



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI SALERNO

# CHALLENGING MEMORY AND TIME COMPLEXITY OF SUBGRAPH ISOMORPHISM PROBLEM WITH VF3

---

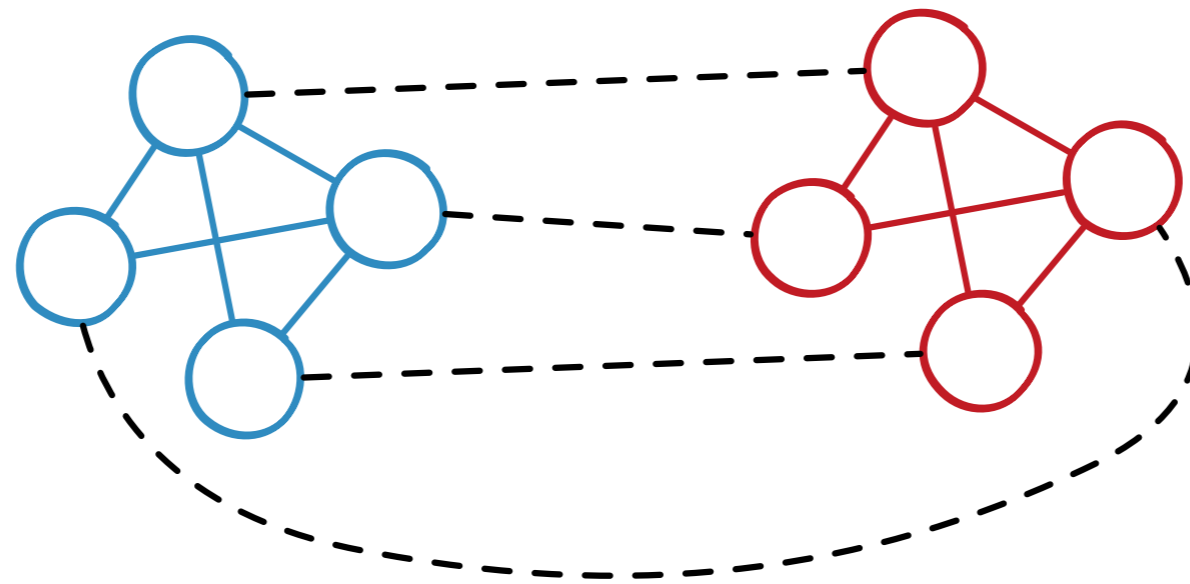


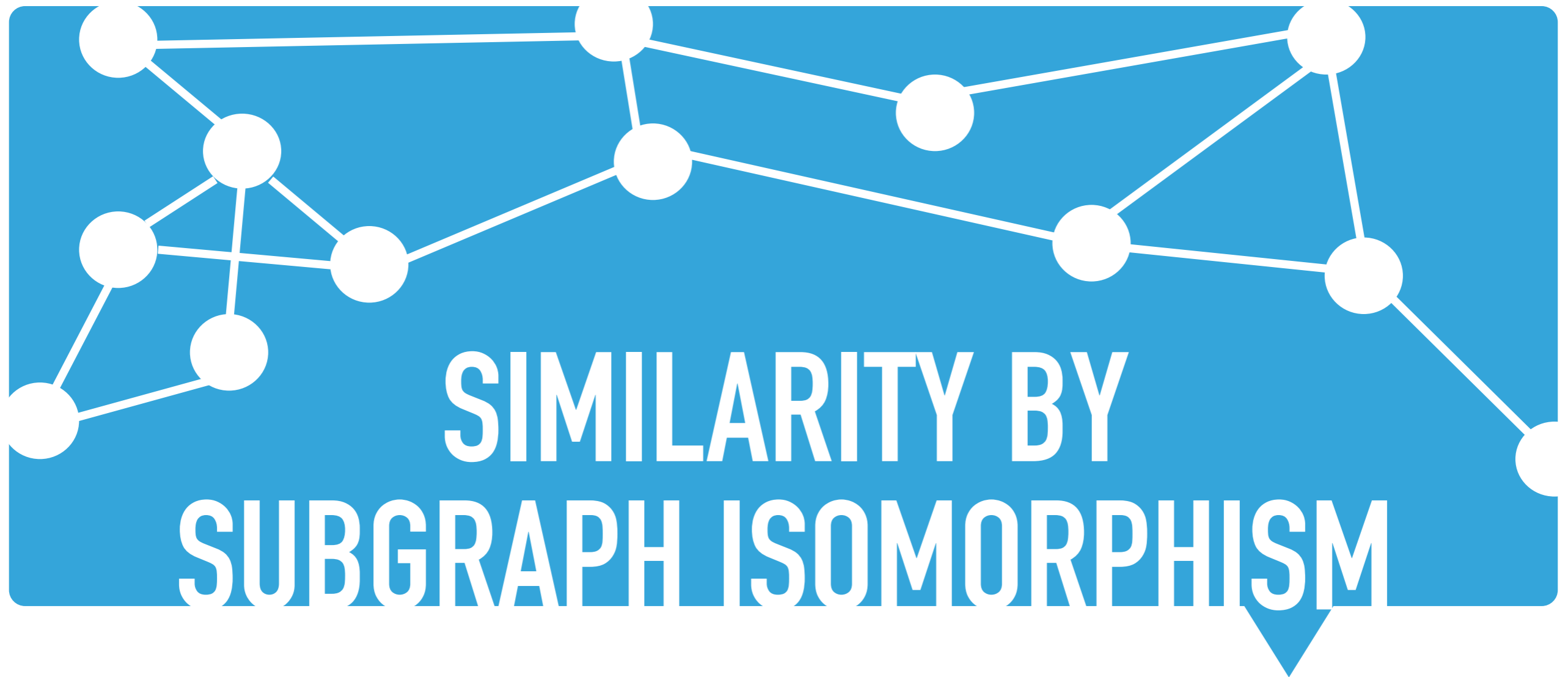


# GRAPH MATCHING ALGORITHMS

---

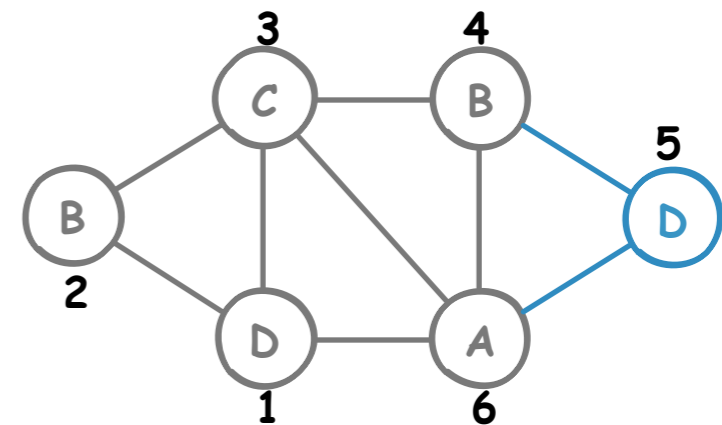
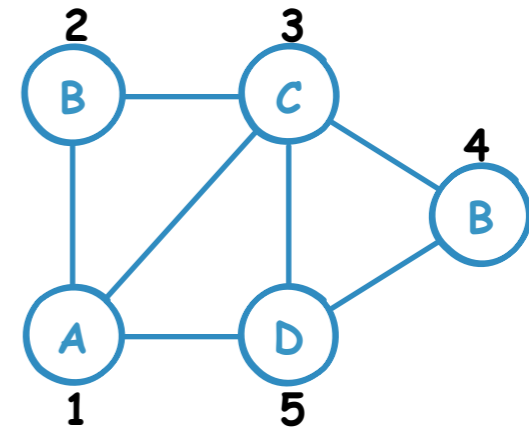
- ▶ Exact Graph Matching
  - ▶ Structure Preserving Mapping
    - ▶ Adjacency-preserving
    - ▶ Non-adjacency preserving
  - ▶ **NP-Complete Problem**





# WHAT IS SUBGRAPH ISOMORPHISM?

- ▶ Given a graph:
  - ▶ Is it inside another graph?
  - ▶ How many times?
  - ▶ Where?
- ▶ Common applications:
  - ▶ Pattern search or Graph querying
  - ▶ Graph learning algorithms
  - ▶ Graph clustering



# WHERE DID WE BEGIN FROM? VF2!

---

- ▶ **A (sub) graph isomorphism algorithm for matching large graphs** - IEEE Transactions on PAMI - L. Cordella, P. Foggia, C. Sansone, M. Vento - 2004.
  
- ▶ **VF2 is currently used in:**
  - ▶ Boost C++ library
  - ▶ Networkx python library
  - ▶ MIT Courses

# VF3: IN BRIEF

---

## Inherited

- ▶ **State Space Representation**
  - ▶ Each state is partial solution
  - ▶ A goal is consistent complete solution
- ▶ **Depth-First** search with backtracking
  - ▶ State space as a tree by a total order relationship
- ▶ **Feasibility rules** to explore the space
  - ▶ Consistent states only
  - ▶ 2-levels Look-ahead

# VF3: IN BRIEF

---

## Inherited

- ▶ **State Space Representation**
  - ▶ Each state is partial solution
  - ▶ A goal is consistent complete solution
- ▶ **Depth-First** search with backtracking
  - ▶ State space as a tree by a total order relationship
- ▶ **Feasibility rules** to explore the space
  - ▶ Consistent states only
  - ▶ 2-levels Look-ahead

## New

- ▶ **Pattern Pre-processing**
  - ▶ The first graph is explored before starting.
- ▶ **Straightened look-ahead**
  - ▶ Node classification
    - ▶ Structural and Semantic features
- ▶ **New state transition function**
  - ▶ Significantly reduced the set where the next pairs are searched.



# VF3: IN BRIEF

---

## Inherited

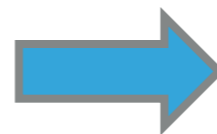
- ▶ **State Space Representation**
  - ▶ Each state is partial solution
  - ▶ A goal is consistent complete solution
- ▶ **Depth-First** search with backtracking
  - ▶ State space as a tree by a total order relationship
- ▶ **Feasibility rules** to explore the space
  - ▶ Consistent states only
  - ▶ 2-levels Look-ahead

## Unchanged Complexity

- ▶ Linear in space
- ▶ Quadratic in time (avg)

## New

- ▶ **Pattern Pre-processing**
  - ▶ The first graph is explored before starting.
- ▶ **Straightened look-ahead**
  - ▶ Node classification
    - ▶ Structural and Semantic features
- ▶ **New state transition function**
  - ▶ Significantly reduced the set where the next pairs are searched.



**But faster!**

(From 10 to 1000 times)

# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (WARMUP)

## 1. Classify the nodes

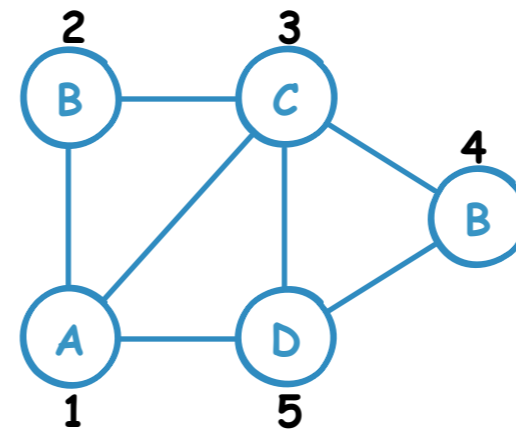
- ▶ Structural features
- ▶ Semantic features

## 2. Order the nodes

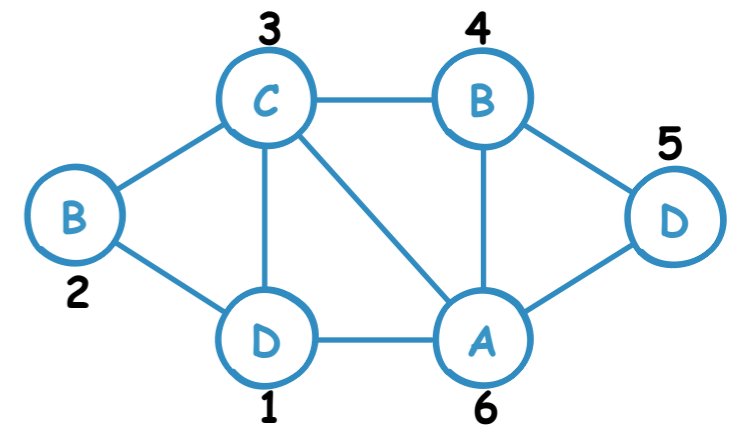
- ▶ Most constrained first
- ▶ Most rare first
- ▶ Generate a node sequence

## 3. Pre-process the pattern

- ▶ Prepare the structures
- ▶ Generate a coverage tree



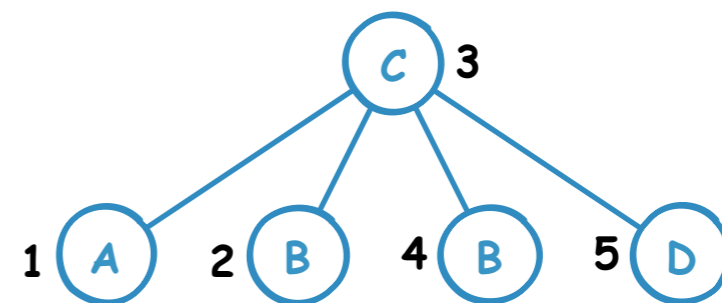
Pattern ( $G_1$ )



Target ( $G_2$ )

Class	1	2	3	4
Label	D	B	C	A

$$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$$



# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

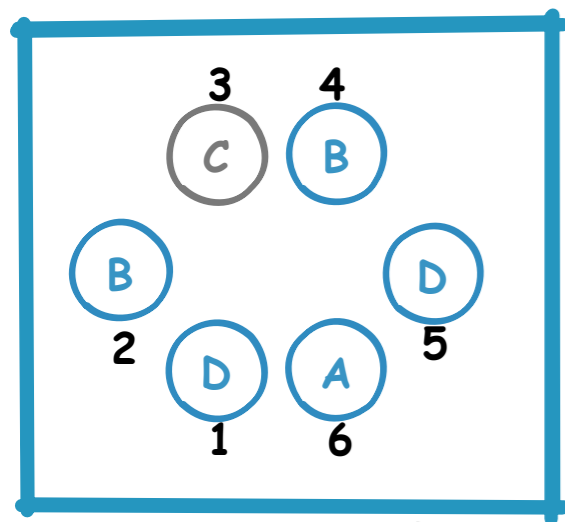
## 4. Exploring the state space

- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent states

State  
 $S_0$

Mapping  
 $M(S_0) = \emptyset$

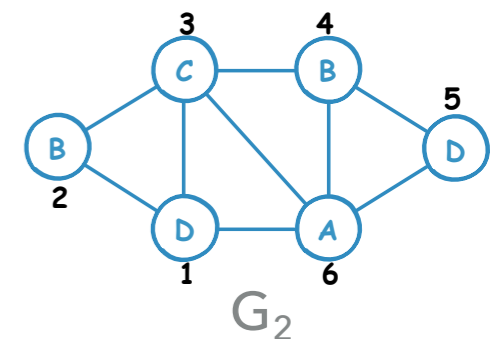
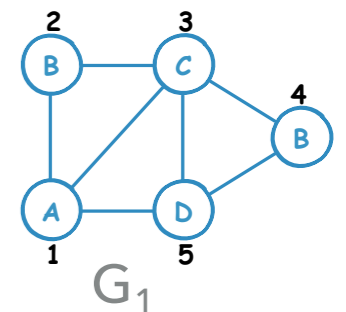
$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



Candidates of  $G_2$

$G_1(S_0)$

$G_2(S_0)$



Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

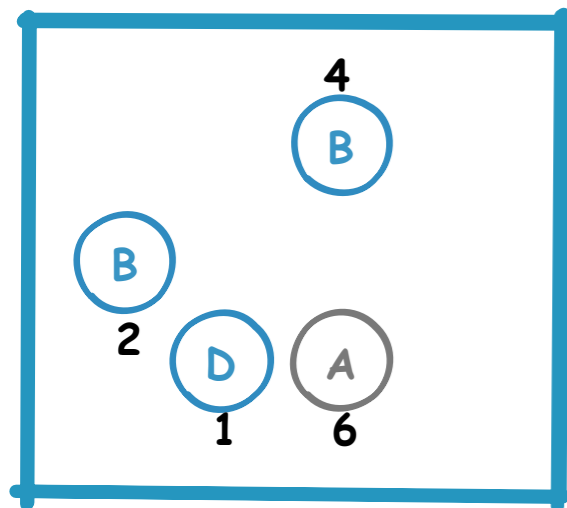
## 4. Exploring the state space

- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent state

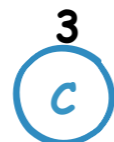
State  
 $S_0$   
 $S_1$

Mapping  
 $M(S_0) = \emptyset$   
 $M(S_1) = \{(3, 3)\}$

$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



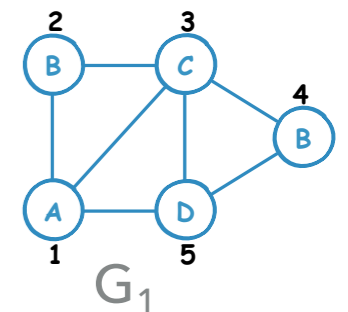
Candidates of  $G_2$



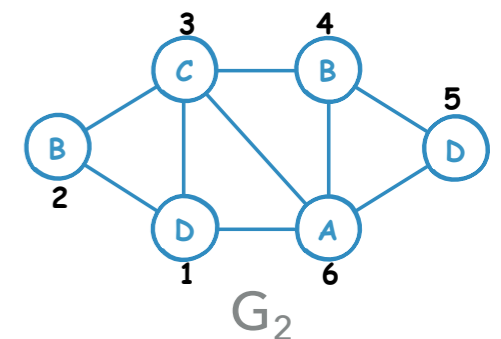
$G_1(S_1)$



$G_2(S_1)$



$G_1$



$G_2$

Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

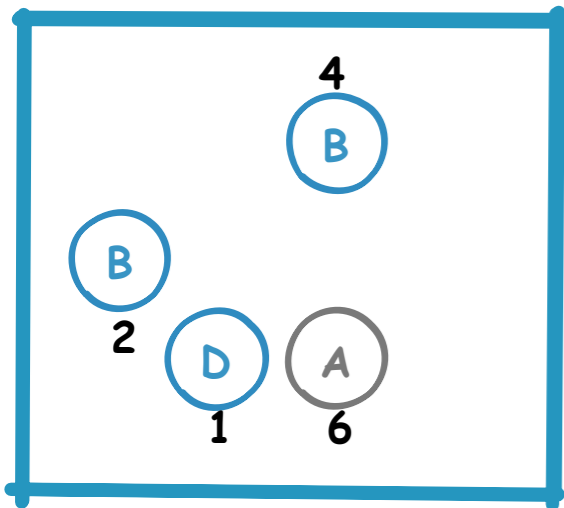
## 4. Exploring the state space

- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent state

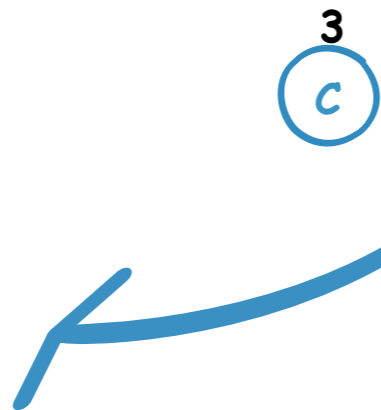
State  
 $S_0$   
 $S_1$

Mapping  
 $M(S_0) = \emptyset$   
 $M(S_1) = \{(3, 3)\}$

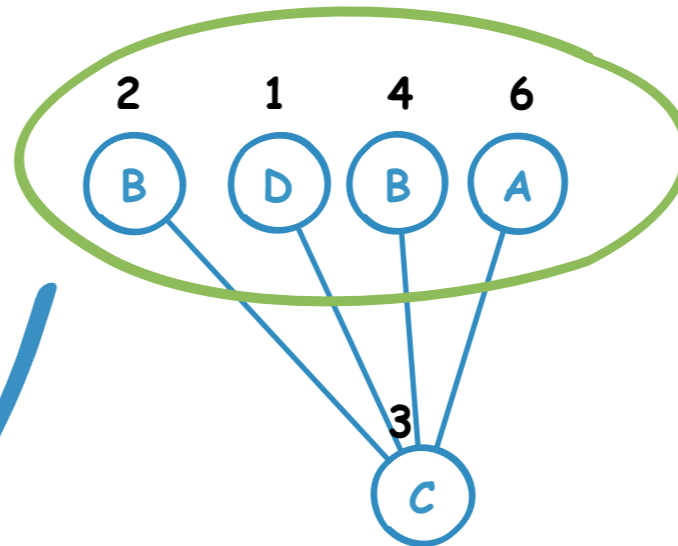
$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



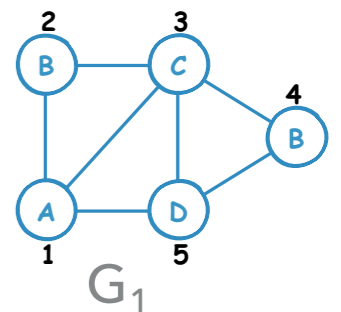
Candidates of  $G_2$



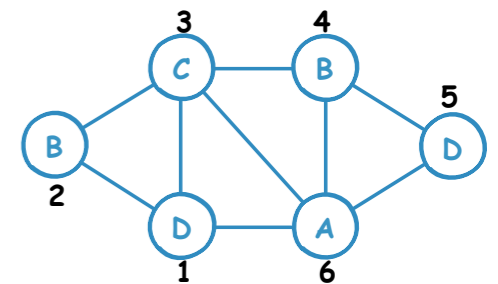
$G_1(S_1)$



$G_2(S_1)$



$G_1$



$G_2$

Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

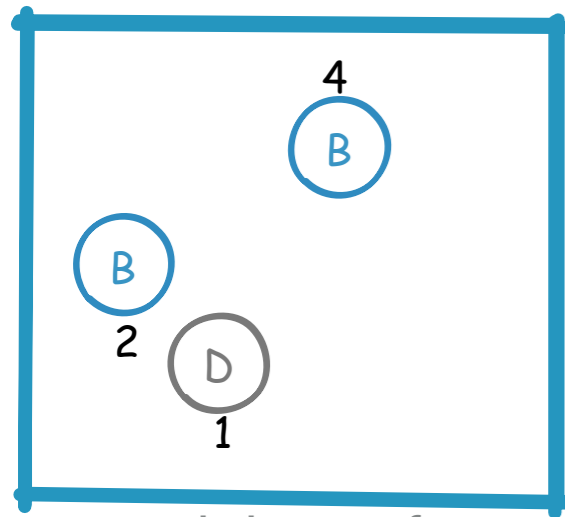
## 4. Exploring the state space

- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent state

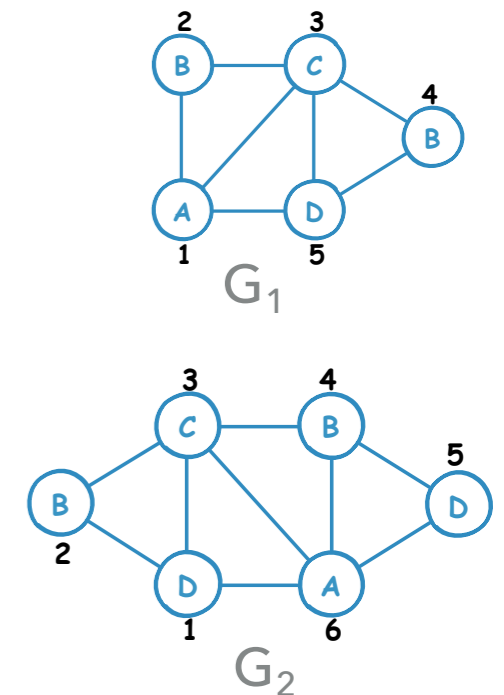
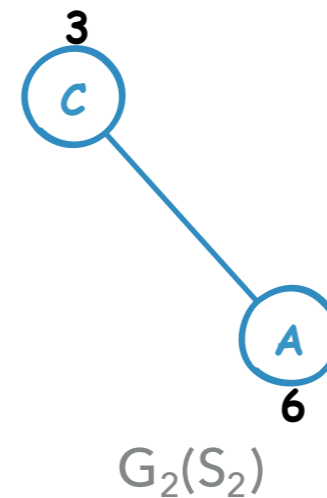
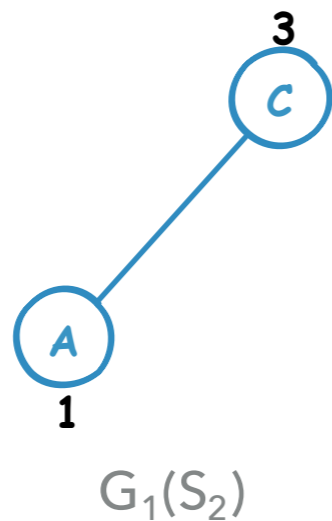
State  
 $S_0$   
 $S_1$   
 $S_2$

Mapping  
 $M(S_0) = \emptyset$   
 $M(S_1) = \{(3, 3)\}$   
 $M(S_2) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6)\}$

$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



Candidates of  $G_2$



Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

## 4. Exploring the state space

- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent state

State

$S_0$

$S_1$

$S_2$

$S_3$

Mapping

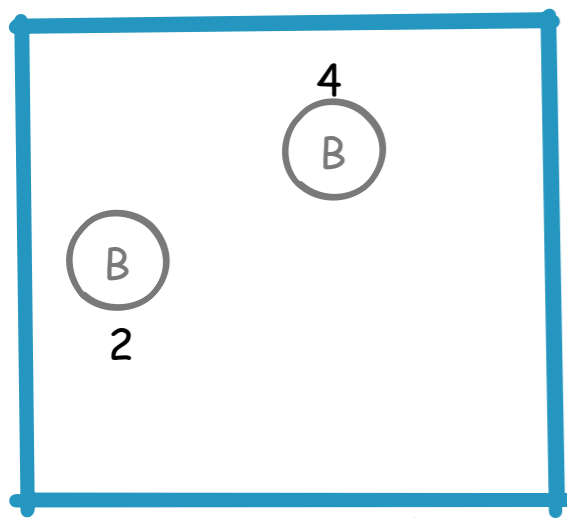
$M(S_0) = \emptyset$

$M(S_1) = \{(3, 3)\}$

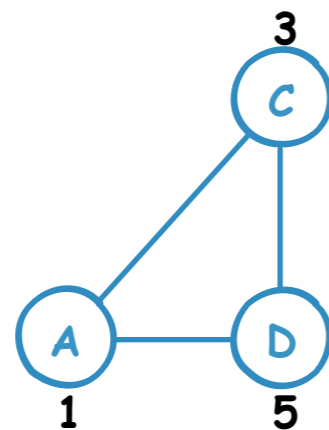
$M(S_2) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6)\}$

$M(S_3) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1)\}$

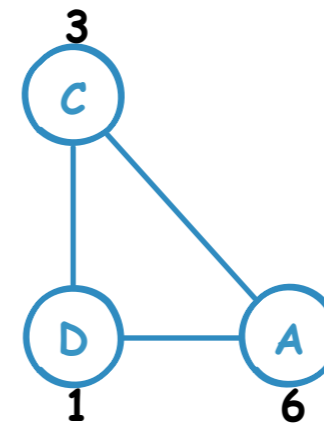
$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



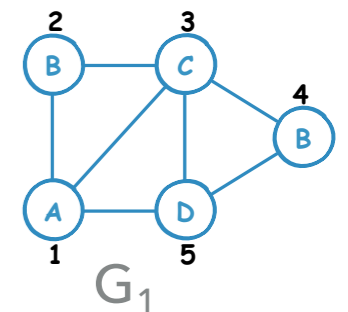
Candidates of  $G_2$



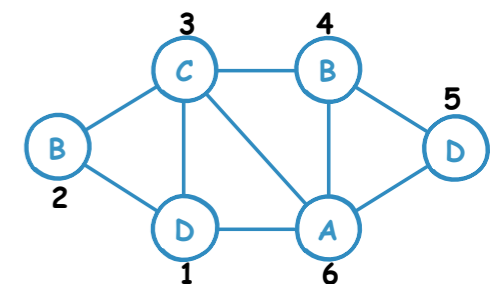
$G_1(S_3)$



$G_2(S_3)$



$G_1$



$G_2$

Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



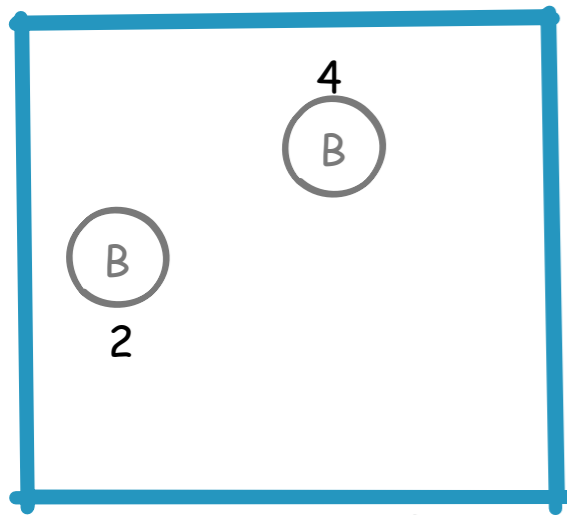
# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

## 4. Exploring the state space

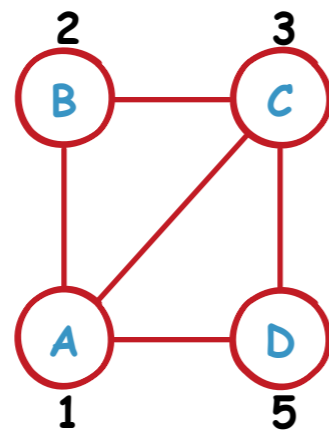
- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent state

State	Mapping
$S_0$	$M(S_0) = \emptyset$
$S_1$	$M(S_1) = \{(3, 3)\}$
$S_2$	$M(S_2) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6)\}$
$S_3$	$M(S_3) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1)\}$
$S_4$	<del><math>M(S_4) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1), (2, 2)\}</math></del>

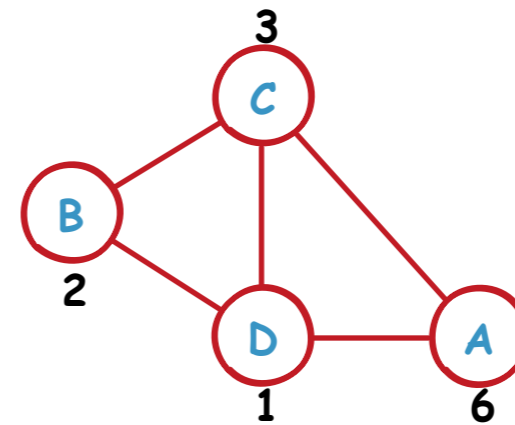
$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



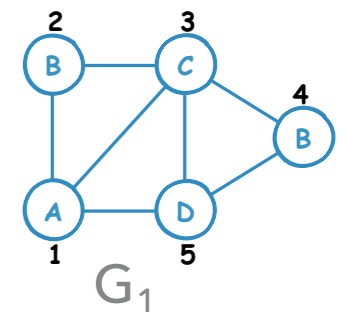
Candidates of  $G_2$



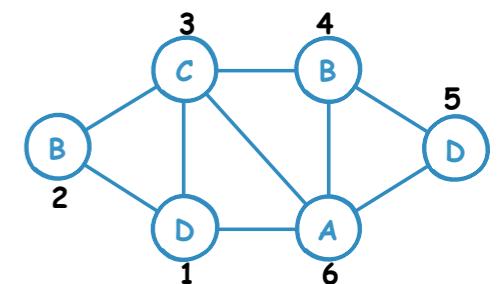
$G_1(S_4)$



$G_2(S_4)$



$G_1$



$G_2$

Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3





# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

## 4. Exploring the state space

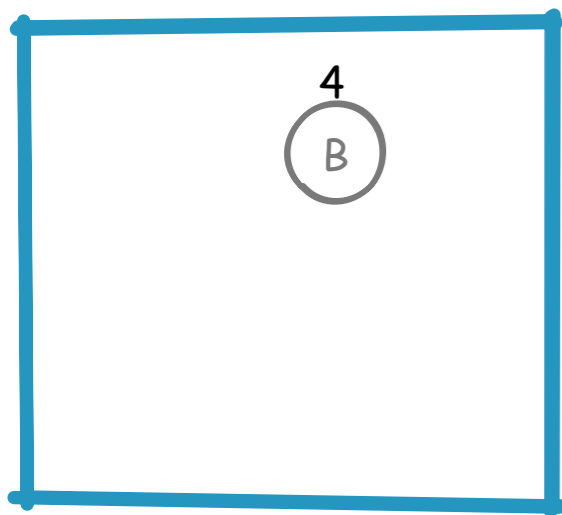
- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent state

State  
 $S_0$   
 $S_1$   
 $S_2$   
 $S_3$   
 $S_4$   
 $S_5$

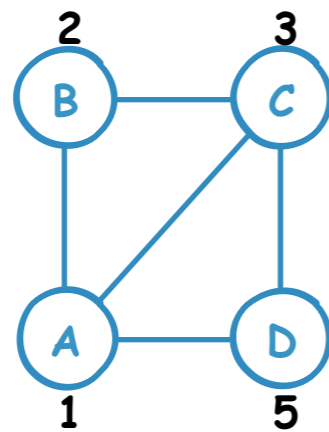
Mapping

$M(S_0) = \emptyset$   
 $M(S_1) = \{(3, 3)\}$   
 $M(S_2) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6)\}$   
 $M(S_3) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1)\}$   
 ~~$M(S_4) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1), (2, 2)\}$~~   
 $M(S_5) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1), (2, 4)\}$

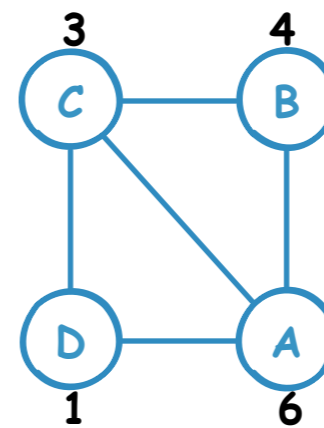
$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



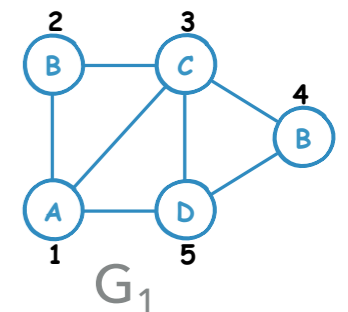
Candidates of  $G_2$



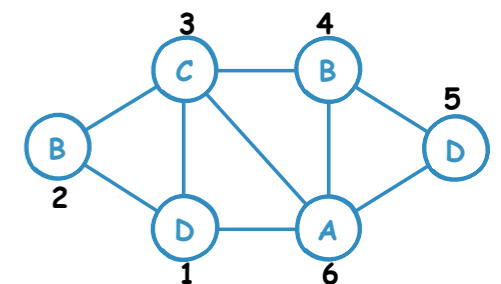
$G_1(S_5)$



$G_2(S_5)$



$G_1$



$G_2$

Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



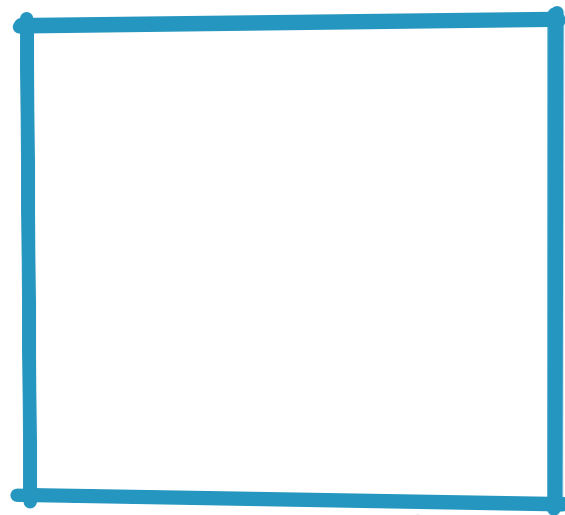
# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (EXPLORATION)

## 4. Exploring the state space

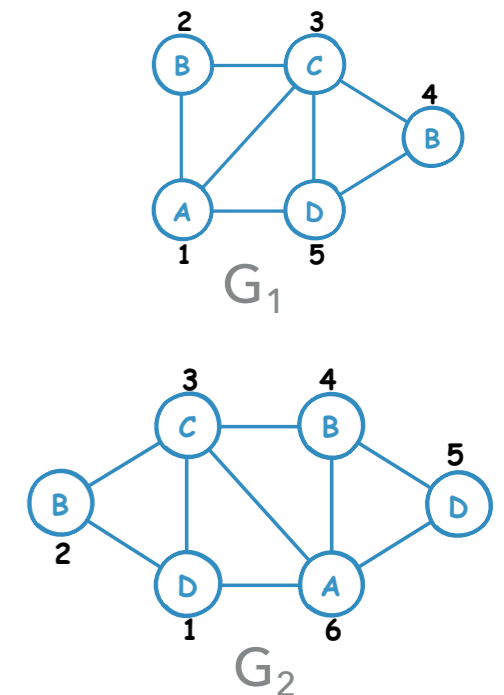
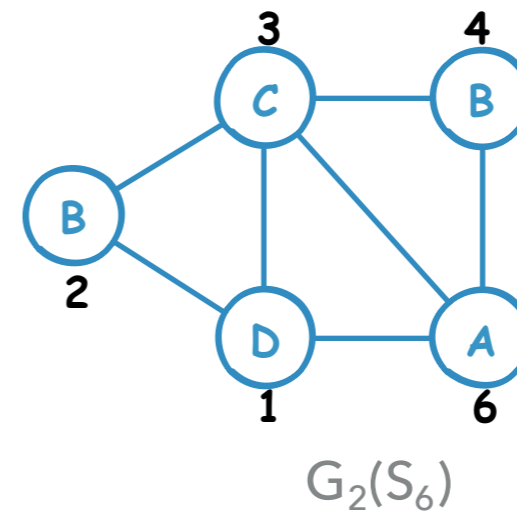
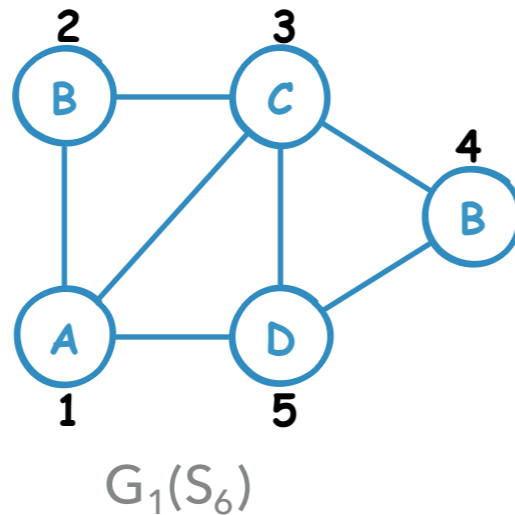
- ▶ Start from an empty solution
- ▶ Generate new states
  - ▶ Iteratively add a new matching couple by following the exploration sequence
  - ▶ Check for the consistence
- ▶ Move through consistent state

State	Mapping
$S_0$	$M(S_0) = \emptyset$
$S_1$	$M(S_1) = \{(3, 3)\}$
$S_2$	$M(S_2) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6)\}$
$S_3$	$M(S_3) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1)\}$
$S_4$	<del><math>M(S_4) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1), (2, 2)\}</math></del>
$S_5$	$M(S_5) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1), (2, 4)\}$
$S_6$	$M(S_6) = \{(3, 3), (1, 6), (5, 1), (2, 4), (4, 2)\}$

$N = \{3, 1, 5, 2, 4\}$



Candidates of  $G_2$



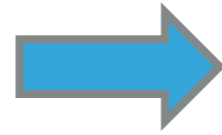
Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

---

How do we check  
for consistency?

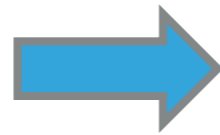


Feasibility Rules

# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

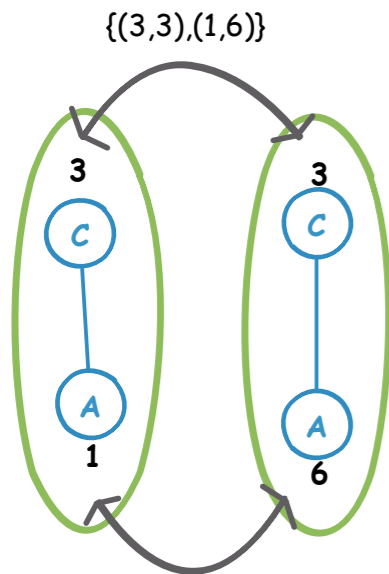
---

How do we check  
for consistency?



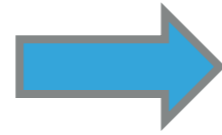
Feasibility Rules

Core Rule



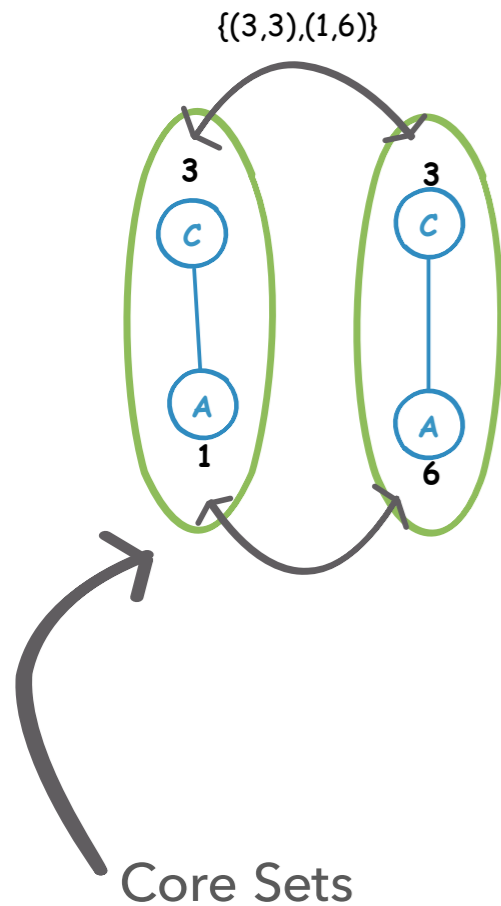
# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

How do we check  
for consistency?



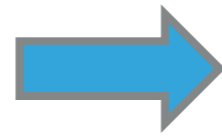
Feasibility Rules

Core Rule



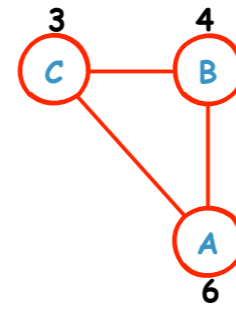
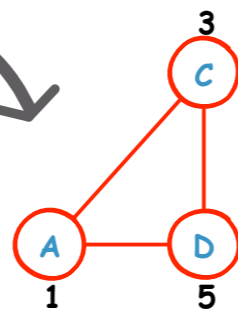
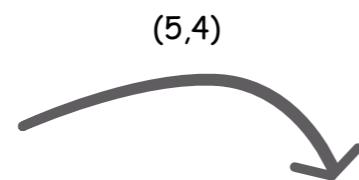
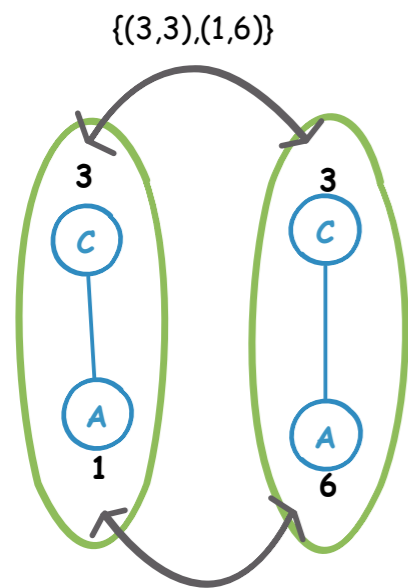
# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

How do we check  
for consistency?



Feasibility Rules

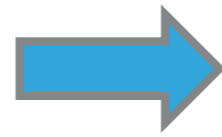
Core Rule



Semantic  
Inconsistence

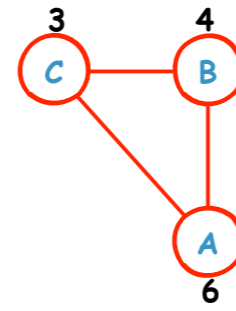
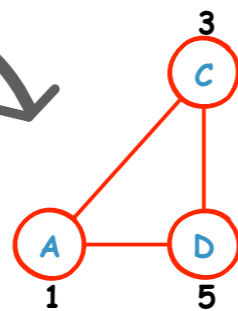
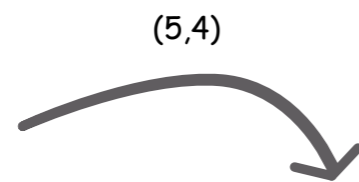
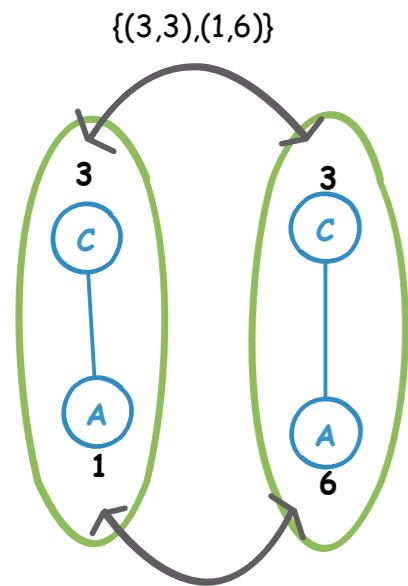
# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

How do we check  
for consistency?

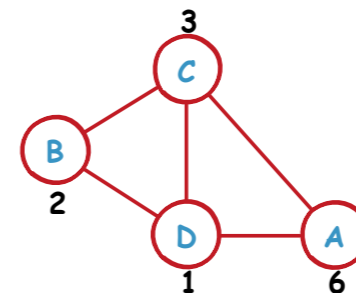
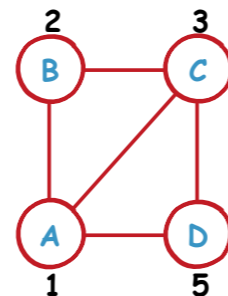
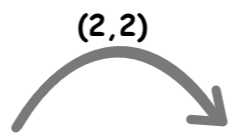
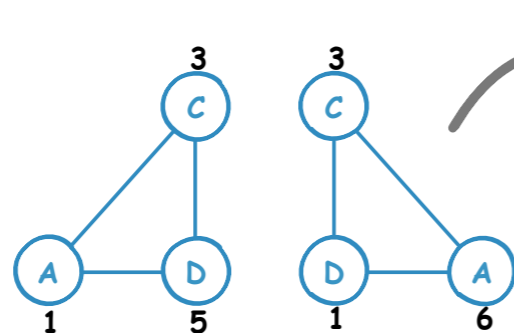


Feasibility Rules

Core Rule



Semantic  
Inconsistence

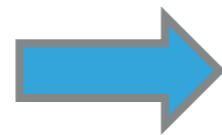


Structural  
Inconsistence

# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

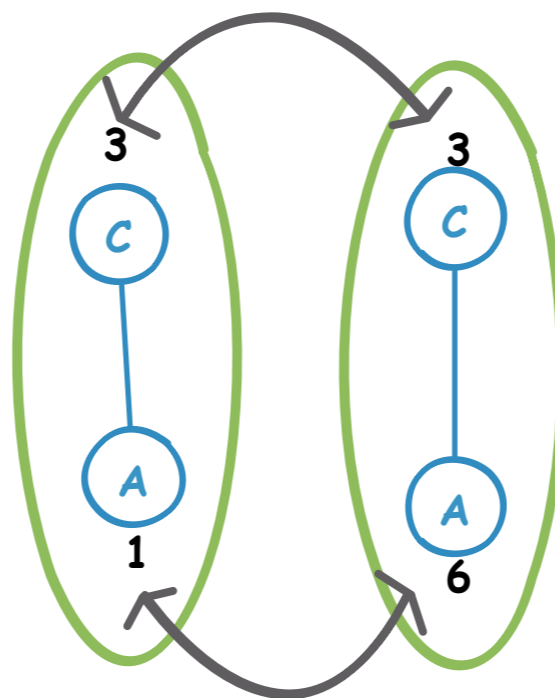
---

How do we check  
for consistency?



Feasibility Rules

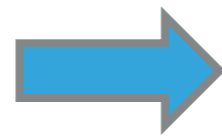
Look-ahead Rules





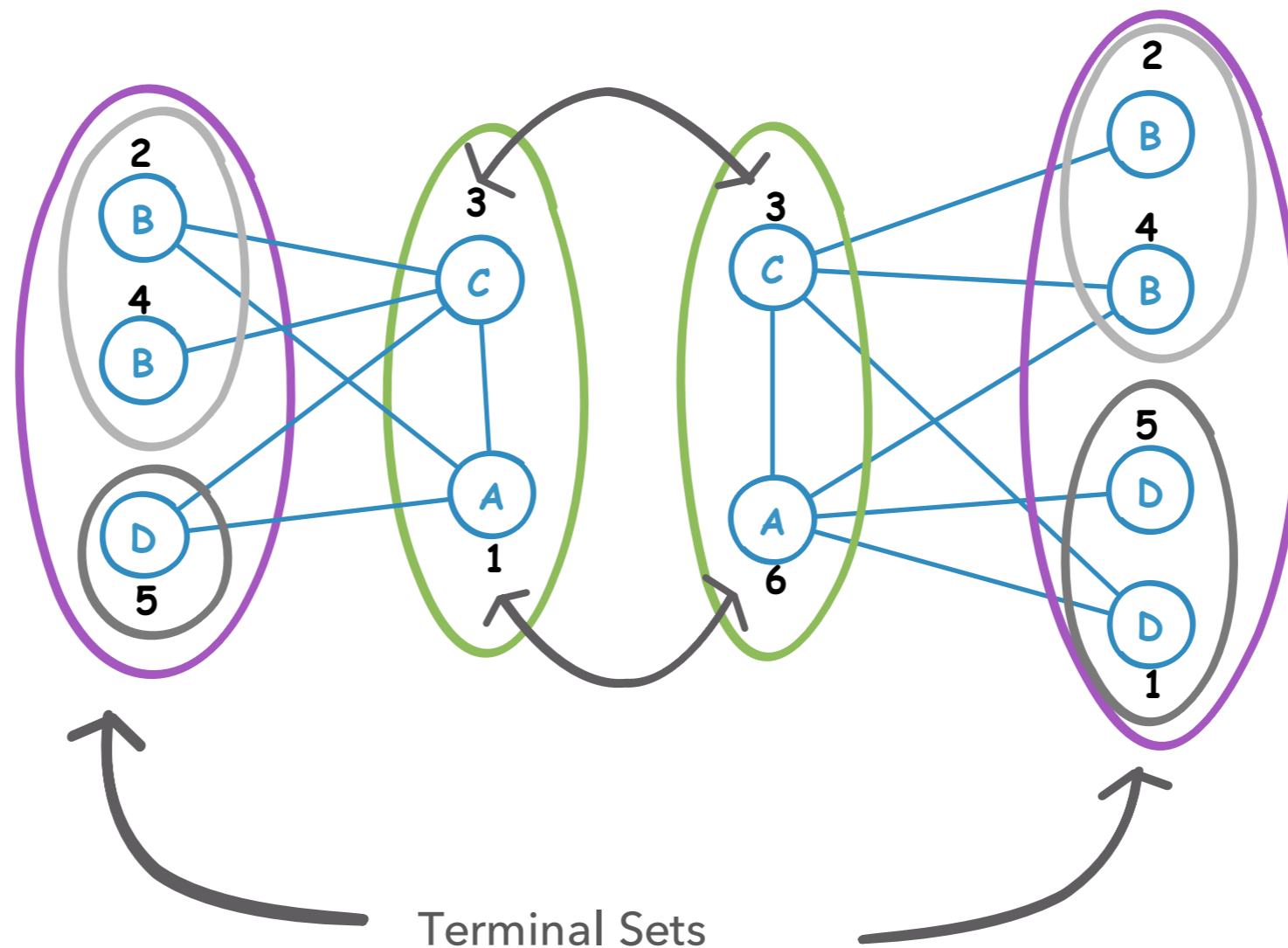
# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

How do we check  
for consistency?



Feasibility Rules

Look-ahead Rules

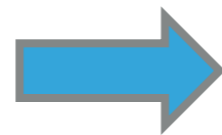


Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



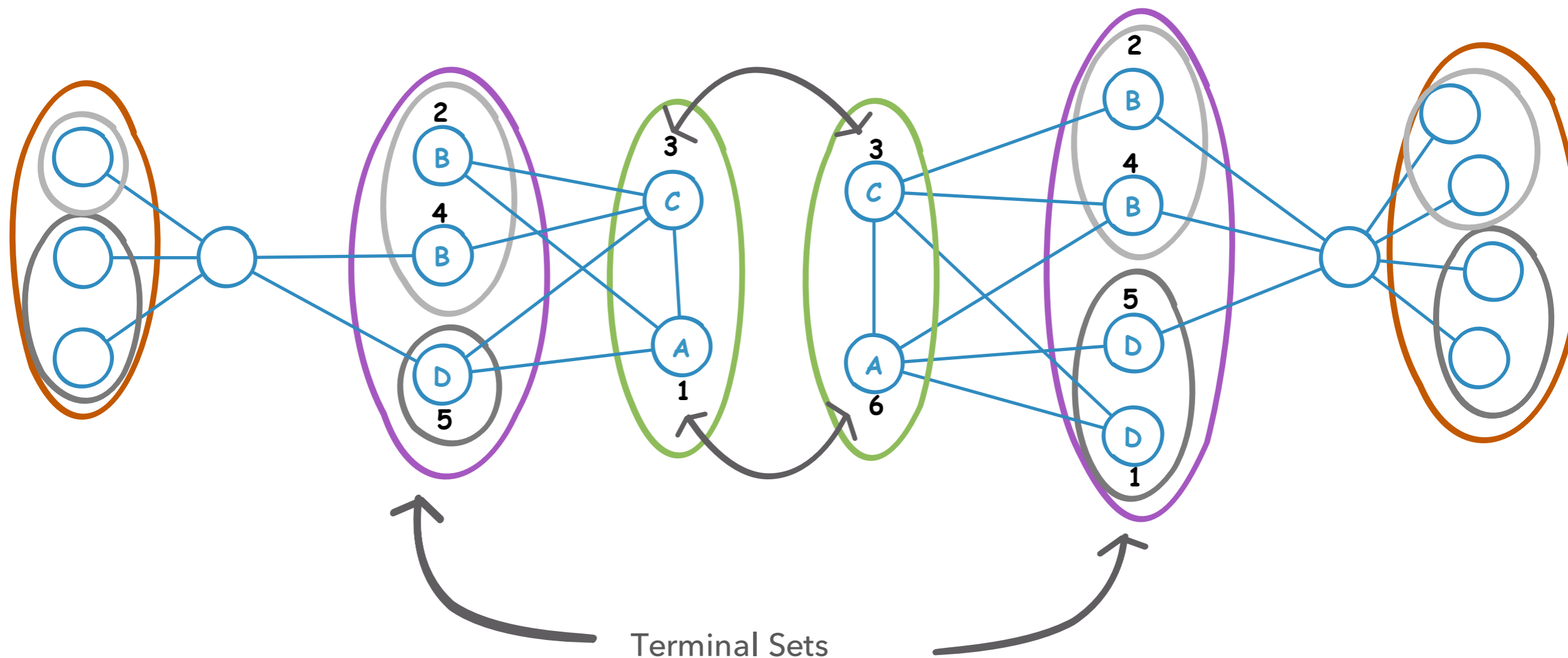
# VF3: HOW DOES IT WORK? (FEASIBILITY)

How do we check  
for consistency?



Feasibility Rules

Look-ahead Rules



Challenging memory and time complexity of subgraph isomorphism problem with VF3



