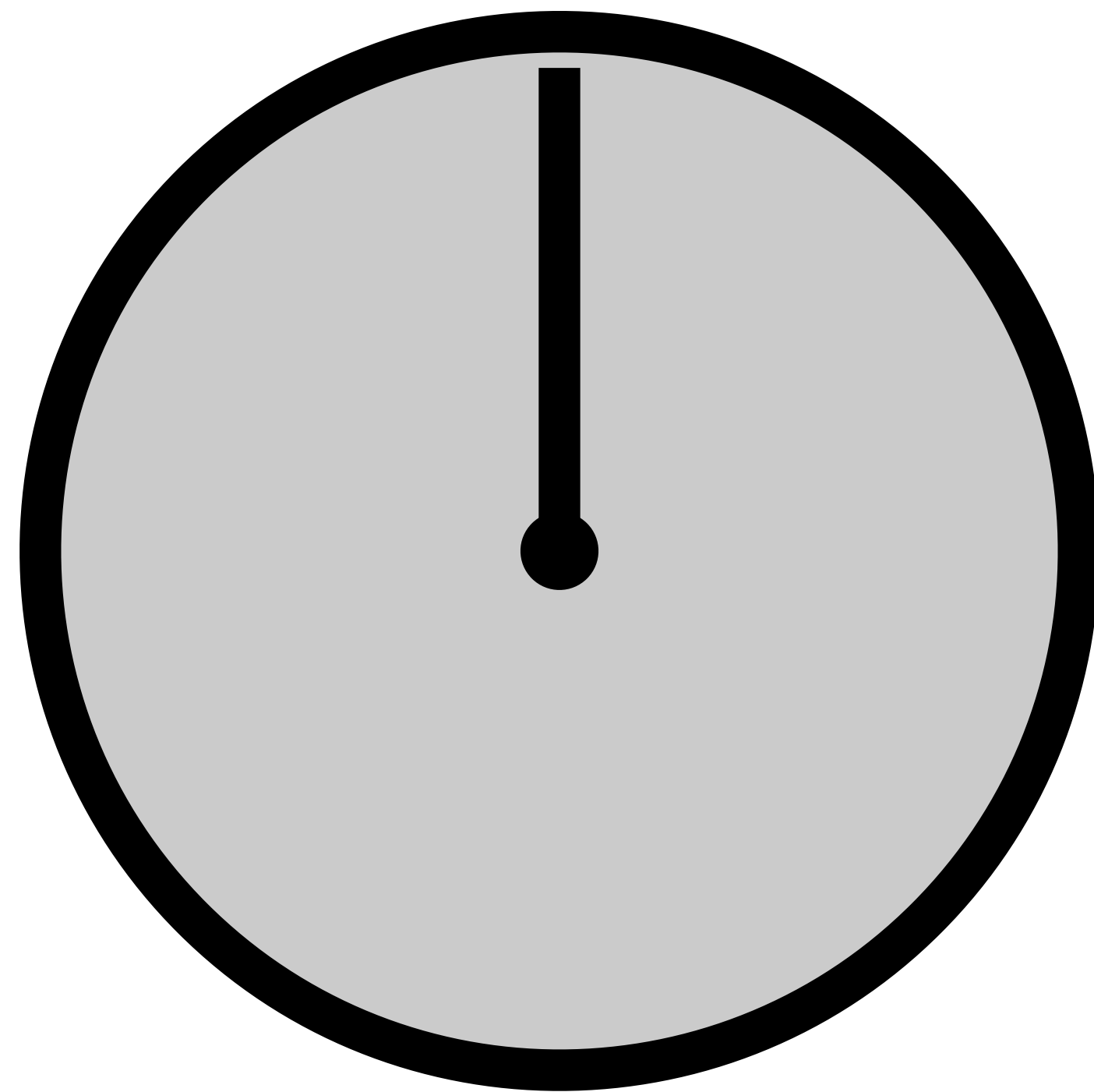
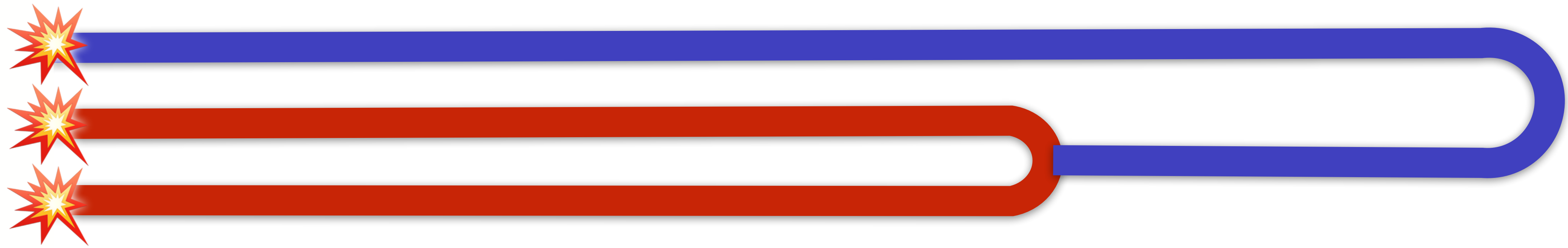


*Fussibile
nummerbers*

Two
fuses

A simple puzzle

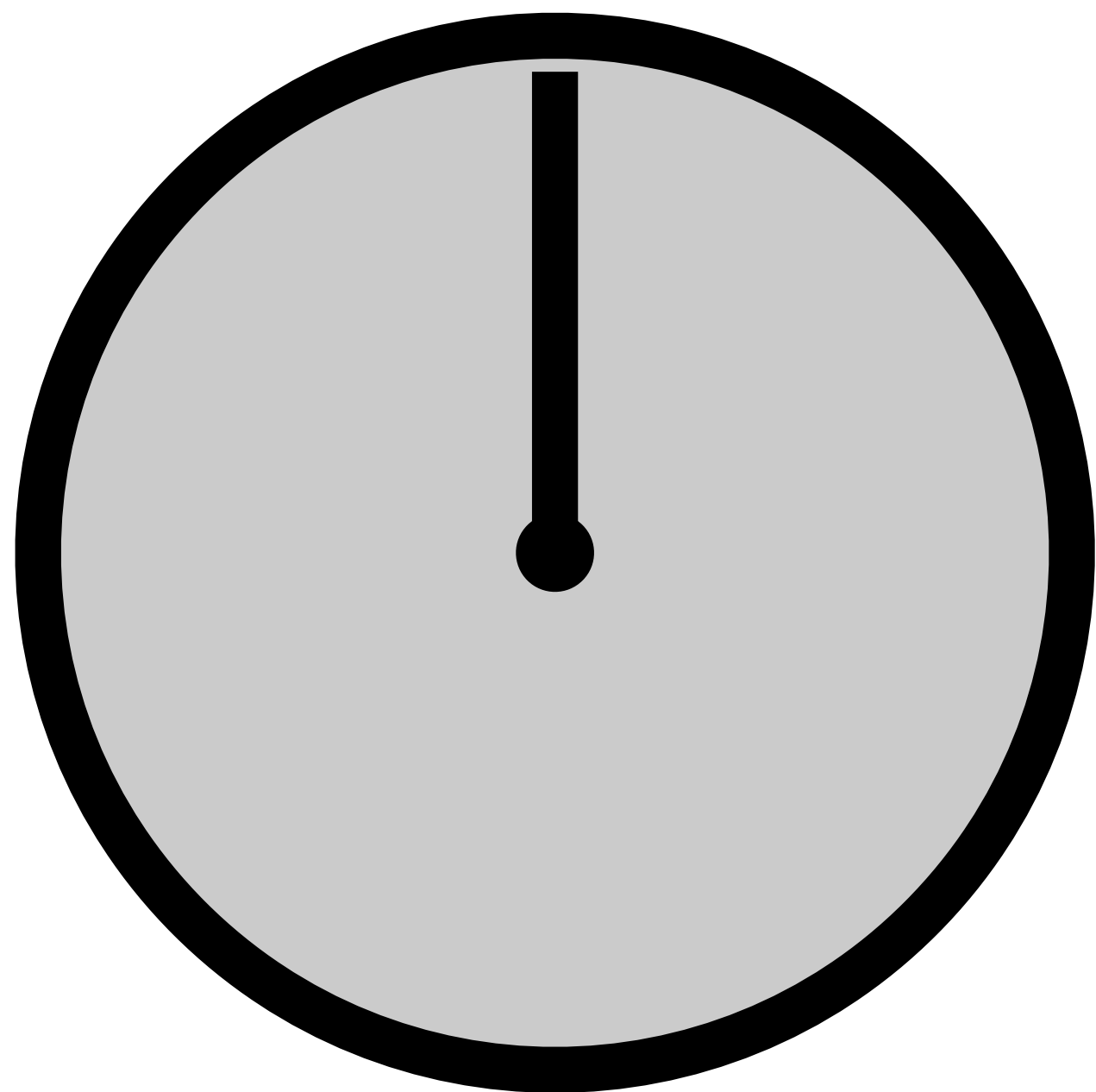
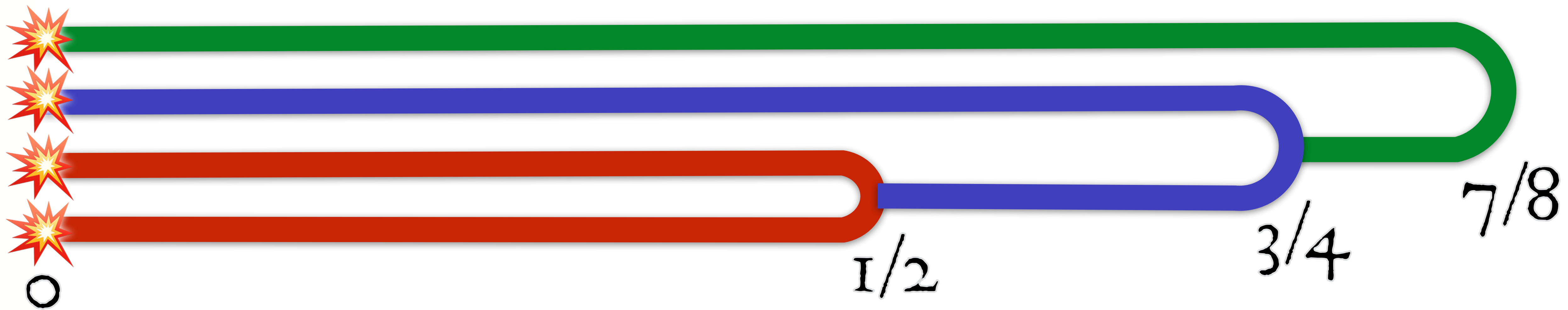
- ▶ Suppose you have two fuses (or shoelaces, or pieces of rope, or...).
- ▶ Each fuse will burn from one end to the other in exactly one hour, but not necessarily at a fixed rate.
- ▶ *How do you accurately measure 45 minutes?*

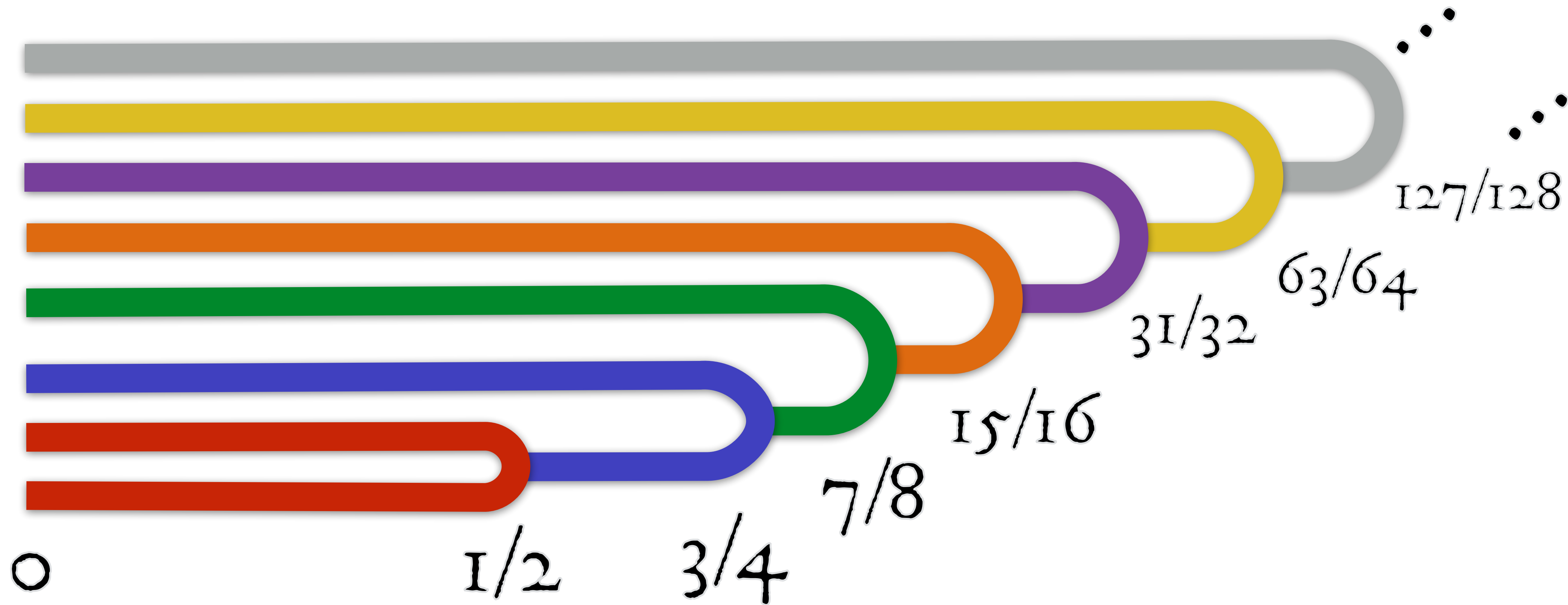


Cool.

But what if we did that more than once?

*More
fuses!*





The Rules

- ▶ We can use any *finite* number of fuses.
- ▶ We can light any number of fuse ends at the start.
- ▶ We can light any number of fuse ends at the exact moment another fuse burns out.
- ▶ The timer starts when the first fuse is lit.
- ▶ The timer ends when the last fuse burns out.
- ▶ *No cheating!* No other clocks, no cutting fuses, no lighting fuses in the middle, no extinguishing fuses, no infinite regress

0 is a *fusible number*.

If x and y are fusible numbers such that $|x-y|<1$,
then $(x+y+1)/2$ is also a fusible number.

These are all the fusible numbers.

$$x \sim y = (x+y+1)/2$$

“x fuse y”

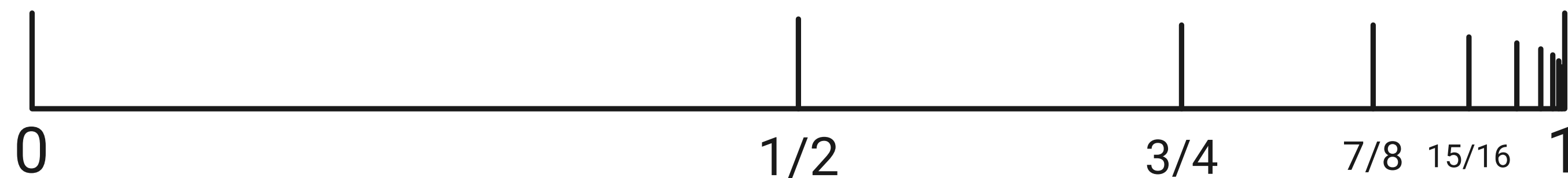
*Basic
properties*

Lemma: The set of fusible numbers is infinite.

Proof: $1 - 2^{-n}$ is fusible for every integer $n \geq 0$.

$$1 - 2^{-0} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

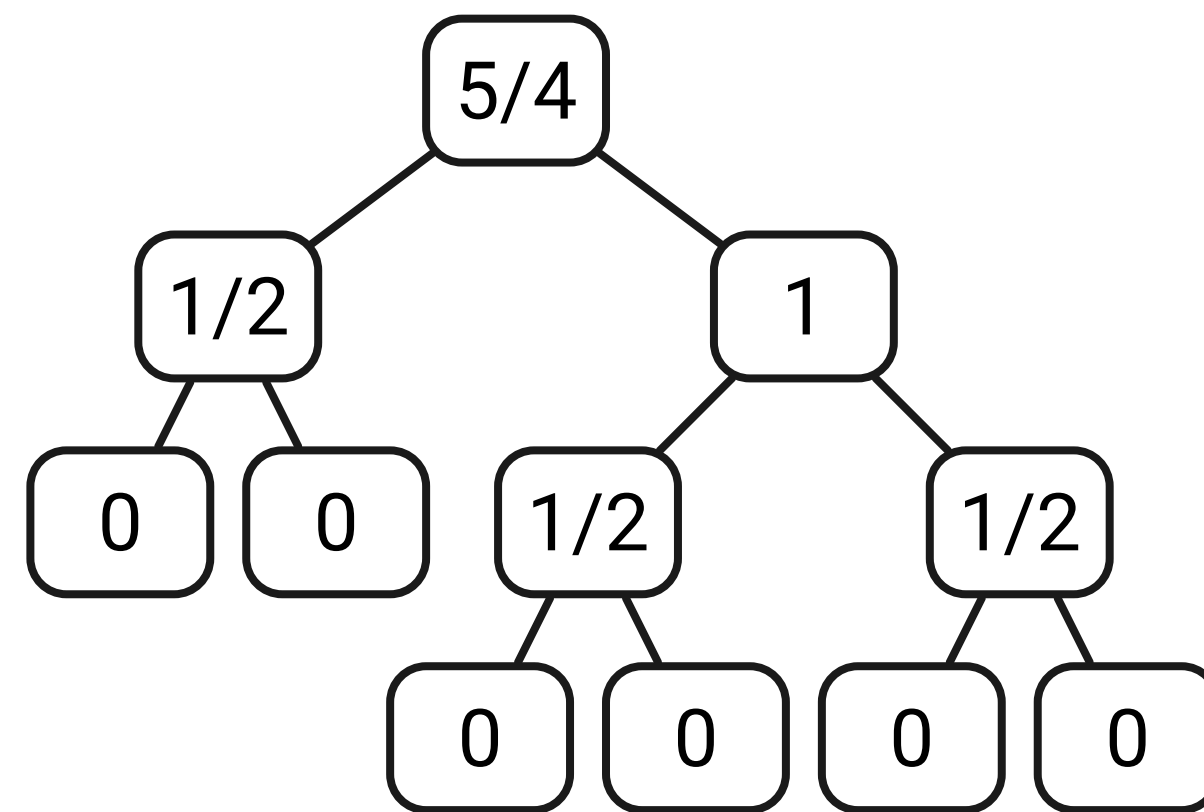
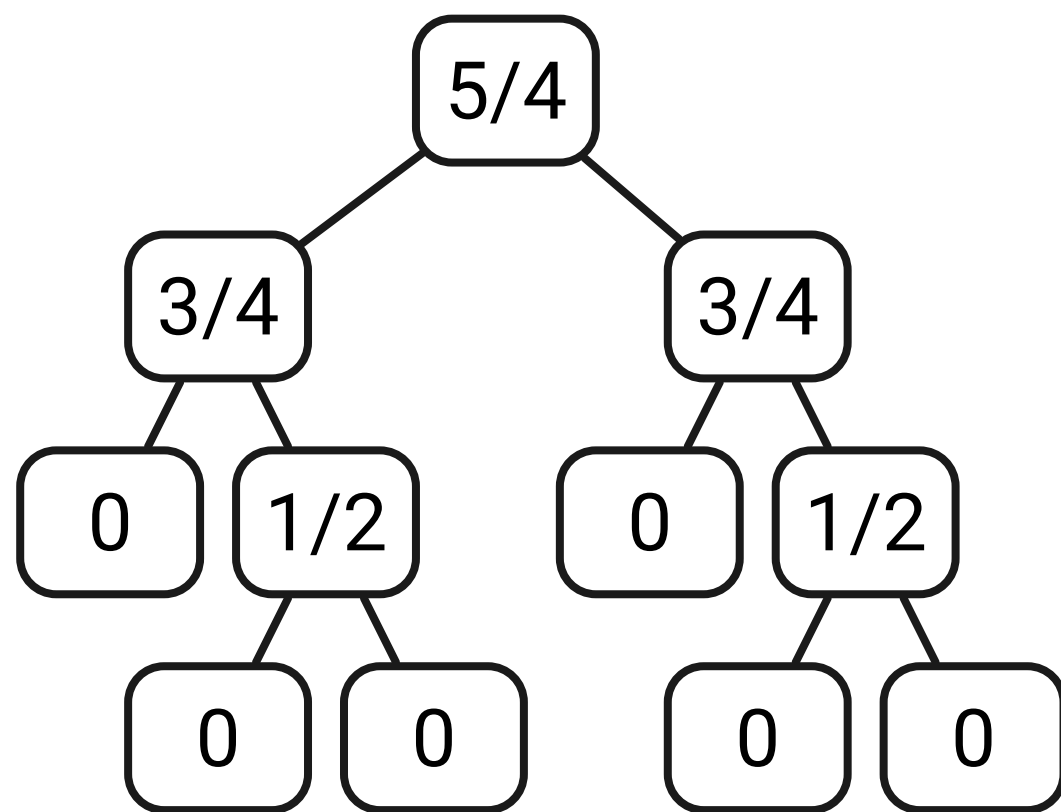
$$1 - 2^{-n} = 0 \sim (1 - 2^{-(n-1)}) \quad \checkmark$$



Lemma: The set of fusible numbers is *countable*.

Proof: Every assemblage of fuses can be described by a (not necessarily unique) unordered binary tree.

$$\frac{5}{4} = (0 \sim (0 \sim 0)) \sim (0 \sim (0 \sim 0)) = (0 \sim 0) \sim ((0 \sim 0) \sim (0 \sim 0))$$



$$\text{value}(T) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{leaf } \ell} 2^{-\text{depth}(\ell)}$$

Theorem: The fusible numbers are *well-ordered*. Thus, for every real number x , there is a smallest fusible number $> x$.

So we can apply induction on fusible numbers!

Proof:

For the sake of argument, suppose there is an infinite decreasing sequence $x_1 > x_2 > x_3 > \dots$ of fusible numbers.

This sequence must tend to a limit x .

Without loss of generality, assume x is the *smallest* such limit.

For each index k , we have $x_k = y_k \sim z_k$ for some $y_k \leq z_k$.

Infinite Ramsey theorem \Rightarrow WLOG the infinite sequence y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots is either decreasing, constant, or increasing.

Suppose y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots is decreasing. Let $y = \lim y_i$

- ▶ Because $y_i \leq x_i - 1/2$ for all i , we have $y < x$, **contradicting the minimality of x .**

Suppose y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots is non-decreasing.

- ▶ Then z_1, z_2, z_3, \dots must be decreasing. Let $z = \lim z_i$
- ▶ y_1, y_2, \dots converges to $y = \lim y_i = \lim(2x_i - z_i - 1) = 2x - z - 1$
- ▶ Because $z_i \leq x_i$ for all i , we have $z \leq x$ and therefore **$z = x$.**
- ▶ But $y_i \geq y_1 > x_1 - 1 > x - 1$ for all i . So $y > x - 1$ and thus **$z > x$.**

Small examples

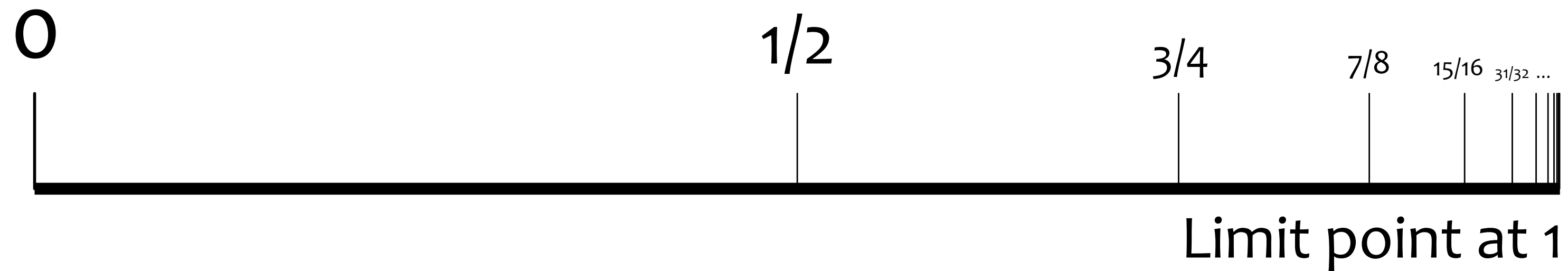
$$0 \sim 0 = 1/2$$

$$0 \sim 1/2 = 3/4$$

$$0 \sim 3/4 = 7/8$$

⋮

$$0 \sim (1 - 2^{-n}) = 1 - 2^{-(n+1)}$$



Small examples

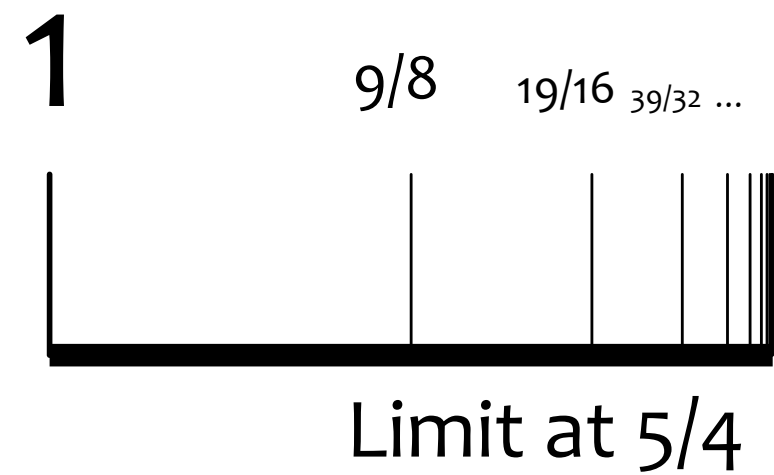
$$1/2 \sim 1/2 = 1$$

$$1/2 \sim 3/4 = 9/8$$

$$1/2 \sim 7/8 = 19/16$$

...

$$1/2 \sim (1 - 2^{-n}) = 5/4 - 2^{-(n+1)}$$



Small examples

$$1/2 \sim 1/2 = 1$$

$$1/2 \sim 3/4 = 9/8$$

$$1/2 \sim 7/8 = 19/16$$

...

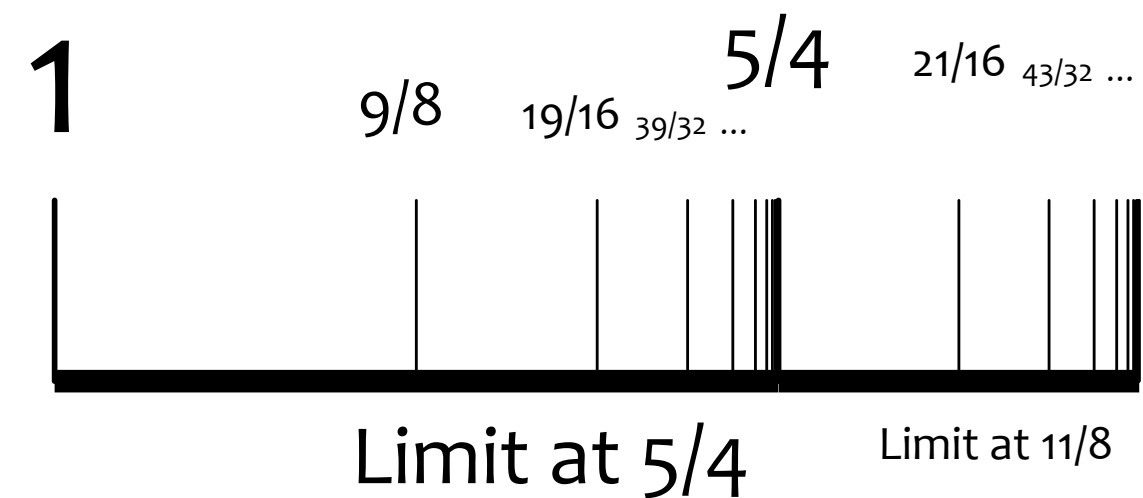
$$1/2 \sim (1-2^{-n}) = 5/4 - 2^{-(n+1)}$$

$$1/2 \sim 1 = 5/4$$

$$1/2 \sim 9/8 = 21/16$$

...

$$1/2 \sim (5/4 - 2^{-n}) = 11/8 - 2^{-(n+1)}$$



Small examples

$$1/2 \sim 1/2 = 1$$

$$1/2 \sim 1 = 5/4$$

$$1/2 \sim 3/4 = 9/8$$

$$1/2 \sim 9/8 = 21/16$$

$$1/2 \sim 7/8 = 19/16$$

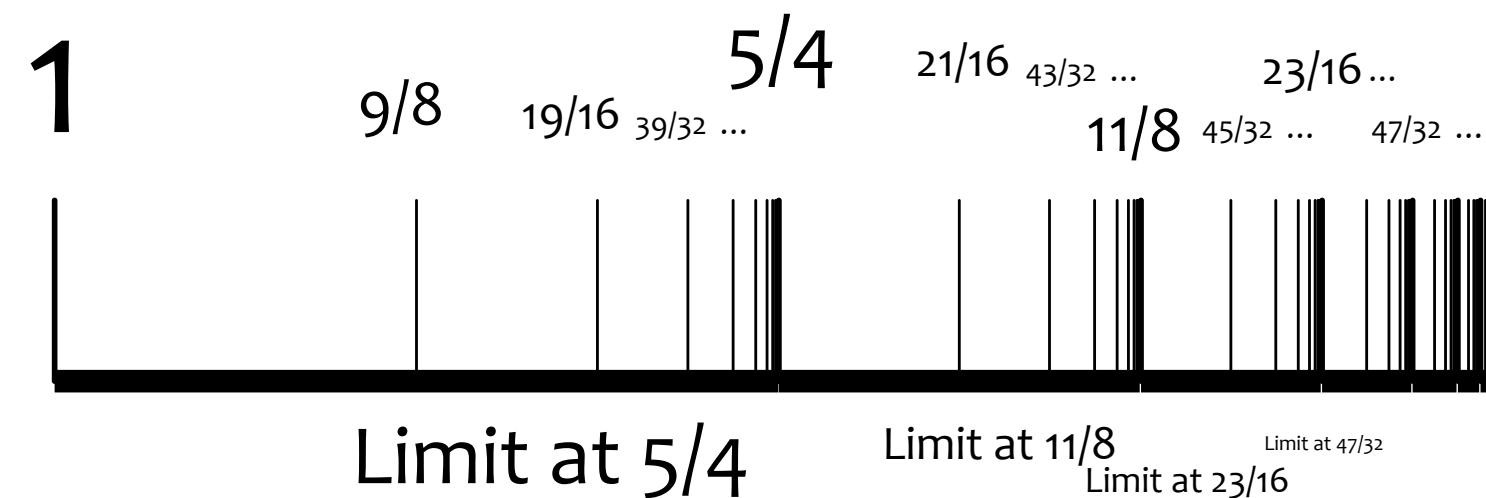
...

...

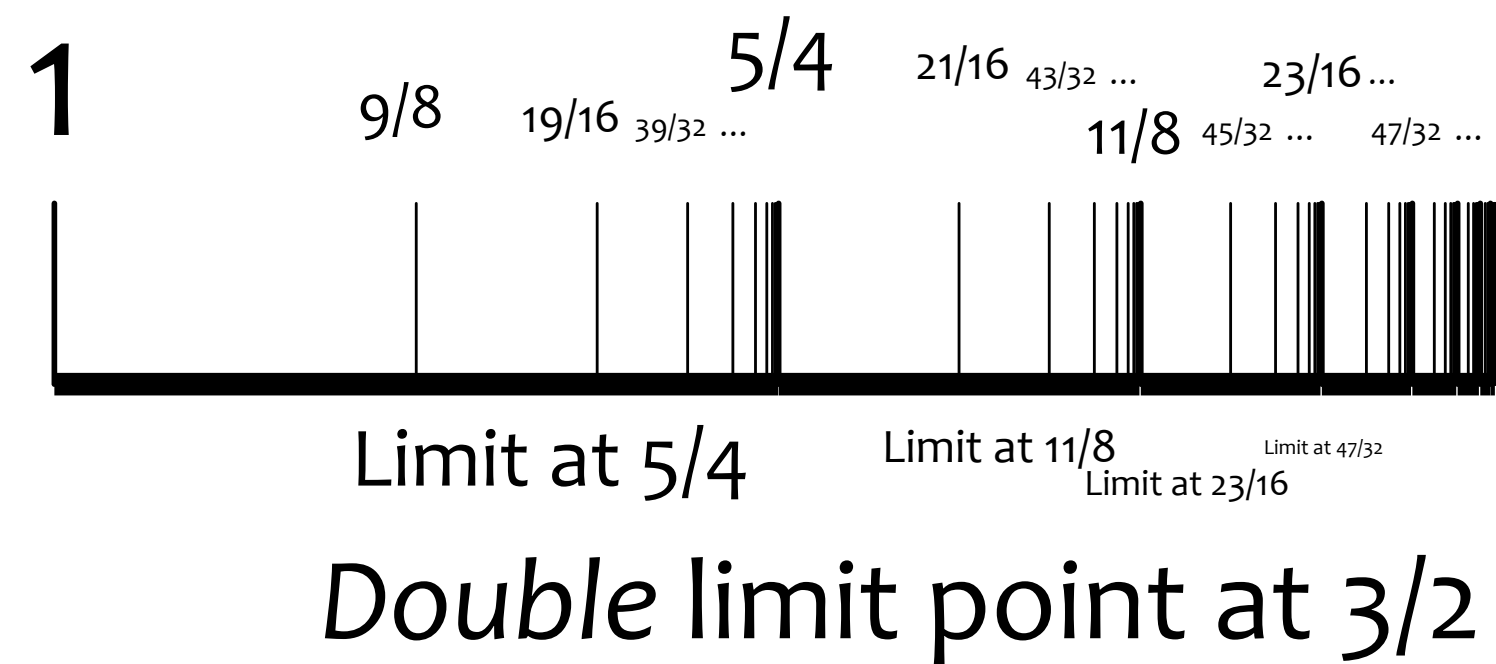
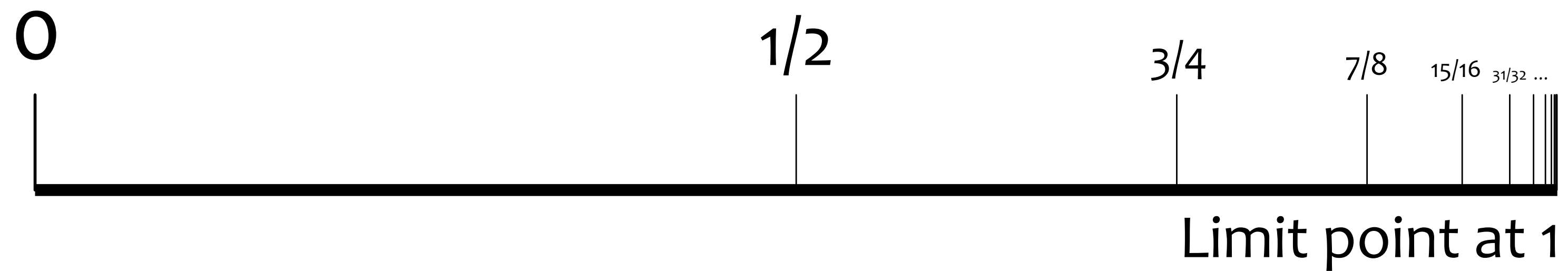
$$1/2 \sim (5/4 - 2^{-n}) = 11/8 - 2^{-(n+1)}$$

$$1/2 \sim (1 - 2^{-n}) = 5/4 - 2^{-(n+1)}$$

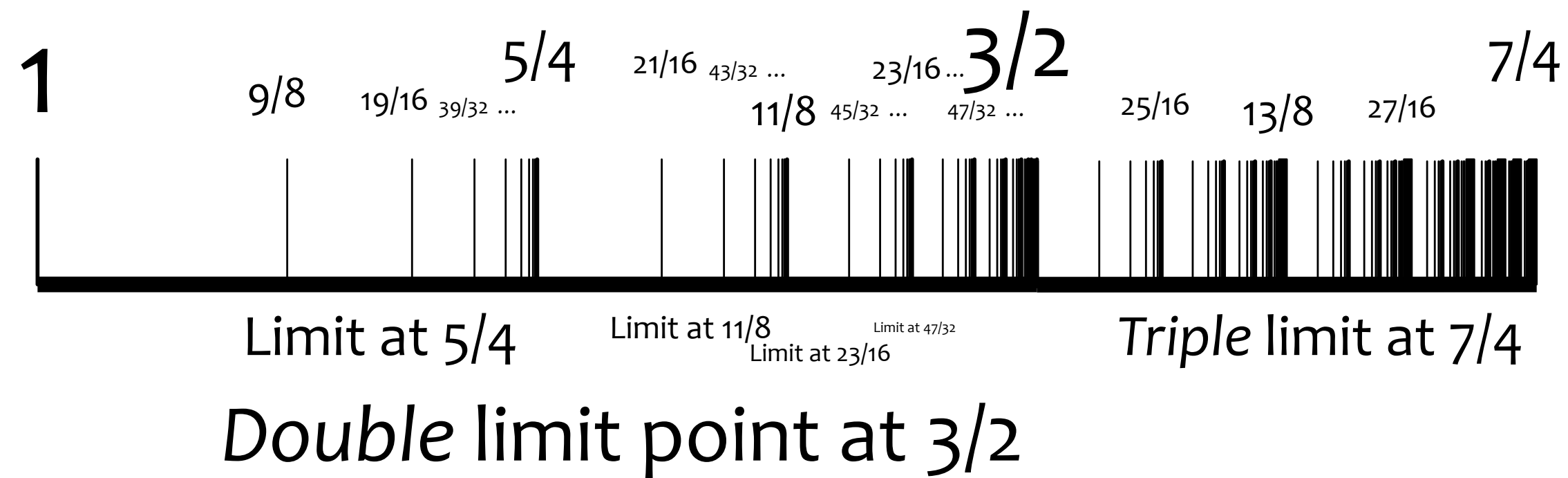
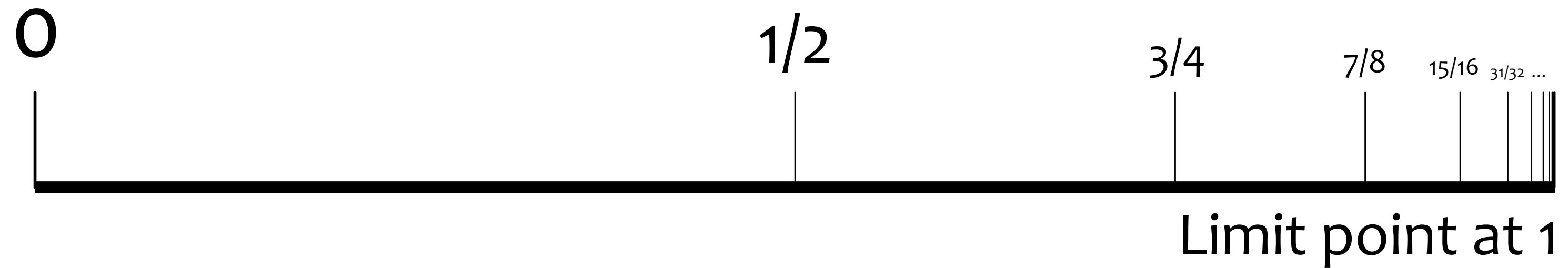
$$1/2 \sim (3/2 - 2^{-m} - 2^{-n}) = 3/2 - 2^{-m} - 2^{-(n+1)}$$



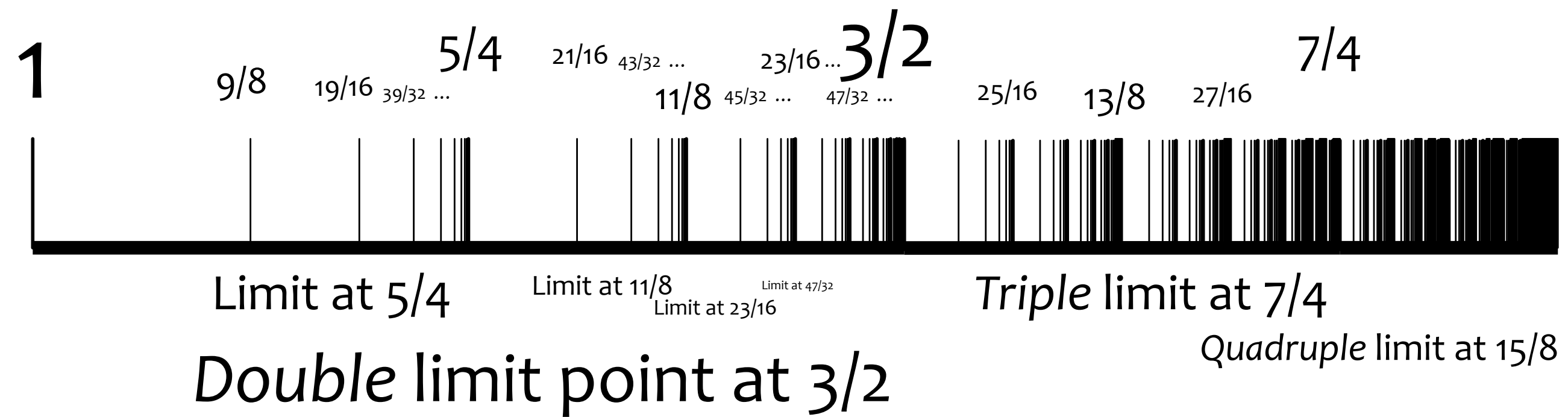
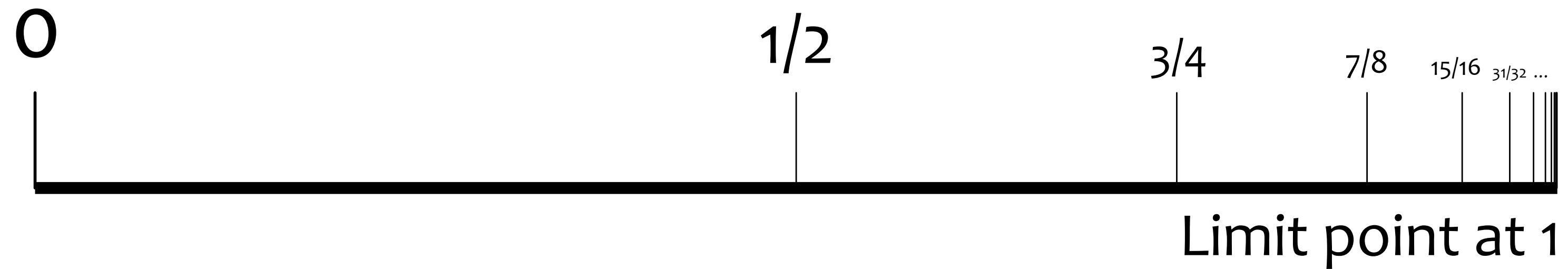
Small examples



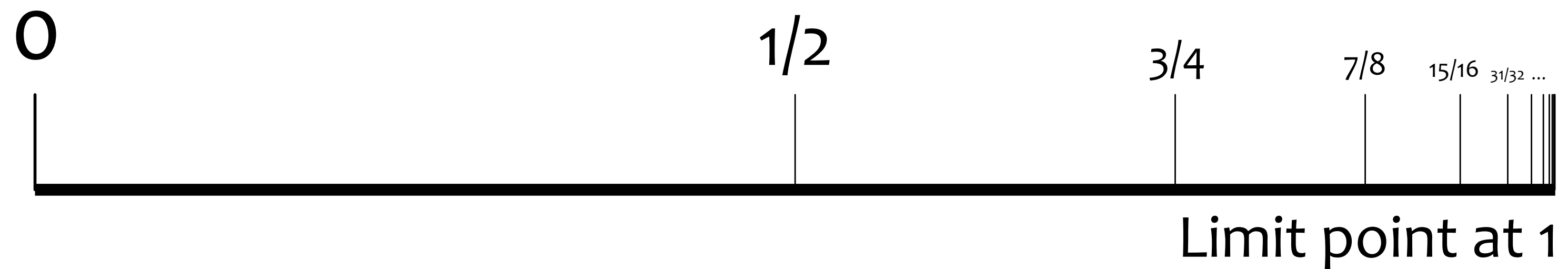
Small examples



Small examples

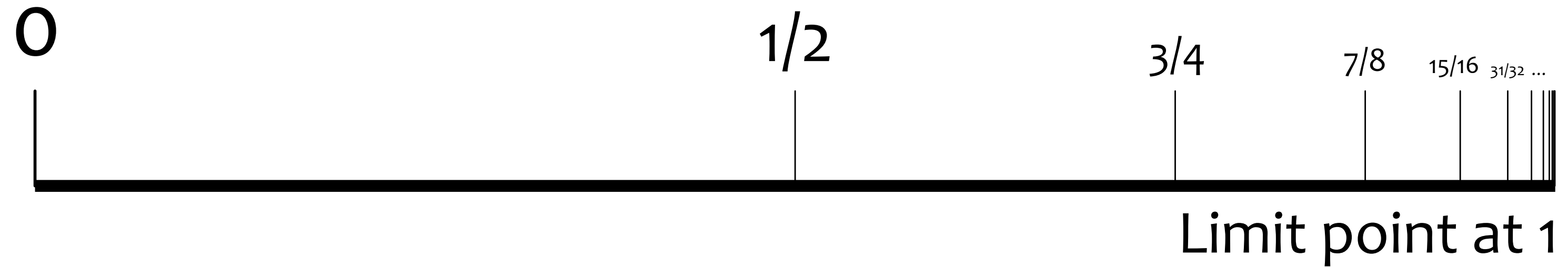


Small examples



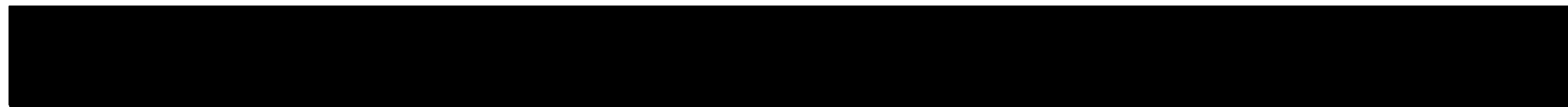
Limit of limits of limits of... at 2

Small examples



Limit of limits of limits of... at 2

2



```
# tame successor of x =
```

```
# smallest tame fusible > x
```

```
def TameSucc(x):
```

```
    if x < 0:
```

```
        return -x
```

```
    y = TameSucc(x-1)
```

```
    z = TameSucc(2x-y-1)
```

```
    return (y+z-1)/2
```

```
# tame margin of x =
```

```
# TameSucc(x) - x
```

```
def M(x):
```

```
    if x < 0:
```

```
        return -x
```

```
    return M(x-M(x-1))/2
```

Tame fusible numbers := $\{ \text{TameSucc}(x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R} \}$.

Conjecture [E 2010]: Every fusible number is tame.

Xu 2012: Nope! $8449/4096 = 33/16 + 2^{-12}$ is fusible

but $\text{TameSucc}(33/16) = 33/16 + 2^{-11}$

*A simple(!)
recurrence*

```
# tame successor of x =
```

```
# smallest tame fusible > x
```

```
def TameSucc(x):
```

```
    if x < 0:
```

```
        return -x
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    y = TameSucc(x-1)
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```
    z = TameSucc(2x-y-1)
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    return (y+z-1)/2
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```
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# TameSucc(x) - x
```

```
def M(x):
```

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    if x < 0:
```

```
        return -x
```

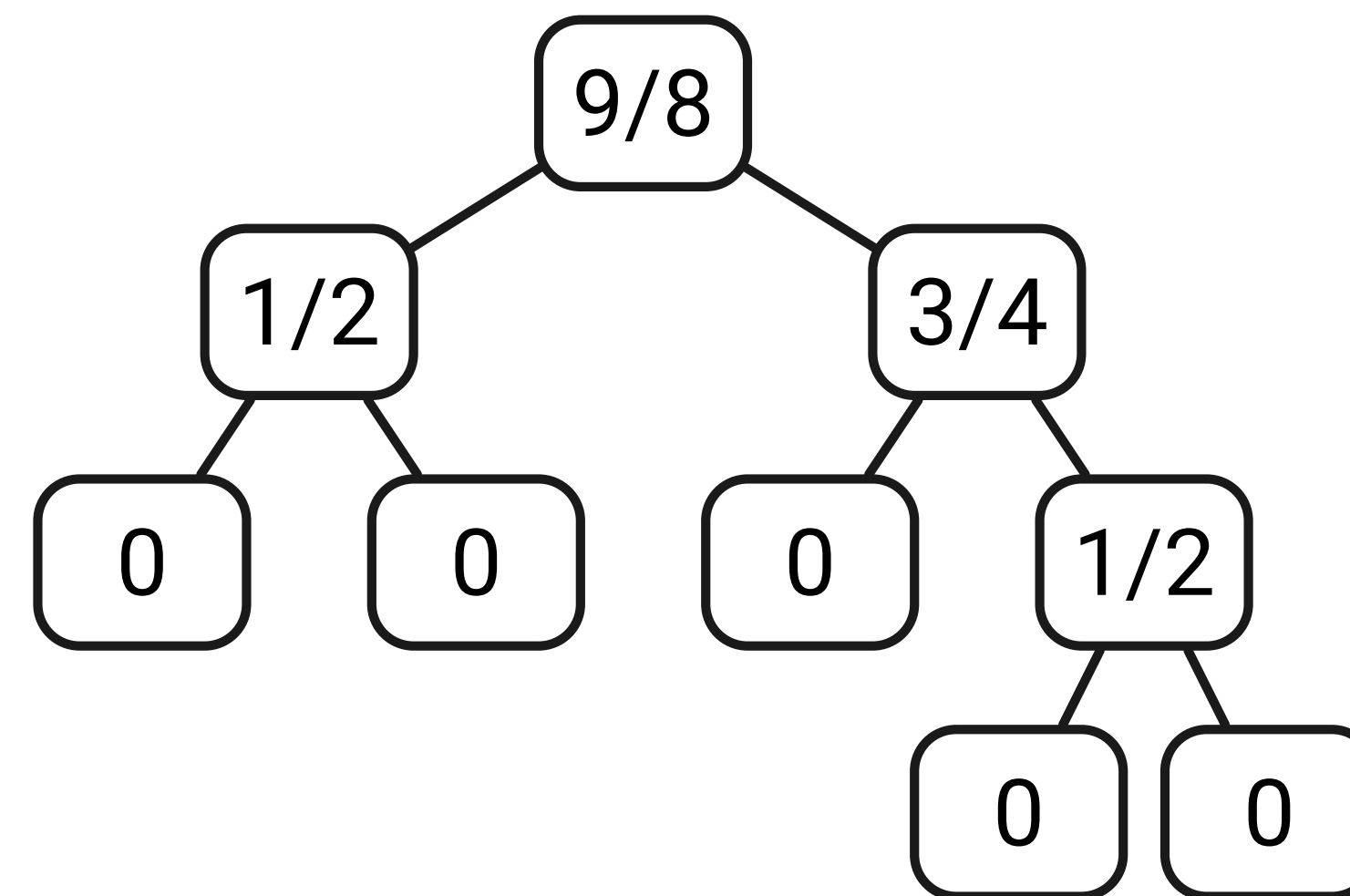
```
    return M(x-M(x-1))/2
```

Let $M(x)$ = *margin* of x
= distance from x to the smallest *tame* fusible $> x$

$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ M(x) - M(x - 1))/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ M(x - M(x - 1))/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

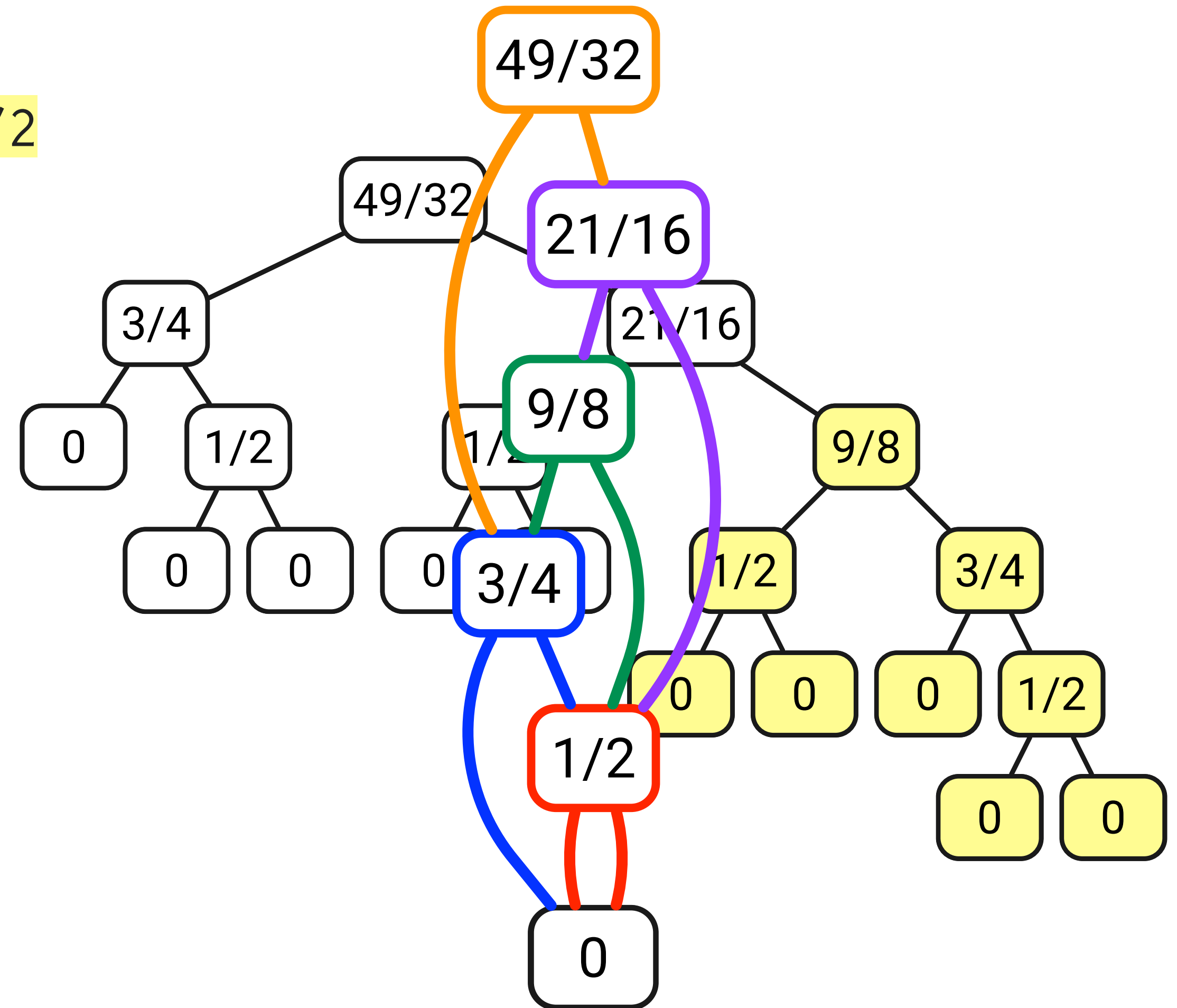
$M(1) = \dots$
 | $M(0) = \dots$
 | | $M(-1) = 1$
 | | $M(-1) = 1$
 | $M(0) = 1/2$
 | $M(1/2) = \dots$
 | | $M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 | | $M(0) = \dots$
 | | | $M(-1) = 1$
 | | | $M(-1) = 1$
 | | $M(0) = 1/2$
 | $M(1/2) = 1/4$
 $M(1) = 1/8$



$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ M(x - M(x - 1))/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$M(3/2) = \dots$
 $| M(1/2) = \dots$
 $| | M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 $| | M(0) = \dots$
 $| | | M(-1) = 1$
 $| | | M(-1) = 1$
 $| | M(0) = 1/2$
 $| M(1/2) = 1/4$
 $| M(5/4) = \dots$
 $| | M(1/4) = \dots$
 $| | | M(-3/4) = 3/4$
 $| | | M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 $| | M(1/4) = 1/4$
 $| | M(1) = \dots$
 $| | | M(0) = \dots$
 $| | | | M(-1) = 1$
 $| | | | M(-1) = 1$

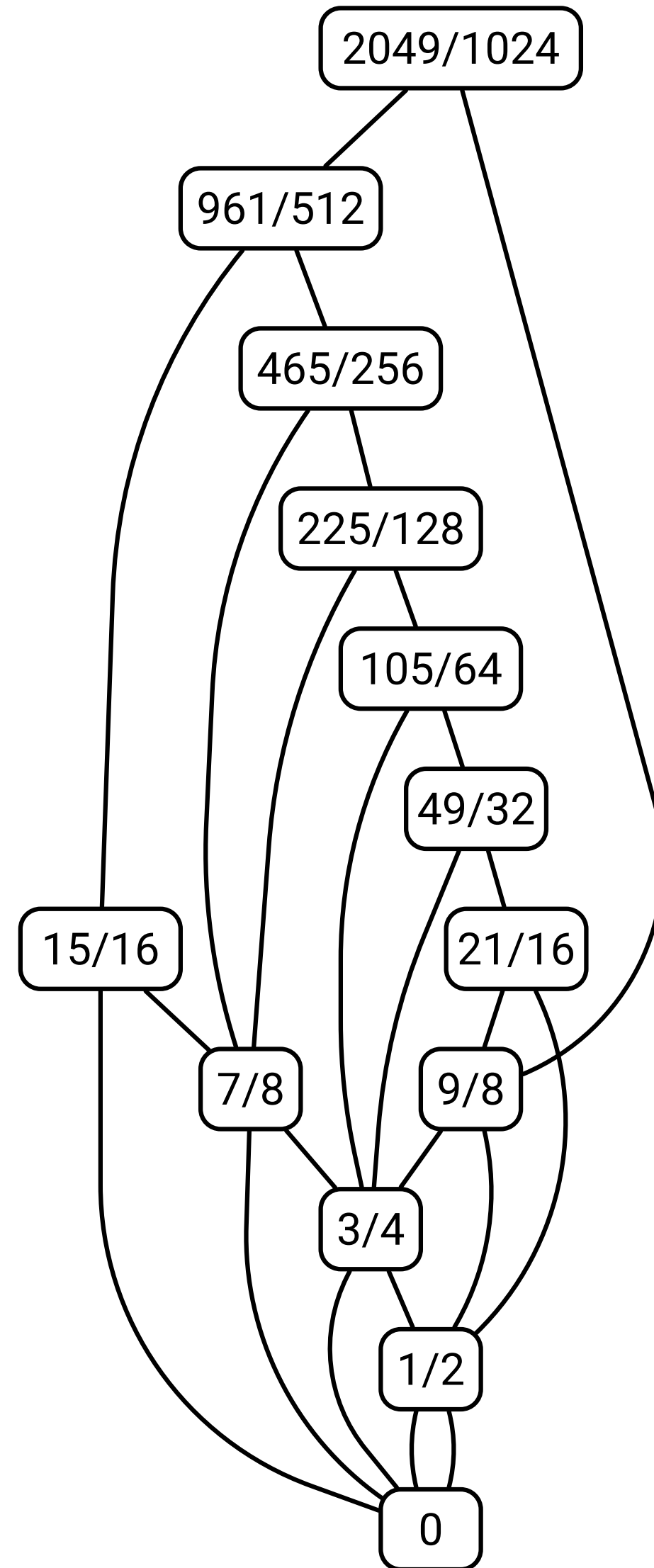
$| | | M(0) = 1/2$
 $| | | M(1/2) = \dots$
 $| | | | M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 $| | | | M(0) = \dots$
 $| | | | | M(-1) = 1$
 $| | | | | M(-1) = 1$
 $| | | | M(0) = 1/2$
 $| | | M(1/2) = 1/4$
 $| | M(1) = 1/8$
 $| M(5/4) = 1/16$
 $M(3/2) = 1/32$



$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ M(x - M(x - 1))/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$M(2) = \dots$
 $M(1) = \dots$
 $M(0) = \dots$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(0) = 1/2$
 $M(1/2) = \dots$
 $M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 $M(0) = \dots$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(0) = 1/2$
 $M(1/2) = 1/4$
 $M(1) = 1/8$
 $M(15/8) = \dots$
 $M(7/8) = \dots$
 $M(-1/8) = 1/8$
 $M(3/4) = \dots$
 $M(-1/4) = 1/4$
 $M(1/2) = \dots$
 $M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 $M(0) = \dots$
 $M(-1) = 1$

$M(2)$
 $M(1)$
 $M(0)$
 $M(1/2)$
 $M(3/4) =$
 $M(7/8) = 1$
 $M(29/16) =$
 $M(13/16)$
 $M(-3/1$
 $M(5/8)$
 $M(-3$
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 $M($
 $M(1/$
 $M(5/8)$
 $M(13/16)$
 $M(7/4) =$
 $M(3/4)$
 $M(-1$
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$= 1$
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 3
 \dots
 $= 3/8$
 $= \dots$
 $4) = 3/4$
 $2) = 1/2$
 $= 1/4$
 $1/8$
 \dots
 $= \dots$
 $2) = 1/2$
 $= \dots$
 $1) = 1$
 $1) = 1$
 $= 1/2$
 $= 1/4$
 $= \dots$
 $) = \dots$
 $3/4) = 3/4$

$M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 $M(1/4) = 1/4$
 $M(1) = \dots$
 $M(0) = \dots$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(0) = 1/2$
 $M(1/2) = \dots$
 $M(-1/2) = 1/2$
 $M(0) = \dots$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(-1) = 1$
 $M(0) = 1/2$
 $M(1/2) = 1/4$
 $M(1) = 1/8$
 $M(5/4) = 1/16$
 $M(3/2) = 1/32$
 $M(13/8) = 1/64$
 $M(7/4) = 1/128$
 $M(29/16) = 1/256$
 $M(15/8) = 1/512$
 $M(2) = 1/1024$

$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x \leq 0 \\ M(x) - M(x-1)/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$M(5/4) = 1/16$
 $M(3/2) = 1/32$
 $M(13/8) = 1/64$
 $M(7/4) = 1/128$
 $M(19/16) = 1/256$
 $M(15/8) = 1/512$
 $M(2) = 1/1024$
 $M(33/16) = 1/2048$
 $M(17/8) = 1/4096$
 $M(69/32) = 1/8192$
 $M(35/16) = 1/16384$
 $M(9/4) = 1/32768$
 $M(73/32) = 1/65536$
 $M(37/16) = 1/131072$
 $M(149/64) = 1/262144$
 $M(75/32) = 1/524288$
 $M(19/8) = 1/1048576$
 $M(153/64) = 1/2097152$
 $M(77/32) = 1/4194304$
 $M(309/128) = 1/8388608$
 $M(155/64) = 1/16777216$
 $M(39/16) = 1/33554432$
 $M(313/128) = 1/67108864$
 $M(157/64) = 1/134217728$
 $M(629/256) = 1/268435456$
 $M(315/128) = 1/536870912$
 $M(79/32) = 1/1073741824$
 $M(5/2) = 1/2147483648$

$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ M(x - M(x - 1))/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Theorem: This recurrence halts for all real inputs.

$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ M(x - M(x - 1))/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Proof: Suppose $M(x)$ does not halt but $M(z)$ halts for all $z \leq x-1$.

Let $x_0 = x$ and $x_i = x_{i-1} - M(x_{i-1}-1)$. IH implies this call to M halts.

We have an infinite decreasing sequence $x_0 > x_1 > x_2 > \dots$

Let $y_i = x_{i-1} - 1 = x_{i-1} - 1 + M(x_{i-1}-1)$. Then y_i is weak fusible for all $i > 0$.

So we have an infinite decreasing sequence $y_1 > y_2 > y_3 > \dots$ of (weak) fusible numbers, which contradicts *well-ordering*.

*Transfinite
ordinals*

- ▶ A *well-ordered set* $(X, <)$ is a set X with a total order $<$ such that every non-empty subset of X has a *smallest* element with respect to $<$.
- ▶ Two well-ordered sets are *similar* if there is an order-preserving bijection between them. Equivalence classes are called *order types* or *ordinals*.
- ▶ Finite *von Neumann* ordinals, ordered by $< = \in = \subset$:
 - ▶ $0 = \emptyset$
 - ▶ $1 = 0 \cup \{0\} = \{0\} = \{\emptyset\}$
 - ▶ $2 = 1 \cup \{1\} = \{0, 1\} = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$
 - ▶ $3 = 2 \cup \{2\} = \{0, 1, 2\} = \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}, \{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}\}$
 - ▶ $n = (n-1) \cup \{n-1\} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$

▶ First *transfinite* ordinal: $\omega = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} = \mathbb{N}$

▶ Then $\omega + 1, \omega + 2, \omega + 3, \dots, \omega + \omega = \omega \cdot 2$

▶ Then $\omega \cdot 2 + 1, \omega \cdot 2 + 2, \omega \cdot 2 + 3, \dots, \omega \cdot 2 + \omega = \omega \cdot 3$

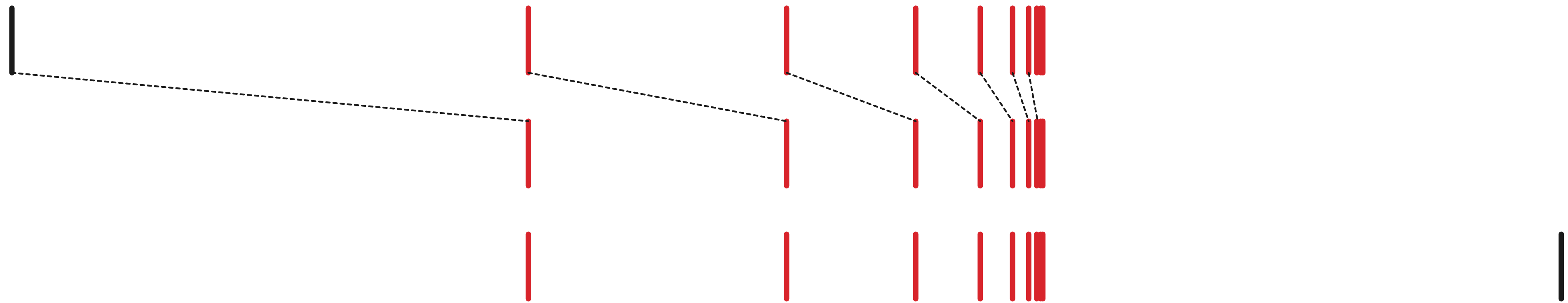
▶ Then $\omega \cdot 3 + 1, \omega \cdot 3 + 2, \dots, \omega \cdot 4, \omega \cdot 4 + 1, \omega \cdot 4 + 2, \dots, \omega \cdot 5, \dots, \omega \cdot 6, \dots, \omega \cdot \omega = \omega^2$

▶ Then $\omega^2 + 1, \omega^2 + 2, \dots, \omega^2 + \omega, \omega^2 + \omega + 1, \dots, \omega^2 + \omega \cdot 2, \dots, \omega^2 + \omega \cdot 3, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot 2, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot 2 + \omega, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot 2 + \omega \cdot 2, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot 2 + \omega \cdot 3, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot 3, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot 4, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot 5, \dots, \omega^2 \cdot \omega = \omega^3$

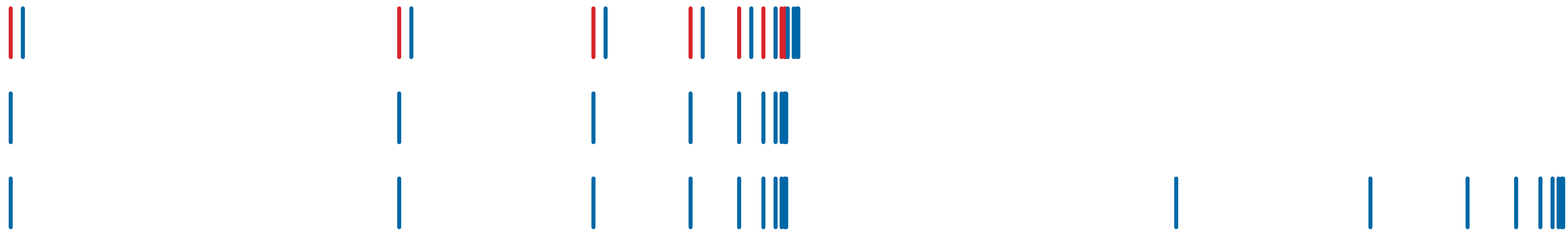
▶ Then $\omega^3 + 1, \dots, \omega^3 + \omega, \omega^3 + \omega + 1, \dots, \omega^3 + \omega \cdot 2, \dots, \omega^3 + \omega^2, \dots, \omega^3 \cdot 2, \dots, \omega^4, \dots, \omega^5, \dots, \omega^\omega$

▶ Then $\omega^\omega + 1, \dots, \omega^\omega + \omega, \dots, \omega^\omega + \omega^2 \cdot 2, \dots, \omega^{\omega+1}, \dots, \omega^{\omega \cdot 2}, \dots, \omega^{\omega^\omega}, \dots, \omega^{\omega^{\omega^\omega}}, \dots, \omega^{\omega^{\omega^{\omega^\omega}}}, \dots, \epsilon_0$

► Ordinal addition is *not* commutative: $1 + \omega = \omega < \omega + 1$



► Ordinal multiplication is *not* commutative: $2 \cdot \omega = \omega < \omega \cdot 2$



$Ord(x)$ = order type of *all* fusibles $\leq x$

$Ord'(x)$ = order type of all *tame* fusibles $\leq x$

- ▶ $Ord(0) = 1$, $Ord(1/2) = 2$, $Ord(3/4) = 3$, $Ord(7/8) = 4$, $Ord(1) = \omega$,
- ▶ $Ord(9/8) = \omega+1$, $Ord(19/16) = \omega+1$, $Ord(5/4) = \omega \cdot 2$, $Ord(3/2) = \omega^2$
- ▶ $Ord(7/4) = \omega^3$. $Ord(2) = \omega^\omega$

$Ord(x)$ = order type of *all* fusibles $\leq x$

$Ord'(x)$ = order type of all *tame* fusibles $\leq x$

Theorem: $Ord(x) \geq Ord'(x)$ for all x .

$Ord(x) = Ord'(x)$ for all $x \leq 2$.

Theorem: For every *tame* fusible x , we have $\text{Ord}'(x+1) = \omega^{\text{Ord}'(x)}$.

Corollary: For every integer $n \geq 0$, we have $\text{Ord}'(n) = \omega \uparrow\uparrow n = \underbrace{\omega^{\omega^{\dots\omega}}}_{n \text{ } \omega\text{'s}}$

Corollary: The order type of the *tame* fusible numbers is ε_0

Corollary: The order type of the fusible numbers is *at least* ε_0

Theorem: For every fusible x , we have $\text{Ord}(x + 1) \leq \omega^{\omega^{\text{Ord}(x)}}$

Corollary: For every integer $n \geq 0$, we have $\text{Ord}(n) \leq \omega \uparrow\uparrow 2n = \underbrace{\omega^{\omega^{\dots\omega}}}_{2n \text{ } \omega\text{'s}}$

Corollary: The order type of the fusible numbers is *at most* ε_0

Corollary: The order type of the fusible numbers is *exactly* ε_0

*Fast-growing
functions*

$$M(x) = \begin{cases} -x & \text{if } x < 0 \\ M(x - M(x - 1))/2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let $g(n)$ denote the largest *gap* between arbitrary fusibles $\geq n$

n	$-\log_2 M(n)$	$-\log_2 g(n)$
0	1	1
1	3	3
2	10	10
3	Guess!	Guess!
4	Guess!	Guess!

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3	1541023937	$> 2 \uparrow^9 16$
4	BIG	REALLY BIG

Knuth arrow hierarchy

$$a \uparrow^n b = \begin{cases} a \cdot b & \text{if } n = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } b = 0 \text{ and } n > 0 \\ a \uparrow^{n-1} (a \uparrow^n (b - 1)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Ackermann hierarchy

$$A(0, n) = n + 1$$

$$A(m + 1, 0) = A(m, 1)$$

$$A(m + 1, n + 1) = A(m, A(m + 1, n))$$

This is a good *start*.

Ordinal β is a **successor** ordinal if β has a largest element, or equivalently, if $\beta = \alpha + 1$ for some ordinal α . All other ordinals are **limit** ordinals

Every ordinal $\beta < \varepsilon_0$ can be written in **Cantor normal form**

$$\beta = \omega^{\alpha_1} + \omega^{\alpha_2} + \cdots + \omega^{\alpha_k} \text{ for some ordinals } \beta > \alpha_1 \gg \alpha_2 > \dots \geq \alpha_k \geq 0.$$

Every limit ordinal β is the limit of a **canonical sequence** $\beta[1] < \beta[2] < \beta[3] < \dots$

- ▶ If $\beta = \omega^{\alpha_1} + \omega^{\alpha_2} + \cdots + \omega^{\alpha_k}$ for some $k > 1$, then $\beta[n] = \omega^{\alpha_k}[n]$
- ▶ If $\beta = \omega^{\alpha+1} = \omega^\alpha \cdot \omega$, then $\beta[n] = \omega^\alpha \cdot n$
- ▶ If $\beta = \omega^\alpha$ for some limit ordinal α , then $\beta[n] = \omega^{\alpha[n]}$.

Intuitively, we get $\beta[n]$ by **replacing the last ω in the CNF of β with n** .

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Wainer hierarchy

$$F_0(n) = n + 1$$

$$F_{\alpha+1}(n) = F_{\alpha}^{(n)}(n) \quad \text{for all } \alpha$$

$$F_{\alpha}(n) = F_{\alpha[n]}(n) \quad \text{for all limits } \alpha \leq \varepsilon_0$$

Hardy hierarchy

$$H_0(n) = n$$

$$H_{\alpha+1}(n) = H_{\alpha}(n + 1) \quad \text{for all } \alpha$$

$$H_{\alpha}(n) = H_{\alpha[n]}(n) \quad \text{for all limits } \alpha \leq \varepsilon_0$$

Theorem: $F_{\alpha}(n) = H_{\omega^{\alpha}}(n)$ and $F_{\varepsilon_0}(n) = H_{\varepsilon_0}(n)$

Theorem: $-\log_2 g(n) \geq -\log_2 M(n) \geq F_{\varepsilon_0}(n - 7)$ for all $n \geq 8$.

n	$-\log_2 M(n)$	$-\log_2 g(n)$
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Peano.

arithmetic.

First order arithmetic: all formulas over
 $\{ \forall, \exists, \vee, \wedge, \neg, =, 0, S, +, \cdot \}$

Peano axioms:

- ▶ $\exists x : x = 0 \quad \forall x : S(x) \neq 0 \quad \forall m, n : (S(m) = S(n)) \Rightarrow (m = n)$
- ▶ = is reflexive, symmetric, and transitive.
- ▶ Recursive definitions of + and ·
- ▶ Induction scheme: $(\phi(0) \wedge (\forall x : \phi(x) \Rightarrow \phi(S(x)))) \Rightarrow (\forall x : \phi(x))$

Encoding:

“ $x > y$ ” can be encoded as $\exists z : x = y + z + 1$.

“ $x \bmod y = z$ ” can be encoded as $z < y \wedge \exists q : x = q \cdot y + z$

The ordered pair (x, y) can be encoded as $\binom{x+y}{2} + x$.

Fixed-length tuples can be encoded as nested pairs.

Finite sequences can be encoded using the Chinese Remainder Theorem [Gödel]

Rational numbers, finite sets, trees, graphs

Transfinite ordinals *less than ε_0*

Turing machine behavior for finite time

Encoding:

“x is fusible”

=

“There exists a finite set S of rational numbers that includes x , and such that for every $w \in S$, either $w = 0$ or there exist $y, z \in S$ such that $|z - y| < 1$ and $2w = y+z+1$.”

Encoding:

“ $M(n)$ terminates for every natural number n ”

=

“For all n , there exist m and a finite set S of pairs that contains (n,m) and such that for every $(p,q) \in S$, if $p < 0$ then $q = -p$, and otherwise, there exists q' such that $(p-1, q'), (p-q', 2q) \in S$ ”

Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem:

Every formal system that models arithmetic is either *inconsistent* (contains proofs of some false statements) or *incomplete* (forbids proofs of some true statements).

Peano arithmetic is *obviously* consistent.*

Therefore it must be incomplete.

*equiconsistent with Skolem arithmetic [Gentzen] and several weak models of set theory

Unprovable statements in Peano Arithmetic

ε_0 is a well-ordering [Gentzen]

Goodstein sequences [Kirby Paris]

The Hydra Game [Kirby Paris]

The Worm/Blackboard Game [Hamano and Okada, Beklemishev]

Strengthened finite Ramsey theorem [Paris Harrington]

Variants of Kruskal's tree theorem [Friedman]

Variants of the graph structure theorem [Friedman Robertson Seymour]

Buchholz and Wainer's Theorem:

Let T be a Turing machine that computes a function $g: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$;

in particular, T halts on every input.

Suppose Peano Arithmetic can *prove* the statement “ T halts on every input.”

Then for some $\alpha < \varepsilon_0$ and $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ we have $g(n) < F_\alpha(n)$ for every $n \geq n_0$.

The function g cannot grow too quickly.

Corollary:

The following true statements are expressible in first-order arithmetic,
but not provable in Peano Arithmetic:

“For every integer n , there is a smallest (tame) fusible number $> n$.”

“The function $M(n)$ halts for every integer n .”

“For every (tame) fusible number x ,
there is a maximum-height binary tree whose value is x .”

BOOM

goes the

dynamite

Amy

questions?