

# Deciding Emptiness of min-automata

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joint work with

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# Min-automata

deterministic automata with counters  
transitions invoke counter operations:

$$c := c + 1$$

$$c := \min(d, e)$$

acceptance condition is a boolean combination of:

$$\liminf(c) = \infty$$

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“c tends to  $\infty$ ”

**Example.**  $L = \{a^{n_1} b a^{n_2} b a^{n_3} b \dots : n_1, n_2, \dots \text{ does not converge to } \infty\}$

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$a a a b a b a a b \dots$   
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<i>c</i>	0	1	2						
<i>d</i>	0	0	0						
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$$\mathbf{UX} \varphi(X)$$

which says

*„there exist arbitrarily large (finite) sets  $X$ , satisfying  $\varphi(X)$ ”*



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$\mathbf{R}X \varphi(X)$

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$\mathbf{U}X \varphi(X)$



$\mathbf{R}X \varphi(X)$

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*„there exist infinitely many sets  $X$  of same size, satisfying  $\varphi(X)$ ”*

Language:  $\{a^{n_1} b a^{n_2} b a^{n_3} b \dots : n_1 n_2 n_3 \dots \text{ is unbounded}\}$

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$\neg \mathbf{R}X$  “ $X$  is a block of  $a$ 's”

WMSO + U



WMSO + R

max-automata



min-automata



WMSO + U

||

max-automata



WMSO + R



min-automata

**Theorem.** WMSO+U has the same expressive power as deterministic max-automata.

WMSO + U

||

max-automata



WMSO + R

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min-automata



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$$\text{WMSO} + \text{U} + \text{R}$$
$$\parallel$$

max-automata

min-automata

**Theorem.**  $\text{WMSO} + \text{U}$  has the same expressive power as deterministic max-automata.

**Theorem.**  $\text{WMSO} + \text{R}$  has the same expressive power as deterministic min-automata.

What if we allow both **U** and **R**?

WMSO + U + R

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max-automata

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**Theorem.** WMSO+U has the same expressive power as deterministic max-automata.

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**Theorem.** WMSO+U+R has the same expressive power as boolean combinations of min- and max-automata.

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Boolean combinations of  
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**Theorem.** WMSO+U+R has the same expressive power as boolean combinations of min- and max-automata.

**Equivalently:** Nesting the quantifiers U and R does not contribute anything to the expressive power of WMSO.

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# Emptiness of min-automata

**Theorem.** Emptiness of min-automata is decidable.

**1st proof.** min-automata are a special case of  $\omega$ BS-automata (Bojańczyk, Colcombet [06]), so emptiness is decidable. This gives bad complexity, however.

**2nd proof.** Reduction to the limitedness problem for distance-automata. Gives PSPACE algorithm, which is optimal.

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**Theorem.** Emptiness of a boolean combination of min- and max-automata is decidable.

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**Example.** Min-automaton which counts  $a$ 's on odd positions.

States:  $q_0, q_1$ , one counter  $c$ .

Transitions:

-saw  $a$  in state  $q_0$  – go to  $q_1$ ;  $c := c + 1$

-saw  $a$  in state  $q_1$  – go to  $q_0$

-saw  $b$  in state  $q_0$  – go to  $q_1$

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Min-automaton in matrix form with one state and two counters:  $c_0, c_1$ .

The initial counter valuation is  $(c_0, c_1) = (0, \top)$ .

$$a: \quad (c_0 \quad c_1) := (c_0 \quad c_1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \top & 0 \\ 1 & \top \end{pmatrix}.$$

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$a a a b b b a a b \dots$

$c_0 \quad 0 \quad \top \quad 1 \quad \top \quad 2 \quad \top \quad 2 \quad \top \quad 3$

$c_1 \quad \top \quad 1 \quad \top \quad 2 \quad \top \quad 2 \quad \top \quad 3 \quad \top$

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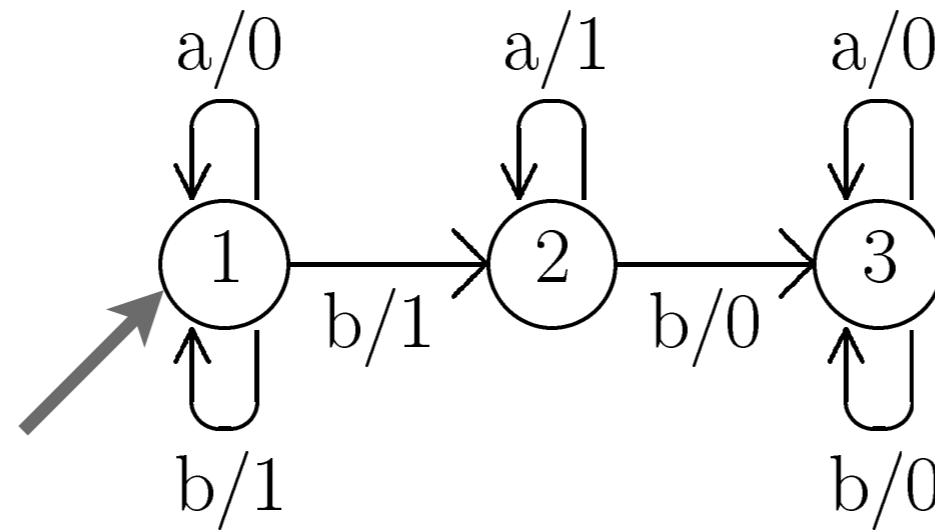


Figure 1: Example of a distance automaton  $A$ .



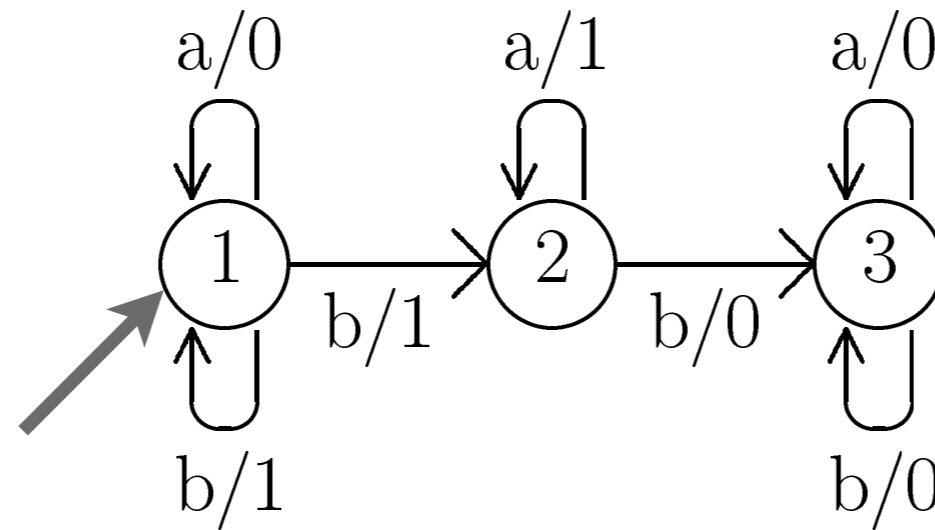


Figure 1: Example of a distance automaton  $A$ .

Example of a min-automaton  $A$ .

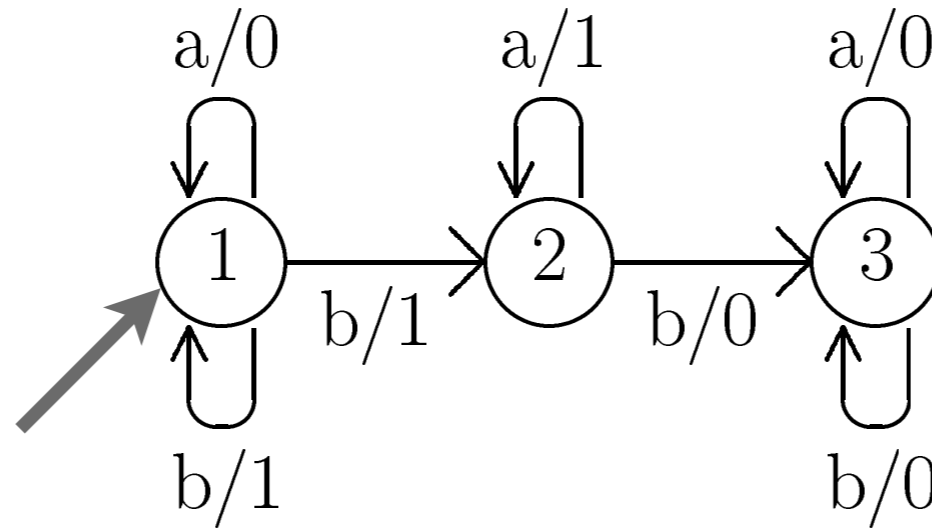


Figure 1: Example of a distance automaton  $A$ .

Example of a min-automaton  $A$ .

$0$	$\top$	$\top$
$\top$	$1$	$\top$
$\top$	$\top$	$0$

$1$	$1$	$\top$
$\top$	$\top$	$0$
$\top$	$\top$	$0$

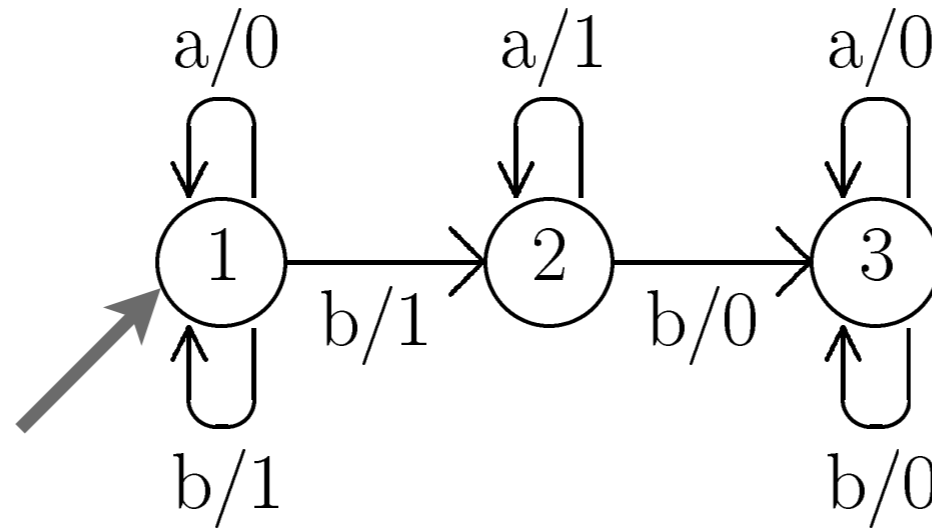


Figure 1: Example of a distance automaton  $A$ .

### Example of a min-automaton $A$ .

$a:$

0	⊤	⊤
⊤	1	⊤
⊤	⊤	0

$b:$

1	1	⊤
⊤	⊤	0
⊤	⊤	0

$abb:$

2	2	1
⊤	⊤	0
⊤	⊤	0

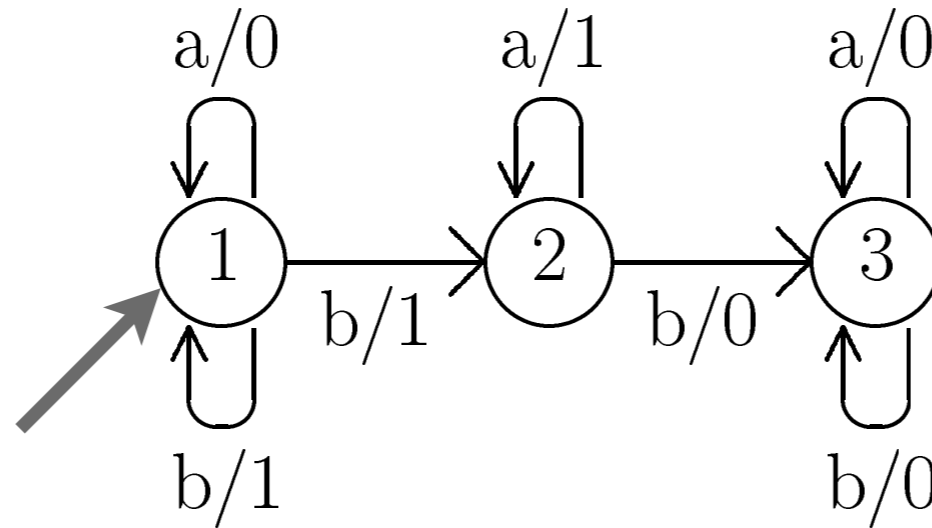


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⊤	⊤	0
⊤	⊤	0

$abb:$

2	2	1
⊤	⊤	0
⊤	⊤	0

Initial valuation:

0	⊤	⊤
---	---	---

Acceptance condition:

$$\neg \text{liminf}(c_3) = \infty$$

# The tropical semiring

# The tropical semiring

$$T = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty, \top\}$$

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$$T = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty, \top\}$$

with operations  $+$ ,  $\min$

ordered by  $0 < 1 < 2 < \dots < \infty < \top$

where  $\top + x = x + \top = \top$

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$$\pi_n : T \rightarrow T_n$$

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is a homomorphism of semirings

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$M_k T$  —  $k$  by  $k$  matrices over  $T$   
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maps  $n+1, n+2, \dots$  to  $\infty$

is a homomorphism of semirings

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 32 & 1 \\ 0 & 11 & 1 \\ 2 & 7 & \infty \end{bmatrix}$$


 $\pi_6$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & \infty & 1 \\ 0 & \infty & 1 \\ 2 & \infty & \infty \end{bmatrix}$$


 $\pi_2$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} \infty & \infty & 1 \\ 0 & \infty & 1 \\ \infty & \infty & \infty \end{bmatrix}$$

# Profinite monoid

# Profinite monoid

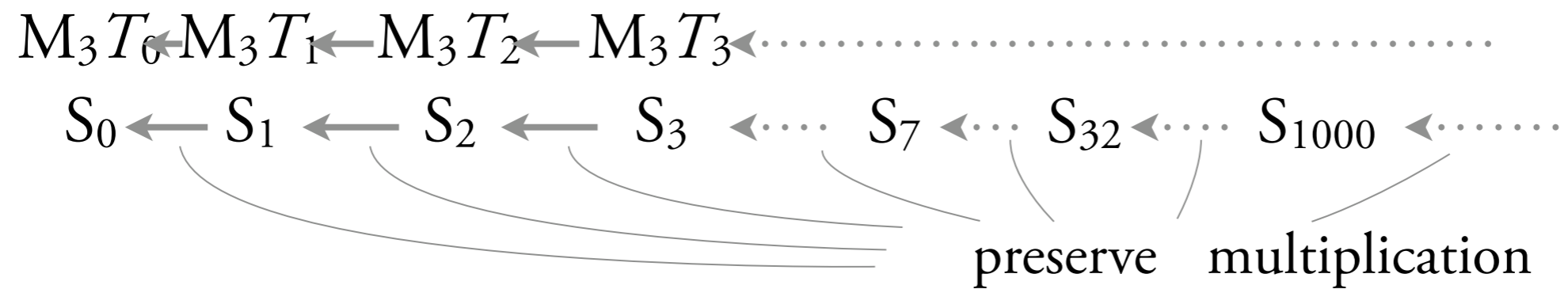
$$S_0 \longleftarrow S_1 \longleftarrow S_2 \longleftarrow S_3 \longleftarrow \cdots \longleftarrow S_7 \longleftarrow \cdots \longleftarrow S_{32} \longleftarrow \cdots \longleftarrow S_{1000} \longleftarrow \cdots$$

# Profinite monoid





# Profinite monoid

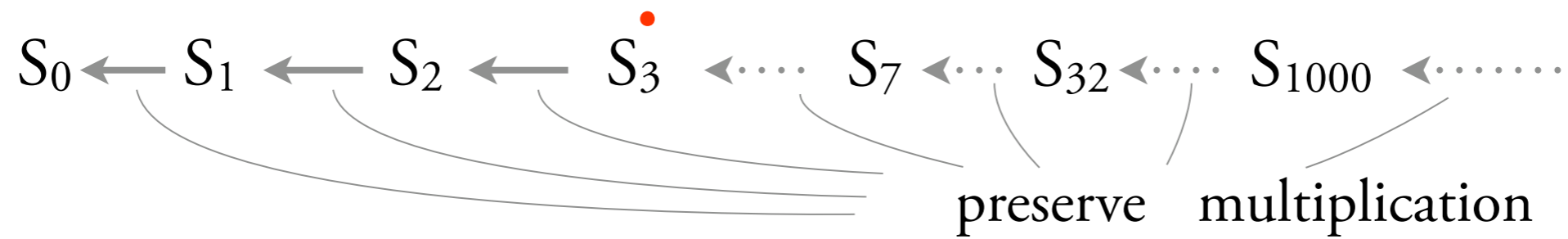


# Profinite monoid



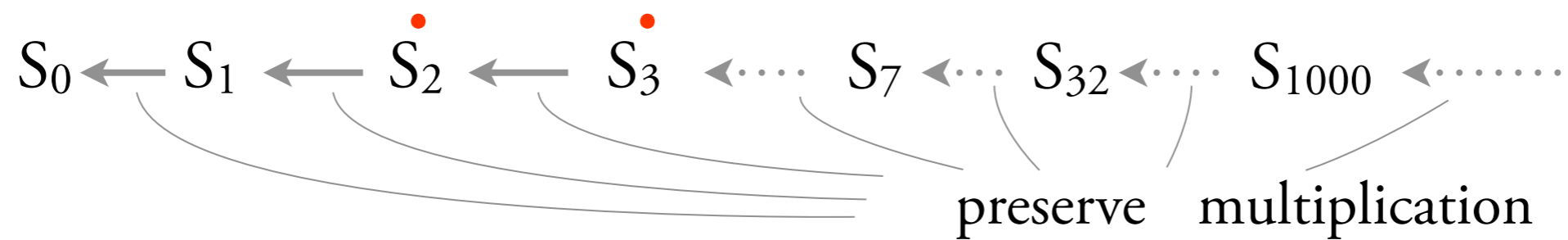
# Profinite monoid

3	$\infty$	1
0	$\infty$	1
2	$\infty$	$\infty$



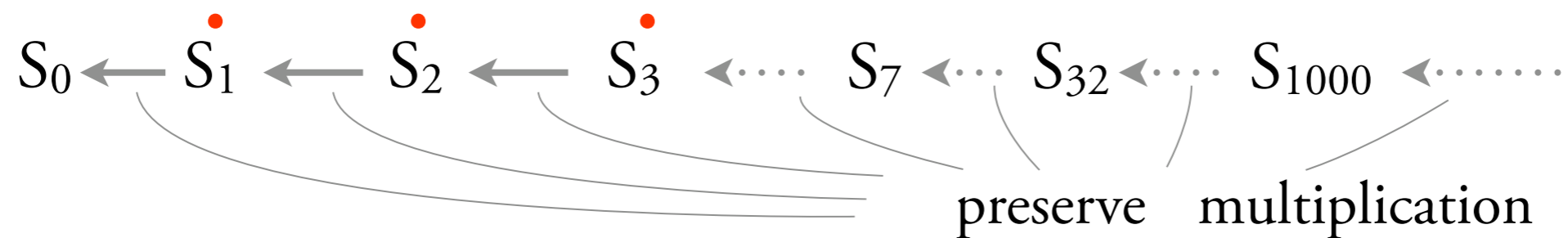
# Profinite monoid

$\infty$	$\infty$	1	3	$\infty$	1
0	$\infty$	1	0	$\infty$	1
2	$\infty$	$\infty$	2	$\infty$	$\infty$



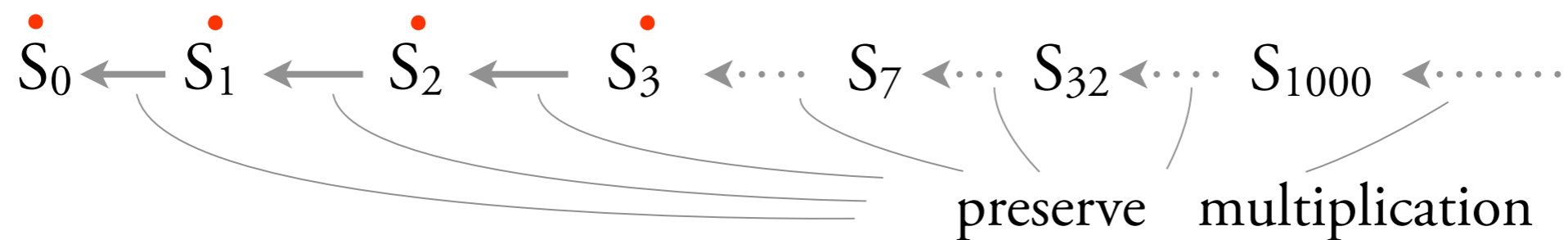
# Profinite monoid

$\infty$	$\infty$	1	$\infty$	$\infty$	1	3	$\infty$	1
0	$\infty$	1	0	$\infty$	1	0	$\infty$	1
$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	2	$\infty$	$\infty$	2	$\infty$	$\infty$

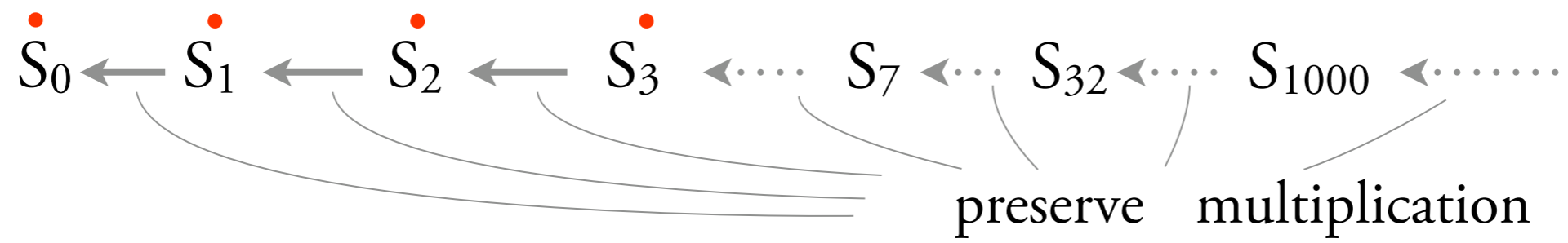


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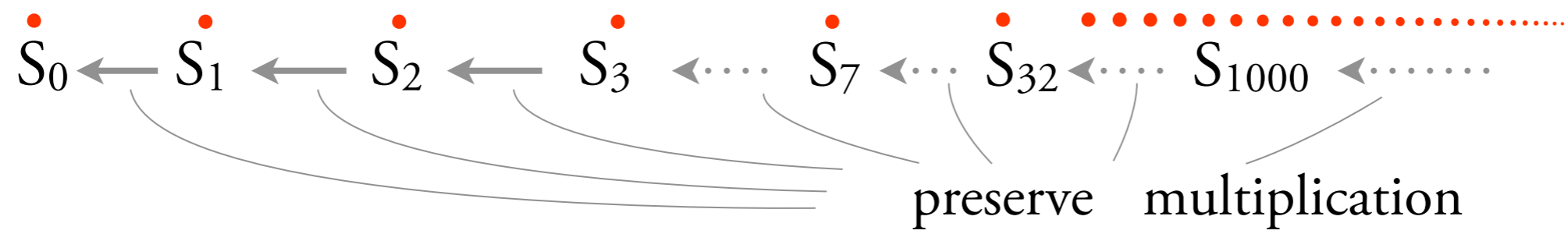
$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$1$	$3$	$\infty$	$1$
$0$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$0$	$\infty$	$1$	$1$	$0$	$\infty$	$1$
$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$2$	$\infty$	$\infty$



# Profinite monoid



# Profinite monoid

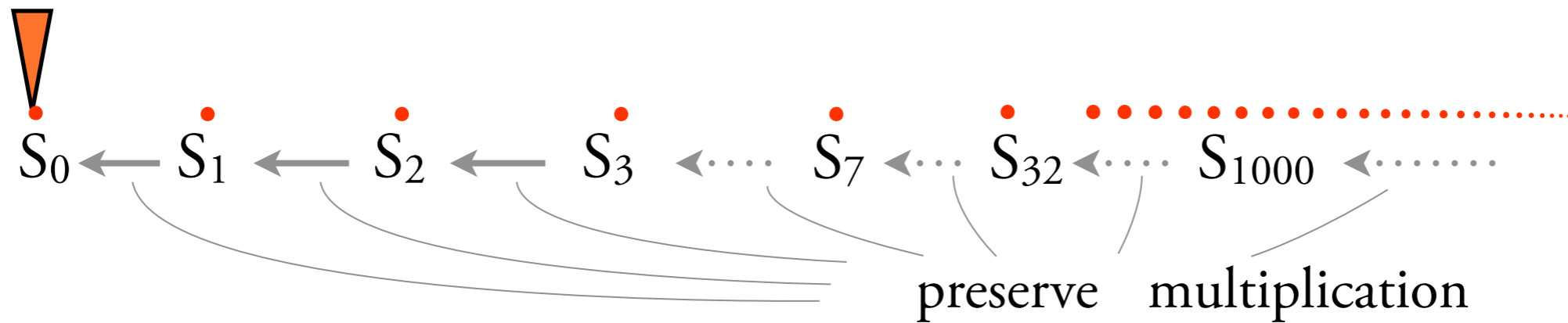




# Profinite monoid

0-approximation:

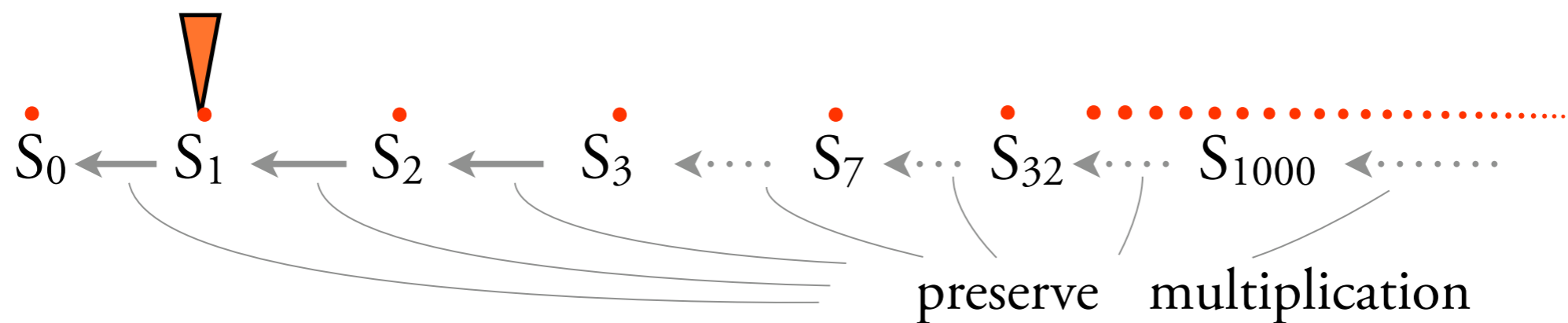
$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
0	$\infty$	$\infty$
$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$



# Profinite monoid

1-approximation:

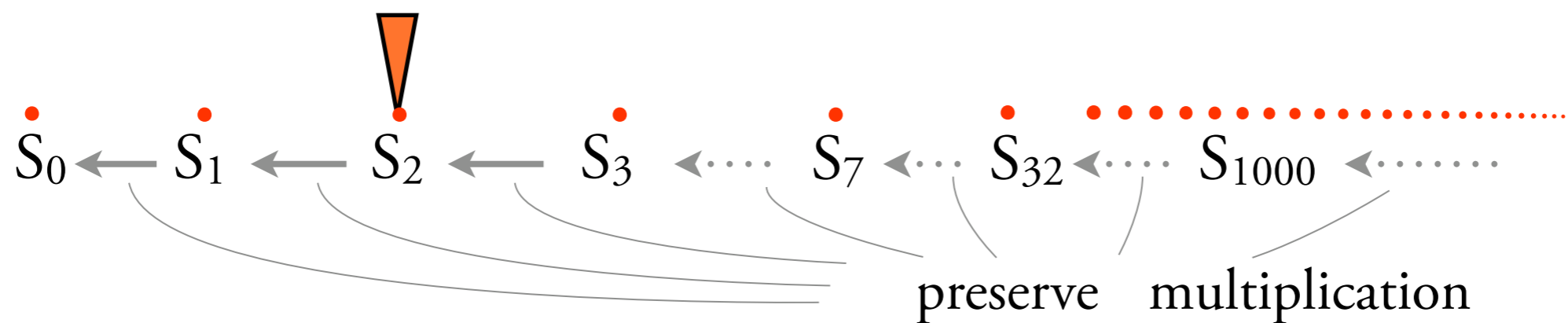
$\infty$	$\infty$	1
0	$\infty$	1
$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$



# Profinite monoid

2 -approximation:

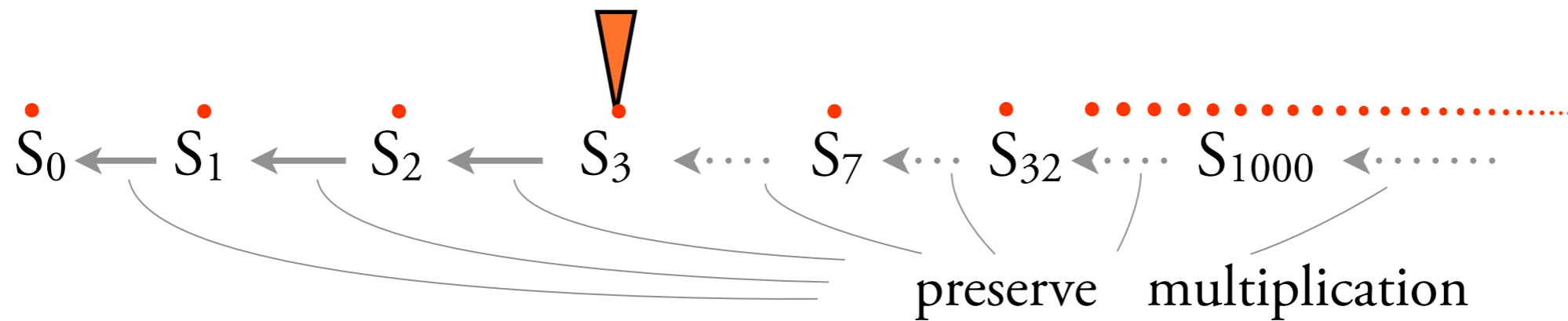
$\infty$	$\infty$	1
0	$\infty$	1
2	$\infty$	$\infty$



# Profinite monoid

3 -approximation:

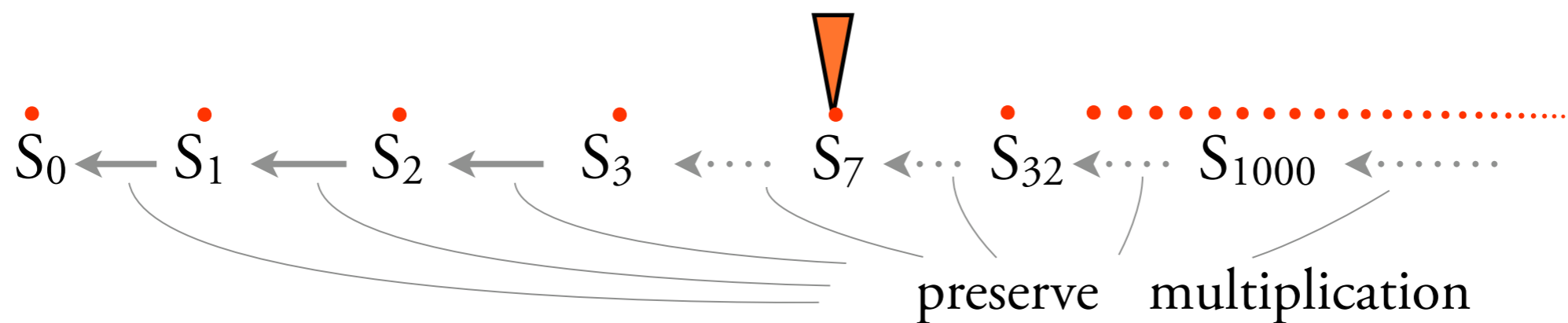
3	$\infty$	1
0	$\infty$	1
2	$\infty$	$\infty$



# Profinite monoid

7 -approximation:

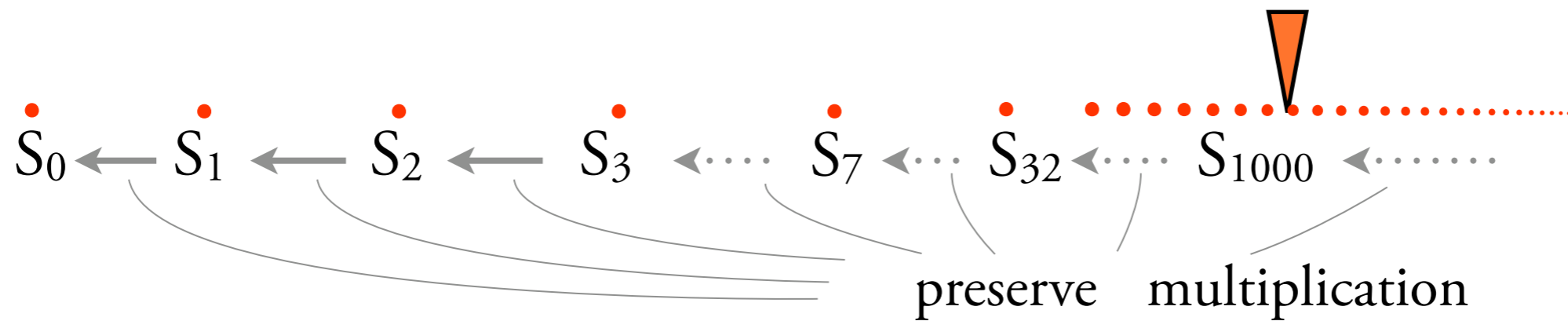
3	$\infty$	1
0	$\infty$	1
2	7	$\infty$



# Profinite monoid

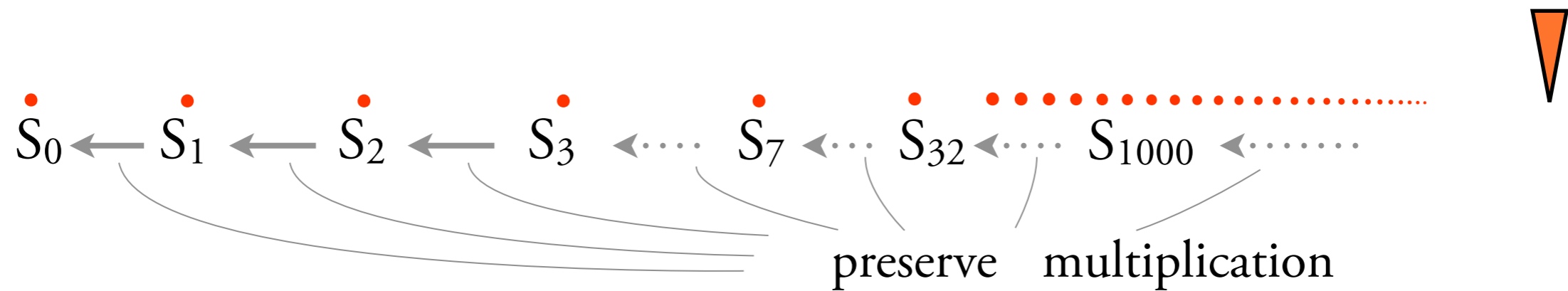
1000-approximation:

3	32	1
0	11	1
2	7	$\infty$



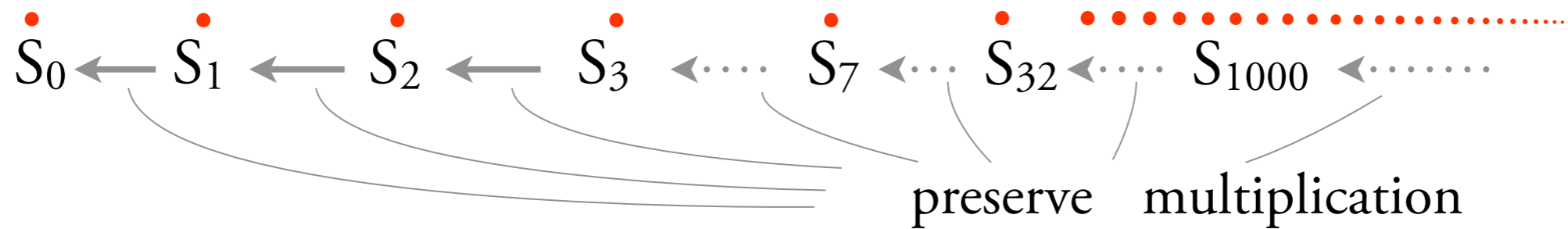
# Profinite monoid

3	32	1
0	11	1
2	7	$\infty$



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3	32	1
0	11	1
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## Metric

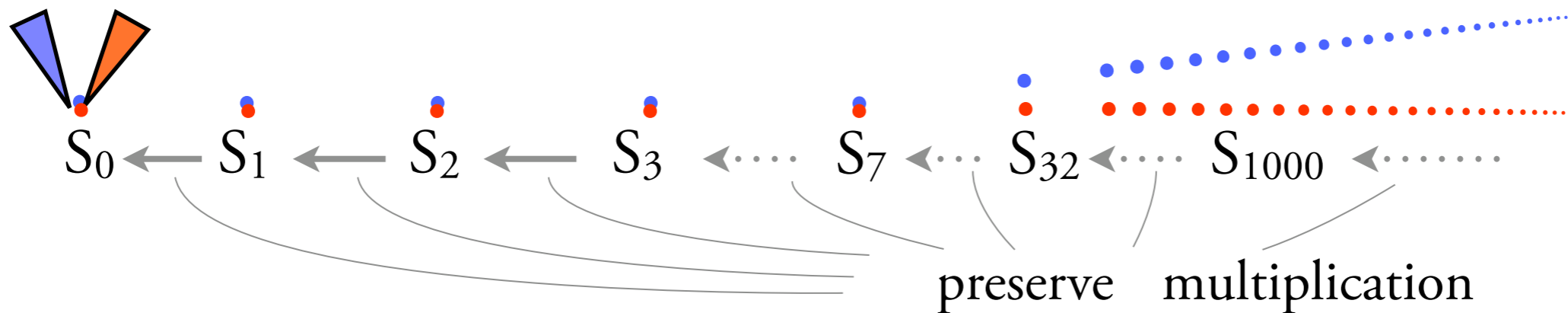
Two elements are close if only an approx. with high threshold can distinguish them



# Profinite monoid

3	50	1
0	11	1
2	7	$\infty$

3	32	1
0	11	1
2	7	$\infty$



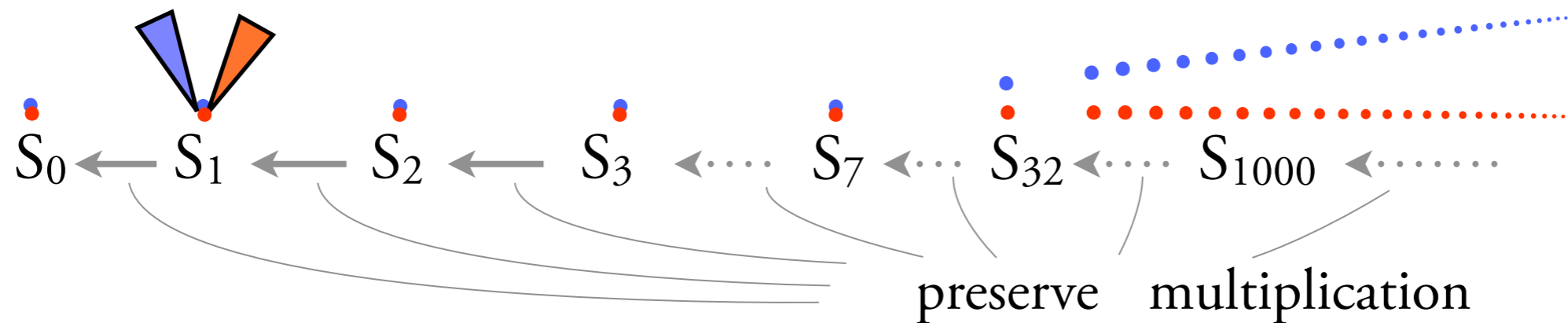
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3	32	1
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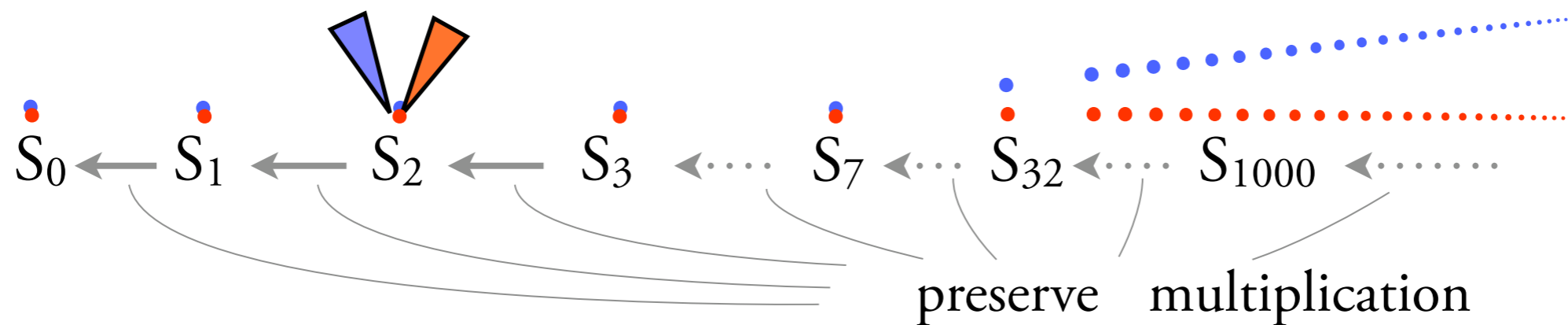
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3	32	1
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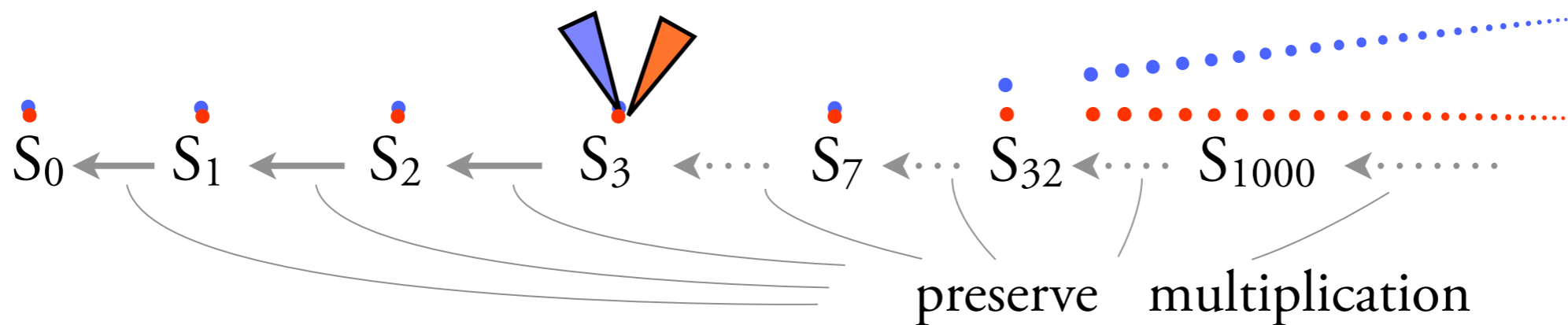
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3	50	1
0	11	1
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3	32	1
0	11	1
2	7	$\infty$

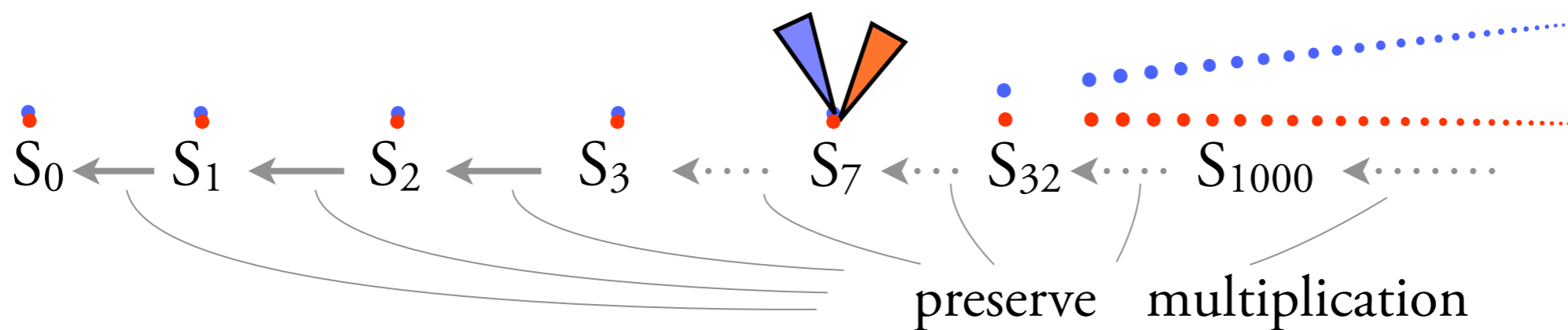


## Metric

Two elements are close if only an approx. with high threshold can distinguish them

# Profinite monoid

3	50	1	3	32	1
0	11	1	0	11	1
2	7	$\infty$	2	7	$\infty$



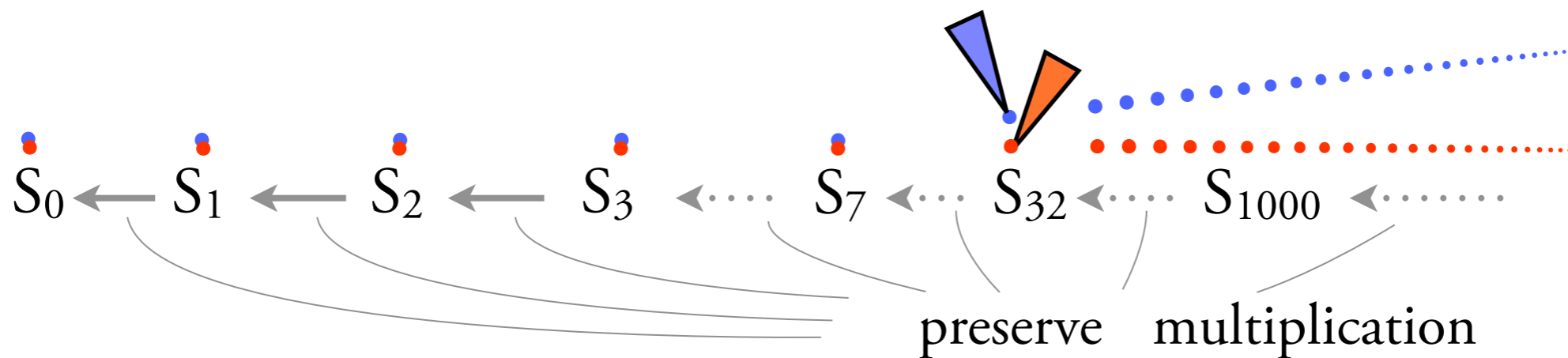
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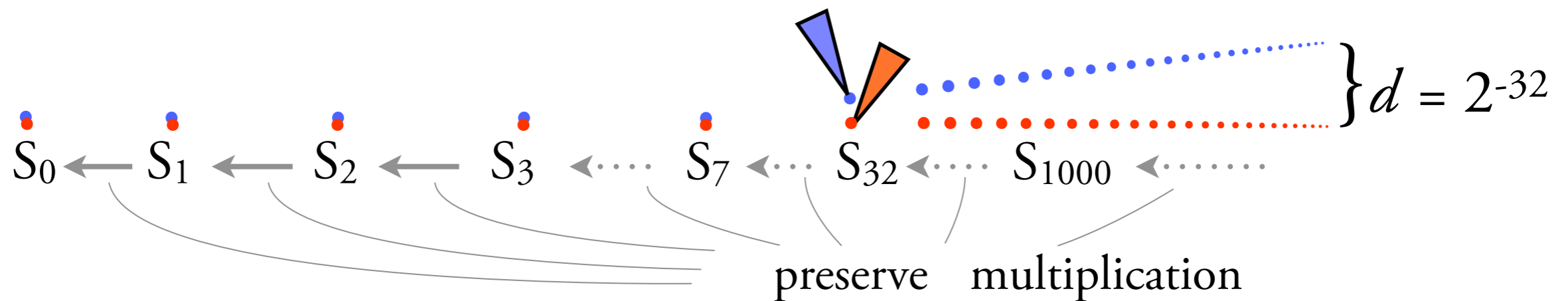
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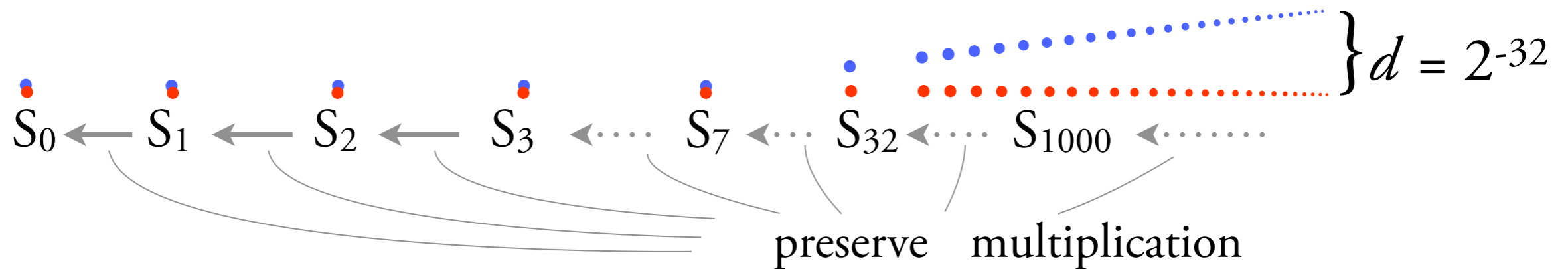
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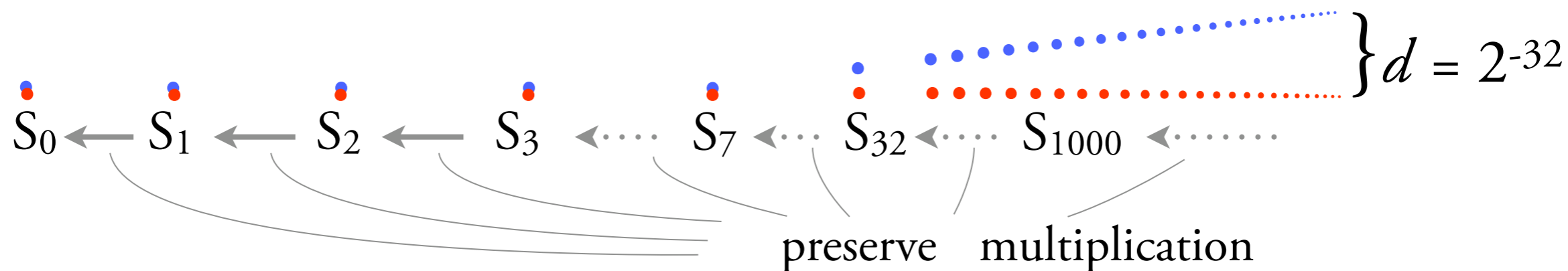
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3	50	1	3	32	1
0	11	1	0	11	1
2	7	$\infty$	2	7	$\infty$



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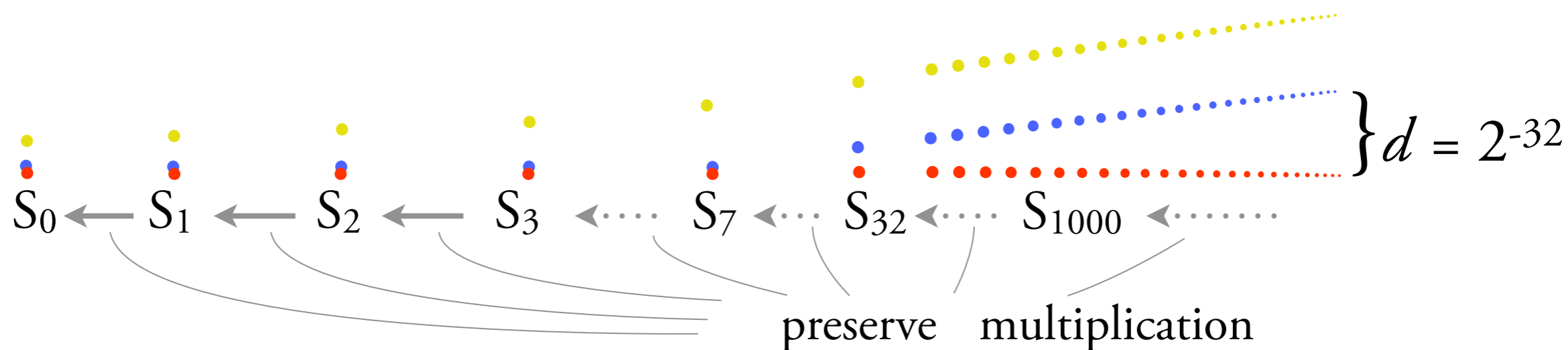
## Multiplication

The  $n$ -approximation of  $x \cdot y$  is the product of their  $n$ -approximations.

*we again obtain a sequence consistent with the mappings*

# Profinite monoid

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 50 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 11 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 7 & \infty \\ \hline \end{array} \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 32 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 11 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 7 & \infty \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 8 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & 8 & 4 \\ \hline 5 & 18 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



## Metric

Two elements are close if only an approx. with high threshold can distinguish them

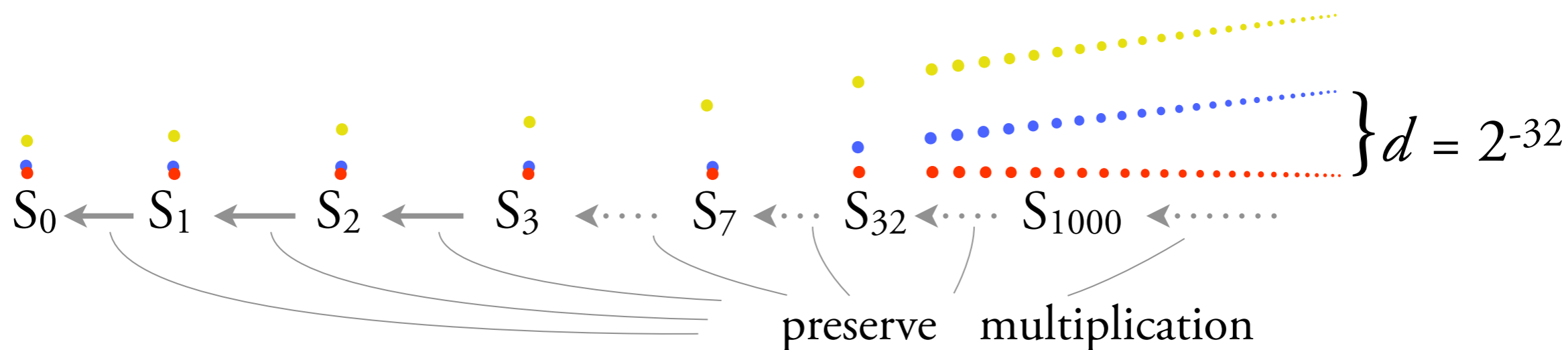
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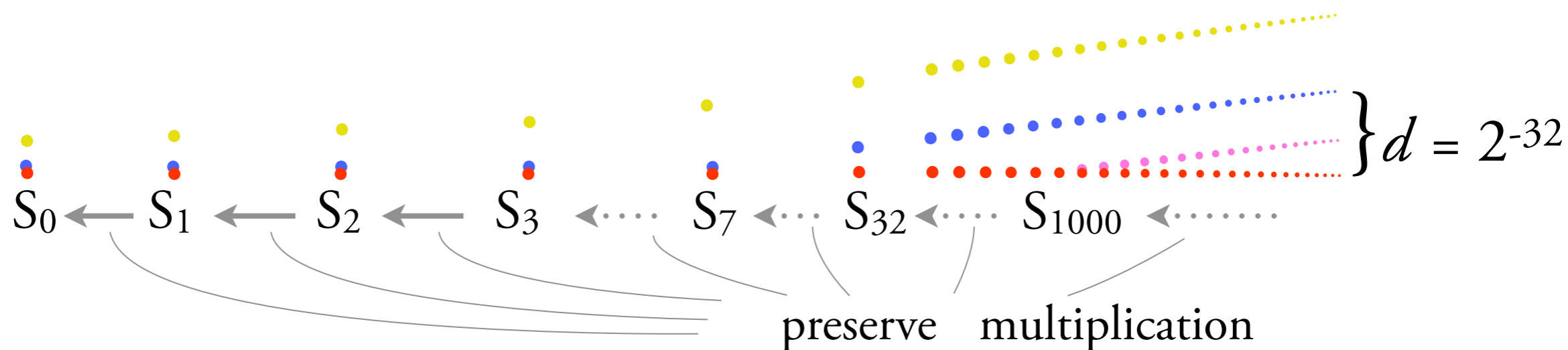
## Multiplication *is continuous*

The  $n$ -approximation of  $x \cdot y$  is the product of their  $n$ -approximations.

*we again obtain a sequence consistent with the mappings*

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## Metric

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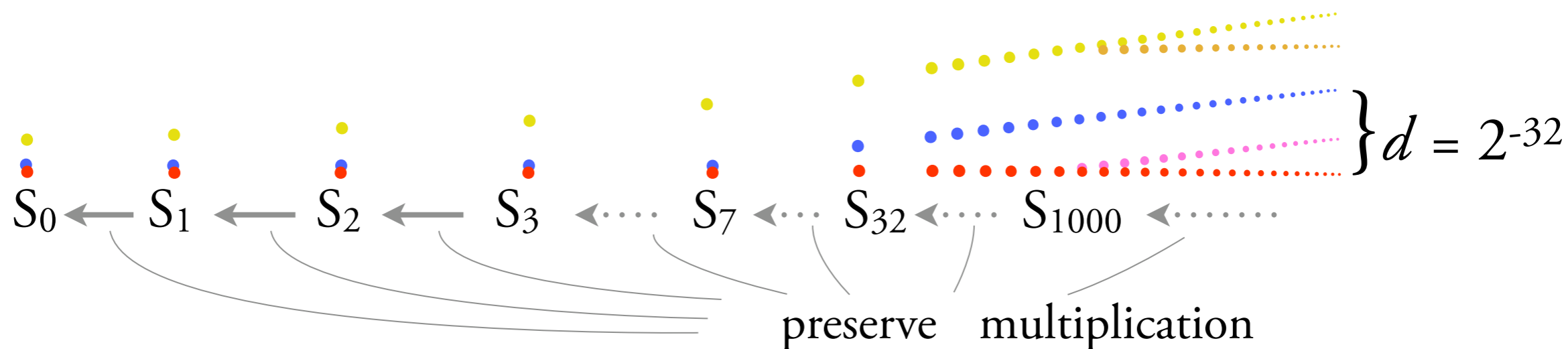
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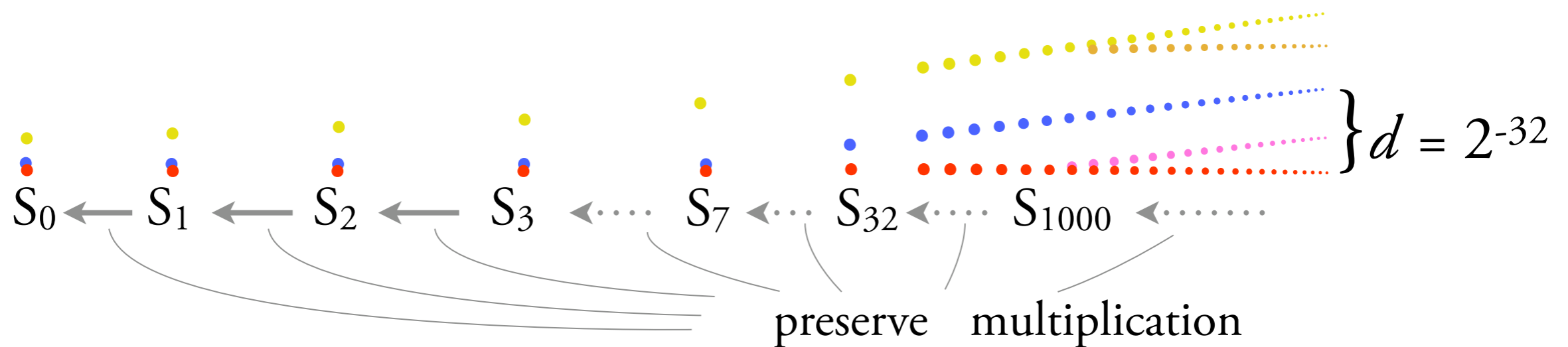
## Multiplication *is continuous*

The  $n$ -approximation of  $x \cdot y$  is the product of their  $n$ -approximations.

*we again obtain a sequence consistent with the mappings*

# Profinite monoid

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 50 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 11 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 7 & \infty \\ \hline \end{array} \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 32 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 11 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 7 & \infty \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 8 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & 8 & 4 \\ \hline 5 & 18 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



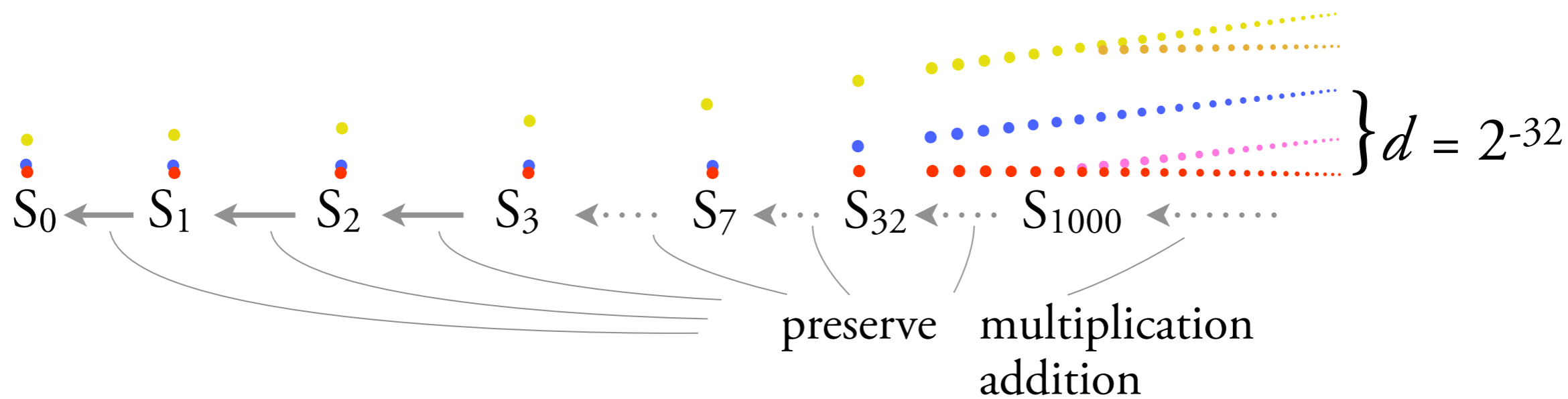
## Metric

Two elements are close if only an approx. with high threshold can distinguish them

Multiplication *is continuous*

# Profinite monoid

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 50 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 11 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 7 & \infty \\ \hline \end{array} \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 32 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 11 & 1 \\ \hline 2 & 7 & \infty \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 3 & 8 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & 8 & 4 \\ \hline 5 & 18 & 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



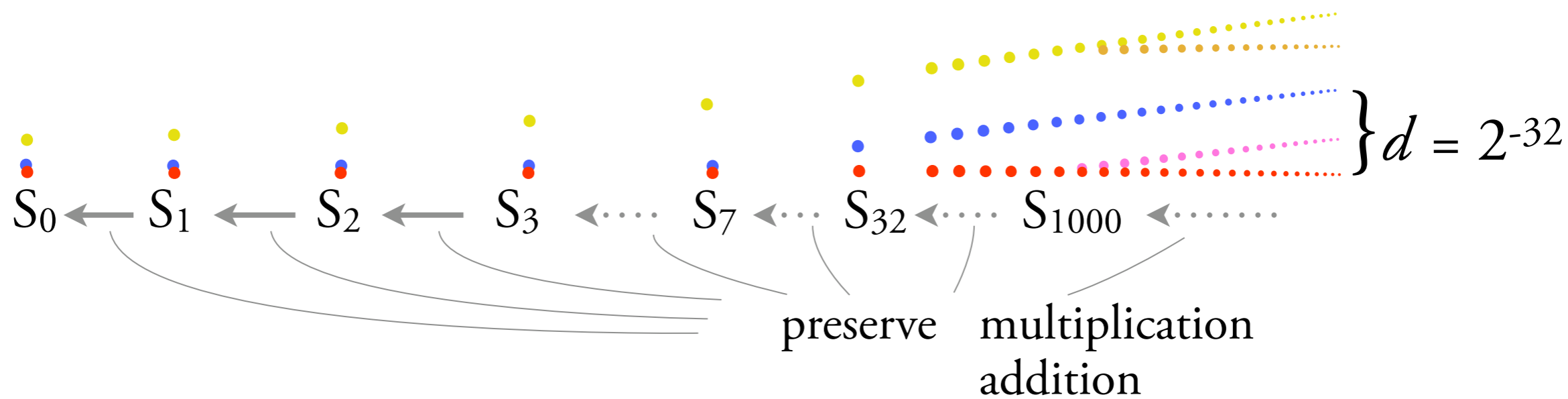
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## Metric

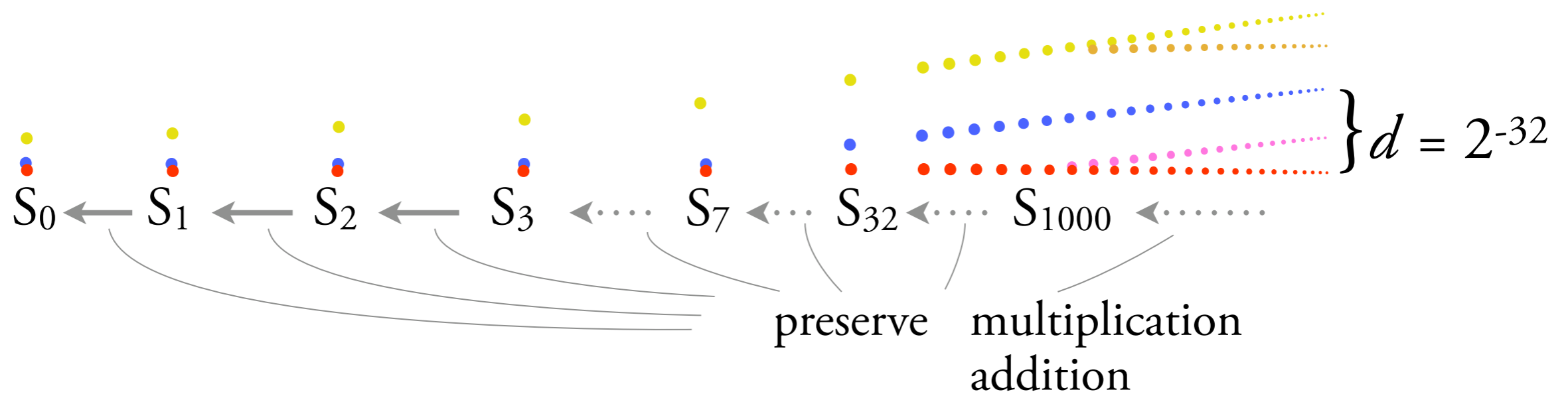
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Multiplication *is continuous*  
addition



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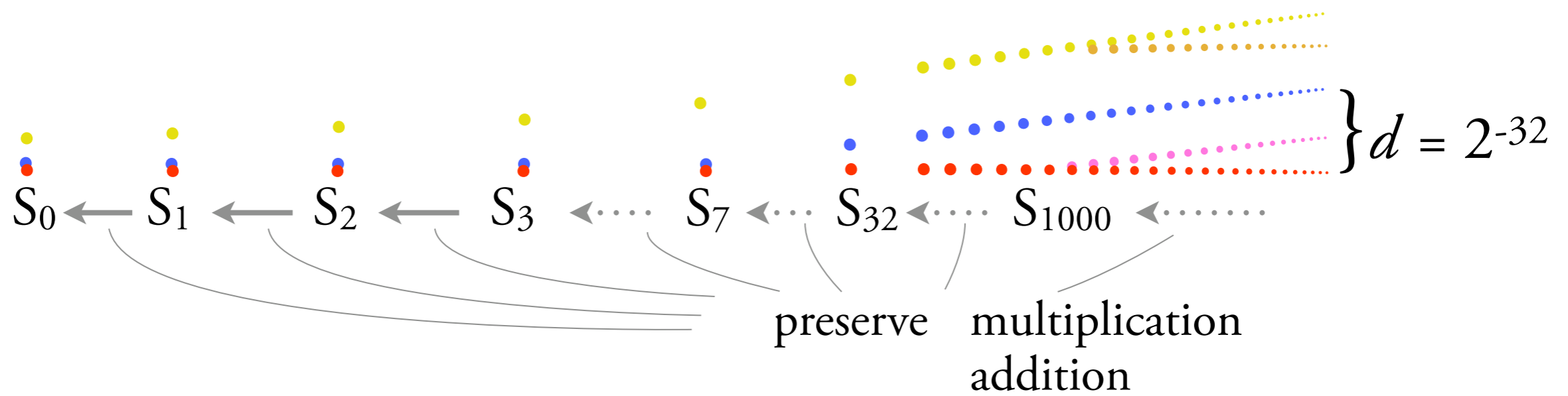
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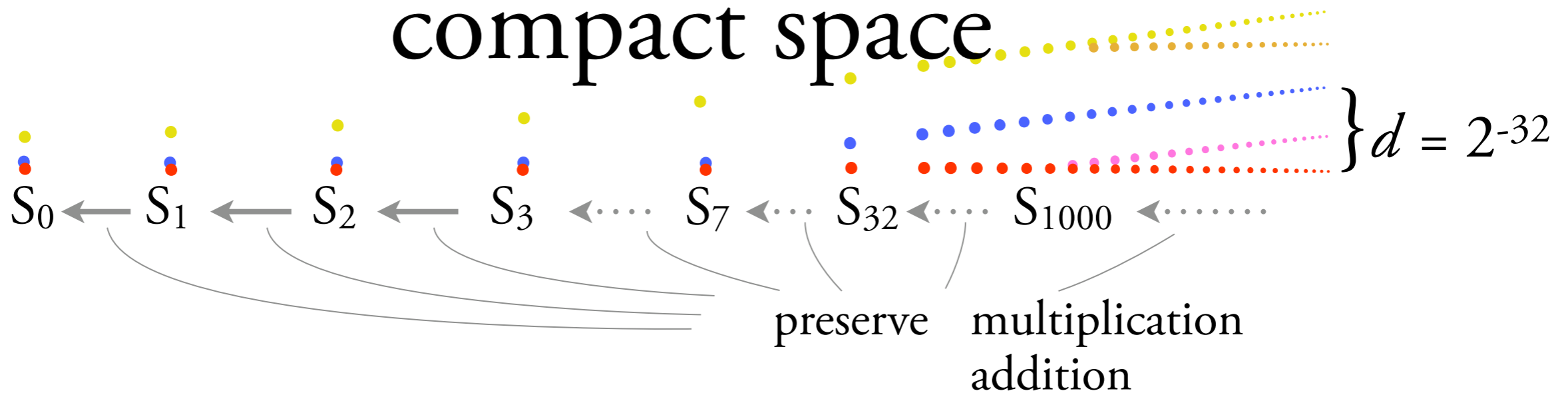
addition

$\omega$ -power

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compact space



Metric

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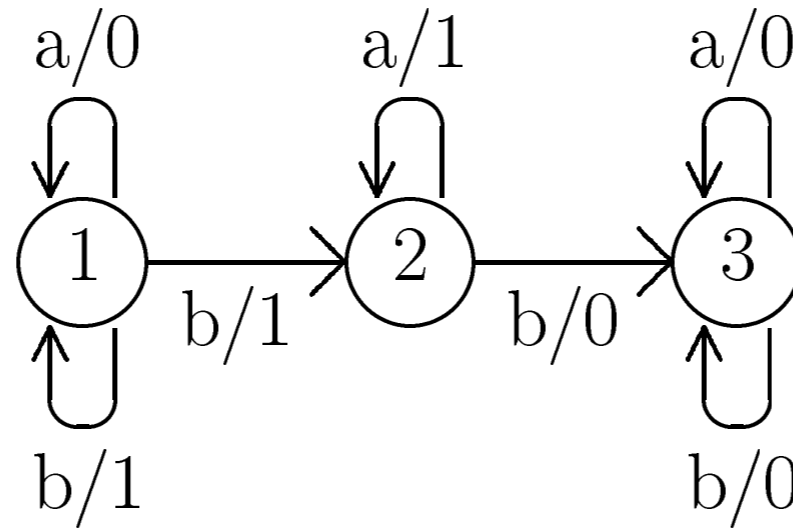


Figure 1: Example of a distance automaton  $A$ .

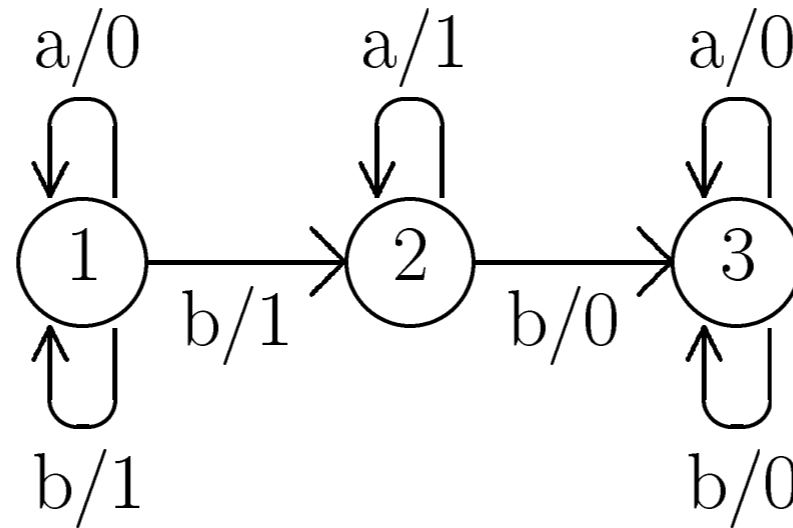


Figure 1: Example of a distance automaton  $A$ .

Example of a min-automaton  $A$ .

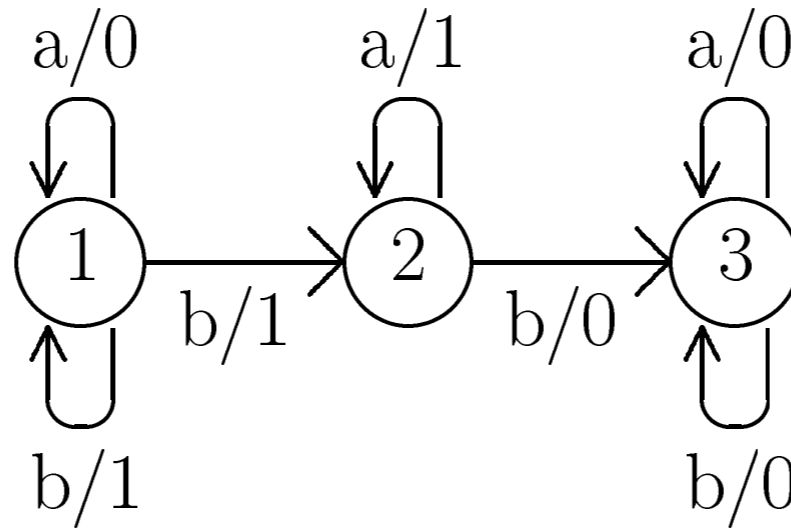


Figure 1: Example of a distance automaton  $A$ .

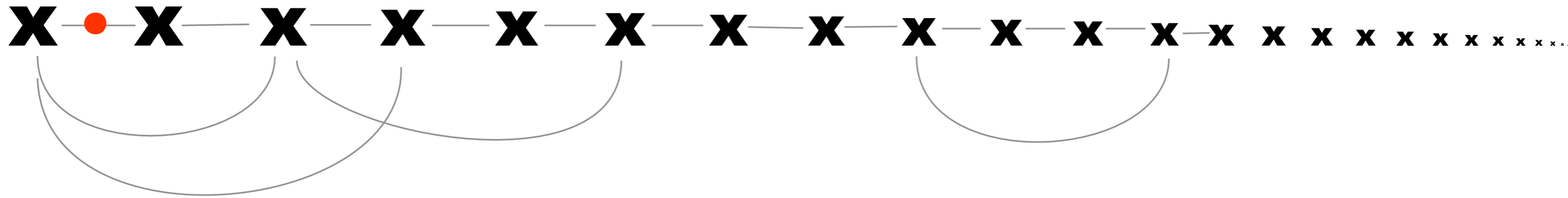
Example of a min-automaton  $A$ .

$a:$	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>0</td><td>⊥</td><td>⊥</td></tr> <tr><td>⊥</td><td>1</td><td>⊥</td></tr> <tr><td>⊥</td><td>⊥</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	0	⊥	⊥	⊥	1	⊥	⊥	⊥	0	$b:$	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>⊥</td></tr> <tr><td>⊥</td><td>⊥</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>⊥</td><td>⊥</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	1	1	⊥	⊥	⊥	0	⊥	⊥	0
	0	⊥	⊥																		
	⊥	1	⊥																		
⊥	⊥	0																			
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	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td><math>\infty</math></td><td><math>\infty</math></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>⊥</td><td>⊥</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>⊥</td><td>⊥</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	$\infty$	$\infty$	1	⊥	⊥	0	⊥	⊥	0											
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# Ramsey Theorem

for compact spaces

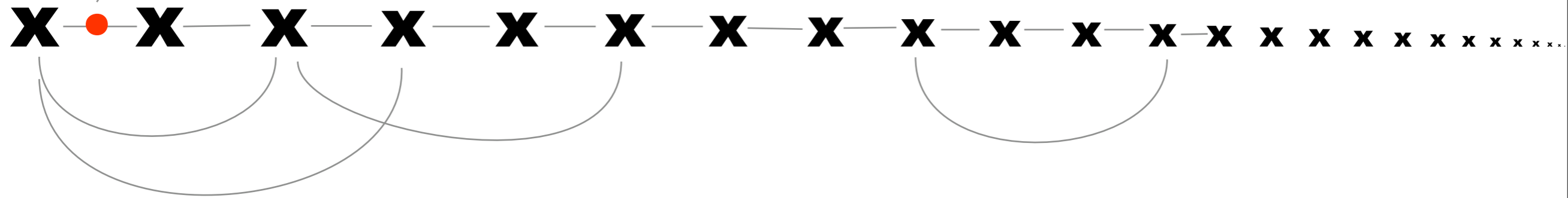




# Ramsey Theorem

## for compact spaces

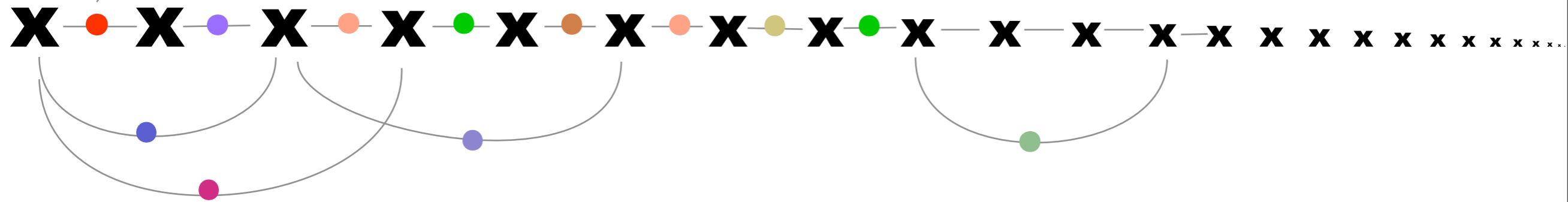
colored by elements  
of a compact space



# Ramsey Theorem

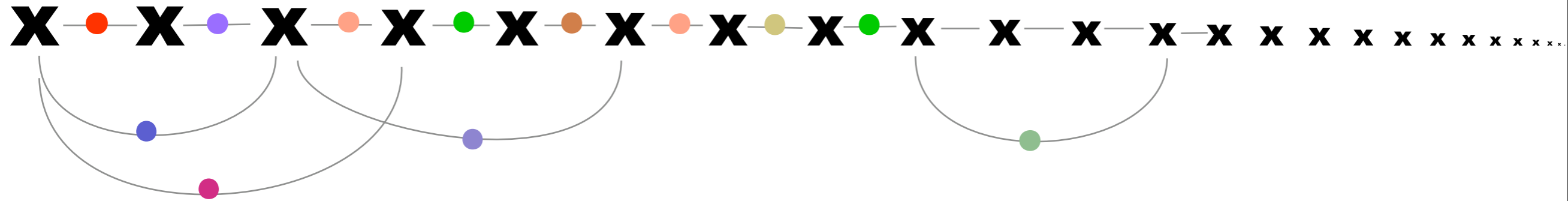
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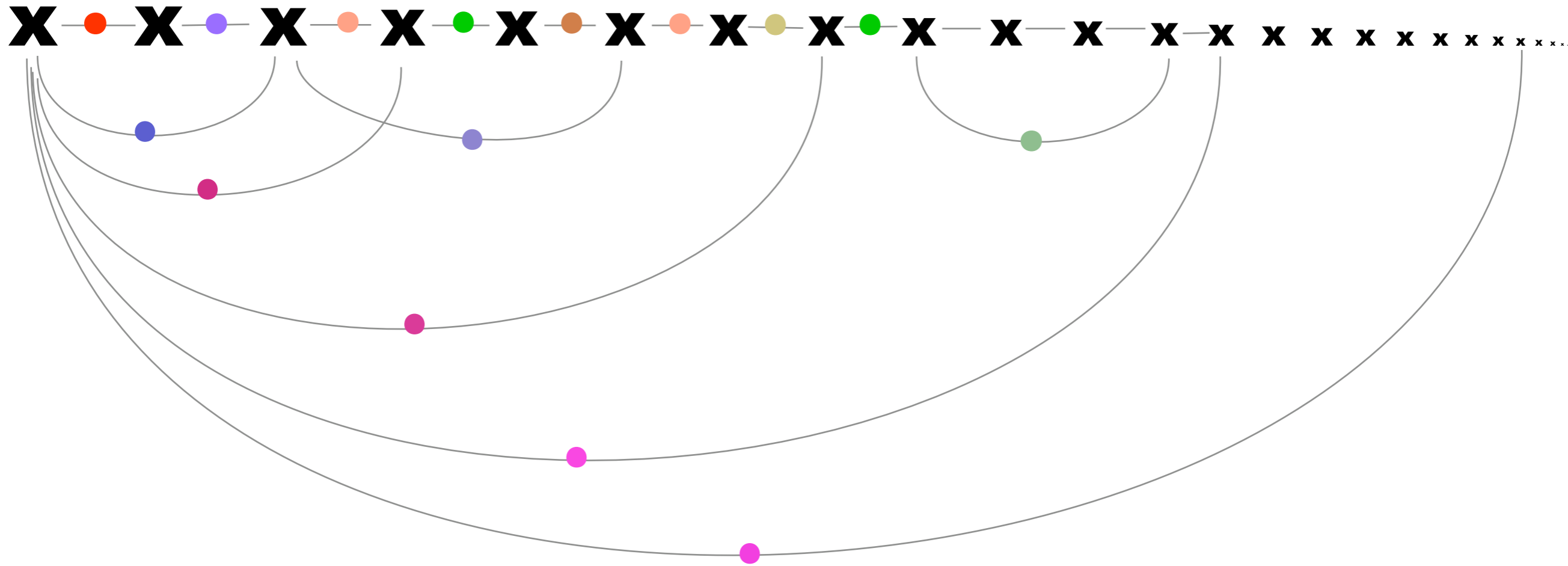
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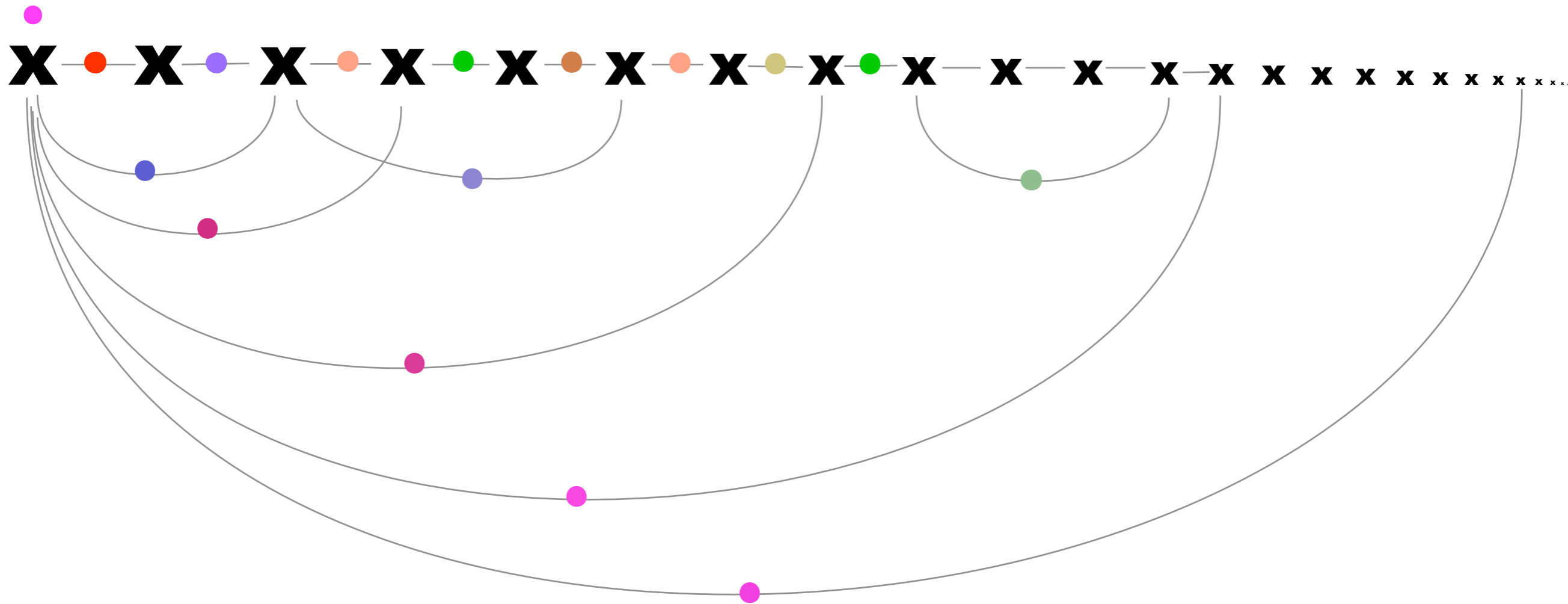
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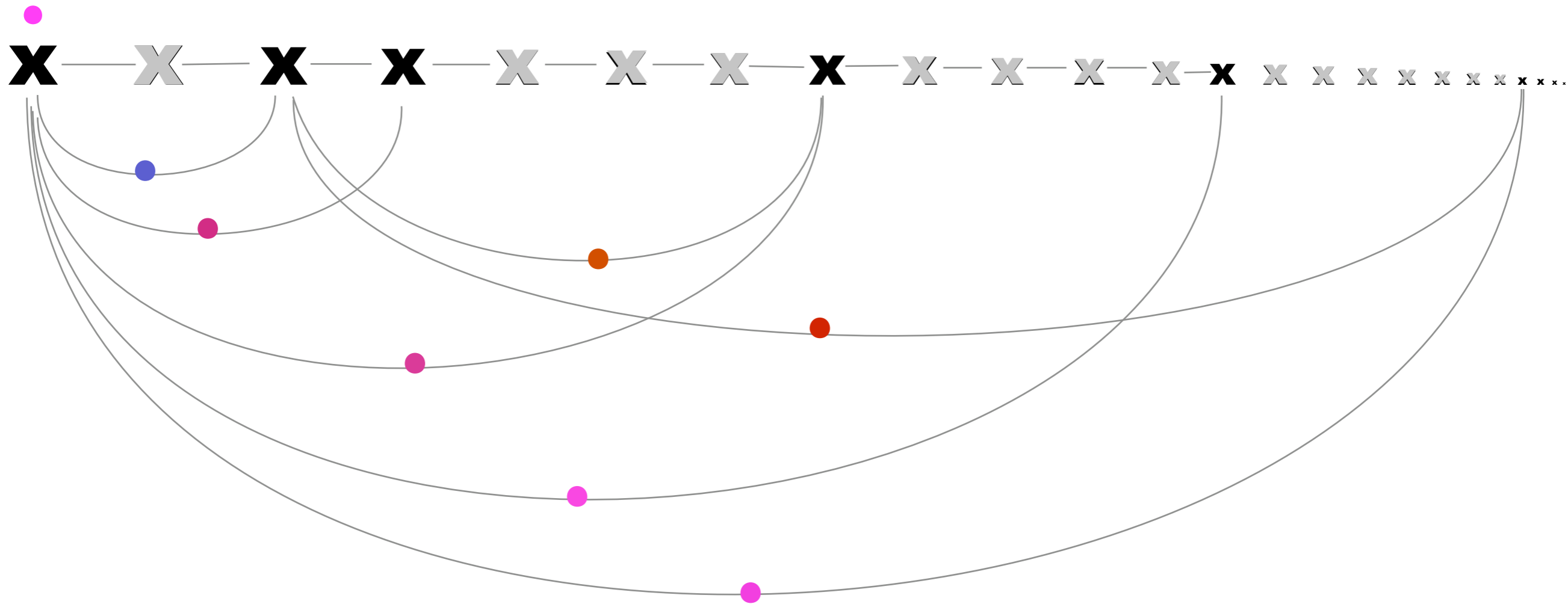
for compact spaces





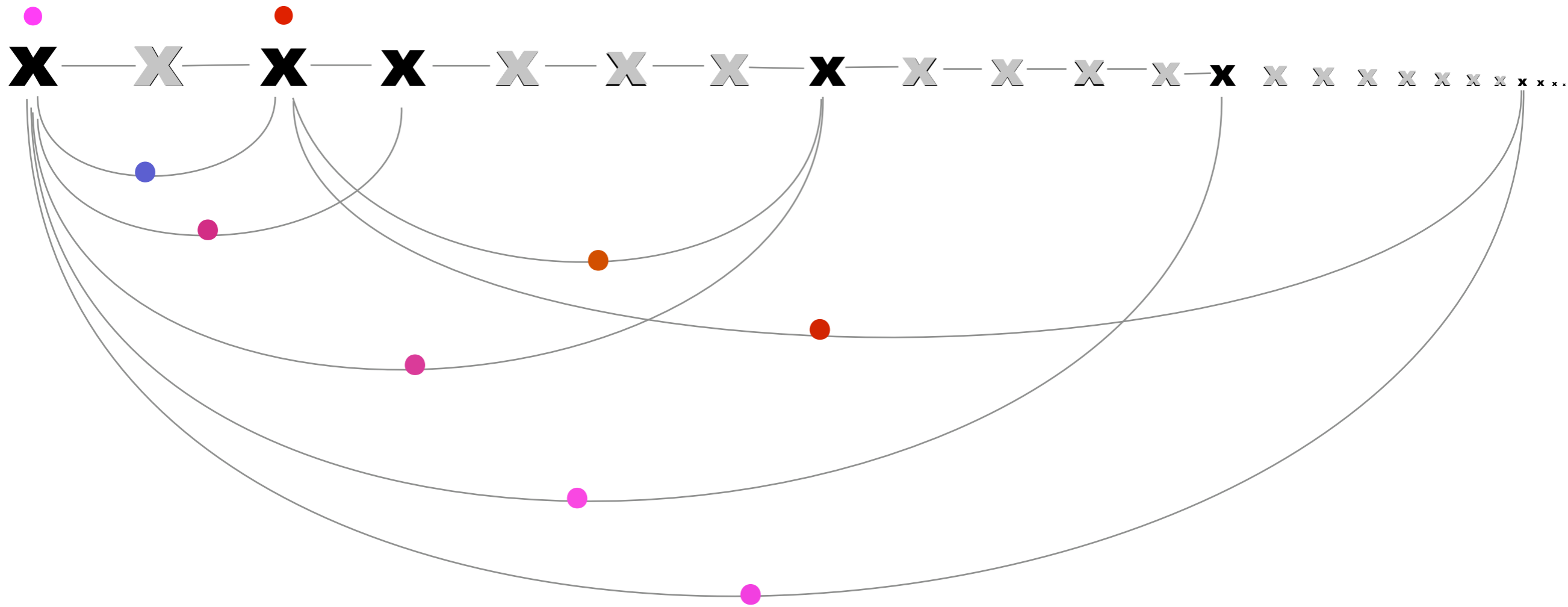
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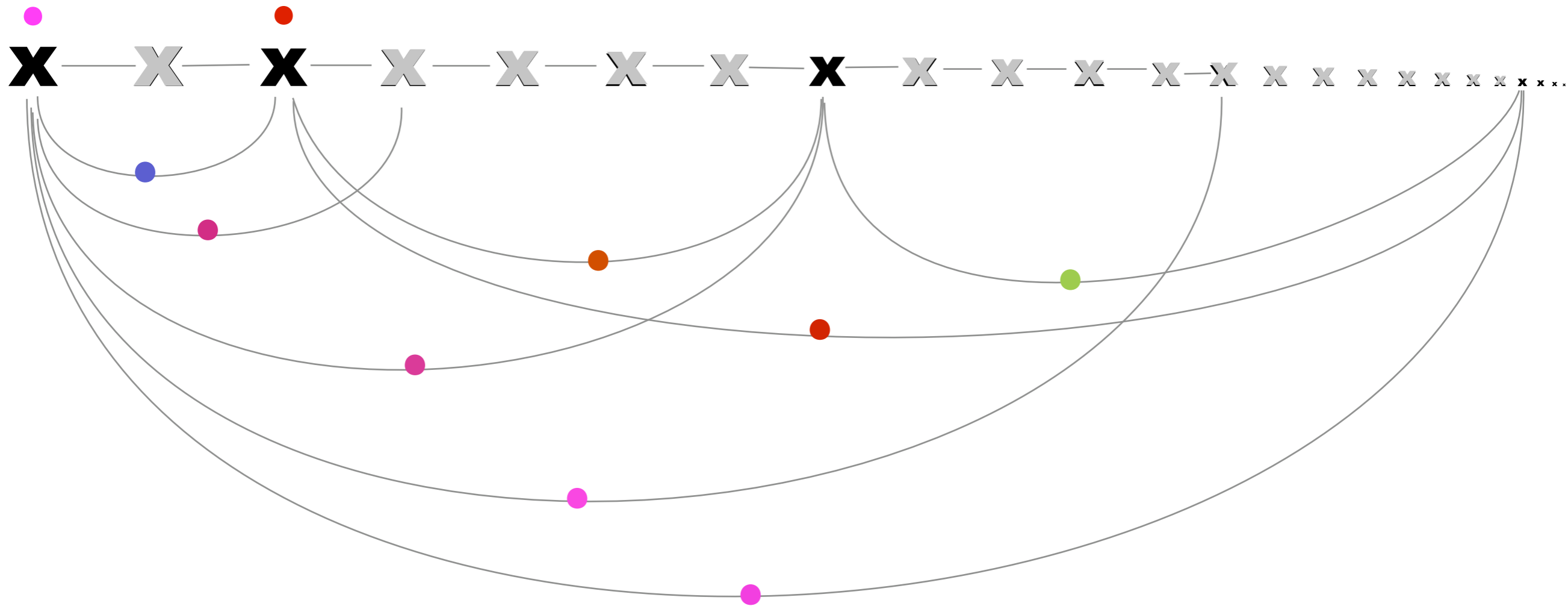
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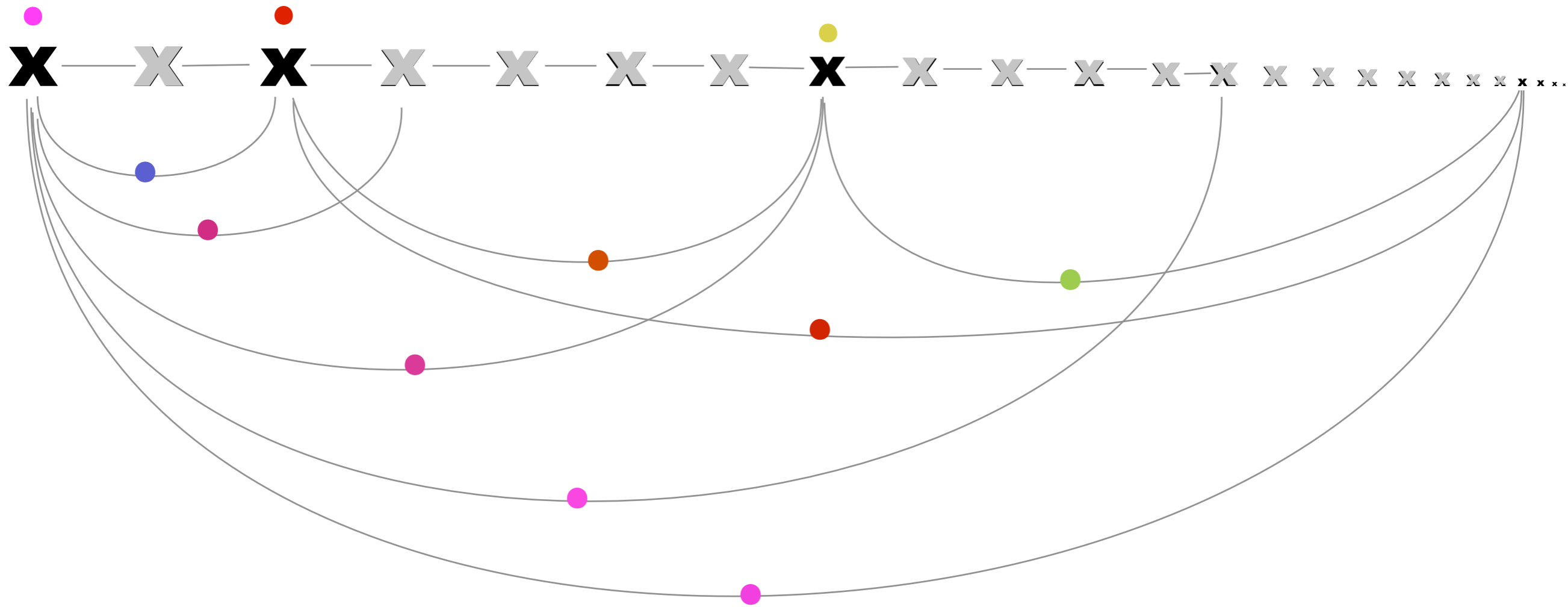
# Ramsey Theorem

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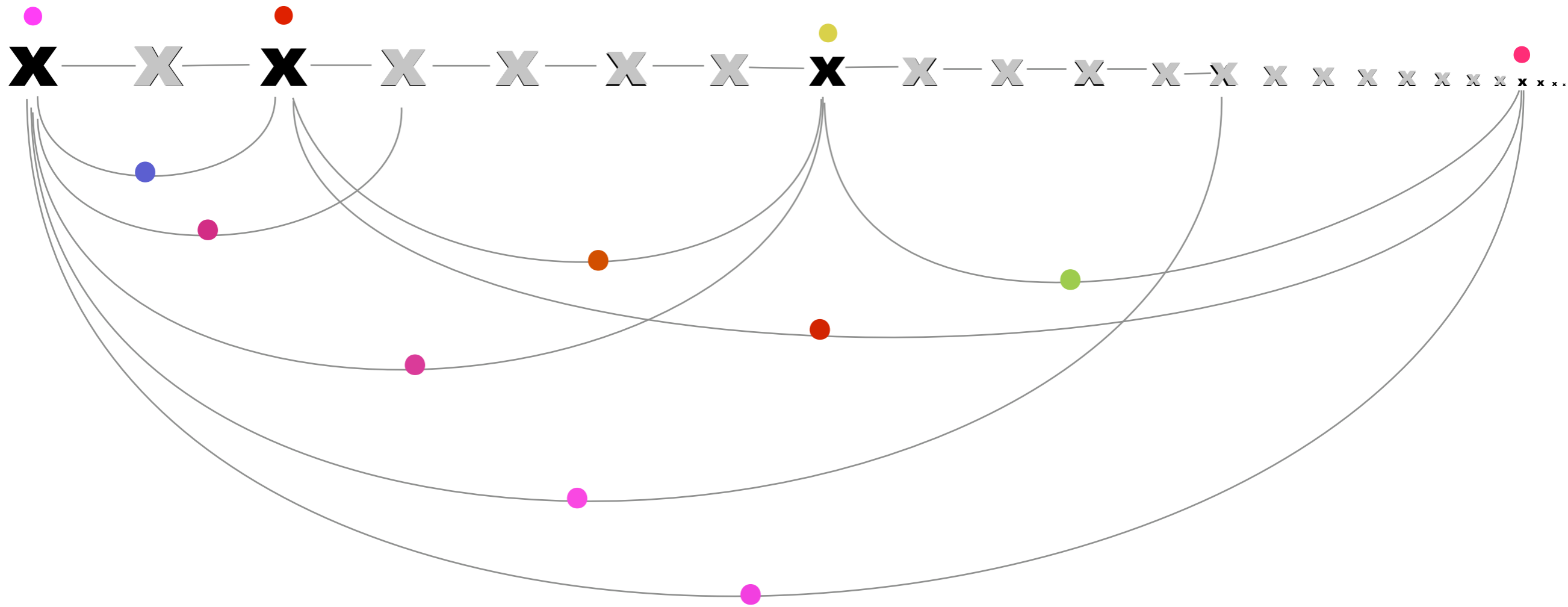
# Ramsey Theorem

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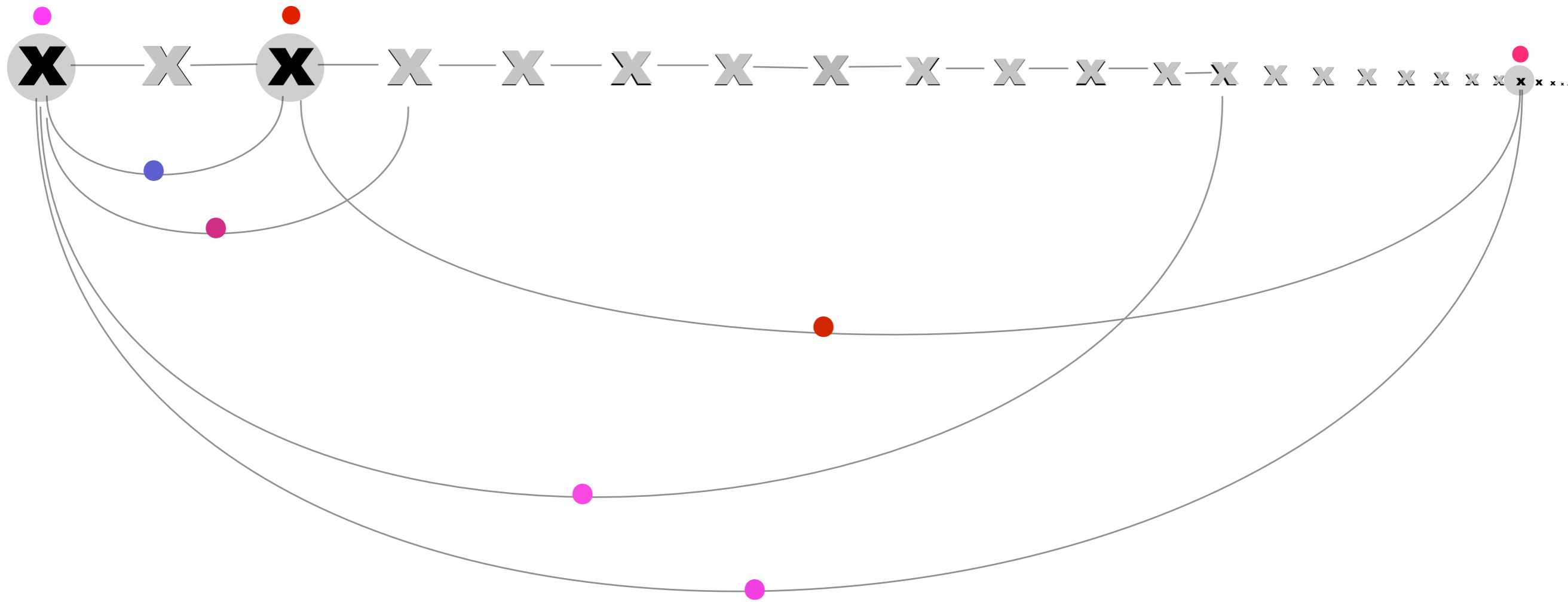
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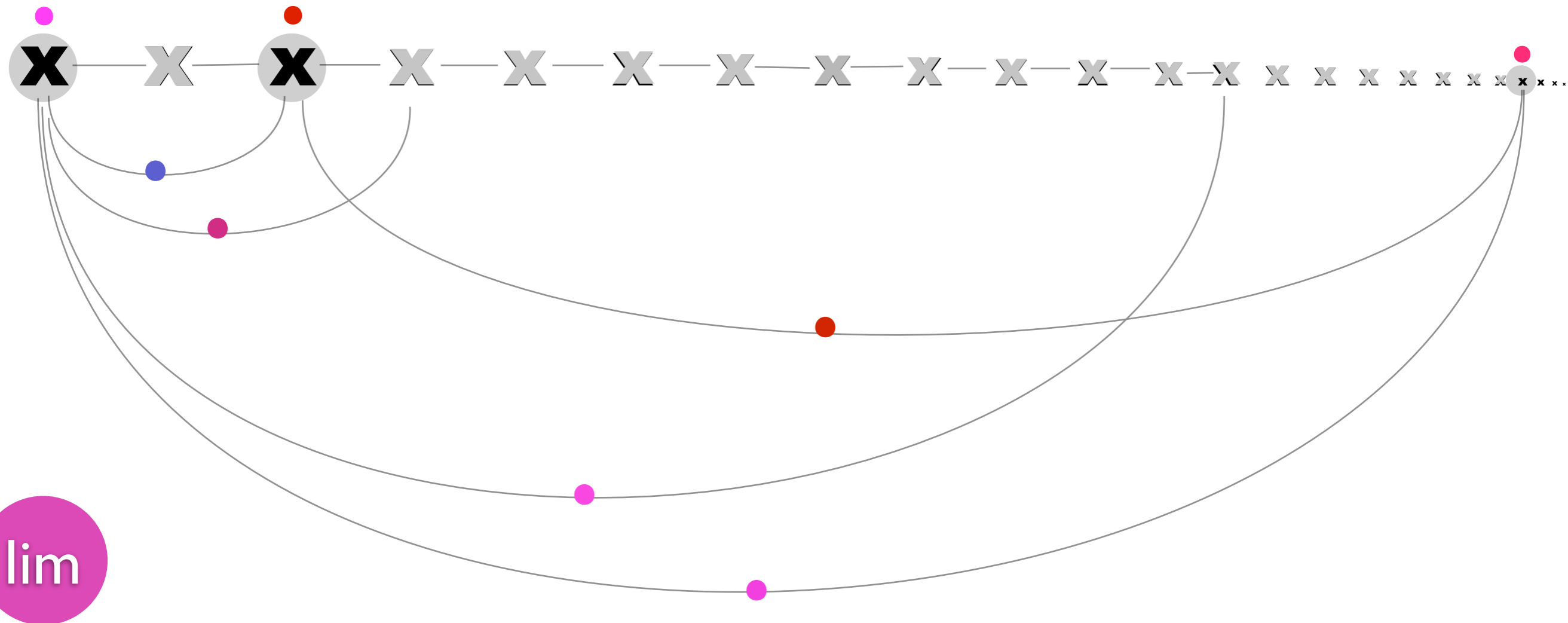


# Ramsey Theorem

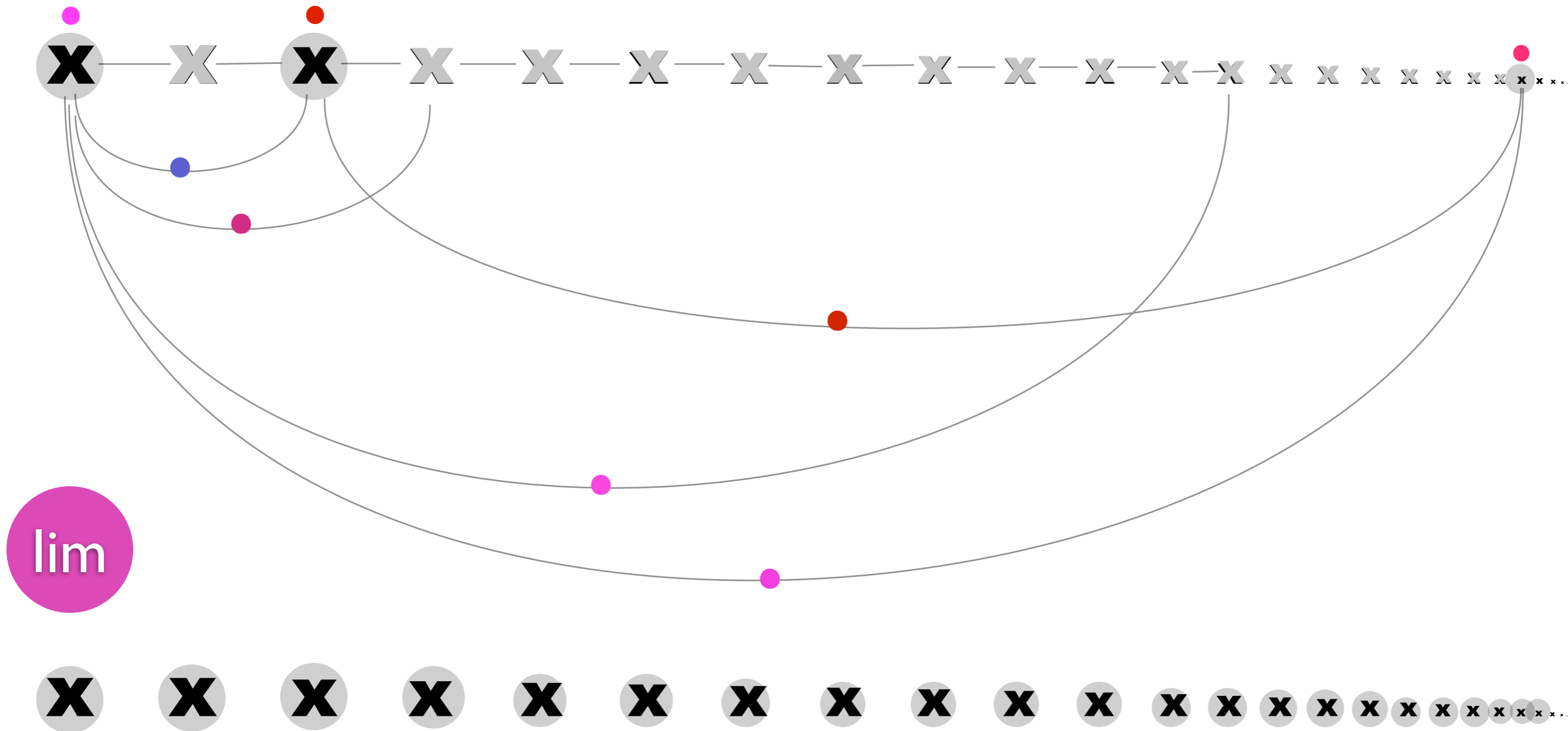
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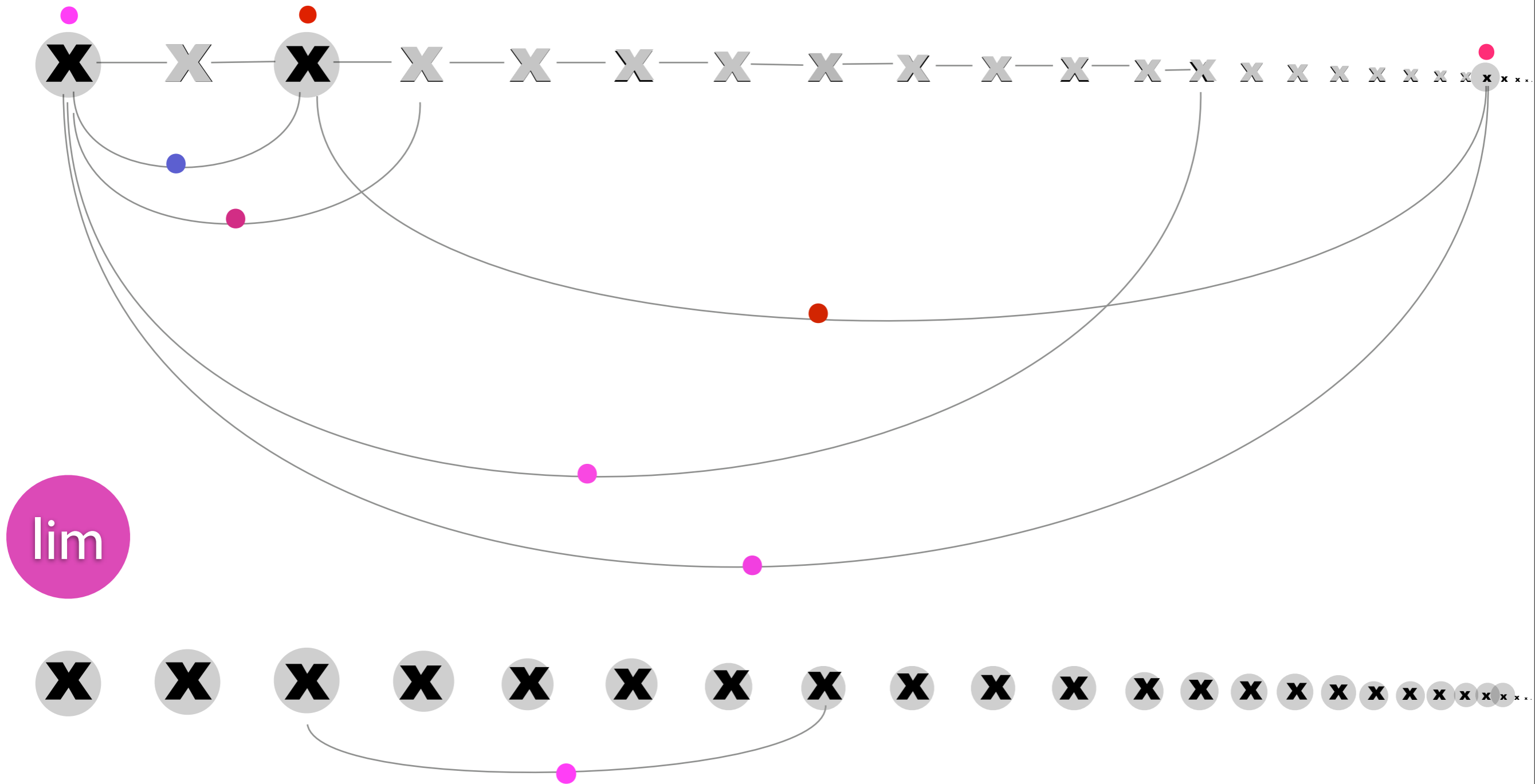
# Ramsey Theorem for compact spaces



# Ramsey Theorem for compact spaces



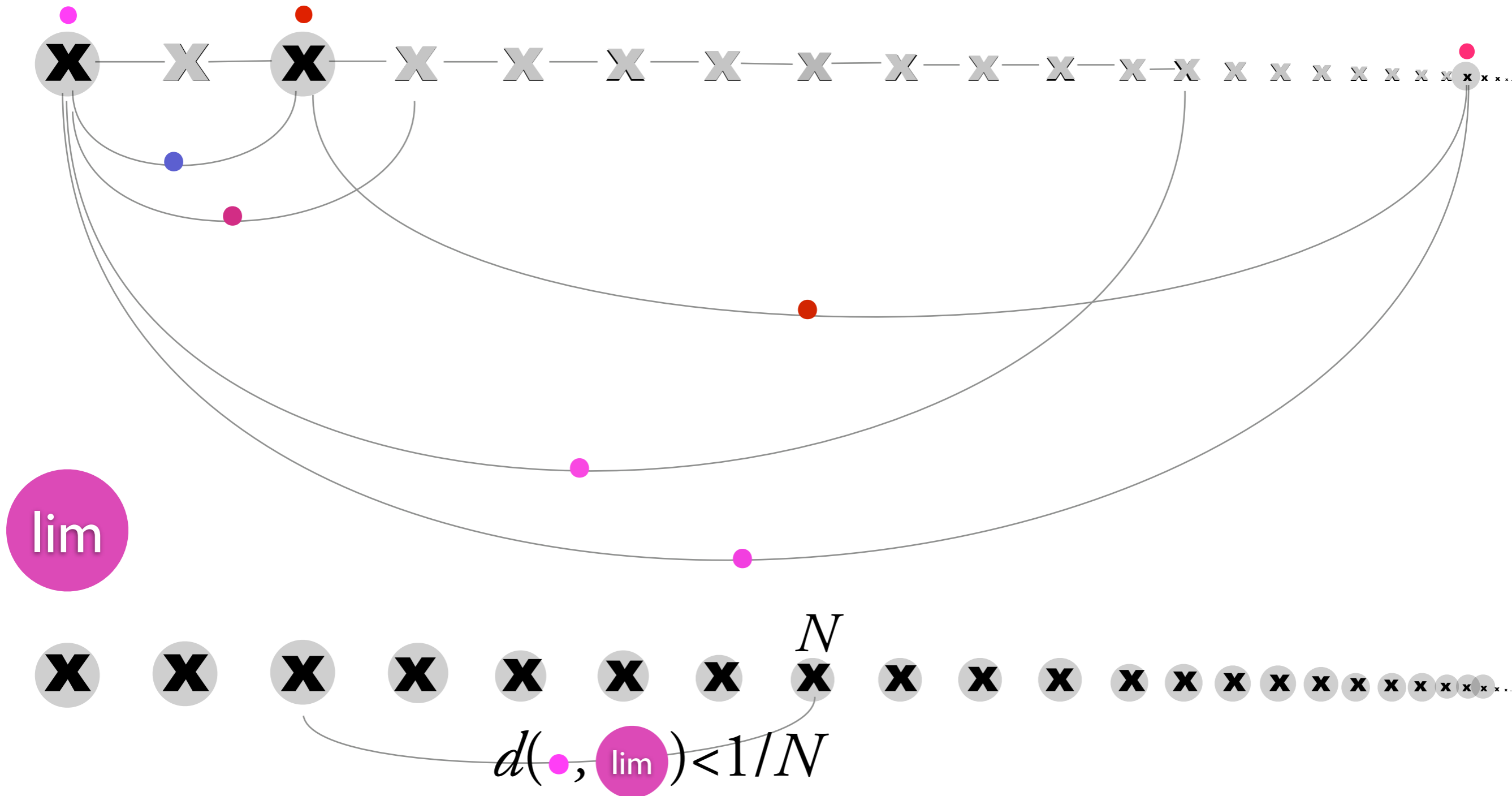
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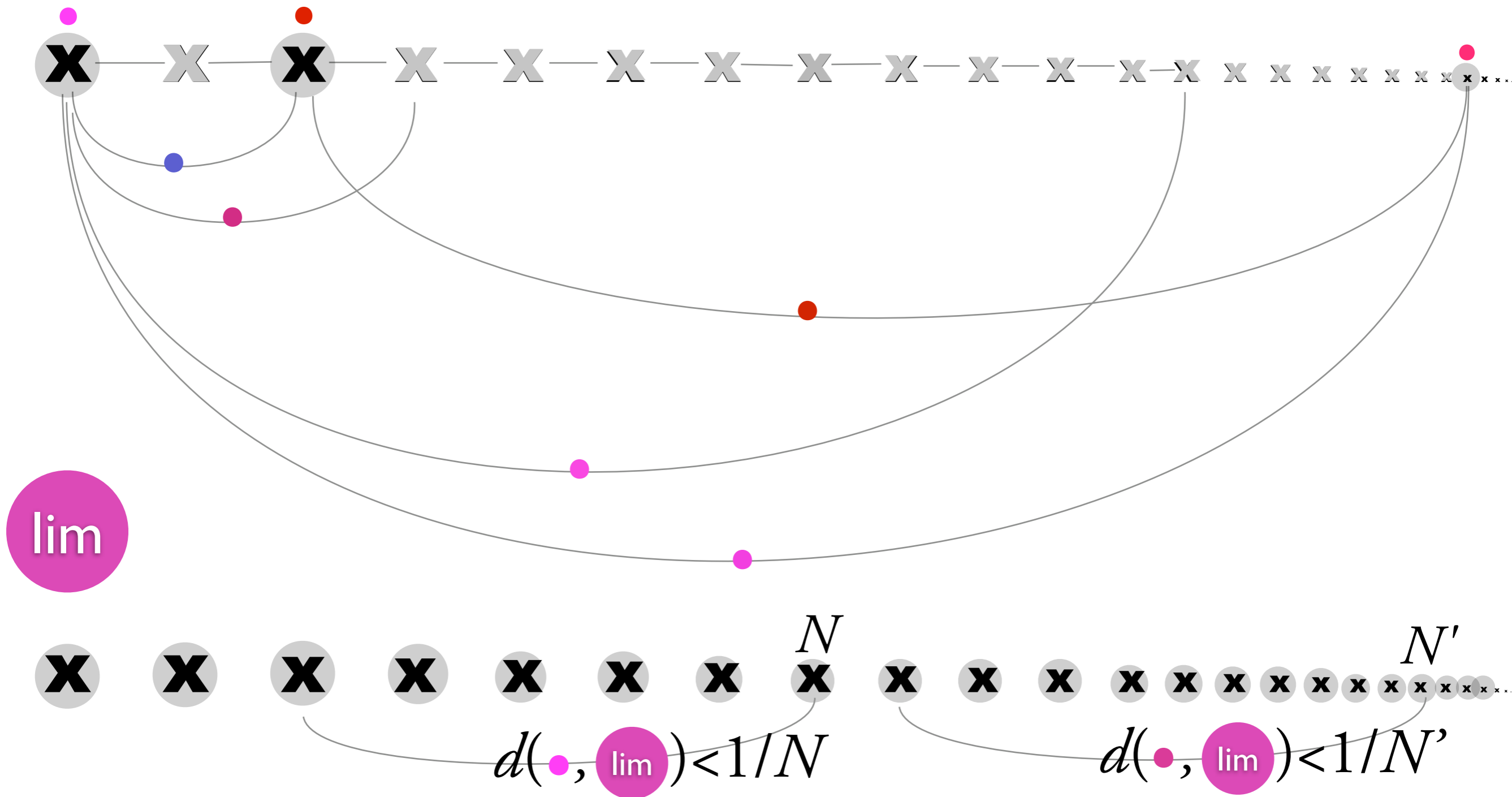
# Ramsey Theorem

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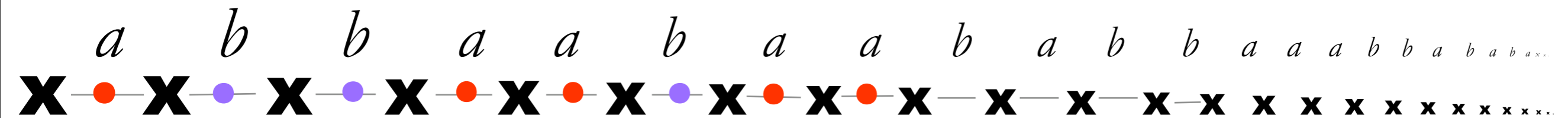
# Emptiness of min-automata

*a b b a a b a a b a b b a a a b b a b a b a...*





# Emptiness of min-automata



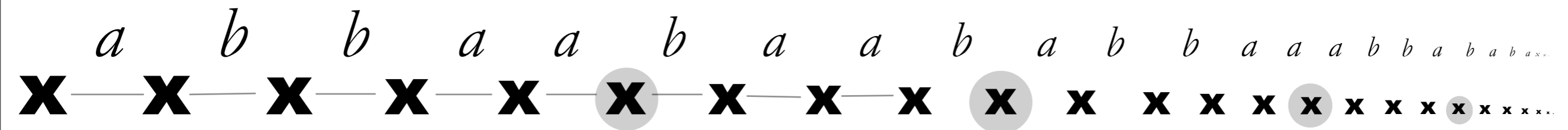








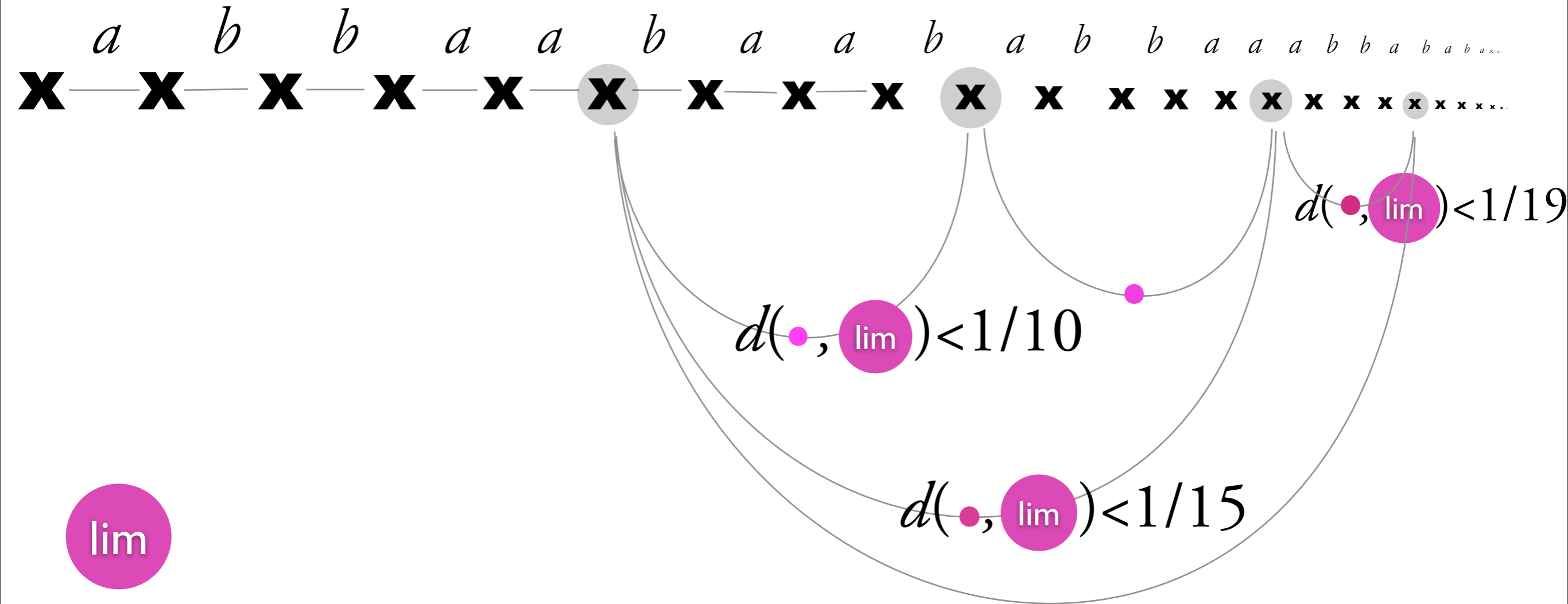
# Emptiness of min-automata



lim

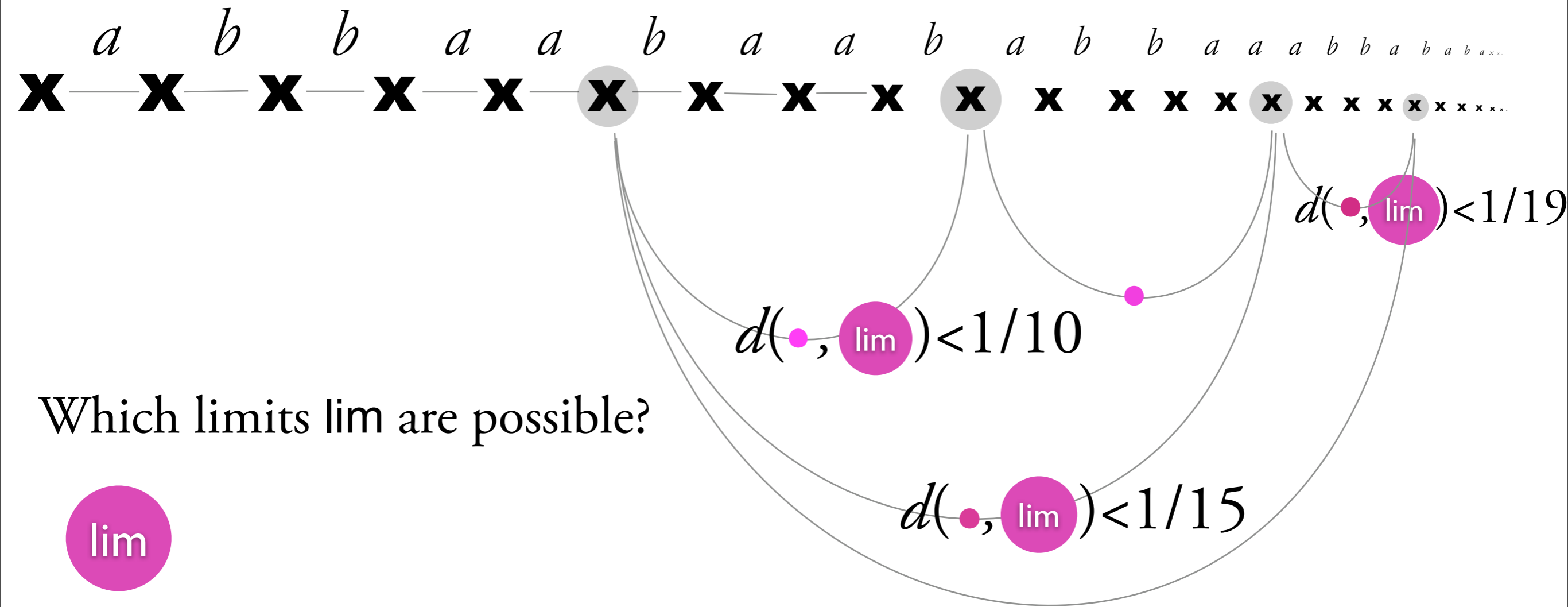


# Emptiness of min-automata



Counter  $c$  does *not* converge to  $\infty$   
 iff exists a counter  $d$  such that  
 $\text{lim}[d, d] = 0$  and  $\text{lim}[d, c] < \infty$ .

# Emptiness of min-automata



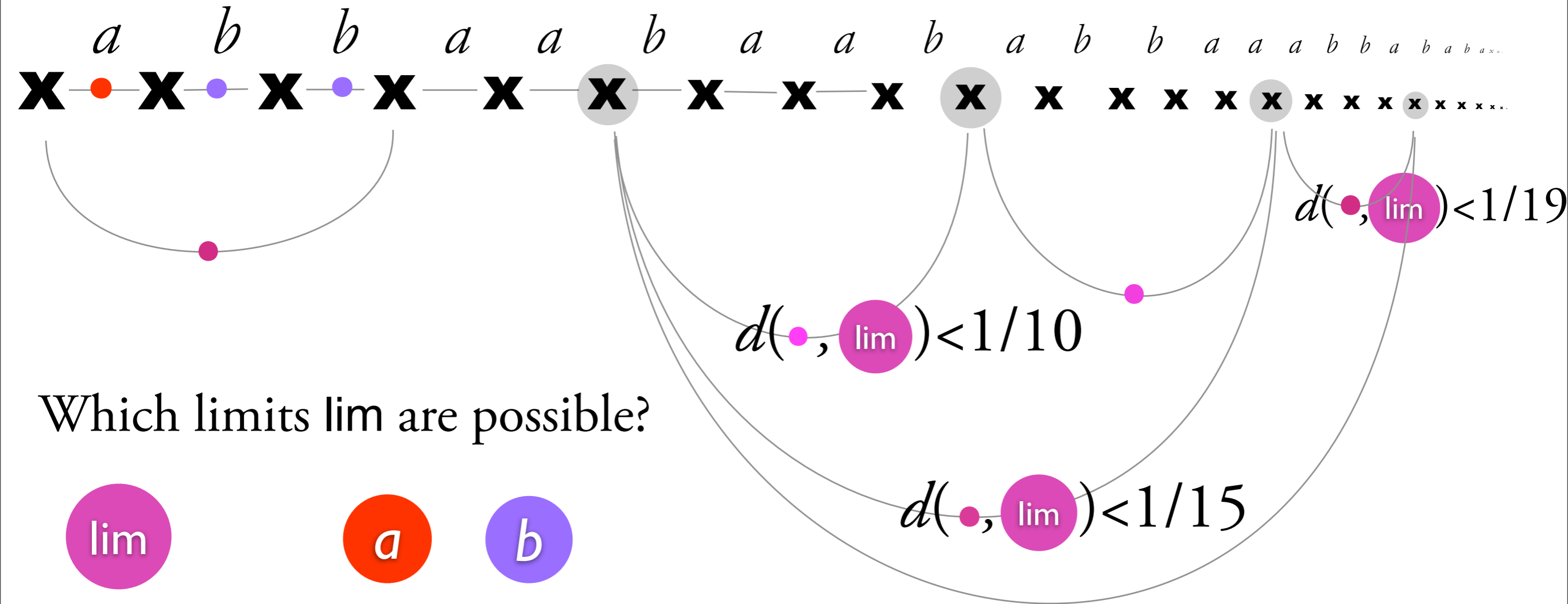
Which limits  $\text{lim}$  are possible?

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# Emptiness of min-automata



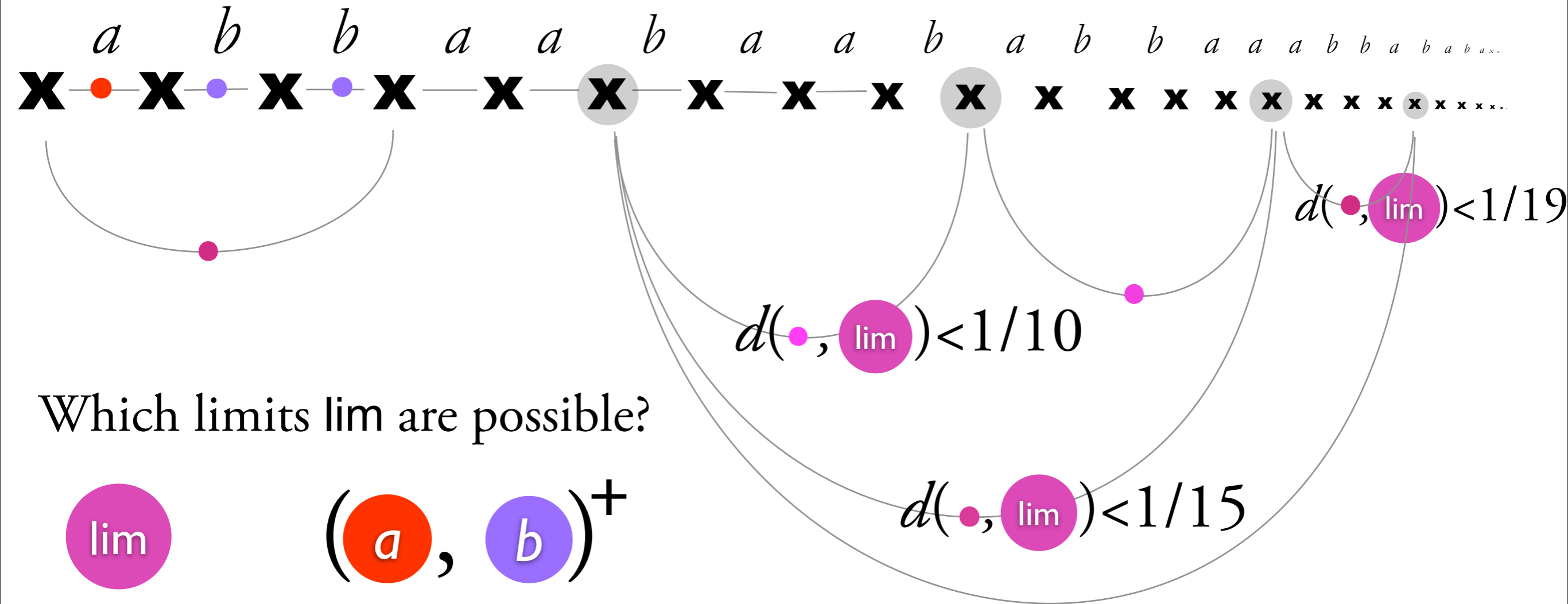
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# Emptiness of min-automata



Which limits  $\text{lim}$  are possible?

lim

a, 
 b
<sup>+</sup>

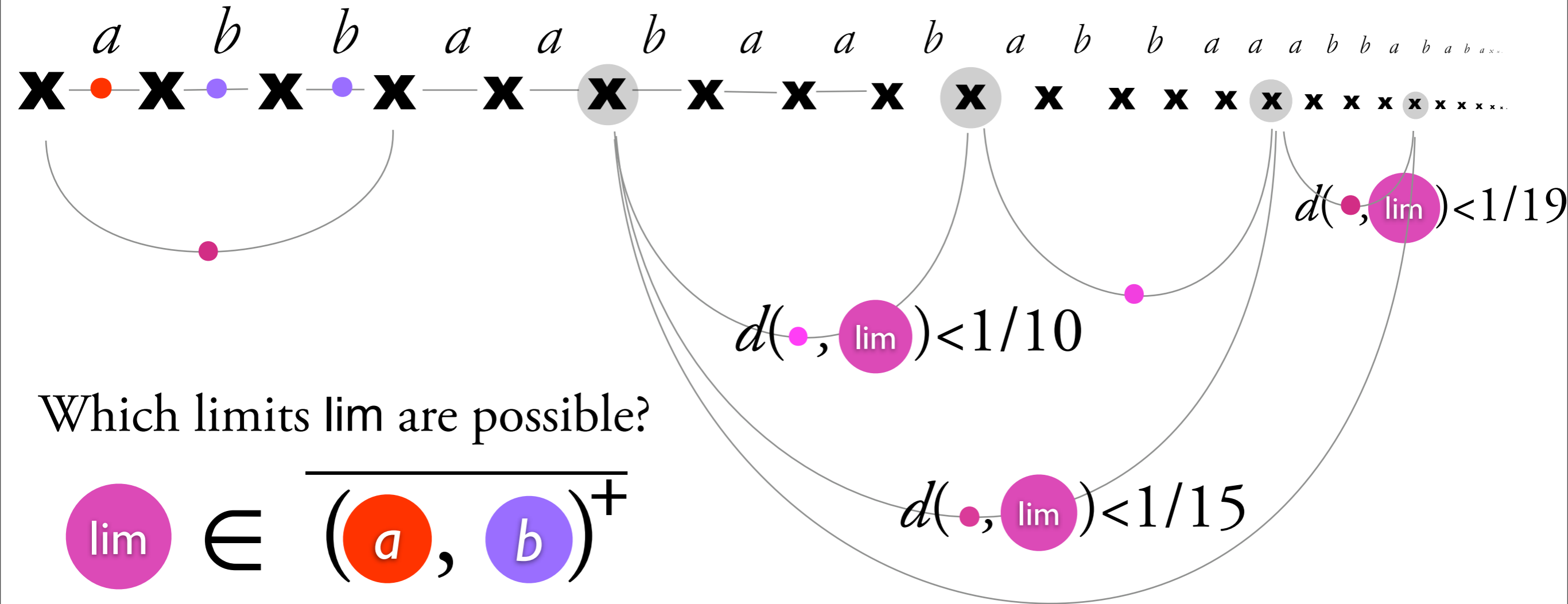
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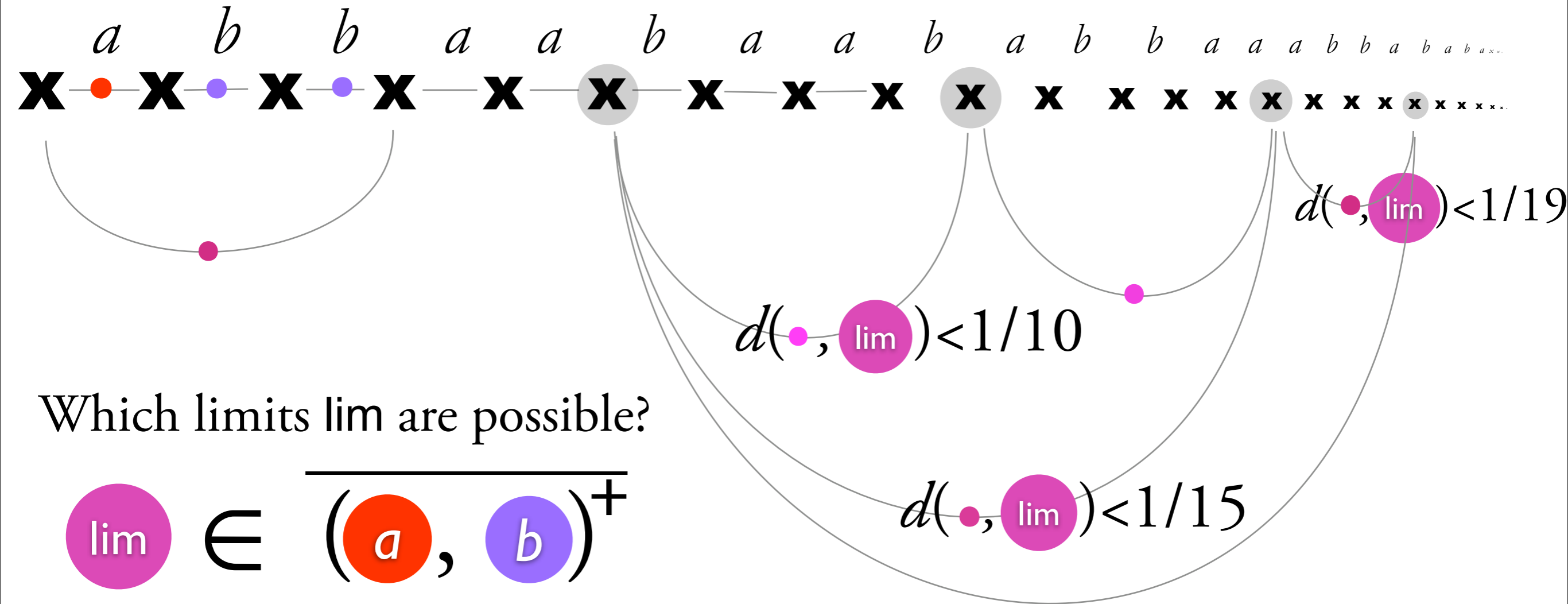
Which limits  $\text{lim}$  are possible?

$$\text{lim} \in \overline{(a, b)^+}$$

**Theorem.**  $\overline{(a, b)^+}$



# Emptiness of min-automata

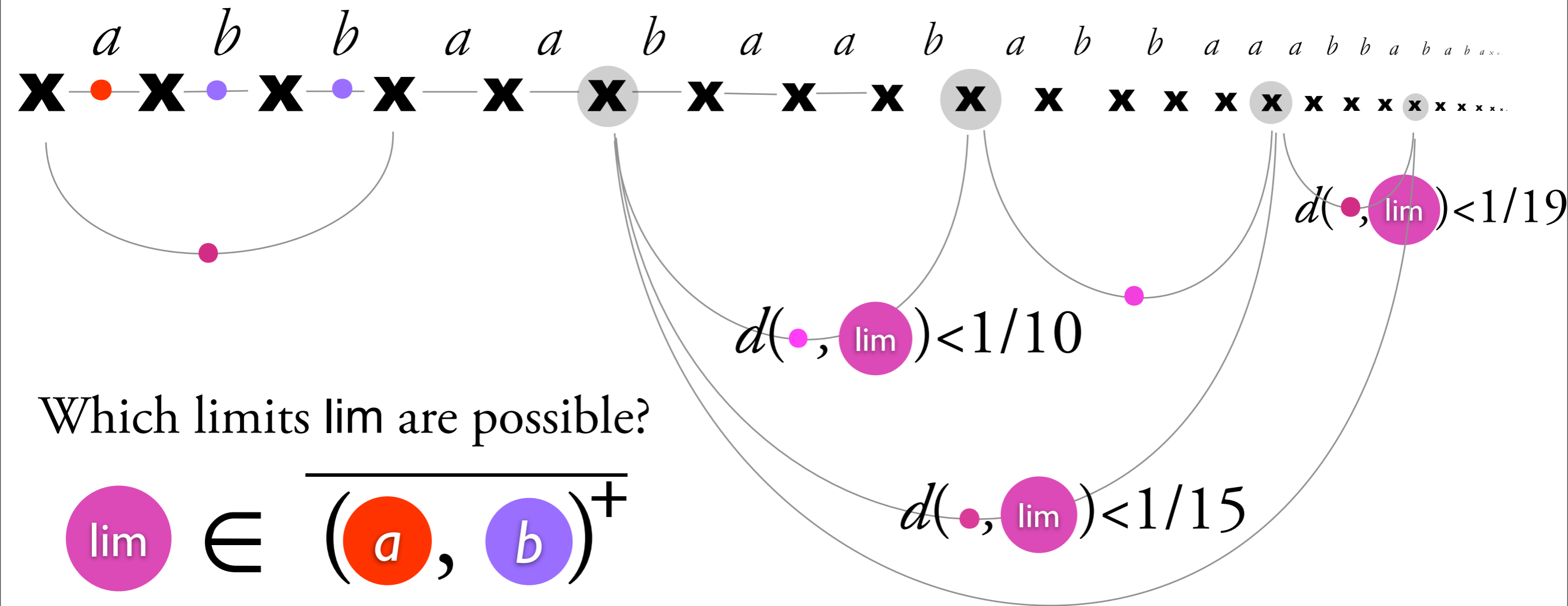


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**Theorem.**  $\overline{(a, b)^+} = a b$

# Emptiness of min-automata



Which limits  $\text{lim}$  are possible?

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**Theorem.**  $\overline{(a, b)^+} = (a, b)^{+, \omega}$





# Simon's Factorization Theorem

for semigroups with stabilization

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for semigroups with stabilization

semigroup with stabilization

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$$(S, \cdot, \#)$$

semigroup with stabilization

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- $s^\# = (s^n)^\#$  for  $n=1,2,3,\dots$

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## Example 1 (infinite)

$$(\{0,1,2,\dots,\infty\}, +, {}^\omega),$$

$$0^\omega = 0, \quad 1^\omega = 2^\omega = \dots = \infty$$

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$$(\{0, 1, 2, \dots, \infty\}, +, \omega),$$

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1,2,3... → 1

**Example 2** (finite)

$$(\{0, 1, \infty\}, +, \#),$$

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# Simon's Factorization Theorem

for semigroups with stabilization

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# Simon's Factorization Theorem

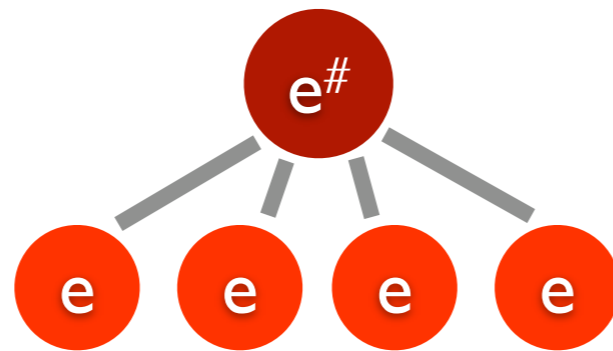
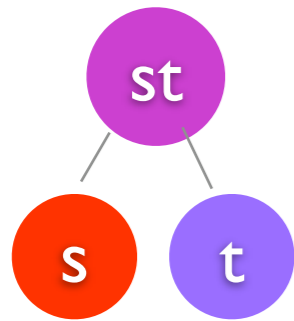
for semigroups with stabilization

Factorization tree of word  $w \in S^+$

Use the two rules to construct tree:

binary rule

idempotent rule



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# Simon's Factorization Theorem

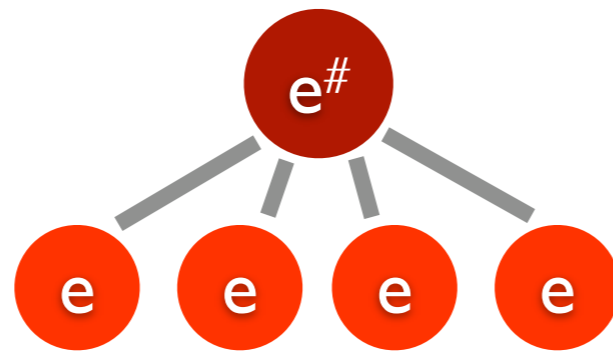
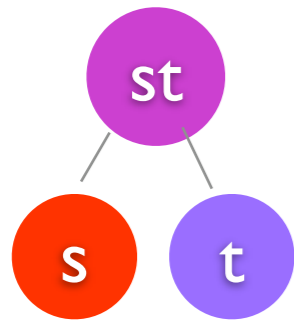
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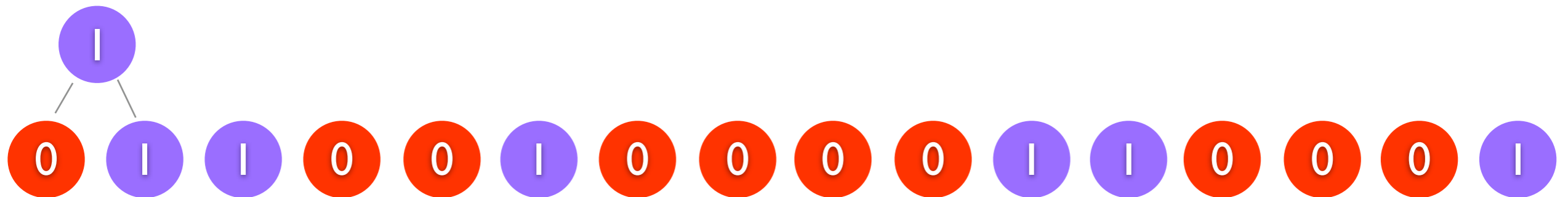
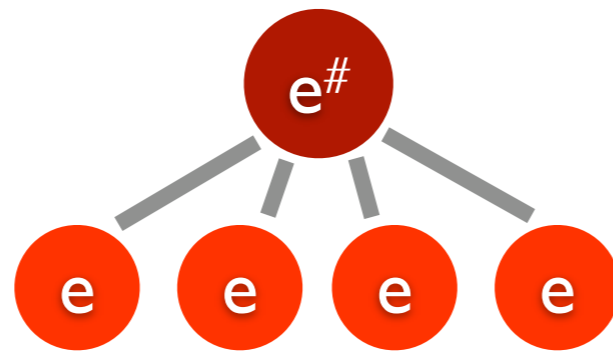
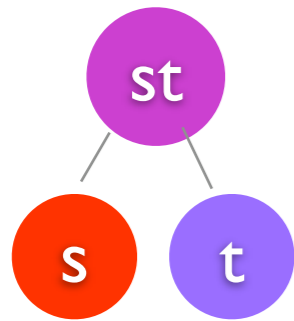
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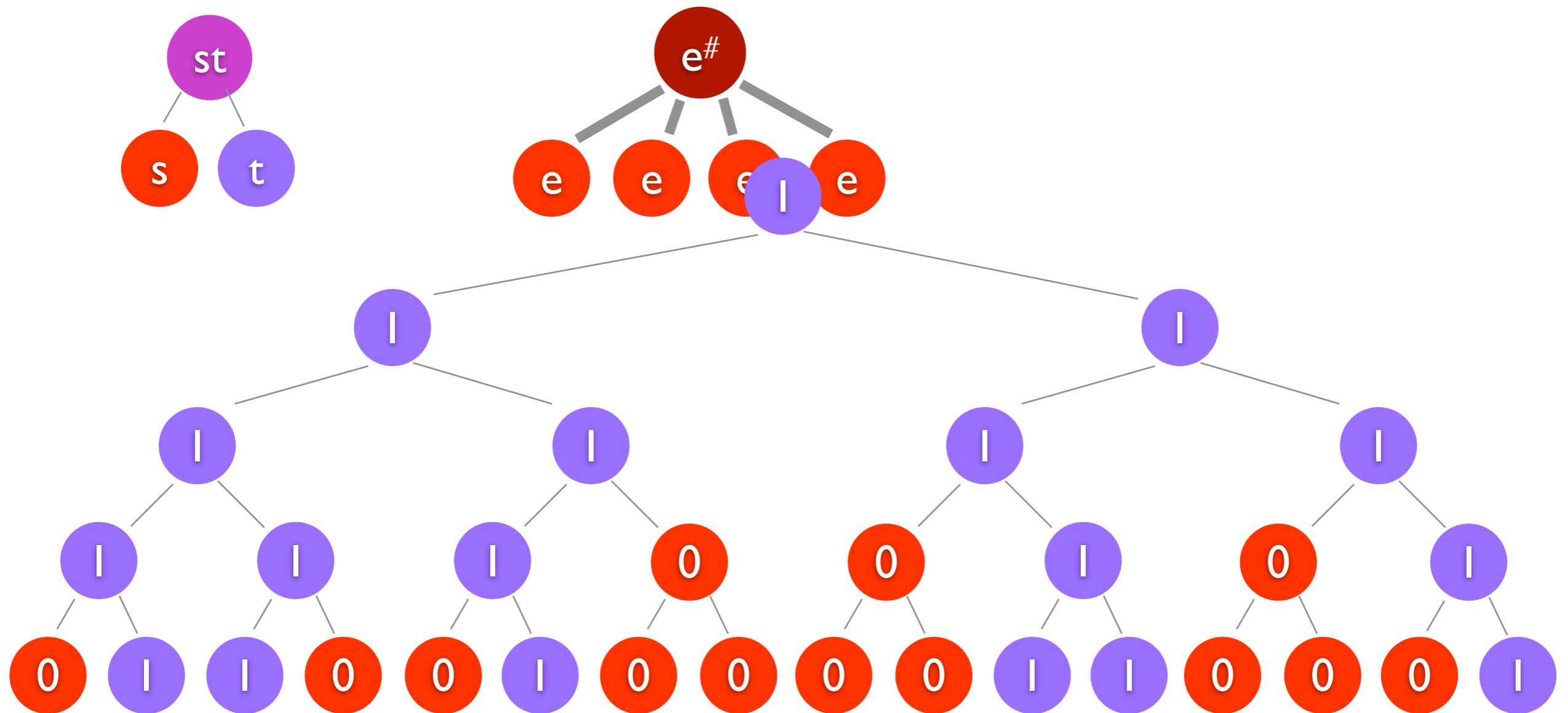
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# Simon's Factorization Theorem

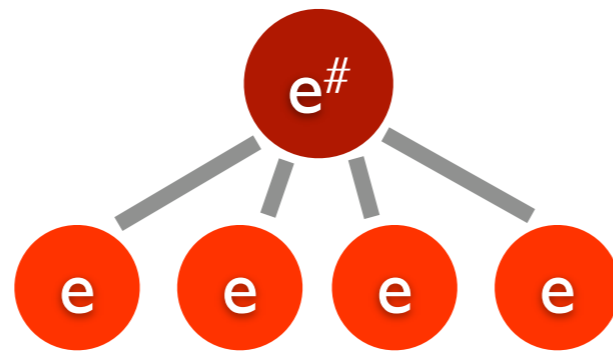
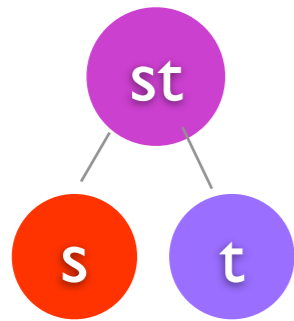
## for semigroups with stabilization

Factorization tree of word  $w \in S^+$

Use the two rules to construct tree:

binary rule

idempotent rule



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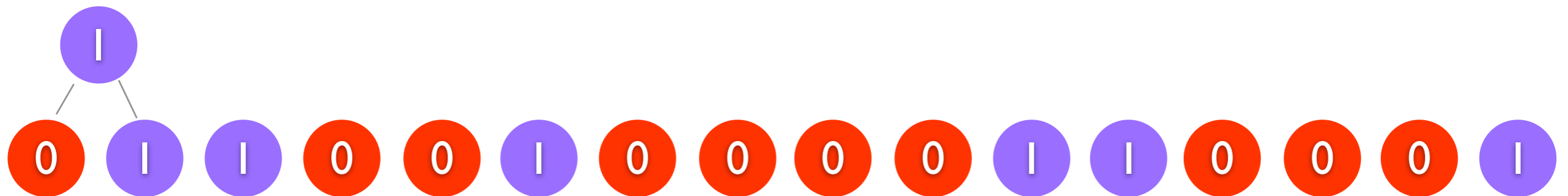
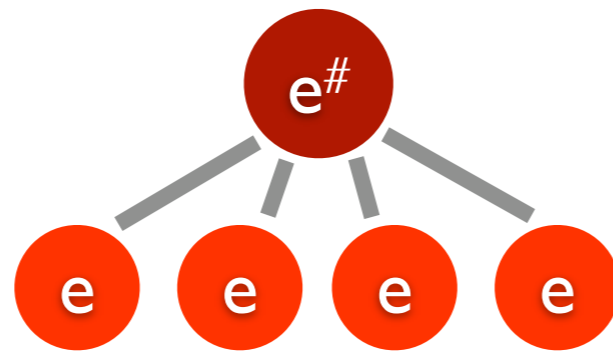
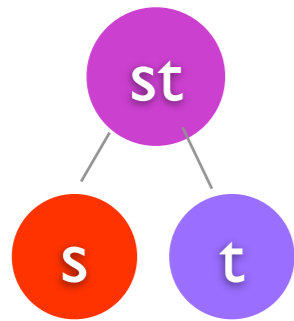
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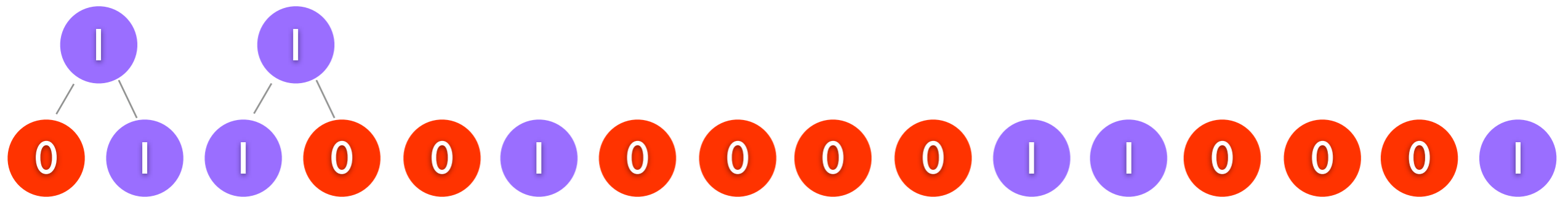
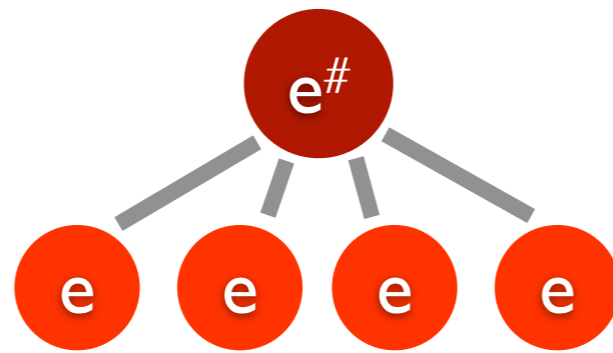
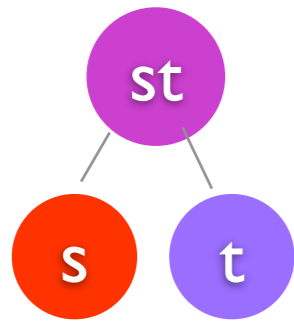
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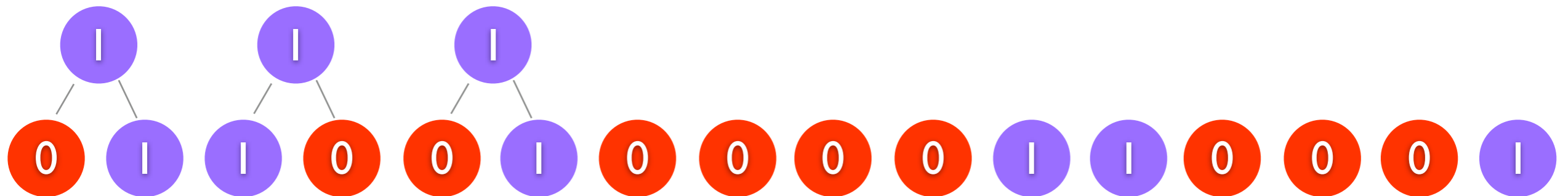
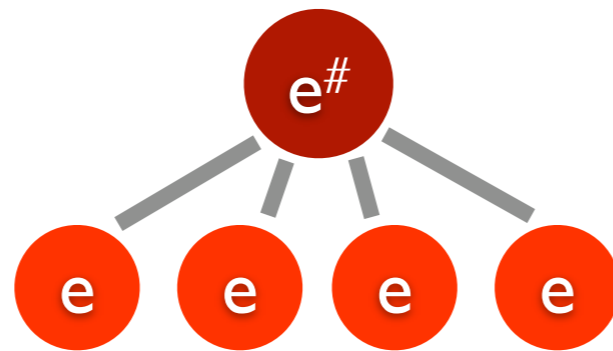
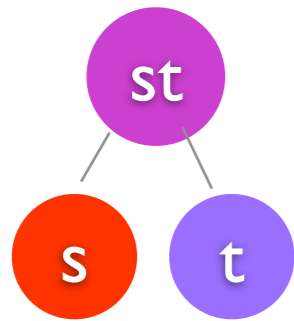
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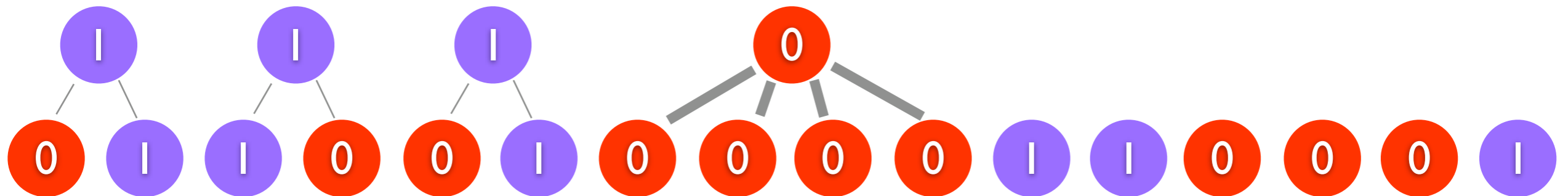
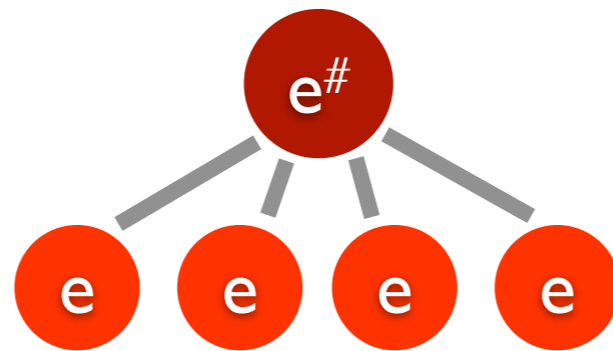
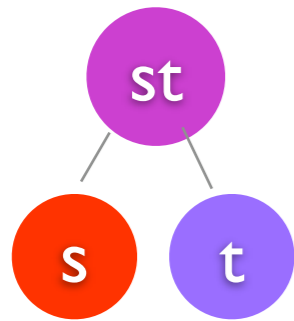
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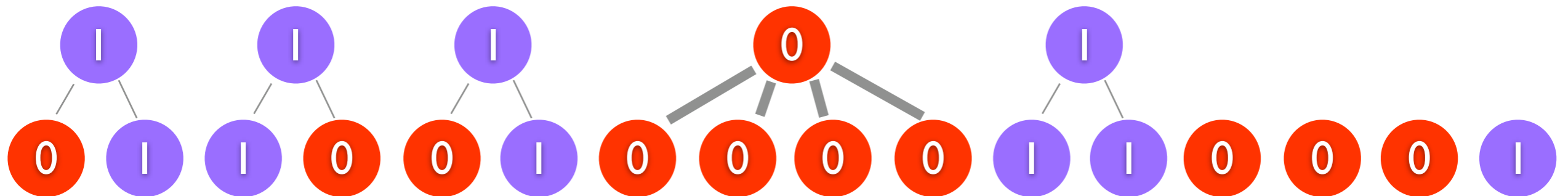
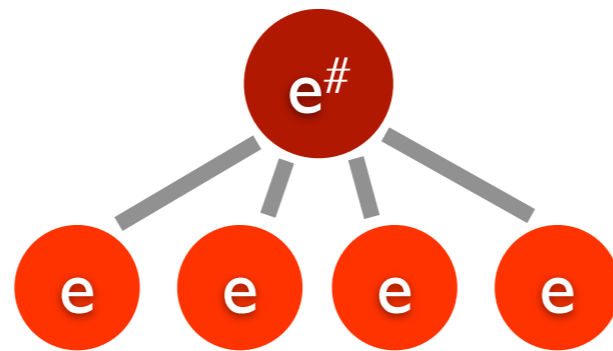
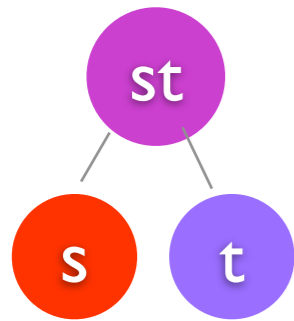
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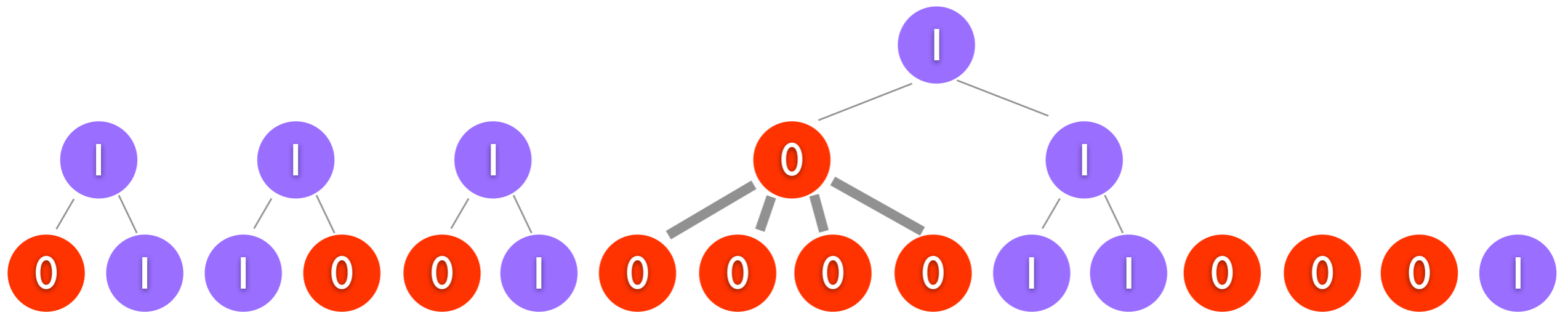
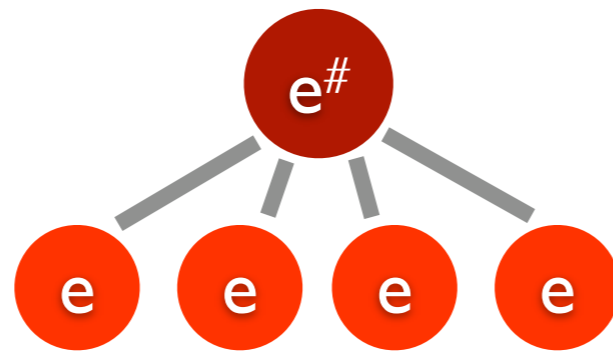
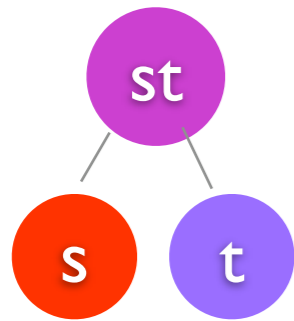
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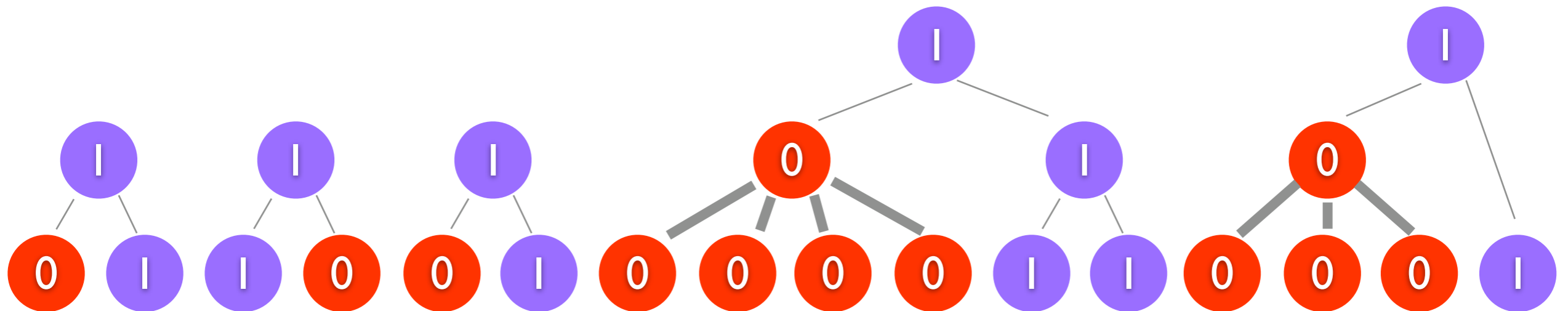
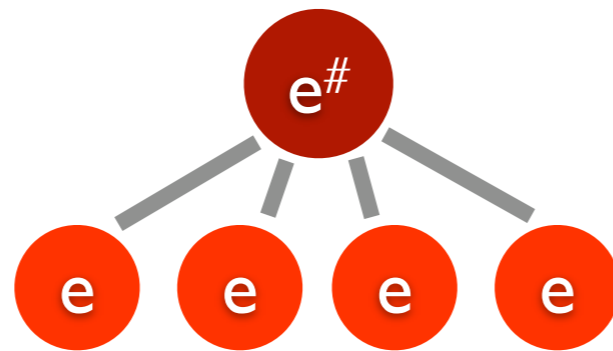
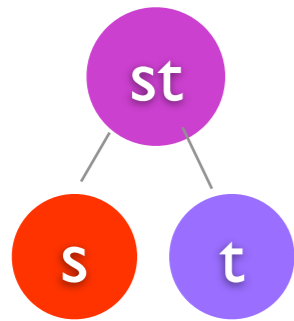
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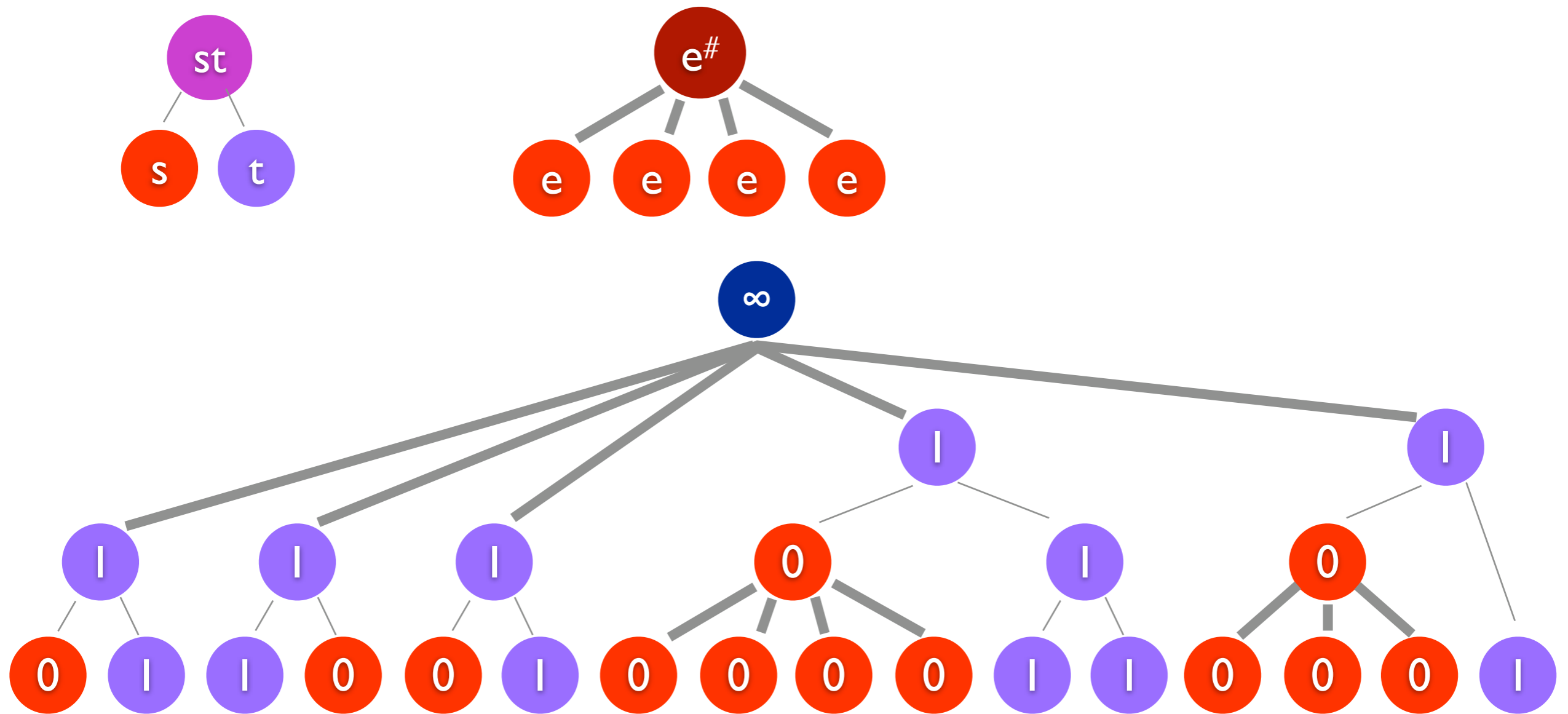
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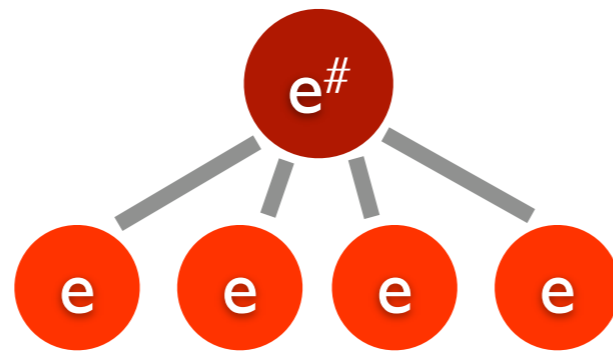
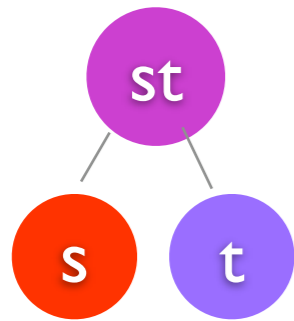
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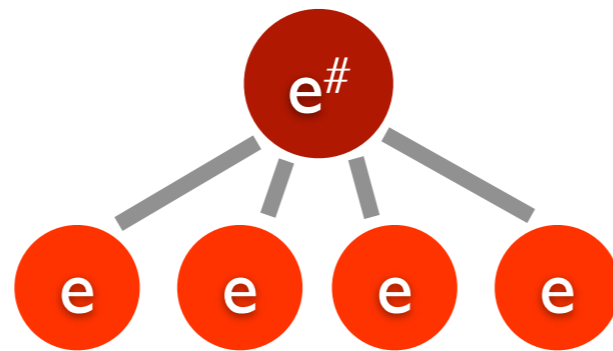
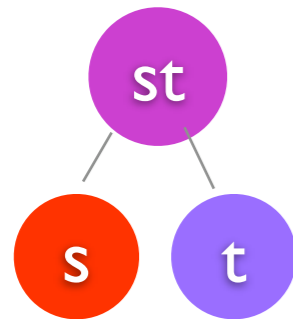
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**Theorem.** For any finite stabilization semigroup  $S$  and word  $w \in S^+$  there exists a factorization tree over  $w$  of height  $\leq 9|S|^2$ .





Thank you for your attention!