

# Crystals that think about how they're growing



David Doty

joint work with Damien Woods, Erik Winfree, Cameron Myhrvold, Joy Hui, Felix Zhou, Peng Yin

University of New Mexico, Computer Science Colloquium, Sept 10, 2019



Caltech



Inria Paris



UC Davis



Harvard

# Acknowledgements



Caltech



Inria Paris



UC Davis



Harvard

## lab/science help

Sungwook Woo      Constantine Evans

Sarina Mohanty      Niranjan Srinivas

Deborah Fygenson      Yannick Rondolez

Mingjie Dai      Nikhil Gopalkrishnan

Chris Thachuk      Nadine Dabby

Jongmin Kim      Paul Rothmund

Bryan Wei      Cody Geary

Ashwin Gopinath



Damien Woods  
(co-first author)



Erik Winfree  
(PI)

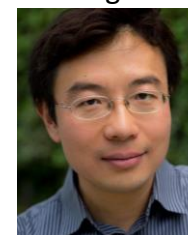


## co-authors

Cameron Myhrvold



Peng Yin



Felix Zhou



Joy Hui



*Diverse and robust molecular algorithms using reprogrammable DNA self-assembly.*  
Damien Woods<sup>†</sup>, David Doty<sup>†</sup>, Cameron Myhrvold, Joy Hui, Felix Zhou, Peng Yin, Erik Winfree.  
Nature 2019. <sup>†</sup>*These authors contributed equally.*

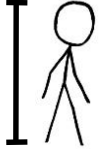


Ljubljana Marshes Wheel. 5k years old

# Building things



Newgrange, Ireland. 5.2k years old

**Building things by hand:** use tools! Great for scale of  $10^{\pm 2} \times$  



Ljubljana Marshes Wheel. 5k years old

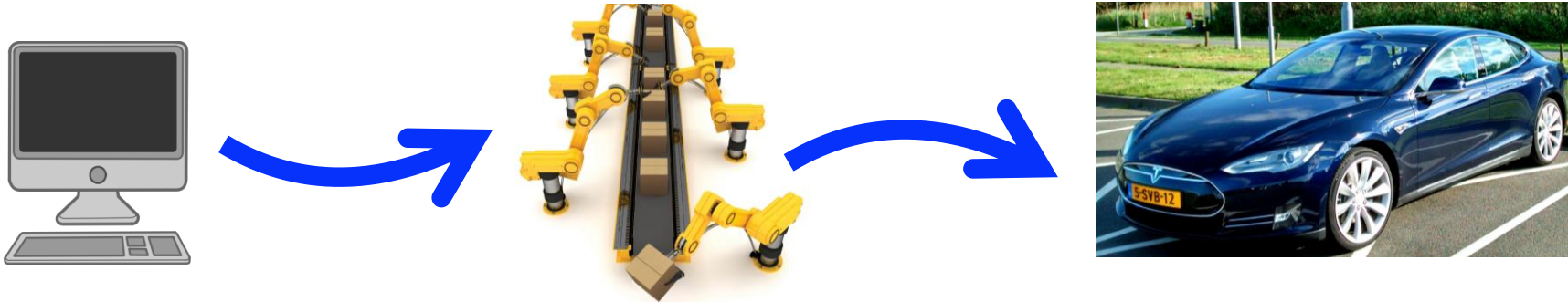
# Building things



Newgrange, Ireland. 5.2k years old

**Building things by hand:** use tools! Great for scale of  $10^{\pm 2} \times$  

**Building tools that build things:** specify target object with a computer program that then controls the manufacturing process





Ljubljana Marshes Wheel. 5k years old

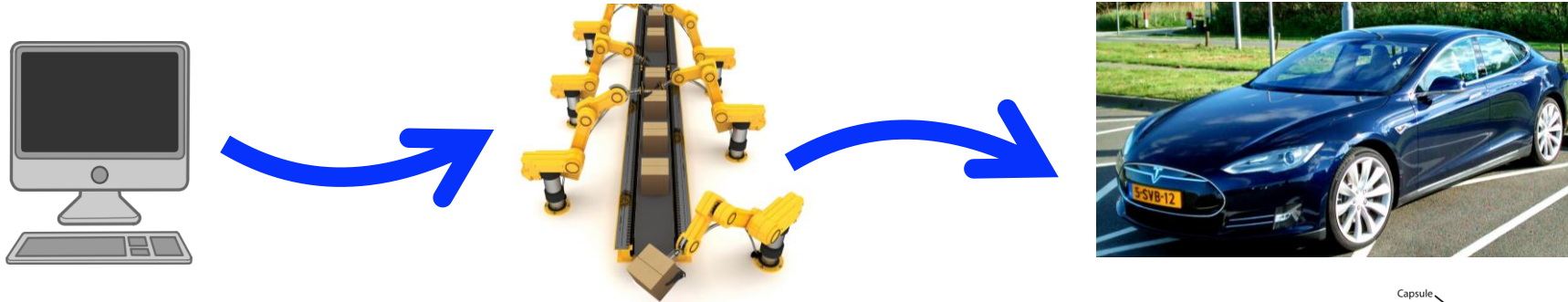
# Building things



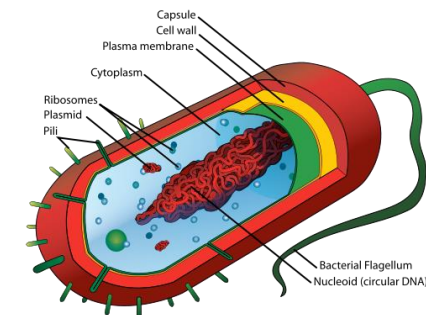
Newgrange, Ireland. 5.2k years old

**Building things by hand:** use tools! Great for scale of  $10^{\pm 2} \times$  

**Building tools that build things:** specify target object with a computer program that then controls the manufacturing process



**Programming things to build themselves:** for building in small wet places where our hands or tools can't reach

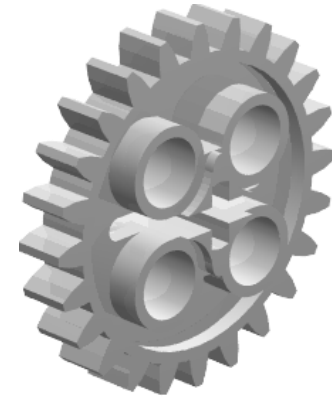


Mariana Ruiz Villarreal

# Things that build themselves

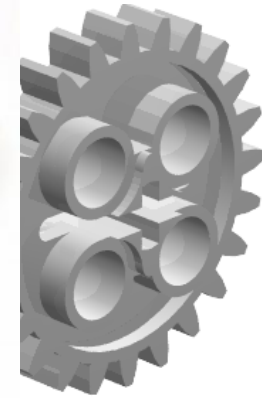


I want to stick below  
blue & yellow and  
above blue & green



Our topic: self-assembling molecules that compute as they build themselves

# Things that build themselves



Our topic: self-assembling molecules that compute as they build themselves

# Things that build themselves



Our topic: self-assembling molecules that compute as they build themselves

# Hierarchy of abstractions

|                |                                        |
|----------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>➡ Bits:</b> | <b>Boolean circuits compute</b>        |
| Tiles:         | Tile self-assembly implements circuits |
| DNA:           | DNA strands implement tiles            |

# Harmonious arrangement

0

1

1

0

1

1

# Harmonious arrangement



0

1

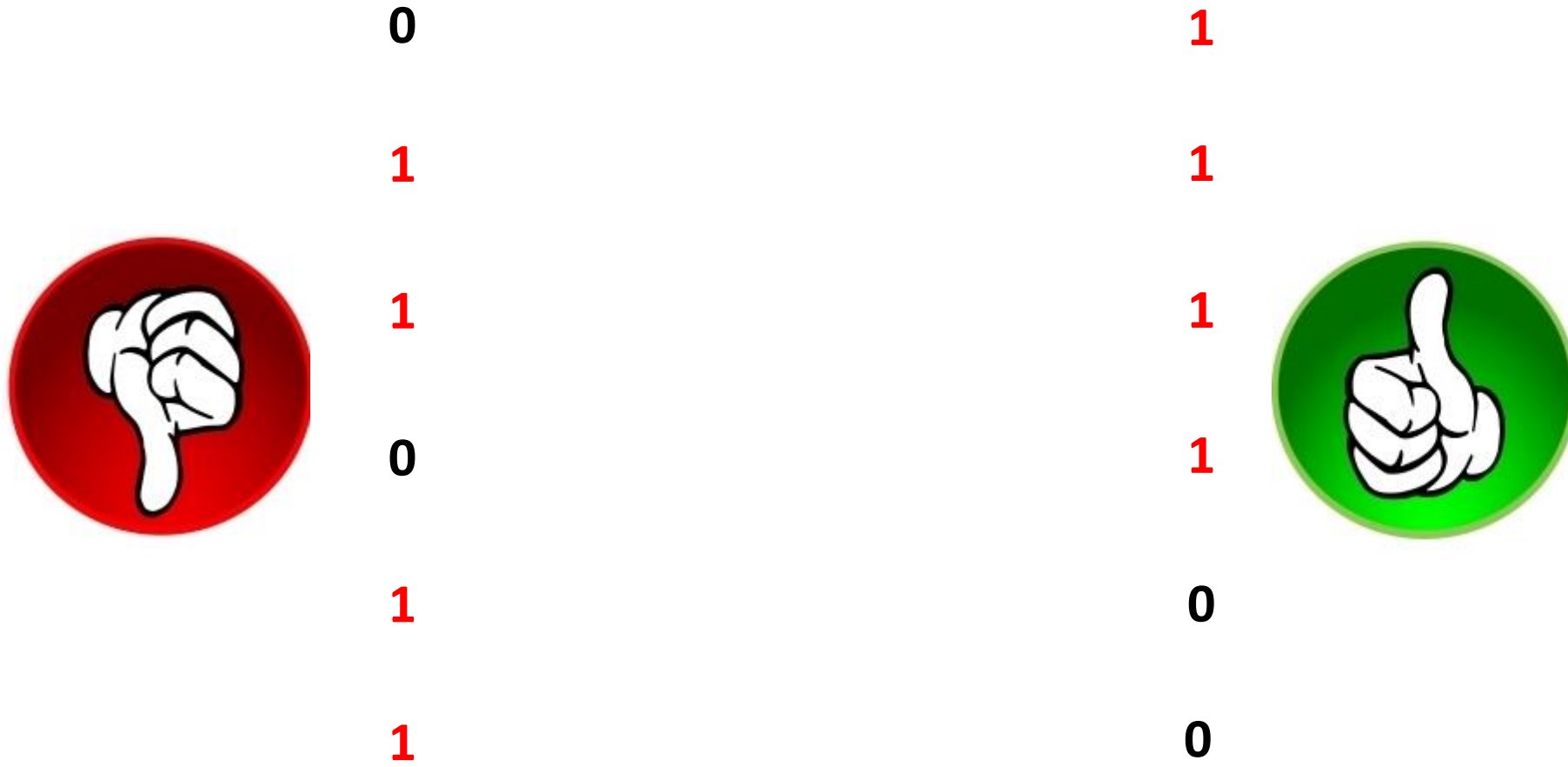
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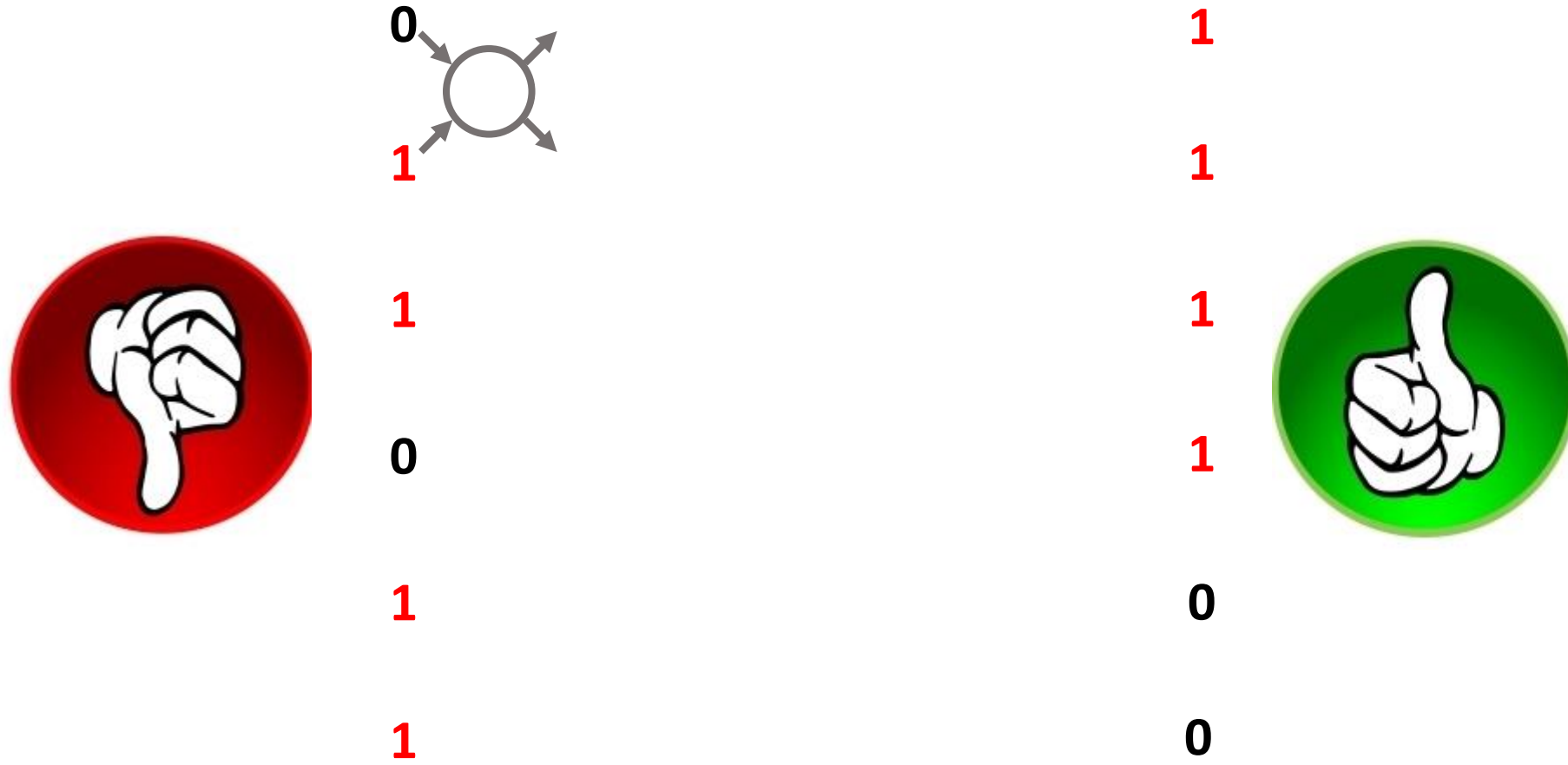
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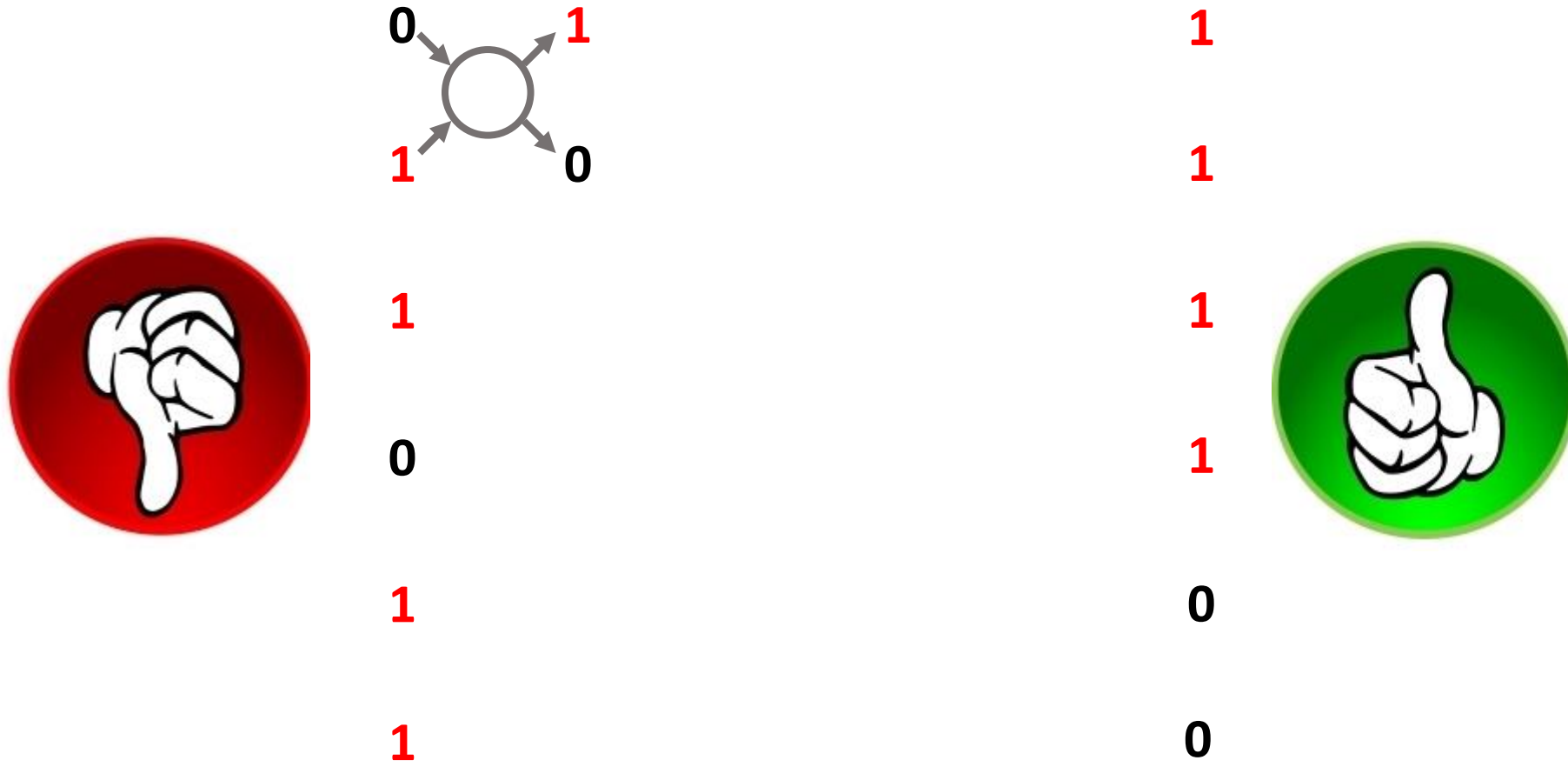
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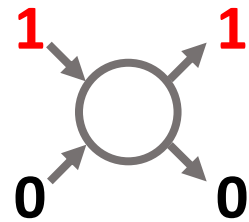
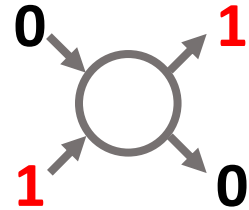
# Harmonious arrangement



# Harmonious arrangement



# Harmonious arrangement



1

1

1

1

1

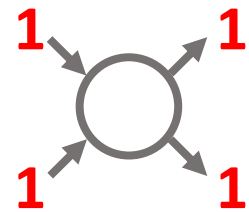
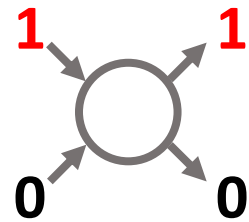
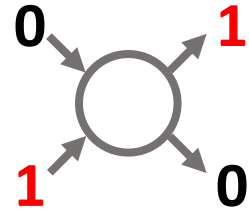
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0

0



# Harmonious arrangement



1

1

1

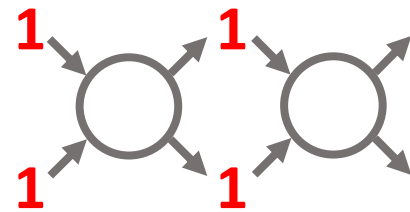
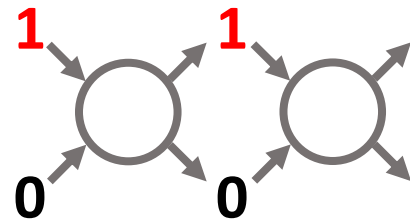
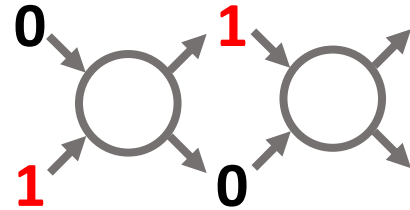
1

0

0



# Harmonious arrangement



1

1

1

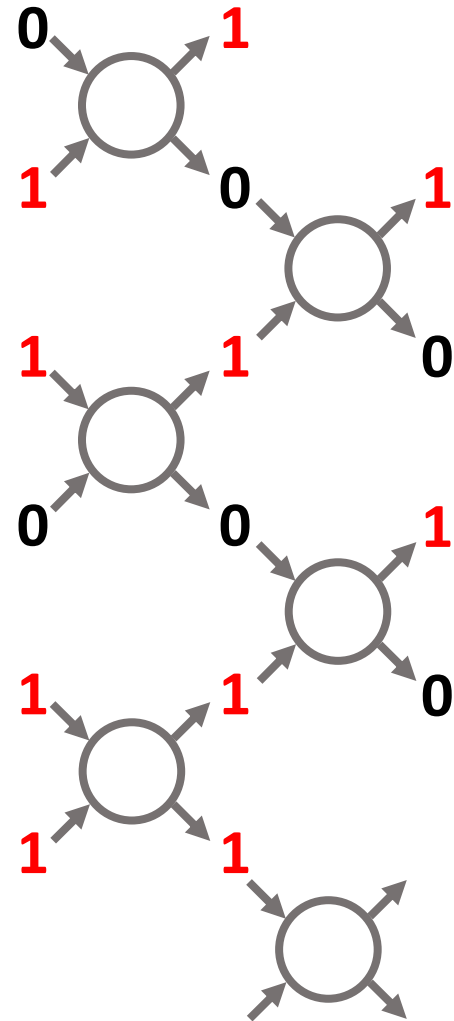
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0

0



# Harmonious arrangement



1

1

1

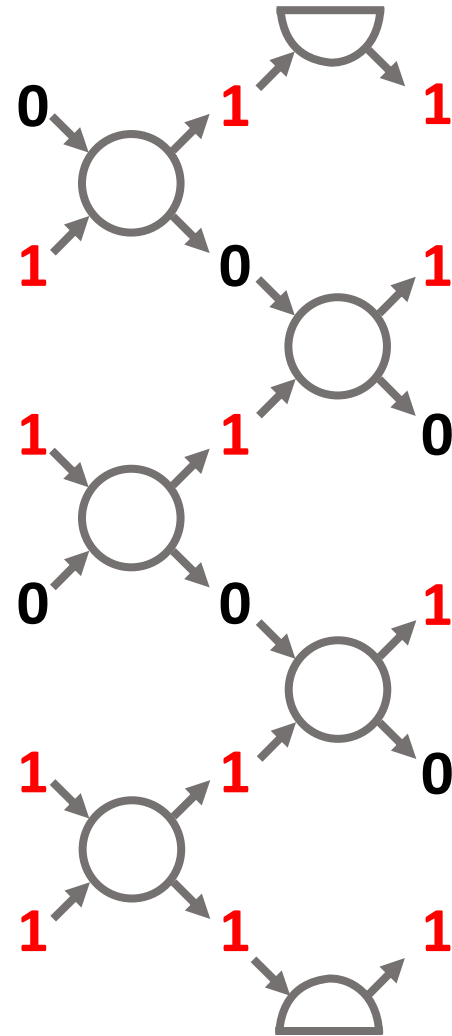
1

0

0



# Harmonious arrangement



1

1

1

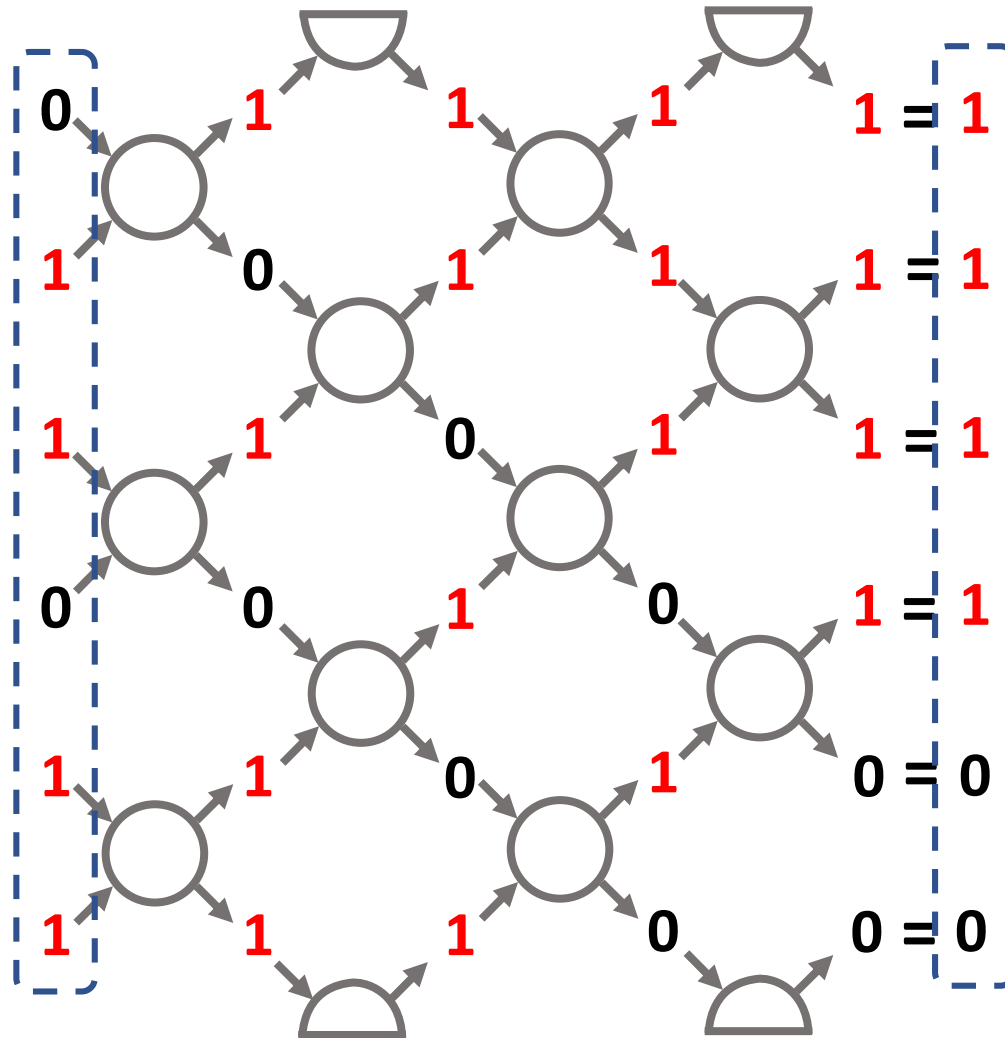
1

0

0



# Harmonious arrangement



a.k.a. sorting



# Odd bits

**1**

**0**

**1**

**0**

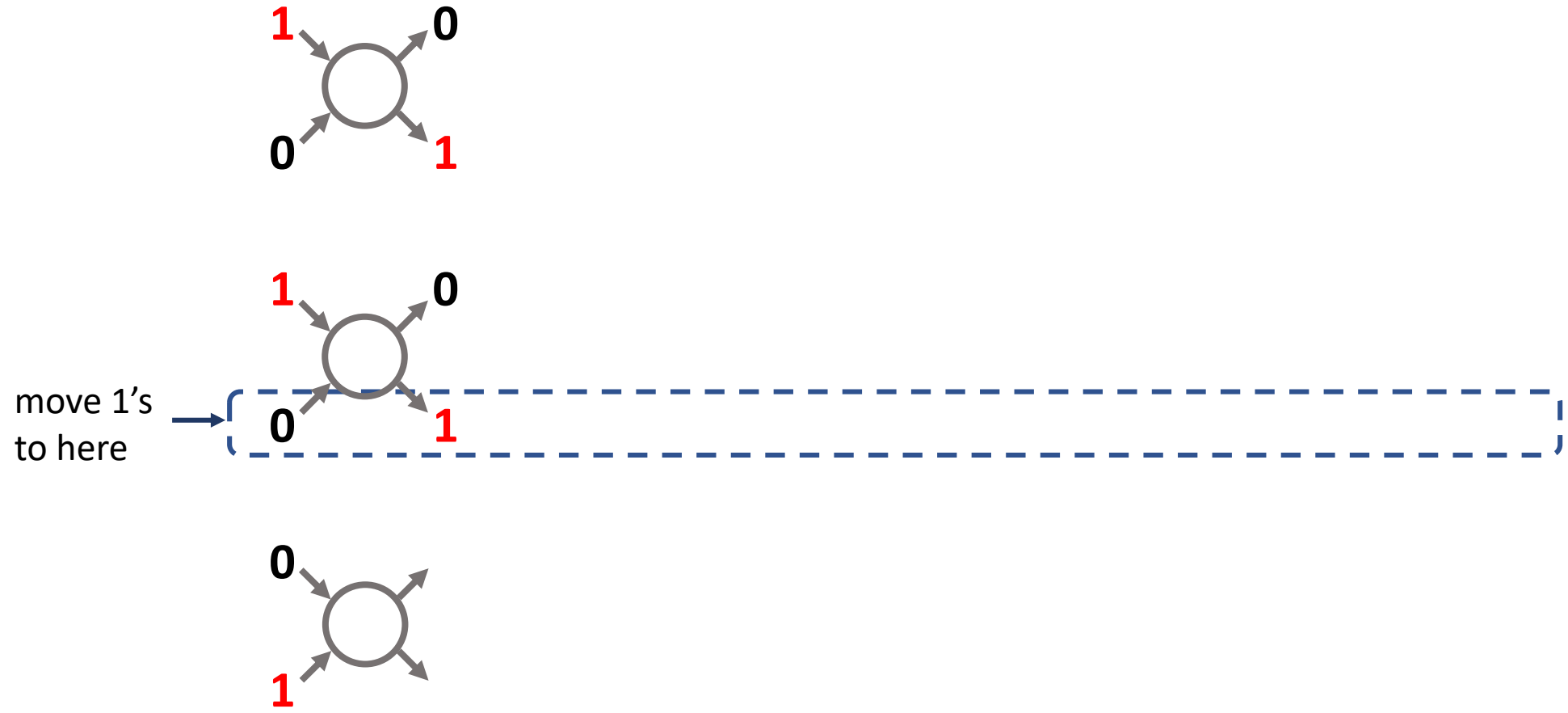
**0**

**1**

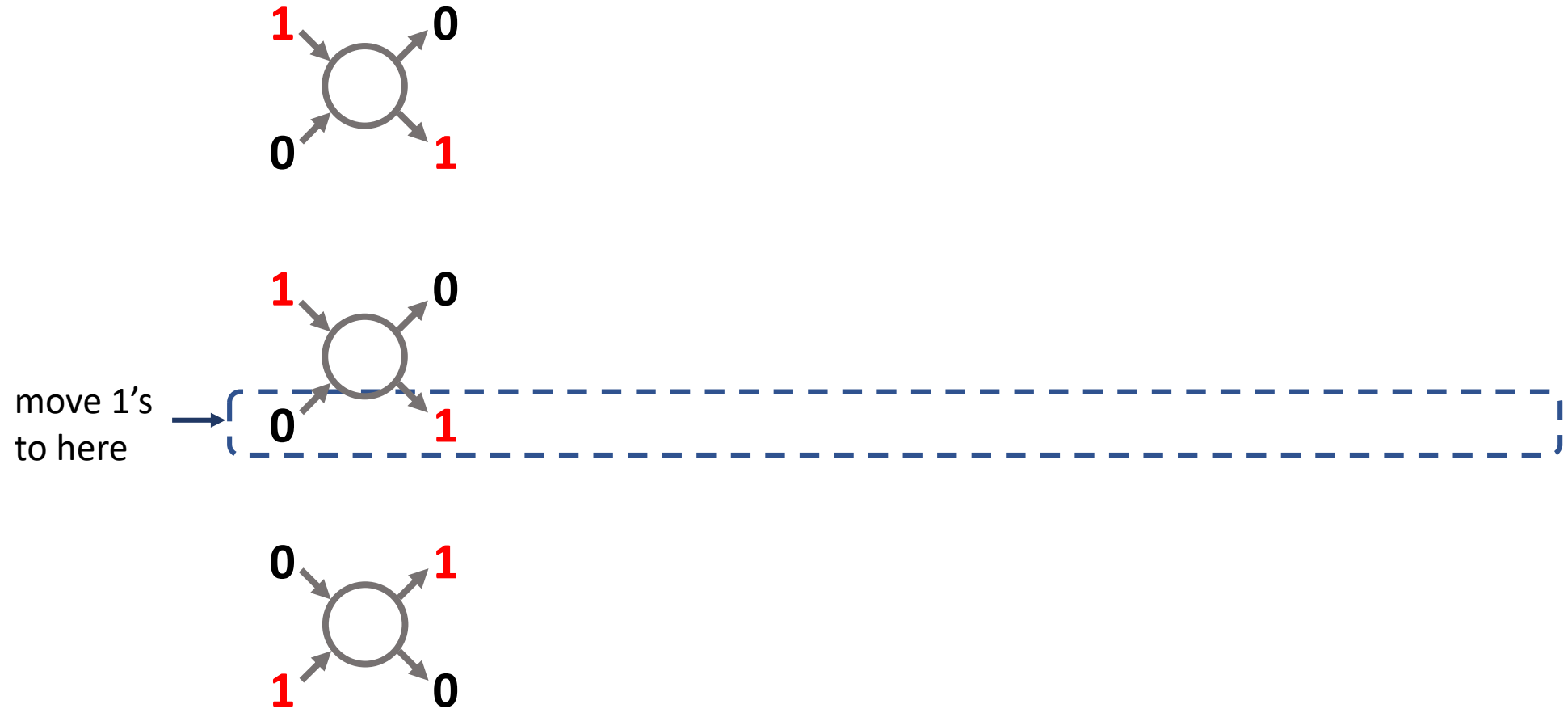
# Odd bits



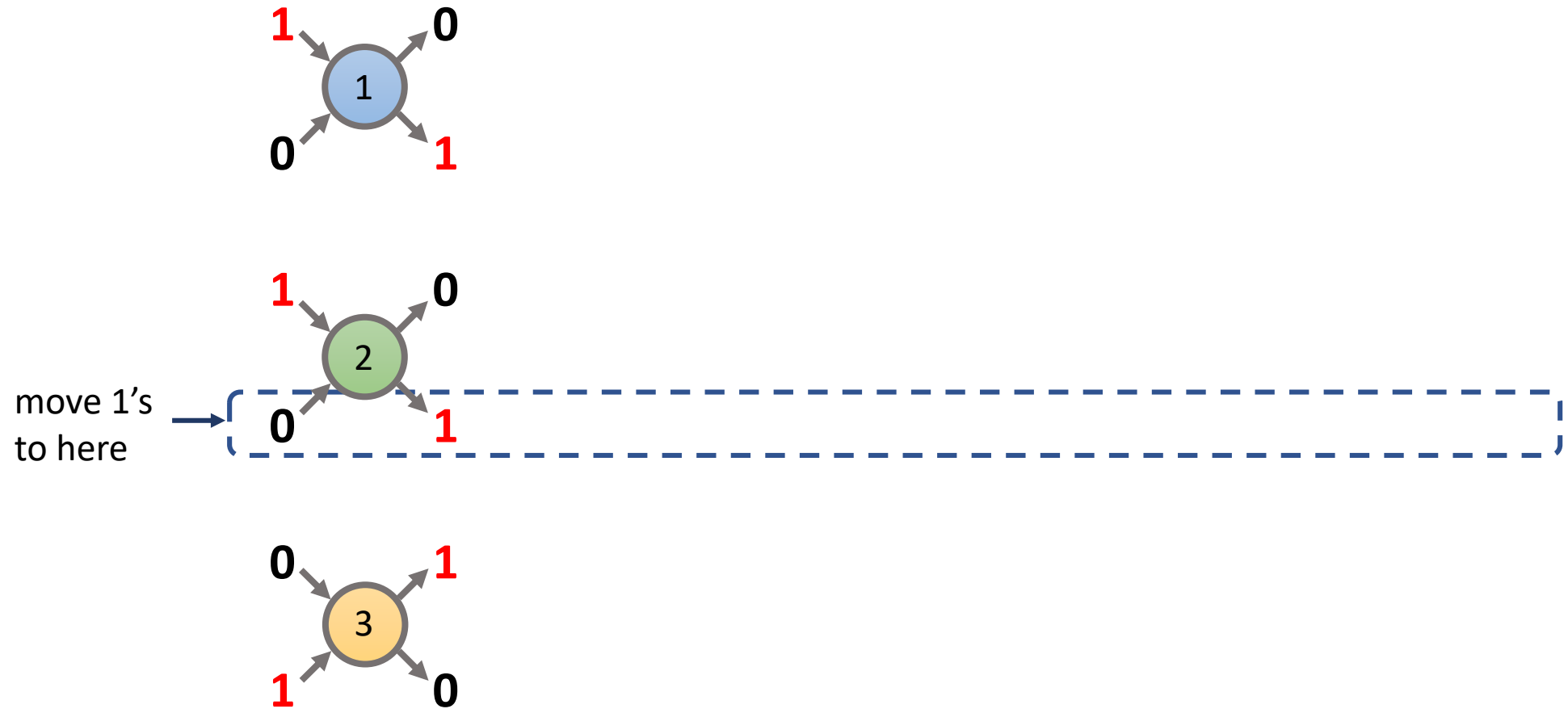
# Odd bits



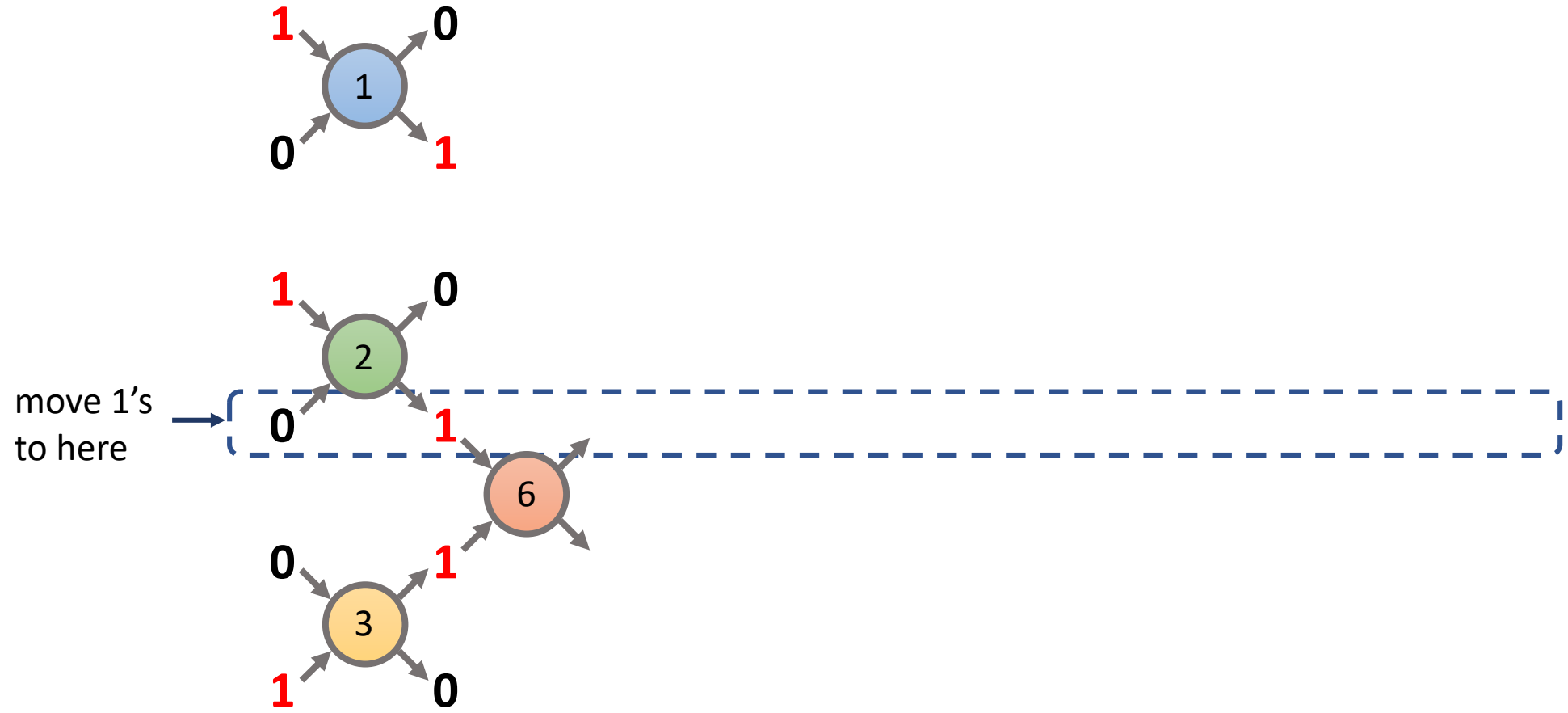
# Odd bits



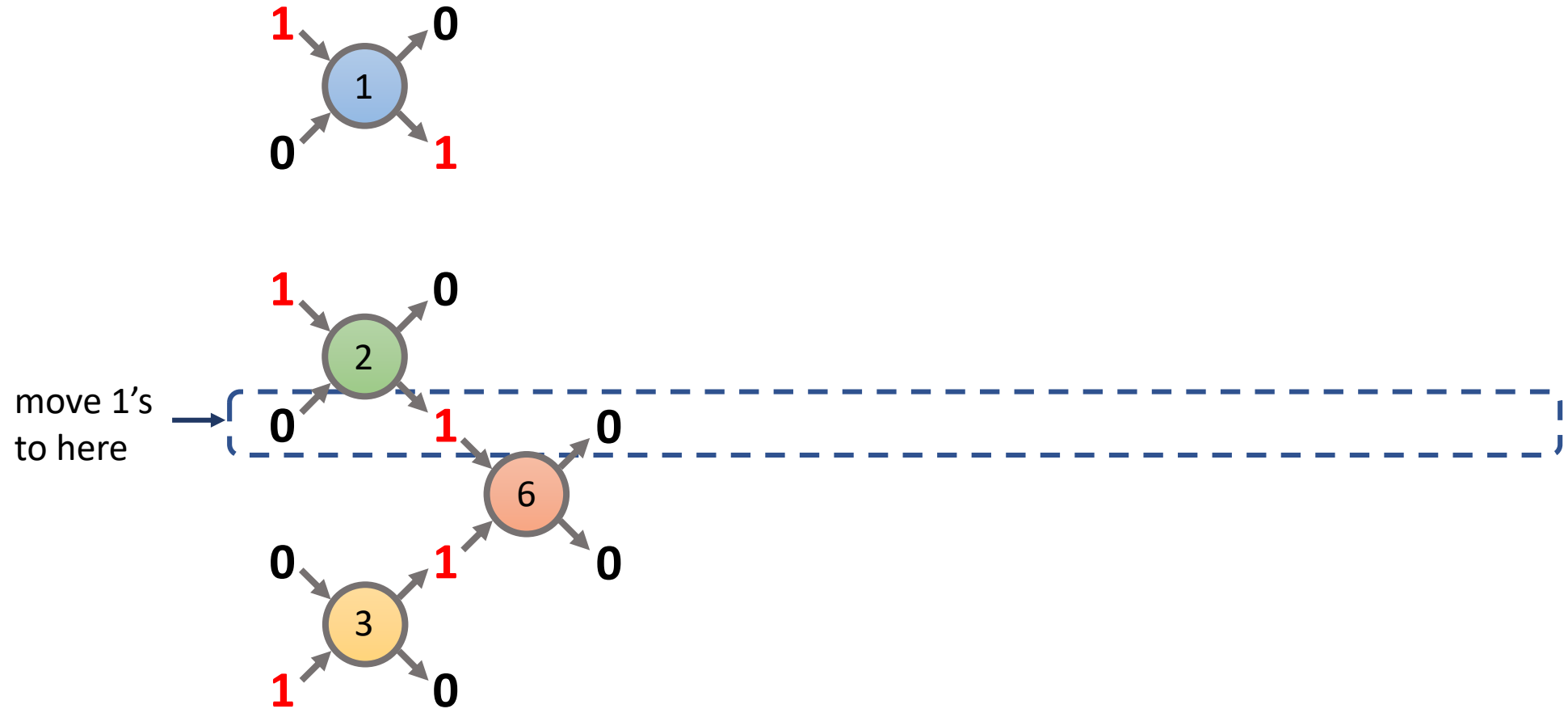
# Odd bits



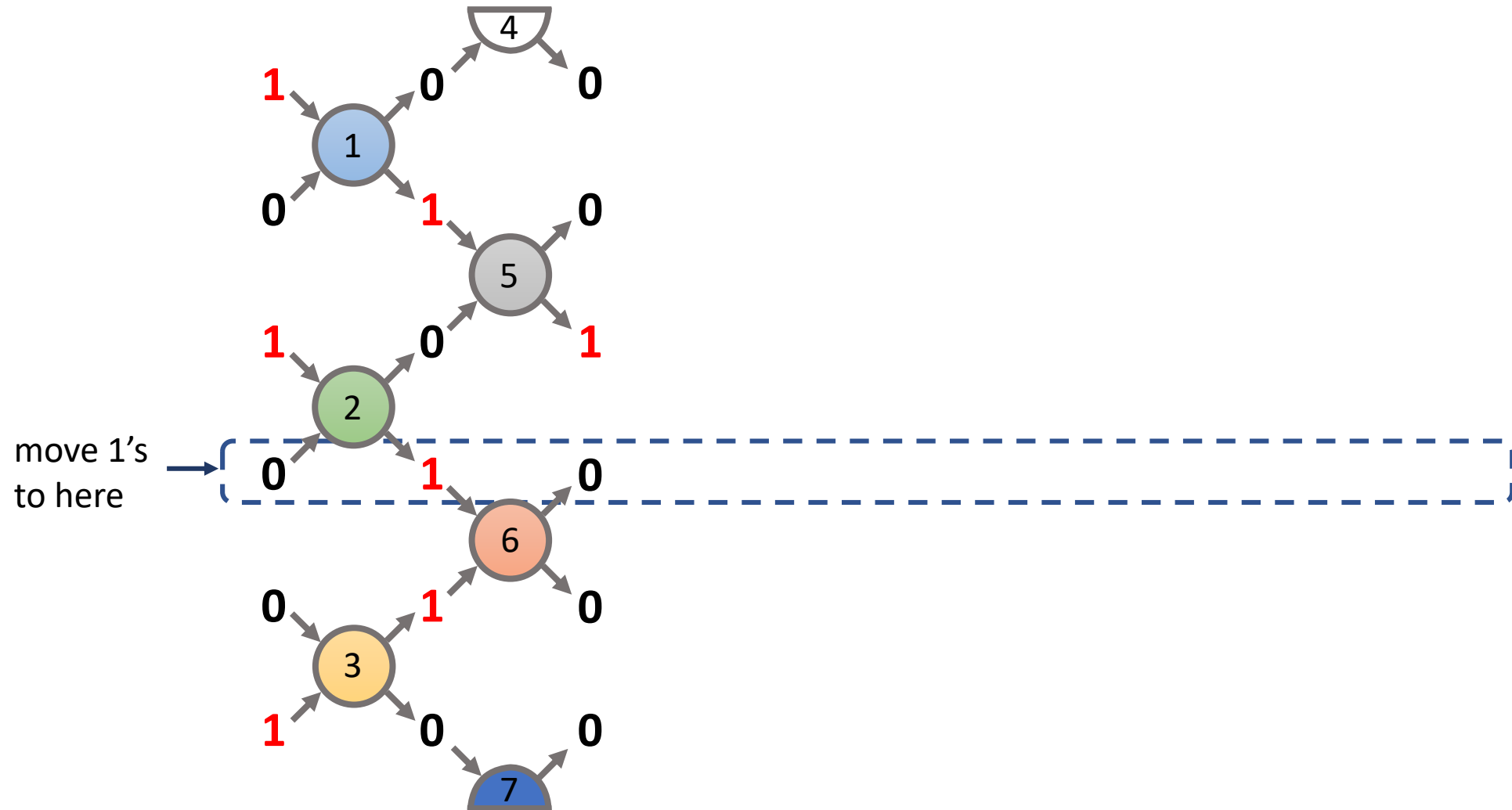
# Odd bits



# Odd bits

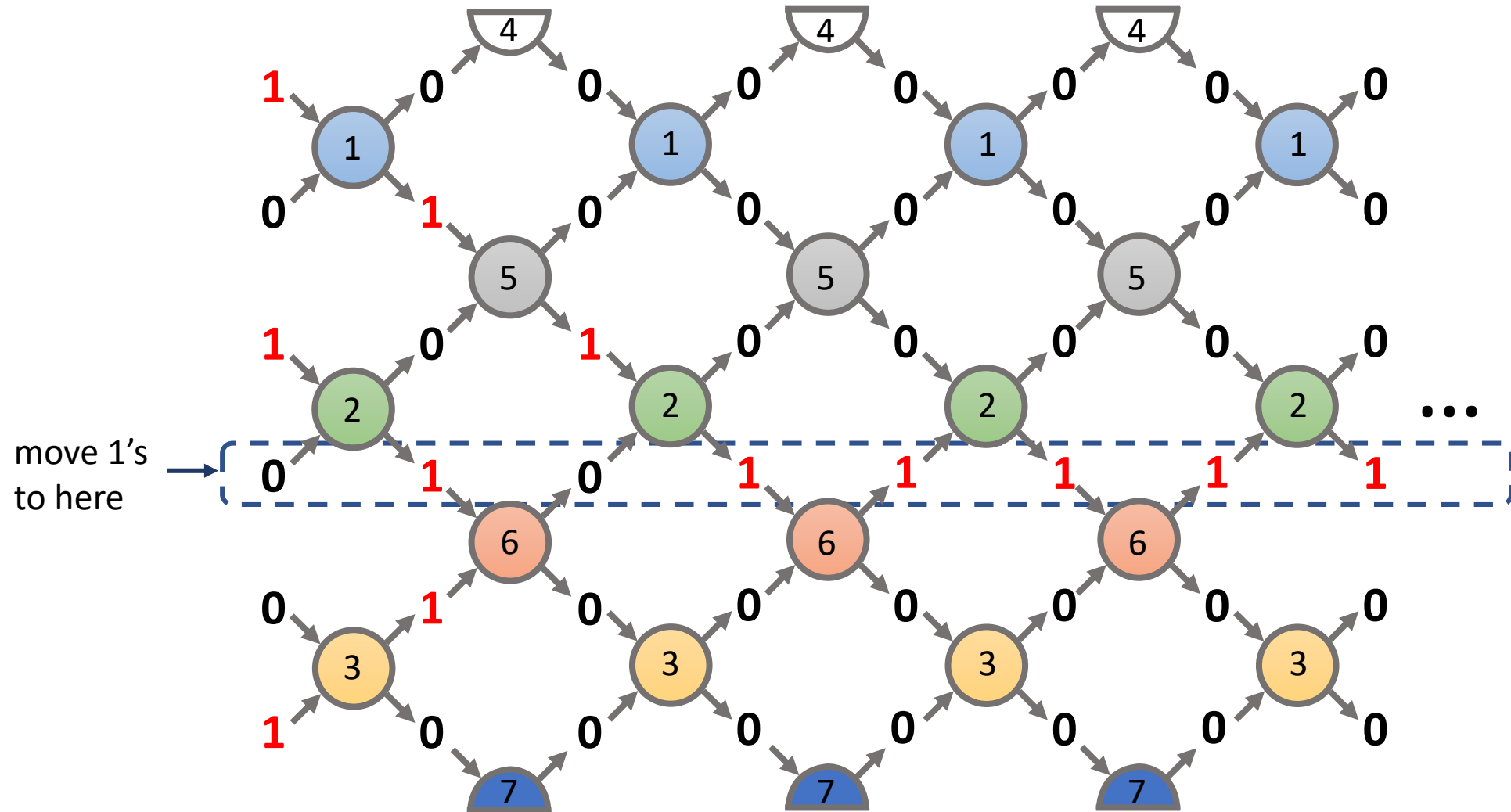


# Odd bits



# Odd bits

## a.k.a. parity



# Parity

1

0

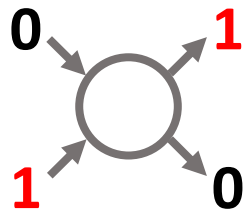
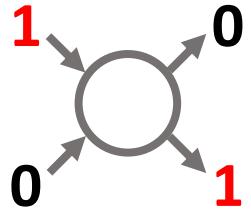
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[ 1 ]

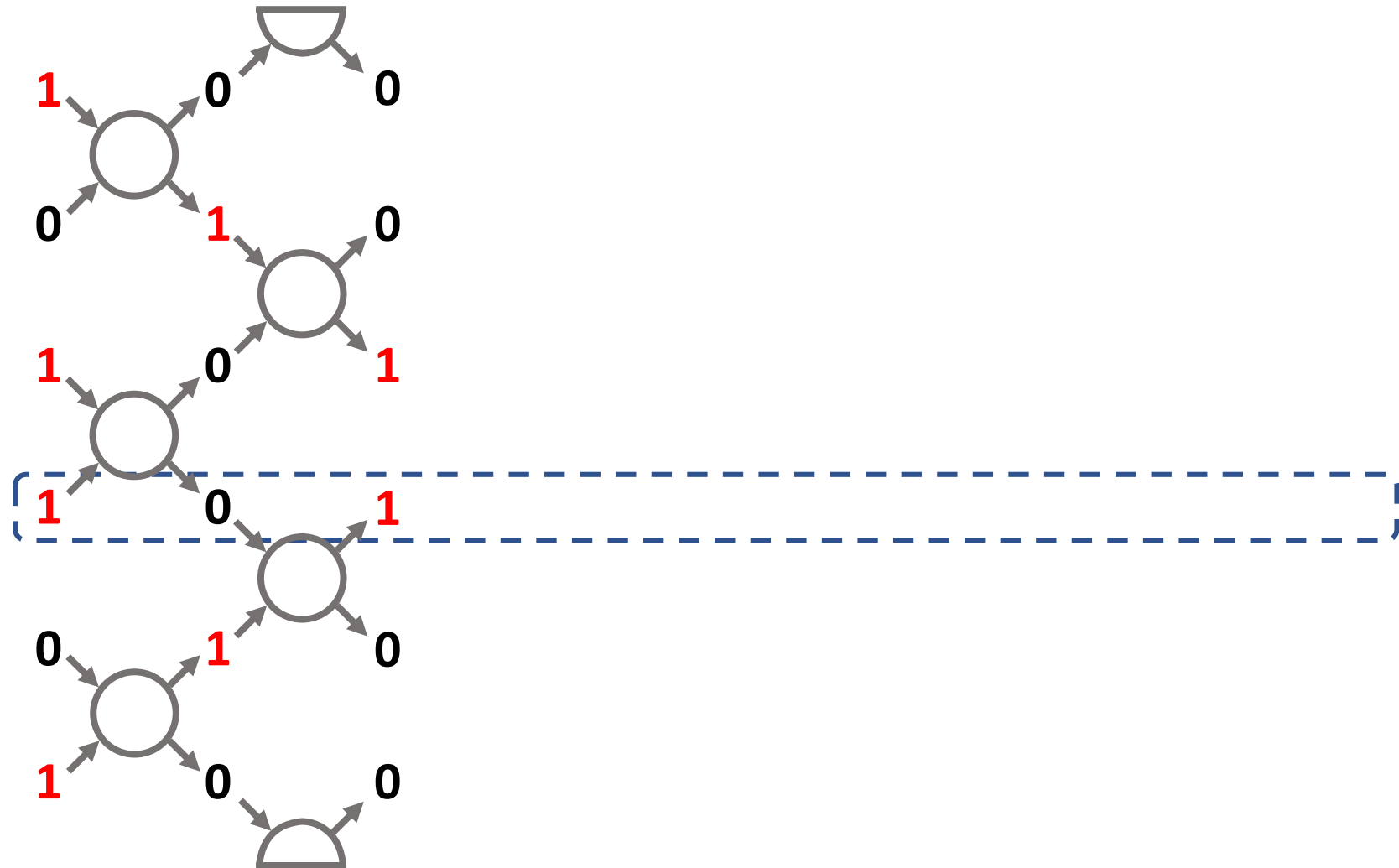
0

1

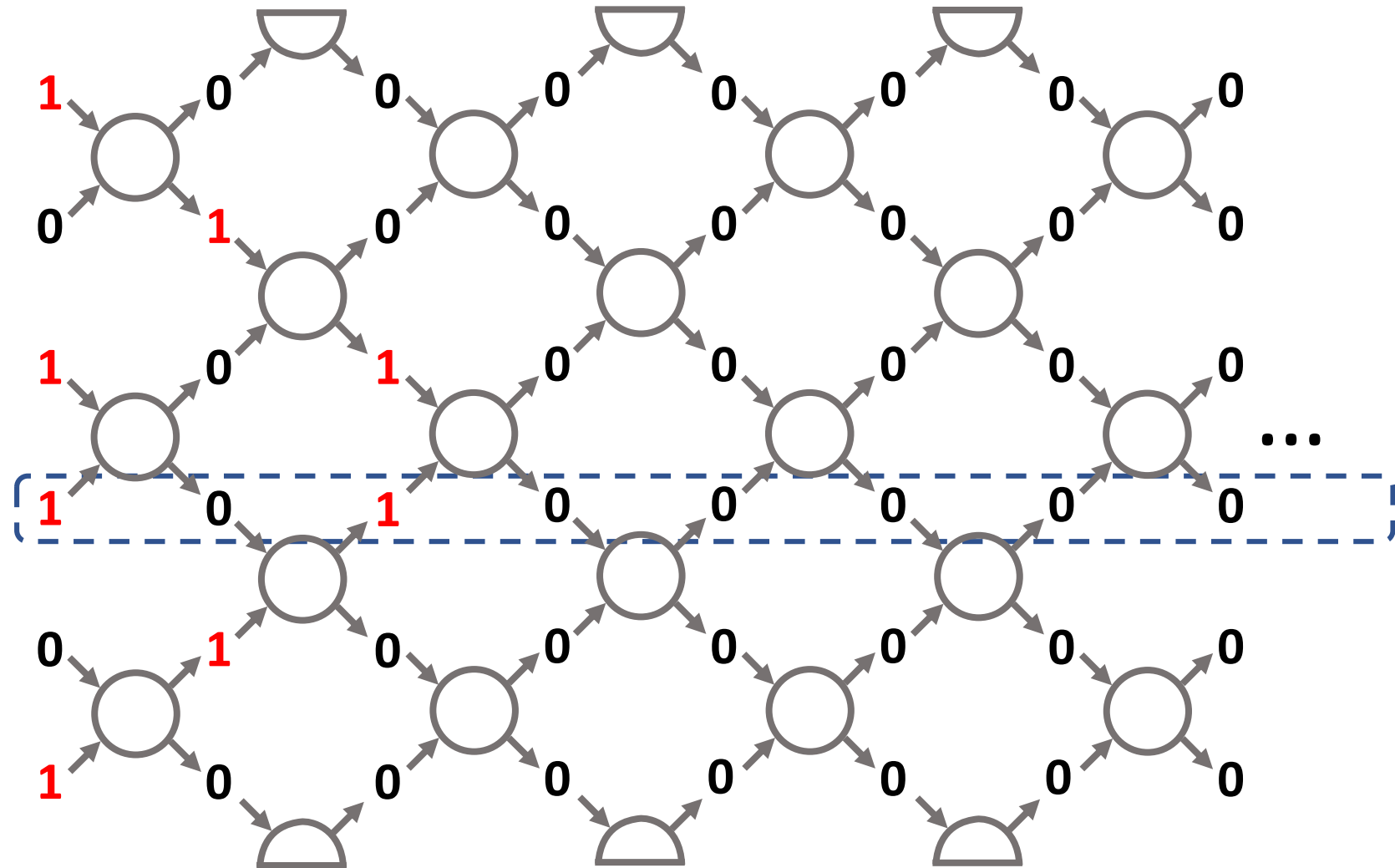
# Parity



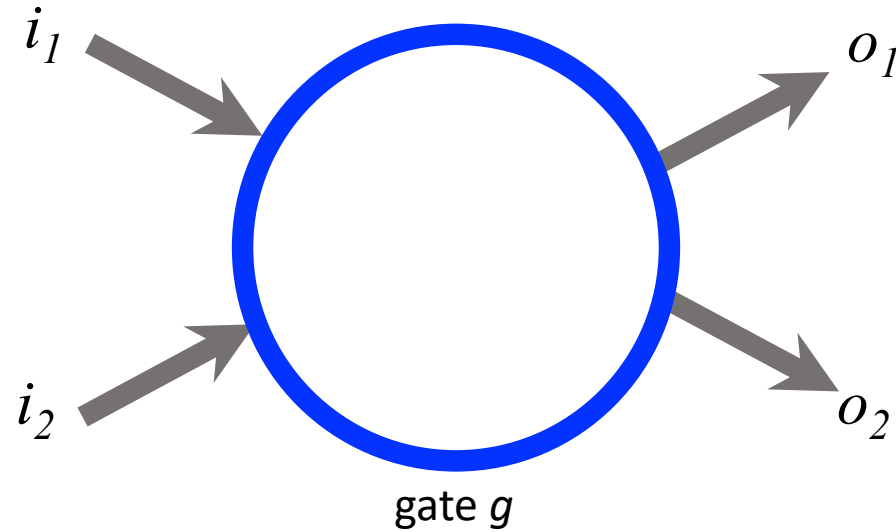
# Parity



# Parity

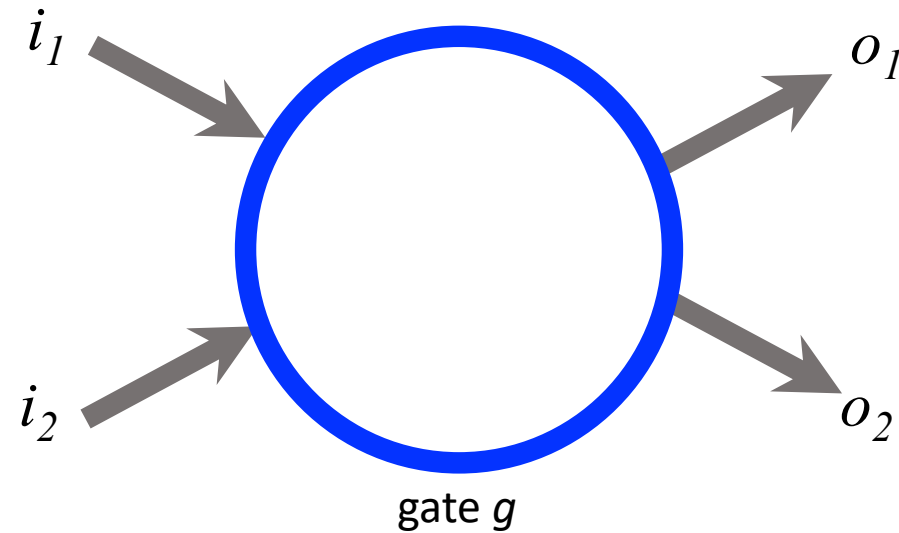


# Circuit model



**gate  $g$ :** function with two input bits  $i_1, i_2$   
and two output bits  $o_1, o_2$

# Circuit model

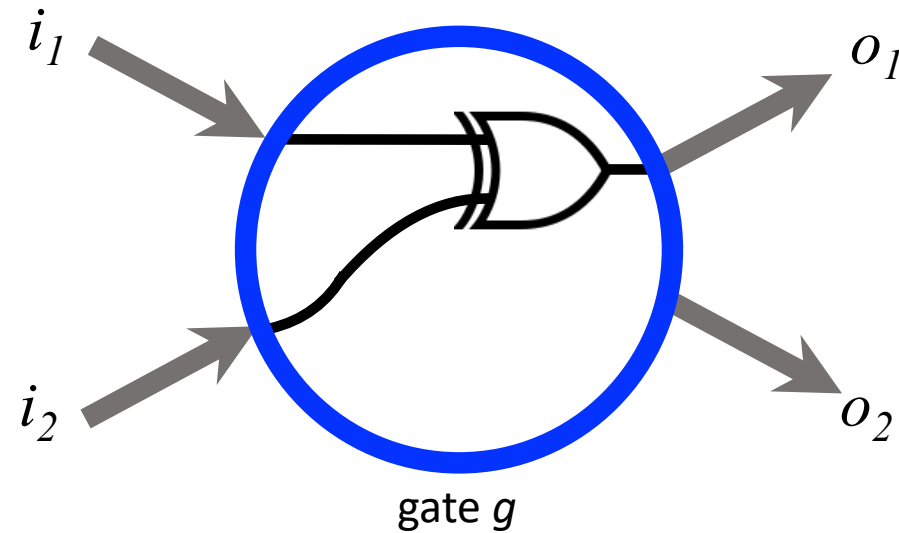


$g$  truth table

| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     |       |       |
| 0     | 1     |       |       |
| 1     | 0     |       |       |
| 1     | 1     |       |       |

**gate  $g$ :** function with two input bits  $i_1, i_2$   
and two output bits  $o_1, o_2$

# Circuit model

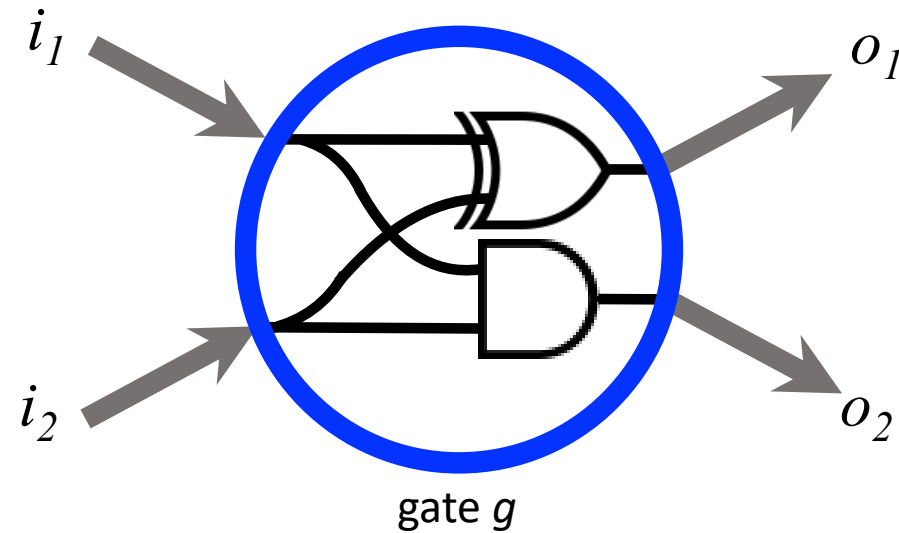


$g$  truth table

| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 0     | 0     |

**gate  $g$ :** function with two input bits  $i_1, i_2$   
and two output bits  $o_1, o_2$

# Circuit model

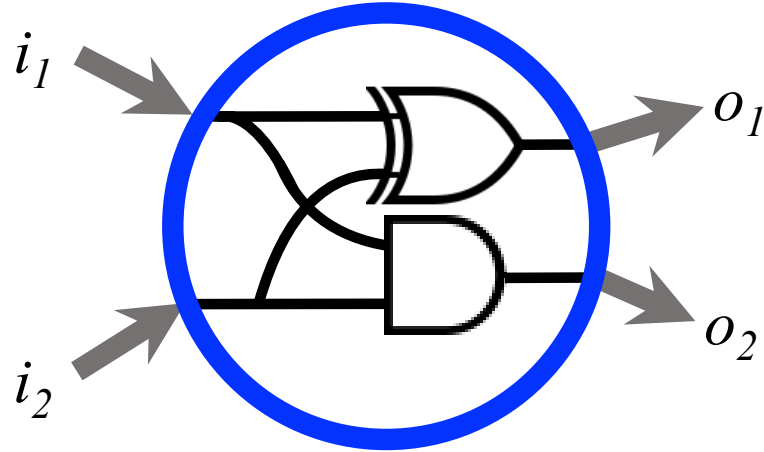


$g$  truth table

| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 0     | 1     |

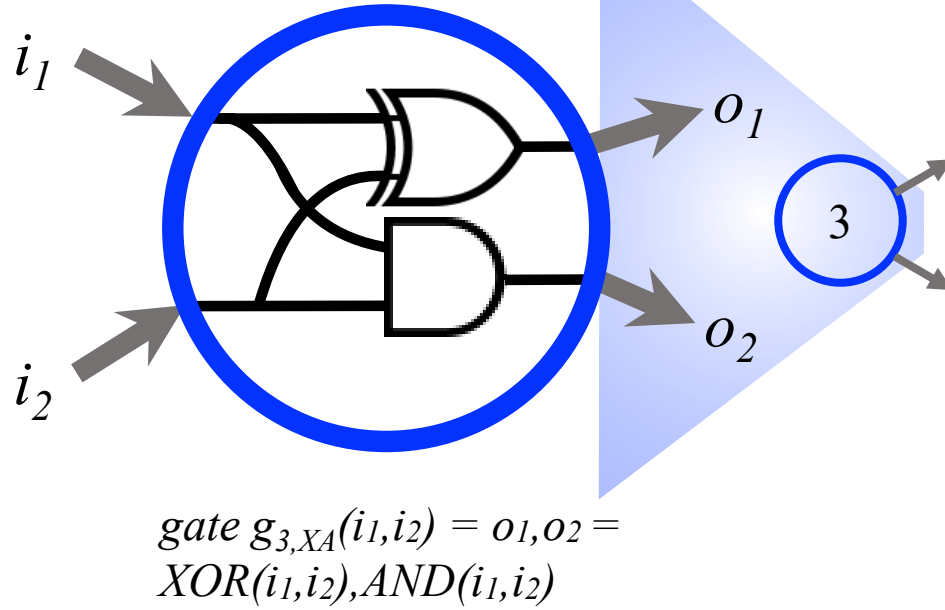
**gate  $g$ :** function with two input bits  $i_1, i_2$   
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# Circuit model

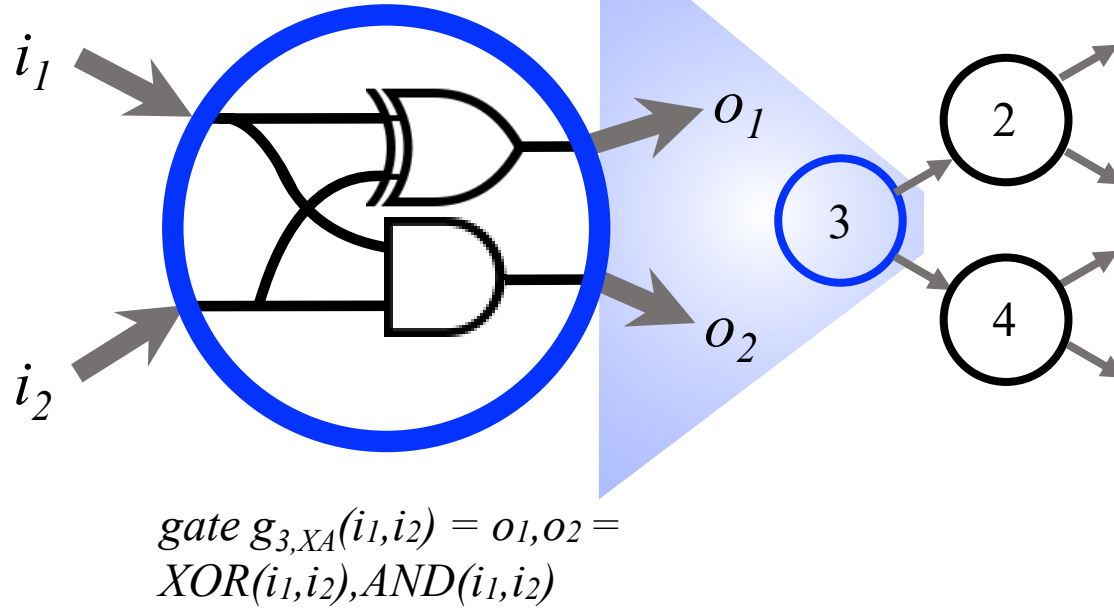


$gate\ g_{3,XA}(i_1,i_2) = o_1,o_2 =$   
 $XOR(i_1,i_2),AND(i_1,i_2)$

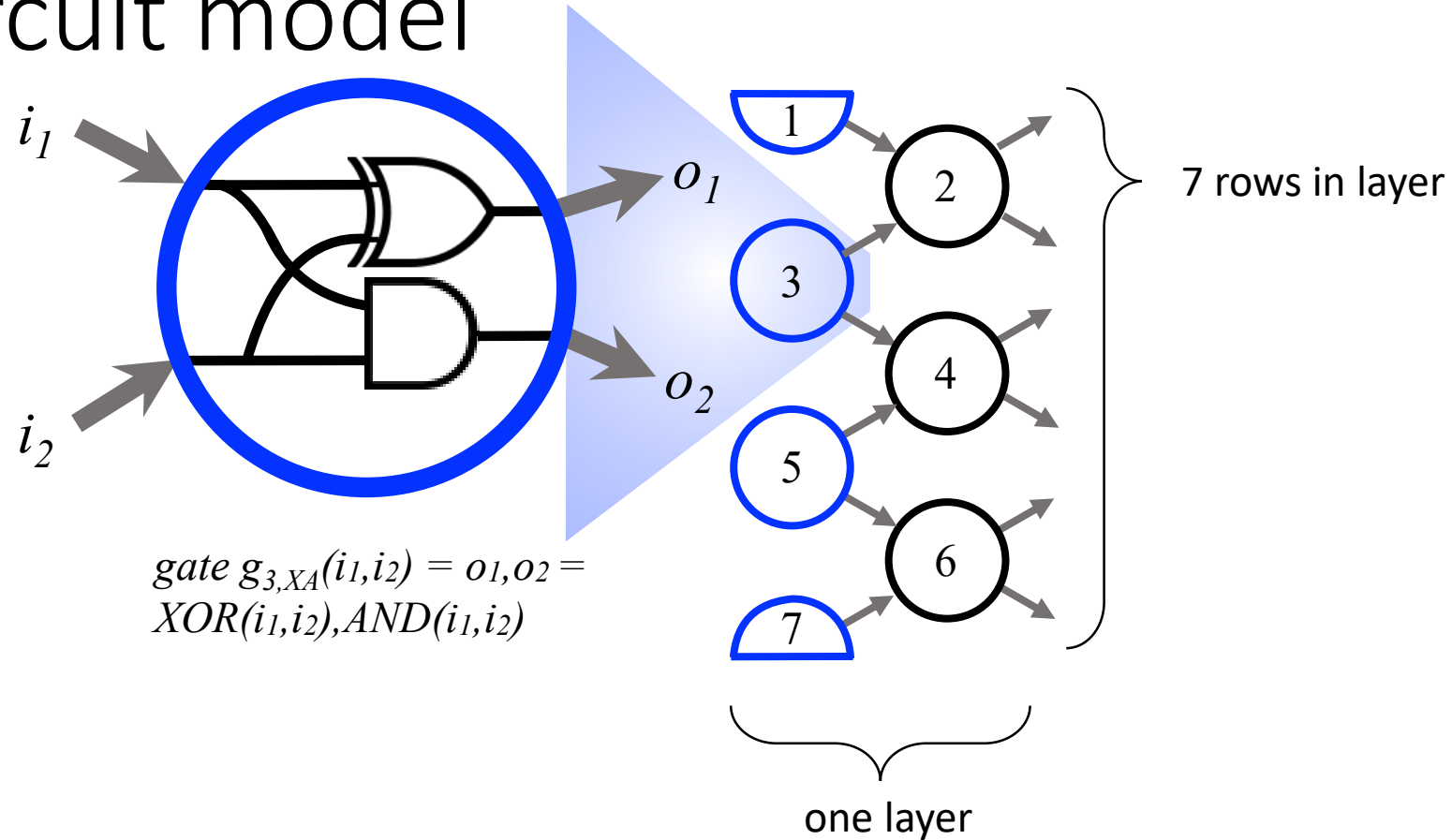
# Circuit model



# Circuit model

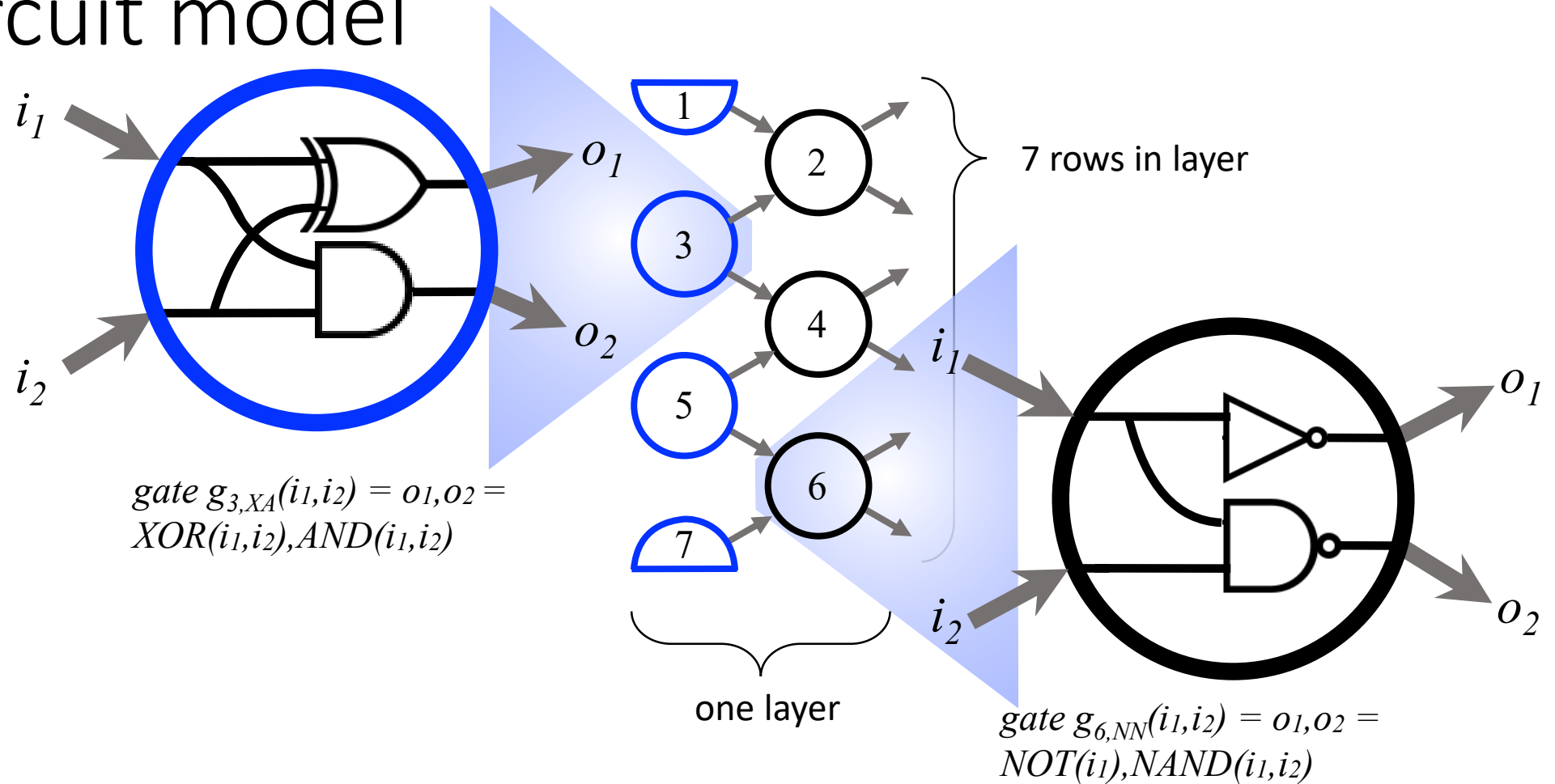


# Circuit model



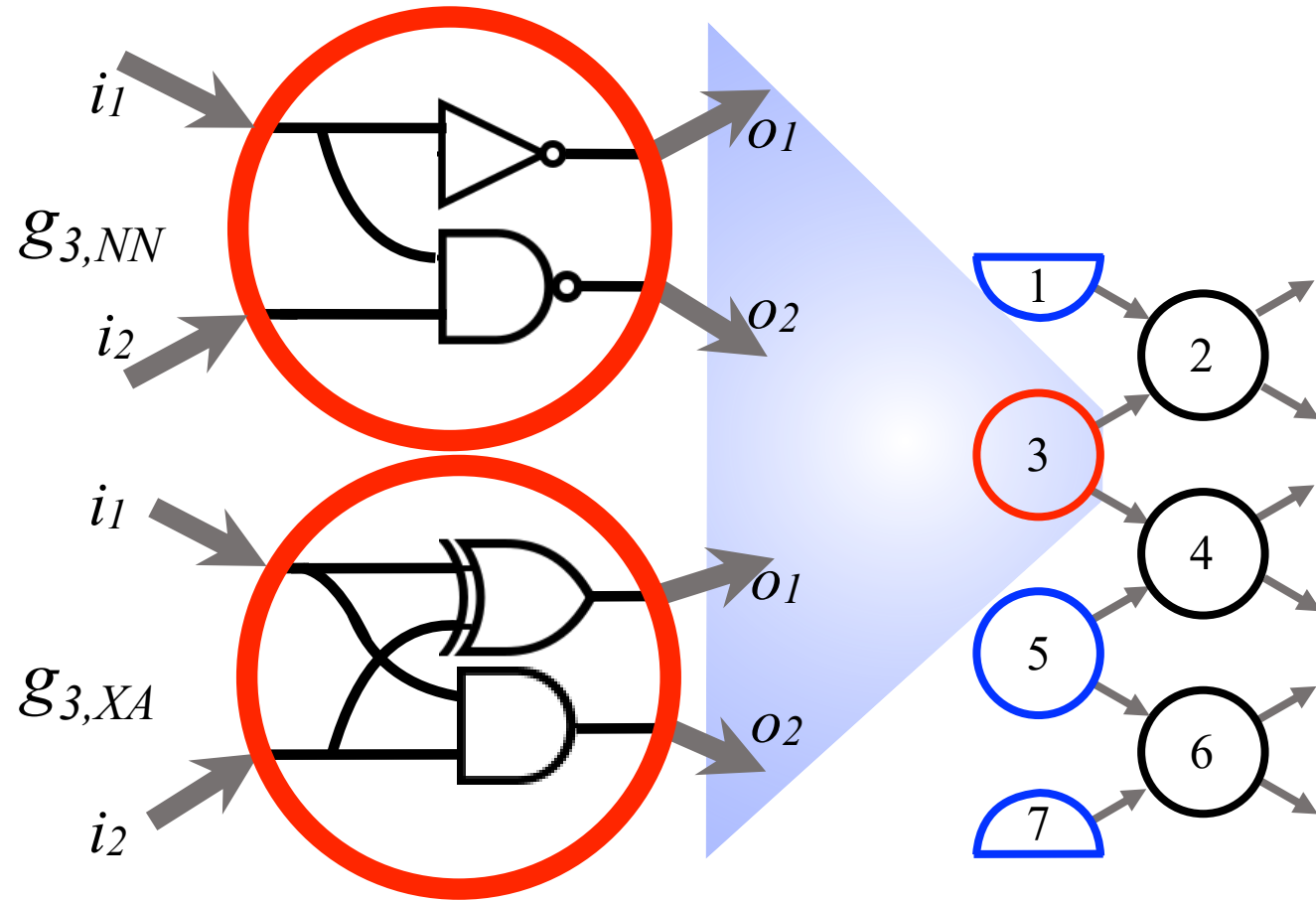
Gates organized into vertical layers consisting of many rows

# Circuit model



Gates organized into vertical layers consisting of many rows  
Possibly different gate types on different rows within a layer

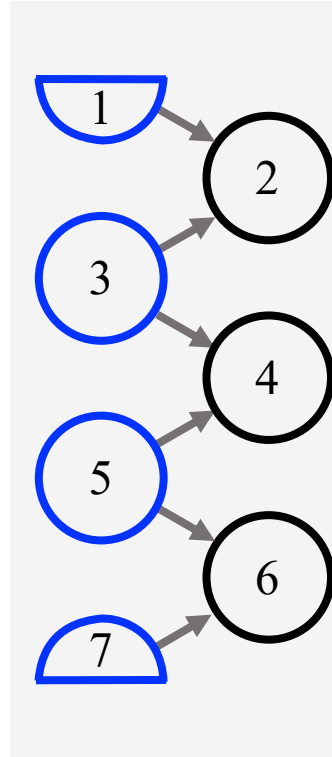
# Circuit model



**Randomization:** Each row may be assigned  $\geq 2$  gates, with associated probabilities, e.g.,  $\Pr[g_{3,NN}] = \Pr[g_{3,XA}] = \frac{1}{2}$

# Circuit model

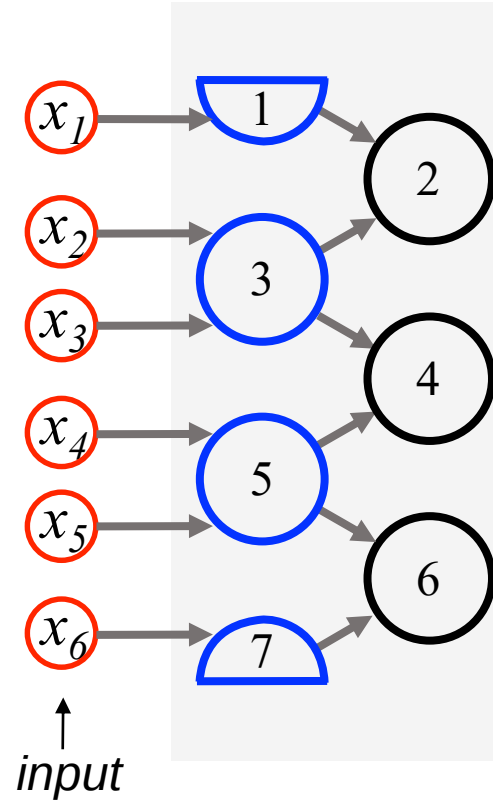
**Programmer** specifies  
layer: gates to go in  
each row



# Circuit model

**Programmer** specifies  
layer: gates to go in  
each row

**User** gives  $n$  input  
bits  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$

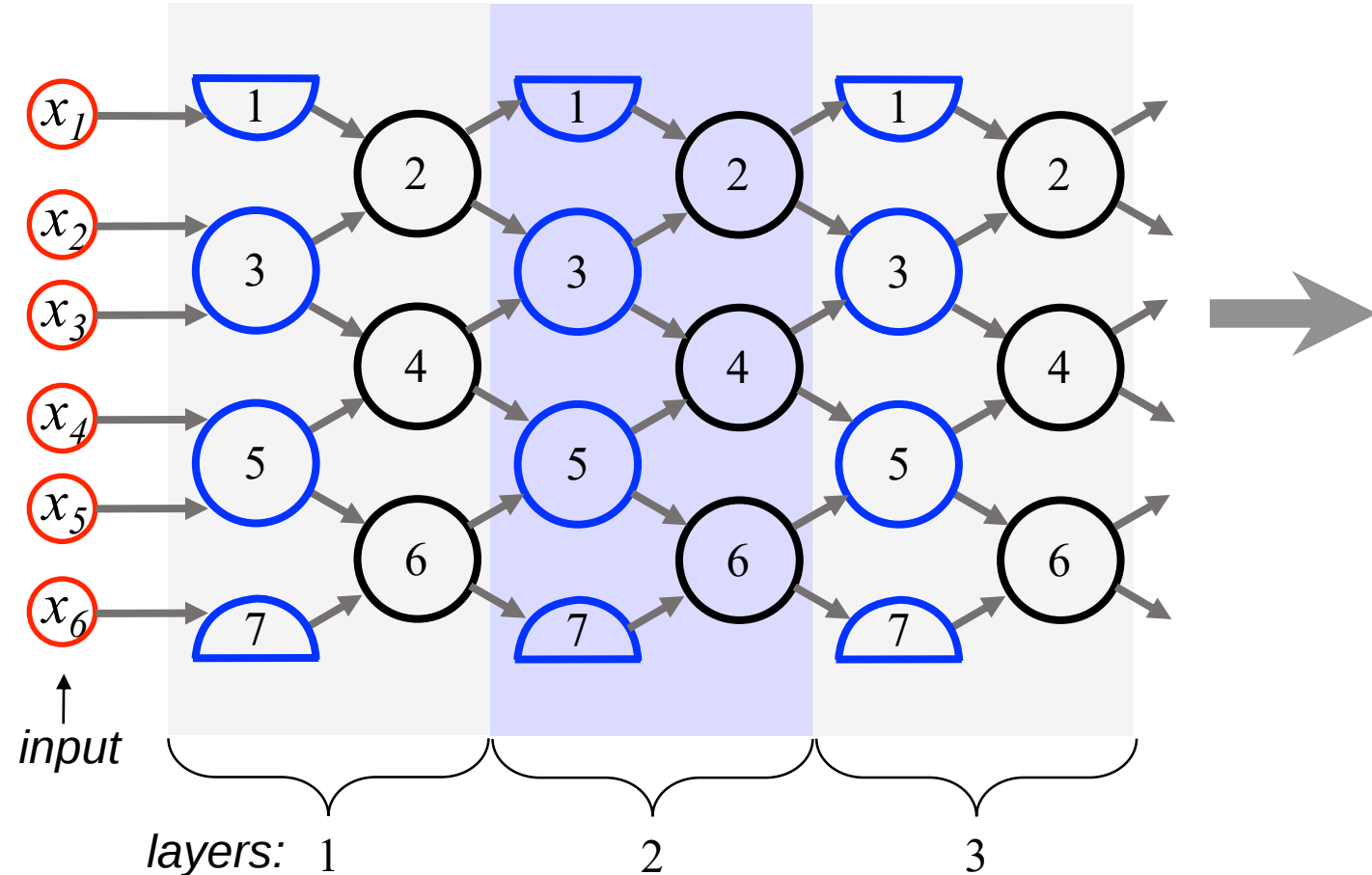


# Circuit model

**Programmer** specifies  
layer: gates to go in  
each row

**User** gives  $n$  input  
bits  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$

**Computation** flows  
from inputs to  
layers  $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow \dots$





US006331788B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Lyke**

(10) **Patent No.: US 6,331,788 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent: Dec. 18, 2001**

(54) **SIMPLIFIED CELLULAR ARRAY  
STRUCTURE FOR PROGRAMMABLE  
BOOLEAN NETWORKS**

6,114,873 \* 9/2000 Sahraoui et al. .... 326/39  
6,122,720 \* 9/2000 Cliff ..... 712/15  
6,215,327 \* 4/2001 Lyke ..... 326/41

(75) Inventor: **James C. Lyke**, Albuquerque, NM (US)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(73) Assignee: **The United States of America as  
represented by the Secretary of the  
Air Force**, Washington, DC (US)

Christopher Moore and Arthur A. Drisko, "Algebraic Properties of the Block Transformation of Cellular Automata", Complex Systems, vol. 10, No. 3, 1996, 185-194.

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

\* cited by examiner

(21) Appl. No.: **09/681,980**

Primary Examiner—Michael Tokar

(22) Filed: **Jul. 3, 2001**

Assistant Examiner—Don Phu Le

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Kenneth E. Callahan

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... **H03K 19/177**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(52) U.S. Cl. .... **326/39; 326/41**

(58) Field of Search ..... **326/37-41**

PRS07010 A simplified implementation of molecular field programmable gate arrays described in U.S. Pat. No. 6,215,327, reducing the complexity of a single site in a tiled array template to that of a 2-input lookup table.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

6,069,490 \* 5/2000 Ochotta et al. .... 326/41

**2 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets**

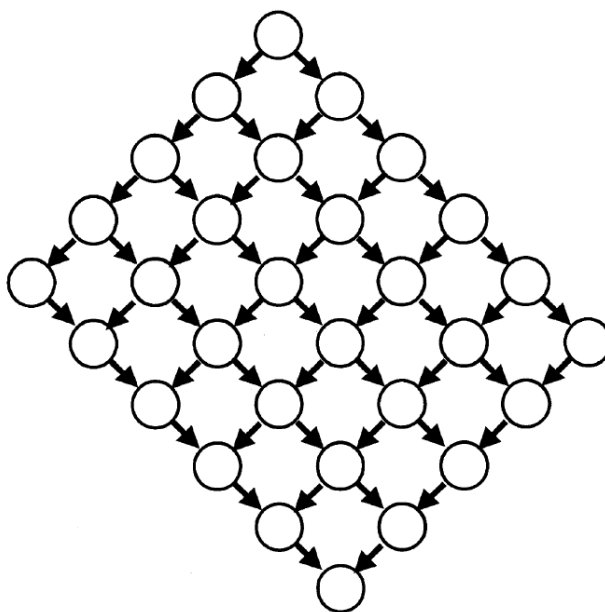
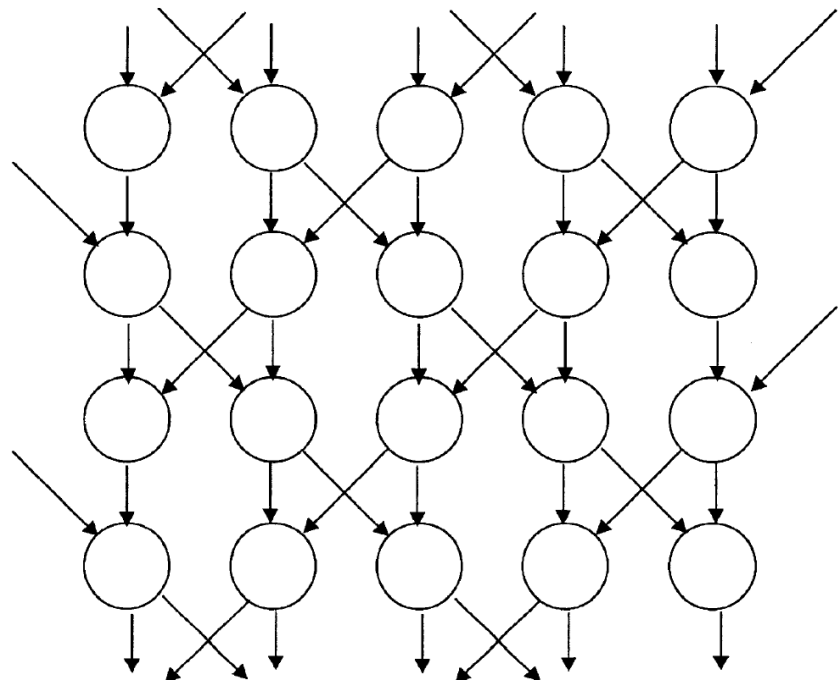


FIG. 9

# Scooped?

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to field programmable gate array circuits used in digital circuit design, and in particular, to a simplified architectural design for their implementation on a molecular level related to U.S. Pat. No. 6,215,327.

U.S. Patent

Dec. 18, 2001

Sheet 9 of 11

US 6,331,788 B1

U.S. Patent

Dec. 18, 2001

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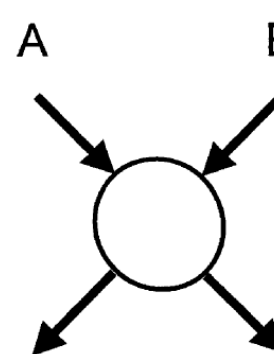


FIG. 10a

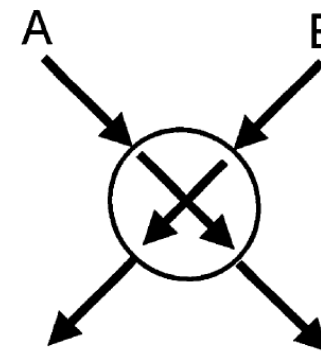


FIG. 10b

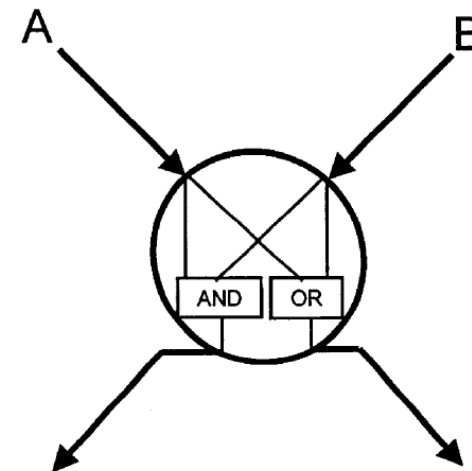


FIG. 10c



US006331788B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Lyke**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,331,788 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 18, 2001**

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(75) Inventor: **James C. Lyke, Albuquerque, NM (US)**

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Christopher Moore and Arthur A. Drisko, "Algebraic Prop-  
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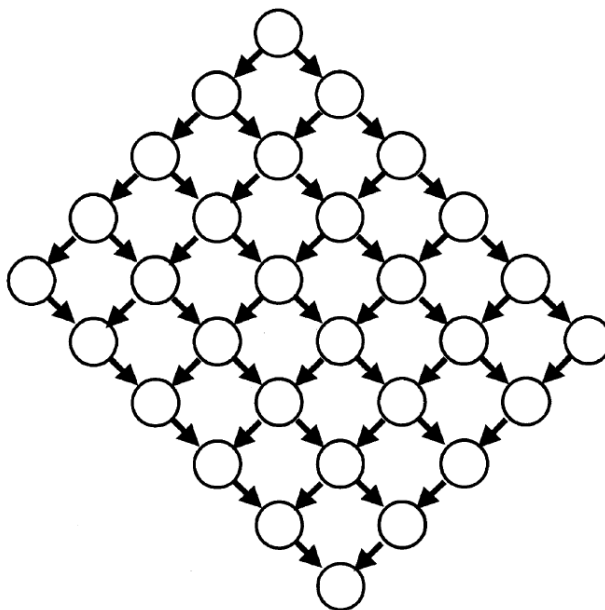
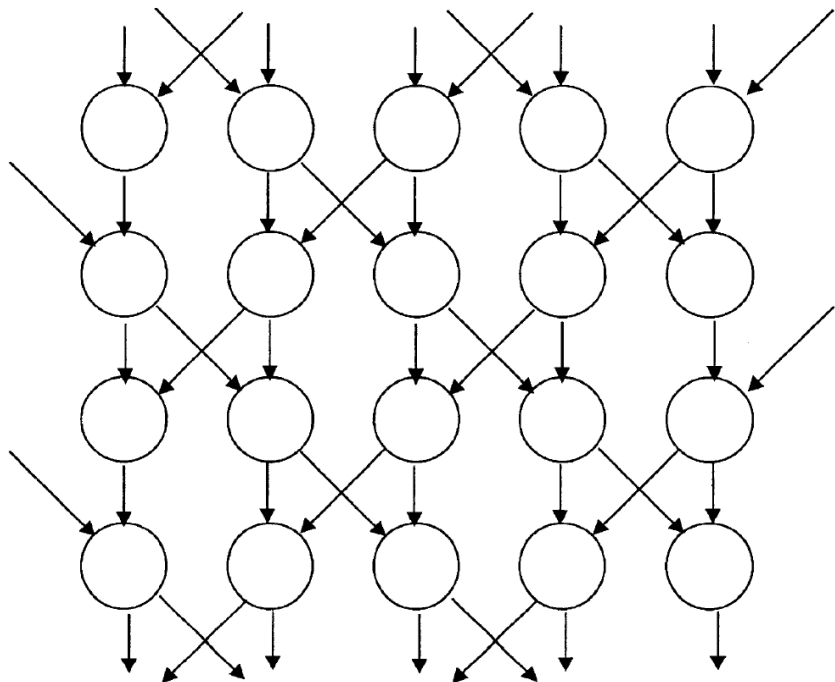


FIG. 9

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U.S. Patent

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Sheet 9 of 11

US 6,331,788 B1

U.S. Patent

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Sheet 10 of 11

US 6,331,788 B1

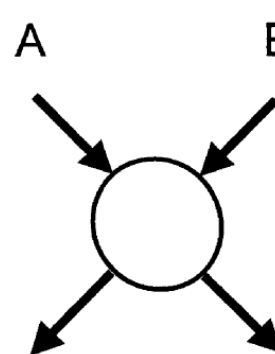


FIG. 10a

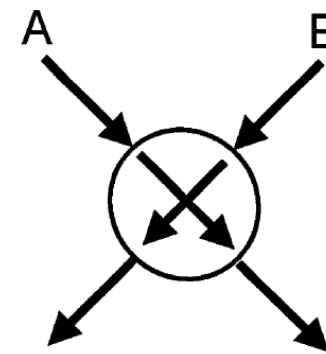


FIG. 10b

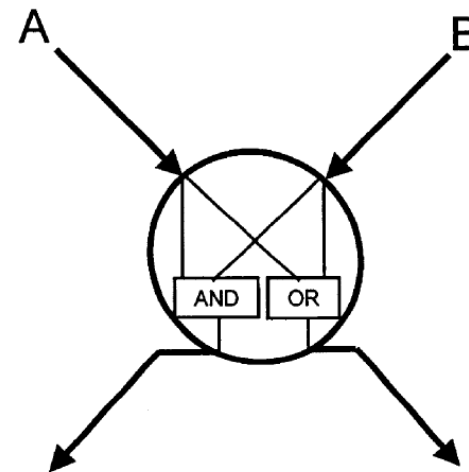


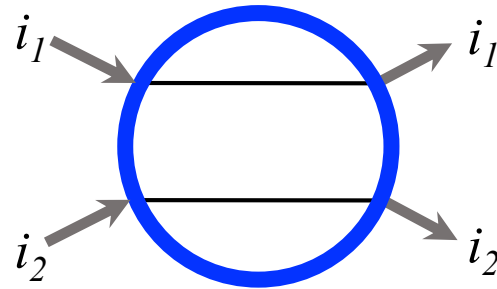
FIG. 10c

# Example circuits with same gate in every row

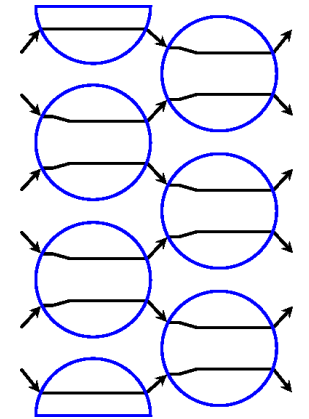
COPY



COPY gates

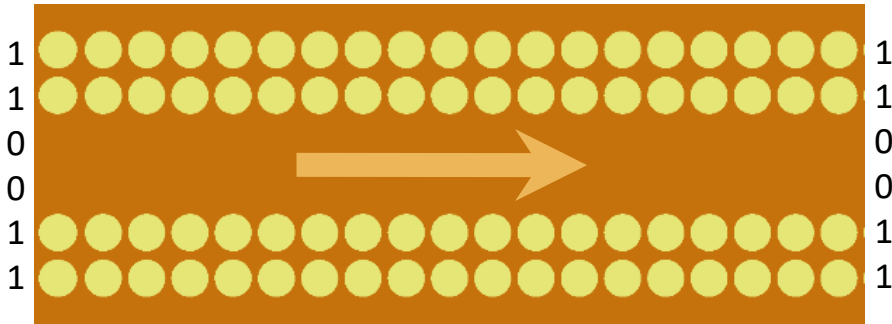


| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 0     | 1     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |

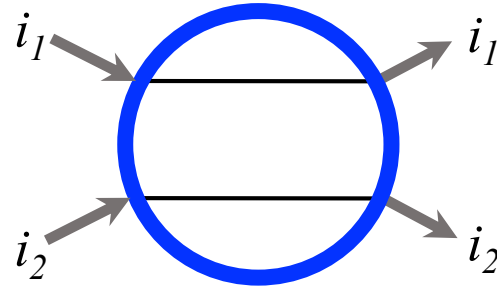


# Example circuits with same gate in every row

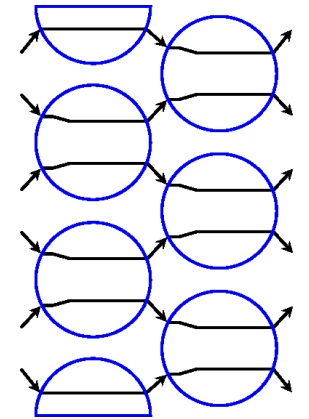
COPY



COPY gates

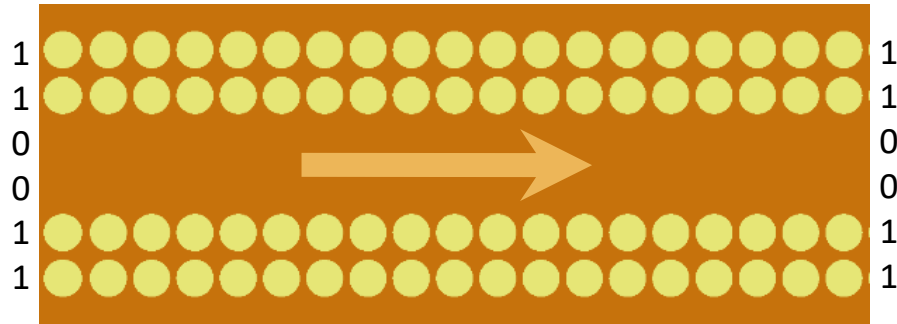


| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 0     | 1     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |

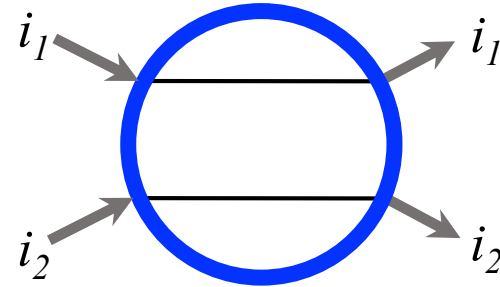


# Example circuits with same gate in every row

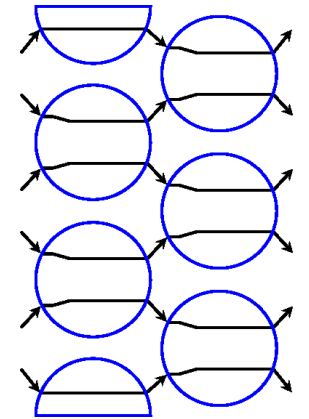
## COPY



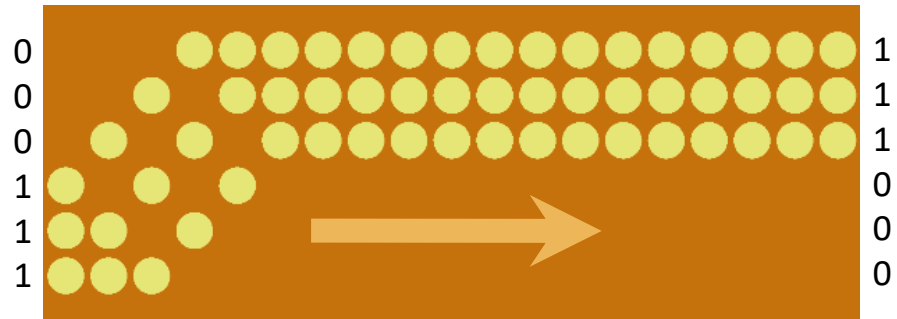
### COPY gates



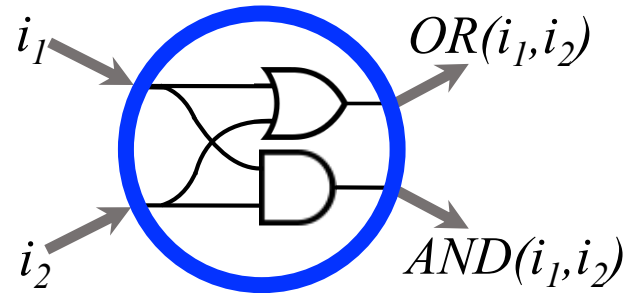
| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 0     | 1     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |



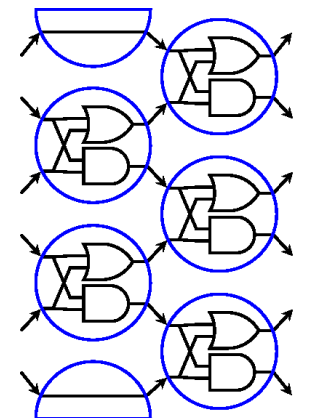
## SORTING



### SORTING gates

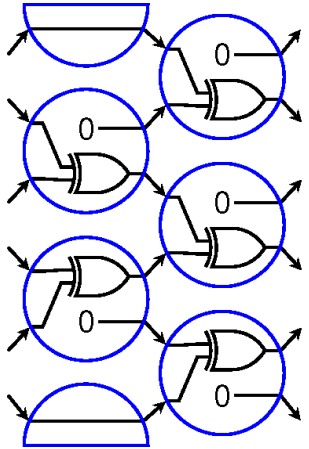


| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 1     | 1     |



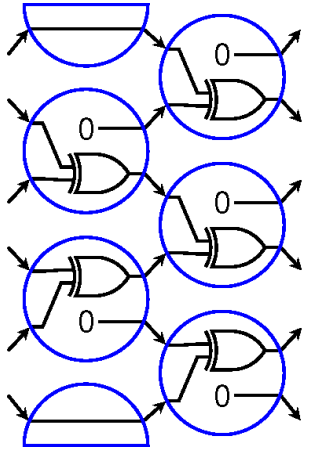
# Example circuits with different gates in each row

PARITY



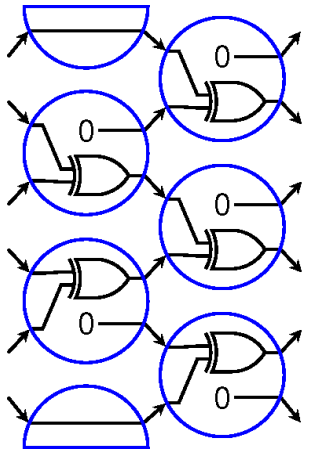
# Example circuits with different gates in each row

PARITY

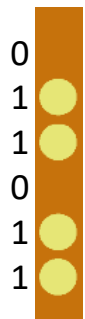
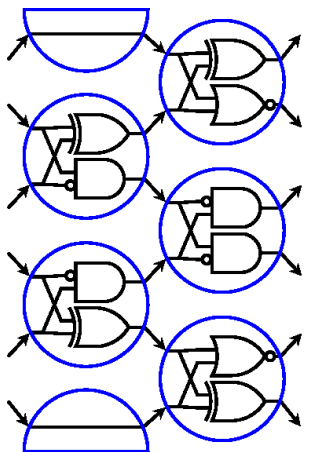


# Example circuits with different gates in each row

PARITY



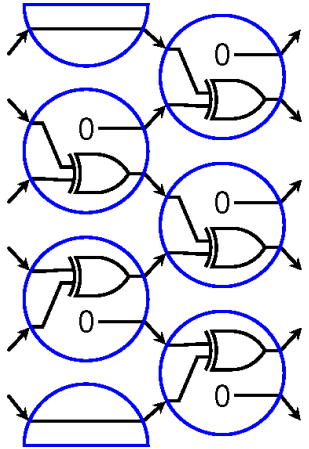
MULTIPLEOF3



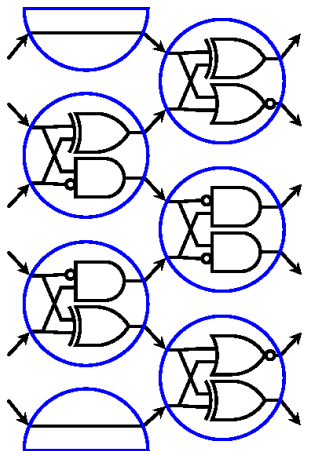
011011<sub>2</sub>

# Example circuits with different gates in each row

## PARITY



## MULTIPLEOF3

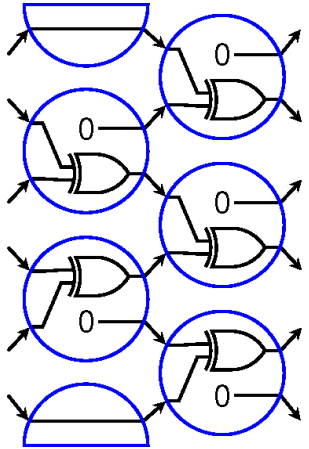


$$011011_2 = 27_{10} = 3 \cdot 9$$

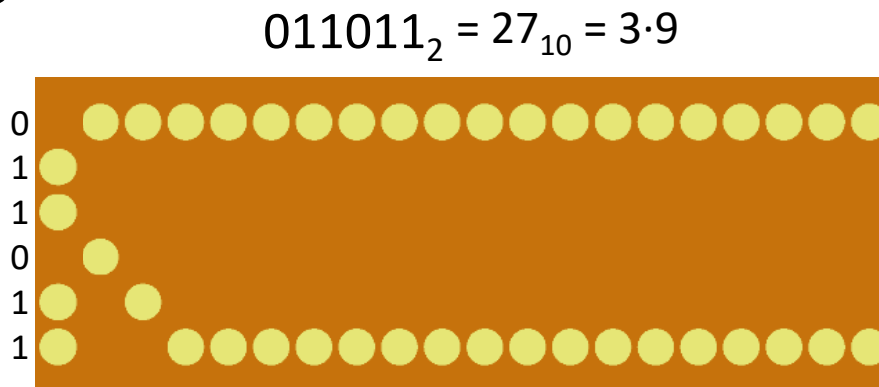
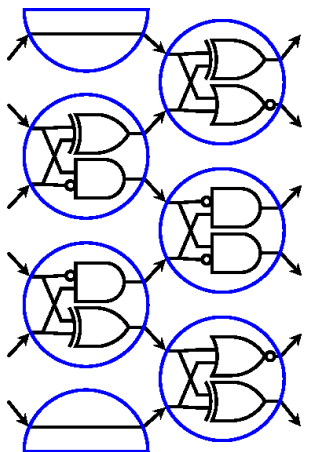


# Example circuits with different gates in each row

## PARITY



## MULTIPLEOF3



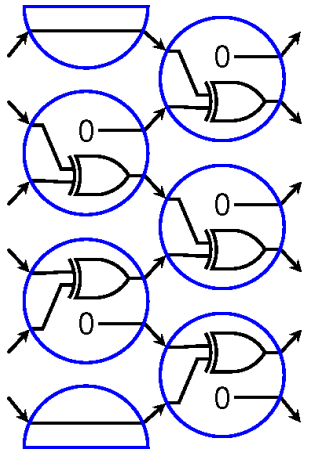
$$011011_2 = 27_{10} = 3 \cdot 9$$

$$111011_2$$

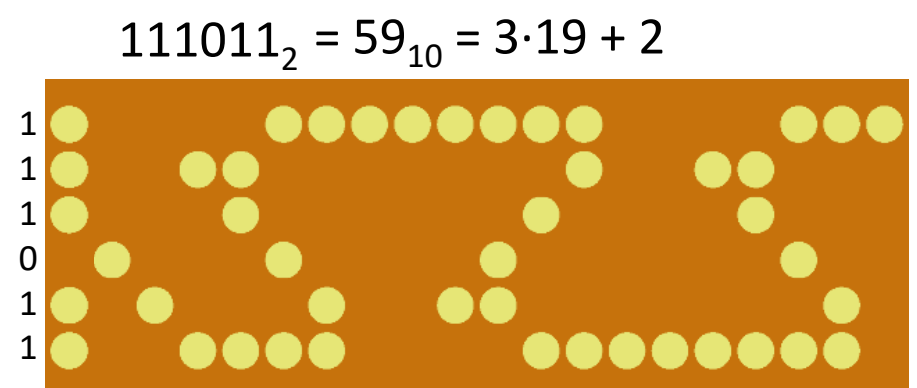
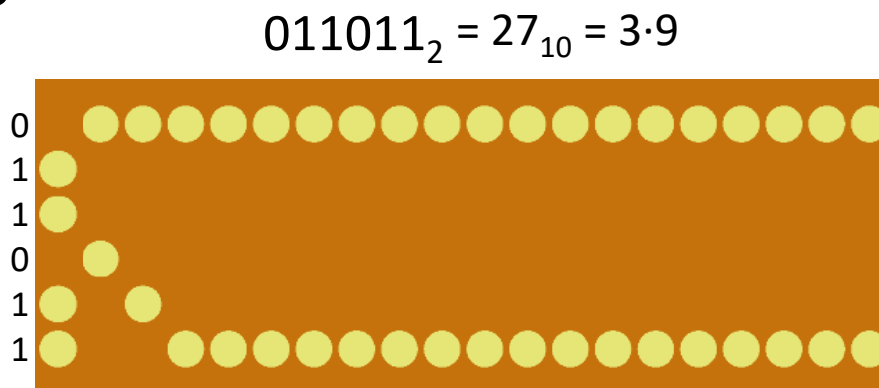
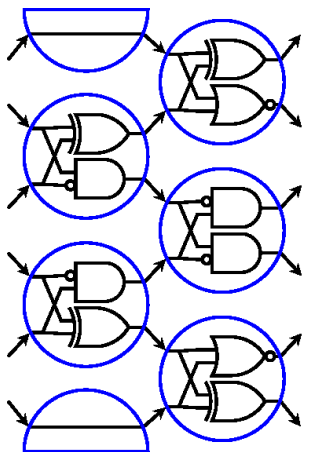


# Example circuits with different gates in each row

PARITY

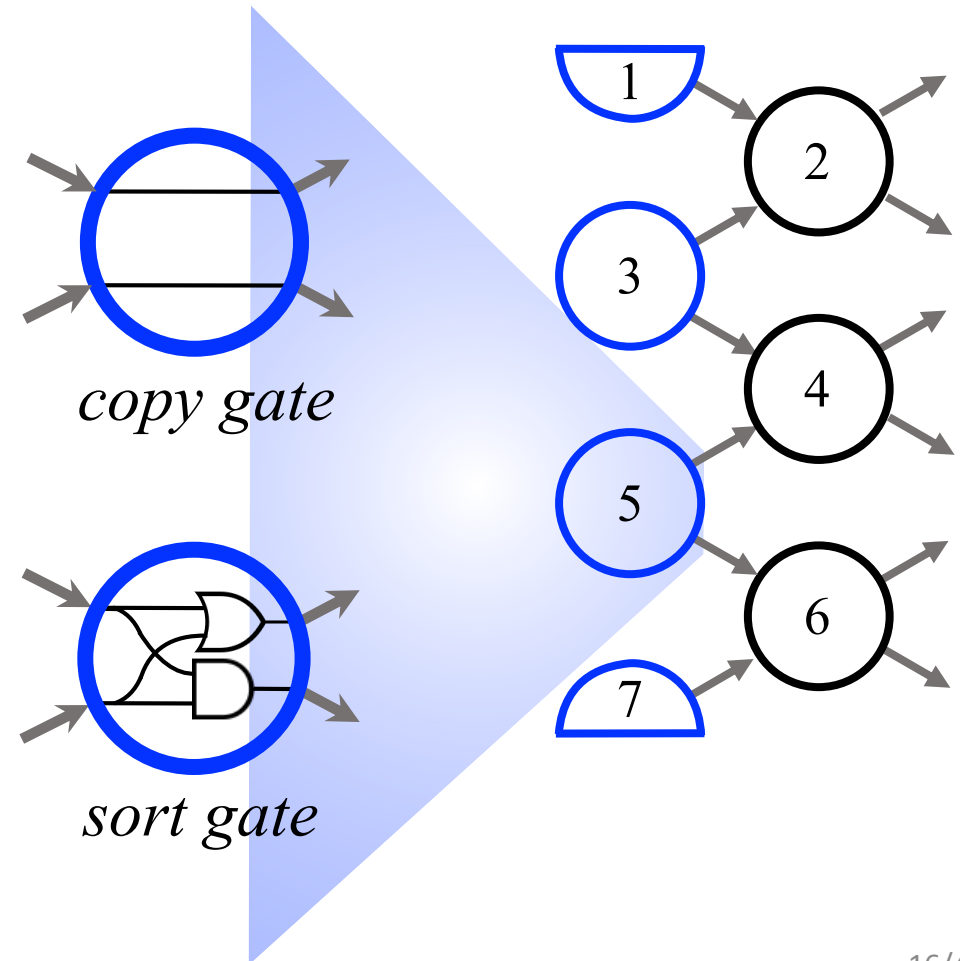


MULTIPLEOF3

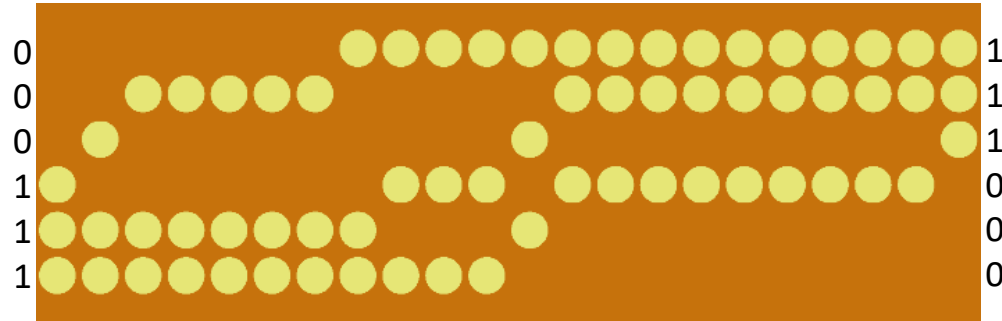


# Randomization: “Lazy” sorting

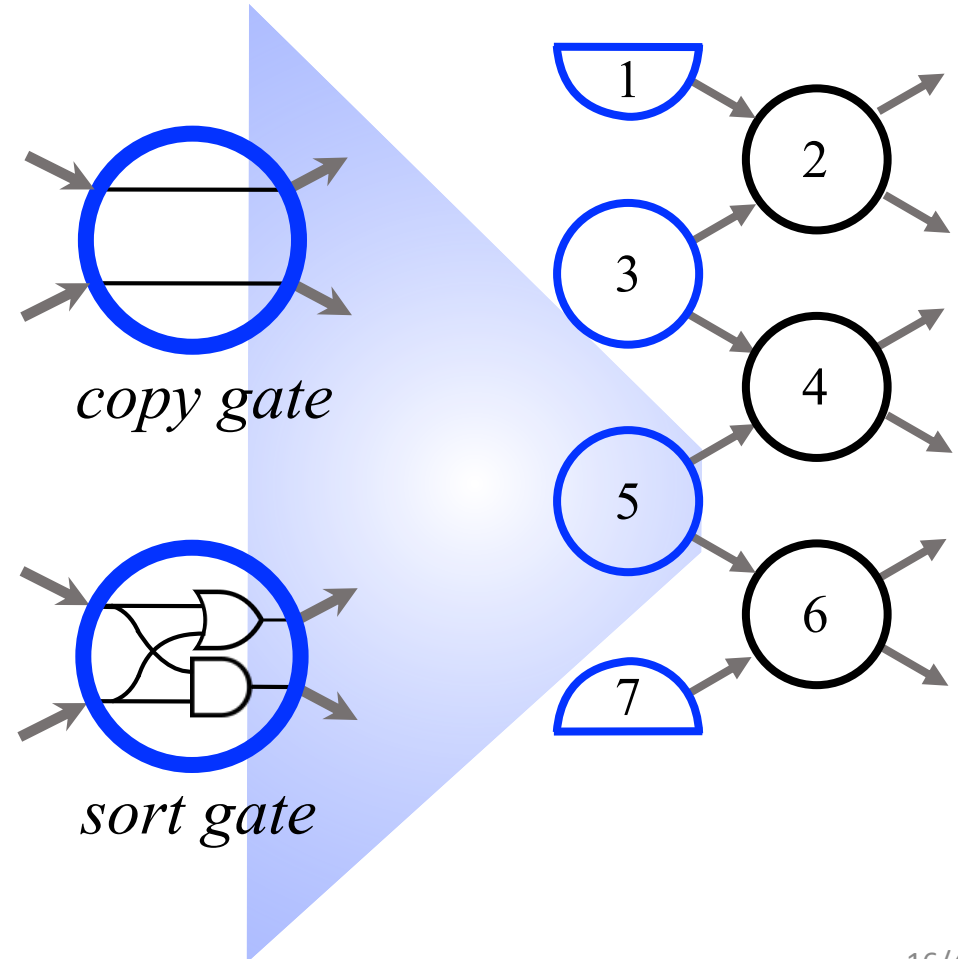
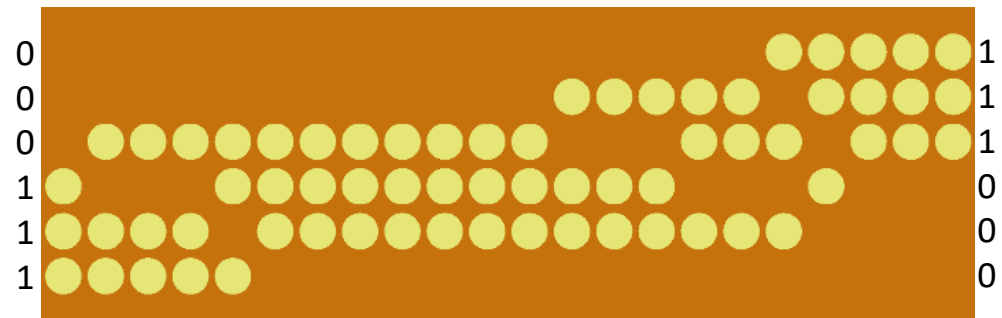
If 1 and 0 out of order, flip a coin to decide whether to swap them.



# Randomization: “Lazy” sorting



If 1 and 0 out of order, flip a coin to decide whether to swap them.

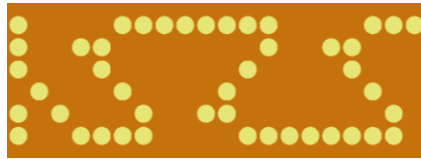


# Deterministic circuits

PARITY



MULTIPLEOF3



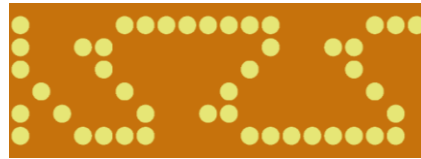
answer yes/no question

# Deterministic circuits

PARITY



MULTIPLEOF3



PALINDROME



yes



no

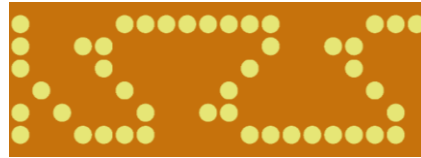
answer yes/no question

# Deterministic circuits

PARITY



MULTIPLEOF3



PALINDROME

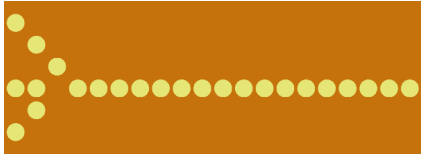


answer yes/no question

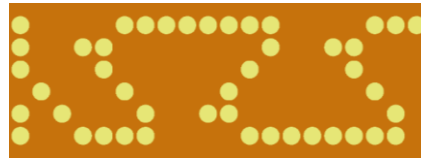


# Deterministic circuits

PARITY



MULTIPLEOF3



PALINDROME

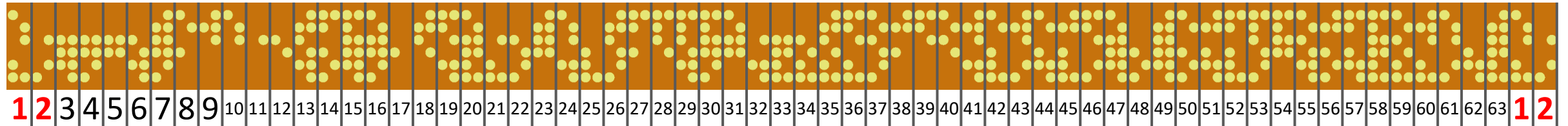


answer yes/no question



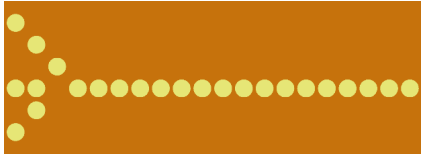
CYCLE63

"count" as high as possible

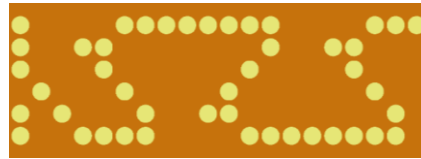


# Deterministic circuits

PARITY



MULTIPLEOF3



PALINDROME

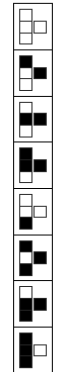
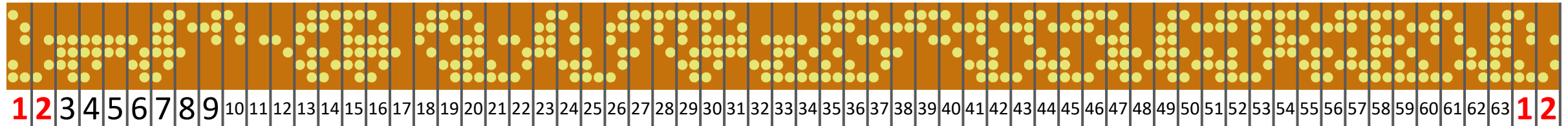


answer yes/no question



CYCLE63

"count" as high as possible

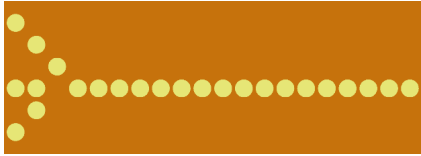


RULE110

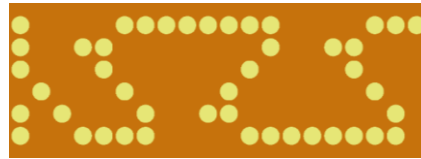
simulate cellular automata

# Deterministic circuits

PARITY



MULTIPLEOF3



PALINDROME

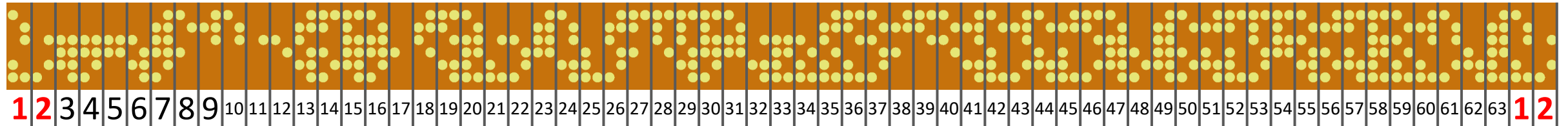


answer yes/no question



CYCLE63

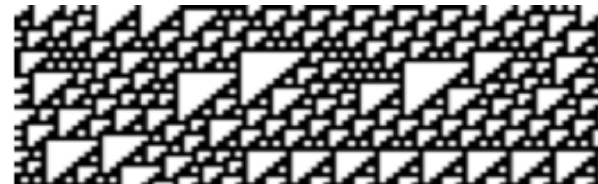
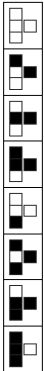
"count" as high as possible



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 1 2

RULE110

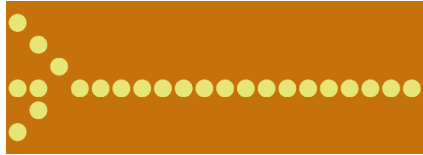
simulate cellular automata



time →

# Deterministic circuits

PARITY



MULTIPLEOF3



PALINDROME

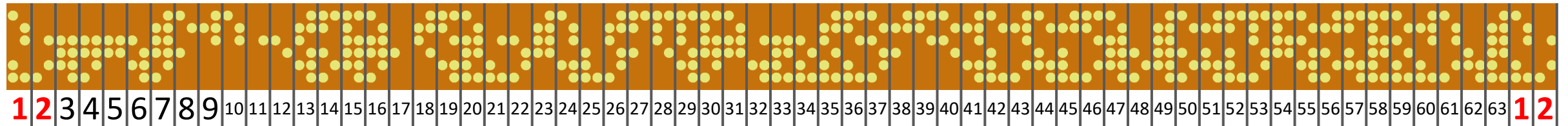


answer yes/no question



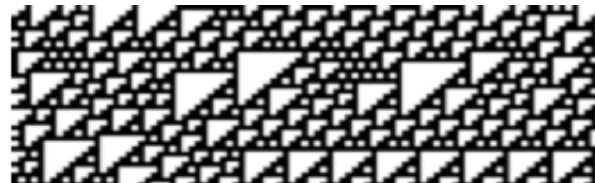
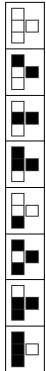
CYCLE63

“count” as high as possible

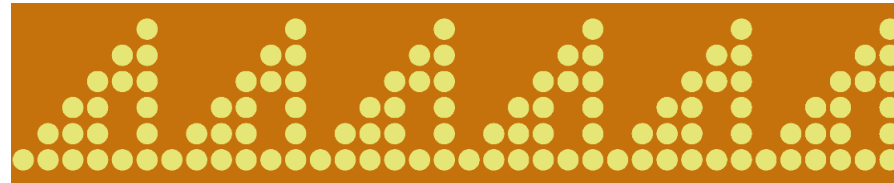


RULE110

simulate cellular automata



time →



**Theorem:** Rule 110 can efficiently execute any algorithm.

[Cook, Complex Systems 2004]

[Neary, Woods, ICALP 2006]

# Randomized circuits

LAZYPARITY

# Randomized circuits

LAZYPARITY



# Randomized circuits

LAZYPARITY



RANDOMWALKINGBIT



# Randomized circuits

LAZYPARITY



RANDOMWALKINGBIT



DIAMONDSAREFOREVER



# Randomized circuits

LAZYPARITY



RANDOMWALKINGBIT



DIAMONDSAREFOREVER



FAIRCOIN

use biased coin to  
simulate unbiased coin



# Randomized circuits

LAZYPARITY



RANDOMWALKINGBIT



DIAMONDSAREFOREVER

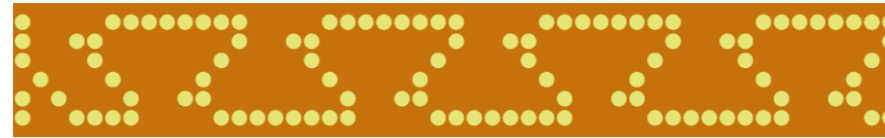
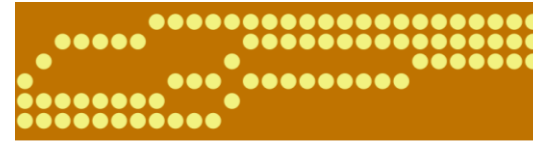


FAIRCOIN

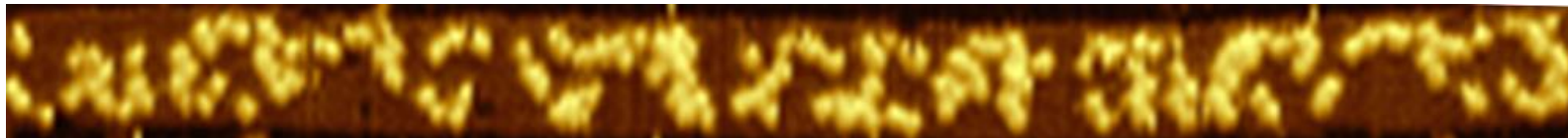
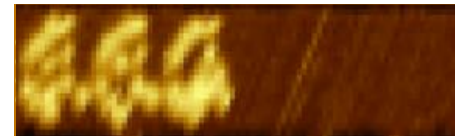
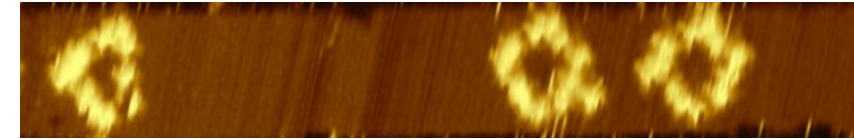
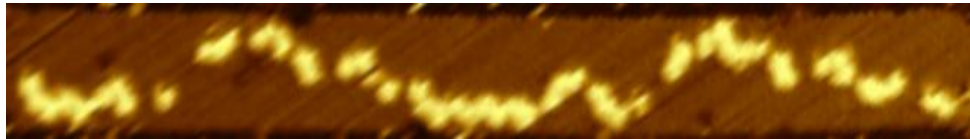
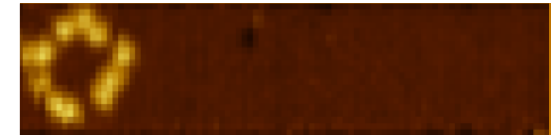
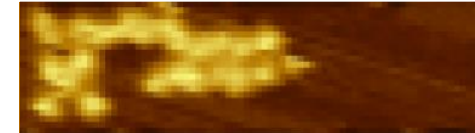
use biased coin to  
simulate unbiased coin

$$\Pr \left[ \text{circuit diagram} \right] = \Pr \left[ \text{circuit diagram} \right] = \frac{1}{2}$$

for **any** (positive) probabilities for the randomized gate



100 nm



# Hierarchy of abstractions

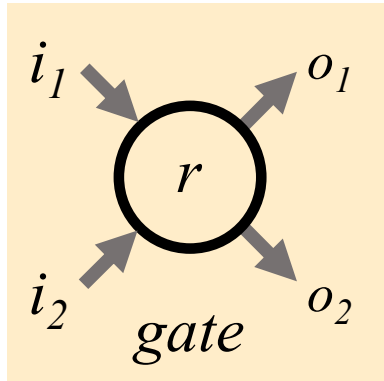
Bits: Boolean circuits compute

➔ **Tiles: Tile self-assembly implements circuits**

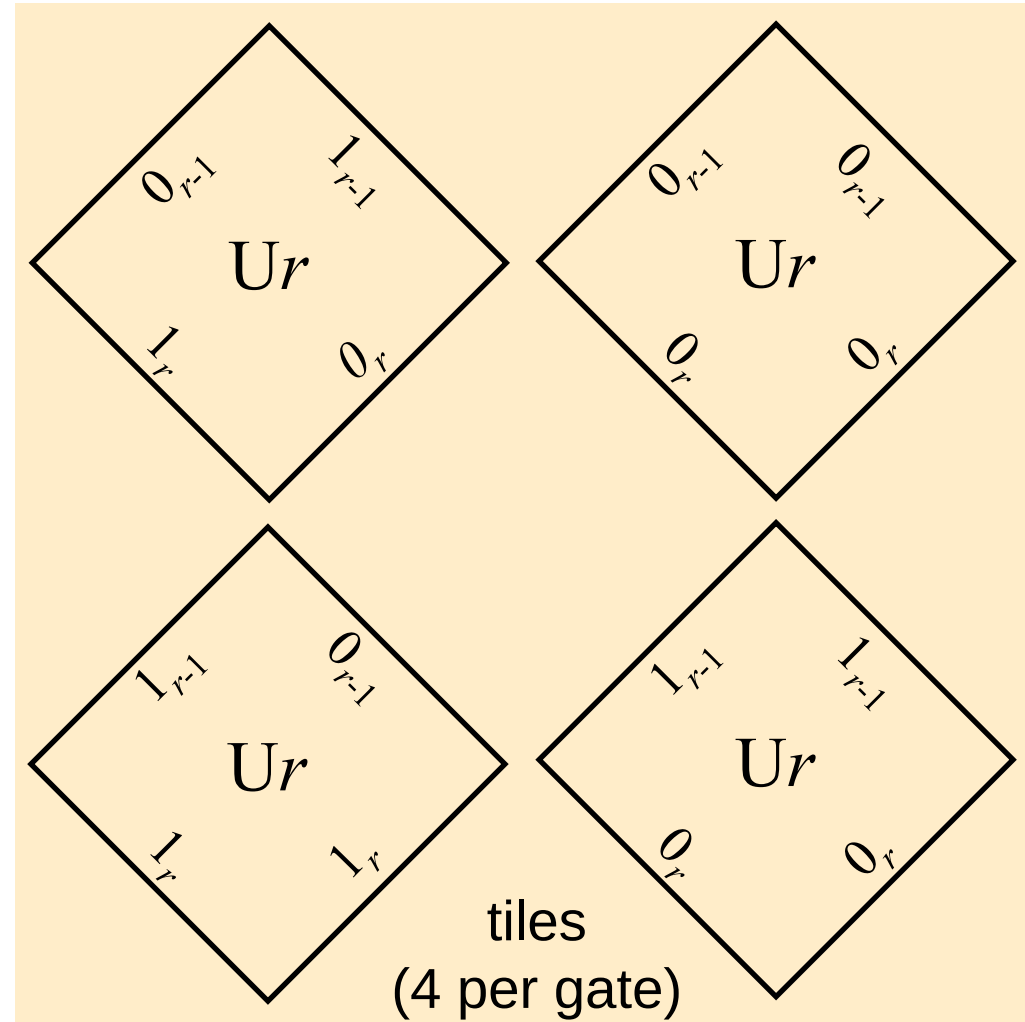
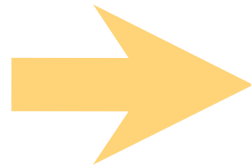
DNA: DNA strands implement tiles

# Gates $\rightarrow$ Tiles

## 1. Compile gates to tiles

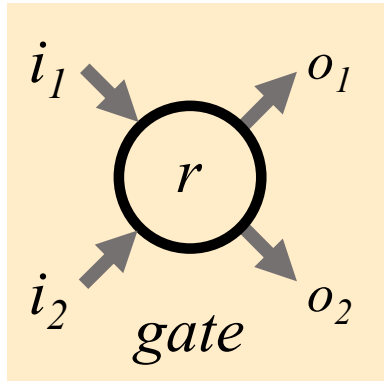


| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 0     | 1     |



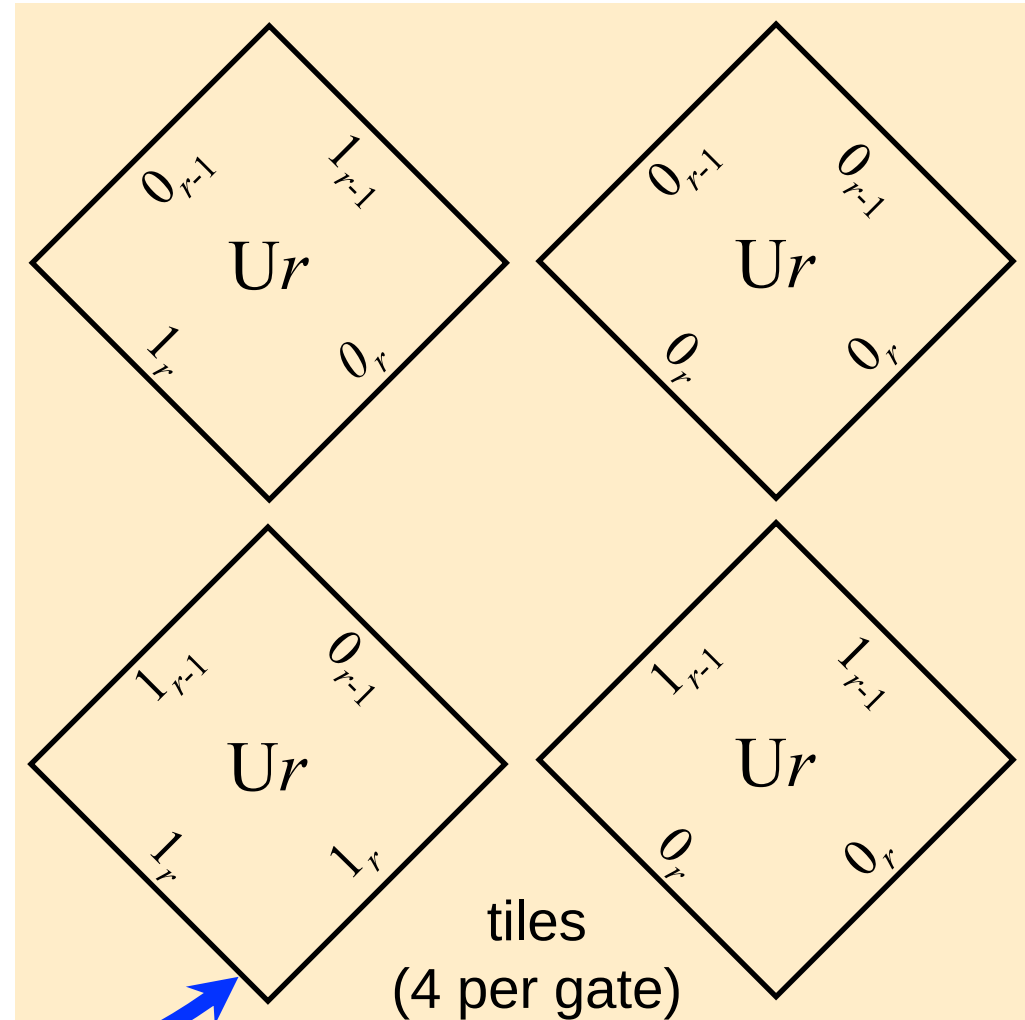
# Gates $\rightarrow$ Tiles

## 1. Compile gates to tiles



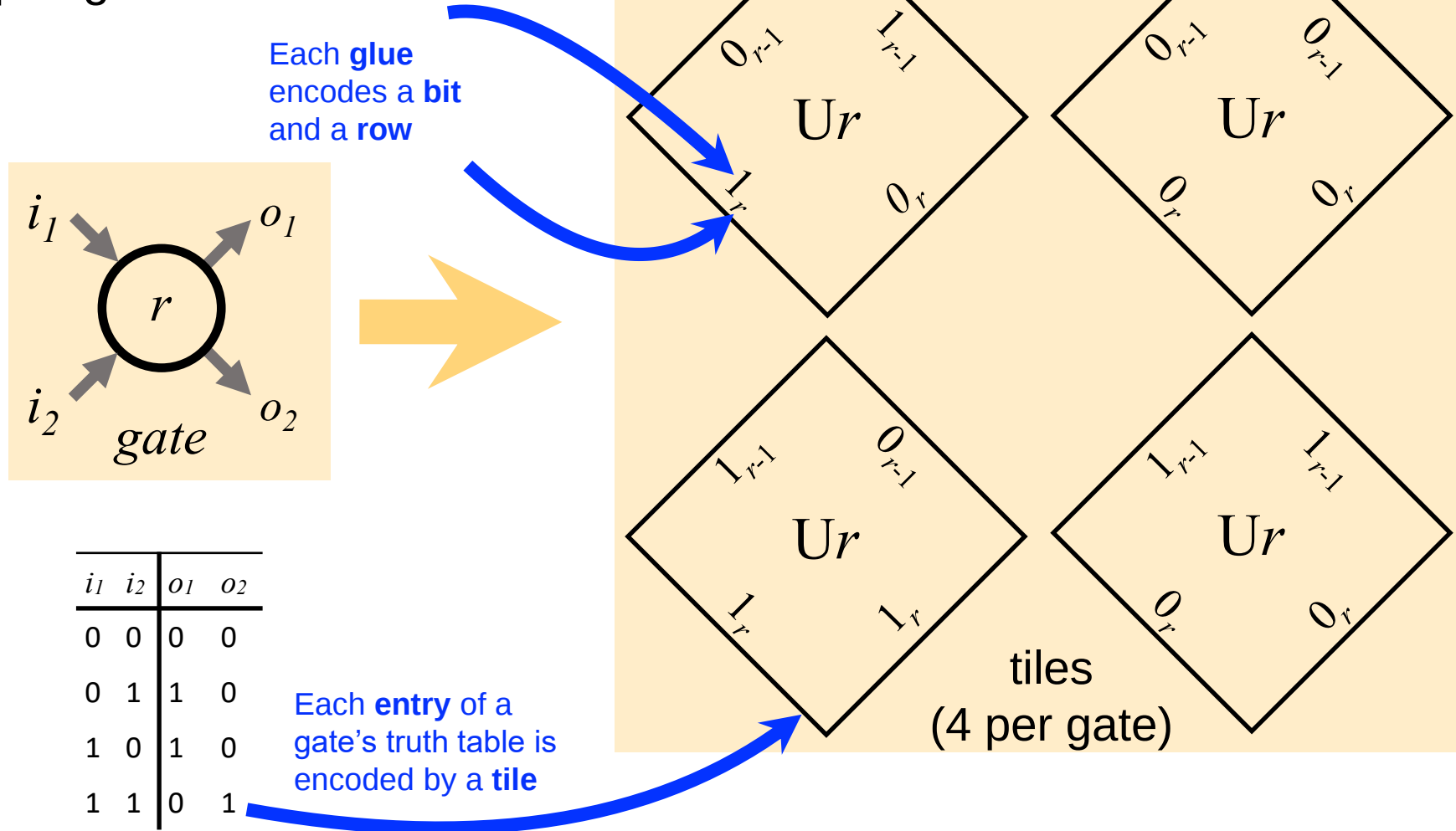
| $i_1$ | $i_2$ | $o_1$ | $o_2$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| 0     | 1     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 0     | 1     | 0     |
| 1     | 1     | 0     | 1     |

Each entry of a gate's truth table is encoded by a tile

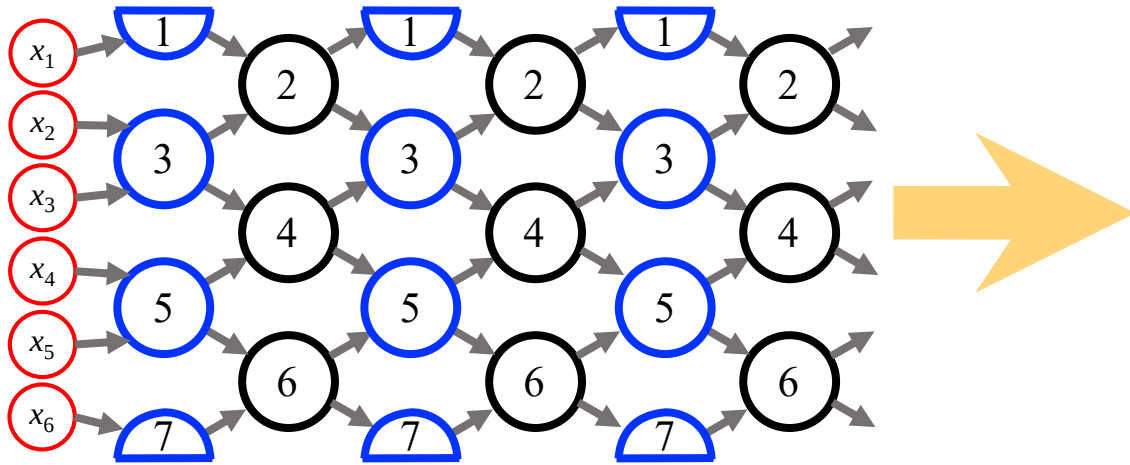


# Gates $\rightarrow$ Tiles

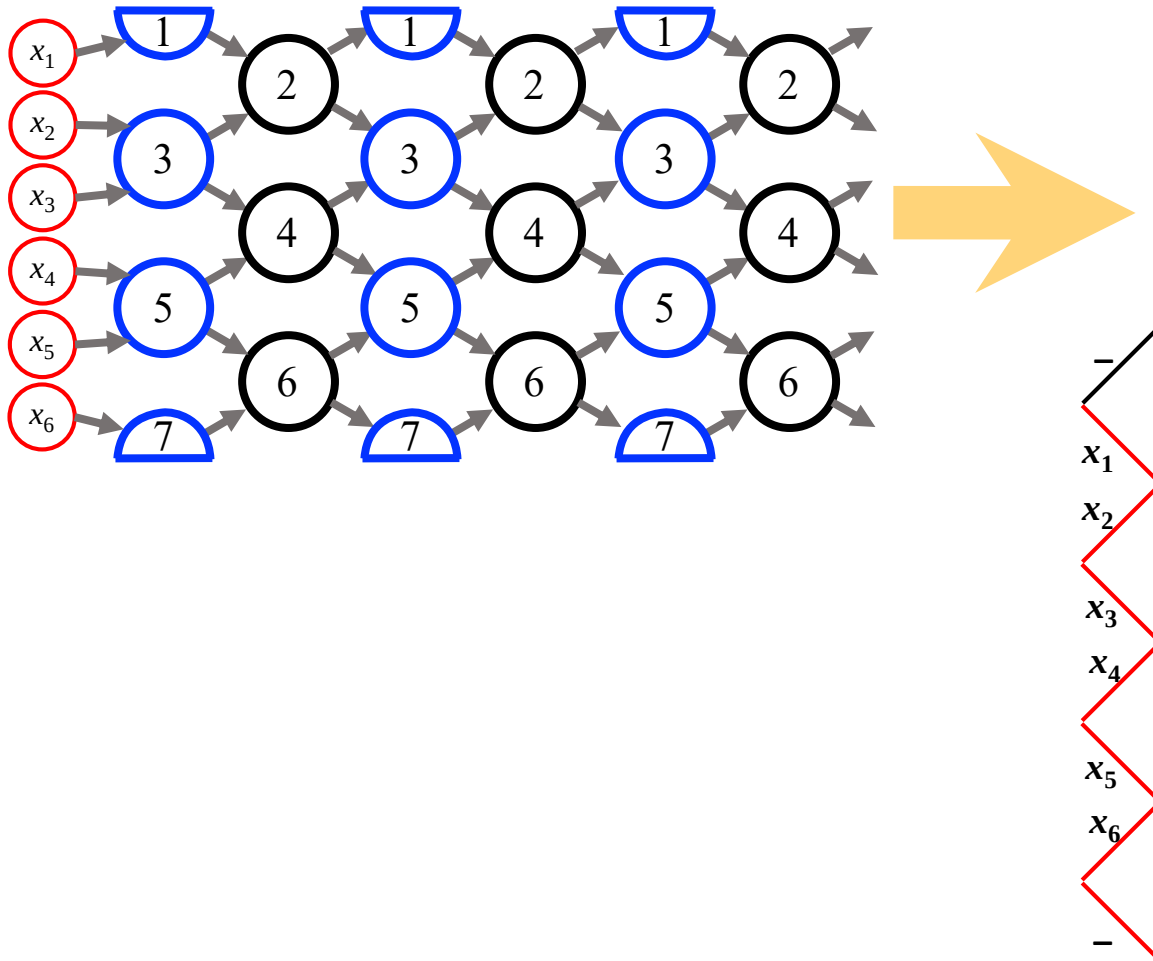
## 1. Compile gates to tiles



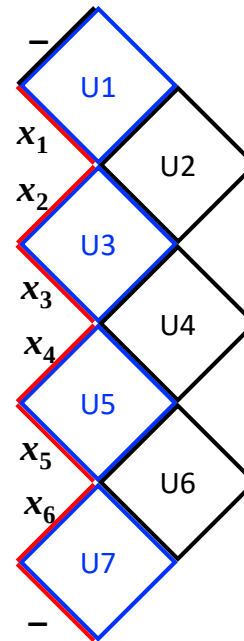
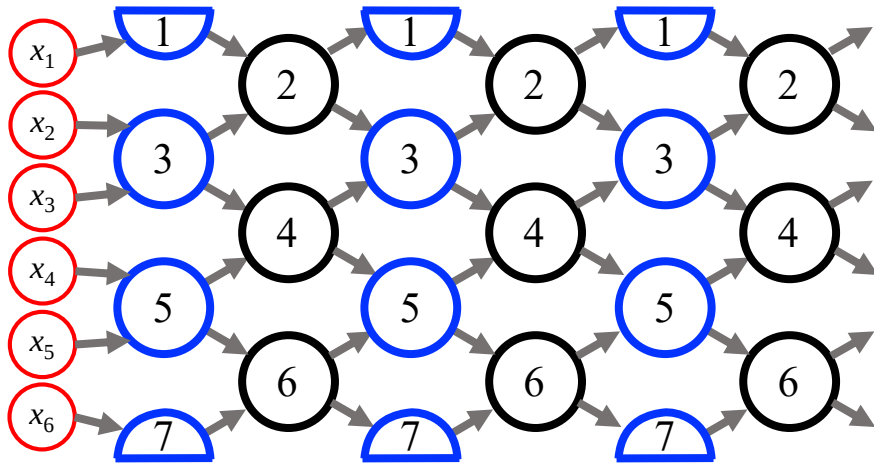
# How tiles compute while growing (algorithmic self-assembly)



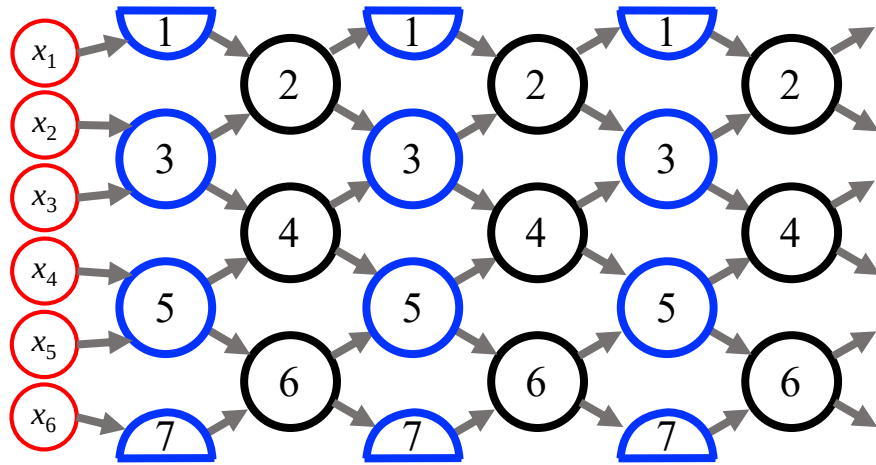
# How tiles compute while growing (algorithmic self-assembly)



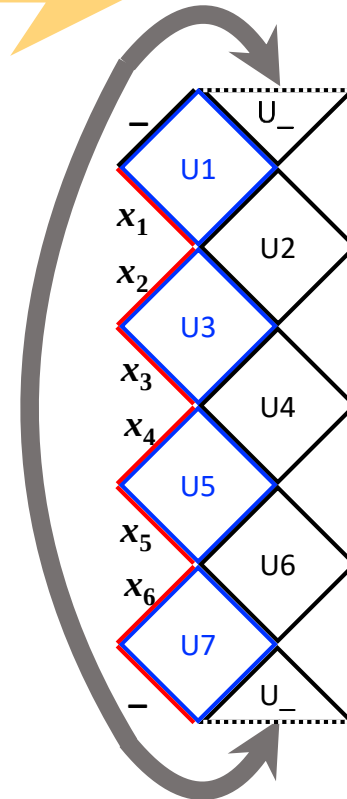
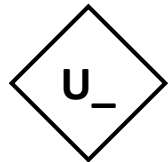
# How tiles compute while growing (algorithmic self-assembly)



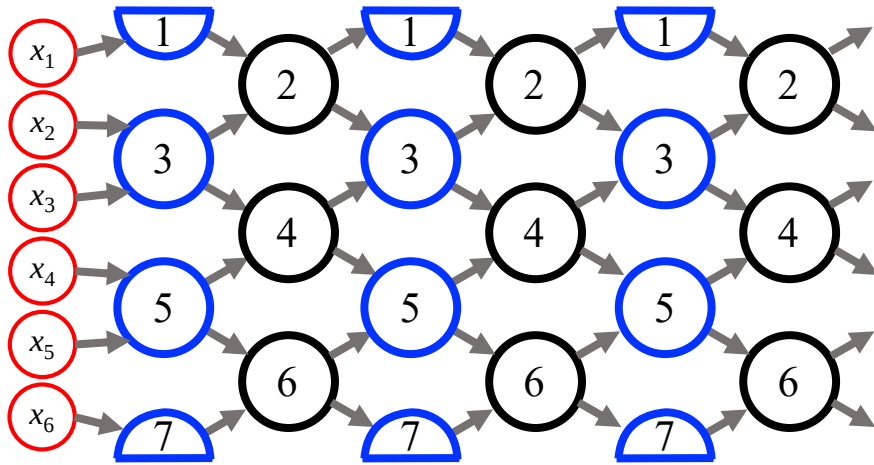
# How tiles compute while growing (algorithmic self-assembly)



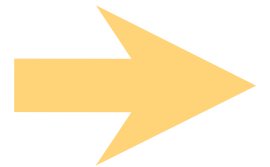
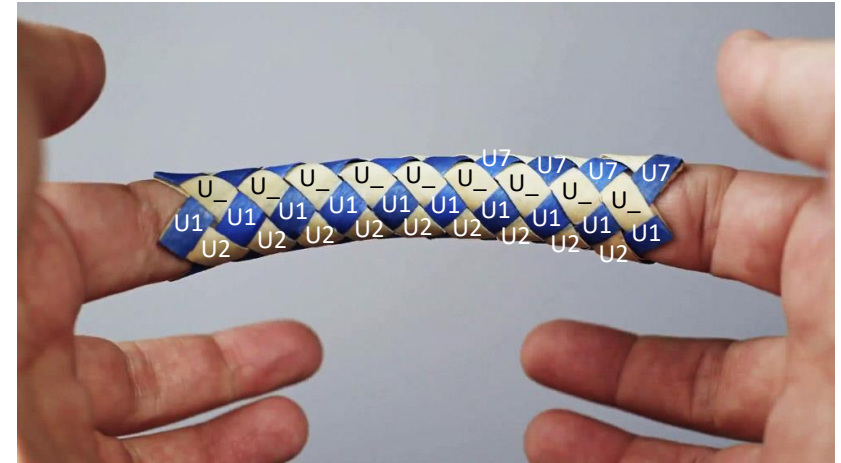
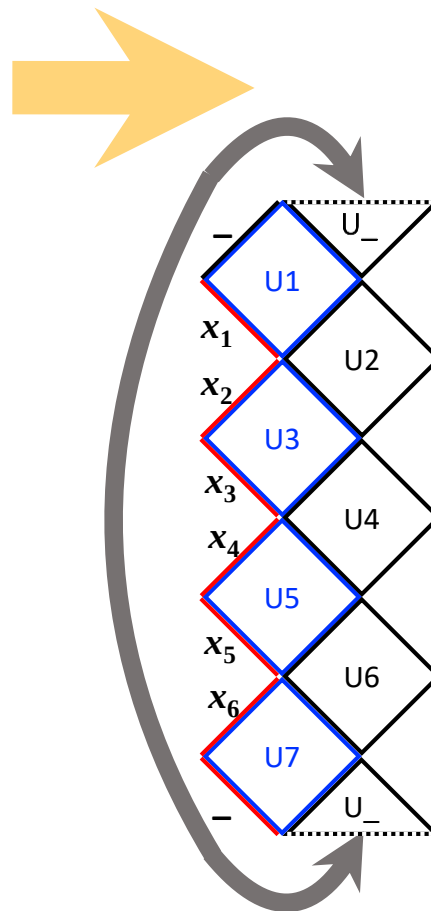
“data-free” tile wraps top  
to bottom to form a tube



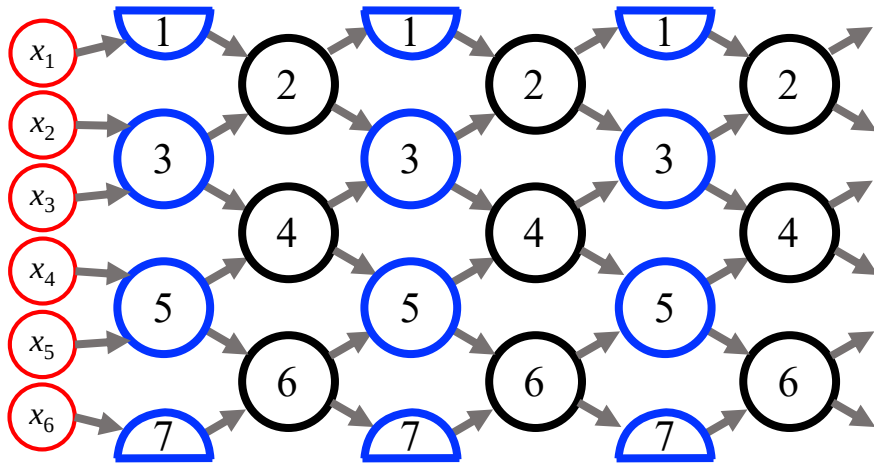
# How tiles compute while growing (algorithmic self-assembly)



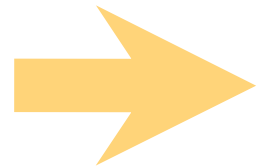
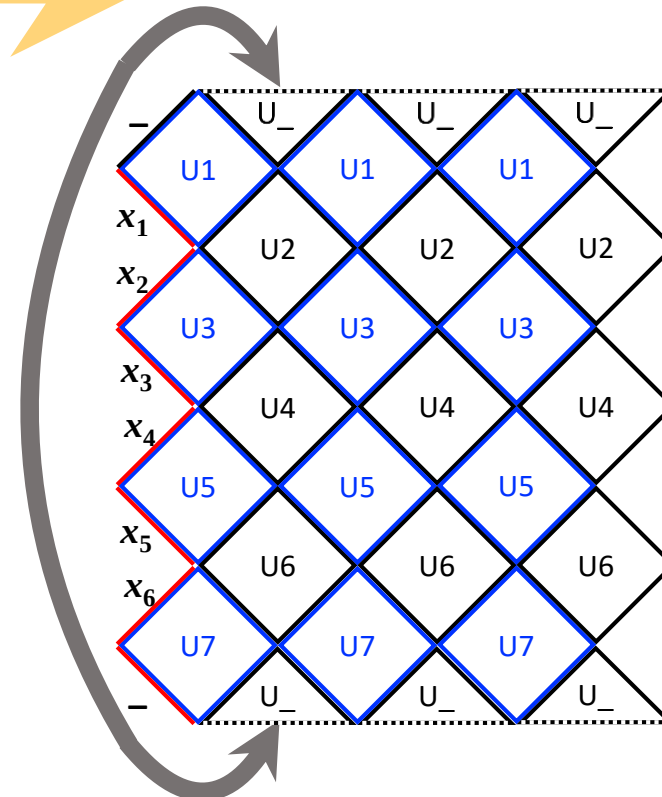
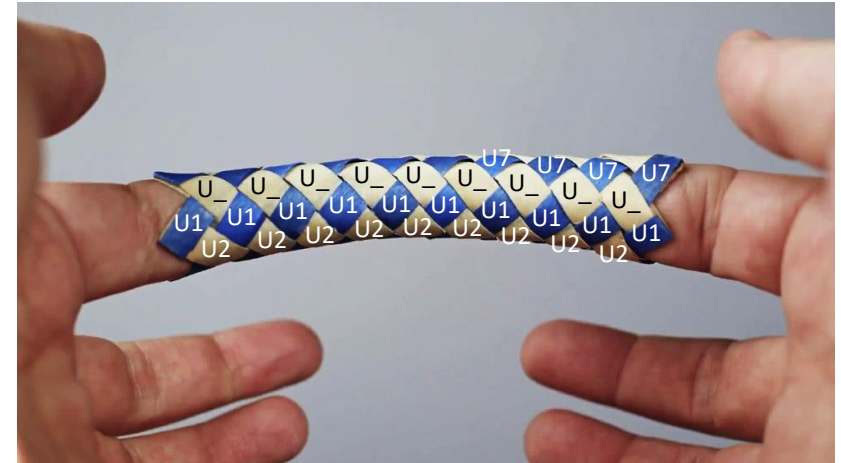
“data-free” tile wraps top  
to bottom to form a tube



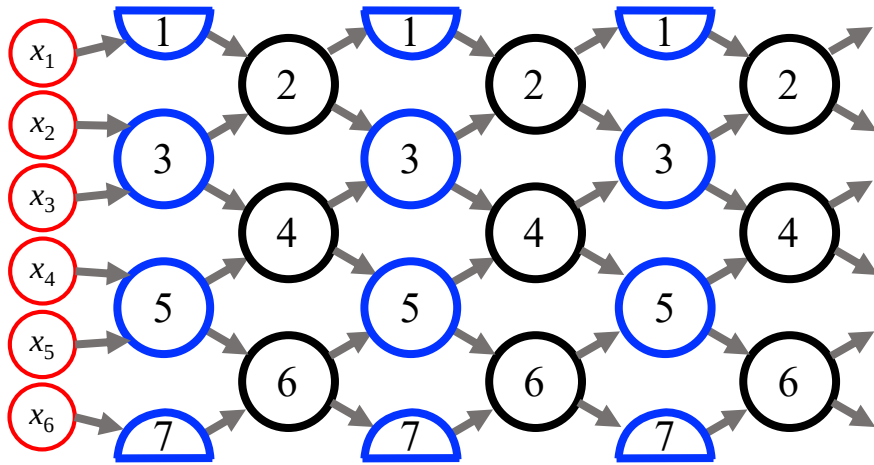
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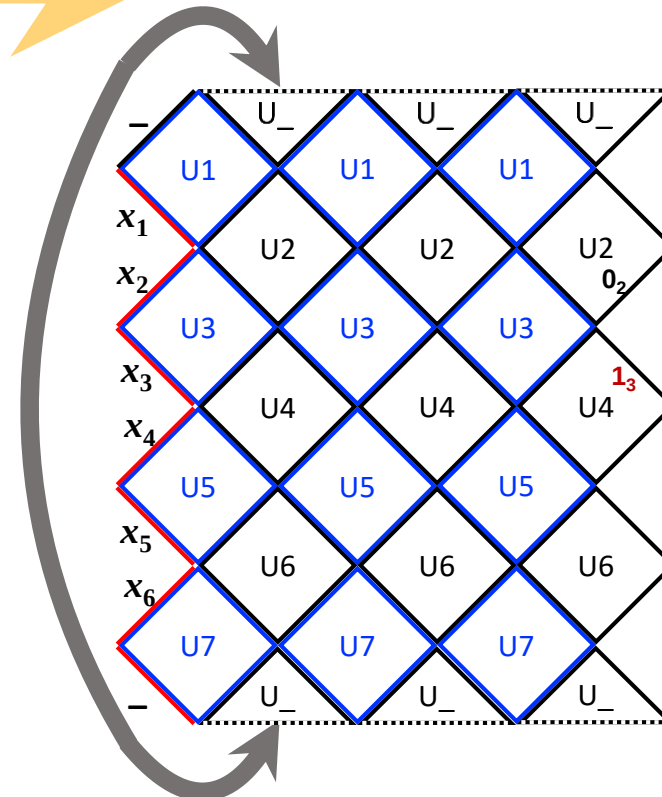
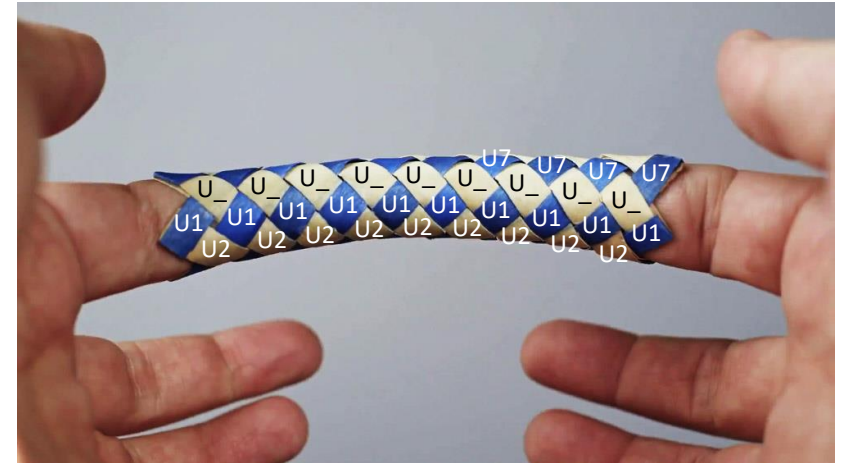
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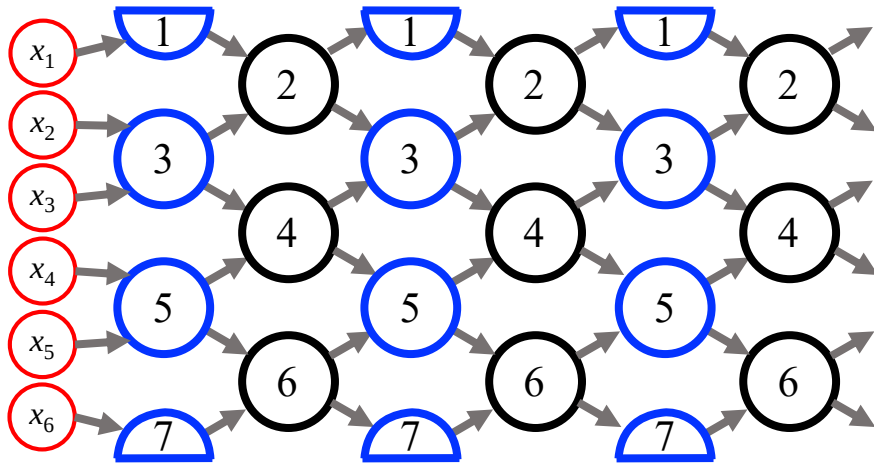
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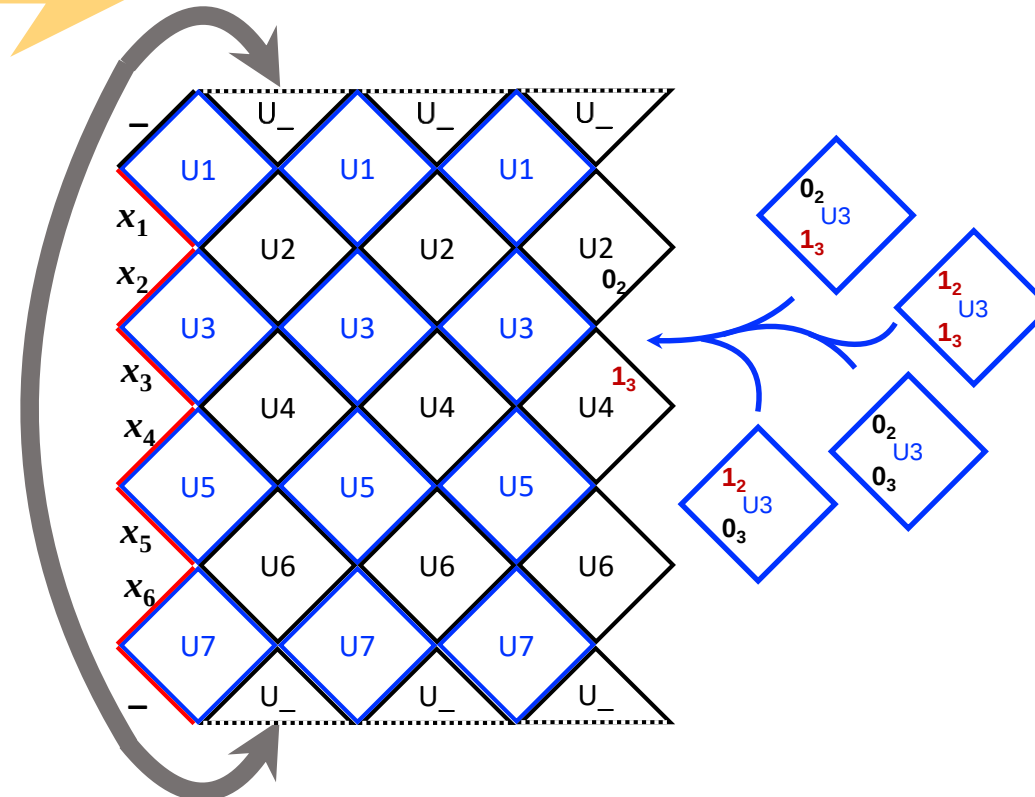
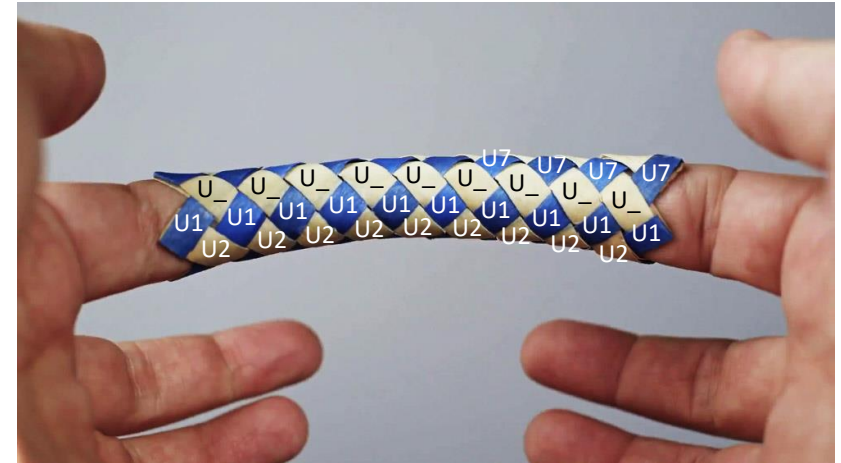
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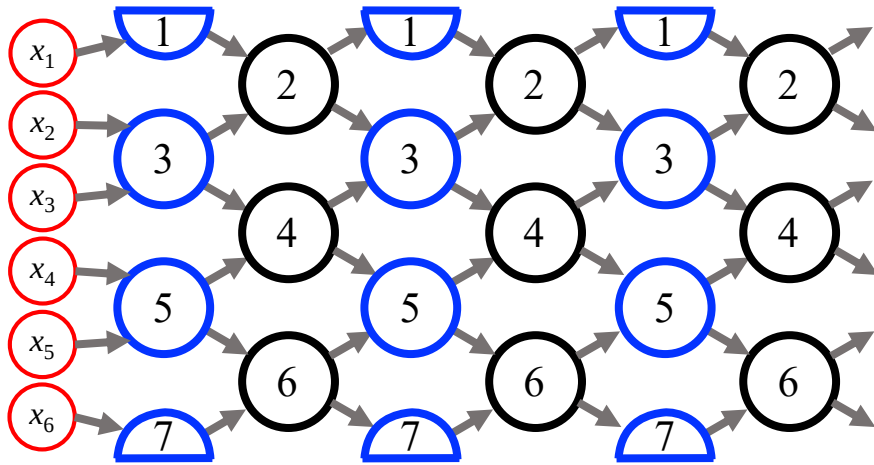
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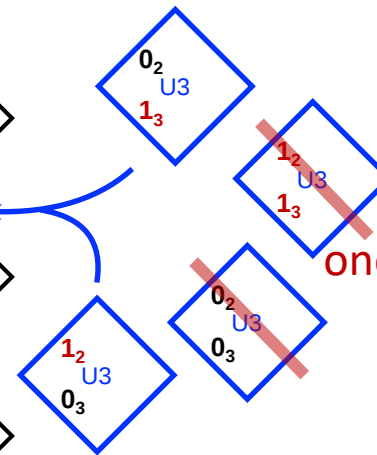
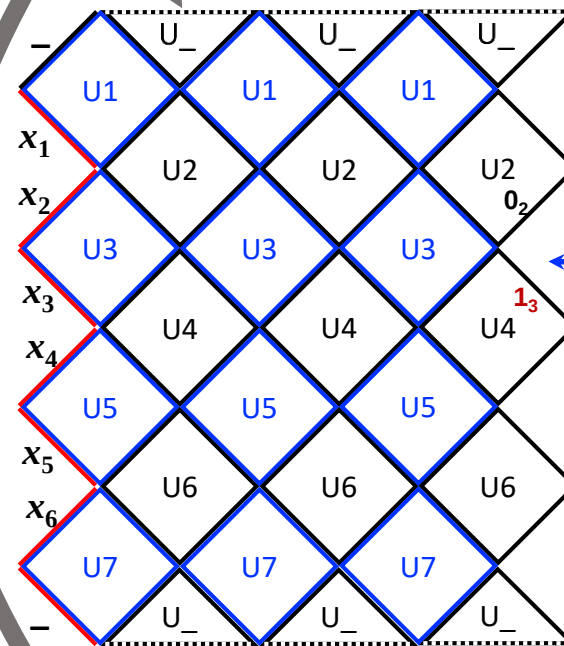
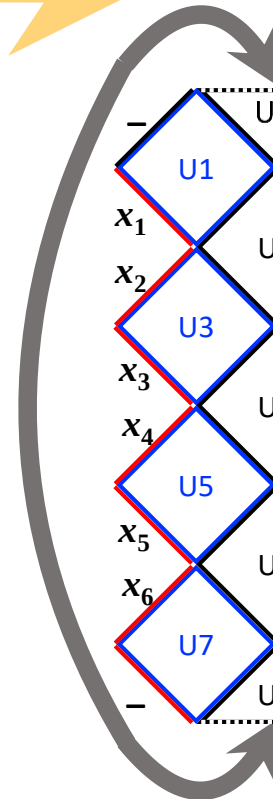
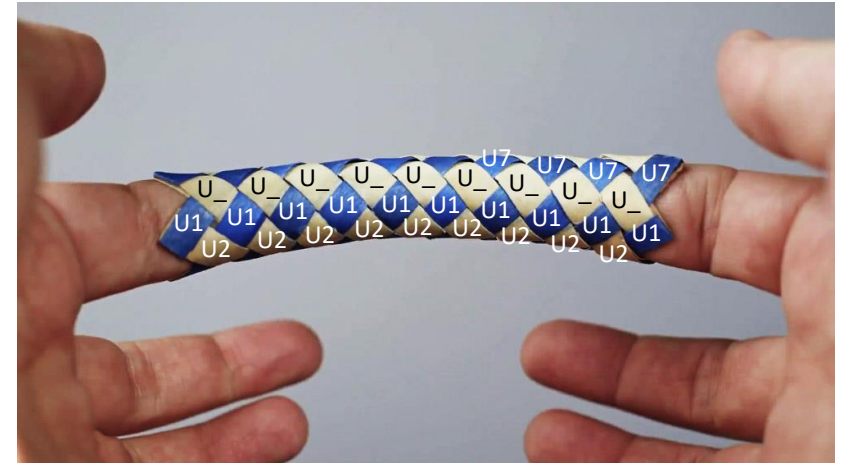
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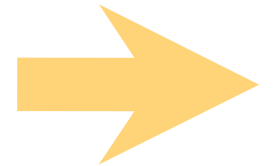
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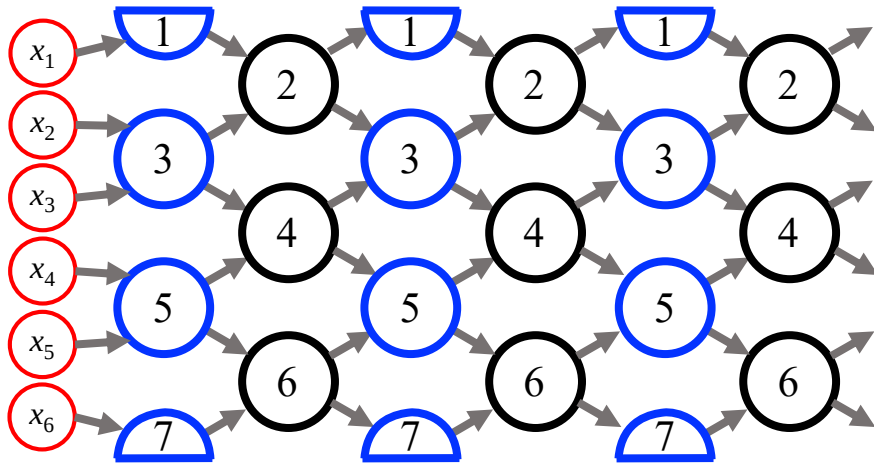
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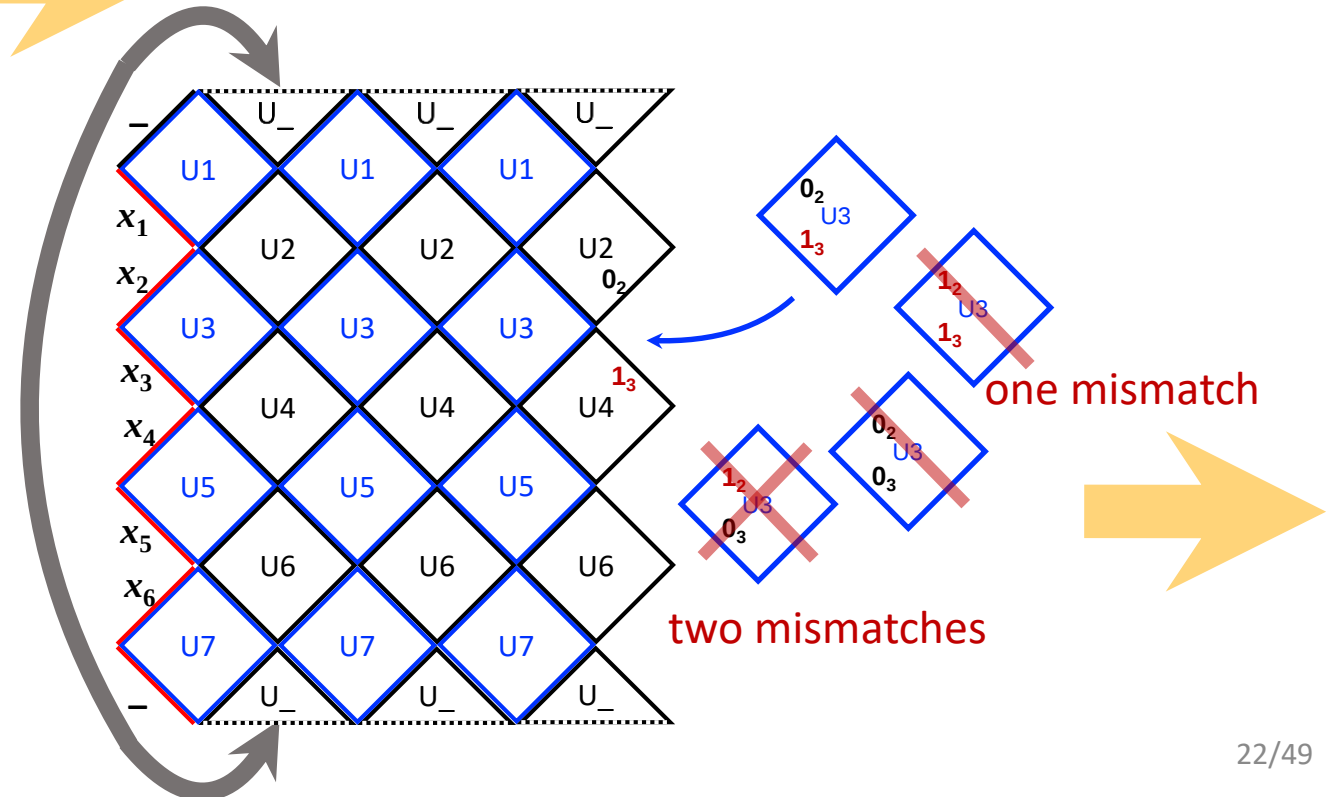
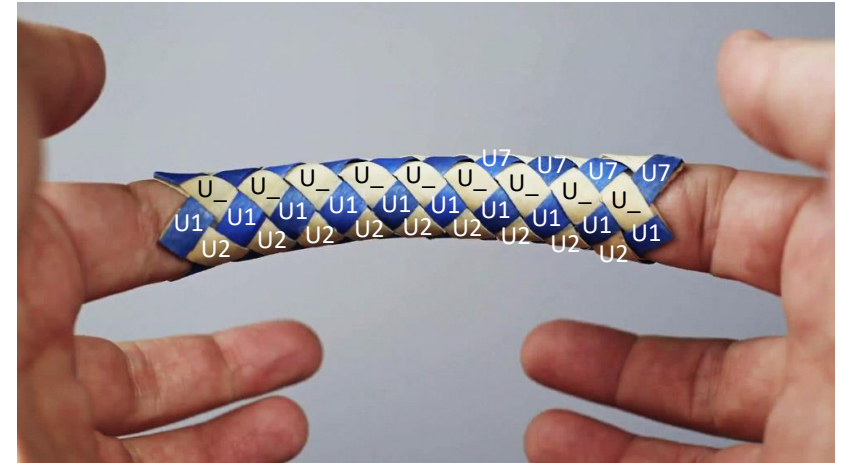
one mismatch



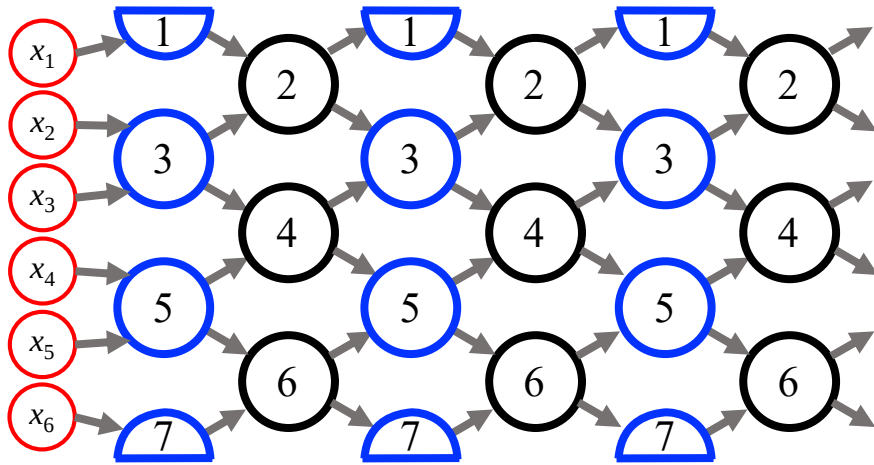
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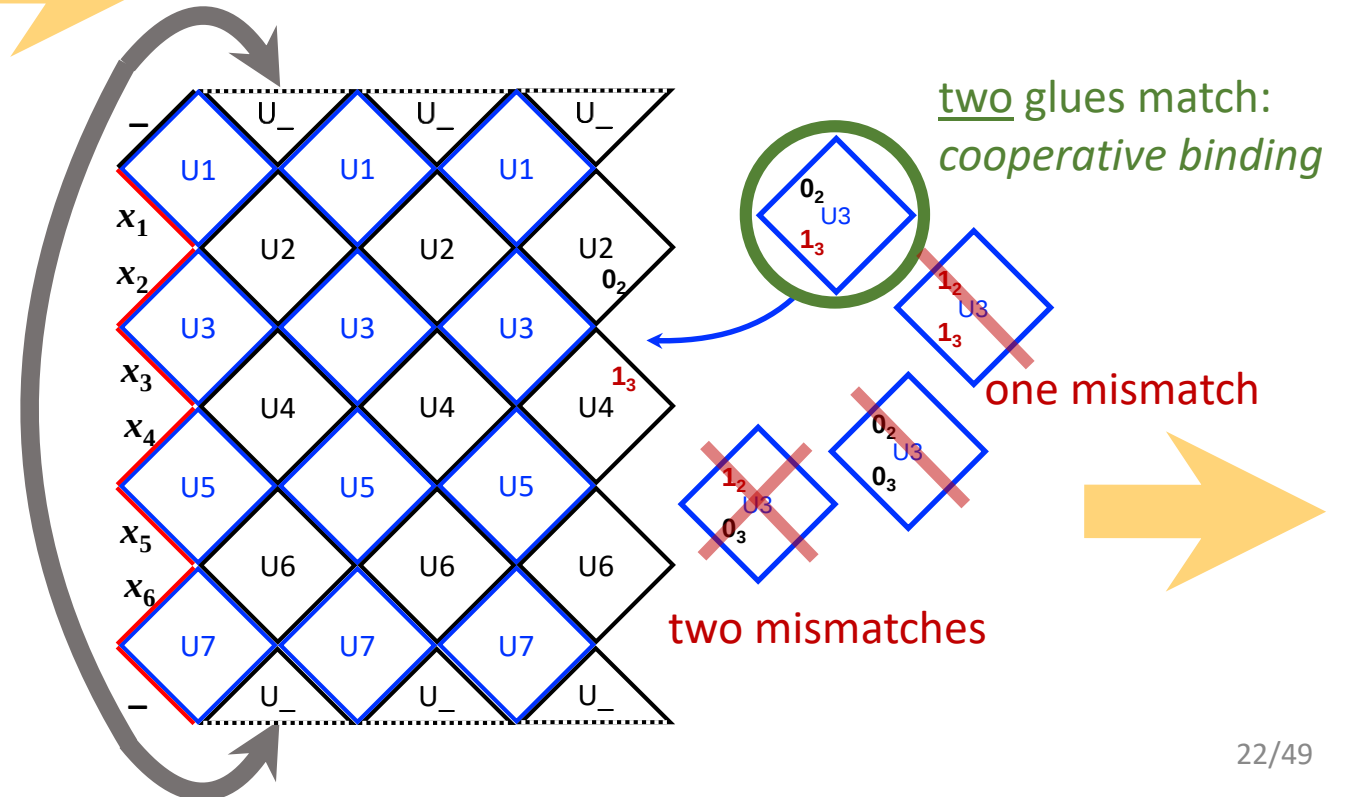
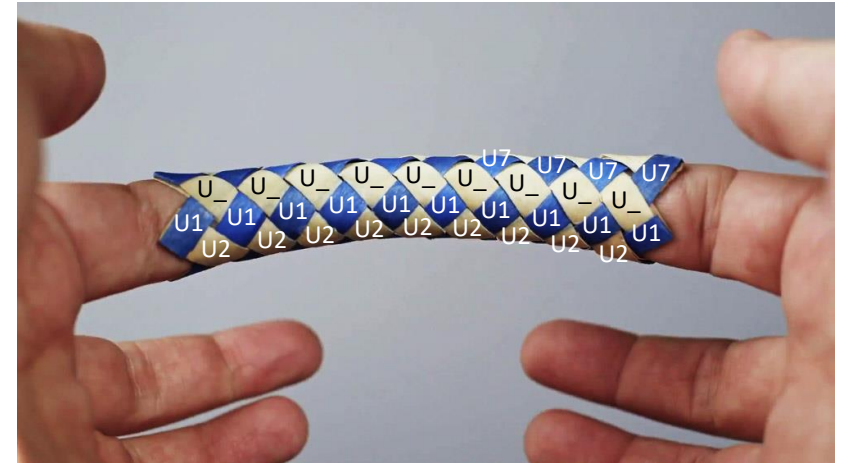
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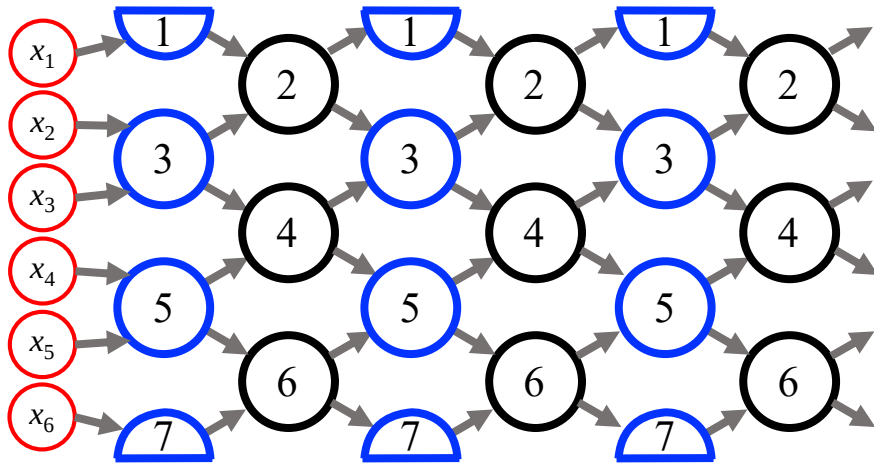
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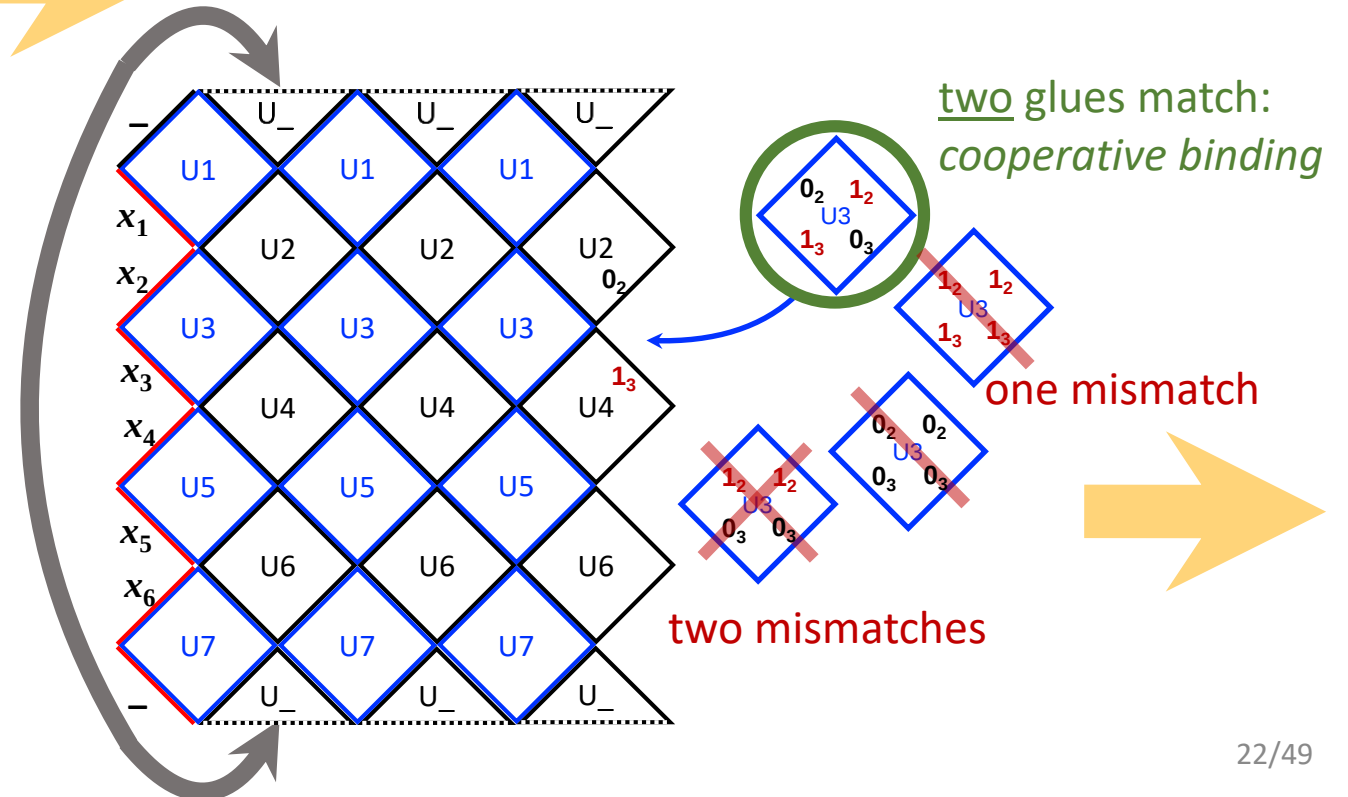
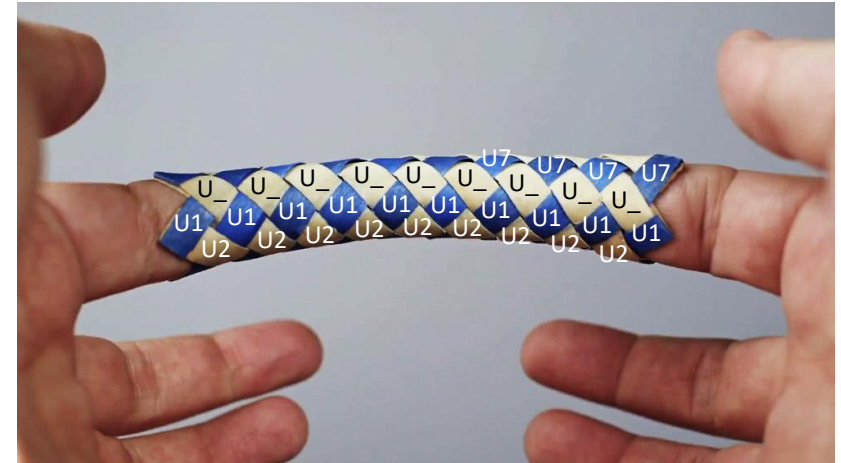
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# How tiles compute while growing (algorithmic self-assembly)



“data-free” tile wraps top  
to bottom to form a tube



# Hierarchy of abstractions

Bits: Boolean circuits compute

Tiles: Tile self-assembly implements circuits

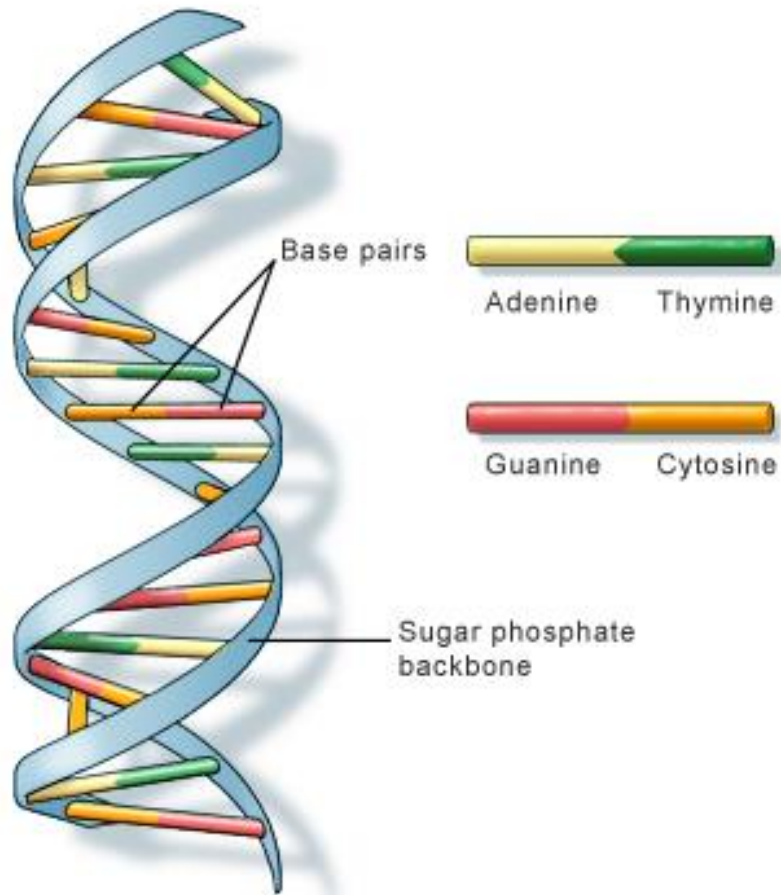
**➔ DNA: DNA strands implement tiles**



# Structural DNA nanotechnology

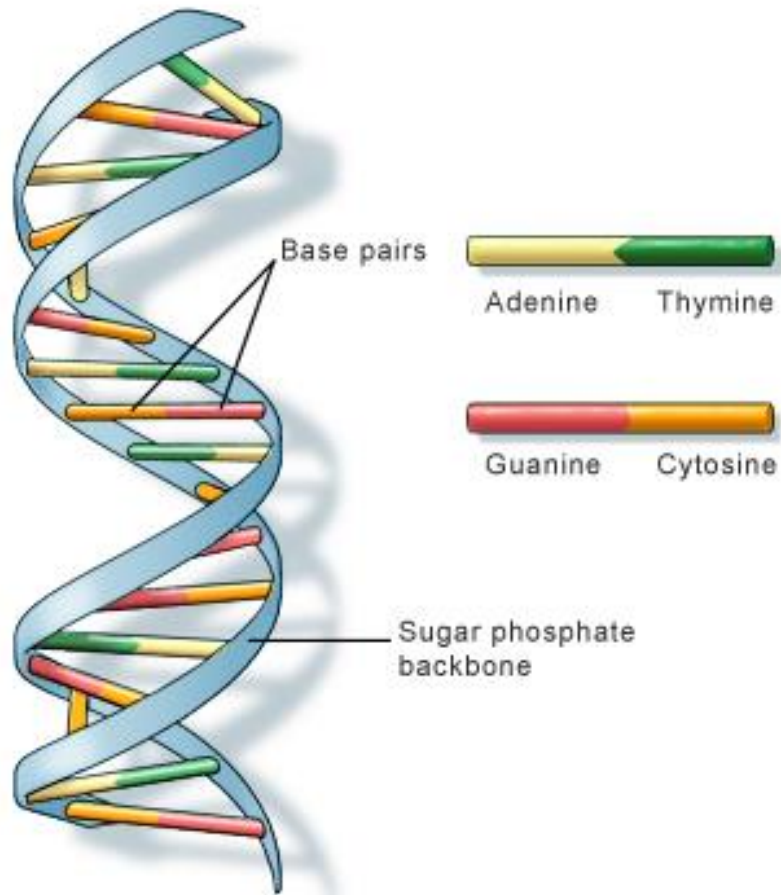
*a.k.a.* DNA carpentry

# DNA as a building material



U.S. National Library of Medicine

# DNA as a building material



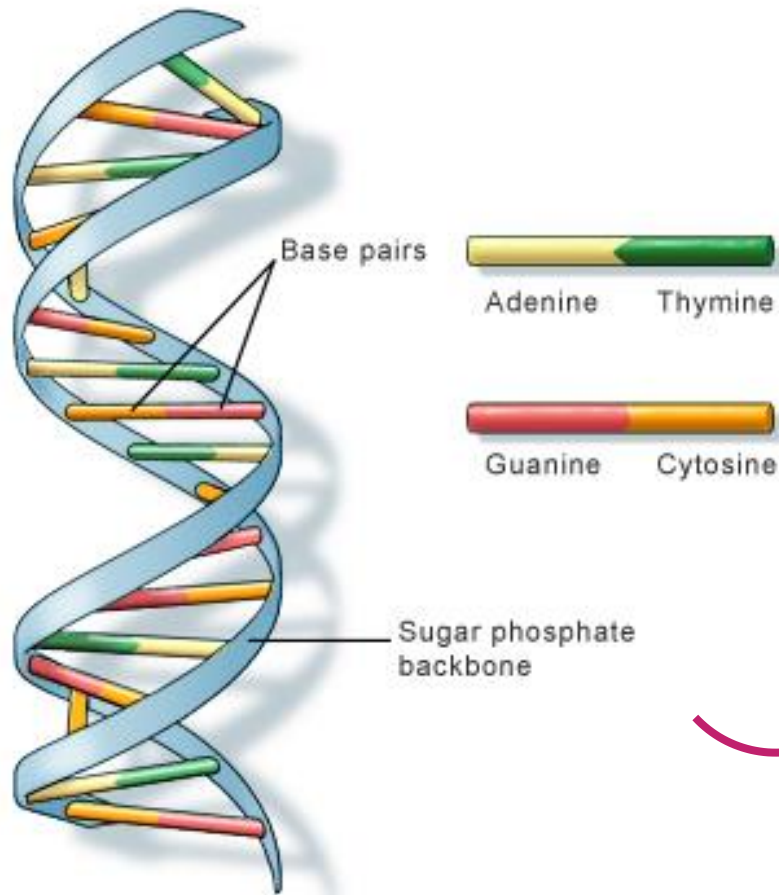
U.S. National Library of Medicine



=

TCGGAAATAAAATCGGAC  
AGCCTTTATTTTAGCCTG

# DNA as a building material



U.S. National Library of Medicine



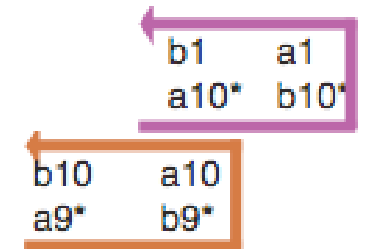
=



DNA strands can bind even if only part of strands are complementary:



=



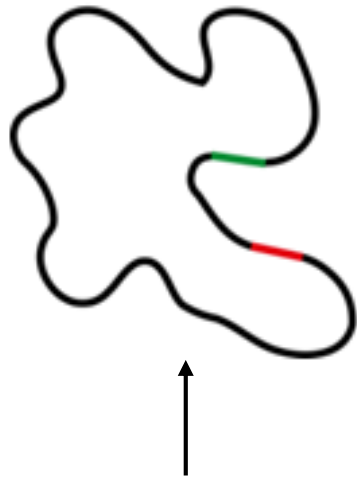
# DNA origami

Paul Rothemund

*Folding DNA to create nanoscale shapes and patterns*

Nature 2006

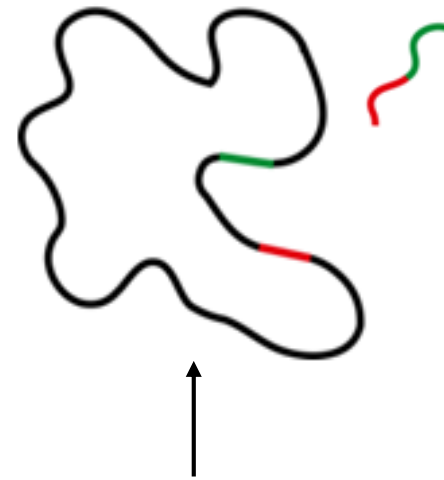
# DNA origami



↑  
*scaffold* DNA strand  
(M13mp18 bacteriophage virus)

Paul Rothemund  
*Folding DNA to create nanoscale shapes and patterns*  
Nature 2006

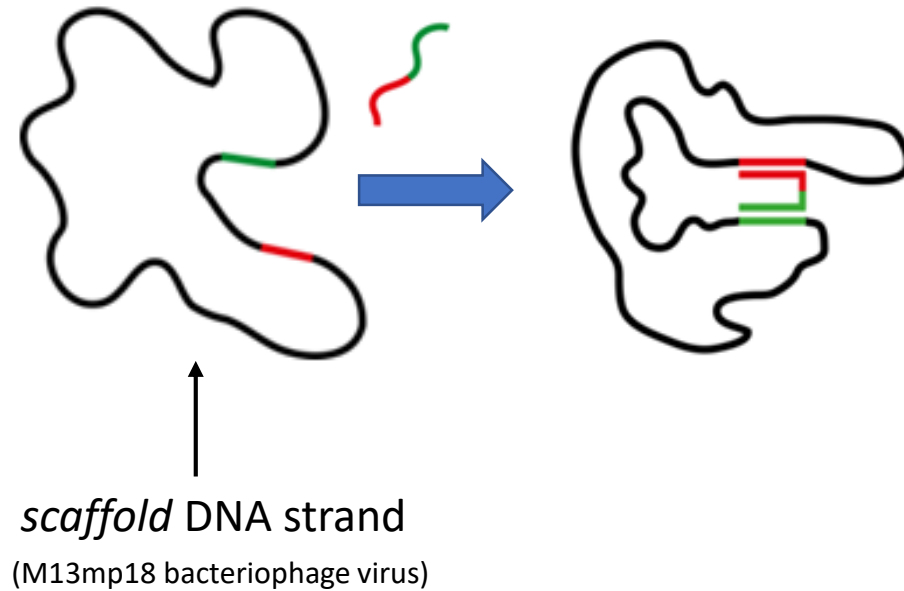
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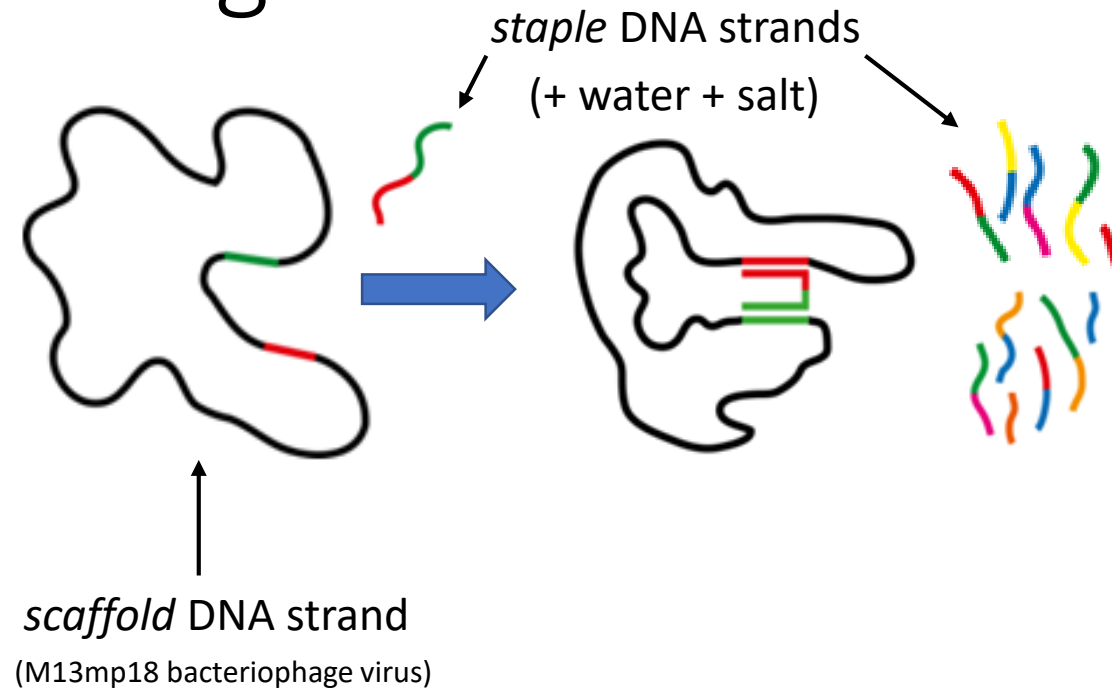
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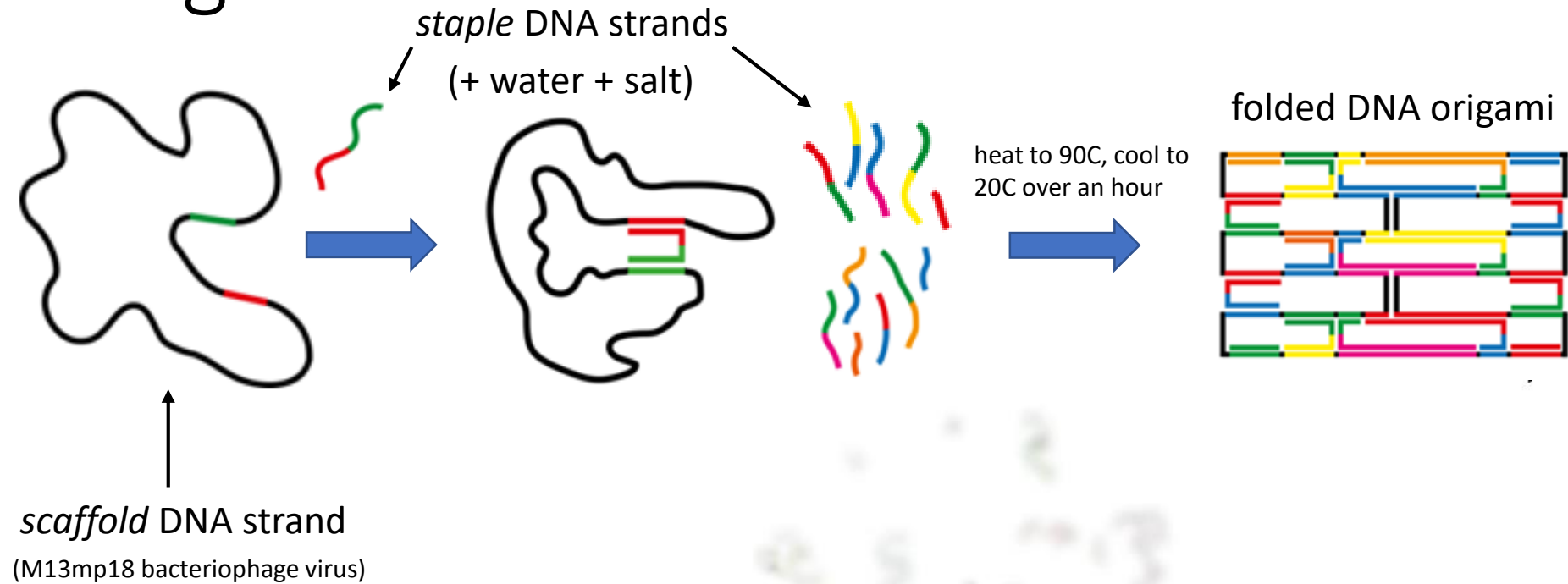
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Nature 2006

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Paul Rothemund  
*Folding DNA to create nanoscale shapes and patterns*  
Nature 2006

# DNA origami



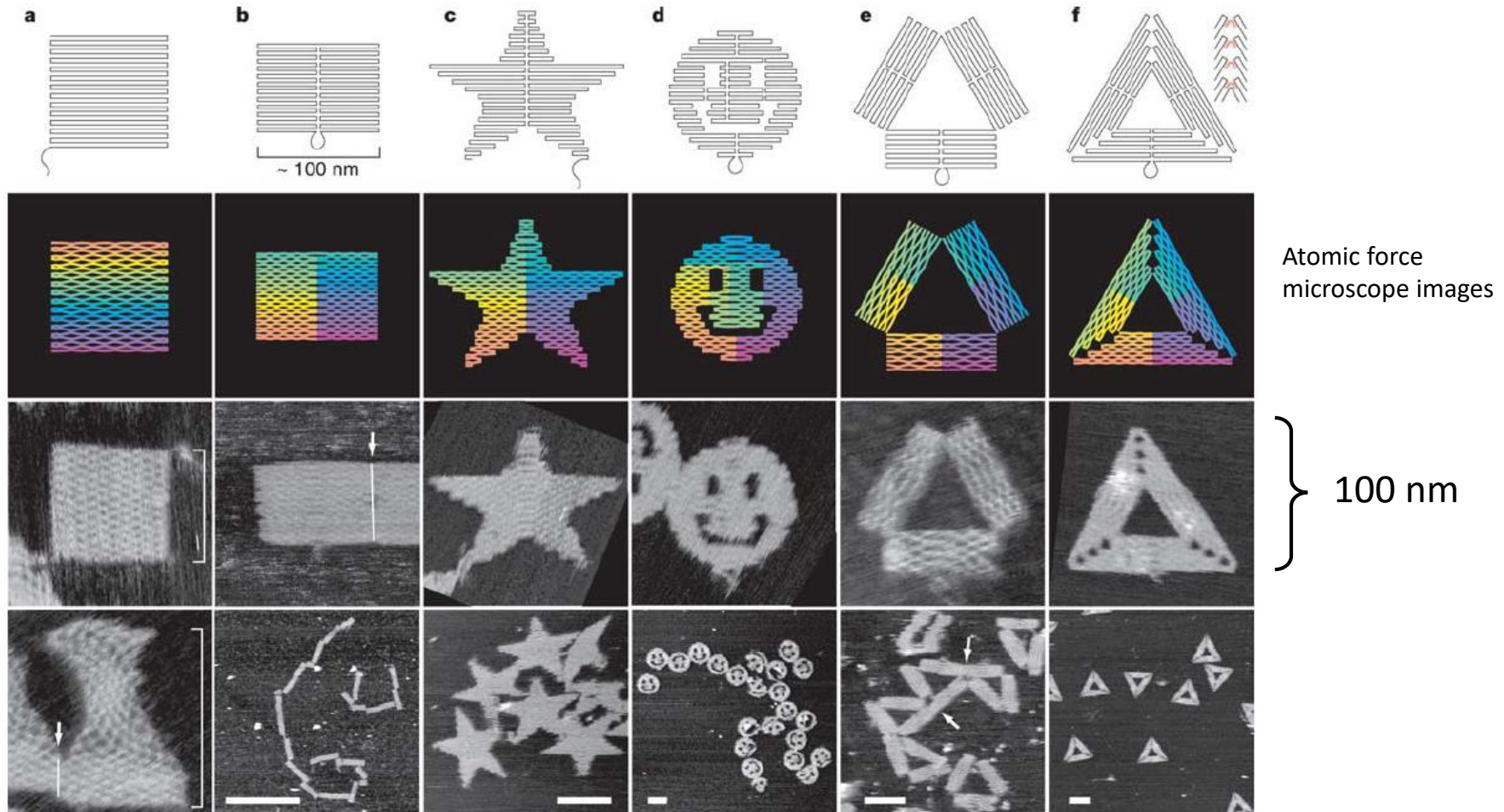
Paul Rothemund  
*Folding DNA to create nanoscale shapes and patterns*  
Nature 2006

# DNA origami

Paul Rothemund

*Folding DNA to create nanoscale shapes and patterns*

Nature 2006



# DNA nanotechnology applications

## **nonbiological:**

- nanoscale resolution surface placement
- X-ray crystallization scaffolding
- molecular motors
- super-resolution imaging
- molecular circuits

## **biological:**

- smart drugs
- mRNA detection
- cell surface marker detection
- genetically encoded structures

# DNA nanotechnology applications

## nonbiological:

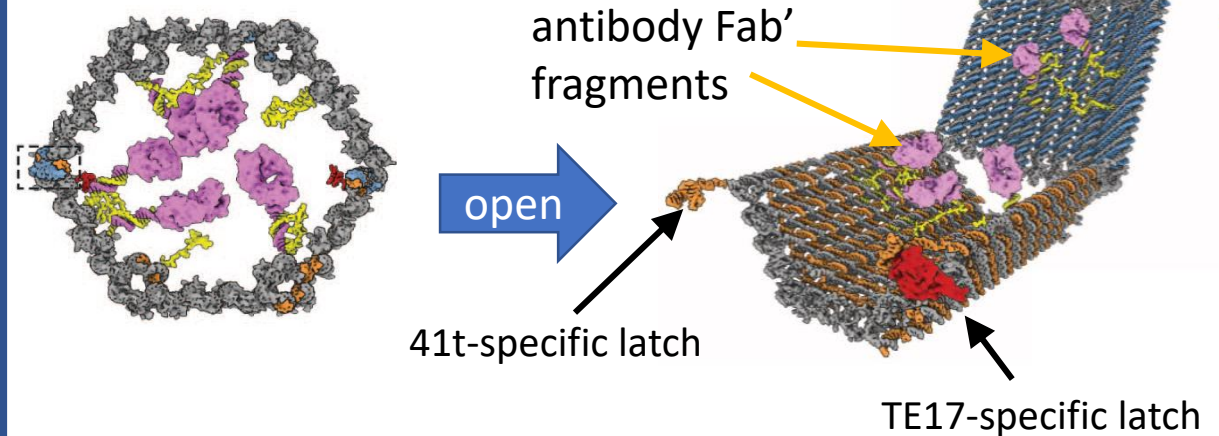
- nanoscale resolution surface placement
- X-ray crystallization scaffolding
- molecular motors
- super-resolution imaging
- molecular circuits

## biological:

- smart drugs
- mRNA detection
- cell surface marker detection
- genetically encoded structures

*example*

DNA origami opens to deliver antibody only in presence of two protein antigens

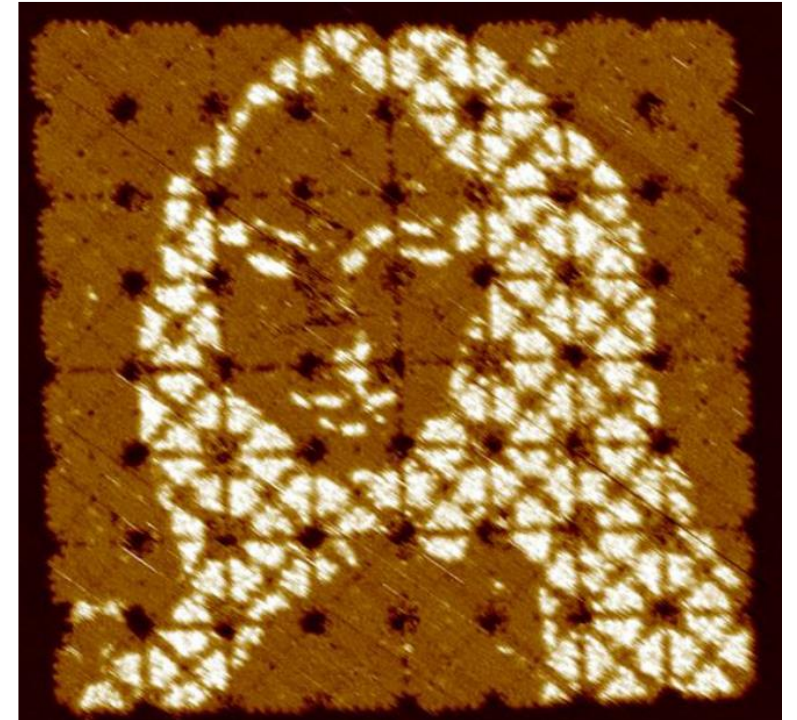
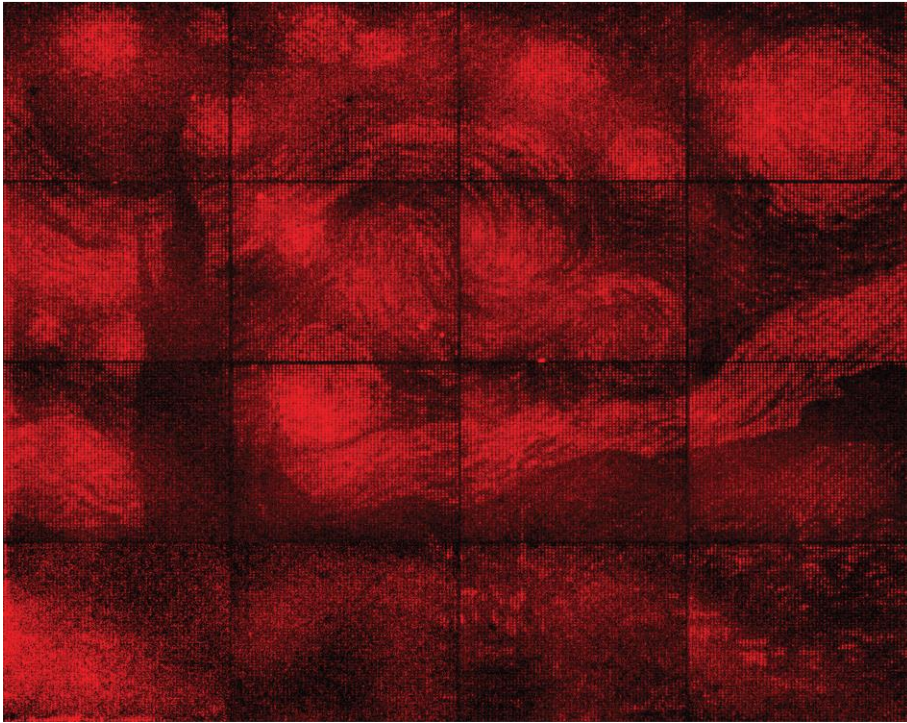


Shawn Douglas, Ido Bachelet, George Church, *A logic-gated nanorobot for targeted transport of molecular payloads*, Science 2012

# DNA nanotechnology applications

nonbiological:

- **art**

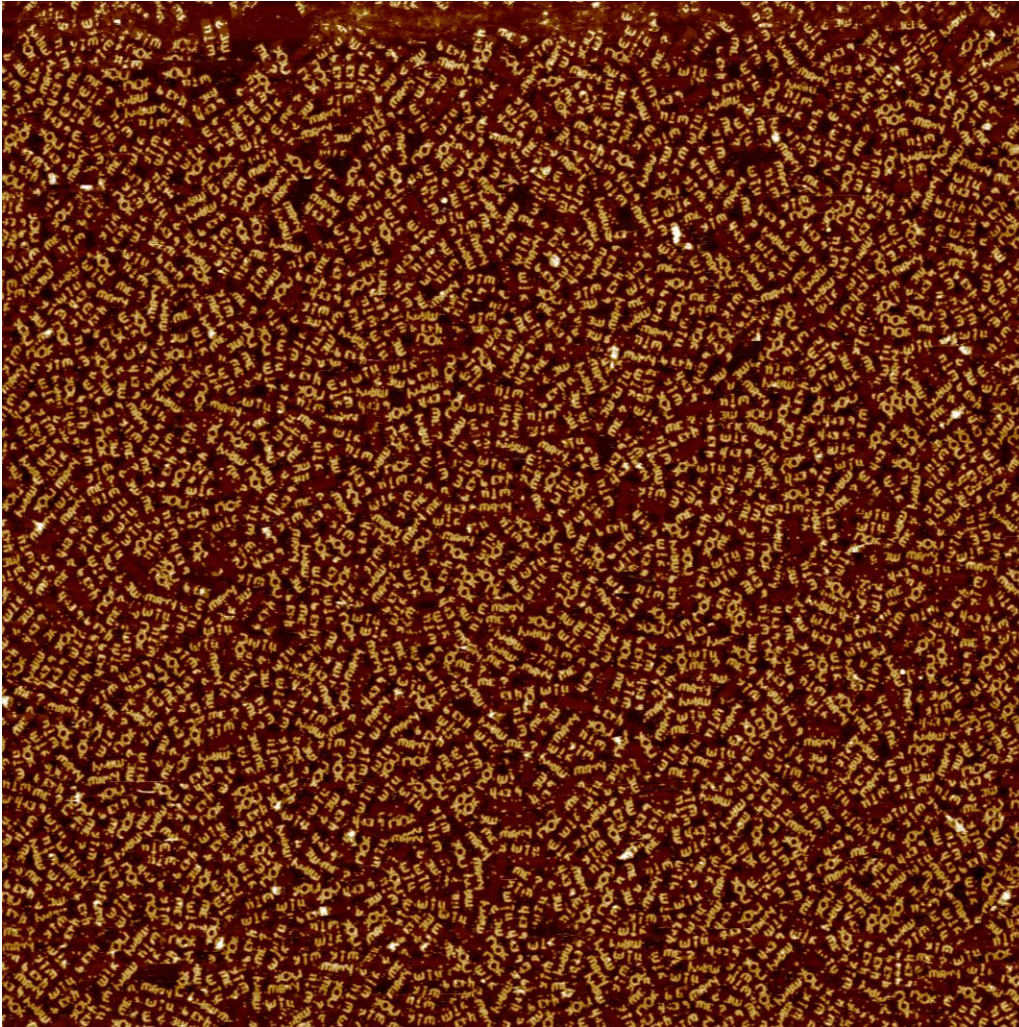


Ashwin Gopinath, Evan Miyazono, Andrei Faraon, Paul Rothemund, *Engineering and mapping nanocavity emission via precision placement of DNA origami*, Nature 2016

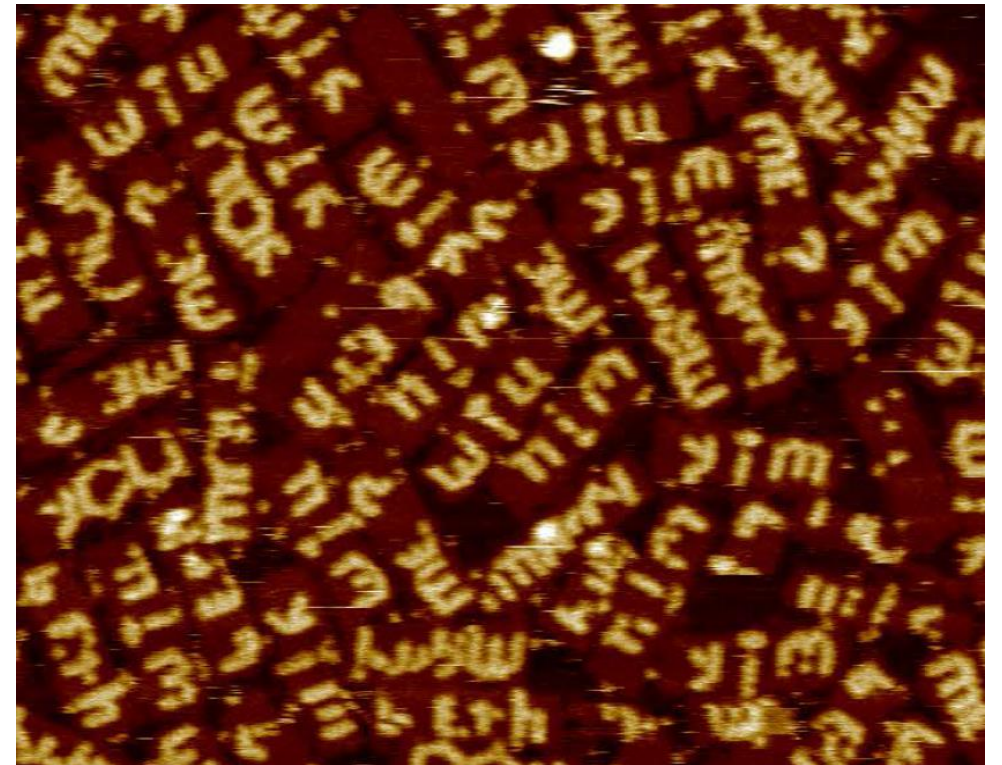
Grigory Tikhomirov, Philip Petersen, and Lulu Qian. *Fractal assembly of micrometre-scale DNA origami arrays with arbitrary patterns*. Nature 2017.

# Other applications of DNA nanotechnology

4  $\mu\text{m}$  wide scan



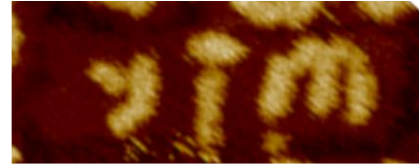
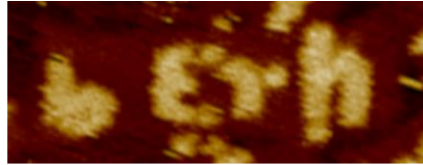
zoom in



# Cherry-picked samples

100 nm

Beth Yim

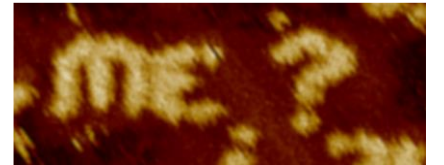
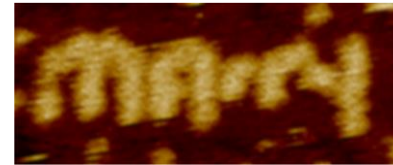
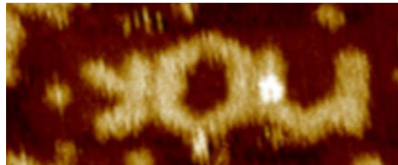
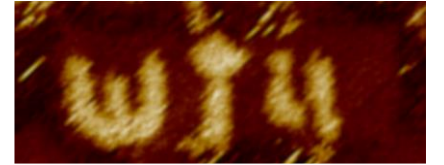
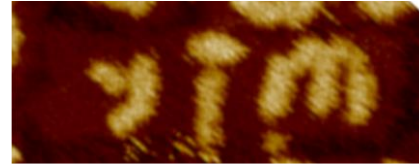
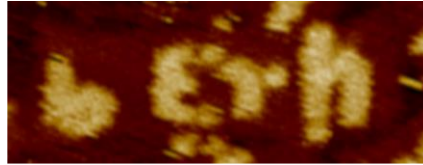


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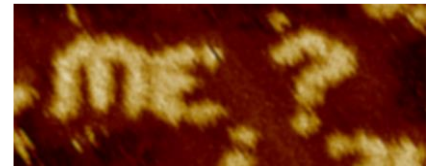
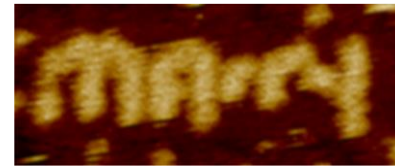
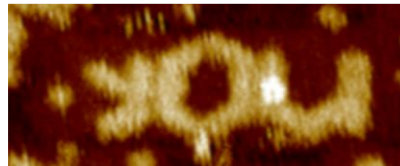
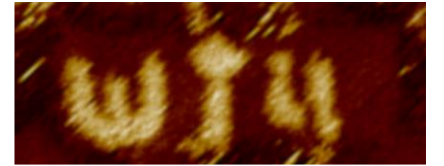
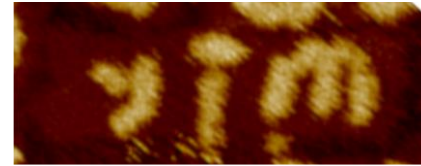
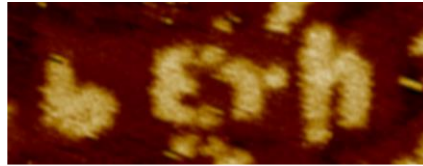


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Beth Yim

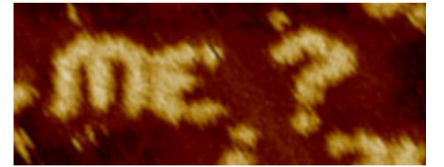
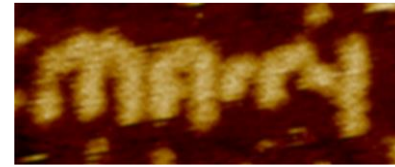
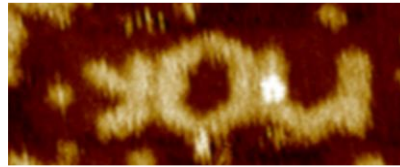
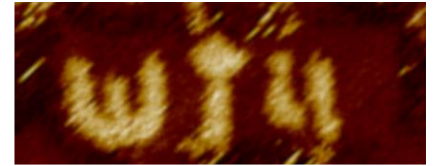
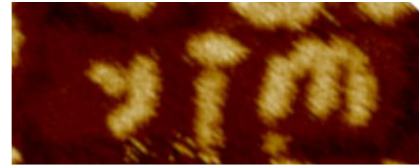
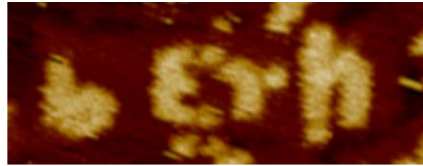


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100 nm



Beth Yim

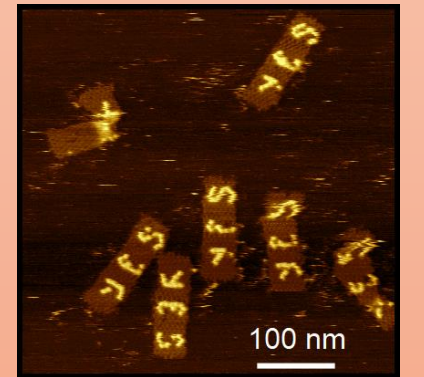
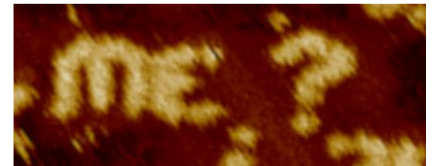
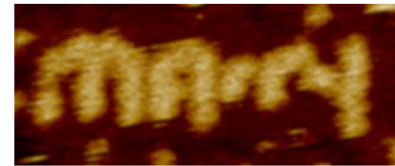
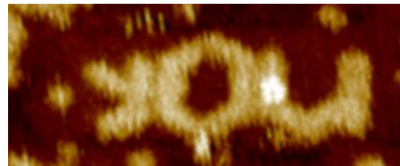
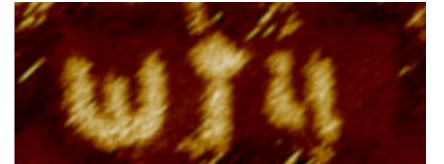
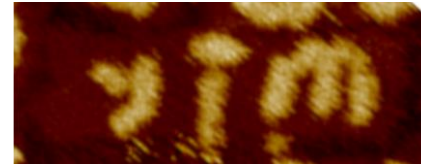
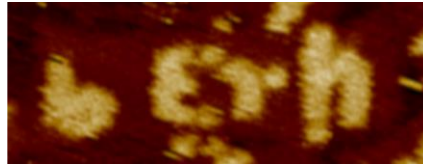


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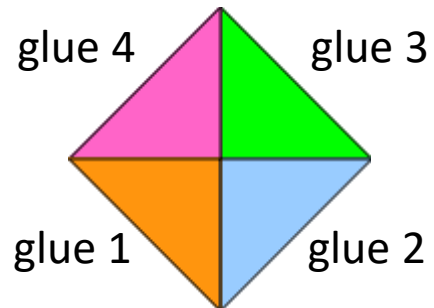
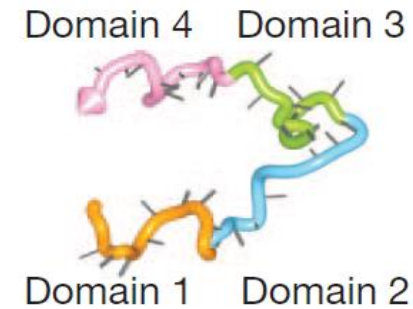
100 nm



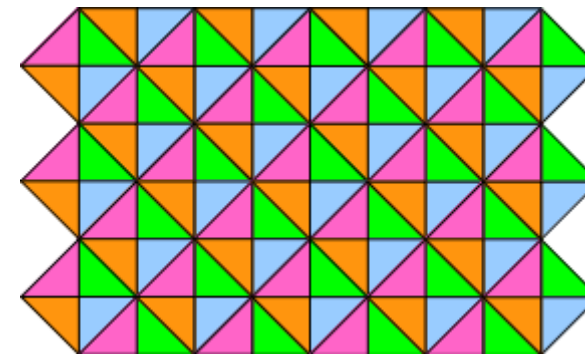
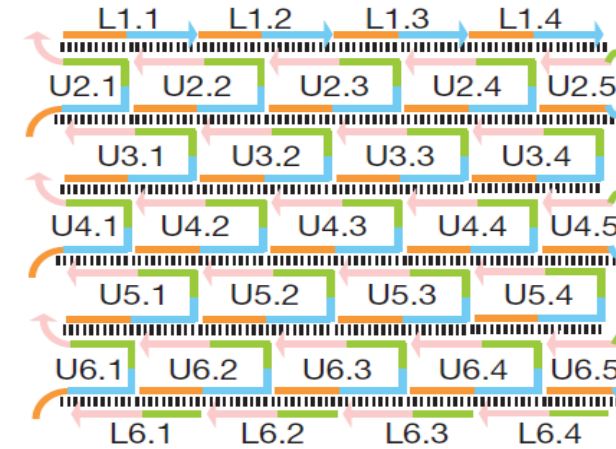
Beth Yim



# DNA single-stranded tiles

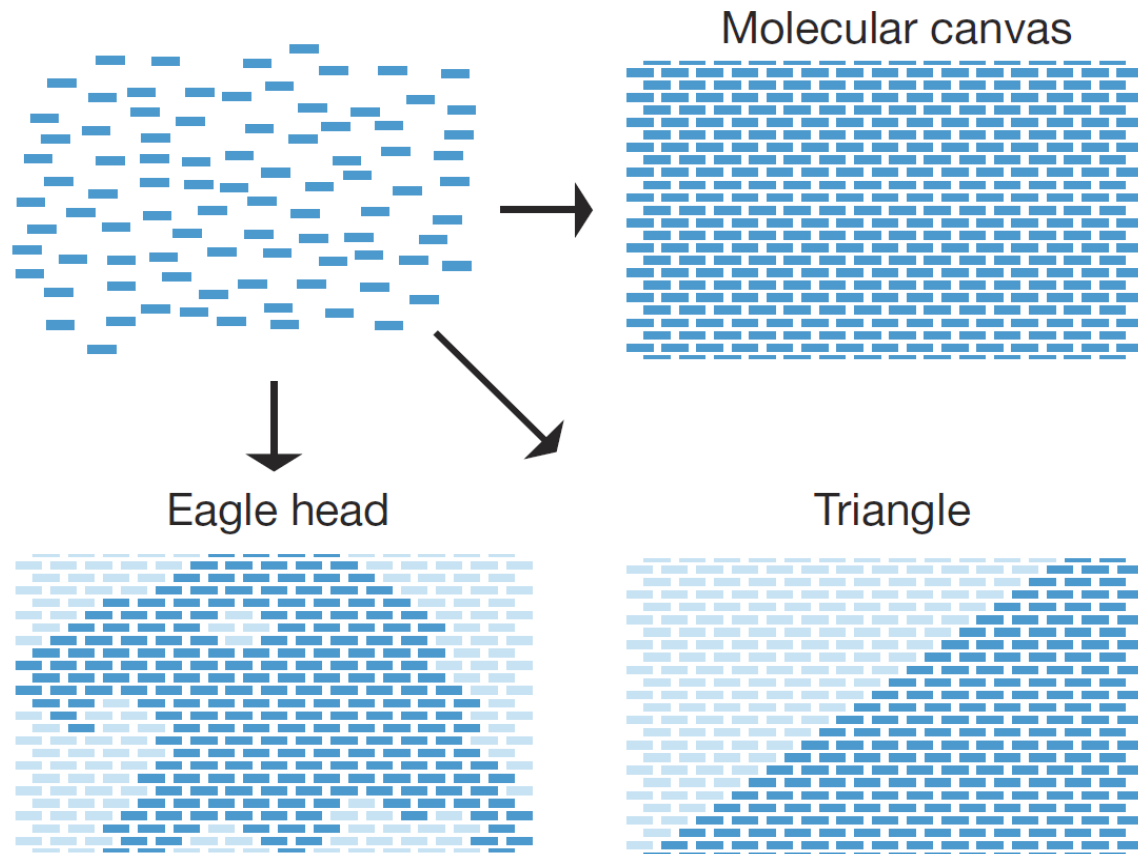


assembly



Yin, Hariadi, Sahu, Choi, Park, LaBean, Reif  
Programming DNA tube circumferences  
*Science* 321, 824-826 (2008)

# Single-stranded tiles for making any shape



Bryan Wei, Mingjie Dai, and Peng Yin. *Complex shapes self-assembled from single-stranded DNA tiles*. Nature 2012.

# Uniquely addressed self-assembly versus algorithmic

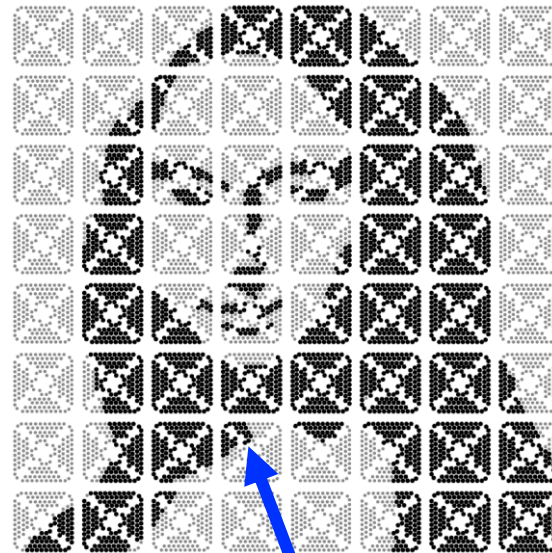
Unique addressing: each DNA “monomer” appears **exactly once** in final structure:

single DNA origami



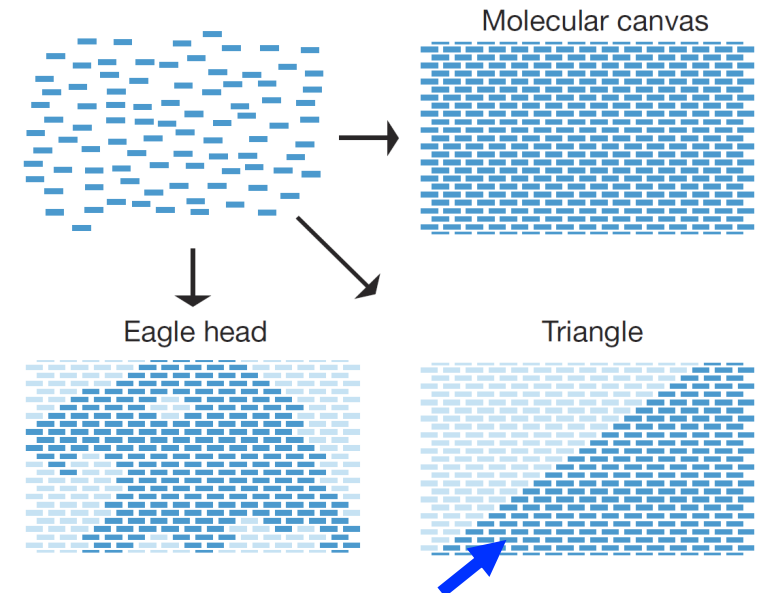
staple strand for position (4,2)

array of many DNA origamis



origami for position (4,2)

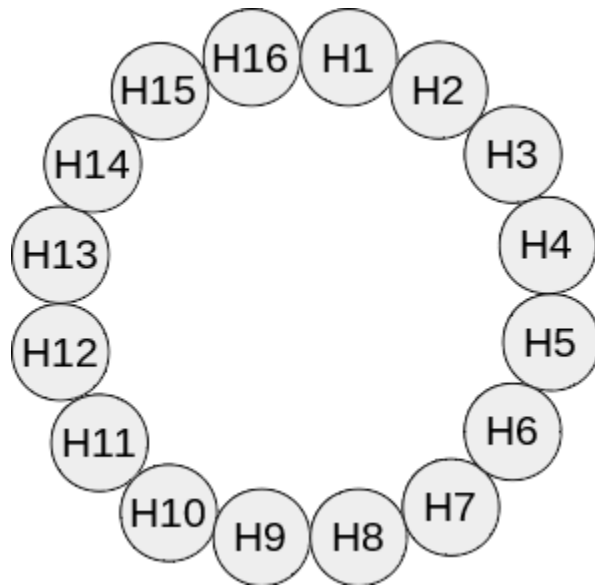
uniquely-addressed tiles



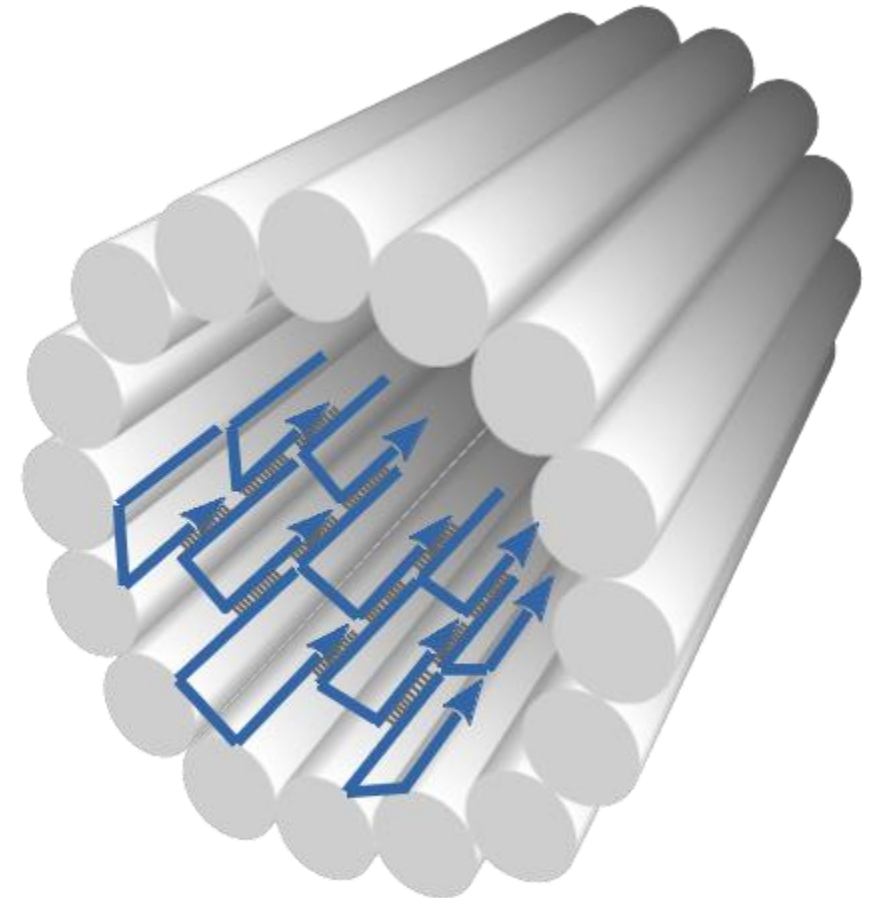
tile for position (4,2)

Algorithmic: DNA tiles are **reused** throughout the structure.

# Single-stranded tile tubes

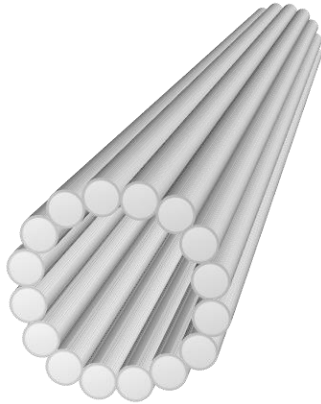


DNA-level diagram of 20-helix tube

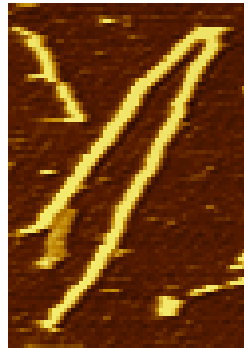


# Tubes and ribbons

tube



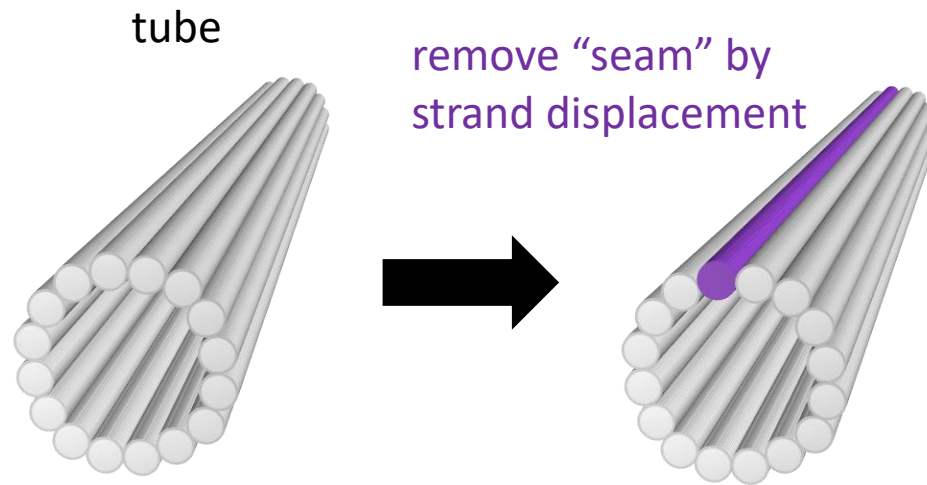
AFM  
image



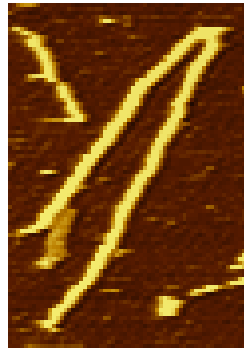
500 nm



# Tubes and ribbons



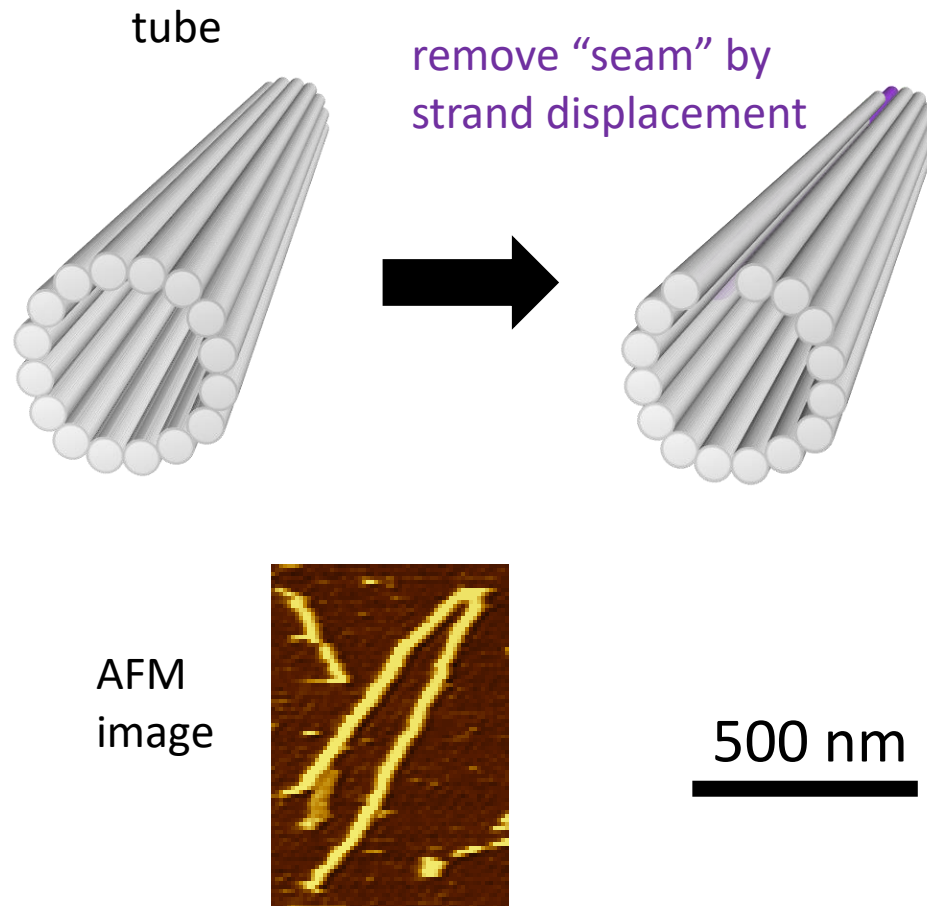
AFM  
image



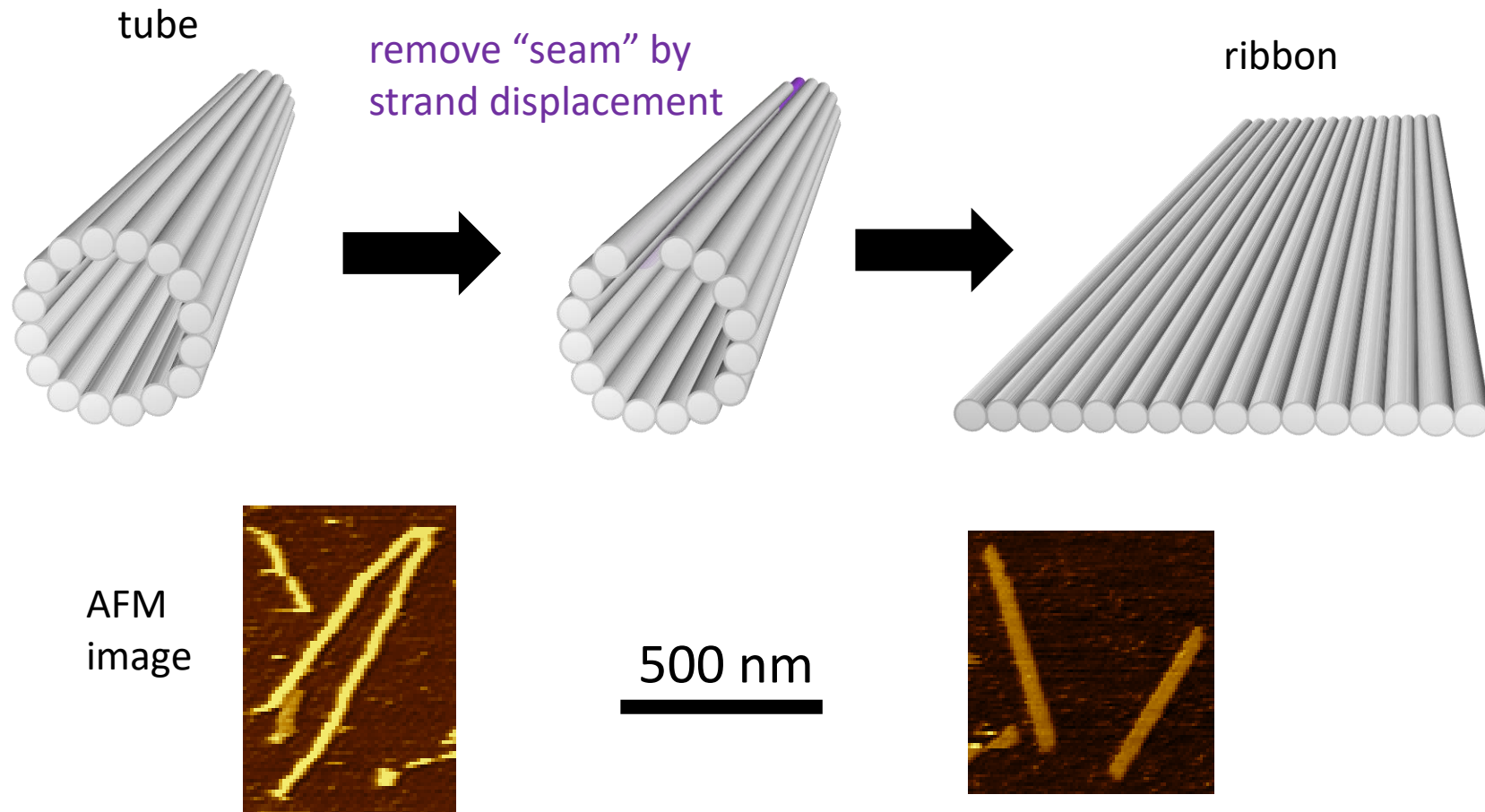
500 nm



# Tubes and ribbons

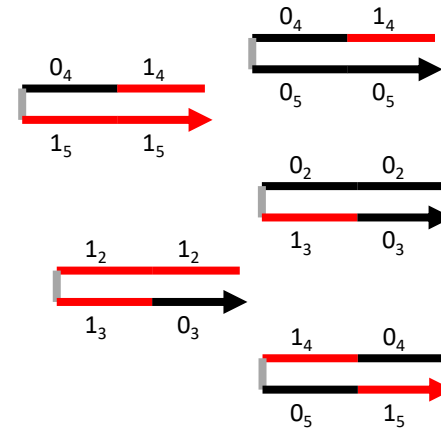


# Tubes and ribbons



# Seeded growth

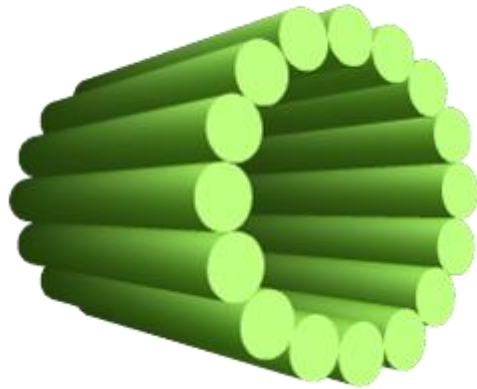
single-stranded tiles  
implementing circuit gates



barrier to *nucleation* (tile  
growth without seed) at  
[tile]=100 nM and  
temperature=50.9° C

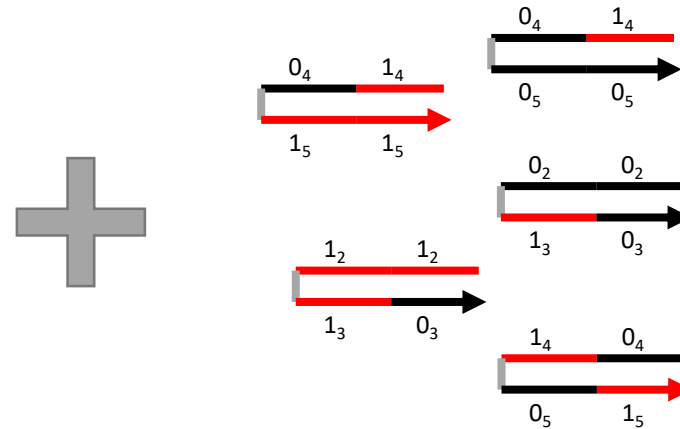
# Seeded growth

DNA origami seed



barrier to *nucleation* (tile growth without seed) at  
[tile]=100 nM and  
temperature=50.9° C

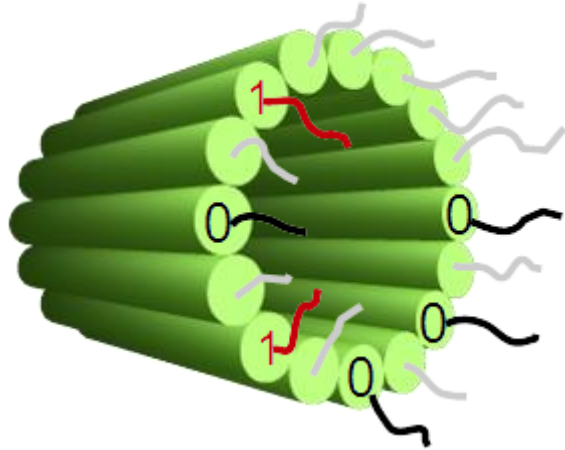
single-stranded tiles  
implementing circuit gates



# Seeded growth

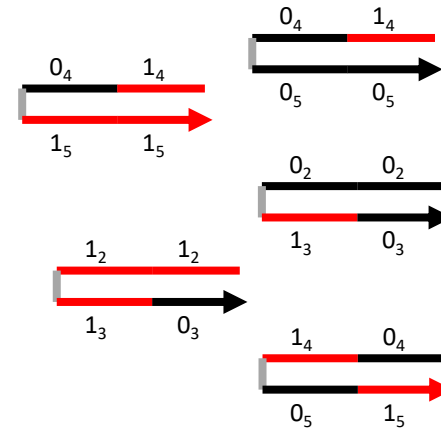
DNA origami seed

single-stranded “input-adaptor”  
extensions encoding 6 input bits



barrier to *nucleation* (tile  
growth without seed) at  
[tile]=100 nM and  
temperature=50.9° C

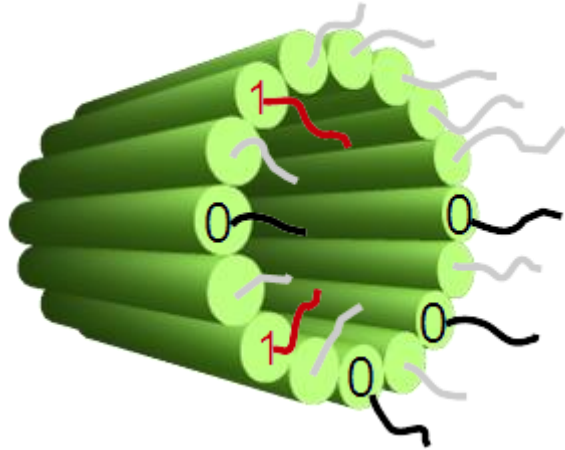
single-stranded tiles  
implementing circuit gates



# Seeded growth

DNA origami seed

single-stranded “input-adapter”  
extensions encoding 6 input bits

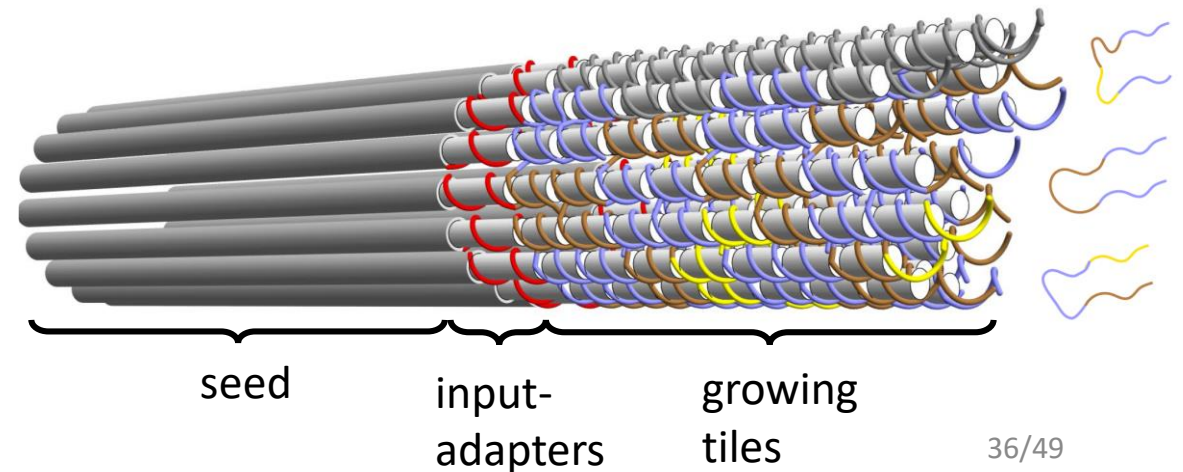
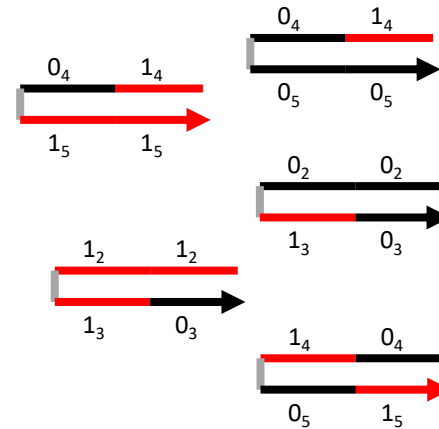


barrier to *nucleation* (tile  
growth without seed) at  
[tile]=100 nM and  
temperature=50.9° C

hold 8-48 hours



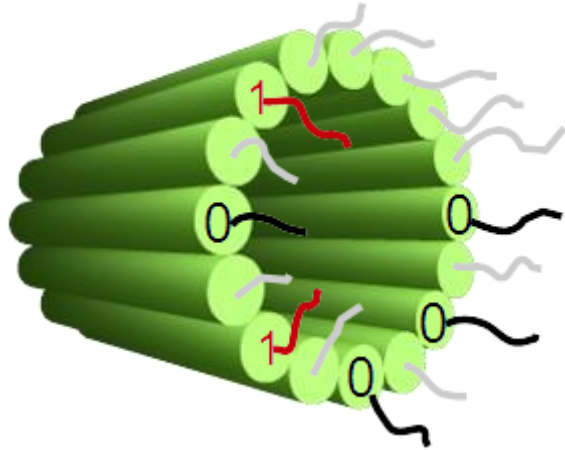
single-stranded tiles  
implementing circuit gates



# Seeded growth

DNA origami seed

single-stranded “input-adapter”  
extensions encoding 6 input bits

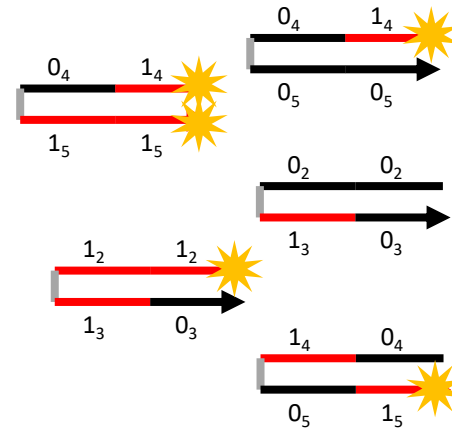


barrier to *nucleation* (tile  
growth without seed) at  
[tile]=100 nM and  
temperature=50.9° C

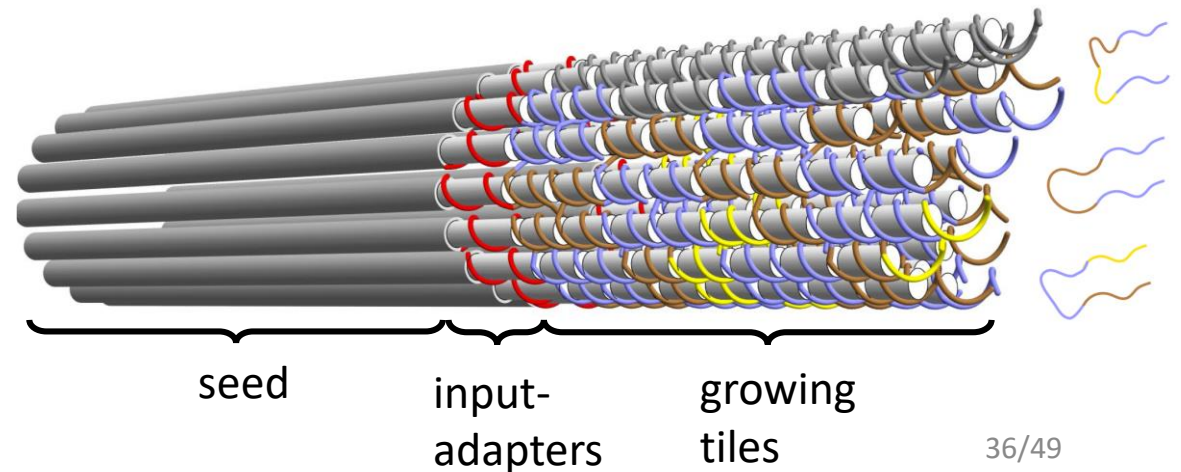
hold 8-48 hours



single-stranded tiles  
implementing circuit gates



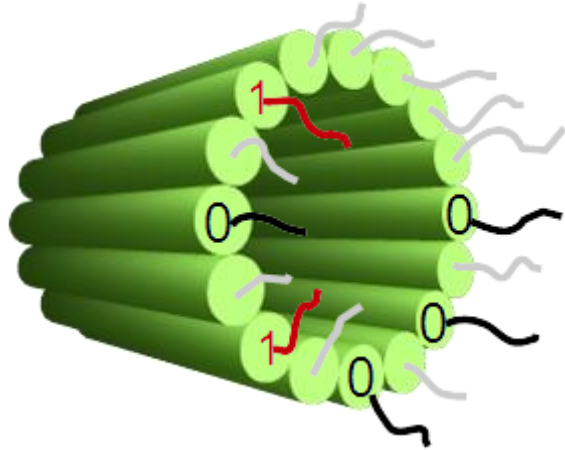
biotins if  
output = 1



# Seeded growth

DNA origami seed

single-stranded "input-adaptor"  
extensions encoding 6 input bits

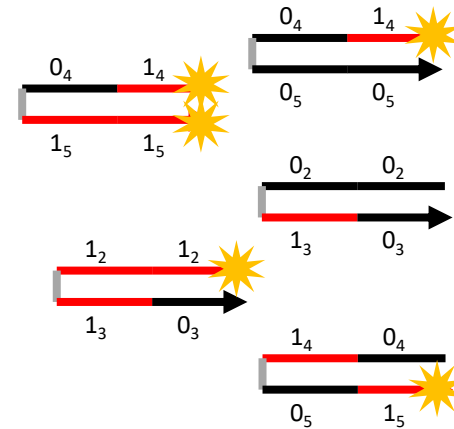


barrier to *nucleation* (tile growth without seed) at  
[tile]=100 nM and  
temperature=50.9° C

hold 8-48 hours

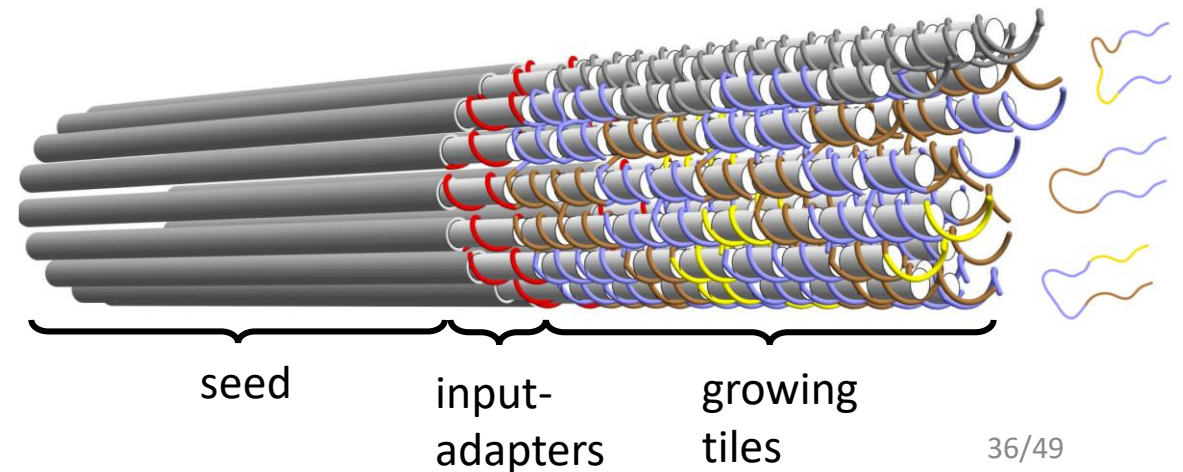


single-stranded tiles  
implementing circuit gates



can later add streptavidin to bind biotins  
and visualize where the 1's are

biotins if  
output = 1

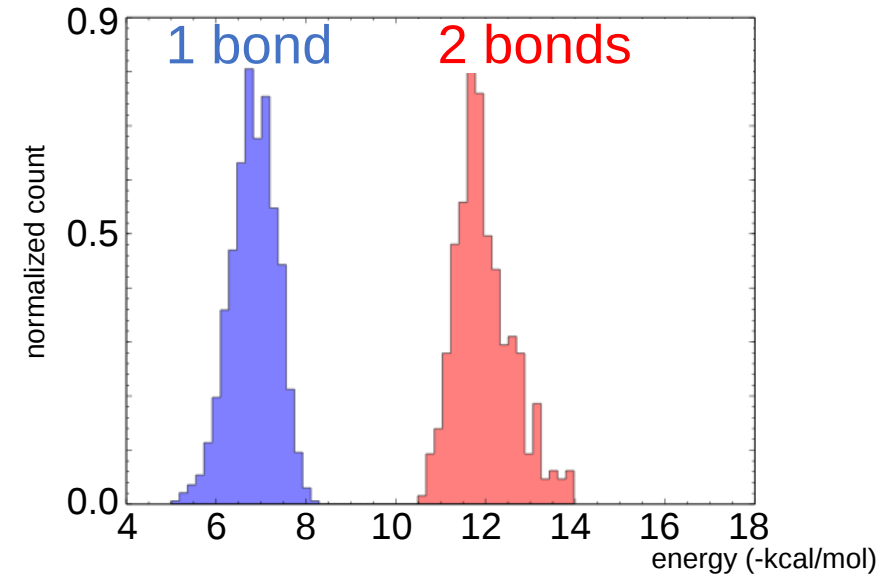
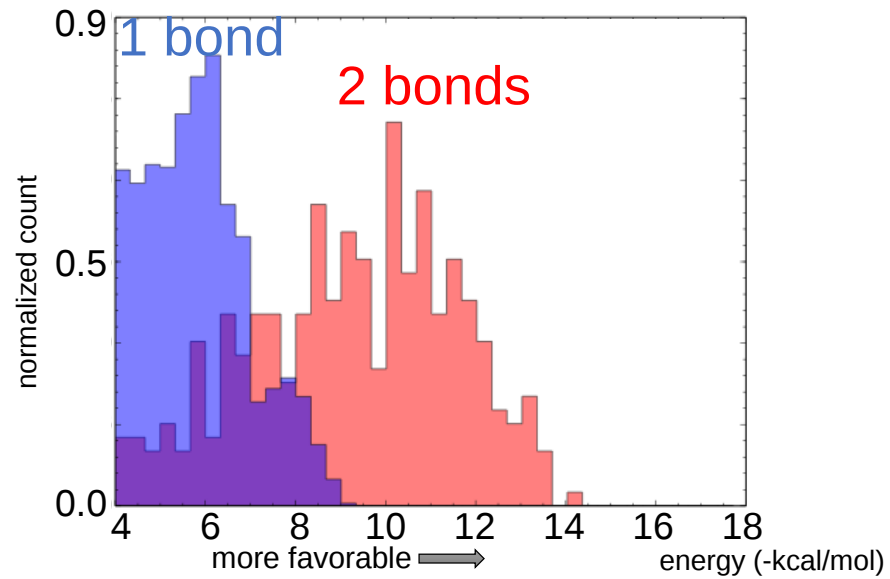


# DNA sequence design

Random sequences

vs

designed sequences

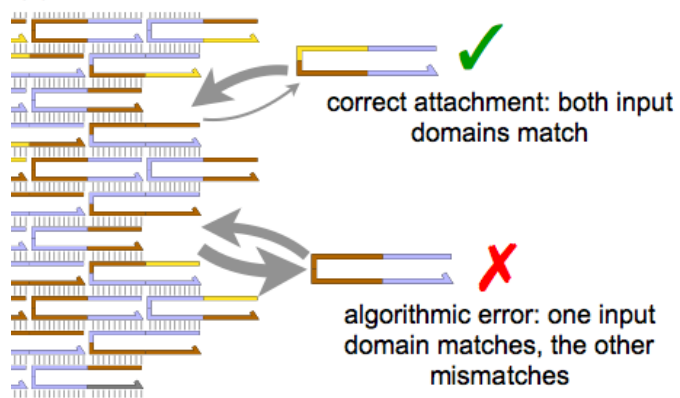
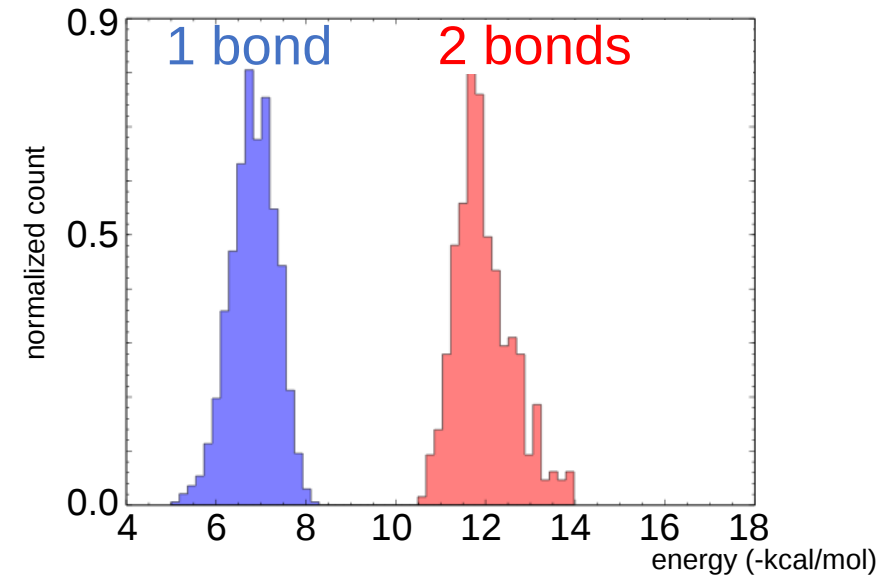
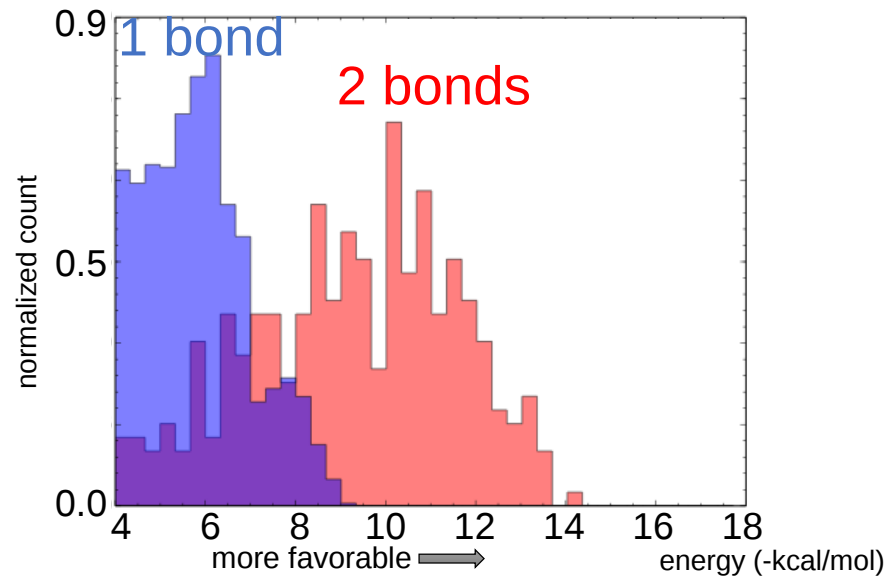


# DNA sequence design

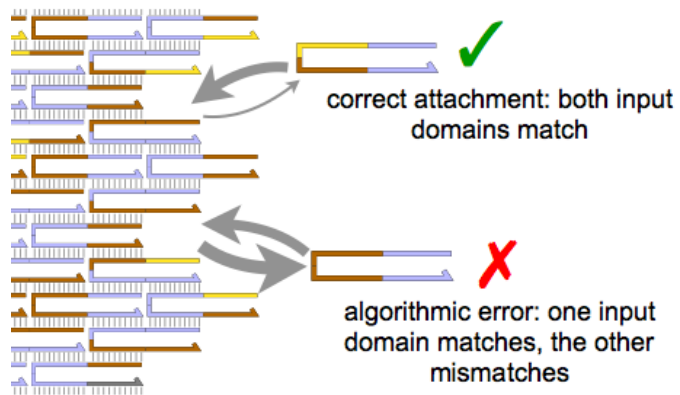
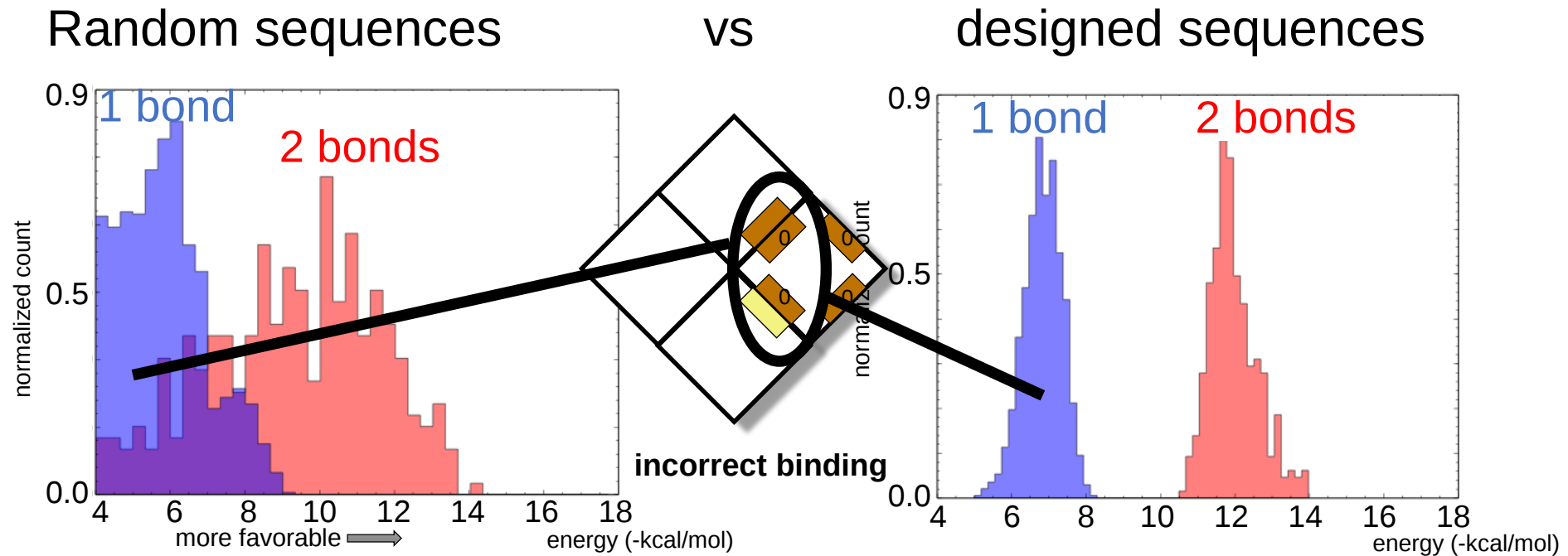
Random sequences

vs

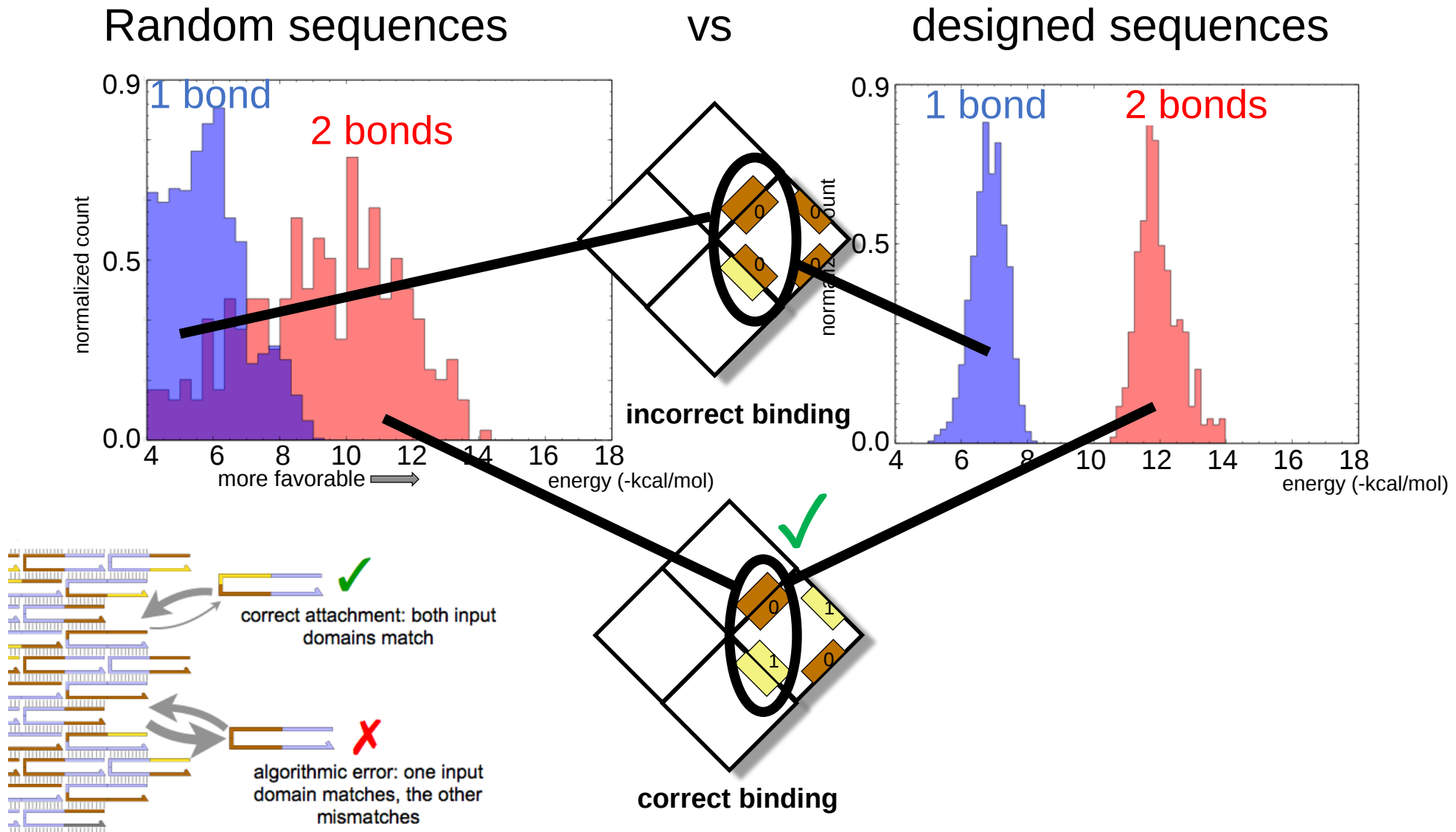
designed sequences



# DNA sequence design



# DNA sequence design

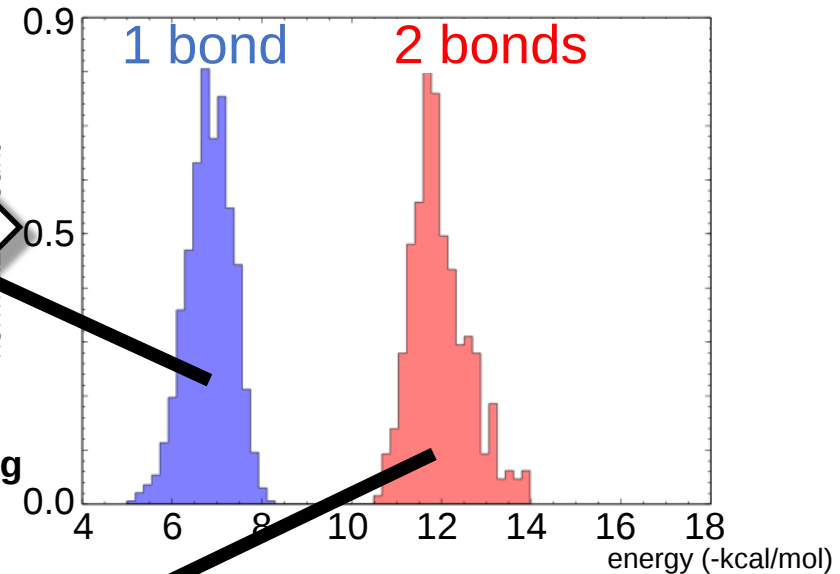
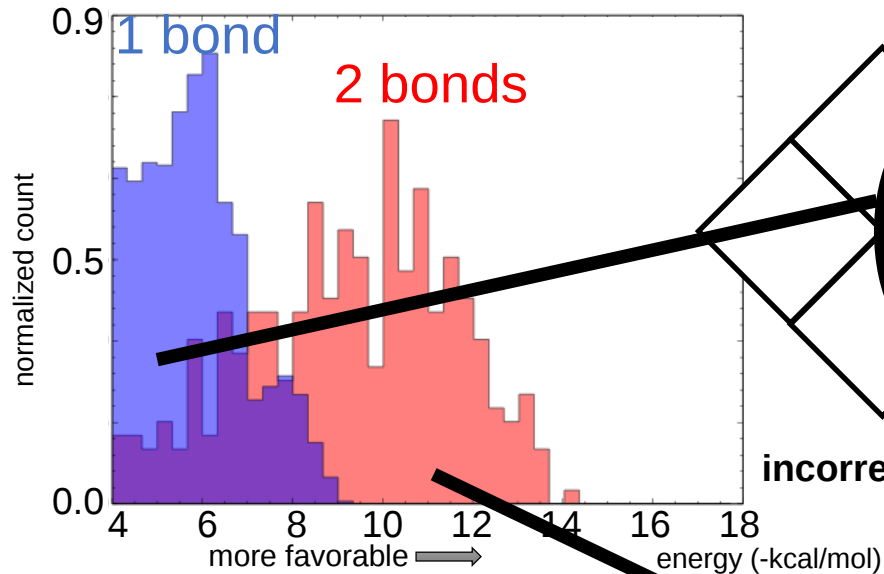


# DNA sequence design

Random sequences

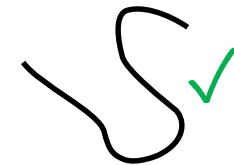
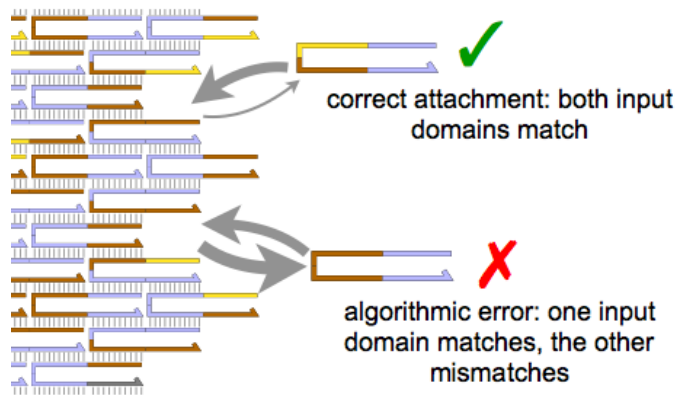
vs

designed sequences



incorrect binding

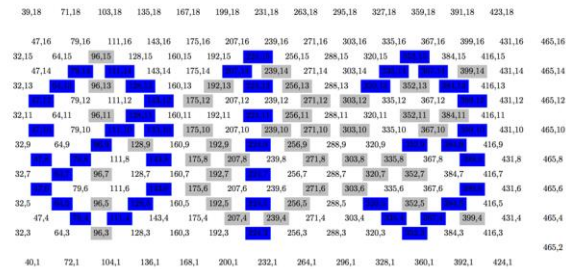
correct binding



Other goals:

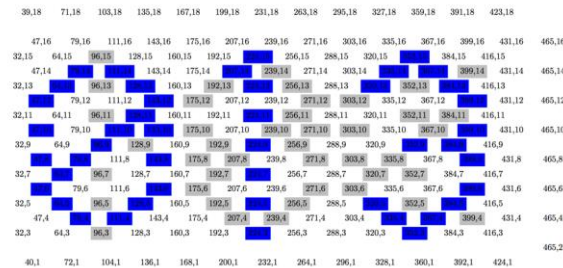
- low strand secondary structure
- low interaction between strands

# Bar-coding origami seed for imaging multiple samples at once



some staples of origami seed  
have version with a biotin

# Bar-coding origami seed for imaging multiple samples at once



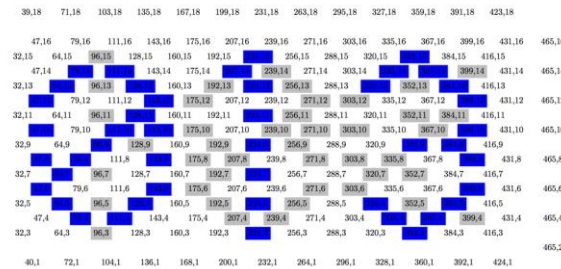
some staples of origami seed have version with a biotin

Generate  
plate map



```
*****
* pos3su, coding staples, no biotin (14 staples)
16H barrel stap 2
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
pos3su, coding staples, biotin (16 staples)
16H 3bit biotin staples
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
*****
```

# Bar-coding origami seed for imaging multiple samples at once



some staples of origami seed have version with a biotin

Generate plate map

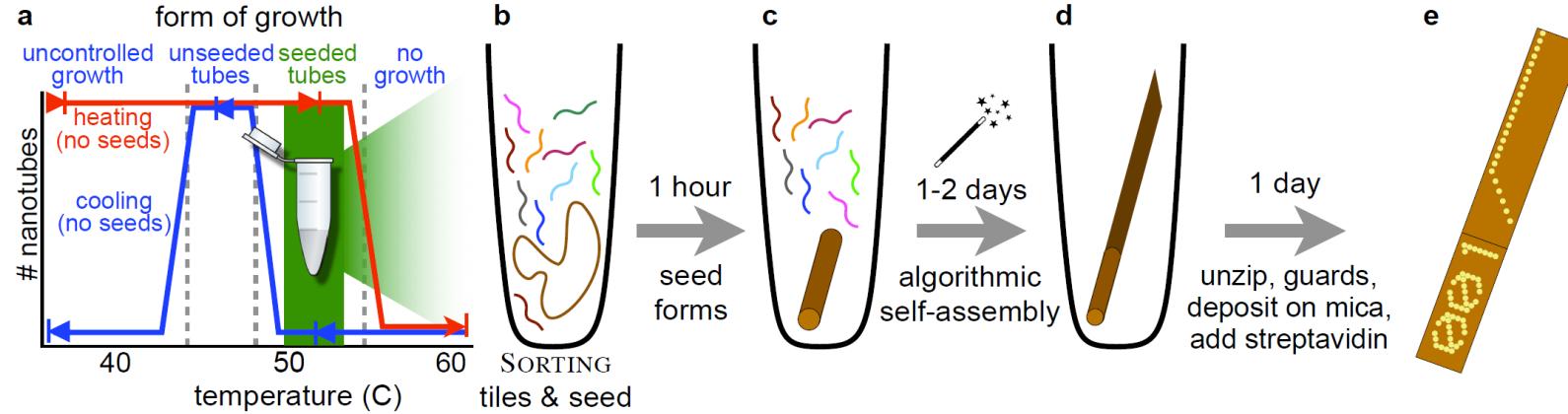
```
*****
* pos3su, coding staples, no biotin (14 staples)
16H barrel stap 2
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
A      X X
B      X X
C      X X
D      X X
E      X X
F      X X
G      X X
H
pos3su, coding staples, biotin (16 staples)
16H 3bit biotin staples
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
A      X X
B      X X
C      X X
D      X X
E      X X
F      X X
G      X X
H
*****
```

represents some combination of circuit and input, e.g.,  
013 = “parity circuit, input=011010”

label with streptavidin



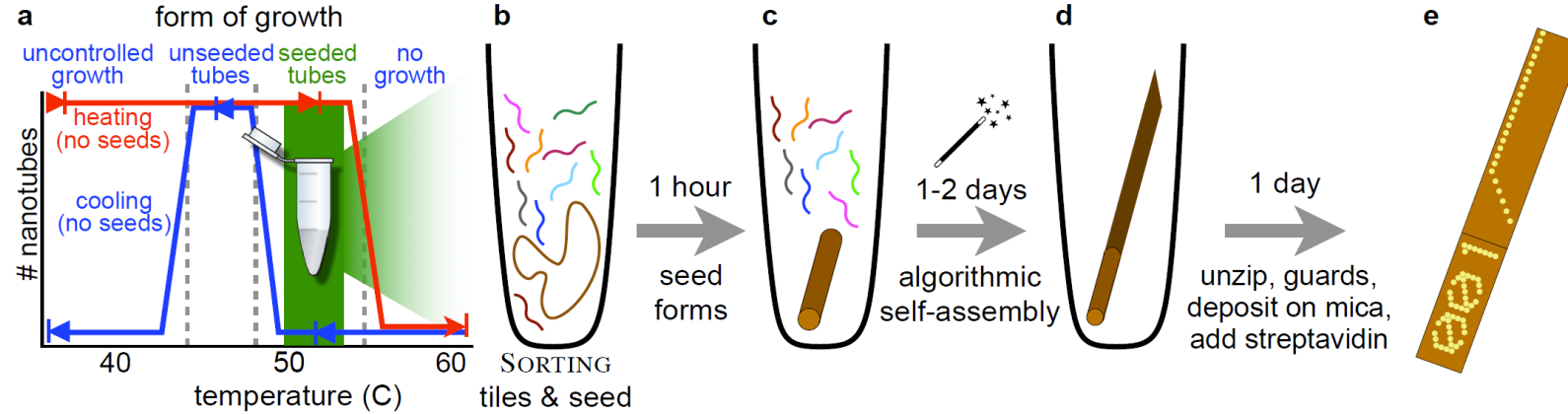
# Experimental protocol



To execute circuit  $\gamma$  on input  $x \in \{0,1\}^*$ :

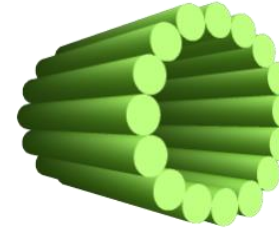
- Mix

# Experimental protocol

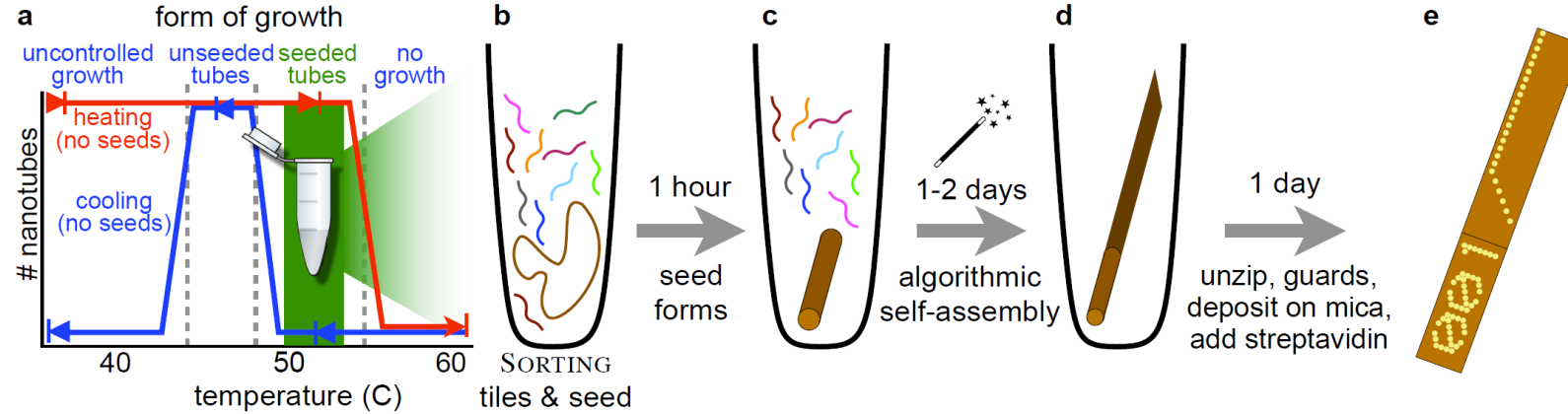


To execute circuit  $\gamma$  on input  $x \in \{0,1\}^*$ :

- Mix
  - origami (bar-coded to identify both  $\gamma$  and  $x$ )

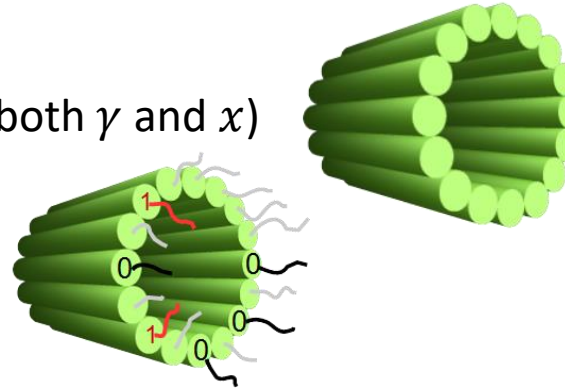


# Experimental protocol

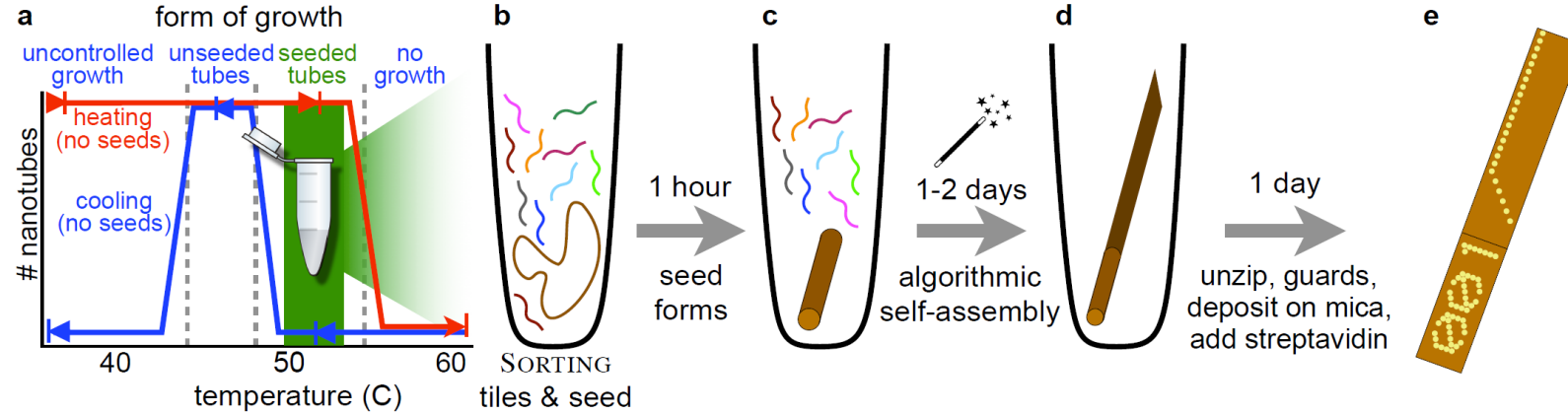


To execute circuit  $\gamma$  on input  $x \in \{0,1\}^*$ :

- Mix
  - origami (bar-coded to identify both  $\gamma$  and  $x$ )
  - “adapter” strands encoding  $x$

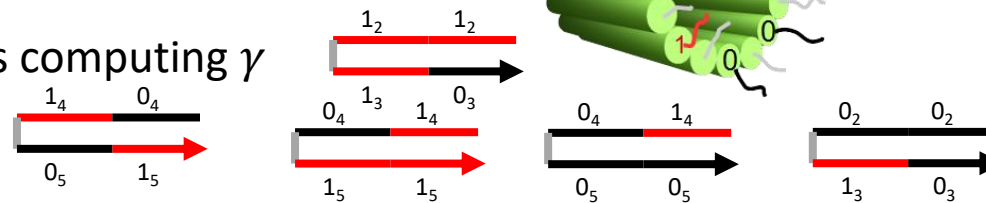


# Experimental protocol

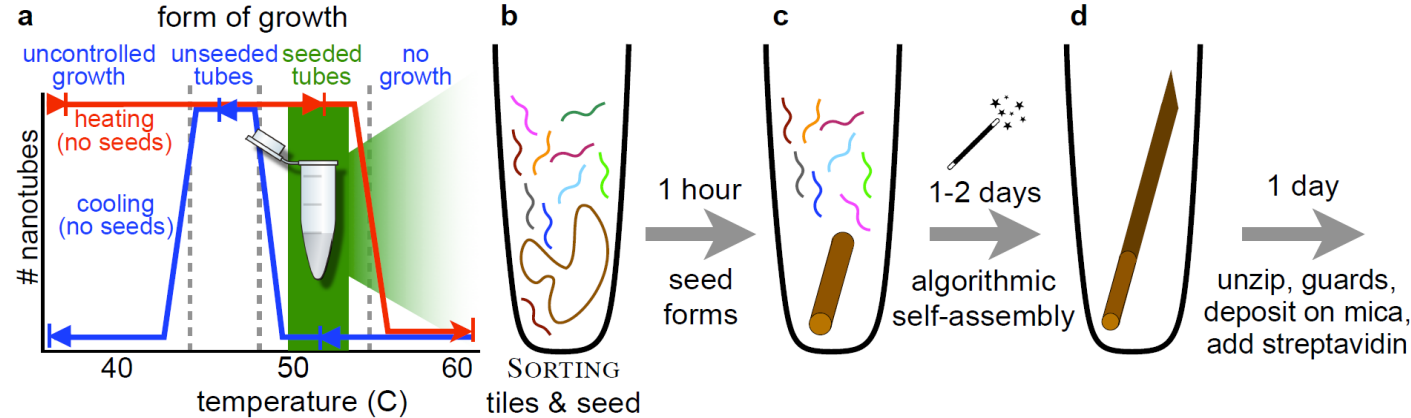


To execute circuit  $\gamma$  on input  $x \in \{0,1\}^*$ :

- Mix
  - origami (bar-coded to identify both  $\gamma$  and  $x$ )
  - “adapter” strands encoding  $x$
  - tiles computing  $\gamma$



# Experimental protocol



To execute circuit  $\gamma$  on input  $x \in \{0,1\}^*$ :

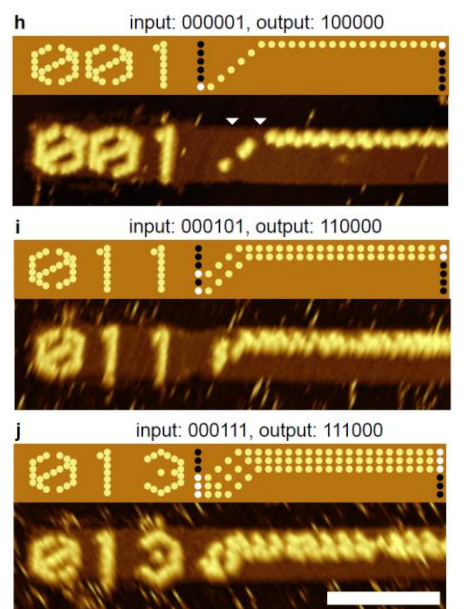
- Mix
  - origami (bar-coded to identify both  $\gamma$  and  $x$ )
  - “adapter” strands encoding  $x$
  - tiles computing  $\gamma$
- Anneal 90° C to 50.9° C in 1 hour (*origami seeds form*)
- Hold at 50.9° C for 1-2 days (*tiles grow tubes from seed*)
- Add “unzipper” strands (remove seam to convert tube to ribbon)
- Add “guard” strands (complements of output sticky ends, to deactivate tiles)
- Deposit on mica, buffer wash, add streptavidin, AFM



# Results

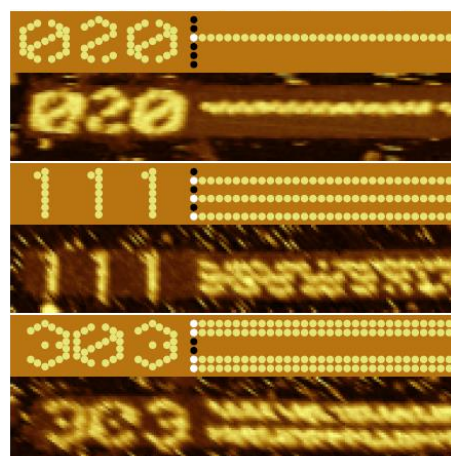
```
def test_parity():  
    actual = parity('100101')  
  
    expected =   
    assertEquals(expected, actual)
```

## SORTING



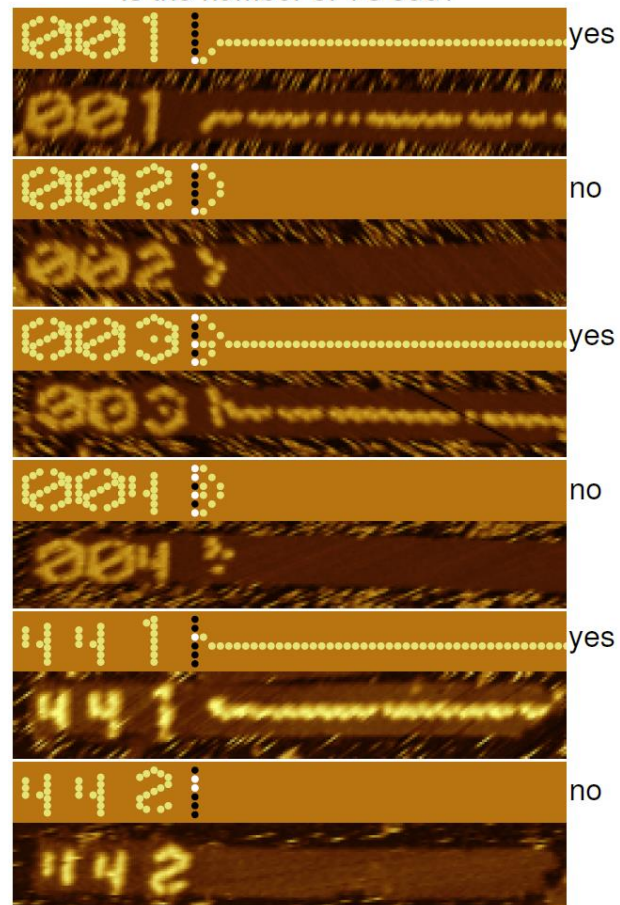
100 nm

## COPY



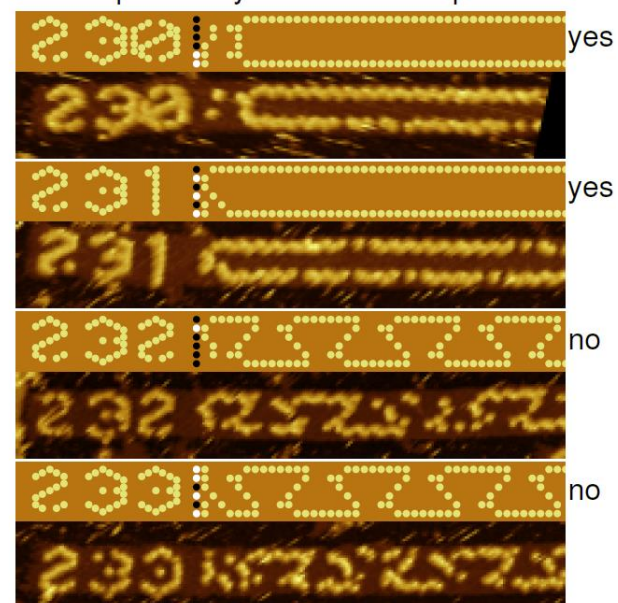
## PARITY

Is the number of 1's odd?



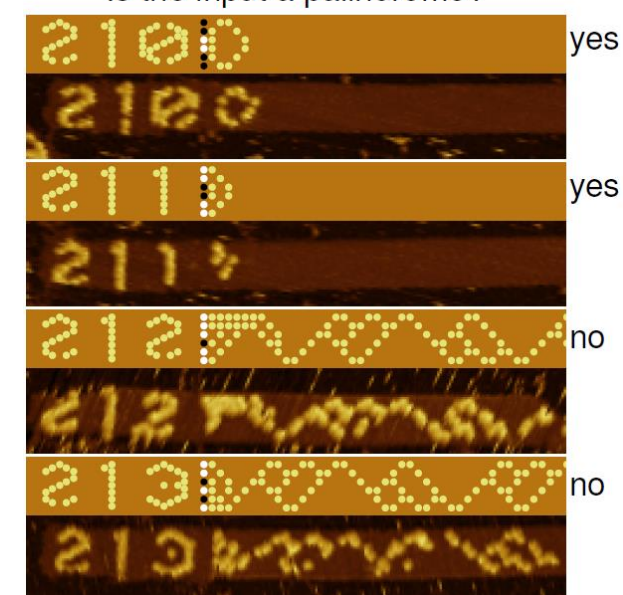
## MULTIPLEOF3

Is the input binary number a multiple of 3?



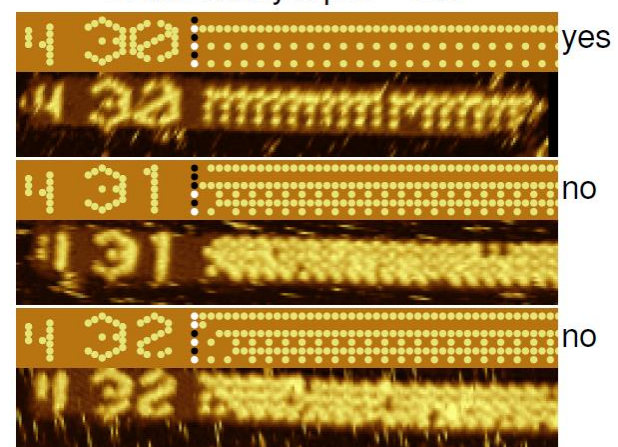
## PALINDROME

Is the input a palindrome?



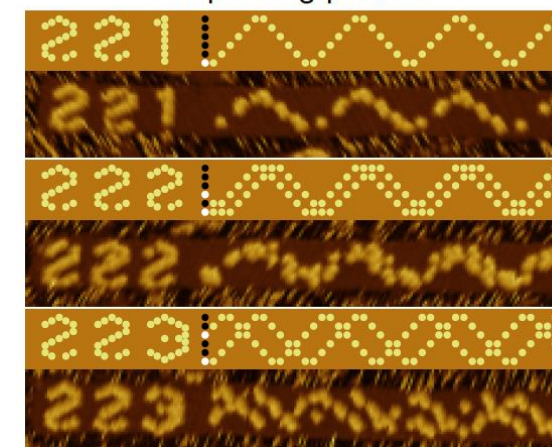
## RECOGNISE21

Is the binary input = 21?

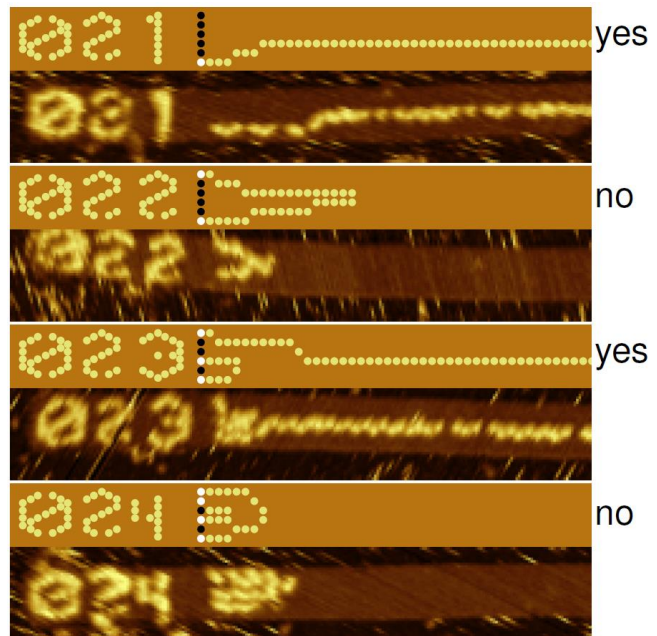


## ZIG-ZAG

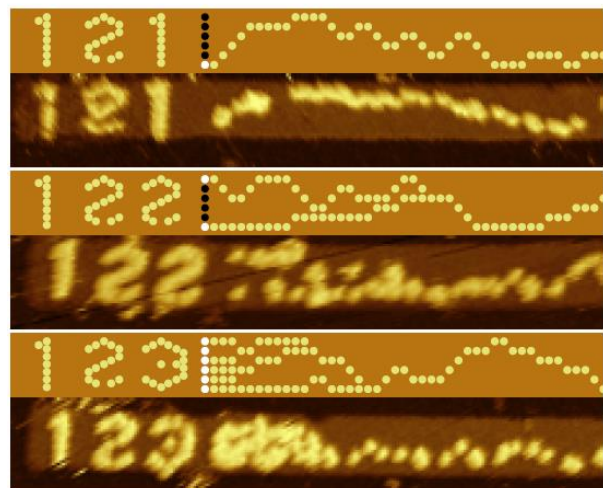
Repeating pattern



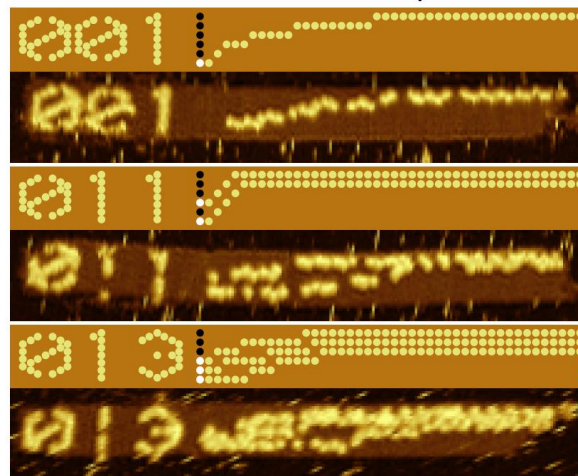
## LAZYPARITY



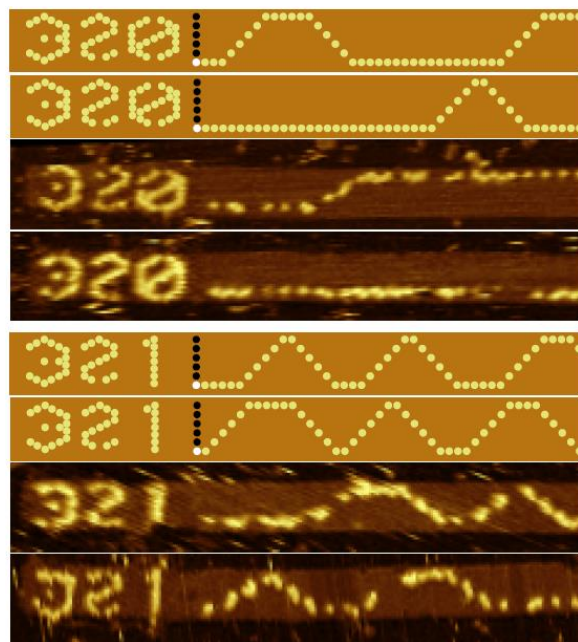
## LEADERELECTION



## LAZYSORTING



## WAVES

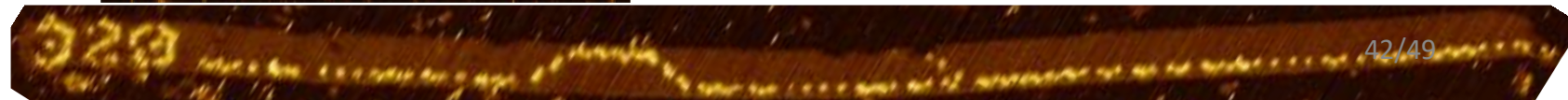
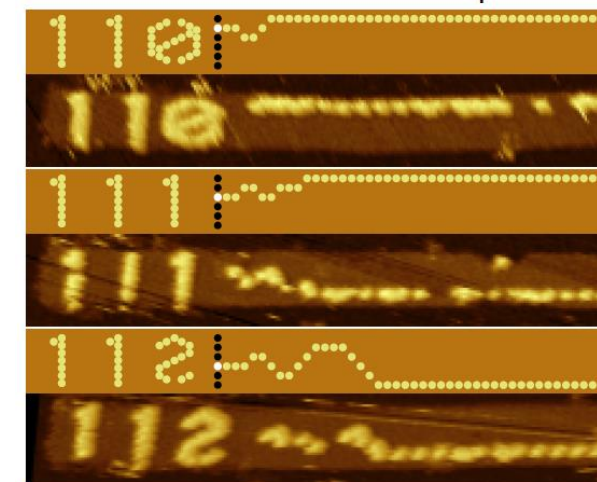


## RANDOMWALKINGBIT



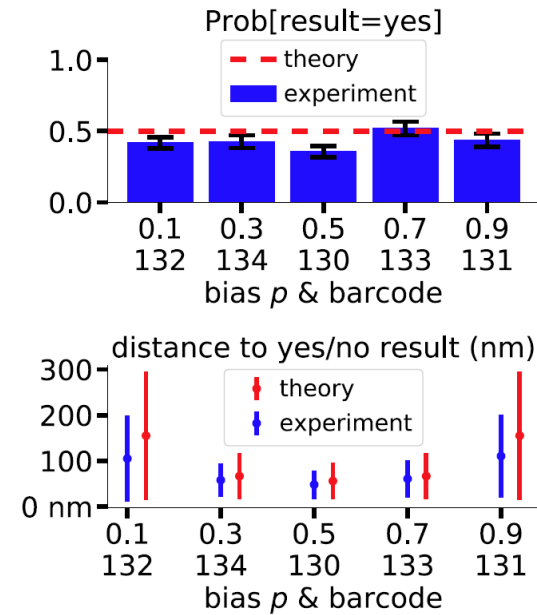
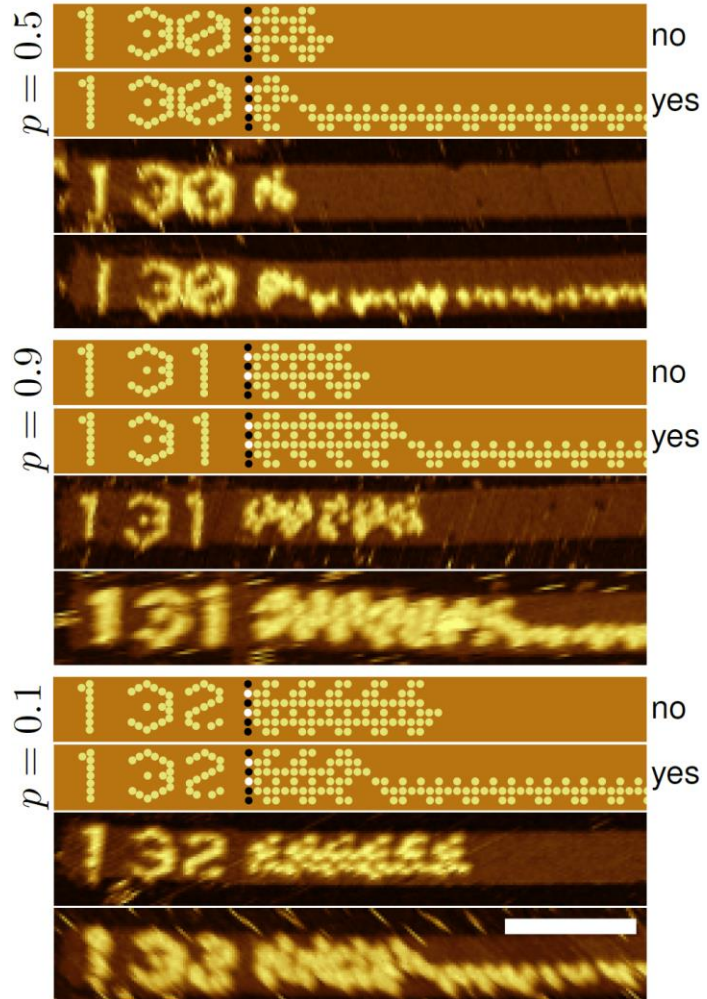
## ABSORBINGRANDOMWALKINGBIT

Random walker absorbs to top/bottom



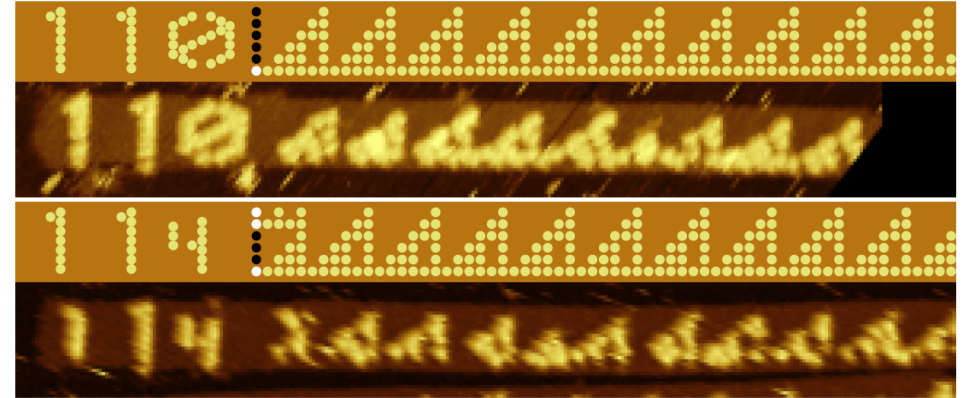
## FAIRCOIN

Unbiasing a biased coin



## RULE110

Simulation of a cellular automaton



# Counting to 63

Circuit with 63 distinct strings



Is there a 64-counter?

**No!**

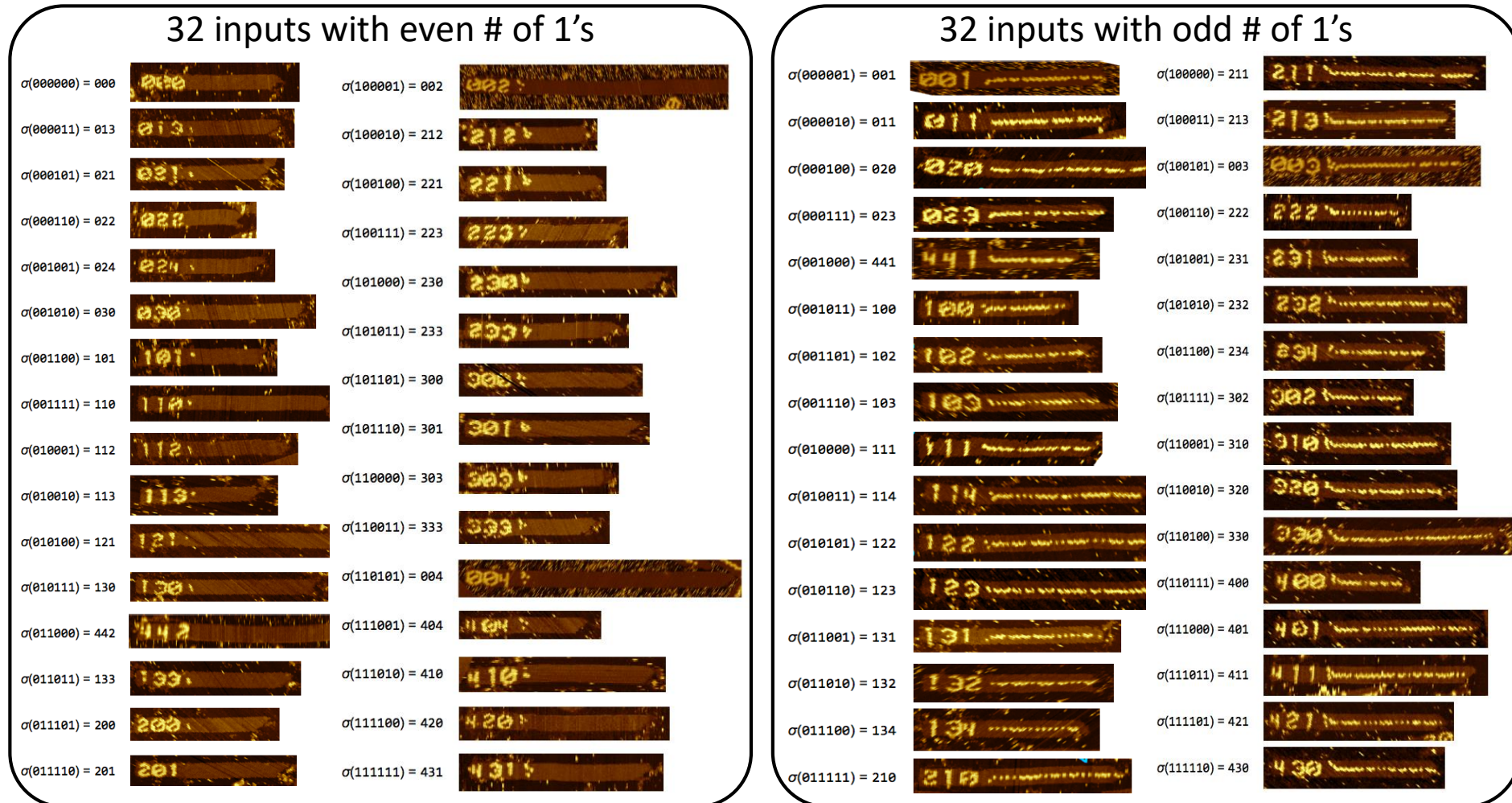
Proof by Tristan Stérin, ENS Lyon & Inria

(Consequence of following theorem: *Any bijective Boolean circuit having one output bit that does not depend on all of its input bits cannot compute odd bijections.*)



# Parity tested on all inputs

$2^6 = 64$  inputs with 6 bits

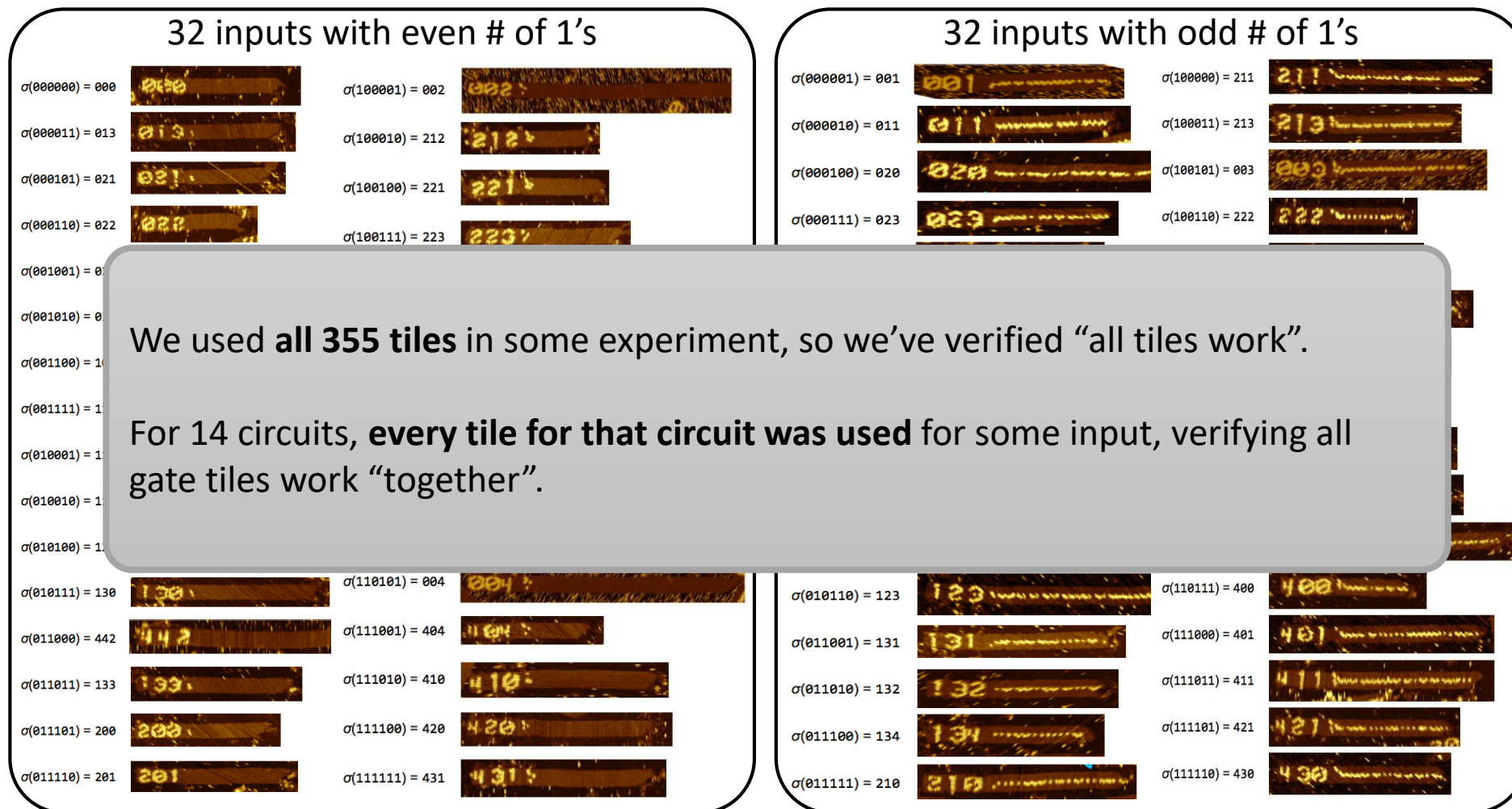


$\sigma(6\text{-bit input}) = 3\text{-digit barcode representing that input}$

150 nm

# Parity tested on all inputs

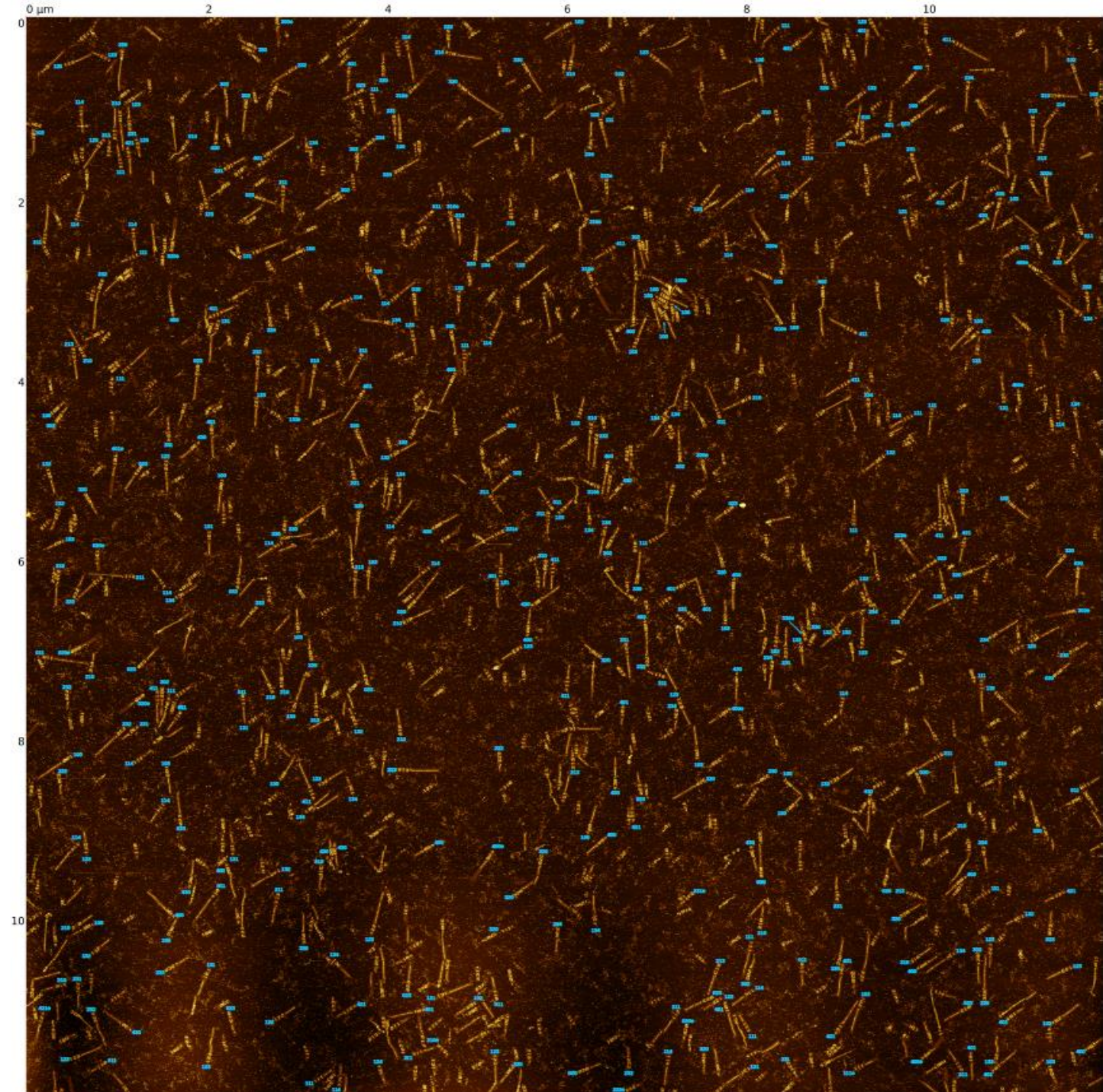
$2^6 = 64$  inputs with 6 bits



$\sigma$ (6-bit input) = 3-digit barcode representing that input

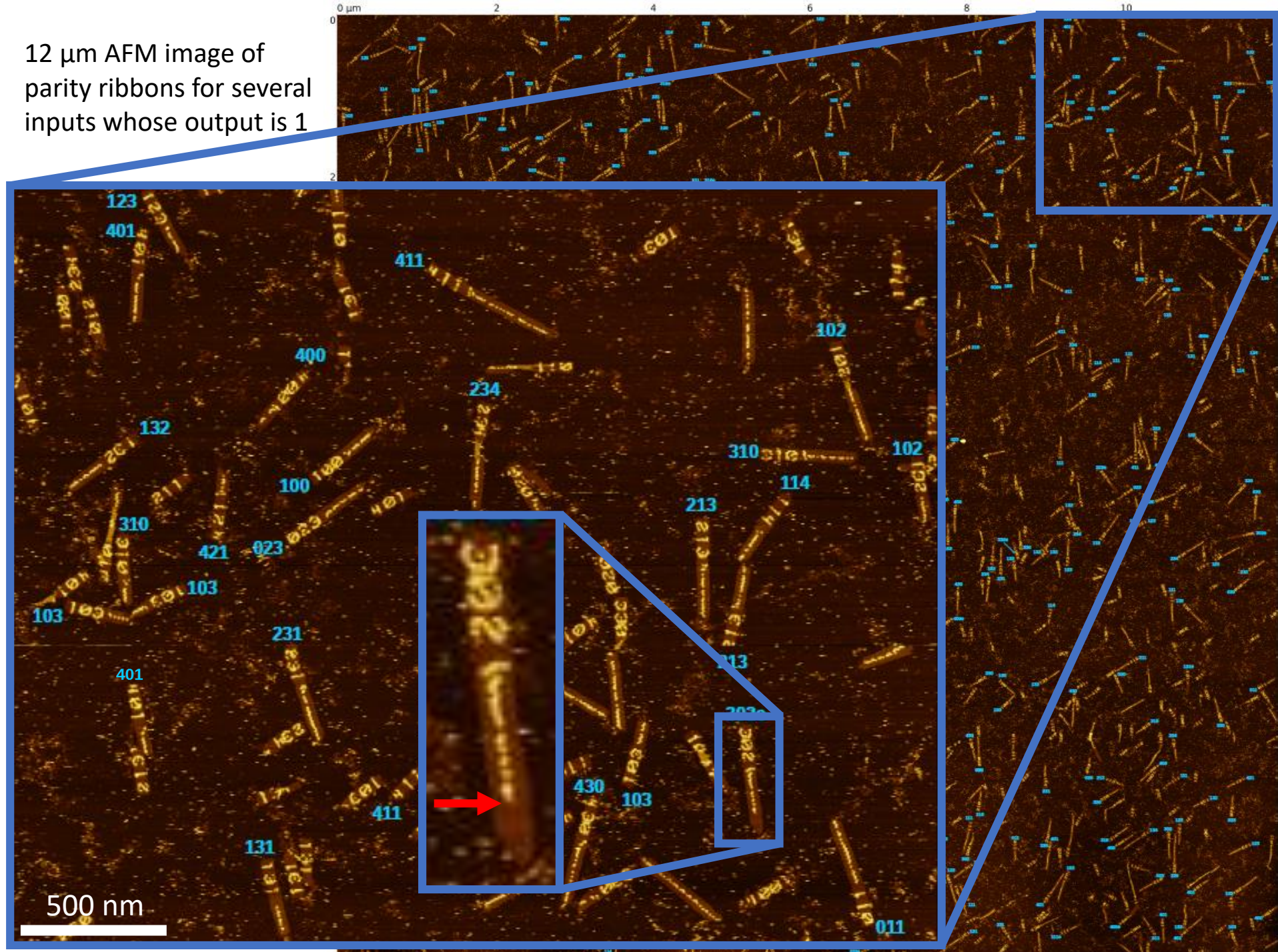
150 nm

12  $\mu\text{m}$  AFM image of  
parity ribbons for several  
inputs whose output is 1

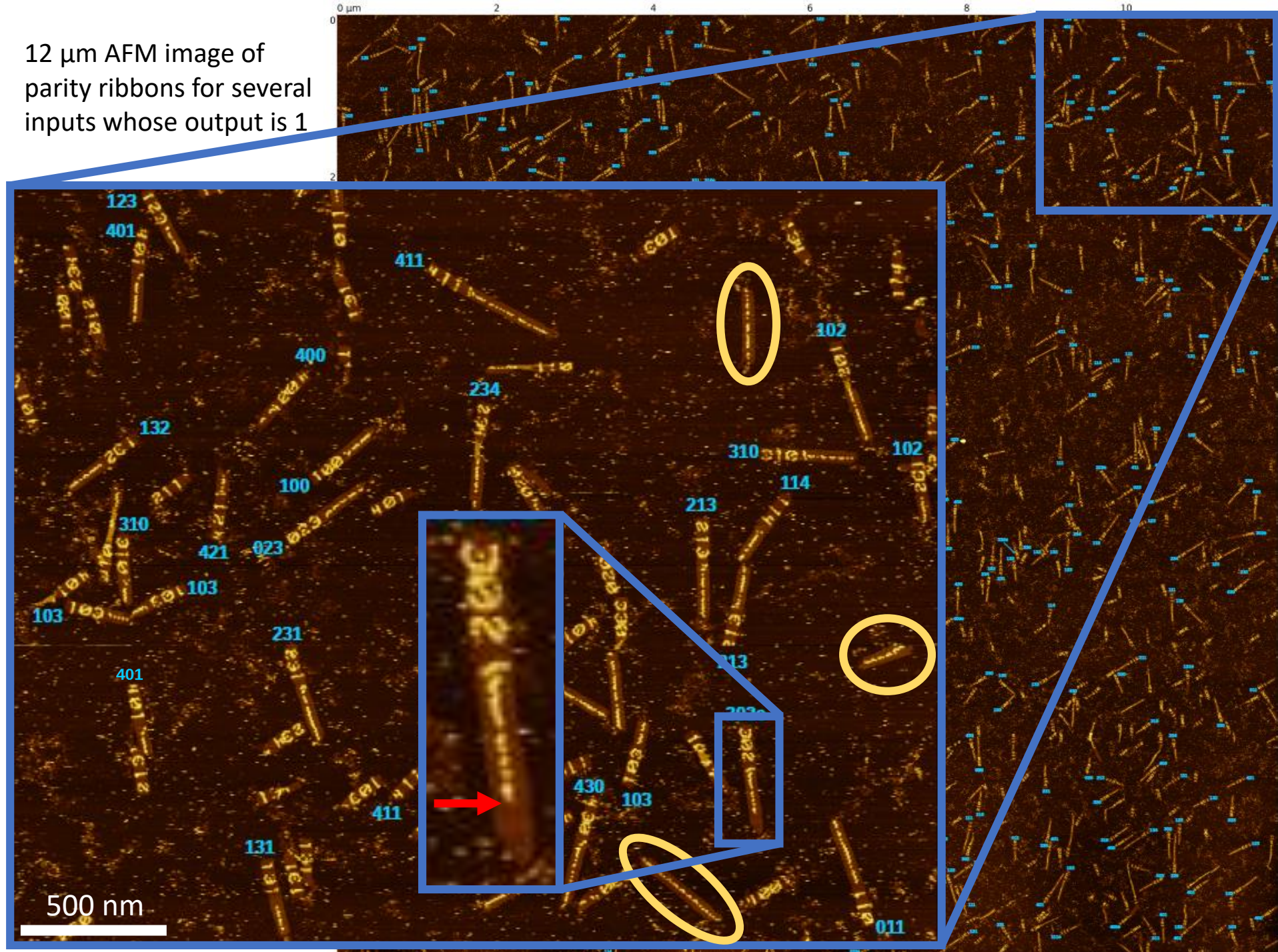


\_\_\_\_\_

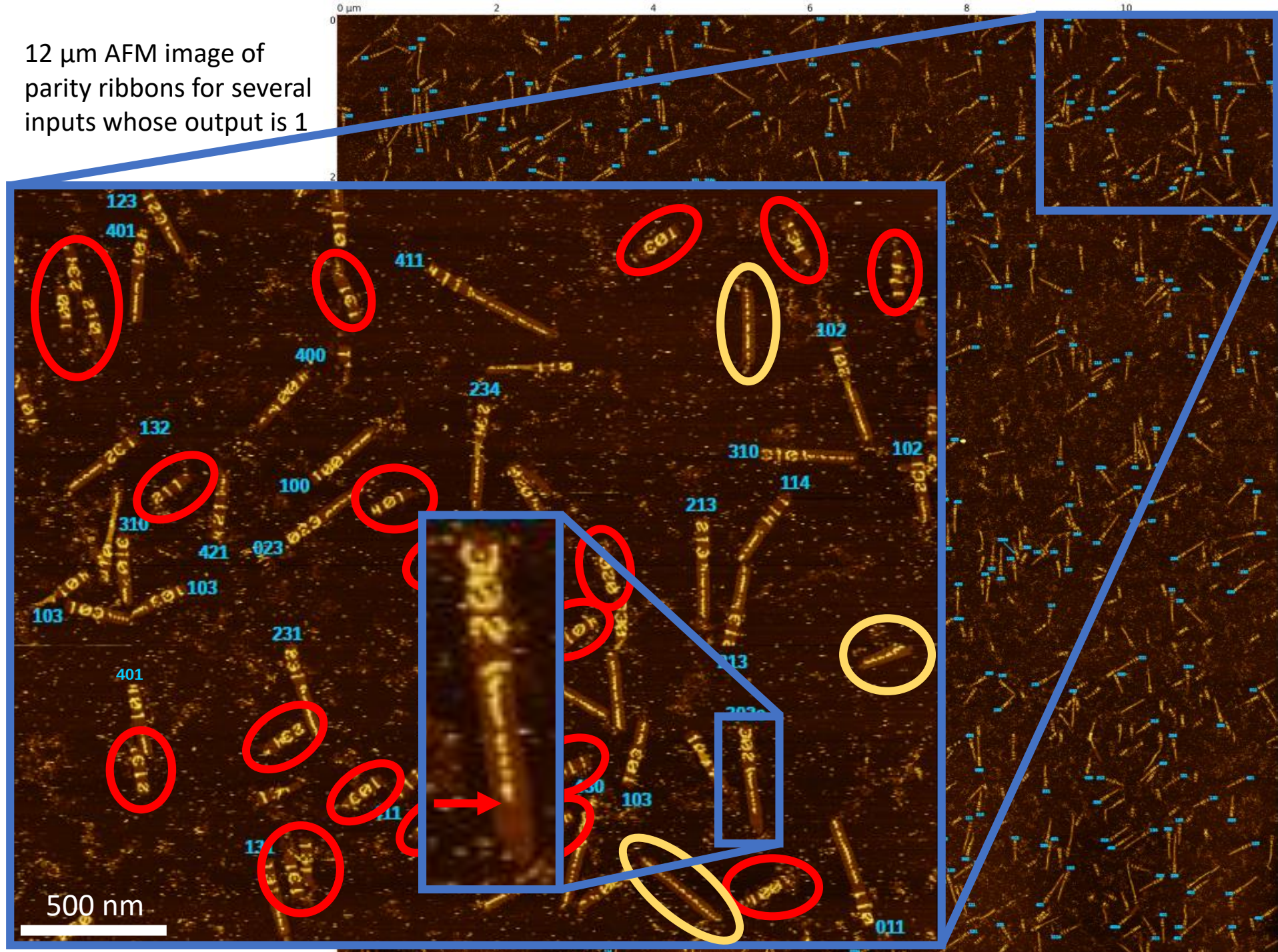
12  $\mu\text{m}$  AFM image of  
parity ribbons for several  
inputs whose output is 1



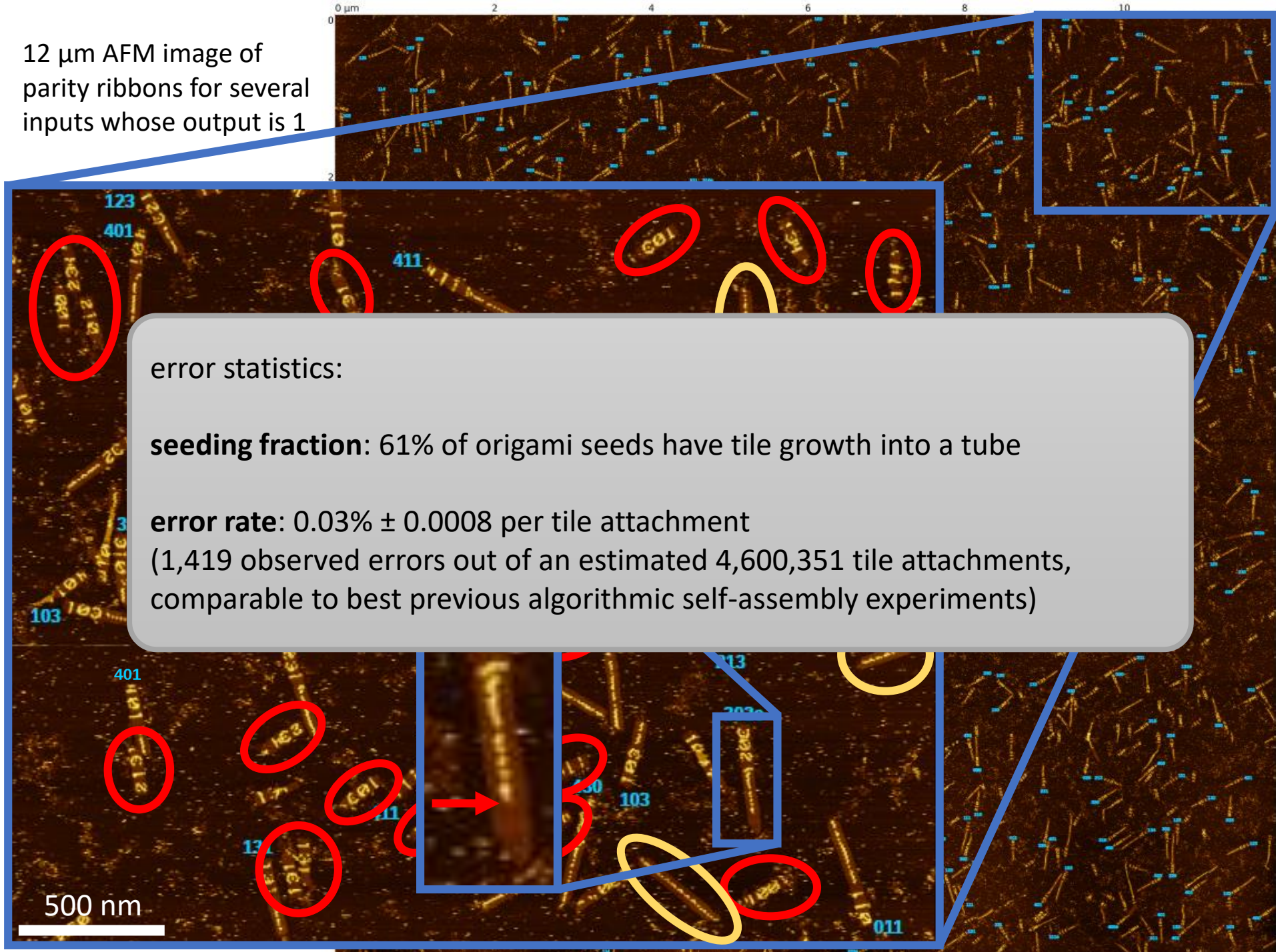
12  $\mu\text{m}$  AFM image of  
parity ribbons for several  
inputs whose output is 1



12  $\mu\text{m}$  AFM image of  
parity ribbons for several  
inputs whose output is 1



12  $\mu\text{m}$  AFM image of  
parity ribbons for several  
inputs whose output is 1



# What did we learn?

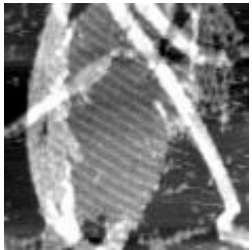
A small(ish) library of molecules can be reprogrammed to self-assemble reliably into many complex patterns, by processing information as they grow.

# What did we learn?

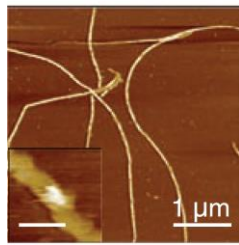
A small(ish) library of molecules can be reprogrammed to self-assemble reliably into many complex patterns, by processing information as they grow.

Contrasting with other self-assembly work:

more algorithmic control  
than **periodic** self-assembly



double-crossover  
tile lattices (Winfree  
et al., *Nature* 1998)



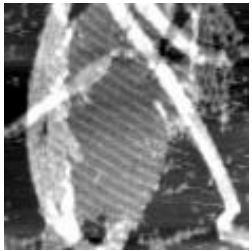
single-stranded  
tile tubes (Yin et  
al., *Science* 2008)

# What did we learn?

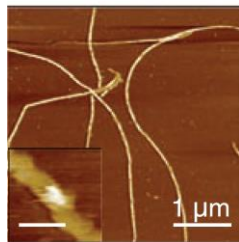
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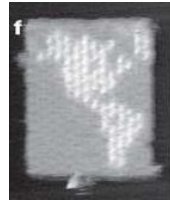


double-crossover  
tile lattices (Winfree  
et al., *Nature* 1998)



single-stranded  
tile tubes (Yin et  
al., *Science* 2008)

fewer types of DNA strands  
required than **uniquely-  
addressed** self-assembly



DNA origami  
(Rothemund,  
*Nature* 2006)



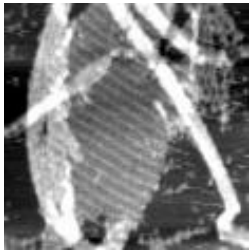
single-stranded  
tile lattice (Wei et  
al., *Nature* 2012)

# What did we learn?

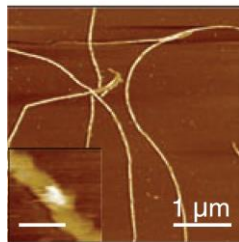
A small(ish) library of molecules can be reprogrammed to self-assemble reliably into many complex patterns, by processing information as they grow.

Contrasting with other self-assembly work:

more algorithmic control  
than **periodic** self-assembly

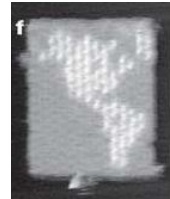


double-crossover  
tile lattices (Winfree  
et al., *Nature* 1998)



single-stranded  
tile tubes (Yin et  
al., *Science* 2008)

fewer types of DNA strands  
required than **uniquely-  
addressed** self-assembly



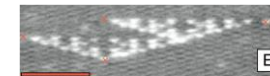
DNA origami  
(Rothemund,  
*Nature* 2006)



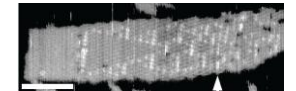
single-stranded  
tile lattice (Wei et  
al., *Nature* 2012)

order of magnitude more tile  
types available than previous  
**algorithmic** self-assembly

double-crossover tile lattices



(Rothemund et al.,  
*PLoS Bio* 2004)



(Fujibayashi et al.,  
*Nano Letters* 2008)



(Barish et al., *PNAS*  
2009)



(Evans, *Ph.D. thesis*  
2014)

# Next big challenge: Algorithmically control shape

We “drew” interesting patterns on a boring shape (infinite rectangle)



Can we grow interesting shapes?

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**Theorem:** There is a single set  $T$  of tile types, so that, for any finite shape  $S$ , from an appropriately chosen seed  $\sigma_S$  “encoding”  $S$ ,  $T$  self-assembles  $S$ .

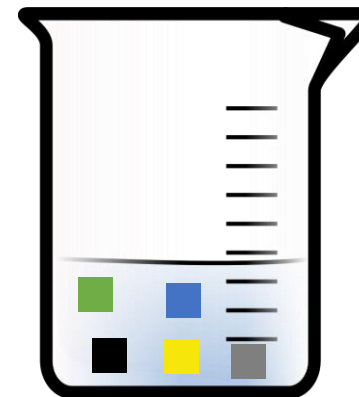
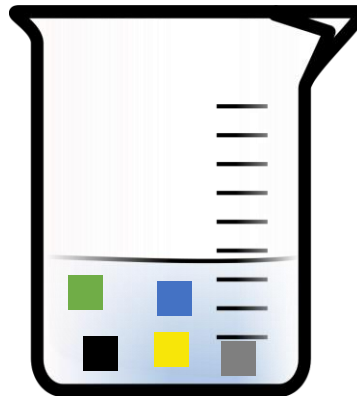
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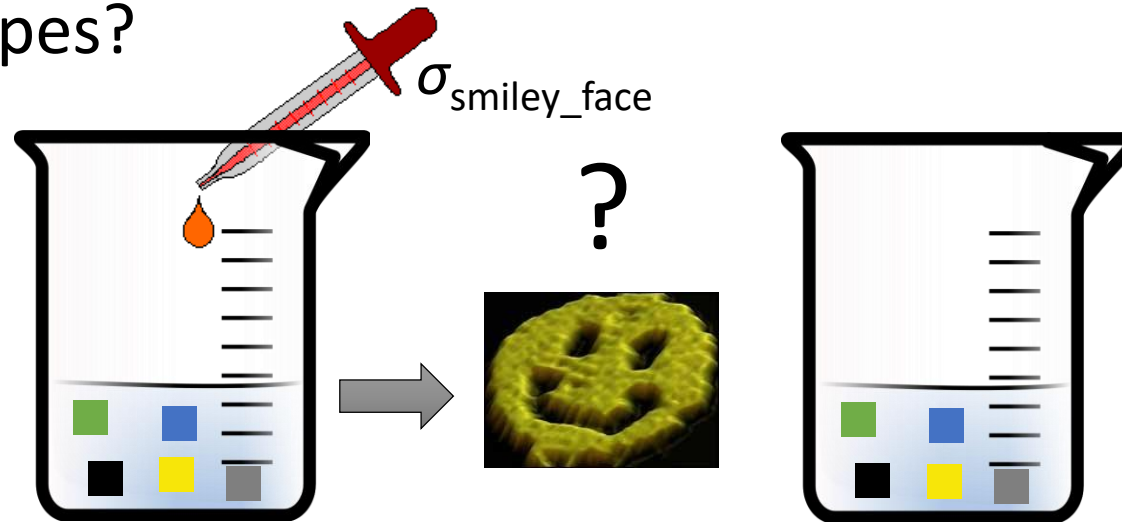
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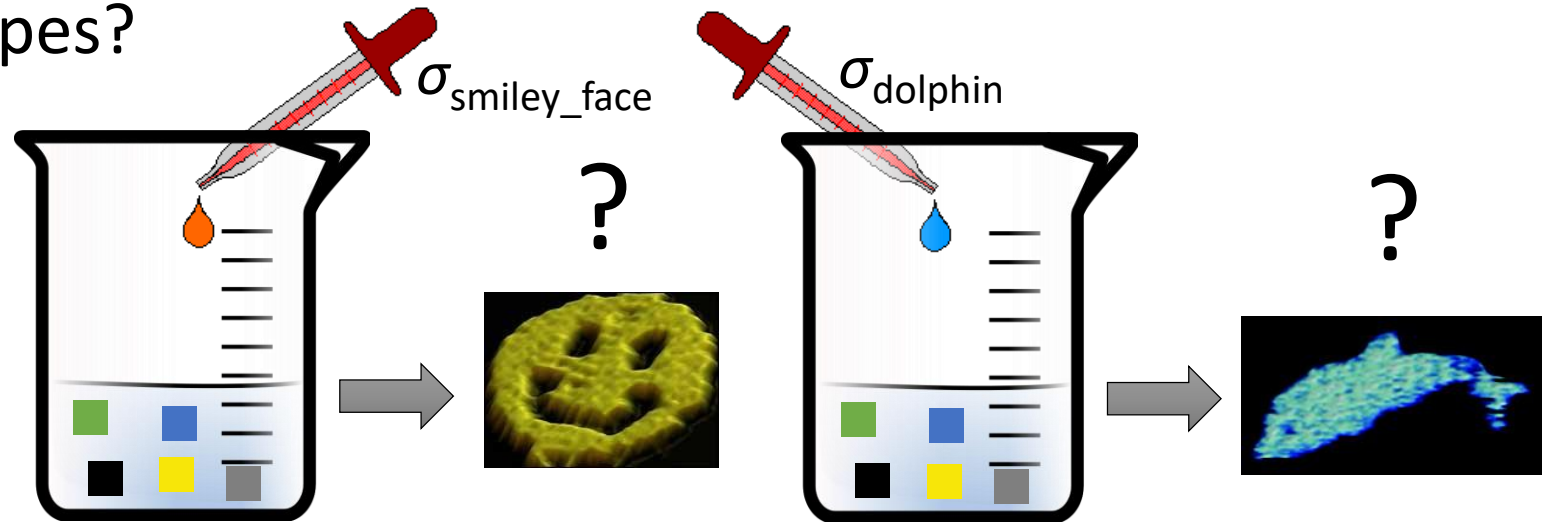
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These tiles are **universally programmable** for building any shape.

Thank you!