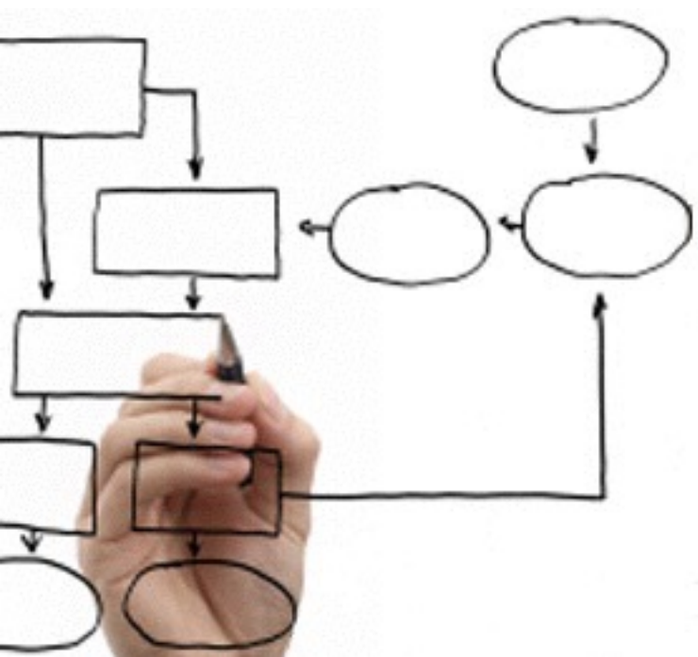
Methods for the specification and verification of business processes

MPB (6 cfu, 295AA)



Roberto Bruni

http://www.di.unipi.it/~bruni

15 - Sound by construction

Object

We show a technique to build sound Workflow nets

Soundness proof by construction

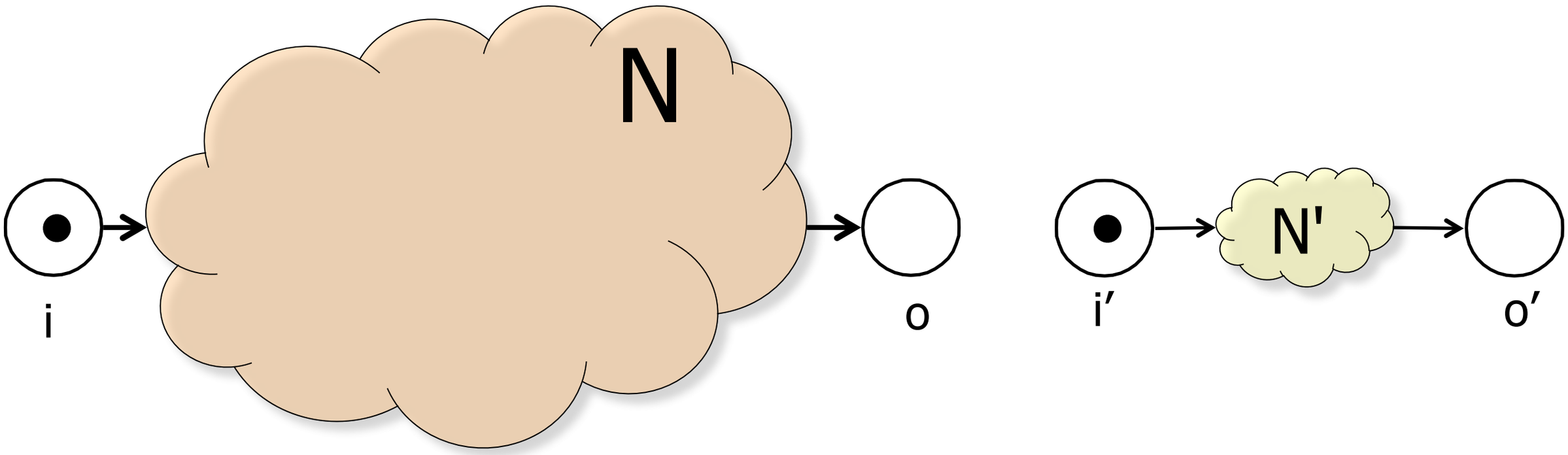
Idea

1. Find a suitable set of "building blocks"
they are (small) workflow nets
that can be (easily) proved
to be **sound** and
to be **safe** (1-bounded)

2. Define composition patterns so that
by composing **safe and sound** WF nets
we get **safe and sound** WF nets

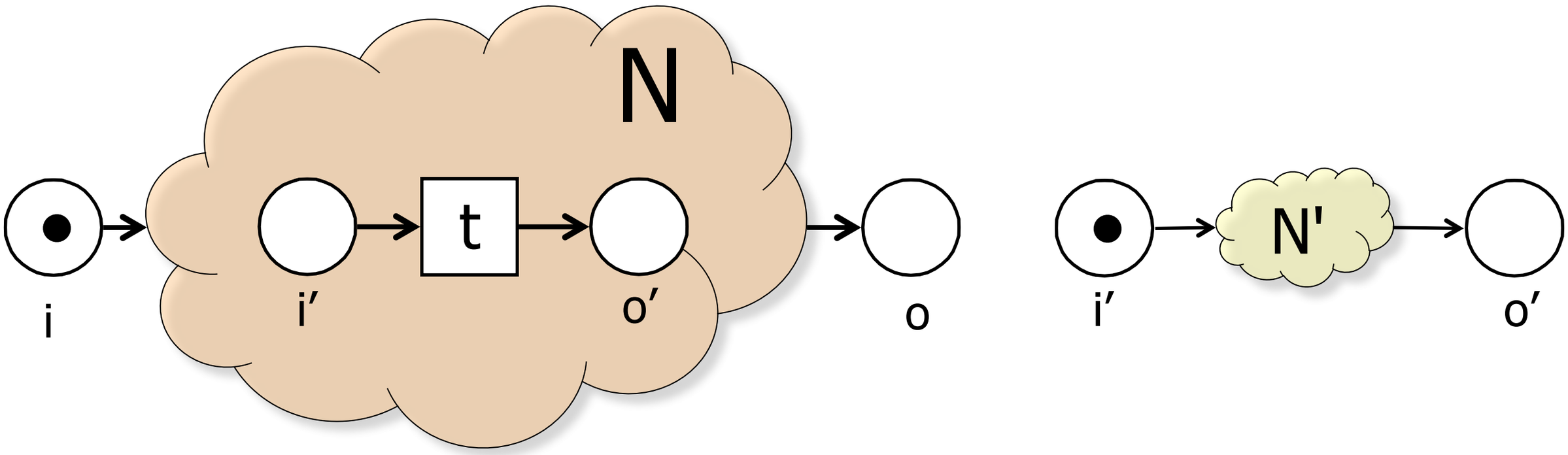
Sound and safe by composition

Let N, N' be two safe and sound workflow nets



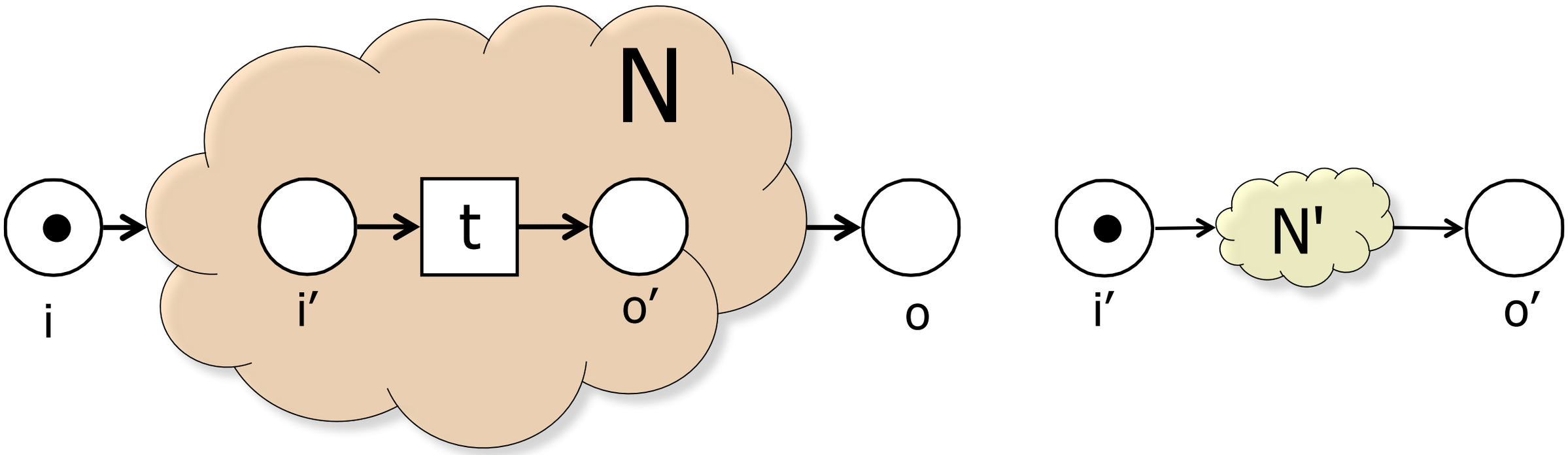
Sound and safe by composition

Let t be a task of N with exactly one input and one output place



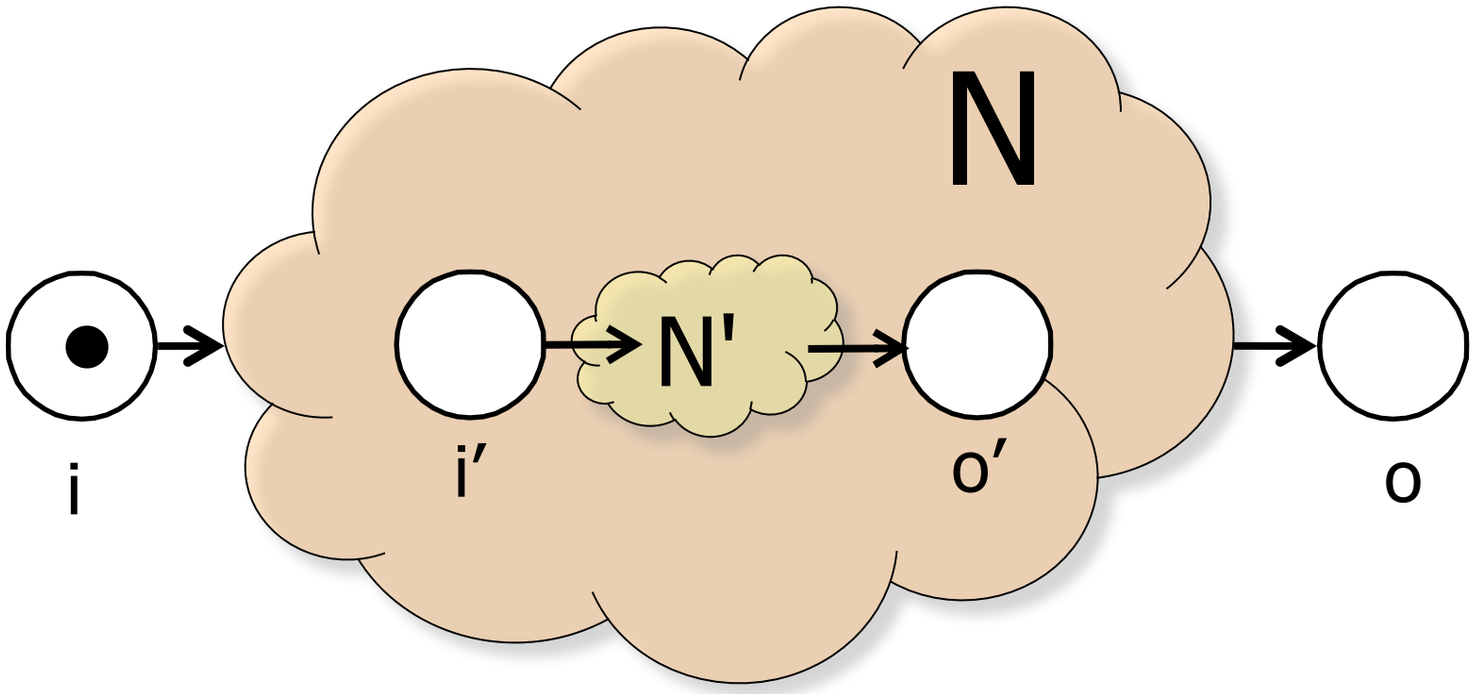
Sound and safe by composition

Let **N[N'/t]** denote the net obtained by replacing the task t in N by N'



Sound and safe by composition

The net **N[N'/t]** is
a **sound** and **safe workflow net**
(proof omitted)



Proof sketch

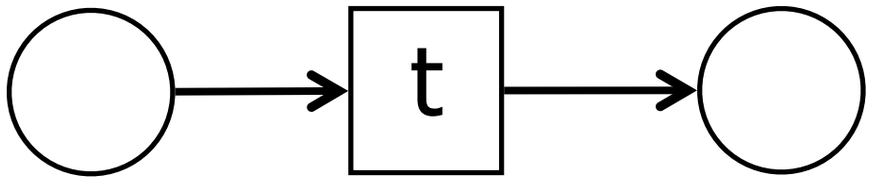
Intuitively

a sound workflow net behaves as a transition:
it takes one token from its input place and
it produces one token to its output place
(but not atomically)

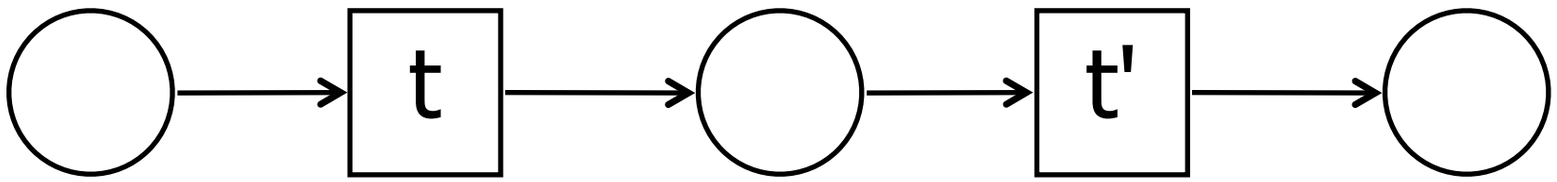
Formally

the crux of the proof is showing a bijective correspondence between
markings of the composed net N[N'/t]
and the pairs of markings in N and N'

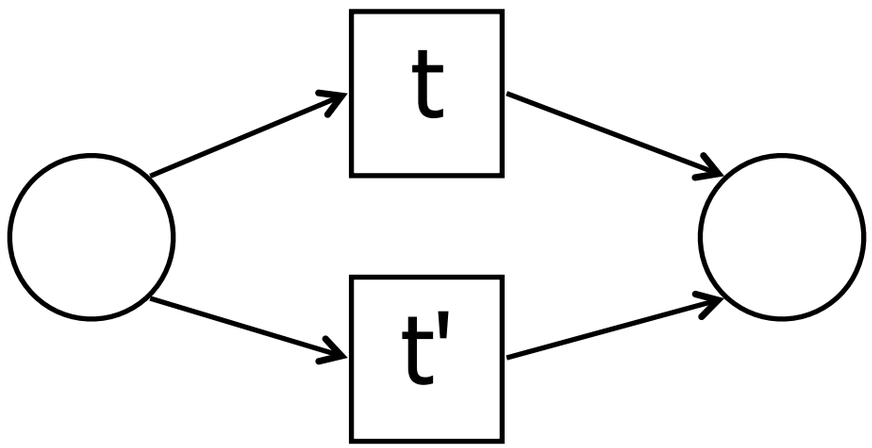
Some Building Blocks 1



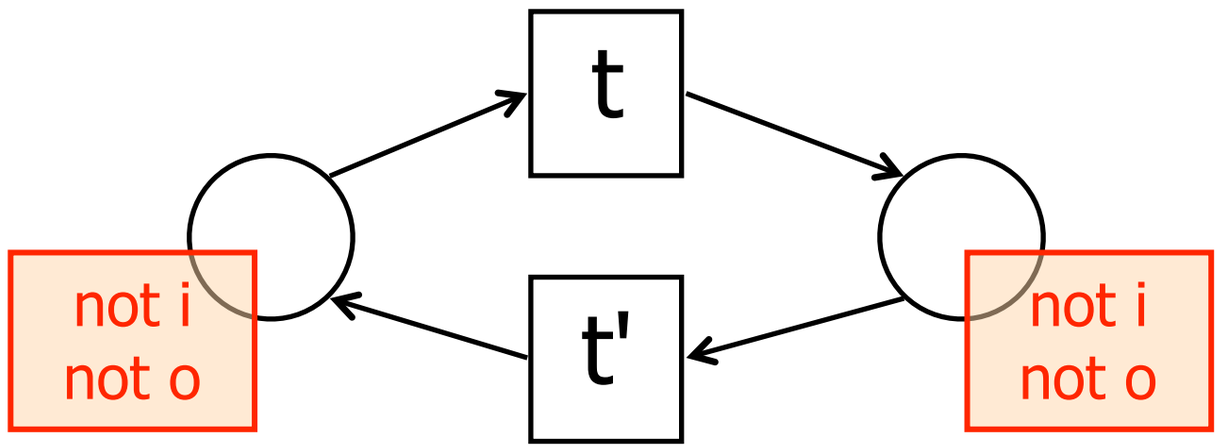
basic



sequence

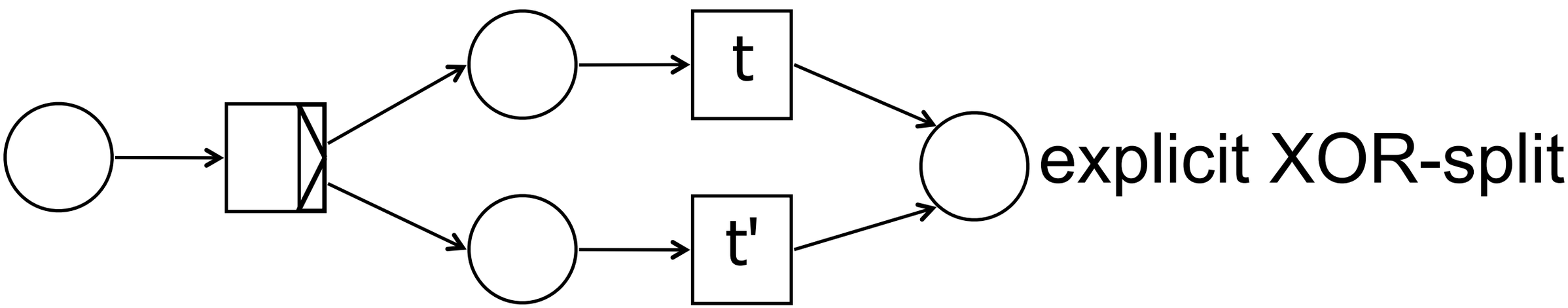


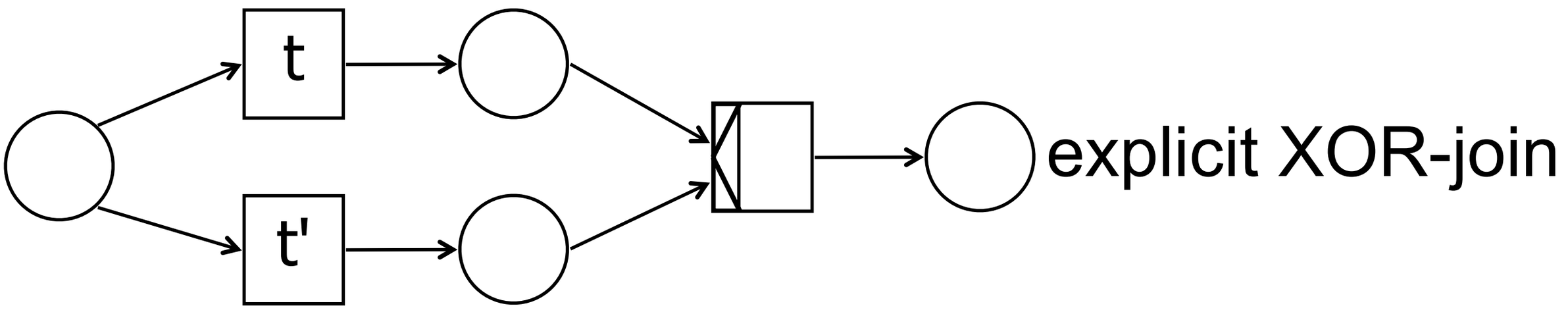
implicit XOR



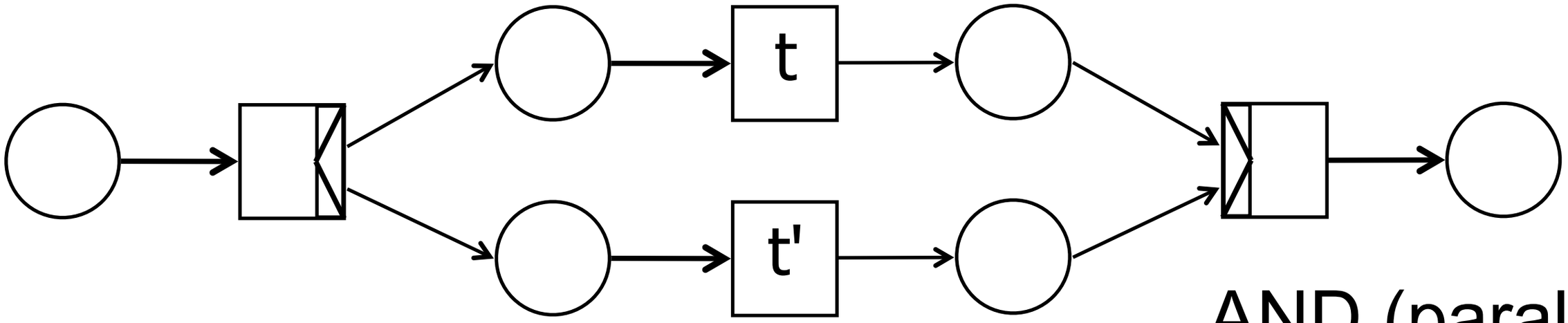
iteration

Some Building Blocks 2





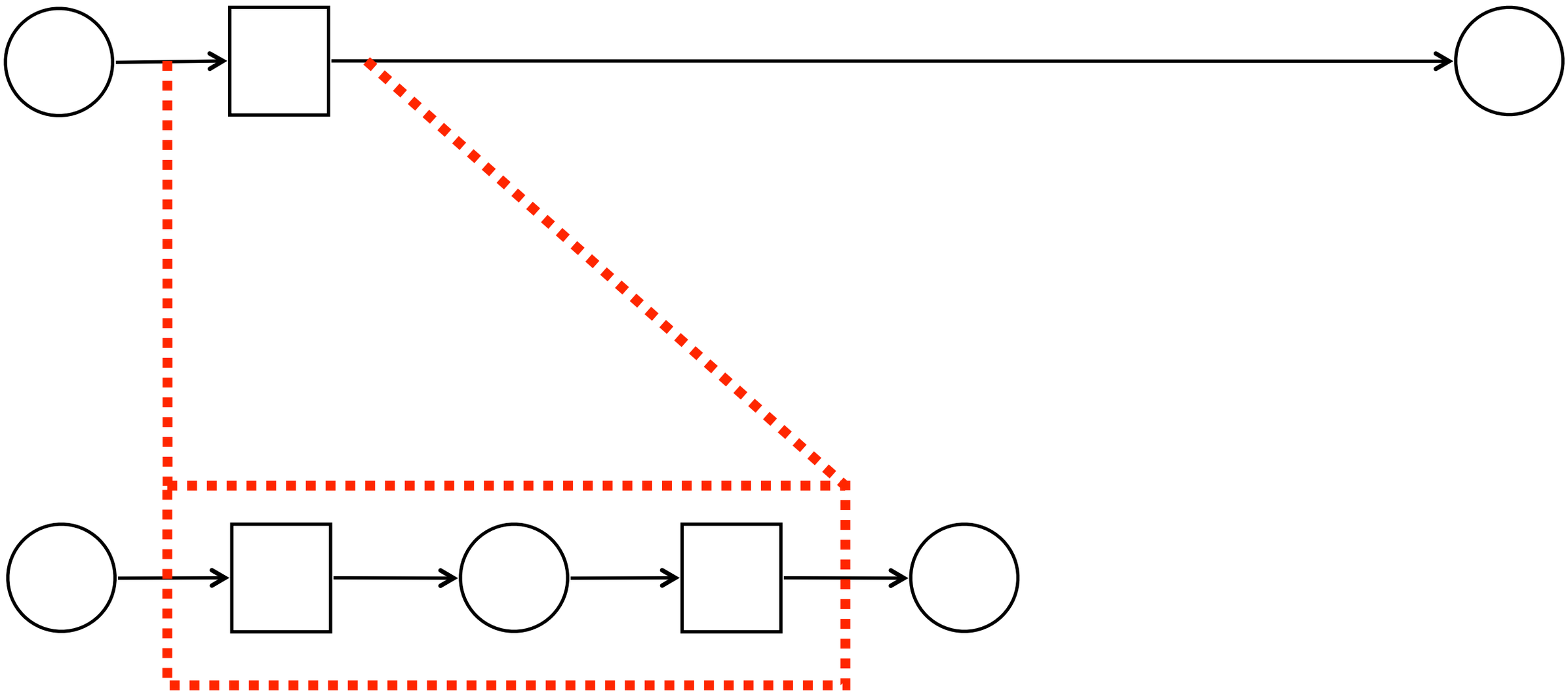
Some Building Blocks 3



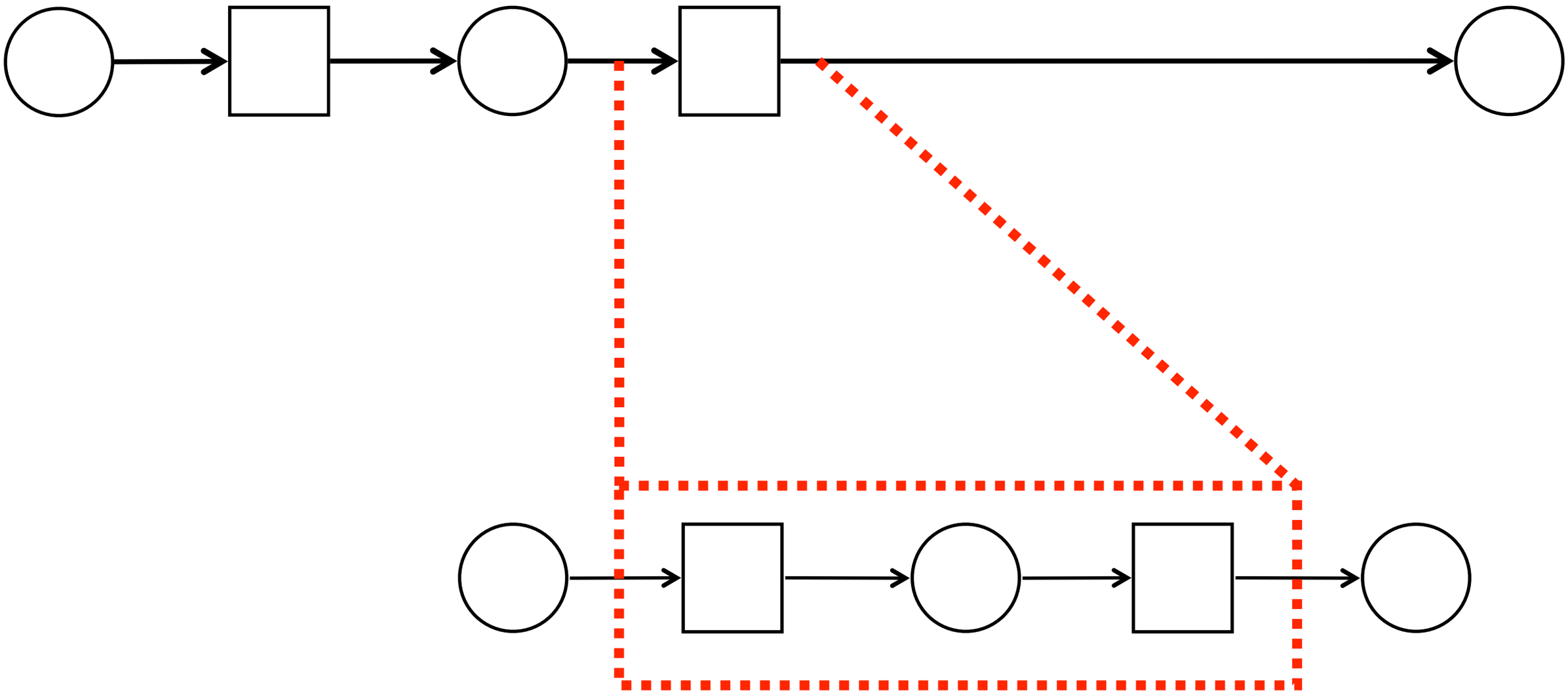
AND (parallel)

But you can define more blocks on your own

Example: refinement



Example: refinement



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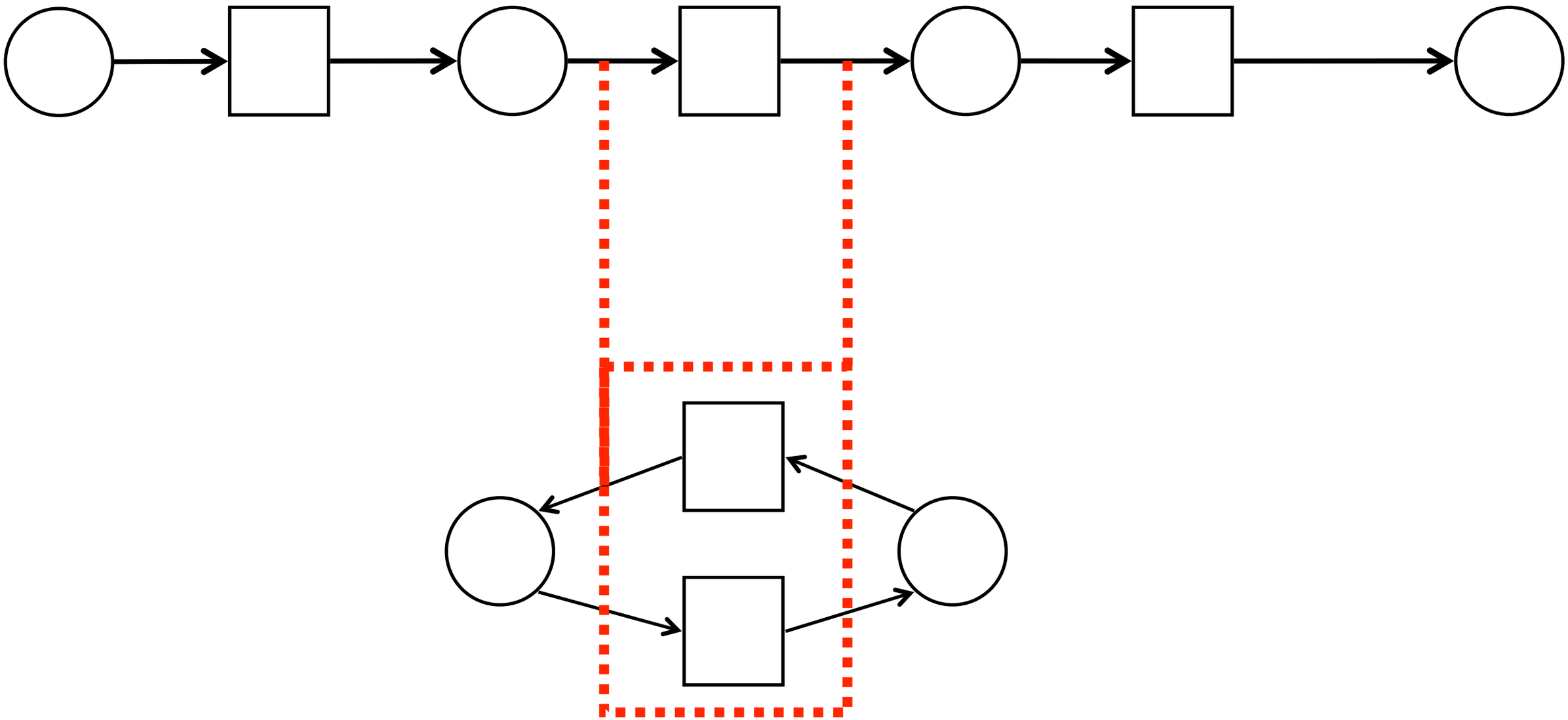

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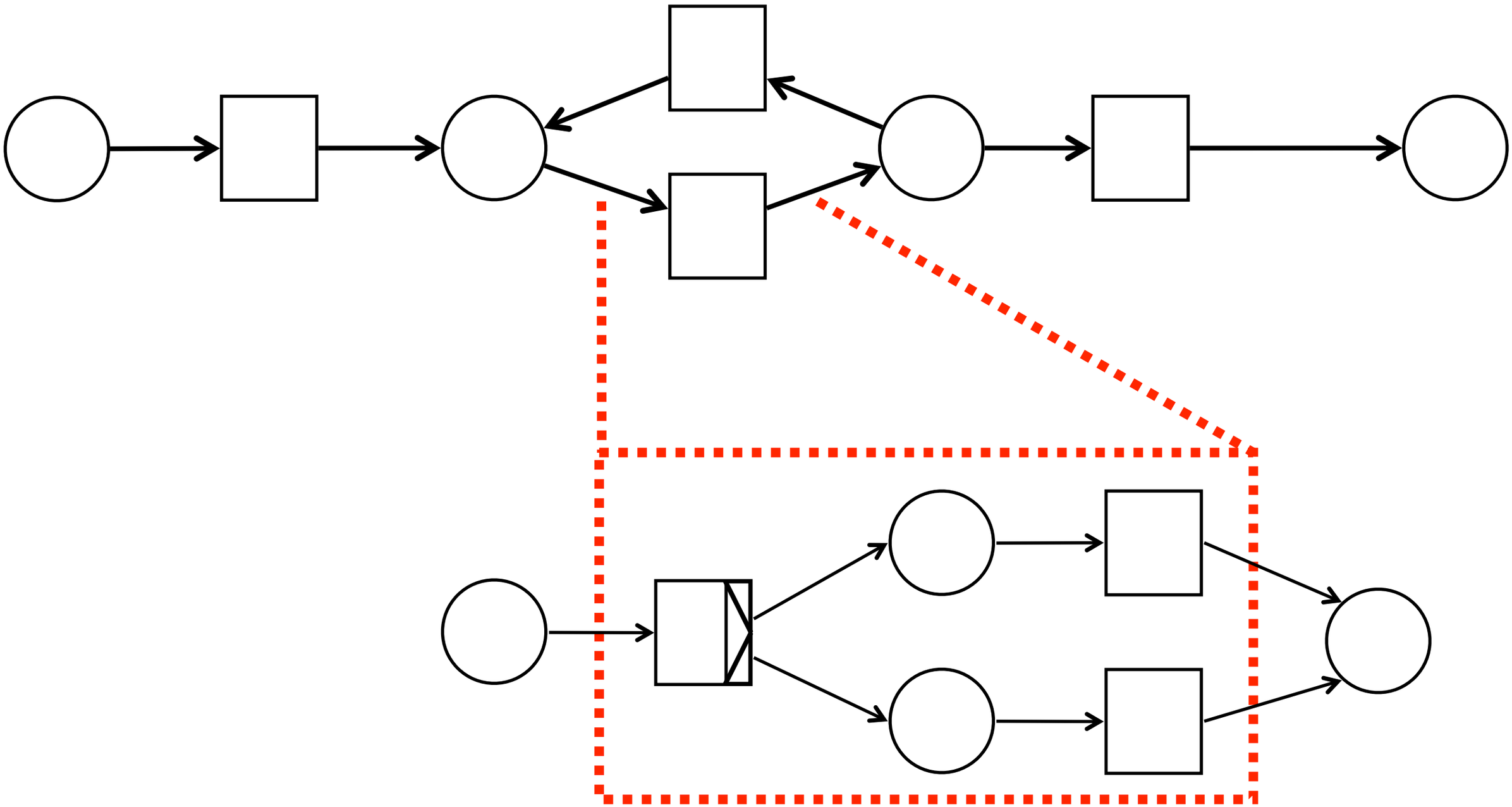

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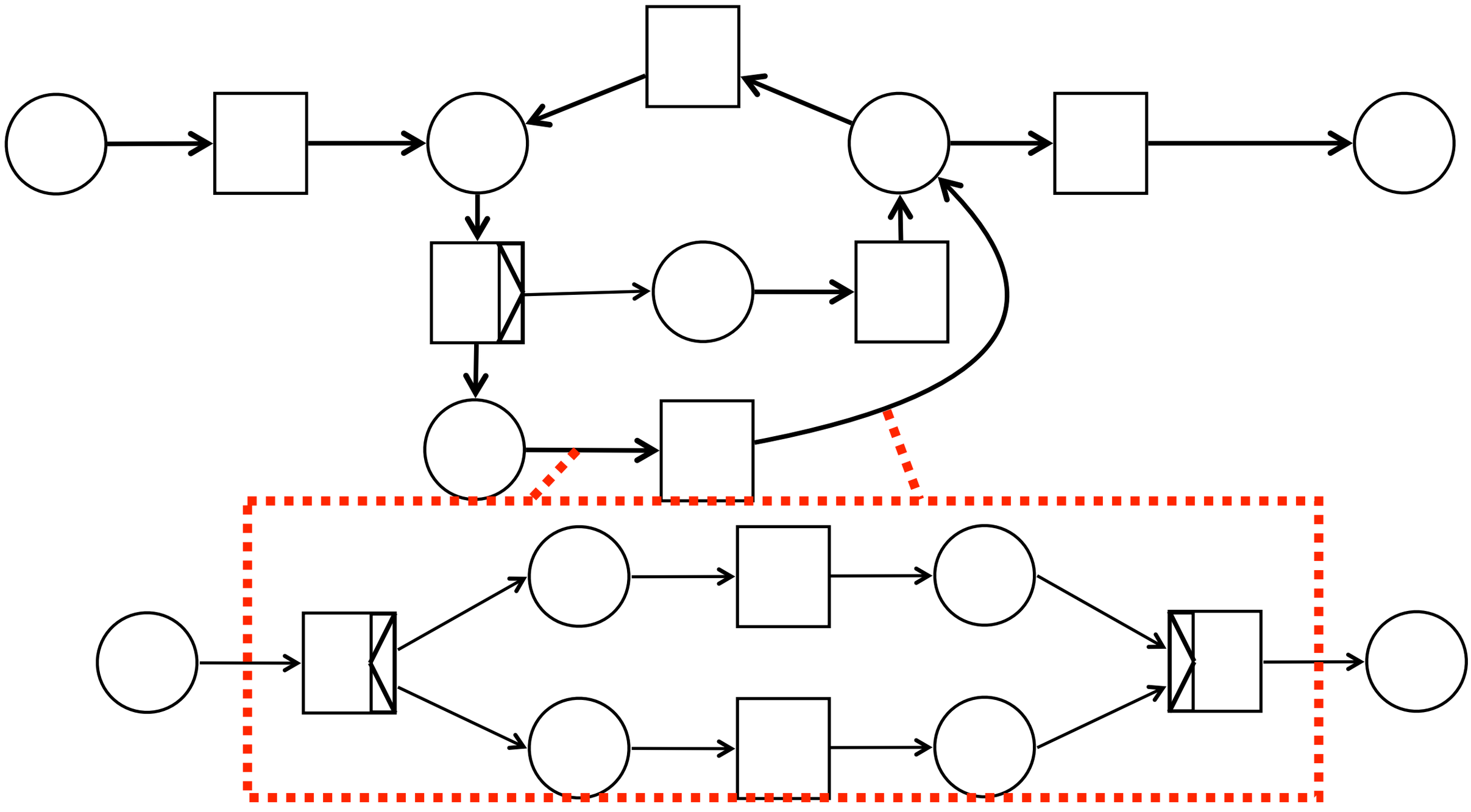

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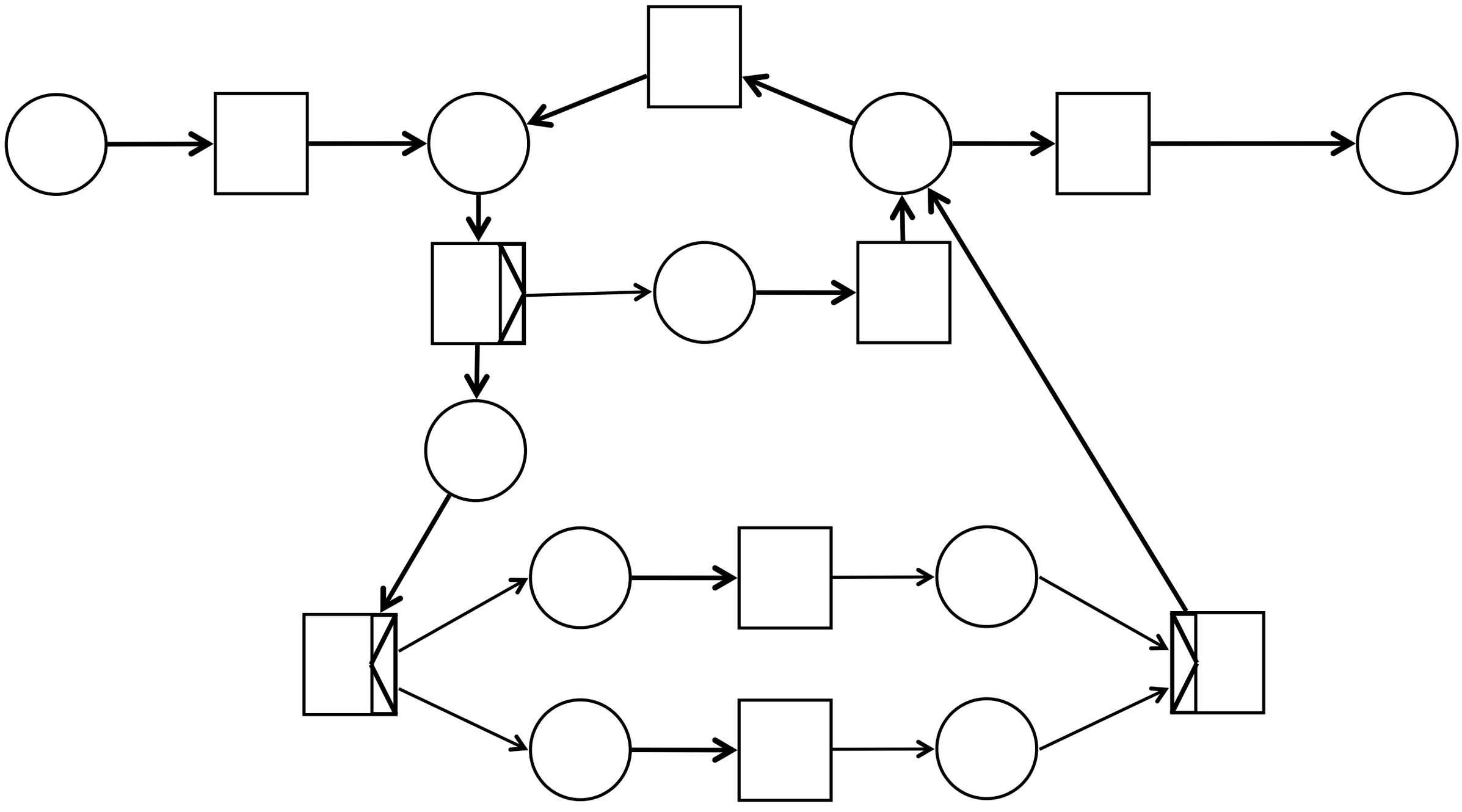
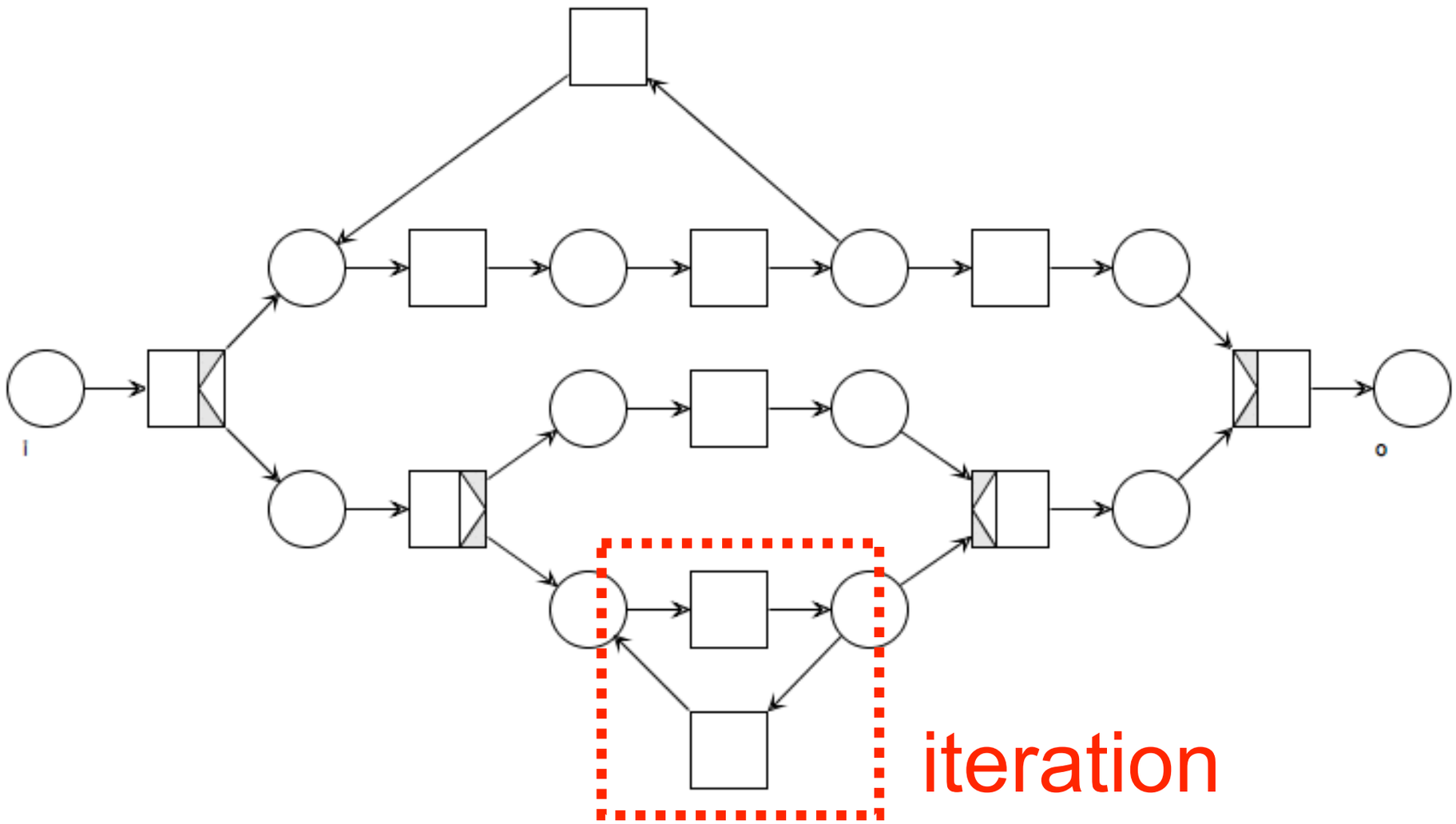


Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is
a safe and sound workflow net



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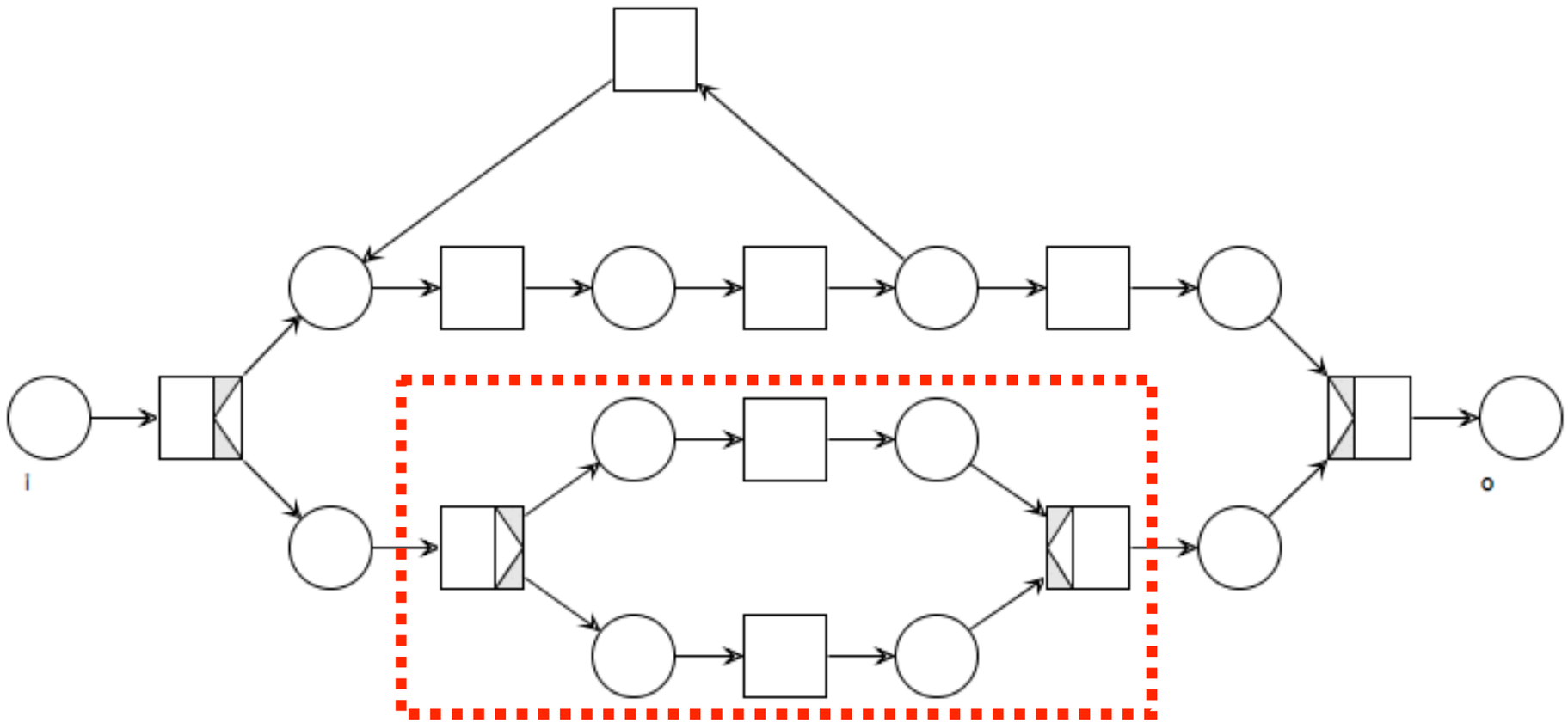

explicit XOR block

Example: abstraction

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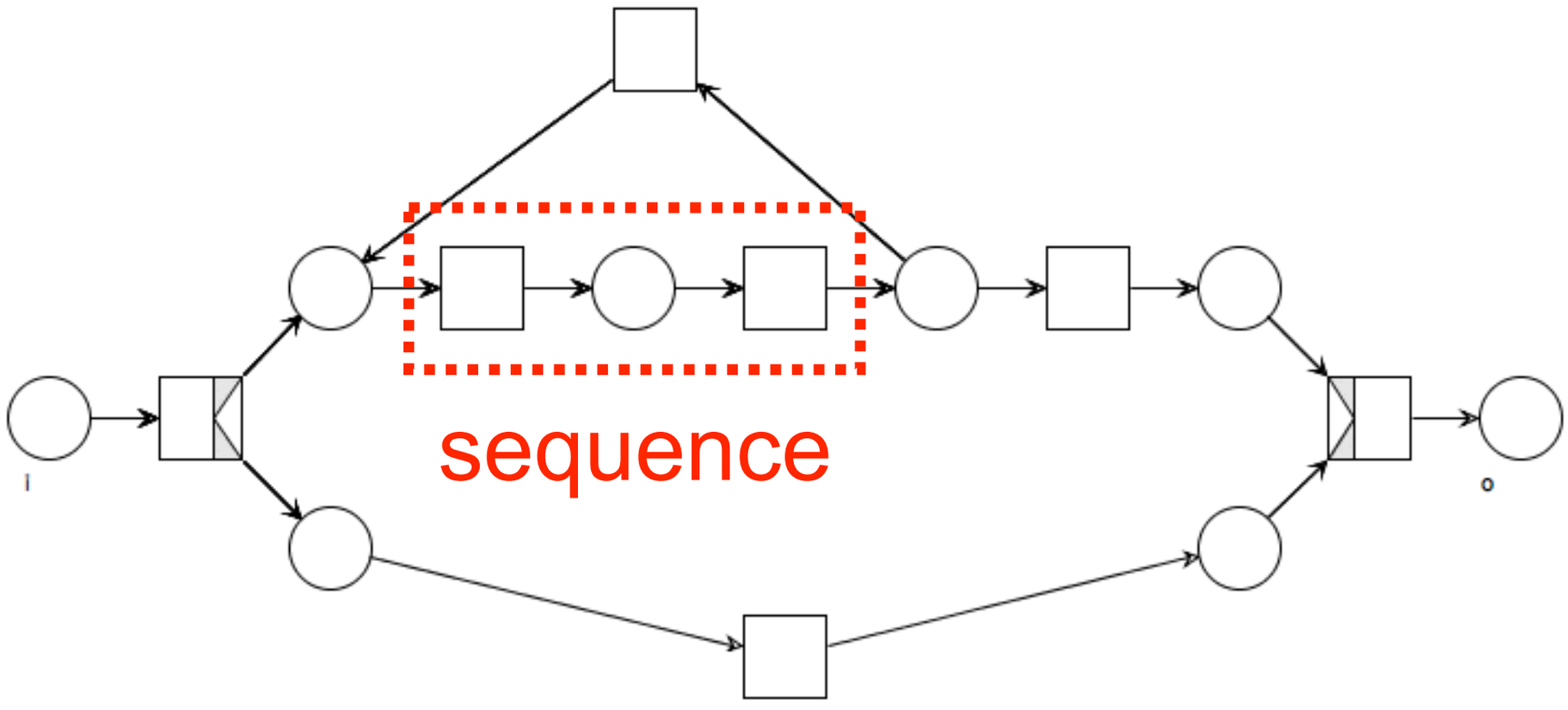

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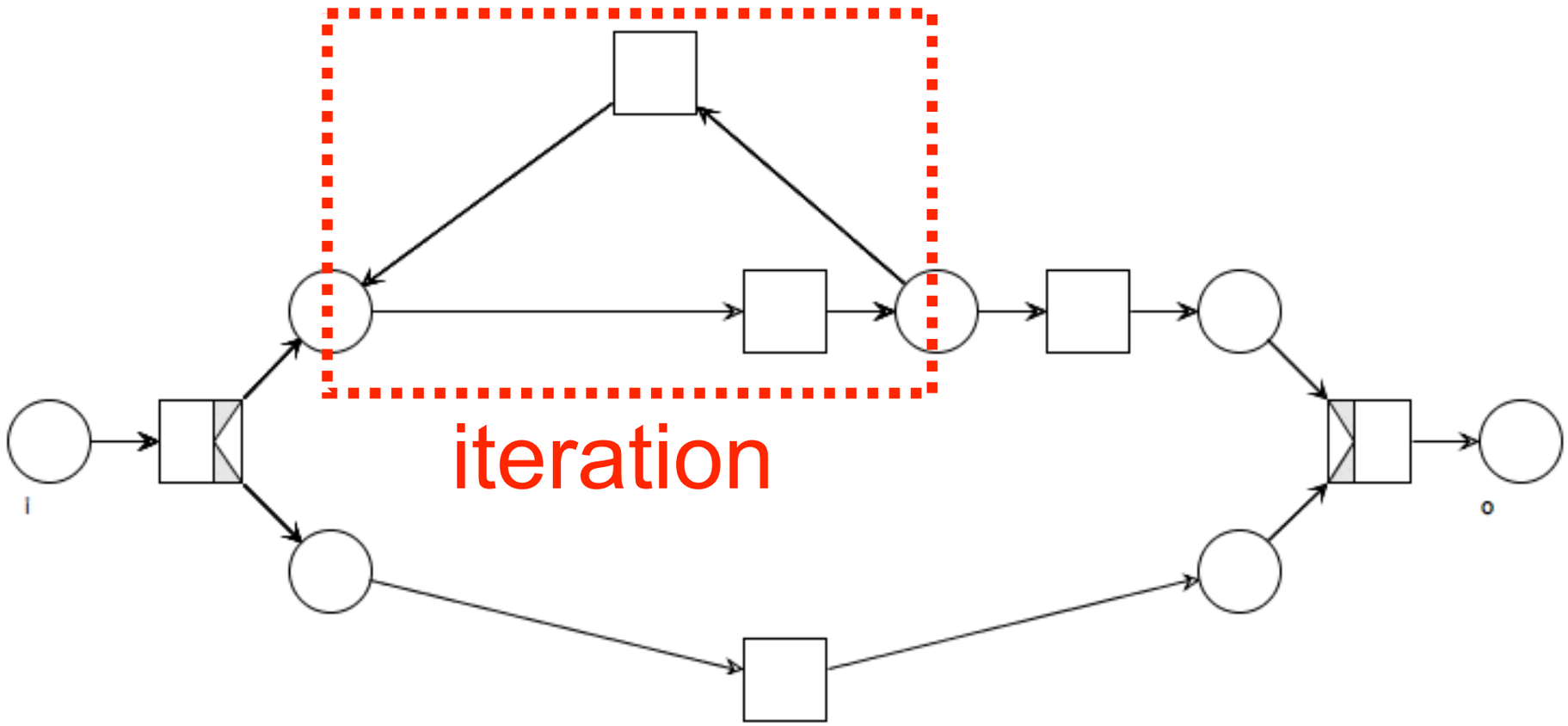

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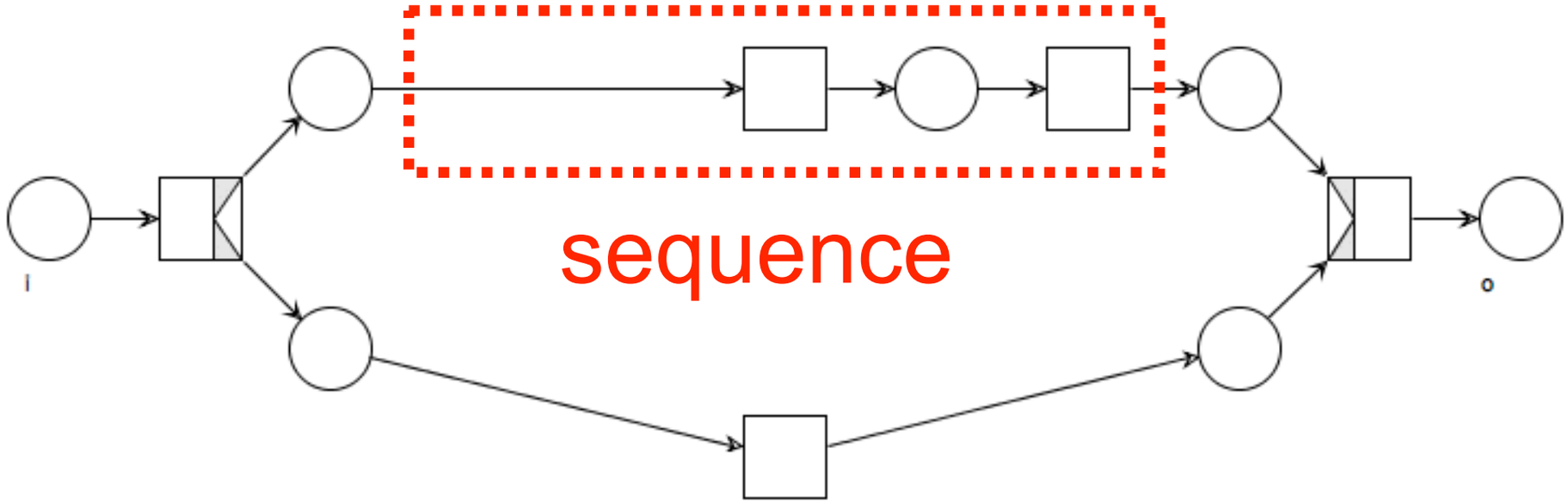

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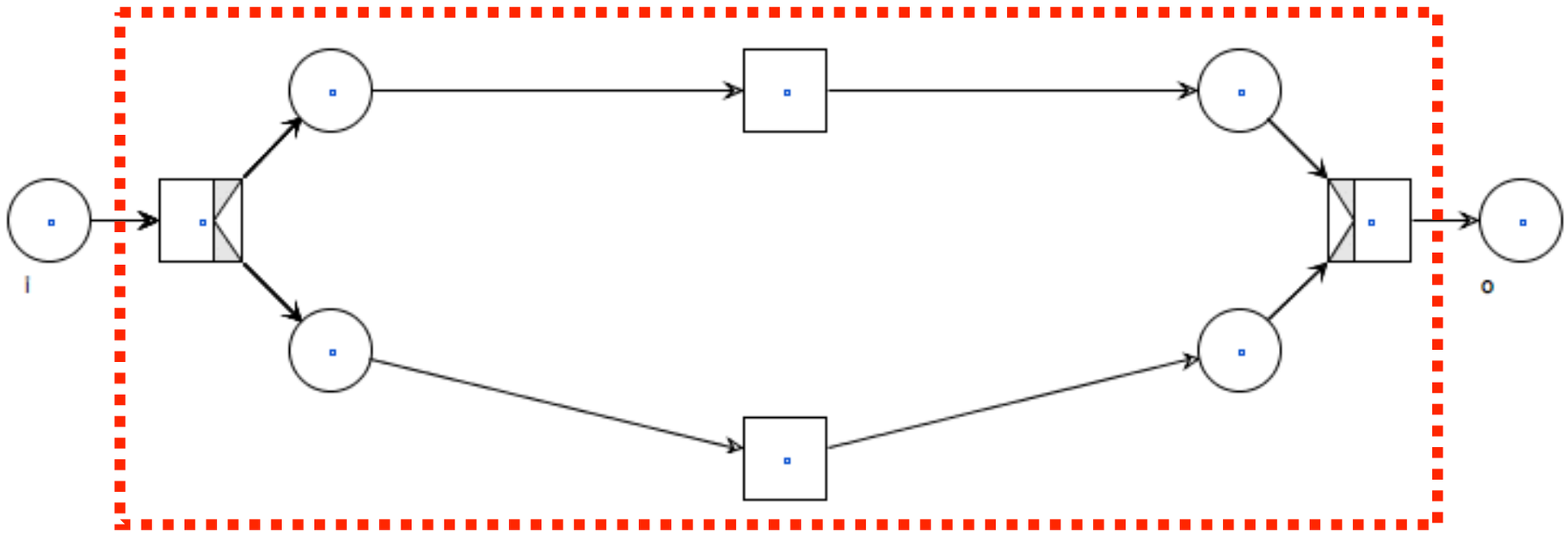
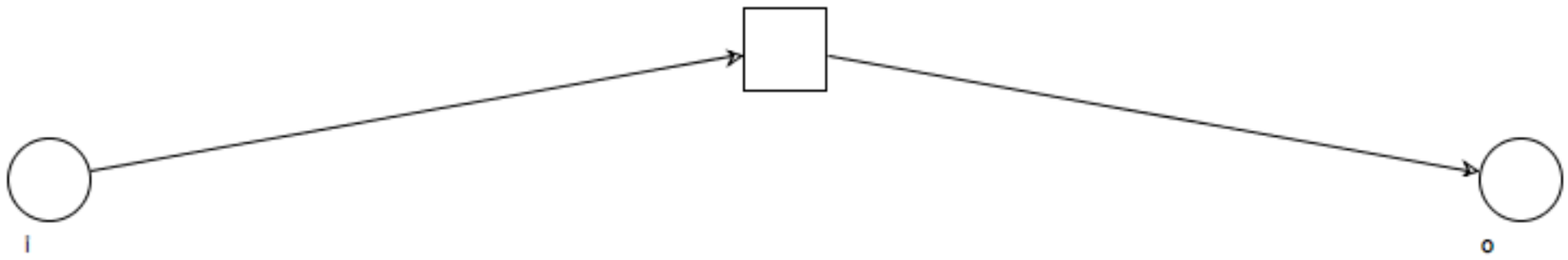


parallel (AND) block

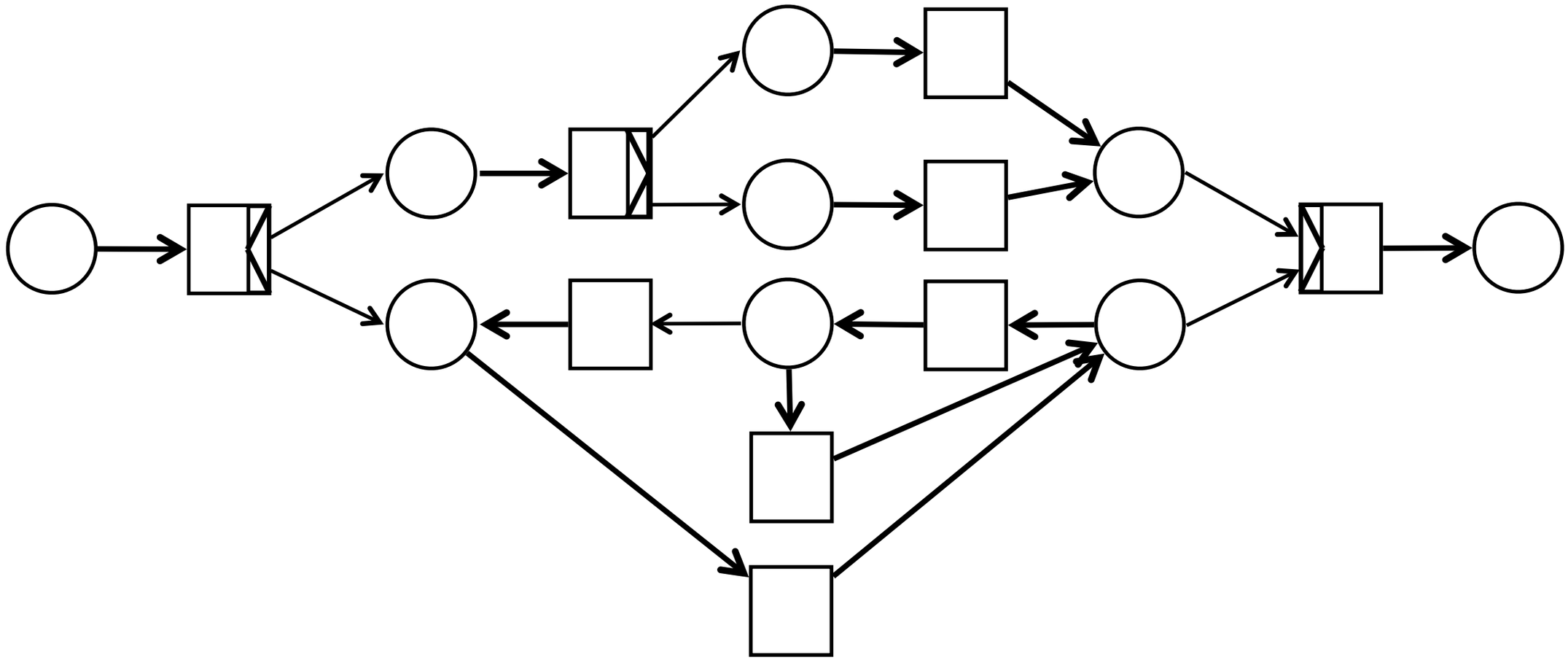
Example: abstraction

Prove that the net below is
a safe and sound workflow net



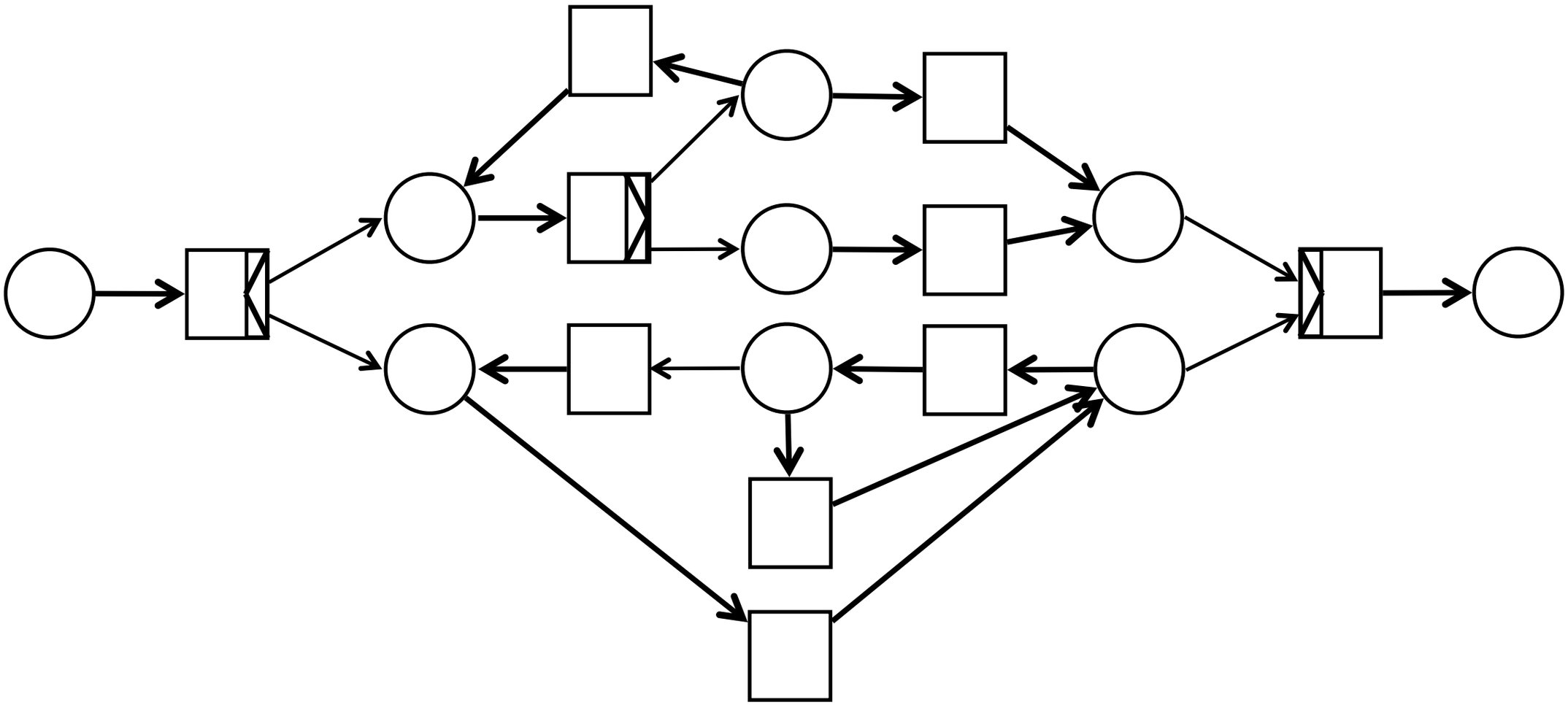
Exercise

Prove that the net below is
a safe and sound workflow net



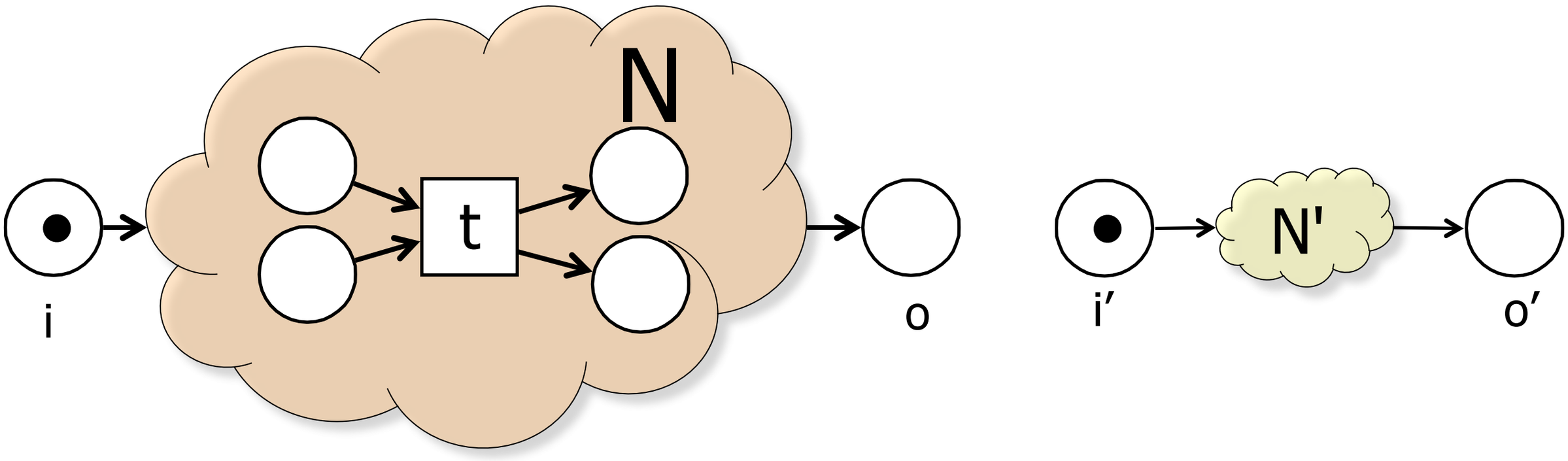
Exercise

Prove that the net below is
a safe and sound workflow net (hint: "desugar" it)



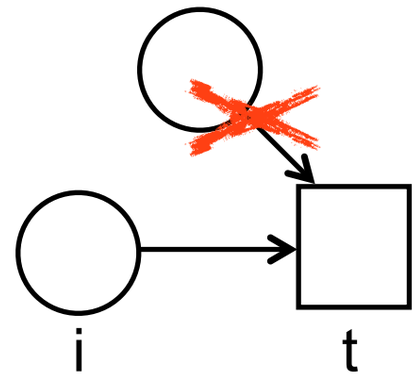
Generalization

We would like to progressively refine transitions with multiple incoming and outgoing arcs



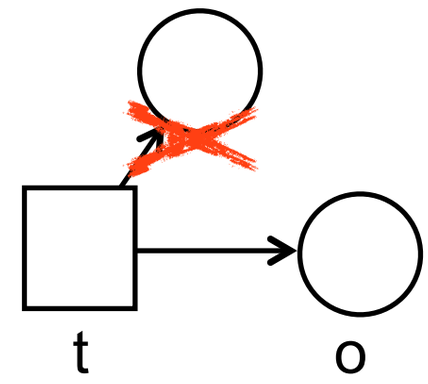
Two facts

Lemma: Let N be a sound WF net.
If (i,t)∈F then the pre-set of t is {i}



(otherwise t would be a dead transition)

Lemma: Let N be a sound WF net.
If (t,o)∈F then the post-set of t is {o}



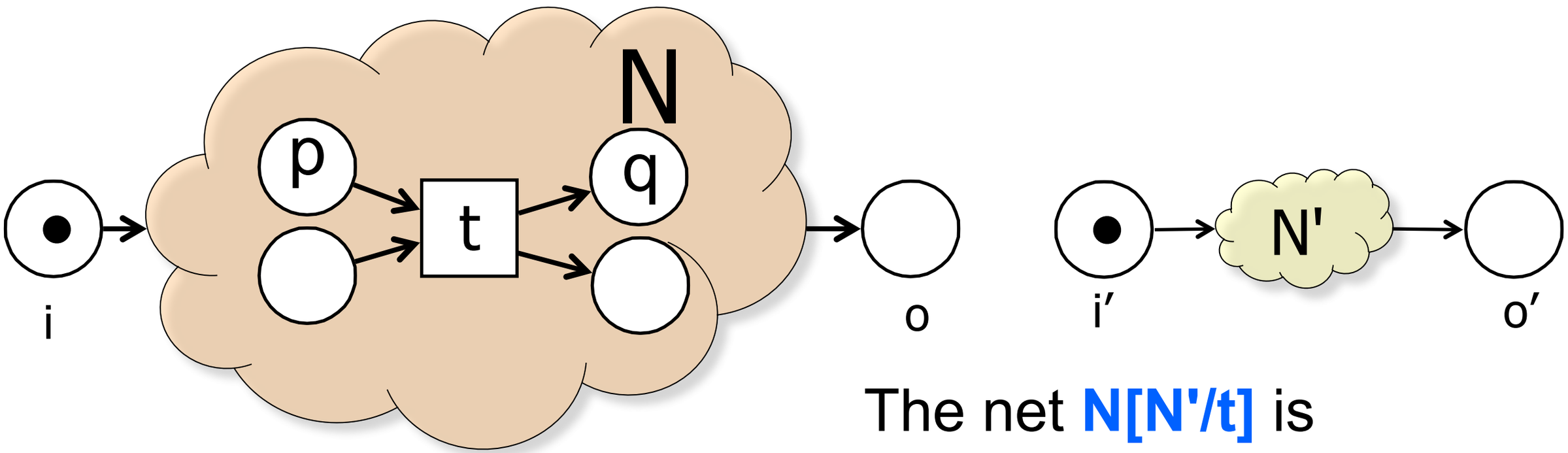
(otherwise t would be dead or proper completion would not hold)

General replacement

Let $T_{i'} = \{\, u \mid \bullet u = \{i'\} \,\}$.
Let $T_{o'} = \{\, v \mid v \bullet = \{o'\} \,\}$.

If $(p,t) \in F_N, u \in T_{i'}$ then $(p,u) \in F_{N[N'/t]}$

If $(t,q) \in F_N, v \in T_{o'}$ then $(v,q) \in F_{N[N'/t]}$



The net **N[N'/t]** is
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General replacement

Let $T_{i'} = \{\, u \mid \bullet u = \{i'\} \,\}$.
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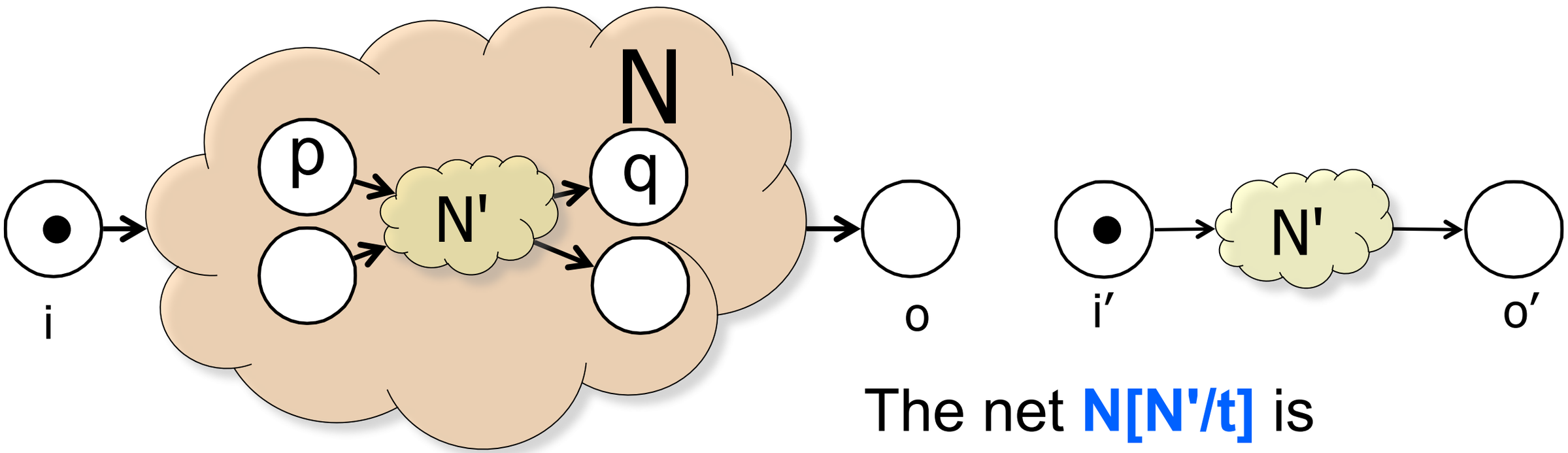
If $(p,t) \in F_N, u \in T_{i'}$ then $(p,u) \in F_{N[N'/t]}$

If $(t,q) \in F_N, v \in T_{o'}$ then $(v,q) \in F_{N[N'/t]}$



The net **N[N'/t]** is
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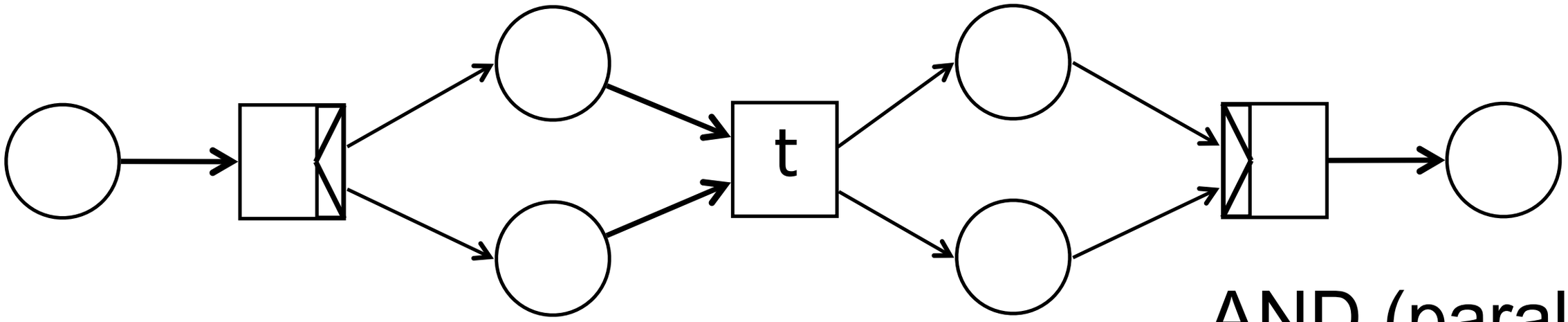
Some Building Blocks 4



AND (parallel)

But you can define more blocks on your own

Exercise

Prove that the net below is
a safe and sound workflow net