

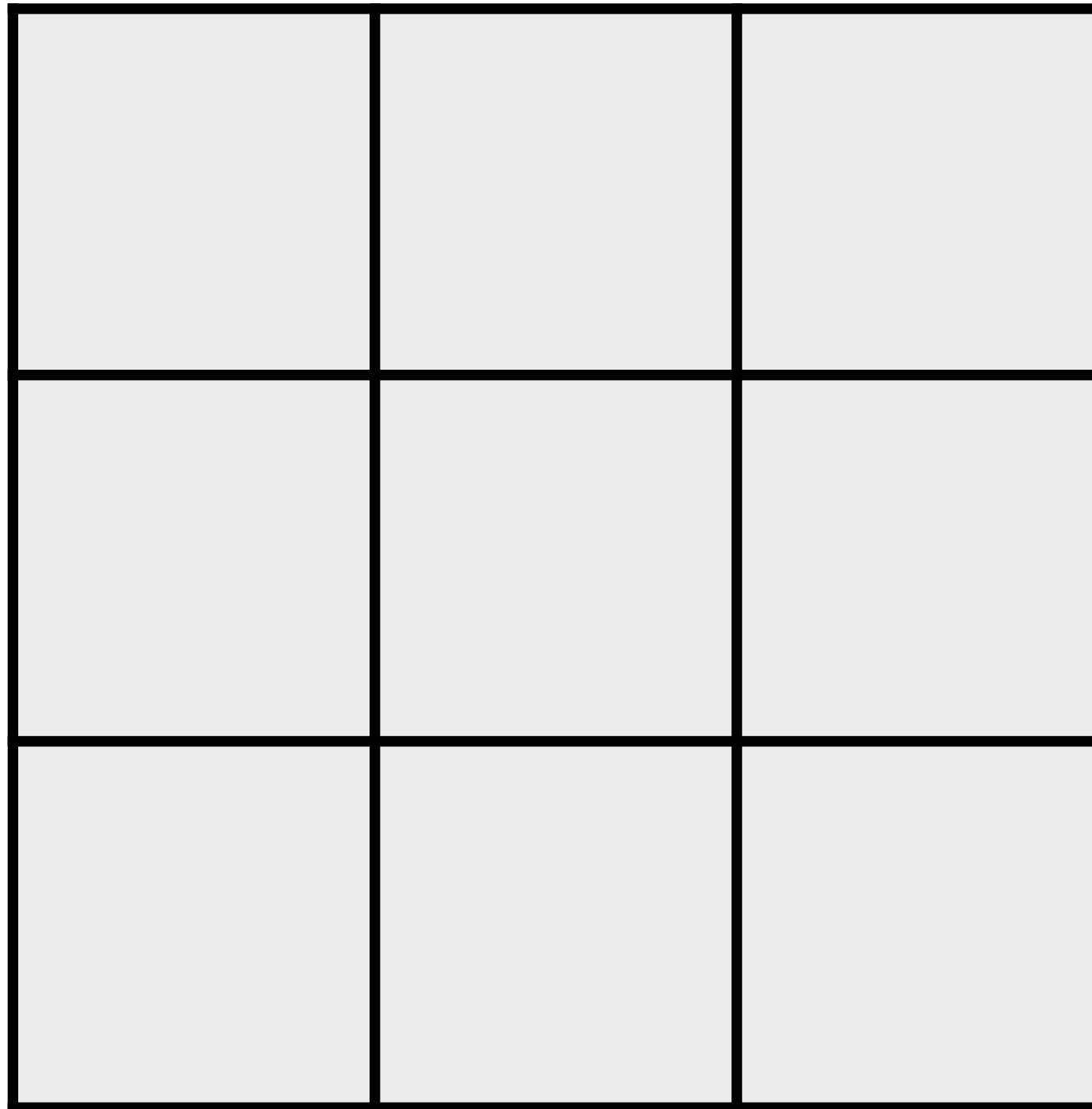
Satisfiability of Commutative vs. Non-Commutative CSPs

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Magic Square Game



Magic Square Game

+1	+1	+1
+1	-1	-1
-1	+1	?

Magic Square Game

+1	+1	+1
+1	-1	-1
-1	+1	?

$$x_{11}x_{12}x_{13} = +1$$

$$x_{21}x_{22}x_{23} = +1$$

$$x_{31}x_{32}x_{33} = +1$$

$$x_{11}x_{21}x_{31} = -1$$

$$x_{12}x_{22}x_{32} = -1$$

$$x_{13}x_{23}x_{33} = -1$$

Magic Square Game

+1	+1	+1
+1	-1	-1
-1	+1	?

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$$+1 = -1$$

Magic Square Game

+1	+1	+1
+1	-1	-1
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$$+1 = -1$$

$x_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4}$
[Mermin-Peres'90]

Magic Square Game

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+1	-1	-1
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Bell-Kochen-Specker

$x_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4}$
[Mermin-Peres'90]

CSPs

CSPs

$x_i \in \{0,1\}$ $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_3), (x_2 \vee x_4), (x_5 \vee \bar{x}_4), \dots$



2-SAT

CSPs

$$x_i \in \{0,1\}$$

$$(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_3), (x_2 \vee x_4), (x_5 \vee \bar{x}_4), \dots$$

2-SAT

$$x_i \in \{0,1\}$$

$$(x_1 + x_2 = x_3), (x_2 + x_4 = x_5), (x_2 = 1), \dots$$

3-LIN

CSPs

$x_i \in \{0,1\}$ $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_3), (x_2 \vee x_4), (x_5 \vee \bar{x}_4), \dots$

$x_i \in \{0,1\}$ $(x_1 + x_2 = x_3), (x_2 + x_4 = x_5), (x_2 = 1), \dots$

$v_i \in \{R, G, B\}$ $(v_1 \neq v_3), (v_2 \neq v_4), (v_5 \neq v_4), \dots$

2-SAT

3-LIN

3-COL

CSPs

$x_i \in \{0,1\}$ $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_3), (x_2 \vee x_4), (x_5 \vee \bar{x}_4), \dots$

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2-SAT

3-LIN

3-COL

(**V**ariables, **D**omain, **C**onstraints)

CSPs

$x_i \in \{0,1\}$ $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_3), (x_2 \vee x_4), (x_5 \vee \bar{x}_4), \dots$

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2-SAT

3-LIN

3-COL

(**V**ariables, **D**omain, **C**onstraints)

$R(x_1, \dots, x_k)$

$R \subseteq D^k$

CSPs

$x_i \in \{0,1\}$ $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_3), (x_2 \vee x_4), (x_5 \vee \bar{x}_4), \dots$

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2-SAT

3-LIN

3-COL

(**V**ariables, **D**omain, **C**onstraints)

$R(x_1, \dots, x_k)$

$R \subseteq D^k$

- Horn-SAT
- NAE-SAT
- 1-in-3-SAT
- Unreachability

CSPs

$x_i \in \{0,1\}$ $(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_3), (x_2 \vee x_4), (x_5 \vee \bar{x}_4), \dots$

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2-SAT

3-LIN

3-COL

(**V**ariables, **D**omain, **C**onstraints)

$R(x_1, \dots, x_k)$

$R \subseteq D^k$

CSP(Γ)

- Horn-SAT
- NAE-SAT
- 1-in-3-SAT
- Unreachability

Boolean CSPs

$\{-1, +1\}$

Boolean CSPs

$\{-1, +1\}$

Boolean CSPs

R

$\{(+1, +1)\}$

$\{-1, +1\}$

Boolean CSPs

R

$\{(+1, +1)\}$



x	y	χ_R
-1	-1	-1
-1	+1	-1
+1	-1	-1
+1	+1	+1

$\{-1, +1\}$

Boolean CSPs

R

$\{(+1, +1)\}$



x	y	χ_R
-1	-1	-1
-1	+1	-1
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+1	+1	+1



P_R

$$\frac{1}{2}(x + y + xy - 1)$$

$\{-1, +1\}$

Boolean CSPs

R

$\{(+1, +1)\}$



x	y	χ_R
-1	-1	-1
-1	+1	-1
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P_R

$$\frac{1}{2}(x + y + xy - 1)$$

Which relations exhibit a gap between satisfiability and *operator* satisfiability?

$\{-1, +1\}$

Boolean CSPs

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$\{(+1, +1)\}$



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-1	-1	-1
-1	+1	-1
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$P_R(+1, -1, \dots, -1) = +1$

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Boolean CSPs

R

$\{(+1, +1)\}$

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A_i a linear operator on a Hilbert space

- $A_i = A_i^*$
- $A_i^2 = I$
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- 3-LIN



[Mermin-Peres'90]

$\{-1, +1\}$

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$\{(+1, +1)\}$

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Which relations exhibit a gap between satisfiability and operator satisfiability?

- 3-LIN
- 2-SAT



[Mermin-Peres'90]

[Ji'13]

$\{-1, +1\}$

Boolean CSPs

R

$\{(+1, +1)\}$

$p_R(+1, -1, \dots, -1) = +1$

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-1	-1	-1
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p_R

$$\frac{1}{2}(x + y + xy - 1)$$

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A_i a linear operator on a Hilbert space

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Which relations exhibit a gap between satisfiability and operator satisfiability?

- 3-LIN
- 2-SAT
- Horn-SAT



[Mermin-Peres'90]

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Boolean CSPs

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R

$\{(+1, +1)\}$



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-1	+1	-1
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p_R

$$\frac{1}{2}(x + y + xy - 1)$$

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Which relations exhibit a gap between satisfiability and operator satisfiability?

- 3-LIN
- 2-SAT
- Horn-SAT
- Tractable CSPs except for 3-LIN



[Mermin-Peres'90]

[Ji'13]

[Ji'13]

[Atserias-Kolaitis-Severini'19]

Gaps for CSPs

Gaps for CSPs

- I. Unsatisfiable over *assignments* but satisfiable over *finite-dim operators*.

Gaps for CSPs

3-LIN
[Mermin-Peres'90]

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Gaps for CSPs

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[Mermin-Peres'90]

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Gaps for CSPs

3-LIN
[Mermin-Peres'90]

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1 \Rightarrow 2

Gaps for CSPs

3-LIN
[Mermin-Peres'90]

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Gaps for CSPs

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[Mermin-Peres'90]

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$$1 \Rightarrow 2 \Leftarrow 3$$

Gaps for CSPs

3-LIN
[Mermin-Peres'90]

3-LIN
[Slofstra'20]

1. Unsatisfiable over *assignments* but satisfiable over *finite-dim operators*.
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[Mermin-Peres'90]

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$$1 \Rightarrow 2 \Leftarrow 3$$

Theorem [Atserias-Kolaitis-Severini'19]

Gaps for CSPs

3-LIN
[Mermin-Peres'90]

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$$1 \Rightarrow 2 \Leftarrow 3$$

Theorem [Atserias-Kolaitis-Severini'19]

Let Γ be a set of relations on $\{-1, +1\}$. TFAE:

1. $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$ has no gap of the *first* kind.
2. $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$ has no gap of the *second* kind.
3. $\text{CSP}(\Gamma)$ has no gap of the *third* kind.
4. Γ is -1 -valid, $+1$ -valid, 2-SAT, Horn-SAT, or Dual-Horn-SAT.

Gaps for CSPs

3-LIN
[Mermin-Peres'90]

3-LIN
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1. structure of 2-SAT, Horn-SAT
2. pp-reductions preserve gaps



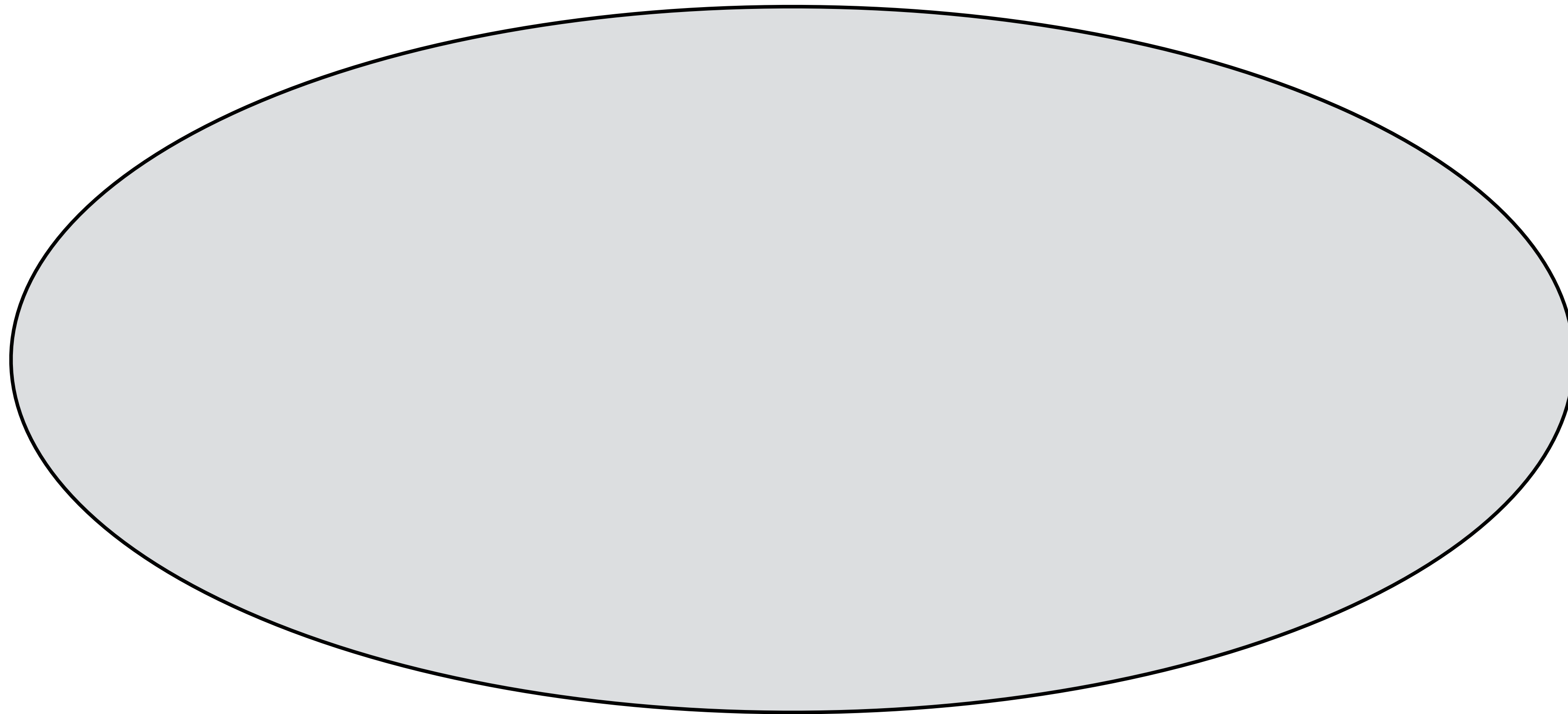
CSP(Γ)

CSP(Γ)

relations on U_d

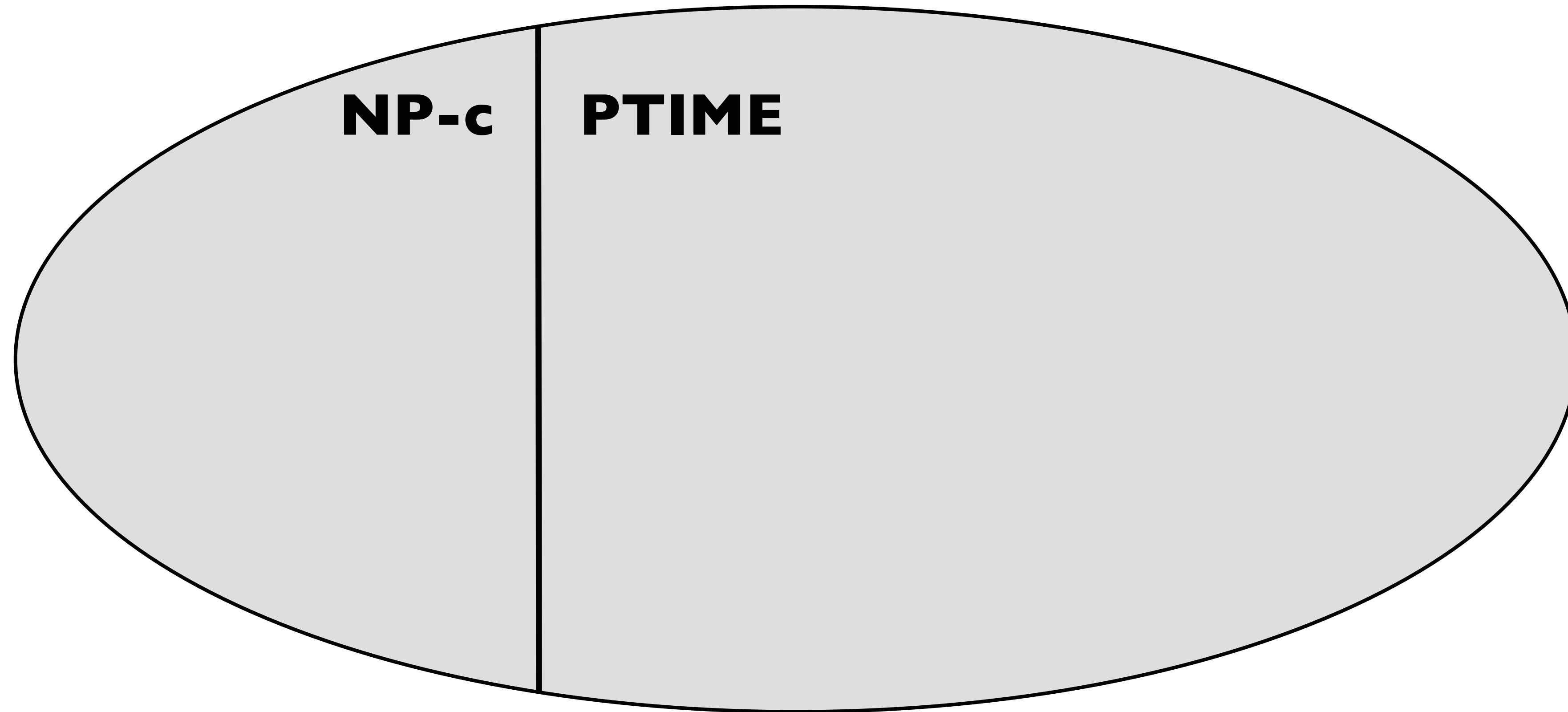
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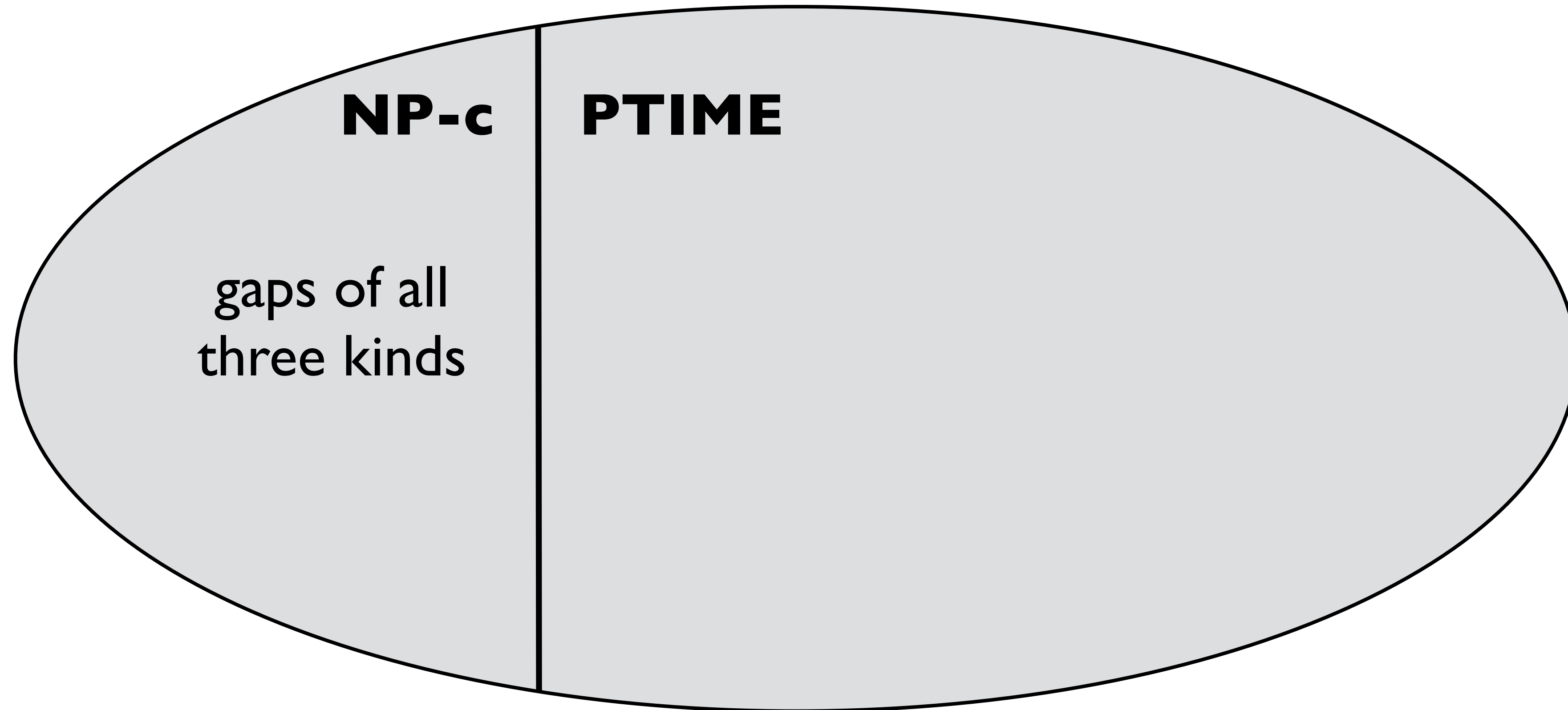
CSP(Γ)

relations on U_d



CSP(Γ)

relations on U_d



A_i a linear operator
on a Hilbert space

- $A_i A_i^* = A_i^* A_i$
- $A_i^d = I$
- $A_i A_j = A_j A_i$

CSP(Γ)

relations on U_d

NP-c

PTIME

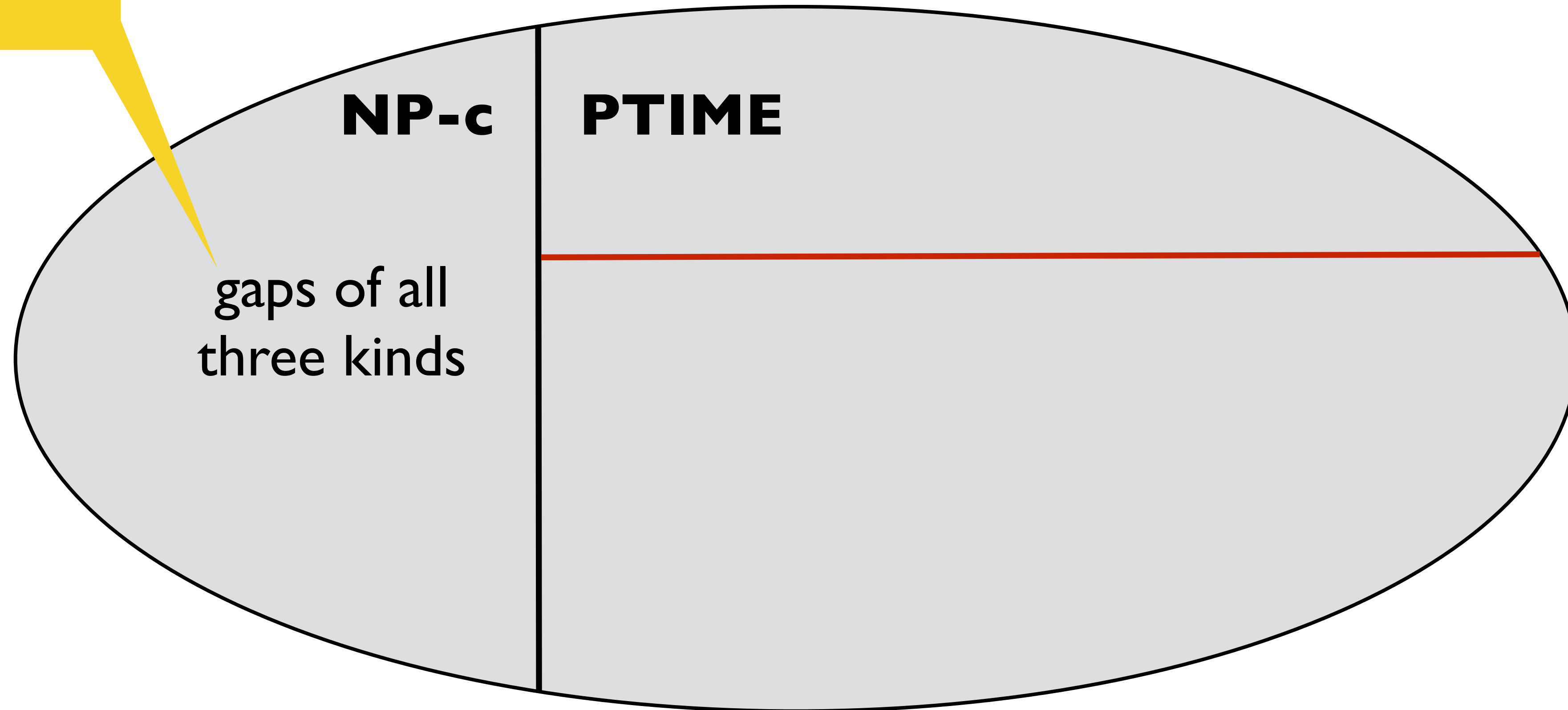
gaps of all
three kinds

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CSP(Γ)

relations on U_d



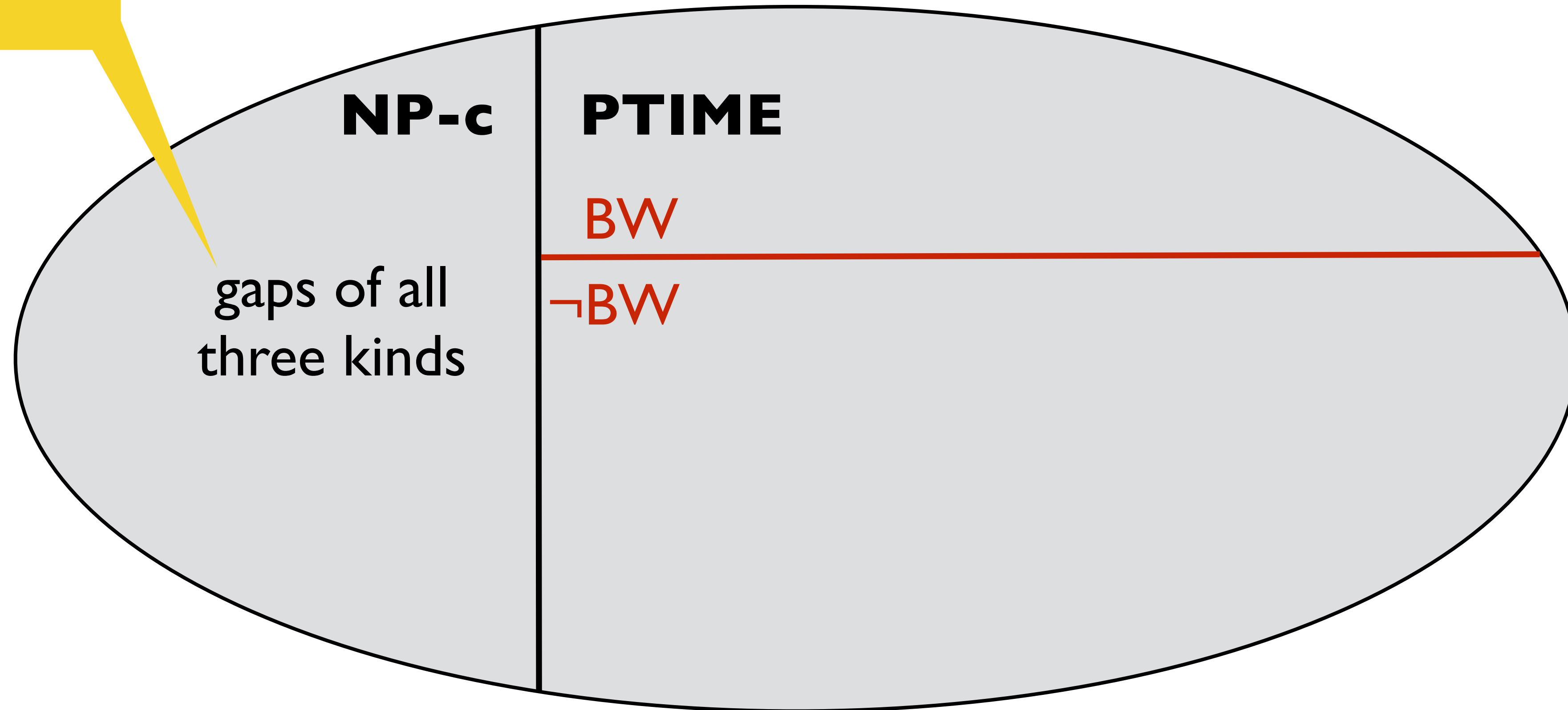
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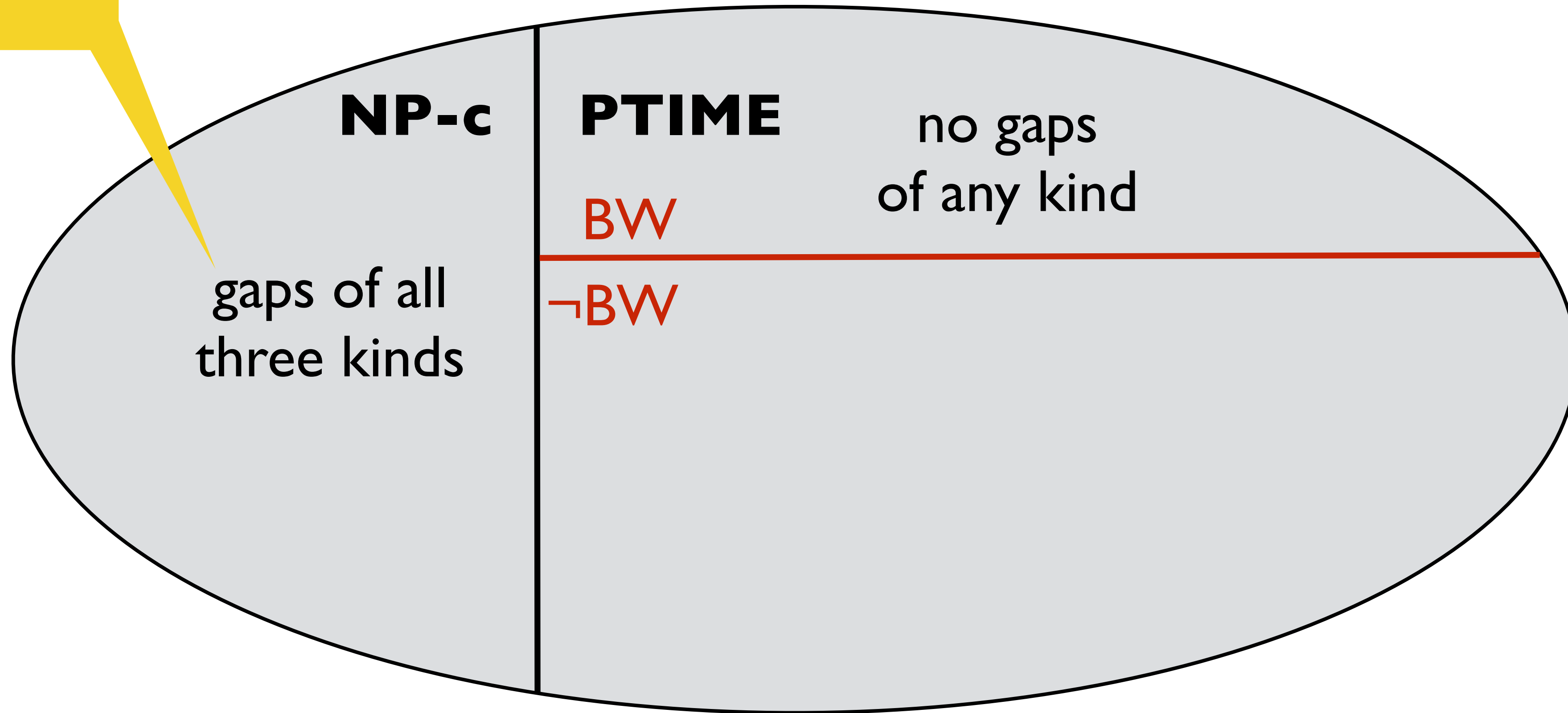


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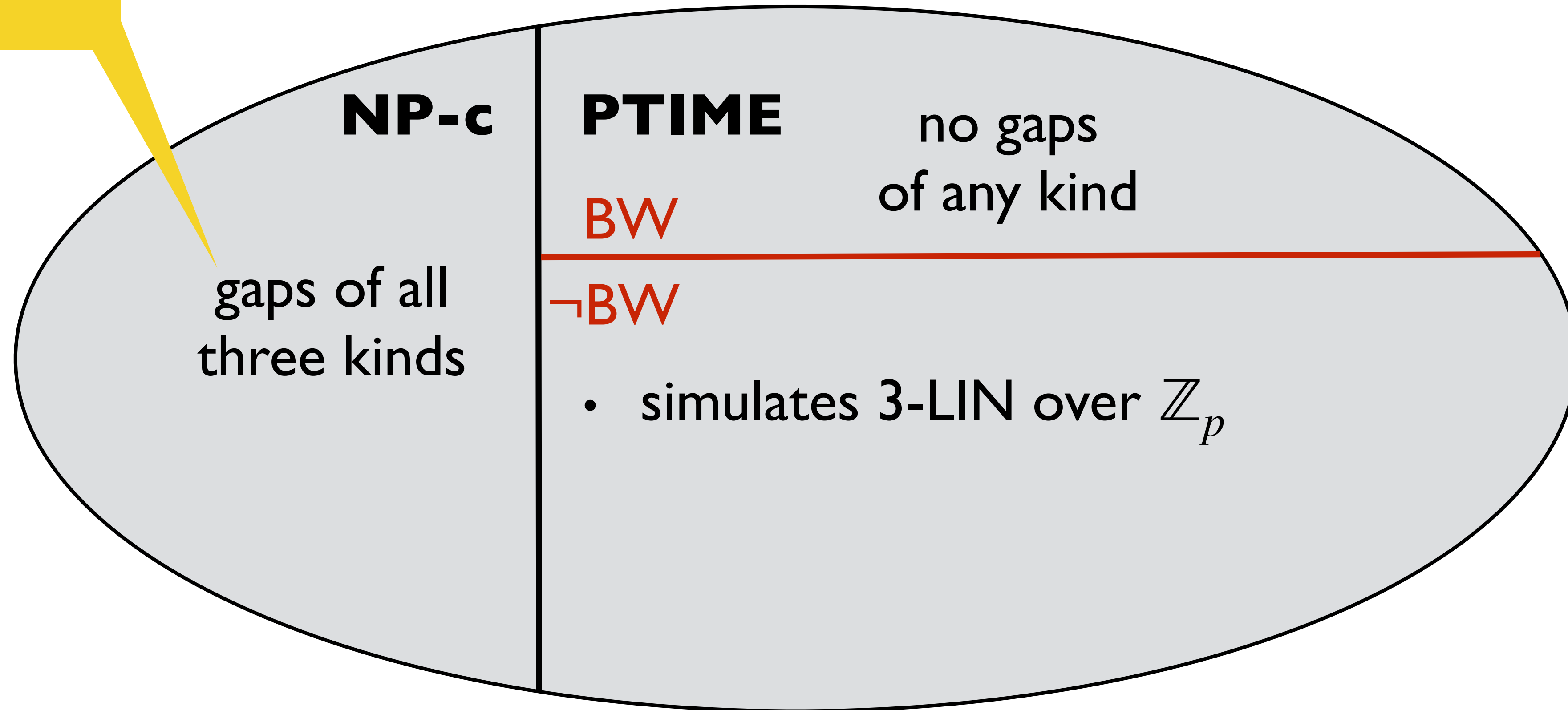


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relations on U_d

CSP(Γ)



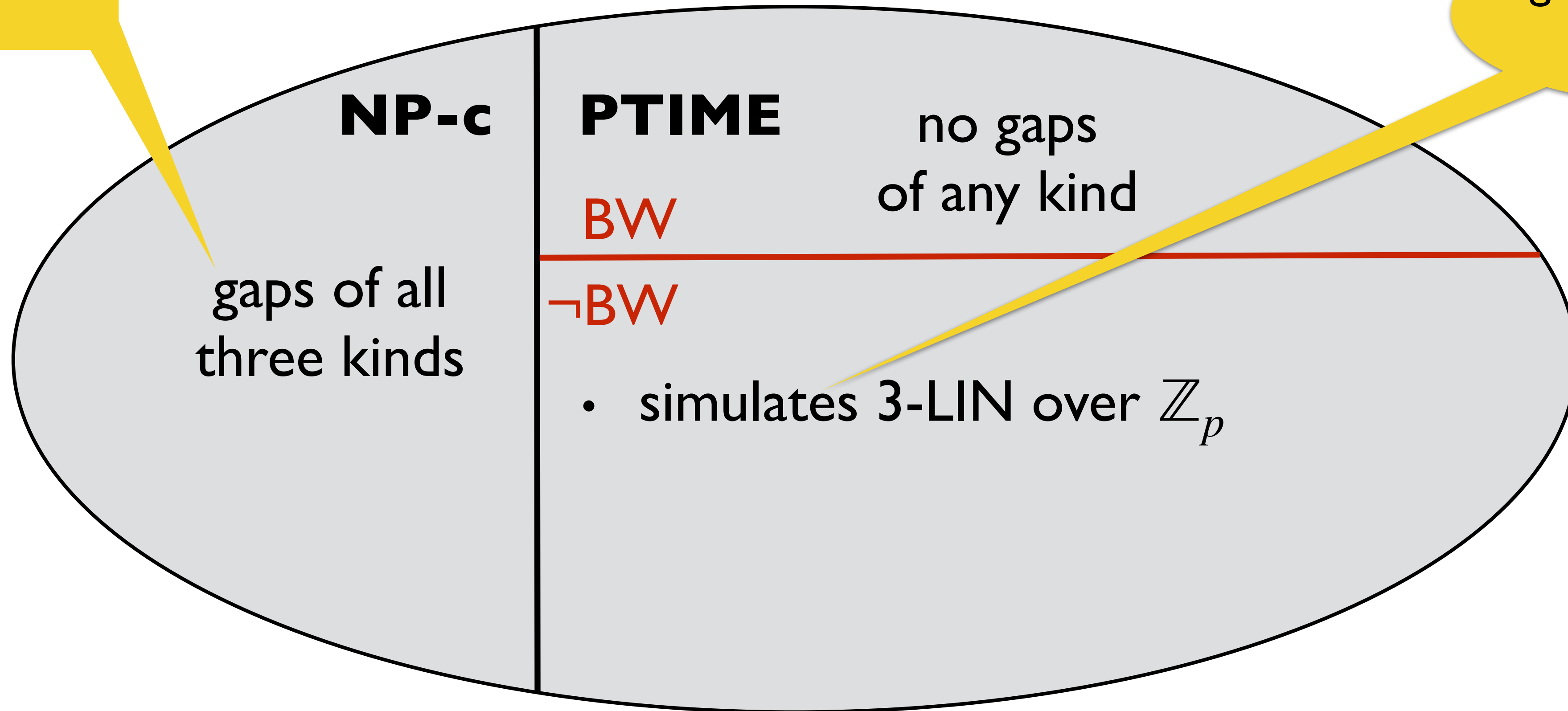
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CSP(Γ)

relations on U_d

gap-preserving simulation



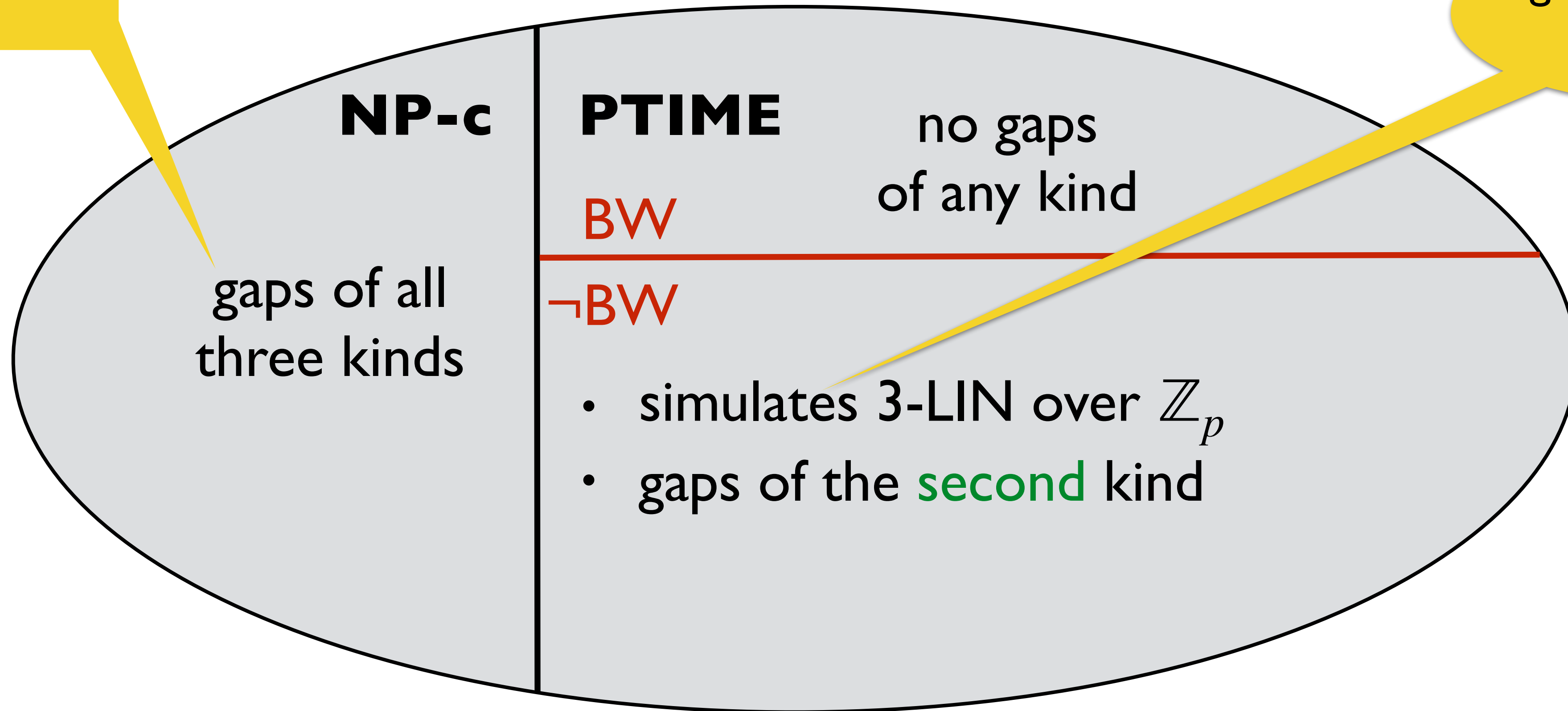
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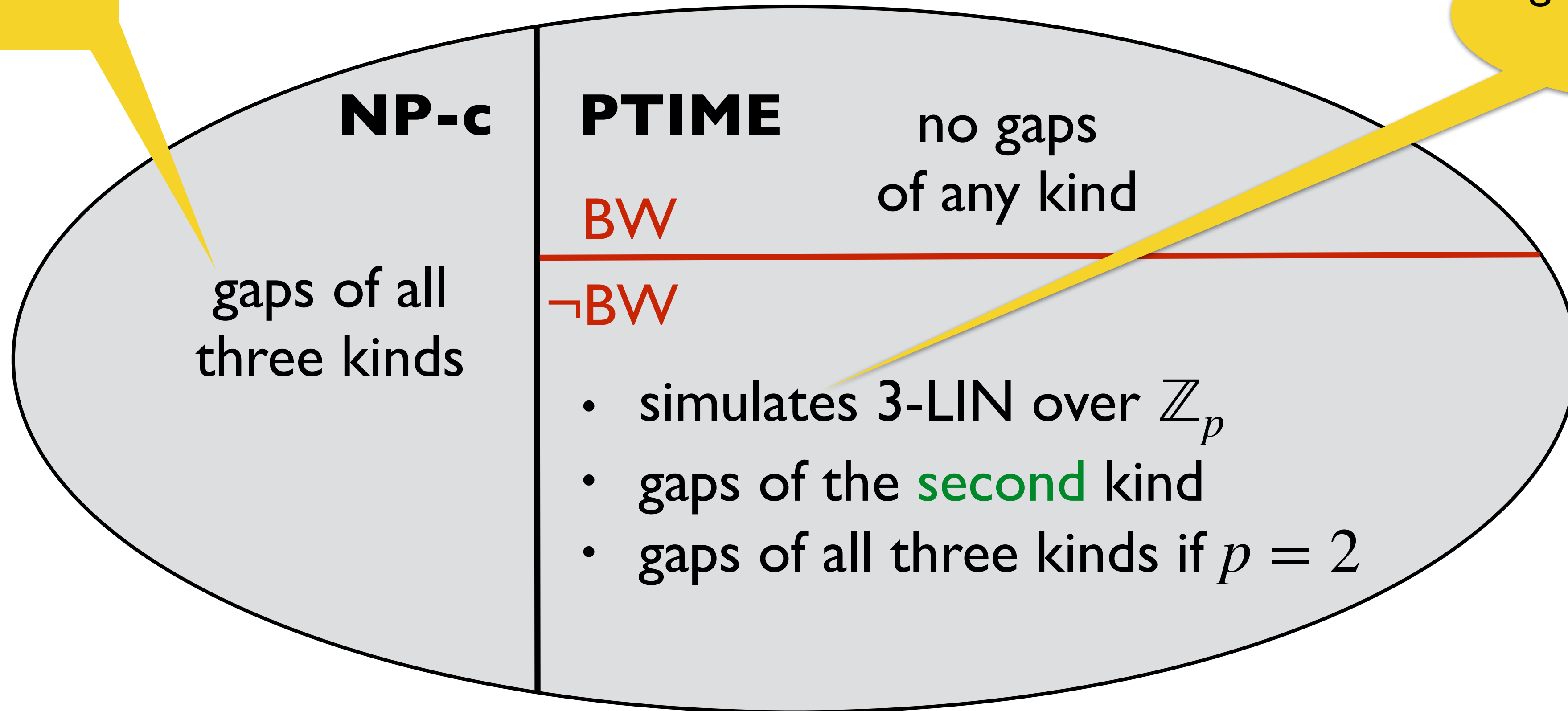
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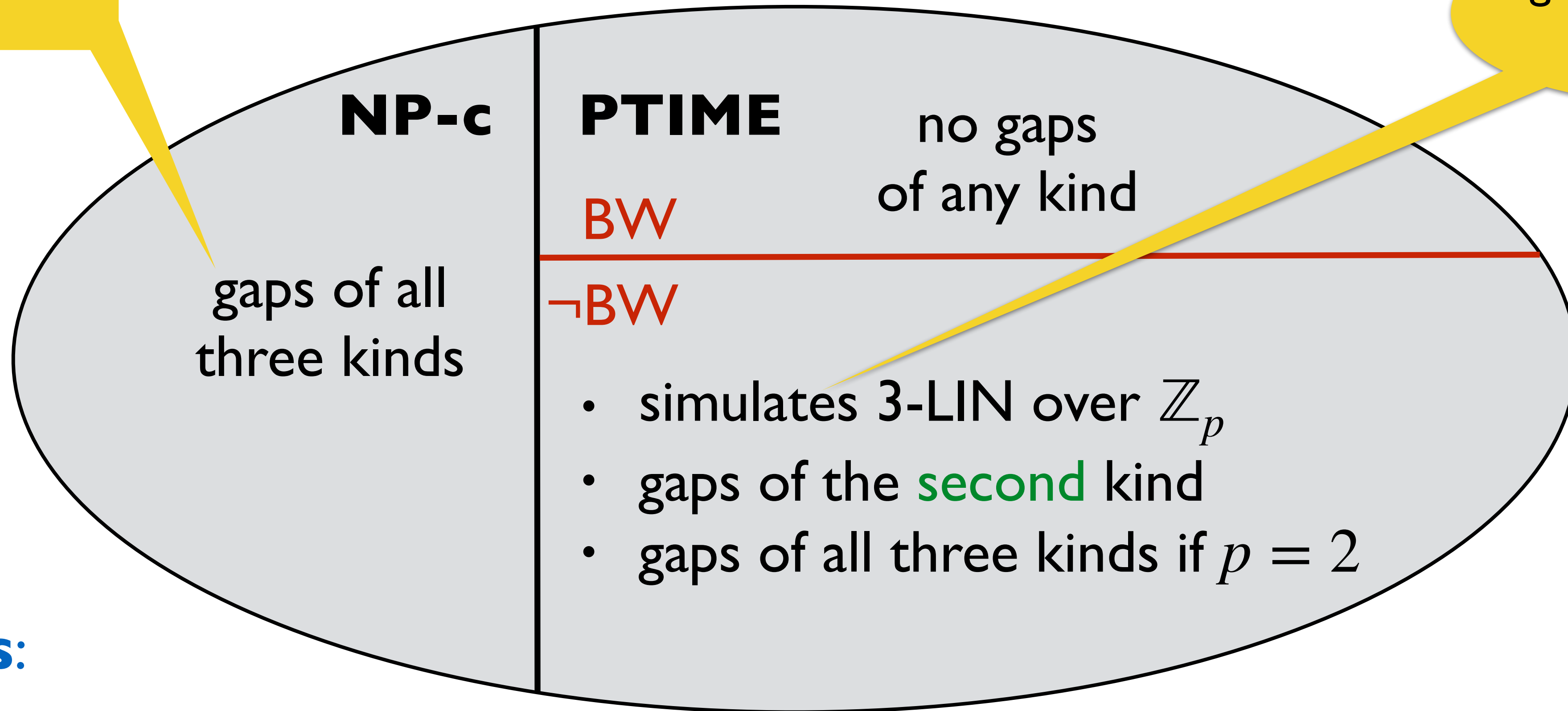
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Corollaries:

- $d = 2$ recovers AKS'19

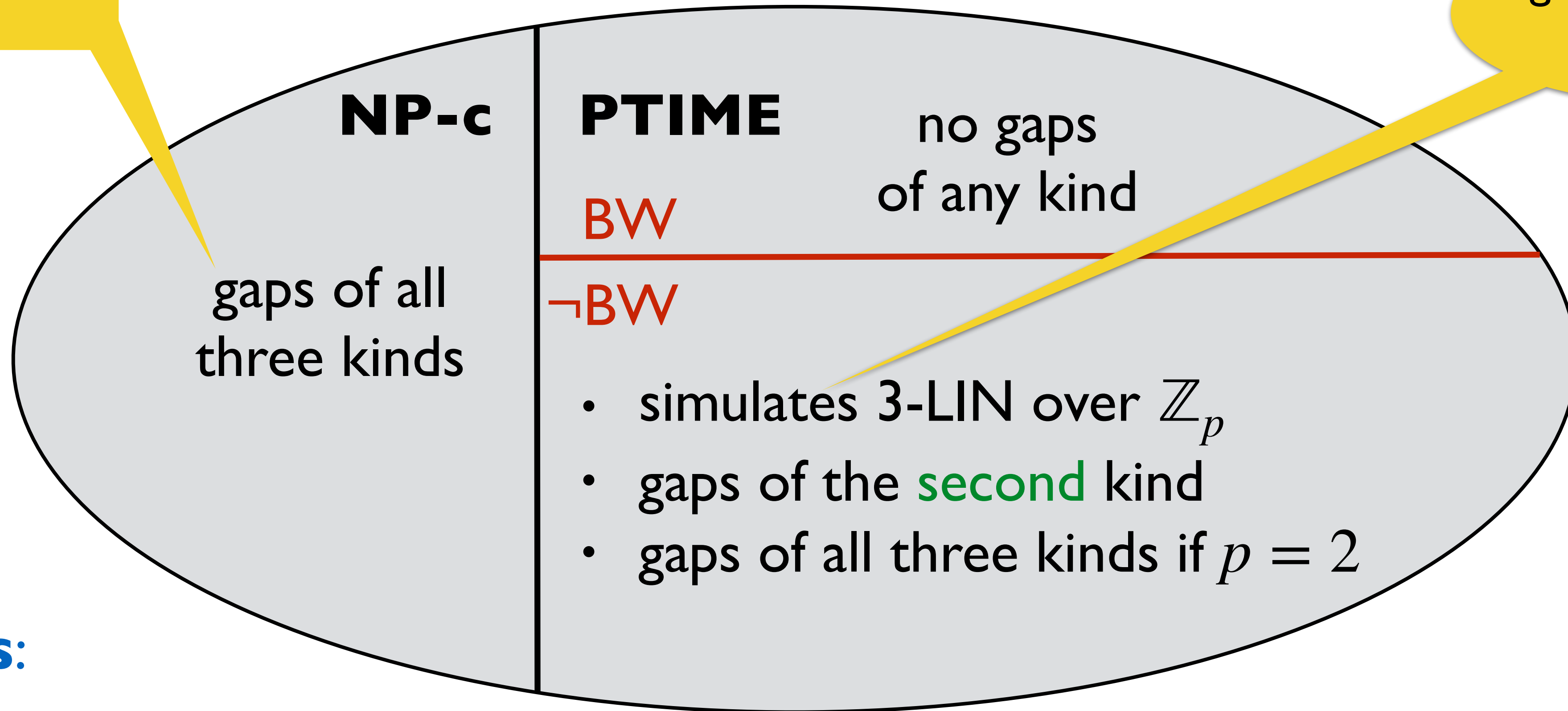
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Corollaries:

- $d = 2$ recovers AKS'19
- H -Colouring: bipartite H no gaps of any kind, o/w all three kinds

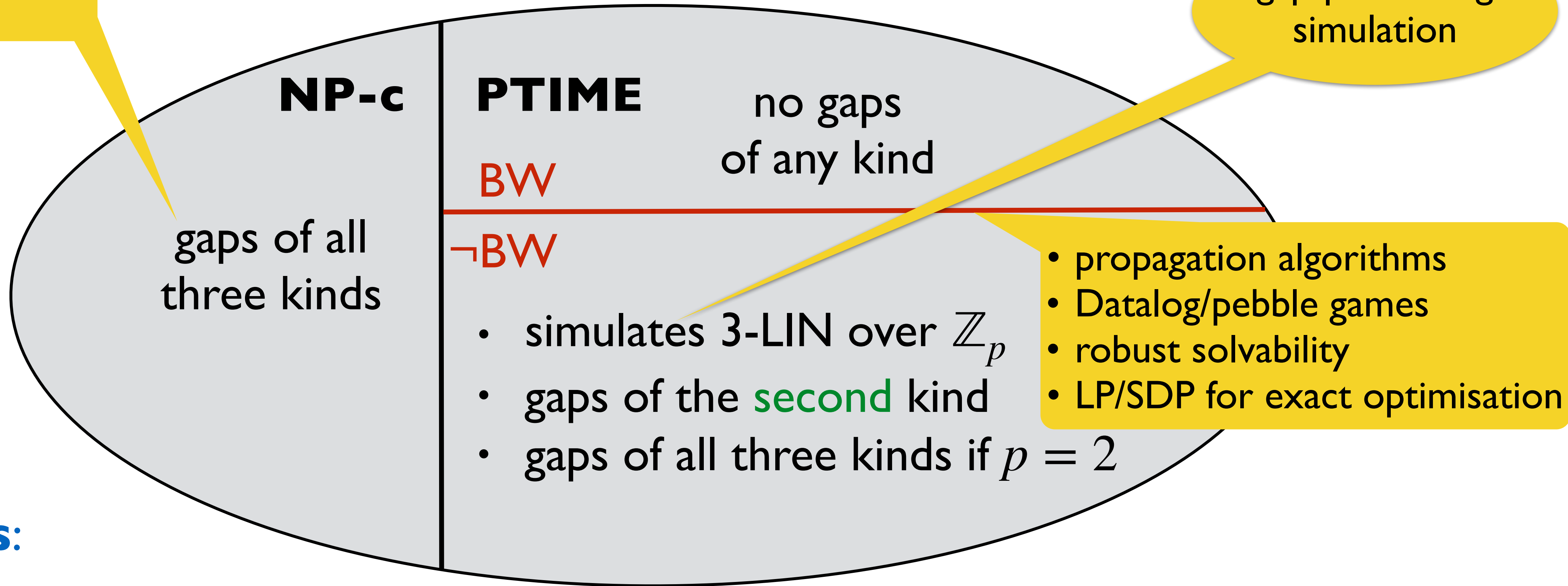
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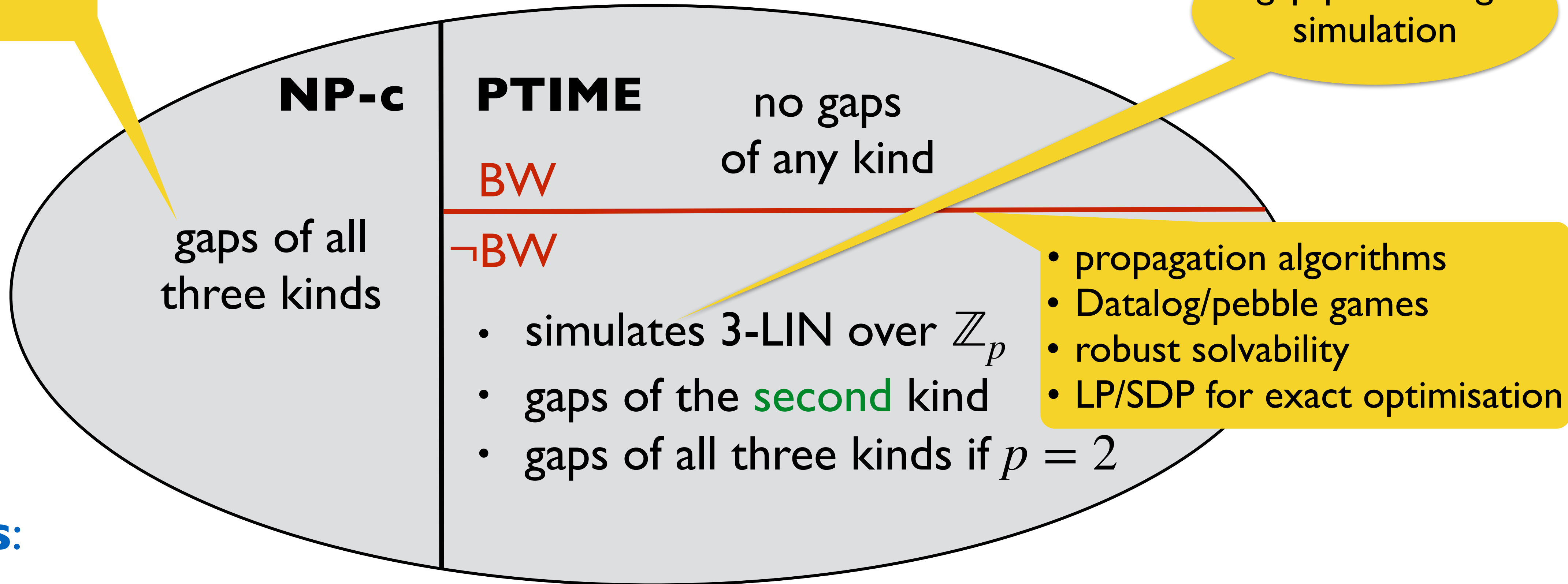
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Open:

Gap of the first kind for 3-LIN over \mathbb{Z}_p ($p > 2$)?

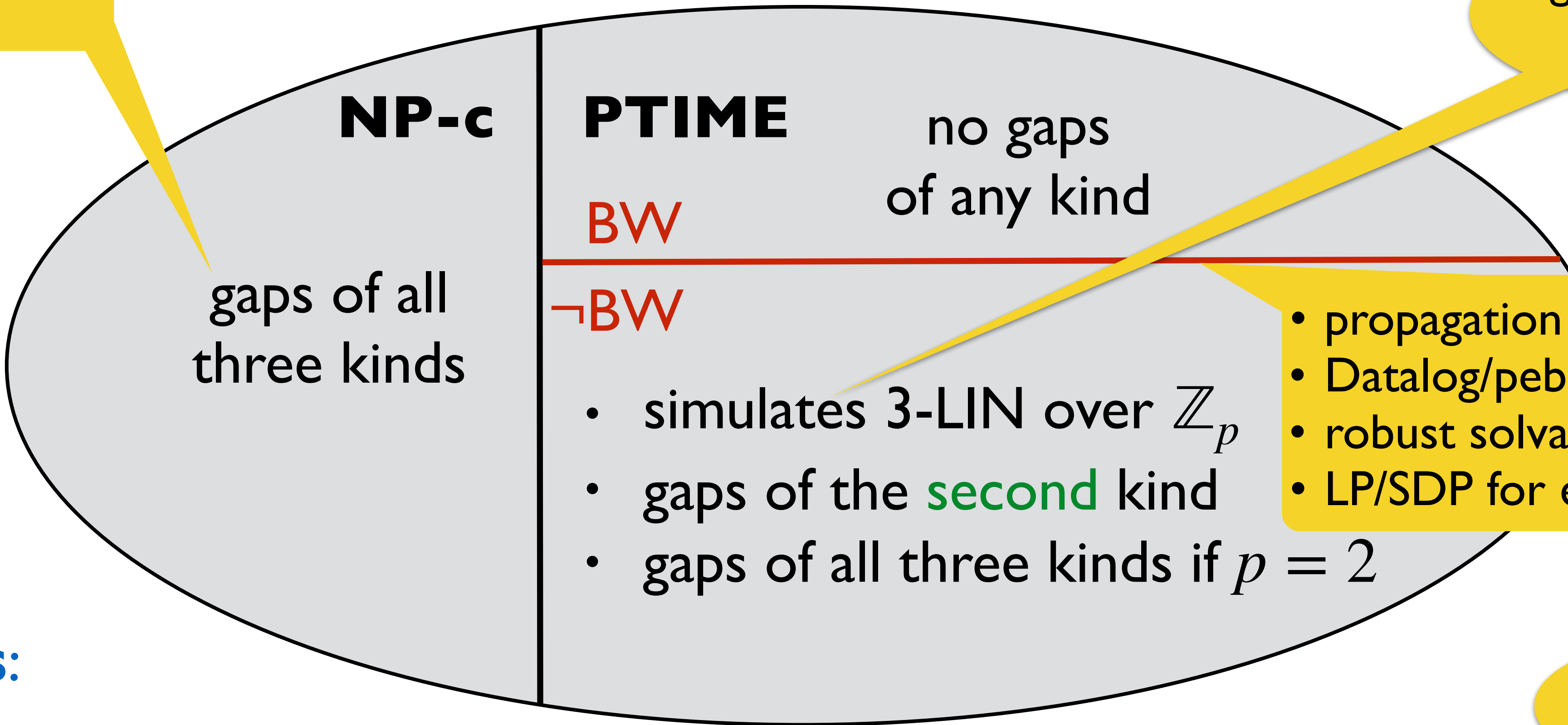
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CSP(Γ)

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gap-preserving simulation



- propagation algorithms
- Datalog/pebble games
- robust solvability
- LP/SDP for exact optimisation

no-go results!

Corollaries:

- $d = 2$ recovers AKS'19
- H -Colouring: bipartite H no gaps of any kind, o/w all three kinds

Open:

Gap of the first kind for 3-LIN over \mathbb{Z}_p ($p > 2$)?

No Gaps for BW

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- Idea:**
- simulate some algorithm that solves BW CSPs (via polynomial equations)

No Gaps for BW

SLAC [Kozik'21]

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No Gaps for BW

SLAC [Kozik'21]

Idea:

- simulate some algorithm that solves BW CSPs (via polynomial equations)
- $I \in \text{CSP}(\Gamma)$ of BW with no solution, so SLAC derives a contradiction

No Gaps for BW

SLAC [Kozik'21]

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- simulate some algorithm that solves BW CSPs (via polynomial equations)
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- assume an operator solution for I , use the SLAC derivation from above, derive more polynomials, obtain a contradiction

Gaps from 3-LIN

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- NP-c CSPs simulate 3-LIN over \mathbb{Z}_2

[Bulatov-Zhuk'17, Mermin-Peres'90, Slofstra'20]

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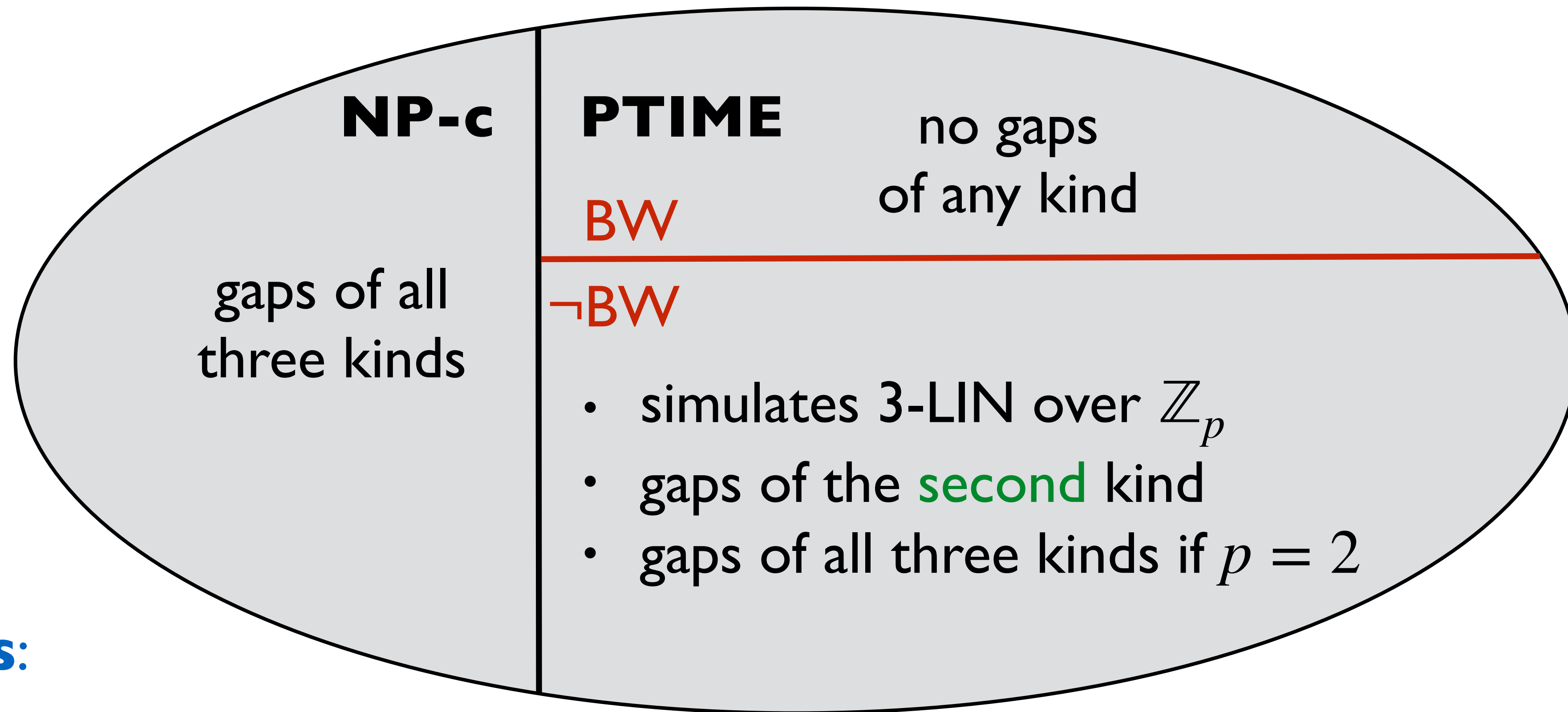
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- PTIME \neg BW CSPs simulate 3-LIN over \mathbb{Z}_p

[Barto-Kozik'14, Slofstra-Zhang'25+]

CSP(Γ)



Corollaries:

- $d = 2$ recovers AKS'19
- H -Colouring: bipartite H no gaps of any kind, o/w all three kinds

Open:

Gap of the first kind for 3-LIN over \mathbb{Z}_p ($p > 2$)?