A unified candidate block set for both adaptive motion vector prediction (AMVP) mode and merge mode for use in inter prediction is proposed. In general the same candidate block set is used regardless of which motion vector prediction mode (e.g. merge mode or AMVP mode) is used. In other examples of this disclosure one candidate block in a set of candidate blocks is designated as an additional candidate block. The additional candidate block is used if one of the other candidate blocks is unavailable. Also the disclosure proposes a checking pattern where the left candidate block is checked before the below left candidate block. Also the above candidate block is checked before the right above candidate block.