

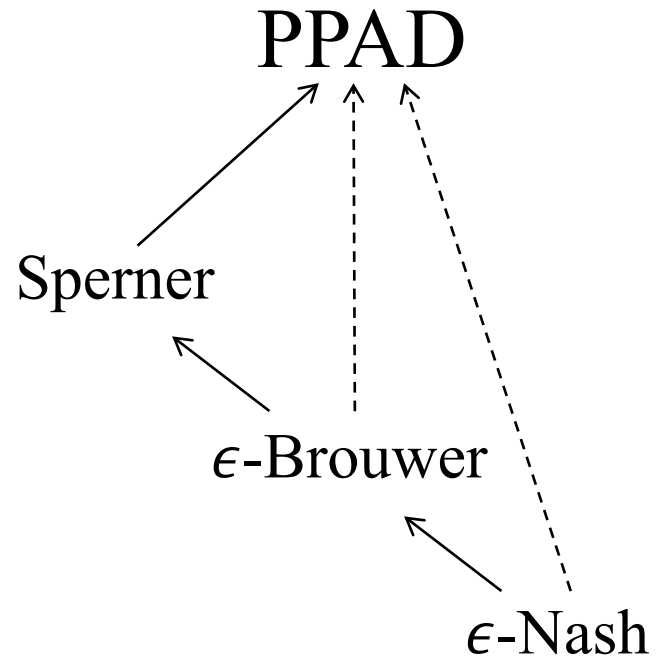


PPAD-hardness for Two-Player Games

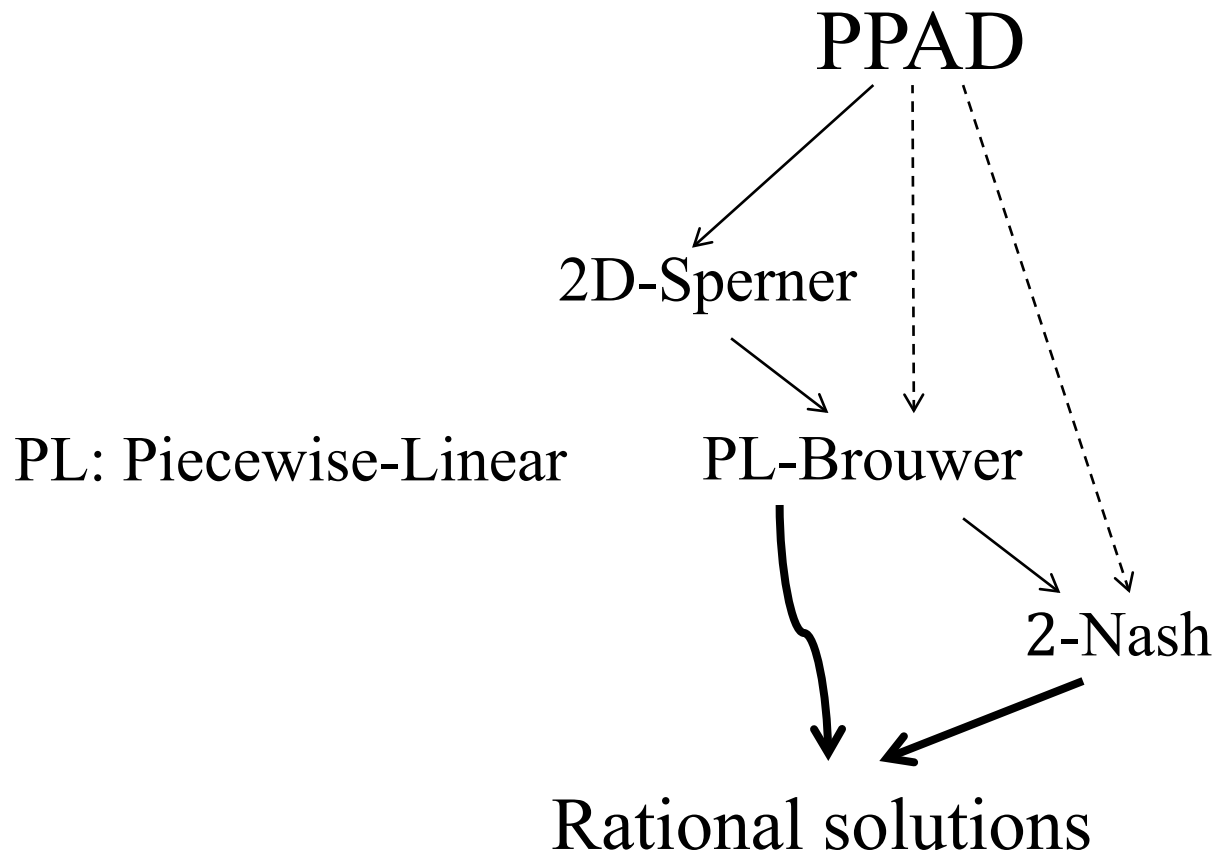
CS 598RM

Ruta Mehta

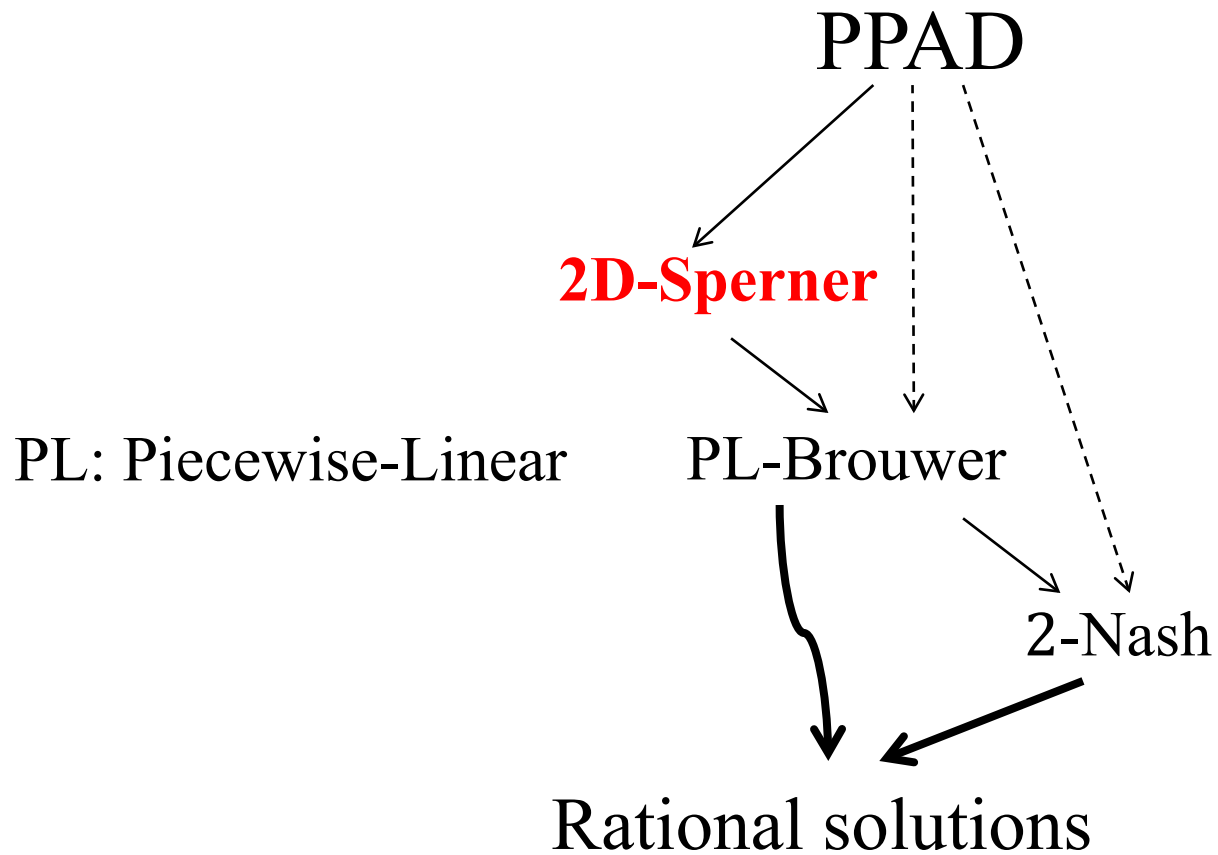
Previous Lecture



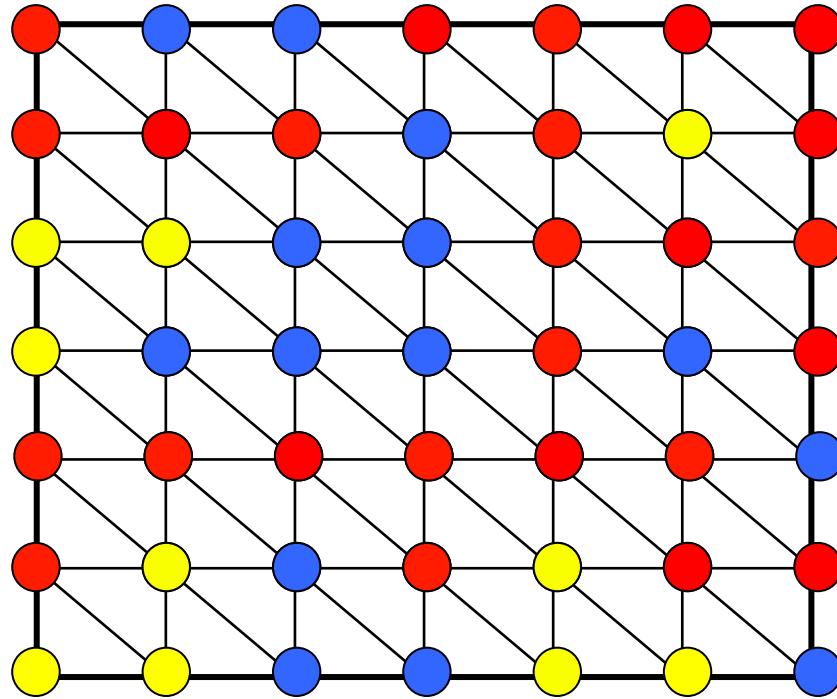
Today



Today

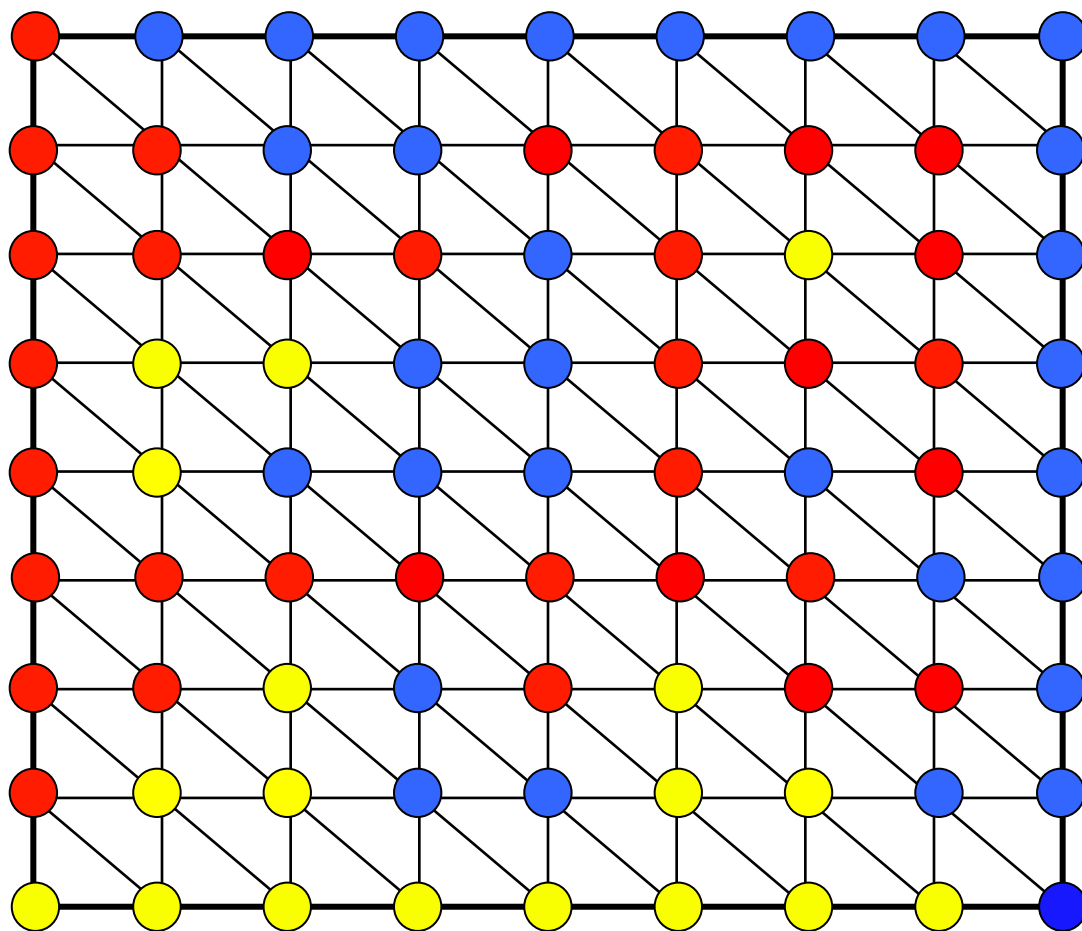
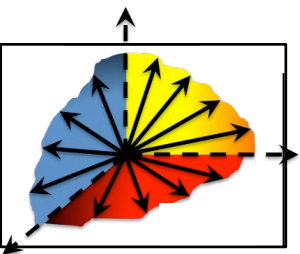


Recall: 2D-Sperner



[Sperner 1928]: Color the boundary using three colors in a legal way. No matter how the internal nodes are colored, there exists a tri-chromatic triangle. In fact an odd number of those.

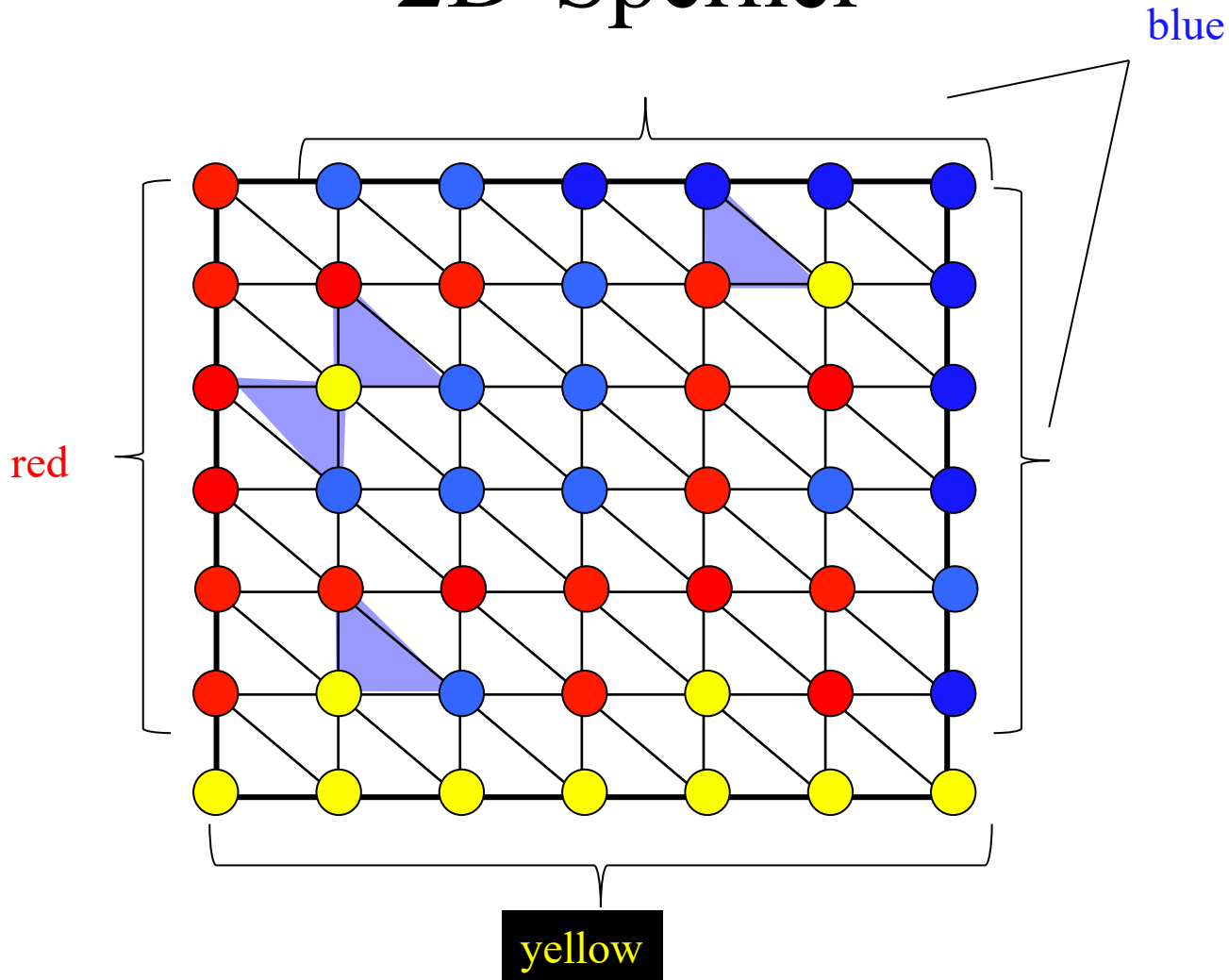
Recall: Proof of 2D-Sperner's Lemma



For convenience we introduce an outer boundary, that does not create new tri-chromatic triangles.

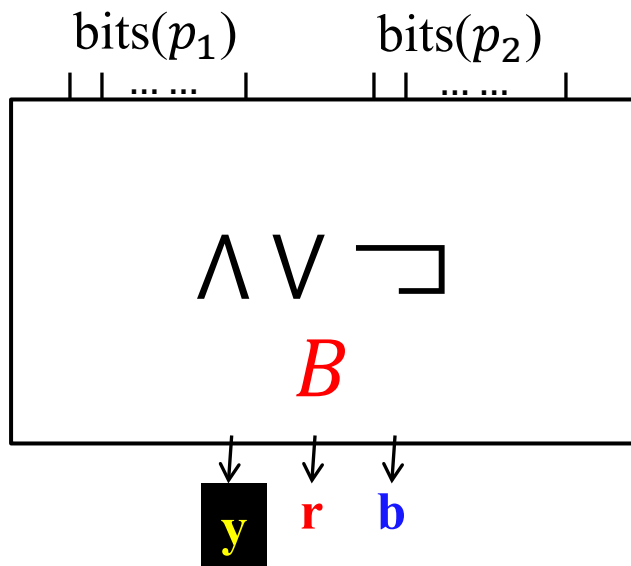
[Sperner 1928]: Color the boundary using three colors in a legal way. No matter how the internal nodes are colored, there exists a tri-chromatic triangle. In fact an odd number of those.

2D-Sperner

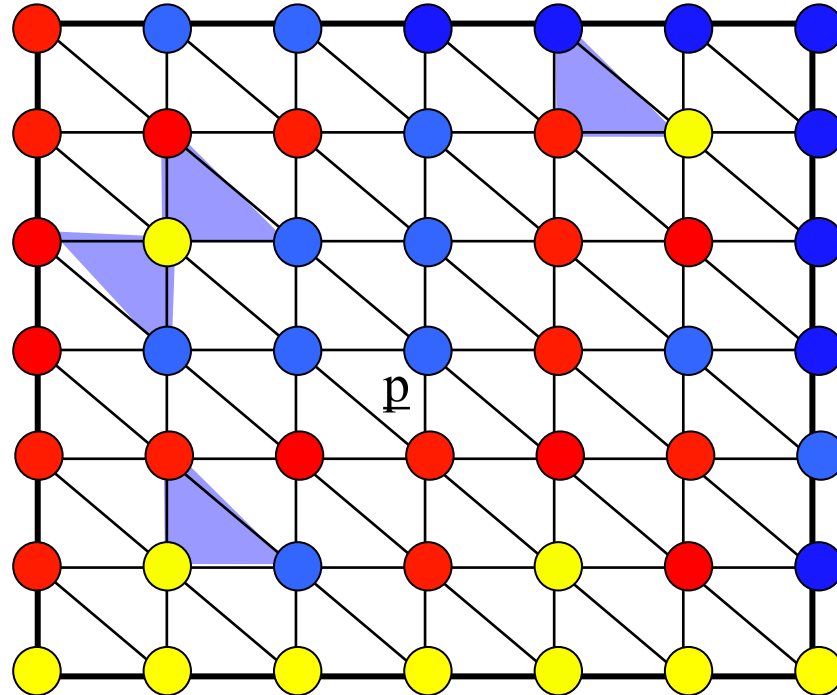


Lemma: Color the boundary in a legal way. No matter how the internal nodes are colored, there exists a tri-chromatic triangle.

2D-Sperner

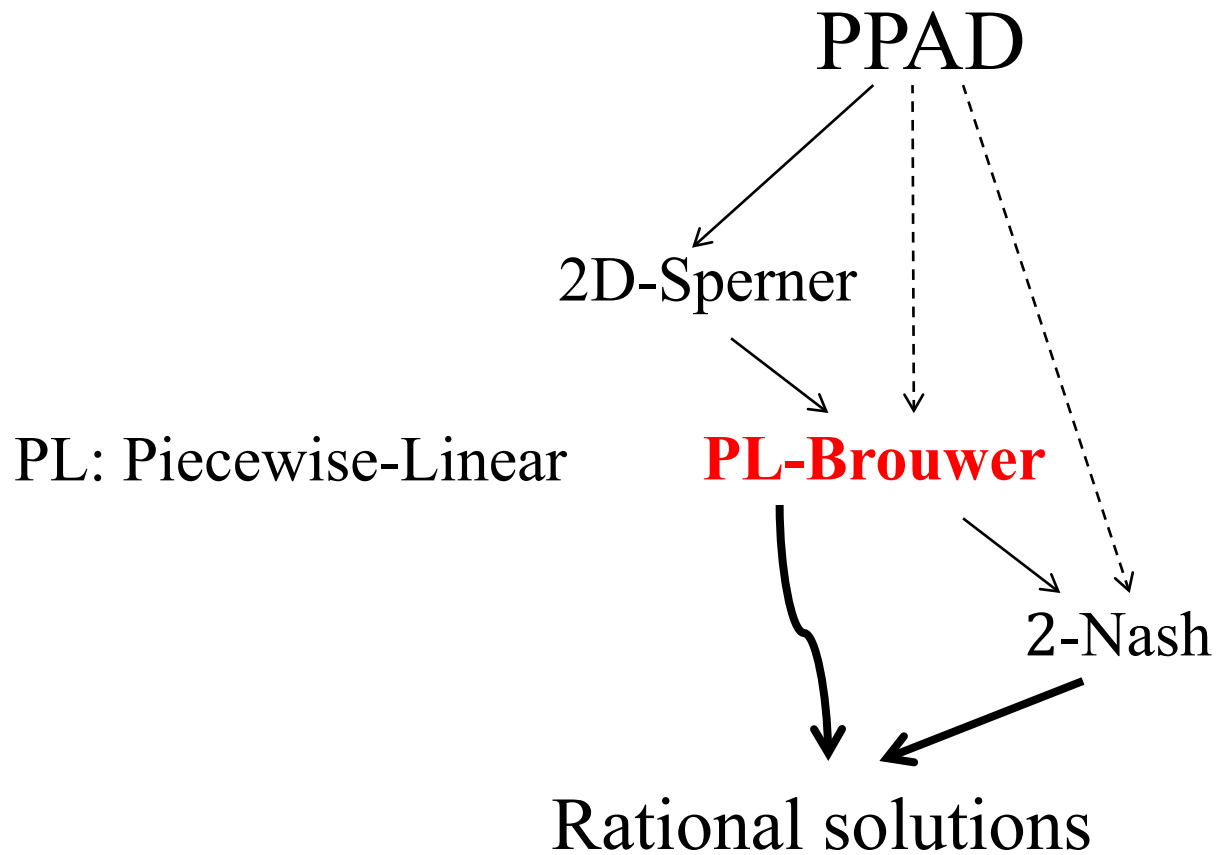


Only one is non-zero



Lemma: Color the boundary in a legal way. No matter how the internal nodes are colored, there exists a tri-chromatic triangle.

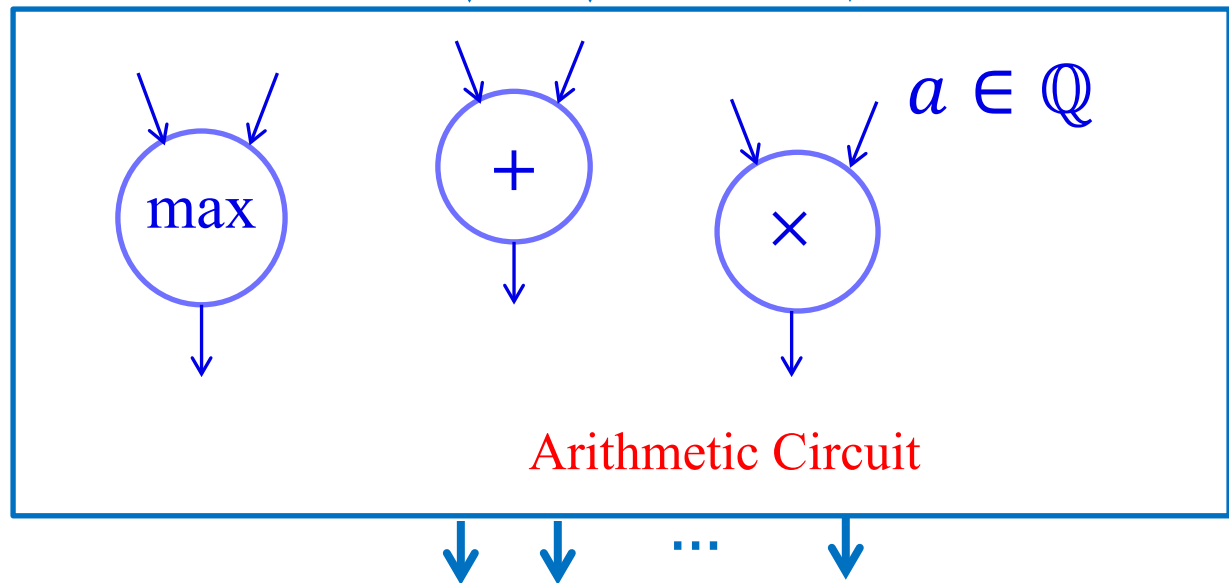
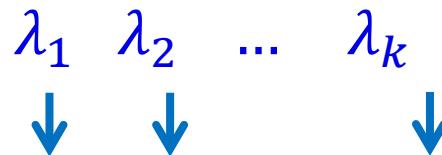
Today



PL-Brouwer (Linear-FIXP)

$$F: [0, 1]^k \rightarrow [0, 1]^k$$

$\lambda_1 \quad \lambda_2 \quad \dots \quad \lambda_k$



Find a fixed
Point of F:
 $x \in [0, 1]^k$ s.t.
 $F(x) = x$

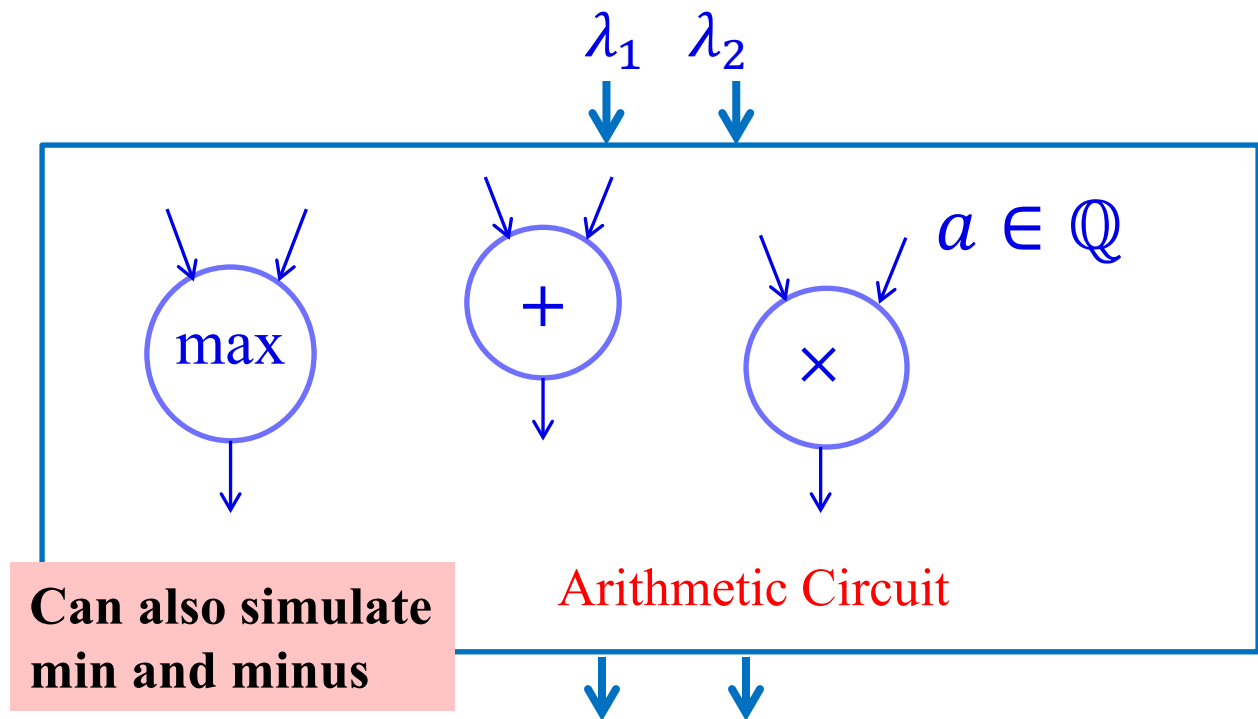
Continuous piecewise-linear function

PL-Brouwer (Linear-FIXP)

(EY'07) $F: [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]^2$

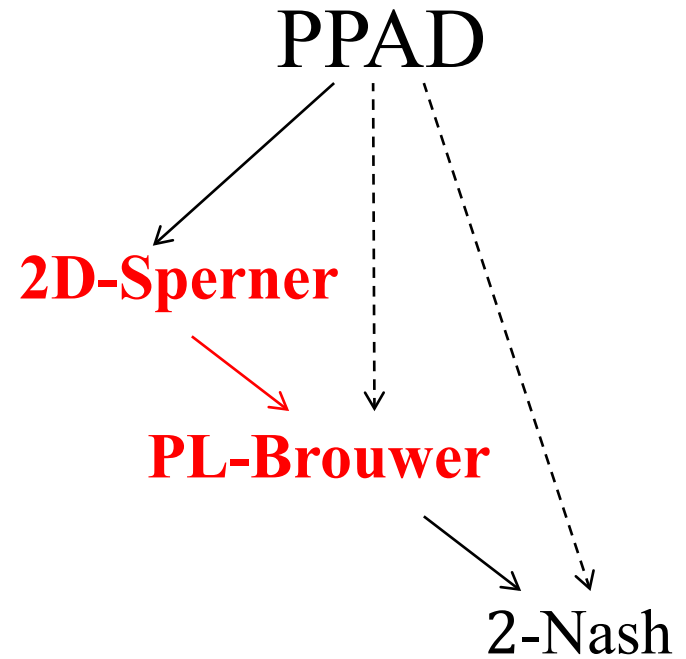
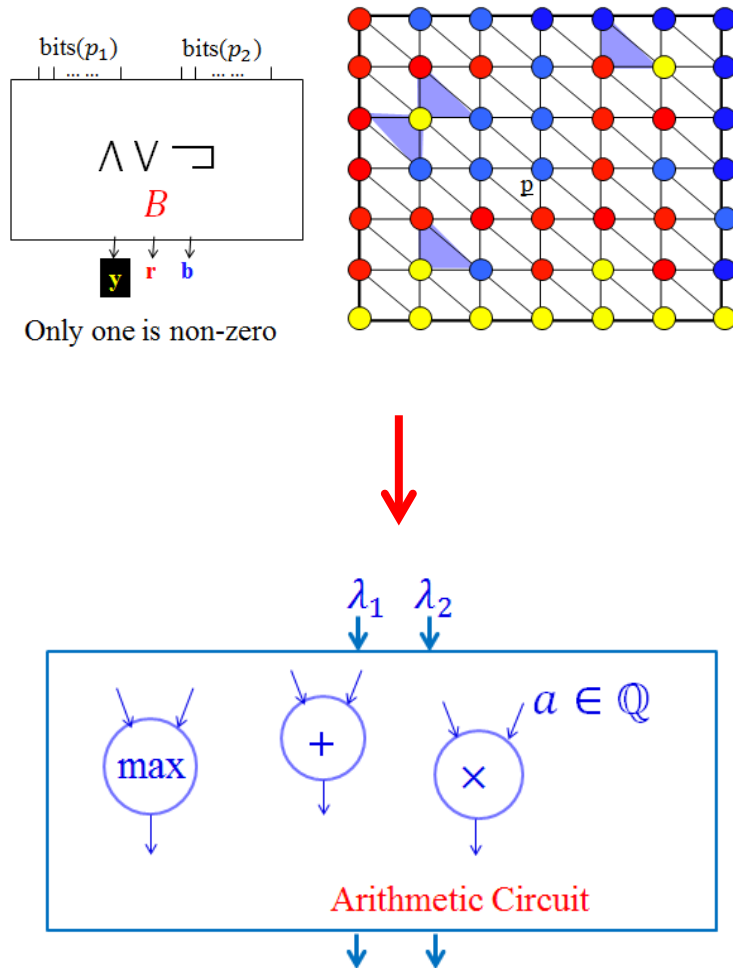
We need only 2-D

Find a fixed
Point of F:
 $x \in [0, 1]^k$ s.t.
 $F(x) = x$

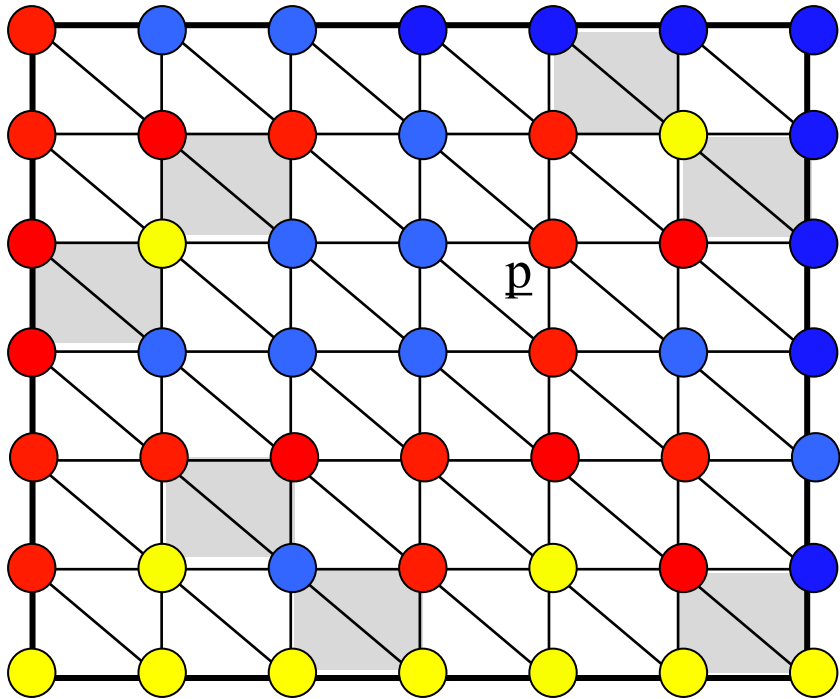


Continuous piecewise-linear function

Today



2D-Sperner: As a Discrete Function



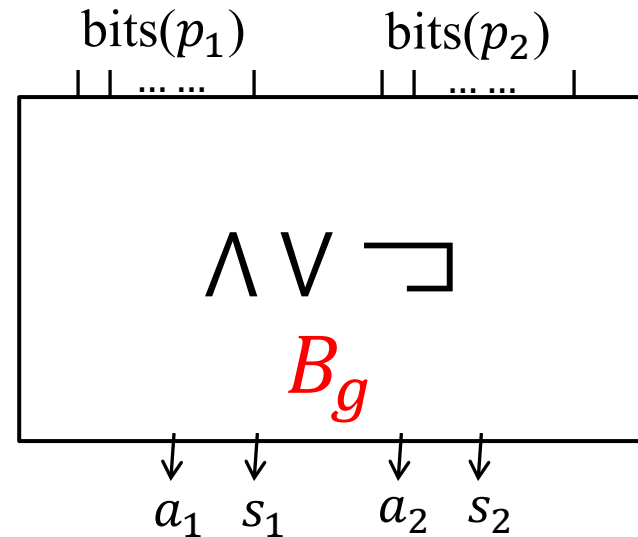
$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{p})$$

$$\mathbf{D}(\text{blue}) = (-1, -1)$$

$$\mathbf{D}(\text{red}) = (1, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{D}(\text{yellow}) = (0, 1)$$

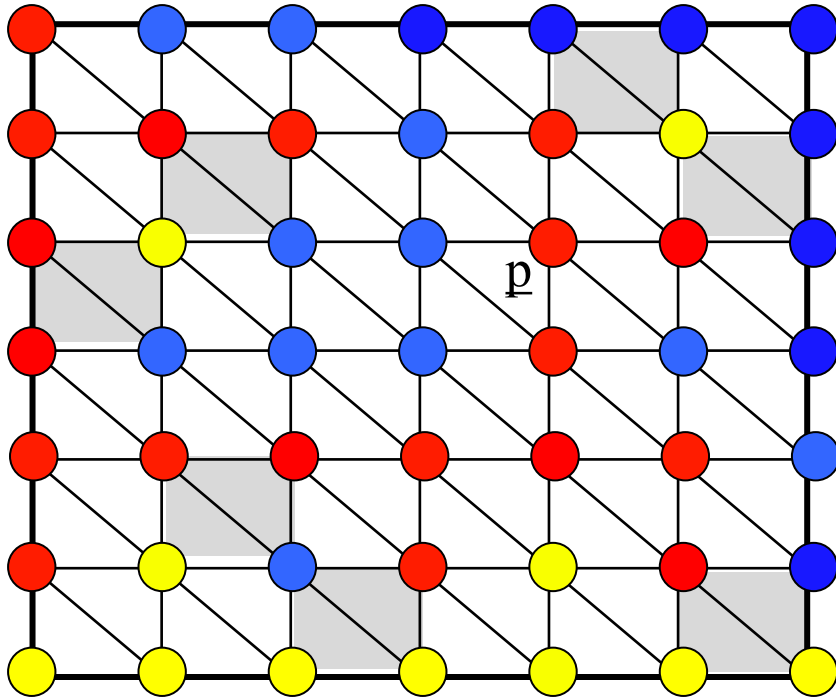
**Boolean
Circuit**



Given B_g find a tri-chromatic square.

$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{p}) = (a_1 - s_1, a_2 - s_2)$$

2D-Sperner: As a Discrete Function



$$D(\underline{p}) = (a_1 - s_1, a_2 - s_2)$$

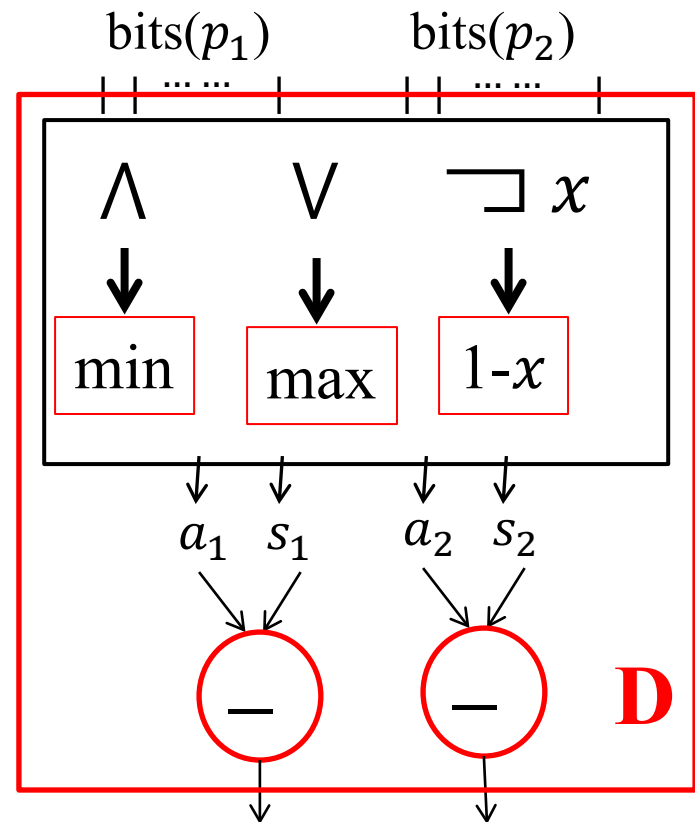
**Arithmetic
Circuit for D**

$$\mathbf{g}(\underline{p}) = \underline{p} + D(\underline{p})$$

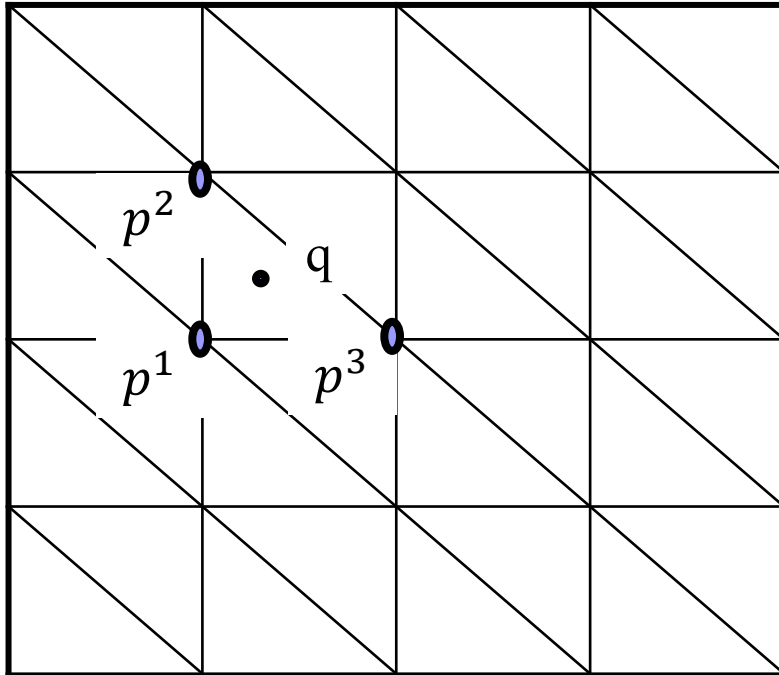
$$D(\text{blue}) = (-1, -1)$$

$$D(\text{red}) = (1, 0)$$

$$D(\text{yellow}) = (0, 1)$$



$g \rightarrow$ Continuous Func. (A possibility)



To evaluate $D(p^1)$
need $\text{bits}(\lfloor q \rfloor)$

Floor is a discontinuous function !

$$g(\underline{p}) = \underline{p} + I(\underline{p})$$

$$D(\text{blue circle}) = (-1, -1), D(\text{red circle}) = (1, 0), D(\text{yellow circle}) = (0, 1)$$

Interpolate:

$$q = \sum_i \alpha_i p^i \Rightarrow g(q) = \sum_i \alpha_i g(p^i)$$

$$\therefore g(q) = q + \underbrace{\sum_i \alpha_i D(p^i)}_{D(q)}$$

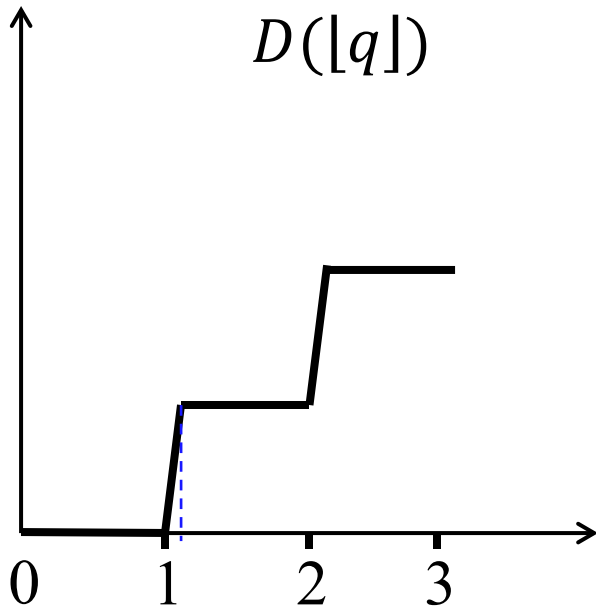
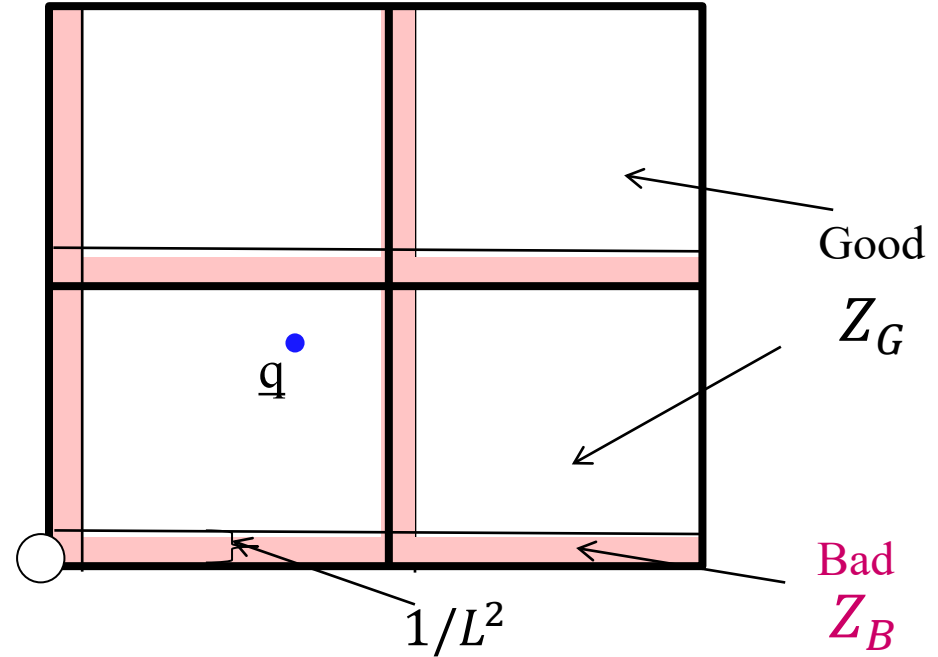
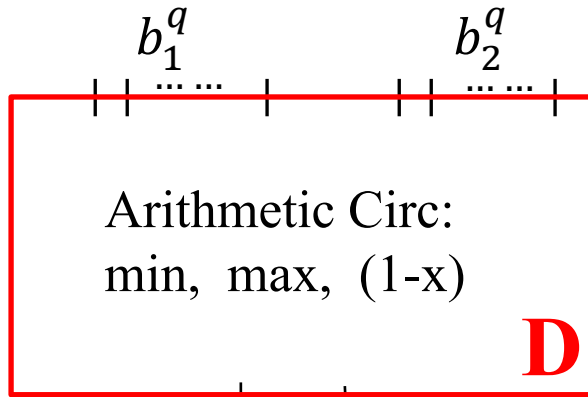
Claim: q is a fixed point of g

iff $D(q) = 0$

iff q is center of a trichromatic triangle

Computing bits of $[q]$

L: large number



$b^q = \text{bits}([q])$ if in $Z_G \Rightarrow$ correct $D([q])$

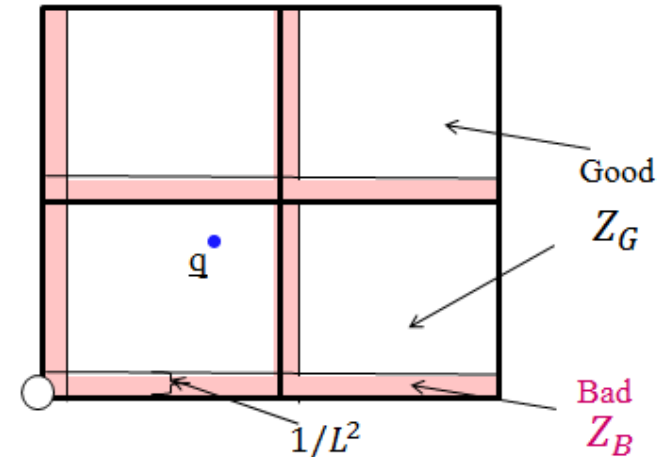
Else $0 \leq b_{1i}^q, b_{2i}^q \leq 1,$
 $i = 1, \dots, n$



Junk!
 $D([q]) \in [-1, 1]^2$

Computing bits($\lfloor q_d \rfloor$), $d = 1, 2$ when $q \in Z_G$

1. Set $a = q_d$
2. For $i = n - 1, \dots, 0$
 1. $b_{di} = \min\{\max\{(a - 2^i) * L^2, 0\}, 1\}$
 2. $a = a - (b_{di} * 2^i)$



$$q = \text{int} + \text{frac}$$

$$\text{frac} \in \left[\frac{1}{L^2}, 1 \right]$$

Claim: (i) At the start of any iteration if $a \leq 2^i \Rightarrow b_{di} = 0$

$$\text{if } a \geq 2^i + \frac{1}{L^2} \Rightarrow b_{di} = 1.$$

(ii) If $a \in Z_G$ at the start of an iteration, then at the end of it too $a \in Z_G$

Requires $O(n)$ sized arithmetic circuit.

Sampling Lemma (CDT'06)

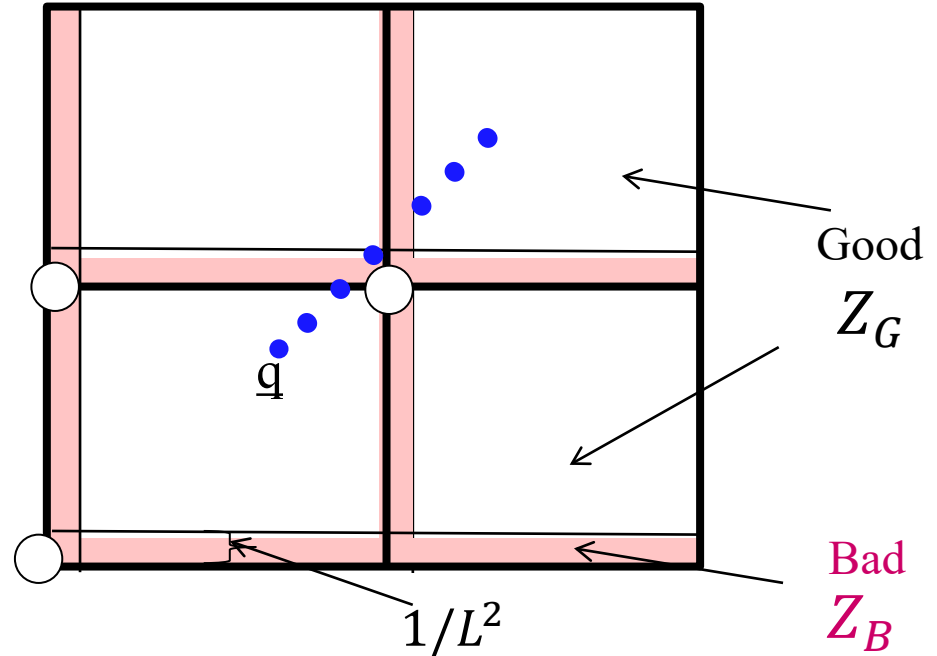
Given $q \in [0, 2^n - 1]^2$,

$$q^k = q + \frac{k-1}{L}, 1 \leq k \leq 16$$

$r^k = D(\lfloor q^k \rfloor)$ if q^k in Z_G ,

else $r^k \in [-1, 1]^2$.

If $r = \sum_k r^k = 0$ then
 $q \in$ trichromatic square.



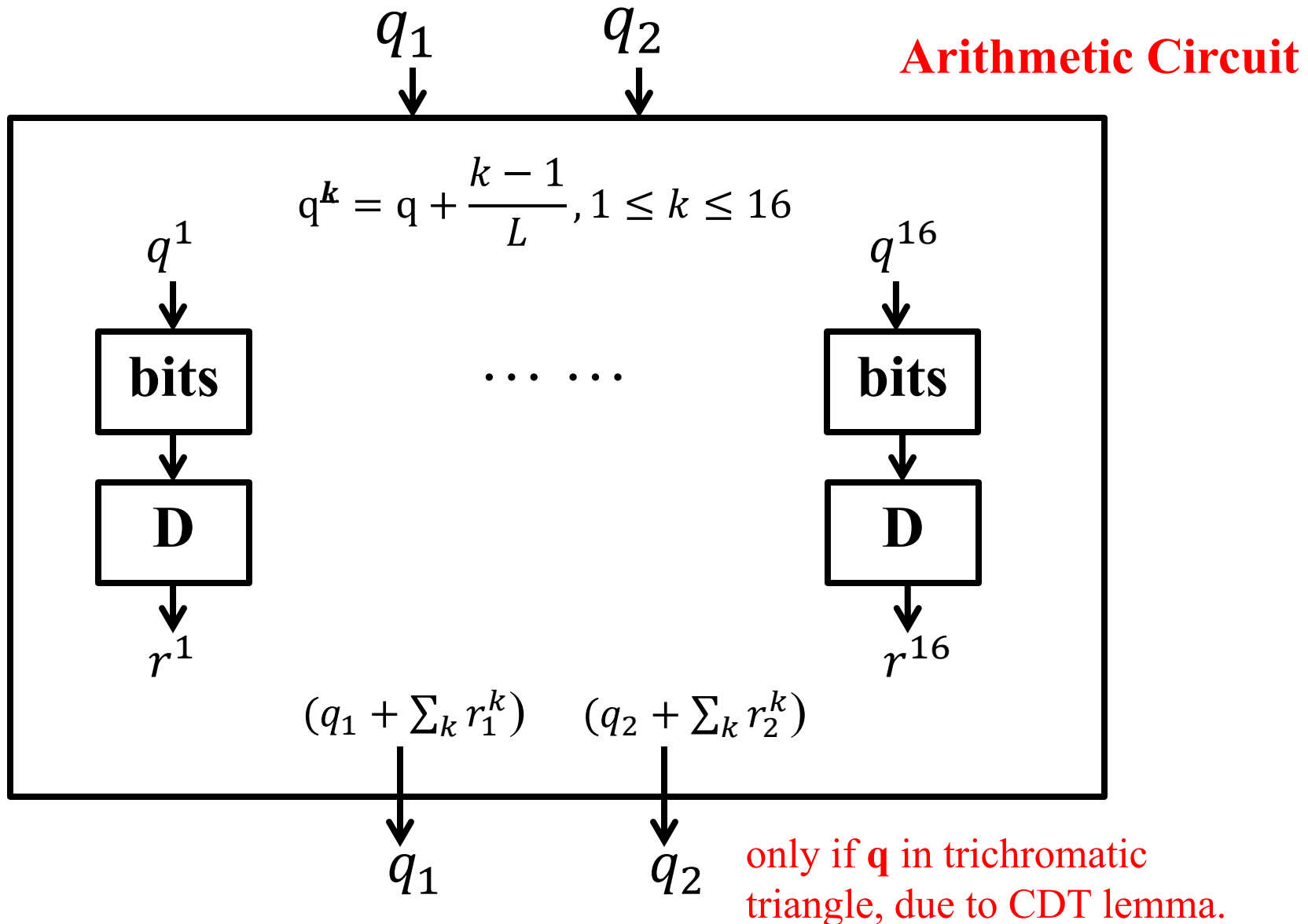
Proof: At most two r^k s in Z_B , generating junk $\in [-2, 2]^2$.


In $\{r^k, k \in Z_G\}$: If no yellow \Rightarrow all are either $(1, 0)$ or $(-1, -1)$
 $\Rightarrow r_2 \leq -1$, or $r_1 \geq 1$

If no red \Rightarrow only $(0, 1)$ or $(-1, -1) \Rightarrow r_1 \leq -1$, or $r_2 \geq 1$

If no blue \Rightarrow only $(1, 0)$ or $(0, 1) \Rightarrow \max\{r_1, r_2\} \geq 1$

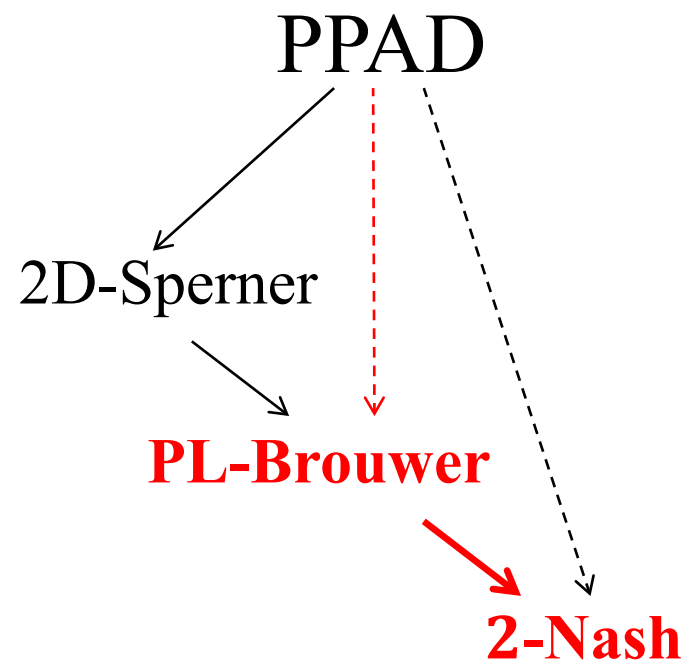
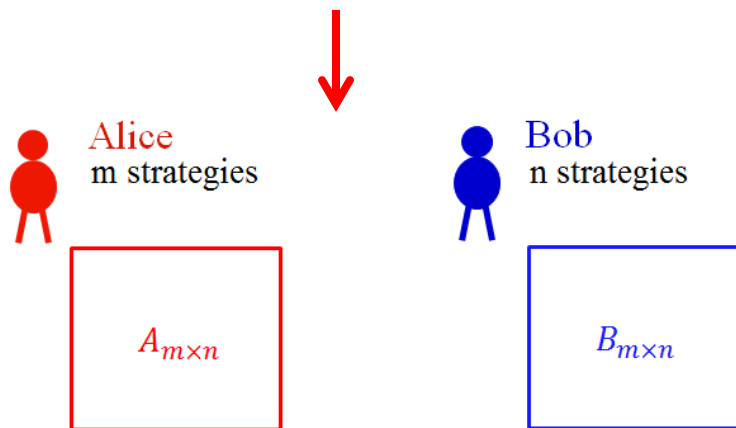
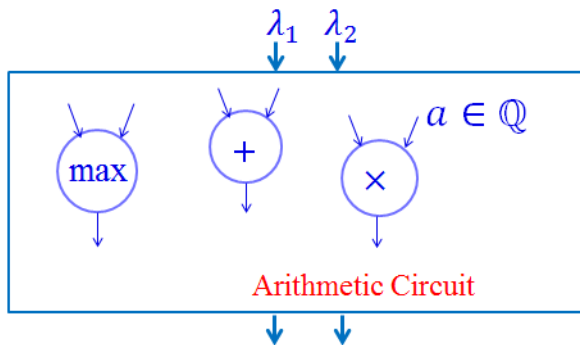
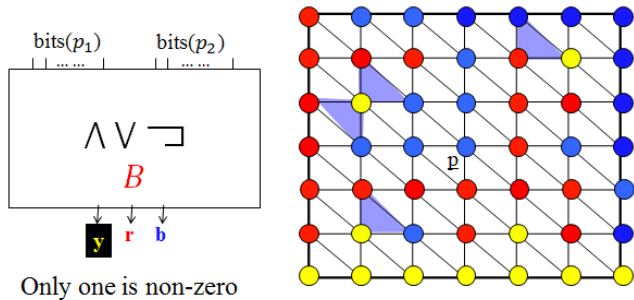
2D-Sperner \rightarrow PL-Brouwer





2D-Sperner \rightarrow PL-Brouwer

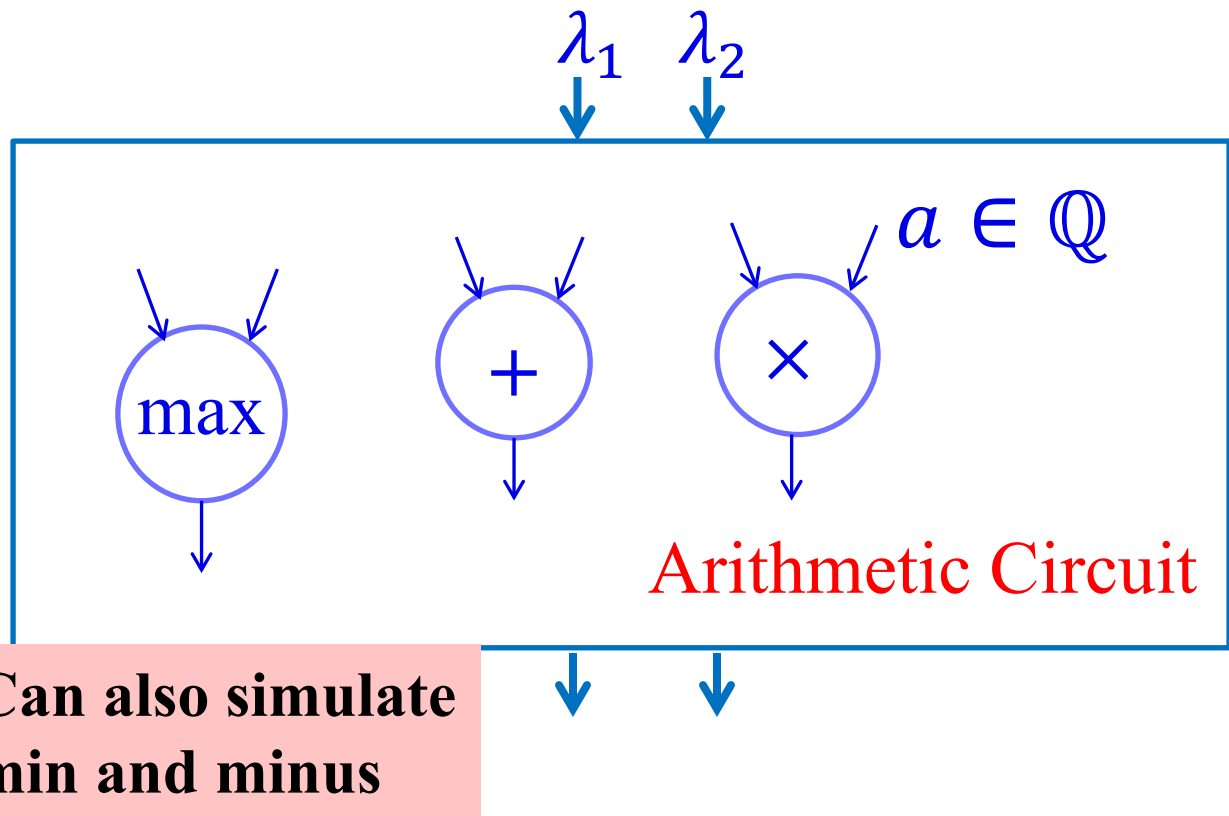
Theorem 1: 2D-Sperner is polynomial-time reducible to (2D) PL-Brouwer.



2D-PL-Brouwer

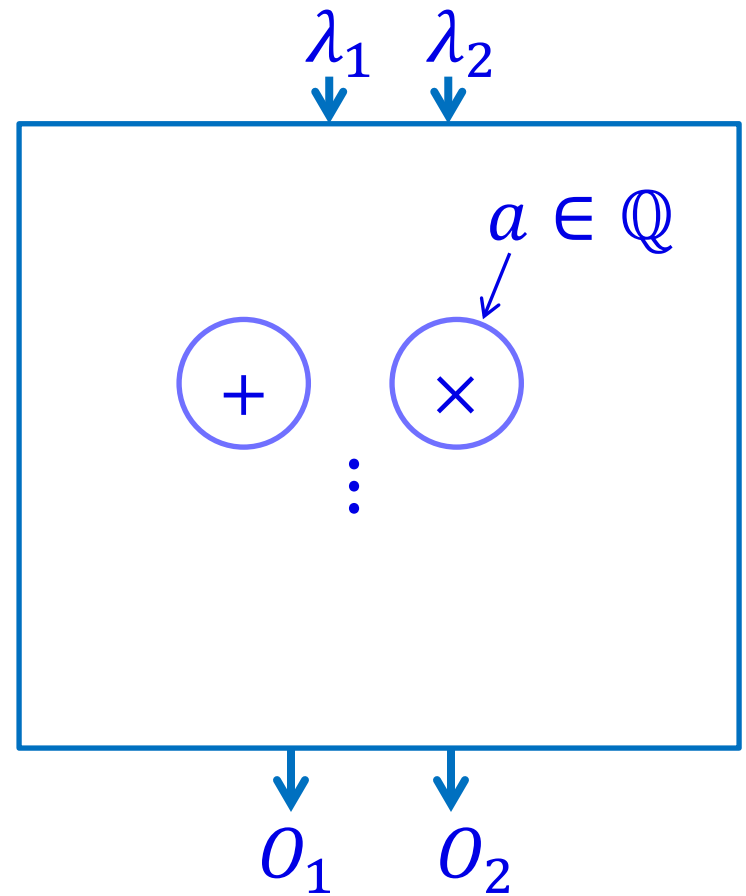
$$F: [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]^2$$

Find a fixed
Point of F:
 $x \in [0, 1]^k$ s.t.
 $F(x) = x$



No Max Gate

Example on board.

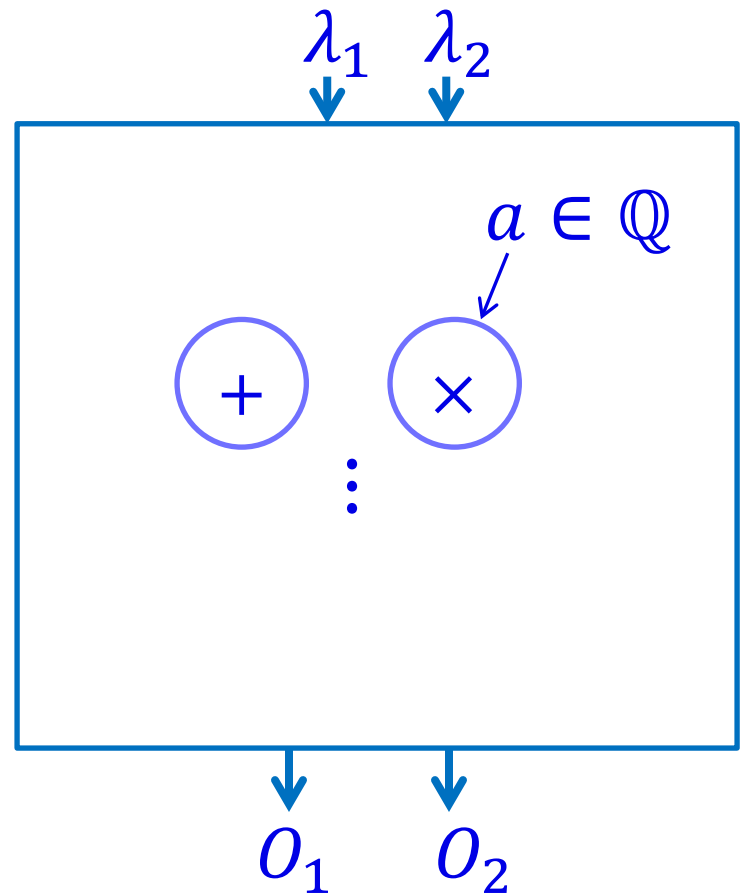


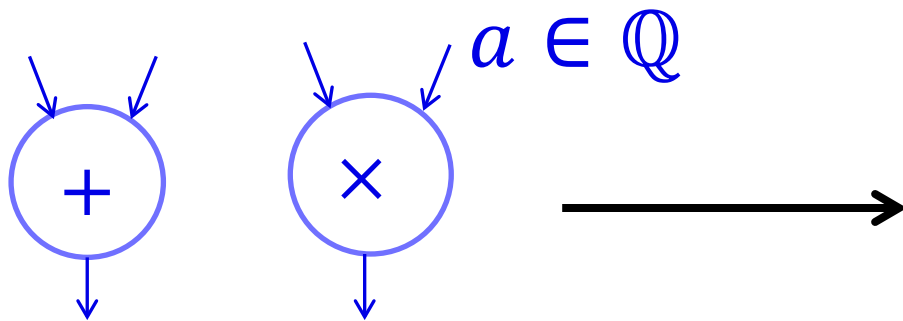
No Max Gate

$$O_1 := a_1 \lambda_1 + b_1 \lambda_2 + c_1$$

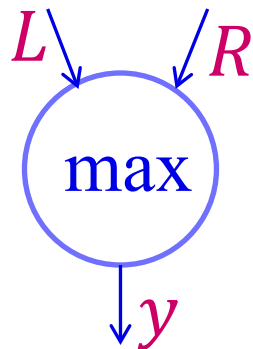
$$O_2 := a_2 \lambda_1 + b_2 \lambda_2 + c_2$$

Fixed-point: $O_1 = \lambda_1$
 $O_2 = \lambda_2$

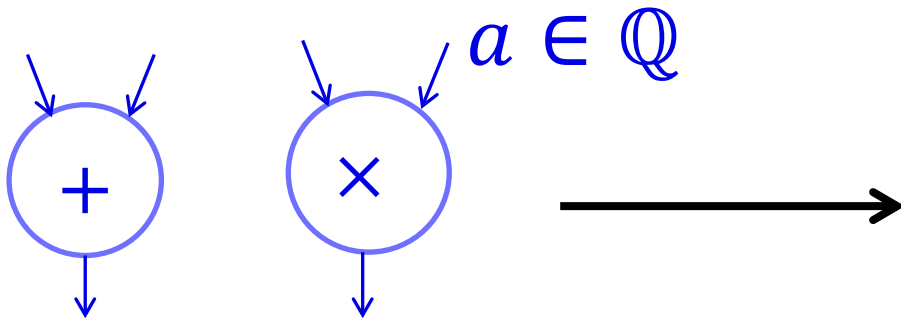




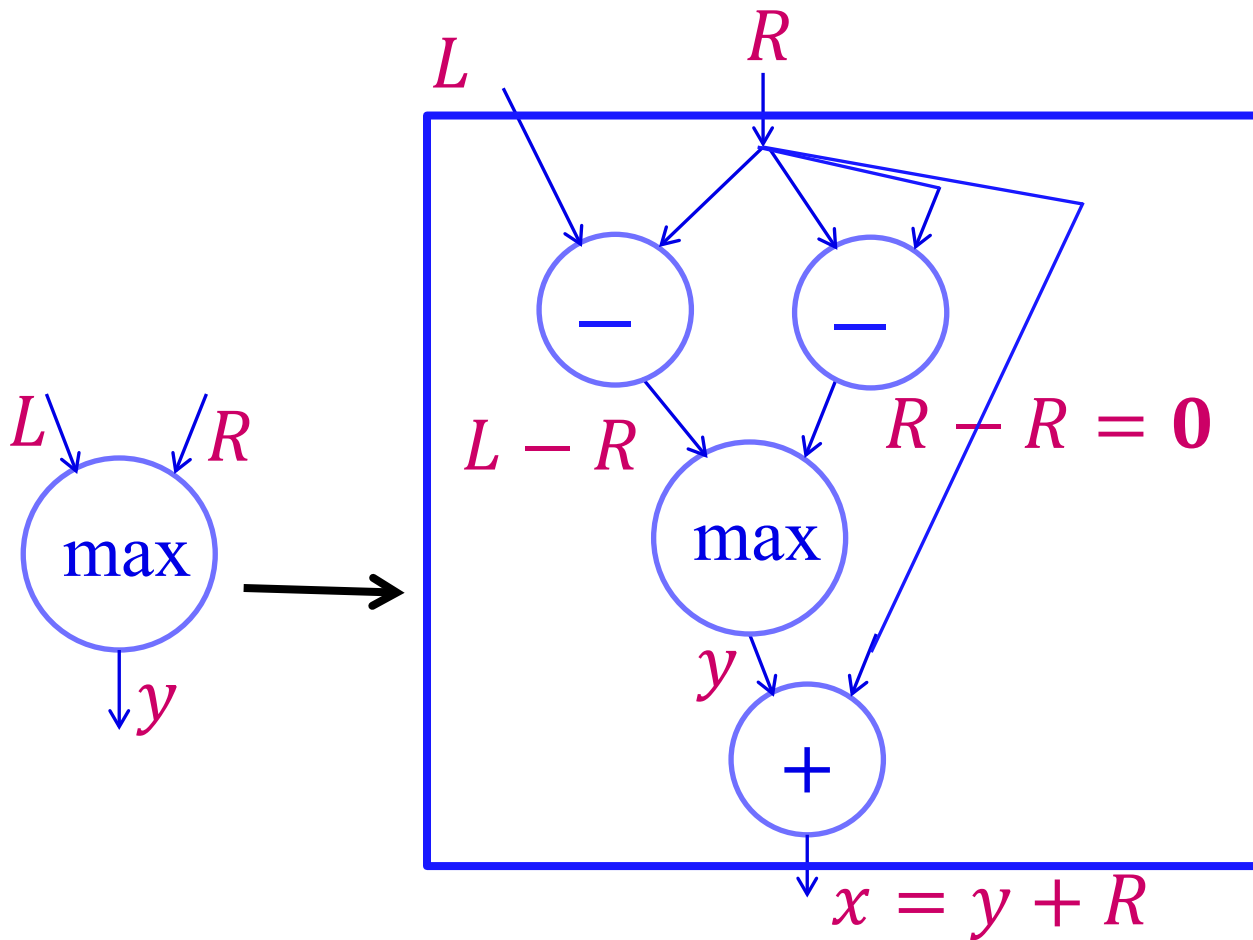
Linear
Expression

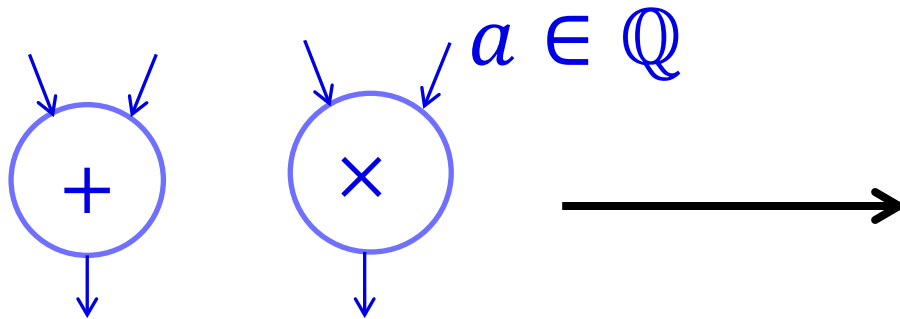


$$y \geq L, \quad y \geq R$$
$$(y - L)(y - R) = 0$$

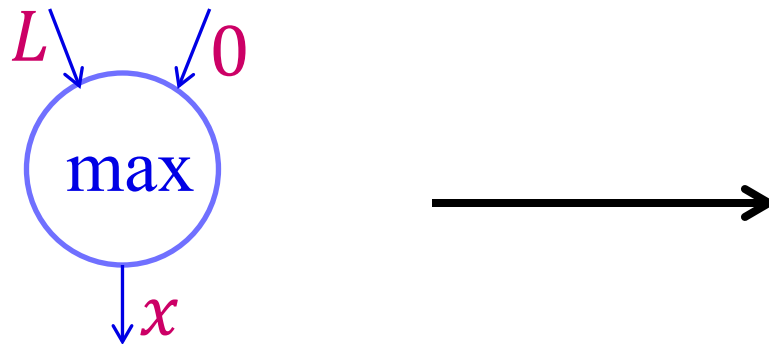


Linear
Expression

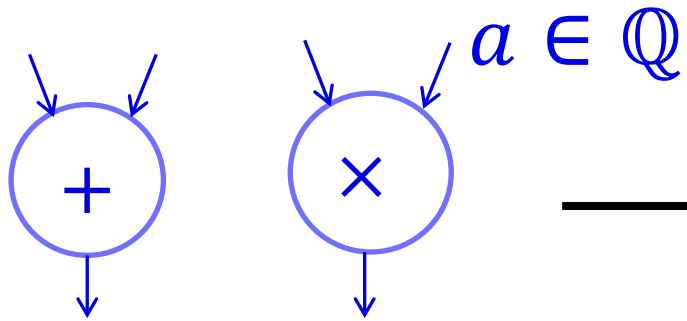




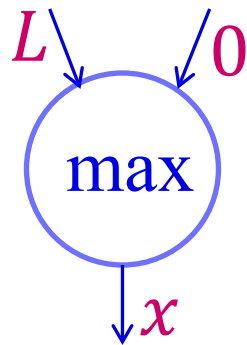
Linear
Expression



$$x \geq L, \quad x \geq 0 \\ (x - L)x = 0$$



Linear
Expression

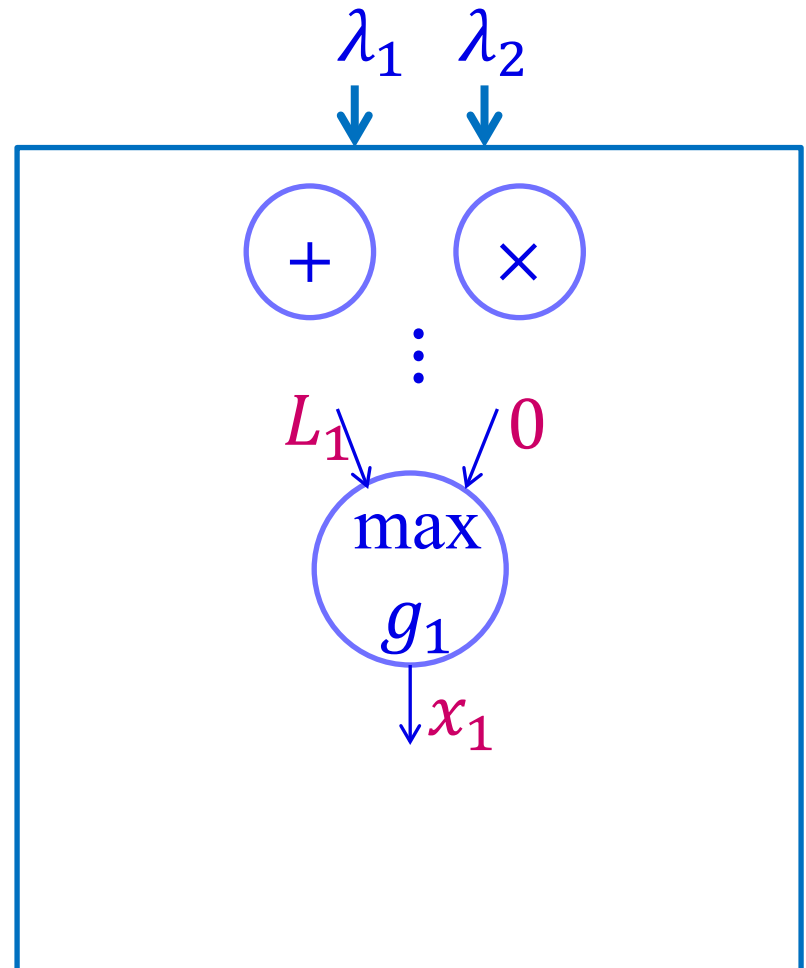


$x \geq 0 \perp x \geq L$

Modeling *max* Gates

- Ordering among *max* gates:
 g_1, \dots, g_n

- L_1 - Linear in λ_1 & λ_2
 $x_1 \geq 0 \perp x_1 \geq L_1$

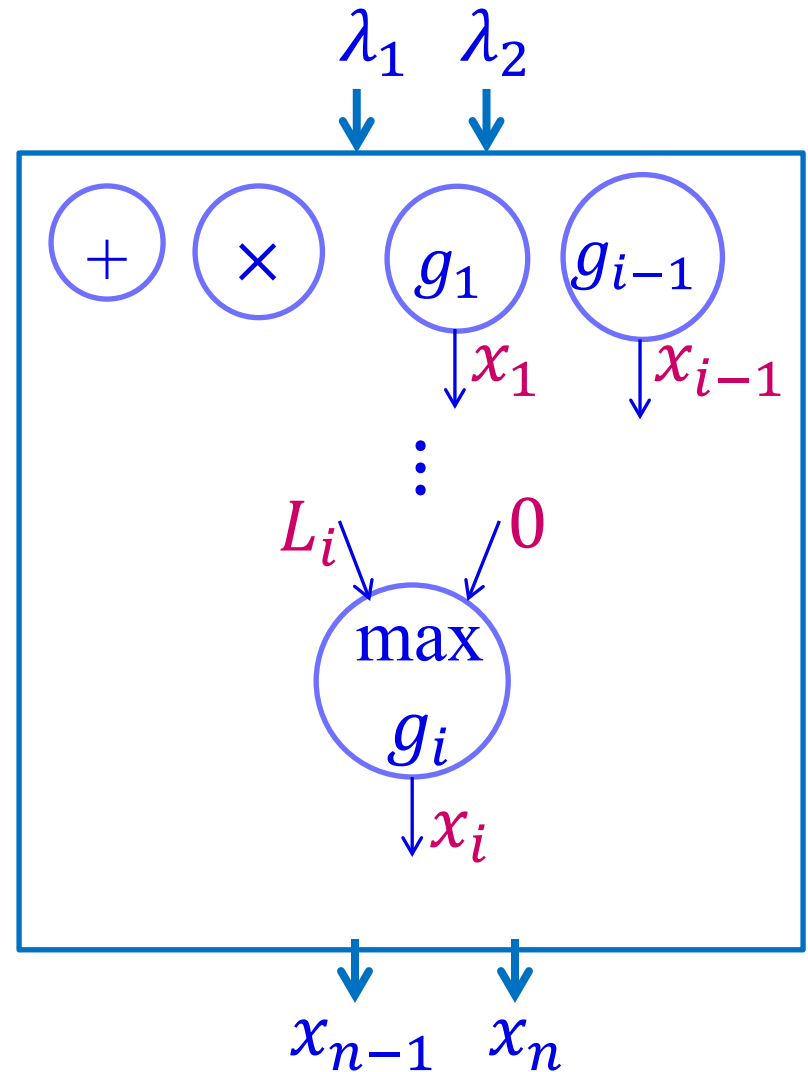


Modeling *max* Gates

- L_i - Linear in $x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, \lambda_1, \lambda_2$

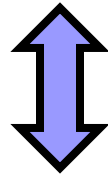
$$x_i \geq 0 \perp x_i \geq L_i$$

n: #max gates



Lemma 1: Given (λ_1, λ_2) , (x_1, \dots, x_n) satisfy the following

$$S: x_i \geq 0 \perp x_i \geq L_i(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, \lambda_1, \lambda_2), \forall i \leq n$$



$$F(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (x_{n-1}, x_n)$$

Proof: (\Rightarrow) By construction, x_i has to be the output of i^{th} max gate when input to the circuit is (λ_1, λ_2) .

(\Leftarrow) Evaluate the circuit of F at given (λ_1, λ_2) .

Set x_i to output of i^{th} max gate, then (x_1, \dots, x_n) has to satisfy S , because two of the inputs of this max gate are '0' and expression L_i .

$$\mathcal{S}: \underline{x}_i \geq 0 \perp \underline{x}_i \geq L_i(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, \lambda_1, \lambda_2), \forall i \leq n$$



$$\underline{x} \geq 0 \perp A\underline{x} \geq \lambda_1 \underline{d} + \lambda_2 \underline{e} + \underline{b}$$

$$\text{Fixed Point} \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = x_{n-1}, \lambda_2 = x_n$$

$A \in R^{n \times n}$ lower-triangular with 1s on diagonal

≡

$$\underline{x} \geq 0 \perp A\underline{x} \geq x_{n-1} \underline{d} + x_n \underline{e} + \underline{b}$$

$$A' = A - [0, \dots, 0, \underline{d}, \underline{e}]$$

≡

$$\text{LCP: } \underline{x} \geq 0 \perp A'\underline{x} \geq \underline{b}$$

LCP = Linear
Complementarity Problem

Lemma 2: \underline{x} is a solution of the LCP iff it is a solution of \mathcal{S} ,
(then using Lemma 1) iff (x_{n-1}, x_n) is a fixed point.

LCP \rightarrow Game

$$\text{LCP: } \underline{x} \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad A' \underline{x} \geq \underline{b}$$

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} -A' & \underline{b} + \underline{1} \\ \underline{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Symmetric Game: (Z, Z^T)

Recall: Nash Eq. of (A, B)

$$\underline{y} \in \Delta_n \quad \underline{x} \in \Delta_m$$

Complementarity:

$$\forall i, x_i \geq 0 \perp (A\underline{y})_i \leq \alpha$$
$$\forall j, y_j \geq 0 \perp (\underline{x}^T B)_j \leq \beta$$
$$\Updownarrow$$

1. $(\underline{x}, \underline{y})$ is a NE
2. α and β are the payoffs

Symmetric Nash Eq. of (Z, Z^T)

$$m = n$$

$$\underline{x} \in \Delta_m$$

$$\underline{x} = \underline{y}$$

Complementarity:

$$\forall i, x_i \geq 0 \perp (Z\underline{x})_i \leq \alpha$$

$$\forall i, x_i \geq 0 \perp (\underline{x}^T Z^T)_i \leq \beta$$



1. $(\underline{x}, \underline{x})$ is a Symm. NE
2. α and β are the payoffs

Symmetric Nash Eq. of (Z, Z^T)

$$\underline{x} \in \Delta_m$$

Complementarity: $\forall i, x_i \geq 0 \perp (Z\underline{x})_i \leq \alpha$



1. $(\underline{x}, \underline{x})$ is a Symm. NE
2. α is the payoff to both

LCP \rightarrow Game

LCP: $\underline{x} \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad A' \underline{x} \geq \underline{b}$

Claim: A' is strictly semi-monotone.

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} -A' & \underline{b} + \underline{1} \\ \underline{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Symmetric Game: } (Z, Z^T)$$

Theorem 2: If (\underline{x}, t) is a symmetric NE (both play the same), then \underline{x}/t is the LCP solution.

LCP \rightarrow Game (Proof)

$$\text{LCP: } \underline{x} \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad A' \underline{x} \geq \underline{b}$$

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} -A' & \underline{b} + \underline{1} \\ \underline{0} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x} \\ t \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Game: } (Z, Z^T)$$

(\underline{x}, t) be a symmetric Nash

$$\forall i, \quad \begin{array}{l} x_i \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad (-A' \underline{x})_i + b_i t + t \leq \alpha \\ t \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad t \leq \alpha \end{array}$$

LCP \rightarrow Game (Proof)

$$\text{LCP: } \underline{x} \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad A' \underline{x} \geq \underline{b}$$

$$\forall i, \quad x_i \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad (-A' \underline{x})_i + b_i t + t \leq \alpha$$
$$t \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad t \leq \alpha$$

Claim 1: If $t > 0$ then $\frac{x}{t}$ is a soln of the LCP.

Proof:

$$t > 0 \Rightarrow t = \alpha \Rightarrow \left(A' \begin{pmatrix} x \\ t \end{pmatrix} \right)_i \geq b_i$$

LCP \rightarrow Game (Proof)

$$\text{LCP: } \underline{x} \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad A' \underline{x} \geq \underline{b}$$

$$\forall i, \quad x_i \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad (-A' \underline{x})_i + b_i t + t \leq \alpha$$
$$t \geq 0 \quad \perp \quad t \leq \alpha$$

Claim 2: $t > 0$, if A' is strictly semi-monotone.

$$\underline{x} \geq 0, \underline{x} \neq 0 \text{ then}$$
$$\exists i, x_i > 0, (A' \underline{x})_i > 0$$

Proof: $t = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha \geq 0$

$$x_i > 0 \text{ and } (-A' \underline{x})_i < 0 \leq \alpha.$$

Contradiction!

Main Result

Theorem 3: Given circuit of function F , construct game (Z, Z^T) . (\underline{x}, t) is a symmetric NE of this game iff $\left(\frac{x_{n-1}}{t}, \frac{x_n}{t}\right)$ is a fixed-point of F .

(Recall) Theorem 1: $\left(\frac{x_{n-1}}{t}, \frac{x_n}{t}\right)$ is a fixed-point of F iff it is in trichromatic triangle of the 2D-Sperner problem.

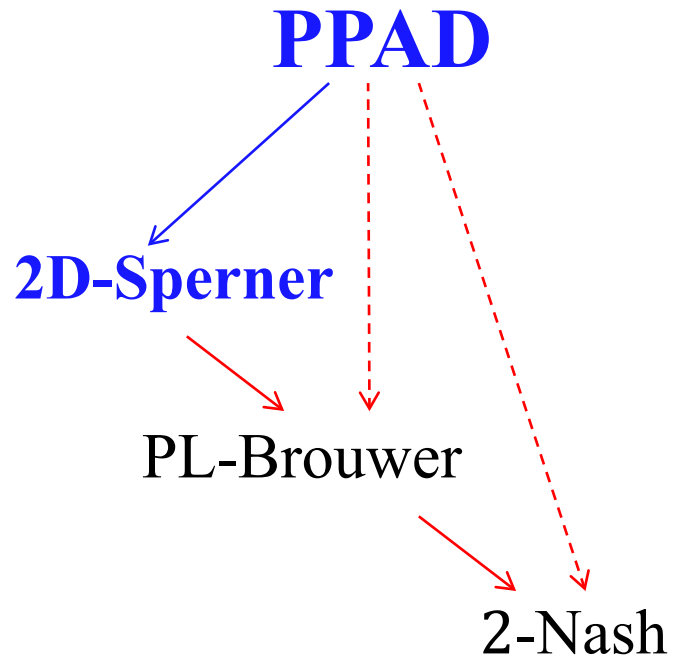
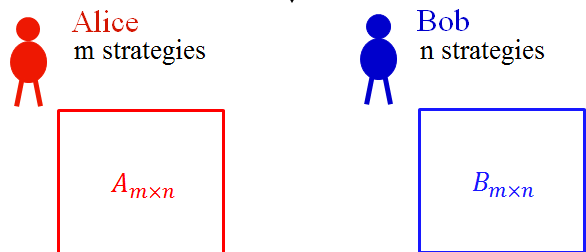
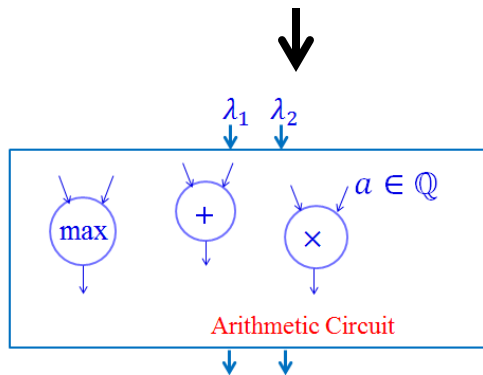
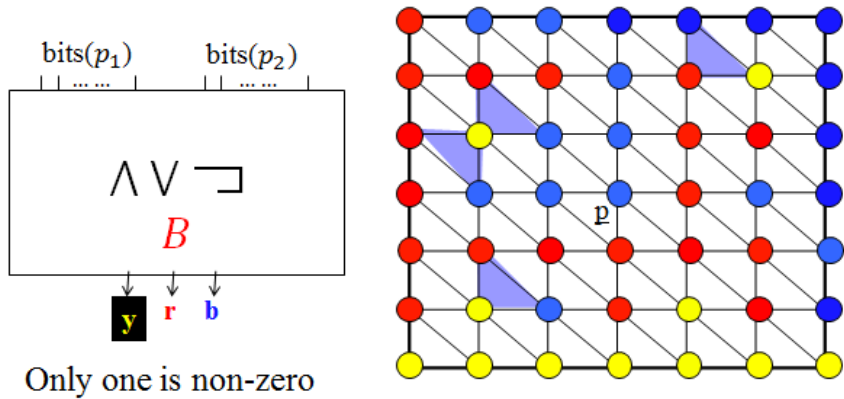
Main Theorem: 2D-Sperner is polynomial-time reducible to symmetric NE in symmetric 2-player game.

Symmetric 2-Nash \longrightarrow 2-Nash

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (Z, Z^T) & \longrightarrow & (I, Z) \\ (\underline{x}, \underline{x}) & \longleftarrow & (\underline{x}, \underline{y}) \end{array}$$

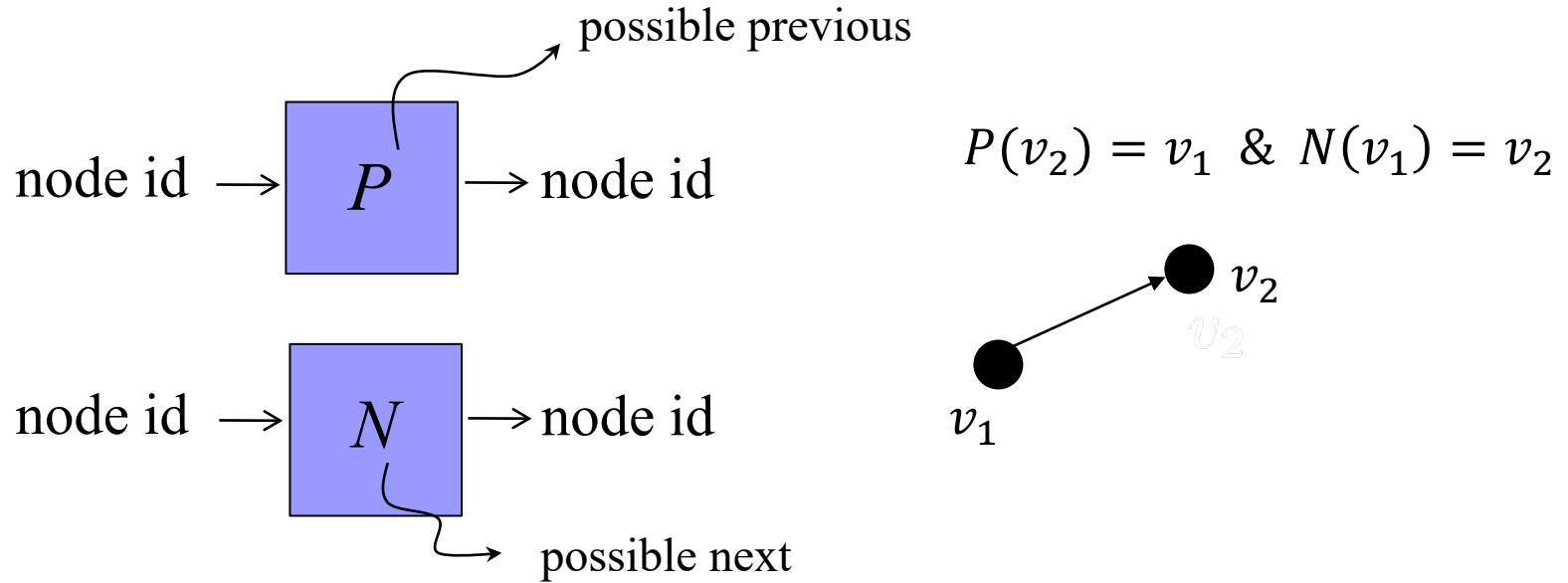
“Imitation Games”
(McLennan and Tourky’10)

Q.E.D.!



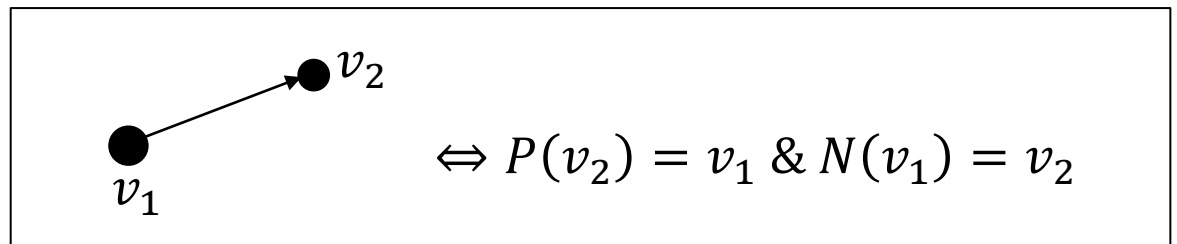
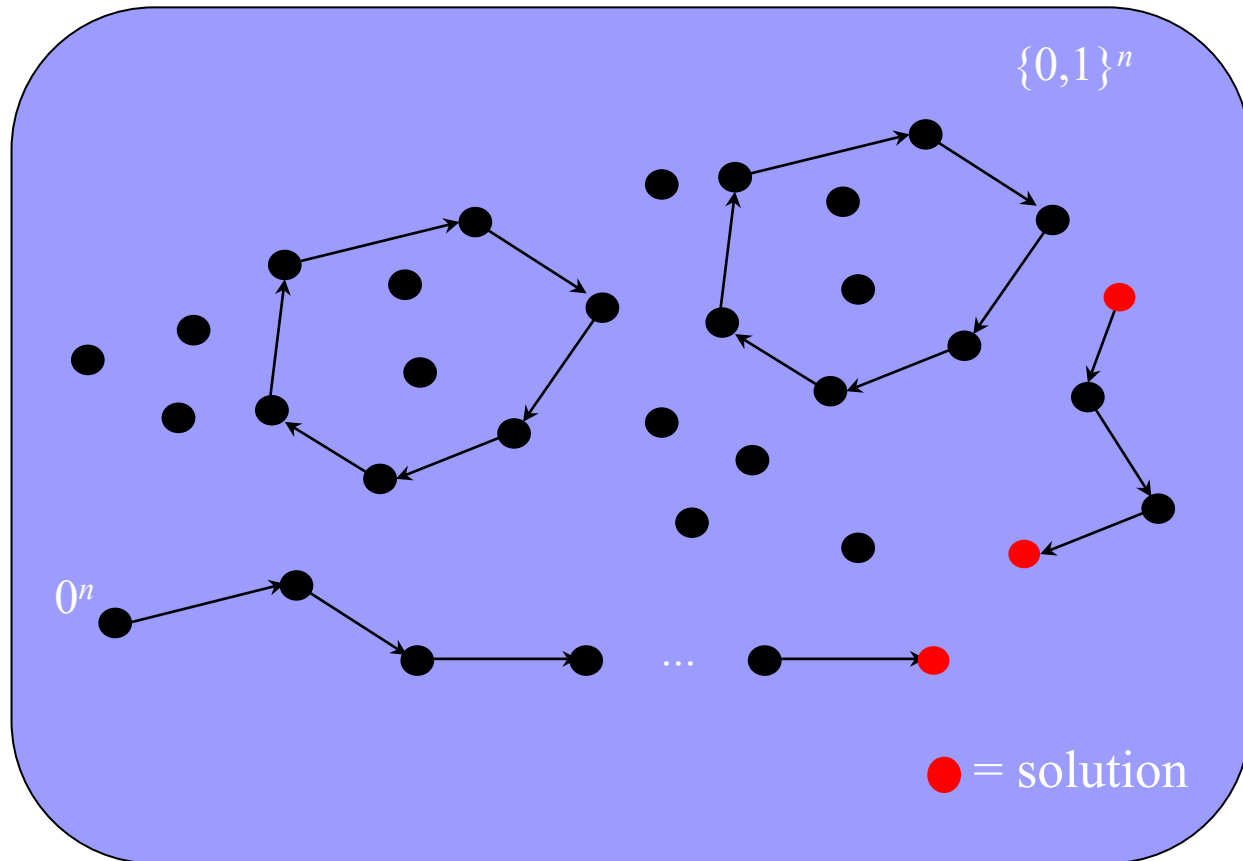
Recall: The PPA Class

Suppose that an exponentially large graph with vertex set $\{0,1\}^n$ is defined by two circuits:



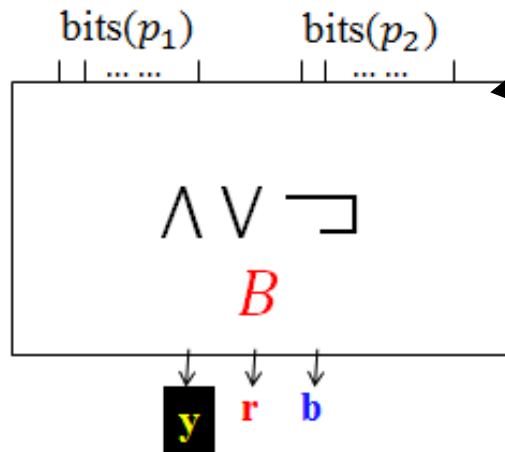
END OF A LINE: Given P and N , and unbalanced node 0^n , find another unbalanced node.

Recall: END OF A LINE

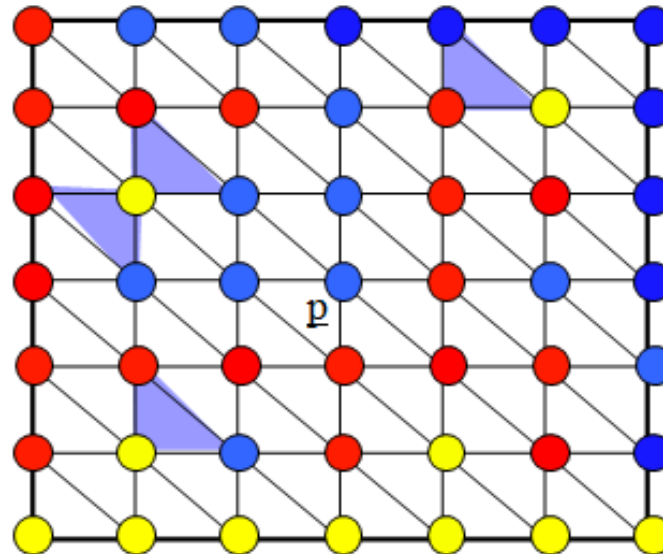


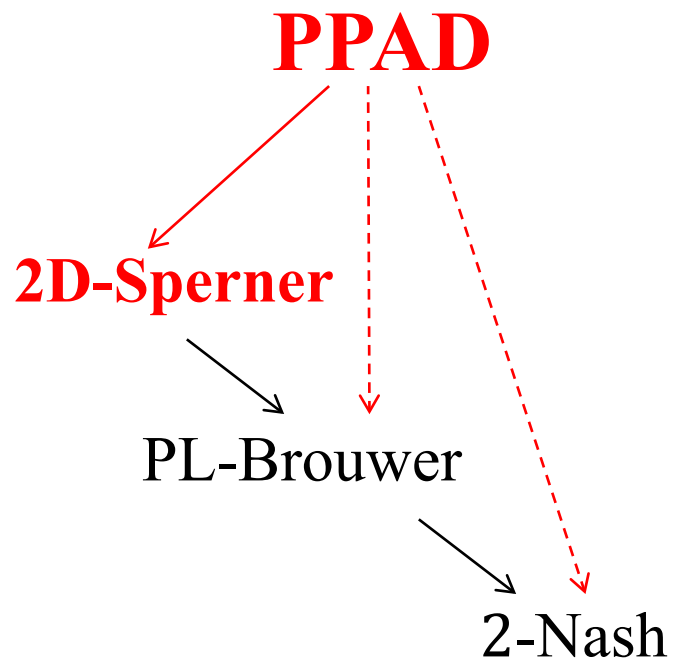
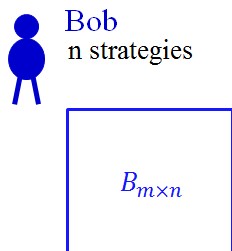
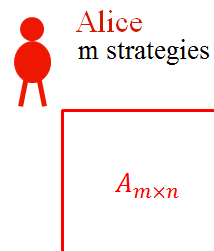
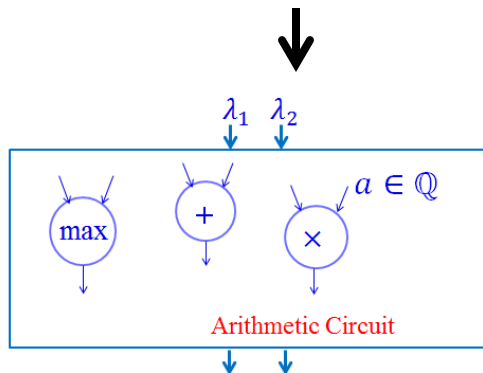
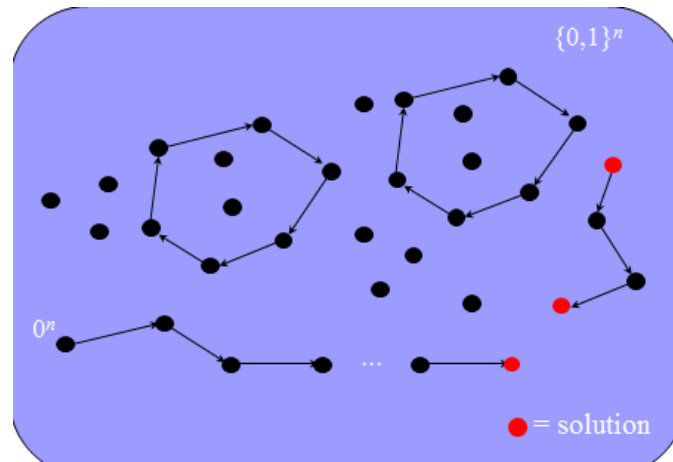
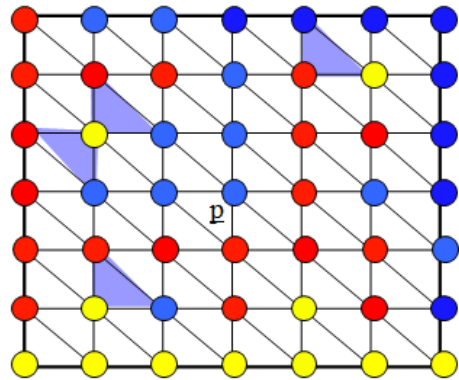
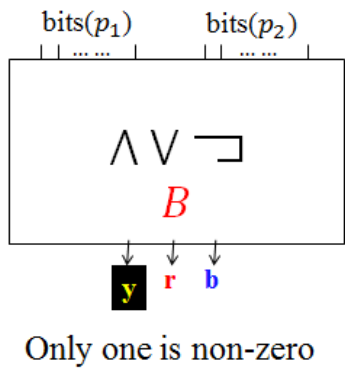
Recall: 2D-Sperner

Can also be thought of
as poly-time procedure

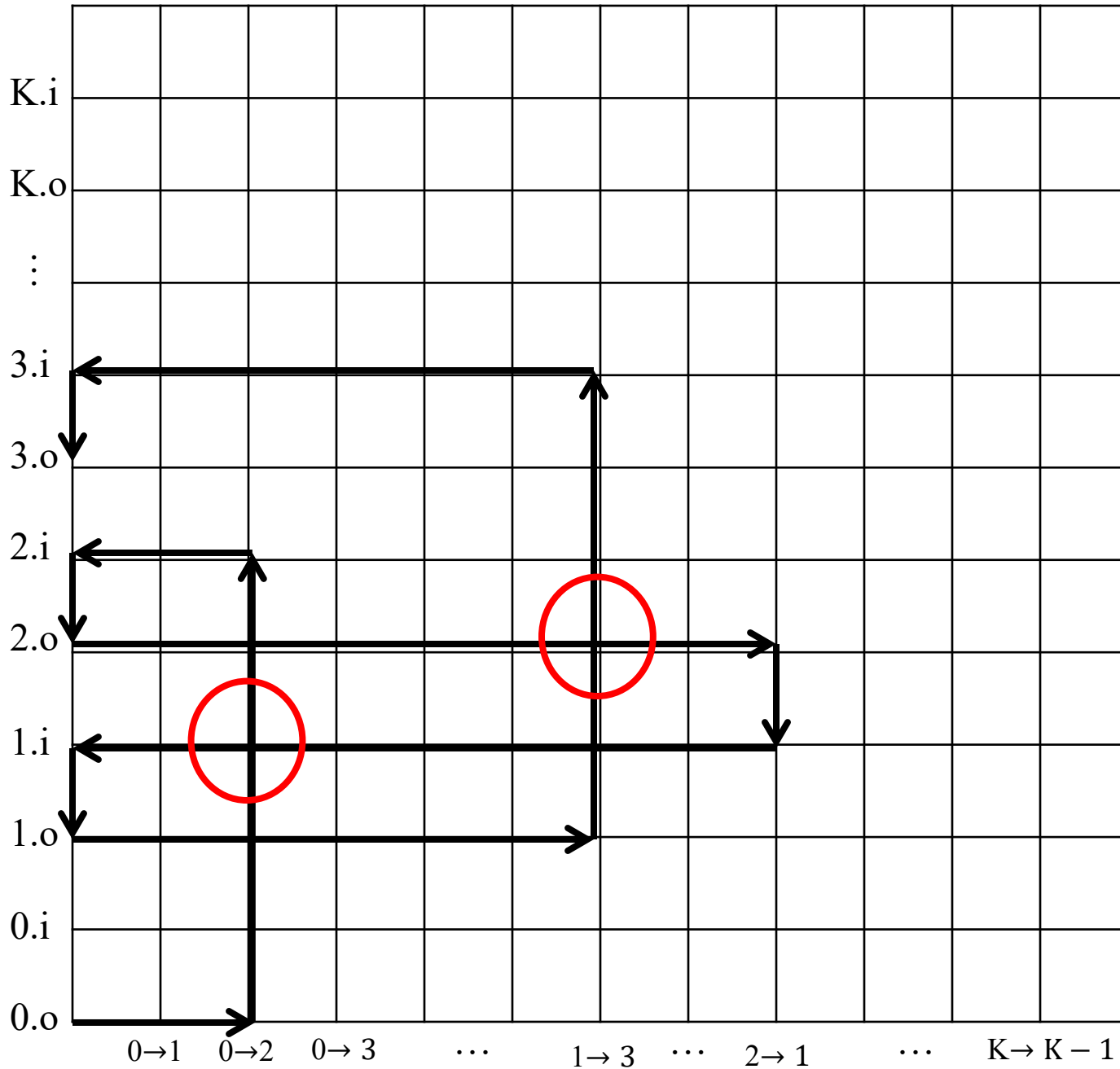


Only one is non-zero





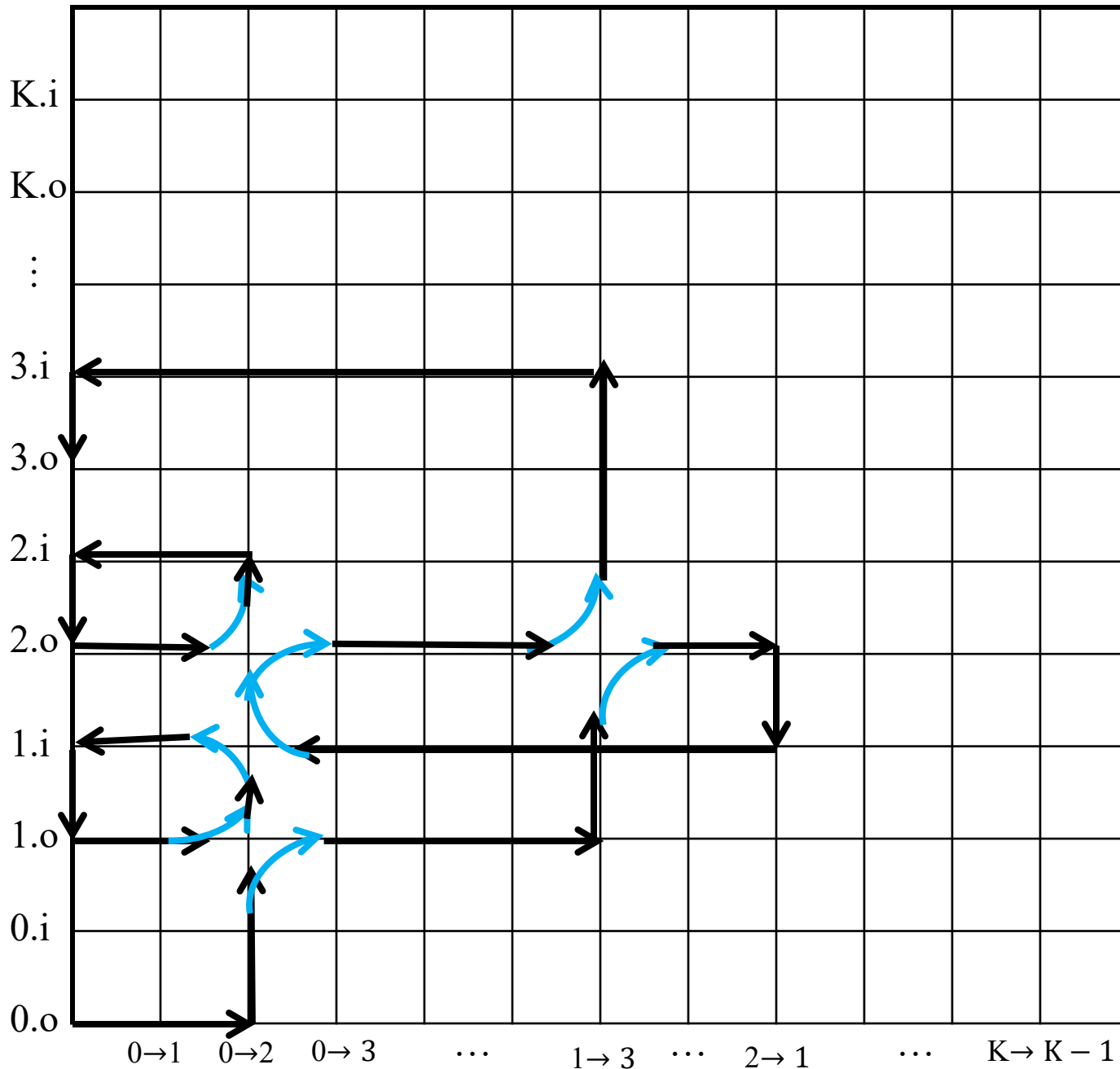
$$K=2^n - 1$$



$v_0 \rightarrow v_2$
 $\rightarrow v_1$
 $\rightarrow v_3$

**How to
Avoid
crossings?**

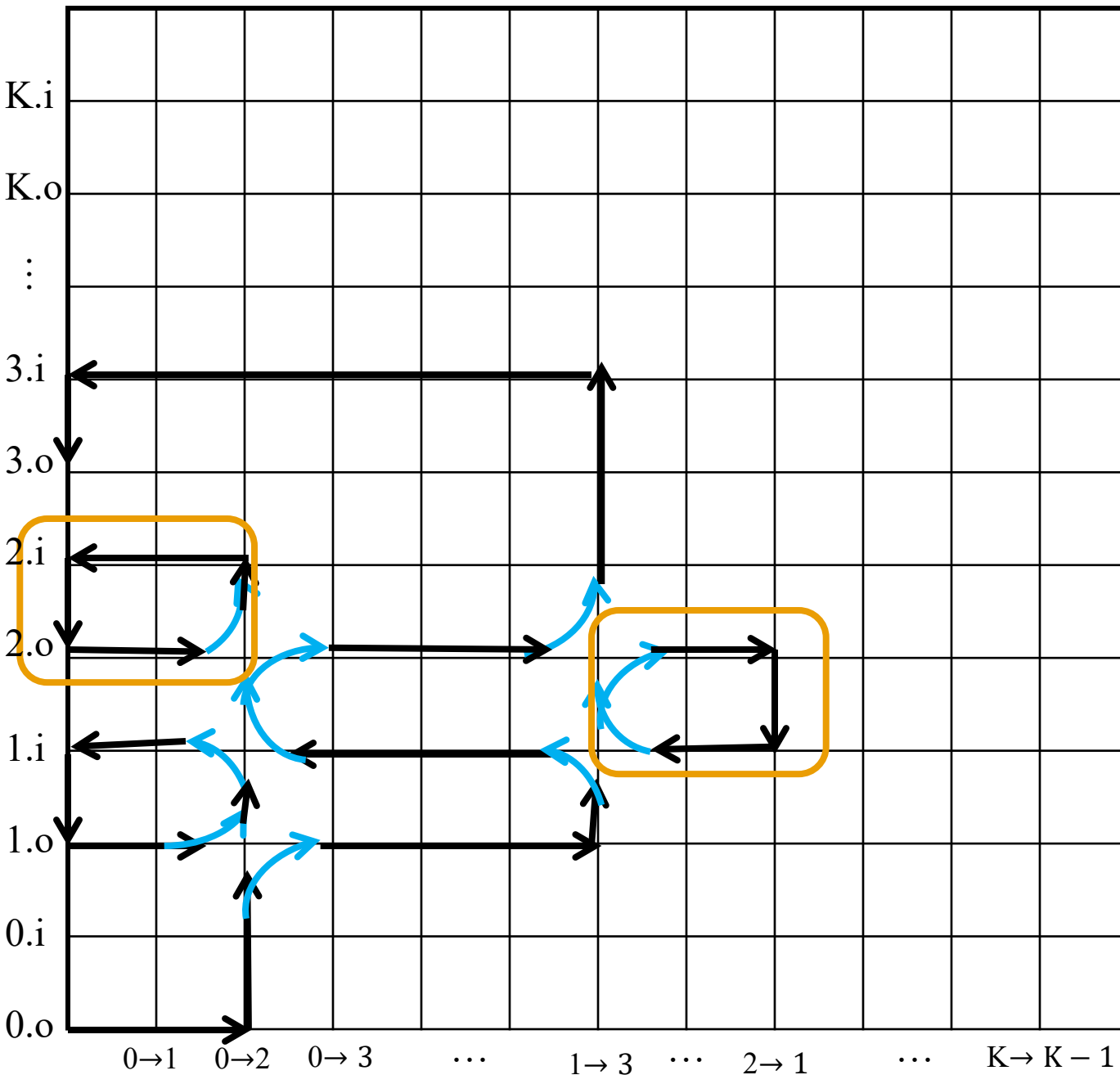
$$K=2^n - 1$$



$v_0 \rightarrow v_2$
 $\rightarrow v_1$
 $\rightarrow v_3$

**How to
Avoid
crossings?**

$$K=2^n - 1$$



$$v_0 \rightarrow v_2$$

$$\rightarrow v_1$$

$$\rightarrow v_3$$

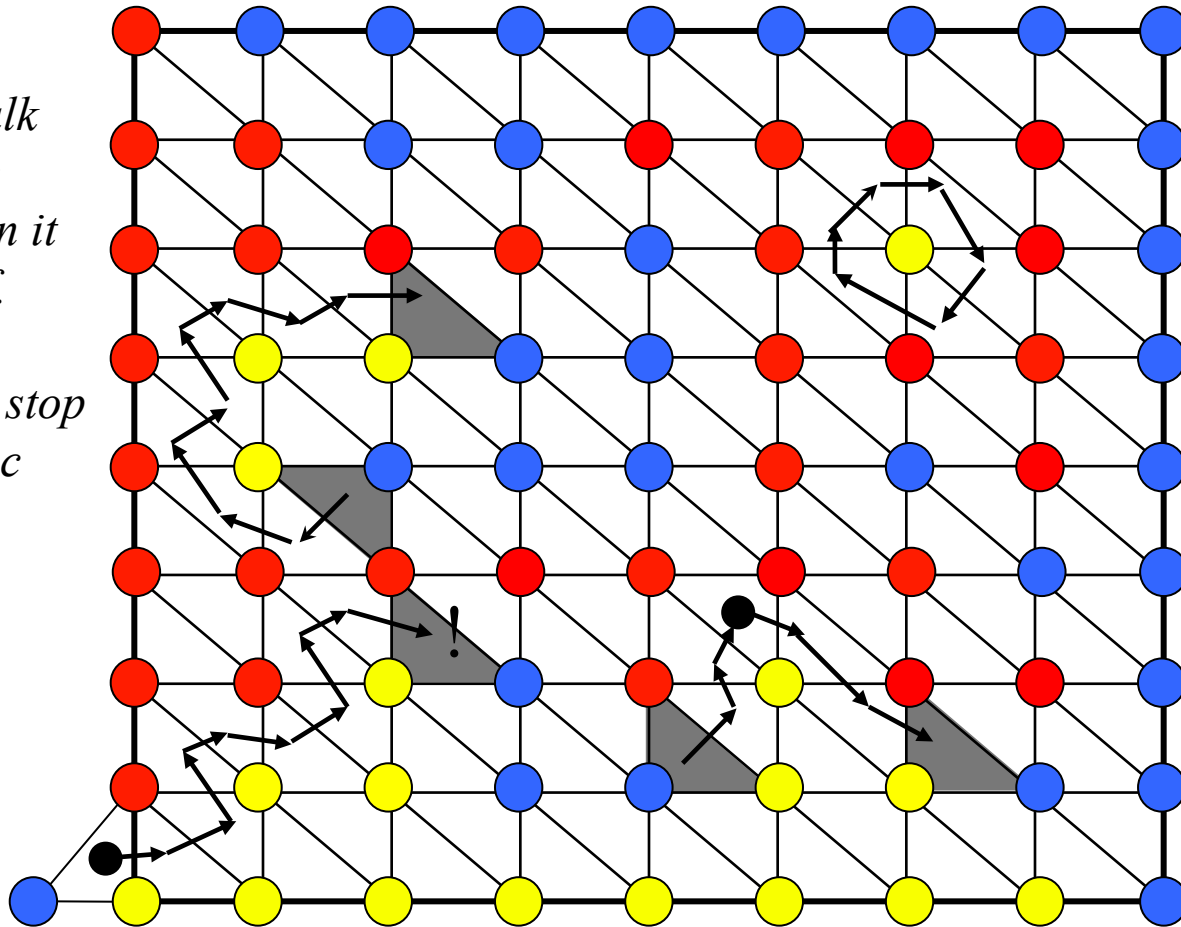
Extra cycles

**But no extra
End-points**

Proof of Sperner's Lemma

Claim: The walk cannot exit the square, nor can it loop into itself.

Hence, it must stop at tri-chromatic triangle...



Rule:

Cross R 
Keeping
R on left

[Sperner 1928]: Color the boundary using three colors in a legal way. No matter how the internal nodes are colored, there exists a tri-chromatic triangle. In fact an odd number of those.

$$K=2^n - 1$$

$$v_0 \rightarrow v_2$$

$$\rightarrow v_1$$

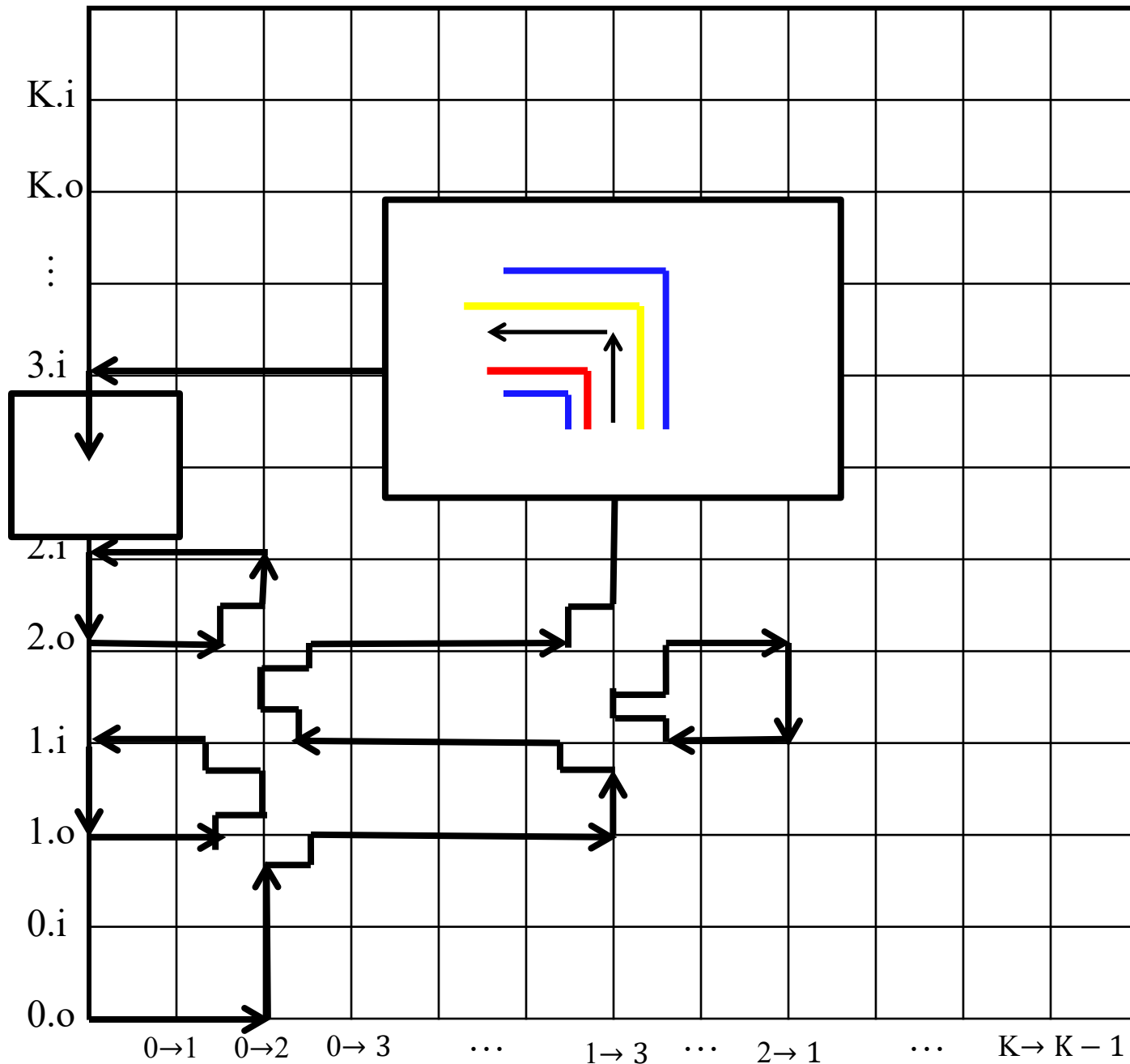
$$\rightarrow v_3$$

Extra cycles

**But no extra
End-points**

Coloring?

Constant
Blow-up



Poly-time Procedure for Coloring?

- Every row uniquely correspond to a vertex in/out
- Every column uniquely correspond to $v_i \rightarrow v_j$
 - For every grid point of the initial grid, can use circuit N and P of PPAD to check if a line is passing through it and in what direction.
- Even further subdivision in constantly many cells is predetermined.
- What about crossings?
 - Again checking and uncrossing are locally possible.