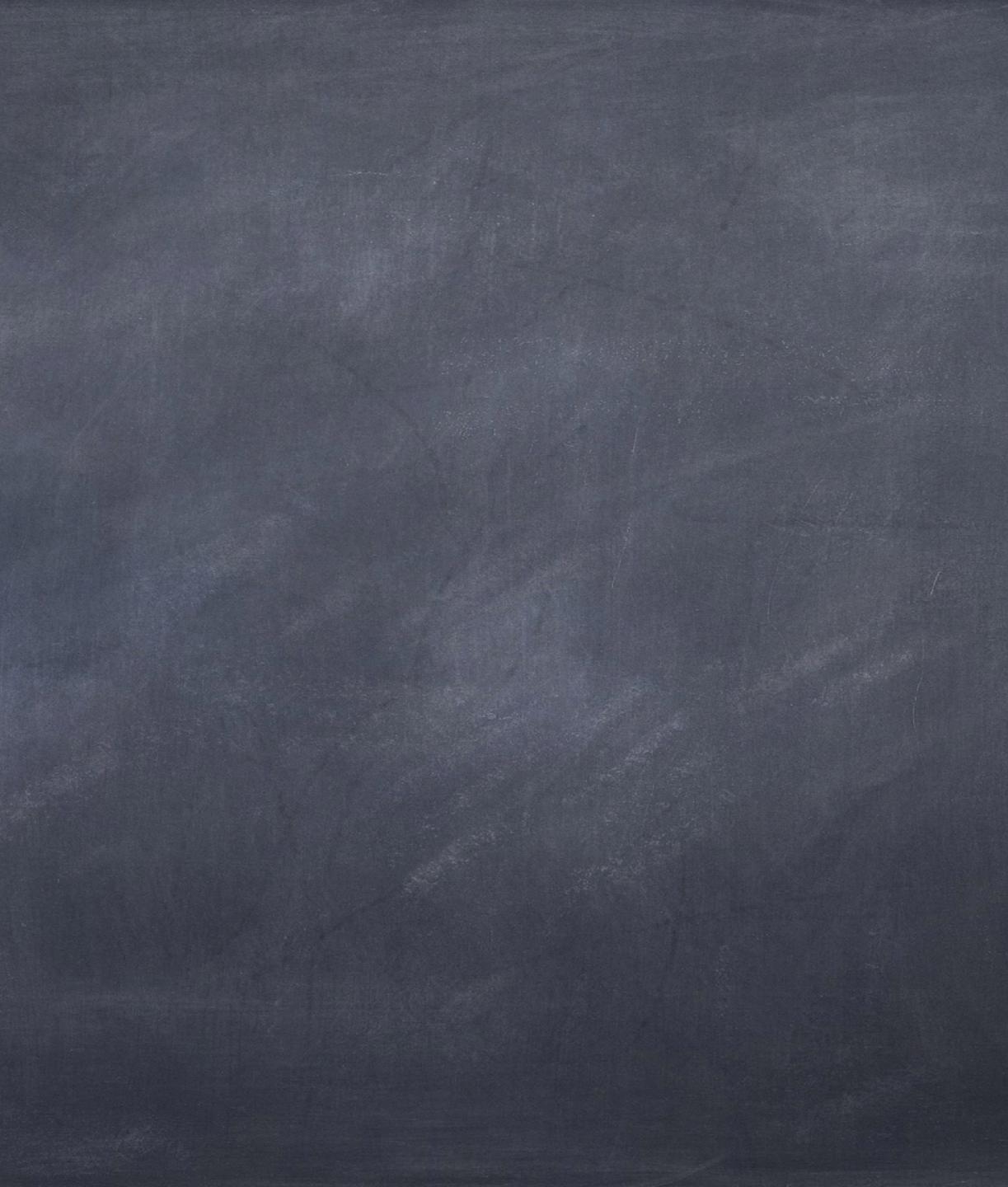
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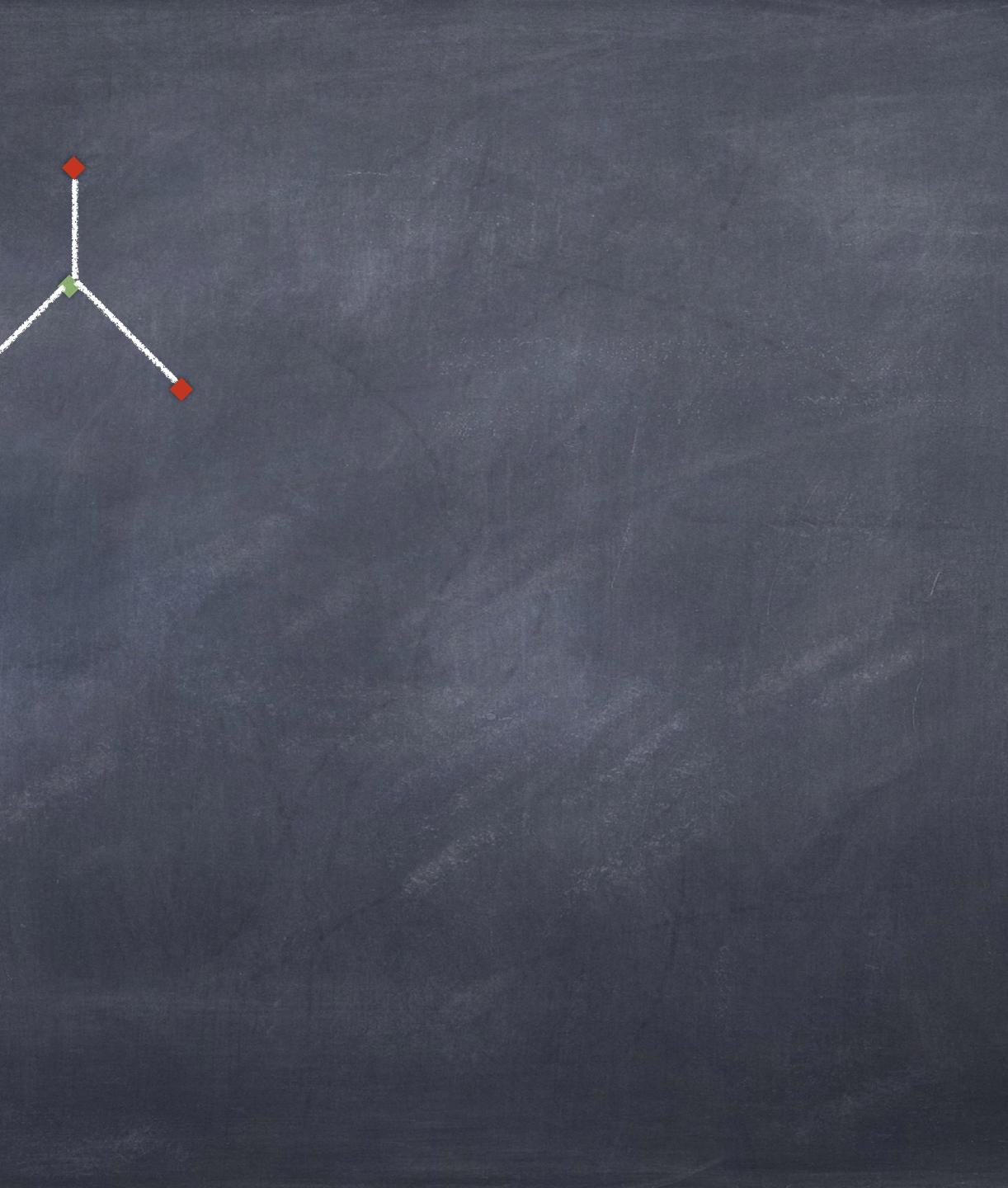
The problem asks for: smallest possible  $C_{e}$ .



### One issue with $C_{\epsilon}(G^*)$ :



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### One issue with $C_e(G^*)$ :

 $C_{\epsilon}$  either contains all  $\bullet$  or contains none of them.

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Use randomization to break ties.



The construction for  $C_e(\cdot)$ 



### @ Say we have a labelled observed graph $ilde{G} = g$ with randomized labels from $G^*$ .

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- Say u; is the node which is i<sup>th</sup> most likely to be the root. That is,  $\mathbb{P}(\bullet = u_1 \ \tilde{G} = g) \ge \mathbb{P}(\bullet = u_2 \ \tilde{G} = g) \ge \cdots$

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- Take smallest k such that  $\sum \mathbb{P}(\bullet = u_i \ \tilde{G} = g) \ge 1 \epsilon$ . This is our Bayesian coverage set:  $B_{\epsilon}(g) = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\}.$

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- observation of G (whose root is  $\blacklozenge$ ), then  $\mathbb{P}(\blacklozenge \in B_{\epsilon}(G^*)) \ge 1 \epsilon$ .

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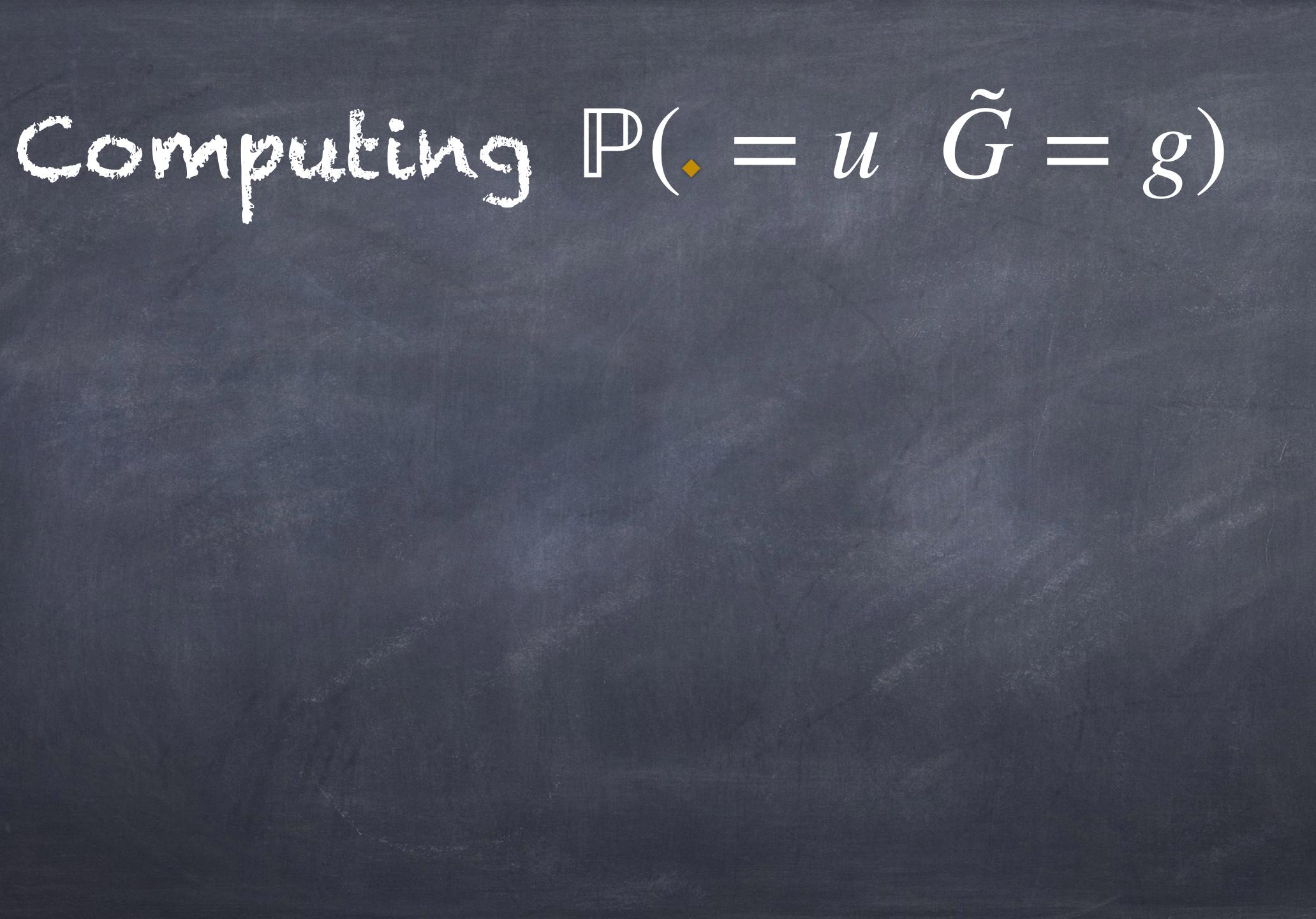


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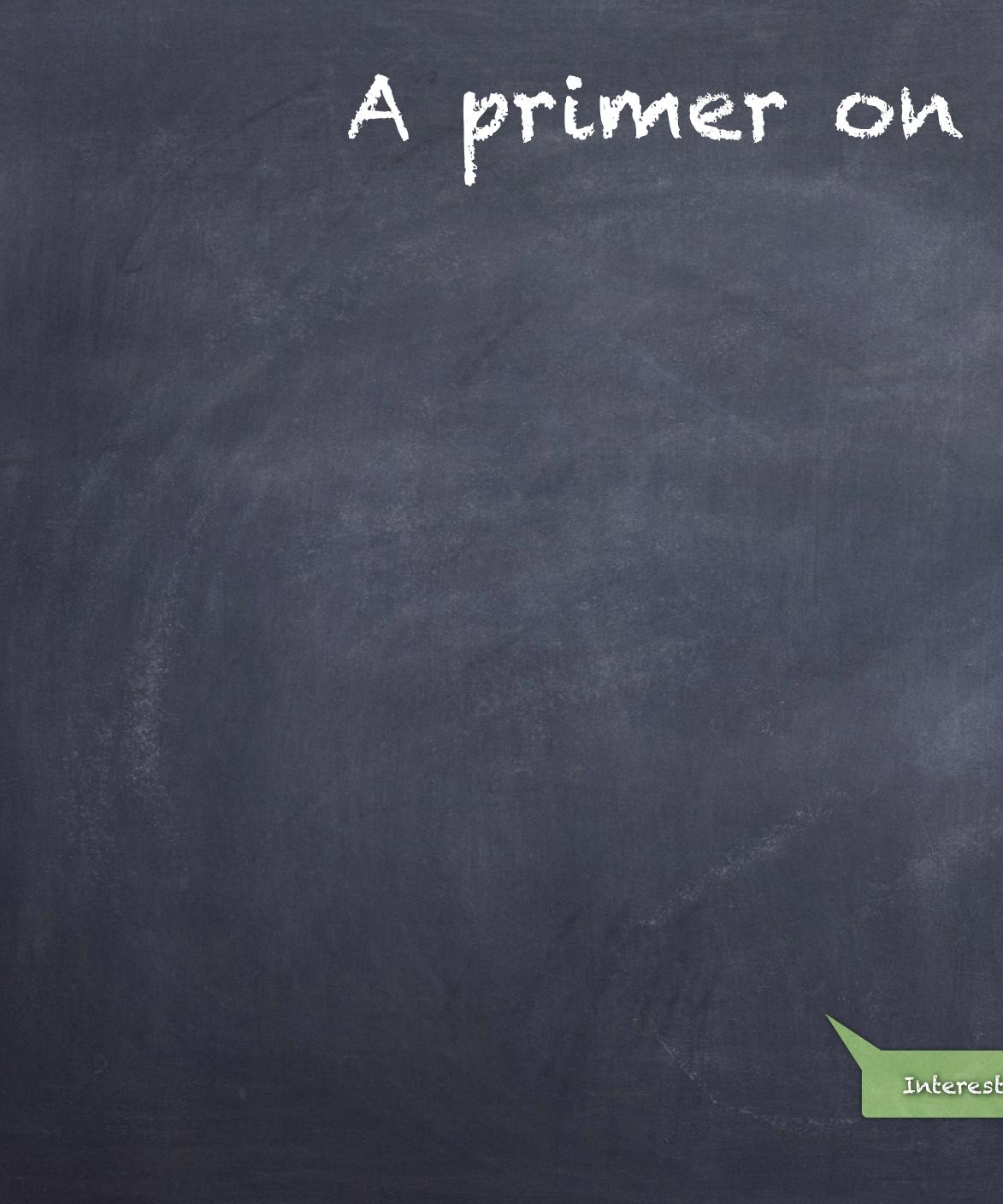
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# $Computing \mathbb{P}(=u \ G=g)$

$$g = \sum_{\pi} \mathbf{1}_{\{\pi(1)=u\}} \mathbb{P} \left( \Pi = \pi \ \tilde{G} = g \right).$$

$$egin{aligned} g \end{pmatrix} &= rac{\mathbb{P}\left( ilde{G} = g \ \Pi = \pi
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Will compute this



## A primer on Gibbs sampling

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# The Gibbs sampler algorithm for our case

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. Fix  $\pi$  and generate t from the distribution  $\mathbb{P}\left(\tilde{T}=t \; \Pi=\pi, \tilde{G}=g\right)$ .



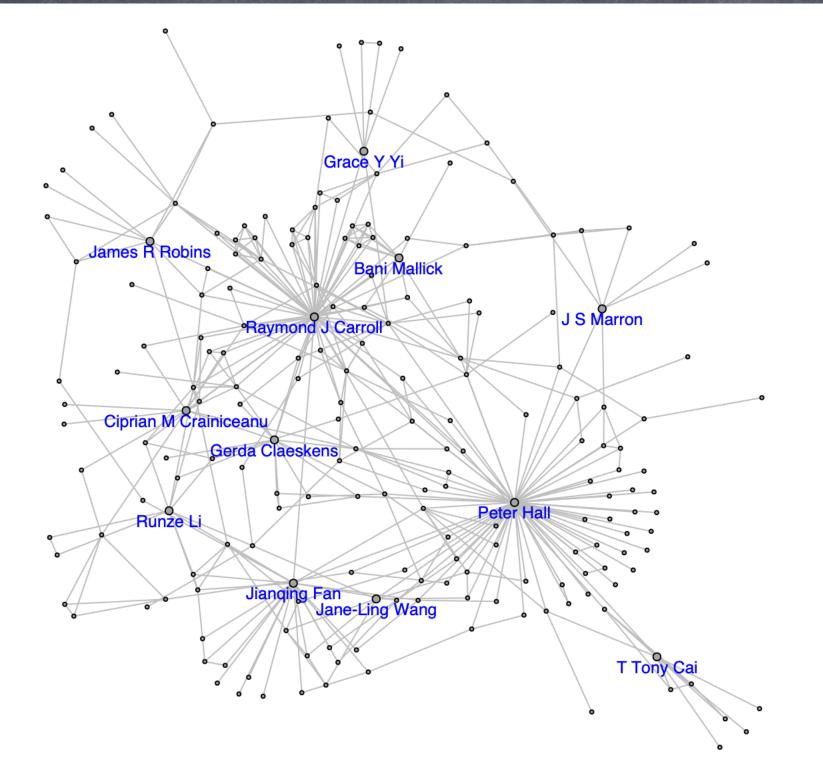


Figure 20: Subgraph of the co-authorship graph comprising the 200 nodes with the highest posterior root probabilities. We label the 12 nodes with the highest root probabilities.



# BEDLECOMPANY

[CX23] Harry Crane and Min Xu. Root and community inference on the latent growth process of a network. 2023. arXiv: 2107.00153 [stat.ME].

[CX21]

Harry Crane and Min Xu. Inference on the history of a randomly growing tree. Journal of the Royal Society of Statistics Series B, Volume 83, Issue 4, September 2021, Pages 639-668, https://doi.org/10.1111/rssb.12428.