



**EVEN FOR CHEATERS WHO  
LOOK AT THEIR CARDS**

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# Joint with

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4. Osaka Prefecture University.

# Hanabi: characteristics



- Collaborative
- Information-sharing



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This paper: *Even with one player and perfect information, the game is intractable.*

# Our model



- Single player
- Perfect information
- No hints
- Slightly different set of moves than Hanabi

# Our model



## Cards

- $v$ : number of values;
- $c$ : number of colors.



# Our model



- Given stream of  $N$  cards.  
(Identical cards might *repeat up to  $r$  times*)
- Moves:
  - Discard;
  - Play;
  - Store.
- Decide whether stacks  $1 \dots v$  can be formed for all  $c$  *colors* (given that at any time we can be *storing up to  $h$  cards*).



$$N = 12$$

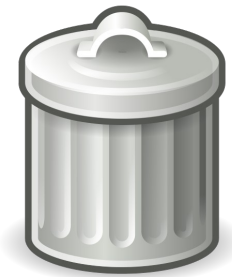
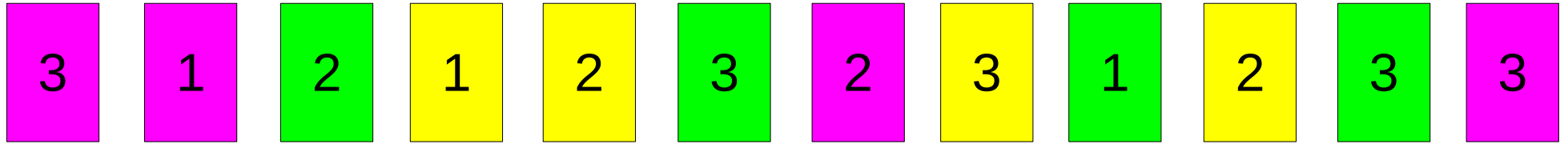
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# Example



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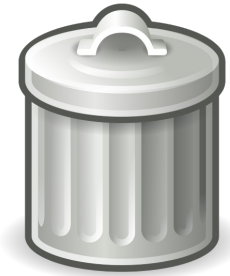
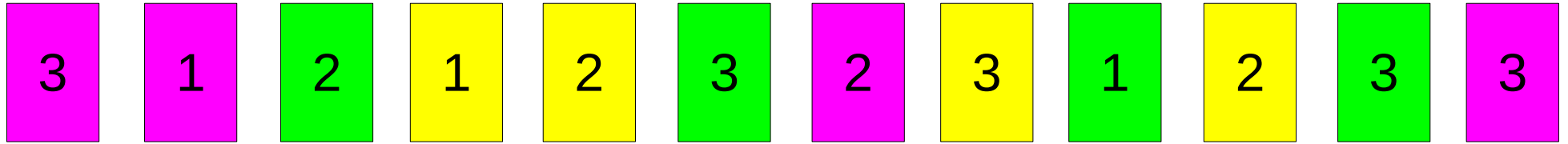
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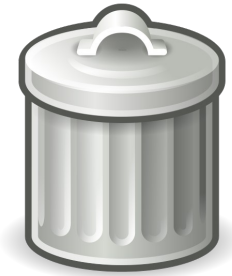
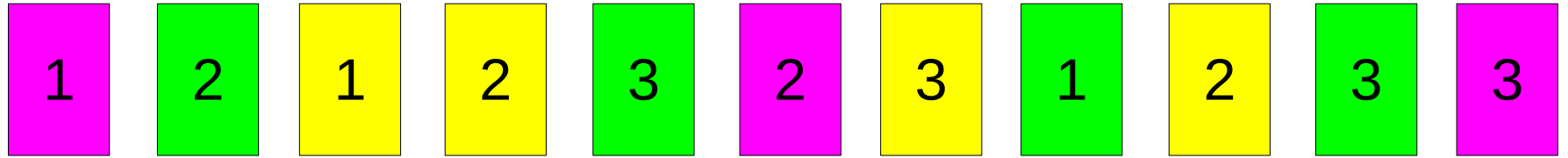
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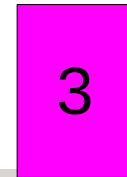
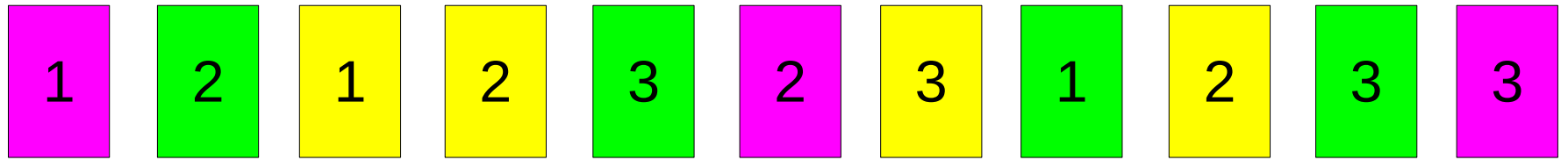
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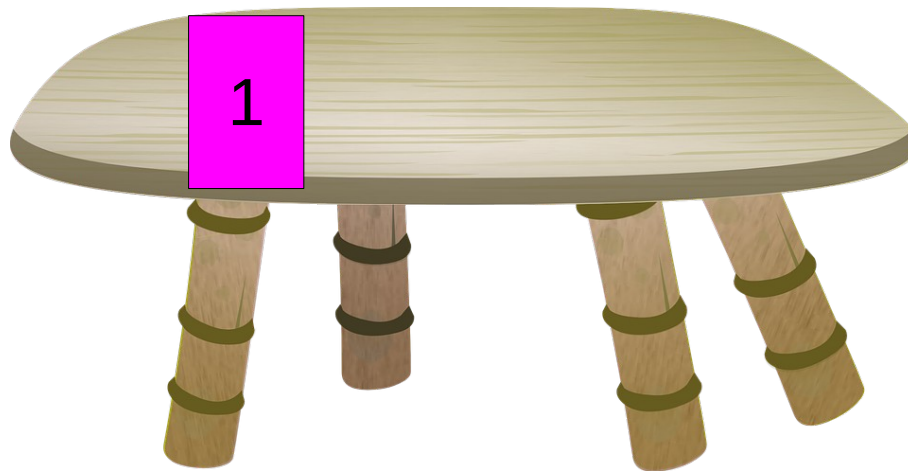
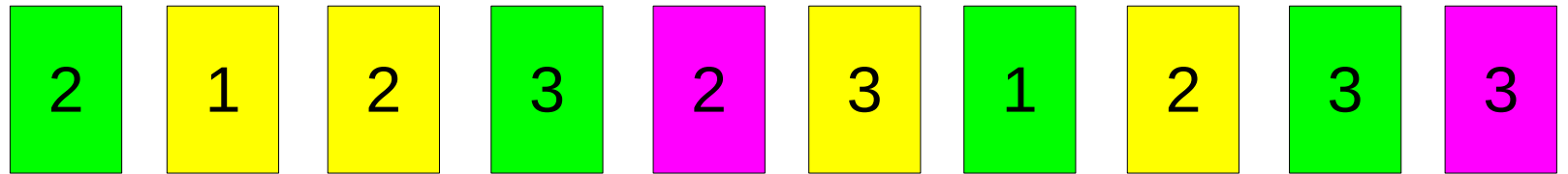
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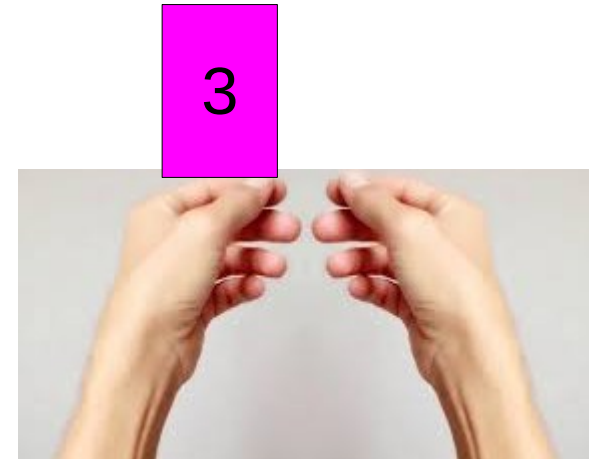
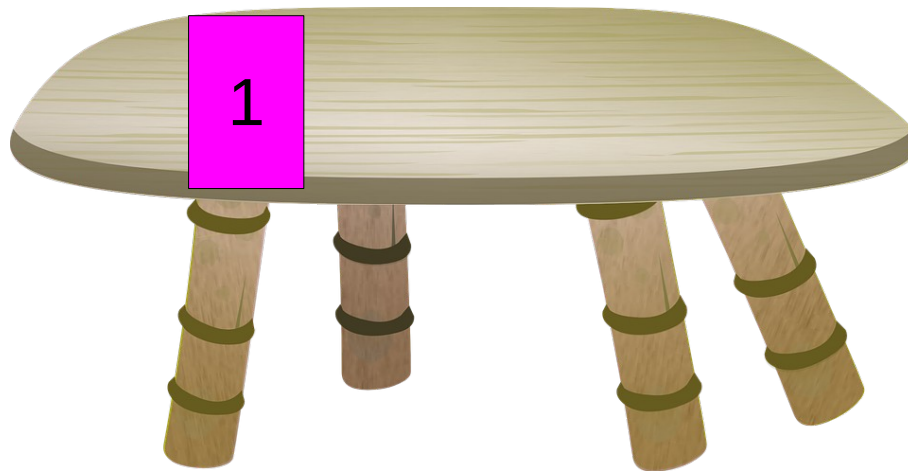
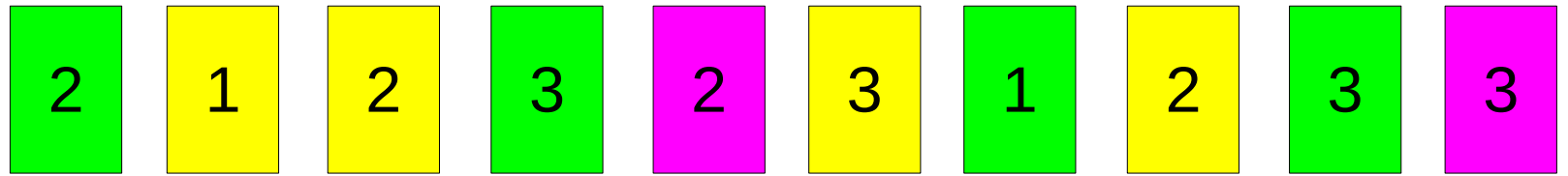
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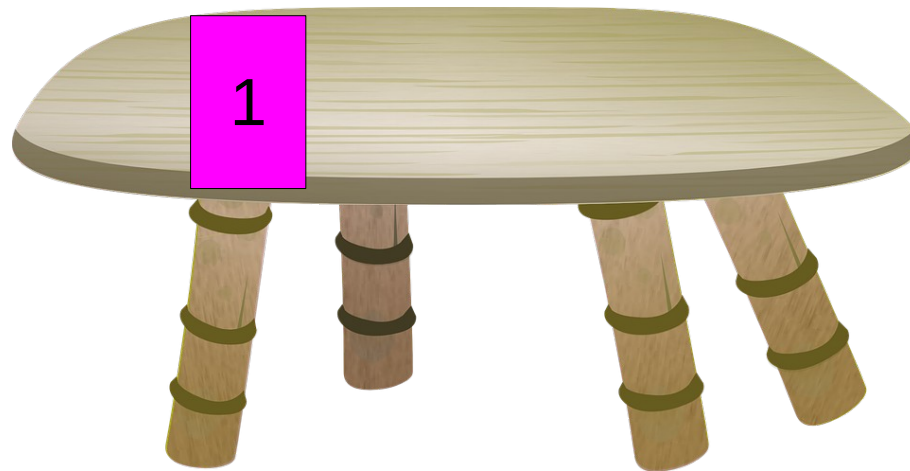
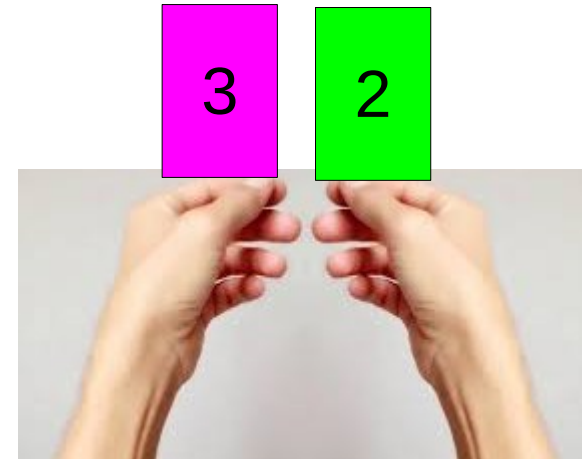
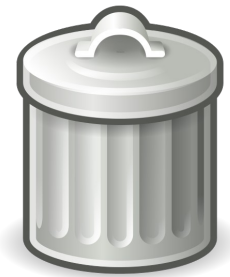
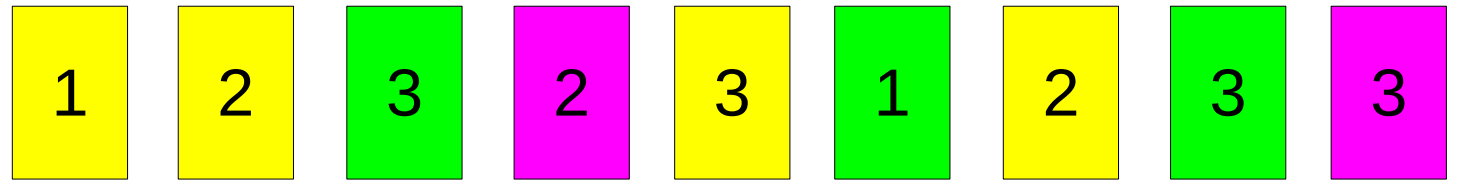
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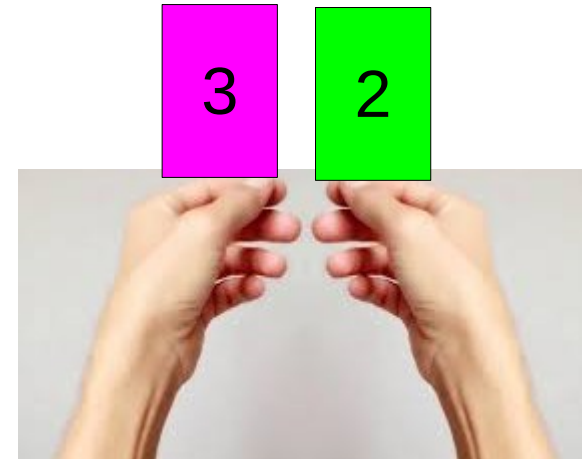
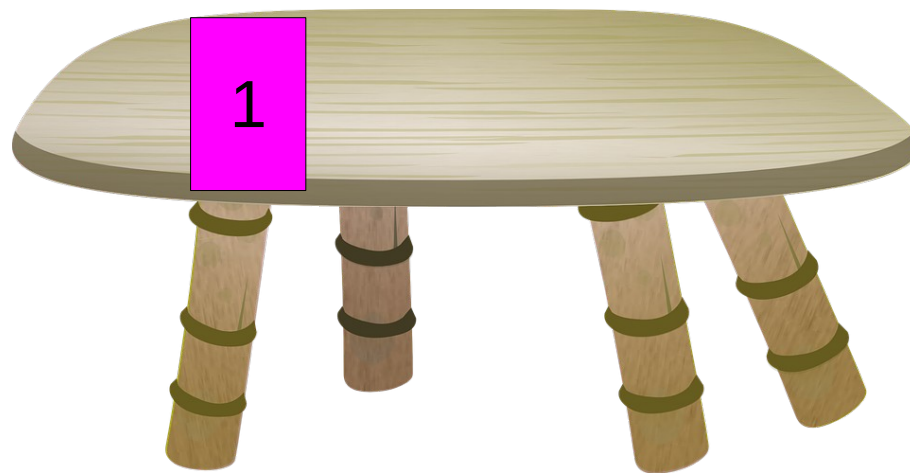
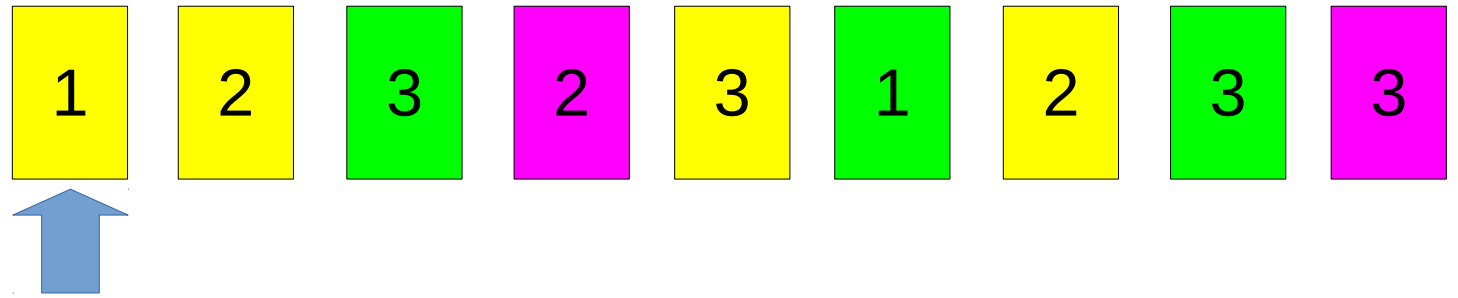
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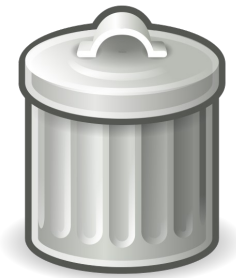
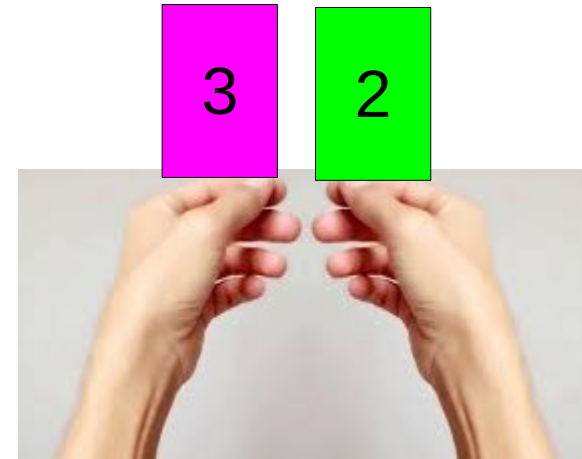
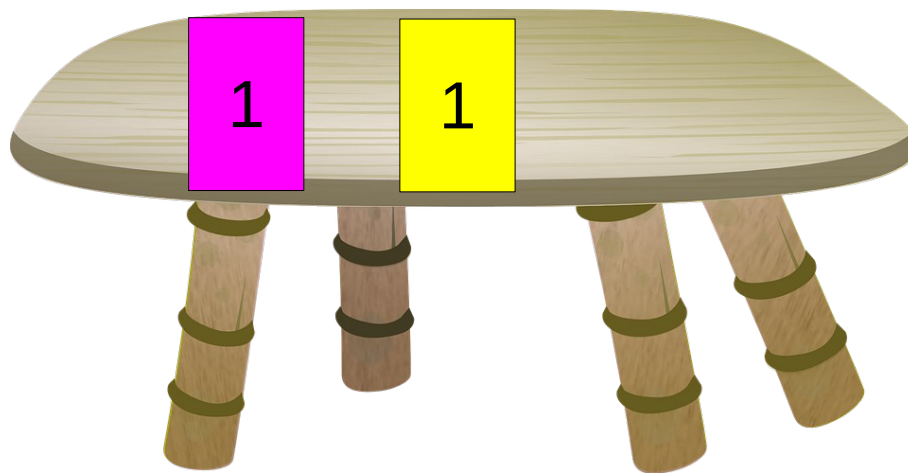
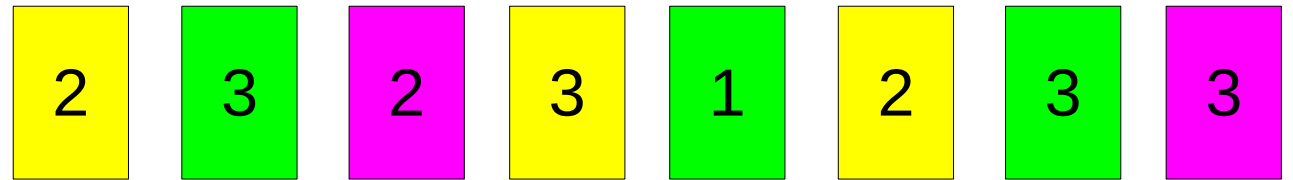
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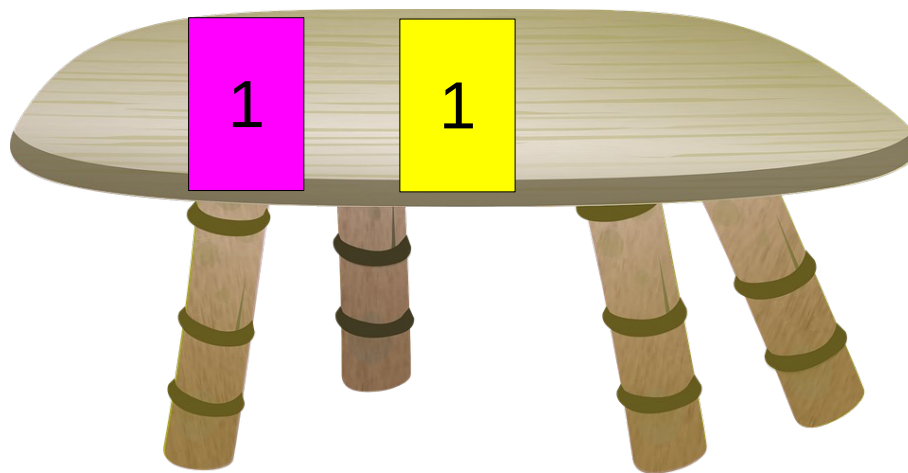
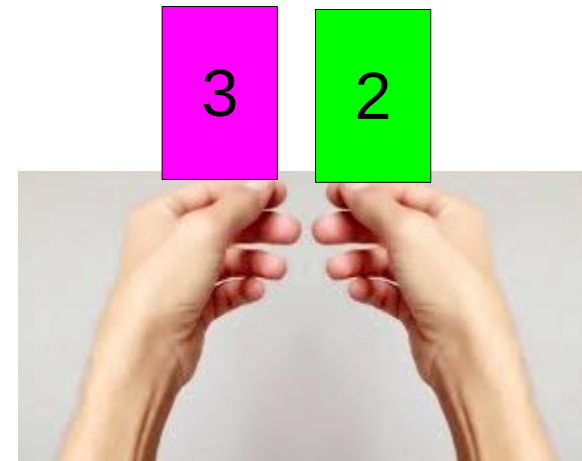
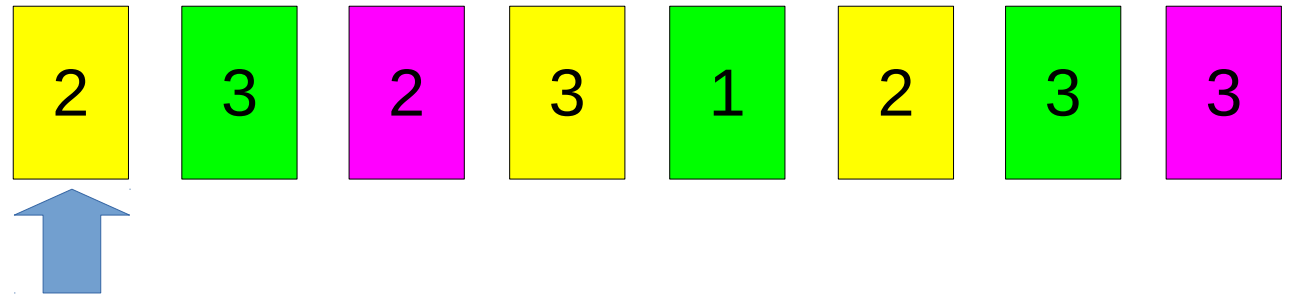
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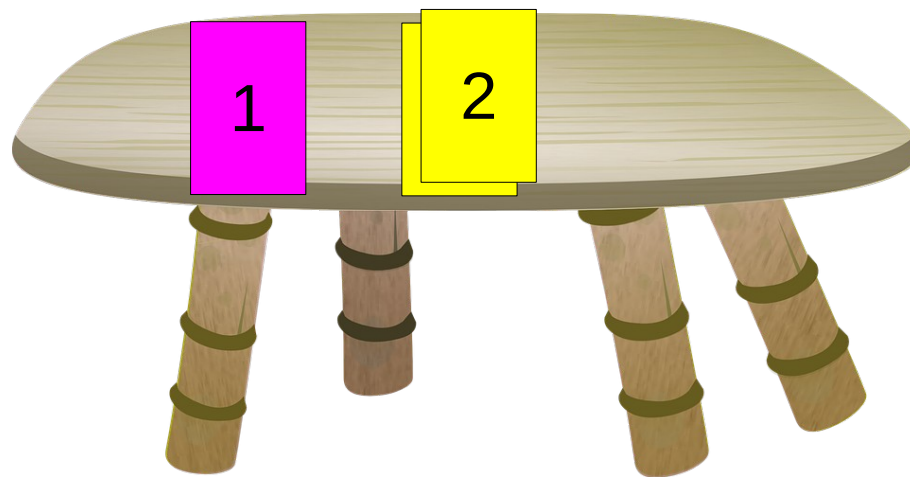
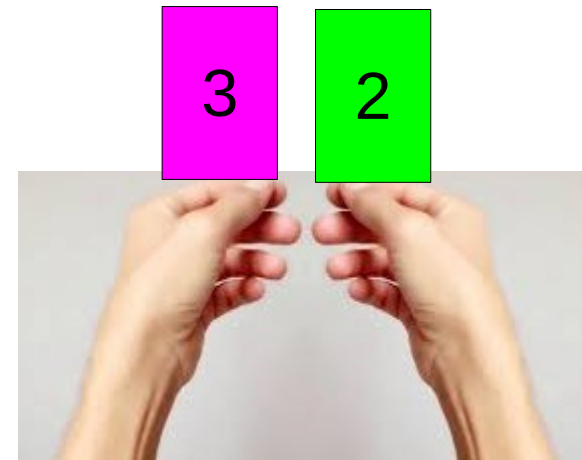
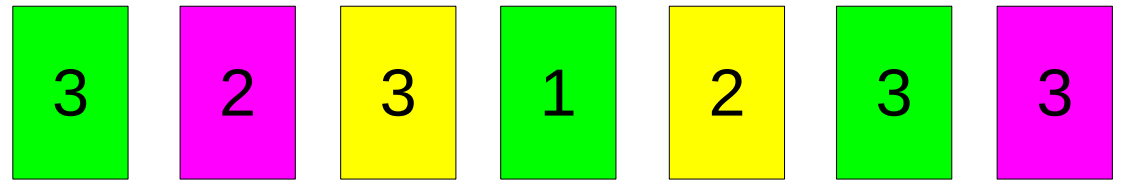


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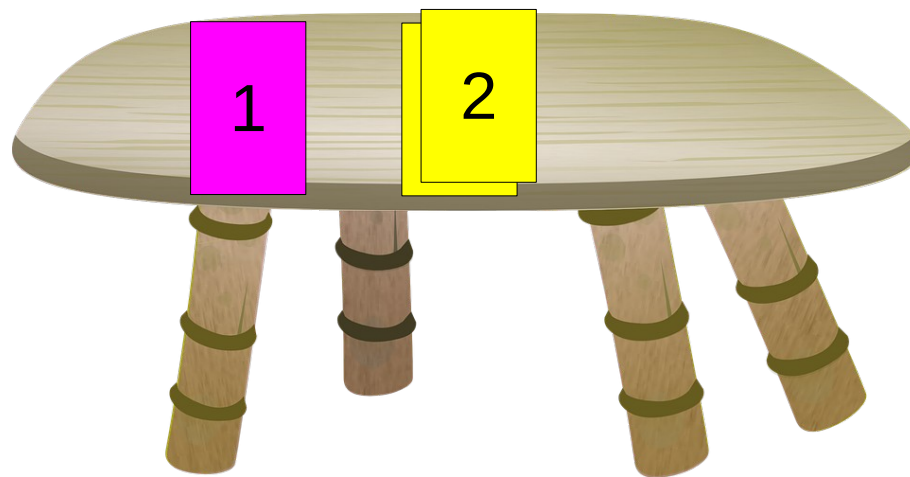
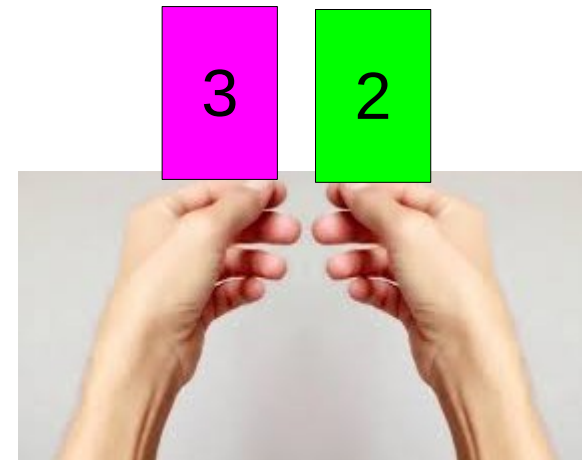
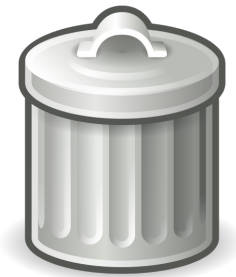
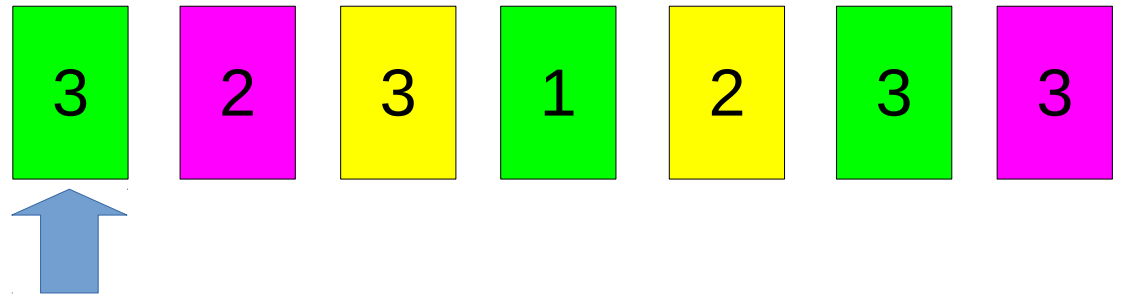


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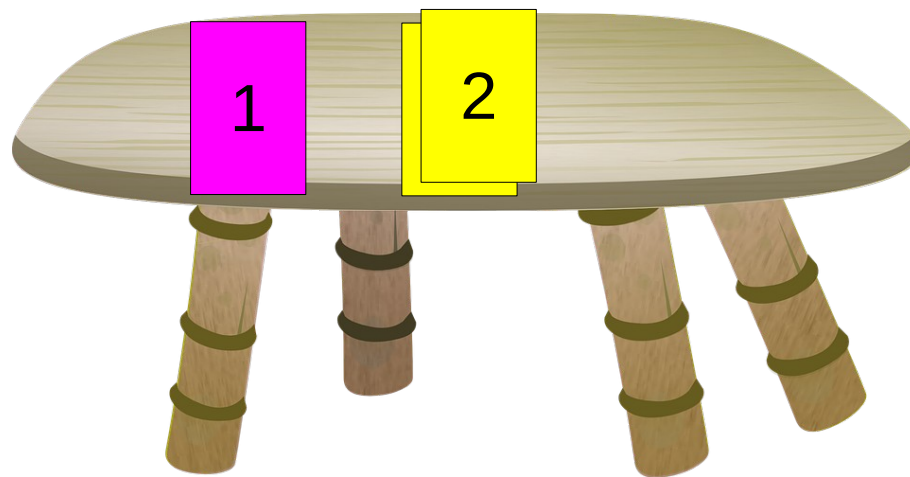
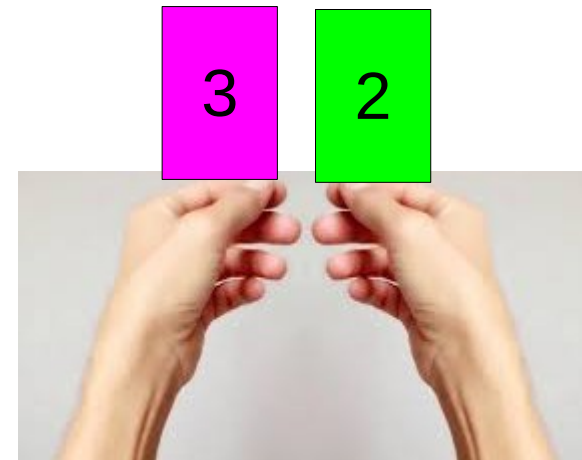
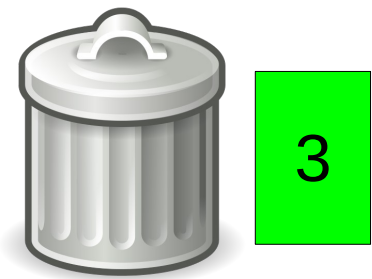
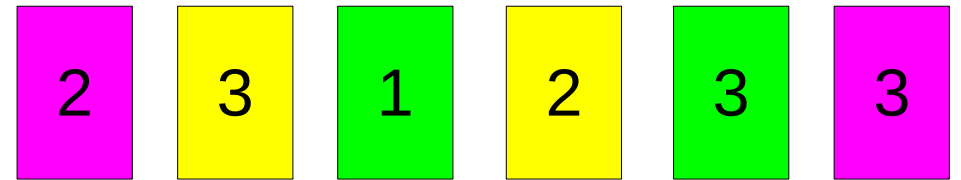


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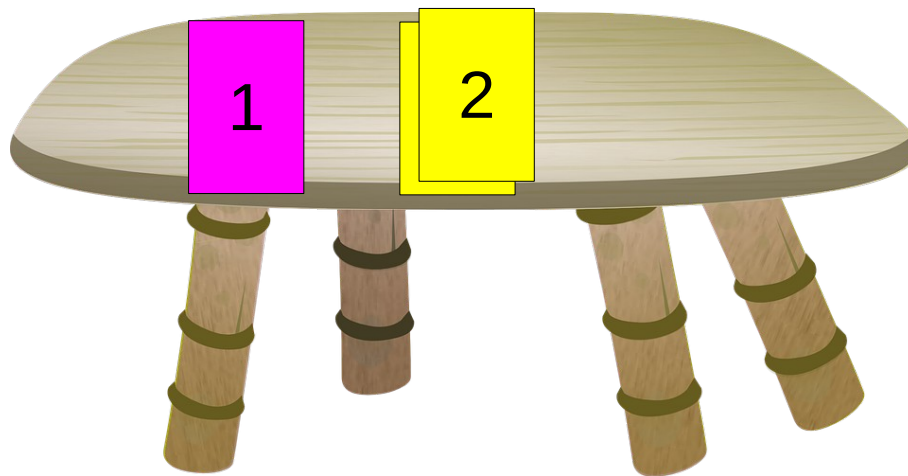
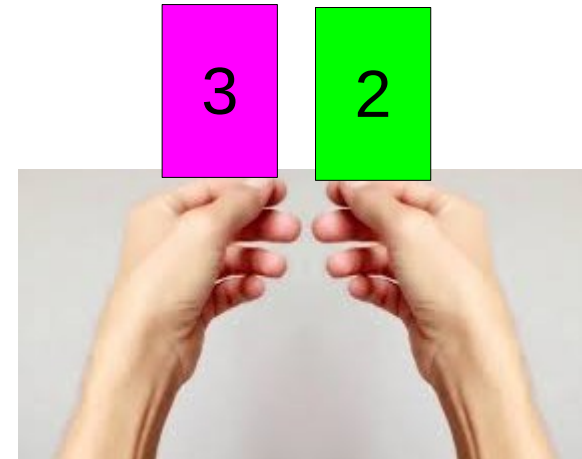
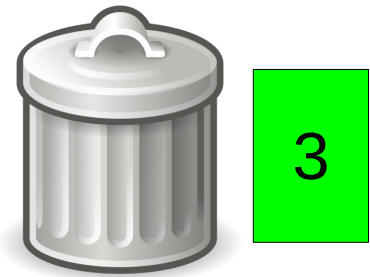
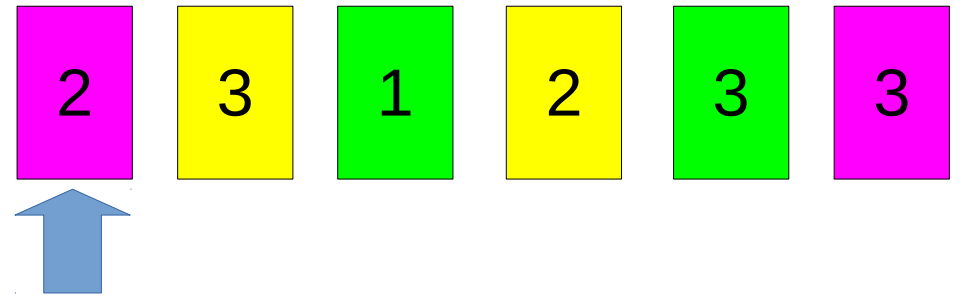
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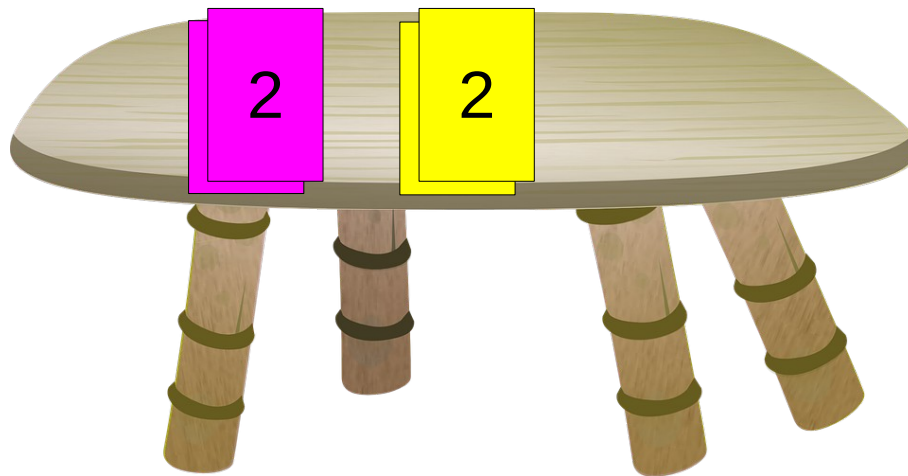
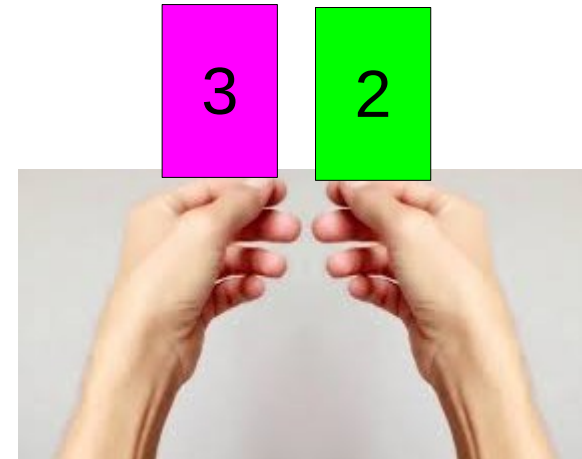
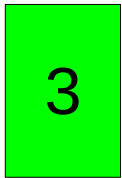
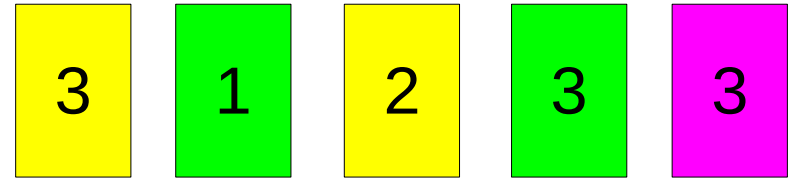
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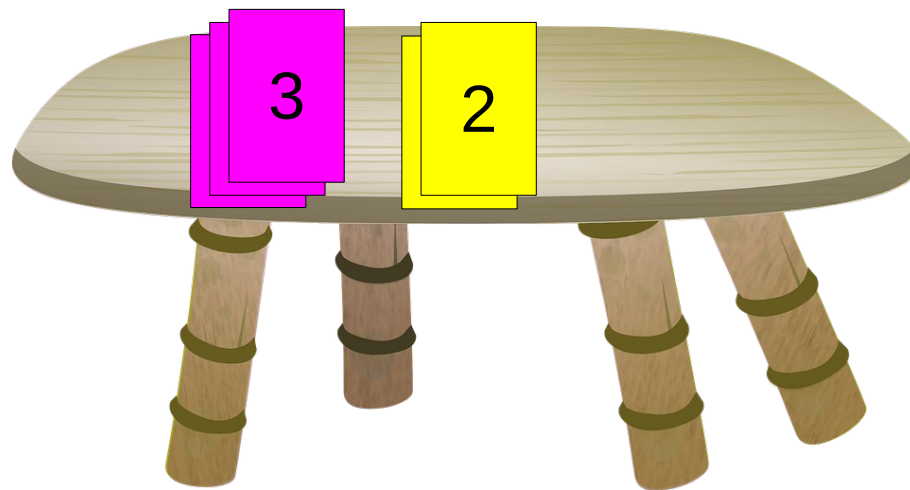
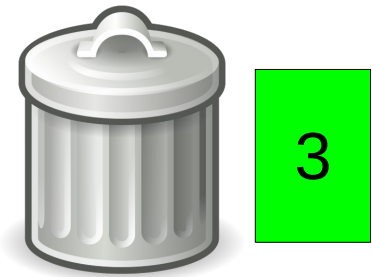
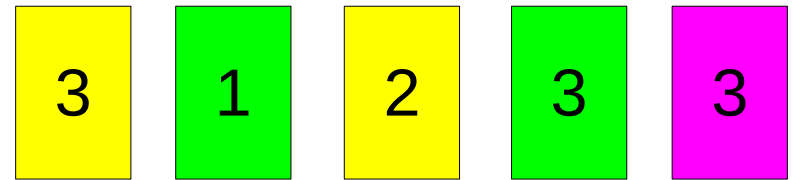


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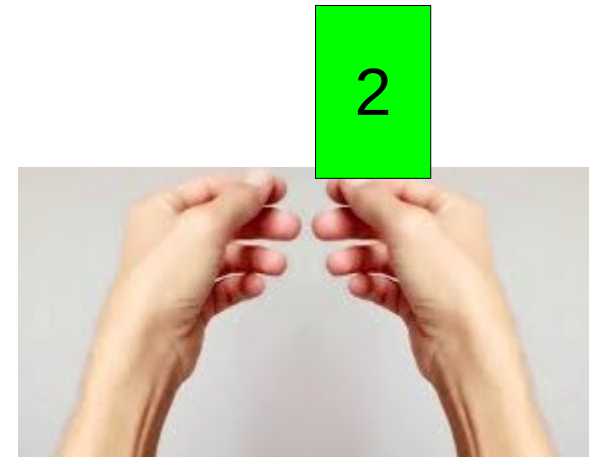
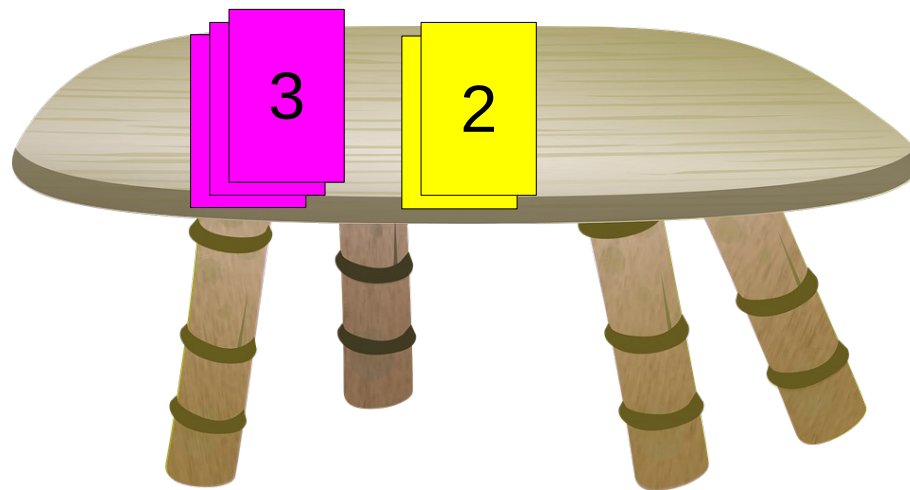
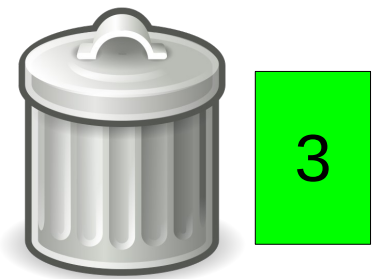
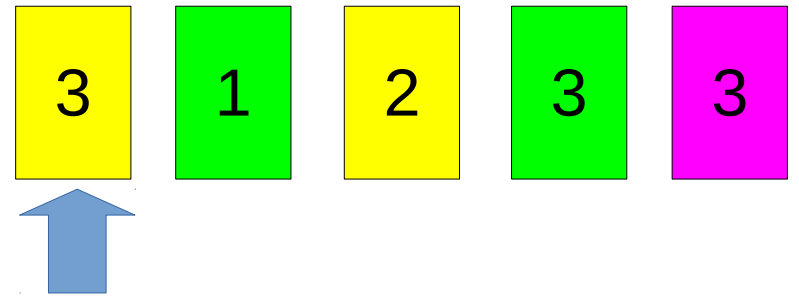


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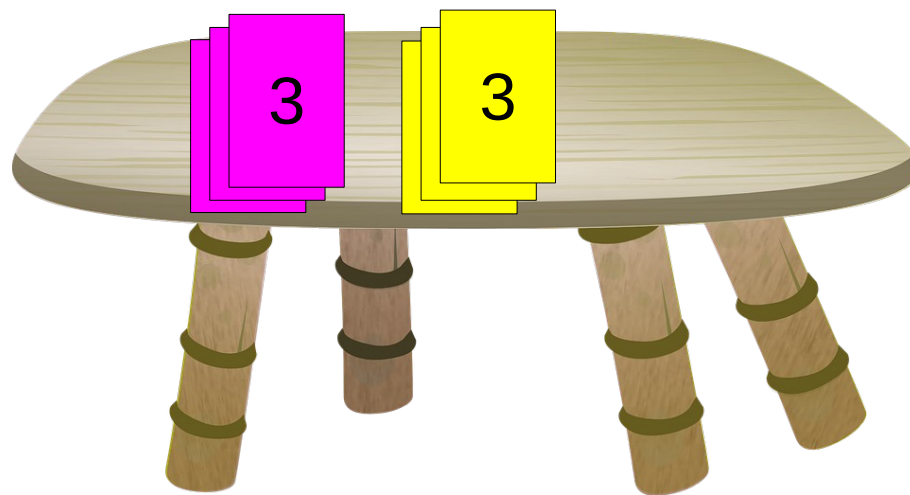
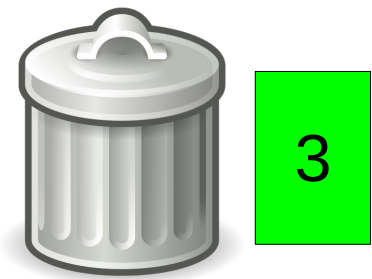
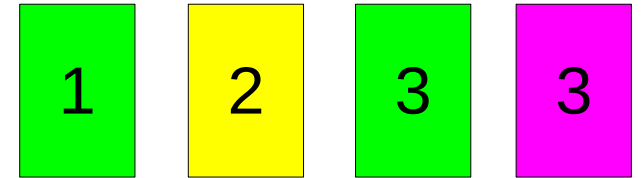


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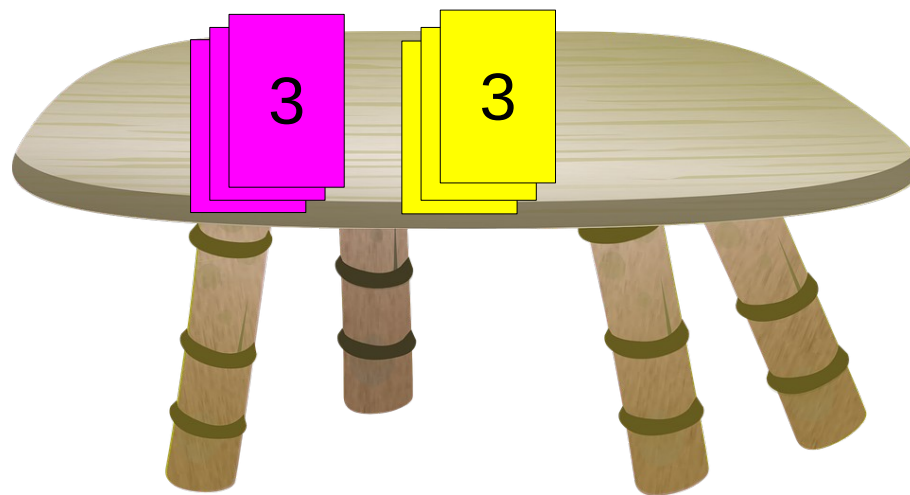
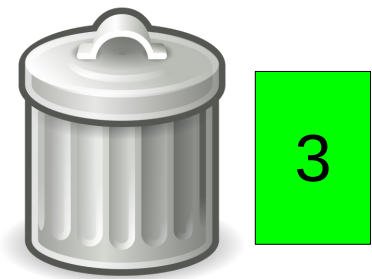
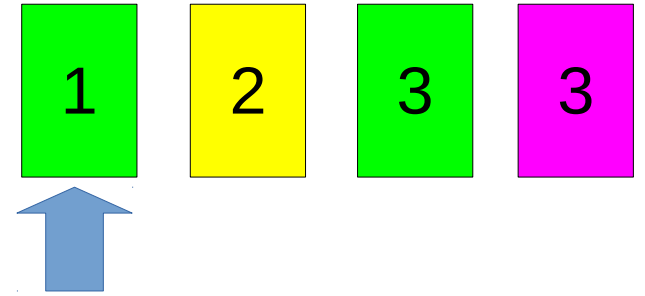


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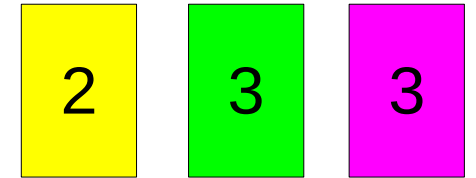
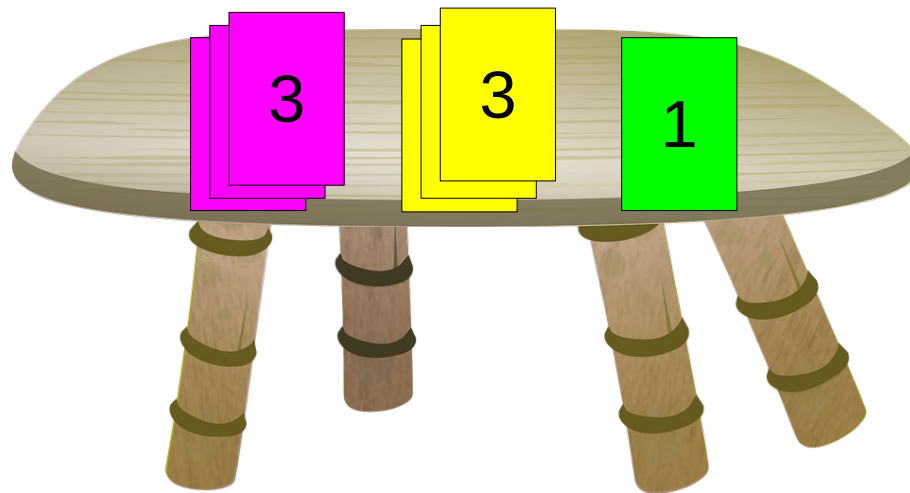
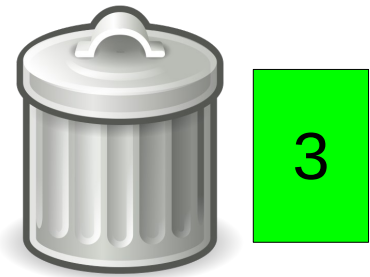
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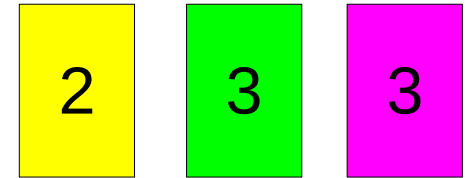
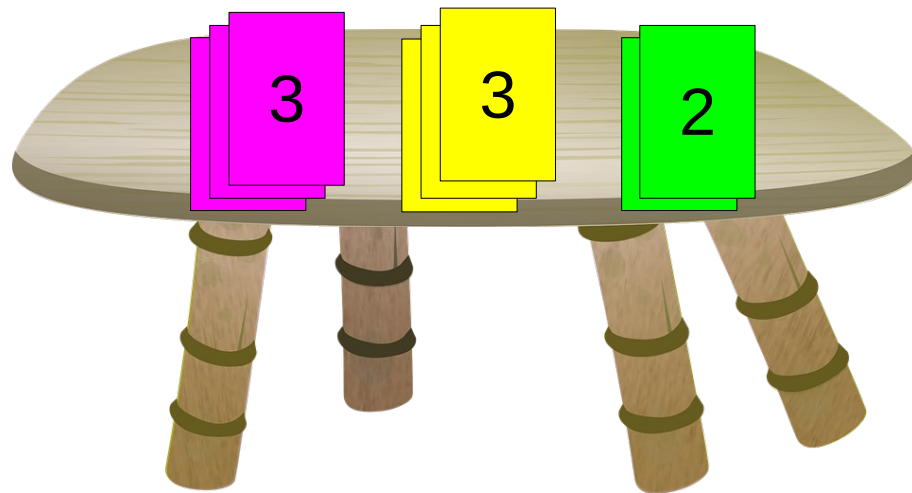
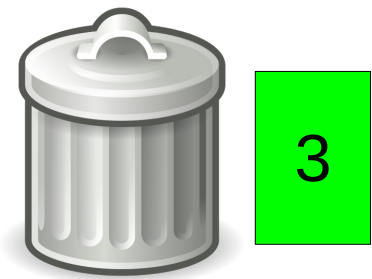


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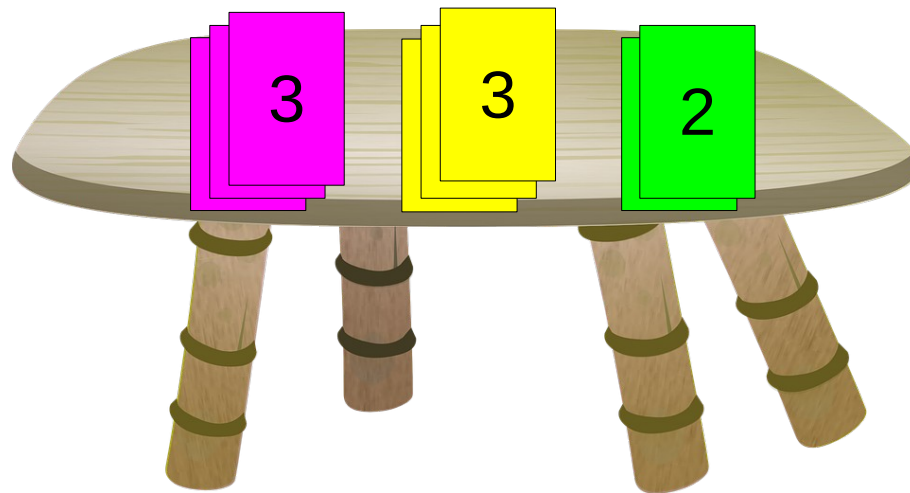
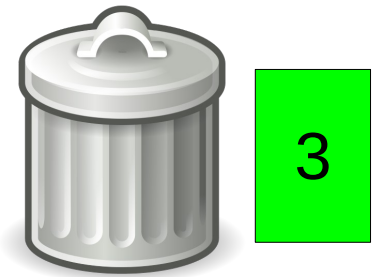
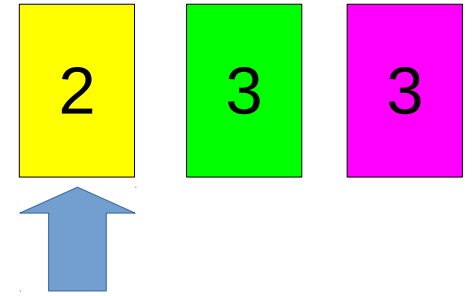


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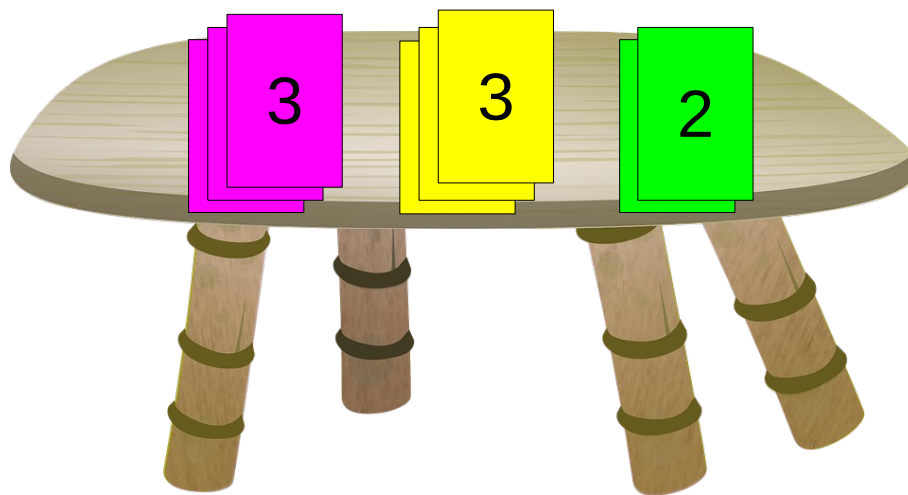
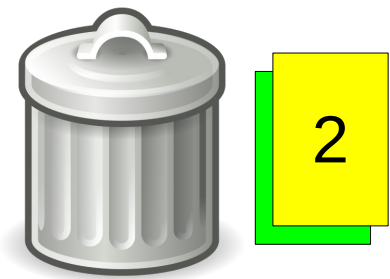
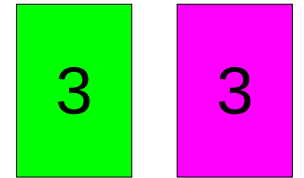


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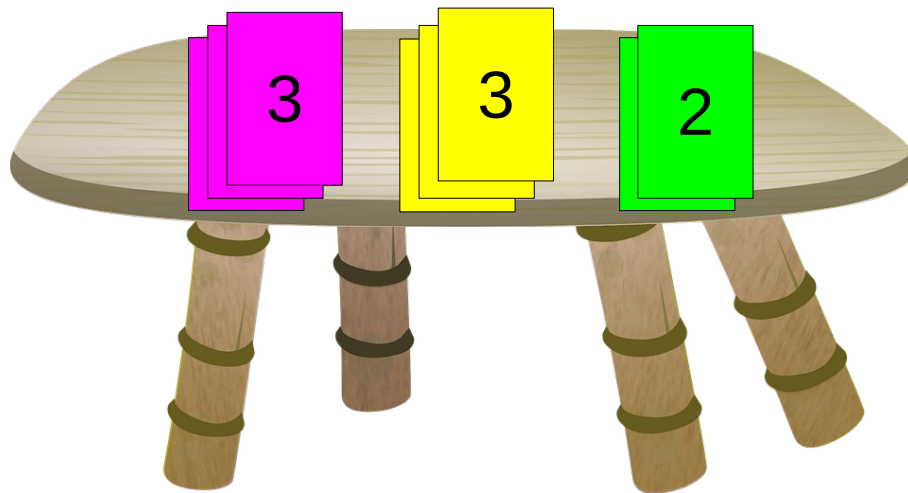
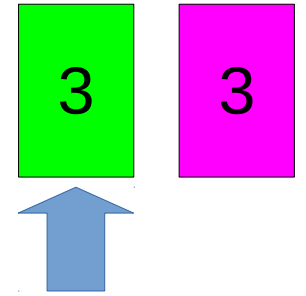


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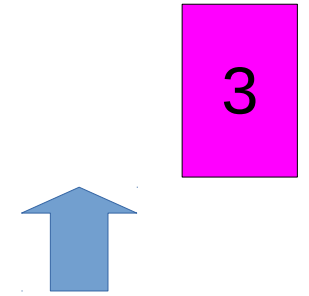
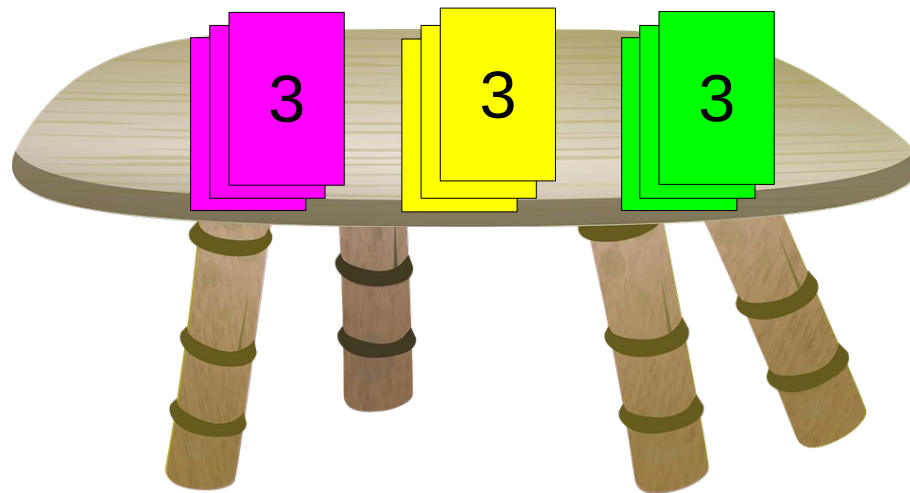
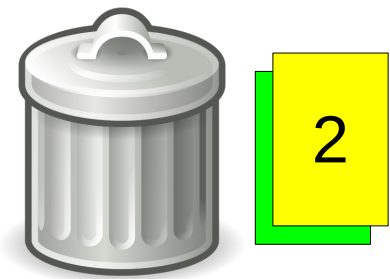


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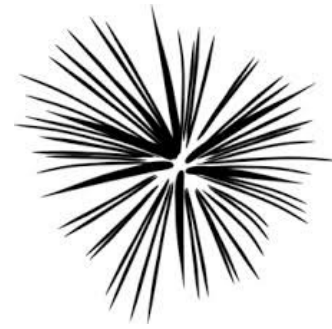
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# Example



# Results



Case Studied	Result
$h \geq 2, r \geq 2$	NP-complete
$r = 1$	$O(N)$
$c = 1$	$O(N + n \cdot \log h)$
General case	$O(N \cdot h \cdot c^h \cdot n^{h+c-1})$

# NP-hardness



Reduction: From 3-SAT to Hanabi:

-  $h, r = 2$

-  $c, v$  unbounded

→ Construct a sequence of cards:

sequence playable  $\leftrightarrow$  formula satisfiable

# NP-hardness



*Hand-restructuring* gadgets: use some **dummy color** with unique appearances of values.

Consider the sequence  $2 \circ 3 \circ \dots \circ i \circ 1$ .

→ In order to play all blue cards, we need to keep  $i - 1$  spots of the hand occupied.

# NP-hardness



*Hand-restructuring* gadgets: use some **dummy color** with unique appearances of values.

Consider the sequence  $2 \circ 3 \circ \dots \circ i \circ 1$ .

→ In order to play all blue cards, we need to keep  $i - 1$  spots of the hand occupied.

- *Hand-dump* gadget  $D$ : guarantees that we have no leftovers from previous gadgets.
- *Hand-reduction* gadget  $R(i)$ : reduces the size of the hand by  $i$ .

# NP-hardness



Reduction is from 3-SAT:

- Each variable corresponds to 2 colors.

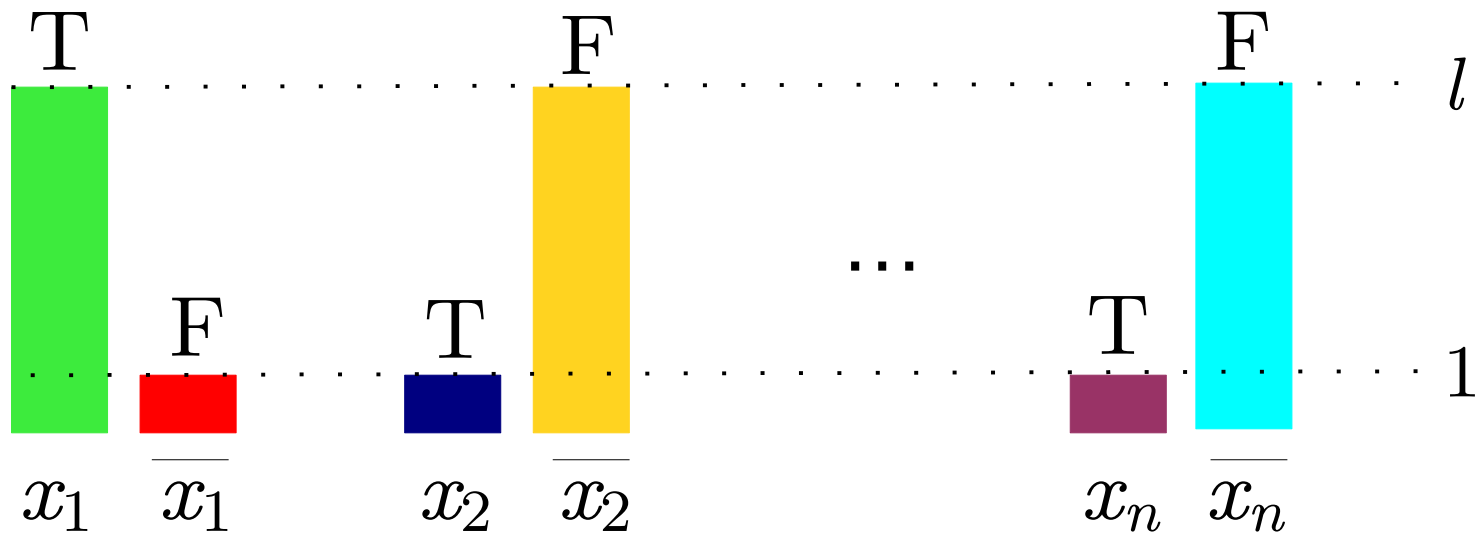
Variable gadget:  $R(1)$  2 2 1 3 ...  $l$  1 3 ...  $l$   $D$

- We can store at most one card of value 2, playing all the way up to  $l$  in this color, but only value 1 in the other.
- Define (and maintain) two levels: high ( $l$ ) and low (1), indicating the truth assignment.

# NP-hardness



After assignment phase:



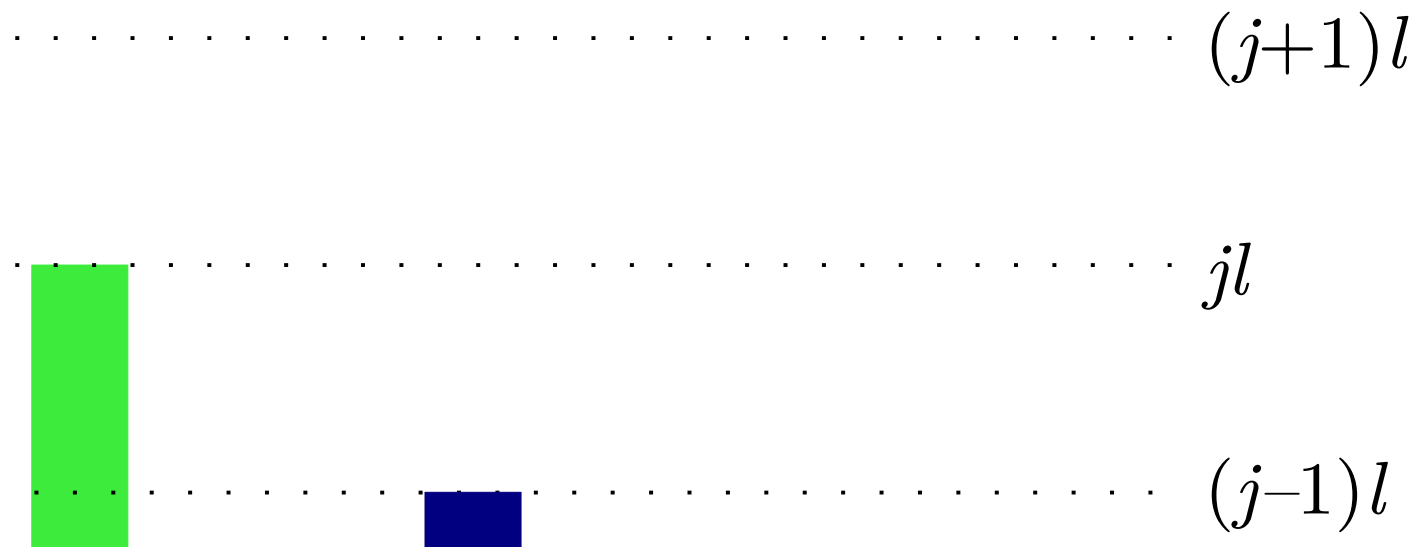
$$x_1 = T, \quad x_2 = F, \quad \dots, \quad x_n = F$$

# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For each literal not in  $C_j$  we add:





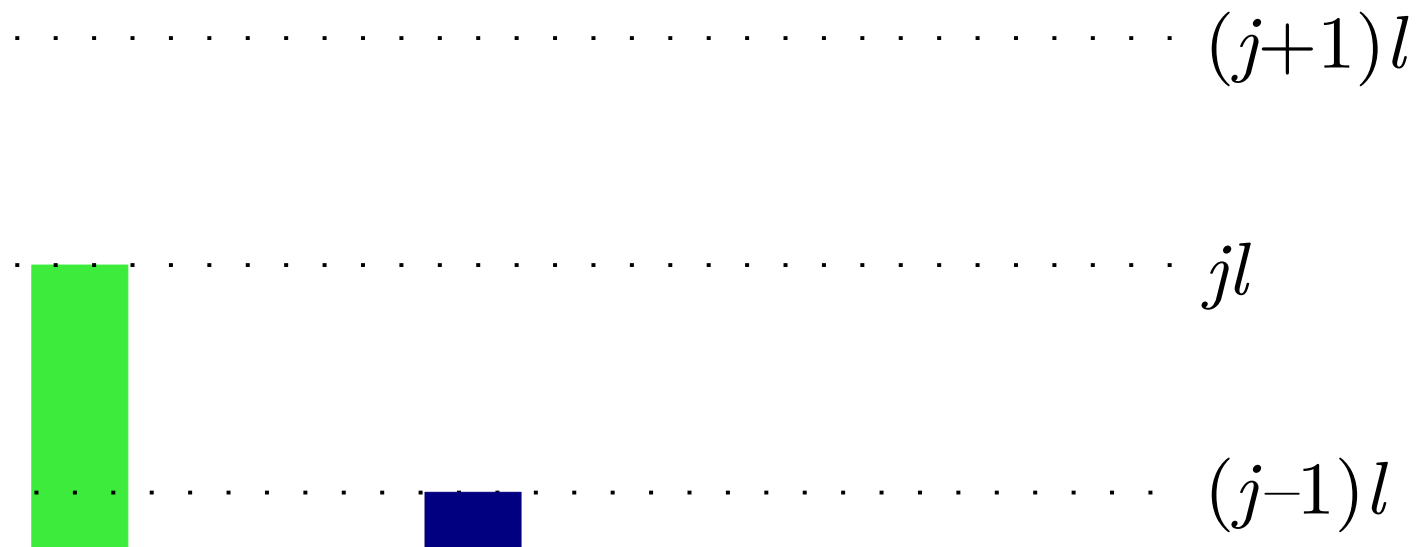
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For each literal not in  $C_j$  we add:

$R(2)$



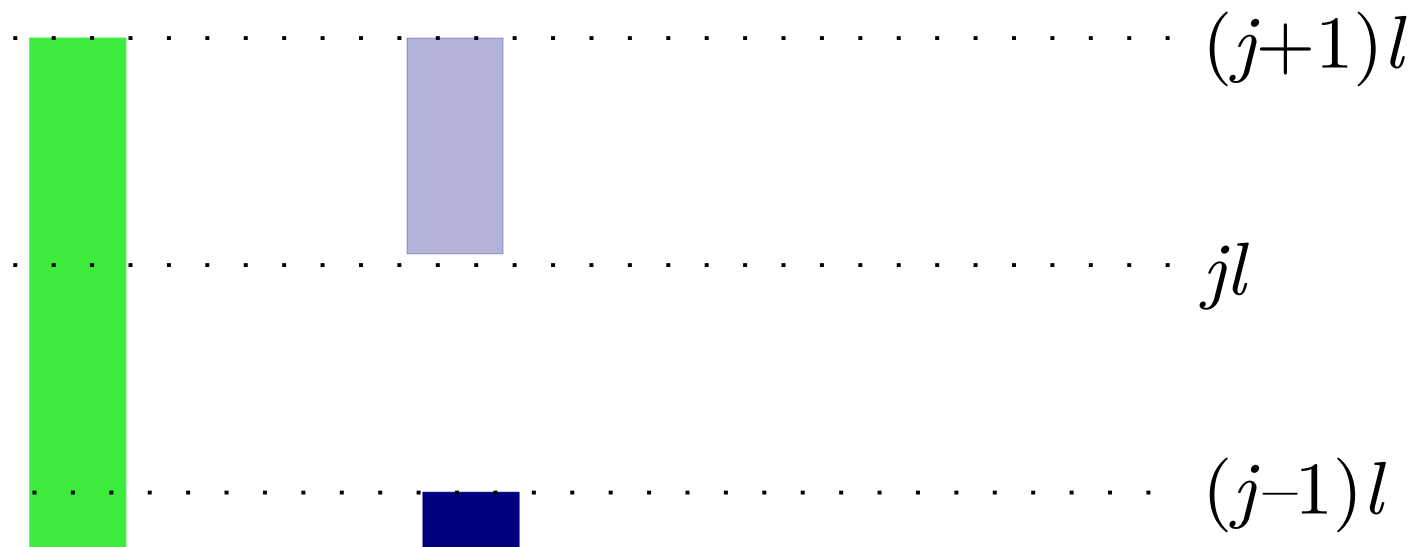
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For each literal not in  $C_j$  we add:

$$R(2) \quad jl+1 \dots (j+1)l$$



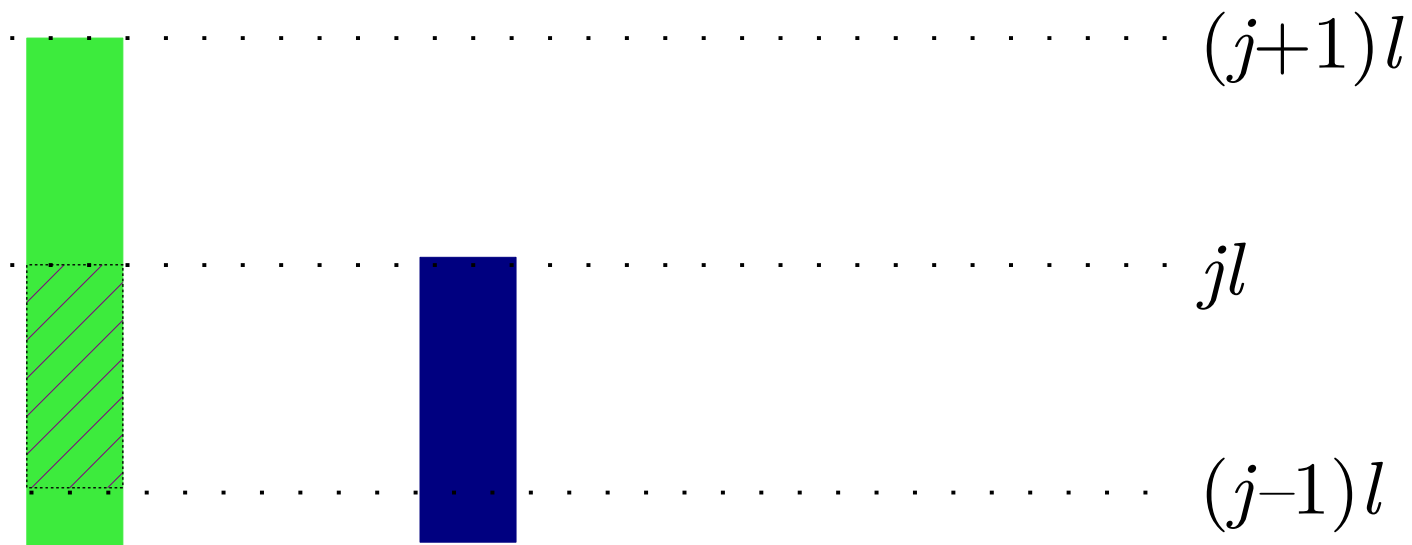
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For each literal not in  $C_j$  we add:

$$R(2) \quad jl+1 \dots (j+1)l \quad (j-1)l+1 \dots jl$$



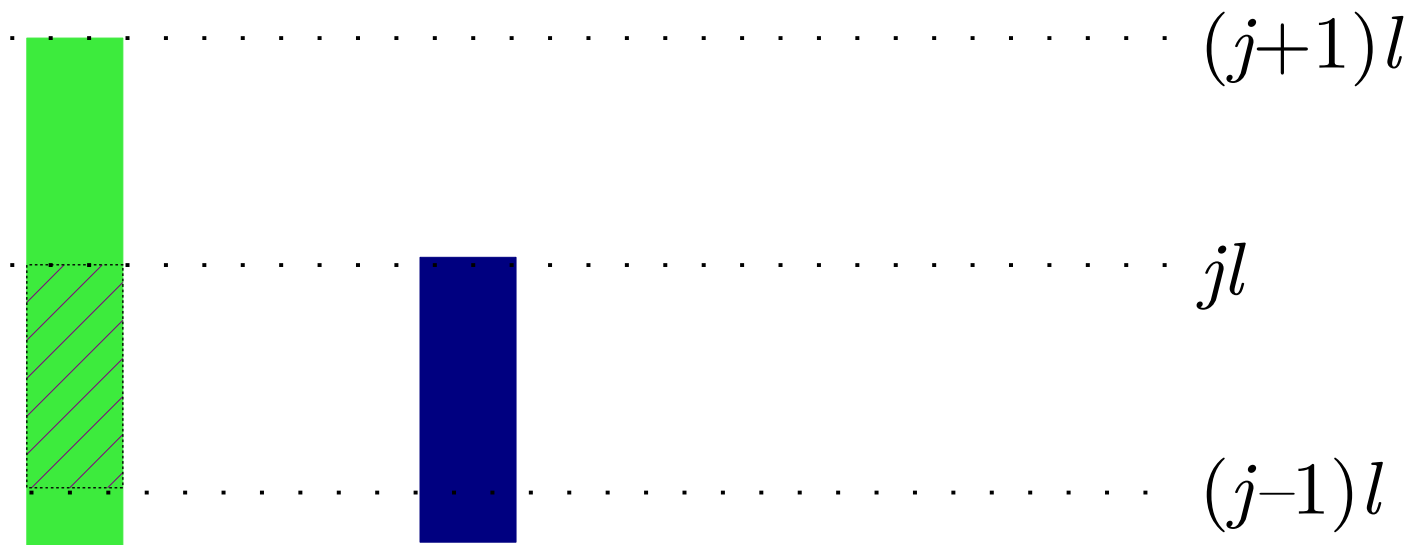
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For each literal not in  $C_j$  we add:

$$R(2) \quad jl+1 \dots (j+1)l \quad (j-1)l+1 \dots jl \quad D$$

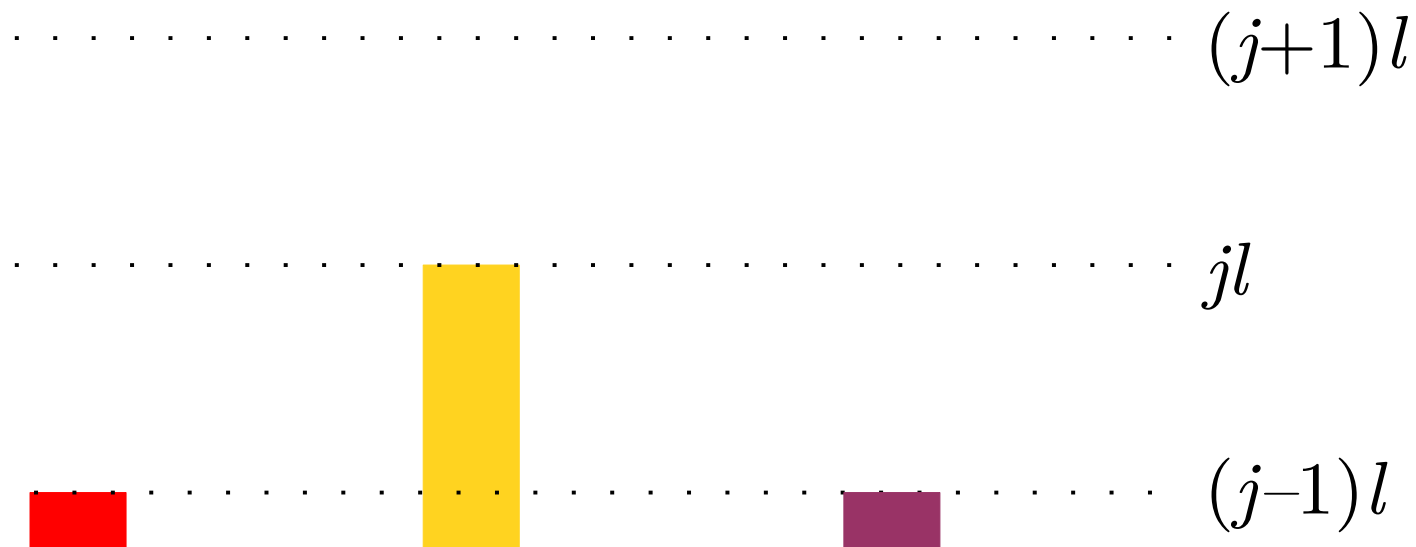


# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For the three literals of  $C_j(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{p})$  add:



# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For the three literals of  $C_j(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{p})$  add:

$j^l+1 \dots (j+1)^l$   $j^l+1 \dots (j+1)^l$   $j^l+1 \dots (j+1)^l$   $D$



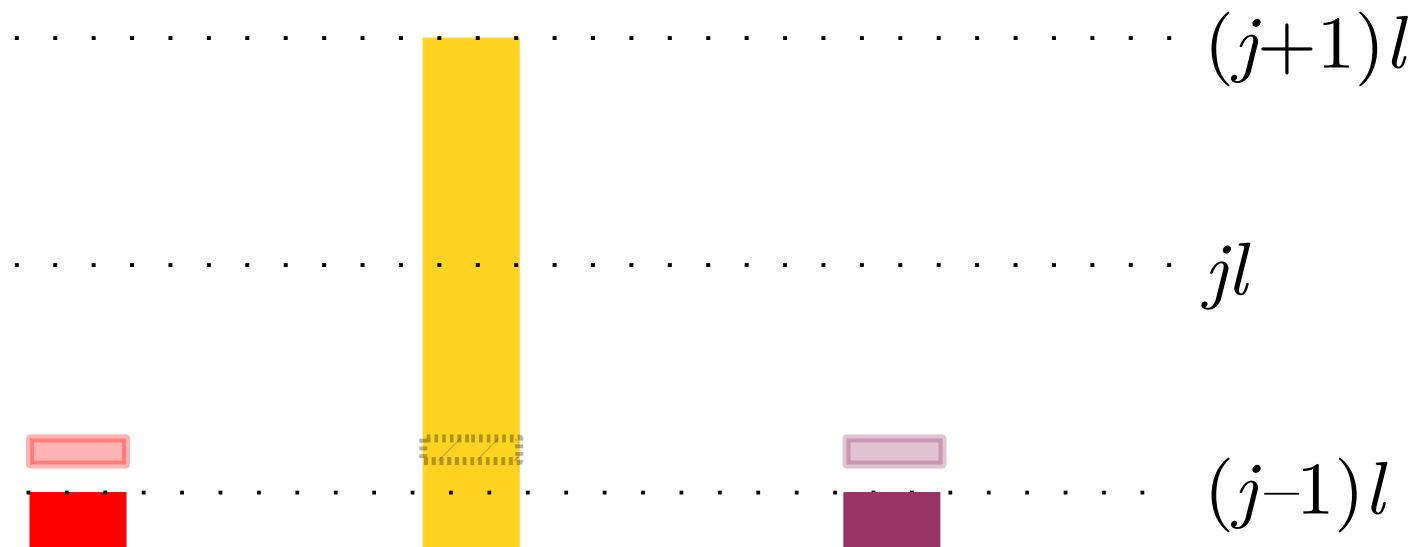
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For the three literals of  $C_j(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{p})$  add:

$(j-1)l+2$   $(j-1)l+2$   $(j-1)l+2$



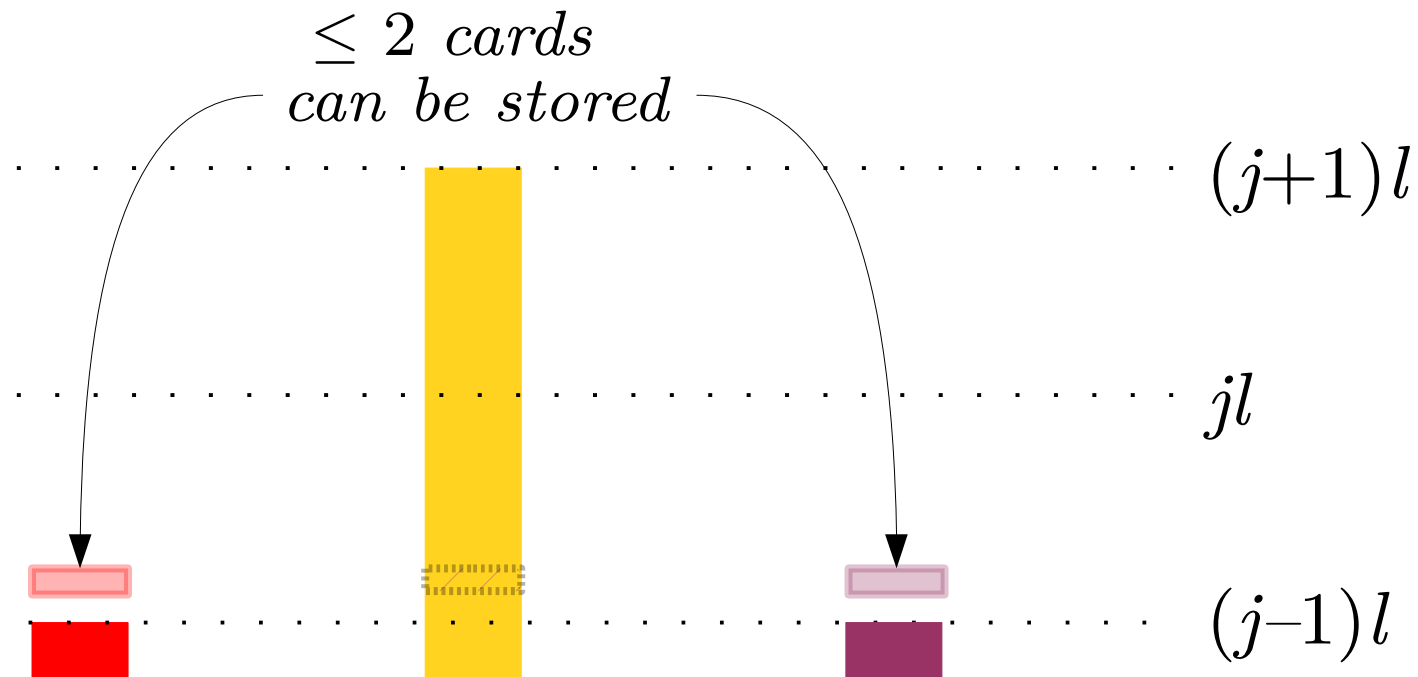
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For the three literals of  $C_j(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{p})$  add:

$(j-1)l+2$   $(j-1)l+2$   $(j-1)l+2$





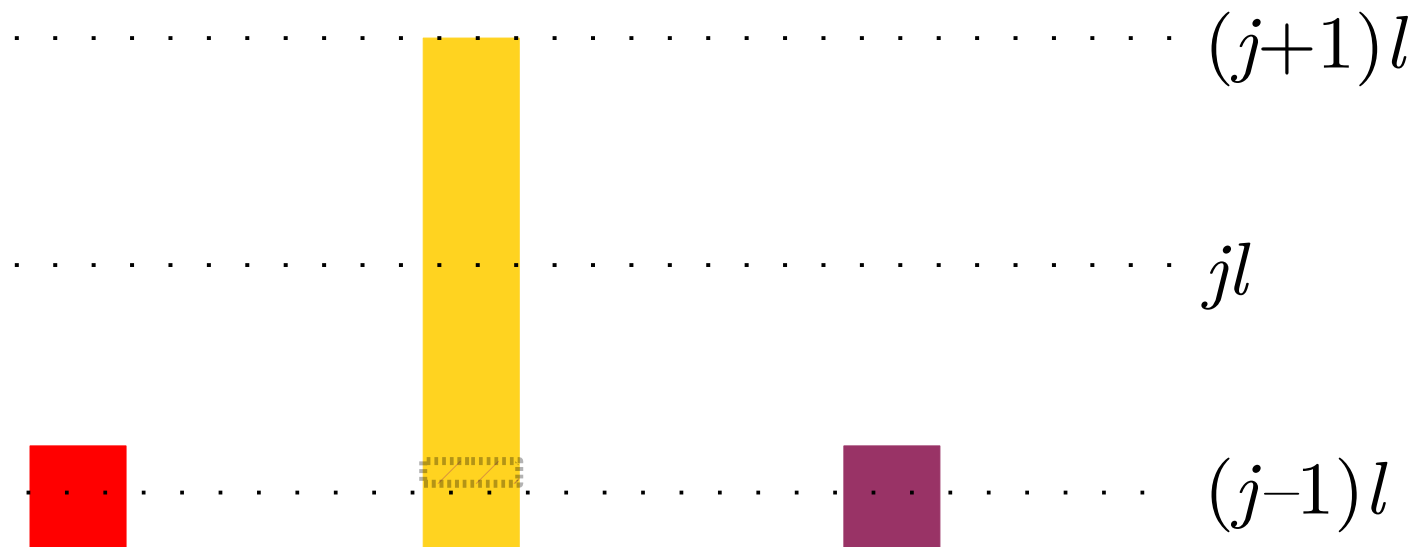
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For the three literals of  $C_j(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{p})$  add:

$(j-1)l+1$   $(j-1)l+1$   $(j-1)l+1$



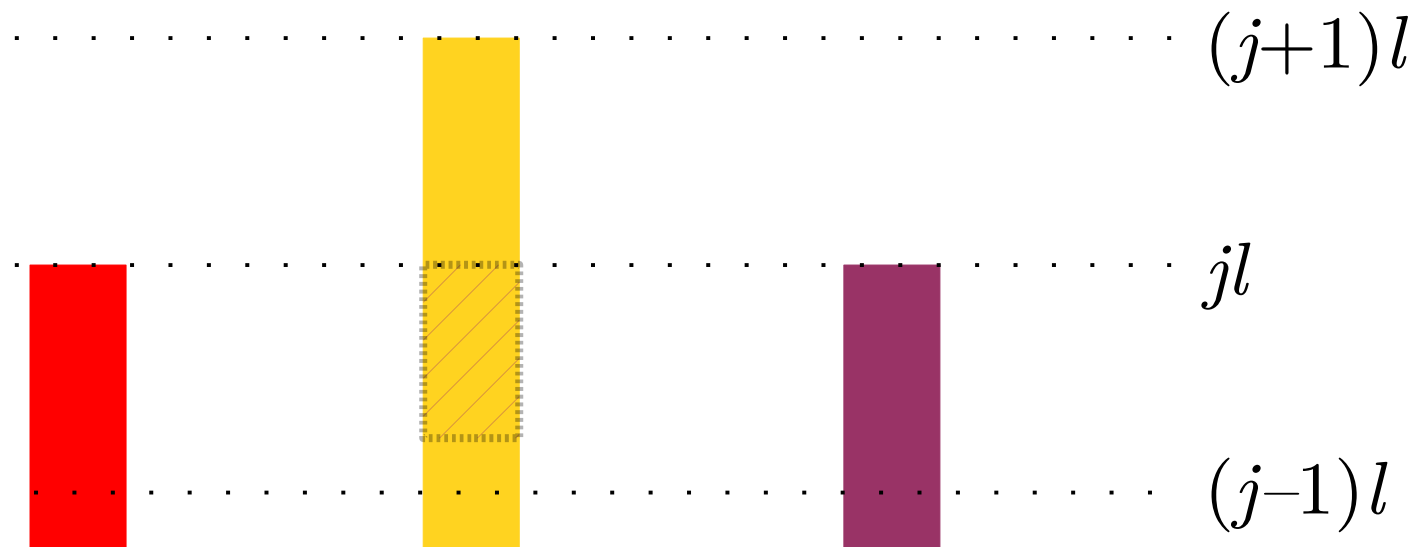
# NP-hardness



Satisfaction phase:

For the three literals of  $C_j(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{p})$  add:

$$(j-1)l+3 \dots 2j \quad (j-1)l+3 \dots 2j \quad (j-1)l+3 \dots 2j \quad D$$



# NP-hardness

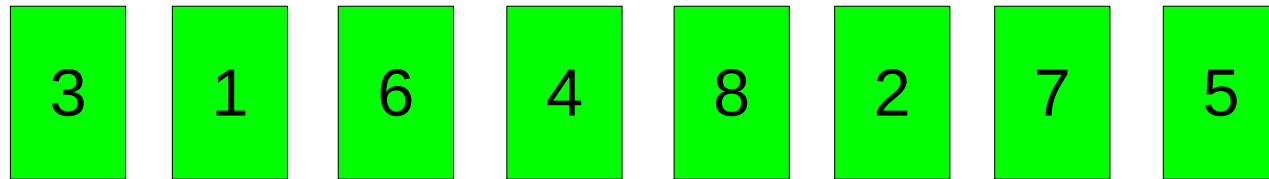


Reduction works for any  $h, r \geq 2$ :

- for  $r > 2$ , we add, for each card,  $r - 1$  identical copies next to it;
- for  $h > 2$ , we use a *hand-reduction* gadget:

$$I' = R(h - 2)I.$$

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )

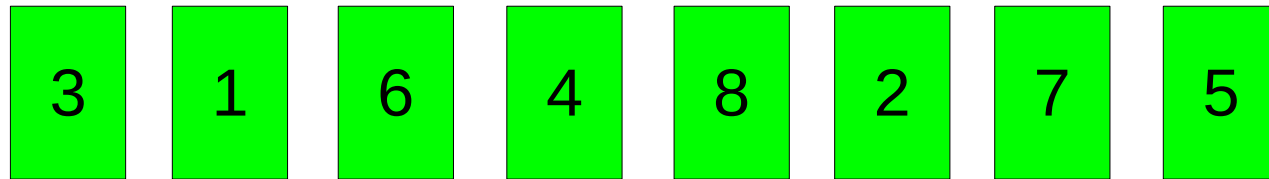


Interesting observations:

- Interval thickness approach
- Bubblesort approach

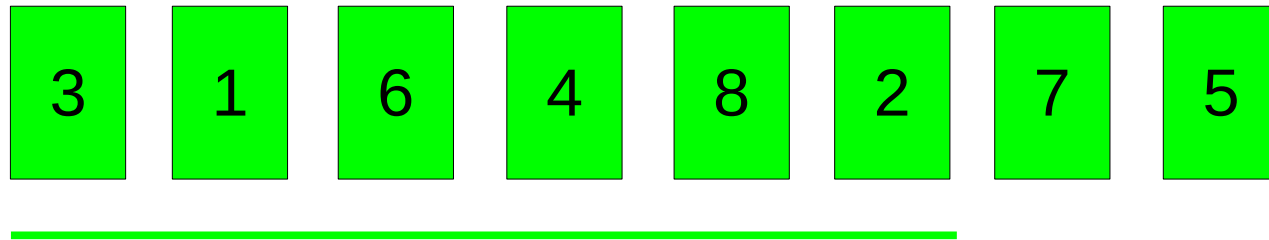
both compute min possible  $h$ .

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



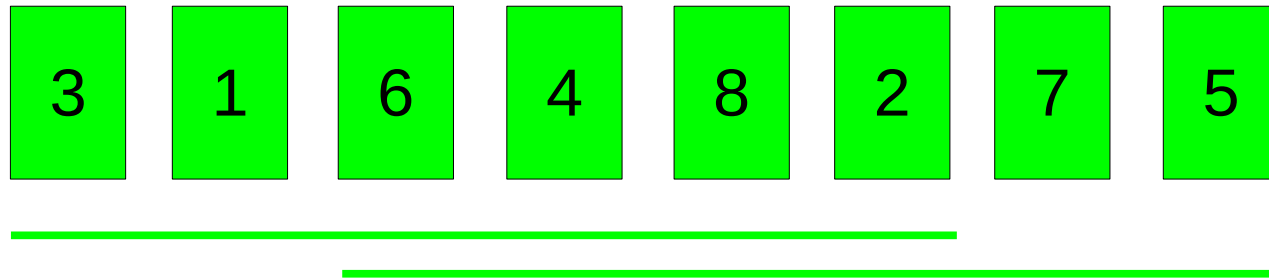
- Interval thickness approach

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



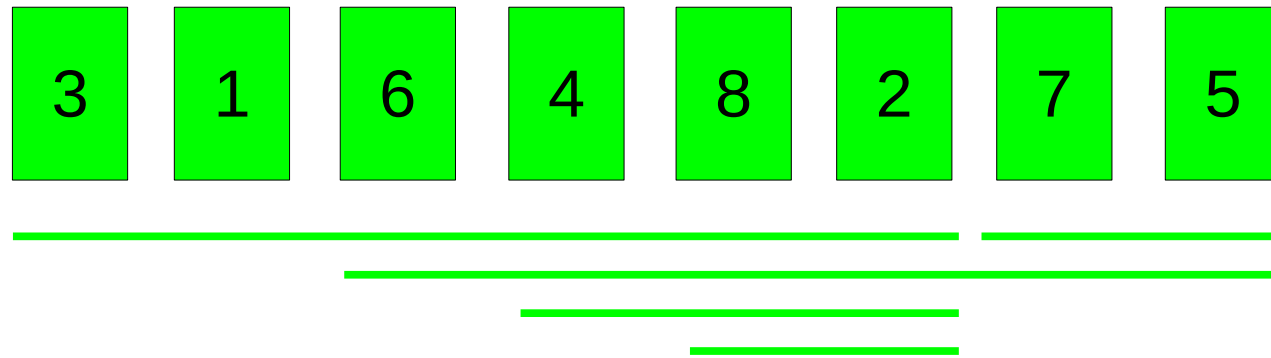
Draw an interval from every card to its rightmost card with same color but smaller value.

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



Draw an interval from every card to its rightmost card with same color but smaller value.

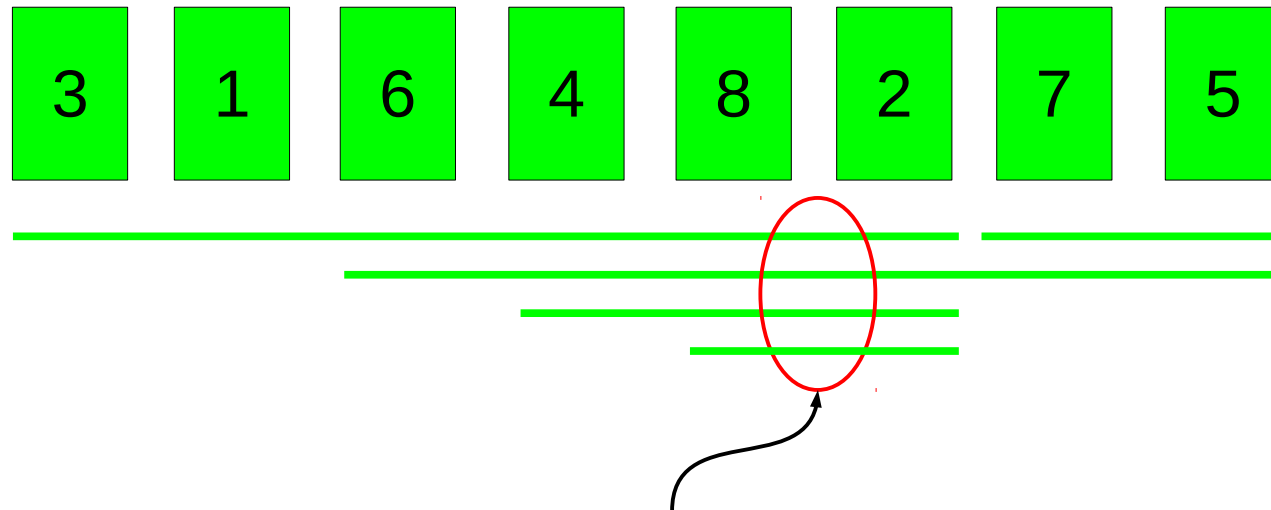
# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



Draw an interval from every card to its rightmost card with same color but smaller value.



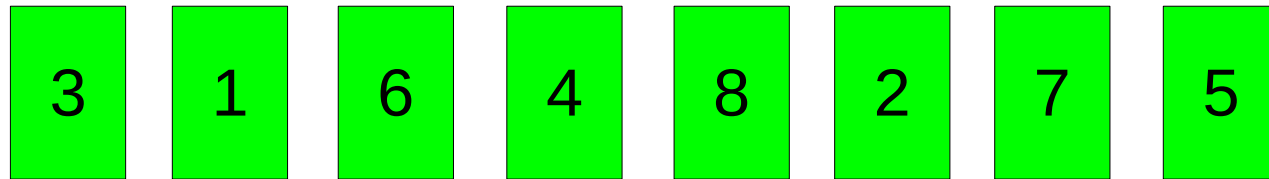
# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



*Max thickness  $w = 4$*

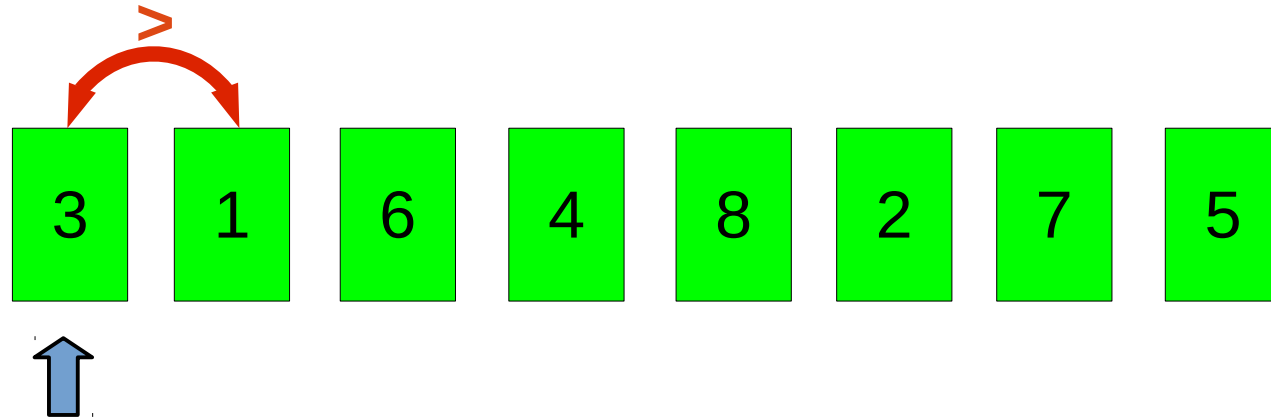
➔ *If  $h \leq w$  then the instance is solvable.*

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



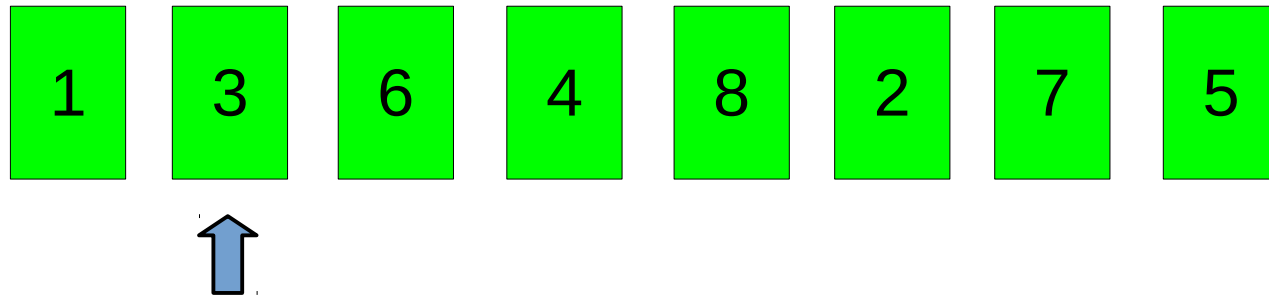
- Bubblesort approach

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



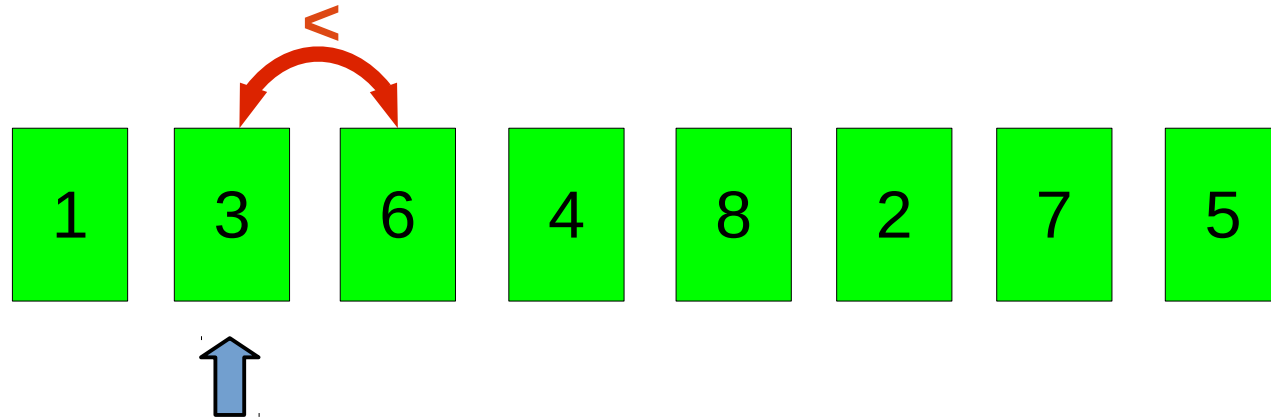
**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



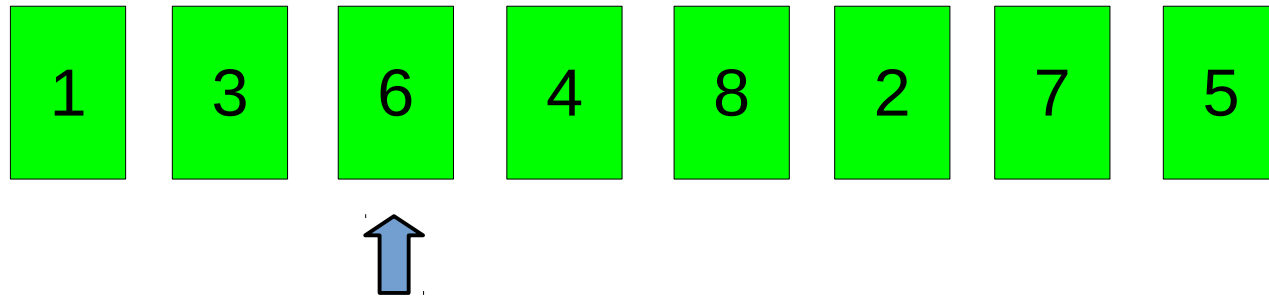
**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



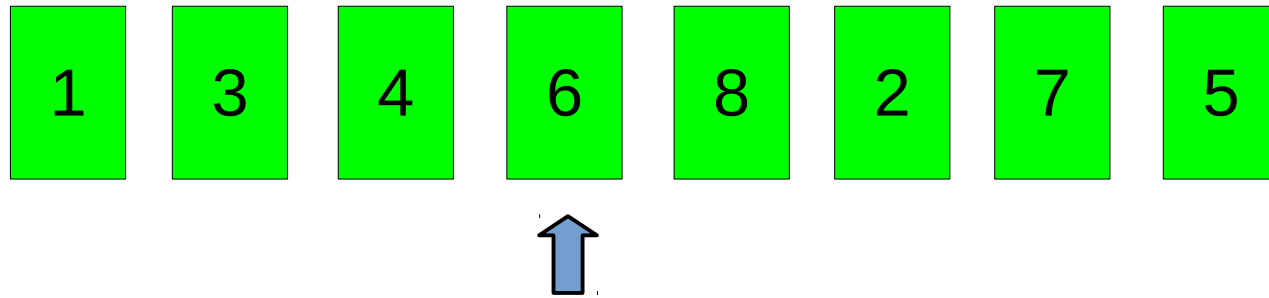
**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



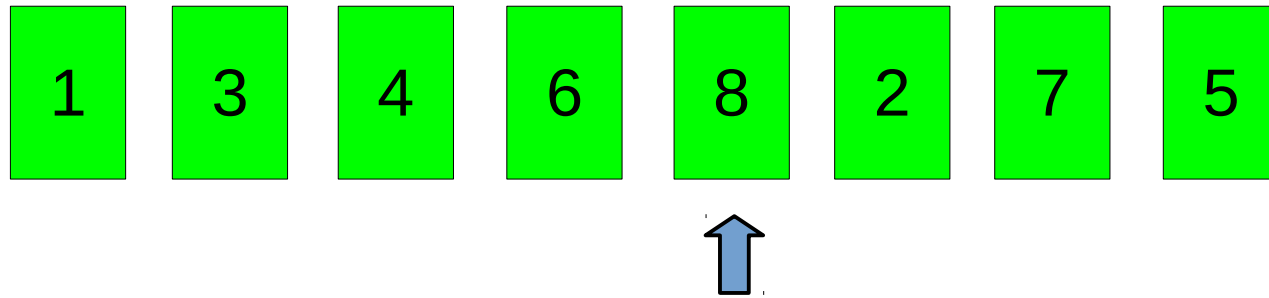
**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

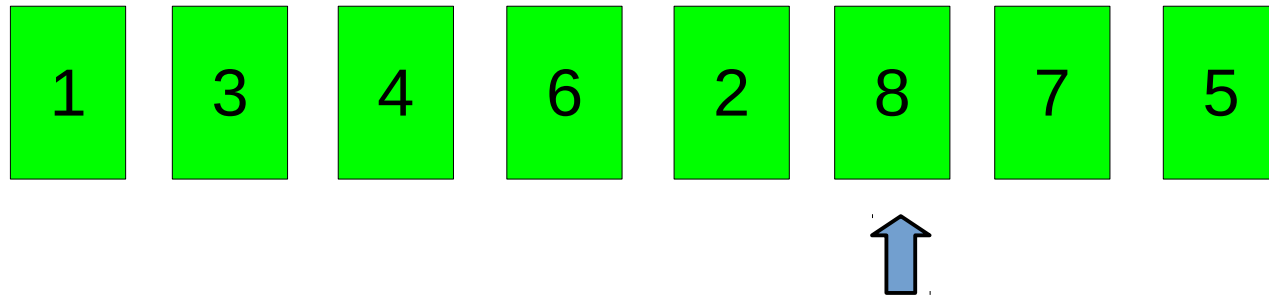
# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

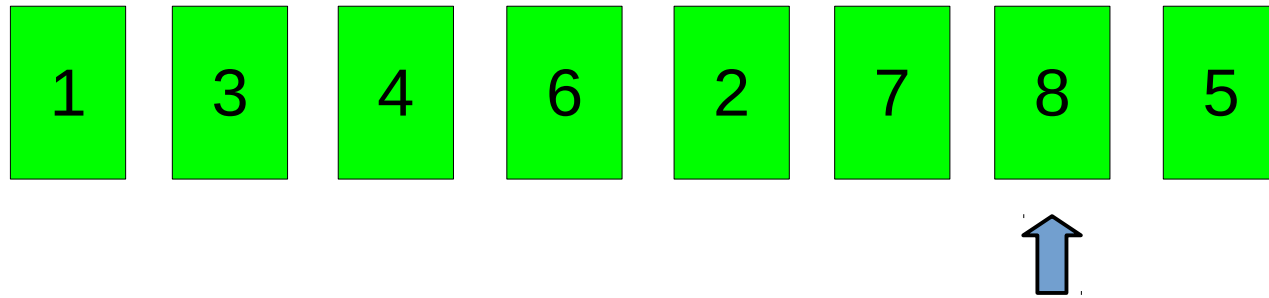


# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



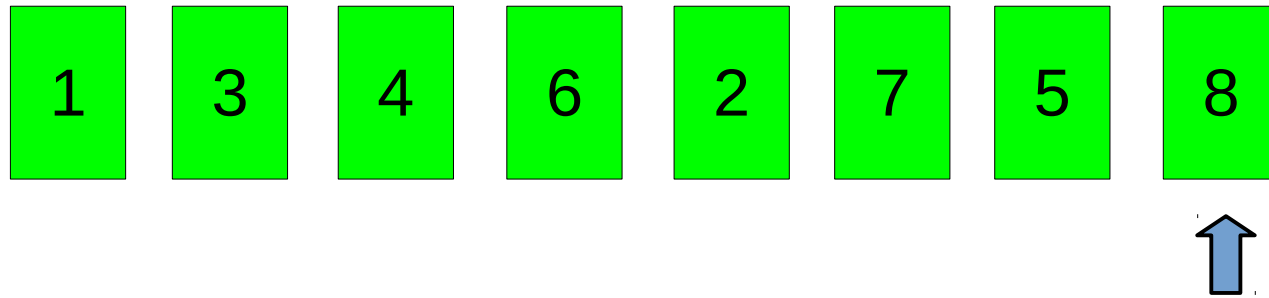
**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



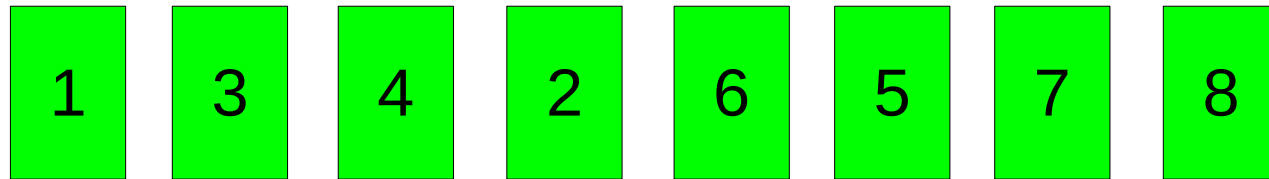
**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



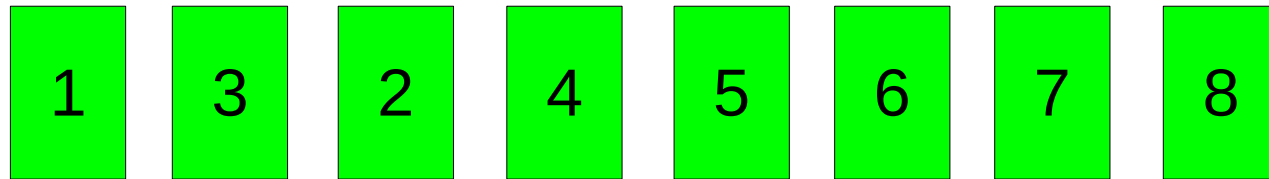
**1<sup>st</sup> pass**

No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



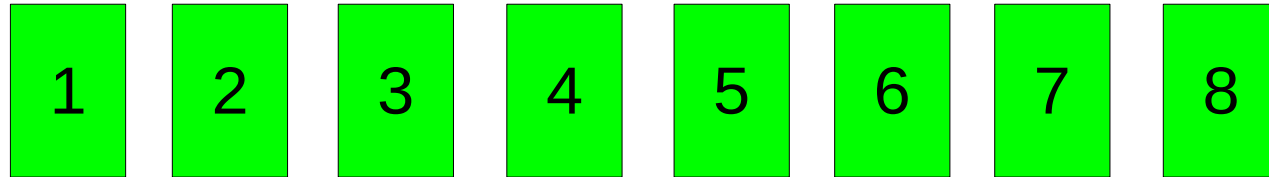
**2<sup>nd</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



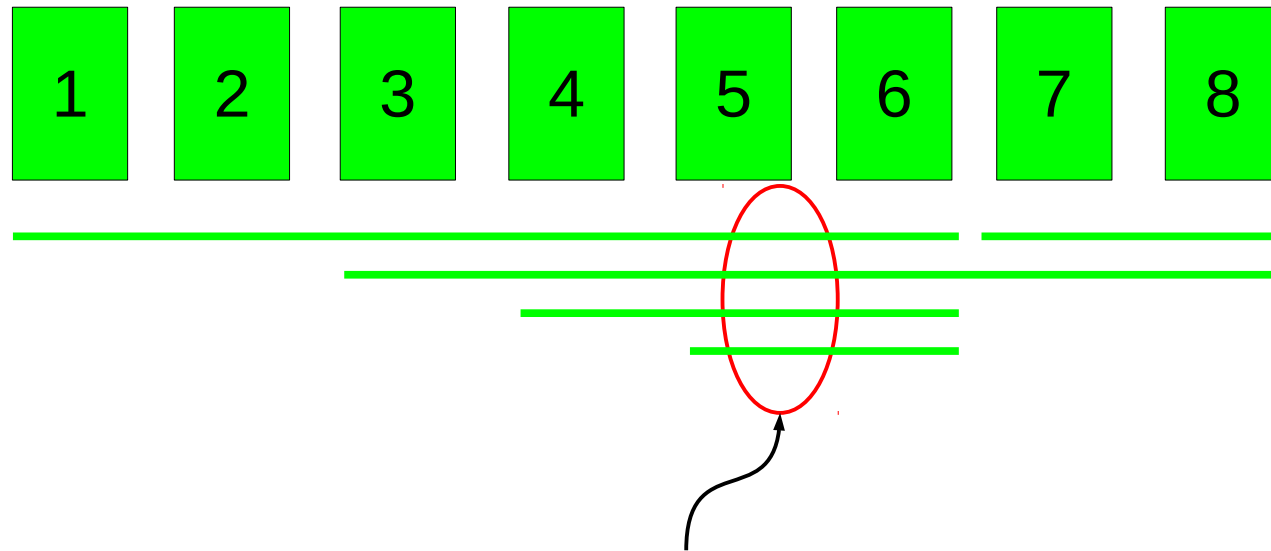
**3<sup>rd</sup> pass**

No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



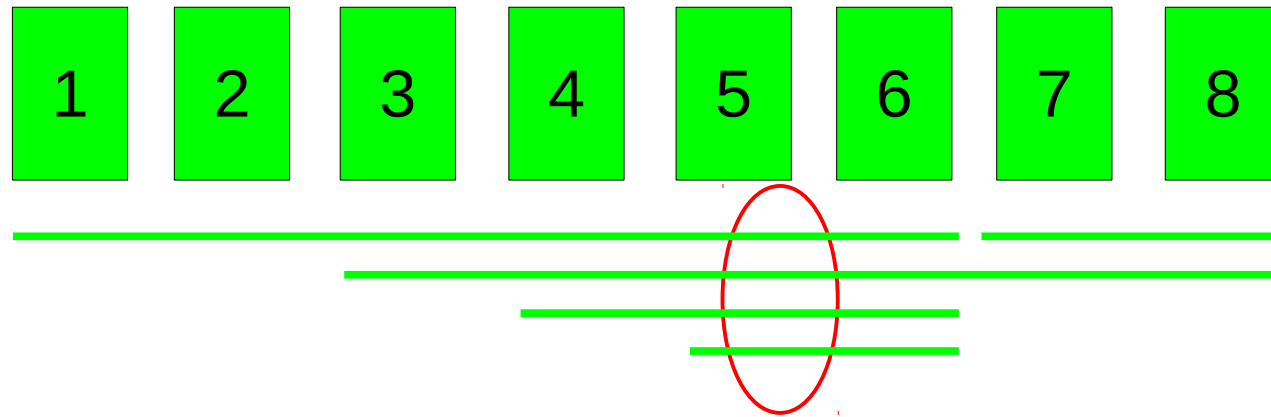
**4<sup>th</sup> pass**

# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



- *Max thickness*  $w = 4$
- # of bubblesort passes = 4

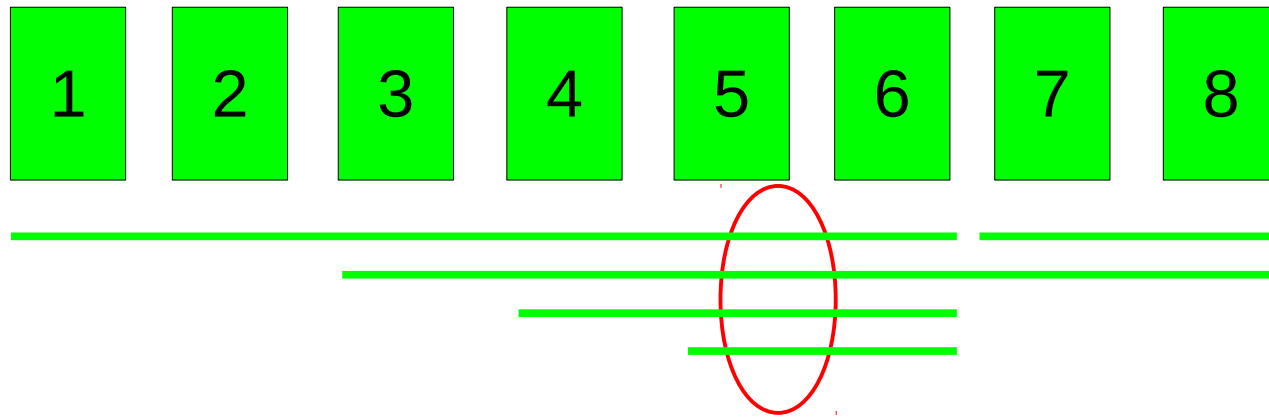
# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



➔ *Max thickness = # of bubblesort passes = min  $h$*



# No repetitions ( $r = 1$ )



➔ *Max thickness = # of bubblesort passes = min  $h$*

Complexity:  $N \cdot h$

Eager algorithm playing cards as fast as possible:  $O(N)$

All 3 approaches work for  $c > 1$

# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- We describe a lazy algorithm that plays cards as late as possible.

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- We describe a lazy algorithm that plays cards as late as possible.
  - We store the Last Playable Index for each value.

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Main  
Lemma

*A card with at least  $h+1$  larger values having smaller LPIs cannot be played.*

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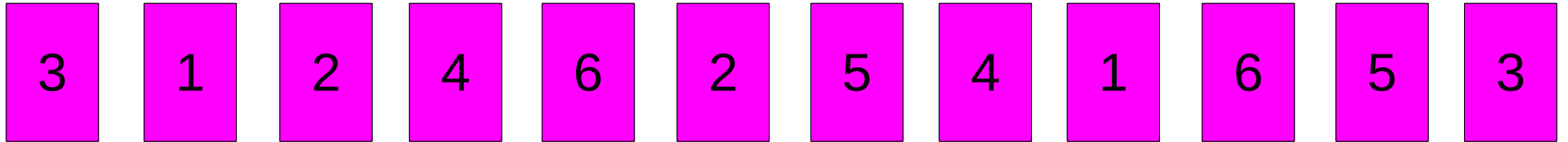
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Main  
Lemma

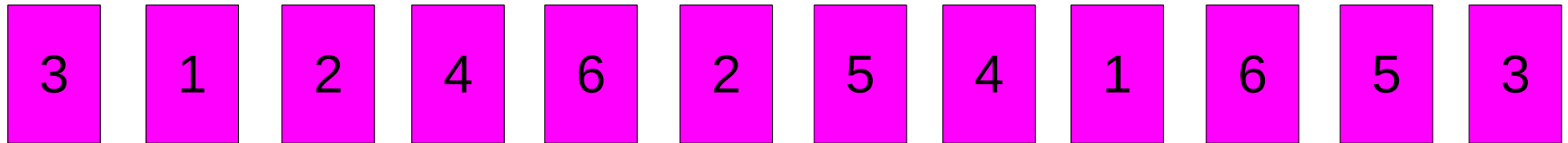
*A card with at least  $h+1$  larger values having smaller LPIs cannot be played.*

- *We update the LPI for the value of this card with its previous appearance in the sequence.*

# One color ( $c = 1$ )



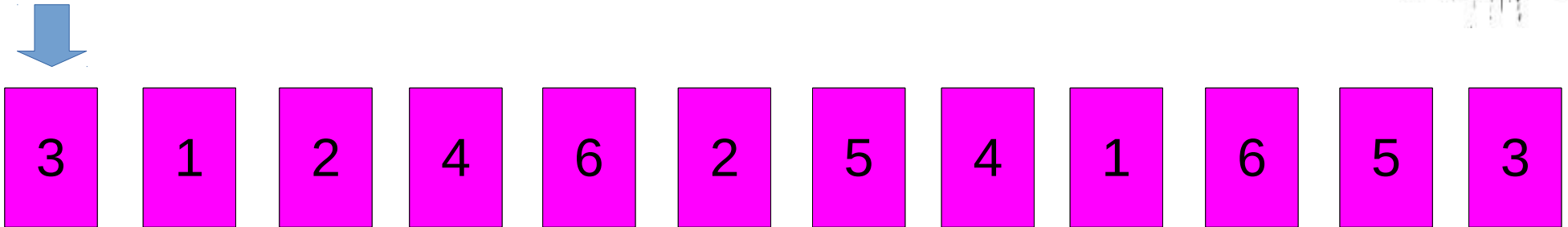
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Preprocess the instance to create a table P:

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions						

# One color ( $c = 1$ )

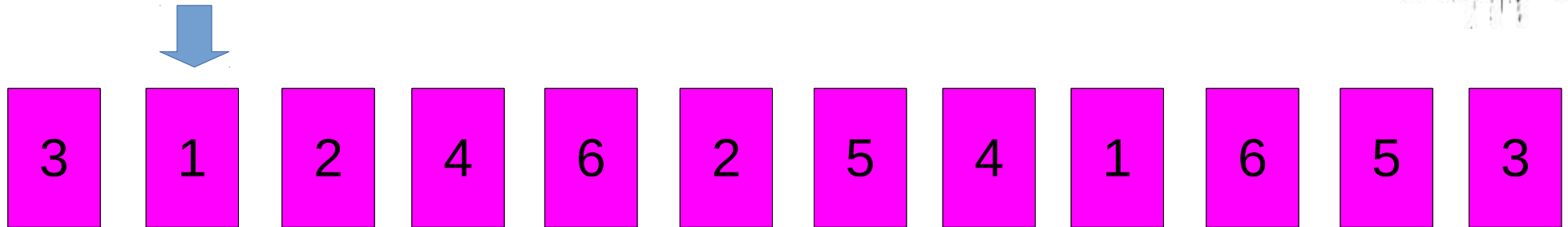


- Preprocess the instance to create a table P:

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions			1			



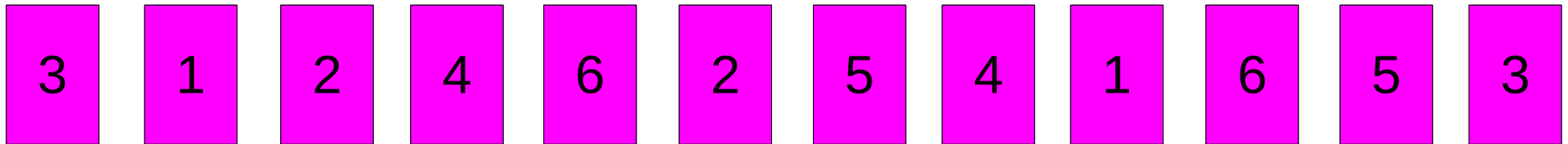
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Preprocess the instance to create a table P:

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2		1			

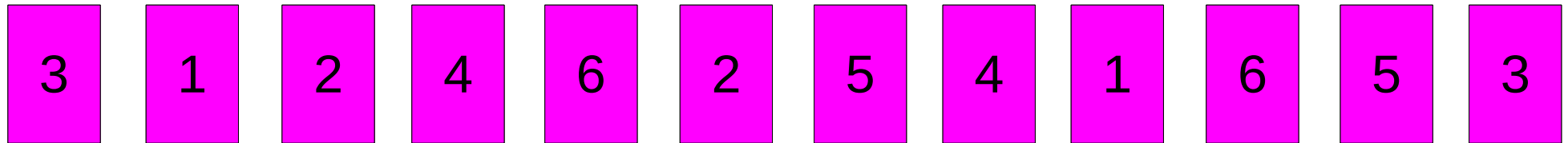
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Preprocess the instance to create a table P:

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1			

# One color ( $c = 1$ )

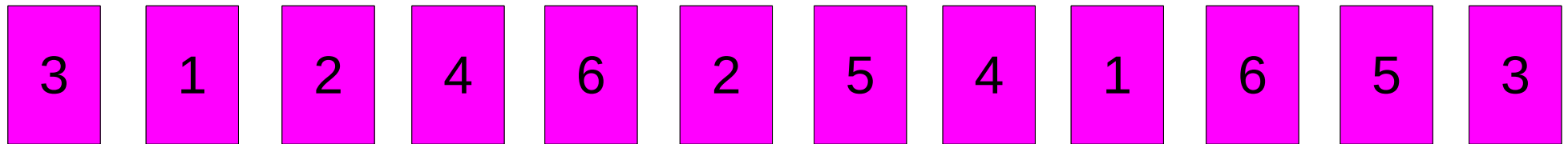


- Preprocess the instance to create a table P:

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10



# One color ( $c = 1$ )

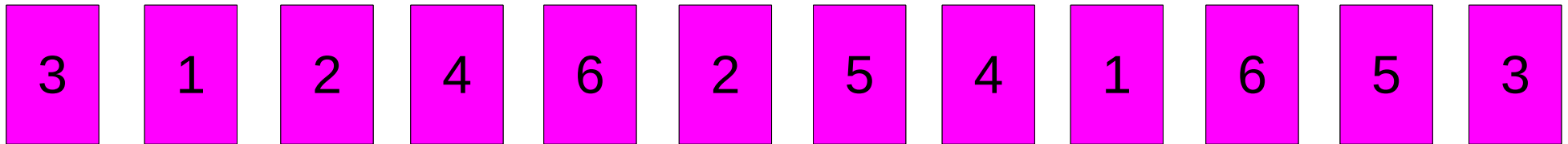


- Use a heap  $H$  of size  $h+1$ , storing the smallest LPIs of larger values (sorted).



Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

# One color ( $c = 1$ )

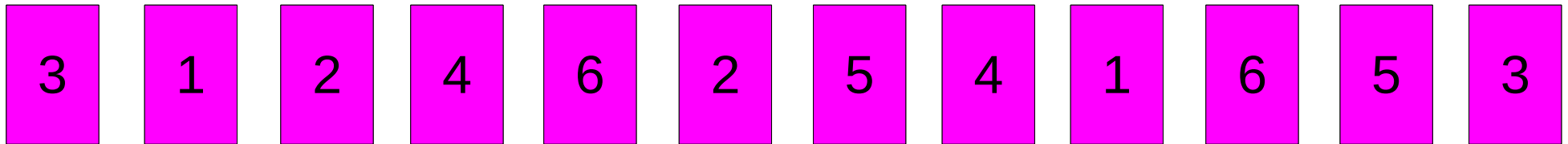


- Initialization of  $H$ :



Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

# One color ( $c = 1$ )

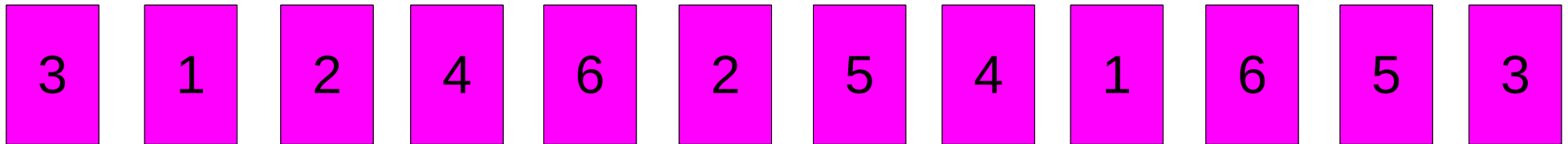


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Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
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	9	6	12	8	11	10

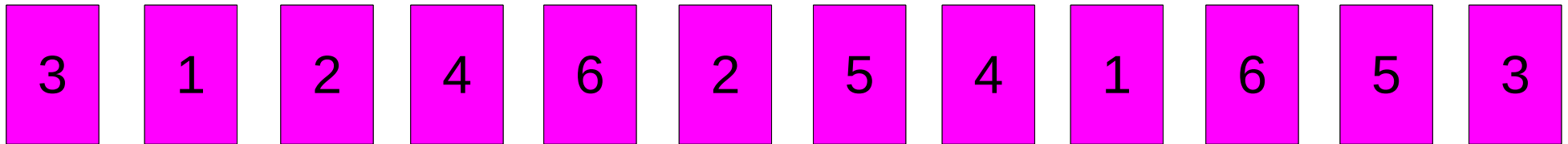
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Initialization of  $H$ :

	H	11	10	8		
				↓		
<b>Values</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Positions</b>	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

# One color ( $c = 1$ )



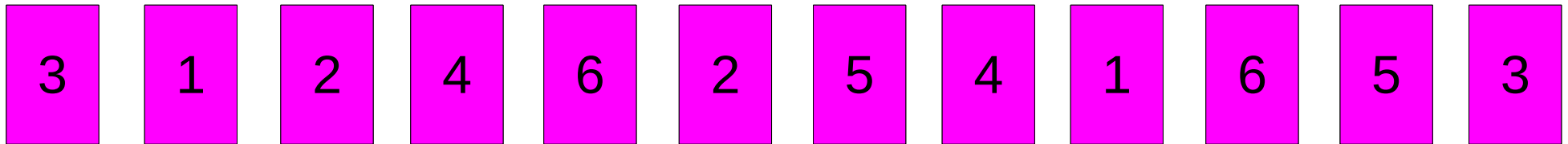
- Compare max-value of  $H$  to current value's LPI.

	H	11	10	8		
<b>Values</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Positions</b>	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10





# One color ( $c = 1$ )

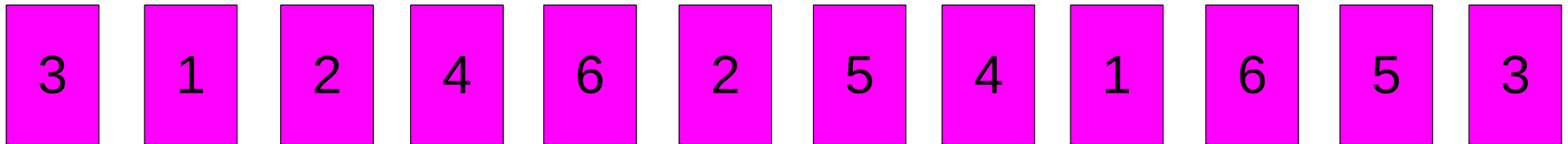


- Compare max value of  $H$  to current value's LPI.
  - If larger, update current value's LPI.



Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

# One color ( $c = 1$ )

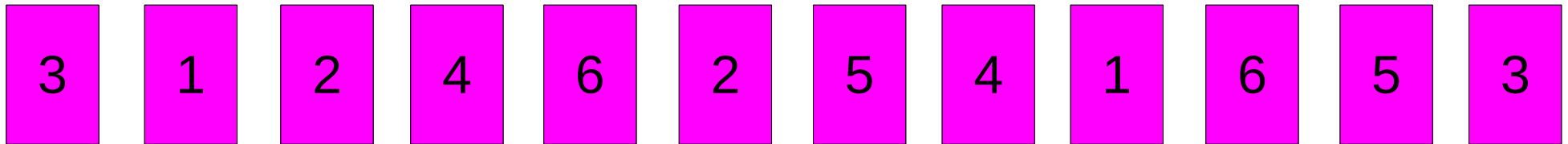


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Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
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# One color ( $c = 1$ )



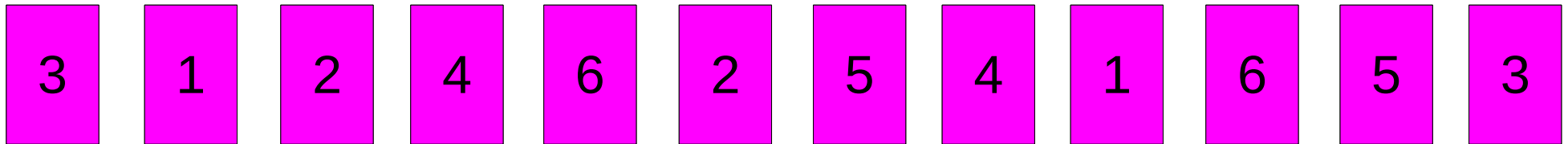
- Compare max value of  $H$  to current value's LPI.
  - If smaller, insert it in  $H$  (keeping it sorted).



Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10



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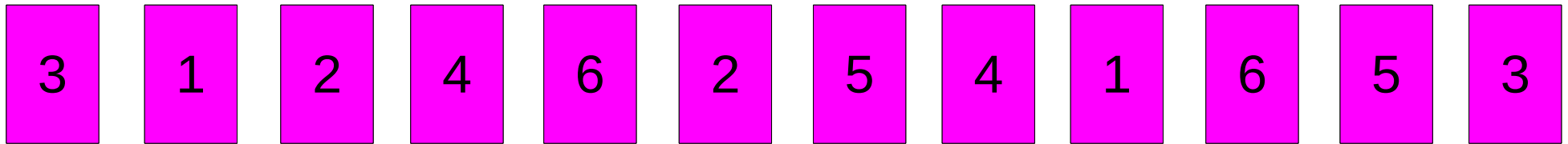


- Compare max value of  $H$  to current value's LPI.
  - If smaller, insert it in  $H$  (keeping it sorted).



Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

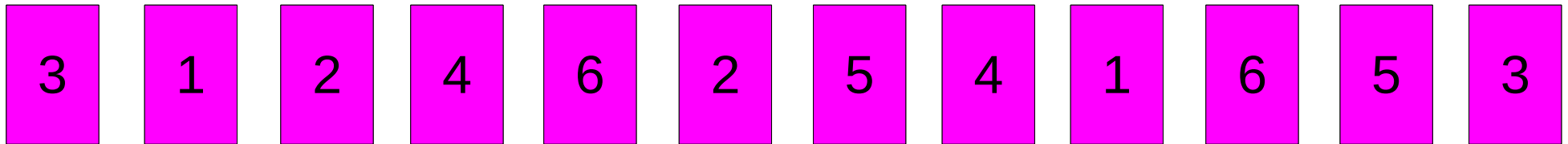
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Repeat with smaller values

	H	10	8	1		
<b>Values</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Positions</b>	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

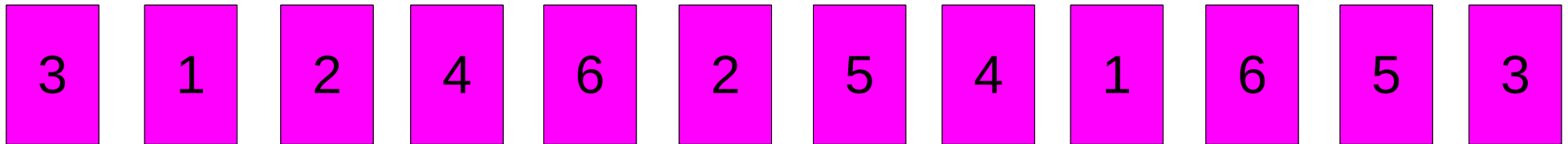
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Repeat with smaller values

	H	8	6	1		
<b>Values</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Positions</b>	2	3	1	4	7	5
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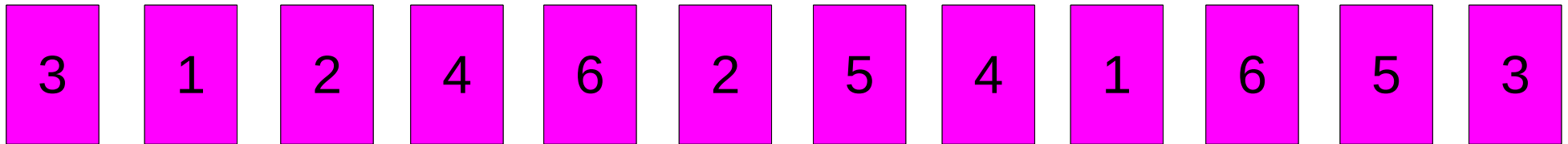
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Repeat with smaller values

	H	8	6	1		
<b>Values</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
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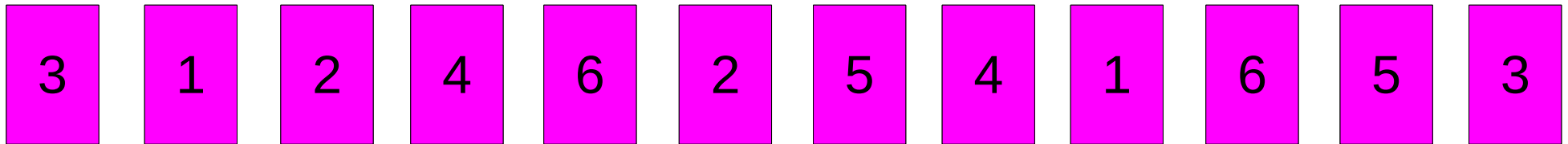


- Repeat with smaller values

	H	8	6	1		
<b>Values</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Positions</b>	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10



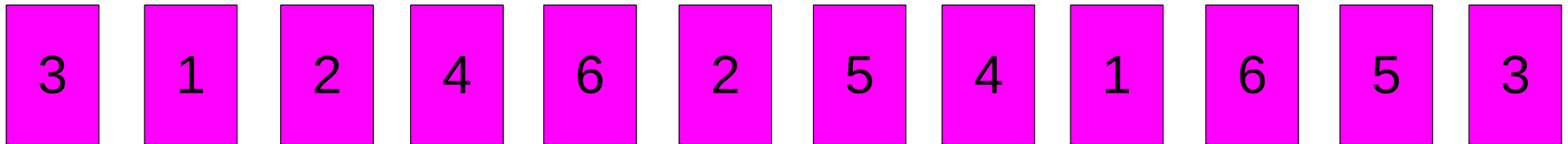
# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- Repeat with smaller values

	H	6	2	1		
	↓					
<b>Values</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Positions</b>	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

# One color ( $c = 1$ )

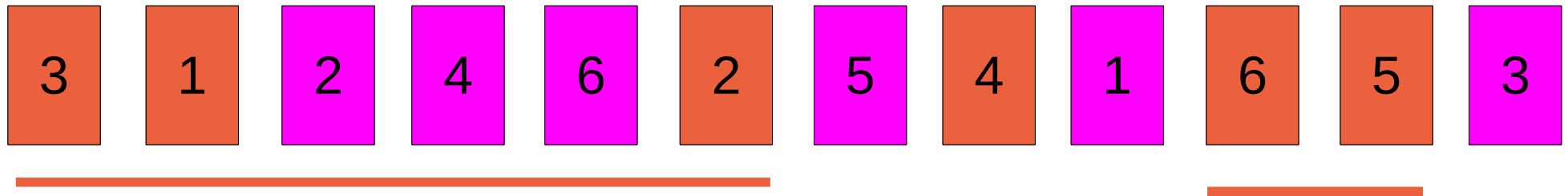


- If process terminates then the instance is solvable.

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10



# One color ( $c = 1$ )

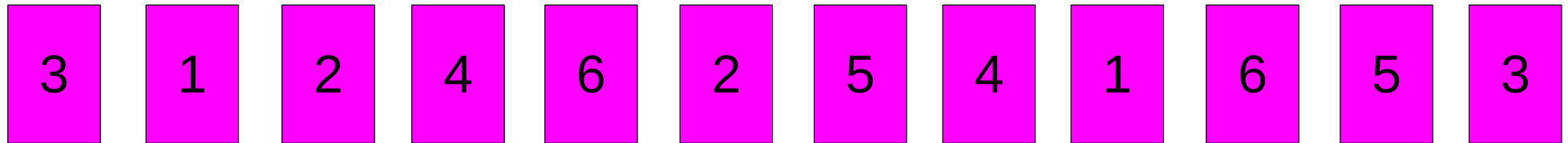


- If process terminates then the instance is solvable.

Use, for each value, the index the process specified.

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

# One color ( $c = 1$ )



- If some value runs out of available indices then the instance is not solvable.

Values	1	2	3	4	5	6
Positions	2	3	1	4	7	5
	9	6	12	8	11	10

# One color ( $c = 1$ )



## Complexity

- Pre-processing:  $O(N)$ ;
- Heap operations (insertions):  $O(\log h)$ .

Total running time:  $O(N + v \cdot \log h)$

# Future Work



- Parameterized complexity?
  - $r$  or  $h$  are parameters: paraNP-complete.
  - Dynamic program runs in time exponential in  $c$ .  
→  $W$ -hard parameterized by  $c$ ?
  - $v$  is parameter: FPT (it has an exponential kernel running in  $Nnc$ ). → Polynomial kernel?
- Multiplayer game?



Happy Rank!