

Ensuring your *favorite* player wins:
Tournament Rigging and Bribery

Sushmita Gupta,

Sanjukta Roy,

Saket Saurabh,

Meirav Zehavi

(Knockout) Tournaments





How can we ensure our
favourite player/team
wins the tournament?

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An example ...

FIFA WORLD CUP '18 KNOCKOUT STAGES

Round of 16

FT	Match: 49
Uruguay	2
Portugal	1

FT	Match: 50
France	4
Argentina	3

FT	Match: 53
Brazil	2
Mexico	0

FT	Match: 54
Belgium	2
Japan	2

FT - PENS	Match: 51
Spain	1 (3)
Russia	1 (4)

FT - PENS	Match: 52
Croatia	1 (3)
Denmark	1 (2)

FT	Match: 55
Sweden	1
Switzerland	0

FT - PENS	Match: 56
Colombia	1 (3)
England	1 (4)

Quarterfinals

FT	Match: 57
Uruguay	0
France	2

FT	Match: 58
Brazil	1
Belgium	2

FT - PENS	Match: 59
Russia	2 (3)
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FT	Match: 60
Sweden	0
England	2

Semifinals

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Formally we say...

Seeding

V₁

V₂

V₃

V₄

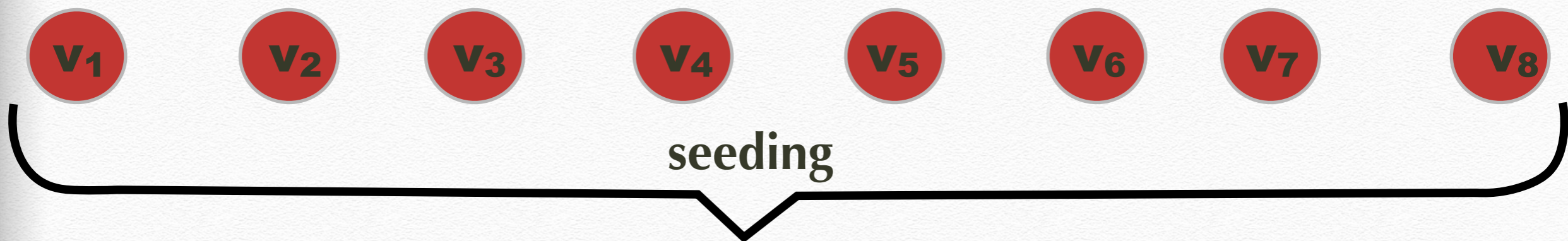
V₅

V₆

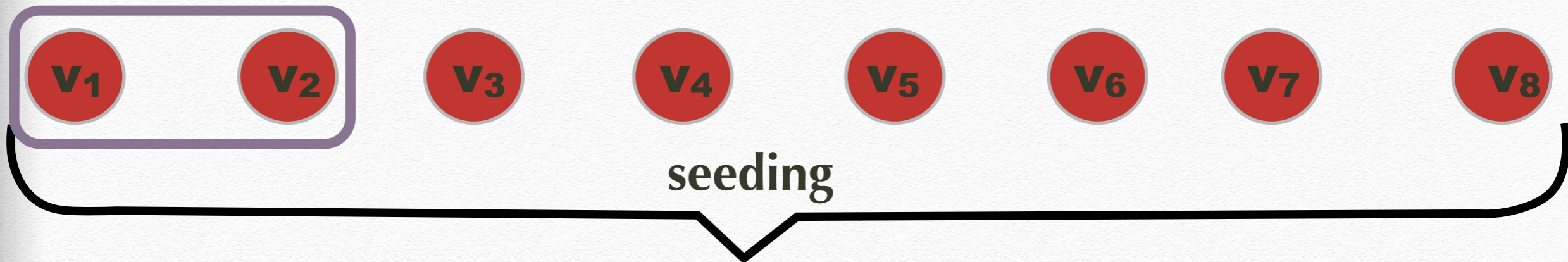
V₇

V₈

Seeding

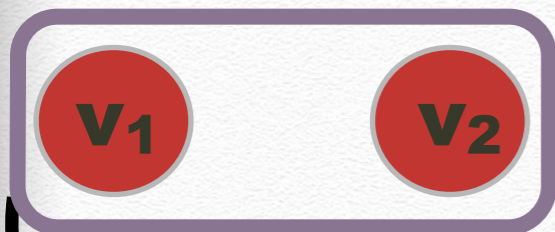


Seeding



Seeding

V₁



V₃

V₄

V₅

V₆

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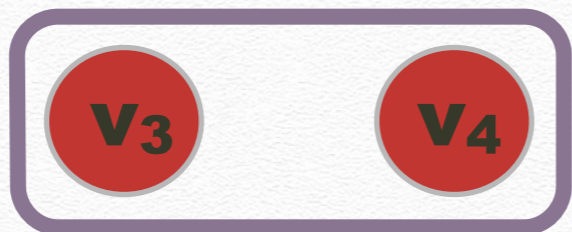
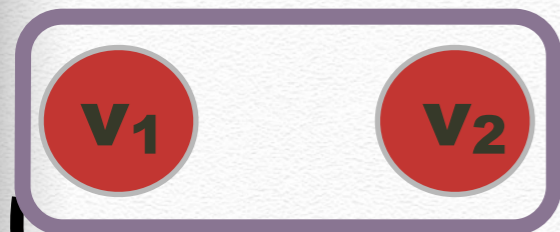
V₈

seeding



Seeding

V₁



V₅

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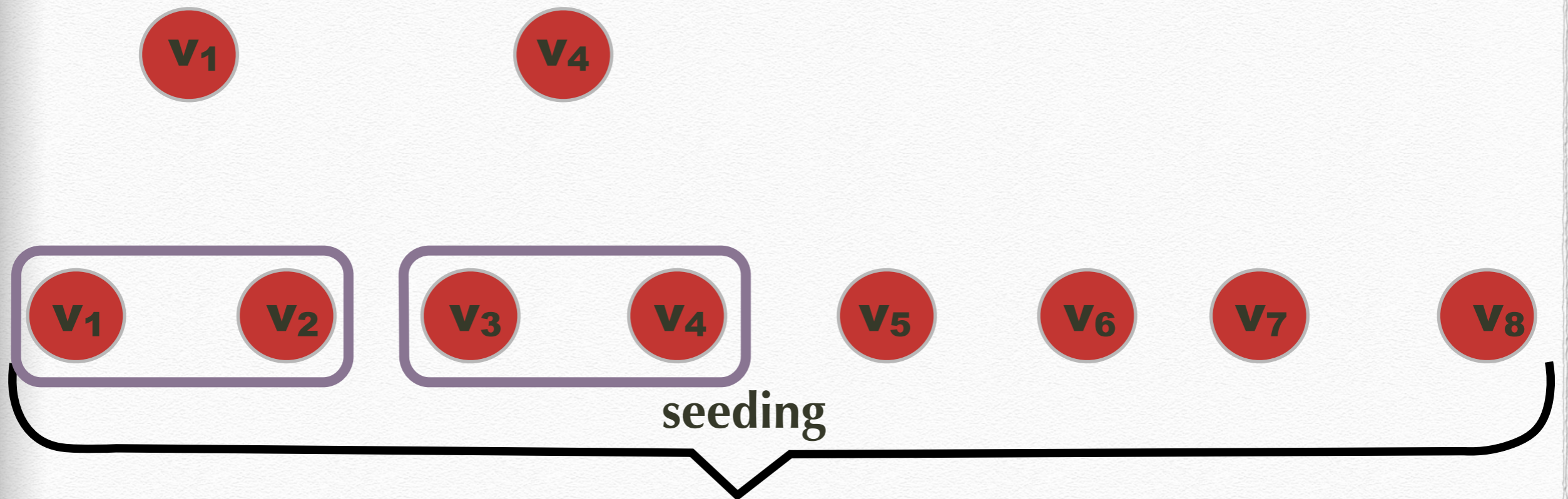
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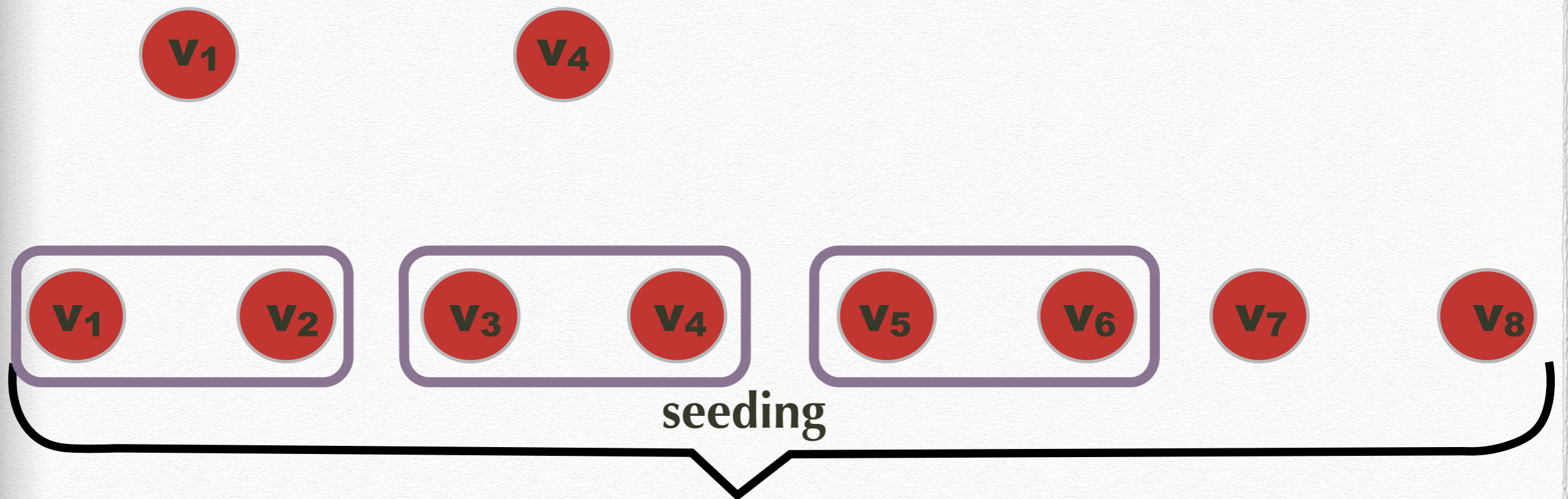
seeding



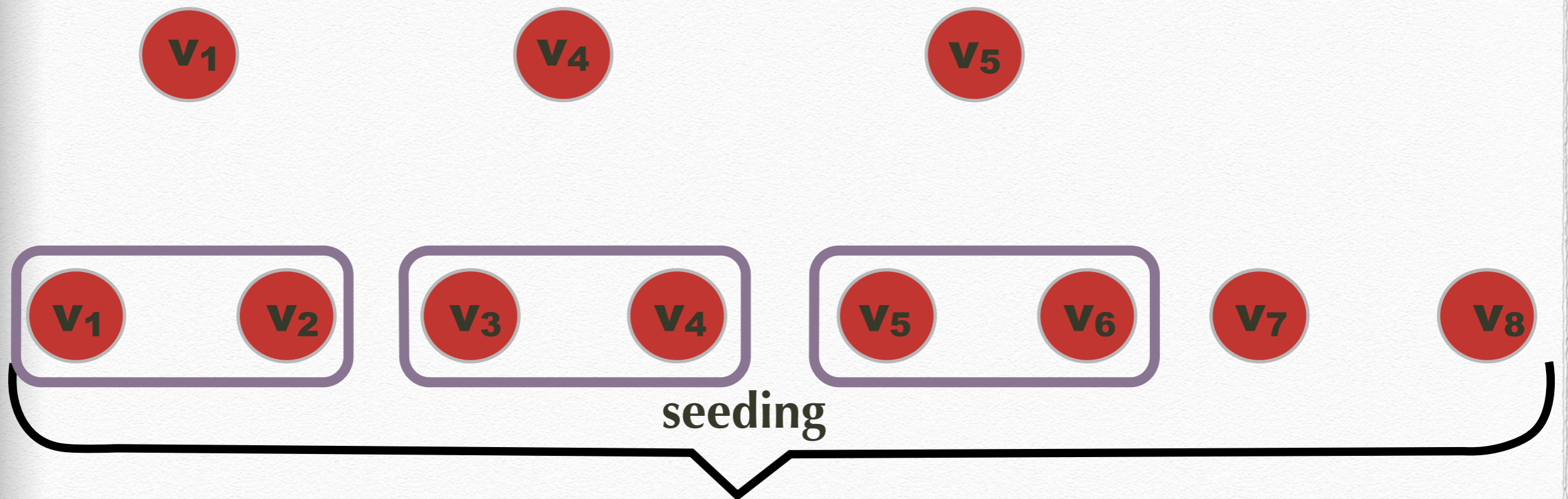
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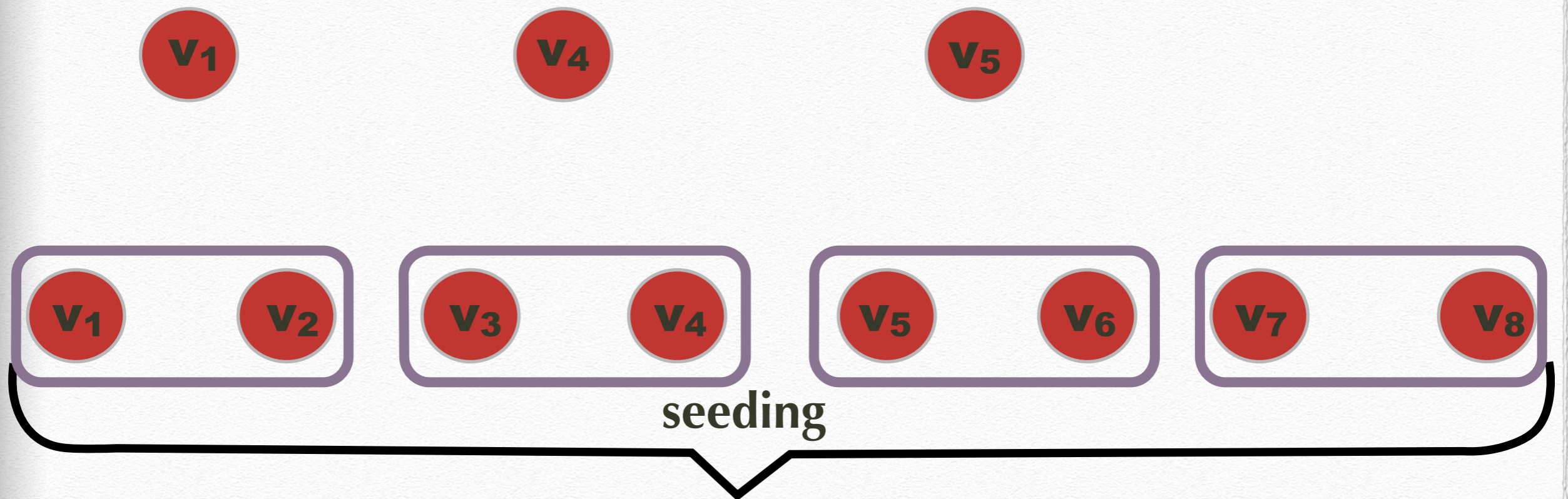
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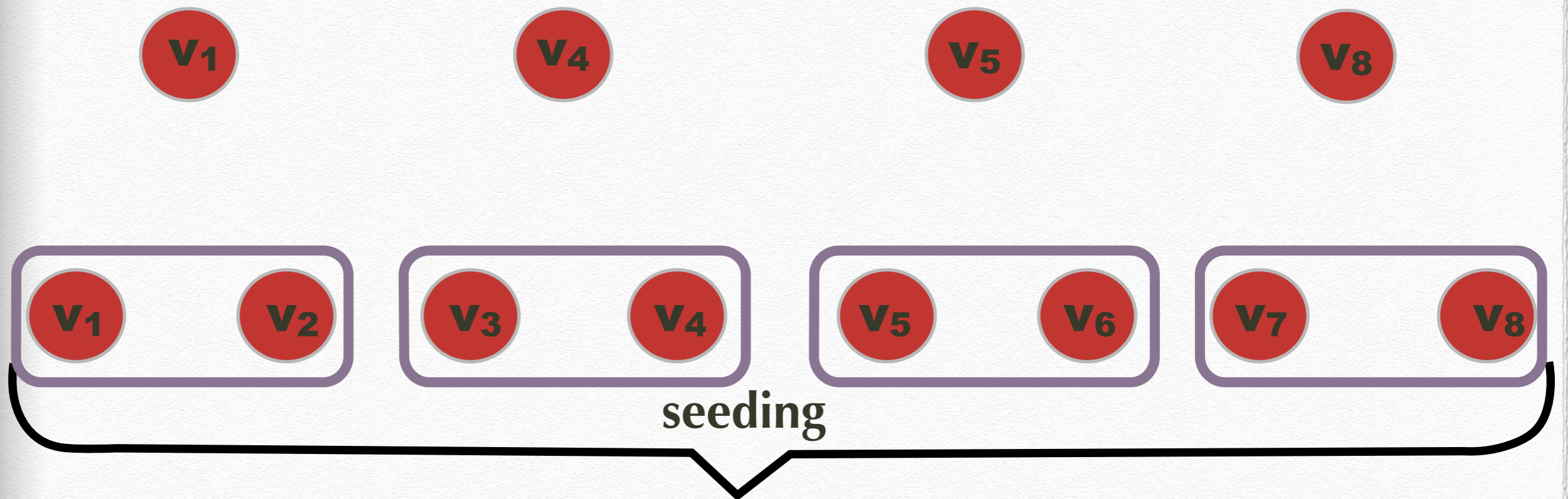
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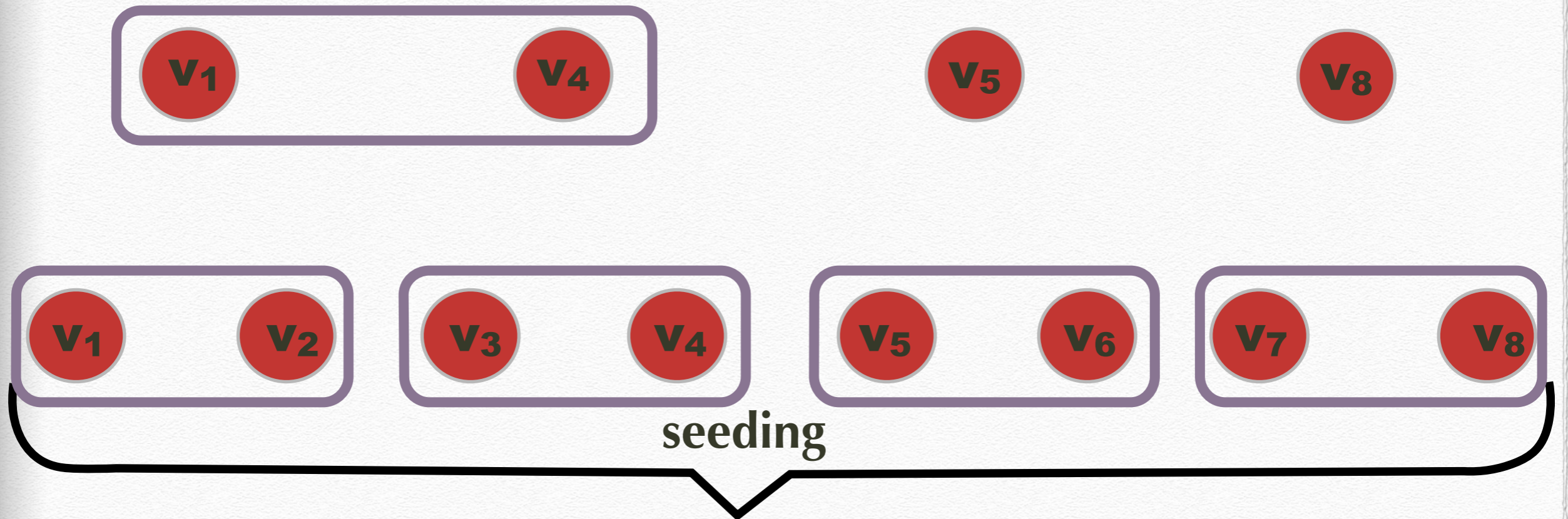
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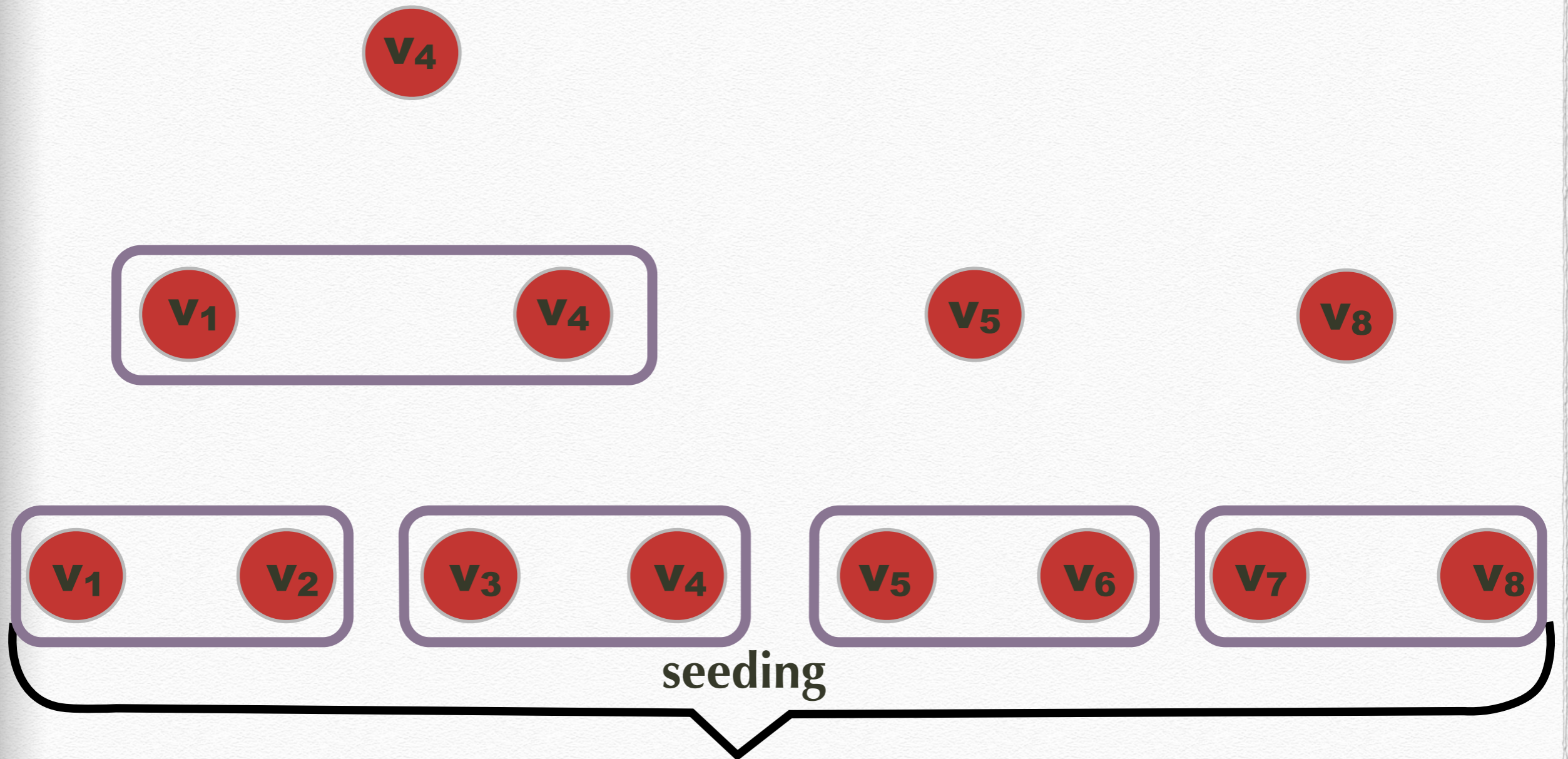
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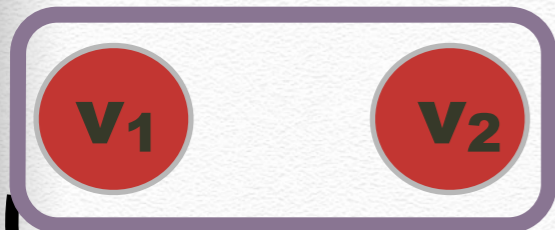
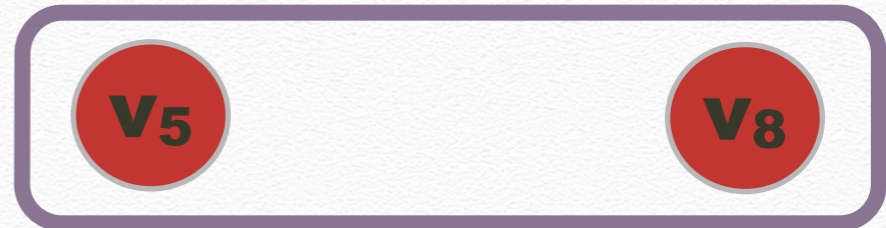
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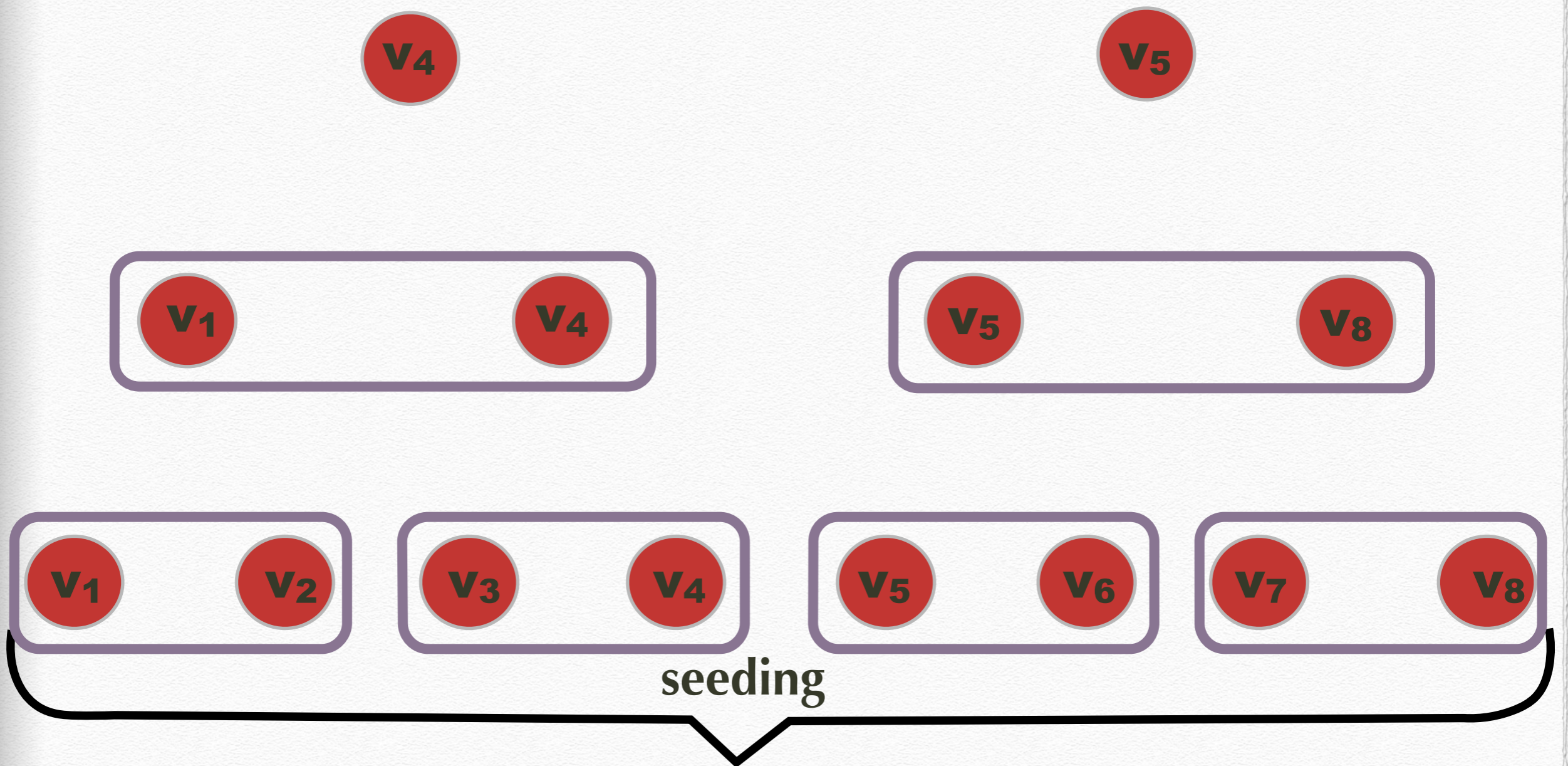
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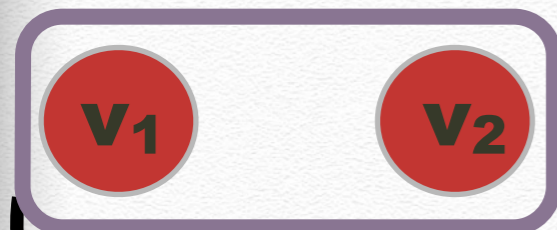
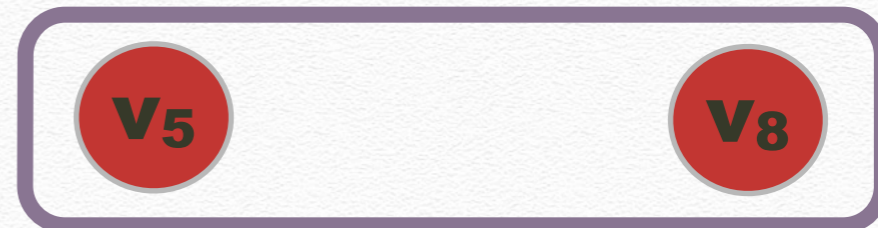
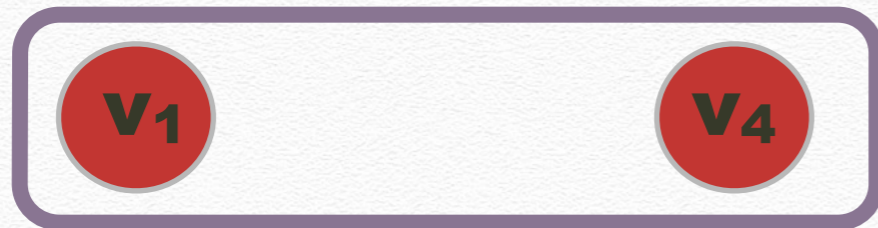
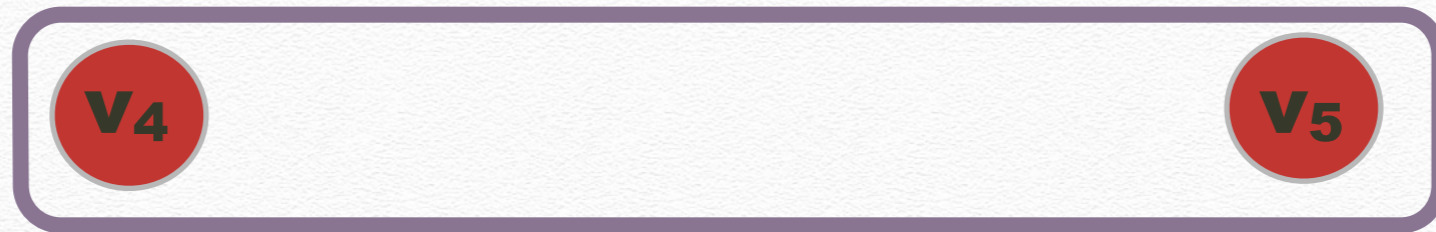
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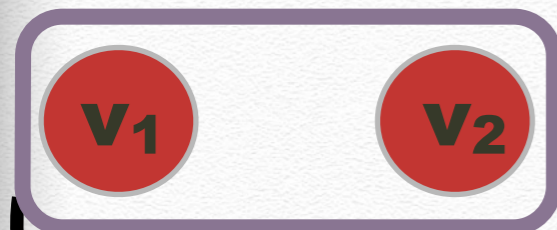
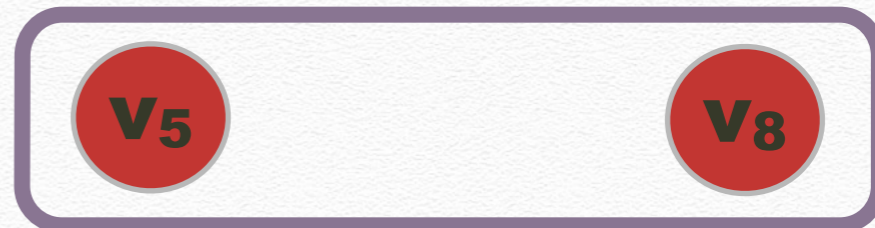
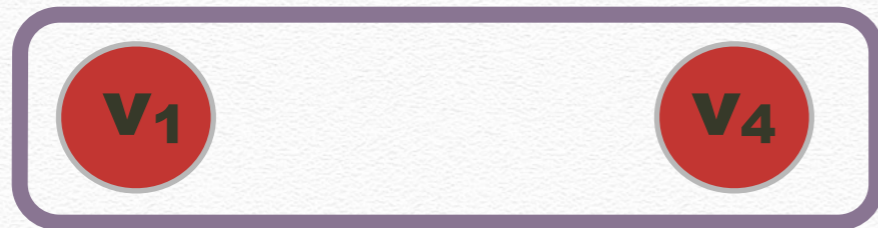
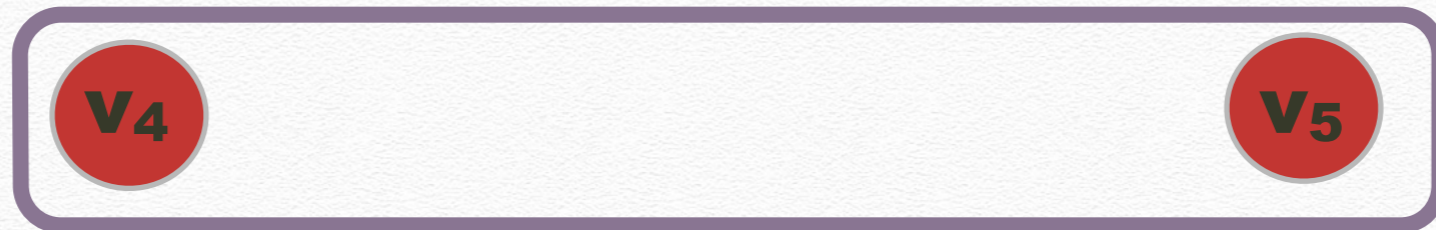


seeding



Seeding

V4 winner!



seeding



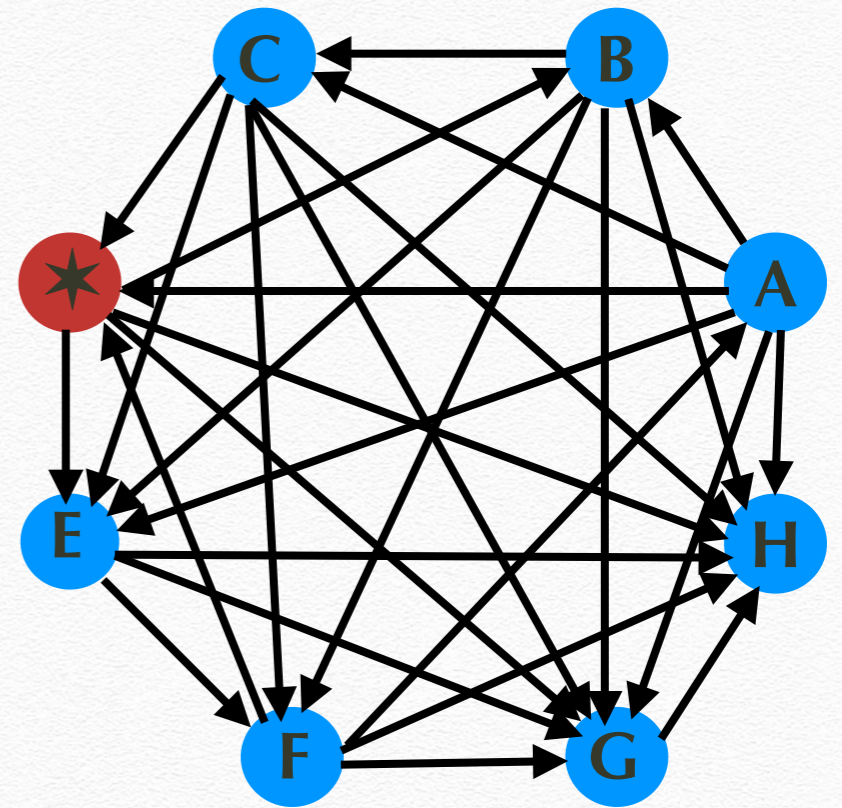


Is there a **seeding** to
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Our problem: TOURNAMENT FIXING

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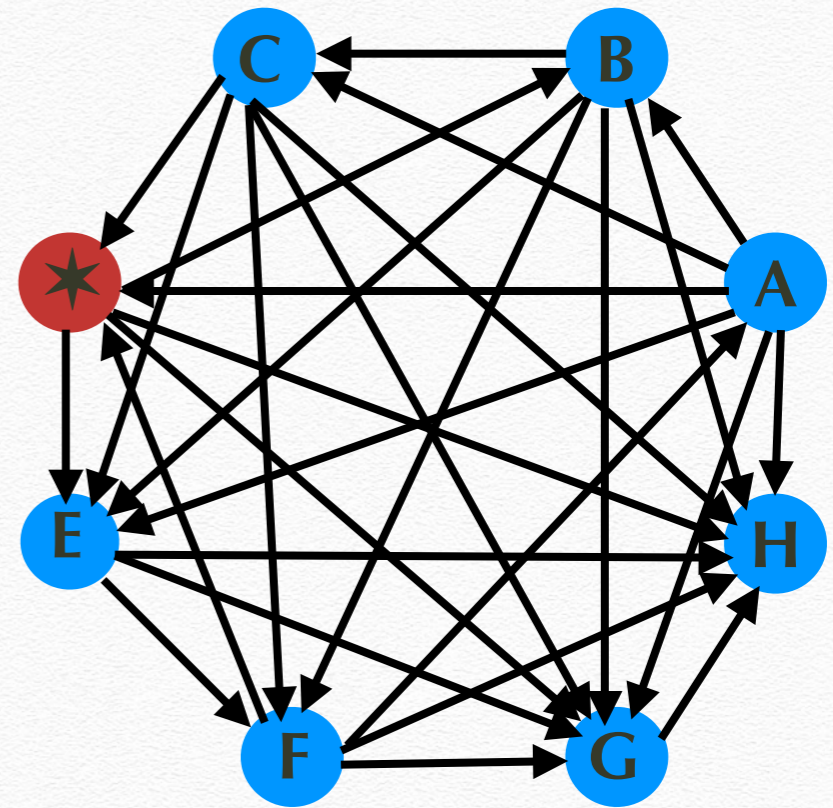
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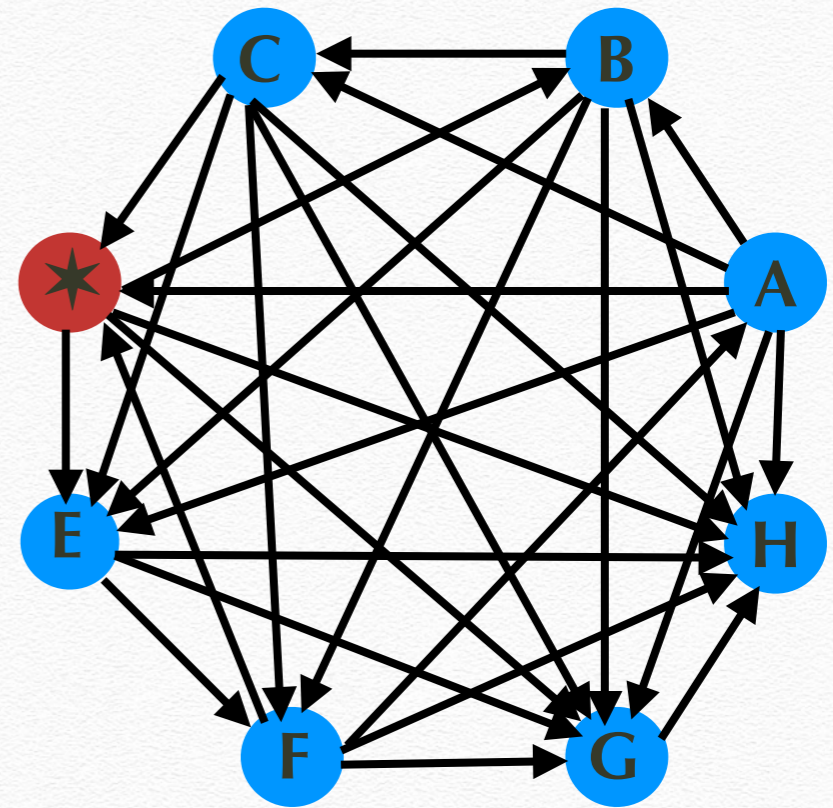
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...introduced by **Vu, Altman, Shoham**
AAMAS '09

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[Aziz et al. AAAI'14]

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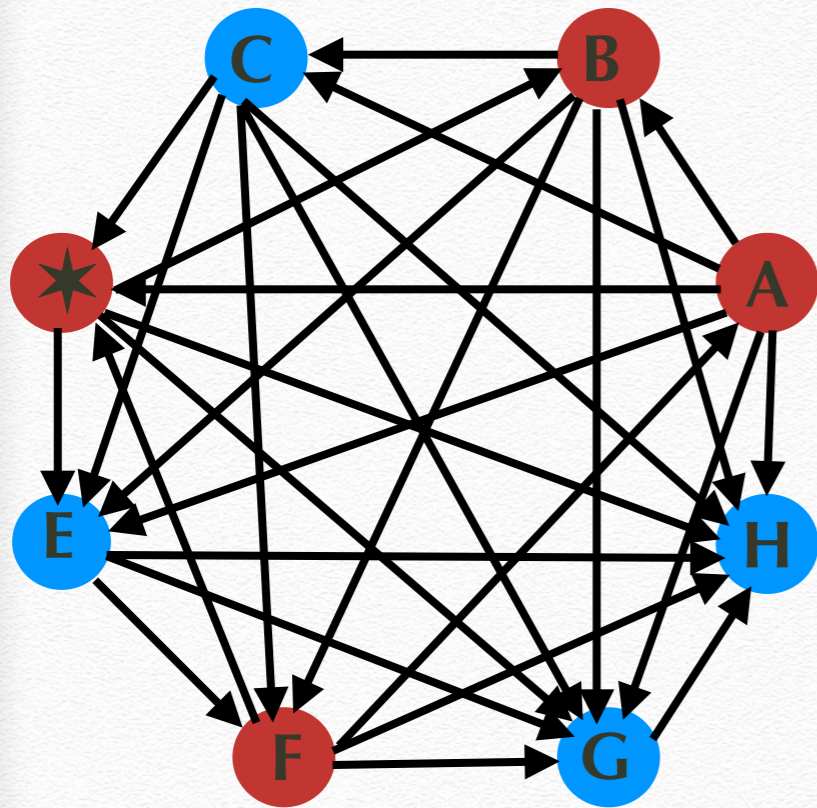
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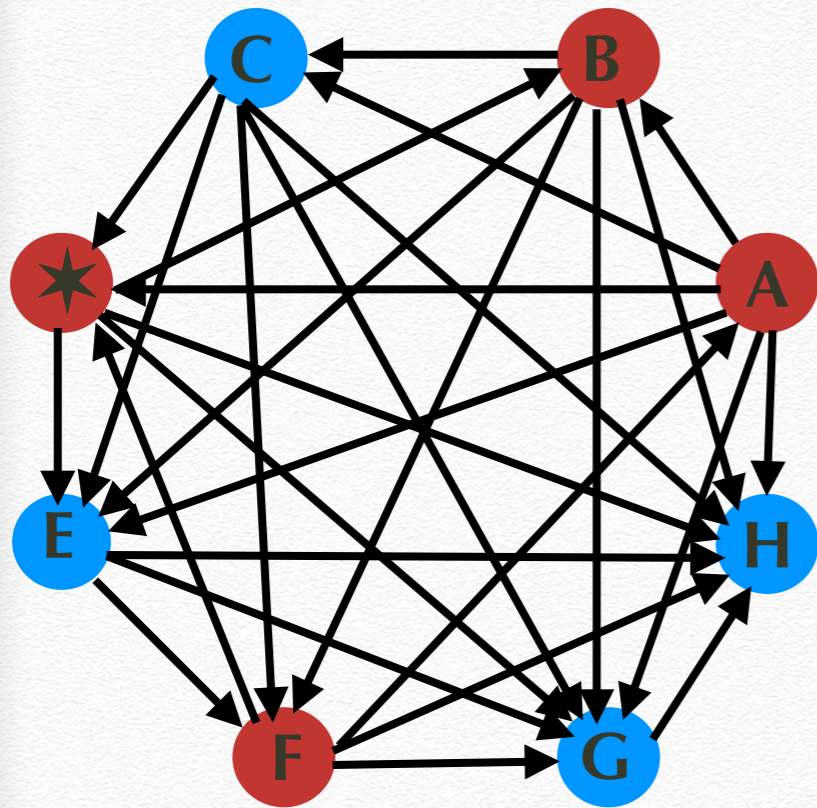
...But, how do we define rank?

Ranking the players



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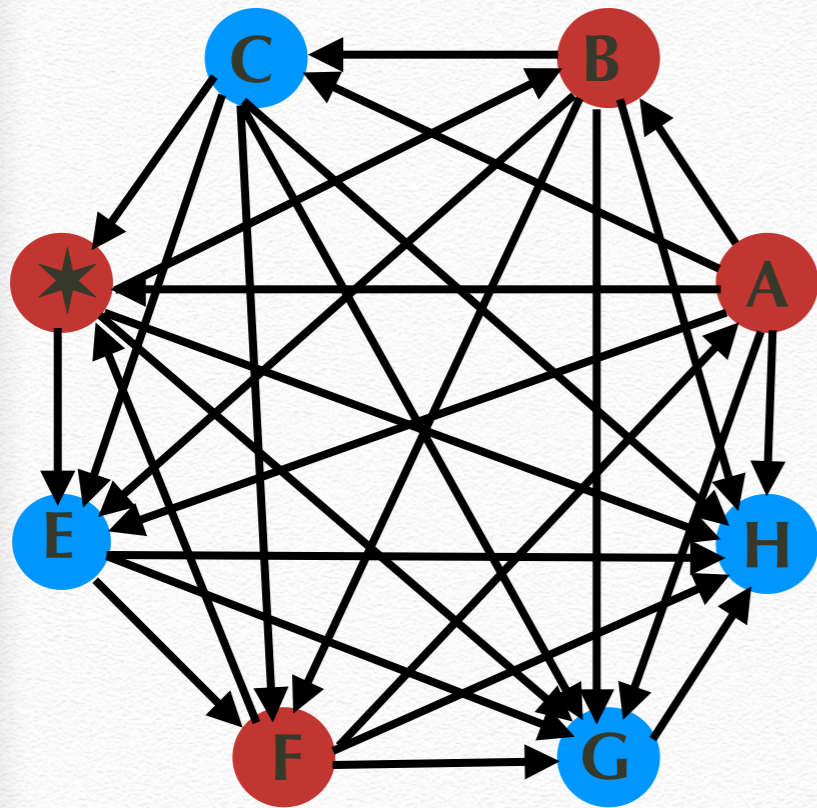
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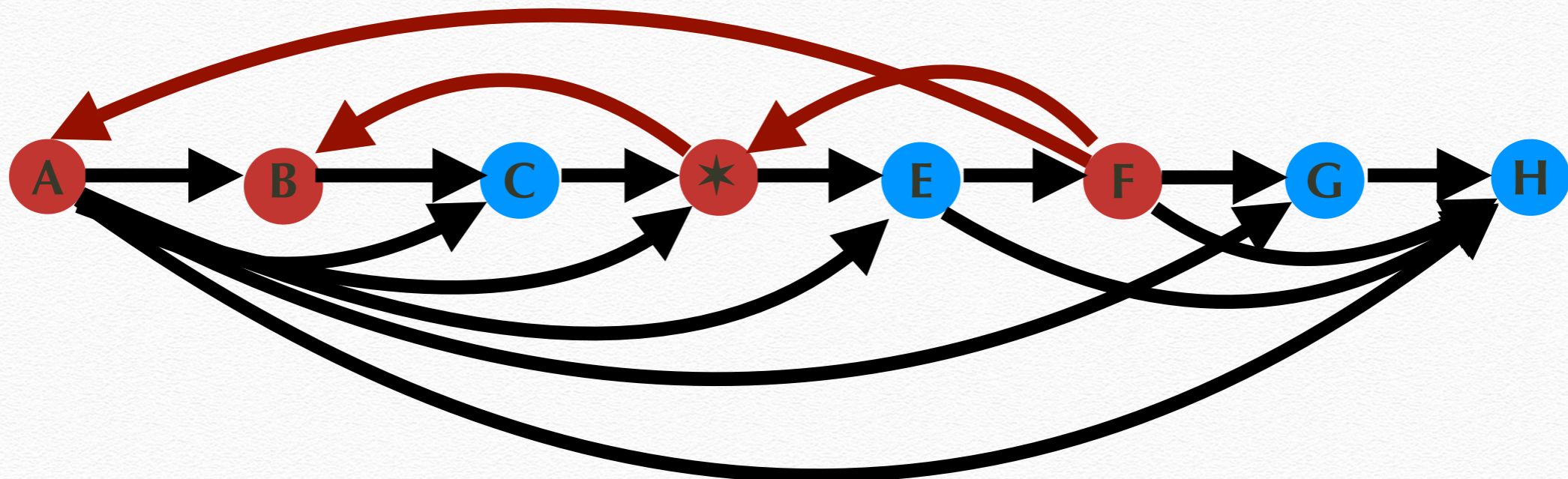
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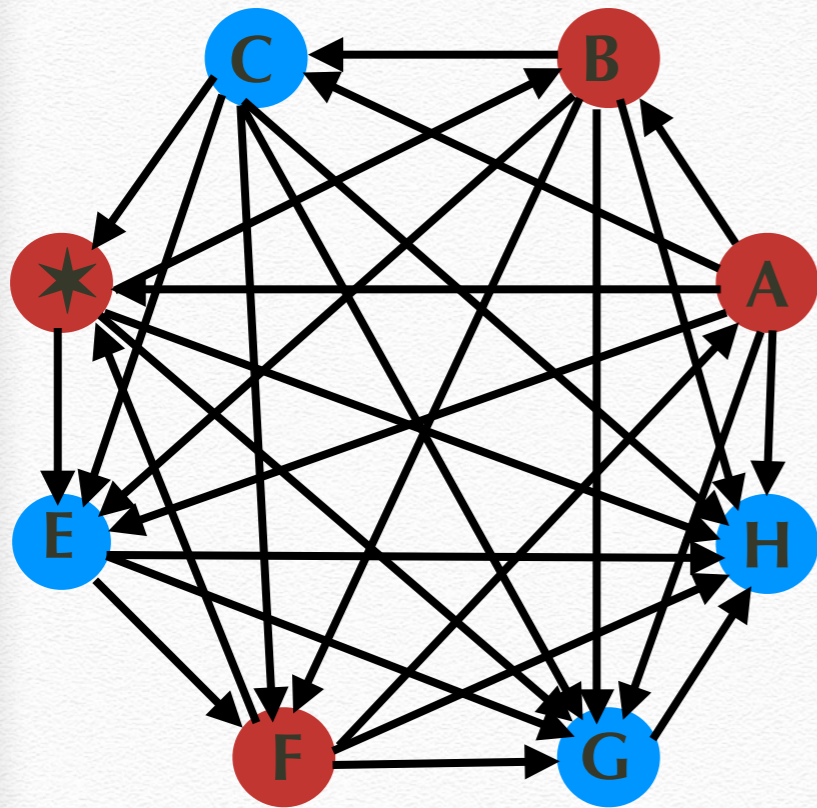


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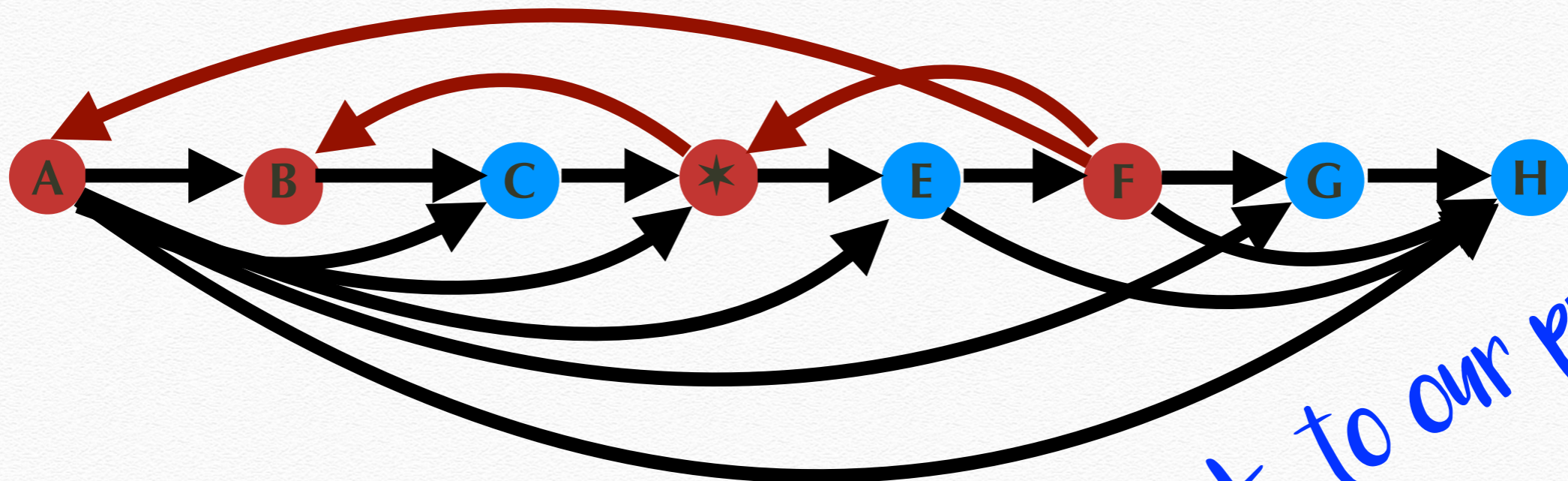


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Back to our problem

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(2) $2^{O(k^2 \log k)}$ **poly**(n) using ILP [Ramanujam and Szeider AAI'17]

OUR WORK: **PARAM TOURNAMENT FIXING**

Gupta, Roy, Saurabh & Zehavi IJCAI'18

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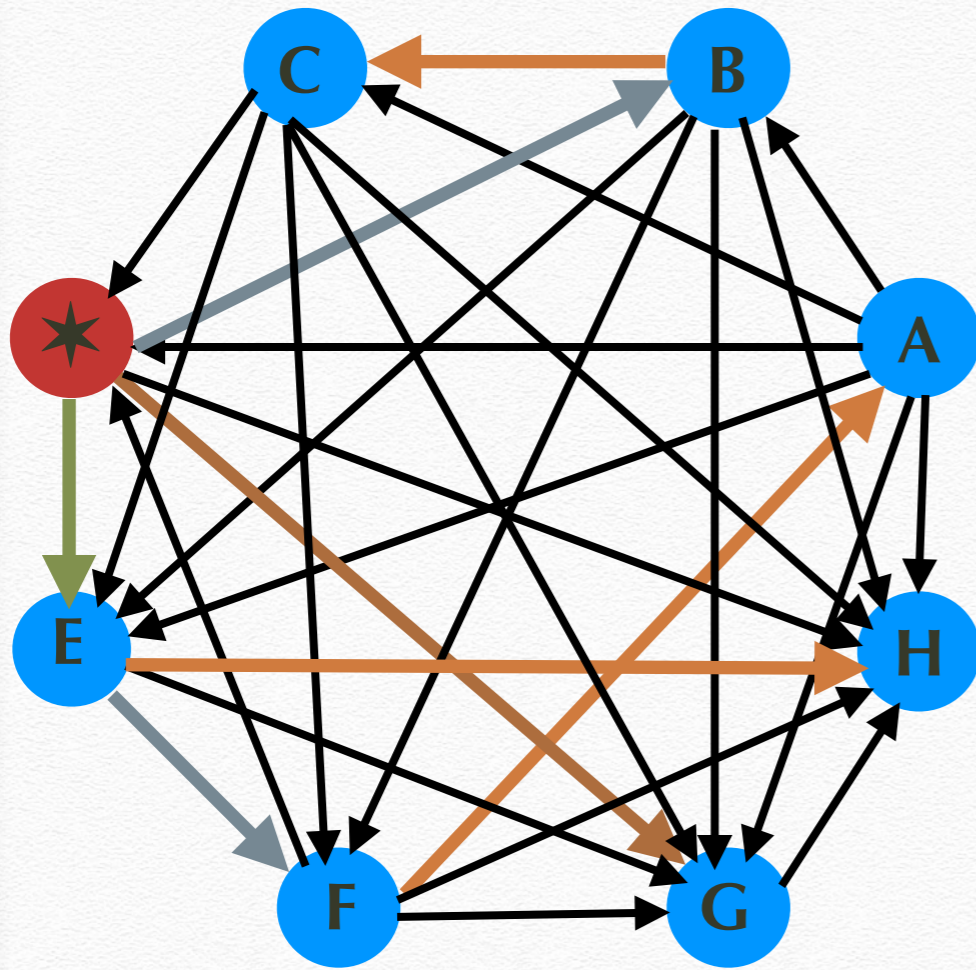
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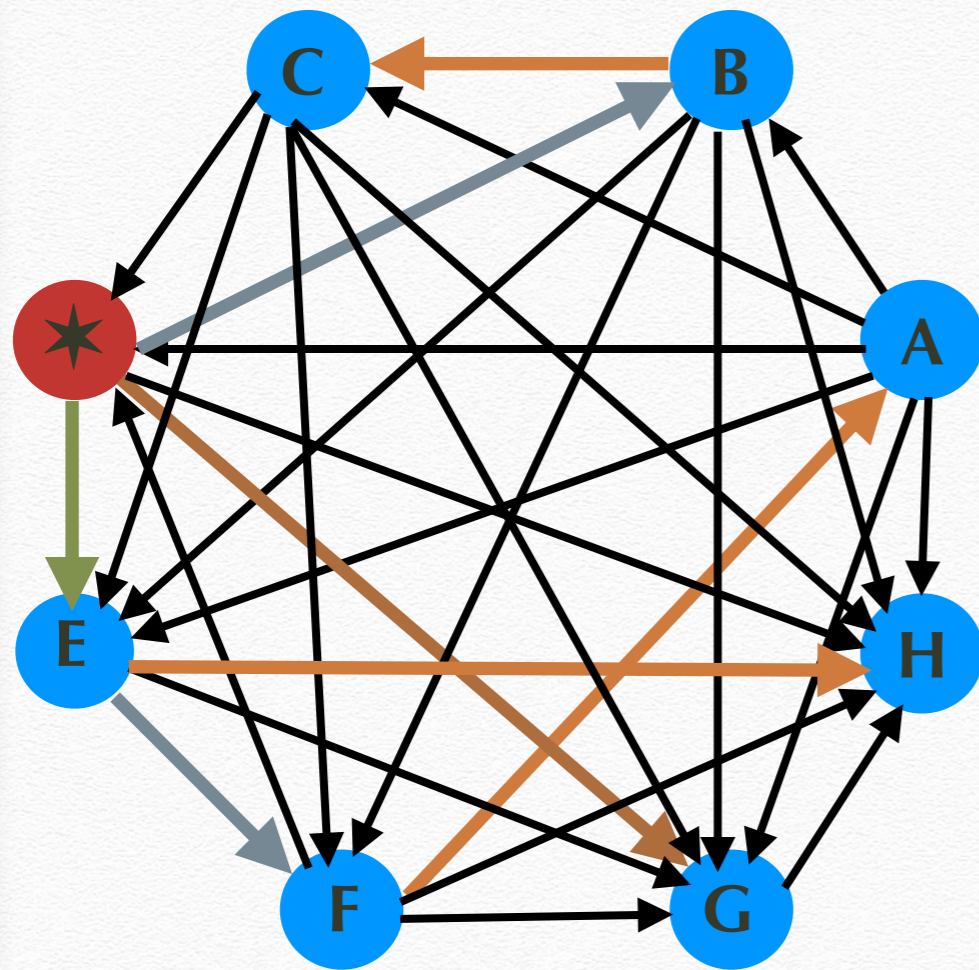
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- ❖ Combinatorial algorithm using a greedy strategy
- ❖ Reveals structural properties

Spanning Binomial Arborescences (SBA)

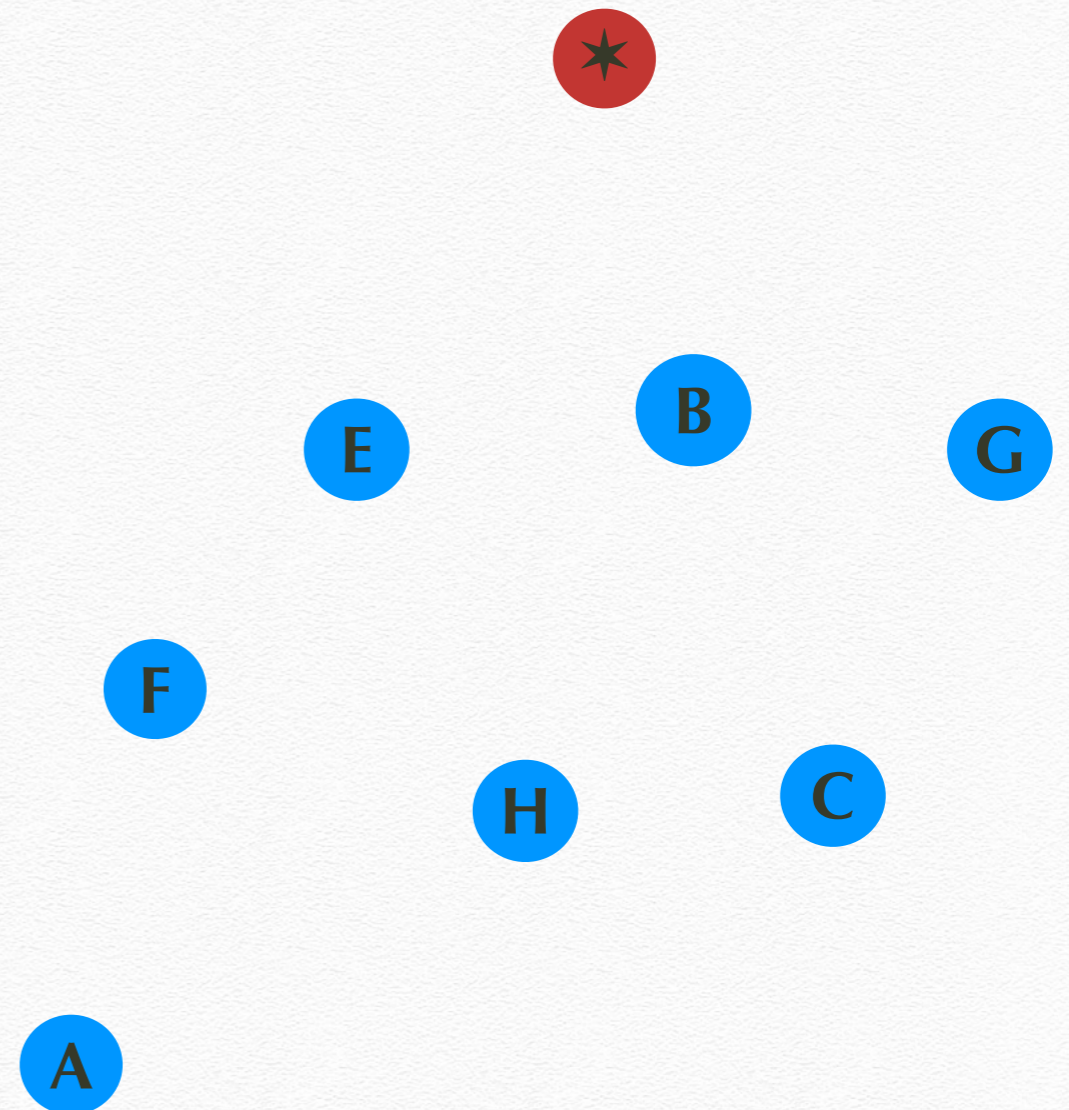


Win-lose graph

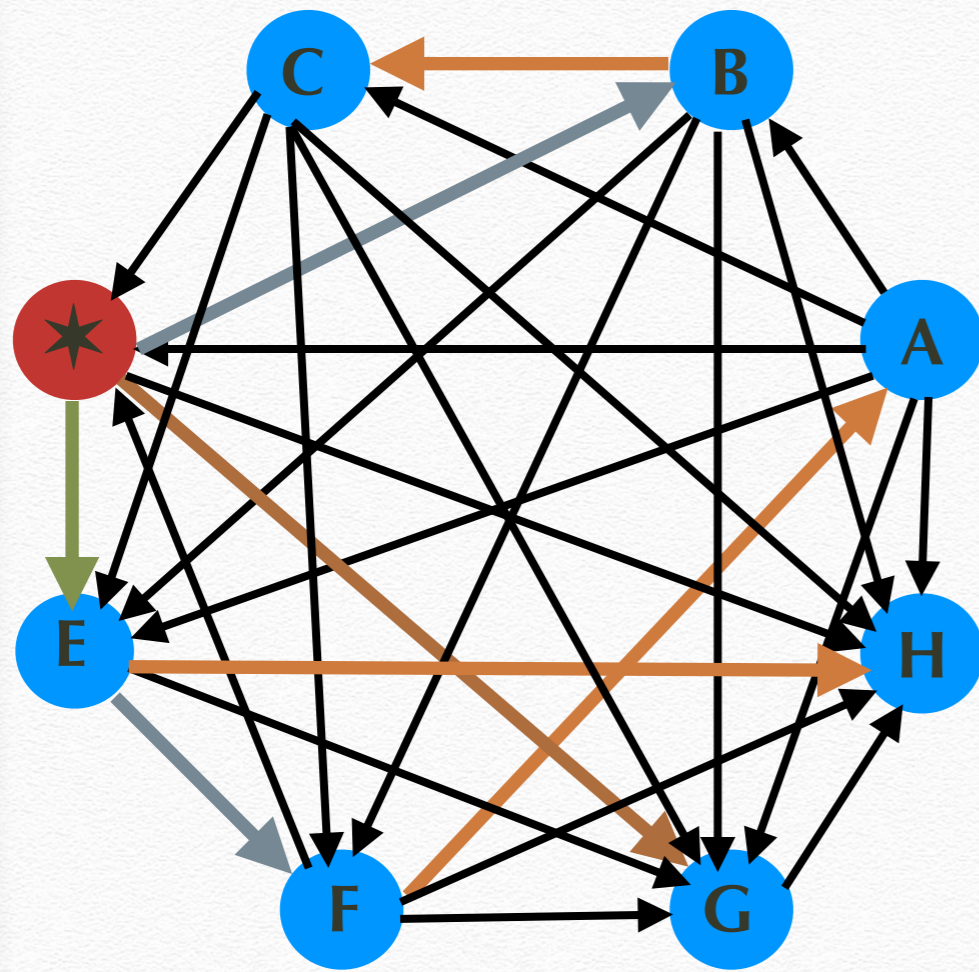
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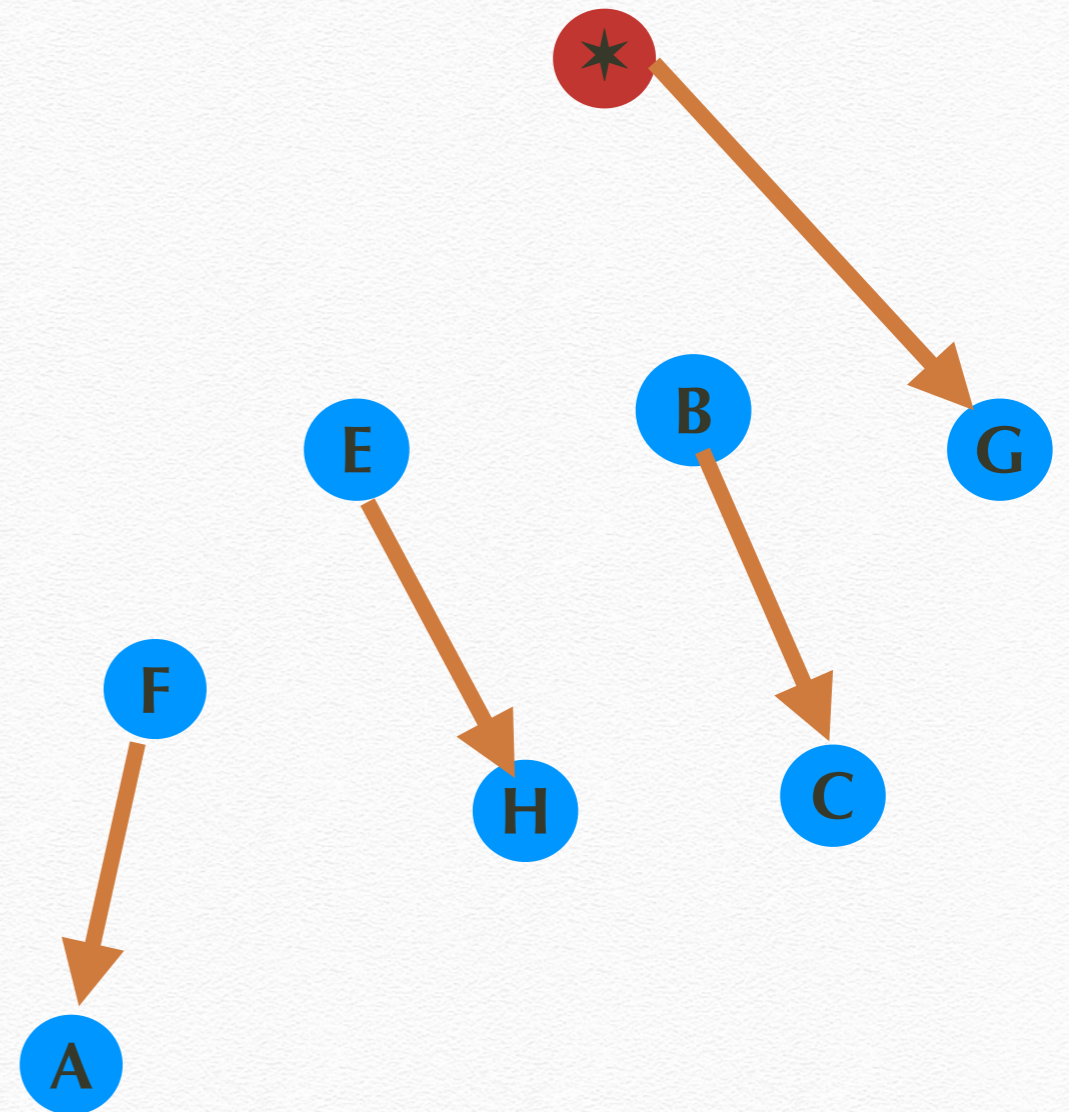
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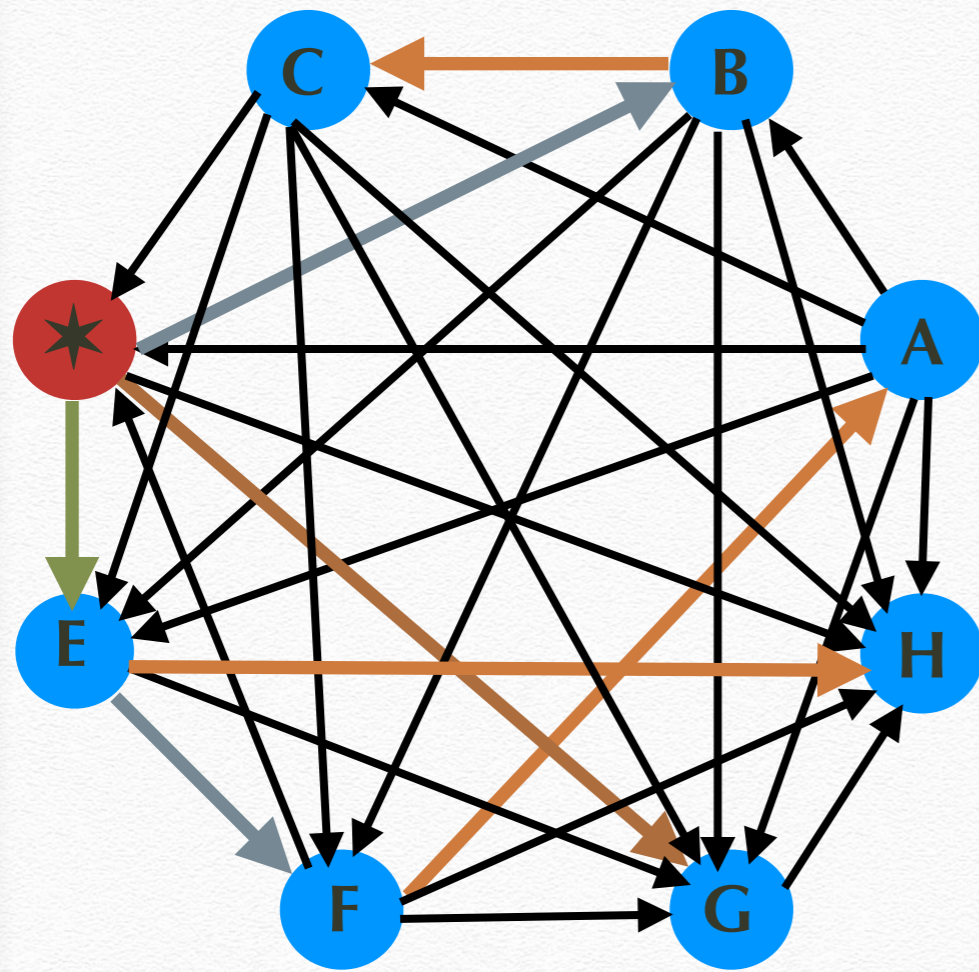
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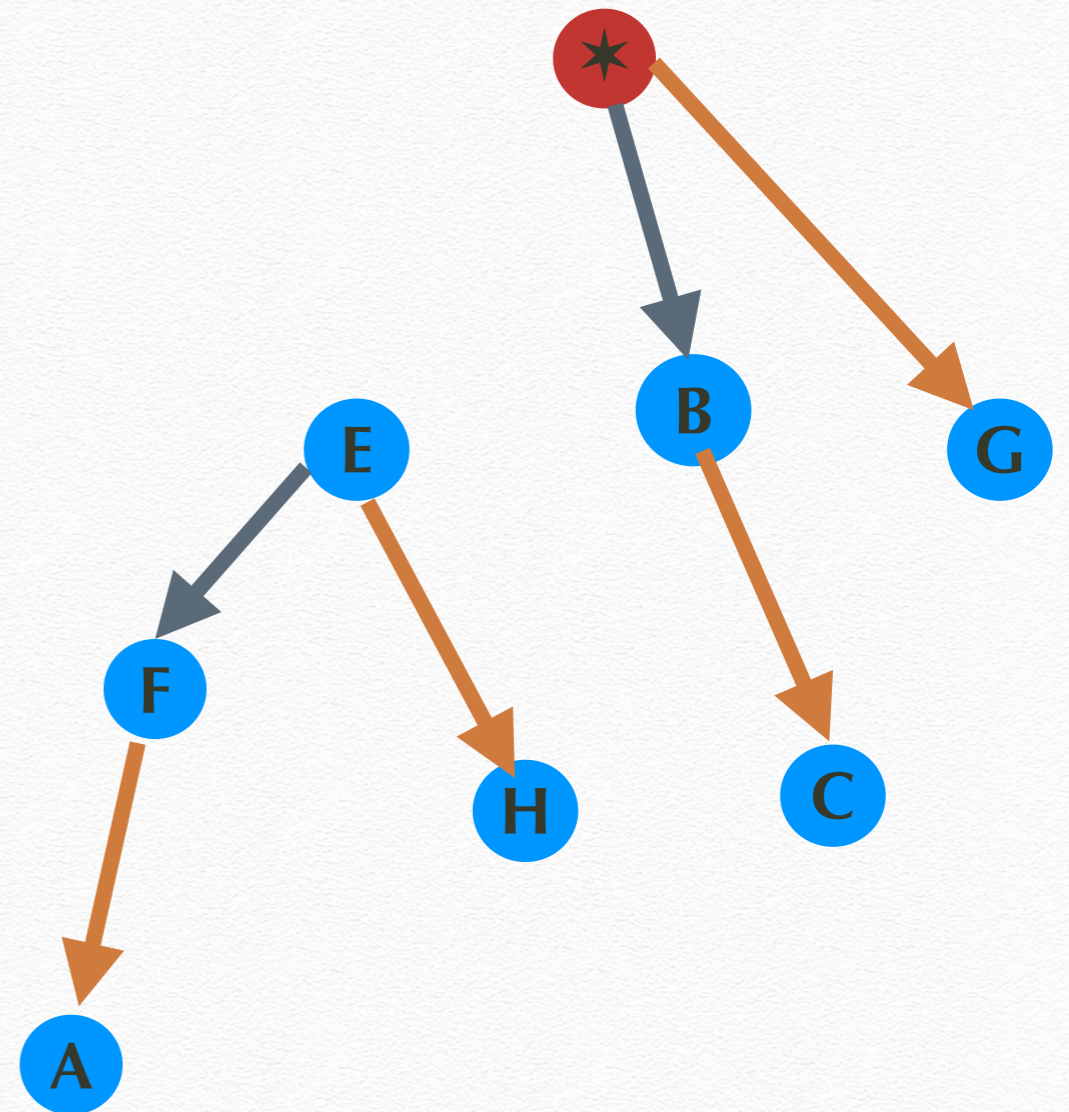
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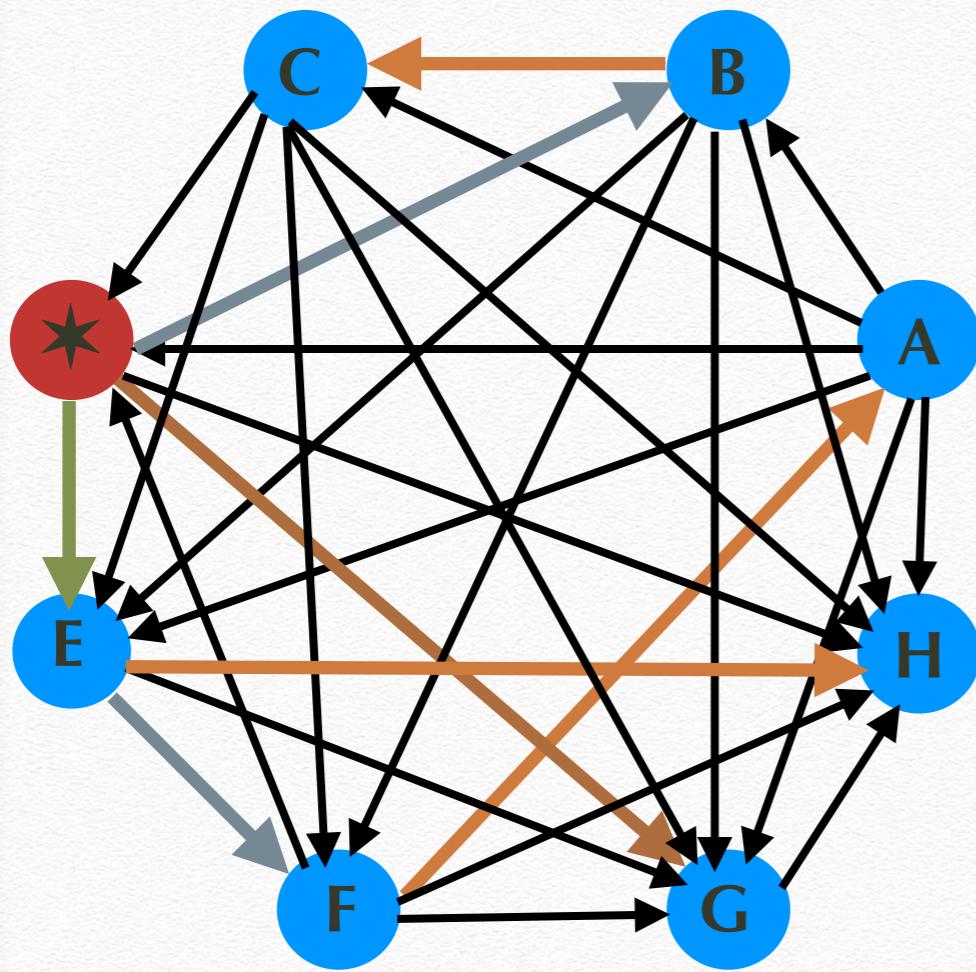
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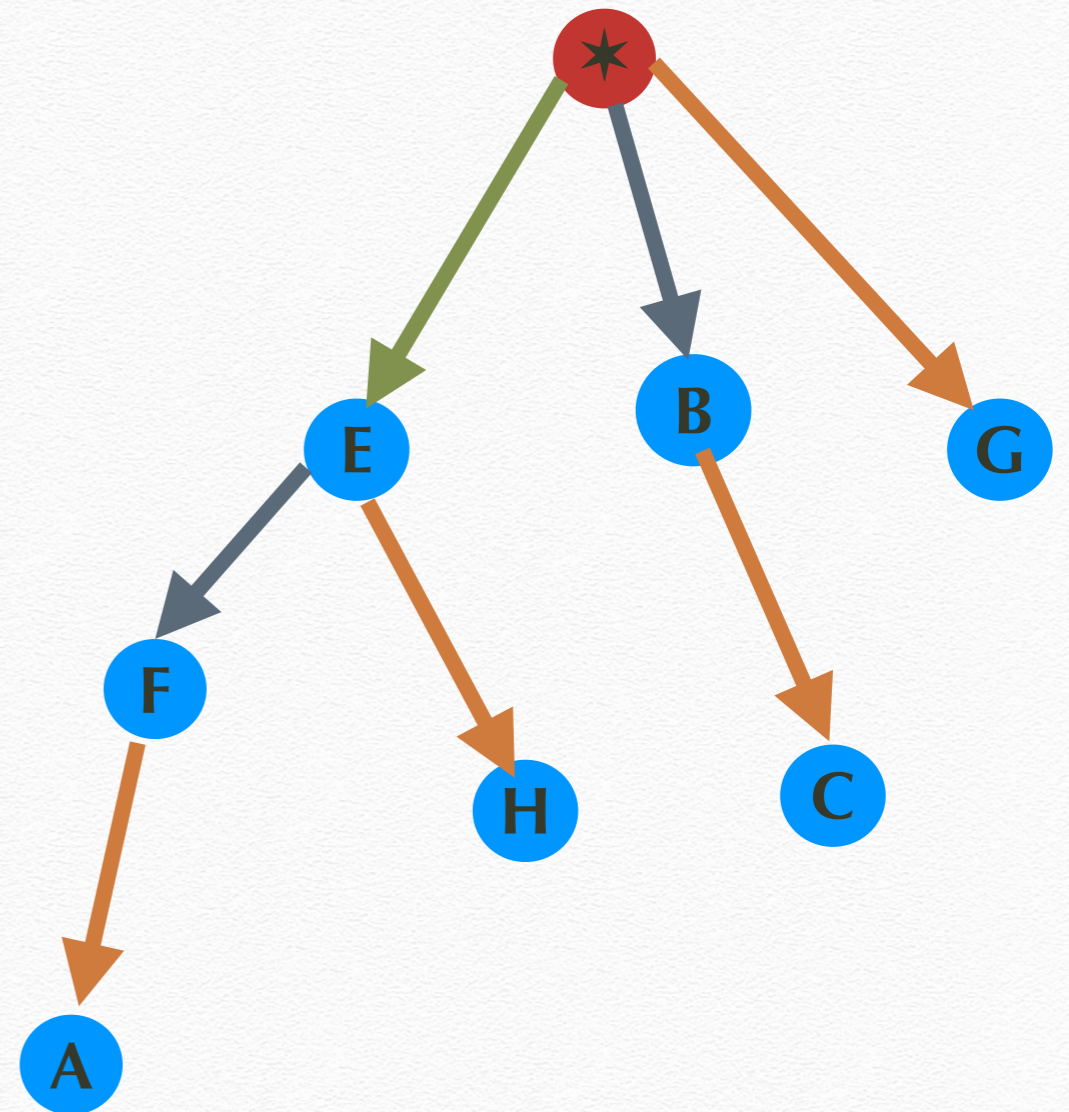
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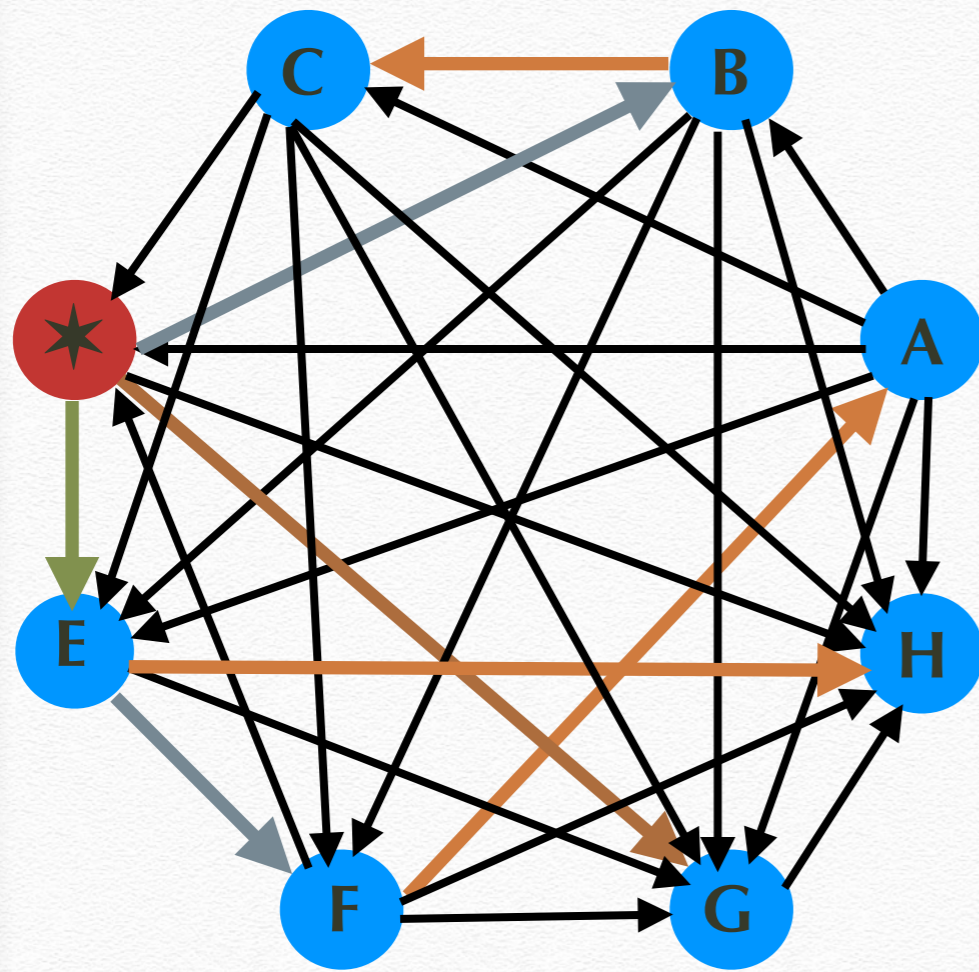
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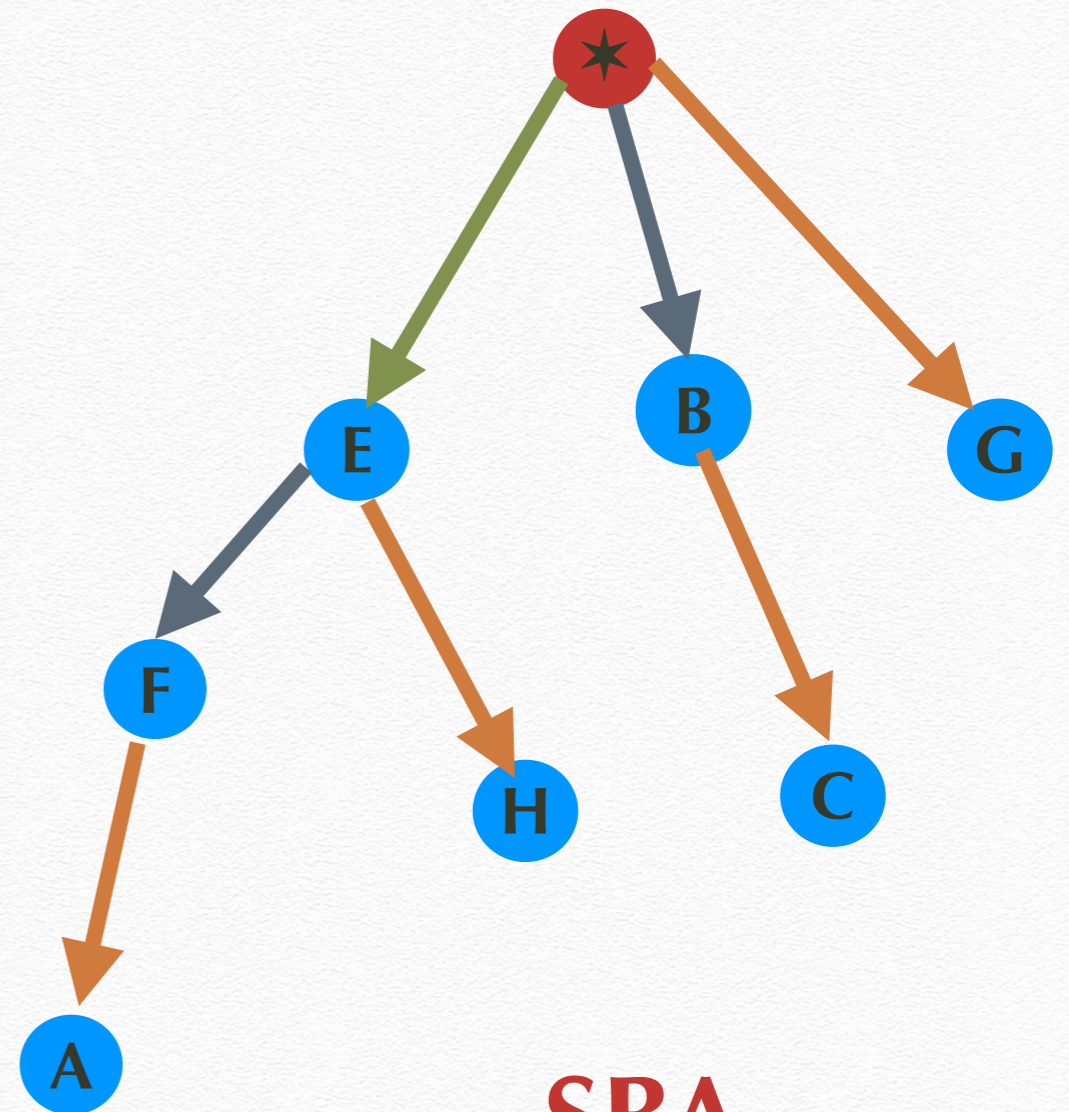
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SBA

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- ❖ A single node **v** is a **BA** rooted at **v**
- ❖ Given 2 vertex disjoint **BA** of equal size, **T_v** rooted at **v** and **T_u** rooted at **u**, adding arc **v → u** gives a **BA T_{vu}** rooted at **v**

Binomial Arborescences (BA)

- ❖ A **unlabeled BA** T rooted at v is defined recursively
- ❖ A single node v is a **BA** rooted at v
- ❖ Given 2 vertex disjoint **BA** of equal size, T_v rooted at v and T_u rooted at u , adding arc $v \rightarrow u$ gives a **BA** T_{vu} rooted at v

If $T \subseteq D$ (a directed graph) and $V(T) = V(D)$,
then T is **labeled spanning BA (SBA)**

Tournament Fixing \longleftrightarrow **SBA**

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[Williams AAAI'10]

TOURNAMENT FIXING In terms of an SBA

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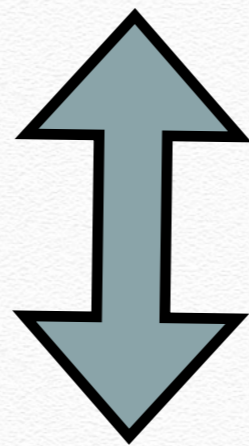
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(i) Fill up the paths & subtrees of the **template**

III. GREEDY: (ii) If final outcome is an **SBA**, then done.

(iii) Or else, guess again

**What if no favorable
seeding exists for**

favorite ?

Can *favourite* win with bribery?

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INPUT: Win-lose graph

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Can we reverse **l** arcs in the **win-lose graph** so that there will be an **SBA** with *favorite* as the root ?

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- ❖ Answered in $2^n \text{poly}(n)$ time & $\text{poly}(n)$ space, $n :=$ number of players.

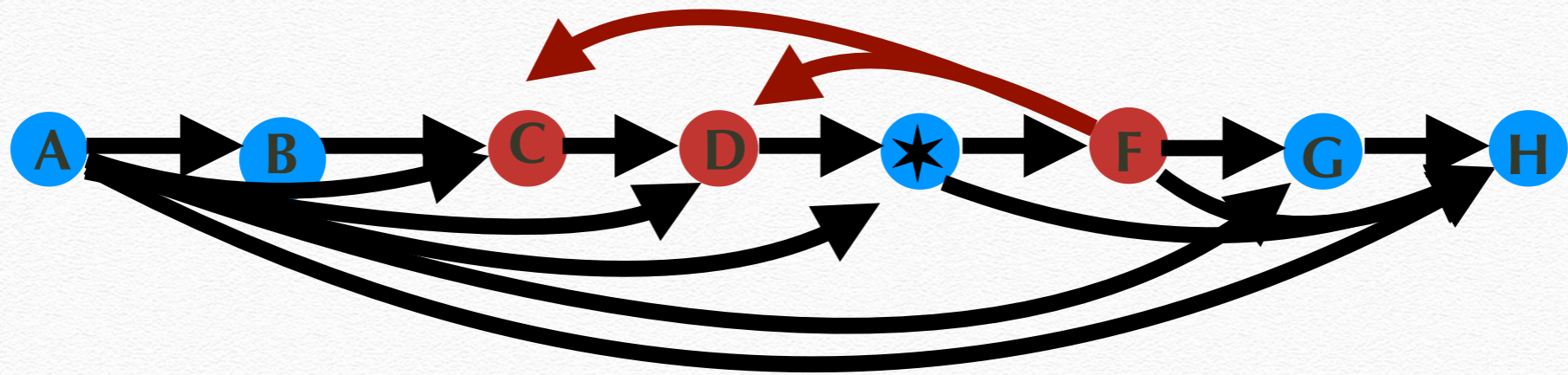
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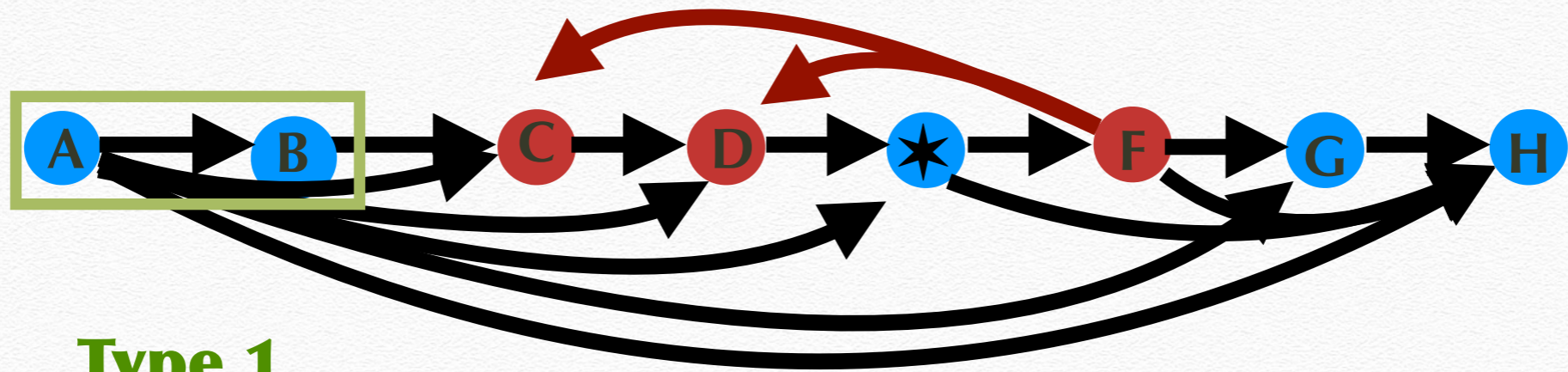
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 - ❖ Uses our algorithm for **TOURNAMENT FIXING**

ELITE (PLAYERS) CLUB

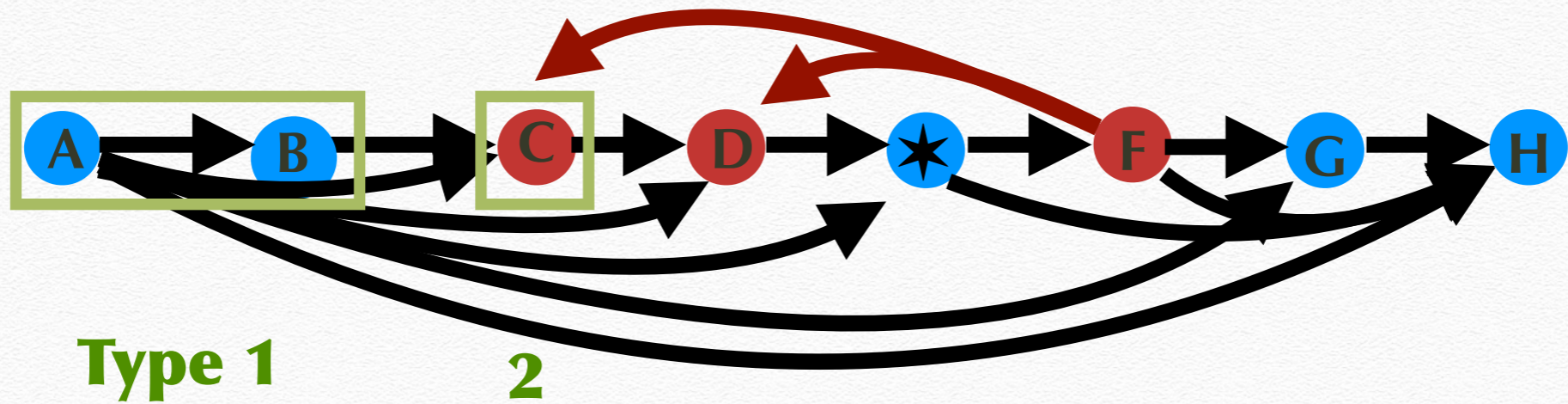


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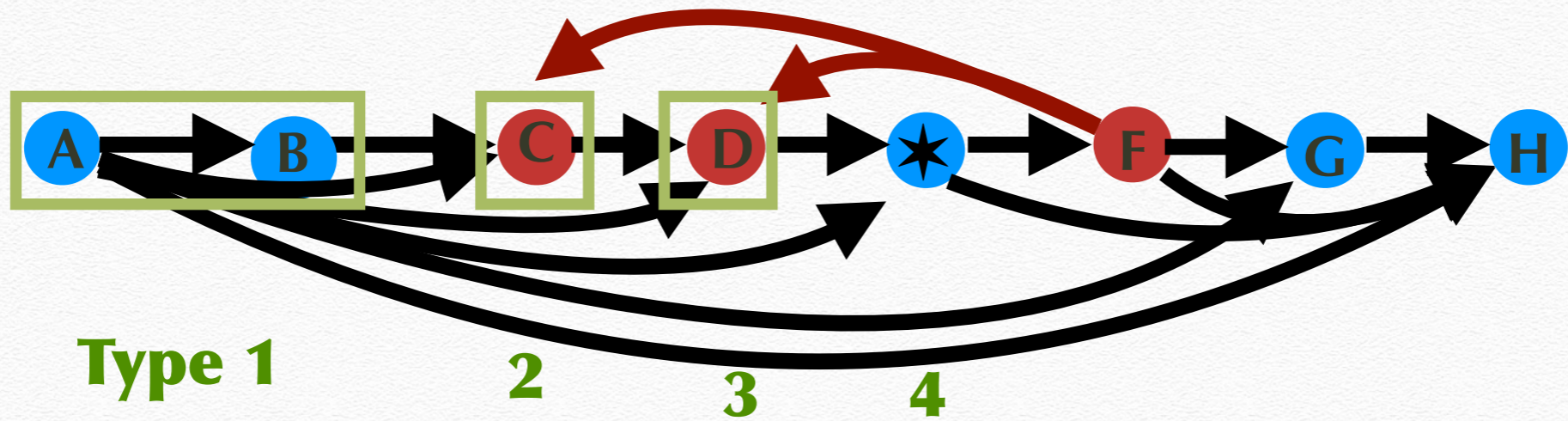


Type 1

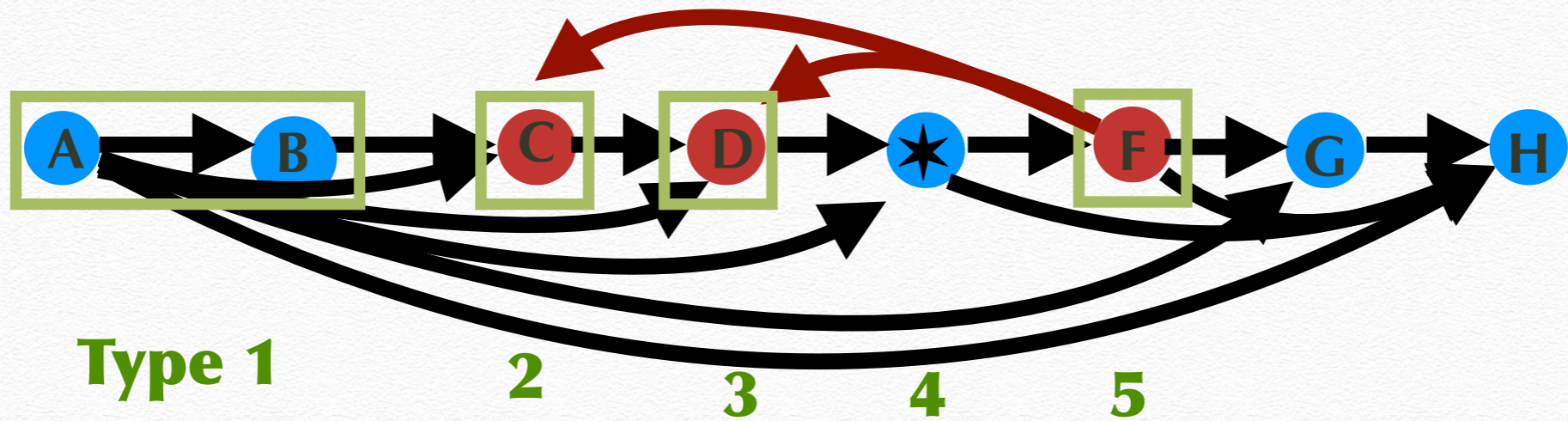
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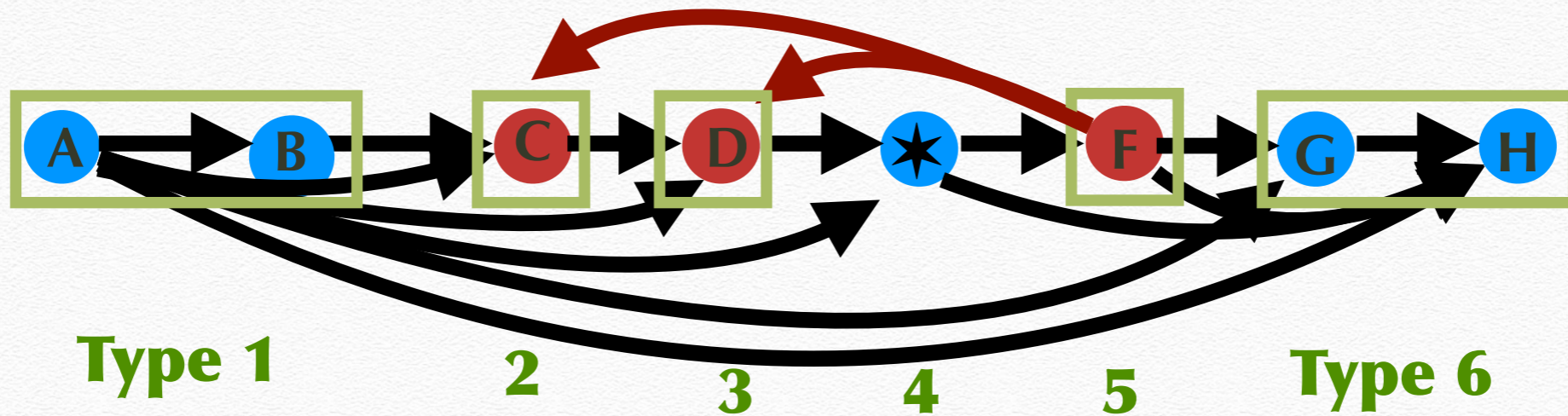
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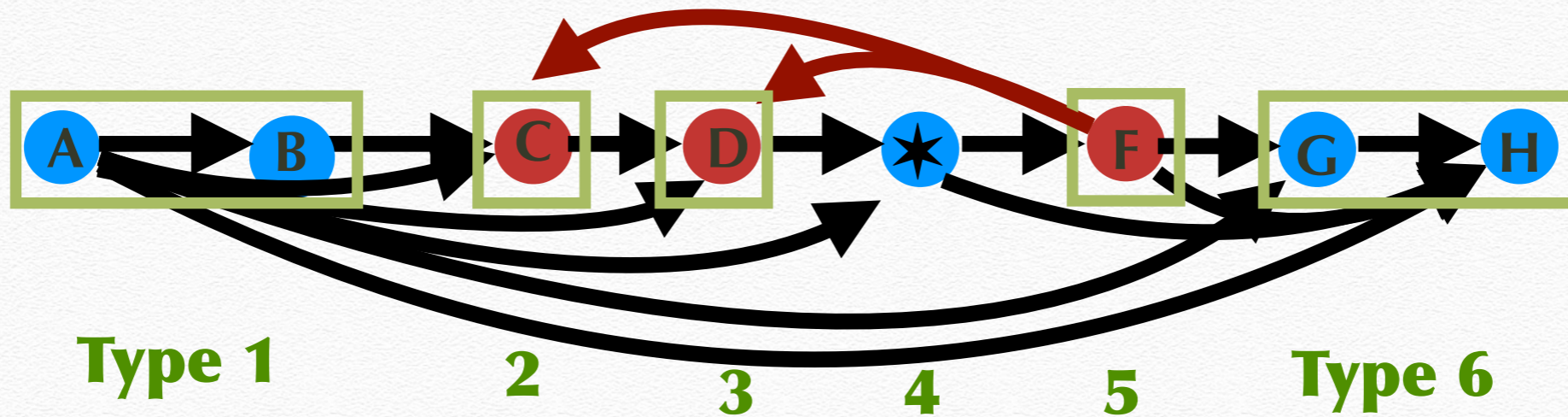
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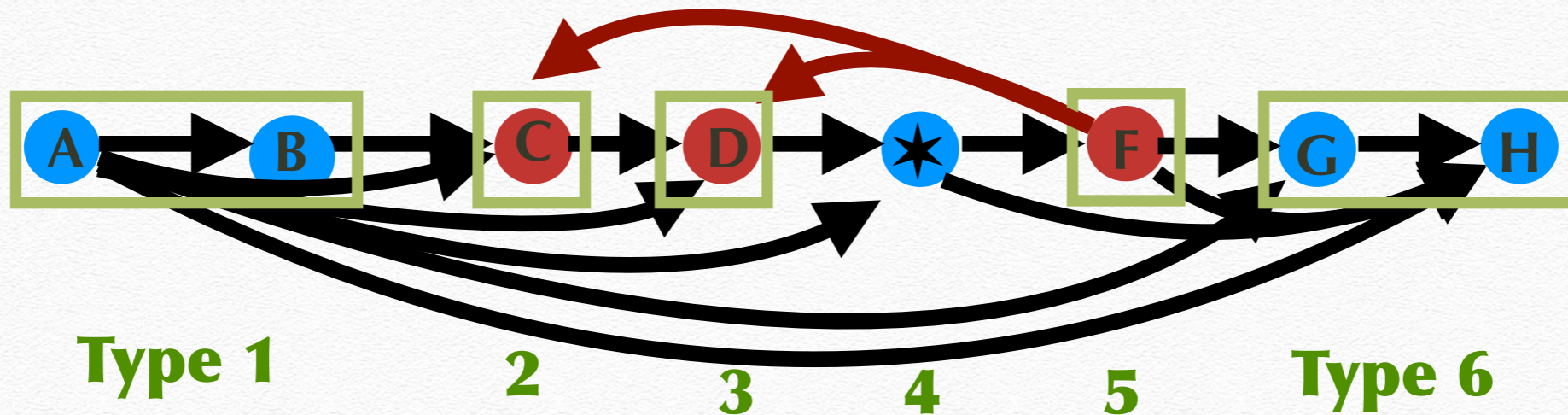


ELITE (PLAYERS) CLUB



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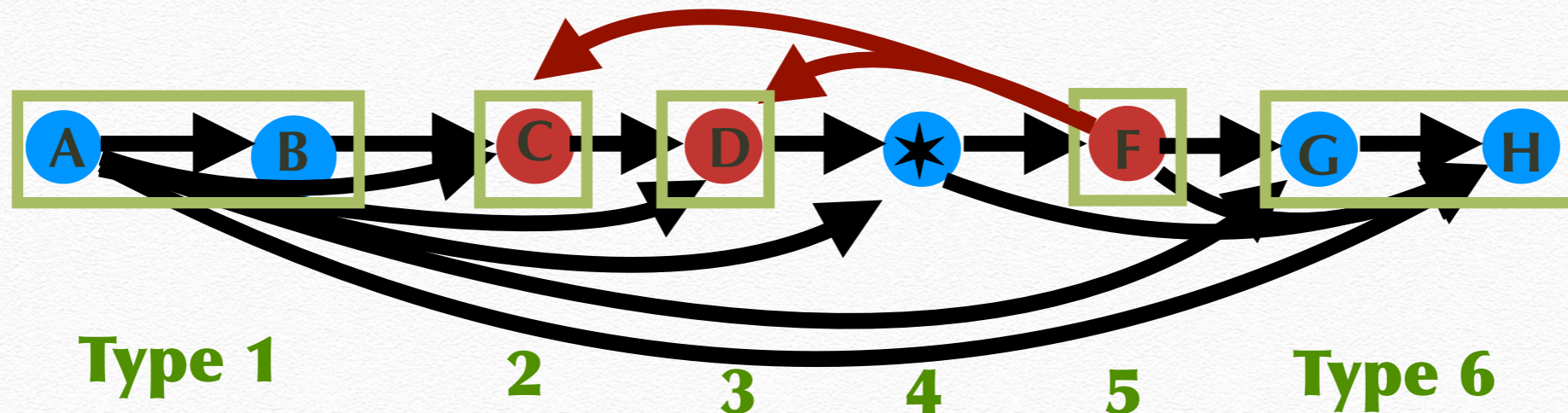
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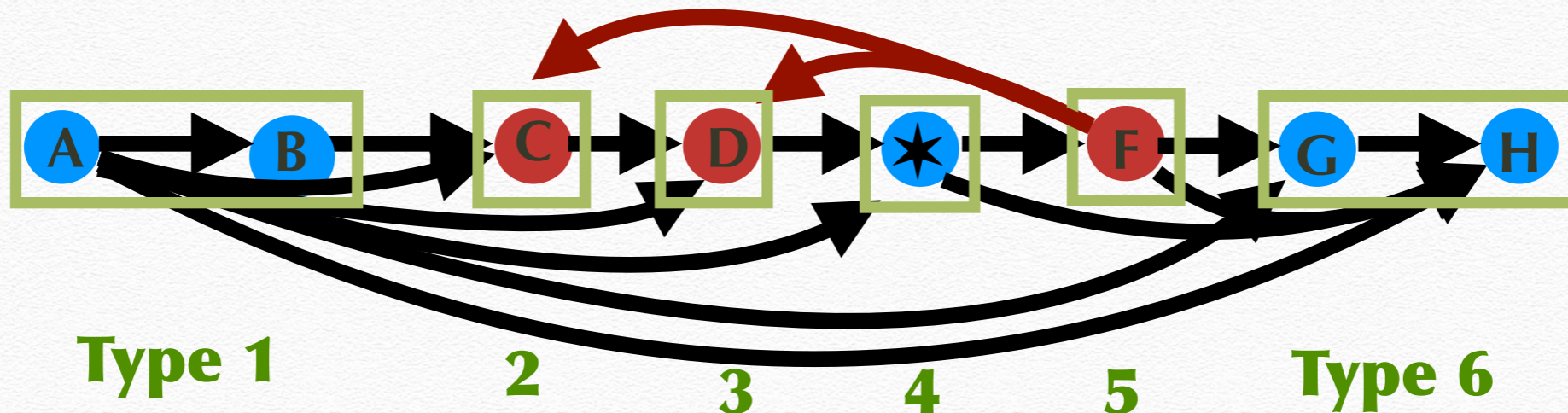
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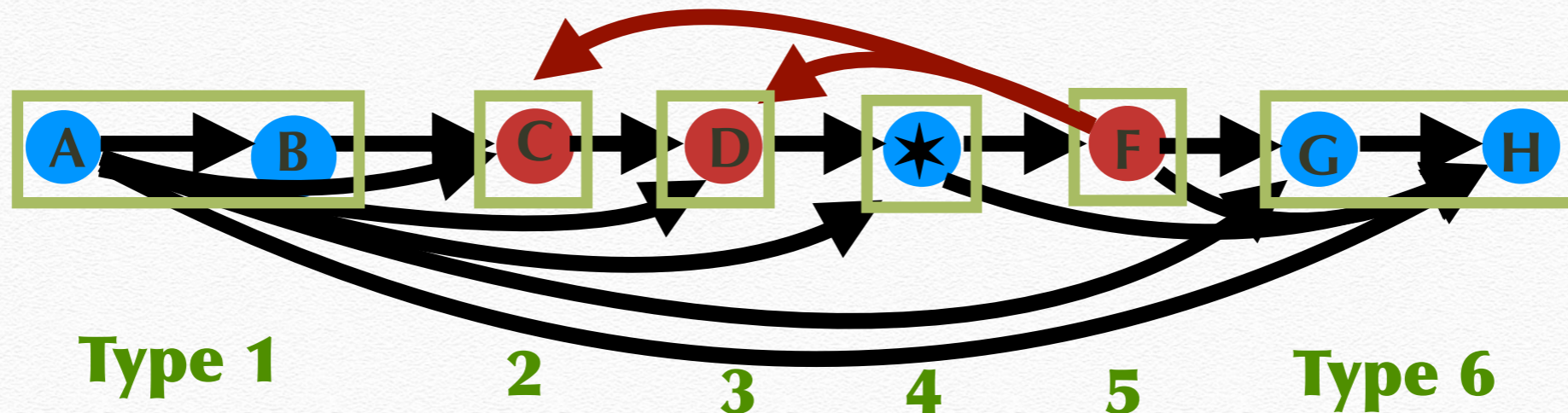
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ELITE CLUB = {A, B, C, D }

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properties used by our algorithm.

IN CONCLUSION

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 - ❖ Are these problems solvable in time $f(k)\text{poly}(n)$, $k := \text{FVS}$ in win-lose graph

THANK YOU!



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◆ **Win lose graph** is not acyclic

◆ *favorite* can win \iff there exists $\frac{n}{2^l} - 1$ players U

s.t. there is a seeding on $U \cup \{ \textit{favorite} \}$ that makes

favorite win

◆ *favorite* wins if it beats $\frac{n}{2^l} - 1$ players

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❖ **SPORTS**

- ❖ **Tennis Tournaments**

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