

If agents could talk.... what should they say?

Jason R. Marden
University of California, Santa Barbara

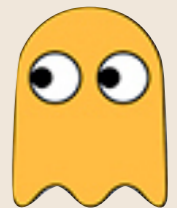
(joint with D. Grimsman, M.S. Ali, D. Paccagnan, V. Ramaswami, and J. Hespanha)



Hey Clyde...



Workshop on Network, Population and Congestion Games
Institut of Henri Poincaré, Paris
April 17, 2019



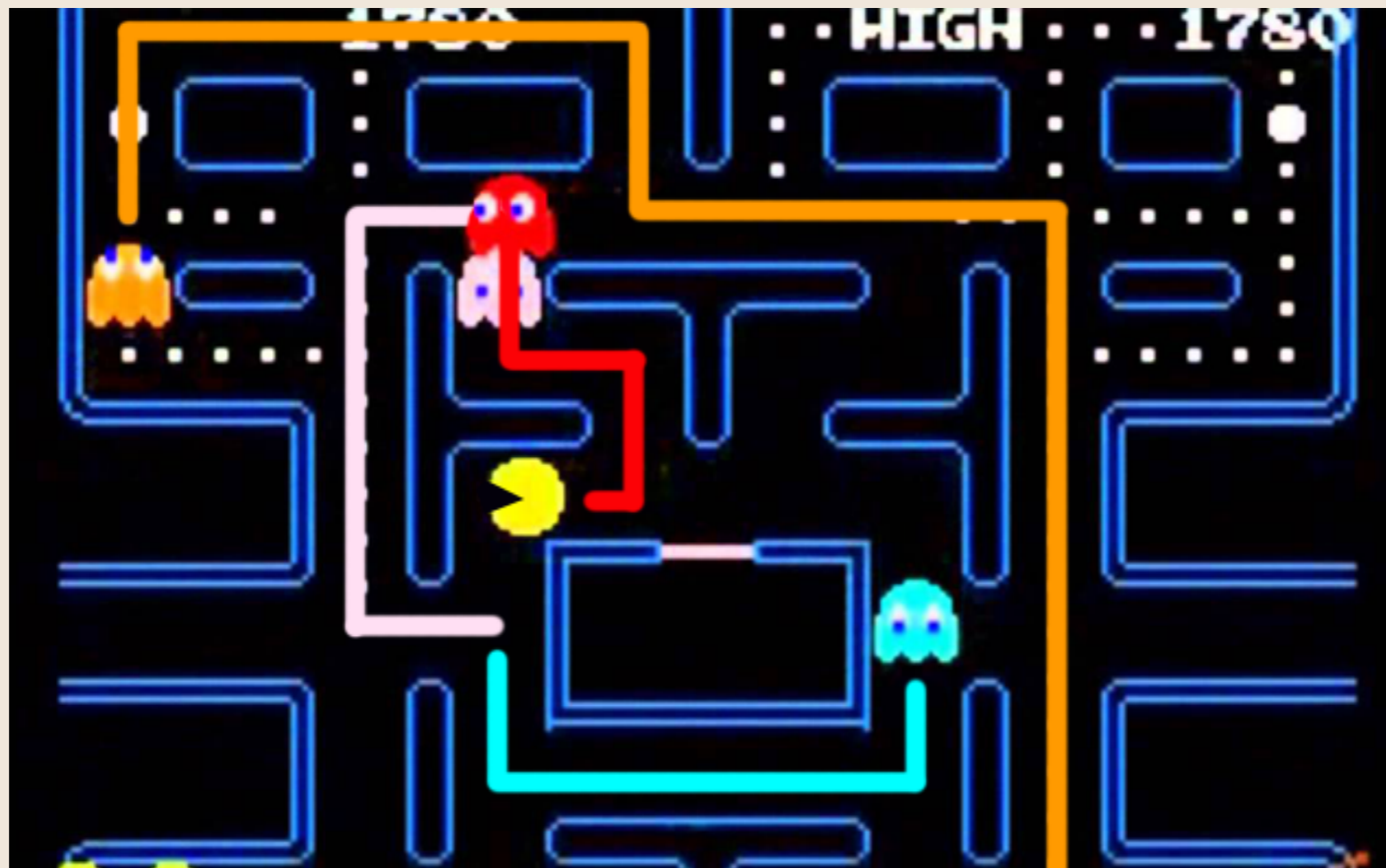
Central Goal

design of *admissible* control algorithms that attain *near-optimal* system-wide behavior in a *reasonable* period of time



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admissible: centralized/decentralized, informational dependence, etc.

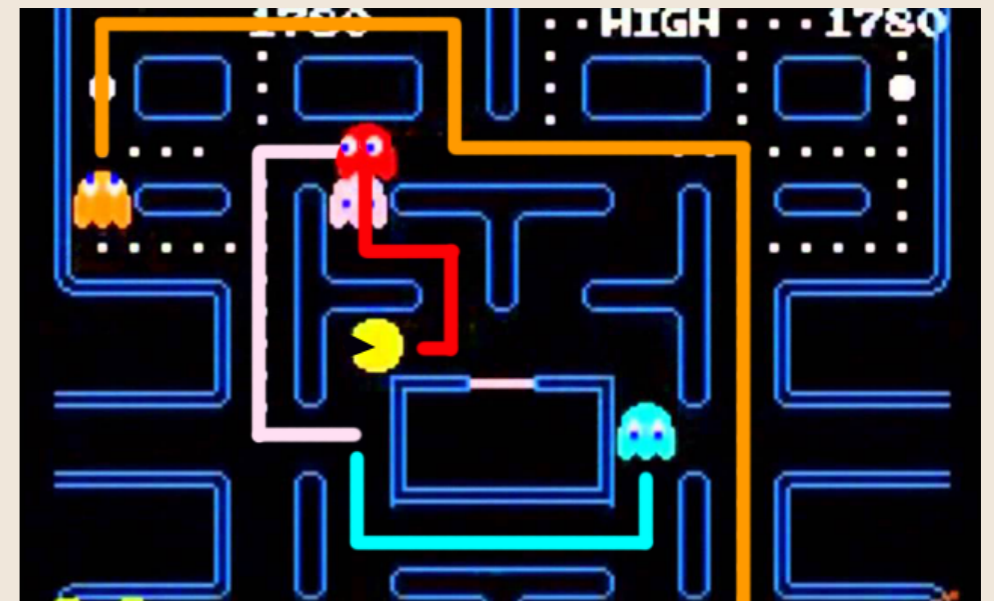


Central Goal

design of *admissible* control algorithms that attain *near-optimal* system-wide behavior in a *reasonable* period of time

near-optimal: attainable performance close to best centralized algorithm

$$1 \geq \frac{W(\text{control algorithm})}{W(\text{best centralized})} \geq 0$$



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reasonable: linear or polynomial in the system dimensions



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relationship well studied
(computer science / optimization)



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design of **admissible** control algorithms that attain **near-optimal** system-wide behavior in a **reasonable** period of time

how does *informational availability* impact achievable performance guarantees?



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What information does 🟡 have?

- 🟢, 🟡, 🟠 planned paths?
- 🟡 location?
- localized board info?



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What should 🟡 do with this information?



Design Challenges

Transcription

Policy generation

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Design Challenges

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Policy generation

Part I

How does the lack of information degrade achievable performance?

What information does 🟡 have?

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What should 🟡 do with this information?



Design Challenges

Transcription

Policy generation

Part I

How does the lack of information degrade achievable performance?

Part II

How do you optimize collective performance using available information?

What information does 🟡 have?

- 🟢, 🟡, 🟠 planned paths?
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What should 🟡 do with this information?



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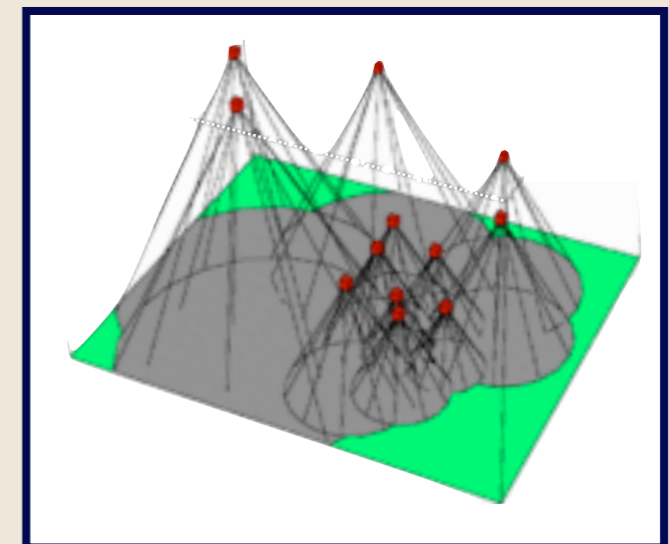
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submodularity
(diminishing returns)

(many engineering problems are submodular)

Sensor coverage



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submodularity

+

greedy algorithm

$$\frac{W(\text{greedy algorithm})}{W(\text{best centralized})} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

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submodularity

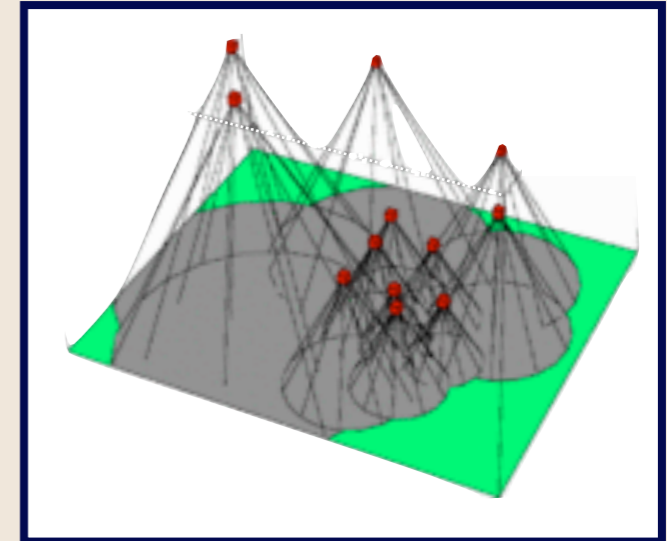
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$$\frac{W(\text{greedy algorithm})}{W(\text{best centralized})} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

Setup:

- Elements: E
- Welfare function: $W : 2^E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

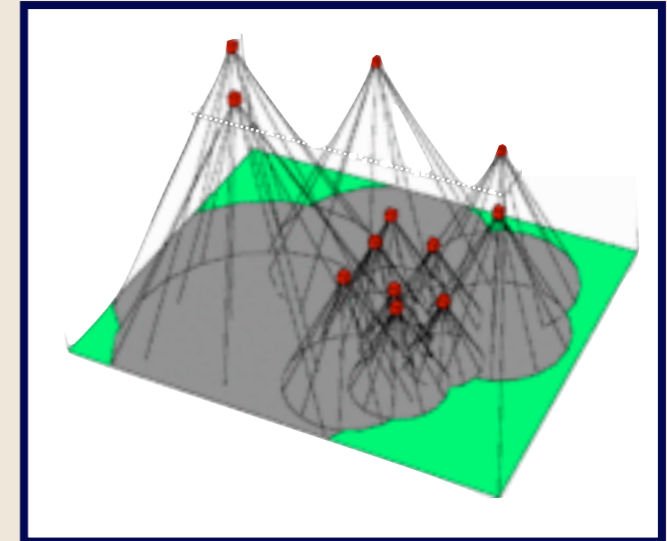


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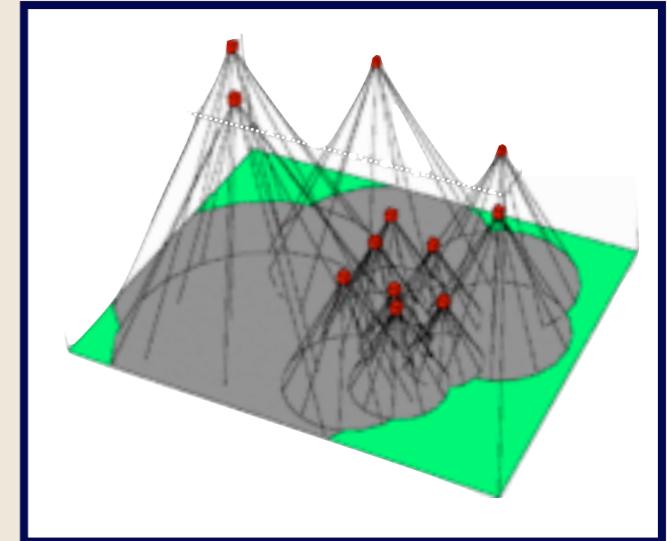
Properties:

- Normalized: $W(\emptyset) = 0$



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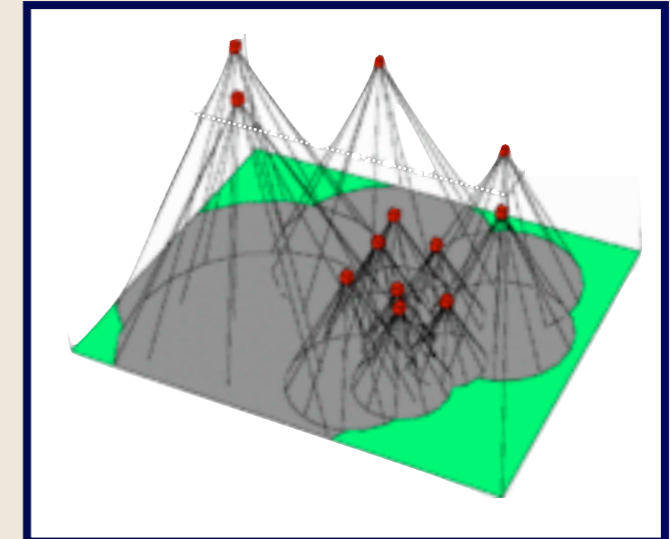


Properties:

- Normalized: $W(\emptyset) = 0$
- Monotone: $W(A) \leq W(B), \forall A \subseteq B \subseteq E$

Setup:

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Properties:

- Normalized: $W(\emptyset) = 0$
- Monotone: $W(A) \leq W(B), \forall A \subseteq B \subseteq E$
- Submodular: For any $A \subseteq B \subseteq E, x \in E \setminus B$

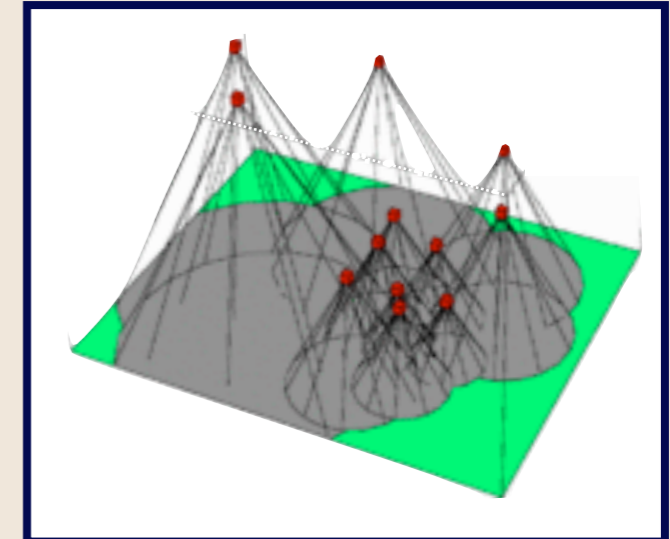
$$W(A \cup \{x\}) - W(A) \geq W(B \cup \{x\}) - W(B)$$

marginal gain adding
x to “smaller” set A

marginal gain adding
x to “larger” set B

Setup:

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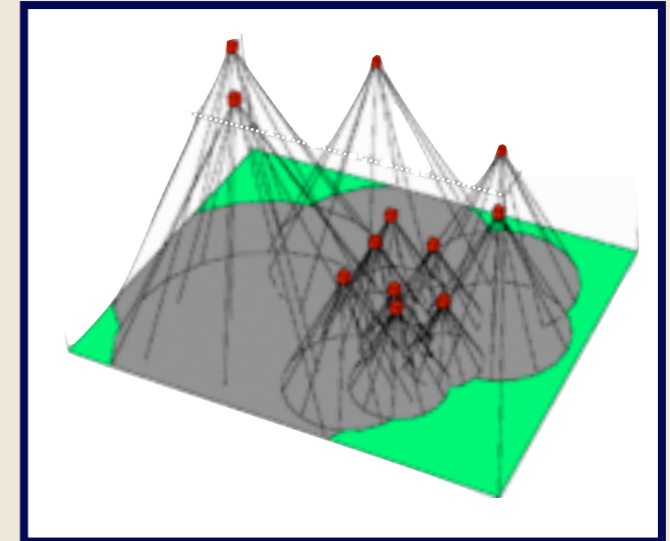
marginal gain adding
x to “smaller” set A

marginal gain adding
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Note: We will refer to such as function as merely submodular

Setup:

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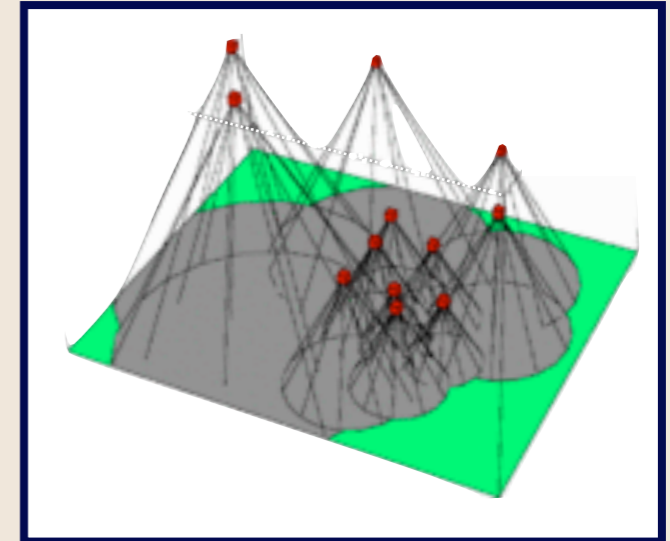


Setup:

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Multiagent Setup:

- Agents: $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

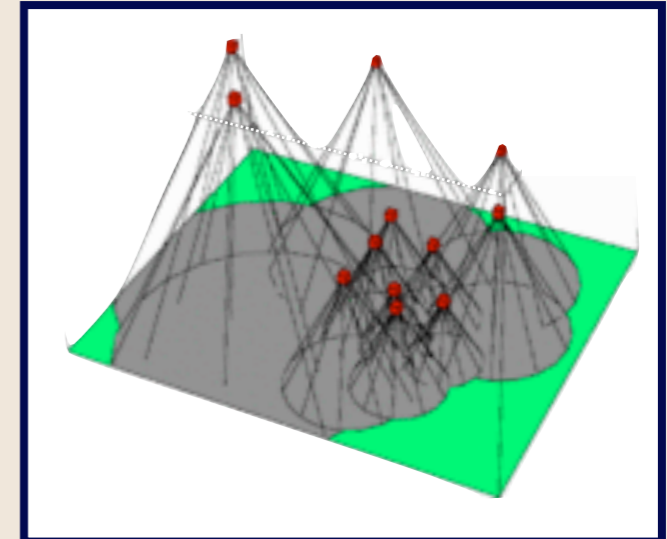


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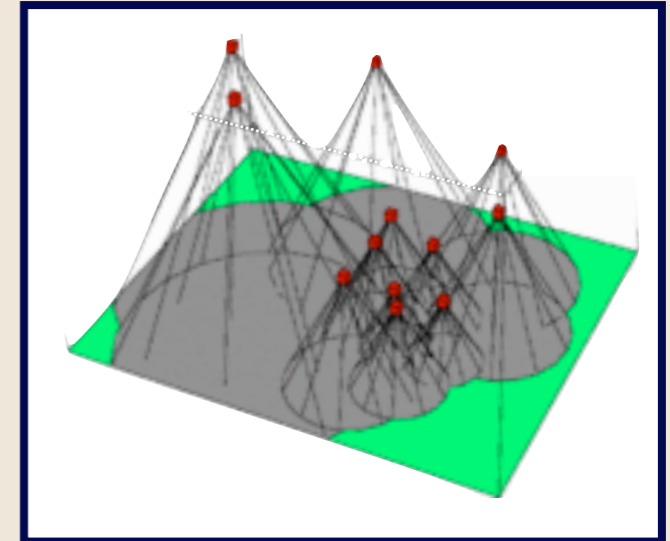
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Setup:

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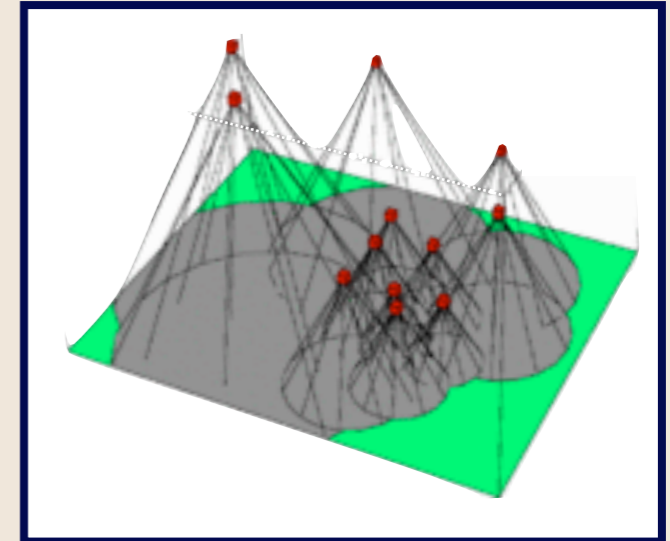


Multiagent Setup:

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Example: Coverage

- Agents: *Sensors*
- Choices: *Local coverage area*
- Evaluation: *Joint coverage quality*

submodularity

+

greedy algorithm

$$\frac{W(\text{greedy algorithm})}{W(\text{best centralized})} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

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submodularity

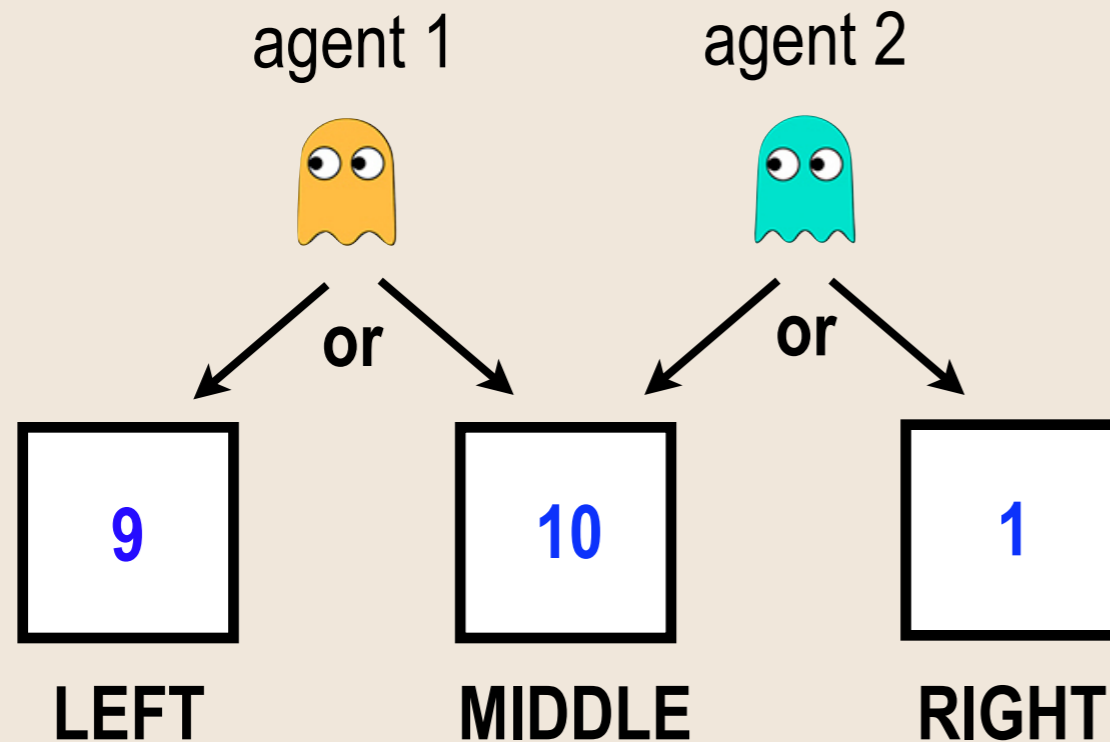
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- Agents make selections according to order (indices)
- **Information:** Available information to each agent $i \Rightarrow x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}$
- **Selection rule:** Maximize marginal contribution given information

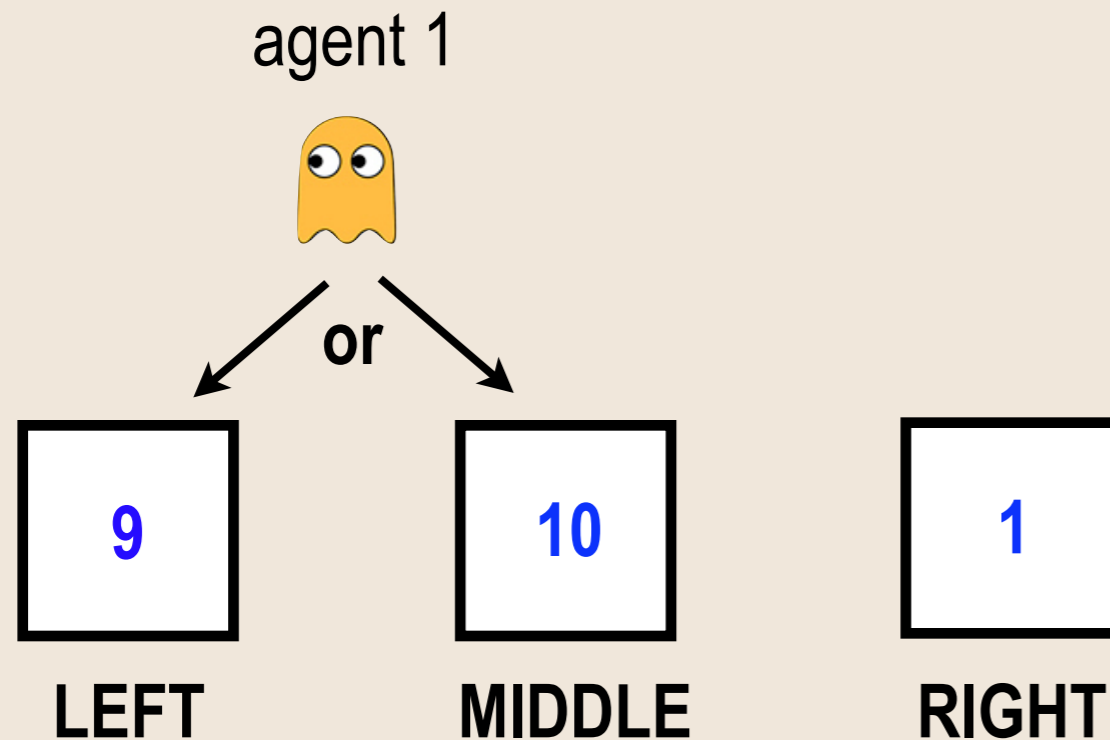
$$x_i \in \arg \max_{x'_i \in X_i} W(x'_i, x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}) - W(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$



Goal Objective
maximize sum of covered values

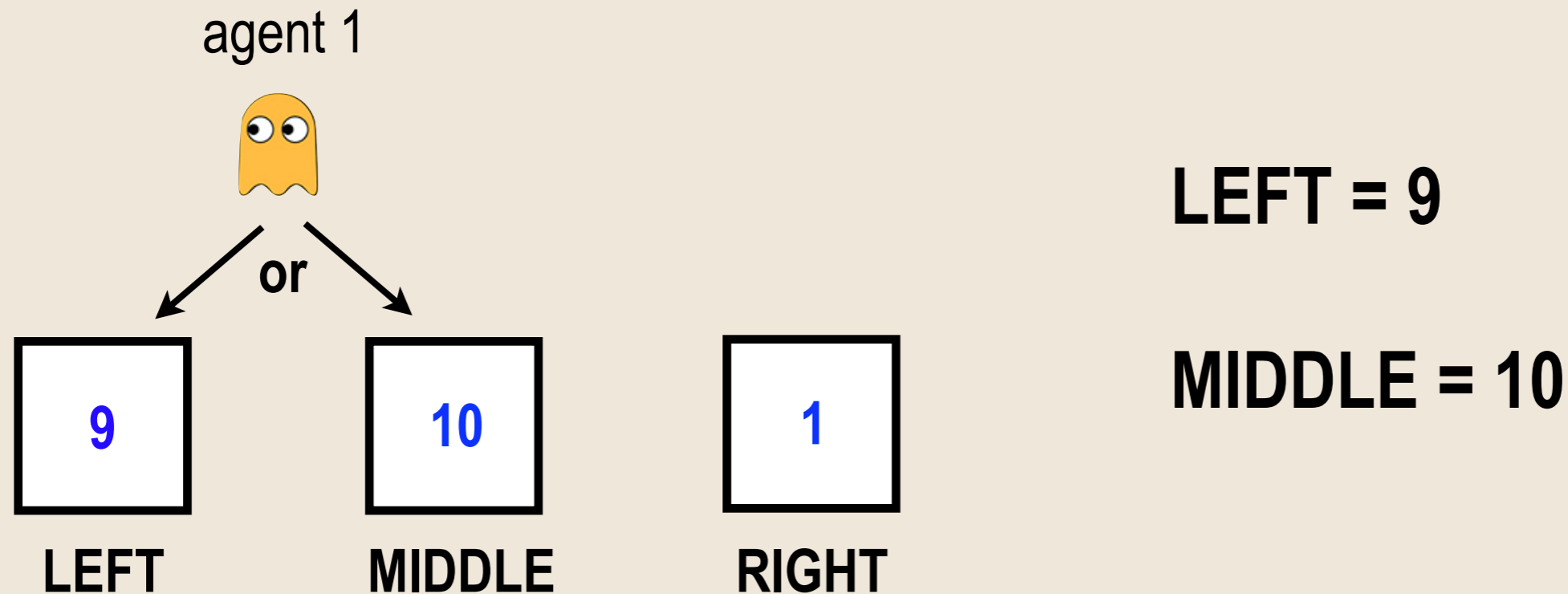
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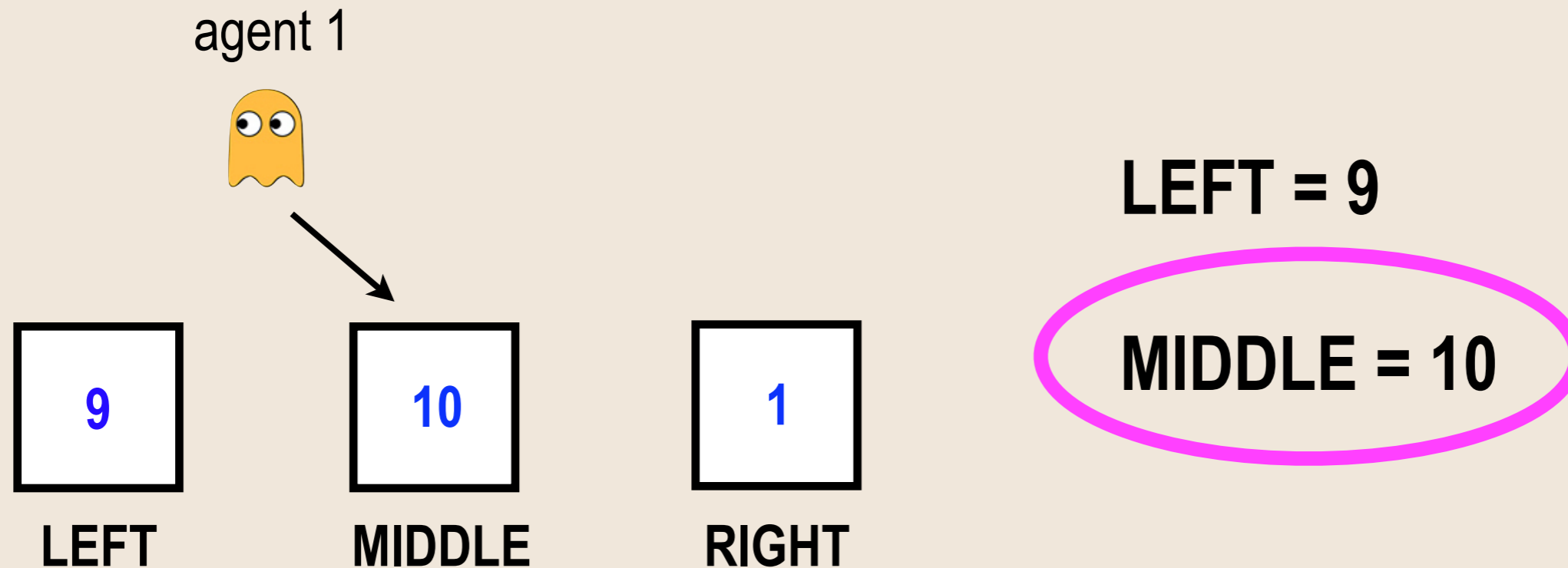
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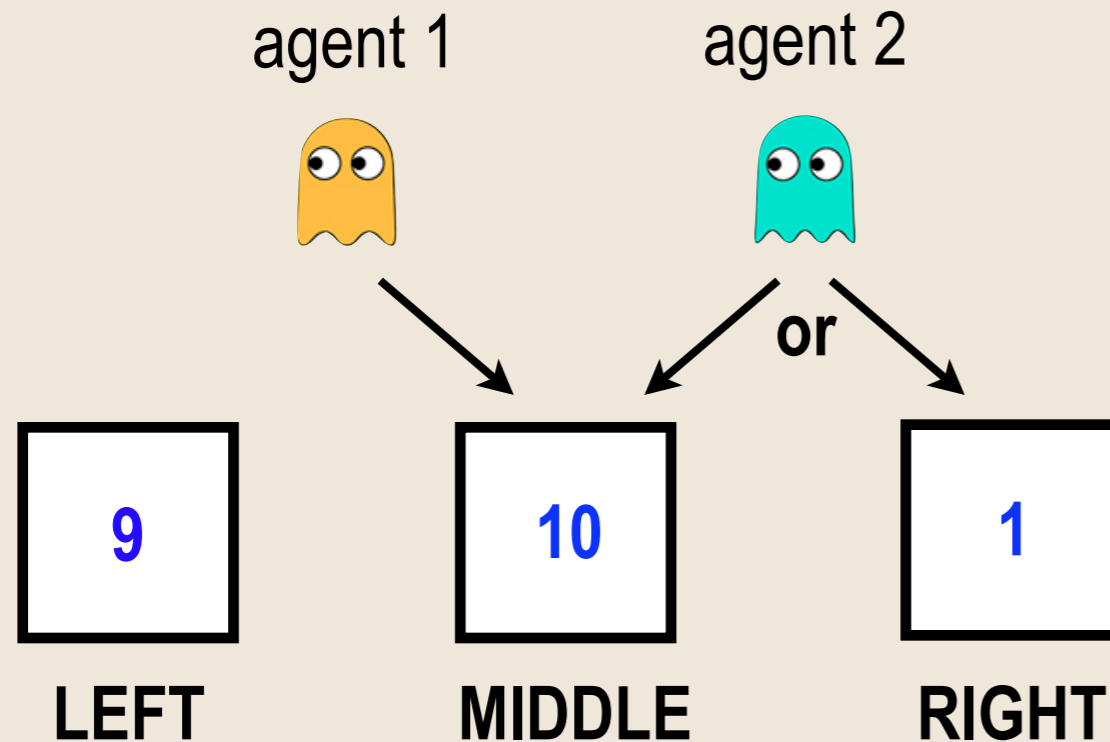
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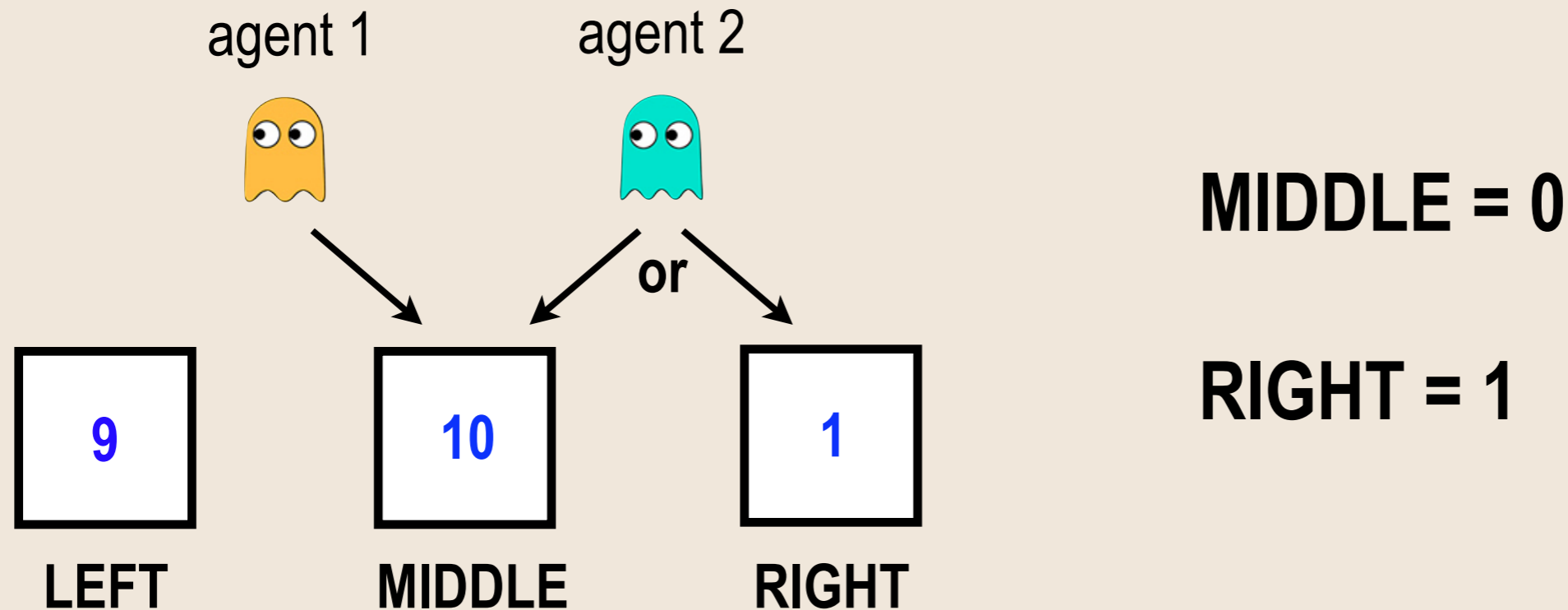
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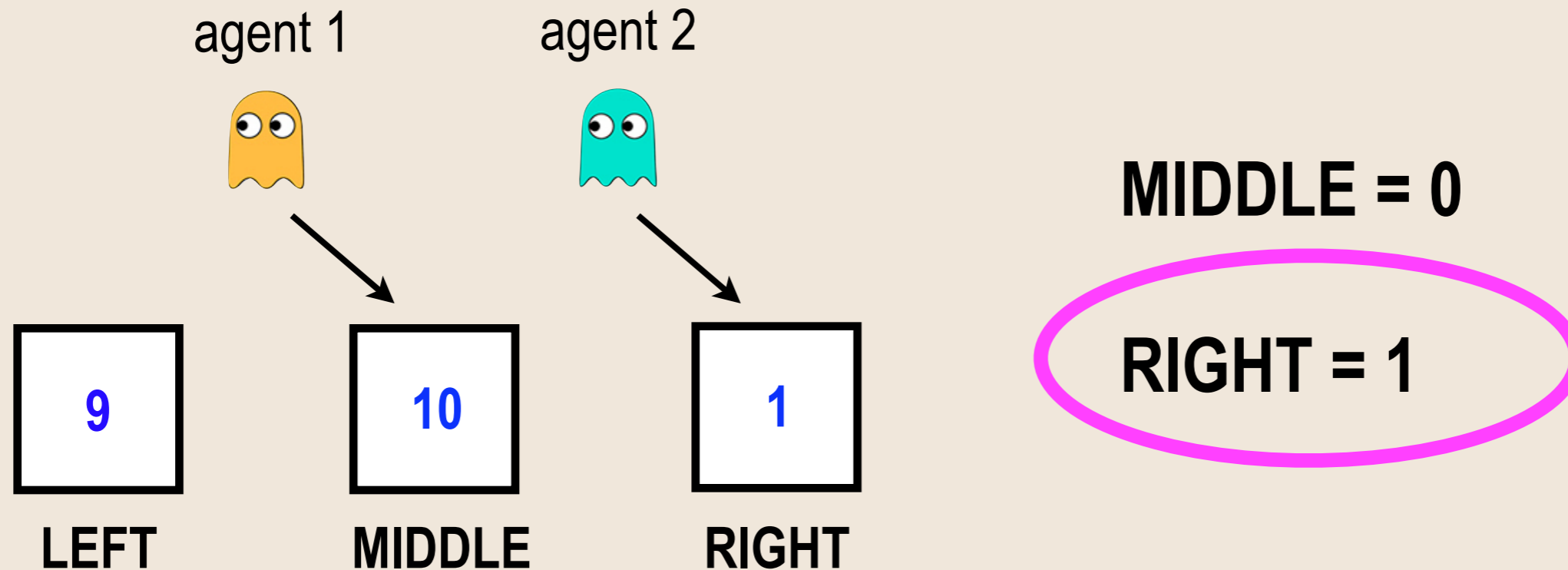
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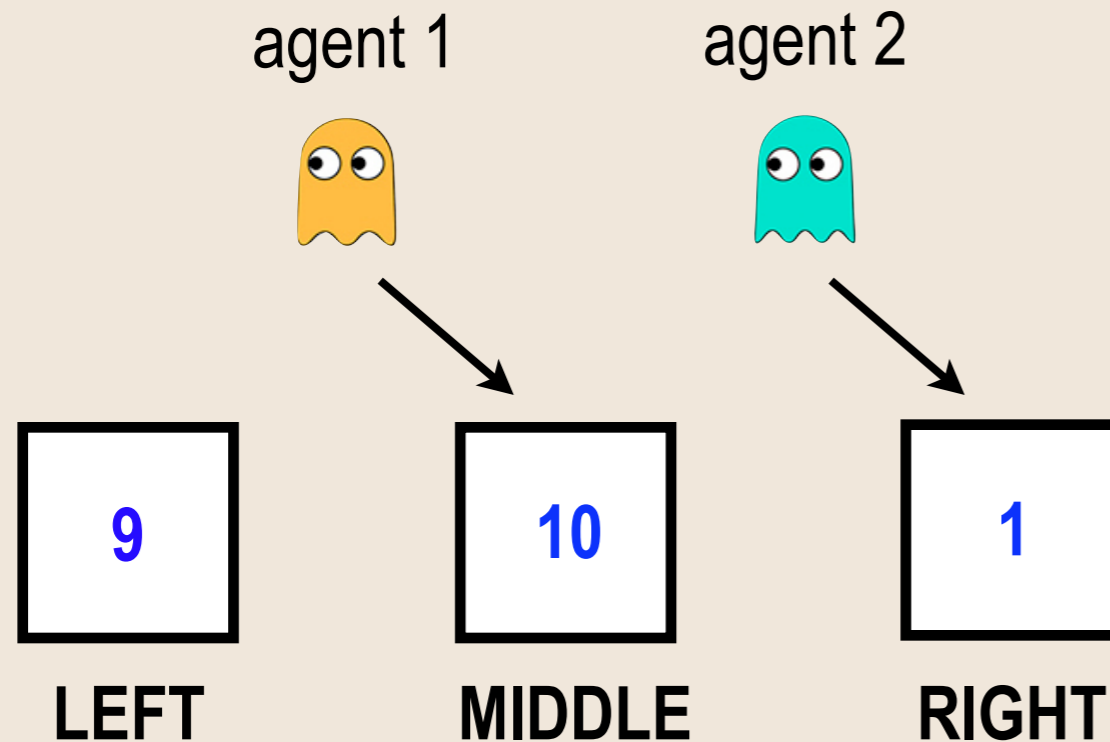
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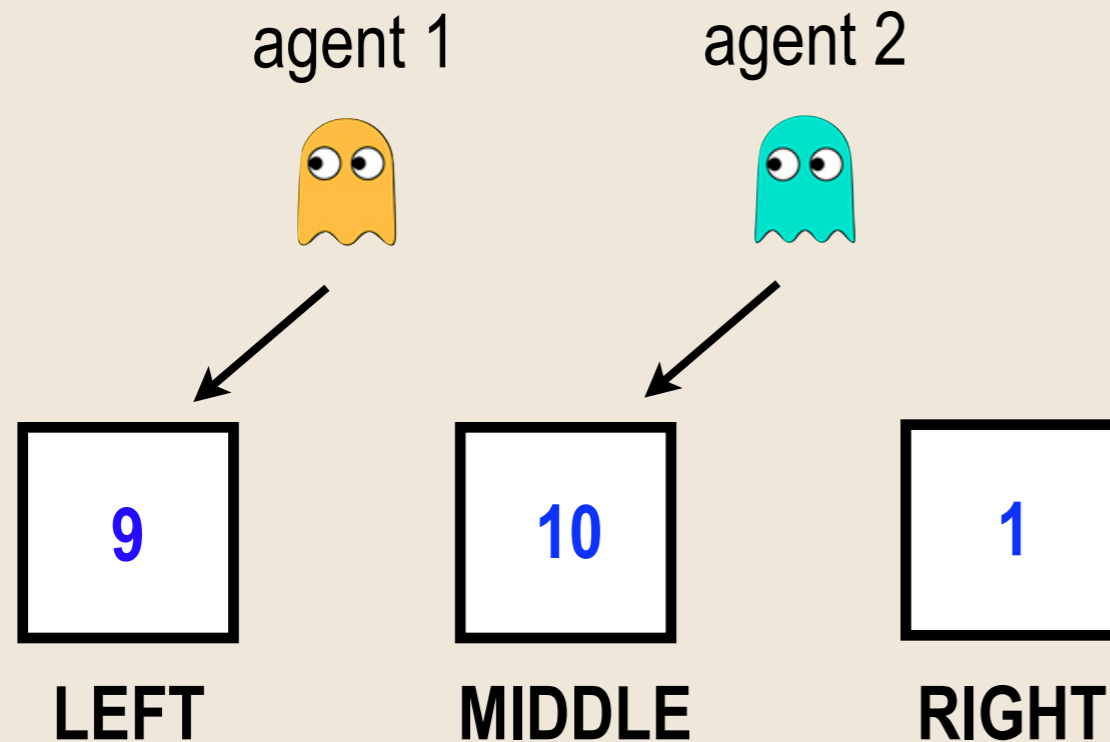
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Greedy = 11

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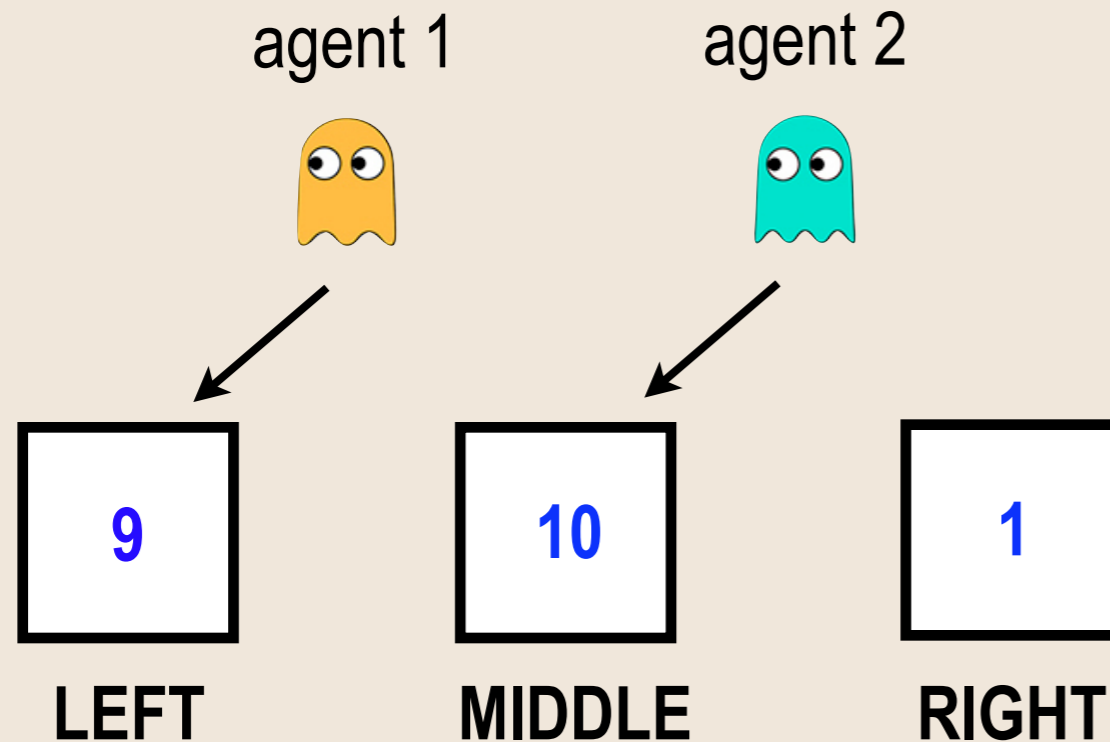


Greedy = 11

Optimal = 19

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Greedy = 11

Optimal = 19

$$\frac{W(\text{greedy algorithm})}{W(\text{best centralized})} = \frac{11}{19} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

*bound holds irrespective of number agents,
assigned order, boxes, values, action sets, etc*

Greedy Algorithm

- Agents make selections according to order (indices)
- **Information:** Available information to each agent $i \Rightarrow x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}$
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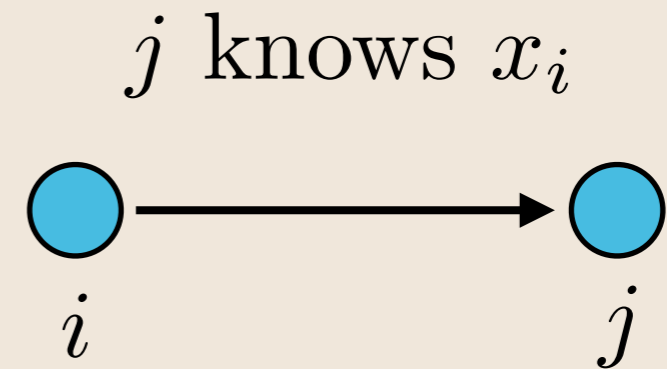
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Questions:

- What happens if agents do not have all information needed?

Information Graph G

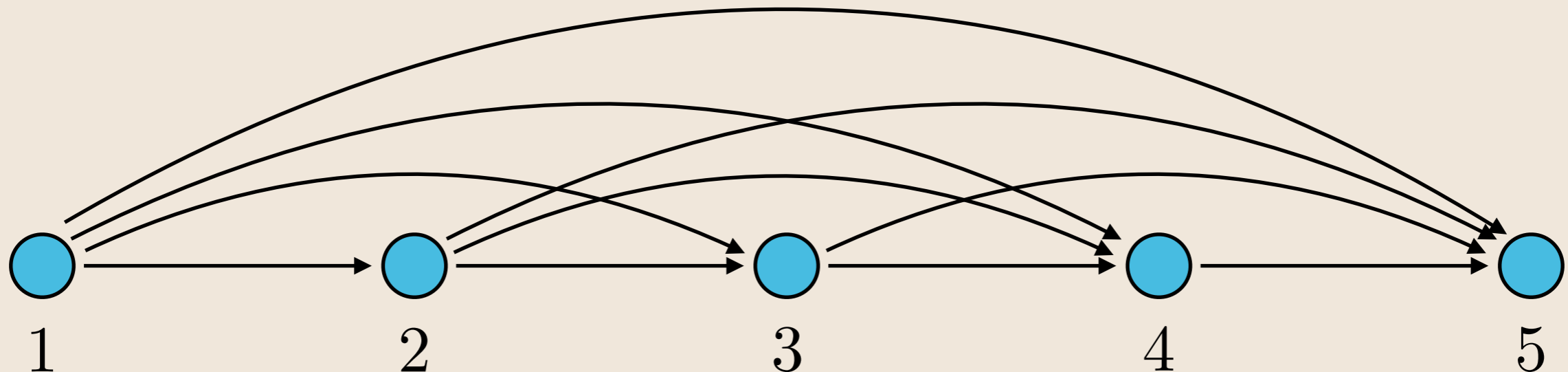
- Nodes: Agents
- Edges: Informational availability



Information Graph G

- Nodes: Agents
- Edges: Informational availability

j knows x_i

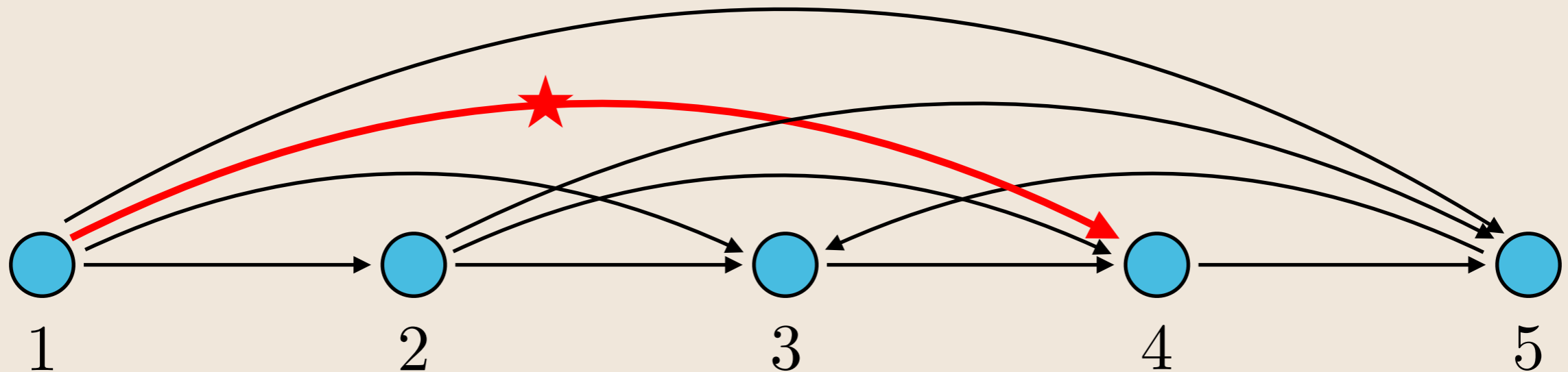


information graph for standard greedy algorithm

Information Graph G

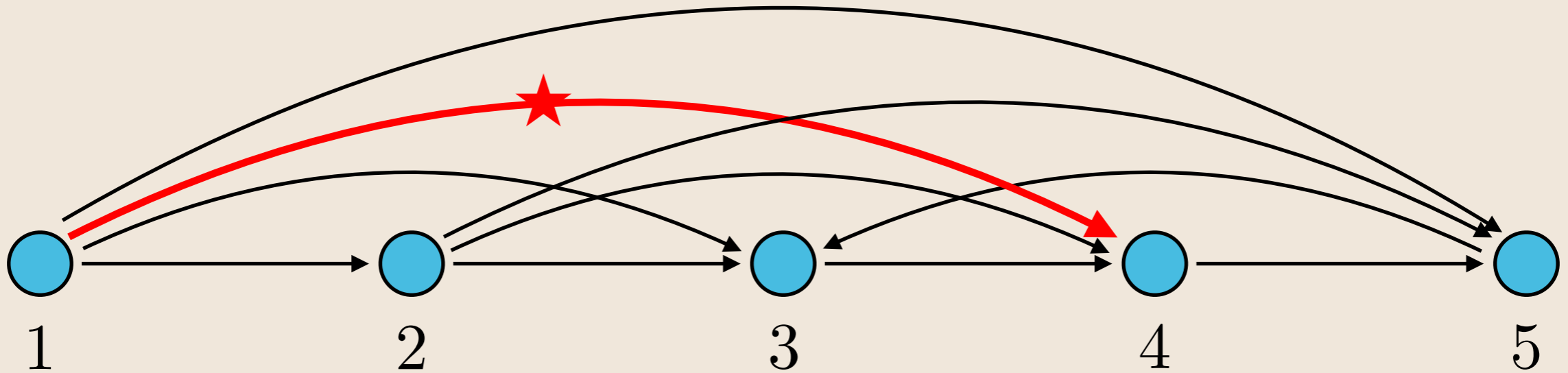
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Localized greedy algorithm

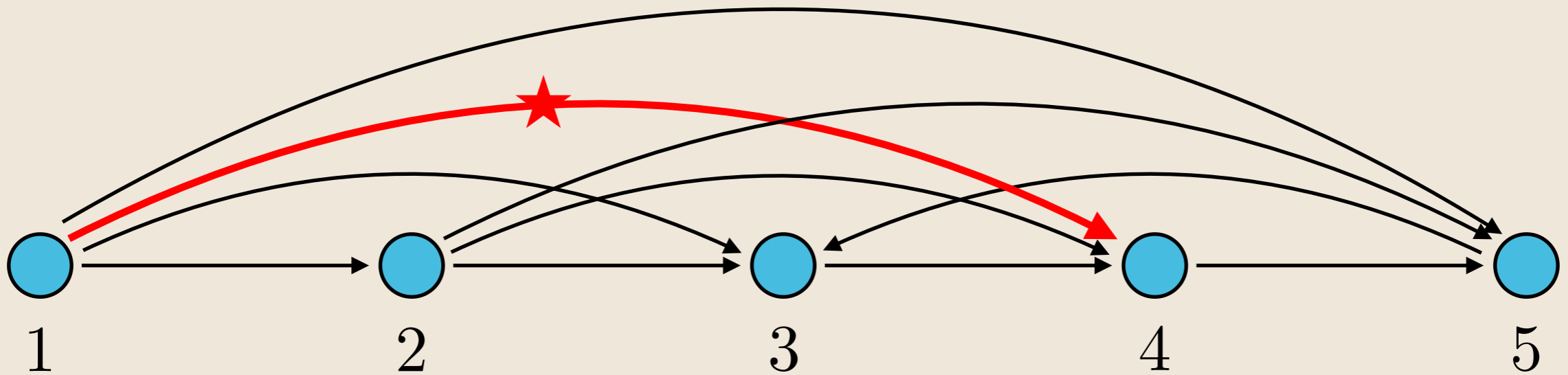
$$x_1 \in \arg \max_{x'_1 \in X_1} W(x'_1)$$



Localized greedy algorithm

$$x_1 \in \arg \max_{x'_1 \in X_1} W(x'_1)$$

$$x_2 \in \arg \max_{x'_2 \in X_2} W(x'_2, x_1) - W(x_1)$$

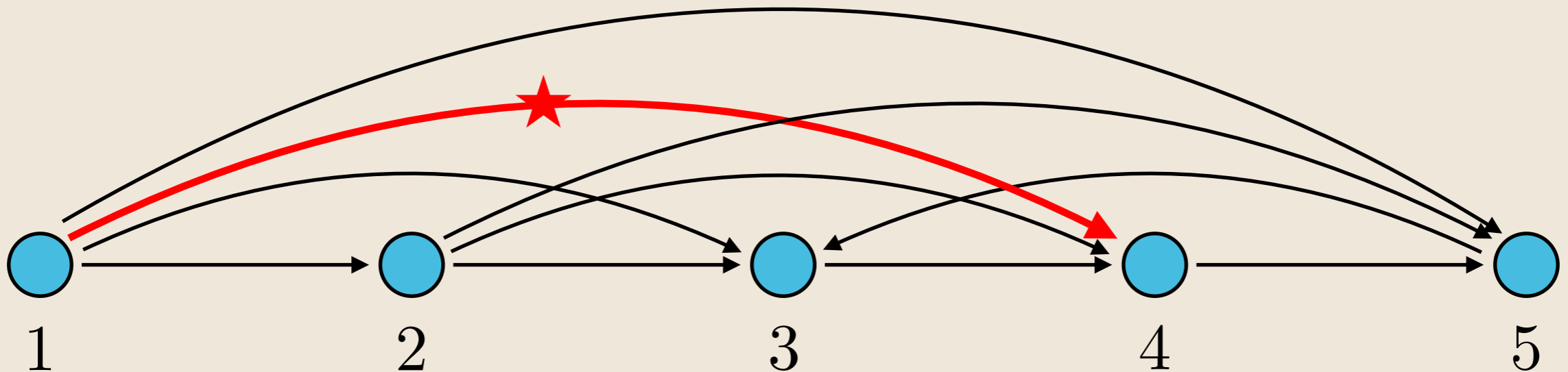


Localized greedy algorithm

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$$x_3 \in \arg \max_{x'_3 \in X_3} W(x'_3, x_1, x_2) - W(x_1, x_2)$$



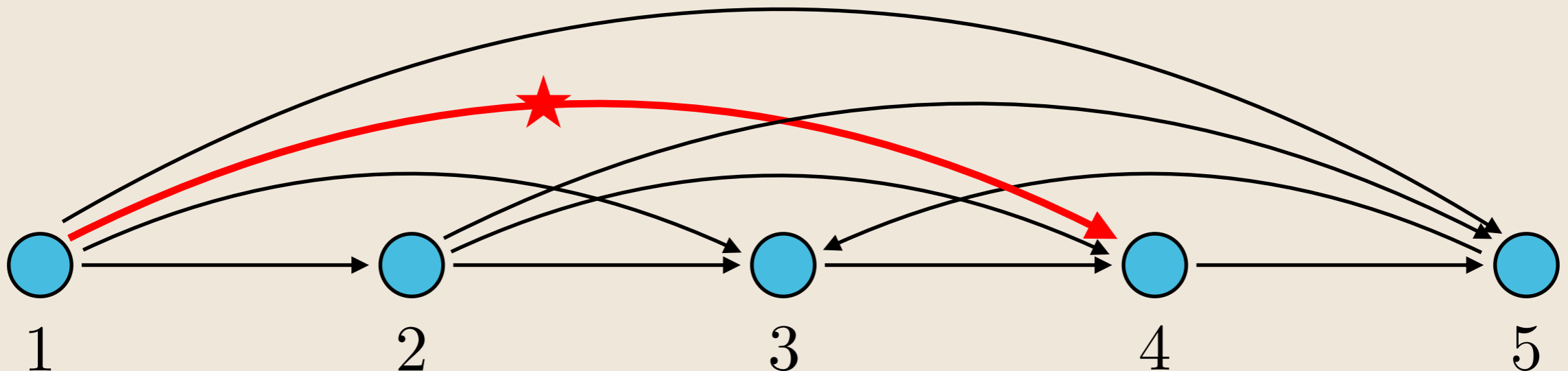
Localized greedy algorithm

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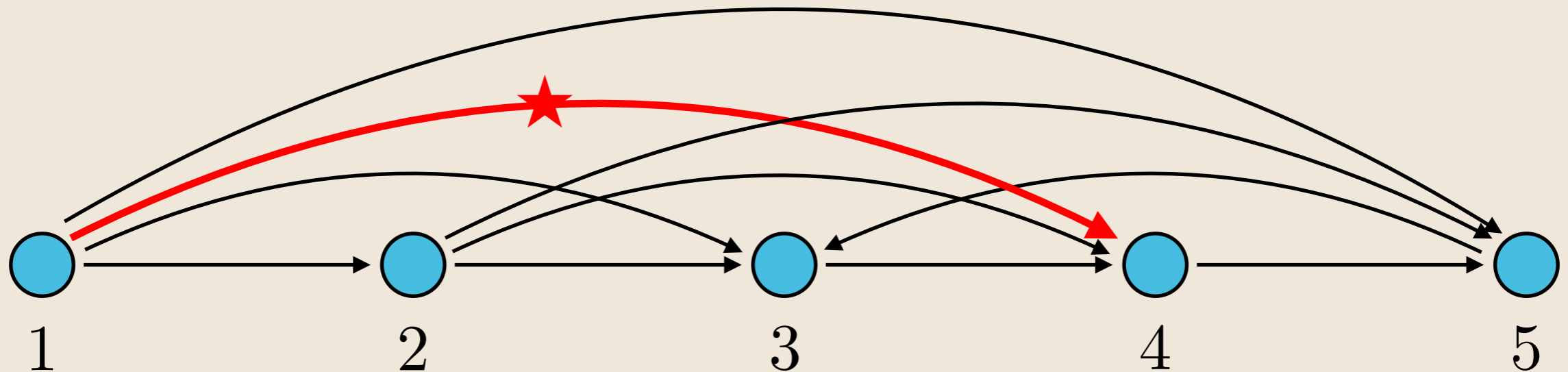
$$x_2 \in \arg \max_{x'_2 \in X_2} W(x'_2, x_1) - W(x_1)$$

$$x_3 \in \arg \max_{x'_3 \in X_3} W(x'_3, x_1, x_2) - W(x_1, x_2)$$

$$x_4 \in \arg \max_{x'_4 \in X_4} W(x'_4, x_2, x_3) - W(x_2, x_3) \quad (\text{does not have access to } x_1)$$



How does the structure of the information graph impact the quality of the localized greedy solution?



Theorem [Grimsman et al., 2018]

Consider any submodular multiagent optimization problem with an information graph G . The quality of the localized greedy solution satisfies

$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^*(G)}$$

where $\alpha^*(G)$ is the (fractional) independence number of the graph G . Furthermore, the bound is essentially tight.

Independent set: An independent set is a set of vertices J such that

$$v_1, v_2 \in J \Rightarrow (v_1, v_2), (v_2, v_1) \notin E$$

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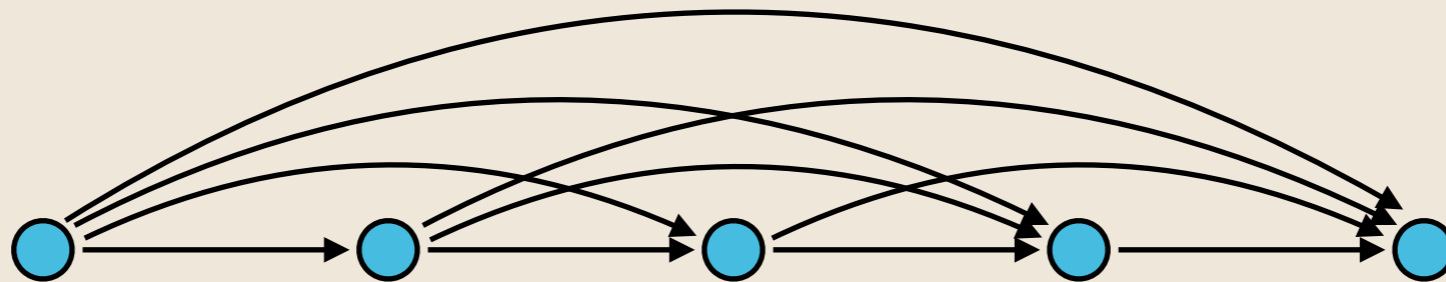
Independence number: Cardinality of largest independent set

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Independence number: Cardinality of largest independent set

$$\alpha(G) = 1$$

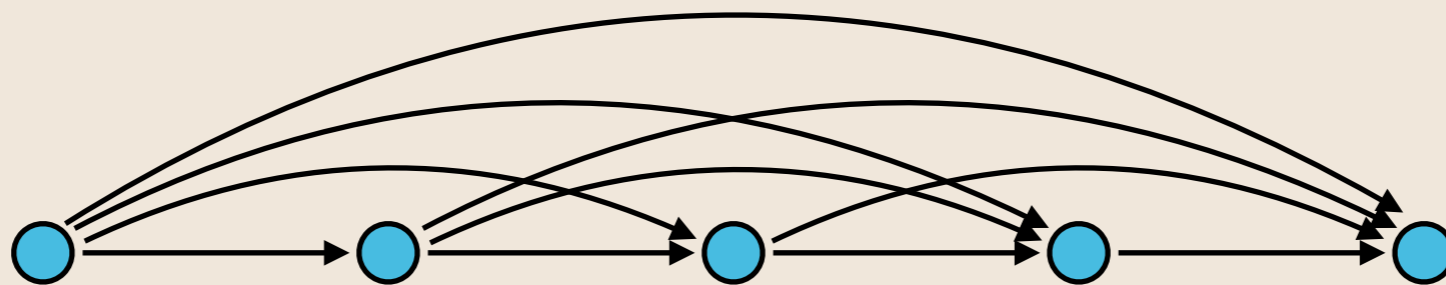


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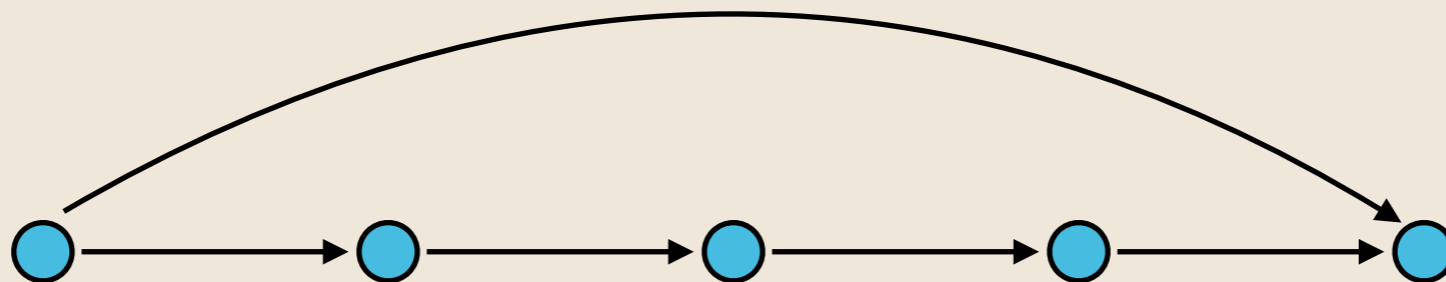
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Independence number: Cardinality of largest independent set

$$\alpha(G) = 1$$



$$\alpha(G) = 2$$

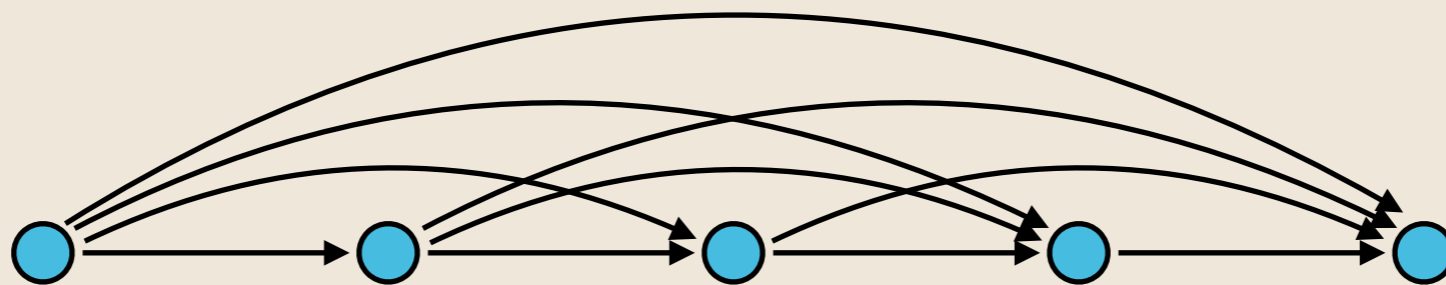


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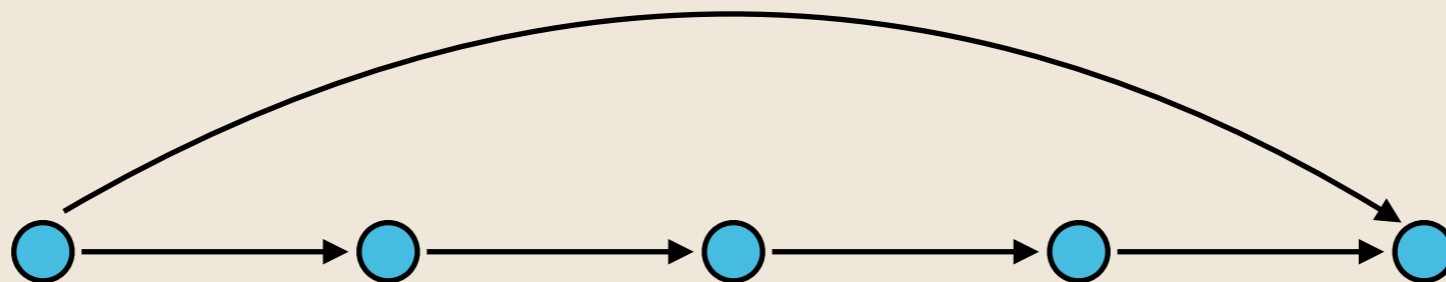
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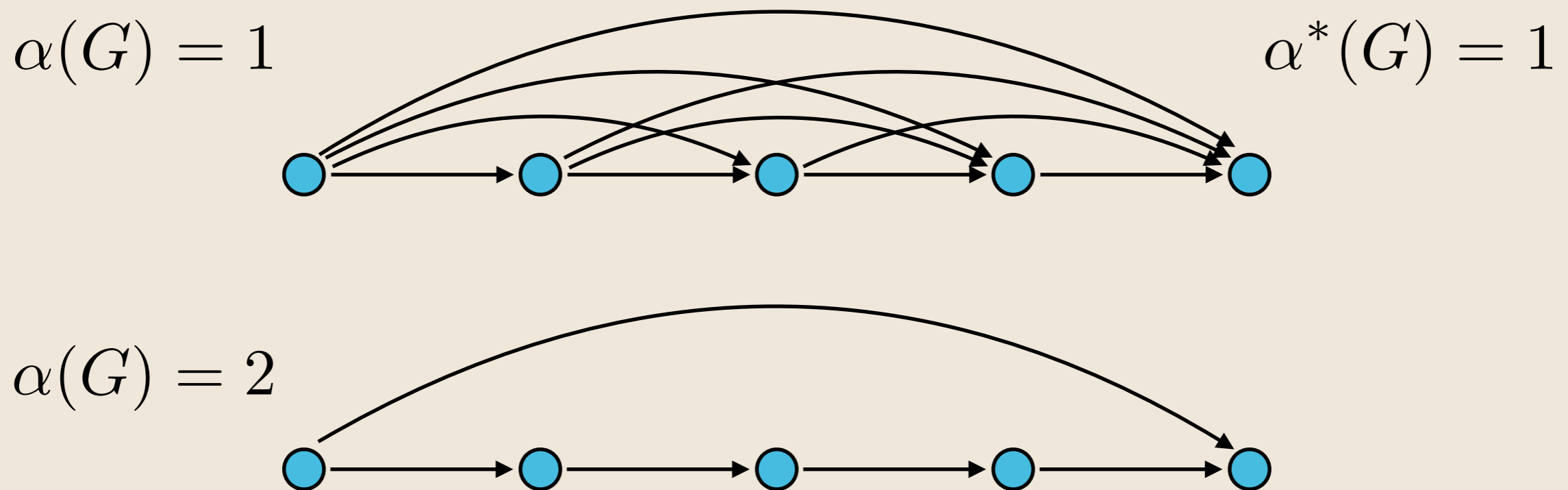


Fractional independence number: Real number relaxation (LP)

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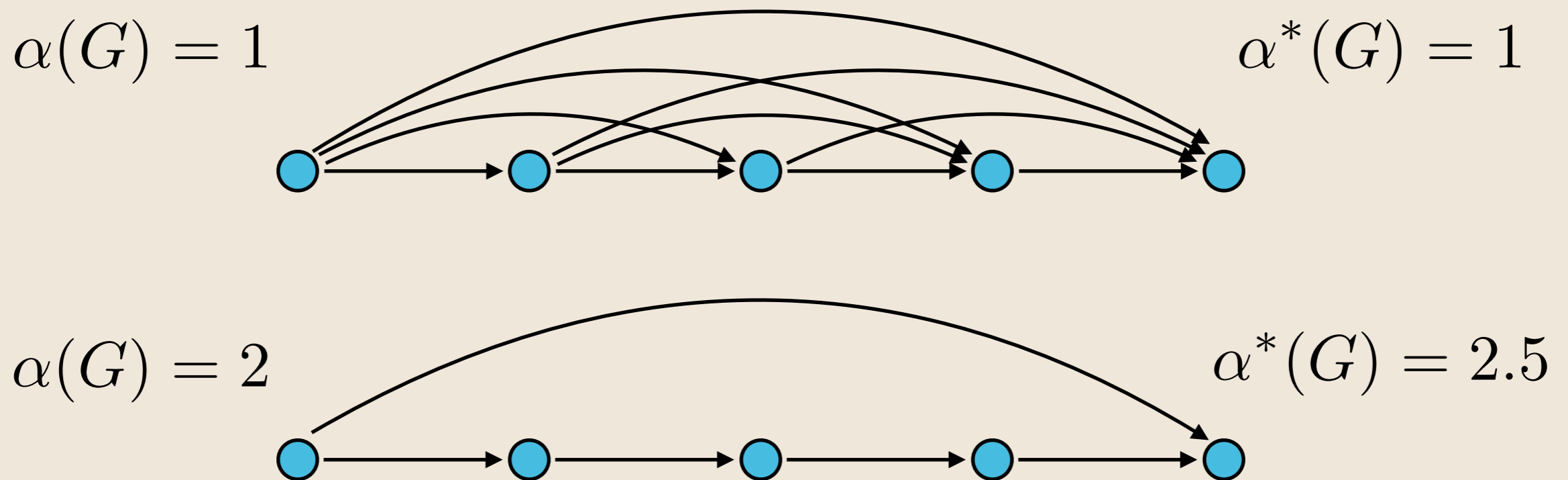


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$$v_1, v_2 \in J \Rightarrow (v_1, v_2), (v_2, v_1) \notin E$$

Independence number: Cardinality of largest independent set



Fractional independence number: Real number relaxation (LP)

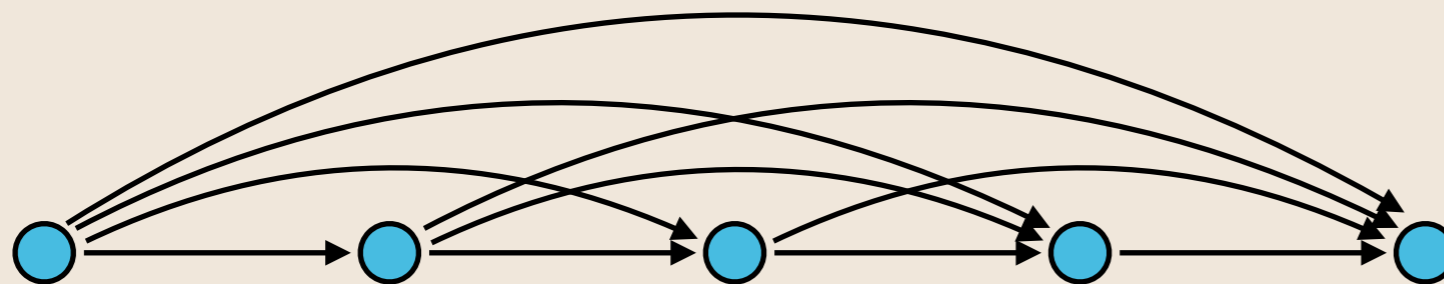
Theorem [Grimsman et al., 2018]

Consider any submodular multiagent optimization problem with an information graph G . The quality of the localized greedy solution satisfies

$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^*(G)}$$

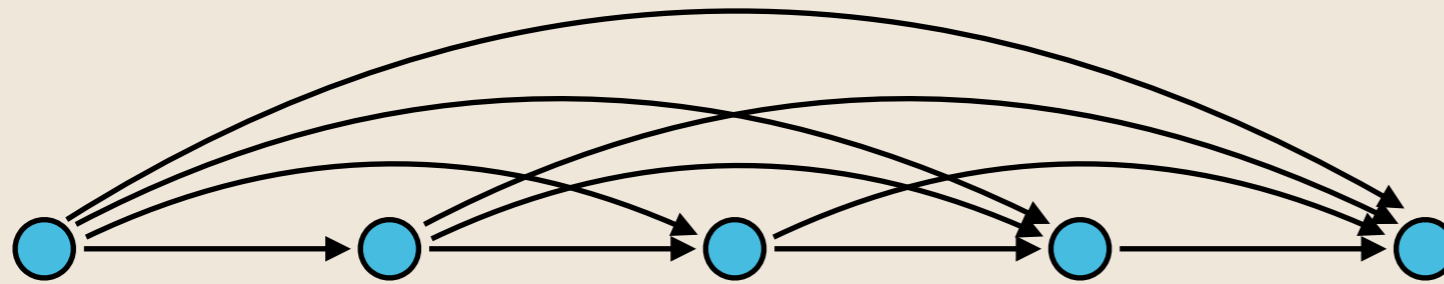
where $\alpha^*(G)$ is the (fractional) independence number of the graph G . Furthermore, the bound is essentially tight.

Main result

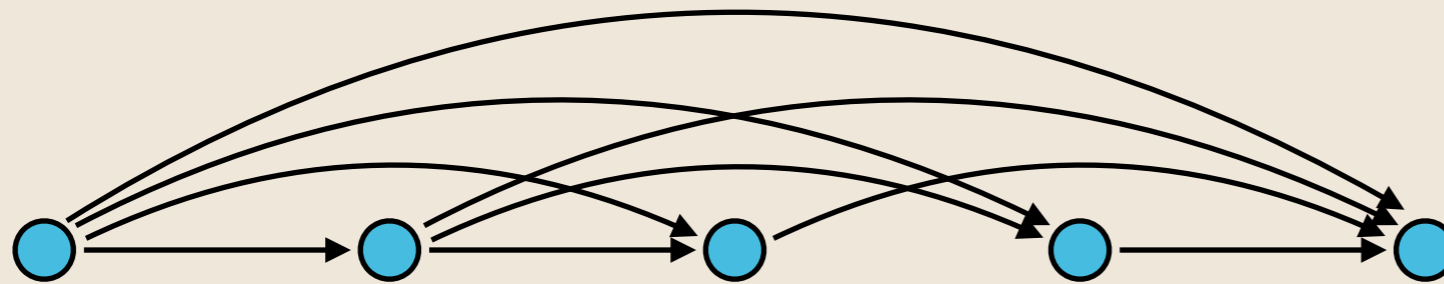


$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

Main result

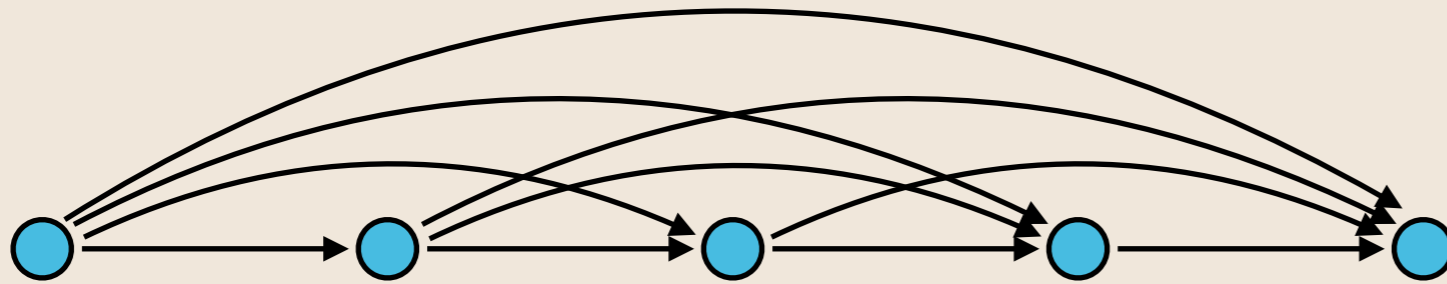


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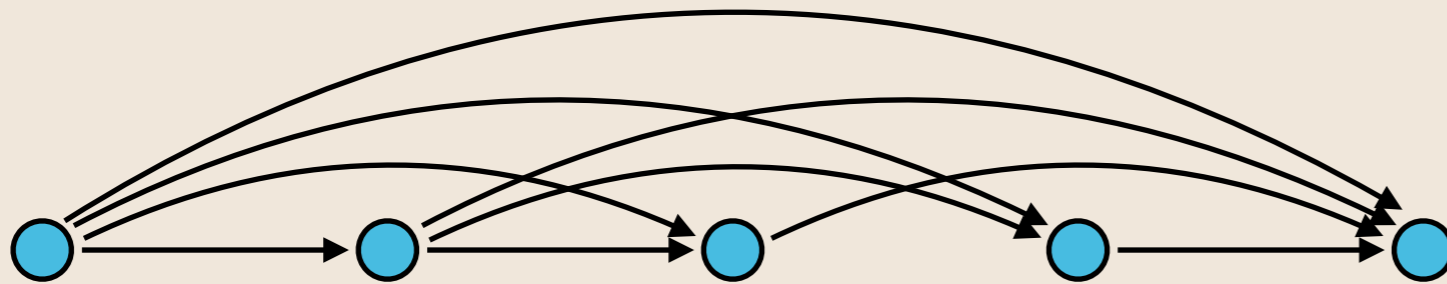


$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

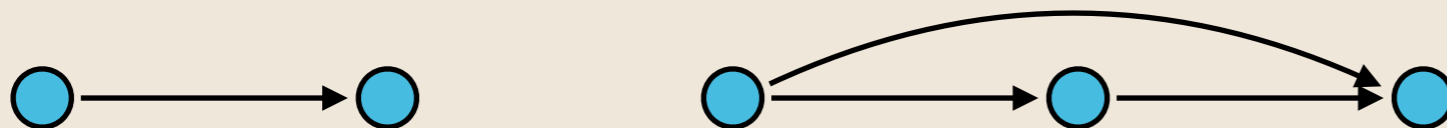
Main result



$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

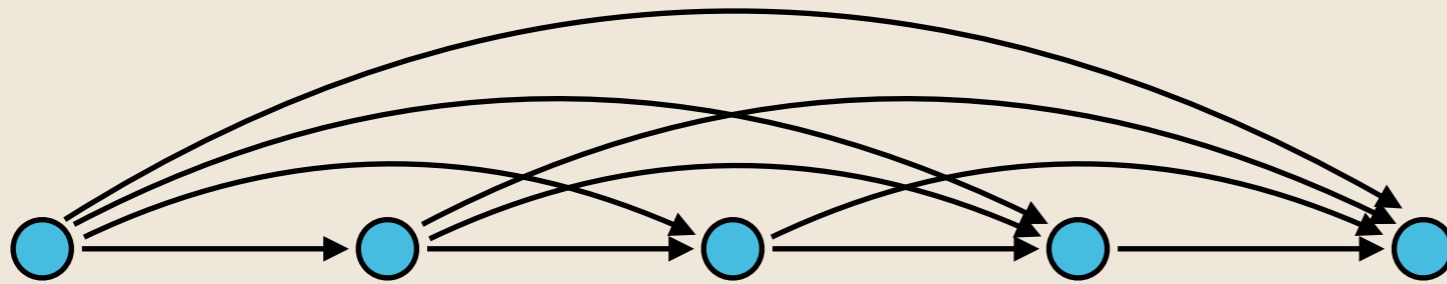


$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

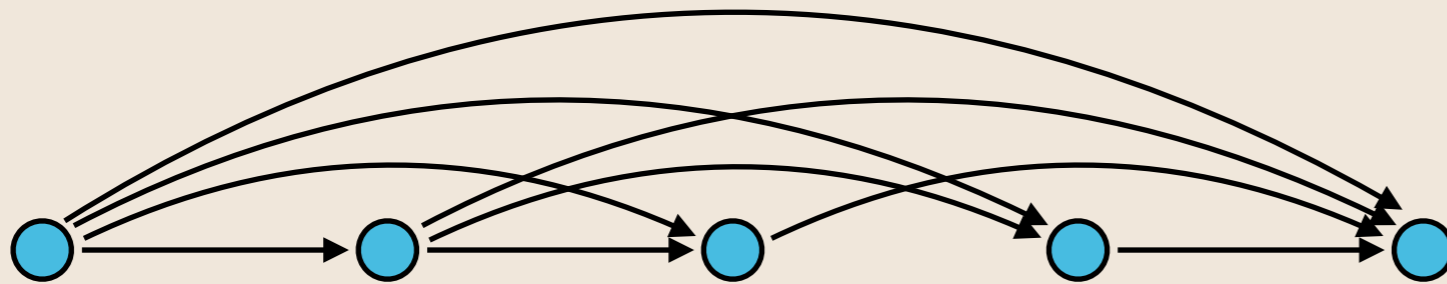


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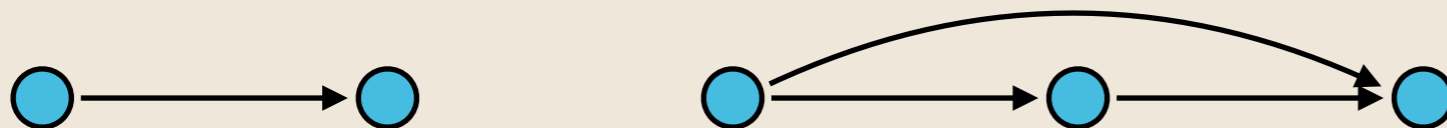
Main result



$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$



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$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$



$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{4}$$

Greedy Algorithm

- Agents make selections according to order (indices)
- **Information:** Available information to each agent $i \Rightarrow x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}$
- **Selection rule:** Maximize marginal contribution given information

$$x_i \in \arg \max_{x'_i \in X_i} W(x'_i, x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}) - W(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$

Questions:

- What happens if agents do not have all information needed?

Greedy Algorithm

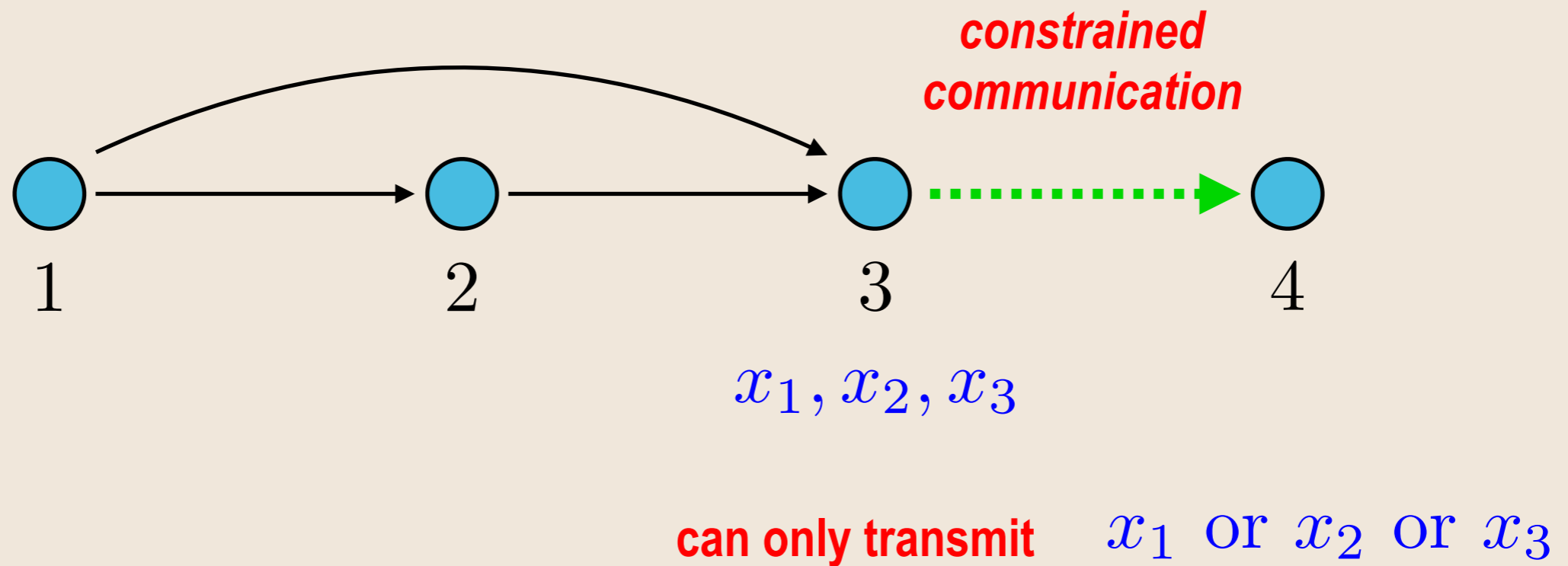
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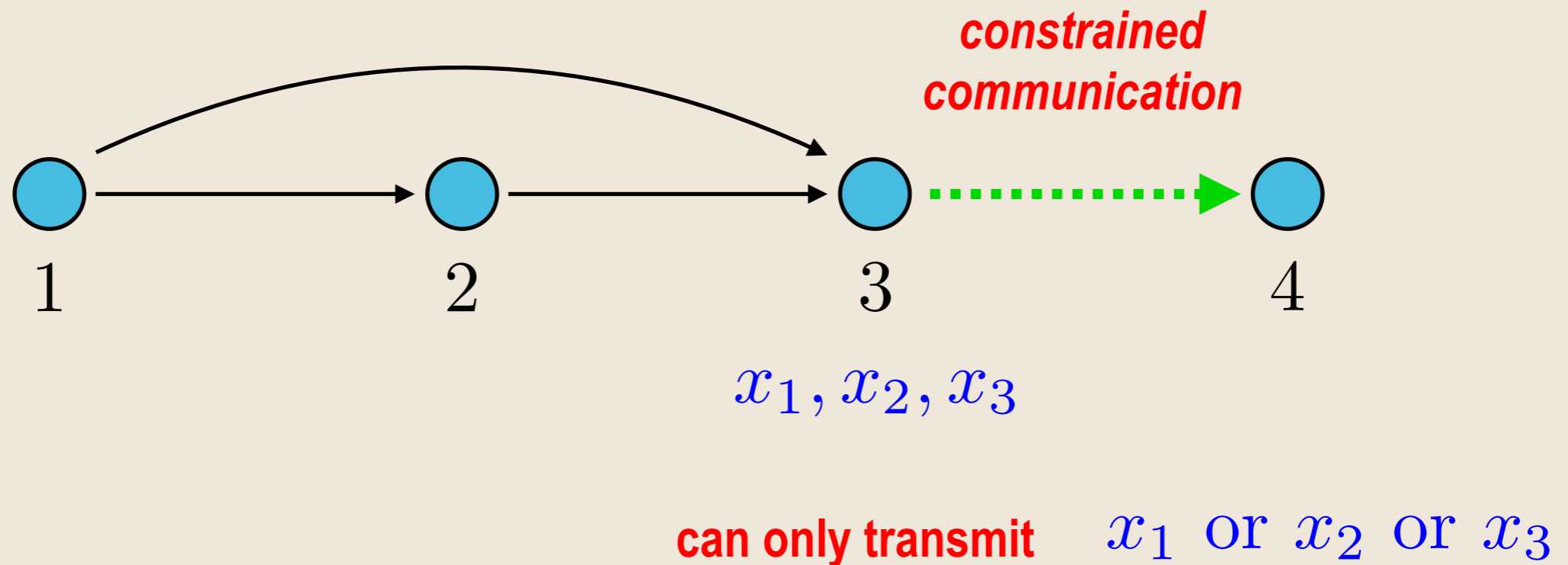
Questions:

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- How do you capitalize off strategic information exchange?

Strategic Information Exchange

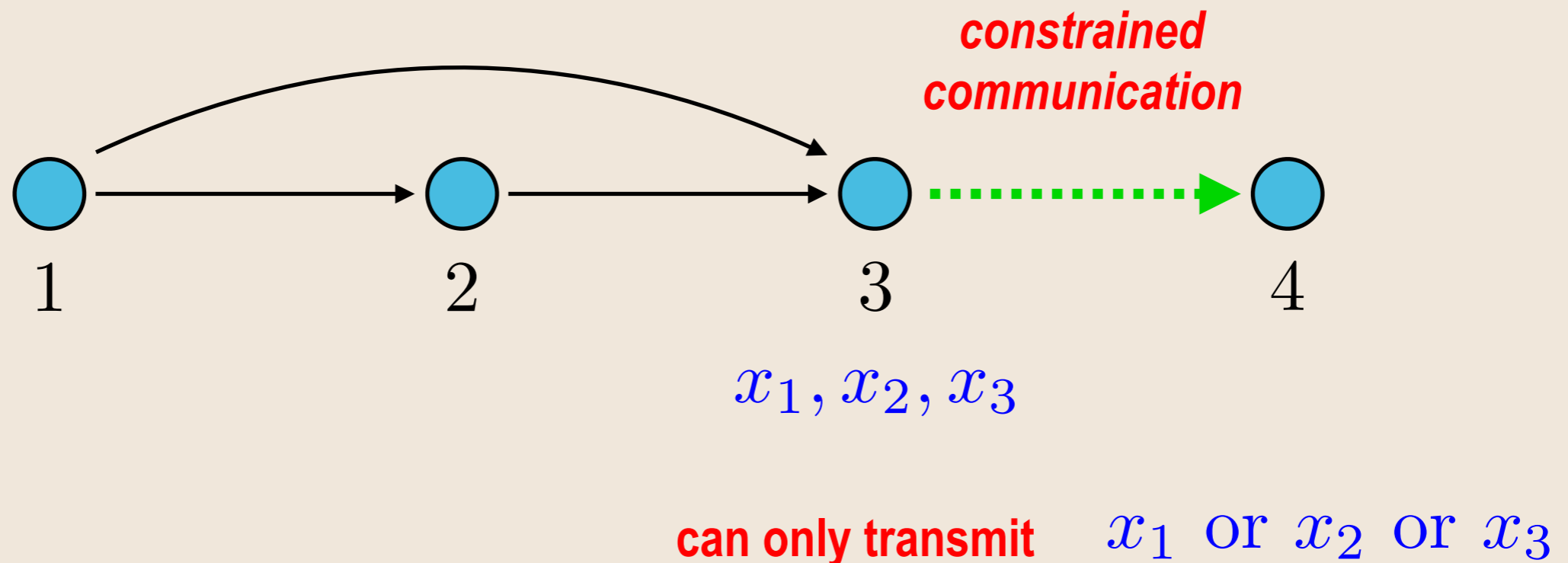


Strategic Information Exchange



What information should agent 3 transmit to agent 4?

Strategic Information Exchange



What information should agent 3 transmit to agent 4?
How should agent 4 utilize the transmitted information?

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Questions:

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- How do you capitalize off strategic information exchange?
- Can alternative selection rules yield improved performance guarantees?

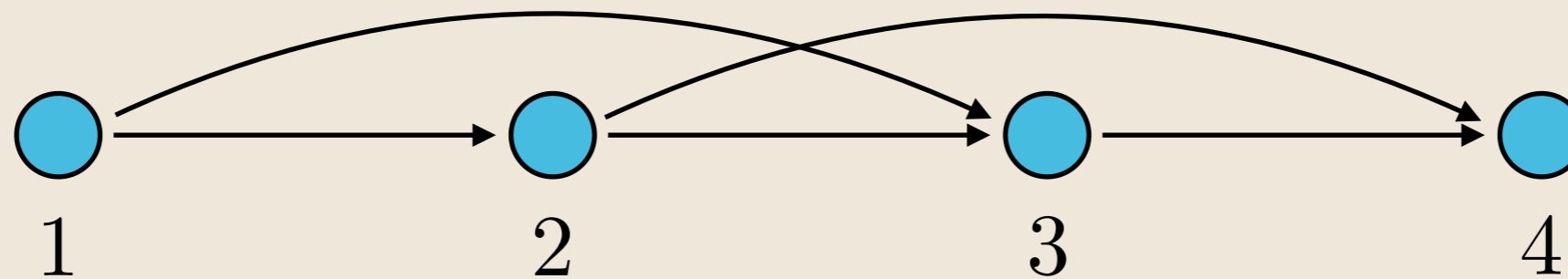
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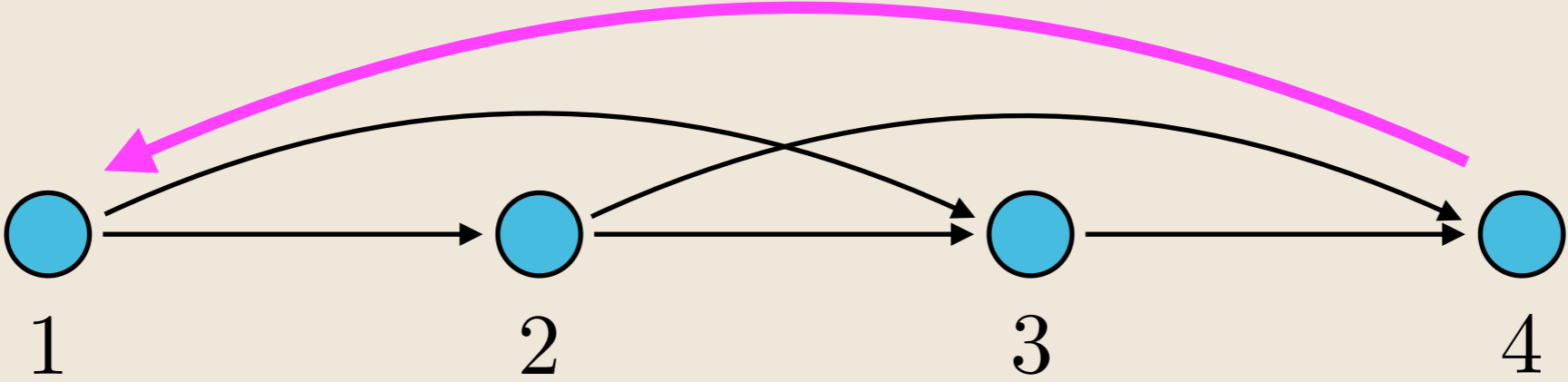
acyclic graphs

optimal selection rule

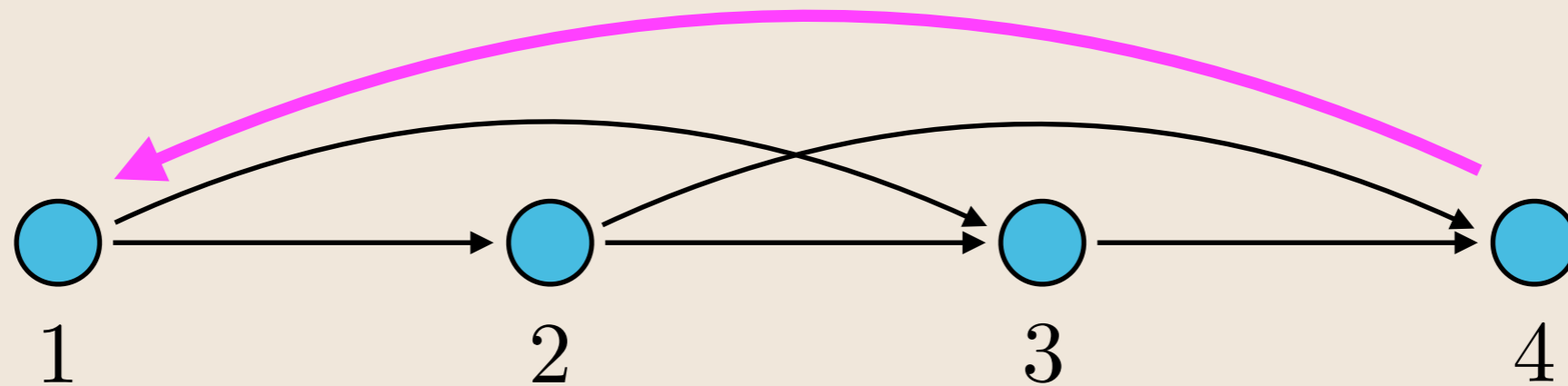
Selection rule: Maximize marginal contribution given information

$$x_i \in \arg \max_{x'_i \in X_i} W(x'_i, x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}) - W(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$

(equivalent to maximizing system-level objectives given information)



cyclic graphs
(rest point of round robin greedy)



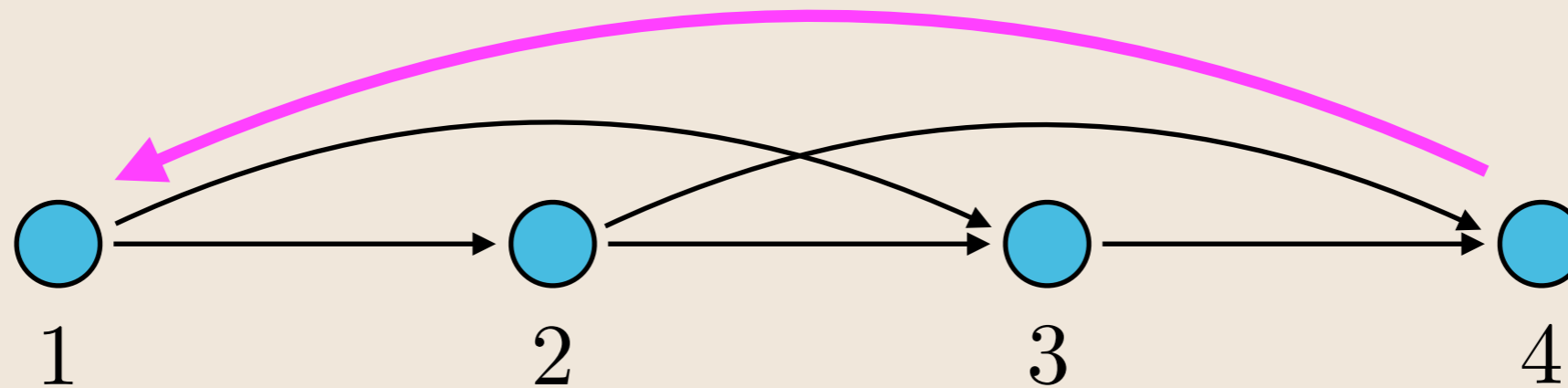
cyclic graphs
(rest point of round robin greedy)

no longer optimal selection rule

Selection rule: Maximize marginal contribution given information

$$x_i \in \arg \max_{x'_i \in X_i} W(x'_i, x_1, \cdot, x_{i-1}) - W(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$

Agents optimizing global objective **NOT** an optimal strategy!!!!



cyclic graphs
(rest point of round robin greedy)

performance gains >30% by switching selection rule

Ramaswamy et al., "Multiagent Coverage Problems:
The Trade-offs Between Anarchy and Stability," 2019 (in review).

Two main components:

Transcription

Policy generation

Part I

How does lack of information degrade achievable performance?

Part II

How do you optimize collective performance using available information?

What information does 🟡 have?

- 🟢, 🟡, 🟠 planned paths?
- 🟡 location?
- localized board info?

What should 🟡 do with this information?



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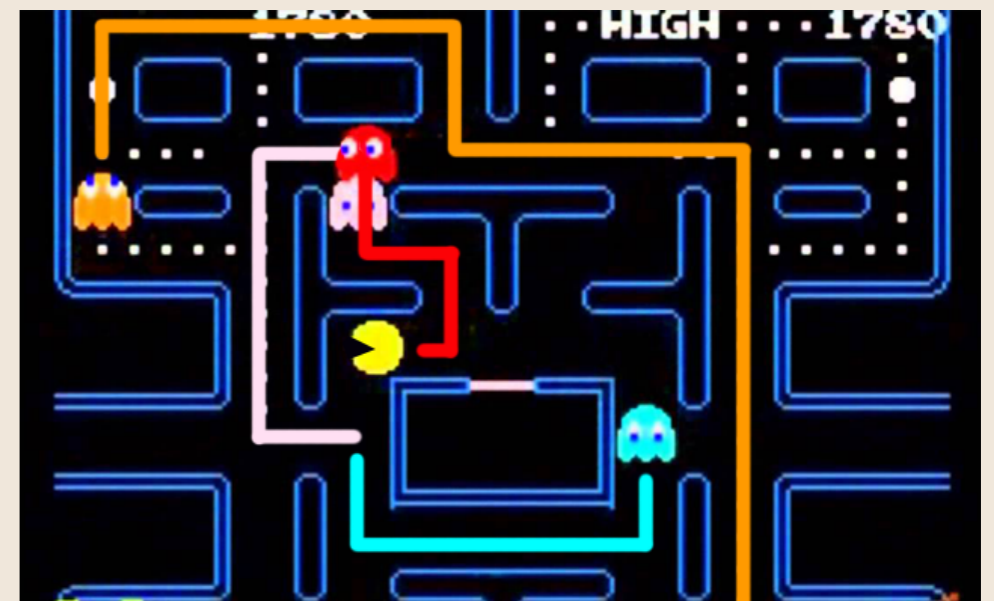
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Setup:

- Resources: \mathcal{R}
- Values: $v_r \geq 0$
- Actions: $X_i \subseteq 2^{\mathcal{R}}, i \in N$
- Global Welfare: $W(x) = \sum_{r \in \cup x_i} v_r$



1

8

0

2

7

2

3

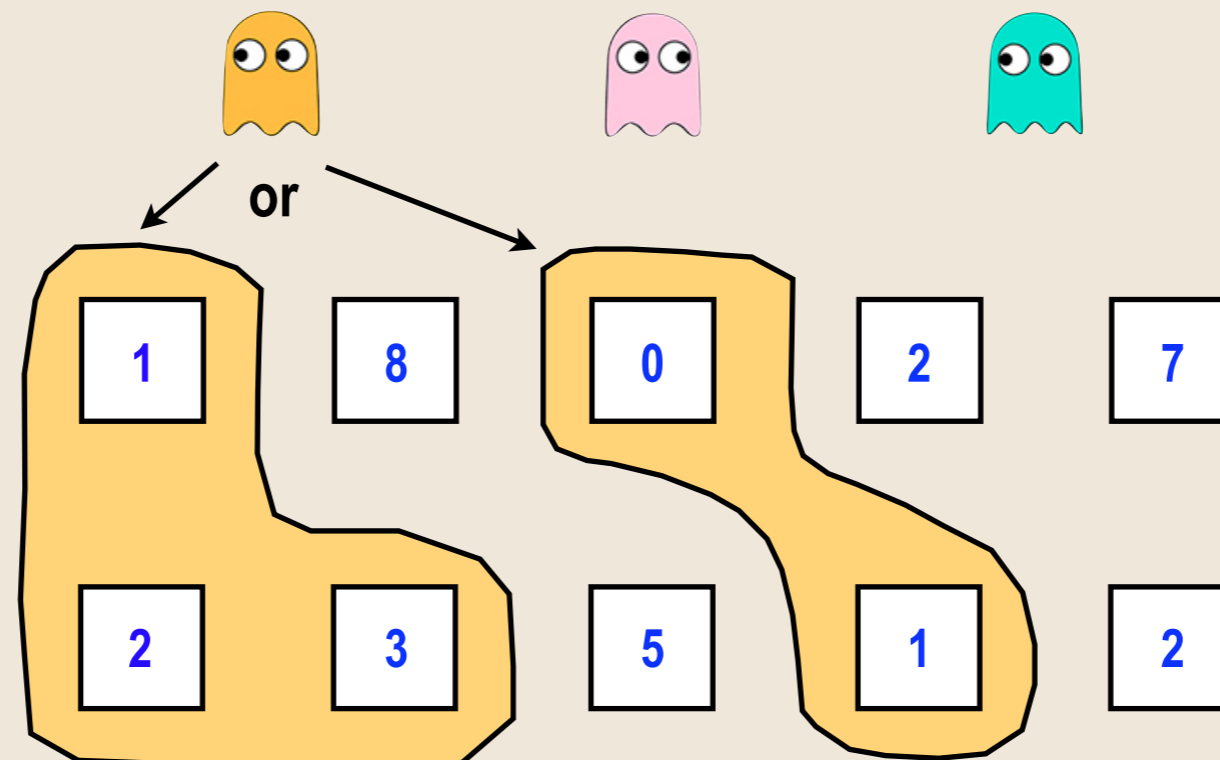
5

1

2

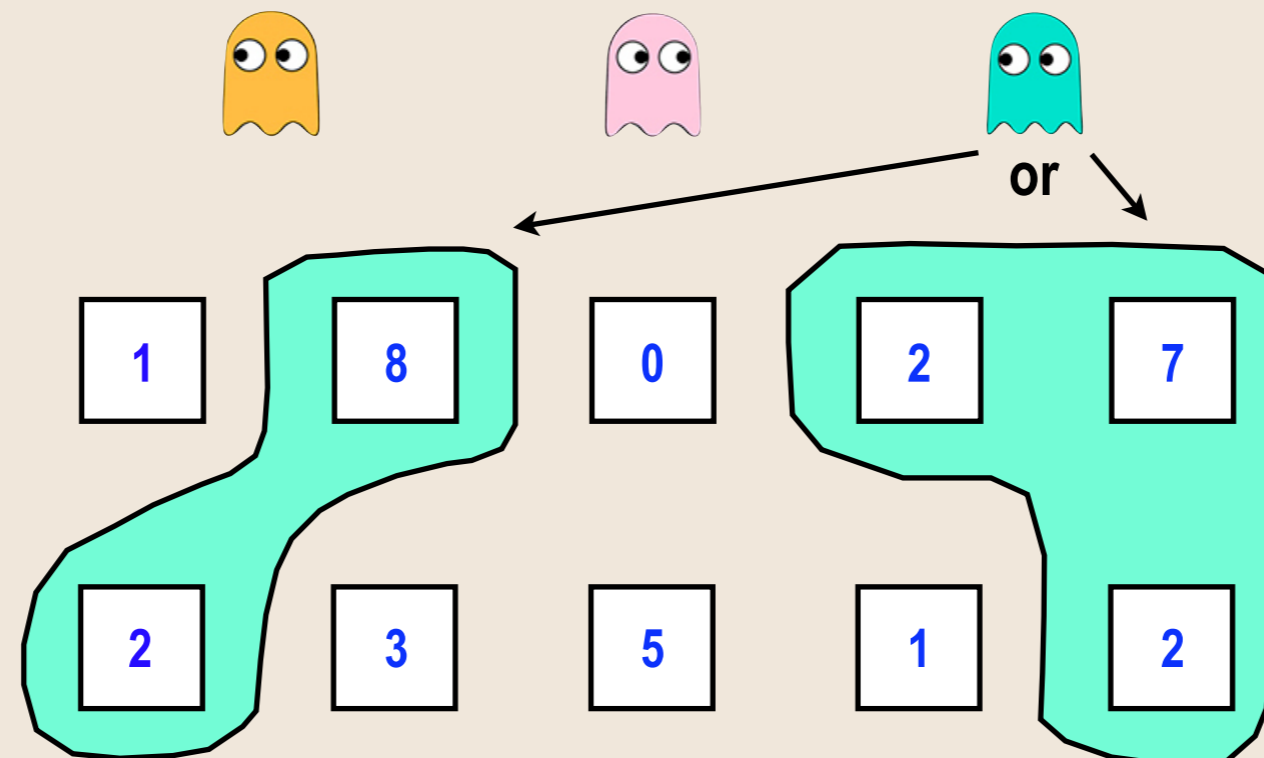
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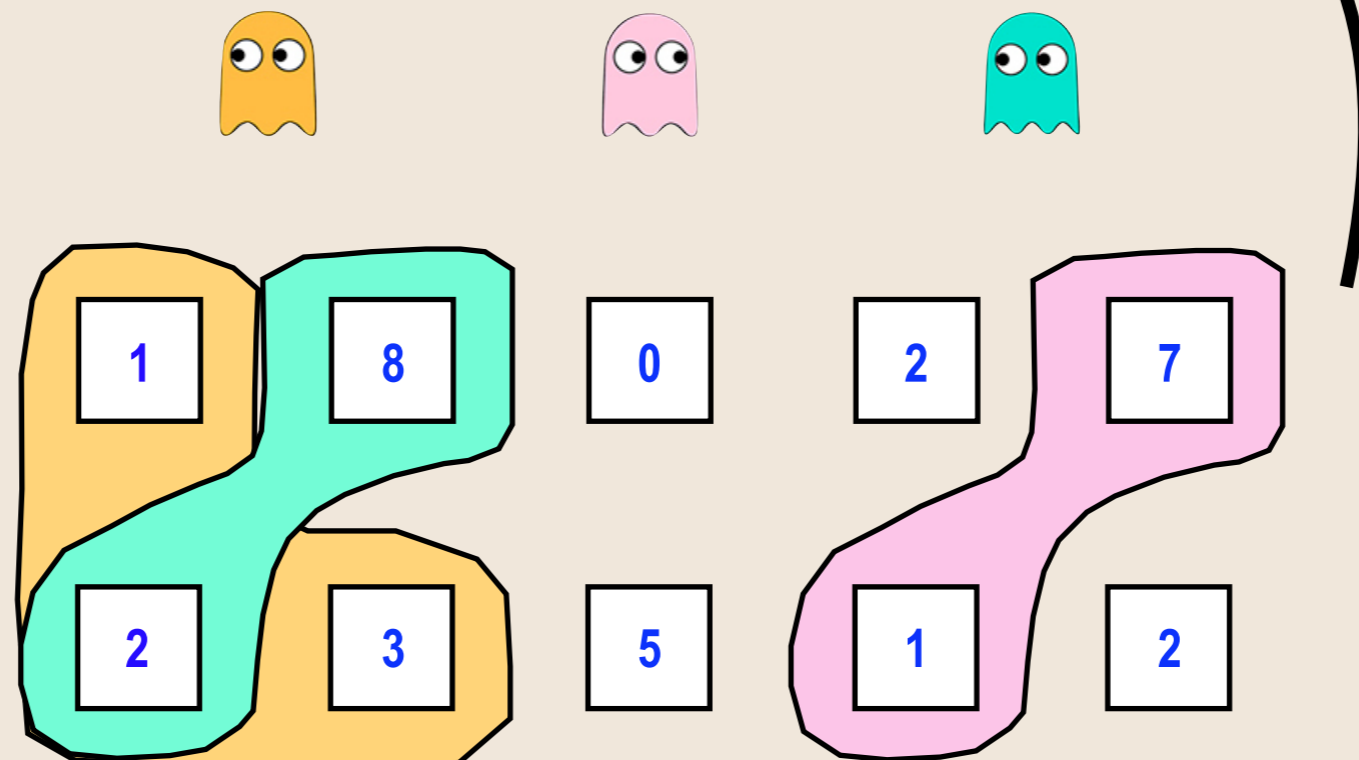
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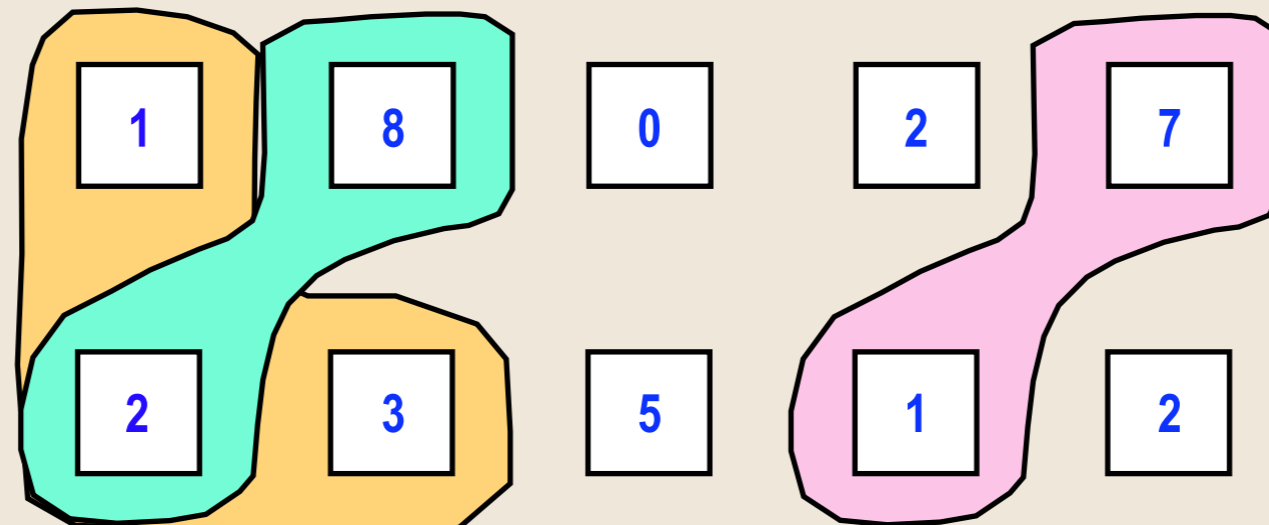
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redundancy *not*
double counted



Solutions: Equilibrium to “designed” utility functions

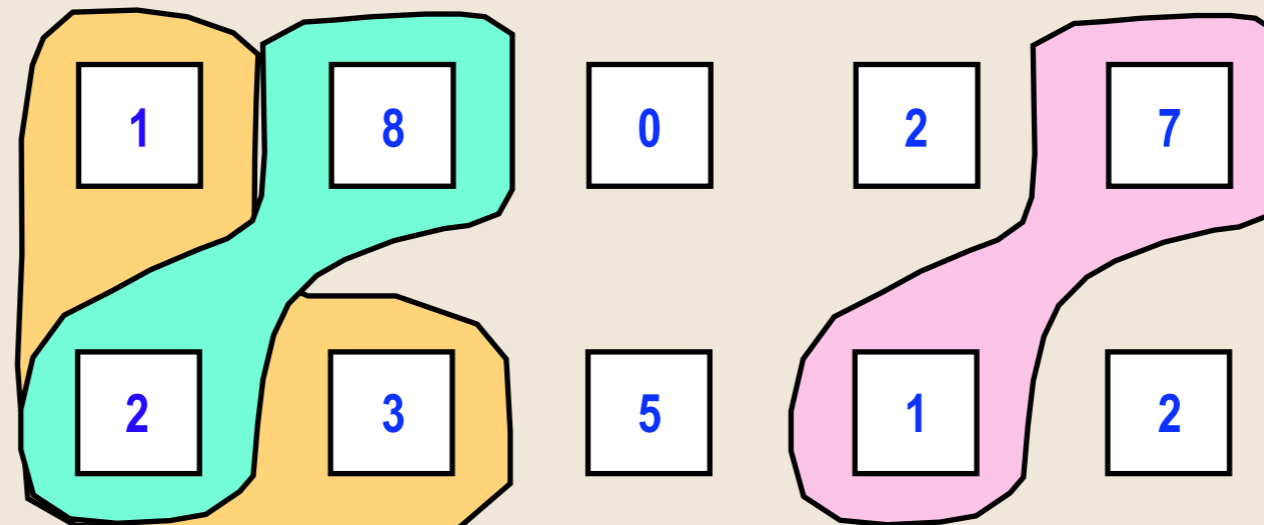


Solutions: Equilibrium to “designed” utility functions

Utility functions:

- Structure:
$$U_i(x_i, x_{-i}) = \sum_{r \in x_i} v_r \cdot f(|x|_r)$$
- Division rule: $f : \{0, 1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow R$

$|x|_r =$ number agents choose r in allocation a



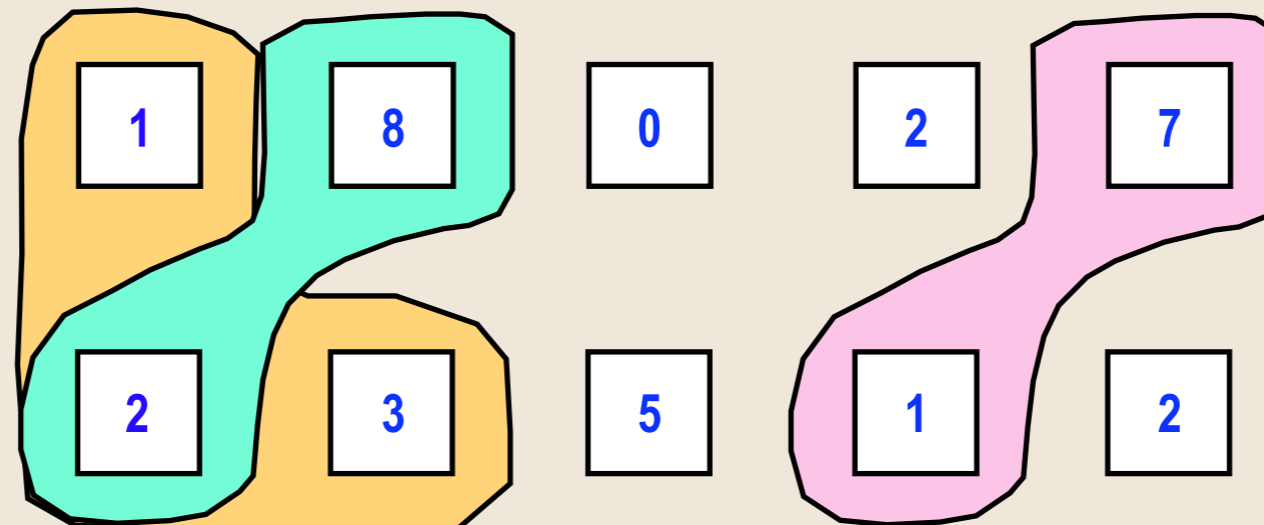
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$$U = 1 \cdot f(1) + 2 \cdot f(2) + 3 \cdot f(1)$$



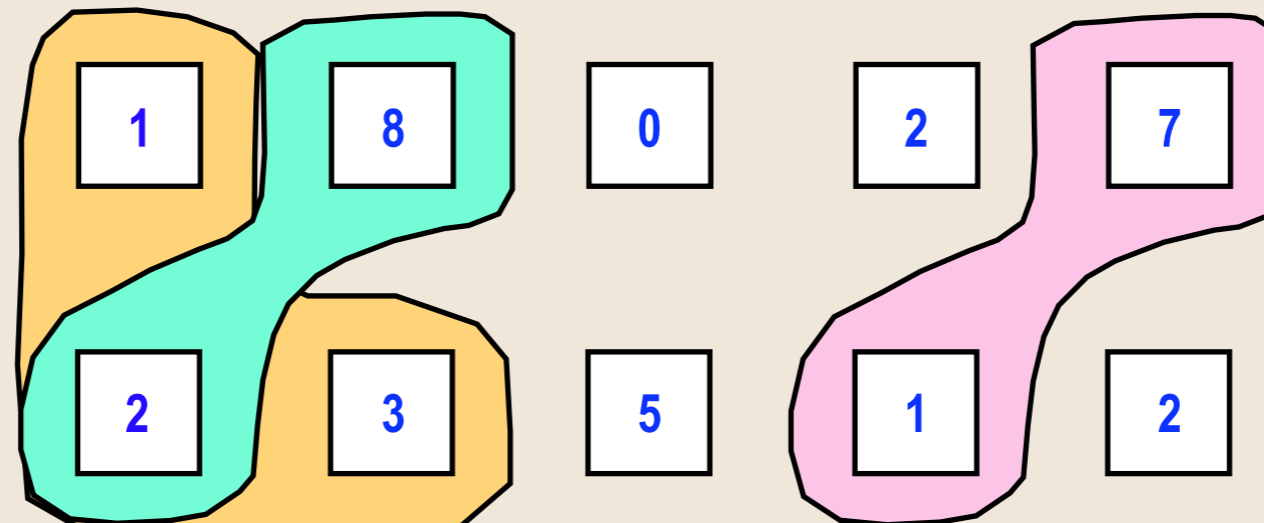
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$$U = 2 \cdot f(2) + 8 \cdot f(1)$$

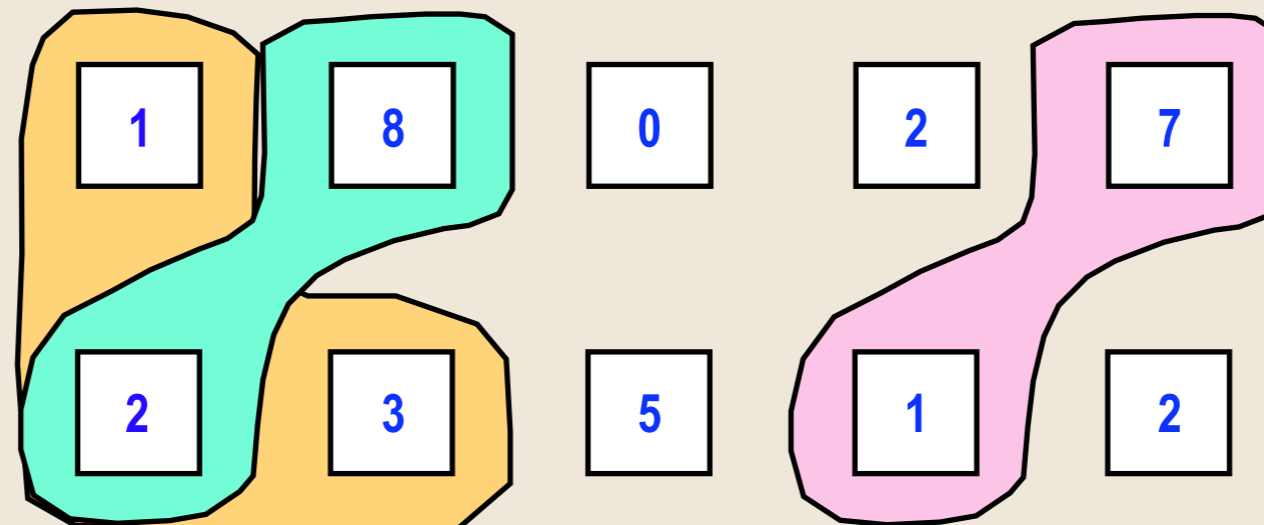


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“optimal” design?



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game
 G

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game
 G



set of games
 \mathcal{G}_f

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Solution concept:

- Nash equilibrium: $U_i(x^{\text{ne}}) \geq U_i(x_i, x_{-i}^{\text{ne}}), \forall i \in N, x_i \in X_i$

game

G



set of games

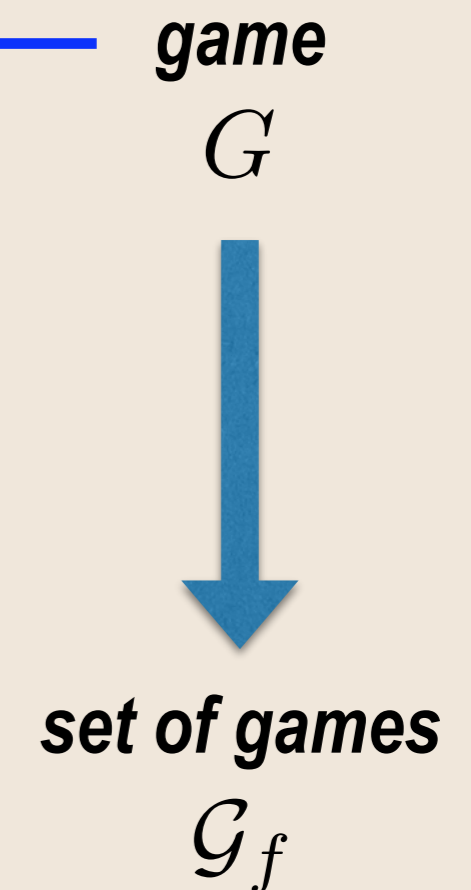
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Goal: Design division rule f to optimize efficiency of resulting Nash equilibria

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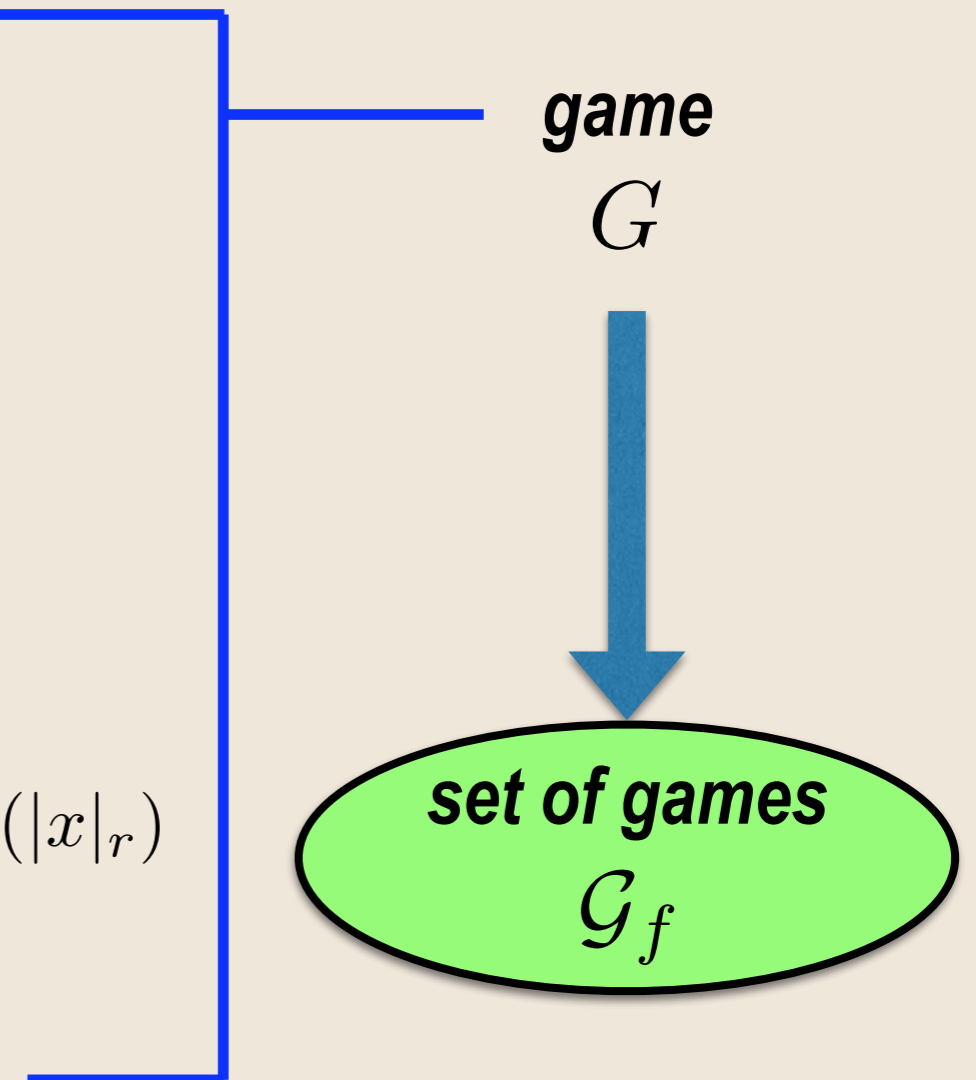
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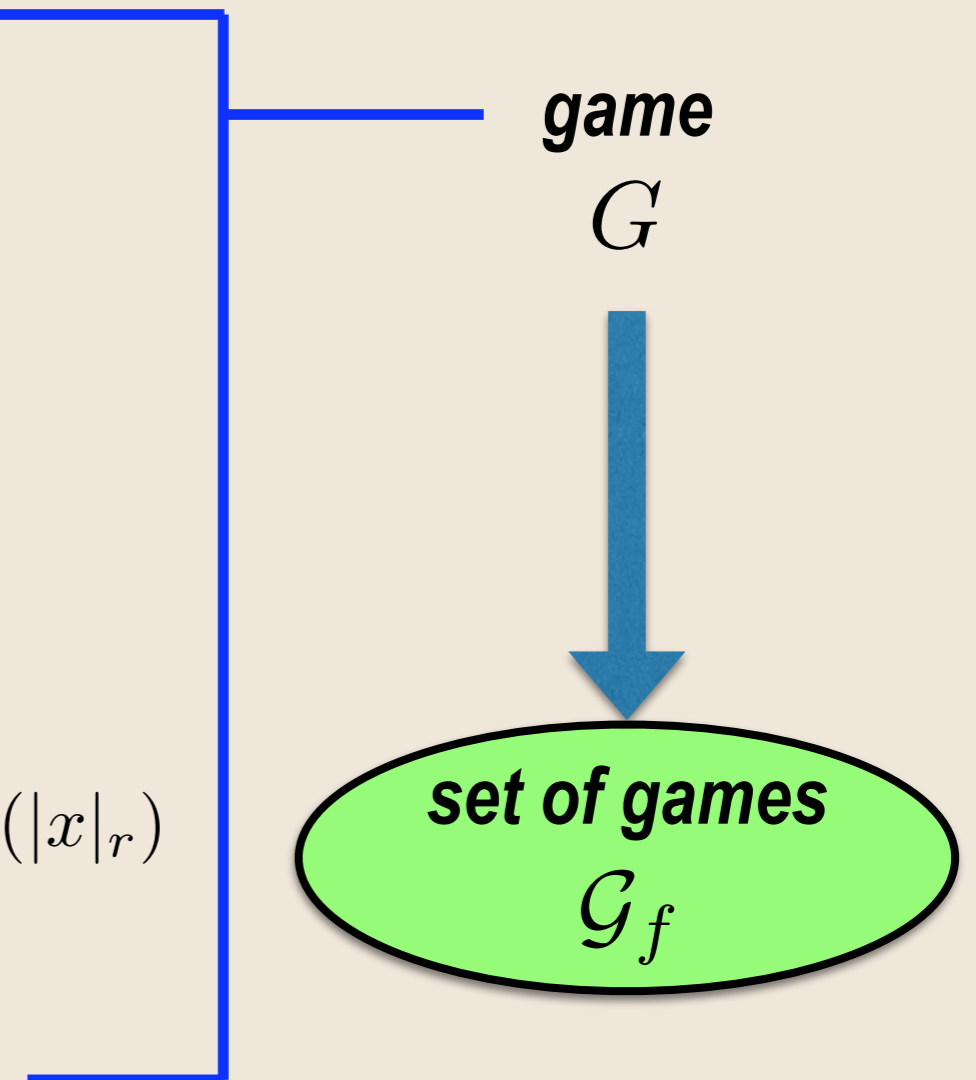
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Performance measures:

- Price of anarchy (pessimistic) $\text{PoA}(\mathcal{G}_f) = \min_{G \in \mathcal{G}_f} \left\{ \min_{x^{\text{ne}} \in G} \left\{ \frac{W(x^{\text{ne}})}{W(x^{\text{opt}})} \right\} \right\}$



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game
 G

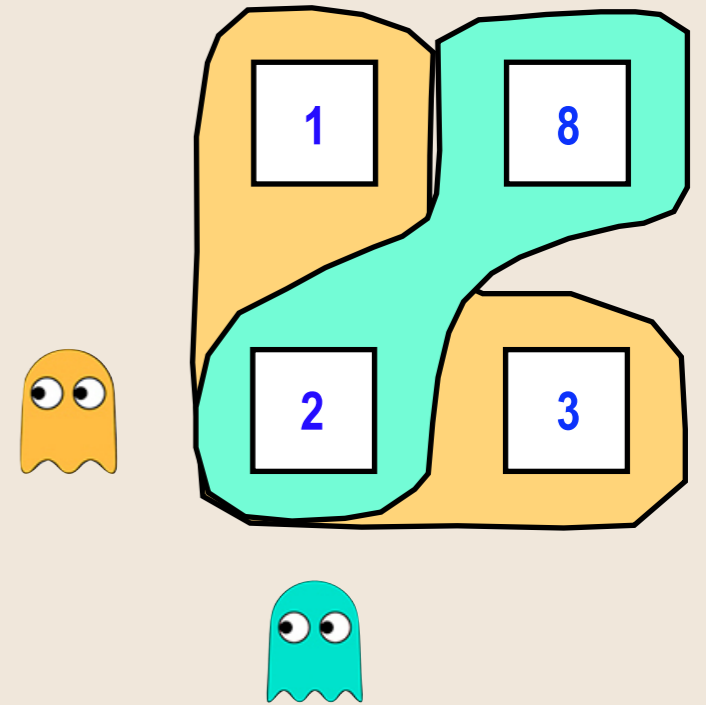
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Design methodologies

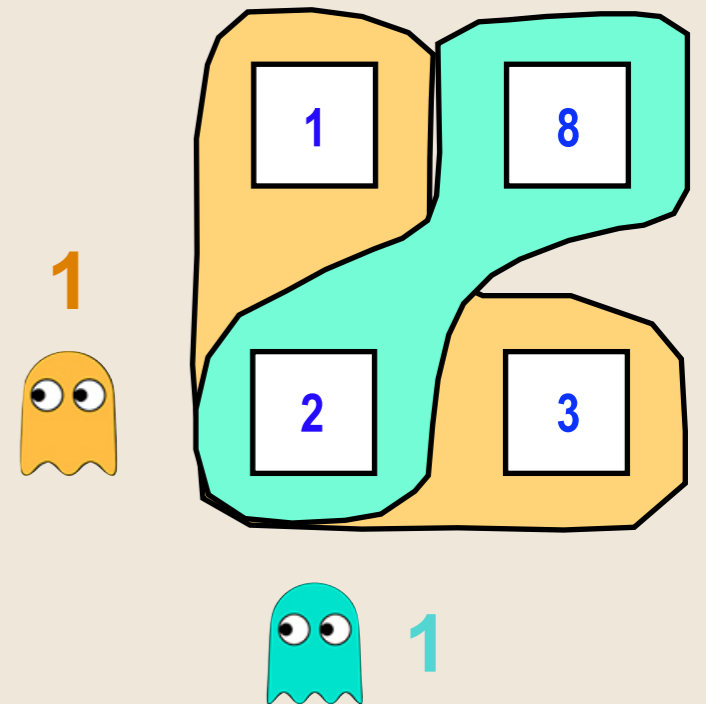
Goal: Design division rule f to optimize efficiency of resulting Nash equilibria



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Design #1: Equal share (Shapley value)

$$f(k) = \frac{1}{k}$$

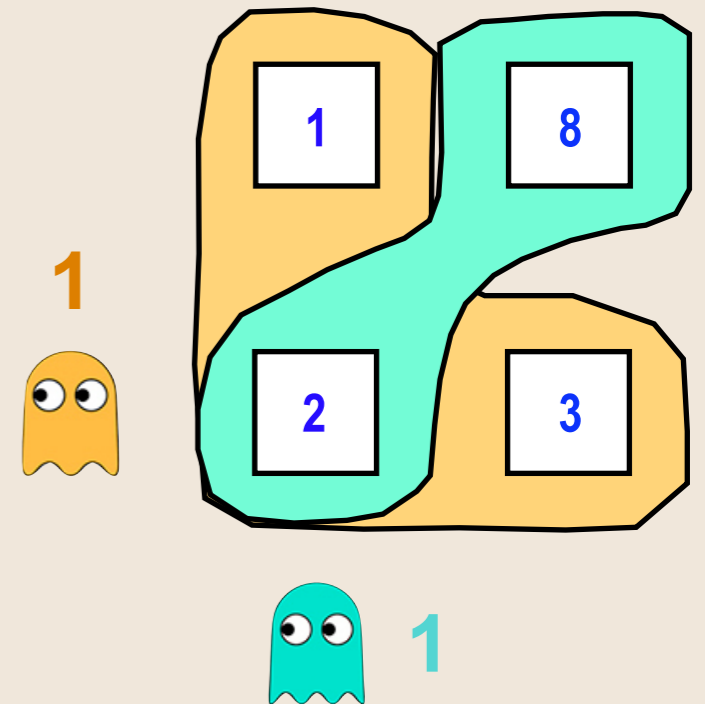


$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= 1 \\ f(2) &= 1/2 \\ f(3) &= 1/3 \end{aligned}$$

Goal: Design division rule f to optimize efficiency of resulting Nash equilibria

Design #1: Equal share (Shapley value)

$$f(k) = \frac{1}{k} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{PoA}(\mathcal{G}_f) = 1/2$$

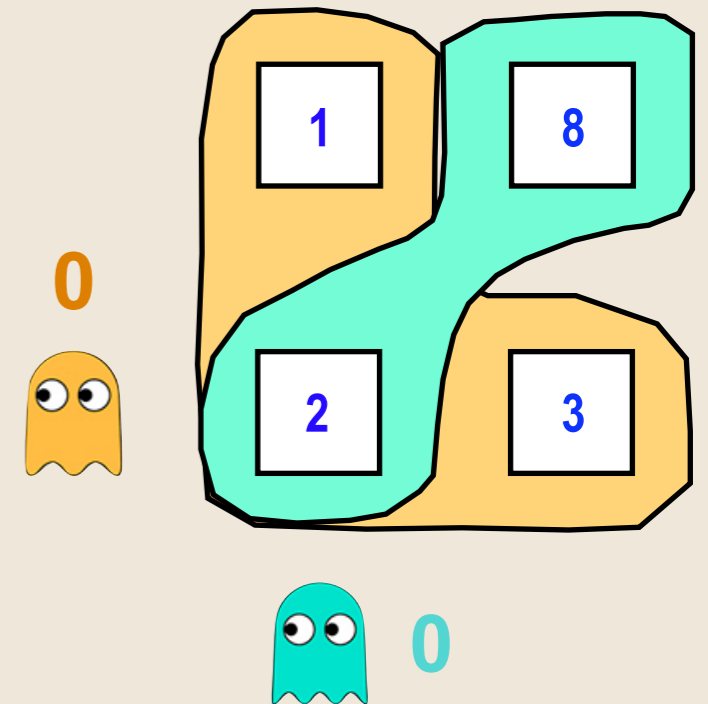


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Design #2: Marginal contribution

$$f(1) = 1$$

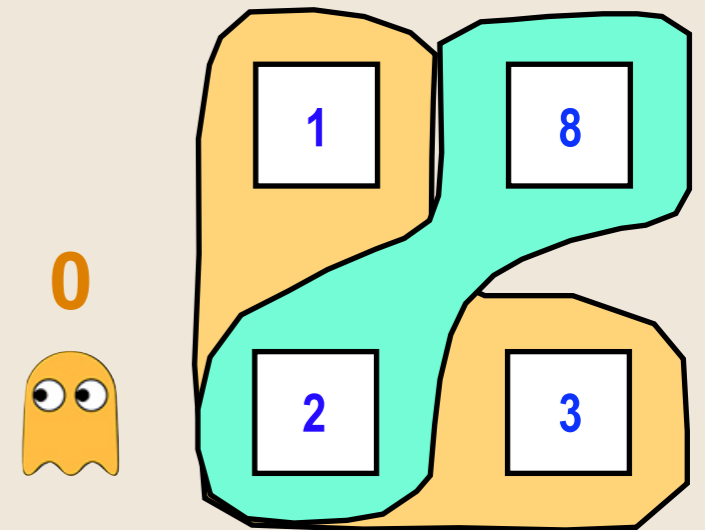
$$f(2) = \dots = f(n) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= 1 \\ f(2) &= 0 \\ f(3) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Goal: Design division rule f to optimize efficiency of resulting Nash equilibria

Design #1: Equal share (Shapley value)

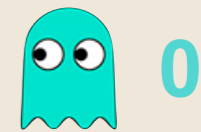
$$f(k) = \frac{1}{k} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{PoA}(\mathcal{G}_f) = 1/2$$



Design #2: Marginal contribution

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$$f(2) = \dots = f(n) = 0$$

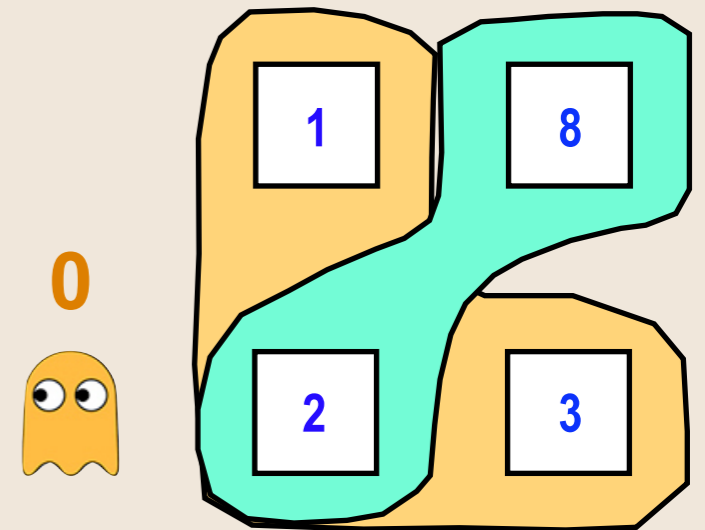


$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= 1 \\ f(2) &= 0 \\ f(3) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Goal: Design division rule f to optimize efficiency of resulting Nash equilibria

Design #1: Equal share (Shapley value)

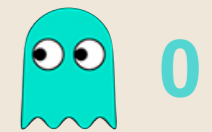
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Design #2: Marginal contribution

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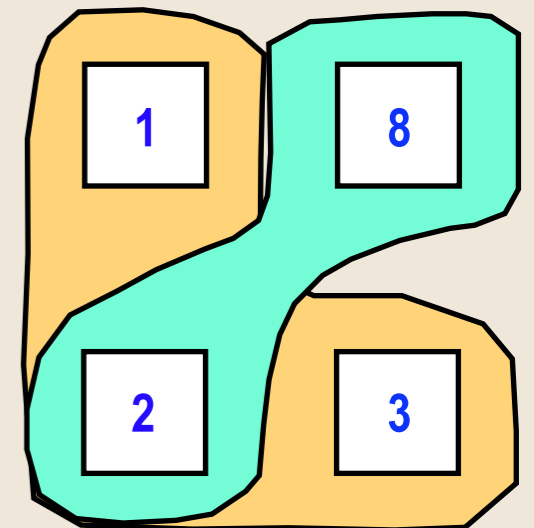
$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= 1 \\ f(2) &= 0 \\ f(3) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Equivalent to setting $U_i(x) = W(x)$

Goal: Design division rule f to optimize efficiency of resulting Nash equilibria

Design #1: Equal share (Shapley value)

$$f(k) = \frac{1}{k} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{PoA}(\mathcal{G}_f) = 1/2 \quad 0.836$$



Design #2: Marginal contribution

$$f(1) = 1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{PoA}(\mathcal{G}_f) = 1/2 \quad 0.836$$



$$f(2) = \dots = f(n) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(1) &= 1 \\ f(2) &= 0.418 \\ f(3) &= 0.254 \end{aligned}$$

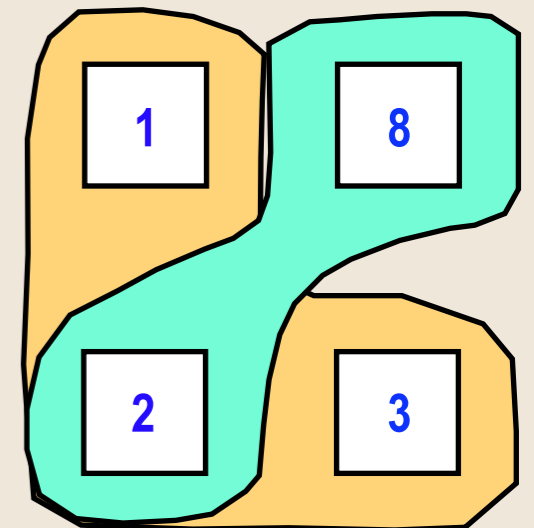
Design #3: Gairing's rule

$$f(k) = (k - 1)! \left(\frac{\sum_{i=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!}}{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!}} \right)$$

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(optimizes price of anarchy)

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{ price of anarchy?
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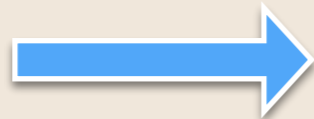
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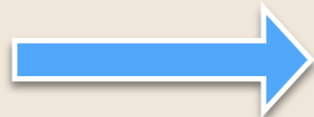
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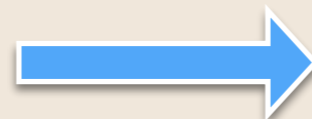


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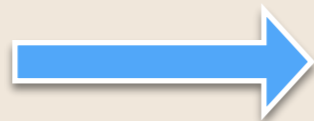


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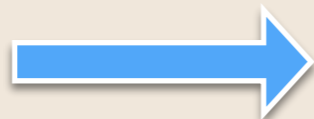
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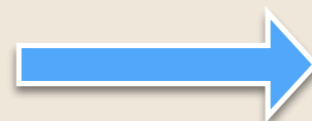
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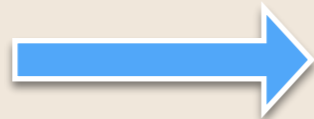


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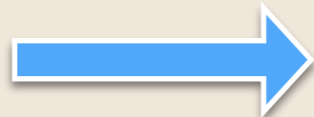
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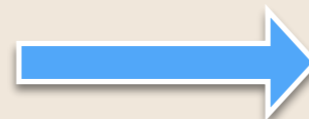
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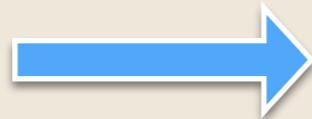
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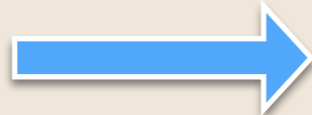


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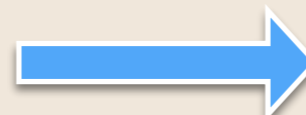
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Tradeoff?

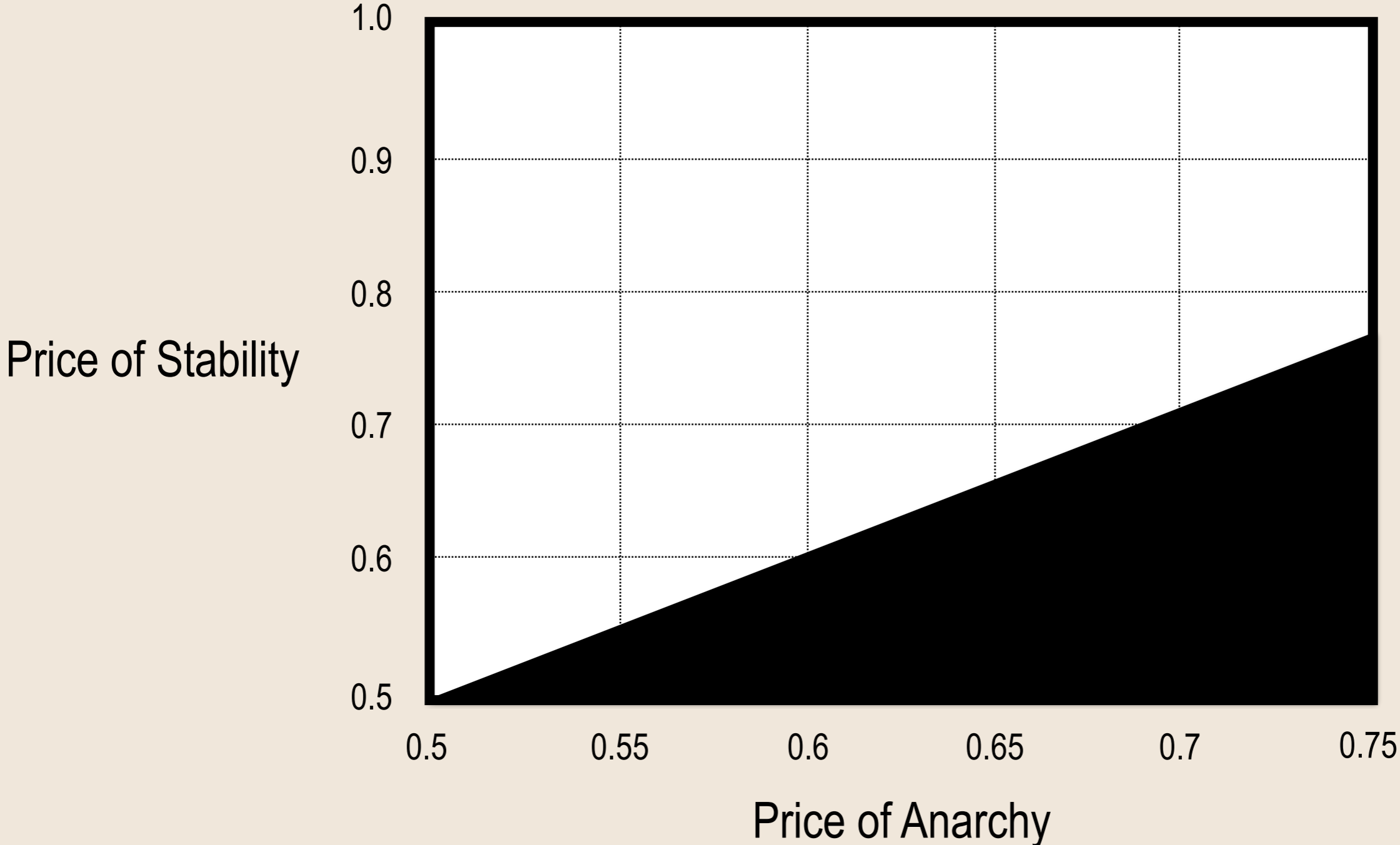
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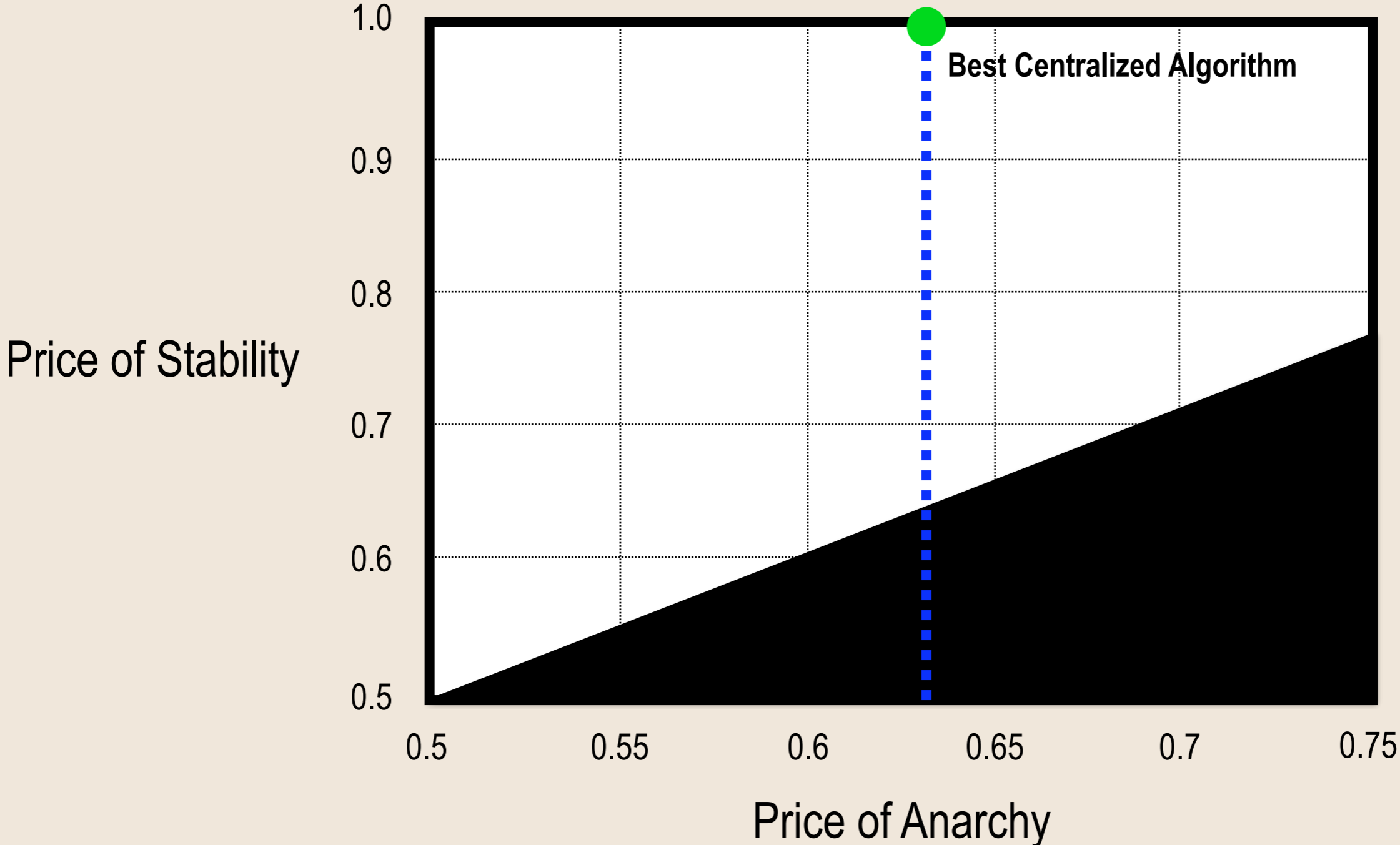


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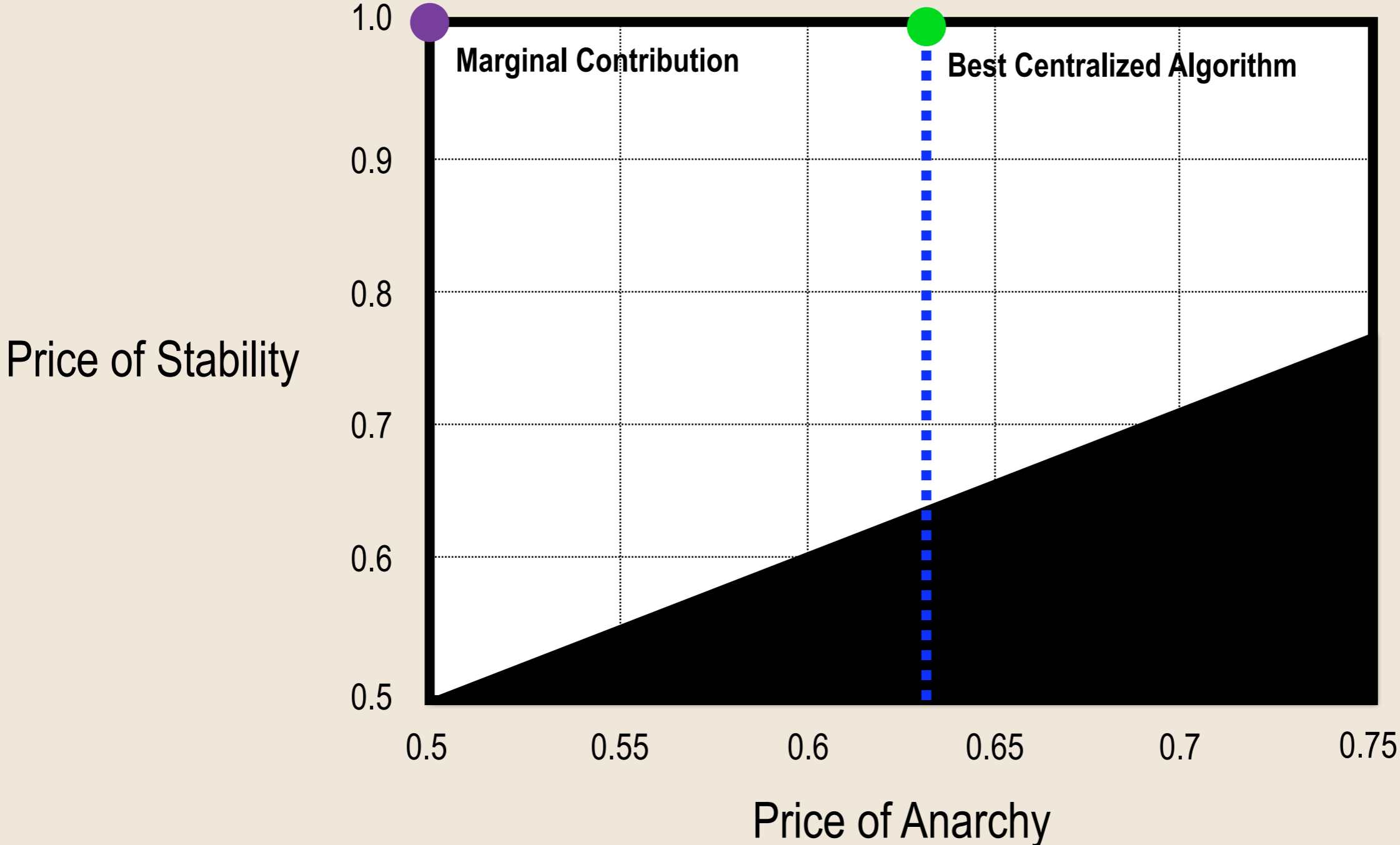
Achievable efficiencies



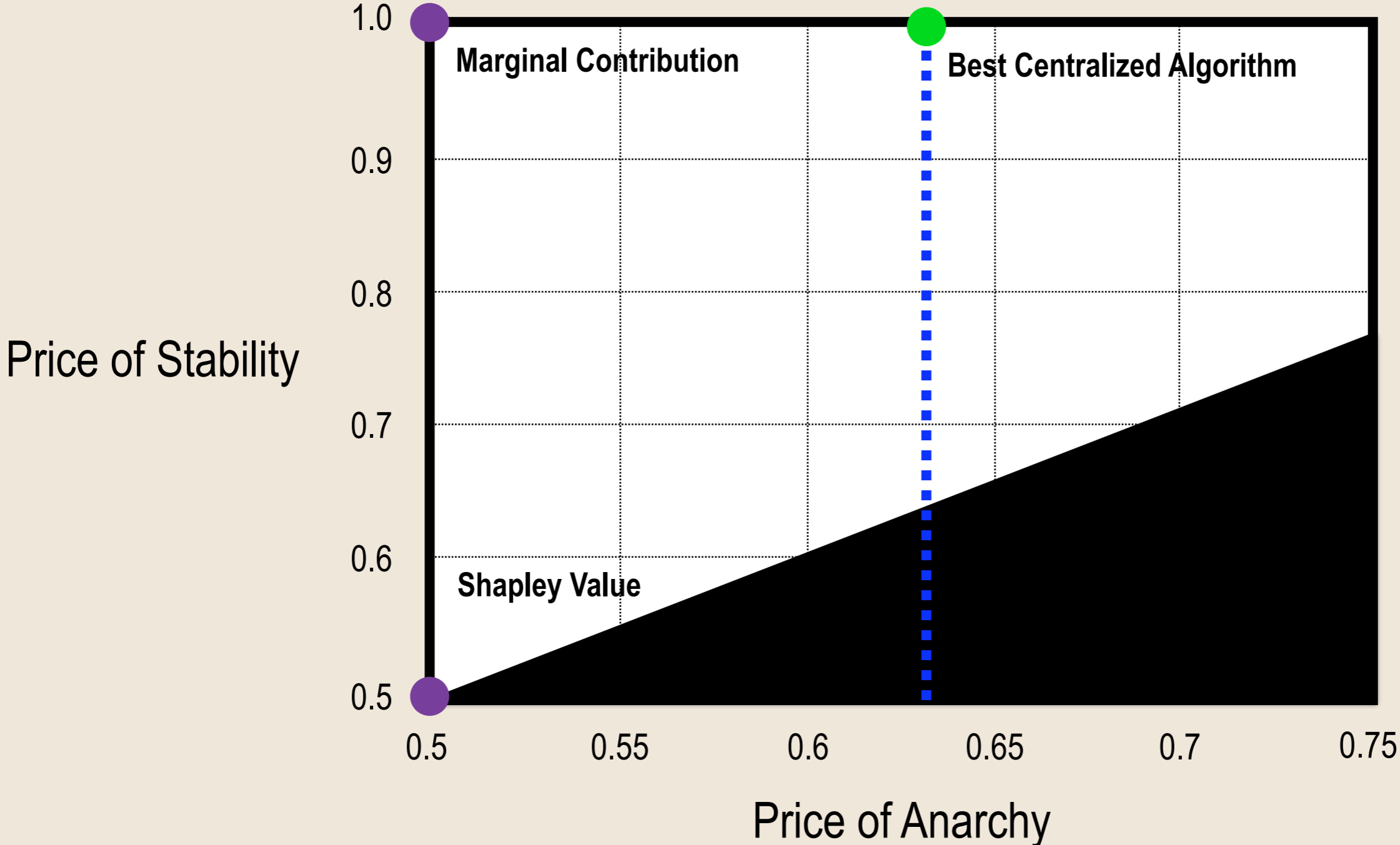
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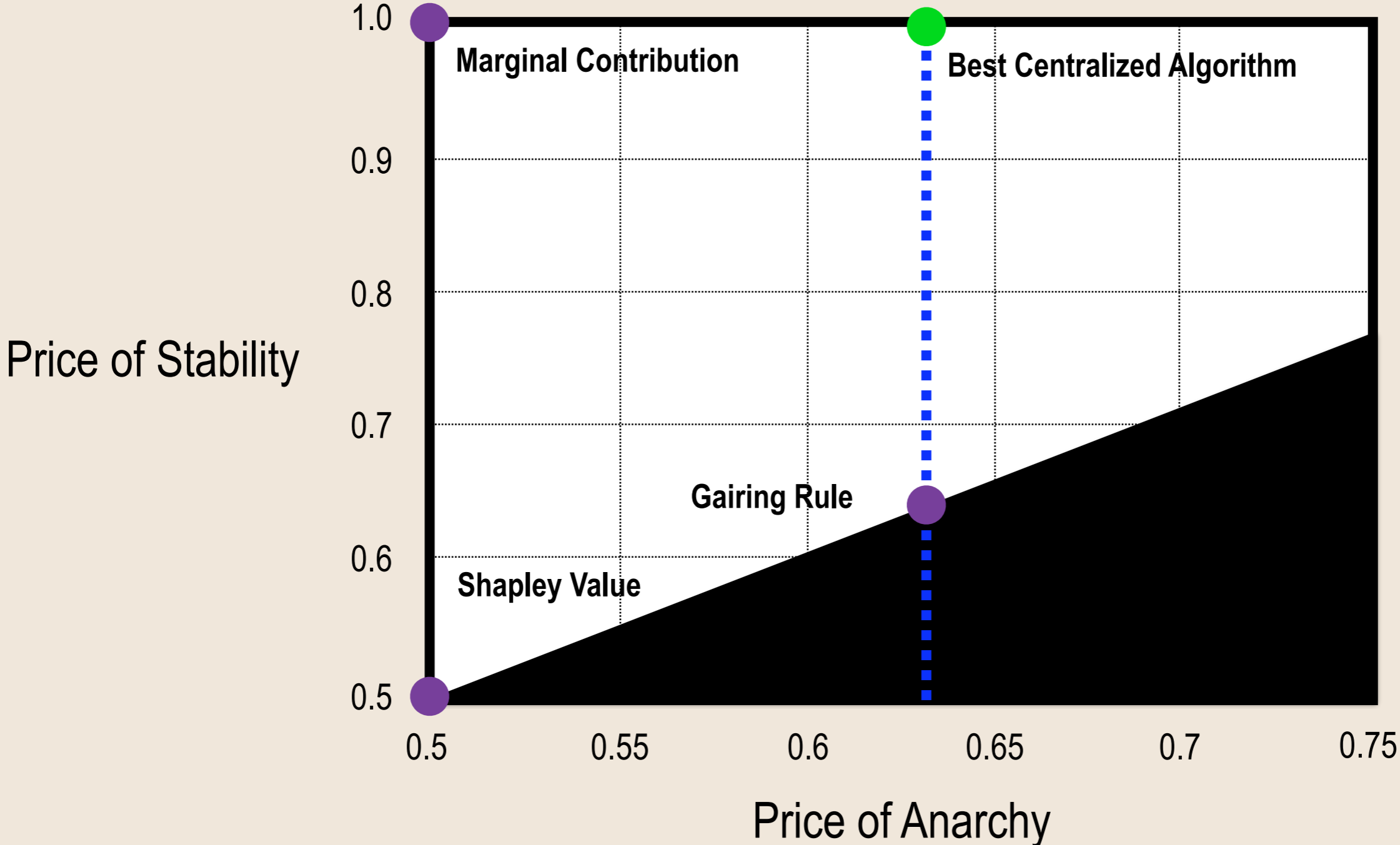
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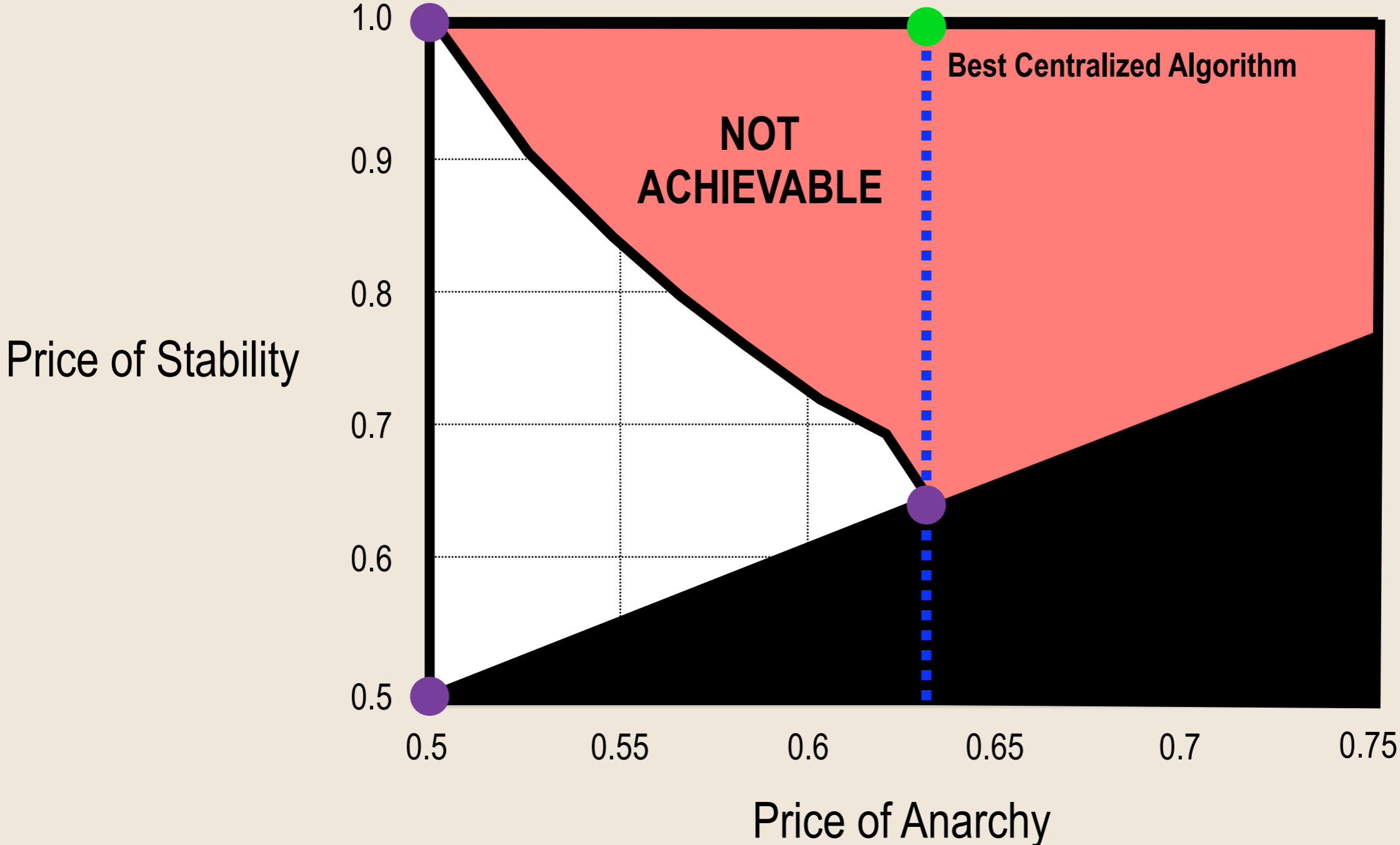
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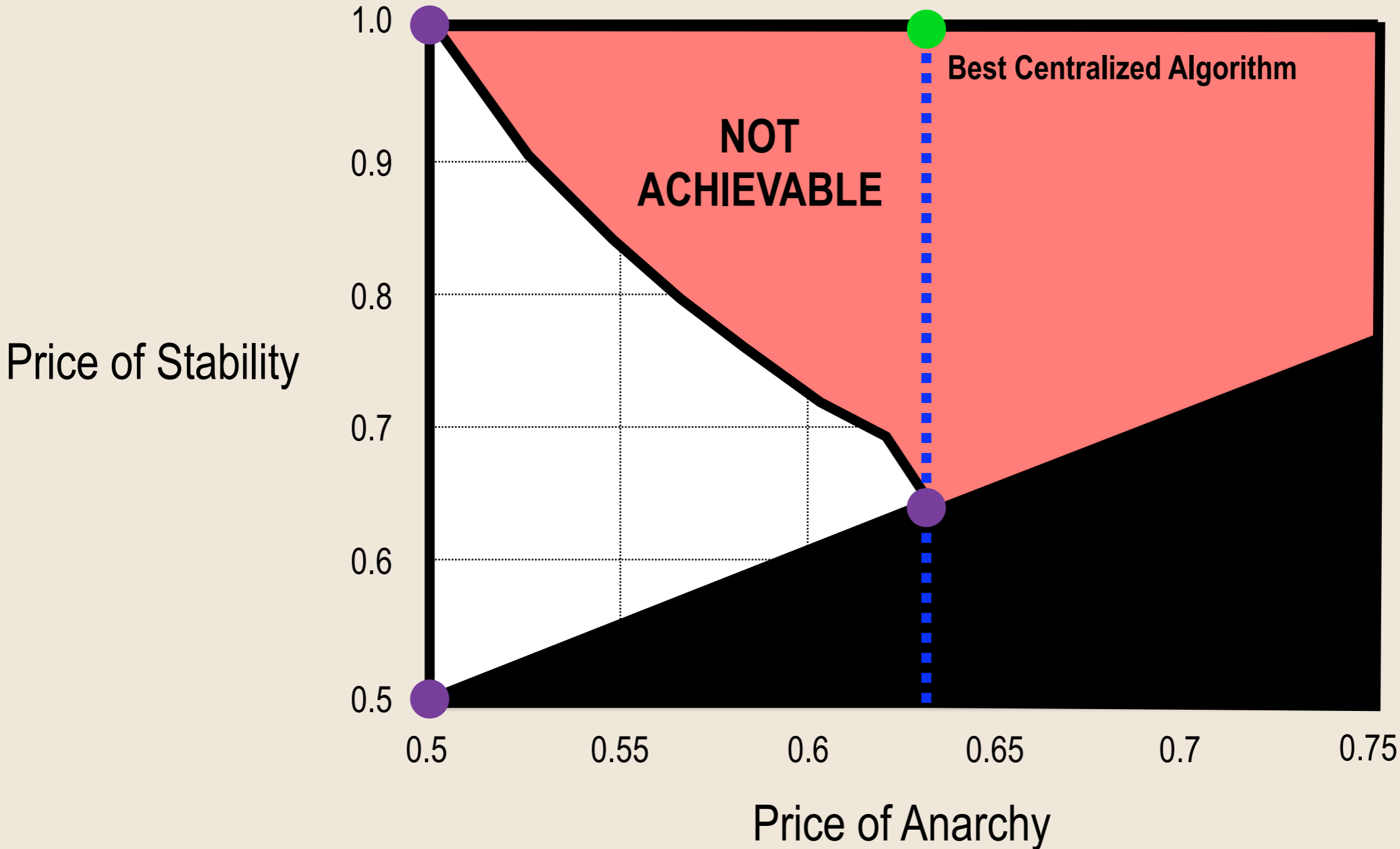
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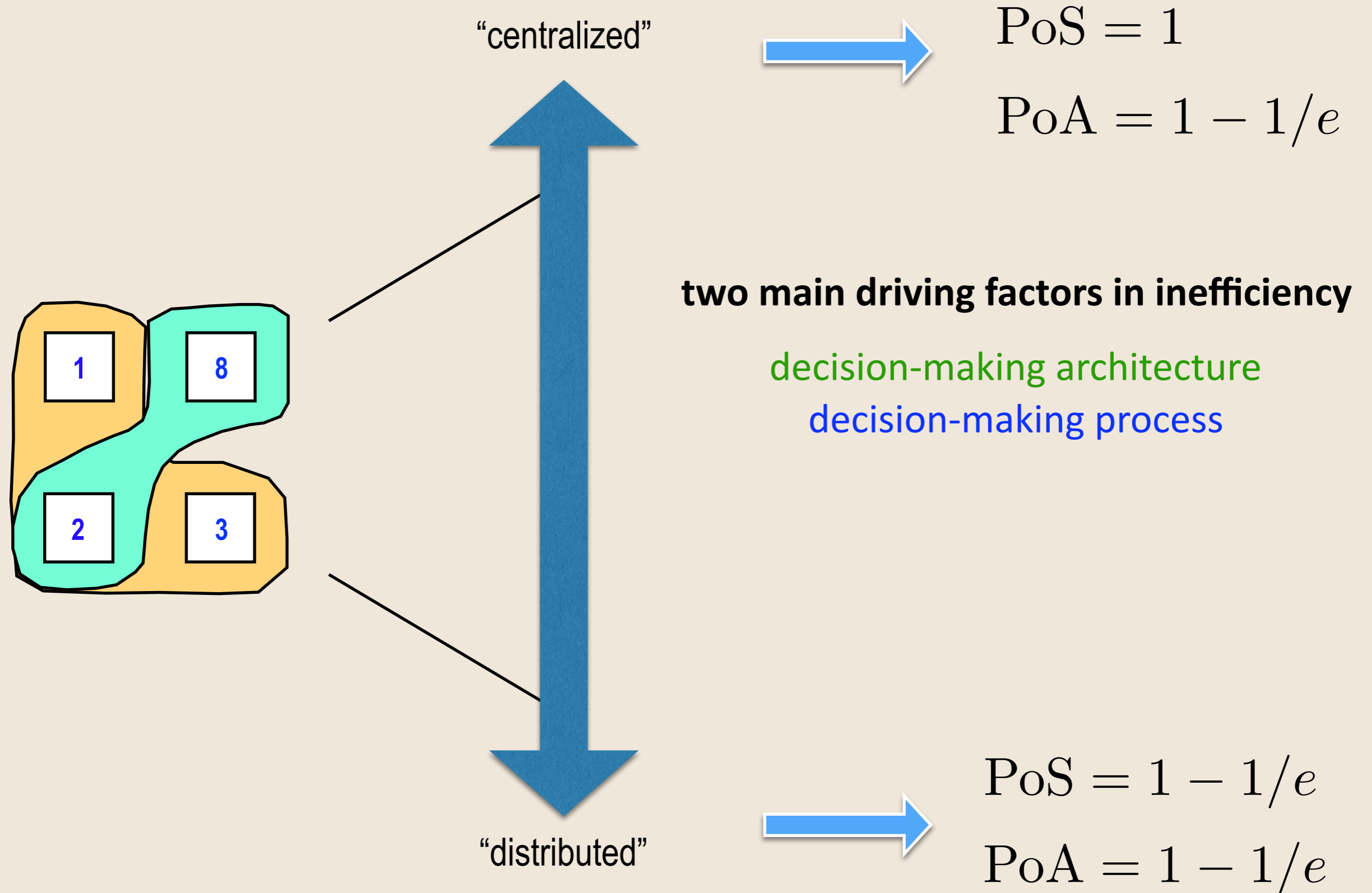


Achievable efficiencies

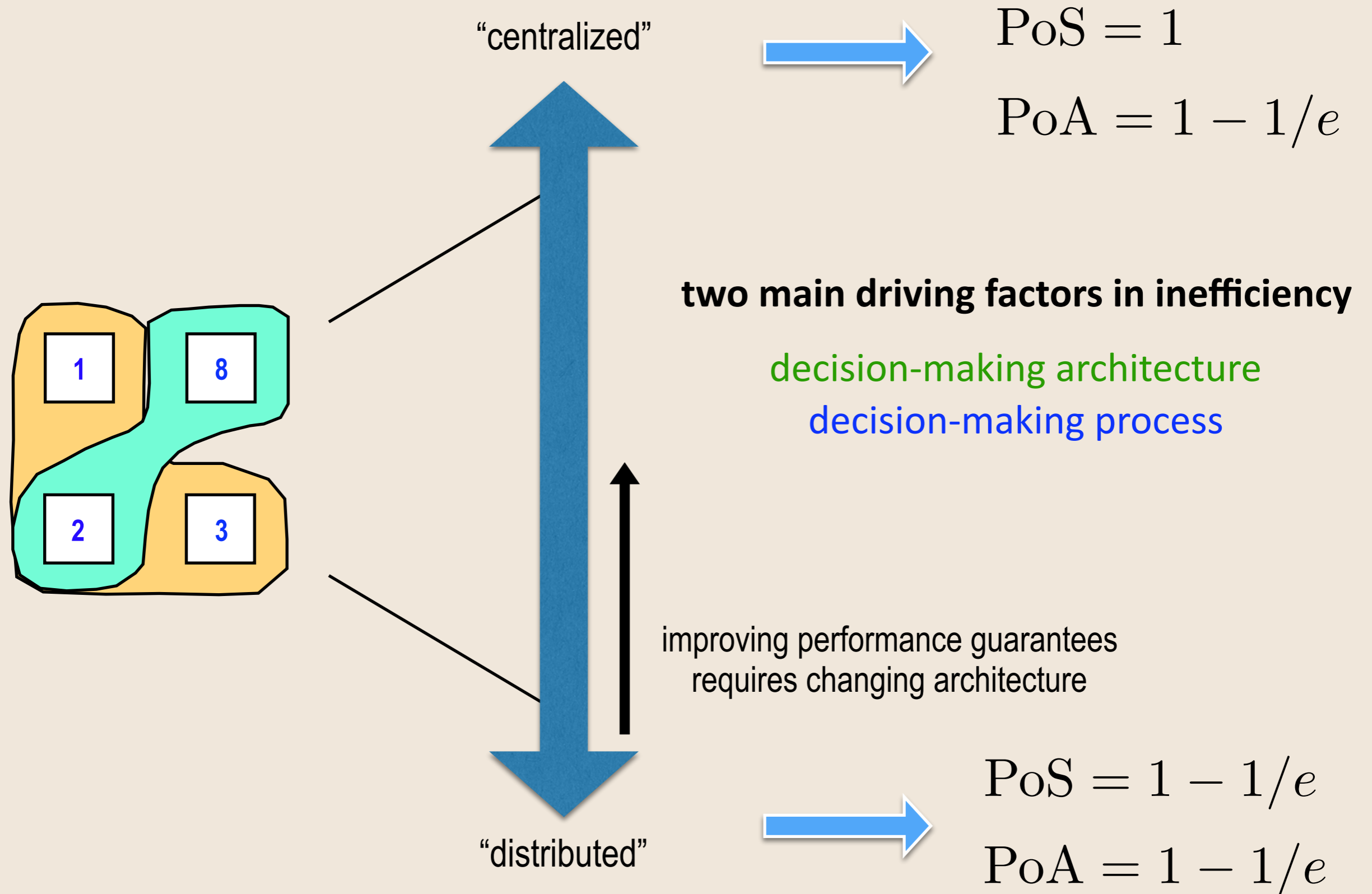


Main Result: Inherent tension between price of anarchy and price of stability

Multiagent coordination

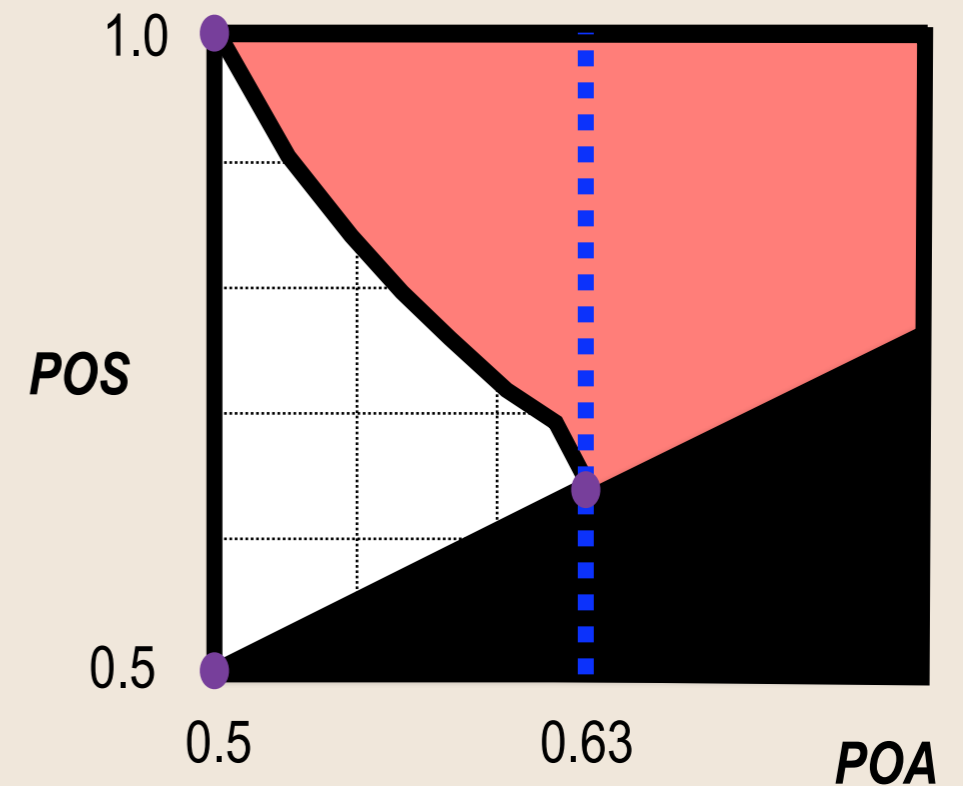


Multiagent coordination



Setup:

- Resources: \mathcal{R}
- Values: $v_r \geq 0$
- Actions: $X_i \subseteq 2^{\mathcal{R}}, i \in N$
- Global Welfare: $W(x) = \sum_{r \in \cup x_i} v_r$



Design elements:

- Utility functions: $U_i(x_i, x_{-i}) = \sum_{r \in x_i} v_r \cdot f(|x|_r)$
- Division rule: $f : \{0, 1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow R$

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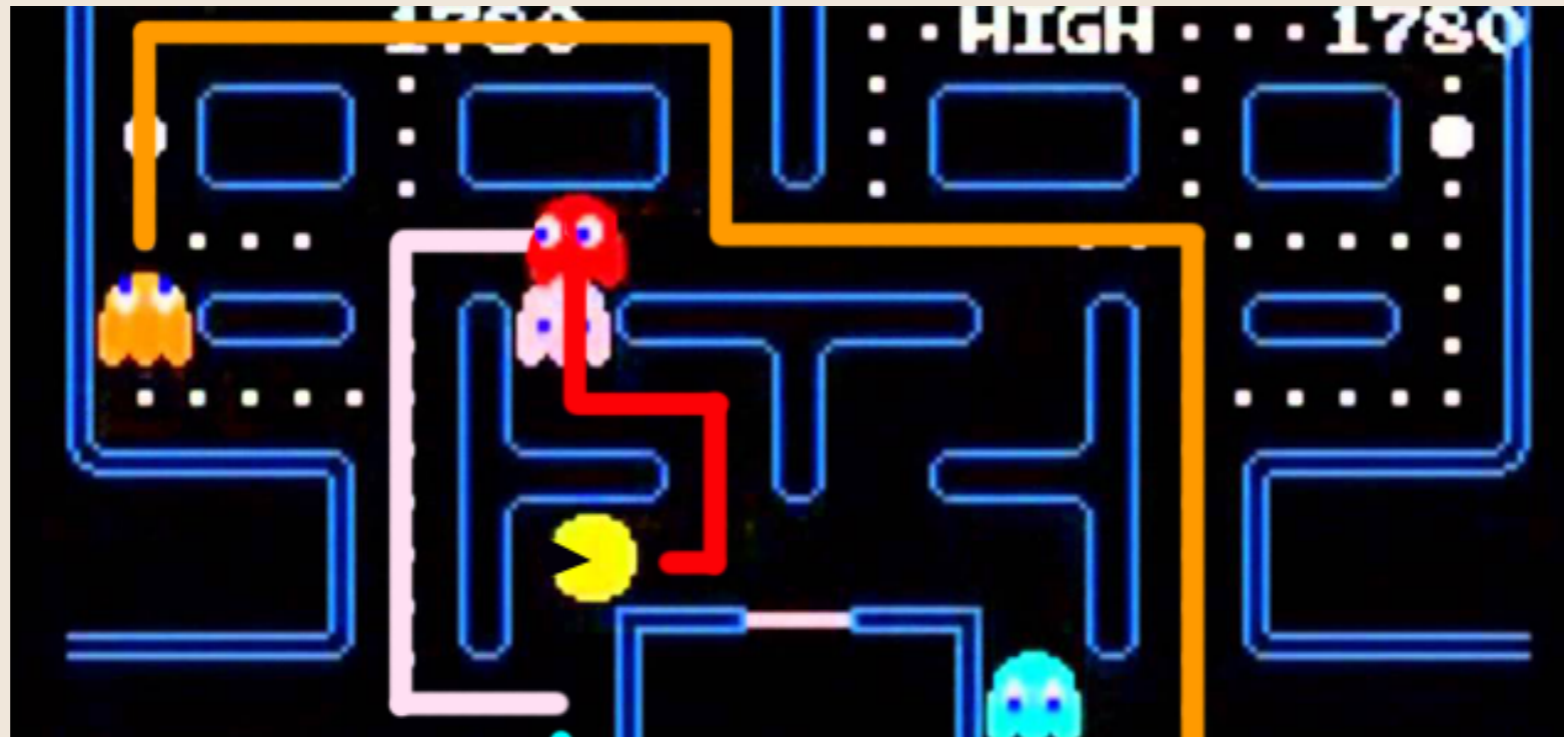
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Main Results: [Paccagnan, Chandan, JRM, 2019]

- Systematic approach (LP) for characterizing POA for $\{(W_r, f_r) : r \in \mathcal{R}\}$
- Systematic approach (LP) for optimizing POA for $\{(W_r, f_r^{\text{opt}}) : r \in \mathcal{R}\}$

Central Goal

design of *admissible* control algorithms that attain *near-optimal* system-wide behavior in a *reasonable* period of time



Part I

How does lack of information degrade achievable performance?

Part II

How do you optimize collective performance using information?

Highlighted papers:

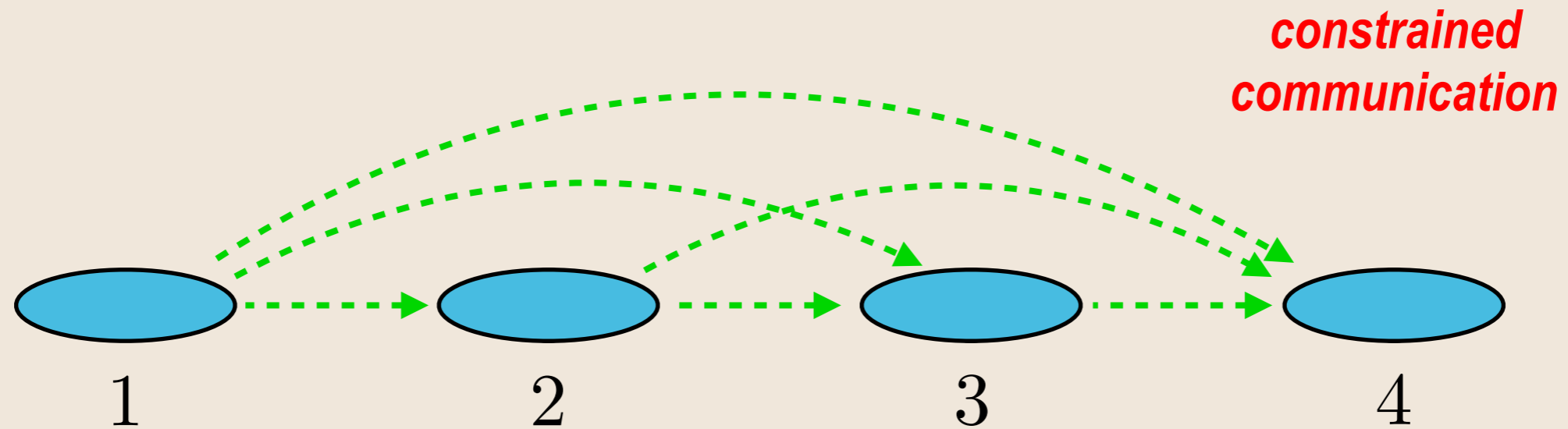
- D. Grimsman et al., “Value of Information in Greedy Submodular Maximization,” TCNS, 2019.
- D. Grimsman et al., “Strategic Information Sharing in Greedy Submodular Maximization,” CDC, 2018.
- V. Ramaswamy et al., “Multiagent Coverage Problems: The Trade-offs Between Anarchy and Stability,” 2019 (in review).
- D. Paccagnan, R. Chandan, & JRM, “Distributed Resource Allocation Through Utility Design - Part I: Optimizing the Performance Certificates via the Price of Anarchy,” 2019 (in review)
- D. Paccagnan & JRM, “Distributed Resource Allocation Through Utility Design - Part II: Applications to Submodular, Supermodular, and Set Covering Problems,” 2019 (in review)

Relevant Papers:

- B. Gharesifard and S. L. Smith, “Distributed submodular maximization with limited information,” TCNS, 2017.
- JRM, “The role of information in distributed resource allocation” TCNS, 2017.
- G. Qu et al., “Distributed greedy algorithm for multi-agent task assignment problem with submodular utility functions,” 2017.
- B. Mirzasoleiman et al., “Distributed submodular maximization: Identifying representative elements in massive data,” 2013.

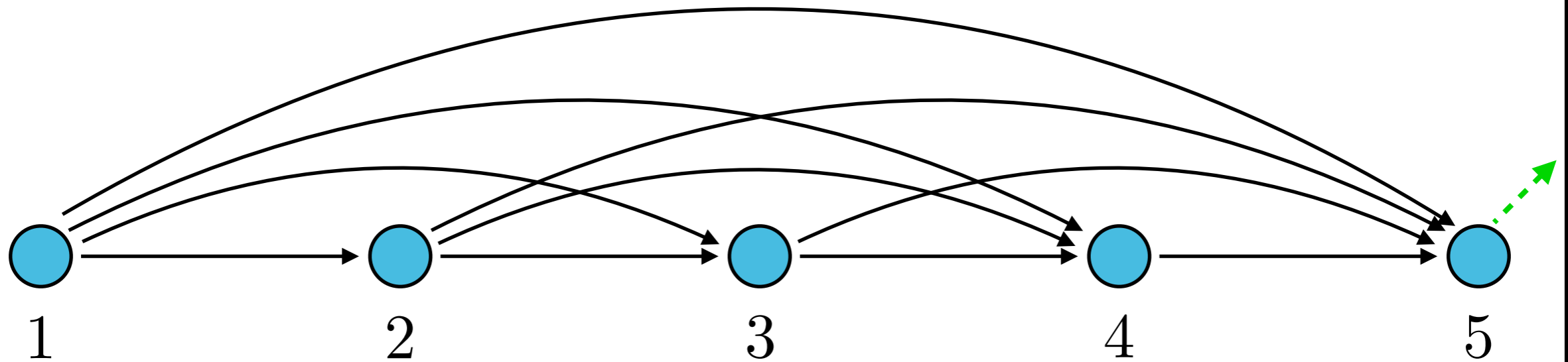
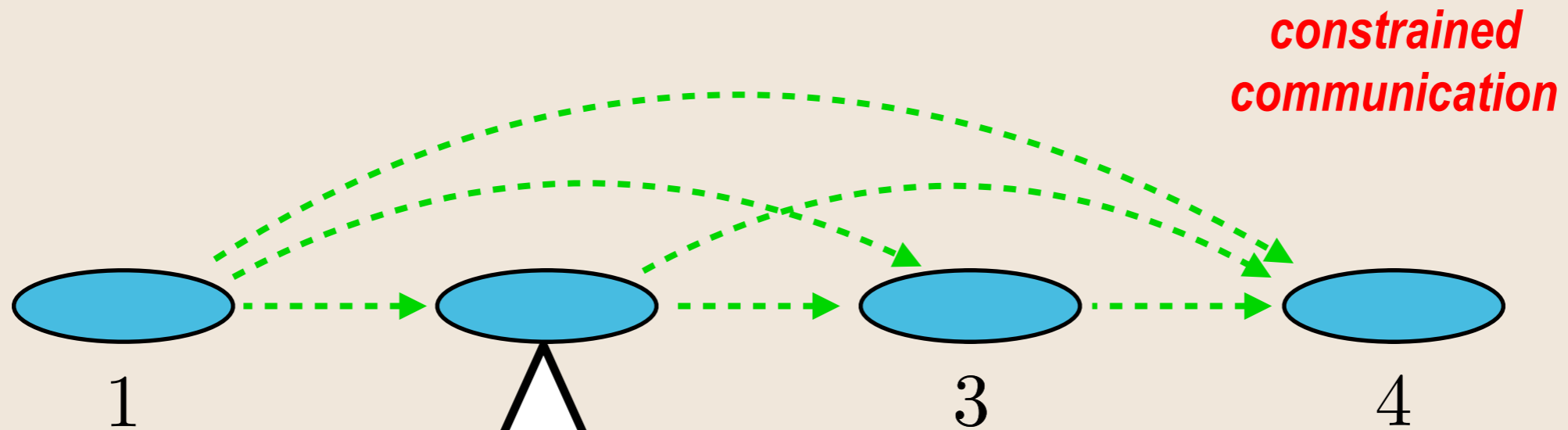


Strategic Information Exchange



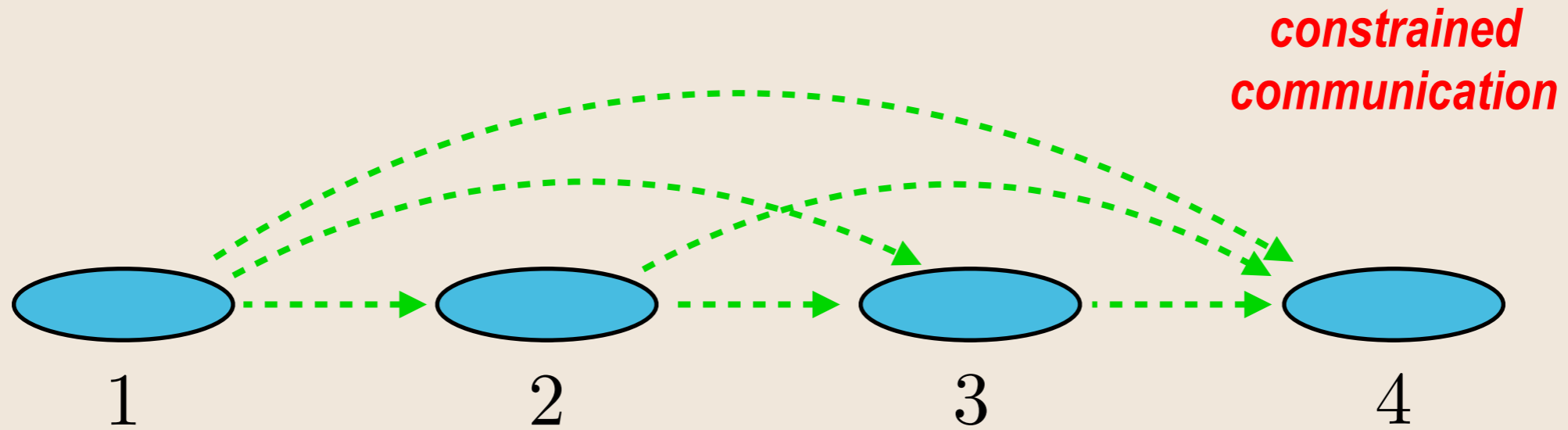
series of m disconnected cliques

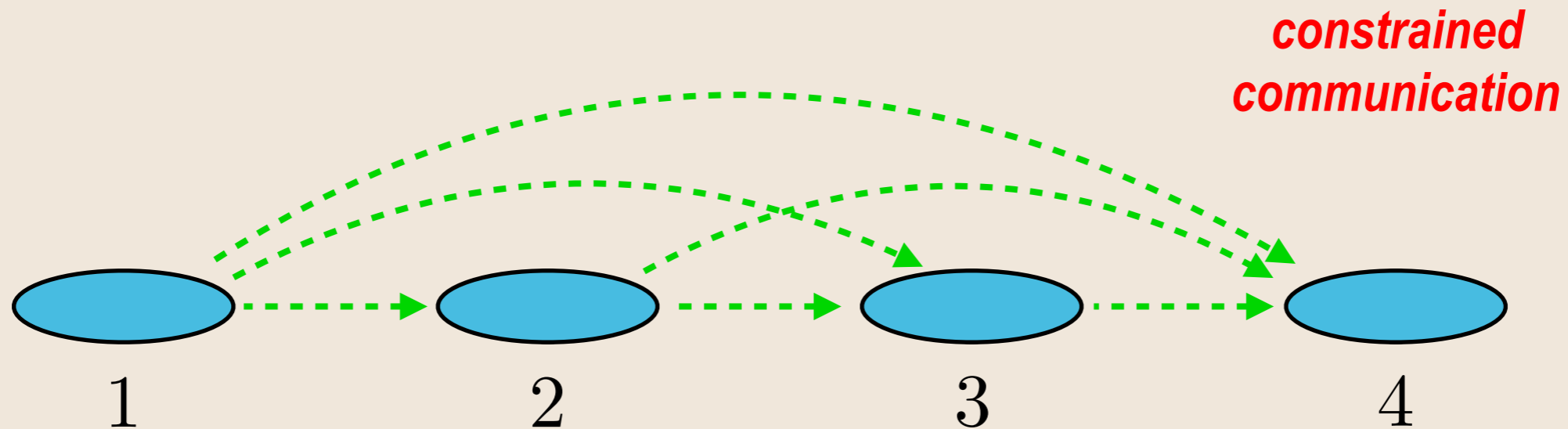
Strategic Information Exchange



(clique of size ω_2)

Strategic Information Exchange



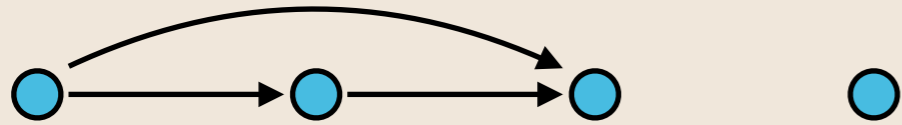


Theorem [Grimsman et al., 2018]

Consider any submodular multiagent optimization problem with strategic information exchange / processing over a series of m disconnected cliques. The **optimal** information exchange / processing satisfies

$$\frac{W(x^{\text{s-greedy}})}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{2 + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \prod_{j=1}^i (1 - 1/\omega_j)} > \frac{1}{m+1}$$

Furthermore, the bound is essentially tight.



$$\frac{W(x^{\text{greedy}}; G)}{W(x^{\text{optimal}})} \geq \frac{1}{3}$$

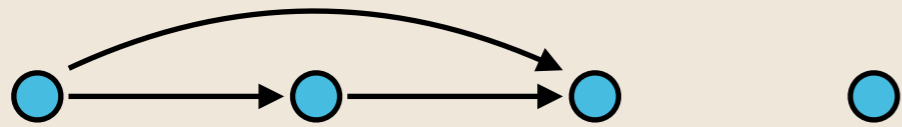
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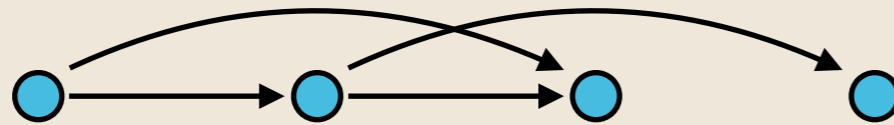
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Strategic Information Exchange



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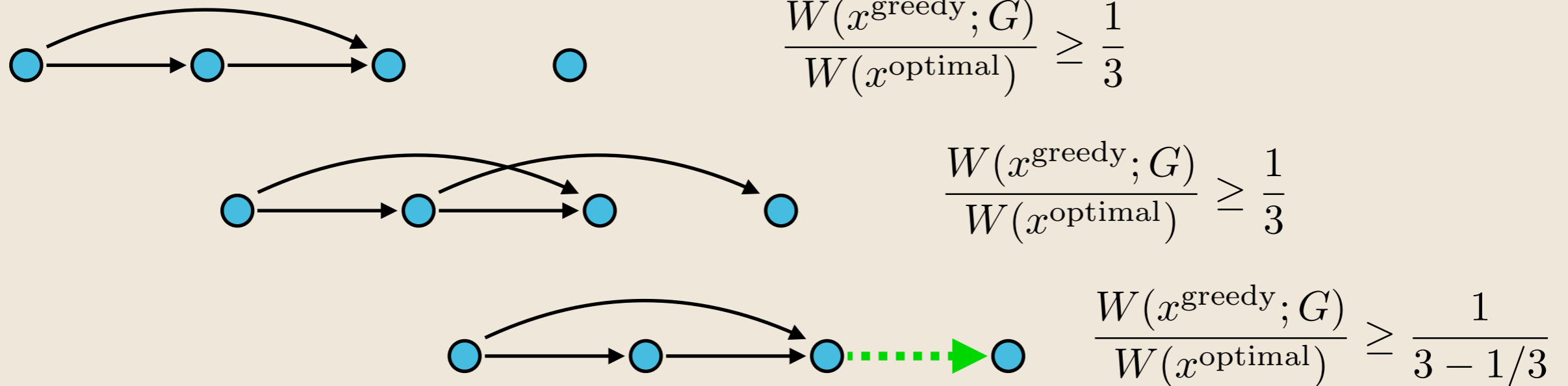
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