


What do we know  
(and what we don't)  
about the  
computational complexity  
of Reaction Systems

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# Outline

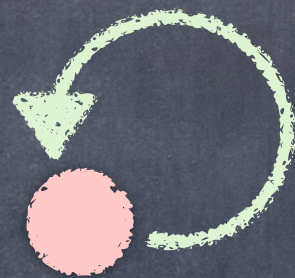
- Dynamical behaviours
- Detection of behaviours
- Using RS for computing



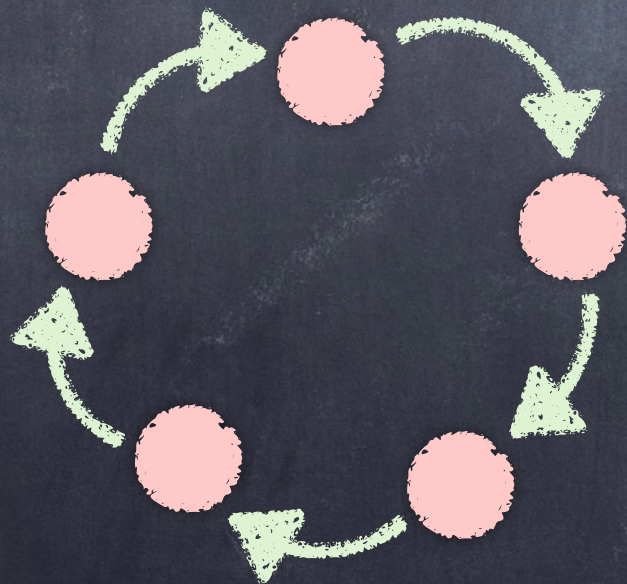
Dynamical  
behaviours



# Dynamical Behaviours



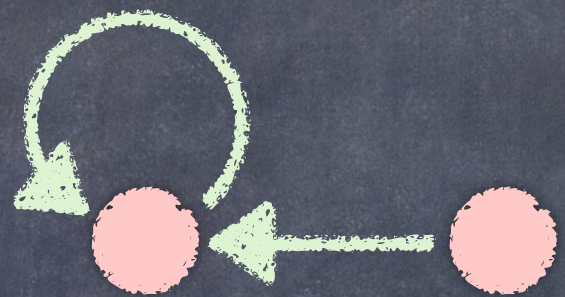
Fixed point



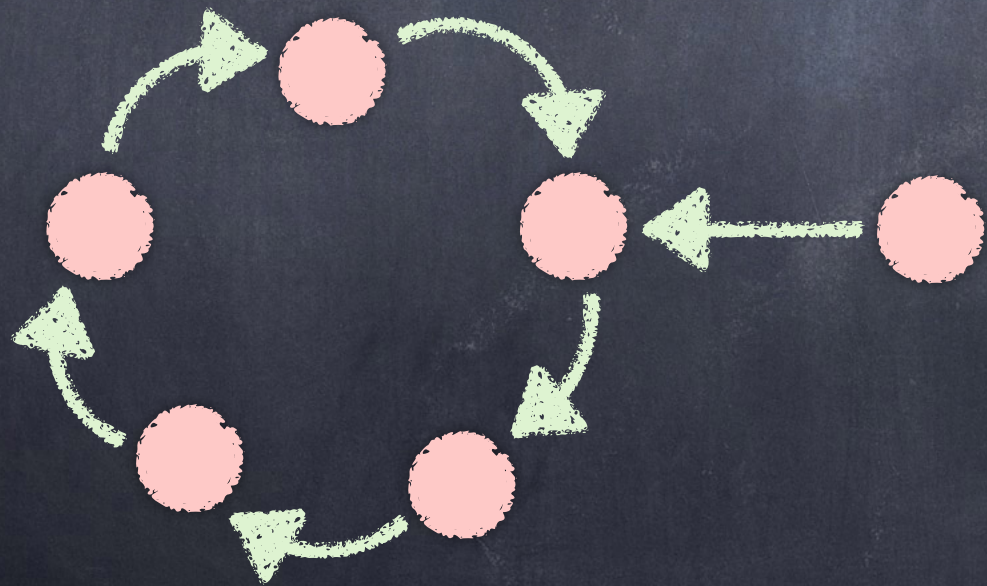
Cycle



# Dynamical Behaviours



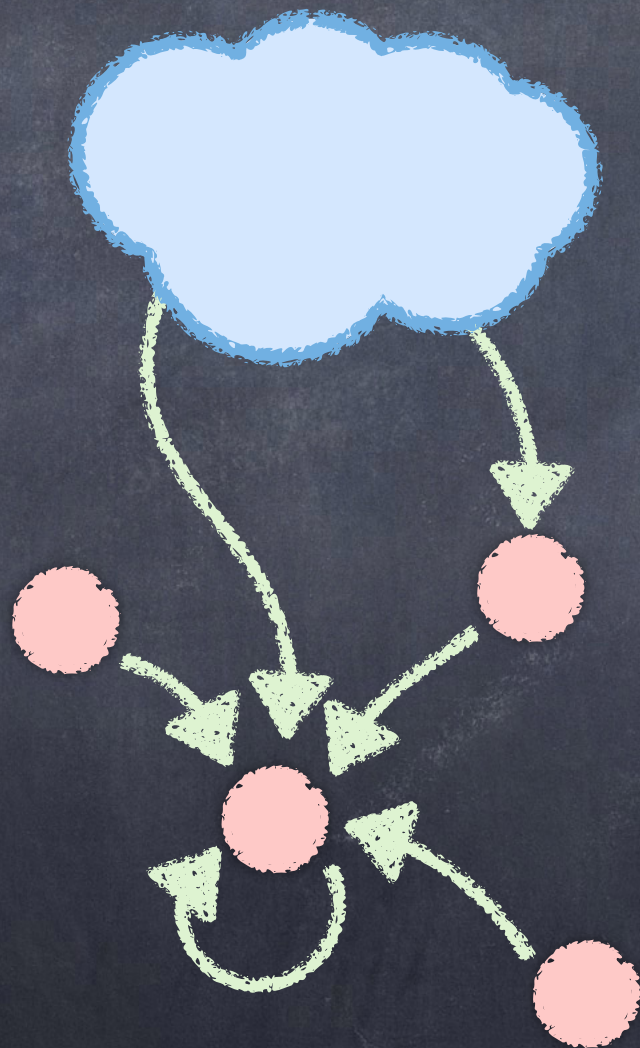
Fixed point attractor



Attractor Cycle



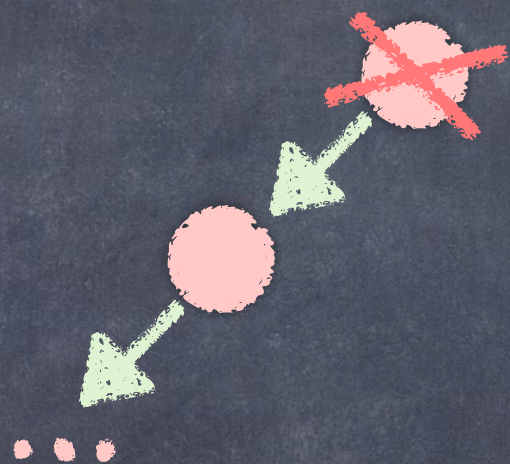
# Dynamical Behaviours



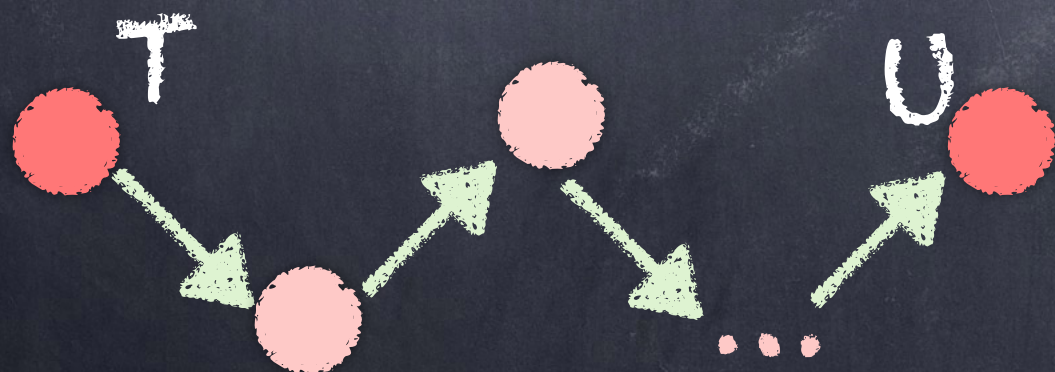
(Fixed point)  
global attractor



# Dynamical Behaviours



Garden of Eden



Path from T to U



# Detection of behaviours



# Fill the blanks

Does [Reaction System]

given [additional parameters]

exhibit [dynamical behaviour] ?



# Fixed Point attractor

Does  $A=(S,A)$

given a fixed point  $T$

exhibit a state  $U \neq T$

such that  $\text{res}_A(U) = T$ ?



# Equality of RS

Does  $A=(S,A)$   $B=(S,B)$

given [nothing more]

exhibit the same result function?



# Reachability

Does  $A=(S,A)$

given  $T, U$  subsets of  $S$

exhibit a path from  $T$  to  $U$  ?



# Fixed Point attractor

Reduction from SAT in CNF

$$f = \underbrace{(x \vee y)}_{C_1} \& \underbrace{(x \vee \neg z)}_{C_2}$$

NP-complete



$$f = (x \vee y) \not\models (x \vee \neg z)$$

$$S = \{x, y, z, C_1, C_2\}$$

$$(\{C_1, C_2\}, \{x, y, z\}, \{C_1, C_2\})$$

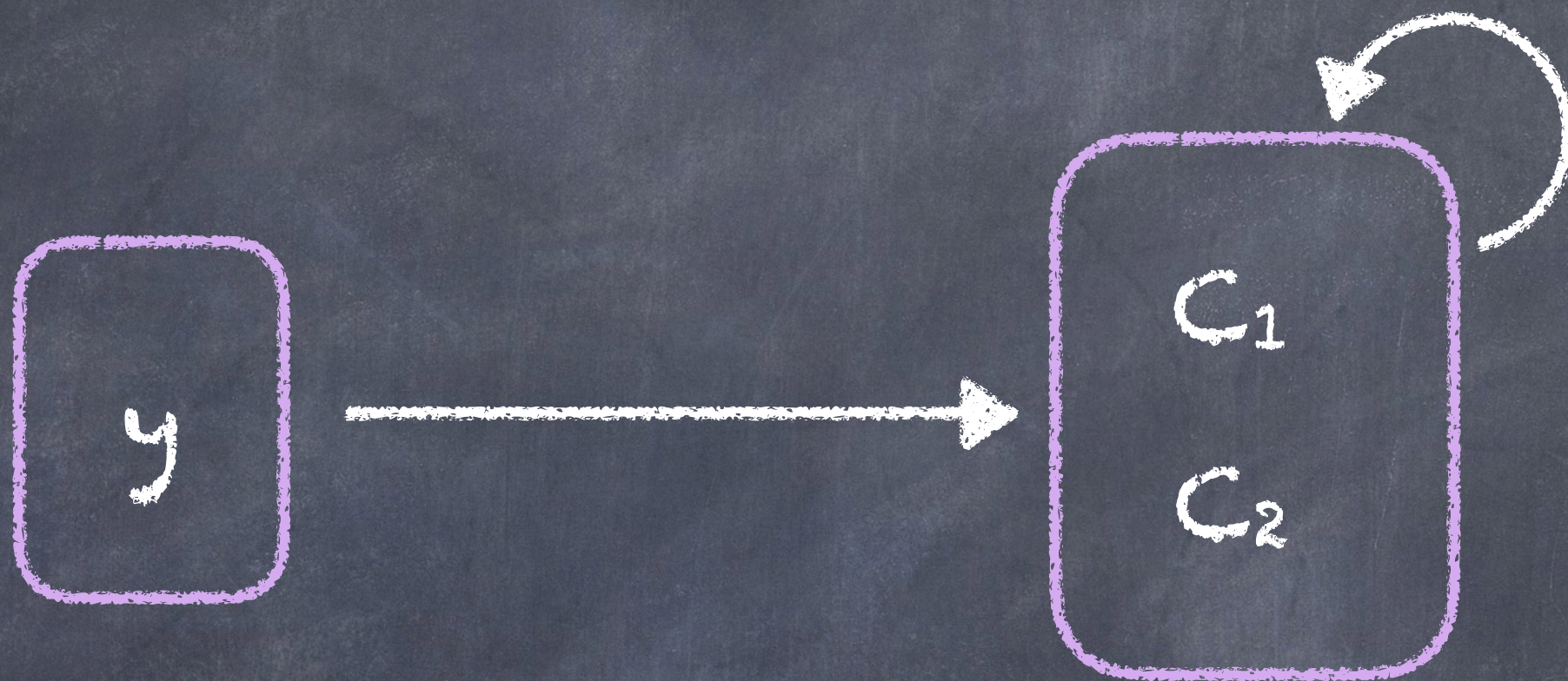
$$(\{x\}, \{C_1, C_2\}, \{C_1, C_2\})$$

$$(\{y\}, \{C_1, C_2\}, \{C_1\})$$

$$(\emptyset, \{z, C_1, C_2\}, \{C_2\})$$



$$f = (x \vee y) \not\models (x \vee \neg z)$$



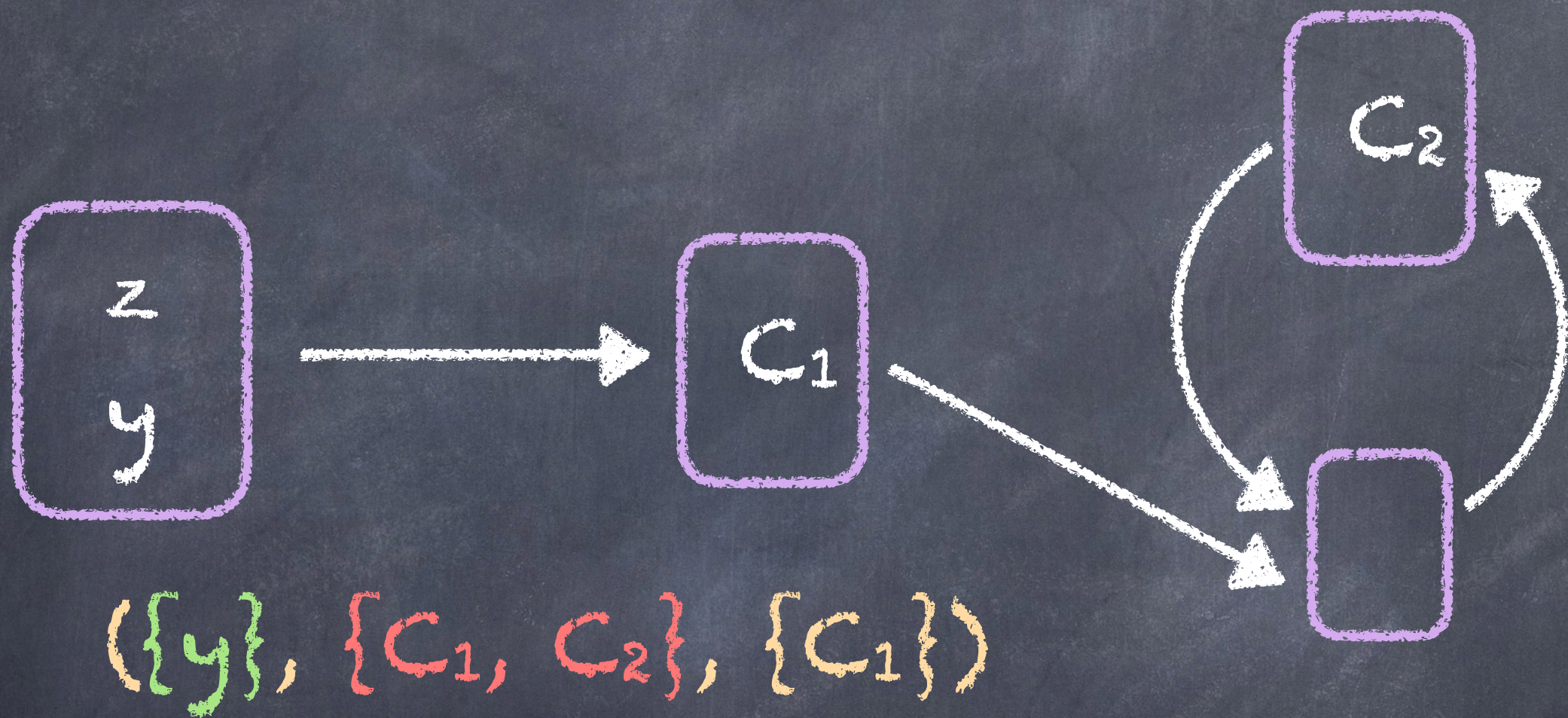
$$(\{y\}, \{C_1, C_2\}, \{C_1\})$$

$$(\emptyset, \{z, C_1, C_2\}, \{C_2\})$$

$$(\{C_1, C_2\}, \{x, y, z\}, \{C_1, C_2\})$$



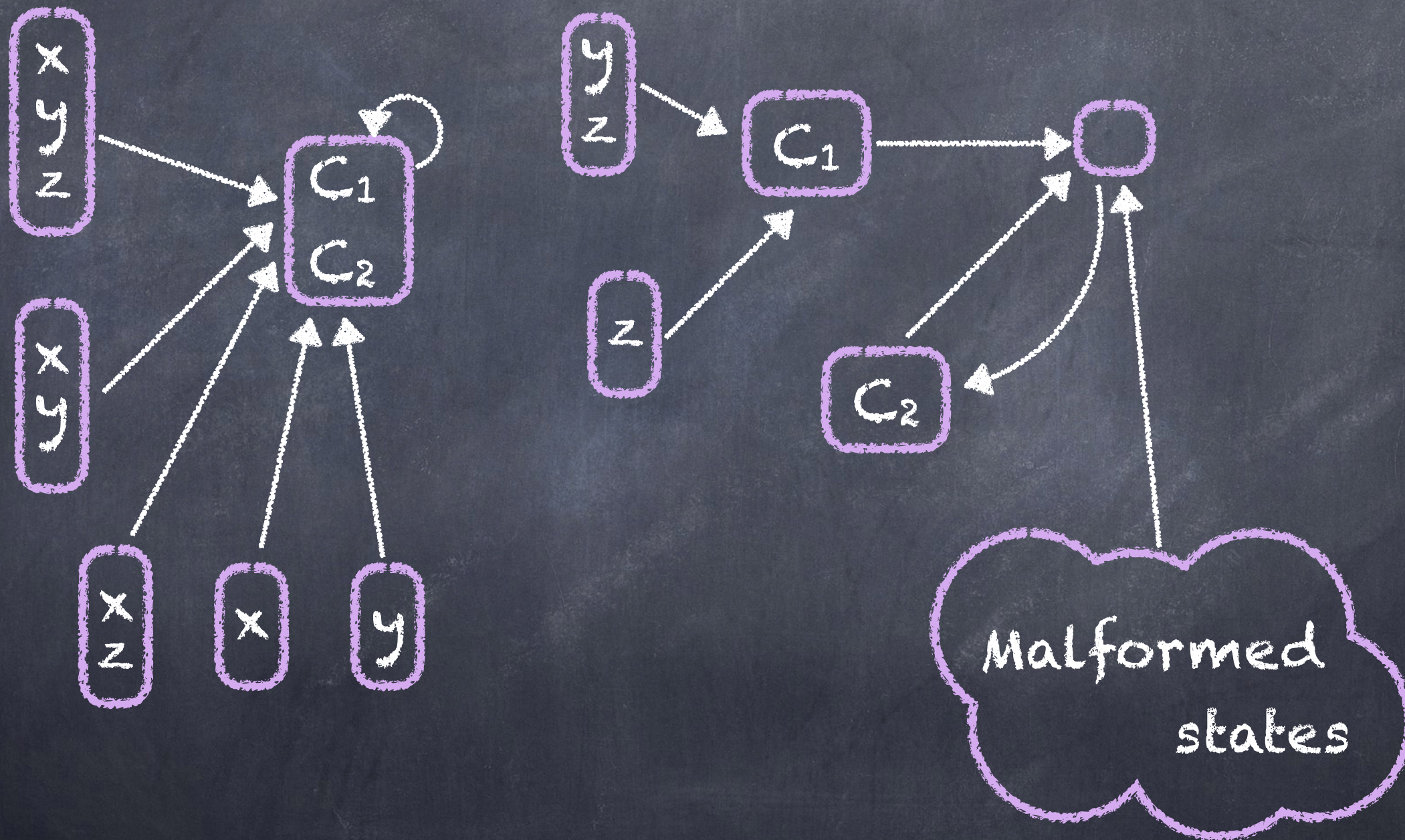
$$f = (x \vee y) \not\models (x \vee \neg z)$$



$$(\emptyset, \{z, C_1, C_2\}, \{C_2\})$$

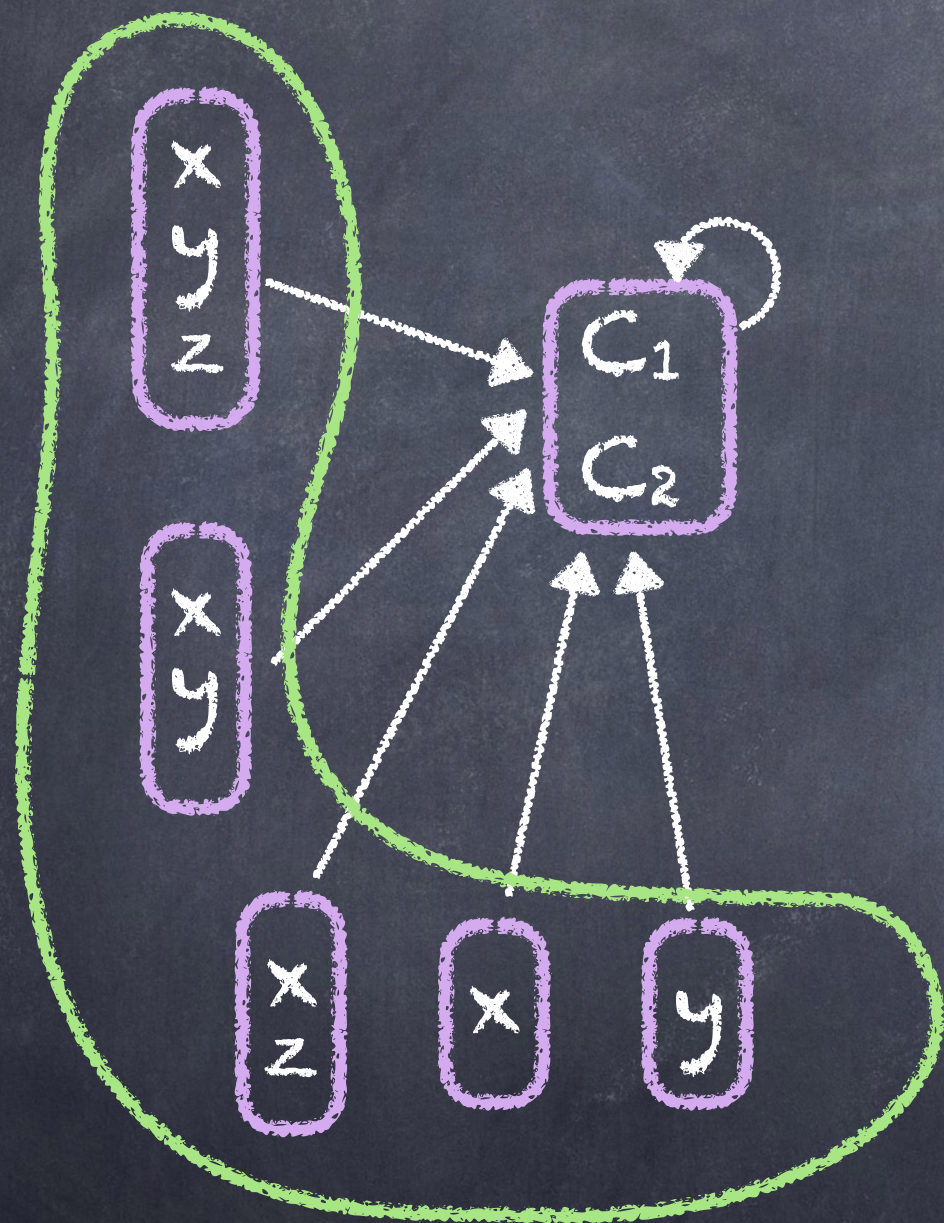


$$f = (x \vee y) \not\equiv (x \vee \neg z)$$

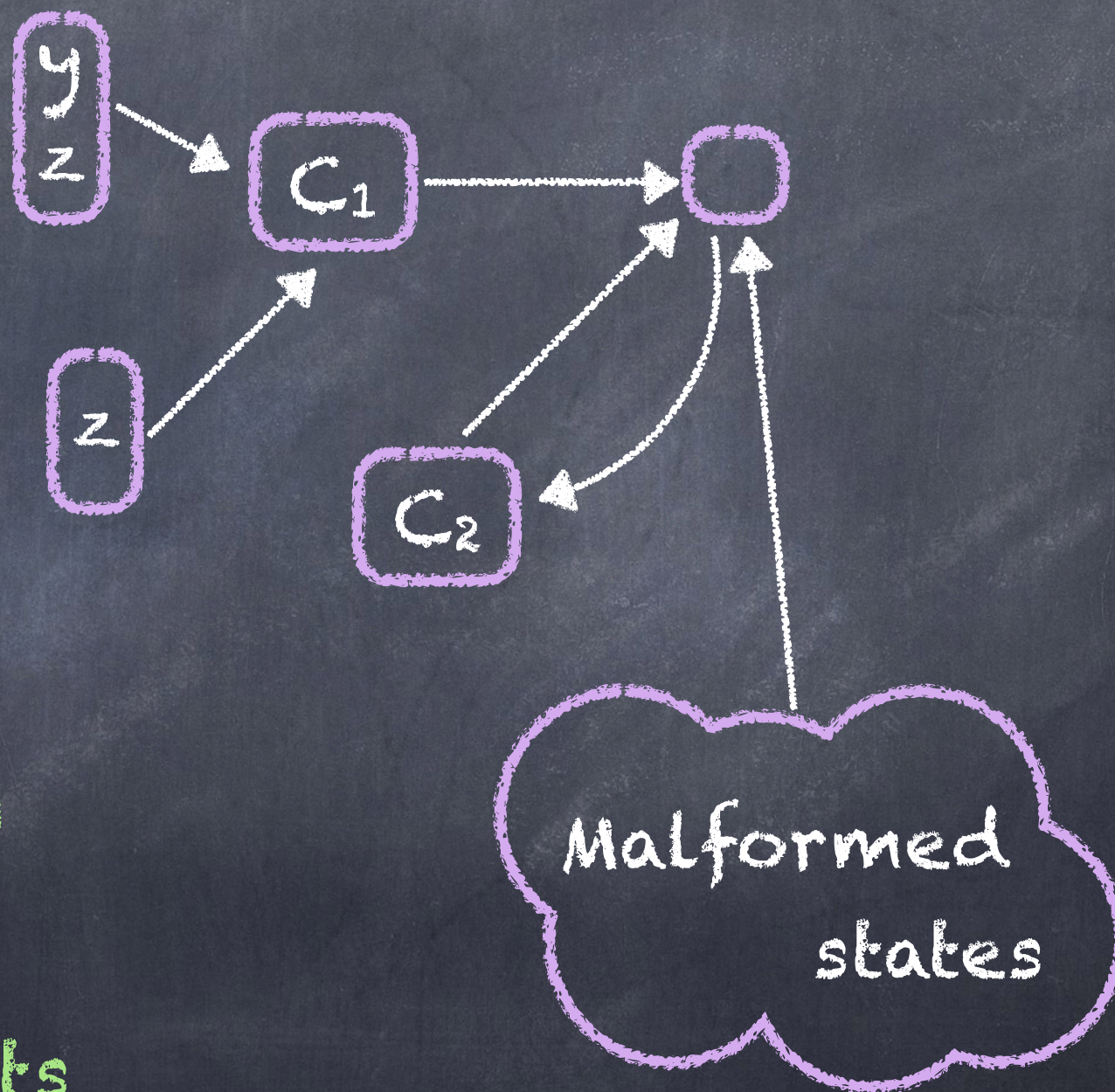




$$f = (x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee \neg z)$$



Satisfying assignments



Malformed states



# Equality of res of two RS

Reduction from VALIDITY in DNF

$$f = \underbrace{(x \oplus y)} \vee \underbrace{(x \oplus \neg z)} \vee \underbrace{z}$$

coNP-complete



$$f = (x \neq y) \vee (x \neq \neg z) \vee z$$

First RS

$(\phi, \phi, \{\text{True}\})$



$S = \{x, y, z, \text{True}\}$



$$f = (x \oplus y) \vee (x \oplus \neg z) \vee z$$

Second RS

$(\{x, y\}, \phi, \{\text{True}\})$

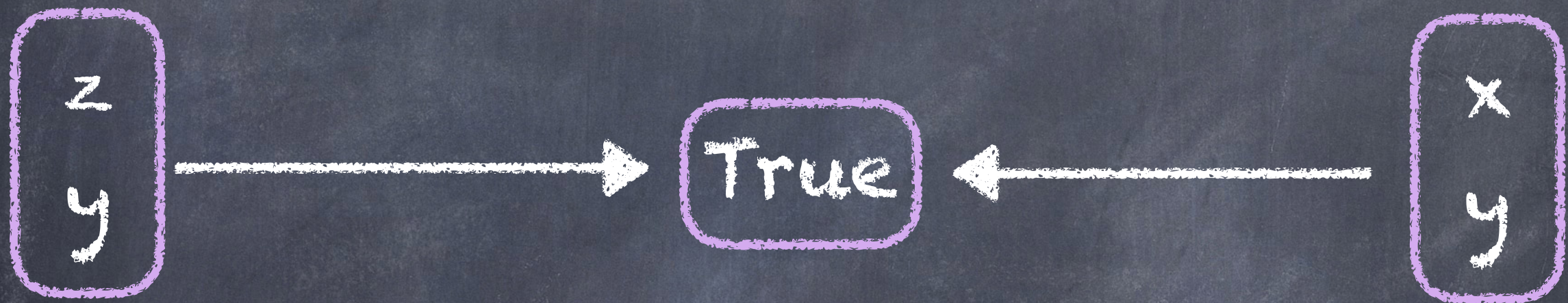
$(\{x\}, \{z\}, \{\text{True}\})$

$(\{z\}, \phi, \{\text{True}\})$



$$f = (x \neq y) \vee (x \neq \neg z) \vee z$$

Second RS



$(\{z\}, \phi, \{\text{True}\})$

$(\{x, y\}, \phi, \{\text{True}\})$

$(\{x\}, \{z\}, \{\text{True}\})$



$$f = (x \neq y) \vee (x \neq \neg z) \vee z$$

First RS

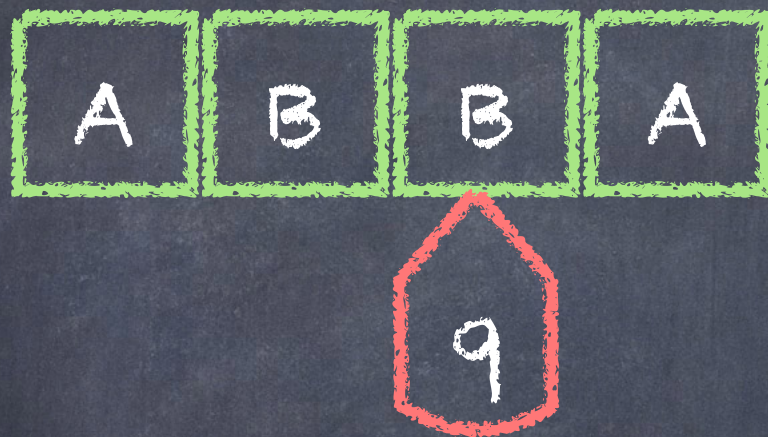
Second RS



Since  $f$  is valid,  
the two systems describe  
the same result function



# Reachability



We have already  
seen how to simulate  
bounded-tape TM

Reachability for bounded-tape  
TM is PSPACE-complete...  
...and also for RS



NP-complete

- ◉ Existence of a fixed point
- ◉ Existence of a fixed point attractor

coNP-complete

- ◉ Equality of result functions
- ◉ Existence of a Garden of Eden

PSPACE-complete

- ◉ Reachability
- ◉ Existence of a global attractor



RS for computing



# Uniform Families of RS

Input  $x$  of length  $n$





# Uniform Families of RS

- RS can be simulated by TM with polynomial slowdown (and viceversa)...
- ...hence, we need to select two very weak TM for the uniformity condition



# Uniform Families of RS

- We need to take advantage of parallelism in RS
- What can they do in sublinear time?
- Explore the relation with languages recognised by real-time CA



Thank you for your attention!

Dziękuję za uwagę!

Questions?