

Computer Science 3600 (Winter 2023):  
Handout:  
Computational Problems

VERTEX COVER (VC)

*Input:* An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  and an integer  $k > 0$ .

*Question:* Is there a vertex cover of  $G$  of size at most  $k$ , *i.e.*, is there a subset  $V' \subseteq V$  such that  $|V'| \leq k$  and for all edges  $(u, v) \in E$ , at least one of  $u$  and  $v$  is in  $V'$ ?

VERTEX COVER COST (VC-C)

*Input:* An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

*Output:* The size of the smallest vertex cover of  $G$ .

VERTEX COVER EXAMPLE (VC-E)

*Input:* An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

*Output:* One of the smallest vertex covers of  $G$ .

## CLIQUE

*Input:* An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  and an integer  $k > 0$ .

*Question:* Is there a clique in  $G$  of size at least  $k$ , *i.e.*, is there a subset  $V' \subseteq V$ ,  $|V'| \geq k$ , such that for all  $u, v \in V'$ ,  $(u, v) \in E$ ?

## SUBSET SUM

*Input:* A set  $S \subset \mathcal{N}$  of integers and an integer  $k \geq 0$ .

*Question:* Is there a subset  $S'$  of  $S$  whose elements sum to  $k$ ?

## STEINER TREE IN GRAPHS (STG)

*Input:* An undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a set  $V' \subseteq V$ , and an integer  $k > 0$ .

*Question:* Is there a tree in  $G$  that connects all vertices in  $V'$  and contains at most  $k$  edges?