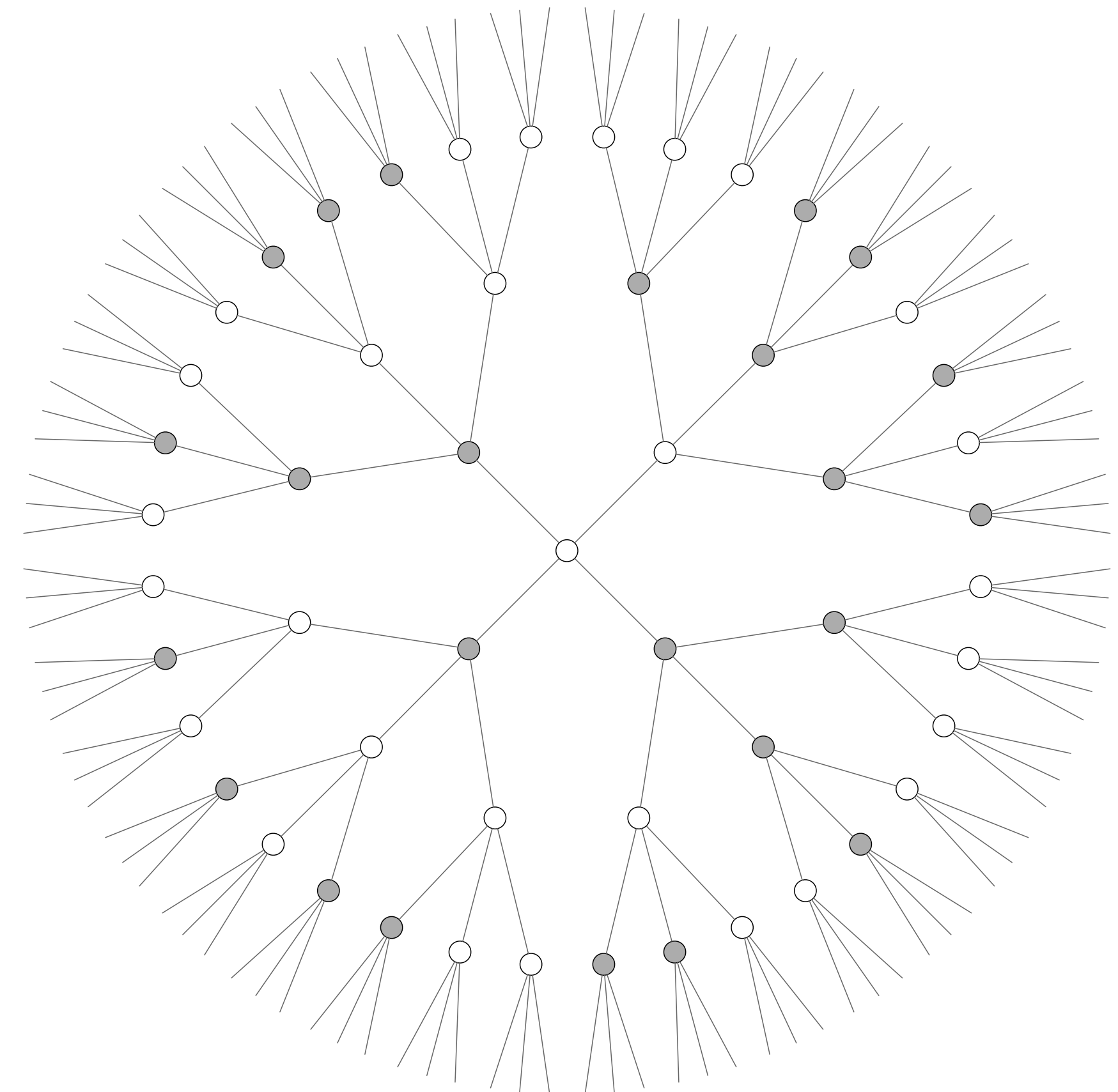


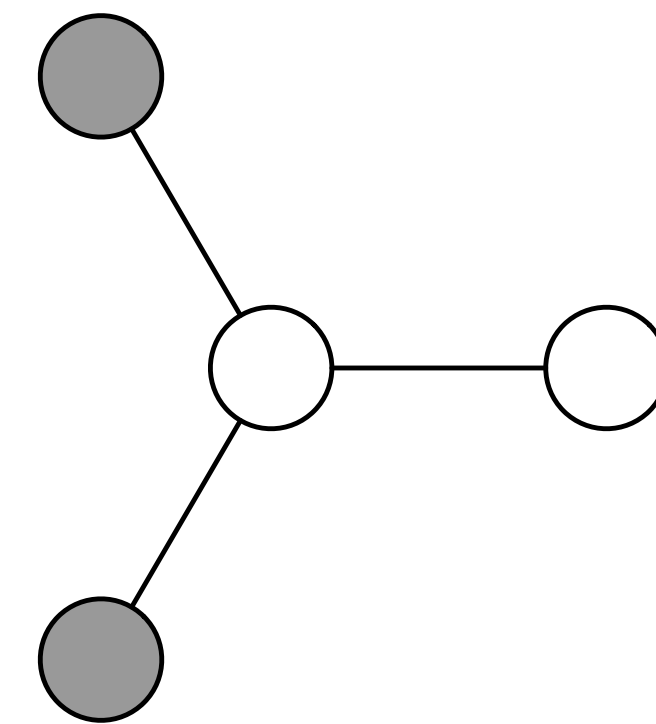
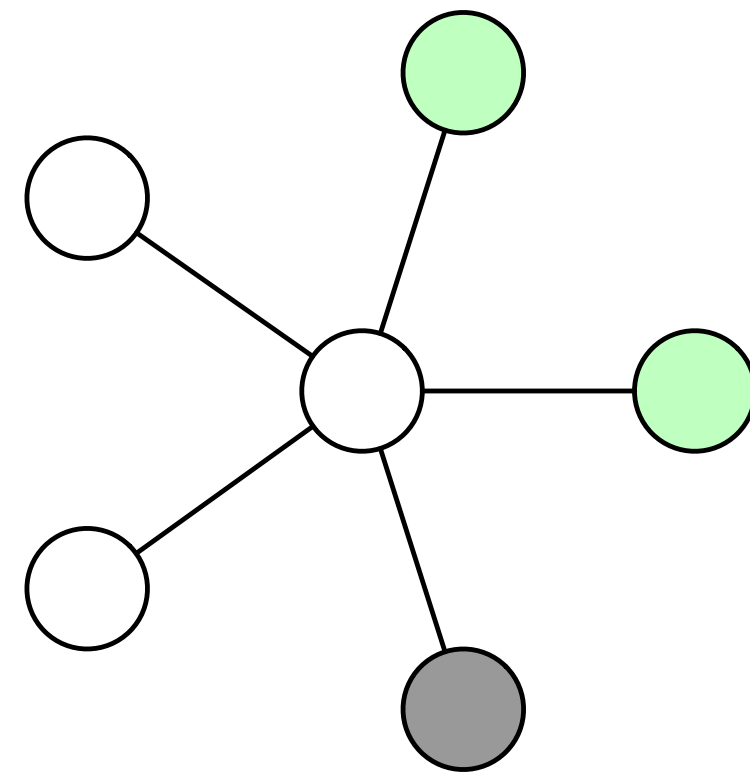
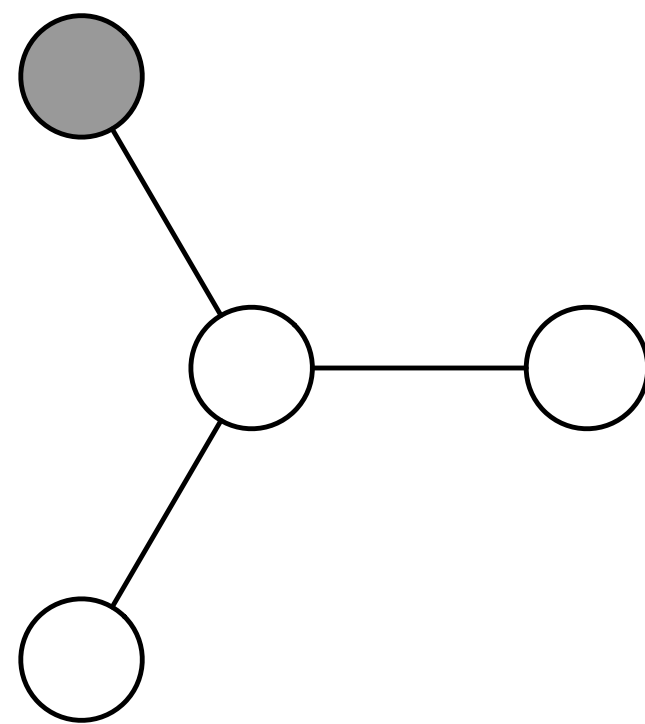
# Locality of not-so-weak coloring

**Alkida Balliu** · Aalto University  
Juho Hirvonen · Aalto University  
Christoph Lenzen · MPI  
Dennis Olivetti · Aalto University  
Jukka Suomela · Aalto University



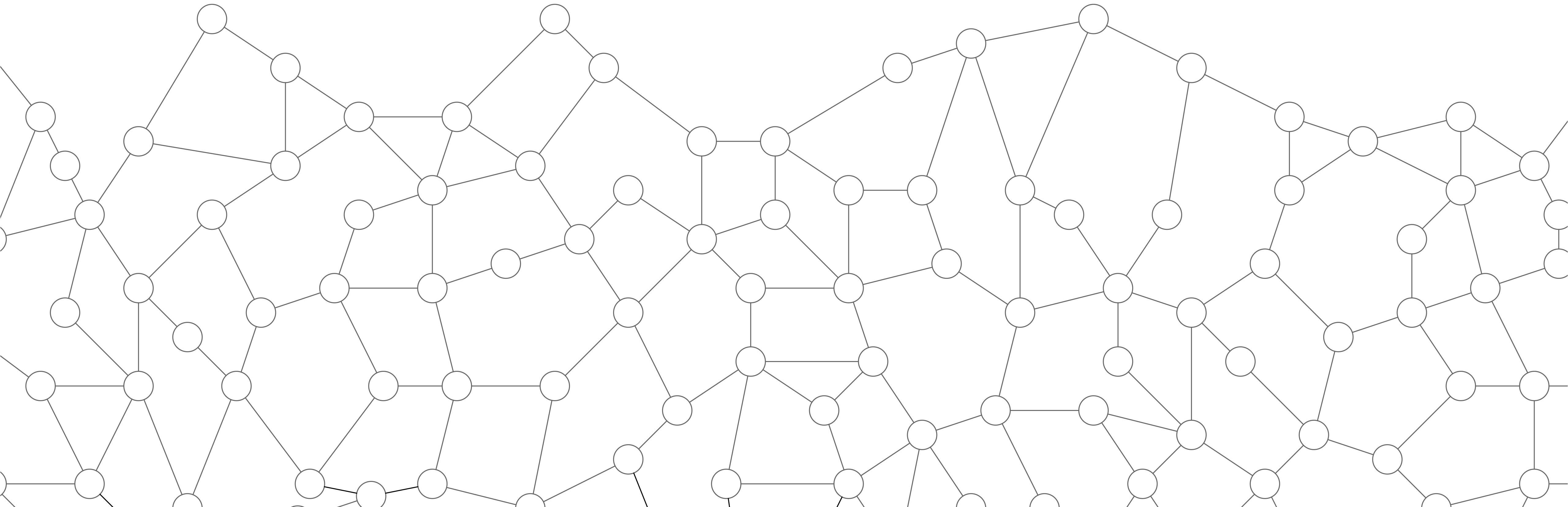
# General topic

**Upper** bounds and **lower** bounds for relaxed **versions of vertex coloring**



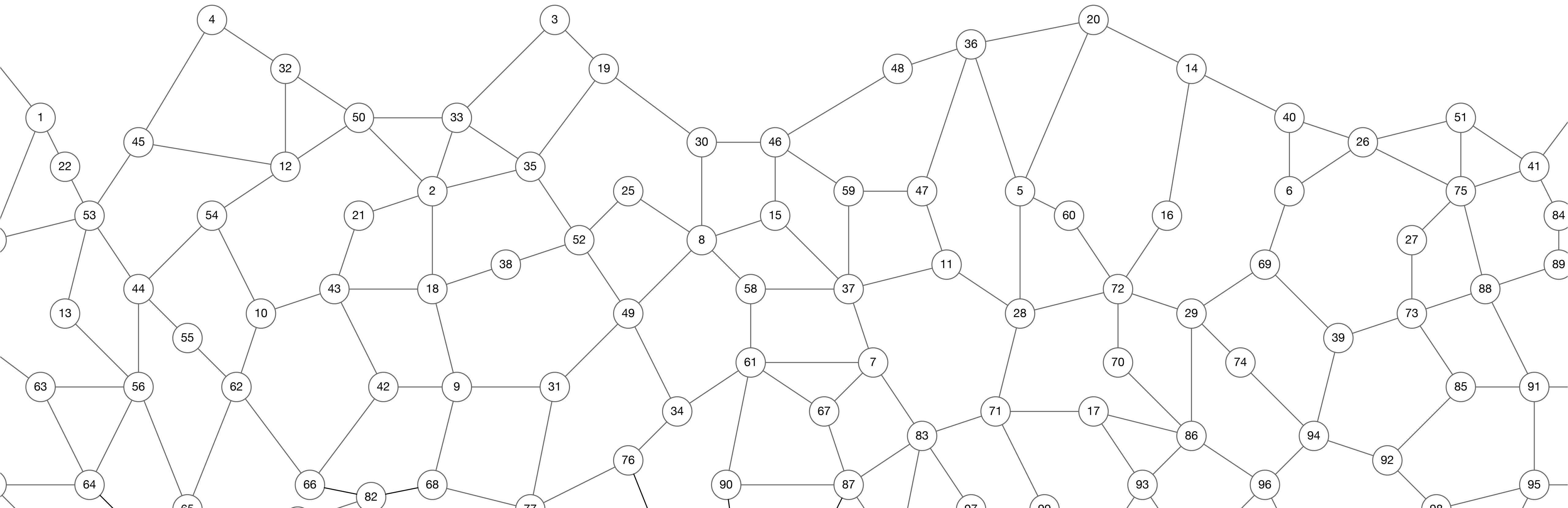
# LOCAL model

- Entities = **nodes**
- Communication links = **edges**
- Input graph = communication graph



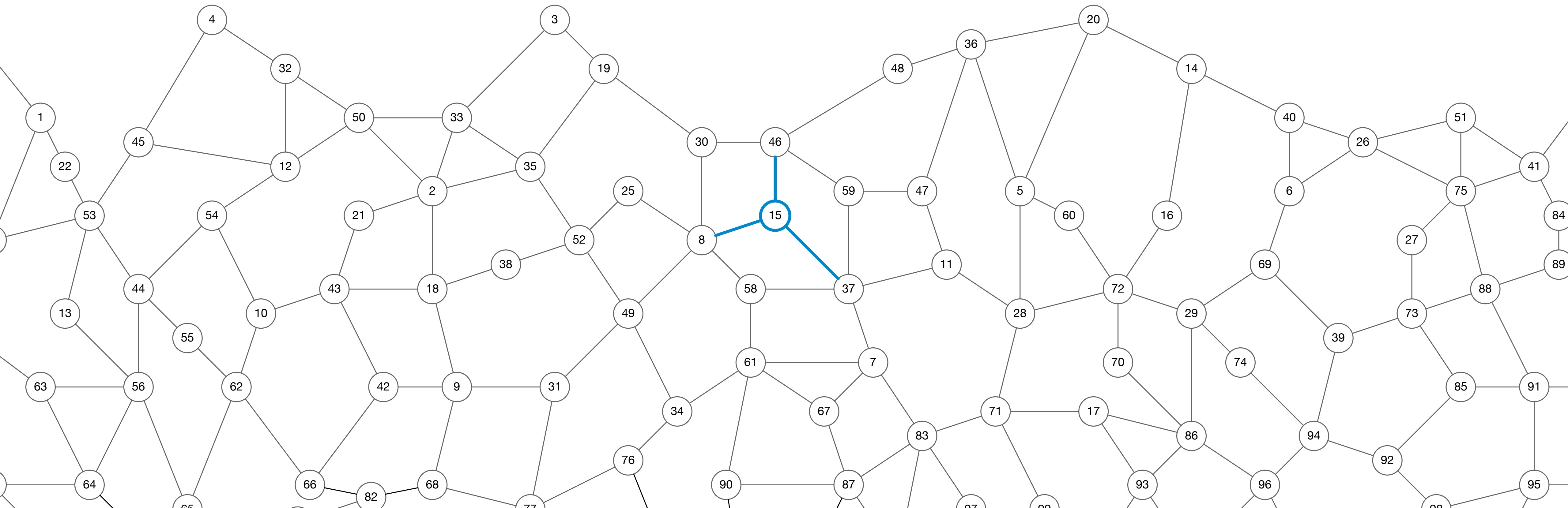
# LOCAL model

- Each node has a **unique identifier** from 1 to  $\text{poly}(n)$
- **No bounds** on the computational power of the entities
- **No bounds** on the bandwidth



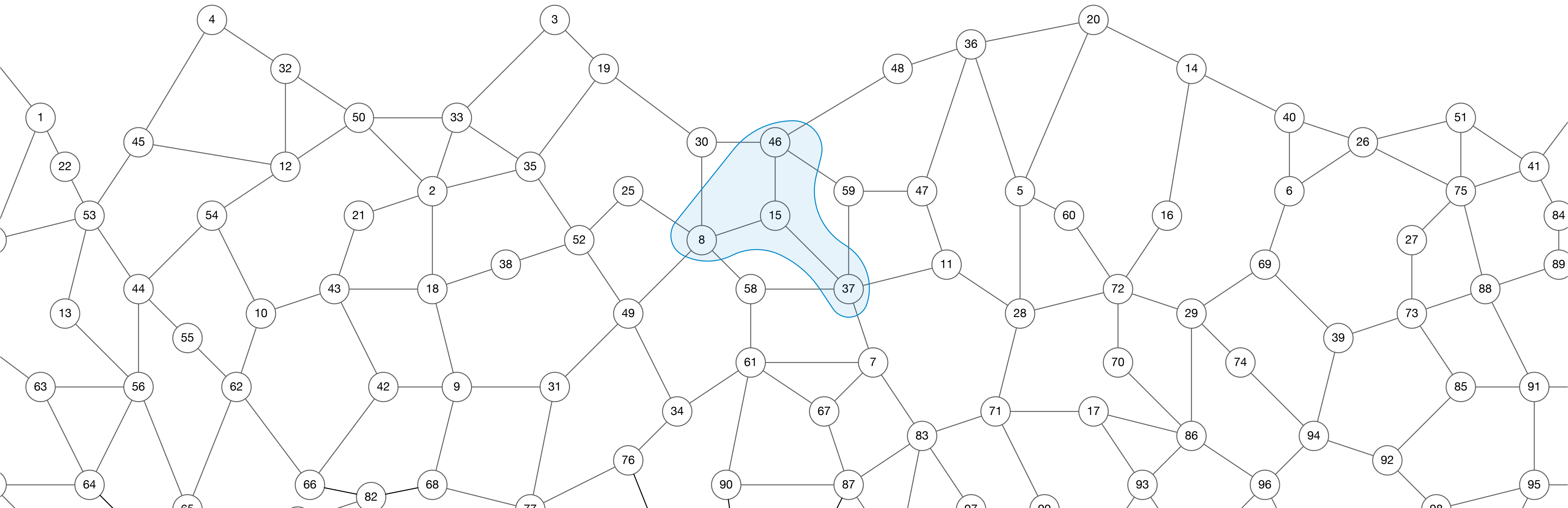
# LOCAL model

- Round 0



# LOCAL model

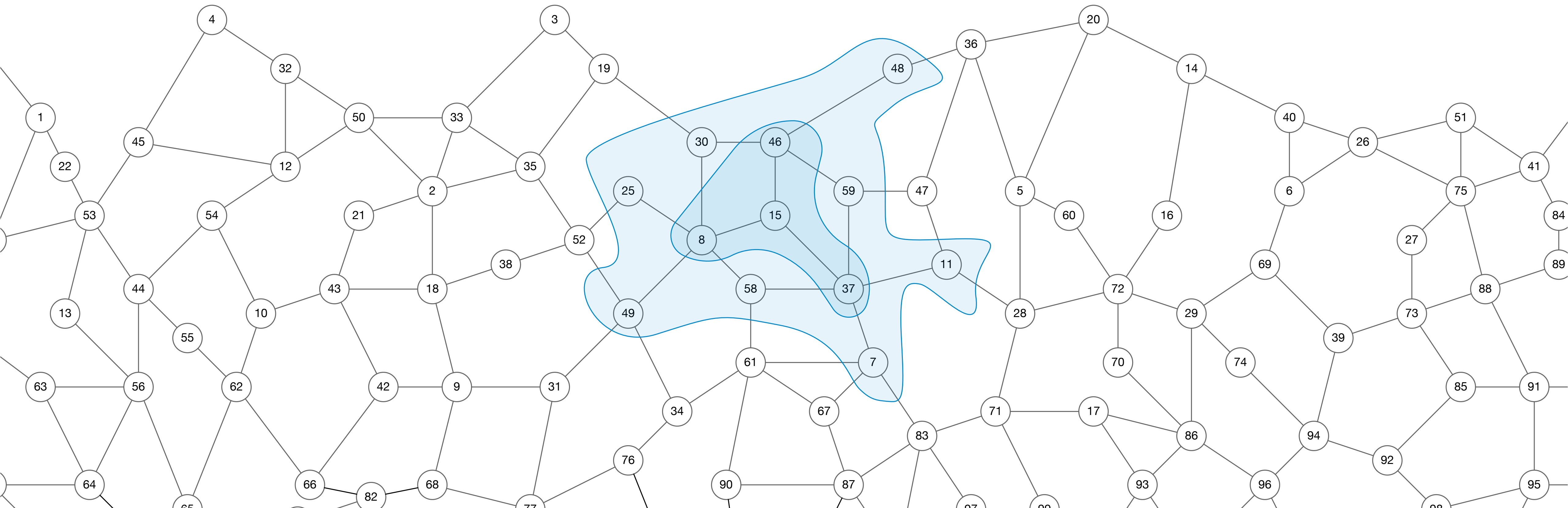
- Round 1





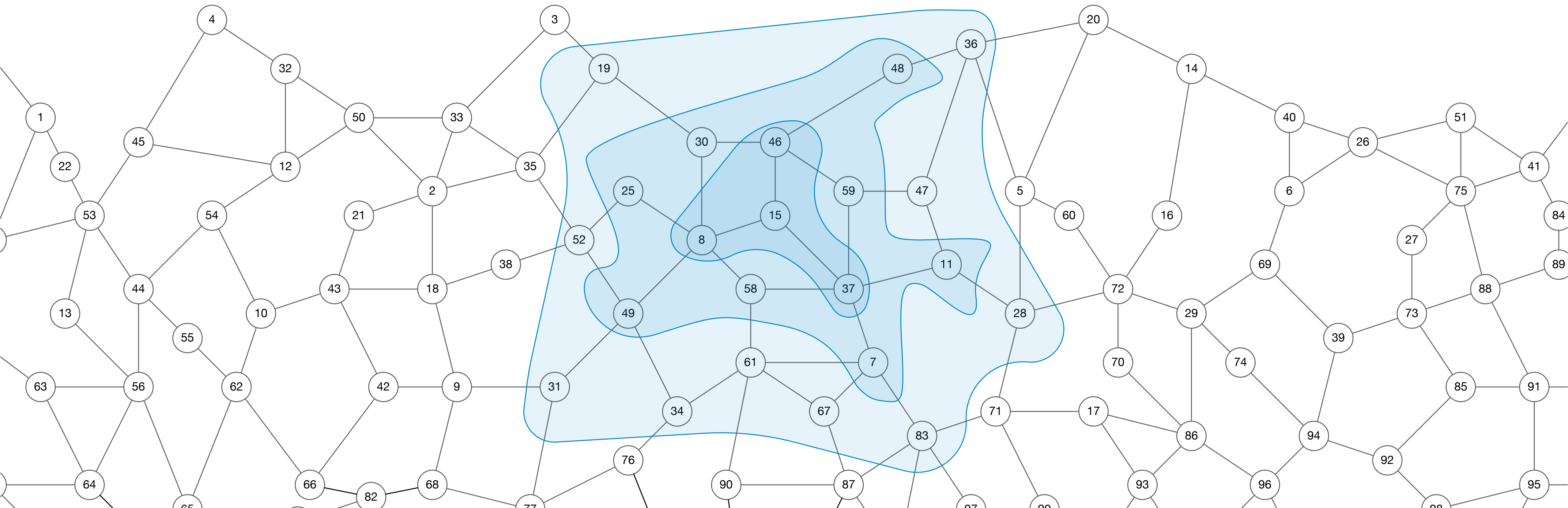
# LOCAL model

- Round 2



# LOCAL model

- After  **$t$  rounds**: knowledge of the graph up to **distance  $t$**
- Focus on **locality**





# Locally Checkable Labelings (LCLs)

- **Input**
  - Graph of **constant** maximum degree  $\Delta$
  - Node labels from a **constant-size** set  $X$
- **Output**
  - Node labels from a **constant-size** set  $Y$ , such that each node satisfies some **local constraints**
- **Correctness**
  - A solution is globally correct if it is correct in all **constant-radius** neighborhoods

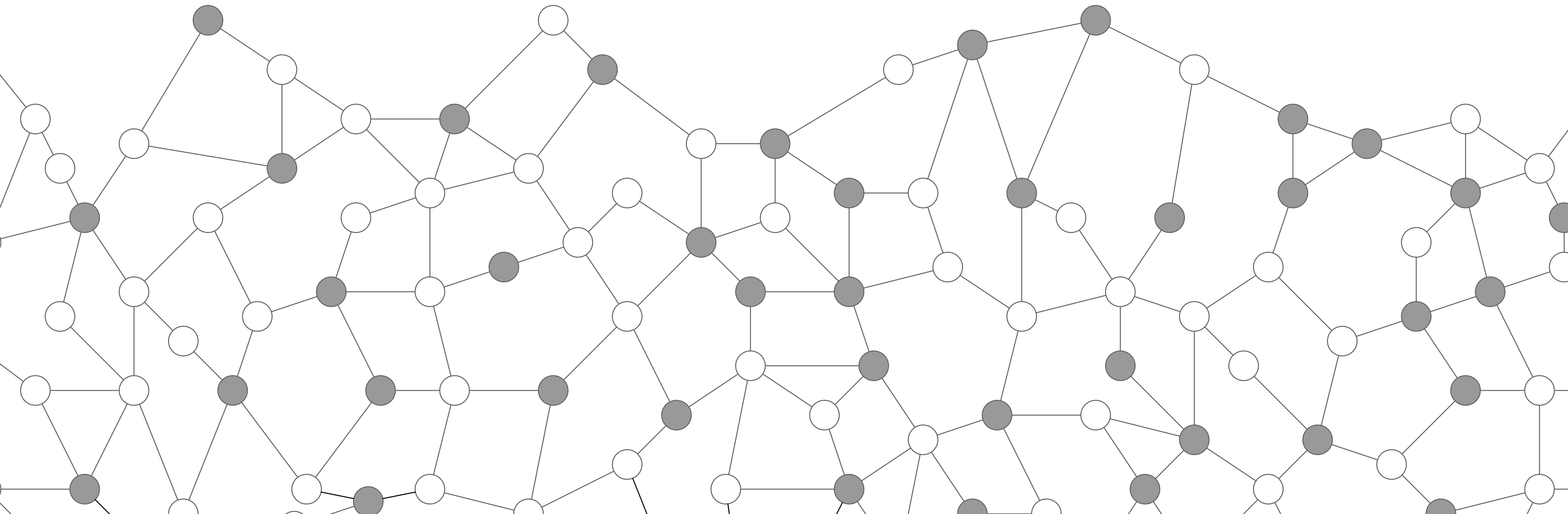
# Example: vertex k-coloring

- **Output:** color nodes from a palette of  $k = O(1)$  colors
- **Constraint:** each node must have a **different color** from its neighbors



# Example: weak 2-coloring

- **Output:** color nodes from a palette of **2 colors**
- **Constraint:** each node must have a **different color** from **at least 1** neighbor



# “Easy” and “hard” LCLs

Fix an LCL: its deterministic distributed complexity is either  $O(\log^* n)$  or at least  $\Omega(\log n)$  [Chang et al., 2016]

- “**Easy**”: LCLs solvable in  $O(\log^* n)$  rounds
- “**Hard**”: LCLs that require at least  $\Omega(\log n)$  rounds

# From easy to hard: edge coloring

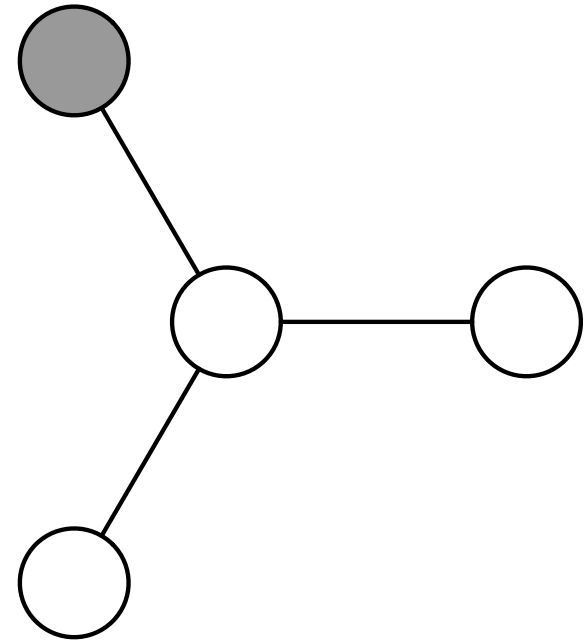
- $(2\Delta - 1)$ -edge-coloring is **easy**
- $(2\Delta - 2)$ -edge-coloring is **hard**



# From easy to hard: vertex coloring

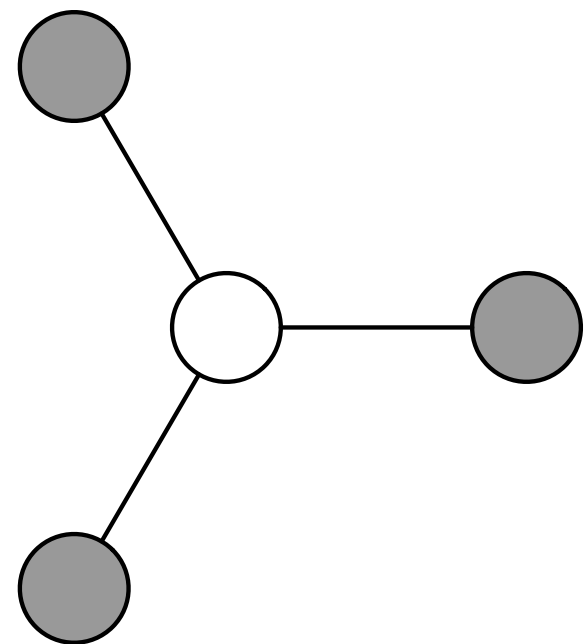
- $(\Delta + 1)$ -vertex-coloring is **easy**
- $\Delta$ -vertex-coloring is **hard**

# From easy to hard



**Weak 2-coloring**

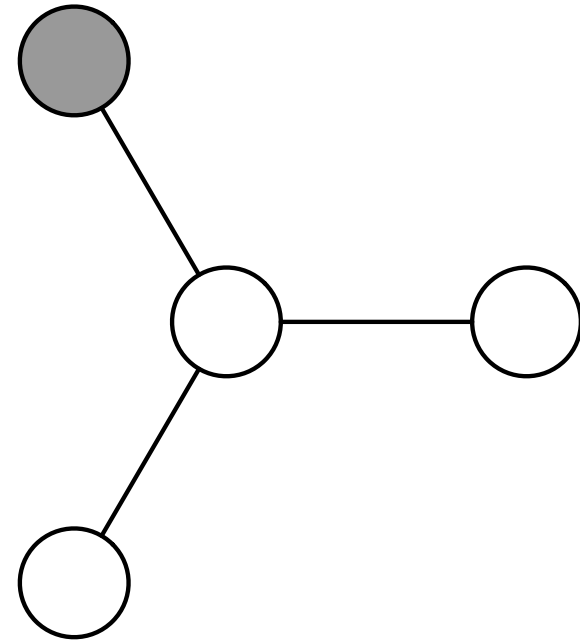
**Easy**



**2-coloring**

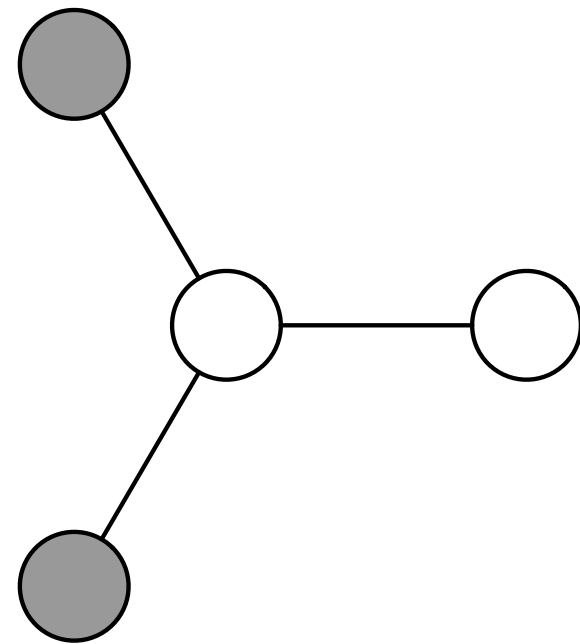
**Hard**

# From easy to hard



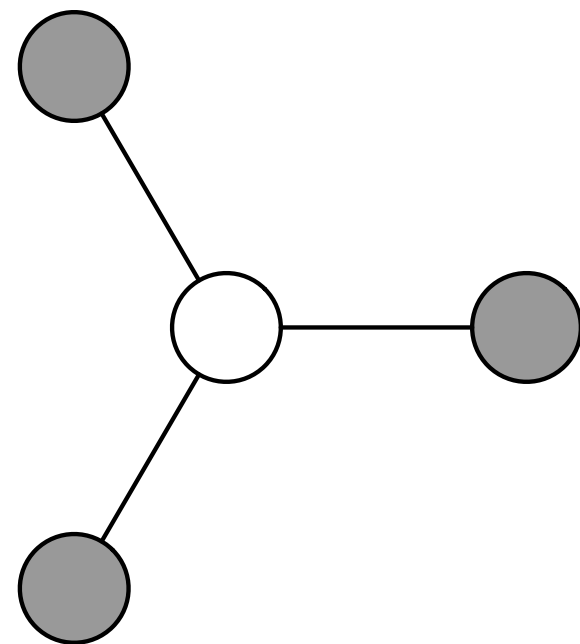
**Weak 2-coloring**

**Easy**



**Intermediate**

**?**



**2-coloring**

**Hard**

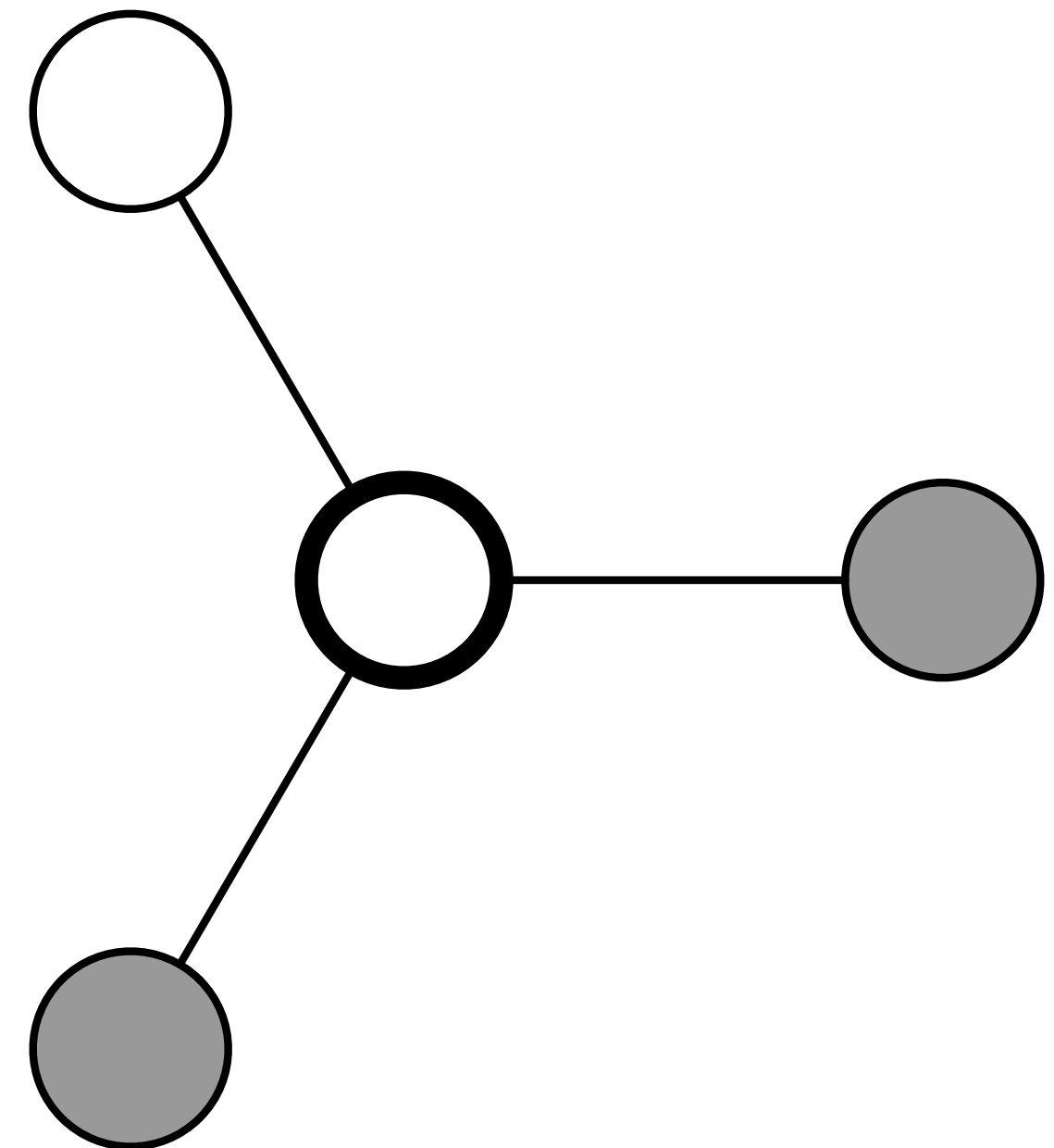
# Partial coloring

- **Input:** graph of **minimum degree  $d$**
- **Output:** label nodes from a palette of  **$c$  colors**
- **Constraint:** each node  $v$  must have **at least  $k$**  neighbors having a **different** color from  $v$

**For which values of  $(k, c, d)$  is this problem easy? For which ones is it hard?  
We study this problem in trees and general graphs.**

# Examples of partial colorings

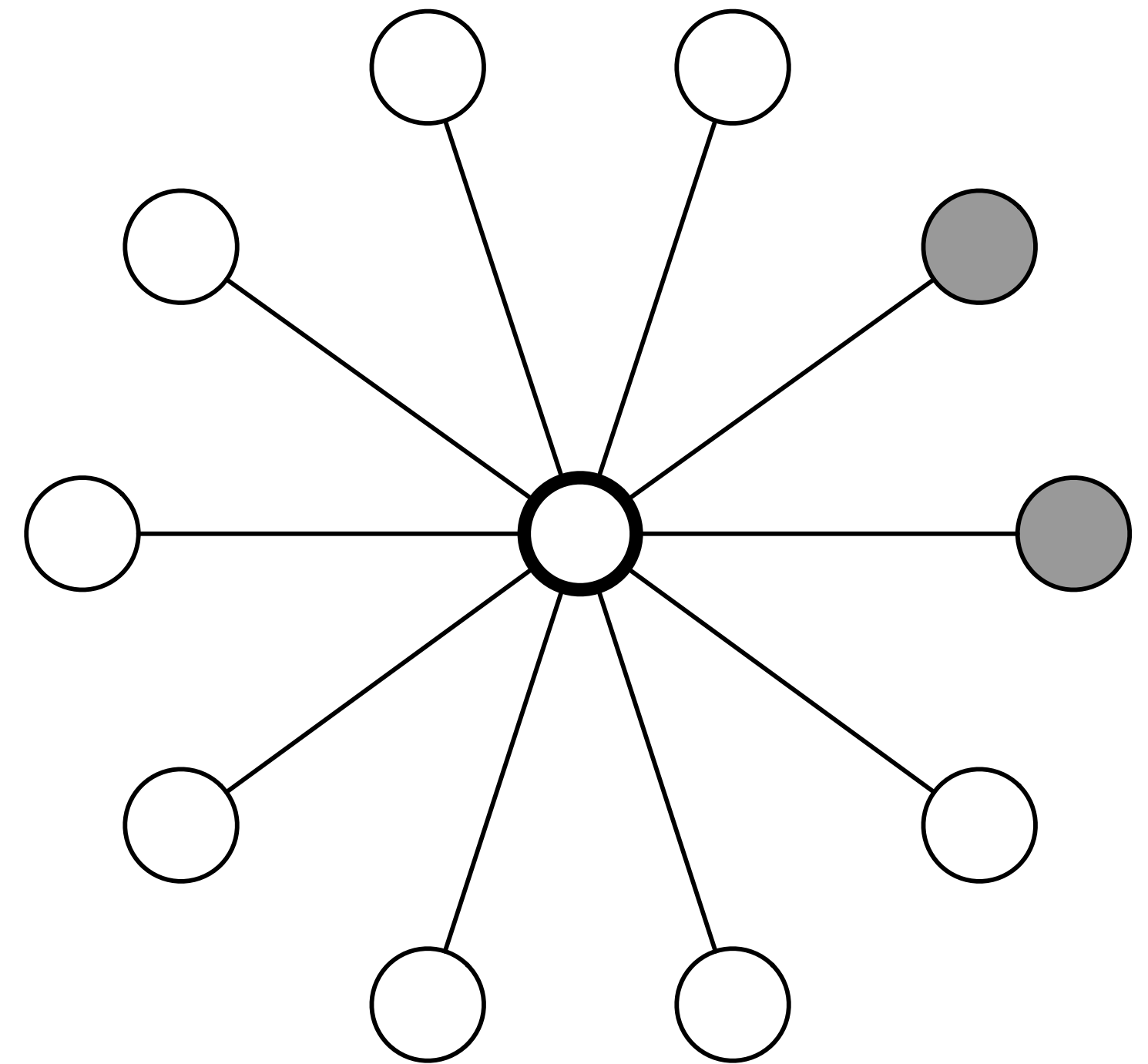
- **2**-partial **2**-coloring
  - Palette of **2** colors
  - **3-regular** tree
  - Each node  $v$  must have **at least 2** neighbors having color different from  $v$





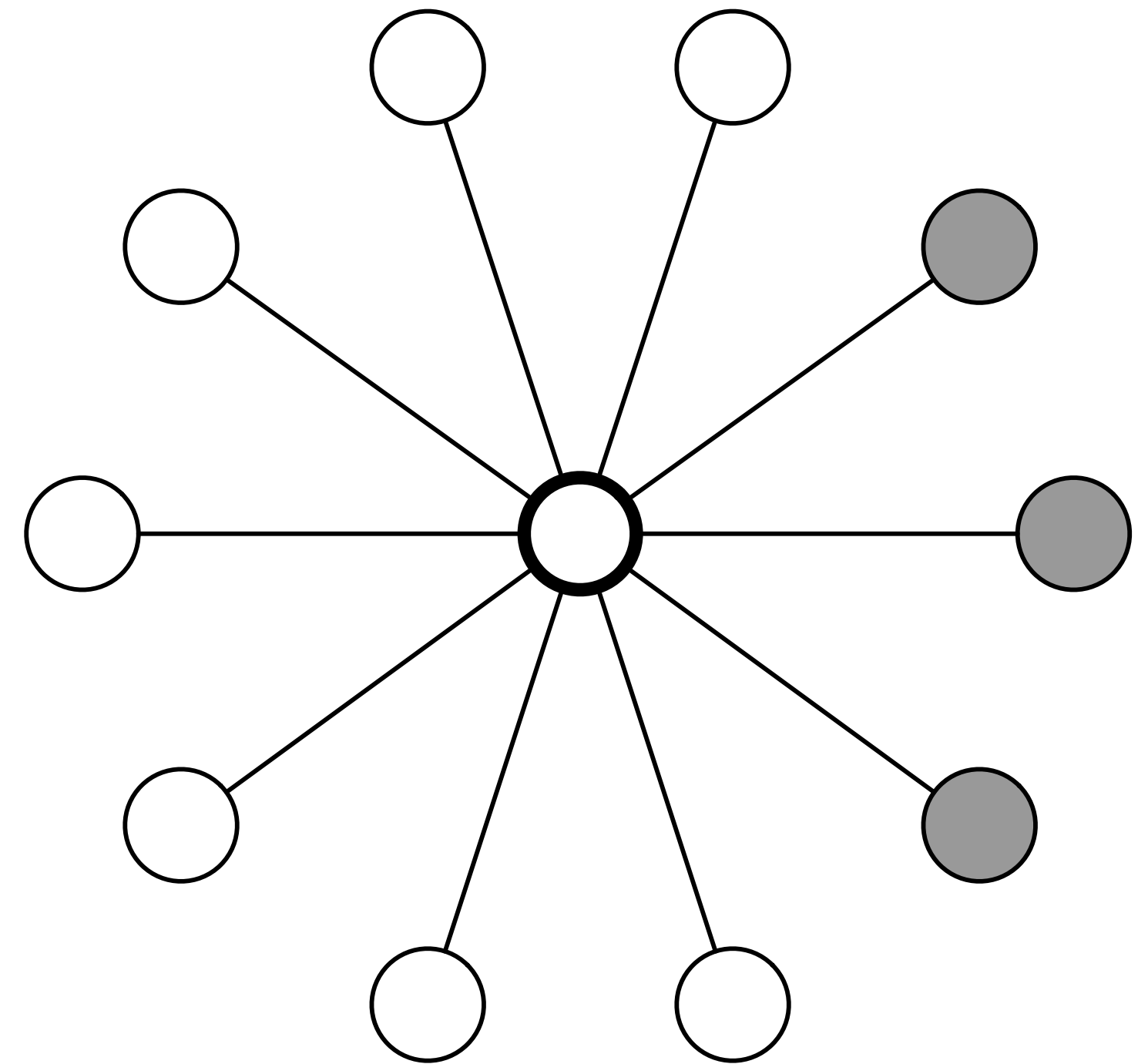
# Examples of partial colorings

- **2**-partial **2**-coloring
  - Palette of **2** colors
  - **10-regular** tree
  - Each node  $v$  must have **at least 2** neighbors having color different from  $v$



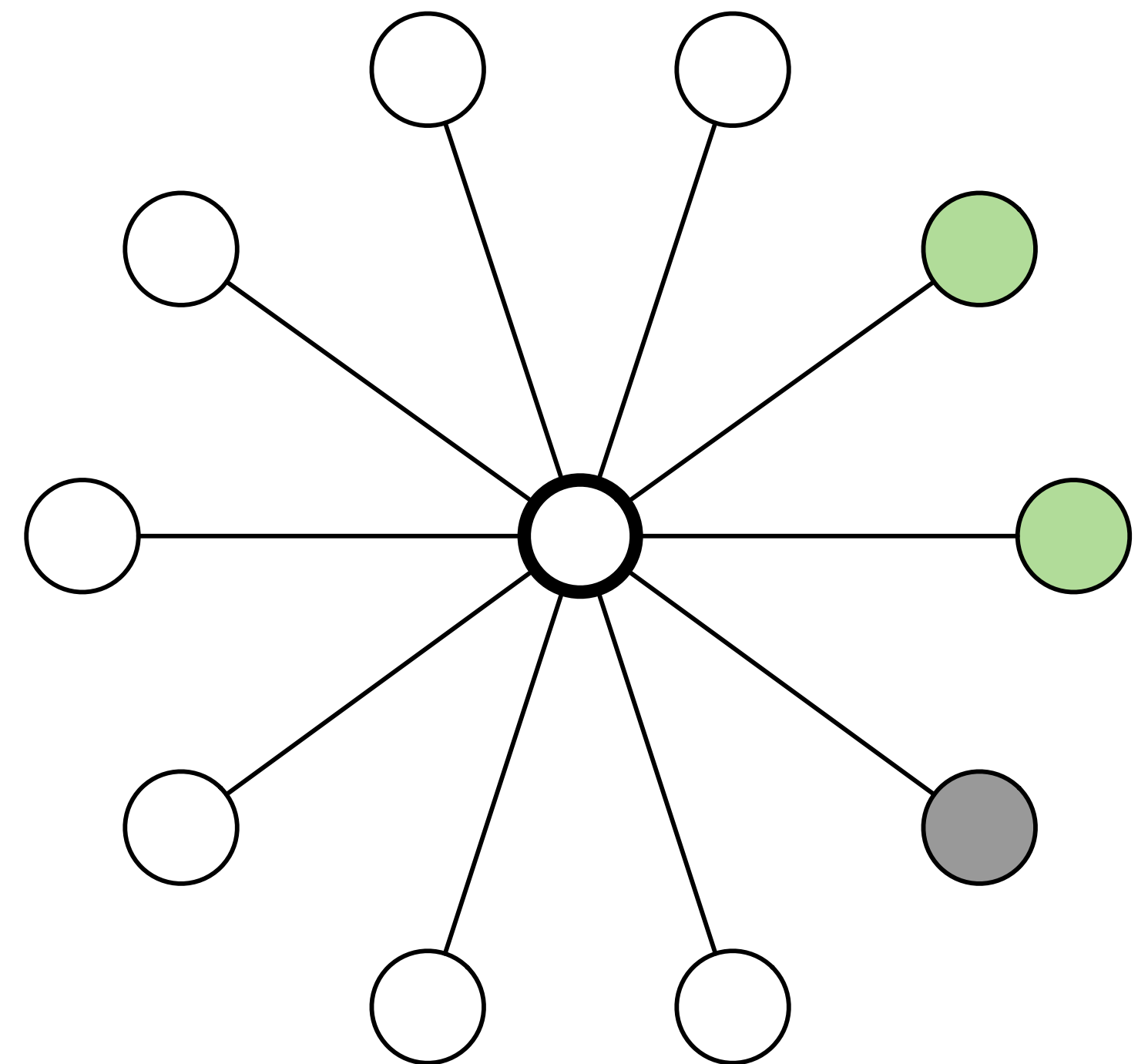
# Examples of partial colorings

- **3**-partial **2**-coloring
- Palette of **2** colors
- **10-regular** tree
- Each node  $v$  must have **at least 3** neighbors having color different from  $v$



# Examples of partial colorings

- **3**-partial **3**-coloring
  - Palette of **3** colors
  - **10-regular** tree
  - Each node  $v$  must have **at least 3** neighbors having color different from  $v$



# Partial vs defective coloring

- **Partial coloring:**
  - each node  $v$  must have **at least  $k$**  neighbors having a **different** color from  $v$
- **Defective coloring:**
  - each node  $v$  must have **at most  $k'$**  neighbors having the **same** color as  $v$
- In  $d$ -regular graphs:
  - **$k$ -partial  $c$ -coloring =  $(d - k)$ -defective  $c$ -coloring**

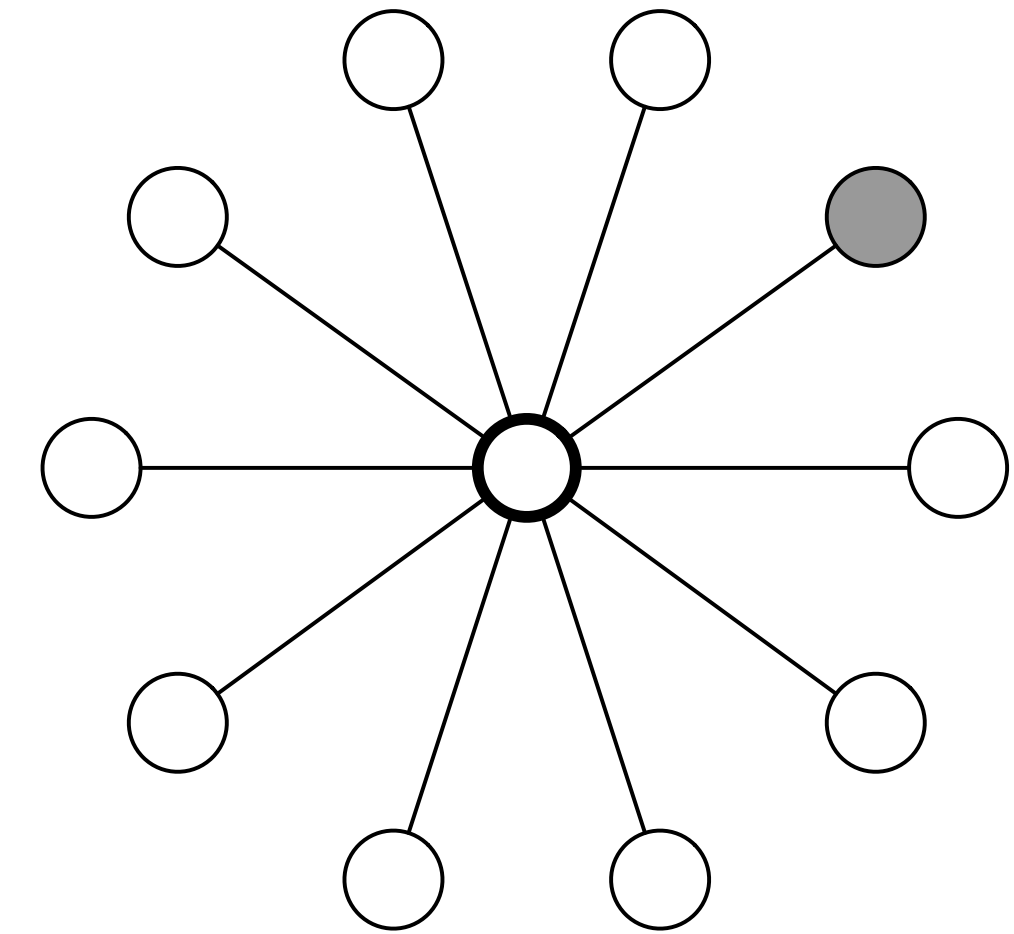
easy for some “small”  $k$   
when  $c = \text{perfect square}$

[Barenboim et al., 2014]

# Weak 2-coloring and beyond

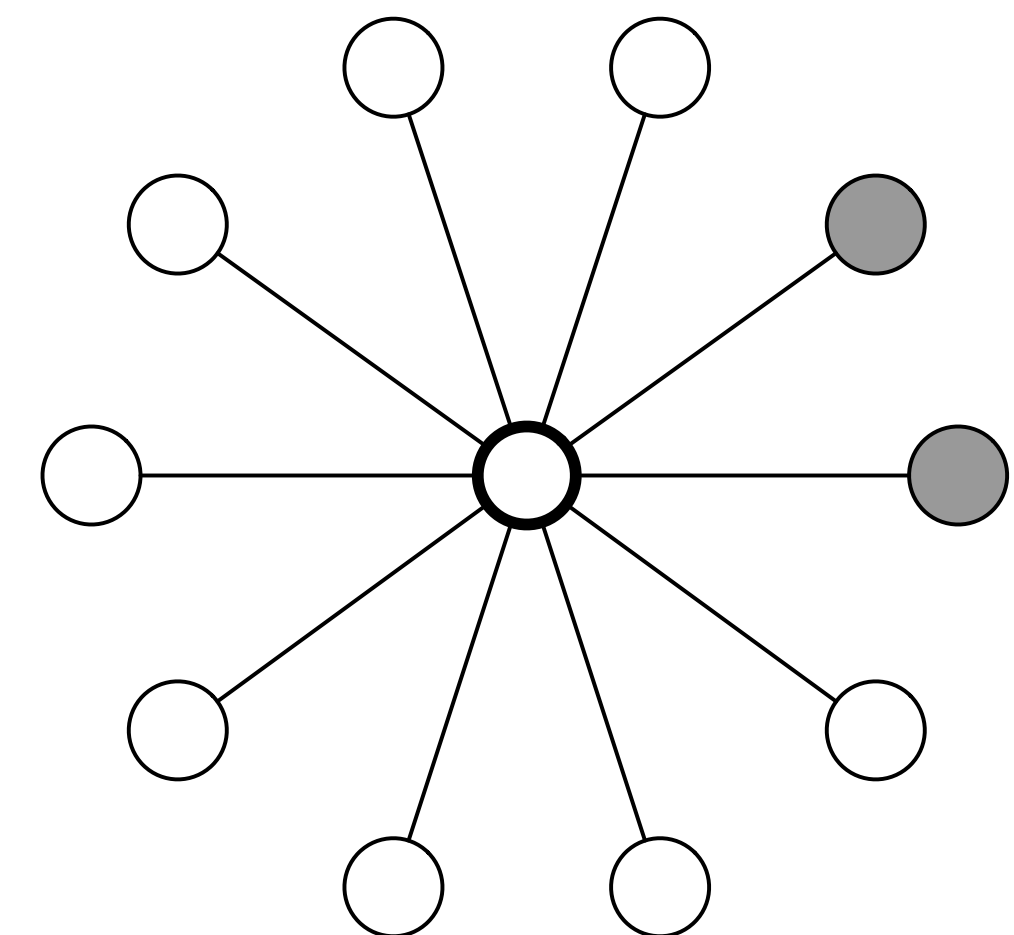
1-partial 2-coloring (weak 2-coloring)

**Easy**



2-partial 2-coloring

**?**





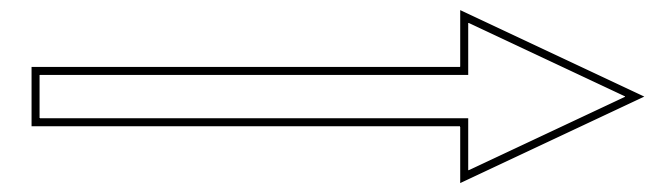
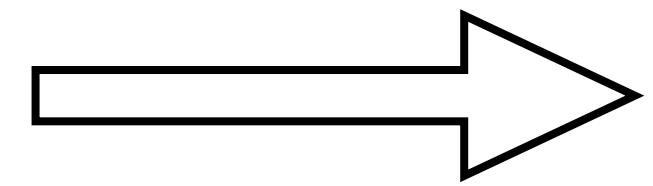
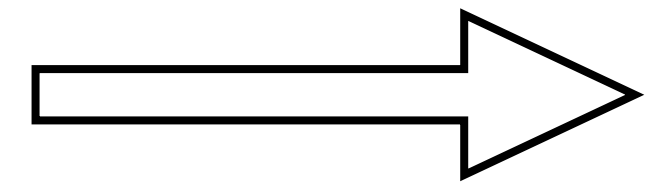
# Our results: 2-partial 2-coloring is hard

2-partial 2-coloring in  $d$ -regular trees requires at least  $\Omega(\log n)$  rounds,  $\forall d \geq 3$

- **Matching**  $O(\log n)$  upper bound in trees [Bonamy et al., 2018]
- **Larger  $d$**  does not help!

# Our results: 2-partial 2-coloring is hard

- Proof idea:
  - $o(\log n)$ -round algorithm for 2-partial 2-coloring in  $d$ -regular trees
  - $O(1)$ -round algorithm for sinkless orientation in  $d^{O(1)}$ -regular constant-distance-colored trees
  - $O(\log^* n)$ -round algorithm for sinkless orientation in  $d^{O(1)}$ -regular trees
  - Contradiction [Brandt et al., 2016]



# Our results: $k$ -partial 3-coloring

- $k$ -partial 3-coloring: the degree  $d$  plays an important role
  - hard for some “small”  $d$
  - easy for some “large”  $d$

# Our results: $k$ -partial $c$ -coloring

$k$ -partial  $3$ -coloring in graphs with minimum degree  $d = (3k - 4)$  is easy

$k$ -partial  $k$ -coloring in graphs with minimum degree  $d = (k + 2)$  is easy

$k$ -partial  $c$ -coloring in  $d$ -regular graphs, for  $k \geq d(c - 1)/c + 1$ , is hard

Our algorithms are inspired by the ones for defective coloring of [\[Barenboim et al. 2014\]](#)

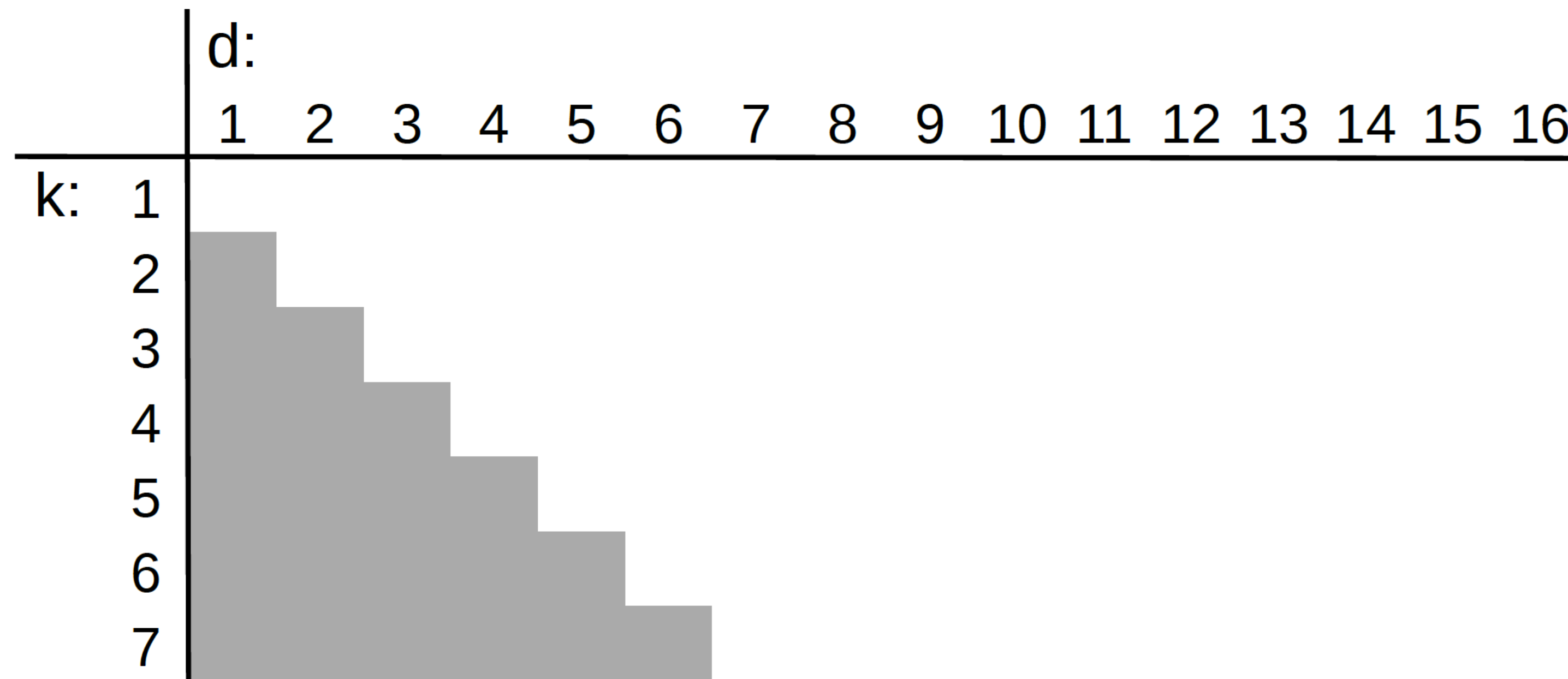
# Summary

$k$ -partial 2-coloring in graphs with minimum degree  $d$

Easy

Hard

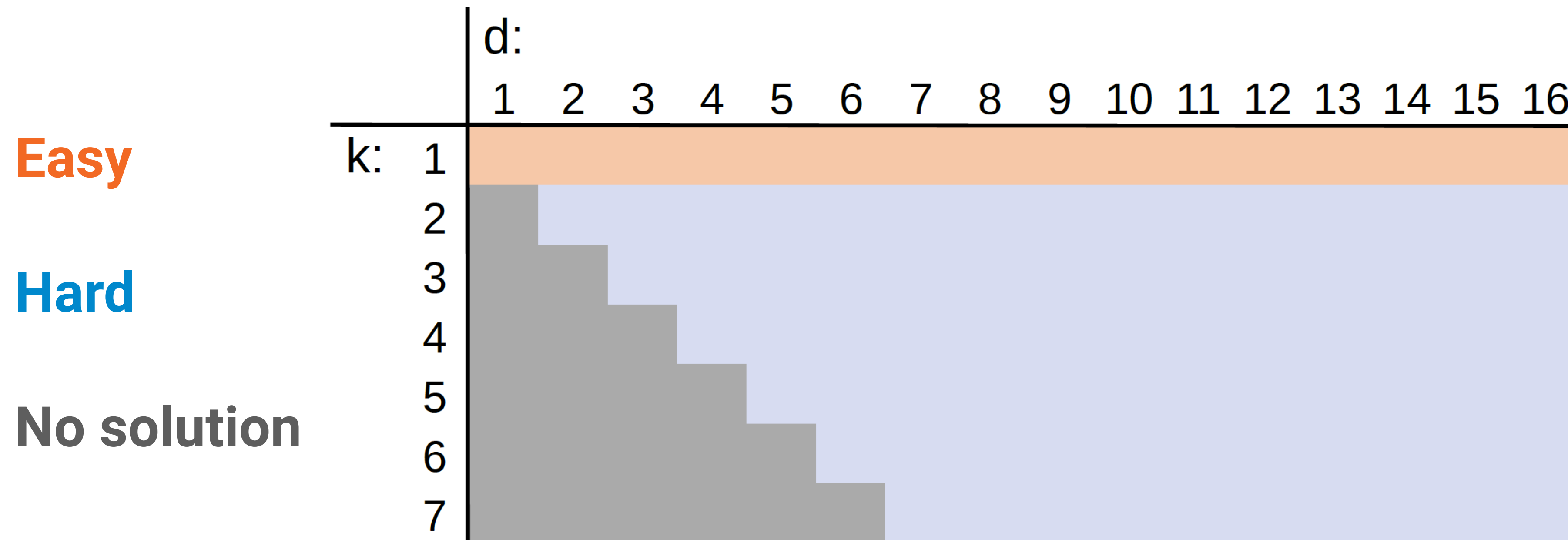
No solution





# Summary

$k$ -partial 2-coloring in graphs with minimum degree  $d$

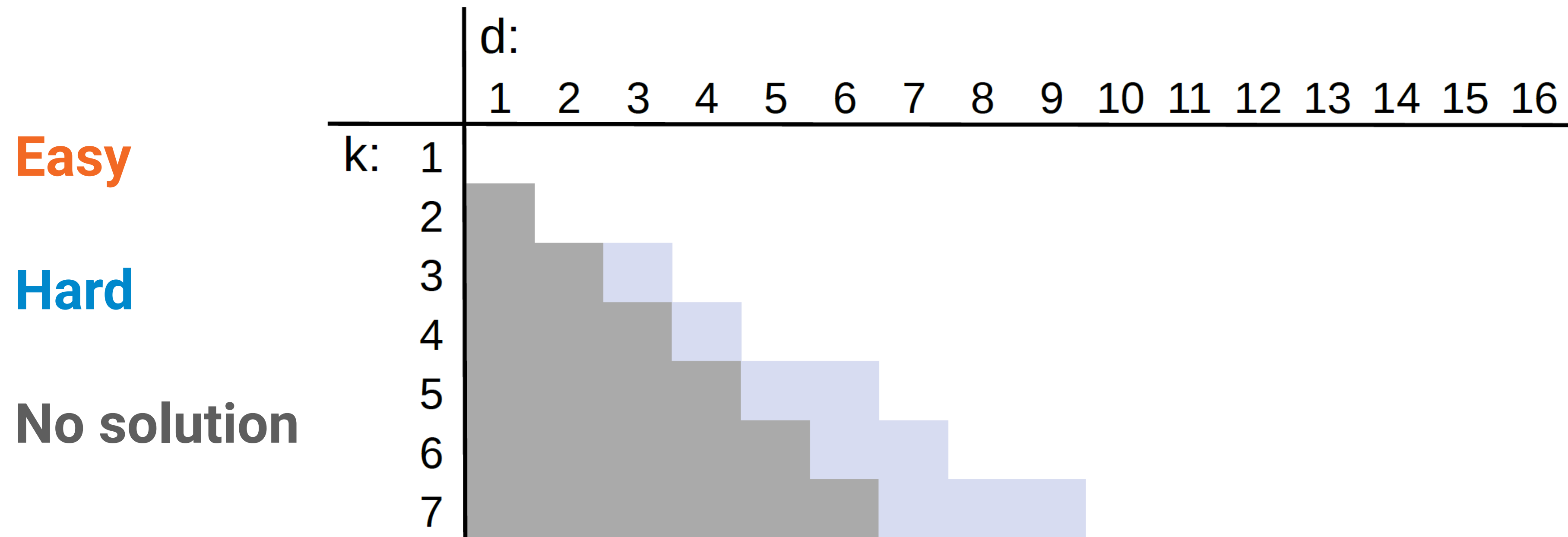






# Summary

$k$ -partial 3-coloring in graphs with minimum degree  $d$



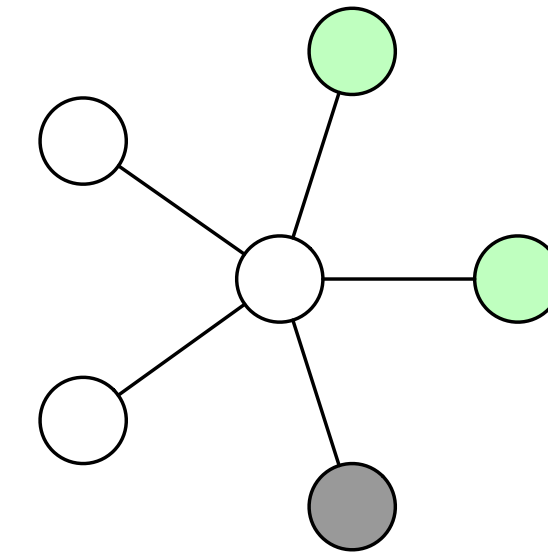




# Concrete open problem

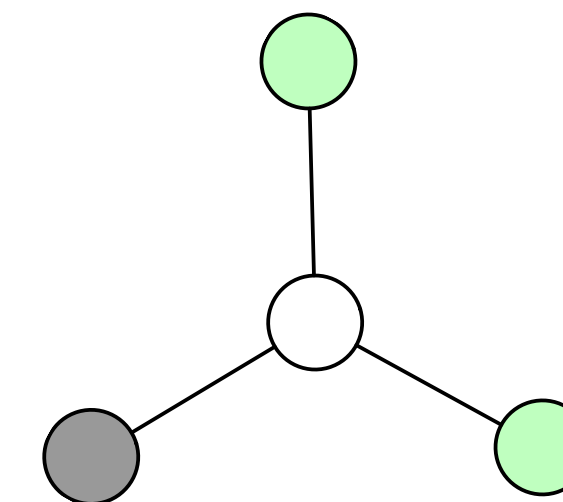
**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **5**-regular trees

**Easy**



**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **3**-regular trees

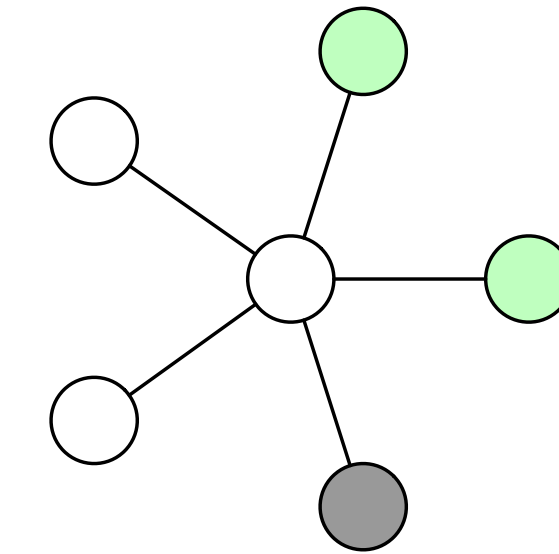
**Hard**



# Concrete open problem

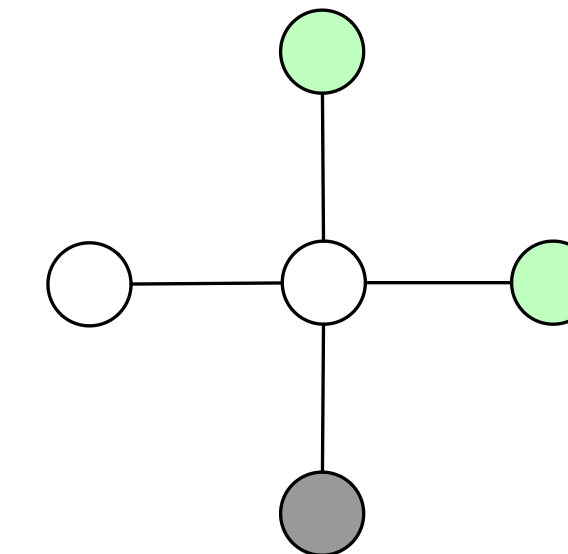
**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **5**-regular trees

**Easy**



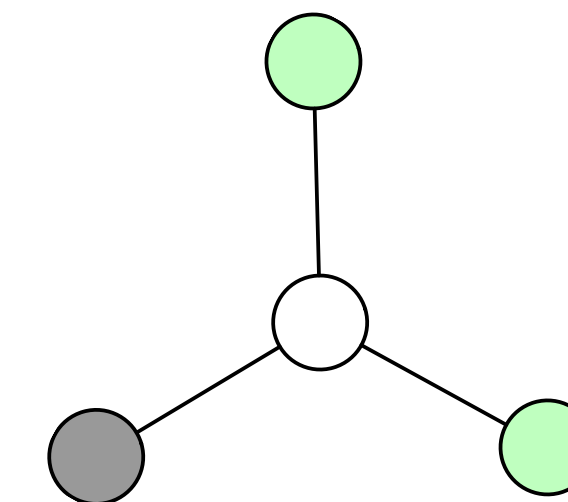
**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **4**-regular trees?

**???**



**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **3**-regular trees

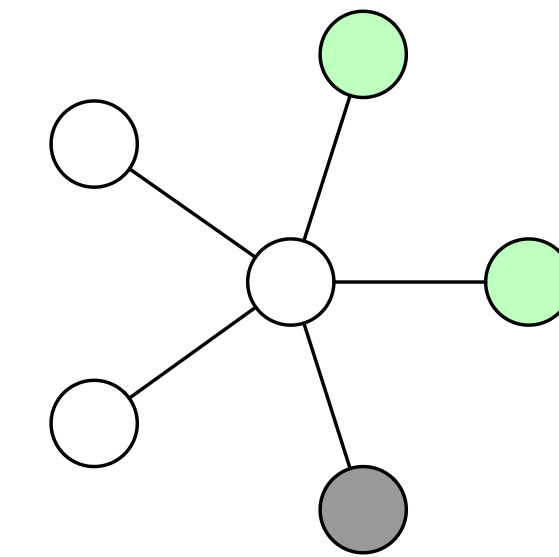
**Hard**



# Concrete open problem

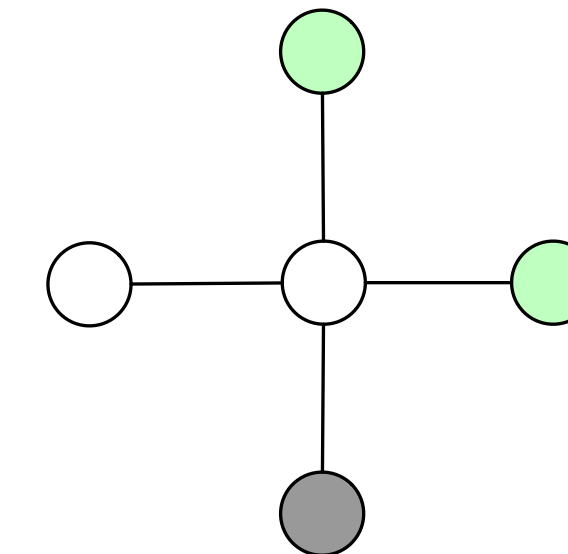
**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **5**-regular trees

**Easy**



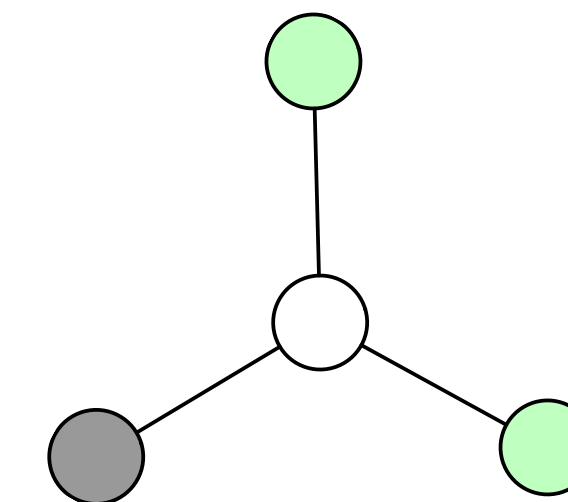
**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **4**-regular trees?

**???**



**3**-partial **3**-coloring in **3**-regular trees

**Hard**



*Thank you!*