

Lecture 9

Proof by Exhaustion (contd.), Existence Proof,
Forward & Backward Reasoning

More on Proof by Exhaustion

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Example: On the next slide.

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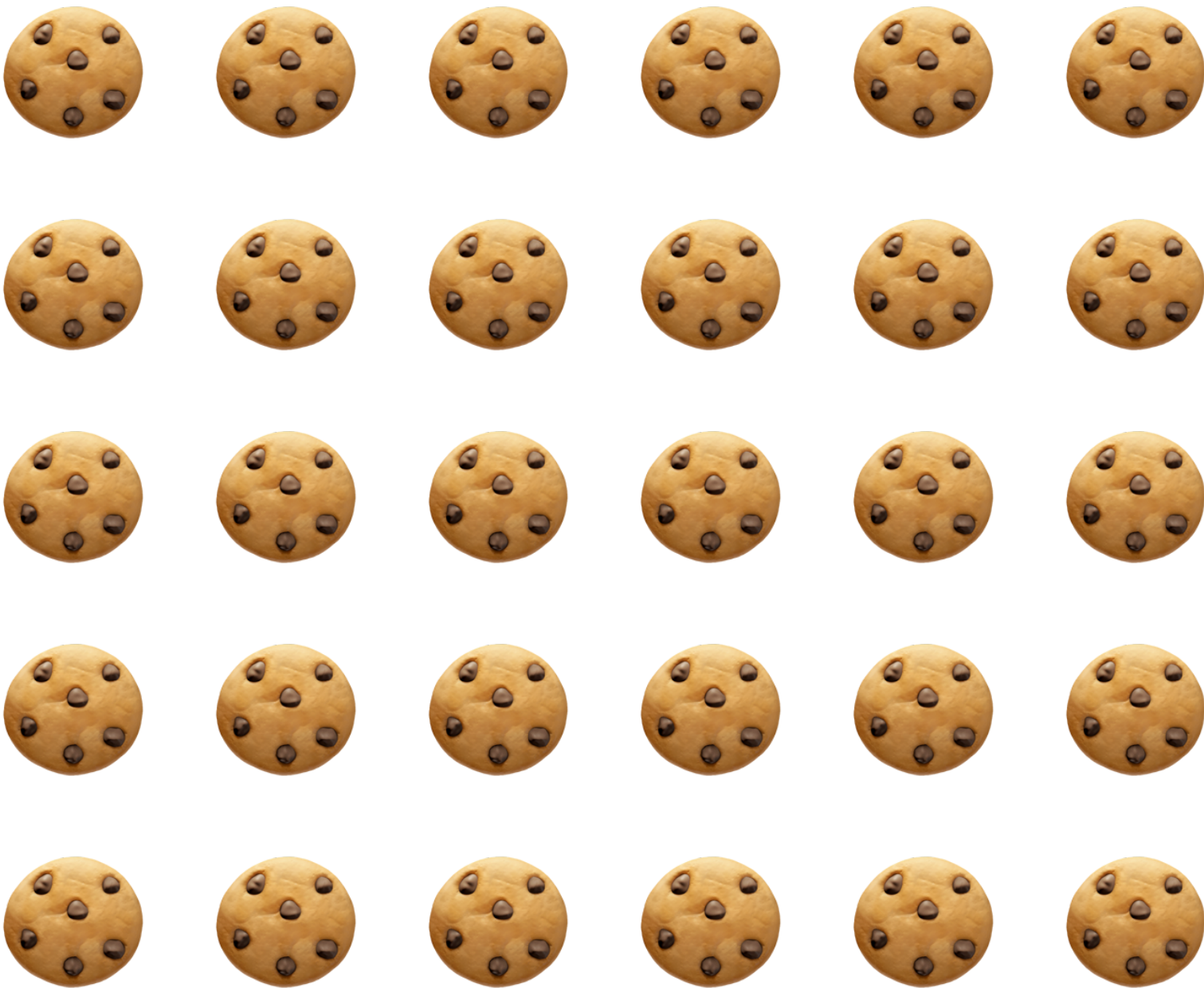
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Game of Chomp

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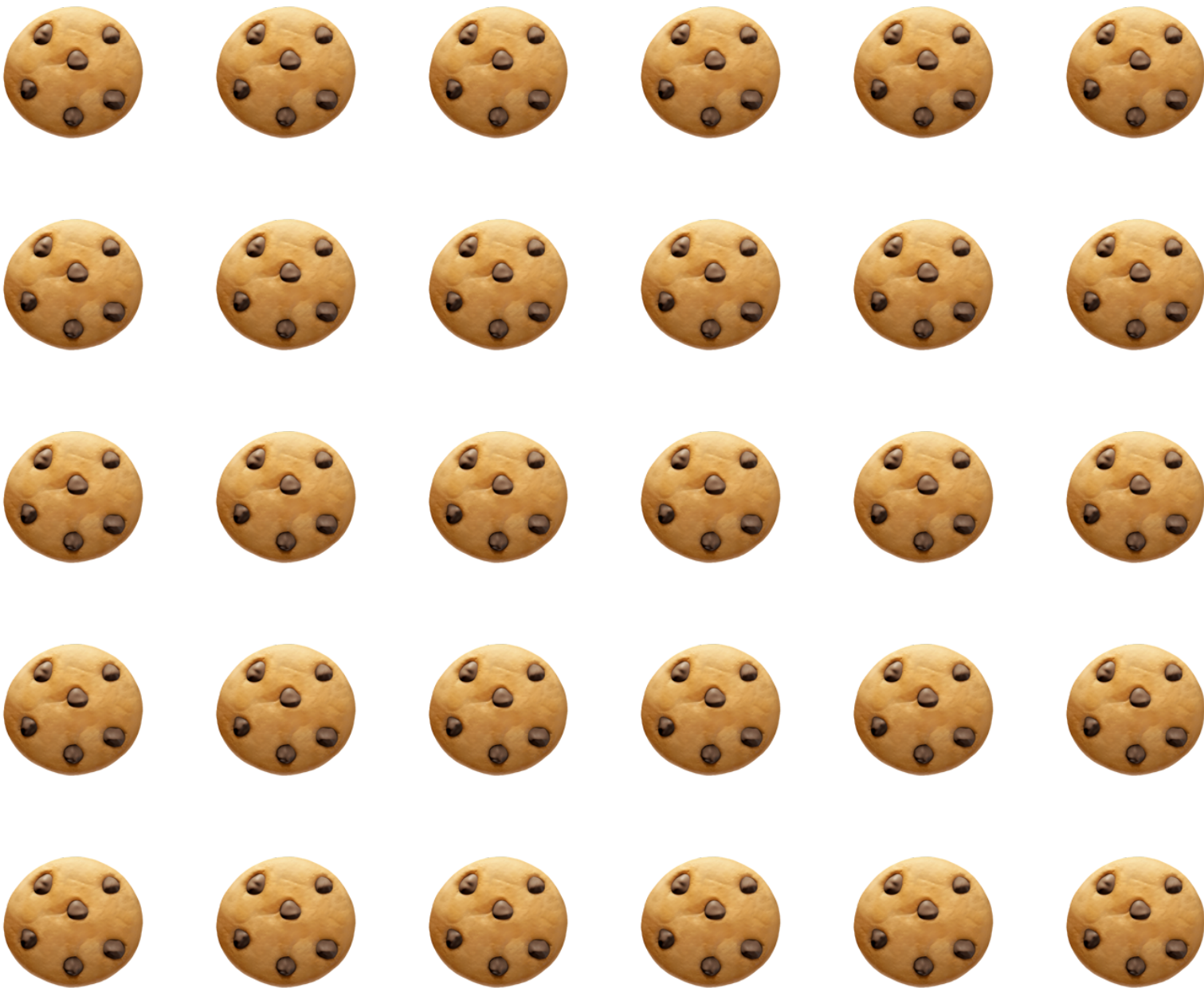
$m \times n$ cookies



Game of Chomp

Poisoned

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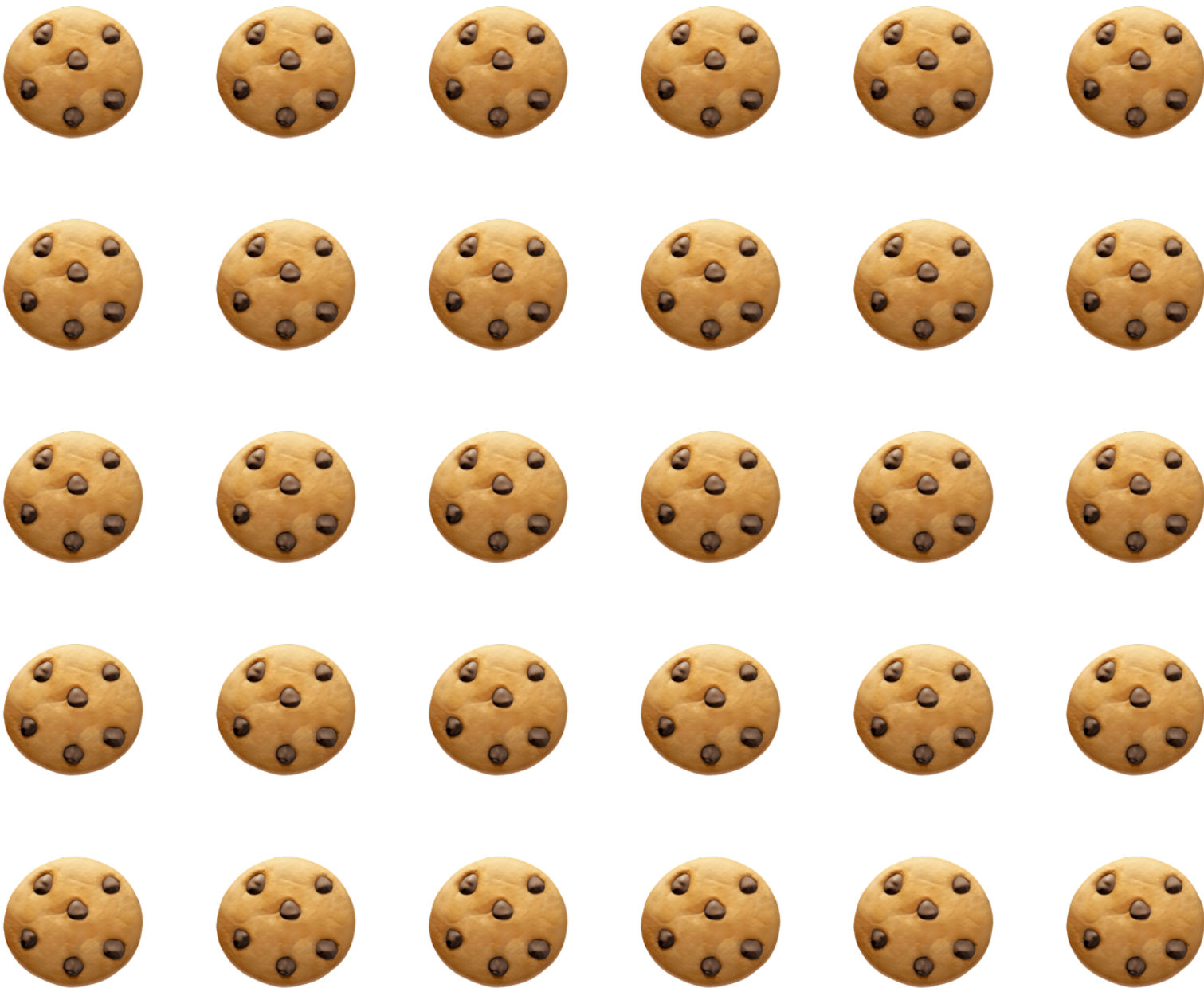


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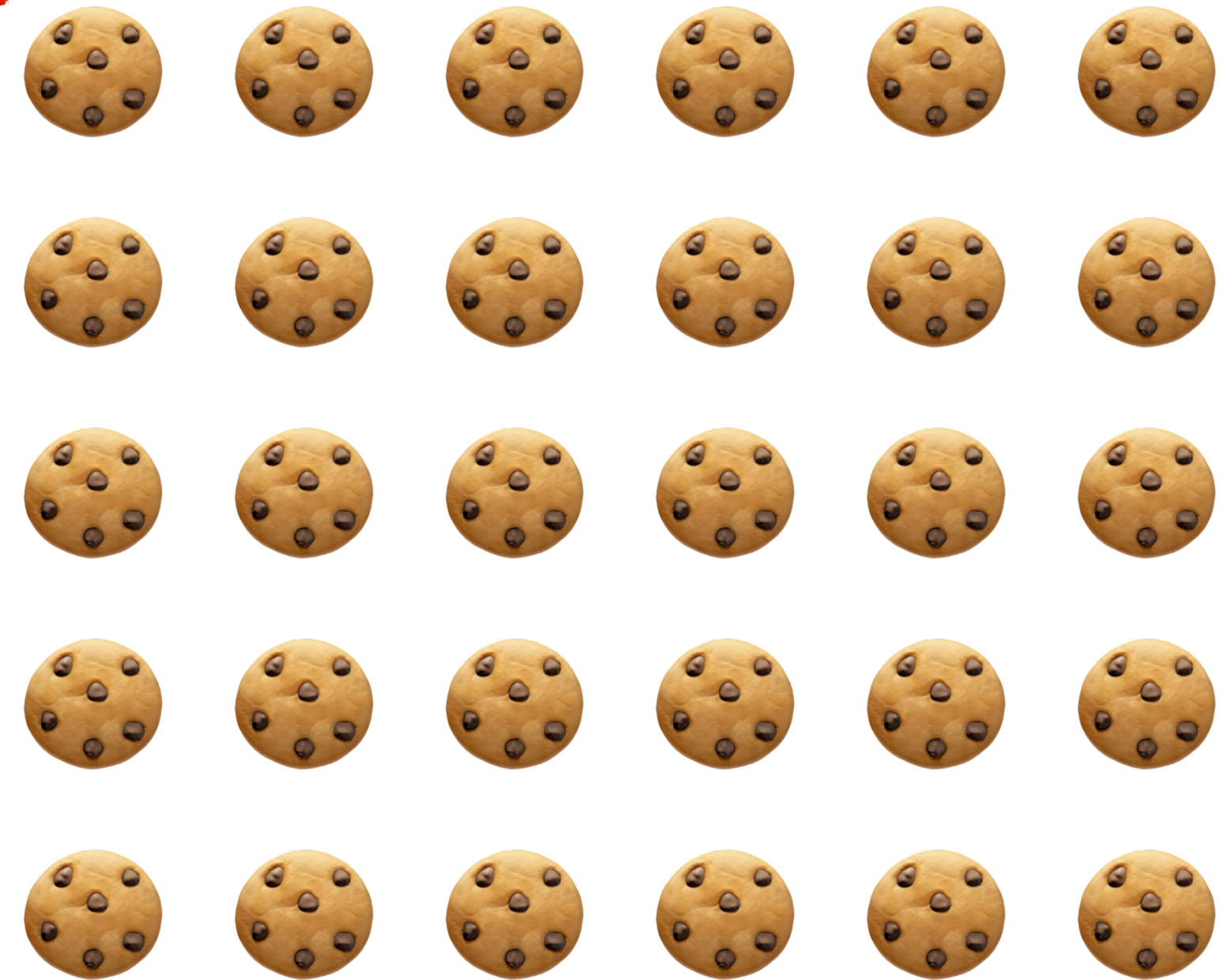
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Rules:

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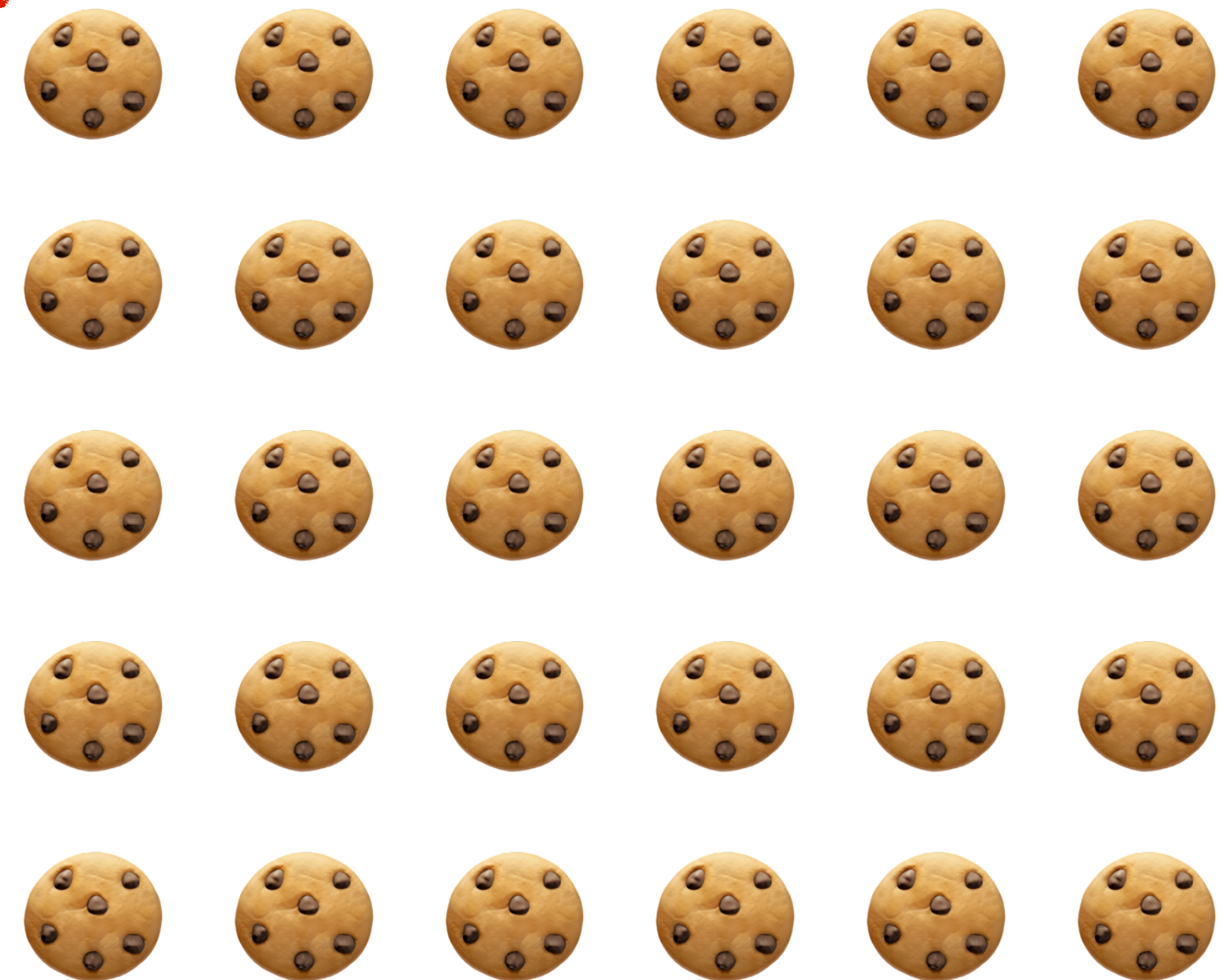
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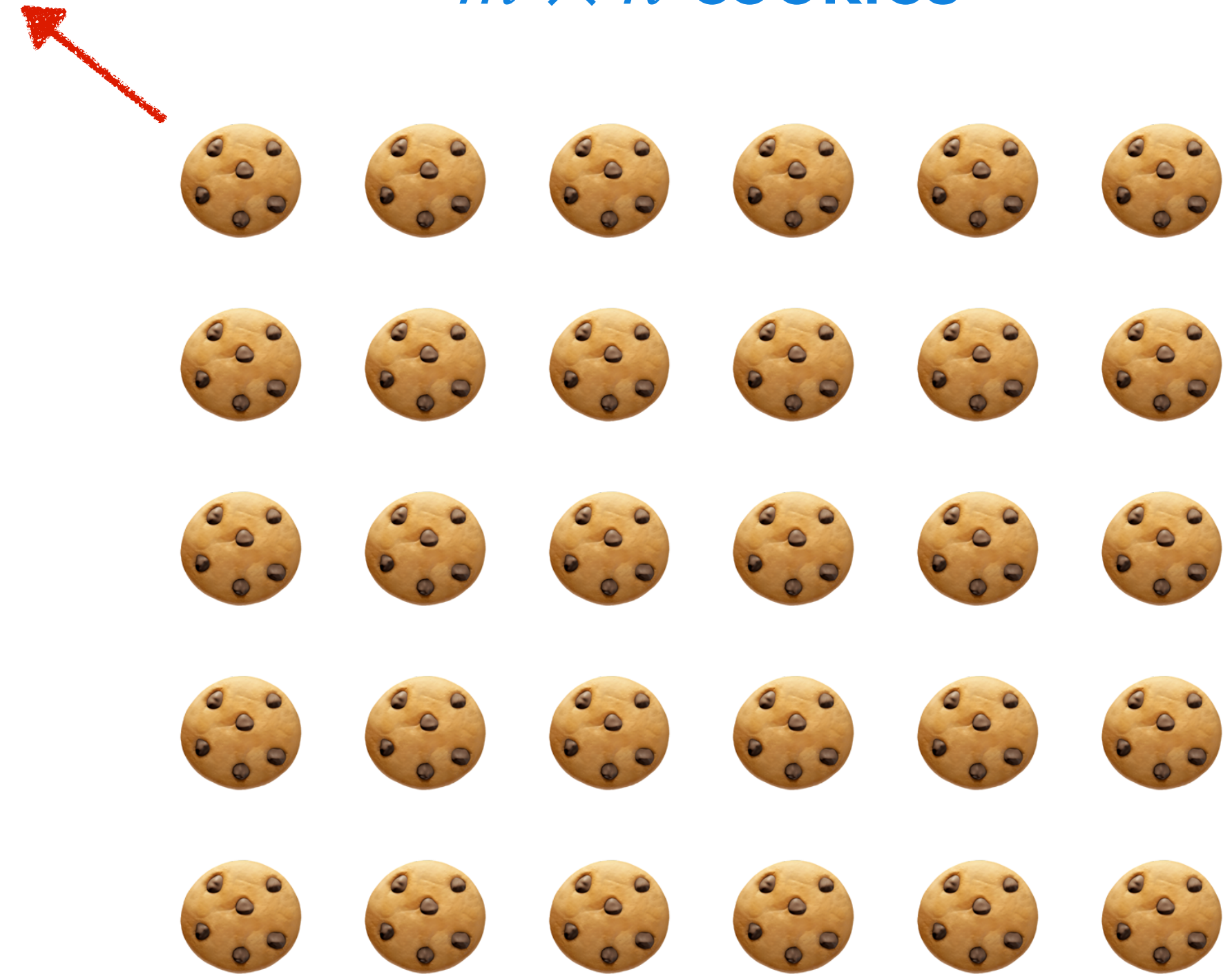
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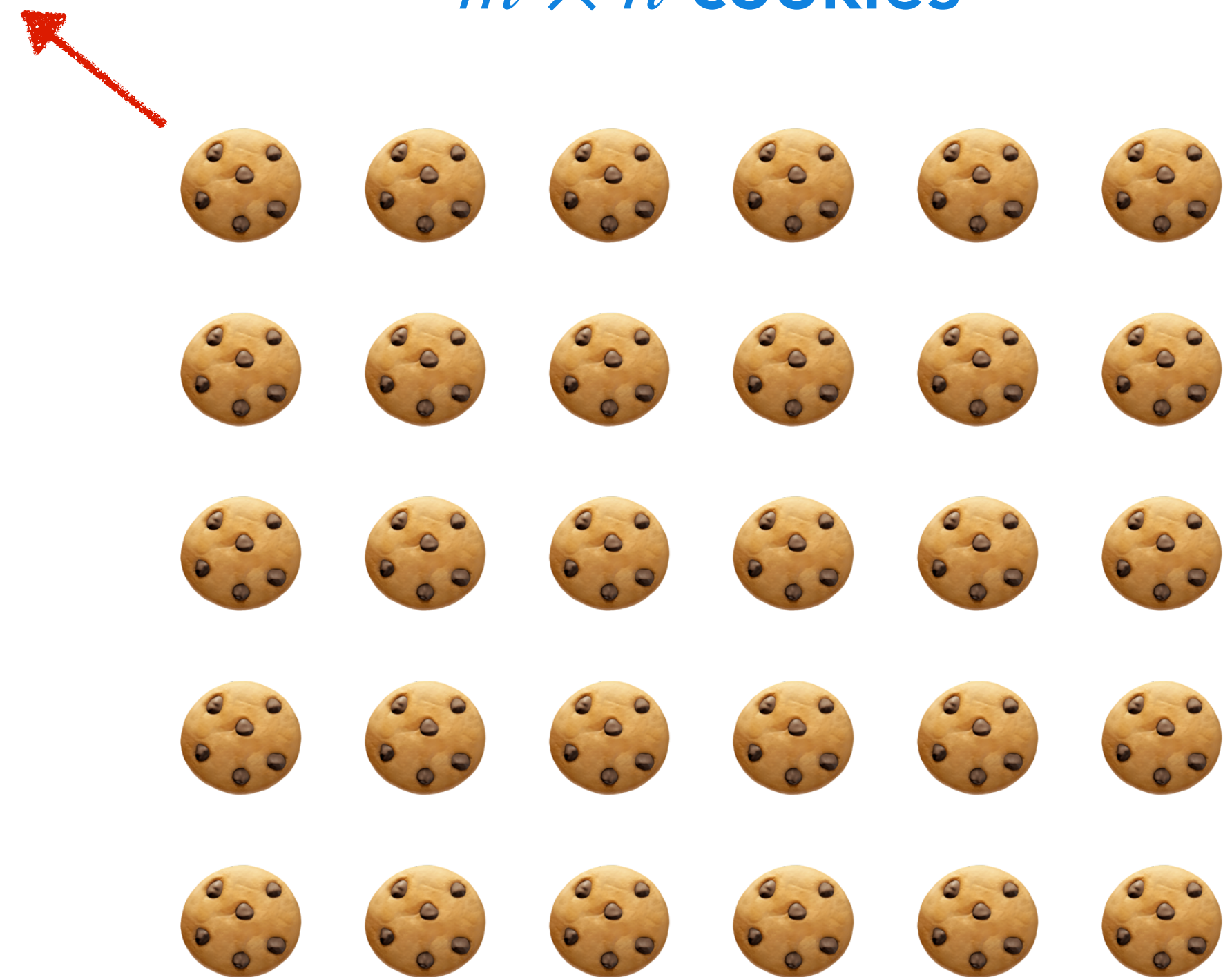
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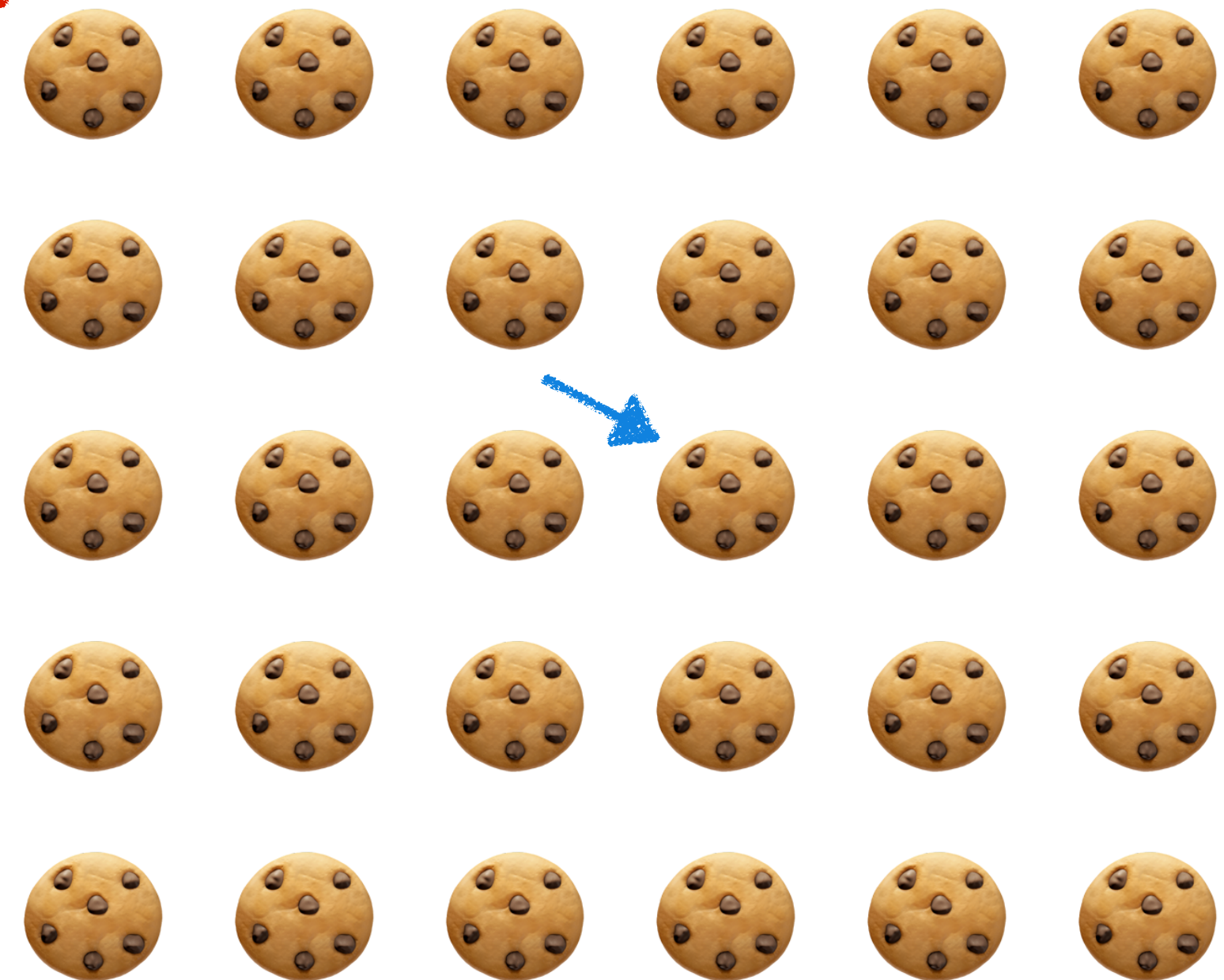
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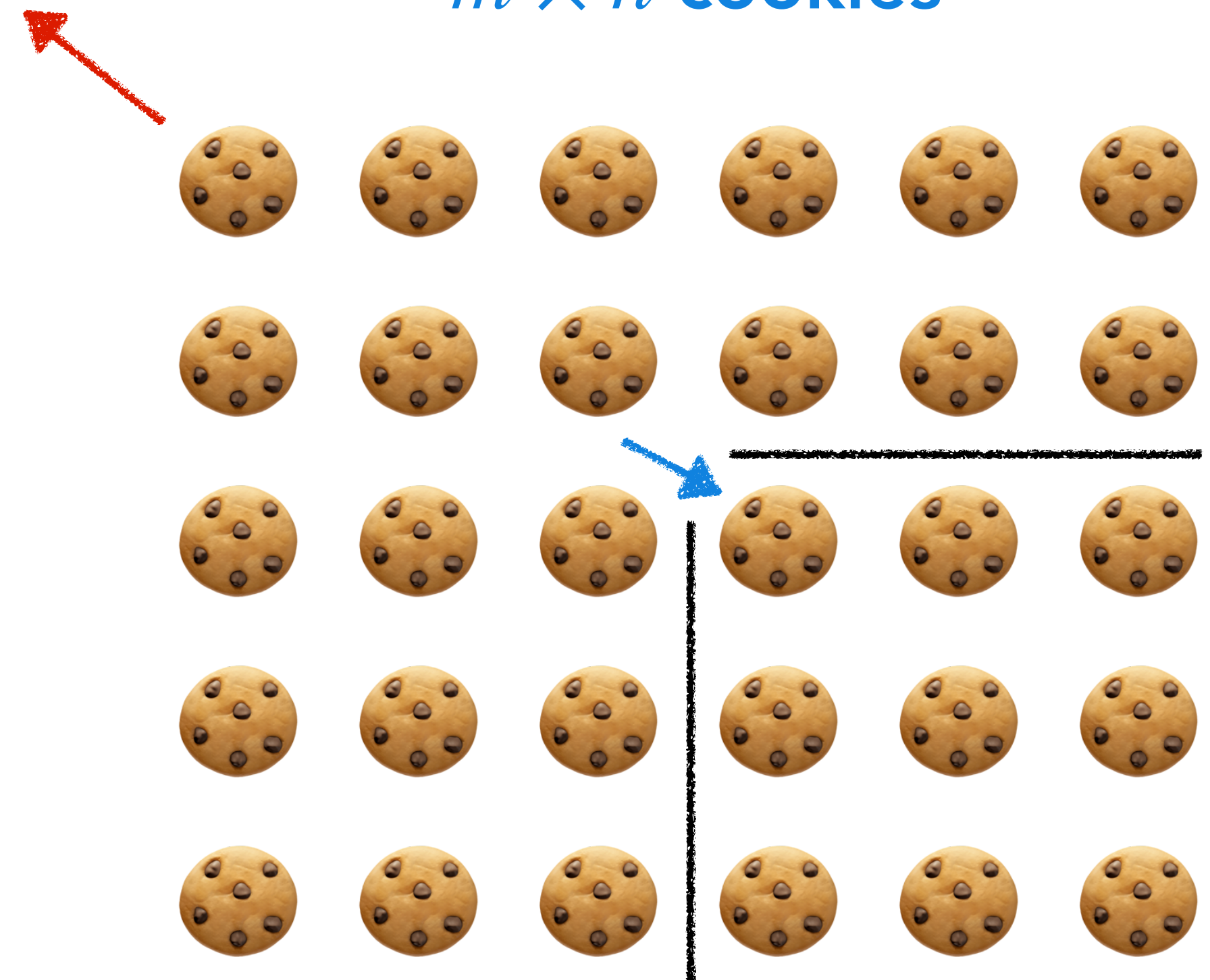
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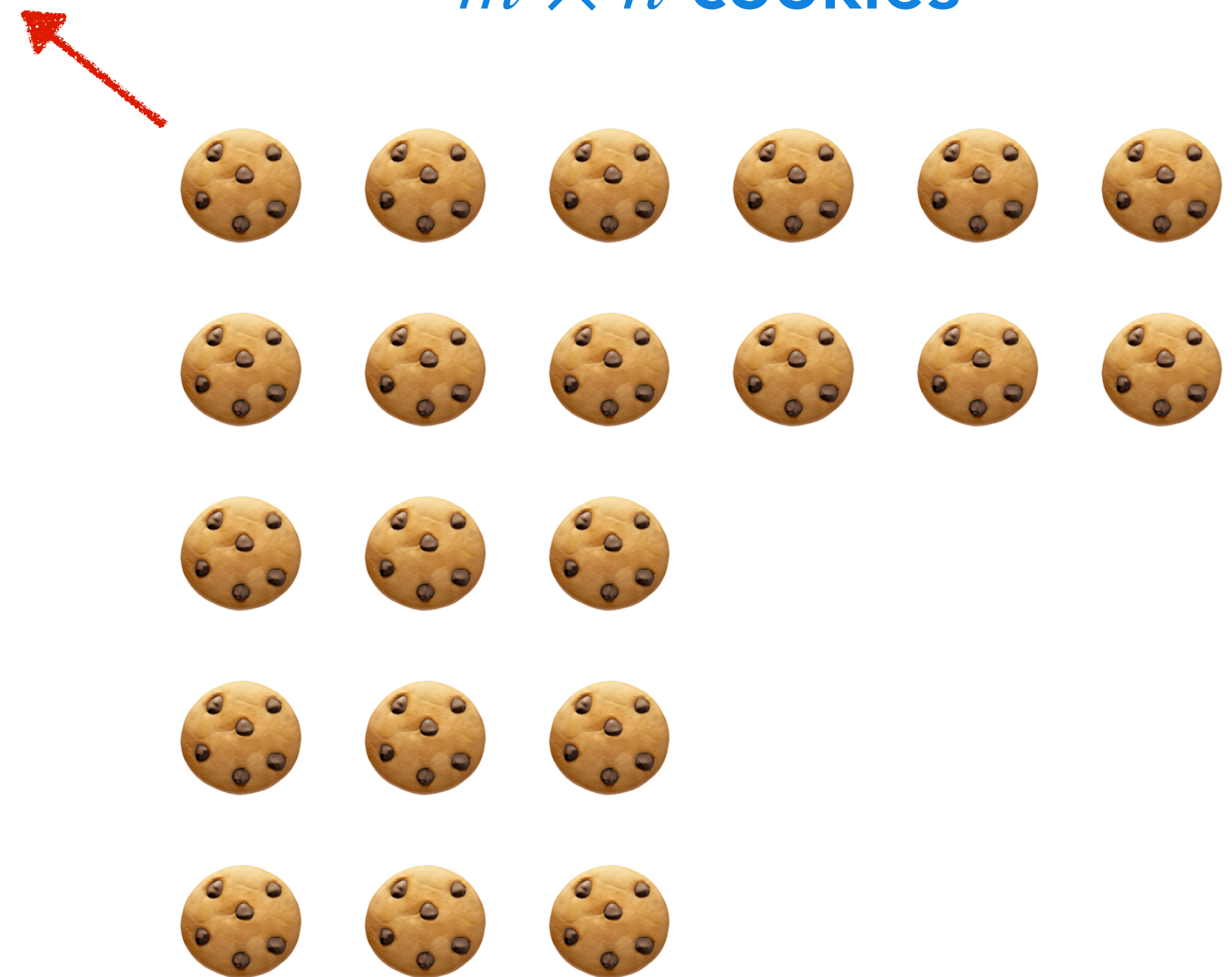
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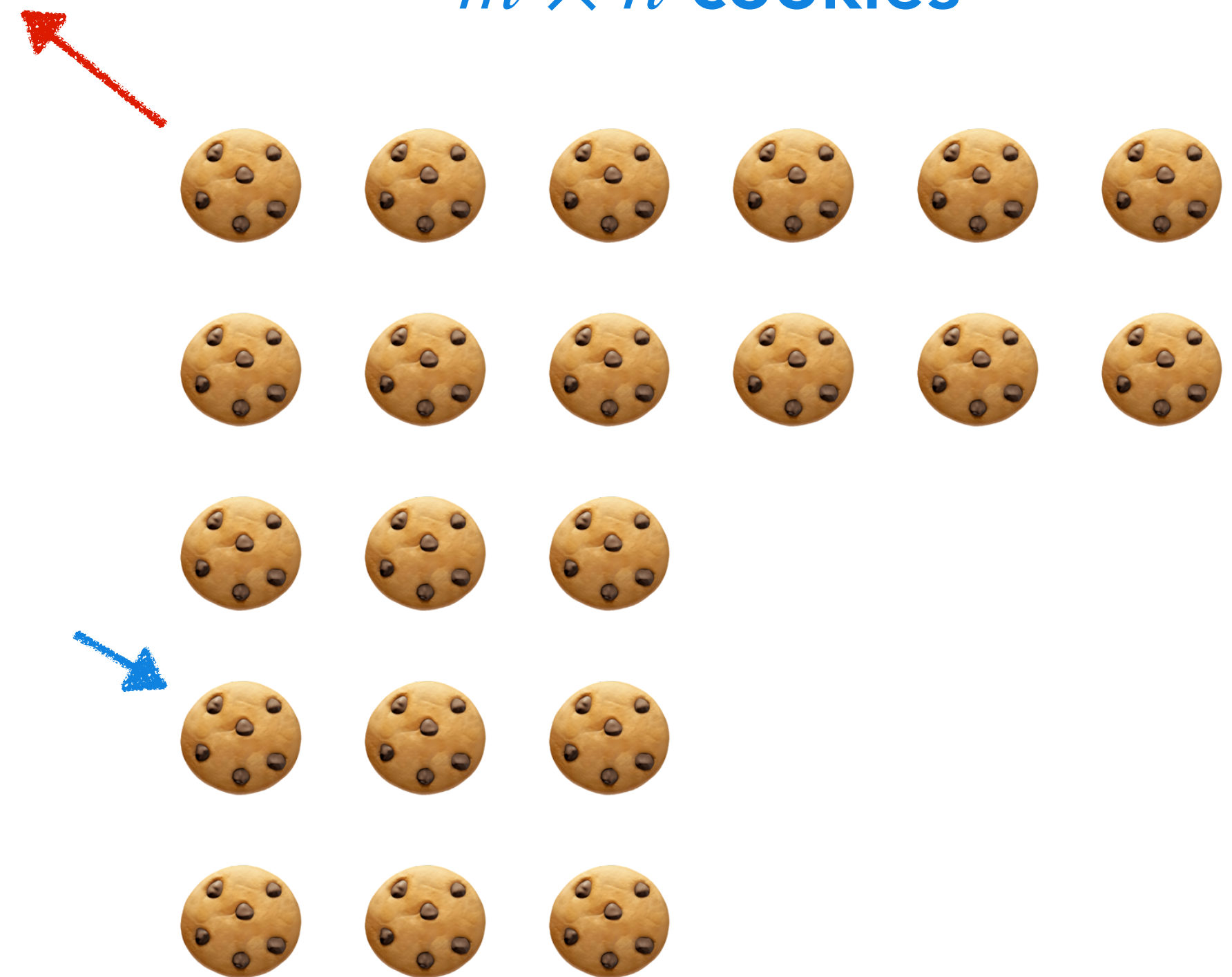
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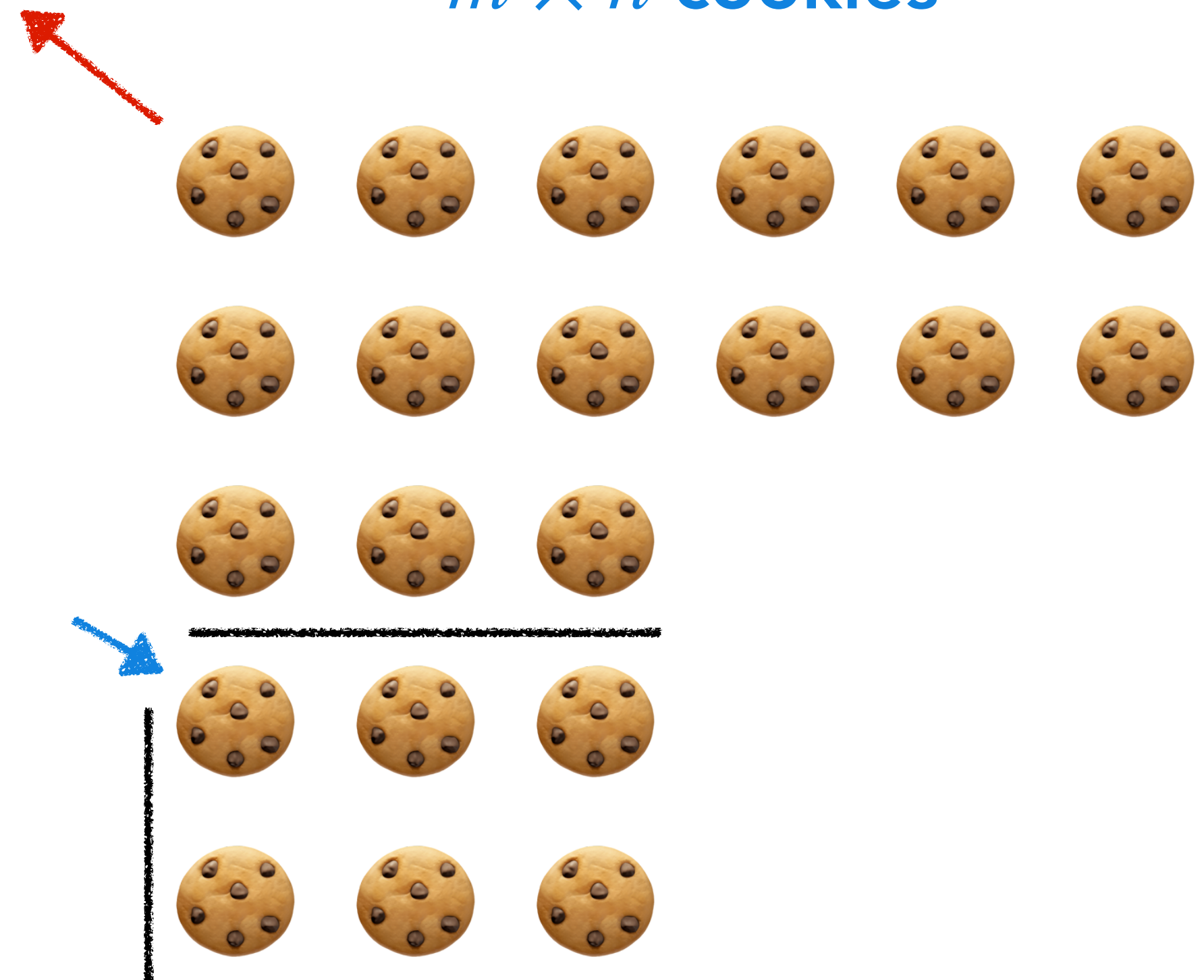
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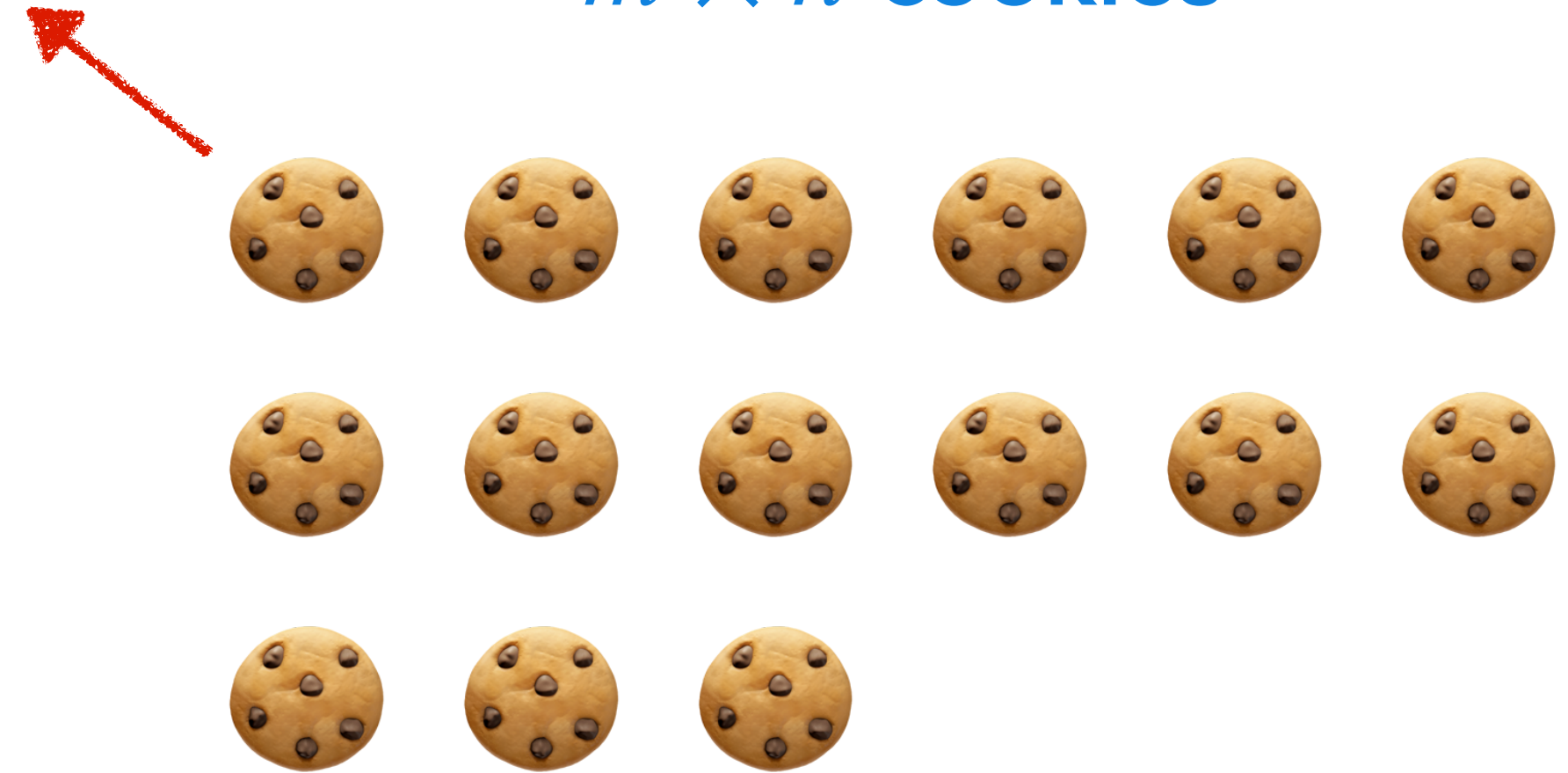
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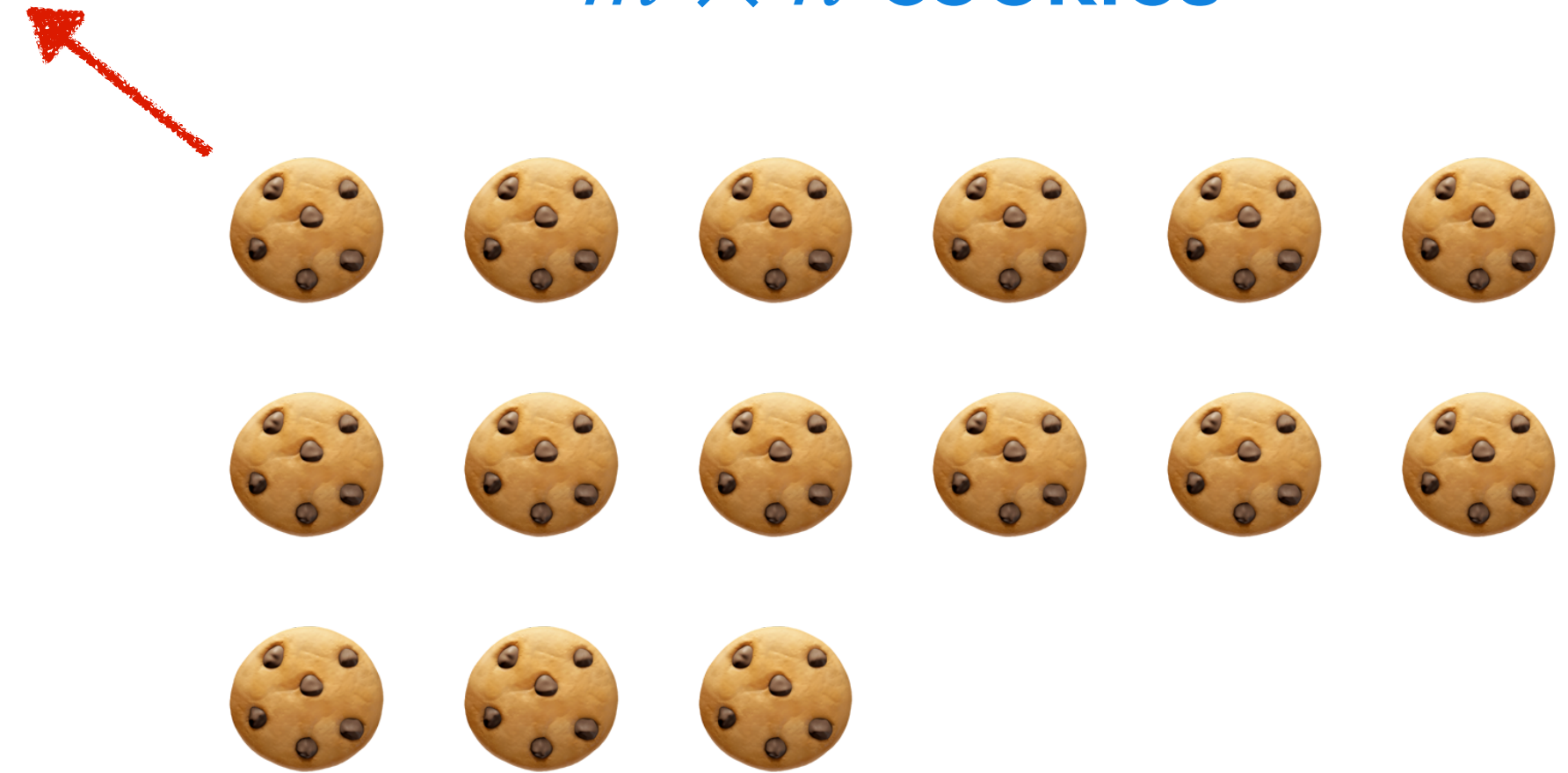
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Poisoned

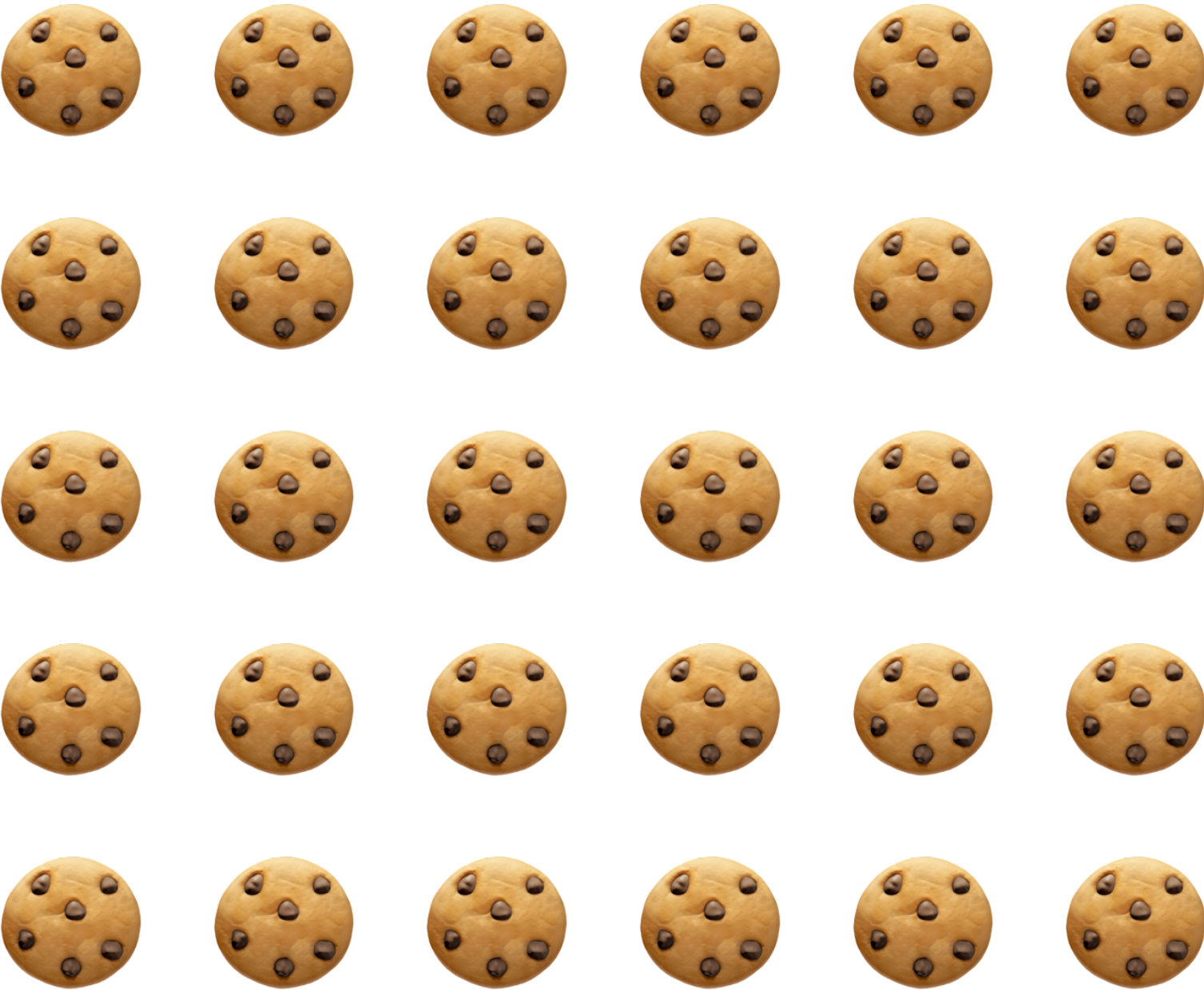
$m \times n$ cookies



Does the 1st player have a winning strategy?

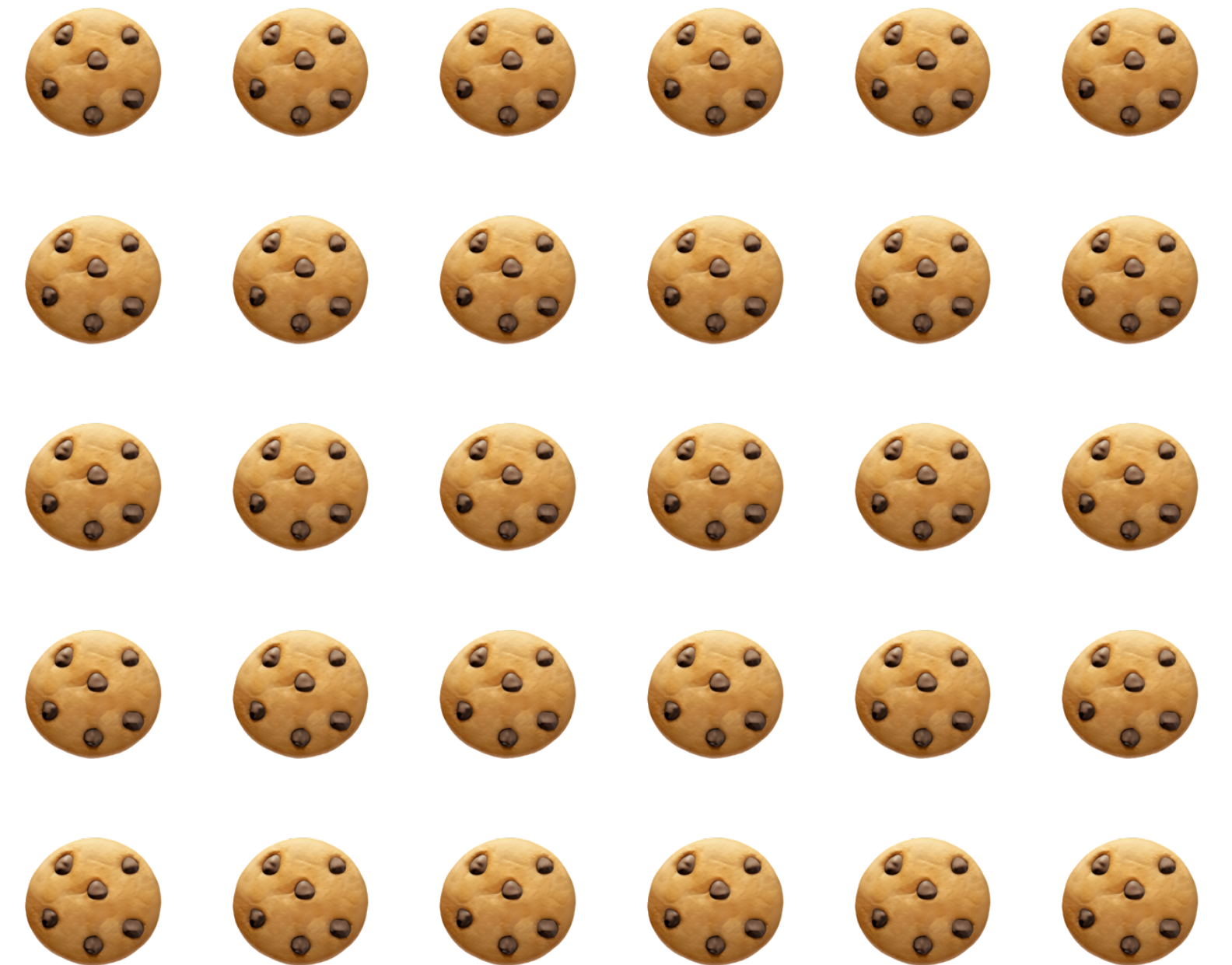
Game of Chomp

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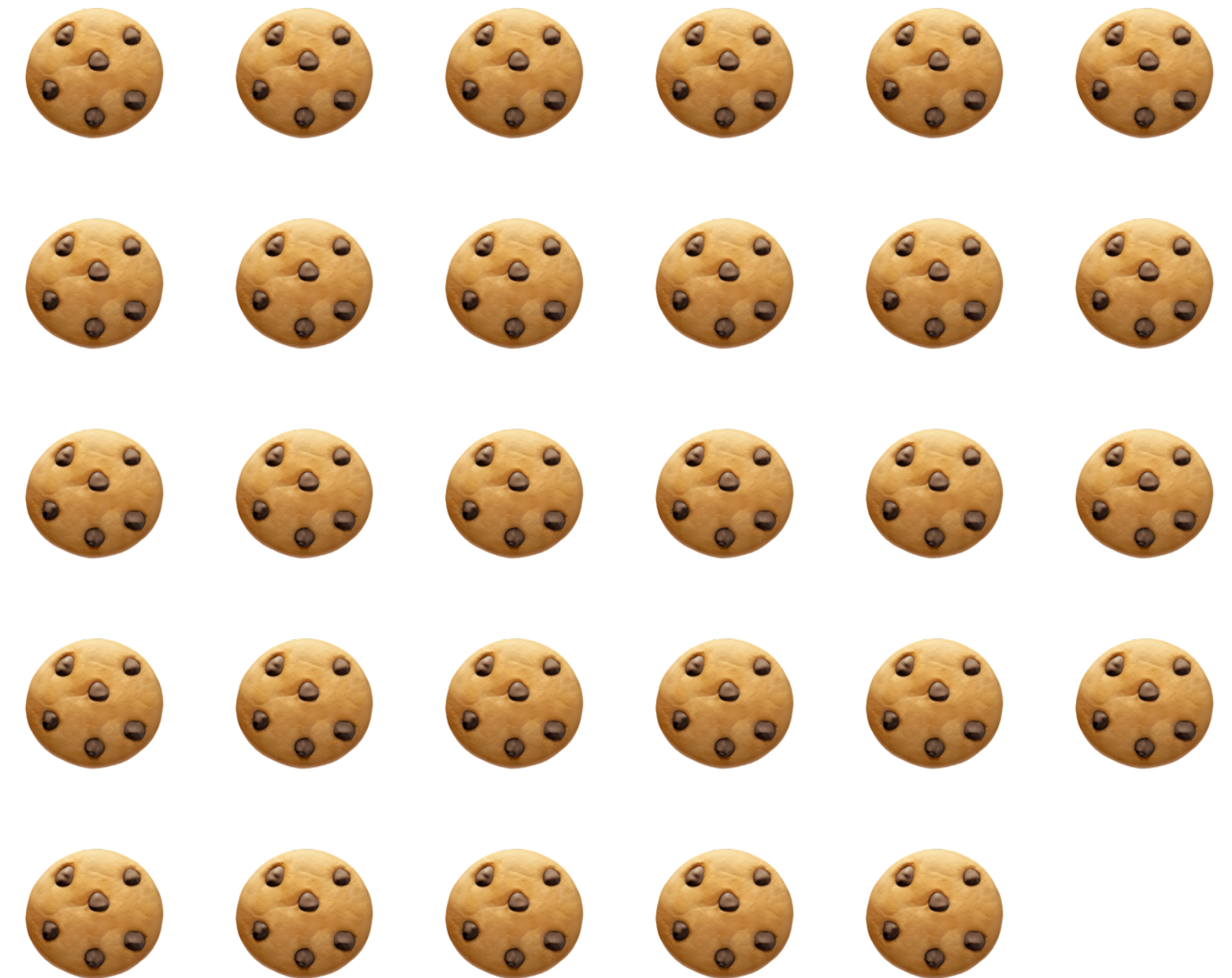
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If 1st player eats the **bottom-right** cookie, two cases are possible:



Game of Chomp

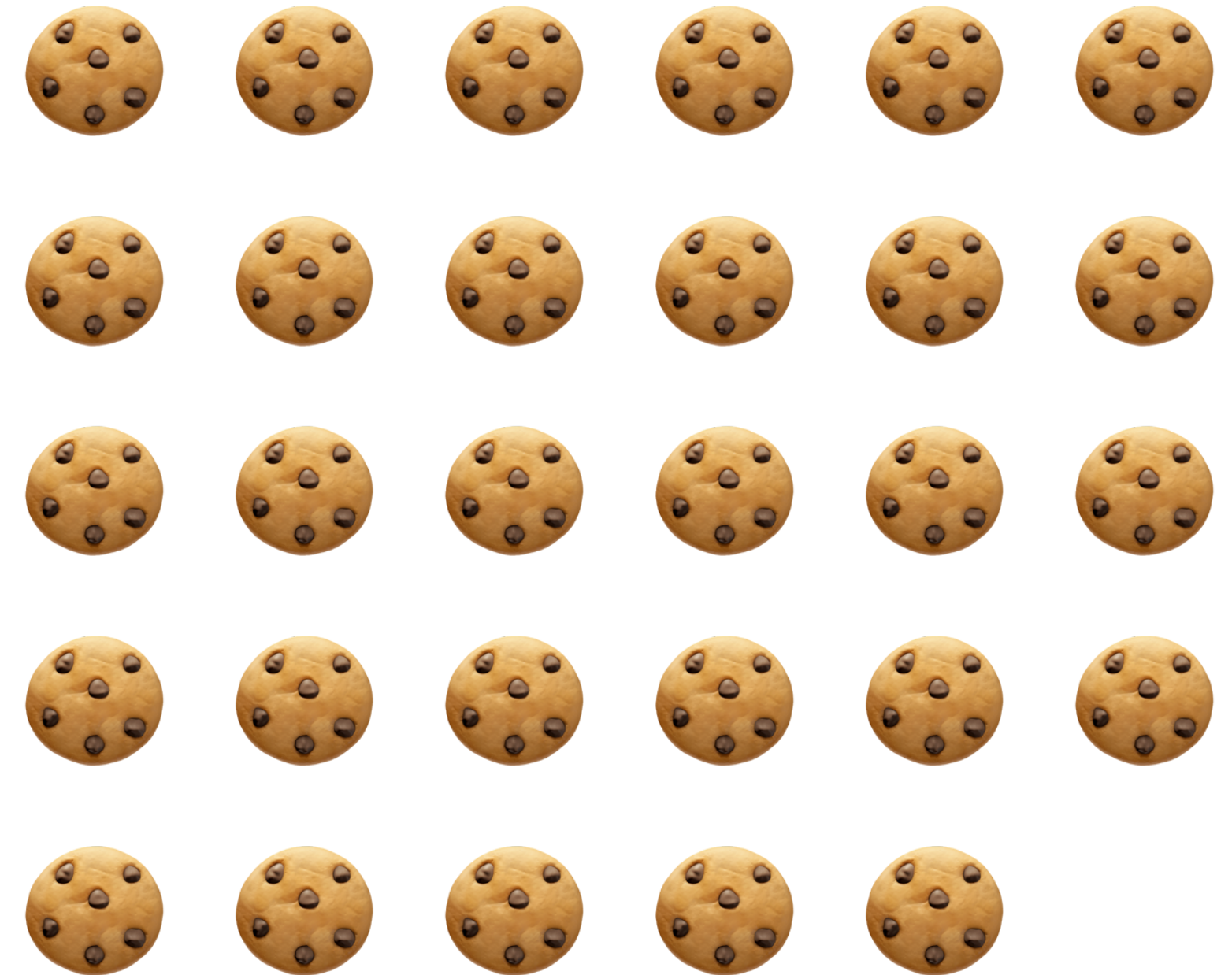
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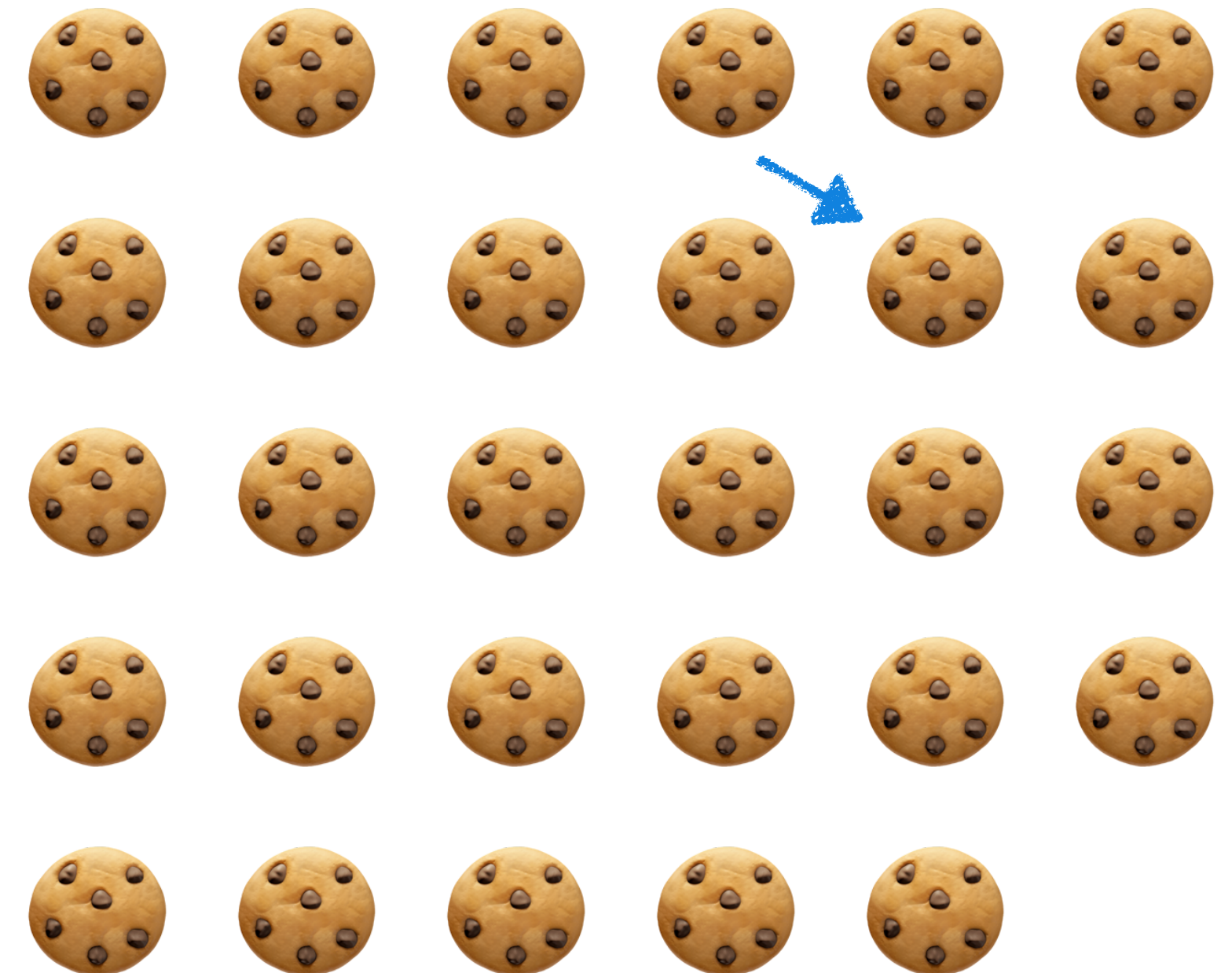
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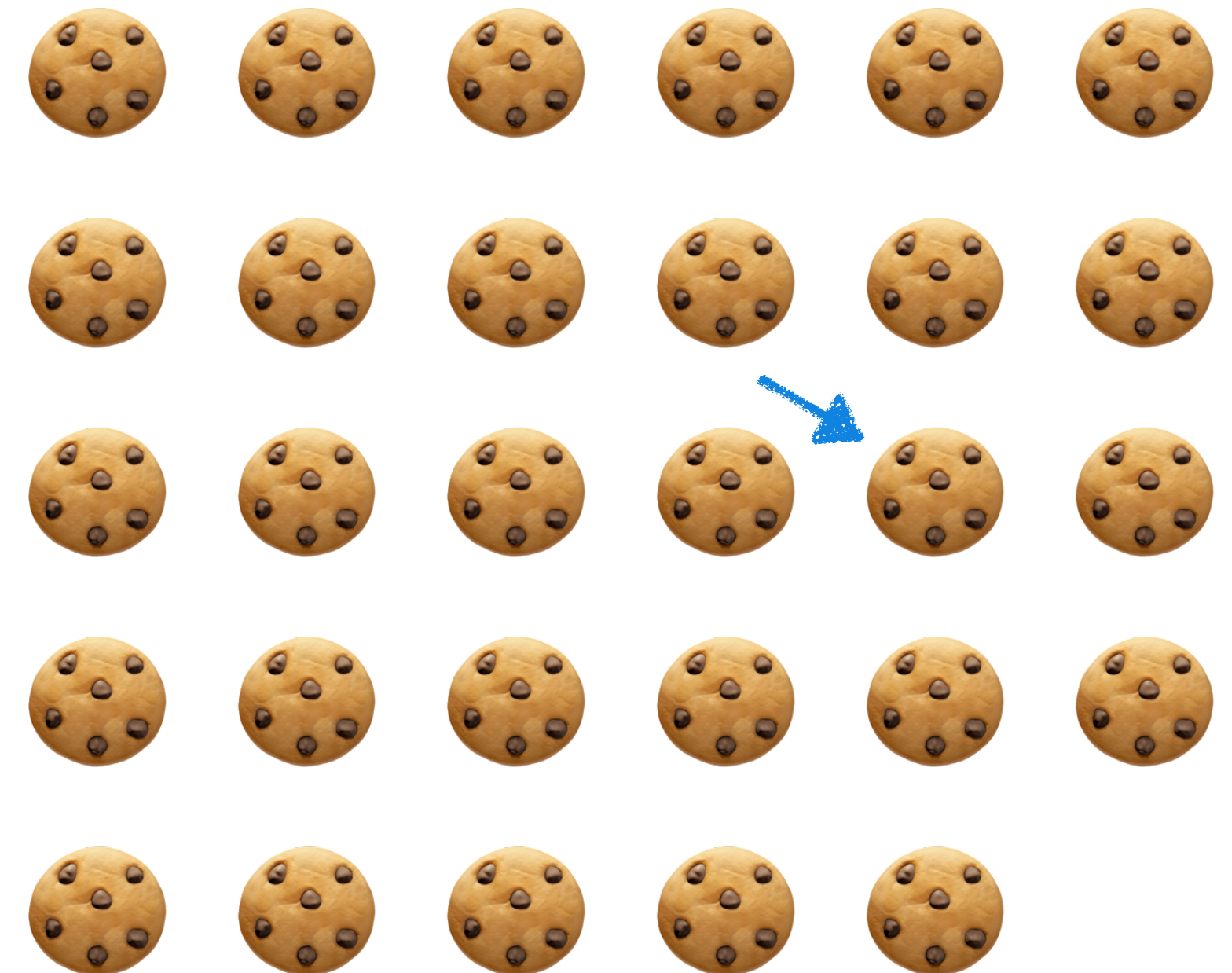
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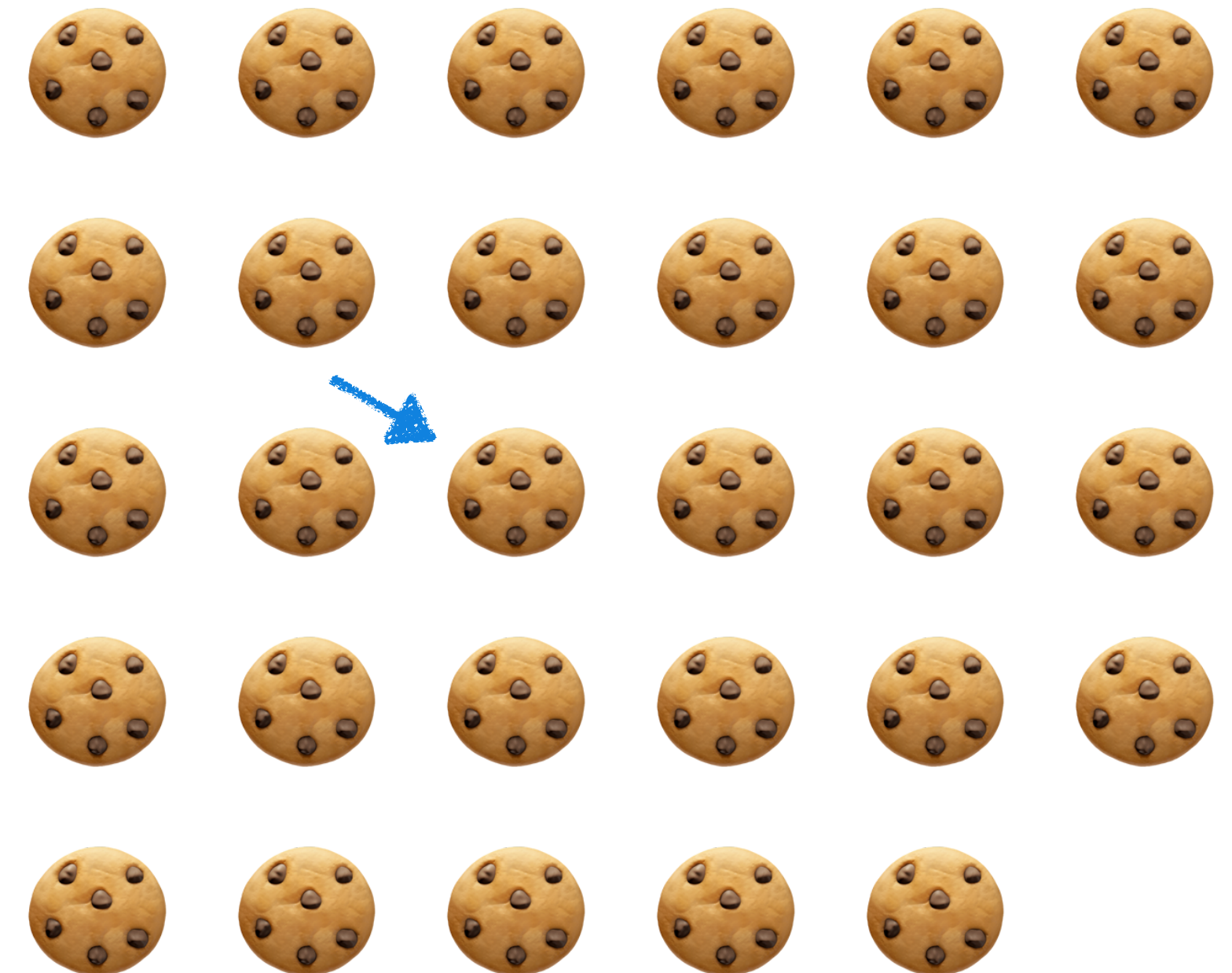
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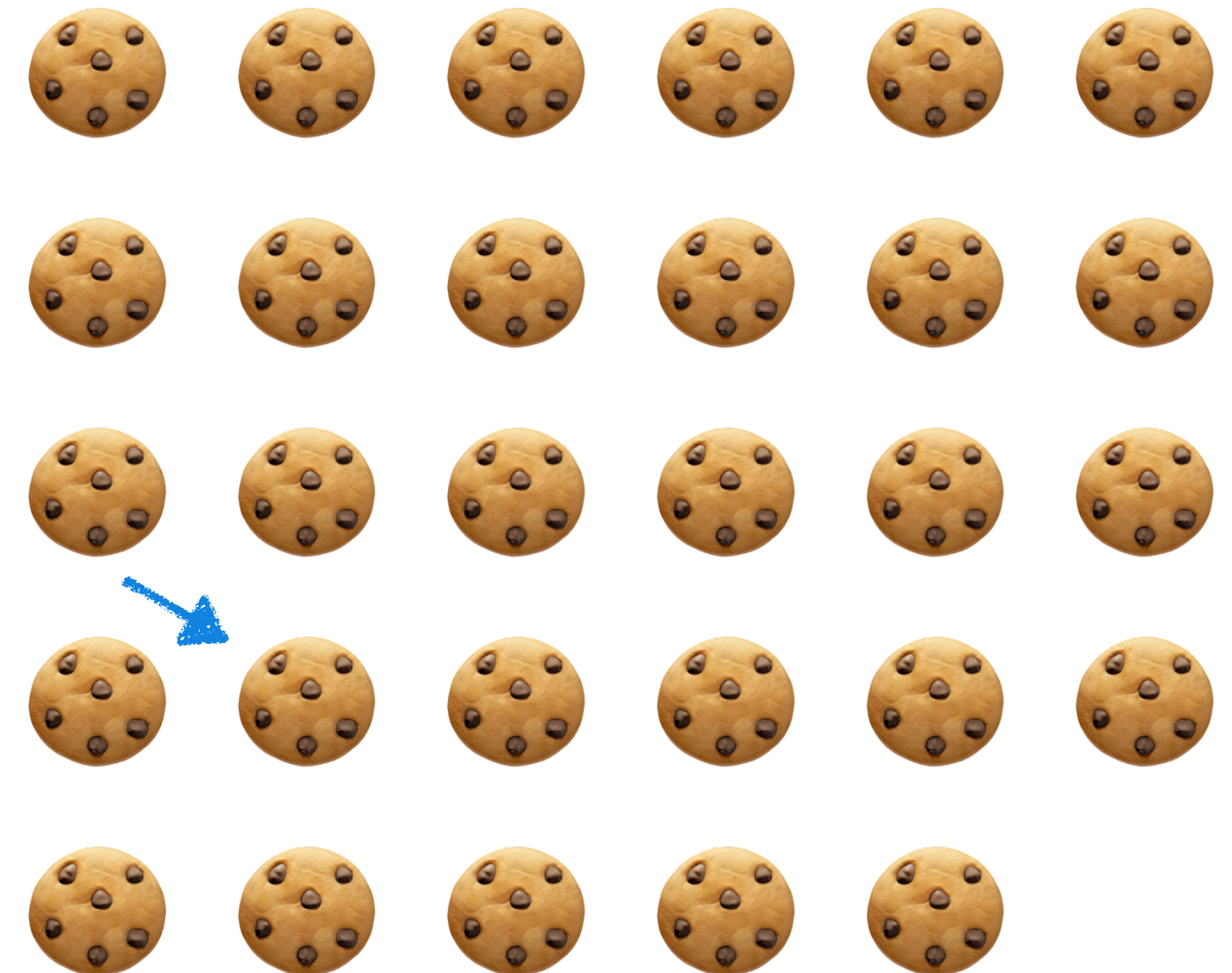
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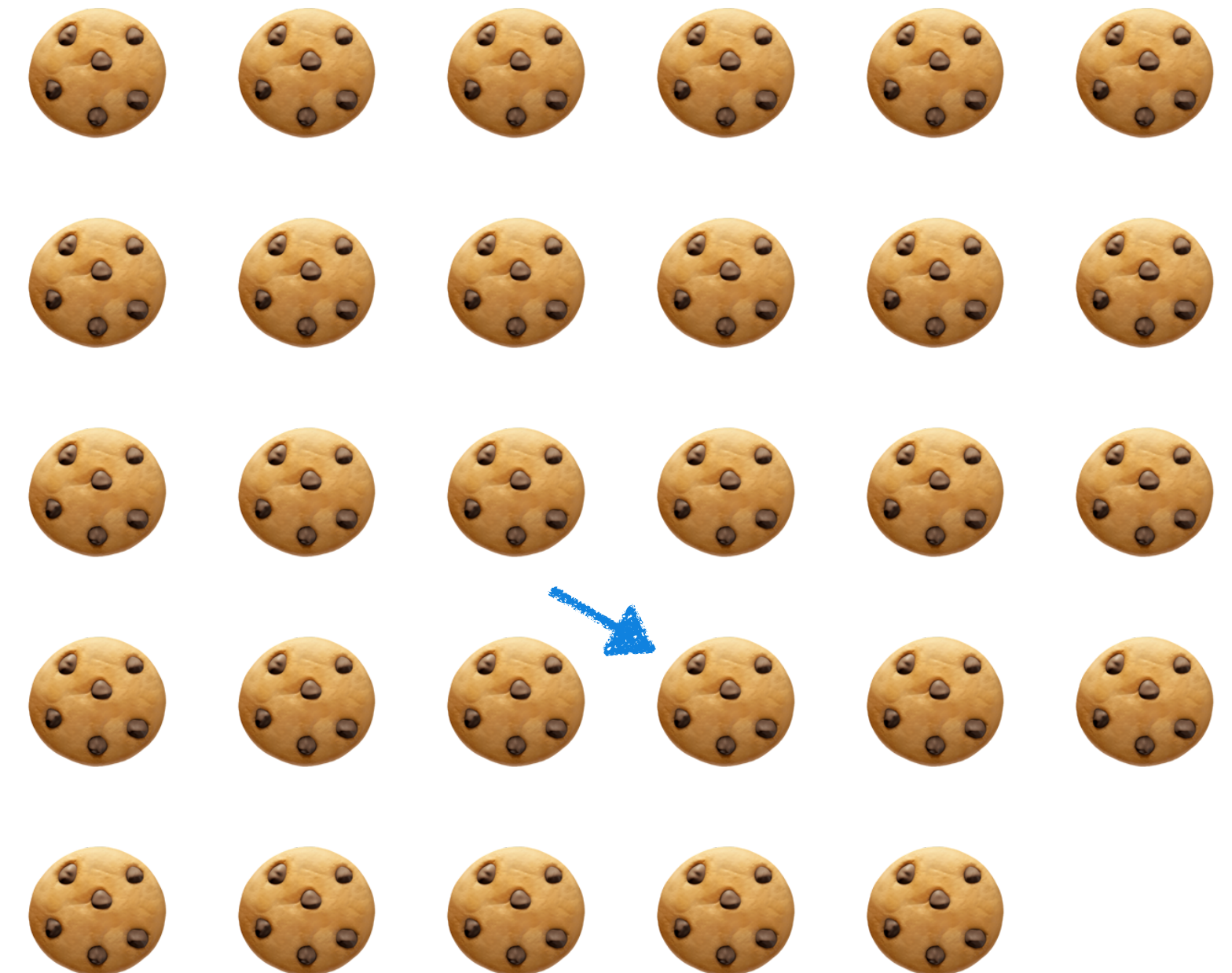
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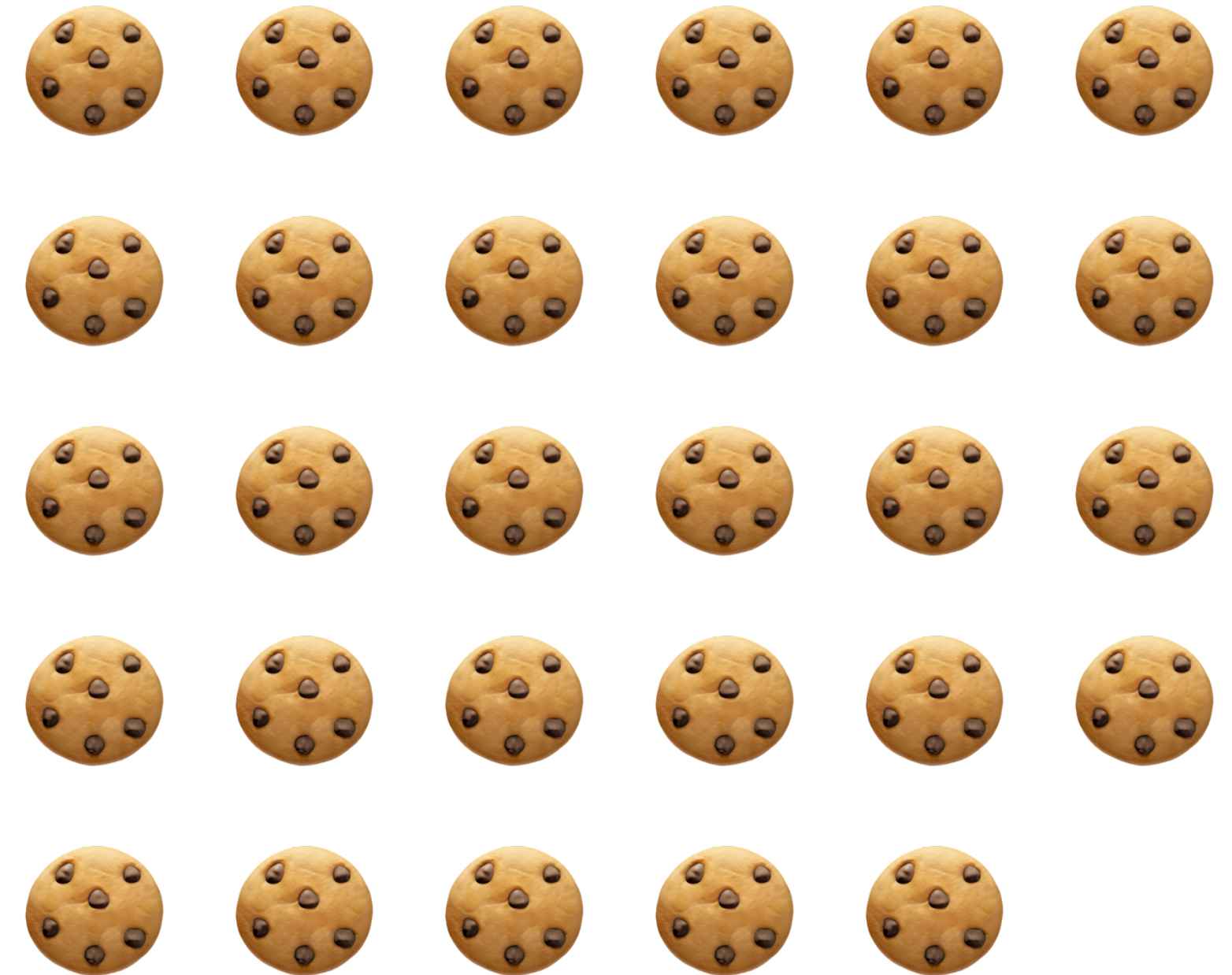
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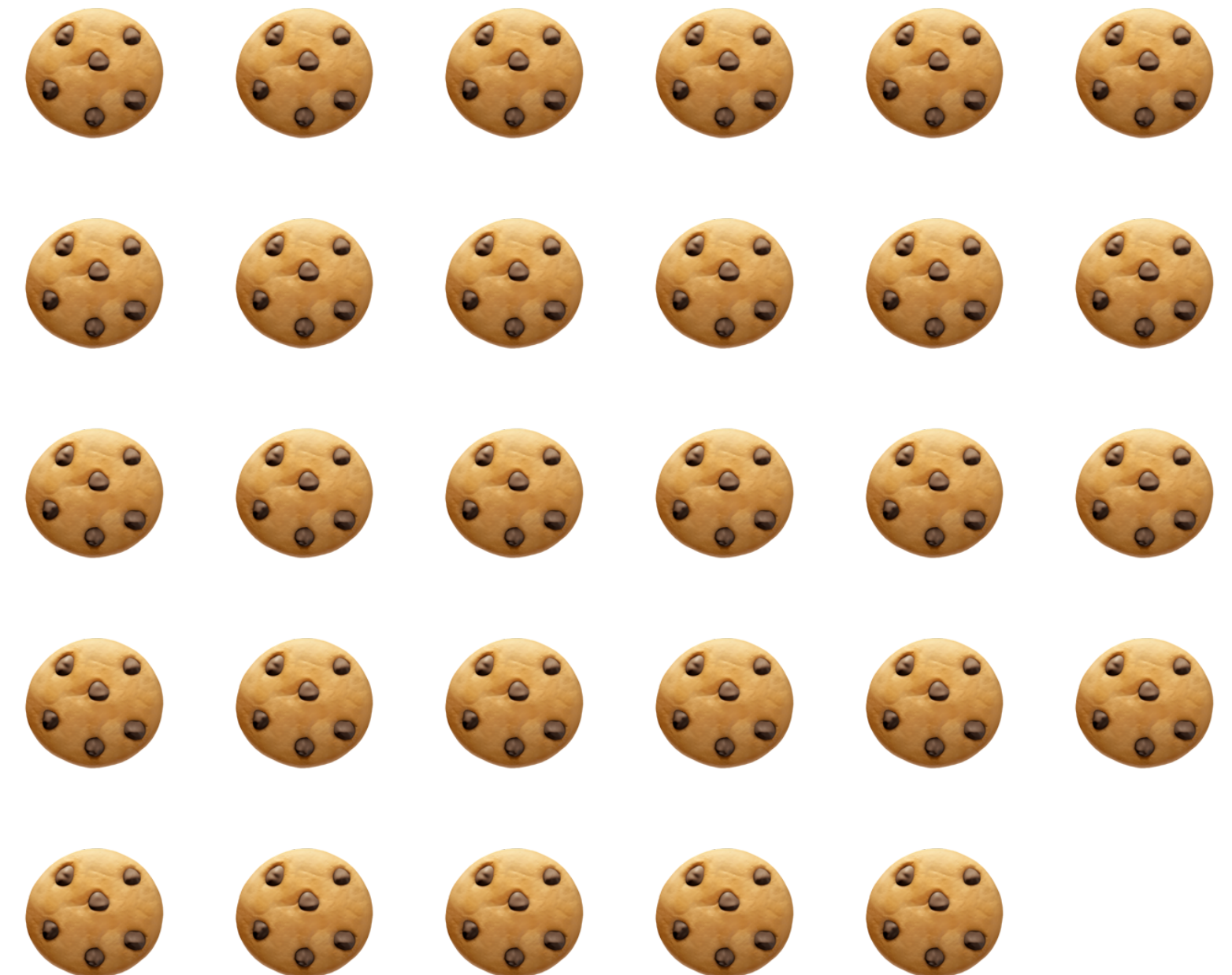


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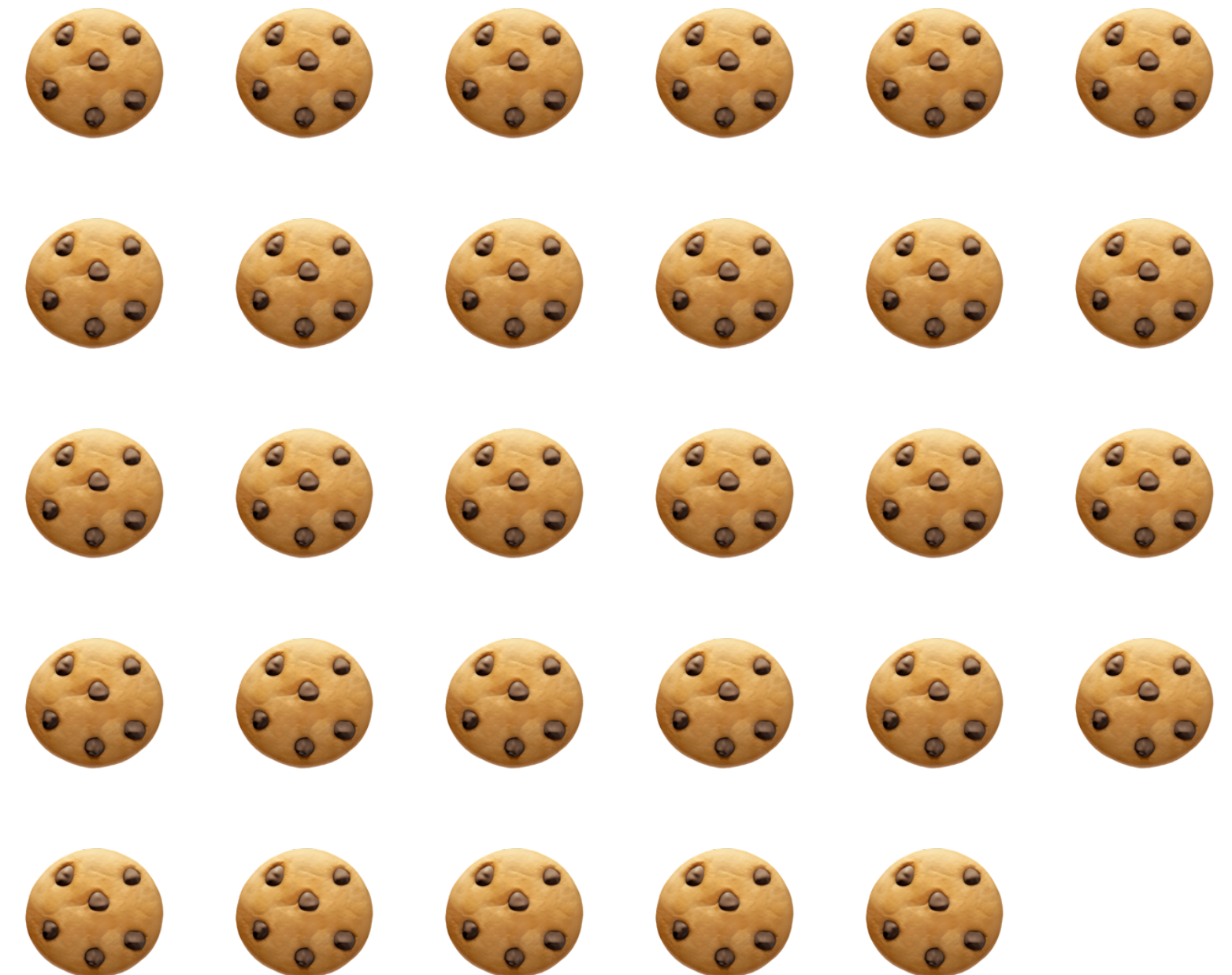
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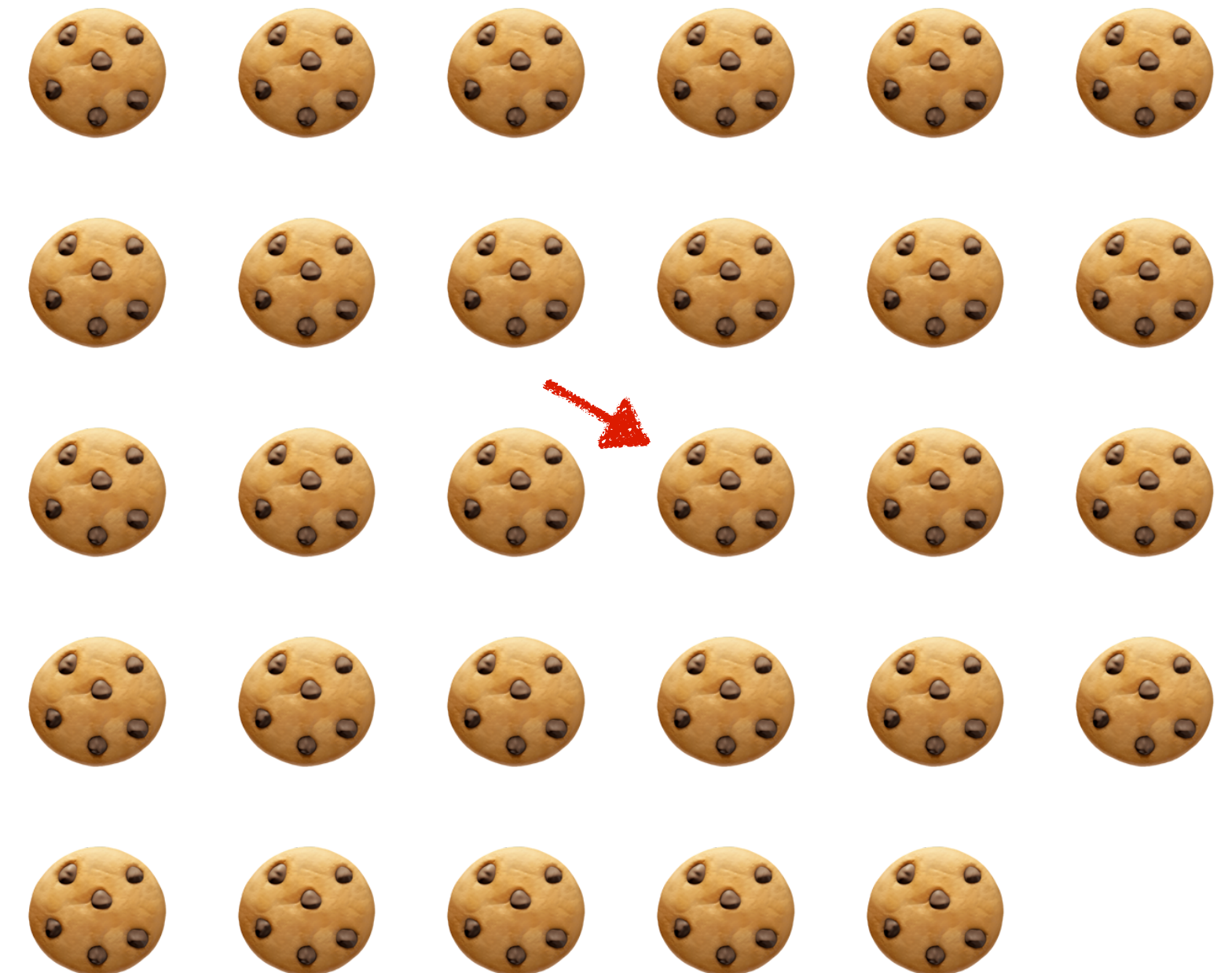
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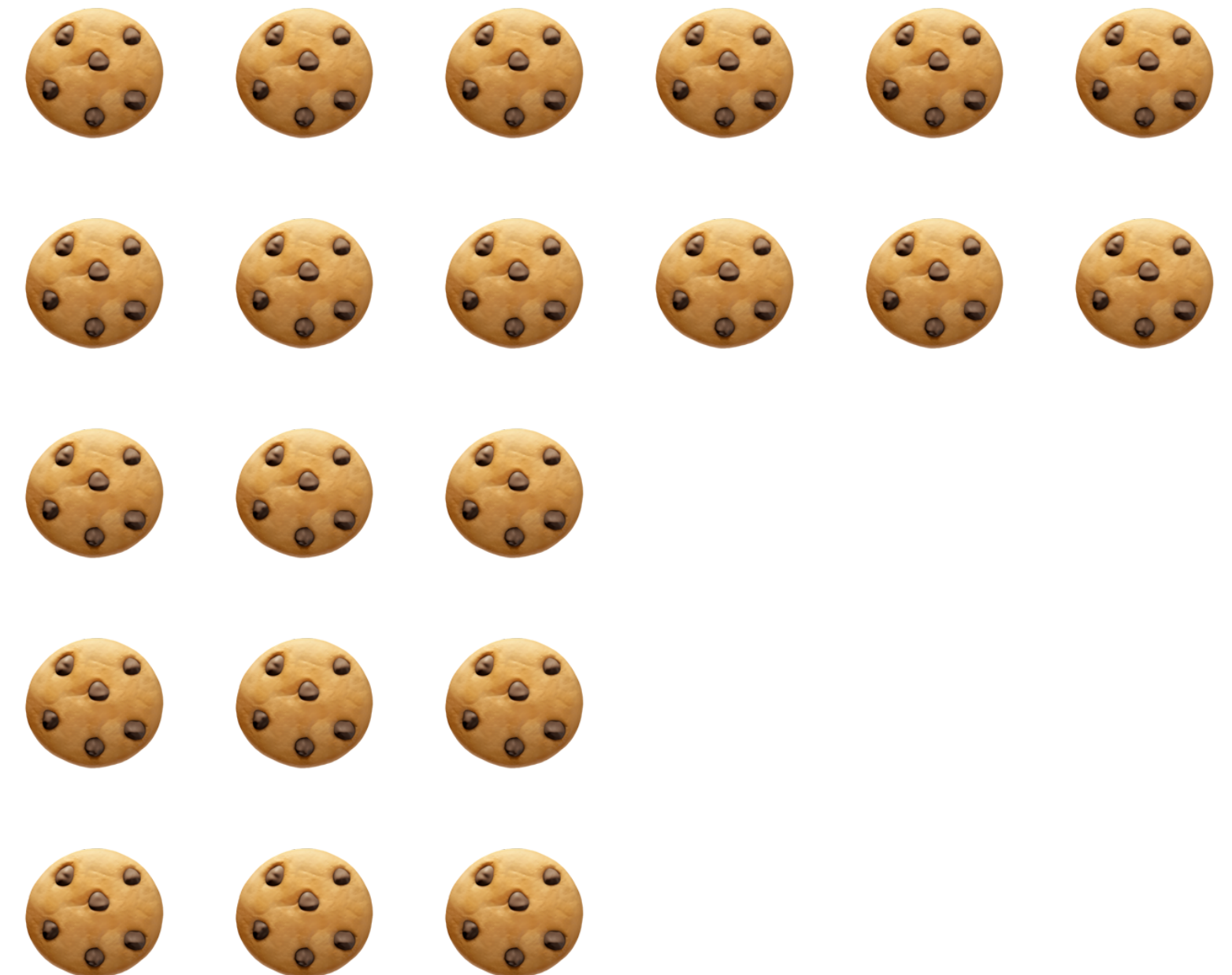
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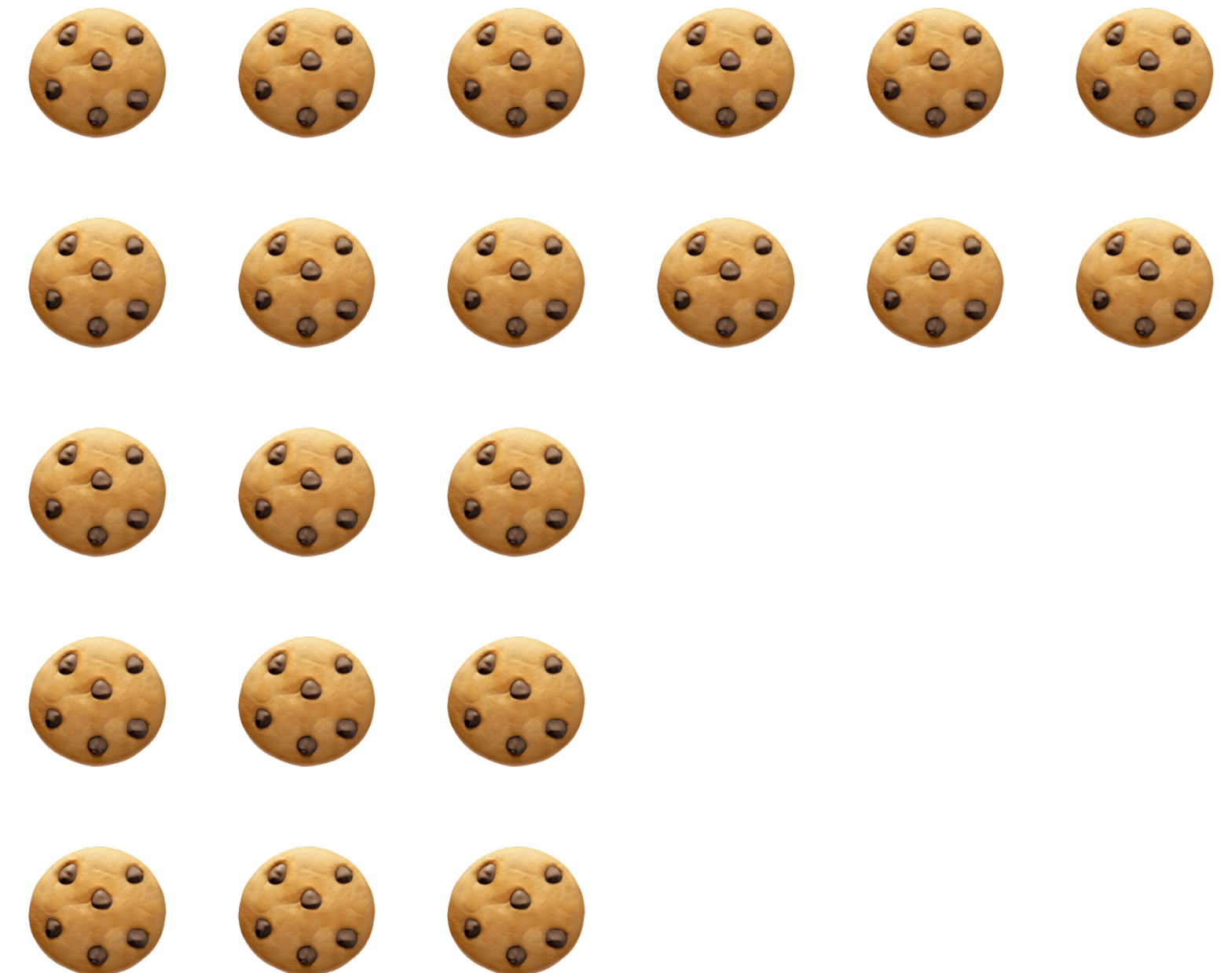
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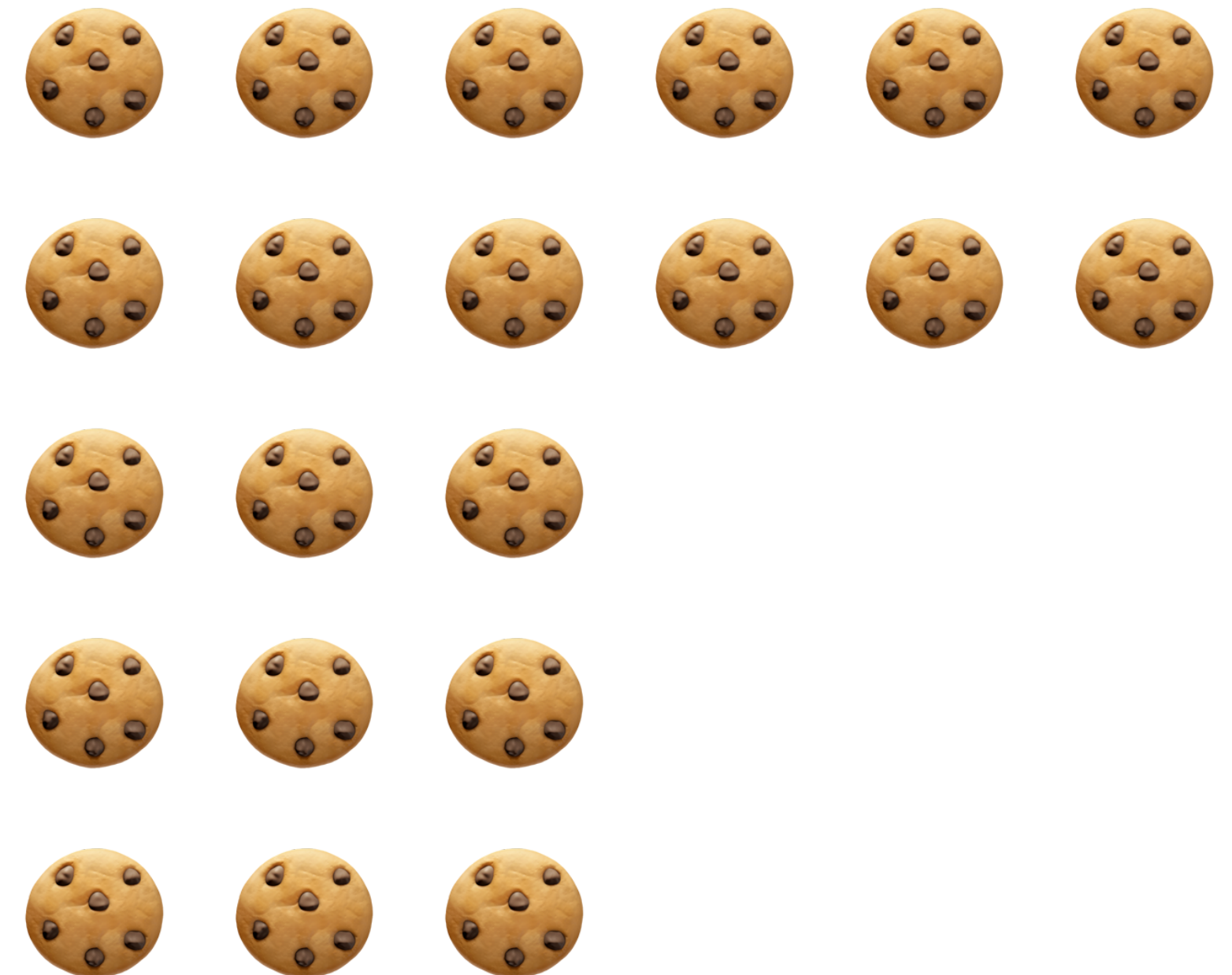
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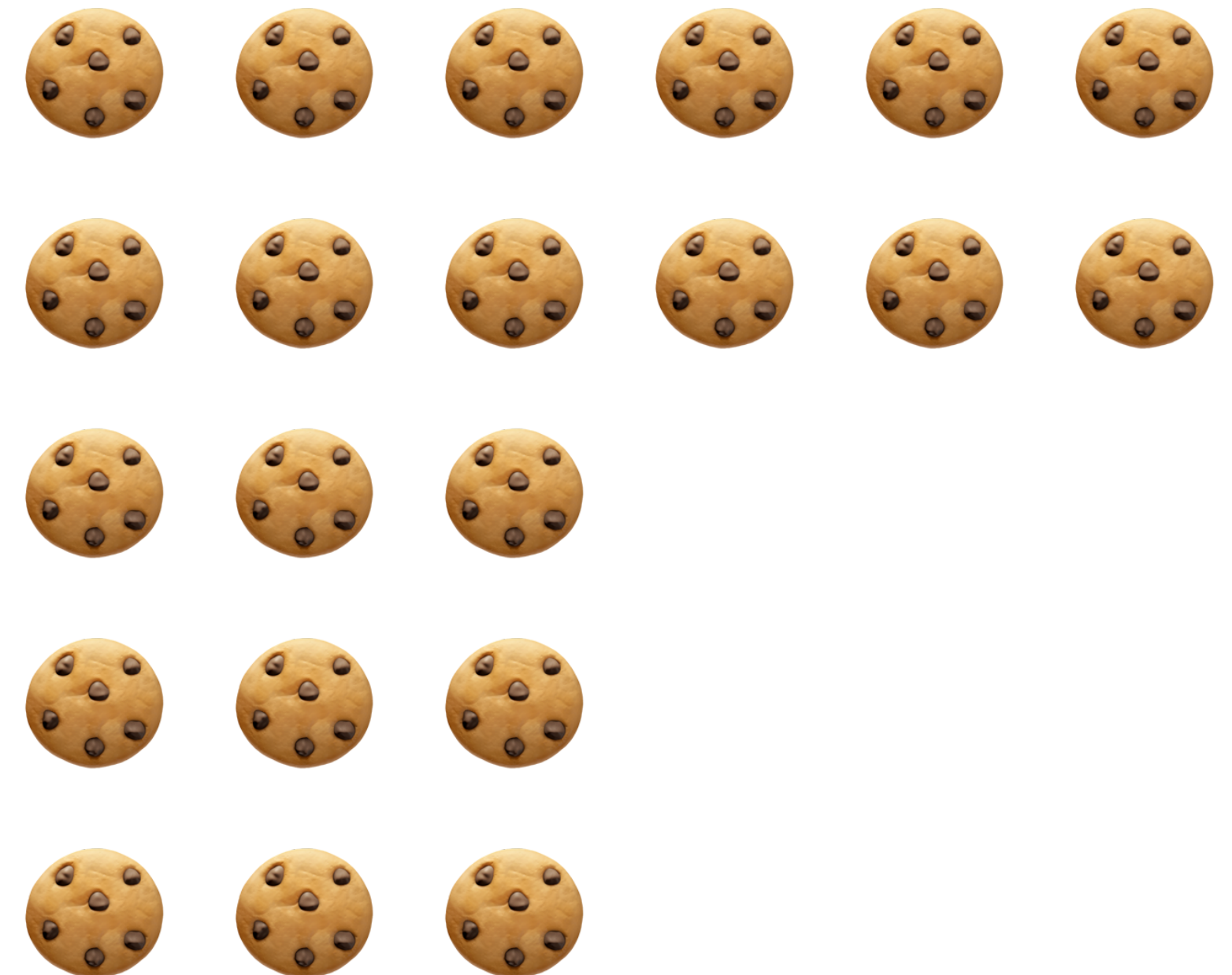
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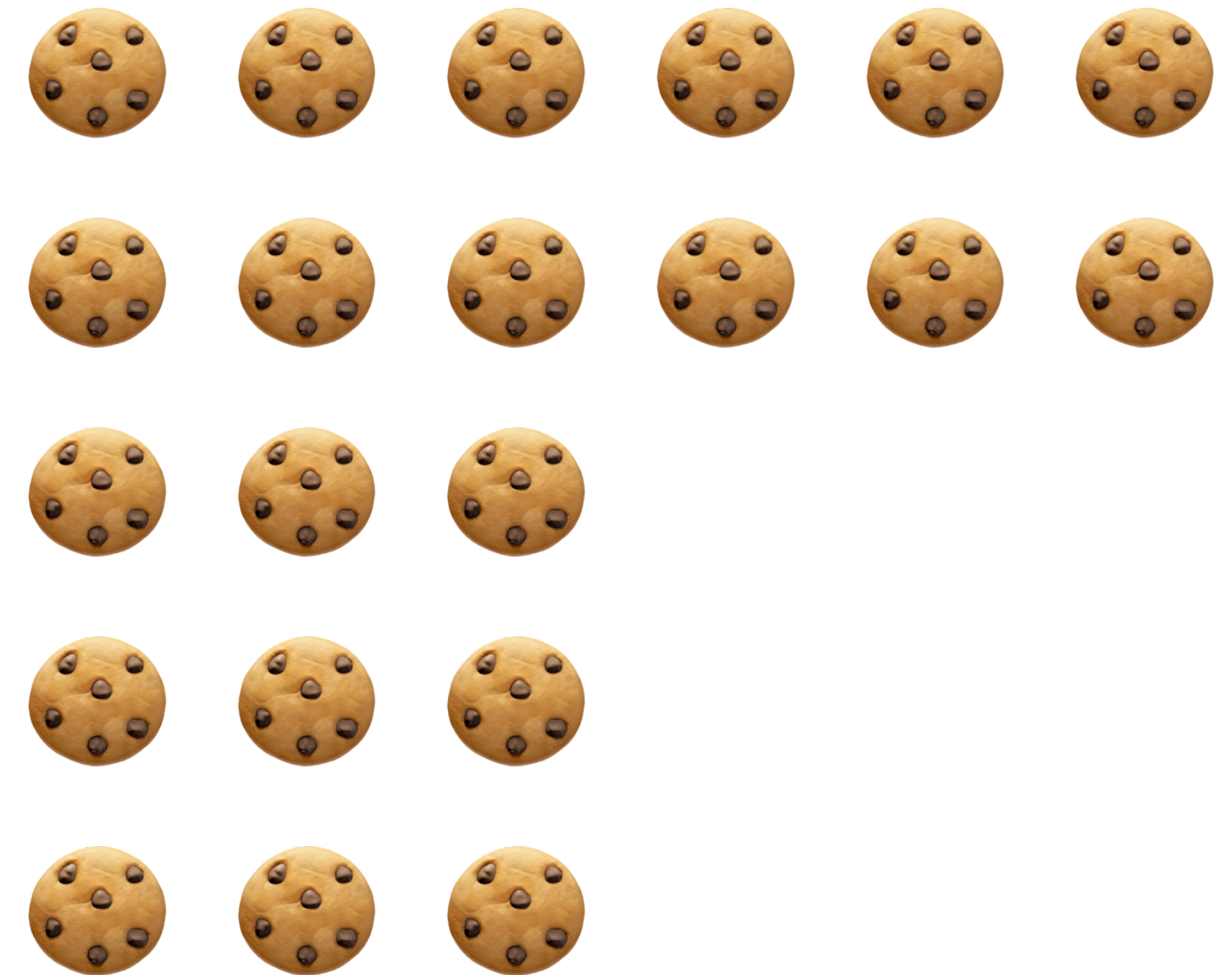
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But then 1st player could have picked the (i, j) th cookie on her 1st turn and forced 2nd player to lose.

Note: We haven't shown that 1st player **knows** the winning strategy, we have only shown that it **exists** for her.



Forward and Backward Reasoning

Forward and Backward Reasoning

Two strategies to prove a mathematical statement, say p :

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Try to prove p using premises, axioms, and existing theorems in a straightforward manner.

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$$p \rightarrow q_1 \rightarrow q_2$$

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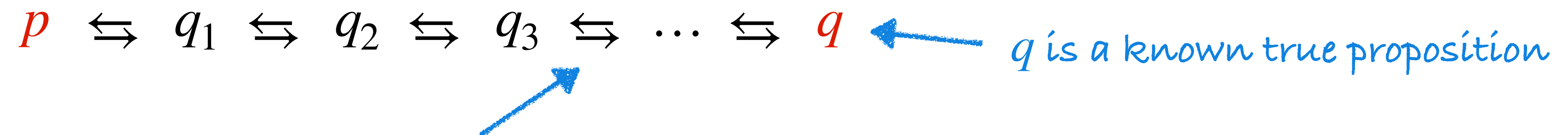
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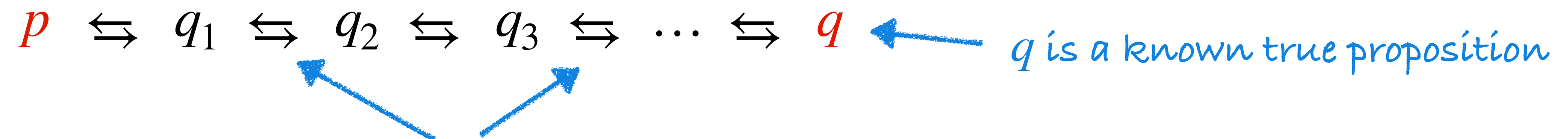
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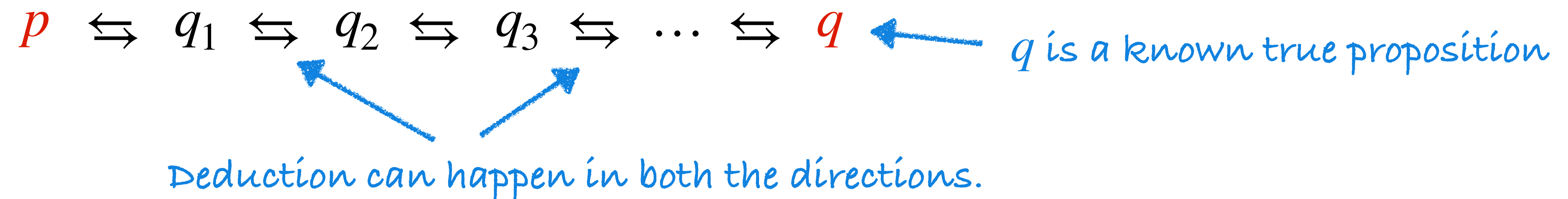
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*Order of
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*Proof should
be in this order*

Disproving Mathematical Statements

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How to disprove a mathematical statement, say p ?

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Prove $\neg p$.

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Prove $\neg p$. (Be careful while forming $\neg p$.)