

# Simulating elementary active membranes

With an application to the P conjecture

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In previous episodes...

$$NP \subseteq PMC_{AM}^*(-d, -n)$$

## Solving NP-Complete Problems Using P Systems with Active Membranes\*

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**Abstract.** A recently introduced variant of P-systems considers membranes which can multiply by division. These systems use two types of division: division for elementary membranes (i.e. membranes not containing other membranes inside) and division for non-elementary membranes. In two recent papers it is shown how to solve the Satisfiability problem and the Hamiltonian Path problem (two well known NP complete problems) in linear time with respect to the input length, both types of division. We show in this paper that the same result is achieved for elementary membranes.

$$NP \cup coNP \subseteq PMC_{AM}(-d, -n)$$



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## Complexity classes in models of cellular computing with membranes

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Alvaro.Romero@cs.us.es <sup>3</sup>E-mail: Fernando.Sancho@cs.us.es)

**Abstract.** In this paper we introduce four complexity classes for cellular computing systems  
with membranes: the first and the second ones contain all decision problems solvable in poly-  
nomial time by deterministic P systems, without and with an input membrane, respec-  
tively. The third and the fourth ones contain all decision problems solvable in polynomial  
time by P systems with an input membrane, respectively without an input membrane.

It is an intriguing question here whether also  $\mathbf{PSPACE} \subseteq [\mathbf{PMC}_{AM(-n)}]$  holds (the conjecture was formulated – P. Sosík, M. J. Pérez-Jiménez – that it is not true [...]).

## Further Twenty Six Open Problems in Membrane Computing

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... list of problems and research topics, compiled with  
... Sevilla, 2005.

$$\text{PMC}_{\text{AM}(-n)}^{\star} \subseteq \text{PSPACE}$$

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# Membrane computing and complexity theory: A characterization of PSPACE<sup>☆</sup>

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## Abstract

A P system is a natural computing model inspired by information processing in cells and cellular membranes. We show that confluent P systems with active membranes solve in polynomial time exactly the class of problems **PSPACE**. Consequently, these P systems prove to be equivalent (up to a polynomial time reduction) to the alternating Turing machine or the PRAM computer. Similar results were achieved also with other models of natural computation, such as DNA computing or genetic algorithms. Our result, together with the previous observations, suggests that the class **PSPACE** provides a tight approximation of the potential of biological information processing models.

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$$PP \subseteq PMC_{AM}(-d, -n)$$

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# Elementary Active Membranes Have the Power of Counting

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## ABSTRACT

Elementary active membranes have the ability of solving computationally hard problems. In this paper, we show that families of P systems with active membranes operating in polynomial time can simulate any family of P systems without using nonelementary membrane division or dissolution, under a condition that is weaker than the usual one.

$$\mathbf{P}^{\# \mathbf{P}} \subseteq \mathbf{PMC}_{\mathcal{AM}}(-d, -n)$$

## P Systems Simulating Oracle Computations

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**Abstract.** We show how existing P systems with active membranes can be used as modules inside a larger P system; this allows us to simulate subroutines or oracles. As an application of this construction, which is (in principle) quite general, we provide a new, improved lower bound to the complexity class  $\mathbf{PMC}_{\mathcal{AM}}(-d, -n)$  of problems solved by polynomial-time P systems with (restricted) elementary active membranes. It is proved to contain  $\mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{PP}}$  and hence  $\mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{PP}}$  is contained in the polynomial hierarchy.



And now, the conclusion...

$$PMC_{AM(-n)} = P^{\#P}$$

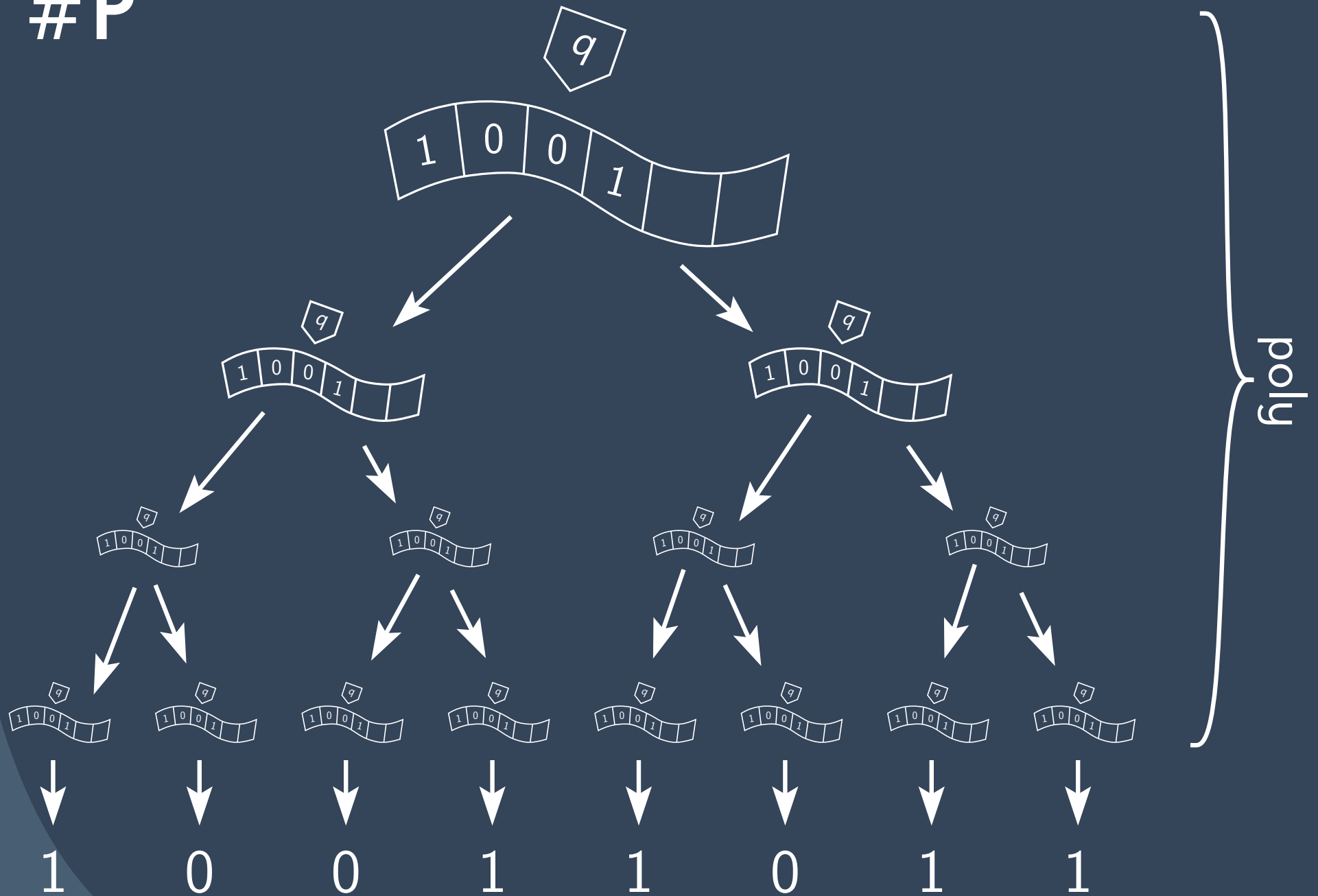
## Simulating Elementary Active Membranes With an Application to the P Conjecture\*

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Antonio E. Porreca, and Claudio Zandron

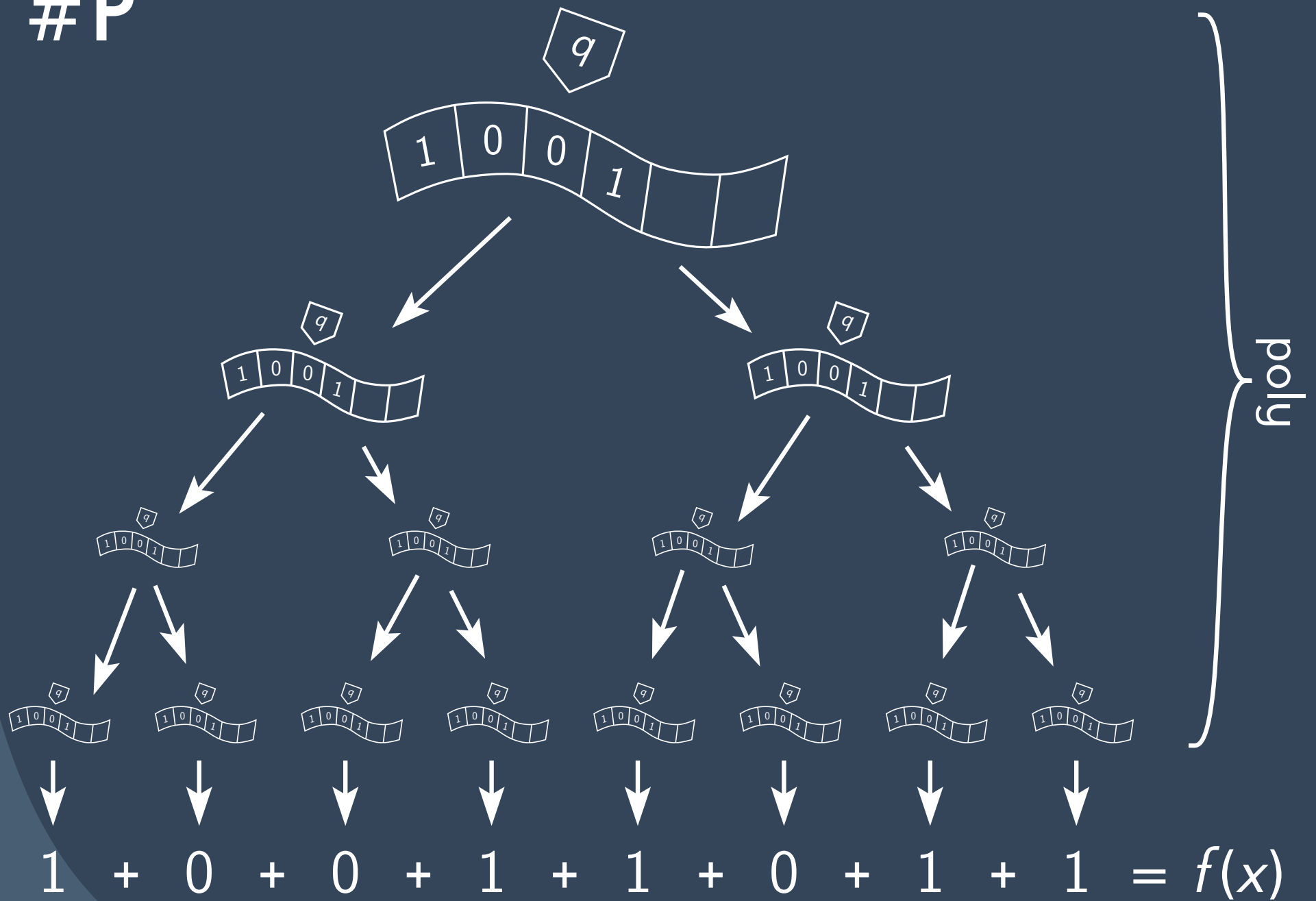
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**Abstract.** The decision problems solved in polynomial time by P systems with elementary active membranes are known to include the class  $P^{\#P}$ . This consists of all the problems solved by polynomial-time deterministic Turing machines with polynomial-time counting oracles. In this paper we prove the reverse inclusion by simulating P systems with this kind of oracles. If the two complexity classes coincide, finally

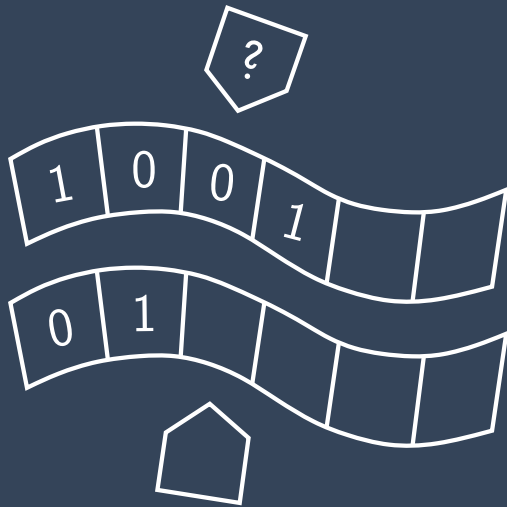
#P



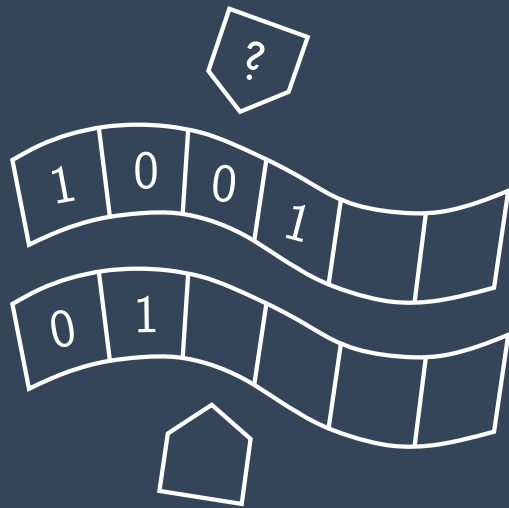
# #P



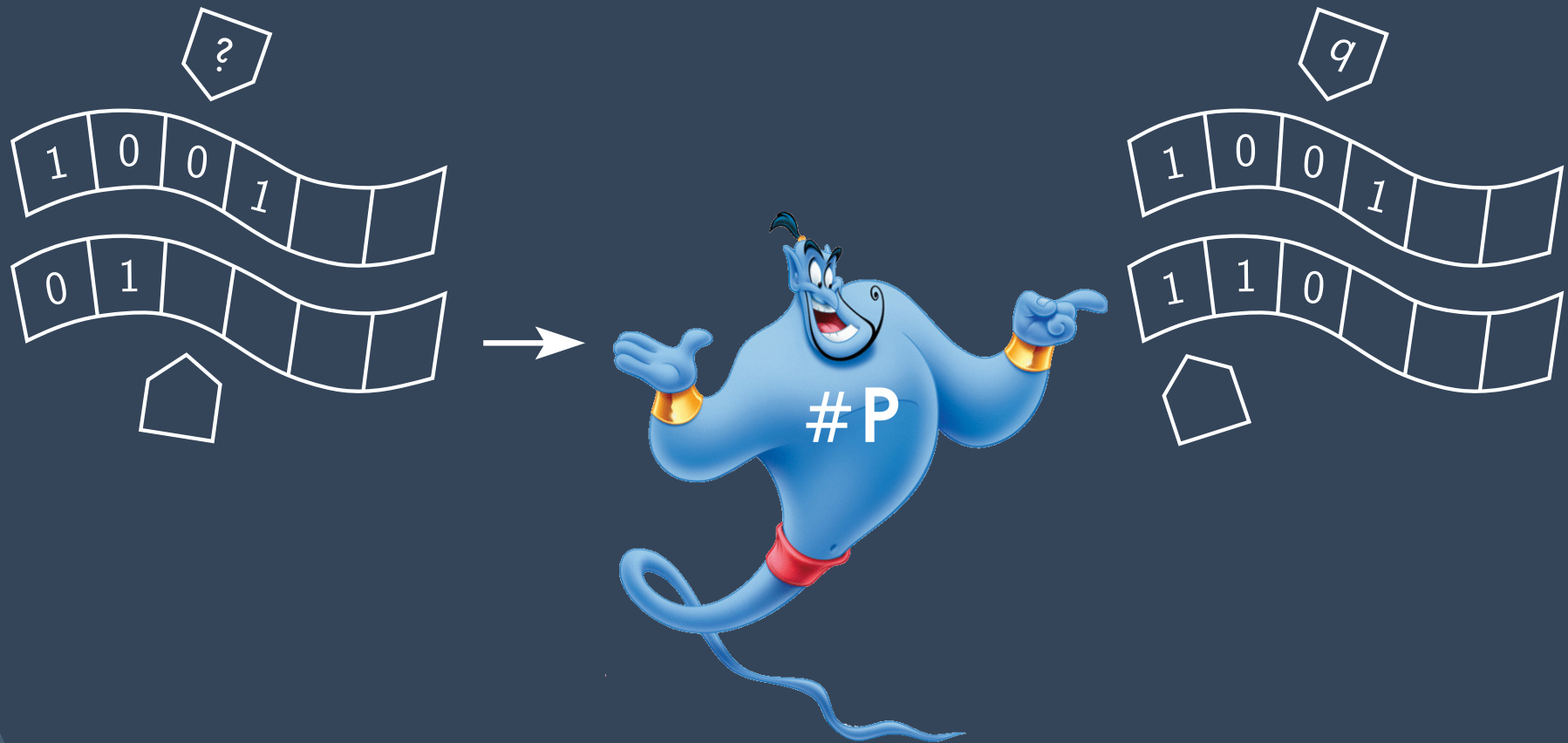
$P \# P$



$P^{\#P}$



$P^{\#P}$



# Milano Theorem

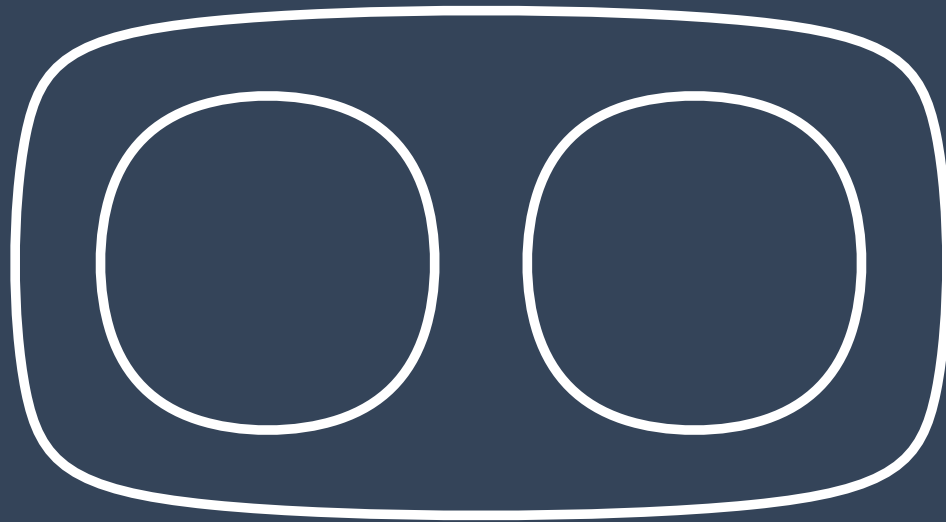
$$\mathbf{PMC}_{AM(-e, -n)}^{\star} \subseteq \mathbf{P}$$



# Elementary division is hard



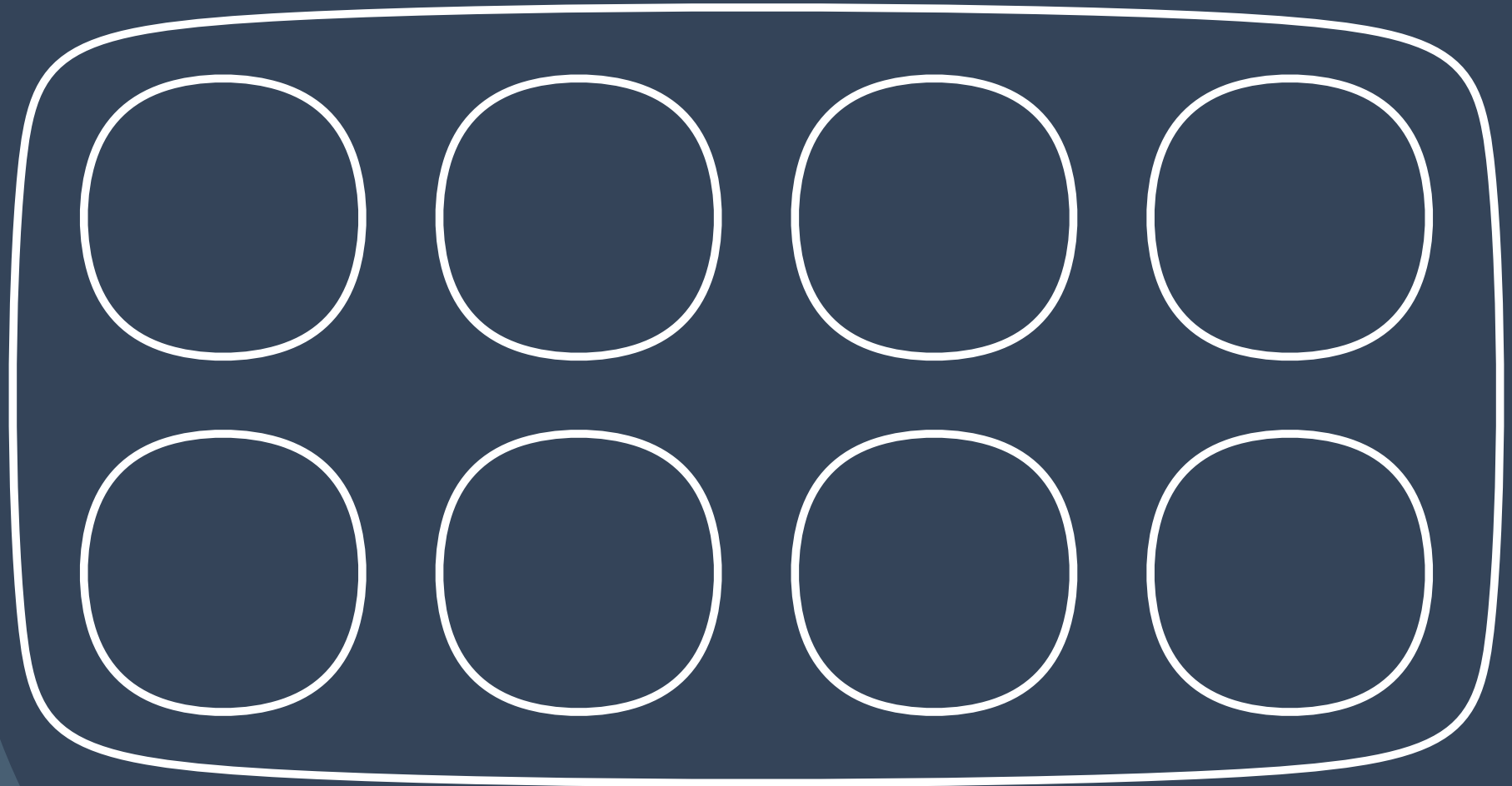
# Elementary division is hard



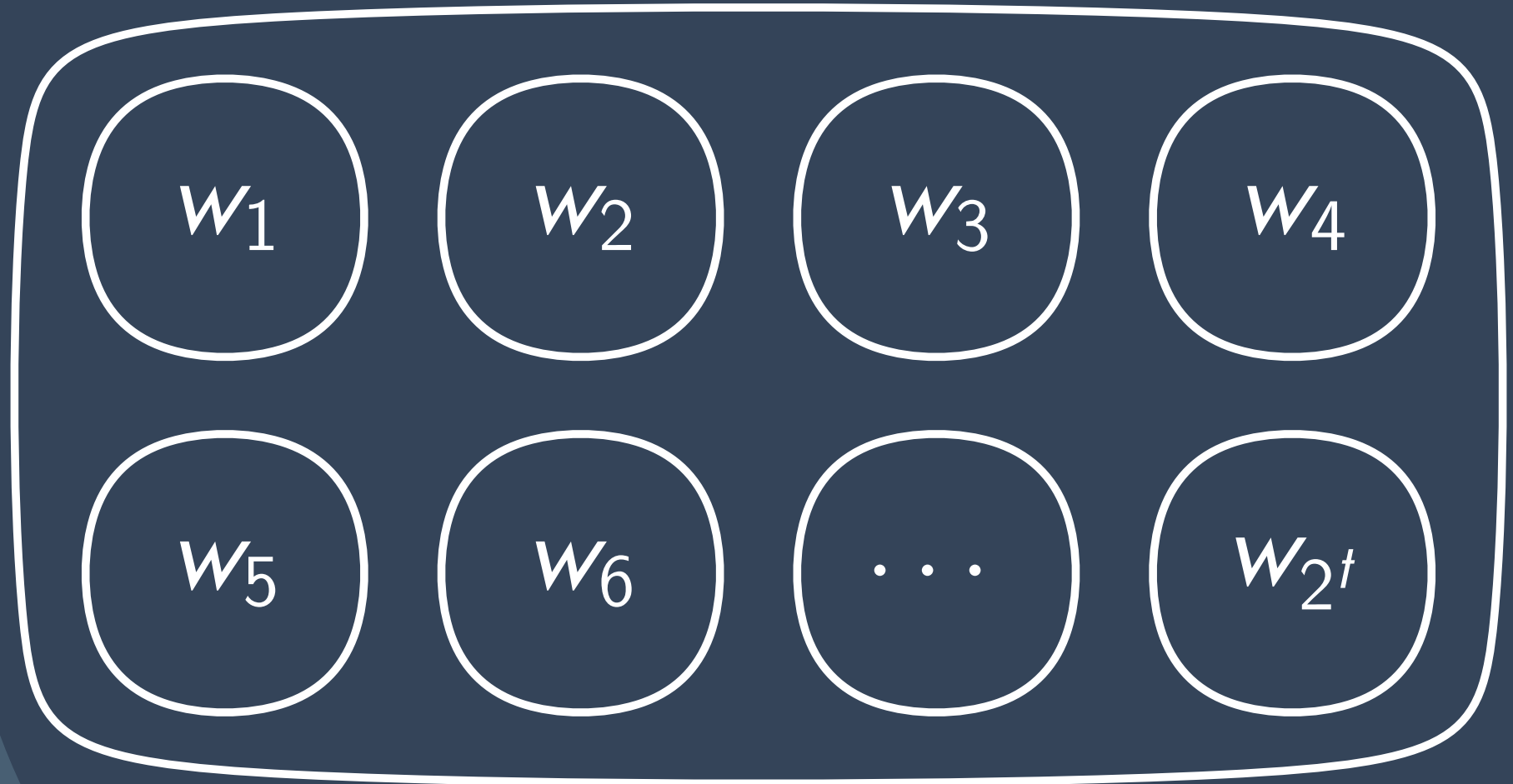
# Elementary division is hard



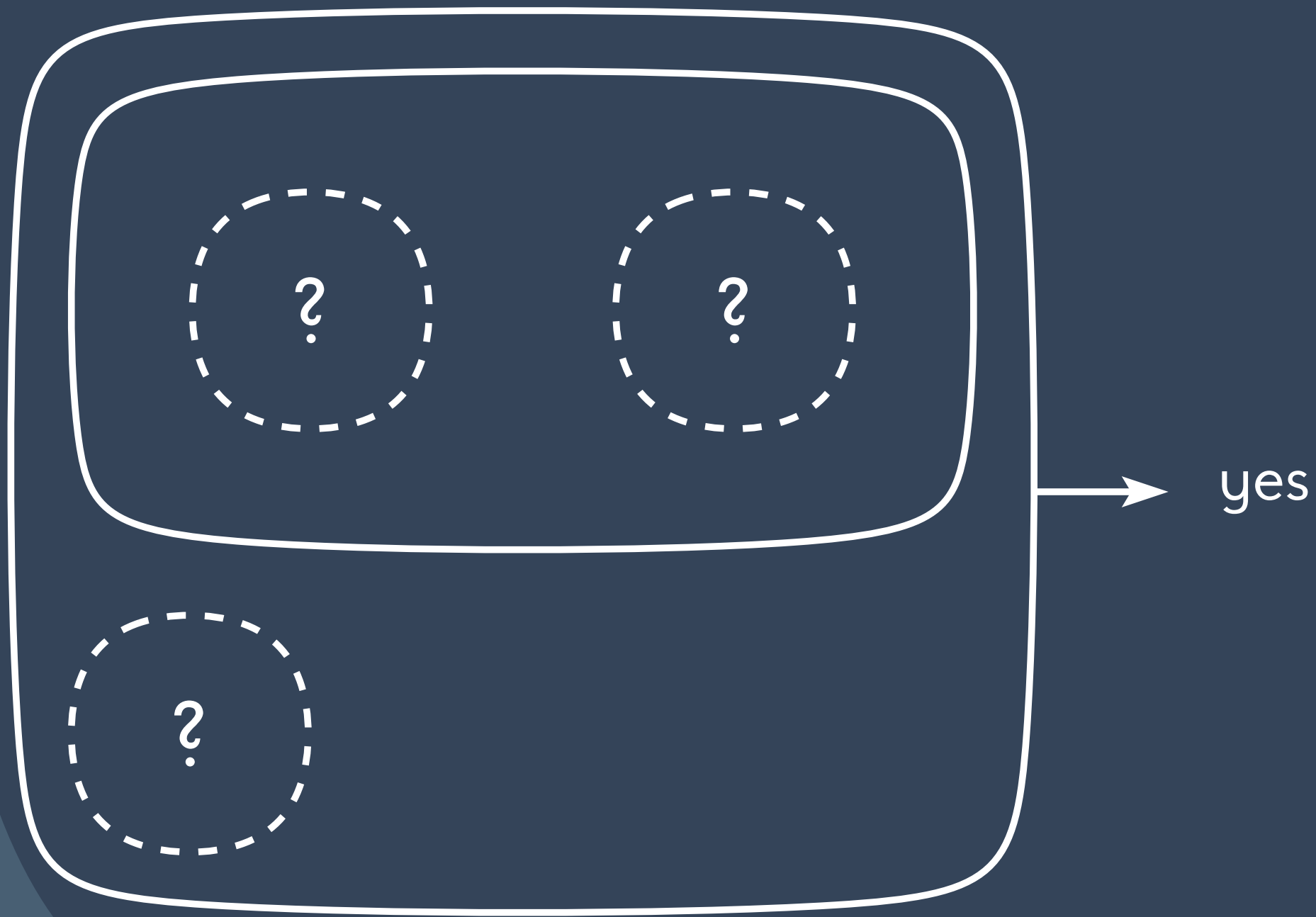
# Elementary division is hard

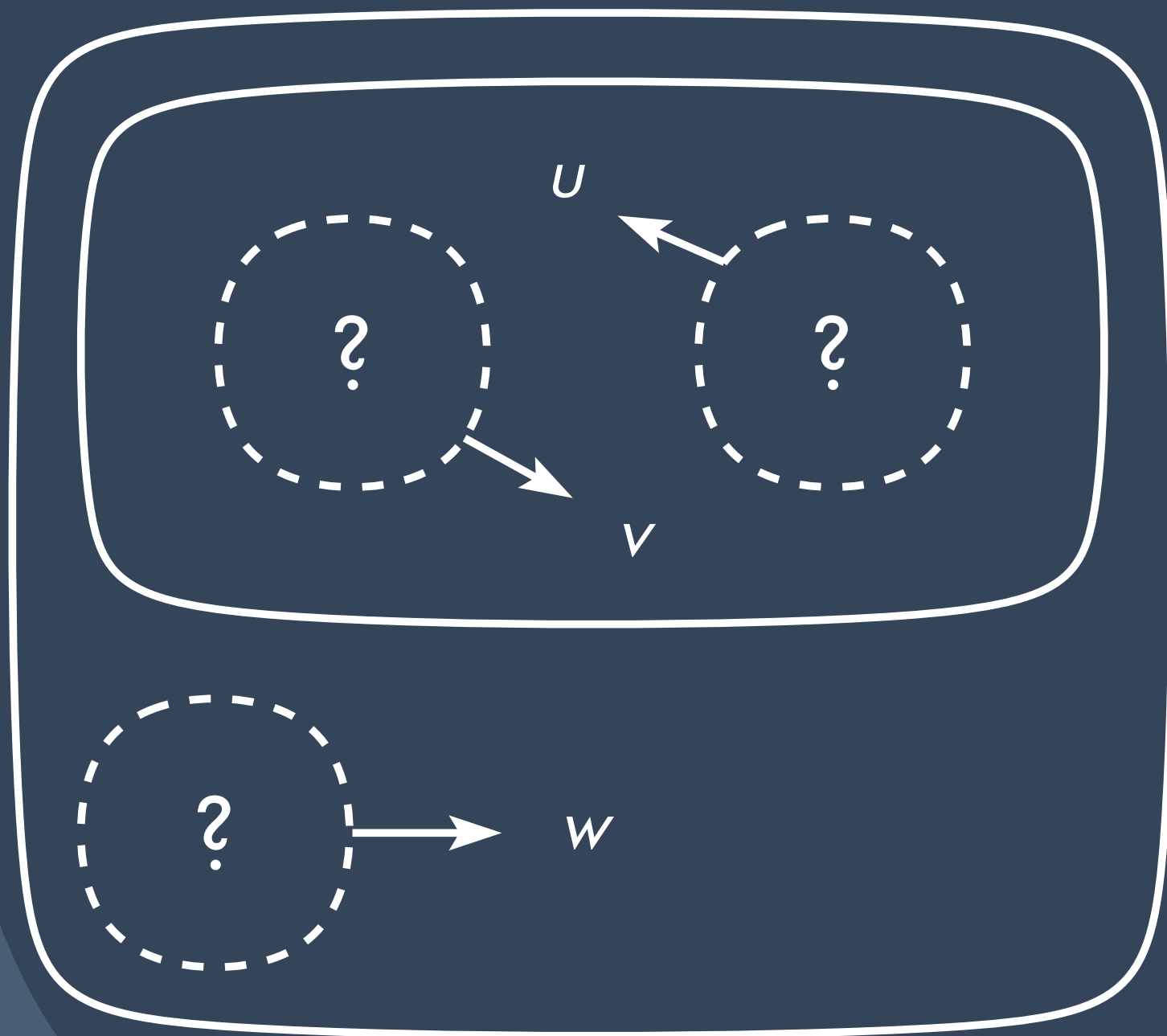


# Elementary division is hard

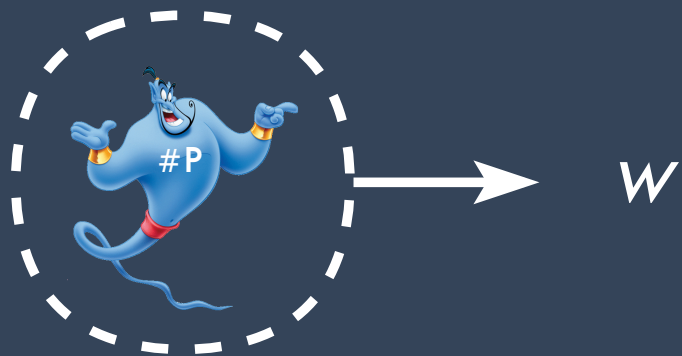
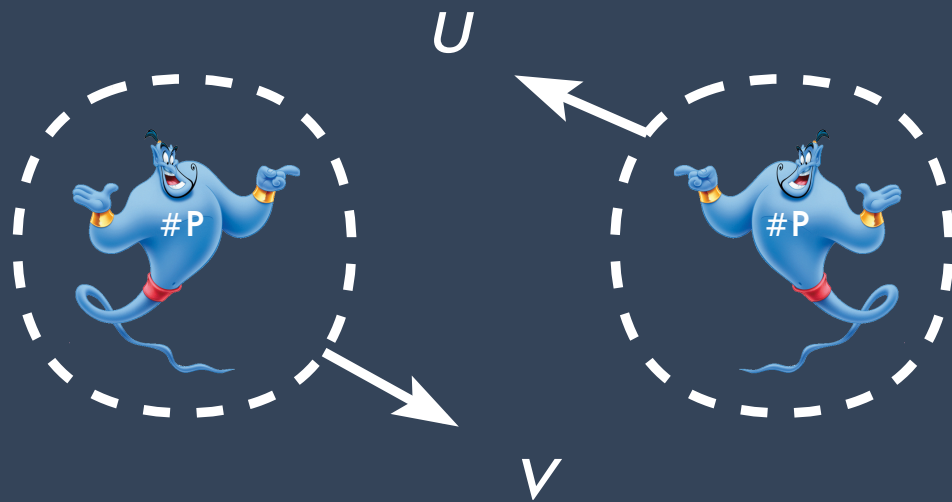








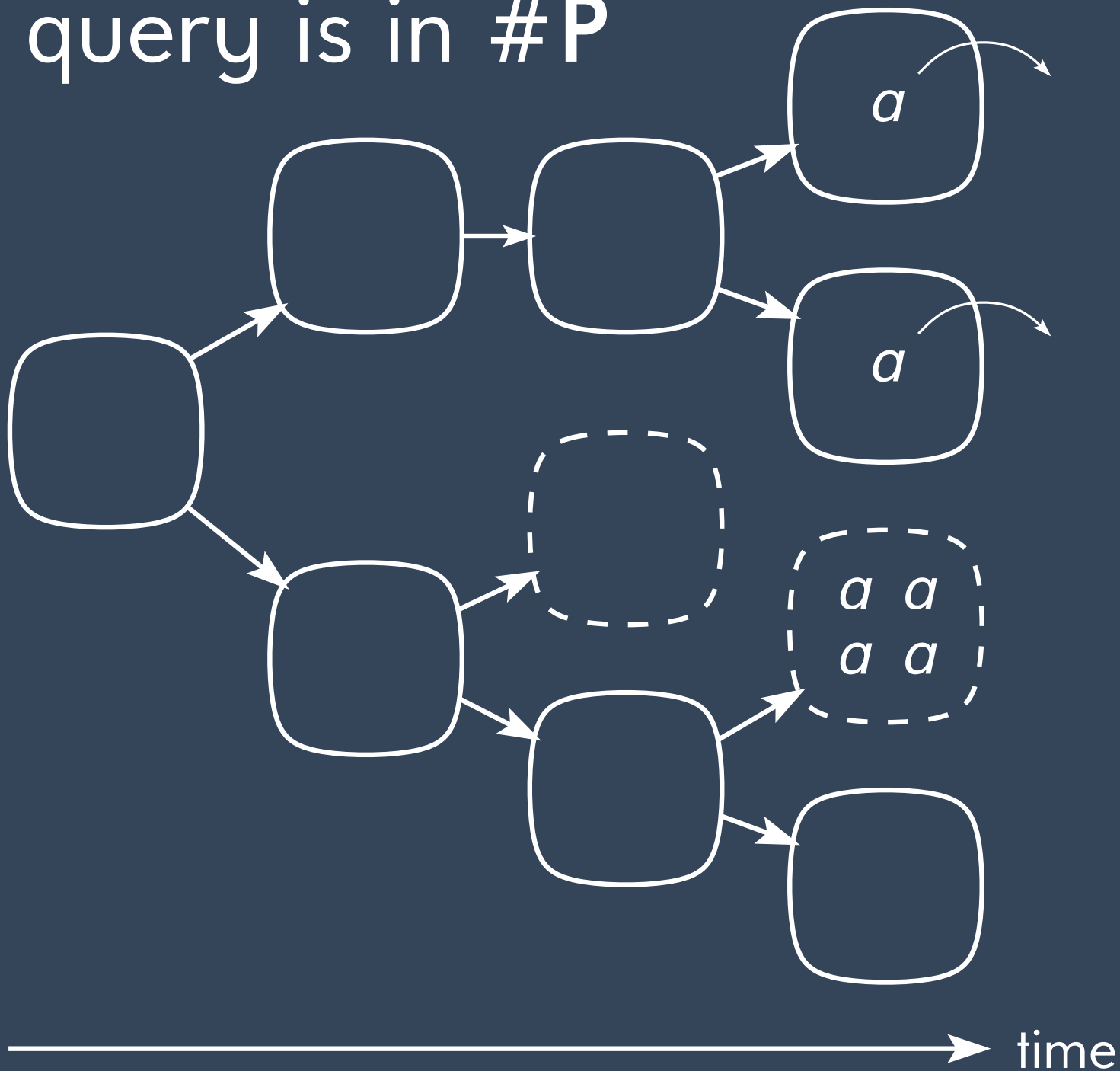




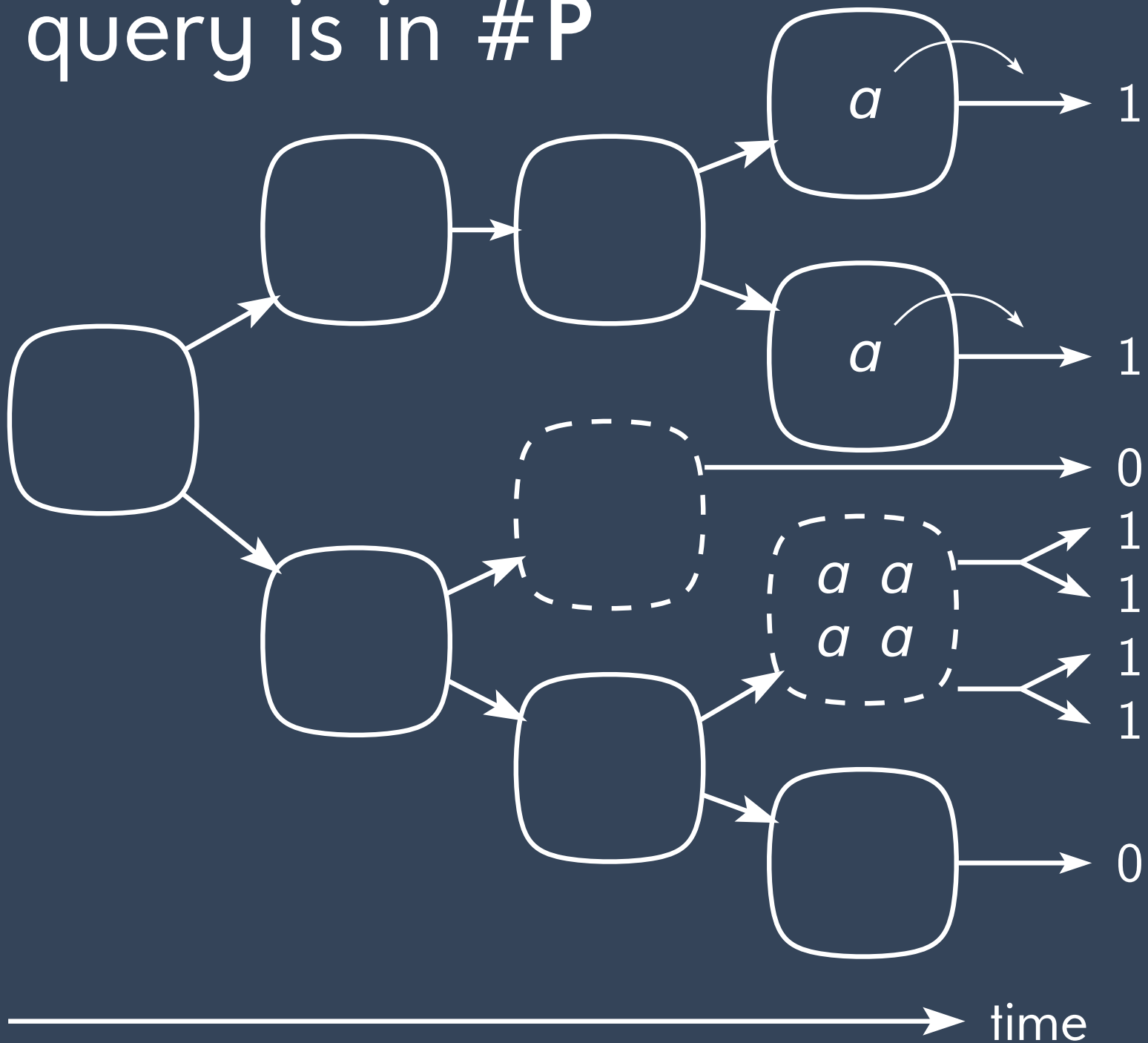
# The query

Given the initial configuration of an elementary membrane  $h$ , how many copies of object  $a$  are sent out by membranes with label  $h$  at time  $t$ ?

# The query is in #P



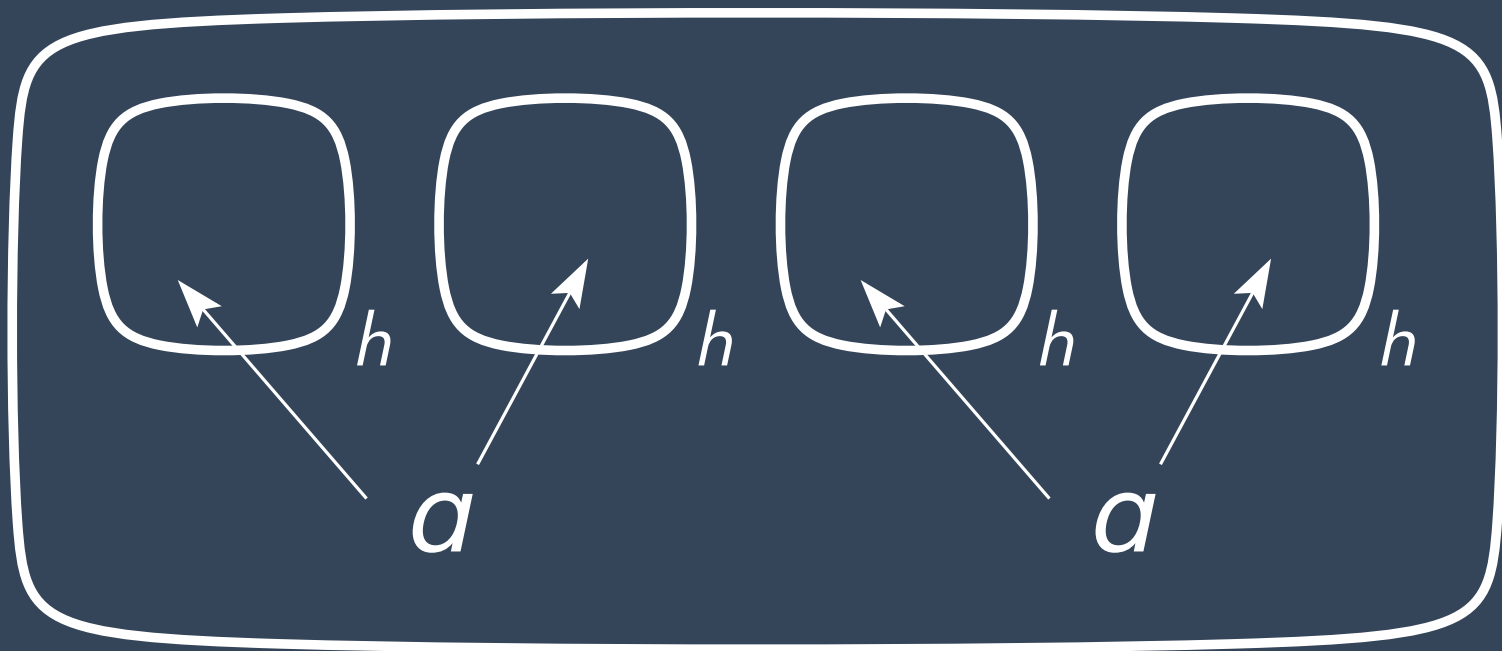
# The query is in #P



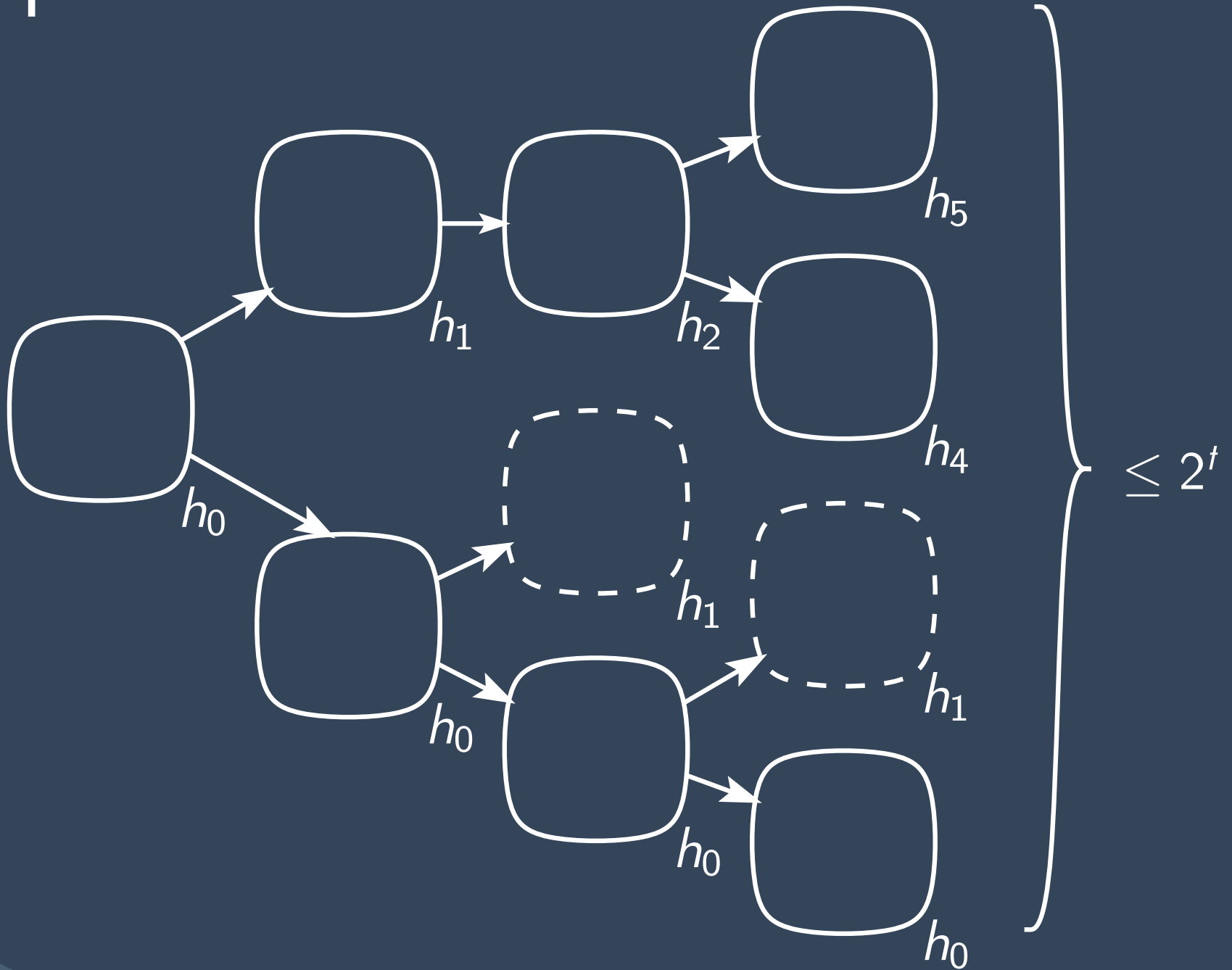
# Preliminary result

$$\mathsf{PMC}_{\mathsf{AM}(-i, -n)}^{\star} \subseteq \mathsf{P}^{\# \mathsf{P}}$$

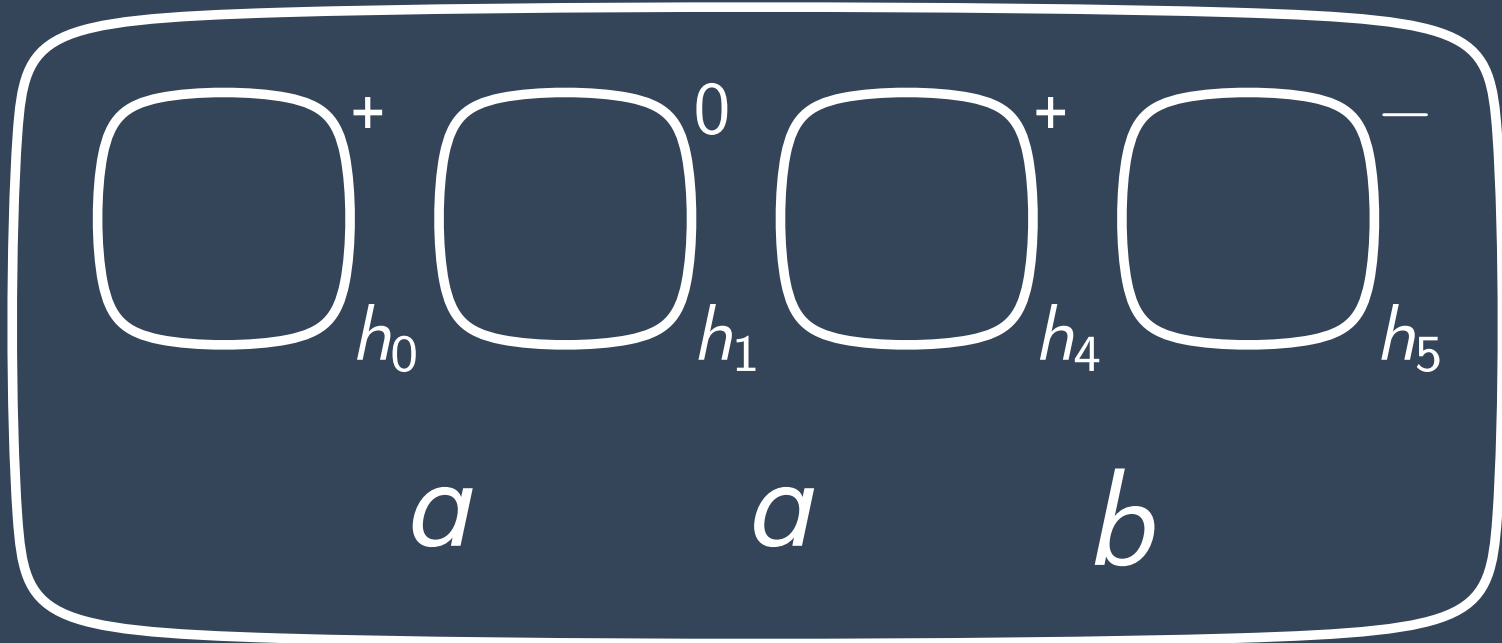
# What about send-in rules?



# Unique membrane ids



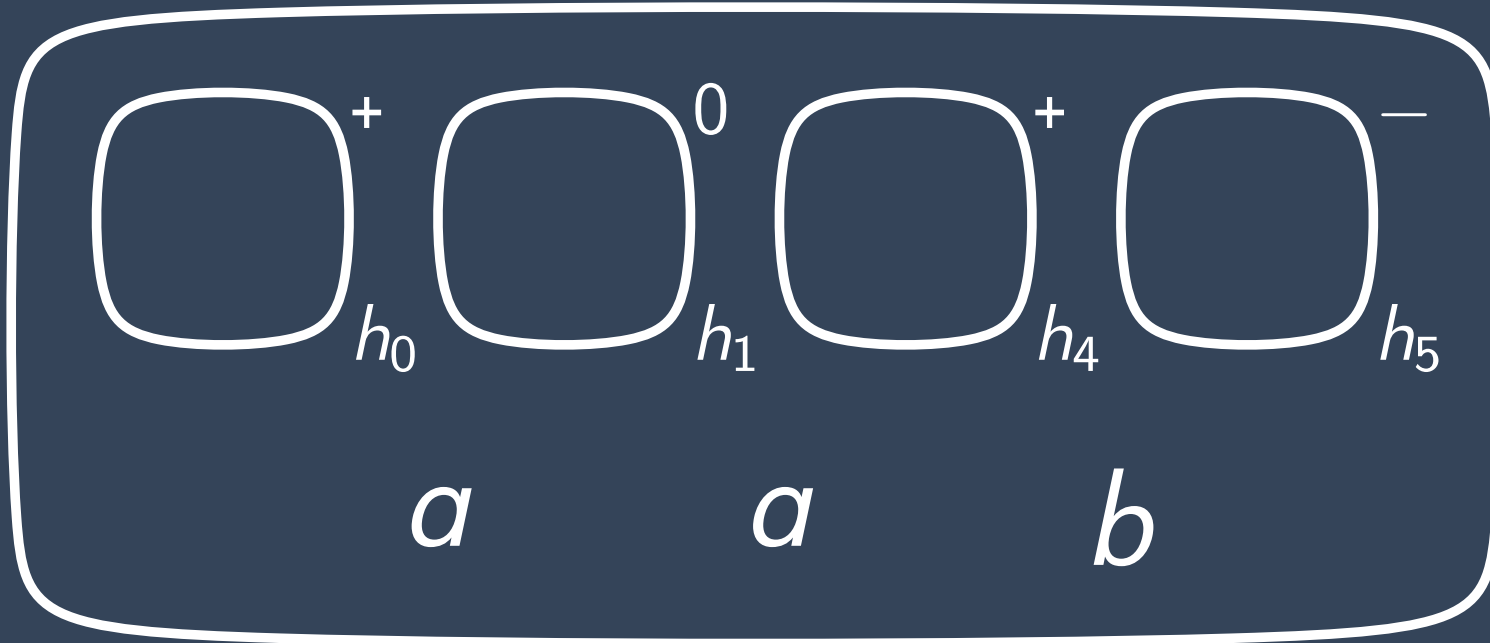
# Magic table



time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	0-7	0-3	4-7

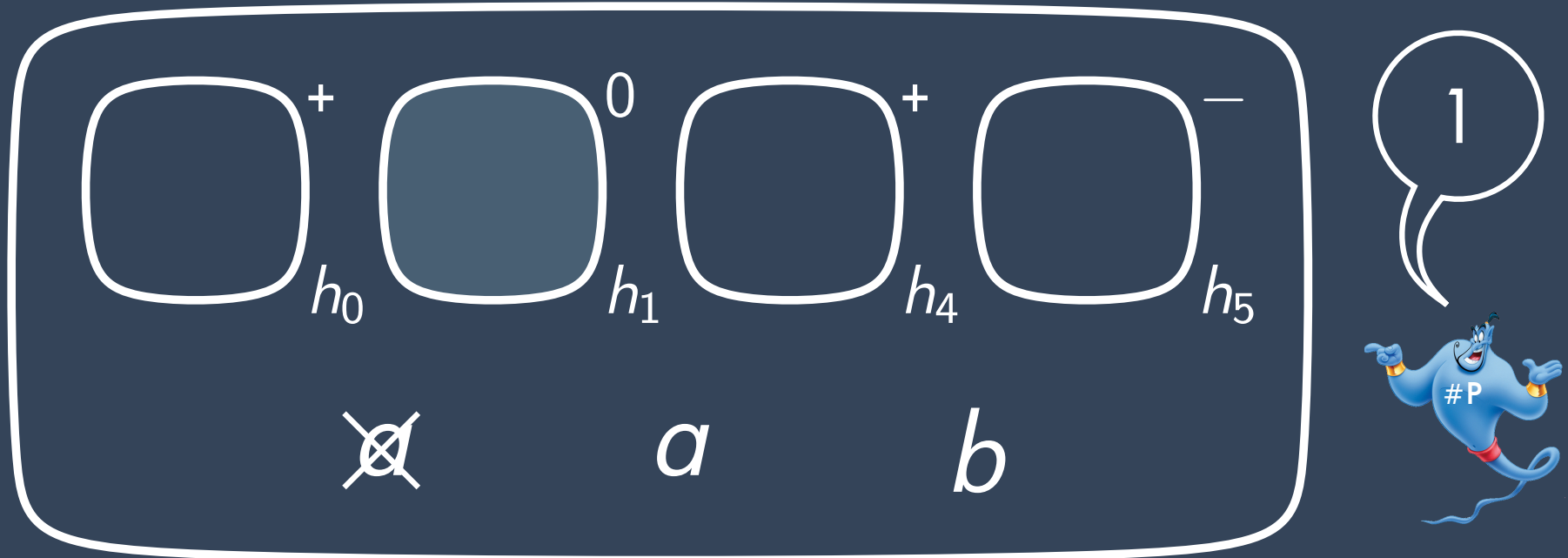


# Filling the table



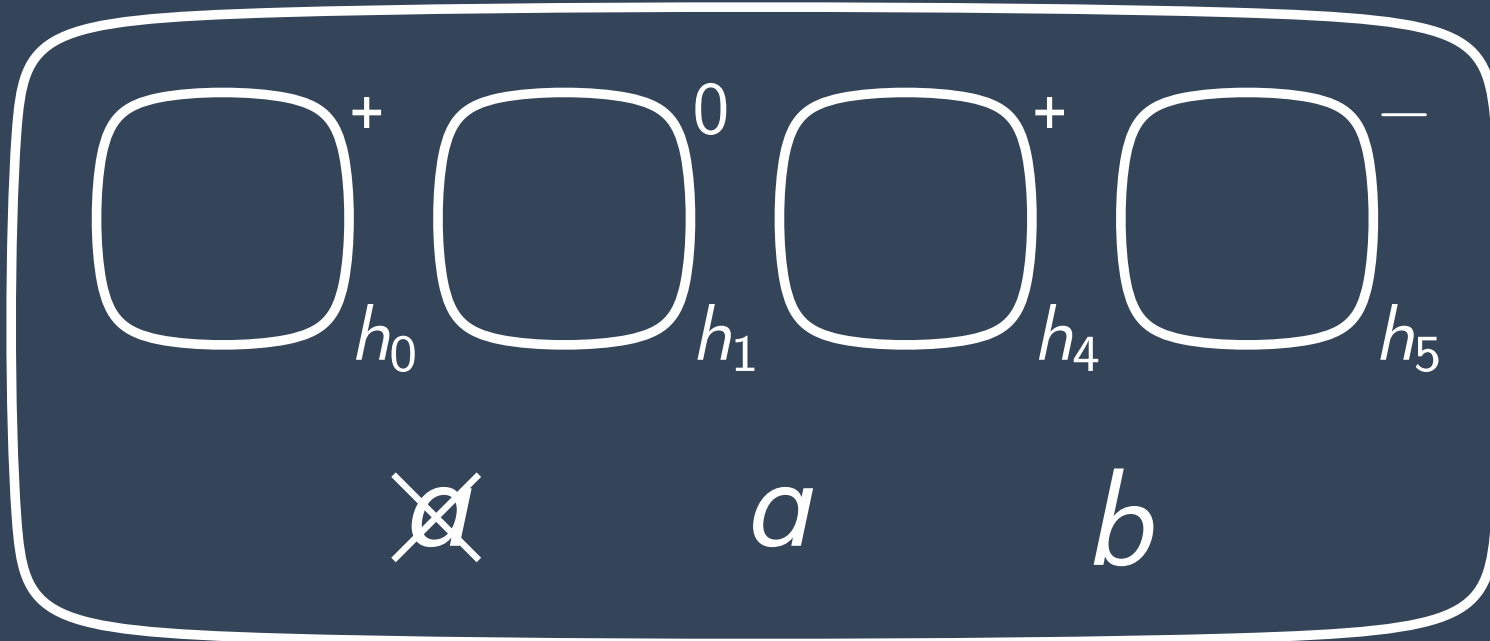
time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	0-7	?	?

# Filling the table



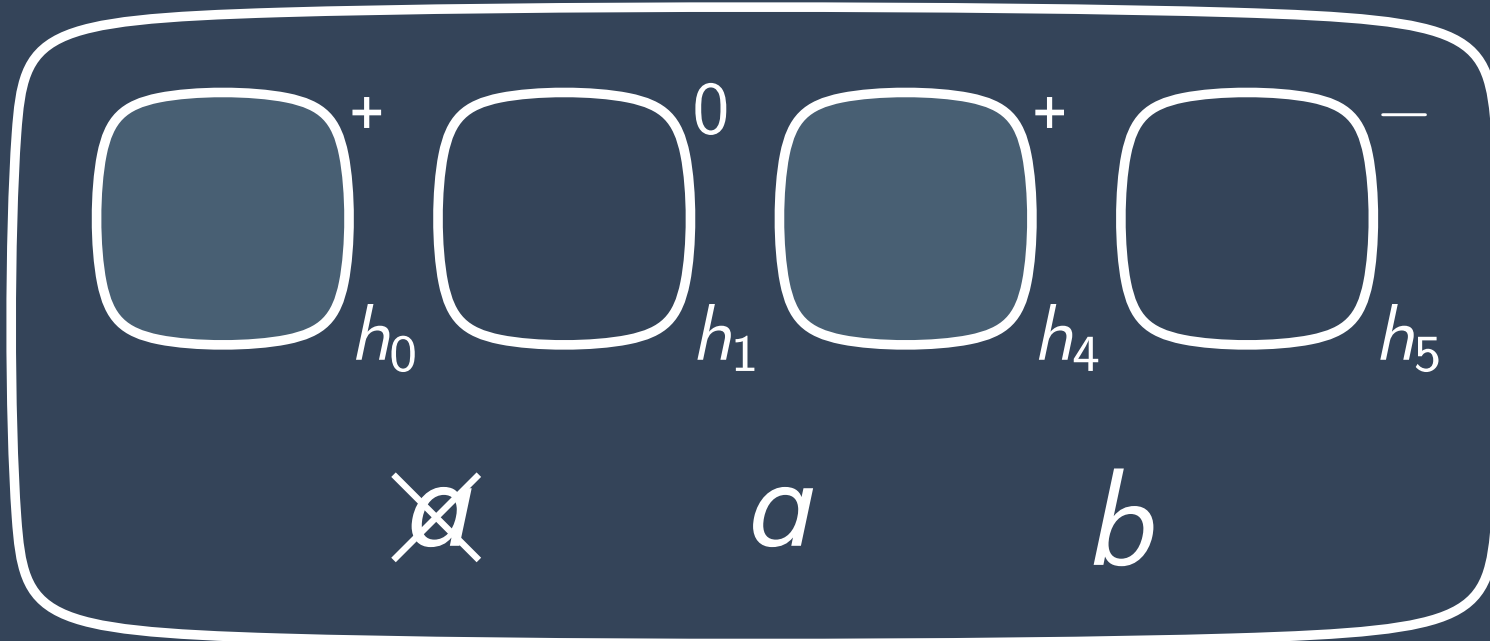
time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	$0-7$	$?$	$?$

# Filling the table



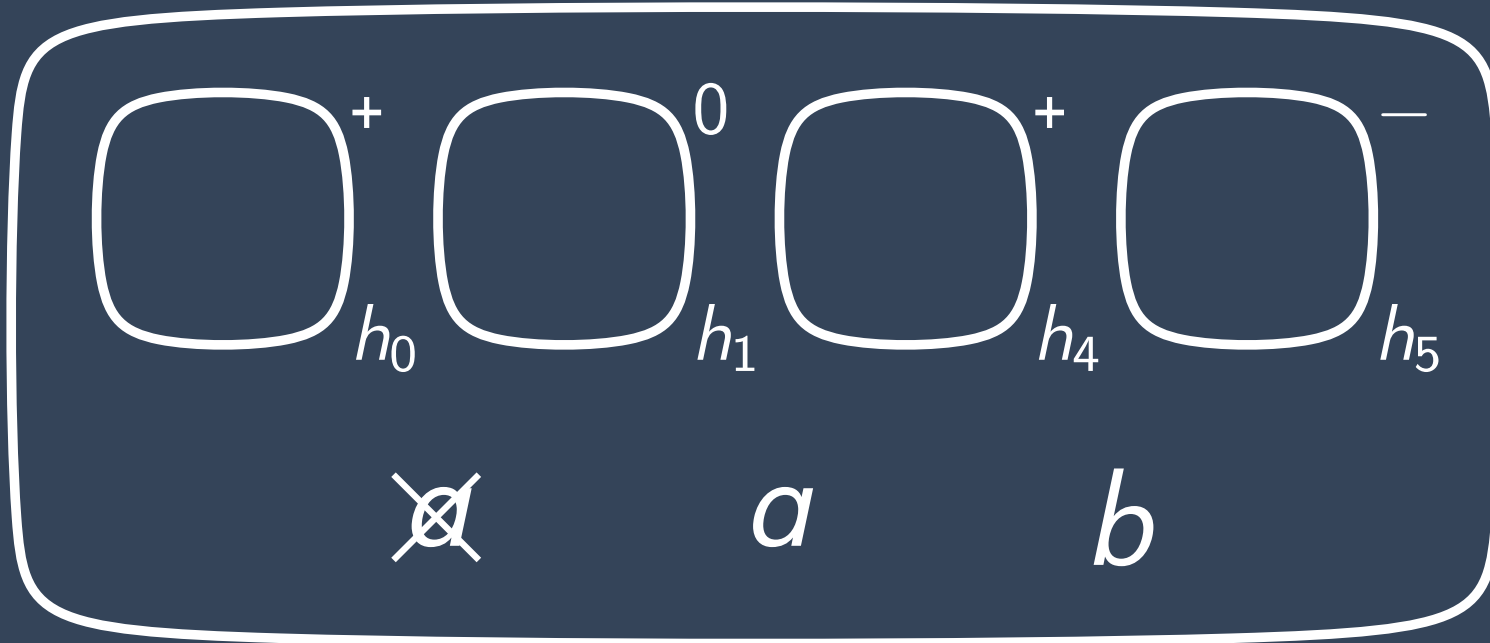
time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	0-7	0-7	?

# Filling the table



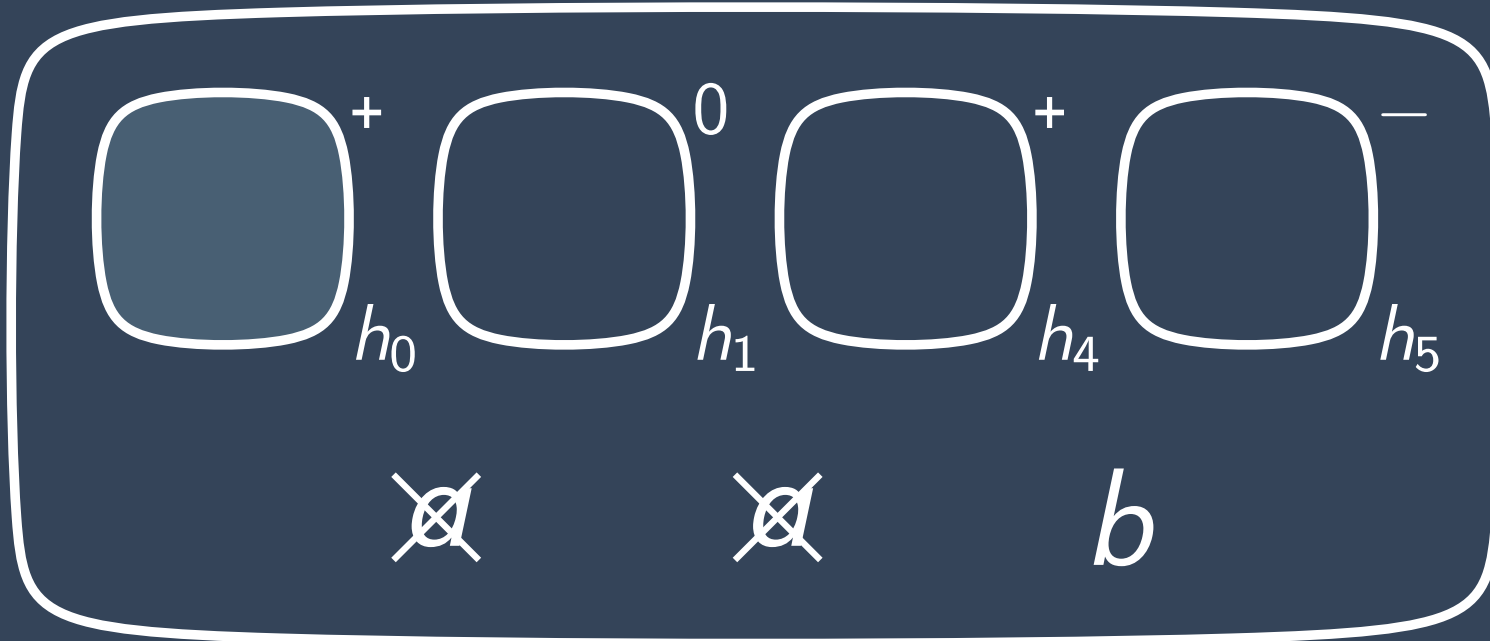
time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	$0-7$	$0-7$	$?$

# Filling the table



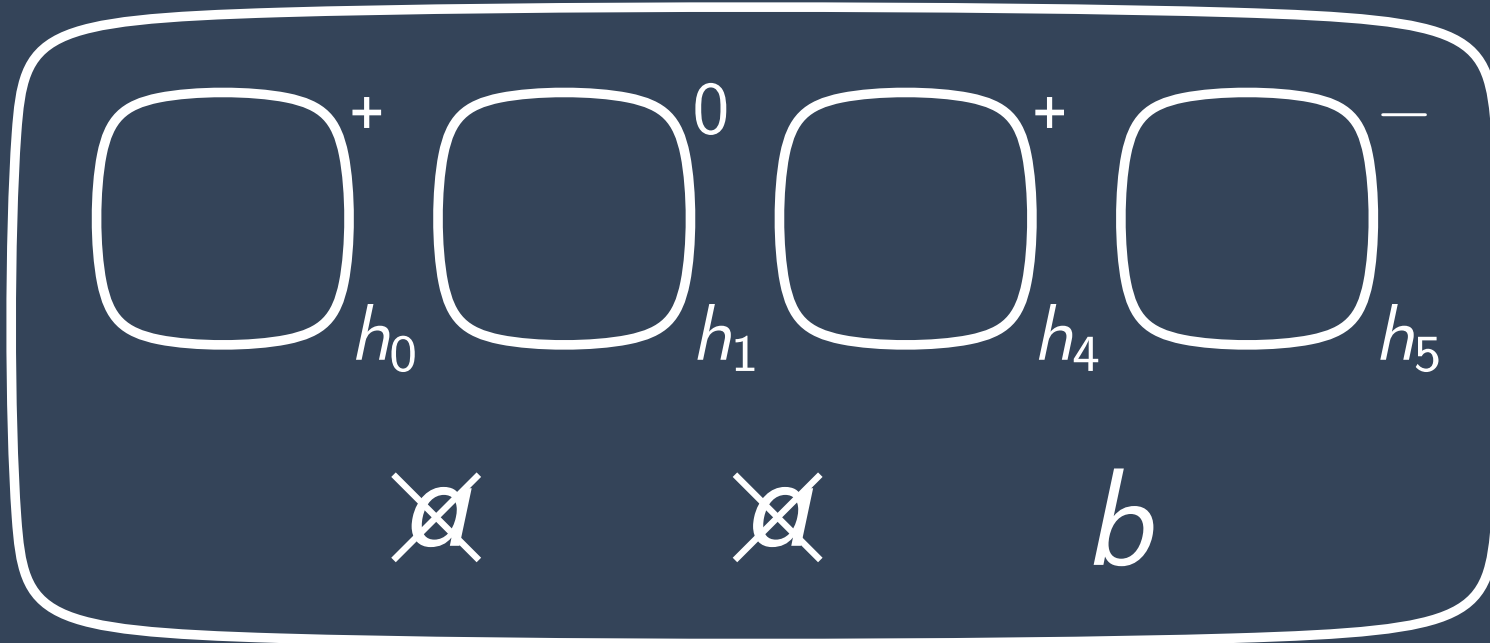
time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	0-7	0-3	?

# Filling the table



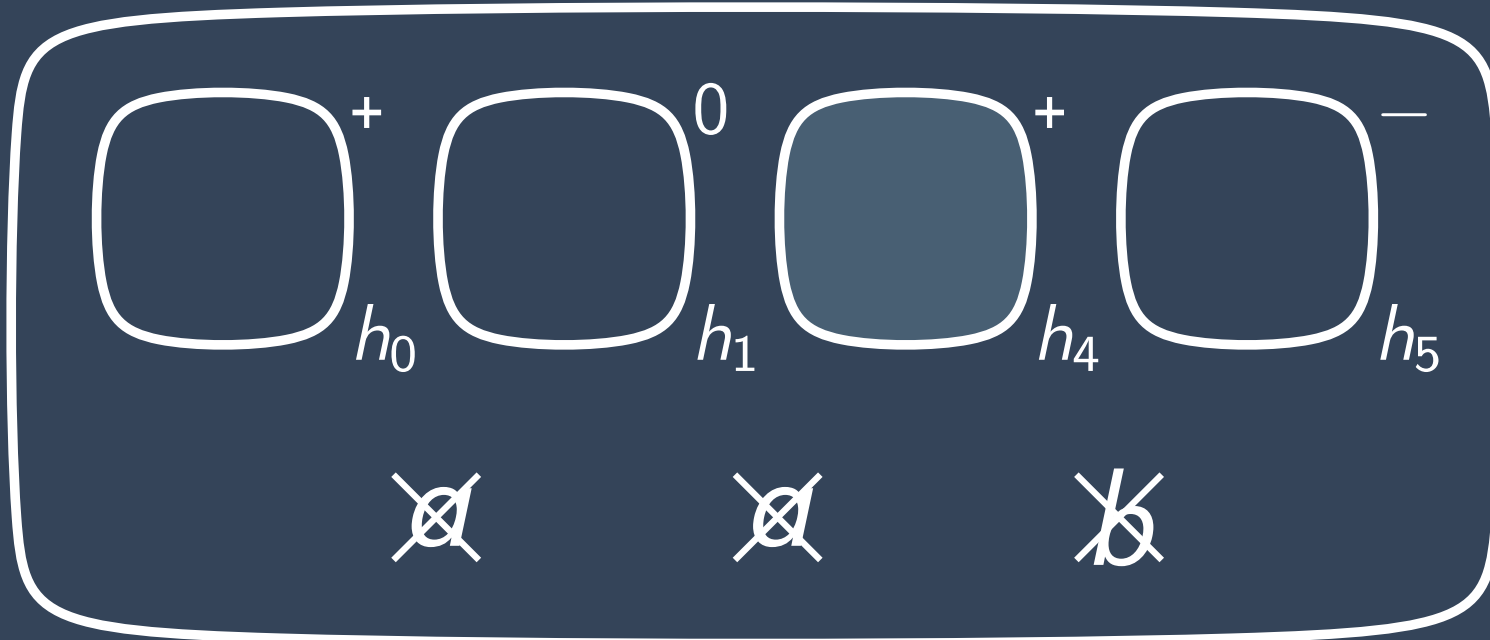
time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	0-7	0-3	?

# Filling the table



time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	0-7	0-3	4-7

# Filling the table



time	$a [ ]_h^0 \rightarrow [b]_h^0$	$a [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [c]_h^+$	$b [ ]_h^+ \rightarrow [d]_h^+$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t$	0-7	0-3	4-7



# Main result

$$\mathbf{PMC}_{\mathbf{AM}(-n)}^{\star} \subseteq \mathbf{P}^{\# \mathbf{P}}$$

$P^{\#P}$

$\cup$

$PMC_{AM(-n)}^*$

$\subseteq$

$\subseteq$

$PMC_{AM(-n)}$

$PMC_{AM(-d,-n)}^*$

$\subseteq$

$\subseteq$

$PMC_{AM(-d,-n)}$

$\cup$

$P^{\#P}$

# Application to the P conjecture

$$\mathbf{PMC}_{AM^0(-n)}^* \subseteq \mathbf{P}^{\#P}$$

(previously: **PSPACE**)

# Open problems

- Constant depth vs the counting hierarchy
- Non-confluent case
- Constant depth without charges
- (P conjecture)

Děkuji vám za pozornost!  
Thanks for your attention!

Any questions?