

# **Reachability in extensions of Petri nets**



Wojciech  
Czerwiński



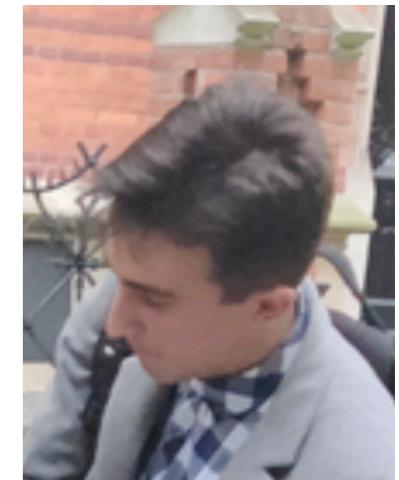
Arka  
Ghosh



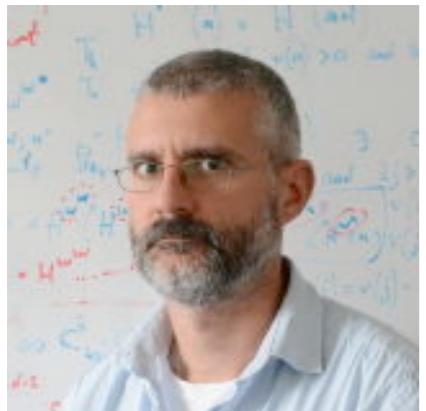
Roland  
Guttenberg



Ismael  
Jecker



Łukasz  
Kamiński



Ranko  
Lazic



Jerome  
Leroux



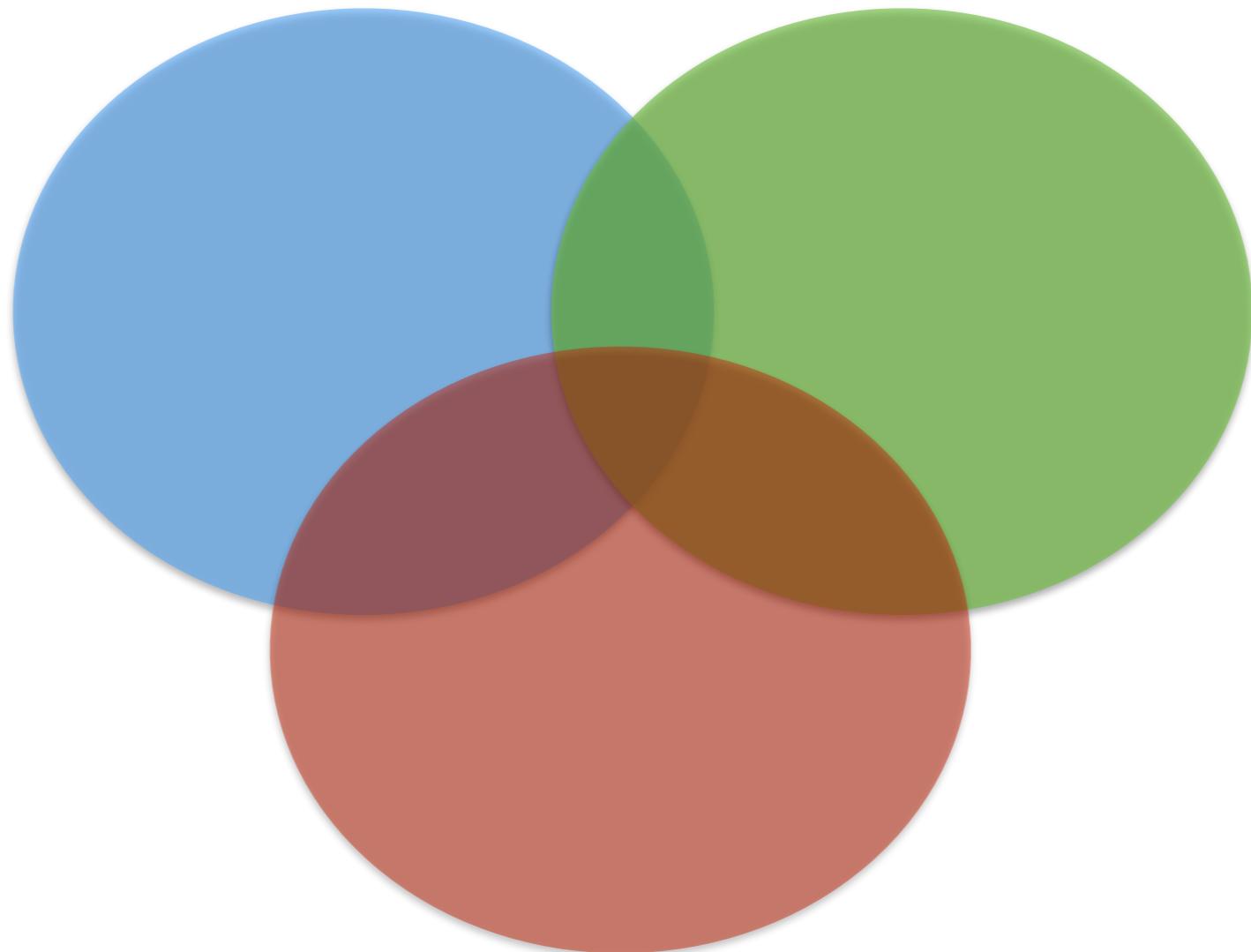
Filip  
Mazowiecki



Łukasz  
Orlikowski



Sylvain  
Schmitz



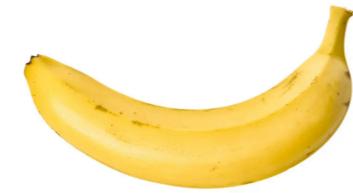
I. Reachability in Petri nets

II. Extensions of Petri nets

# Kindergarten fruit-trading

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Alice has

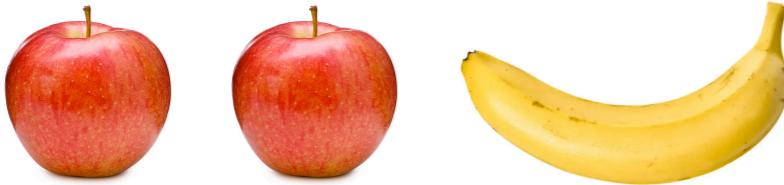


but likes



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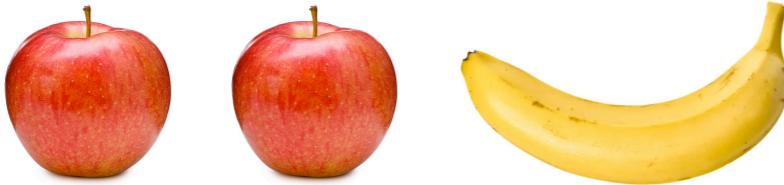
but likes



Kindergarten fruit-trading rules:

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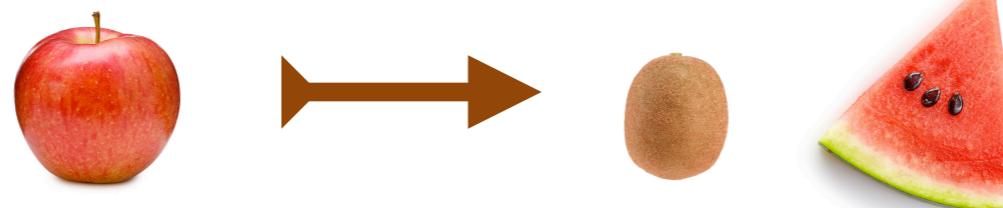
Alice has



but likes

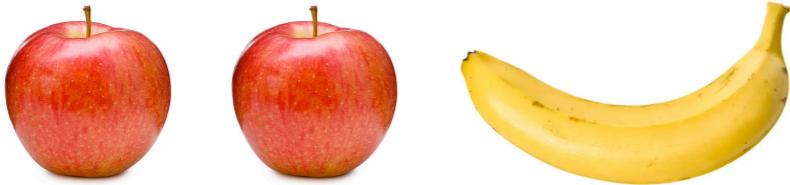


Kindergarten fruit-trading rules:



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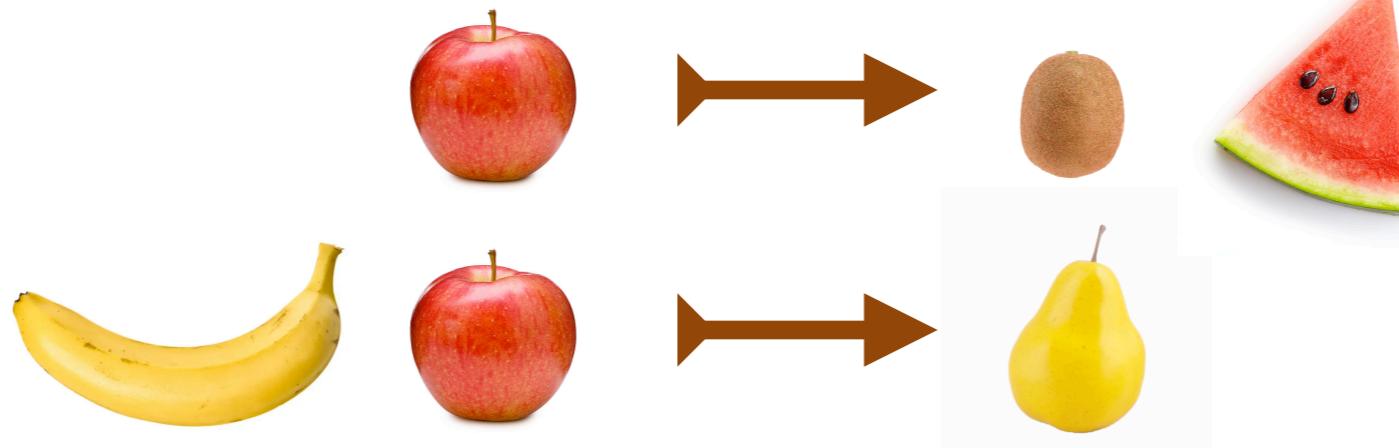
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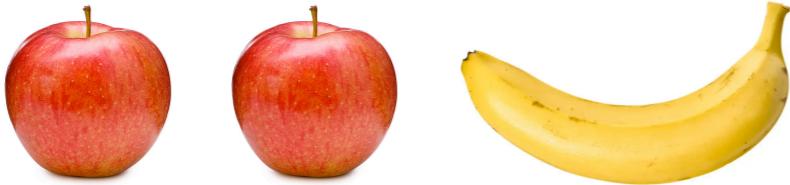


Kindergarten fruit-trading rules:



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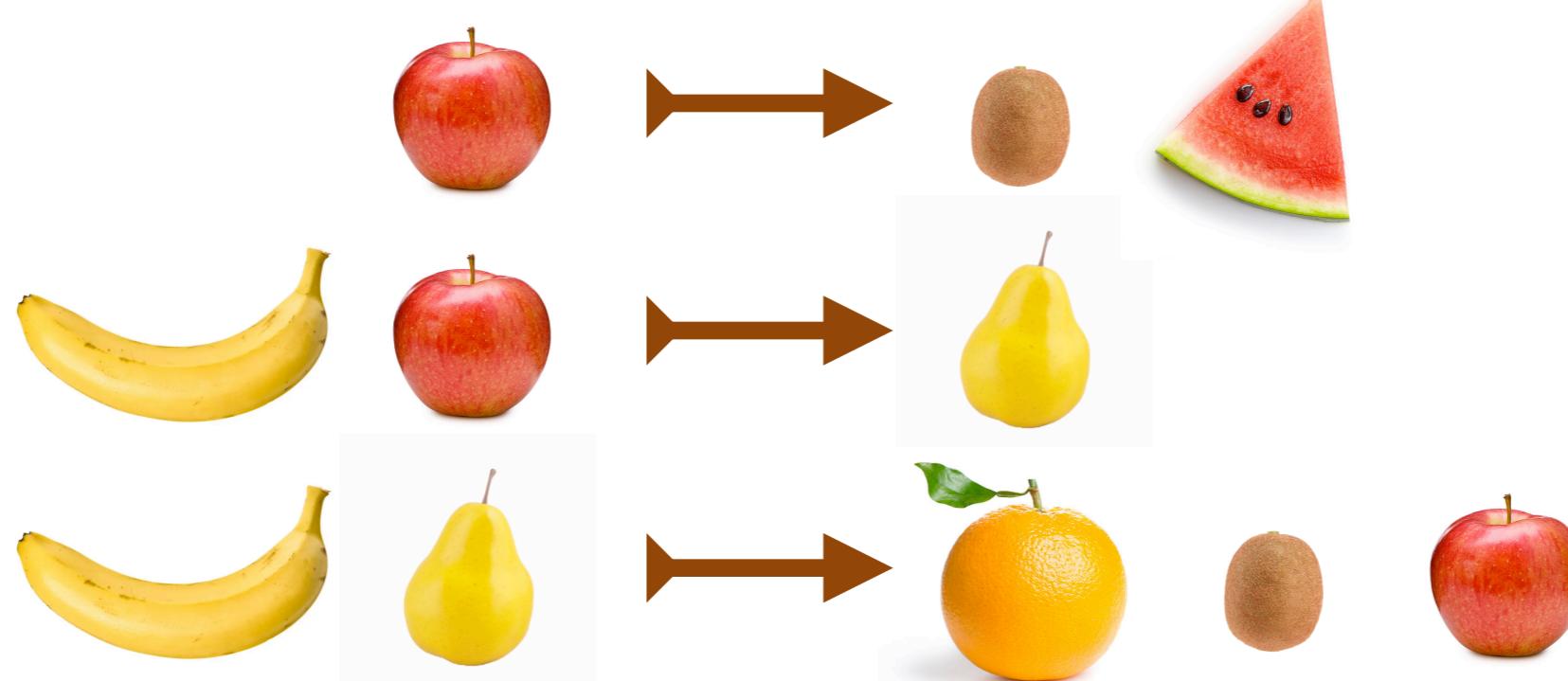
Alice has



but likes

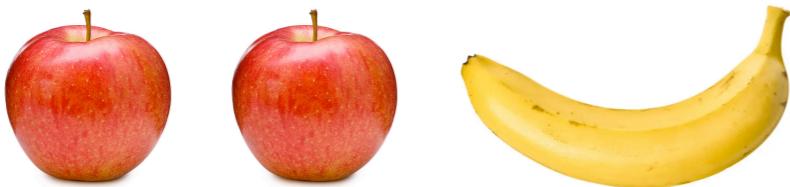


Kindergarten fruit-trading rules:



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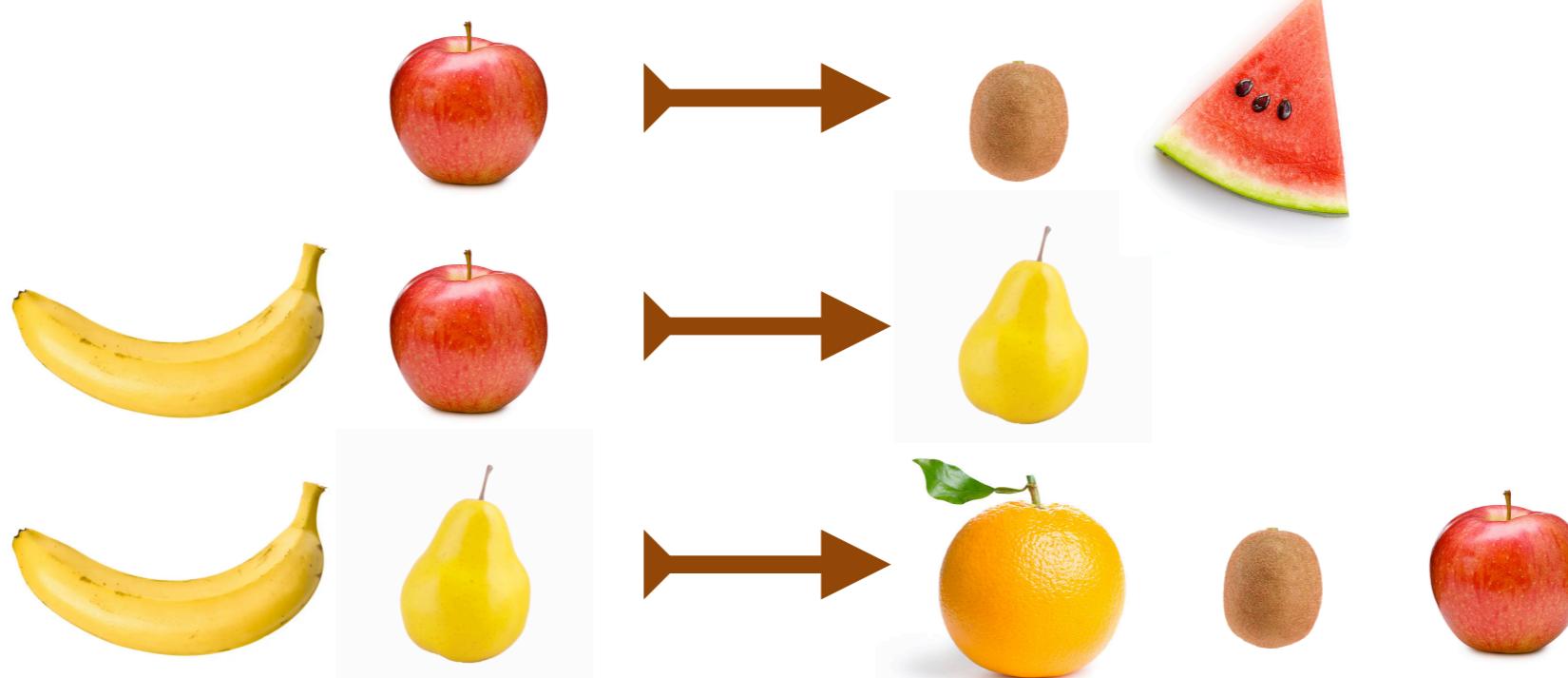
Alice has



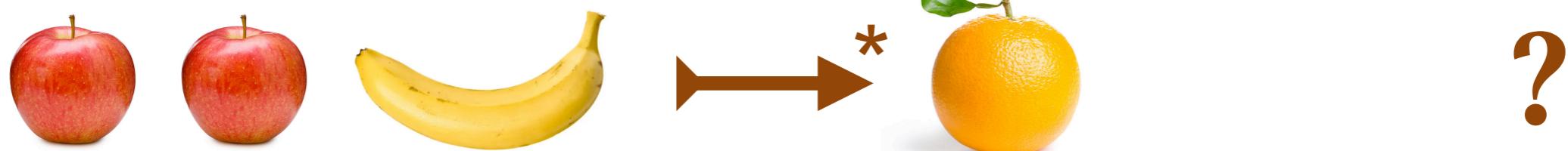
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Kindergarten fruit-trading rules:

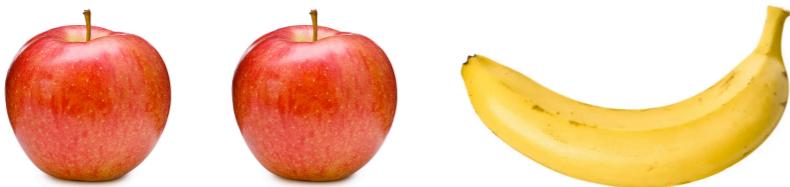


Decision problem:



# Kindergarten fruit-trading

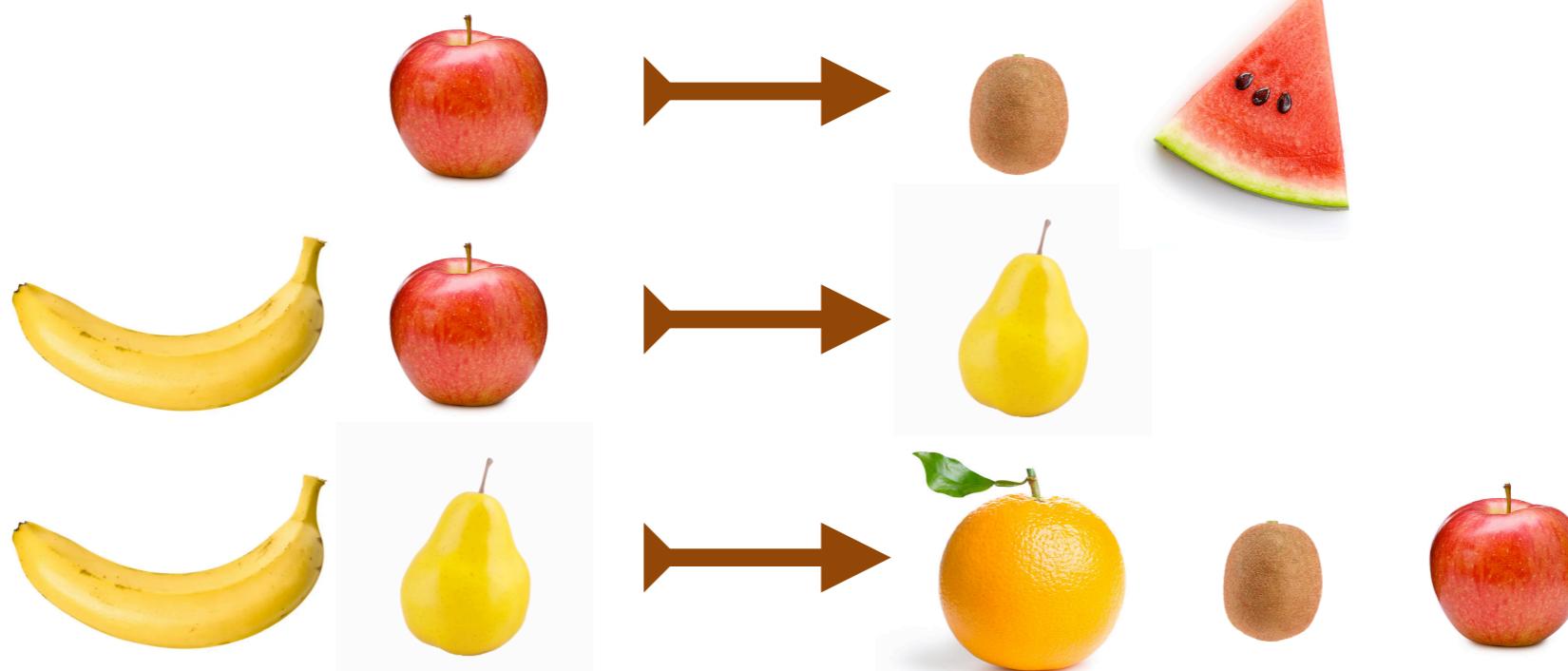
Alice has



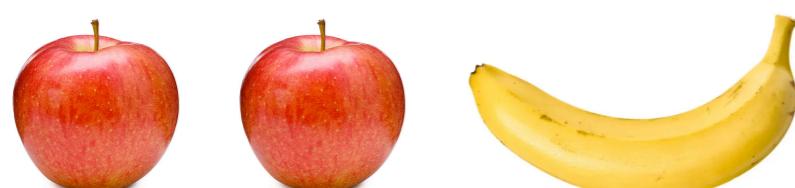
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Kindergarten fruit-trading rules:



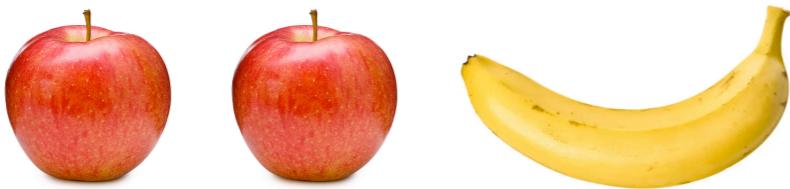
Decision problem:



?

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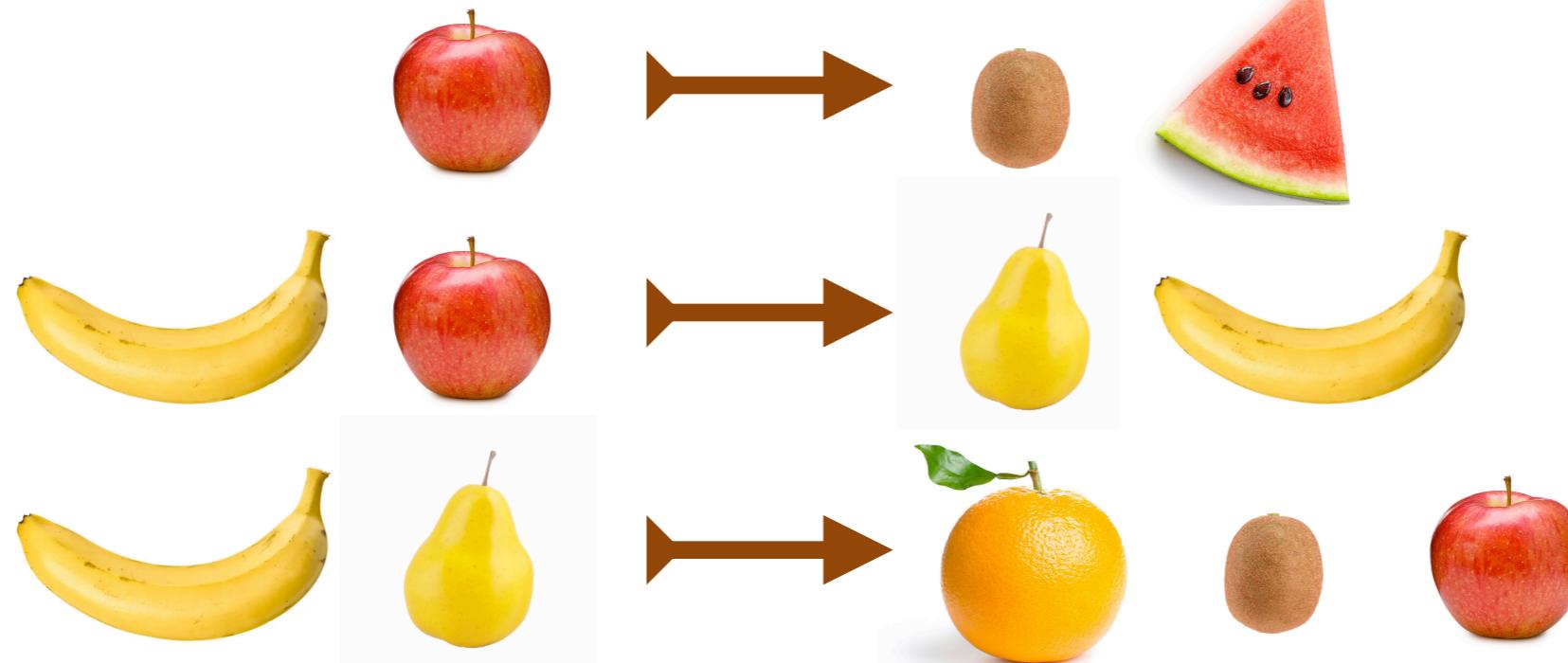
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Kindergarten fruit-trading rules:



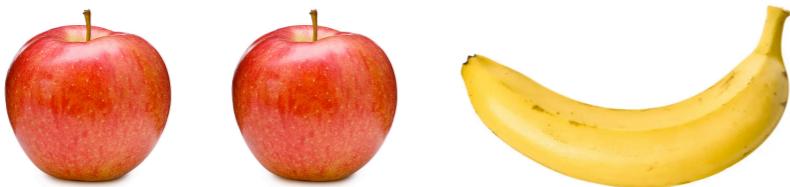
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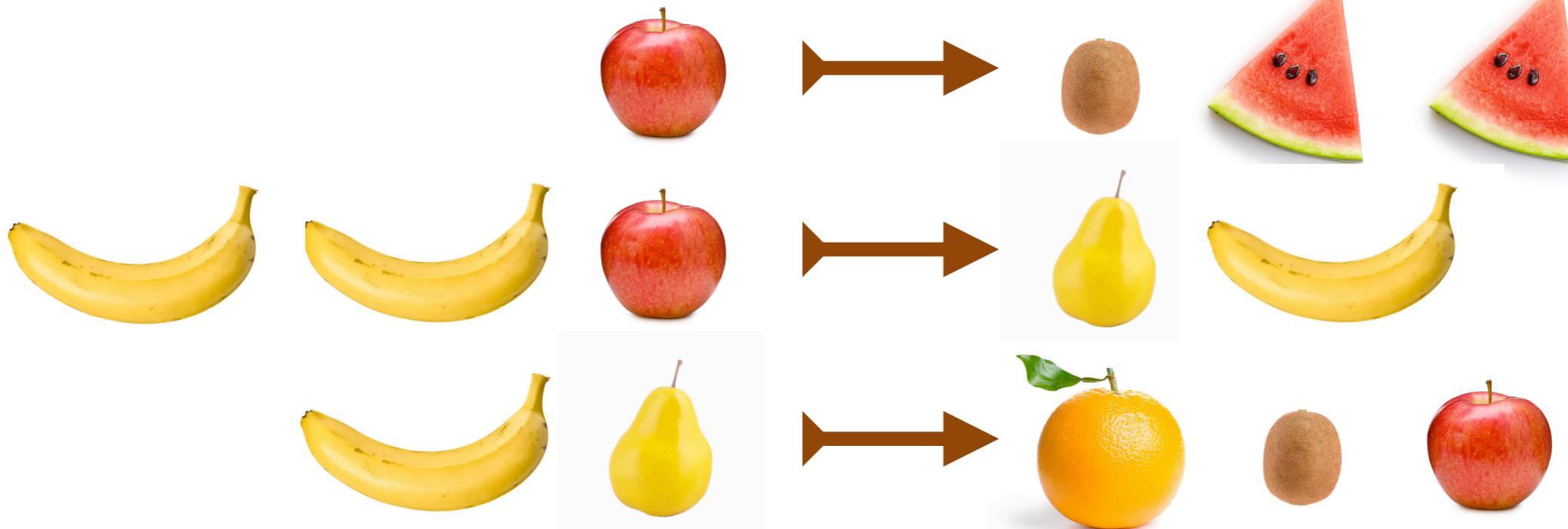
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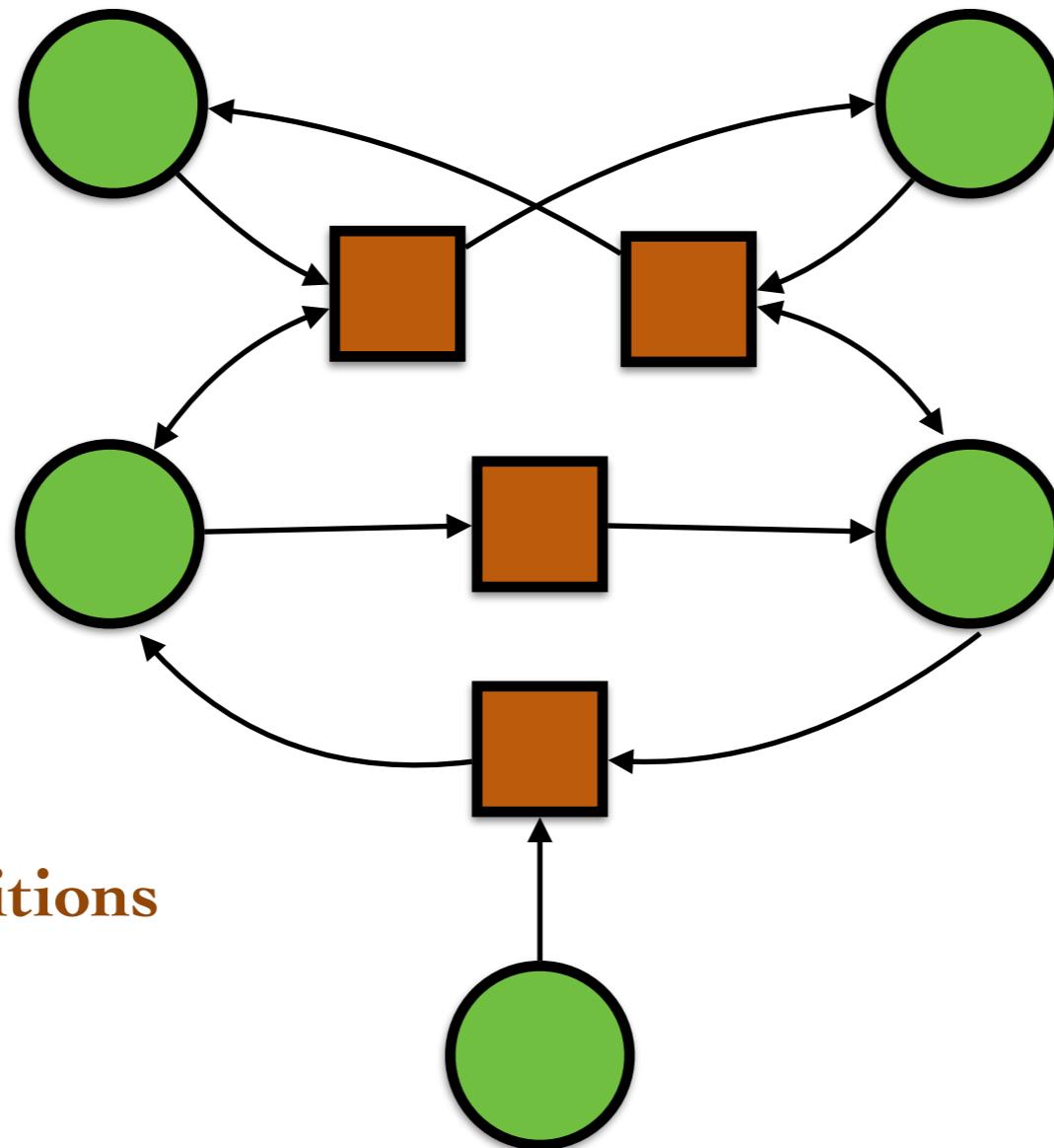


Decision problem:



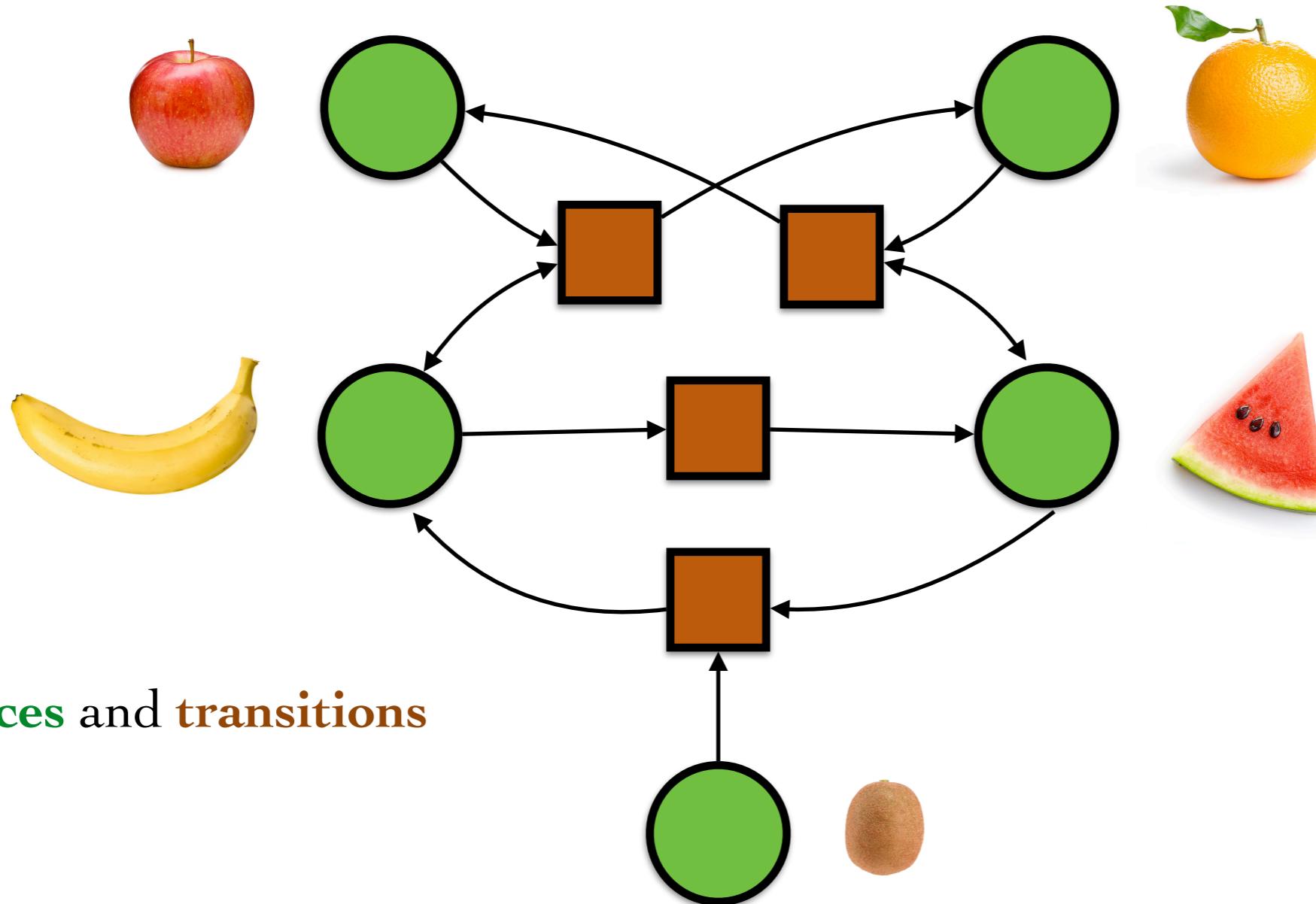
?

# Petri nets



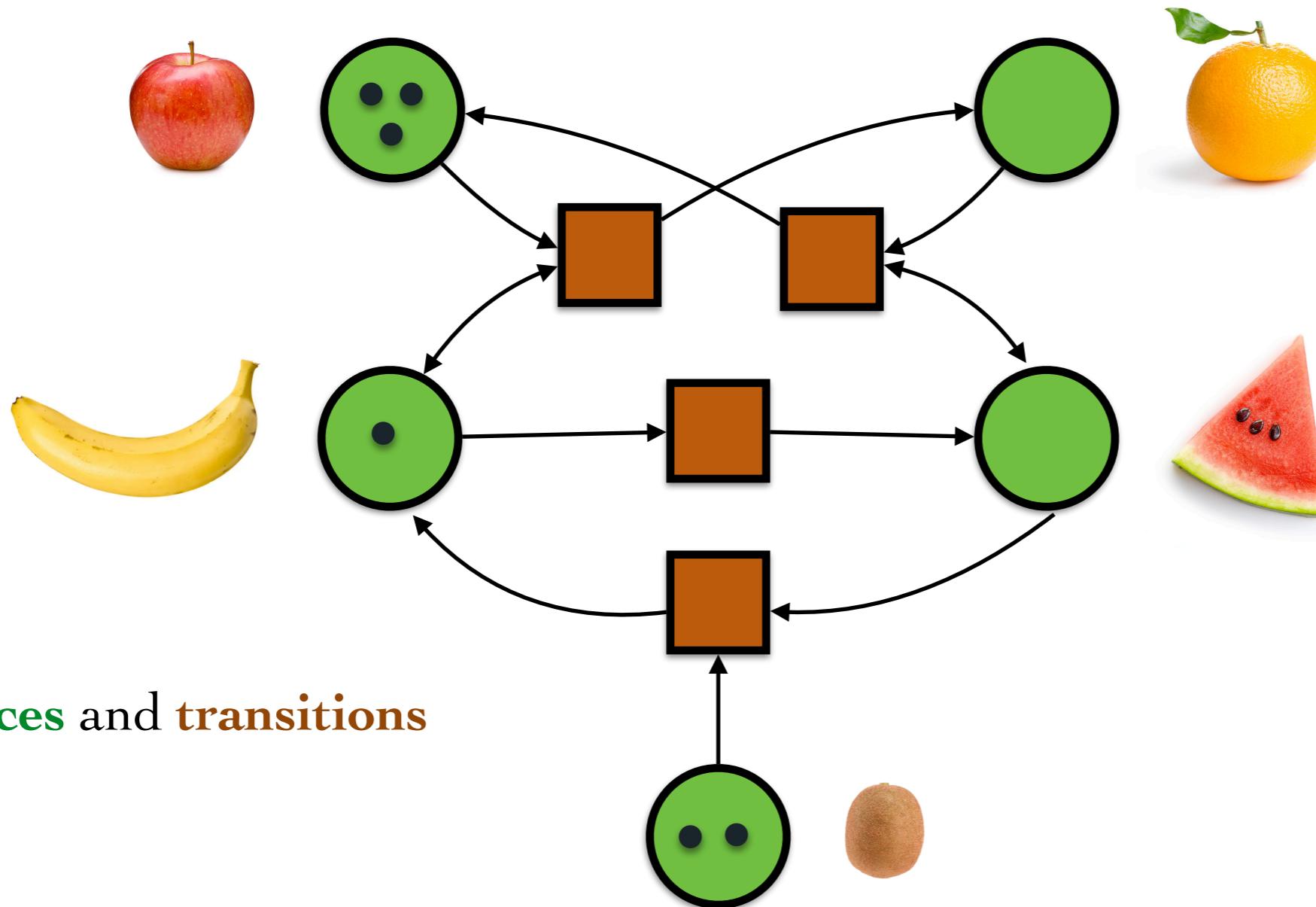
places and transitions

# Petri nets



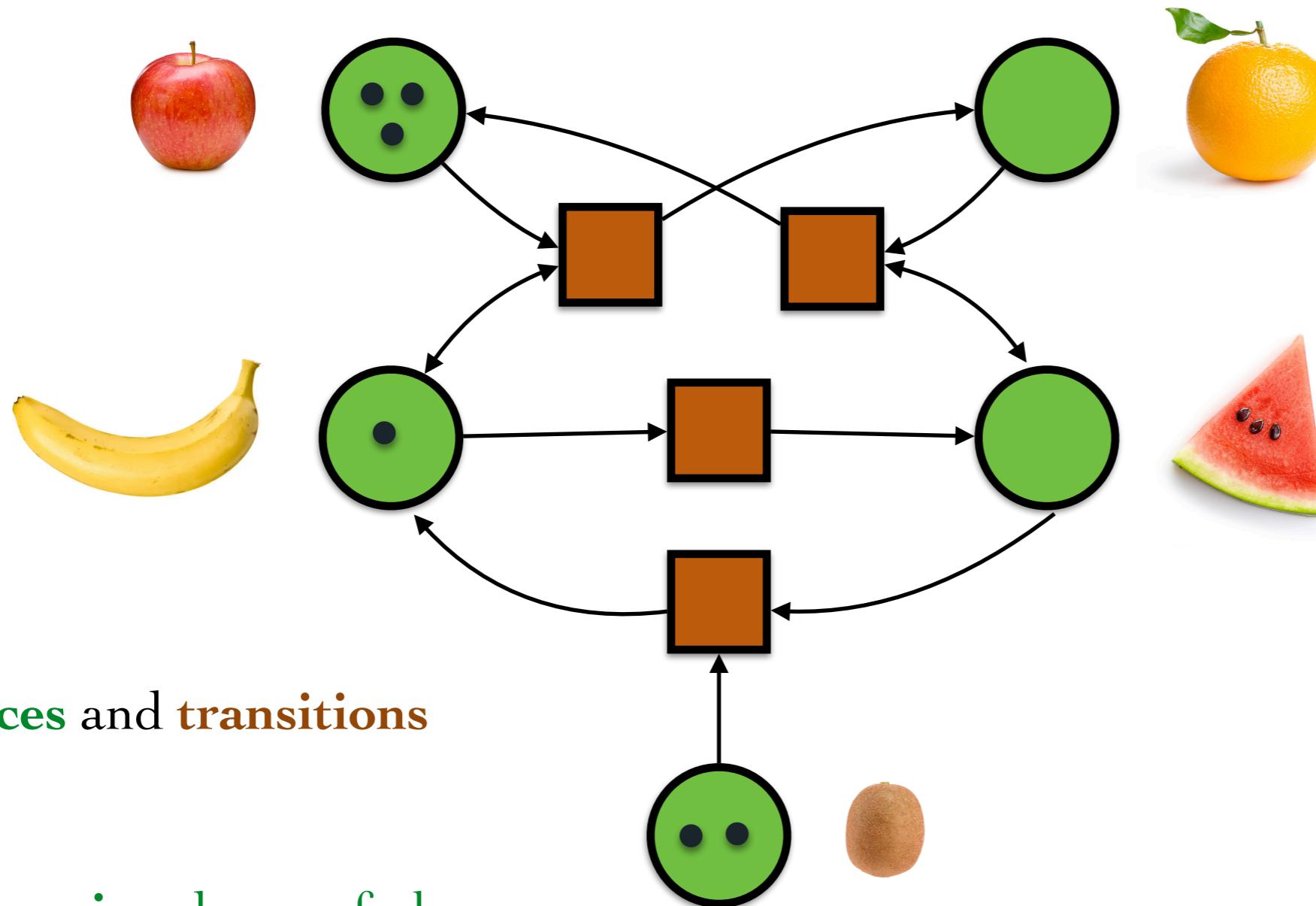
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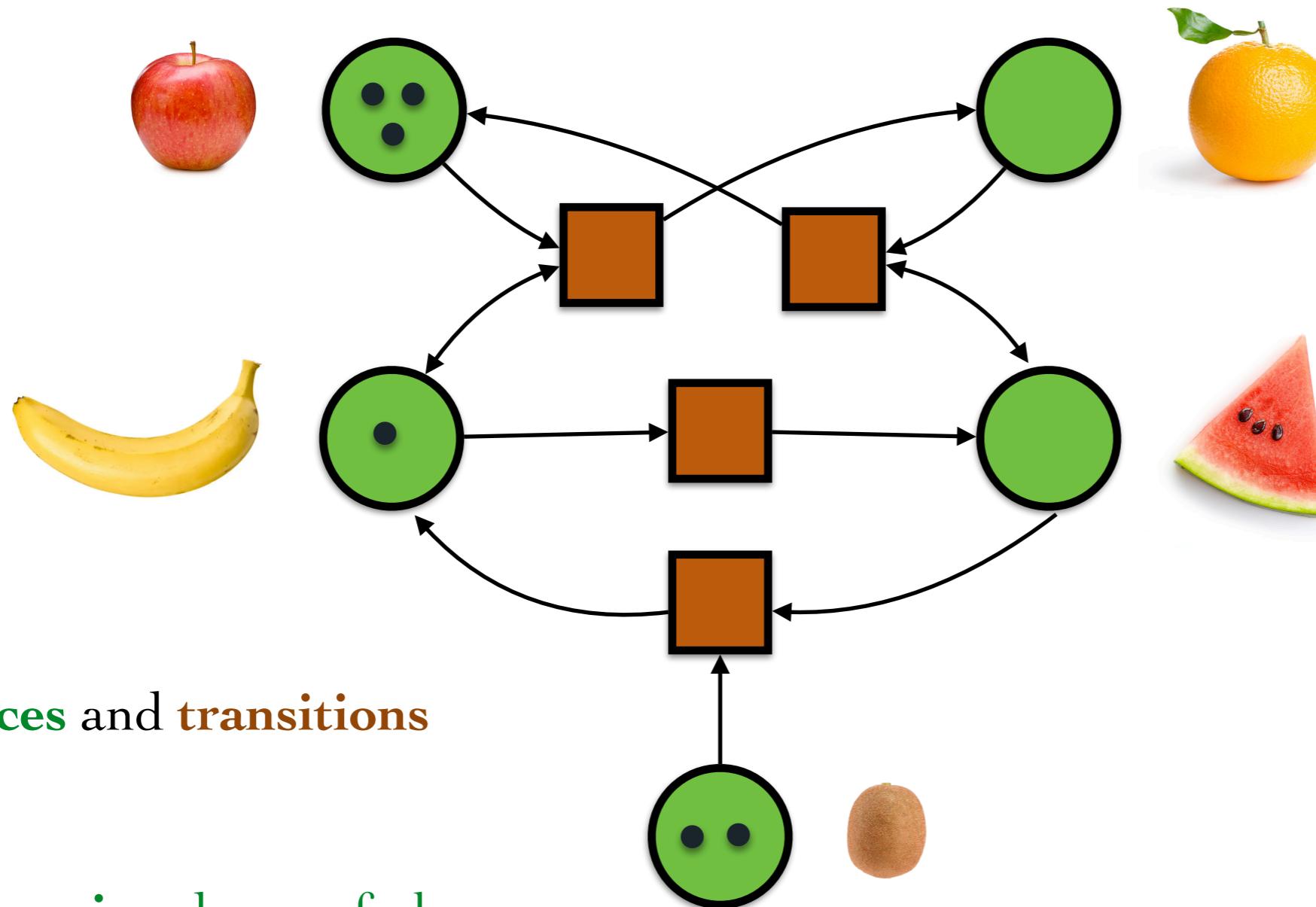


places and transitions

# Petri nets



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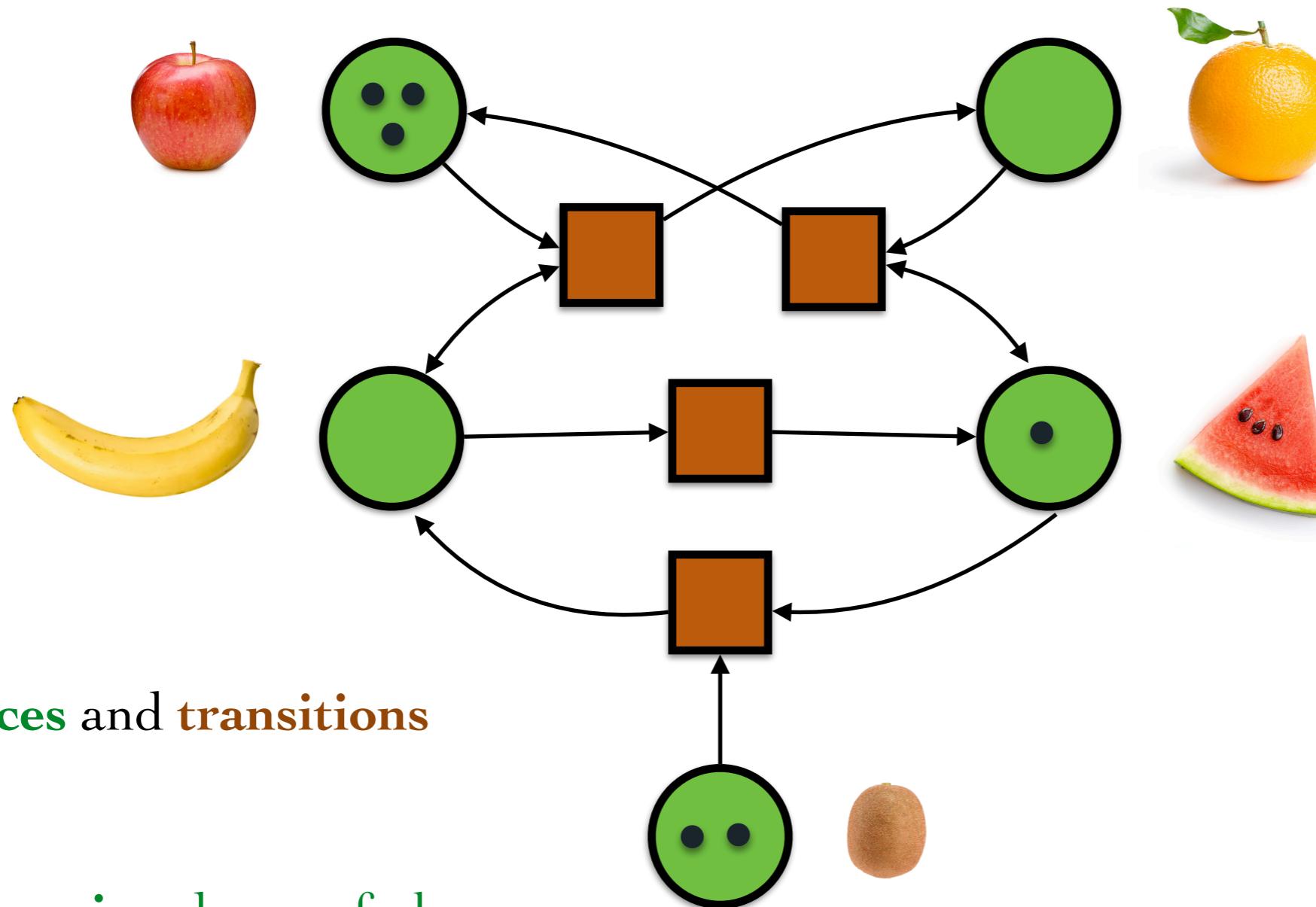
places and transitions

dimension  $d = \text{nr of places}$

configuration : places  $\rightarrow \mathbb{N} \equiv \mathbb{N}^d$



# Petri nets



places and transitions

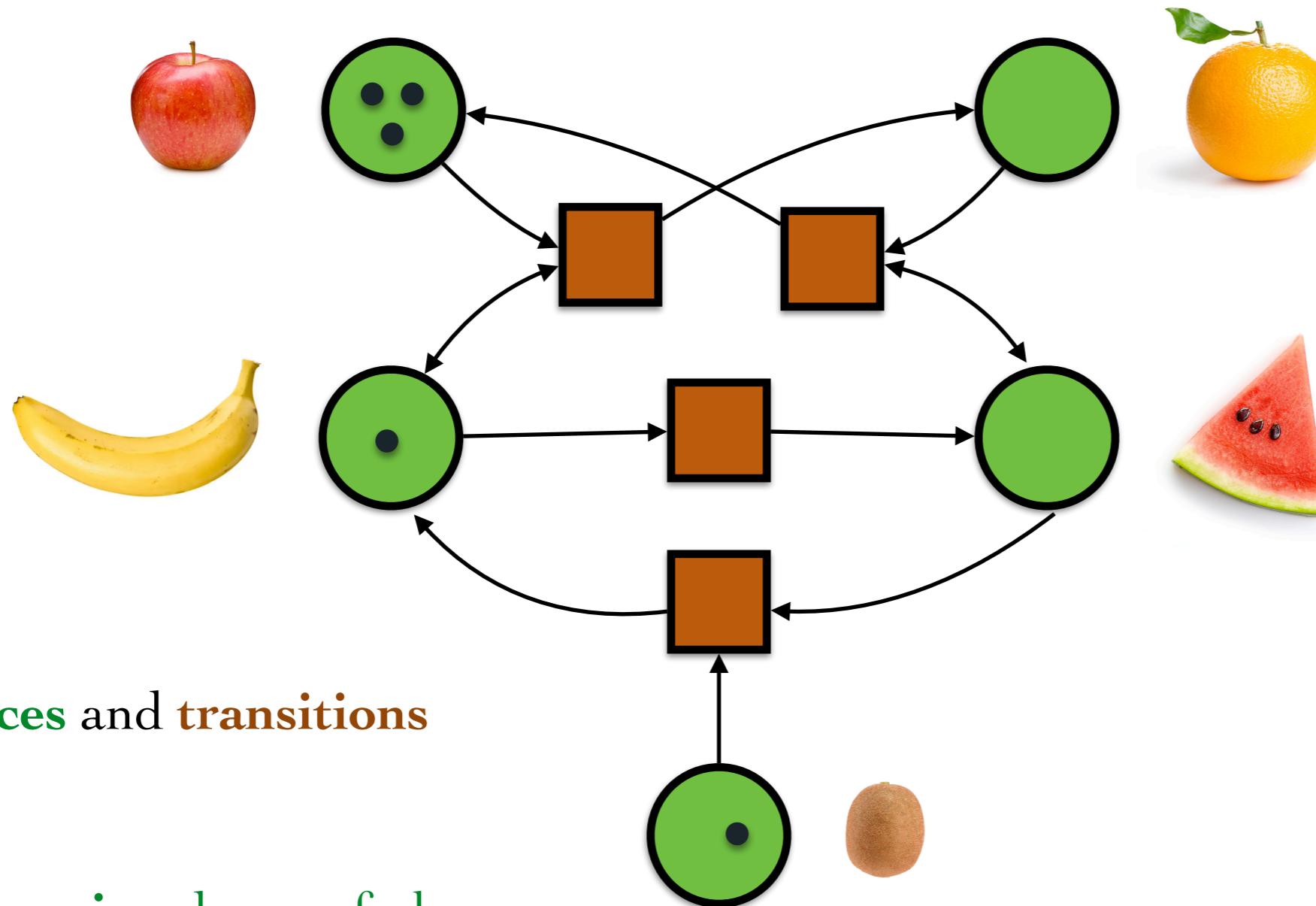
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step relation between configurations



# Petri nets



places and transitions

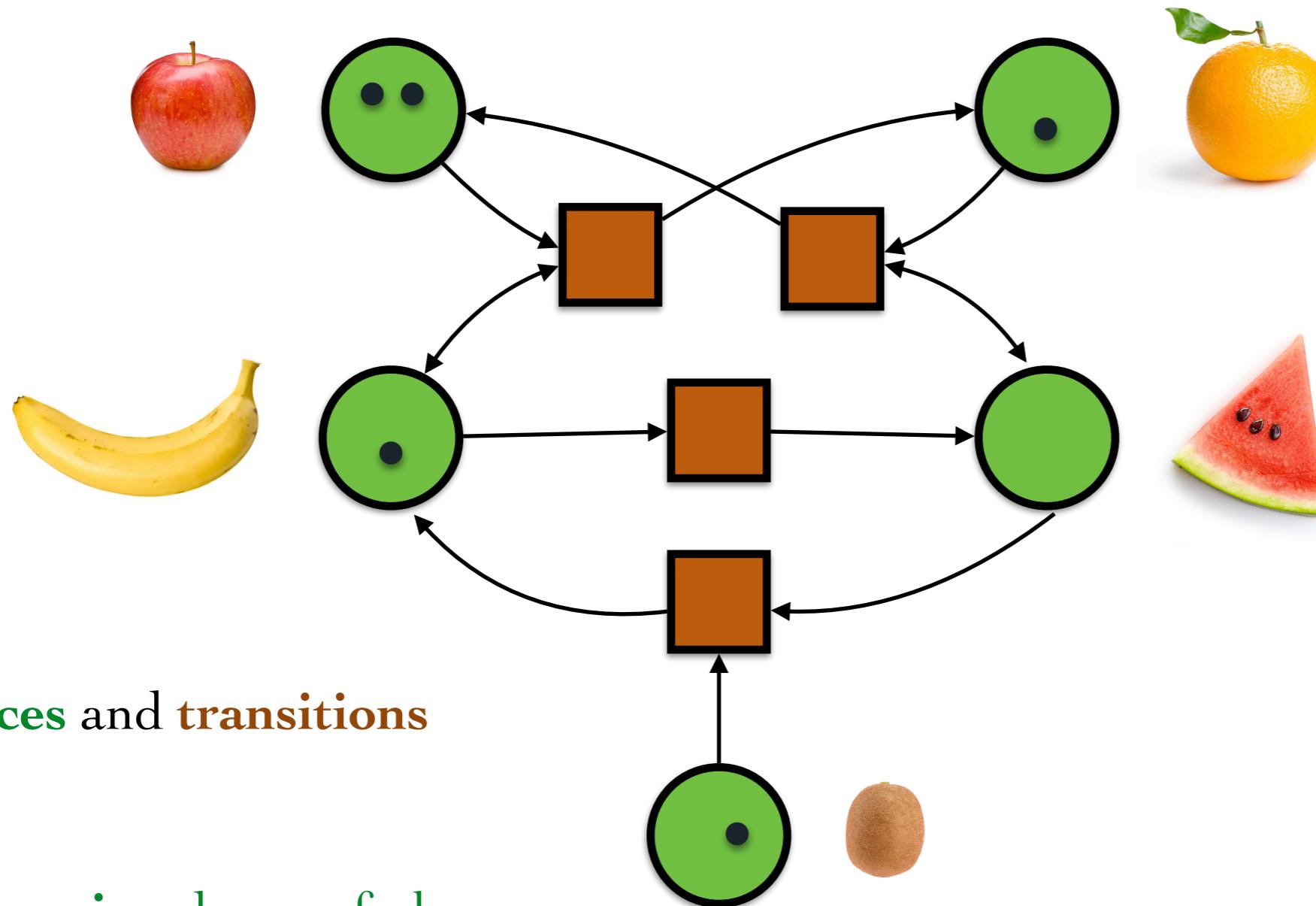
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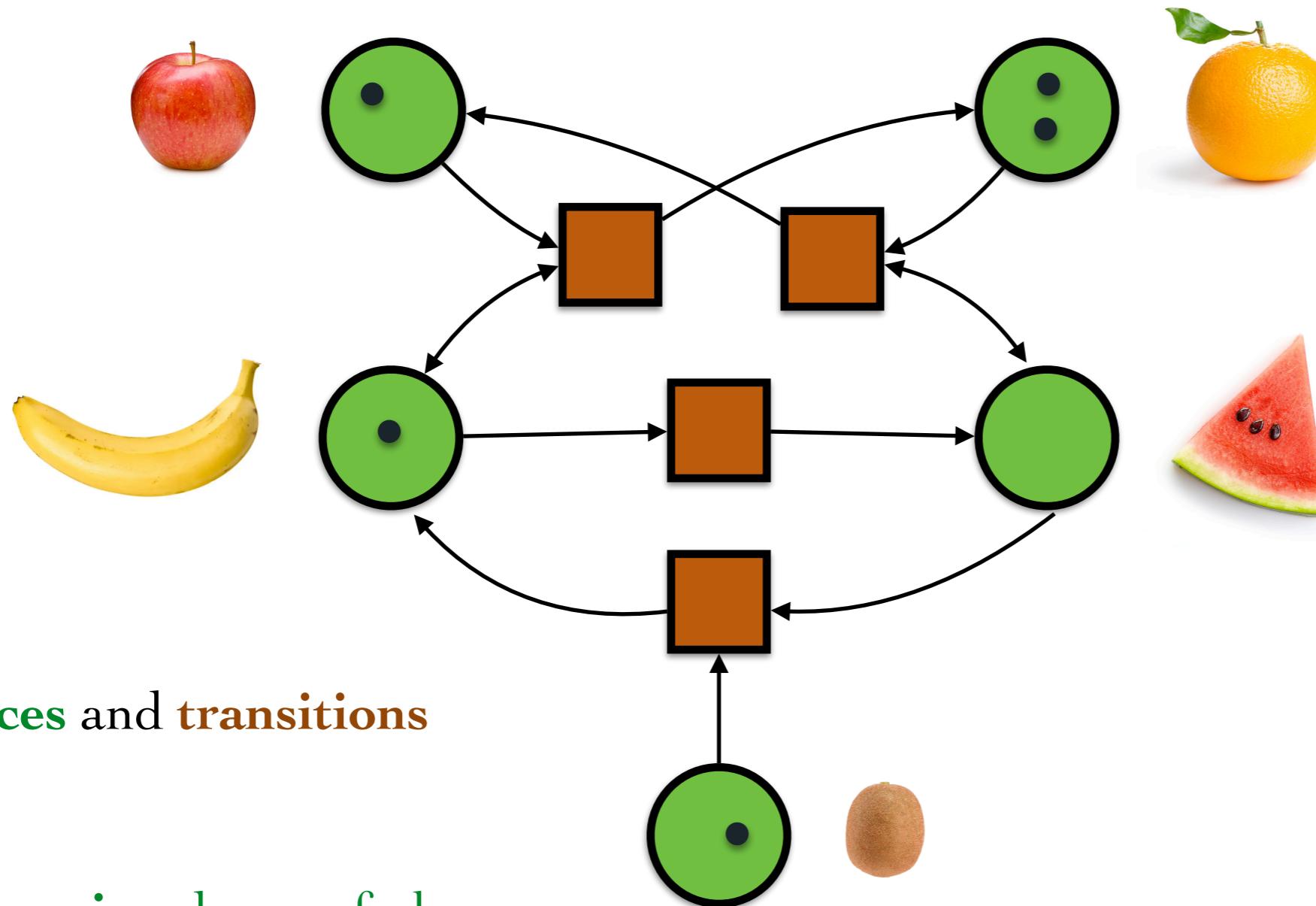
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places and transitions

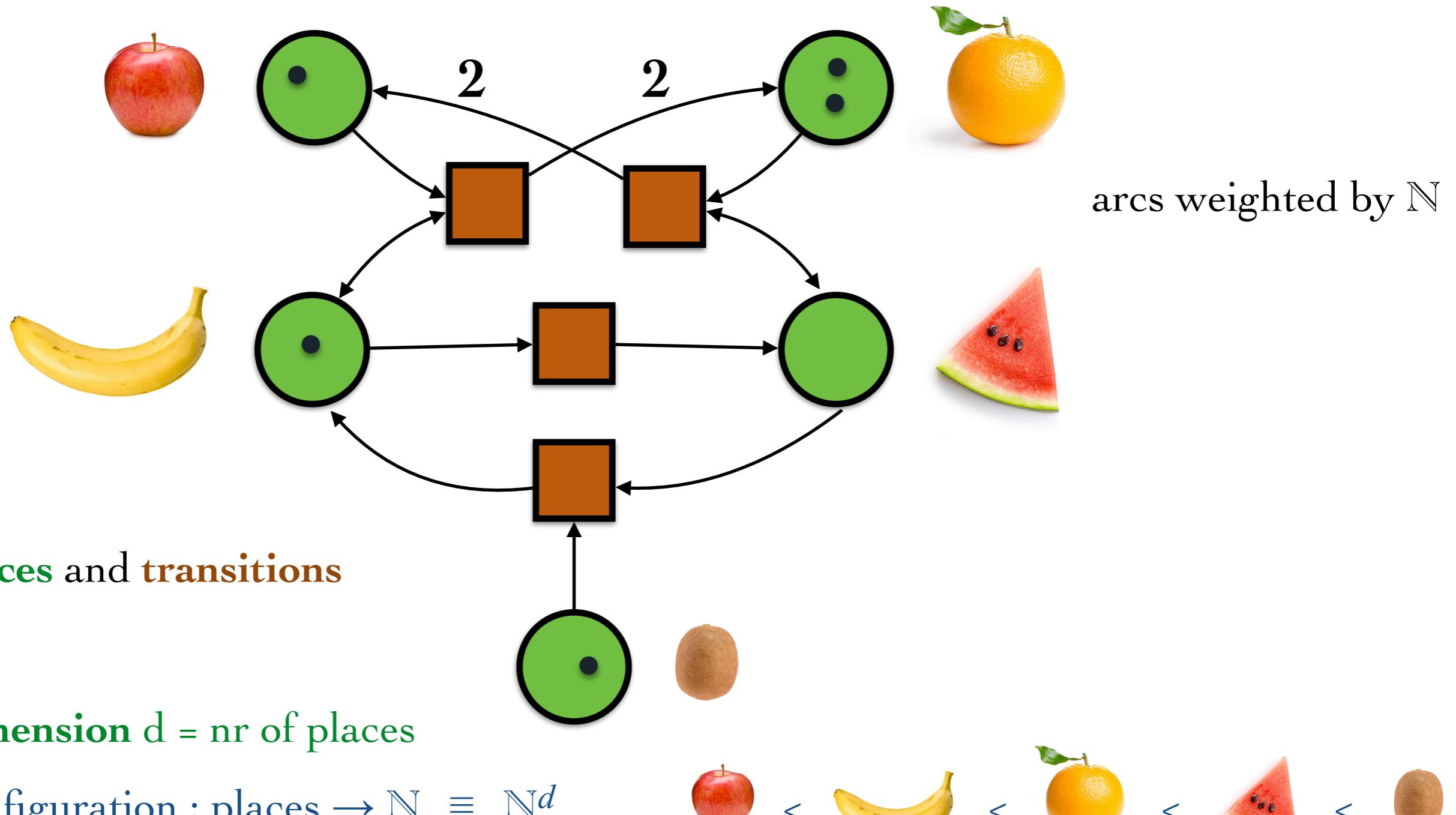
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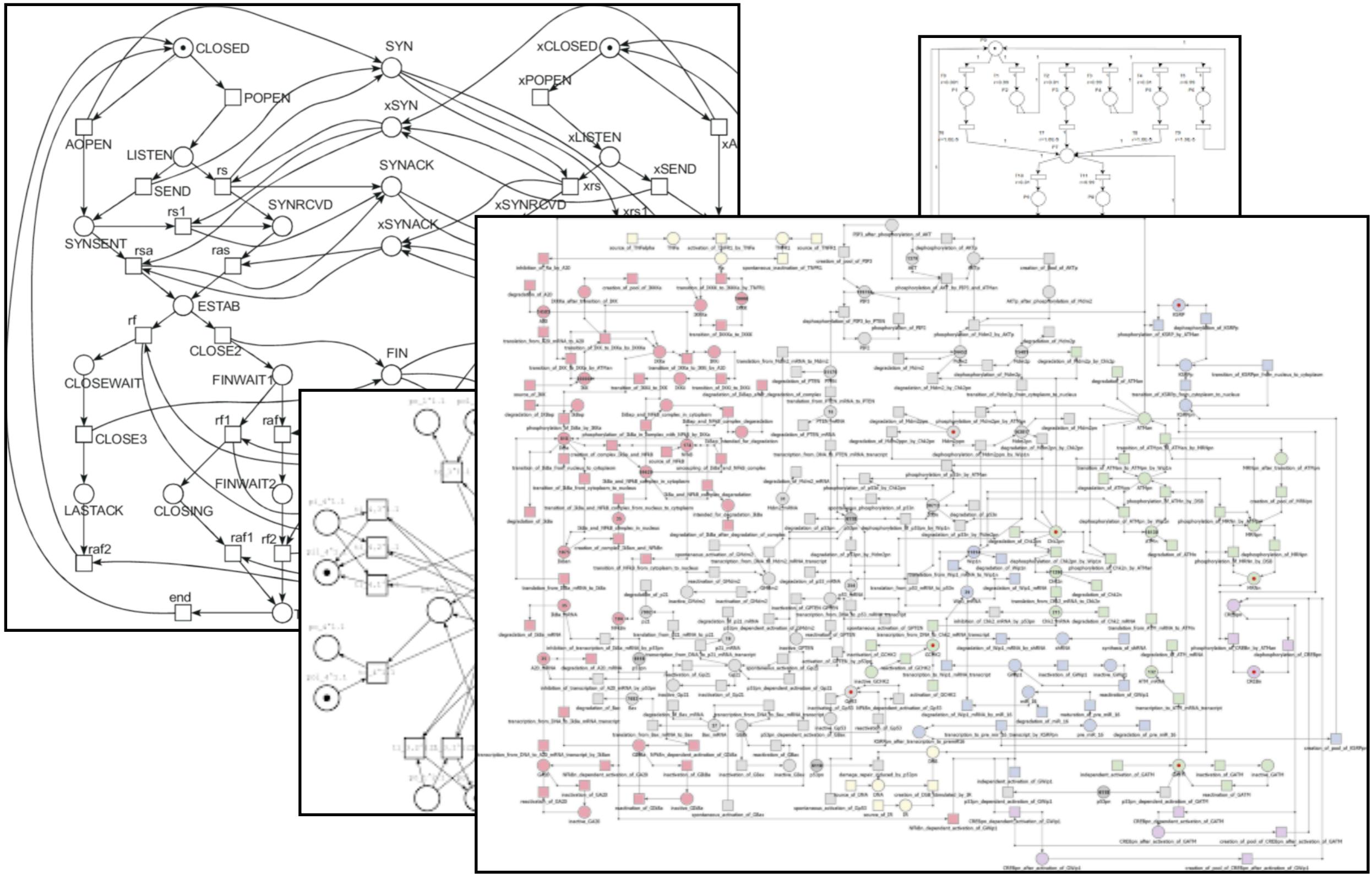


# Petri nets

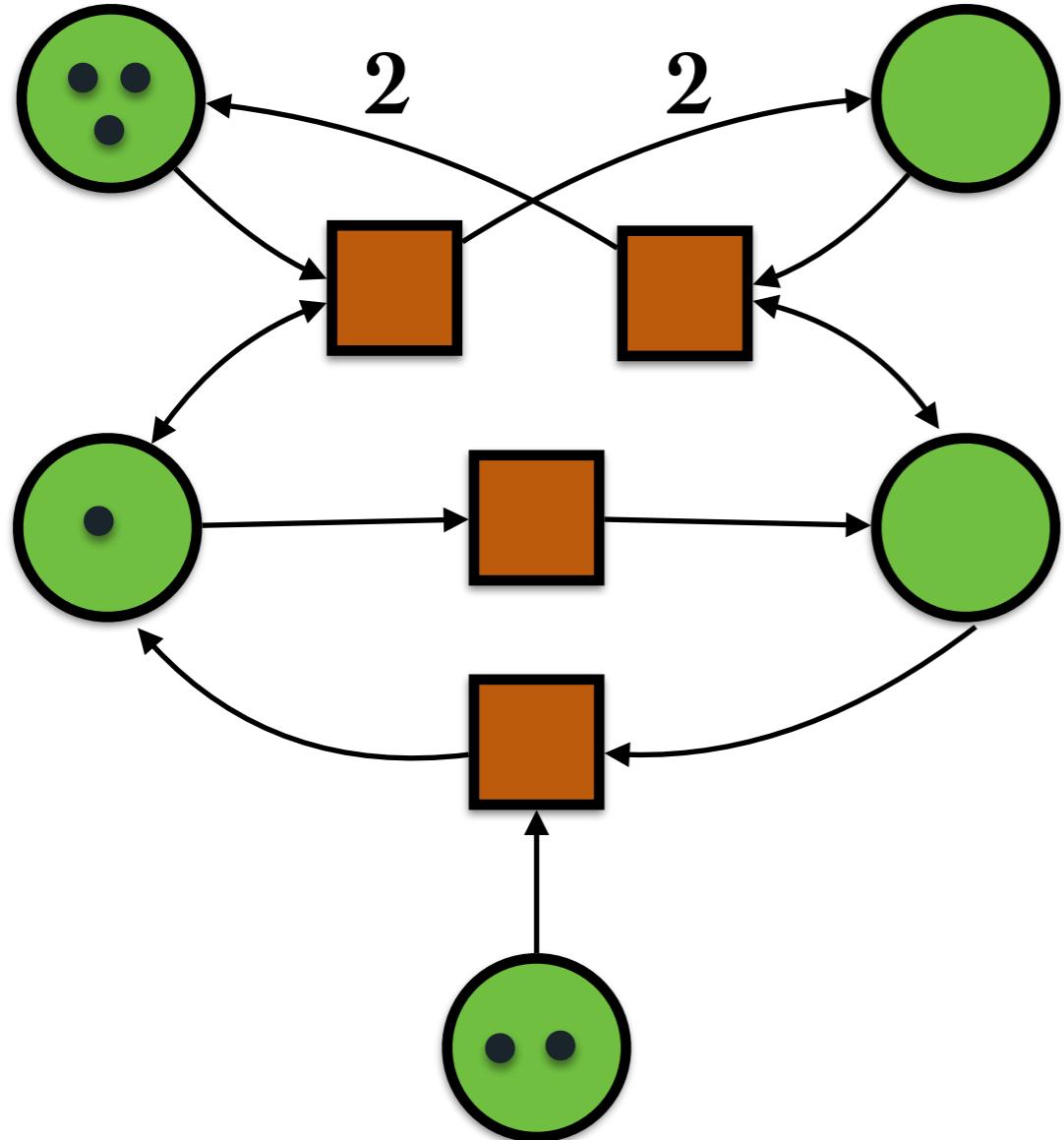


# Useful model

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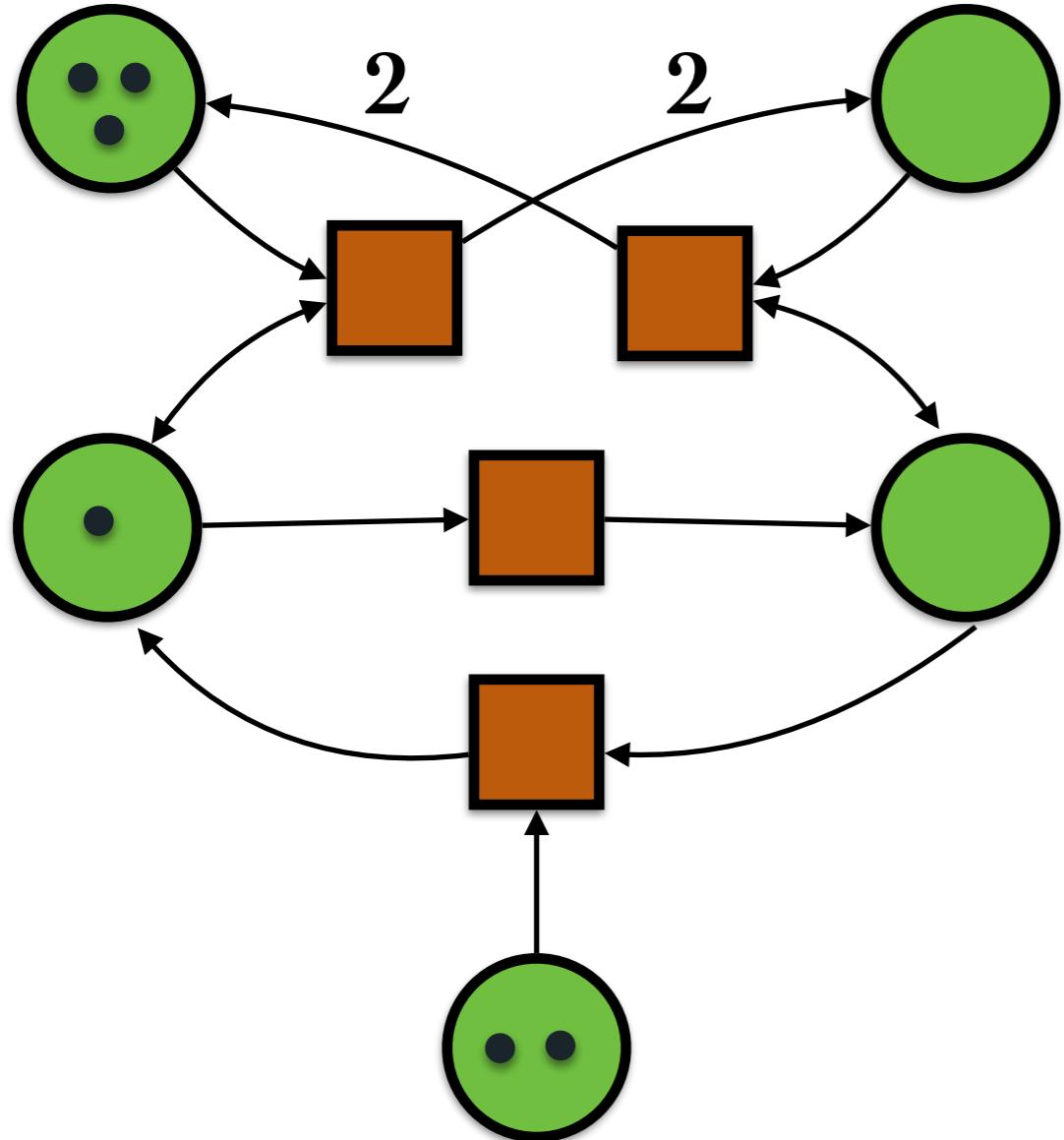


# Reachability problem in Petri nets



configuration :  $\mathbb{N}^d$

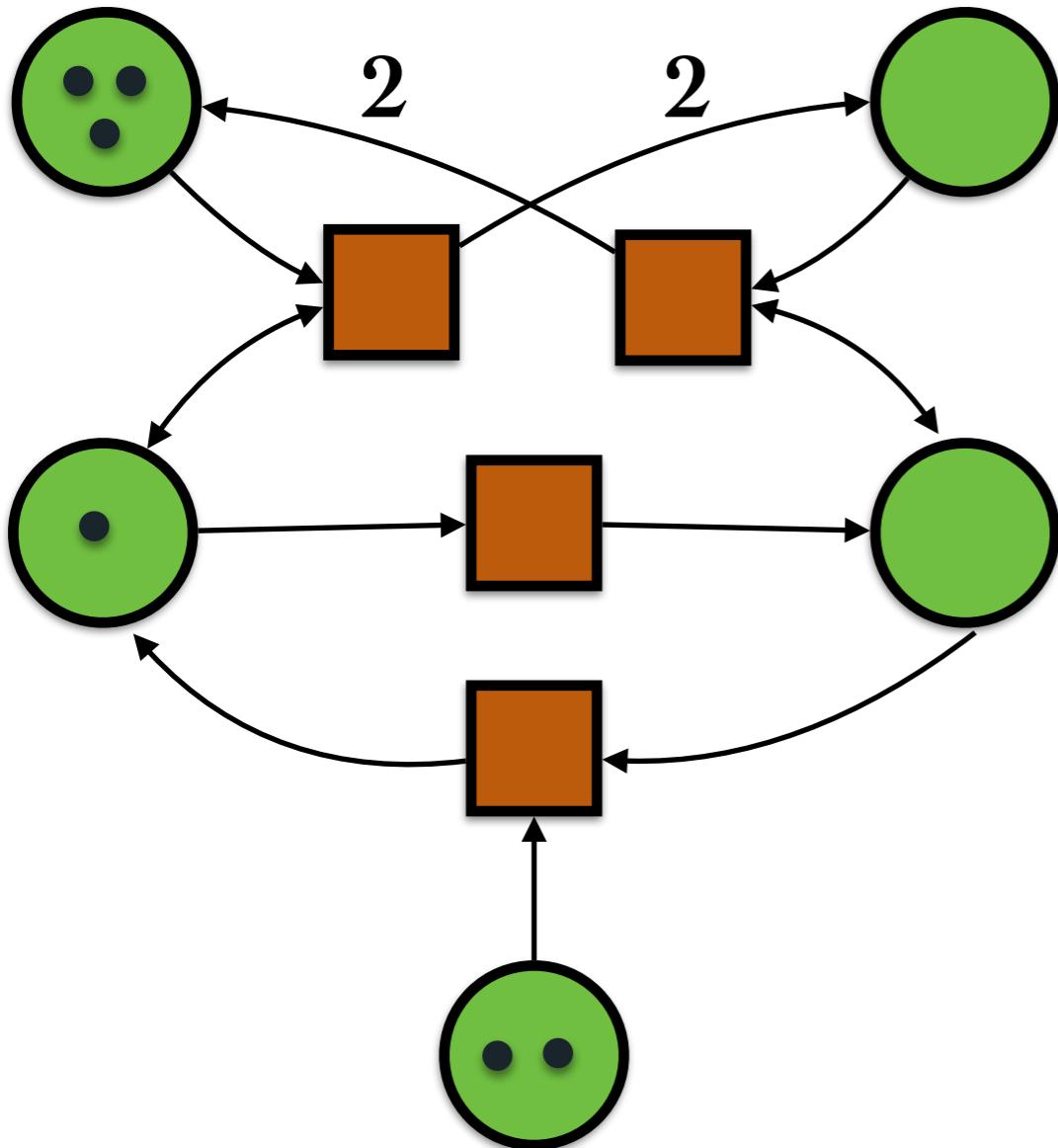
# Reachability problem in Petri nets



configuration :  $\mathbb{N}^d$

Decision problem:

# Reachability problem in Petri nets



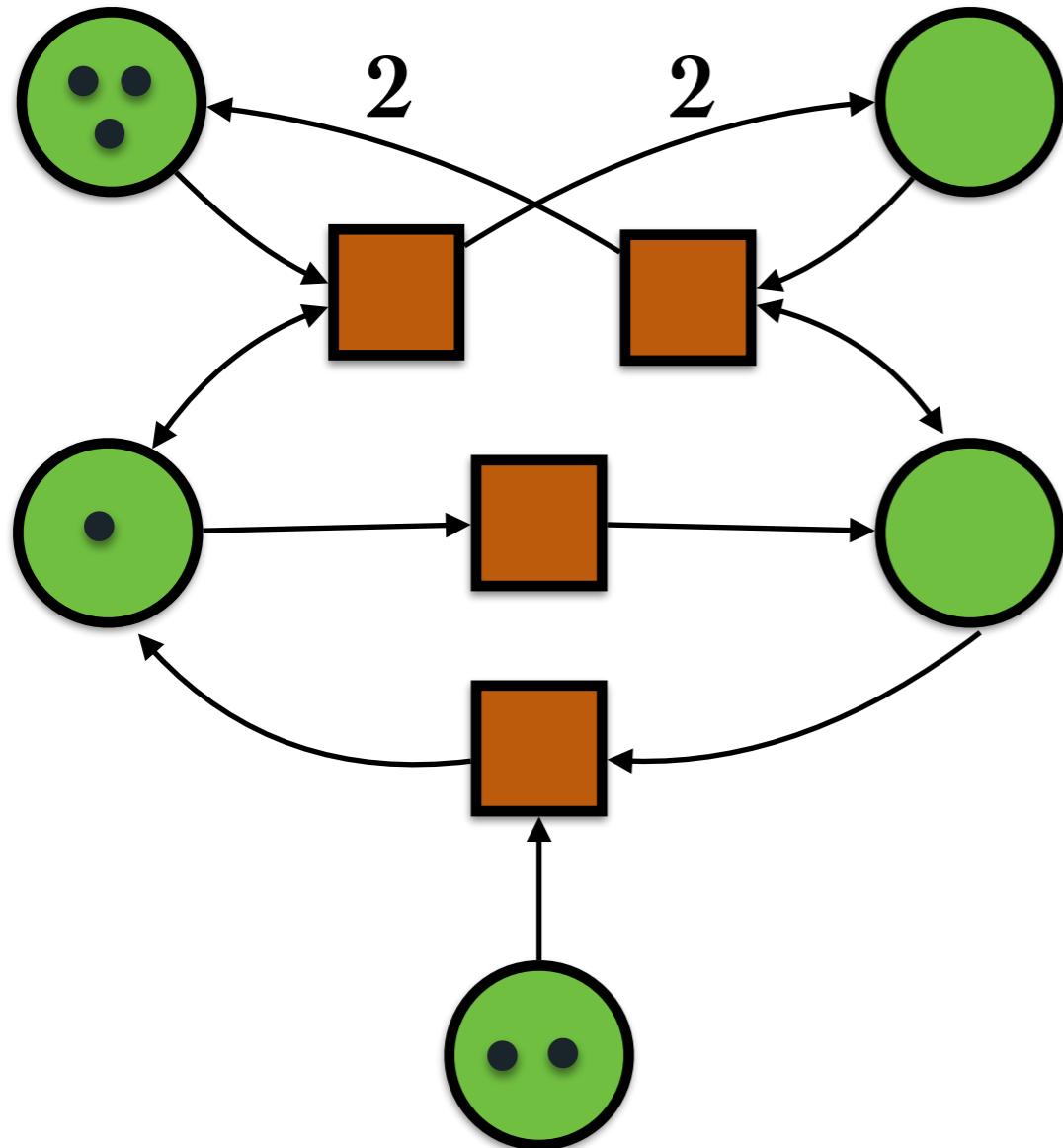
configuration :  $\mathbb{N}^d$

## Decision problem:

given

- Petri net
  - source configuration
  - target configuration

# Reachability problem in Petri nets



configuration :  $\mathbb{N}^d$

## Decision problem:

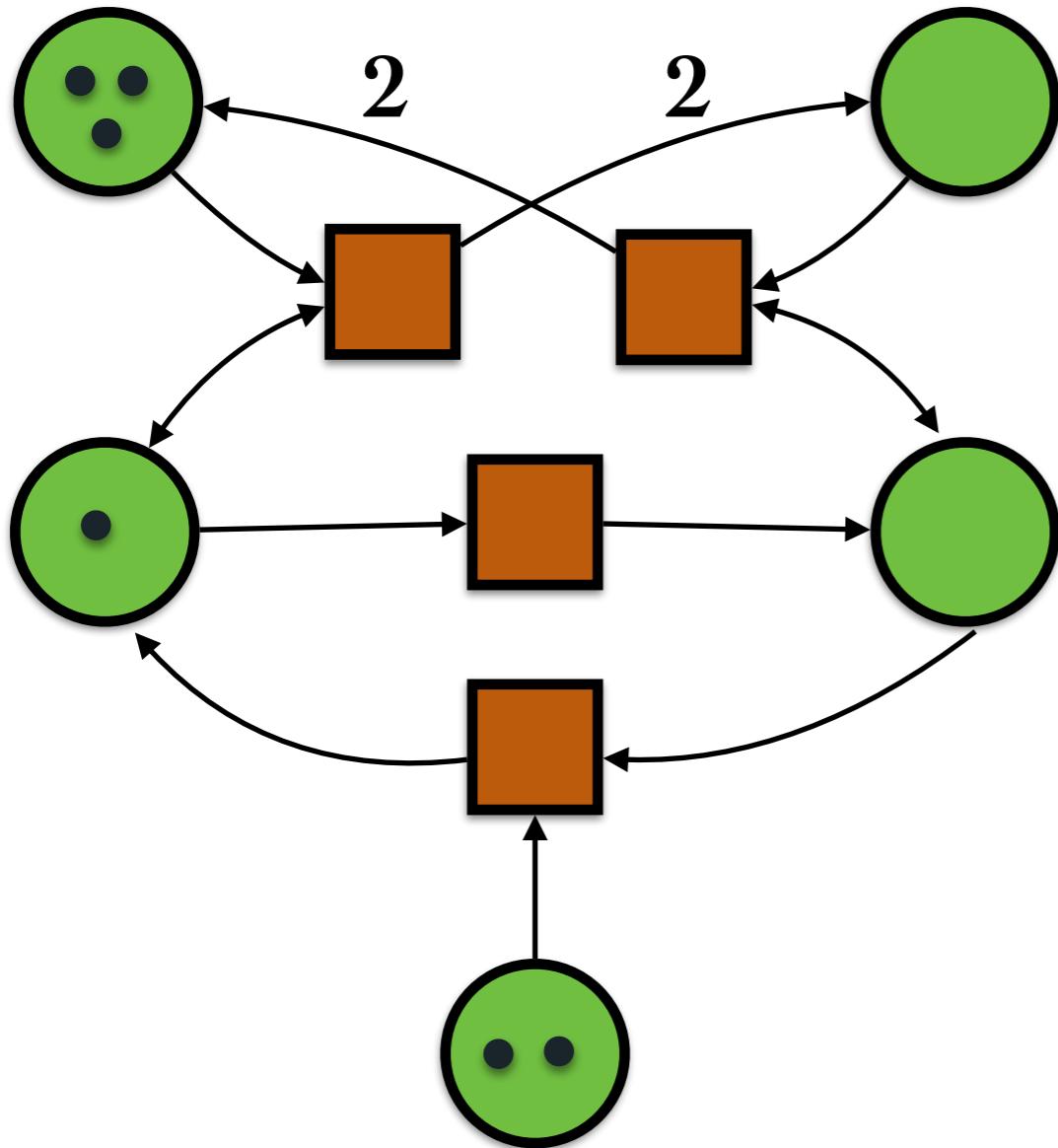
given

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check if there is a sequence of steps  
**(run)** from source to target

# ~~Reachability~~ problem in Petri nets

## Coverability



configuration :  $\mathbb{N}^d$

### Decision problem:

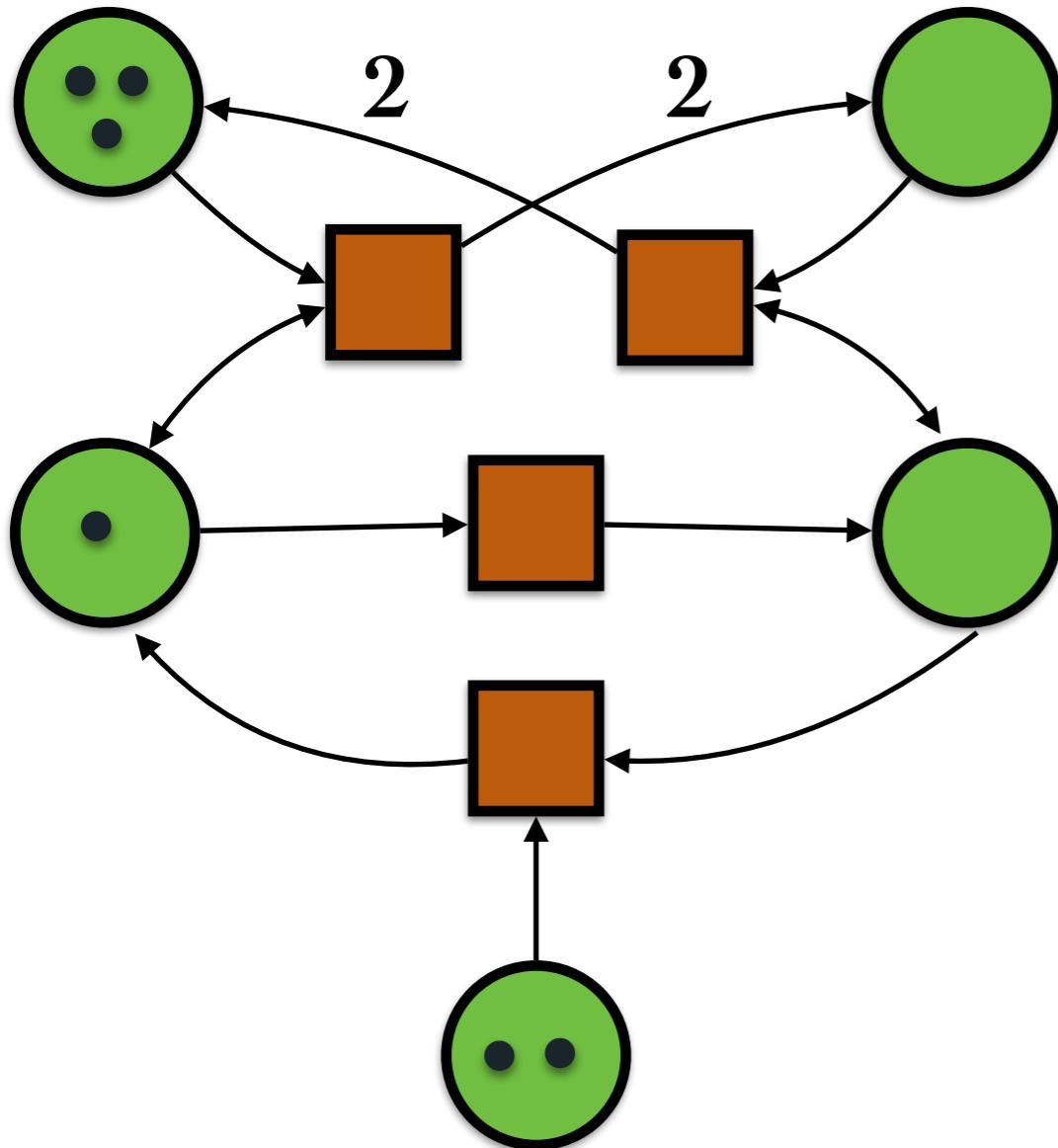
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## Coverability



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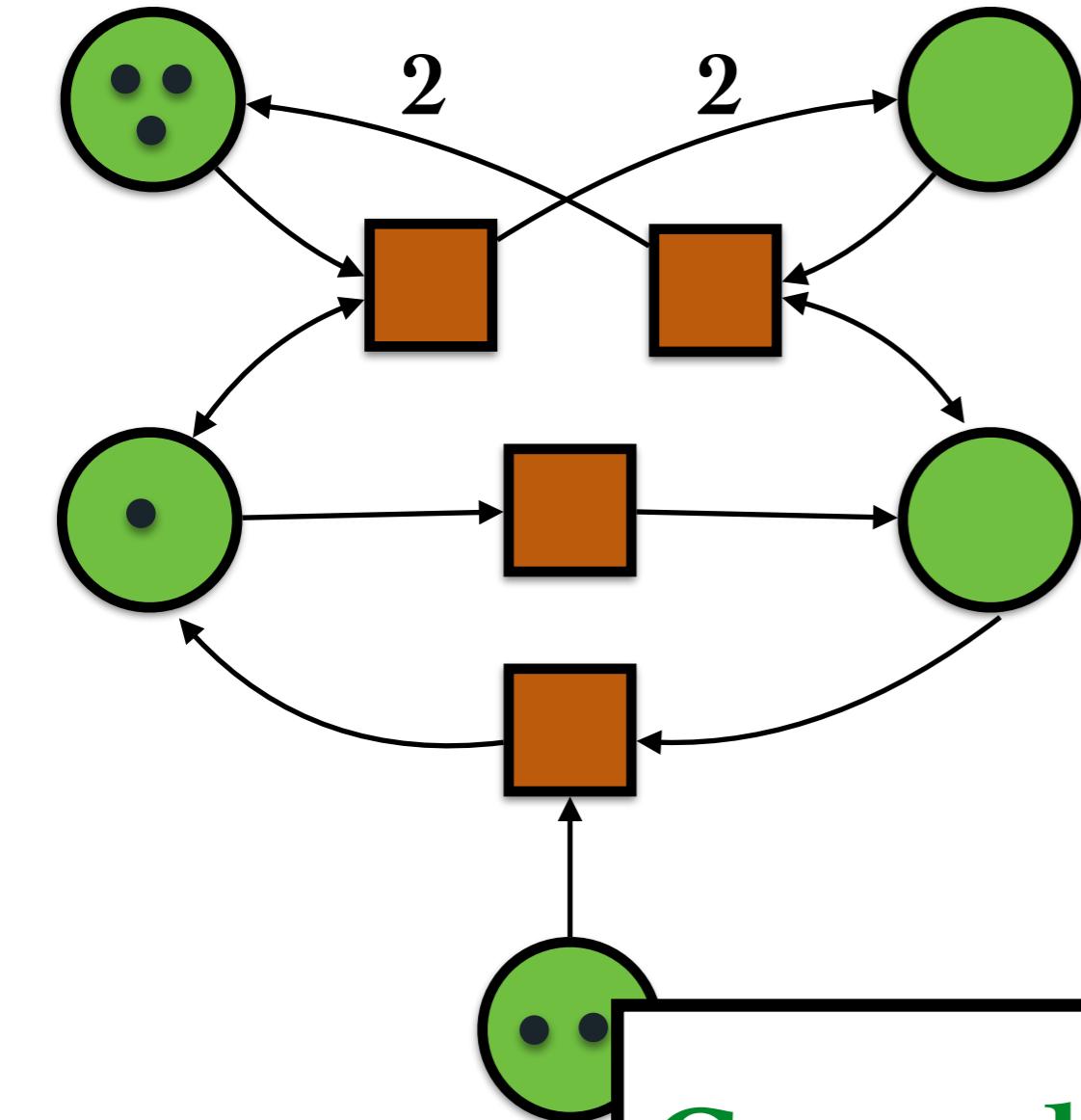
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## Coverability



configuration :  $\mathbb{N}^d$

Coverability  $\rightsquigarrow$  Reachability

Decision problem:

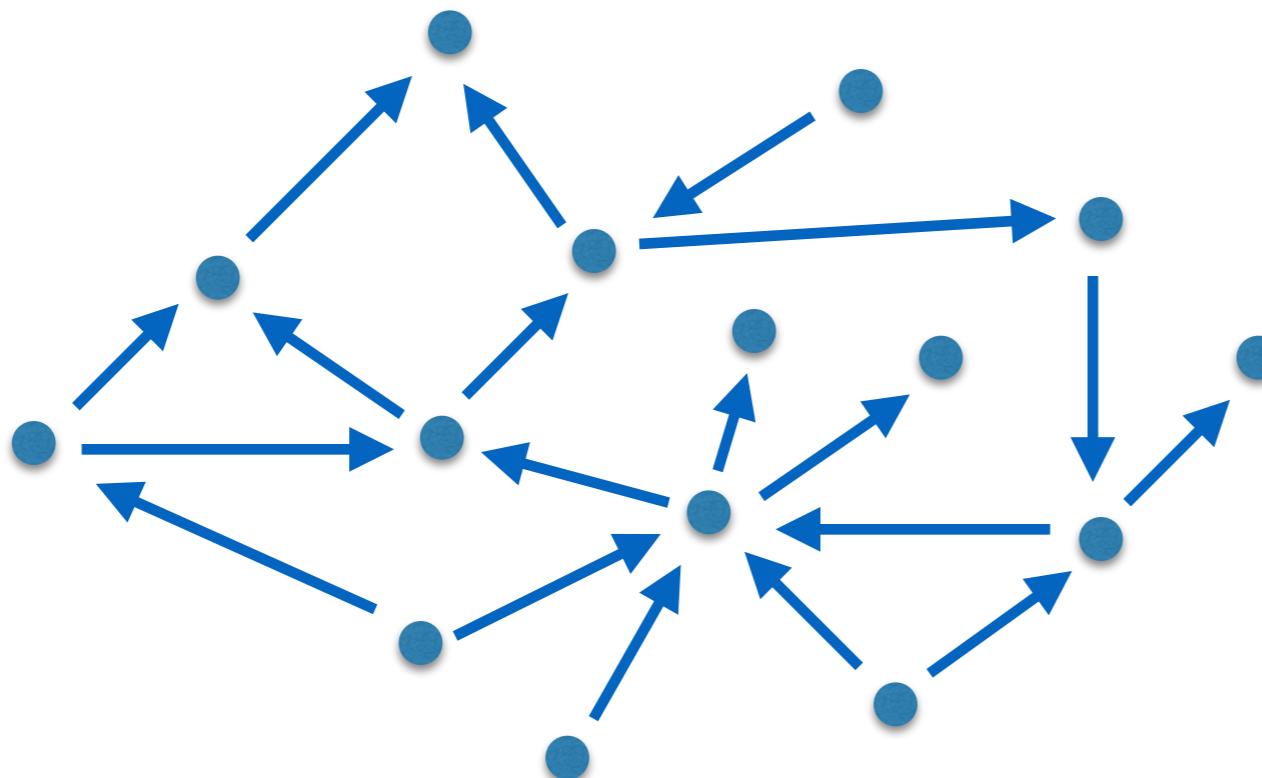
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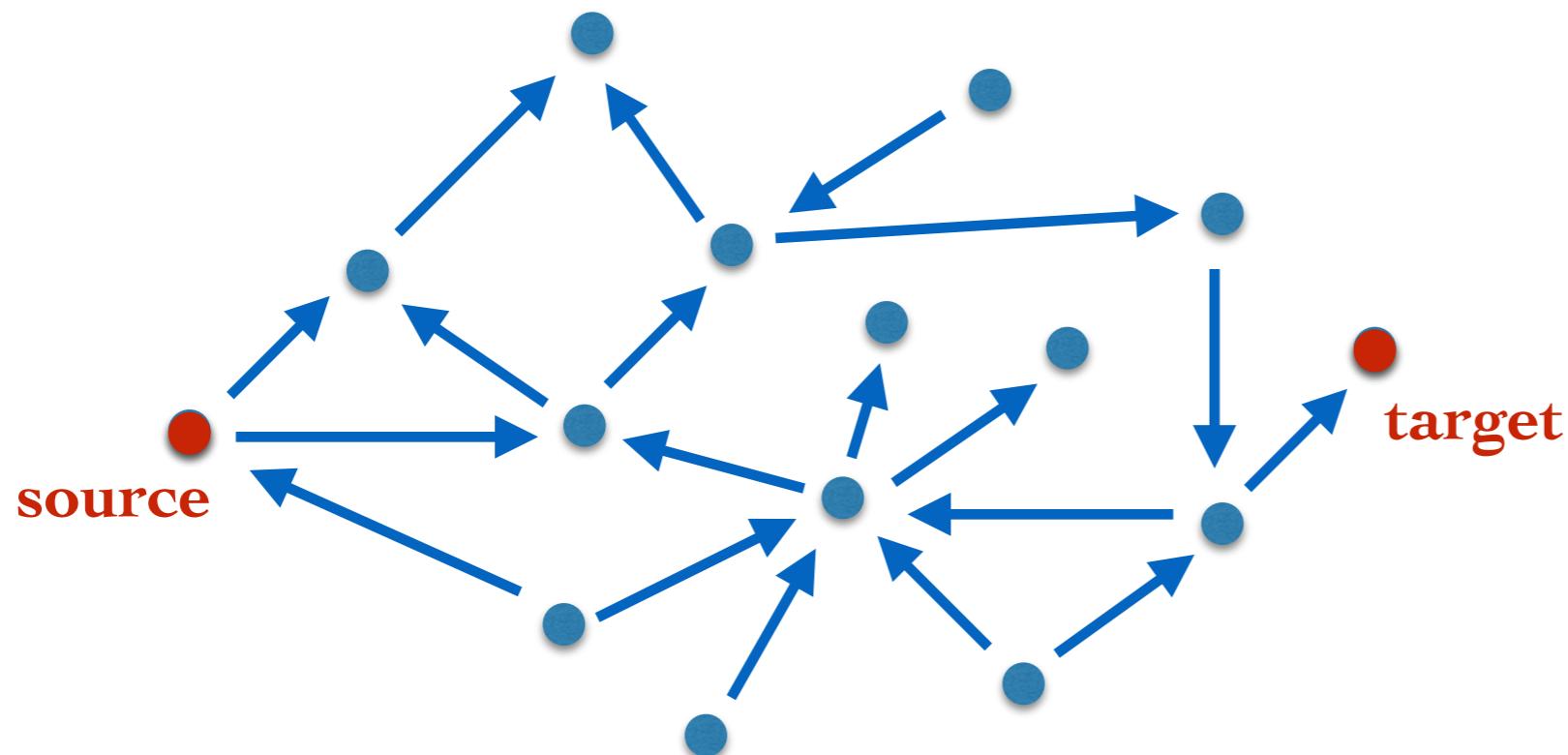
# Reachability problem in Petri nets

configuration graph: configurations and steps



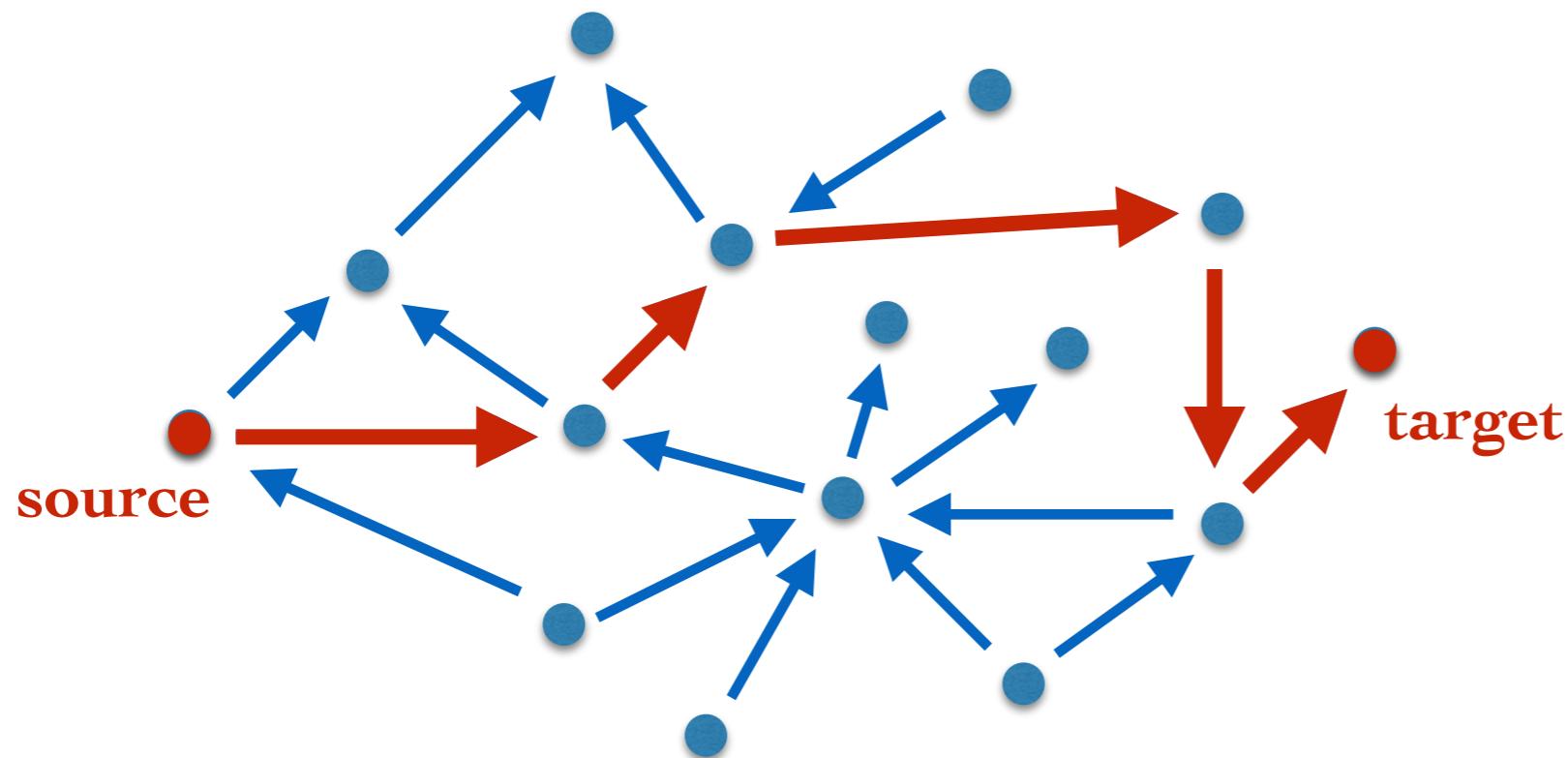
# Reachability problem in Petri nets

configuration graph: configurations and steps



# Reachability problem in Petri nets

# configuration graph: configurations and steps

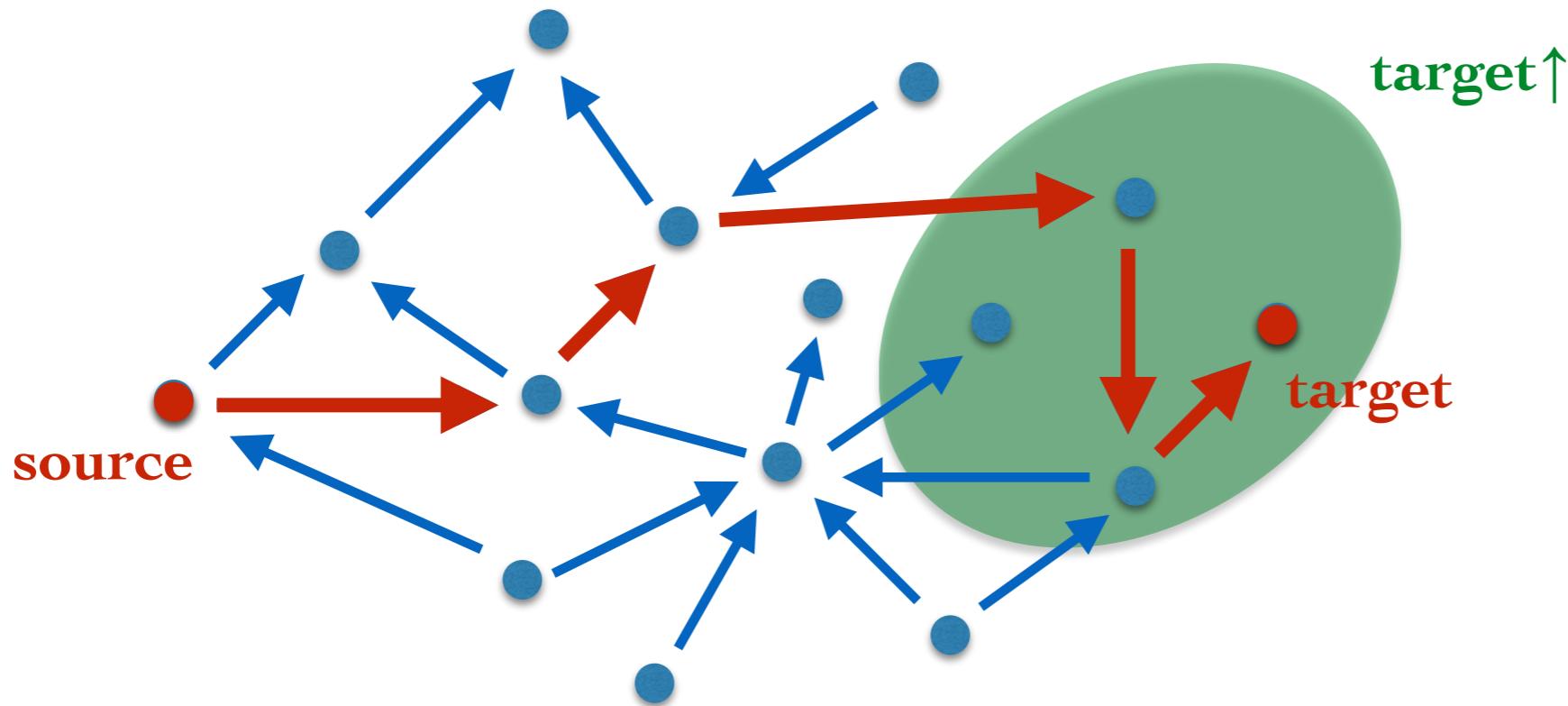


Reachability: is there a path (**run**) from source to target ?

# ~~Reachability~~ problem in Petri nets

## Coverability

configuration graph: configurations and steps



Reachability: is there a path (run) from source to target ?

Coverability: is there a path (run) from source to target↑ ?

# Why is it important?

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- core verification problem

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- core verification problem
- equivalent to many other problems in
  - concurrency,
  - process algebra,
  - logic,
  - automata theory,
  - language theory,
  - linear algebra,
  - ...

1969 — decidability of coverability [Karp, Miller]

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

2020

1969 — decidability of coverability [Karp, Miller]

1970

1976 — EXPSPACE lower bound for coverability [Lipton]

1980

1990

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1969 — decidability of coverability [Karp, Miller]

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1976 — EXPSPACE lower bound for coverability [Lipton]

1978 — EXPSPACE algorithm for coverability [Rackoff]

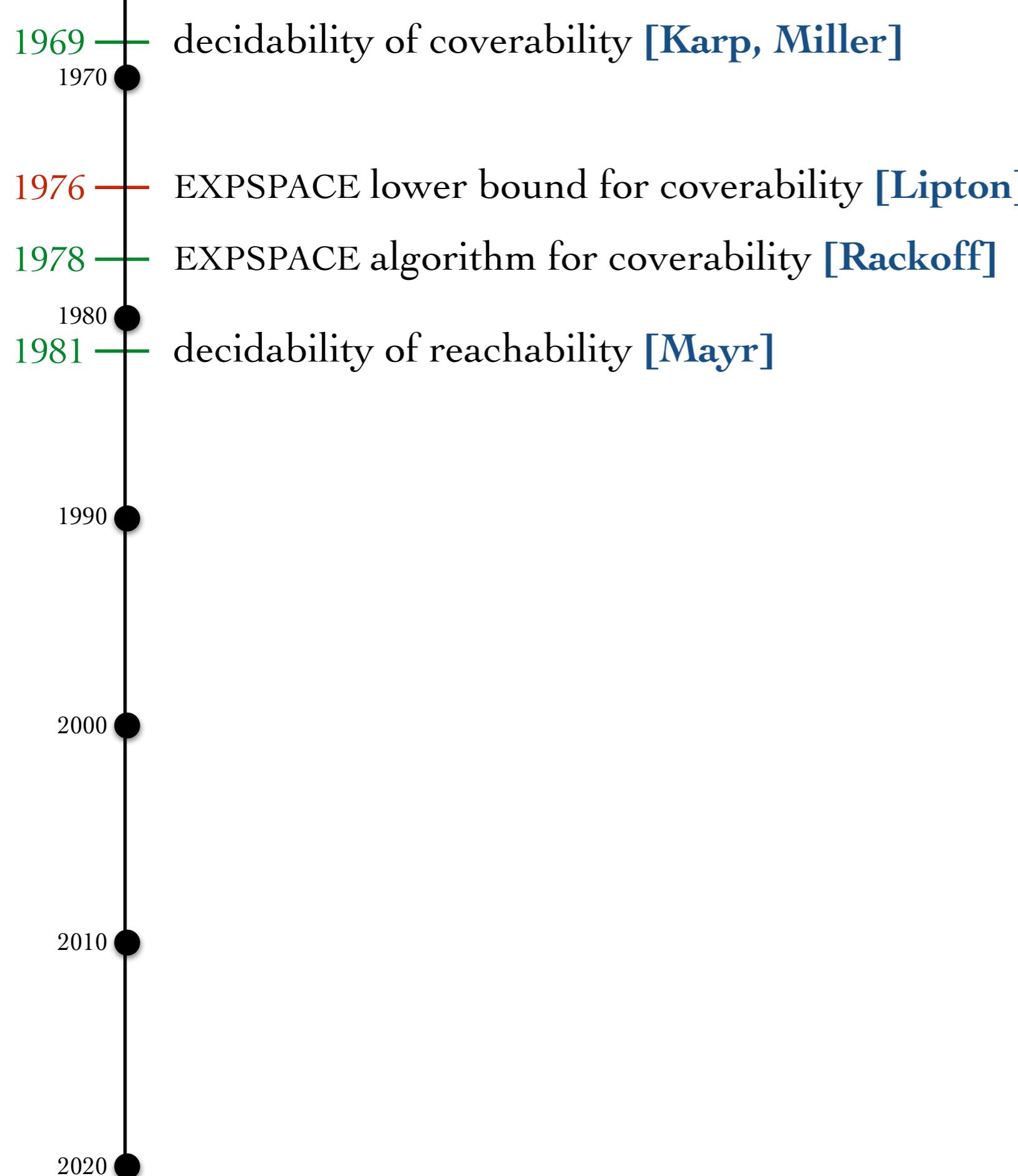
1980

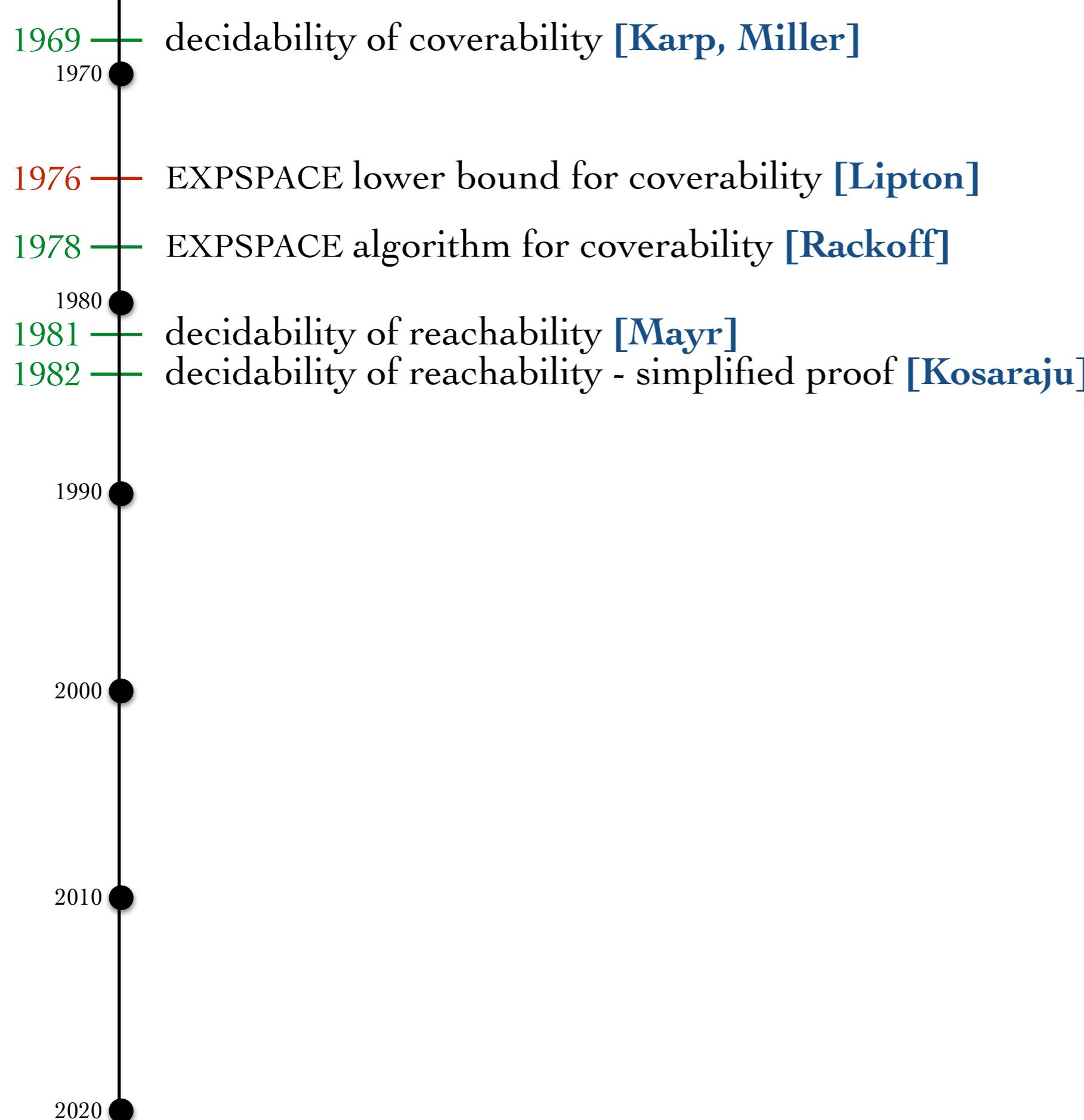
1990

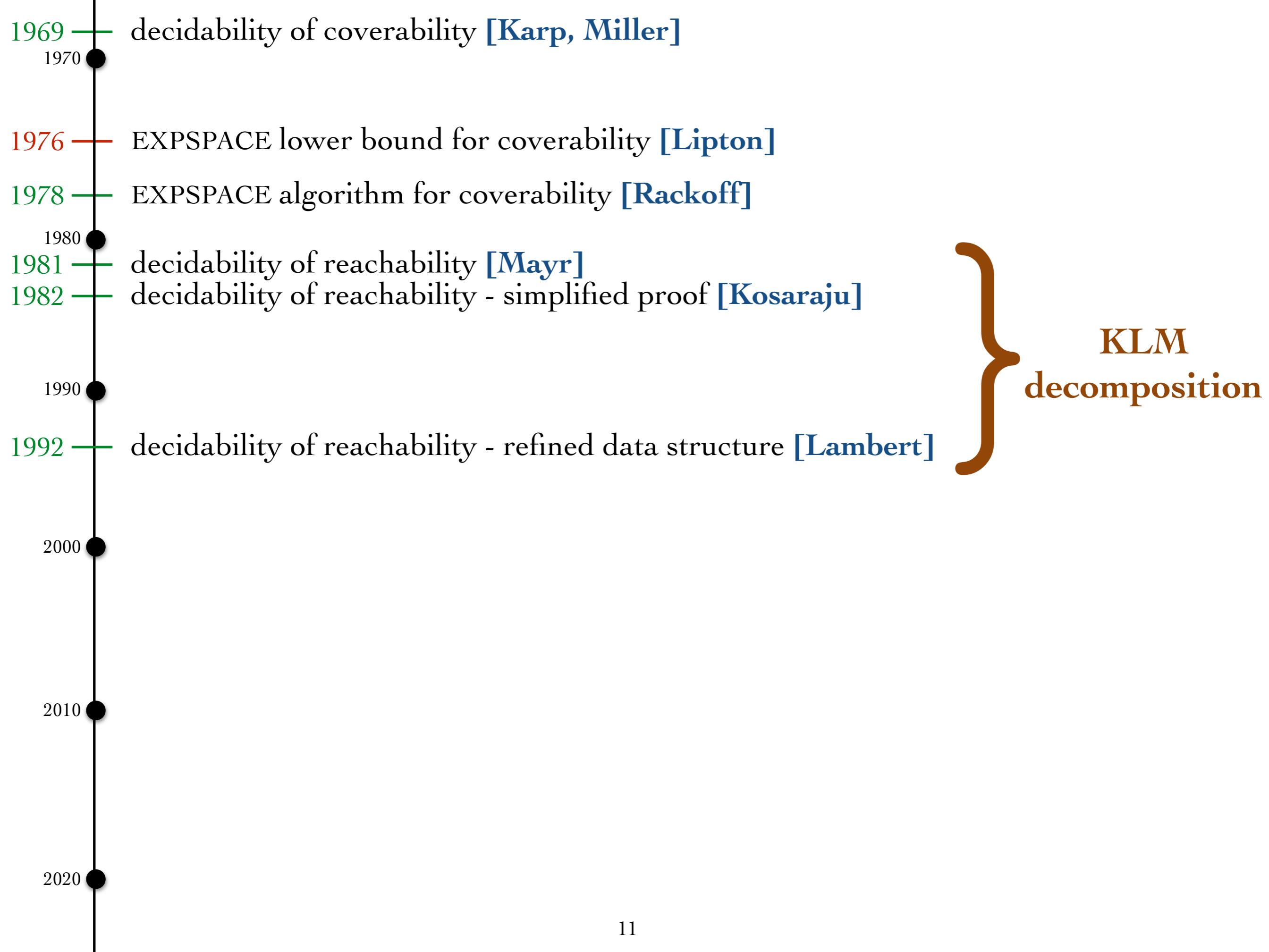
2000

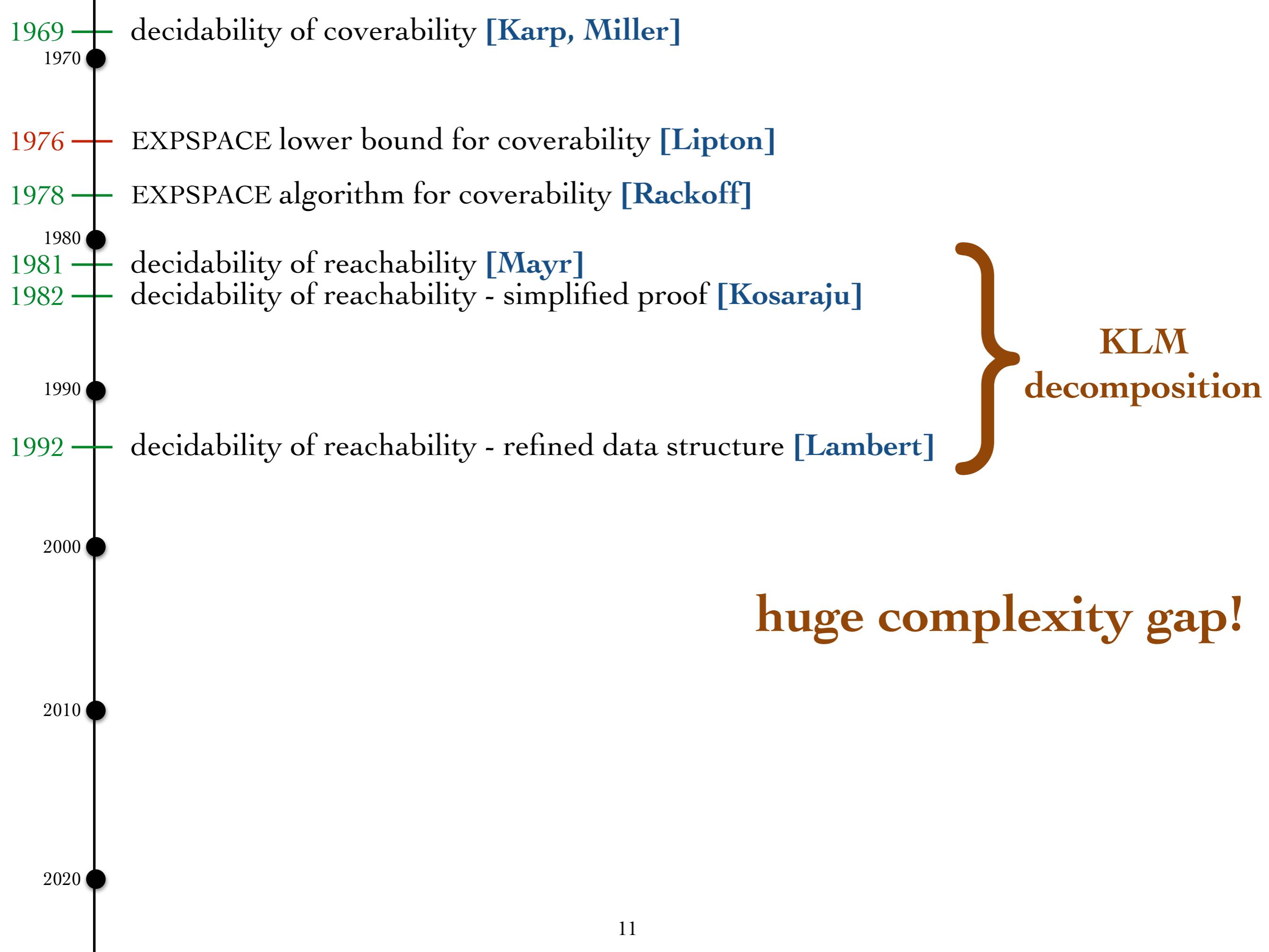
2010

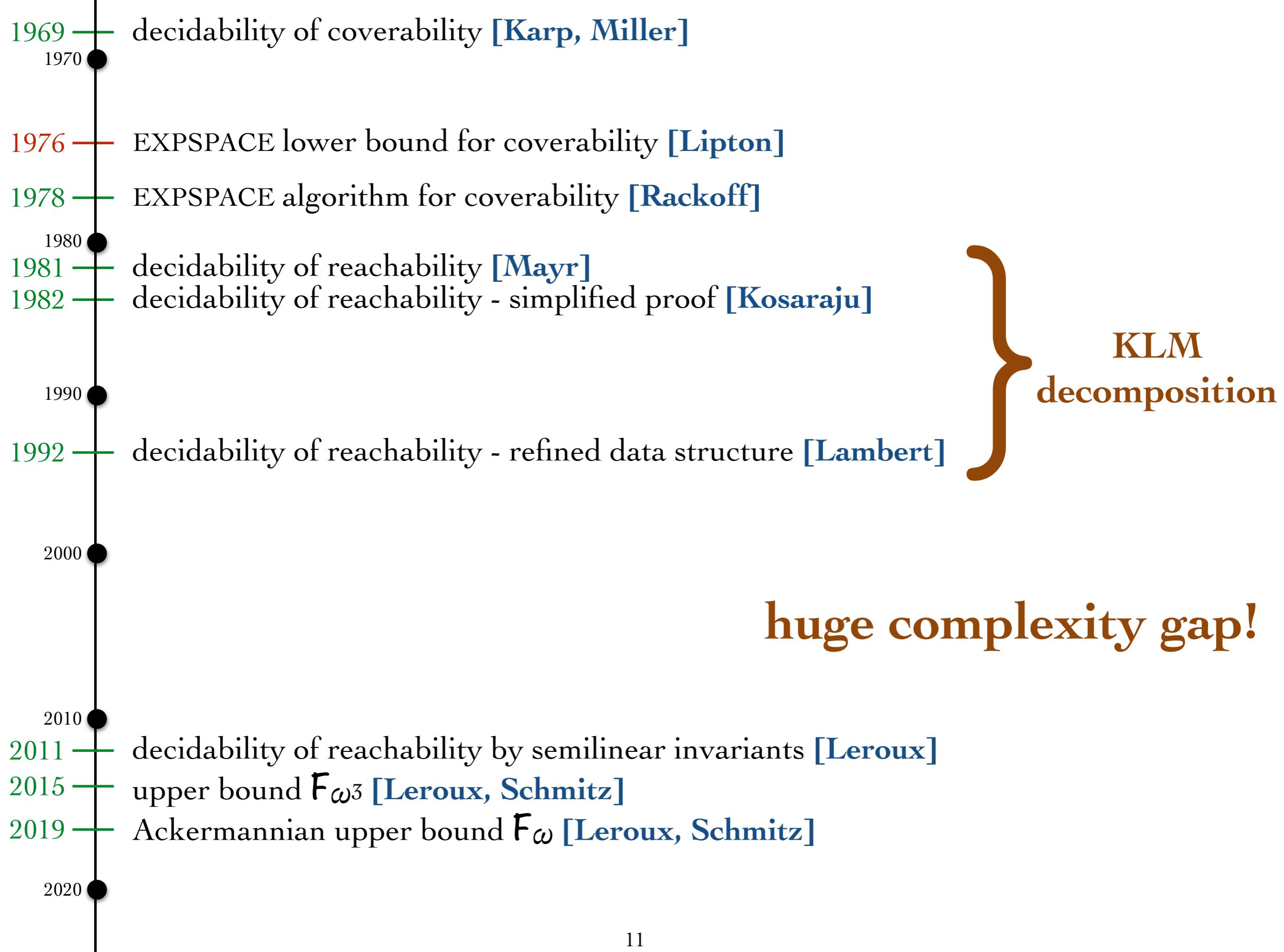
2020











2019

Ackermann upper bound  $F_\omega$  [Leroux, Schmitz]

2020

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2019 — TOWER lower bound  $F_3$  [Czerwiński, L., Lazic, Leroux, Mazowiecki]

2020

$$2^{2^2 \cdots^2} \}^n$$

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2020

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2021 — super-TOWER lower bound [Czerwiński, L., Orlikowski]

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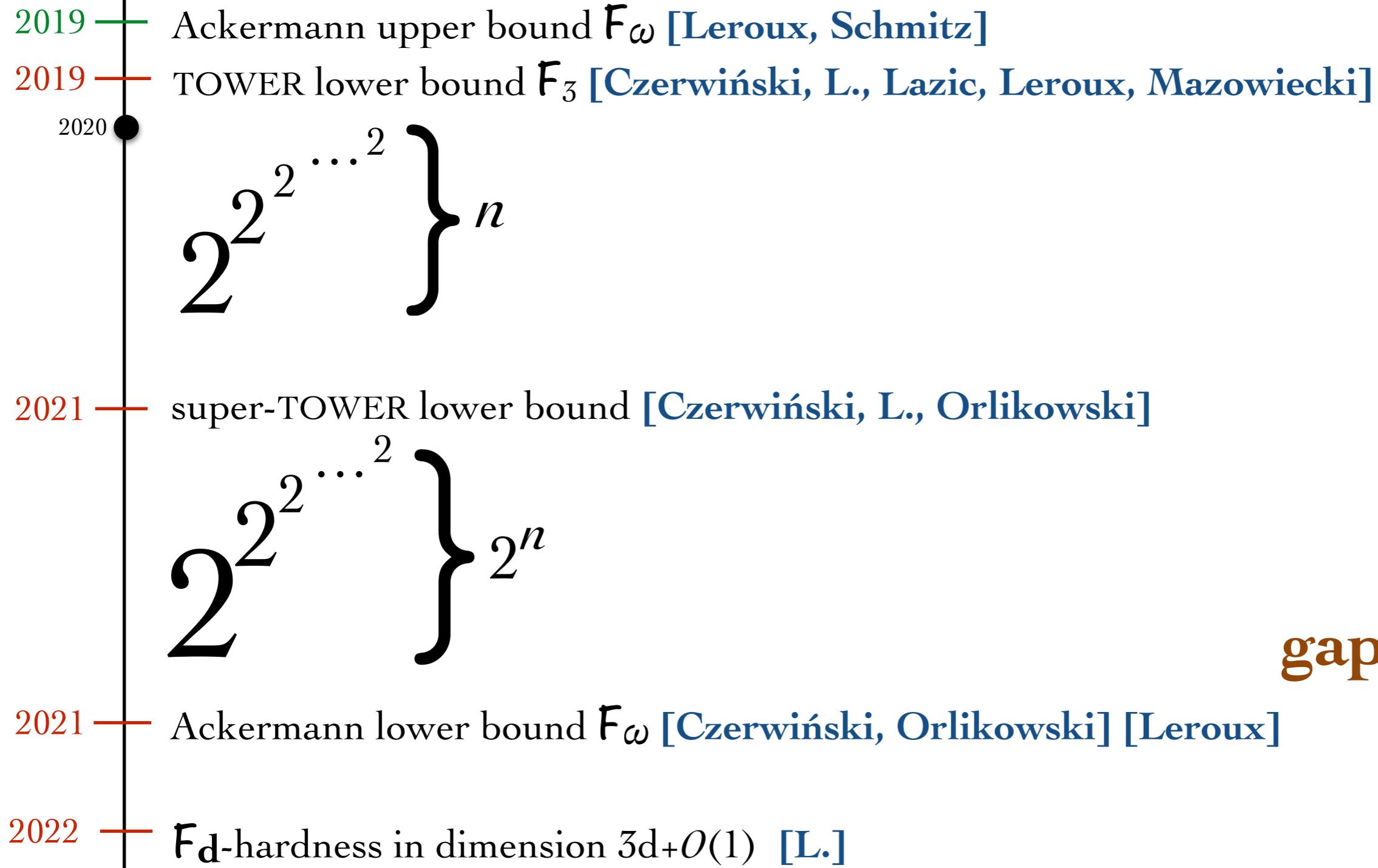
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gap closed!

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- 2022 —  $F_d$ -hardness in dimension  $3d+O(1)$  [L.]

- 2023 —  $F_d$ -hardness in dimension  $2d+O(1)$  [Czerwiński, Jecker, L., Leroux, Orlikowski]

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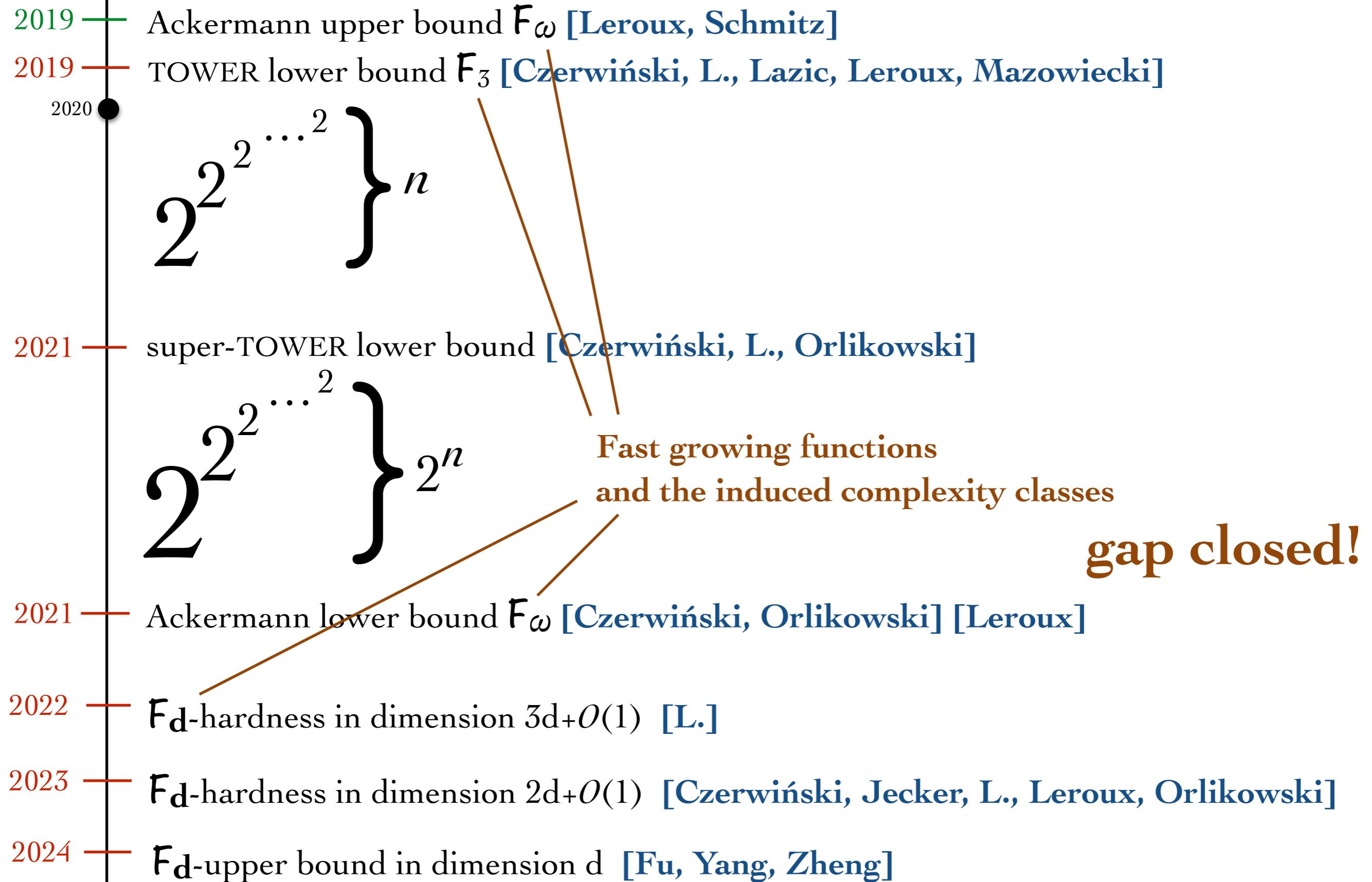
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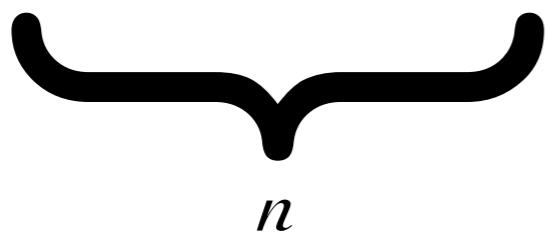
- 2024 —  $\mathsf{F}_d$ -upper bound in dimension  $d$  [Fu, Yang, Zheng]



# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

$$A_I(n) = 2n$$

$$A_{i+1}(n) = A_i \circ A_i \circ \dots \circ A_i(1) = A_i^n(1)$$



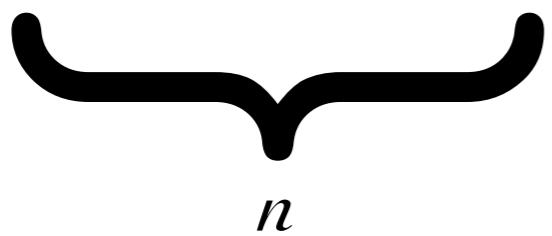
$n$

# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

$$A_1(n) = 2n$$

$$A_2(n) = 2^n$$

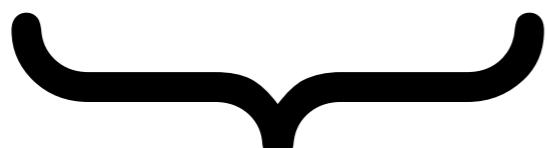
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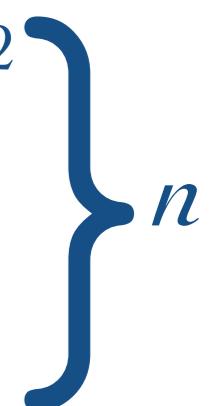
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 $n$

$$A_2(n) = 2^n$$

$$A_3(n) = \text{tower}(n)$$

$$= 2^{2^{2^{\dots^2}}}$$



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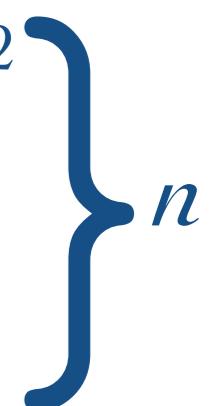
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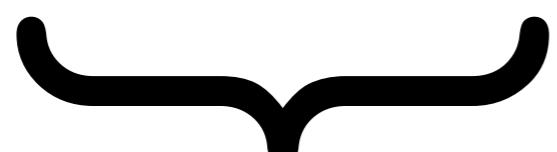


$$A_4(n) =$$

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$$A_4(4) =$$

2

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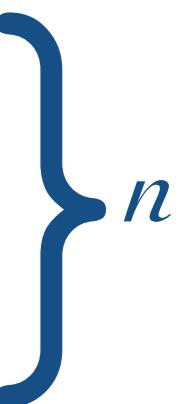
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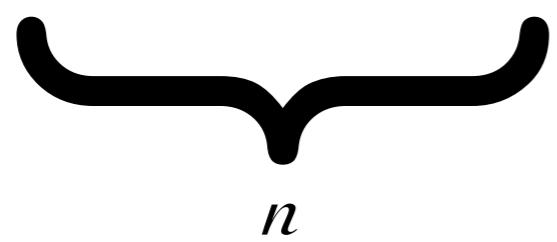
$$A_4(4) =$$

$$2^{2^{2^2}}$$

# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

$$A_1(n) = 2n$$

$$A_{i+1}(n) = A_i \circ A_i \circ \dots \circ A_i(1) = A_i^n(1)$$

  $n$

$$A_2(n) = 2^n$$

$$A_3(n) = \text{tower}(n)$$

$$= 2^{2^{2^{\dots^{2}}}} \Big\}^n$$

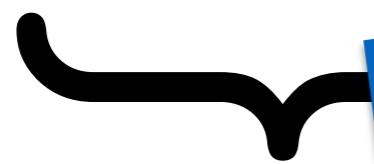
$$A_4(4) = 2^{2^{2^{\dots^{2}}}}$$

# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

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$$A_4(4) = 2^{2^{2^{2^4}}}$$

$$A_2(n) = 2^n$$

Physics

Mathematics

Biology

Computer Science

Topics

Archive



Quanta magazine

COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY

## An Easy-Sounding Problem Yields Numbers Too Big for Our Universe

6 | ■

Researchers prove that navigating certain systems of vectors is among the most complex computational problems.



# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

$$A_1(n) = 2n$$

$$A_{i+1}(n) = A_i \circ A_i \circ \dots \circ A_i(1) = A_i^n(1)$$

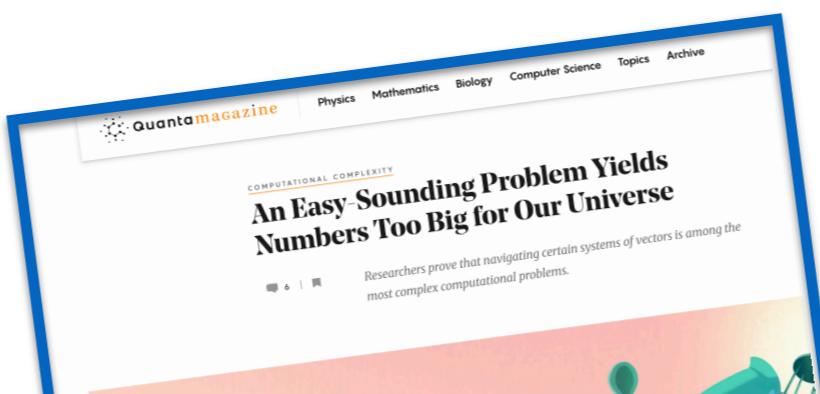
$n$

$$A_2(n) = 2^n$$

$$A_3(n) = \text{tower}(n)$$

$$= 2^{2^{2^{\dots^2}}}$$

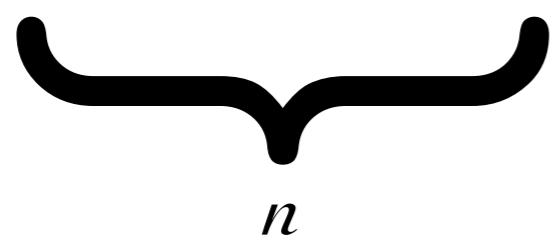
$$A_4(n) = \dots$$



# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

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$$A_{i+1}(n) = A_i \circ A_i \circ \dots \circ A_i(1) = A_i^n(1)$$

  
 $n$

$$A_\omega(n) = A_n(n) \quad \text{Ackermann function}$$

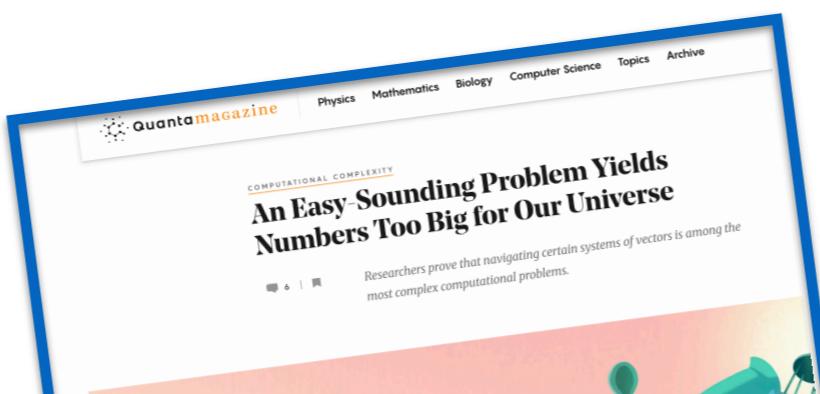
$$A_2(n) = 2^n$$

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$\brace{n}$

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# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

$$A_1(n) = 2n$$

$$A_{i+1}(n) = A_i \circ A_i \circ \dots \circ A_i(1) = A_i^n(1)$$

$\underbrace{\phantom{A_i \circ A_i \circ \dots \circ A_i(1)}}$   
 $n$

$$A_\omega(n) = A_n(n) \quad \text{Ackermann function}$$

$$A_2(n) = 2^n$$

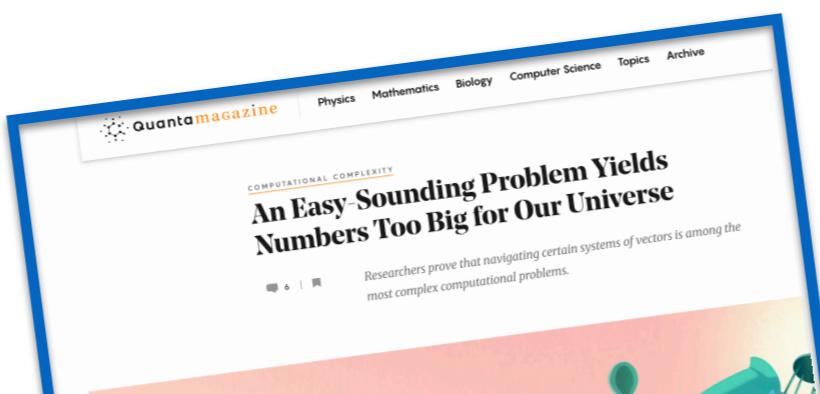
$$A_3(n) = \text{tower}(n)$$

$$= 2^{2^{2^{\dots^2}}} \Big\}^n$$

$$A_4(n) = \dots$$

$$\mathcal{F}_i = \bigcup \text{DTIME}(A_i \circ A_{j_1} \circ \dots \circ A_{j_m})$$

$$j_1 \dots j_m < i$$



# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

$$A_1(n) = 2n$$

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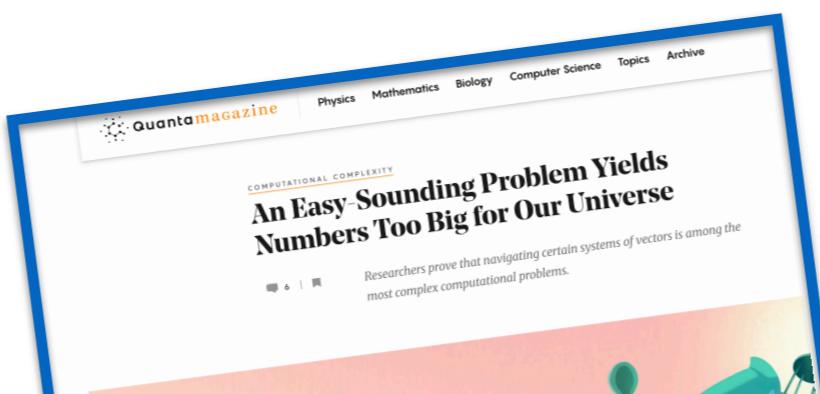
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$$A_4(n) = \dots$$

$$\mathcal{F}_i = \bigcup_{j_1 \dots j_m < i} \text{DTIME}(A_i \circ A_{j_1} \circ \dots \circ A_{j_m})$$



$$\mathcal{F}_2 = \text{DTIME}(2^{O(n)})$$

$$\mathcal{F}_3 = \text{TOWER}$$

...

$$\mathcal{F}_\omega = \text{ACKERMANN}$$

# Fast growing functions and the induced complexity classes

$$A_1(n) = 2n$$

$$A_{i+1}(n) = A_i \circ A_i \circ \dots \circ A_i(1) = A_i^n(1)$$

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$A_\omega(n) = A_n(n)$  Ackermann function

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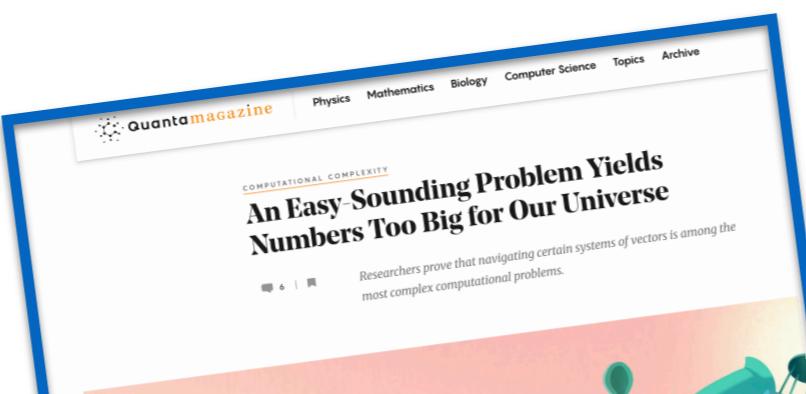
$$= 2^{2^{2^{\dots^2}}}$$

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$$A_4(n) = \dots$$

$$\mathcal{F}_i = \bigcup_{j_1 \dots j_m < i} \text{DTIME}(A_i \circ A_{j_1} \circ \dots \circ A_{j_m})$$

Hierarchy goes beyond  $\omega$  !



$$\mathcal{F}_2 = \text{DTIME}(2^{O(n)})$$

$$\mathcal{F}_3 = \text{TOWER}$$

...

$$\mathcal{F}_\omega = \text{ACKERMANN}$$

# Other decision problems

- boundedness
  - place boundedness
  - termination
  - (in)evitability
  - repeated coverability
- 
- deadlock-freedom
  - liveness
  - semilinearity
  - regular separability
- 
- regularity / context freeness
  - model-checking
  - equivalence checking

# Other decision problems

- boundedness
- place boundedness
- termination
- (in)evitability
- repeated coverability

**EXPSPACE-complete**

- deadlock-freedom
- liveness
- semilinearity
- regular separability

**Ackermann-hard**

- regularity / context freeness
- model-checking
- equivalence checking

**undecidable**

# Other decision problems

- boundedness
- place boundedness
- termination
- (in)variant checking
- repetition

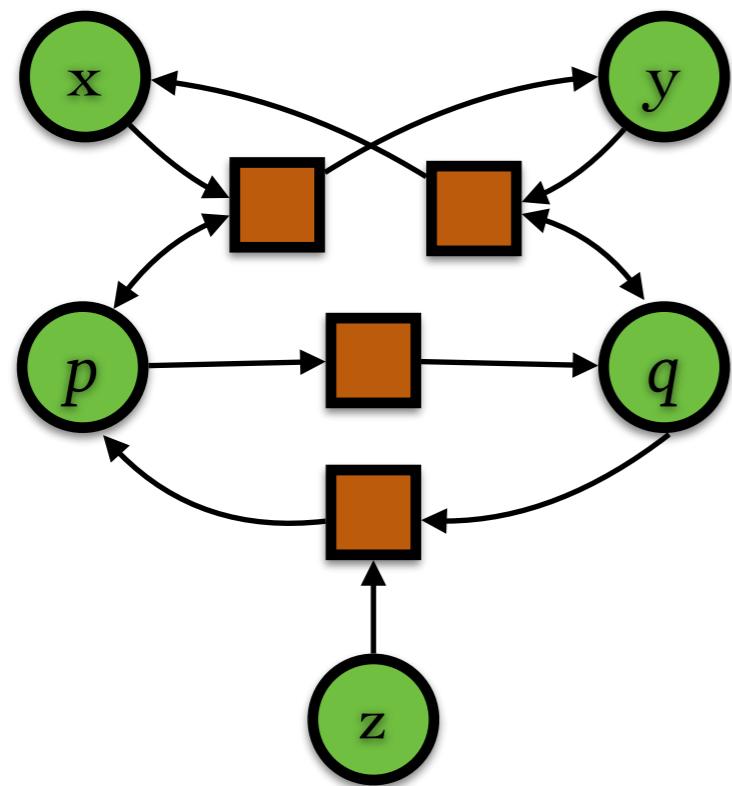
**reachability**  
and  
**coverability**  
only

- deadlock detection
- liveness analysis
- semilinear sets
- regular sets

- regularity / universality
- model-checking
- equivalence

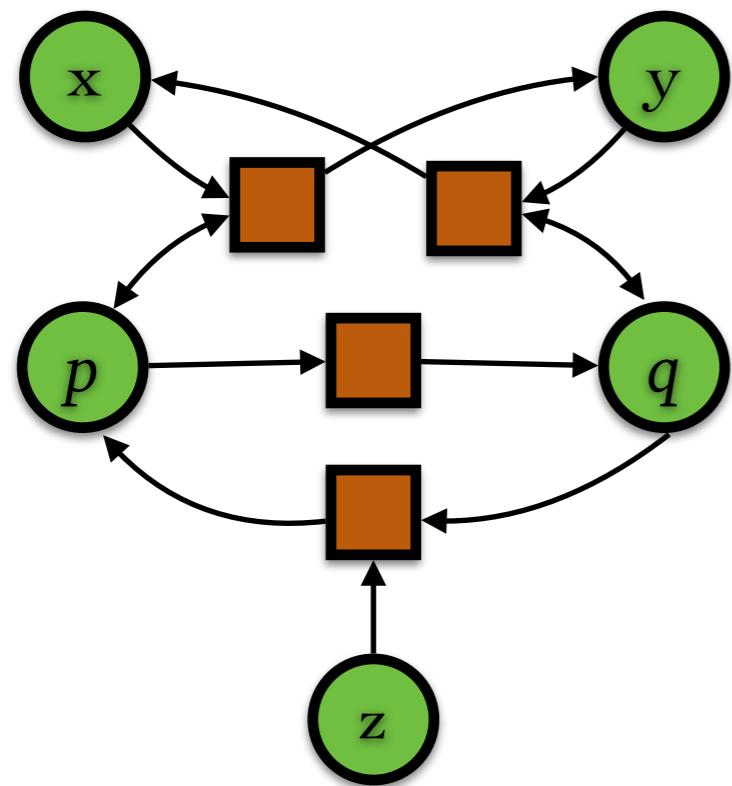
# Many faces of Petri nets

- Petri nets:

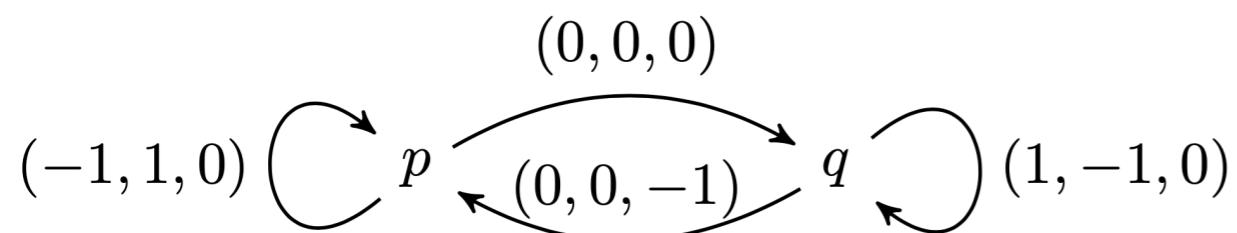


# Many faces of Petri nets

- Petri nets:

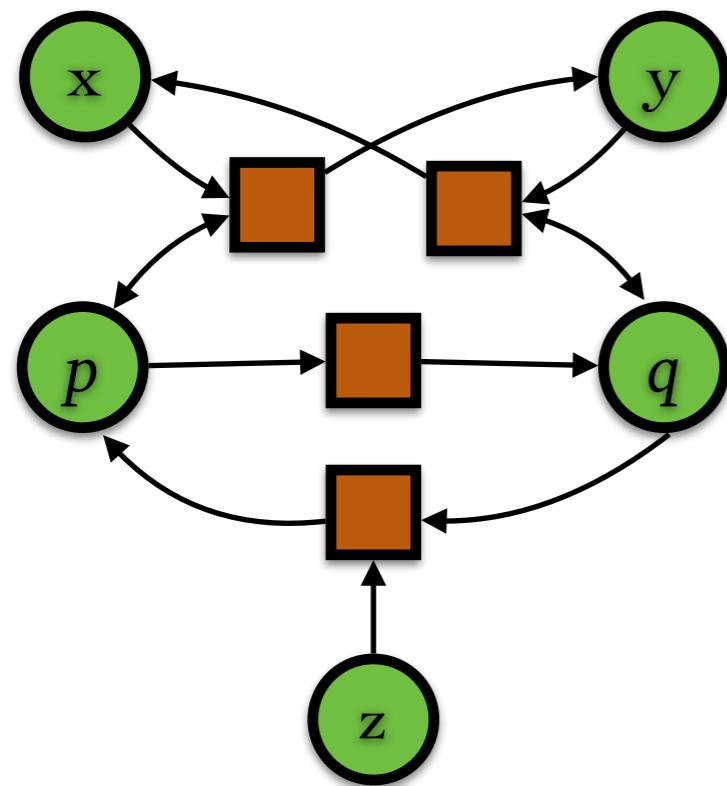


- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Many faces of Petri nets

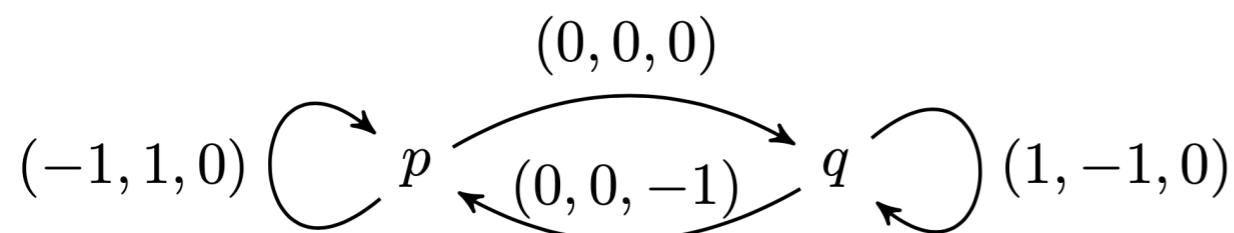
- Petri nets:



- counter programs without zero-tests:

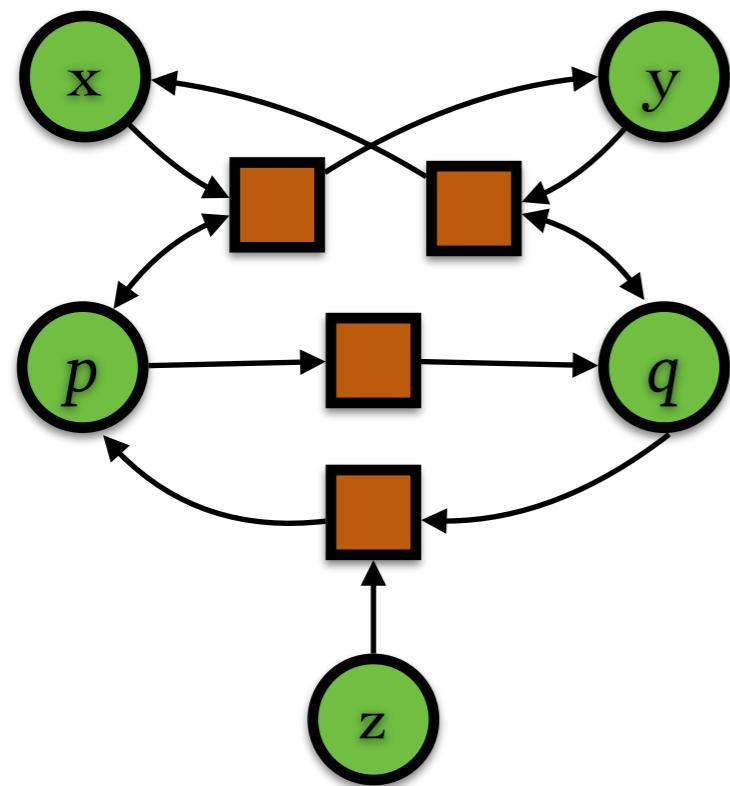
```
1: loop  
2:   loop  
3:     x -= 1    y += 1  
4:   loop  
5:     x += 1    y -= 1  
6:   z == 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Many faces of Petri nets

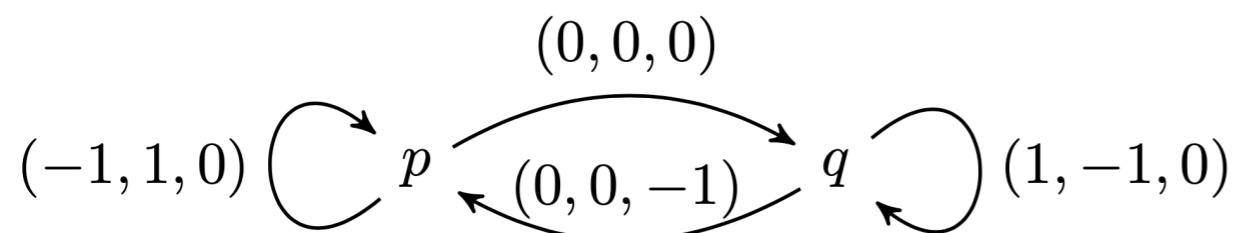
- Petri nets:



- counter programs without zero-tests:

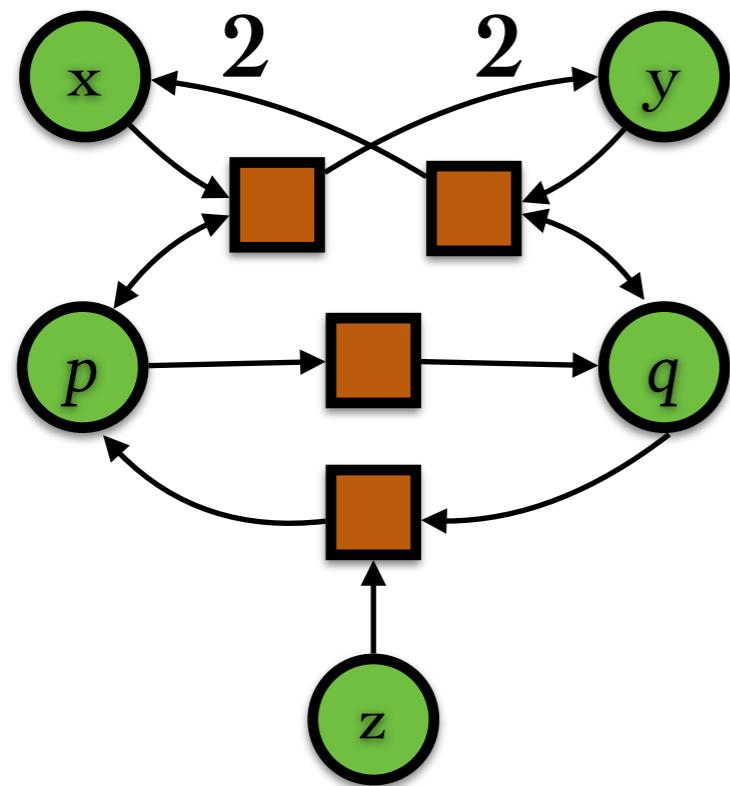
```
1: goto 2 or 10
2: goto 3 or 5
3: x -= 1    y += 1
4: goto 2
5: goto 6 or 8
6: x += 1    y -= 1
7: goto 5
8: z -= 1
9: goto 1
10: ...
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Many faces of Petri nets

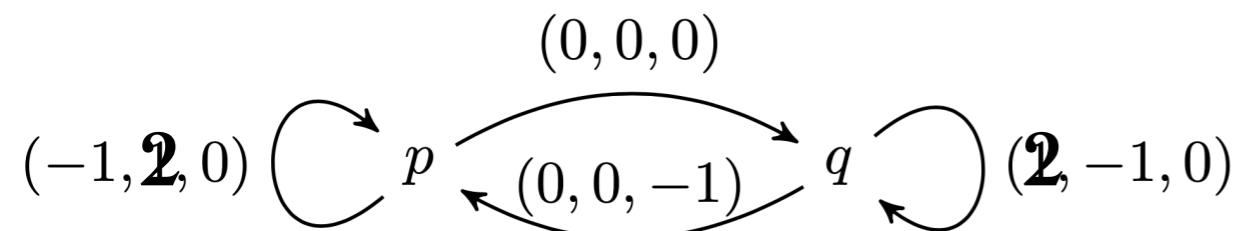
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- counter programs without zero-tests:

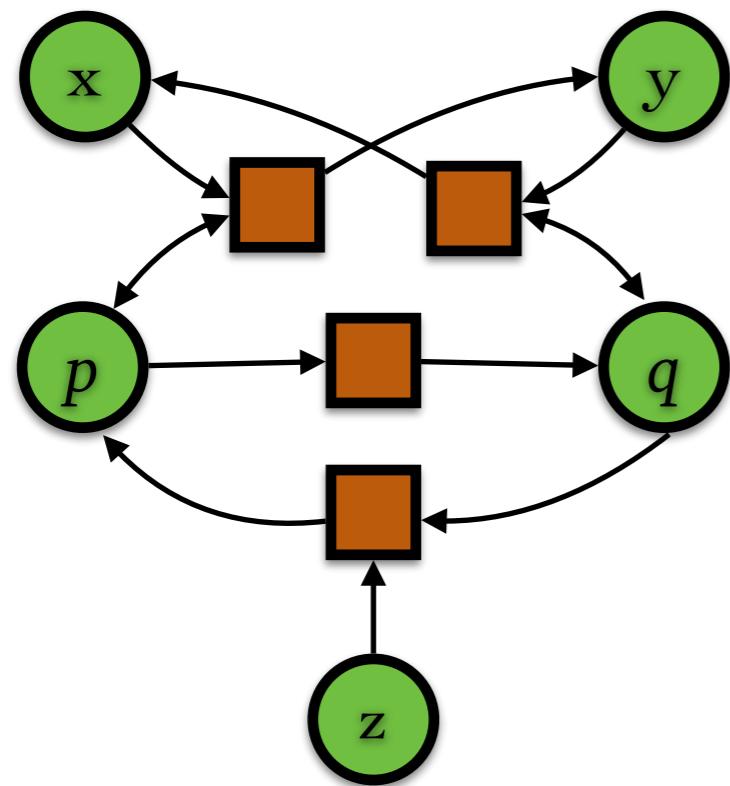
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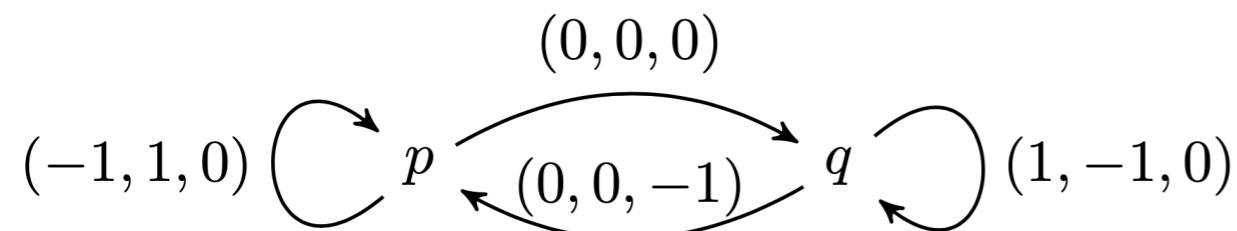


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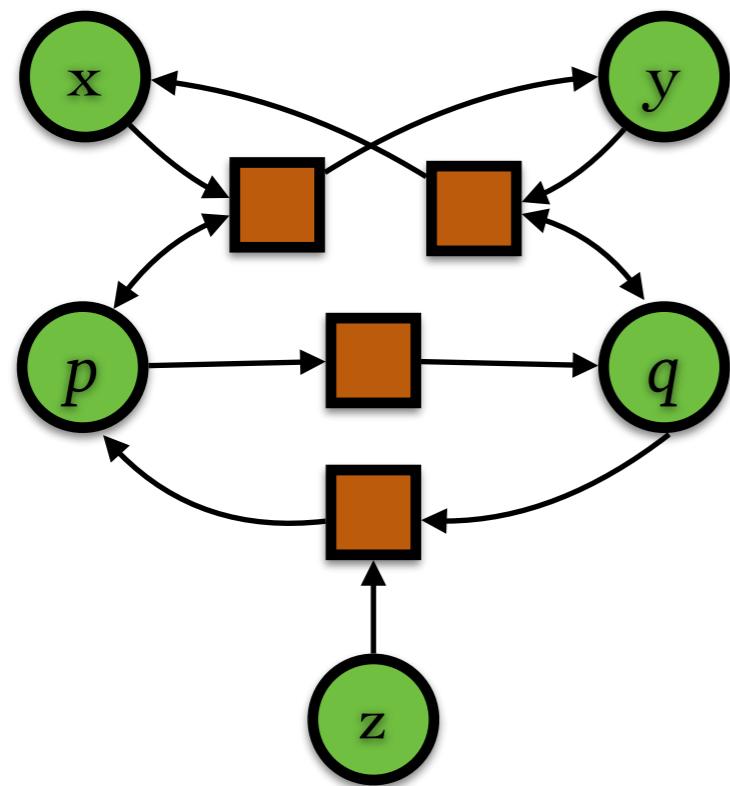
counter programs  
with zero-tests  
are Turing-complete

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Many faces of Petri nets

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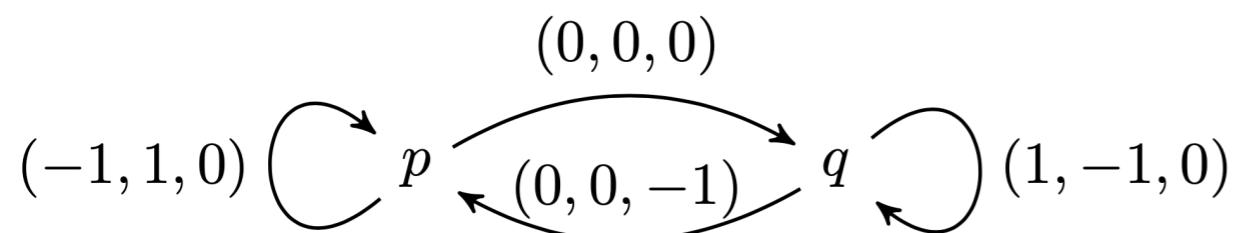
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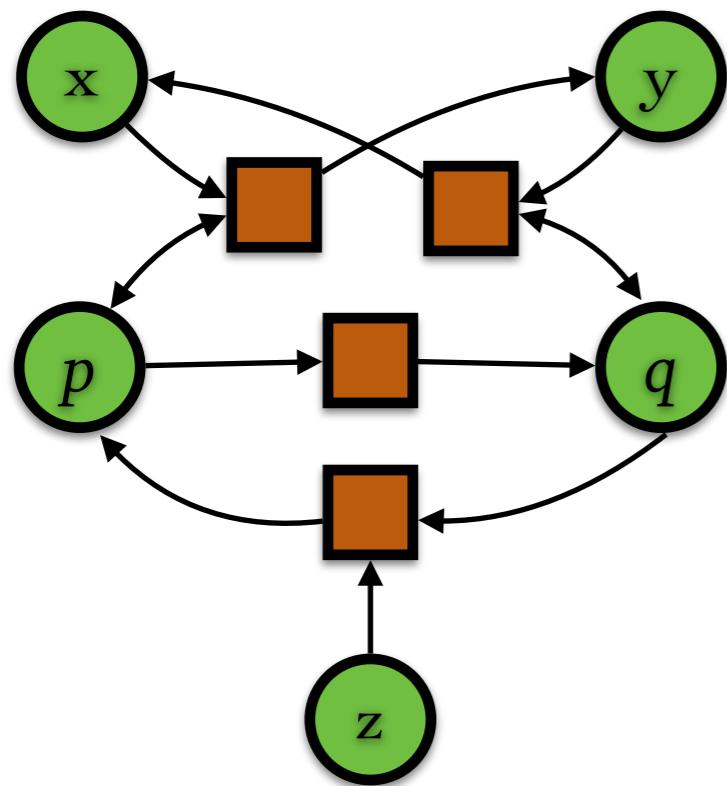
zero-test at the end only

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Many faces of Petri nets

- Petri nets:



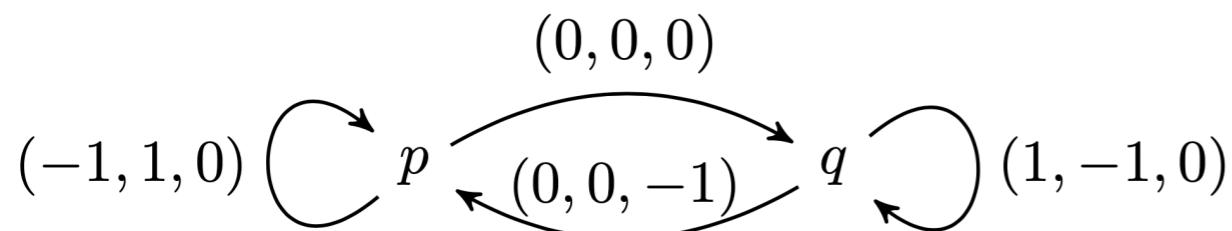
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```

counter programs  
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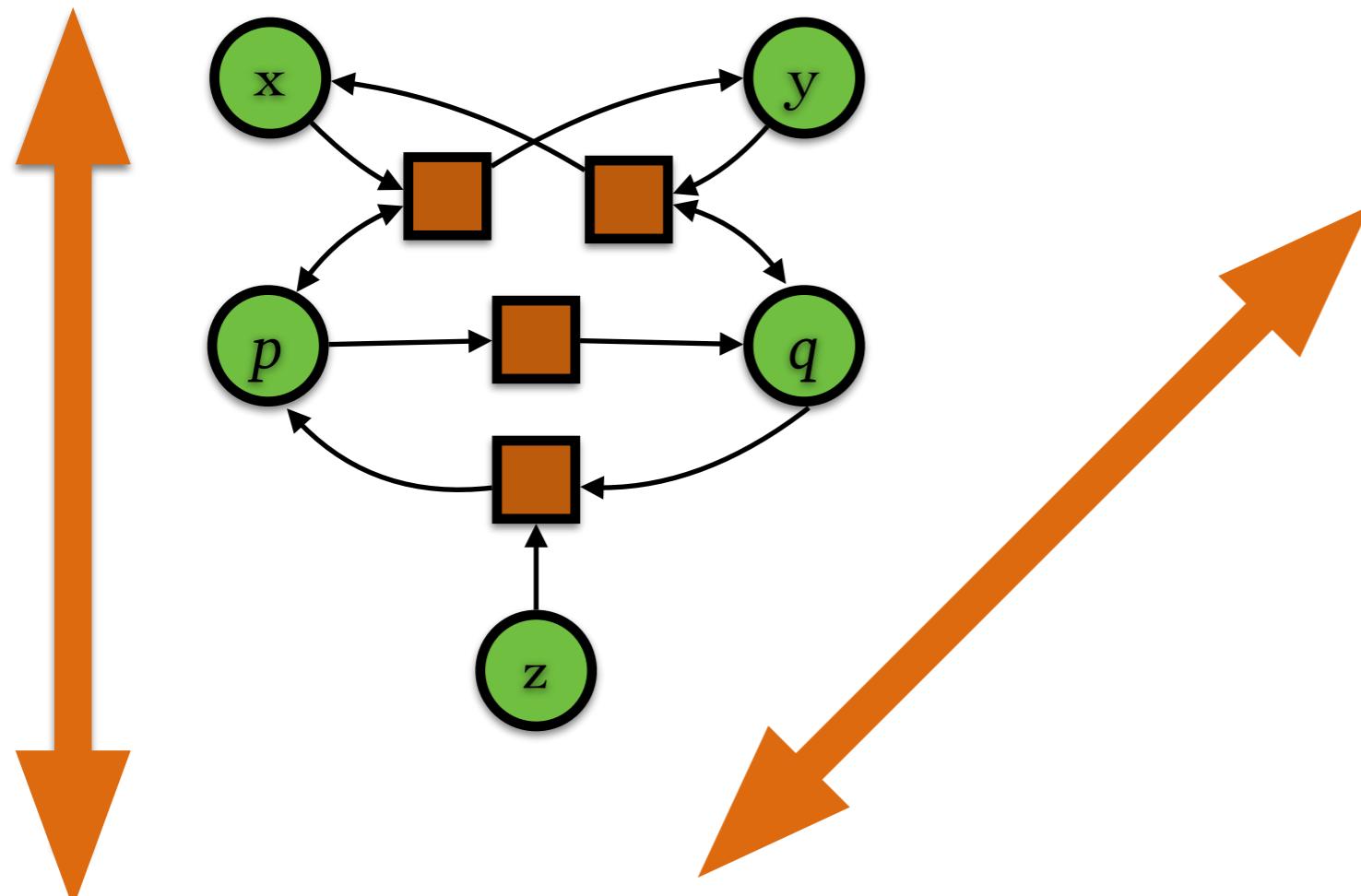
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



- vector addition systems
- counter automata without zero-tests
- ground multiset rewriting
- ...

# Many faces of Petri nets

- Petri nets:



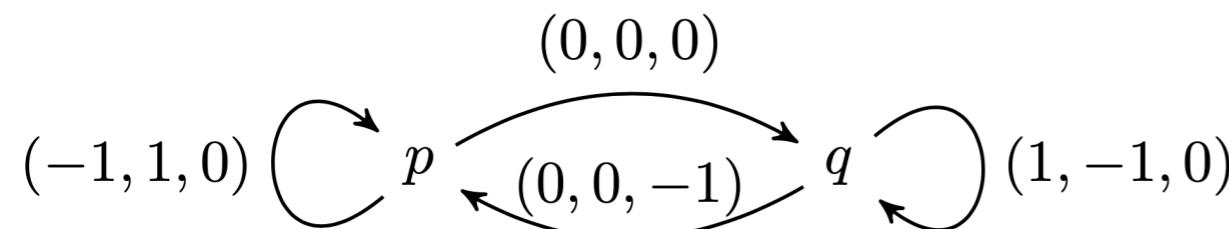
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counter programs  
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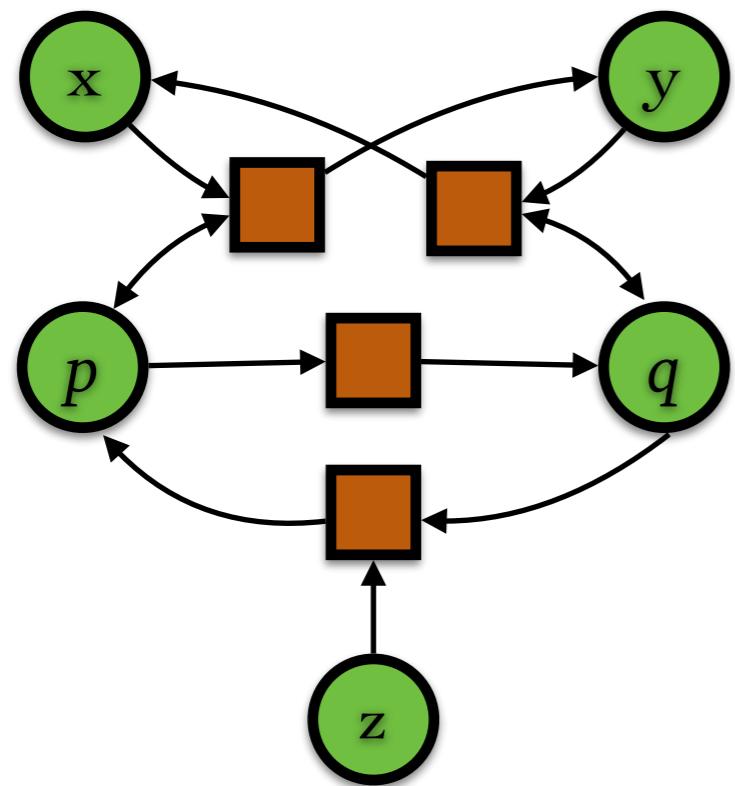
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



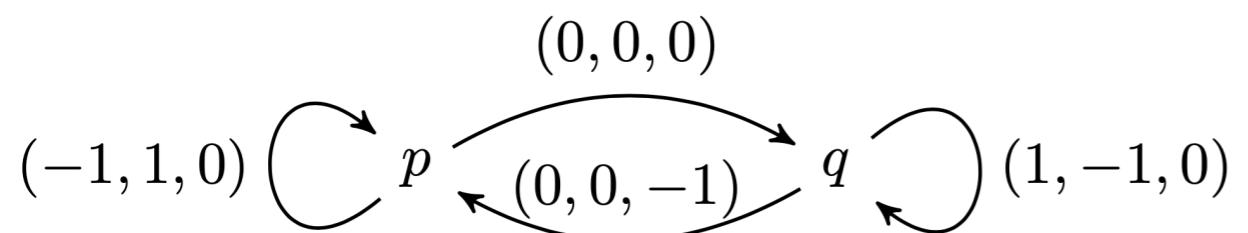
- vector addition systems
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# Petri nets $\iff$ VASS

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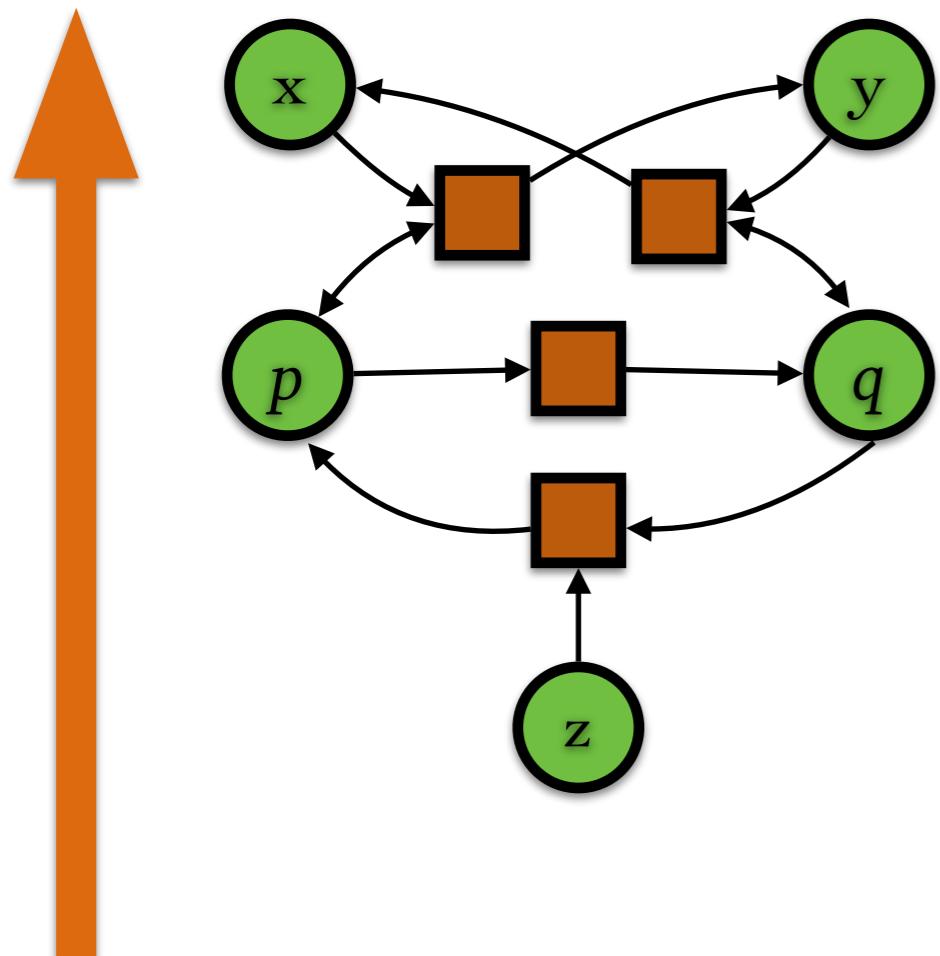


- vector addition systems with states (VASS):

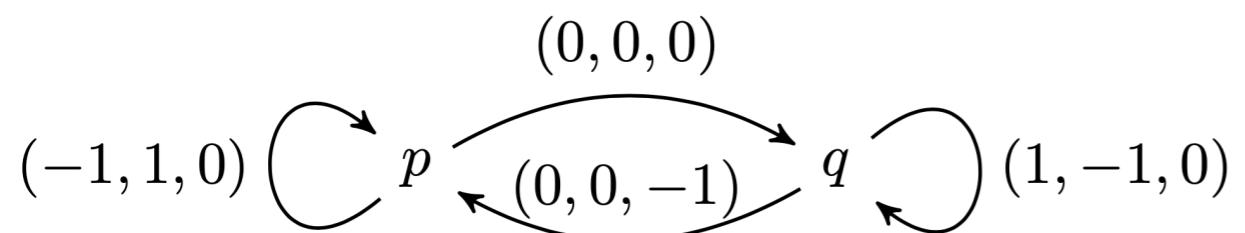


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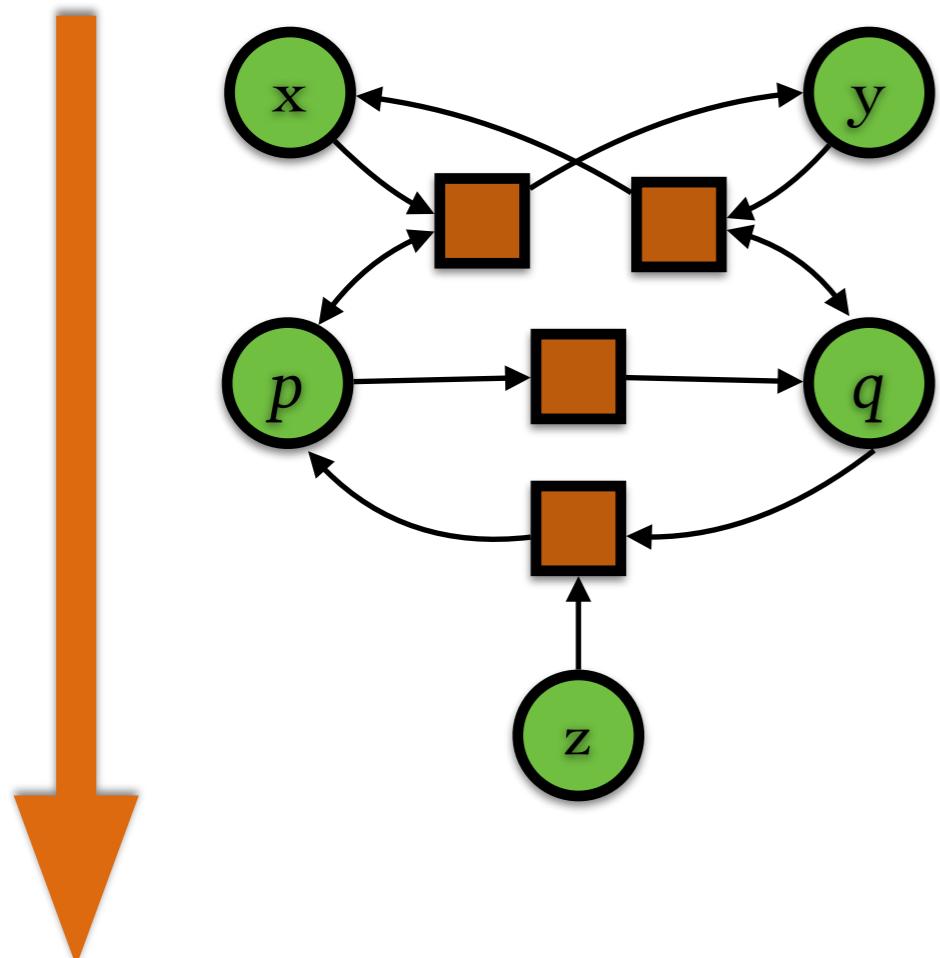


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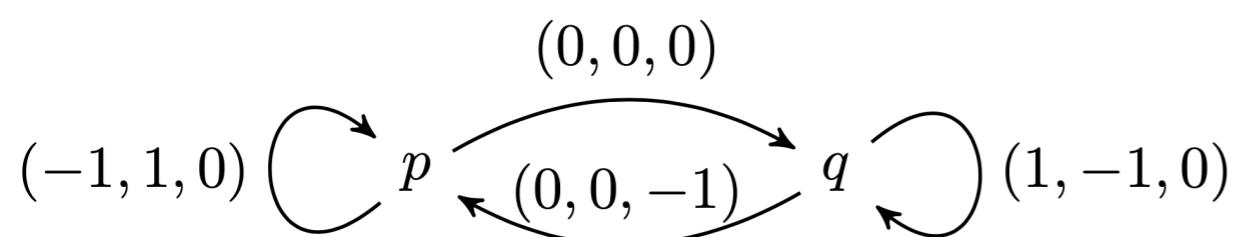


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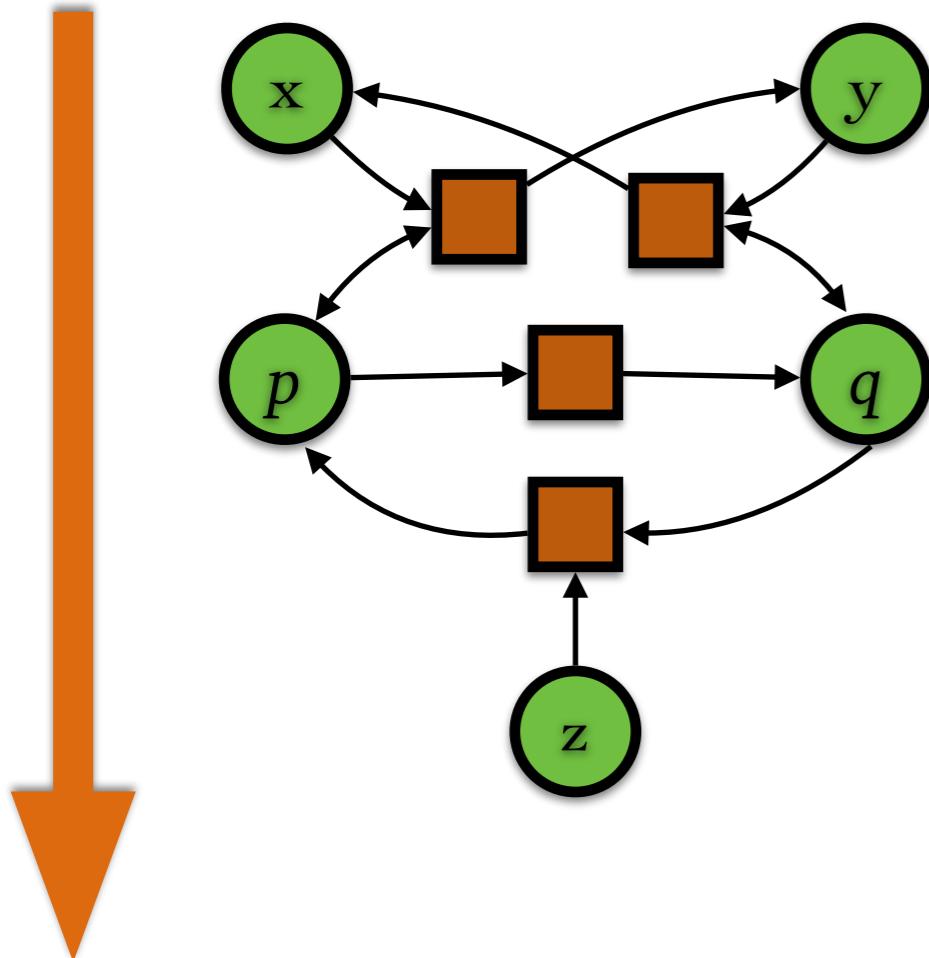


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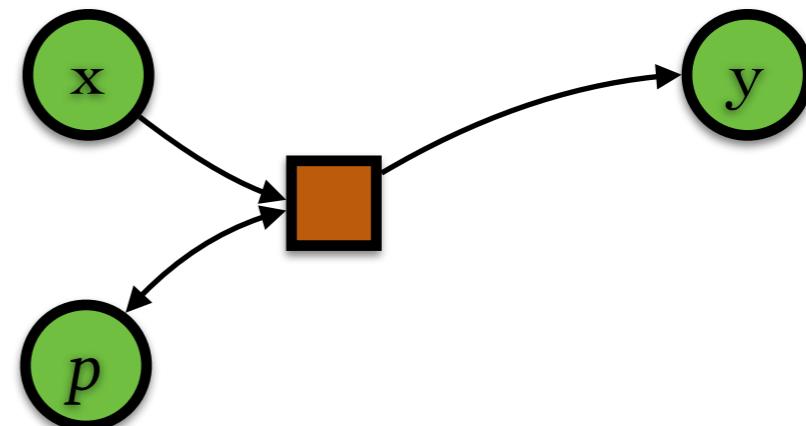


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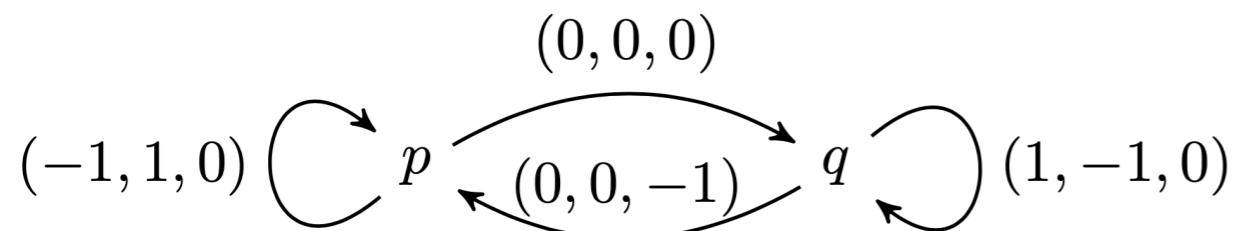


split every transition



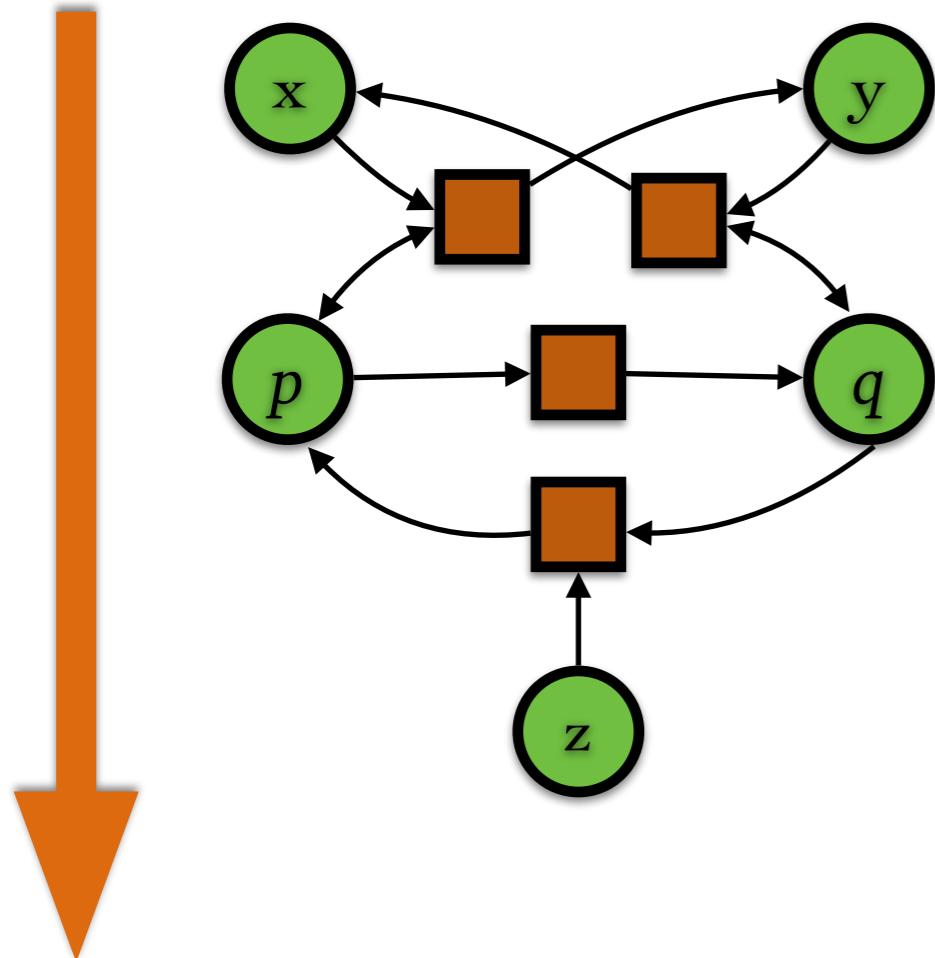
into input and output:

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):

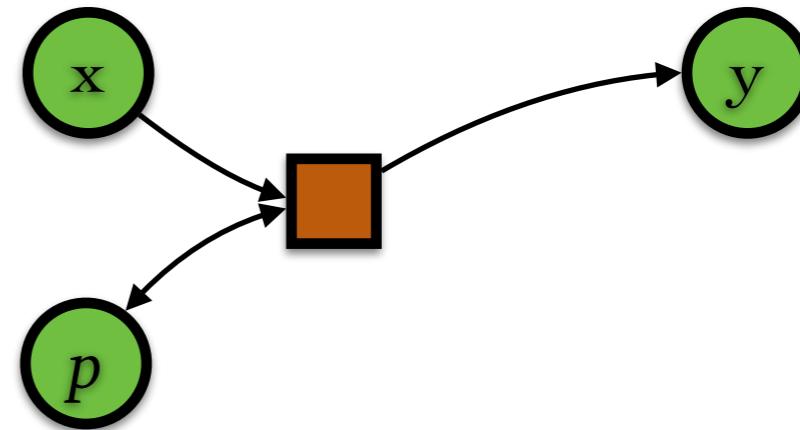


# Petri nets $\iff$ VASS

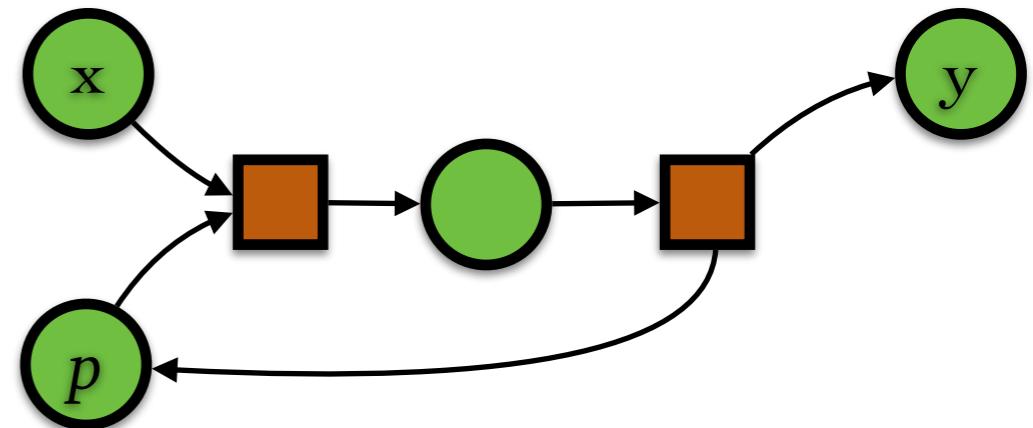
- Petri nets:



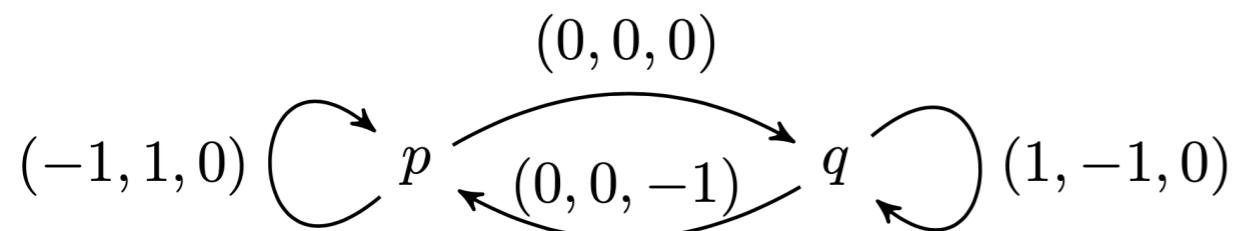
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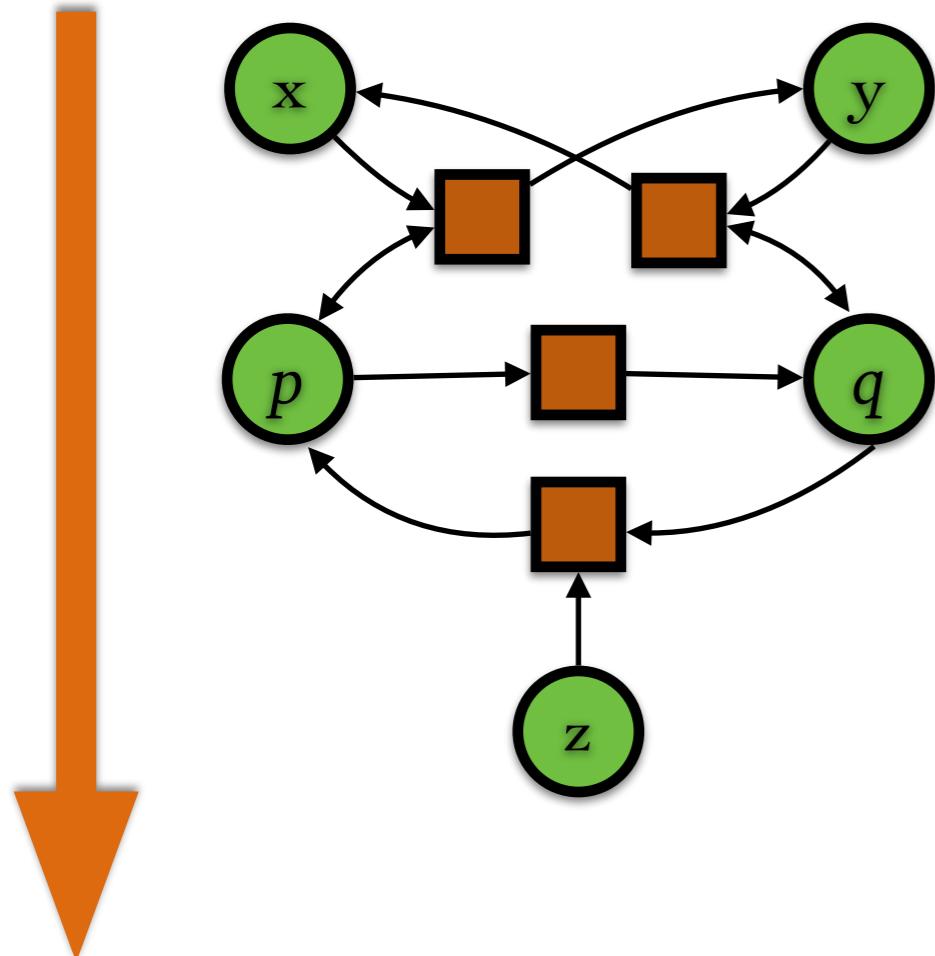


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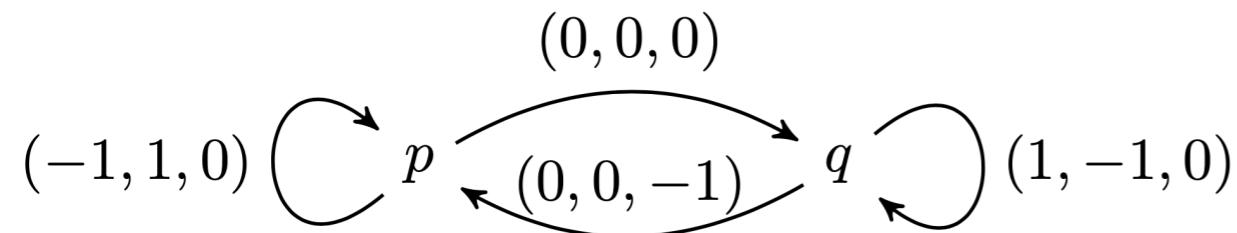


# Petri nets $\iff$ VASS

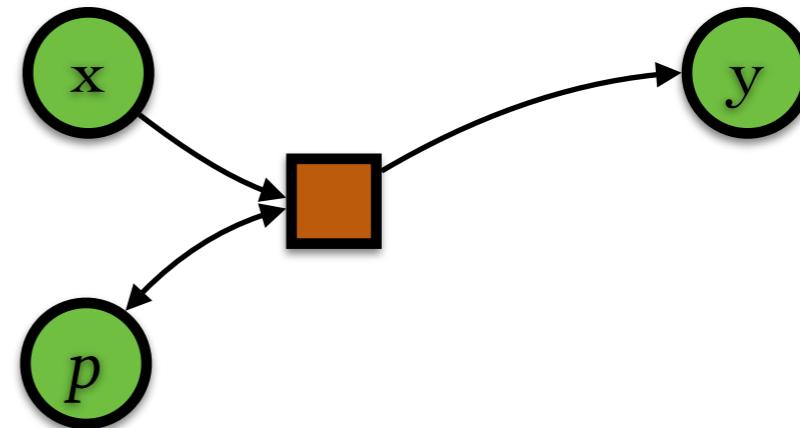
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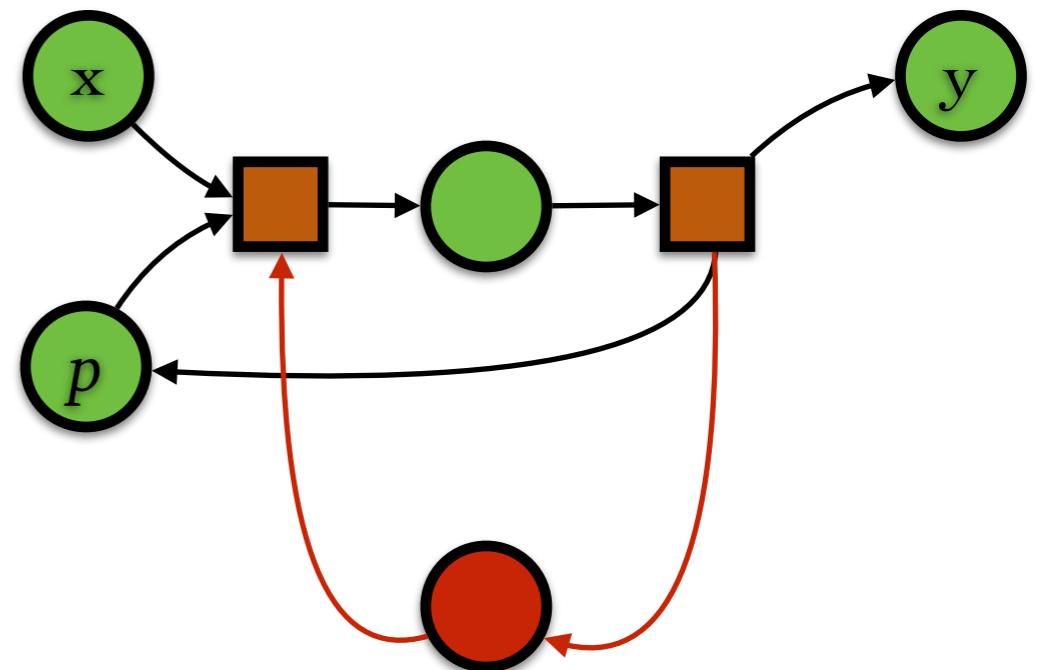
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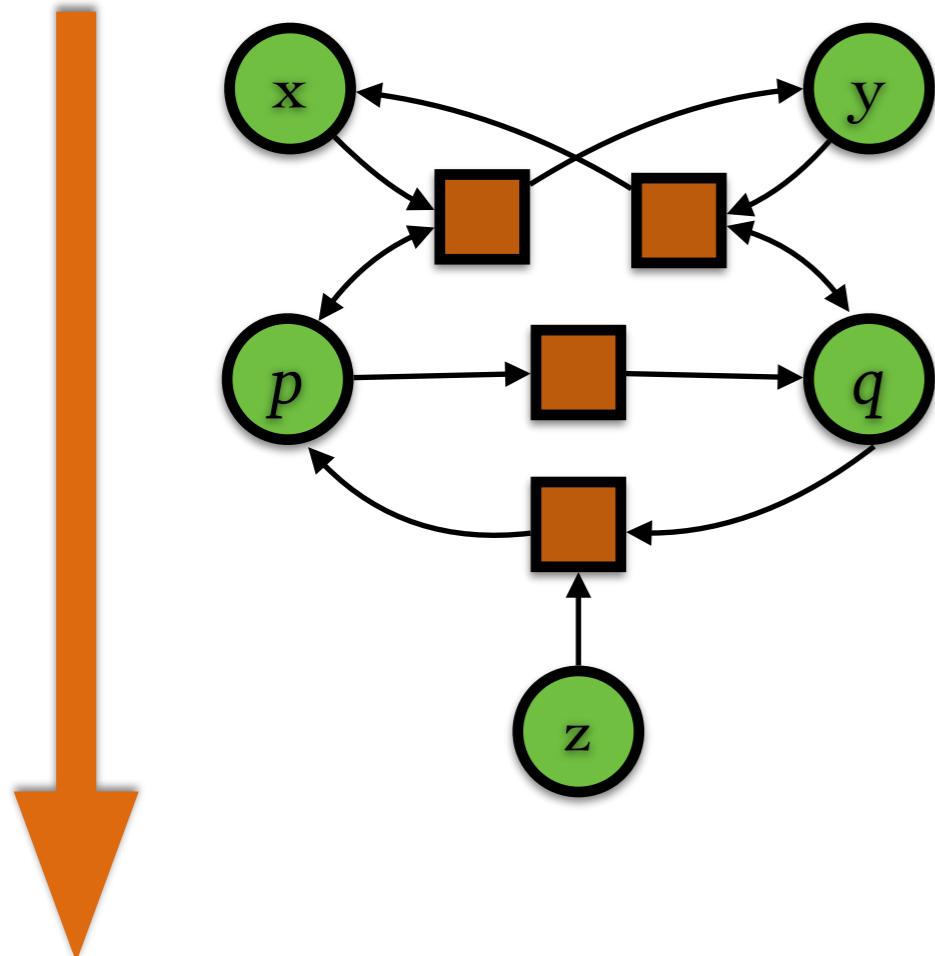
into input and output:



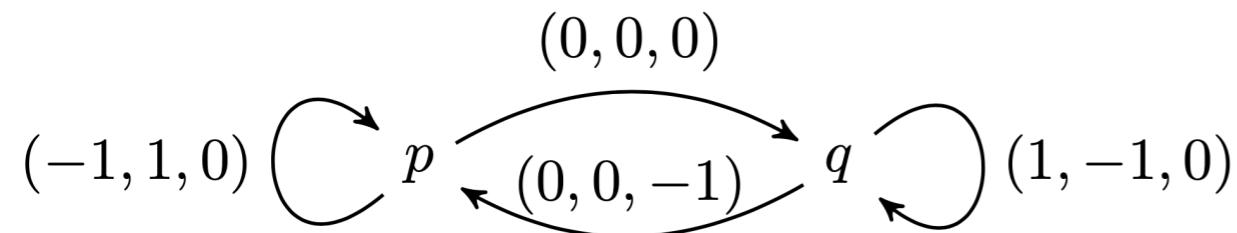
then add one more “global” place

# Petri nets $\iff$ VASS

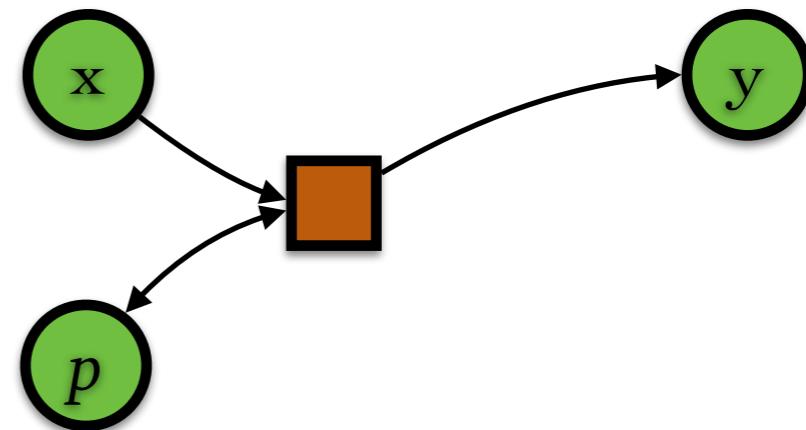
- Petri nets:



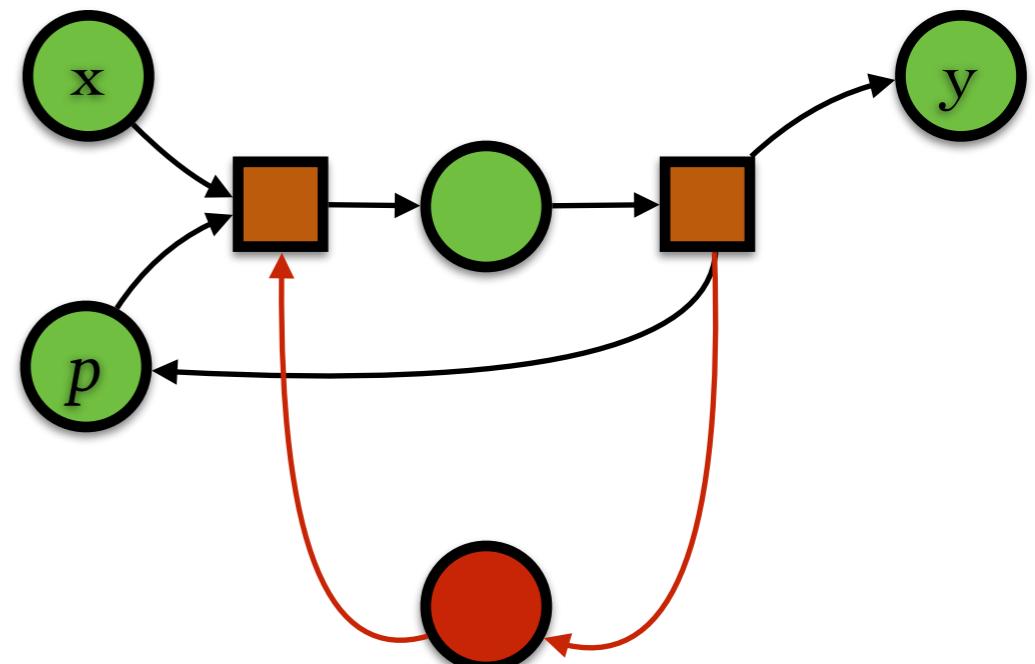
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



split every transition



into input and output:



then add one more “global” place

do we actually need ?

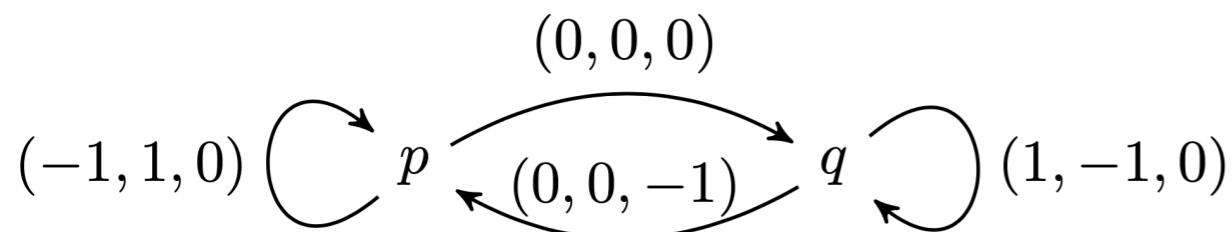
# Counter programs $\iff$ VASS

- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

```
1: goto 2 or 10
2: goto 3 or 5
3: x -= 1    y += 1
4: goto 2
5: goto 6 or 8
6: x += 1    y -= 1
7: goto 5
8: z -= 1
9: goto 1
10: ...
```



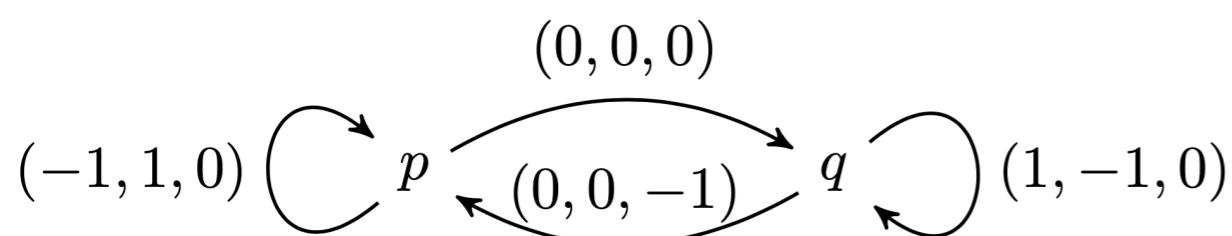
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



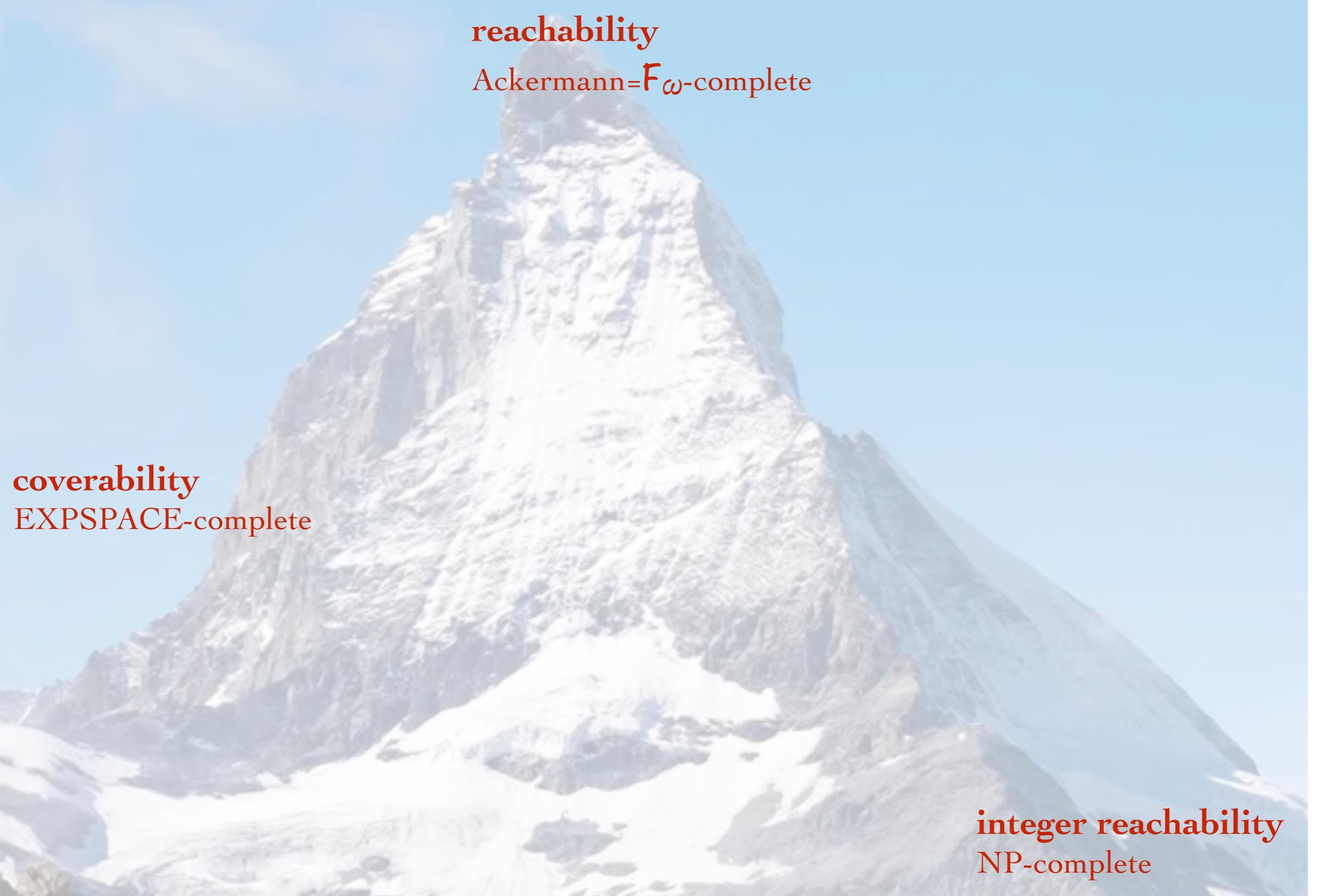
# Counter programs $\iff$ VASS

- dimension = number of counters
  - control states = control locations
  - transitions = commands
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):
- 
- counter programs without zero-tests:

```
1: goto 2 or 10
2: goto 3 or 5
3: x -= 1    y += 1
4: goto 2
5: goto 6 or 8
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```



# VASS



reachability

Ackermann= $F_\omega$ -complete

coverability

EXPSPACE-complete

integer reachability  
NP-complete

# VASS



**reachability**

Ackermann=  $\mathcal{F}_\omega$ -complete

**coverability**

EXPSPACE-complete

**reversible VASS**

EXPSPACE-complete

[Mayer, Meyer 1982]

[Cardoza, Lipton, Meyer 1976]

**integer reachability**  
NP-complete

# VASS



**coverability**  
EXPSPACE-complete

**reachability**  
Ackermann= $\mathcal{F}_\omega$ -complete

**bi-reachability**  
EXPSPACE-complete  
[Leroux 2013]

**reversible VASS**  
EXPSPACE-complete  
[Mayer, Meyer 1982]  
[Cardoza, Lipton, Meyer 1976]

**integer reachability**  
NP-complete

# VASS



**coverability**  
EXPSPACE-complete

**dimension 1**  
NP-complete  
[Haase, Kreutzer,  
Ouaknine, Joel 2009]

**reachability**  
Ackermann=  $\mathcal{F}_\omega$ -complete

**bi-reachability**  
EXPSPACE-complete  
[Leroux 2013]

**reversible VASS**  
EXPSPACE-complete  
[Mayer, Meyer 1982]  
[Cardoza, Lipton, Meyer 1976]

**integer reachability**  
NP-complete

# VASS

**coverability**  
EXPSPACE-complete

**dimension 2**  
PSPACE-complete  
[Blondin, Finkel, Goeller,  
Haase, McKenzie 2015]

**dimension 1**  
NP-complete  
[Haase, Kreutzer,  
Ouaknine, Joel 2009]

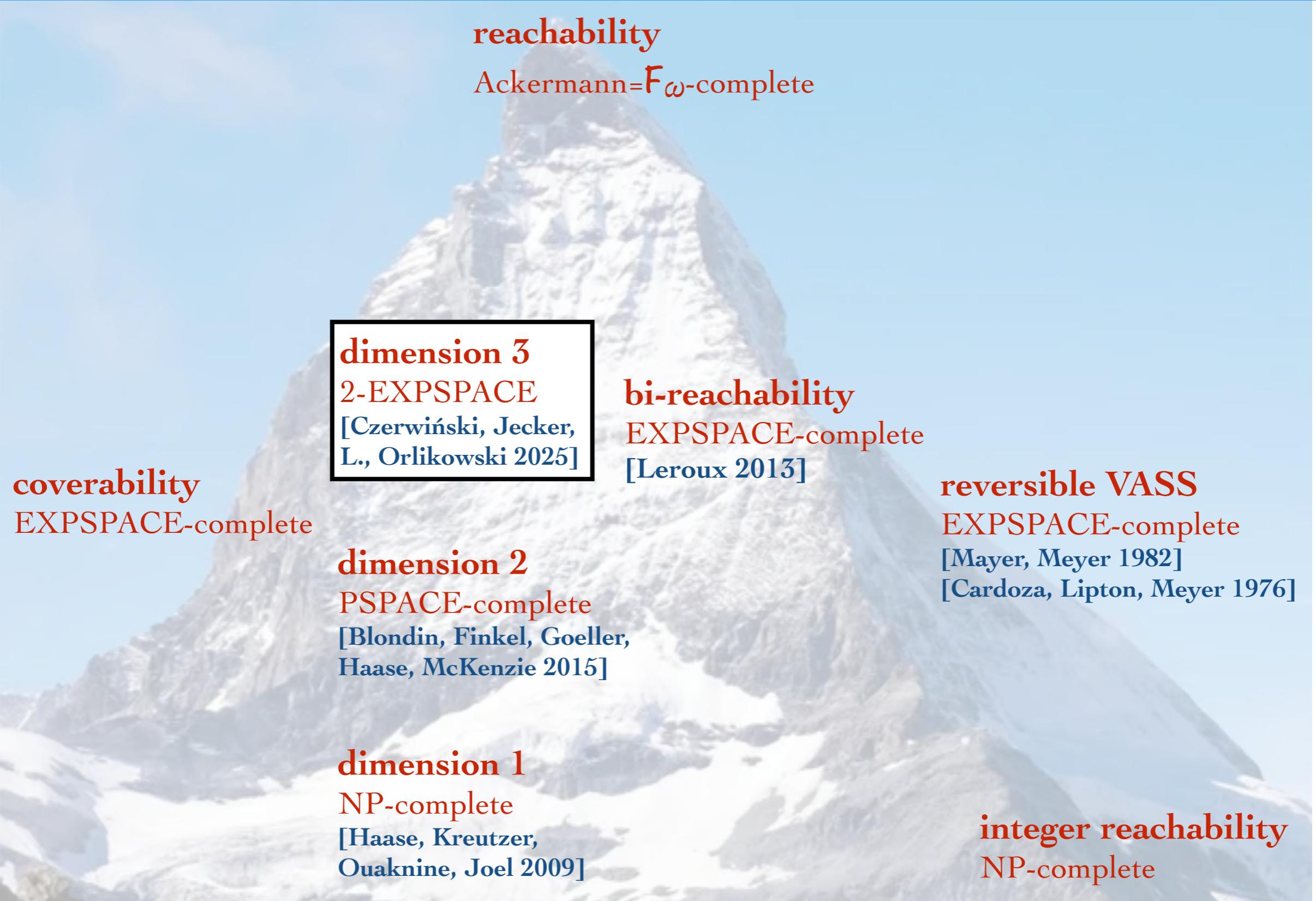
**reachability**  
Ackermann=  $\mathcal{F}_\omega$ -complete

**bi-reachability**  
EXPSPACE-complete  
[Leroux 2013]

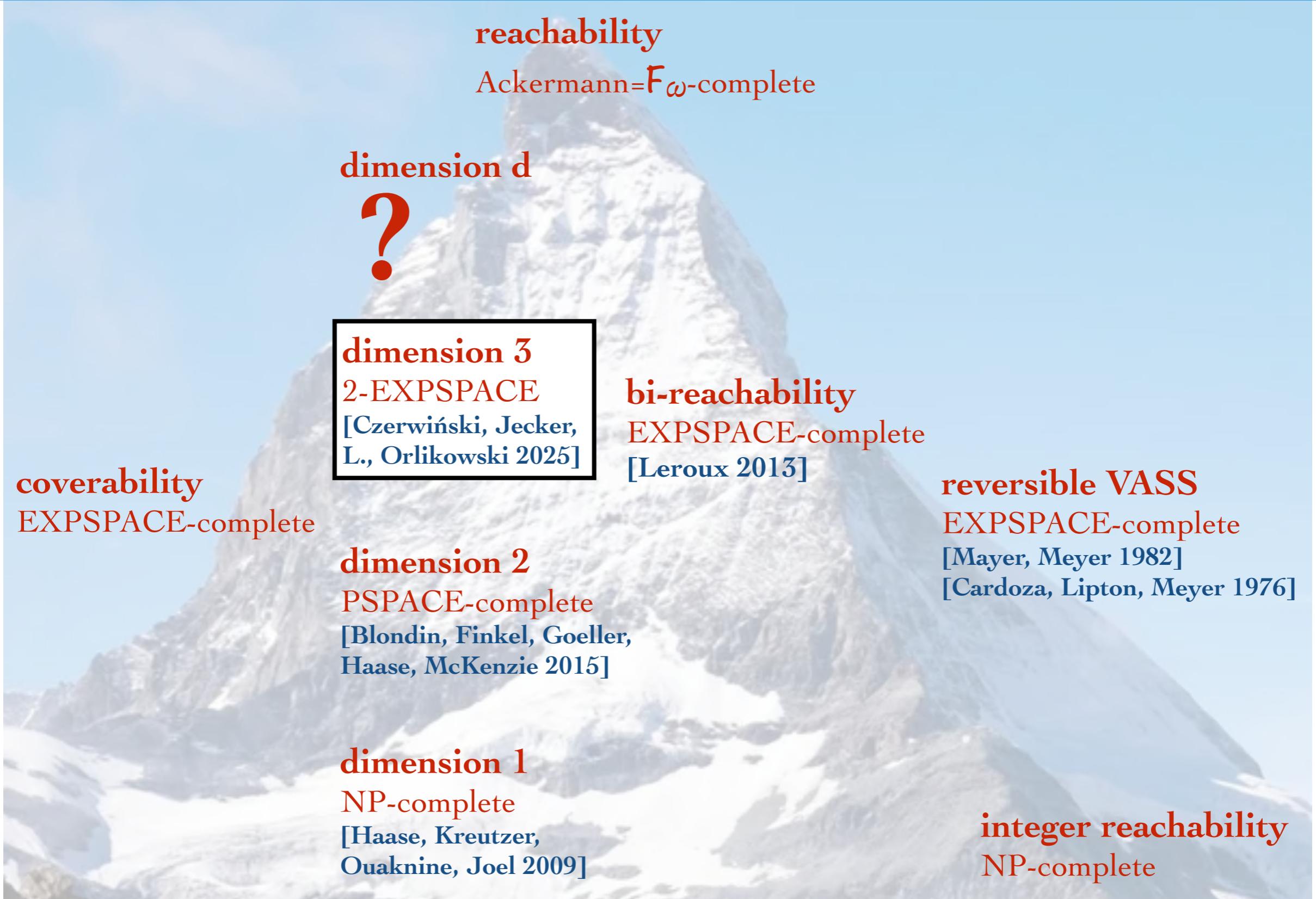
**reversible VASS**  
EXPSPACE-complete  
[Mayer, Meyer 1982]  
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**integer reachability**  
NP-complete

# VASS



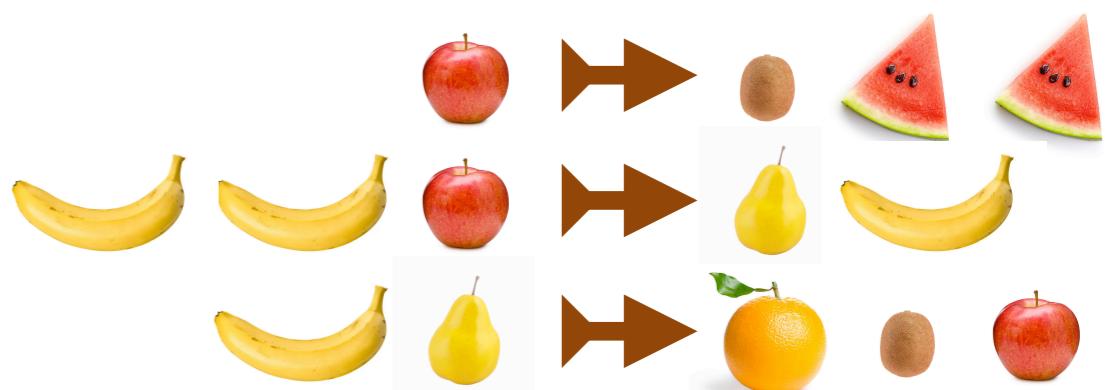
# VASS



# I. Reachability in Petri nets

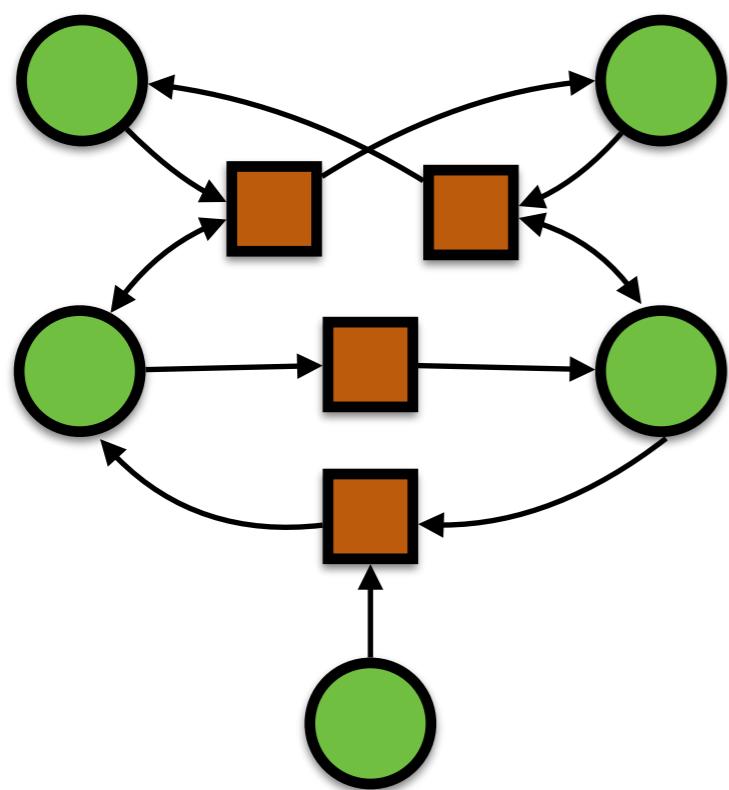
# II. Extensions of Petri nets

- pushdown stack
- branching
- colors
- arbitrary step relations



# Pushdown VASS

- Petri nets:



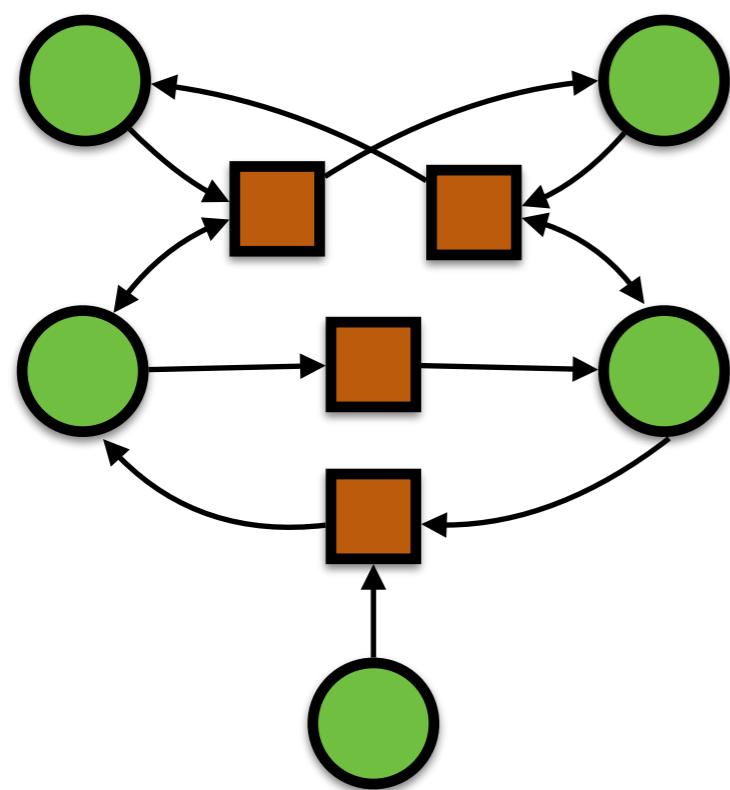
- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

```
1: loop
2:   loop
3:     x -= 1    y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1    y -= 1
6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):

# Pushdown VASS

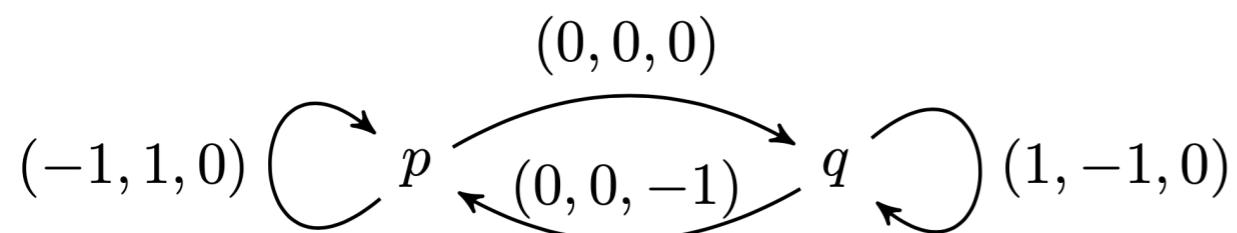
- Petri nets:



- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

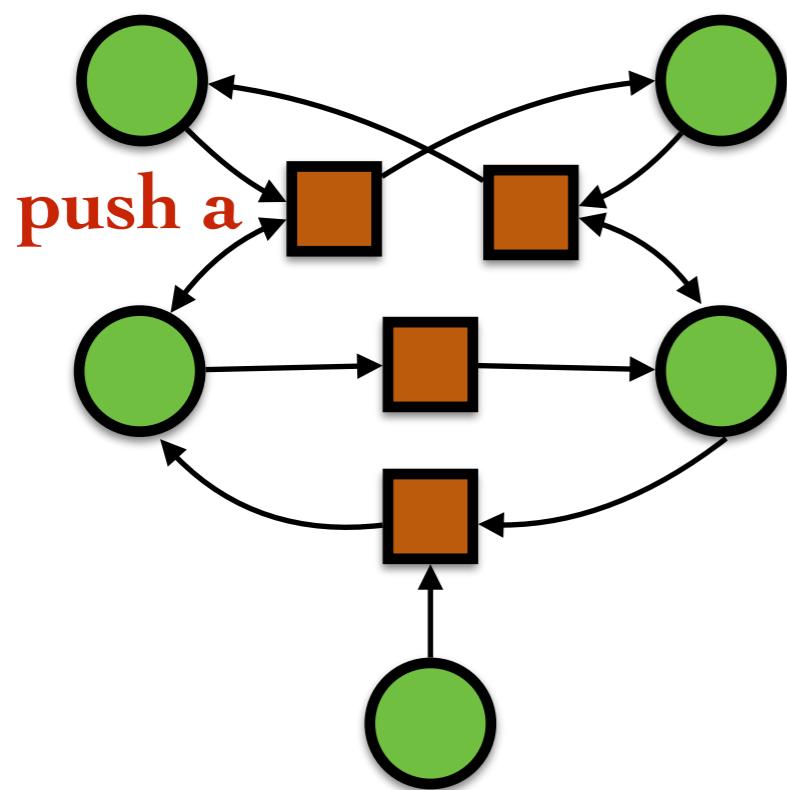
```
1: loop  
2:   loop  
3:     x -= 1    y += 1  
4:   loop  
5:     x += 1    y -= 1  
6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Pushdown VASS

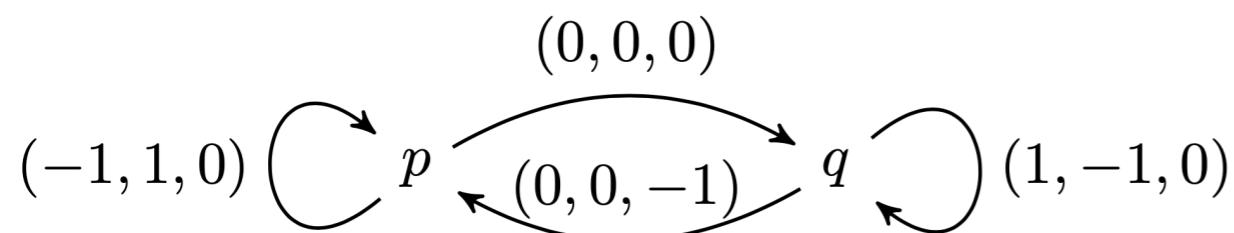
- Petri nets:



- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

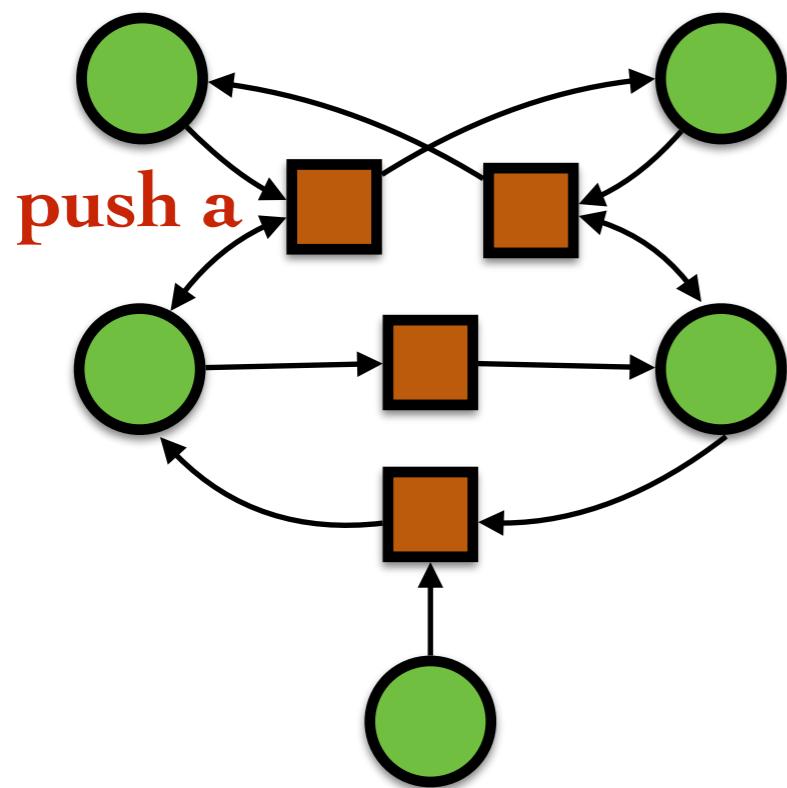
```
1: loop
2:   loop
3:     x -= 1    y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1    y -= 1
6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Pushdown VASS

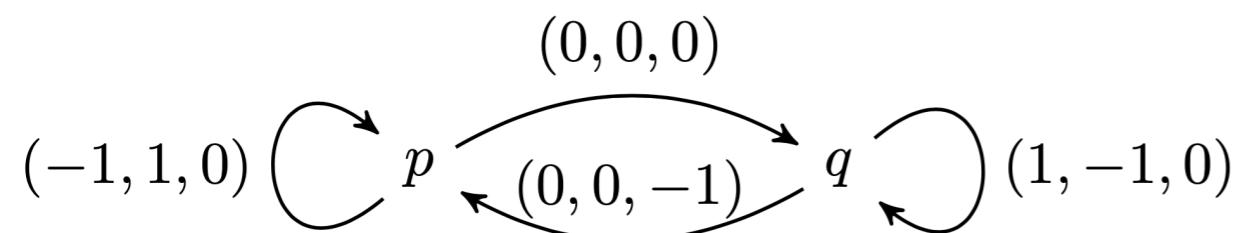
- Petri nets:



- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

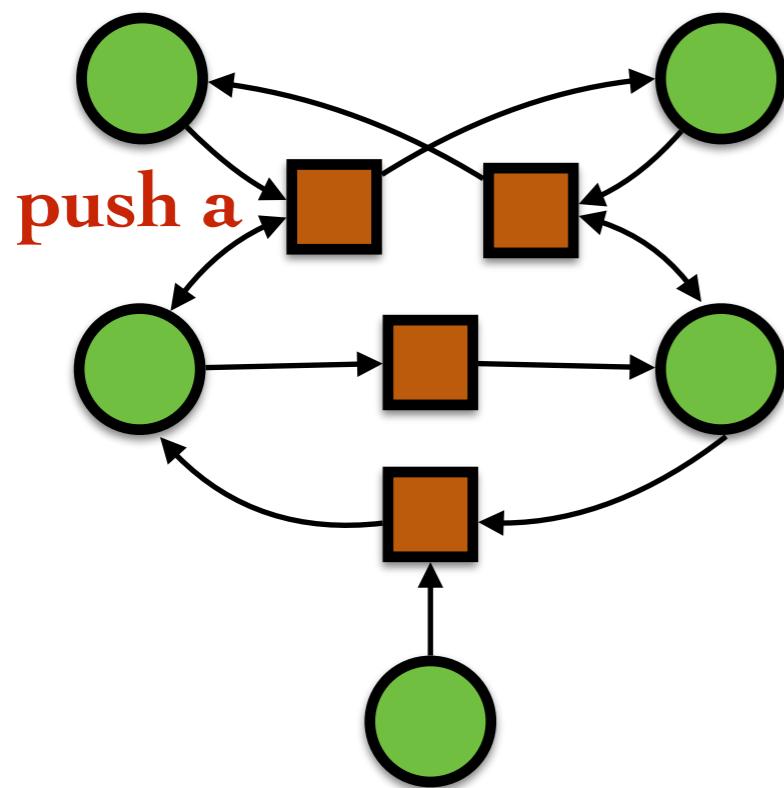
```
1: loop
2:   loop push a
3:     x -= 1    y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1    y -= 1
6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Pushdown VASS

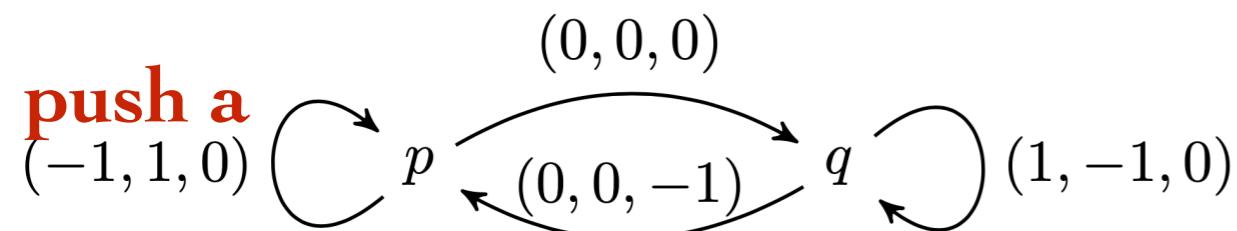
- Petri nets:



- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

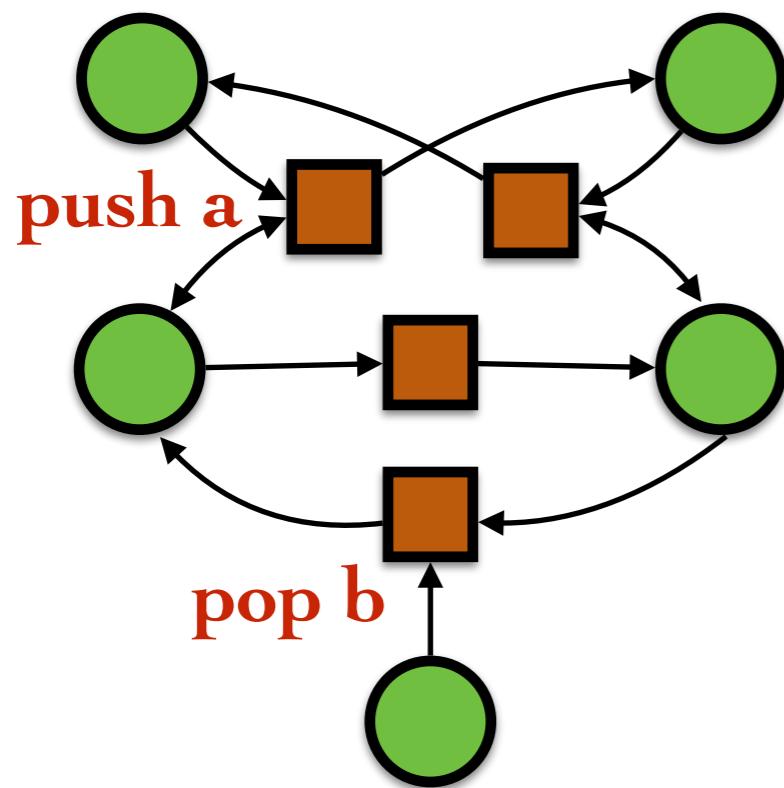
```
1: loop
2:   loop push a
3:     x -= 1   y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1   y -= 1
6:   z -= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Pushdown VASS

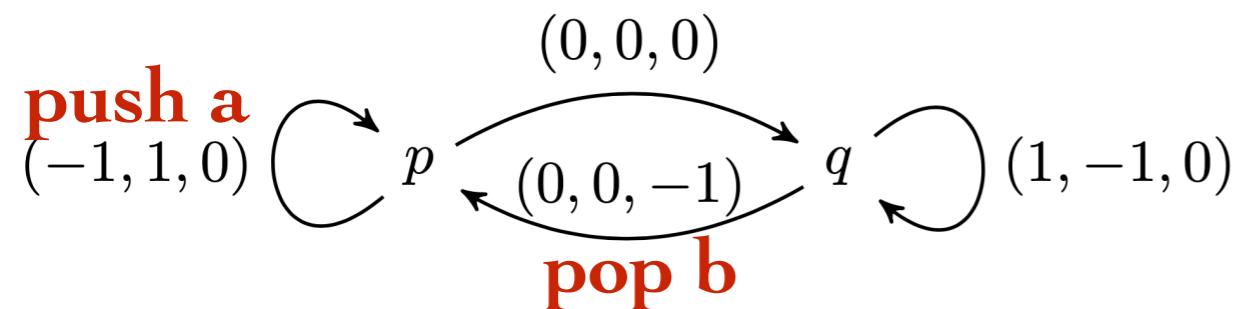
- Petri nets:



- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

```
1: loop
2:   loop push a
3:     x -= 1    y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1    y -= 1
6:   z -= 1 pop b
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Pushdown VASS reachability

Equivalent formulations:

# Pushdown VASS reachability

Equivalent formulations:

- VASS reachability controlled by a context-free language

# Pushdown VASS reachability

Equivalent formulations:

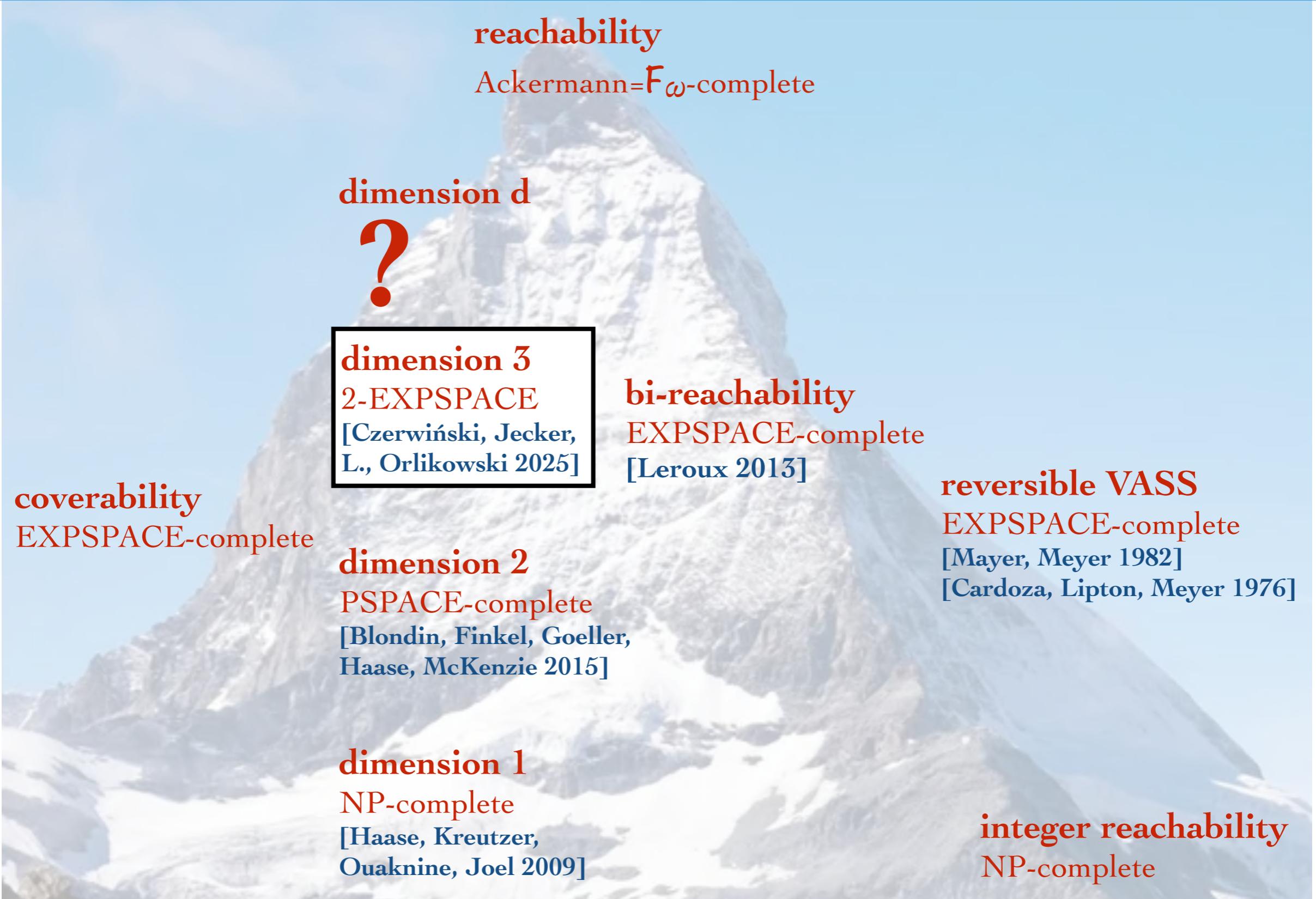
- VASS reachability controlled by a context-free language
- Context-free language  $\cap$  VASS language  $\neq \emptyset$

# Pushdown VASS reachability

Equivalent formulations:

- VASS reachability controlled by a context-free language
- Context-free language  $\cap$  VASS language  $\neq \emptyset$
- Context-free language  $\cap$  Commutative context-free language  $\neq \emptyset$

# VASS



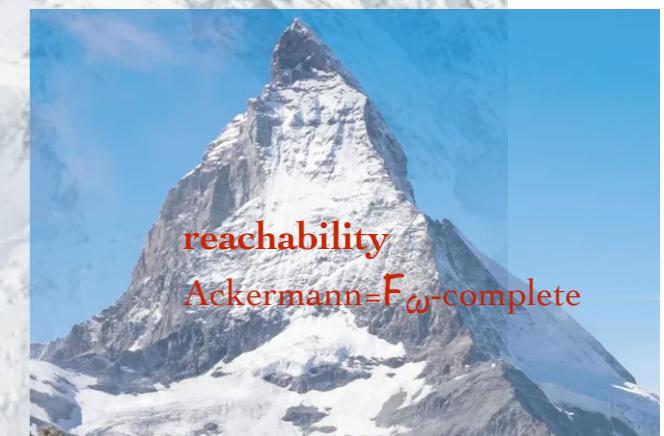
# Pushdown VASS



reachability

**coverability - dimension 1**  
EXPSPACE  
[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

**integer reachability**  
NP-complete  
[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]



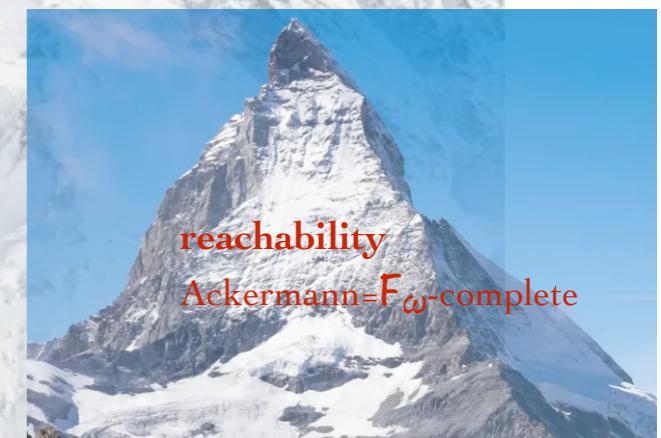
# Pushdown VASS

reachability

finite-index PVASS  
decidable  
[Fauozi, Ganty 2011]

coverability - dimension 1  
EXPSPACE  
[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

integer reachability  
NP-complete  
[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]



# Pushdown VASS

VASS with  
nested 0-tests       $\longleftrightarrow$       **F<sub>ω</sub>-complete**  
[Reinhardt 2008]  
[Bonnet 2011]  
[Czerwiński, L, Orlikowski 2025]

**finite-index PVASS**  
decidable  
[Fauozi, Ganty 2011]

reachability

**integer reachability**  
NP-complete  
[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]

**coverability - dimension 1**  
EXPSPACE  
[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

reachability  
Ackermann= F<sub>ω</sub>-complete

# Pushdown VASS

VASS with  
nested 0-tests       $\longleftrightarrow$        $F_\omega$ -complete  
[Reinhardt 2008]  
[Bonnet 2011]  
[Czerwiński, L, Orlikowski 2025]

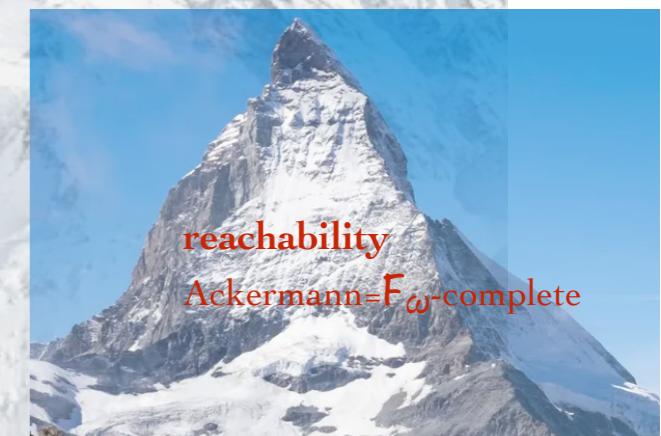
finite-index PVASS  
decidable  
[Fauozi, Ganty 2011]

reachability

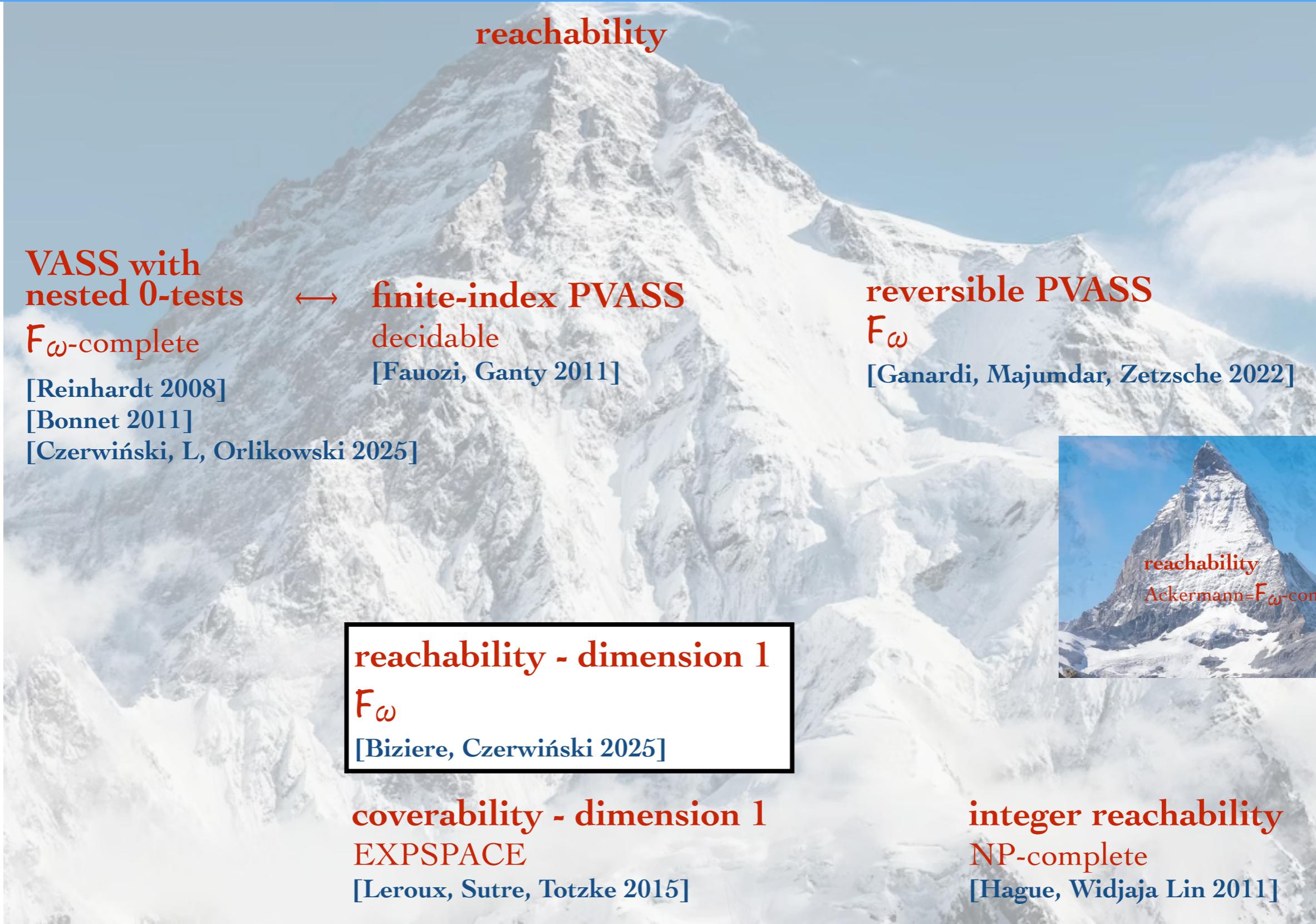
reversible PVASS  
 $F_\omega$   
[Ganardi, Majumdar, Zetzsche 2022]

coverability - dimension 1  
EXPSPACE  
[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

integer reachability  
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[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]



# Pushdown VASS



# Pushdown VASS

VASS with  
nested 0-tests       $\longleftrightarrow$        $F_\omega$ -complete  
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finite-index PVASS  
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reversible PVASS  
 $F_\omega$   
[Ganardi, Majumdar, Zetzsche 2022]

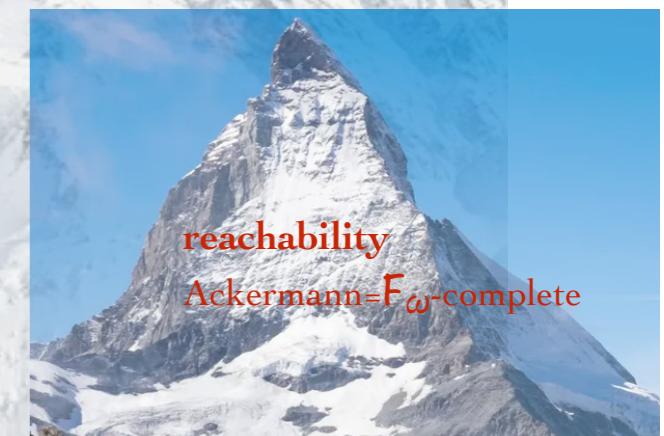
coverability - dimension 2  
?

reachability - dimension 1  
 $F_\omega$   
[Biziere, Czerwiński 2025]

coverability - dimension 1  
EXPSPACE  
[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

integer reachability  
NP-complete  
[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]

reachability



# Pushdown VASS

coverability



reachability

VASS with  
nested 0-tests

$F_\omega$ -complete

[Reinhardt 2008]

[Bonnet 2011]

[Czerwiński, L, Orlikowski 2025]



finite-index PVASS

decidable

[Fauozi, Ganty 2011]

reversible PVASS

$F_\omega$

[Ganardi, Majumdar, Zetzsche 2022]

coverability - dimension 2

?

reachability - dimension 1

$F_\omega$

[Biziere, Czerwiński 2025]

coverability - dimension 1

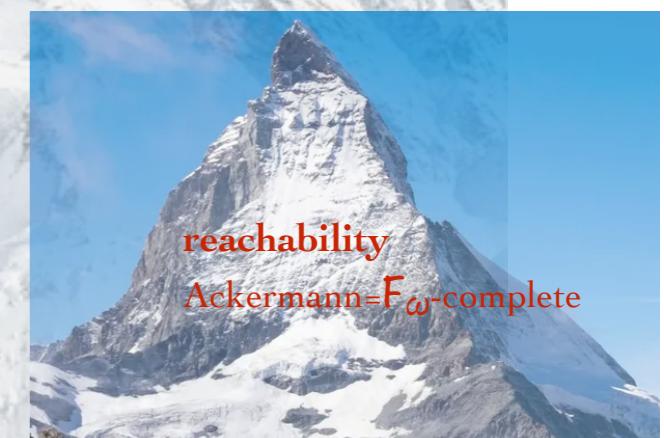
EXPSPACE

[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

integer reachability

NP-complete

[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]



reachability

Ackermann= $F_\omega$ -complete

# Pushdown VASS

coverability



reachability

HyperAckermann  $F\omega^\omega$   
[Guttenberg, Keskin, Meyer 2025]

VASS with  
nested 0-tests

$F\omega$ -complete

[Reinhardt 2008]

[Bonnet 2011]

[Czerwiński, L, Orlikowski 2025]



finite-index PVASS  
decidable  
[Fauozi, Ganty 2011]

reversible PVASS  
 $F\omega$

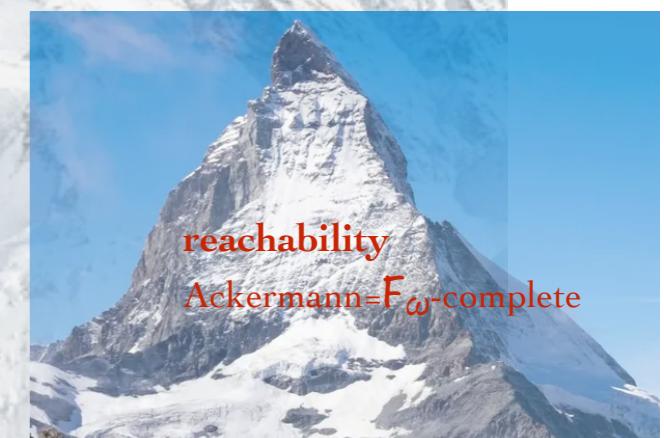
[Ganardi, Majumdar, Zetzsche 2022]

coverability - dimension 2  
?

reachability - dimension 1  
 $F\omega$   
[Biziere, Czerwiński 2025]

coverability - dimension 1  
EXPSPACE  
[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

integer reachability  
NP-complete  
[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]



# Pushdown VASS



coverability



reachability

HyperAckermann  $F\omega^\omega$   
[Guttenberg, Keskin, Meyer 2025]

VASS with  
nested 0-tests

$F\omega$ -complete

[Reinhardt 2008]

[Bonnet 2011]

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finite-index PVASS  
decidable  
[Fauozi, Ganty 2011]

reversible PVASS  
 $F\omega$

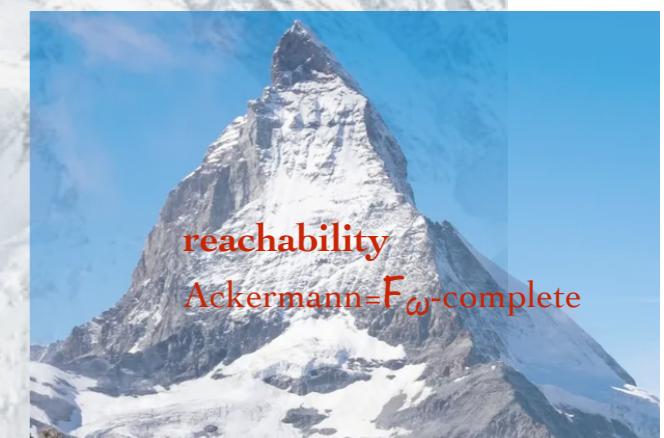
[Ganardi, Majumdar, Zetzsche 2022]

coverability - dimension 2  
?

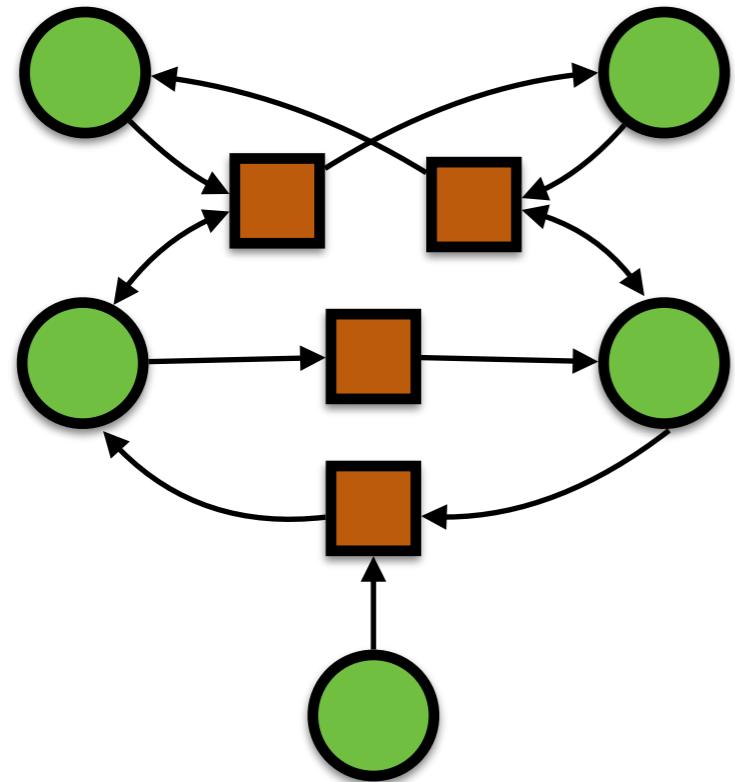
reachability - dimension 1  
 $F\omega$   
[Biziere, Czerwiński 2025]

coverability - dimension 1  
EXPSPACE  
[Leroux, Sutre, Totzke 2015]

integer reachability  
NP-complete  
[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]



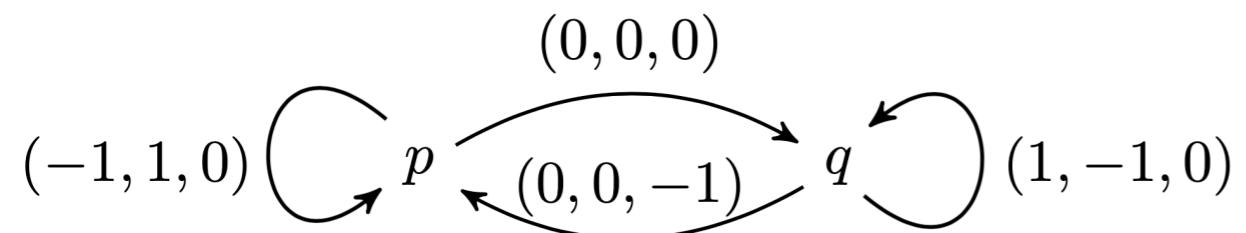
# Branching VASS



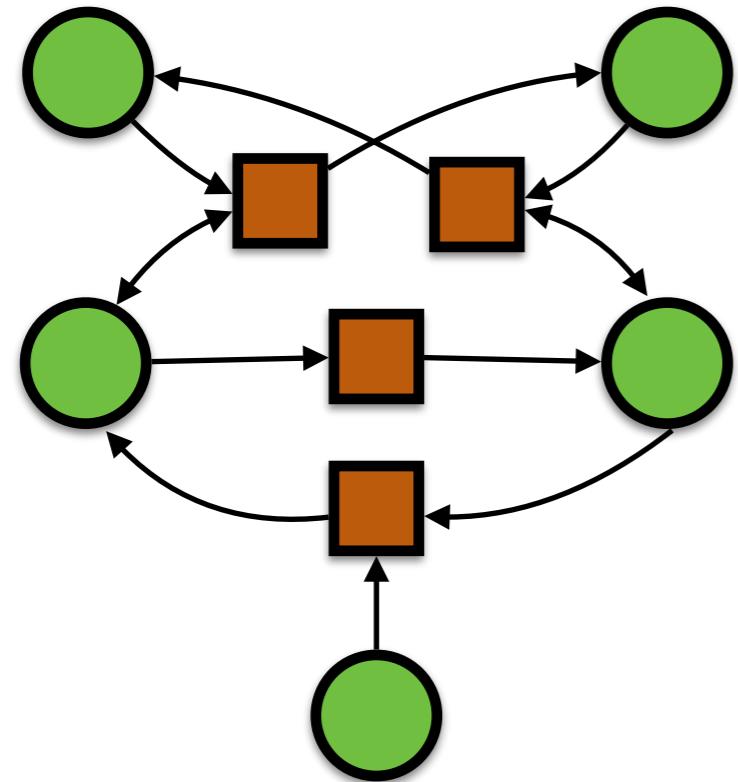
- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

```
1: loop
2:   loop
3:     x -= 1    y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1    y -= 1
6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



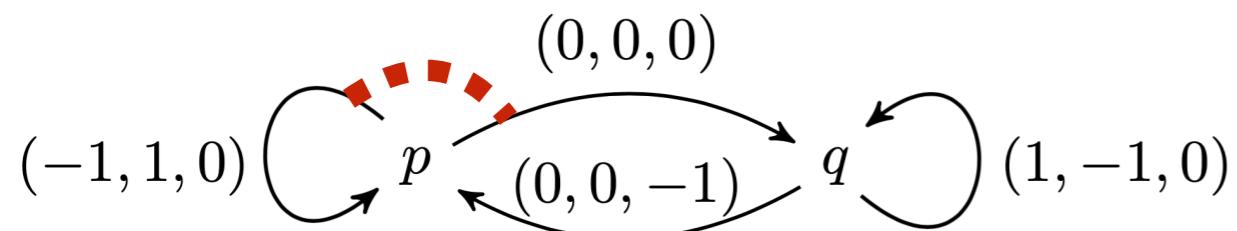
# Branching VASS



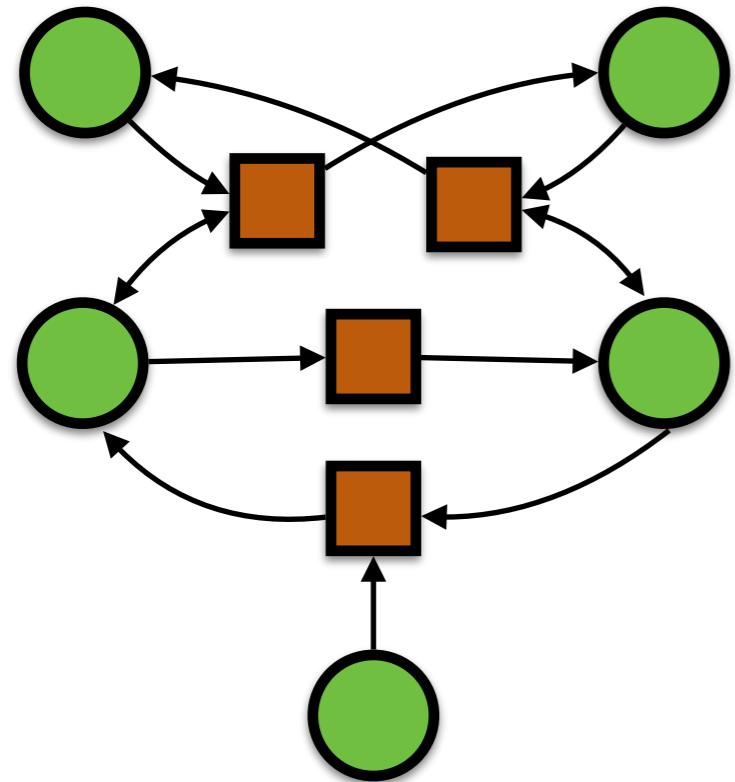
- counter programs **without zero-tests**:

```
1: loop  
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4:   loop  
5:     x += 1    y -= 1  
6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



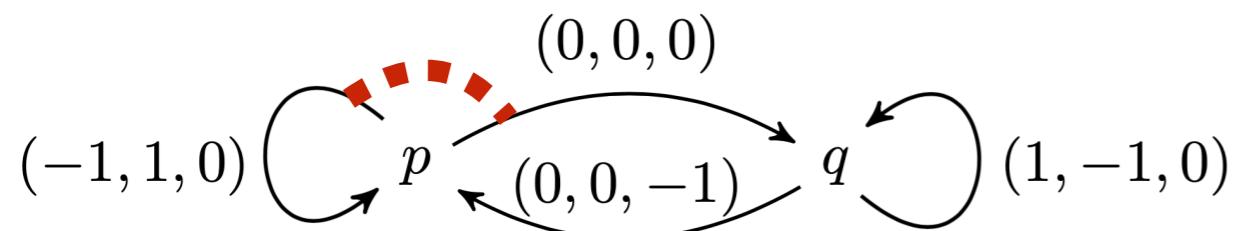
# Branching VASS



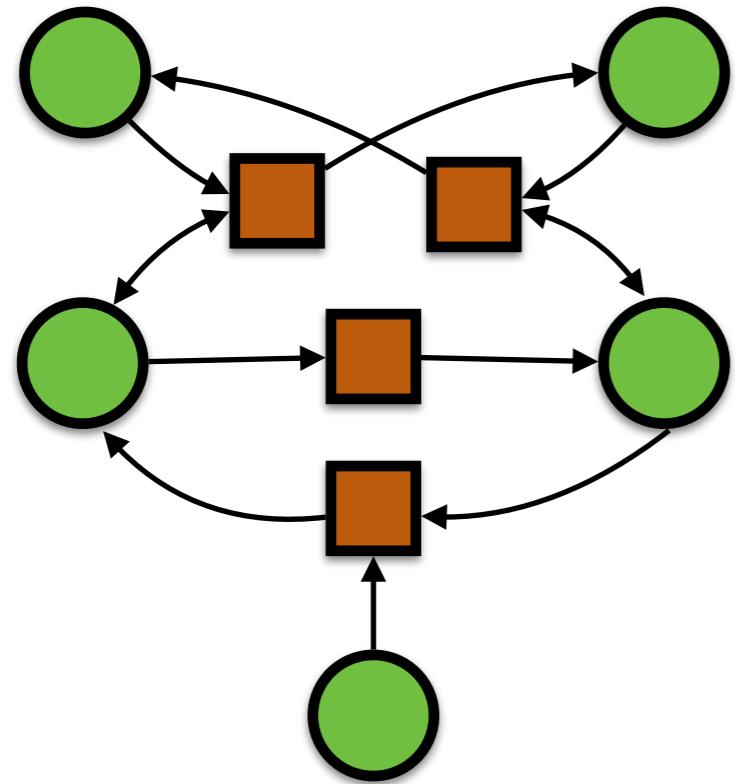
- counter programs without zero-tests:

```
1: loop fork 2 4
2:   loop
3:     x -= 1    y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1    y -= 1
6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



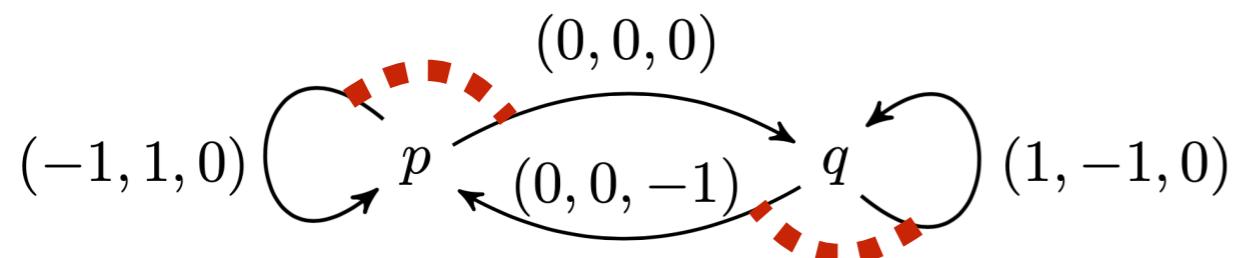
# Branching VASS



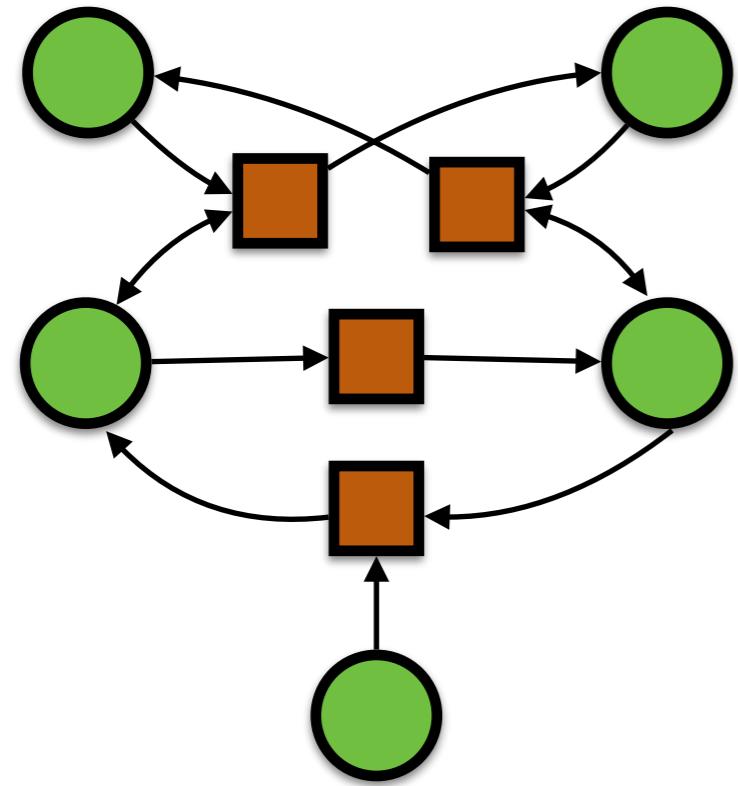
- counter programs without zero-tests:

```
1: loop fork 2 4
2:   loop
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6:   z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



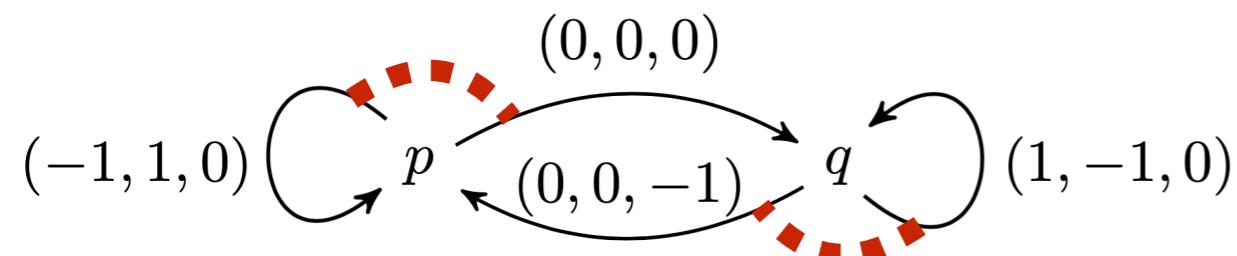
# Branching VASS



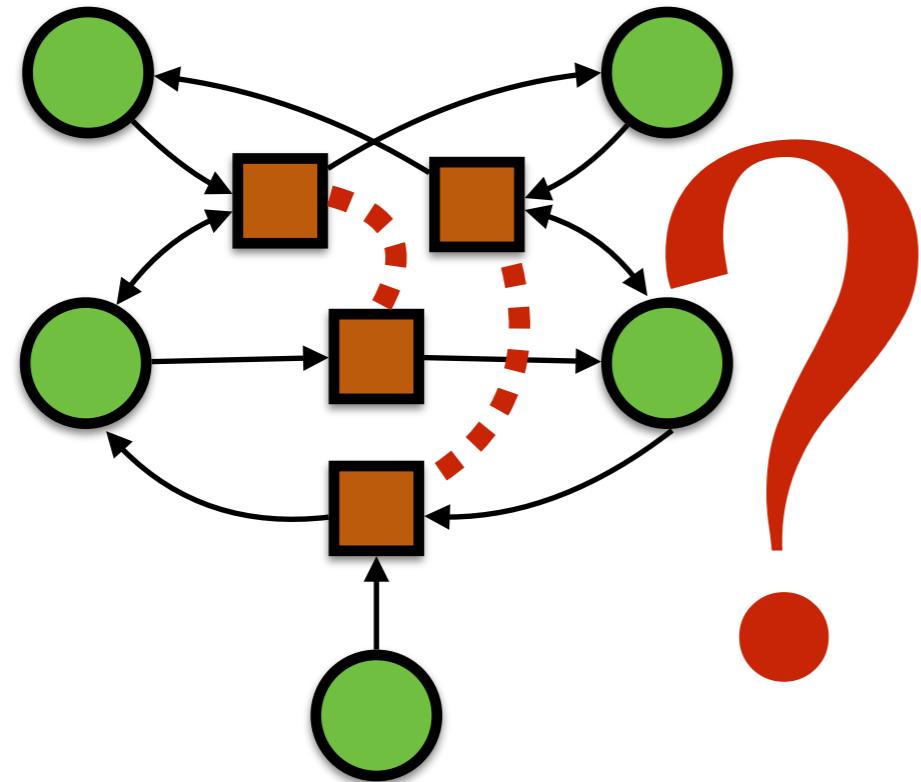
- counter programs without zero-tests:

```
1: loop fork 2 4
2:   loop
3:     fork 2 4      y += 1
4:       loop
5:         x += 1    y -= 1
6:           z --= 1
```

- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



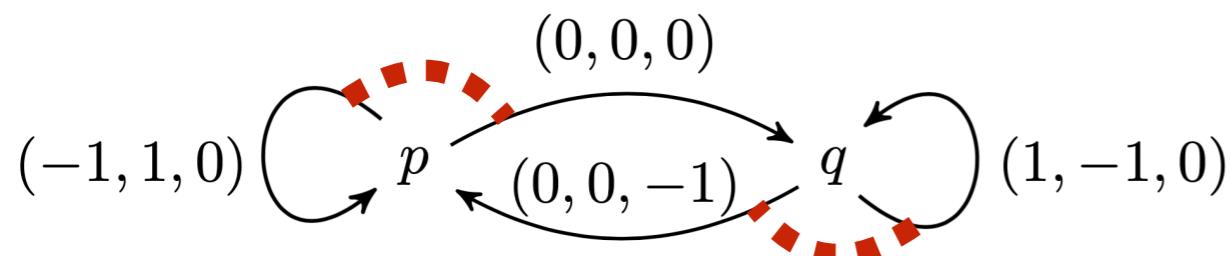
# Branching VASS



- counter programs without zero-tests:

```
1: loop fork 2 4
2:   loop
3:     fork 2 4      1      y += 1
4:       loop
5:         x += 1    y -= 1
6:       z --= 1
```

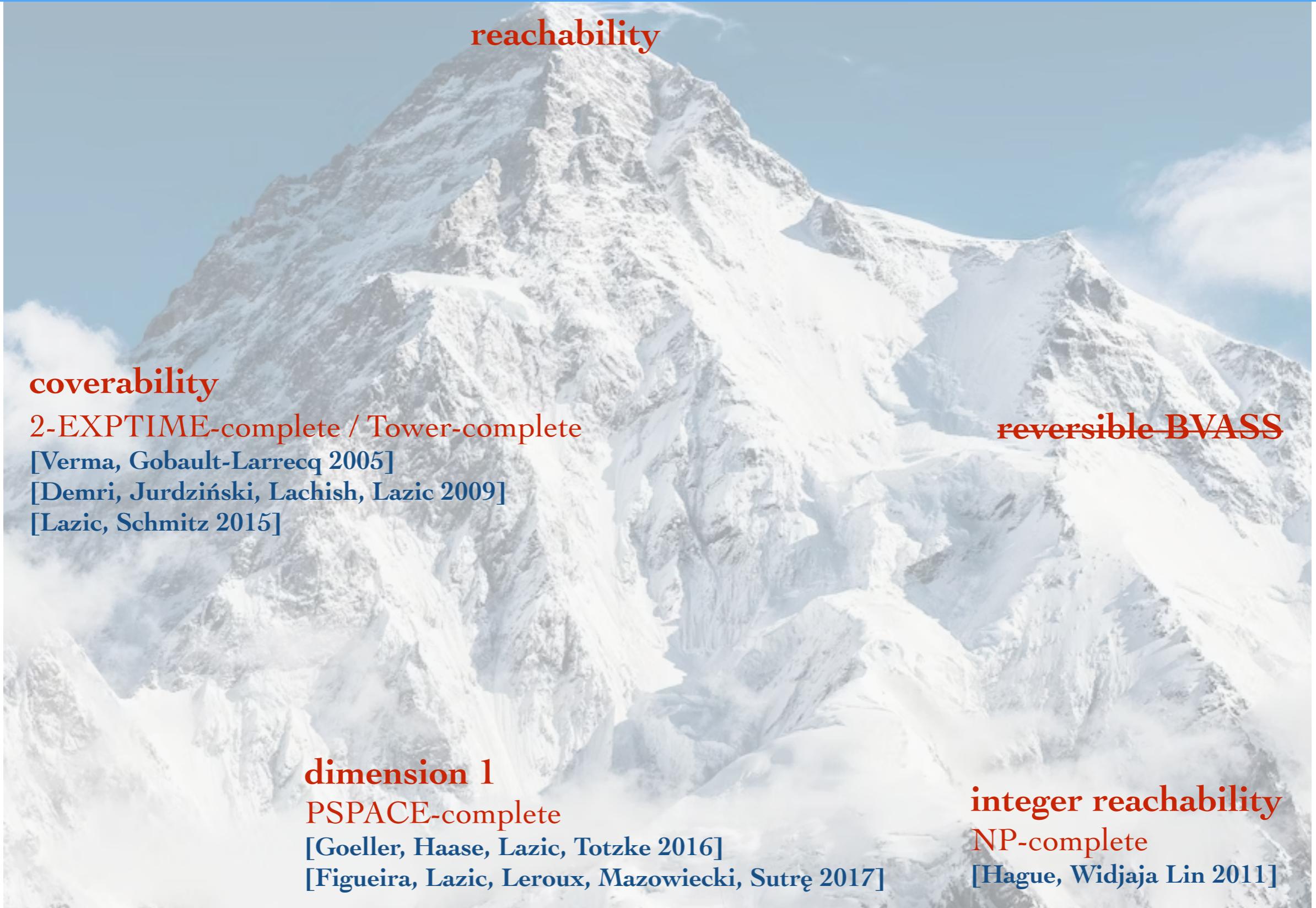
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



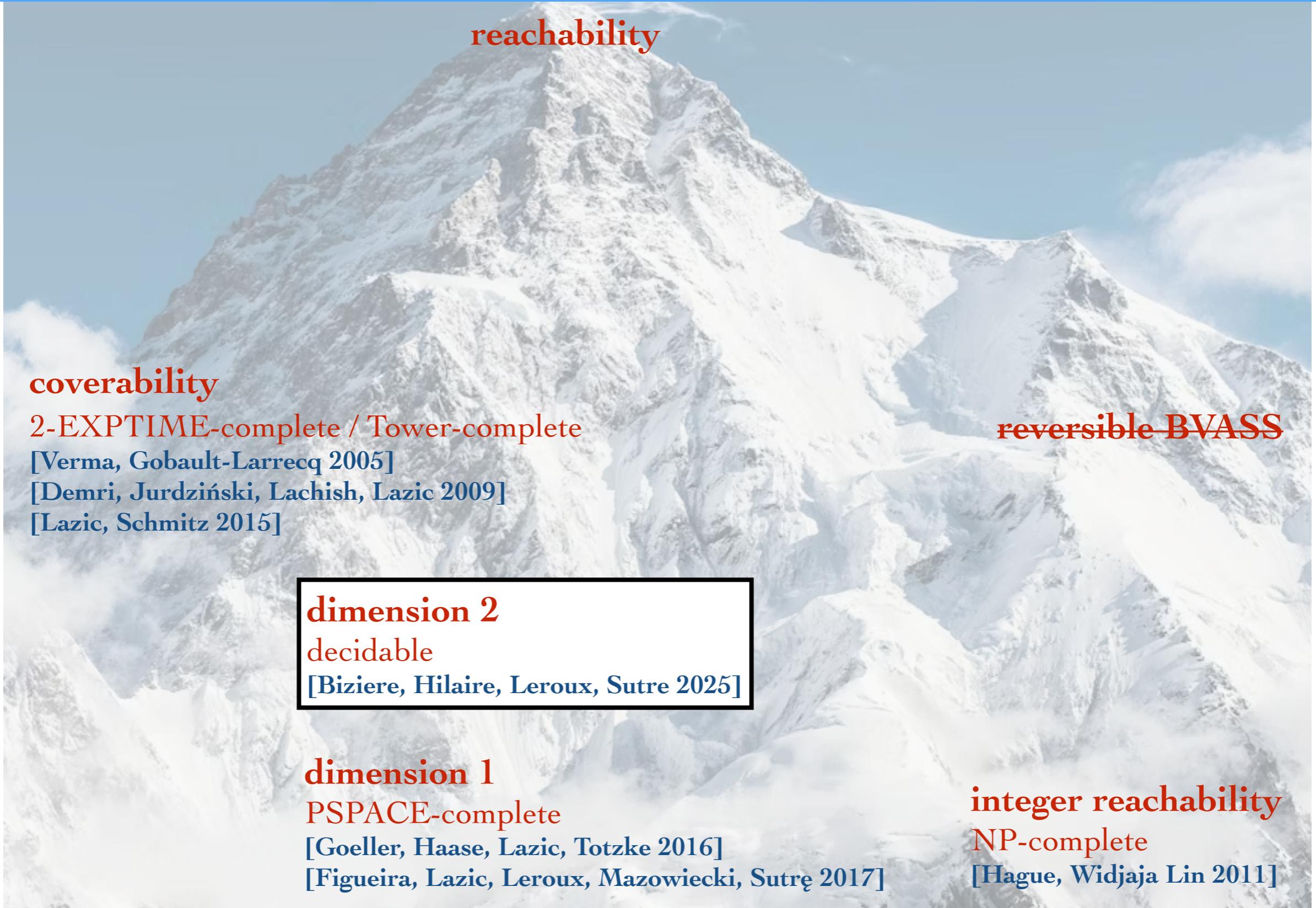
# Branching VASS



# Branching VASS



# Branching VASS



reachability

coverability

2-EXPTIME-complete / Tower-complete

[Verma, Gobault-Larrecq 2005]

[Demri, Jurdziński, Lachish, Lazic 2009]

[Lazic, Schmitz 2015]

~~reversible BVASS~~

dimension 2

decidable

[Biziere, Hilaire, Leroux, Sutre 2025]

dimension 1

PSPACE-complete

[Goeller, Haase, Lazic, Totzke 2016]

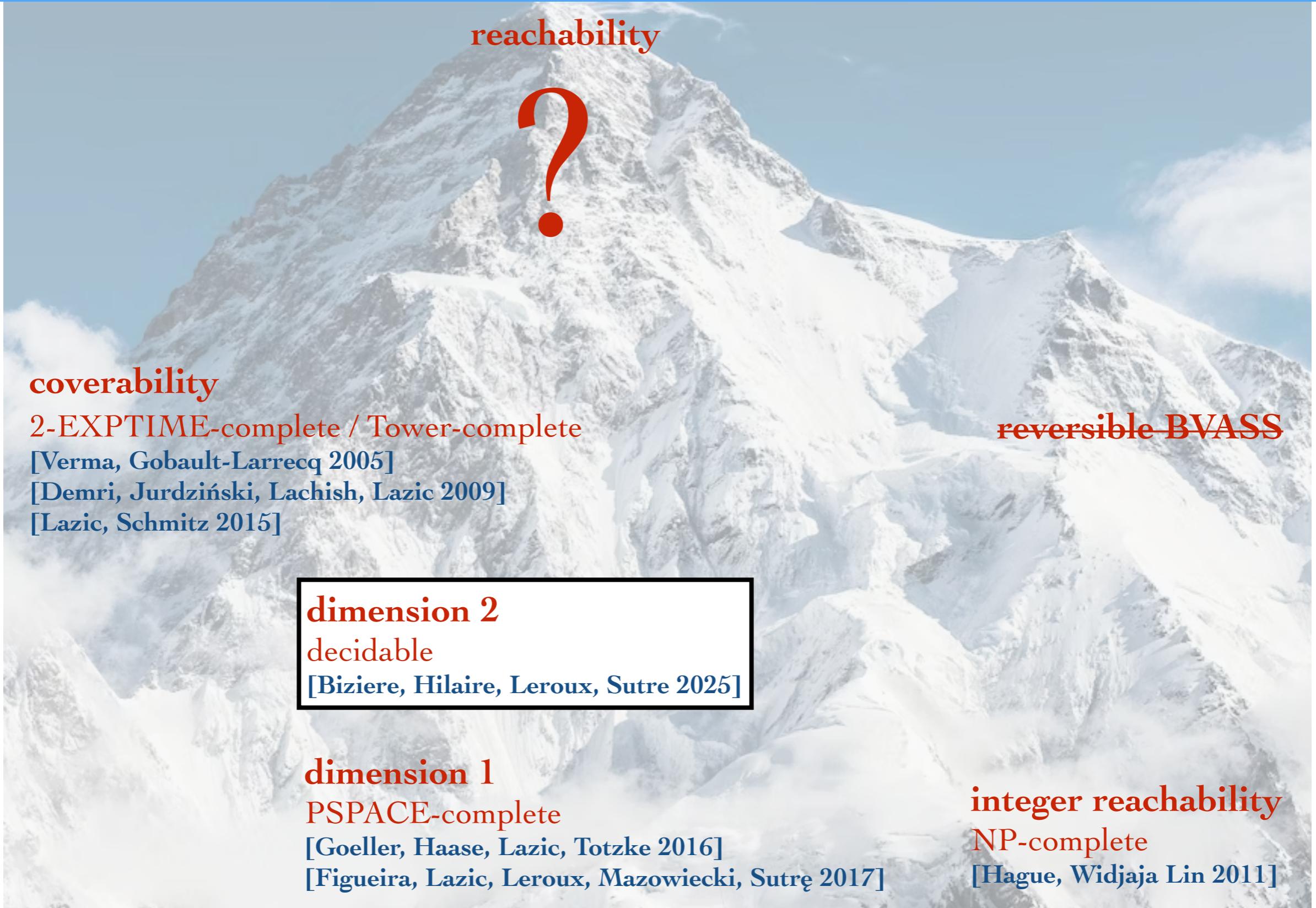
[Figueira, Lazic, Leroux, Mazowiecki, Sutre 2017]

integer reachability

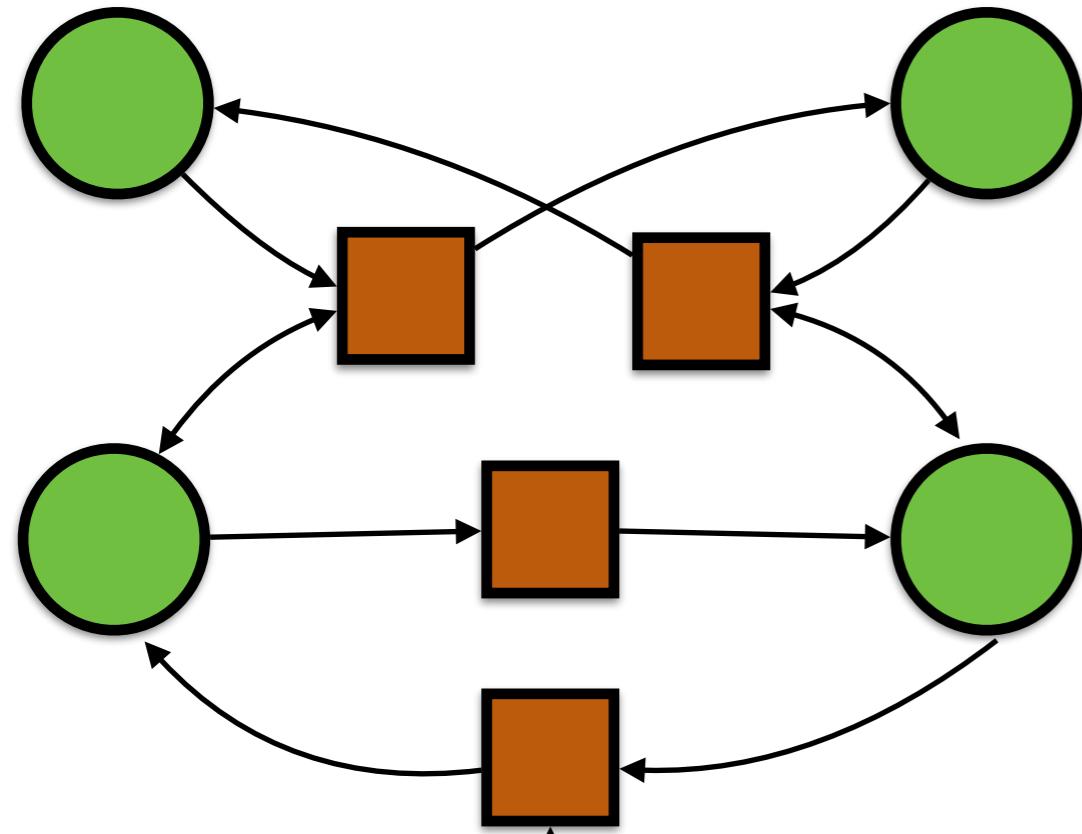
NP-complete

[Hague, Widjaja Lin 2011]

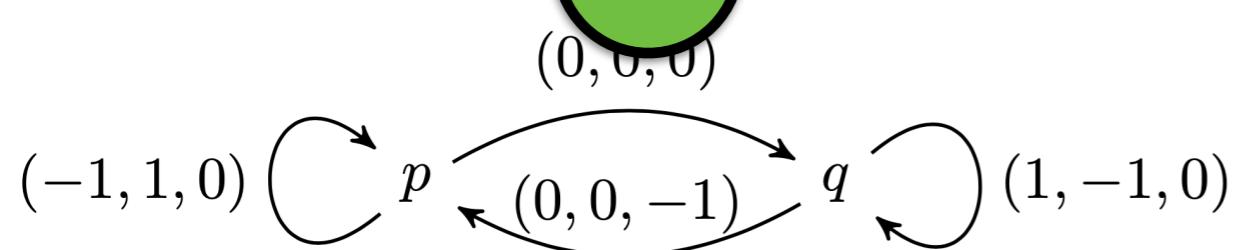
# Branching VASS



# Coloured PN



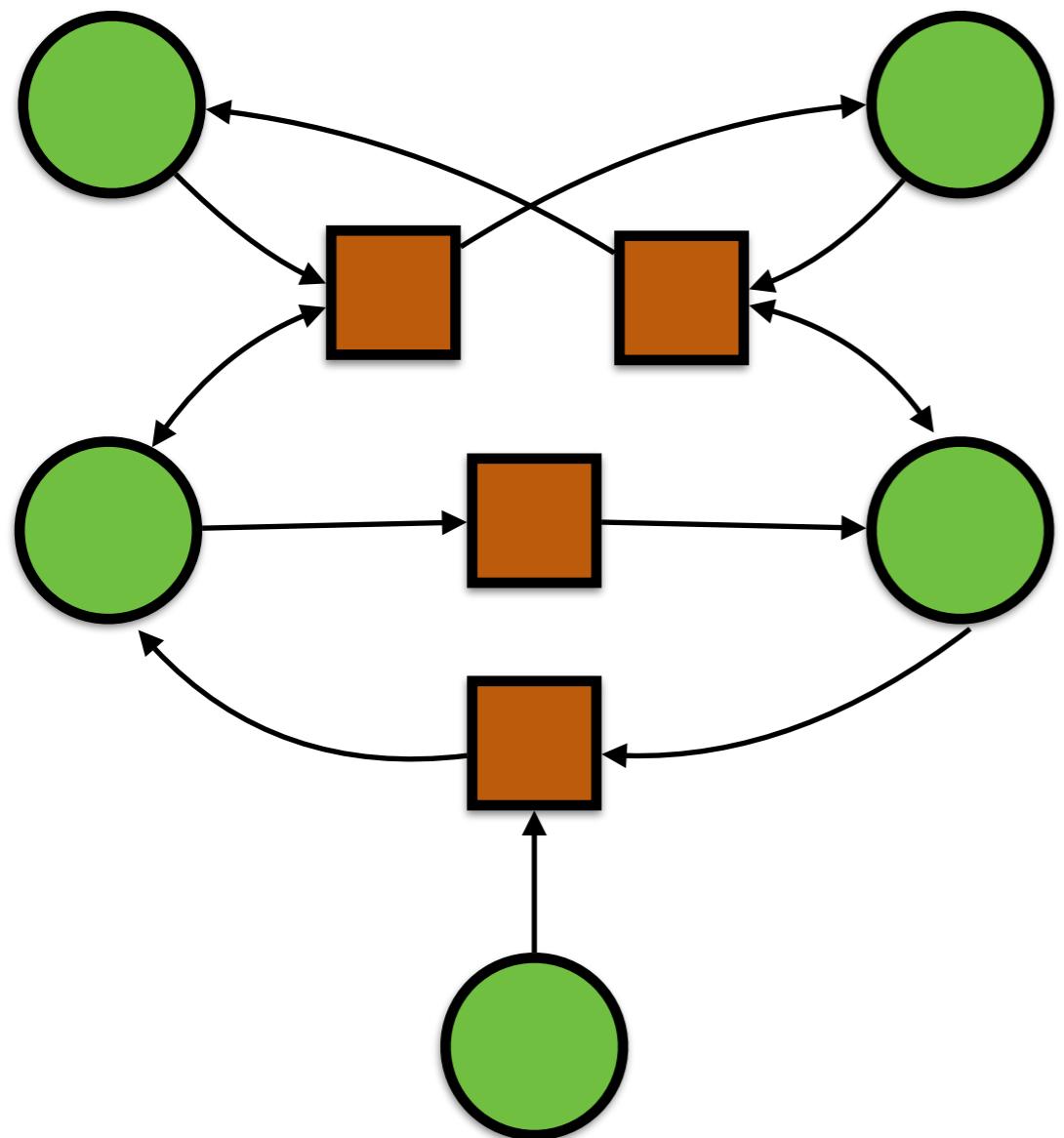
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



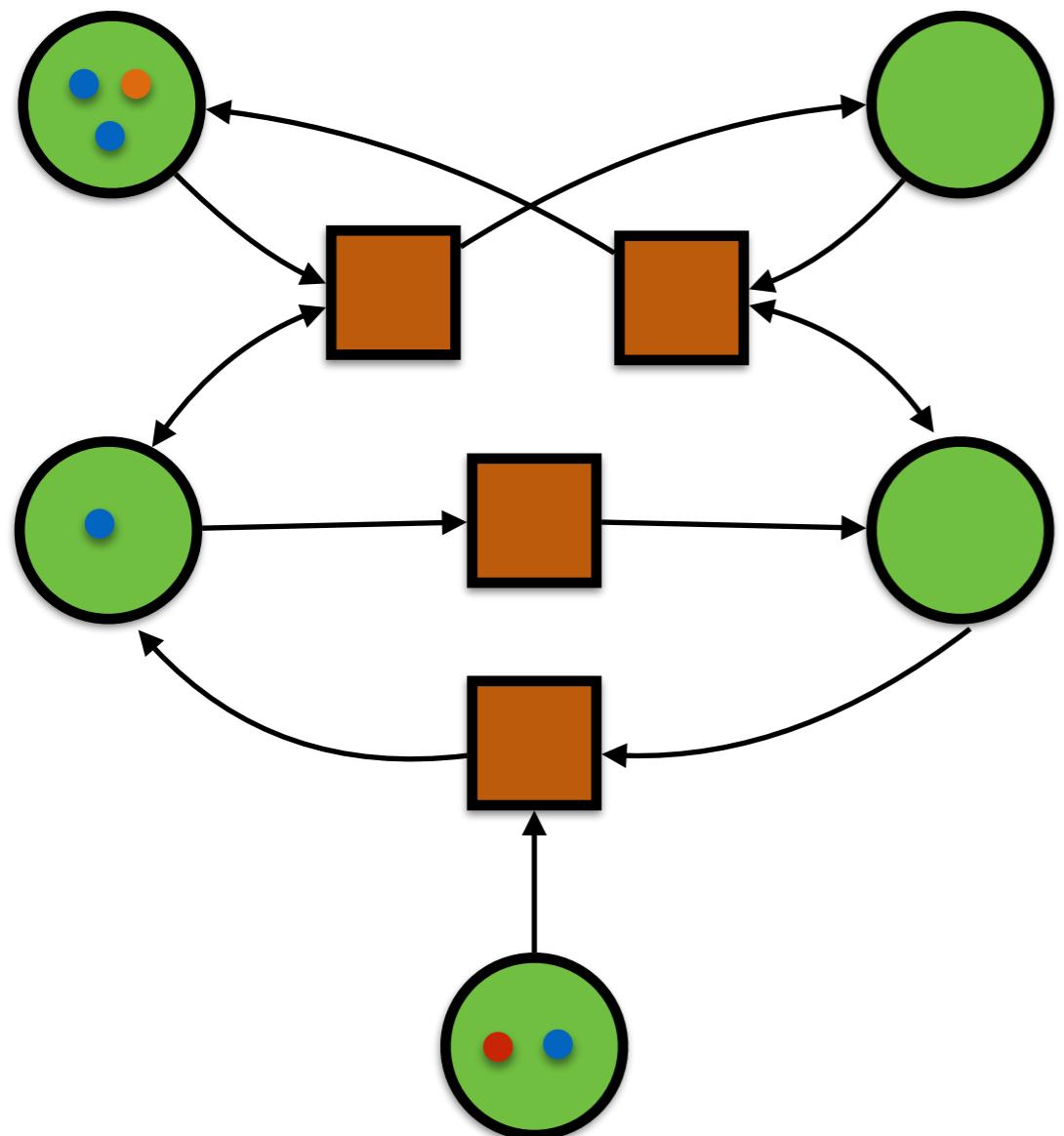
- counter programs without zero-tests:

```
1: loop  
2:   loop  
3:     x -= 1    y += 1  
4:   loop  
5:     x += 1    y -= 1  
6:   z --= 1
```

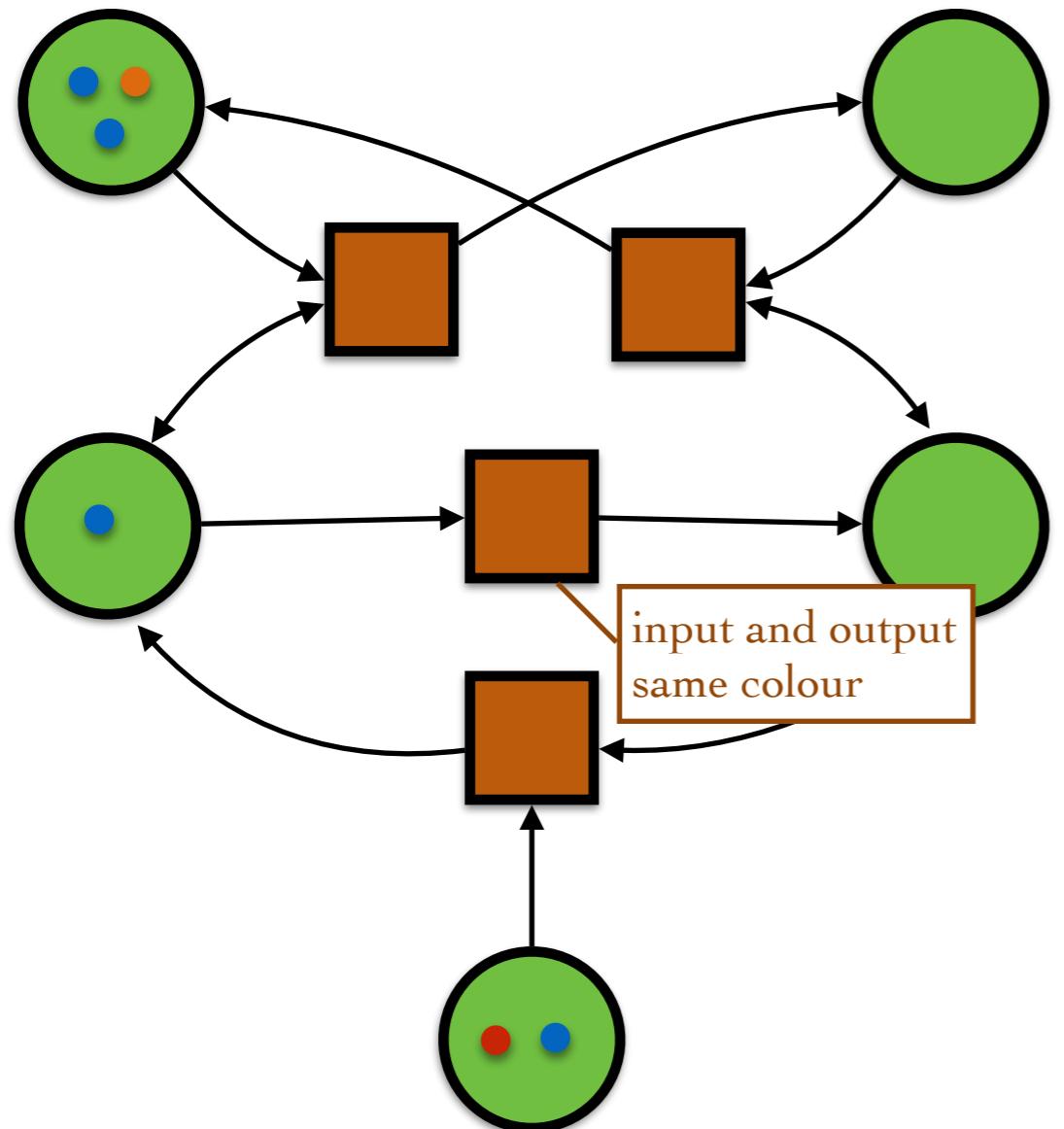
# Coloured PN



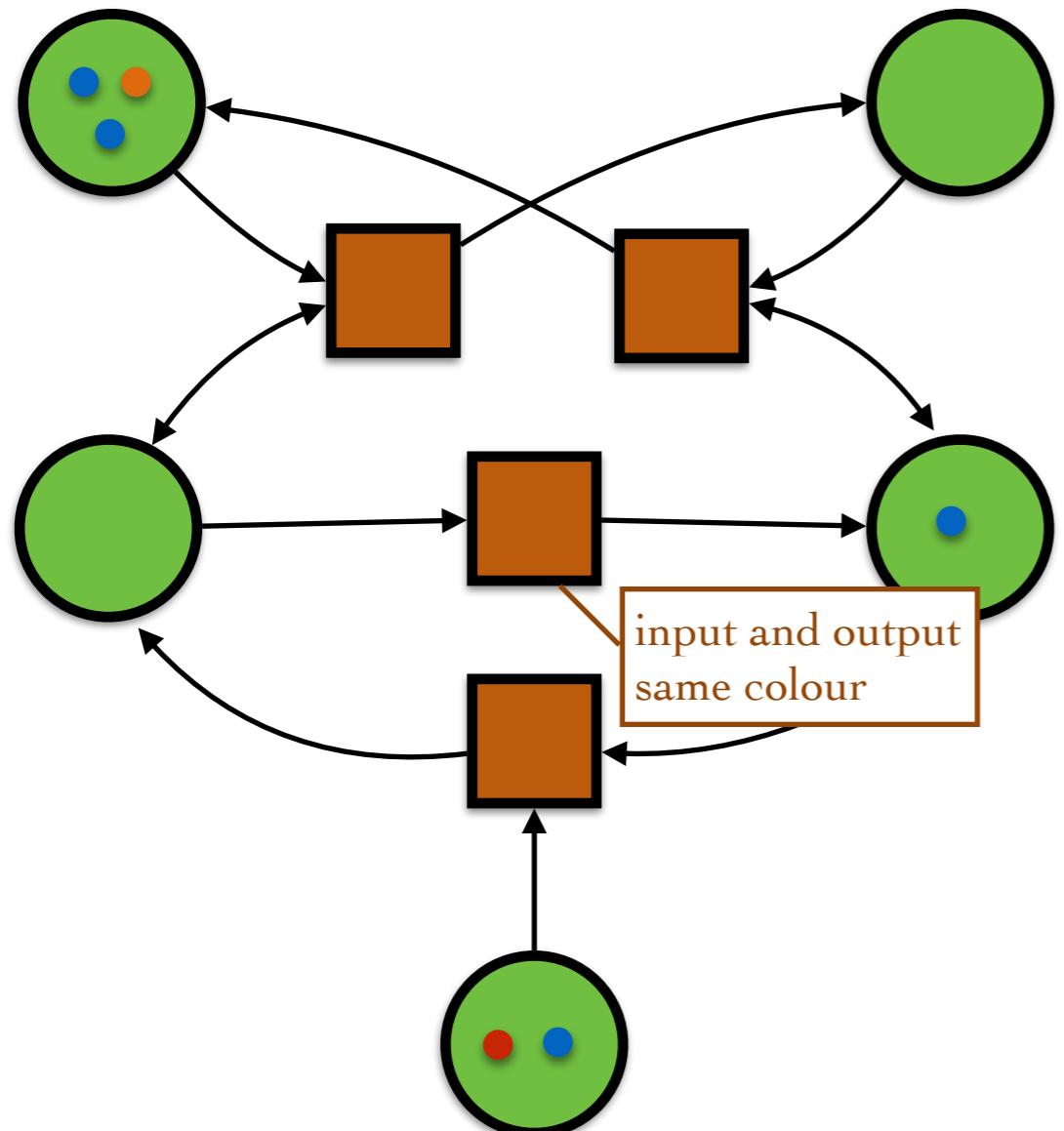
# Coloured PN



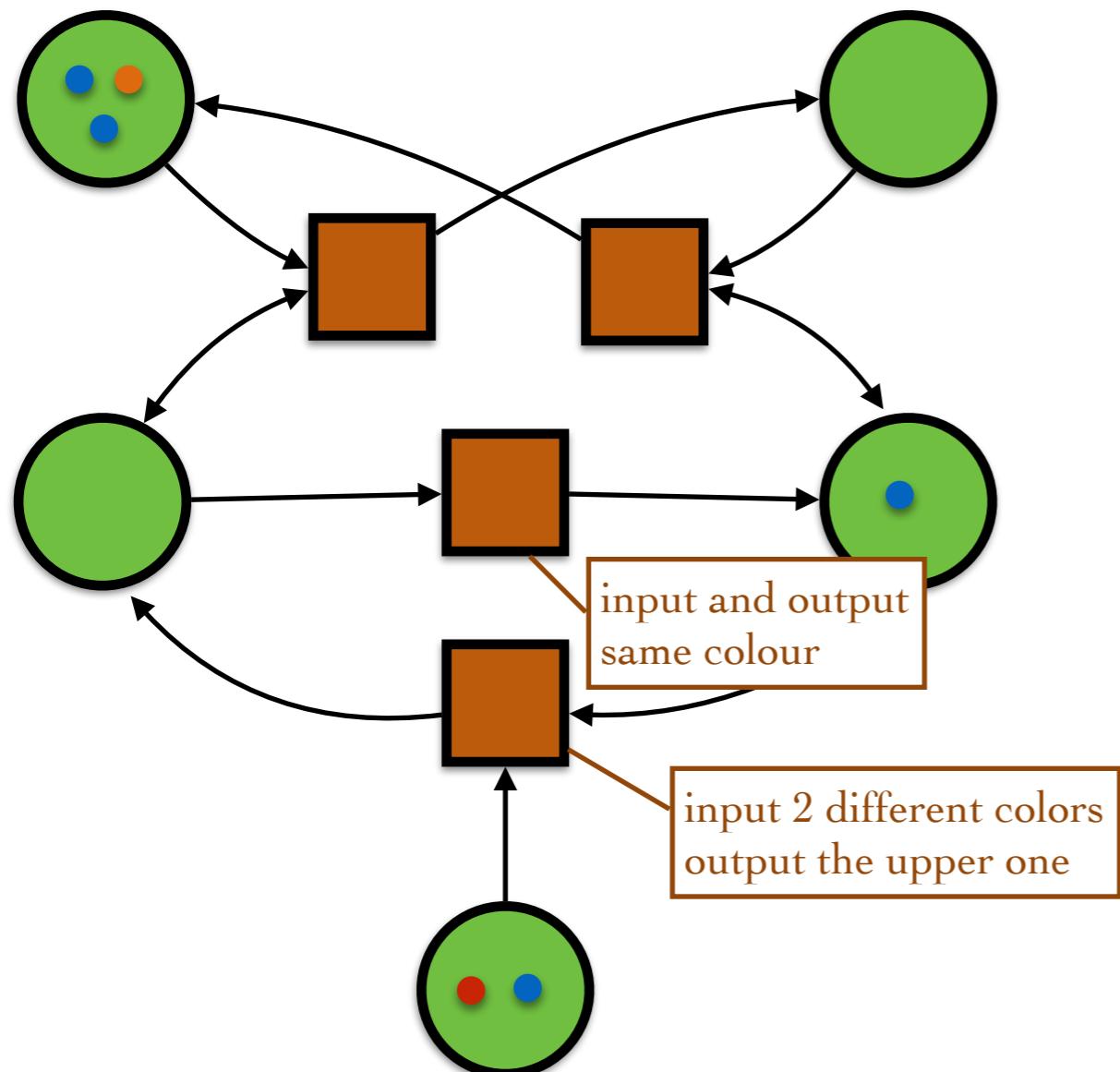
# Coloured PN



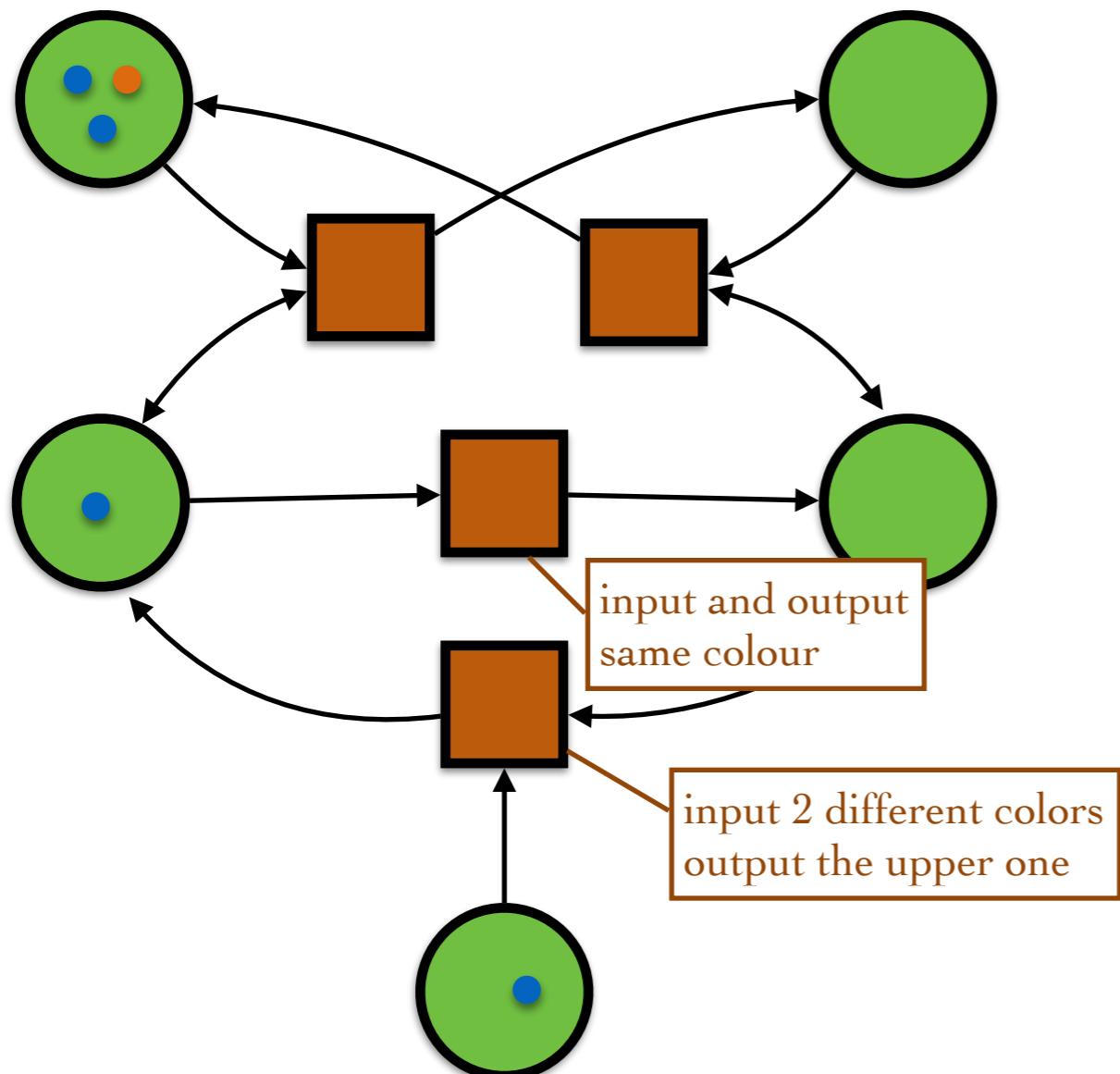
# Coloured PN



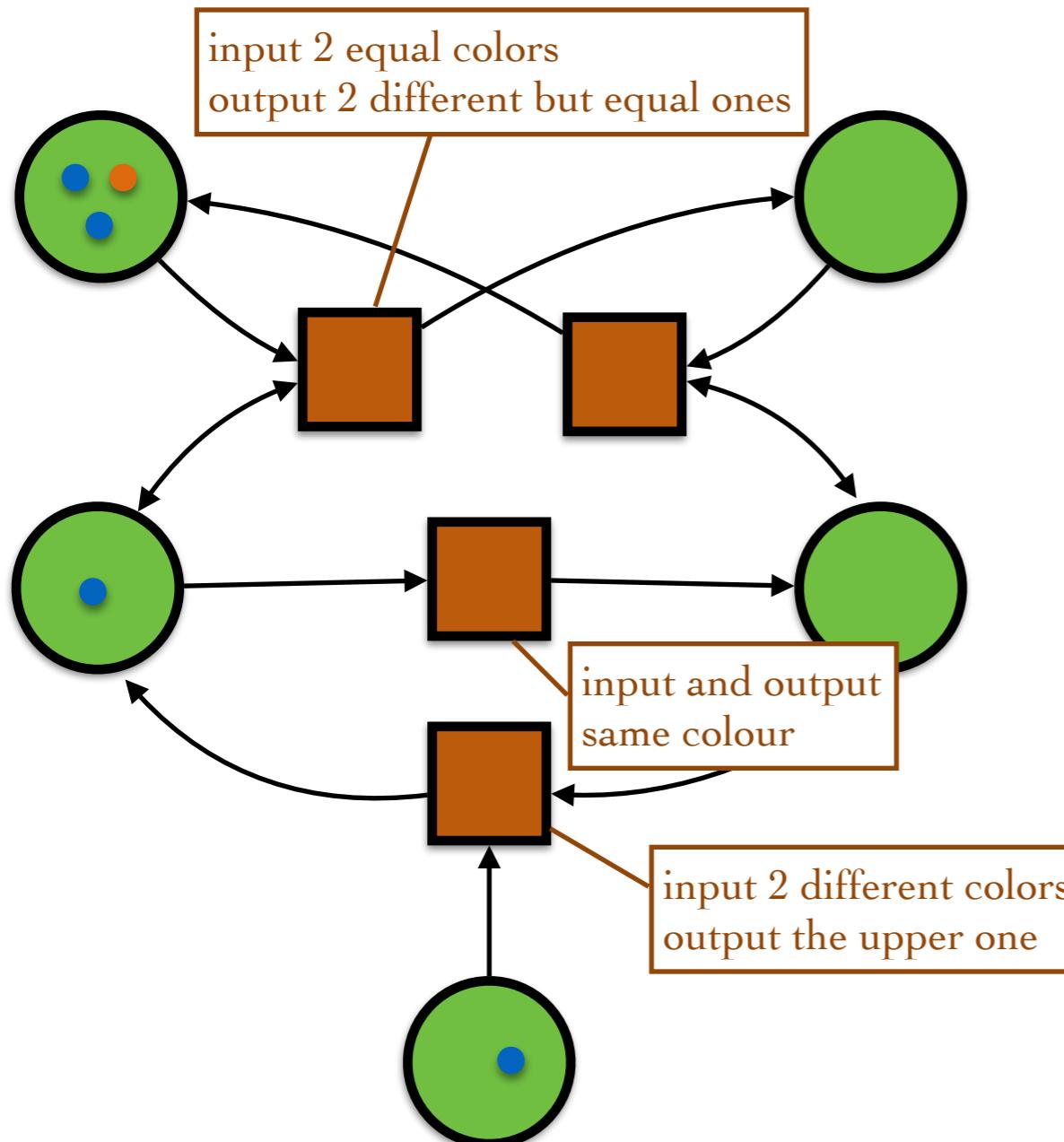
# Coloured PN



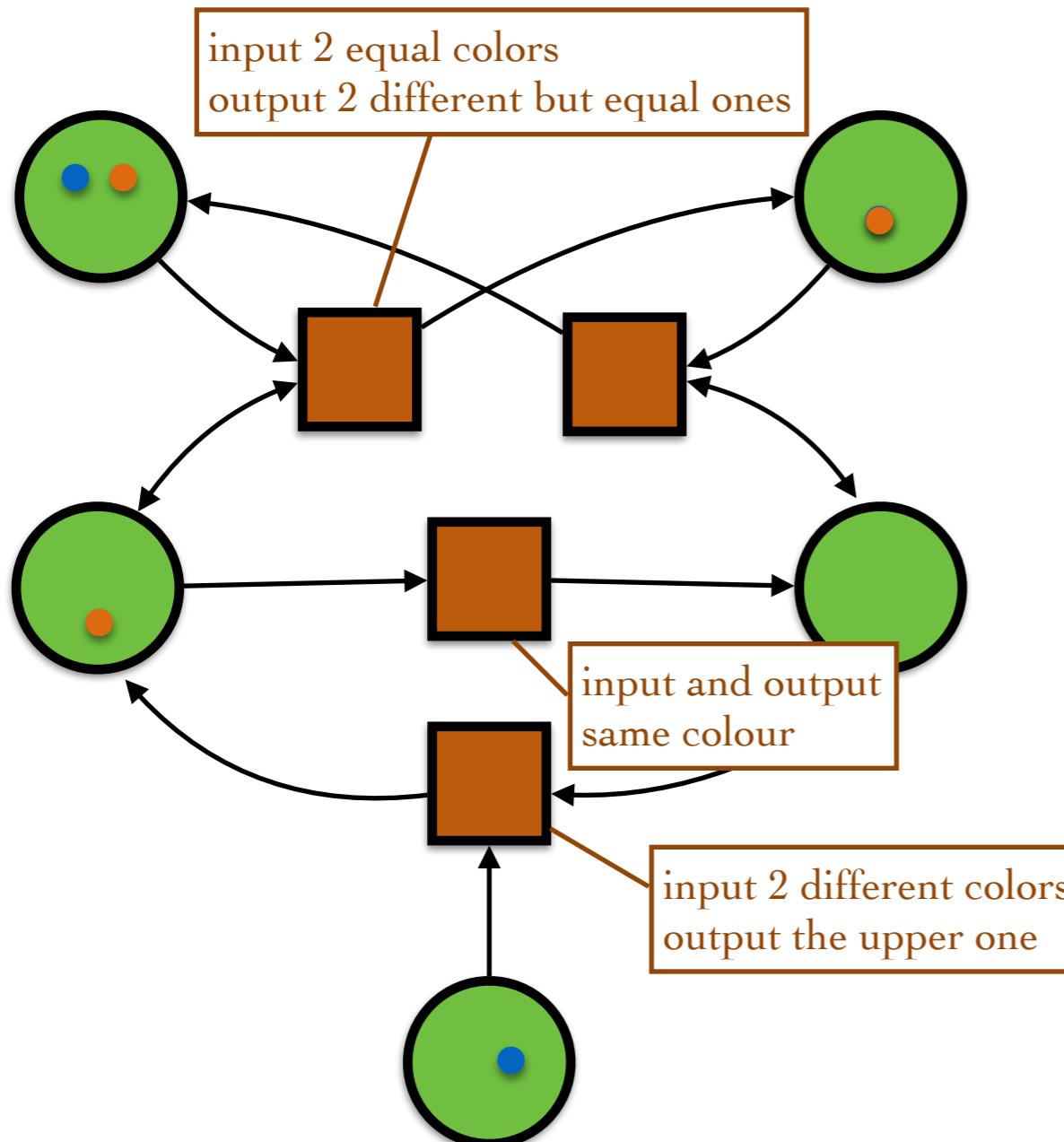
# Coloured PN



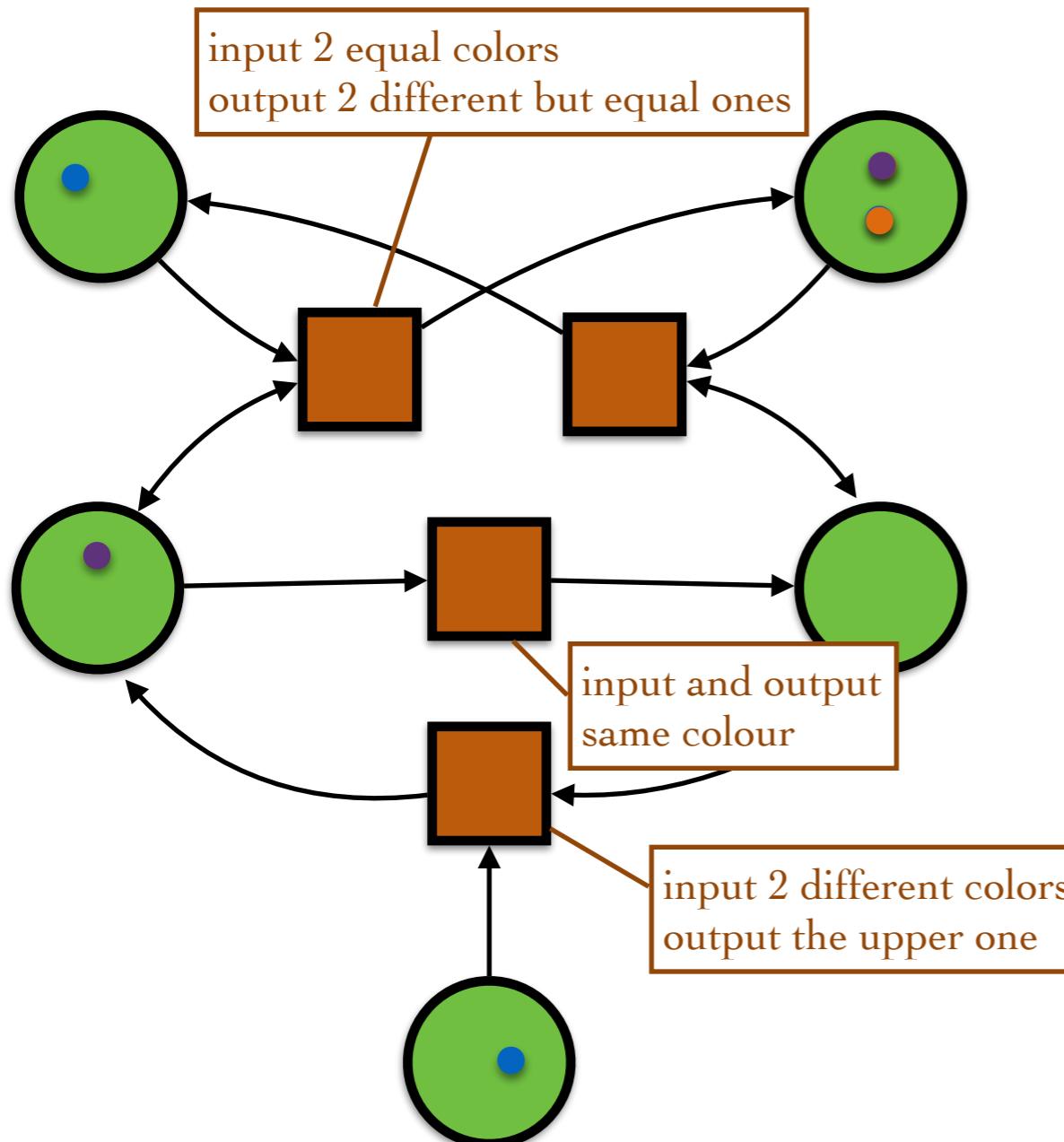
# Coloured PN



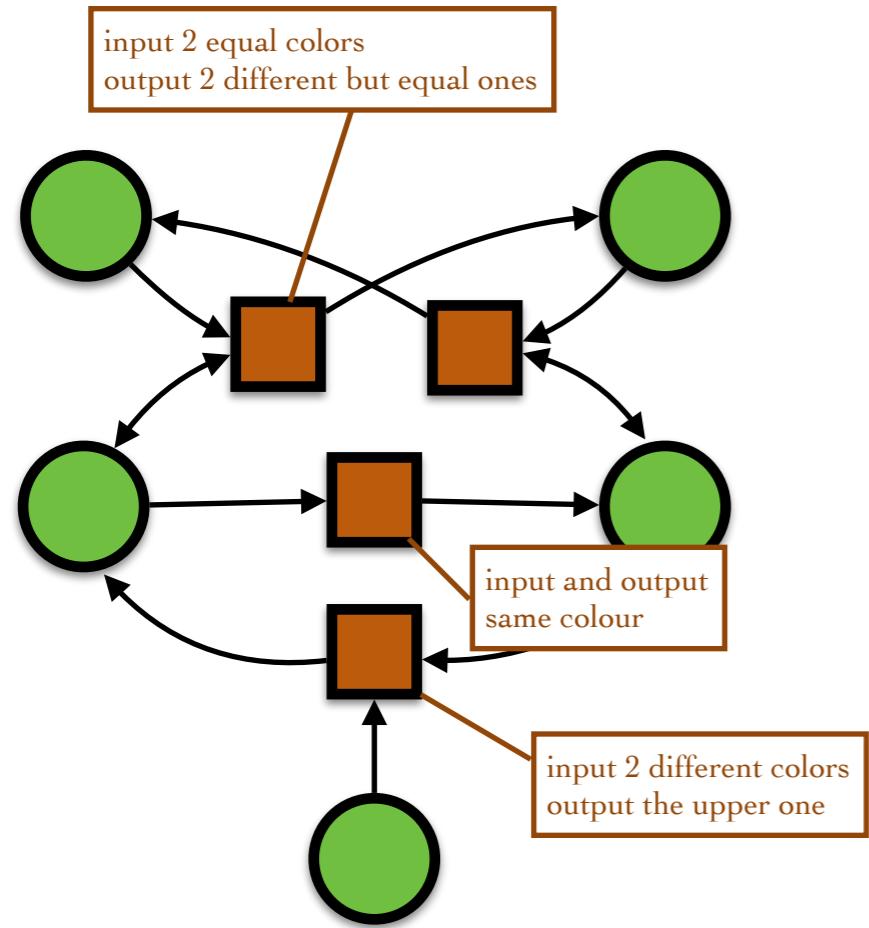
# Coloured PN



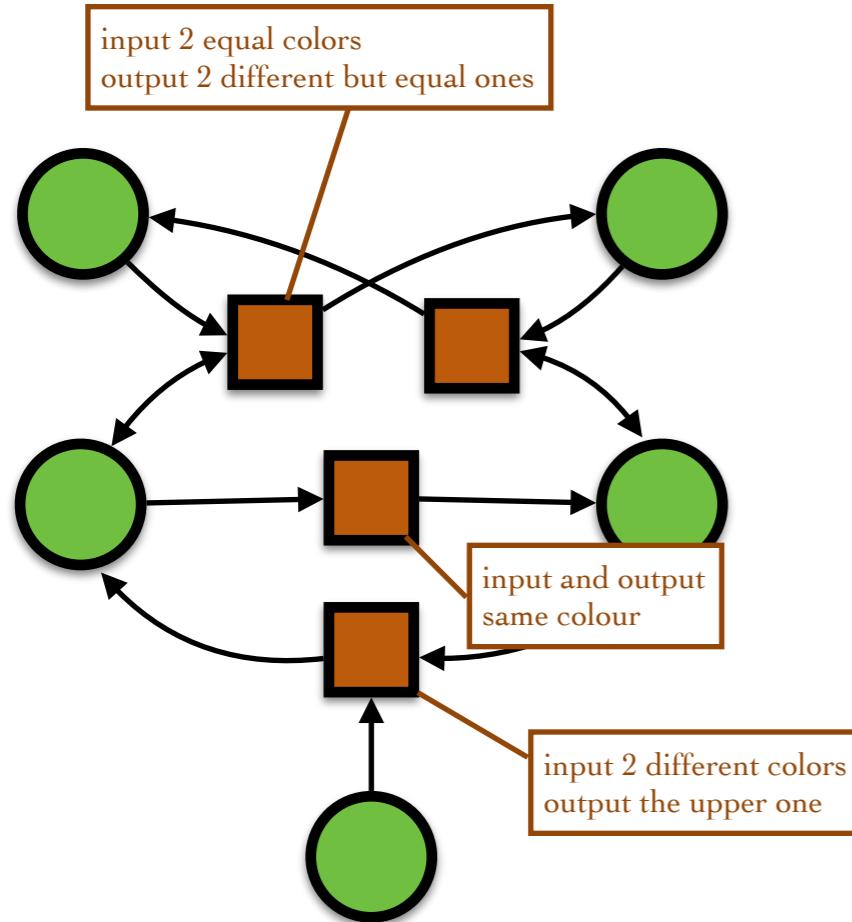
# Coloured PN



# Coloured PN



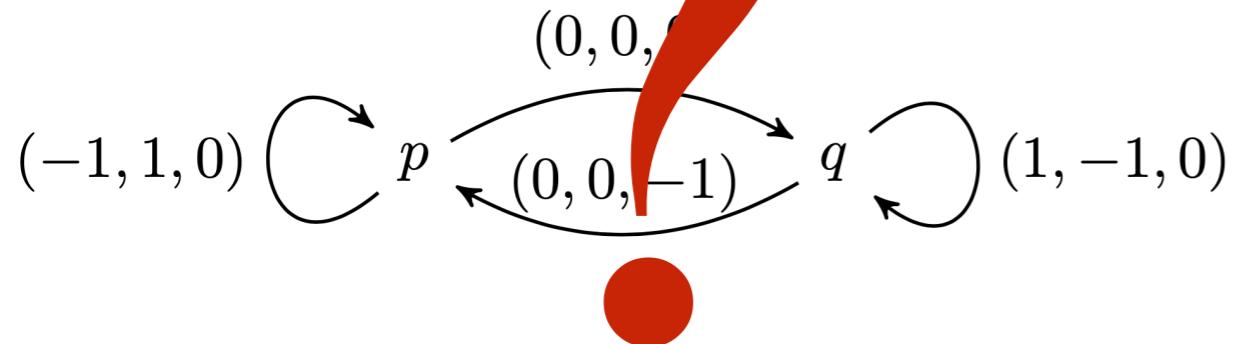
# Coloured PN



- counter programs without zero-tests:

```
1: loop
2:   loop
3:     x -= 1      y += 1
4:   loop
5:     x += 1      y -= 1
6:   z == 1
```

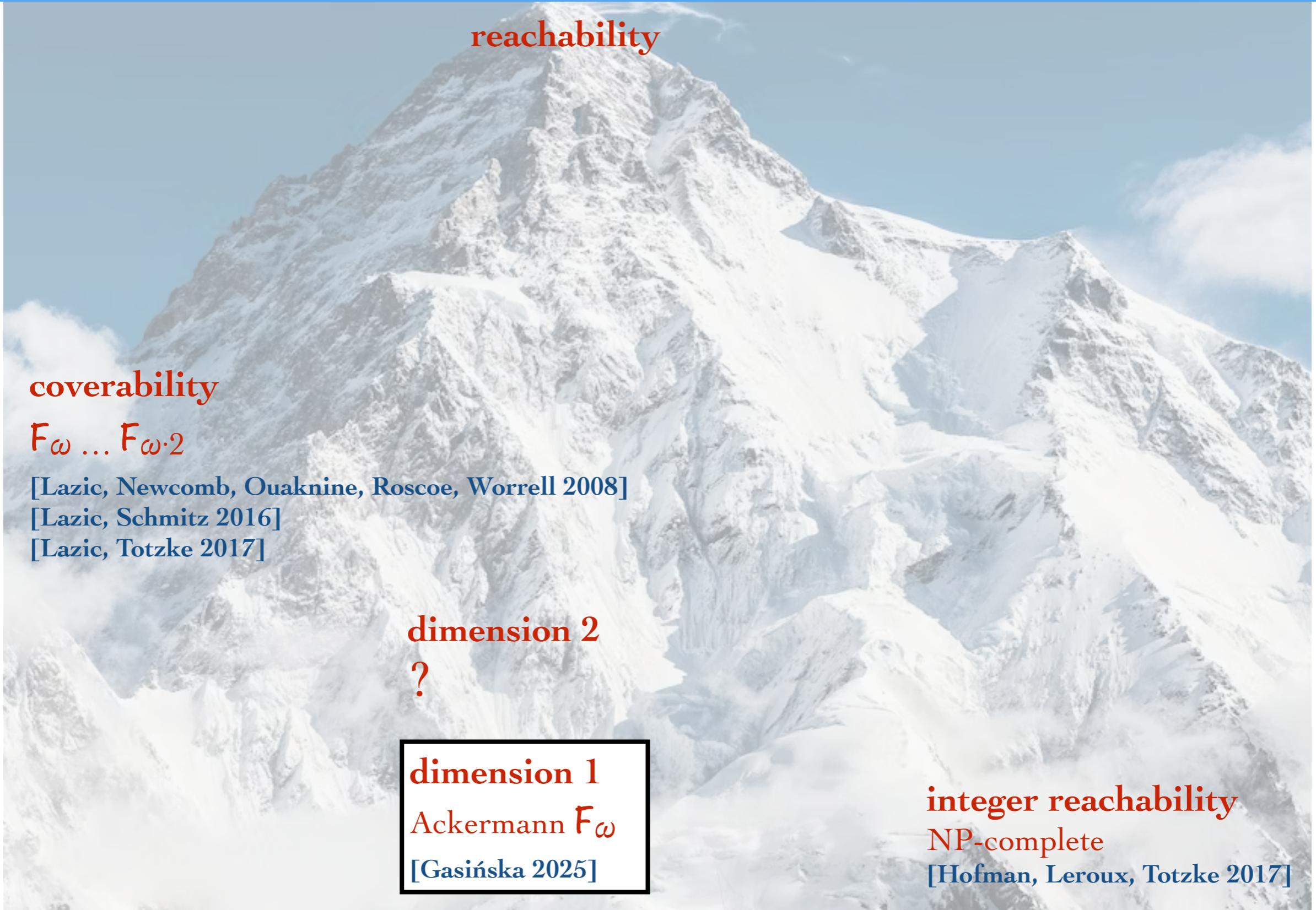
- vector addition systems with states (VASS):



# Coloured PN



# Coloured PN



reachability

coverability

$F_\omega \dots F_{\omega \cdot 2}$

[Lazic, Newcomb, Ouaknine, Roscoe, Worrell 2008]

[Lazic, Schmitz 2016]

[Lazic, Totzke 2017]

dimension 2

?

dimension 1

Ackermann  $F_\omega$

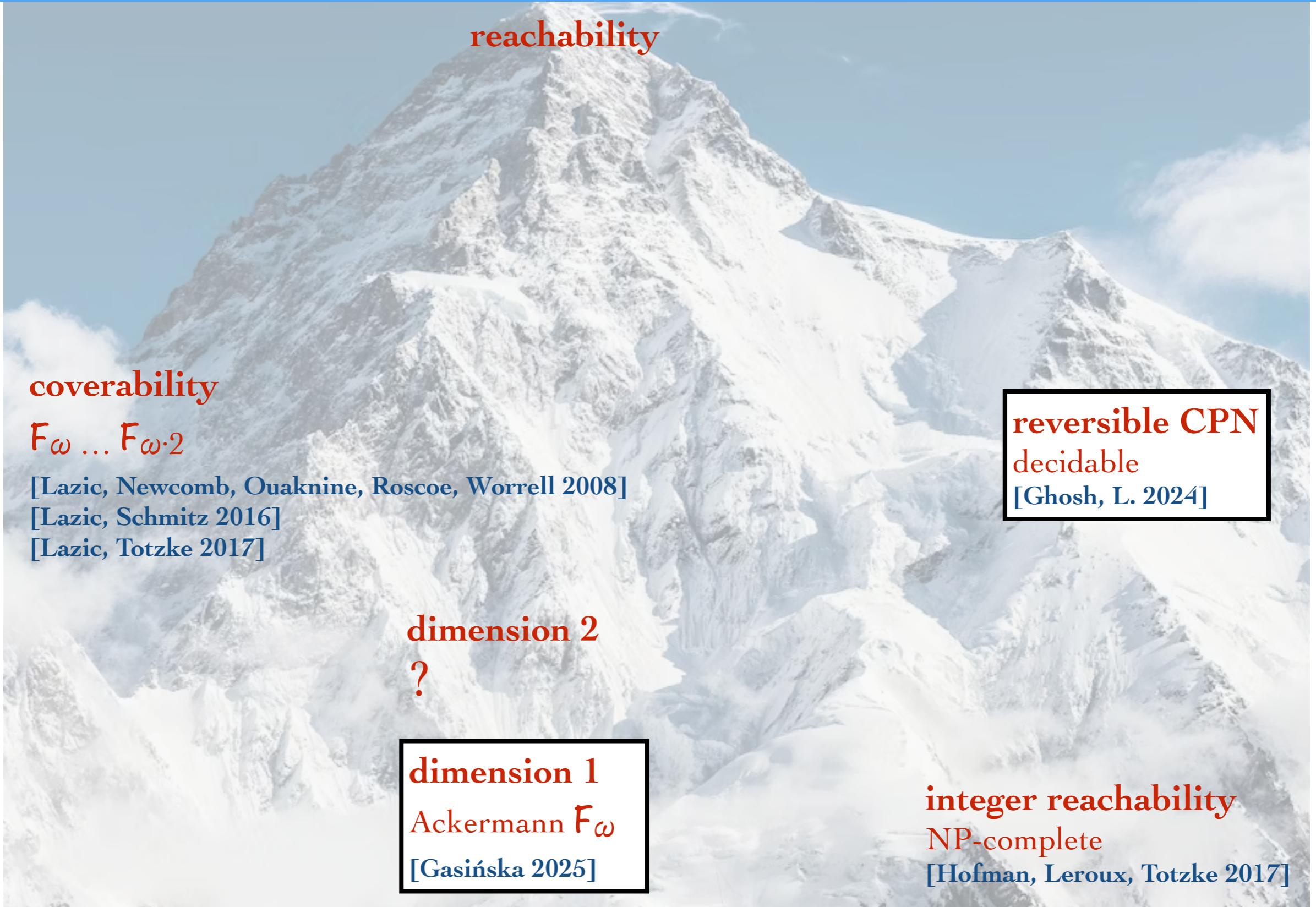
[Gasińska 2025]

integer reachability

NP-complete

[Hofman, Leroux, Totzke 2017]

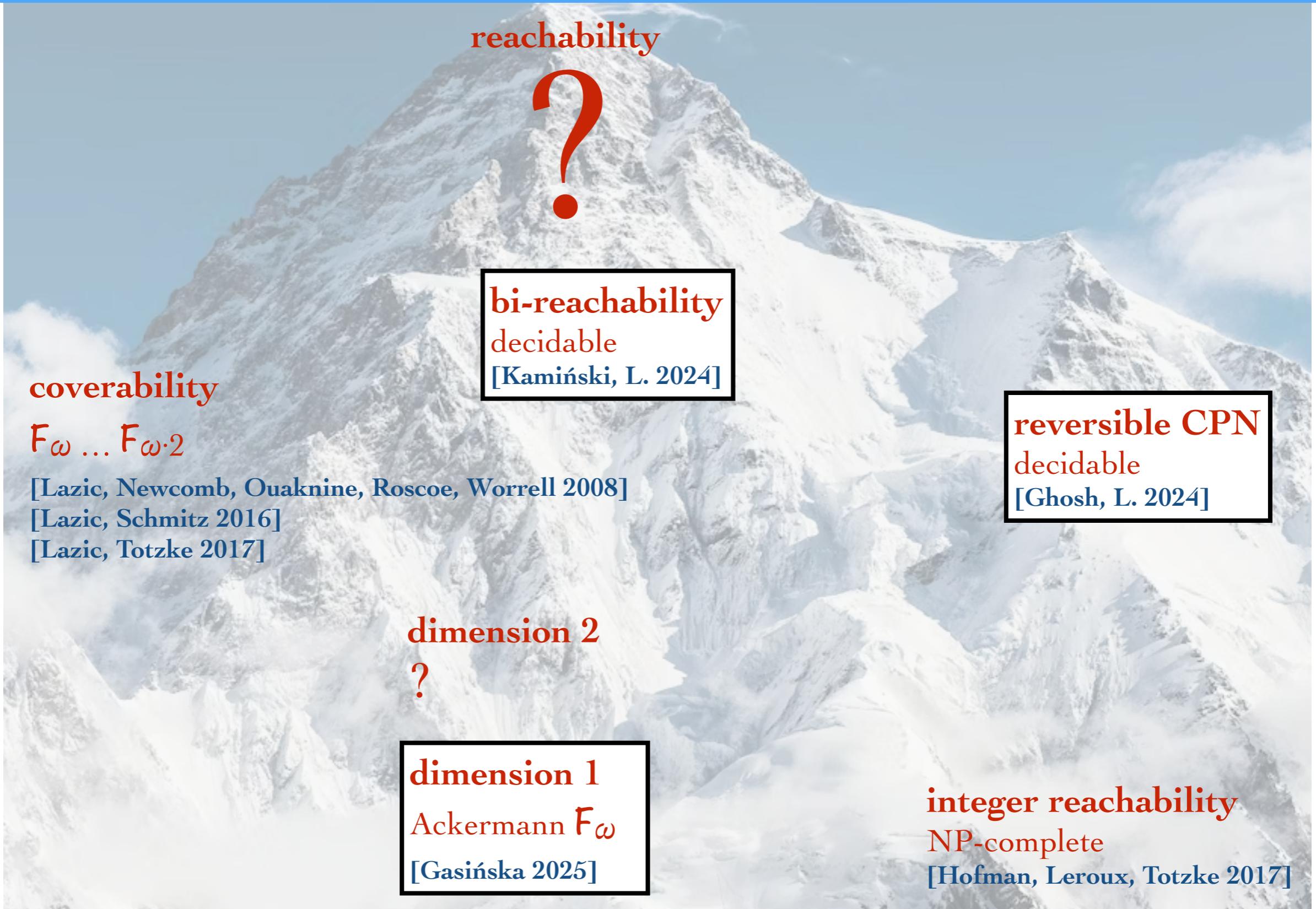
# Coloured PN



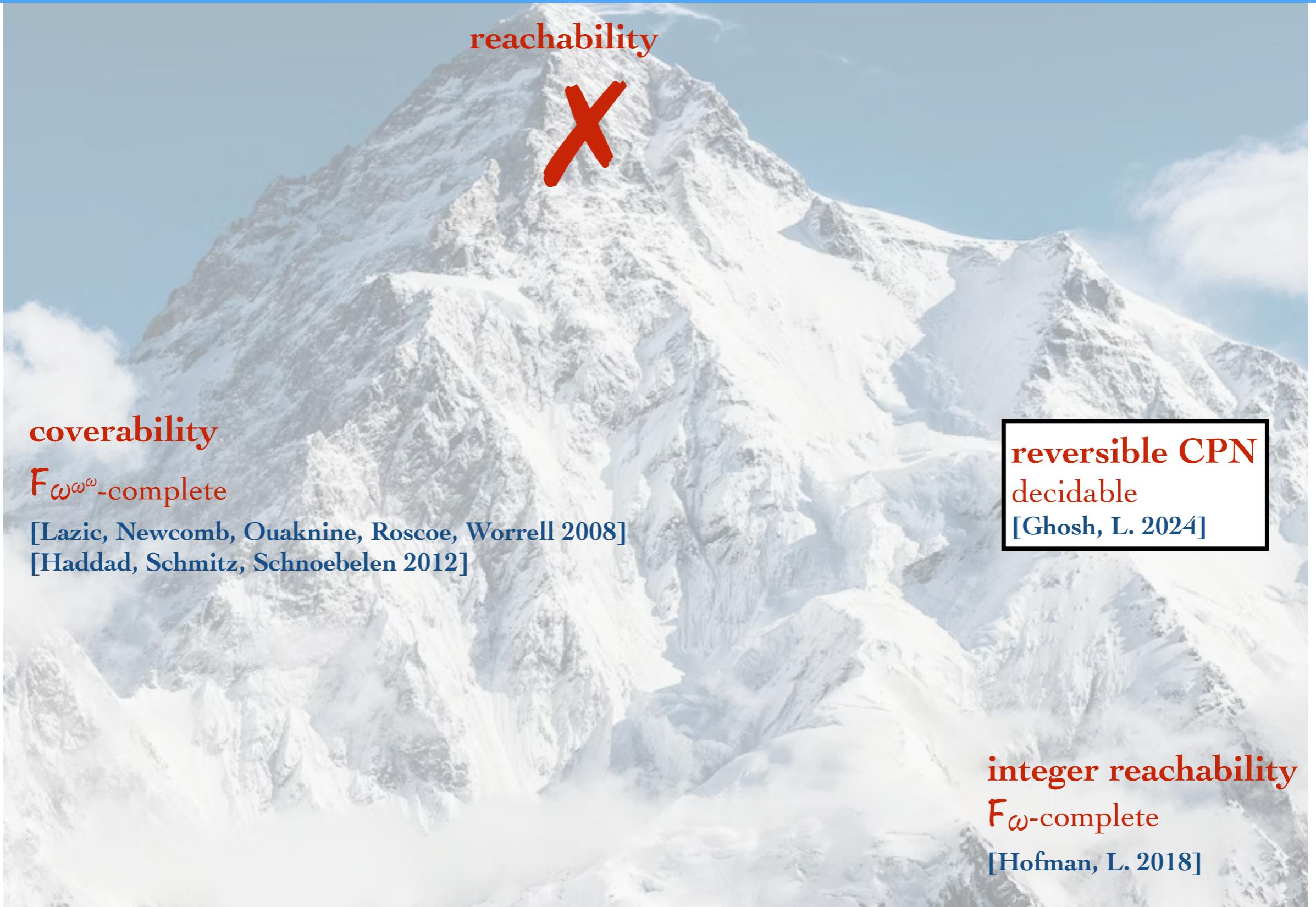
# Coloured PN



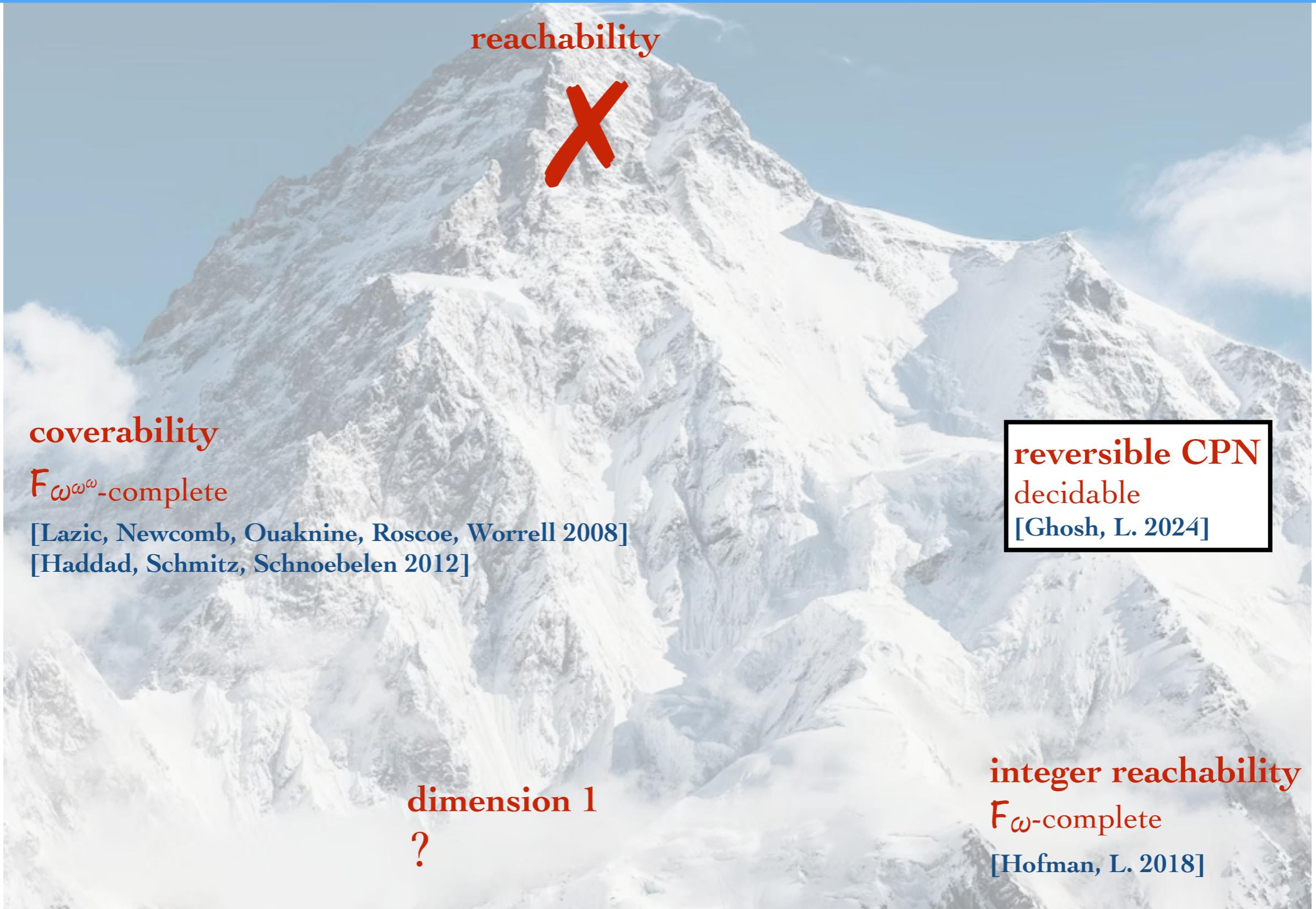
# Coloured PN



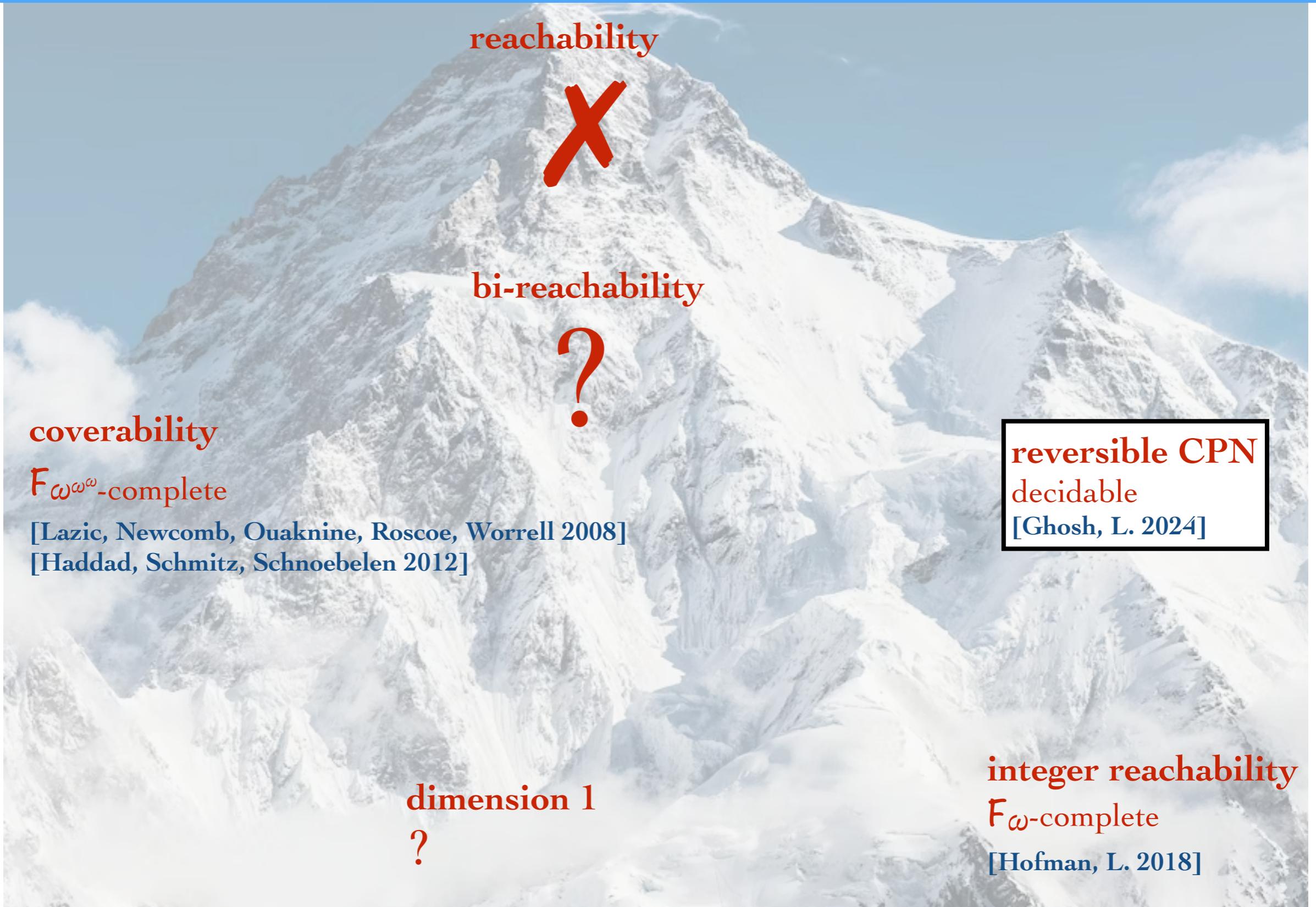
# Coloured PN (ordered colours)



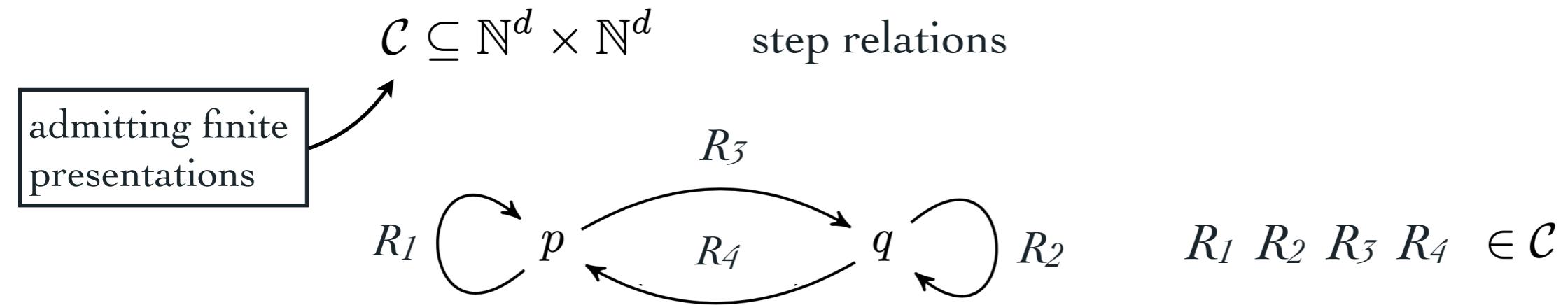
# Coloured PN (ordered colours)



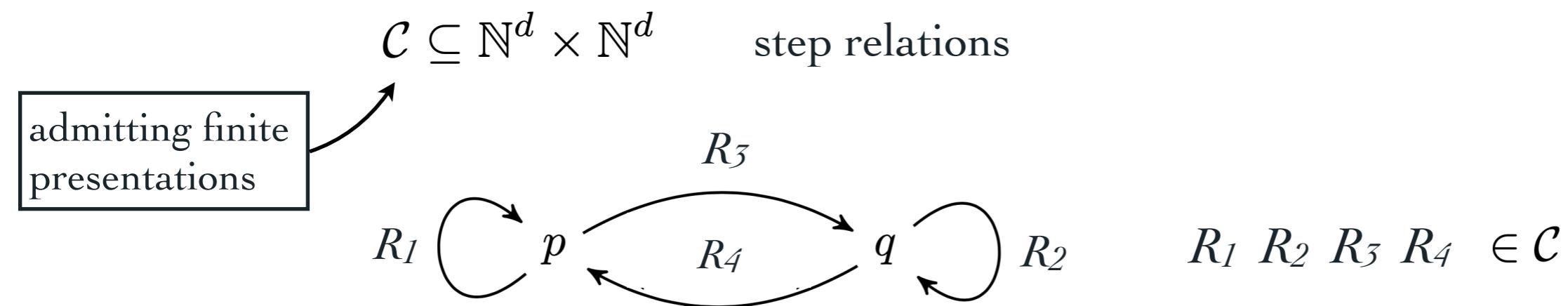
# Coloured PN (ordered colours)



# $\mathcal{C}$ -systems

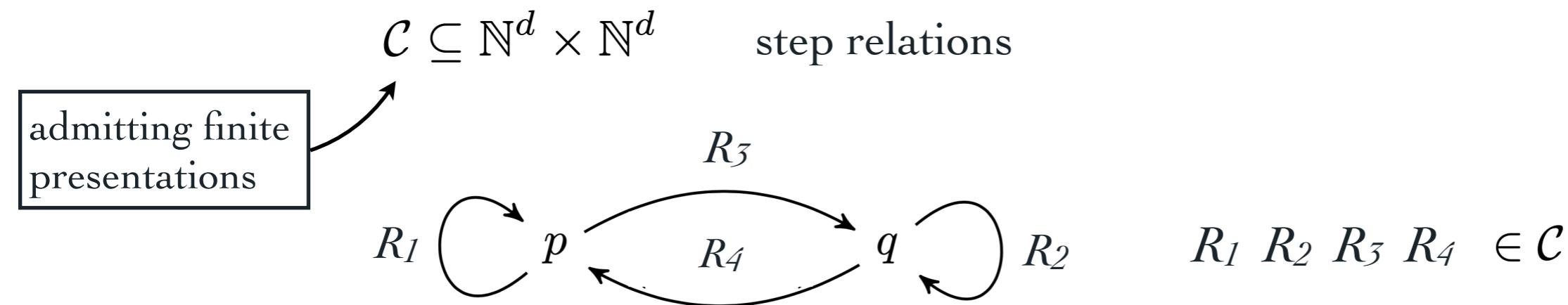


# $\mathcal{C}$ -systems



$\mathcal{C}$  = Semilinear ?

# $\mathcal{C}$ -systems

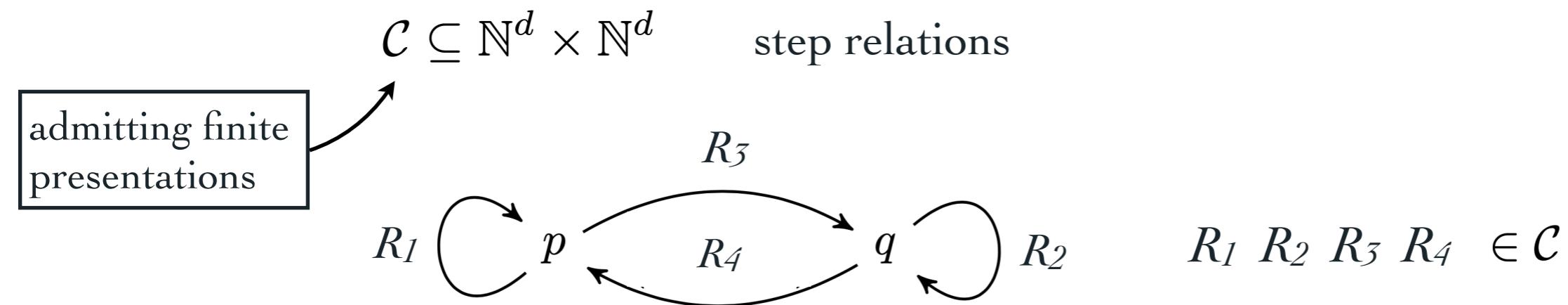


$\mathcal{C}$  = Semilinear ?

Semilinear-systems include  
counter machines !

Semilinear-systems  
are Turing-complete

# monotone $\mathcal{C}$ -systems

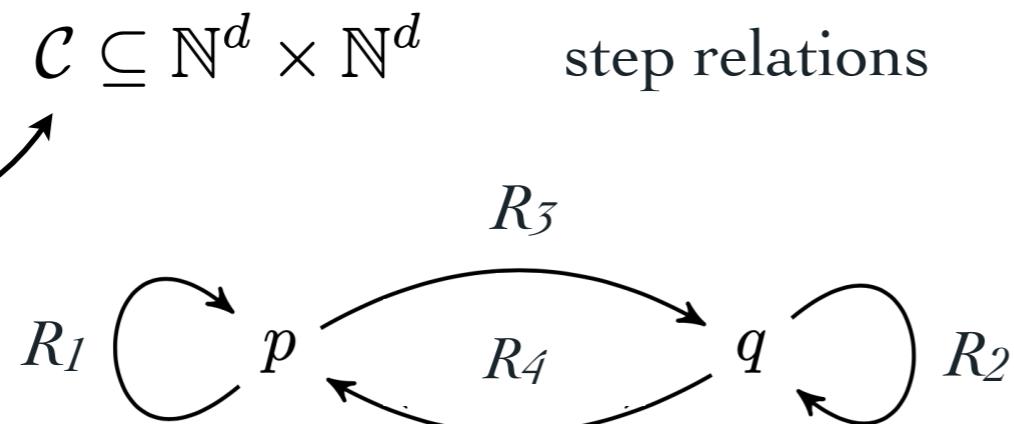


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# monotone $\mathcal{C}$ -systems



$\mathcal{C}$  = Semilinear ?

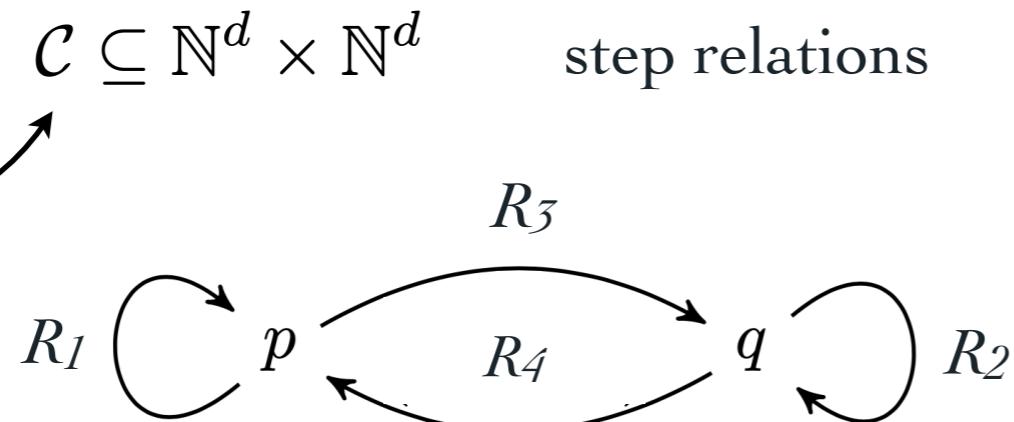
Semilinear-systems include  
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Semilinear-systems  
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$R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4 \in \mathcal{C}$   
and **monotone**

$(x, y) \in R, v \in \mathbb{N}^d$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $(x + v, y + v) \in R$

# monotone $\mathcal{C}$ -systems



$\mathcal{C}$  = Semilinear ?

Semilinear-systems include  
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$\mathcal{C} \mapsto$  (reachability relations of monotone  $\mathcal{C}$ -systems)  
preserves decidability

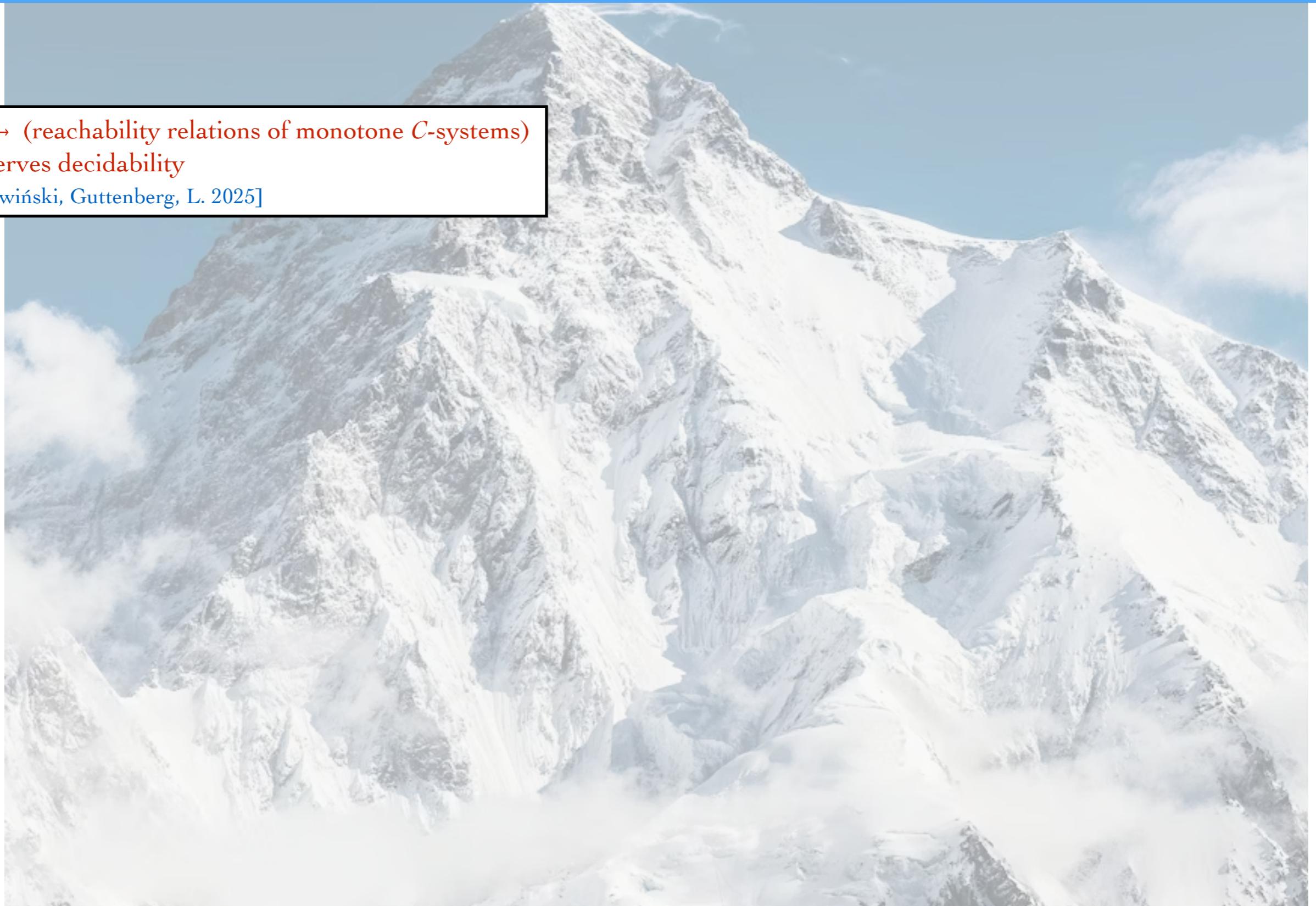
[Czerwiński, Guttenberg, L. 2025]

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# monotone $C$ -systems - applications

$C \rightarrow$  (reachability relations of monotone  $C$ -systems)  
preserves decidability  
[Czerwiński, Guttenberg, L. 2025]



# monotone $C$ -systems - applications

$\mathcal{C} \rightarrow$  (reachability relations of monotone  $C$ -systems)  
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VASS with nested 0-tests

...



VASS with 2 nested zero-tested counters



VASS with 1 zero-tested counter



VASS



Semilinear

# monotone $C$ -systems - applications

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[Czerwiński, Guttenberg, L. 2025]

VASS with nested 0-tests

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VASS



Semilinear

Pushdown VASS

...

CFG-controlled VASS of nesting 2

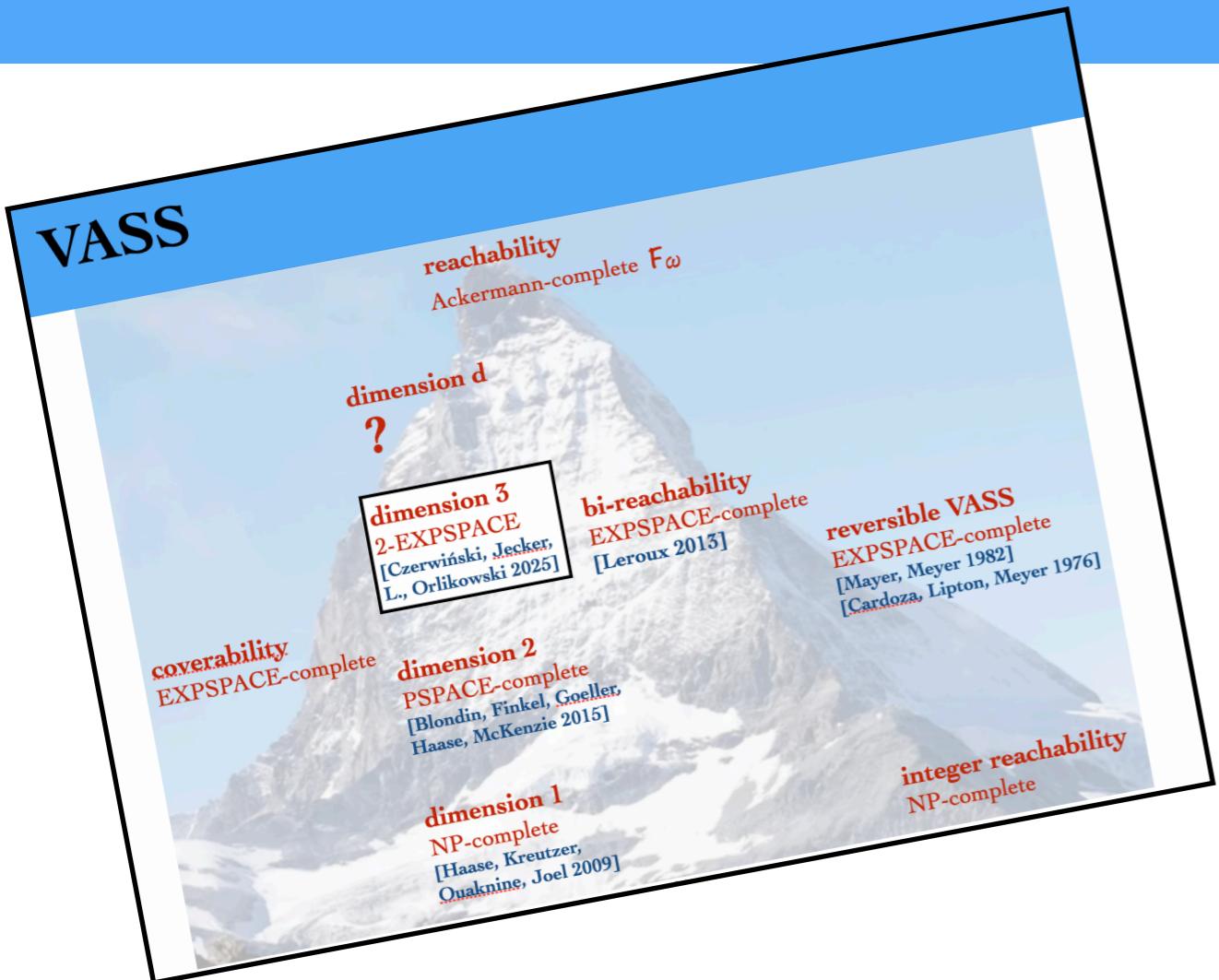


CFG-controlled VASS of nesting 1

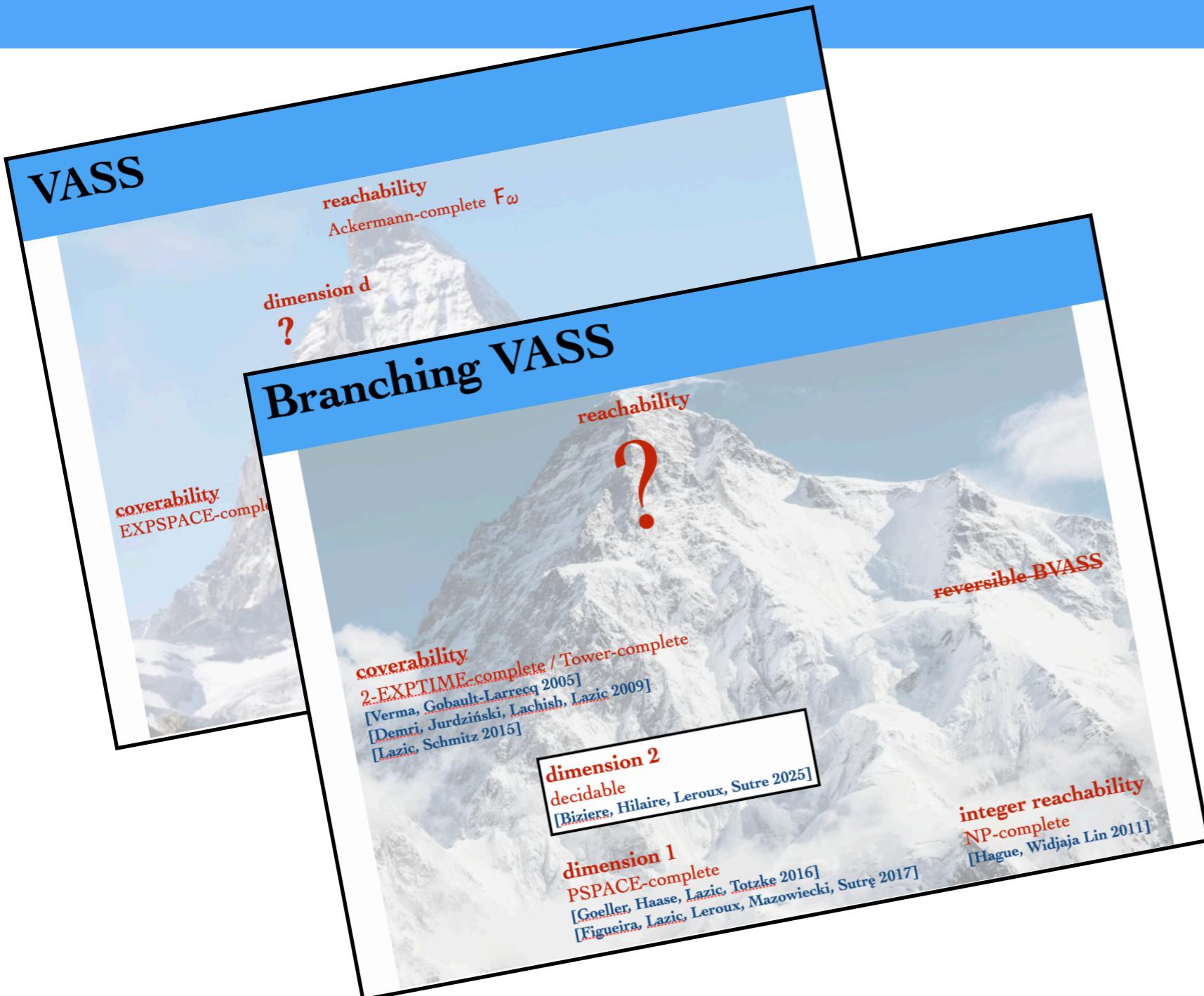


CFG-controlled VASS of nesting 0

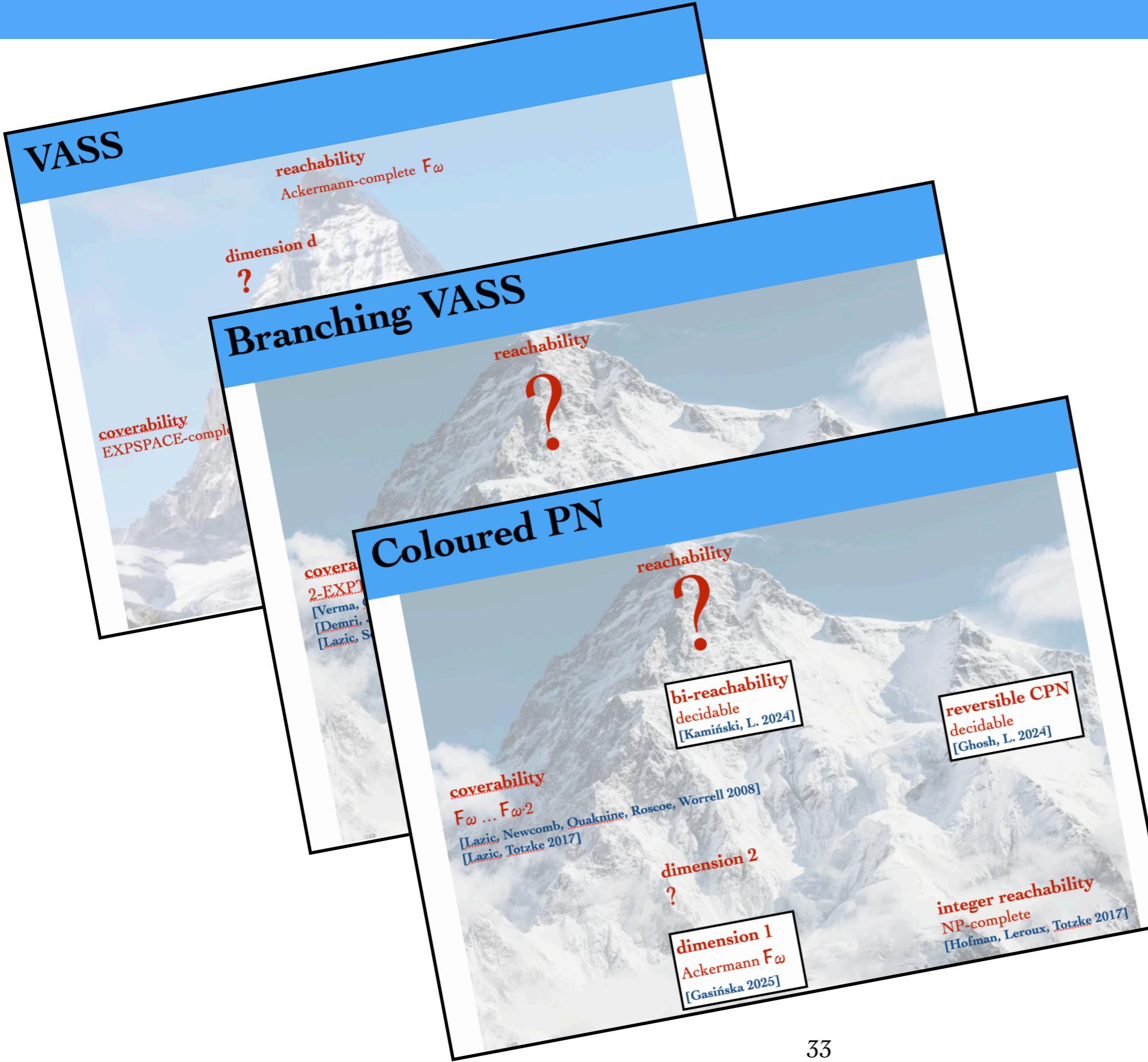
# Open questions



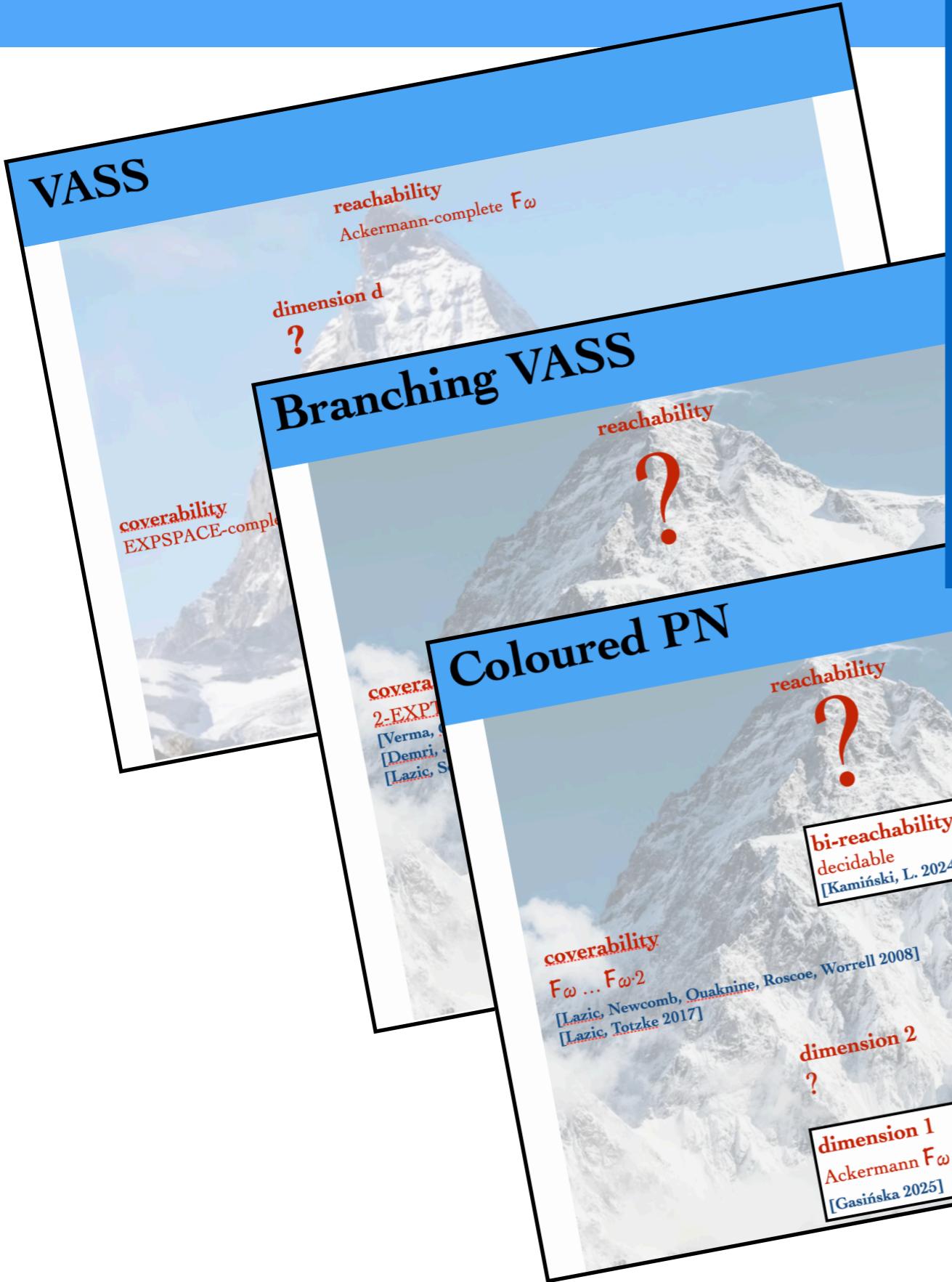
# Open questions



# Open questions



# Open questions



**Sławek Lasota**  
TEACHING PAPERS COMMUNITY SERVICE PC PARTICIPATION INVITED TALKS PROJECTS



**Slides**

- [Reachability in extensions of Petri nets](#)
- [Which extensions of vector addition systems have decidable reachability?](#)
- [Orbit-finite linear programming](#)
- [The reachability problem for Petri nets](#)
- [Orbit-finite linear programming](#)
- [Frontiers of automatic analysis of concurrent systems](#)
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- [Some recent advances in register automata](#)
- [Improved Ackermannian lower bound for the Petri nets reachability problem](#)
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- [Computation theory with atoms I](#)
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- [Reachability analysis of first-order definable pushdown automata](#)
- [Computation with atoms](#)

thank you!