
Towards formal verification of imperative concurrent data structures

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What are we interested in?

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- Imperative programs

P

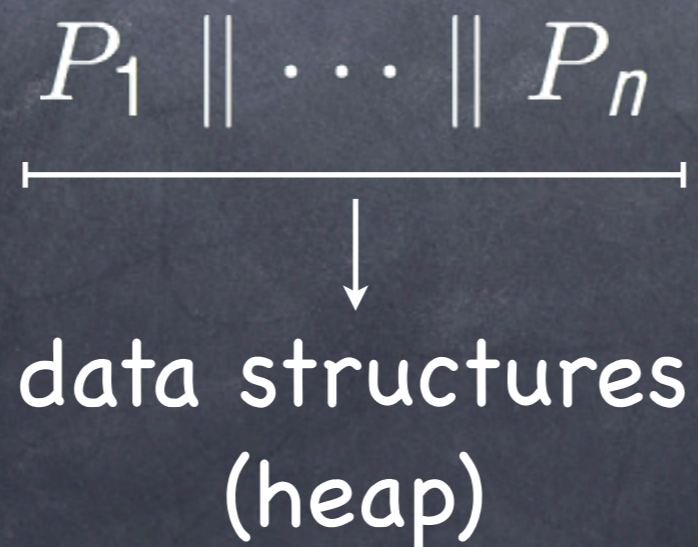
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- Concurrent data structures

$$P_1 \parallel \cdots \parallel P_n$$

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- Temporal property (safety, liveness)

$$\underbrace{P_1 \parallel \dots \parallel P_n}_{\text{data structures (heap)}} \models \varphi$$

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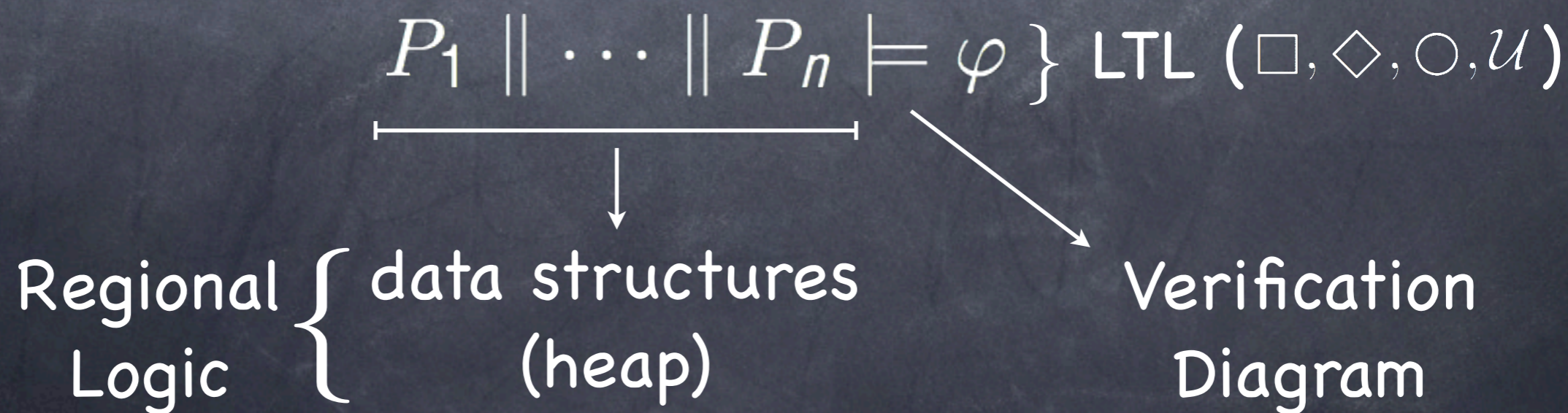
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Regional Logic { data structures
(heap)

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Reasoning about the heap

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- Separation Logic

Hoare logic extension to reason about shared mutable data structure

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Hoare logic extension to reason about shared mutable data structure

emp

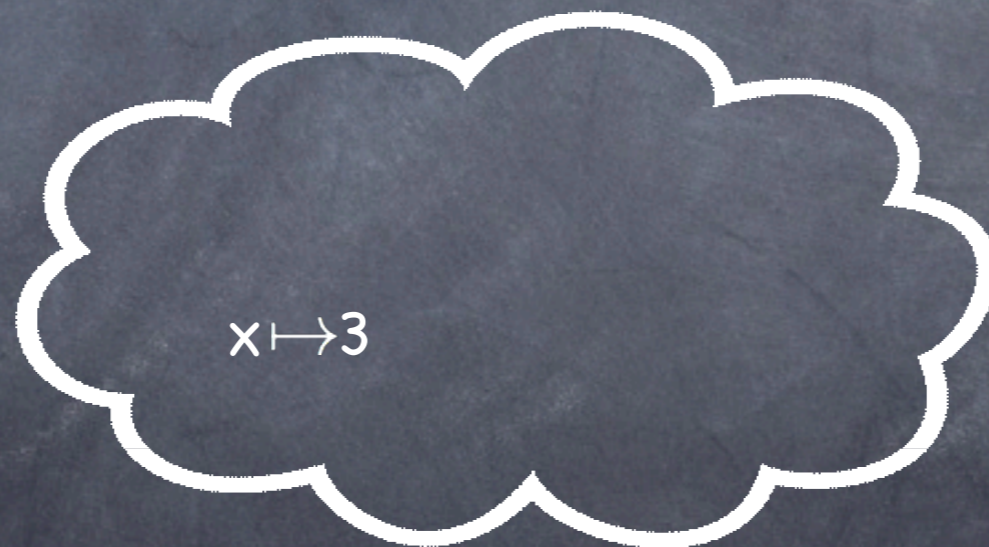


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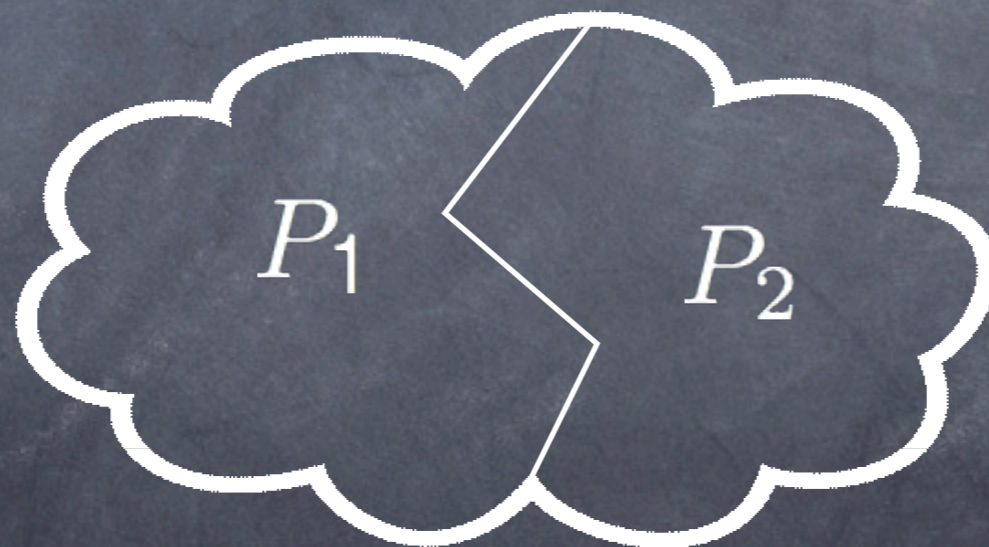
$$[P_0 * P_1] s h \Leftrightarrow \exists h_0, h_1 \bullet h_0 \perp h_1 \wedge h_0 . h_1 = h \wedge [P_0] s h_0 \wedge [P_1] s h_1$$

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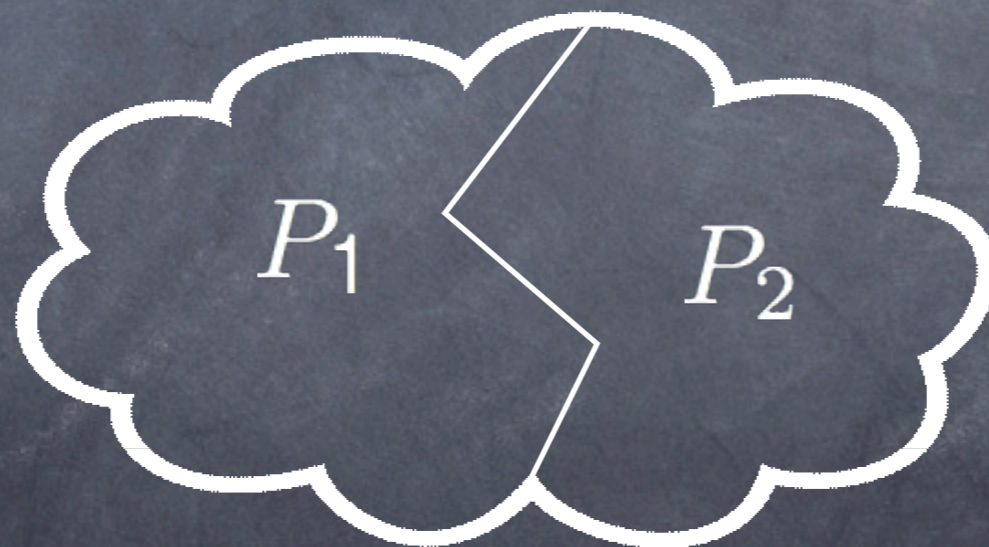
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Classical first order logic

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 $\forall x : K \in R \mid P$

Verification Diagrams

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$$P \models \varphi$$

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$$\downarrow$$
$$\Psi$$

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- Representation of a system by FTS

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$$\Psi = \langle N, N_0, E, \mu, \mathcal{F}, \eta, \Delta, f \rangle$$

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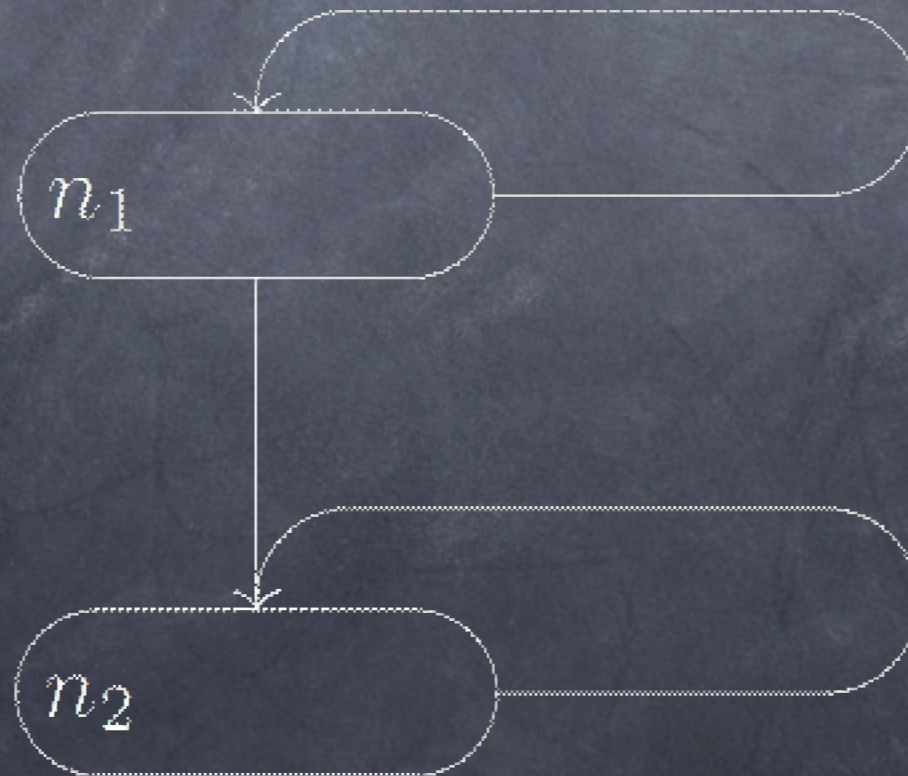
n_1

n_2

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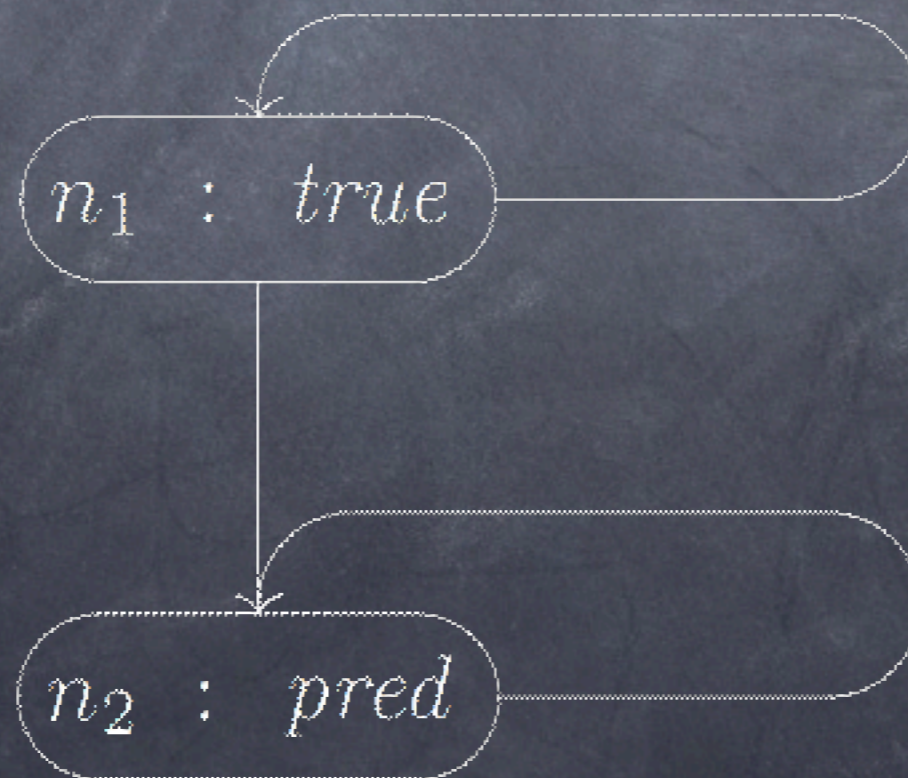
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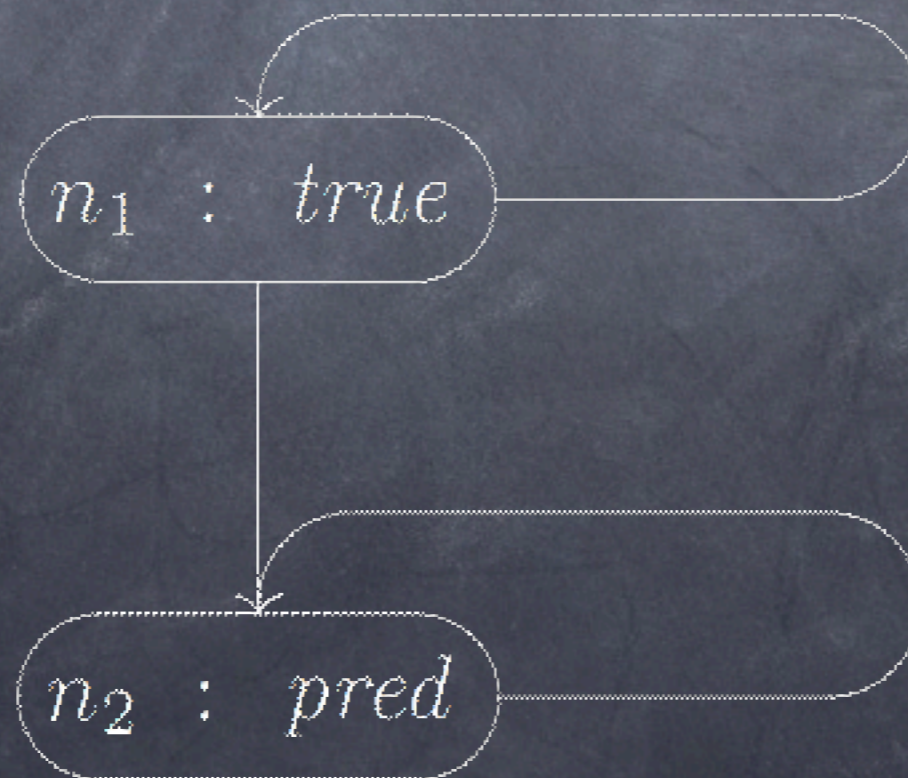
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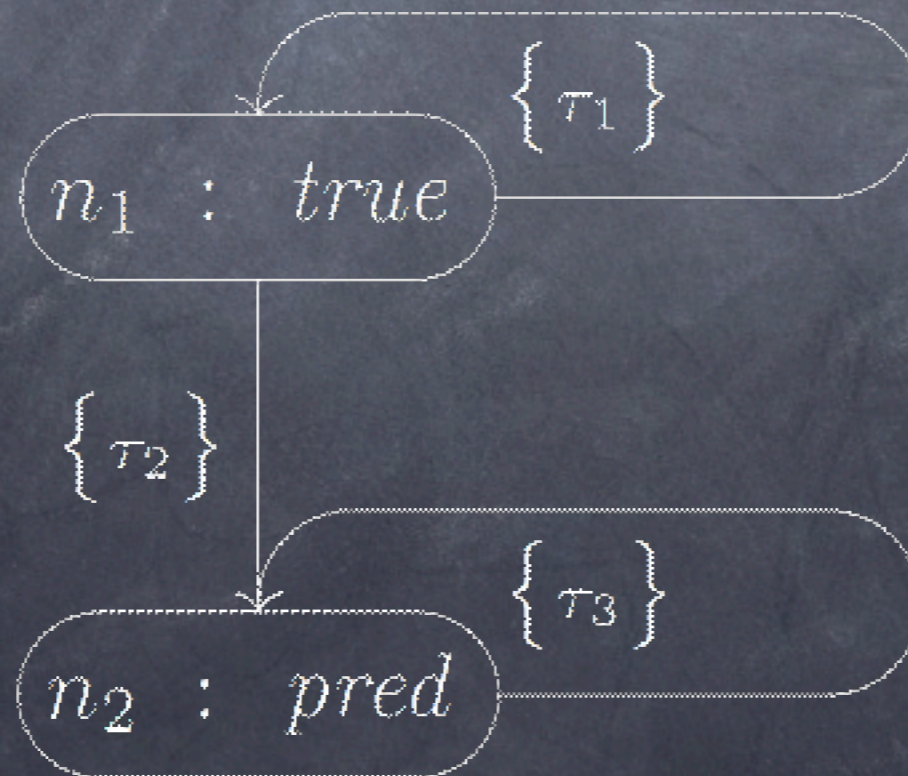


◇ □ *pred*

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Most General Client [N]

(extended with GV)

φ

Main Idea

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Most General Client [N]

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- Verification conditions like: initialization, consecution, acceptance, fairness, satisfaction...

Main Idea

Concurrent Data Structure



Most General Client [N] \longleftrightarrow Ψ \longleftrightarrow φ
(extended with GV)

- Verification conditions like: initialization, consecution, acceptance, fairness, satisfaction.. ✓

Skiplists

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- Sorted list of elements

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head

last



Skiplists

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- Hierarchy of linked lists

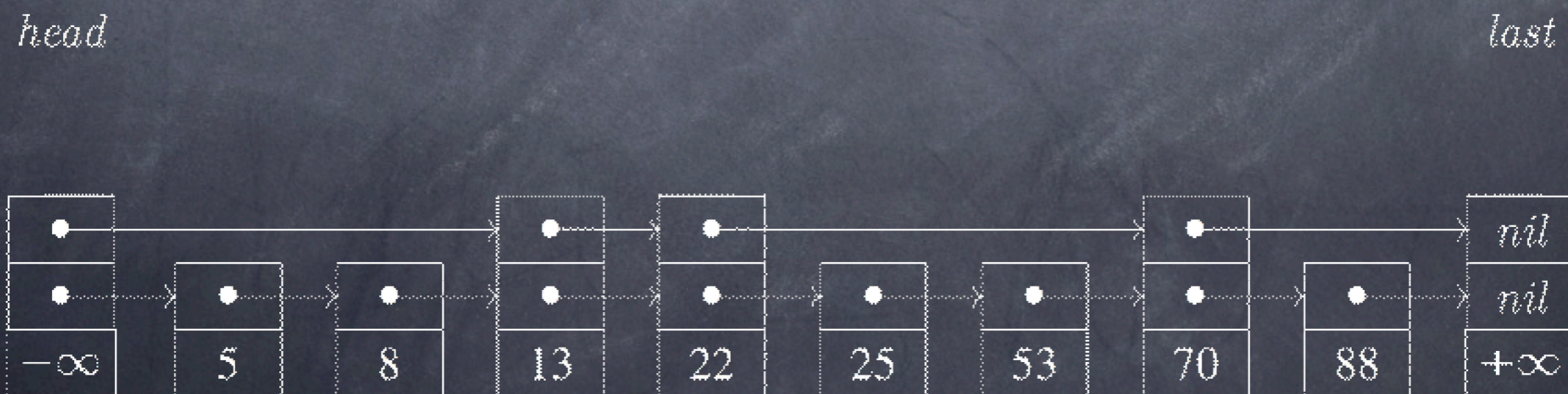
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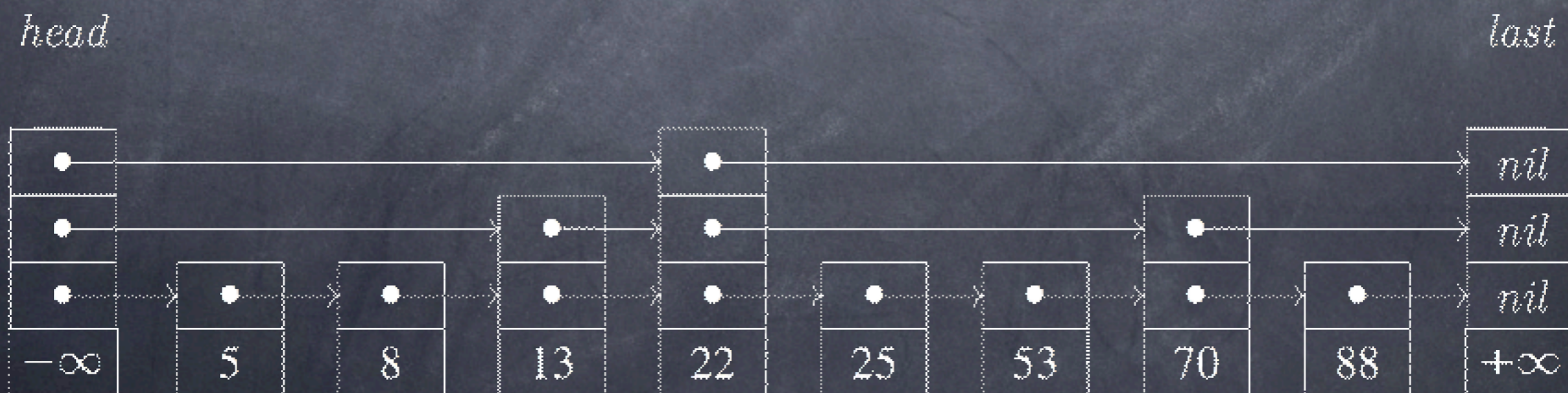
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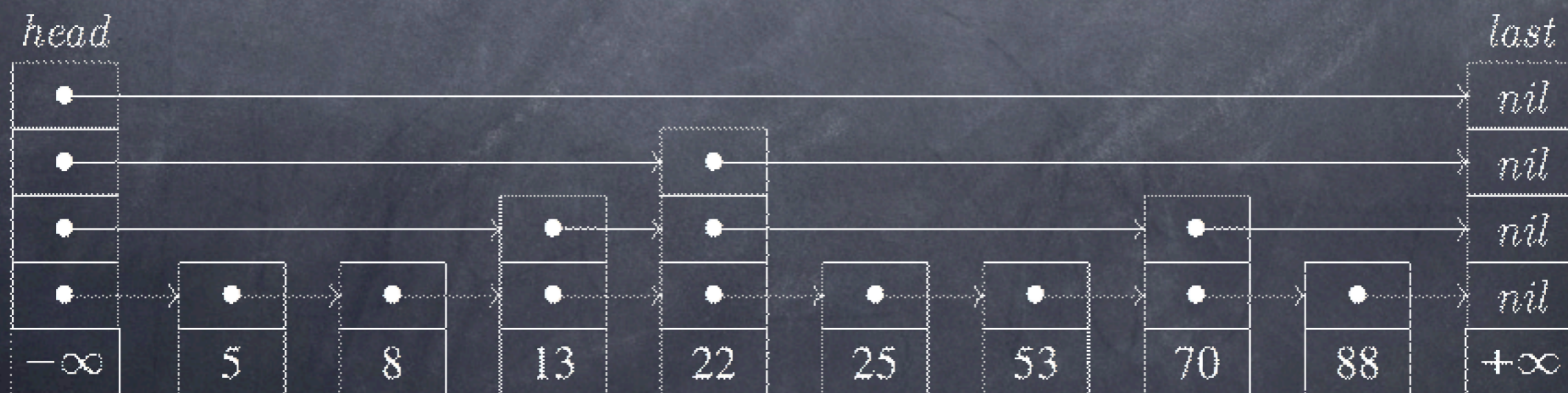
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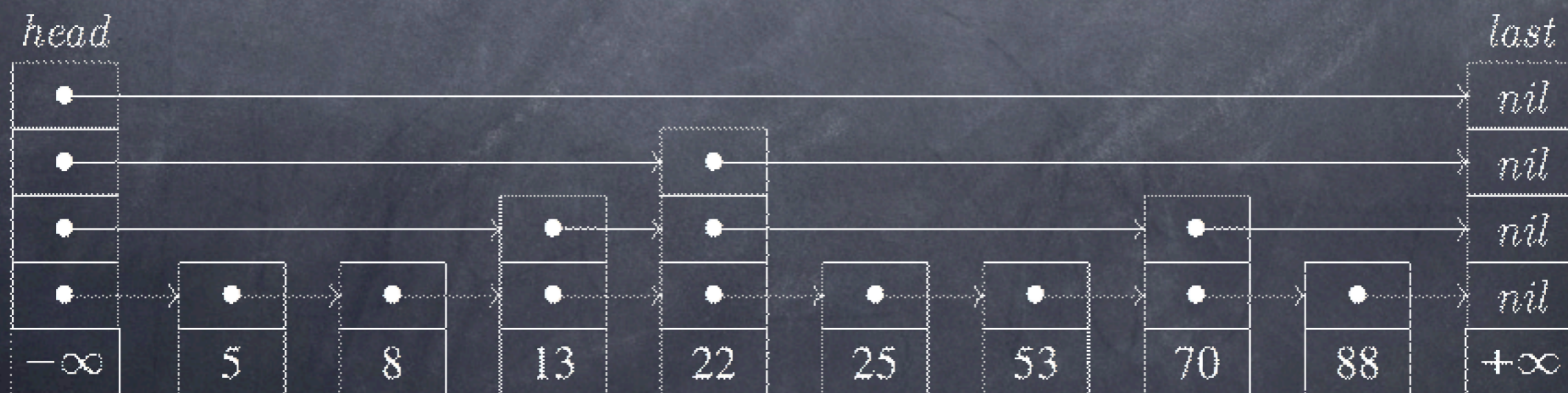
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Skiplists

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- Efficiency comparable to balanced binary search trees



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Fine-grained lock-coupling concurrent skiplists

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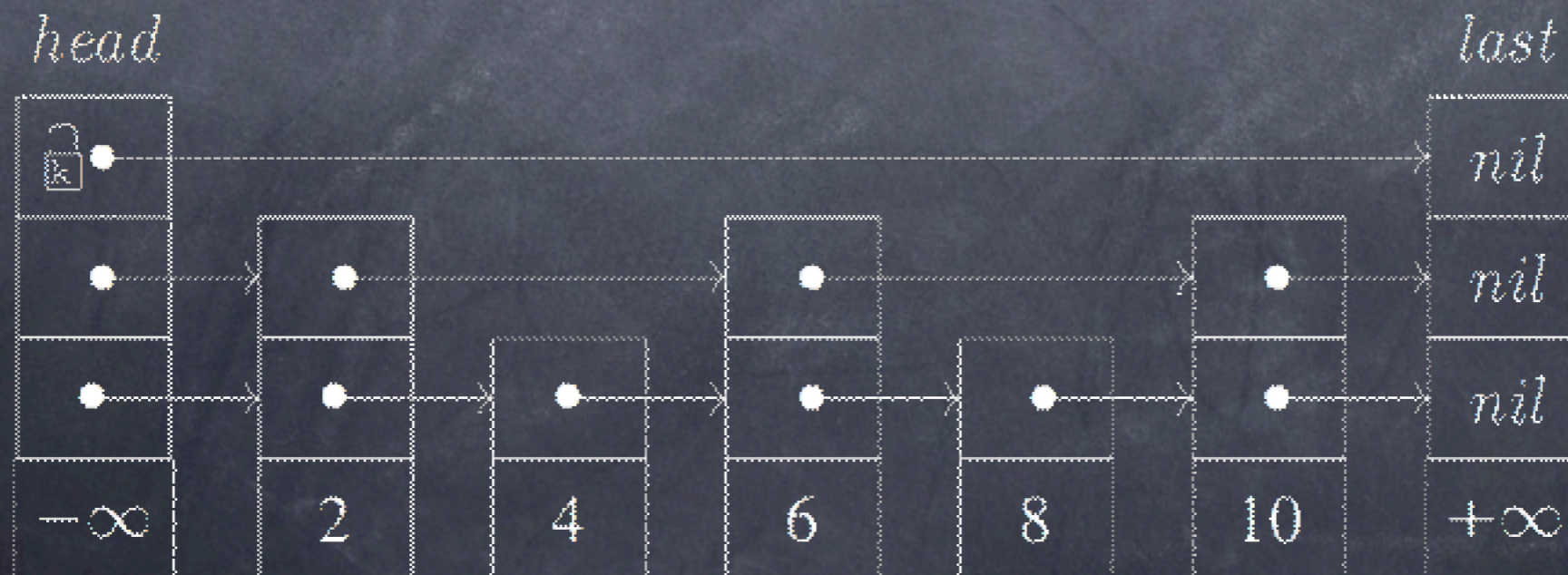
$insert^{[k]}(9)$



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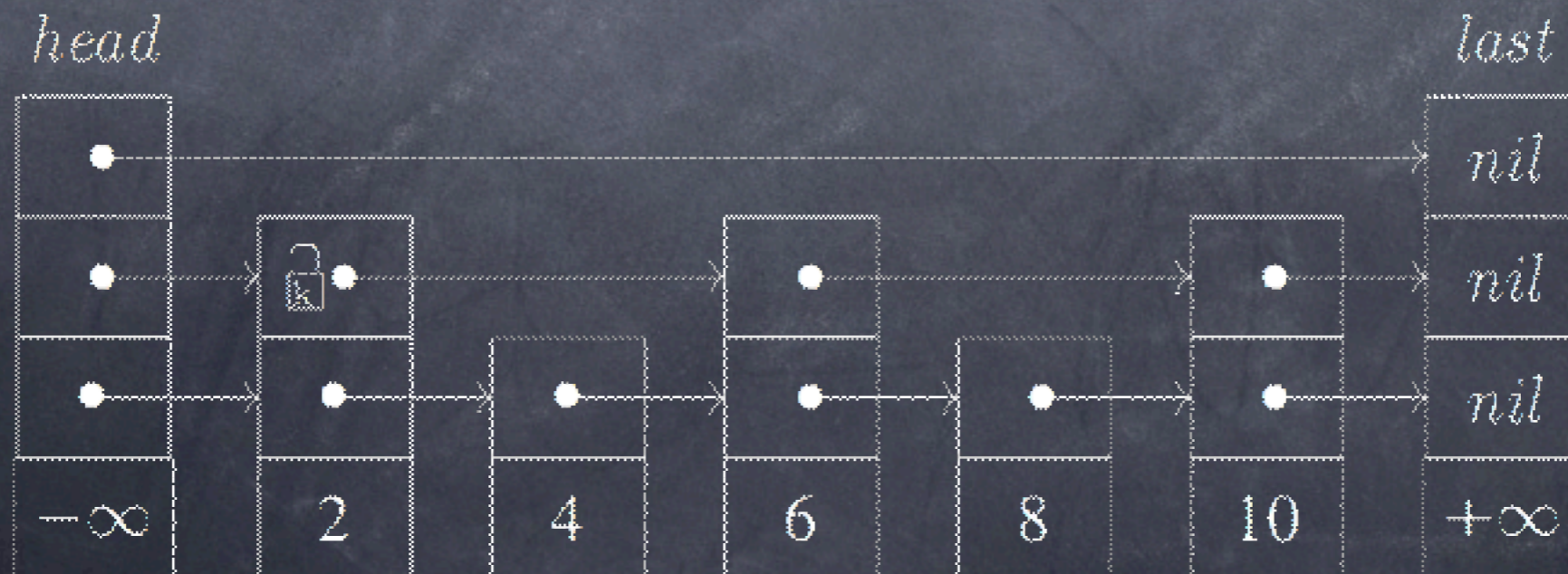
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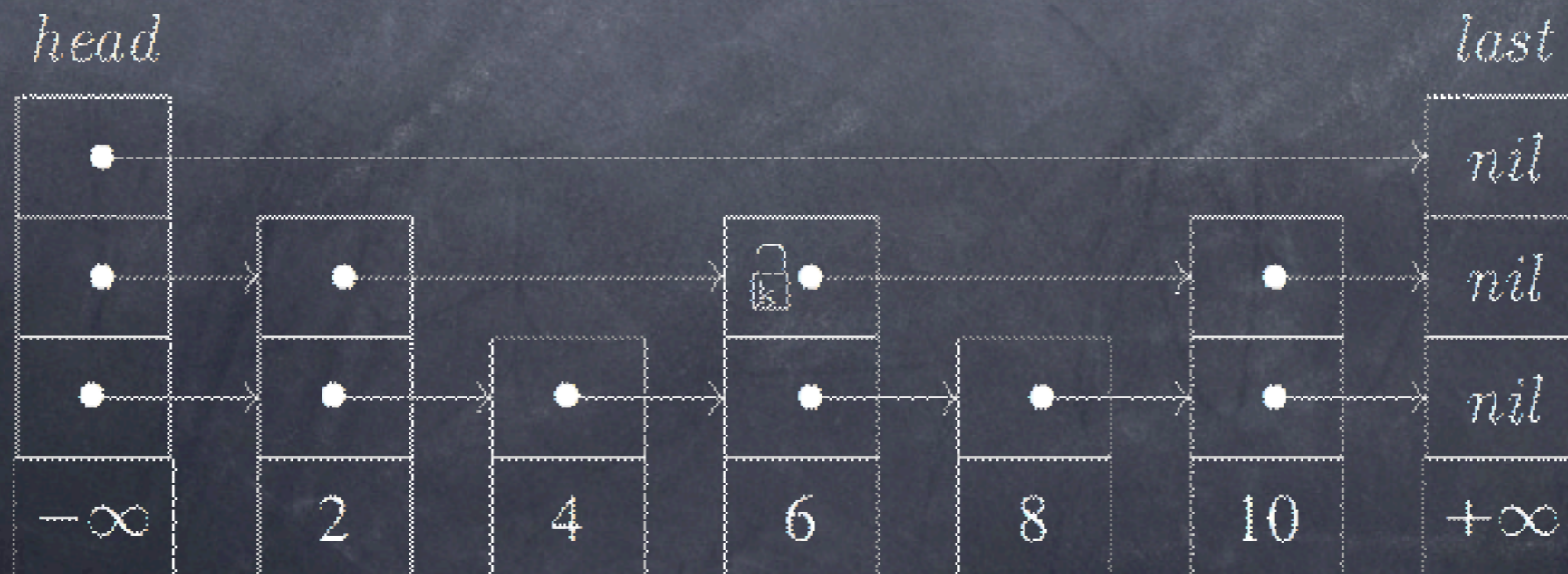
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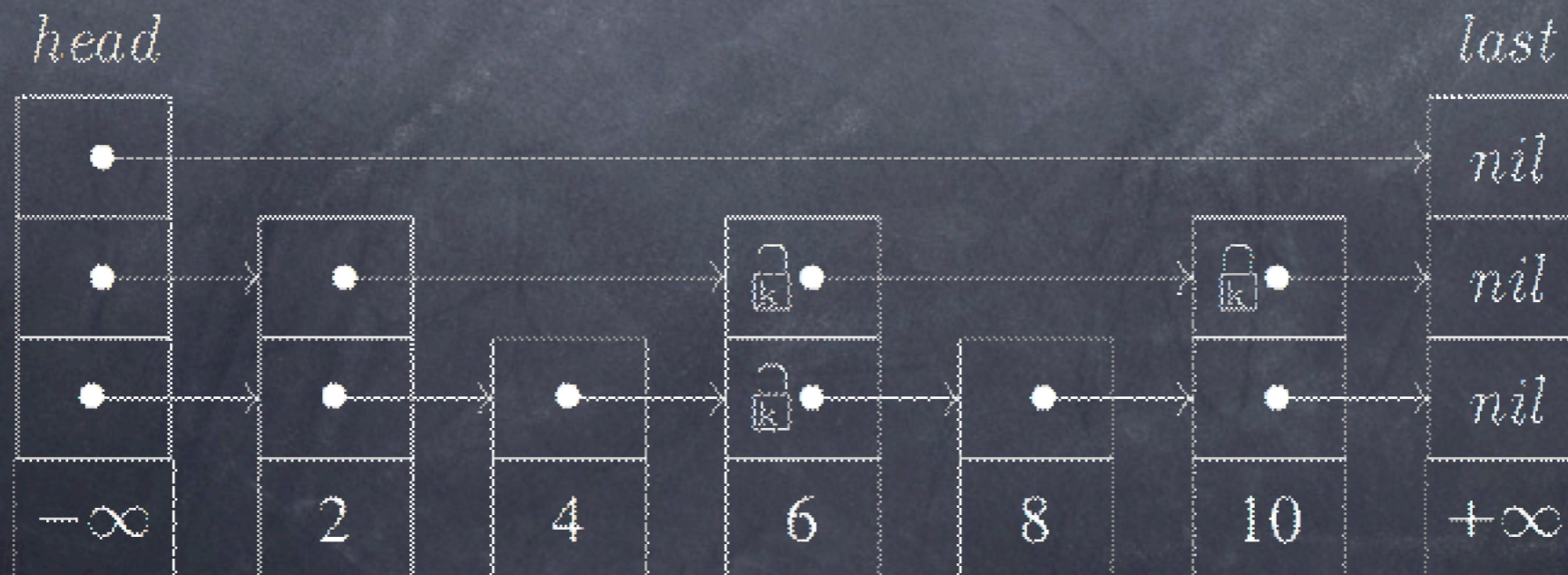
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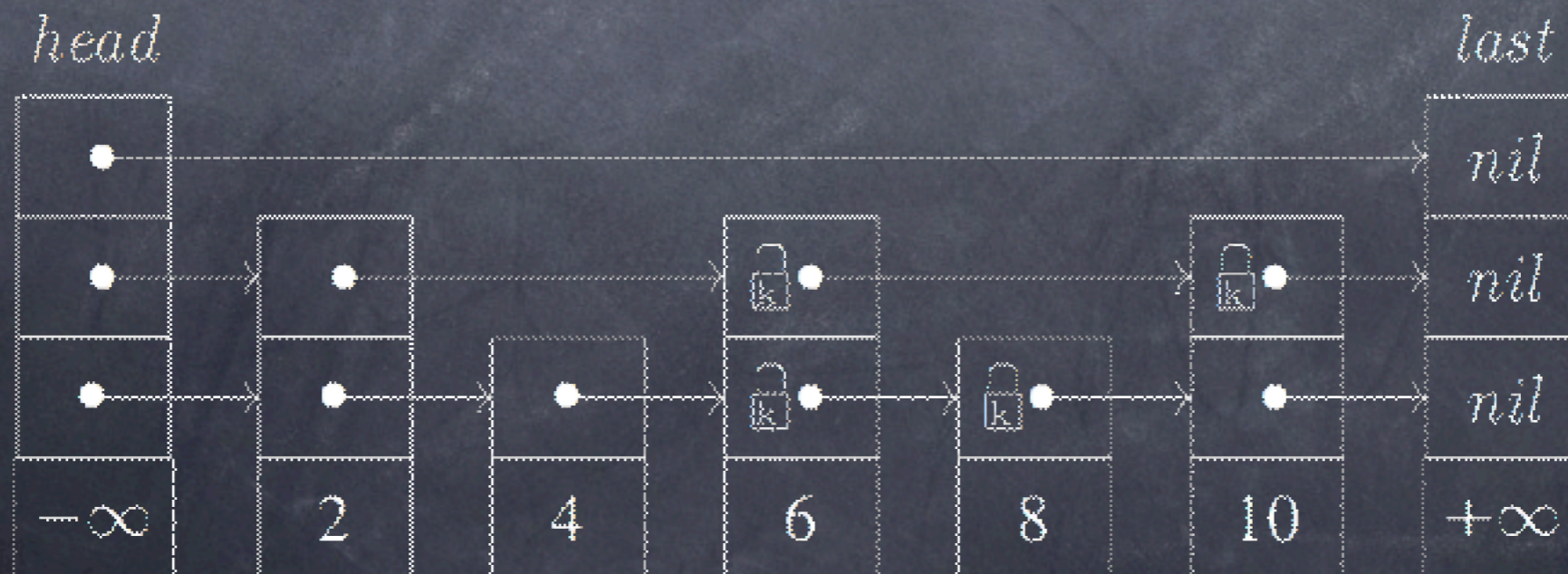
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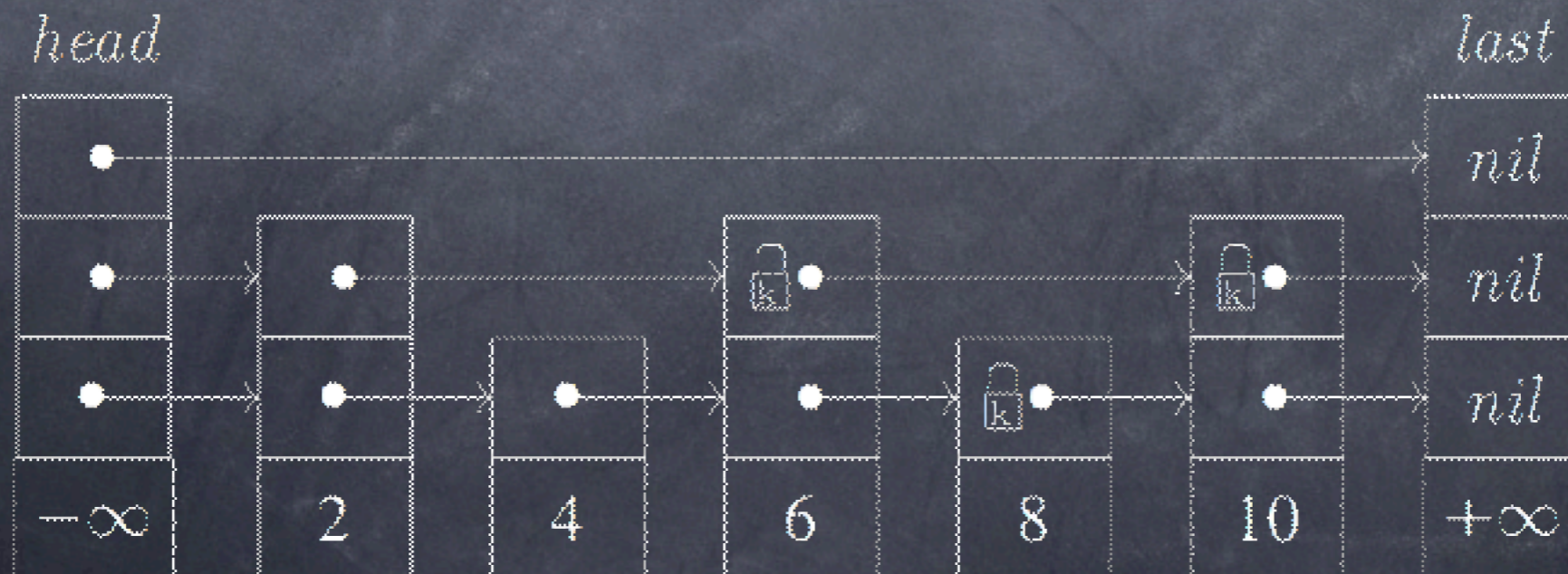
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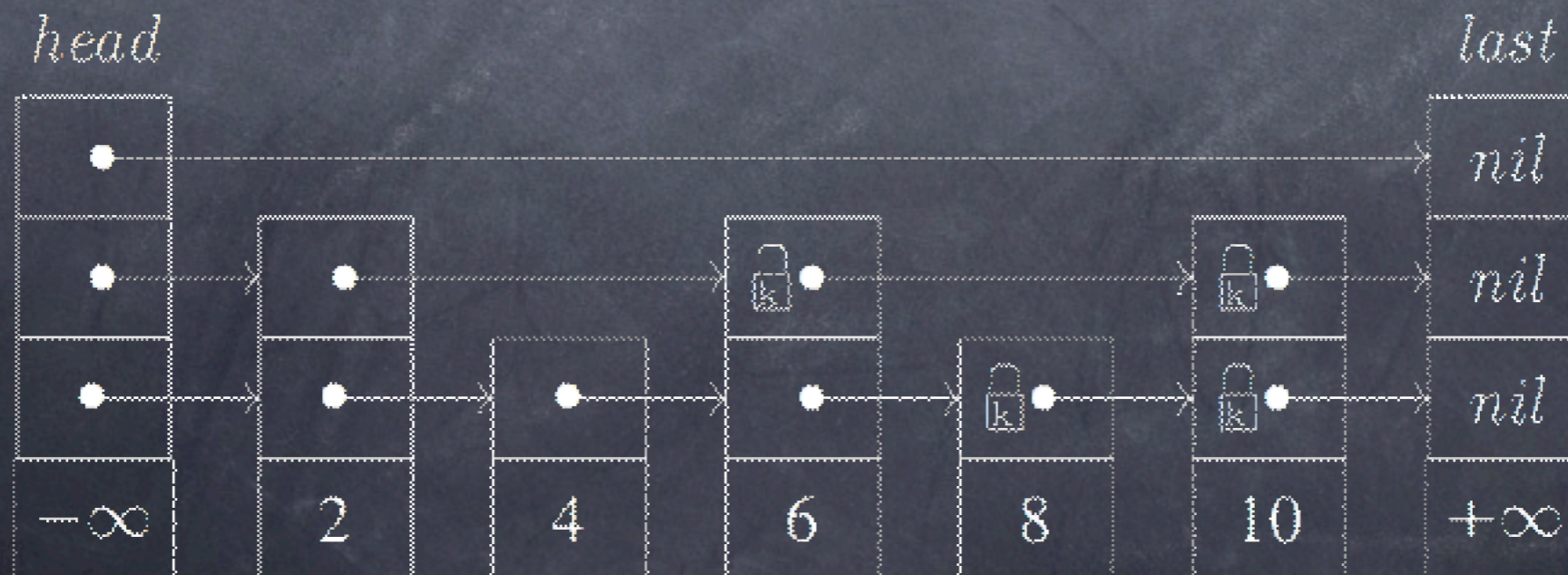
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Fine-grained lock-coupling CSL

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insert(sl, v)

Algorithm 4 Insertion on a lock-coupling concurrent skiplist

```
1: procedure INSERT(SkipList sl, Key k, Value newval)
2:   Vector < Node* > update[1..sl.maxLevel] // @ mr := emp
3:   lvl := randomLevel()
4:   Node* pred := sl.head
5:   pred.locks[lvl].lock() // @ mr := mr ∪ (pred, forward[lvl])
6:   Node* curr := pred.forward[lvl]
7:   curr.locks[lvl].lock() // @ mr := mr ∪ (curr, forward[lvl])
8:   for i := lvl downto 1 do
9:     if i < lvl then
10:      pred.locks[i].lock() // @ mr := mr ∪ (pred, forward[i])
11:      curr := pred.forward[i]
12:      curr.locks[i].lock() // @ mr := mr ∪ (curr, forward[i])
13:    end if
14:    while curr.key < k do
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16:      pred := curr
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19:    end while
20:    update[i] := pred
21:  end for
22:  if curr.key = k then
23:    curr.val = newval
24:    for i := 1 to lvl do
25:      update[i].forward[i].locks[i].unlock()
26:      // @ mr := mr − (update[i].forward[i], forward[i])
27:      update[i].locks[i].unlock() // @ mr := mr − (update[i], forward[i])
28:    end for
29:  else
30:    x := CreateNode(lvl, k, newval)
31:    for i := 1 to lvl do
32:      x.forward[i] := update[i].forward[i]
33:      update[i].forward[i] := x // @ sl.r := sl.r ∪ (x)
34:      x.forward[i].locks[i].unlock() // @ mr := mr − (x.forward[i], forward[i])
35:      update[i].locks[i].unlock() // @ mr := mr − (update[i], forward[i])
36:    end for
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38: end procedure
```


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insert(sl, v) search(sl, v) remove(sl, v)

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insert(sl, v) search(sl, v) remove(sl, v) decide(sl)

```
[ while curr.key < k do  
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T_i

Fine-grained lock-coupling CSL

insert(sl, v) *search(sl, v)* *remove(sl, v)* *decide(sl)*

$$T_i \models \square \varphi_{insert}(i)$$

$$\varphi_{insert}(i) \hat{=} at_insert_{8..36}^{[i]} \rightarrow at_insert_{8..36}^{[i]} \mathcal{U} at_insert_{37}^{[i]}$$

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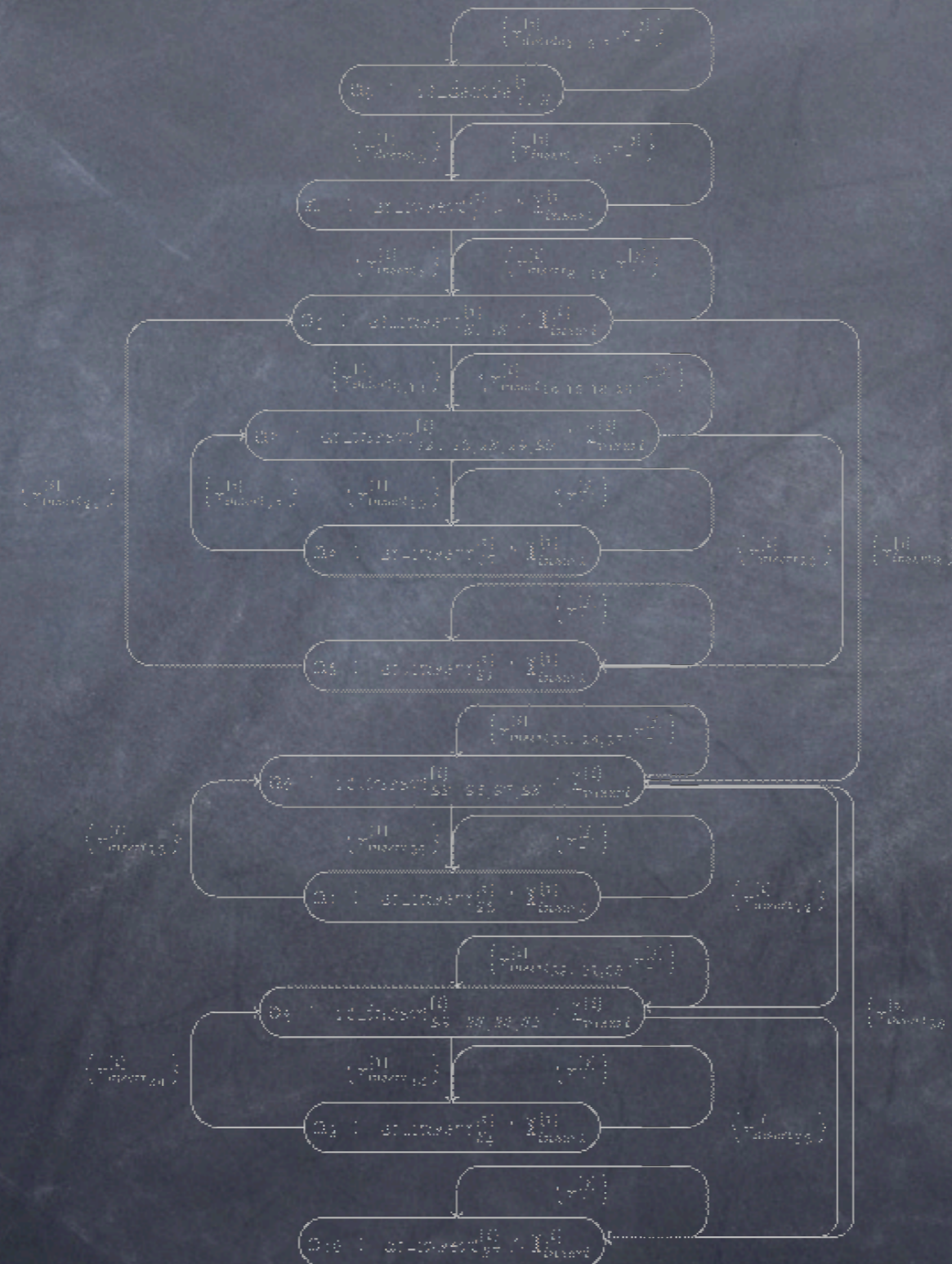
Ψ



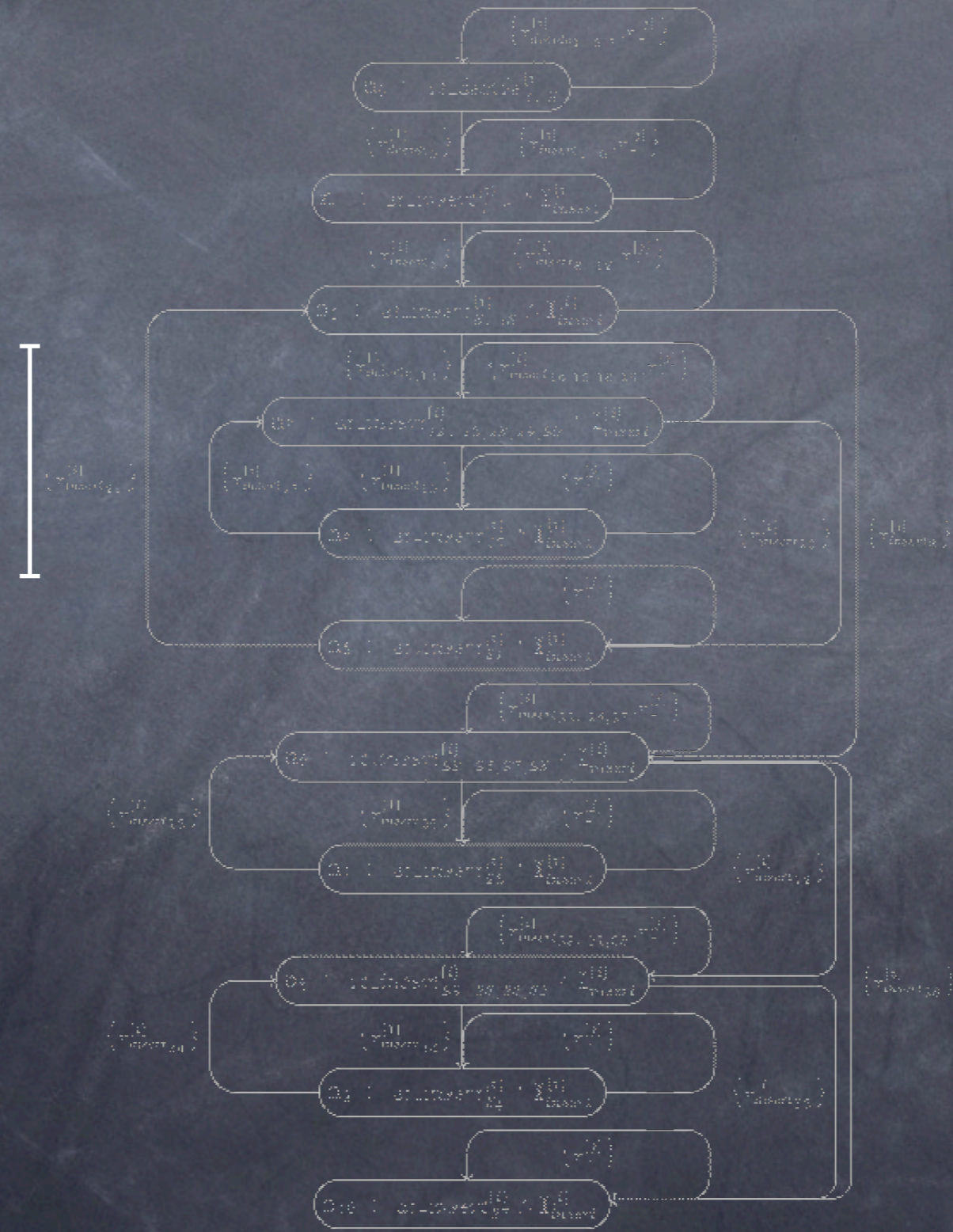
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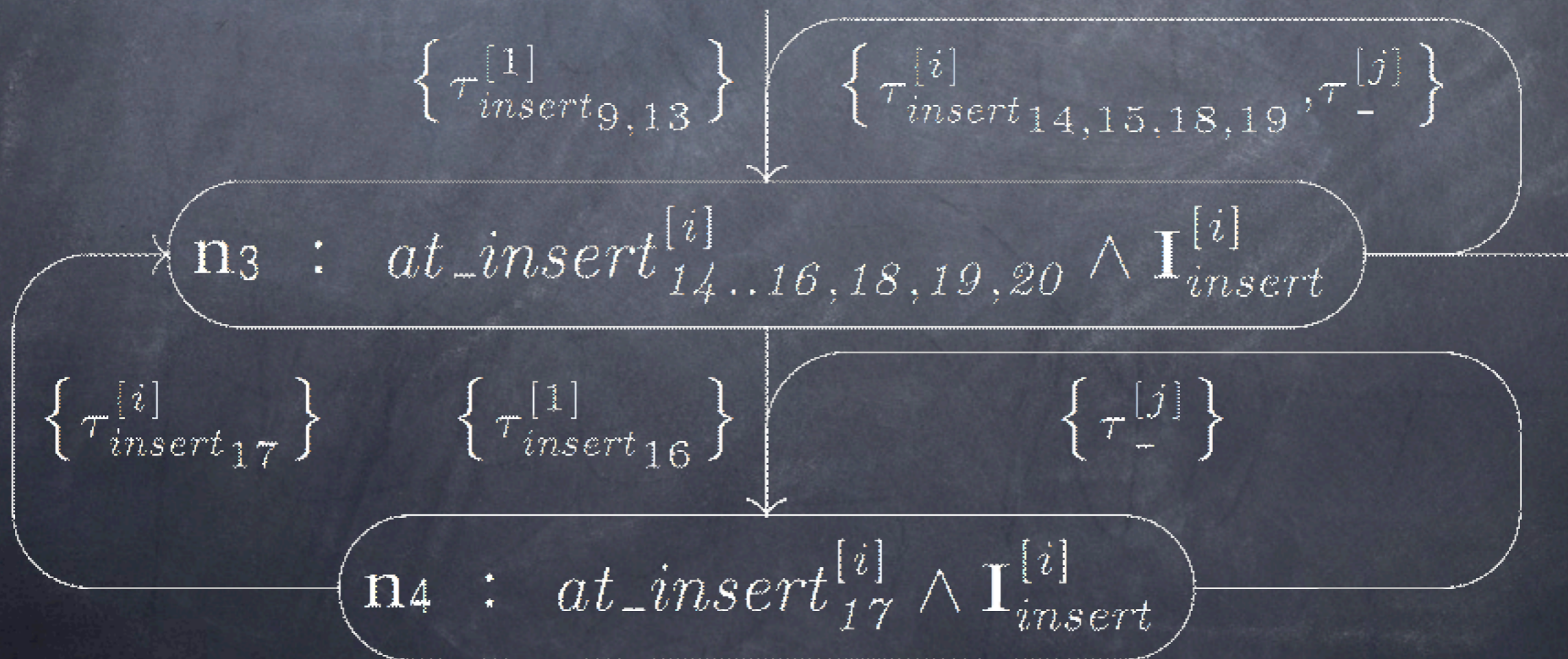
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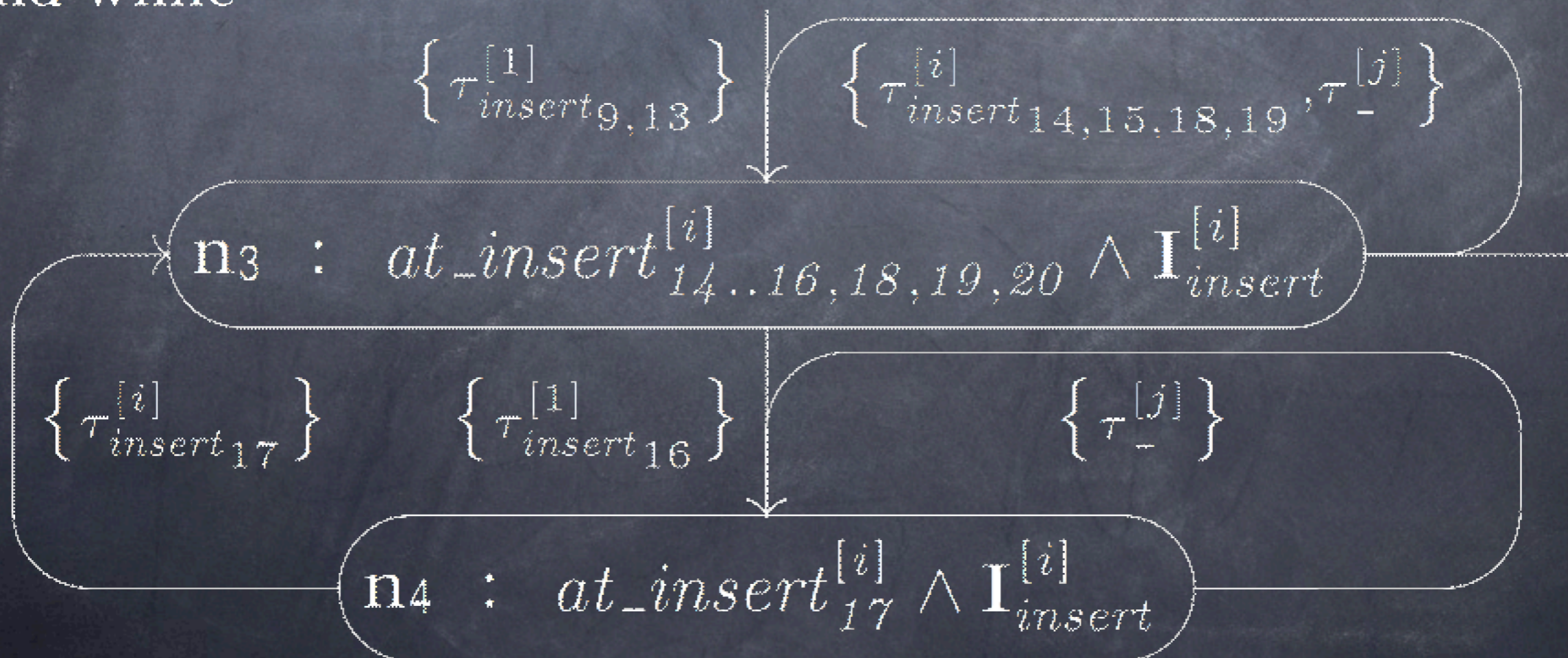
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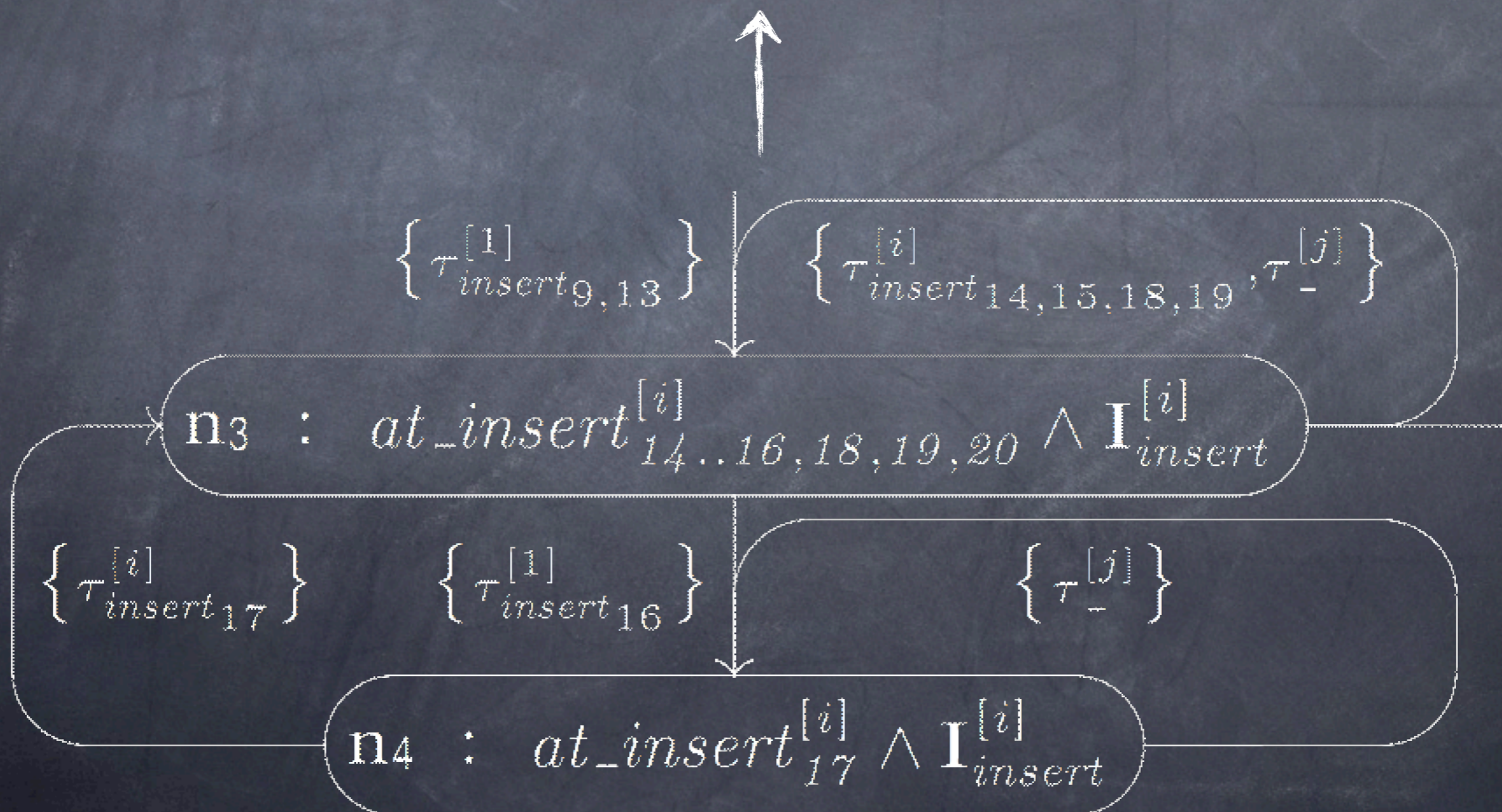
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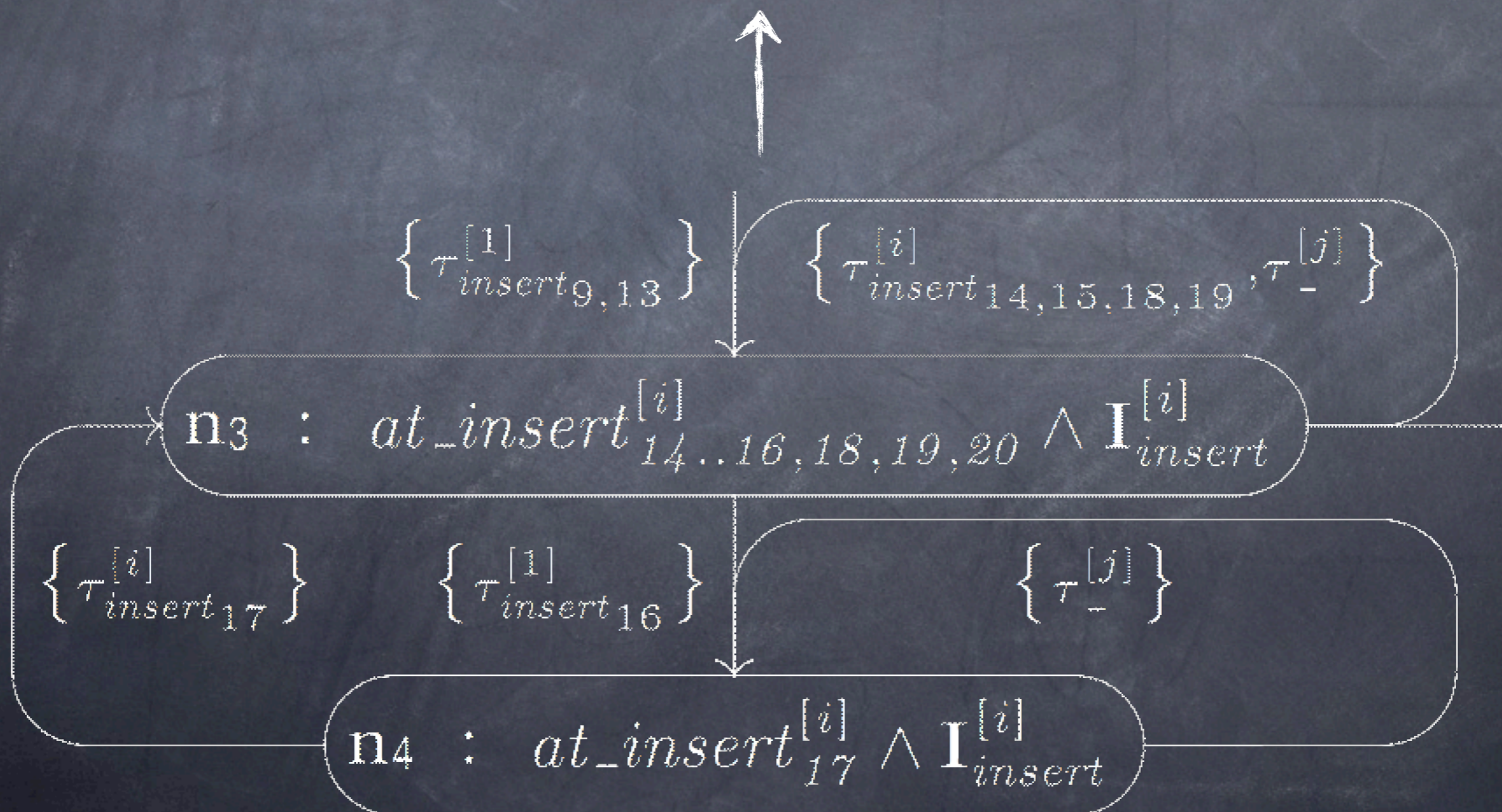
Fine-grained lock-coupling CSL

Verification conditions



Fine-grained lock-coupling CSL

Verification conditions ✓



Fine-grained lock-coupling CSL

Verification conditions ✓

Ψ

$$\parallel_{j \in T_{ID} - \{i\}} T_j \parallel T_i \models \varphi_{insert}(i)$$

Fine-grained lock-coupling CSL

Verification conditions ✓

$$\begin{array}{c} \Psi \\ \downarrow \\ \parallel_{j \in T_{ID} - \{i\}} T_j \parallel T_i \models \varphi_{insert}(i) \end{array}$$

Conclusions

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- A method to formally verify temporal properties over concurrent data structures

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- Not just limited to safety properties
- A different approach to Separation Logic
- Good results over many mutable data structures
- Experience shows possibility of working with parameterized VD

Future work

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- Extend the work over other concurrent data structures

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- Enrich verifications diagrams

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- Automatic generation of verification conditions

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- Analyze decidability of involved logics
- Development of assisted decision procedures
- This is just the beginning

Questions ?