

Optional Inference  
Inference in loopy models  
Approximate inference

- Midterm comments
- Marked A6 due now
- A7 due next Wed.
- Please pick coding project (matLearn.zip up tonight)
- Optional "bonus" lecture Dec. 1 (location/time TBA)  
"Monte Carlo" methods.
- Course evaluations online.

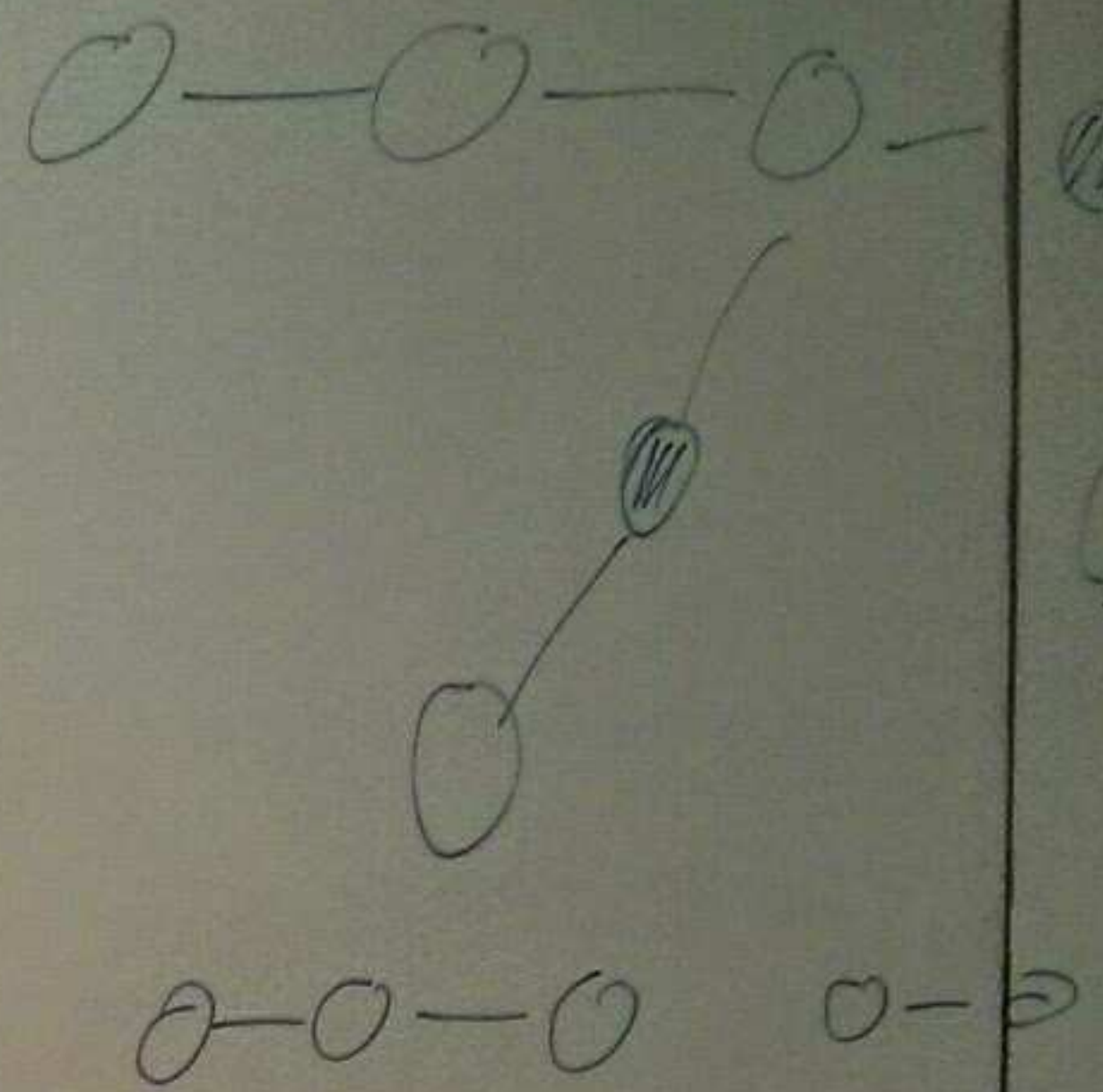
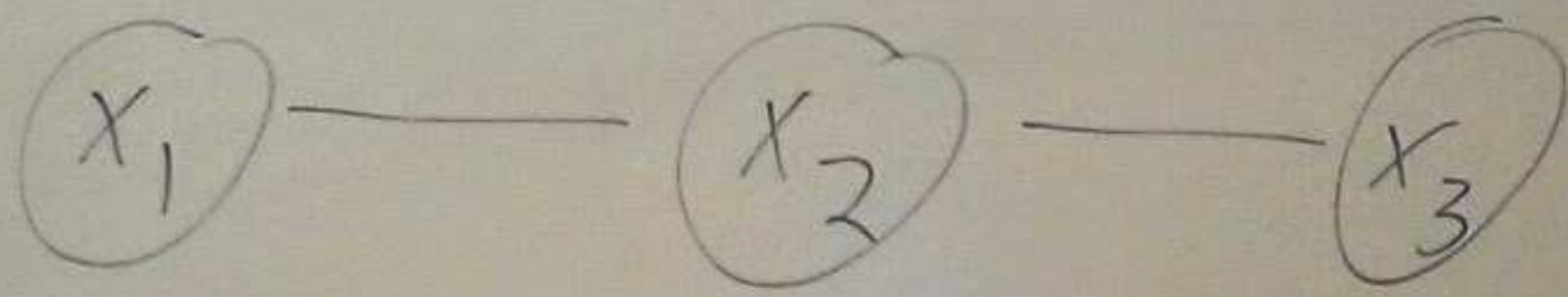
Common mid-term errs:

- "cross"-validation

- $\|x\|^2$  is not a norm

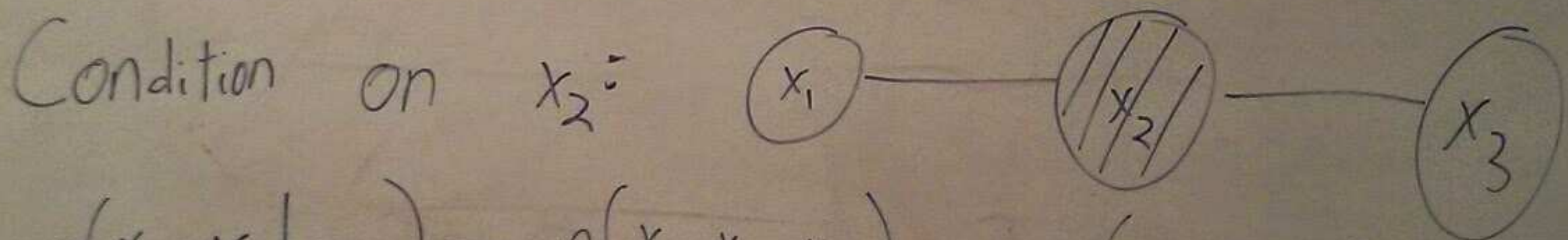
Composition of convex w/ convex  
is not generally convex

# Conditioning in UGMs



$$p(x) = \frac{\phi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \phi_{23}(x_2, x_3)}{\sum_{x'_1, x'_2, x'_3} \phi_{12}(x'_1, x'_2) \phi_{23}(x'_2, x'_3)} \approx Z$$

○ "induced subgraph"



$$p(x_1, x_3 | x_2) = \frac{p(x_1, x_2, x_3)}{p(x_2)} = \frac{p(x_1, x_2, x_3)}{\sum_{x'_1, x'_3} p(x'_1, x_2, x'_3)}$$

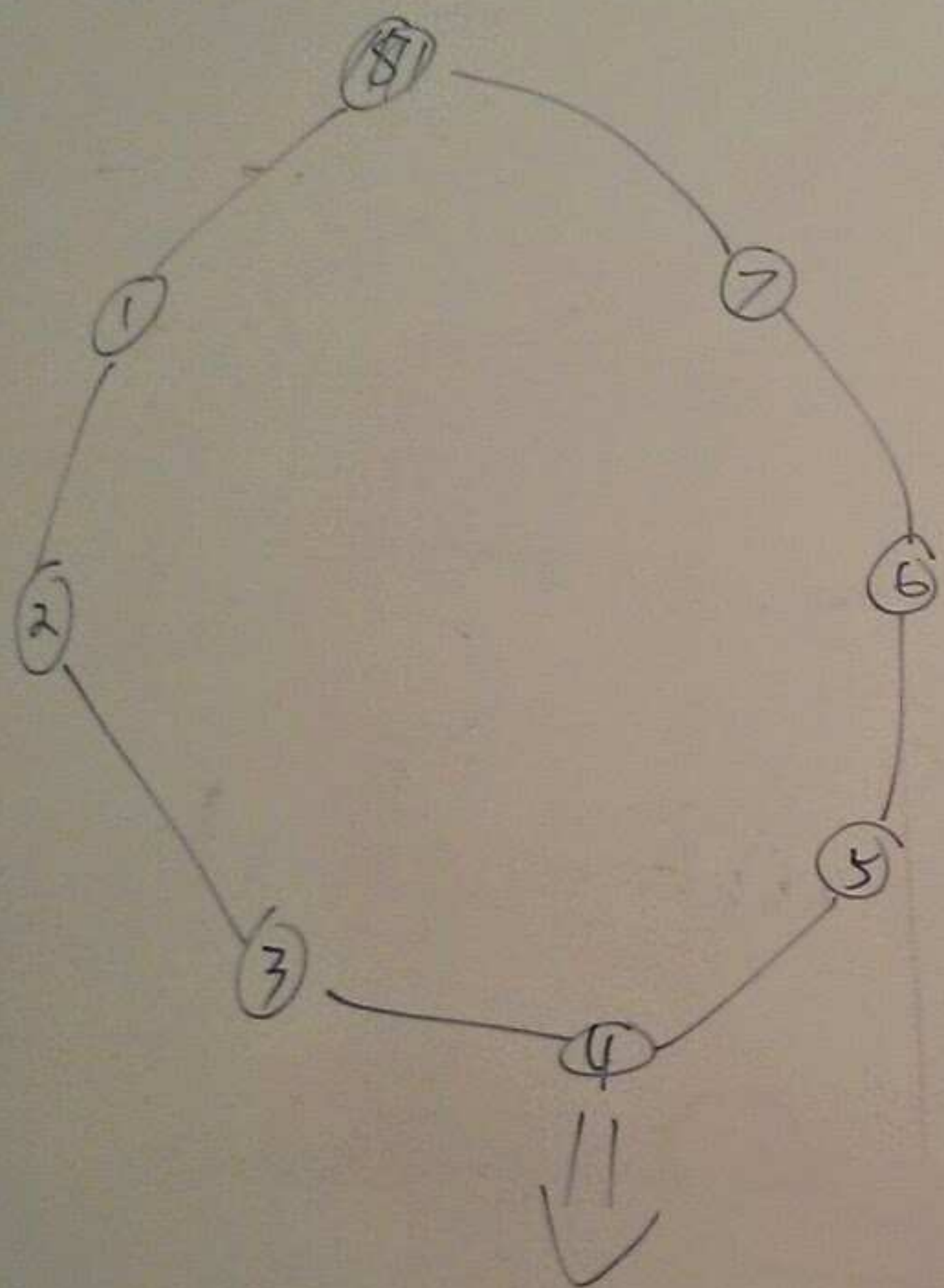
$$= \frac{\left( \frac{\phi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \phi_{23}(x_2, x_3)}{\sum_{x'_1, x'_3} \phi_{12}(x'_1, x_2) \phi_{23}(x_2, x'_3)} \right)}{\sum_{x'_1, x'_3} \phi_{12}(x'_1, x_2) \phi_{23}(x_2, x'_3)}$$

$$= \frac{\phi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \phi_{23}(x_2, x_3)}{\sum_{x'_1, x'_3} \phi_{12}(x'_1, x_2) \phi_{23}(x_2, x'_3)} = \frac{\tilde{\phi}_1(x_1) \tilde{\phi}_3(x_3)}{\sum_{x'_1, x'_3} \tilde{\phi}_1(x'_1) \tilde{\phi}_3(x'_3)} \Rightarrow \text{UGM}$$

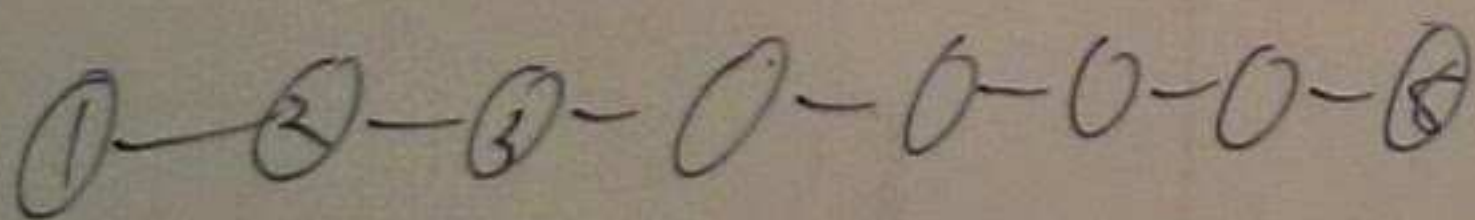
$\tilde{\phi}_1(x_1) = \phi_{12}(x_1, x_2) \quad \tilde{\phi}_3(x_3) = \phi_{23}(x_2, x_3)$

# Cutset Conditioning

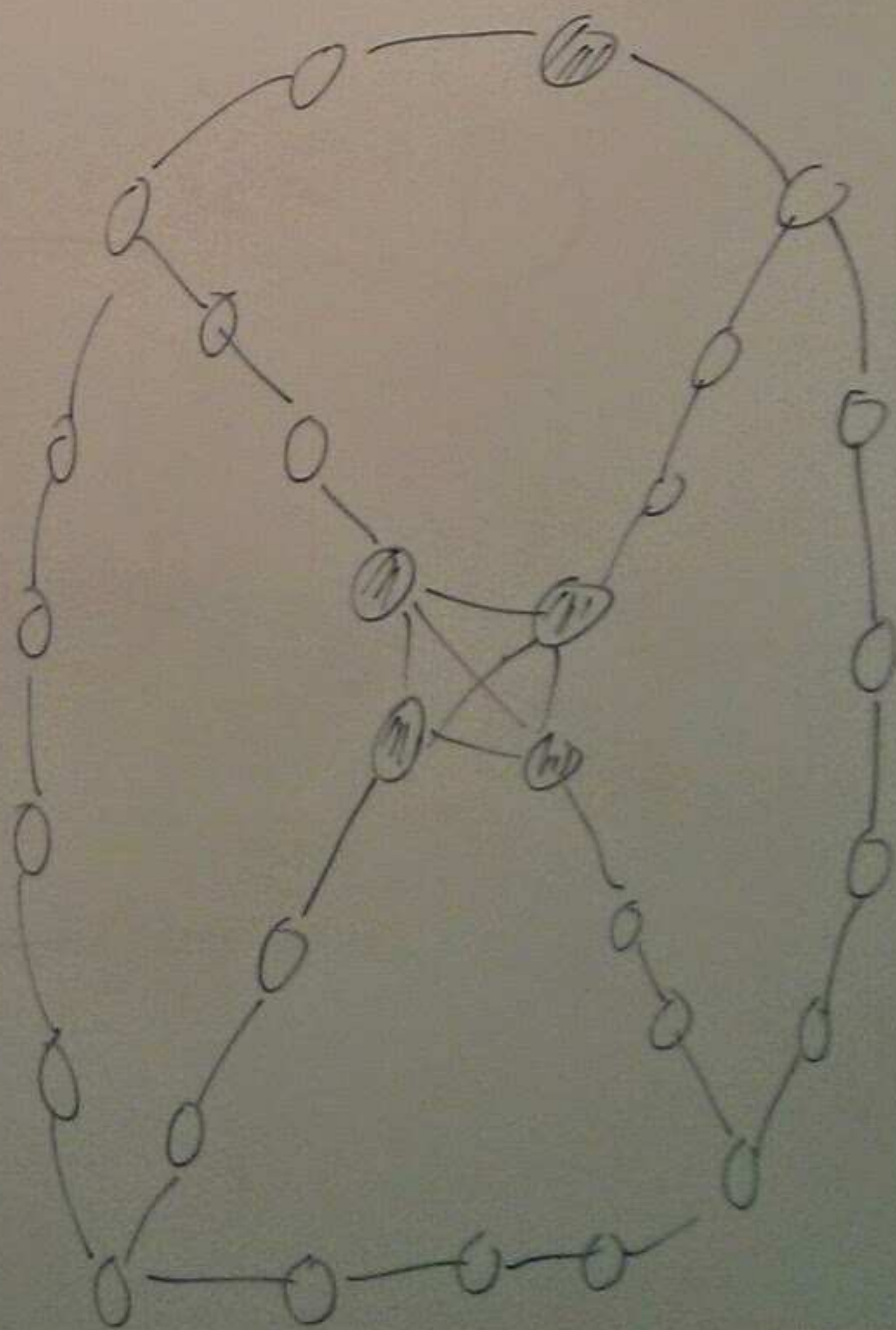
"VBC CZD Loop"



}z



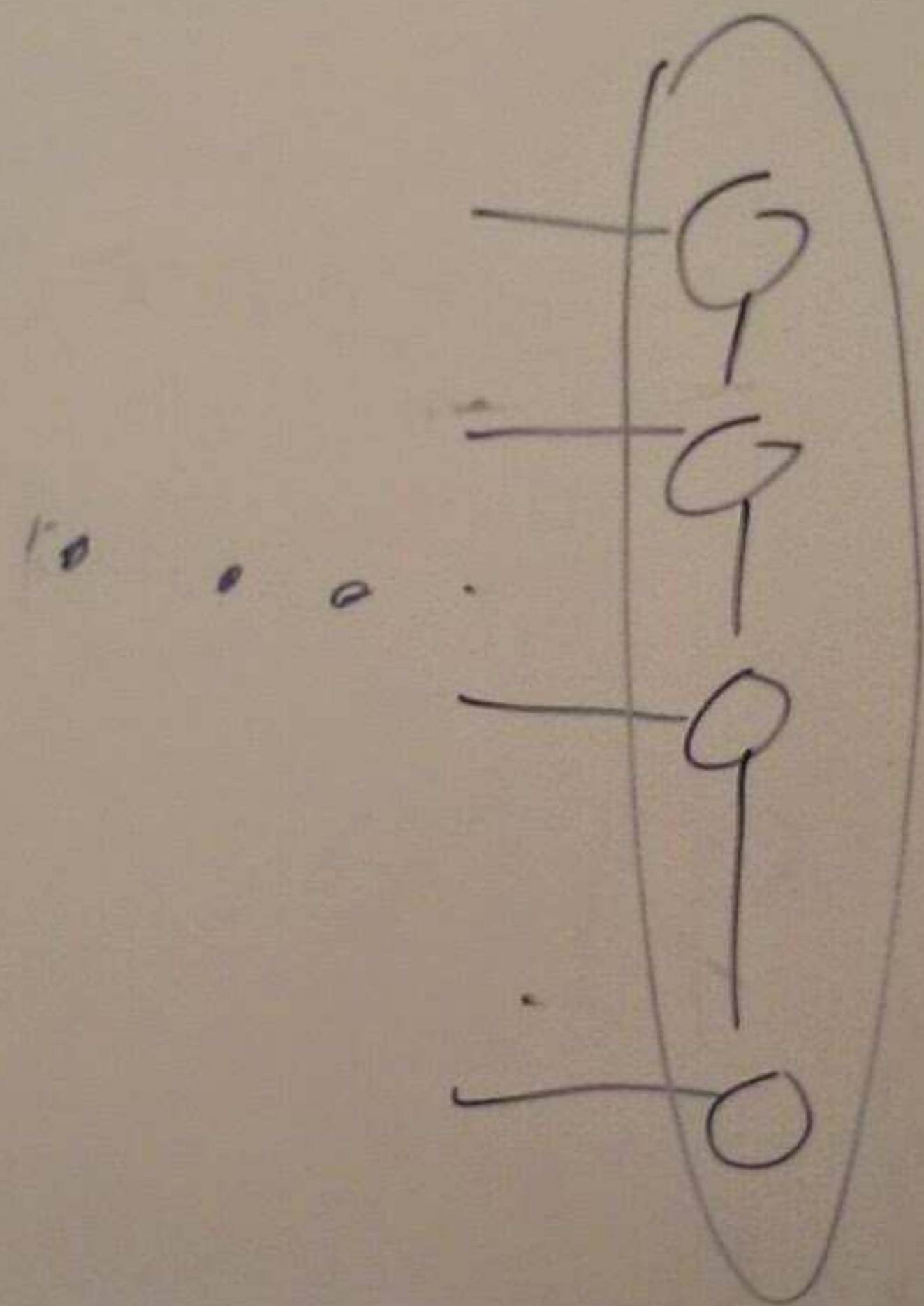
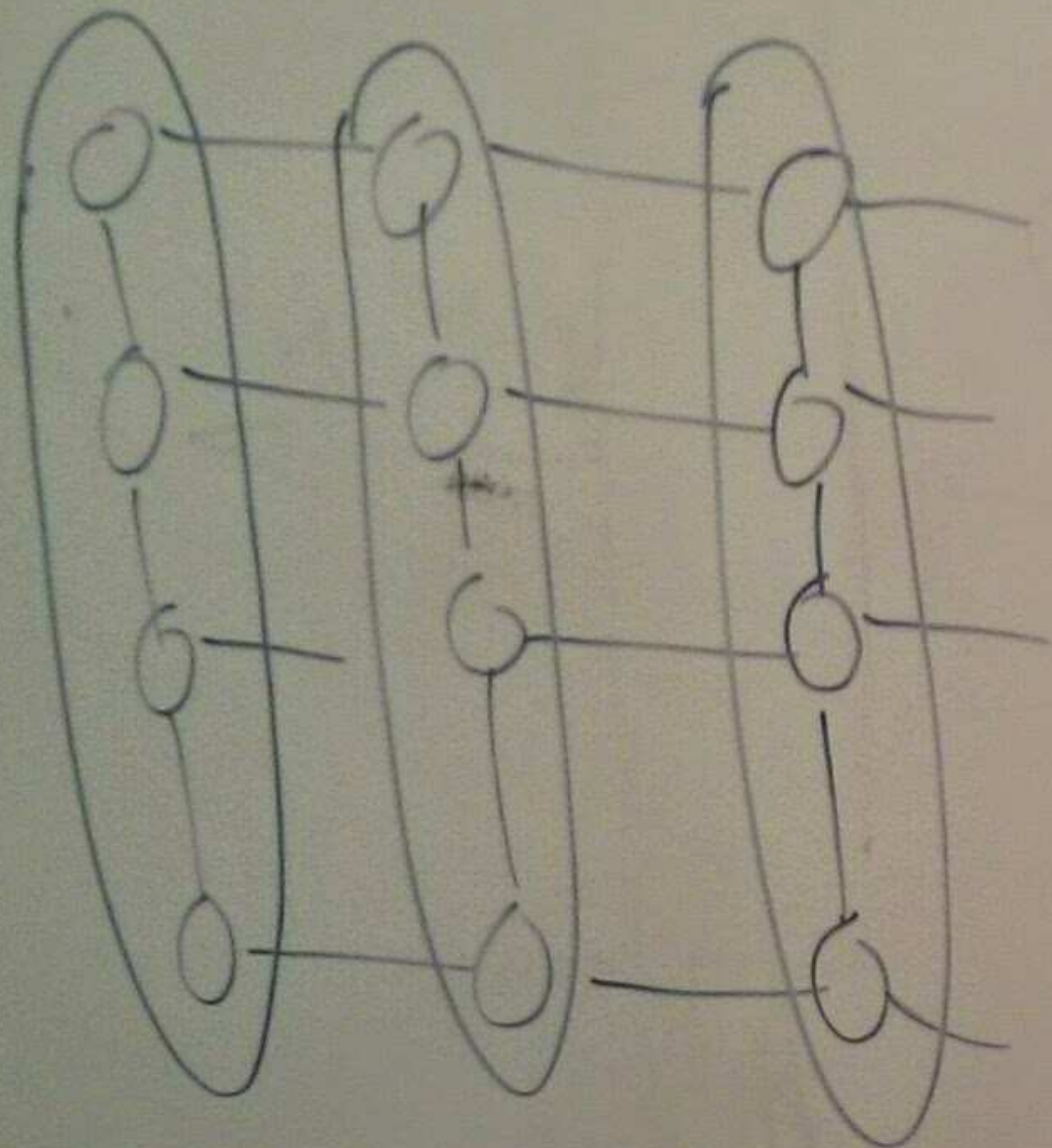
"Paris metro"



2/5

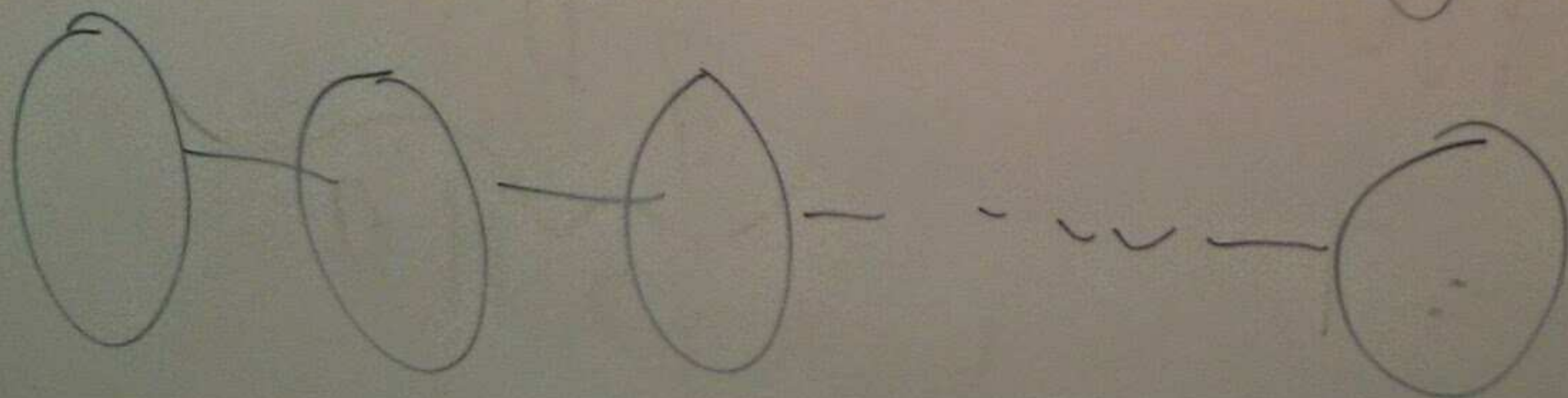
UGM:  $x_1$   $x_2$

# Super Nodes



"time-series with multiple variables"

"plane infection model"



Conditional Inference  
 Inference in loopy models  
 Approximate inference

\* General graphs: "junction tree algorithm"

- runtime is exponential in "tree width" of the graph

\* Other graphical models

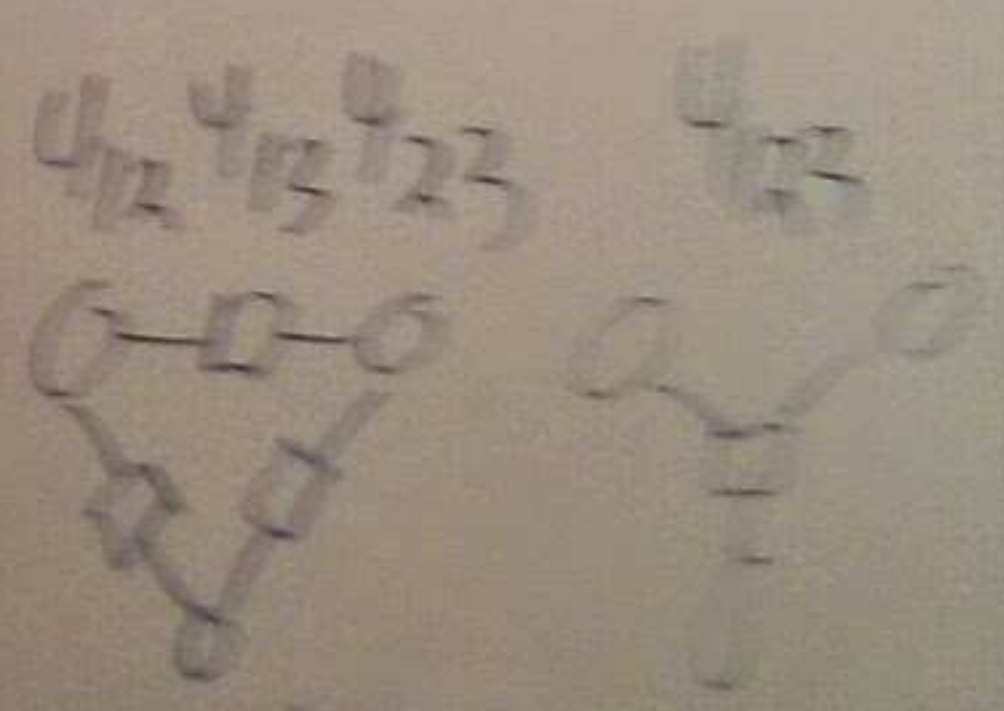
- decomposable models

- factor graphs

- hierarchical log-linear models:  $\psi_{123} \Rightarrow$  also have  $\psi_{12} \psi_{13} \psi_{23}$

- chain graphs

- ancestral graphs



# Variational Inference

Why?

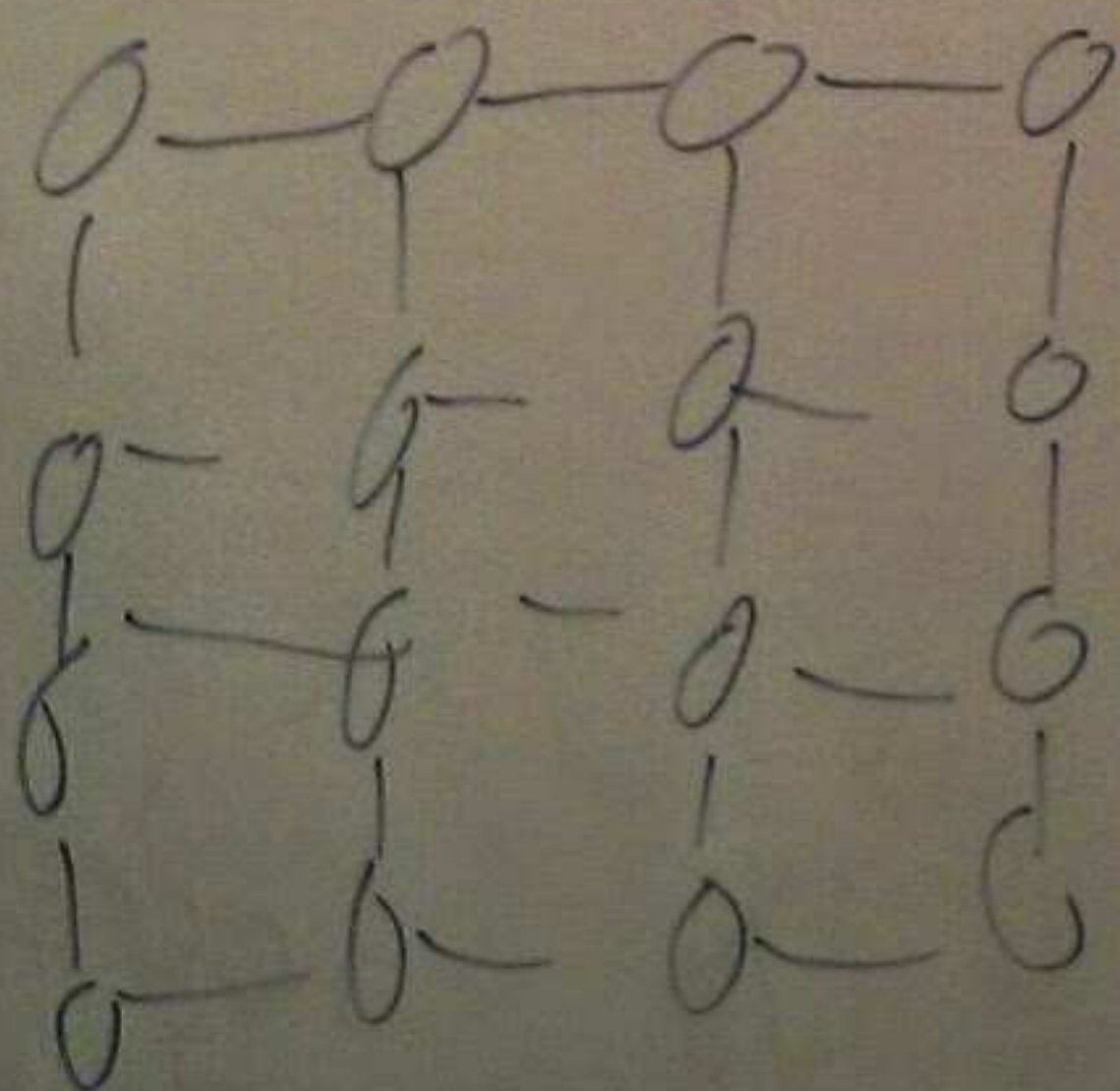
- graphical models w/ high-treewidth
- Bayesian models w/ non-conjugate priors

What?

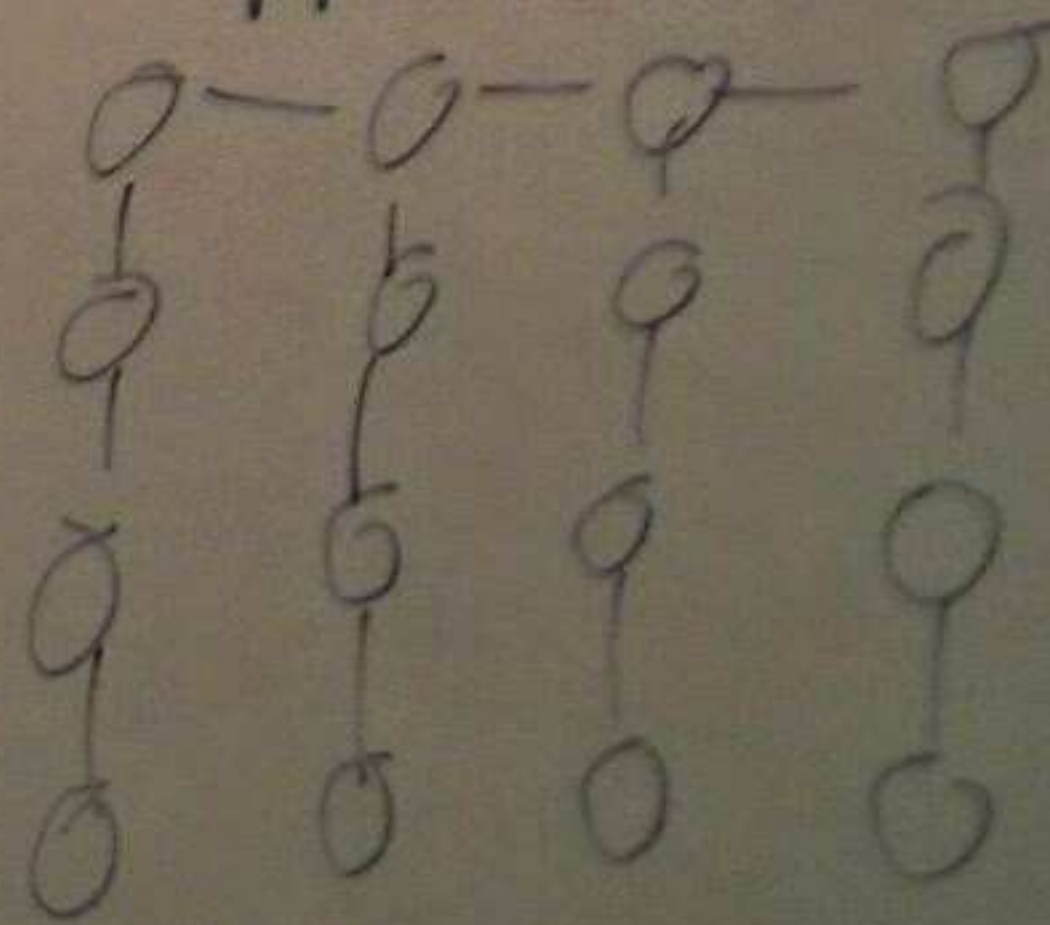
- pick approximation  $q(x)$  from tractable  
(Gaussian, independent Bernoullis, ...)

E.g.

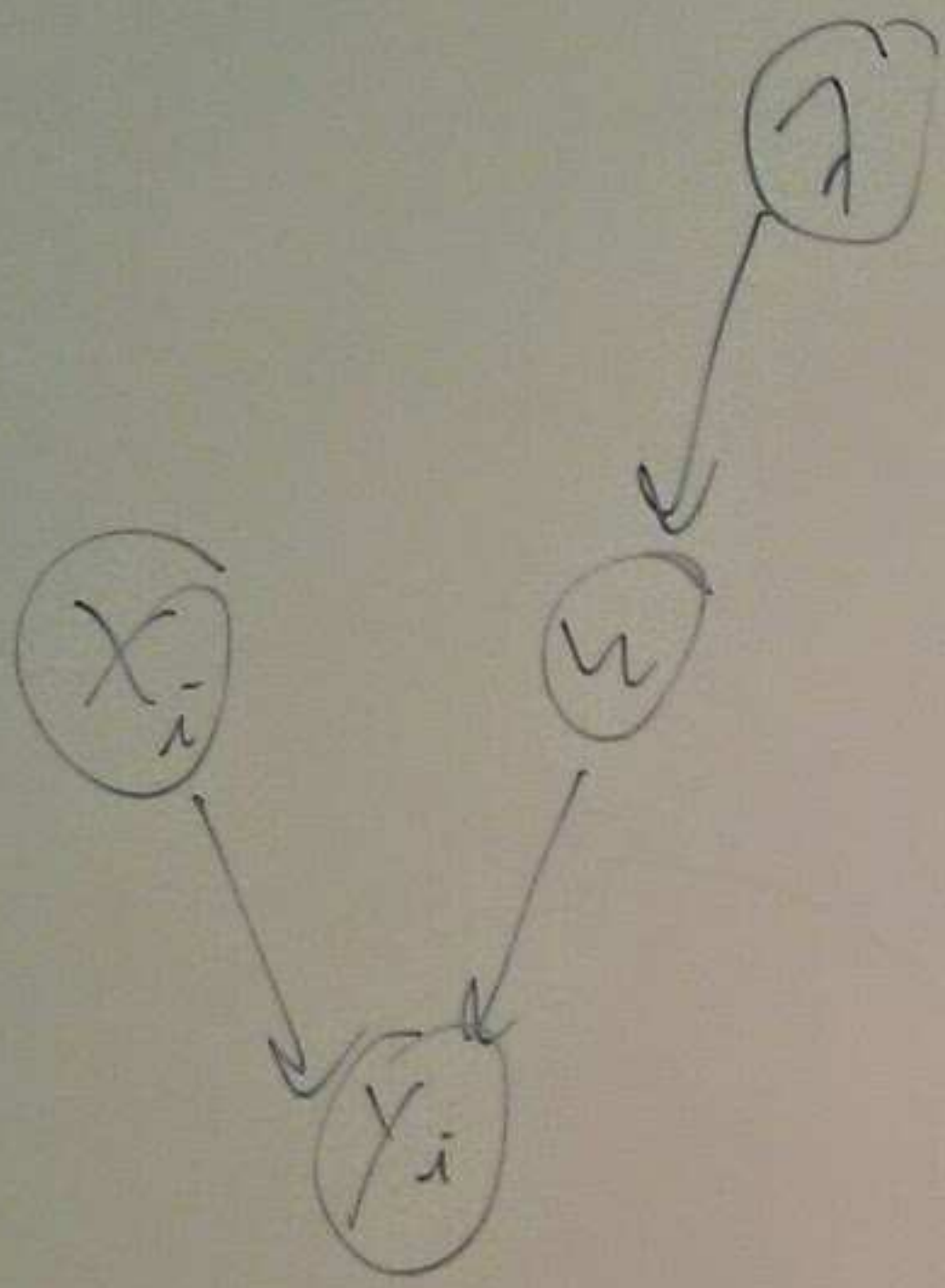
True dist



Approx dist.



Minimize some distance  
between  $q(x)$  and  $p(x)$



the family.

(tree-structured graphical model)

Laplace approximation: use  $x^*$  as mean, and



$q_i$  Gaussian

Approximate Inference  
Inference in loopy models  
Approximate inference

Common strategy:

- minimize KL-divergence

$$KL(q \parallel p) = \sum_x q(x) \log \frac{q(x)}{p(x)}$$

usually use  $p(x) = \frac{\tilde{p}(x)}{Z}$

gives upper-bound on  $-\log Z$



"Mean-field" methods ("variational Bayes")

$x_1$   $x_2$   $x_3$   $x_4$

$$q(x) = \prod_{j=1}^d q_j(x_j)$$

Usually, update each  $q_j$  sequentially.  
(c.f., coordinate descent)

$$q_j(x_j) \leftarrow \frac{1}{Z_j} \exp(\underbrace{E_{-q_j}[\log \tilde{p}(x)]}_{\text{generally easy}})$$

Ising model:  $\psi_{jk} = w_{jk} x_j x_k$

MF  $\rightarrow q_j(x_j) \propto \exp(x_j \sum_{(j,k) \in E} w_{jk} \mu_k)$