

Cabbage, Goat, and wolf

Algorithmics, NP-completeness, and a little Latin

USF Math Club, Tampa FL, Feb 2016

Hendrik Jan Hoogeboom
Universiteit Leiden NL



cabbage, goat, and wolf



algorithmics (problem solving)



complexity

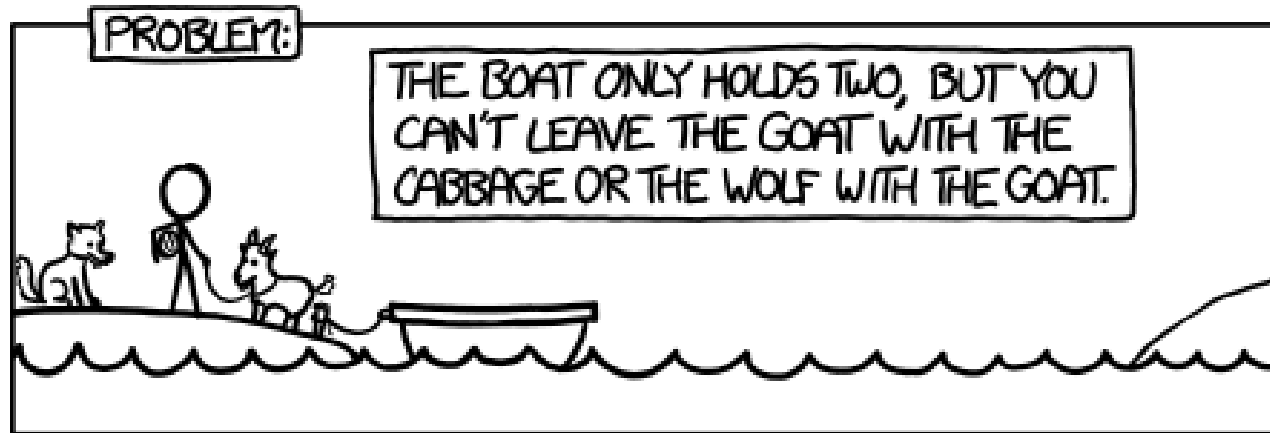


natural computing

Algorithmics: a puzzle

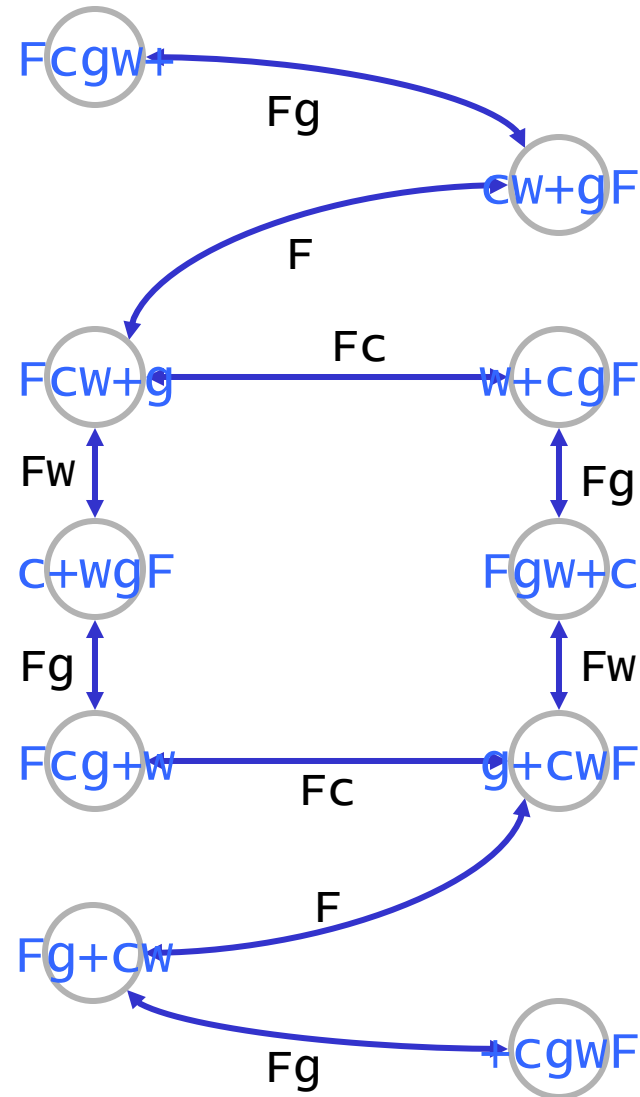
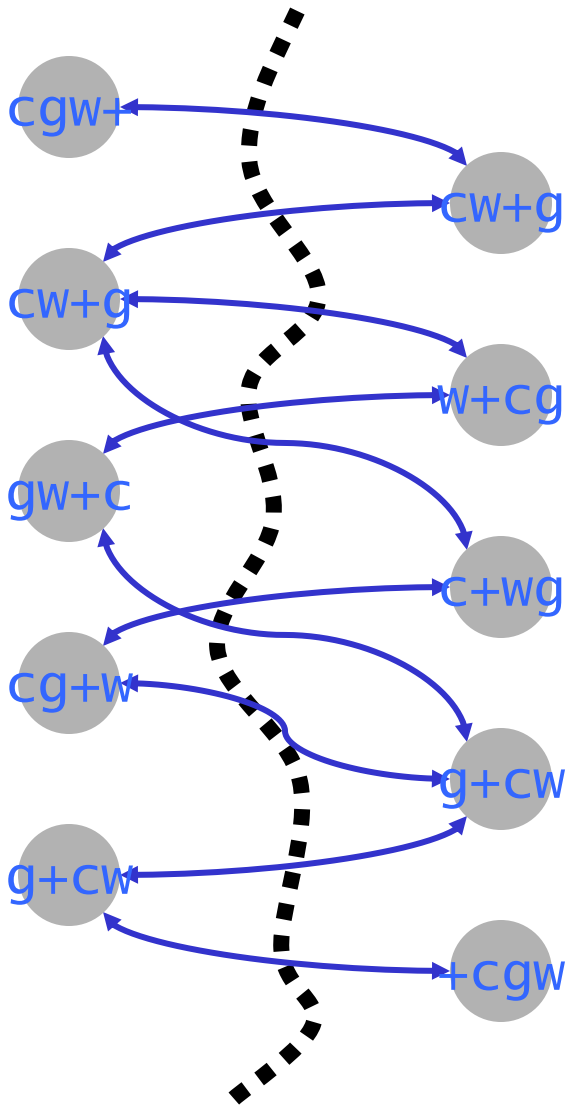


transportation problems





cabbage, goat, wolf





Propositiones ad Acuendos Juvenes

Alcuin of York (York ~735 - Tours 804)

XVIII. PROPOSITIO DE HOMINE ET CAPRA ET LVPO.

Homo quidam debebat ultra fluuium transferre lupum, capram, et fasciculum cauli. Et non potuit aliam nauem inuenire, nisi quae duos tantum ex ipsis ferre ualebat. Praeceptum itaque ei fuerat, ut omnia haec ultra illaesa omnino transferret. Dicat, qui potest, quomodo eis illaesis transire potuit?

Solutio

Simili namque tenore ducerem prius capram et dimitterem foris lupum et caulum. Tum deinde uenirem, lupumque transferrem: lupoque foris misso capram naui receptam ultra reducerem; capramque foris missam caulum transueherem ultra; atque iterum remigassem, capramque assumptam ultra duxissem. Sicque faciendo facta erit remigatio salubris, absque uoragine lacerationis.



Propositiones ad Acuendos Juvenes

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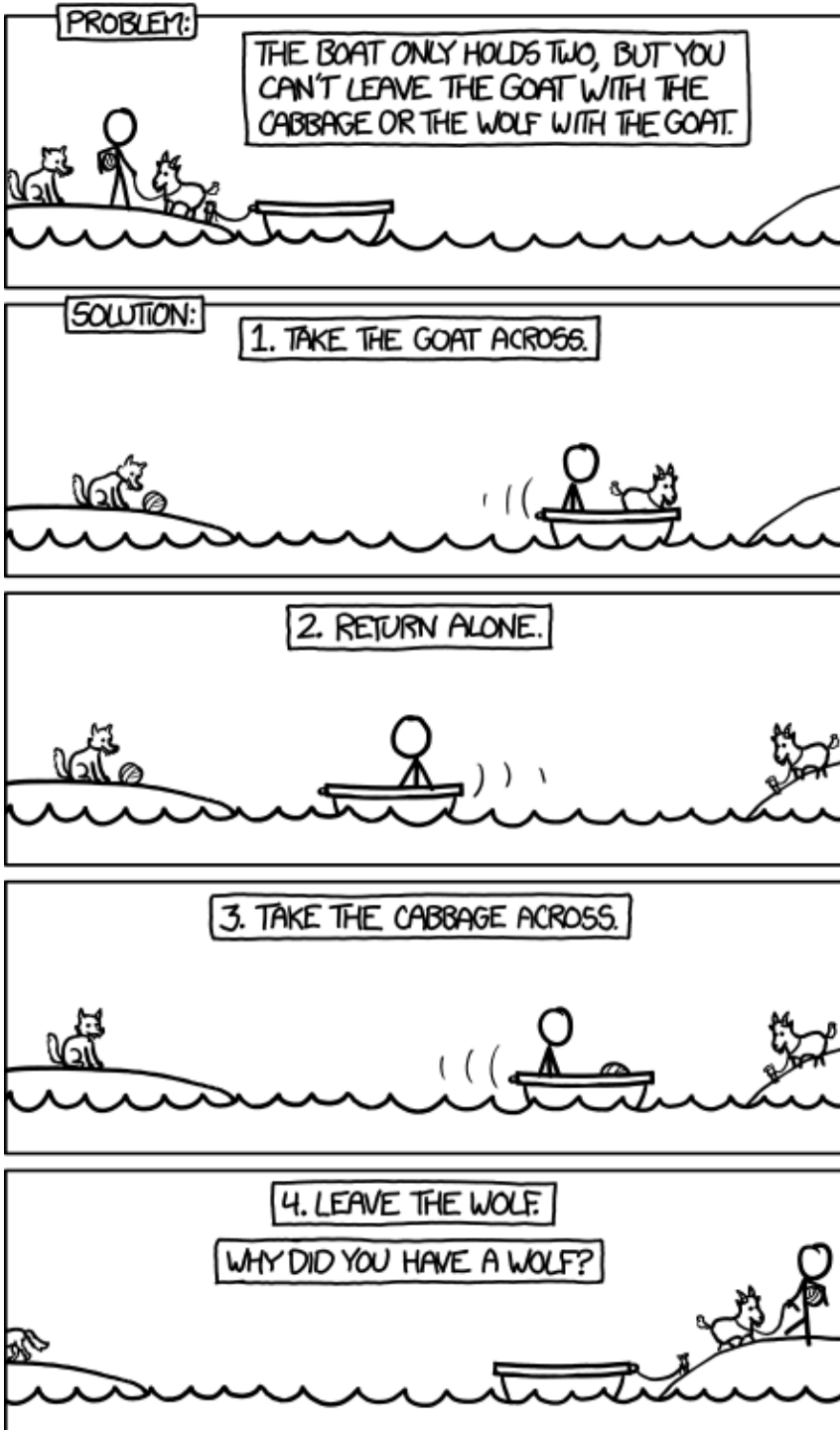
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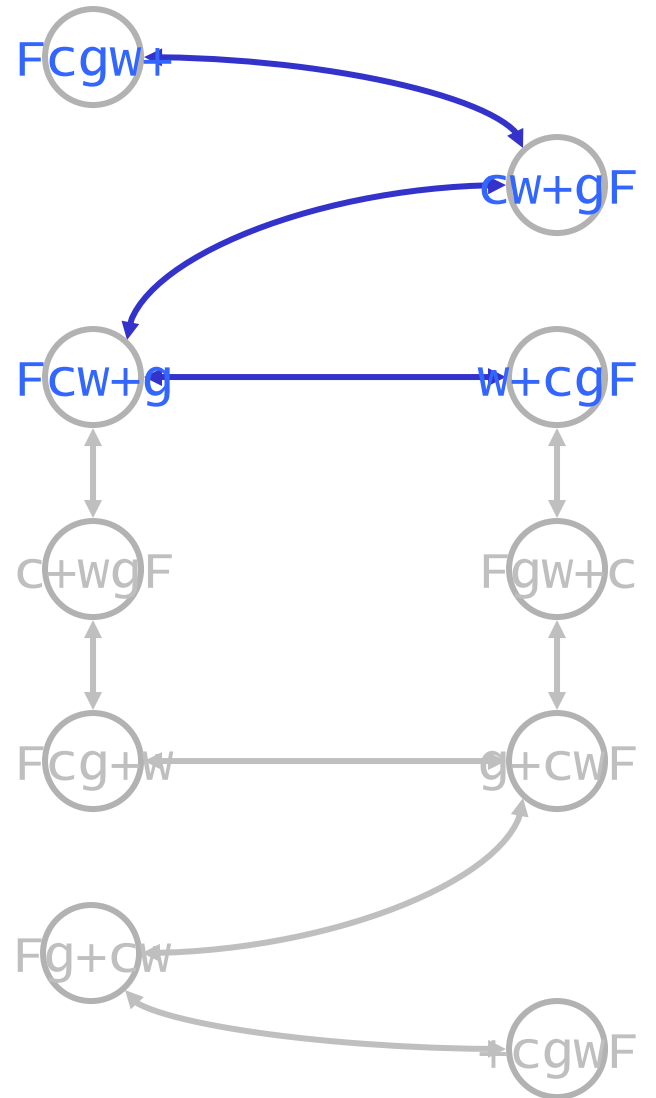
Solutio

Simili namque tenore dicitur: cum deinde uentrem, lupumque foris lupum et caulum. tum deinde uentrem, lupumque transferrem: lupoque foris misso capram naui receptam ultra reducerem; capramque foris missam caulum transueherem ultra; atque iterum remigassem, capramque assumptam ultra duxissem. Sicque faciendo facta erit remigatio salubris, absque uoragine lacerationis.

Latijn - gedetecteerd	Engels
Homo quidam debebat ultra fluuium transferre lupum, capram, et fasciculum cauli	A man ought to move beyond the river wolf, a goat and a bunch of cabbage

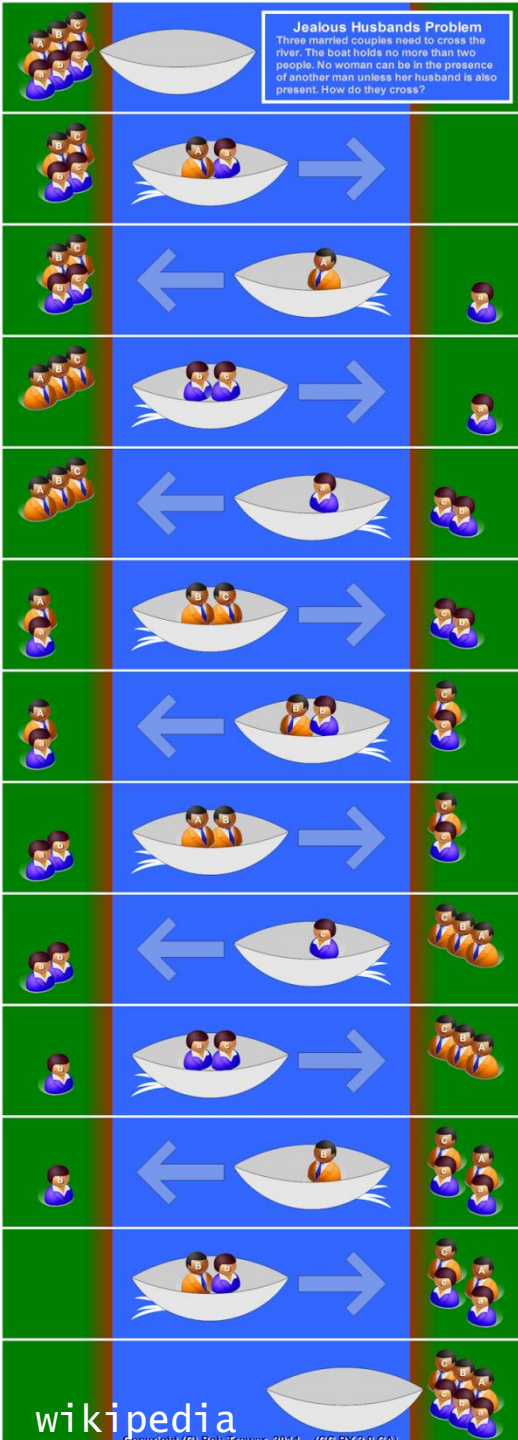


LOGIC BOAT



jealous husbands

Jealous Husbands Problem
 Three married couples need to cross the river. The boat holds no more than two people. No woman can be in the presence of another man unless her husband is also present. How do they cross?



trip number	left bank	travel	right bank
(start)	Aa Bb Cc		
1	Ab Cc	Aa →	
2	Ab Cc	← A	a
3	A B C	bc →	a
4	A B C	← a	b c
5	Aa	BC →	b c
6	Aa	← Bb	Cc
7	a b	AB →	Cc
8	a b	← c	A B C
9	b	a c →	A B C
10	b	← B	Aa Cc
11		Bb →	Aa Cc
(finish)			Aa Bb Cc

⇒

missionaries and cannibals

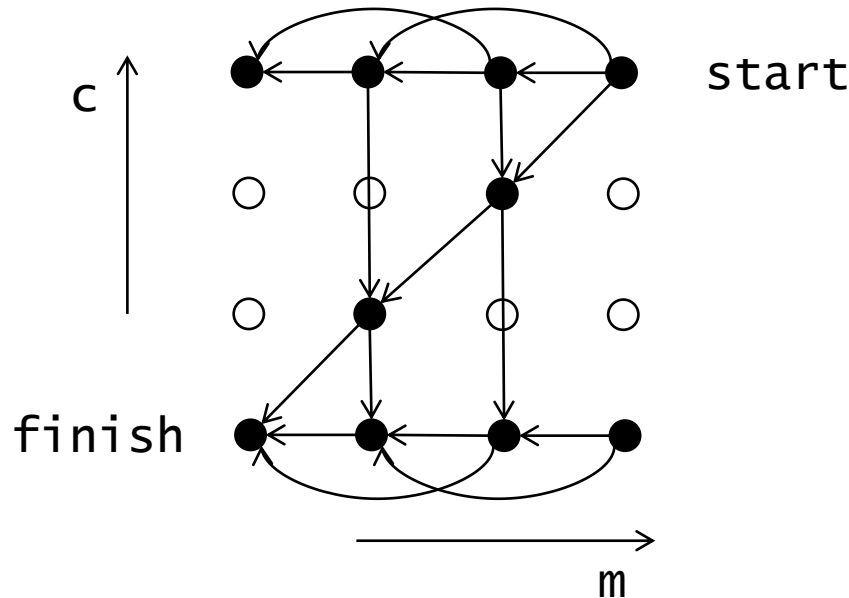
3 missionaries and 3 cannibals; 2 passengers.

when the missionaries outnumber the cannibals the latter will be converted; how to get them safely over?

$(c, m) \quad (3-c, 3-m)$

$c=0$ or $c \geq m$

$c=3$ or $c \leq m$ (other bank!)



missionaries and cannibals

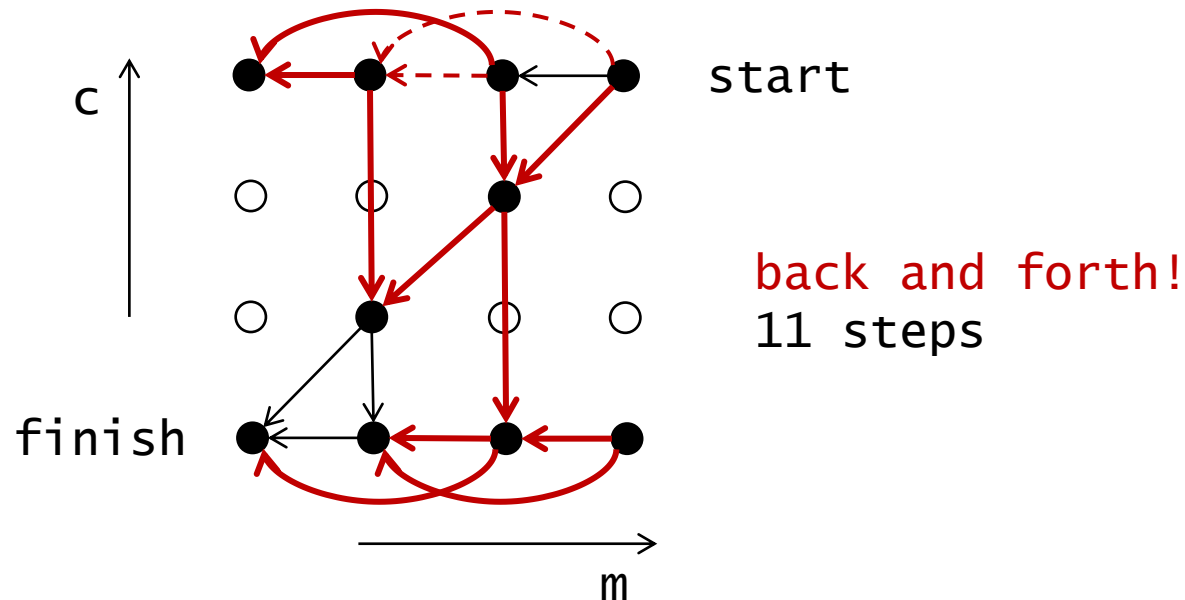
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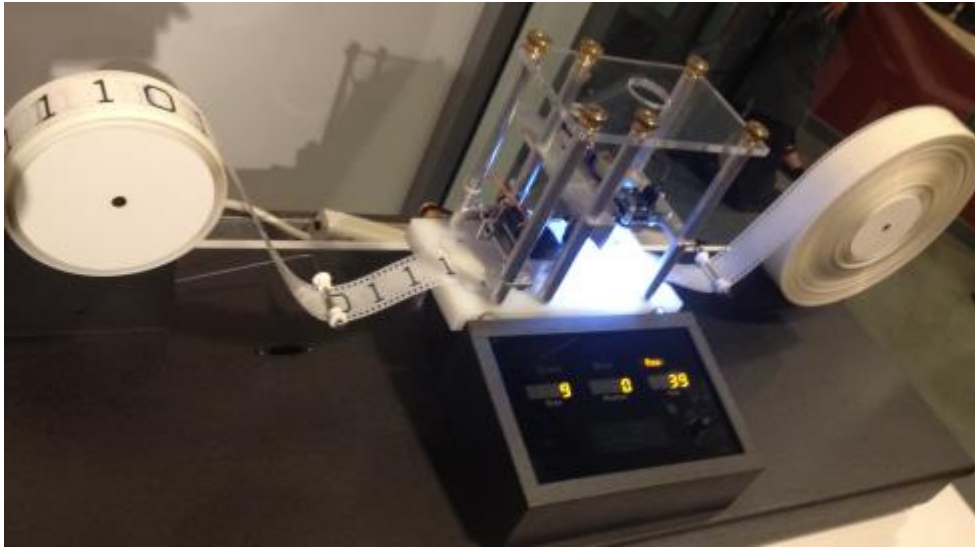
$c=3$ or $c \leq m$ (other bank!)



complexity: NP-completeness



Turing machine



(p,c,q,a,D) instruction
 p state
 c letter read
 q new state
 a letter written
 D direction move -1,0,+1

state position

r	b	b	1	1	0	1	b
r	b	b	1	1	0	1	b
r	b	b	1	1	0	1	b
r	b	b	1	1	0	1	b
r	b	b	1	1	0	1	b
l	b	b	1	1	0	1	b
l	b	b	1	1	0	0	b
H	b	b	1	1	1	0	b

time $1 \leq k \leq p(n)$

space $1 \leq i \leq p(n)$

A.M. Turing (1936). On Computable Numbers, with an Application to the Entscheidungs problem. Proc London Math Soc (1937)

Emil Post. Finite Combinatory Processes—Formulation 1, J Symbolic Logic (1936)

dimensions

existential and *universal* states
 computation = tree

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

AL

AP

APSPACE

AEXPTIME

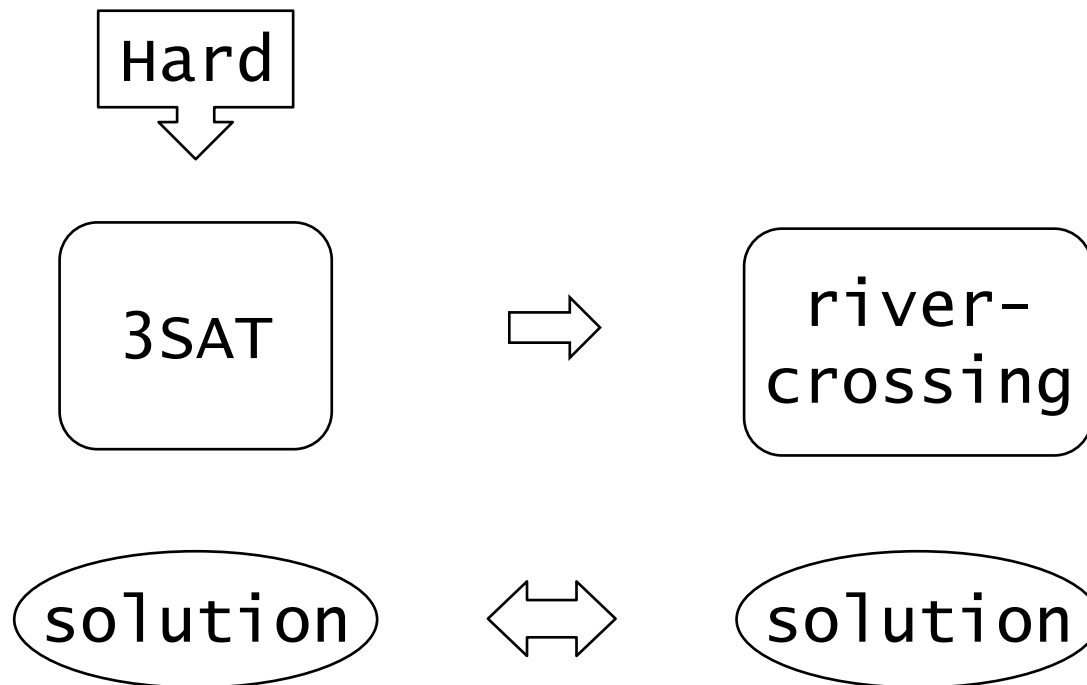
$P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME \subseteq NEXPTIME \subseteq EXPSPACE$

NPSPACE

NEXPSPACE



proving complexity



literal
(negated) variable

clause

$$\underbrace{(wvxvy)} \wedge (wv\neg xvz) \wedge \dots \wedge (xv\neg yvz)$$

3 conjunctive normalform

3SAT

given: given formula ϕ in 3CNF

question: is ϕ satisfiable?

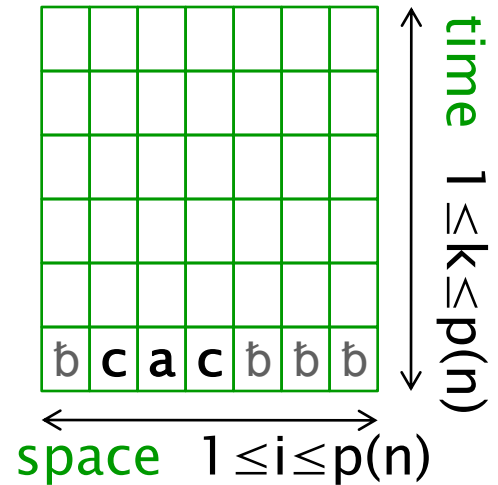
(can we find a variable assignment making formula true)

Cook'71/Levin'73

3SAT is NP-complete

specify computation
at step $k \dots$

T_{iak} cell i contains a
 H_{ik} head at position i
 Q_{qk} state q

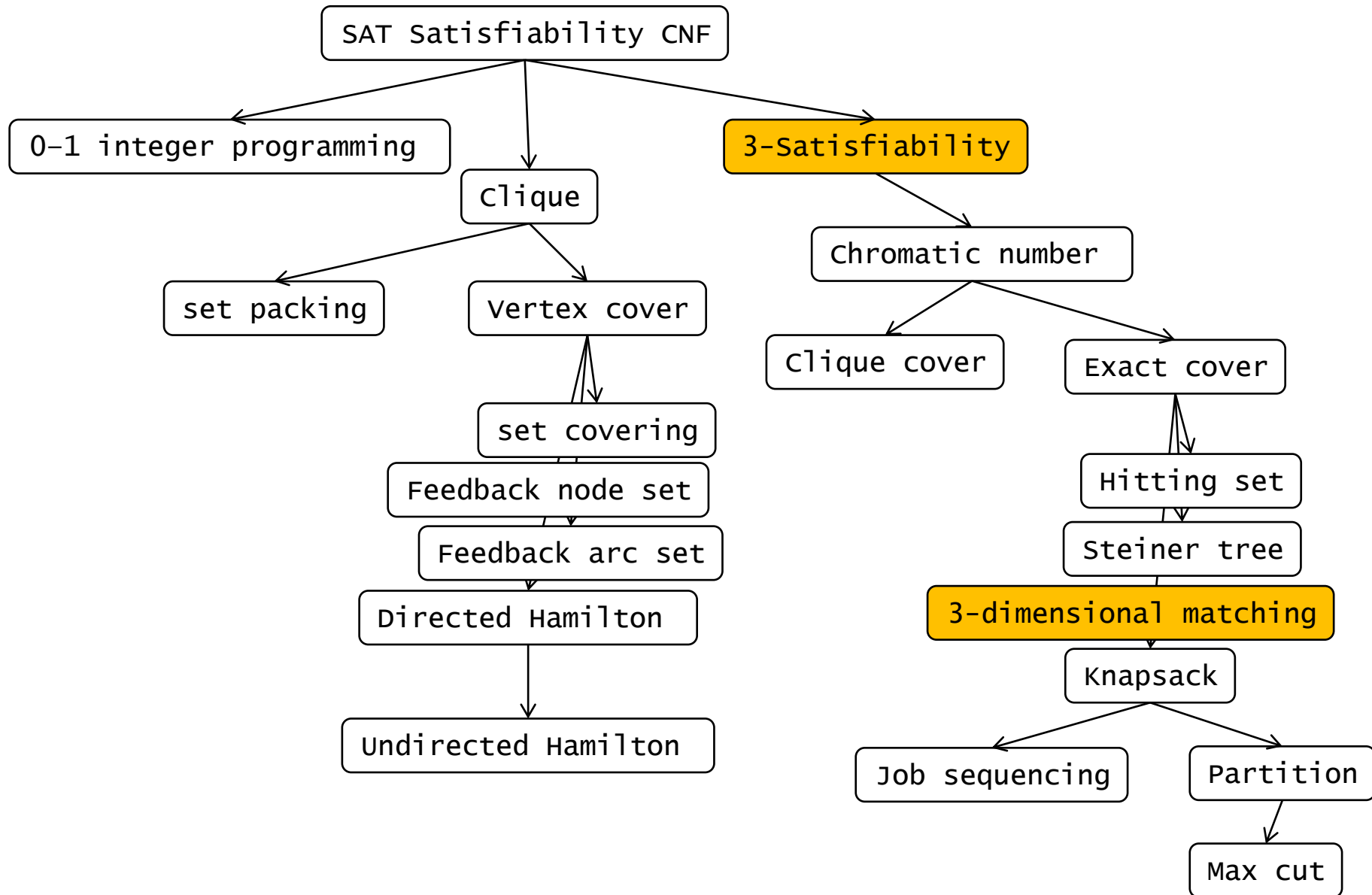


$(p, a, p, a, 0)$ for each p, a

conjunction of

$T_{ix[i]0}$ initial tape $x[i]=x_i$ or $x[i]=b$
 Q_{q00} initial state
 H_{00} initial position
 $T_{iak} \rightarrow \neg T_{ibk}$ single symbol $a \neq b$
 $Q_{pk} \rightarrow \neg Q_{qk}$ single state $p \neq q$
 $H_{ik} \rightarrow \neg H_{jk}$ single head $i \neq j$
 $T_{iak} \wedge T_{ib.k+1} \rightarrow H_{ik}$ changed only if written $a \neq b$
 $H_{ik} \wedge Q_{pk} \wedge T_{iak} \rightarrow \bigvee_{(p,a,q,b,d)} H_{i+d.k+1} \wedge Q_{q.k+1} \wedge T_{ib.k+1}$
 $Q_{h.p(n)}$ accept

Karp's 21 NP-complete problems



'generalized' river crossing



D drivers
P passengers
c capacity boat
m max moves
forbidden combinations:
 F_R right bank
 F_L left bank
 F_B boat

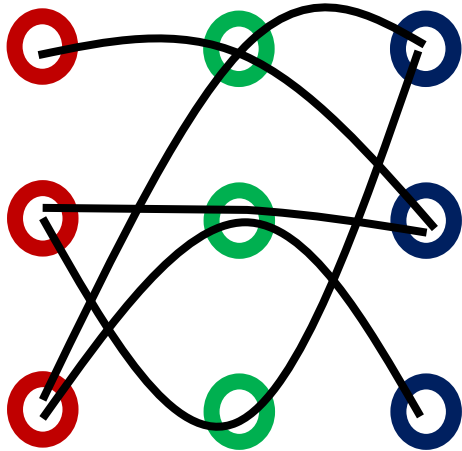
$D = \{ \text{Man} \}, \quad P = \{ \text{Wolf, Goat, Cabbage} \},$
 $F_L = F_R = \{ \{ \text{Wolf, Goat} \}, \{ \text{Goat, Cabbage} \},$
 $\quad \{ \text{Wolf, Goat, Cabbage} \} \},$
 $F_B = \emptyset,$
 $c = 2, m = 100.$

forbidden: otherwise polynomial, using graph traversal

Thm. [Ito et al.] Polynomial if $F_B = \emptyset$, and $m = \infty$.



3 dim matching



given:

U, V, W , with $|U| = |V| = |W| = k$
and $M \subseteq U \times V \times W$

problem:

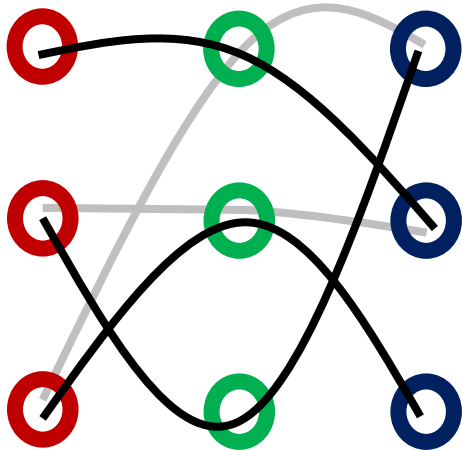
is there $P \subseteq M$ with $|P| = k$
containing each element exactly once?

$k=3$

$\{a, b, c\} \times \{p, q, r\} \times \{x, y, z\}$

$P = \{ (a, p, y), (b, q, y), (b, r, x), (c, p, x), (c, q, z) \}$

3 dim matching



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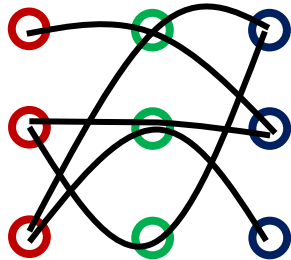
⇒

reduction

3D matching ➔ river crossing

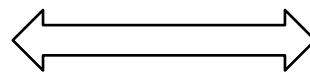
U, V, W , with
 $|U| = |V| = |W| = k$ en
 $M \subseteq U \times V \times W$

$D = U \cup \{s_1, s_2, s_3\}$, $P = V \cup W$, $c = 3$,
 $m = 3k - 1$, $F_R = \emptyset$, $F_L = \emptyset$,
 $F_B^c =$
 $\{ \{u, v, w\} \mid (u, v, w) \in M \}$
 $\cup \{ \{s_1, s_2, s_3\} \}$

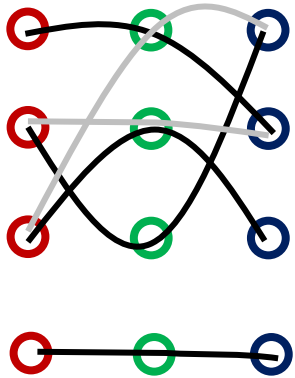


complement!

solution
(matching)



solution
(crossing)



matching

$P =$
 $\{ (a, p, y),$
 $(b, r, x),$
 $(c, q, z),$
 $(d, t, w) \}$

$k=4$ (even)

crossing

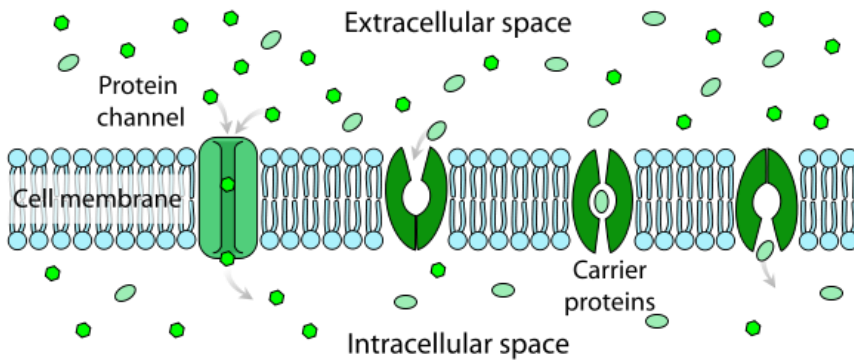
$\{s_1, s_2, s_3\} \rightarrow$
 $\leftarrow s_1$
 $\{a, p, y\} \rightarrow$
 $\leftarrow s_2$
 $\{b, r, x\} \rightarrow$
 $\leftarrow s_3$
 $\{s_1, s_2, s_3\} \rightarrow$
 $\leftarrow s_1$
 $\{c, q, z\} \rightarrow$
 $\leftarrow s_2$
 $\{d, s, w\} \rightarrow$
 $\leftarrow s_3$
 $\{s_1, s_2, s_3\} \rightarrow$

important

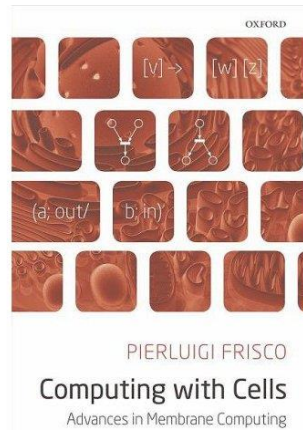
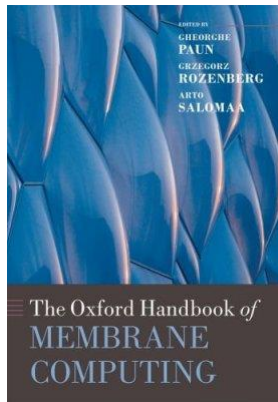
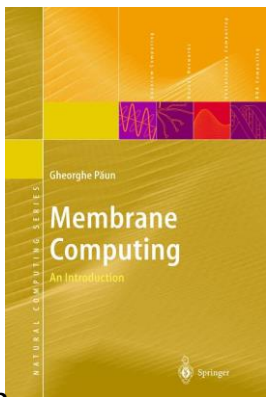
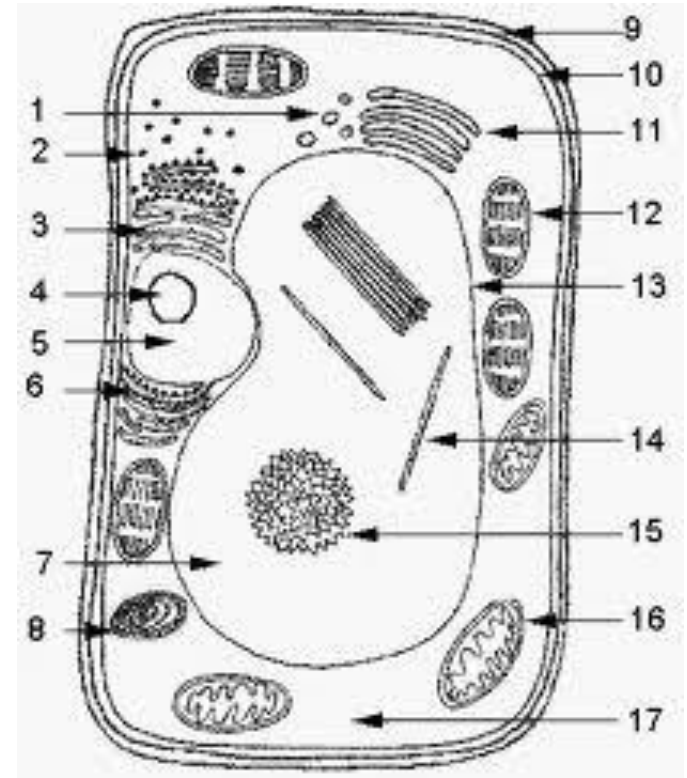
$m=3k+1$
 $3k+3$ objects

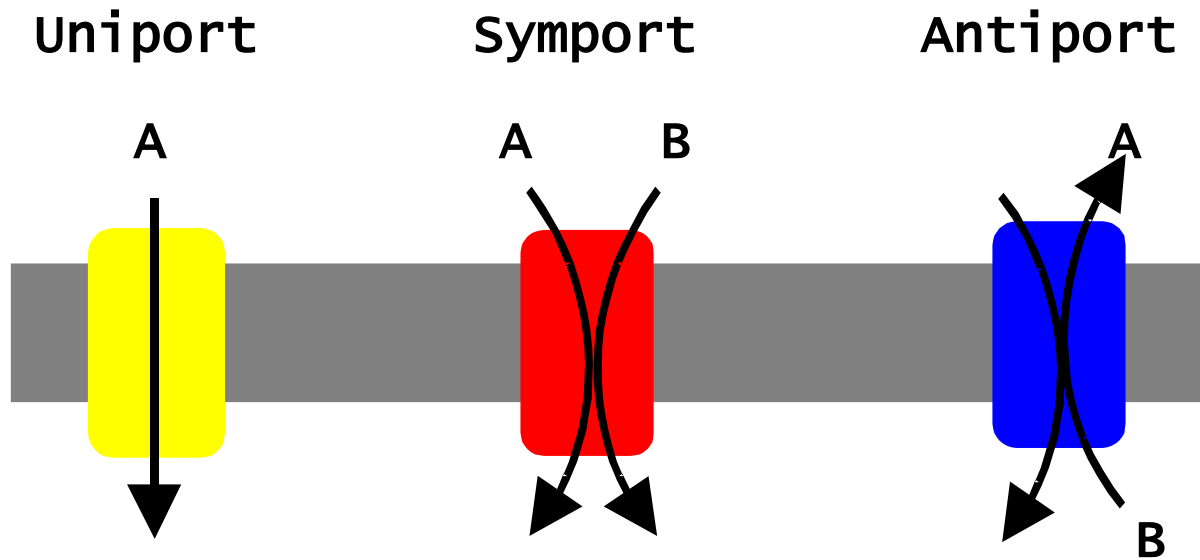
Natural Computing: a model





nested compartments
- information
membranes - communication

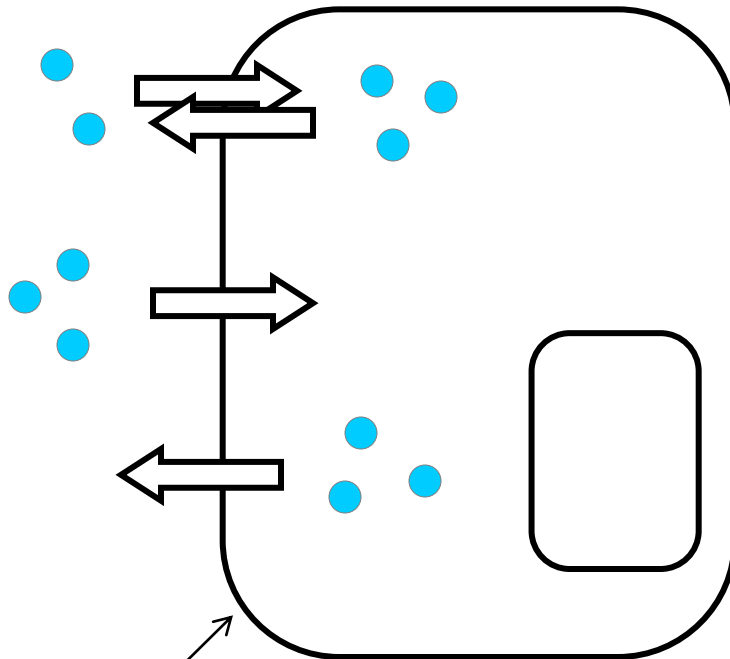




- only move together
- how many membranes?
- how many passengers?
- antiport necessary?

P systems with symport/antiport

Păun & Păun



contents

- objects

multiset symbols
infinite supply
in environment

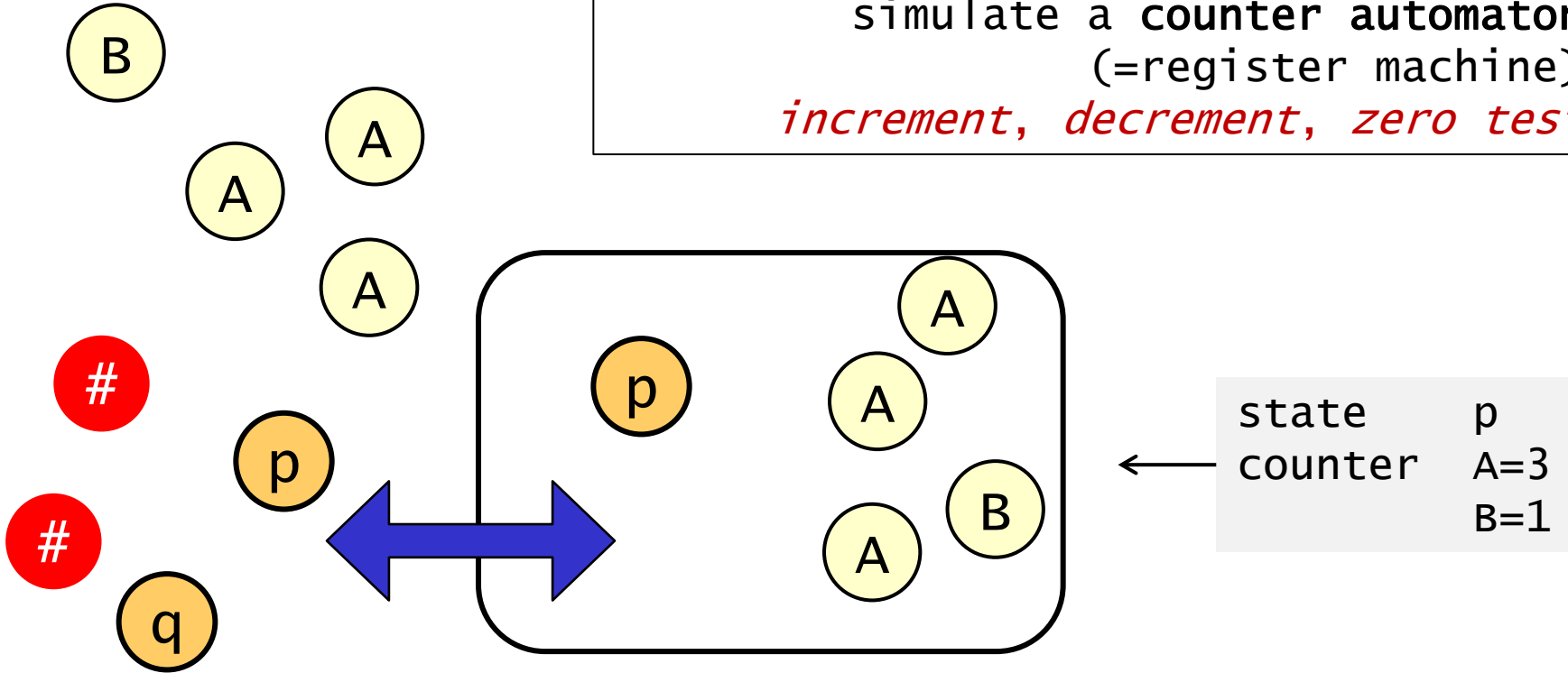
rules

rules in membrane

$(a_1 \dots a_k \leftrightarrow b_1 \dots b_\ell)$ antiport
 $(a_1 \dots a_k \rightarrow)$ symport (in)
 $(\leftarrow a_1 \dots a_k)$ (out)

antiport single membrane will do

simulate a counter automaton
 (=register machine)
increment, decrement, zero test



$(p \rightarrow q, +A)$
 $(p \rightarrow q, -A)$
 $(p \rightarrow q, A=0)$

counter aut

$(qA \leftrightarrow p)$
 $(q \leftrightarrow pA)$
 see next

antiport 'simulation'



conclusion

three person boat + forbidden combination:

back to where we started!

and this is the oldest ‘paper’ I ever cited:

References

AY99. Alcuin of York (735-804). *Propositiones ad Acuendos Iuvenes*, around 799.

Remark. The construction in the proof of Theorem 1 above reminds us of the classical wolf, cabbage, and goat problem. attributed to [AY99, Propositio XVIII]¹. The carrier v crossing the membrane echoes the little boat crossing the river, whereas the carrier ∂ models the conflicting presence of goat with either wolf or cabbage on the banks of the river (here the membrane).

¹ *Propositio de Homine et Capra et Lupo.* Homo quidam debebat ultra flavium transferre lupum, capram, et fasciculum cauli. Et non potuit aliam navem invenire, nisi



done

Stephen Cook. The complexity of theorem proving procedures, Proc. 3rd Ann. ACM STOC (1971) pp. 151-158

H.J. Hoogeboom. Carriers and Counters: P Systems with Carriers vs. (Blind) Counter Automata, LNCS 2450 (2003) pp. 140-151
DOI 10.1007/3-540-45005-X_12

Hiro Ito, Stefan Langerman, Yuichi Yoshida.
Generalized River Crossing Problems, Th. Comp. Sys. 56 (2015) 418-435
DOI 10.1007/s00224-014-9562-8