

2-SAT

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**Input:** A formula  $\phi$  consisting of

- A set of  $n$  boolean variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$
- A conjunction of  $m$  clauses  $C_1, \dots, C_m$ , i.e., disjunctions of 2 literals  $C_j = (c_j^{(1)} \vee c_j^{(2)})$ , where a literal is either a variable or its negation.

A truth assignment is a function  $\tau : \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \rightarrow \{\top, \perp\}$

- A clause  $C_j = (c_j^{(1)} \vee c_j^{(2)})$  is *satisfied* by  $\tau$  according to the rules of boolean algebra.
- $\phi$  is satisfied iff all  $m$  clauses  $C_1, \dots, C_m$  are satisfied.

**Question:** Is there a truth assignment that satisfies  $\phi$ ?

# Example

## Formula

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_3}) \wedge (x_3 \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_4})$$

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## Satisfying assignment:

$$x_1 = \perp \quad x_2 = \perp \quad x_3 = \top \quad x_4 = \top$$

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Trivial solution  $O^*(2^n)$

# An Observation

- A clause of the form  $(\neg x_i \vee x_j)$  corresponds to  $x_i \implies x_j$
- If  $x_i = \top$  then, in any satisfying assignment,  $x_j = \top$
- We say that  $x_j$  is **implied**.
- The same holds for any clause  $C_j = (c_j^{(1)} \vee c_j^{(2)})$
- If  $c_j^{(1)} = \perp$ , then  $c_j^{(2)} = \top$
- We say that the variable  $x_k$  corresponding to  $c_j^{(2)}$  **implied**.
- If  $c_j^{(2)} = x_k$ , then  $x_k = \top$ . If  $c_j^{(2)} = \overline{x_k}$ , then  $x_k = \perp$ .

# Example

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_3}) \wedge (x_3 \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_4})$$

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Assume that  $x_1 = \top$



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$x_2 = \top$  is implied

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$x_2 = \top$  is implied

$x_2 = \perp$  is implied, a contradiction!

# Example

$$\phi = (x_1 \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_3}) \wedge (x_3 \vee \overline{x_2}) \wedge (\overline{x_1} \vee \overline{x_4})$$

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$x_4 = \top$  is implied.

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$x_4 = \top$  is implied.

We found a satisfying assignment.

# The Implication Graph

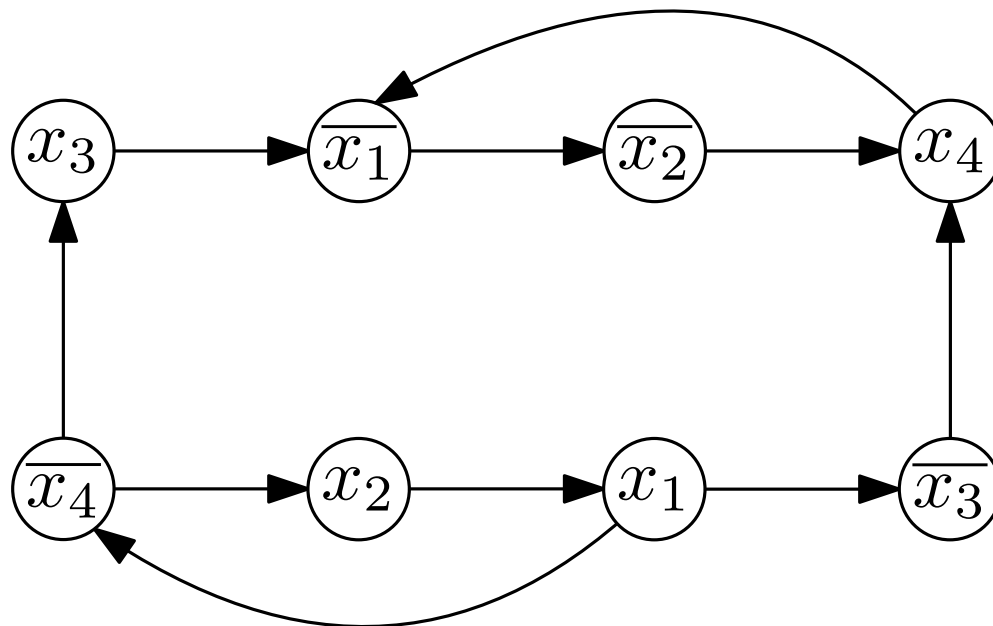
Given  $\phi$  we construct a directed graph  $G_\phi = (V, E)$  where:

- The vertices of  $G$  are all possible literals of  $\phi$ , i.e., for each variable  $x_i$  we add both  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$  to  $V$ .
- For each clause  $(\ell_i \vee \ell_j)$ :
  - Add  $(\overline{\ell_i}, \ell_j)$  to  $E$
  - Add  $(\overline{\ell_j}, \ell_i)$  to  $E$
- Intuitively  $(u, v) \in E$  means that if  $u = \top$ , then we must set  $v = \top$ .



# Example

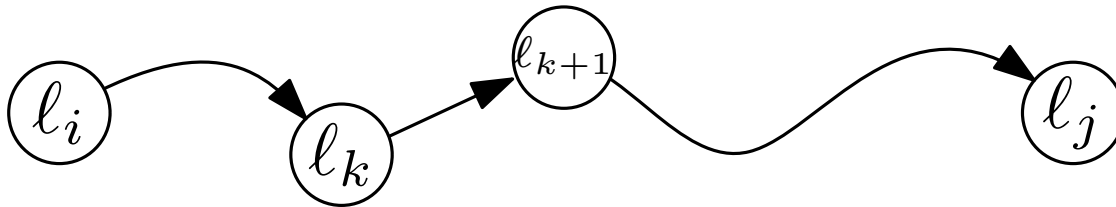
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# A useful property

**Claim:**  $G_\phi$  is skew-symmetric: If there is a path  $P$  from  $\ell_i$  to  $\ell_j$  in  $G_\phi$ , then there is also a path from  $\overline{\ell_j}$  to  $\overline{\ell_i}$ .

- Pick any edge  $(\ell_k, \ell_{k+1})$  of  $P$ .



- The edge  $(\ell_k, \ell_{k+1})$  must have been created from the clause  $(\overline{\ell_k} \vee \ell_{k+1})$ .
- The clause  $(\overline{\ell_k} \vee \ell_{k+1})$  also creates the edge  $(\overline{\ell_{k+1}}, \overline{\ell_k})$ .

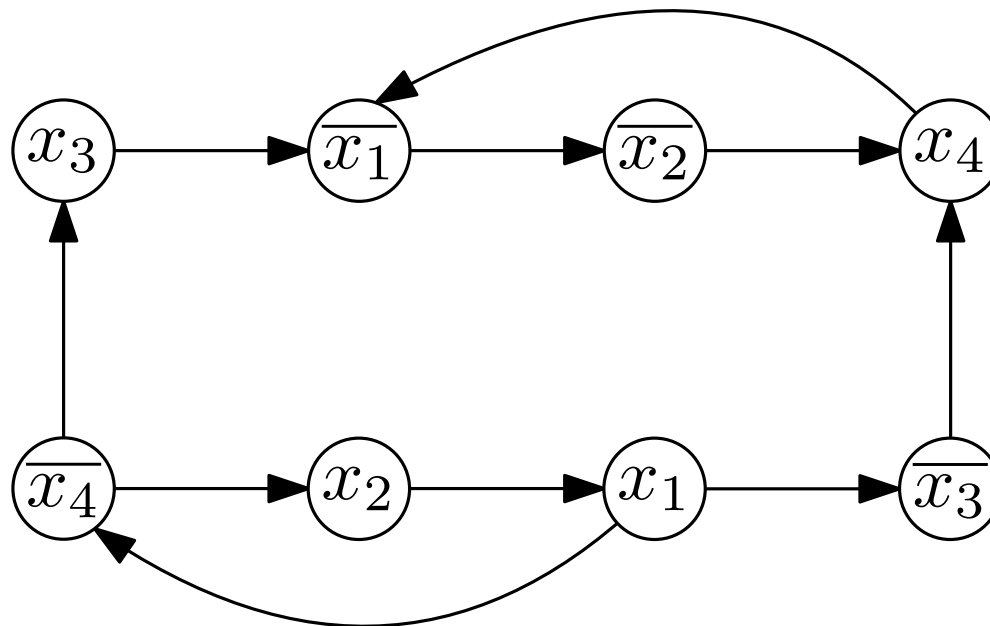
# Strongly Connected Components

**Definition:** A strongly connected component of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a maximal set  $C \subseteq V$  such that  $\forall x, y \in C$ , there is a path from  $x$  to  $y$  in  $G$ .

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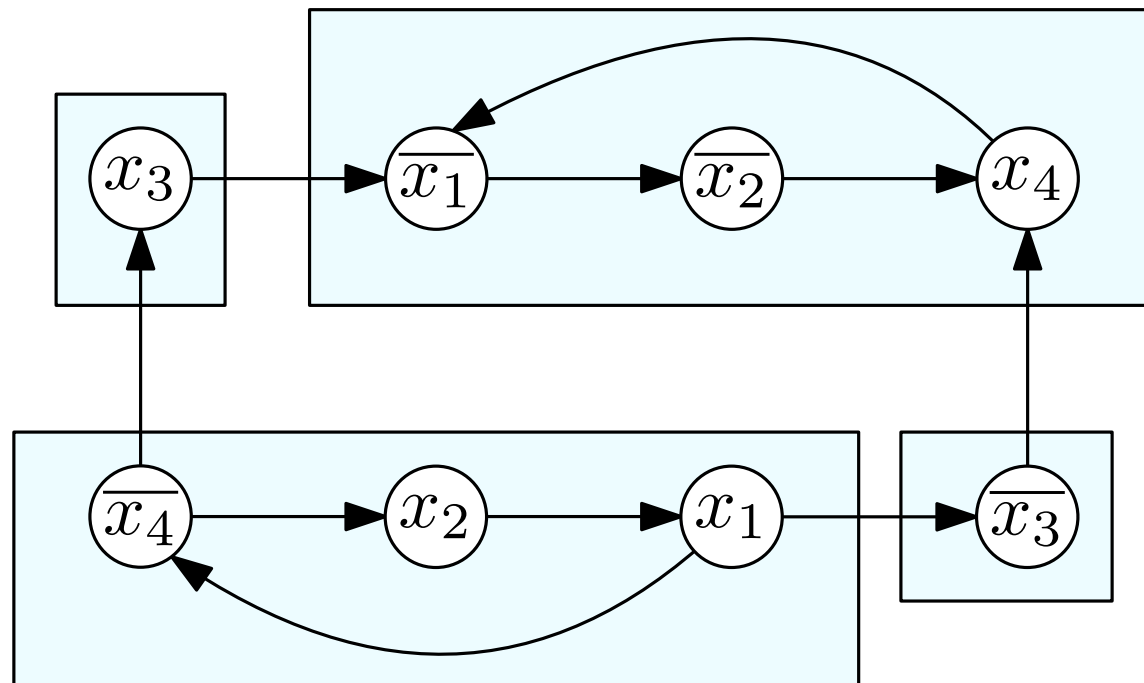
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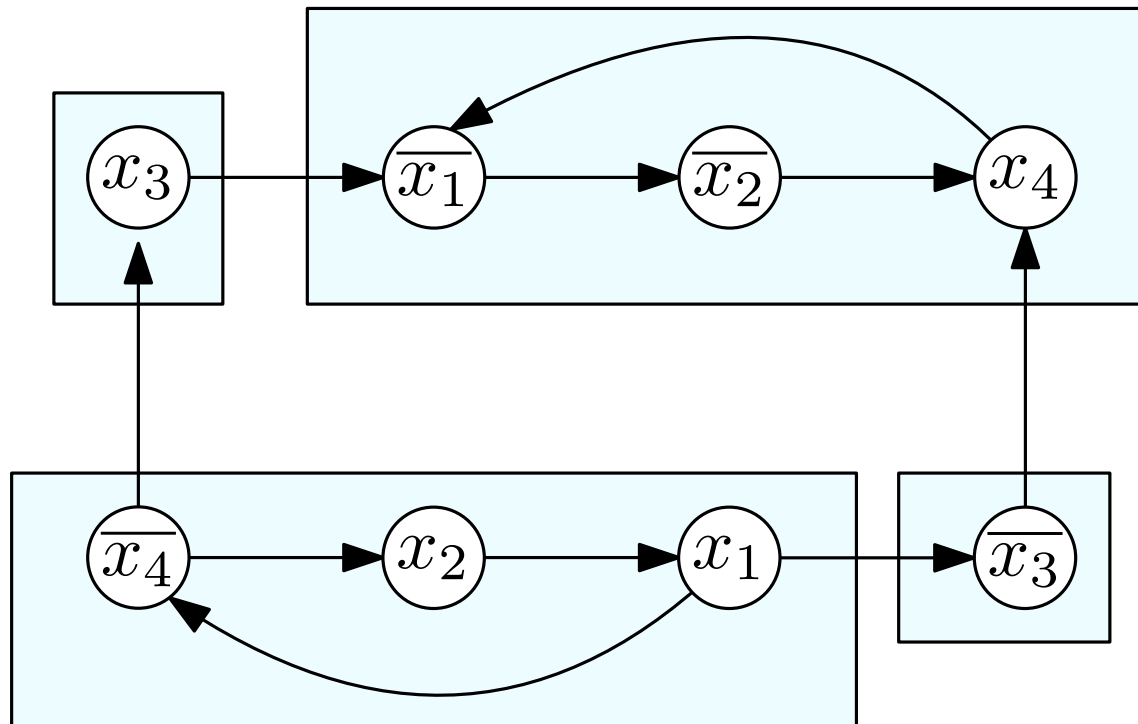
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# Contracted Graph

Construct a new graph  $G'_\phi = (V', E')$  from  $G_\phi = (V, E)$ :

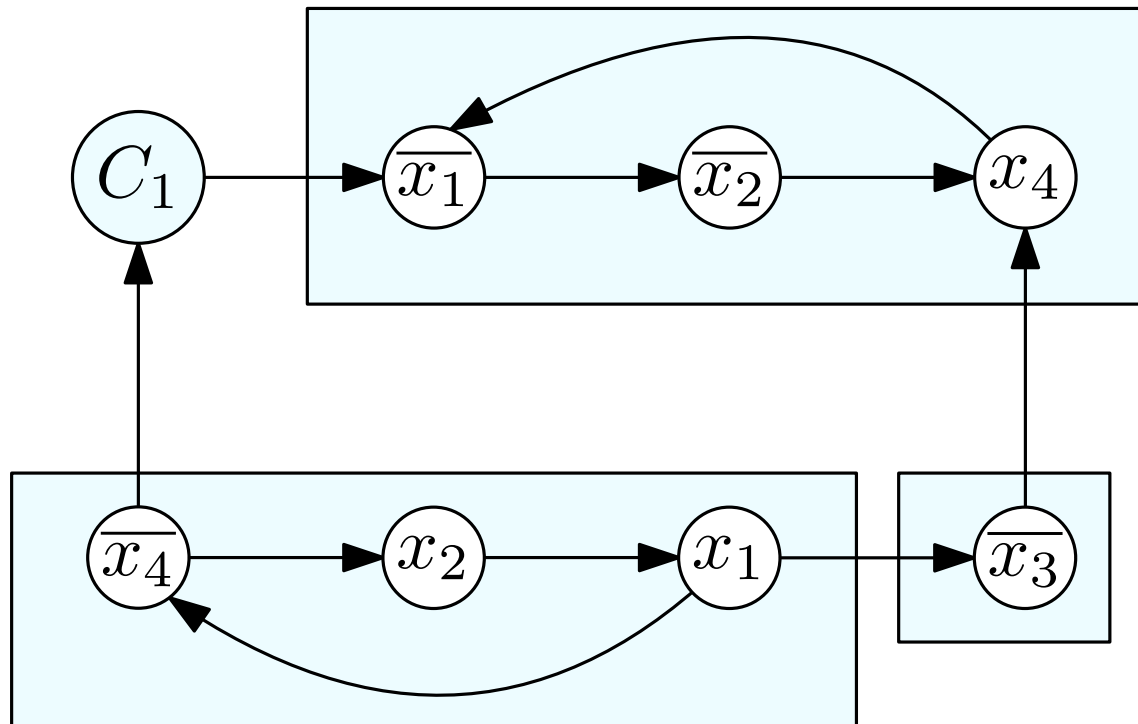
- Each vertex in  $V'$  is a SCC of  $G$ .
- There is an edge between a pair of distinct connected components  $(C, C') \in E$  iff  $\exists x \in C, y \in C'$  such that  $(x, y) \in E$ .



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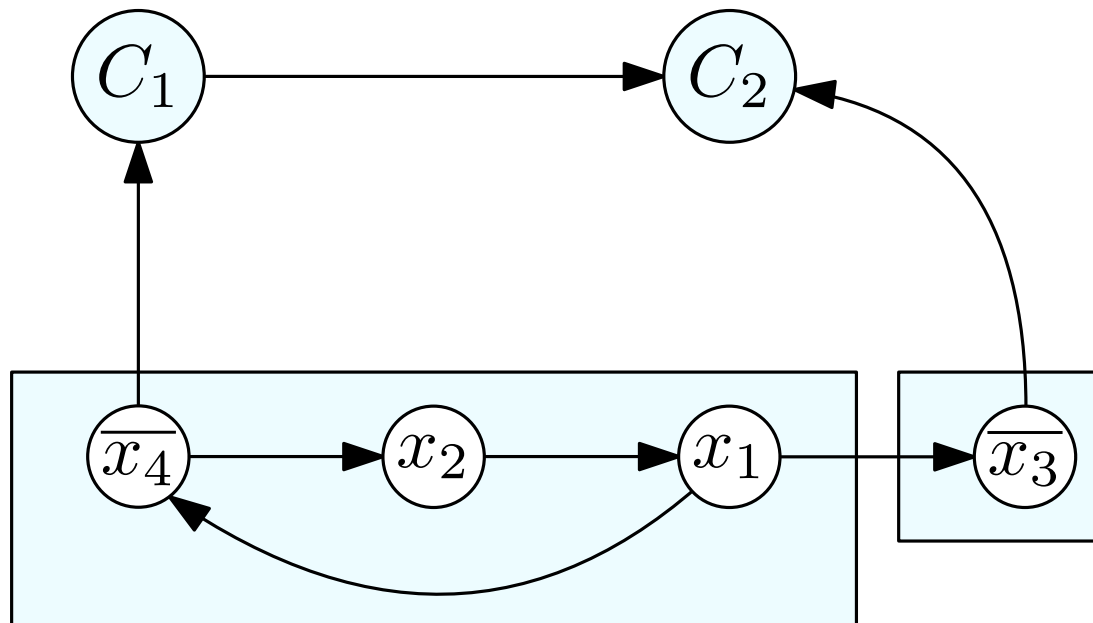
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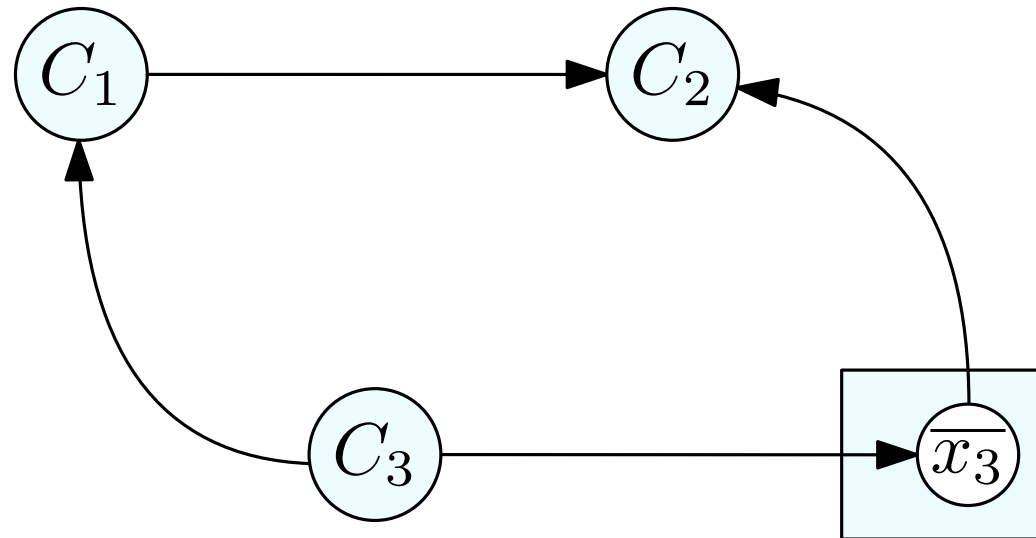




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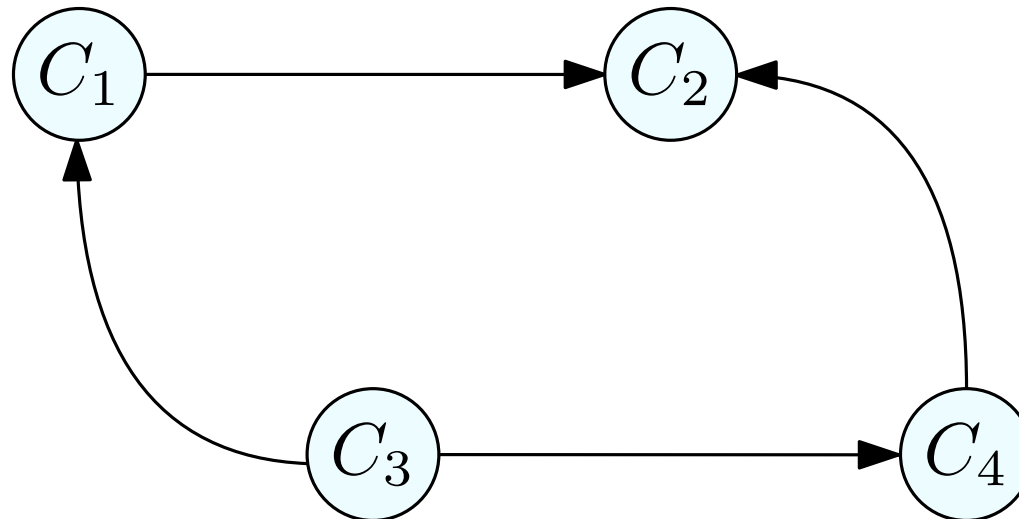
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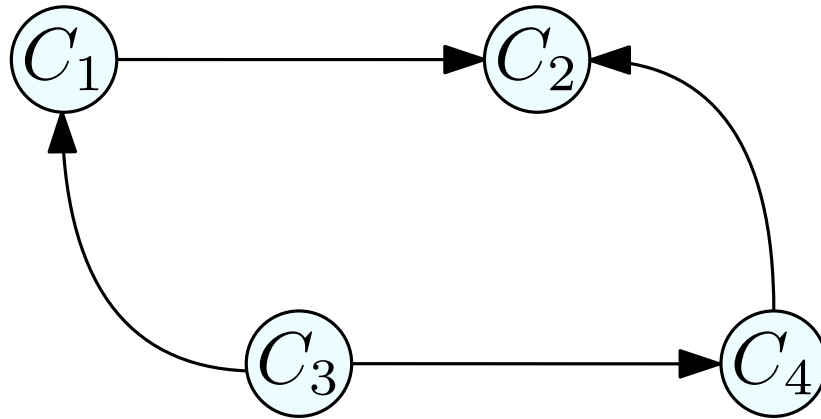
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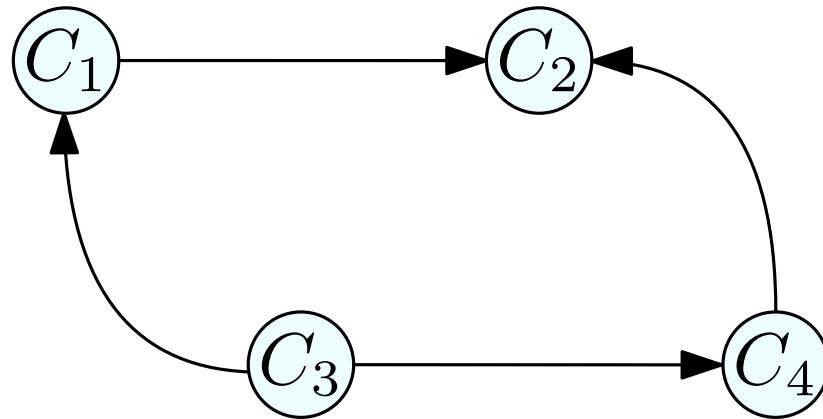
# Topological Order

**Observation:** Contracting the SCCs of a directed graph yields a directed acyclic graph.

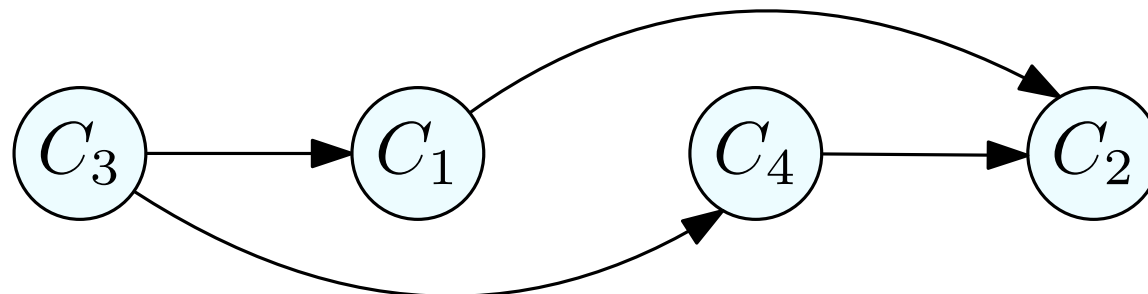


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**Definition:** A topological order of a directed acyclic graph is a linear order  $v_1, v_2, \dots$  of the vertices such that, for any edge  $(v_i, v_j)$ , we have  $i < j$ .



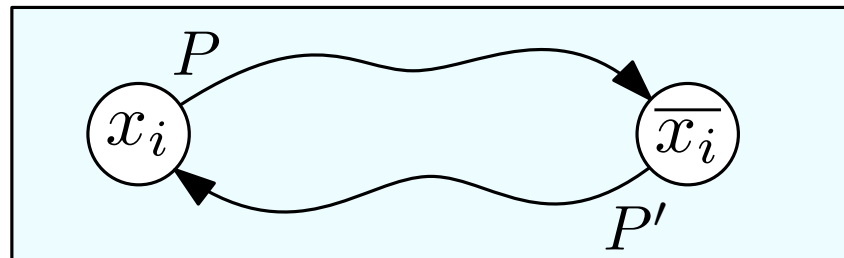
# Relation between SSCs and 2-SAT

**Claim 1:** If, for some  $x_i$ , both  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$  belong to the same SCC  $C$ , then  $\phi$  is not satisfiable.

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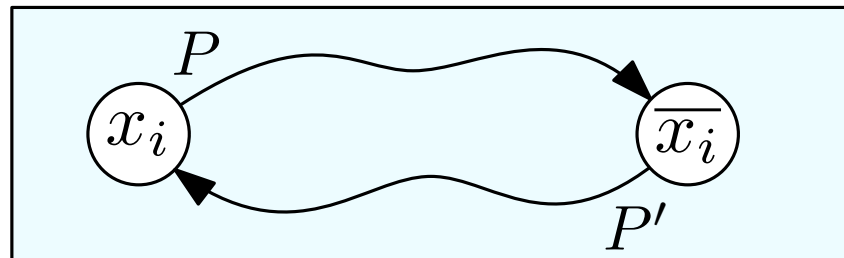
- Since  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$  are in the same SCC, there is a path  $P$  in  $G$  from  $x_i$  to  $\overline{x_i}$  and a path  $P'$  from  $\overline{x_i}$  to  $x_i$ .



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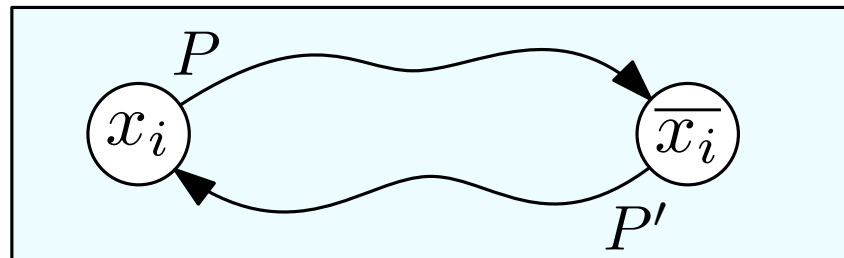


- In any satisfying assignment, we cannot have  $x_i = \top$ , since it would imply (through  $P$ ) that  $\overline{x_i} = \top$ , i.e.,  $x_i = \perp$ .  $\nLeftarrow$

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- A symmetric argument shows that we cannot have  $x_i = \perp$  since it would imply  $x_i = \top$  through  $P'$ . ⚡



# Relation between SSCs and 2-SAT

**Assumption:** for all  $x_i$ ,  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$  belong to different SCCs.

**An algorithm:**

- $\forall$  SCC  $C = C_1, C_2, \dots$  of  $G$  in reverse topological order.
  - Assign all unassigned literals of  $C$  to  $\top$  and their complement to  $\perp$ .

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**Claim 2:** When  $\ell_i$  is set to  $\top$ , all literals  $\ell_j$  reachable from  $\ell_i$  in  $G$  are set to  $\top$ .

Proof: By induction on the index  $k$  of the SCC  $C_k$  containing  $\ell_i$ .

# Relation between SSCs and 2-SAT

Suppose that there is a neighbor  $\ell_j$  of  $\ell_i$  such that  $\ell_j = \perp$ .

By skew-symmetry  $G$  contains the edge  $(\overline{\ell_j}, \overline{\ell_i})$

$\overline{\ell_j}$  is set to  $\top$  and must belong to a SCC  $C_h$  for some  $h \leq k$ .

If  $h = k$ :

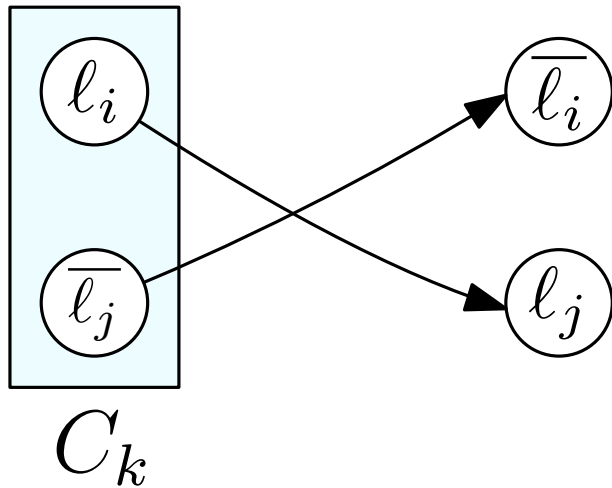
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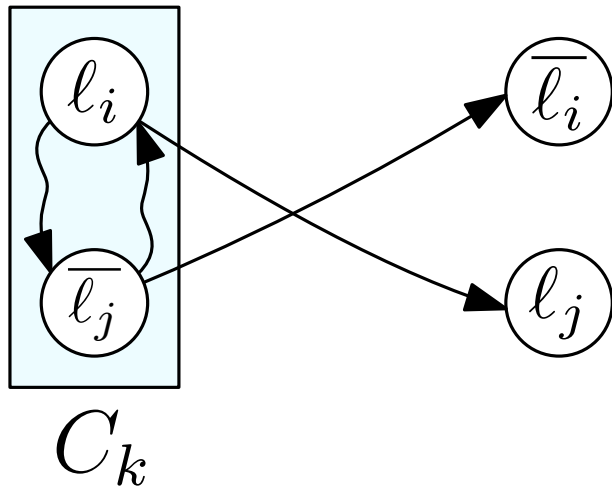
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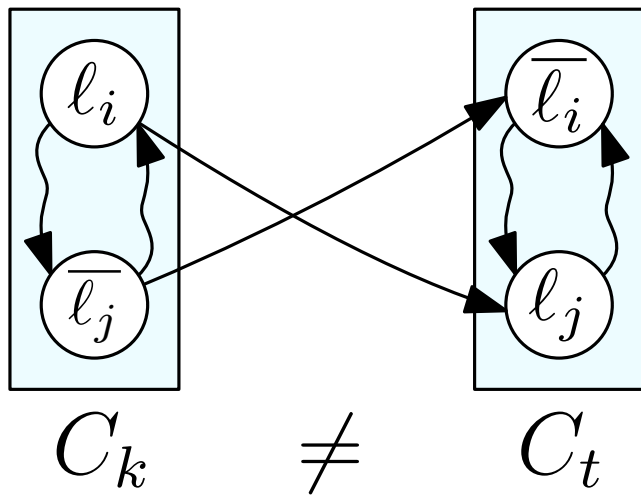
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- $C_k \neq C_t$  (otherwise  $\ell_i, \overline{\ell_i} \in C_k$ )

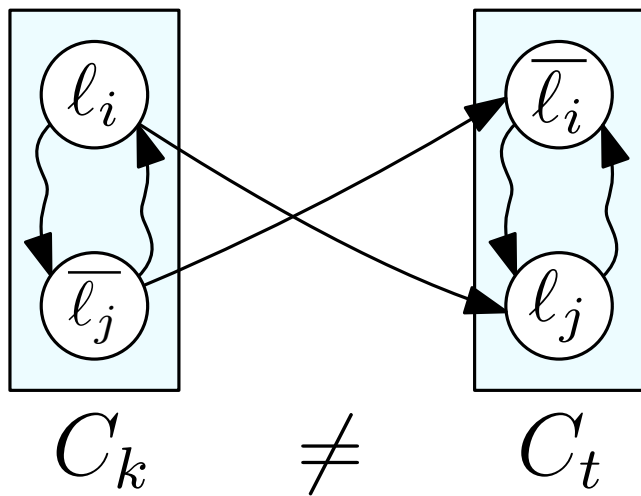
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If  $h = k$ :



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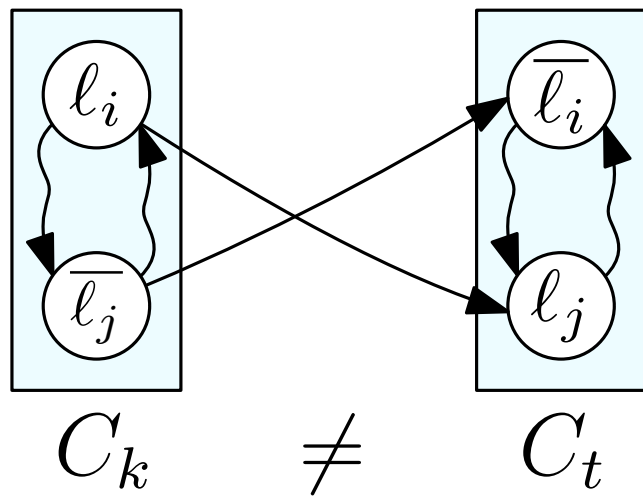
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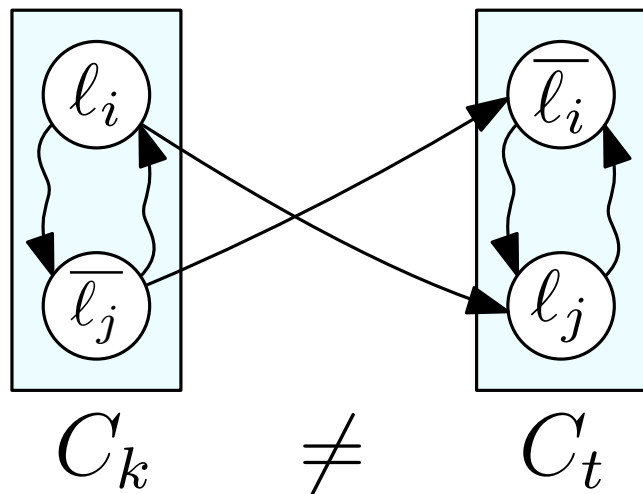
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If  $h < k$ :

By inductive hypothesis, all neighbors of  $\overline{\ell_j}$  are set to  $\top$ , i.e.,

$\overline{\ell_i} = \top \implies \ell_i = \perp$ . 

# Relation between SSCs and 2-SAT

**Claim 1:** If, for some  $x_i$ , both  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$  belong to the same SCC  $C$ , then  $\phi$  is not satisfiable.

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**Corollary:**  $\phi$  is satisfiable iff  $\forall x_i$ ,  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$  belong to different SCCs. The algorithm computes a satisfying assignment.

- Consider a generic clause  $(\ell_i \vee \ell_j)$
- If  $\ell_i$  is set to  $\top$ , the clause is satisfied.
- If  $\ell_i$  is set to  $\perp$ :  $\overline{\ell_i} = \top$  and  $G$  contains the edge  $(\overline{\ell_i}, \ell_j)$ . The claim implies that  $\ell_j = \top$ .

# Time Complexity

## Satisfiability

(Assuming  $m = \Omega(n)$ )

- Construct the implication graph  $G_\phi$   $O(m)$
- Compute the SSCs of  $G_\phi$   $O(m)$
- If a SCC of  $G$  contains both  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$ , for some  $x_i$ :  $O(n)$ 
  - Return “ $\phi$  is not satisfiable”
- Return “ $\phi$  is satisfiable”

# Time Complexity

## Satisfying assignment

(Assuming  $m = \Omega(n)$ )

- Construct the implication graph  $G_\phi$   $O(m)$
- Compute the SSCs of  $G_\phi$   $O(m)$
- If a SCC of  $G$  contains both  $x_i$  and  $\overline{x_i}$ , for some  $x_i$ :  $O(n)$ 
  - Return “ $\phi$  is not satisfiable”
- $G'_\phi \leftarrow$  Contract the SCCs of  $G_\phi$   $O(m)$
- Topologically sort  $G'$   $O(m)$
- $\forall$  SCC  $C$  of  $G$  in reverse topological order.
  - Assign all unassigned literals of  $C$  to  $\top$  and their complement to  $\perp$ .

}  $O(n)$

# Time Complexity

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