

Formulating real world problems as graph problems

You want to find a set of people in this class so that everyone in the class is friends with someone in the set, and the set is as small as possible.

Challenge: describe this as a graph problem.

Solution:

The graph $G = (V, E)$ is defined by:

- ▶ Let V denote all the people in the class.
- ▶ Put an edge between v and w if v and w are friends.

We are looking for the smallest $V_0 \subseteq V$ such that $\forall v \in V \setminus V_0, \exists w \in V_0$ such that $(v, w) \in E$.