



**DEMO**

# Aside: Quantifiers

$$\forall x \in \{3,4,5\}. P(x)$$

$$P(3) \wedge P(4) \wedge P(5)$$

$$\forall x. x \in \{3,4,5\} \Rightarrow P(x) \quad \text{true} \wedge \text{true} \wedge P(3) \wedge P(4) \wedge P(5) \wedge \text{true} \wedge \text{true} \wedge \dots$$

$$\forall x. x \notin \{3,4,5\} \vee P(x)$$

$$\exists x \in \{3,4,5\}. P(x)$$

$$P(3) \vee P(4) \vee P(5)$$

$$\exists x. x \in \{3,4,5\} \wedge P(x) \quad \text{false} \vee \text{false} \vee P(3) \vee P(4) \vee P(5) \vee \text{false} \vee \text{false} \vee \dots$$

# Hardware & Software Verification

John Wickerson

Lecture 5: SAT and SMT solving

# Automatic proof

- We often rely on automatic provers:
  - e.g. in Dafny, to show that **invariant** **P** is preserved,
  - e.g. in Isabelle methods like **by auto**.
- How do these automatic provers work?

# SAT queries

- Simple case: proofs about Boolean statements.

- $f = (A \wedge \neg B \wedge C) \Rightarrow (C \vee (B \wedge A))$

- Formulas can be:

VALID

SATISFIABLE

UNSATISFIABLE

INVALID

*always false*

*sometimes false*

*always true*

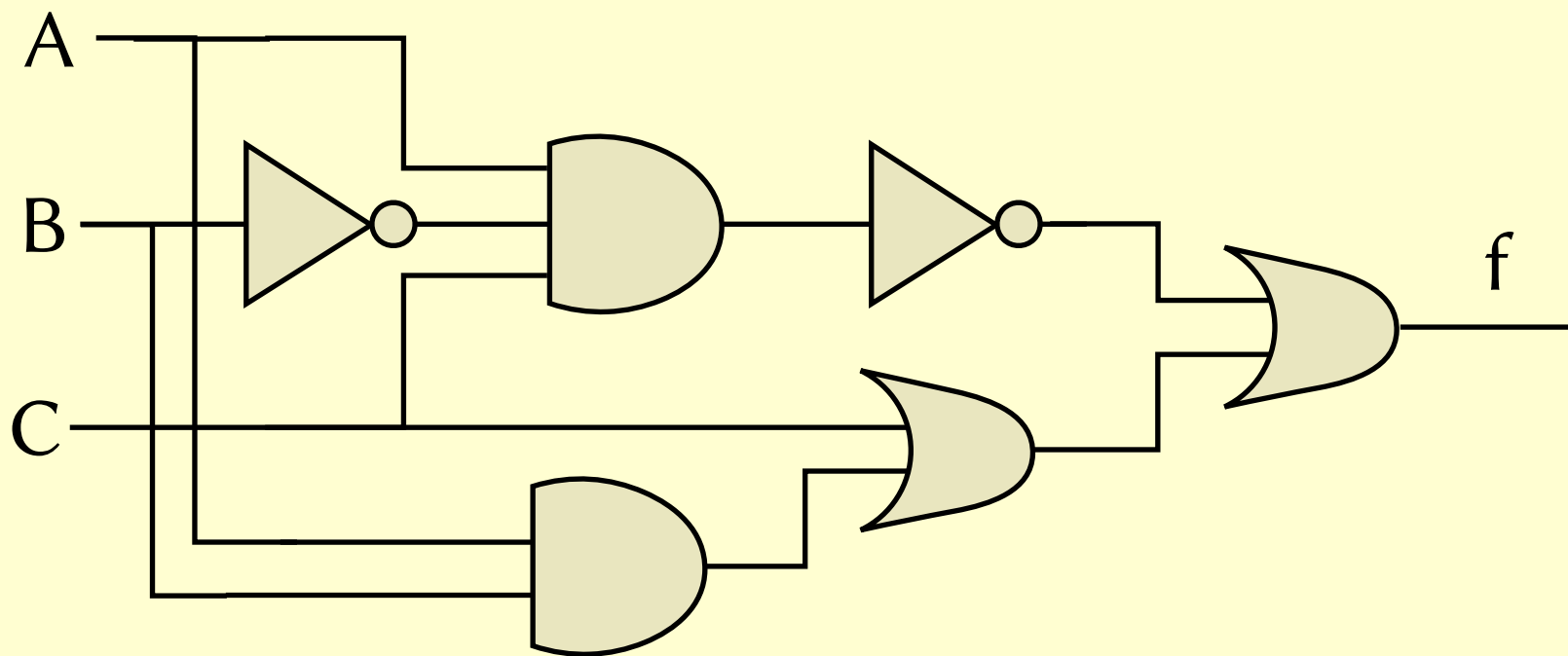
*sometimes true*

# SAT queries

- Simple case: proofs about Boolean statements.
  - $f = (A \wedge \neg B \wedge C) \Rightarrow (C \vee (B \wedge A))$

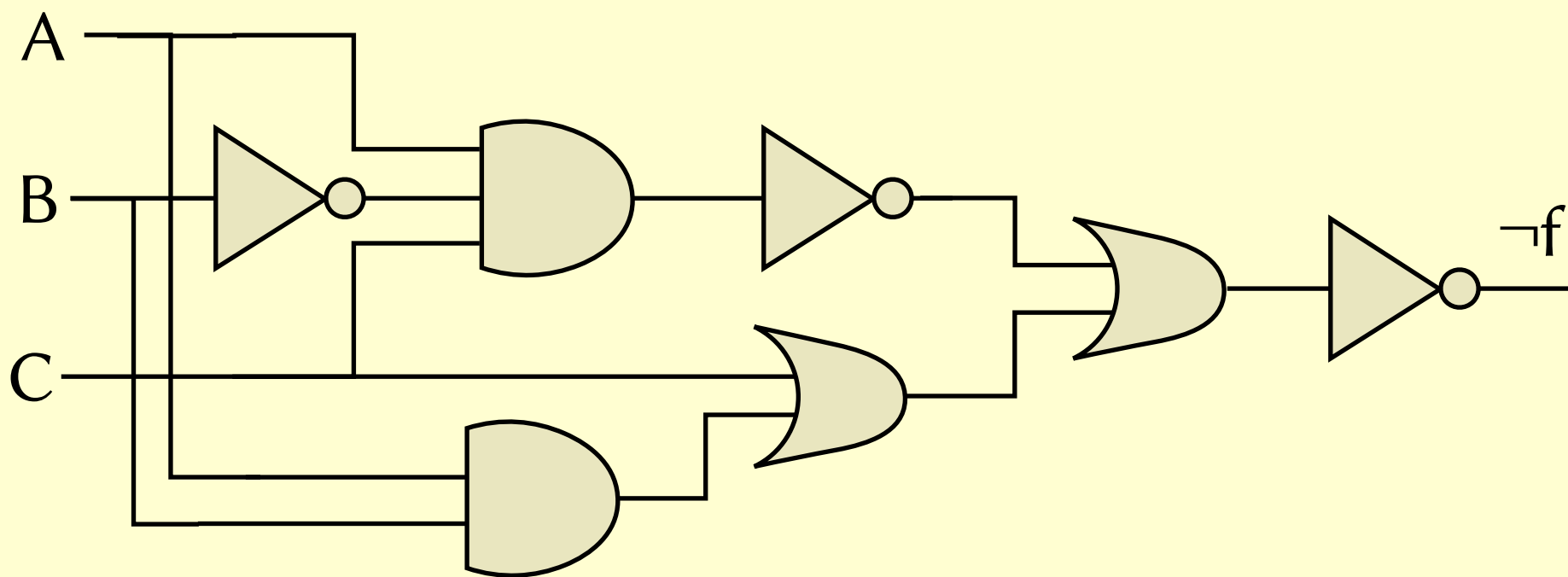
# SAT queries

- Simple case: proofs about Boolean statements.
  - $f = \neg(A \wedge \neg B \wedge C) \vee (C \vee (B \wedge A))$



# SAT queries

- Simple case: proofs about Boolean statements.
  - $f = \neg(A \wedge \neg B \wedge C) \vee (C \vee (B \wedge A))$



A	B	C	$\neg f$
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
1	1	0	0
1	1	1	0



# SAT solving

- A simple algorithm:

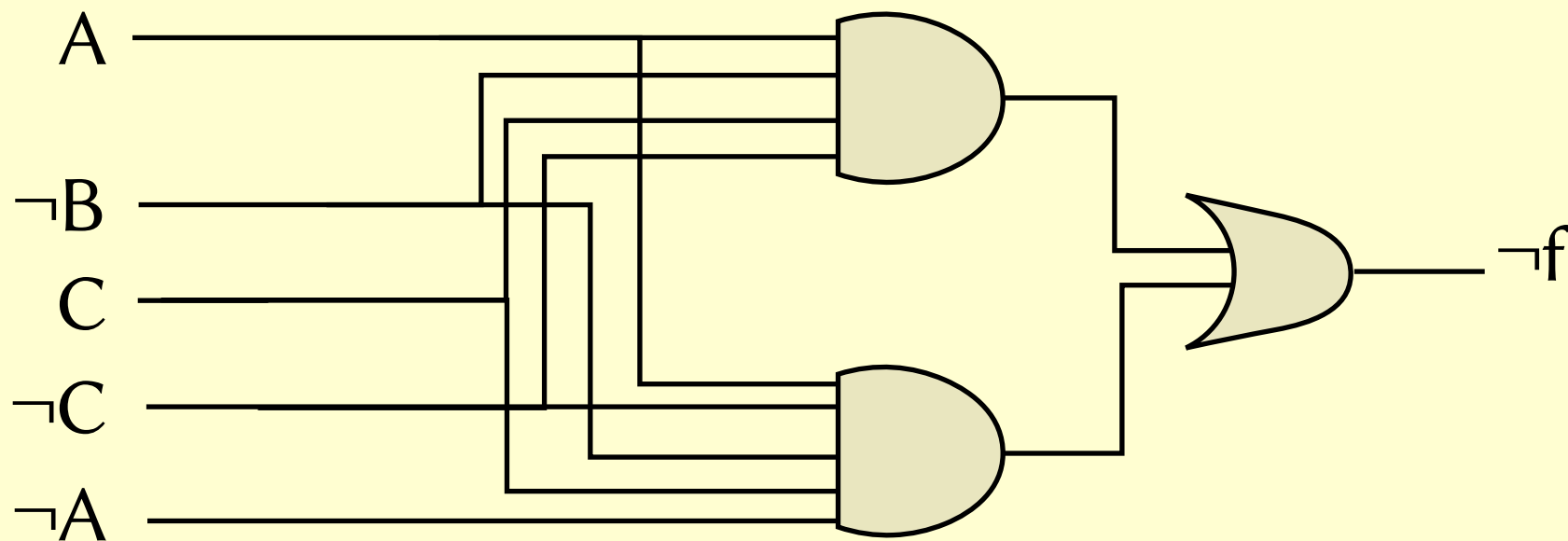
```
for A in {0, 1}:  
    for B in {0, 1}:  
        for C in {0, 1}:  
            if  $\neg f(A, B, C) = 1$ :  
                return ("SAT", [A, B, C])  
return ("UNSAT")
```

- **Problem:** if the formula has  $N$  variables, this algorithm has exponential time-complexity,  $O(2^N)$ . 😞

# SAT solving

- **Idea:** Use de Morgan's laws to convert formula into *disjunctive normal form*.

$$\neg f = (A \wedge \neg B \wedge C \wedge \neg C) \vee (A \wedge \neg C \wedge \neg B \wedge C \wedge \neg A)$$



- **Hooray:** checking satisfiability becomes trivial!

# SAT solving

- **Problem:** converting into disjunctive normal form has exponential time-complexity.

$$A \wedge \neg B \wedge C \wedge D \wedge \neg E \wedge F \wedge (\textcolor{red}{G} \vee \textcolor{green}{H})$$

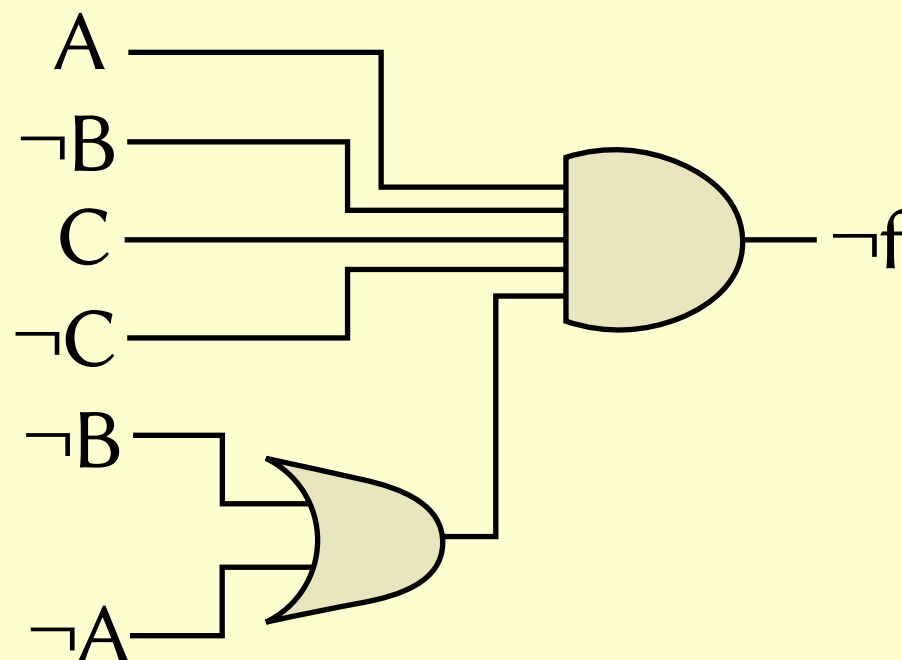


$$(A \wedge \neg B \wedge C \wedge D \wedge \neg E \wedge F \wedge \textcolor{red}{G}) \vee (A \wedge \neg B \wedge C \wedge D \wedge \neg E \wedge F \wedge \textcolor{green}{H})$$

# SAT solving

- **Idea:** Use de Morgan's laws to convert formula into *conjunctive normal form*.

$$\neg f = A \wedge \neg B \wedge C \wedge \neg C \wedge (\neg B \vee \neg A)$$



# SAT solving

- **Problem:** converting into conjunctive normal form still has exponential time-complexity.

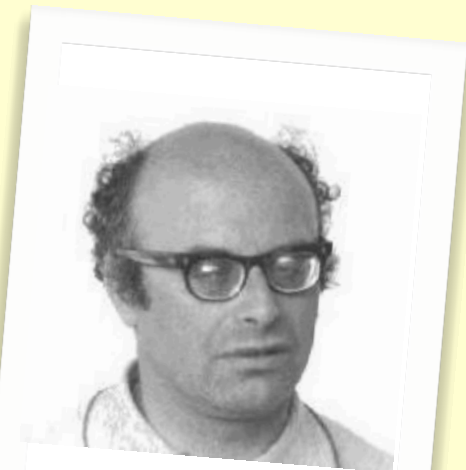
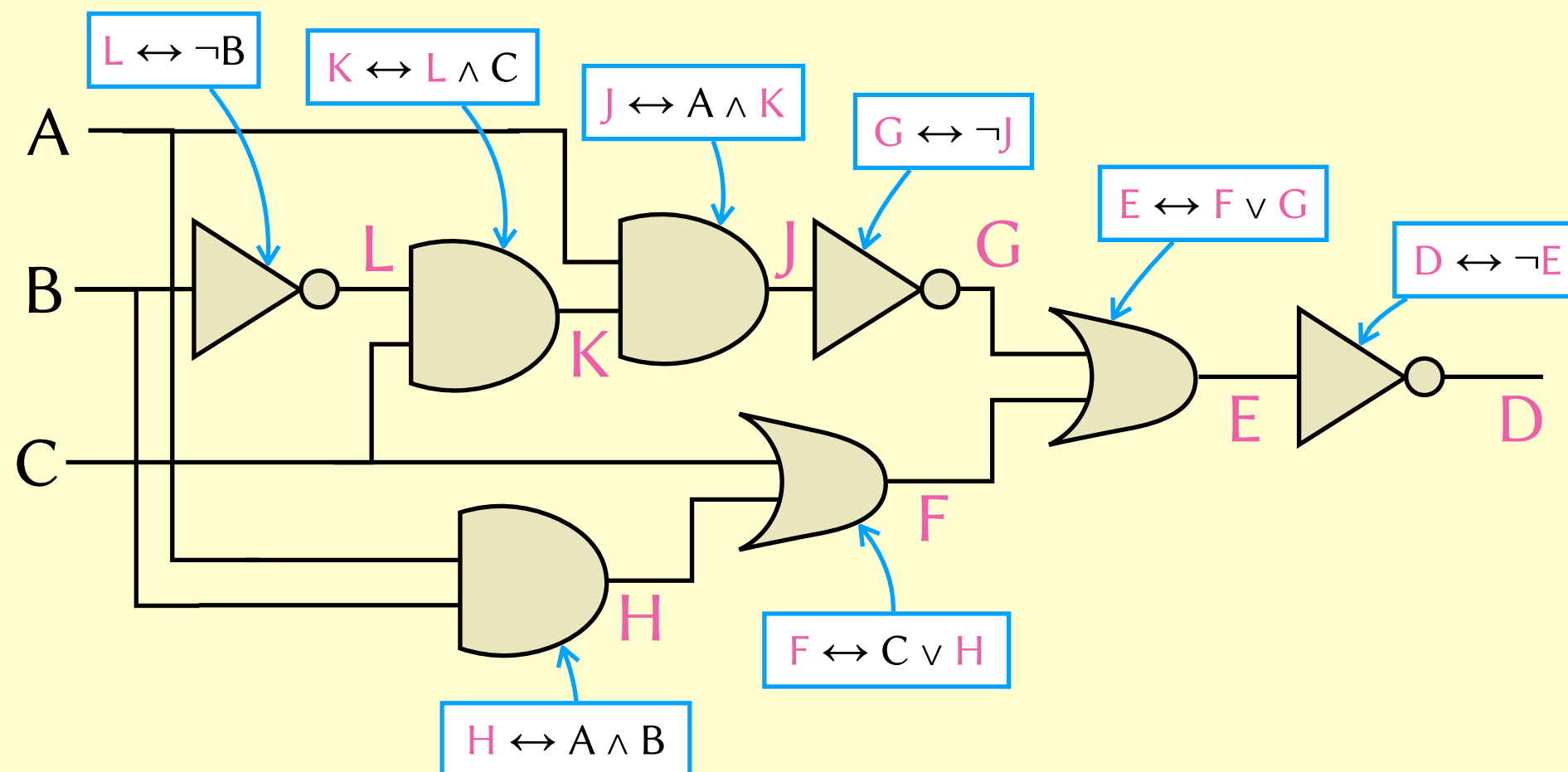
$$A \vee \neg B \vee C \vee D \vee \neg E \vee F \vee (\textcolor{red}{G} \wedge \textcolor{green}{H})$$



$$(A \vee \neg B \vee C \vee D \vee \neg E \vee F \vee \textcolor{red}{G}) \wedge (A \vee \neg B \vee C \vee D \vee \neg E \vee F \vee \textcolor{green}{H})$$

# SAT solving

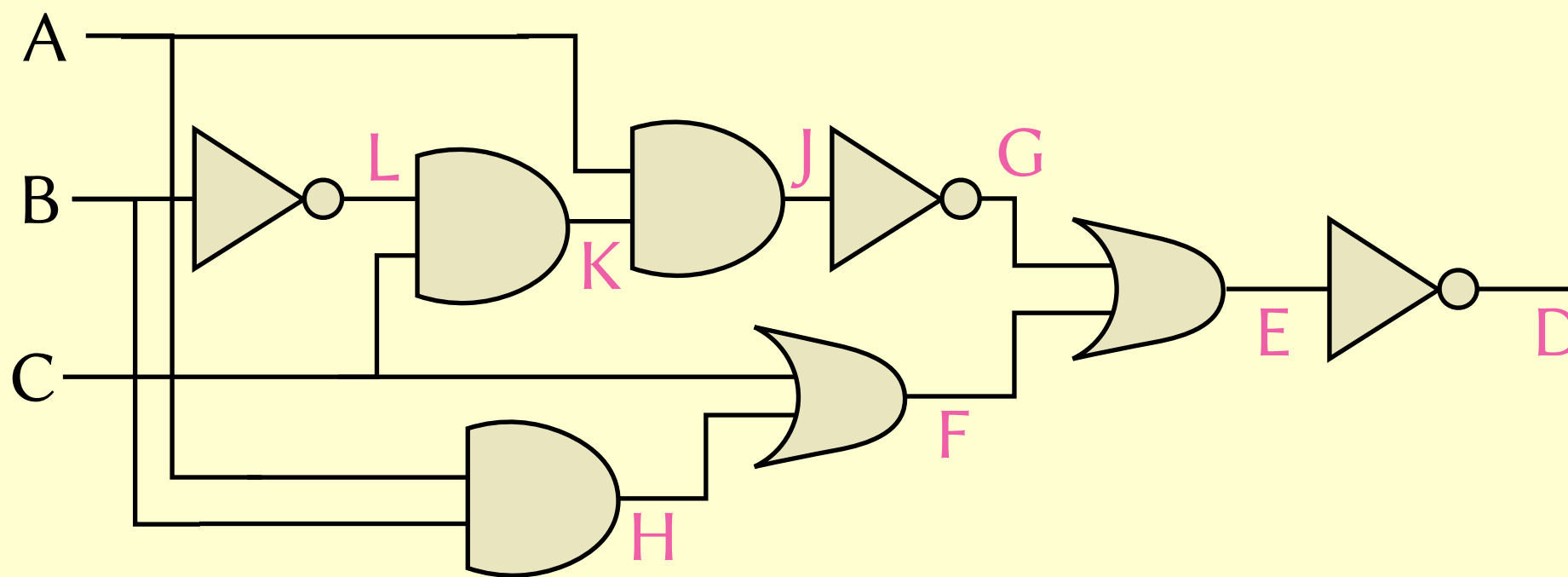
- **Solution:** the Tseitin transform. Make a fresh variable for each wire. Associate each gate with an equality.



Gregory Tseitin  
1936–2022

# SAT solving

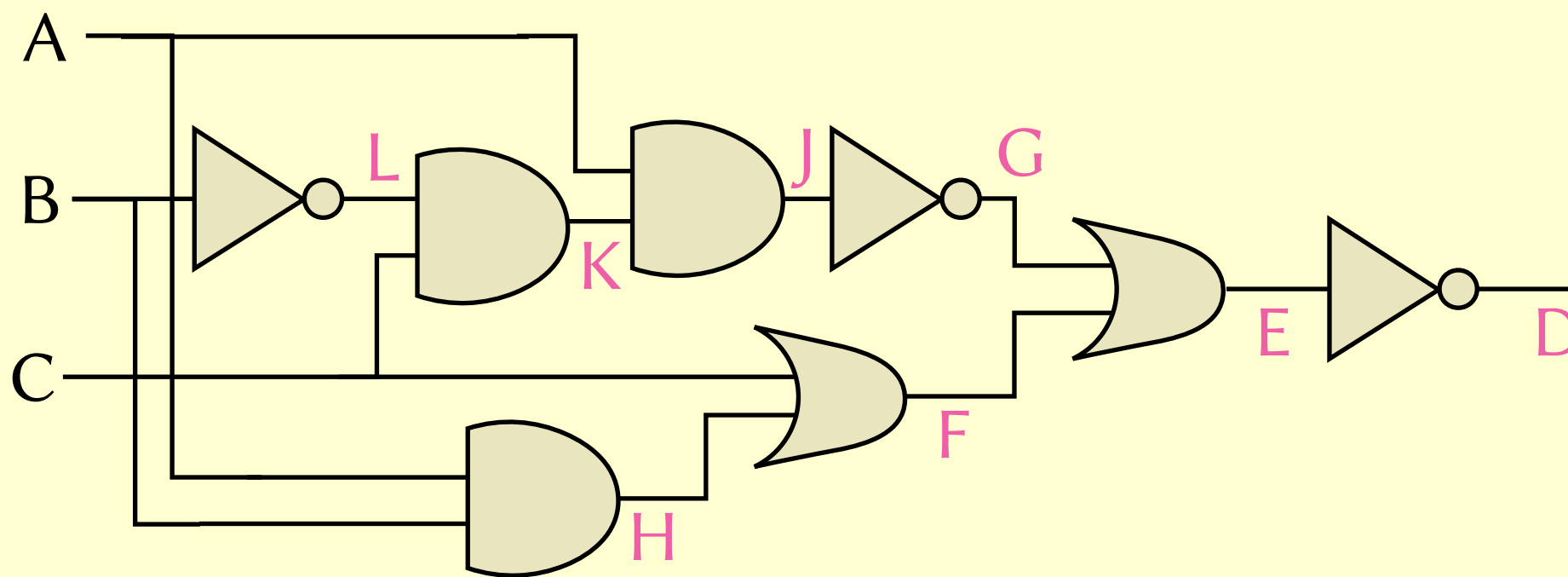
- **Solution:** the Tseitin transform. Make a fresh variable for each wire. Associate each gate with an equality.



$$\begin{aligned}
 & L \leftrightarrow \neg B \quad \wedge \\
 & K \leftrightarrow L \wedge C \quad \wedge \\
 & J \leftrightarrow A \wedge K \quad \wedge \\
 & G \leftrightarrow \neg J \quad \wedge \\
 & E \leftrightarrow F \vee G \quad \wedge \\
 & D \leftrightarrow \neg E \quad \wedge \\
 & F \leftrightarrow C \vee H \quad \wedge \\
 & H \leftrightarrow A \wedge B \quad \wedge D
 \end{aligned}$$

# SAT solving

- **Solution:** the Tseitin transform. Make a fresh variable for each wire. Associate each gate with an equality.



$$L \leftrightarrow \neg B \quad \wedge$$

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$$E \leftrightarrow F \vee G \quad \wedge$$

$$D \leftrightarrow \neg E \quad \wedge$$

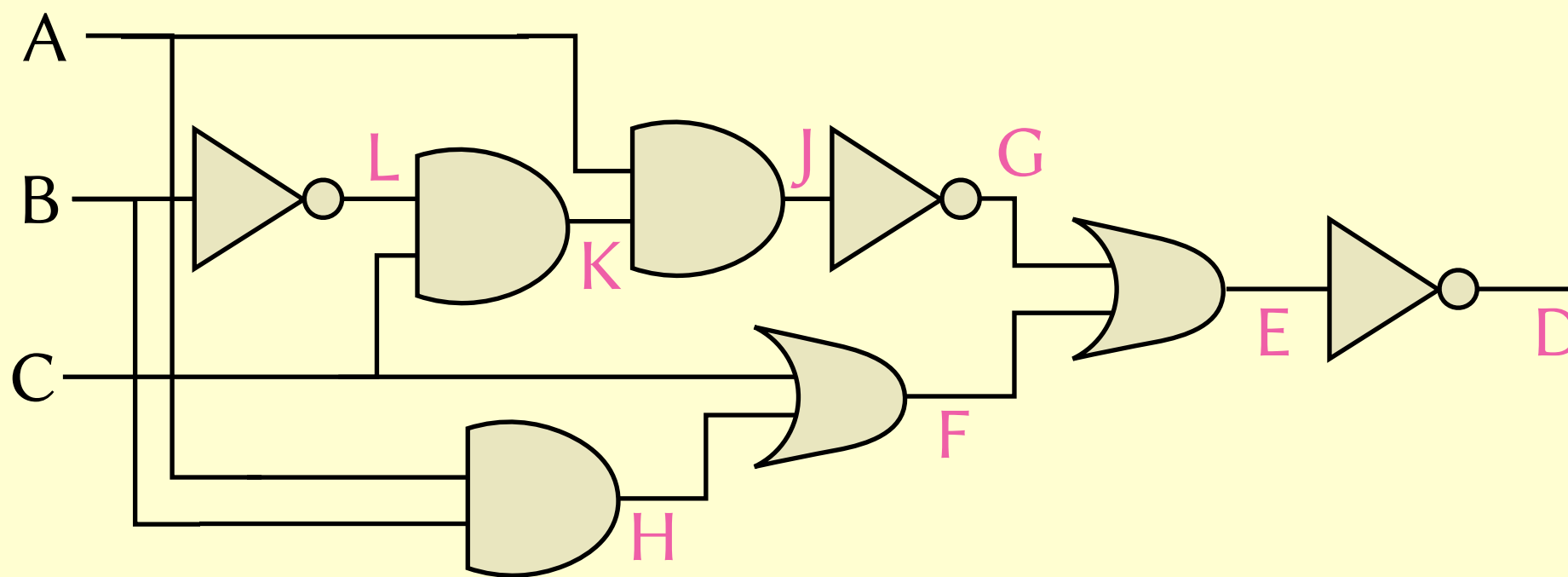
$$F \leftrightarrow C \vee H \quad \wedge$$

$$H \rightarrow A \wedge B \quad \wedge \quad A \wedge B \rightarrow H \quad \wedge \quad D$$



# SAT solving

- **Solution:** the Tseitin transform. Make a fresh variable for each wire. Associate each gate with an equality.



$$L \leftrightarrow \neg B \quad \wedge$$

$$K \leftrightarrow L \wedge C \quad \wedge$$

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$$E \leftrightarrow F \vee G \quad \wedge$$

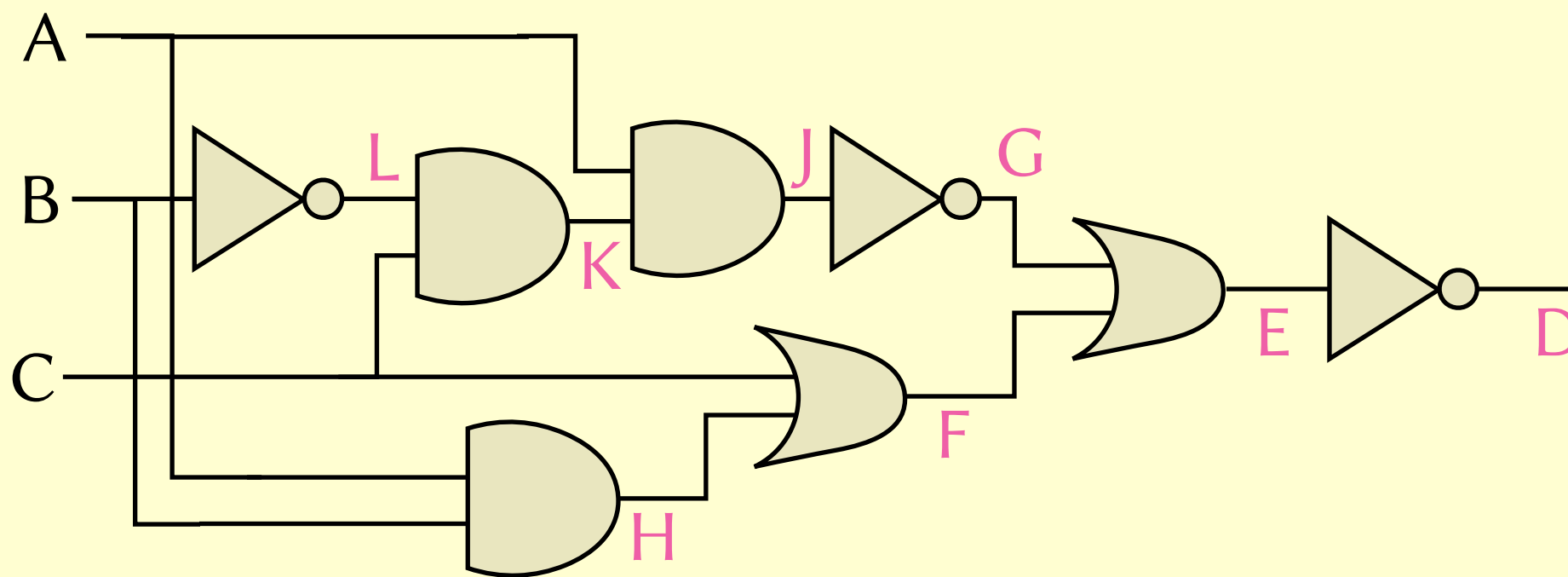
$$D \leftrightarrow \neg E \quad \wedge$$

$$F \leftrightarrow C \vee H \quad \wedge$$

$$\neg H \vee (A \wedge B) \quad \wedge \quad \neg(A \wedge B) \vee H \quad \wedge \quad D$$

# SAT solving

- **Solution:** the Tseitin transform. Make a fresh variable for each wire. Associate each gate with an equality.



$$L \leftrightarrow \neg B \quad \wedge$$

$$K \leftrightarrow L \wedge C \quad \wedge$$

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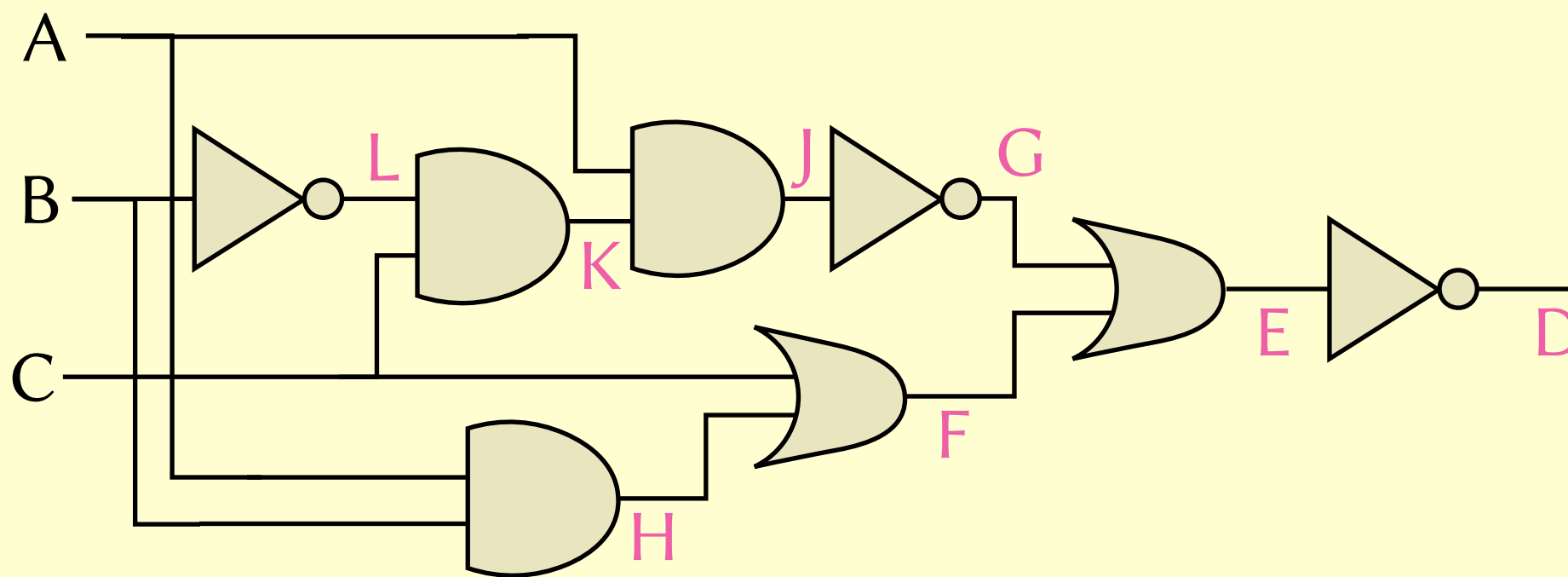
$$D \leftrightarrow \neg E \quad \wedge$$

$$F \leftrightarrow C \vee H \quad \wedge$$

$$\neg H \vee A \quad \wedge \quad \neg H \vee B \quad \wedge \quad \neg(A \wedge B) \vee H \quad \wedge \quad D$$

# SAT solving

- **Solution:** the Tseitin transform. Make a fresh variable for each wire. Associate each gate with an equality.



$$L \leftrightarrow \neg B \quad \wedge$$

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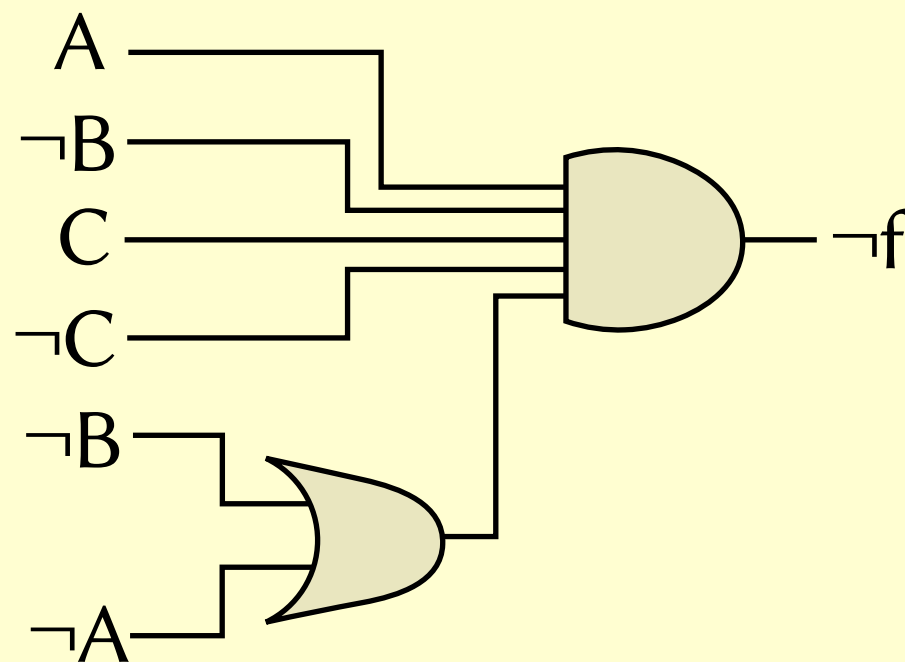
$$D \leftrightarrow \neg E \quad \wedge$$

$$F \leftrightarrow C \vee H \quad \wedge$$

$$\neg H \vee A \quad \wedge \quad \neg H \vee B \quad \wedge \quad \neg A \vee \neg B \vee H \quad \wedge \quad D$$

# SAT solving

- **Problem:** the satisfiability problem for CNF is difficult (unlike for DNF).

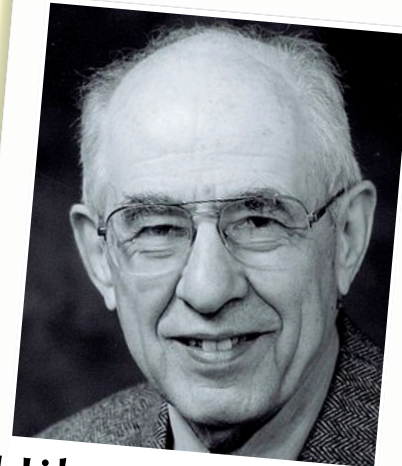


# SAT solving

- **Problem:** the satisfiability problem for CNF is difficult (unlike for DNF).
- **Solution:** Davis and Putnam to the rescue!



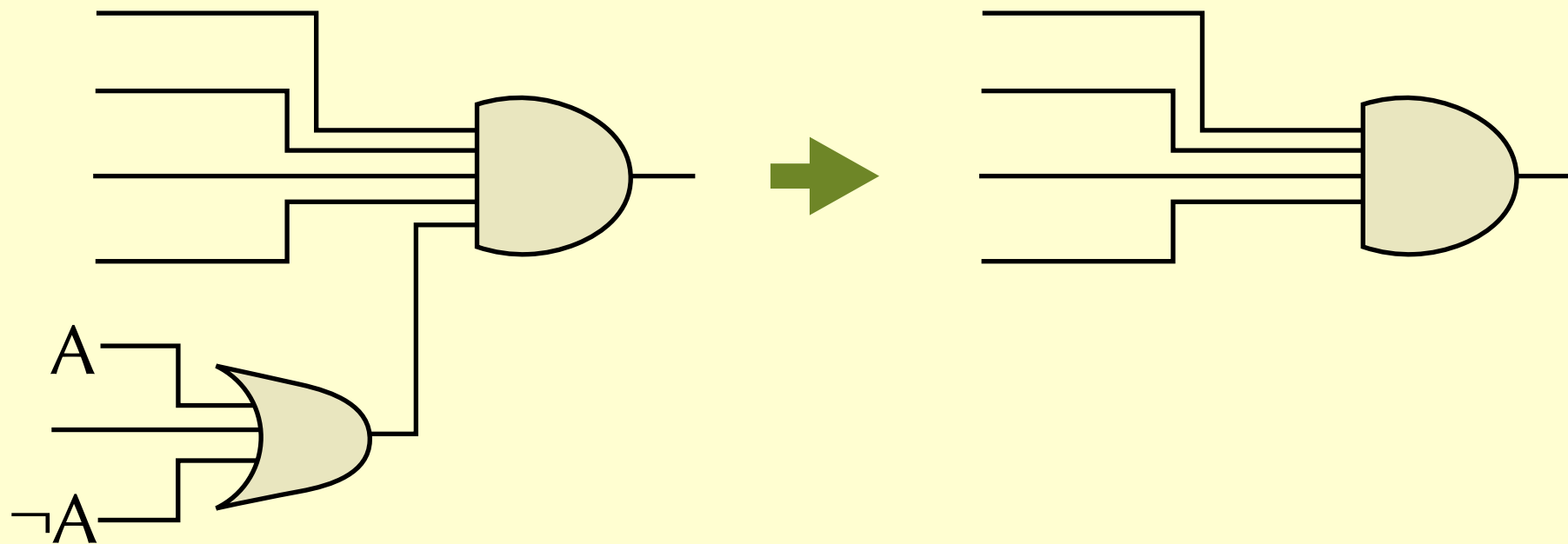
Martin Davis  
1928–2023



Hilary Putnam  
1926–2016

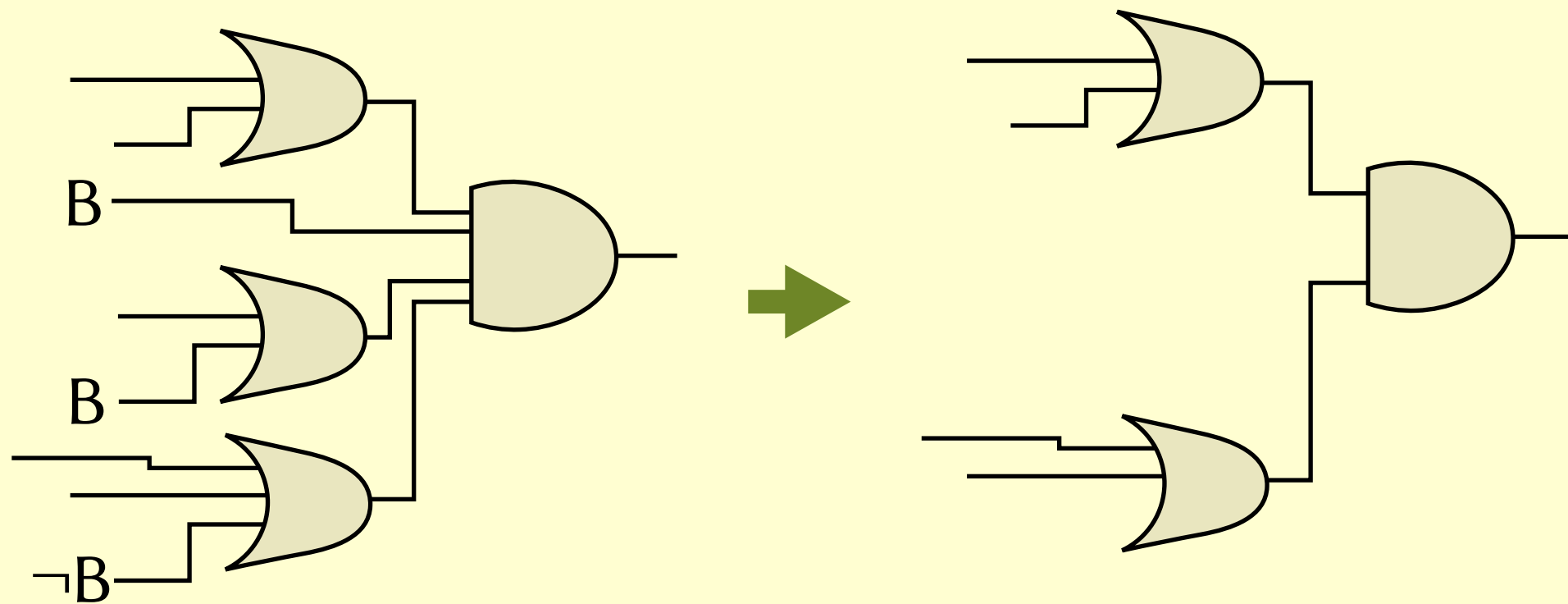
# The DP method

1. If an OR-gate takes both  $L$  and  $\neg L$ , delete it.



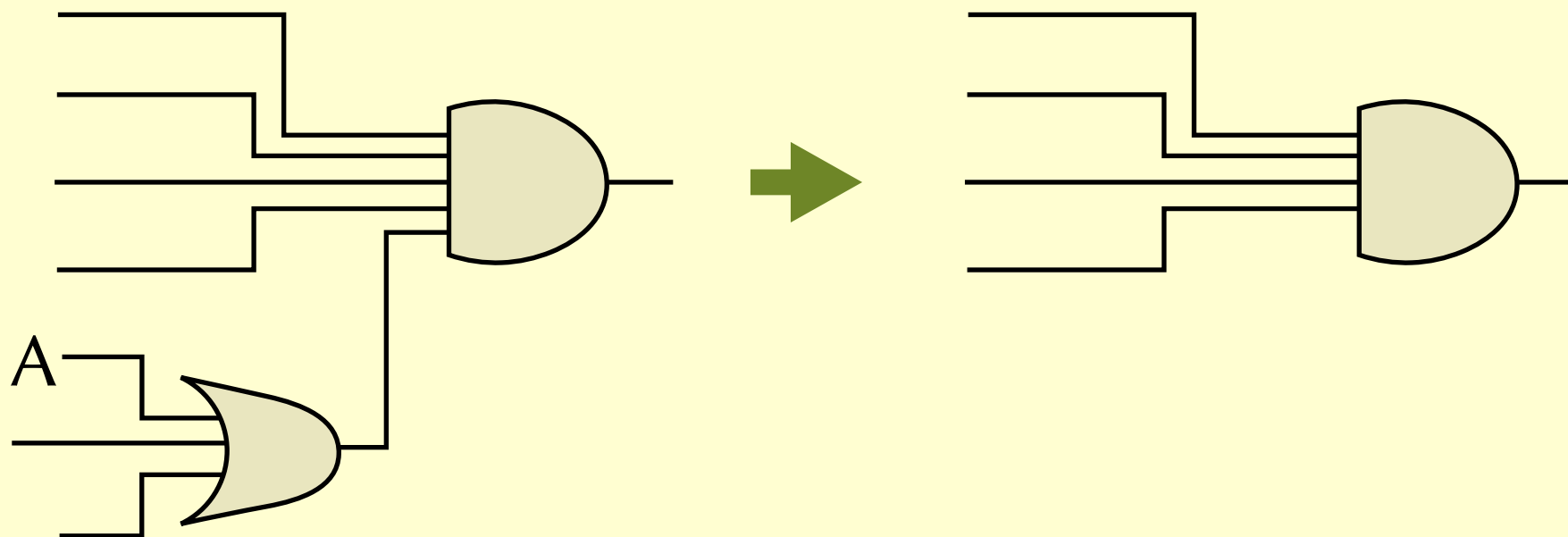
# The DP method

1. If an OR-gate takes both  $L$  and  $\neg L$ , delete it.
2. If  $L$  is connected directly to the AND-gate, delete it, delete all OR-gates that take  $L$ , and delete any connections to  $\neg L$ .  
(The solution, if it exists, will surely involve setting  $L=1$ .)



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3. If  $L$  is unused, delete all OR-gates that take  $\neg L$ .  
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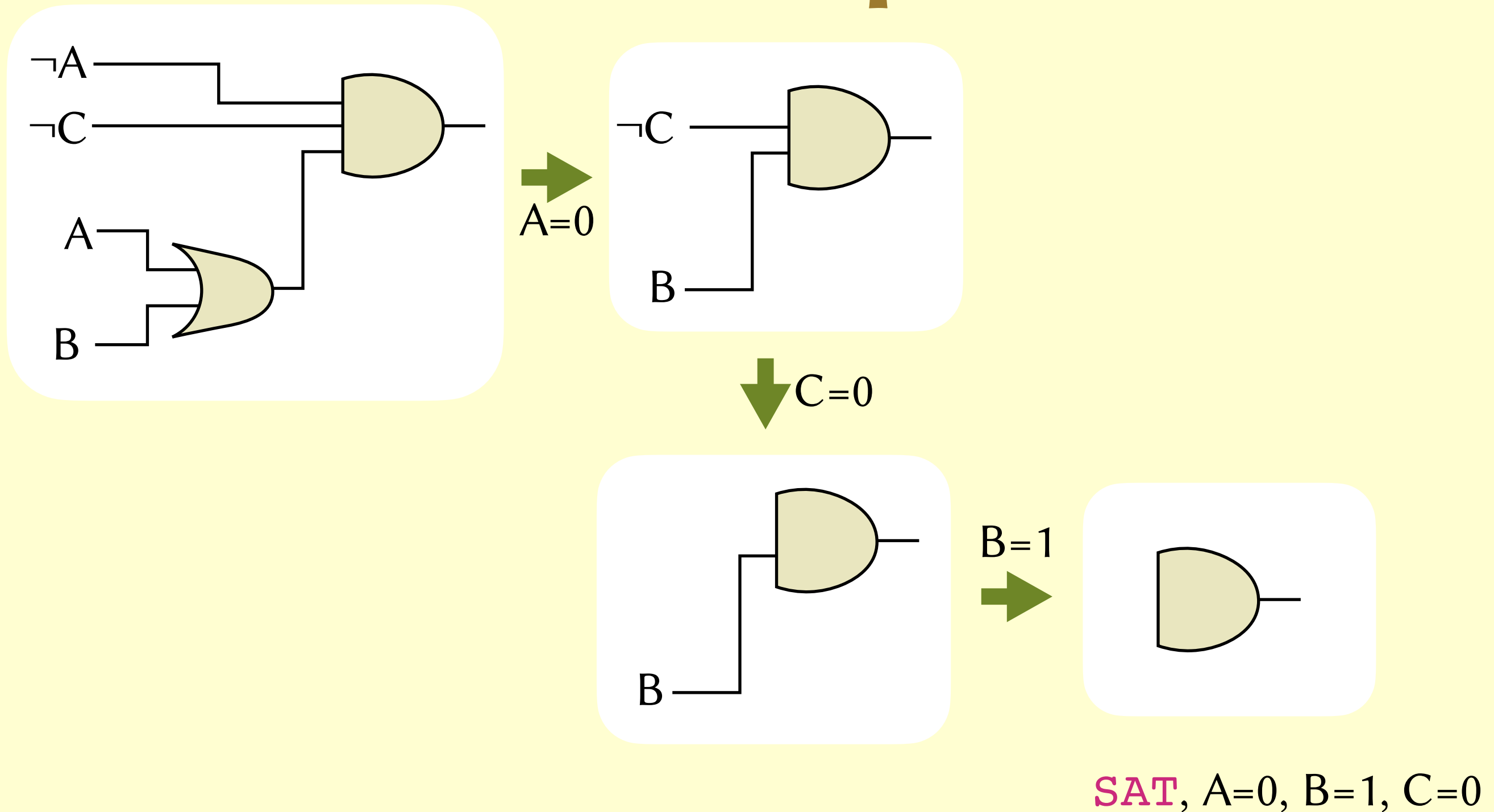




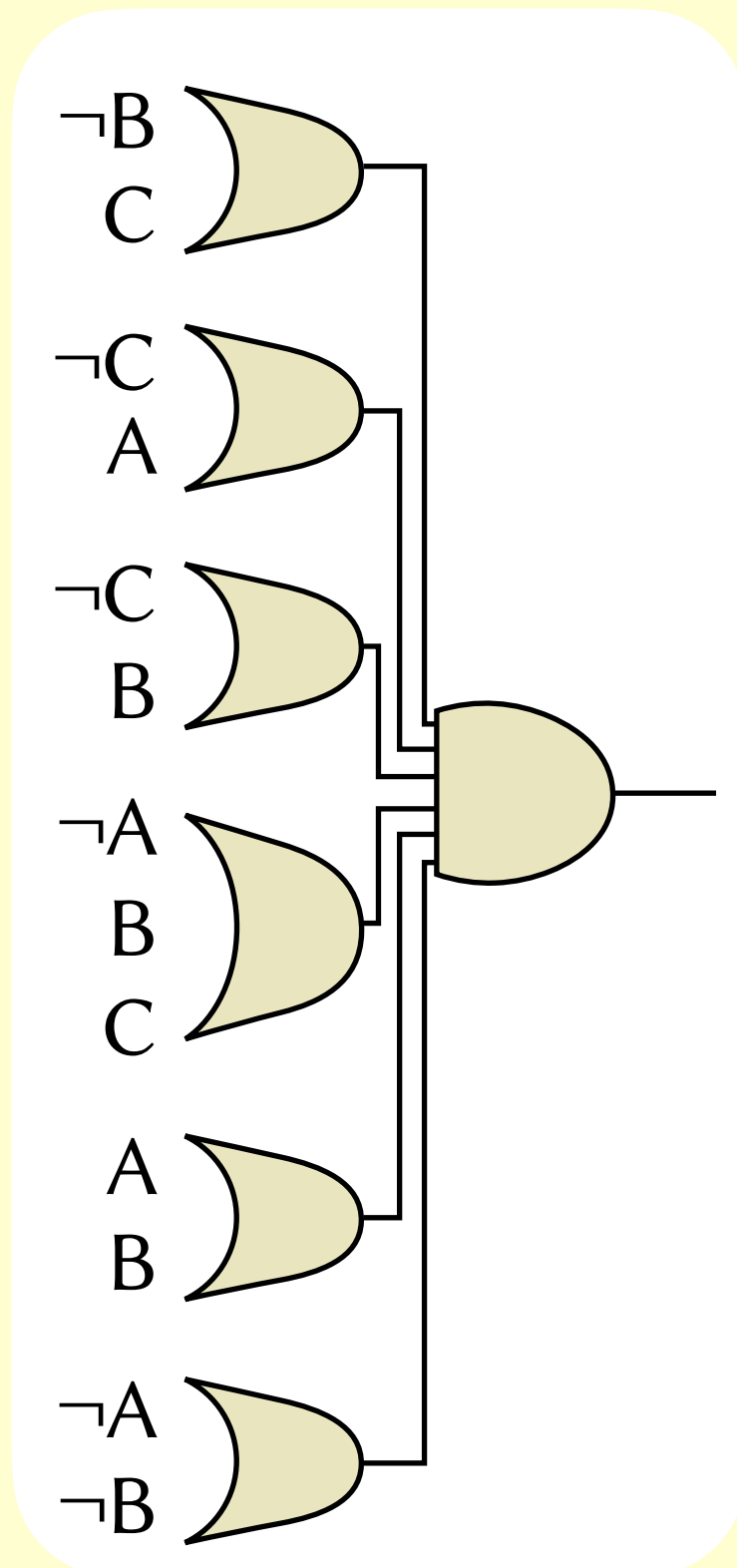
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(The solution, if it exists, will surely involve setting  $L=1$ .)
3. If  $L$  is unused, delete all OR-gates that take  $\neg L$ .  
(The solution, if it exists, will surely involve setting  $L=0$ .)
4. If any OR-gate has no inputs, the formula is false.
5. If the AND-gate has no inputs, the formula is true.
6. Pick a literal  $L$  and repeat the above for the cases  $L=0$  and  $L=1$ .

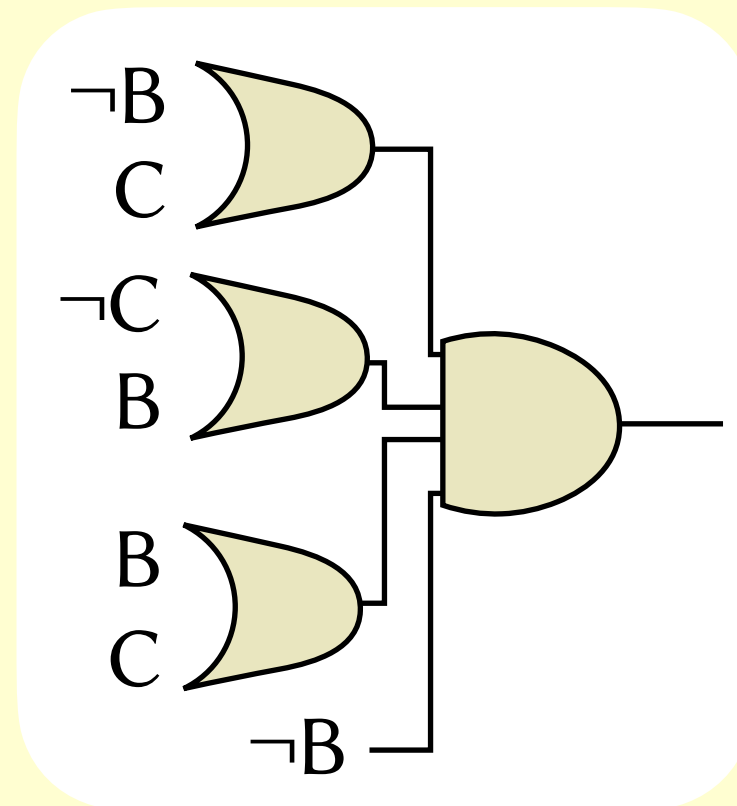
# DP example 1



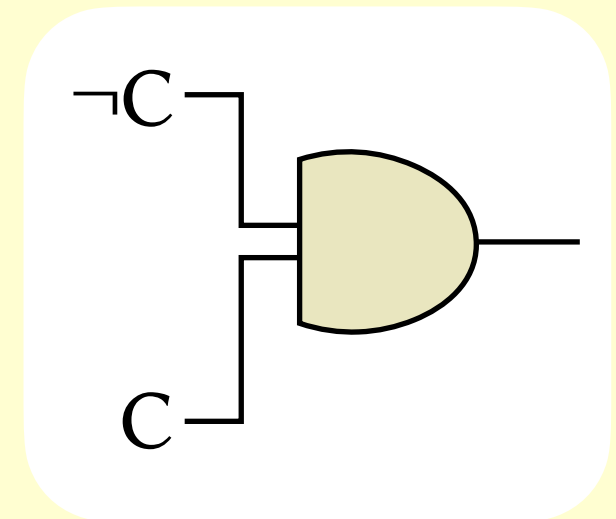
# DP example 2



$\rightarrow$   
 $A=1$

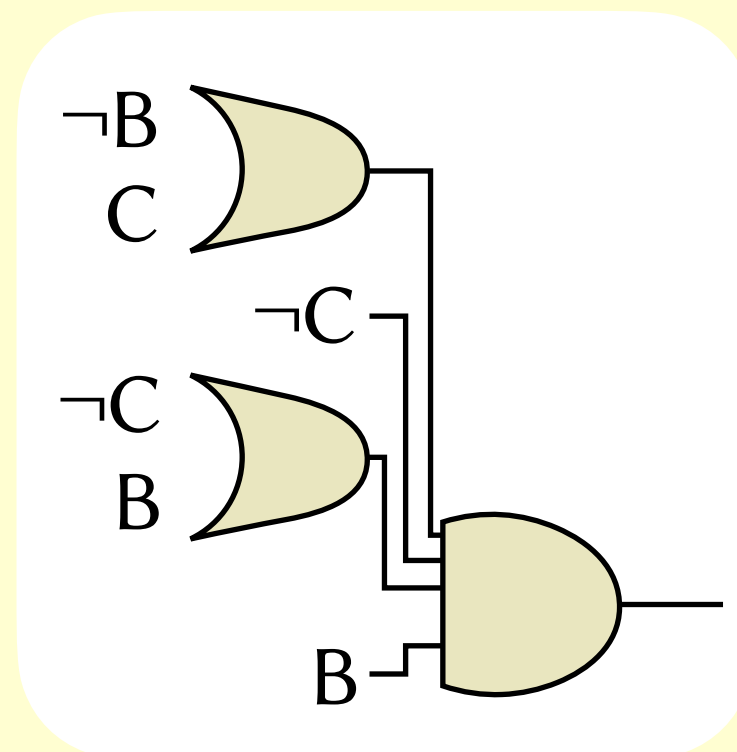


$\rightarrow$   
 $B=0$

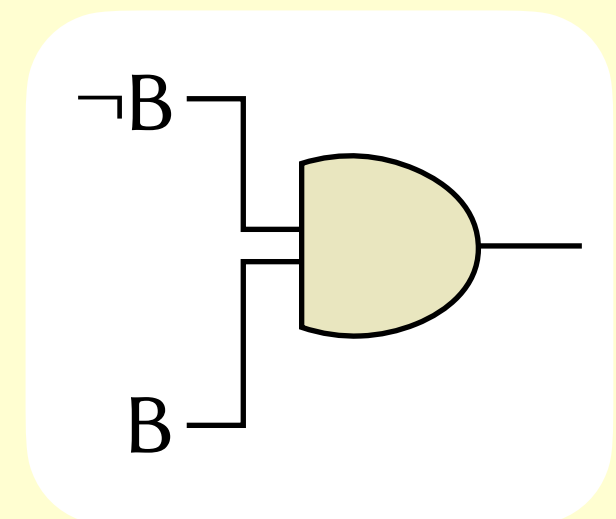


UNSAT

$\rightarrow$   
 $A=0$



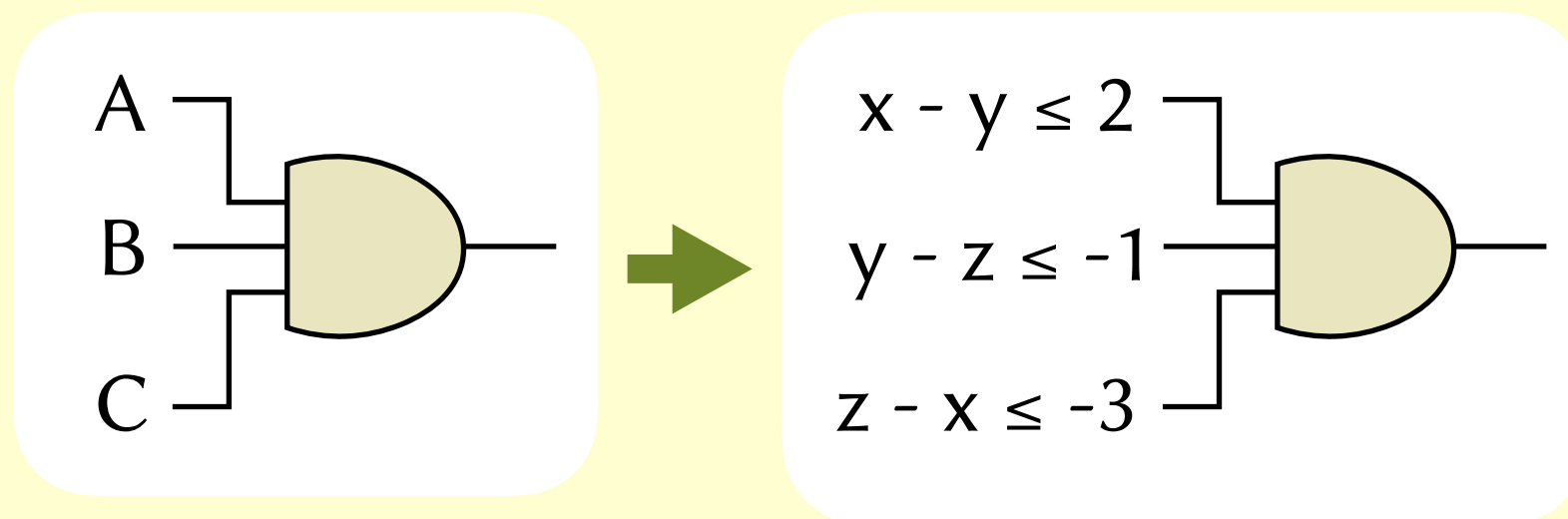
$\rightarrow$   
 $C=0$



UNSAT

# Towards SMT solving

- We can now prove basic Boolean formulas. But what about proving something like  $A \times (B + C) = A \times B + A \times C$ ?
- If these are 32-bit integers, we could make this a SAT problem by treating each variable as 32 Boolean variables and encoding the rules of Boolean arithmetic.
- Or we can move up to SMT: *satisfiability modulo theories*.



# Some theories

- **Equality and uninterpreted functions**, which knows that  $x=y$  and  $y=z$  implies  $x=z$ , and that  $x=y$  implies  $f(x)=f(y)$ .
- **Difference logic**, where statements take the form  $x - y \leq c$ .
- **Presburger arithmetic**, which allows statements about naturals containing  $+$ ,  $0$ ,  $1$ , and  $=$ . For instance,  $n$  is a McNugget number if  $\exists x \ y \ z. n = 6x + 9y + 20z$ .



Mojżesz Presburger  
1904–c.1943

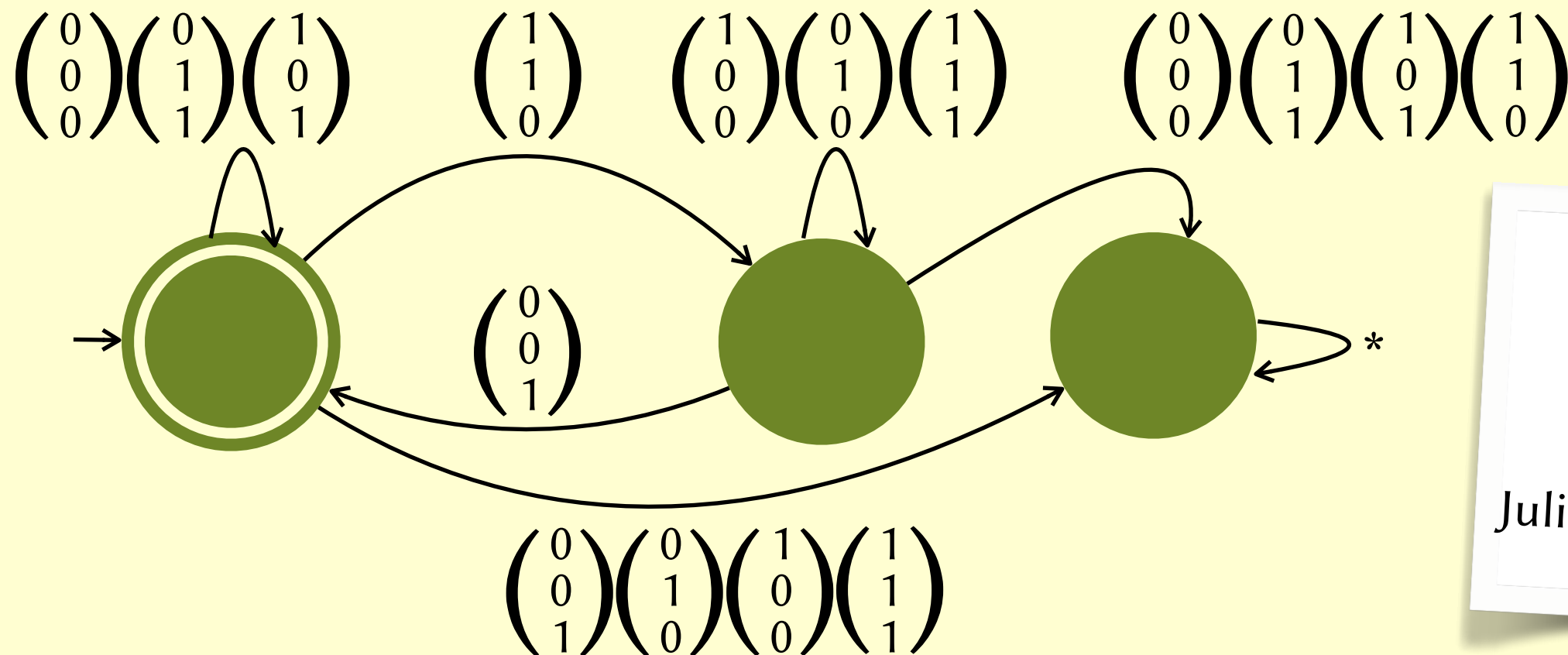
# Some theories

- **Equality and uninterpreted functions**, which knows that  $x=y$  and  $y=z$  implies  $x=z$ , and that  $x=y$  implies  $f(x)=f(y)$ .
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- **Presburger arithmetic**, which allows statements about naturals containing  $+$ ,  $0$ ,  $1$ , and  $=$ . For instance,  $n$  is a McNugget number if  $\exists x \ y \ z. n = 6x + 9y + 20z$ .
- **Non-linear arithmetic**, which allows queries like:  
$$(\sin(x)^3 = \cos(\log(y) \cdot x) \vee b \vee -x^2 \geq 2.3y) \wedge (\neg b \vee y < -34.4 \vee \exp(x) > \frac{y}{x})$$
- **Theory of arrays, theory of bit-vectors**, etc.

# Decidability of Presburger

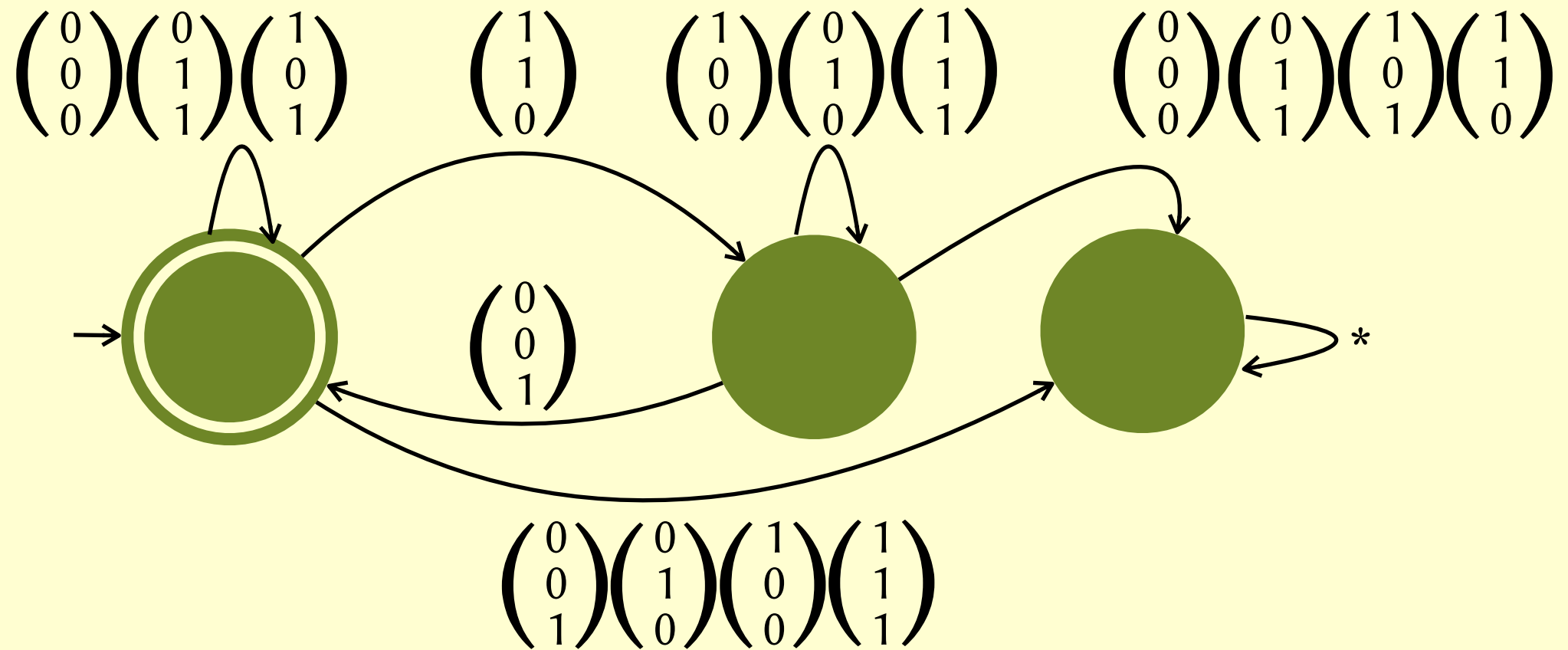
$$x + y = z$$

	1	2	4	8	16	32	64
x =	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
y =	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
z =	0	0	1	1	1	1	0

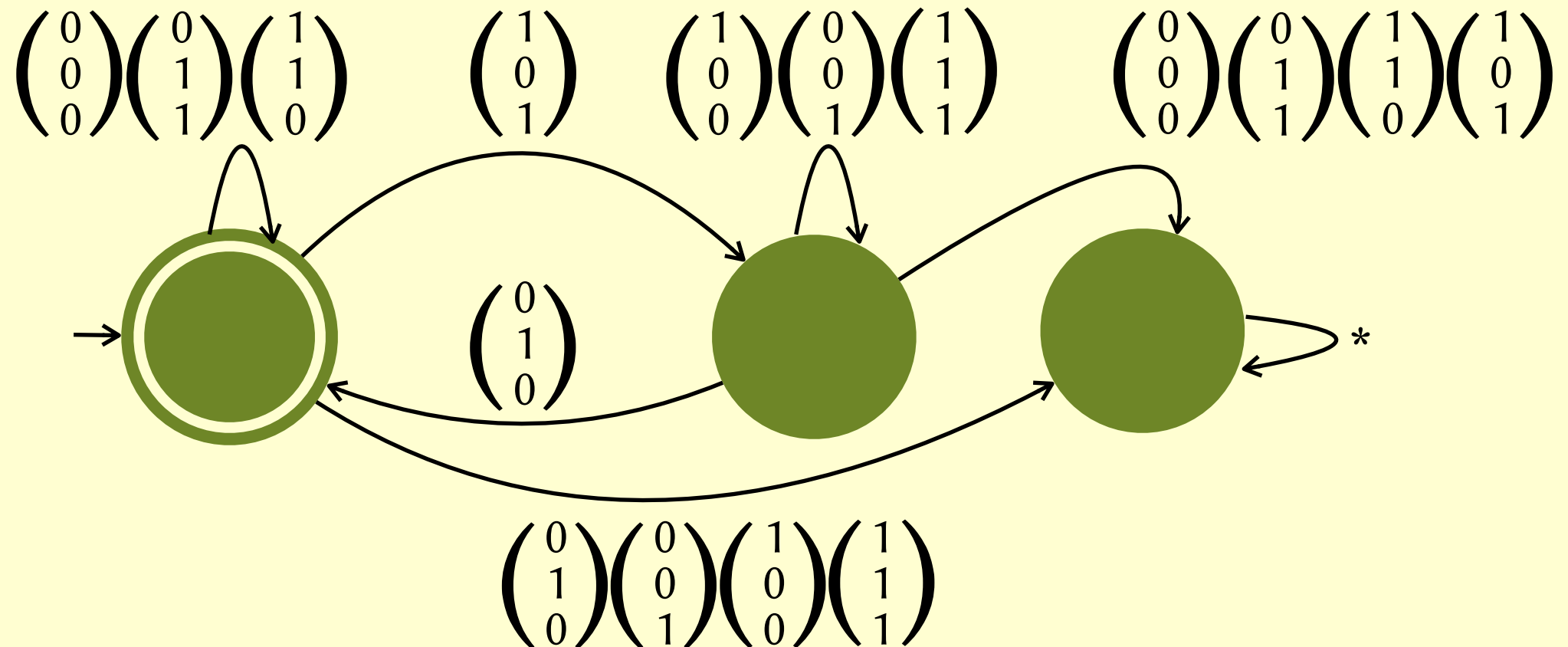


Julius Richard Büchi  
1924–1984

$$x + y = z$$



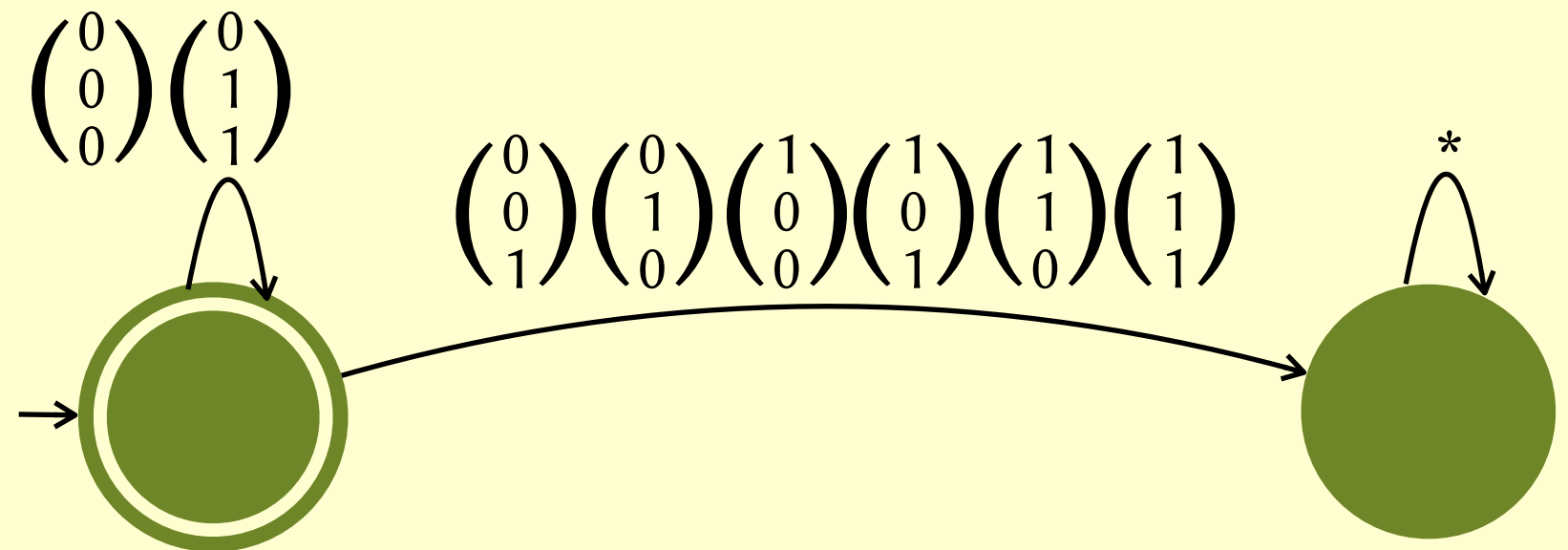
$$x + z = y$$

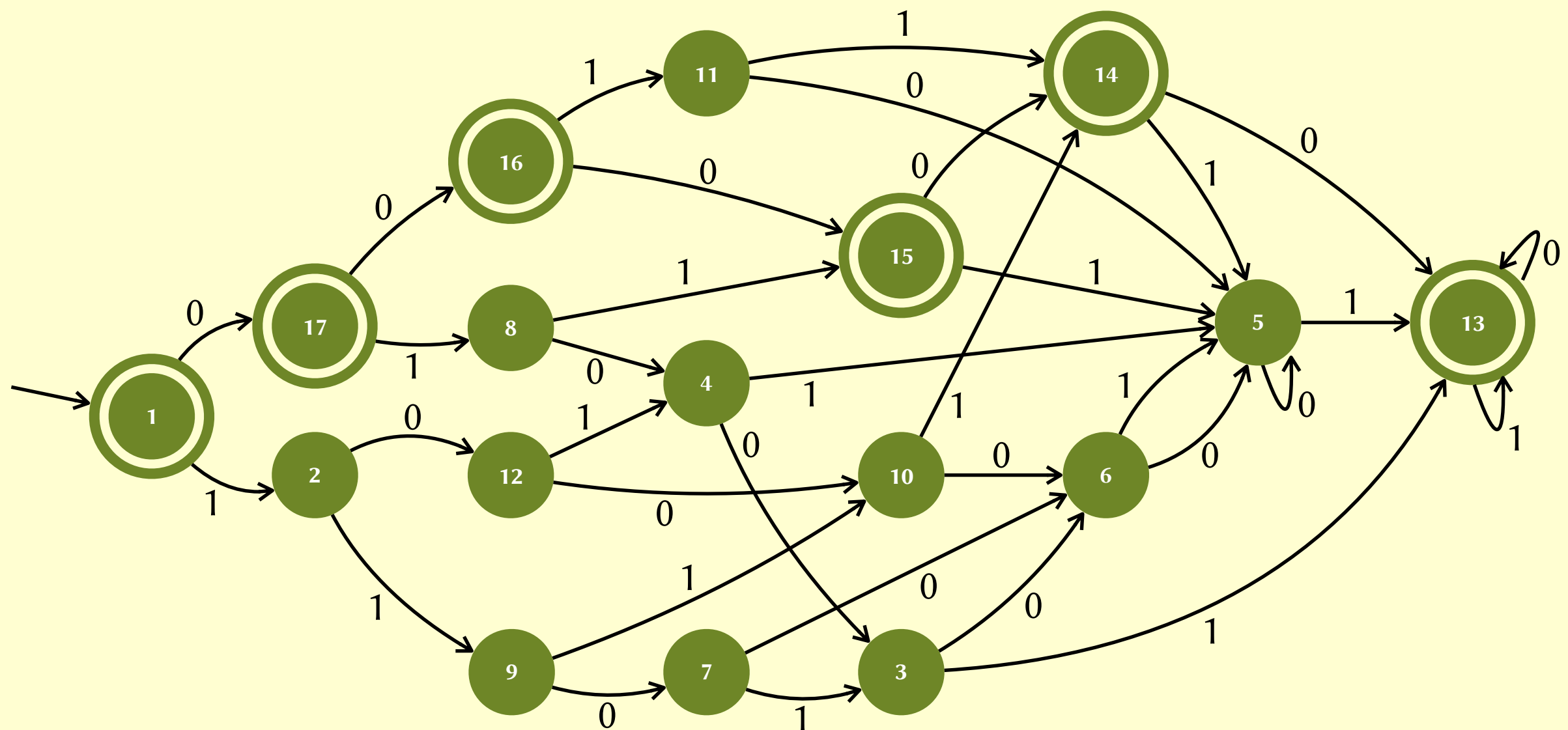




# Decidability of Presburger

$$\begin{aligned} x + y &= z \\ \wedge x + z &= y \end{aligned}$$



$$\exists x \ y \ z. n = 6x + 9y + 20z$$


# Adding multiplication

- If we add multiplication, we can write a statement representing the Collatz conjecture: does there exist an infinite sequence of positive integers  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  such that

$$2 \times x_{i+1} = x_i \quad \text{if } x_i \text{ is even}$$

$$x_{i+1} = 3 \times x_i + 1 \quad \text{if } x_i \text{ is odd}$$

- So **if** arithmetic with multiplication were decidable, we could solve the Collatz conjecture automatically!

# Automatic proof

- We often rely on automatic provers:
  - e.g. in Dafny, to show that **invariant** **P** is preserved,
  - e.g. in Isabelle methods like **by auto**.
- How do these automatic provers work?