

# Computability in Population Protocols

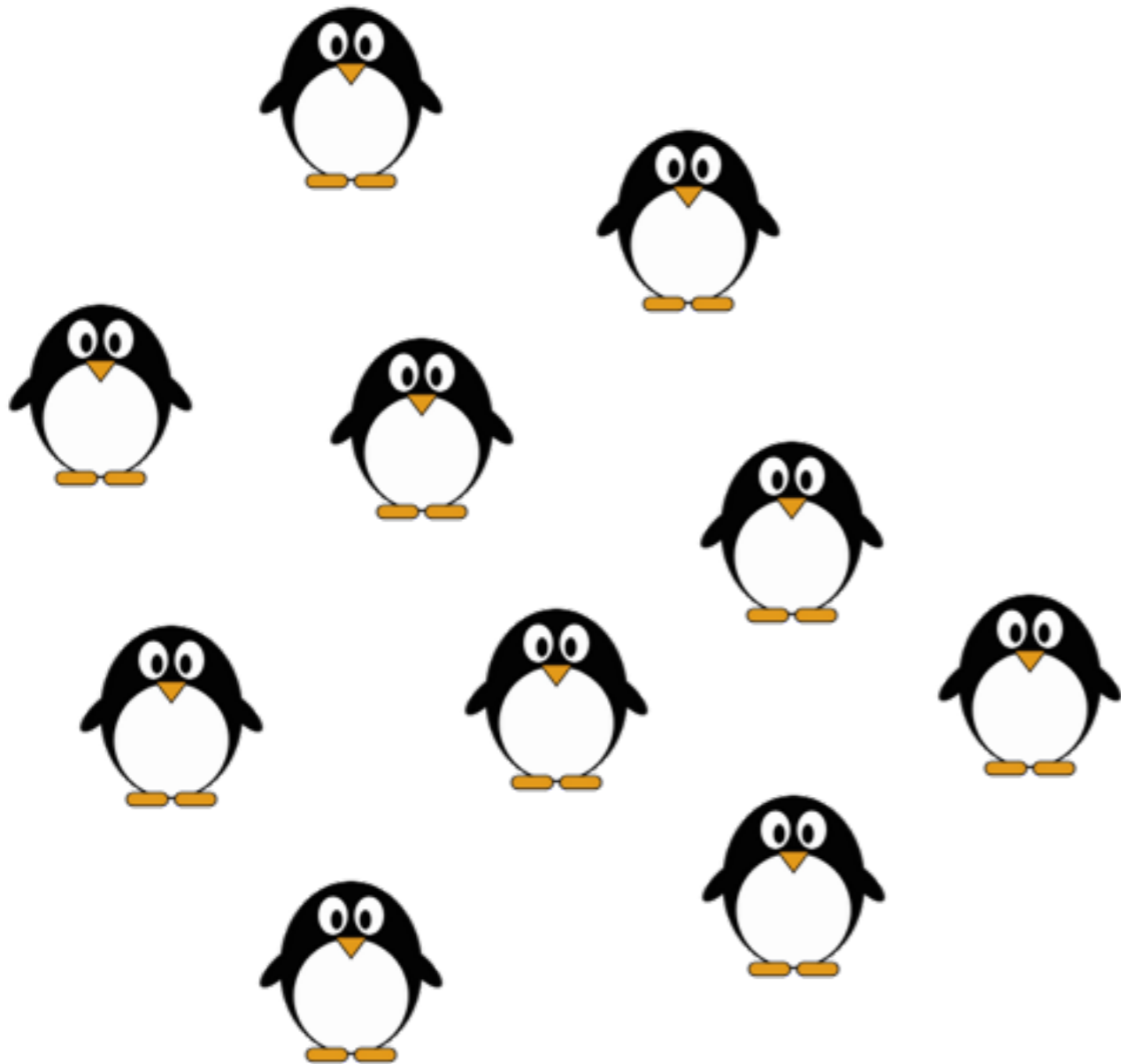
Peva Blanchard  
EPFL 2014/2015

# Population Protocol



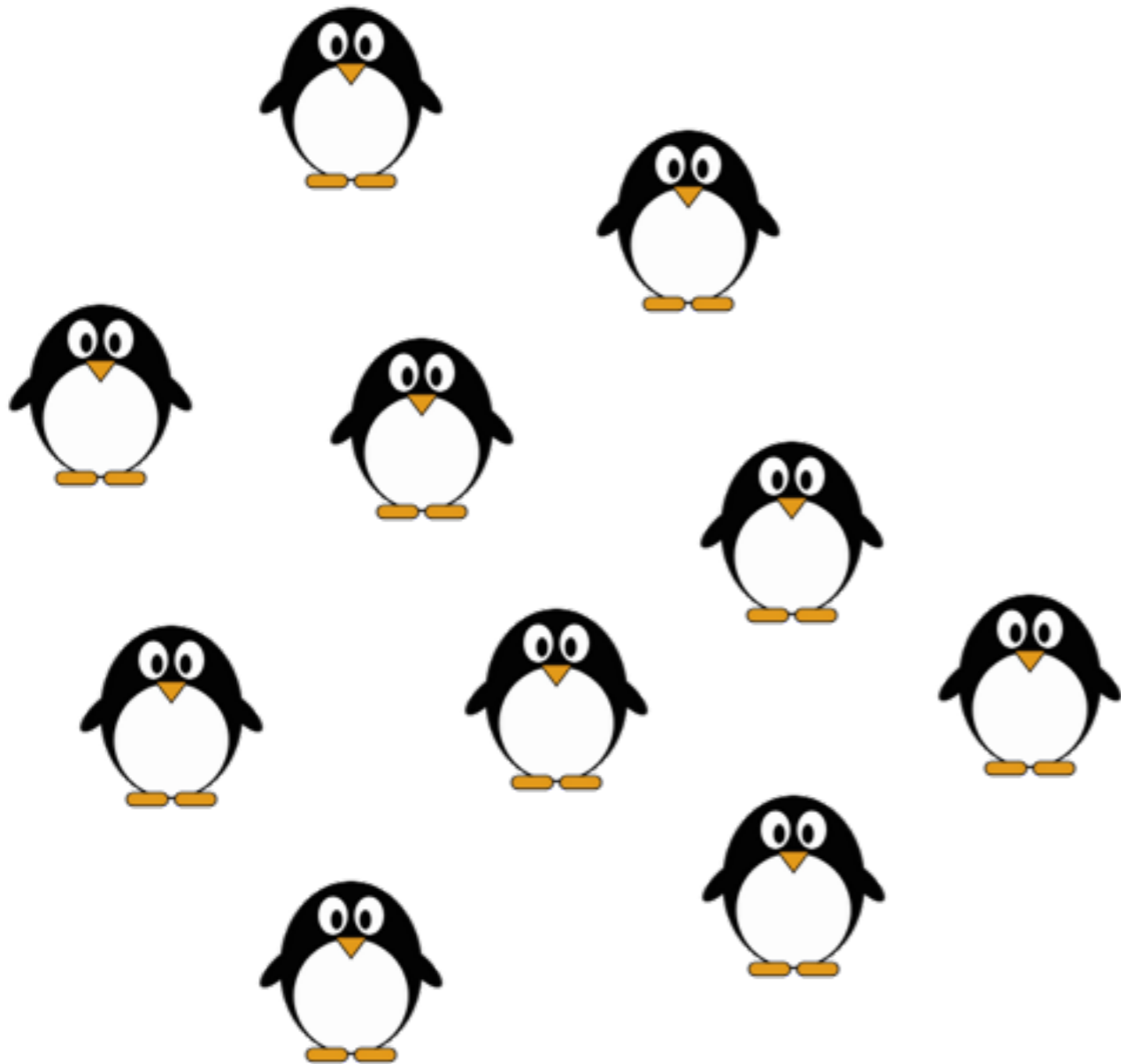
Agent : no id, small memory

# Population Protocol



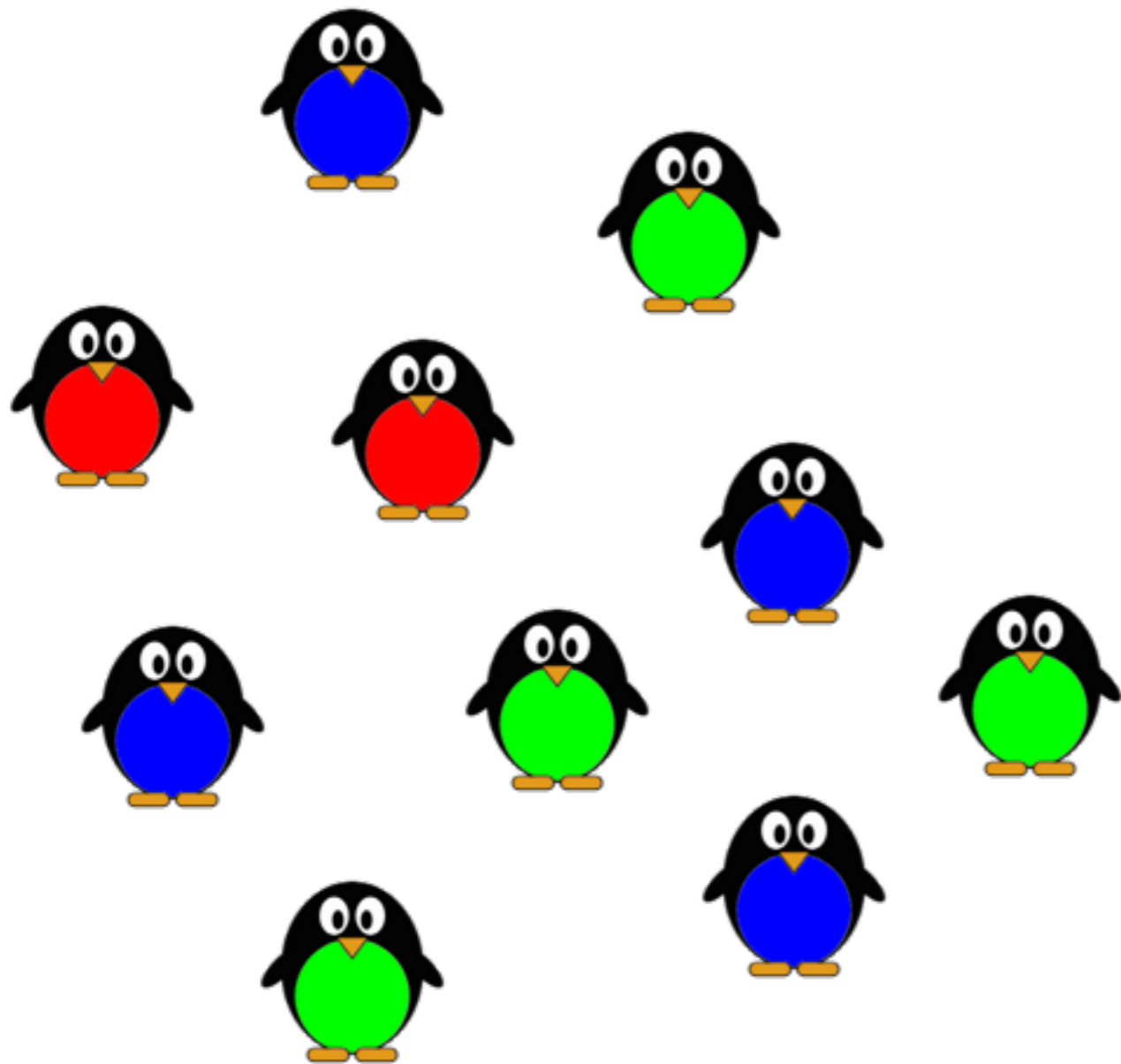
Population arbitrary size  $n$

# Population Protocol



Initially: sensors give data

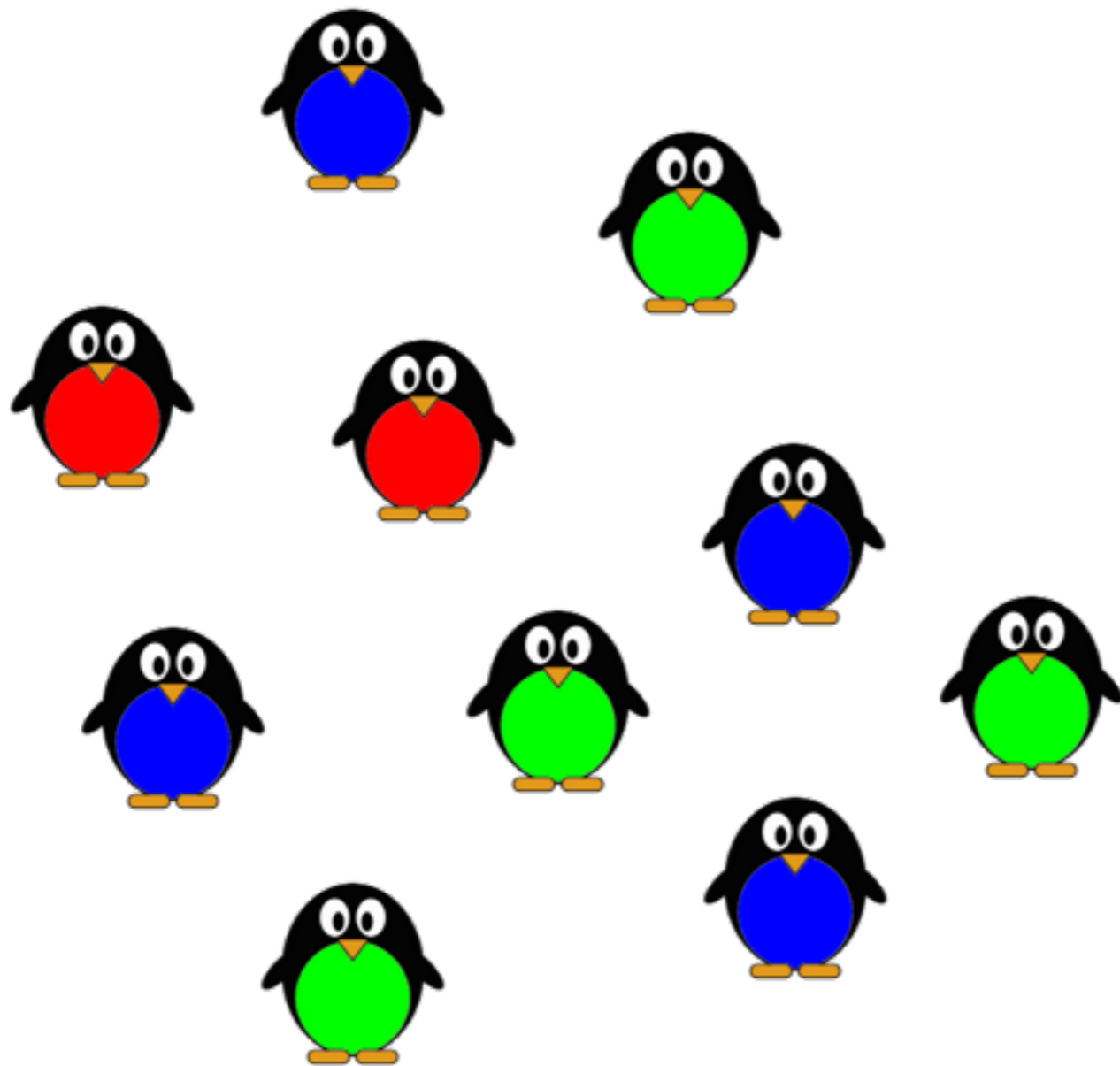
# Population Protocol



Initially: sensors give data

red green blue

# Population Protocol



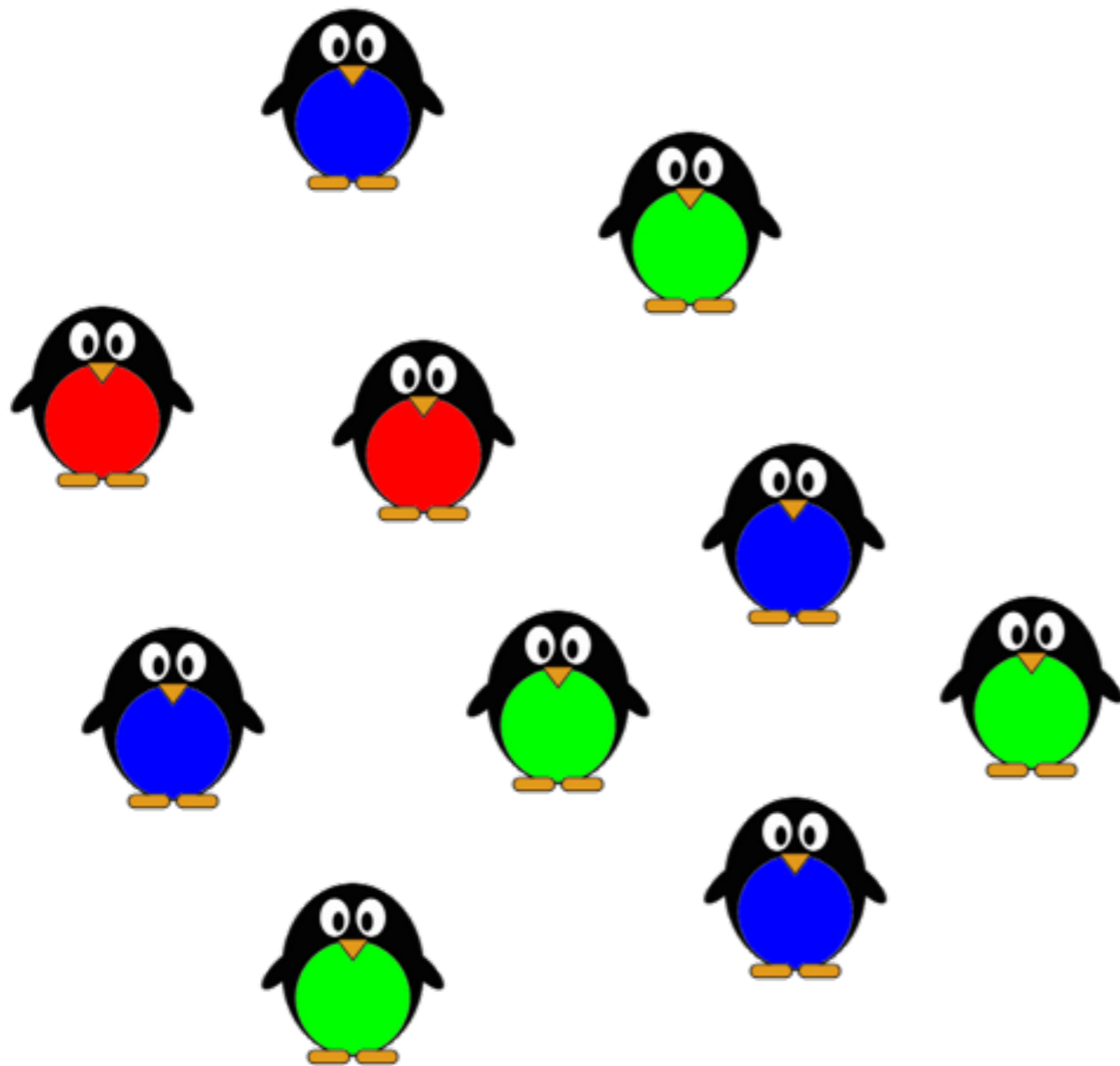
Initially: sensors give data

red green blue



initial states

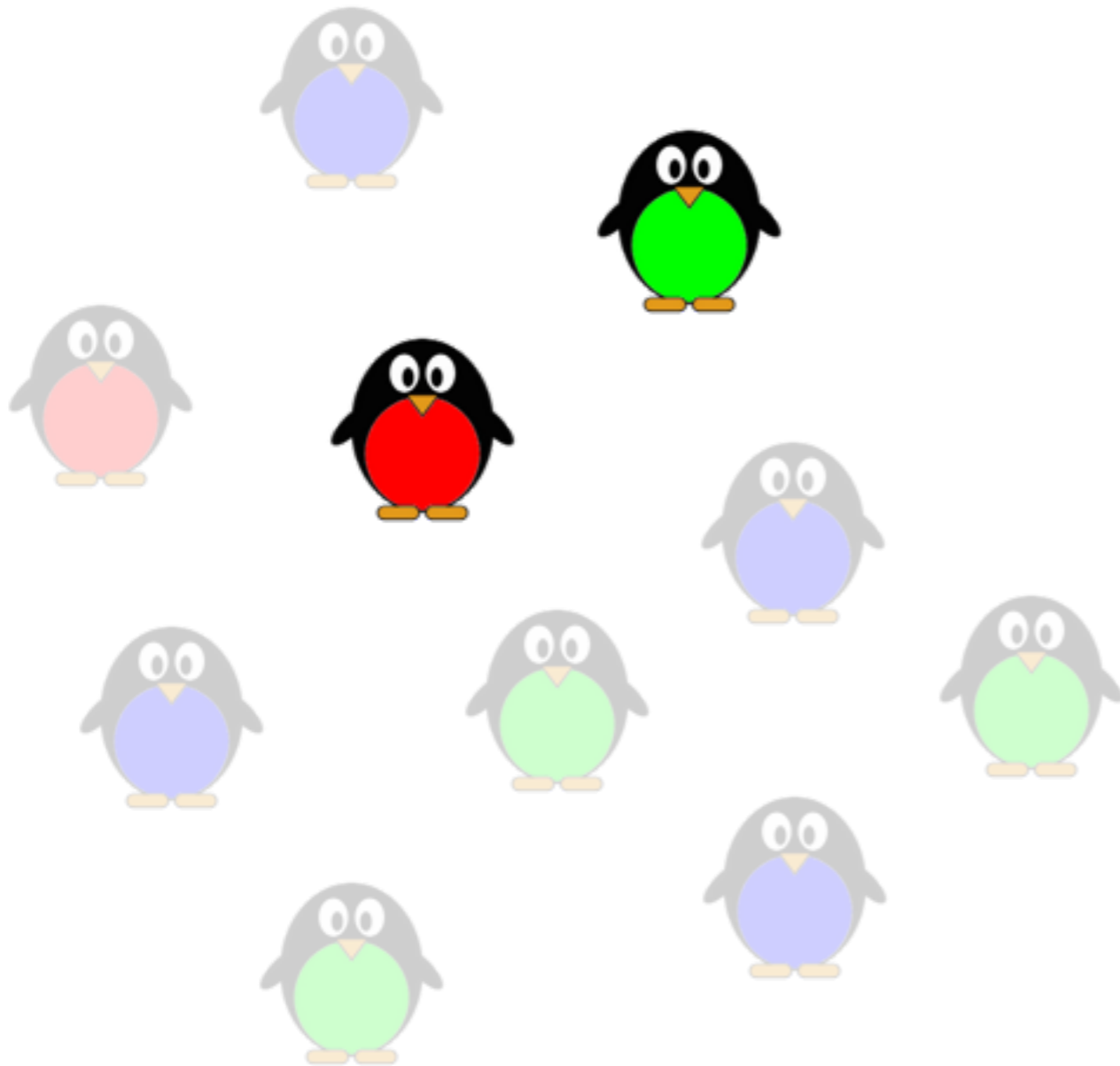
# Population Protocol



Agents move

# Population Protocol

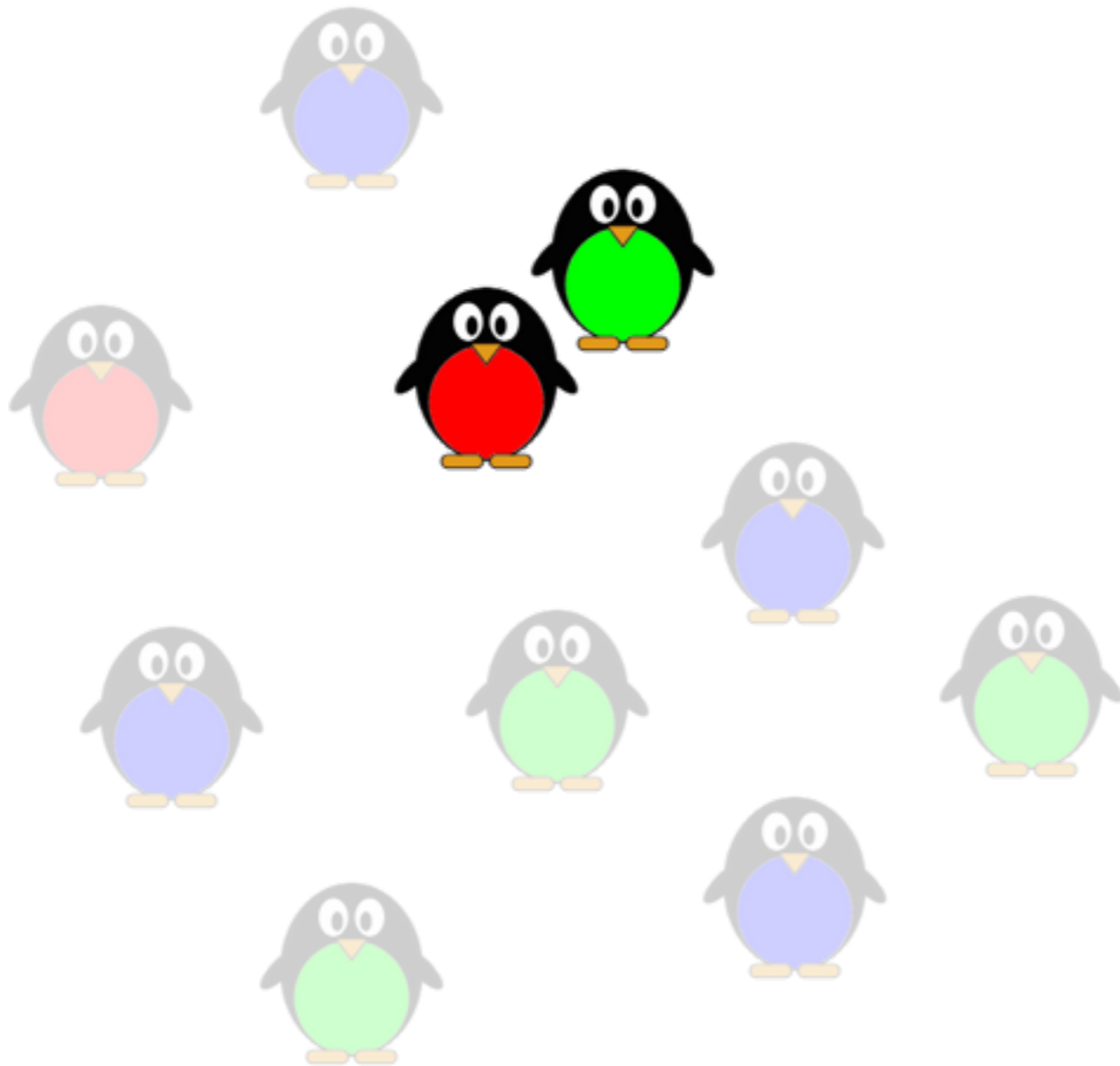
Agents move



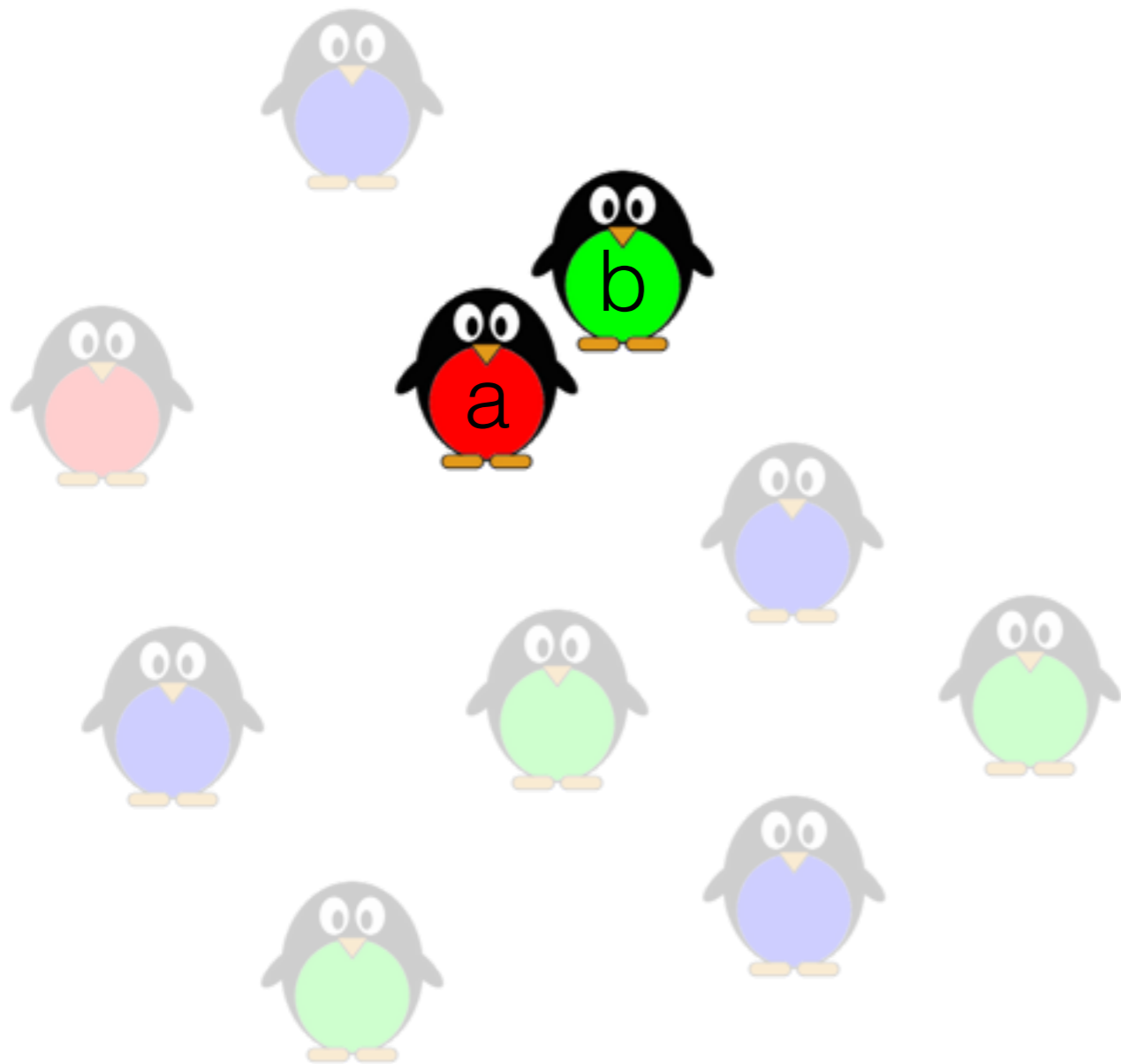


# Population Protocol

Agents move

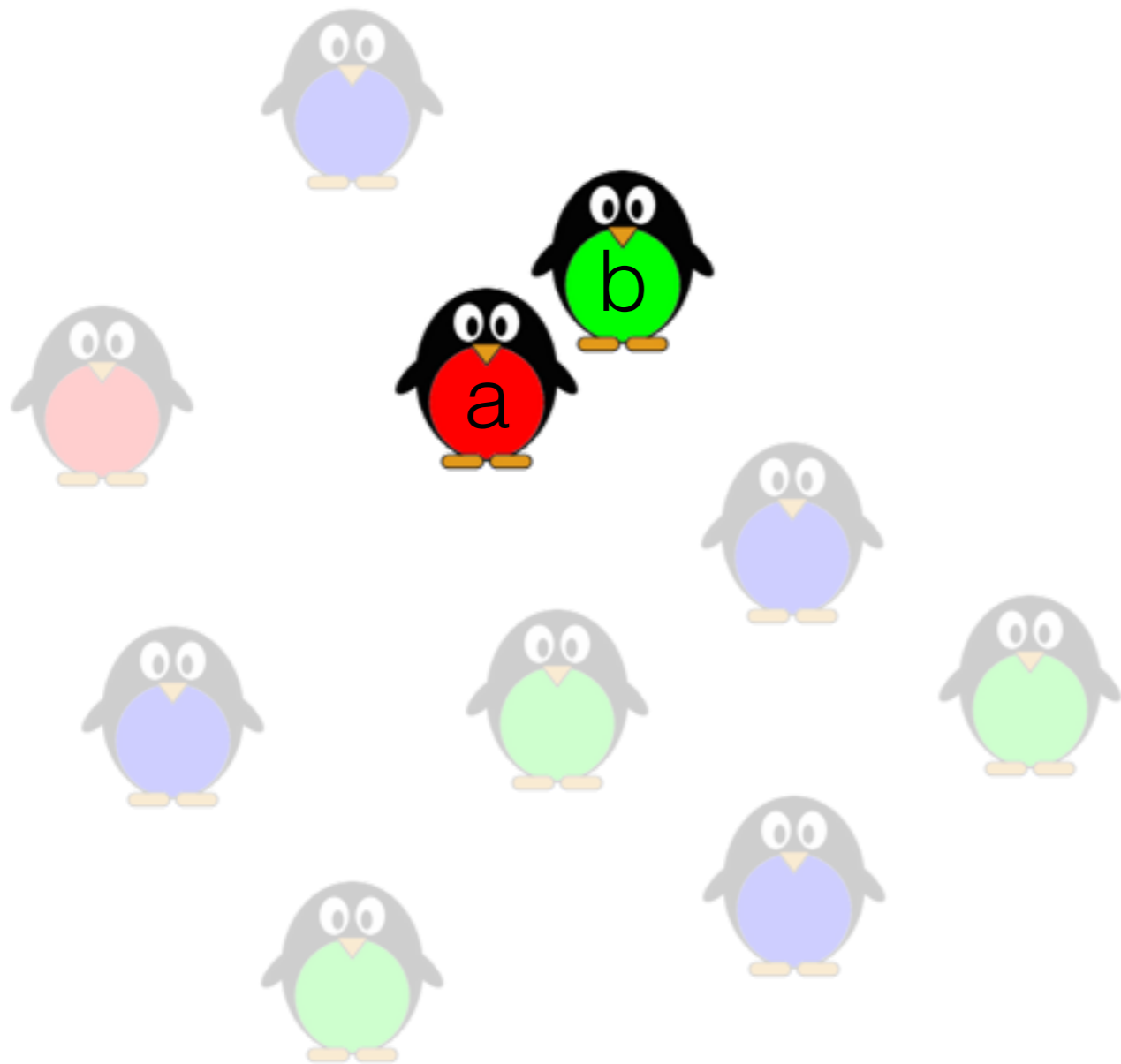


# Population Protocol



Agents move

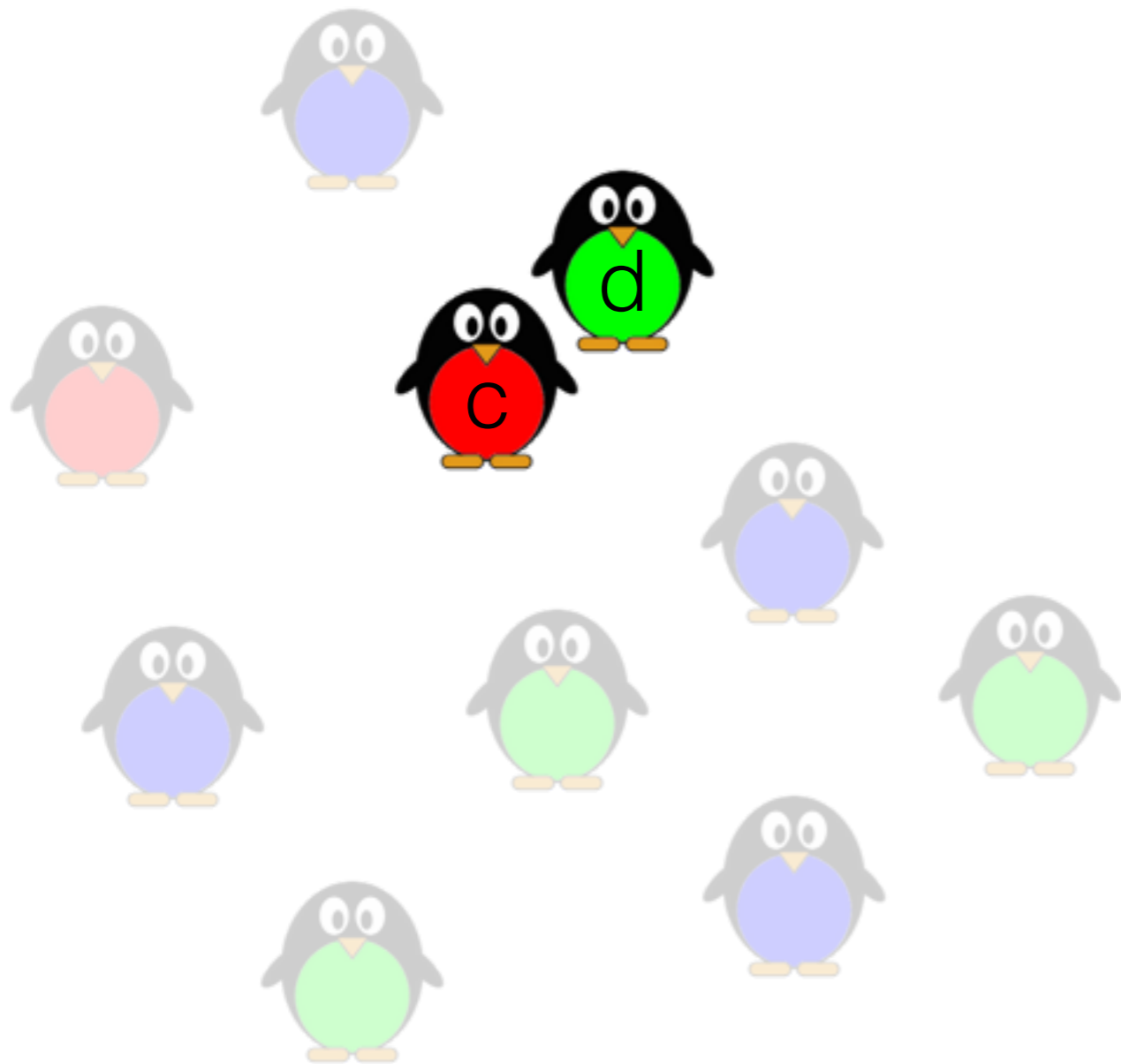
# Population Protocol



Protocol rule

$a, b \longrightarrow c, d$

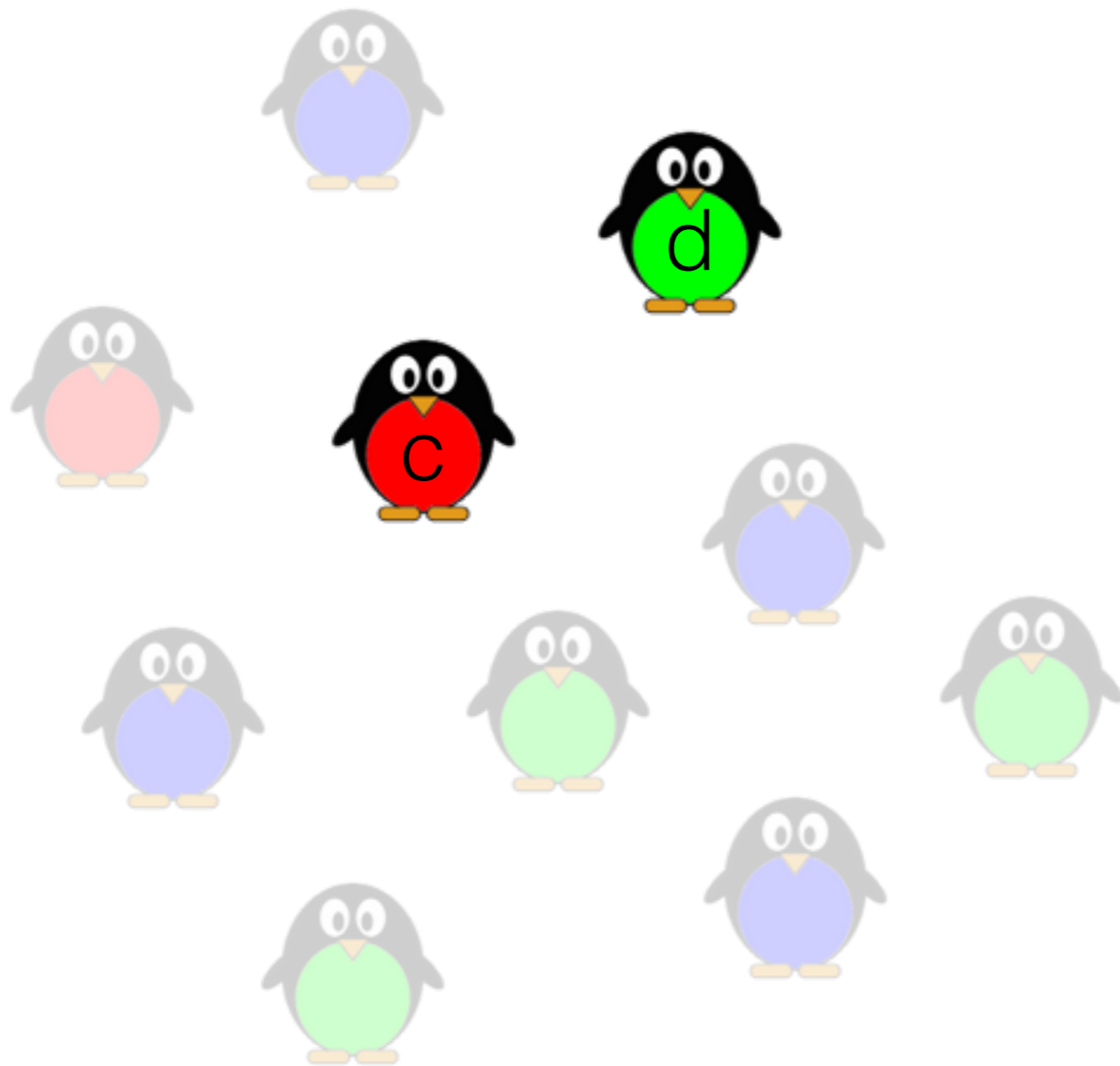
# Population Protocol



Protocol rule

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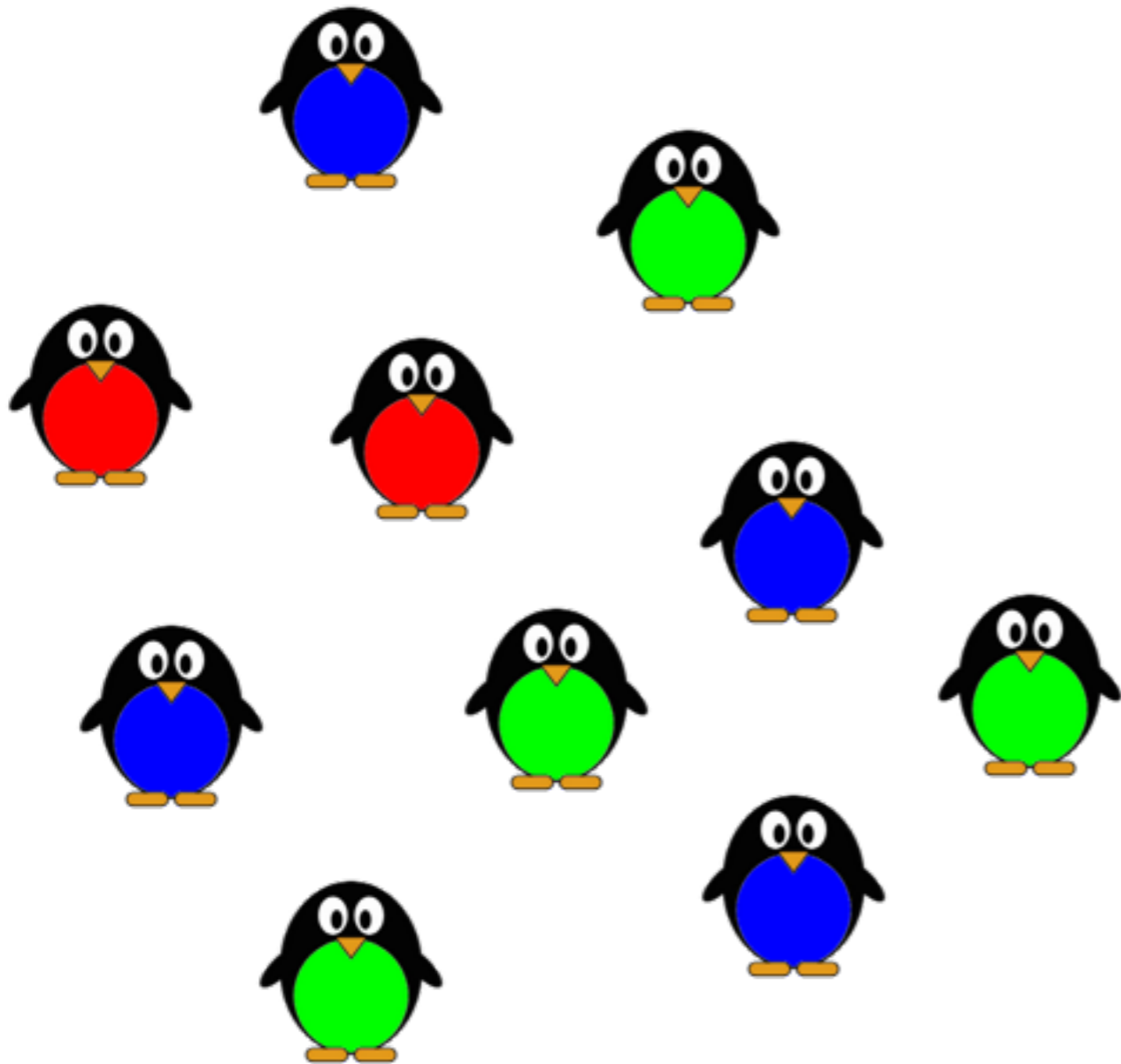
# Population Protocol



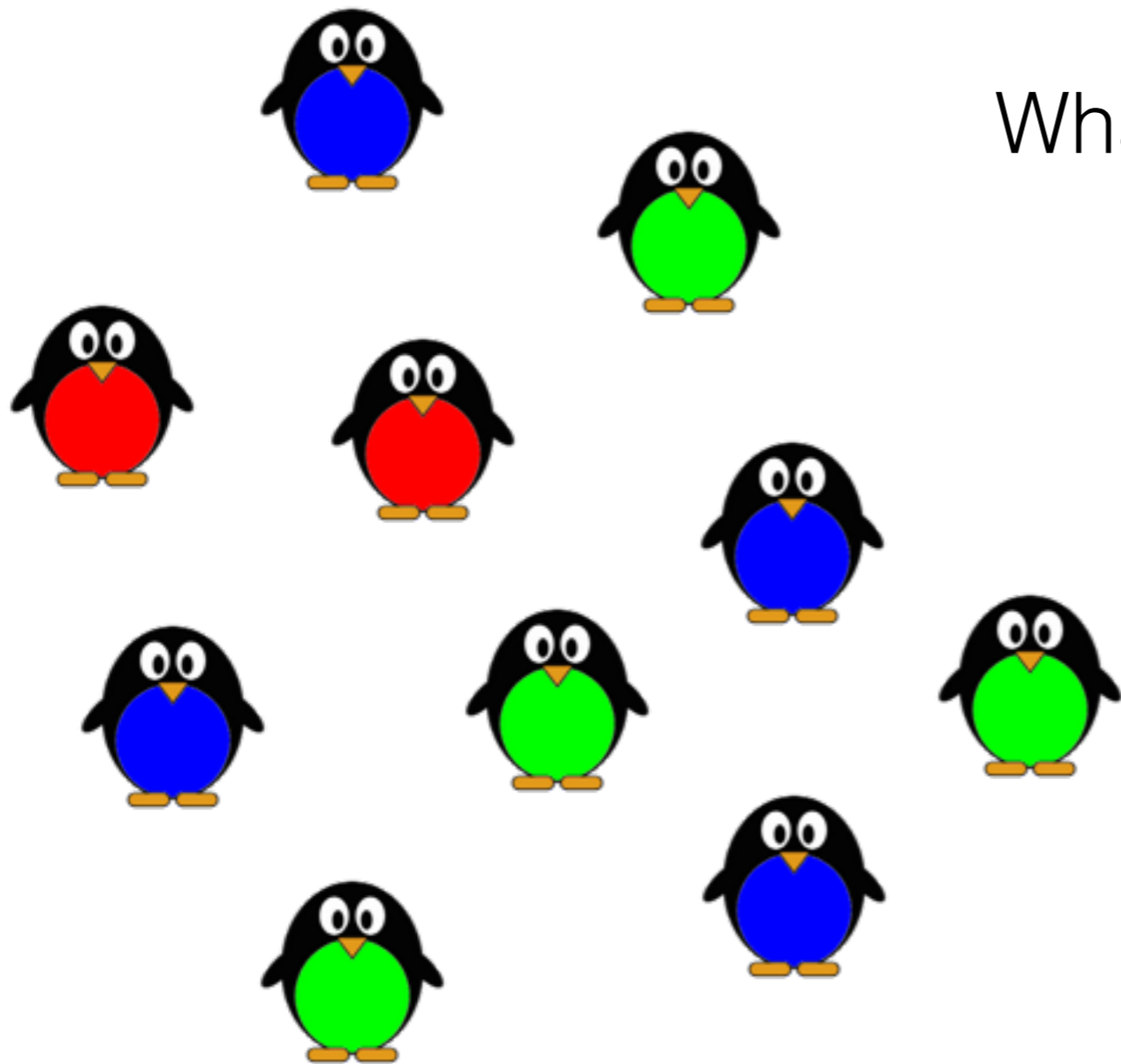
Protocol rule

$a, b \longrightarrow c, d$

# What is computable ?

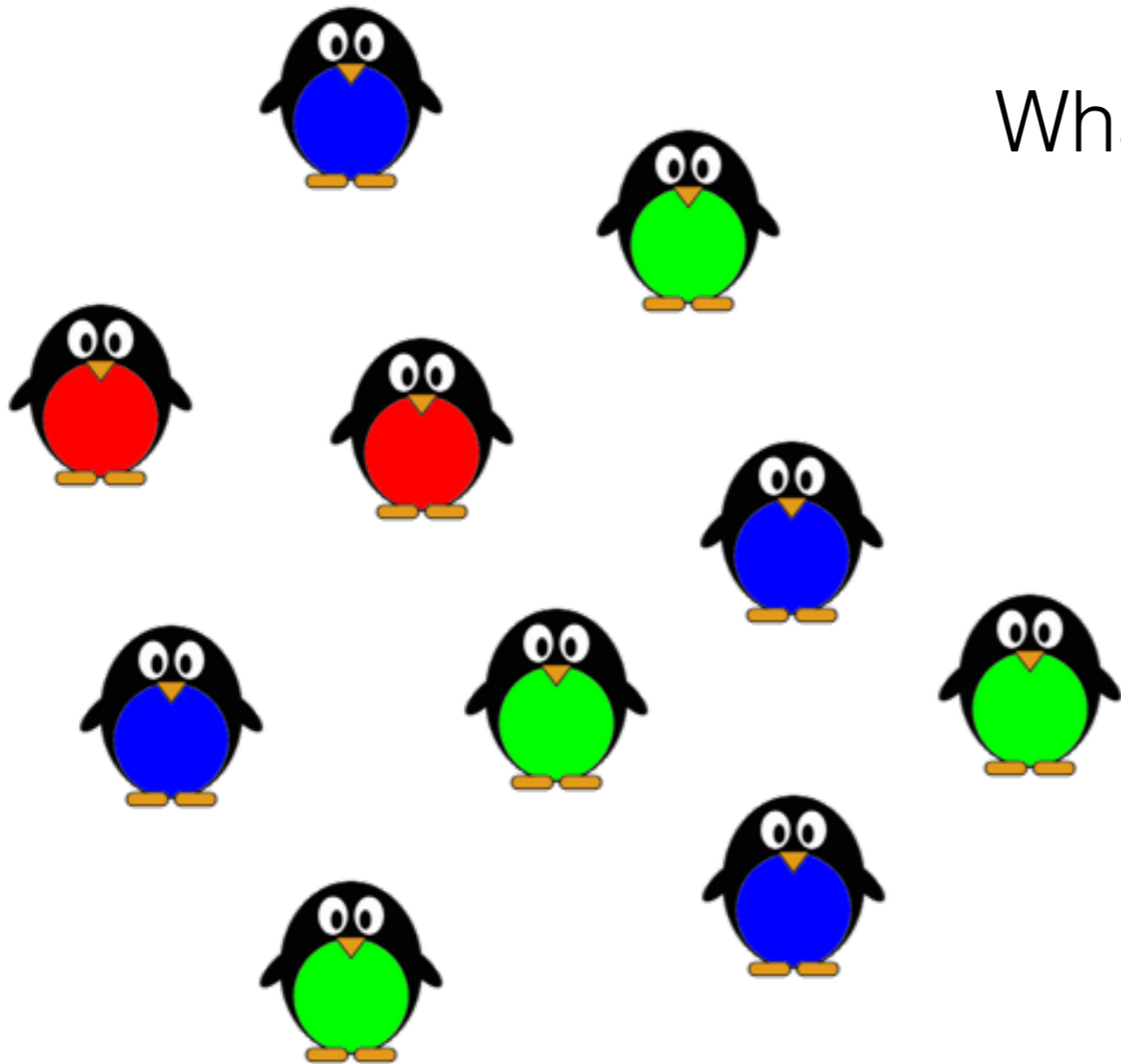


# What is computable ?



What can the agents know about the initial configuration ?

# What is computable ?



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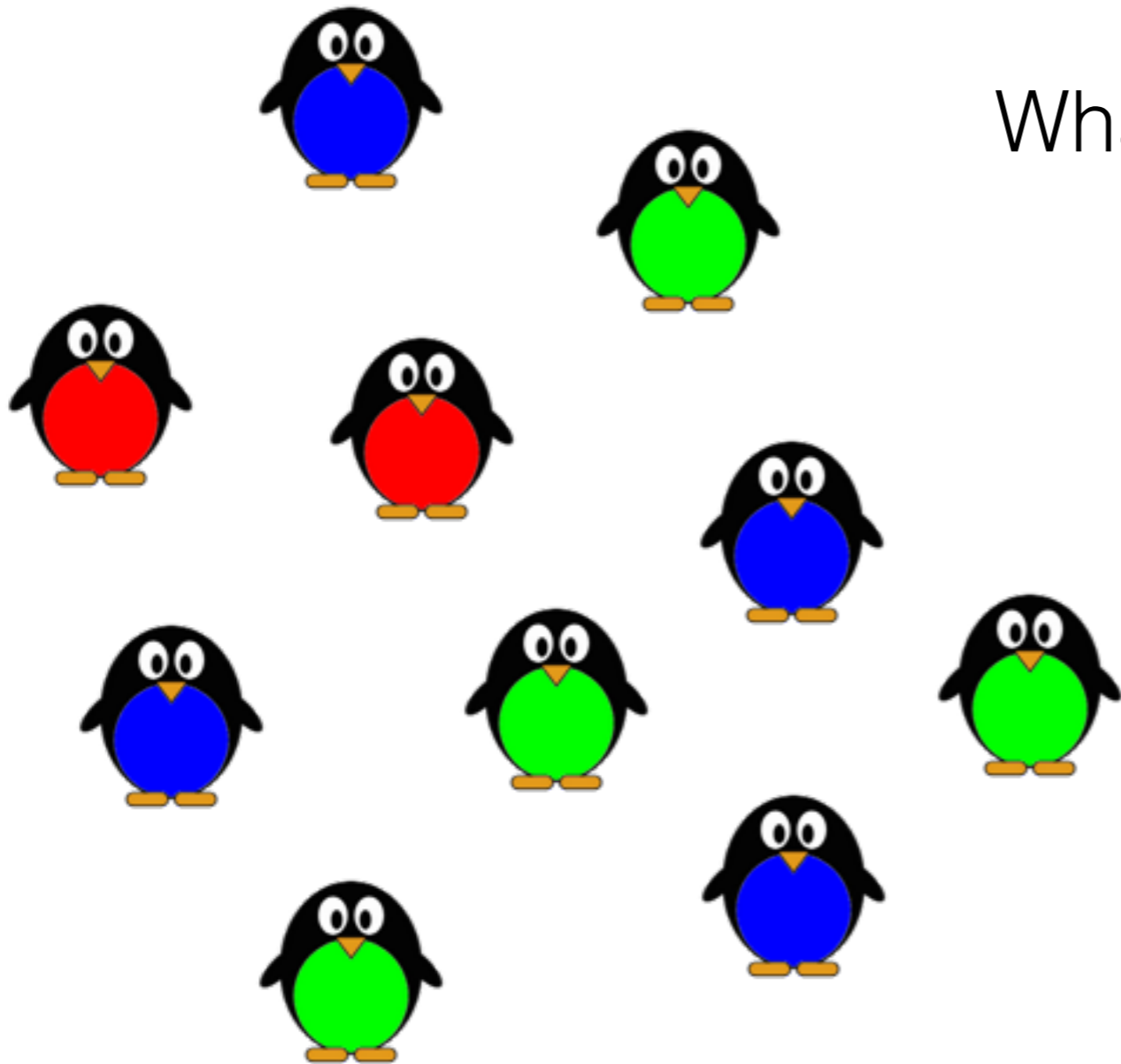
No id



Only numbers of "species"



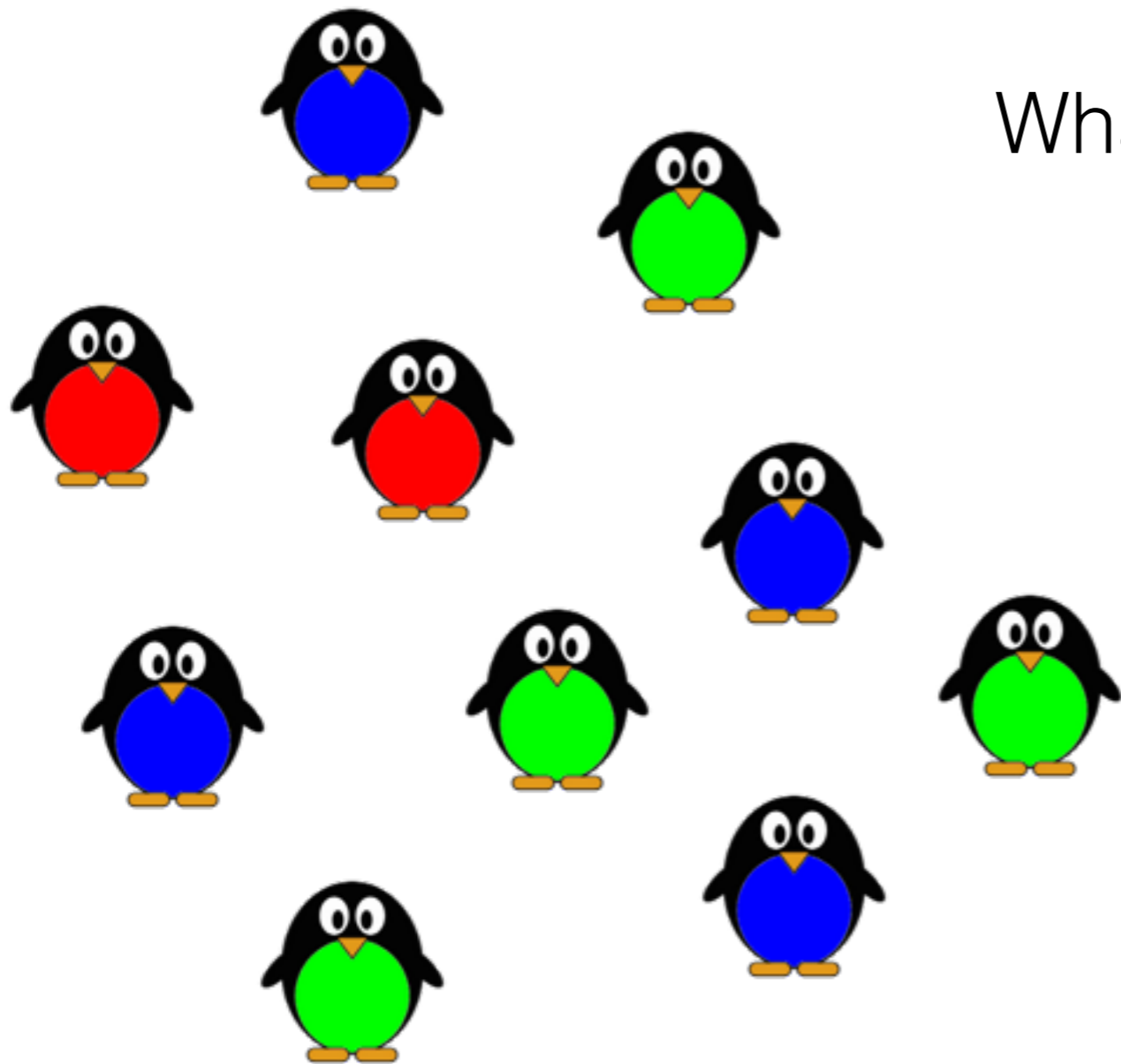
# What is computable ?



What can the agents know about the initial configuration ?

$$\#green \leq 4$$

# What is computable ?

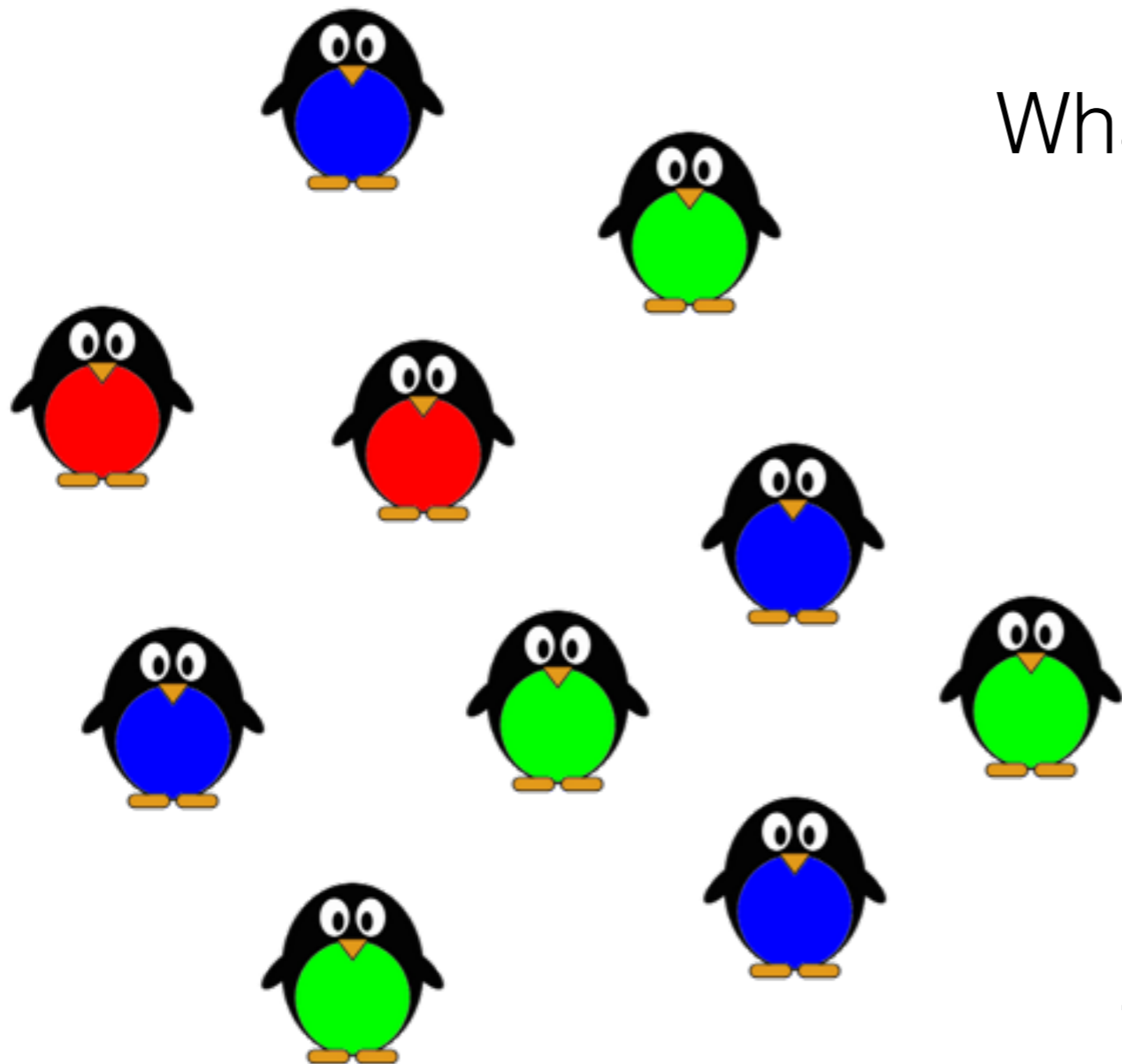


What can the agents know about the initial configuration ?

$$\#green \leq 4$$

$$\#green \leq \#blue$$

# What is computable ?



What can the agents know about the initial configuration ?

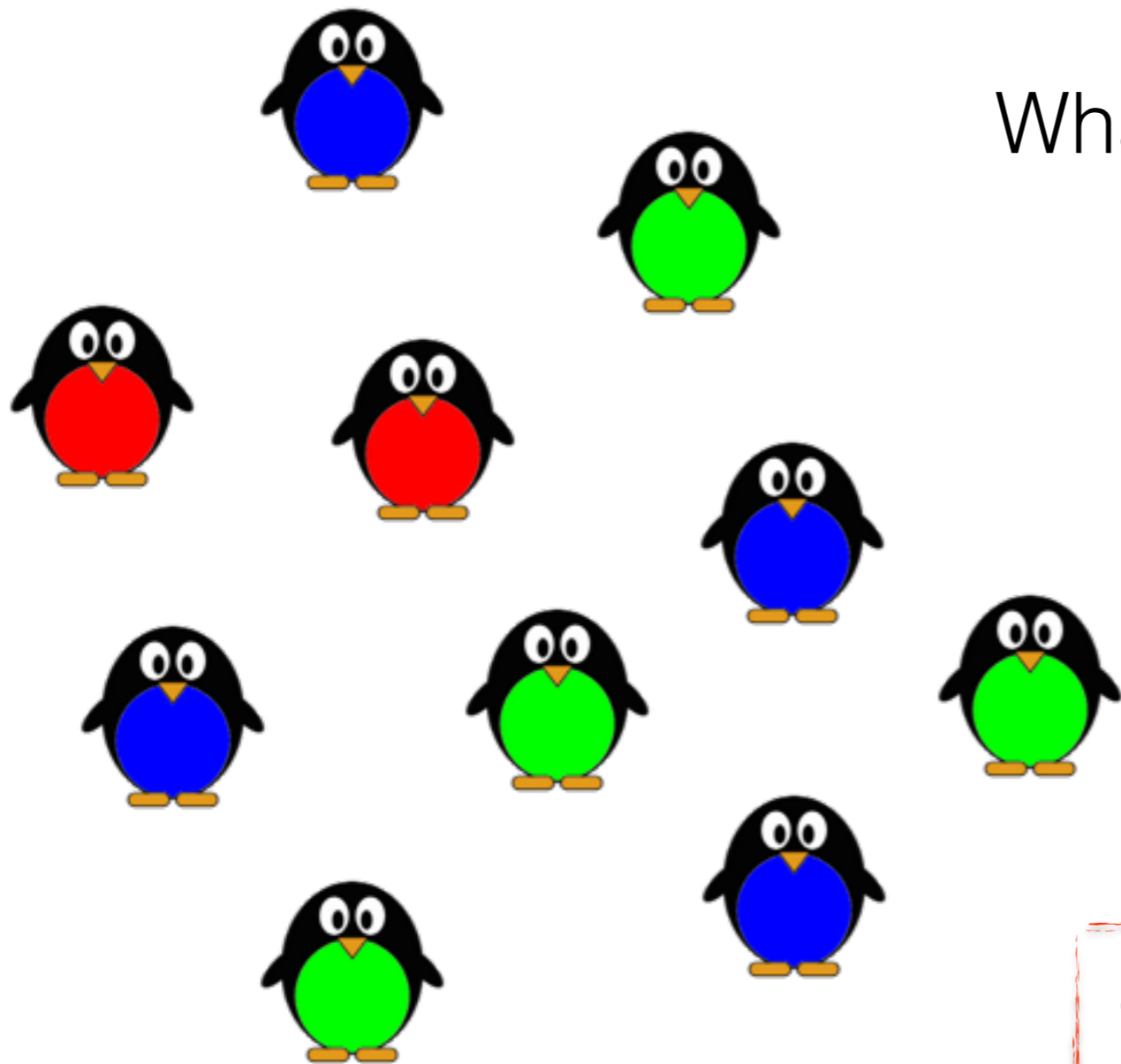
$$\#green \leq 4$$

$$\#green \leq \#blue$$

$$\#green \leq \#blue + 2\#red$$

$$\#green \leq \#blue \times \#red$$

# What is computable ?



What can the agents know about the initial configuration ?

$$\begin{aligned} \#green &\leq 4 && \text{OK} \\ \#green &\leq \#blue \\ \#green &\leq \#blue + 2\#red \end{aligned}$$

$$\#green \leq \#blue \times \#red \quad \text{not OK}$$

predicate  $P$  computable

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There exists a protocol  $A$  such that

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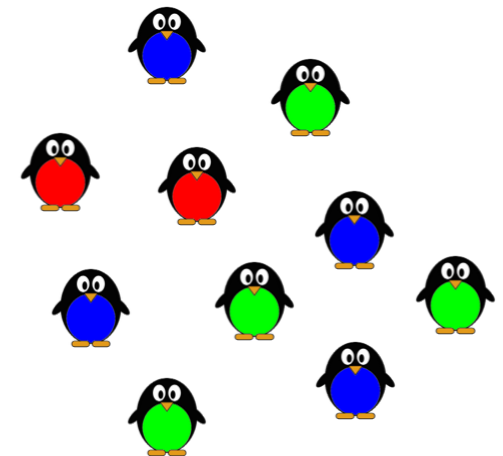
for any population size

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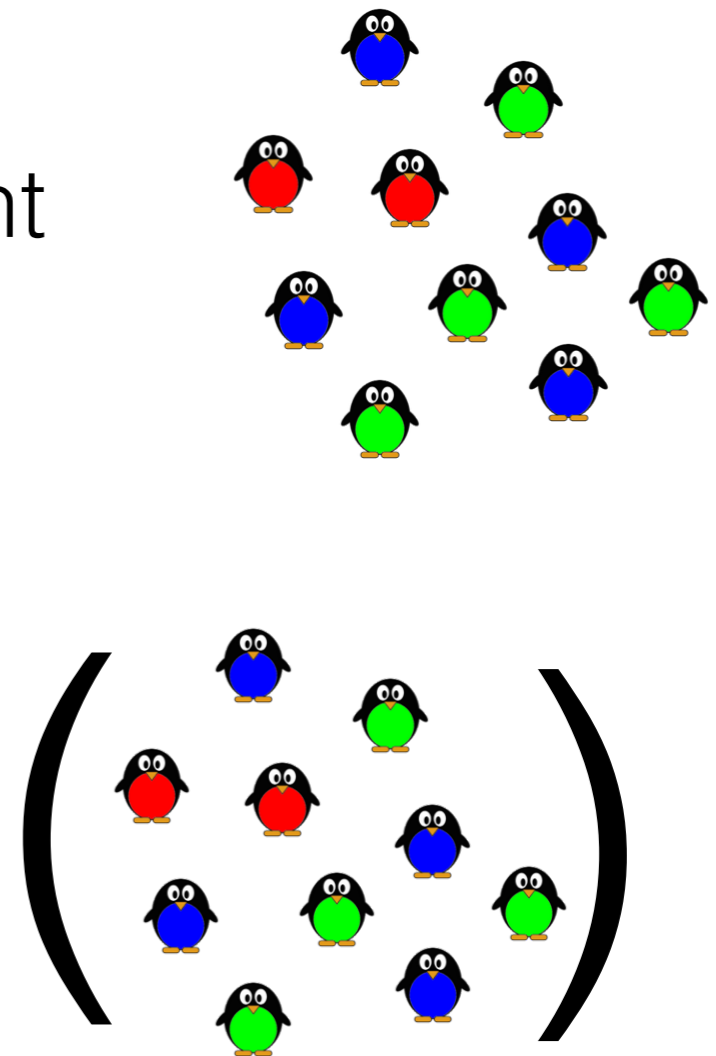
predicate  $P$  computable

There exists a protocol  $A$  such that

for any population size

for any input assignment

eventually **all** agents output  $P$



$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4 \quad (\text{naive})$$

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Assume a unique leader  
with counter, initially 0



$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4 \quad (\text{naive})$$

Assume a unique leader  
with counter, initially 0



,



counter -= 2

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4 \quad (\text{naive})$$

Assume a unique leader  
with counter, initially 0



,



counter -= 2



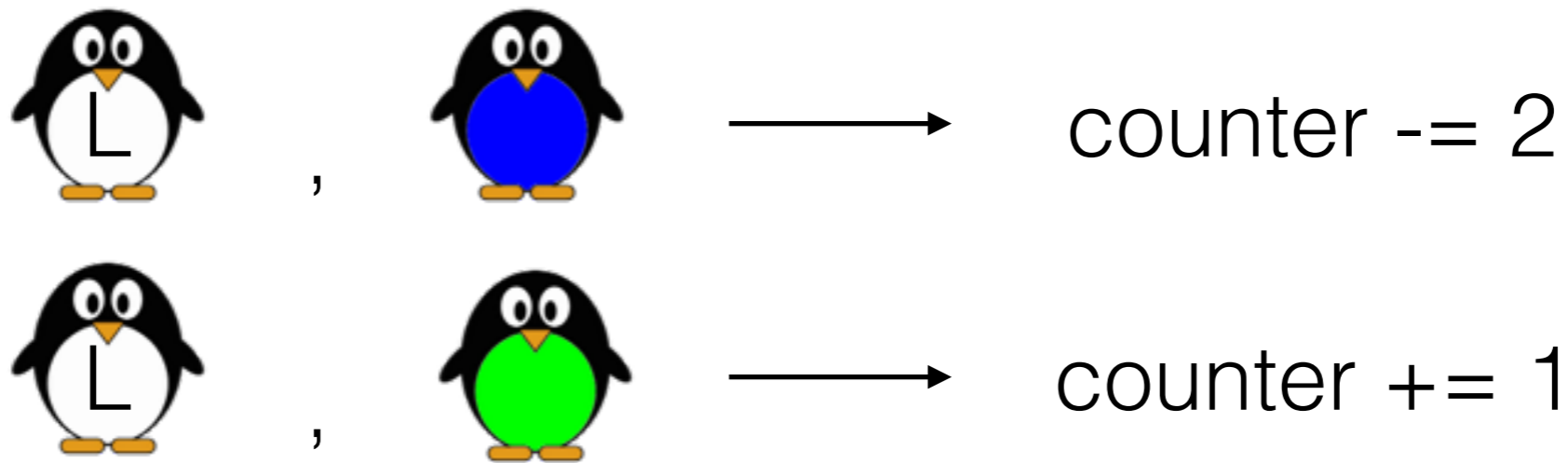
,



counter += 1

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4 \quad (\text{naive})$$

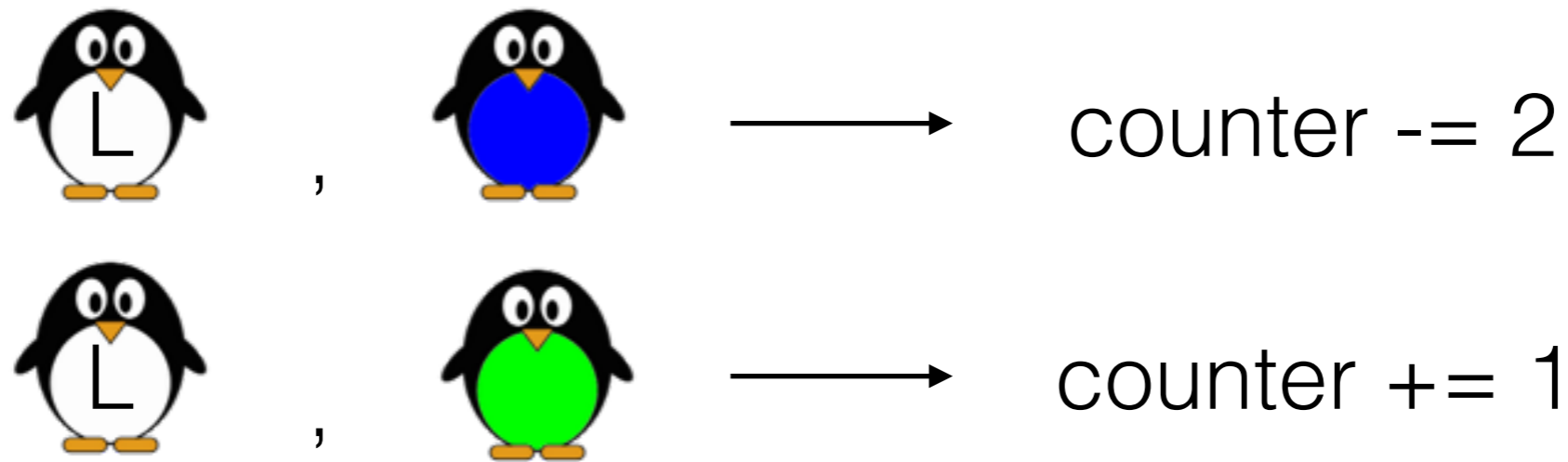
Assume a unique leader  
with counter, initially 0



and mark them as seen.

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4 \quad (\text{naive})$$

Assume a unique leader  
with counter, initially 0



and mark them as seen.

Leader output 1 iff counter  $\leq$  4  
other agents copy leader's output.

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4 \quad (\text{naive})$$

Assume a unique leader  
with counter, initially 0



## #1. How to elect a leader ?



counter -= 2



counter += 1

## #2. How to bound memory ?

and mark them as seen.

Leader output 1 iff counter  $\leq$  4  
other agents copy leader's output.

**BUT**



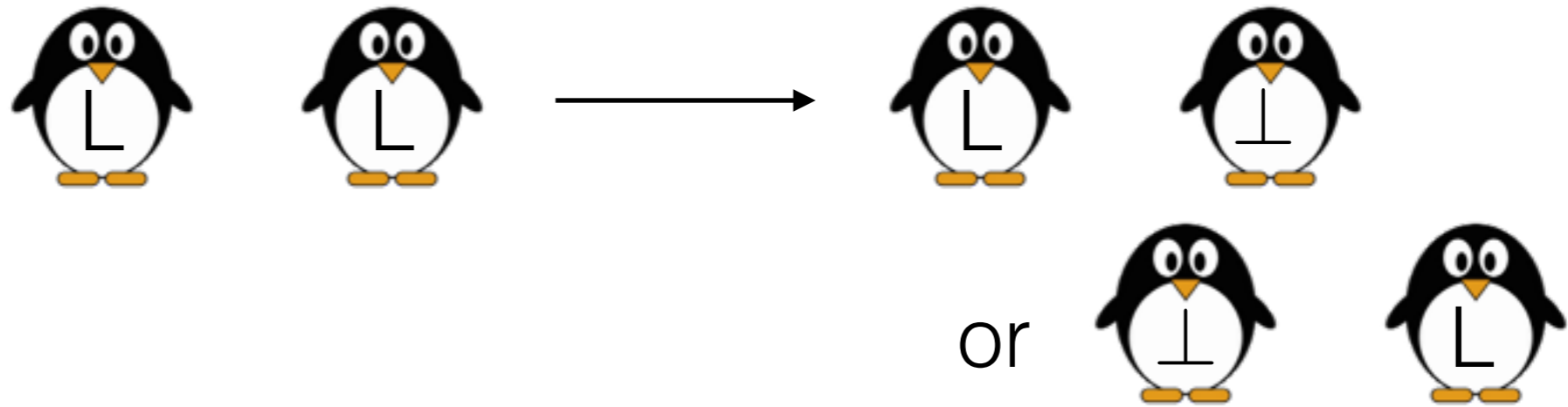
$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$

Leader election: each agent has a leader bit  
initially, all leaders



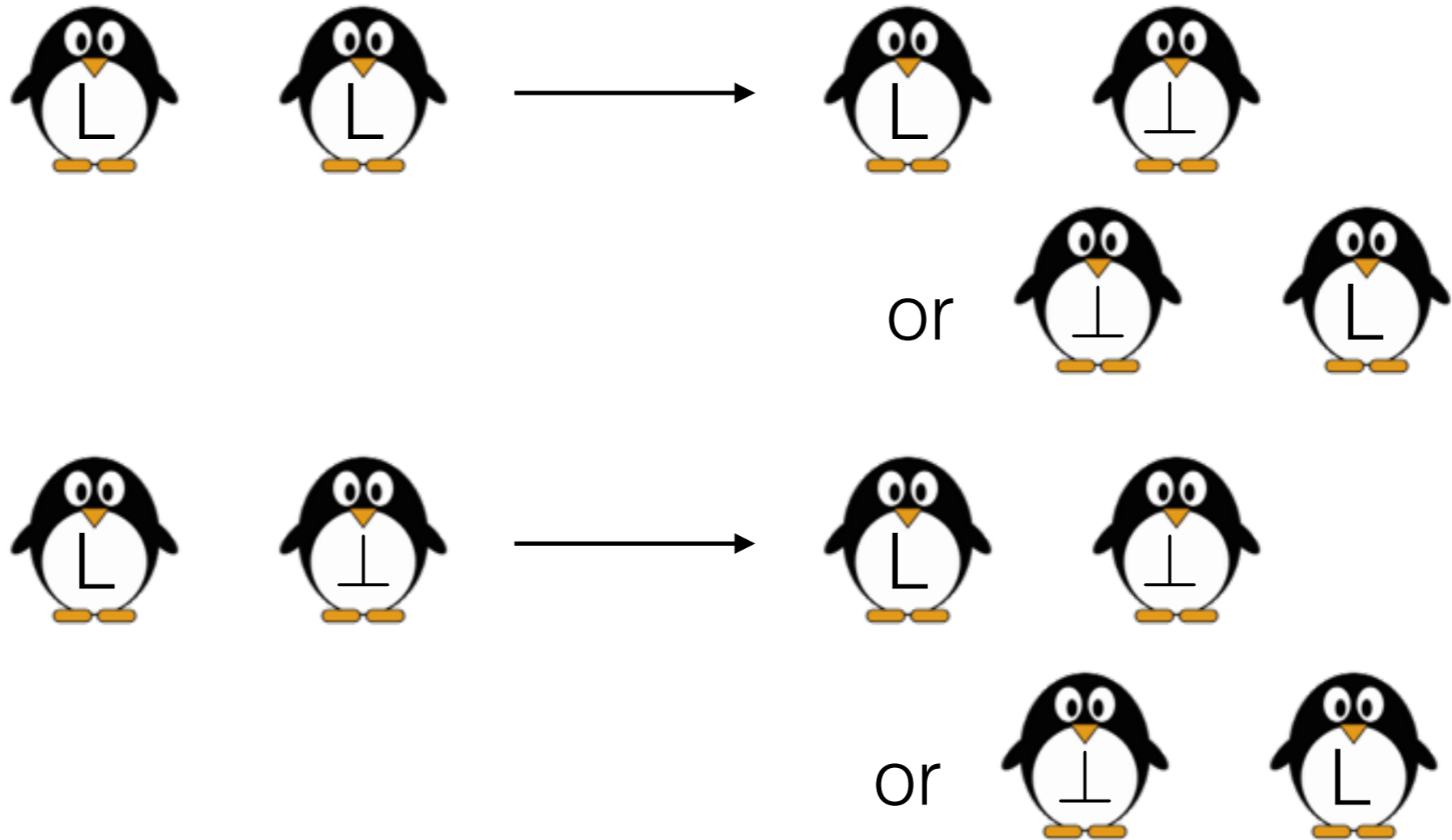
$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$

Leader election: each agent has a leader bit initially, all leaders



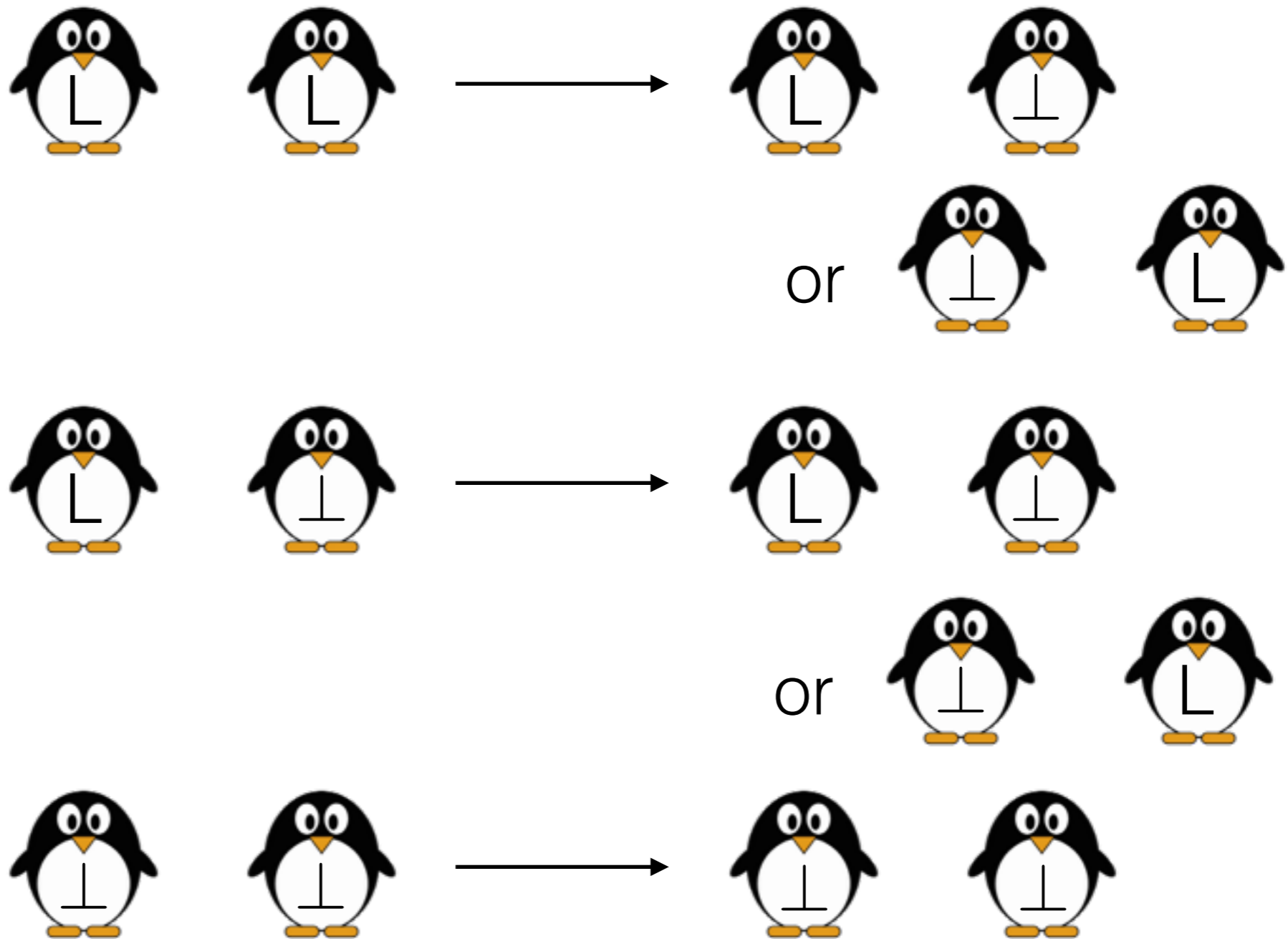
$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$

Leader election: each agent has a leader bit initially, all leaders



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$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$

Counter issue

Fix a large enough limit, e.g.  $s \geq 5$

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initially



$$u_{init} = -2$$



$$u_{init} = 1$$

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$



Counter issue

Fix a large enough limit, e.g.  $s \geq 5$

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initially   $u_{init} = -2$

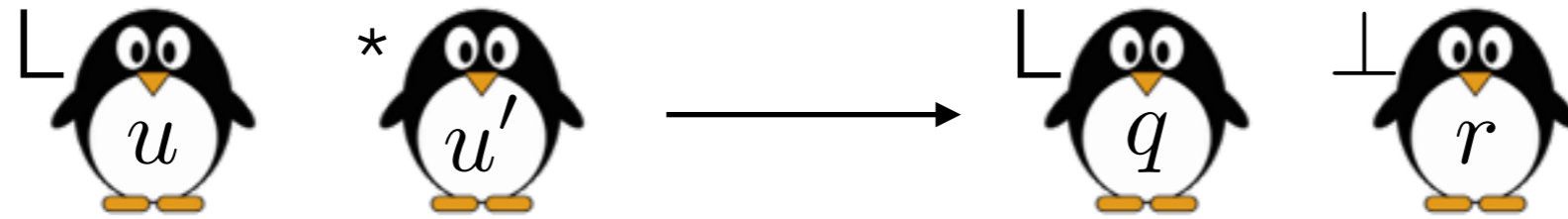
  $u_{init} = 1$

$$\sum_{\text{agents}} u = \# \text{  } - 2 \# \text{  }$$



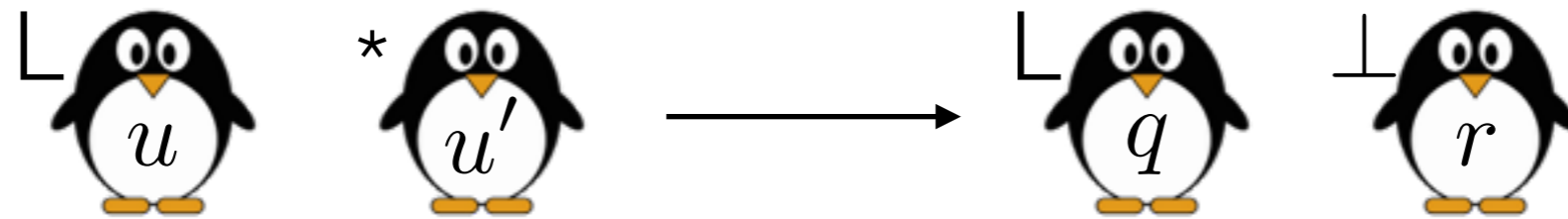
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Counter issue



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Counter issue

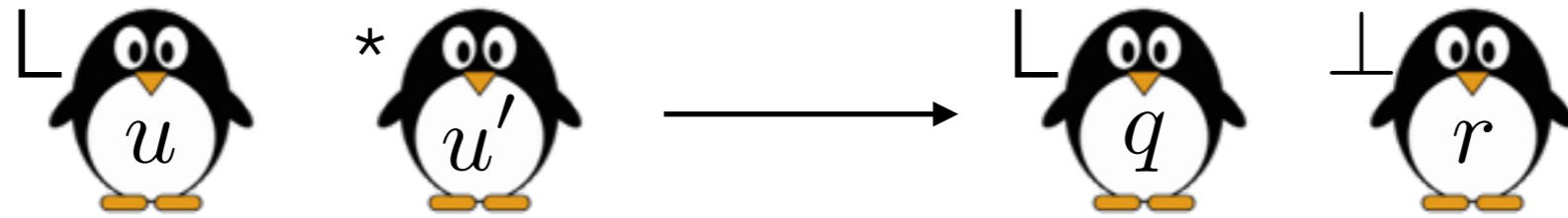


(naive)

$$q(u, u') = u + u'$$
$$r(u, u') = 0$$

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$

Counter issue



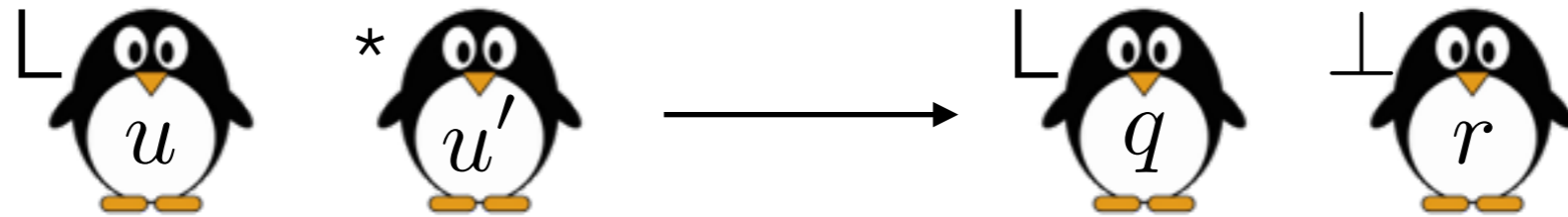
$$q(u, u') = \max\{-s, \min\{s, u + u'\}\}$$

$$r(u, u') = u + u' - q(u, u') \quad \text{remainder}$$

*truncated sum*

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$

Counter issue




$$q(u, u') = \max\{-s, \min\{s, u + u'\}\}$$

$$r(u, u') = u + u' - q(u, u') \quad \text{remainder}$$

*truncated sum*

Invariant

$$\sum_{\text{agents}} u =$$

$$\# \text{  - 2 \# \text{ $$

$$\#green - 2 \#blue \leq 4$$

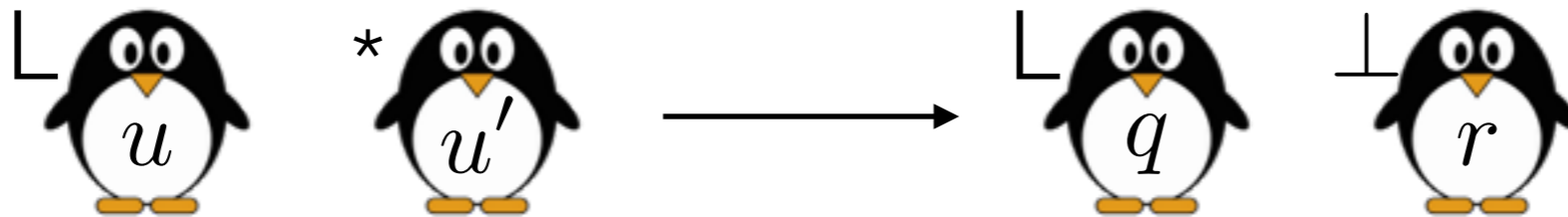
Putting things together



$$u_{init} = -2$$

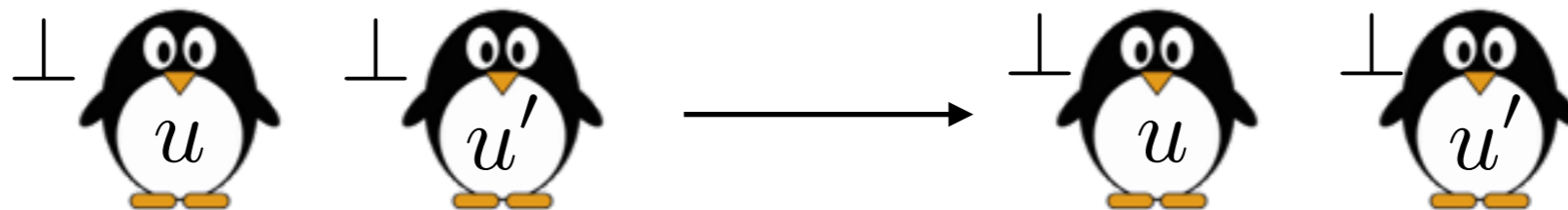


$$u_{init} = 1$$



$$q(u, u') = \max\{-s, \min\{s, u + u'\}\}$$

$$r(u, u') = u + u' - q(u, u')$$



non-leaders copy leader's output

# Proof strategy

A. Eventually a single leader

B. Eventually, the leader collects the value

$$\max\{-s, \min\{s, \# \text{ 🐧 } - 2 \# \text{ 🐧 } \}\}$$

C. Eventually, the agents produce correct outputs

# Proof strategy

A. Eventually <sup>OK</sup> a single leader

B. Eventually, the leader collects the value

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# Proof strategy

A. Eventually a single leader

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cf.  $\max\{-s, \min\{s, \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧}\}\}$

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# Proof strategy

C. Eventually, correct outputs

$$u_L = \max\{-s, \min\{s, \# \text{ 🐧 } - 2 \# \text{ 🐧 }\}\}$$

# Proof strategy

C. Eventually, correct outputs



$$u_L = \max\{-s, \min\{s, \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧}\}\}$$





$$\text{If } \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} \leq 4 \text{ then } u_L = \begin{cases} \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} \\ \text{or } -s \end{cases}$$





$$\text{If } \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} > 4 \text{ then } u_L = \begin{cases} \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} \\ \text{or } s \end{cases}$$

# Proof strategy

C. Eventually, correct outputs

$$u_L = \max\{-s, \min\{s, \# \text{  - 2 \# \text{  }\}\}$$

$$\text{If } \# \text{  - 2 \# \text{  } \leq 4 \text{ then } u_L = \begin{cases} \# \text{  - 2 \# \text{  \\ \text{or } -s \end{cases}$$

$$\text{If } \# \text{  - 2 \# \text{  } > 4 \text{ then } u_L = \begin{cases} \# \text{  - 2 \# \text{  \\ \text{or } s \end{cases}$$

Leader gets correct output

# Proof strategy

C. Eventually, correct outputs

$$u_L = \max\{-s, \min\{s, \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧}\}\}$$

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$$\text{If } \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} > 4 \text{ then } u_L = \begin{cases} \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} \\ \text{or } s \end{cases}$$

Leader gets correct output

Others get correct output on meeting the leader

# Proof strategy

C. Eventually, correct outputs

$$u_L = \max\{-s, \min\{s, \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧}\}\}$$

If  $\# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} \leq 4$  then  $u_L = \begin{cases} \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} \\ \text{or } -s \end{cases}$

If  $\# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} > 4$  then  $u_L = \begin{cases} \# \text{🐧} - 2 \# \text{🐧} \\ \text{or } s \end{cases}$

Leader gets correct output

Others get correct output on meeting the leader

$$a_1 \cdot \#\sigma_1 + \cdots + a_k \cdot \#\sigma_k < c$$

$$a_1 \cdot \#\sigma_1 + \cdots + a_k \cdot \#\sigma_k = c \pmod{m}$$

boolean combinations



Presburger arithmetics

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$$a_1 \cdot \#\sigma_1 + \cdots + a_k \cdot \#\sigma_k = c \pmod{m}$$

boolean combinations



Presburger arithmetics



(beware: integer coefficients)

What about multiplication ?

$$\# \text{ 🐧 } \cdot \# \text{ 🐧 } \leq 10$$





What about multiplication ?






~~#  · #  ≤ 10~~

*no!*



What about multiplication ?

~~#  · #  ≤ 10~~ *NO!*






Intuition

1 · #  ≤ 10	2 · #  ≤ 10
3 · #  ≤ 10	4 · #  ≤ 10
5 · #  ≤ 10	etc.

What about multiplication ?

~~#  · #  ≤ 10~~ *NO!*

Intuition

1 · #  ≤ 10      2 · #  ≤ 10  
3 · #  ≤ 10      4 · #  ≤ 10  
5 · #  ≤ 10      etc.

previous approach requires too much memory