

# complexiteit en spellen

complexiteit 2024  
Hendrik Jan Hoogeboom  
15 mei 2024

Gastcollege bij Complexiteit  
(2024, J.de Graaf en L.Edixhoven).  
Geen tentamenstof.

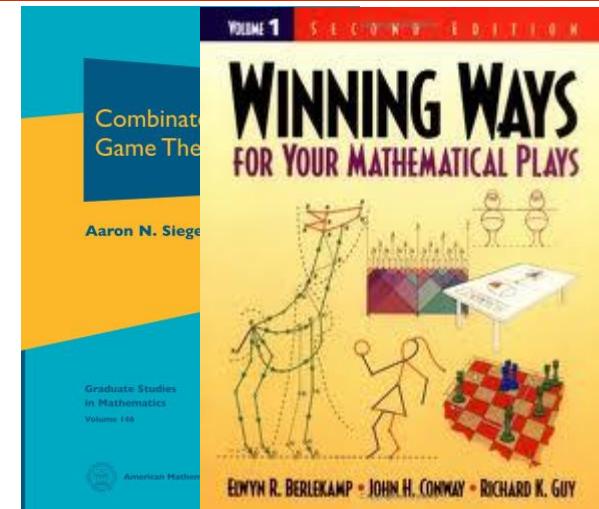
Thema: Complexiteitsklassen die ‘horen’ bij  
**puzzels en spellen**.

Naar het boek van Hearn en Demaine over  
“Constraint Logic”.

Eerder ook in Seminar Combinatorial Algorithms (W.Kosters en HJ.Hoogeboom) .

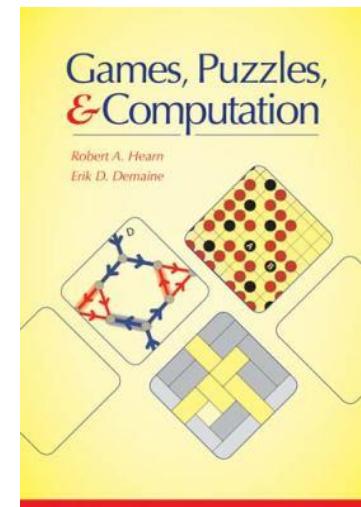
# 'game theory' fields

combinatorial game theory  
algorithms  
mathematical theory



economic game theory  
von Neumann, Nash  
strategy, optimization expected profit

computational complexity  
models of computation: *games*  
turing machine



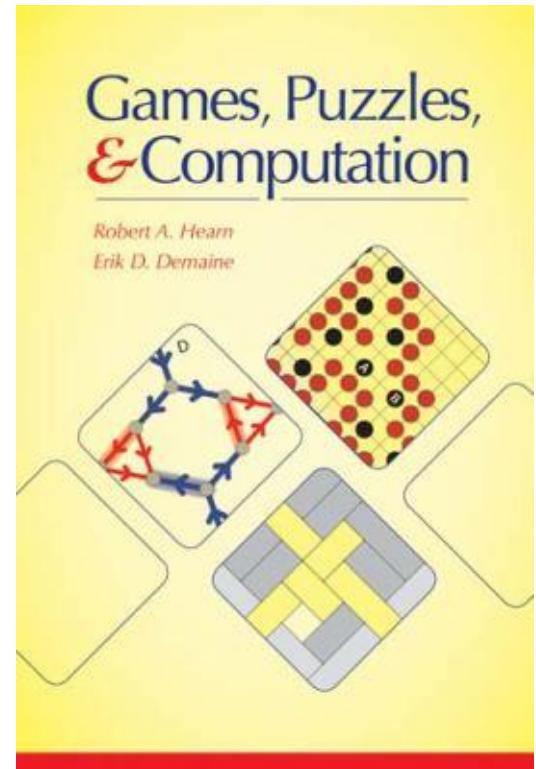
## Games, Puzzles, & Computation

*Robert A. Hearn  
Erik D. Demaine*

(2009, AKPeters)

E. Demaine and R.A. Hearn. Constraint Logic:  
A Uniform Framework for Modeling Computation as  
Games. In: Proceedings of the 23rd Annual IEEE  
Conference on Computational Complexity, June 2008.

R.A. Hearn. Games, Puzzles, and Computation  
PhD thesis, MIT, 2006.

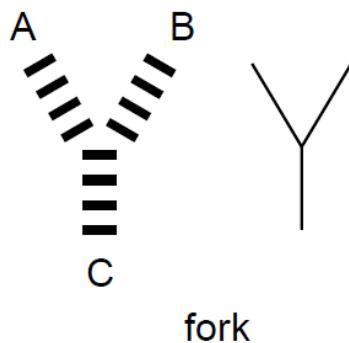


# domino computing



Computing with Planar Toppling Domino Arrangements

William M. Stevens



challenge:  
(no) timing & (no) bridges

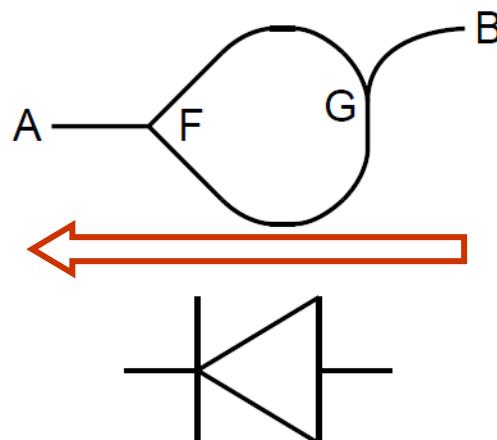


Fig. 3. A one way line

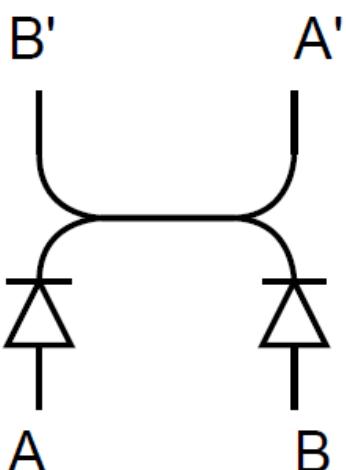


Fig. 4. A single line crossover

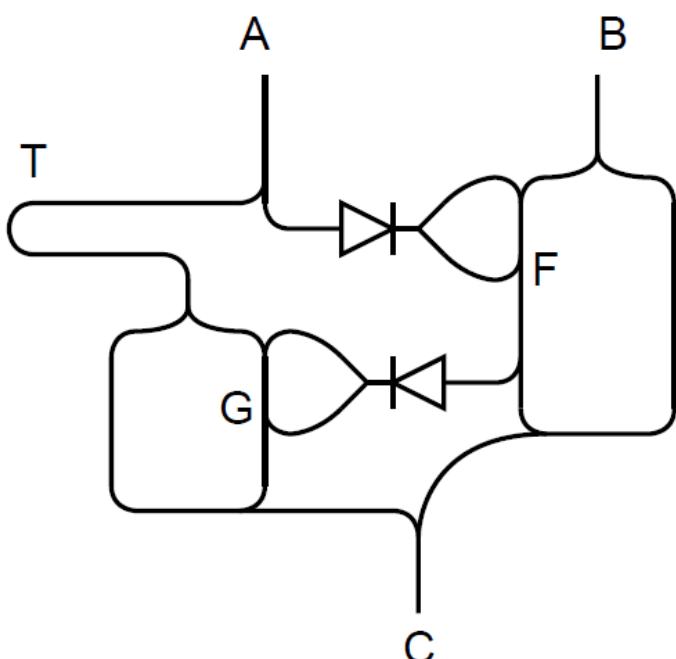


Fig. 5. A both mechanism

# what is a game?

## characteristics

- bounded state
- moves, repetition
- players
- goal

study the complexity of

- simulation (0p) *domino, game of life*
- puzzles (1p) *rush hour*
- board games (2p) ‘generalized’ *chess*
- teams



We gaan uit van een eindig aantal toestanden.  
We onderscheiden het aantal spelers

- nul:      **simulaties**
- één:       **puzzels**
- twee:      **spellen**

en ook of zetten wel/niet herhaald mogen worden

- **bounded / unbounded**

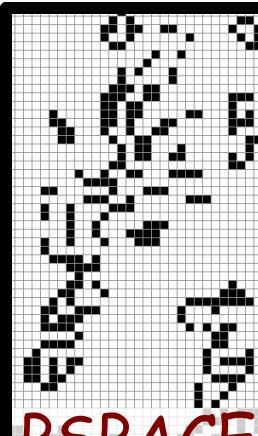
Daarbij horen zes klassen spellen en passende complexiteitsklassen.

Voor elke klasse is een **Constraint Logic** die deze complexiteit heeft, en gebruikt kan worden om naar concrete spellen te reduceren. Constraint Logic is een spel/puzzel waarin takken in een graaf kunnen worden omgedraaid (volgens simpele regels)

# Complexity of Games & Puzzles

[Demaine, Hearn & many others]

unbounded



PSPACE



PSPACE



EXPTIME

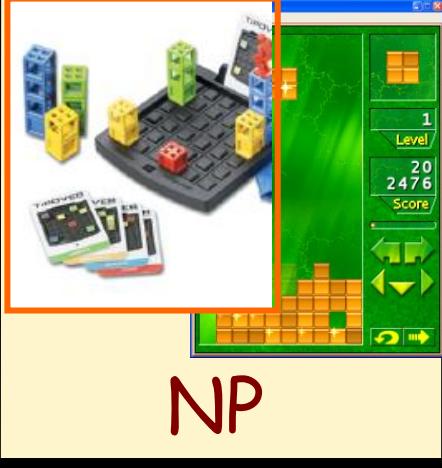


Rengo Kriegspiel?

bounded



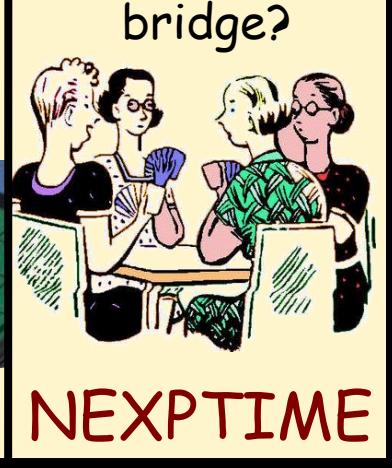
P



NP



PSPACE



bridge?

0 players  
(simulation)

1 player  
(puzzle)

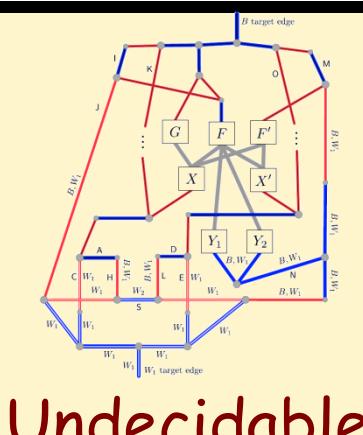
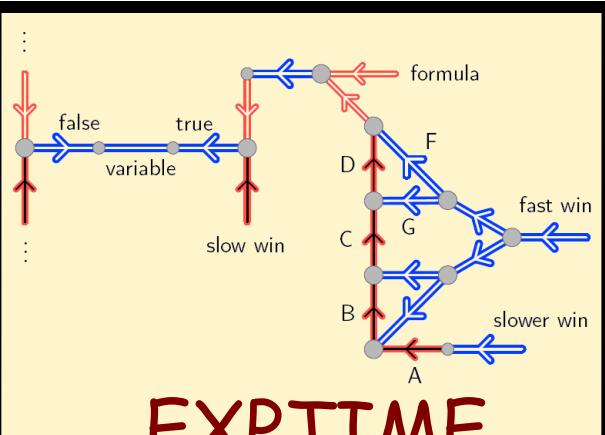
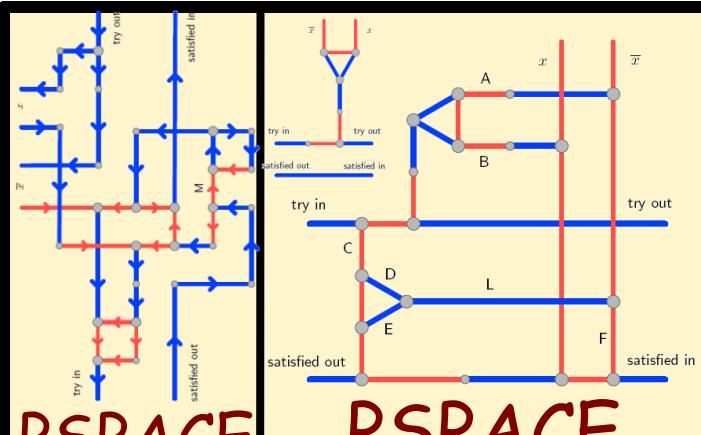
2 players  
(game)

team,  
imperfect info

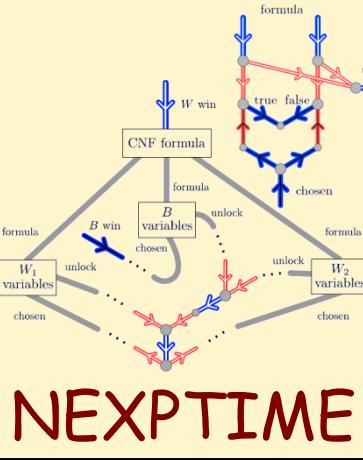
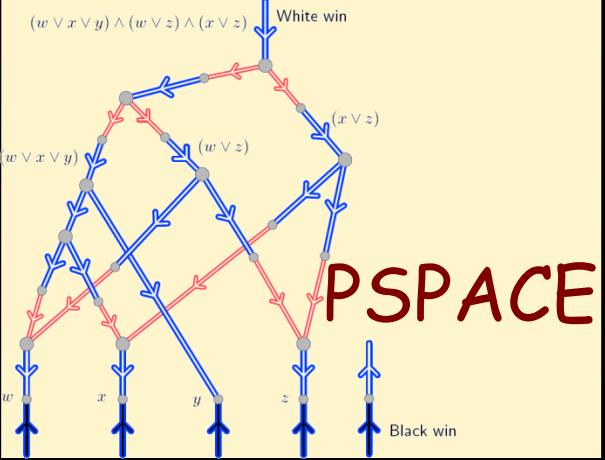
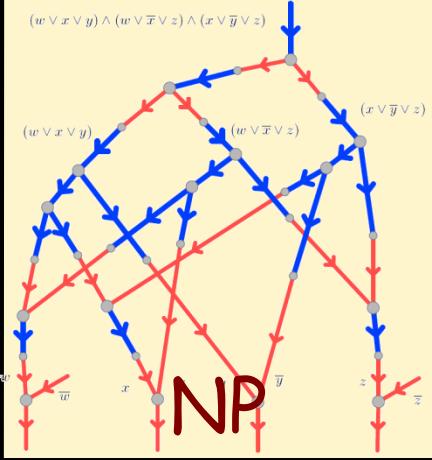
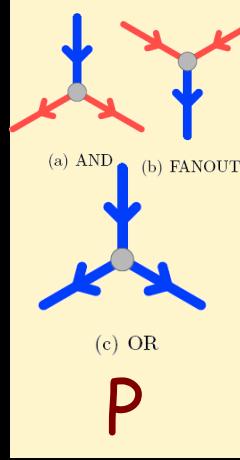
# Constraint Logic

[Hearn & Demaine 2009]

unbounded



bounded



0 players  
(simulation)

1 player  
(puzzle)

2 players  
(game)

team,  
imperfect info

We gaan eerst kijken naar

- **tijdscomplexiteit** (voor bounded)
- **ruimtecomplexiteit** (unbounded)

en

- **deterministische**,
- **niet-deterministische** en
- **alternerende(!) TuringMachine** berekeningen.

De bijbehorende **complexiteitsklassen** passen precies op de zes klassen van spellen.

deel 1: tijd- en ruimtecomplexiteit

*algemeen leerboek* (ook talen en automaten):  
Michael Sipser, Introduction to the Theory  
of Computation.

Ch.7&8 Time & Space complexity.

Ch.10.3 beschrijft Alternation.

*gevorderd:*

Arora and Barak, Computational Complexity A  
modern approach. Cambridge University  
Press. 2009

► Complexiteit (dit vak)

- hoeveel werk kost deze oplossing? **(tijd)complexiteit**
- hoeveel geheugen? **ruimtecomplexiteit**

# basic complexity classes

game complexity classes

vs.

TM resources: *space & time*

Cook/Levin

NP completeness SAT

Savitch

PSPACE = NPSPACE

Er zijn verschillende TM modellen mogelijk.  
Invoer tape, meerdere werktapes, eenzijdig,  
dubbelzijdig.

Voor ruimte complexiteit onderscheiden we een  
werktape naast de invoertape. Dit maakt  
logaritmische complexiteit mogelijk: v  l  
minder schrijfruimte dan de invoer lang is.

Polynomiale ruimte complexiteit

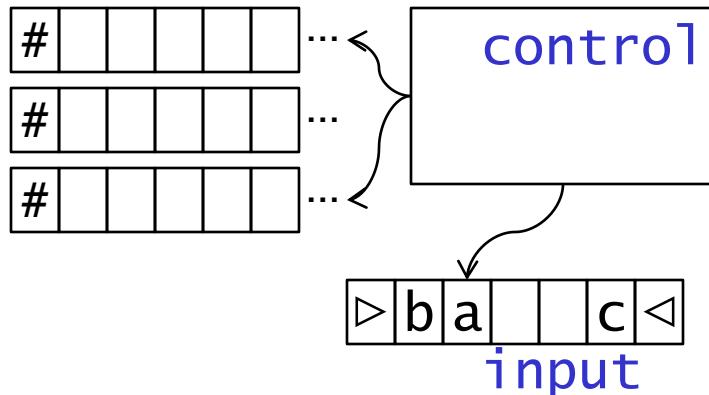
- **PSPACE**
- **NPSPACE** niet deterministische berekeningen

**Savitch:** ruimte kan hergebruikt worden, we  
kunnen nauwkeurig alle berekeningen  
'recursief' nagaan.

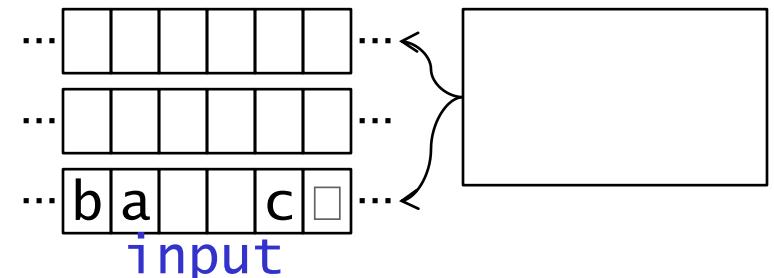
**PSPACE = NPSPACE (!)**

# TM models (H&U)

working tapes



working tapes



space complexity

$\text{DSPACE}(f)$     $\text{NSPACE}(f)$

offline  
multiple working tapes  
single side infinite

*for every input word of length  $n$ , ...*

*M scans at most  $f(n)$  cells  
on any storage tape ...*

time complexity

$\text{DTIME}(f)$     $\text{NTIME}(f)$

input on tape  
multiple working tapes  
double sided

*M makes at most  $f(n)$   
moves before halting ...*

$$\text{NSPACE}( s(n) ) \subseteq \text{SPACE}( s^2(n) )$$

can we reach a halting configuration?  
at most exponentially many steps  $s(n)|\Sigma|^{s(n)}$

solve recursively “re-use space”

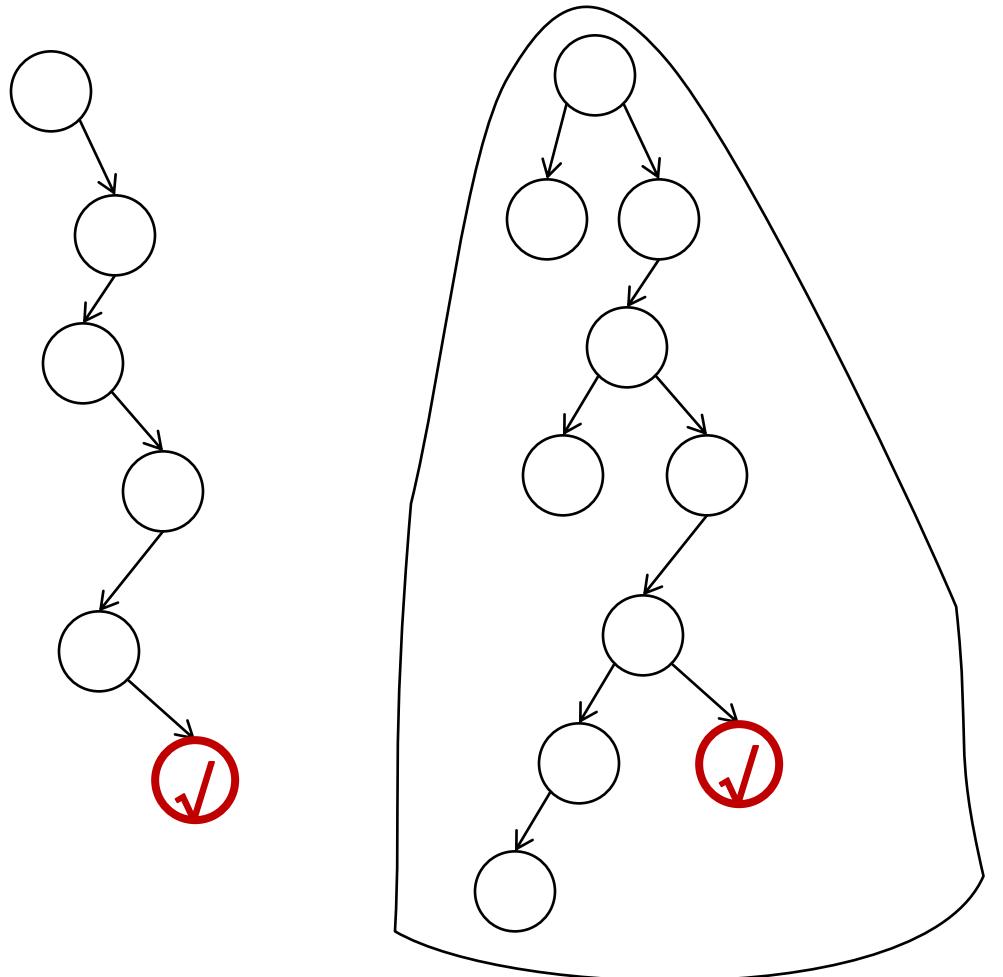
```
reach(ini, fin, 1) = step(ini, fin)
reach(ini, fin, 2k)
  foreach configuration mid
    test reach(ini, mid, k)  $\wedge$  reach(mid, fin, k)
```

stack depth  $s(n)$  of configs, each size  $s(n)$

$$\text{NPSPACE} = \text{PSPACE}$$

$$\text{NSPACE}( s(n) ) \subseteq \text{ATIME}( s^2(n) ) \quad \text{“parallel in time”}$$

# computation tree

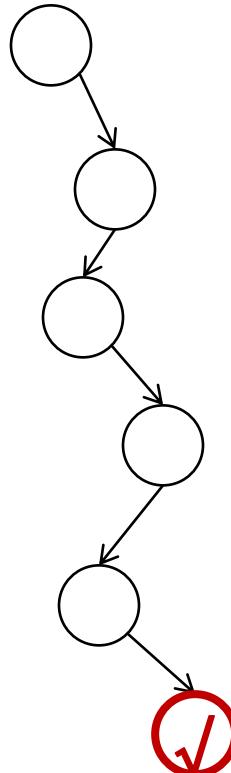


determinism

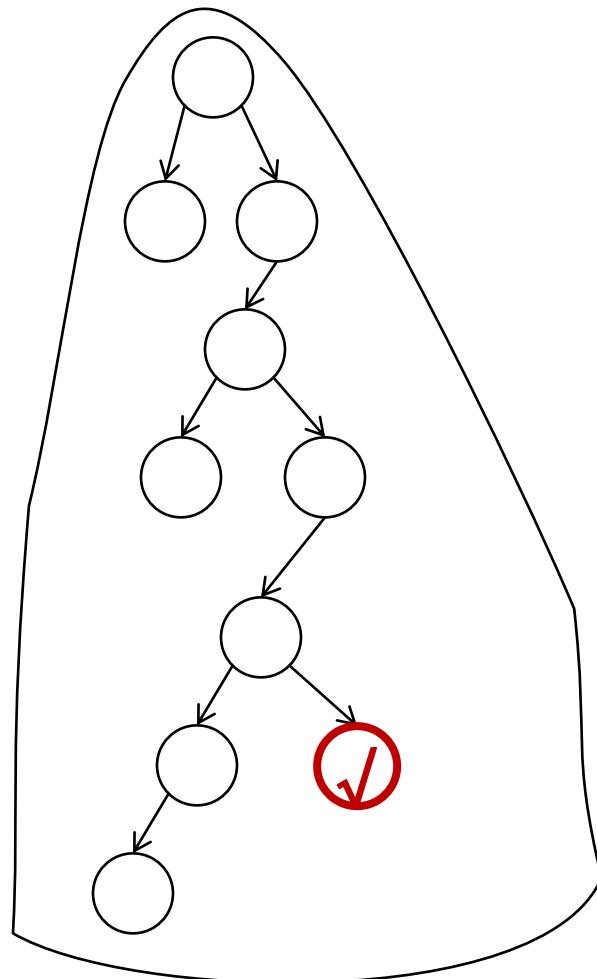
nondeterminism

# computation tree

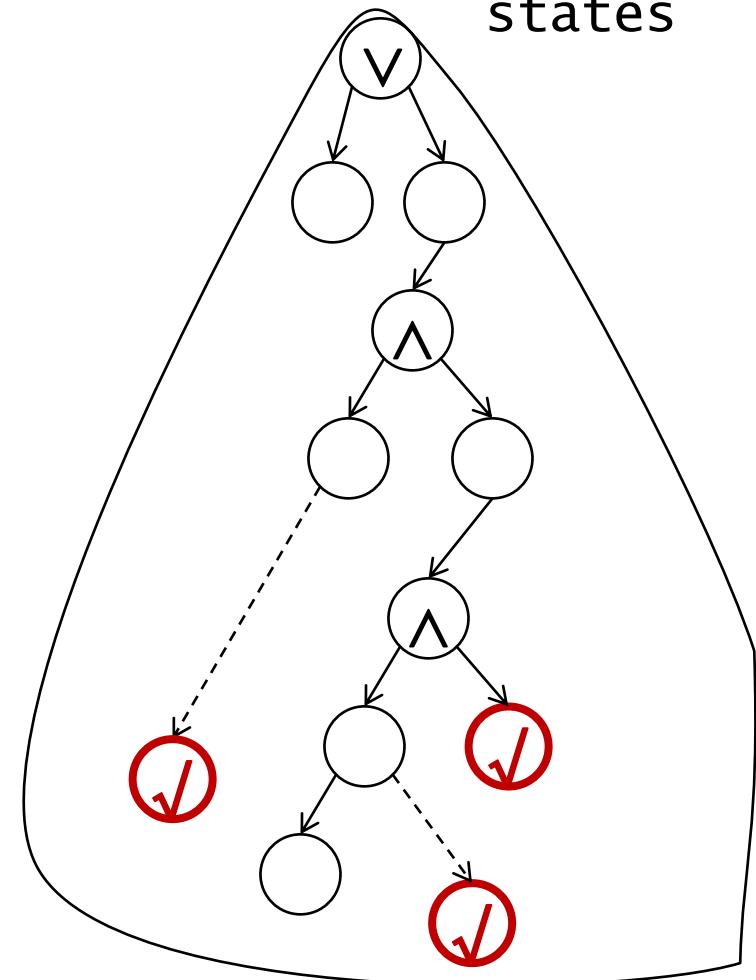
existential and *universal*  
states



determinism



nondeterminism



alternation

niet-det TM: existentieel: kan er een accepterende berekening gevonden worden.

Alternerend: ook universeel: elke volgende stap heeft een accepterende berekening.

P, NP, AP

PSPACE=NSPACE, APSPACE

Óók LOGSPACE=L, NL, AL

Alterneren is krachtig, stapt een nivo omhoog

AL=P, AP=PSPACE, APSPACE=EXPTIME

Gelijkheid, wonderlijk in complexiteitsland.  
Constructie door de hele berekeningsboom na te rekenen.

$\text{NSPACE}( s(n) ) \subseteq \text{ATIME}( s^2(n) )$  “parallel in time”

$\text{reach}_{2k}(c_1, c_2)$

exists configuration  $c$

write in time  $s(n)$

$\text{reach}_k(c_1, c) \wedge \text{reach}_k(c, c_2)$

parallel in time

(!!) technisch is correct:  $\bigcup_c \text{ATIME}( c \cdot s^2(n) )$

$\text{ATIME}( s(n) ) \subseteq \text{DSPACE}( s(n) )$

simulate computation tree

# dimensions

existential and *universal* states  
computation = tree

	log. space	polynomial time		exp. time
determinism	L	P	PSPACE	EXPTIME
nondeterminism	NL	NP	NPSPACE	NEXPTIME
alternation	AL	AP	APSPACE	AEXPTIME

AL                    AP                    APSPACE                    AEXPTIME

$P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME \subseteq NEXPTIME \subseteq EXPSPACE$

NPSPACE

NEXPSPACE

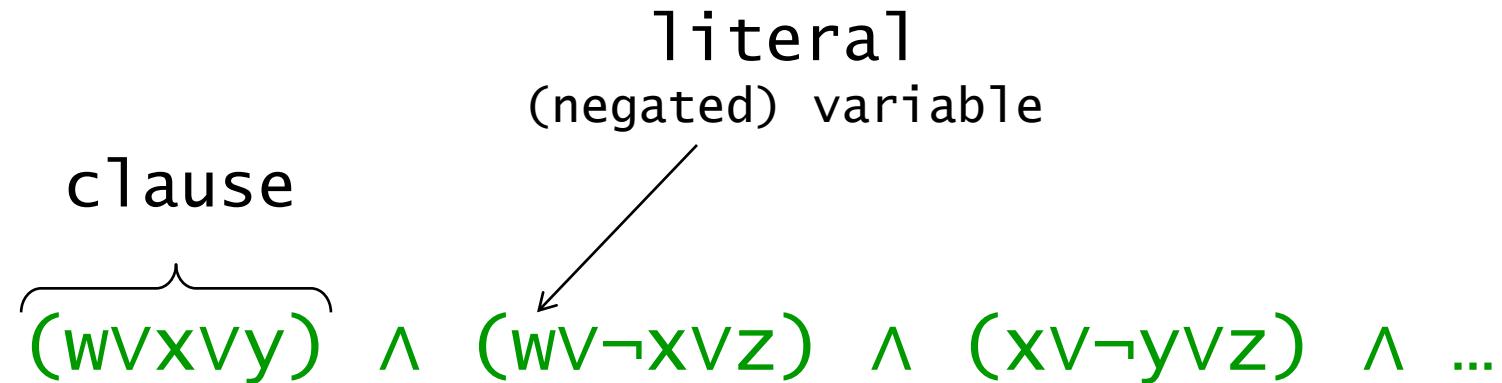
Cook-Levin: SAT is NP-compleet probleem.

deterministische TM: HORNSAT is P-compleet.  
HORN clause: max één positieve litteral.

Let op: P-compleet maakt gebruik van (bv)  
*log-space reducties*. Met pol-time reducties  
zijn (bijna) alle P-problemen equivalent. ☺

**NC = Nick's class** is gemotiveerd door  
logaritmische tijd polynomiale grootte  
parallele circuits, zie bijvoorbeeld de  
lezing van Demaine

[Demaine MIT Complexity: P-complete](#)



3 conjunctive normal form

## 3SAT

given: given formula  $\phi$  in 3CNF

question: is  $\phi$  satisfiable?

(can we find a variable assignment making formula true)

Cook/Levin

3SAT is NP-complete

# 3SAT

$$\begin{aligned} T_{iak} \rightarrow \neg T_{ibk} \quad & \quad T_{iak} \wedge T_{ib.k+1} \rightarrow H_{ik} \\ H_{ik} \wedge Q_{pk} \wedge T_{iak} \rightarrow \bigvee_{(p,a,q,b,d)} H_{i+d.k+1} \wedge Q_{q.k+1} \wedge T_{ib.k+1} \end{aligned}$$

**CNF** conjunctive normal form  
clauses: disjunction literals

$$\begin{aligned} a \rightarrow \neg b \quad \text{iff} \quad \neg a \vee \neg b \\ a \wedge b \rightarrow c \quad \text{iff} \quad \neg a \vee \neg b \vee c \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a \wedge b \wedge c \rightarrow \bigvee_I (d_I \wedge e_I \wedge f_I) \quad \text{sat-iff}^* \\ (\neg a \vee \neg b \vee \neg c \vee \bigvee_I z_I) \wedge \\ \Lambda_I (\neg z_I \wedge d_I) \wedge \Lambda_I (\neg z_I \wedge e_I) \wedge \Lambda_I (\neg z_I \wedge f_I) \end{aligned}$$

**3SAT is NP hard**

$$\begin{aligned} (a \vee b \vee c \vee d \vee e) \quad \text{sat-iff}^* \\ (a \vee b \vee x_1) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee c \vee x_2) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee d \vee e) \end{aligned}$$

# HORN-SAT

$$\begin{aligned} T_{iak} \rightarrow \neg T_{ibk} \quad & T_{iak} \wedge T_{ib.k+1} \rightarrow H_{ik} \\ H_{ik} \wedge Q_{pk} \wedge T_{iak} \rightarrow \bigvee_{(p,a,q,b,d)} H_{i+d.k+1} \wedge Q_{q.k+1} \wedge T_{ib.k+1} \end{aligned}$$

determinism

## HORN-SAT is P hard

CNF conjunctive normal form

Horn clauses: at most one positive literal

$$a \rightarrow \neg b \text{ iff } \neg a \vee \neg b$$

$$a \wedge b \rightarrow c \text{ iff } \neg a \vee \neg b \vee c$$

$$\begin{aligned} a \wedge b \wedge c \rightarrow (d \wedge e \wedge f) \text{ iff} \\ ( \neg a \vee \neg b \vee \neg c \vee d ) \wedge \dots \wedge ( \neg a \vee \neg b \vee \neg c \vee f ) \end{aligned}$$

## HORN-SAT is in P

unit propagation

empty formula: formula True

empty clause: formula False

unit clause ( $\ell$ ): set  $\ell$  True

remove clauses with  $\ell$

remove  $\neg\ell$  from clauses

all remaining variables negative

## Quantified Boolean Formula.

Reeks quantoren gevolgd door formule  
(conjunctie clausen)

Dit lijkt op spellen: Ik win als  
er is een zet, zodat  
voor alle zetten van de tegenstander,  
er is een zet, zodat ...

QBF: is de formule waar?

Dit probleem is PSPACE compleet.

# formula games – complete problems

NL

**2SAT**

$$(x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg x_5 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_1)$$

P

**HORN-SAT**

$$(\neg x_3 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_5 \vee x_1) \quad \text{i.e. } (x_3 \wedge x_2 \wedge x_5 \rightarrow x_1)$$

NP

**SAT** satisfiability

$$\exists x_1 \exists x_3 \exists x_5 (x_1 \vee x_3 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_1)$$

(N)PSPACE

**QBF** aka QSAT

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_3 \exists x_5 (x_1 \vee x_3 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_1)$$

# true quantified boolean formula

SAT is NP hard

satisfiability

$$\exists x_1 \exists x_3 \exists x_5 (x_1 \vee x_3 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_1)$$

QBF is PSPACE hard

aka QSAT

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_3 \exists x_5 (x_1 \vee x_3 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_1)$$

input length  $p(n)$     #steps  $\leq c^{p(n)}$

configuration  $c$     sequence variables  $T_{iak}$      $Q_{qk}$      $H_{ik}$

$\Phi_k(c_1, c_2)$  from  $c_1$  to  $c_2$  in  $\leq k$  steps

$k=1$  see SAT construction Cook/Levin

$\Phi_{2k}(c_1, c_2) = (\exists c)(\Phi_k(c_1, c) \wedge \Phi_k(c, c_2))$

close, but doubles size

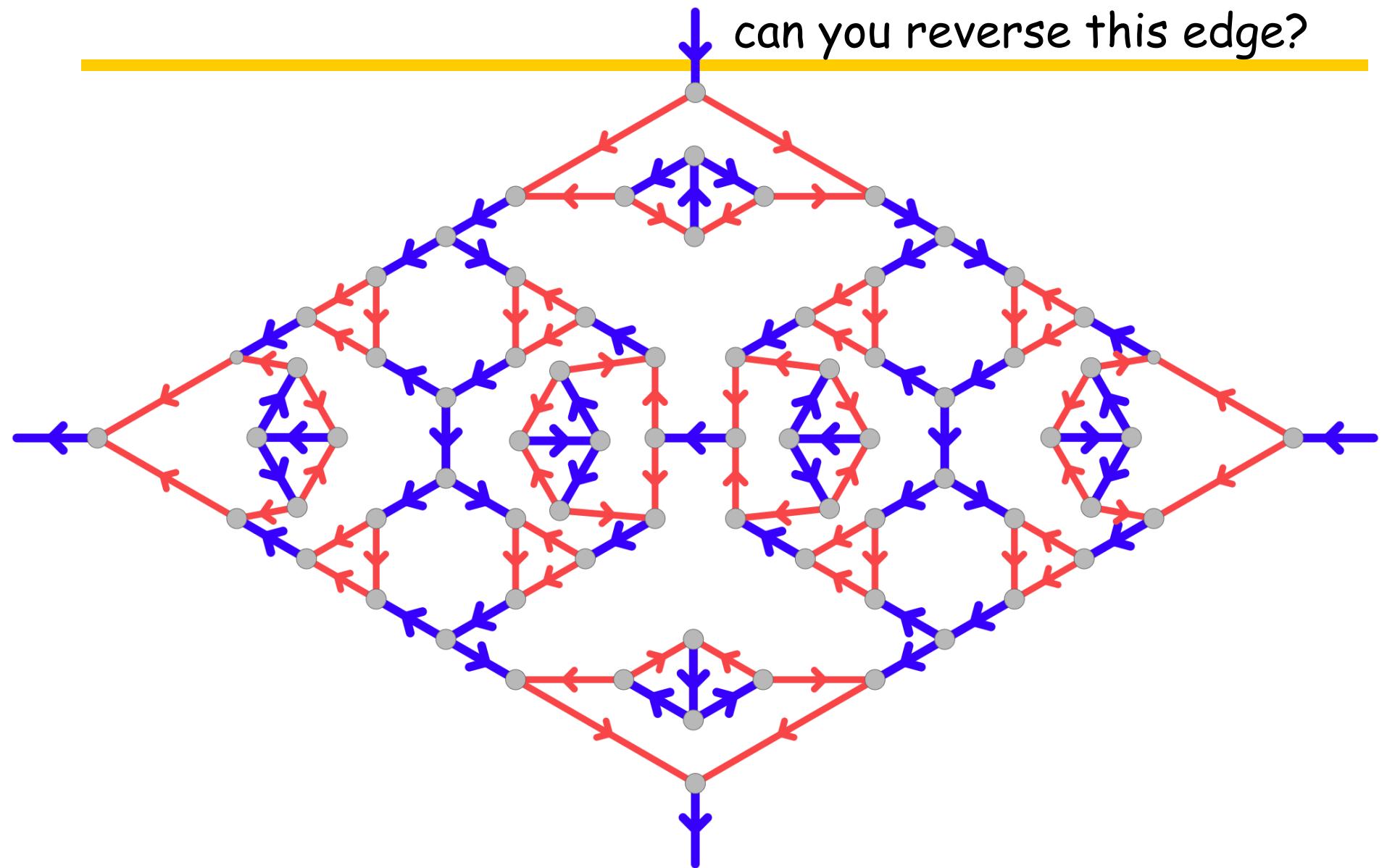
$\Phi_{2k}(c_1, c_2) = (\exists c)(\forall c')( \forall c'') ($

$[ (c', c'') = (c, c_1) \vee (c', c'') = (c_1, c) ] \rightarrow \Phi_k(c', c'')$

deel 2: constraint logic

# Decision Problem

can you reverse this edge?



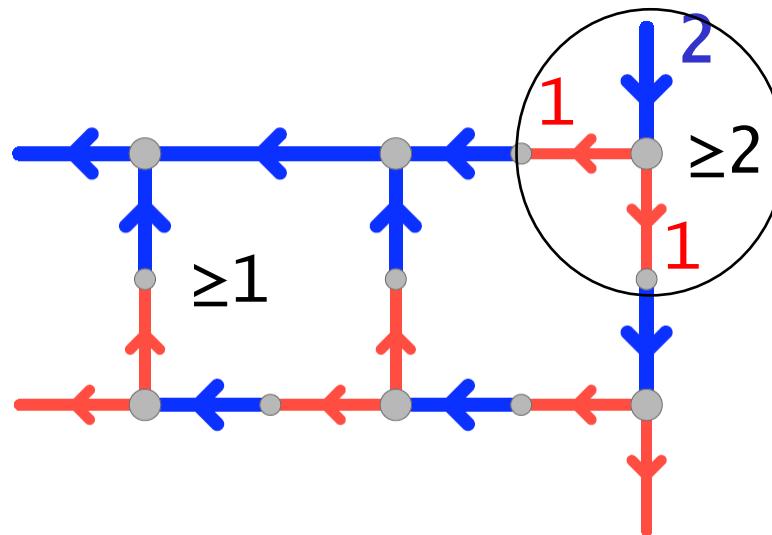
# constraint logic

NCL – nondet constraint logic

instance: constraint graph G, edge e  
question: sequence which reverses e

BOUNDED NCL

... reverses each edge *at most once*



Constraint Logic.

Gerichte graaf.

Gekleurde takken/aanhechtingen.

Waarde rood=1, blauw=2.

Elke knoop heeft tenminste waarde twee  
ingaande takken (dus twee rood of één blauw)

- NCL ‘nondeterministic constraint logic’  
past bij eenpersoons spellen=puzzels

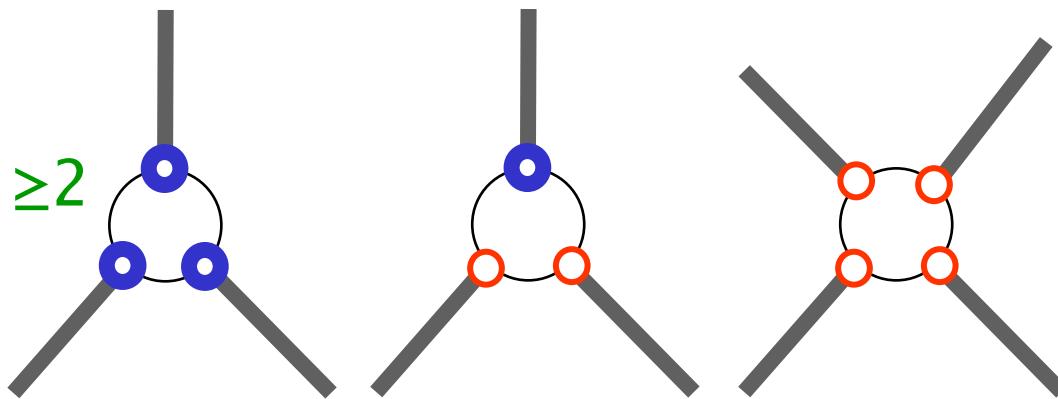
Zet: omkeren tak, als aan de eis voldaan  
blijft.

Doel: omkeren speciale tak.

- BNCL ‘bounded’ elke tak maximaal één keer  
omkeren

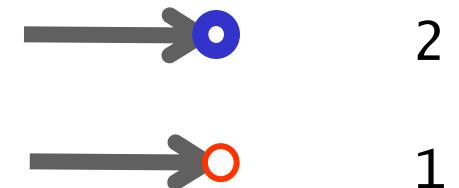
# basic constraint logic

examples



edge connectors

incoming value



constraint graph

oriented/directed edges + connectors

vertex constraint

inflow value  $\geq 2$

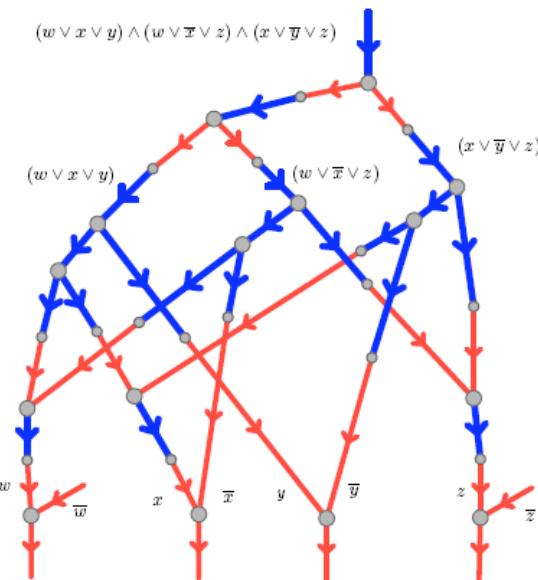
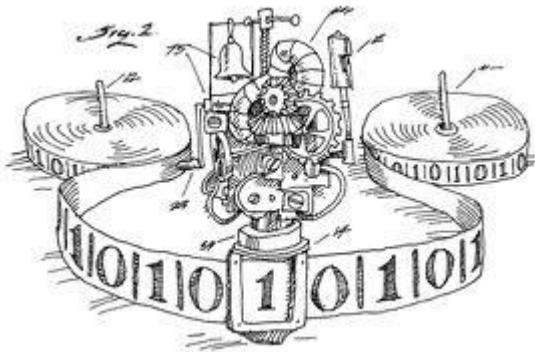
game: legal move

edge reversal satisfying constraint

goal

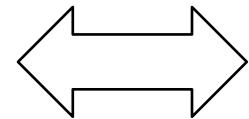
reversal given edge

# NP & TipOver



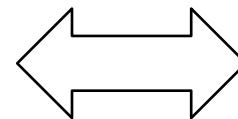
NP

3SAT



part I  
constraint logic  
'graph games'

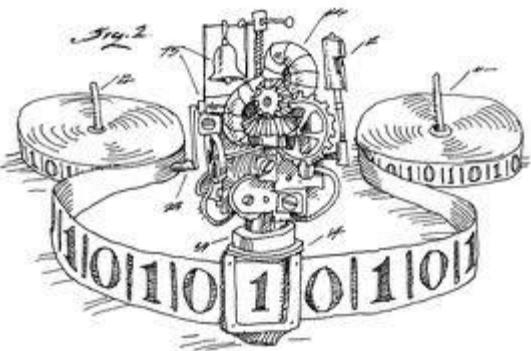
Bounded NCL



part II  
games in particular

TipOver

# PSPACE & Plank Puzzle

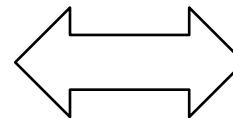
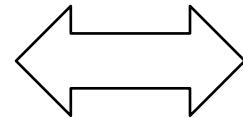
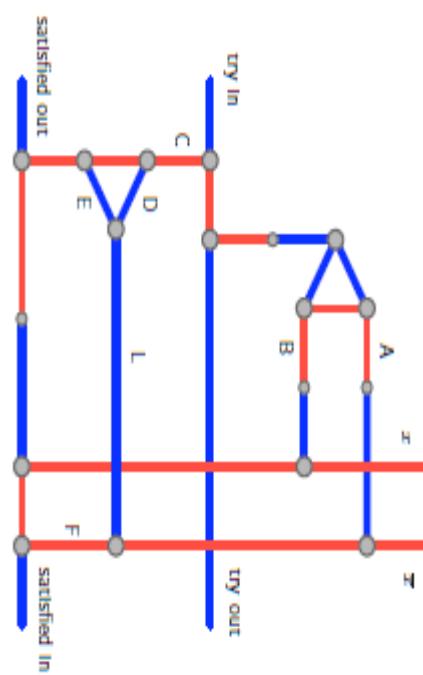


**PSPACE**

**QBF**

**part I**  
**constraint logic**  
**'graph games'**

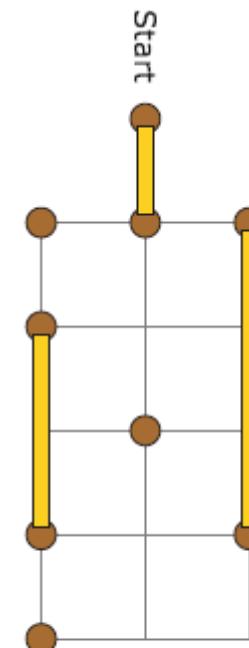
**NCL**



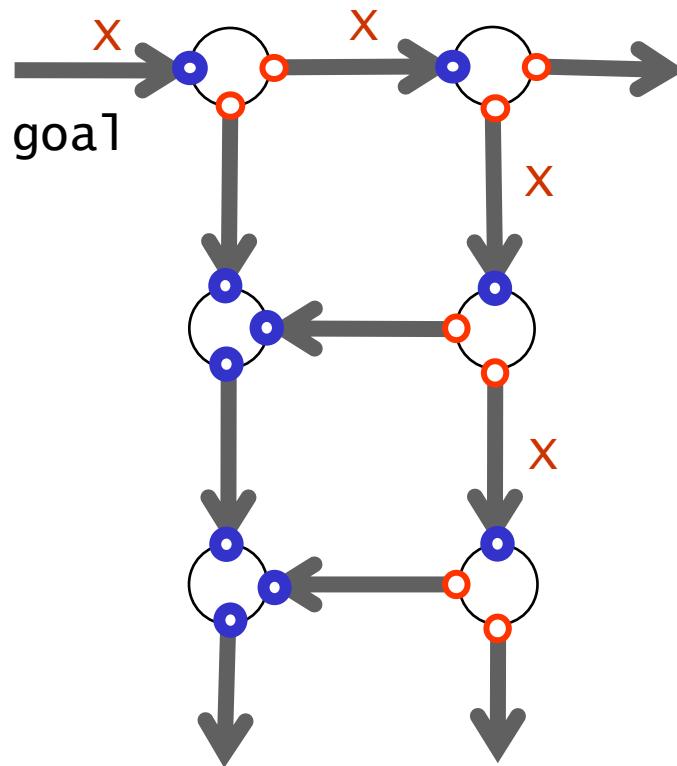
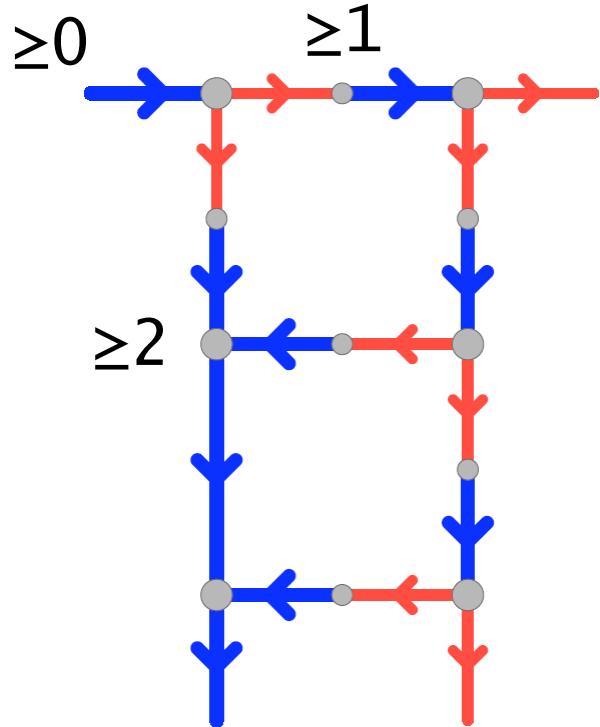
● End

**part II**  
**games in particular**

**plank puzzle**  
**(river crossing)**



# 'special' vertex constraints?



colour conversion  
dangling edges    *edge terminators*

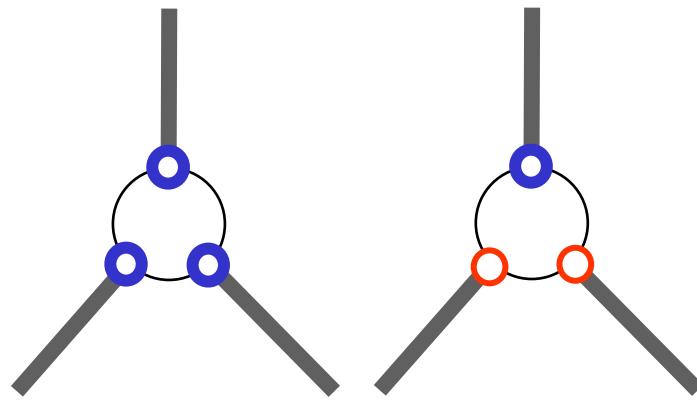
We kunnen een aantal soorten knopen onderscheiden, met een bepaalde intuïtie.  
OR, AND, FANOUT, CHOICE.

De state space van zo'n knoop voldoet aan die intuïtie.

Bij voorbeeld: om de tak boven de OR naar buiten te keren, moet tenminste één van de onderste twee naar binnen gekeerd worden.

## normal form vertices

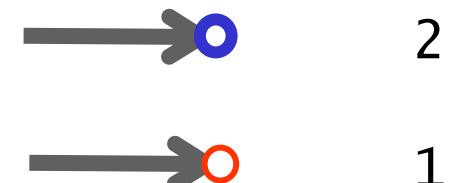
NCL



OR

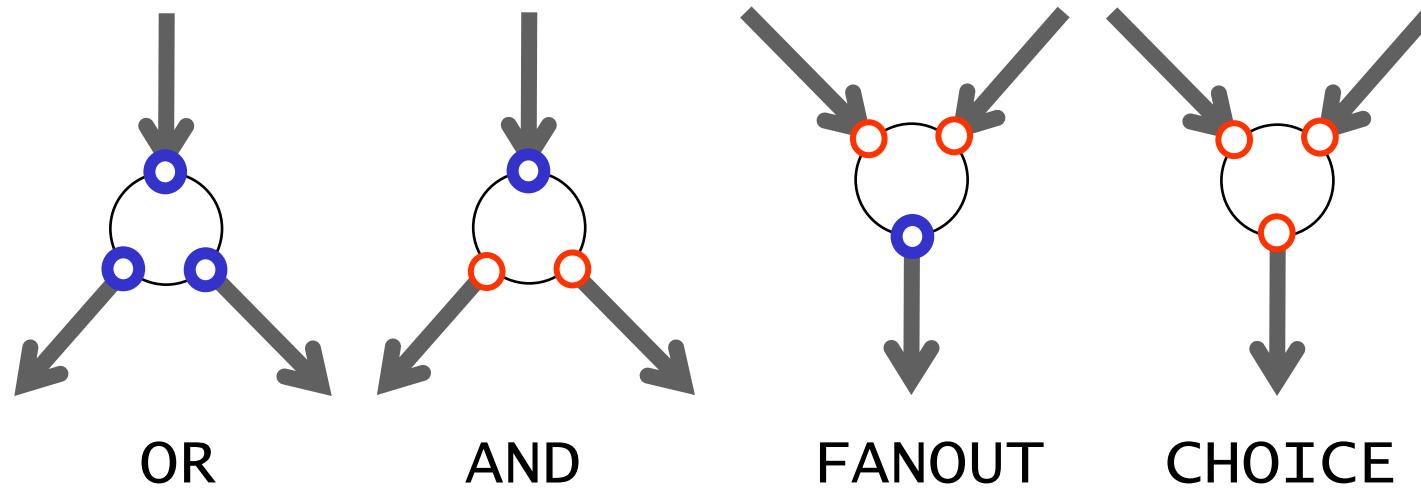
AND

incoming value



bounded NCL

(reverse only once)



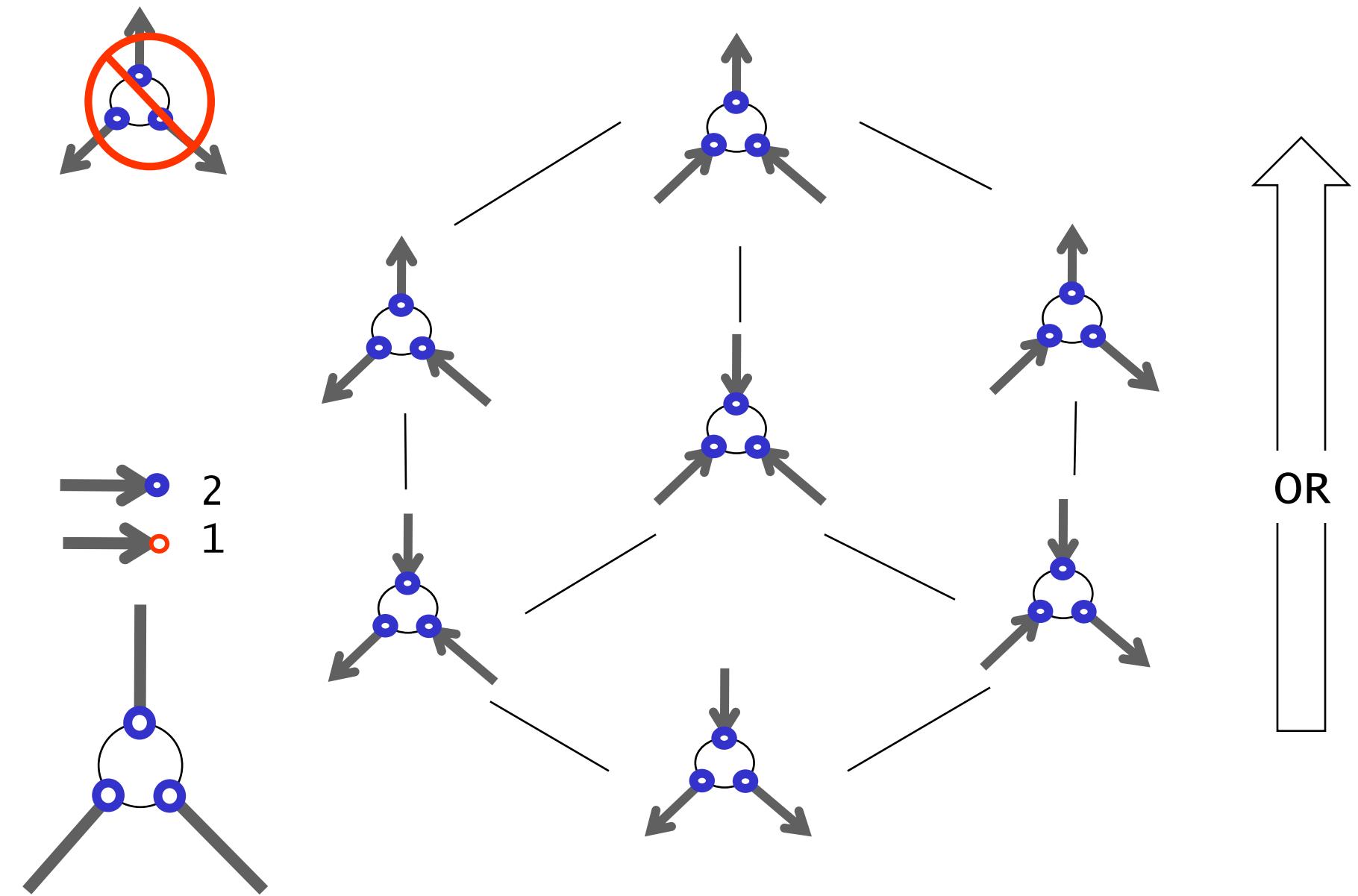
OR

AND

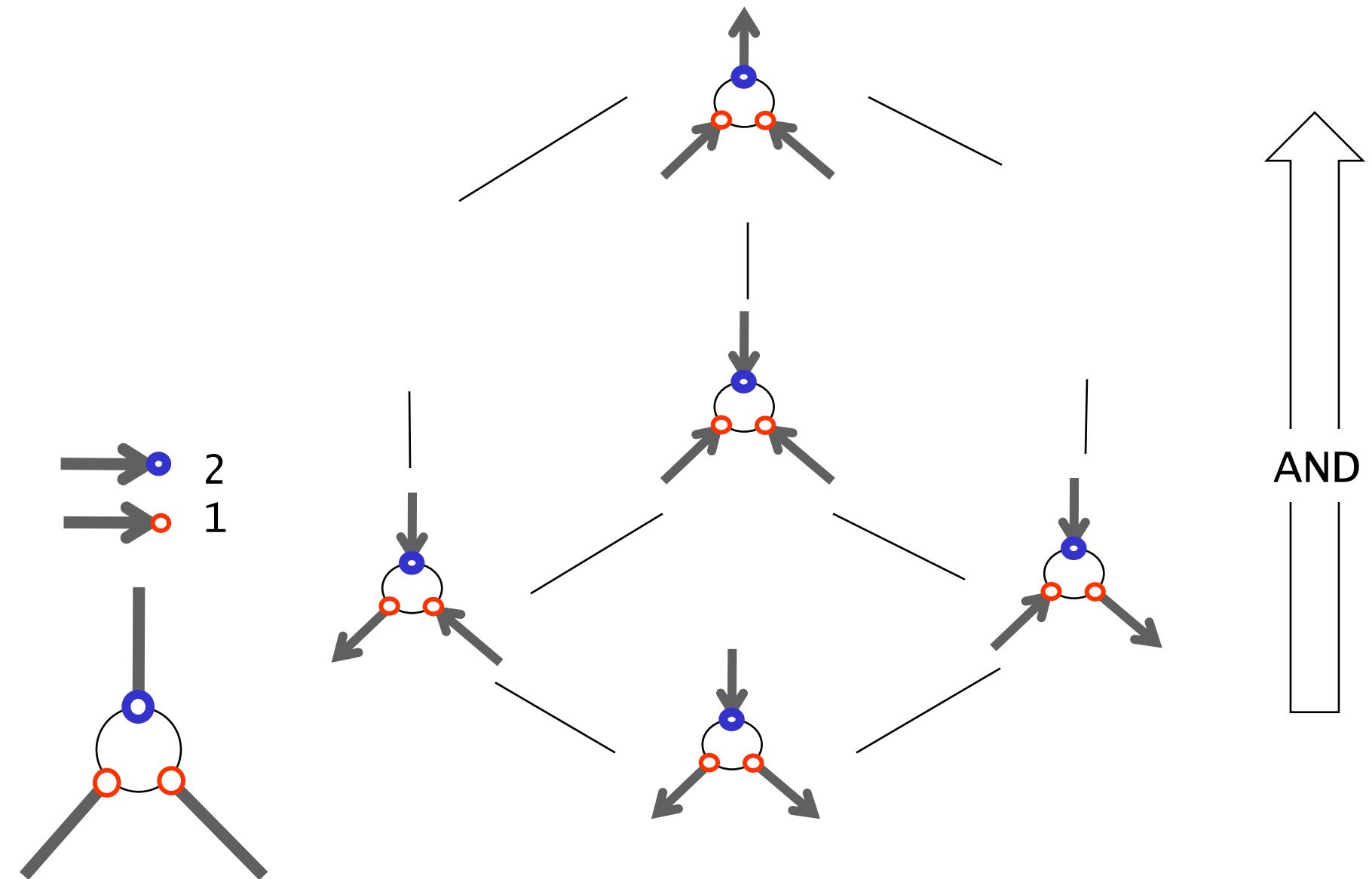
FANOUT

CHOICE

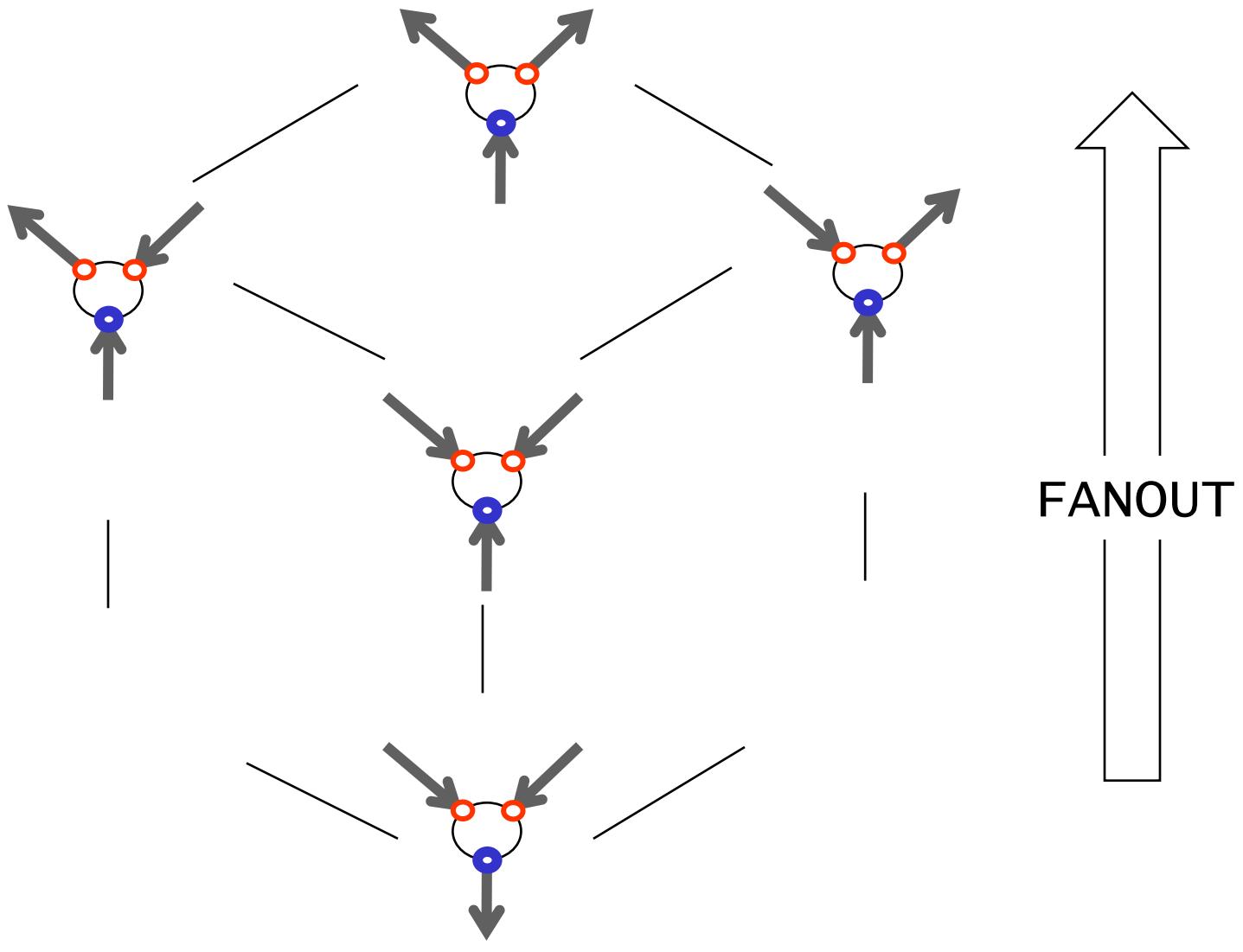
# legal configurations



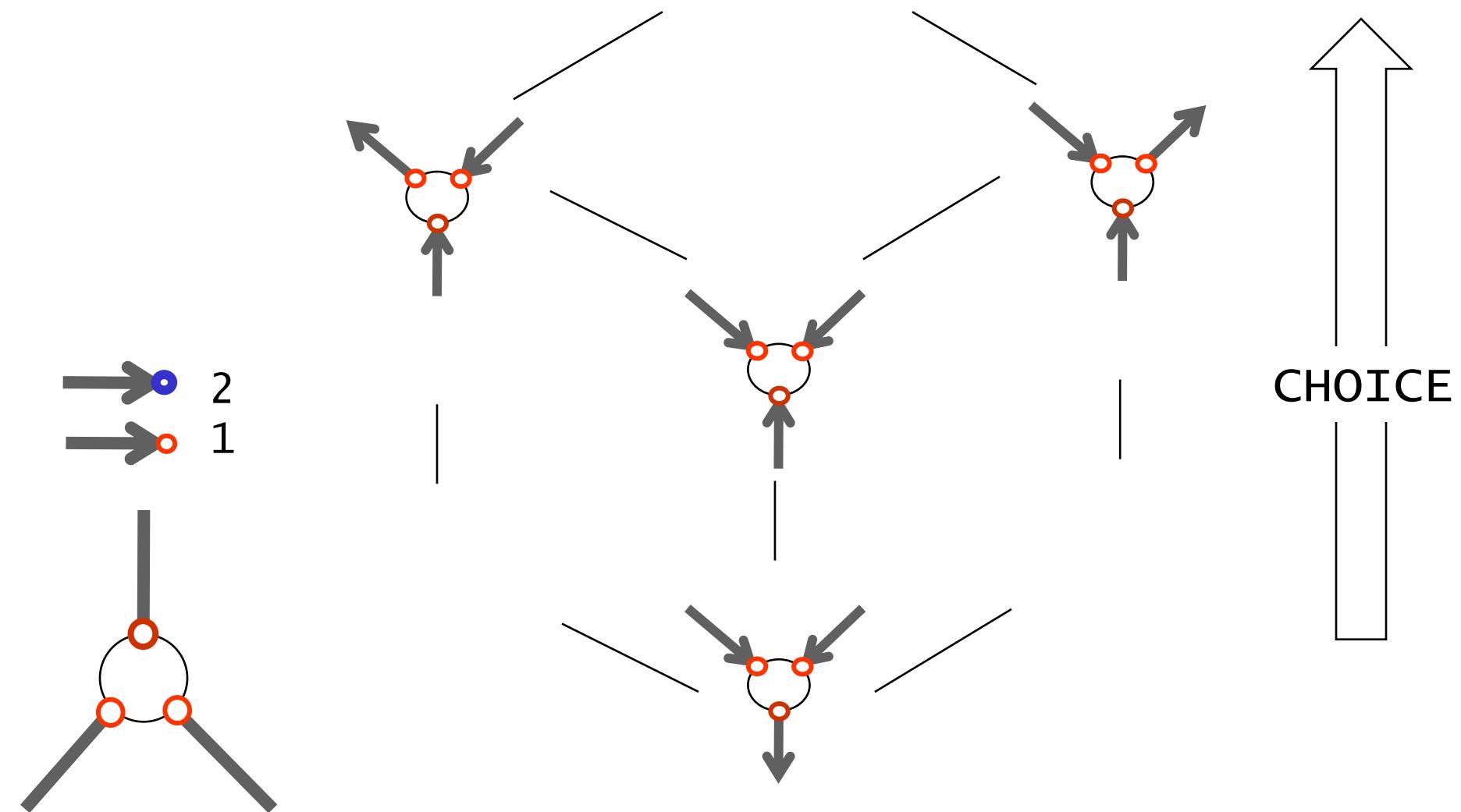
# legal configurations



# legal configurations



# legal configurations



Met de vier soorten knopen kan eenvoudig een graaf gemaakt worden die een formule representeert.

De bovenste tak kan omgekeerd worden als de formule waargemaakt kan worden.

Onderaan geven de takken de waardering van de variabelen weer.

Dus BNCL simuleert SAT en is NP complete

Als we meerdere keren takken mogen omdraaien kunnen we gadgets maken die kwantoren nadoen.  
(Niet erg snel in te zien.)

Dus NCL simuleert QBF/QSAT en is PSPACE complete

# basic observation

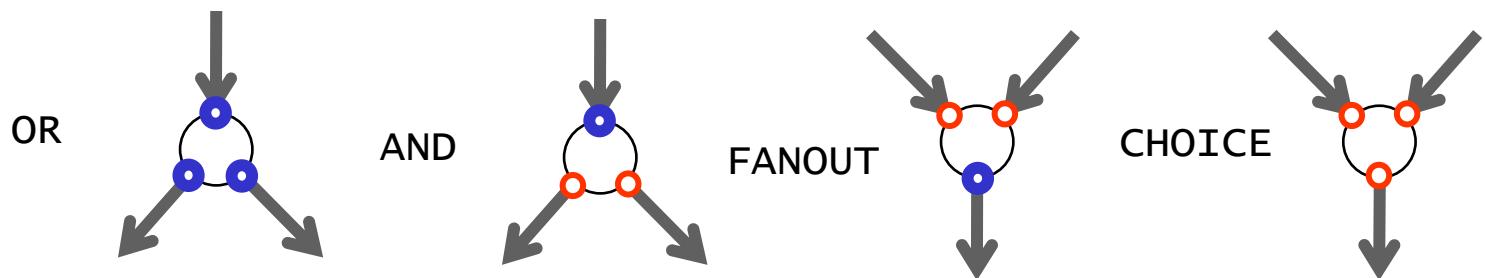
“emulate” a logical formula as graph game

goal:

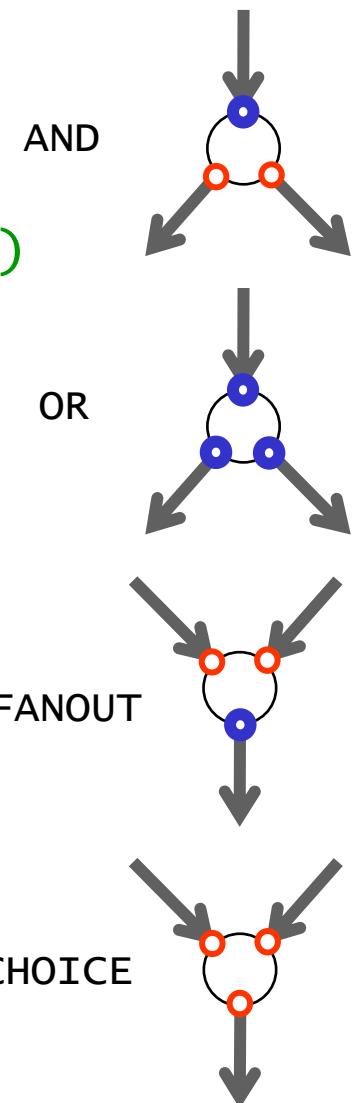
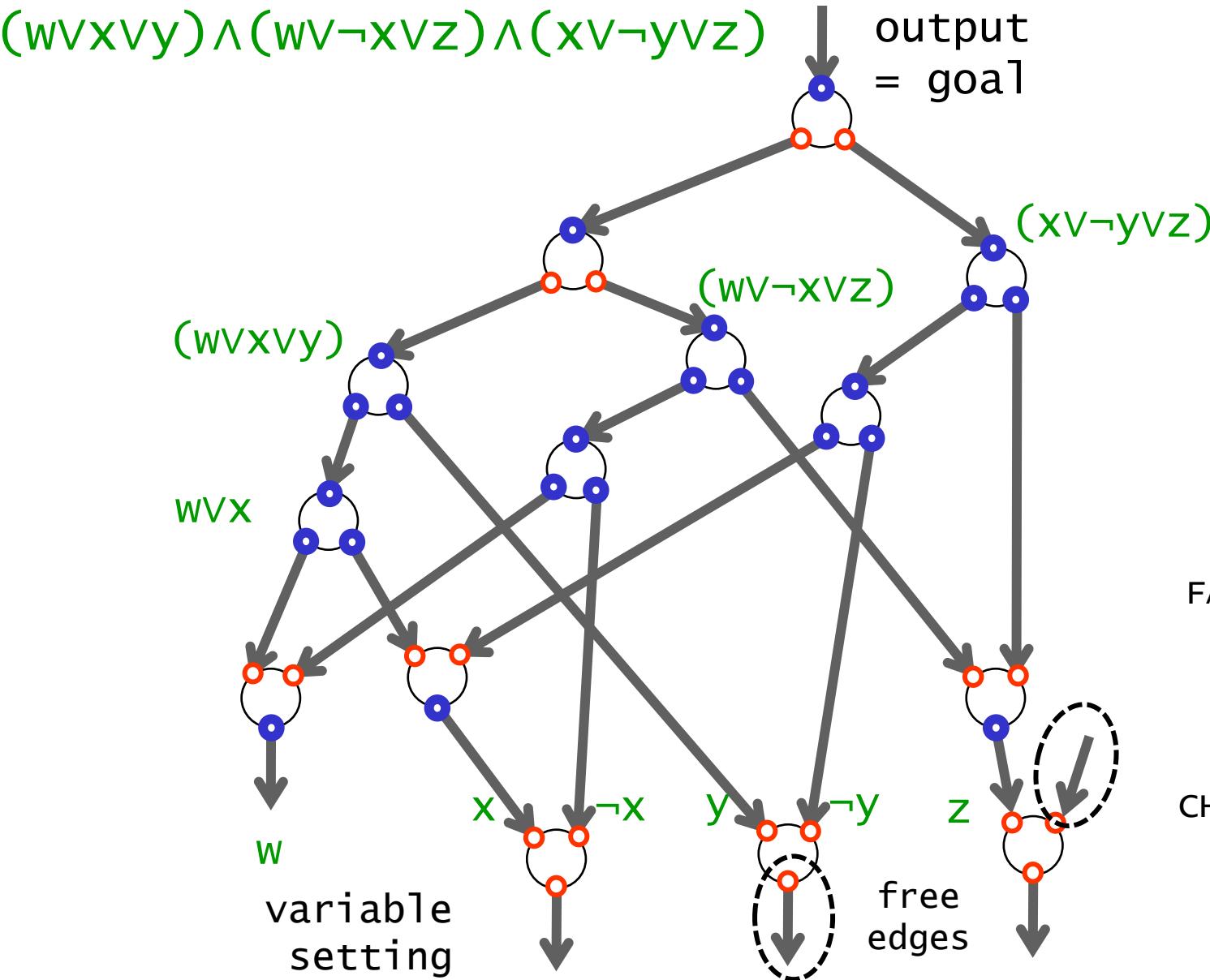
flip a given edge *iff* formula satisfiable

$$(w \vee x \vee y) \wedge (w \vee \neg x \vee z) \wedge (x \vee \neg y \vee z)$$

components

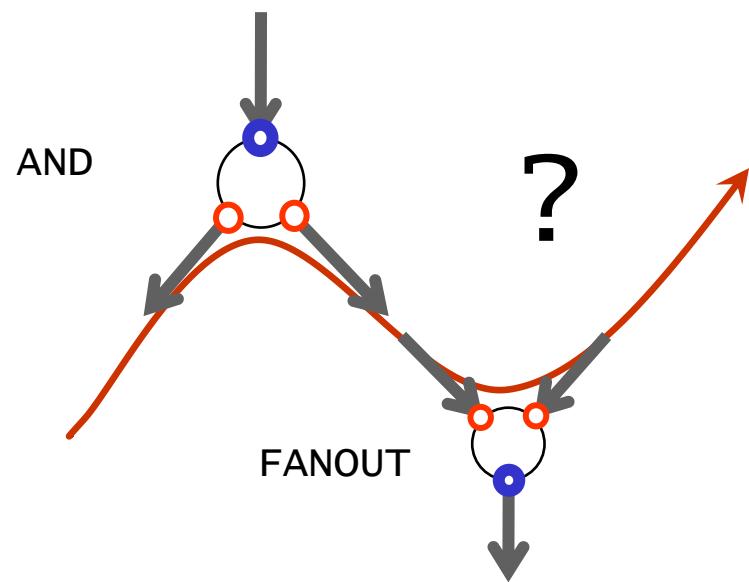
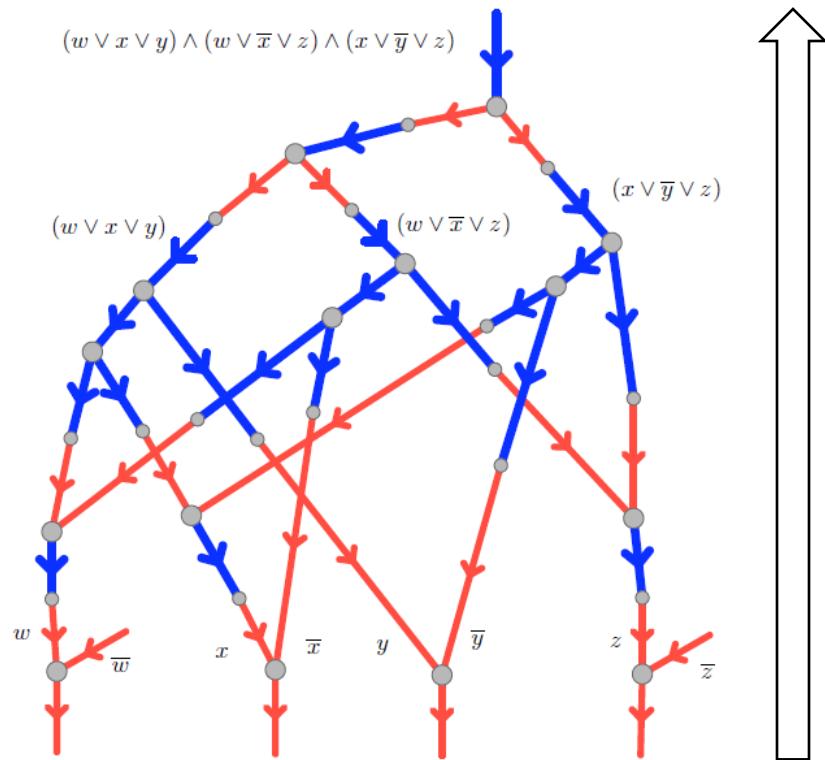


# formula constraint graph



# questions

- ‘can’ : not obliged to reverse edges upwards  
ie, we do not always set variable
- can we reverse the ‘wrong way’?
- do we need restriction to reverse edge once?



# game categories

game categories and their natural complexities

(polynomial)

TM  
resources

*Rush Hour*  
*River Crossing*

*unbounded*  
SPACE

	PSPACE	PSPACE NPSPACE	EXPTIME APSPACE	undecid
<i>bounded</i> TIME	P	NP	PSPACE AP	NEXPTIME

#

*zero*  
*simulation*  
*determ.*

*one*  
*puzzle*  
*nondeterm.*

*two*  
*game*  
*alternat.*

team  
*imperfect*  
*informat.*

*Tipover*

$$\text{NL} \subseteq \text{P} \subseteq \text{NP} \subseteq \text{PSPACE} \subseteq \text{EXPTIME} \subseteq \text{NEXPTIME}$$

= NPSPACE = AP

# formula games – complete problems

**NP**

**SAT** satisfiability

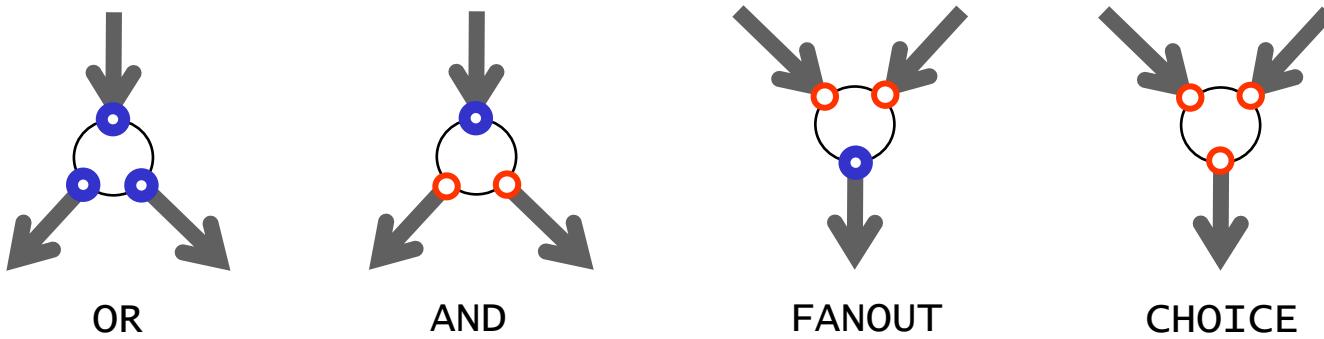
$$\exists x_1 \exists x_3 \exists x_5 (x_1 \vee x_3 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_1)$$

**(N)PSPACE**

**QBF** aka QSAT

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_3 \exists x_5 (x_1 \vee x_3 \vee \neg x_5) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_1)$$

# conclusion (B-NCL)



*BOUNDED NCL – nondet constraint logic*

instance: constraint graph  $G$ , edge  $e$

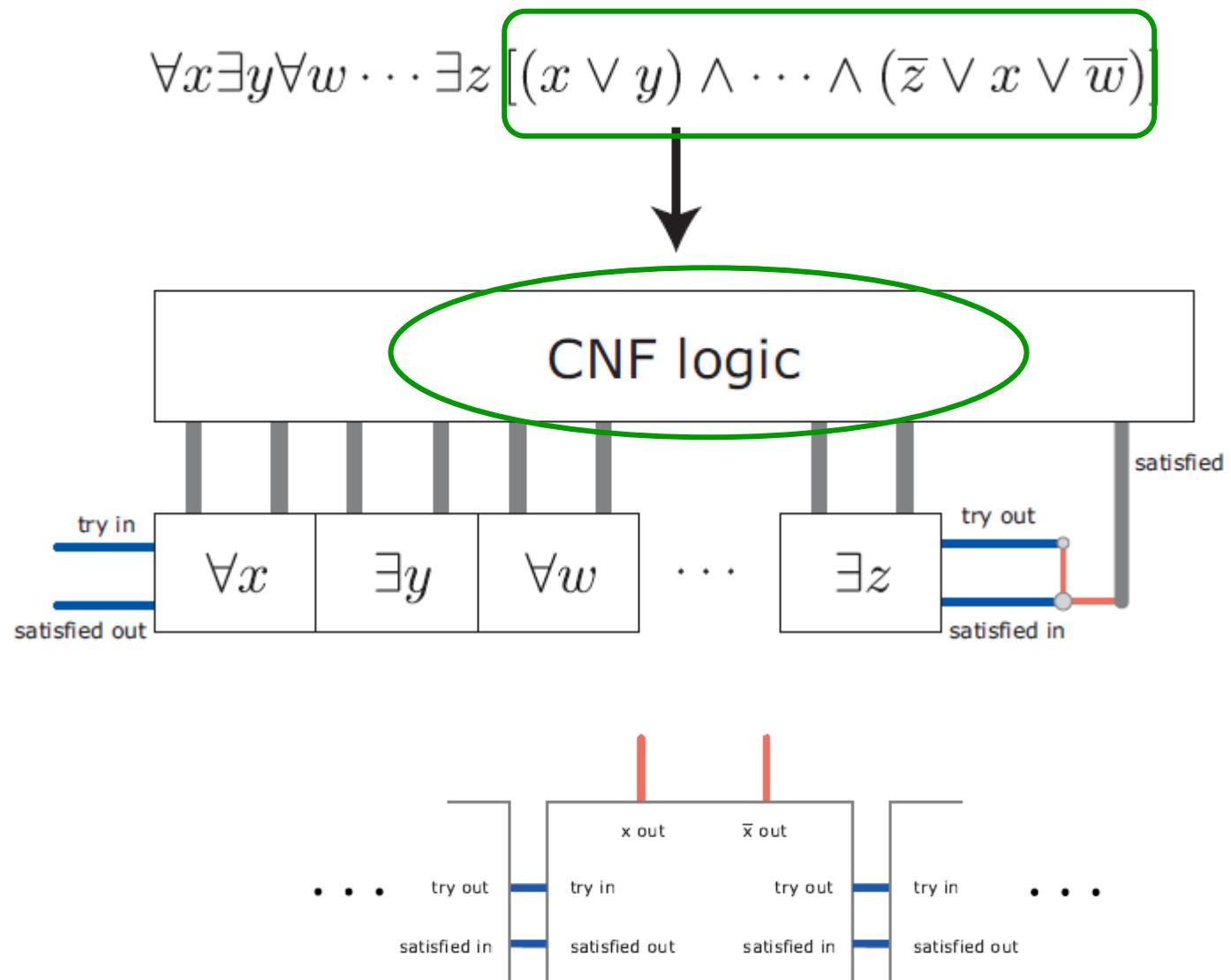
question: sequence which reverses *each edge at most once*, ending with  $e$

- reduction from 3SAT into Bounded NCL
- Bounded NCL is in NP

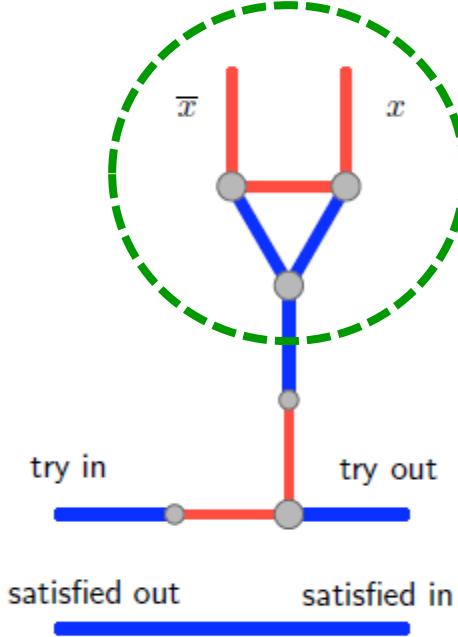
**thm. Bounded NCL is NP-complete**

*however: toppling domino's cannot cross*

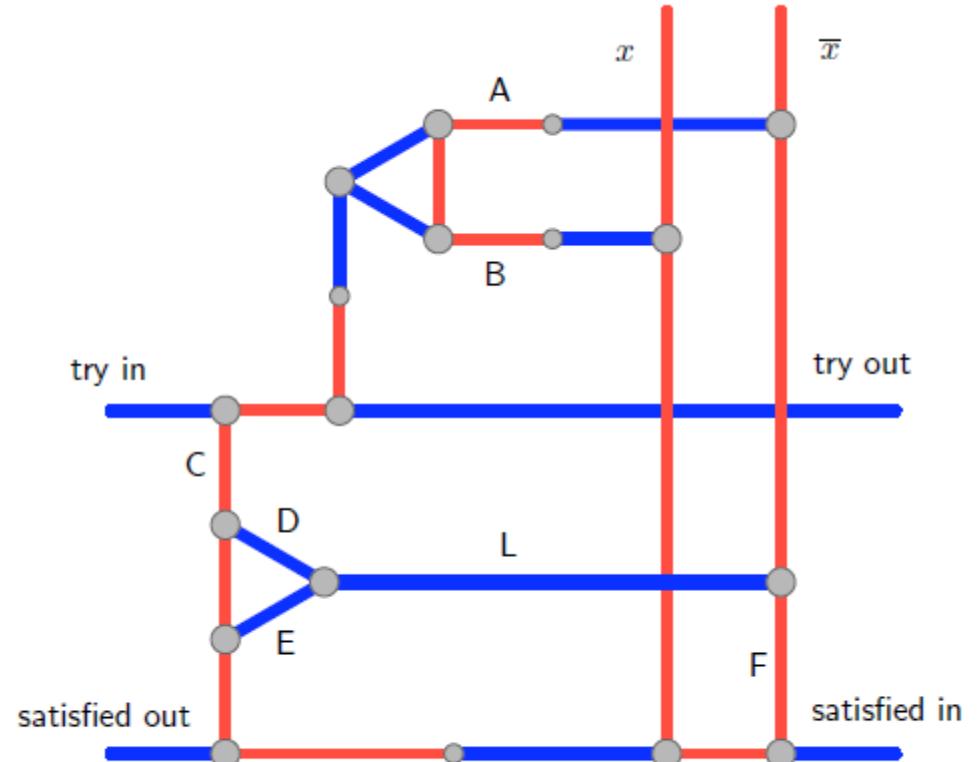
# quantification



# quantifier gadgets

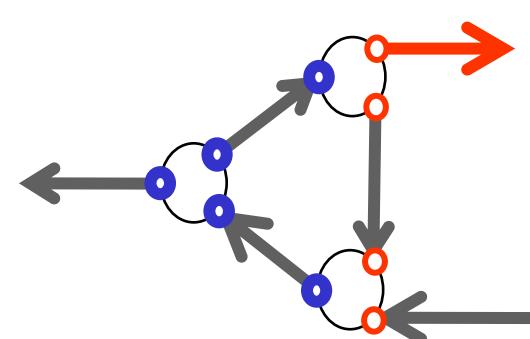
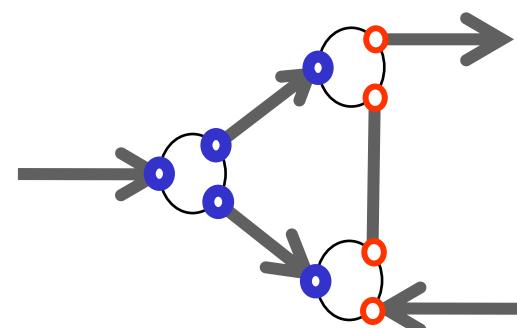
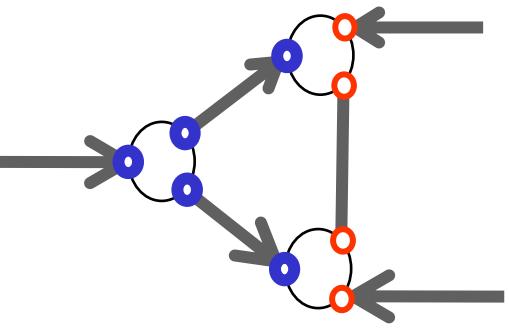
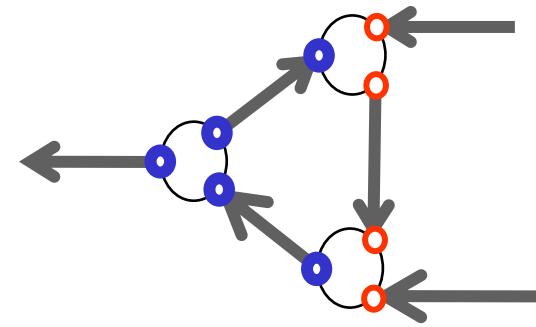
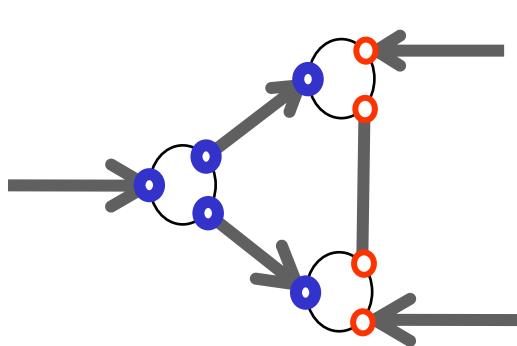
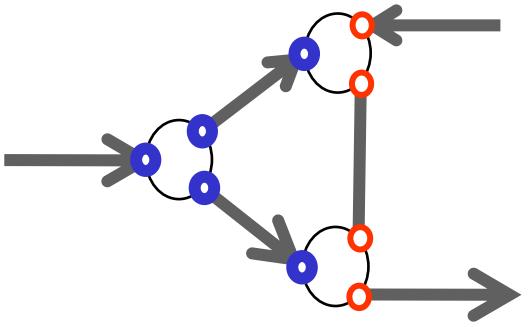
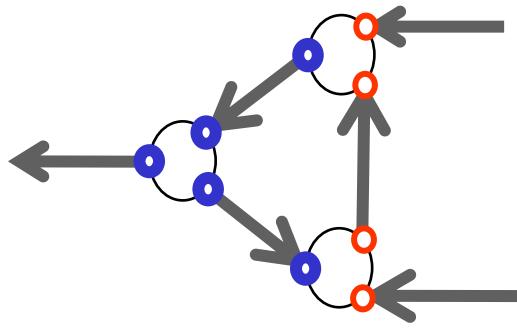
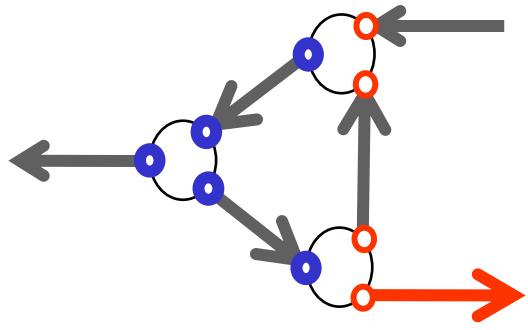


(a) Existential quantifier

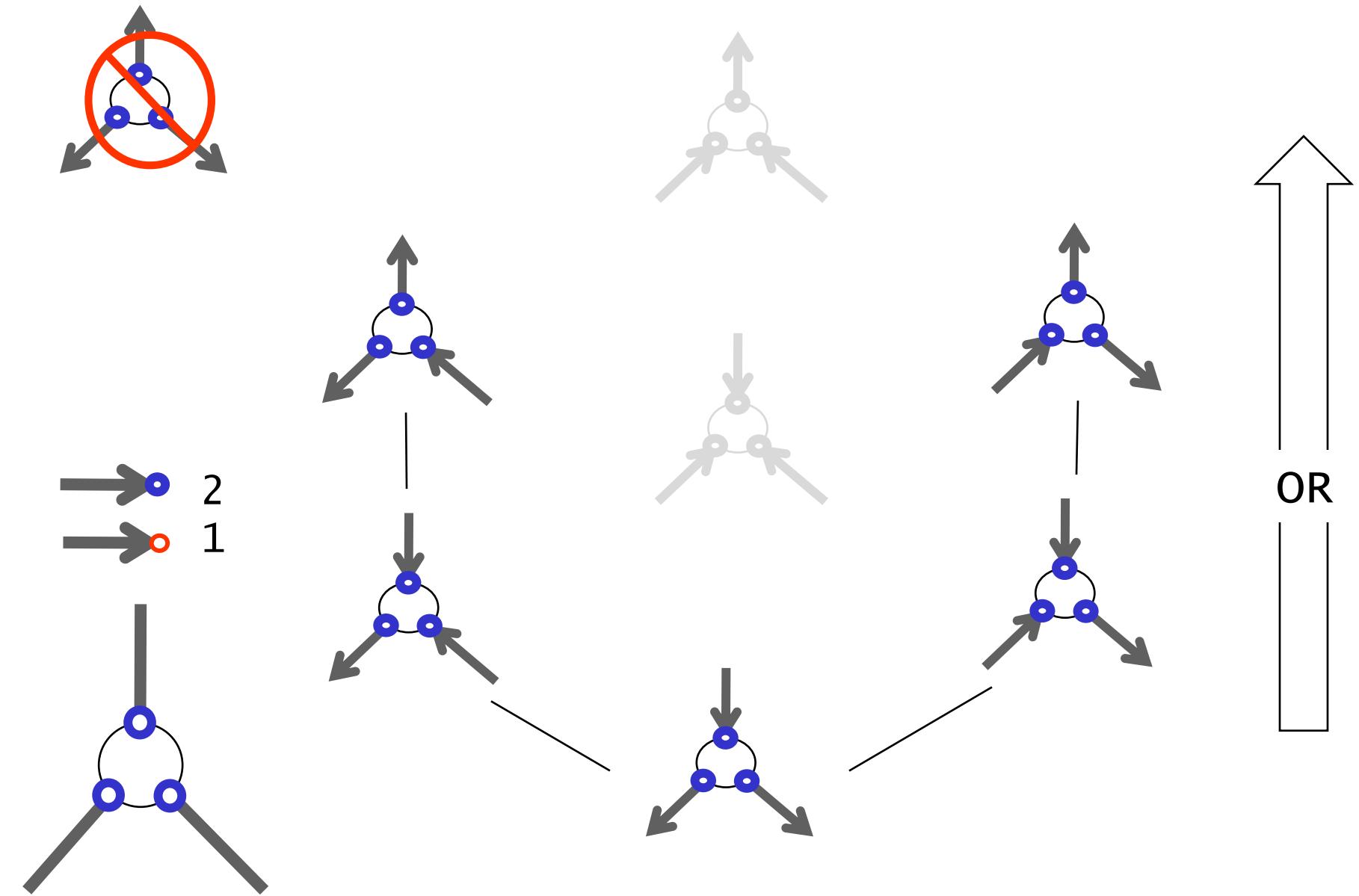


(b) Universal quantifier

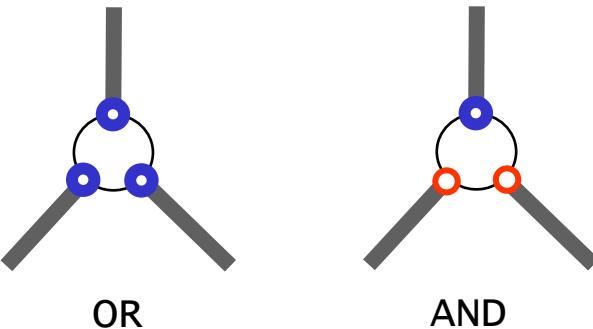
# latch behaviour



# protected OR



# conclusion (NCL)



initial orientation  
arrows not specified

NCL - nondet constraint logic

instance: constraint graph G, edge e

question: sequence which reverses e

**thm.** NCL is PSPACE-complete

# next: concrete games



bounded: NP

unbounded: PSPACE

games and complexity

Met NCL en BNCL als tussenstap kunnen we concrete spellen NP-compleet dan wel PSPACE-compleet bewijzen.

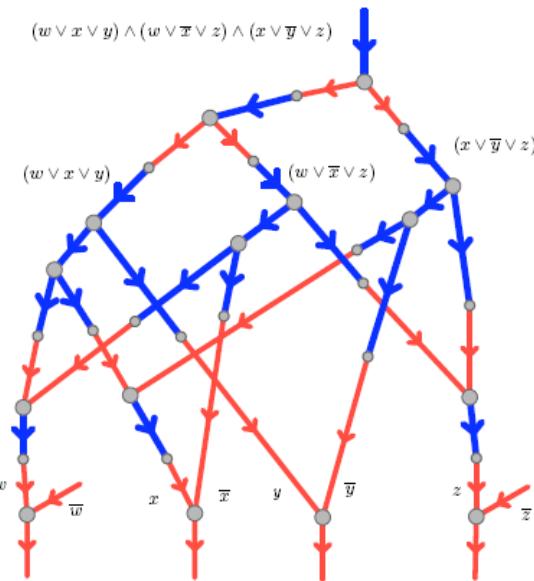
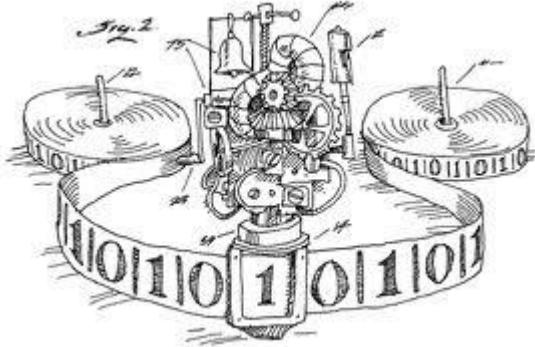
Het volstaat om ‘gadgets’ te bouwen die de diverse knopen kunnen simuleren.

Probleem: de grafen van NCL laten kruisende takken toe. Dat is in spellen vaak niet toegestaan. Oplossing een gadget dat signalen laat kruisen.

Tipover is een bounded spel. Als een krat gevallen is blijft deze liggen  
Rush-hour is unbounded. Auto's mogen weer terug geschoven worden.

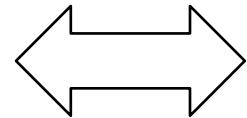
TipOver is NP-Complete

# NP & TipOver



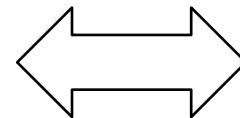
NP

3SAT



part I  
constraint logic  
'graph games'

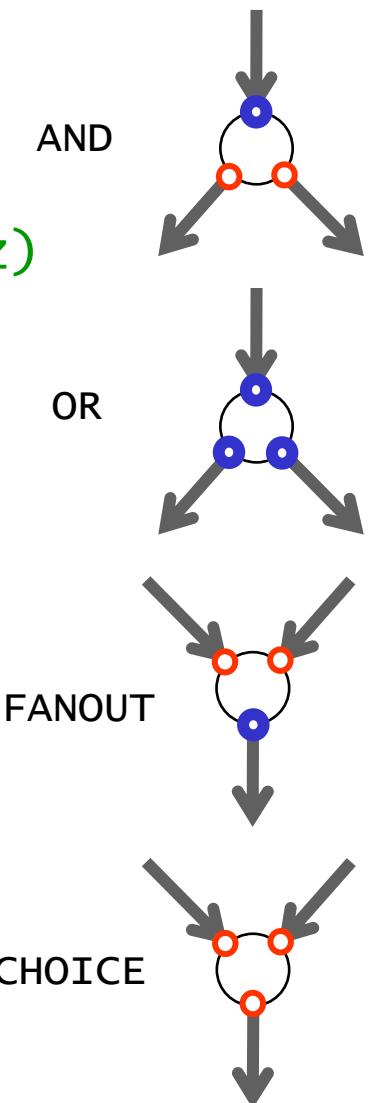
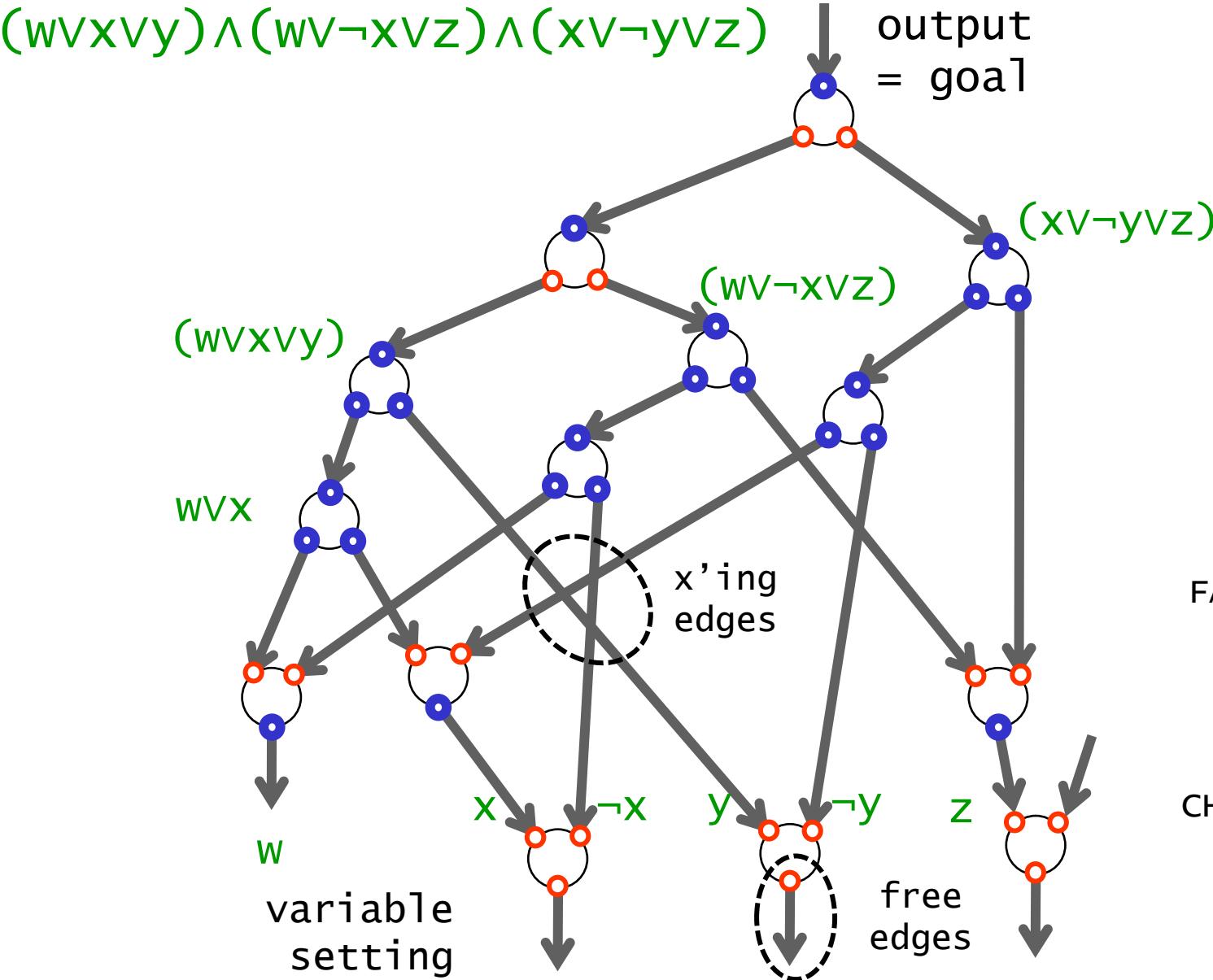
Bounded NCL



part II  
games in particular

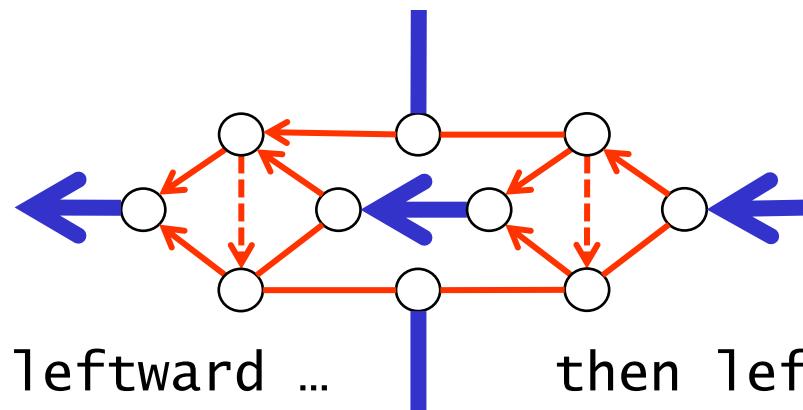
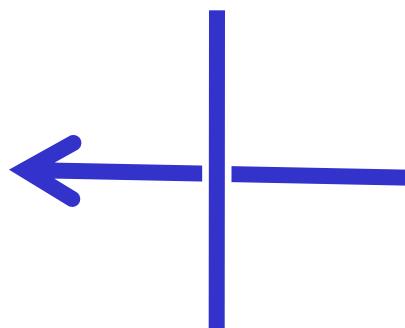
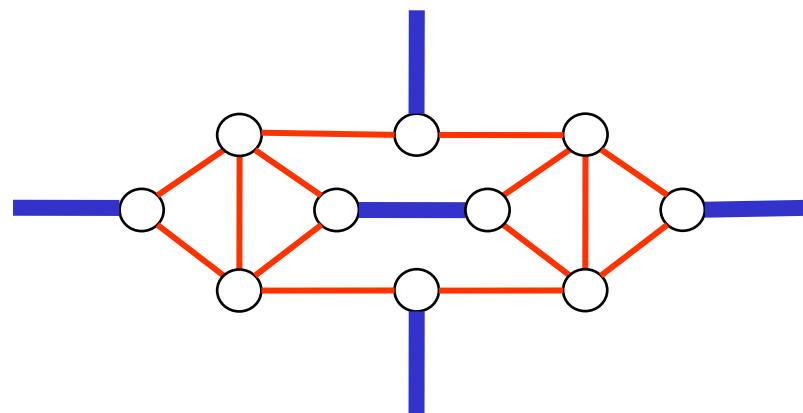
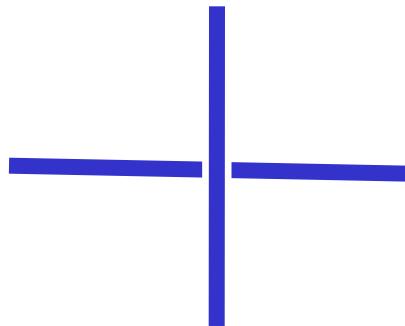
TipOver

# formula constraint graph



# planar crossover gadget

formal proof Lemma 5.10

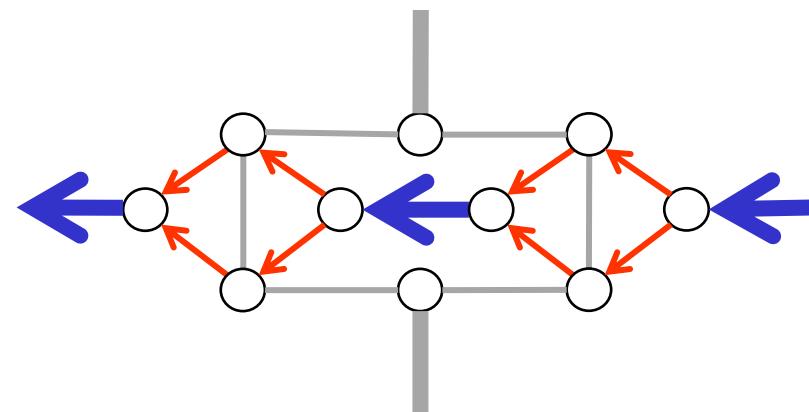
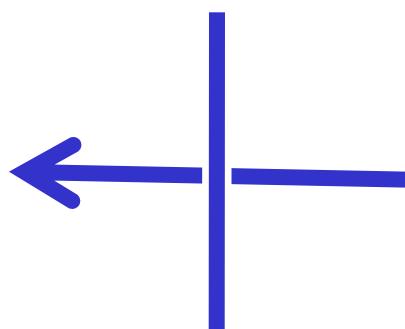
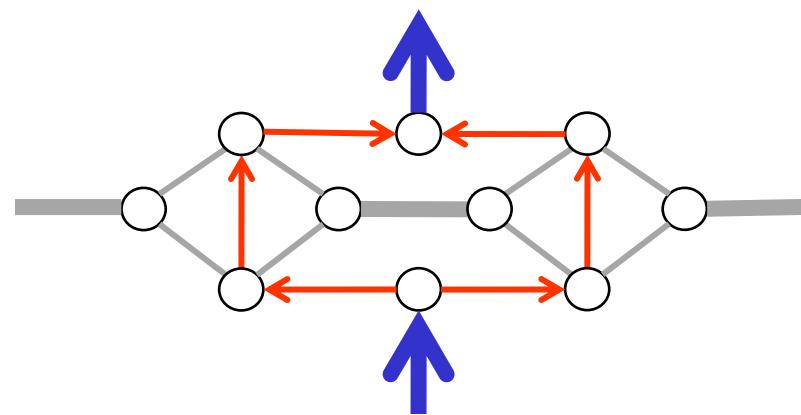
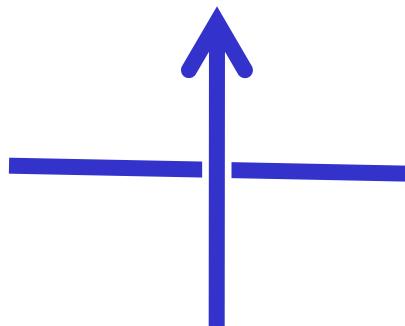


if leftward ...

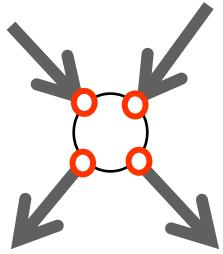
then leftward

# planar crossover gadget

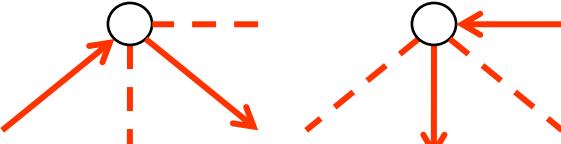
formal proof Lemma 5.10



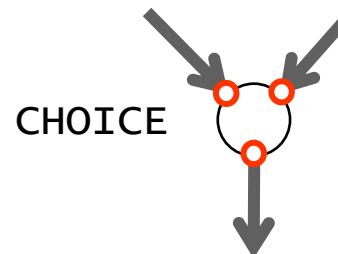
# bounded NCL half-crossover



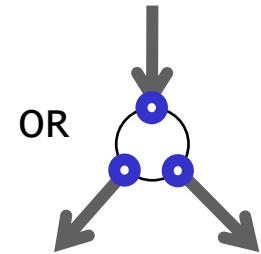
to be replaced



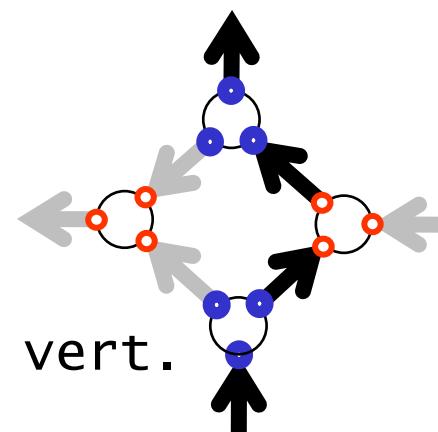
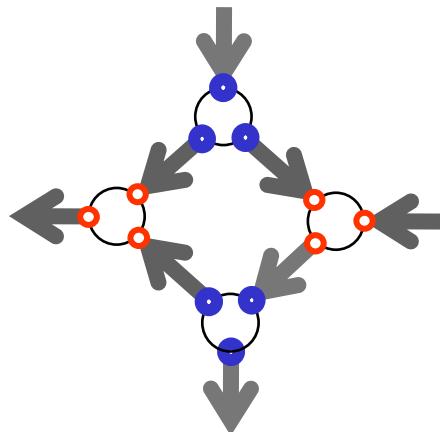
restricted behaviour



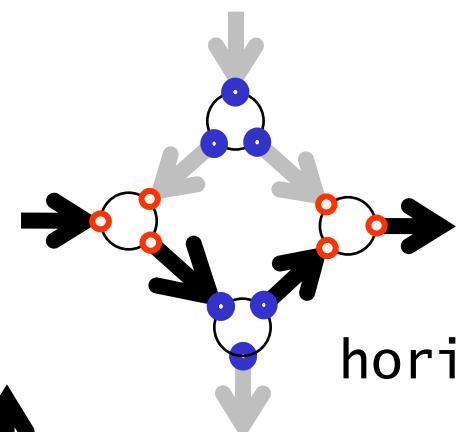
CHOICE



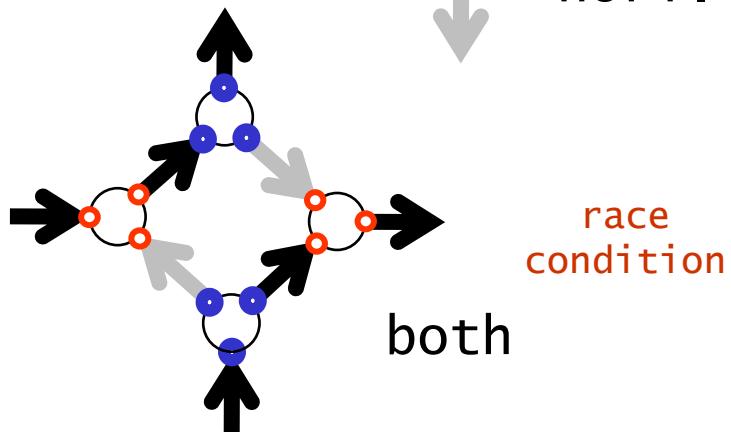
OR



vert.

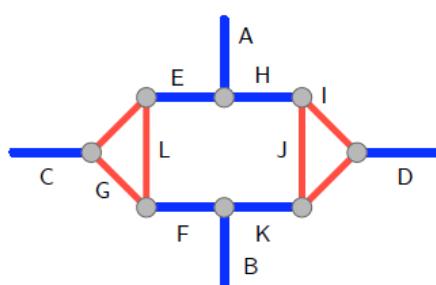


hori.



both

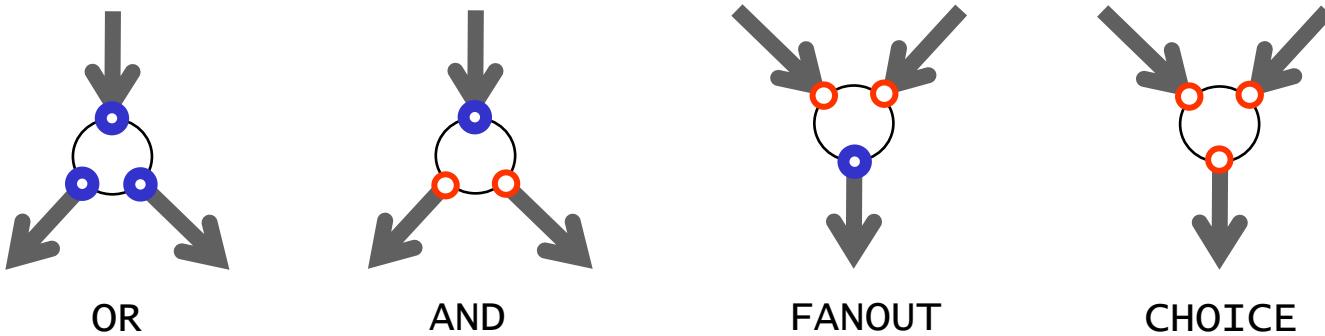
race  
condition



(b) Half-crossover

half-crossover *bounded ncl type*

# conclusion (planar BNCL)



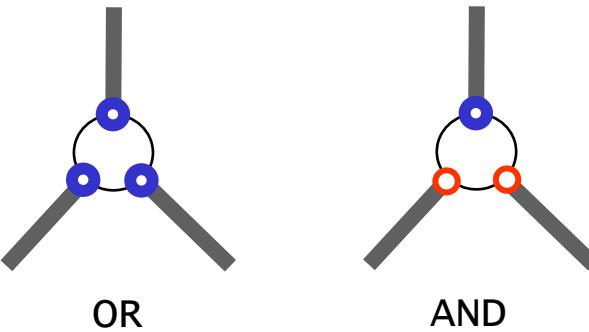
*BOUNDED NCL* – nondet constraint logic

instance: constraint graph  $G$ , edge  $e$

question: sequence which reverses *each edge at most once*, ending with  $e$

Bounded NCL is NP-complete,  
*even for planar graphs,*  
*with restricted vertices*

# conclusion (planar NCL)



NCL - nondet constraint logic

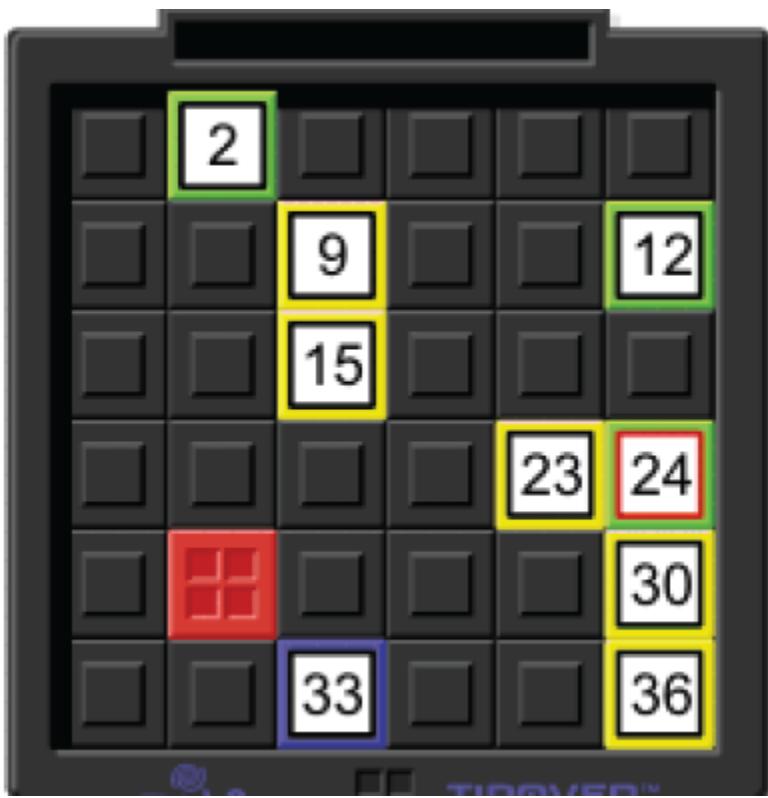
instance: constraint graph G, edge e

question: sequence which reverses e

NCL is PSPACE-complete,

*even for planar graphs,  
with restricted vertices*

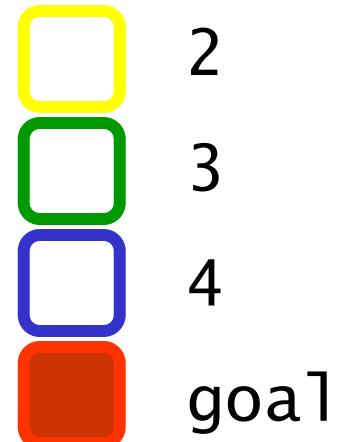
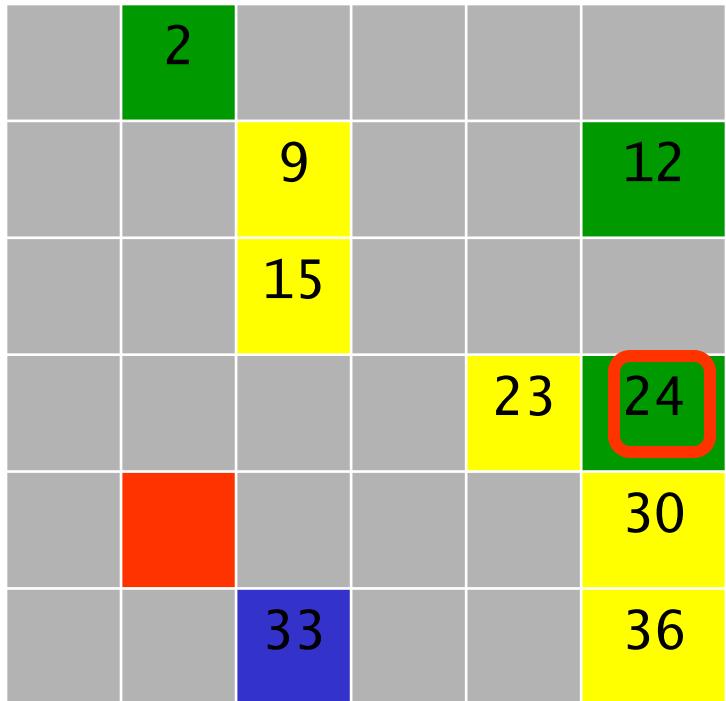
# application: TipOver



2  
3  
4  
goal

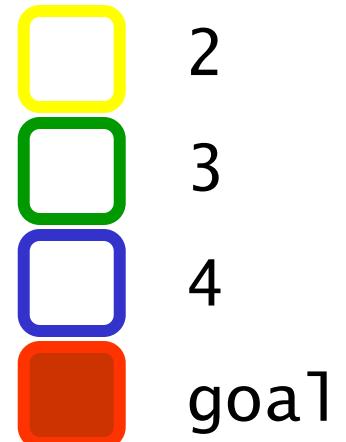
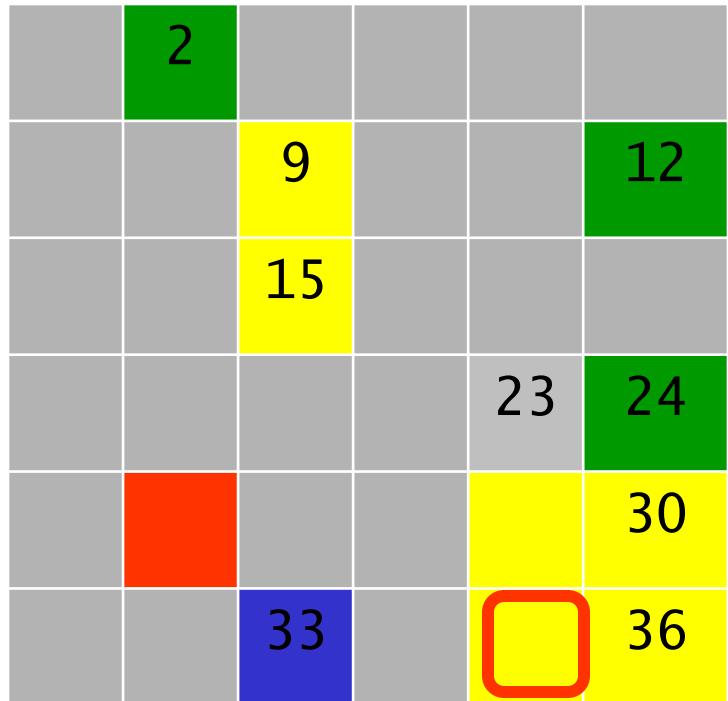
24 initial position

# solution advanced



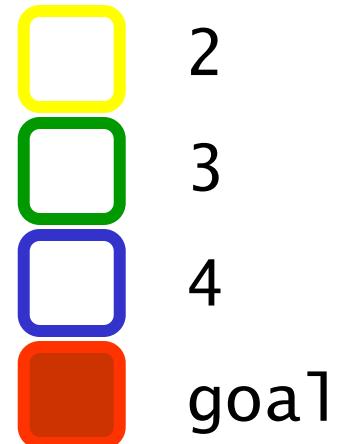
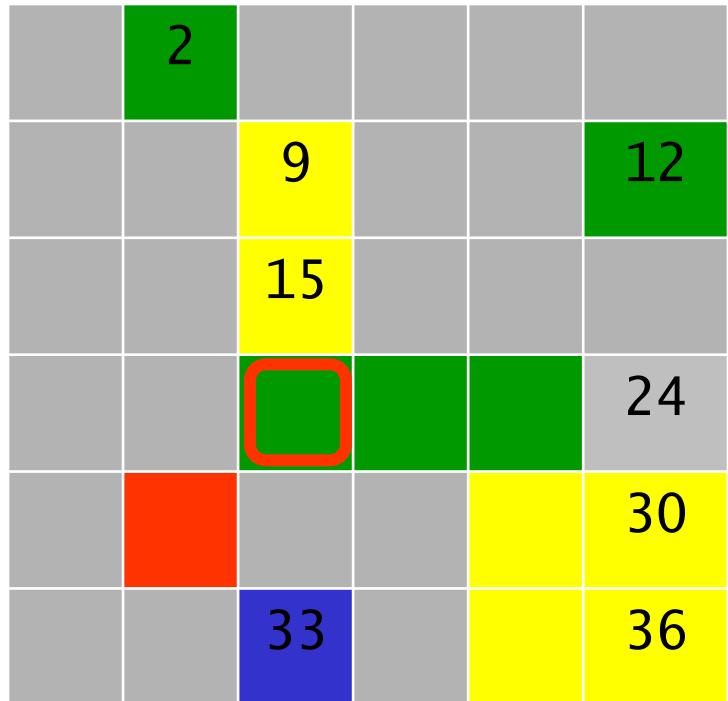
23D, 24L, 30U, 9R, 15U, 2D

# solution advanced



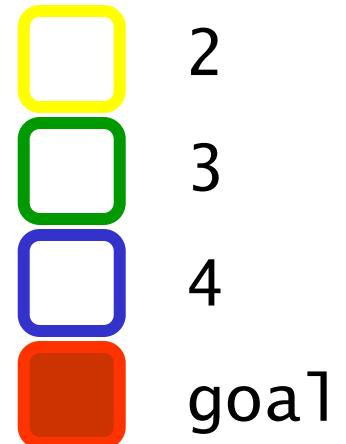
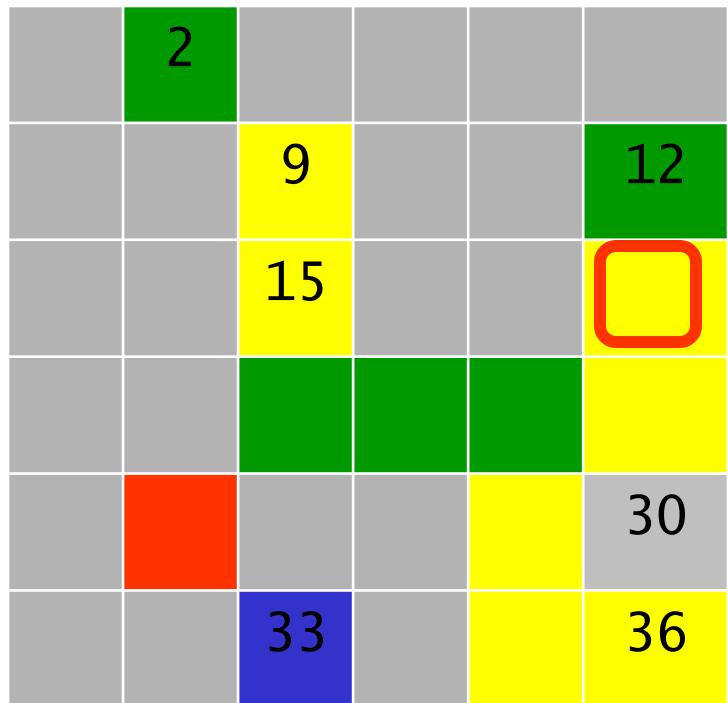
23D, 24L, 30U, 9R, 15U, 2D

# solution advanced



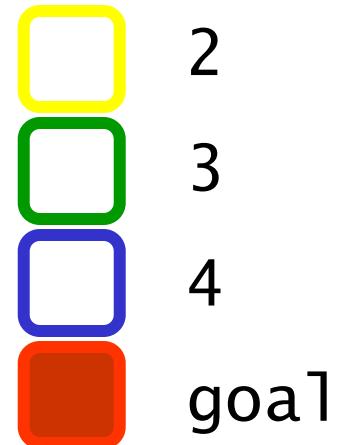
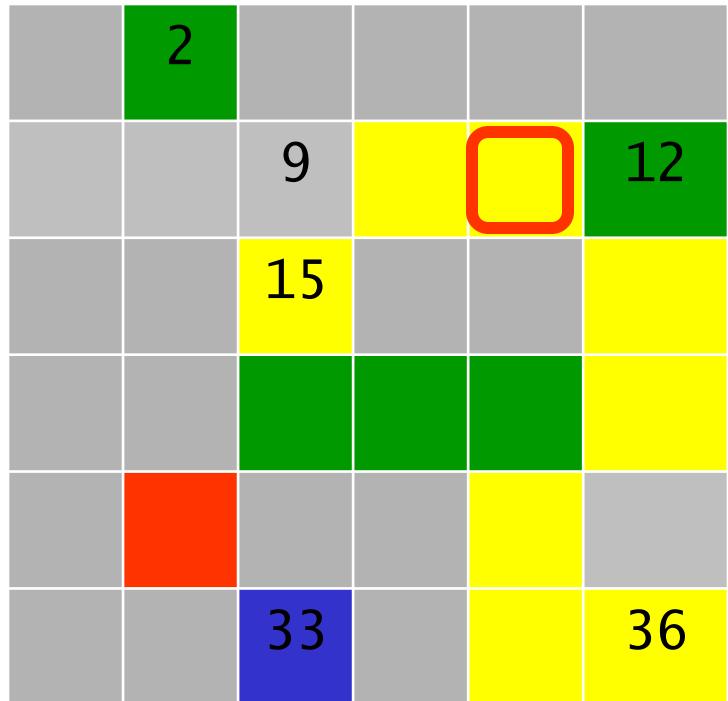
23D, 24L, 30U, 9R, 15U, 2D

# solution advanced



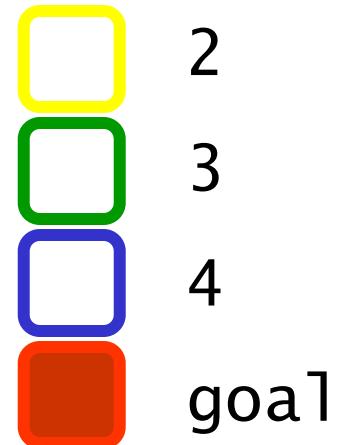
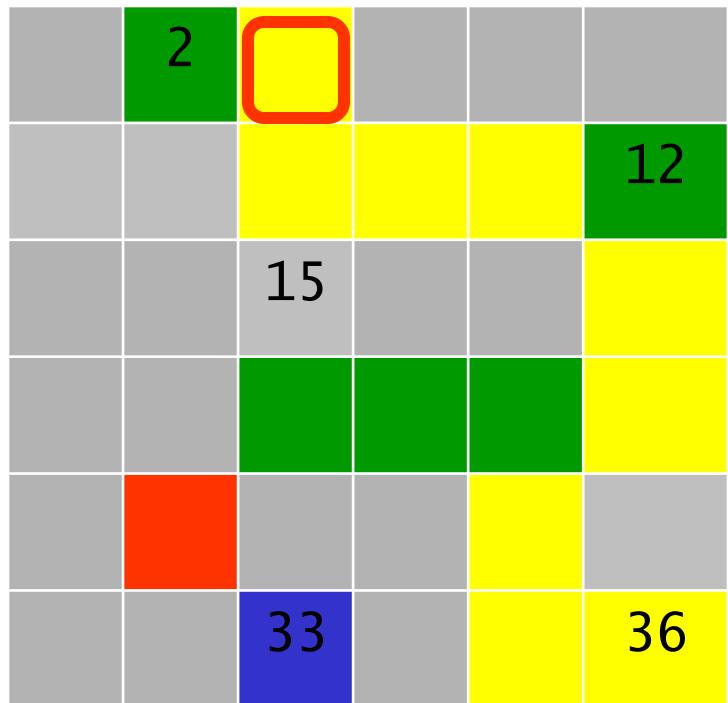
23D, 24L, 30U, 9R, 15U, 2D

# solution advanced



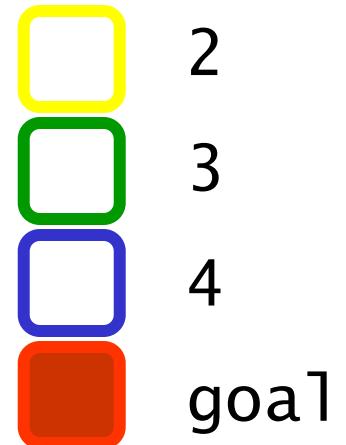
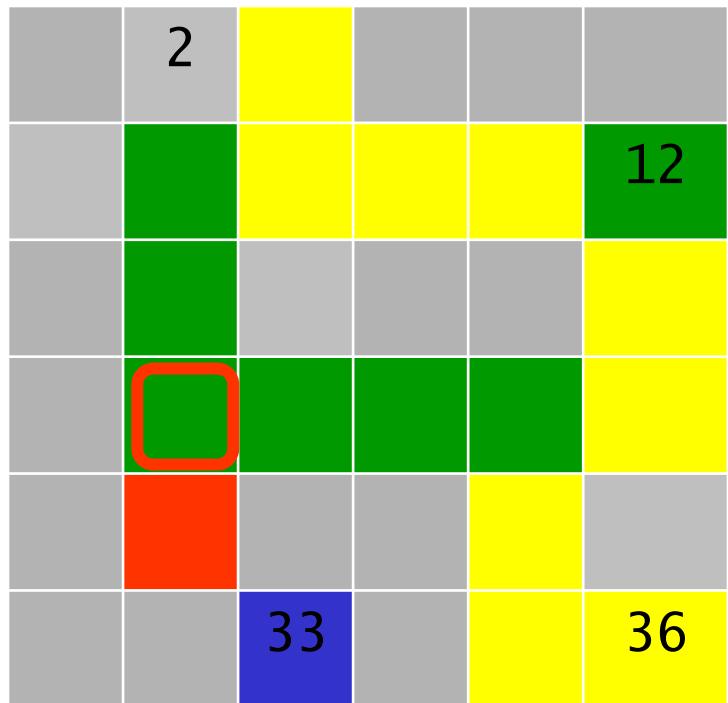
23D, 24L, 30U, 9R, 15U, 2D

# solution advanced



23D, 24L, 30U, 9R, 15U, 2D

# solution advanced



23D, 24L, 30U, 9R, 15U, 2D



2

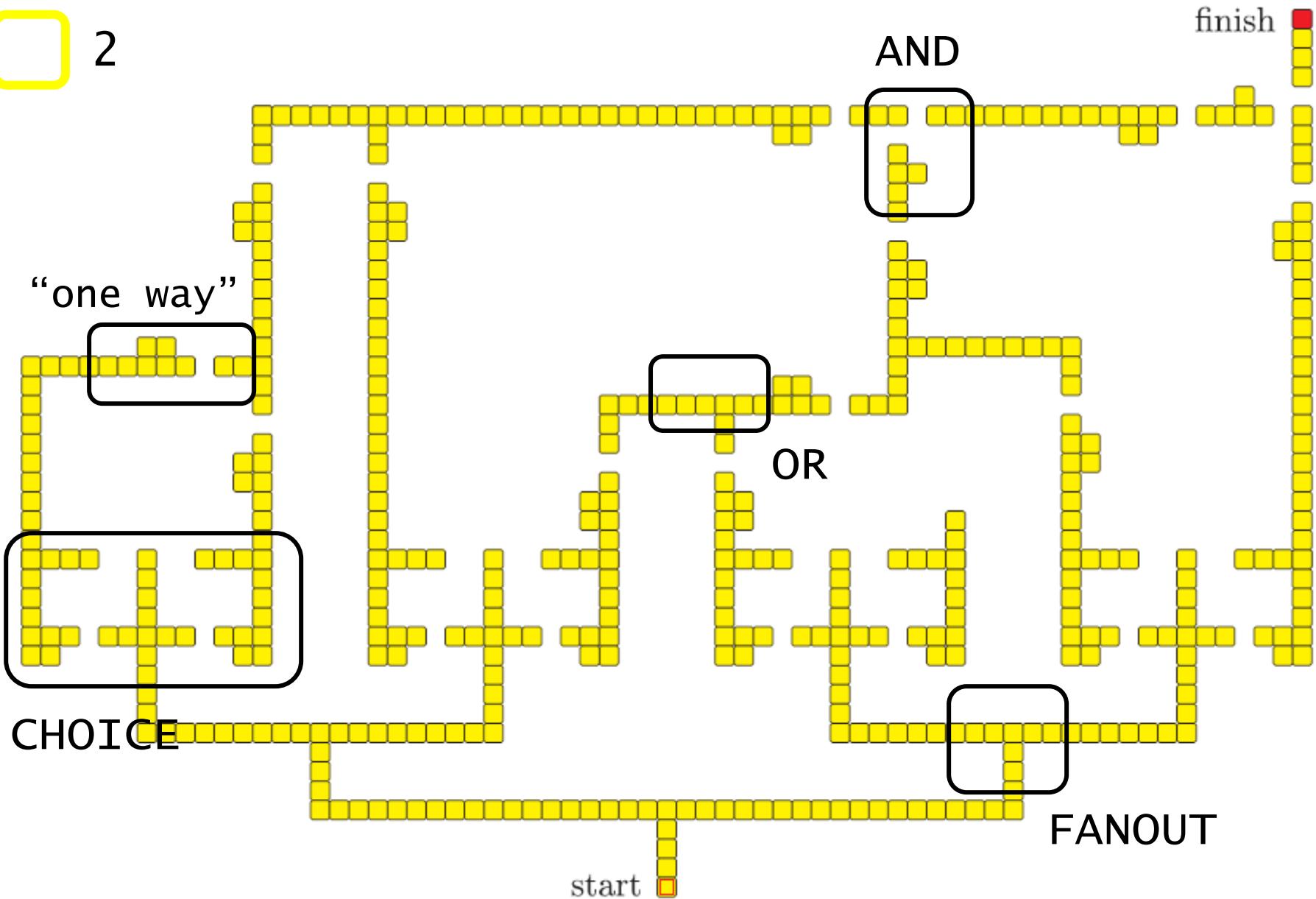


Figure 9-7: TipOver puzzle for a simple constraint graph.

# gadgets: “one way”, OR

invariant:

- can be reached  $\Leftrightarrow$  can be inverted
- all visited positions remain connected

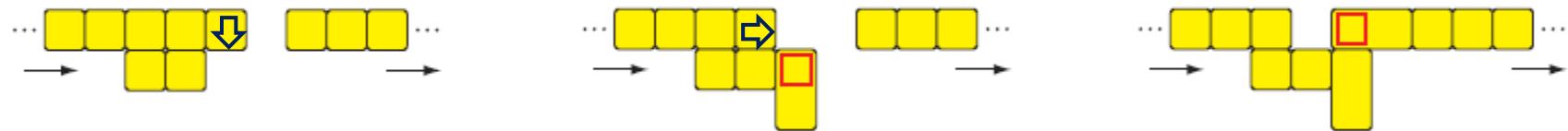
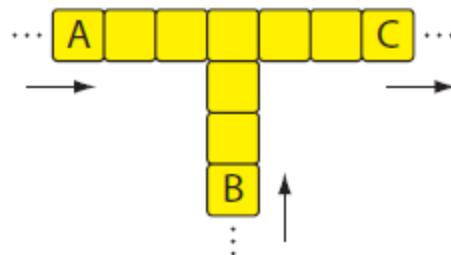
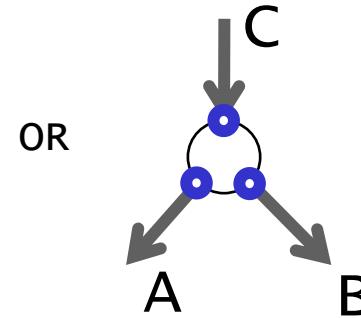


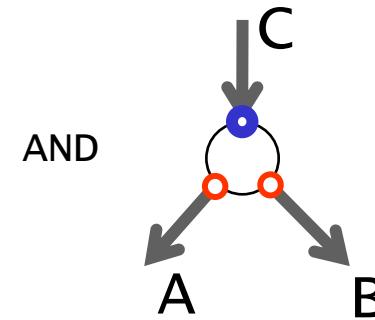
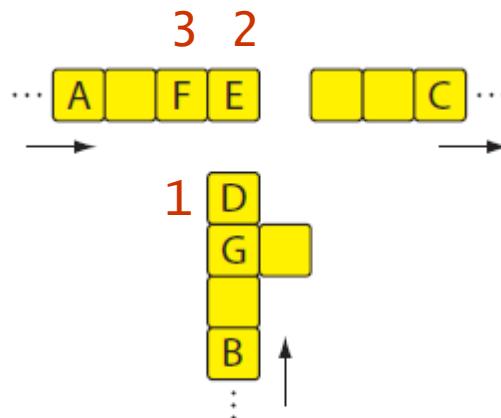
Figure 9-3: A wire that must be initially traversed from left to right. All crates are height two.



(a) OR gadget. If the tipper can reach either A or B, then it can reach C.



# gadgets: AND



(b) AND gadget. If the tipper can reach both A and B, then it can reach C.

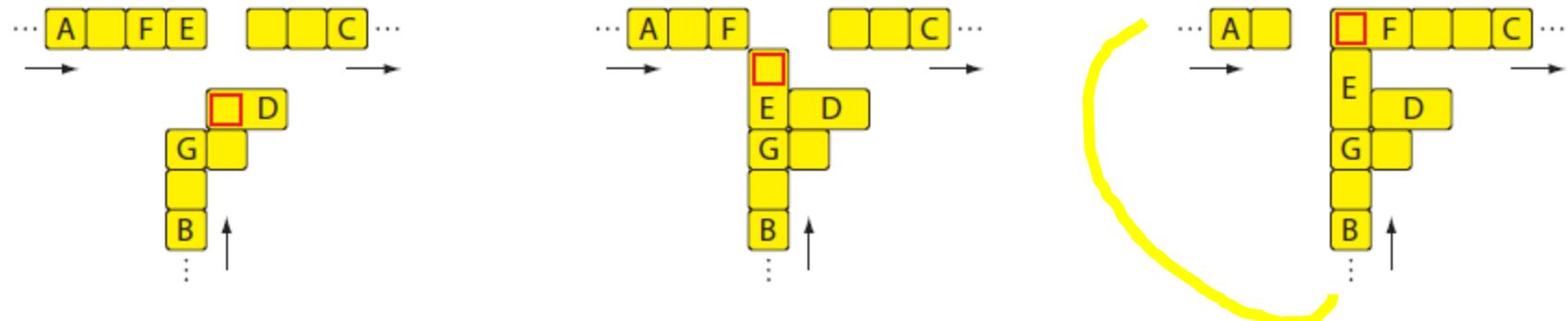


Figure 9-5: How to use the AND gadget.

remains connected

# gadgets: CHOICE , FANOUT

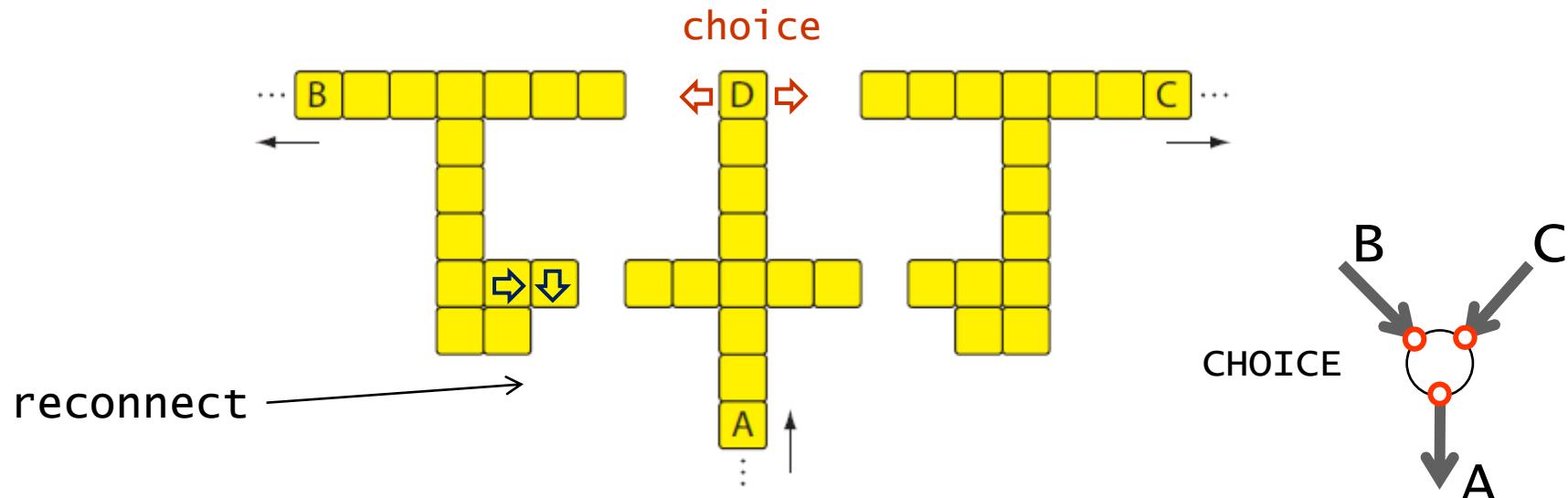
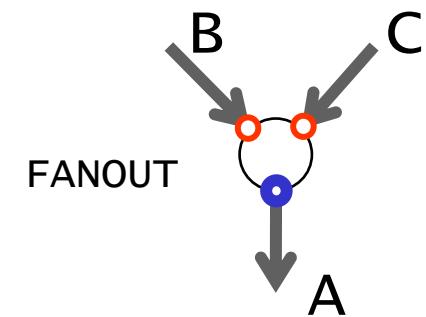
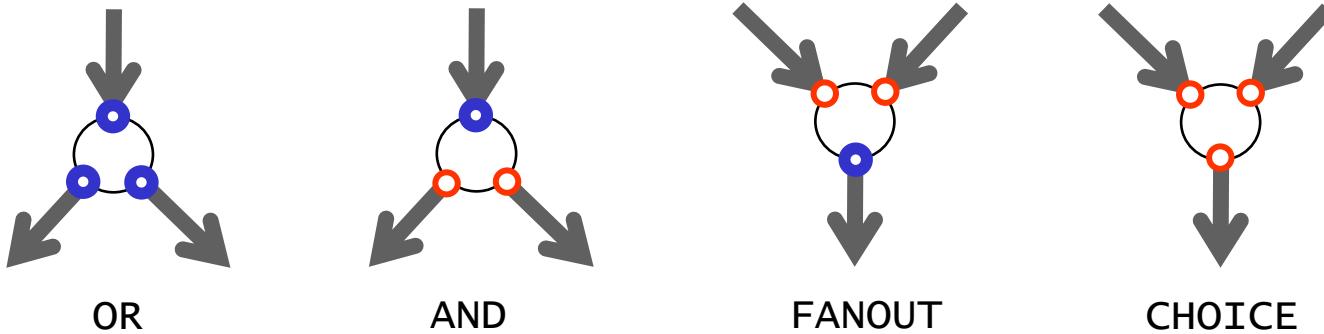


Figure 9-6: TipOver CHOICE gadget. If the tipper can reach A, then it can reach B or C, but not both.

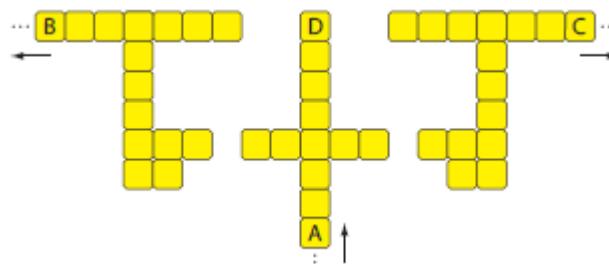
use one-way gadgets at B and C  
(control information flow)



# conclusion



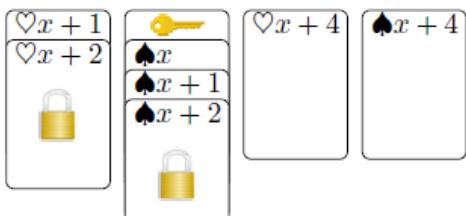
Bounded NCL is NP-complete,  
*even for planar graphs,  
with above restricted vertices*



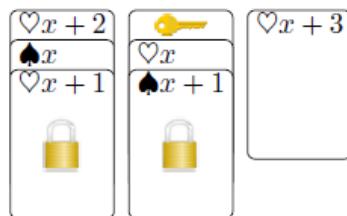
**thm.** TipOver is NP-complete

# NP complete bounded games

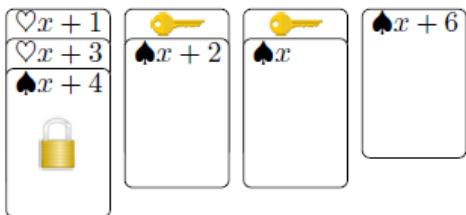
Jan van Rijn: Playing Games:  
The complexity of Klondike, Mahjong, Nonograms  
and Animal Chess  
(Master Thesis, 2013, Leiden)



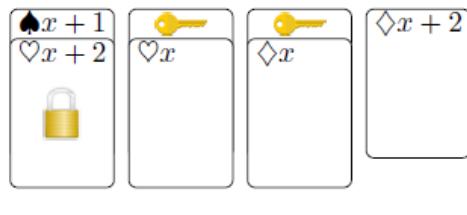
(a) AND gadget



(b) OR gadget



(c) FANOUT gadget



(d) CHOICE gadget



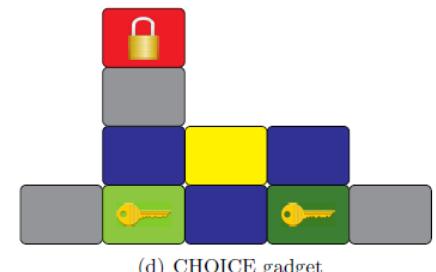
(a) AND gadget



(b) OR gadget

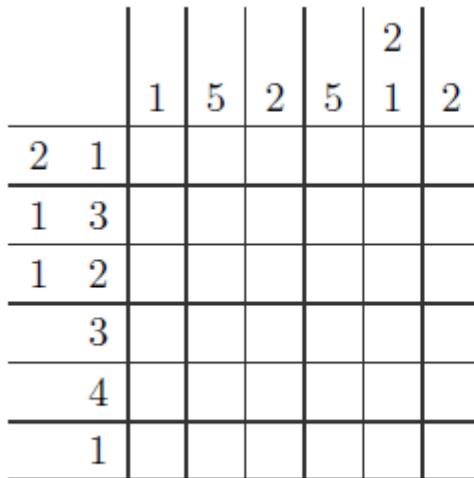


(c) FANOUT gadget



(d) CHOICE gadget

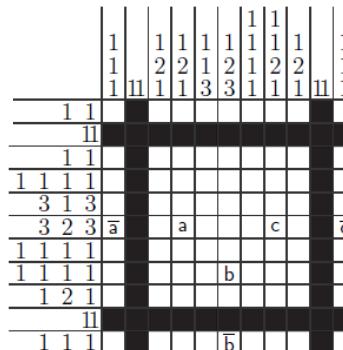
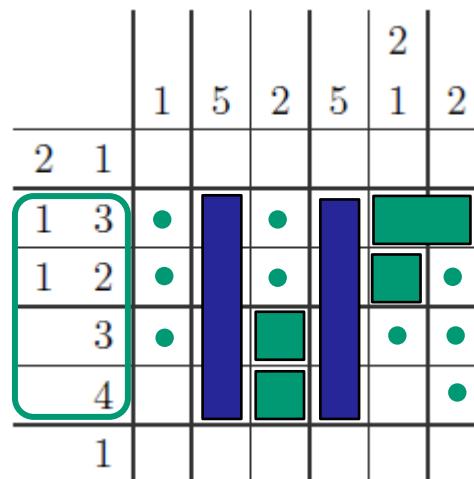
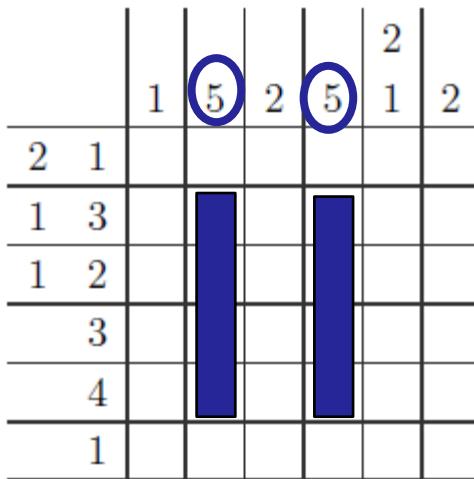
# (ctd.) nonograms



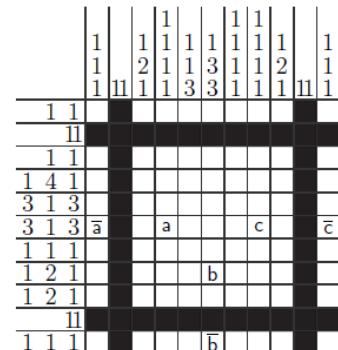
(a)  $6 \times 6$  Nonogram



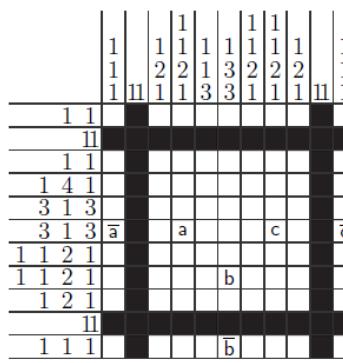
(b) Solved Nonogram



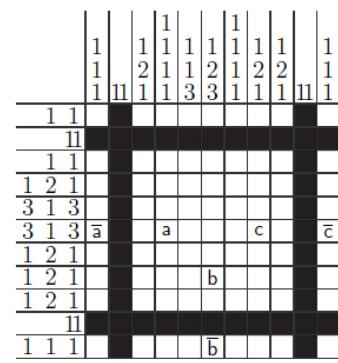
(a) AND



(b) OR



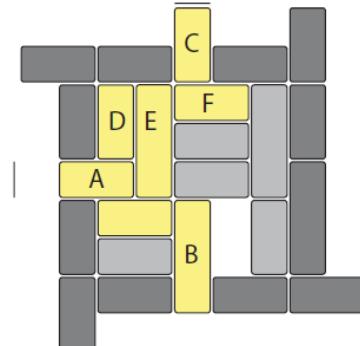
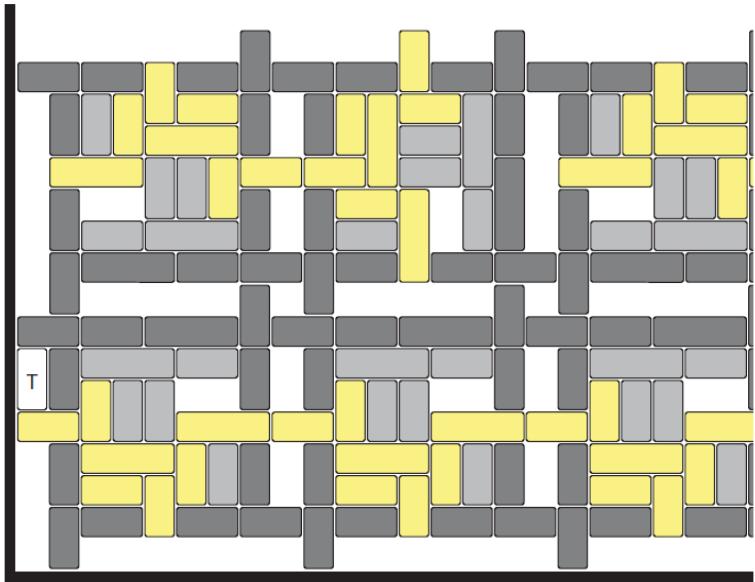
(c) FANOUT



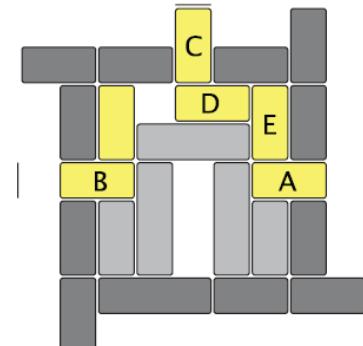
(d) CHOICE

Rush Hour and Plank puzzle are  
PSPACE-complete

# rush hour

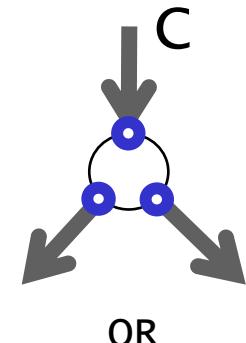
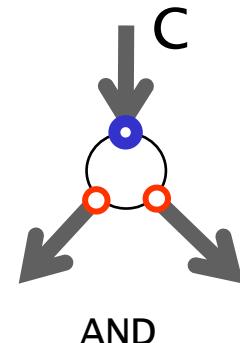


(b) AND

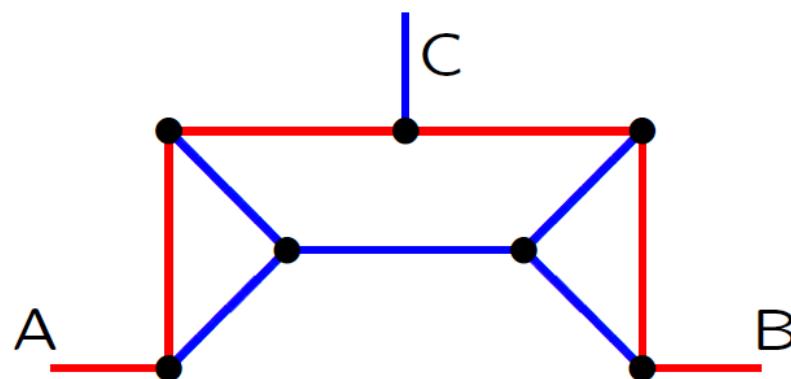


(c) Protected OR

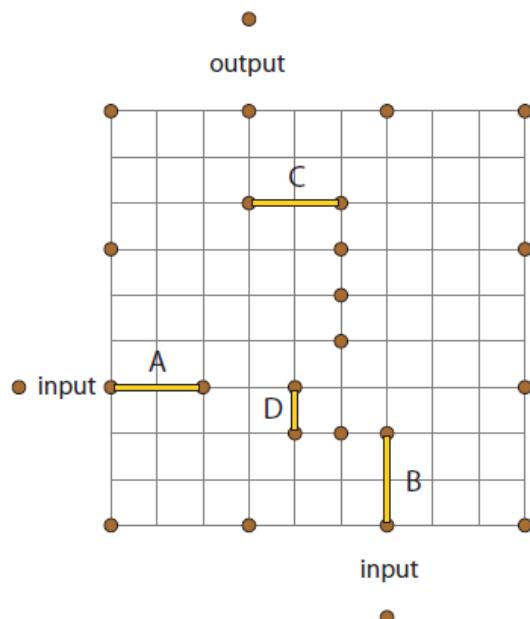
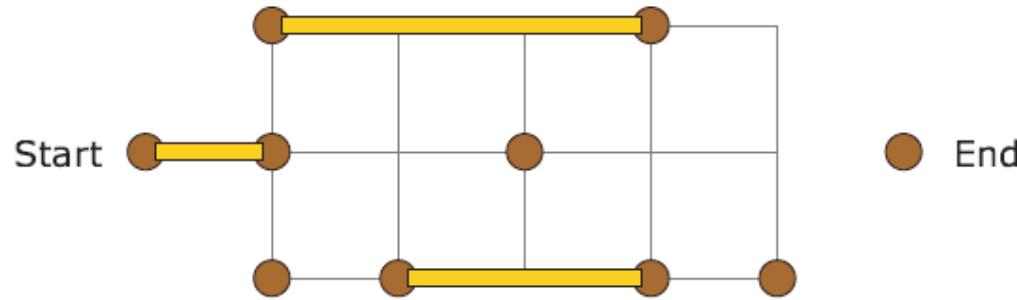
car in  $\Leftrightarrow$  edge out



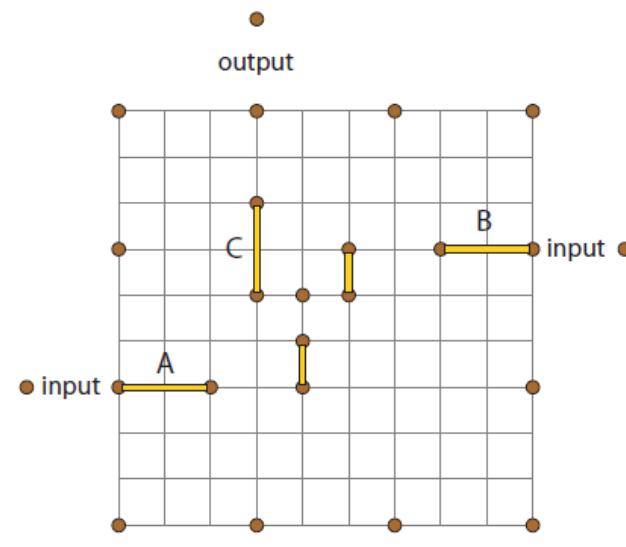
# latch / protected OR



# plank puzzle

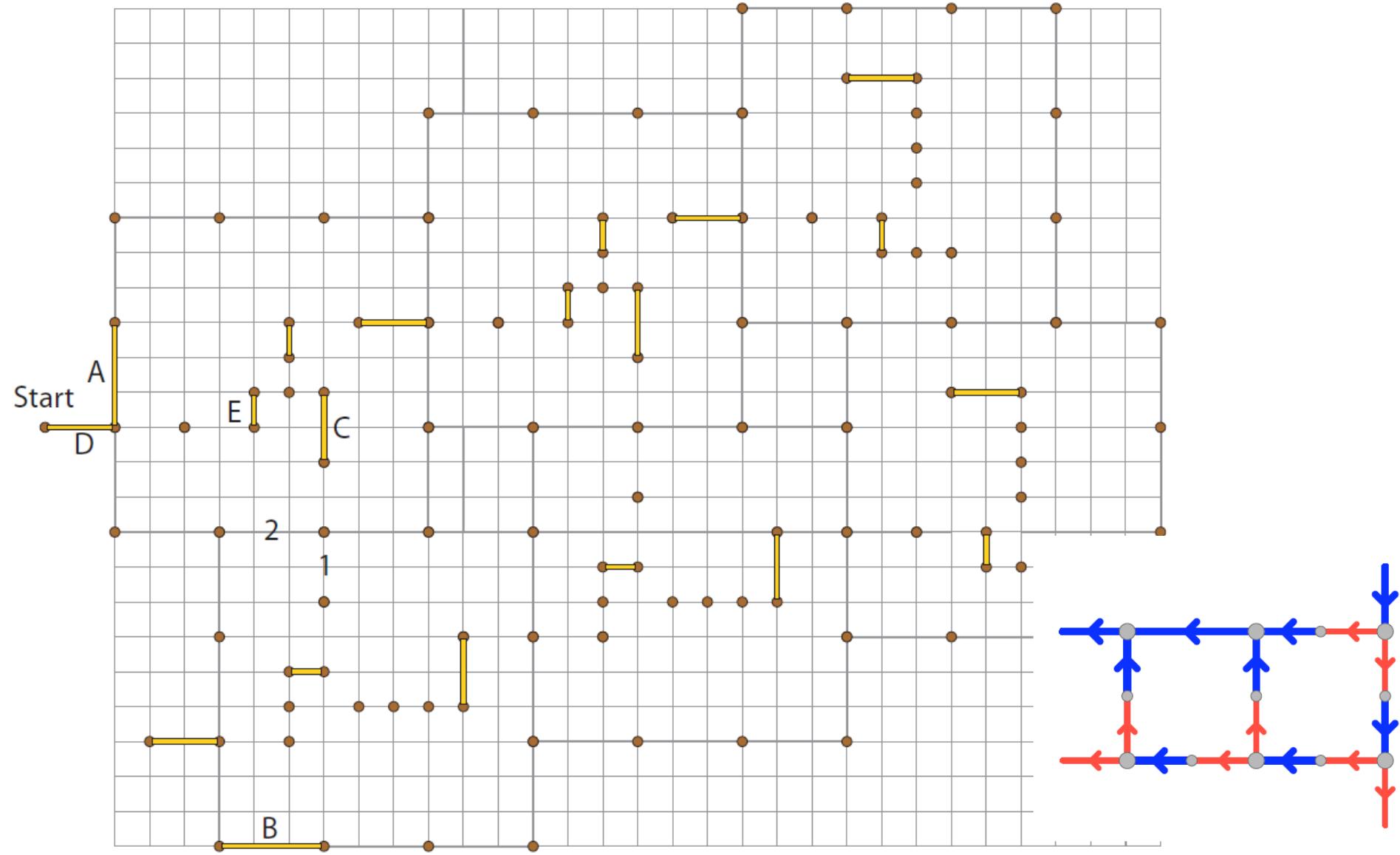


(a) AND



(b) OR

● End



Wrap Up

# conclusion

conclusion: nice uniform family of graph games, suitable for the various game classes

*not in this presentation:*

deterministic classes are hard to prove complete: timing constraints

bounded det. ncl

has no known planar normal form

2pers. games need two types of edges (apart from colours), for each of the players

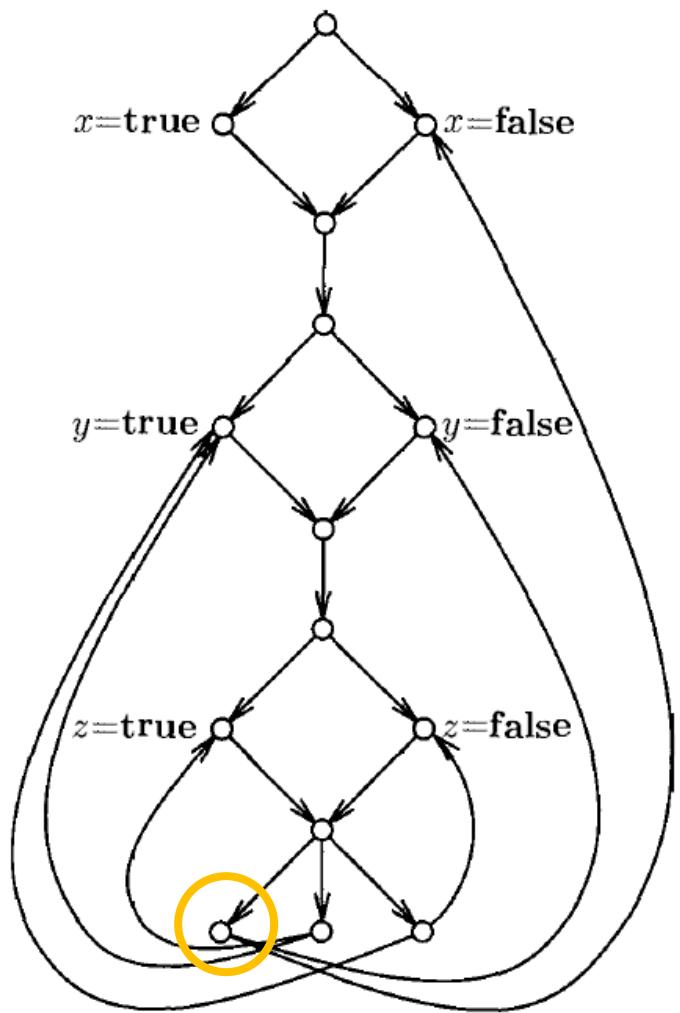
for teams one needs hidden info, otherwise equivalent to 2p games

## conclusion

roots can be found in the literature  
(see Geography)

take care: game of life (what is the ‘goal’?)  
is PSPACE, it also is undecidable ☺  
(on infinite grid)

example of P-complete:  
the domino tiling simulation



[Schäfer, J.CSS, 1978]

THM. Geography is PSPACE-complete

two players on directed graph  
alternately pick next vertex,  
without repetition

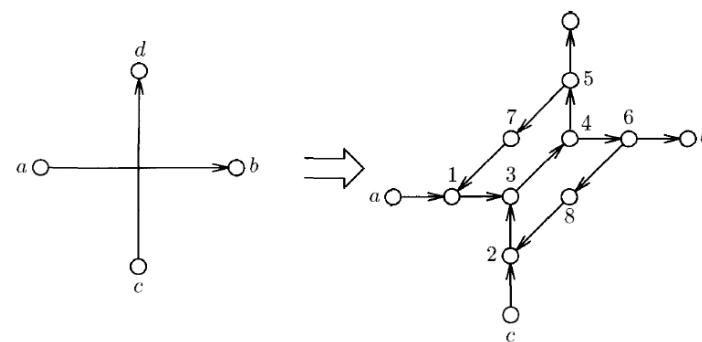


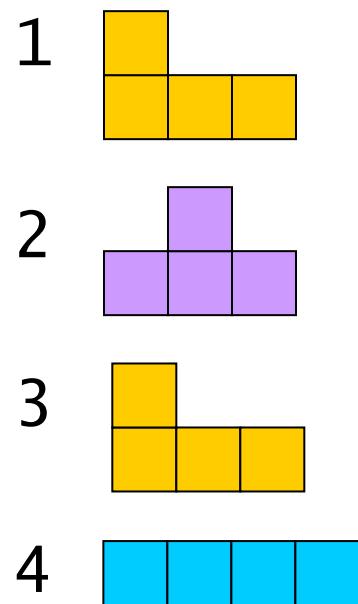
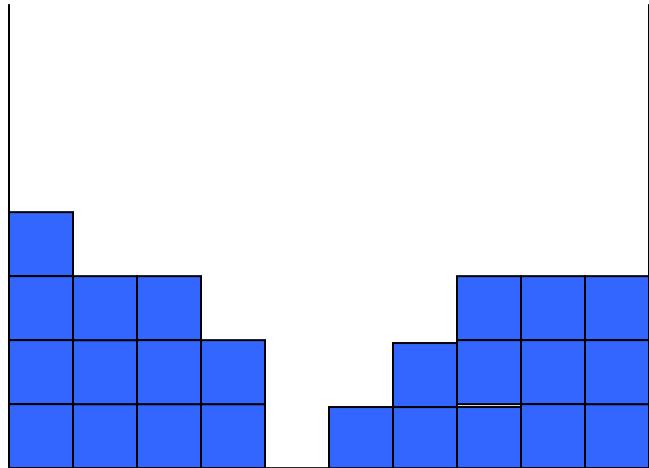
Figure 19-4. Crossing edges in GEOGRAPHY.

application to GO  
[Lichtenstein & Sipser, J.ACM, 1980]

$$\exists x \forall y \exists z [(\neg x \vee \neg y) \wedge (y \vee z) \wedge (y \vee \neg z)].$$

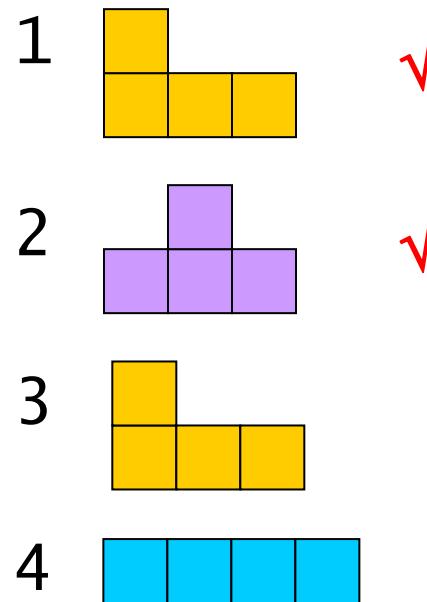
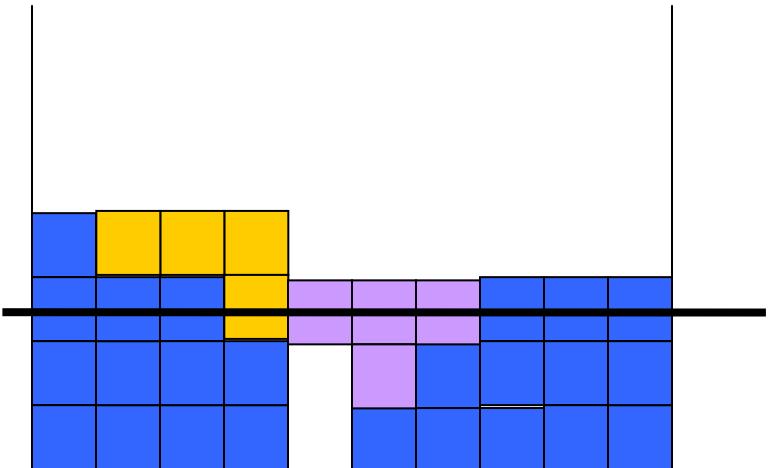
# Tetris is NP complete

“Given an initial game board and a sequence of pieces, can the board be cleared?”



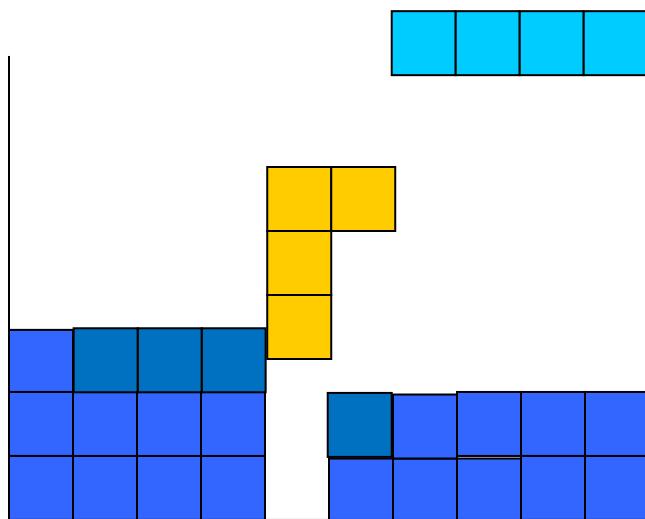
# Tetris is NP complete

“Given an initial game board and a sequence of pieces, can the board be cleared?”



# Tetris is NP complete

“Given an initial game board and a sequence of pieces, can the board be cleared?”



- 1 ✓
- 2 ✓
- 3 ✓
- 4 ✓

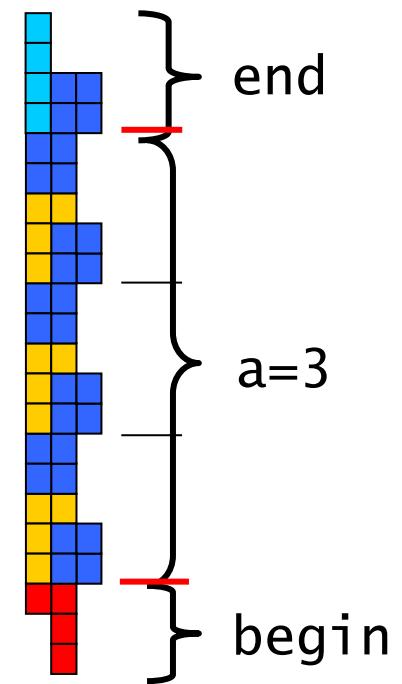
yes!

# Tetris is NP complete

reduction from 3-partitioning problem  
(can we divide set of numbers into triples?)

OPEN: directly with Bounded NCL ?

find OR, AND, FANOUT, CHOICE



## Game Complexity

IPA Advanced Course on  
Algorithmics and Complexity

Eindhoven, 25 Jan 2019

Walter Kosters  
Hendrik Jan Hoogeboom

LIACS, Universiteit Leiden

Cook, Stephen (1971). "The complexity of theorem proving procedures". *Proceedings of the Third Annual ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing*. pp. 151–158.

<http://portal.acm.org/citation.cfm?coll=GUIDE&d1=GUIDE&id=805047>.

Provably difficult combinatorial games, L. J. Stockmeyer and A. K. Chandra, *SIAM J. Computing* 8 (1979), pp. 151-174.

N.D. Jones, W.T. Laaser, Complete Problems for Deterministic Polynomial Time, TCS 3: 105-117, 1977.

Chandra, Ashok K.; Kozen, Dexter C.; Stockmeyer, Larry J. (1981). "Alternation". *Journal of the ACM*. 28 (1): 114–133