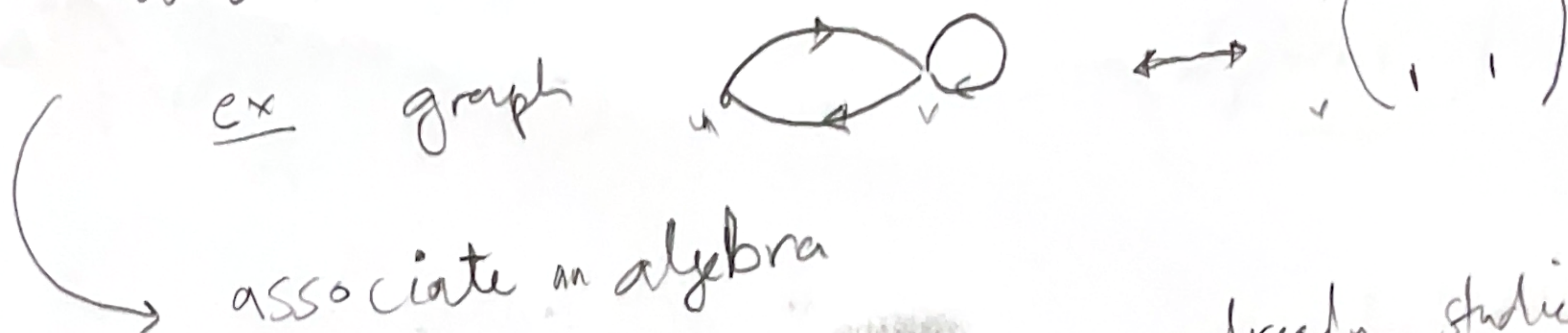


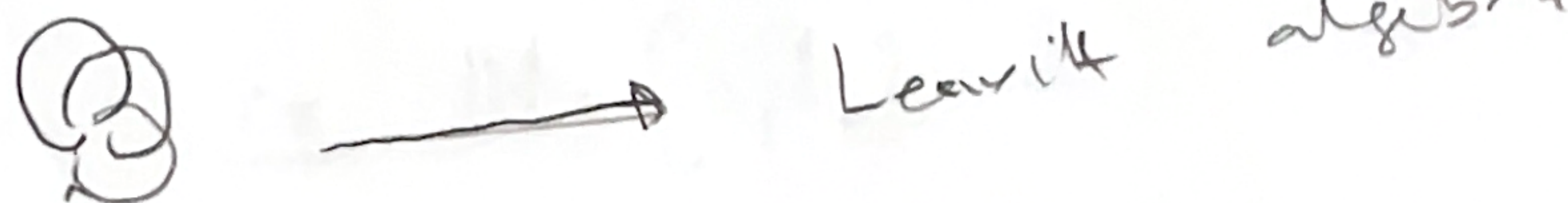
theme

①

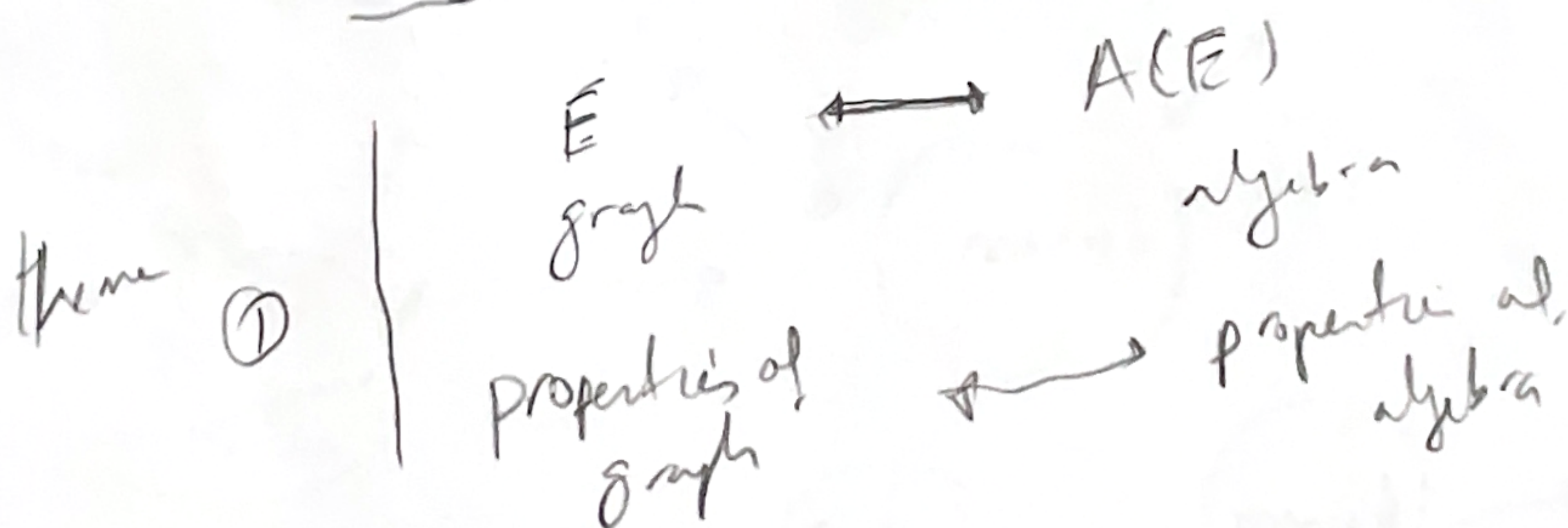
Combinatorial (discrete) structure



* Certain graphs $\xrightarrow{\text{produce}}$ algebras already studied in literature

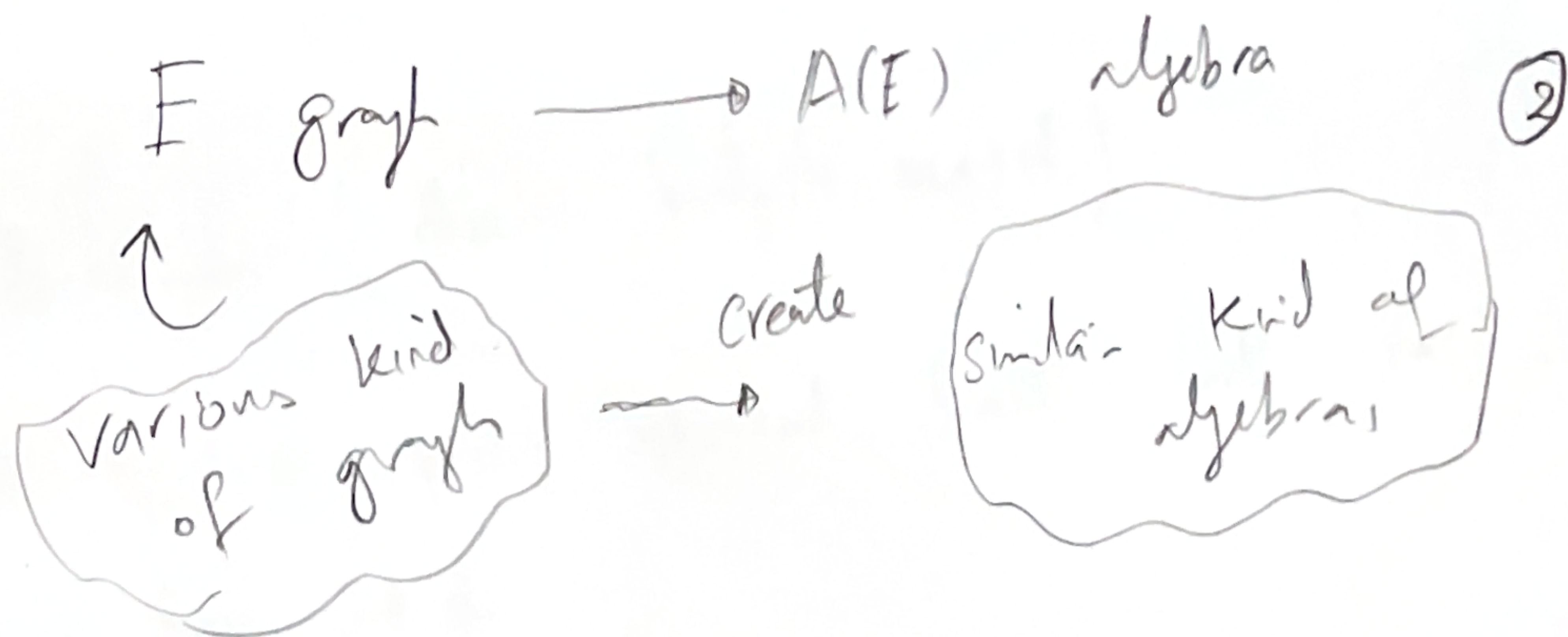


* study these algebras



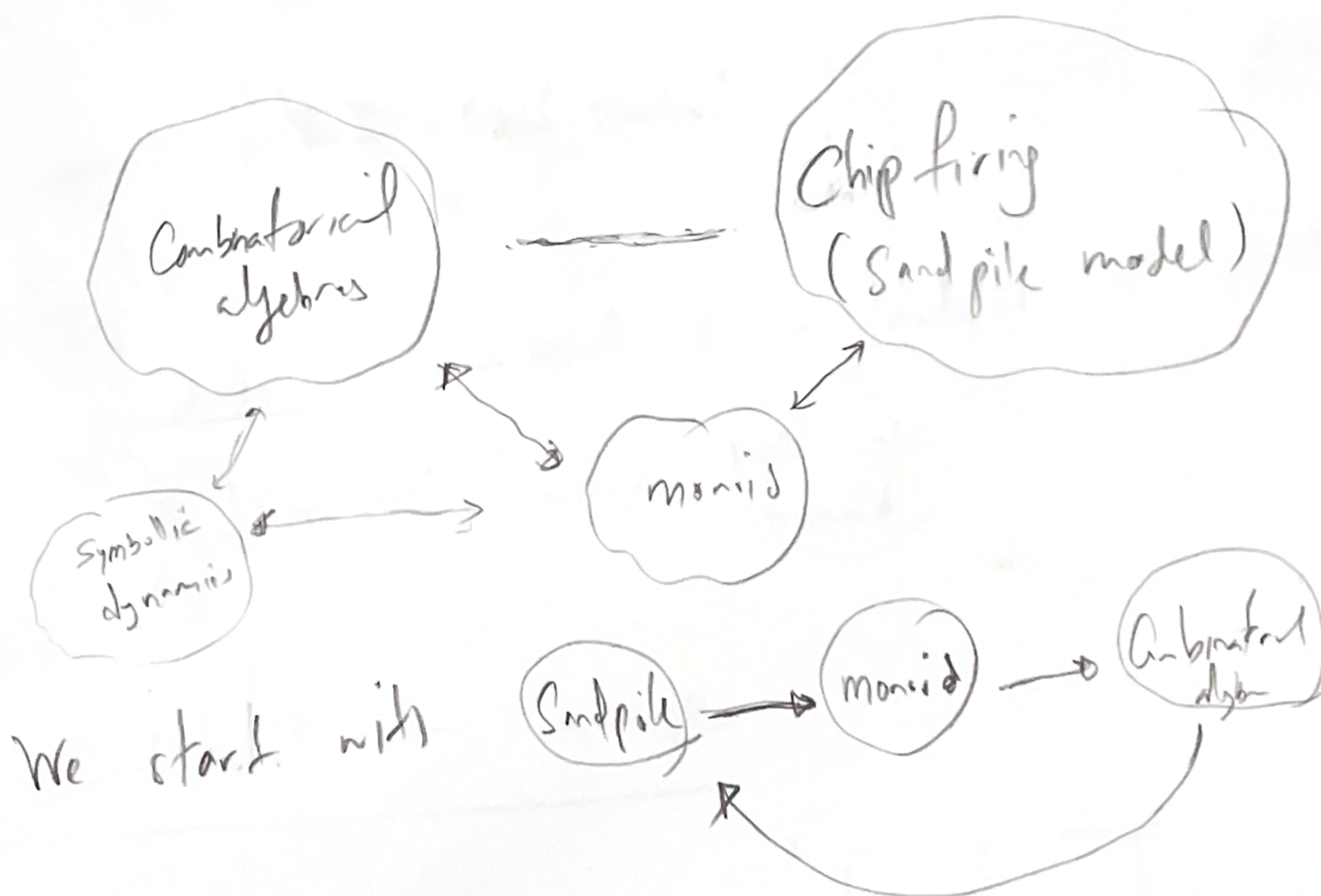
Is there easy to compute invariant $\iff A(E) \cong A(F)$

$\checkmark(A(E)) \cong \checkmark(A(F)) \iff$



Invariant \longrightarrow Commutative monoid \longleftarrow simplified algebraic structure

ex $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$



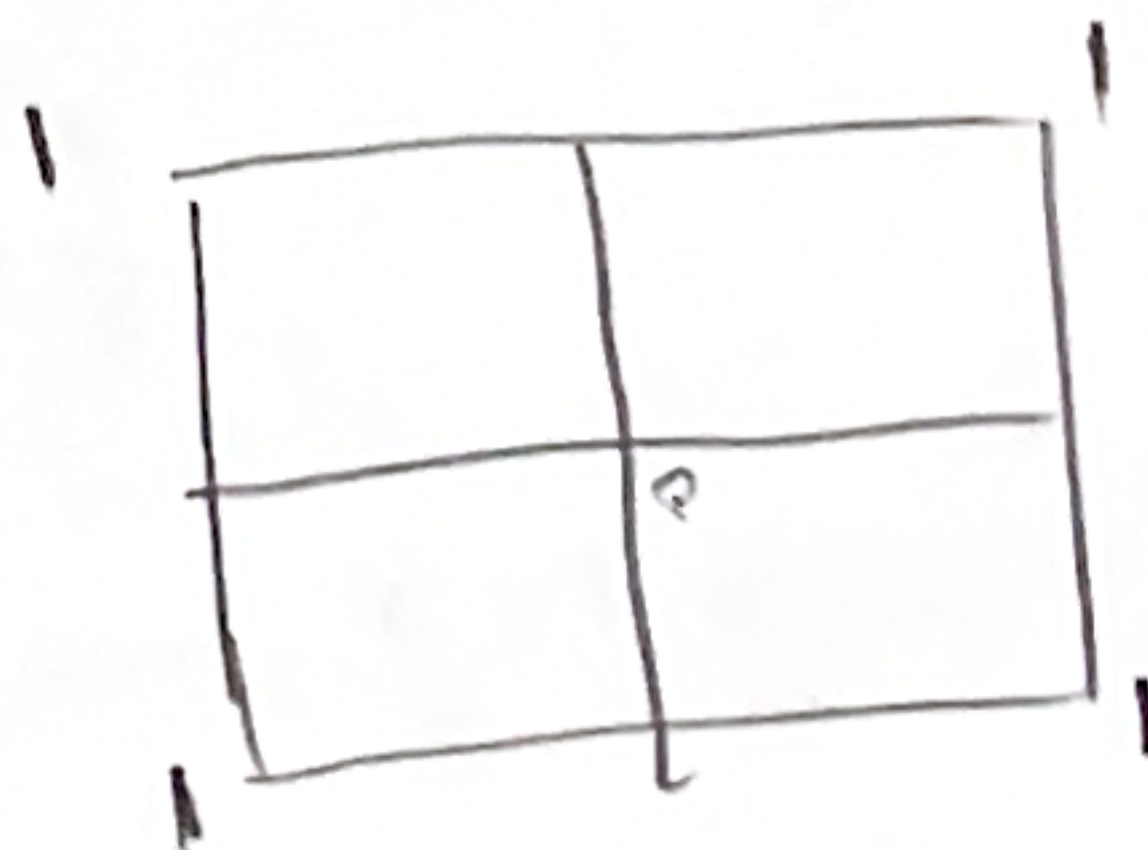
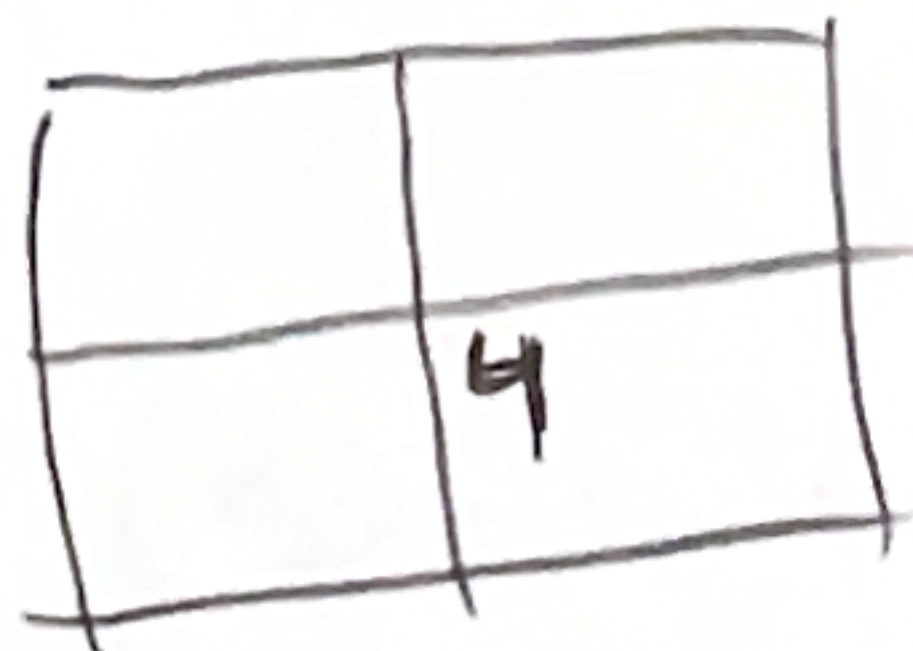
Chip firing (Abelian Sandpile model)

- A system which organises itself with no input from outside
- [either stabilizes or becomes infinite process]
- The model uses a "single local rule" which produces "self-similar" very complex global patterns.

Sandpile → associate it a mathematical objects

single local rule → math obj
monoid

we start with an example

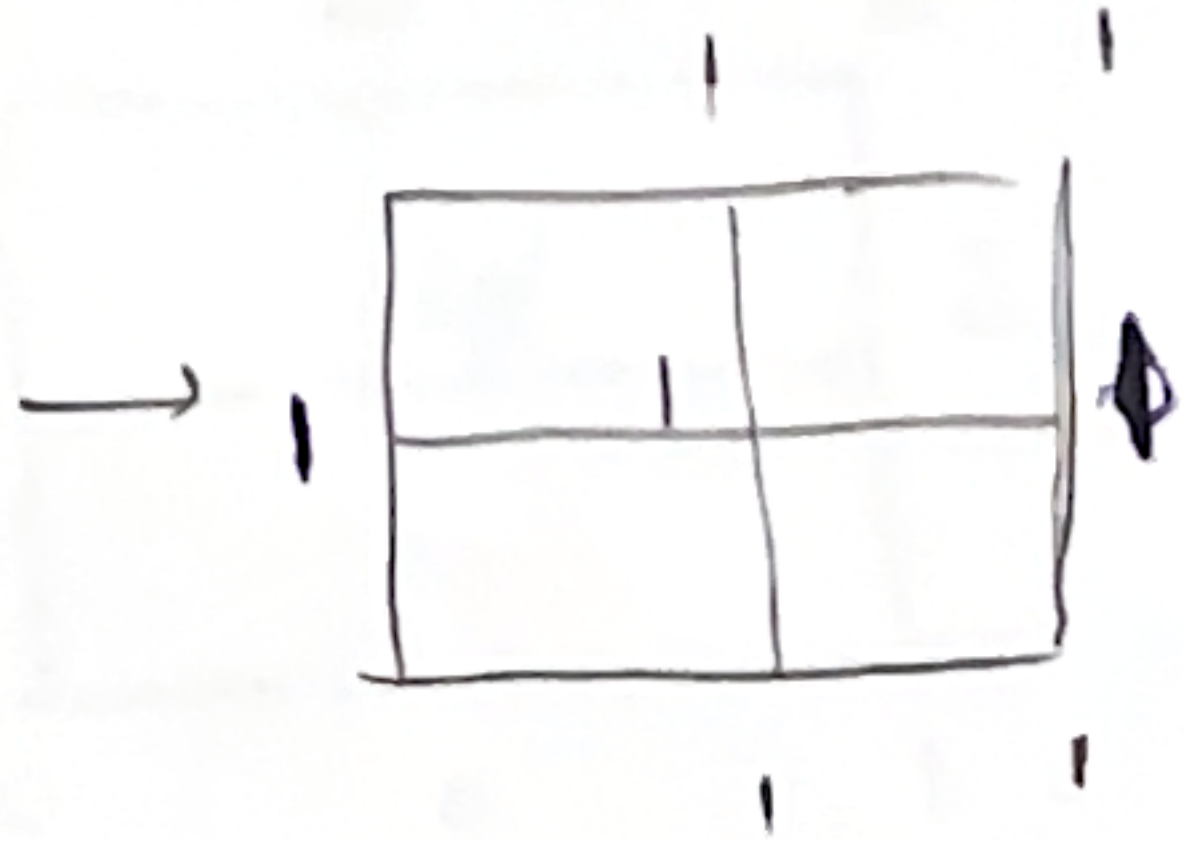
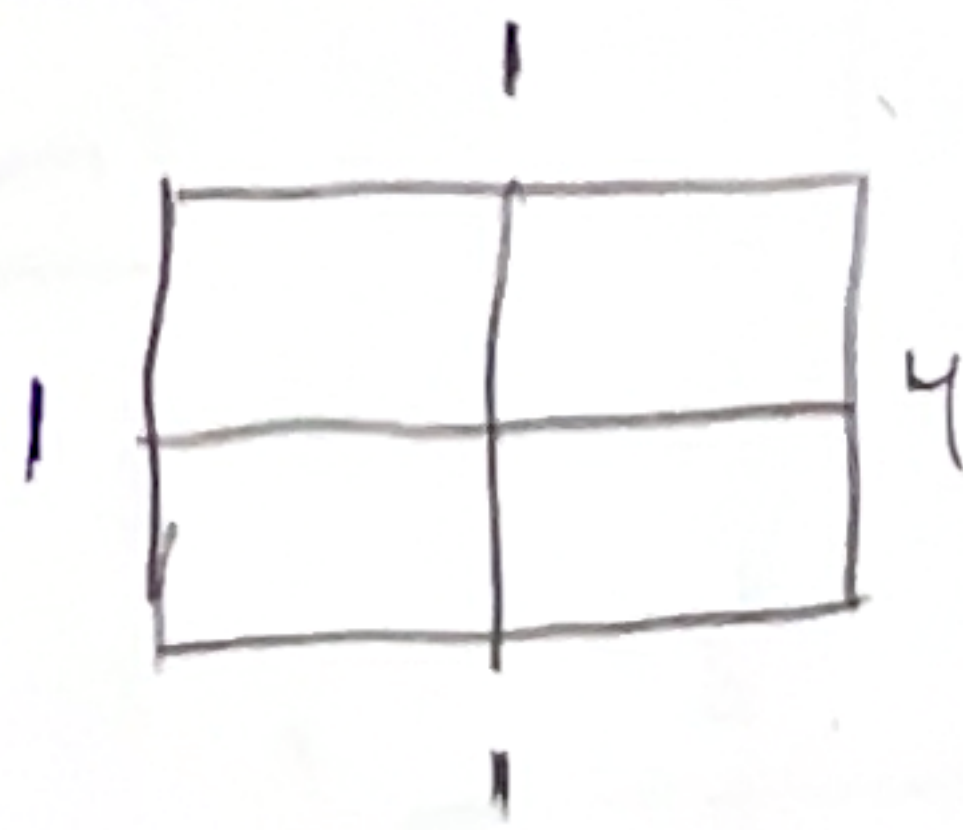
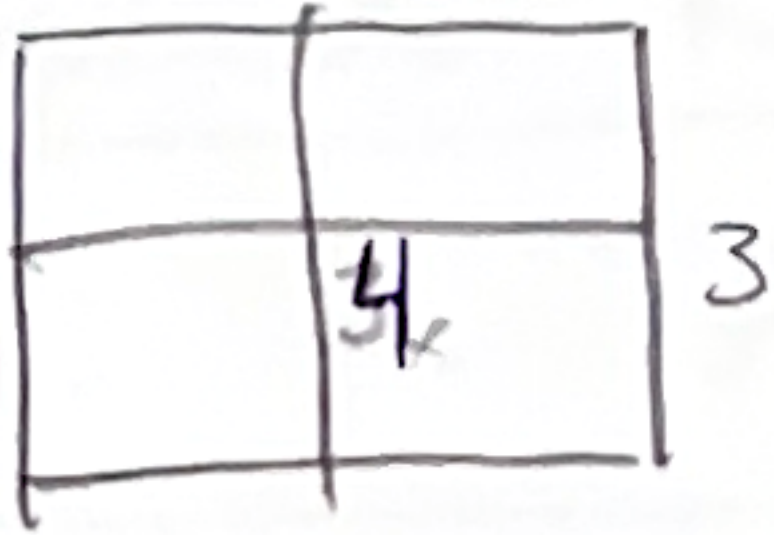


sending a chip to its neighbour

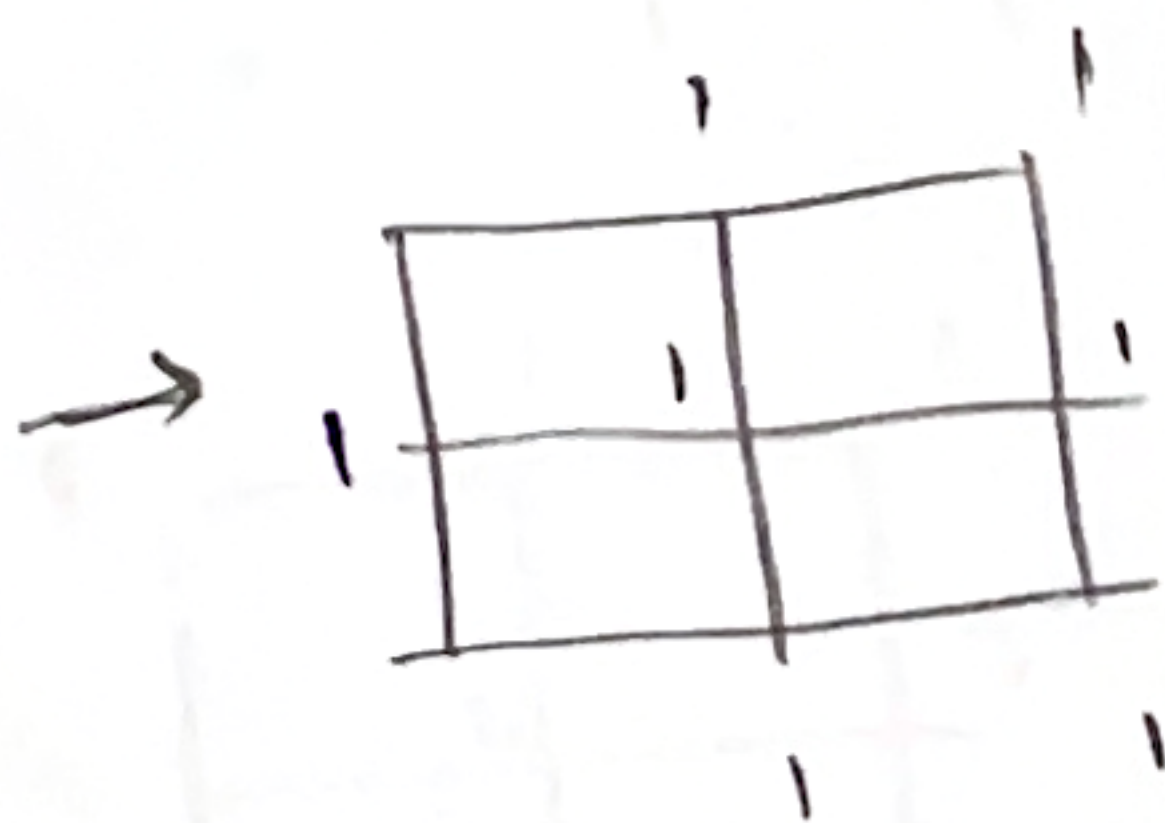
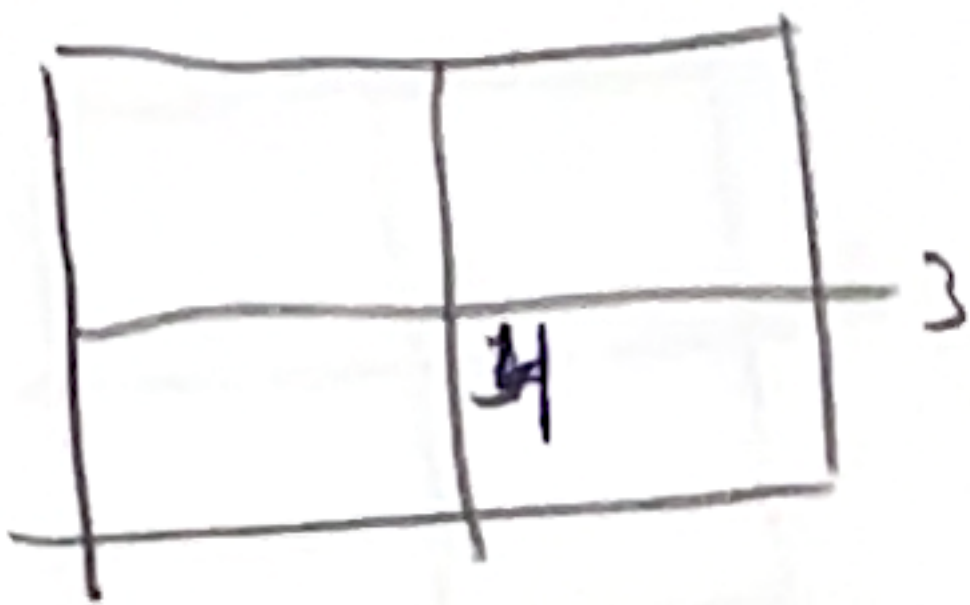
④

Ex

①



other
Ex ②



mathematical thinking

$$C = (n_{v_1}, n_{v_2}, \dots, n_{v_n})$$

if $\deg(v_i) \leq n_i$

v_i are vertices or nodes
 n_{v_i} number of chips on v_i

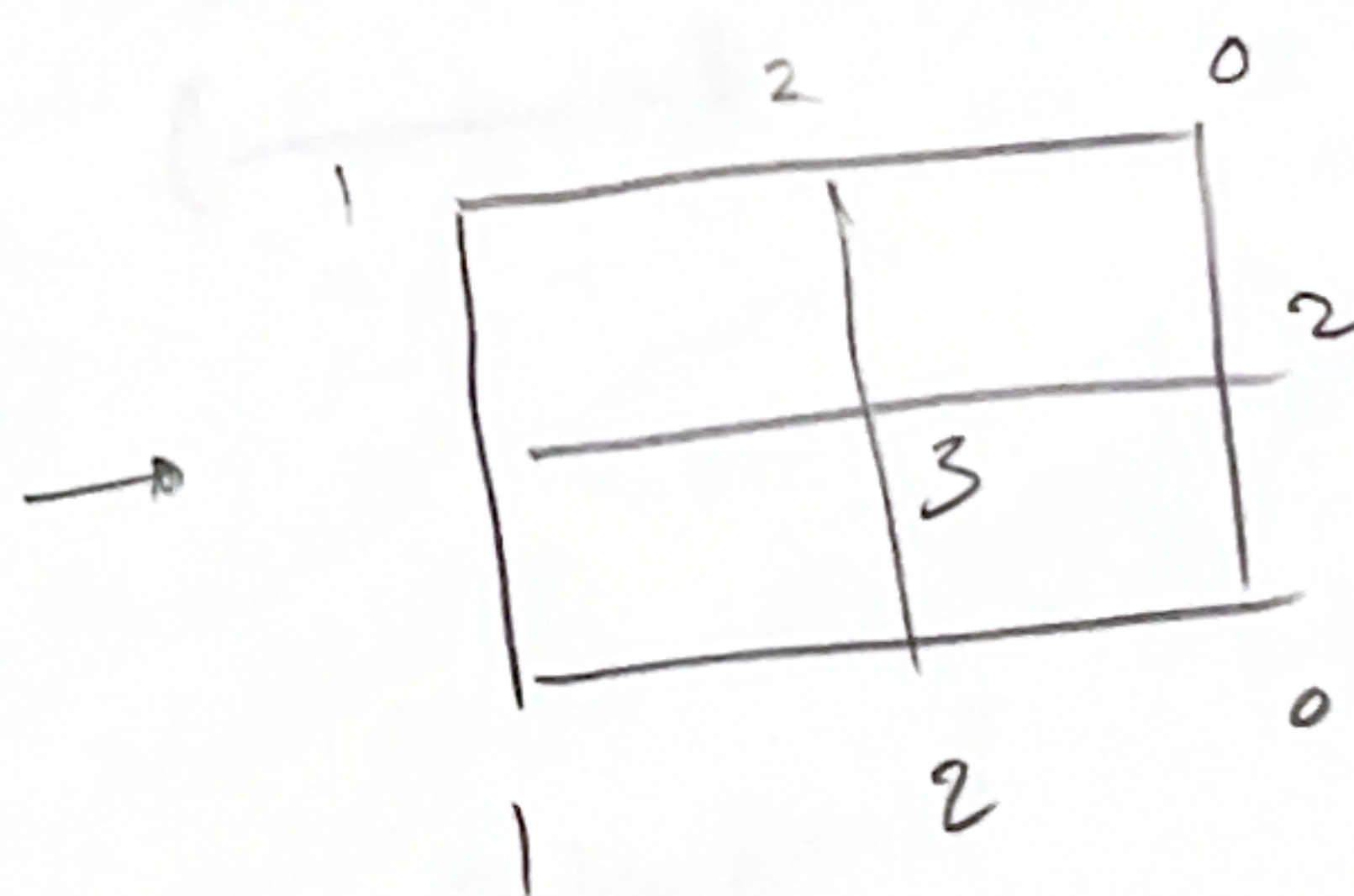
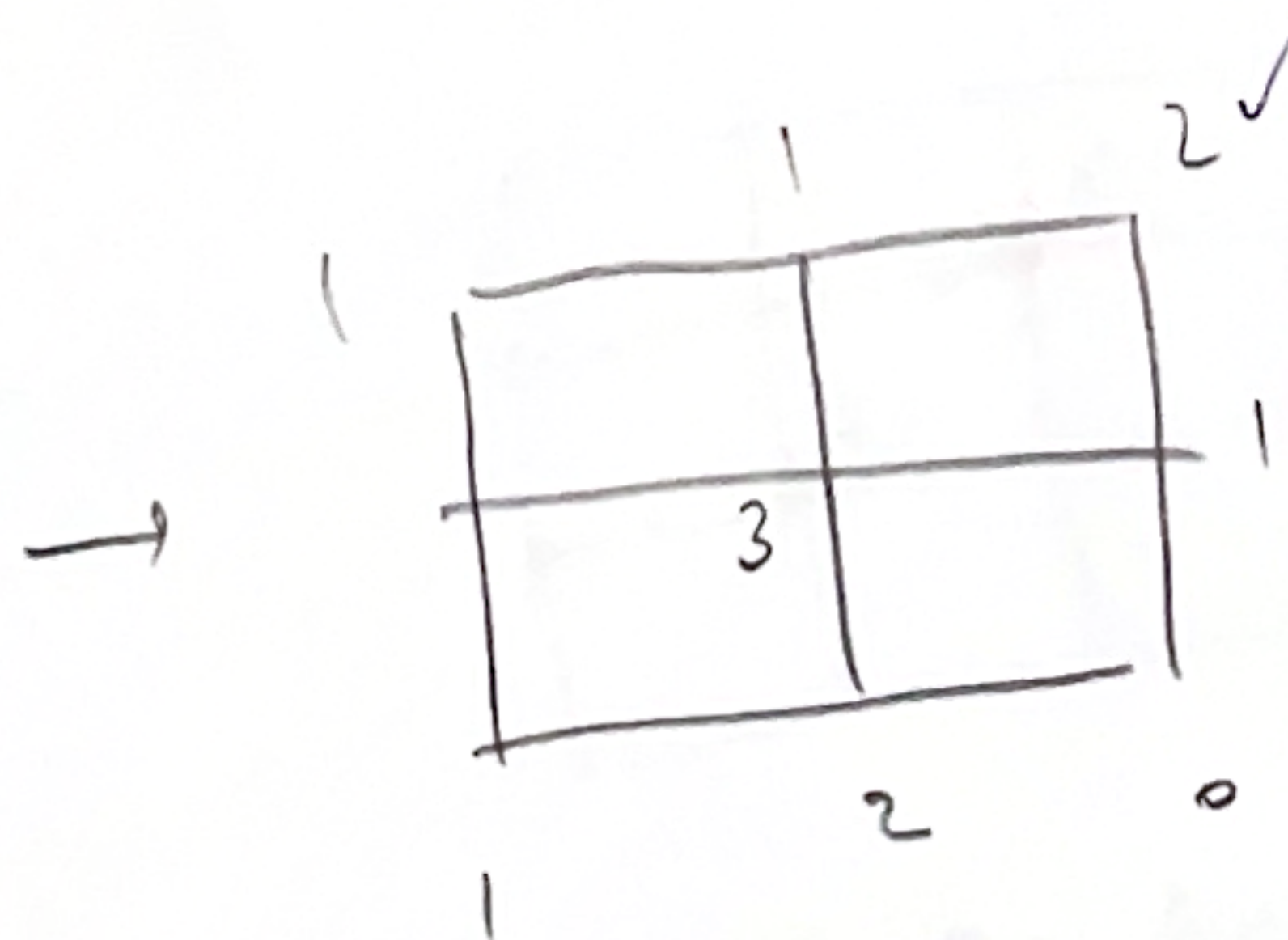
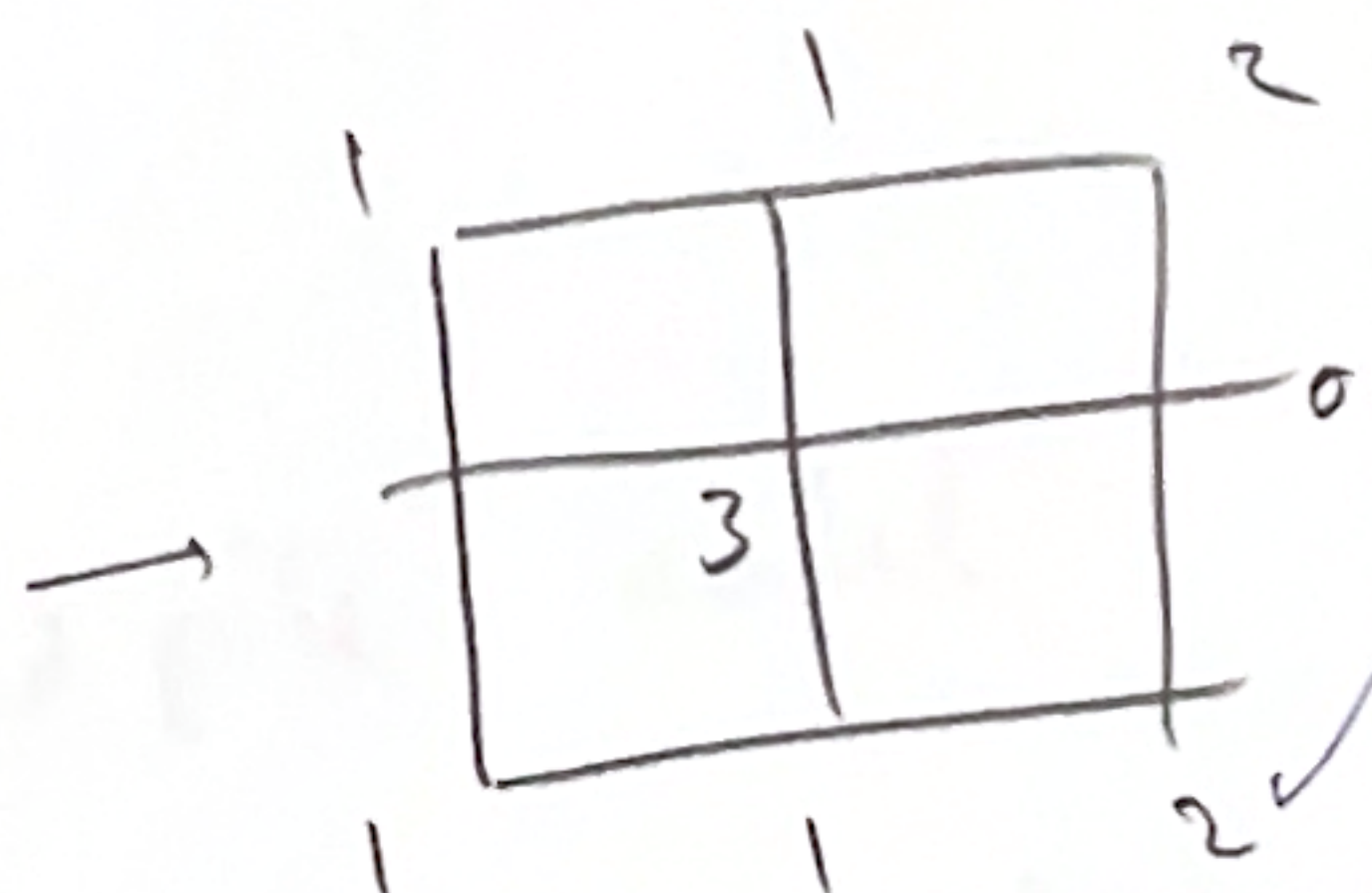
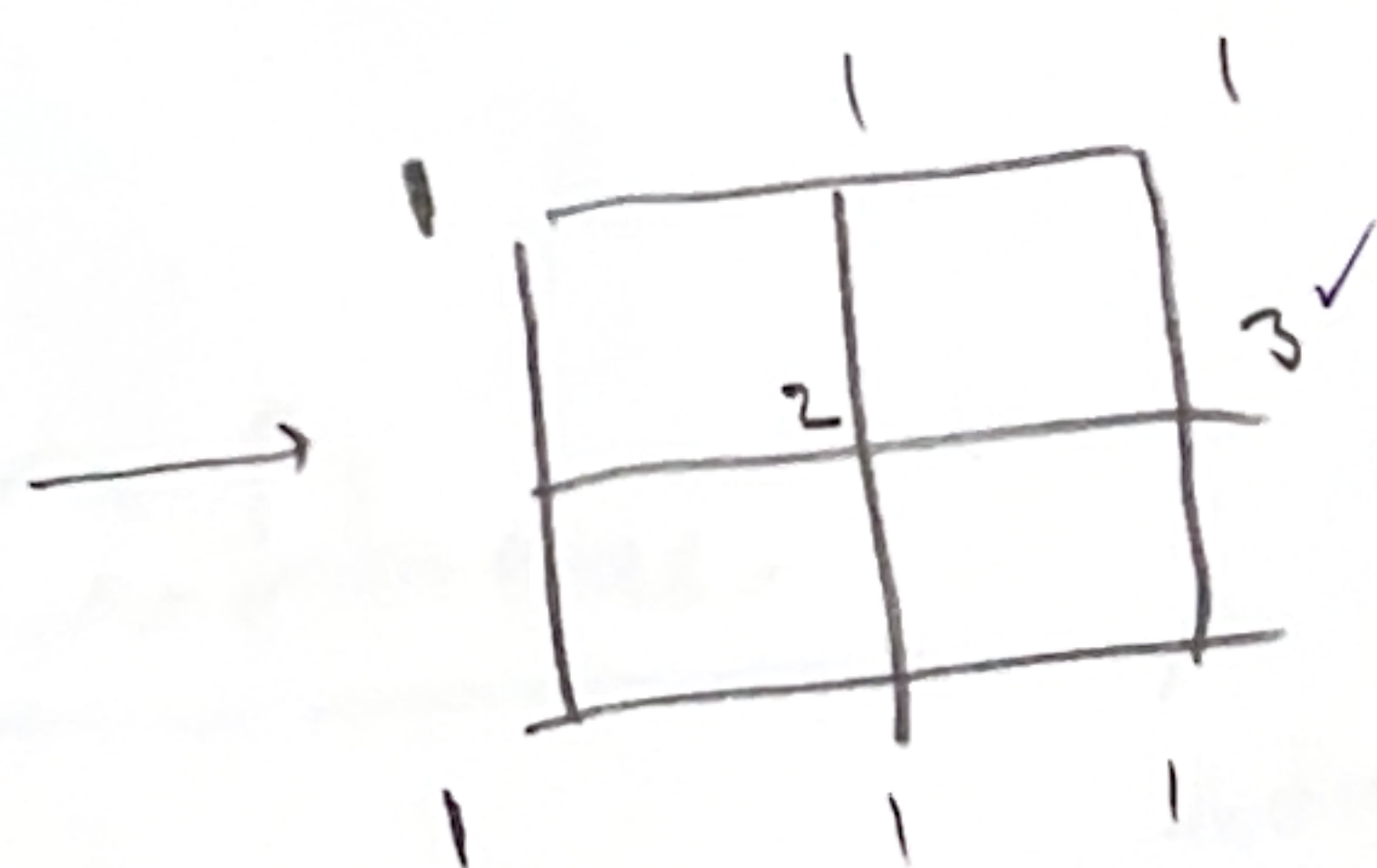
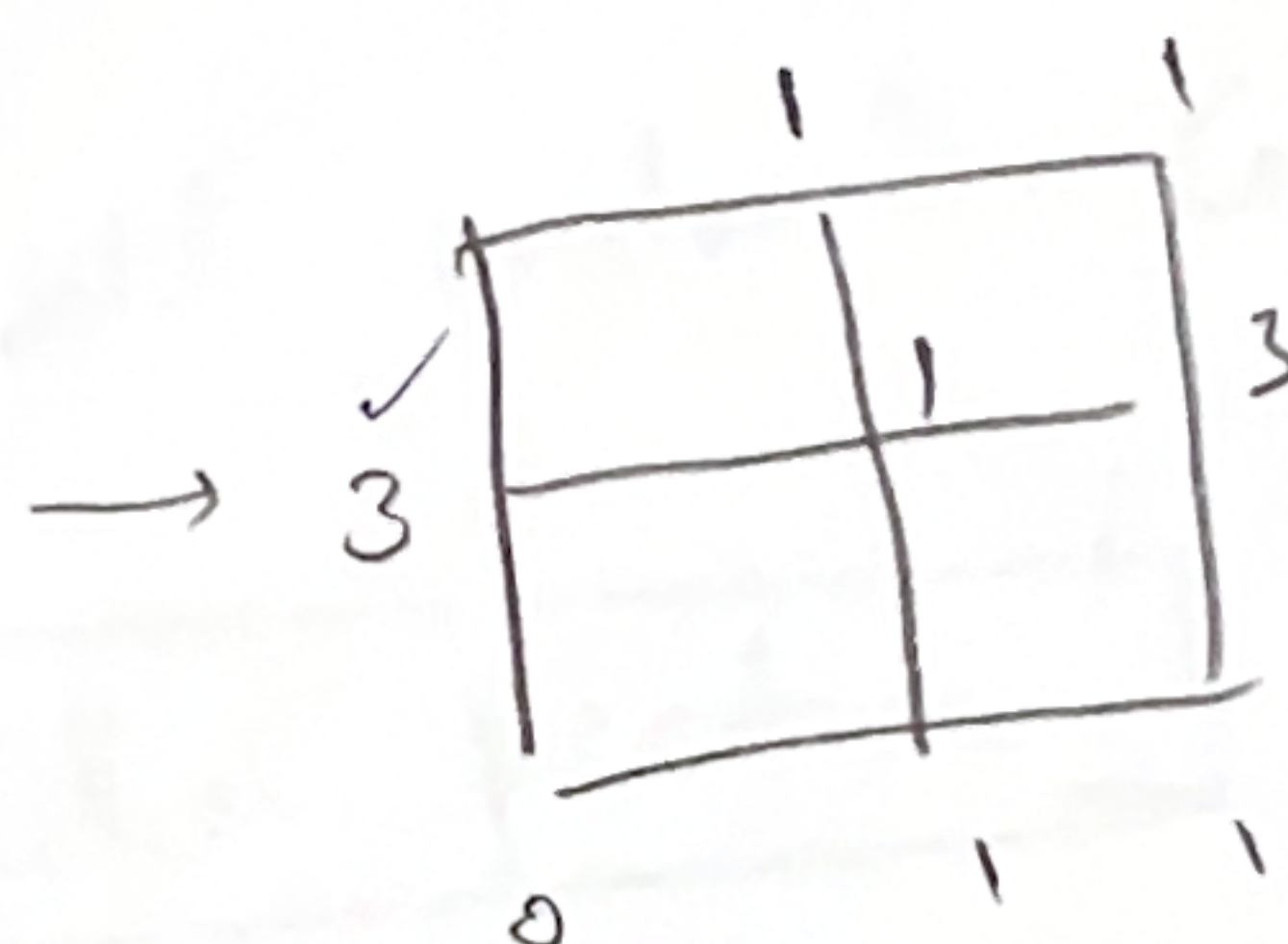
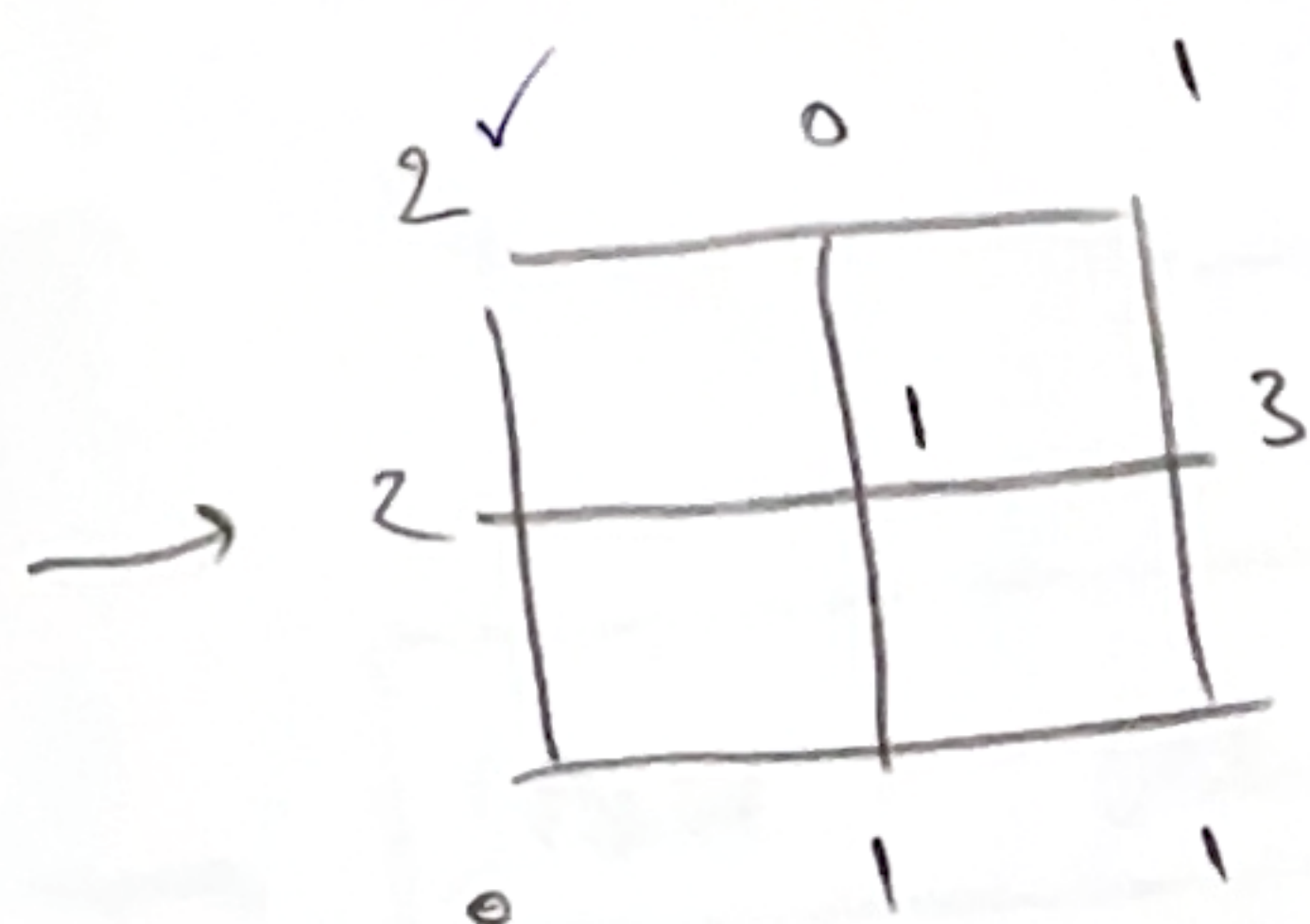
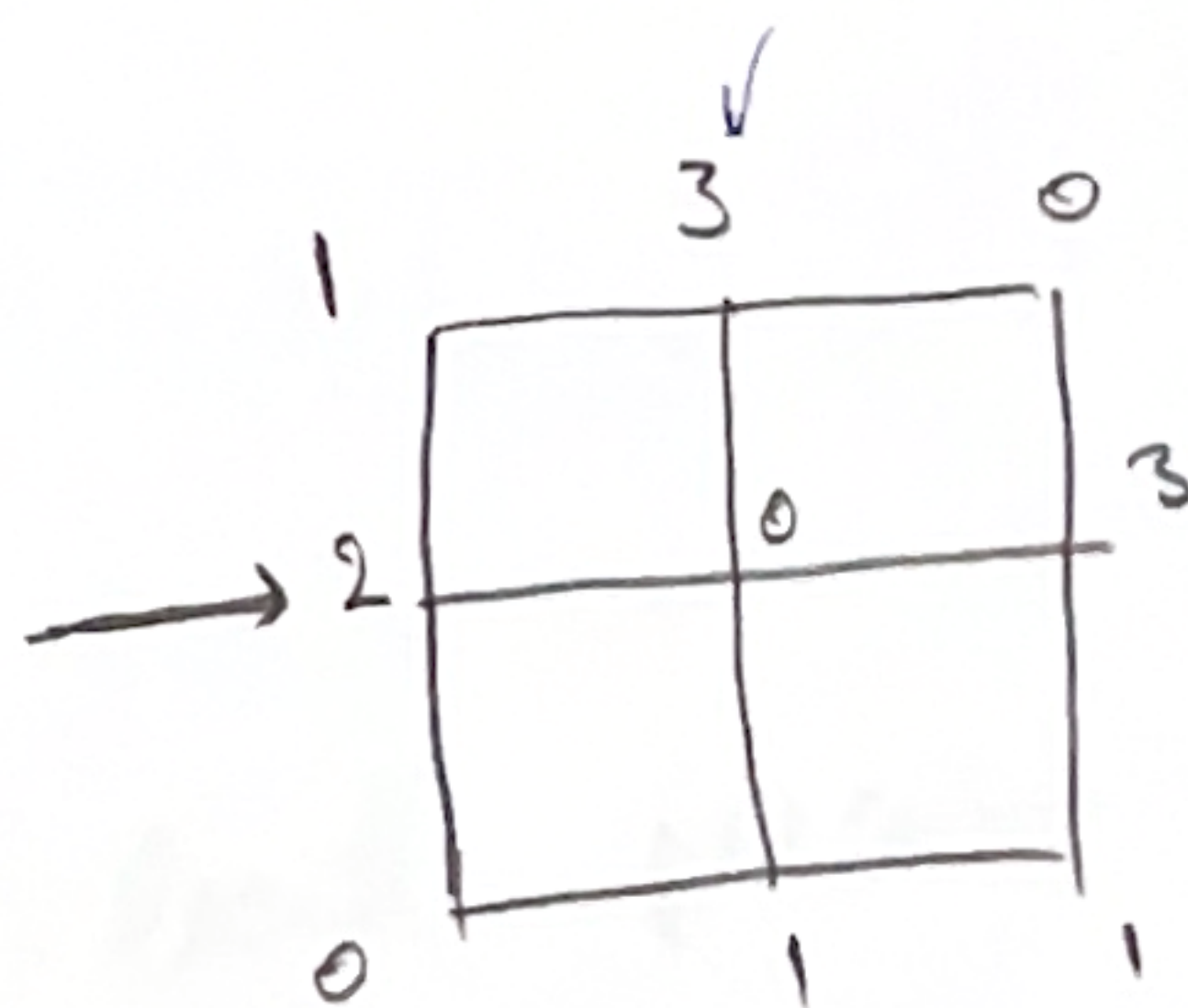
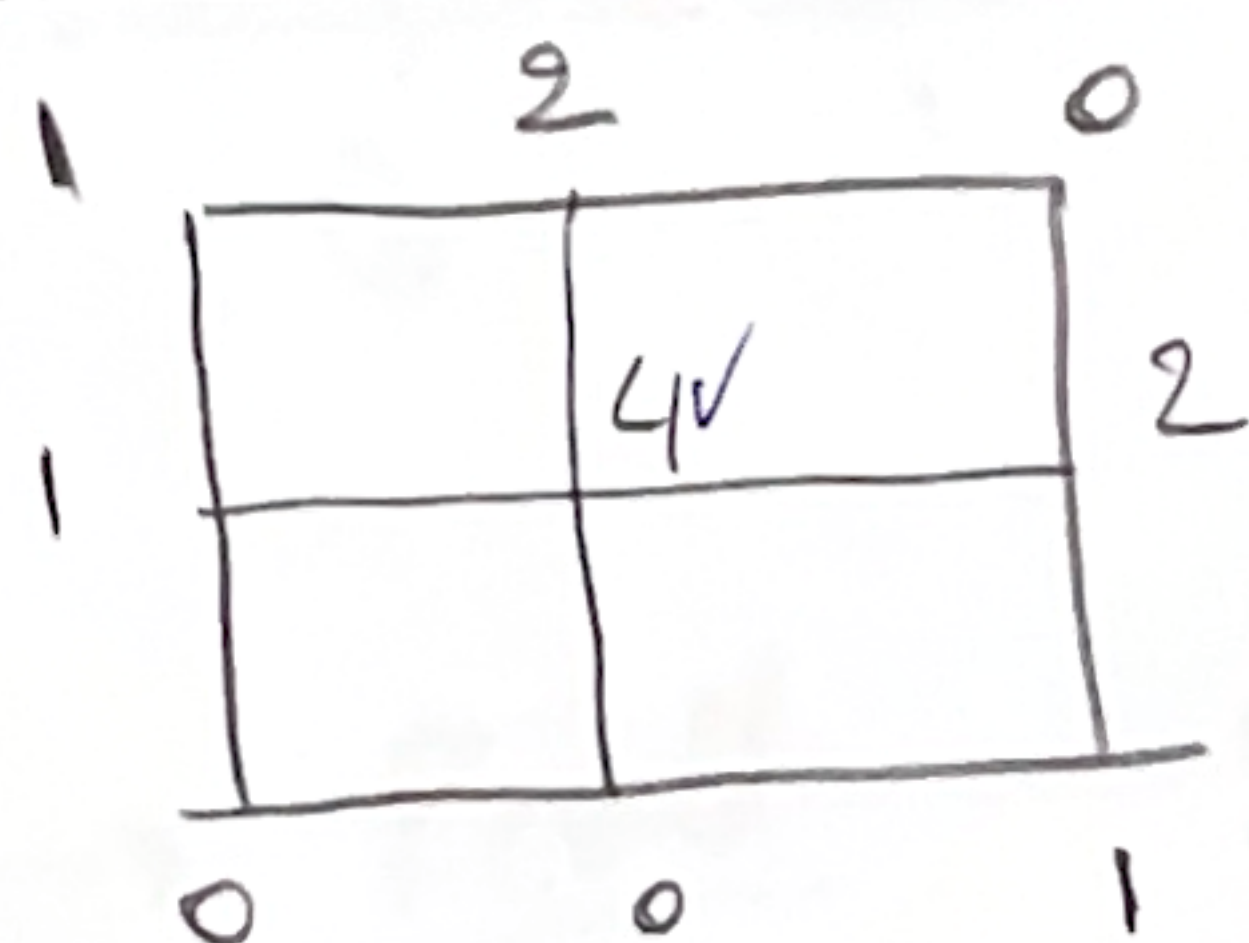


$$C \rightarrow (n_{v_1}, \dots, n_{v_{i-1}}, n_{v_i} - \deg(v_i), \dots, n_k + 1, n_{k+1}, \dots, n_j - 1, n_{j+1}, \dots)$$

to appreciate the process

5

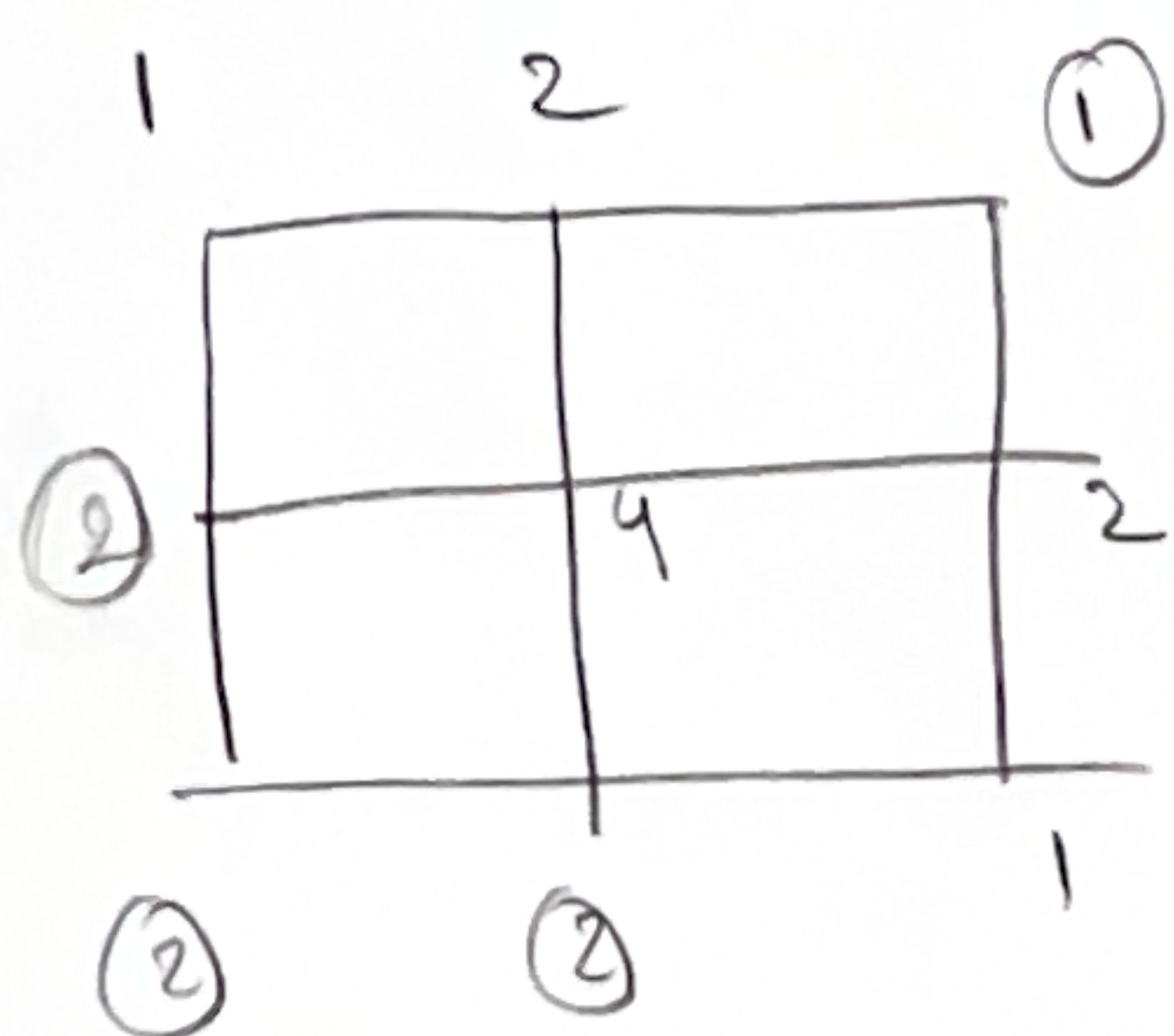
Exercise for students



✓ Stabilized

✓ 7 steps

✓ unique configuration



would not stabilize -

⑥

→ Recall single local process

→ "self similar" complex pattern

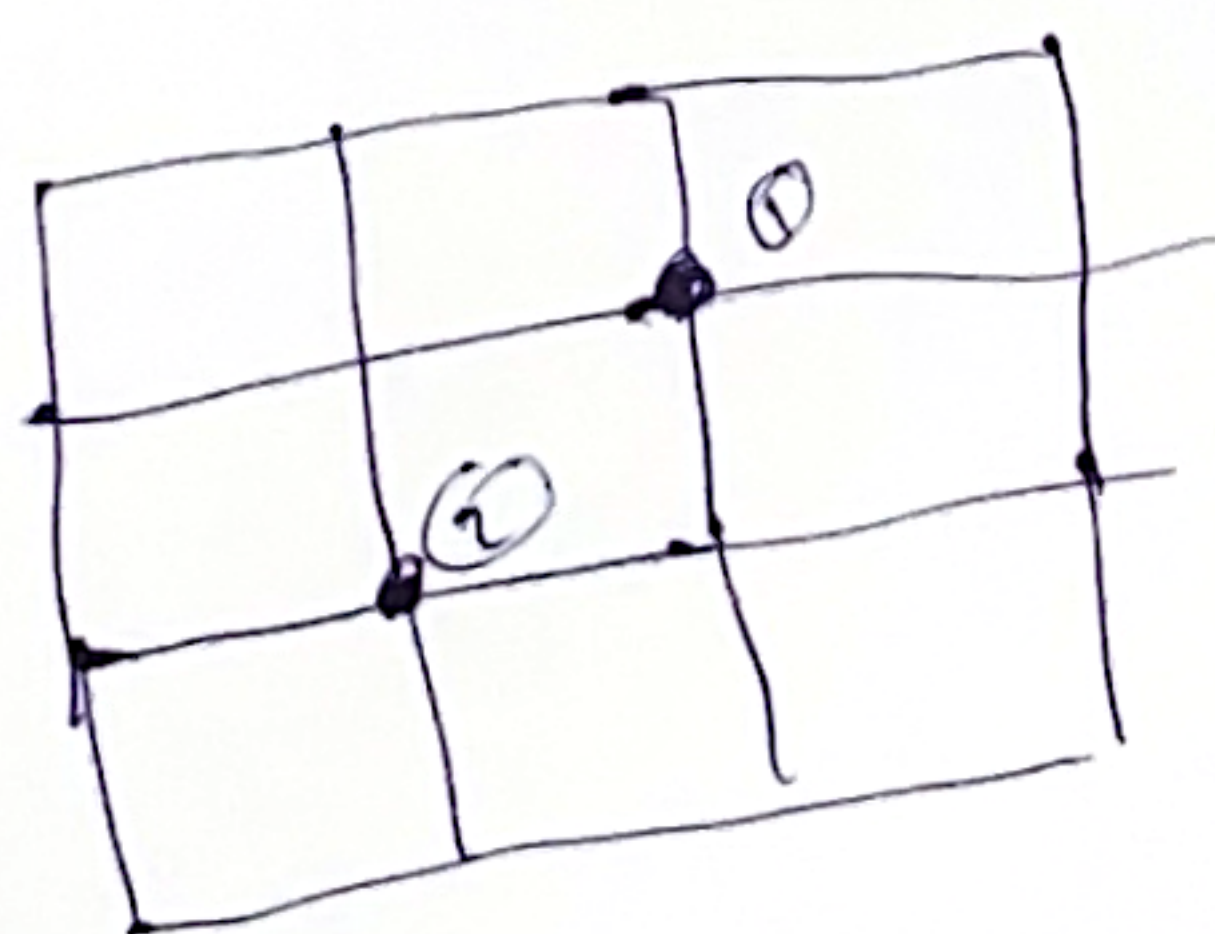
→ Show one million picture

Confluence

Sand pile model

abelian

write in terms of vector
(→)



M. Newman "On theories with a combinatorial definition of equivalence" Ann of Math 1941

G. Bergman "The diamond lemma for ring theory" Adv. Math 1978
"The main results in this paper are trivial"

8

Early results

Björner-Lovász, Shor "Chip-firing Games on Graphs"
European J. Combinatorics 1991

Graphs undirected - simple - connected



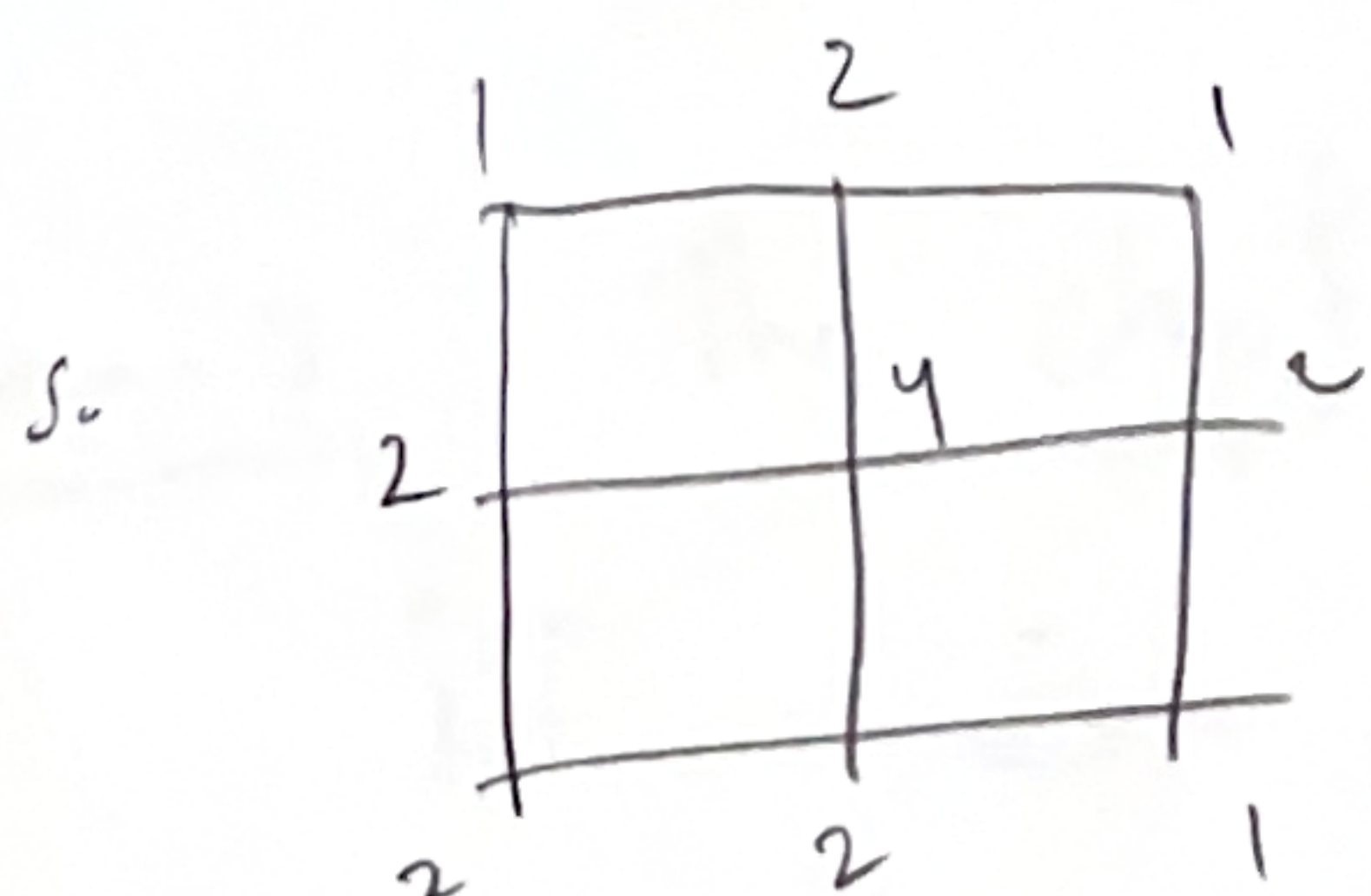
Lemma If a configuration c on a graph does not stabilize then every vertex of the graph fires infinitely many times starting from c .

proof If the process does not stabilize, then \exists vertex v which fires infinite times.



So v feeds the adjacent vertices infinite chips so w has to fire infinite times.

Since the graph is connected, repeating this process all vertices fire infinite times.



all γ fires infinite times. (9)

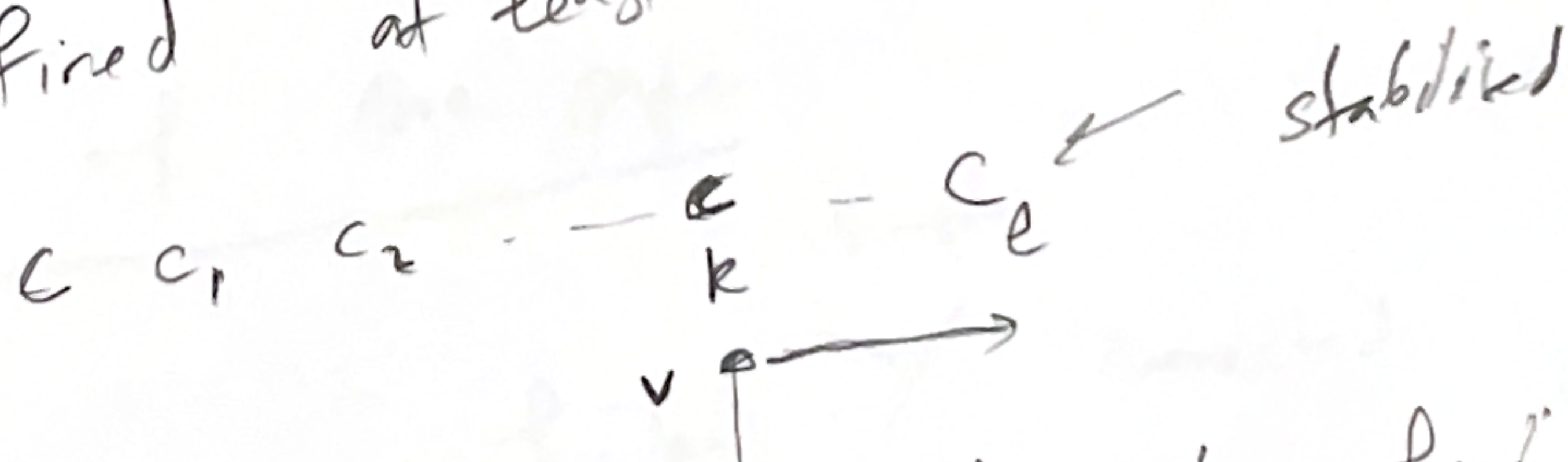
Lemma 2 \nexists from configuration c

every vertex can fire at least once, then

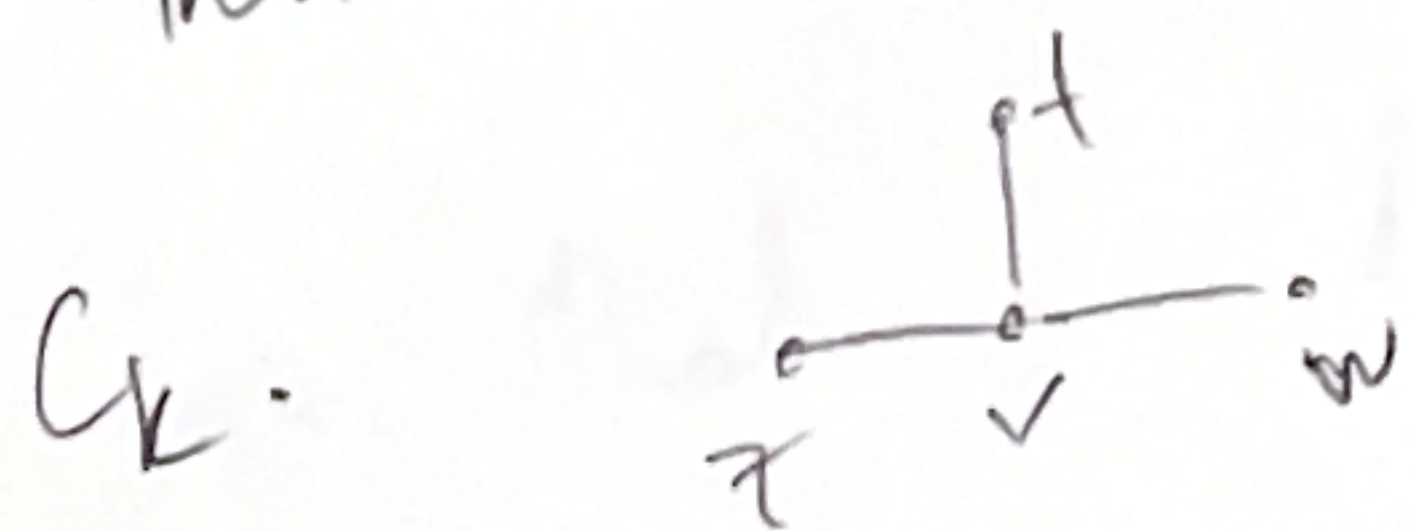
the chip-firing from c will never stabilise.

Proof Suppose the configuration c stabilises and

all vertices fired at least once.



suppose v is the first vertex that stop firing.
That means all other vertices firing after configuration



c_k . Then v receives at least $\deg(v)$

chips and becomes unstable. Contradiction.

Lemma 3 The chipfiring process stabilises
iff \exists vertices which never fire
during the process

proof \rightarrow if all vertices fire $\xrightarrow{\text{Lemma}}$ configuration does not stabilise

so the configuration stabilises iff \exists vertex which does not fire

\leftarrow if a configuration does not stabilise \rightarrow all vertices fire infinitely times

Main theorem of the paper

Theorem Let E be a finite simple connected graph

$$|E^0| = n, |E^1| = m$$

and

c a configuration

such that

$$N = \sum c_i \quad (\text{the number of chips})$$

① if $N > 2m - n$ then C is non stable ②
(chip firing process is infinite)

② if $m \leq N \leq 2m - n$, then
 \exists configuration which stabilises and
 \exists configuration which does not!

③ $N < m$ then configuration stabilises.

Proof
Example

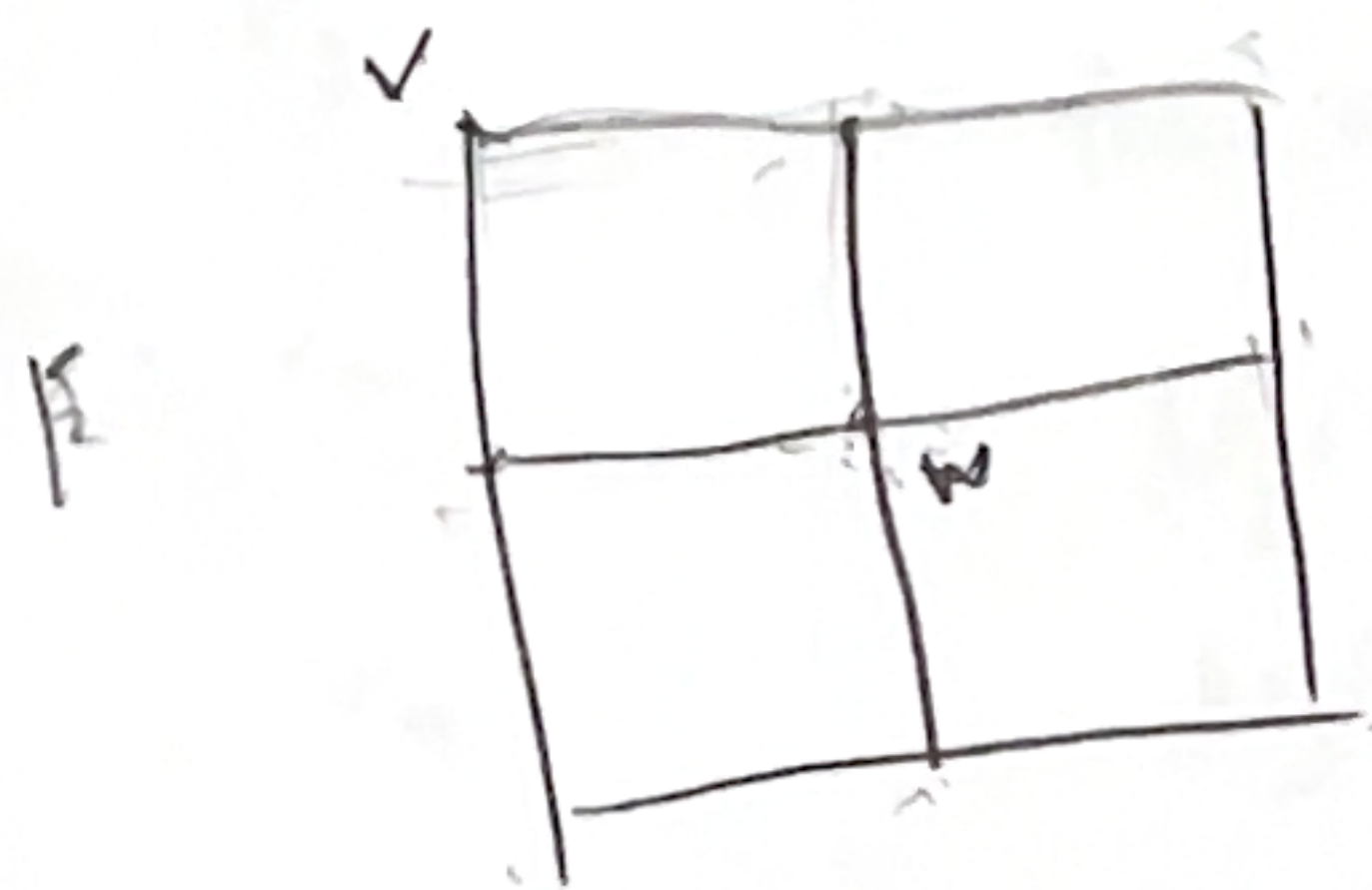
Def G Connected graph.

(12)

$d(v, w)$ = shortest path between v and w
 $\text{diam}(G)$ = largest distance between two vertices

$$\text{diam}(G) = \max \{ d(v, w) \mid v, w \in V \}$$

Ex



$$d(v, w) = 2$$
$$\text{diam}(G) = 2$$

Theorem (Tardos) Let G be a finite simple undirected connected graph, with $|V| = n$, $|E| = m$

$d \geq \text{diam}(G)$. Then any configuration which stabilise, will stabilise within $2md$ flips.

Proof of Theorem

①

Fact

connected simple graph

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2m$$

(Handshake Lemma)

v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n

the vertices do not fire if

$$\deg(v_1) = 1$$

$$\deg(v_2) = 1$$

$$\deg(v_n) = 1$$

chips on them

so

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) - n = 2m - n$$

so if $n > 2m - n$ by

pigeon hole principle

one vertex has to fire.

②

Exercise session

(14)

③ Suppose $N < m$.

For each edge e mark a chip that fires across e . So in all subsequent firing the chip either does not move or moves along e .



Since $N < m$, there is an edge with no associated chip. So

there are two vertices that never fire.

By previous lemma the configuration will stabilise.

Proof of Theorem 2 2mnd stabilisation

Lemma Configuration with N chips.

for neighbour u and v , the number of times

u has fired cannot differ from the number of times

that v has fired by more than N times

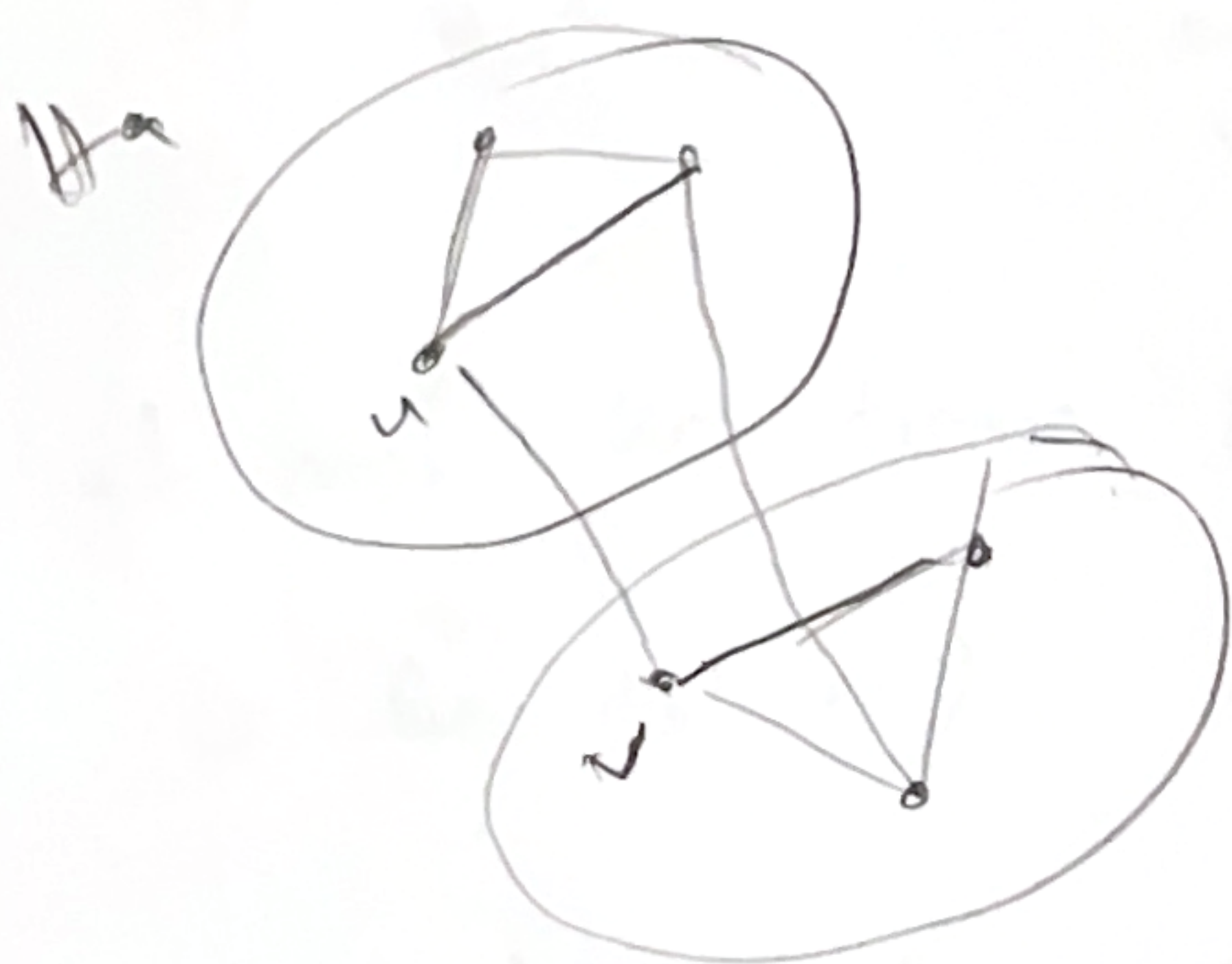
(15)

proof

Suppose u has fired a times
 v has fired b times

H_a subgraph all vertices fired at most a times

$V \setminus H_a$ the rest of the graph.



vertices have fired more
than a times

not
exp's

Proof of theorem

(16)

Suppose the configuration with N chips stable

By previous lemma $\exists v$ which does not fire



By lemma w can fire at most

N times.



so z can fire

at most $2N$ times (The difference between w and z should be less than N). so each vertex can max fire

N ed.

By

previous theorem

$$N \leq 2m - n \leq 2m$$

so $2m$ and there are n vertices so in

total $2m$ max firing.

Model with directed graph and sink (17)

E a directed graph

$|E^0|, |E^1|$ finite

$$E = (E^0, E^1, r, s)$$

$$r: E^1 \rightarrow E^0 \quad (\text{range})$$

$$s: E^1 \rightarrow E^0 \quad (\text{source})$$

ex



$$E^0 = \{u, v\}$$

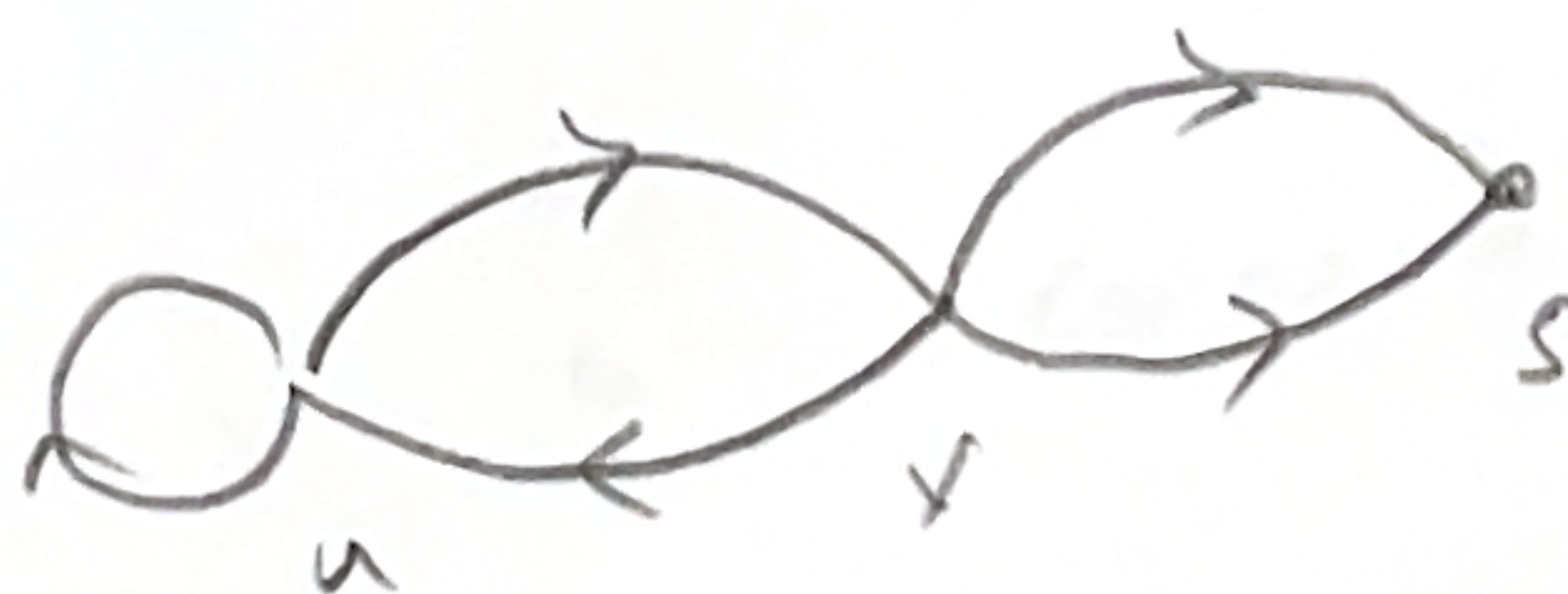
$$E^1 = \{e, f, g\}$$

$$s(e) = u$$

$$r(e) = v$$

$$s(g) = v, r(g) = v$$

Def A sandpile graph is a directed graph with a unique sink and all vertices connected to the sink.



$$\deg^+(v) = |S^1(v)|$$

number of edges exit from v
(out-degree)

$$|r^{-1}(v)|$$

number of edges enter to v
(in-degree)

model assumption any grain reaches sink disappears. (18)



$$5u = 4u + v = 3u + 2x = \underline{2u + 3v} = 3u + 2u + v = \underline{u + 2x}$$

stable unique configuration

Lemma Any configuration stabilises.

Proof Suppose a configuration does not stabilise. then \exists vertex v which fires infinite times. then all $v(\bar{s}^i(v))$ also fire infinite times. $v \rightarrow w$ since v is connected to sink s , infinite chips must disappear. \times

(19)

We don't use these terminology

A sequence of topplings that terminates
(give stable configuration) is called an avalanche.

towards assigning a mathematical object



stable configurations

$$0u, 1u, 2u, 3u = 0$$

	0	1	2
0	0	1	2
1	1	2	0
2	2	0	1

← {0, 1, 2}
monoid



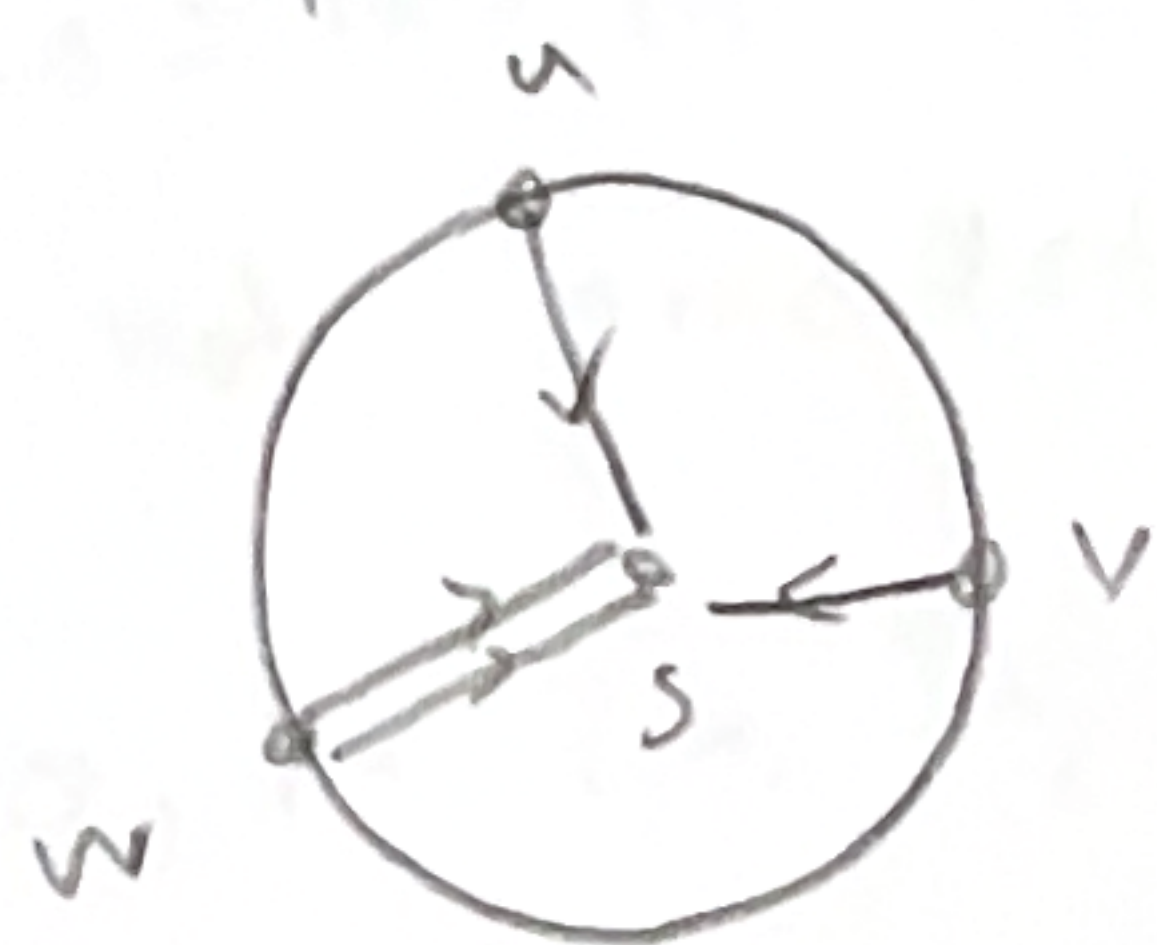
	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1

{0, 1, 2}
 $1+1=2$

Exercise for tutorial

20

- ① Describe the monoid of the wheel



Observe that $M/\langle s \rangle$ is a group.

- ② Describe the monoid of



on u 0, 1 chips
on v 0, 1, 2 chips

$R \text{ and } v$ $0 \leq x \leq 1$
 $0 \leq y \leq 2$

$$|M| = 6$$

Enough for exam



0, 1u, 2u, 3u, 4u, $5u = 3u$

	0	1u	2u	3u	4u
0	0	1u	2u	3u	4u
1u	1u	2u	3u	4u	3u
2u	2u	3u	4u	3u	4u
3u	3u	4u	3u	4u	3u
4u	4u	3u	4u	3u	4u

a couple of observations

$$1u + 2u = 1u + 4u \quad \text{but} \quad 2u \neq 4u$$

so not cancellative

$$\langle 3u, 4u \rangle \subseteq \{0, 1u, 2u, 3u, 4u\} \quad \text{and}$$

$\langle 3u, 4u \rangle$ is a group with

$$4u = 0 \quad \text{of}$$

$$\text{the group} \cong \{0, 1\} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$$

the commutative monoid $M = \frac{\langle u \rangle}{\langle nu = mu \rangle}$

here $\boxed{3u = 5u}$.

Monoid

M a non-empty set

$+: M \times M \rightarrow M$ binary operation

~~which~~ which has a zero
commutative
associative

$$a + 0 = 0 + a = a$$

$$a + b = b + a$$

$$(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$$

group

✓

each element has an inverse
 $\forall a, \exists b \quad a + b = b + a = 0.$

E sand pile

(22)

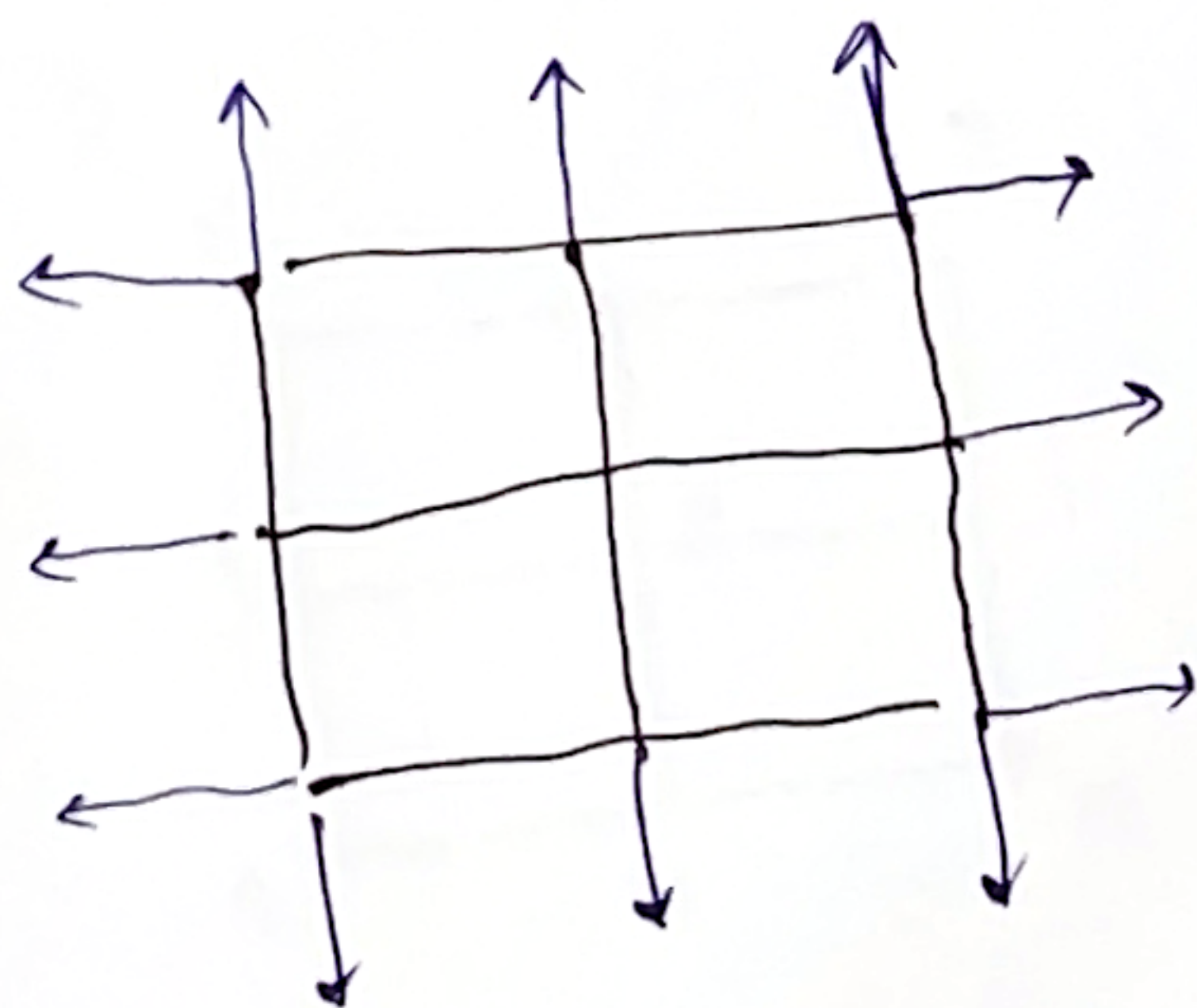
$SP(E)$ sandpile monoid

Define $(\sum R_i u_i) + (\sum R'_i u_i) := \sum (R_i + R'_i) u_i$

theme study $SP(E)$. does this
reflect the behaviour of sandpile
model? (for example explain the
fractal picture?)

Raising another (open) question

Consider



each node can have
4 configurations
0, 1, 2, 3.

$$So \quad 4 \times 9 = 36$$

$$|SP(E)| = 36$$

~~then~~

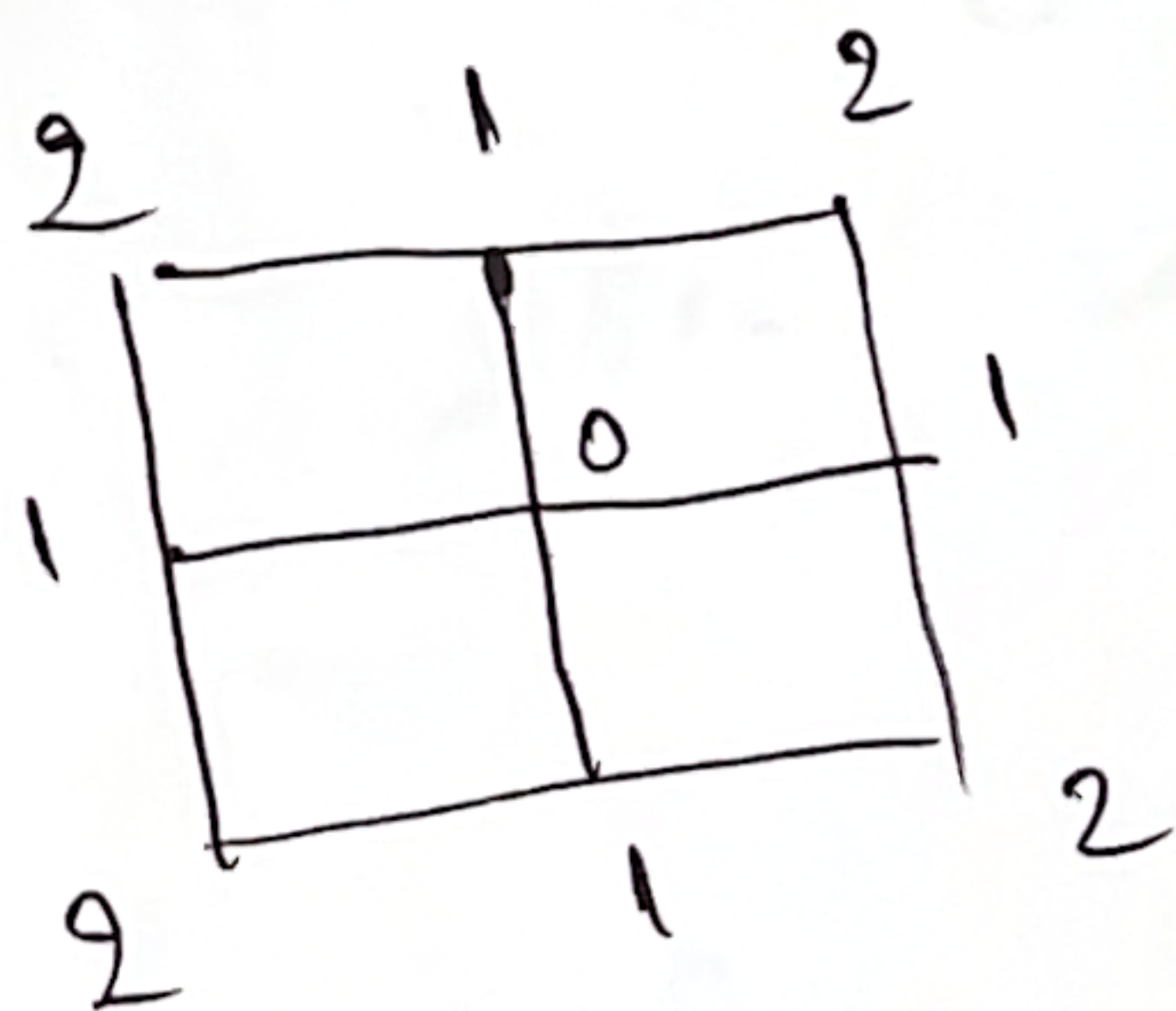
Similar to $M = \{0, 1u, 2u, 3u, 4u\}$ which contained $\{3u, 4u\}$ as a group with zero $4u$ in it. This monoid also contains a "special" group.

$$G(E) \subseteq Sp(E)$$

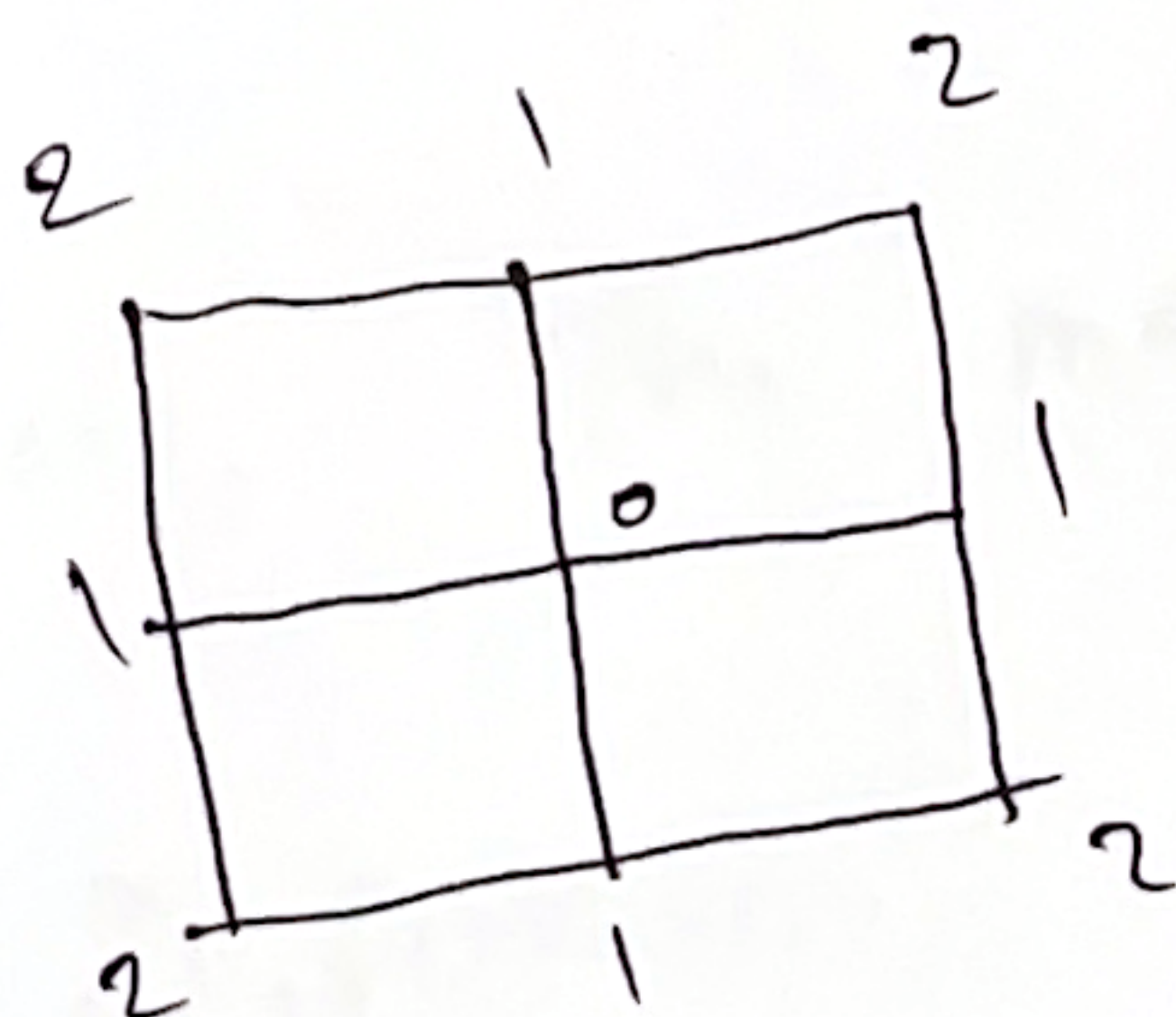
~~the~~

↑ sandpile group, the zero of this sandpile monoid

$x =$



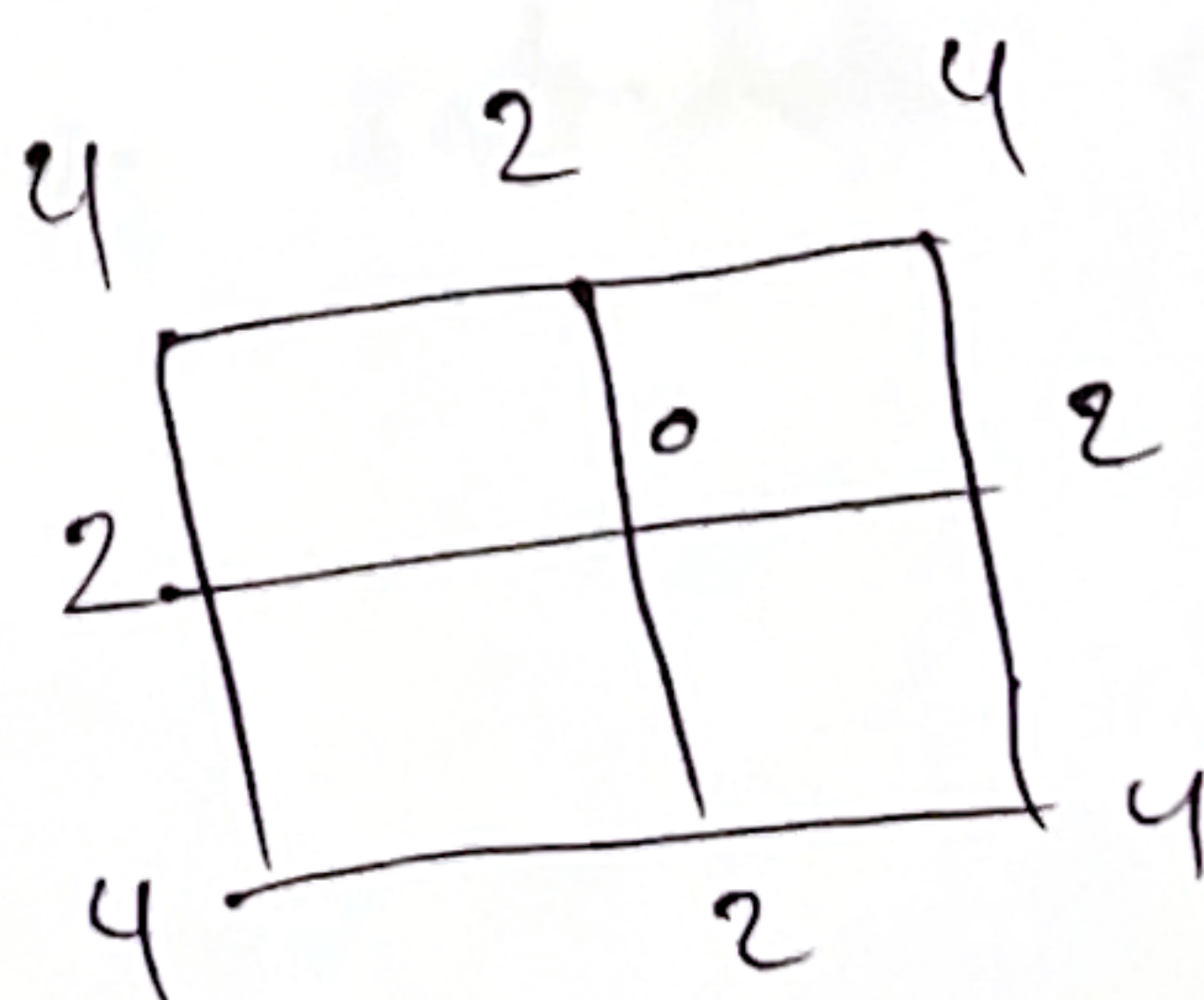
$\{x$

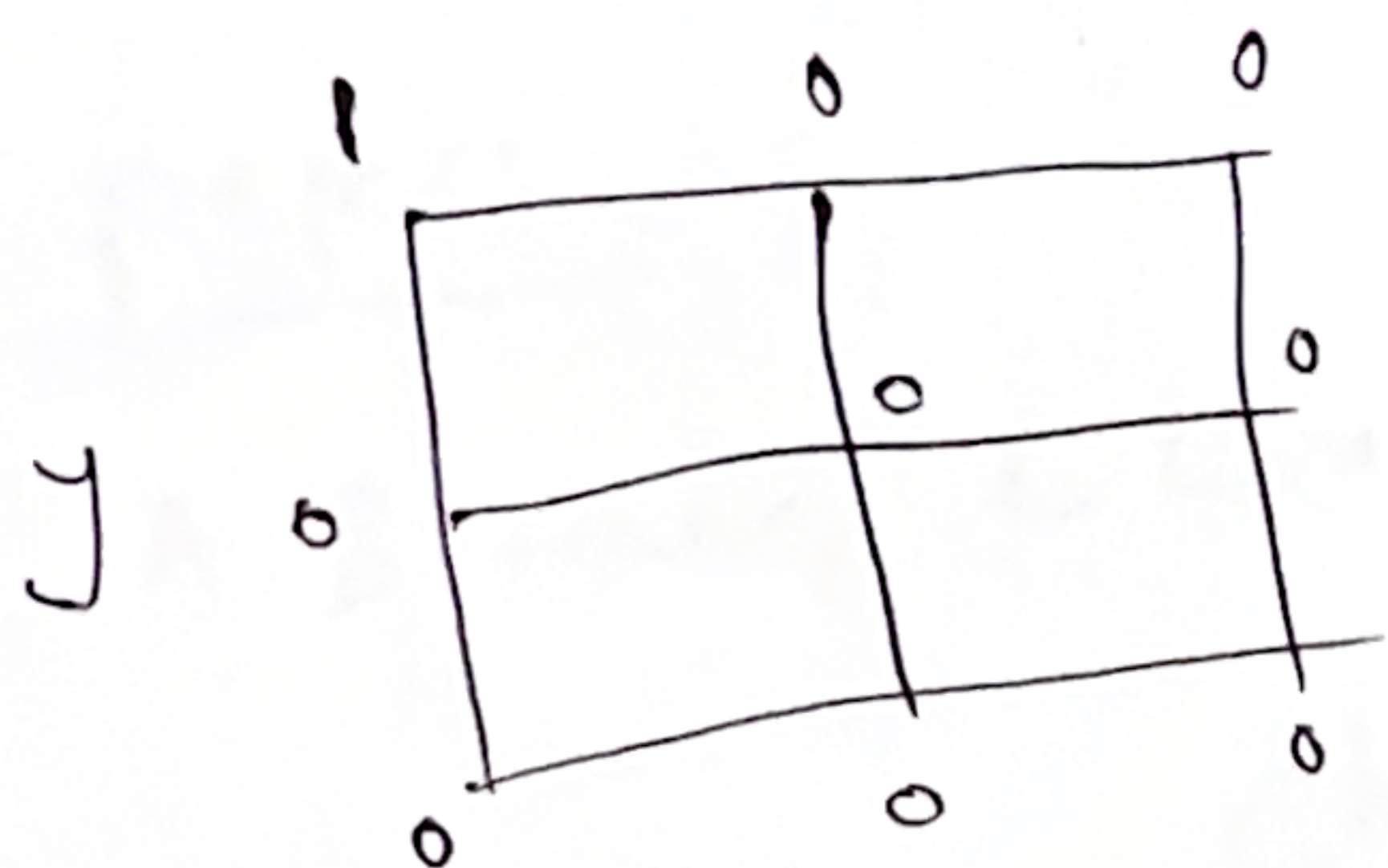


show

$$\boxed{x + x = x}$$

→ $x + x =$





(29)

$$x + y \neq y$$

we claimed $x = 0$ in
the group. this shows

$$y \notin G(E).$$

Slide

explain why in \mathbb{Z} such a black
of yellow appears?

References for chip firing

C. Klivans, The mathematics of chip-firing

S. Corry, D. Perkinson, Divisors and Sandpiles
an Introduction to chip-firing