

# Compositionality in Categorical Quantum Mechanics

Ross Duncan

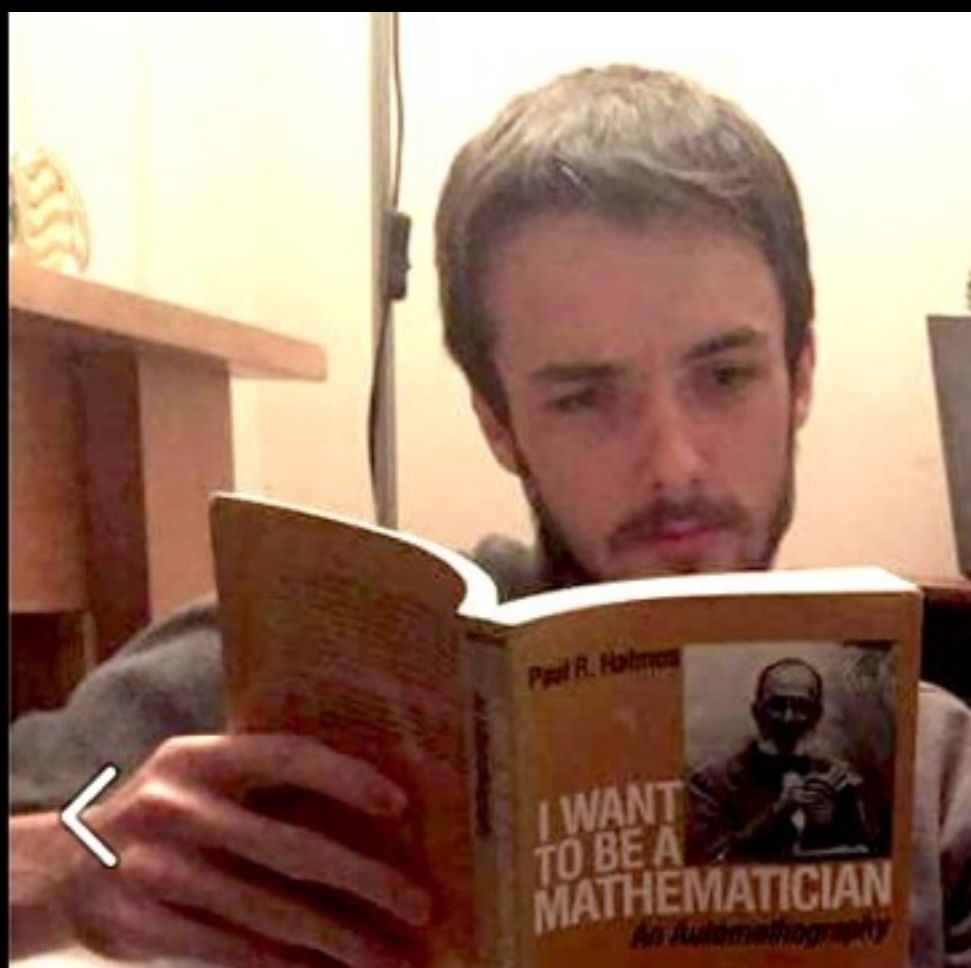




**Bob Coecke**



**Simon Perdrix**



**Kevin Dunne**



**Niel de Beaudrap**

# Compositionality x 3

- Plain old monoidal category theory:
  - quantum computing in string diagrams
- Rewriting and substitution:
  - taking the syntax seriously
- “Quantum theory” as a composite theory
  - Lack’s composing PROPS

An application: compiling for quantum architecture

# 1. Quantum theory as string diagrams

How much quantum theory can be expressed as an internal language in some monoidal category?

**PAST / HEAVEN**

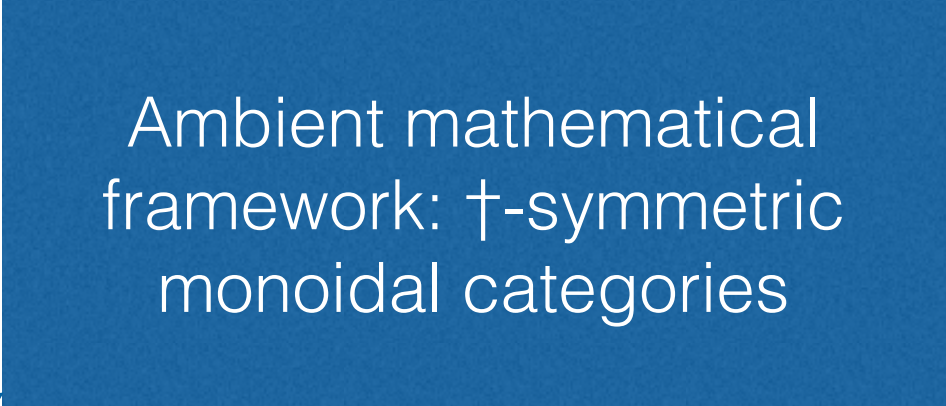
**FUTURE / HELL**

# F.D. Pure state QM

- States : Hilbert spaces
- Compound systems : Tensor product
- Dynamics : Unitary maps
- Non-degenerate measurements : O.N. Bases

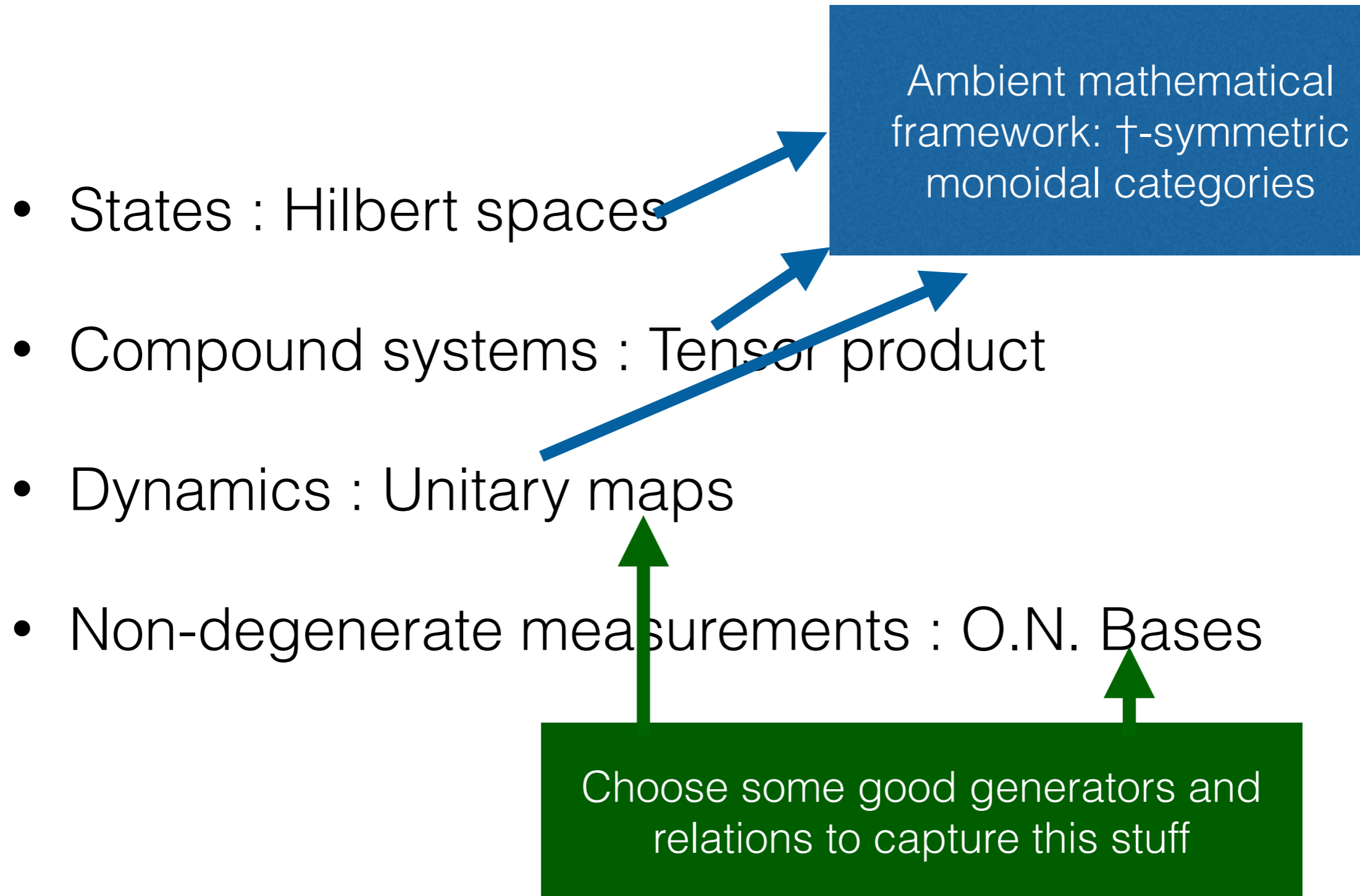
# F.D. Pure state QM

- States : Hilbert spaces
- Compound systems : Tensor product
- Dynamics : Unitary maps
- Non-degenerate measurements : O.N. Bases



Ambient mathematical  
framework:  $\dagger$ -symmetric  
monoidal categories

# F.D. Pure state QM





# Frobenius Algebras

**Theorem:** in **fdHilb** orthonormal bases are in bijection with  $\dagger$ -special commutative Frobenius algebras.

$$\delta : A \rightarrow A \otimes A$$

$$\mu : A \otimes A \rightarrow A$$

$$\epsilon : A \rightarrow I$$

$$\eta : I \rightarrow A$$

Via:

$$\delta :: |a_i\rangle \rightarrow |a_i\rangle \otimes |a_i\rangle$$

$$\mu = \delta^\dagger$$

$$\epsilon :: |a_i\rangle \rightarrow 1$$

$$\eta = \eta^\dagger$$

# Frobenius Algebras

Represent observables by  $\dagger$ -special commutative Frobenius algebras:

$$\mu = \text{diagram of a green circle with two lines entering from the top and one line exiting from the bottom},$$

$$\eta = \text{diagram of a green circle with one line entering from the bottom},$$

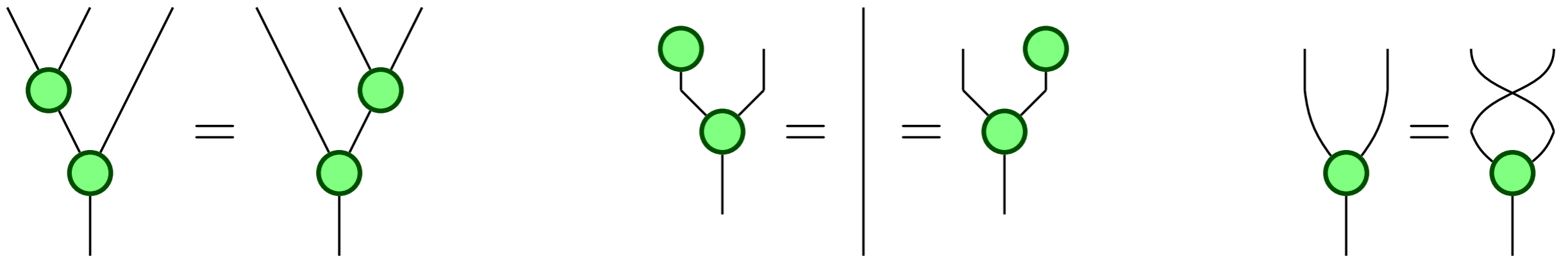
$$\mu^\dagger = \text{diagram of a green circle with one line entering from the top and two lines exiting from the bottom},$$

$$\eta^\dagger = \text{diagram of a green circle with one line entering from the top}.$$

# Frobenius Algebras

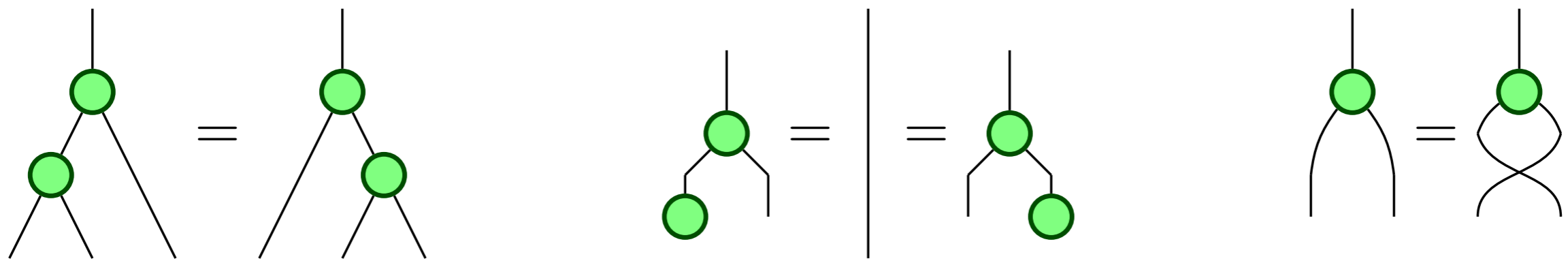
Represent observables by  $\dagger$ -special commutative Frobenius algebras:

$$\mu = \text{diagram}, \quad \eta = \text{diagram}$$



# Frobenius Algebras

Represent observables by  $\dagger$ -special commutative Frobenius algebras:



$$\mu^\dagger = \text{green circle with one top wire and two bottom wires},$$

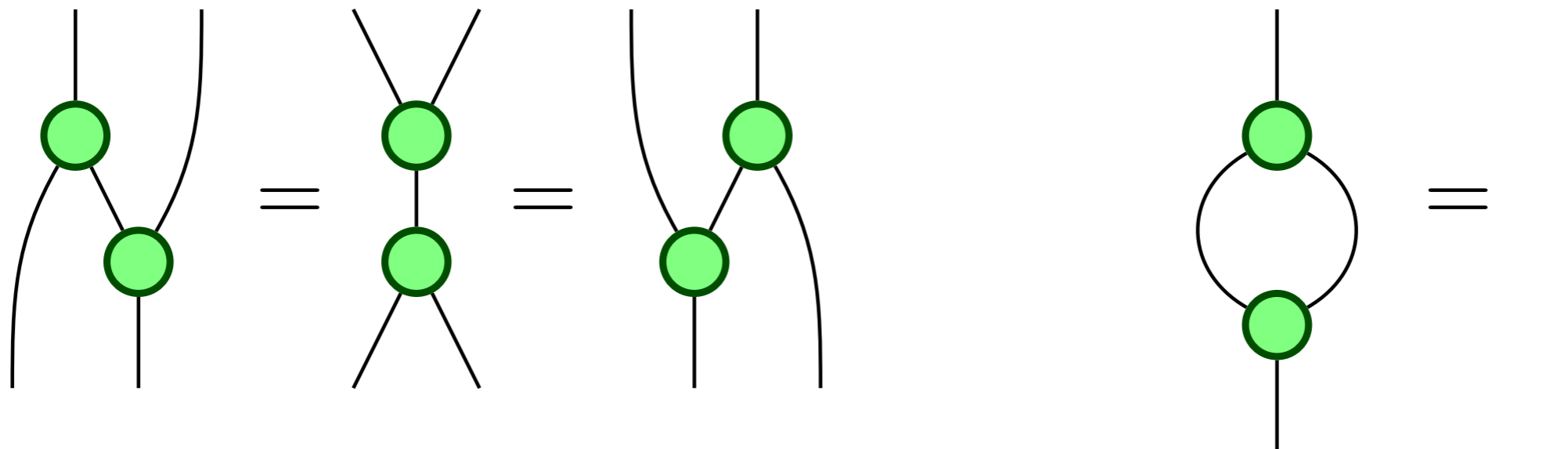
$$\eta^\dagger = \text{green circle with one top wire and no bottom wires}$$

# Frobenius Algebras

Represent observables by  $\dagger$ -special commutative Frobenius algebras:

$$\mu = \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array}, \quad \eta = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \bullet \end{array}$$

$$\mu^\dagger = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \end{array}, \quad \eta^\dagger = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \bullet \end{array}$$



# Phases

- **Defn:** a *phase* is unitary map that commutes with the Frobenius algebra like this:



- **Thm:** the phases form an abelian group

# Example: Z-spin

- The following define a Frobenius algebra on the qubit:

$$\delta : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto |00\rangle \\ |1\rangle \mapsto |11\rangle \end{array}$$

$$\epsilon : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto 1 \\ |1\rangle \mapsto 1 \end{array}$$

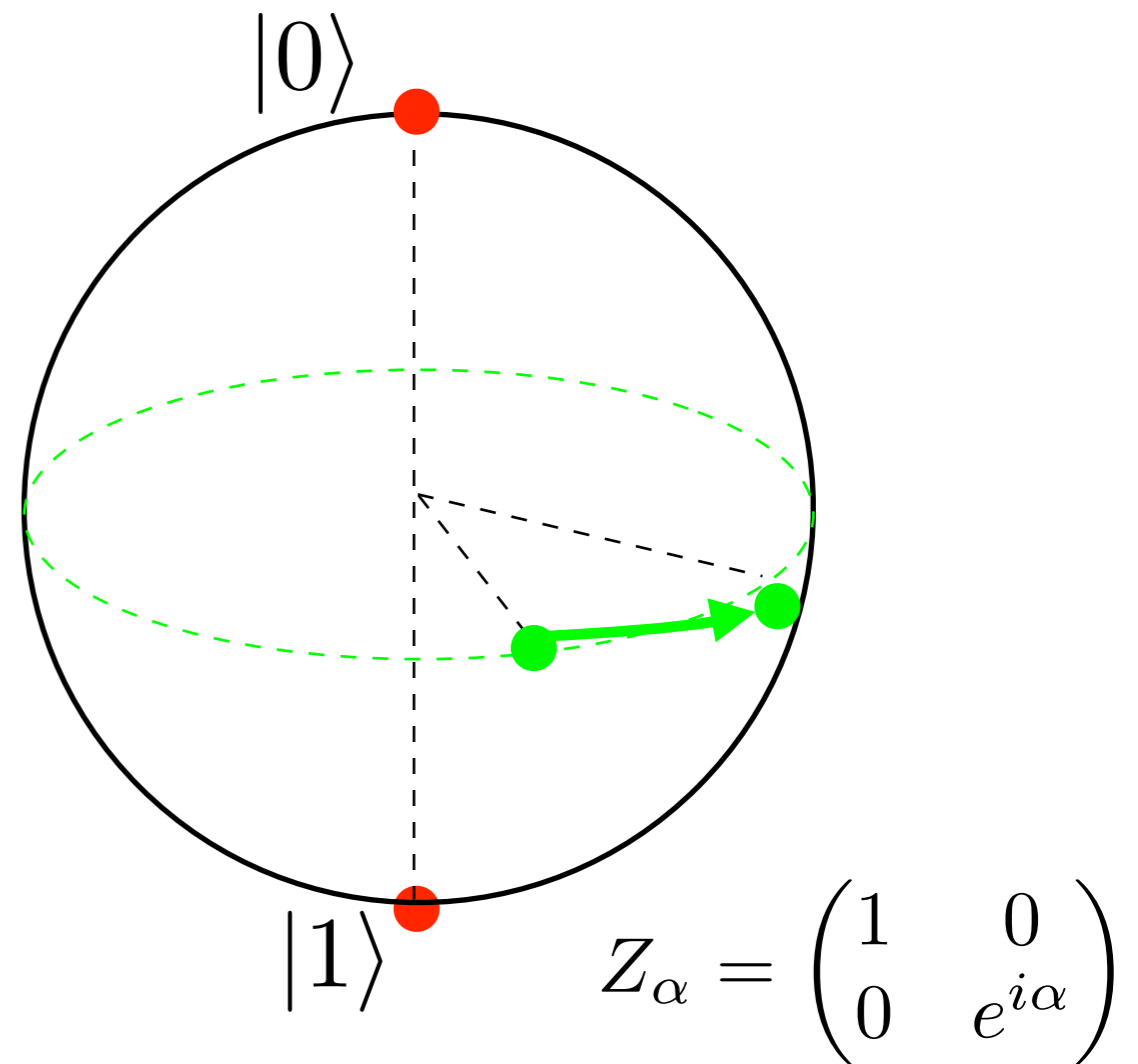
- Its group of phases is:

$$Z_\alpha : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto |0\rangle \\ |1\rangle \mapsto e^{i\alpha} |1\rangle \end{array}$$

# Example: Z-spin

$$\delta : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto |00\rangle \\ |1\rangle \mapsto |11\rangle \end{array}$$

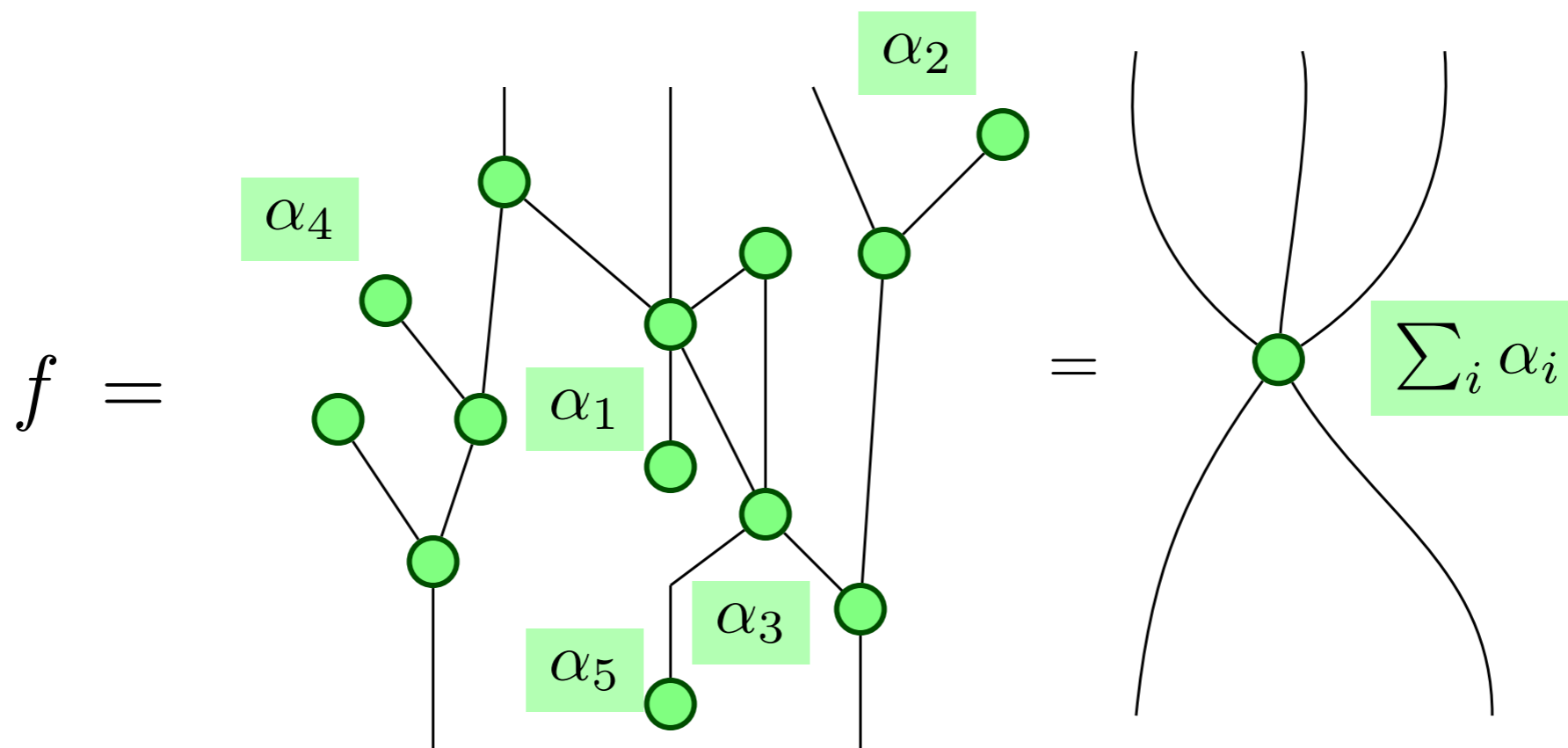
$$\epsilon : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto 1 \\ |1\rangle \mapsto 1 \end{array}$$





# Frob. algebras + phases

**Theorem:** let  $f : n \rightarrow m$  be connected.



# Example: X-spin

- The following define a Frobenius algebra on the qubit:

$$\delta : \begin{array}{l} |+\rangle \mapsto |++\rangle \\ |-\rangle \mapsto |--\rangle \end{array} \qquad \epsilon : \begin{array}{l} |+\rangle \mapsto 1 \\ |-\rangle \mapsto 1 \end{array}$$

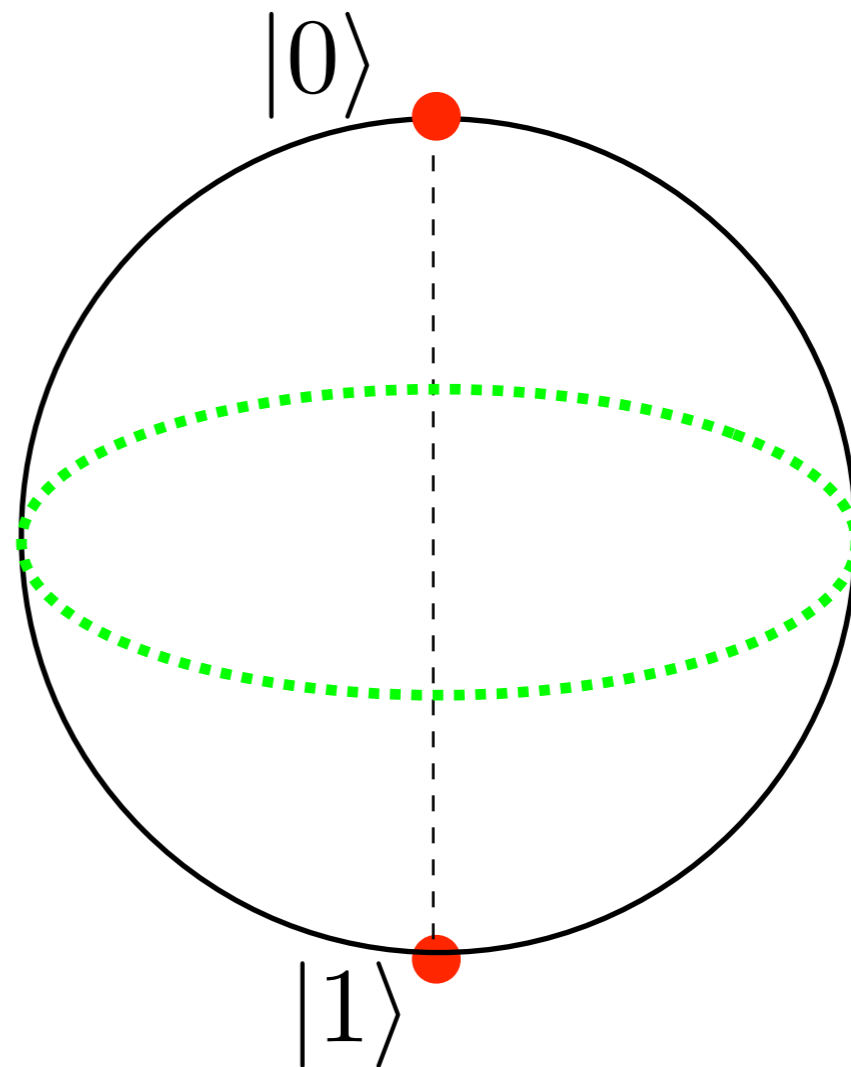
- Its group of phases is:

$$X_\beta : \begin{array}{l} |+\rangle \mapsto |+\rangle \\ |-\rangle \mapsto e^{i\beta} |-\rangle \end{array}$$

# X and Z spins

$$\delta : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto |00\rangle \\ |1\rangle \mapsto |11\rangle \end{array}$$

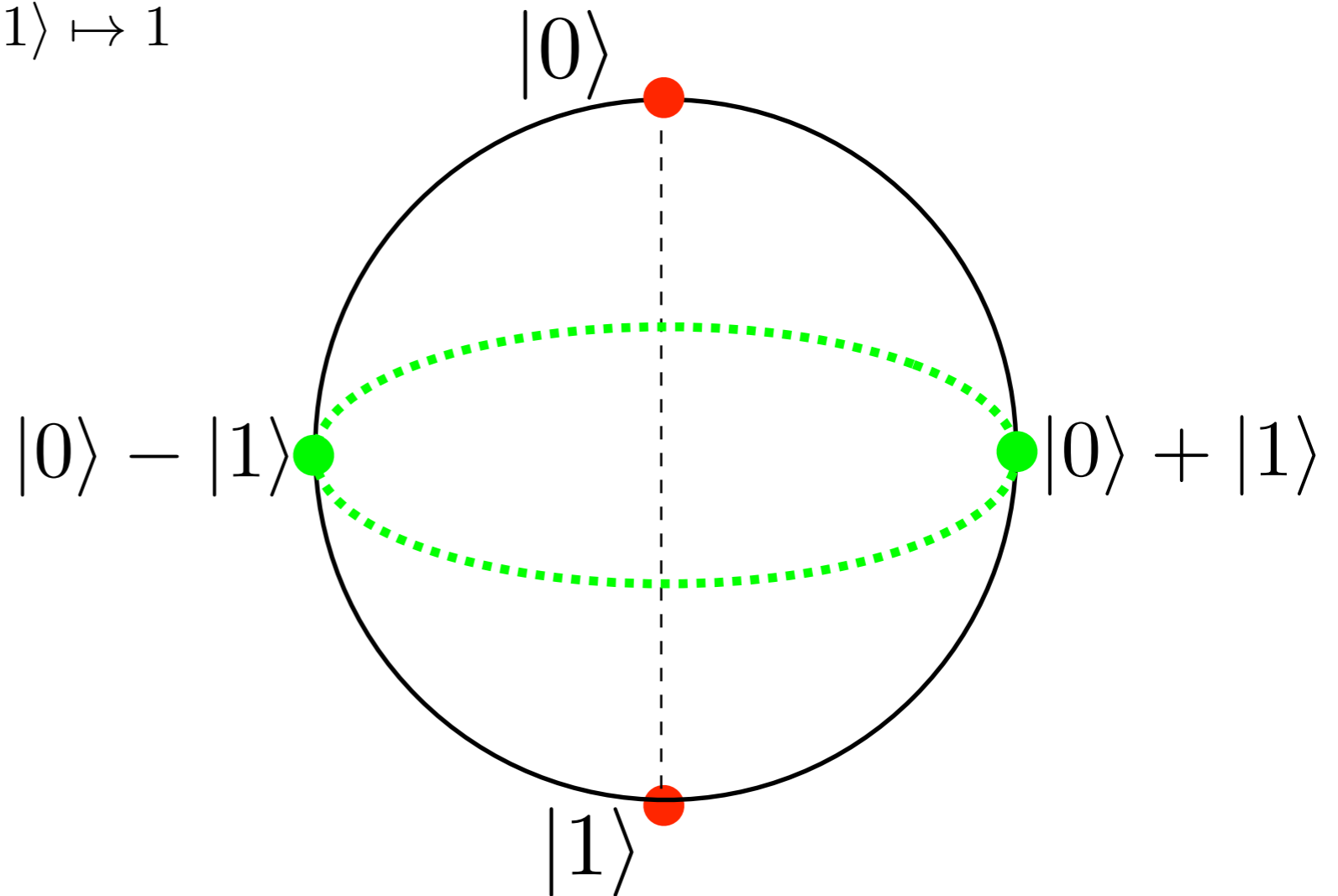
$$\epsilon : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto 1 \\ |1\rangle \mapsto 1 \end{array}$$



# X and Z spins

$$\delta : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto |00\rangle \\ |1\rangle \mapsto |11\rangle \end{array}$$

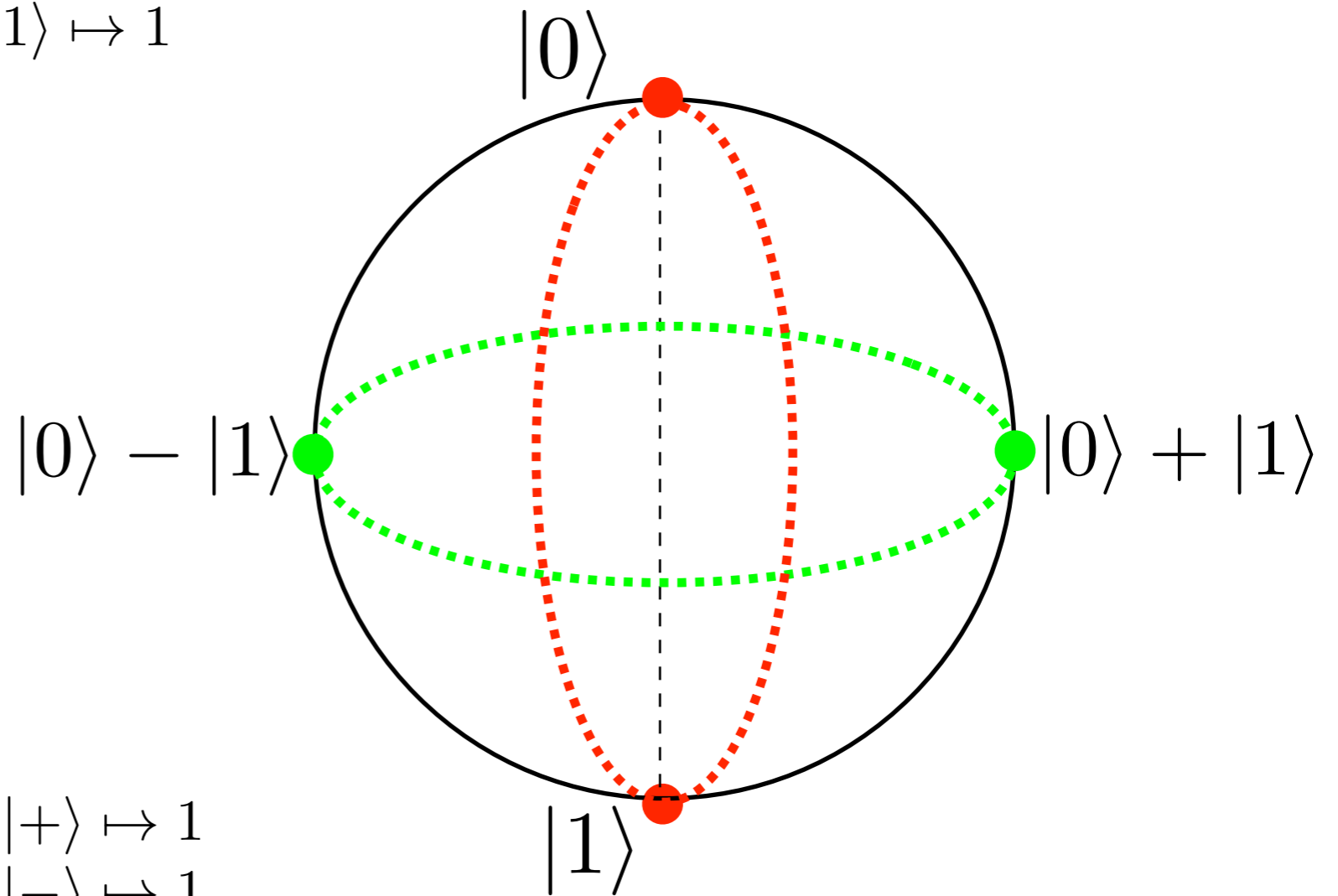
$$\epsilon : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto 1 \\ |1\rangle \mapsto 1 \end{array}$$



# X and Z spins

$$\delta : \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \mapsto |00\rangle \\ |1\rangle \mapsto |11\rangle \end{array}$$

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$$\delta : \begin{array}{l} |+\rangle \mapsto |++\rangle \\ |-\rangle \mapsto |--\rangle \end{array}$$

$$\epsilon : \begin{array}{l} |+\rangle \mapsto 1 \\ |-\rangle \mapsto 1 \end{array}$$

# Strongly Complementary Observables are Hopf algebras

**Theorem 3:** Two observables are strongly complementary iff they form a Hopf algebra

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \delta_{\bullet} & \epsilon_{\bullet} & \mu_{\bullet} & \eta_{\bullet} \\ \mu_{\bullet} & \eta_{\bullet} & \delta_{\bullet} & \epsilon_{\bullet} \end{array}$$

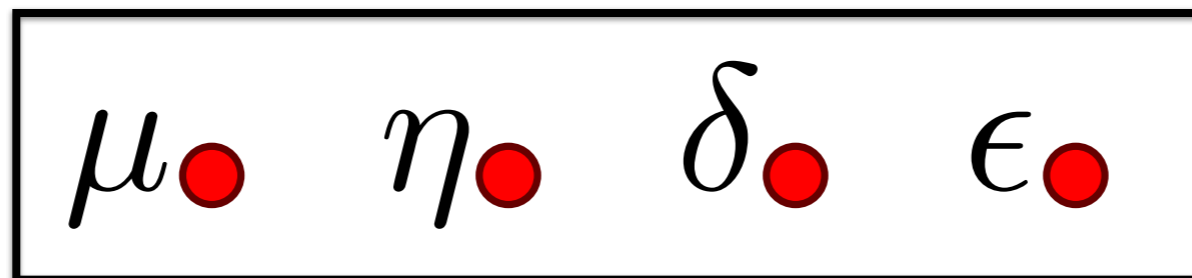
# Strongly Complementary Observables are Hopf algebras

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Frobenius

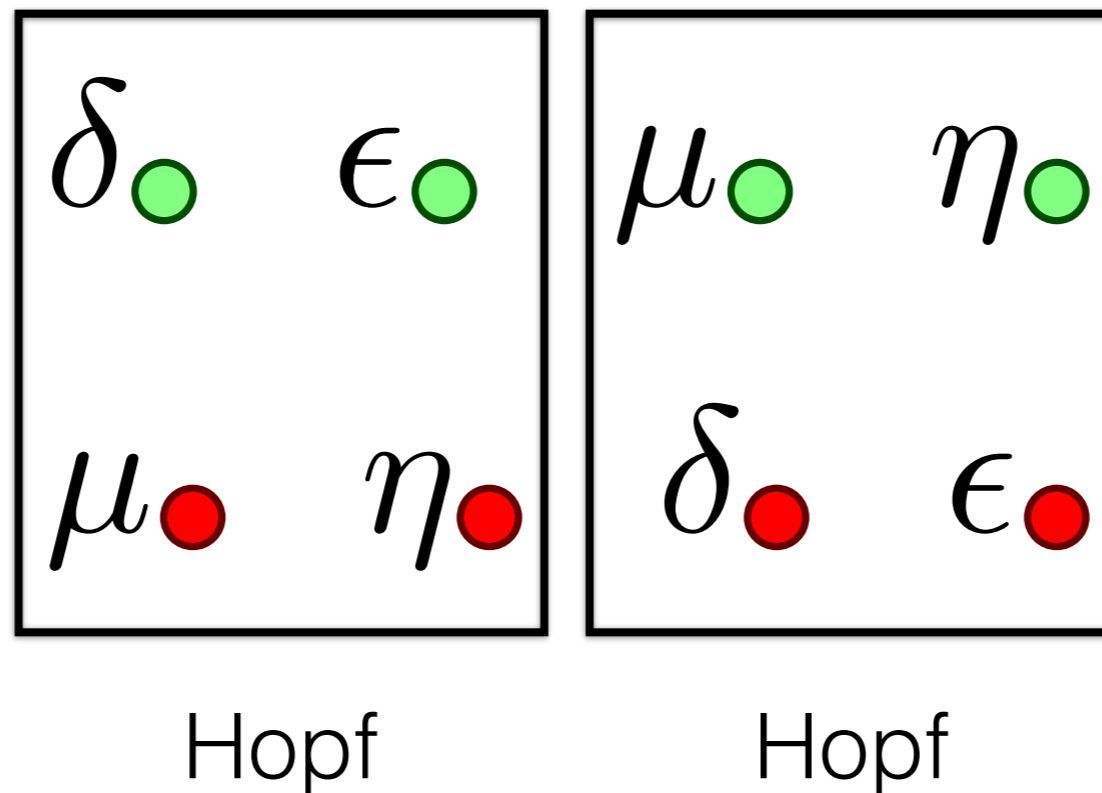


Frobenius



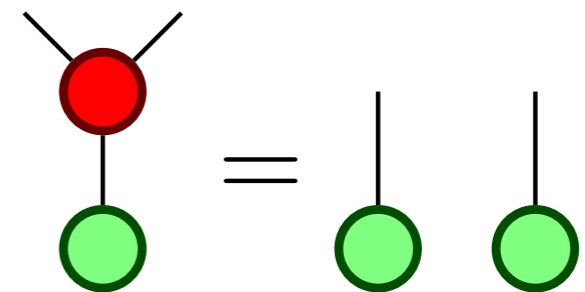
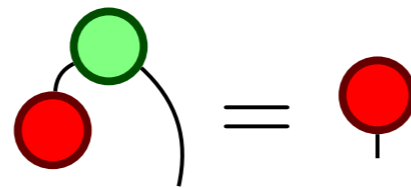
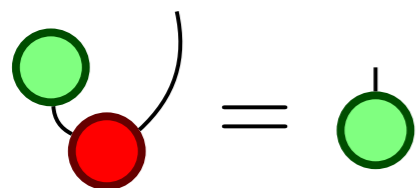
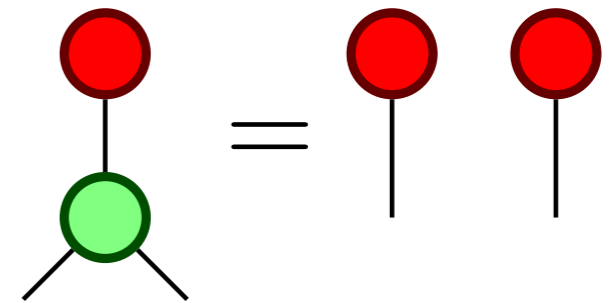
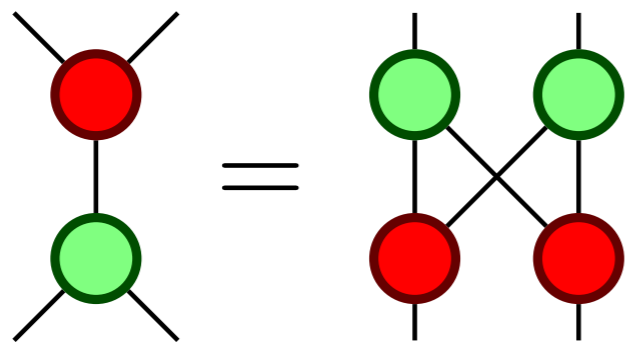
# Strongly Complementary Observables are Hopf algebras

**Theorem 3:** Two observables are strongly complementary iff they form a Hopf algebra





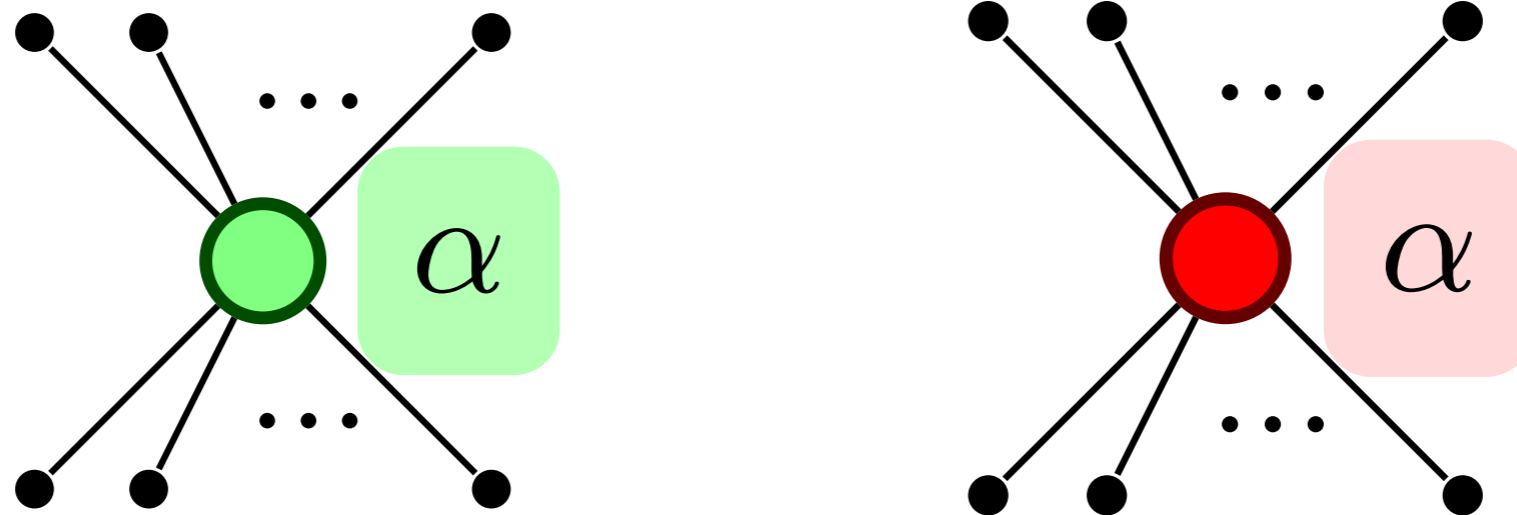
# Strongly Complementary Observables are Hopf algebras



# ZX-calculus

- Since we are interested in quantum computing we'll focus on the  $X$  and  $Z$  observables.
- This is called the **ZX-calculus**

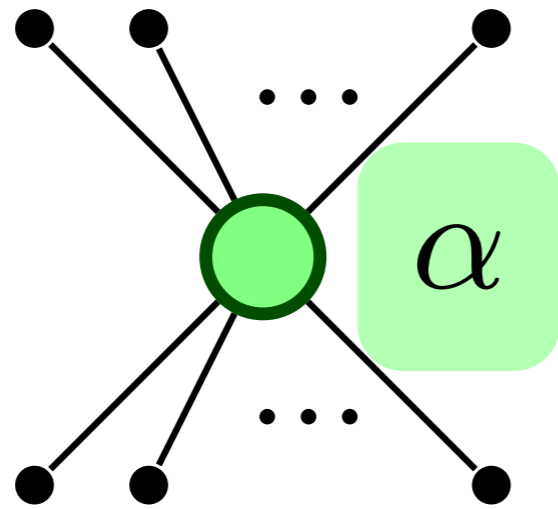
# ZX-calculus syntax



$$\alpha \in [0, 2\pi)$$

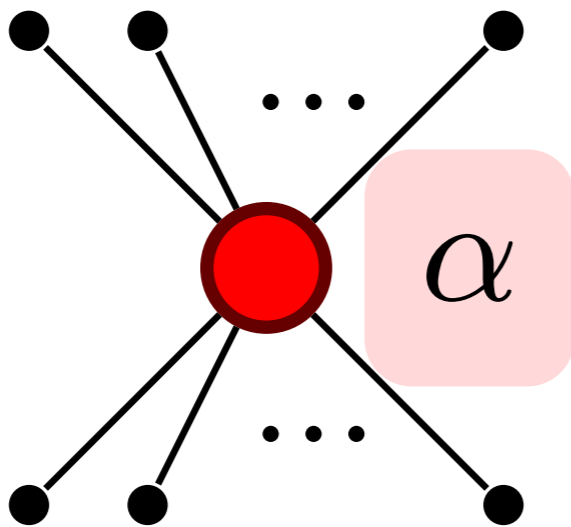
**Defn:** A *diagram* is an undirected open graph generated by the above vertices.

# ZX-calculus semantics



$$|0\rangle^{\otimes n} \mapsto |0\rangle^{\otimes m}$$

$$|1\rangle^{\otimes n} \mapsto e^{i\alpha} |1\rangle^{\otimes m}$$



$$|+\rangle^{\otimes n} \mapsto |+\rangle^{\otimes m}$$

$$|-\rangle^{\otimes n} \mapsto e^{i\alpha} |-\rangle^{\otimes m}$$

# Representing Qubits

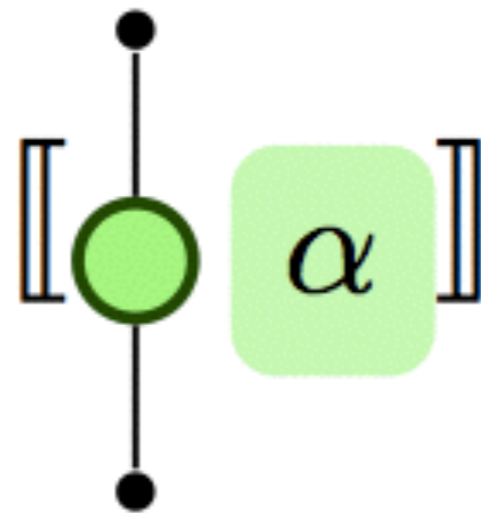
$$\llbracket \text{red dot} \rrbracket = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = |0\rangle$$

$$\llbracket \text{red dot} \pi \rrbracket = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = |1\rangle$$

$$\llbracket \text{green dot} \rrbracket = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = |+\rangle$$

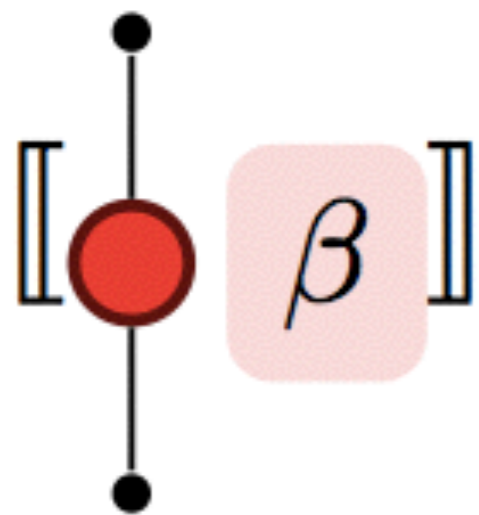
$$\llbracket \text{green dot} \pi \rrbracket = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = |-\rangle$$

# Representing Phase shifts



A quantum circuit diagram showing a phase shift gate. It consists of a vertical line with two black dots at the top and bottom. A green circle is placed on the line, and a green rounded square labeled  $\alpha$  is positioned to its right. The entire diagram is enclosed in square brackets.


$$\llbracket \text{Phase Shift } \alpha \rrbracket = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha} \end{pmatrix}$$



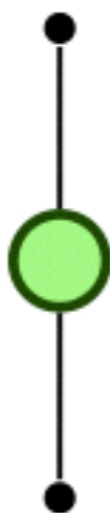
A quantum circuit diagram showing a Hadamard gate. It consists of a vertical line with two black dots at the top and bottom. A red circle is placed on the line, and a red rounded square labeled  $\beta$  is positioned to its right. The entire diagram is enclosed in square brackets.

$$\llbracket \text{Hadamard } \beta \rrbracket = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\beta}{2} & -i \sin \frac{\beta}{2} \\ -i \sin \frac{\beta}{2} & \cos \frac{\beta}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Representing Paulis


$$\llbracket \text{red circle} \rrbracket = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The diagram shows a red circle with a vertical line passing through its center. The line has small black dots at both ends. To the right of the circle is a light red rounded square containing the Greek letter  $\pi$ . This is followed by an equals sign and a 2x2 matrix with 0s on the diagonal and 1s on the off-diagonal.


$$\llbracket \text{green circle} \rrbracket = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The diagram shows a green circle with a vertical line passing through its center. The line has small black dots at both ends. To the right of the circle is a light green rounded square containing the Greek letter  $\pi$ . This is followed by an equals sign and a 2x2 matrix with 1 and -1 on the diagonal and 0s on the off-diagonal.





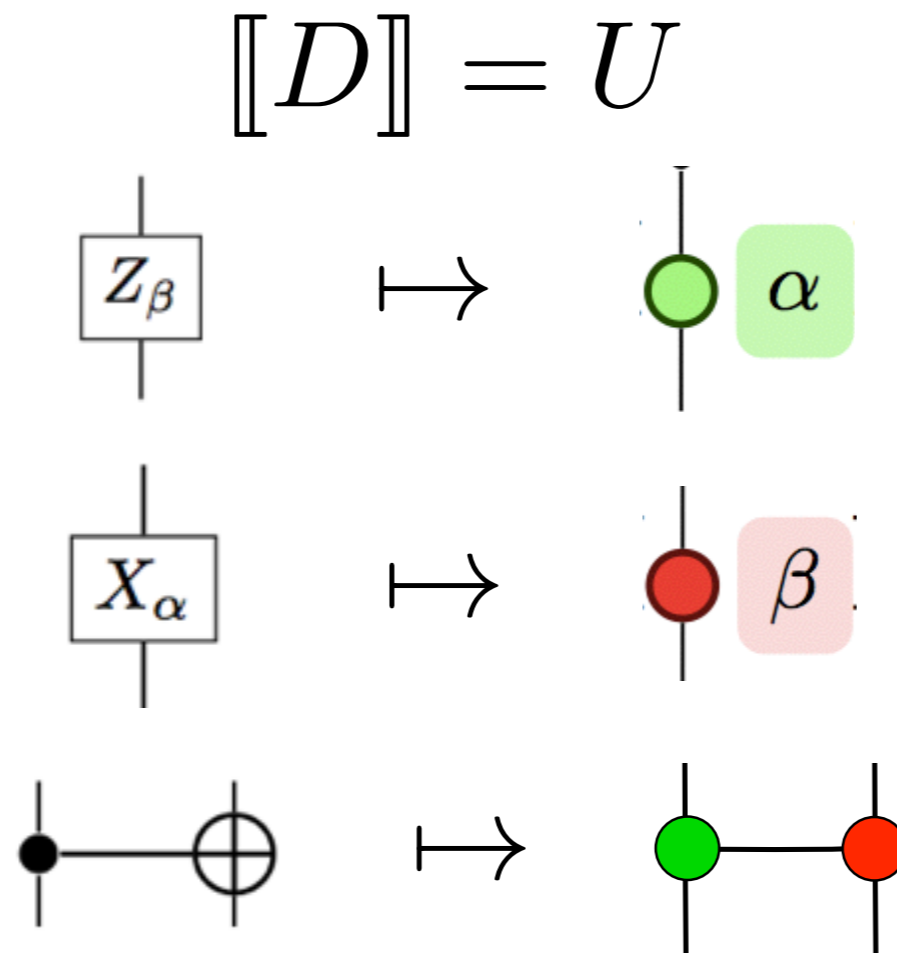
# The ZX-calculus is universal

**Theorem:** Let  $U$  be a unitary map on  $n$  qubits; then there exists a ZX-calculus term  $D$  such that:

$$\llbracket D \rrbracket = U$$

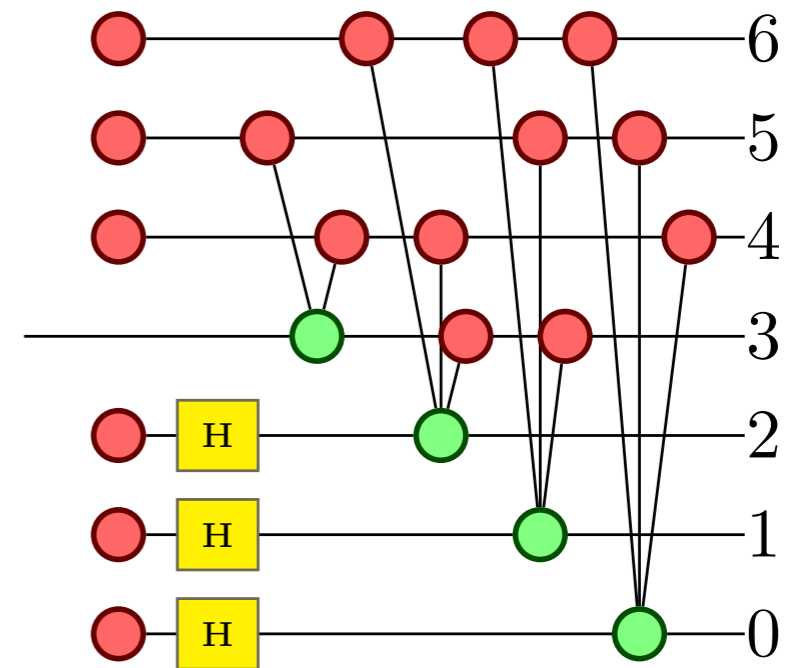
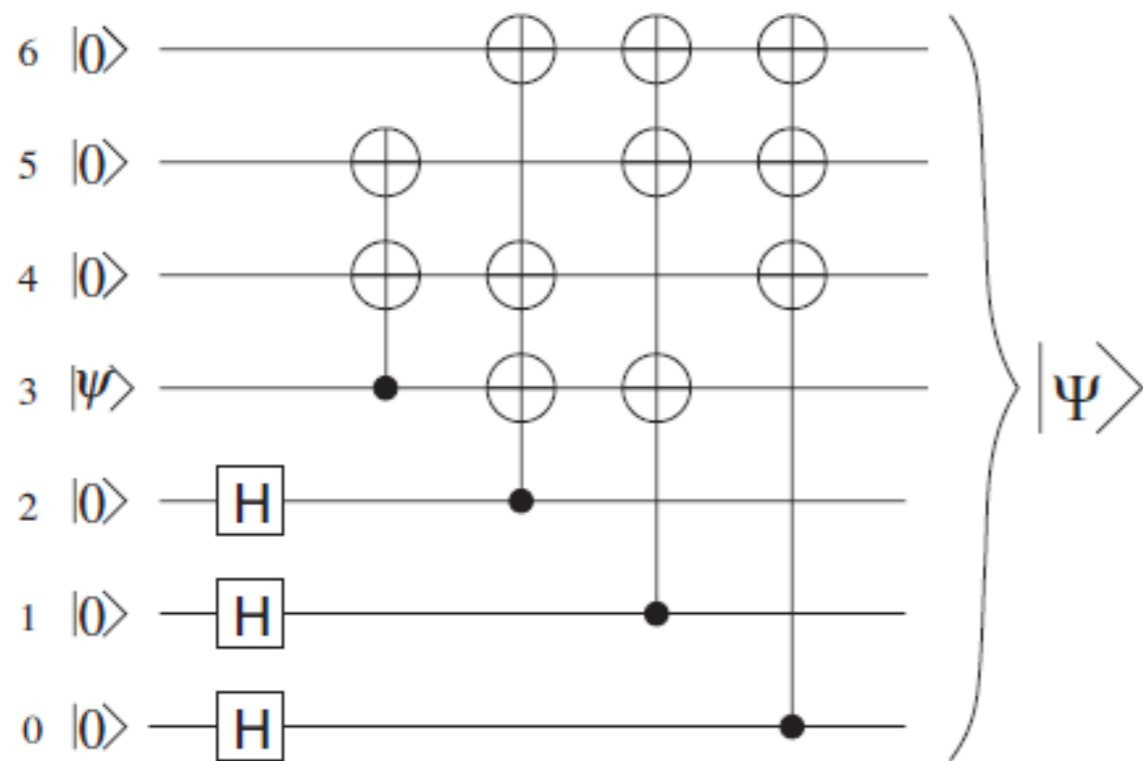
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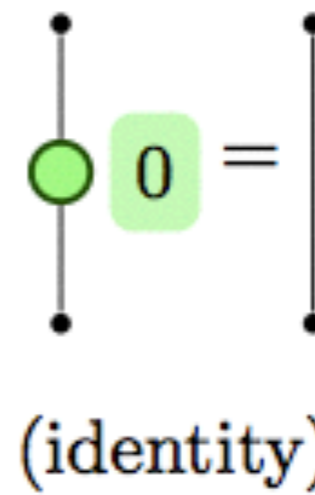
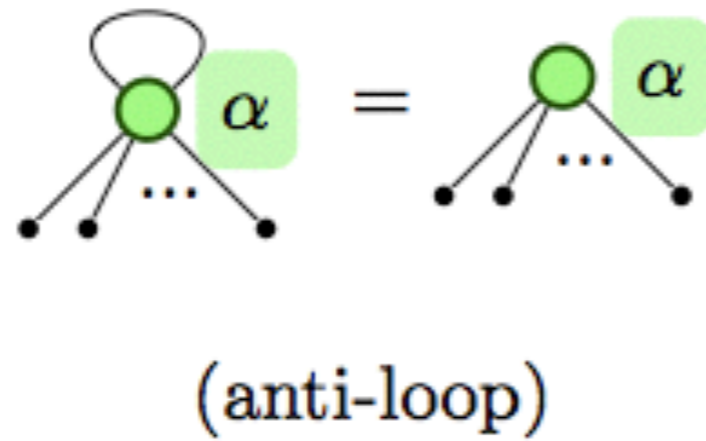
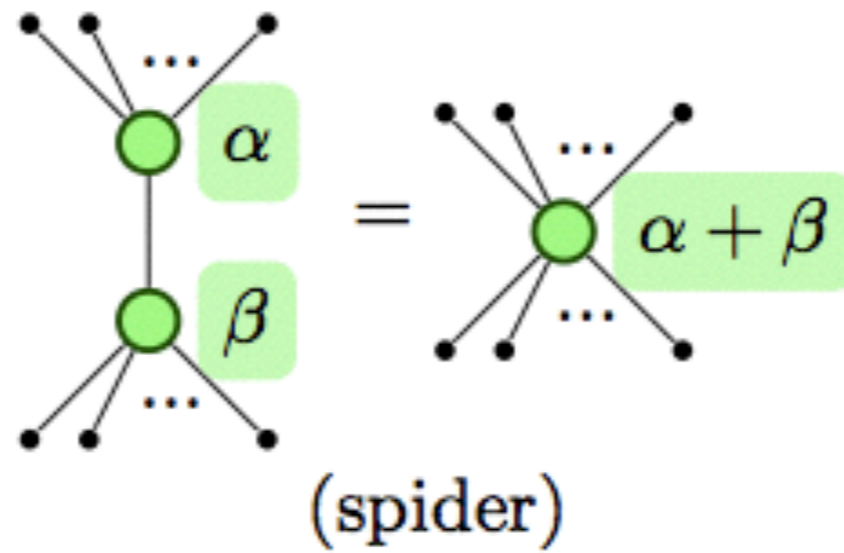


# Translating circuits

Steane code encoder:

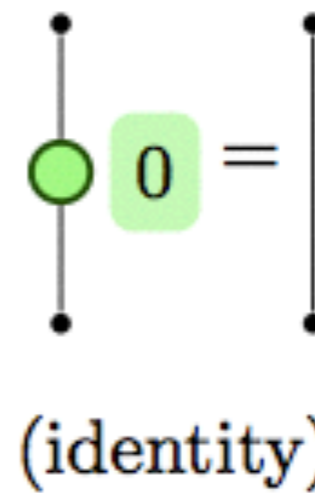
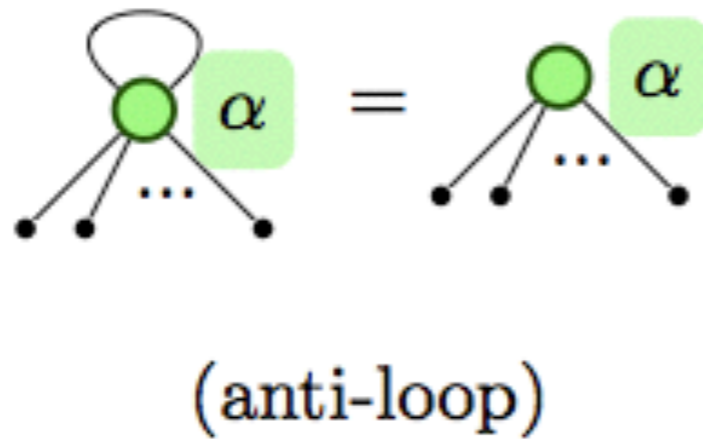
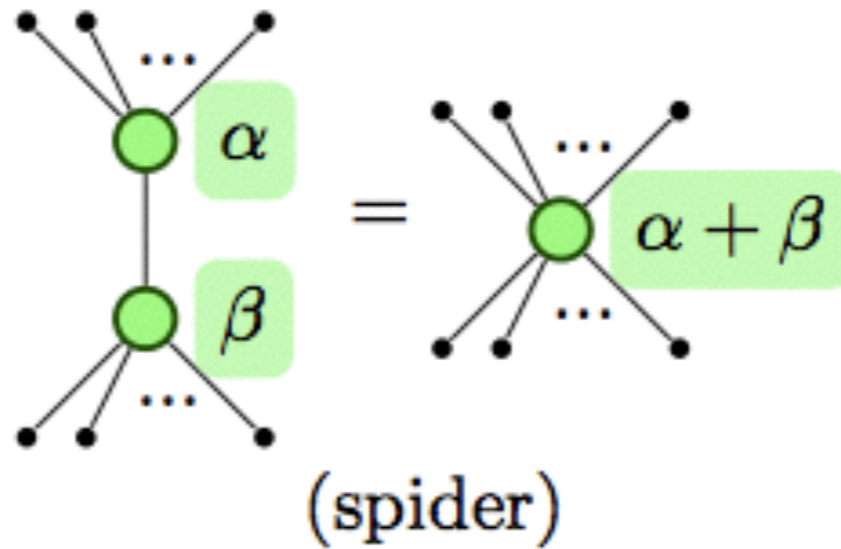


# Equations

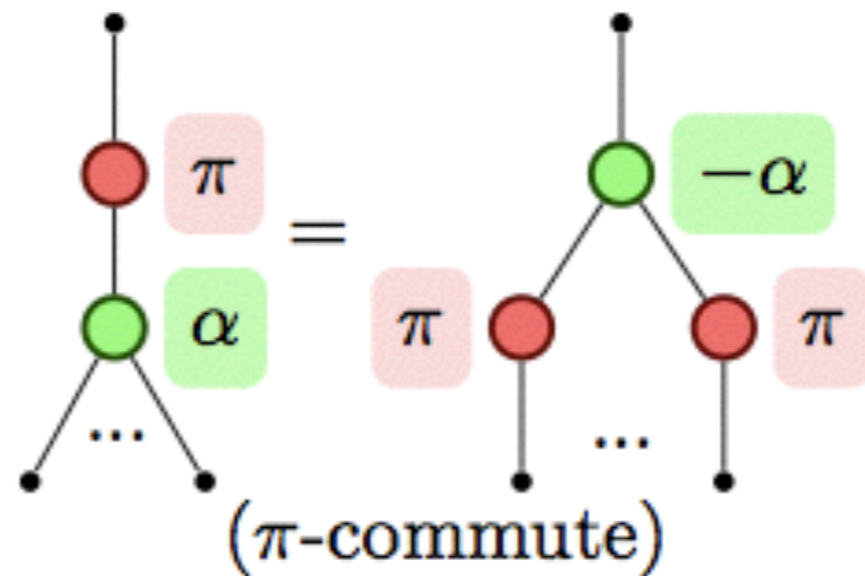
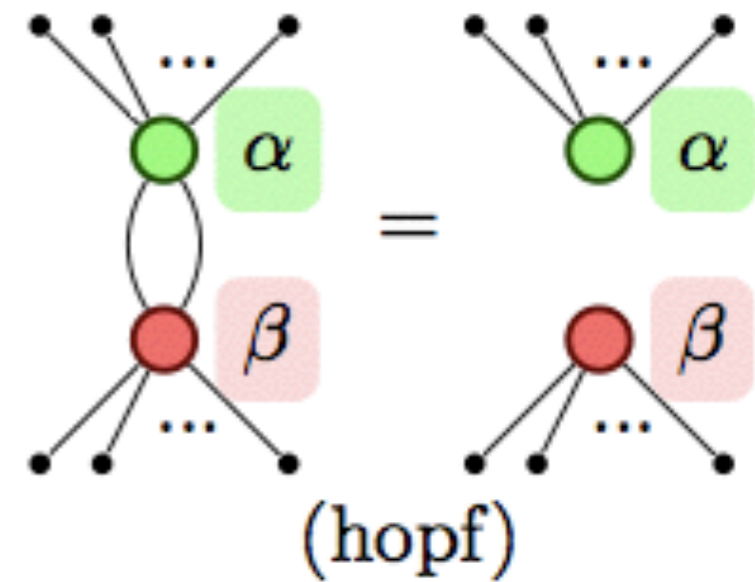
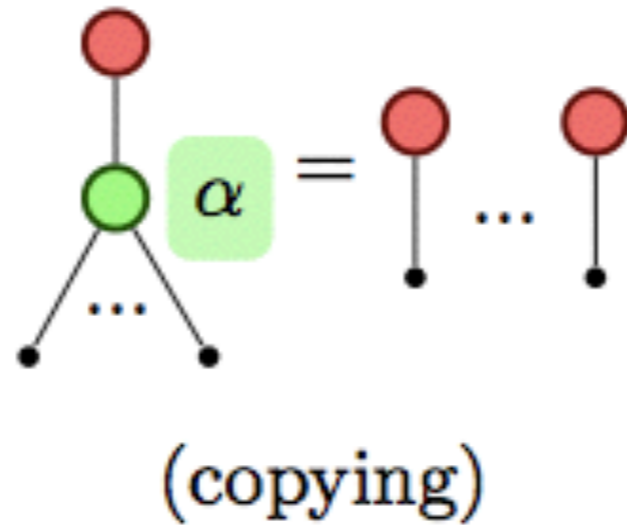
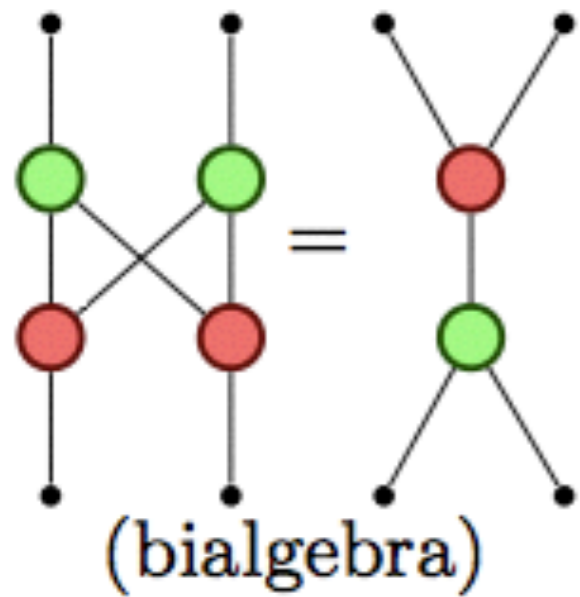


# Equations

## Generalised Spider

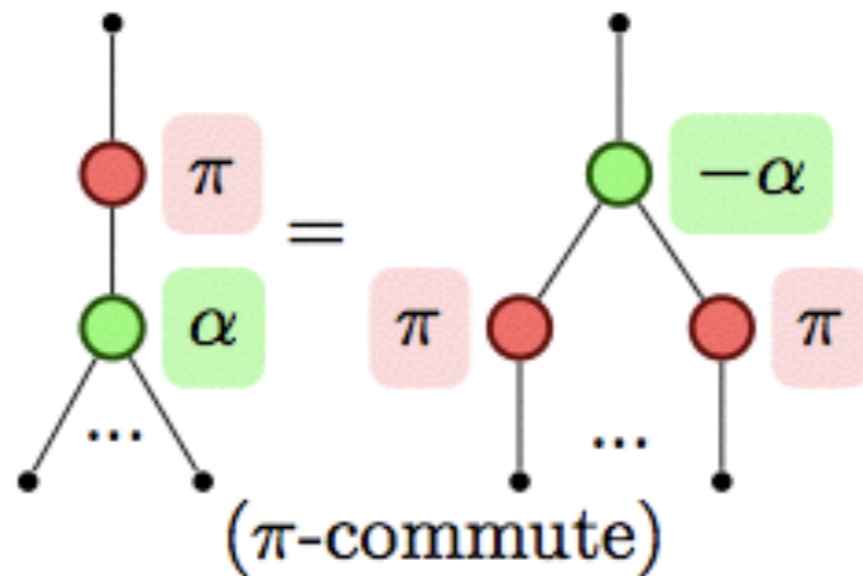
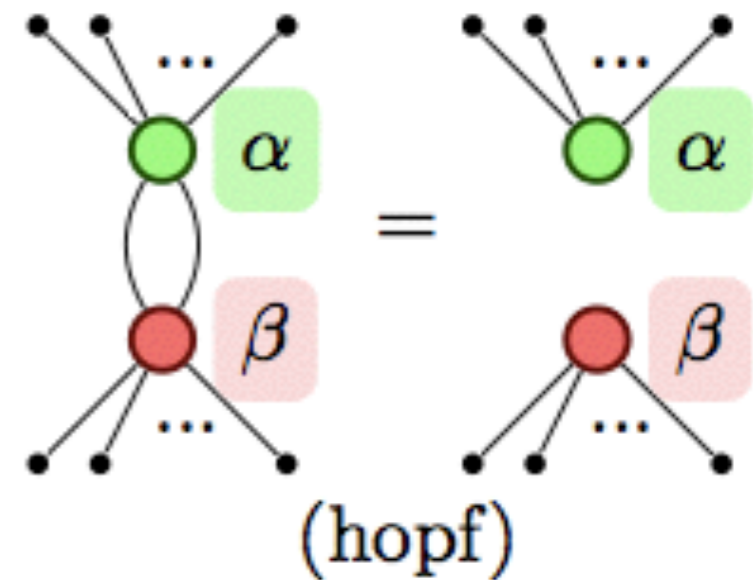
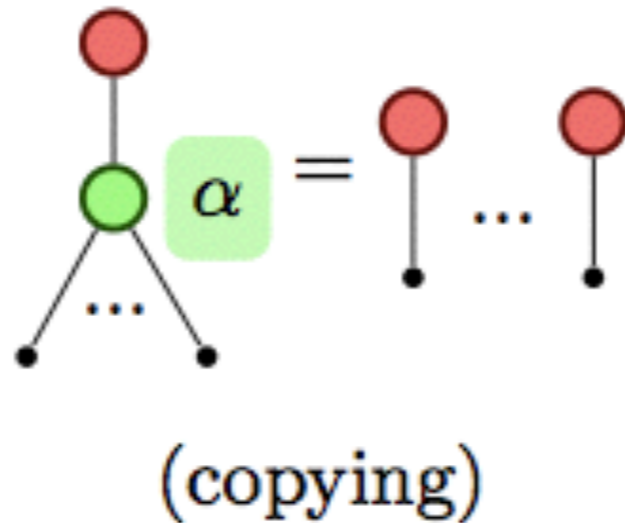
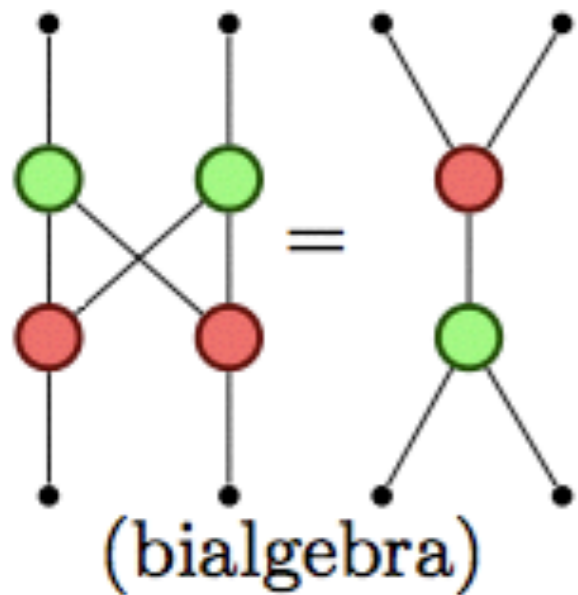


# Equations

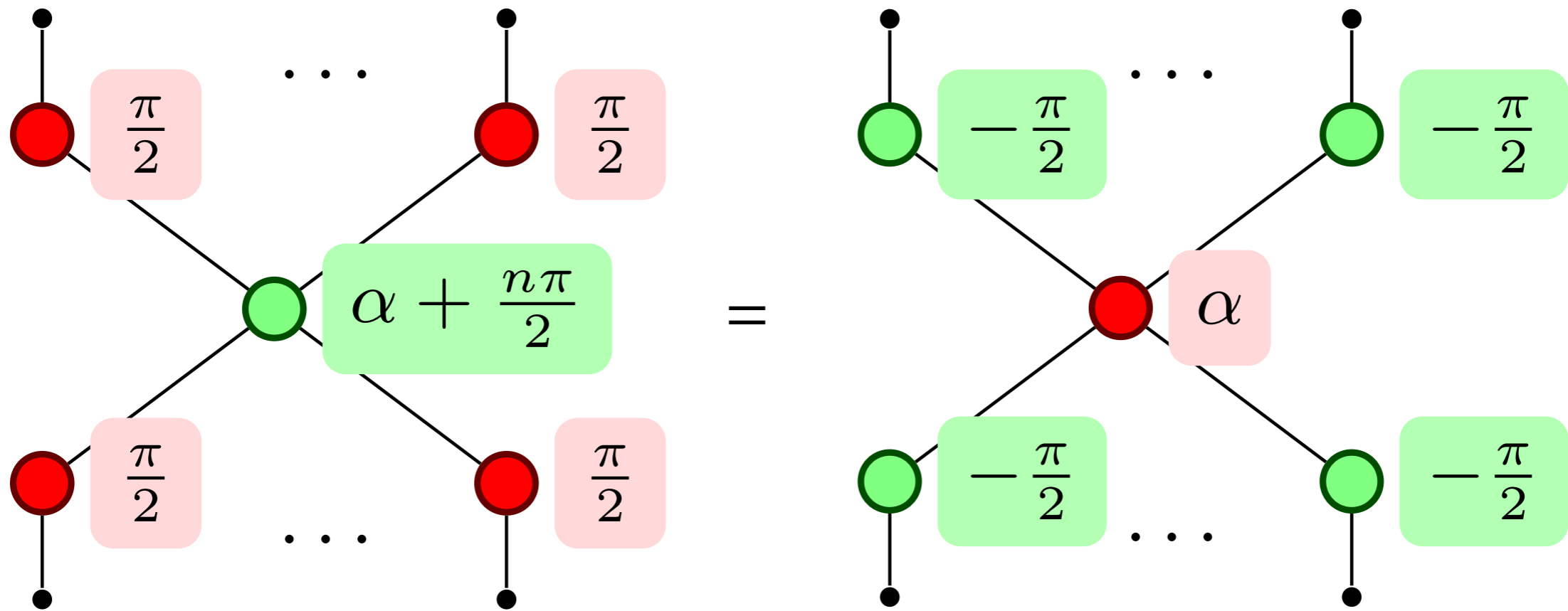


# Equations

“Strong Complementarity”



# Equations

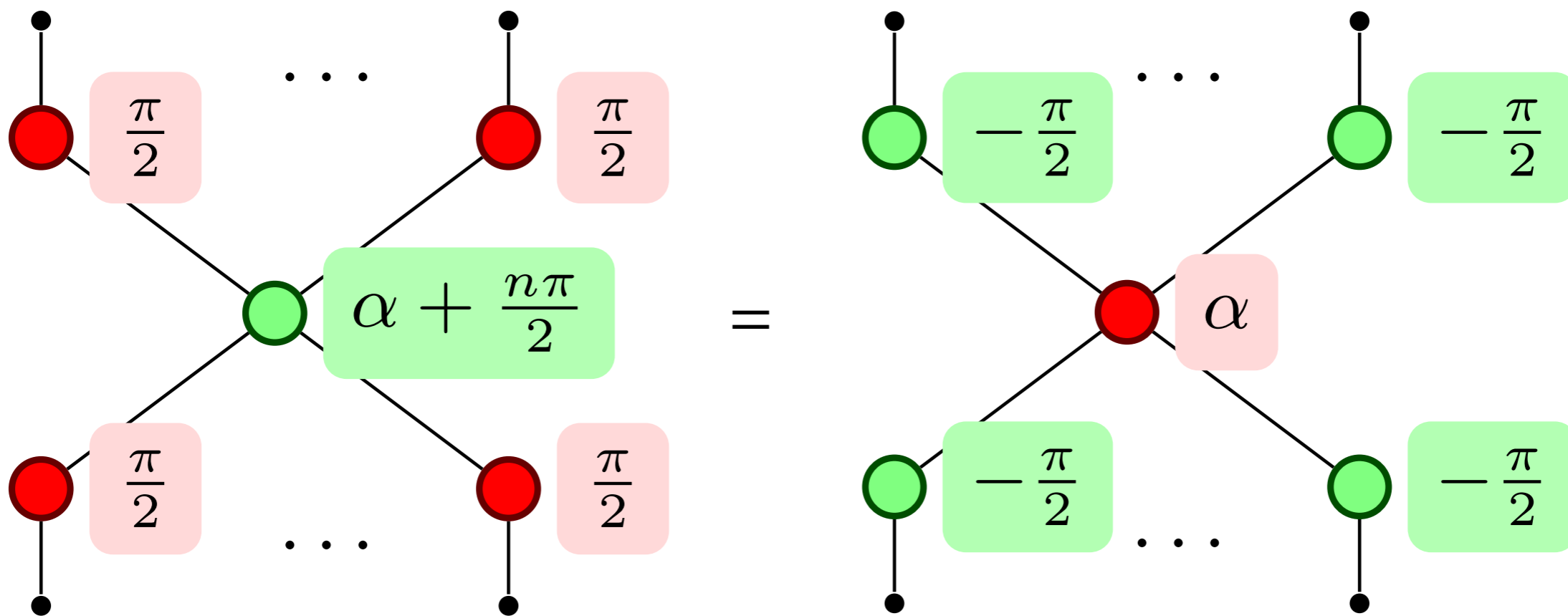


(colour change)



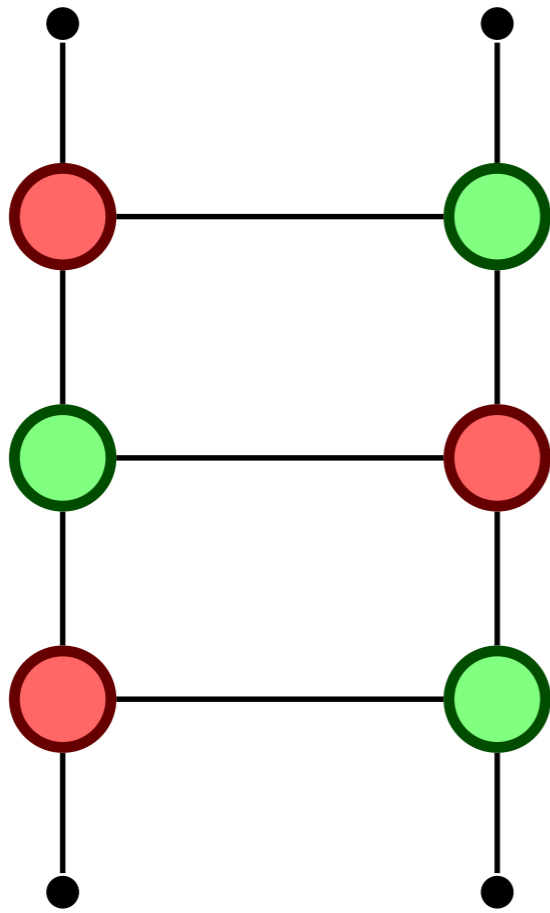
# Equations

A weird one specific to ZX



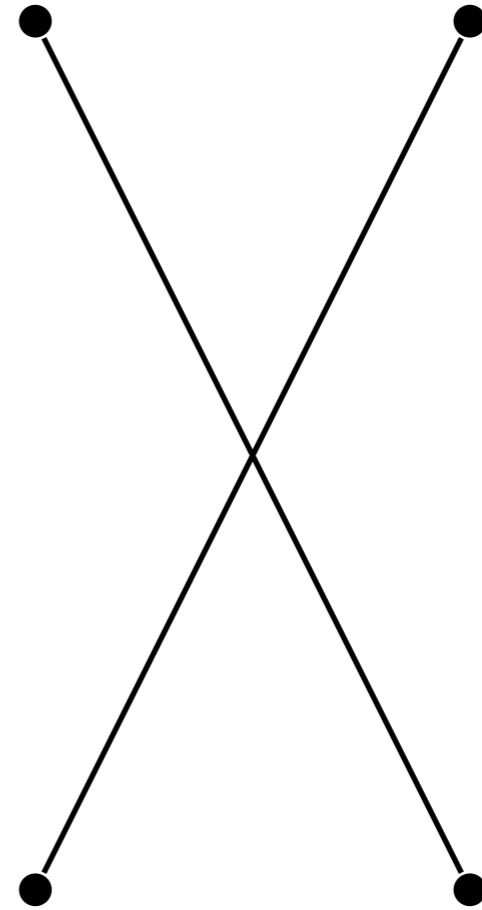
(colour change)

# Example: CNOTS

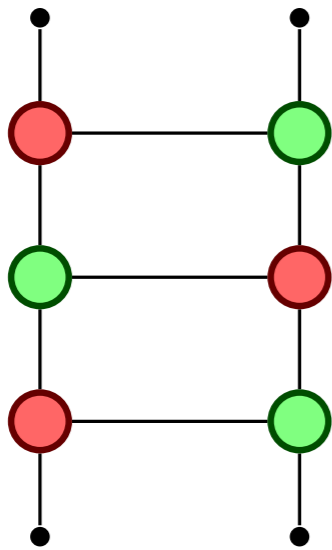


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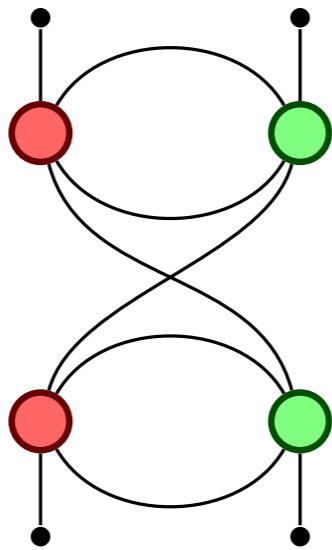
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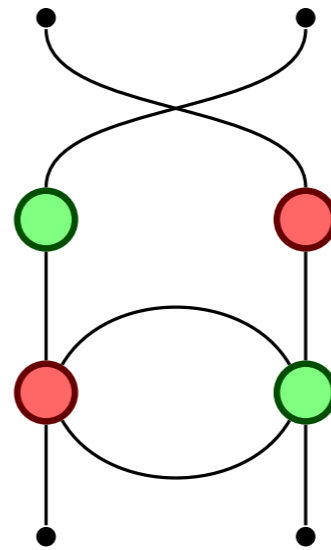
# Example: CNOTS



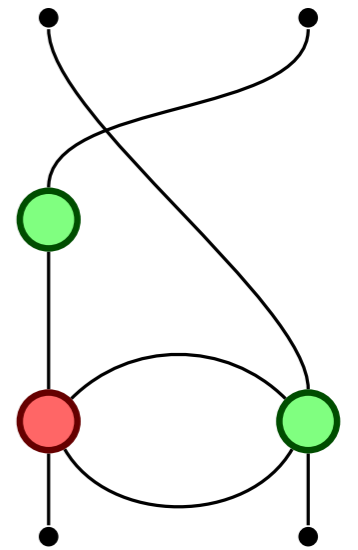
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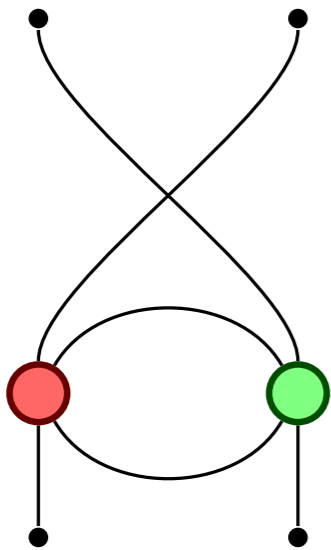
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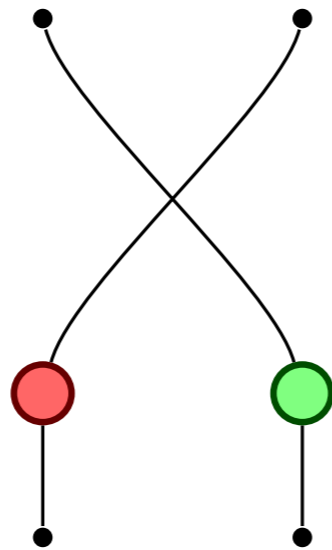
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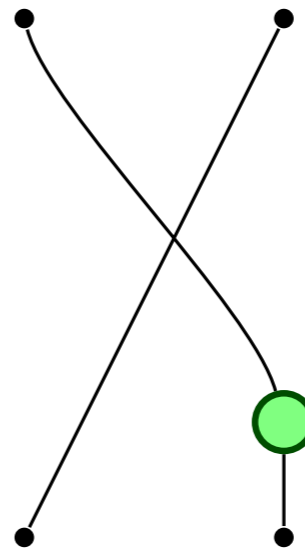
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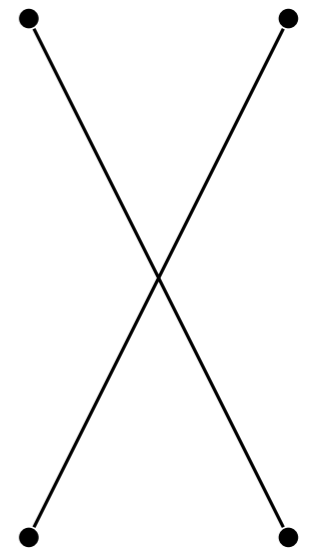
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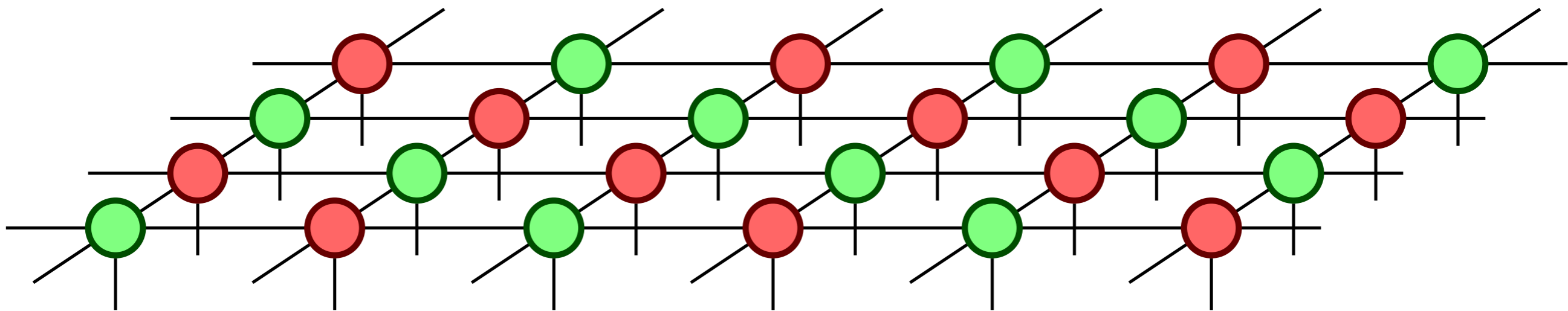


# Graph States

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple, undirected graph. Then define:

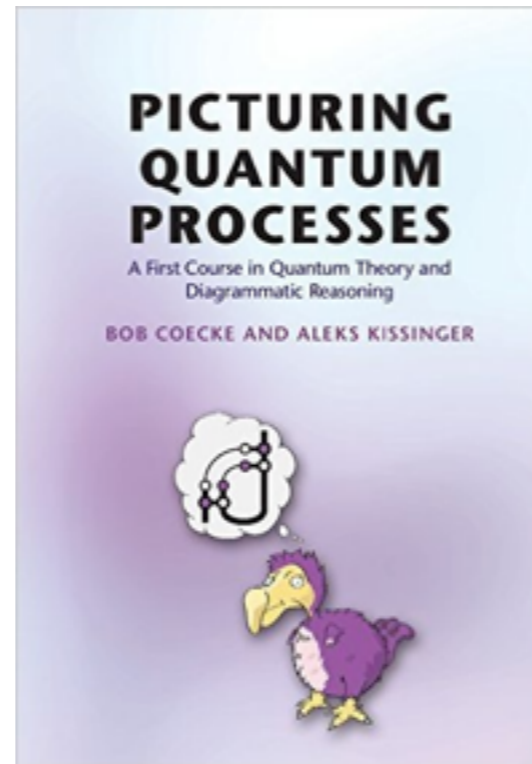
$$|G\rangle = \bigotimes_{(v,u) \in E} CZ_{vu} \bigotimes_{v \in V} |+\rangle$$

Or in 2D:

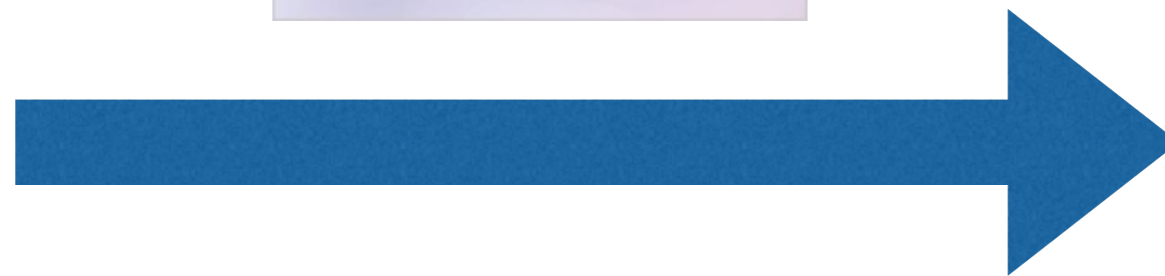
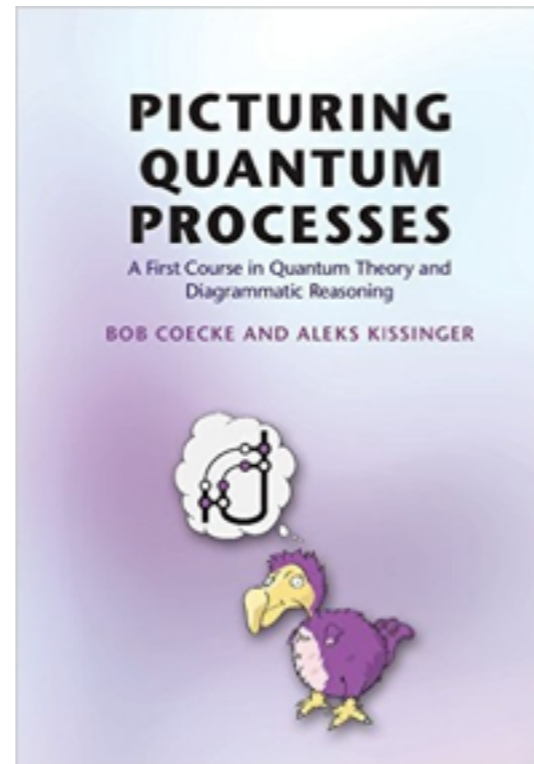


**STOP!**  
QUANTO-TIME!

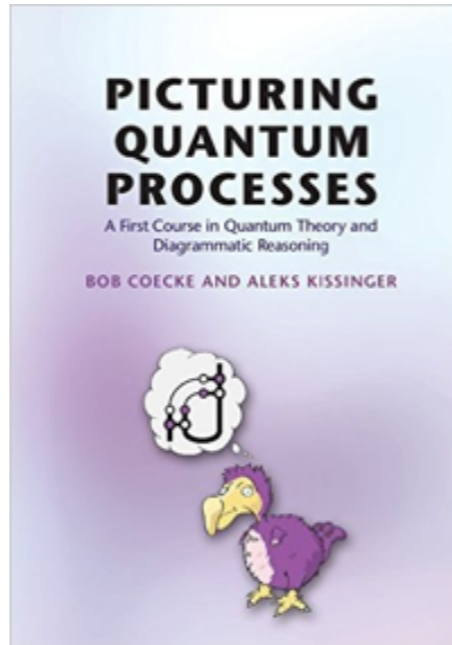
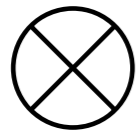
# A good reference



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# A good reference

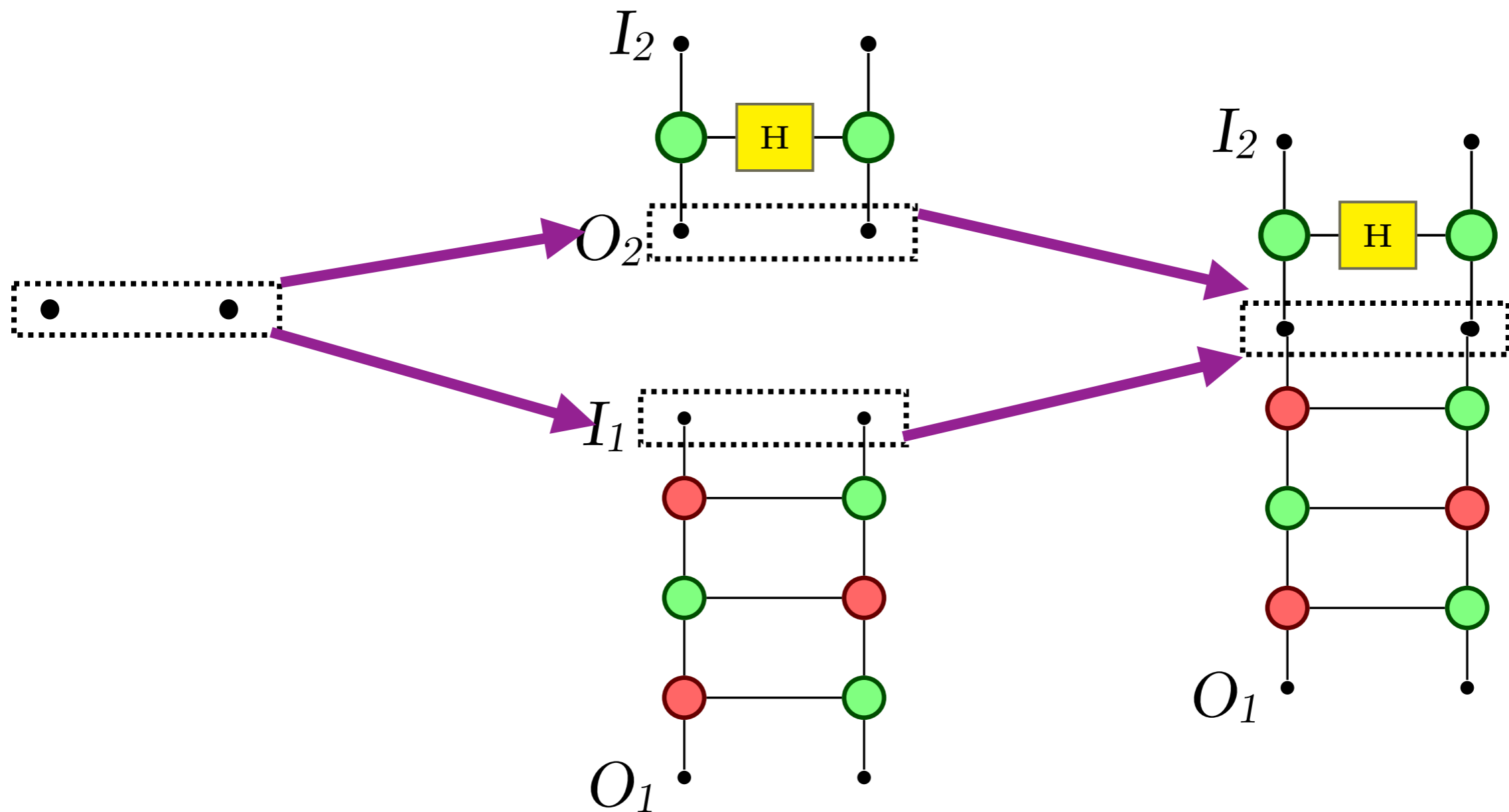




## 2. Composition in graphical syntax

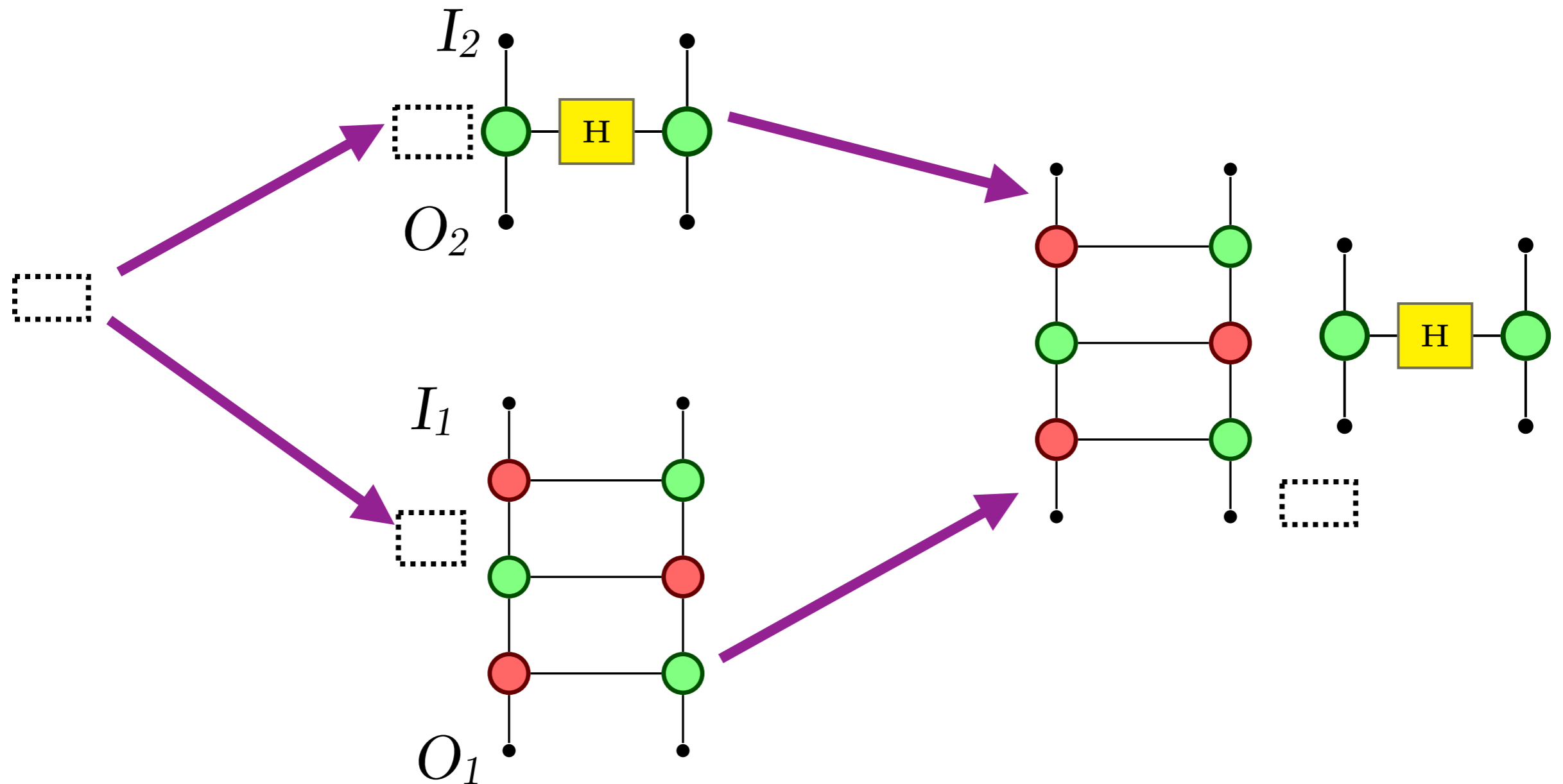
# Composing diagrams

- ZX-calculus terms are arrows in PROP
  - Compose them push-out style

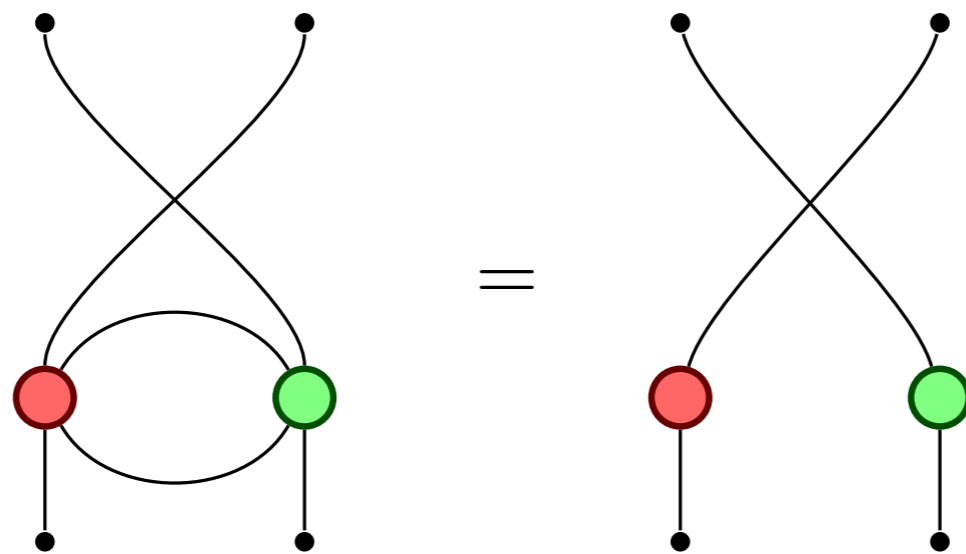


# Composing diagrams

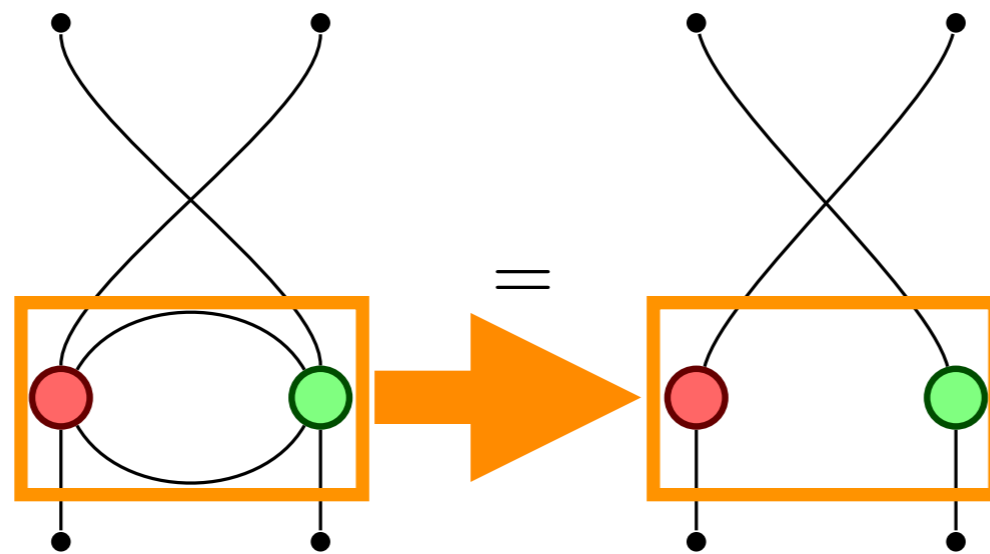
- ZX-calculus terms are arrows in PROP  
— Tensor them push-out style



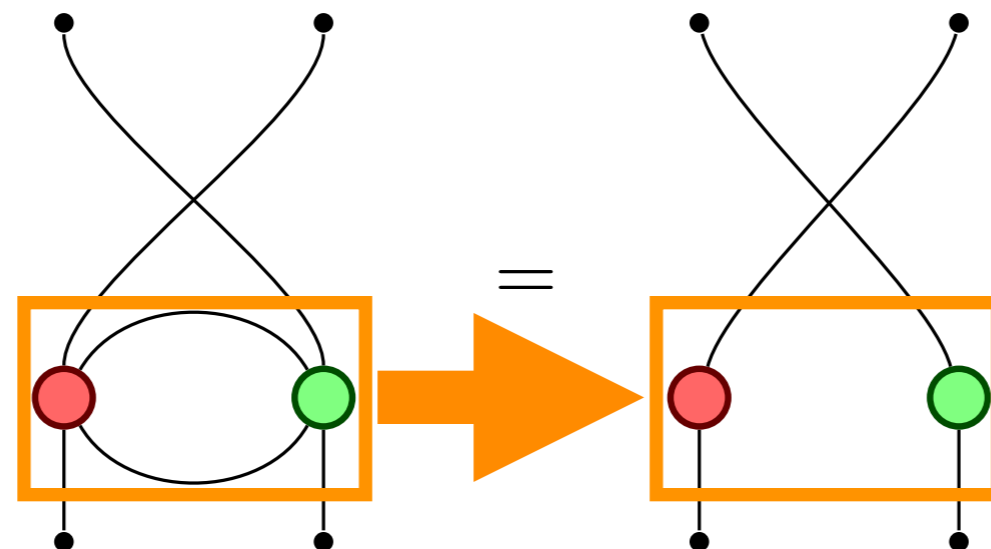
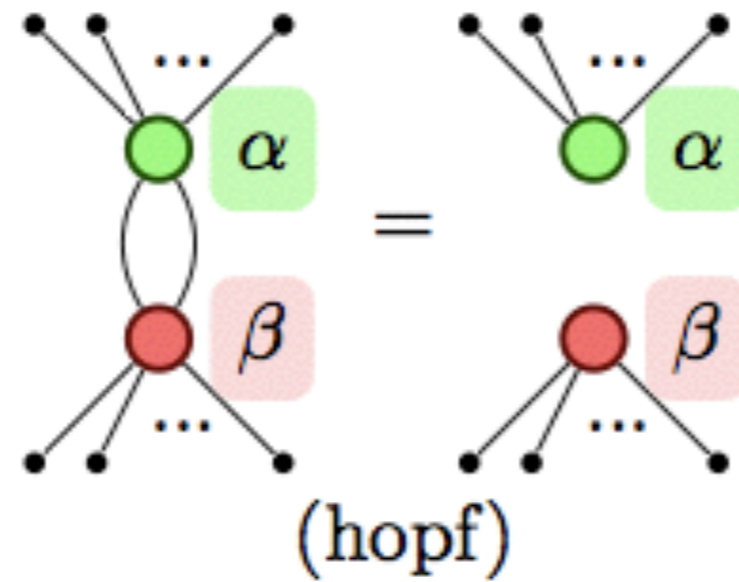
# Equational Reasoning



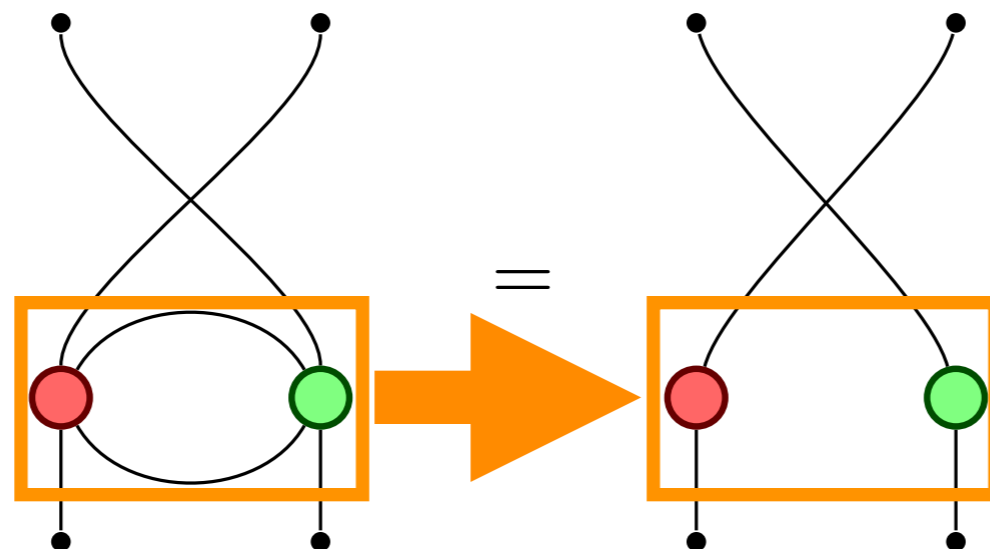
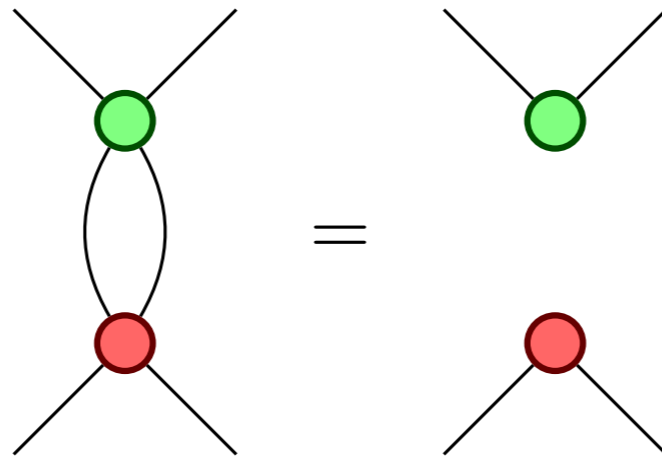
# Equational Reasoning



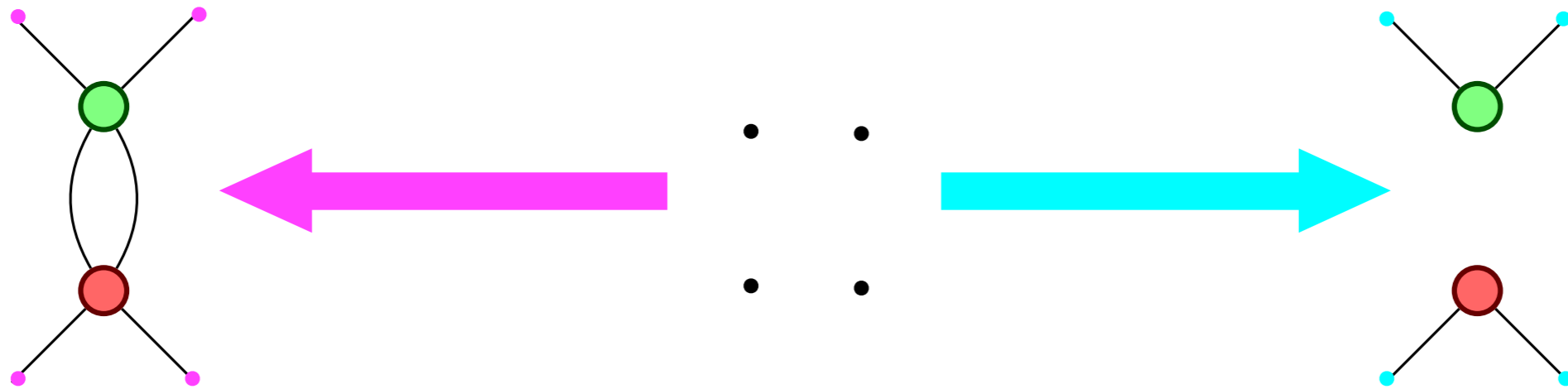
# Equational Reasoning



# Equational Reasoning

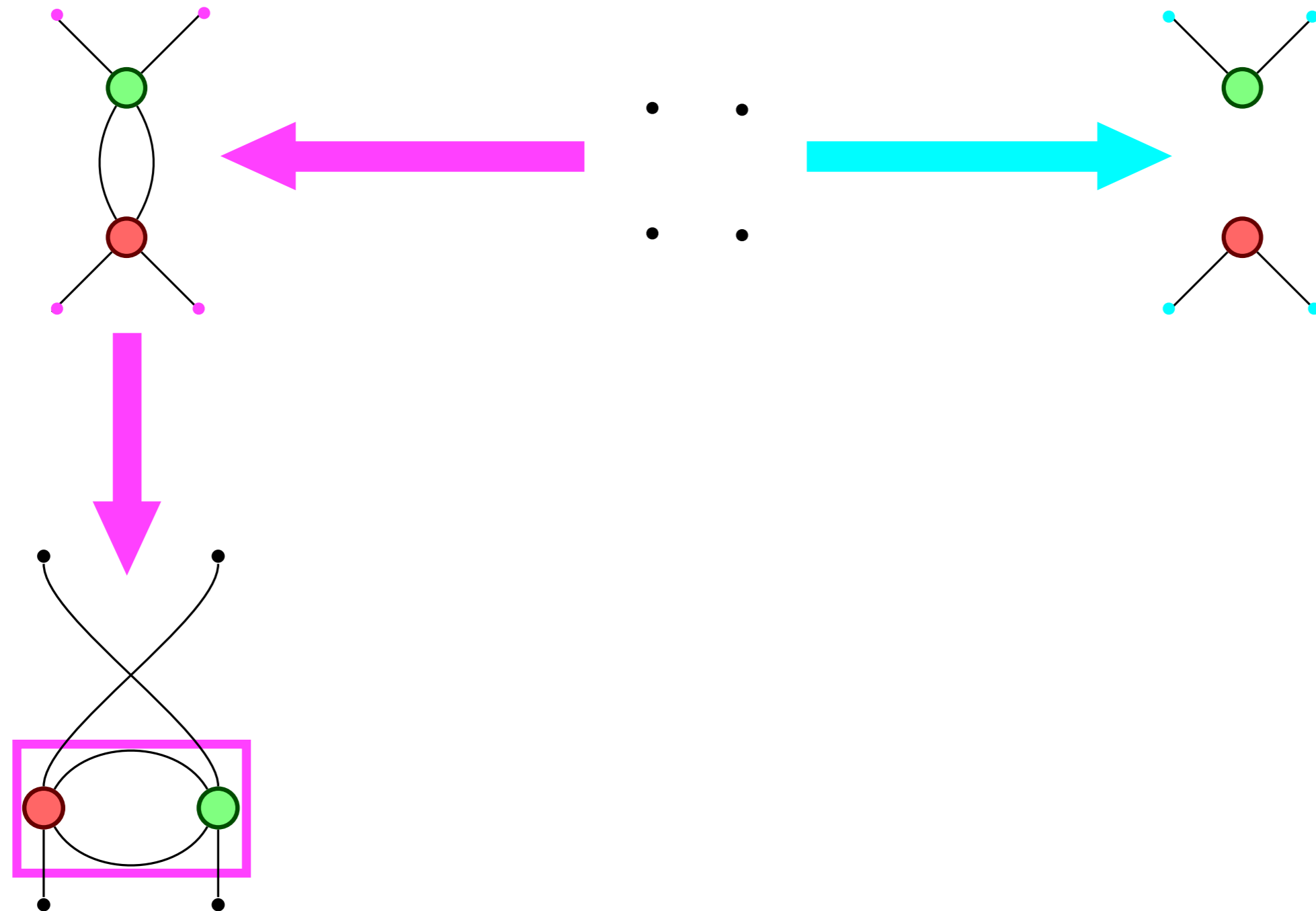


# Equational Reasoning

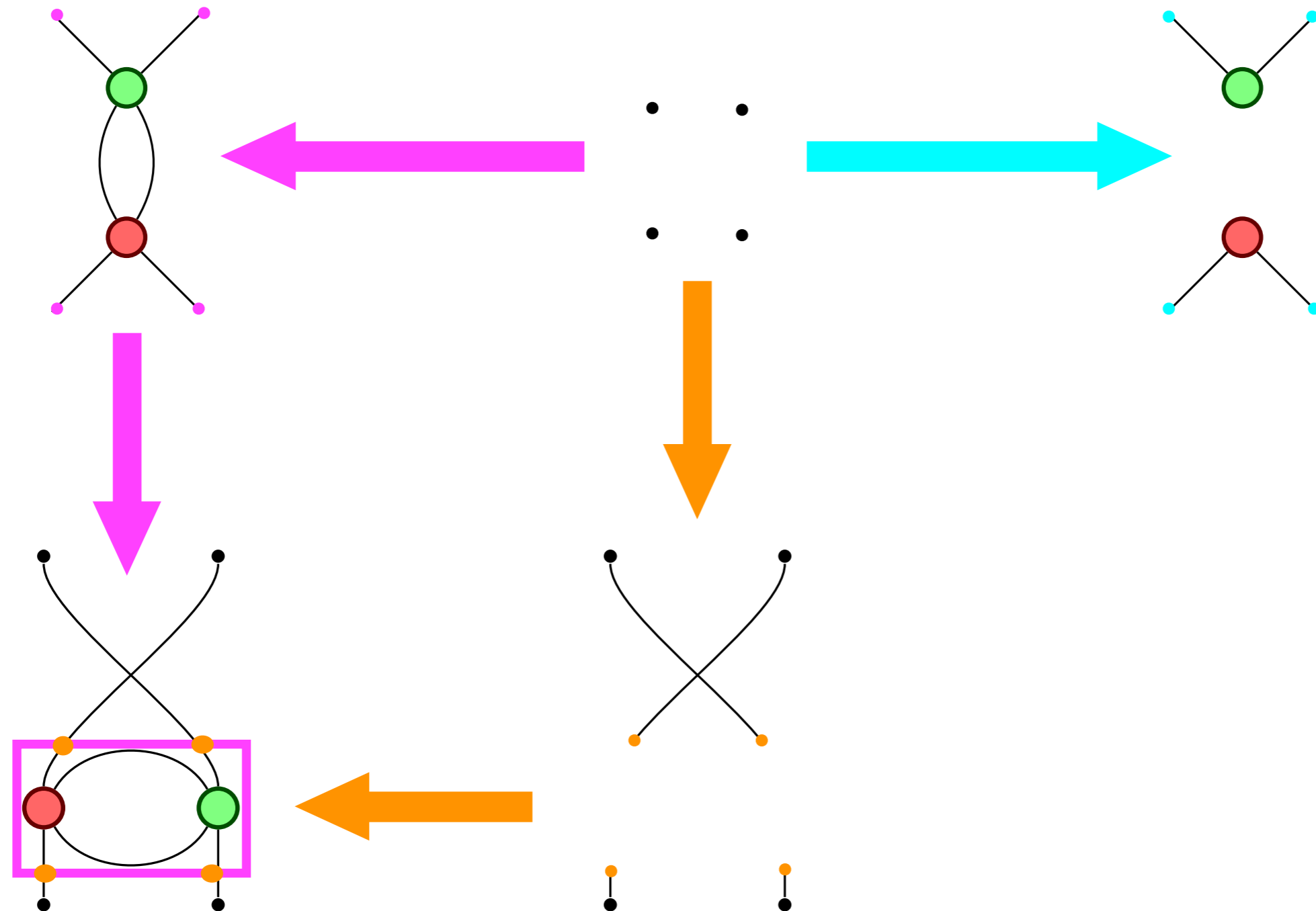




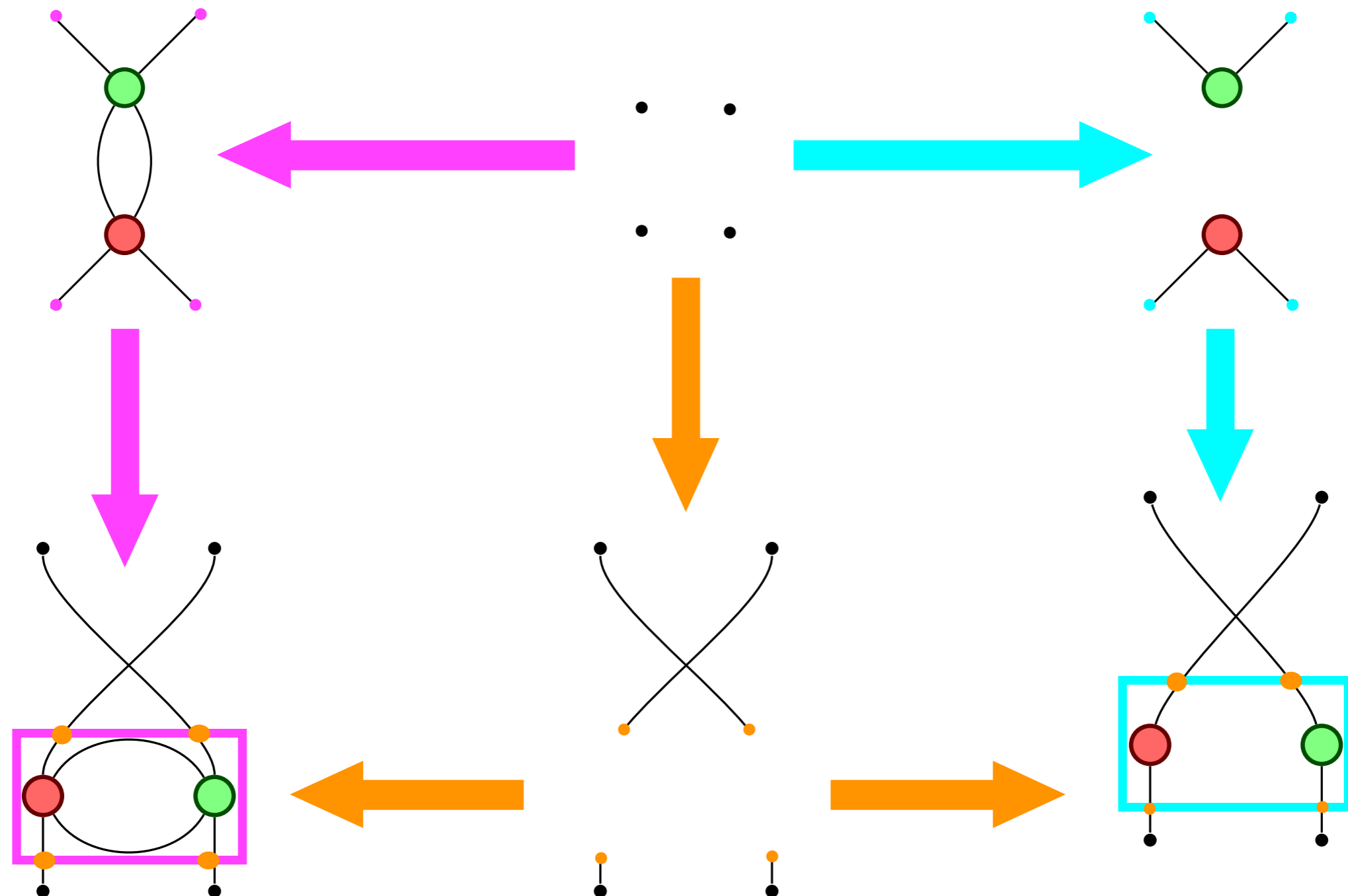
# Equational Reasoning



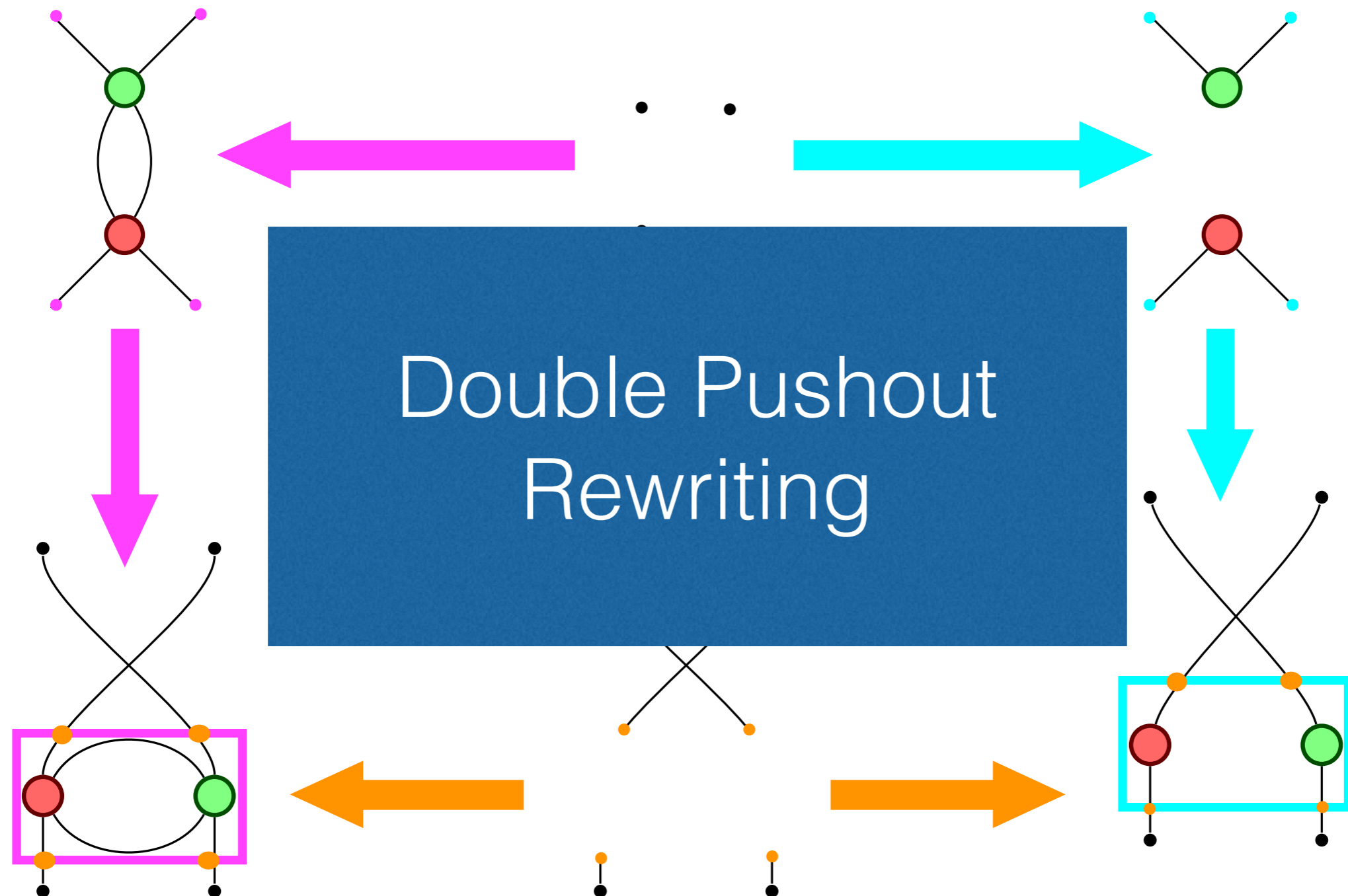
# Equational Reasoning



# Equational Reasoning



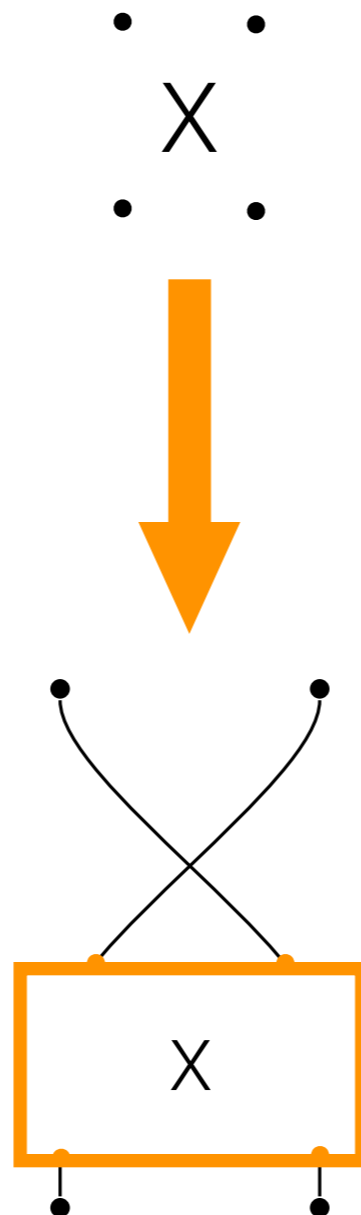
# Equational Reasoning



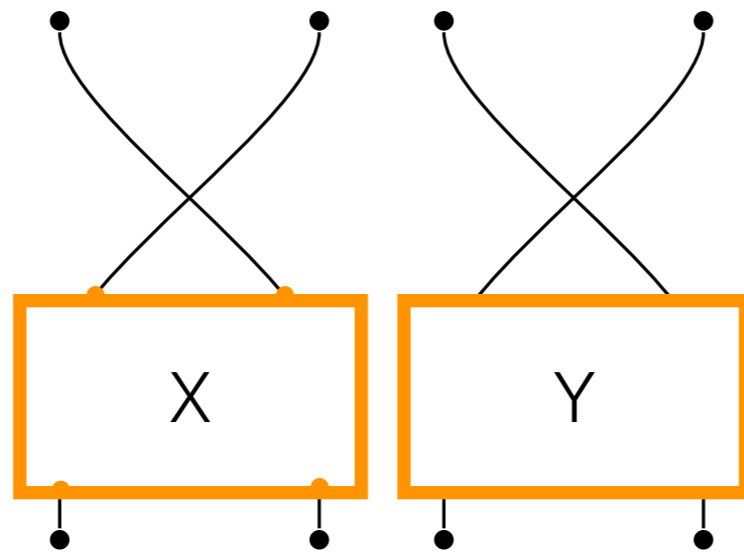
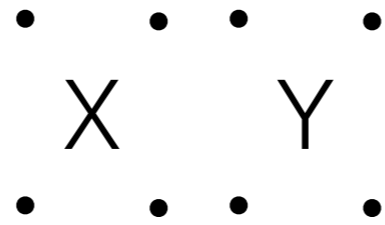
# Equational Reasoning

• •  
x  
• •

# Equational Reasoning



# Equational Reasoning



# 3. Composite Theories

I learned all this from Pawel: thanks mate!



# PROPs

**Defn.** A *PROP* is a strict symmetric monoidal category whose objects are the natural numbers.

**Defn.** A  $\dagger$ -*PROP* is a PROP which has a dagger.

Let  $\mathbb{T}$  be a PROP and let  $\mathbf{C}$  be strict monoidal category.

**Defn:** a  $\mathbb{T}$ -algebra in  $\mathbf{C}$  is a strict monoidal functor from  $\mathbb{T}$  to  $\mathbf{C}$ .

# PROPs

Syntactic presentation of a PROP:

Generators  
symbols with  
arity and coarity

$(\Sigma, E)$

Relations  
equations between  
terms of same type

The coproduct of PROPs is very simple:

$$(\Sigma_1, E_1) + (\Sigma_2, E_2) = (\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2, E_1 + E_2)$$

# Example

The PROP of commutative monoids  $\mathbb{M}$

$$\Sigma = \{ \text{multiplication}, \text{comultiplication} \}$$

$$E = \{ \text{associativity}, \text{coassociativity}, \text{commutativity} \}$$

The  $\mathbb{M}$ -algebras in  $\mathbf{C}$  are exactly the monoids of  $\mathbf{C}$

# Example

The PROP of cocommutative comonoids  $\mathbb{M}^{\text{op}}$

$$\Sigma = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \\ / \quad \backslash \end{array} , \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \end{array} \right\}$$

$$E = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \\ / \quad \backslash \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \bigcirc \quad \bigcirc \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \bigcirc \quad \bigcirc \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \quad \quad \bigcirc \end{array} , \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \\ / \quad \backslash \\ \bigcirc \quad | \\ \bigcirc \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \\ / \quad \backslash \\ | \quad \bigcirc \end{array} , \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \\ \backslash \quad / \\ \quad \quad \bigcirc \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} | \\ \bigcirc \\ \backslash \quad / \\ \quad \quad \bigcirc \end{array} \right\}$$

The  $\mathbb{M}^{\text{op}}$ -algebras in  $\mathbf{C}$  are the comonoids of  $\mathbf{C}$

# COMPOSING PROPS

*Dedicated to Aurelio Carboni on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday*

STEPHEN LACK

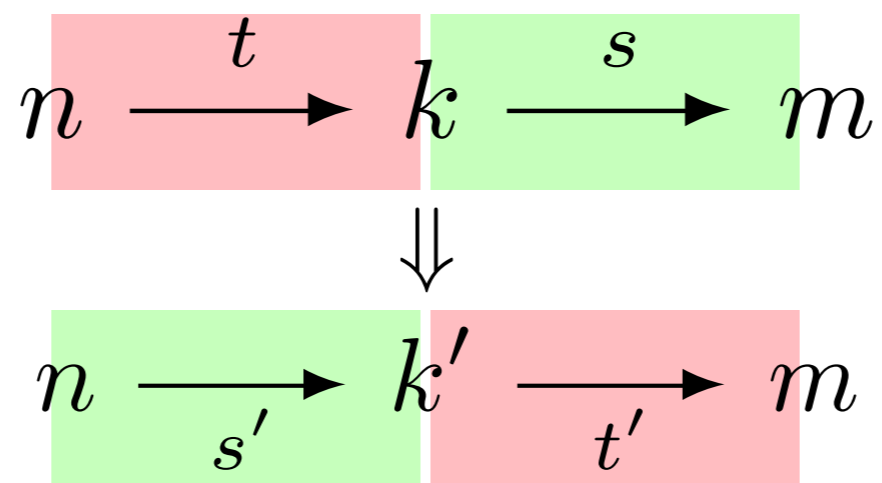
ABSTRACT. A PROP is a way of encoding structure borne by an object of a symmetric monoidal category. We describe a notion of *distributive law* for PROPs, based on Beck's distributive laws for monads. A distributive law between PROPs allows them to be composed, and an algebra for the composite PROP consists of a single object with an algebra structure for each of the original PROPs, subject to compatibility conditions encoded by the distributive law. An example is the PROP for bialgebras, which is a composite of the PROP for coalgebras and that for algebras.

# Composing PROPs

PROPs are monads in a certain (complicated) category. Distributive laws of monads produce composite monads — can do this for PROPs!

$$\lambda : \mathbb{T}; \mathbb{S} \Rightarrow \mathbb{S}; \mathbb{T}$$

This boils down to an equation


$$\begin{array}{c} n \xrightarrow{t} k \xrightarrow{s} m \\ \Downarrow \\ n \xrightarrow{s'} k' \xrightarrow{t'} m \end{array}$$

for every composable pair.

# Composing PROPs

**Proposition:** Given a distributive law

$$\lambda : \mathbb{T}; \mathbb{S} \Rightarrow \mathbb{S}; \mathbb{T}$$

Then

$$f : n \rightarrow m = n \xrightarrow{s} k \xrightarrow{t} m$$

**Proposition:** if  $\mathbb{S} = (\Sigma_{\mathbb{S}}, E_{\mathbb{S}})$        $\mathbb{T} = (\Sigma_{\mathbb{T}}, E_{\mathbb{T}})$

then  $\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{T} = (\Sigma_{\mathbb{S}} + \Sigma_{\mathbb{T}}, E_{\mathbb{S}} + E_{\mathbb{T}} + E_{\lambda})$

# Composing PROPs

**Proposition:** Given a distributive law

$$\lambda : \mathbb{T}; \mathbb{S} \Rightarrow \mathbb{S}; \mathbb{T}$$

Then

$$f : n \rightarrow m = n \xrightarrow{s} k \xrightarrow{t} m$$

**Proposition:** if  $\mathbb{S} = (\Sigma_{\mathbb{S}}, E_{\mathbb{S}})$   $\mathbb{T} = (\Sigma_{\mathbb{T}}, E_{\mathbb{T}})$

then  $\mathbb{S}; \mathbb{T} = (\mathbb{S} + \mathbb{T}) / E_{\lambda}$

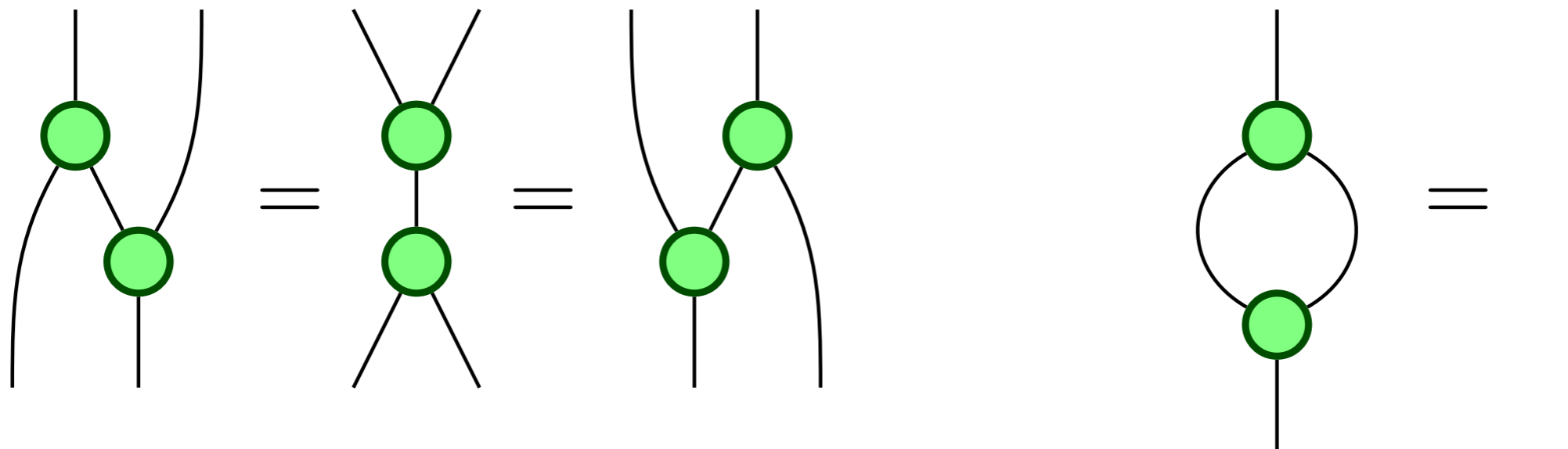


# Frobenius Algebras

The PROP  $\mathbb{F}$  of **special commutative Frobenius algebras** arises by a distributive law

$$\lambda_F : \mathbb{M}^{\text{op}}; \mathbb{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}; \mathbb{M}^{\text{op}}$$

generated by the equations

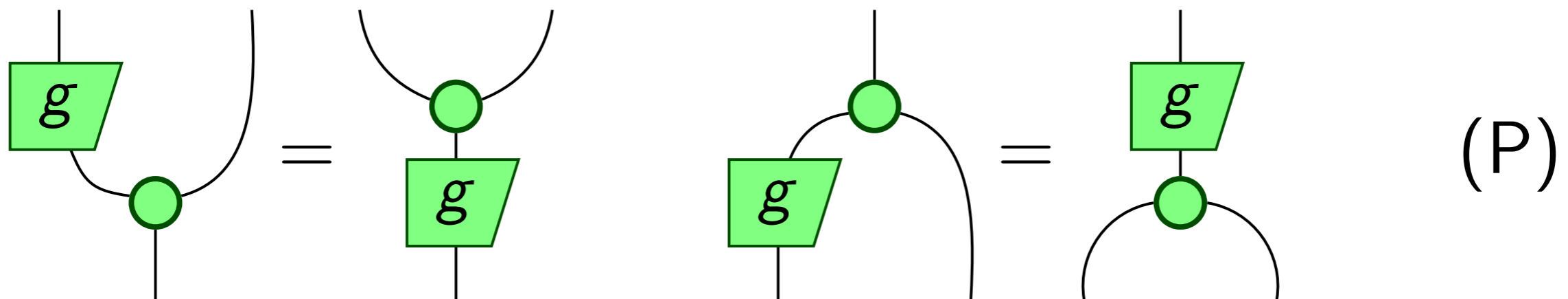


# Phases

Let  $G$  be an abelian group; define the PROP  $G^\times$  by

$$\Sigma = \{g : 1 \rightarrow 1 \mid g \in G\} \quad E = \{g \circ h = gh\}$$

Quotient  $\mathbb{F} + G^\times$  by the equations



# Frob. algebras with phases

Recall  $\mathbb{F}$  is itself a composite  $\mathbb{M};\mathbb{M}^{\text{op}}$  so we can view  $\mathbb{F}G$  as an *iterated* distributive law for  $\mathbb{M};G^{\times};\mathbb{M}^{\text{op}}$ .

This yields a factorisation:

$$f = n \begin{array}{c} \nabla \\ \longrightarrow \\ \mathbb{M} \end{array} m \begin{array}{c} g \\ \longrightarrow \\ G^{\times} \end{array} m \begin{array}{c} \Delta \\ \longrightarrow \\ \mathbb{M}^{\text{op}} \end{array} n'$$

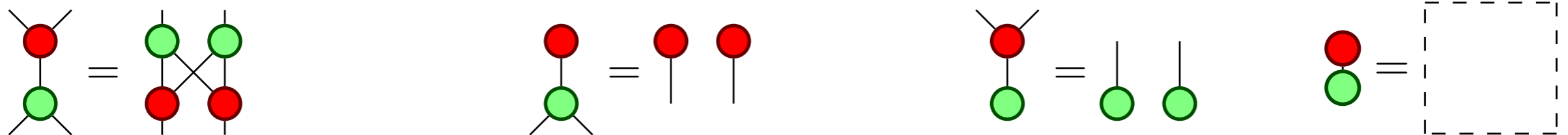
So  $\mathbb{F}G$  is the PROP of Frob.algs. with *phases*.

# Bialgebras

The PROP  $\mathbb{B}$  of **bialgebras** arises by a distributive law

$$\lambda_B : \mathbb{M}; \mathbb{M}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^{\text{op}}; \mathbb{M}$$

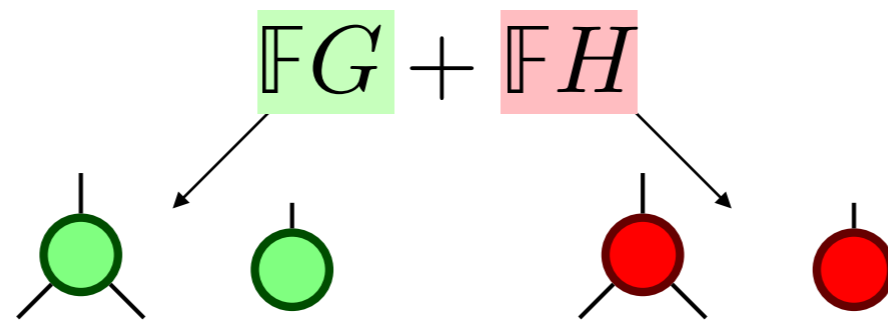
generated by the equations



Can do the same for Hopf algebras.

# Two Frobenius Algebras?

We can form the coproduct i.e. *non-interacting* Frobenius algebras with phases.



Factorisation:

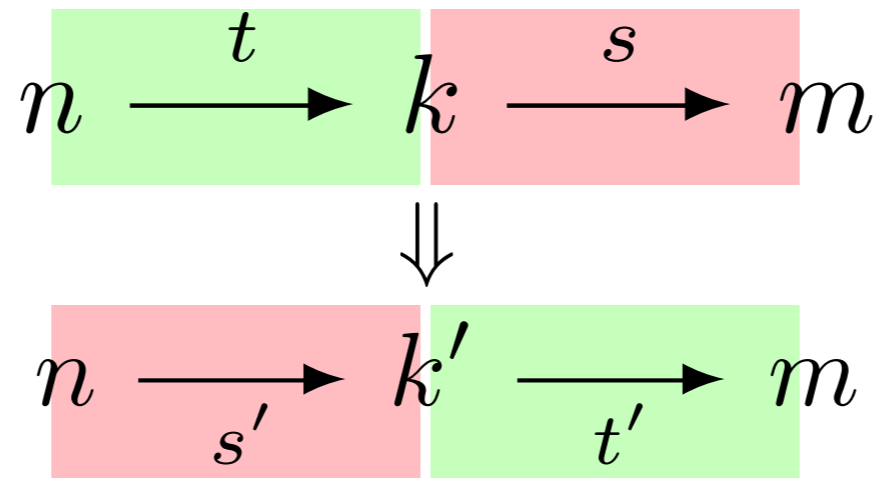
$$f = n \xrightarrow{g_1} d_1 \xrightarrow{h_1} d_2 \xrightarrow{g_2} d_3 \xrightarrow{h_2} \dots \xrightarrow{g_k} m$$

# Sad Face :(

**Theorem:**  $\mathbb{F}$  does not arise as a distributive law

$$\lambda : \mathbb{F}G; \mathbb{F}H \Rightarrow \mathbb{F}H; \mathbb{F}G$$

*Proof:* Recall we need:



for every composable pair — including the phase groups

# But the news is still pretty good

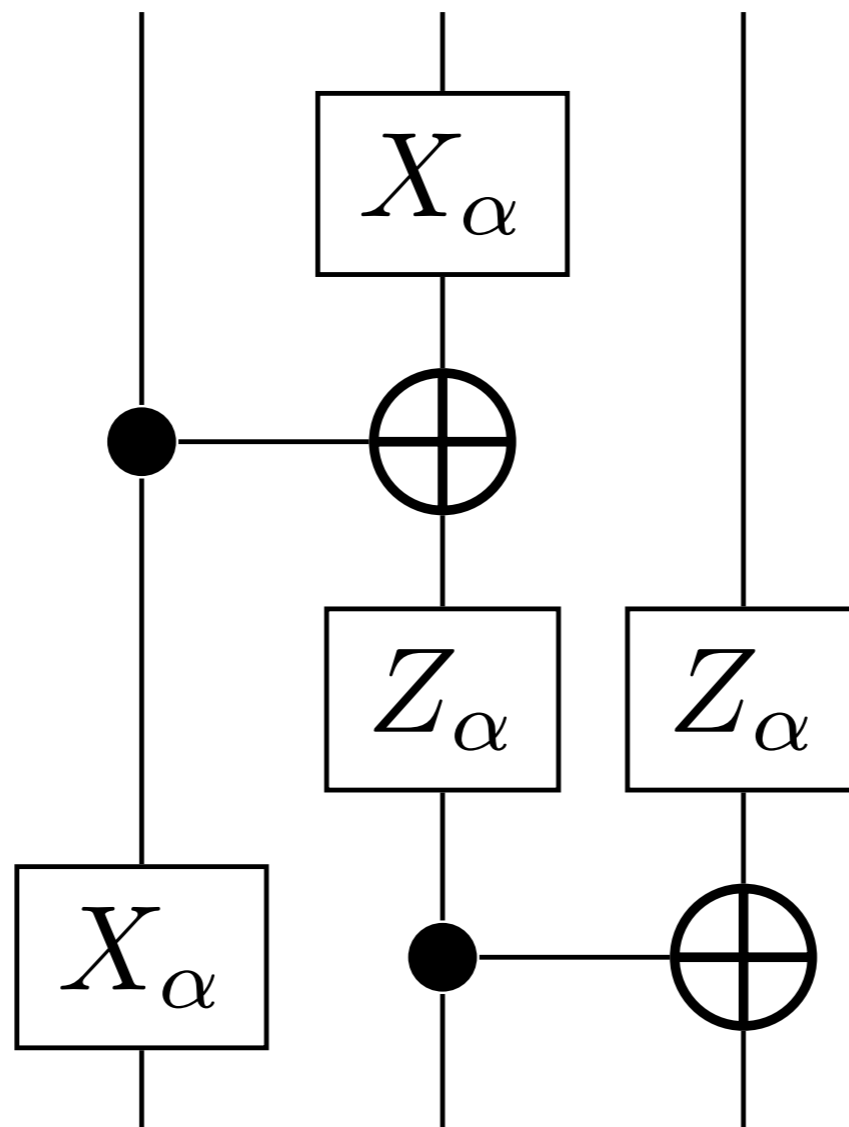
- No distributive law for ZX-calculus
  - no nice normal forms for the full language
  - this would have been **very** surprising!
- **But** nice normal forms for every subtheory.
  - the monochrome theory = spiders
  - the phase-free theory =  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -matrices
  - the Clifford fragment = ????
- This will be enough for some interesting applications!

# 4. Compiling

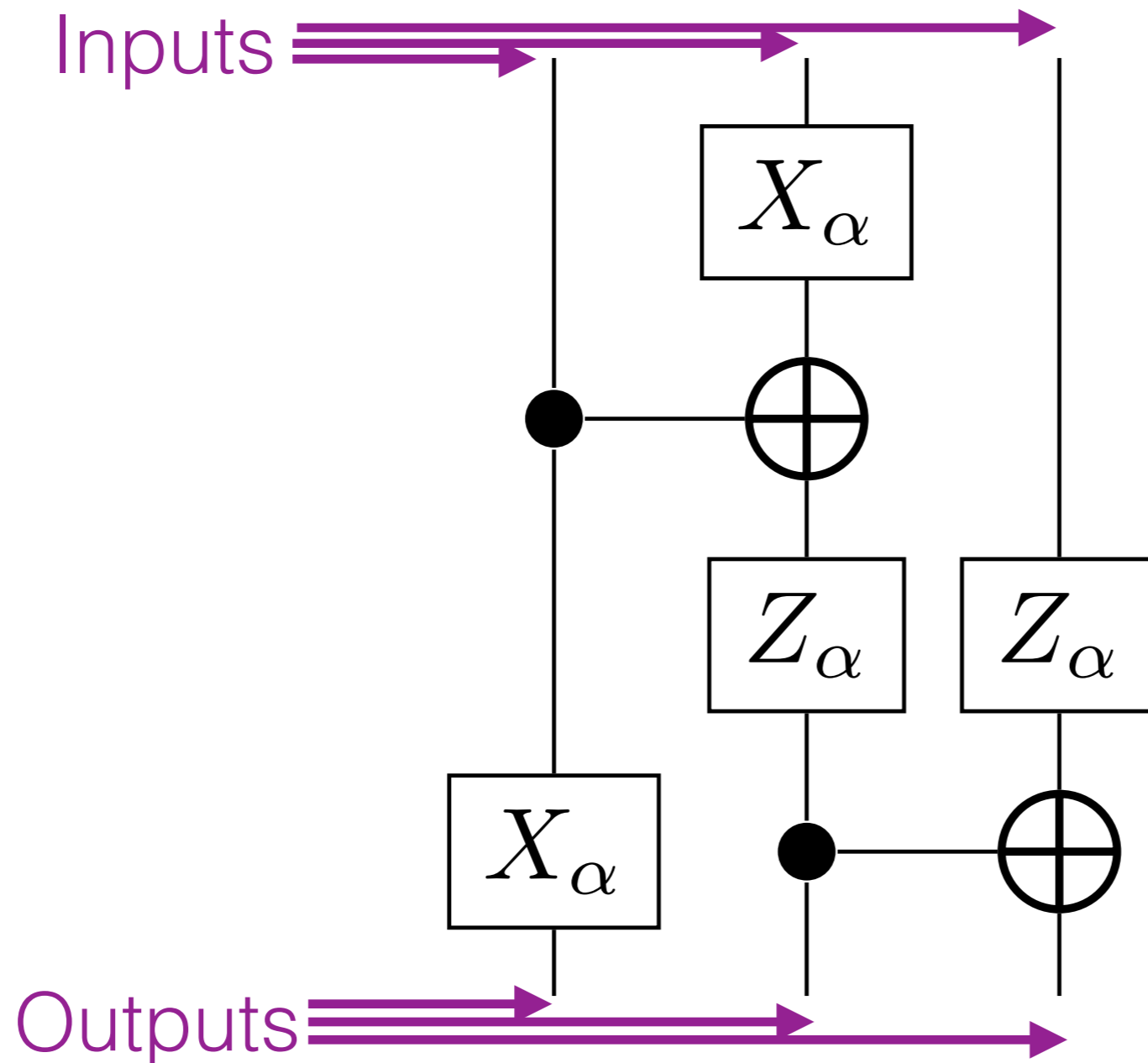
Oh look, category theory can do something useful!



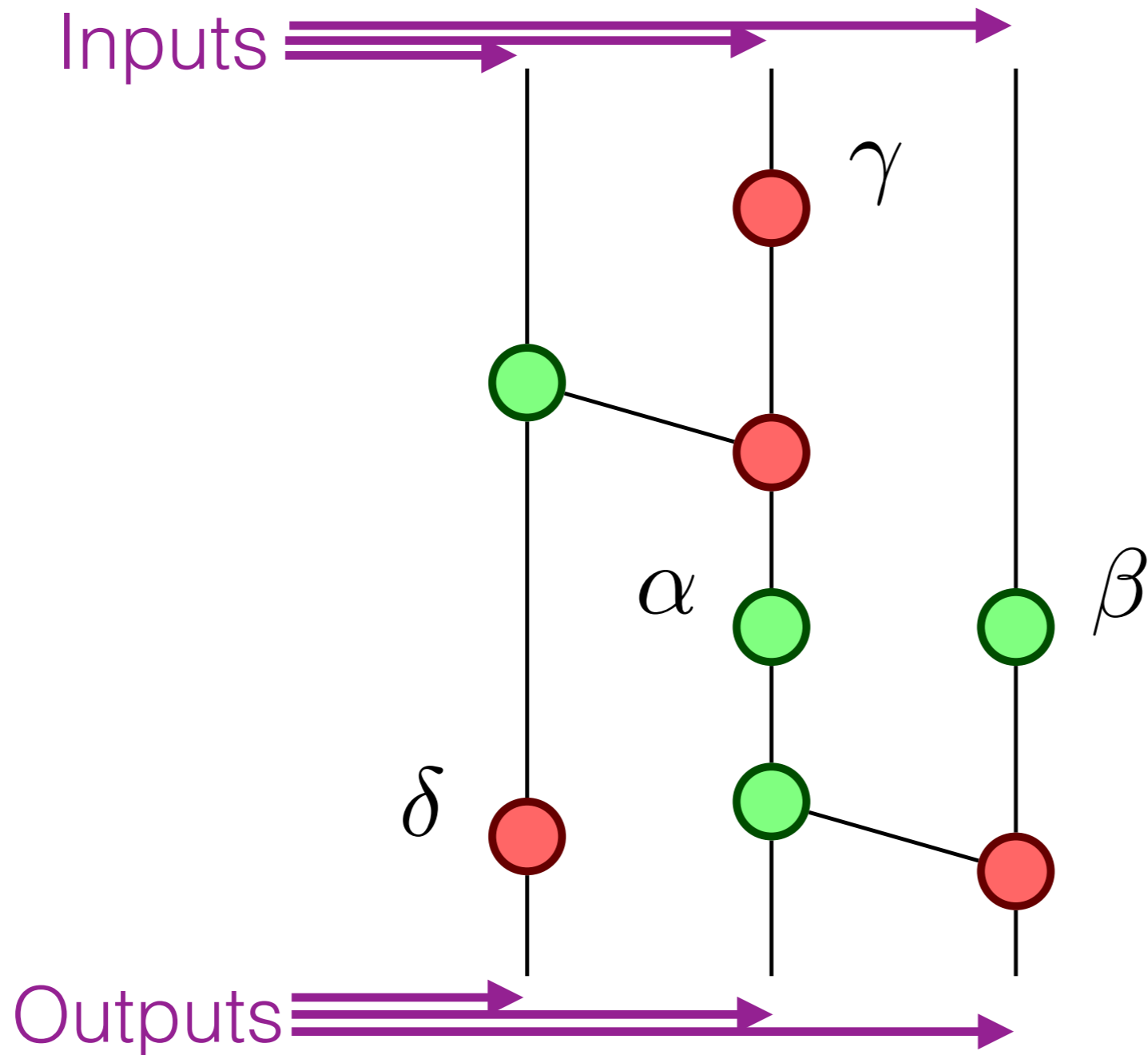
# Circuit Perspective



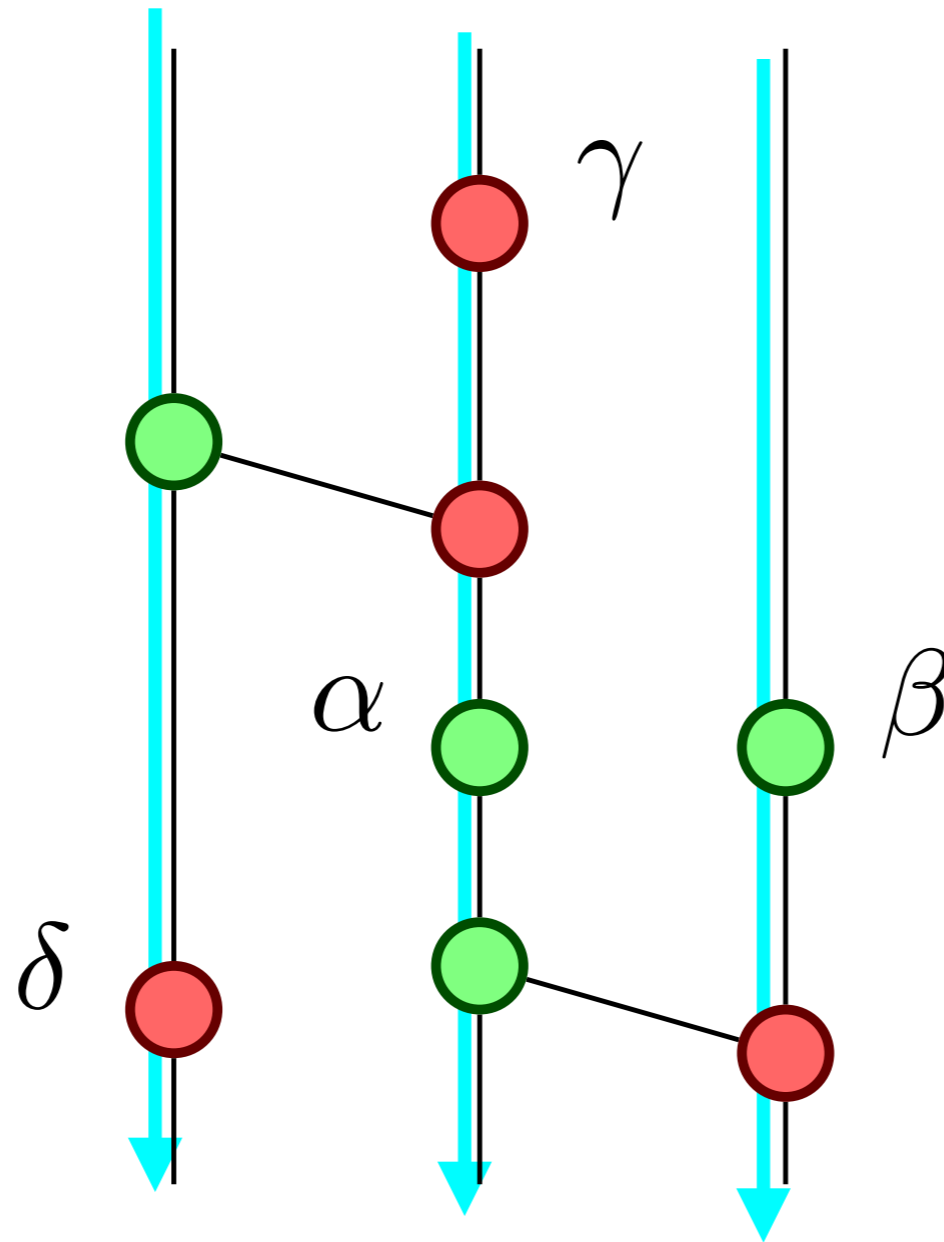
# Circuit Perspective



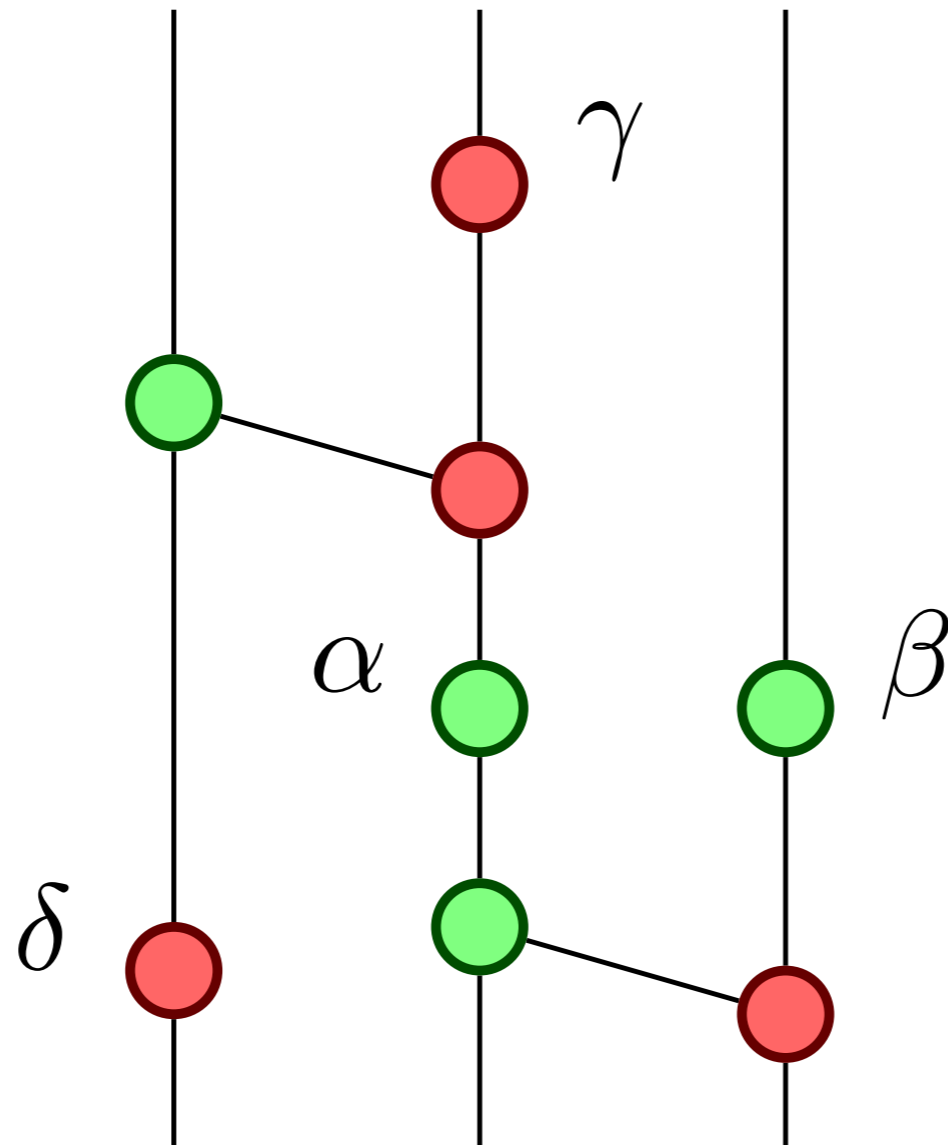
# Circuit Perspective



# Circuit Perspective

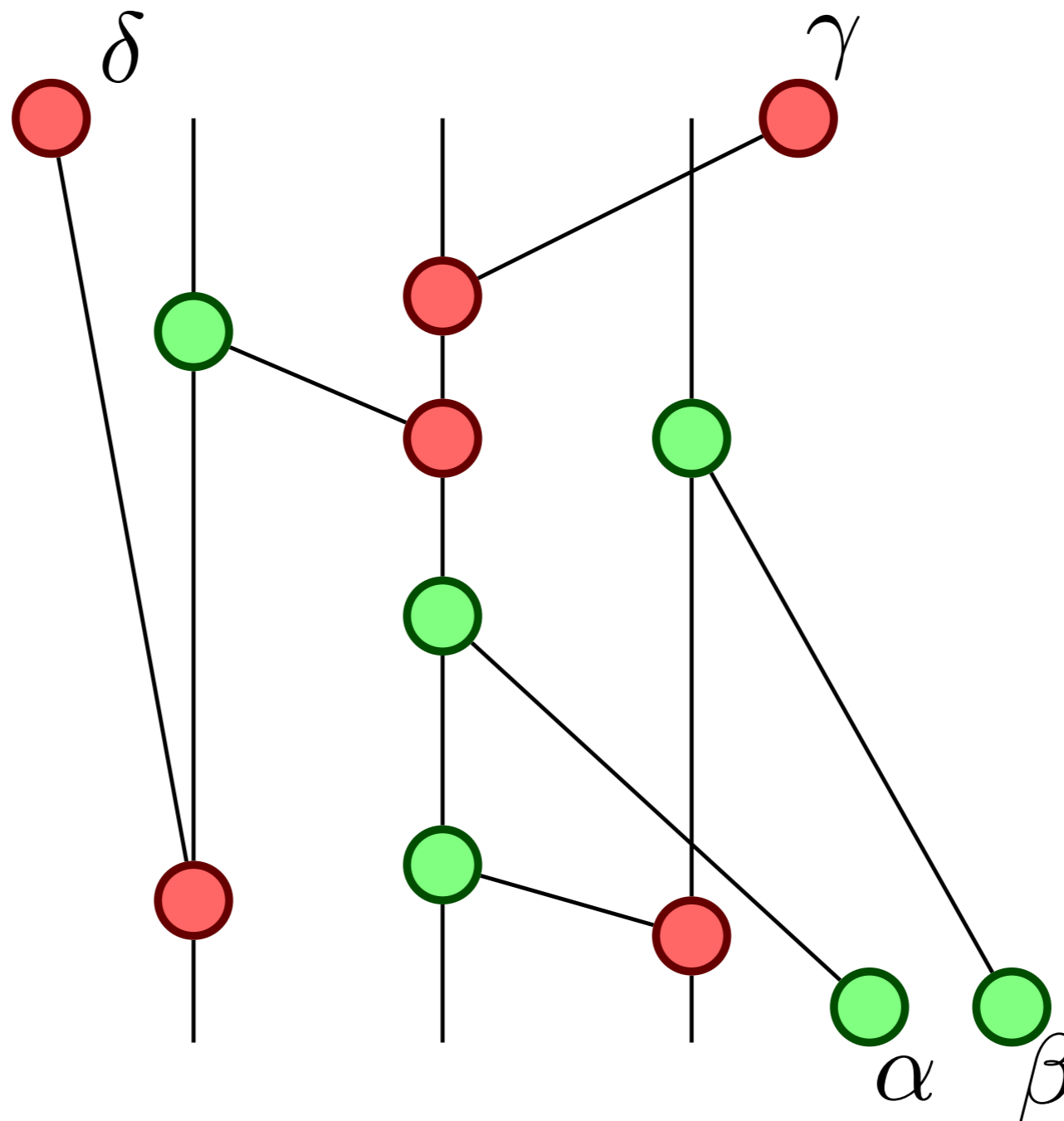


# Circuit Perspective



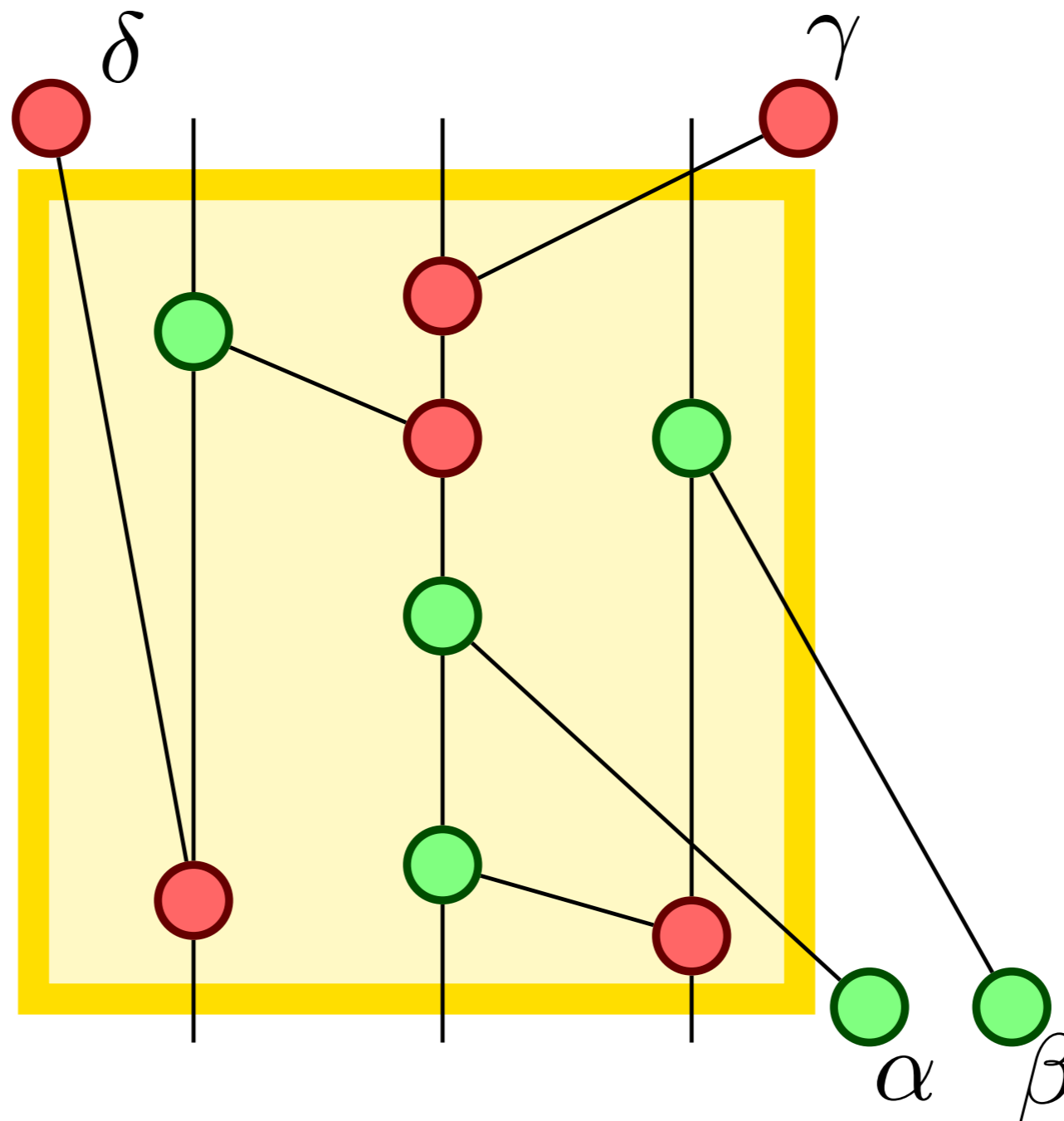
# ???

## Perspective



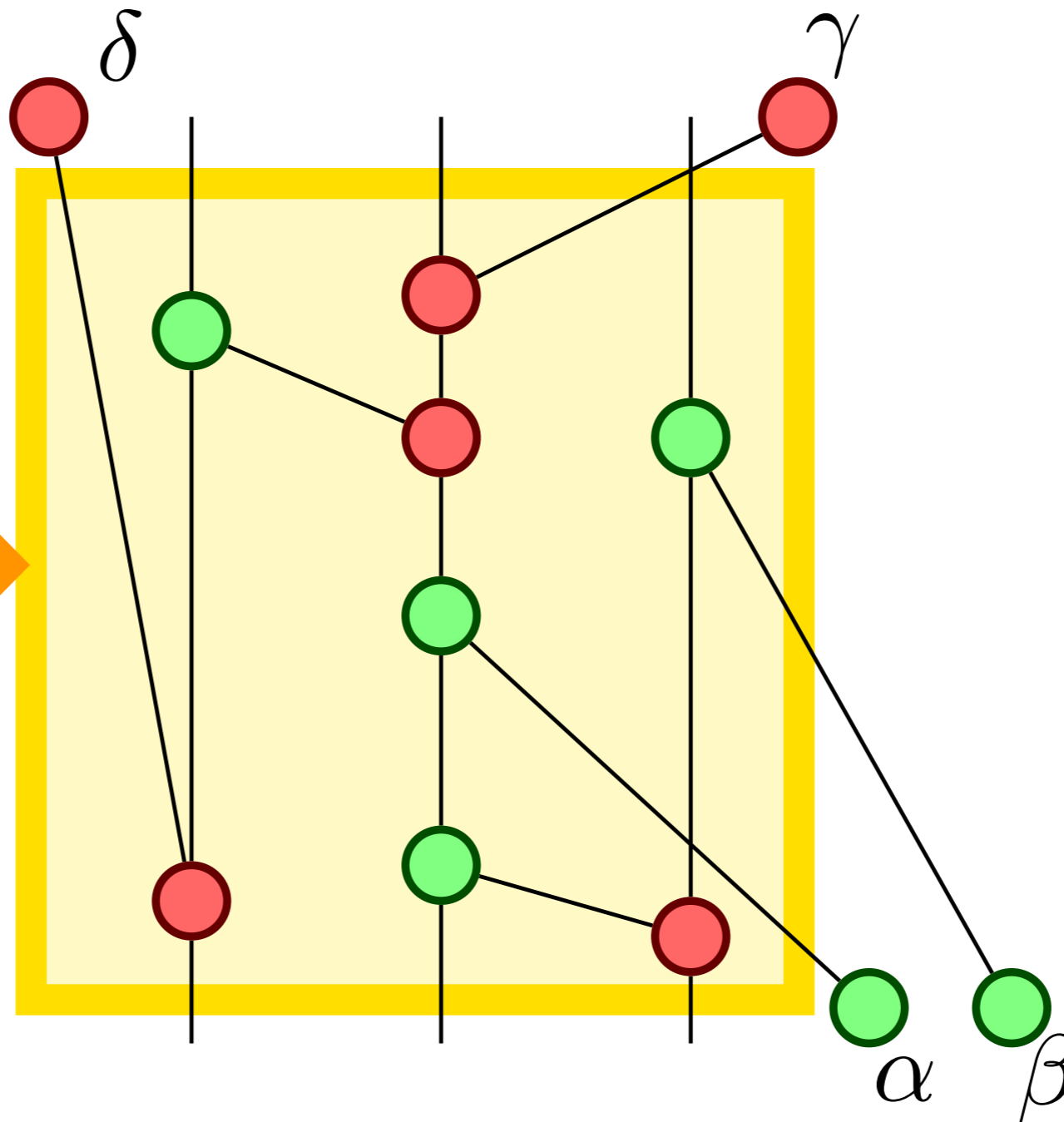
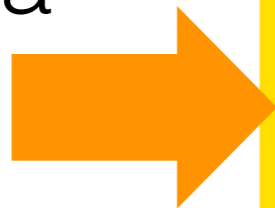
# ???

## Perspective



# ??? Perspective

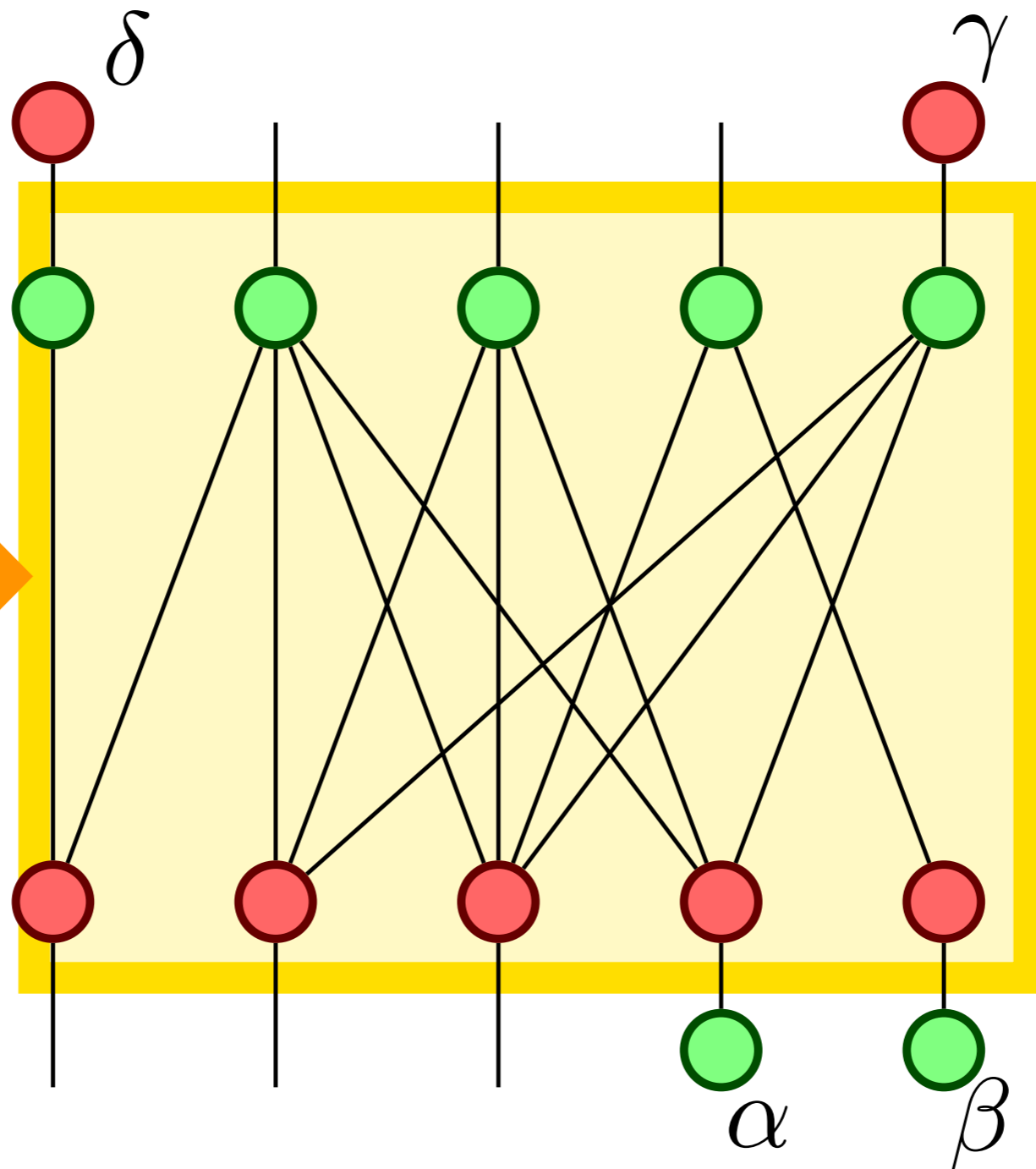
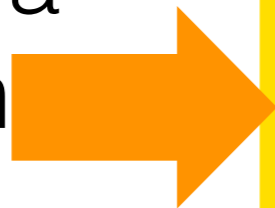
Hopf algebra  
expression



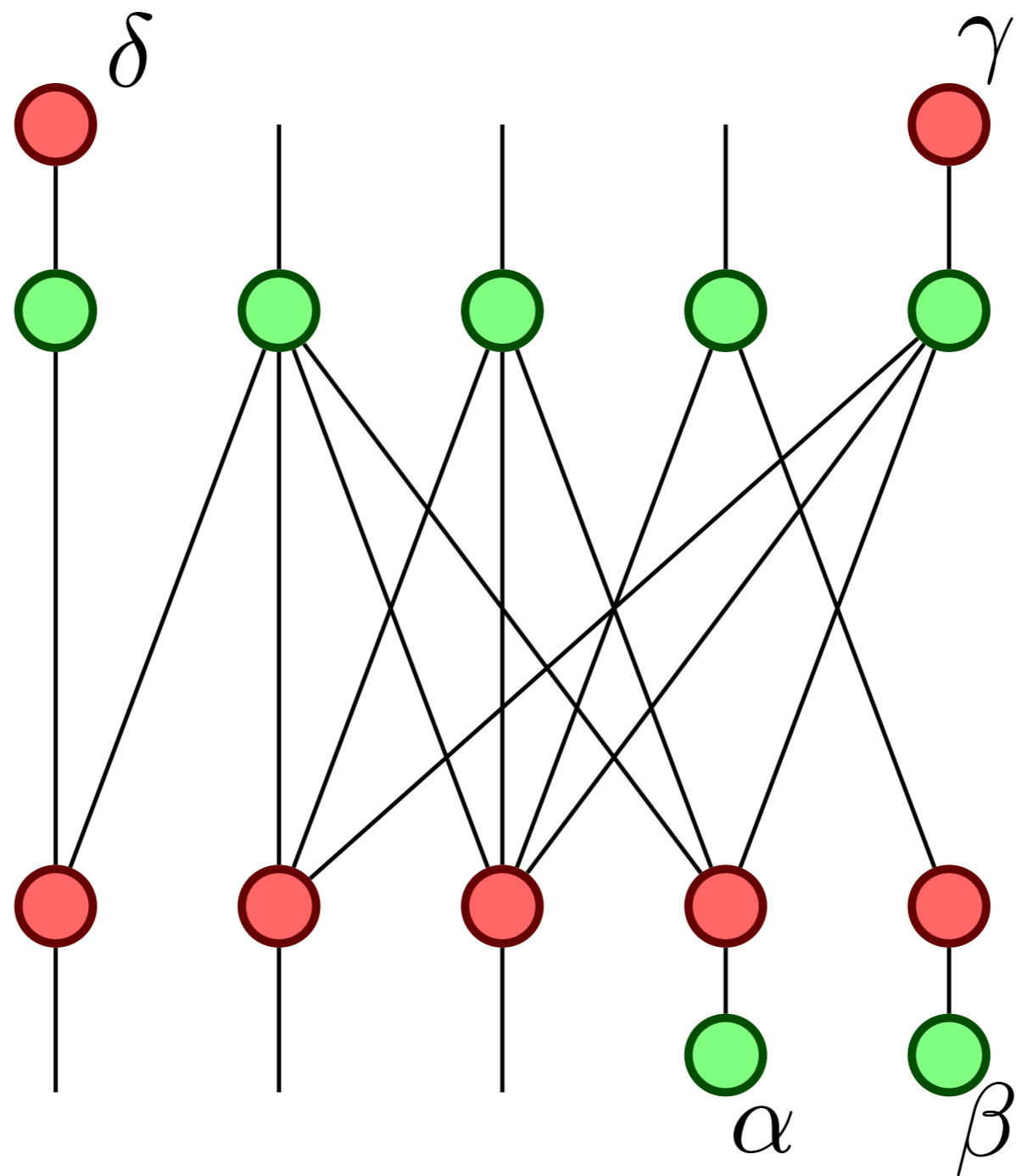


# ??? Perspective

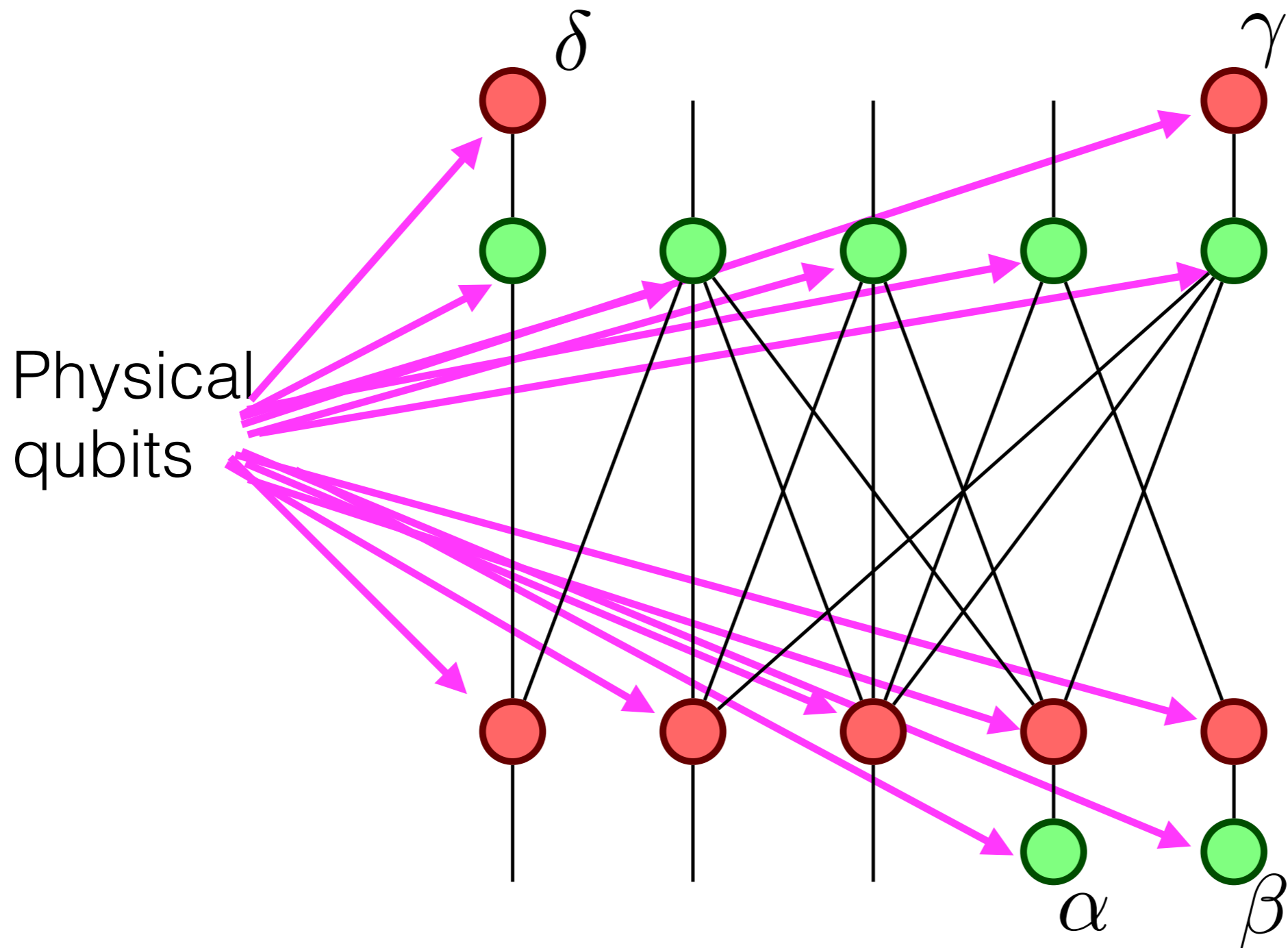
Hopf algebra  
normal form



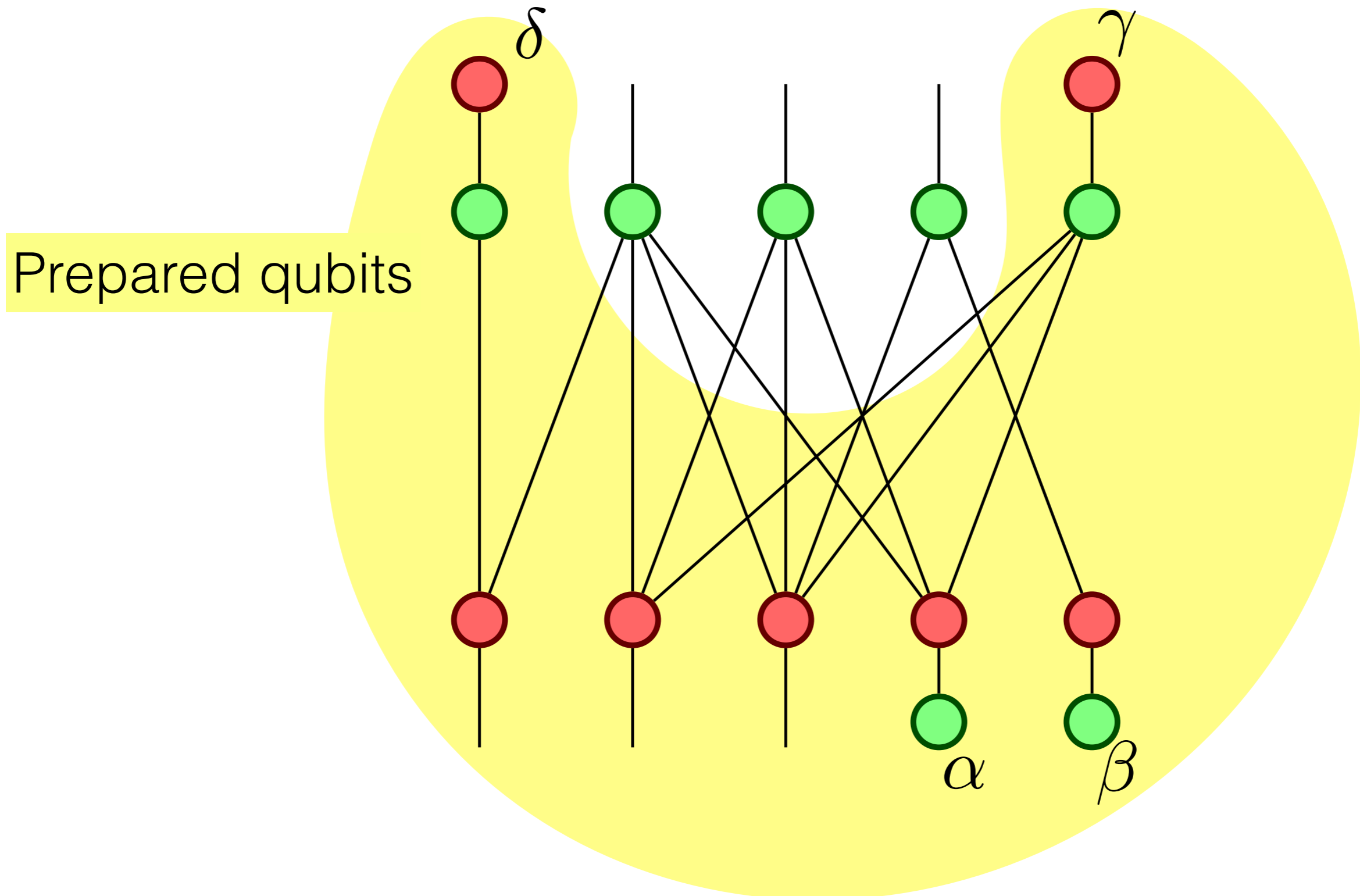
# MBQC Perspective



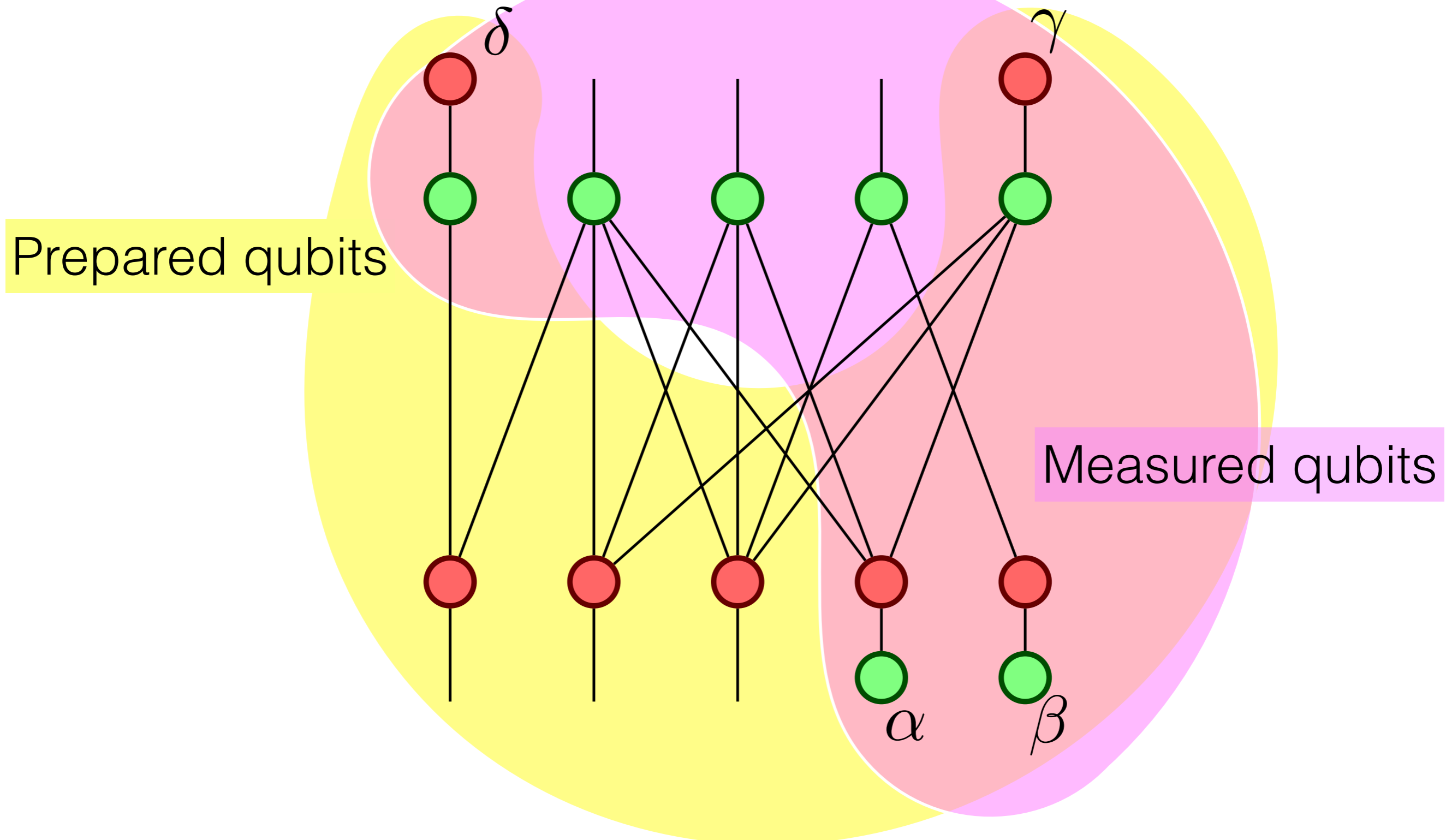
# MBQC Perspective



# MBQC Perspective



# MBQC Perspective

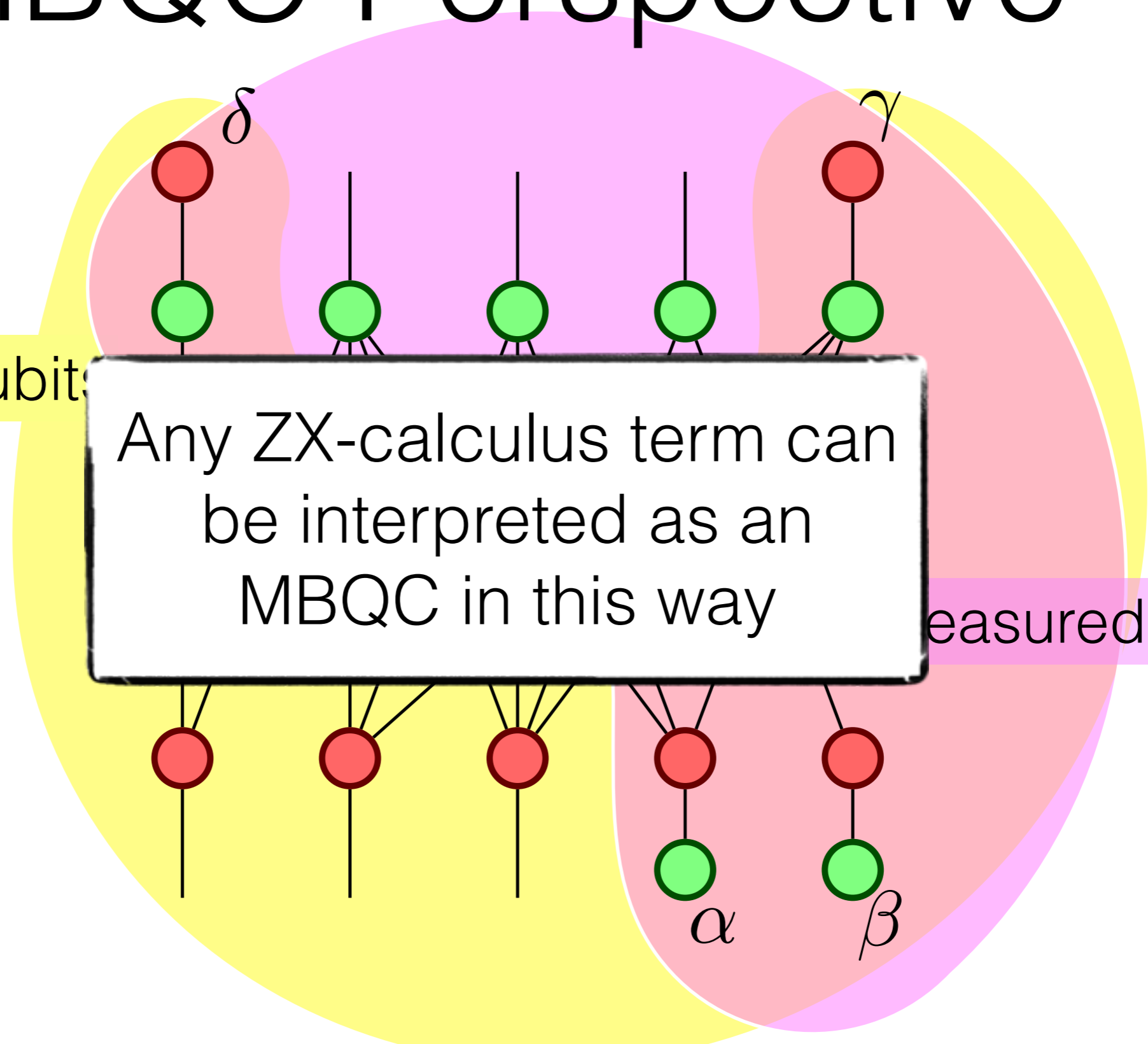


# MBQC Perspective

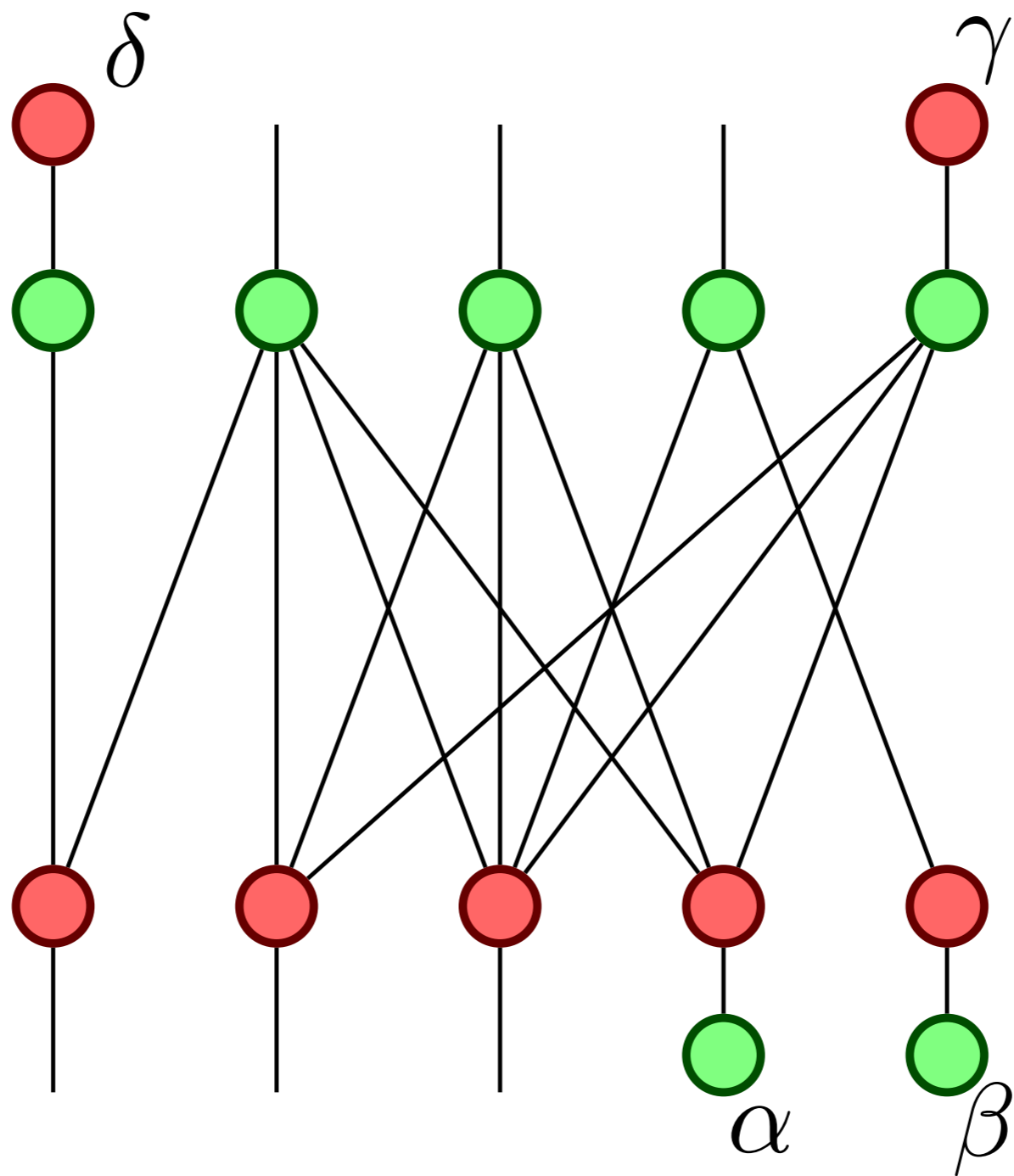
Prepared qubits

Any ZX-calculus term can be interpreted as an MBQC in this way

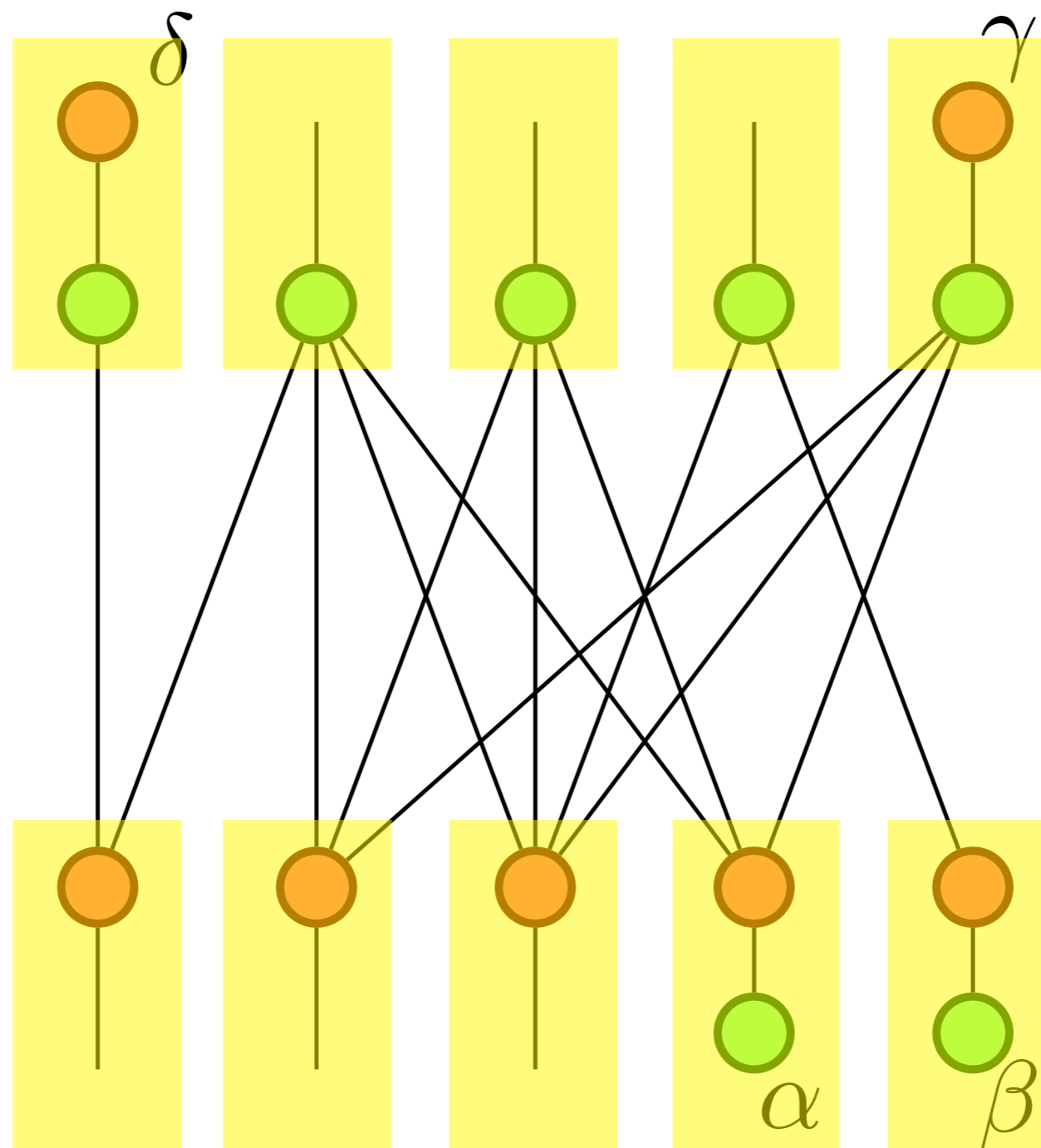
Measured qubits



# NQIT Perspective

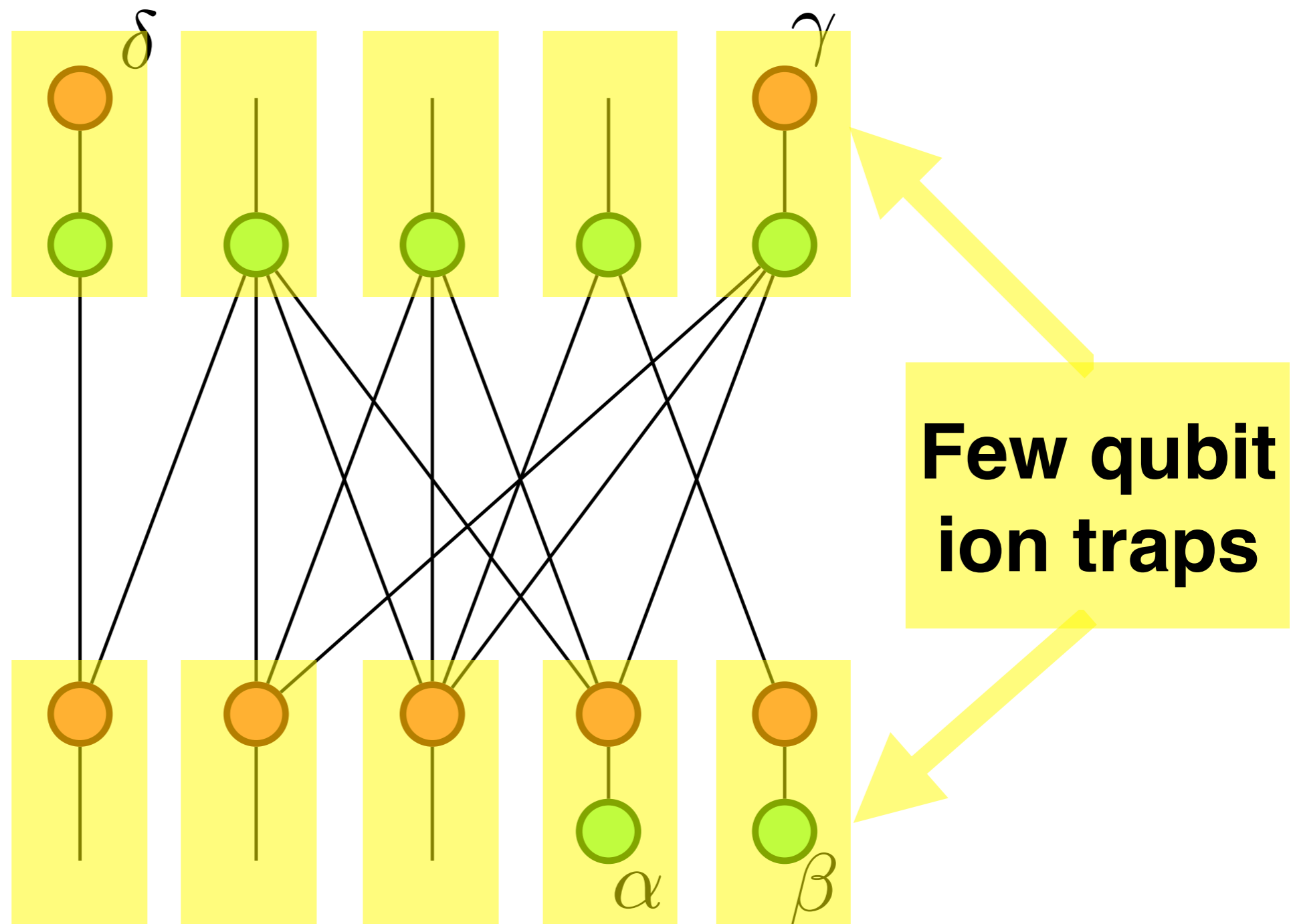


# NQIT Perspective

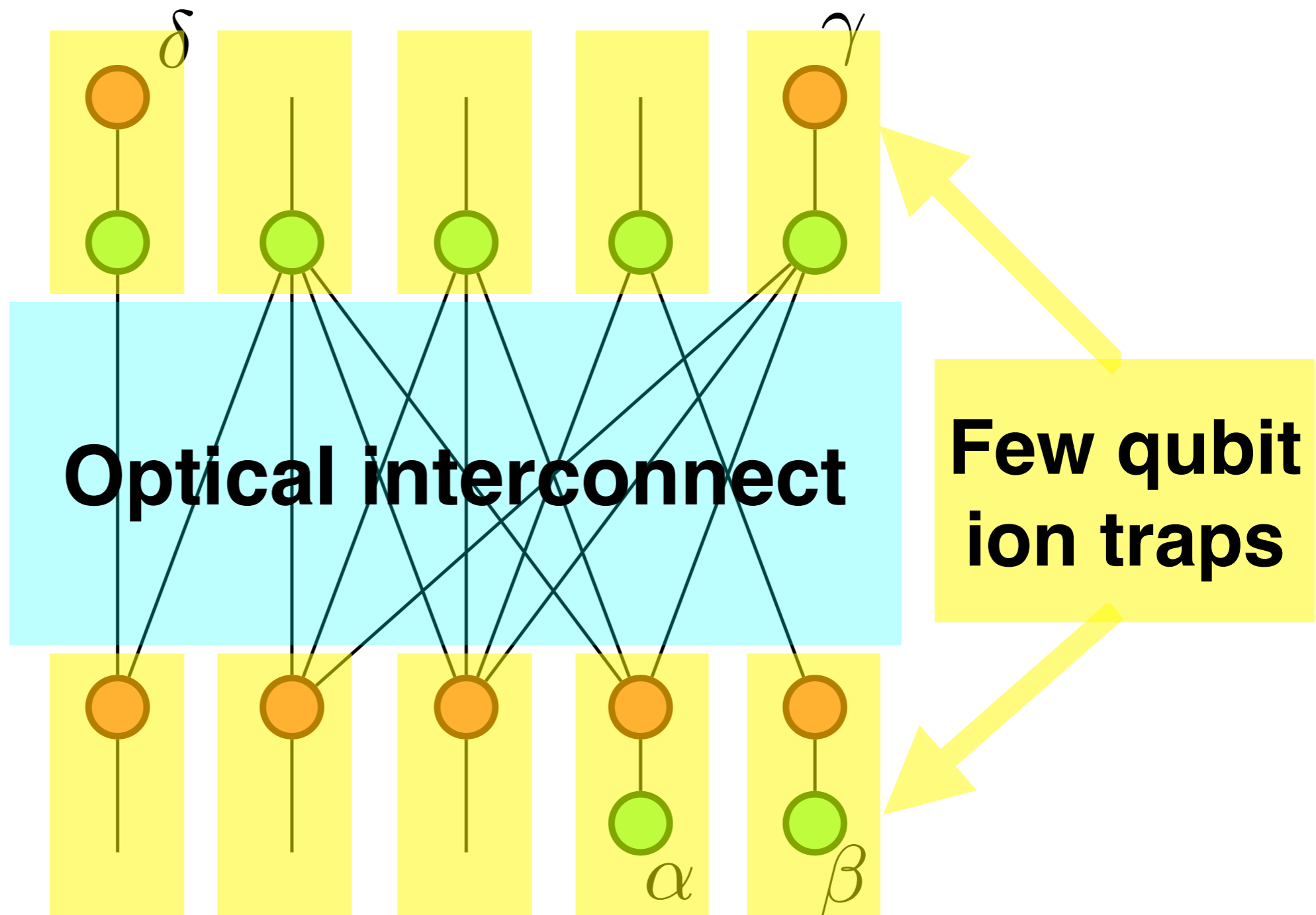




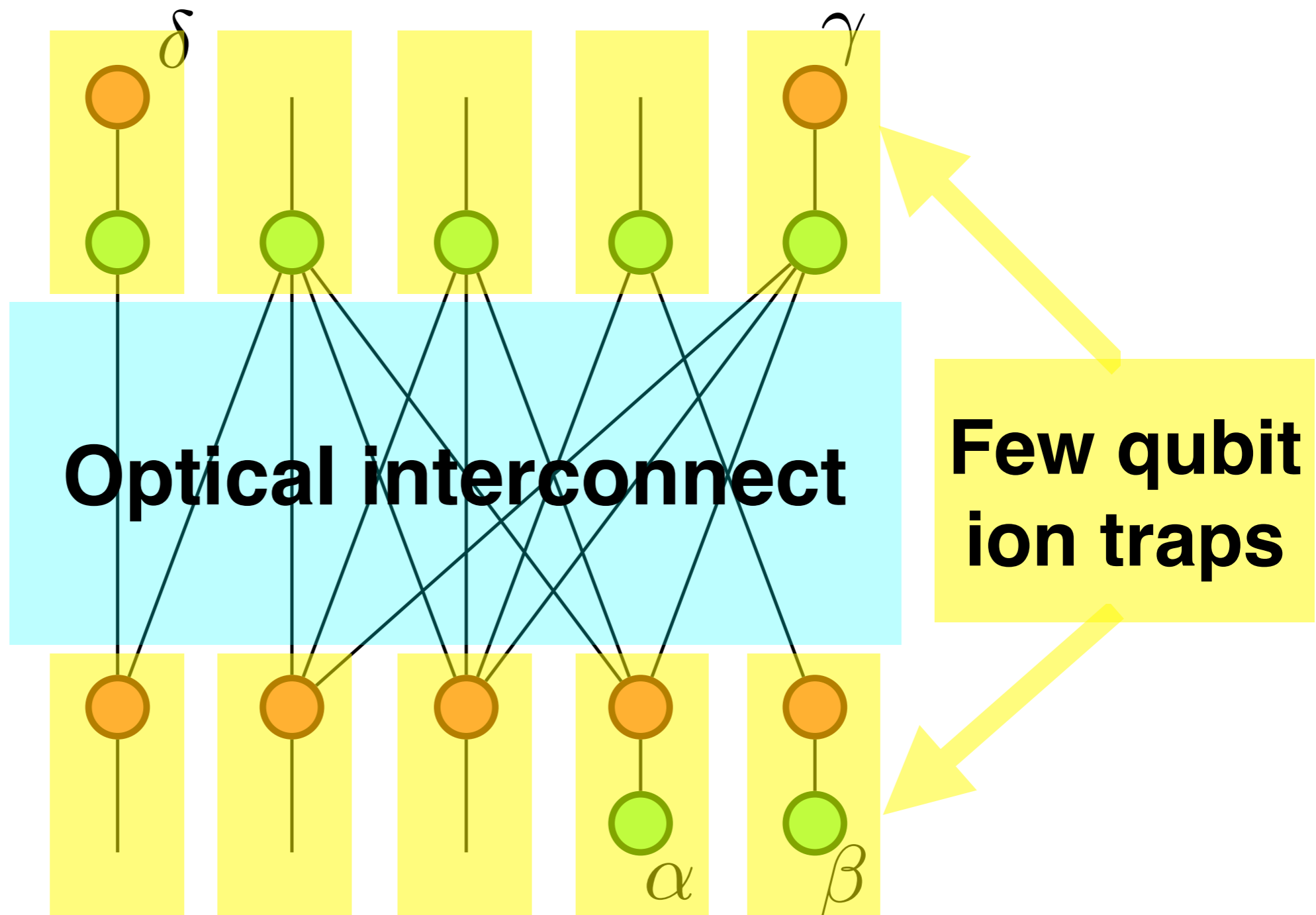
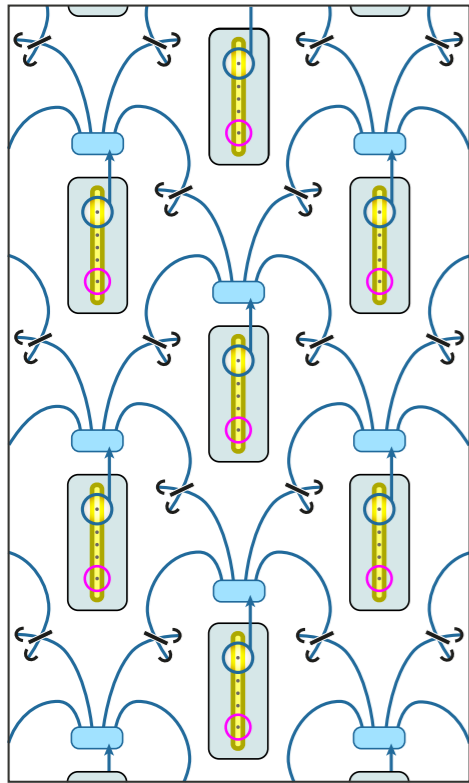
# NQIT Perspective



# NQIT Perspective



# NQIT Perspective



# NQIT perspective(?)

- What about determinism?
  - unknown in general
  - use standard techniques for specific examples
- What are the trade-offs?
  - non-Clifford gates vs physical qubits
  - circuit depth vs complexity of entanglement

