

A Knowledge Compilation Take on Binary Polynomial Optimization

Florent Capelli

joint work with Alberto Del Pia and Silvia di Gregorio

Université d'Artois - CRIL

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Binary Polynomial Optimization

Problem definition

Binary Polynomial Optimization problem:

$$\max_{x_1, \dots, x_n \in \{0, 1\}^n} P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

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Observation: P may be assumed to be multilinear since $x^2 = x$ over $\{0, 1\}$

$$P = \sum_{e \in E} \alpha_e \prod_{i \in e} x_i$$

where $E \subseteq 2^V$

Example

$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1x_2x_3 - 2x_1x_3 + 3x_1$$

| x_1 | x_2 | x_3 | $P(x)$ |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |

$P(1, 0, 0) = P(1, 1, 0) = 3$ are maximal

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Bad news: Solving BPO is NP-hard.

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- $OR(x, y) = x + y - xy$ encodes $x \vee y$ on $\{0, 1\}$
- For a graph $G = (V, E)$, with N vertices and M edges

$$VC(V) = \sum_{\{v, w\} \in E} OR(v, w)$$

$VC(\tilde{V}) = M$ iff \tilde{V} encodes a *vertex cover* of G

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- $MVC(V) = 2N \times (VC(V) - M) - \sum_{x \in V} v$ is maximal at \tilde{V} iff \tilde{V} encodes a minimal vertex cover!

Solving BPO as ILP

BPO is a **non-linear** optimization problem.

Make it linear so that we can use LP solvers!

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$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{e \in E} \alpha_e y_e \text{ such that} \\ & y_e = \prod_{v \in e} x_v \\ & x_v, y_e \in \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

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Integer Linear Program solvers can now solve it!

They may stall on known-to-be easy instances. Is there an alternative way?

BPO as a Boolean Function Problem

Boolean Function

$f \subseteq \{0, 1\}^X$ is a Boolean function on variables X .
An *assignment* $\tau: X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ **satisfies** f iff $\tau \in f$.

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Example

| x | y | z |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 |

Represented as a formula $x \Rightarrow (y \wedge z)$ or by
 $(\neg x \vee y) \wedge (\neg x \vee z)$

Weighted Boolean Function

For $w: X \times \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\tau \in \{0, 1\}^X$ consider:

$$w(\tau) = \prod_{x \in X} w(x, \tau(x)) \text{ and } w(f) = \sum_{\tau \in f} w(\tau)$$

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Example

- $w(x, 0) = 1,$
- $w(x, 1) = 2,$
- $w(y, 0) = 3,$
- $w(y, 1) = -3,$
- $w(z, 0) = 5,$
- $w(z, 1) = -5$

| x | y | z | | <i>w</i> |
|-------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | $1 * 3 * 5$ | 15 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | $1 * 3 * -5$ | -15 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | $1 * -3 * 5$ | -15 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | $1 * -3 * -5$ | 15 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | $2 * -3 * -5$ | 30 |
| <i>w(f)</i> | | | $15 - 15 - 15 + 15 + 30$ | 30 |

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where $\mathbb{K} = (K, \oplus, \otimes, 0_{\oplus}, 1_{\otimes})$ is a **semi-ring**

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That is:

- \oplus, \otimes commutative, associative
- $a \oplus 0_{\oplus} = a, b \otimes 1_{\otimes} = b$
- \otimes distributes over \oplus :
 $(a \otimes (b \oplus c)) = (a \otimes b) \oplus (a \otimes c).$

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- $(\mathbb{R}, +, \times, 0, 1)$

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- $(\mathbb{R}, +, \times, 0, 1)$
- Any fields, e.g., $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$
- **Arctic semi-ring:**
 $(\mathbb{Q}, \max, +, -\infty, 0)$

AMC over $(\max, +)$ -semiring

$$w(f) = \max_{\tau \in f} \sum_{x \in X} w(x, \tau(x))$$

This is an optimization task!

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| x | y | z | | <i>w</i> |
|----------|--------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | $1 + 3 + 5$ | 9 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | $1 + 3 - 5$ | -1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | $1 - 3 + 5$ | 3 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | $1 - 3 - 5$ | -7 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | $2 - 3 - 5$ | -6 |
| $w(f)$ | $\max(9, -1, 3, -7, -6)$ | | | 9 |

Encoding BPO as Boolean function

Example: $P(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1x_2x_3 - 2x_1x_3 + 3x_1$

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Example: $P(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1x_2x_3 - 2x_1x_3 + 3x_1$

- $f_P = (Y_1 \Leftrightarrow (X_1 \wedge X_2 \wedge X_3)) \wedge (Y_2 \Leftrightarrow (X_1 \wedge X_3)) \wedge (Y_3 \Leftrightarrow X_1)$
- $w_P(Y_1, 1) = 1$, $w_P(Y_2, 1) = -2$ and $w_P(Y_3, 1) = 3$.
- $w_P(Z, b) = 0$ for every other values.

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For every $\tau \models f_P$ we have

$$w_P(\tau) = P(x_1 = \tau(X_1), x_2 = \tau(X_2), x_3 = \tau(X_3))$$

and $w_P(f) = \max P$

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and $w_P(f) = \max P$

Example

For $\tau(X_1) = 1, \tau(X_2) = 0, \tau(X_3) = 1$:

- if $\tau \models f_P$ then $\tau(Y_1) = 0, \tau(Y_2) = 1, \tau(Y_3) = 1$
- hence $w_P(\tau) = w_P(Y_2, 1) + w_P(Y_3, 1) = -2 + 3 = 1!$

Formal encoding

For $P := \sum_{e \in E} \alpha_e \prod_{i \in e} x_i$ define:

$$f_P := \bigwedge_{e \in E} C_e$$

where $C_e := Y_e \Leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{i \in e} X_i$

C_e encodes $y_e = \prod_{i \in e} x_i!$

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C_e encodes $y_e = \prod_{i \in e} x_i$!

and w_P on $(\mathbb{Q}, \max, +, -\infty, 0)$ as:

- $w_P(Y_e, 1) = \alpha_e$ and
- $w_P(X_i, b) = w_P(Y_e, 0) = 0$ for $b \in \{0, 1\}$.

BPO as a Boolean Function

Theorem

$$w_P (f_P) = \max P (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

over the $(\max, +)$ -semiring.

The underlying algorithmic toolbox is very different from ILP solvers providing **new insights**.

We can use existing toolbox for AMC to solve BPO

- **theoretical results**
- **AND practical results**

Knowledge Compilation

how to solve AMC

Representing Boolean functions

How can we represent Boolean function: $f \subseteq \{0, 1\}^X$

So far we have seen: *list* every satisfying assignment of f (aka **Truth Table**)

- Easy to manipulate since the representation is explicit
- Not **compact**

CNF Formulas

$F = \bigwedge (\bigvee \ell)$ where ℓ is a literal x or $\neg x$ for some variable x .

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Examples

$$F_1 = (x \vee \neg y) \wedge (\neg x \vee y)$$

| x | y | F_1 |
|-----|-----|-------|
| 0 | 0 | 1 |
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$$F_2 = (x \vee \neg z) \wedge (\neg x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee y \vee z)$$

| x | y | z | F_2 |
|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| * | * | * | 0 |

The SAT Problem

CNF formulas are extremely simple yet can encode many interesting problems.

Theorem

Cook, Levin, 1971: The problem SAT of deciding whether a CNF formula is *satisfiable* is **NP-complete**.

Valiant 1979: The problem #SAT of counting the satisfying assignment of a CNF formula is **#P-complete**.

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- Very unlikely that efficient algorithms exists for solving SAT / #SAT
- Thriving community nevertheless addresses these problems in practice
- **SAT Solver** very efficient in many applications

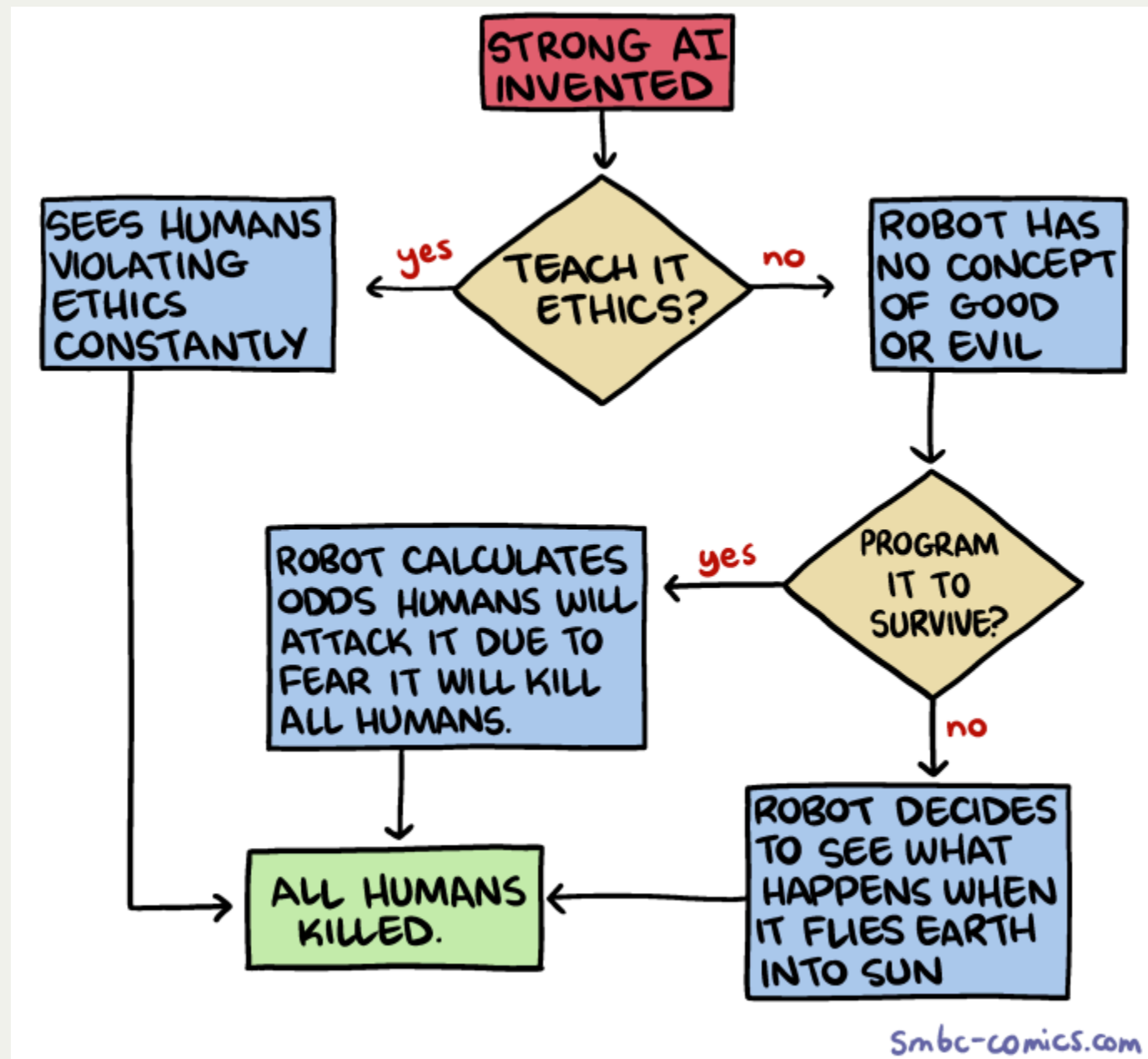
Relevance of CNF formulas

- **Natural encoding**: succinctly encodes many problems, witnessed by the many existing industrial benchmarks.
- **Intractable** for algebraic model counting

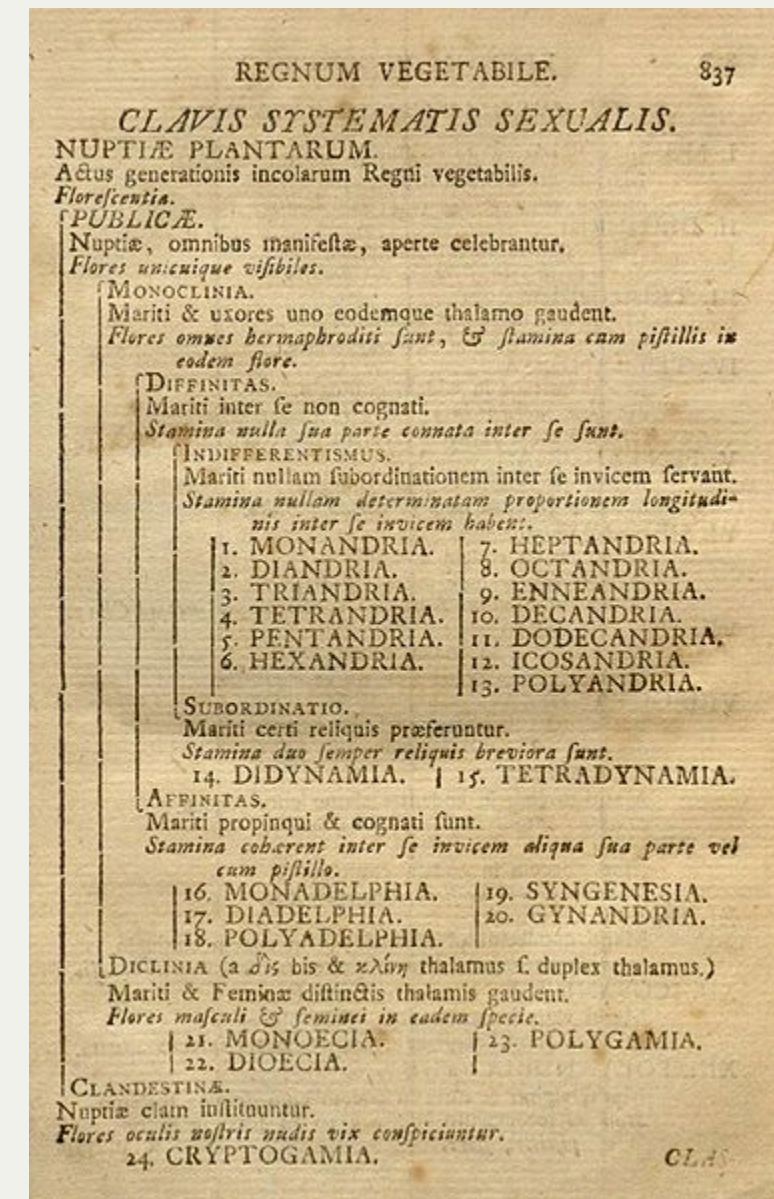
Looking for tradeoffs between Truth Tables and CNFs!

Circuit Based Representations

Research has focused on *factorized representation*.



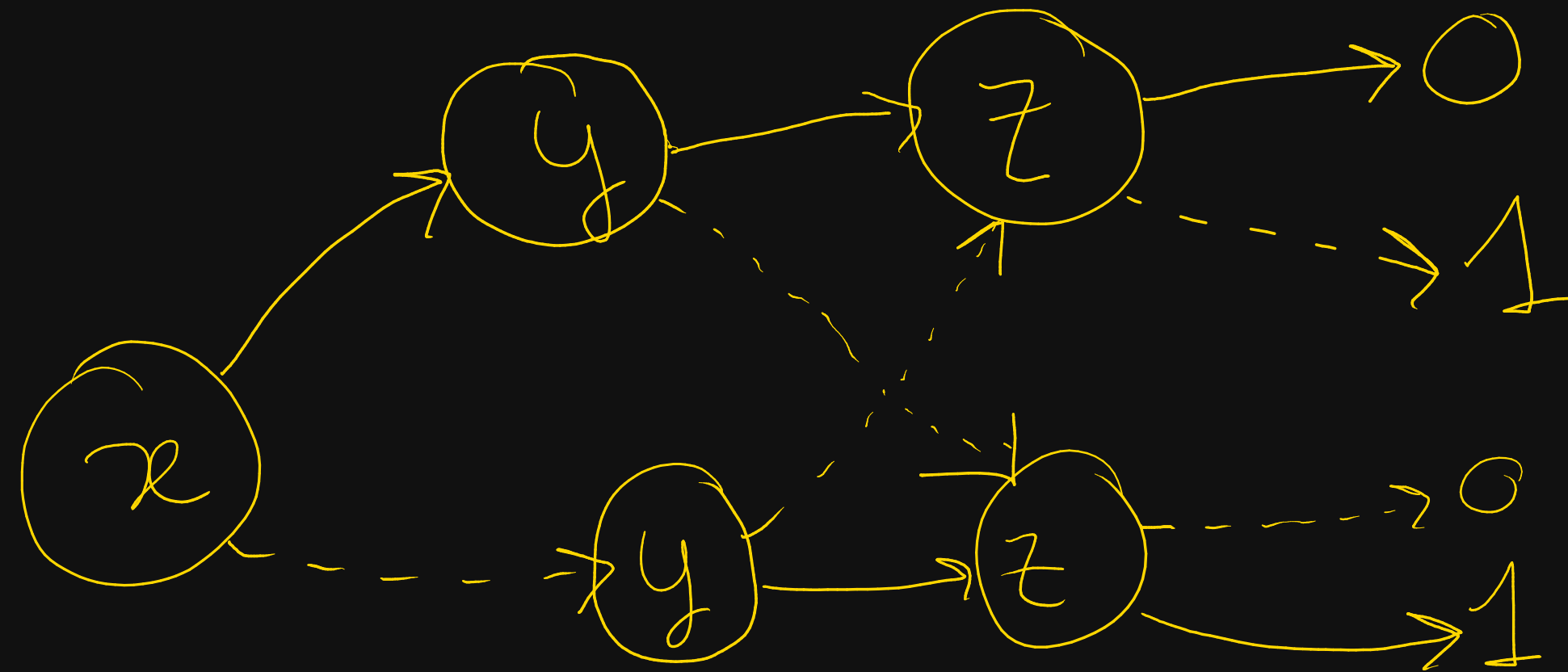
Taken from SMBC Comics



Carl von Linné (1707-1778)

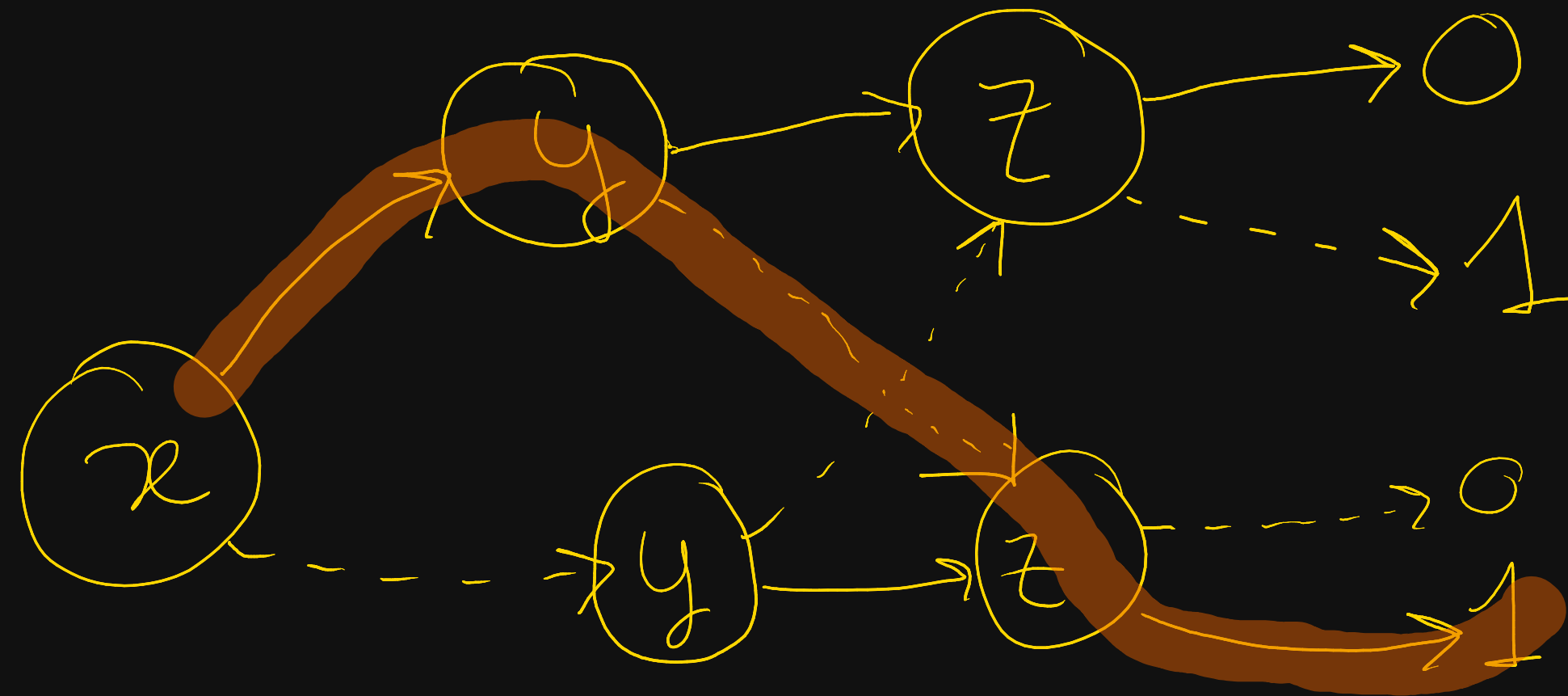
An example

Data structure based on decision nodes to represent “ $(x + y + z)$ is even”.



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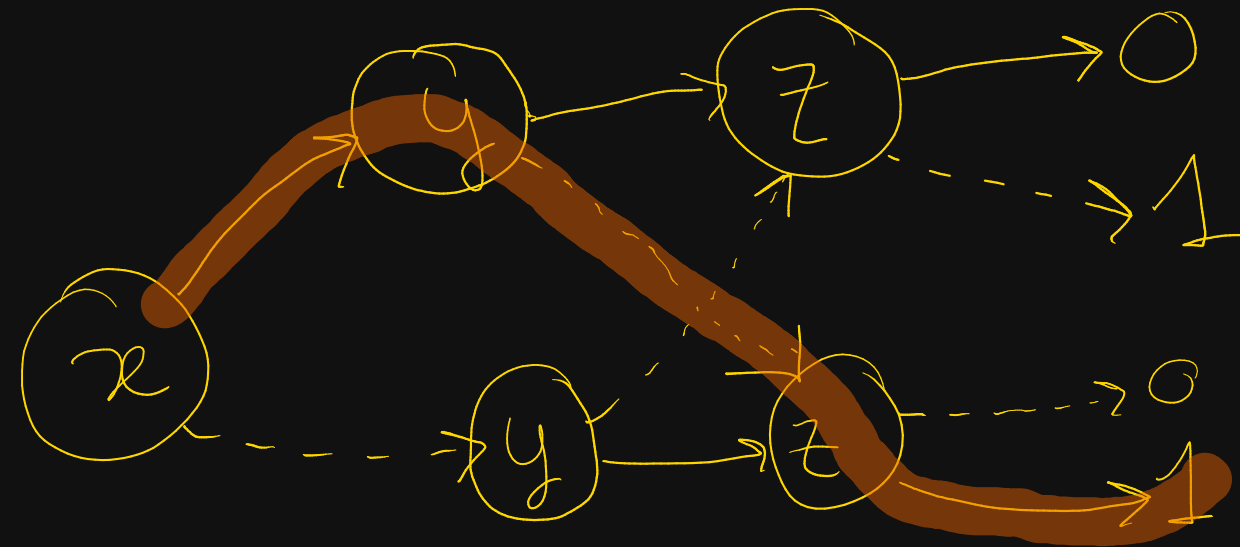
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Path for $x = 1, y = 0$ and $z = 1$ is accepting.

OBDDs

Previous data structure are **Ordered Binary Decision Diagrams**.



- Directed Acyclic graphs with one source
- Sinks are labeled by 0 or 1
- Internal nodes are decision nodes on a variable in x_1, \dots, x_n
- Variables tested in order.

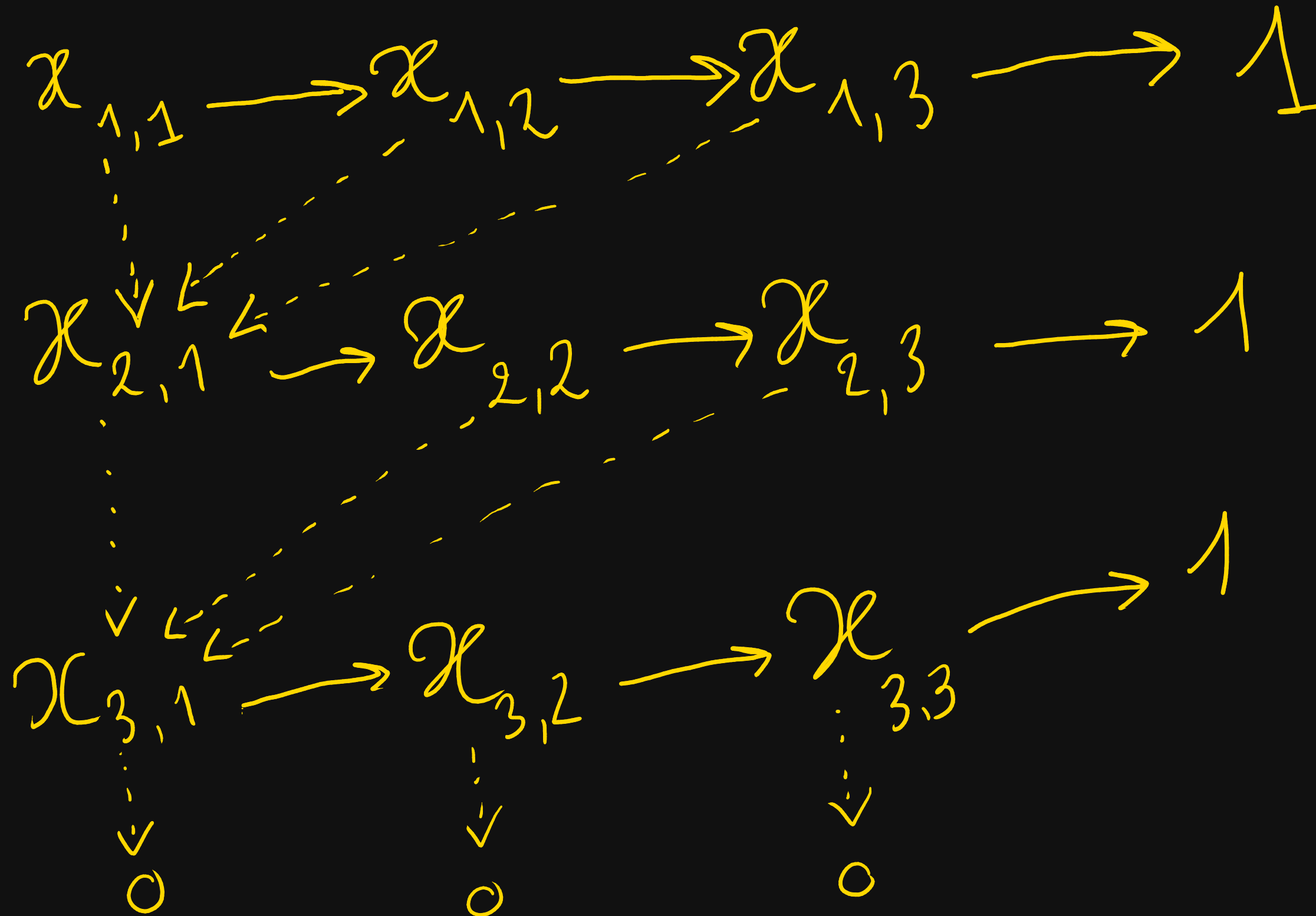
Counting with OBDDs

How many 3×3 $\{0, 1\}$ -matrices have a row full of ones?



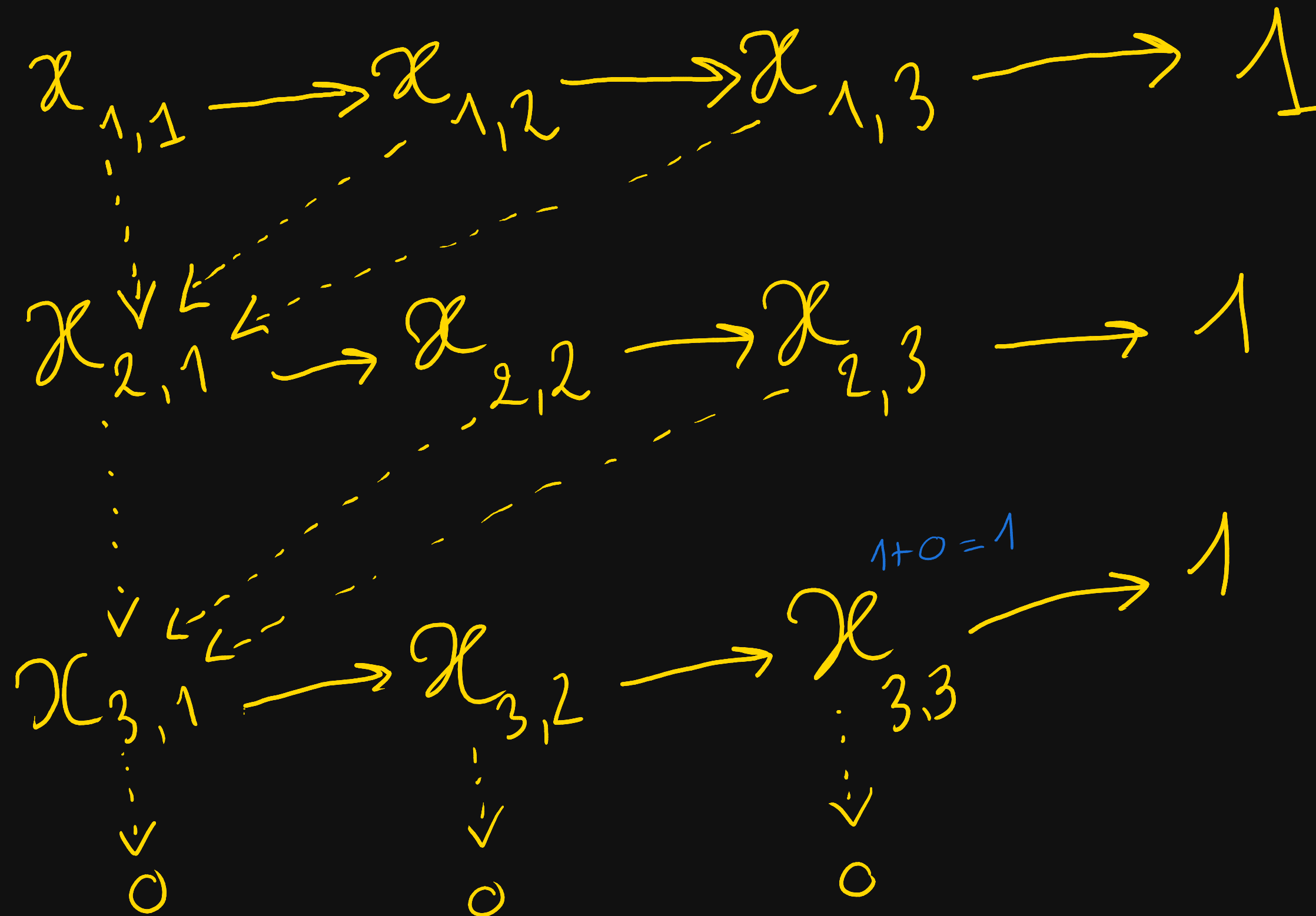
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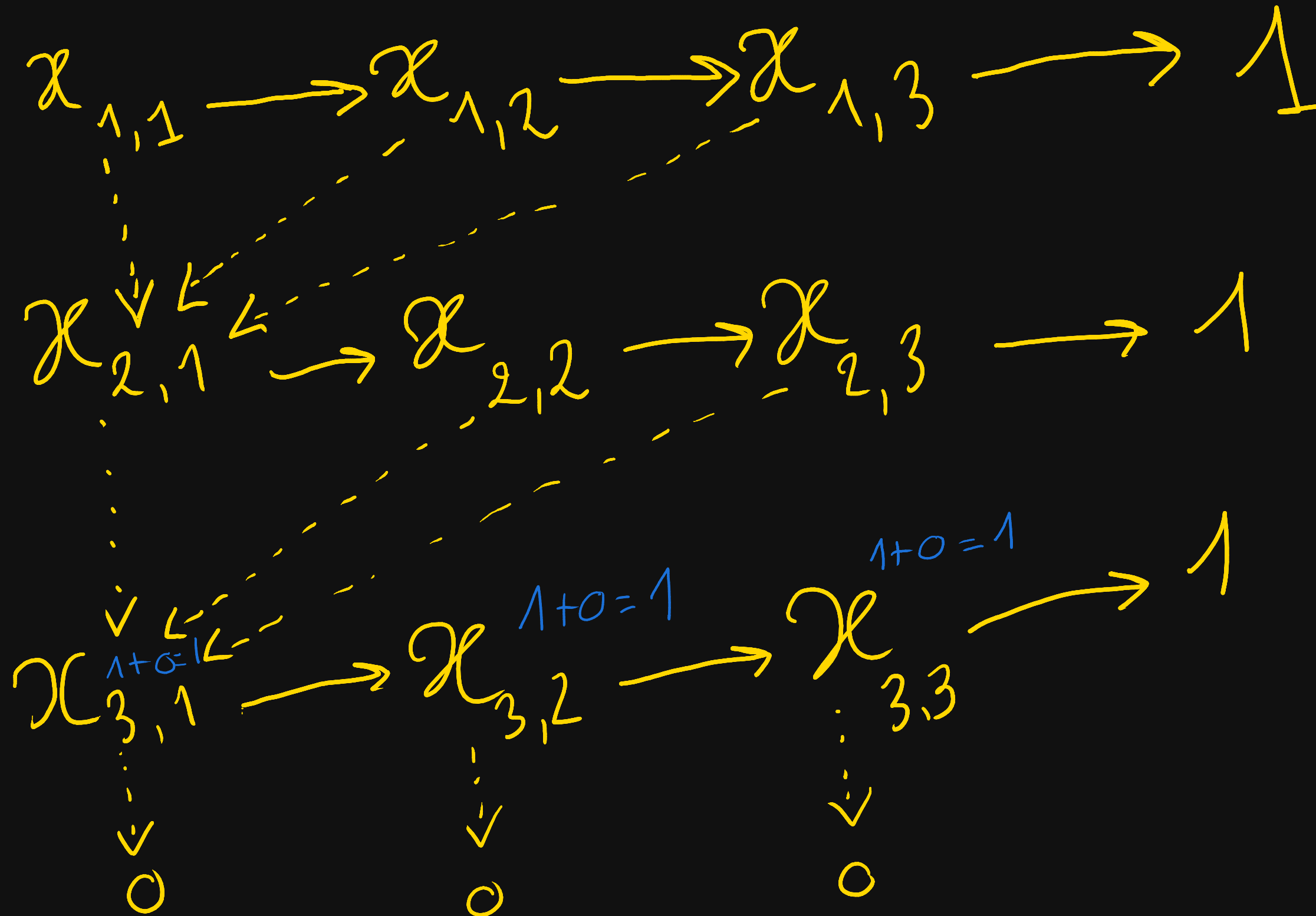
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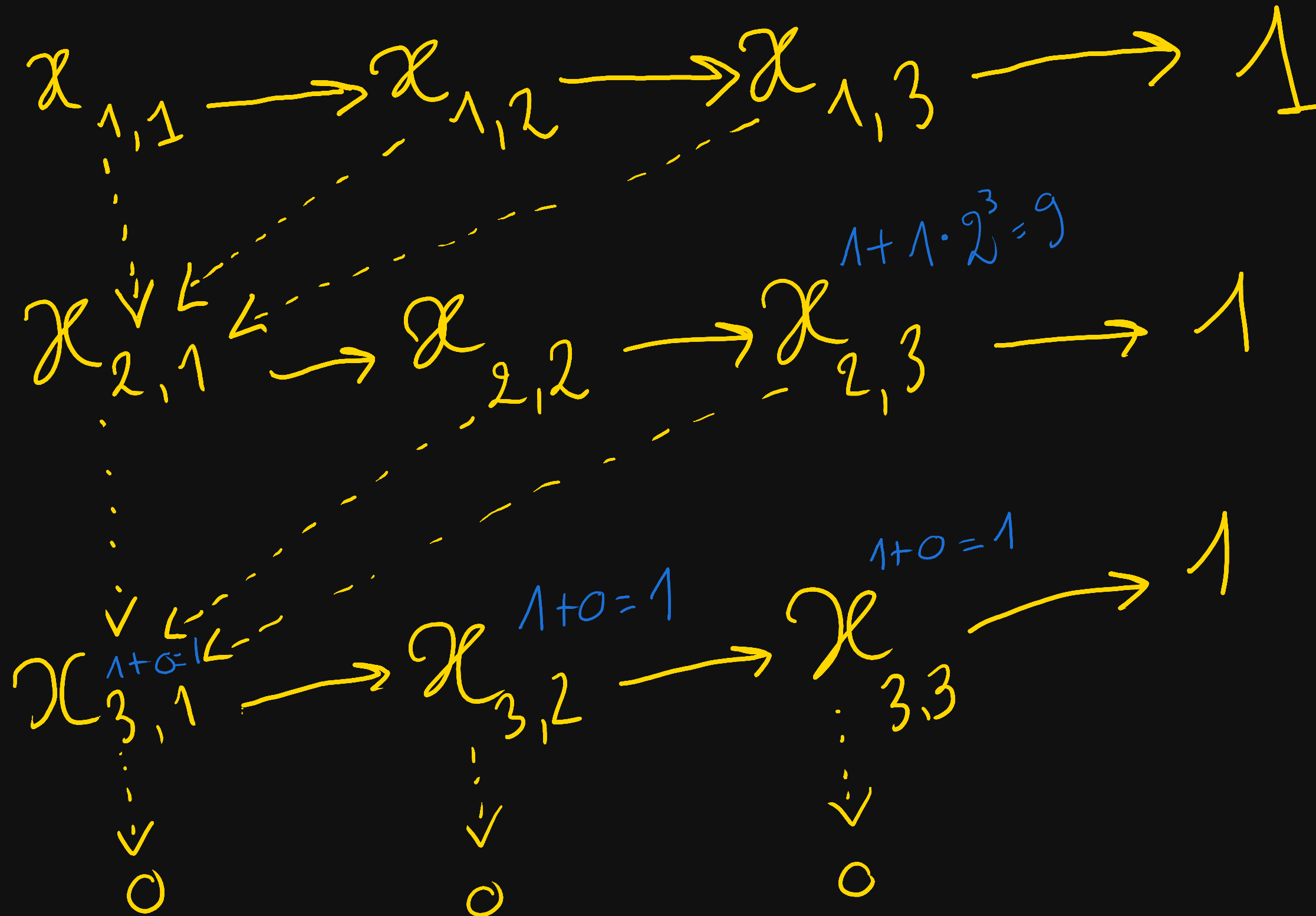
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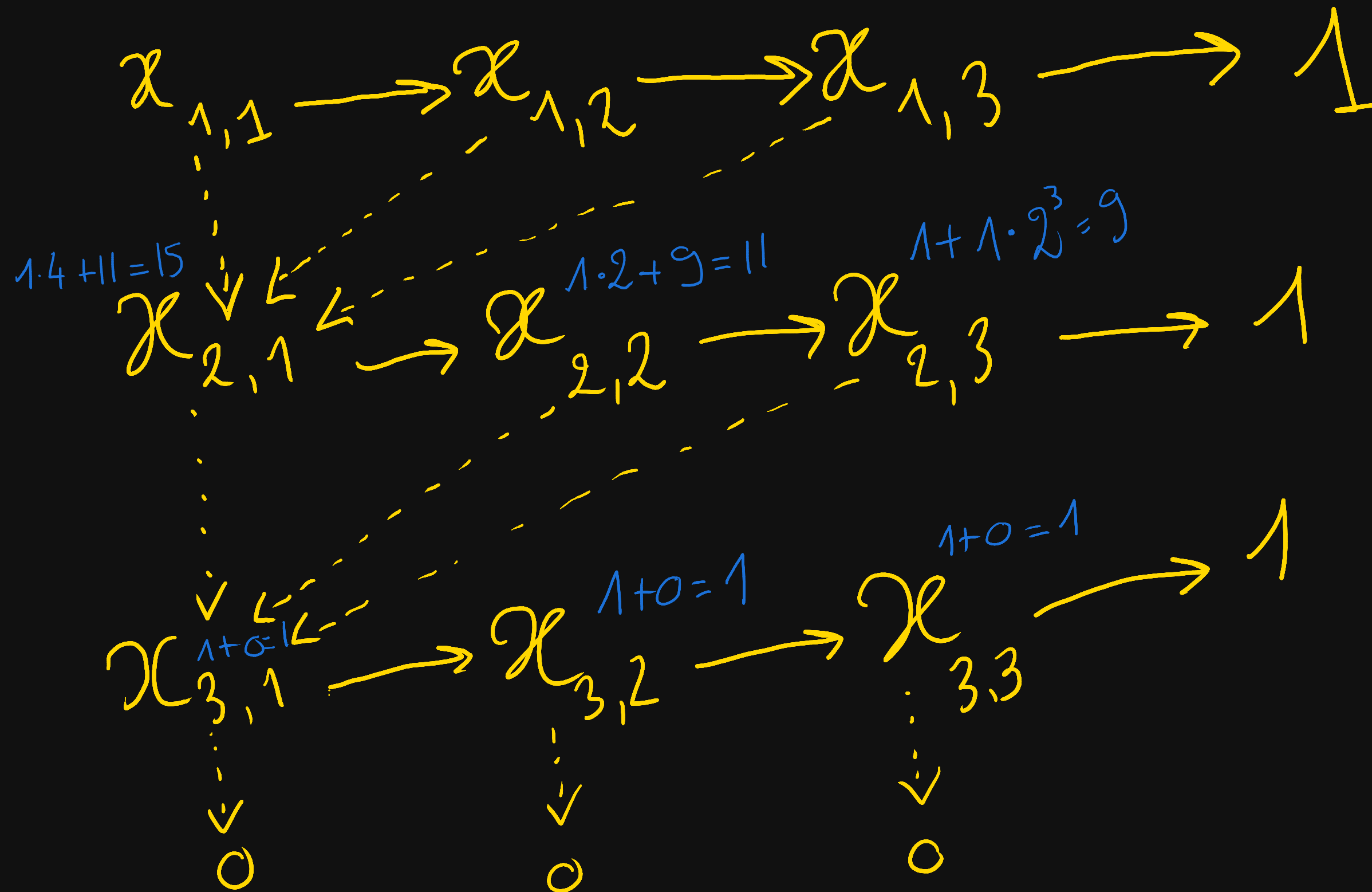
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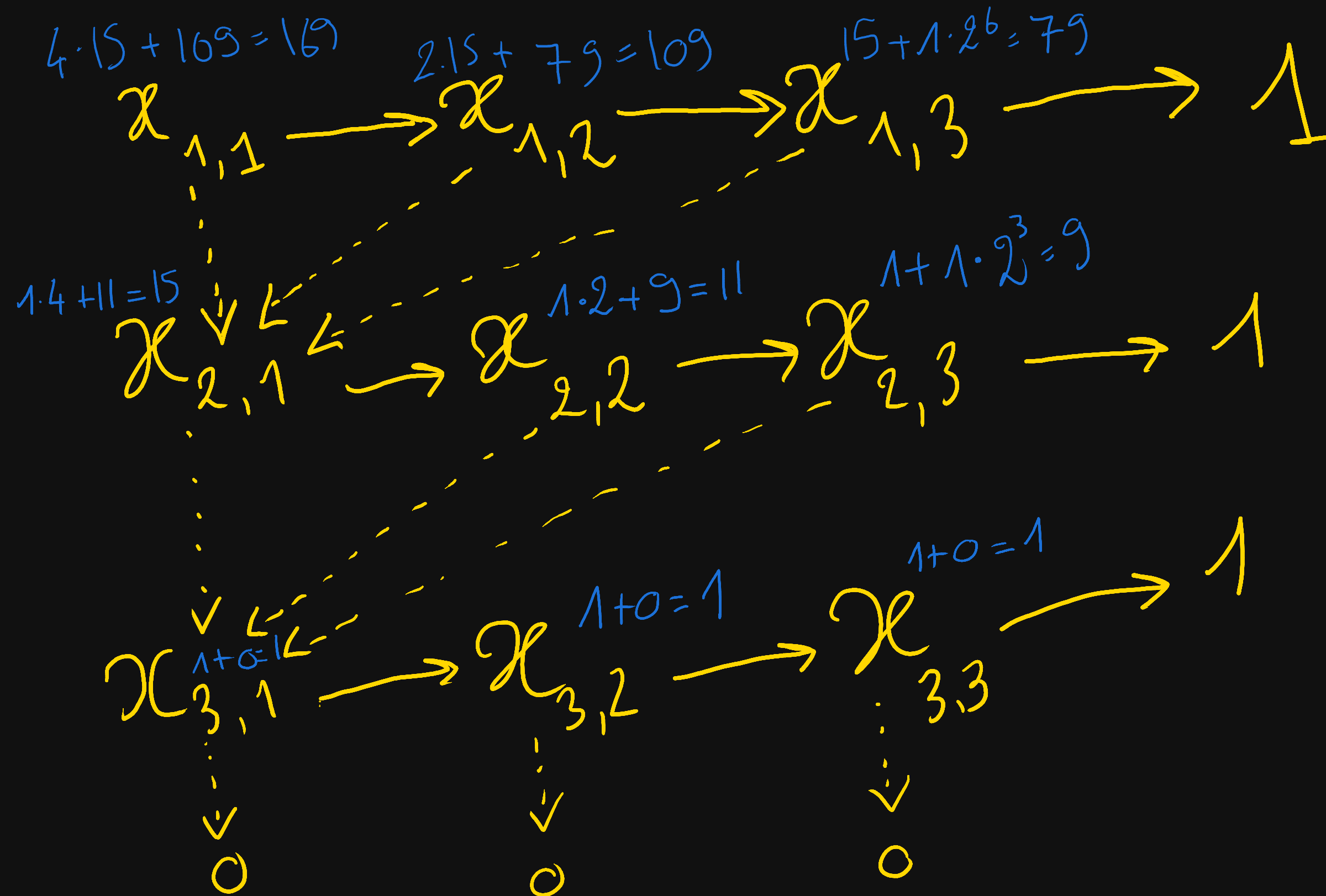
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Tractability of OBDDs

This idea can be generalized to any OBDDs:

Theorem

Let $f \subseteq \{0, 1\}^X$ be a function computed by an OBDD having E edges. We can compute $\#f$ with $O(E)$ arithmetic operations.

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Generalises to many tasks:

- Evaluate $Pr(f)$ if probabilities $Pr(x = 1)$ are given for each $x \in X$
- Enumerate f
- **Algebraic Model Counting** on any semi-ring.

Back to BPO

Theorem

$w_P(f_P) = \max P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ where

- $f_P = \bigwedge_{e \in E} Y_e \Leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{i \in e} X_i$
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Solving BPO:

- transform f_P into an OBDD
- compute $w_P(f_P)$ via dynamic programming on the **OBDD itself**

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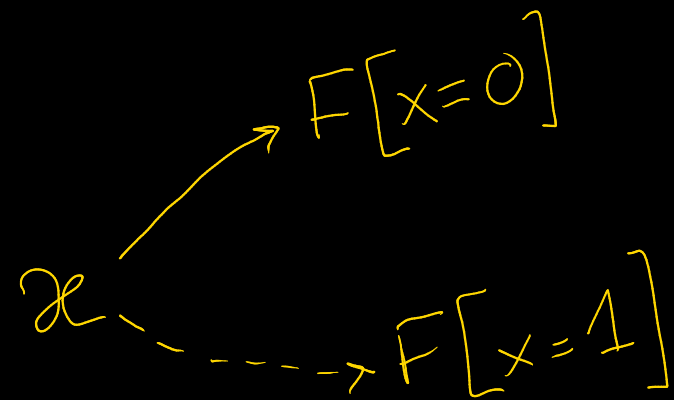
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A Knowledge Compiler for OBDD

Exhaustive DPLL with Caching based on **Shannon Expansion**:

$$F = (x \vee y \vee z) \wedge (x \vee \neg y \vee \neg z) \wedge (\neg x \vee \neg y \vee \neg z) \wedge (\neg x \vee y \vee z)$$

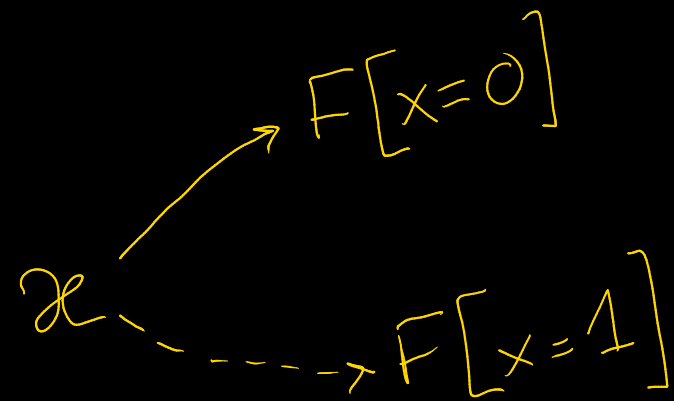


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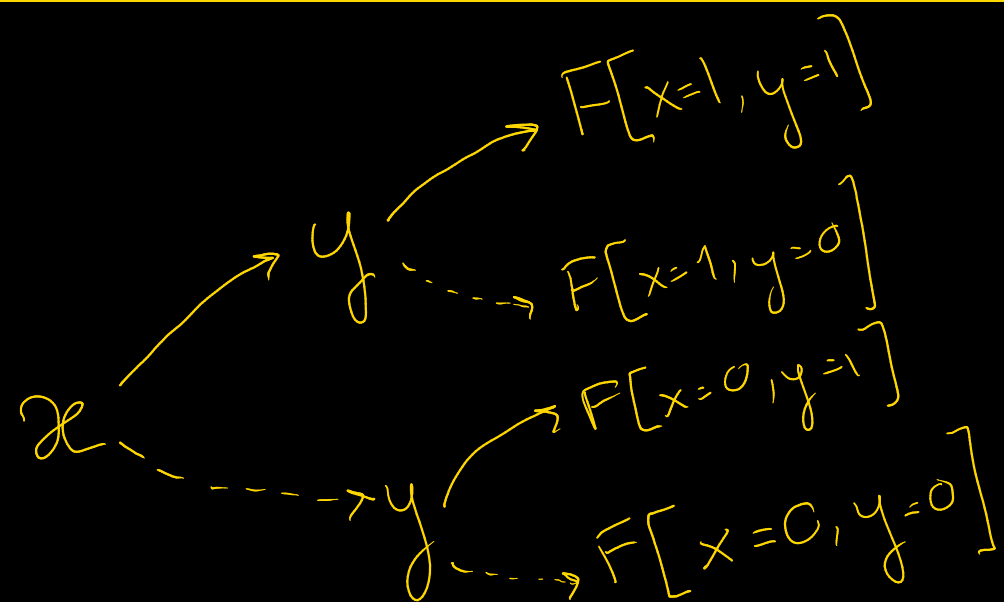


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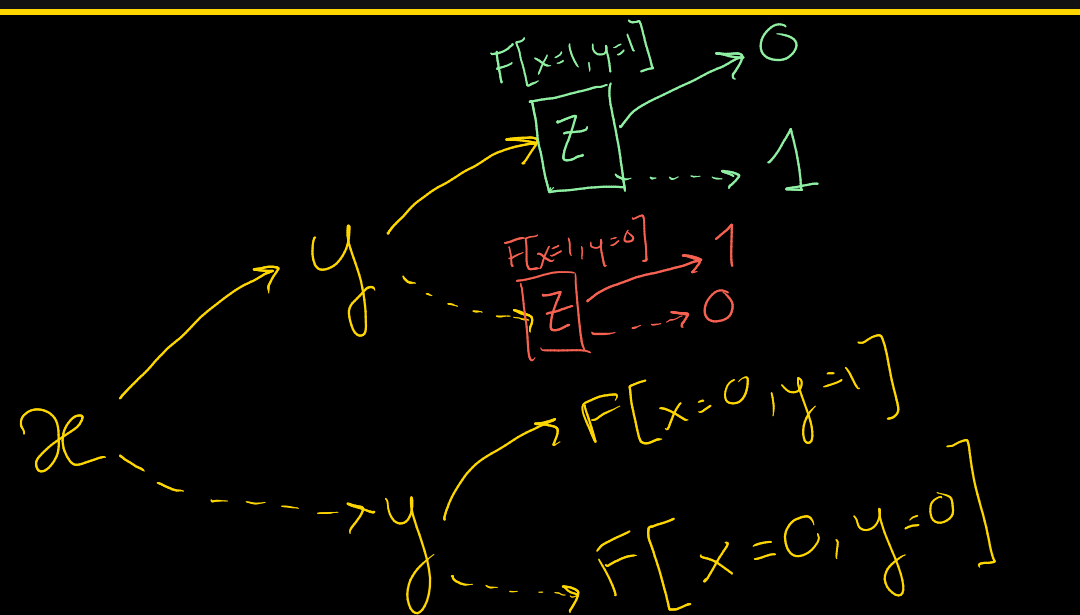


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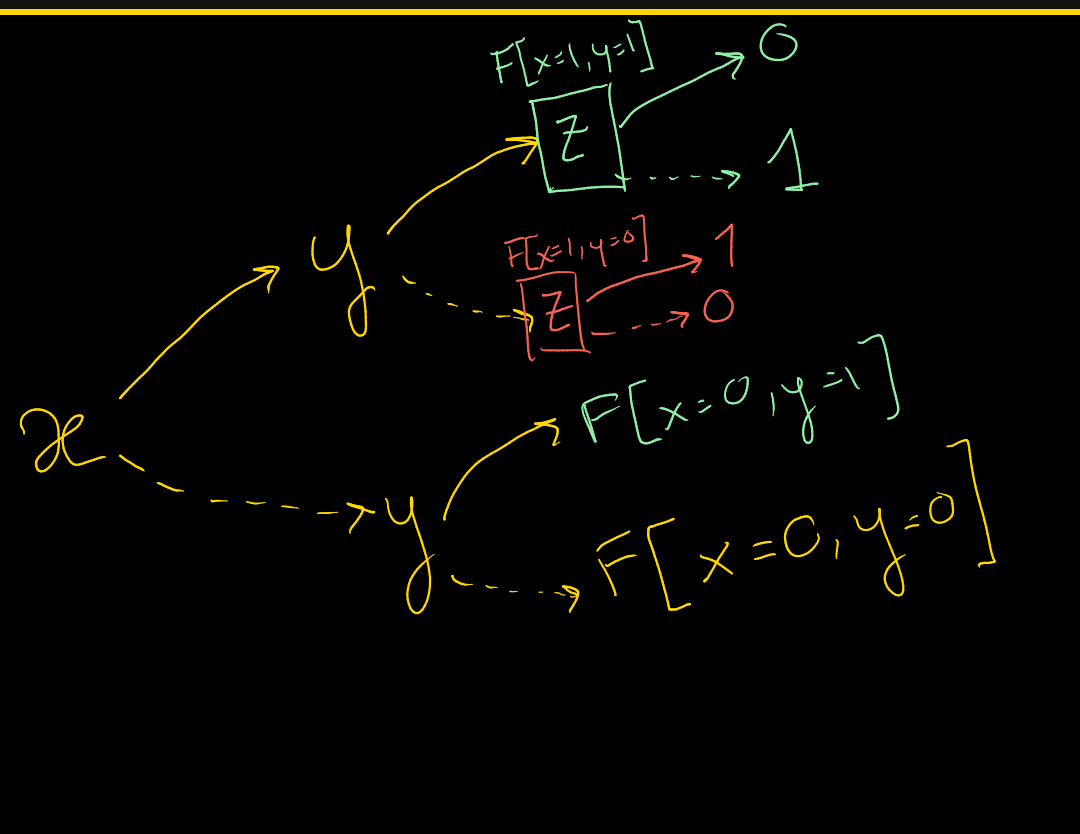


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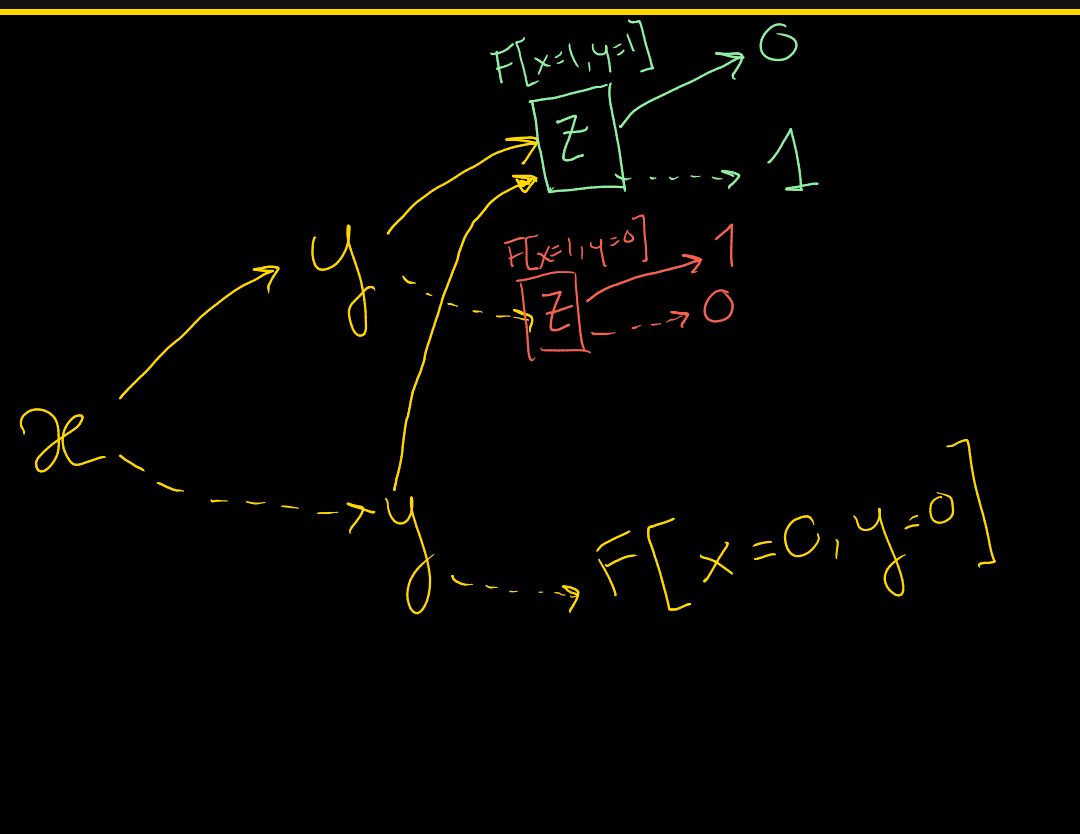


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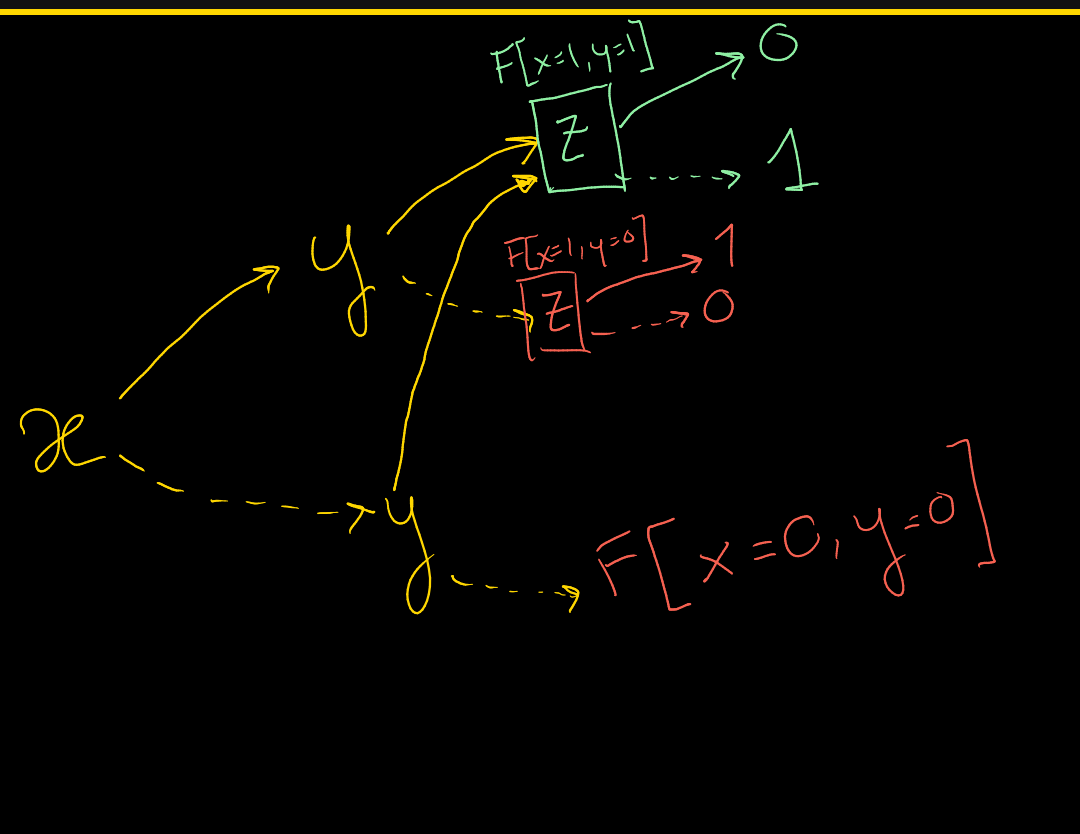


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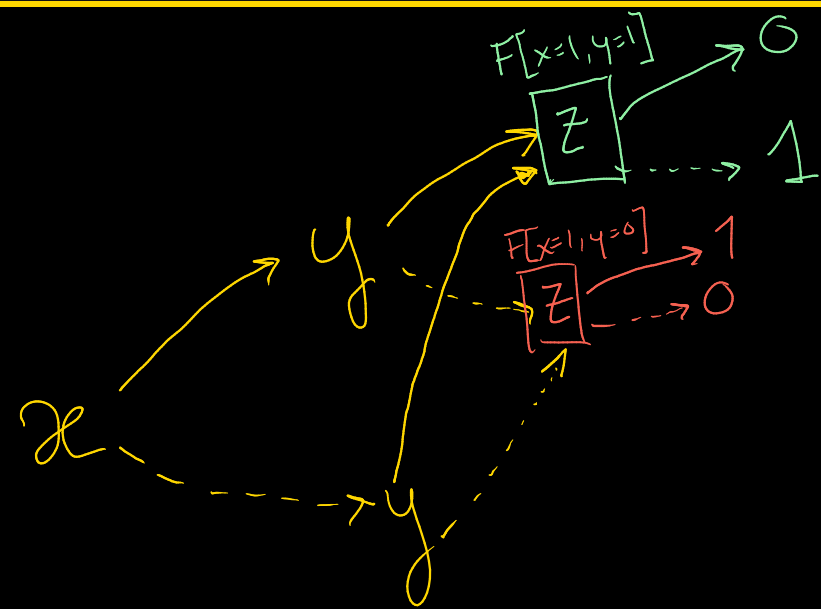


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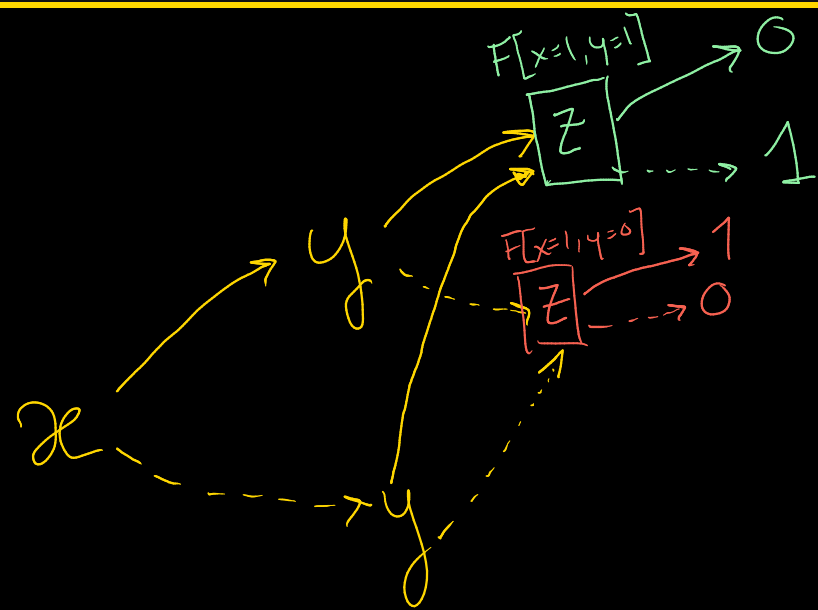


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This scheme is parameterized by:

- caching policy
- branching heuristics

Exploiting decomposition

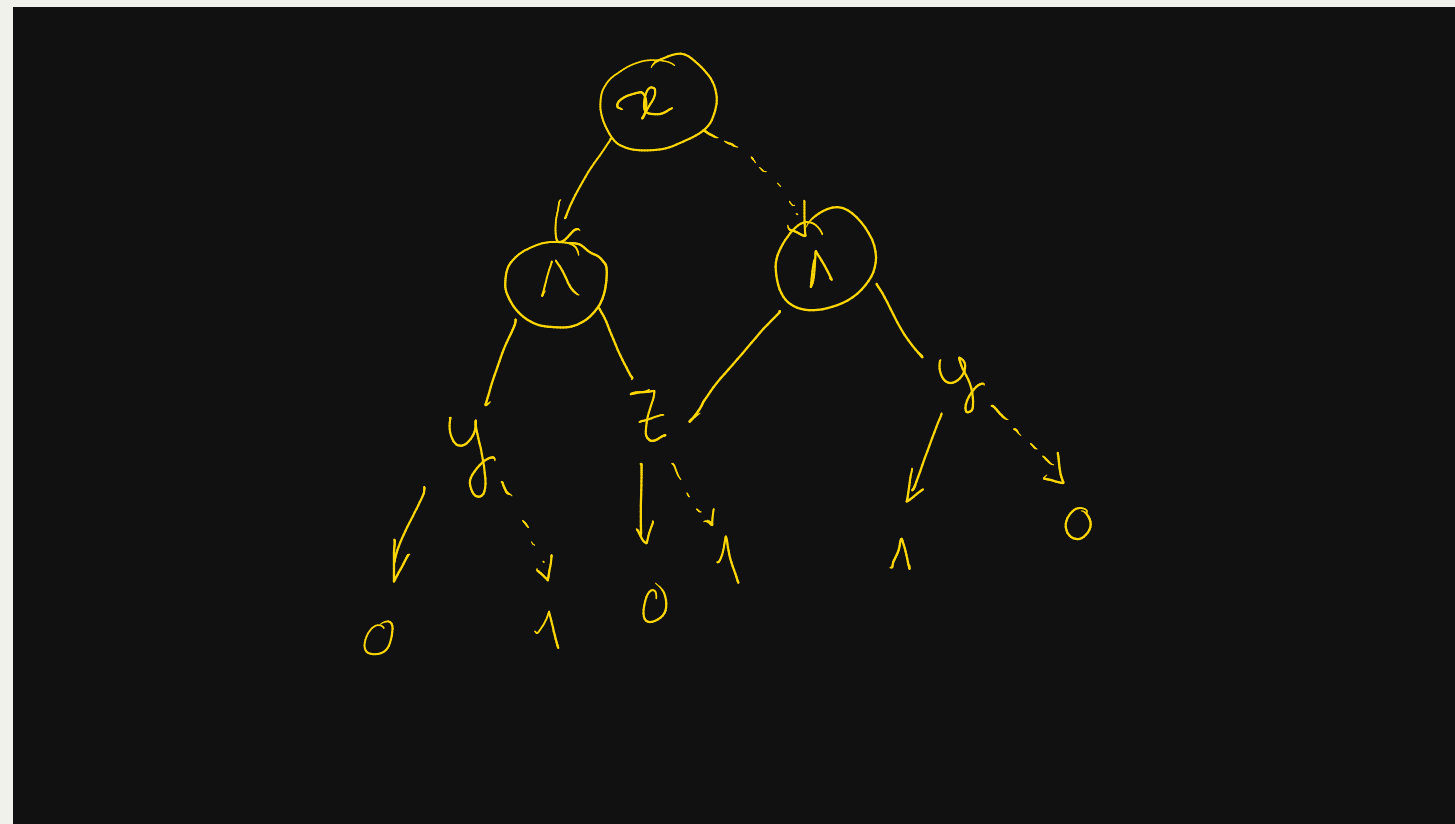
For many tasks, such as model counting, it is interesting to detect **syntactic decomposable** part of the formula, that is:

$$F(X) = G(Y) \wedge H(Z) \text{ and } Y \cap Z = \emptyset$$

Exploiting decomposition

For many tasks, such as model counting, it is interesting to detect **syntactic decomposable** part of the formula, that is:

$$F(X) = G(Y) \wedge H(Z) \text{ and } Y \cap Z = \emptyset$$



- **decDNF**: OBDD + \wedge -gates *decomposable*
- Still allows for algebraic model counting via the identity $w(F) = w(G) \times w(H)$
- Compilers can be adapted to detect this rule.

The D4 compiler

D4 is a top-down compiler as shown earlier:

- Use oracle calls to a SAT solver **with clause learning** to cut branches and speed up later computation
- Use heuristics to decompose the formula so that it **breaks** into smaller connected components.

The D4 compiler

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- Use oracle calls to a SAT solver **with clause learning** to cut branches and speed up later computation
- Use heuristics to decompose the formula so that it **breaks** into smaller connected components.

| instance | d4 (s) | scip (s) |
|------------------|---------|----------|
| bernasconi.20.3 | 0.002 | 0.01 |
| bernasconi.20.5 | 0.04 | 8.91 |
| bernasconi.20.10 | 1.21 | 119.20 |
| bernasconi.20.15 | 14.92 | 479.15 |
| bernasconi.25.3 | 0.00 | 0.01 |
| bernasconi.25.6 | 0.19 | 151.65 |
| bernasconi.25.13 | 12.59 | 1 698.18 |
| bernasconi.25.19 | 442.26 | TIMEOUT |
| bernasconi.25.25 | TIMEOUT | TIMEOUT |

This only illustrates that the underlying structure of Bernasconi instances is better addressed using heuristics from model counting than the ILP approach.

Tractability results

Tractable classes of BPO

$$P(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{e \in E} \alpha_e \prod_{i \in e} x_i \text{ where } E \subseteq 2^V$$

$H = (V, E)$ is a **hypergraph**.

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$H = (V, E)$ is a **hypergraph**.

Exploit the structure of H to solve BPO more efficiently.

A toy example

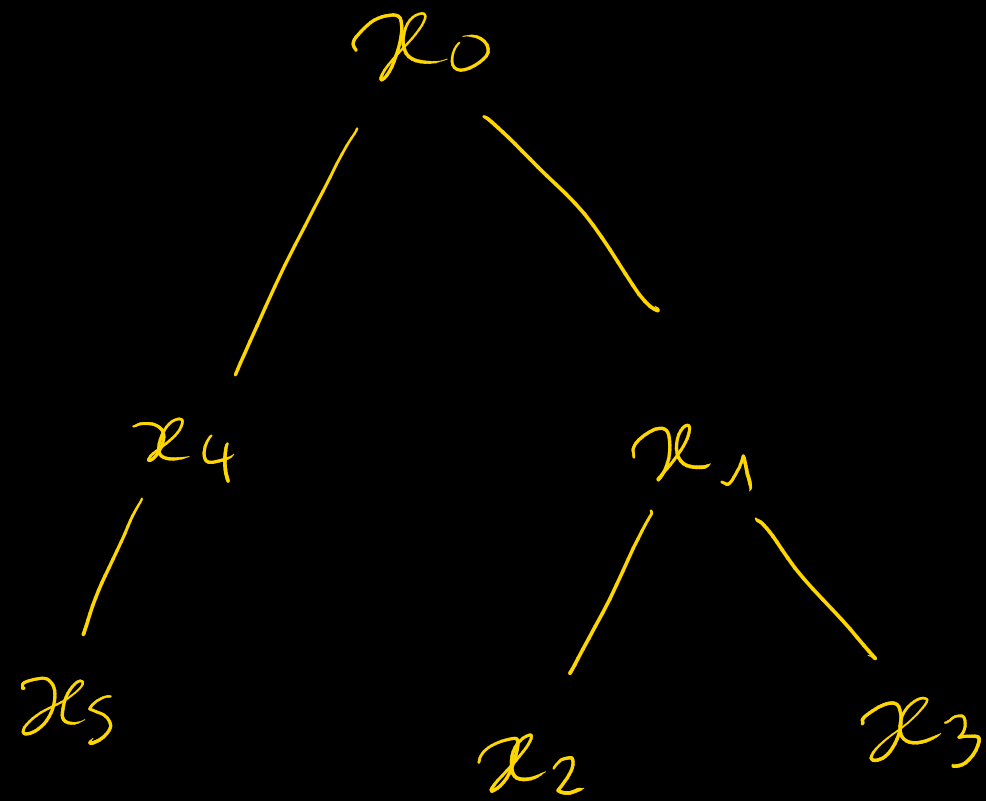
Tree BPO: BPO problem where H is a tree.

Example: $x_1x_2 + 5x_1x_3 + 3x_0x_1 - 2x_0x_4 + 3x_4x_5$

A toy example

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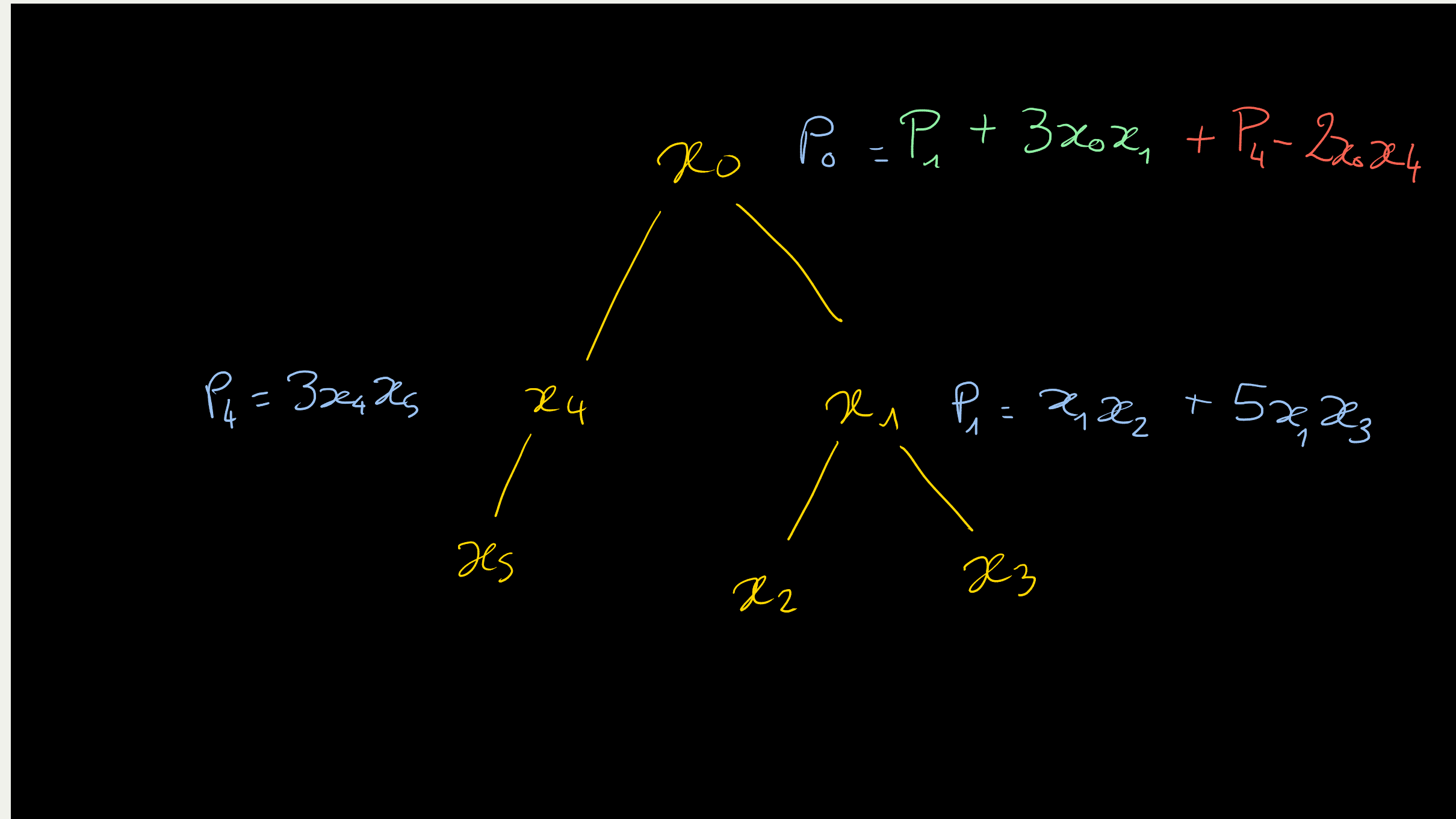
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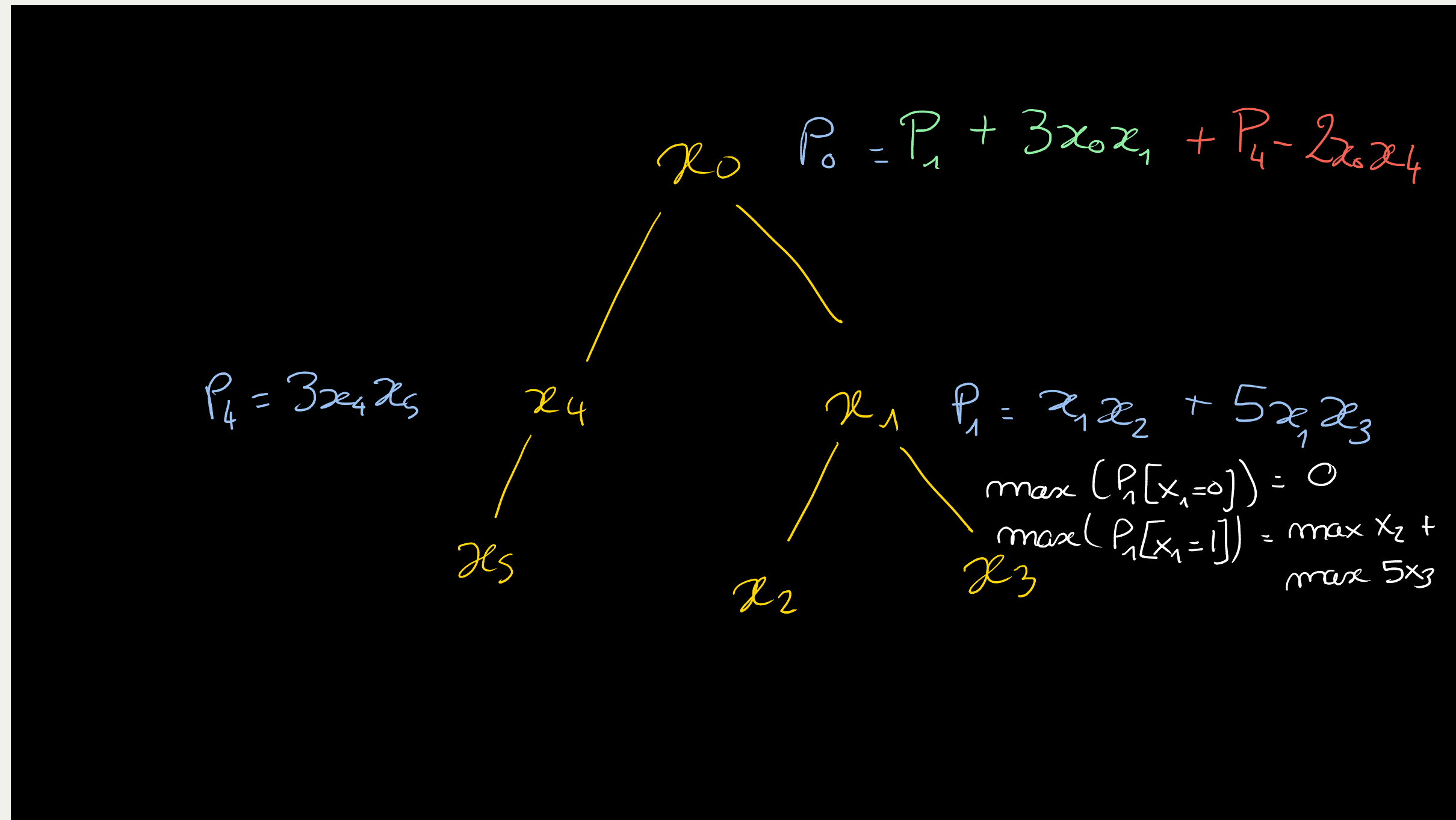
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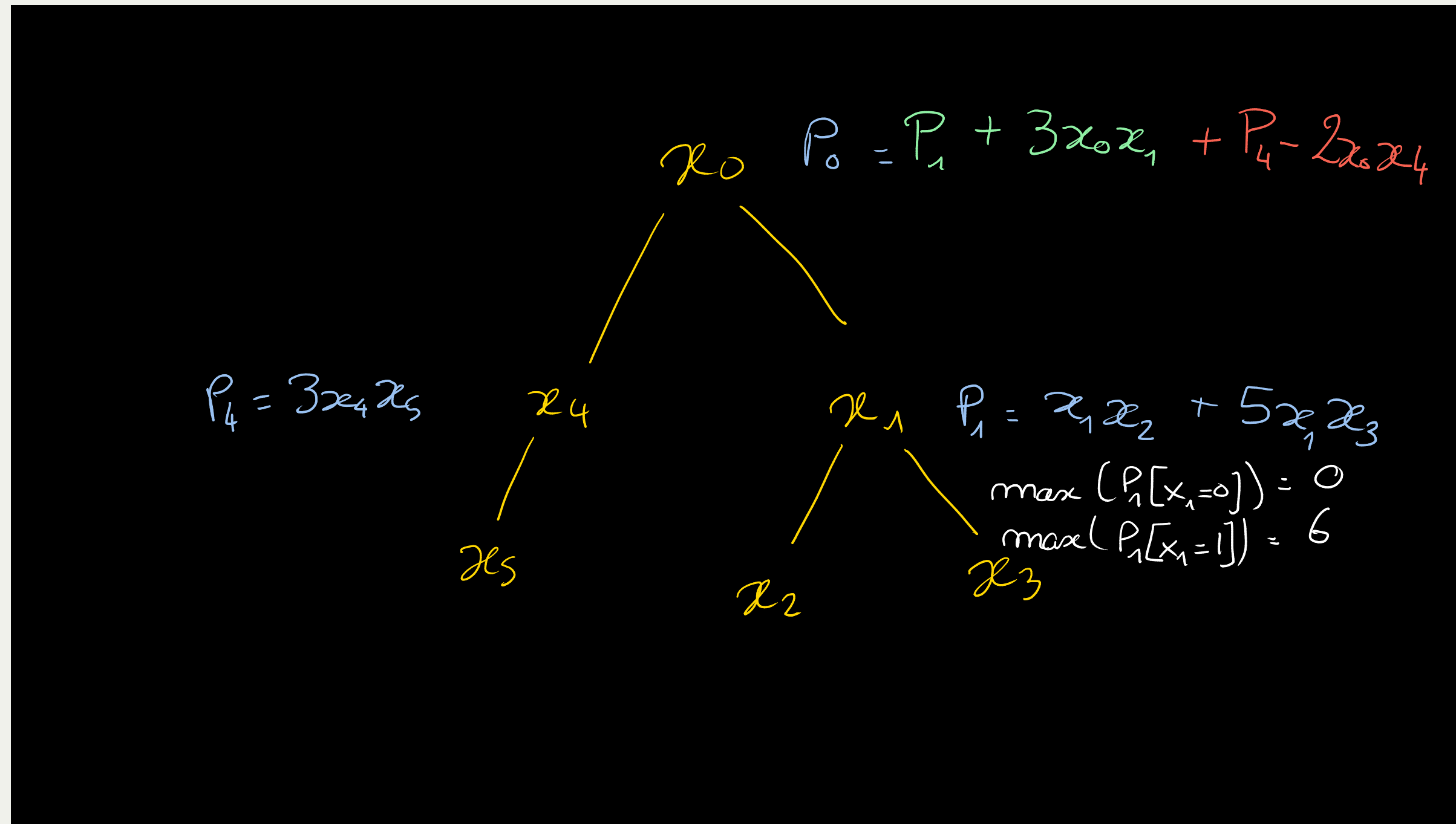
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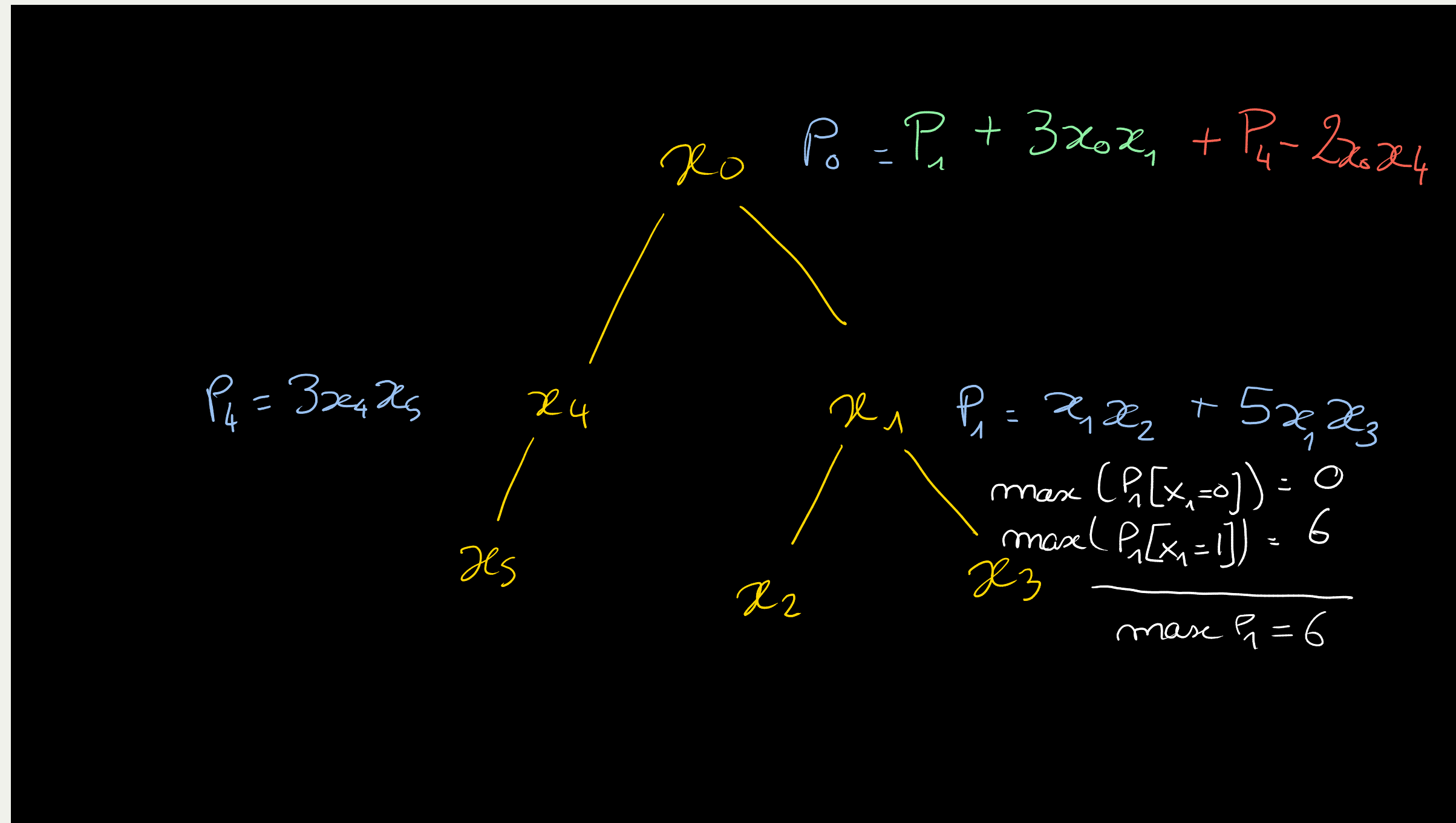
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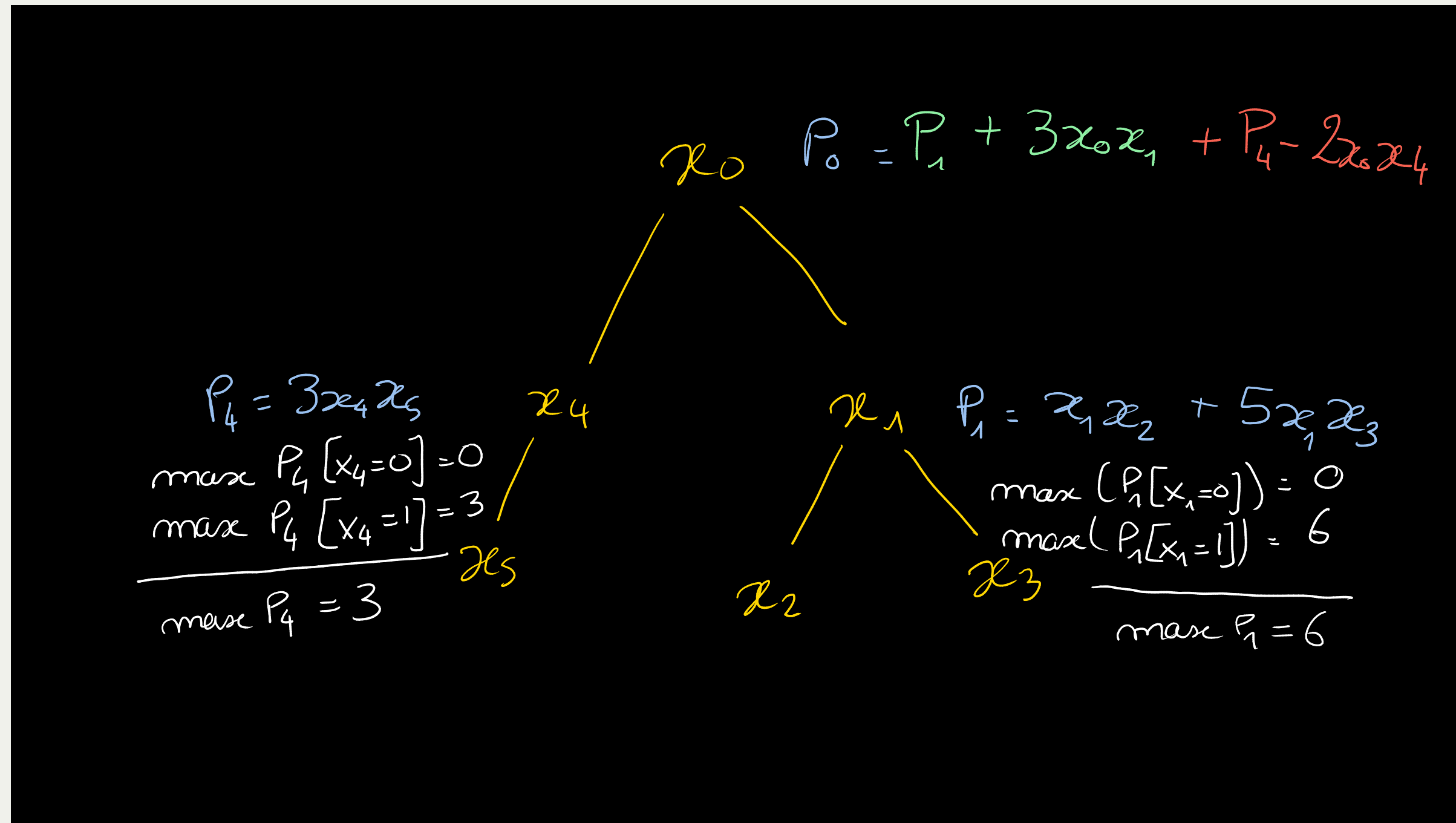
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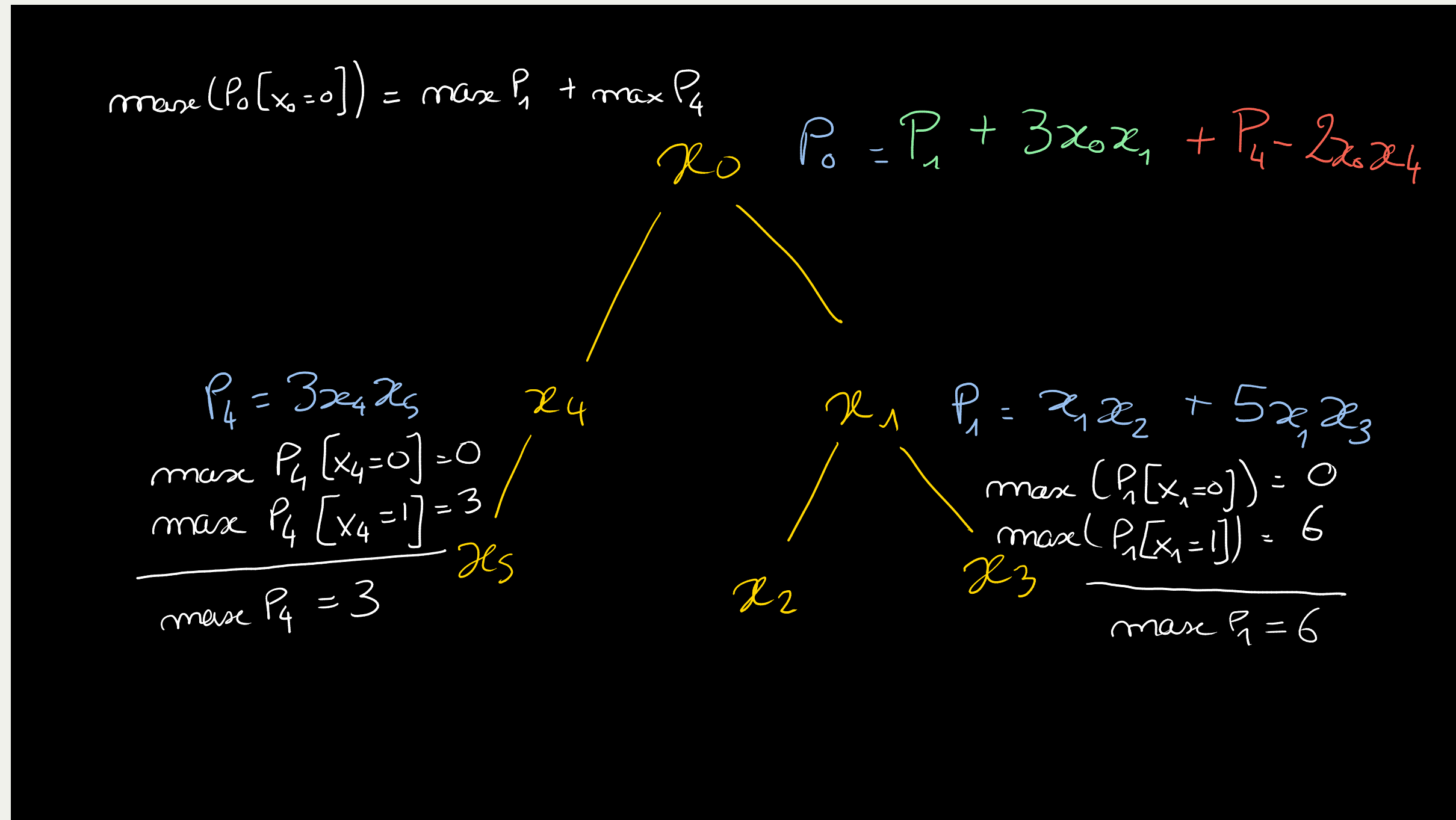
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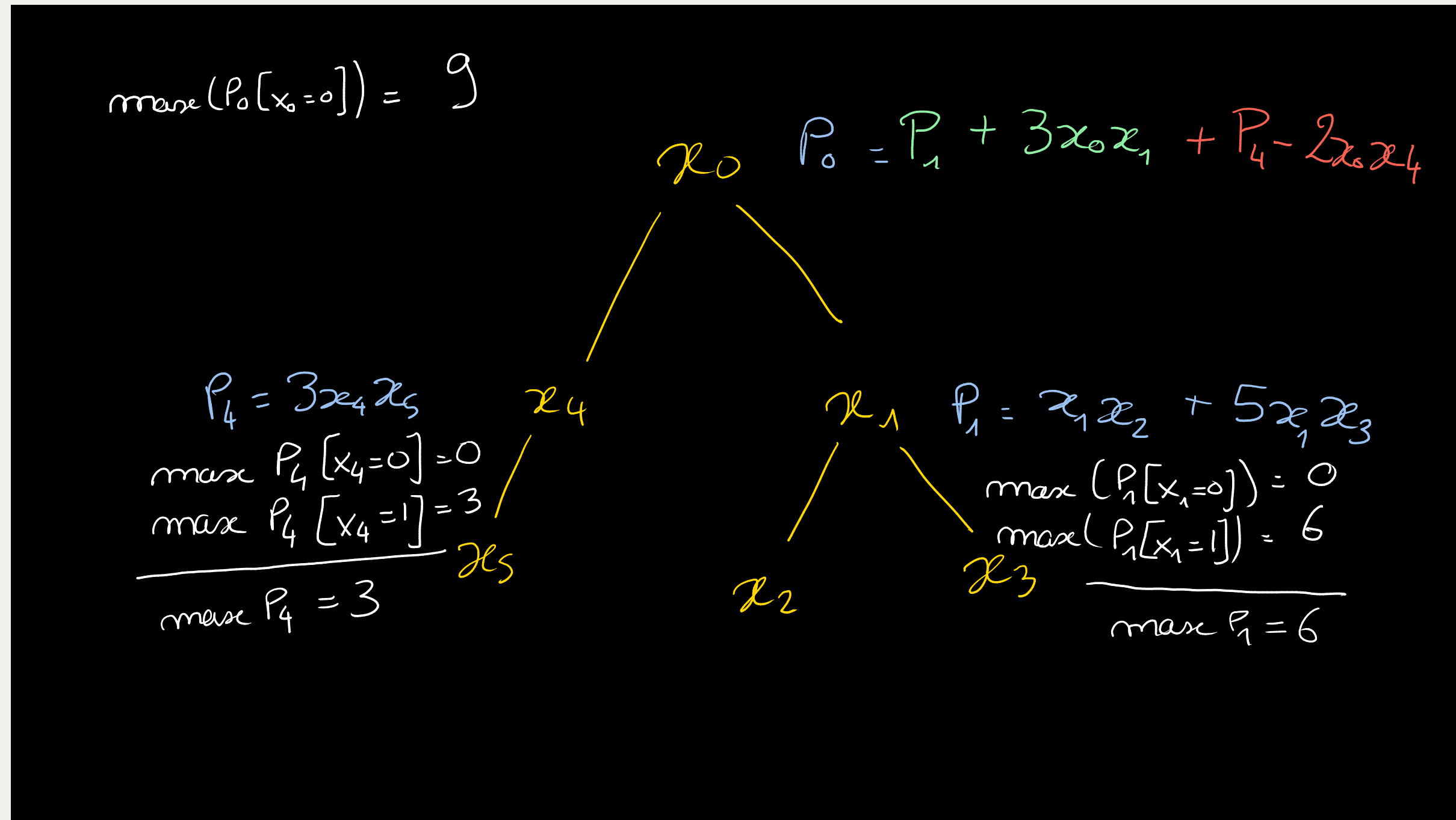
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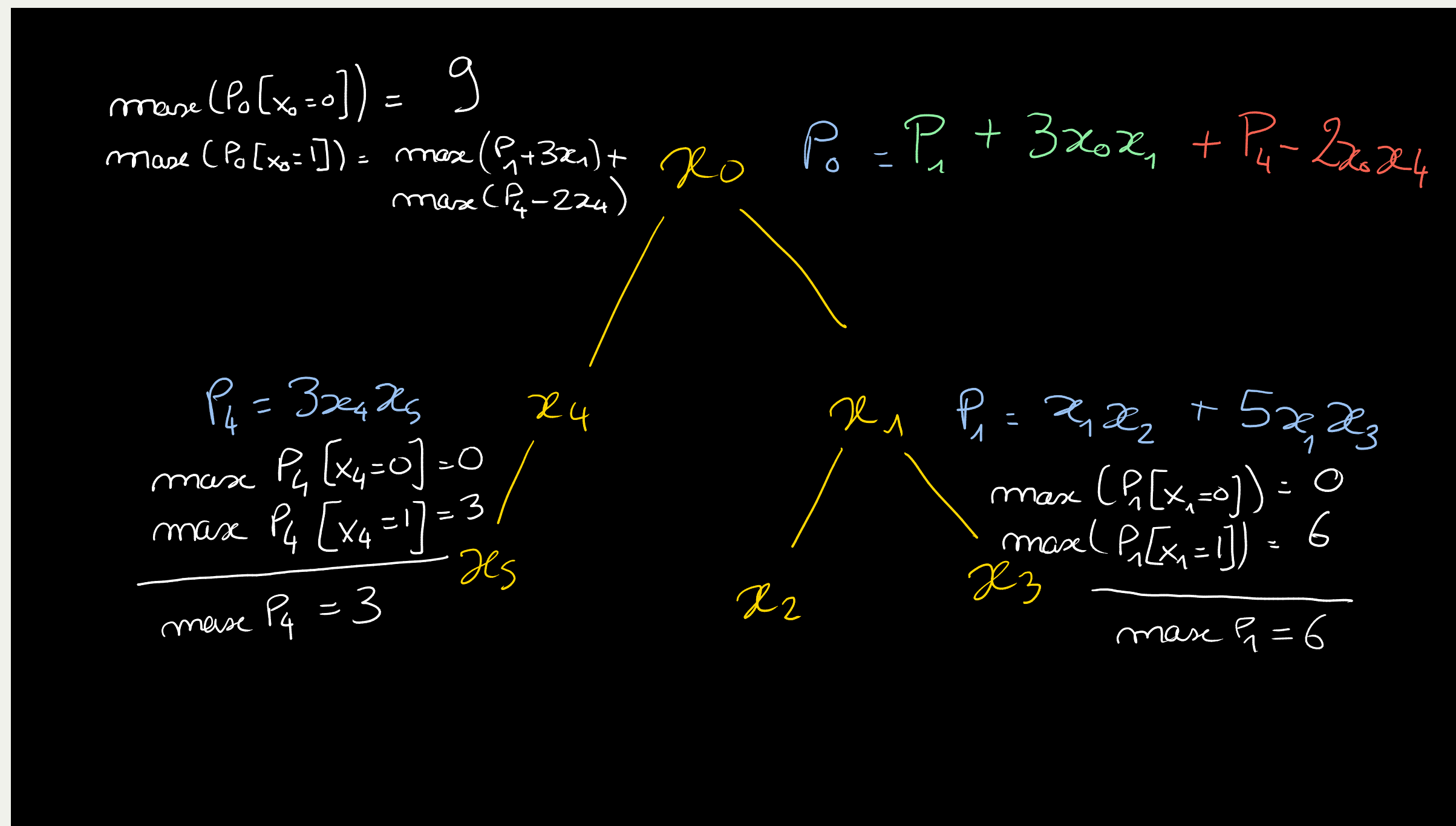
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$\max(P_0[x_0=0]) = 9$
 $\max(P_0[x_0=1]) = \max(P_1 + 3x_1) + \max(P_4 - 2x_4)$
 $= \max(P_1[x_1=0], P_1[x_1=1] + 3) + \max(P_4[x_4=0], P_4[x_4=1] - 2)$

$P_4 = 3x_4x_5$
 $\max P_4[x_4=0] = 0$
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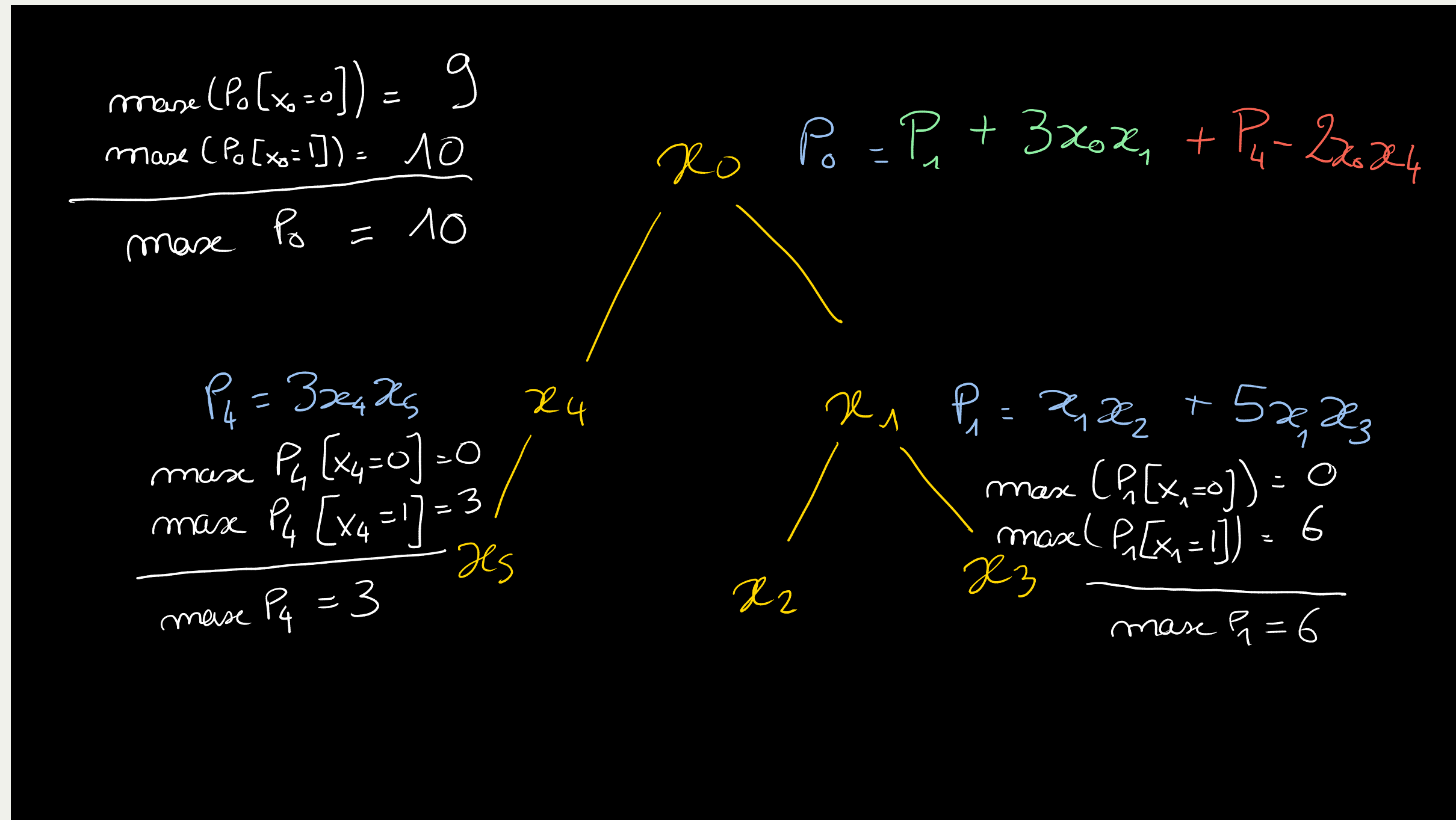
```

graph TD
    x0((x0)) --- x4((x4))
    x0 --- x1((x1))
    x4 --- x5((x5))
    x1 --- x2((x2))
    x1 --- x3((x3))
  
```

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Many Known Tractable Classes

Theorem

- H has tree width k : BPO can be solved in time $2^{O(k)} \text{poly}(H)$.
- H is β -acyclic: BPO can be solved in time $\text{poly}(H)$.

Dedicated algorithm for each class.

A strange symmetry

Very similar results from Boolean function literature:

Theorem

- If a CNF F has tree width k then one can construct a DNNF for F of size $2^{O(k)} \text{poly}(F)$.
- If a CNF F is β -acyclic then one can construct a DNNF for F of size $\text{poly}(F)$.

Is there a connection?

Encoding BPO as a CNF

For $P := \sum_{e \in E} \alpha_e \prod_{i \in e} x_i$ define:

$$f_P := \bigwedge_{e \in E} C_e$$

where $C_e := Y_e \Leftrightarrow \bigwedge_{i \in e} X_i$

C_e can be encoded as the conjunction of:

- $\bigvee_{i \in e} \neg X_i \vee Y_e$
- $\neg Y_e \vee X_i$ for every $i \in e$

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f_P is naturally encoded as a CNF F_P that preserves tree width.

Tractability of BPO via KC

Every known tractability for BPO can be recovered in our framework as follows:

1. Encode P as a CNF formula F_P
2. Transform F_P into a polynomial size tractable representation C_P **using known results**
3. Solve AMC on C_P

And we get new tractability results for structure that where not known to make BPO tractable.

Beyond BPO

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Beyond BPO

KC approach very versatile:

- Solve top-k BPO: find the k best solutions of P by **finding the k best in the circuit**
- Solve BPO + Cardinality constraints: $\max P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \in S$ where $S \subseteq [n]$ by **transforming the circuit**
- Solve pseudo BPO: P can contains monomial of the form $\prod_{i \in A} x_i \prod_{i \in B} (1 - x_i)$

Conclusion

Connection between BPO and Boolean functions:

- Recover known results and generalize them using the existing rich literature
- Seems to have practical relevance

Perspective:

KC only exploits combinatorics of the underlying Boolean function. How could we mix existing more algebraic techniques?

