

# Machine Learning for String Vacua

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FABIAN RUEHLE (CERN & UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD)

Recent Developments in Strings and Gravity

12.09.2019

Based on:

- **Computational Complexity of Vacua and Near-Vacua in Field and String Theory**  
w/ Jim Halverson [[1809.08279](#)]
- **Branes with Brains: Exploring String Vacua with Deep Reinforcement Learning**  
w/ Jim Halverson and Brent Nelson [[1903.11616](#)]



# Recap - Machine Learning in String Theory

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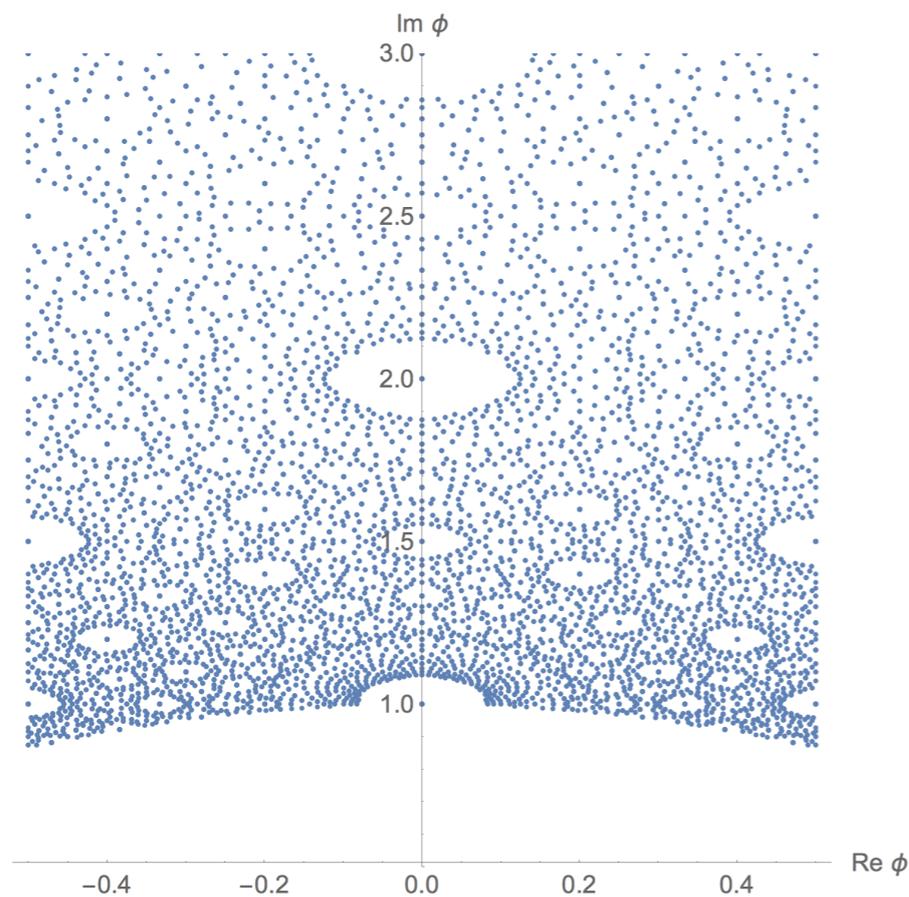
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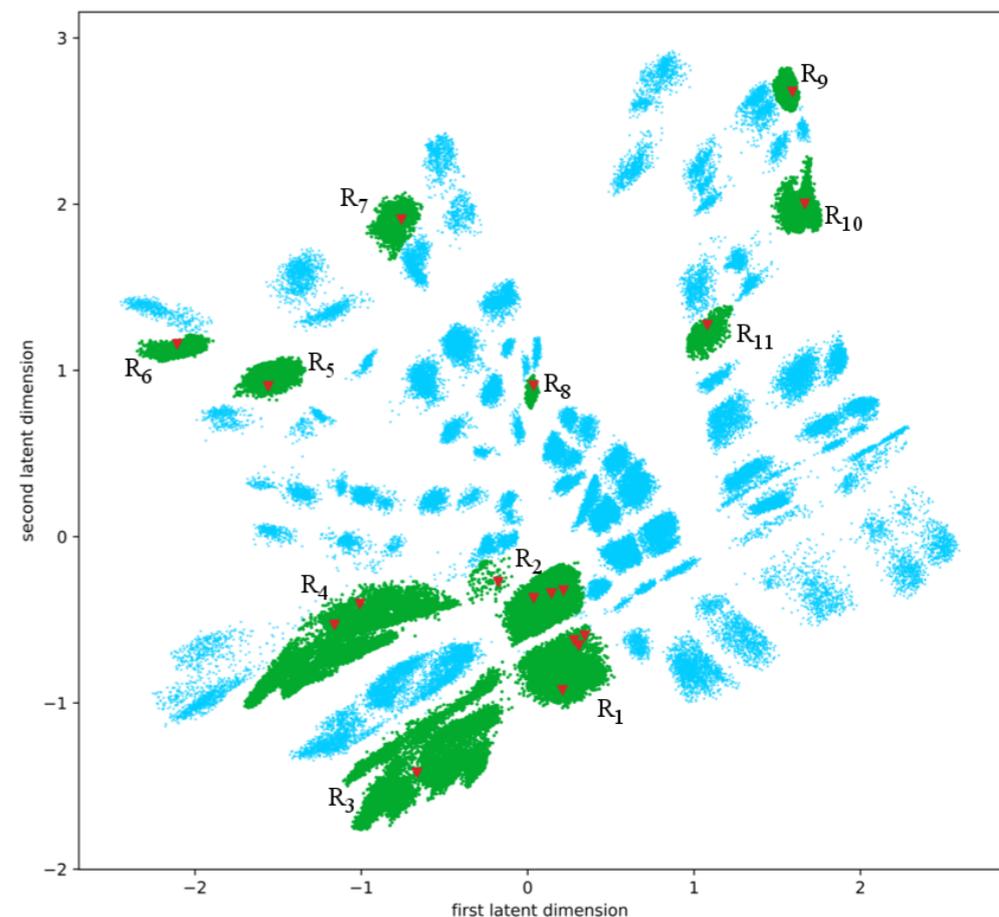
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- Clustering, Feature extraction
- Topological data analysis



[Cole,Shiu `17,`18]



[Mutter,Parr,Vaudrevange `18]

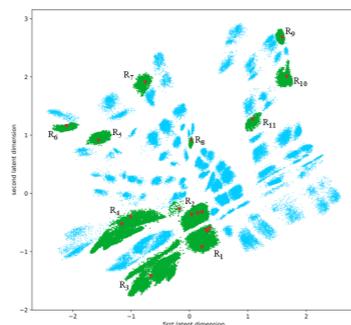
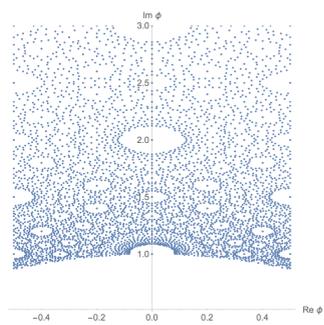
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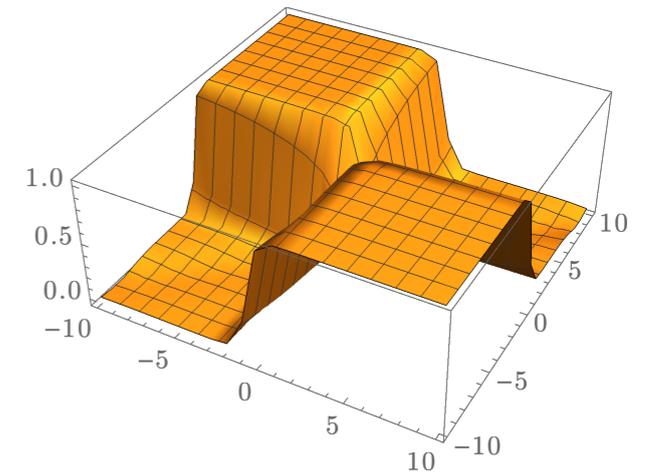
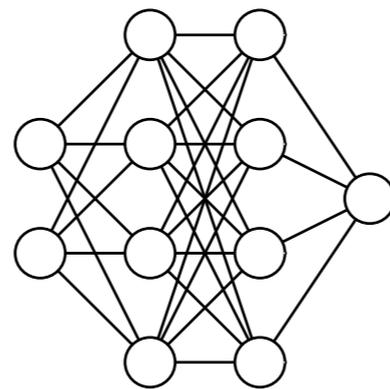
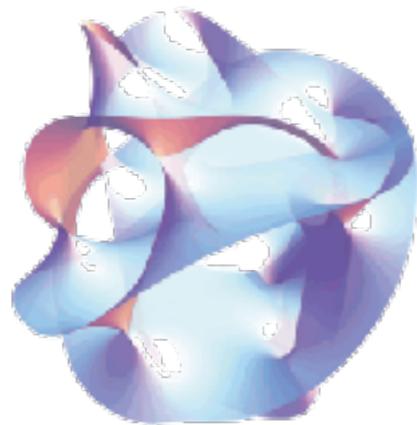
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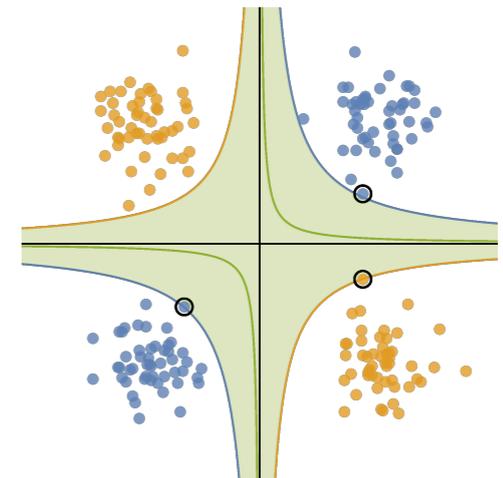
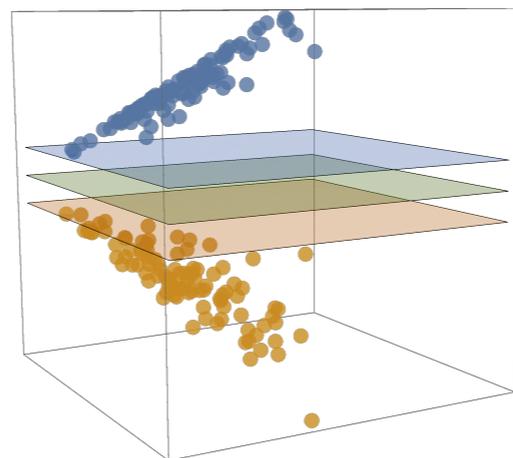
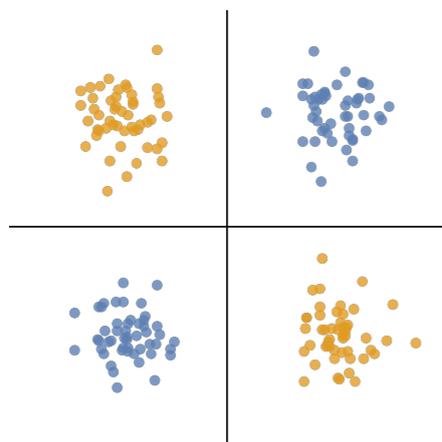
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- Deep neural networks
- Support vector machines

[Wang,Zhang `18; Bull,He,Jejjala,Mishra `18;  
Klaewer,Schlechter `18; He `18; Jejjala,Kar,Parrikar `19;  
Bull,He,Jejjala,Mishra `19; He,Lee `19]



[Ruehle `17]

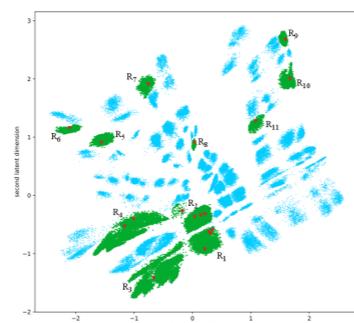
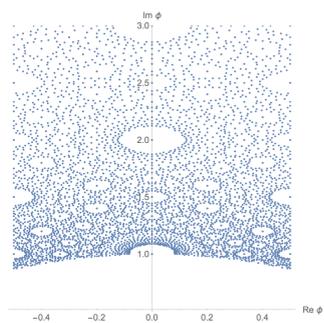


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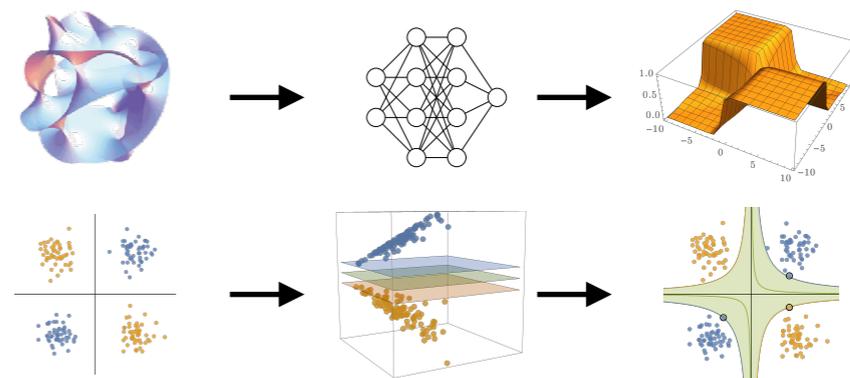
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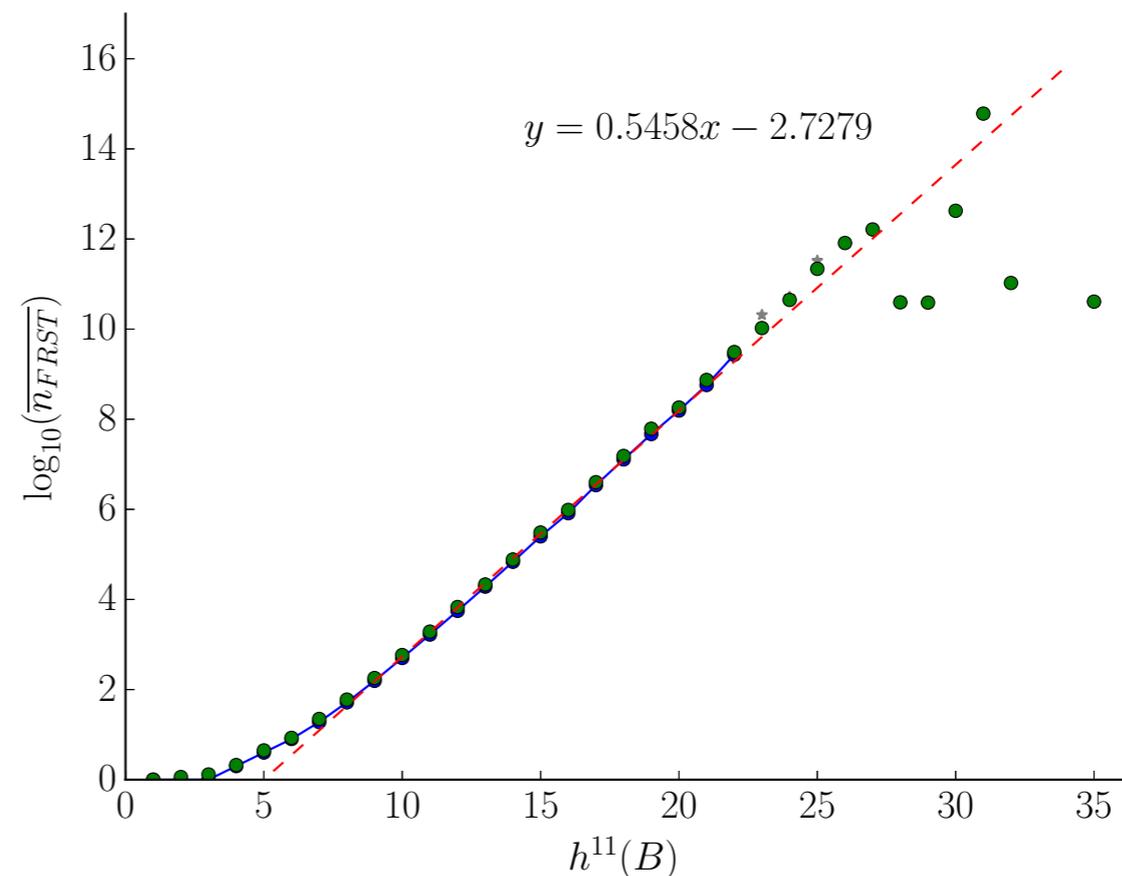
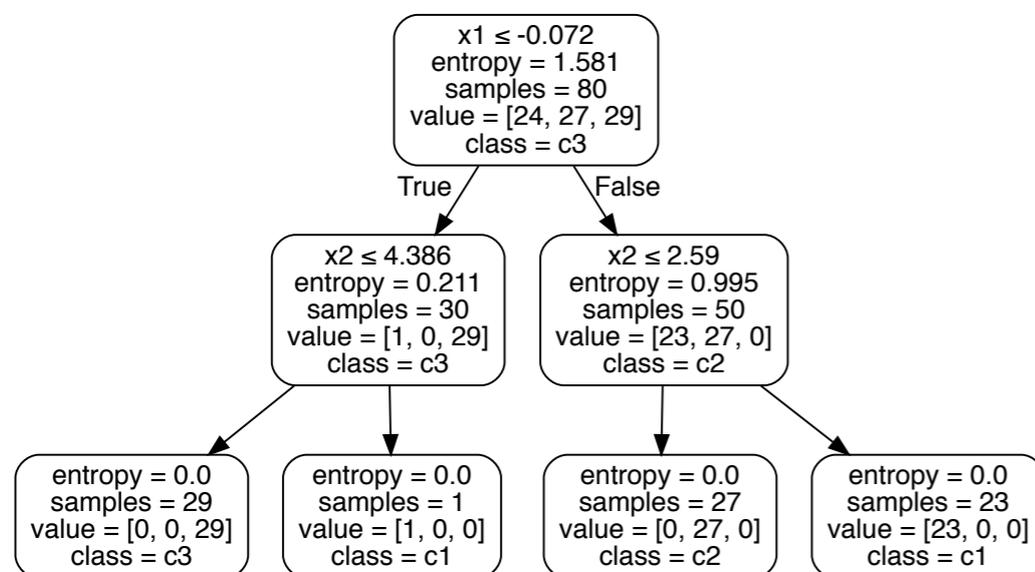


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- Decision Trees
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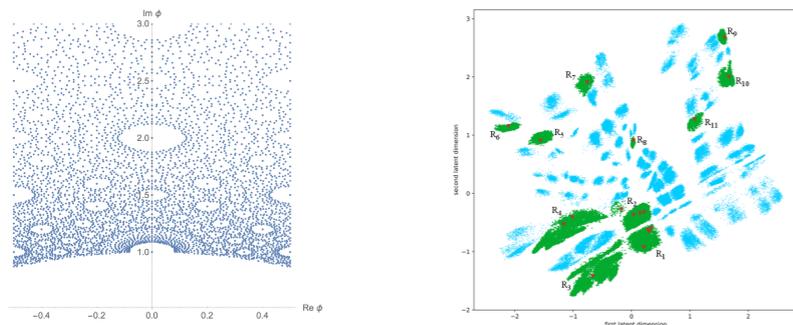
[Carifio,Halverson,Krioukov,Nelson `17; Altman,Carifio,Halverson,Nelson `18]

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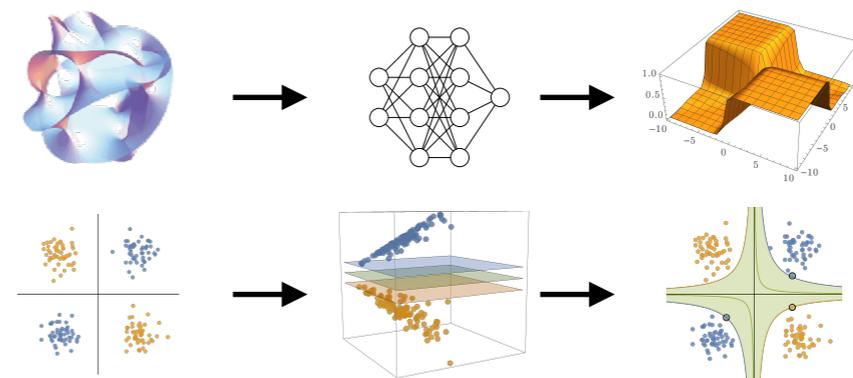
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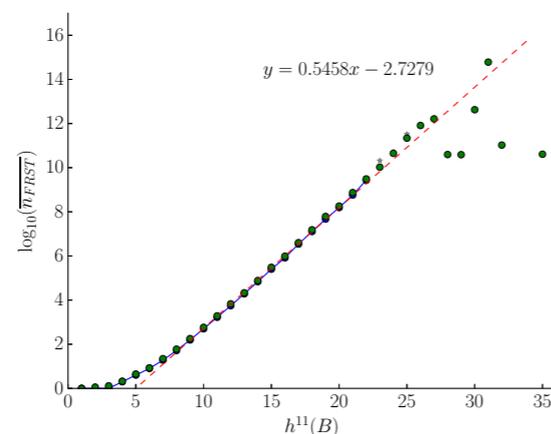
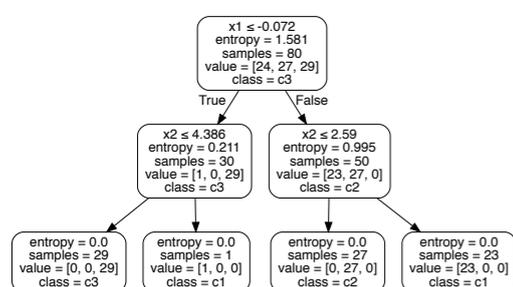
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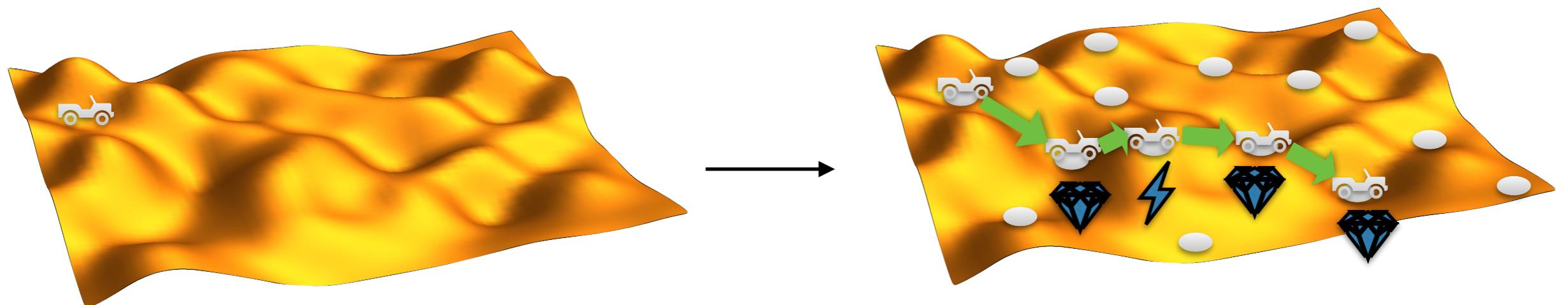


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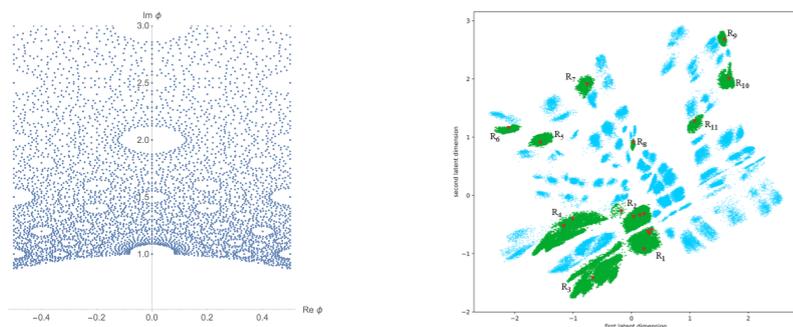
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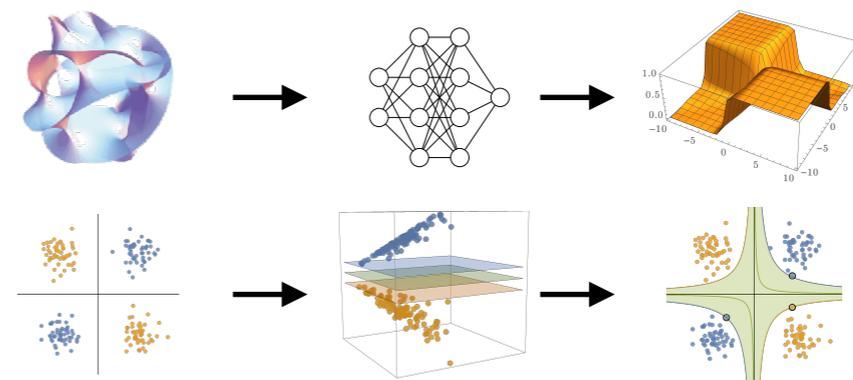
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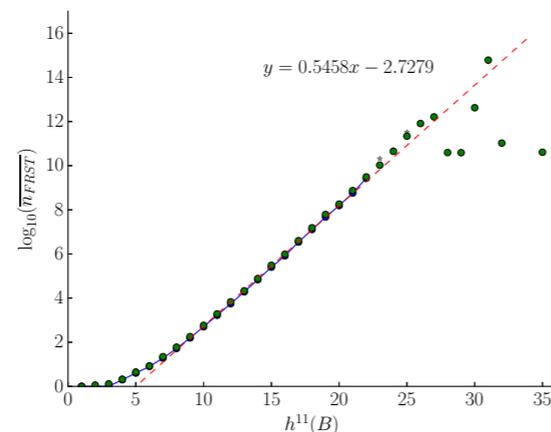
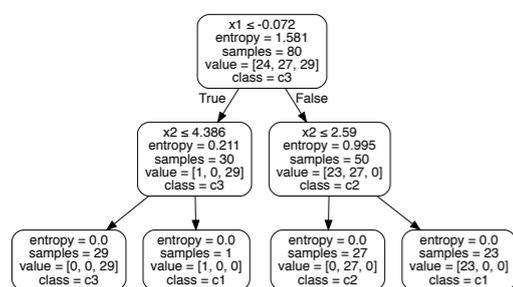
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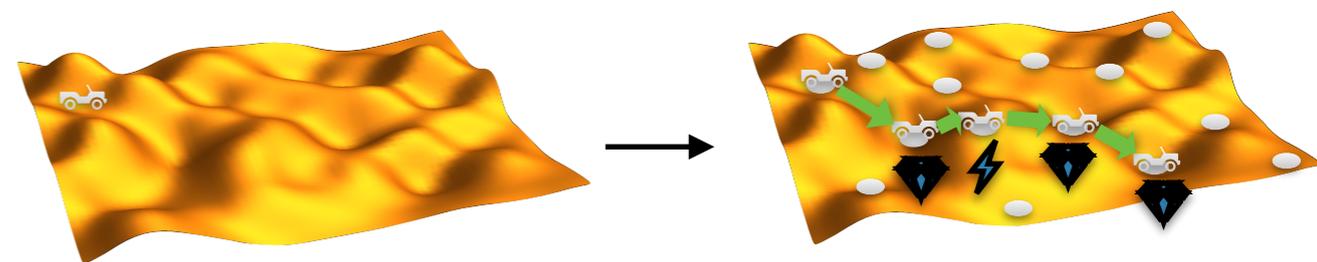
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# Outline

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- ▶ Computational complexity and decidability
  - Intro
  - Computationally hard problems in string theory
- ▶ Machine learning the landscape of IIA toroidal orientifolds
- ▶ Conclusion



# Definitions

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**Problem:** A problem  $F : I \rightarrow B$  is a map from instances to outputs

**Dec. Problem:** A problem where  $B = \{\text{yes, no}\}$

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Often, problems can be reformulated as dec. problems with additional parameters, e.g.:

**Problem:**

Find the minimum of a scalar function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

**Decision Problem:**

Does there exist an  $x_* \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $f(x_*) \leq \xi$  for some  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$

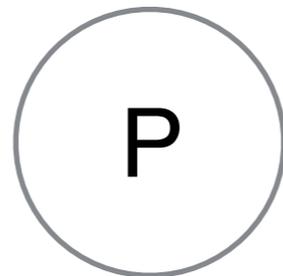
# Reductions and hardness

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A polytime reduction from  $F : I \rightarrow \{\text{yes, no}\}$  to  $G : I' \rightarrow \{\text{yes, no}\}$  is a PT algorithm  $I \rightarrow I'$  w/  $F(x) = \text{yes} \Leftrightarrow G(f(x)) = \text{yes}$

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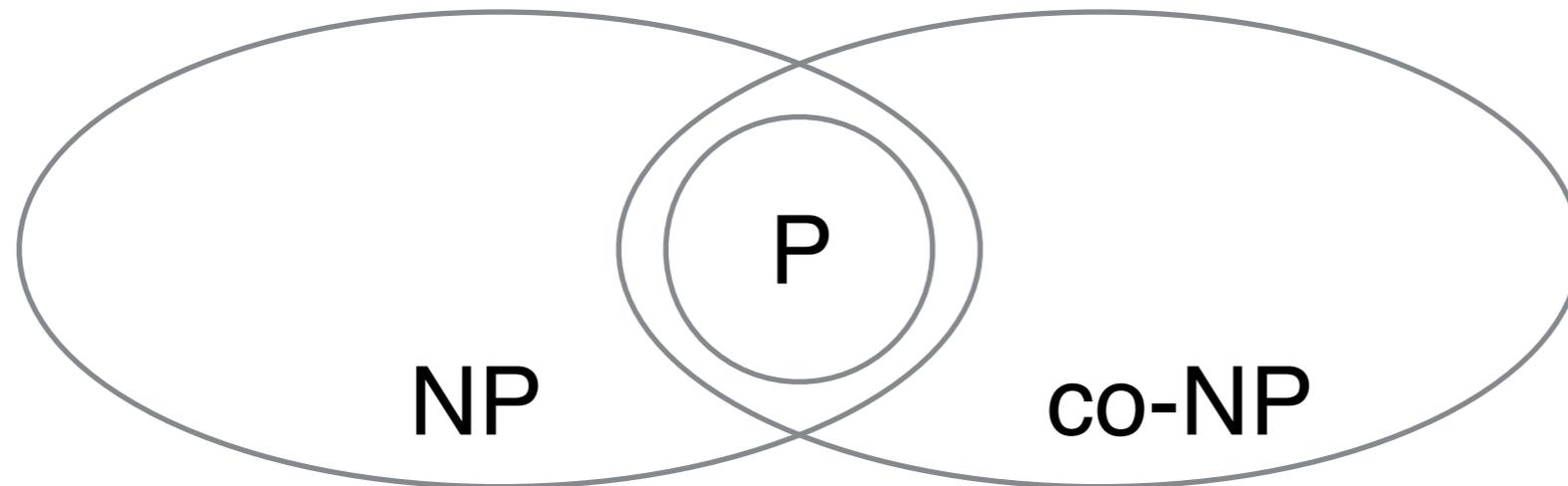
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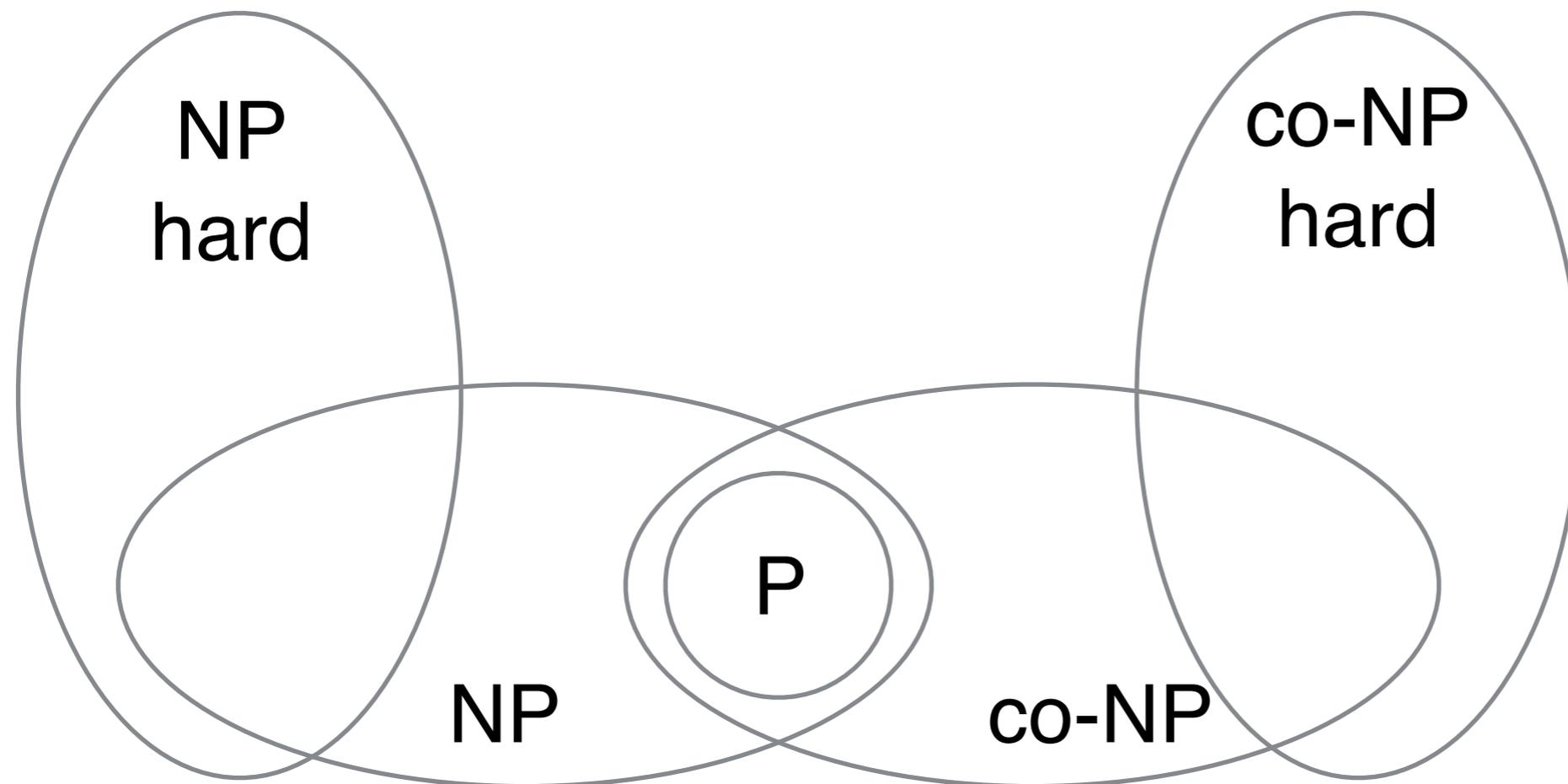
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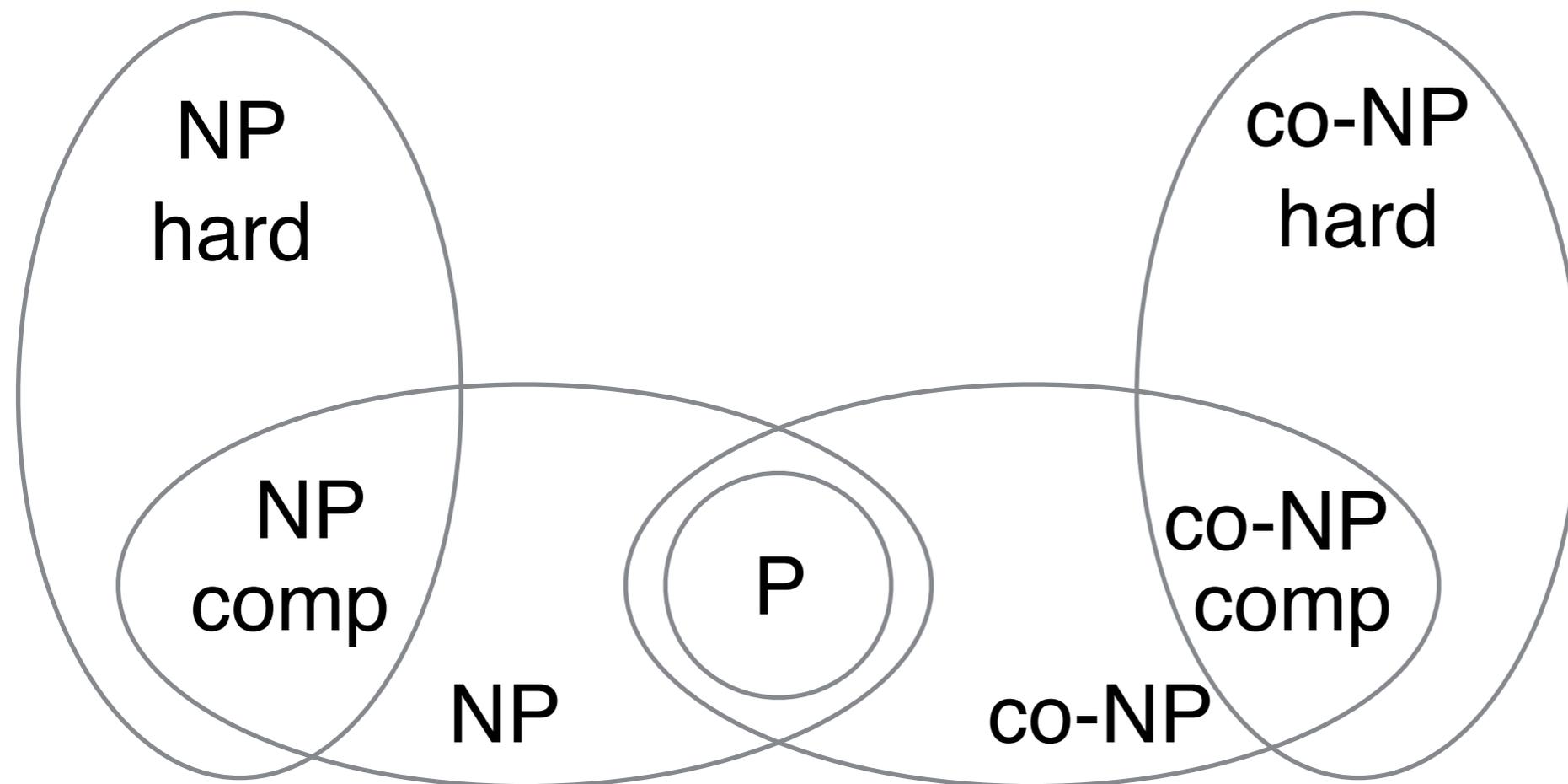
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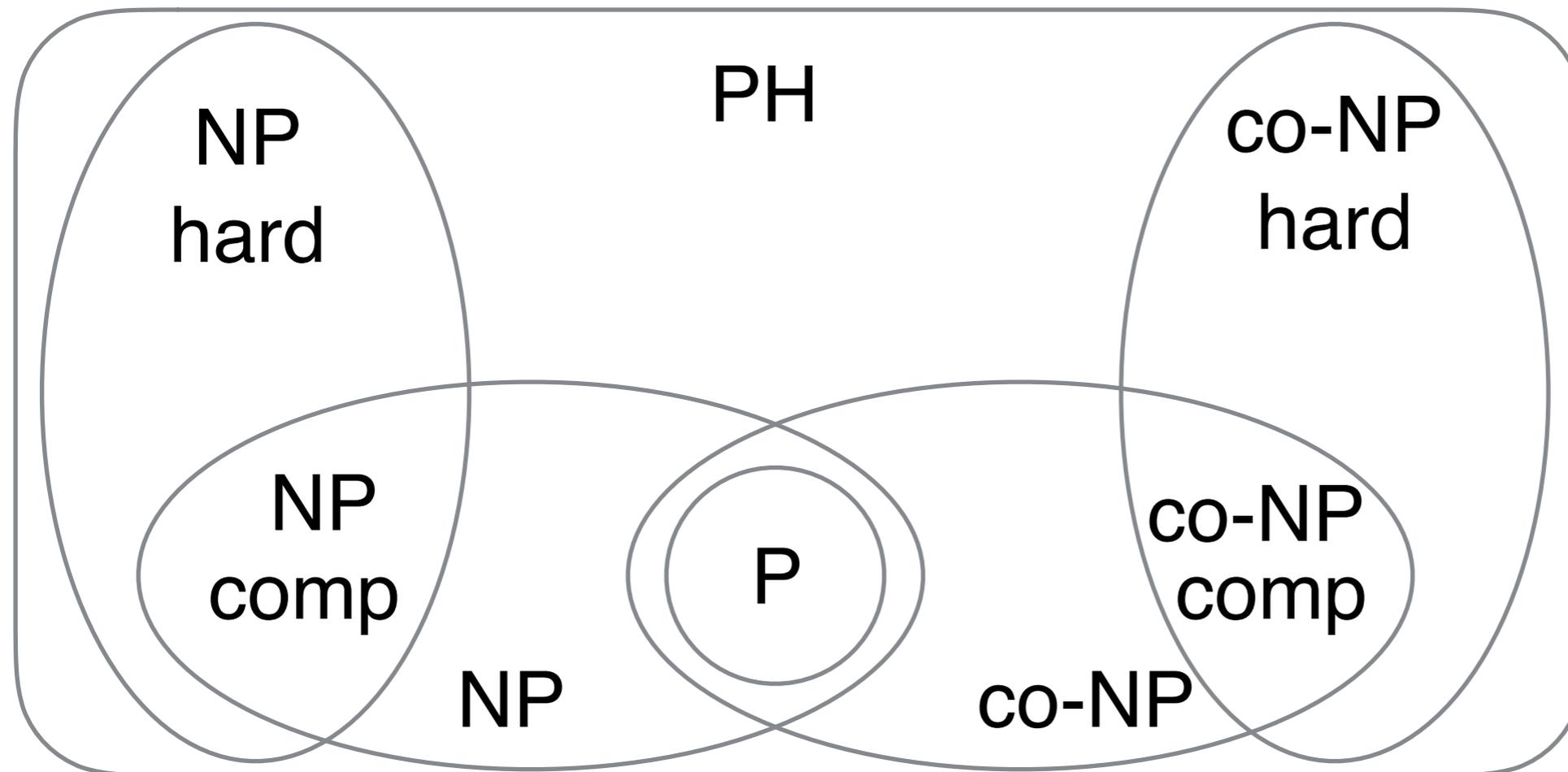
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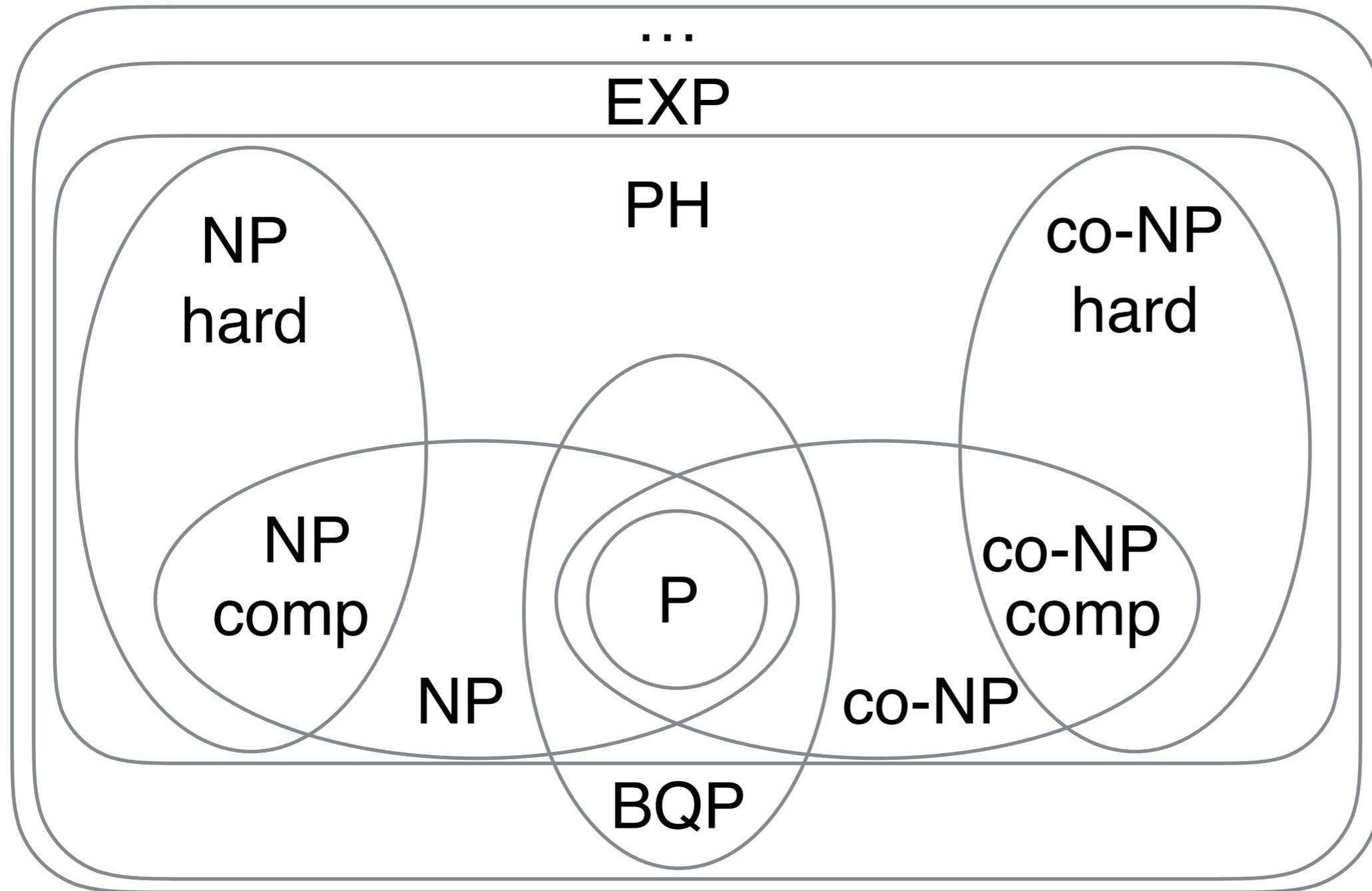
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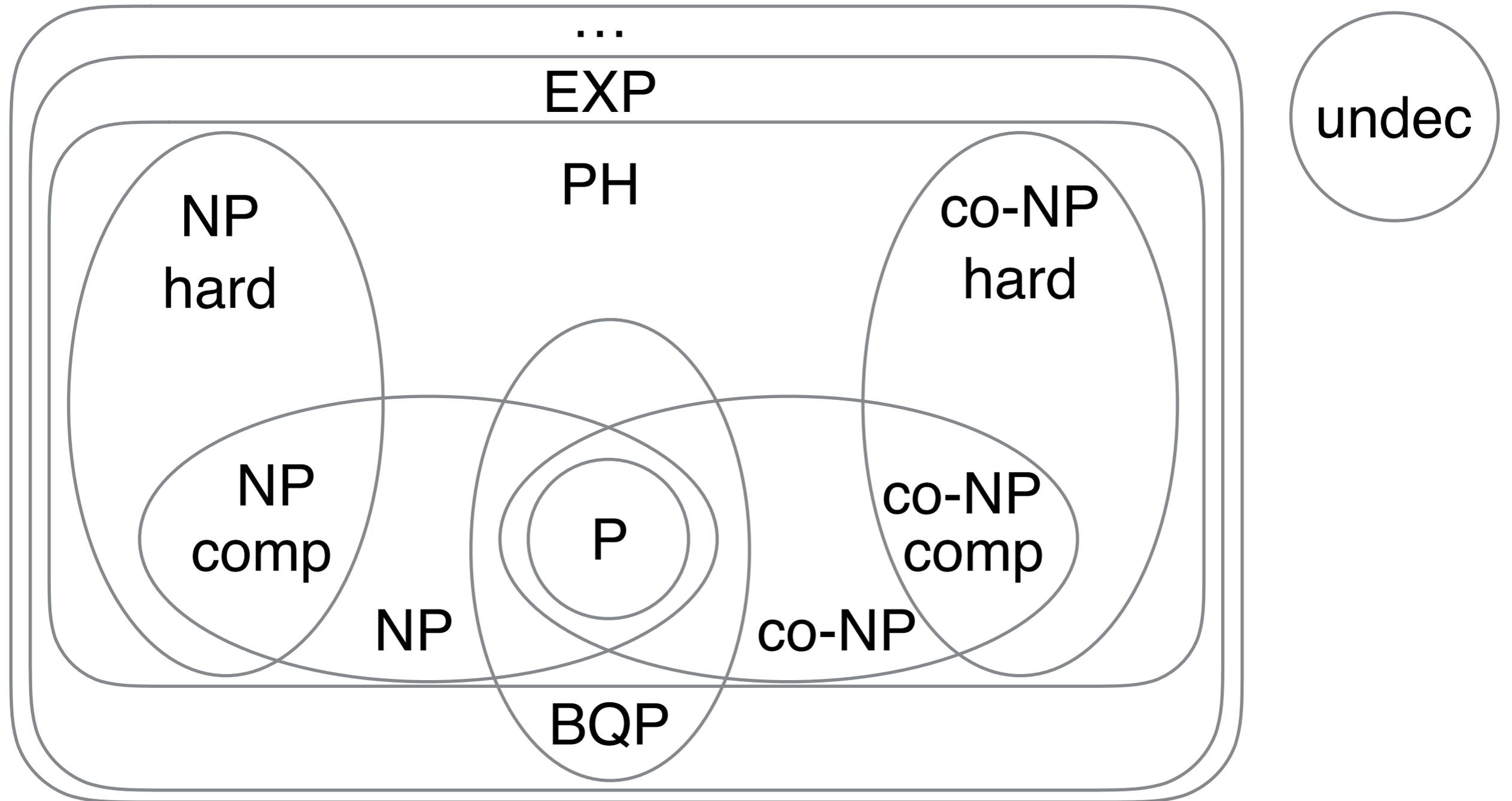
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Given a set of integers, does there exist a subset whose elements sum to zero? (Relevant for fine-tuning [Bousso, Polchinski '00; Arkani-Hamed, Dimopoulos, Kachru '05])  
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## **Cohomology (not NP):**

Is  $h^\bullet(X, V) = (h_0, h_1, h_2, h_3)$ ? Given  $h_i$ , we cannot check this to be true in P.

# A typical workflow for constructing string models

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- ▶ Choose a background geometry
- ▶ Find boundary conditions (branes, fluxes) s.t.
  - Tadpole, K-Theory, existence of unbroken SUSY somewhere  
 $\Rightarrow$  Coupled Diophantine (undec.)
  - CC is small  $\Rightarrow$  NP-complete (subset sum via BP)
- ▶ Minimize scalar potential
  - Find critical points  $\Rightarrow$  NP hard
  - Check that they are minima  $\Rightarrow$  co-NP hard
- ▶ Find massless spectrum
  - Compute cohomology dims  $\Rightarrow$  Grobner basis (NP, double-exp)

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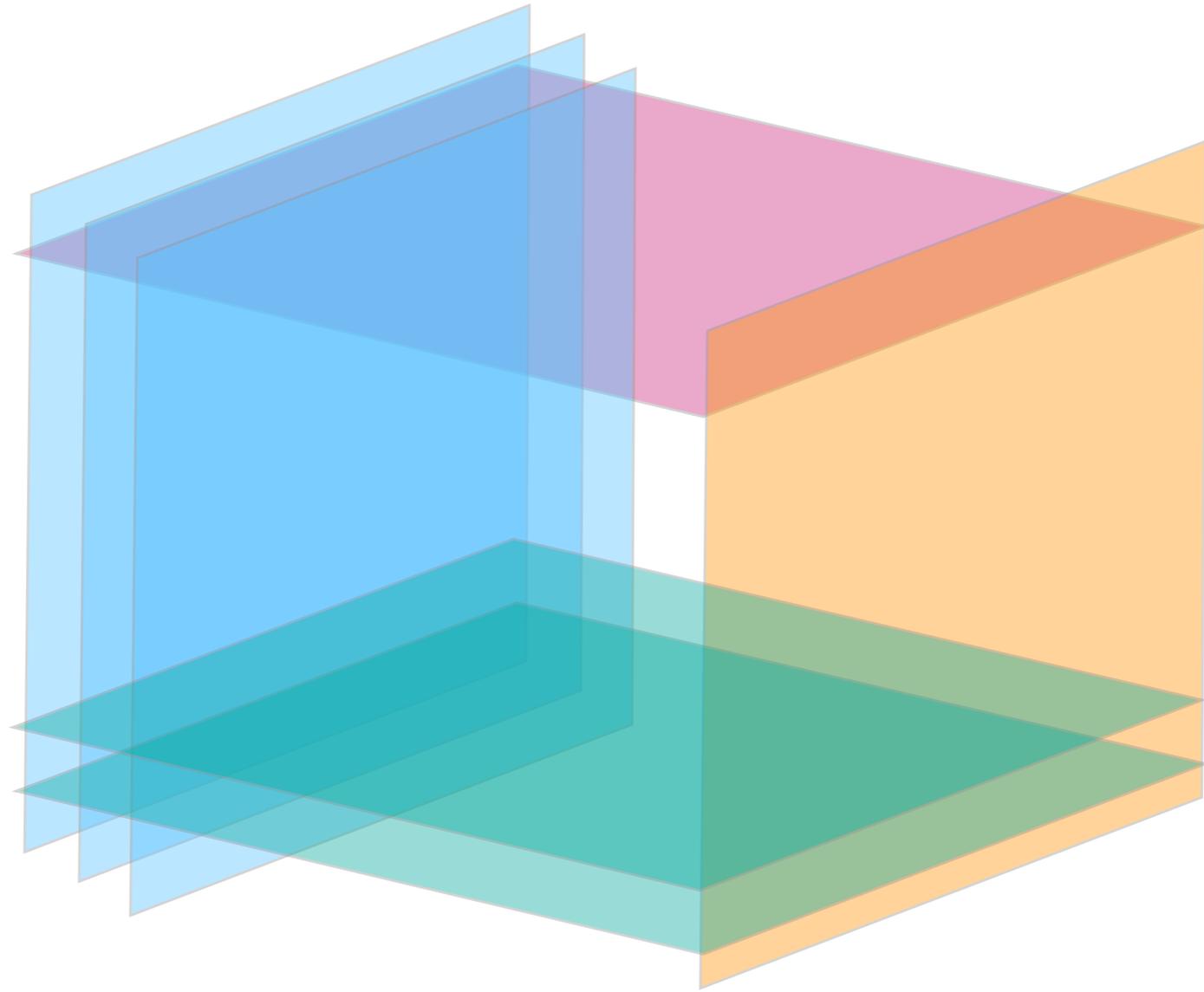
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- ▶ In practice, don't need to solve arbitrarily large examples
- ▶ Don't need to solve exactly (approximate a solution) and cross-check (Euler Number, anomalies, Stability)
- ▶ Problem might have more substructure / symmetries that simplify the computation
  - Solving general Diophantine undecidable
  - Solving quad. Diophantine like  $ax_1^2 + bx_2 = c$  is NP-complete
  - Solving linear Diophantine is in P
  - Finding vacua is NP, finding near-vacua is in P

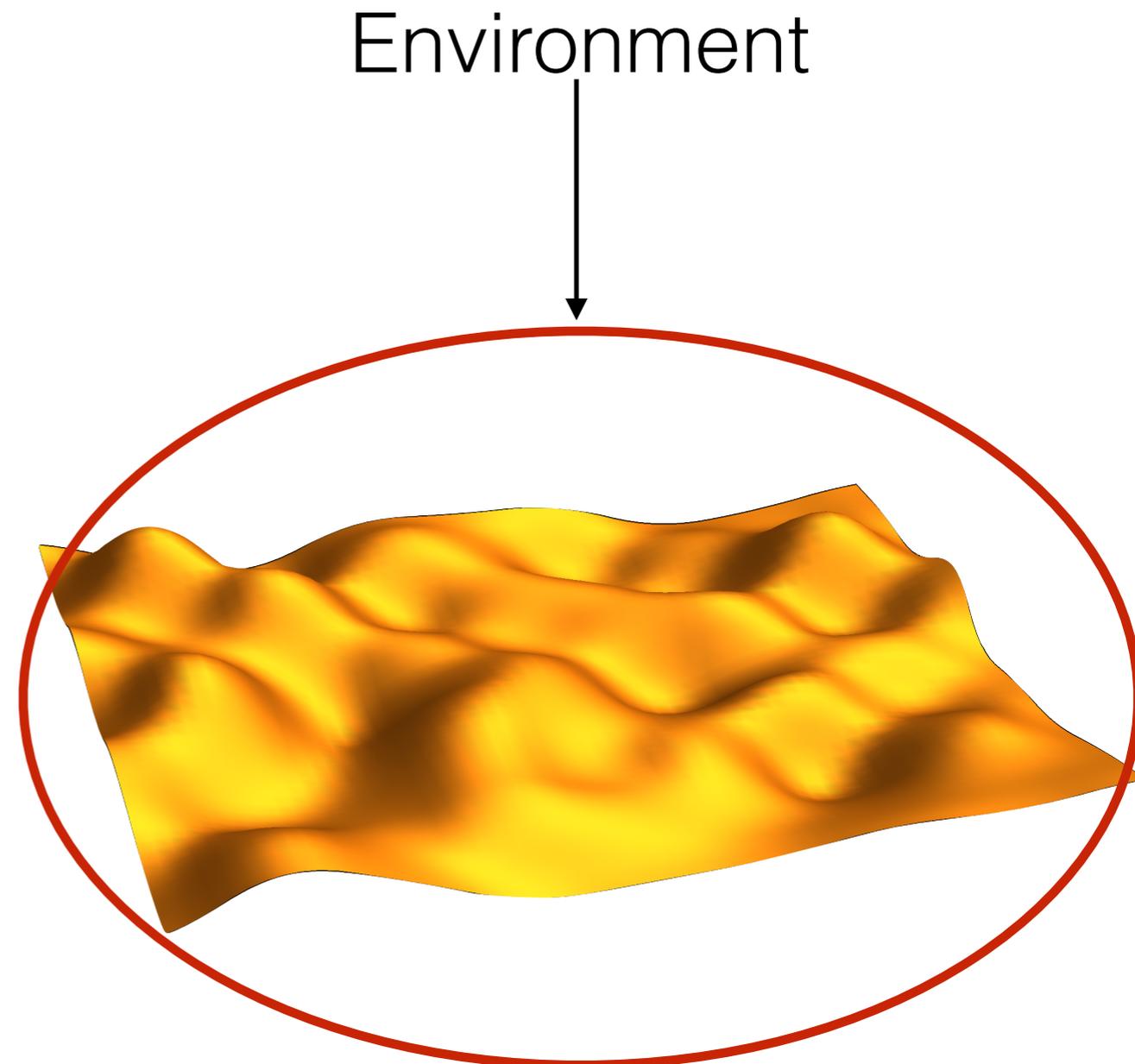


Machine learning the landscape of IIA  
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# Reinforcement Learning - Basics

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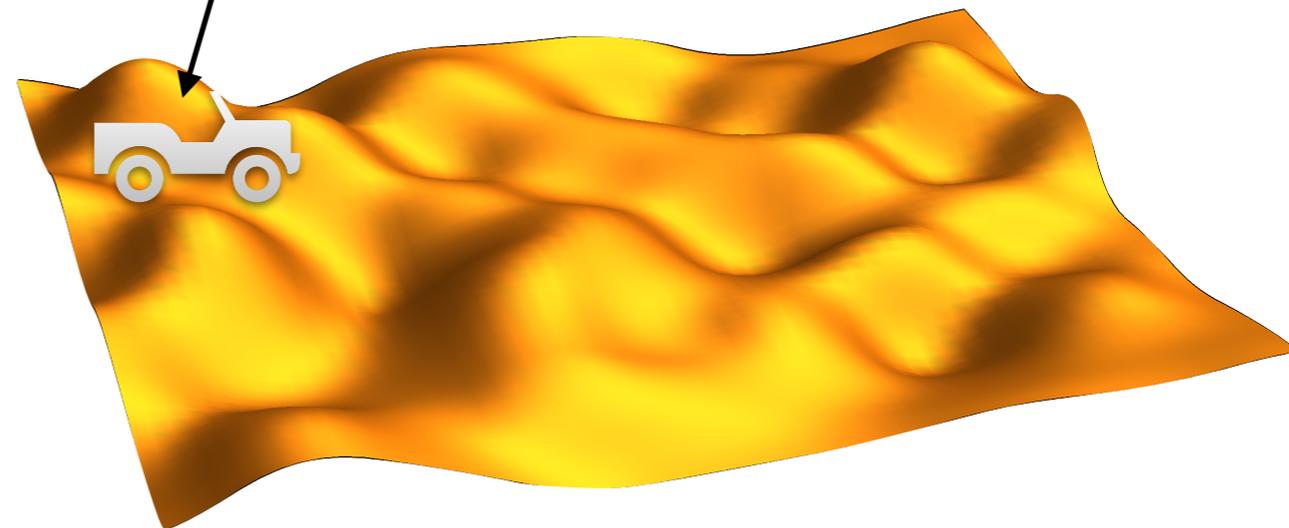


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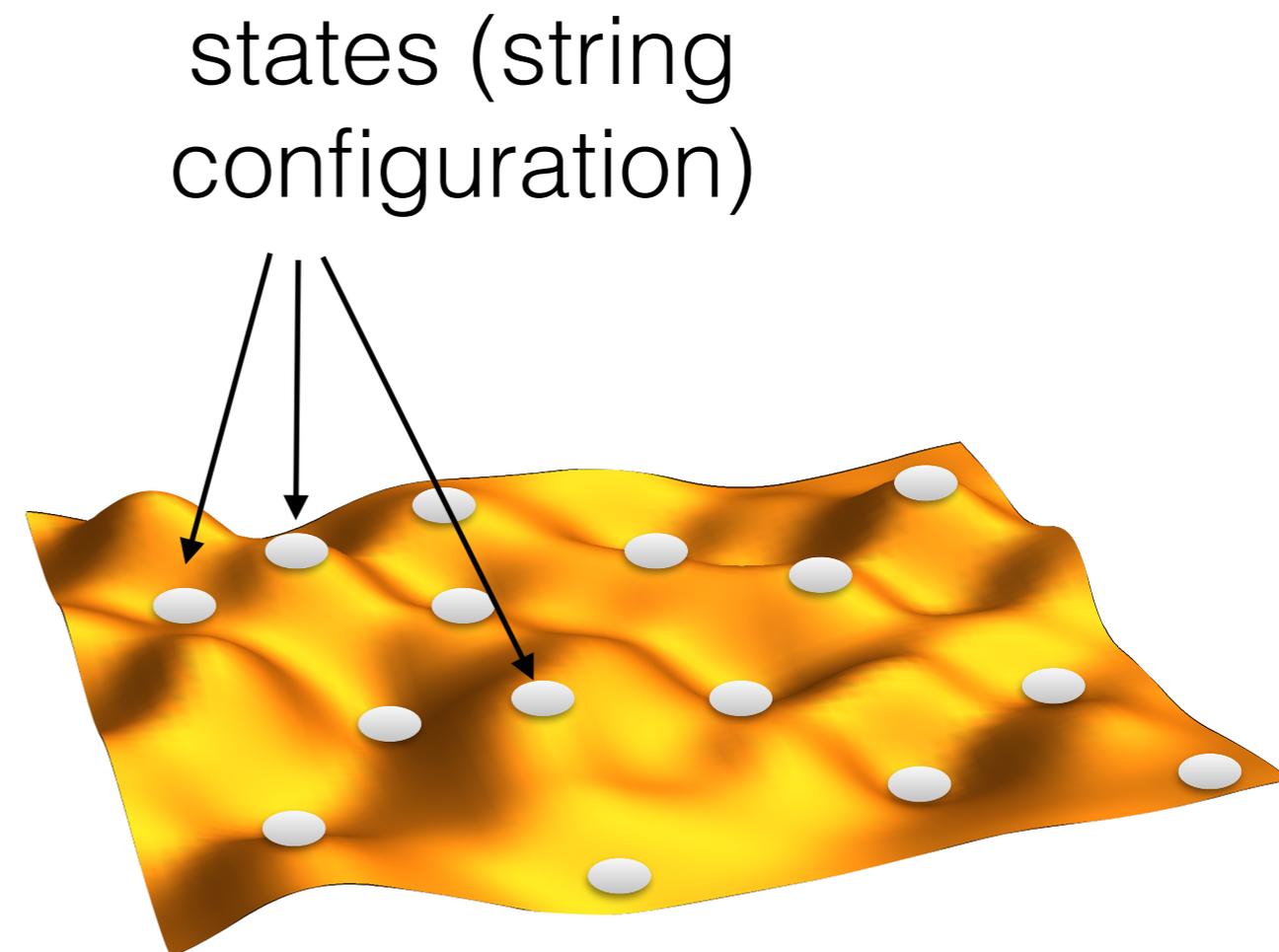
worker/agent



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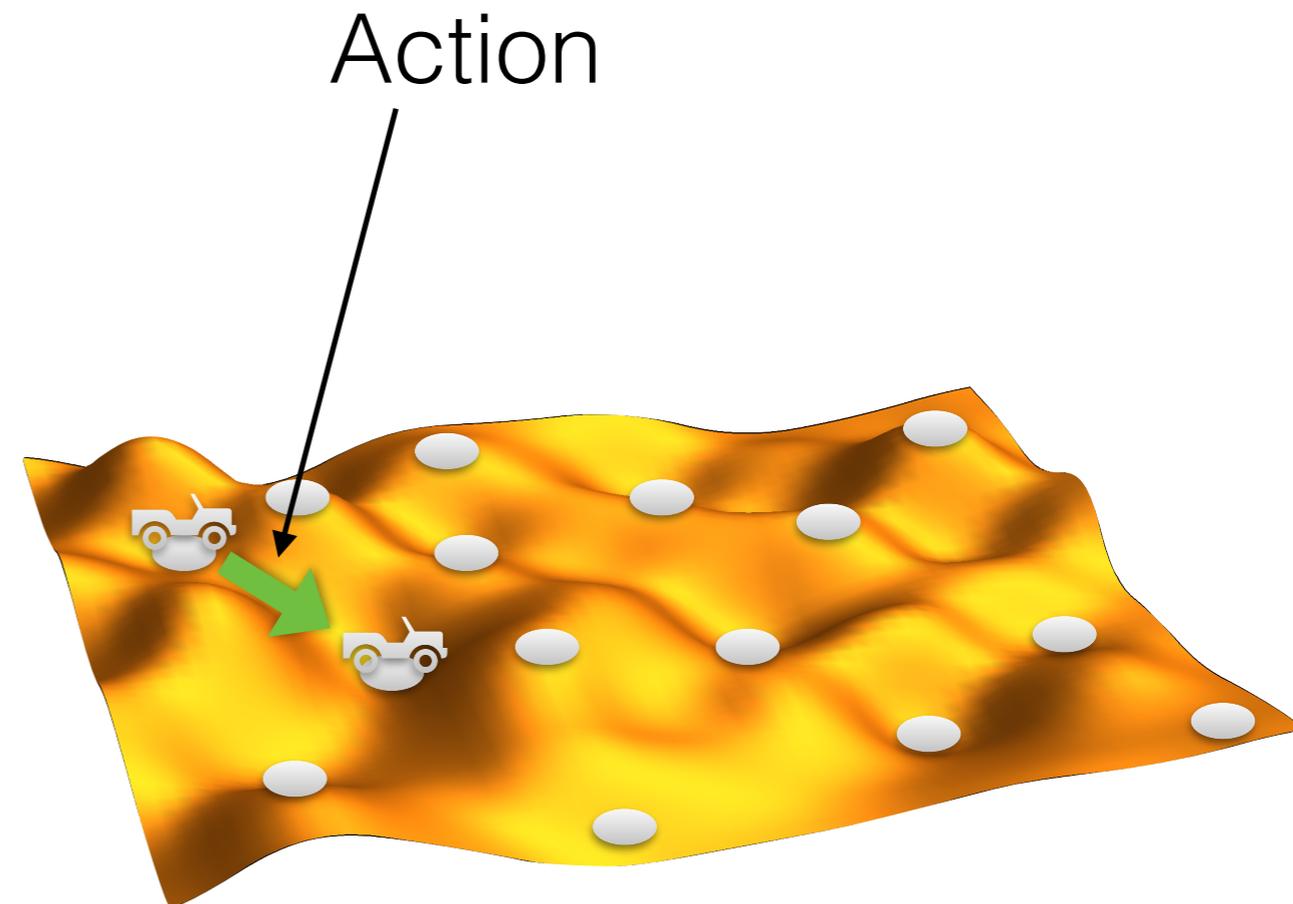
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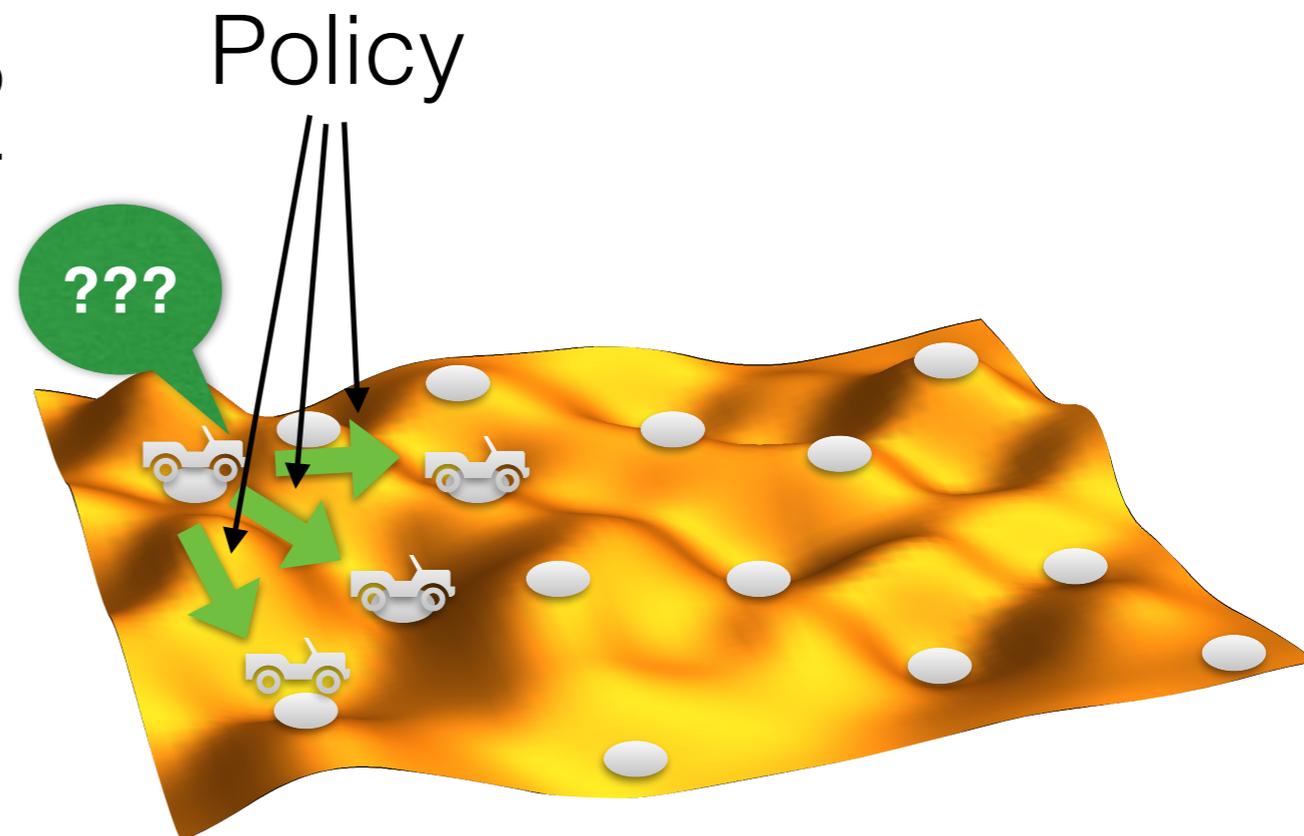
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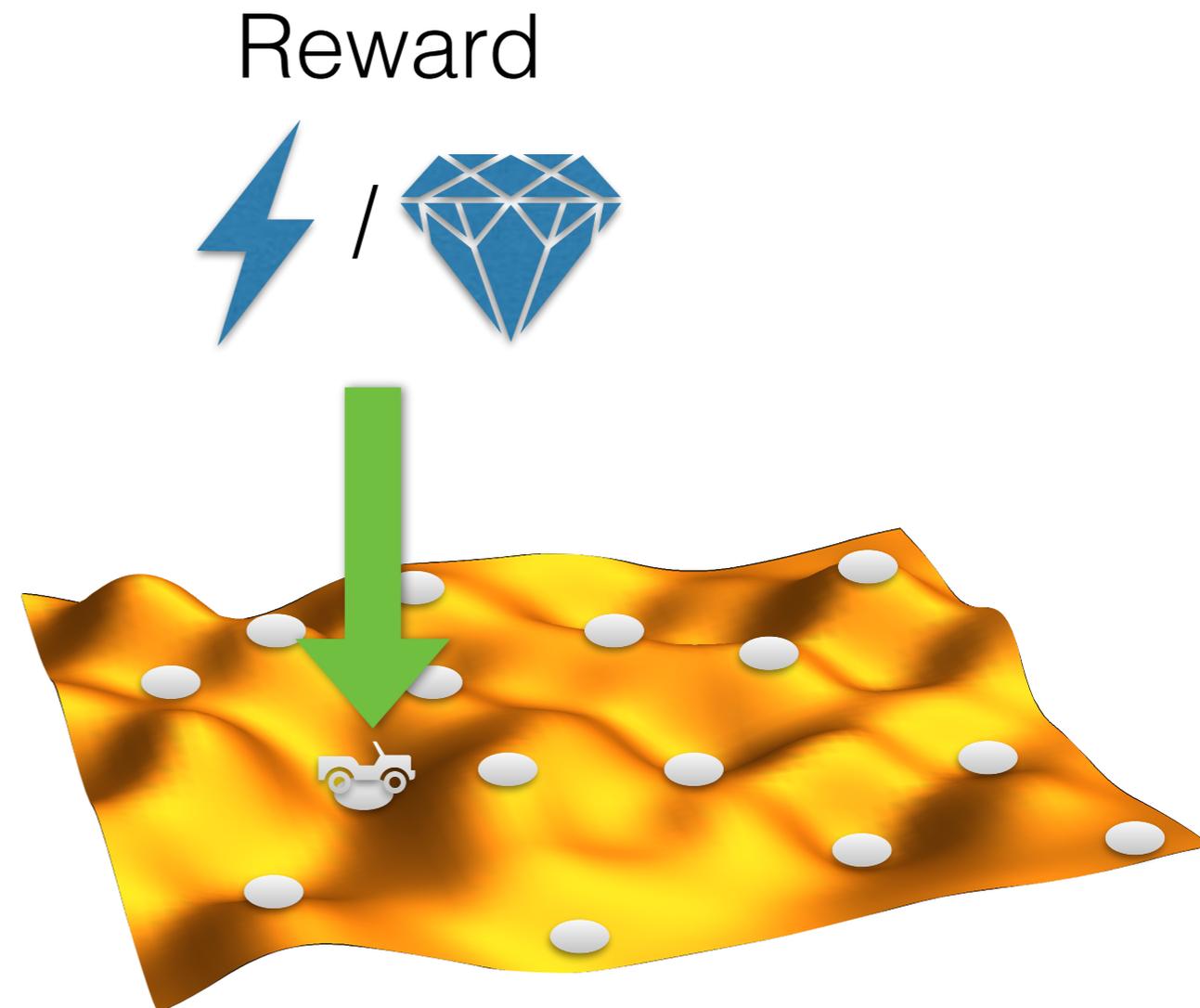
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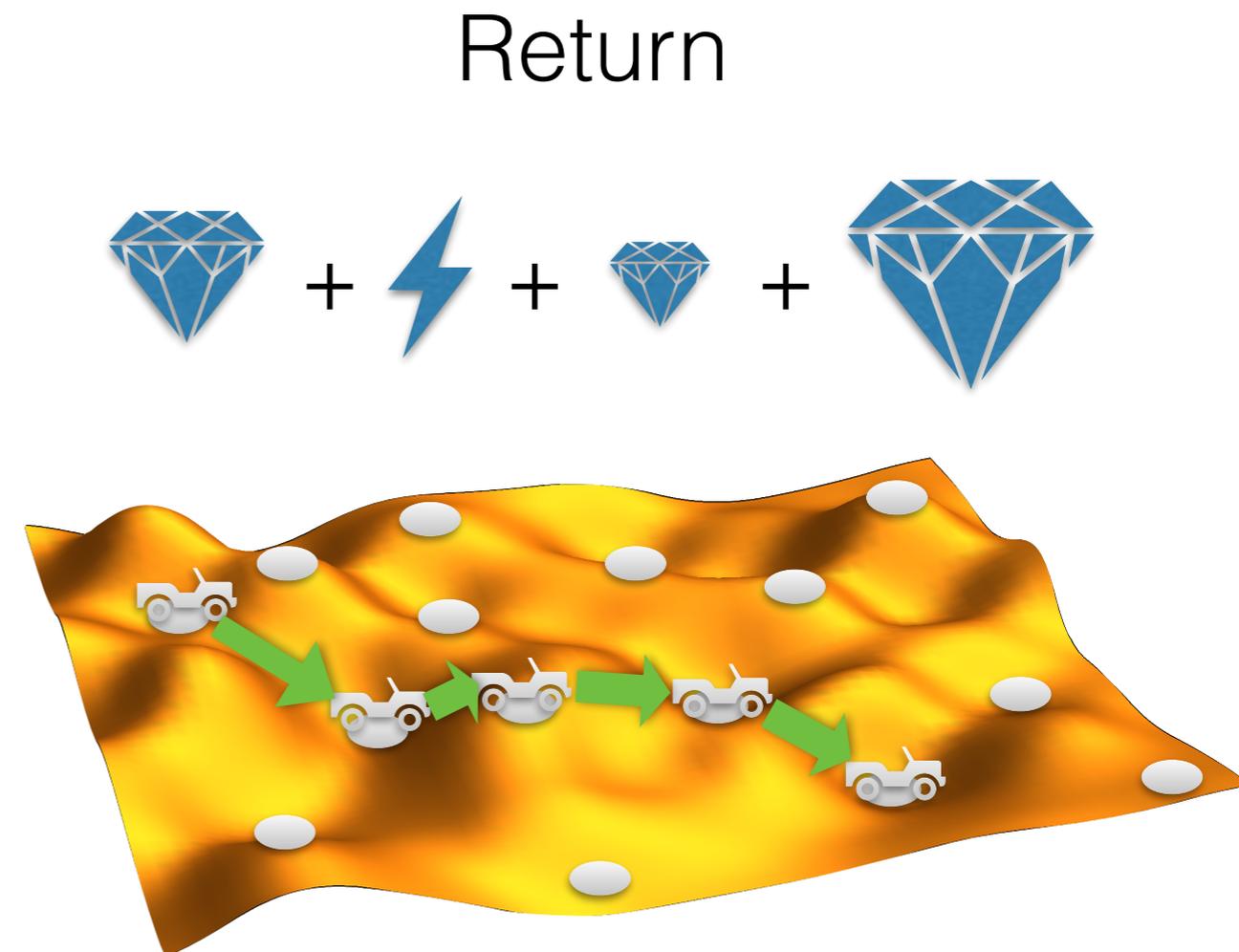
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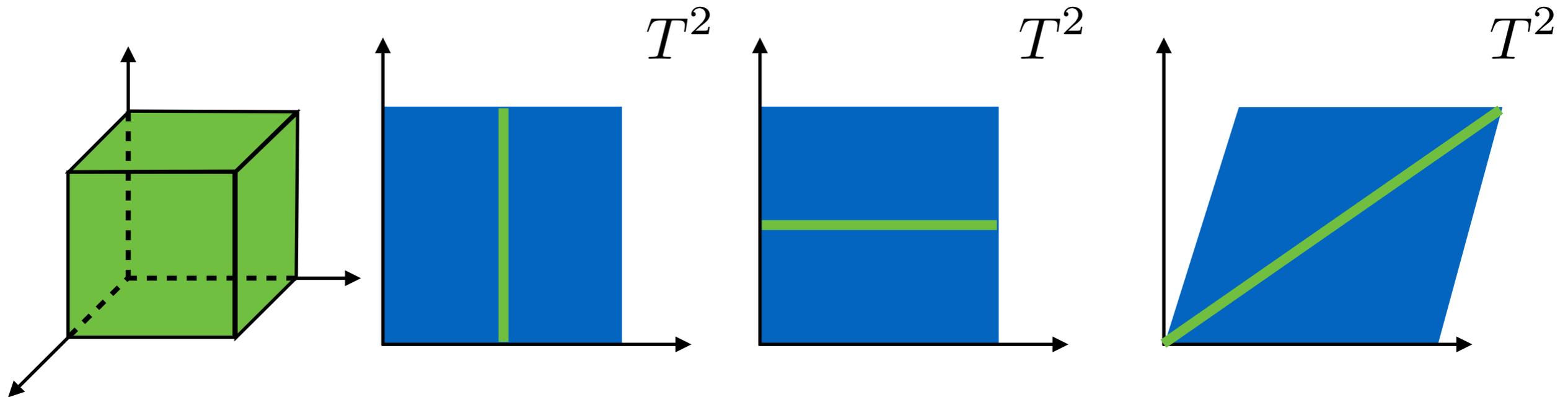
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- ▶ Workers change state by taking “actions” to reach new states (“elements of the environment”)
- ▶ They select these actions via some “policy”
- ▶ Depending on the chosen action they receive a pos/neg “reward”
- ▶ Via this reinforcement, the agent learns a policy that, given a state, selects an action that maximises its “return” (accumulated long-term reward)



# D6 branes



- ▶ Can (have to for three generations) tilt torus (2 different complex structure choices compatible with orientifold)
- ▶ D6 brane: 4D Minkowski + a line on each torus
- ▶ Can stack multiple D6 branes on top of each other
- ▶ Brane stacks  $\Leftrightarrow$  Tuple:  $(N, n_1, m_1, n_2, m_2, n_3, m_3)$

# D6 Branes - Consistency Conditions

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- ▶ Tadpole cancellation: Balance D6 / O6 charges:

$$\sum_{a=1}^{\# \text{stacks}} \begin{pmatrix} N^a n_1^a n_2^a n_3^a \\ -N^a n_1^a m_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a n_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a m_2^a n_3^a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ K-Theory: Global consistency constraint:

$$\sum_{a=1}^{\# \text{stacks}} \begin{pmatrix} 2N^a m_1^a m_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a n_2^a n_3^a \\ -N^a n_1^a m_2^a n_3^a \\ -2N^a n_1^a n_2^a m_3^a \end{pmatrix} \text{ mod } \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# D6 Branes - Consistency Conditions

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- ▶ **SUSY:**  $\forall a = 1, \dots, \# \text{ stacks}$

$$m_1^a m_2^a m_3^a - j m_1^a n_2^a n_3^a - k n_1^a m_2^a n_3^a - \ell n_1^a n_2^a m_3^a = 0$$

$$n_1^a n_2^a n_3^a - j n_1^a m_2^a m_3^a - k m_1^a n_2^a m_3^a - \ell m_1^a m_2^a n_3^a > 0$$

- ▶ **Pheno:**  $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$  + MSSM particles

- ▶ **Massless  $U(1)$ 's:**  $T_r \in \ker(\{N^k m_i^k\})$

$$i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (\text{three tori})$$

$$k = 1, \dots, \#U \text{ brane stacks}$$

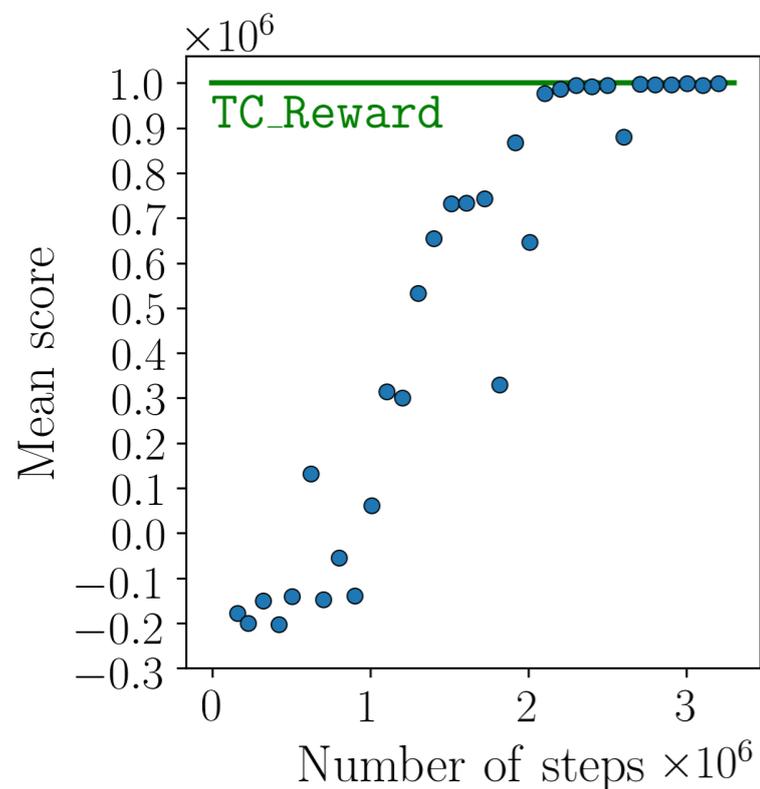
$$r = 1, \dots, \dim(\ker(\{N^k m_i^k\}))$$

$$= k - 3 \quad (\text{generically})$$

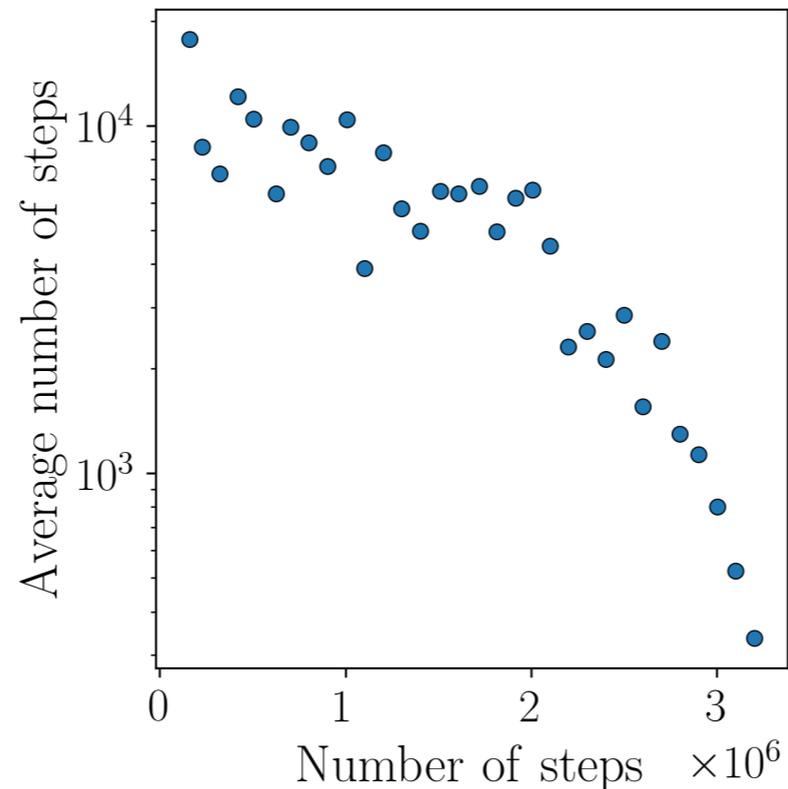
# Learn TC condition

$$\sum_{a=1}^{\#stacks} \begin{pmatrix} N^a & n_1^a & n_2^a & n_3^a \\ -N^a & n_1^a & m_2^a & m_3^a \\ -N^a & m_1^a & n_2^a & m_3^a \\ -N^a & m_1^a & m_2^a & n_3^a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

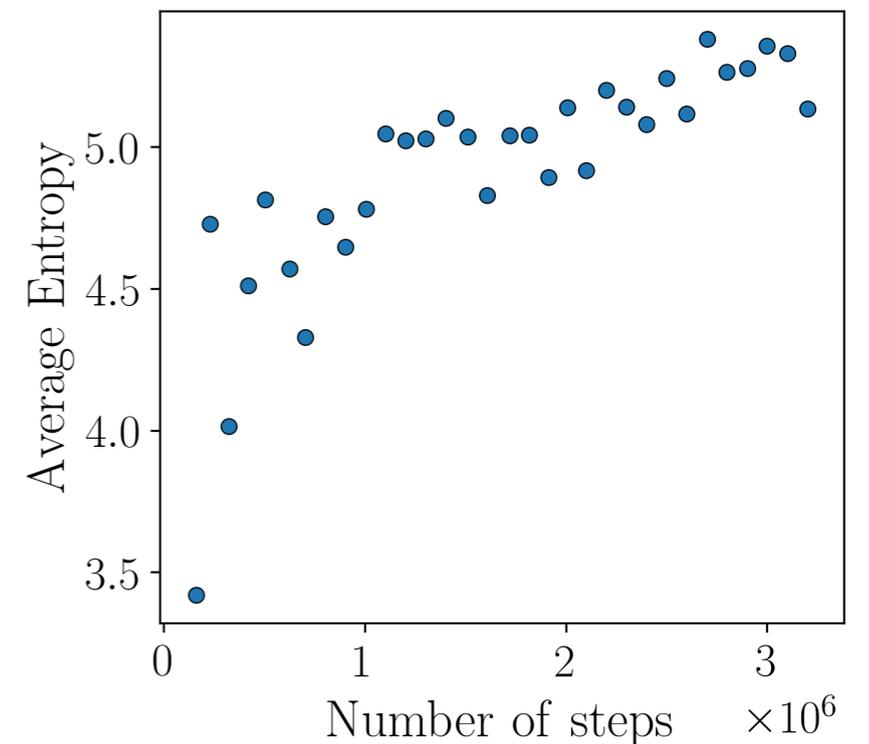
Mean score for TC



Average # steps until reset for TC



Average entropy for TC



# Learn TC+K+SUSY condition

Tadpole cancellation:

$$\sum_{a=1}^{\#stacks} \begin{pmatrix} N^a n_1^a n_2^a n_3^a \\ -N^a n_1^a m_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a n_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a m_2^a n_3^a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

K-Theory:

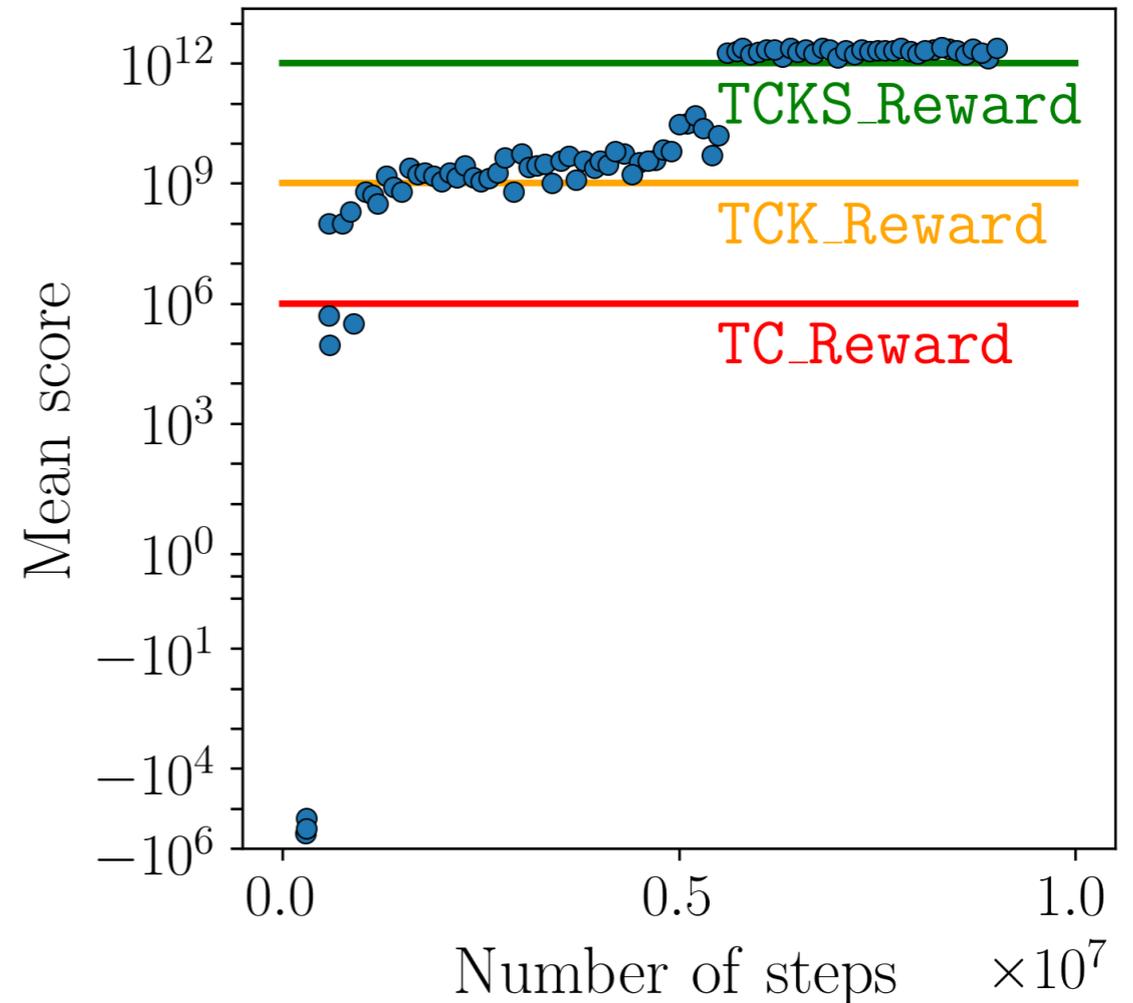
$$\sum_{a=1}^{\#stacks} \begin{pmatrix} 2N^a m_1^a m_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a n_2^a n_3^a \\ -N^a n_1^a m_2^a n_3^a \\ -2N^a n_1^a n_2^a m_3^a \end{pmatrix} \bmod \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

SUSY:

$$m_1^a m_2^a m_3^a - j m_1^a n_2^a n_3^a - k n_1^a m_2^a n_3^a - \ell n_1^a n_2^a m_3^a = 0$$

$$n_1^a n_2^a n_3^a - j n_1^a m_2^a m_3^a - k m_1^a n_2^a m_3^a - \ell m_1^a m_2^a n_3^a > 0$$

Mean score for TCKS



# Learn SUSY+TC condition

K-Theory:

$$\sum_{a=1}^{\#stacks} \begin{pmatrix} 2N^a m_1^a m_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a n_2^a n_3^a \\ -N^a n_1^a m_2^a n_3^a \\ -2N^a n_1^a n_2^a m_3^a \end{pmatrix} \bmod \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

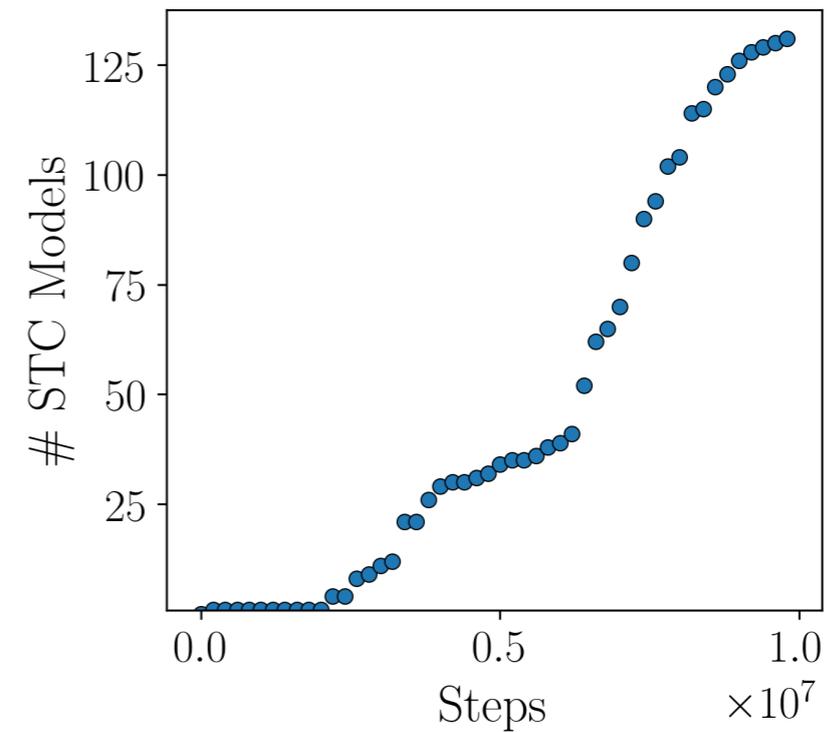
SUSY:

$$m_1^a m_2^a m_3^a - j m_1^a n_2^a n_3^a - k n_1^a m_2^a n_3^a - \ell n_1^a n_2^a m_3^a = 0$$

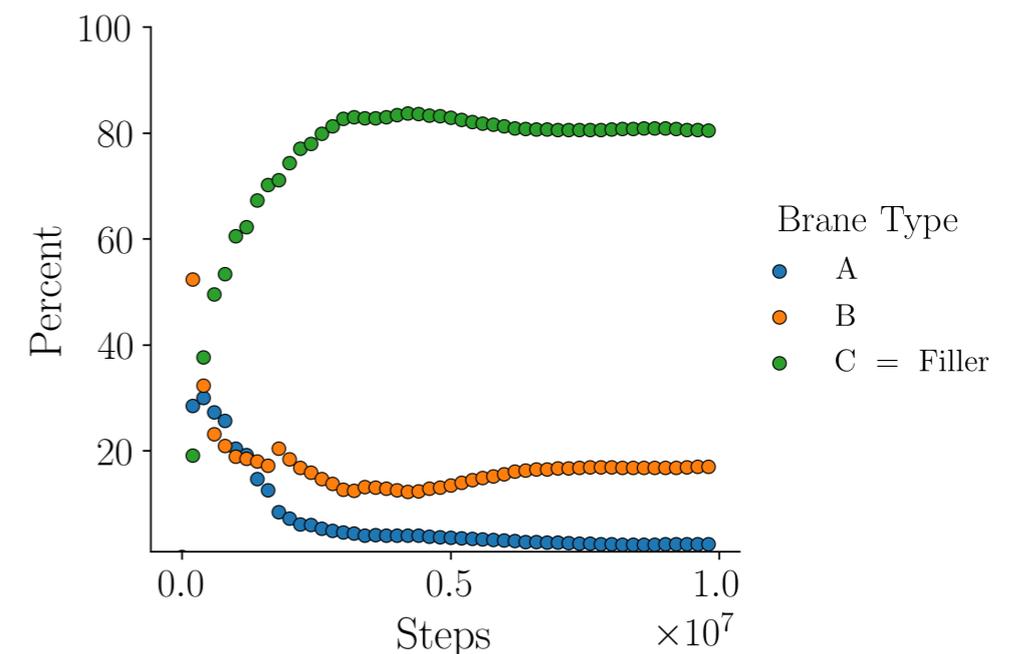
$$n_1^a n_2^a n_3^a - j n_1^a m_2^a m_3^a - k m_1^a n_2^a m_3^a - \ell m_1^a m_2^a n_3^a > 0$$

Tadpole cancellation:

$$\sum_{a=1}^{\#stacks} \begin{pmatrix} N^a n_1^a n_2^a n_3^a \\ -N^a n_1^a m_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a n_2^a m_3^a \\ -N^a m_1^a m_2^a n_3^a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$



Learning Filler Brane Strategy



# Conclusions

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- ▶ Finding viable vacua requires solving nested hard and undecidable problems
- ▶ By finding structures and/or making approximations you can tackle these problems
- ▶ For toroidal orientifold example we found
  - ML (RL) finds strategies to solve string consistency constraints
  - ML recovers human-derived strategies and finds new ones

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*Thank you*