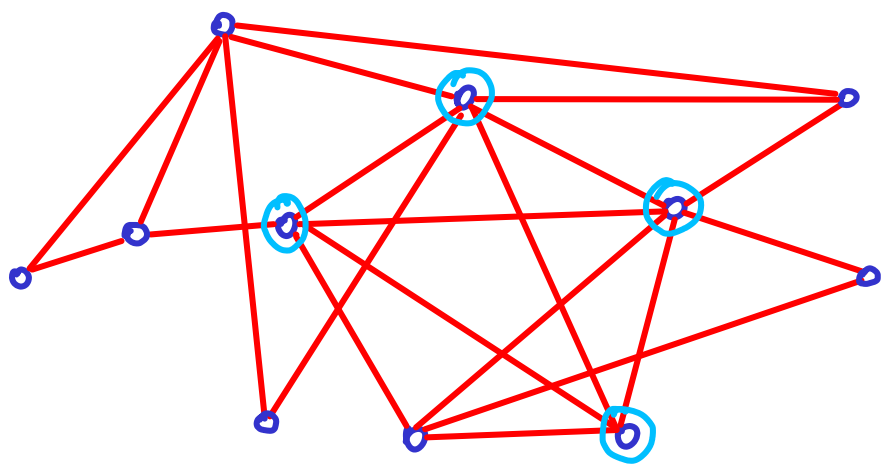


# Cliques



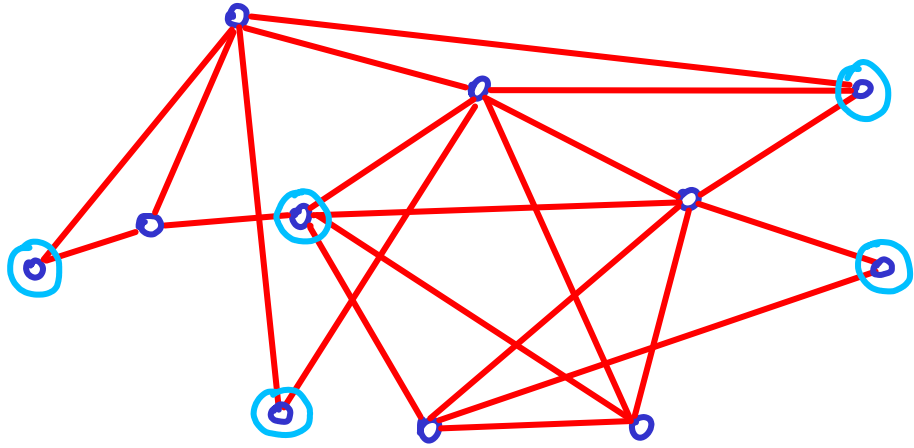
How many cliques?

What is the largest clique?

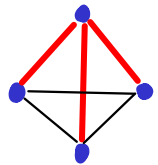
Given  $G$ , a subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is a clique if every  $s_i, s_j \in S$  share an edge in  $G$ .

The induced subgraph obtained by removing all but  $S$  from  $V(G)$  is a complete graph ( $K_S$ )

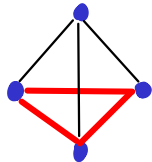
# Independent Sets



Largest independent set?



complements

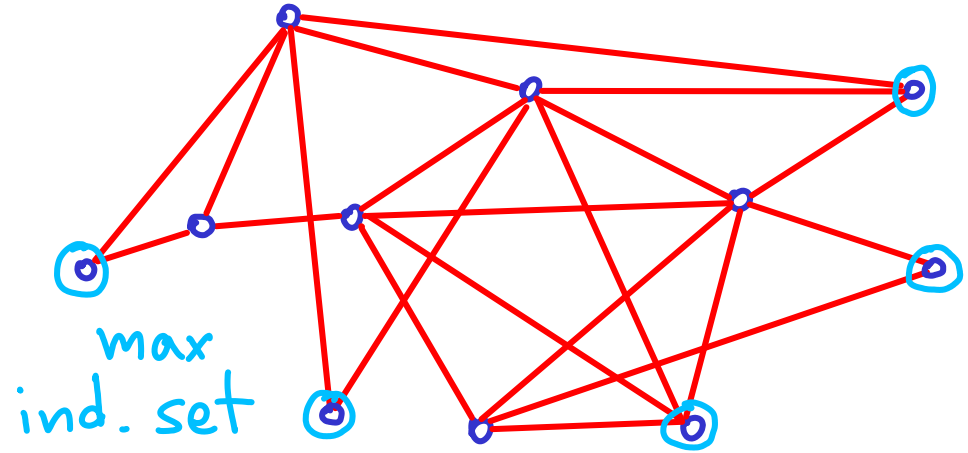
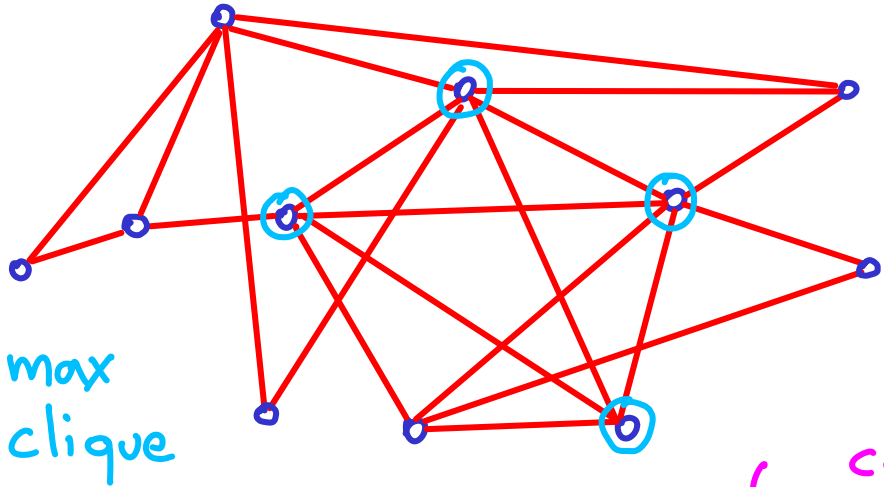


Given  $G$ , a subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is an independent set if no  $s_i, s_j \in S$  share an edge in  $G$ .

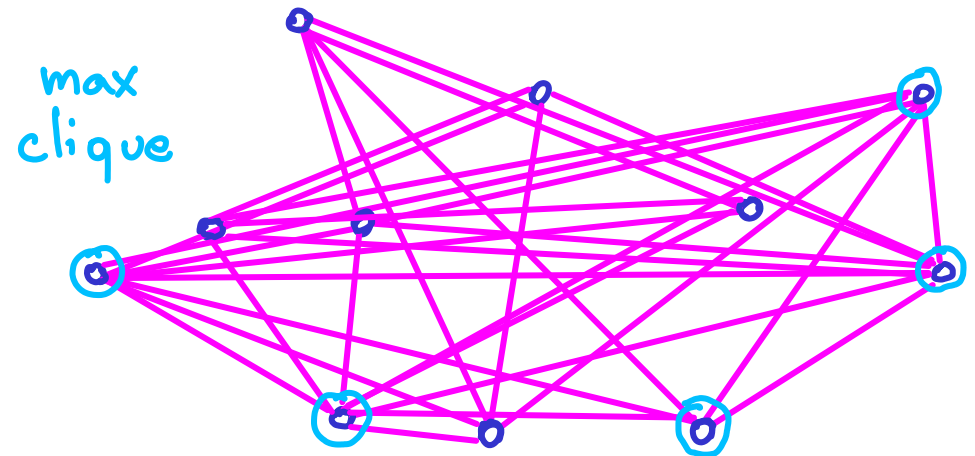
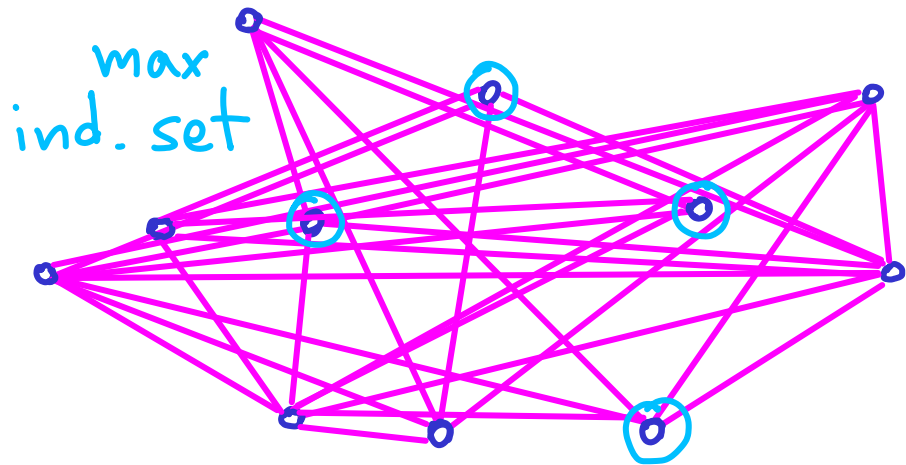
The induced subgraph obtained by removing all but  $S$  from  $V(G)$  is an edgeless graph.

↪ i.e. its complement is a complete graph

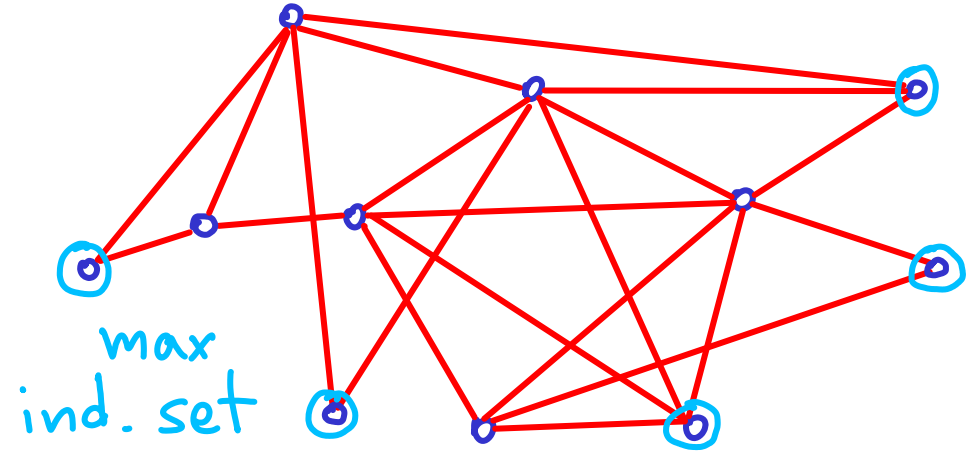
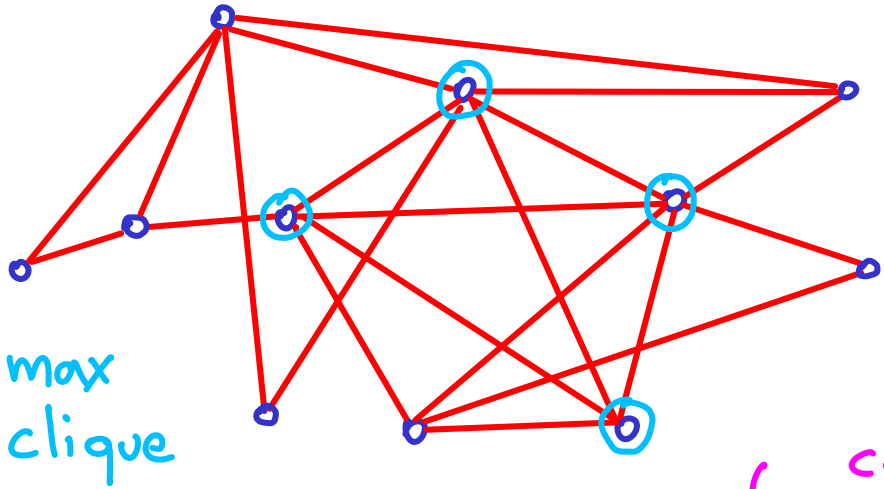
# cliques vs. independent sets



complement

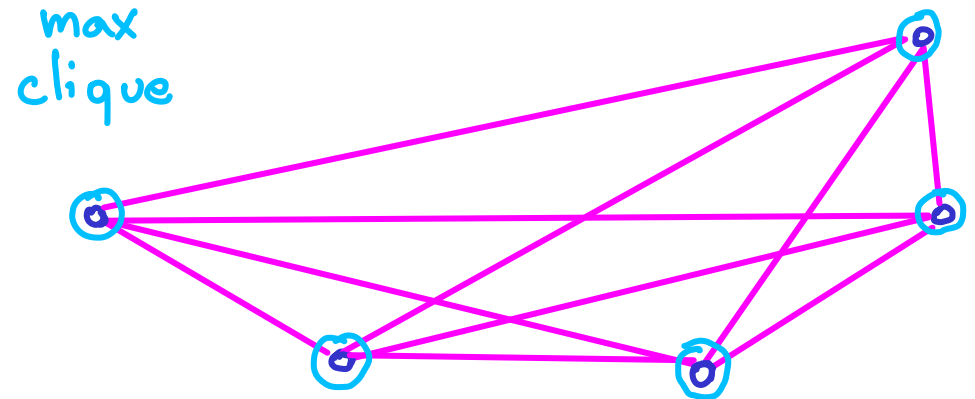


# cliques vs. independent sets



complement

A purple bracket under the word "complement" indicates that the highlighted nodes in the two graphs above are complements of each other.



**Claim:** Every graph with  $|V| \geq 6$  contains  
a triangle (clique of size 3) OR an independent set of size 3

**Rephrase:** (for  $V \geq 6$ ) a graph contains a triangle  
OR its complement does

**Proof:** pick any vertex  $v$ .

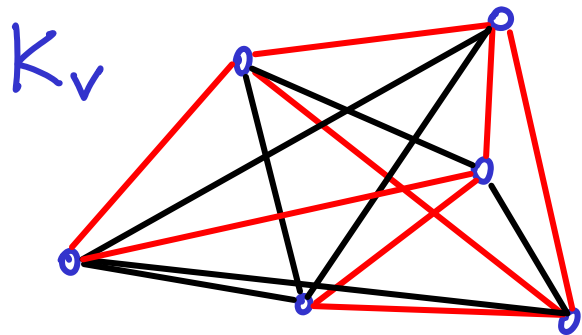
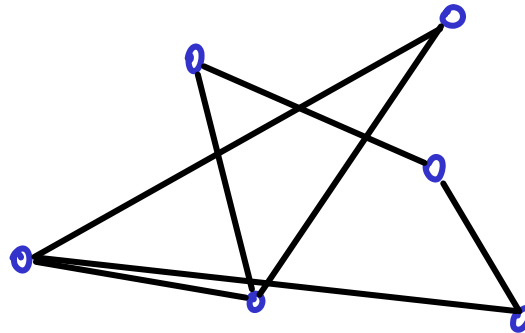
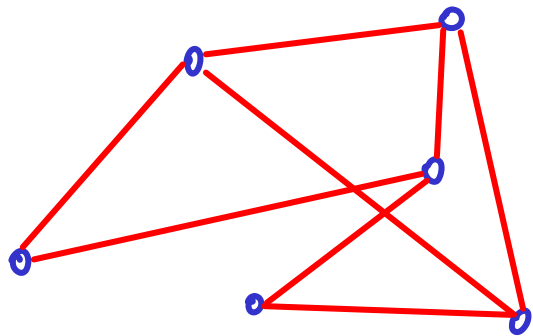
If  $d(v) \geq 3$  we have  $v$   } If  $\widehat{xy}$  or  $\widehat{xz}$  or  $\widehat{yz}$ : we find a clique  $\Delta$   
Otherwise,  $x, y, z$  are an independent set.

If  $d(v) \leq 2$ , there are  $\geq 3$  vertices not neighboring  $v$ .  $\rightarrow v$  

If  $\widehat{ab}, \widehat{bc}, \widehat{ac}$  are edges, they are a clique  $\Delta$ .

Otherwise one edge is missing (w.l.o.g.  $ab$ ) ... so  $vab$  is an ind. set.  $\square$

(for  $v \geq 6$ ) a graph contains a triangle OR its complement does

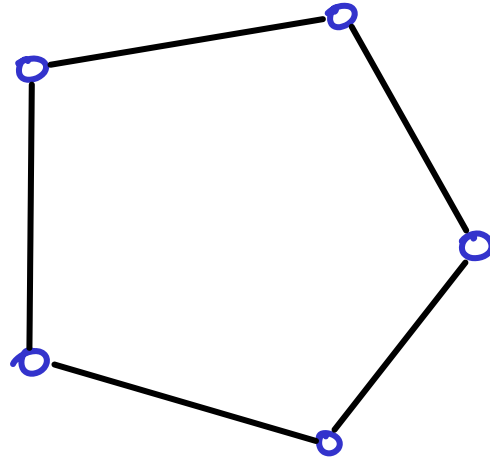
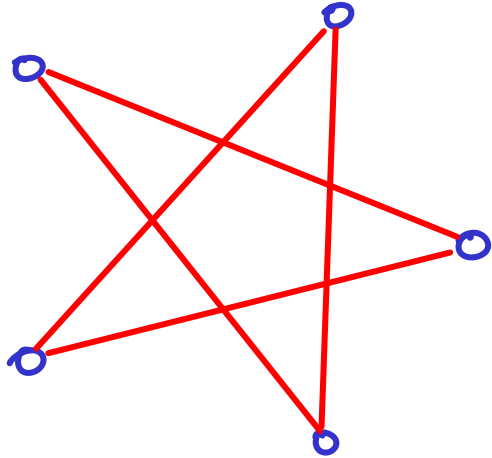


Equivalent statement

If we color each edge of  $K_v$  red or black, then we must get a red triangle or a black triangle

Recap: if you want a clique or an independent set of size 3  
then you'll be happy as long as  $|V| \geq \underline{6}$

$$\hookrightarrow R(3,3) = 6$$



Recap: if you want a clique or an independent set of size 3  
then you'll be happy as long as  $|V| \geq \underline{6}$

$$\hookrightarrow R(3,3) = 6$$

$$R(4,4)$$

↓  
18

$$R(5,5)$$

↓  
we don't know!  
[43...49]

$$R(n,n)$$

~ exponential

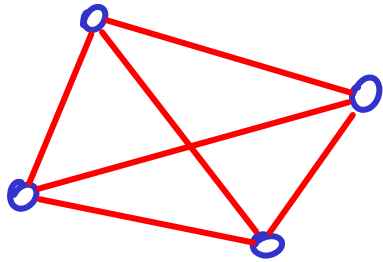
↓  
even for small values  
we will probably never  
know the exact answer

For more, see Ramsey's Thm.

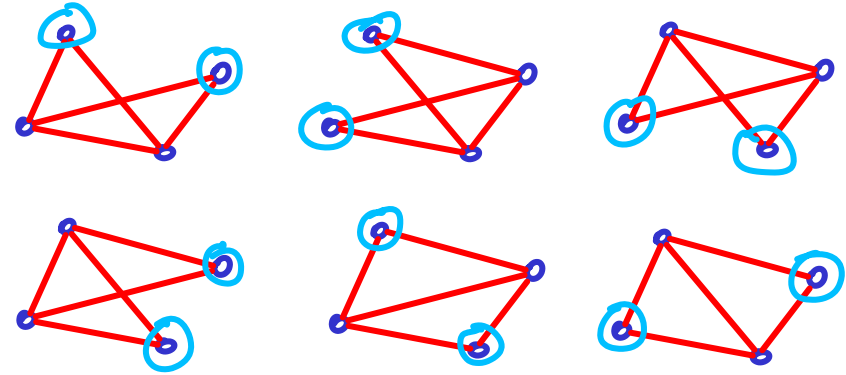


$R(x, y)$  : smallest number  $N$  such that any graph with  $\geq N$  vertices has a clique of size  $x$  or an independent set of size  $y$

$$R(4, 2) = 4$$



OR

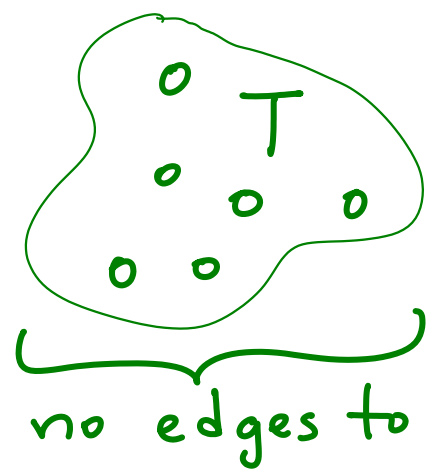
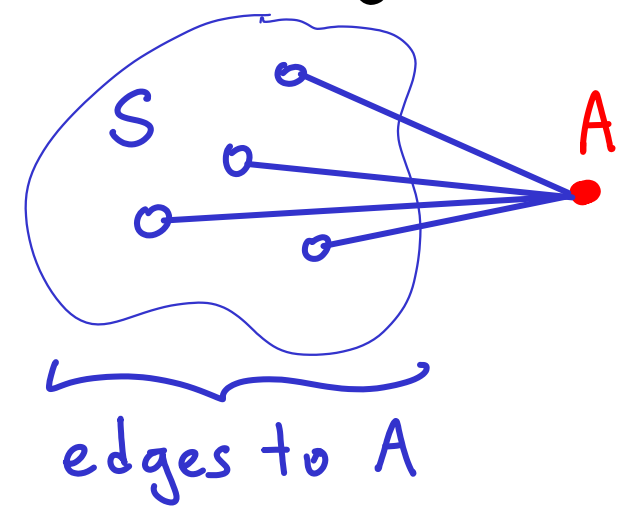


$R(4,3) \leq 10$

Suppose  $|V| \geq 10$

Pick any vertex,  $A$ .  $\geq 9$  vertices remain.

Form 2 groups:  
 $S$  &  $T$



} either  
 $|S| \geq 6$   
or  
 $|T| \geq 4$

If  $|S| \geq 6$ , use  $R(3,3) = 6$  :  $S$  has 3 independent vertices (done),  
OR  $S$  has a 3-clique, so with  $A$  we get a 4-clique.

If  $|T| \geq 4$ , if  $T$  is a clique : done.  
Otherwise  $\exists a, b$  in  $T$  w/ no edge. Combine w/  $A$ .  $\square$

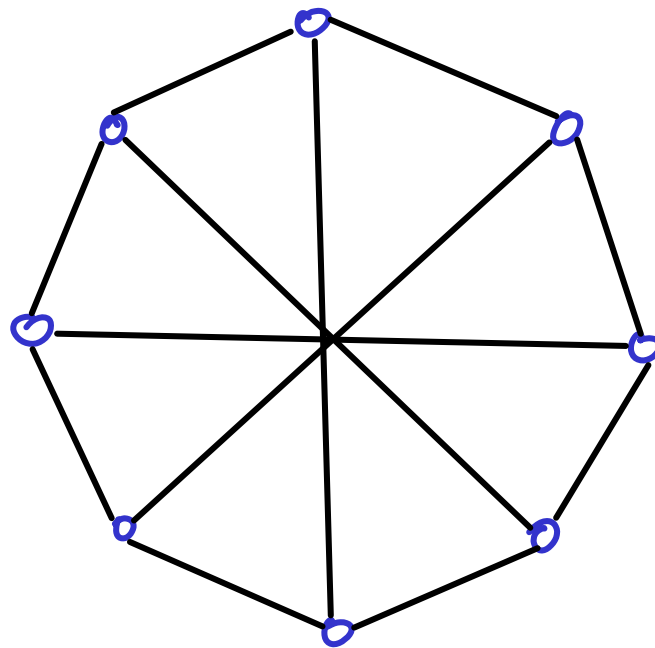
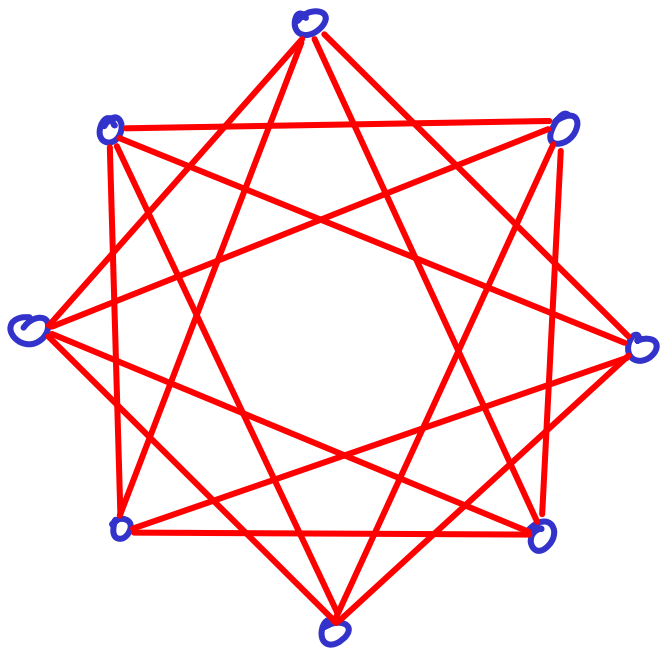
$$R(4,3) \leq 10$$

$$\underline{R(4,3) > 8}$$

... turns out  $R(4,3) = 9$

↳ not terribly hard

↳ notice  $R(x,y) = R(y,x)$



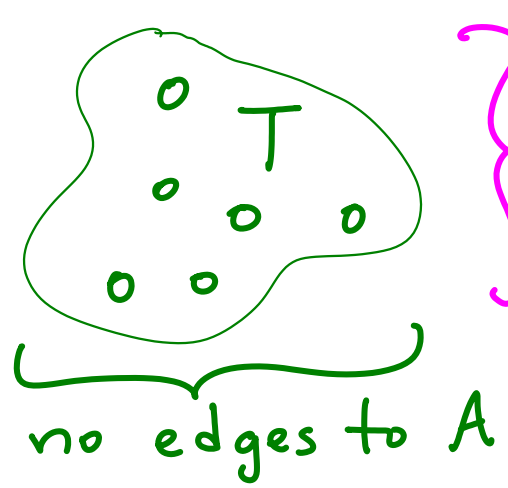
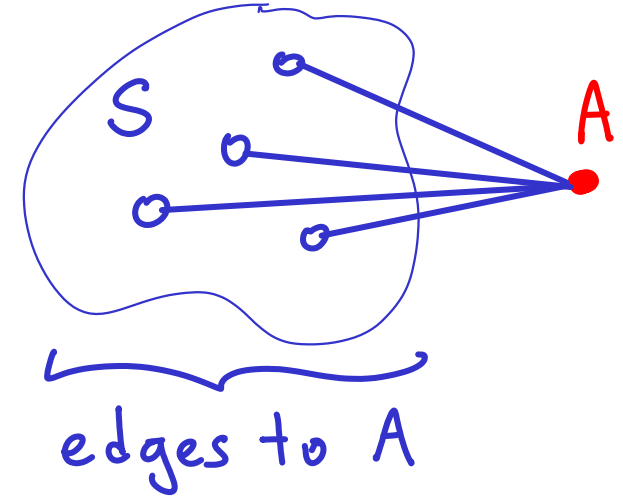
This is where class ended,  
but you should be able to follow the previous examples  
and work through the rest as well.

$R(4,4) \leq 18$

Suppose  $|V| \geq 18$

Pick any vertex,  $A$ .  $\geq 17$  vertices remain.

Form 2 groups:  
 $S$  &  $T$



} either  
 $|S| \geq 9$   
or  
 $|T| \geq 9$

If  $|S| \geq 9$ , use  $R(3,4) = 9$  :  $S$  has 4 independent vertices (done) OR  $S$  has a 3-clique, so with  $A$  we get a 4-clique.

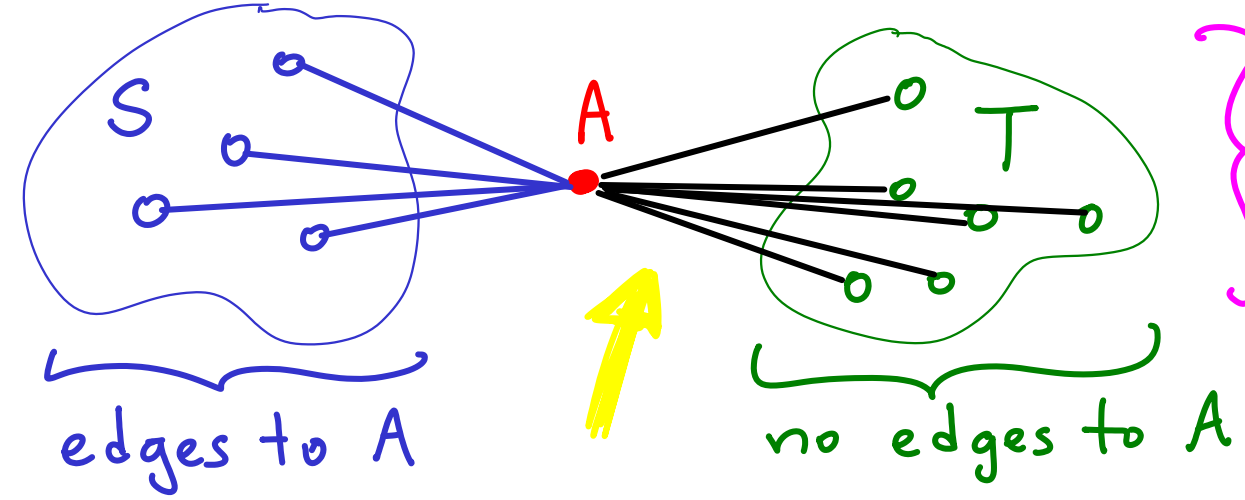
If  $|T| \geq 9$ , use  $R(4,3) = 9$  :  $T$  has a 4-clique, (done) OR  $T$  has 3 independent vertices, so with  $A$  we have 4.  $\square$

$$R(4,4) \leq 18$$

Suppose  $|V| \geq 18$

Pick any vertex,  $A$ .  $\geq 17$  vertices remain.

Form 2 groups:  
 $S$  &  $T$



} either  
 $|S| \geq 9$   
or  
 $|T| \geq 9$

If  $|S| \geq 9$ , use  $R(3,4) = 9$  :  $S$  has 4 independent vertices (done)  
OR  $S$  has a 3-clique, so with  $A$  we get a 4-clique.

If  $|T| \geq 9$ , [ use  $R(3,4) = 9$  on the complement graph. ]  
(SYMMETRIC)

# Notes:

(1) if we only knew that  $R(4,3) \leq 10$  (instead of  $=9$ )  
we could have used  $|V| \geq 20$  for  $R(4,4)$

(2) there is a graph w/ 17 vertices with no  
clique or independent set of size 4  
 $\hookrightarrow R(4,4) = 18$