

# Data Stream Computing with Apache Flink

Paris Carbone <[paris.carbone@ri.se](mailto:paris.carbone@ri.se)>  
Lead Researcher @ RISE  
Committer @ Apache Flink



# Unbounded Analytics Stack

High Level  
Models

Stream SQL, CEP...

Compute

Flink, Beam, Kafka-Streams,  
Apex, Storm, Spark Streaming...

Storage

Kafka, Pub/Sub, Kinesis,  
Pravega...



# Unbounded Analytics Stack

High Level  
Models

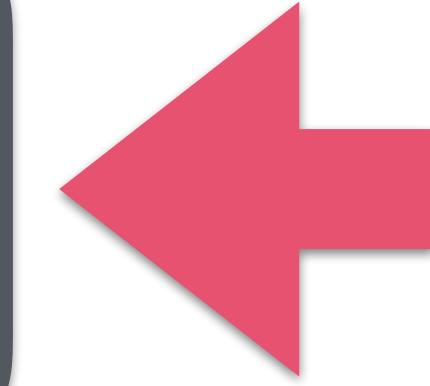
Stream SQL, CEP...

Compute

Flink, Beam, Kafka-Streams,  
Apex, Storm, Spark Streaming...

Storage

Kafka, Pub/Sub, Kinesis,  
Pravega...

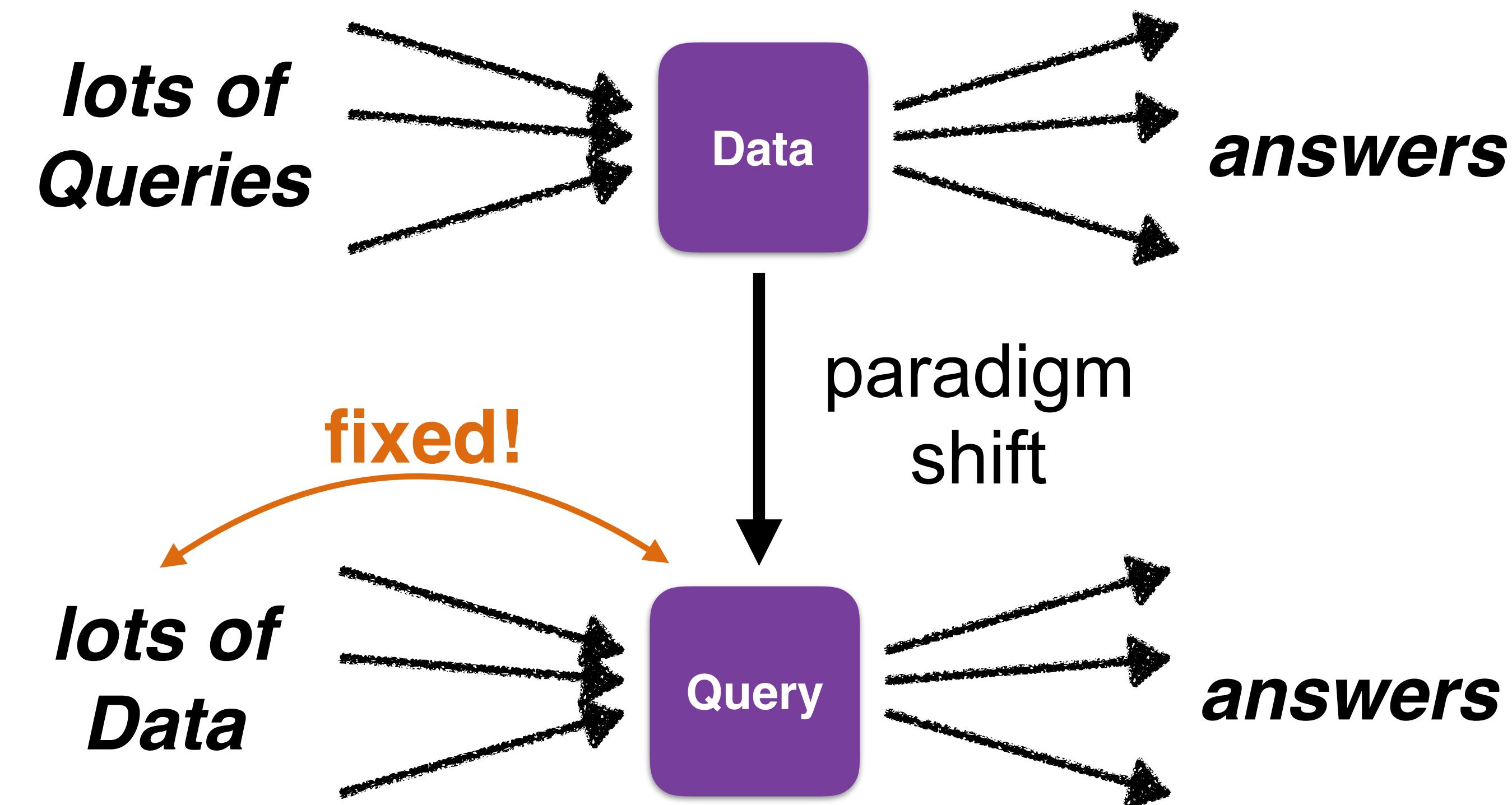




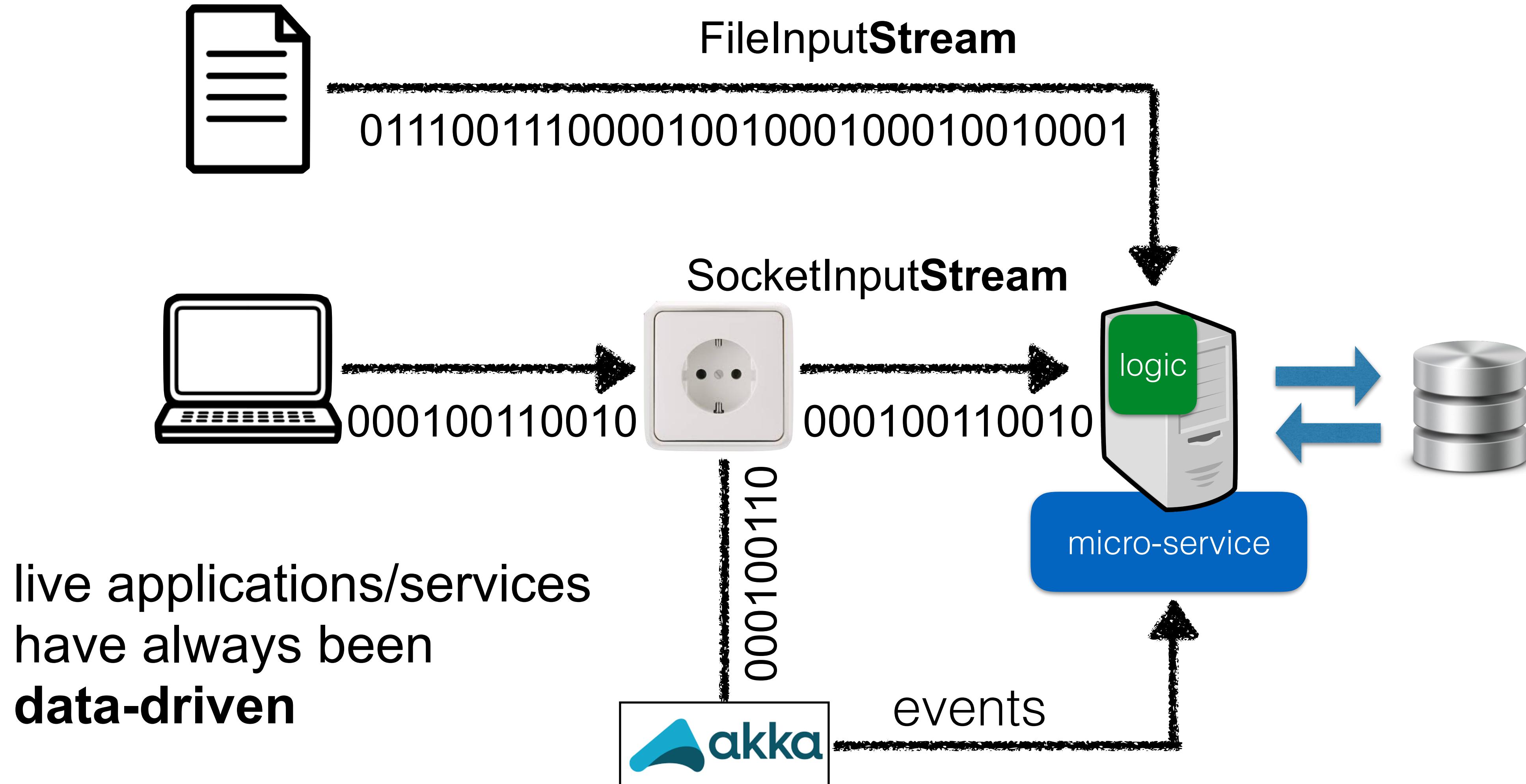
# Overview

# A Paradigm Shift

- Data Stream Processing as a standing query execution paradigm

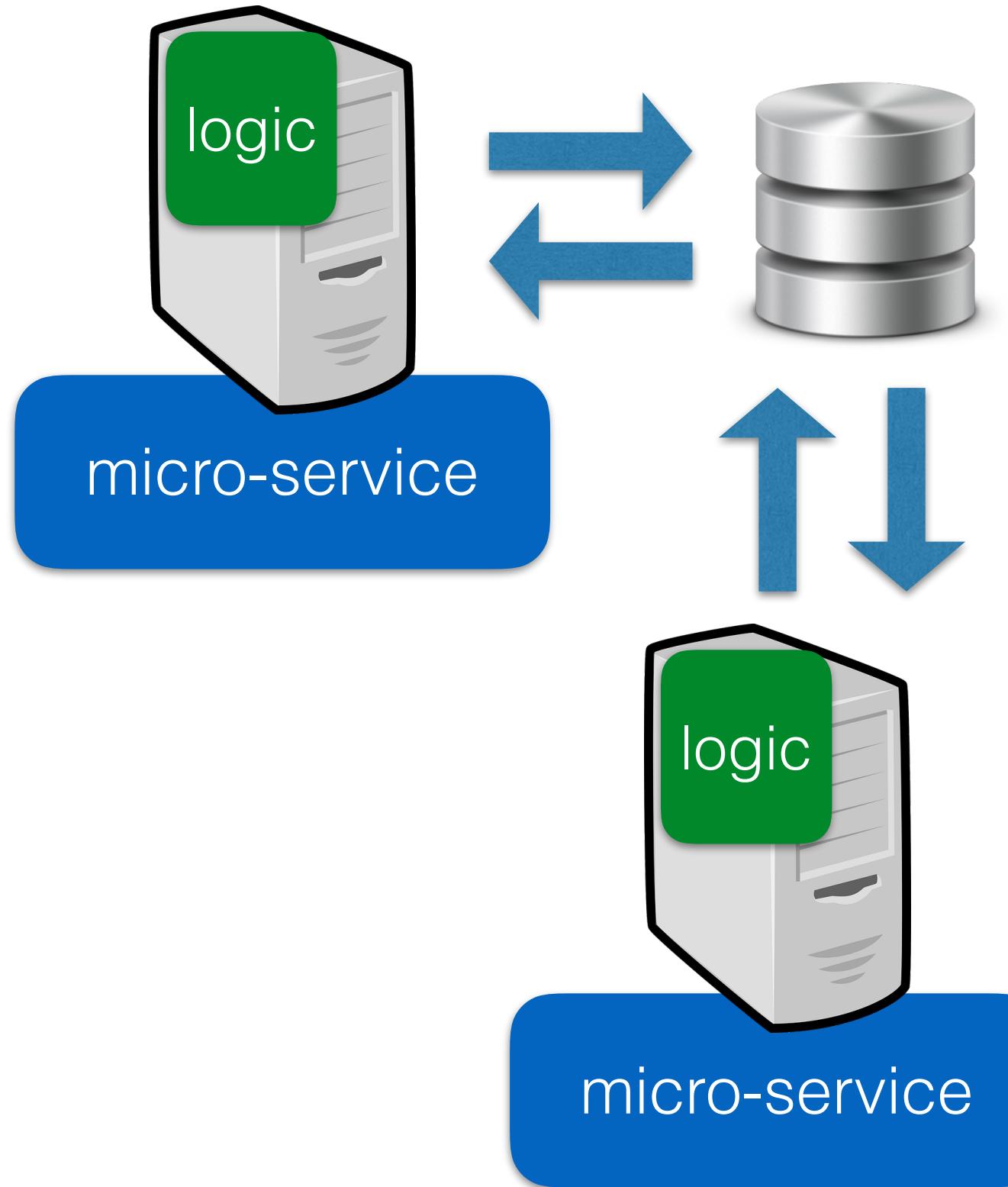


# Similar Technologies

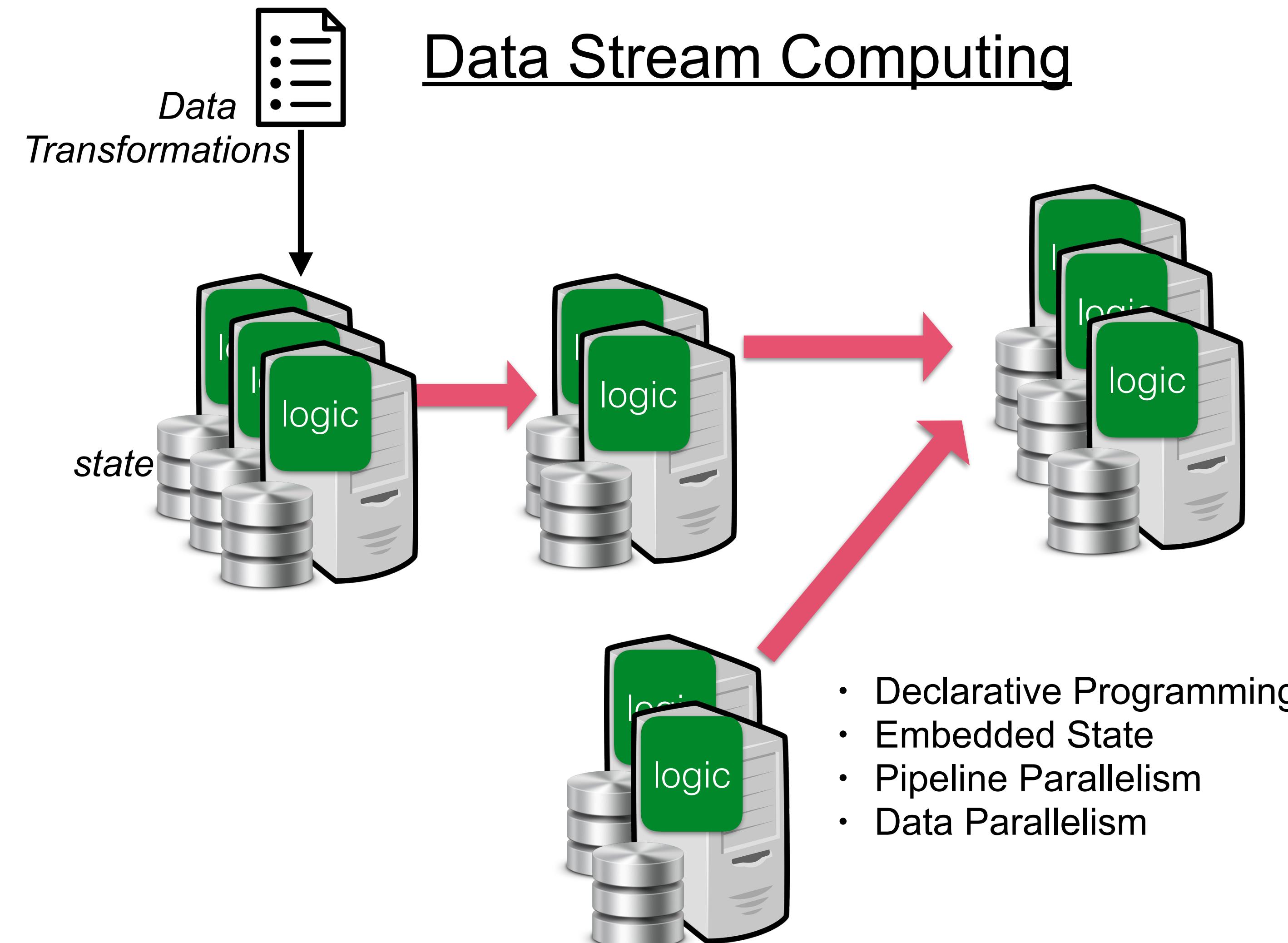


# What Streams do Better

## Traditional Event Processing

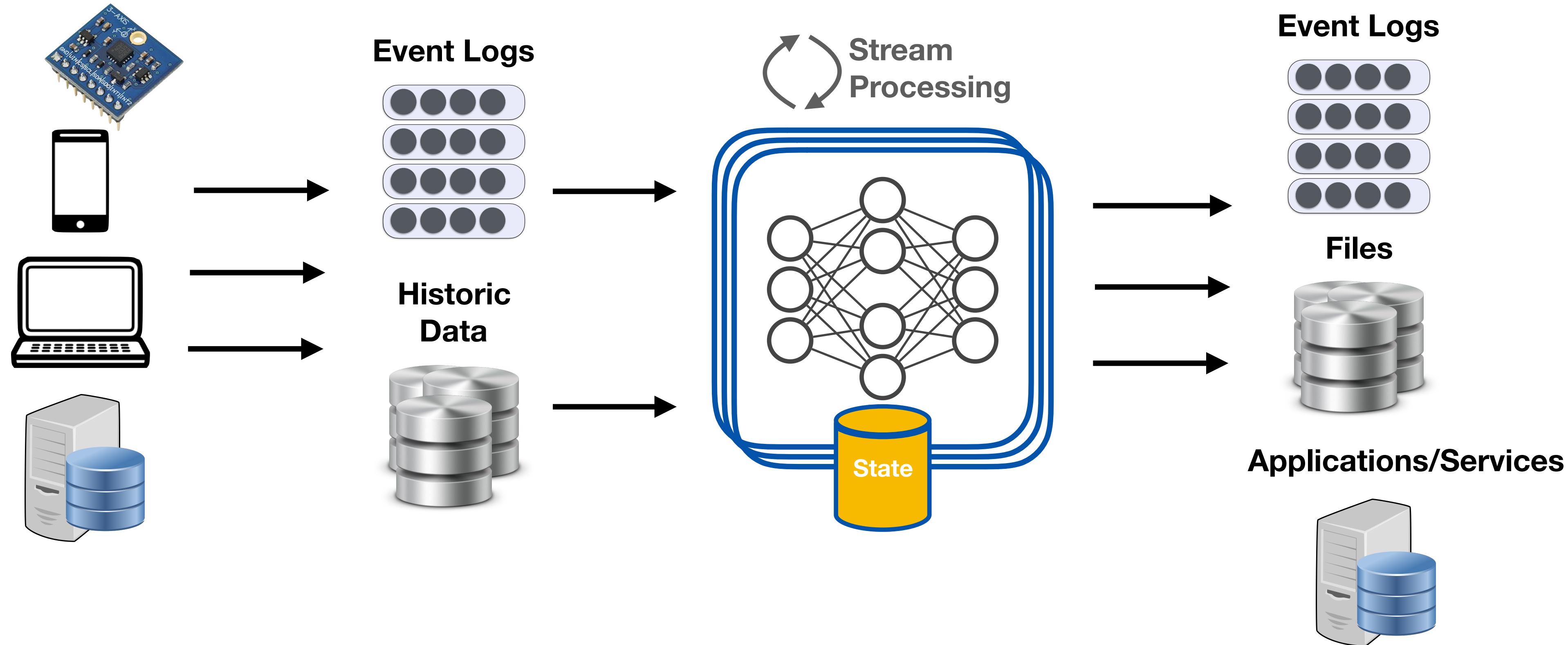


vs





# The End-To-End Picture



# Why Flink



RI.  
SE



Google

B beam

APACHE  
Spark™

APEX

STORM

MediaMath

ING

airbnb

bouygues  
TELECOM

king

Alibaba Group  
Microsoft

HUAWEI

NETFLIX  
UBER

SK telecom

yelp®

lyft



↓  
Data Streams, Fault Tolerance,  
Window Aggregation, Iterations

- Top-level Apache Project
- #1 stream processor (2019)
- Production-Proof
- > 400 contributors
- 100s of deployments

↓  
production  
deployments

# Declarative Data Streaming

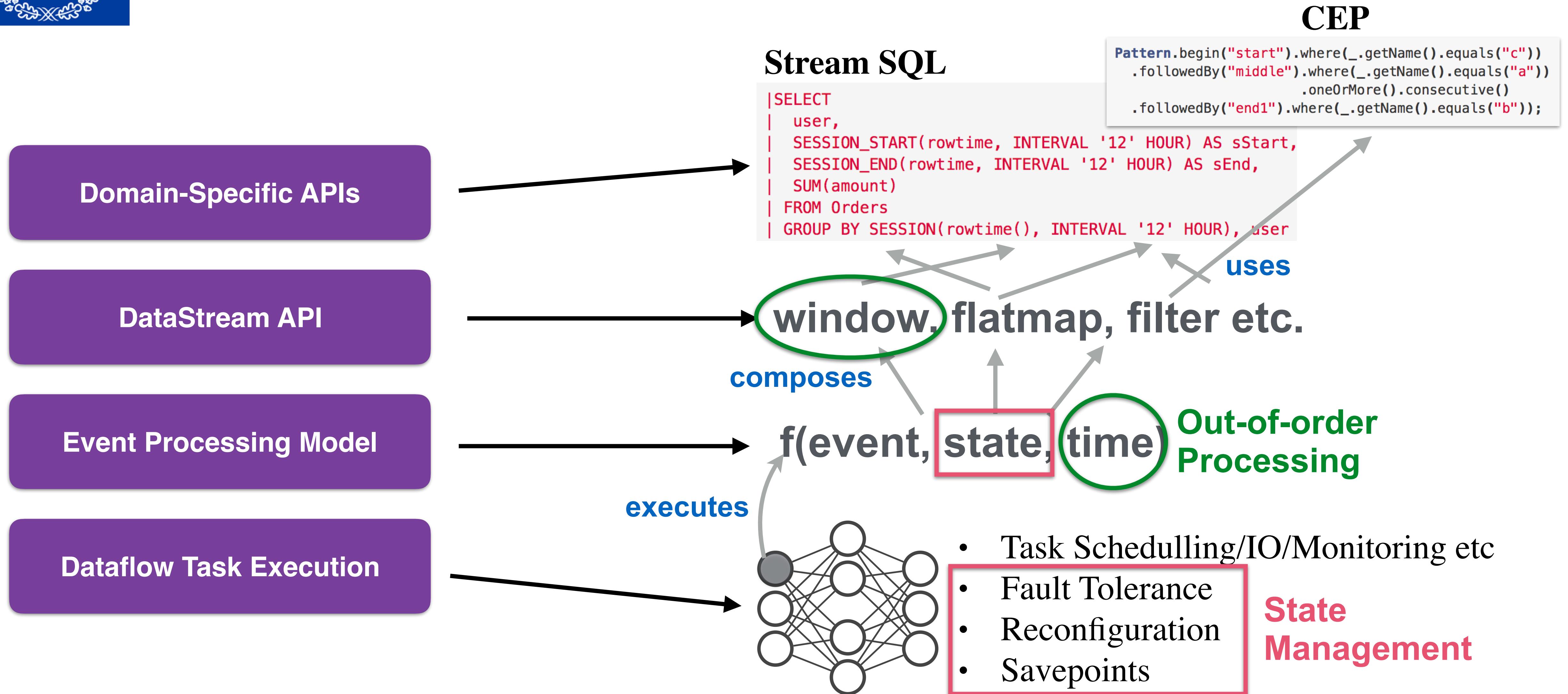
```
val windowCounts = text.flatMap { w => w.split("\\s") }  
  .map { w => WordWithCount(w, 1) }  
  .keyBy("word")  
  .timeWindow(Time.seconds(5))  
  .sum("count")
```

Window  
Word Count  
(Apache Flink )

Flink



# Building Blocks of Flink





## Part I

# Stream Programming in Apache Flink



# Technologies Behind Flink

- Flink runs on the **JVM**.
- **Master/Slave** architecture ~ Hadoop (**JobManager, TaskManagers**)
- **Java** and **Scala** 100% supported.
- Depends on: *Zookeeper, Akka, RocksDB (state)*.
- **Supports:** *Kafka, Cassandra, Kinesis, Elasticsearch, HDFS, RabbitMQ, NiFi, Google Cloud PubSub, Twitter API etc.*
- Two Underlying Execution Modes:
  - **DataSet:** Batch programs (to be deprecated)
  - **DataStream:** Unbounded programs (and batch soon)

# Types

- Automatic Support (Flink Serializer) for:
  - **Basic Types** (String, Long , Integer etc.)
  - **Composite Types:** Flink Tuples, POJOs / Scala Case Classes

```
Tuple2<String, Integer> person = new Tuple2<>("Fred", 35);  
// zero based index!  
String name = person.f0;  
Integer age = person.f1;
```

flink tuple

```
case class Person(name:String, age: Int)  
Person("Fred Flintstone", 35)
```

case class

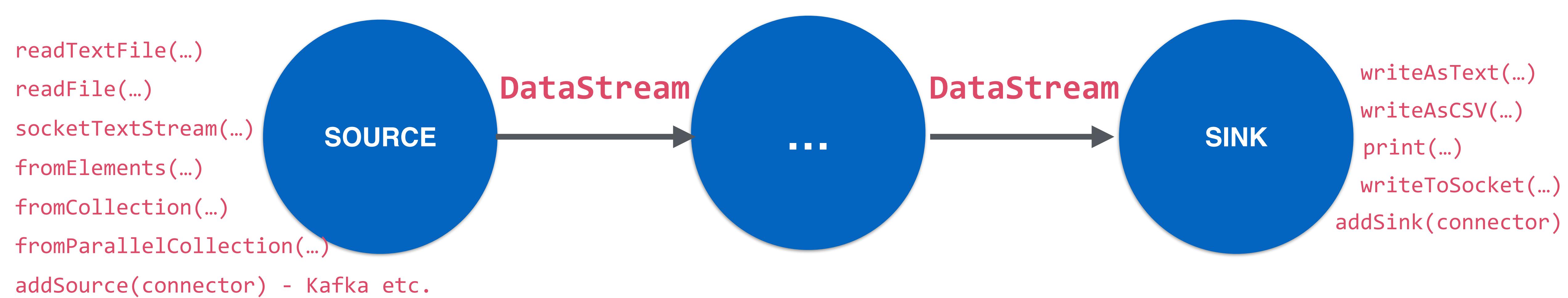
```
public class Person {  
    public String name;  
    public Integer age;  
    public Person() {};  
    public Person(String name, Integer age) {  
        ...  
    };  
}
```

```
Person person = new Person("Fred Flintstone", 35);
```

# Program Composition

- A Flink Program has a *beginning (Source)* and an *end (Sink)*.
- Programs are **lazily** executed (compiled, optimised and executed all-together)

environment.





# Example

```
public class Example {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) throws Exception {  
        final StreamExecutionEnvironment env =  
            StreamExecutionEnvironment.getExecutionEnvironment();  
  
        DataStream<Person> flintstones = env.fromElements(  
            new Person("Fred", 35),  
            new Person("Wilma", 35),  
            new Person("Pebbles", 2));  
  
        DataStream<Person> adults = flintstones  
            .filter(new FilterFunction<Person>() {  
                @Override  
                public boolean filter(Person person){  
                    return person.age >= 18;  
                }  
            });  
  
        adults.print();  
  
        env.execute();  
    }  
}
```

```
public static class Person {  
    public String name;  
    public Integer age;  
    public Person() {};  
  
    public Person(String name, Integer age) {  
        this.name = name;  
        this.age = age;  
    };  
  
    public String toString() {  
        return this.name.toString() + ": age "  
            + this.age.toString();  
    };  
};
```

# DataStream CheatSheet

## DataStream

**Map** `dataStream.map { x => x * 2 }`

**FlatMap** `dataStream.flatMap { str => str.split(" ") }`

**Filter** `dataStream.filter { _ != 0 }`

**KeyBy** `dataStream.keyBy("someKey")`  
`dataStream.keyBy(0)`

**Union** `dataStream.union(stream1, ...)`

**Connect** `someStream : DataStream[Int] = ...`  
`otherStream : DataStream[String] = ...`  
`someStream.connect(otherStream)`

**Split** `val split = someDataStream.split(  
 num: Int) =>  
 (num % 2) match {  
 case 0 => List("even")  
 case 1 => List("odd")  
 } )`

## KeyedStream

**Reduce** `keyedStream.reduce { _ + _ }`

**Fold** `keyedStream.fold("start")((str, i)  
=> { str + "-" + i })`

**Aggregations** `keyedStream.sum(0)`

**Window** `<goto next slide>`

## ConnectedStream

```
connectedStreams.map(  

  (_ : Int) => true,  

  (_ : String) => false  

)  

connectedStreams.flatMap(  

  (_ : Int) => true,  

  (_ : String) => false  

)
```

## SplitStream

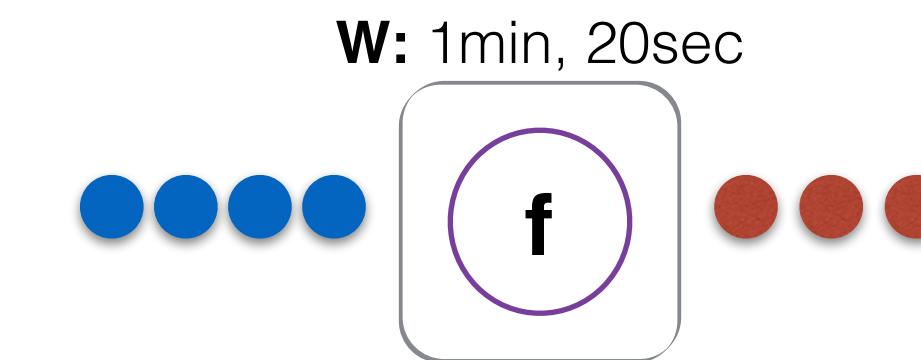
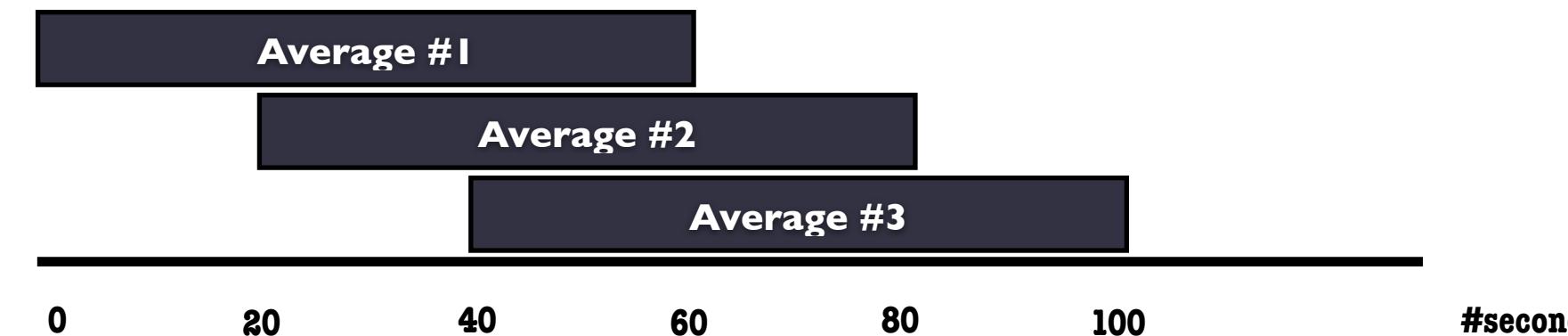
**Select** `val even = split select "even"`  
`val odd = split select "odd"`  
`val all = split.select("even", "odd")`

# Stream Windows

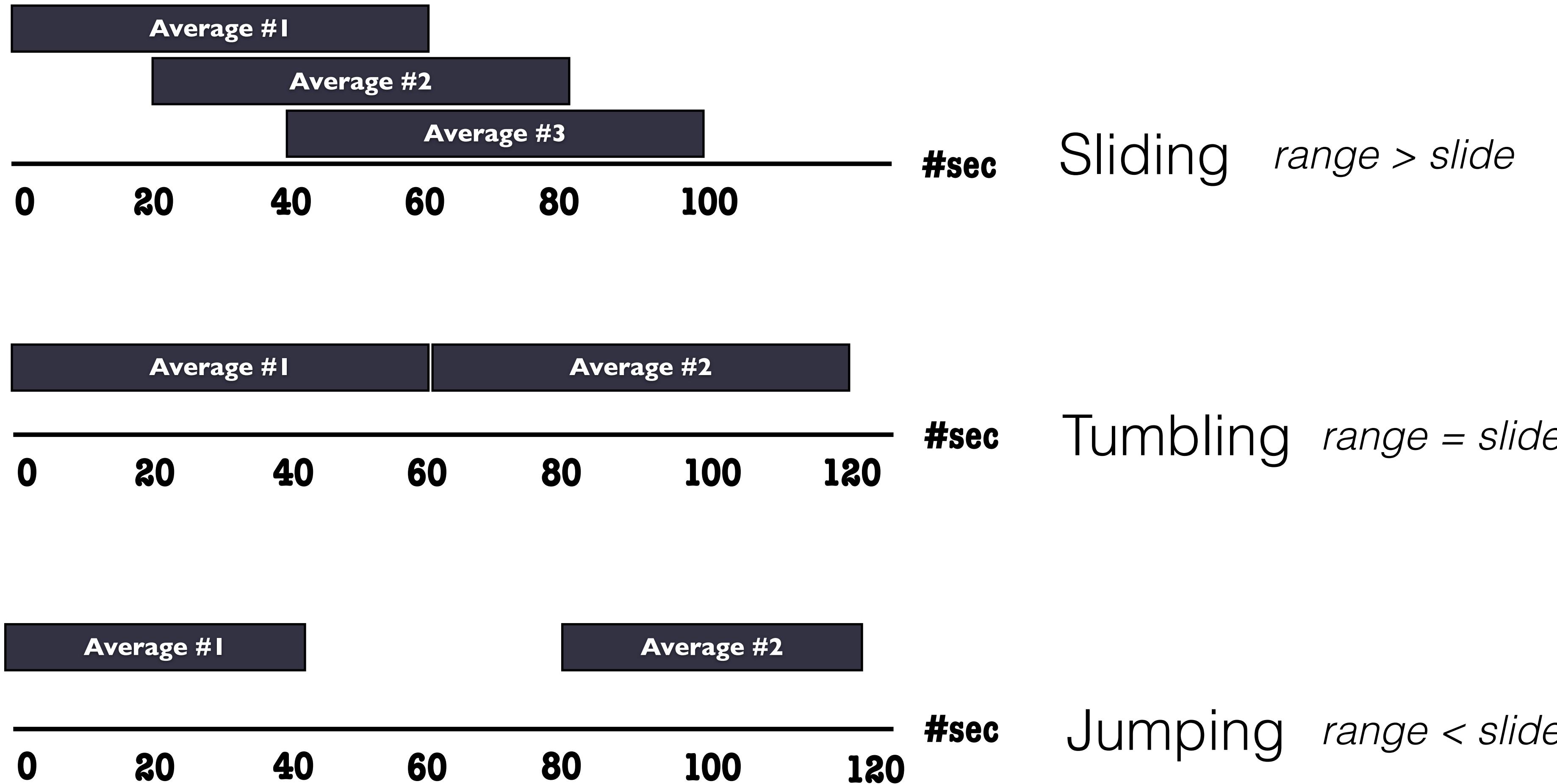
- We often need to do **analytics/aggregations** on relevant sets of records (e.g. a user session).
- A stream window is a **relevant slice** in the space-time continuum

*“location temperature over the last minute every 20 sec”*

- **Range:** How **big** a window is (eg. 1 minute, 1000 tuples)
- **Trigger/Slide:** How **often** we need analysis on a window

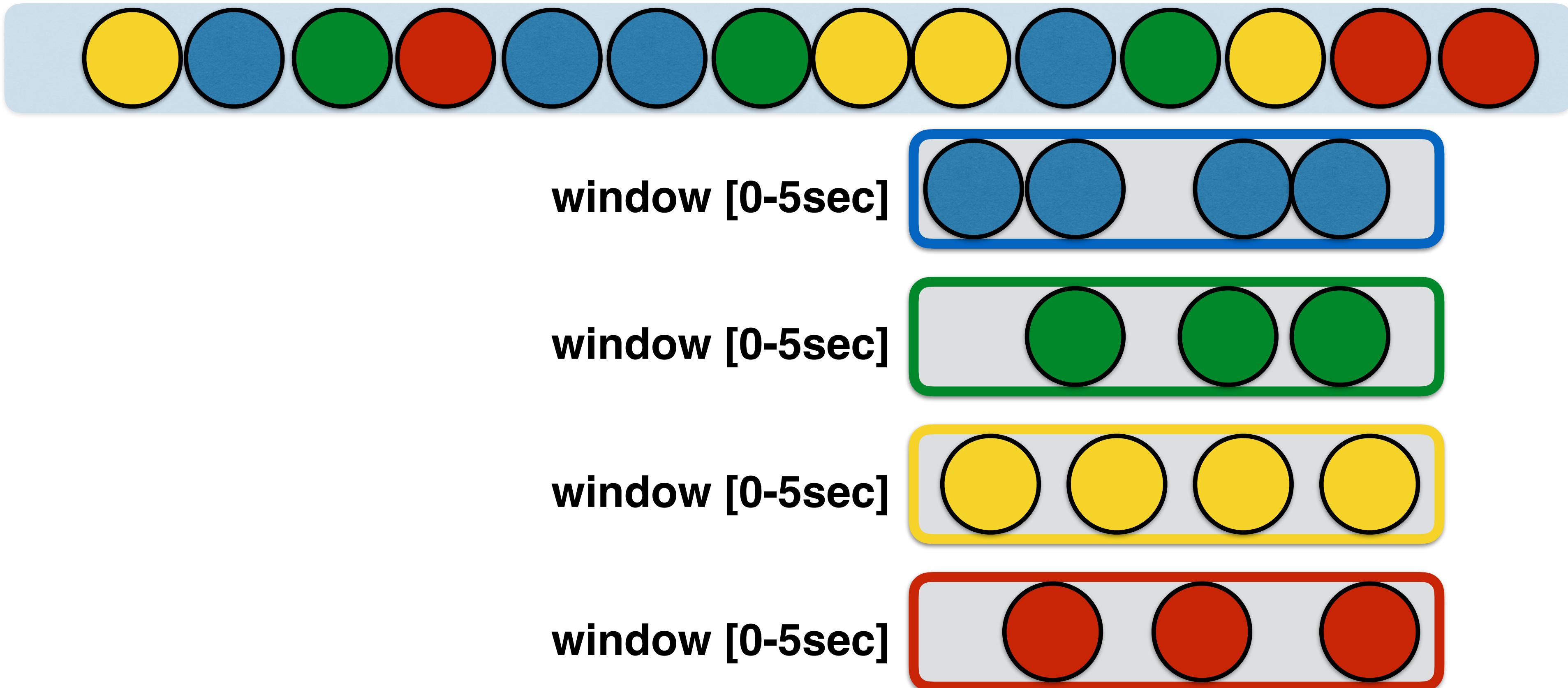


# Stream Window Types



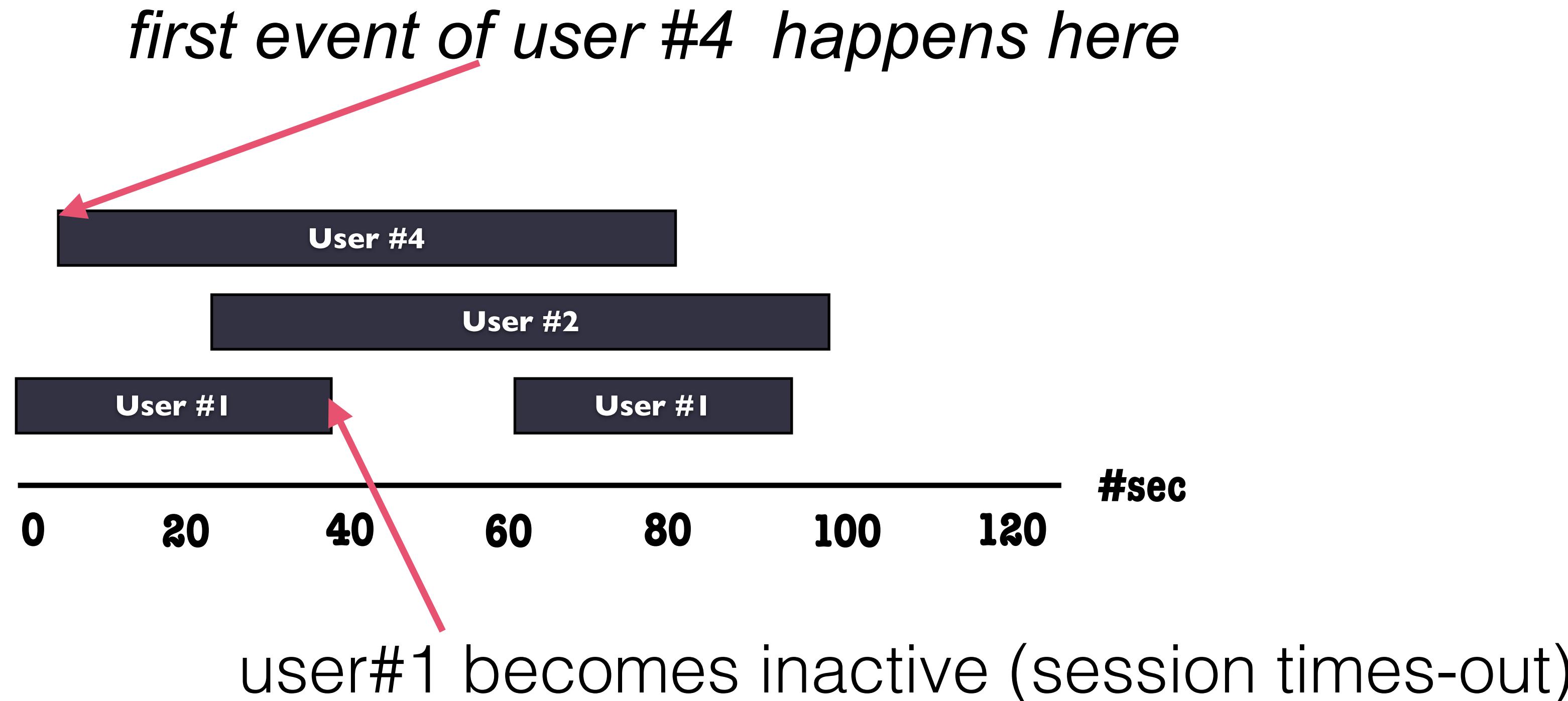
# Data Parallelism and Windows

**Remember** Windows are defined on a KeyedStream



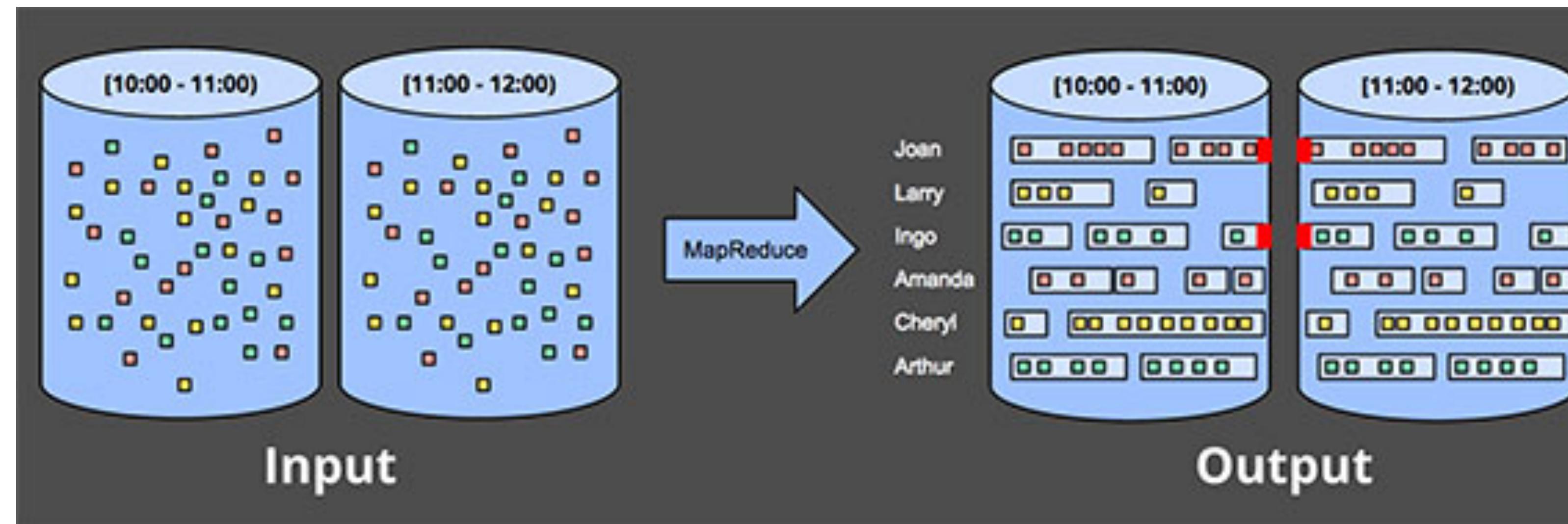
Note: Flink also supports a non-keyed **windowAll** with the cost of a **single task execution**

# Session Windows



# Session Windows

- Hard problem for Batch Processing engines
- Only suitable for a Continuous Execution



# CheatSheet Continued

## KeyedStream

```

Reduce     keyedStream.reduce { _ + _ }

Fold       keyedStream.fold("start")((str, i)
                           => { str + "-" + i })

Aggregations keyedStream.sum(0)

Window
keyedStream.window()

TumblingEventTimeWindows.of(Time.seconds(5))

SlidingProcessingTimeWindows.of(
  Time.seconds(10), Time.seconds(5))

EventTimeSessionWindows.withGap(Time.minutes(10))
)

```

## WindowedStream

```

Reduce     wstream.reduce { (v1, v2) =>
                           (v1._1, v1._2 + v2._2) }

Fold       wstream.fold("") { (acc, v) =>
                           acc + v._2 }

Aggregate(Associative) wstream.aggregate(Sum...)

ProcessWindowFunction:
process(new MyProcessWindowFunction())

class MyProcessWindowFunction
extends ProcessWindowFunction[(String, Long), String,
String, TimeWindow] {

  def process(key: String, context: Context,
             input: Iterable[(String, Long)], out: Collector[String]): () = {
    var count = 0L
    for (in <- input) {
      count = count + 1
    }
    out.collect(s"Window ${context.window} count: $count")
  }
}

```

## DataStream

# The Process Function

- Encapsulates any Event-Processing Logic as: **f(event, state, time)**

```
// the source data stream
val stream: DataStream[...] = ...
val result: DataStream[...] = stream
  .keyBy(0)
  .process(new MyCustomLogic())
```

```
class MyCustomLogic extends KeyedProcessFunction[...]{

  /** The state that is maintained by this process function */
  lazy val state: ValueState[...] = getRuntimeContext
    .getState(new ValueStateDescriptor[...](“myState”, classOf[...]))

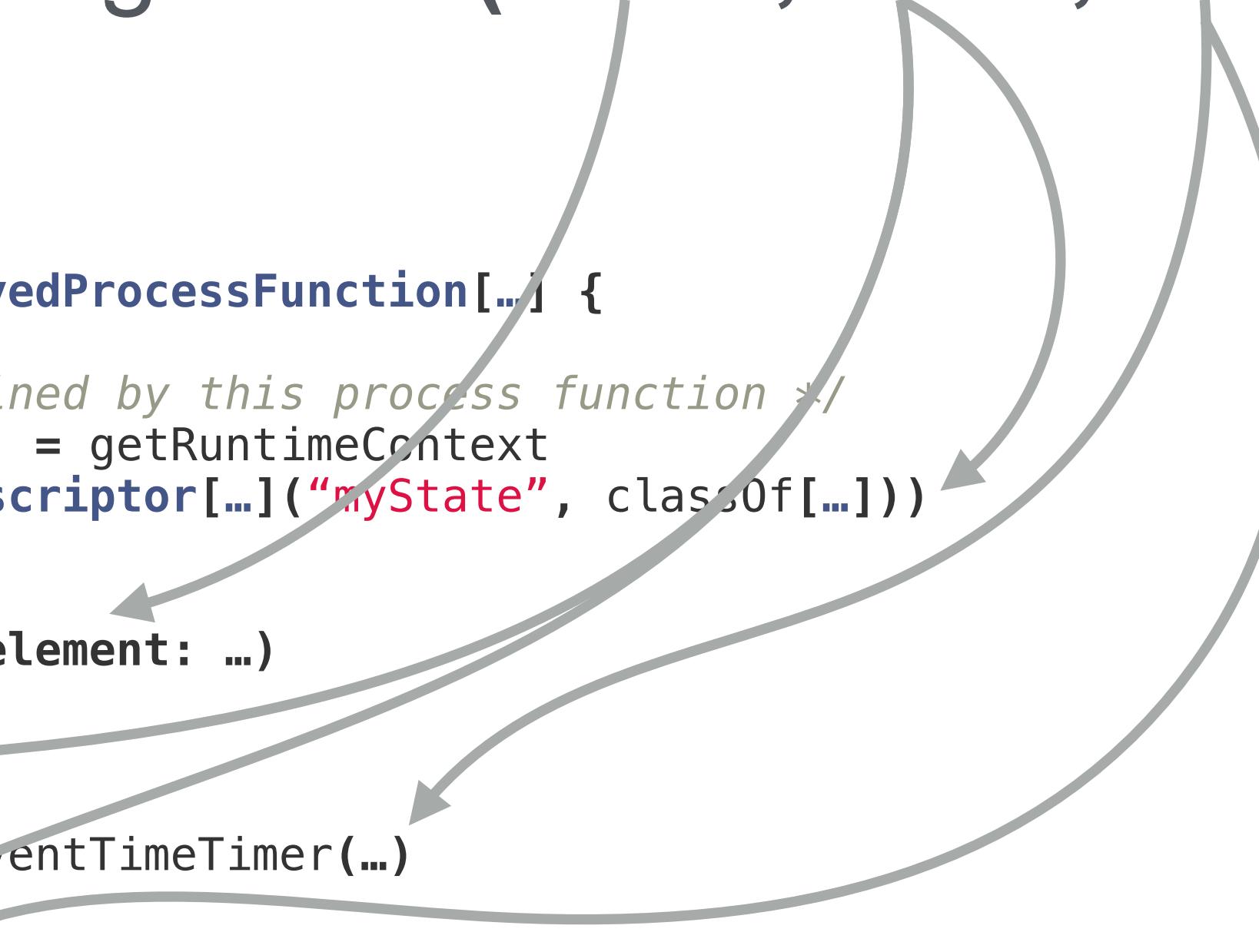
  override def processElement(element: ...)

    ...
    state.update(...)
    ...
    ctx.timerService.registerEventTimeTimer(...)

  }

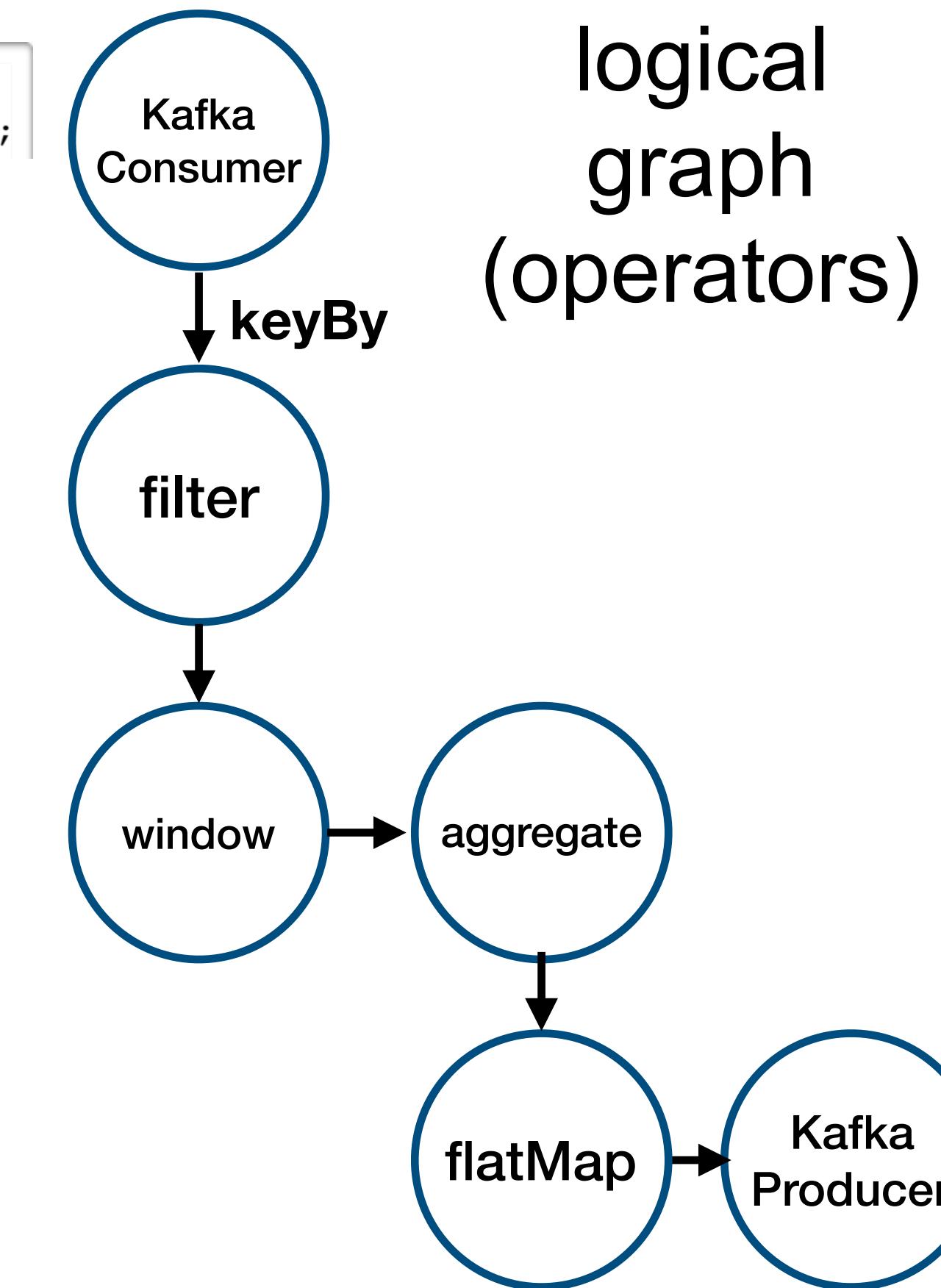
  override def onTimer(timestamp: Long, StreamContext, TimerContext, out: ...): Unit = {

    state.value match {
      case foo => out.collect((key, count))
      case _ =>
    }
  }
}
```

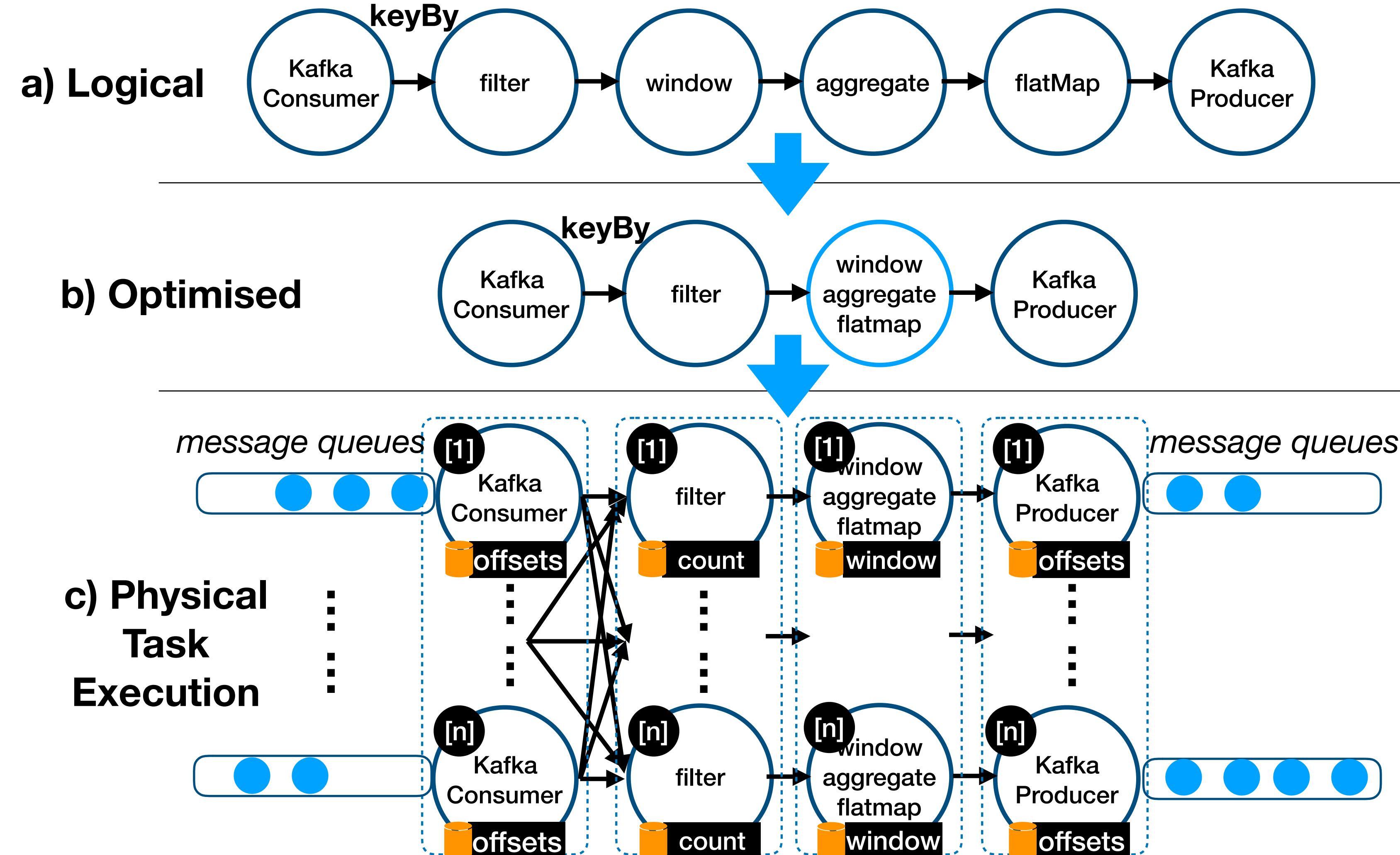


# Fire Detection with the DataStream API)

```
1 | case class SensorEvent(sensorID: Long, temperature: Int);  
2 | case class TemperatureWarning(sensorID: Long, temperature: Int);
```



# Fire Detection with the DataStream API)





Task computation is not staged  
but can go on **indefinitely**.

How can we achieve **reliable processing** at the presence of failures,  
reconfiguration, migration etc.?



## Part II

# State Management in Apache Flink

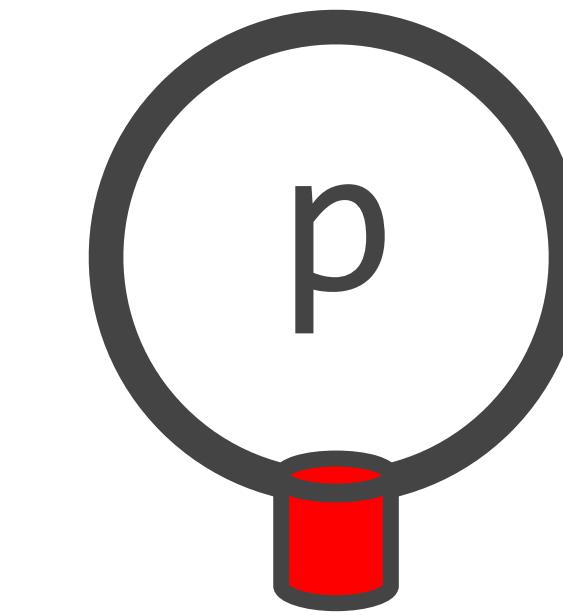


# Event Processing Model

p

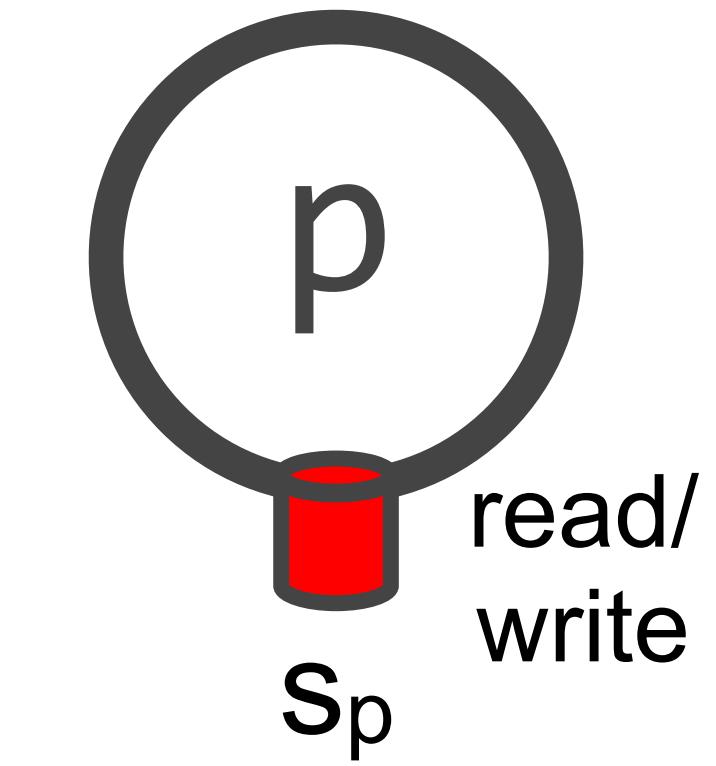


# Event Processing Model

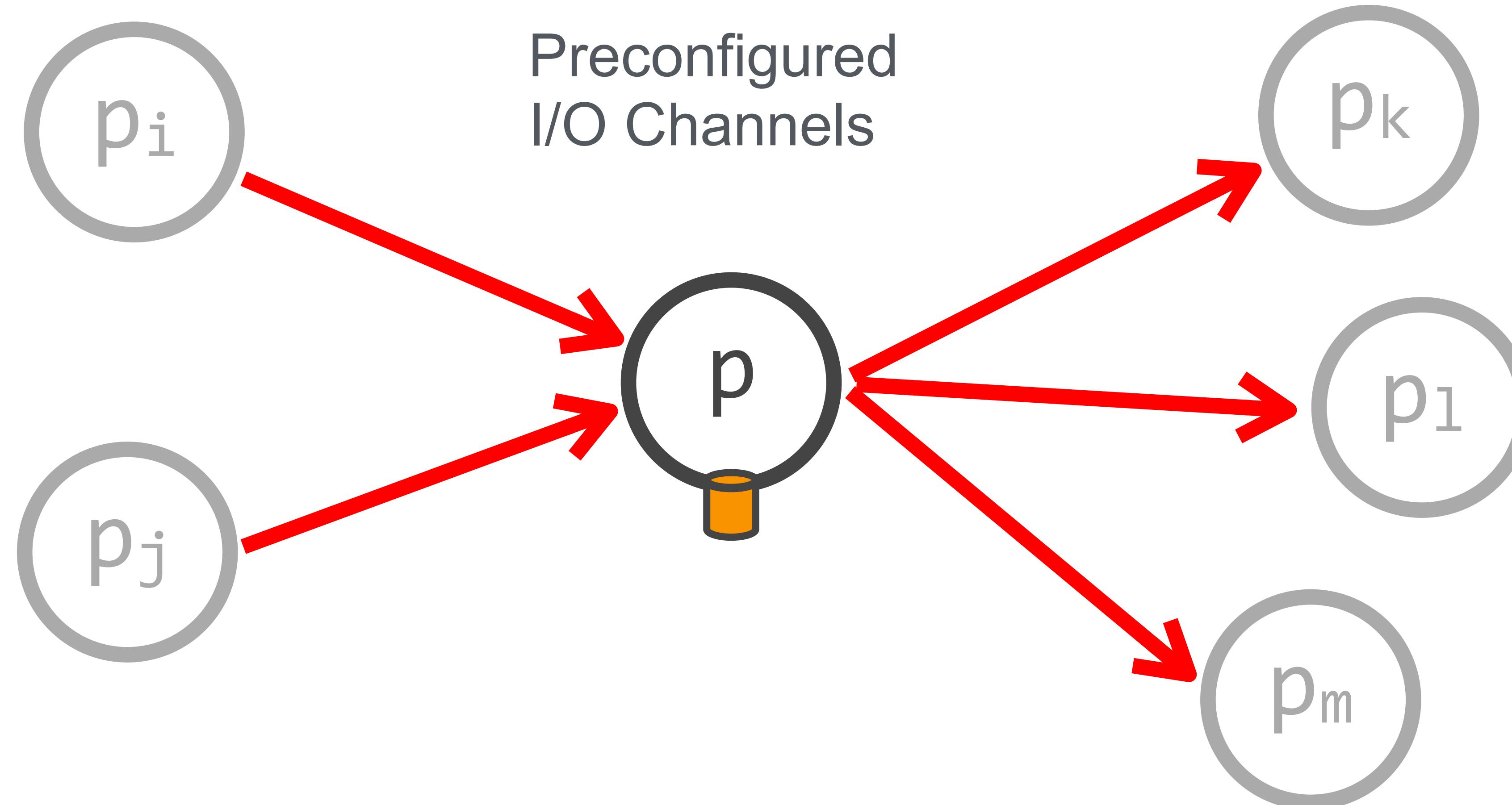




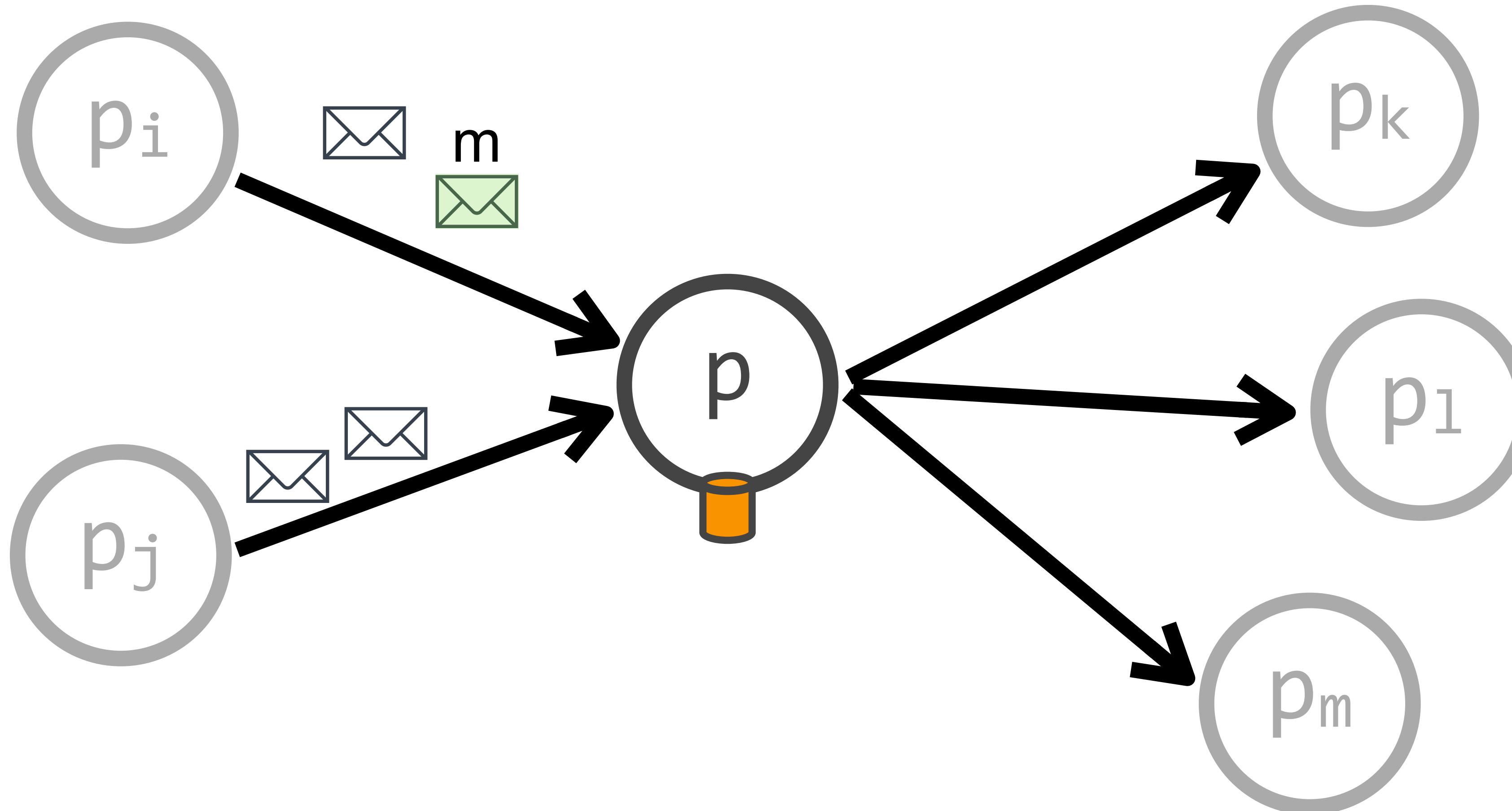
# Event Processing Model



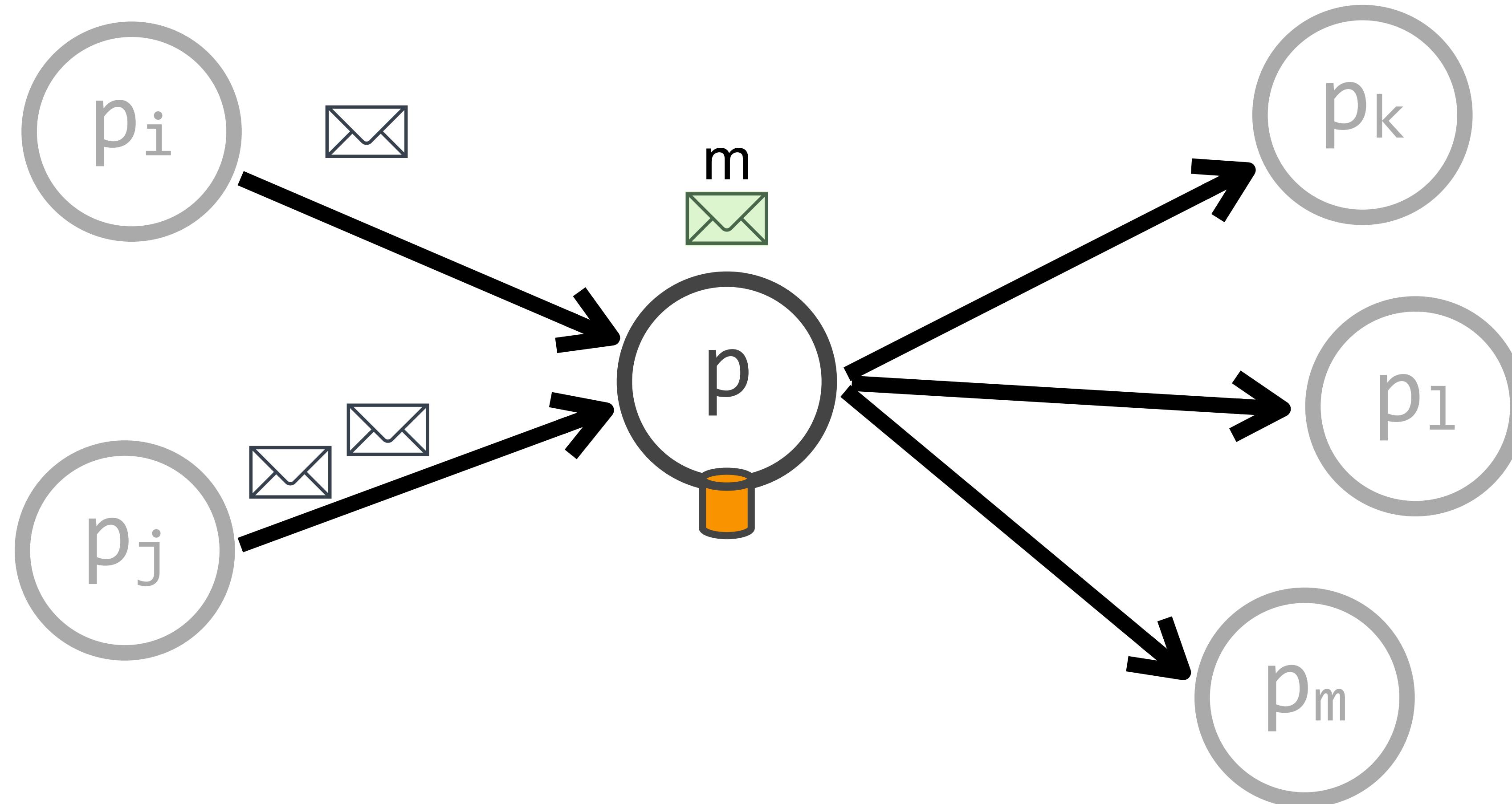
# Event Processing Model



# Event Processing Model

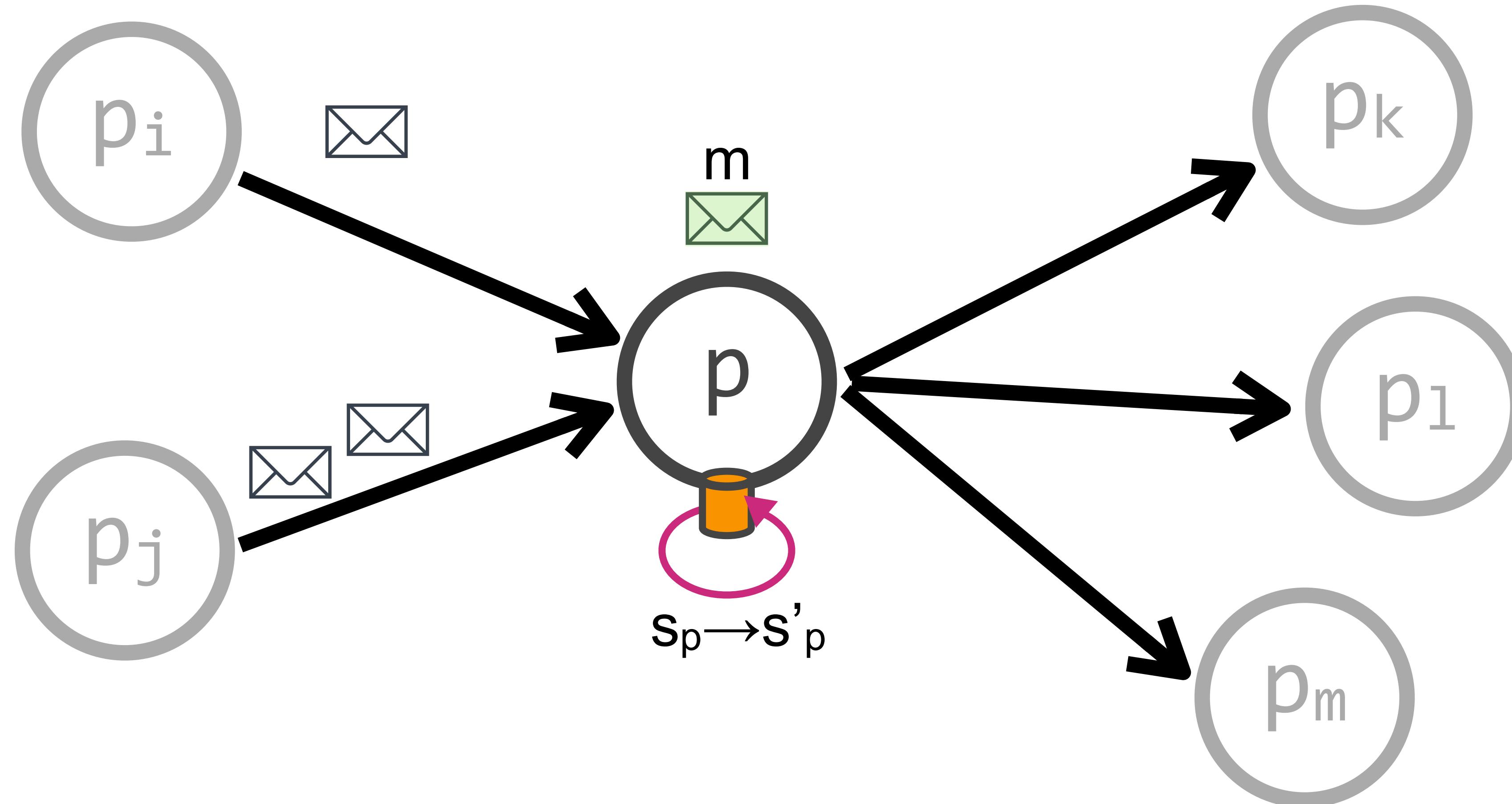


# Event Processing Model



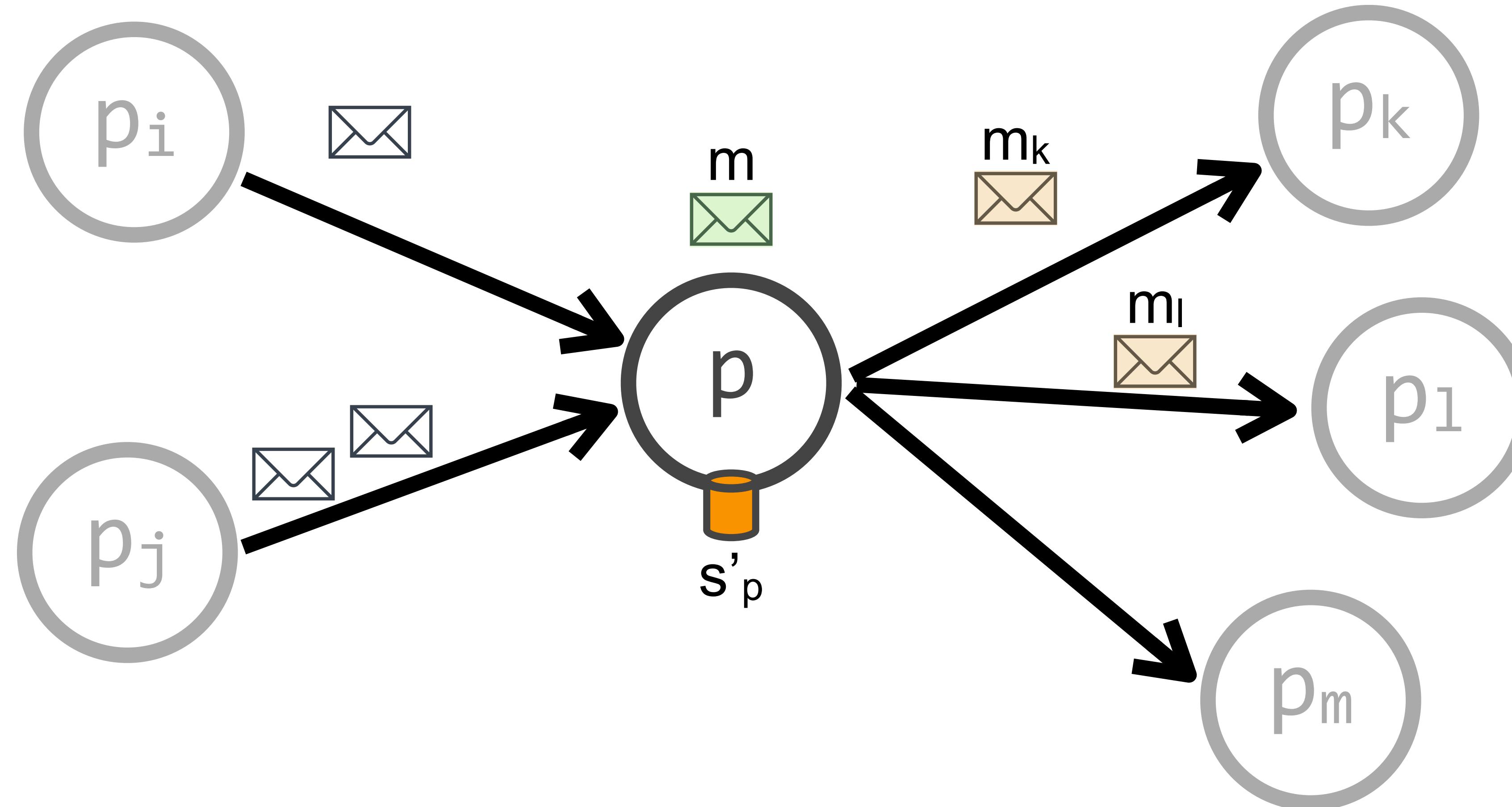
Action:{ <recv,m> }

# Event Processing Model



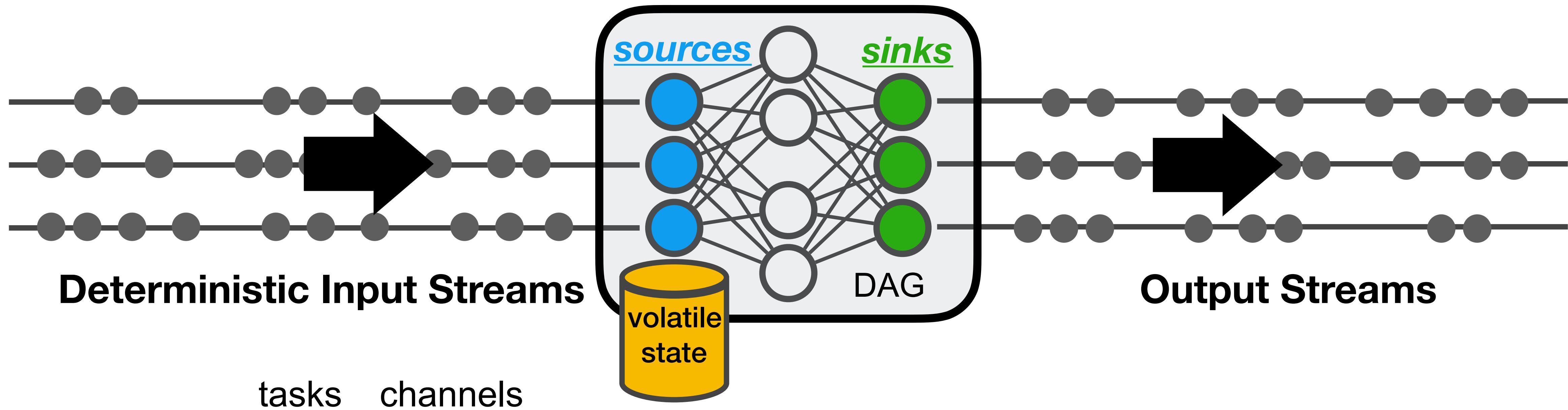
Action:{  $\langle \text{recv}, m \rangle$ ,  $\langle S_p \rightarrow S'_p \rangle$  }

# Event Processing Model



**Action:** {  $\langle \text{recv}, m \rangle$ ,  $\langle s_p \rightarrow s'_p \rangle$ ,  $\langle \text{send}, m_k \rangle$ ,  $\langle \text{send}, m_l \rangle$  }

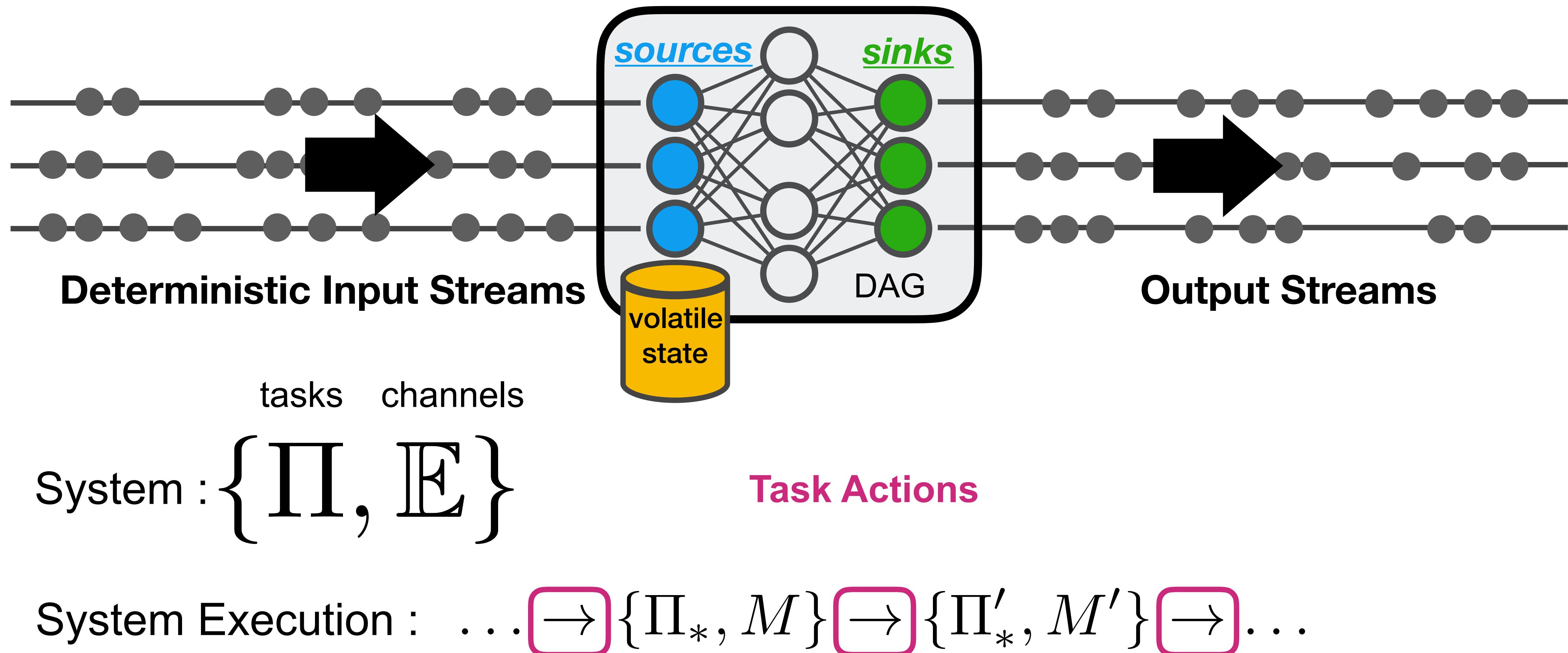
# Stream Process Graphs



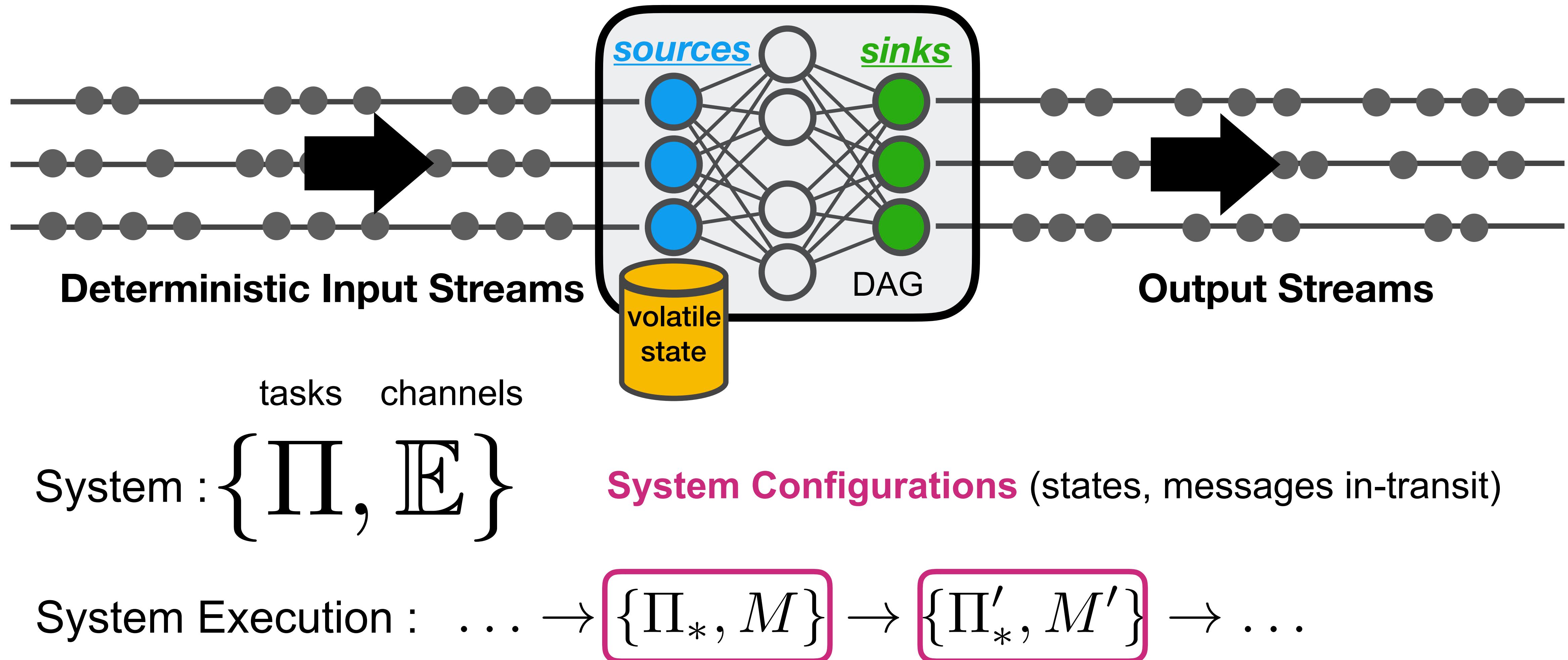
System :  $\{\Pi, \mathbb{E}\}$

System Execution :  $\dots \rightarrow \{\Pi_*, M\} \rightarrow \{\Pi'_*, M'\} \rightarrow \dots$

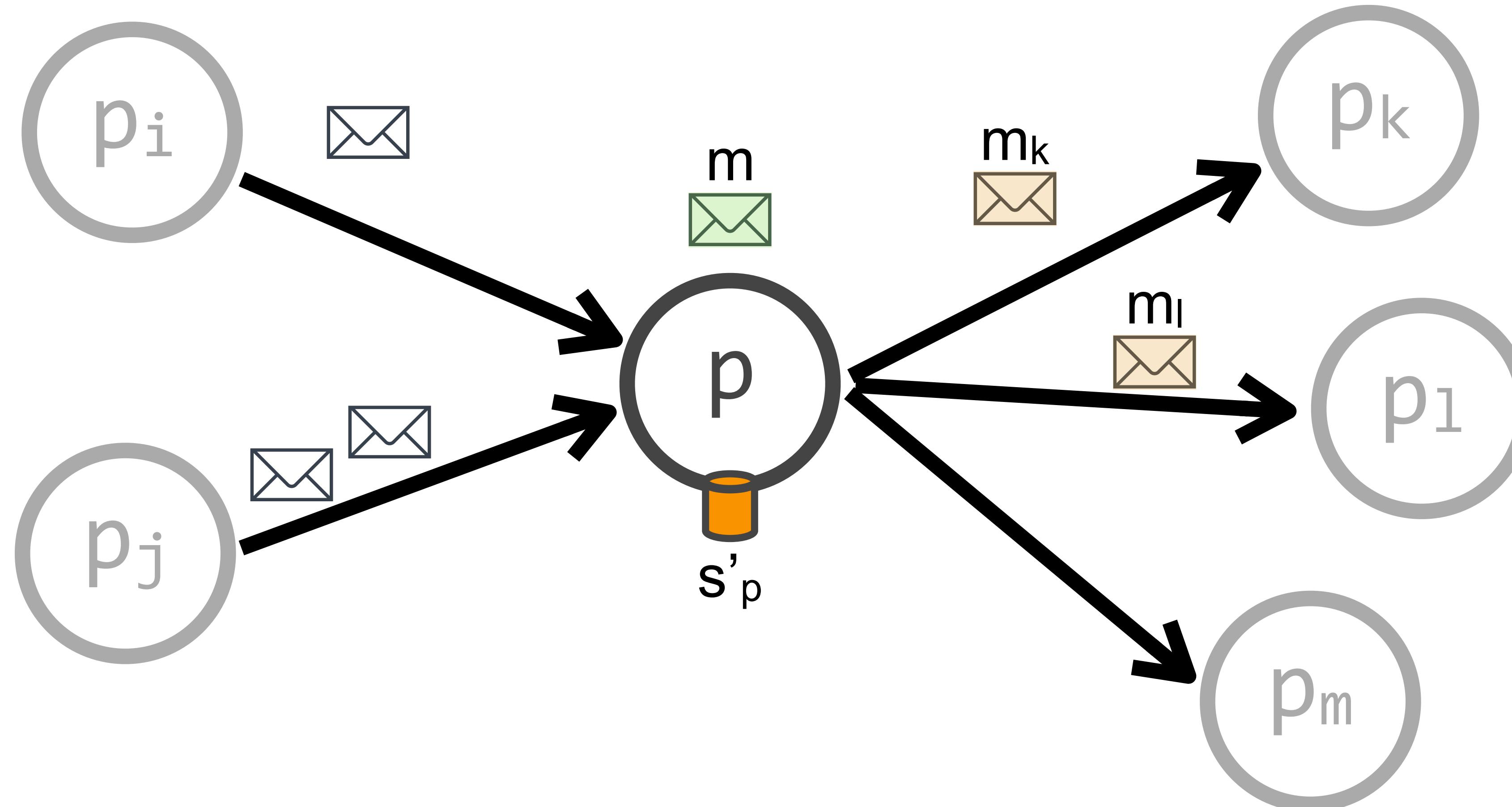
# Stream Process Graphs



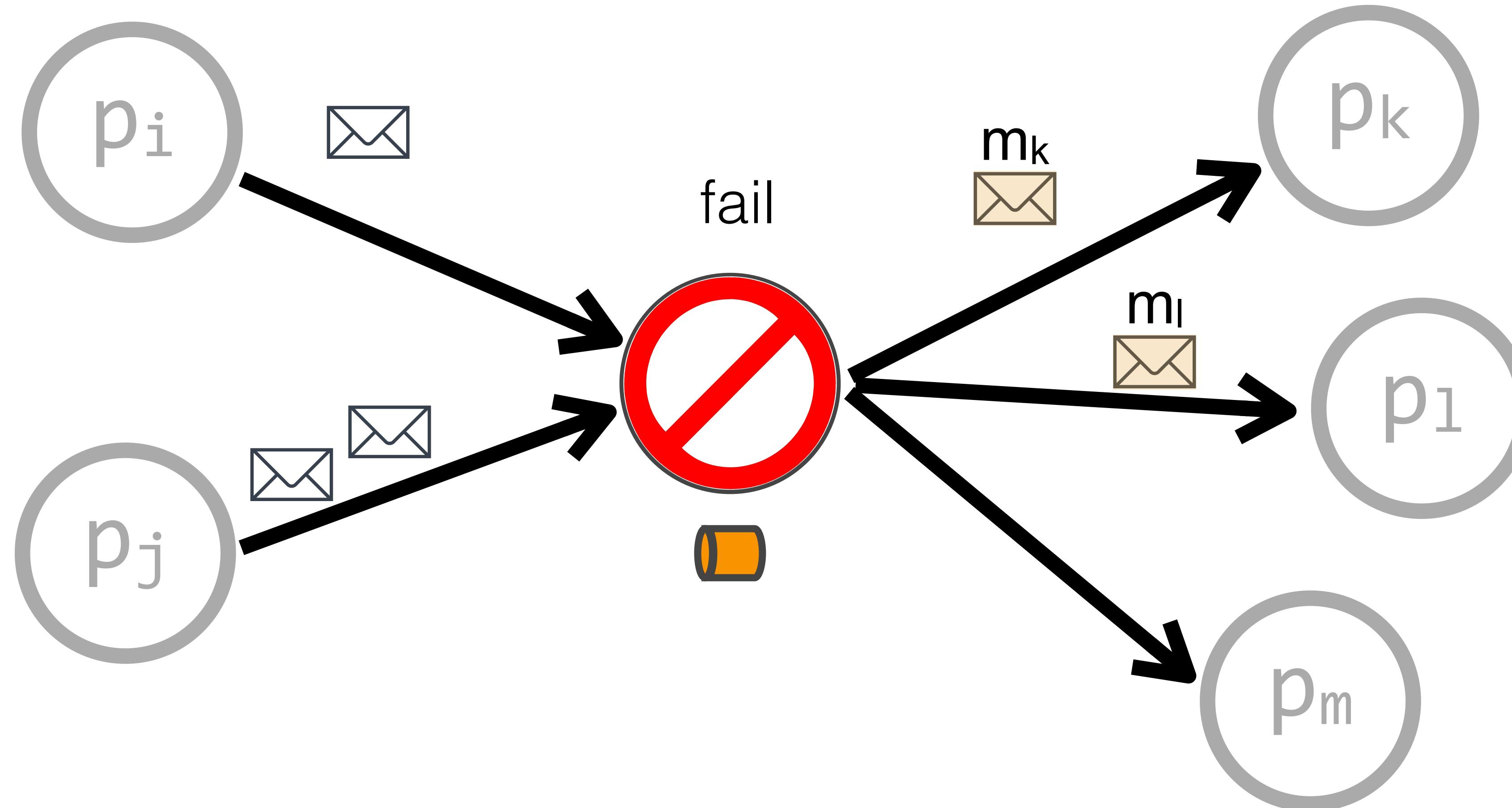
# Stream Process Graphs



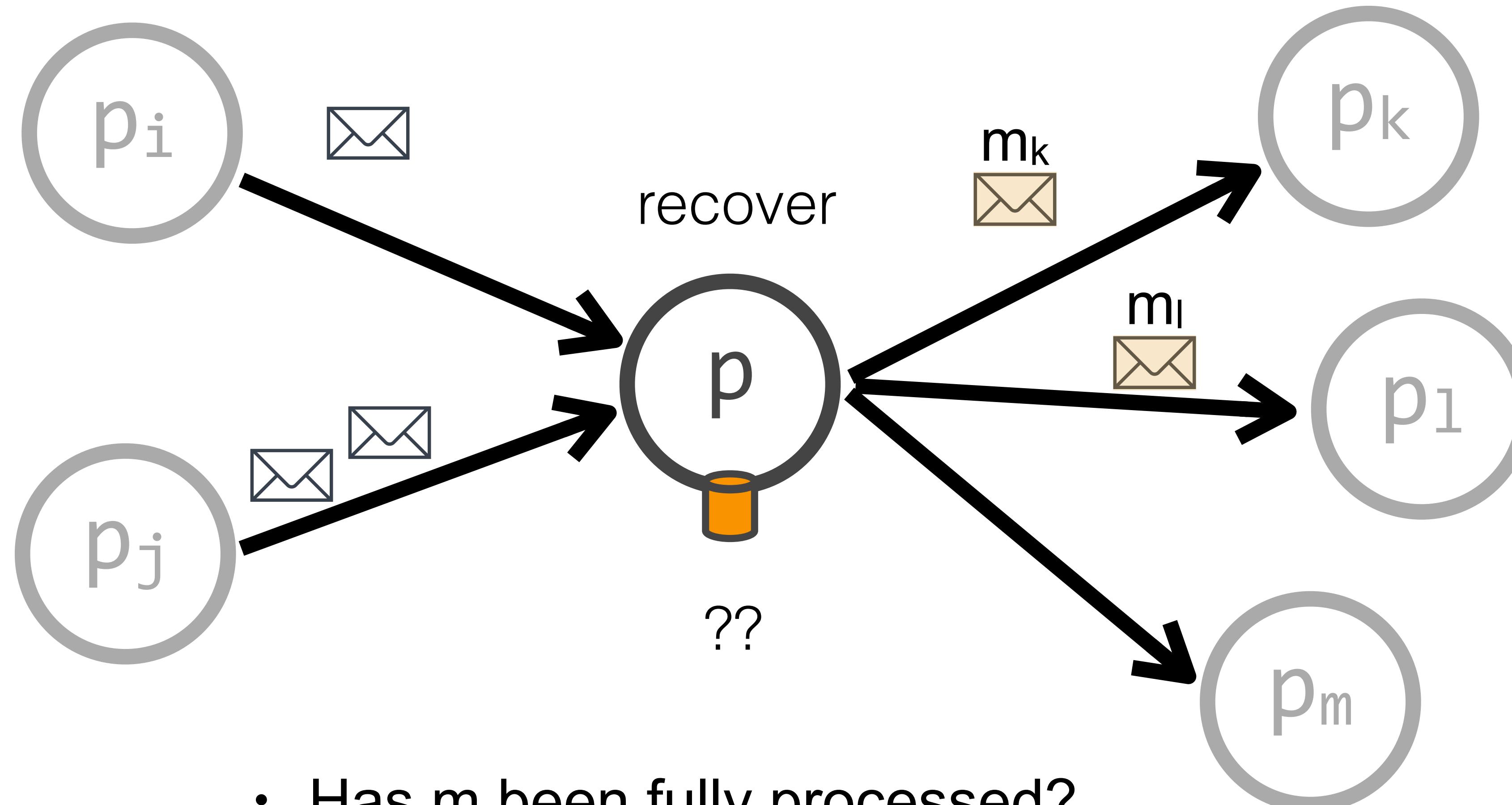
# Fault Tolerance



# Fault Tolerance



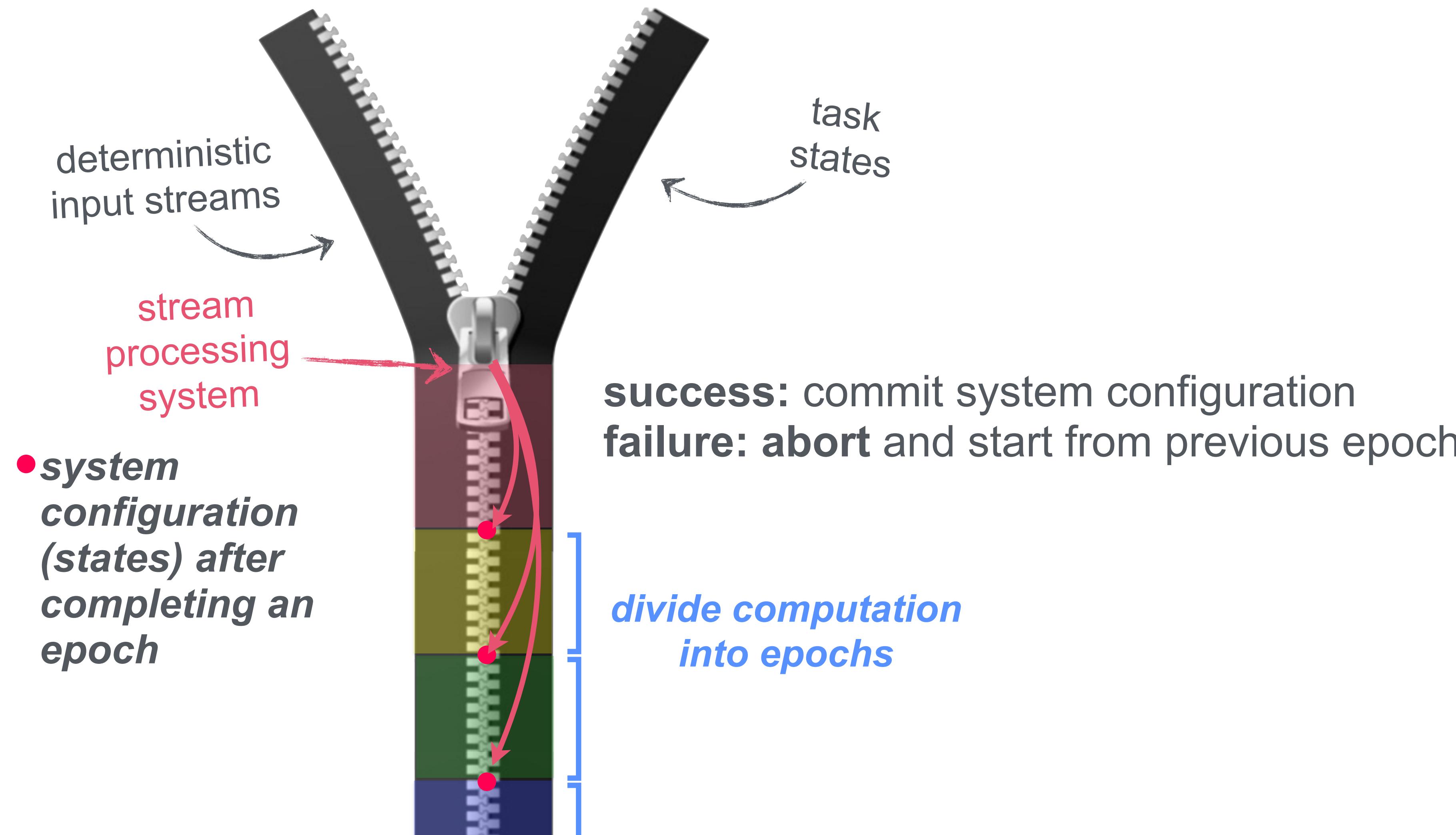
# Fail Recovery



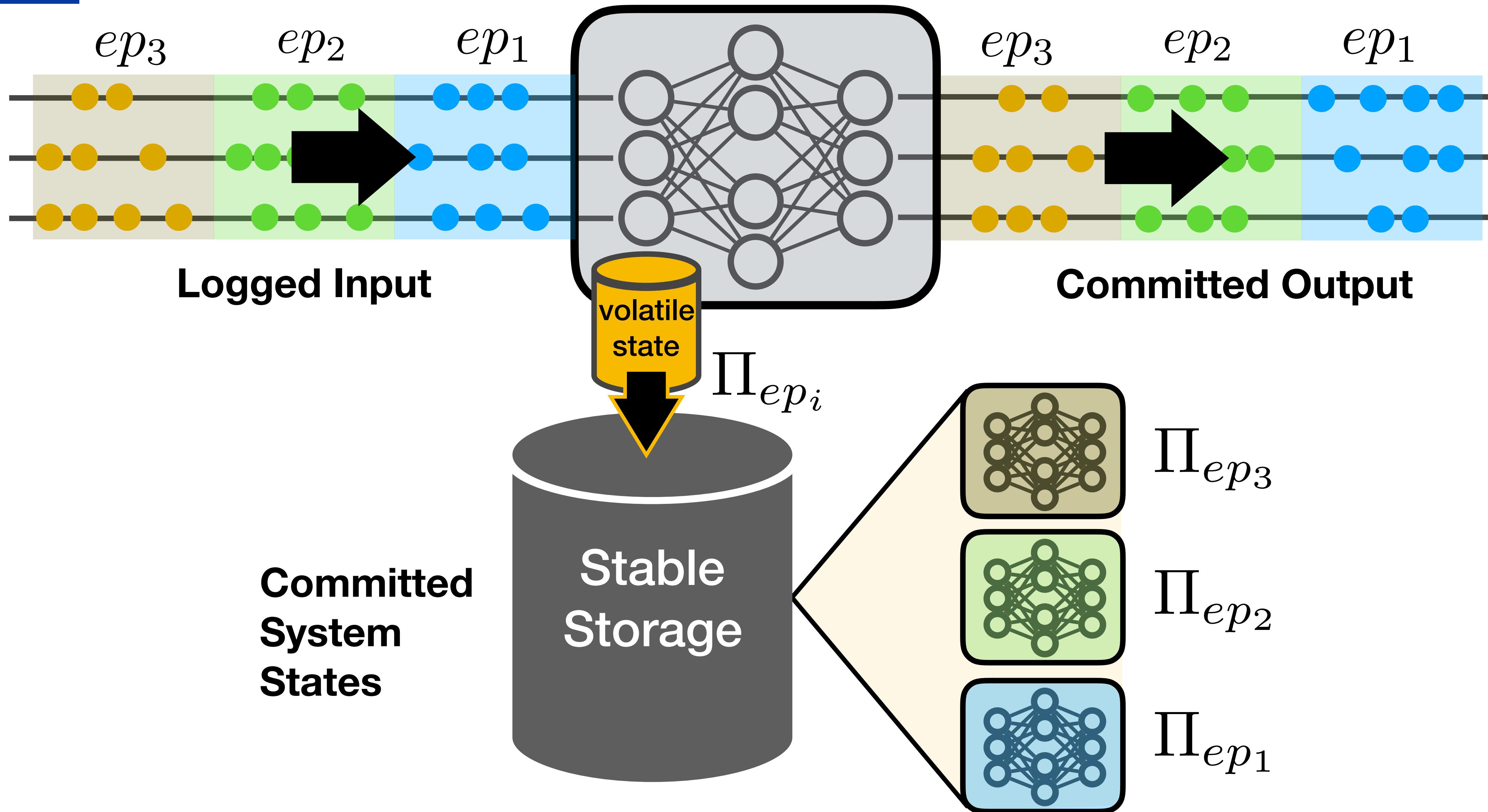
- Has  $m$  been fully processed?
- Have  $m_k$  and  $m_l$  been delivered?

# Transactional Stream Processing

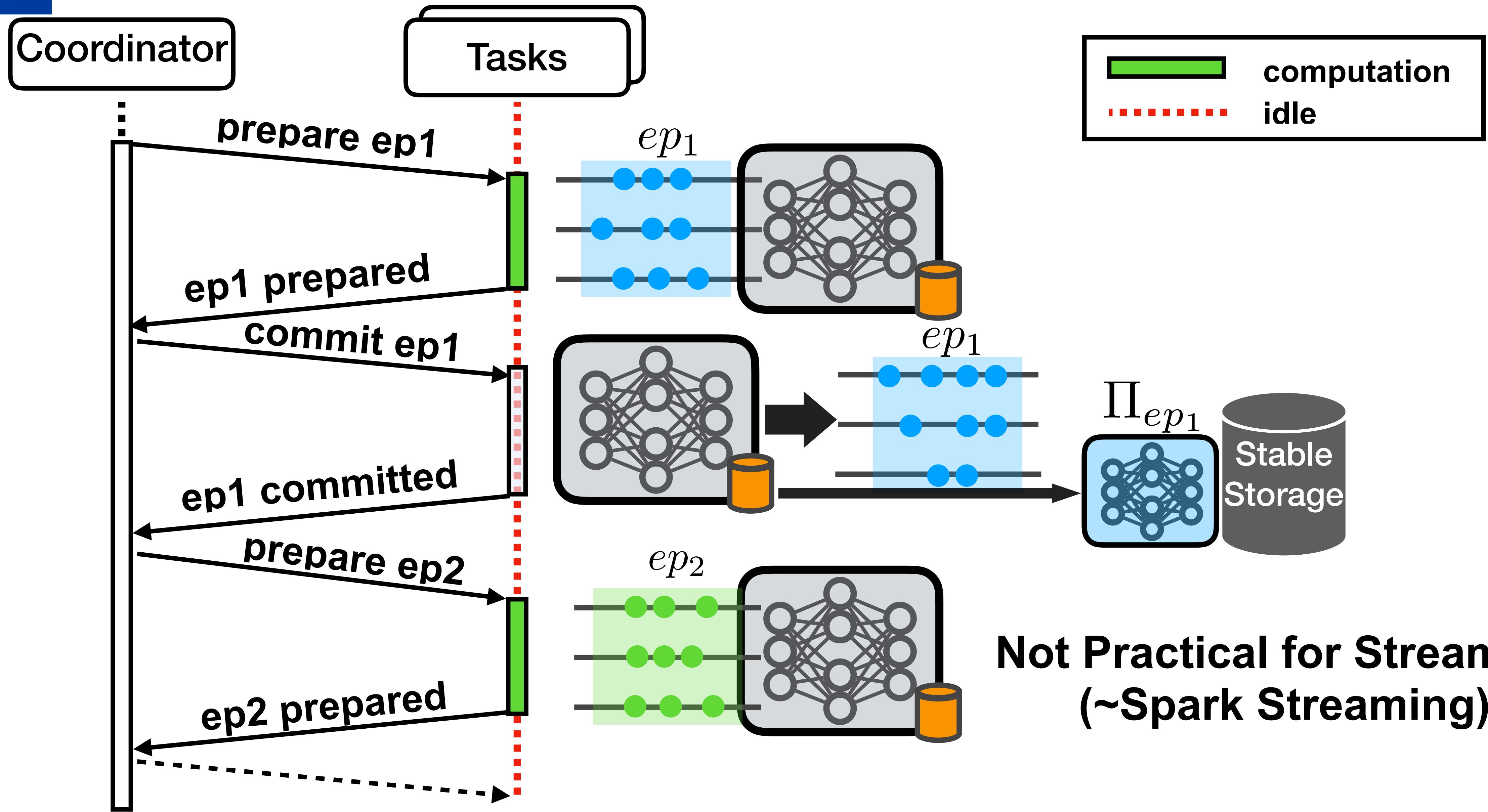
## *The Intuition*



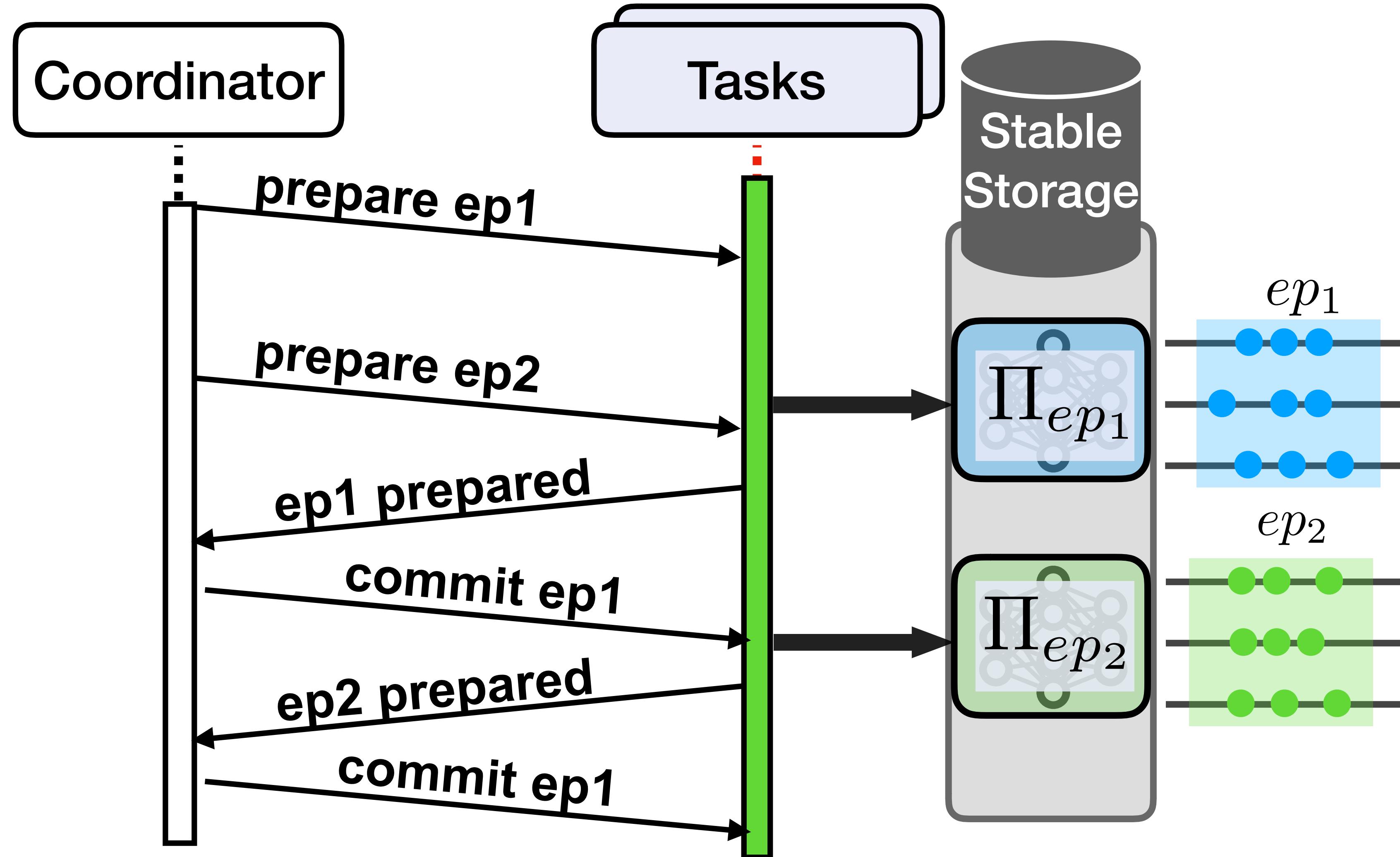
# Approach Overview



# Synchronous Epoch Commits



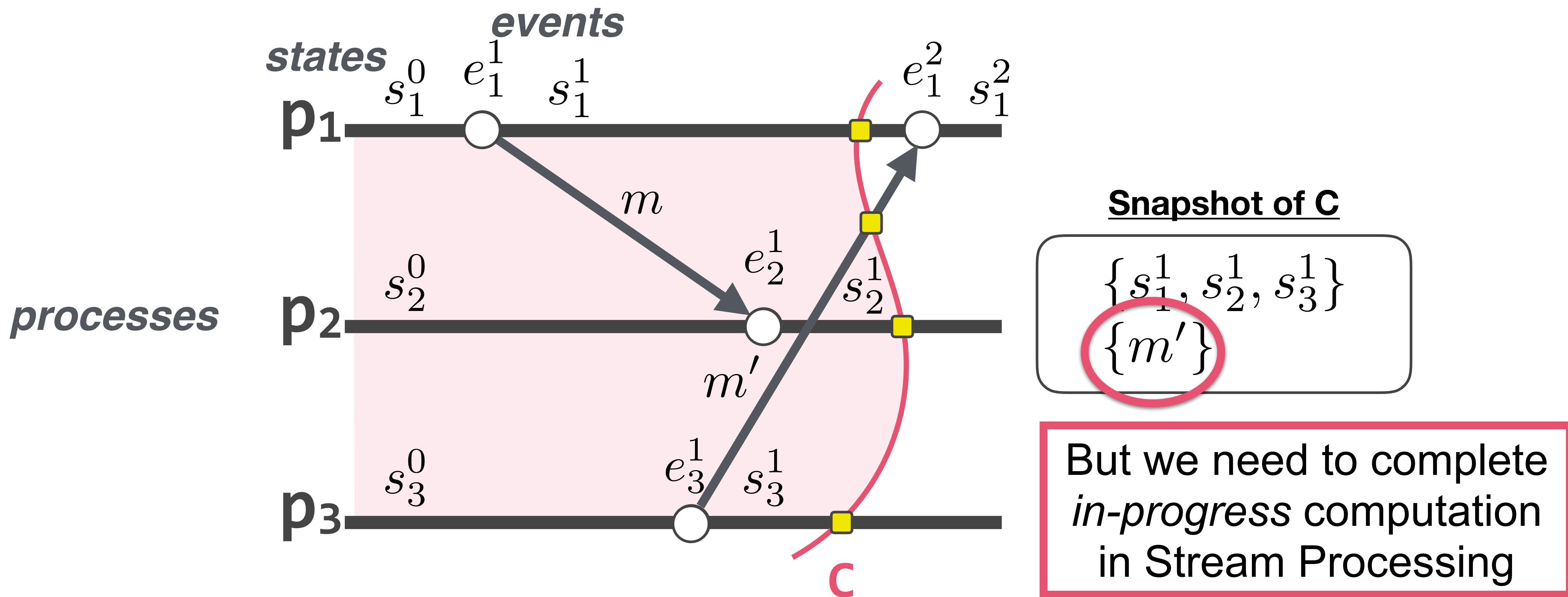
# Asynchronous Epoch Commits



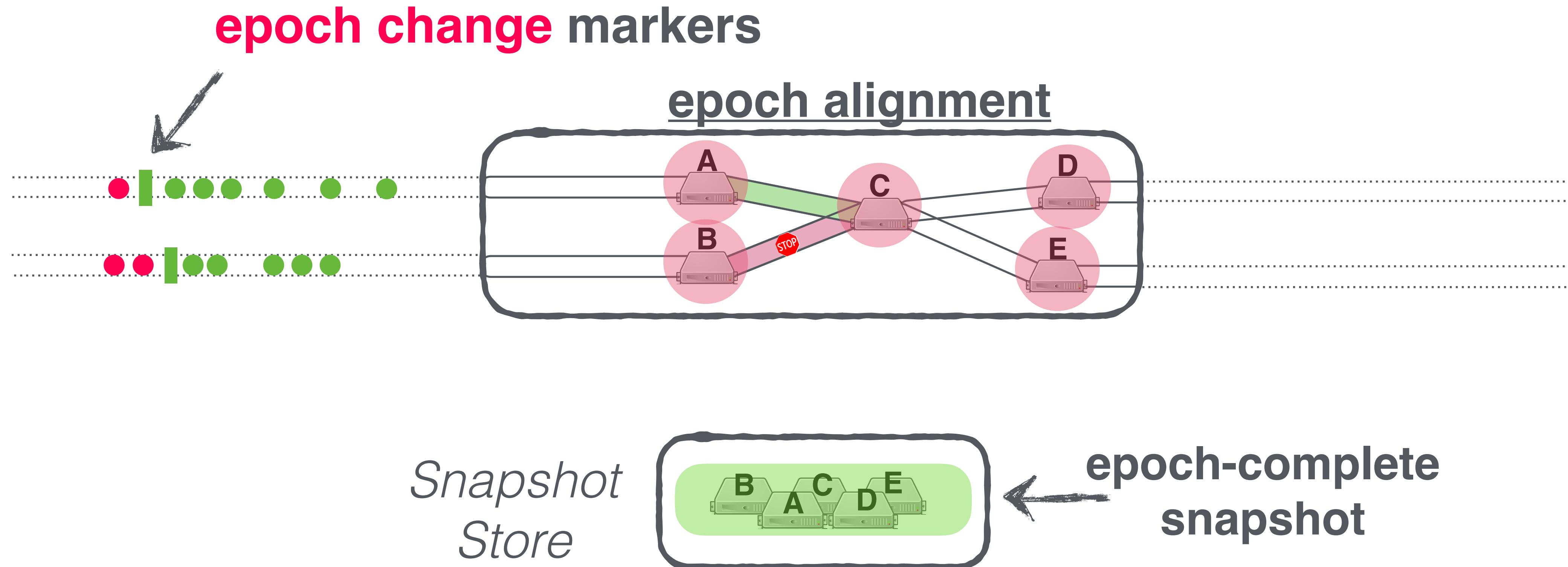
How? Using Distributed Snapshotting

# Recap: Snapshotting Protocols

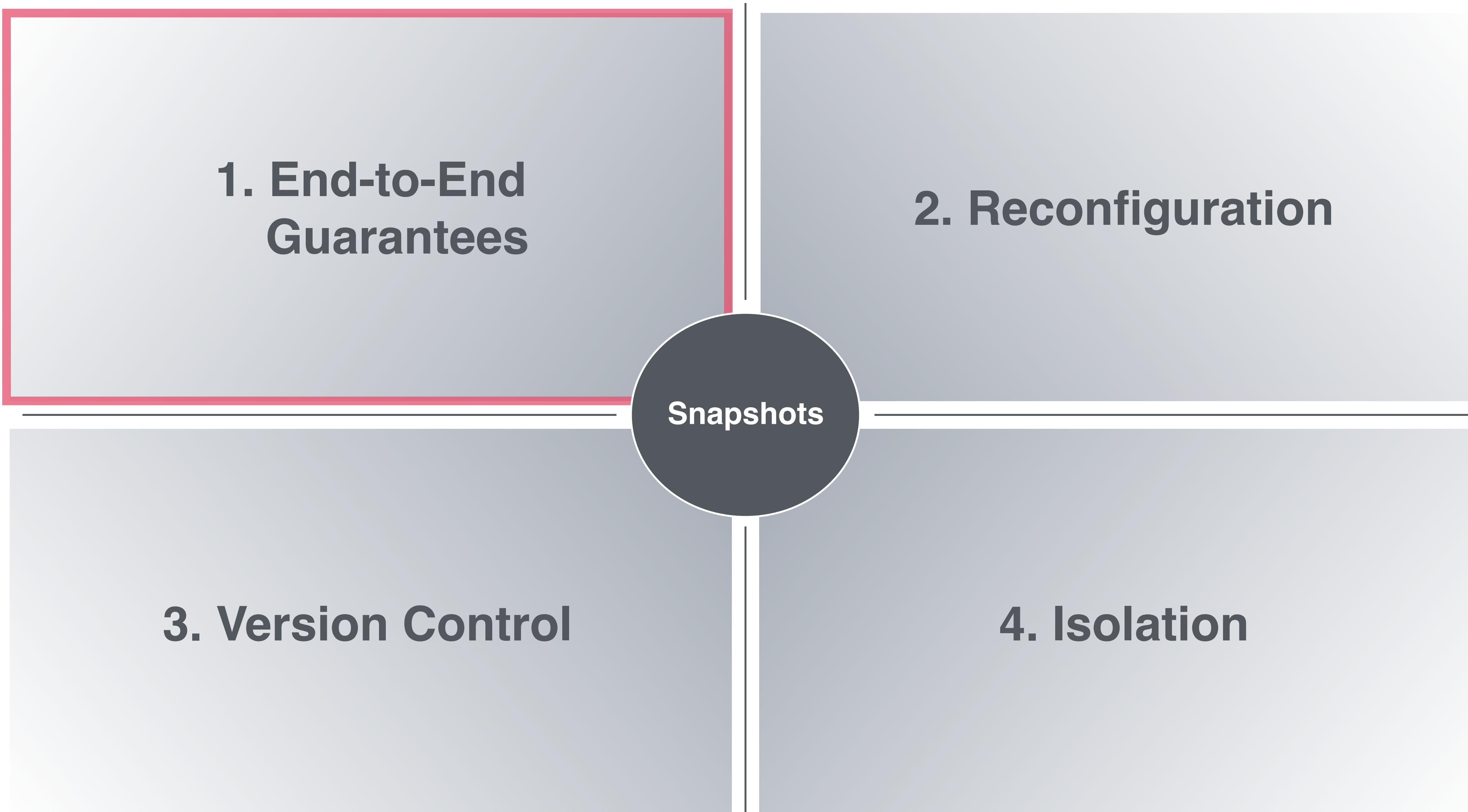
**Traditional Snapshotting Protocols:** Distributed Algorithms that capture system states that form a **distributed cuts** in a system execution



# Epoch Snapshotting Algorithm

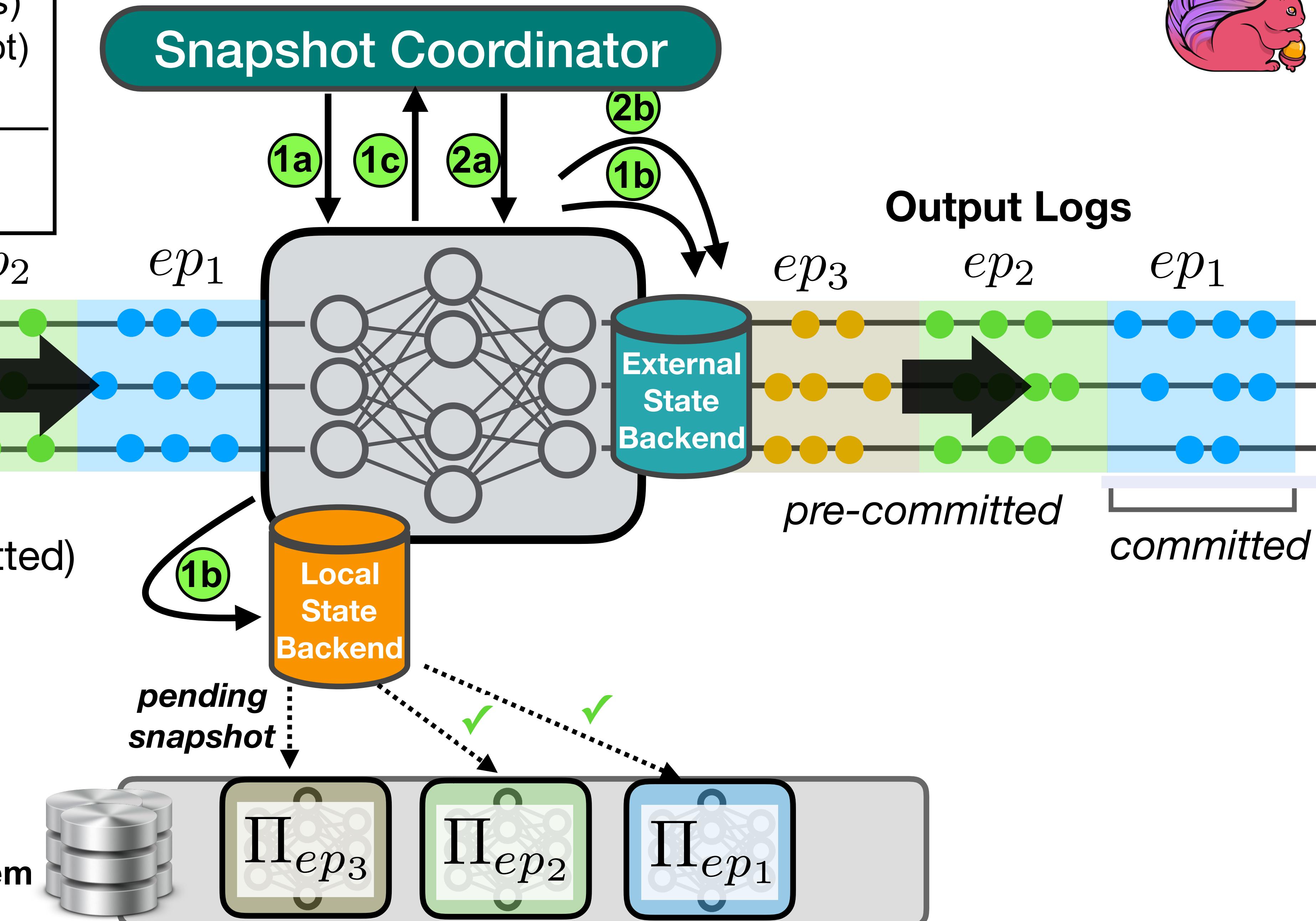


# State Management in Practice

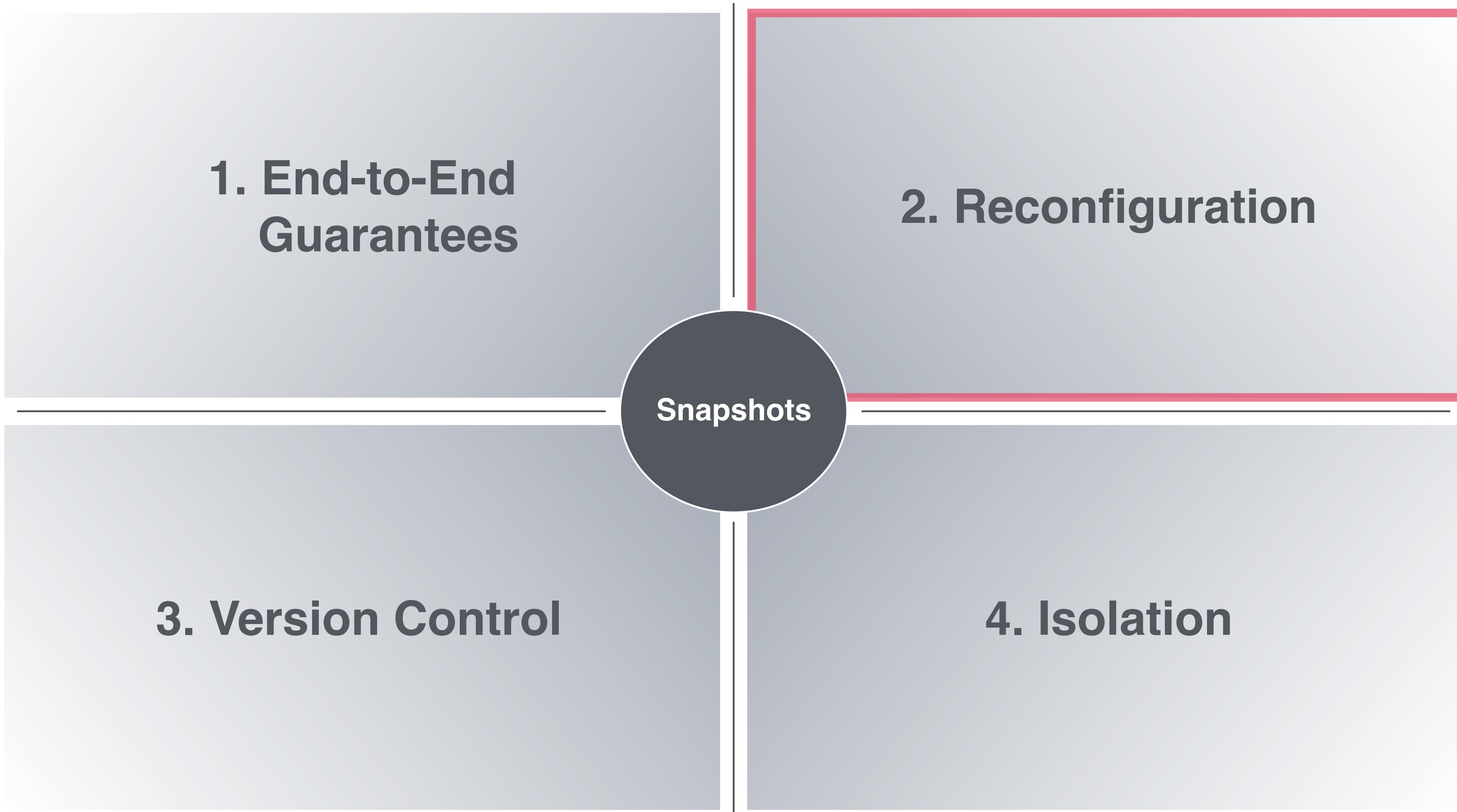


## The Epoch Commit Protocol

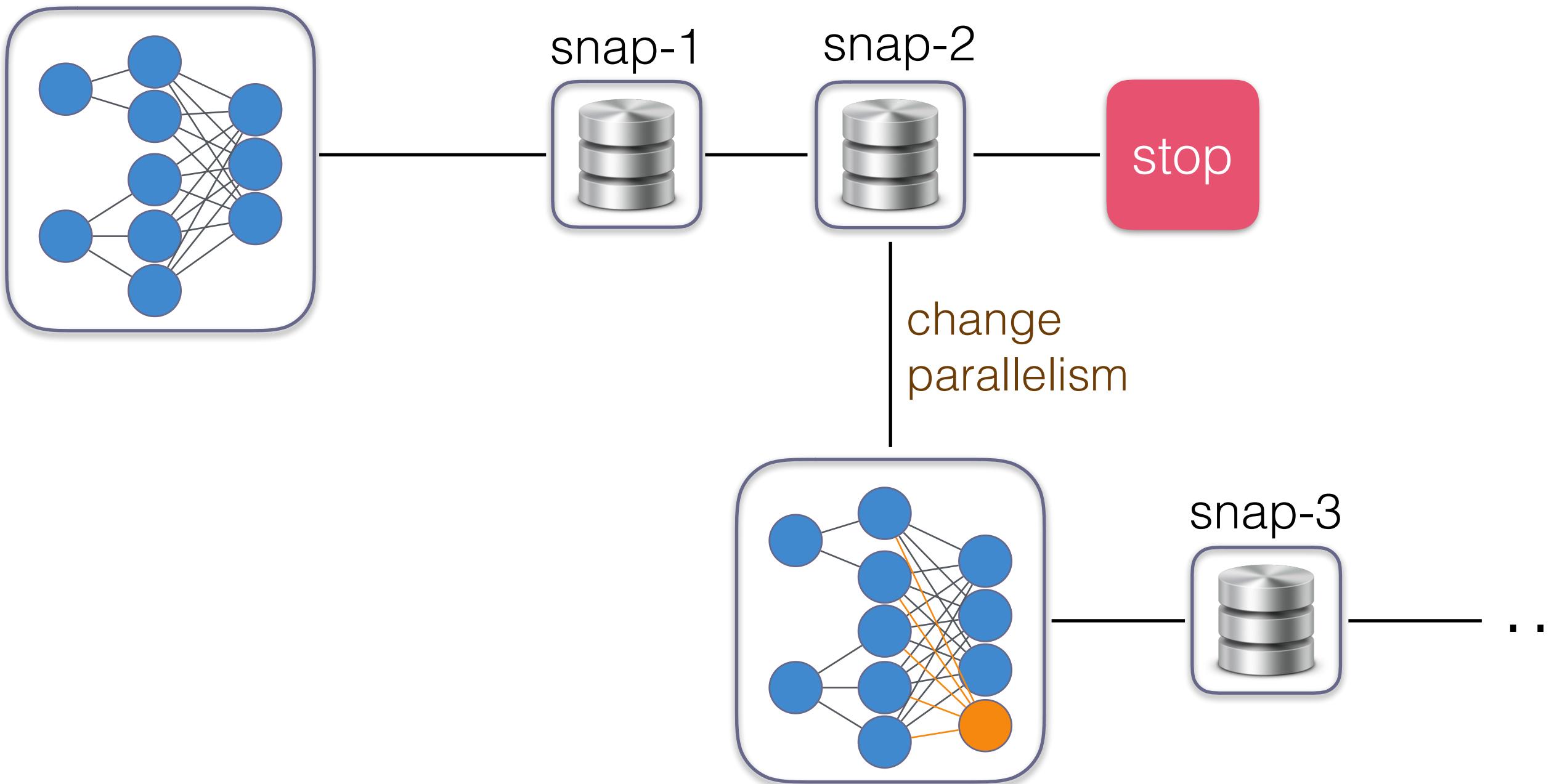
- 1a Prepare (insert markers)
- 1b Pre-Commit (snapshot)
- 1c Prepared/Aborted
- 2a Commit
- 2b Mark Committed



# State Management in Practice



# Dataflow Reconfiguration

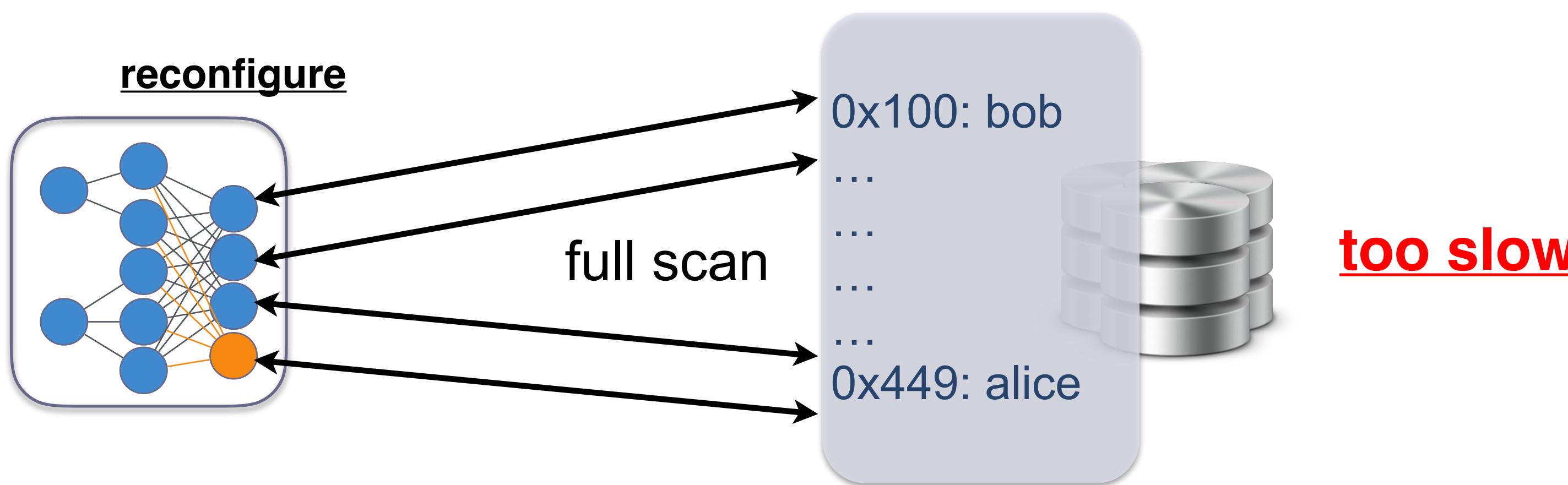


**Problem:** How is state **repartitioned** from a snapshot?

# Reconfiguration: The Issue

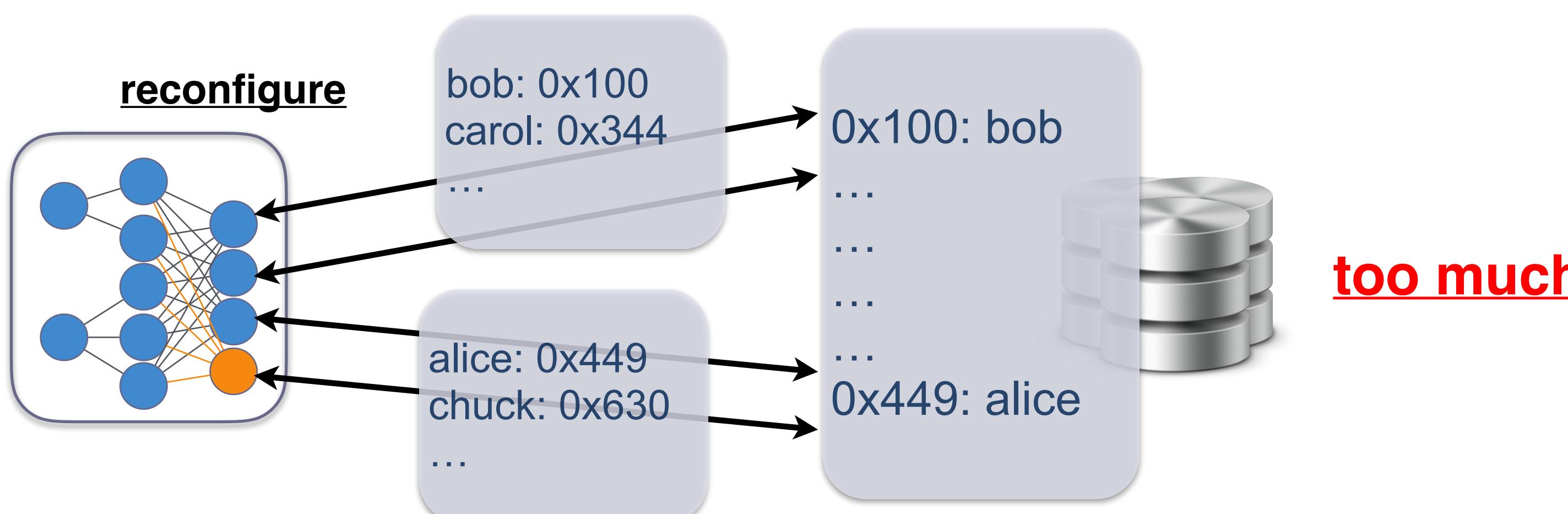
Scan Remote Storage for Responsible Keys

**case I**



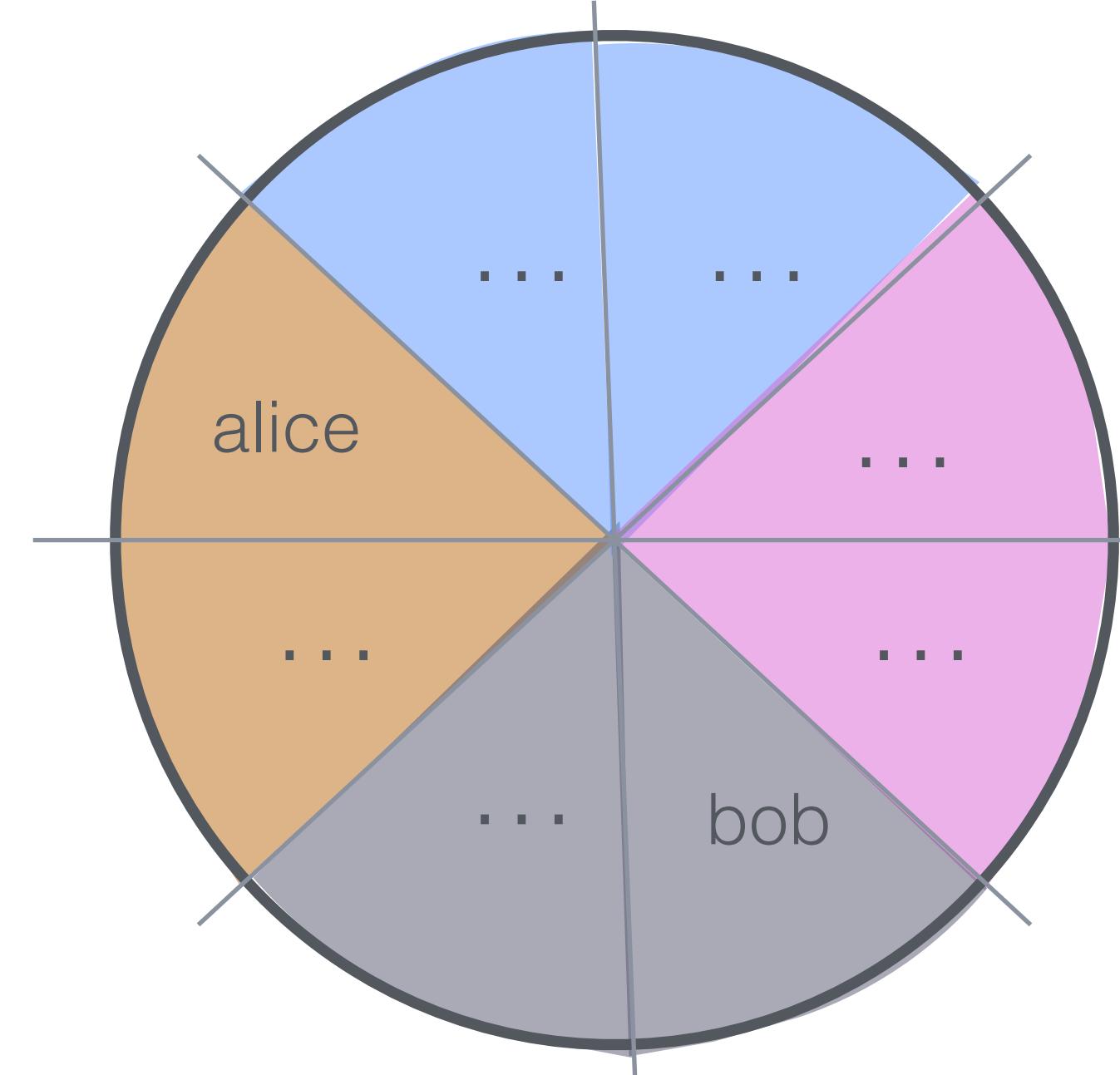
Include Key Locations in Snapshot Metadata

**case II**



# State Partitioning

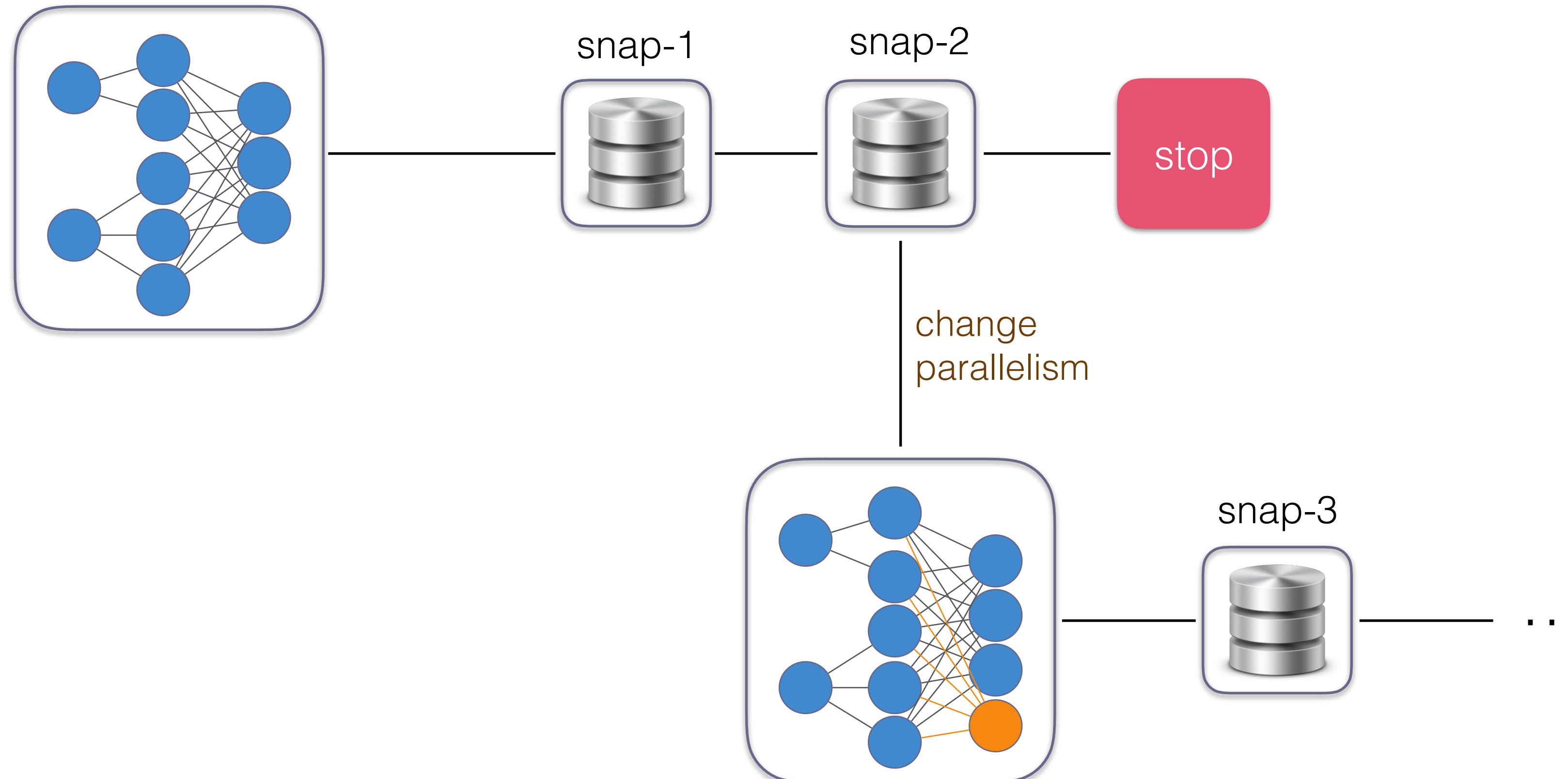
**Pre-partition** state in  
 $\text{hash}(K)$  space, into **fixed n key-groups**



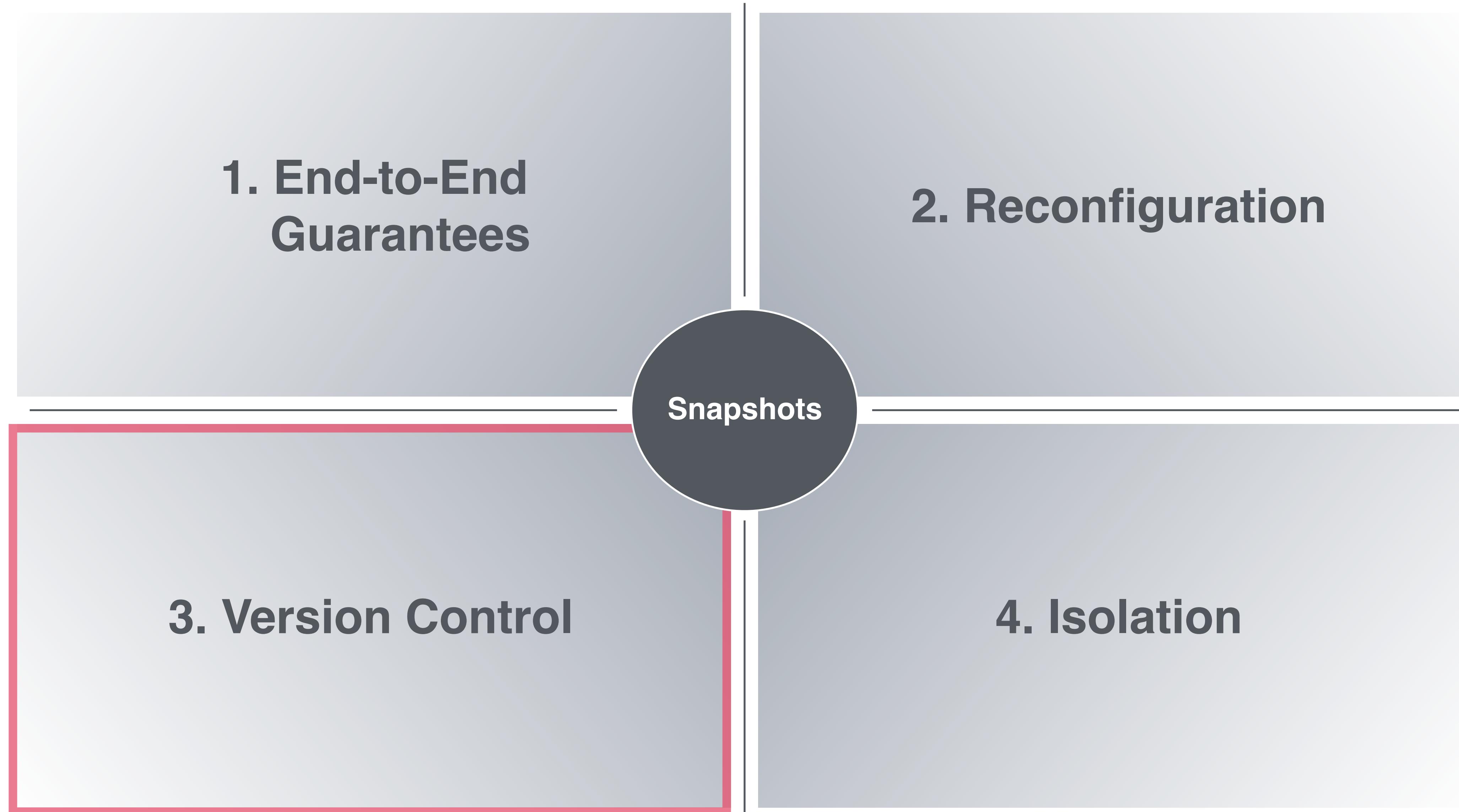
- **Snapshot Metadata:**  
*Contains a reference per stored Key-Group (less metadata)*
- **Reconfiguration:**  
*Contiguous key-group allocation to available tasks (less IO)*

**Note:** number of key groups controls trade-off between metadata to keep and reconfiguration speed

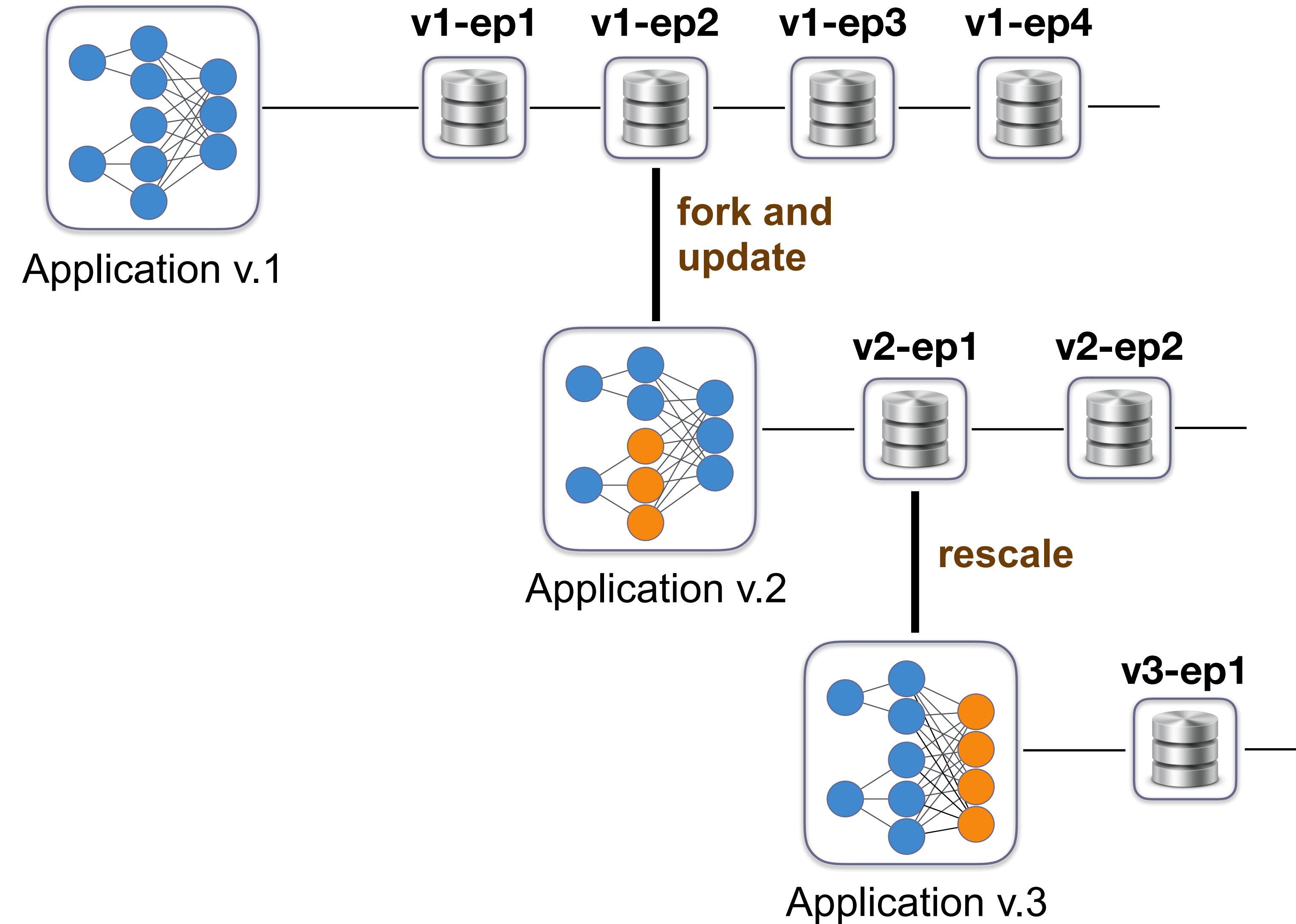
# Usages:Reconfiguration



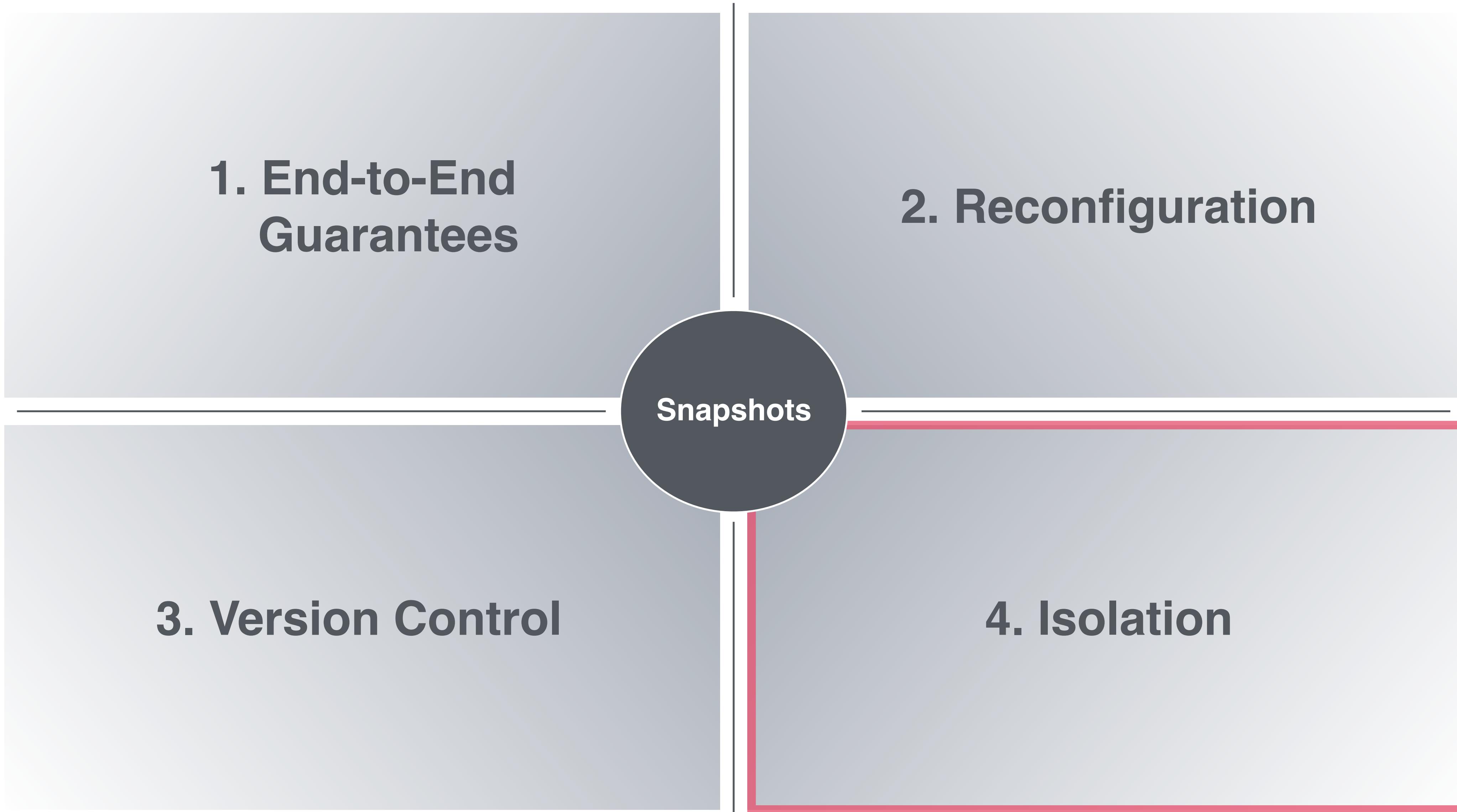
# State Management in Practice



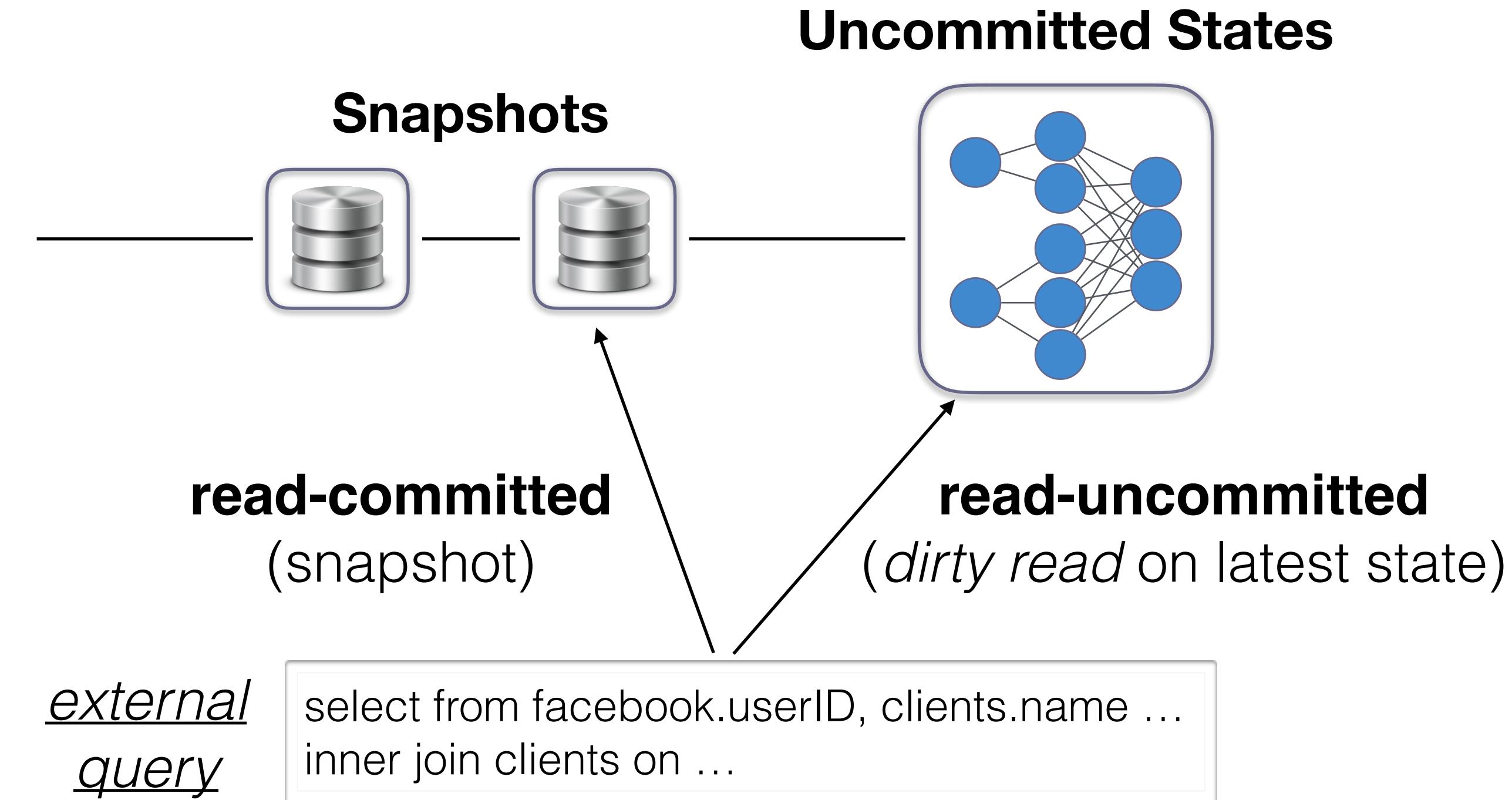
# Usages: App Provenance



# State Management in Practice



# Usages: External Access Isolation





# Further Optimisations

- **Asynchronous Snapshots**
  - make triggering snapshots cost-free.
- **Incremental Snapshots**
  - avoid full state copy and commit only **deltas**
  - make overhead of snapshots nearly **constant**
- **Both** are provided by Log-Structure-Merge backends, i.e. **Rocksdb**.

# RocksDB

- Embedded (local-only) key-value store used by Flink, Spark, Kafka etc.
- Main Idea: **Sequential** disk seeks/writes (log) are way faster than **random** writes (database).



# The Memtable

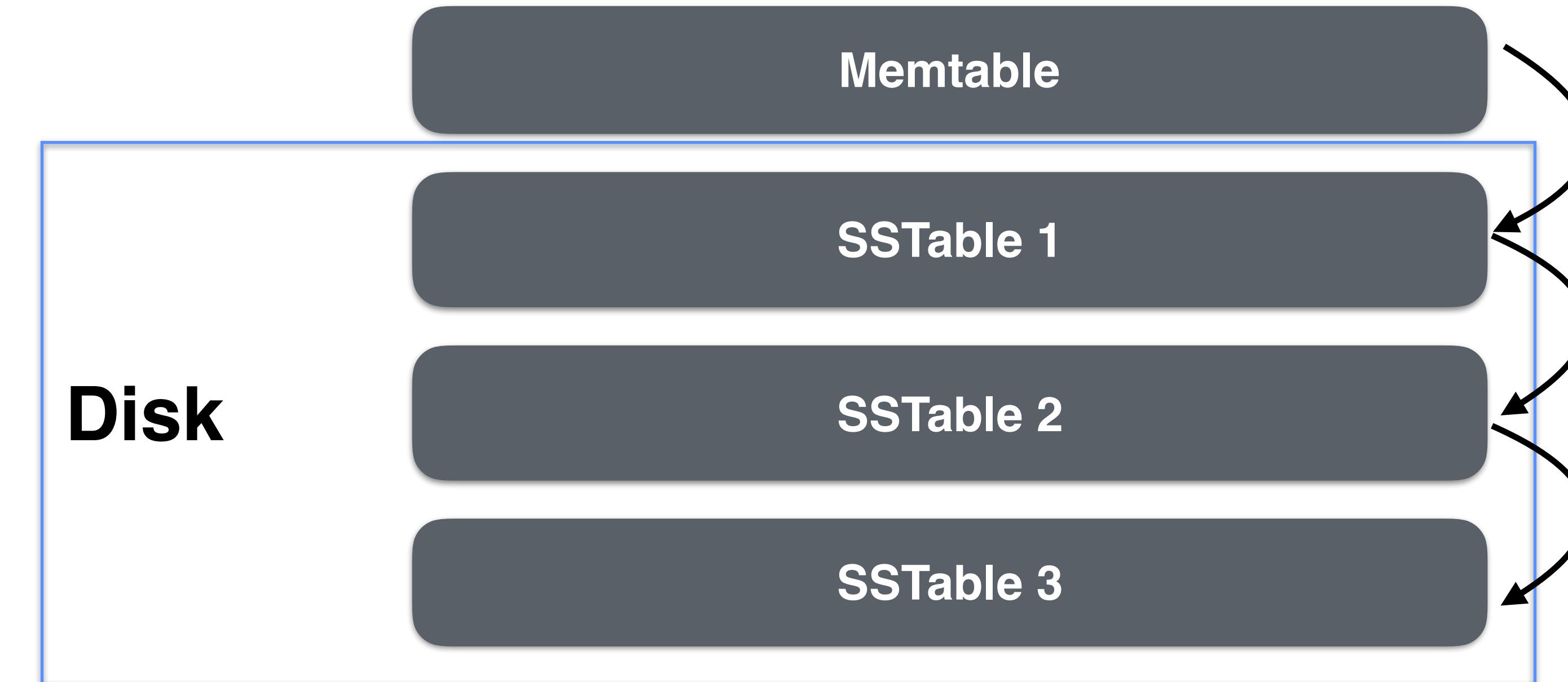
Memory

Memtable

- Mutable in-memory buffer for KV Pairs
- Reads and writes are executed here first
- Is **asynchronous flushed to disk** and turn into an **SSTable** (on demand or on size limit)

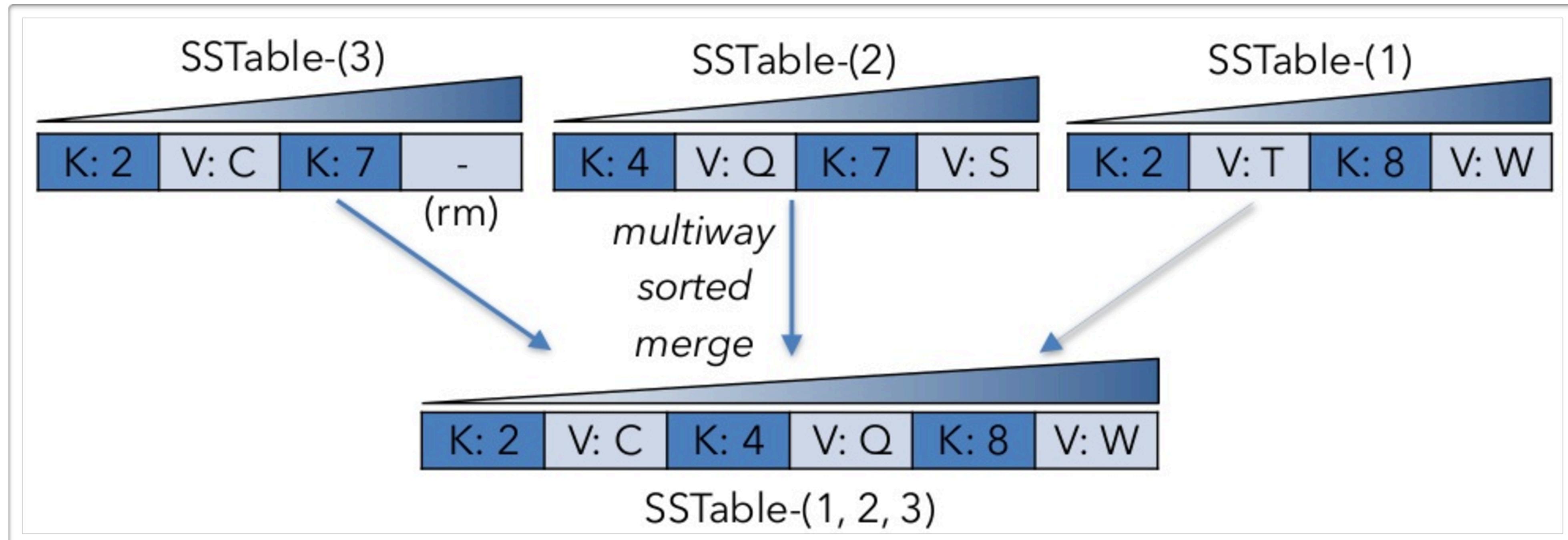
# SSTable

- Persisted memtables that have become **immutable**.
- Sorted by **Key**.
- Key Reads start from **memtable** and go down over committed sstables for every miss.
- **Optimisations:** Index/bloomfilter





# Compaction

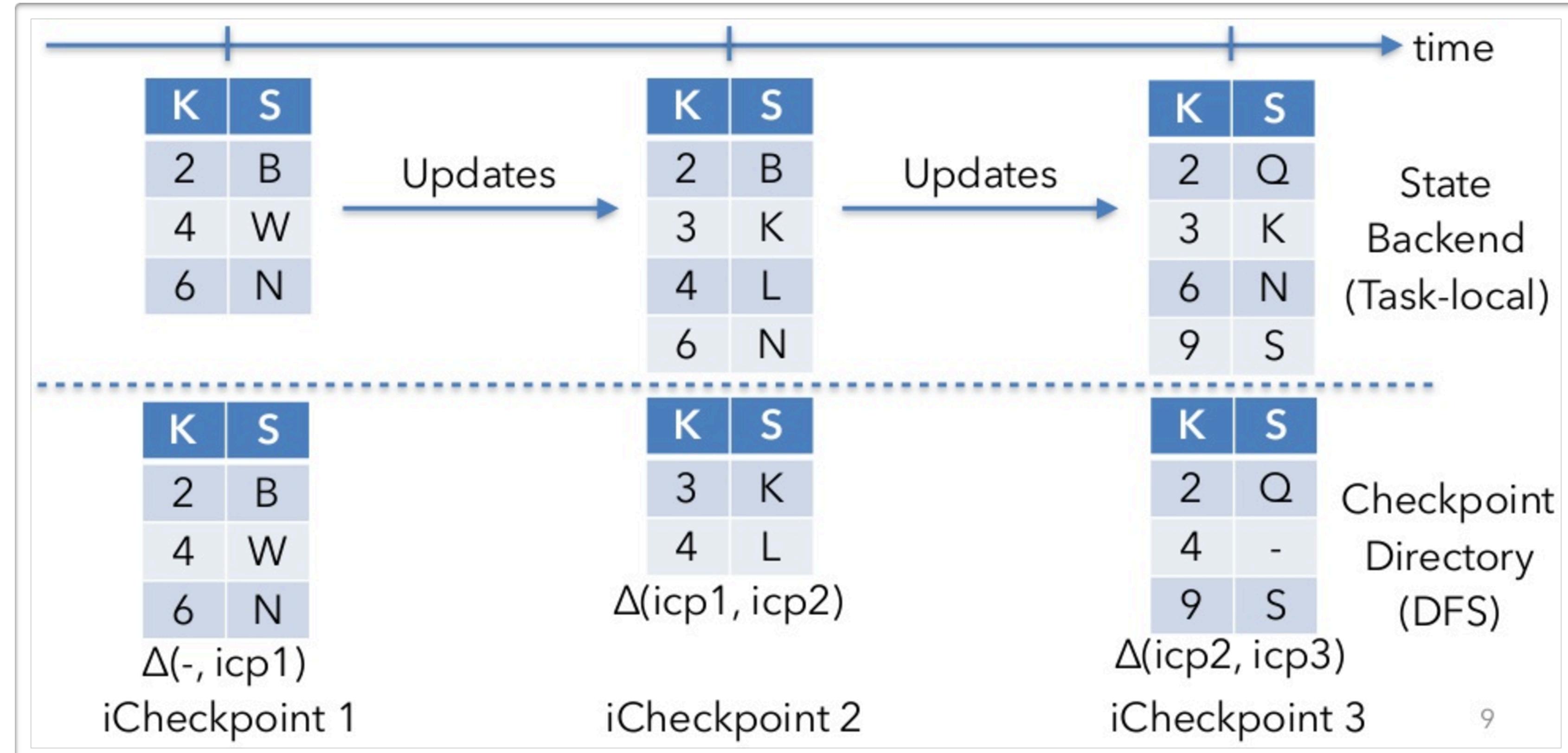


# Asynchronous Snapshots

- Triggering (on marker) **flushes memtable**
- Iterator restricts access only on current **SSTables**. (used to copy snapshot to hdfs)
- Further changes go to memtable (simple).



# Incremental Snapshots



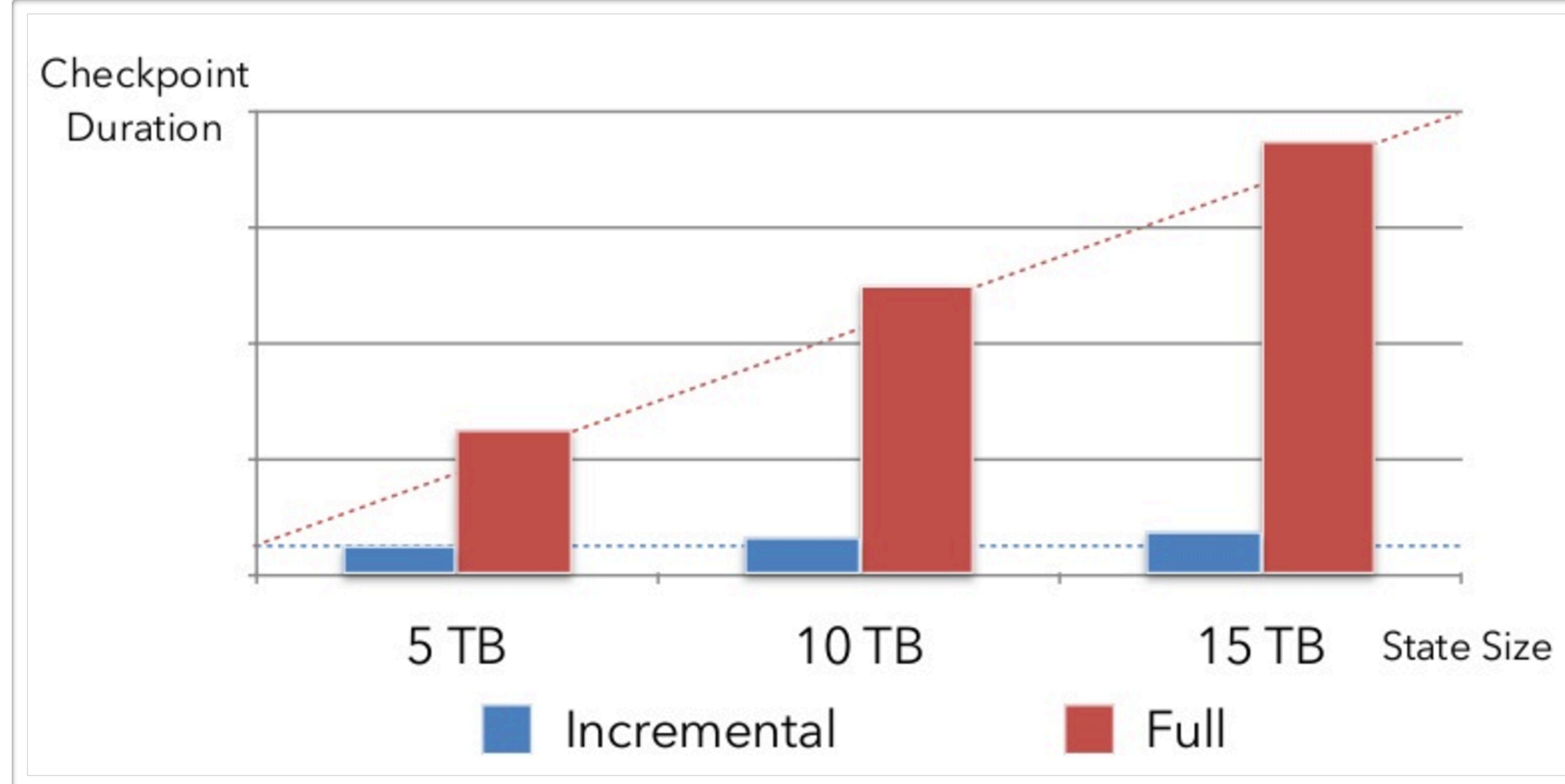


# Incremental Snapshots

- Memtable == deltas, by definition.
- Triggering (on marker) **flushes memtable**.
- Copy **only new** (sstable) files to **hdfs**.
- Add **reference counting** for sstable files.

Asynchronously combine incremental snapshots to derive full snapshot (faster for reconfiguration)

# Incremental Snapshots



# Observation

- Triggering snapshots apparently takes **no execution time**.
- The **time to complete** an epoch depends on **asynchronous copying**.
- Local Snapshotting happens **asynchronously**.
- **Incremental Snapshots** can decrease background copying significantly.



## Part III

# Time and Out-Of-Order

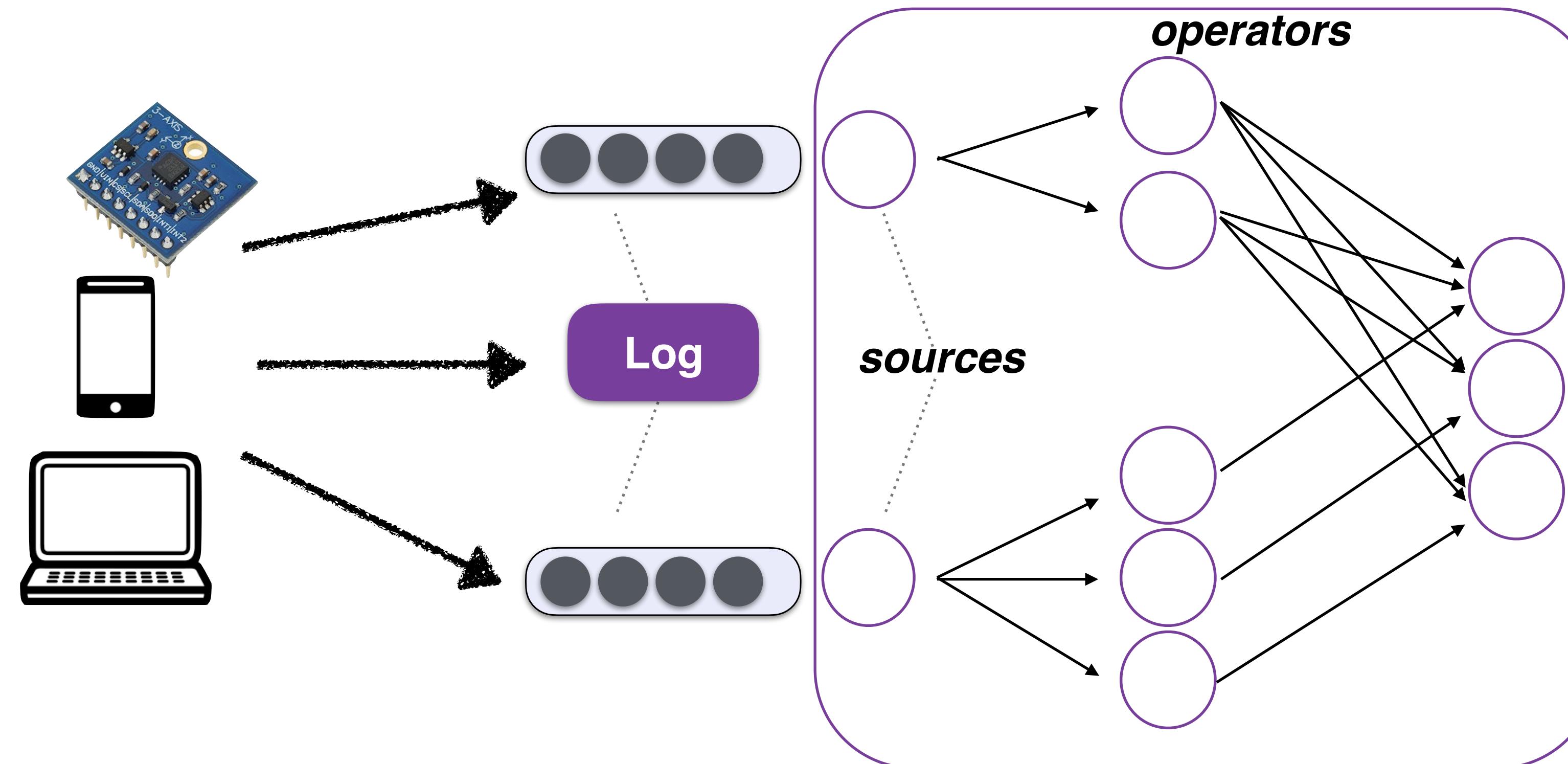


# Wow does it work?

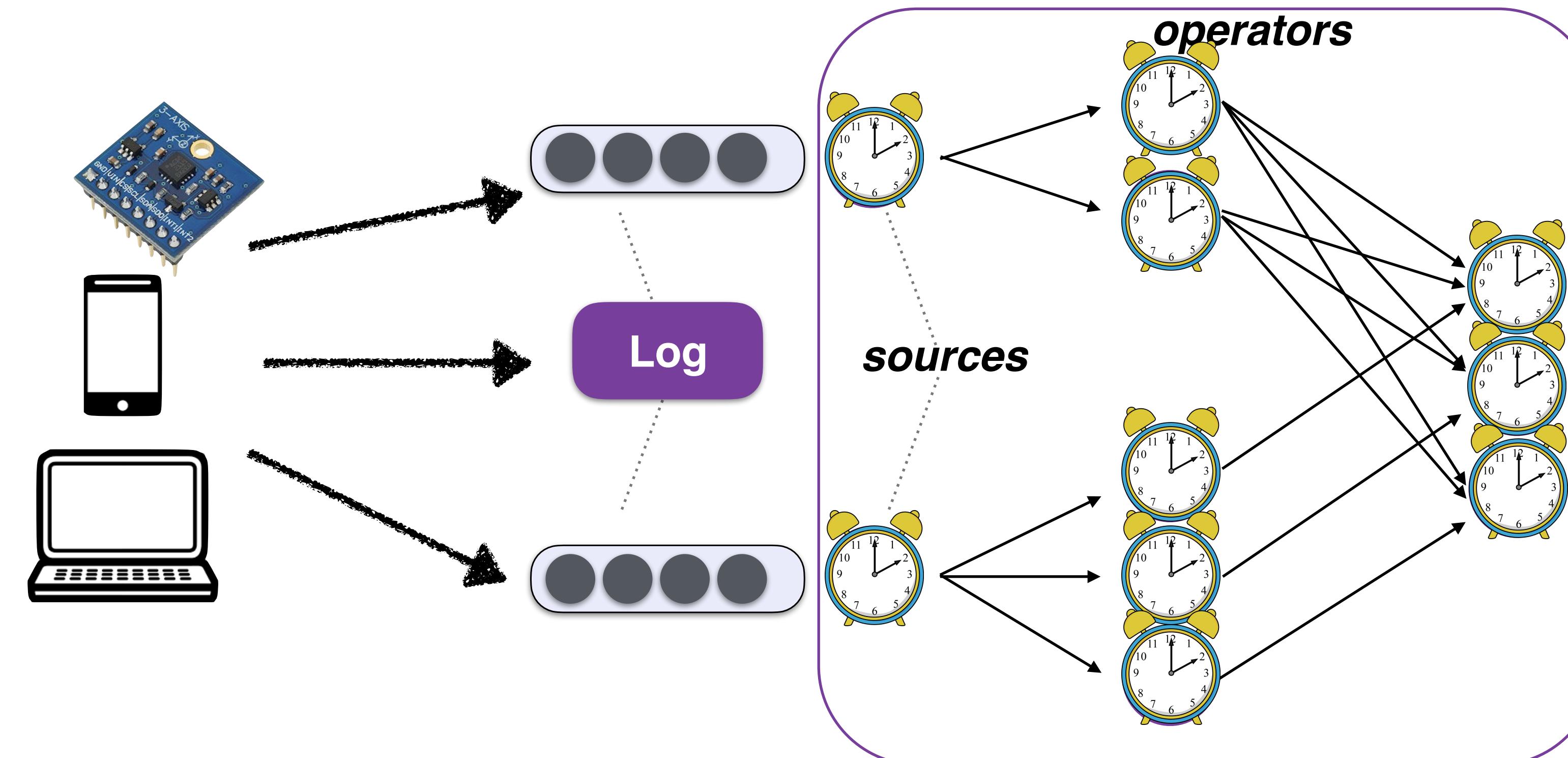
*Window  
Word Count  
(Apache Flink )*

```
val windowCounts = text.flatMap { w => w.split("\\s") }  
    .map { w => WordWithCount(w, 1) }  
    .keyBy("word")  
    .timeWindow(Time.seconds(5))  
    .sum("count")
```

# Reasoning about Time



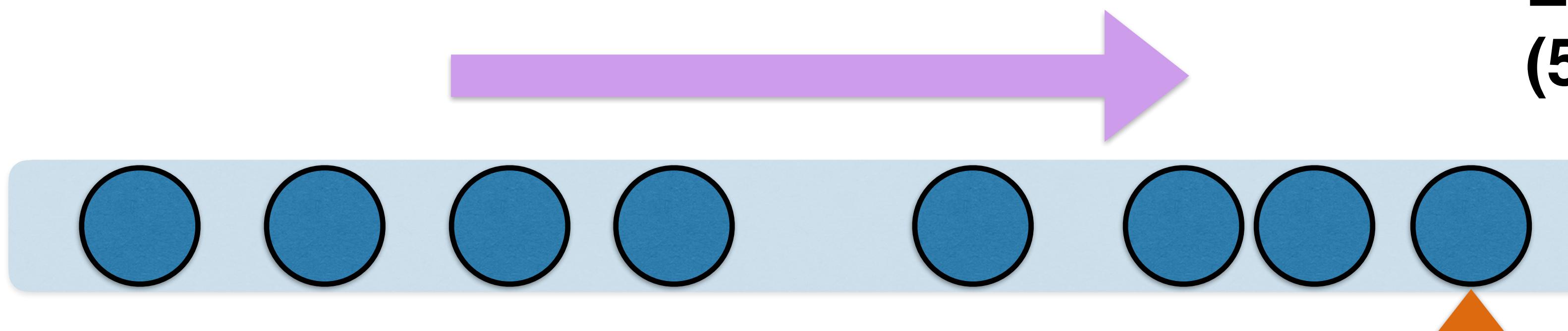
# Reasoning about Time



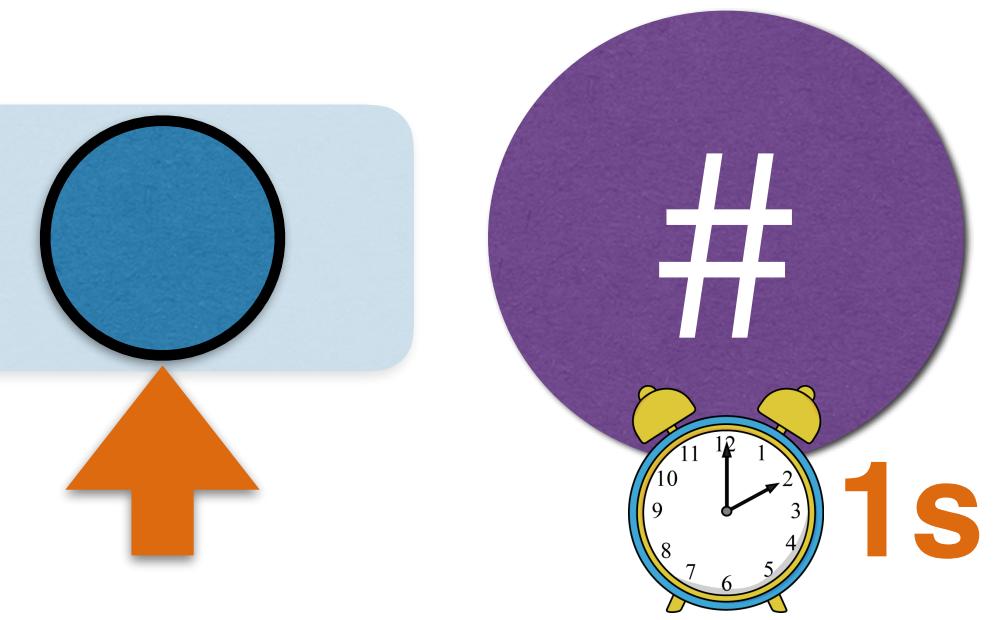
*Every Task has a clock*

# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



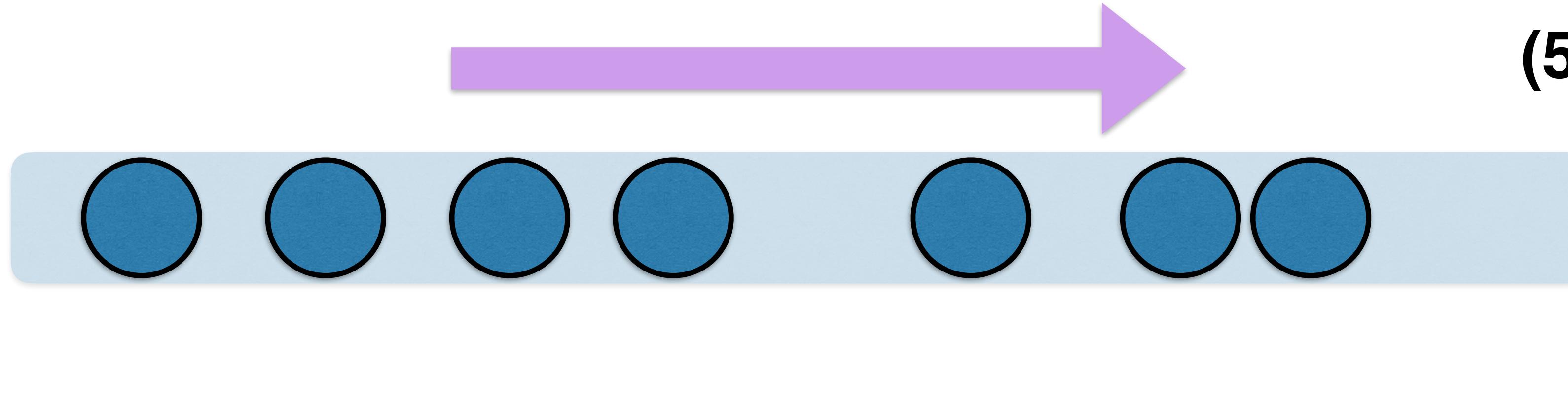
**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**



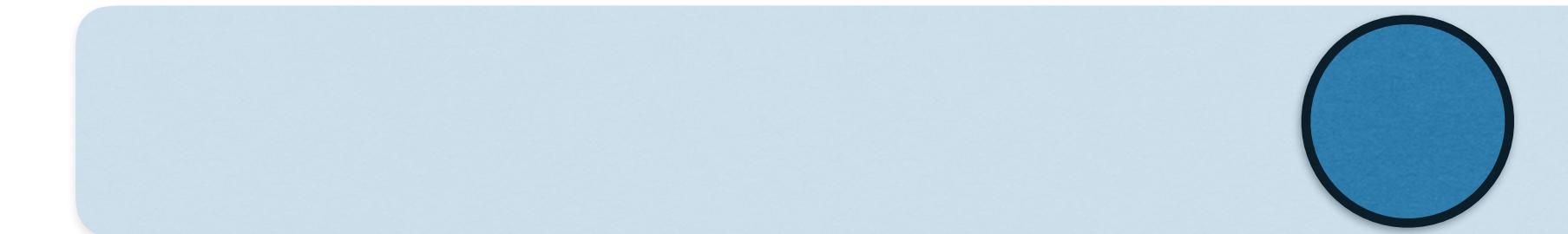
**window [0-5sec]**

# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



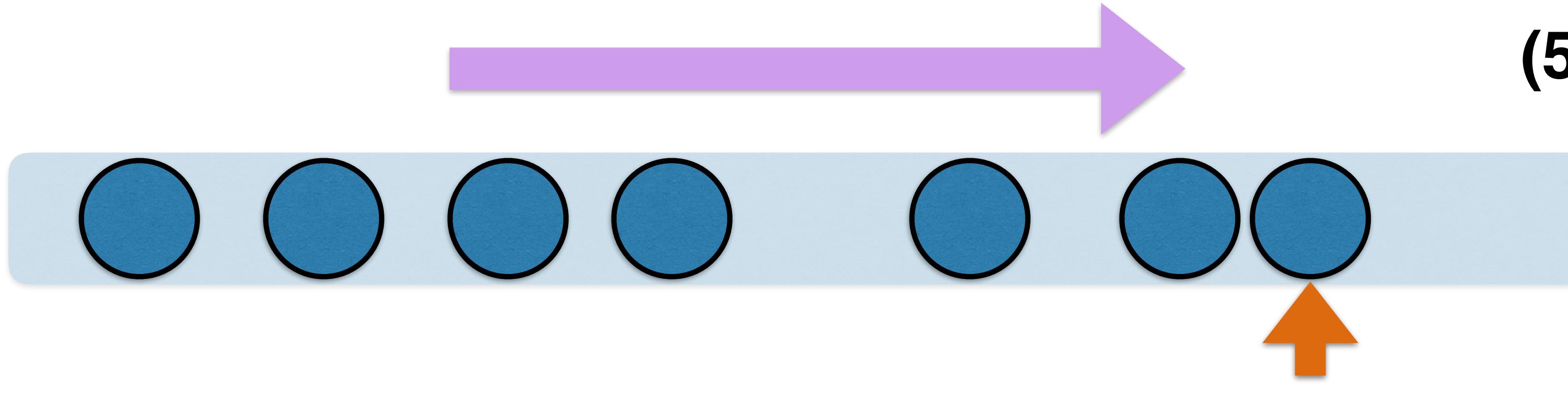
**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**



**window [0-5sec]**

# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



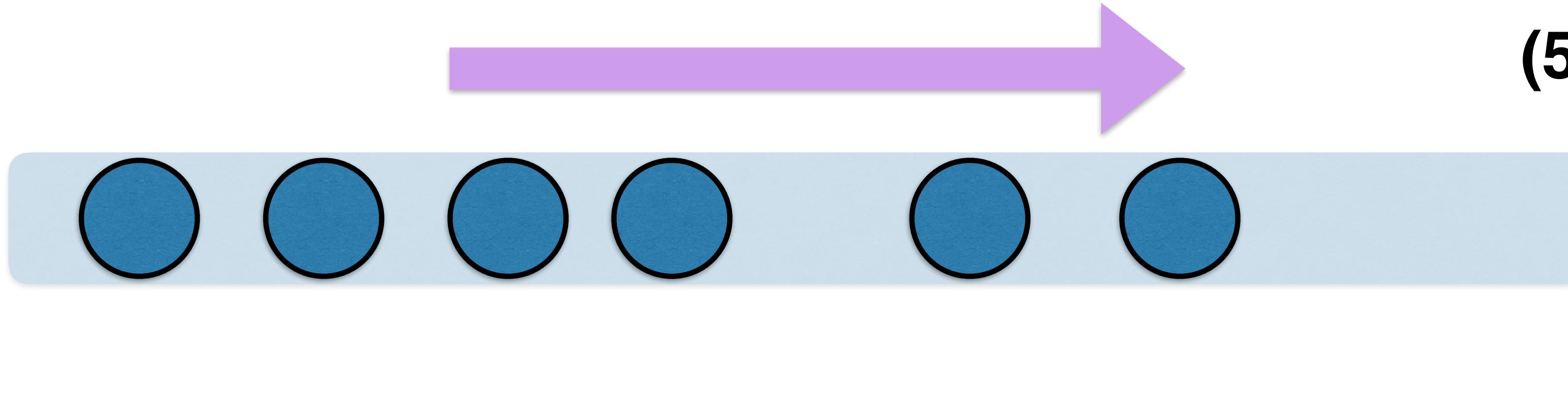
**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**



**window [0-5sec]**

# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**

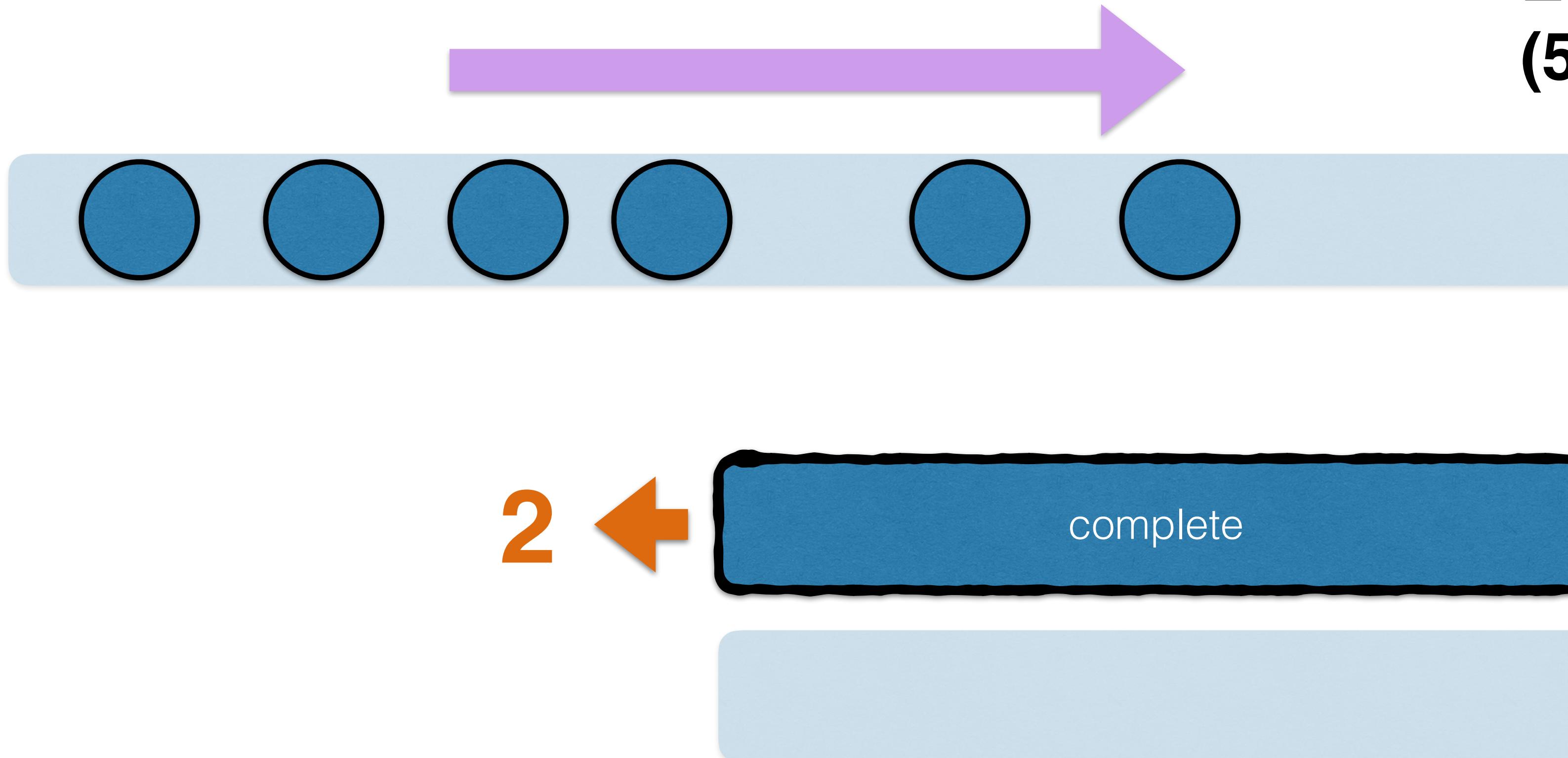


**window [0-5sec]**



# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**



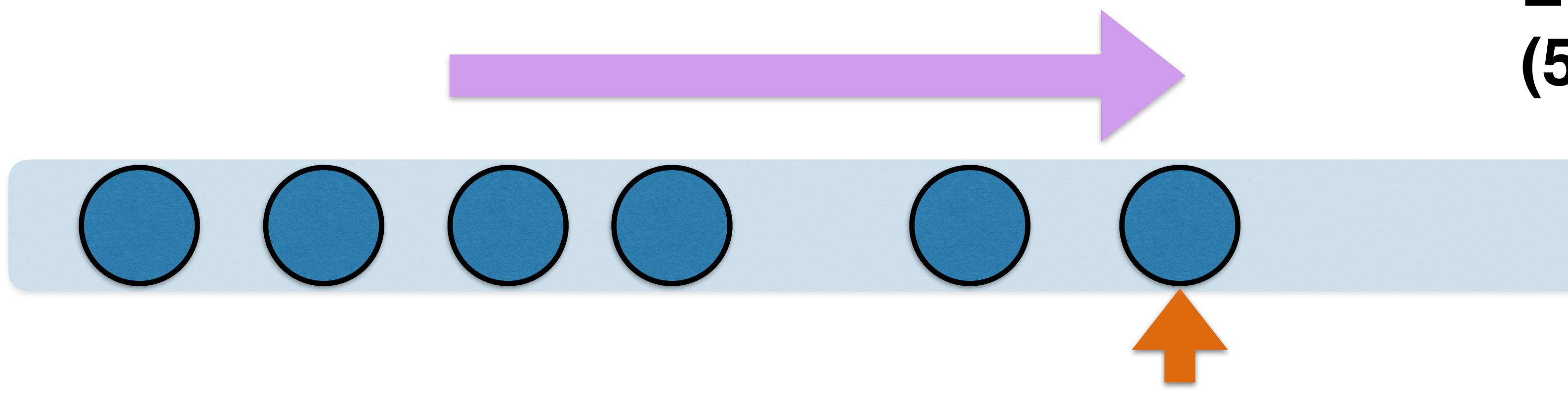
**window [0-5sec]**

**window [6-10sec]**



# Processing Time Example

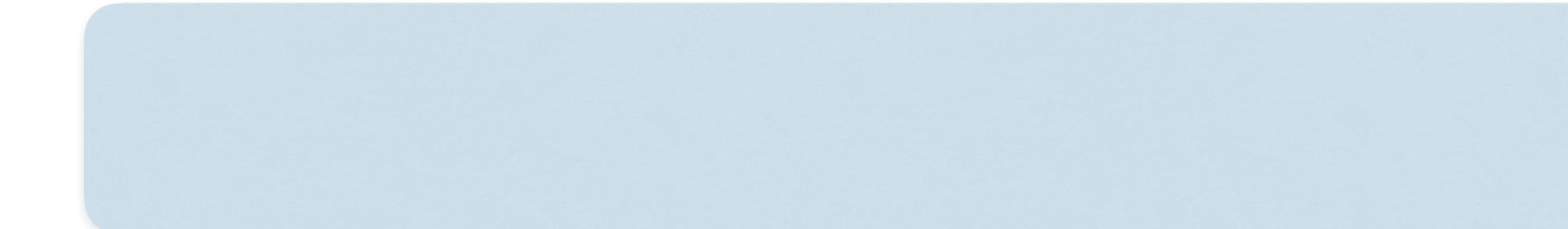
**Input Stream**



**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**



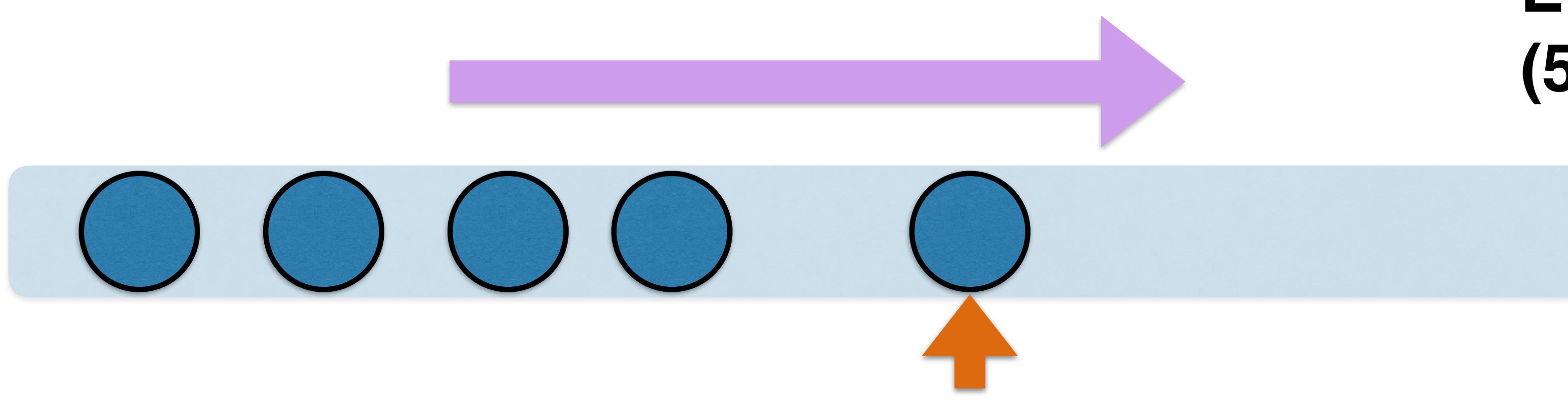
**window [0-5sec]**



**window [6-10sec]**

# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**



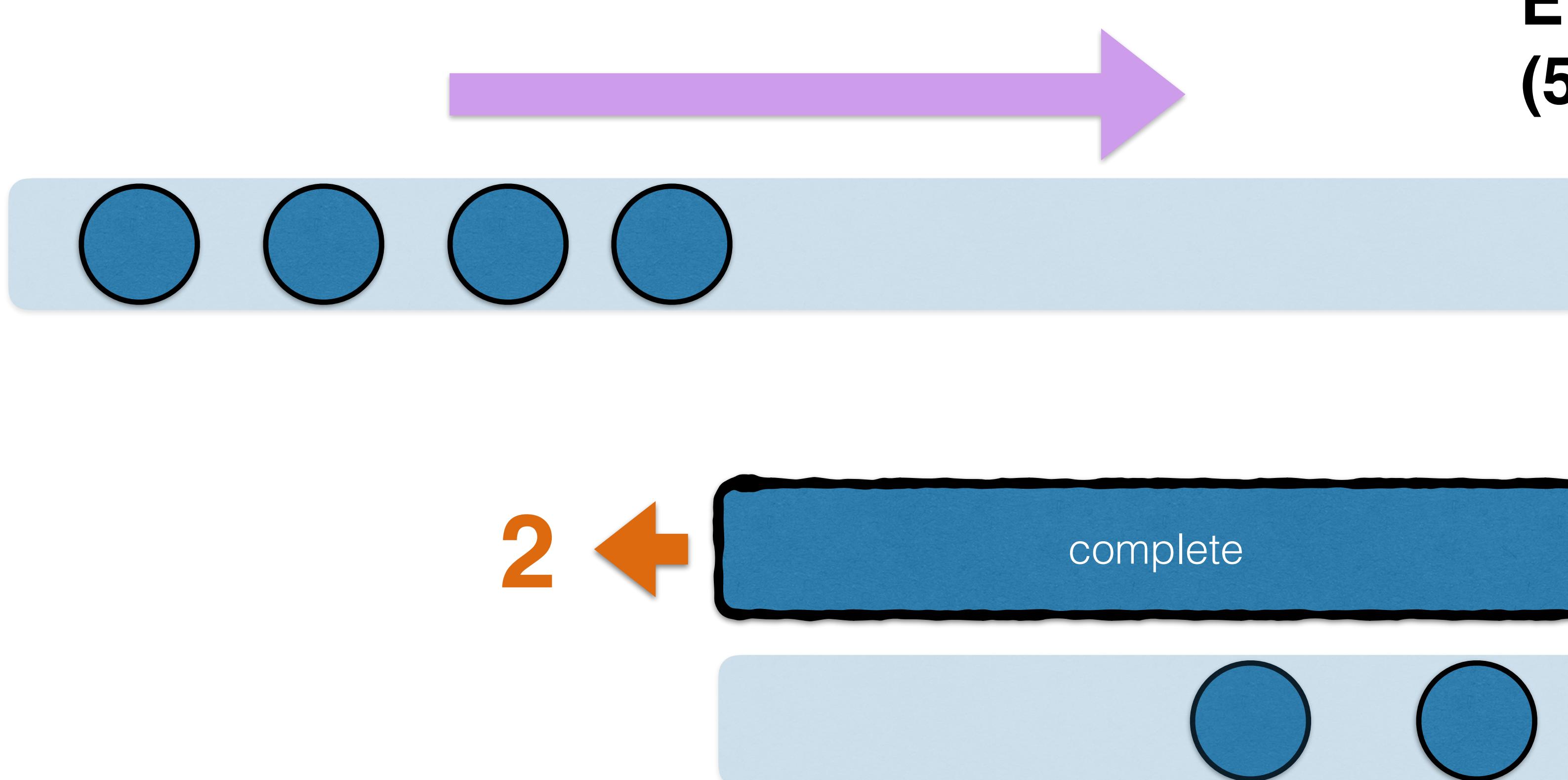
**window [0-5sec]**



**window [6-10sec]**

# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



**Event Counter**  
**(5sec window)**



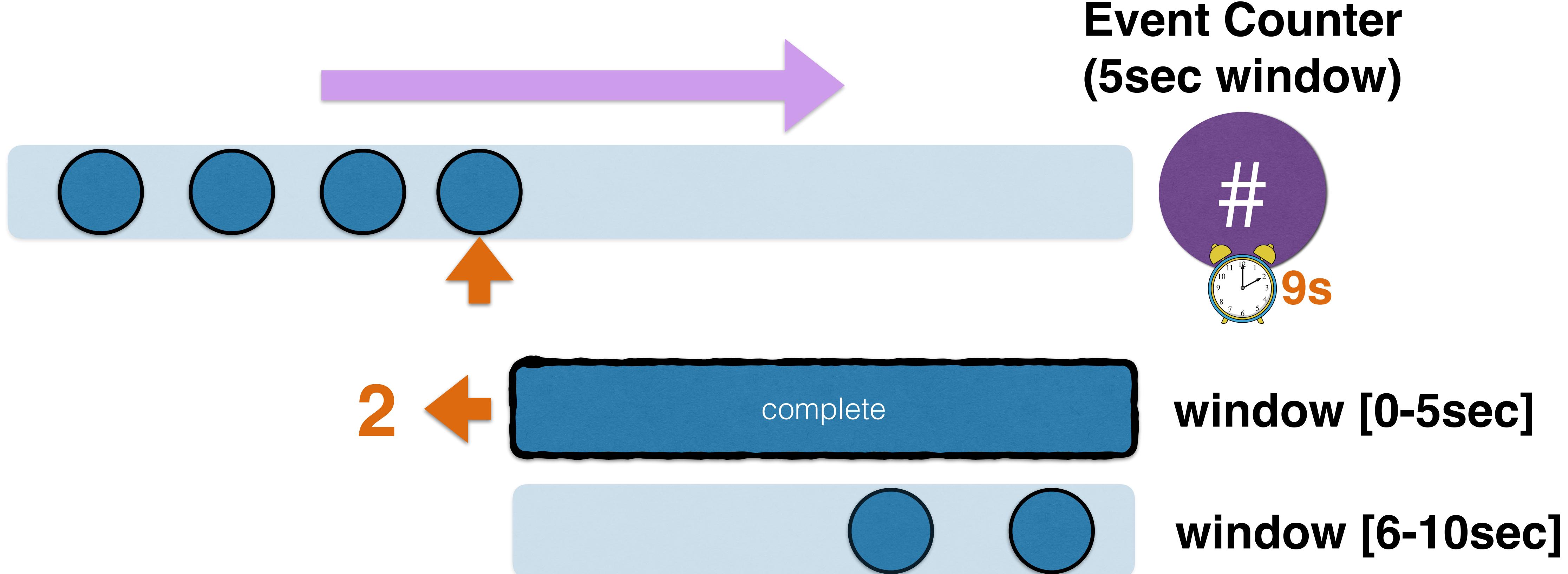
**window [0-5sec]**

**window [6-10sec]**



# Processing Time Example

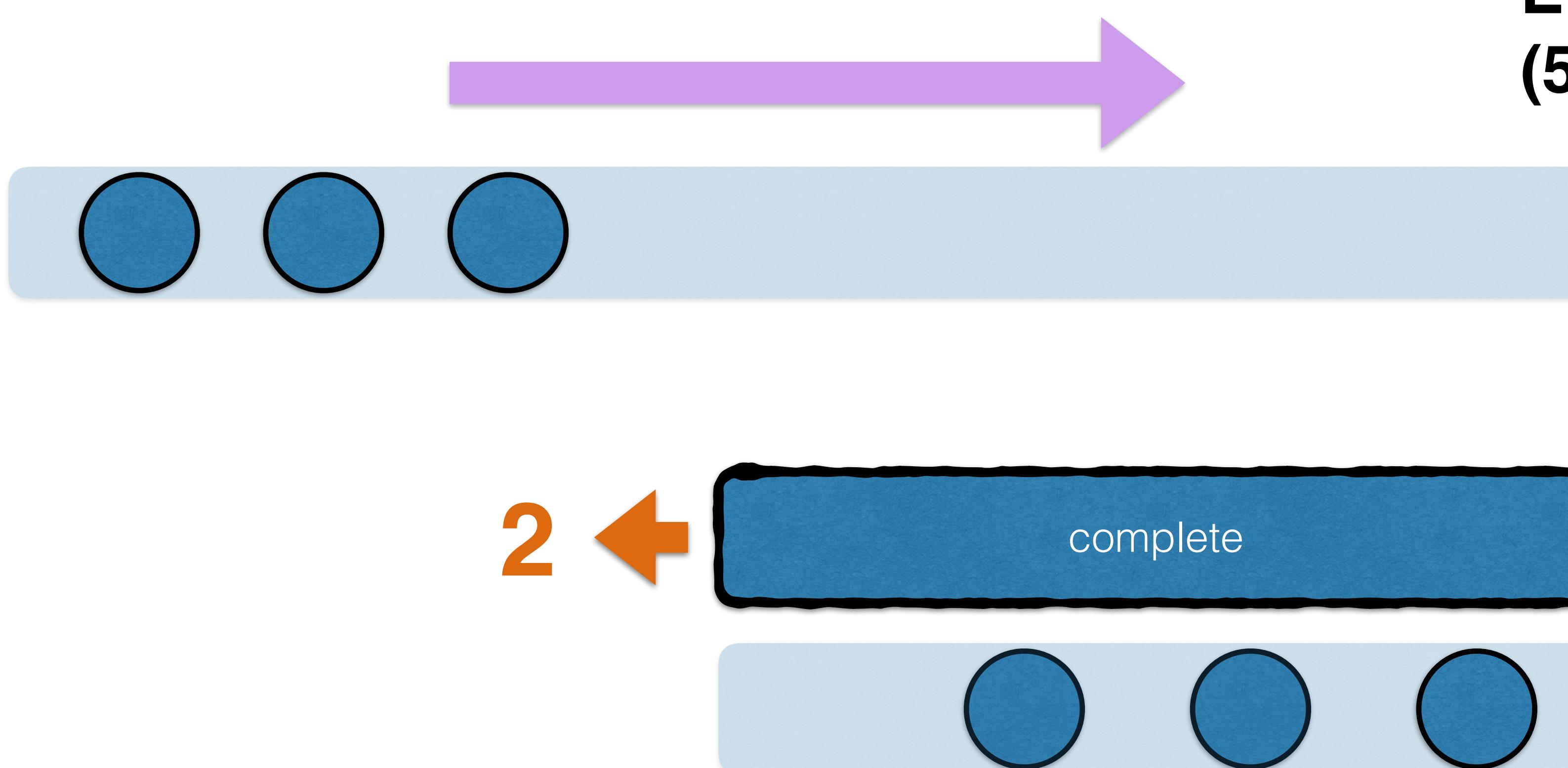
**Input Stream**





# Processing Time Example

**Input Stream**



**Event Counter  
(5sec window)**



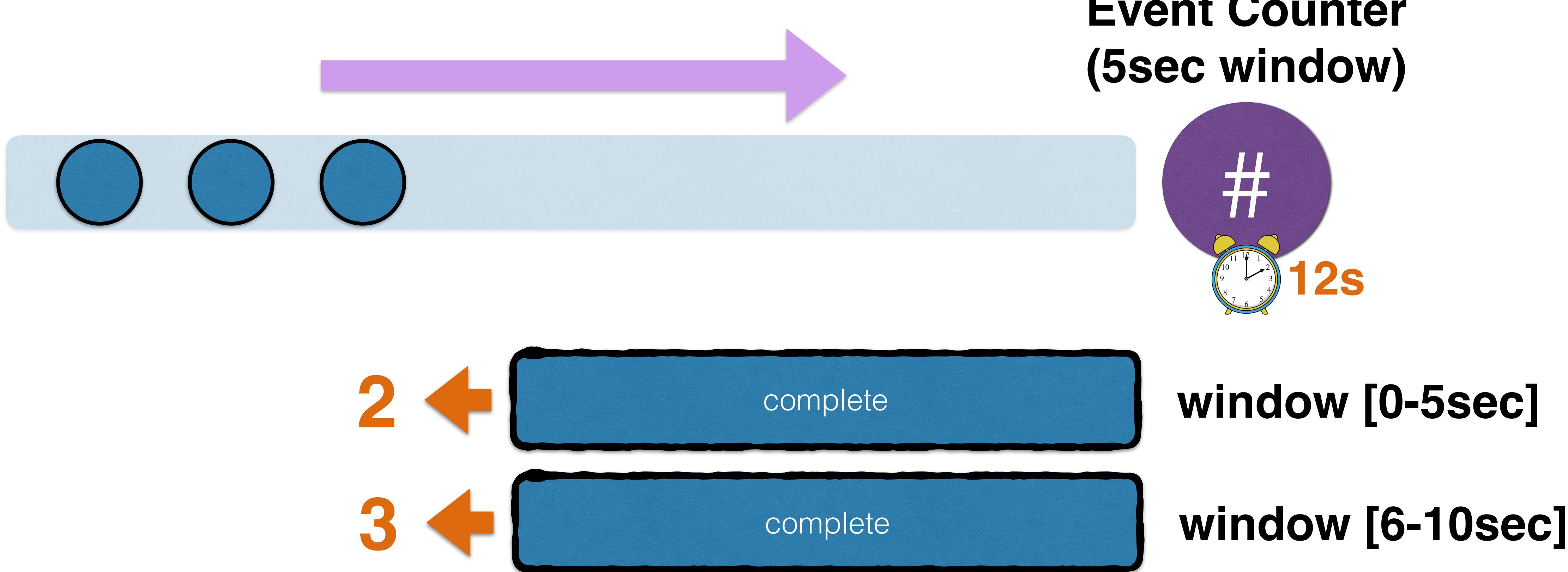
**window [0-5sec]**

**window [6-10sec]**

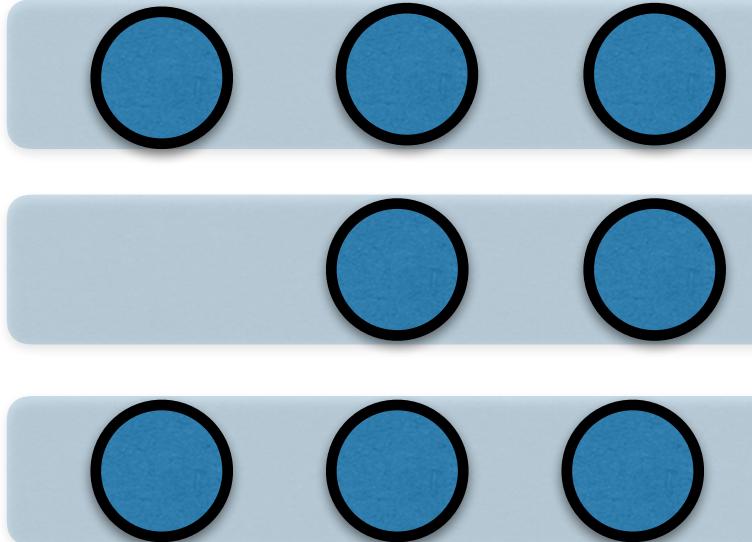
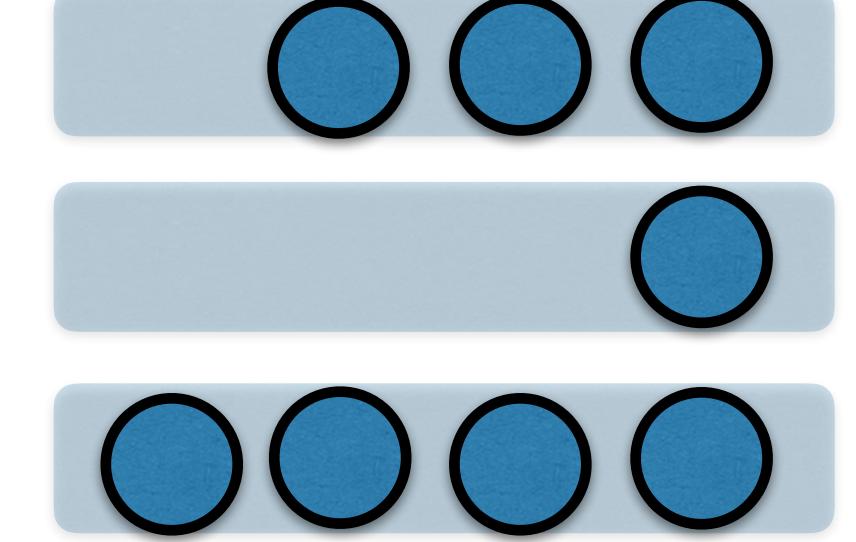
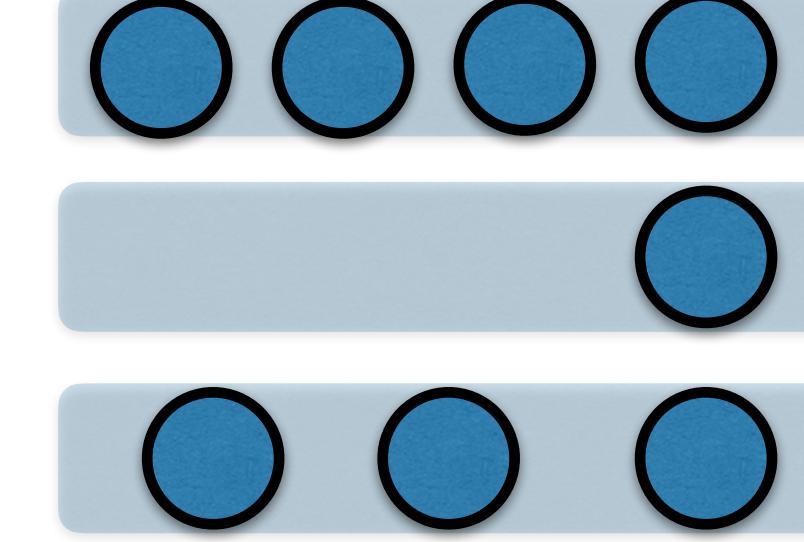
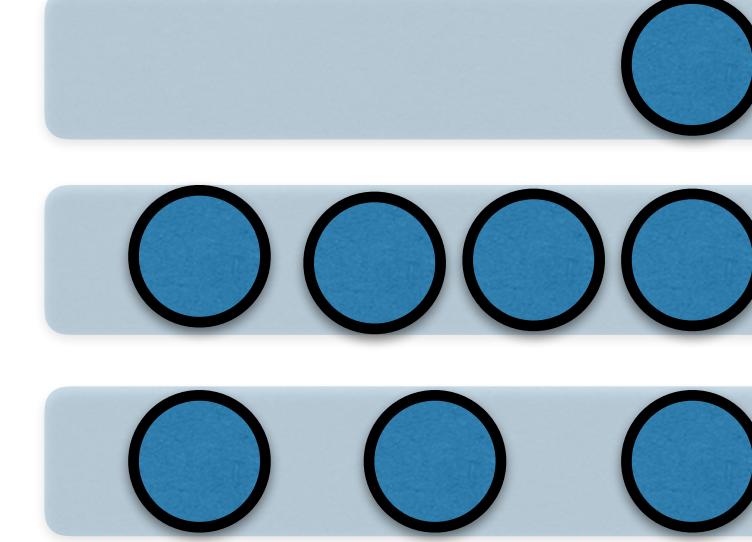
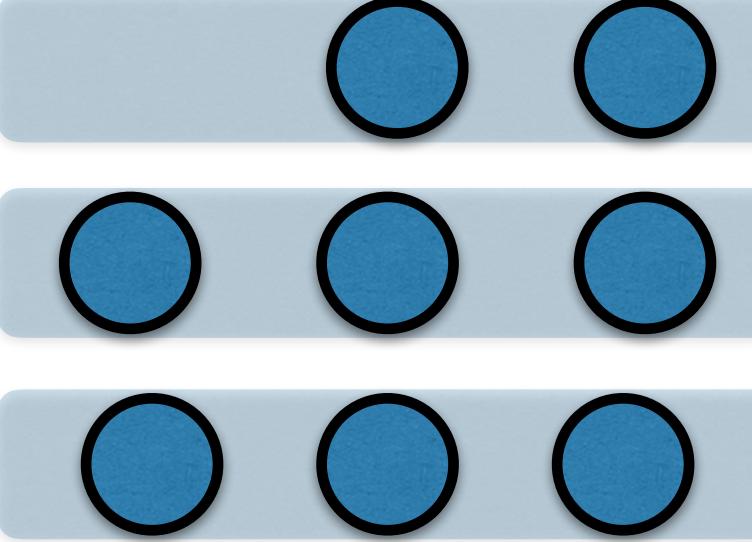


# Processing Time Example

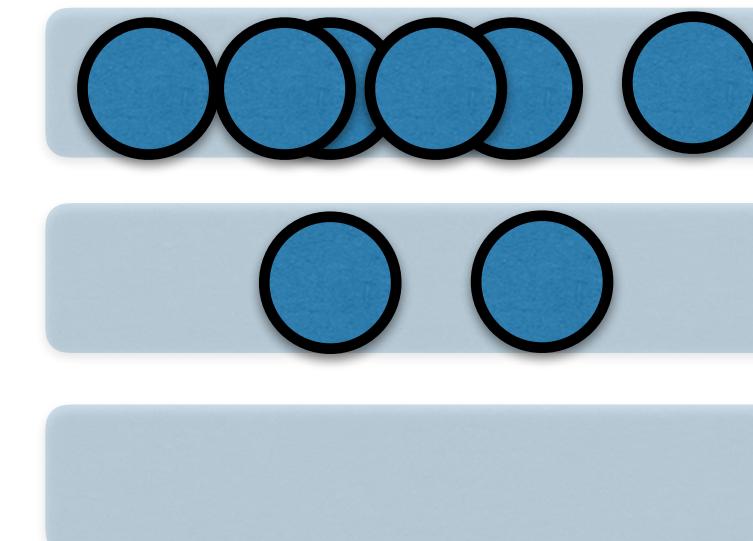
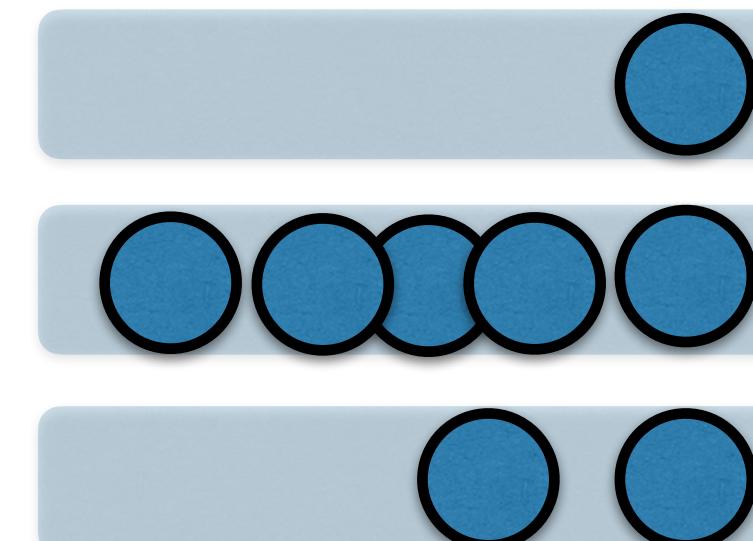
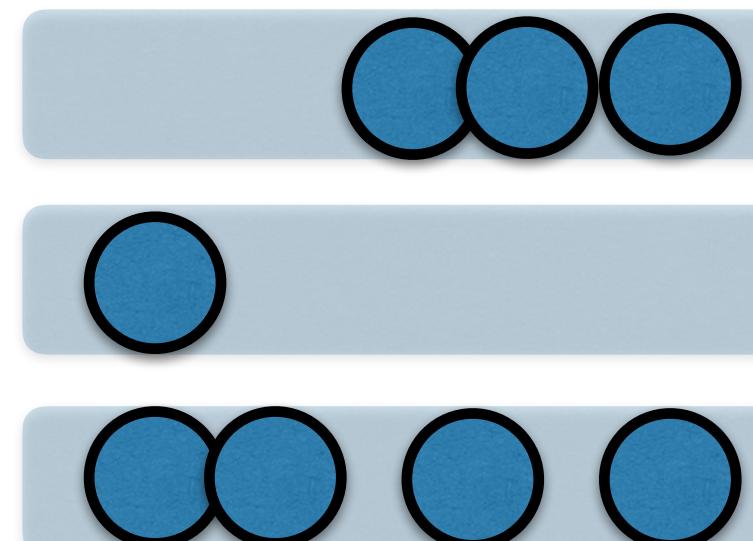
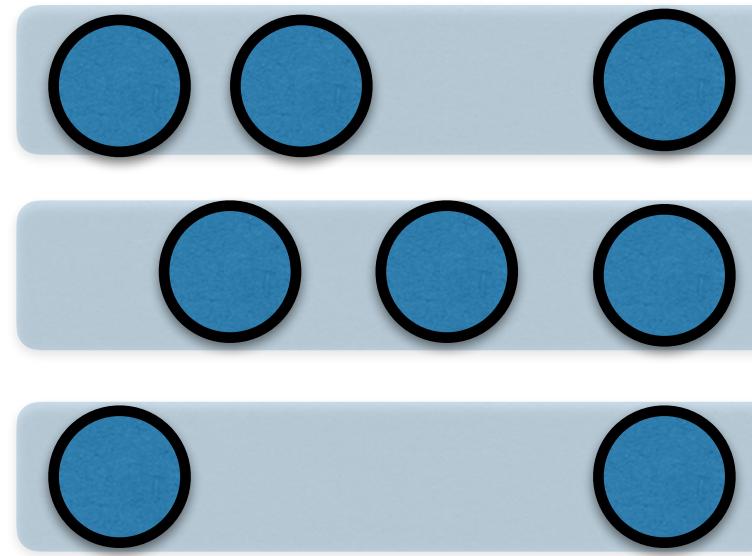
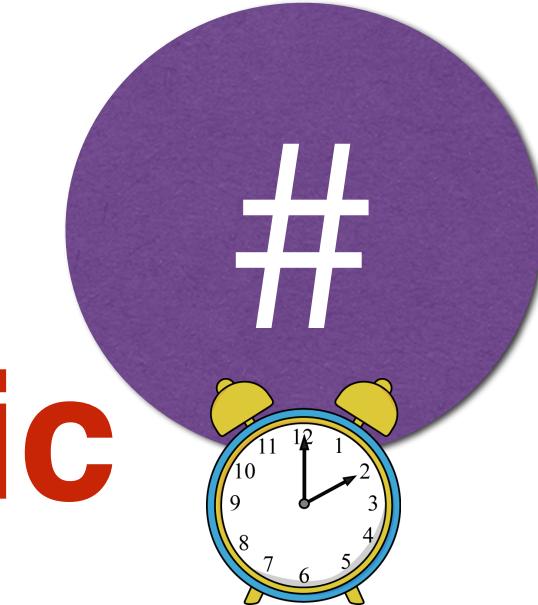
**Input Stream**



# Processing Time : The Issue

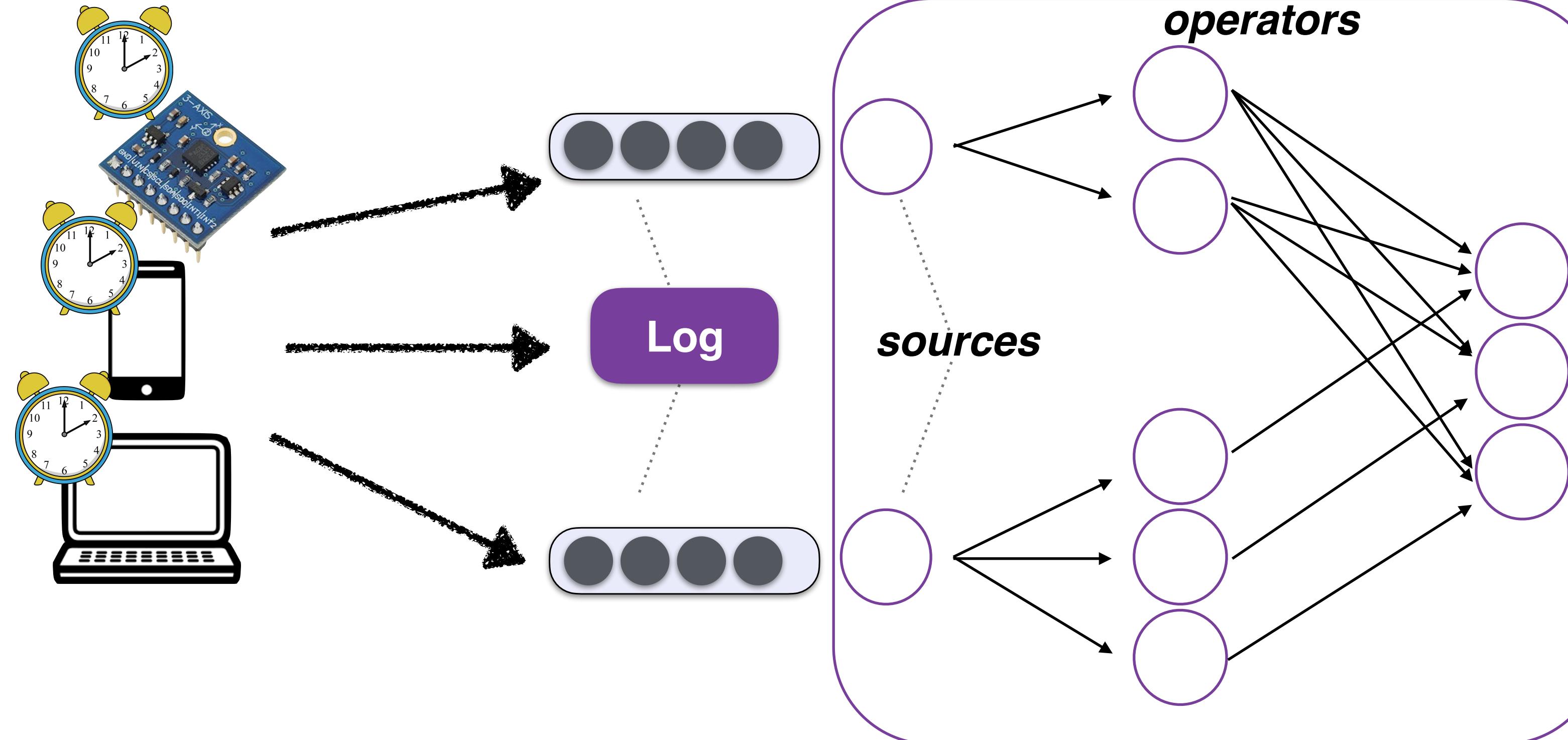


Not  
Deterministic

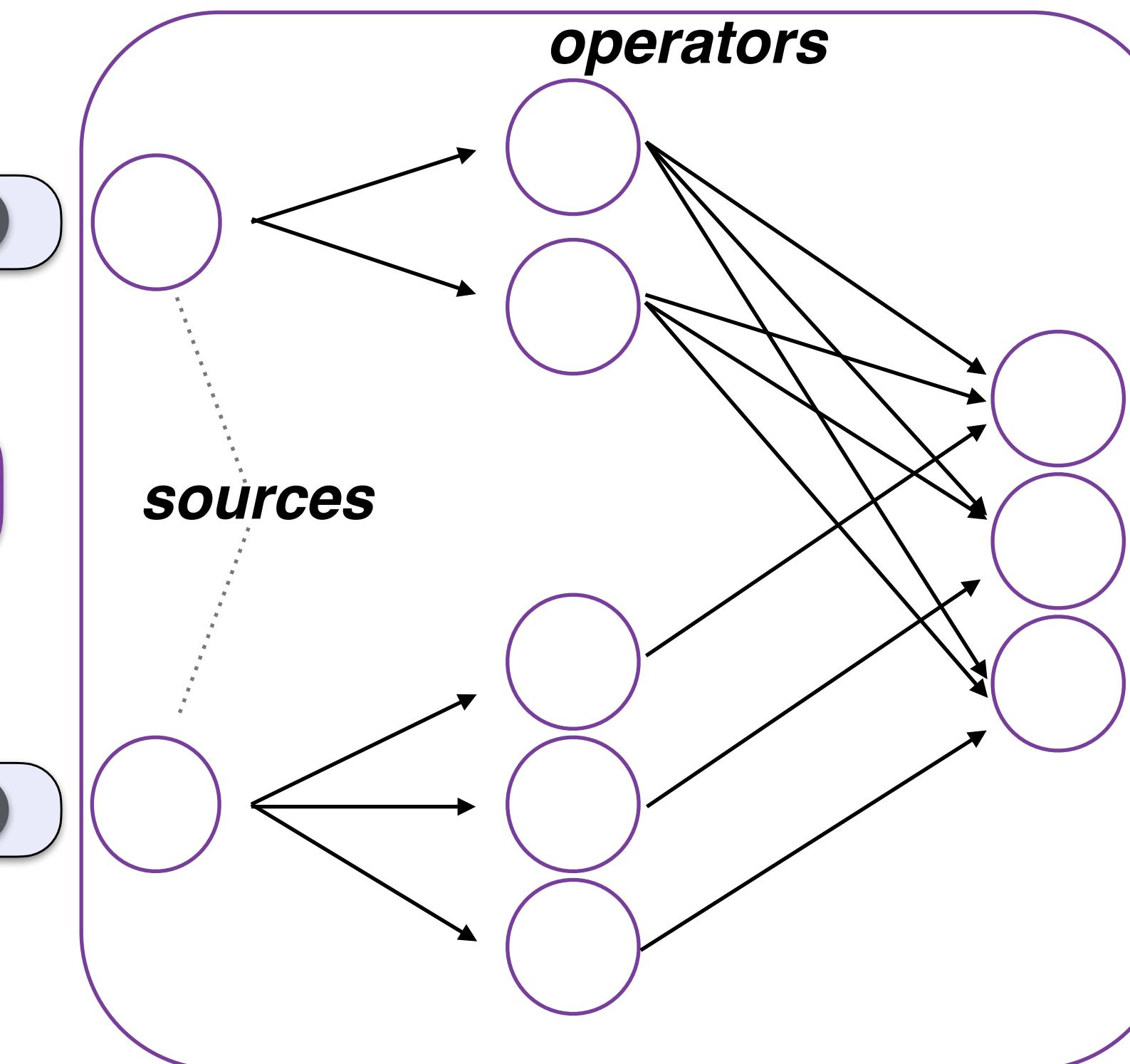
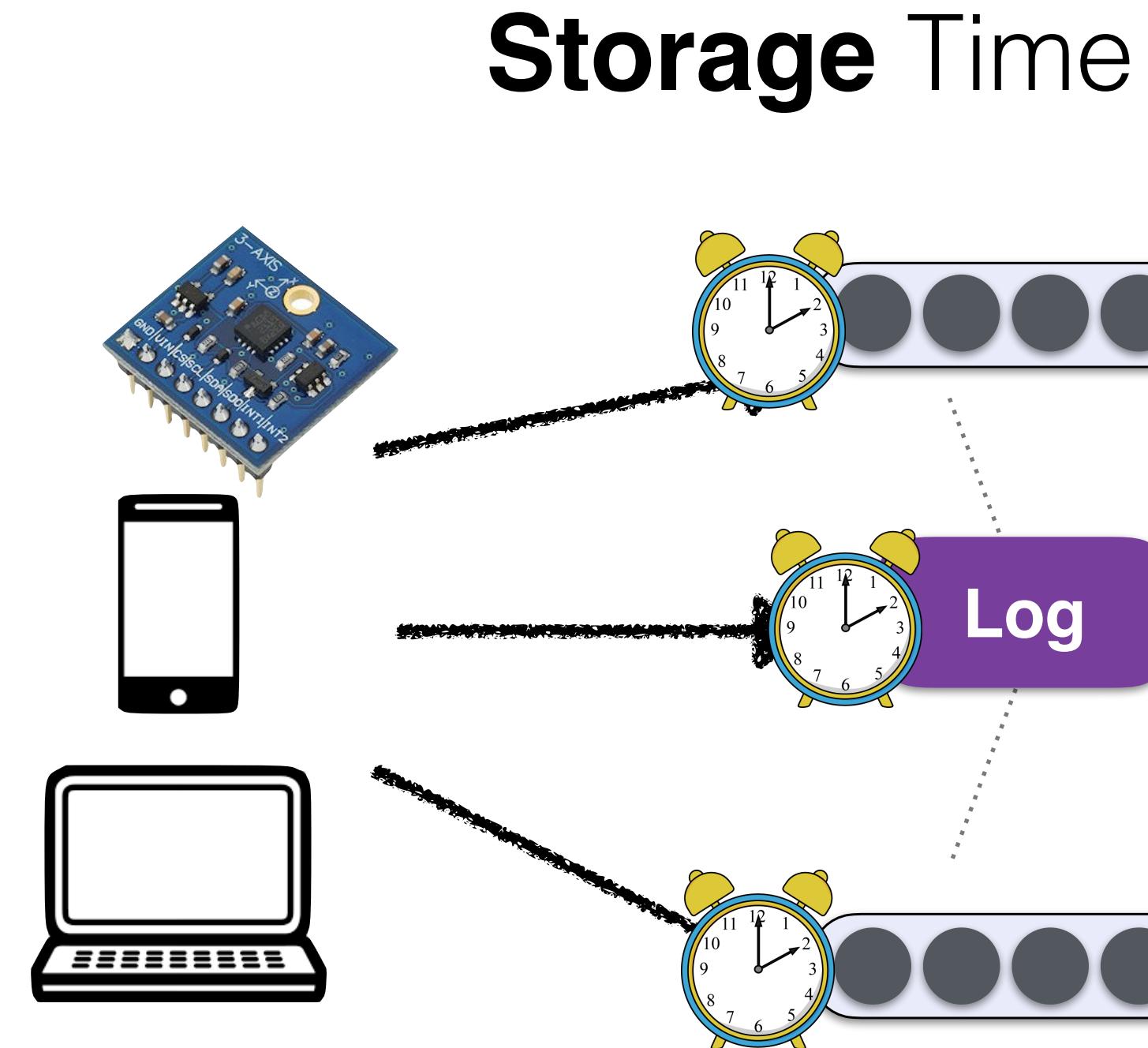


# Event Time

## Origin Time

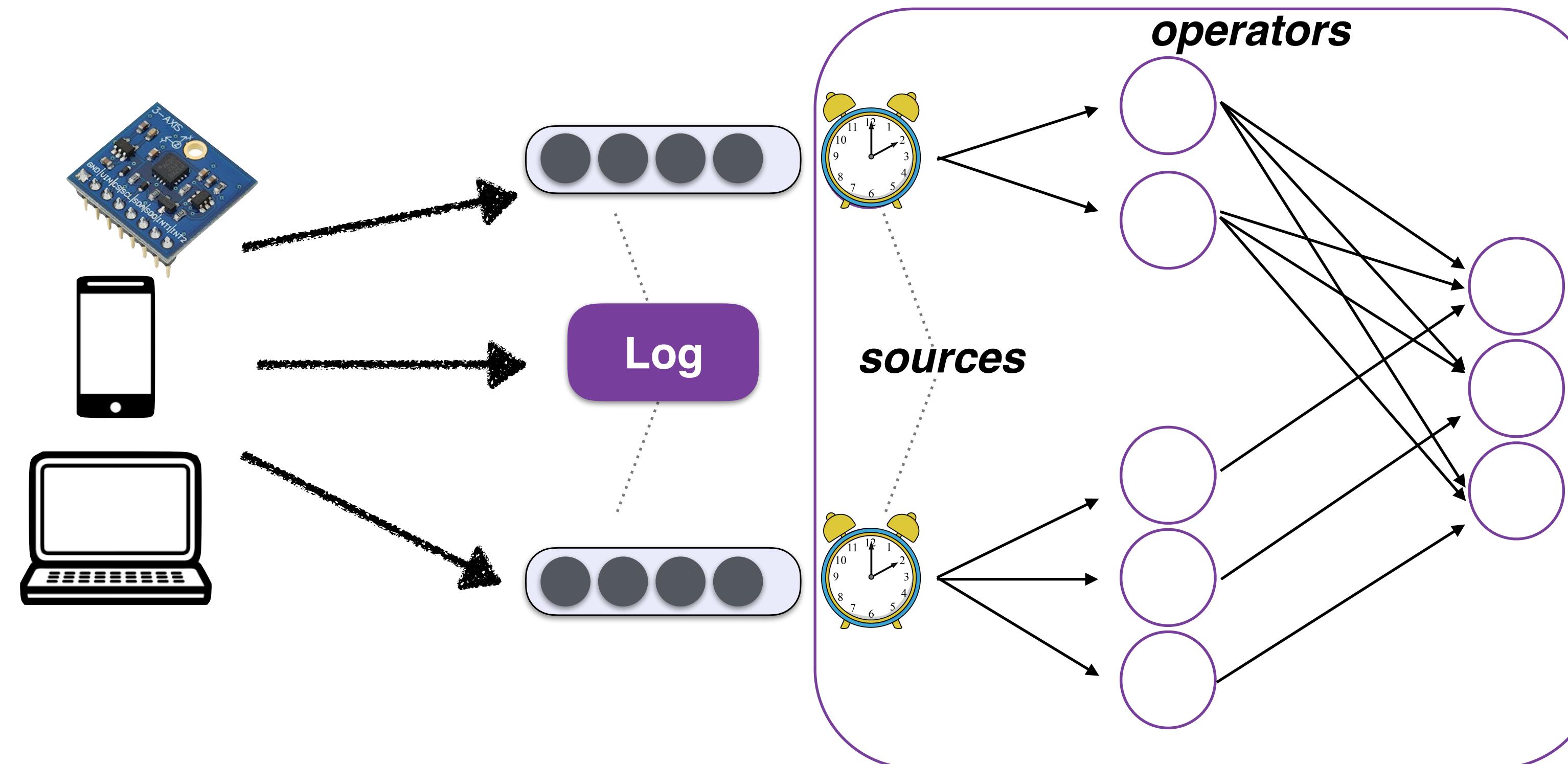


# Event Time

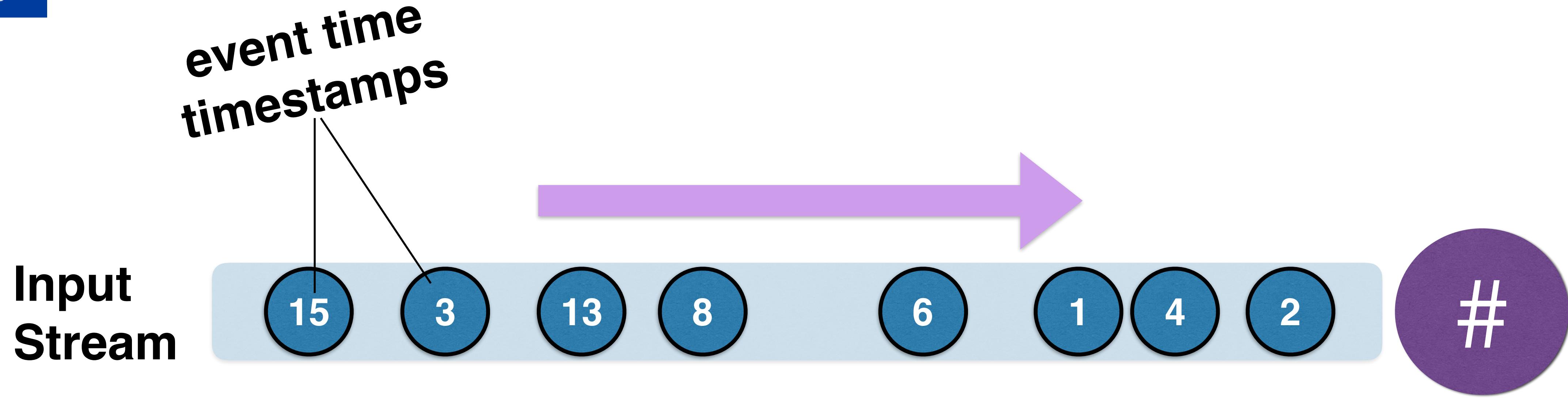


# Event Time

## Ingestion Time



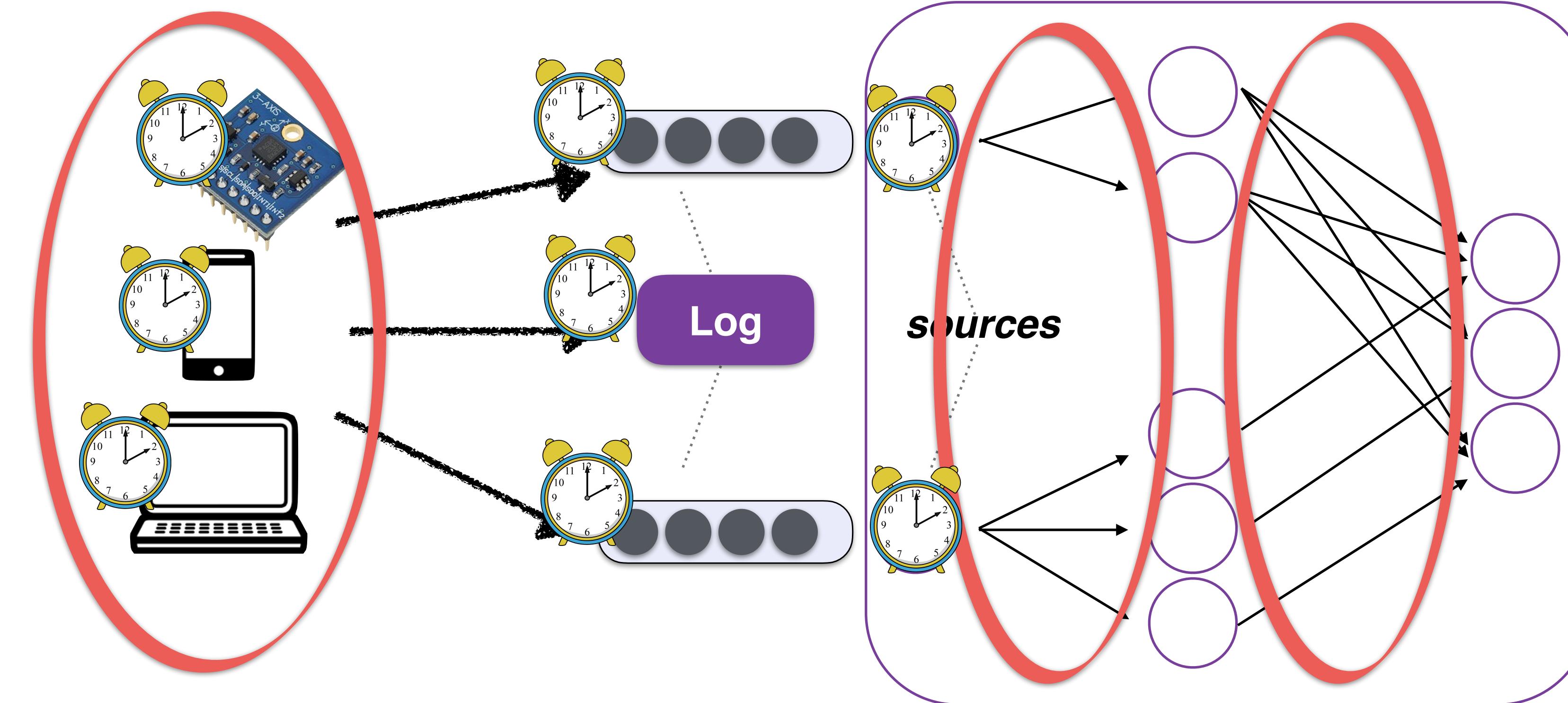
# Event Time



- **Problem:** Distributed events arrive **out of order**

# Out-of-Orderness is unavoidable

- Origin Devices can **disconnect** temporarily (e.g., train tunnels).
- There is **interleaving** both in message logs (kafka) and on **shuffles** between PEs.





This is called **event time**

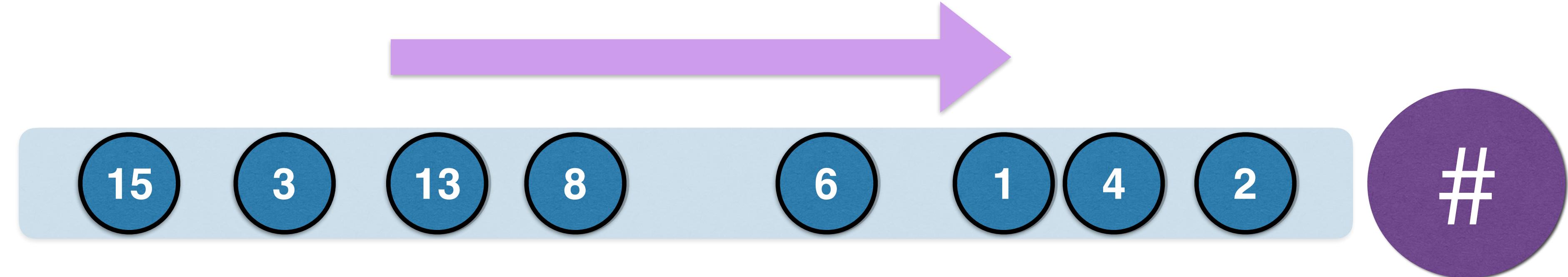
Episode **IV**: *A New Hope*      Episode **V**: *The Empire Strikes Back*      Episode **VI**: *Return of the Jedi*      Episode **I**: *The Phantom Menace*      Episode **II**: *Attack of the Clones*      Episode **III**: *Revenge of the Sith*      Episode **VII**: *The Force Awakens*



This is called **processing time**

# Event Time

**Input Stream**

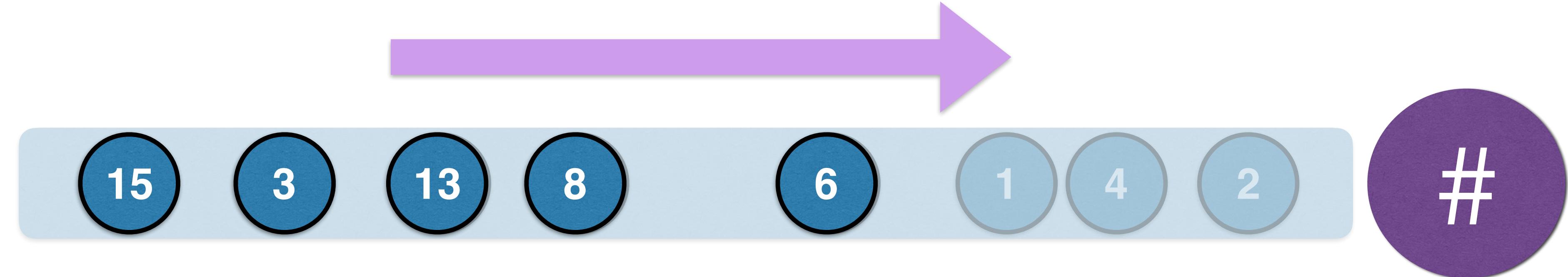


**window [0-5sec]**

**window [6-10sec]**

# Event Time

**Input Stream**



1    4    2

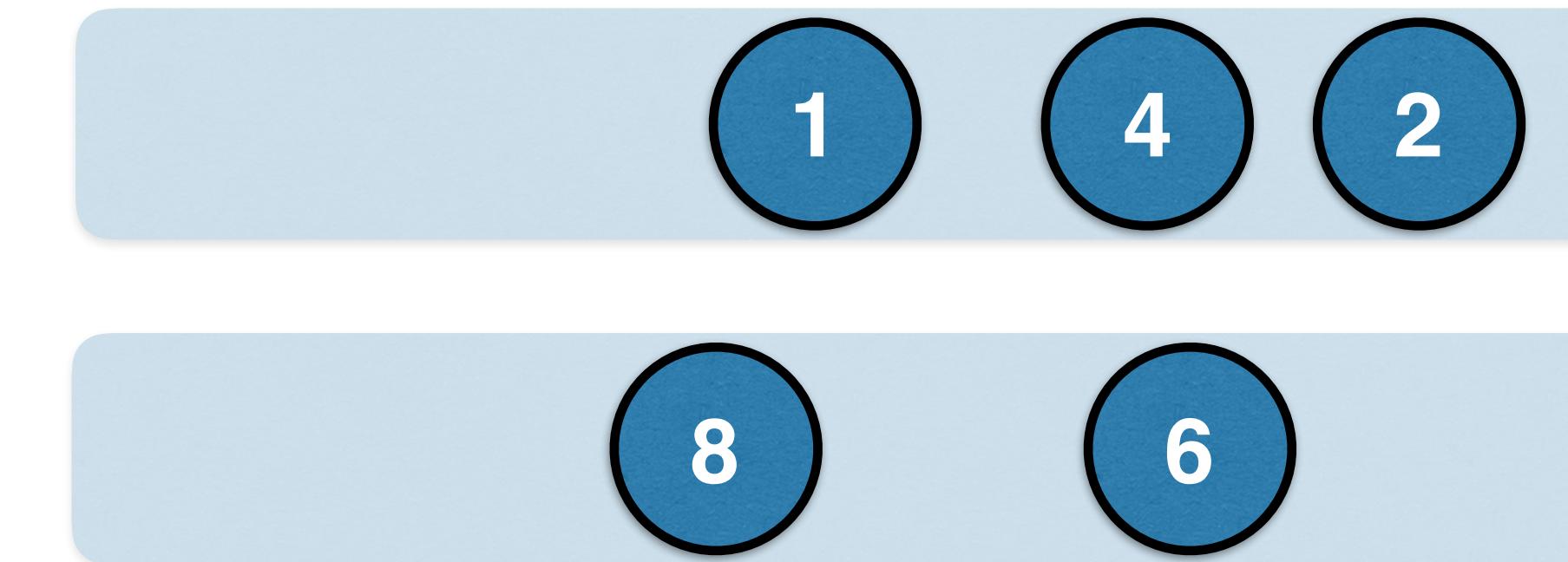
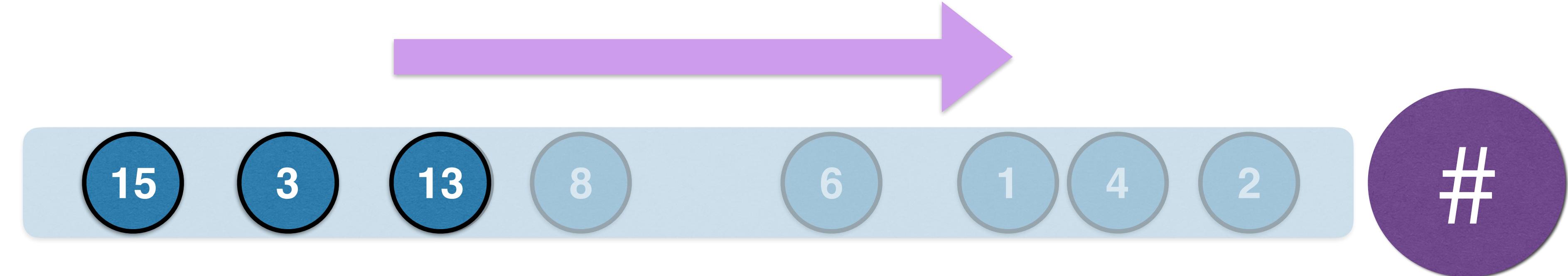
**window [0-5sec]**



**window [6-10sec]**

# Event Time

**Input Stream**



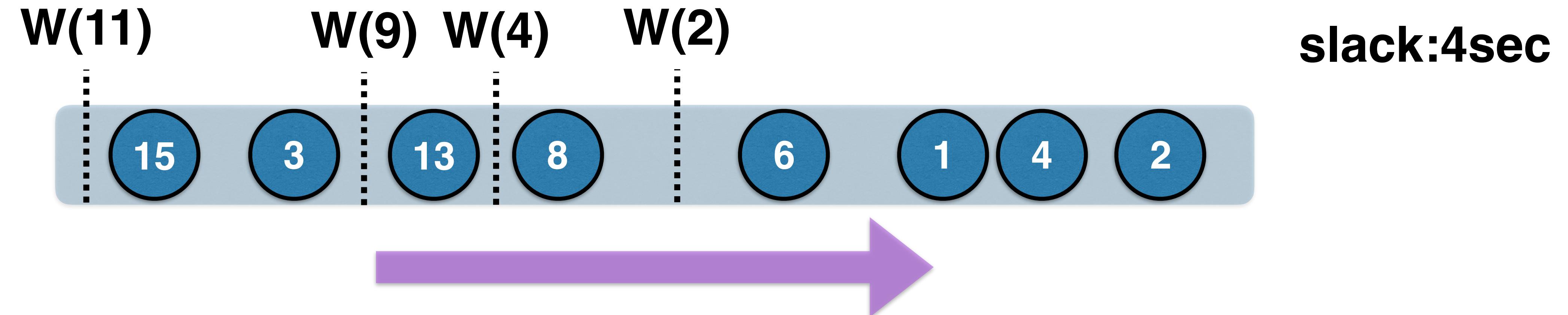
**window [0-5sec]**

**window [6-10sec]**

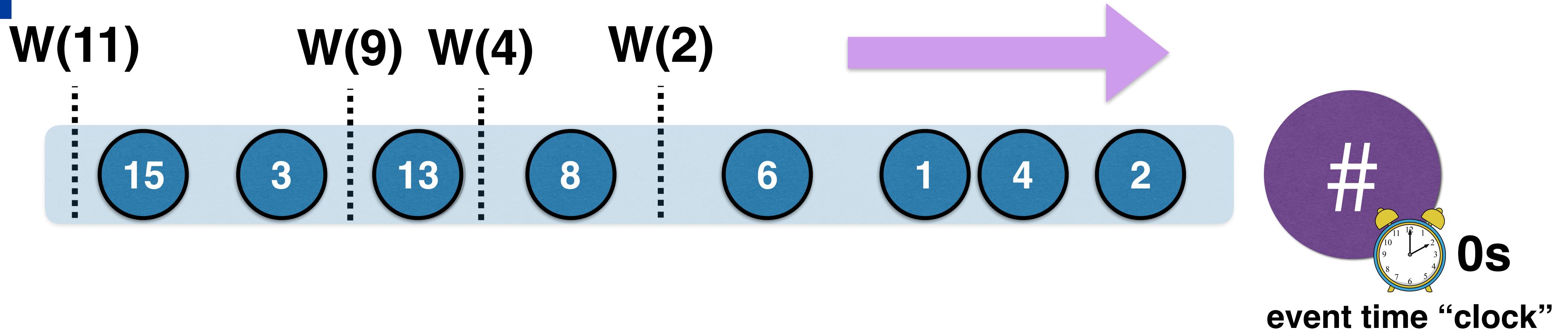
- **Problem:** How do we know when a window is complete?

# Solution

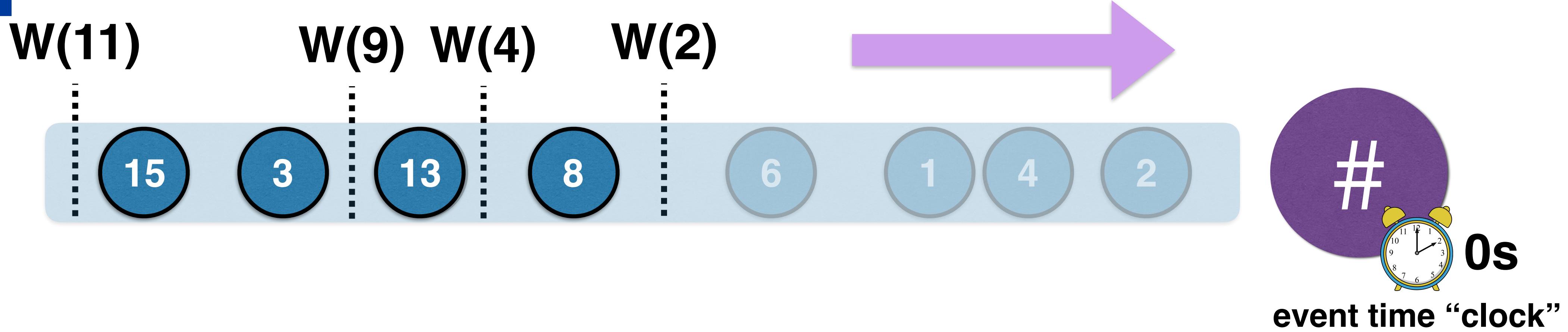
- We define a **slack**: bound how long to wait for late events .
- **Low Watermarks**: system-generated events that indicate lowest expected timestamp (using the slack).



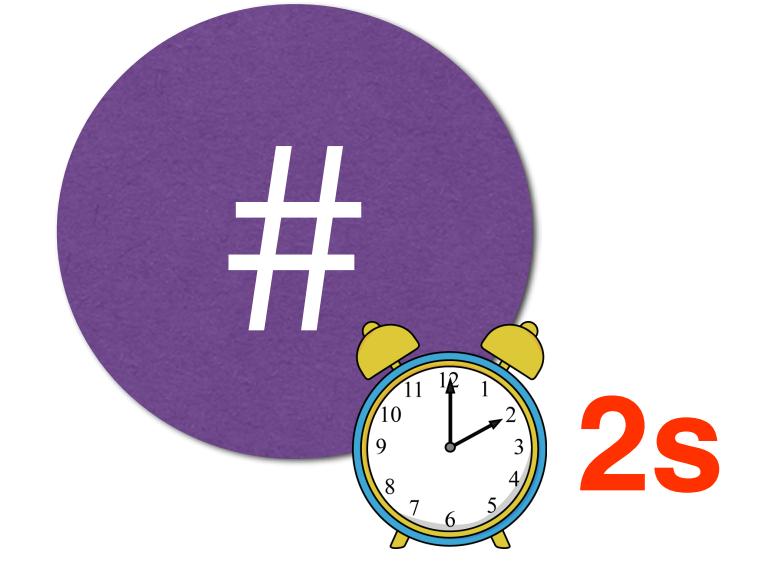
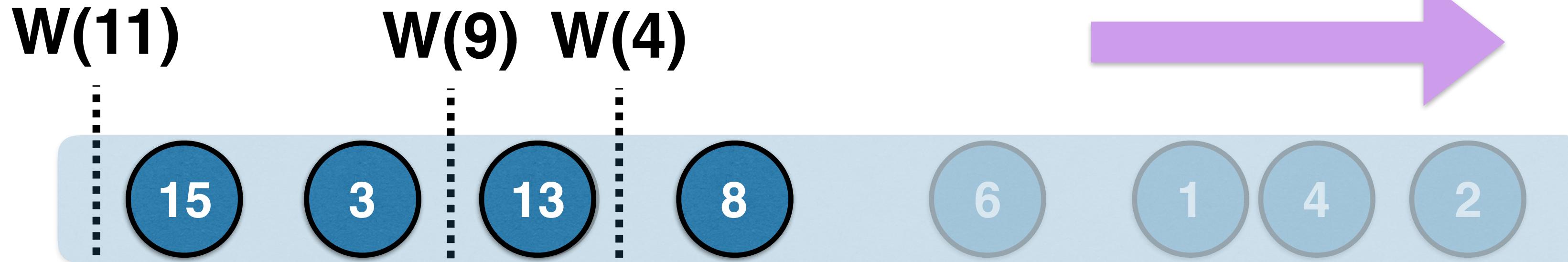
# Example



# Example



# Example



event time "clock"



window [0-5sec]

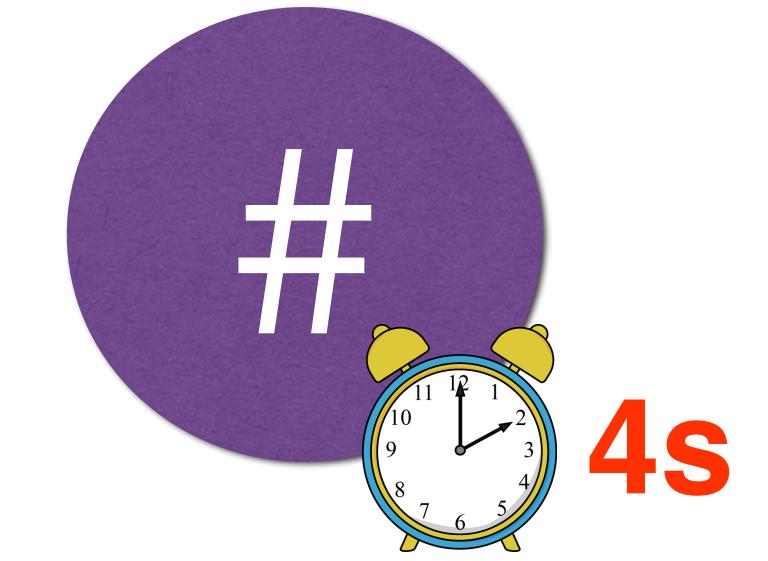
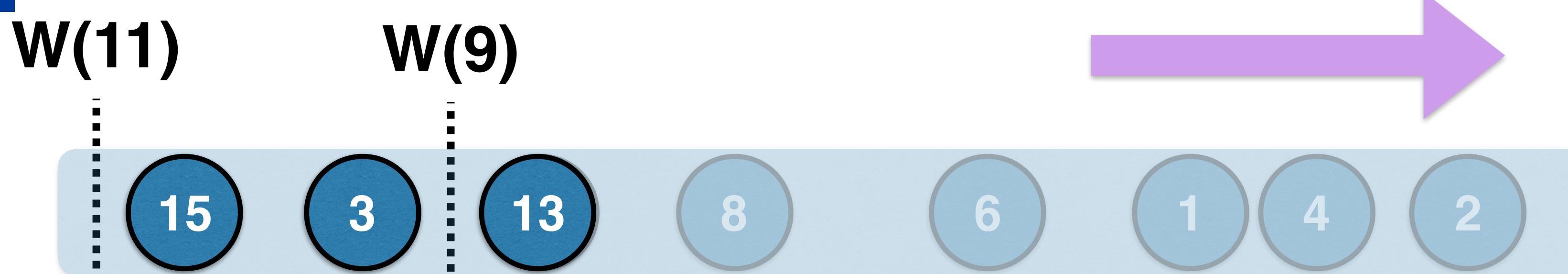


window [6-10sec]



window [11-15sec]

# Example



event time “clock”

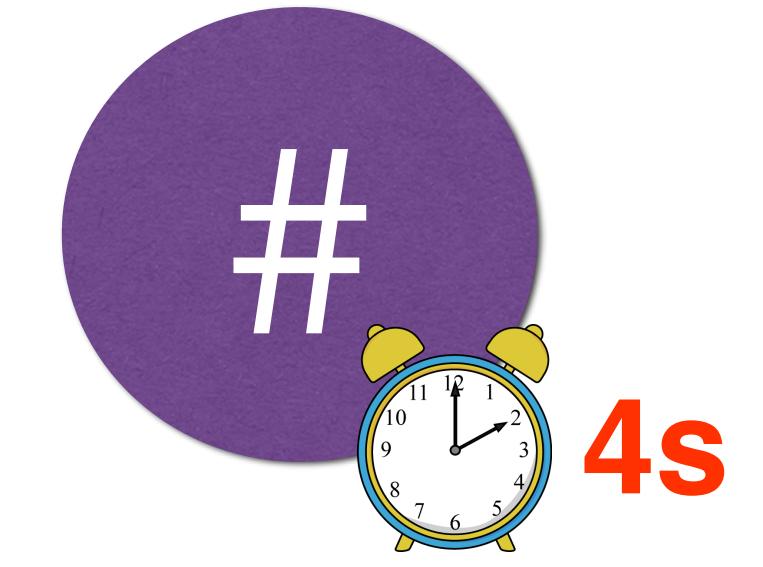
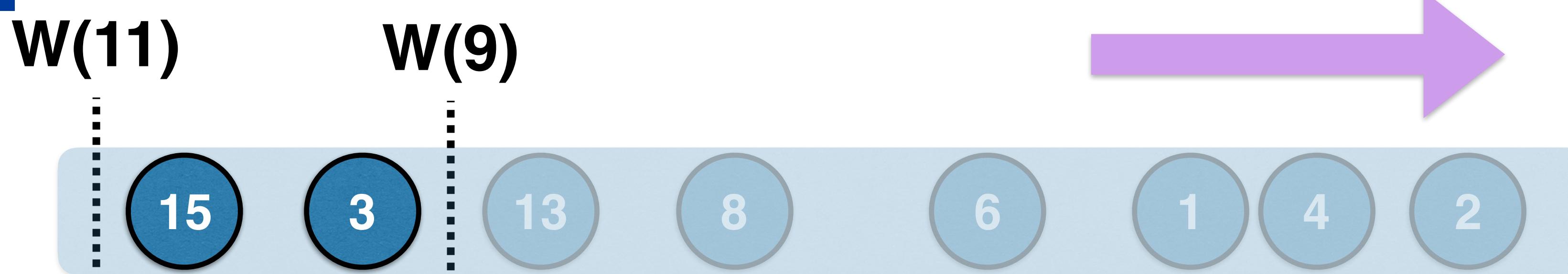


window [0-5sec]

window [6-10sec]

window [11-15sec]

# Example



event time "clock"



window [0-5sec]



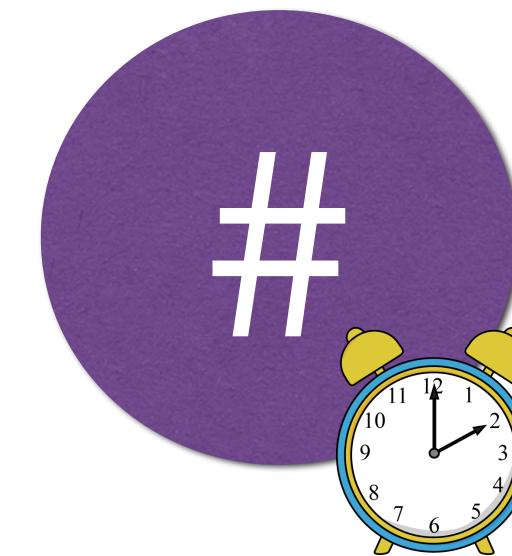
window [6-10sec]



window [11-15sec]

# Example

**W(11)**



event time “clock”



window [0-5sec]



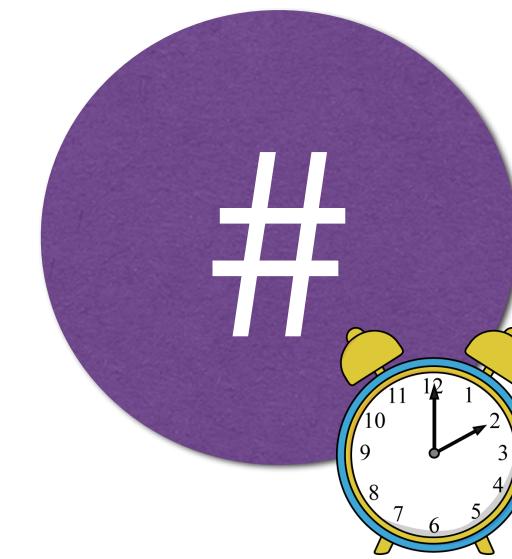
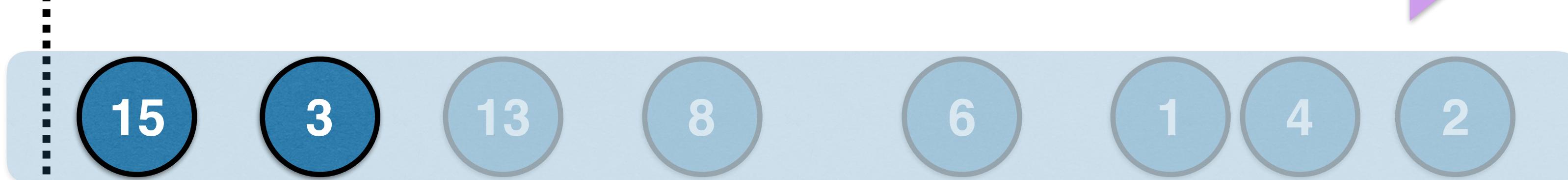
window [6-10sec]



window [11-15sec]

# Example

**W(11)**



event time “clock”

3 ←



window [0-5sec]

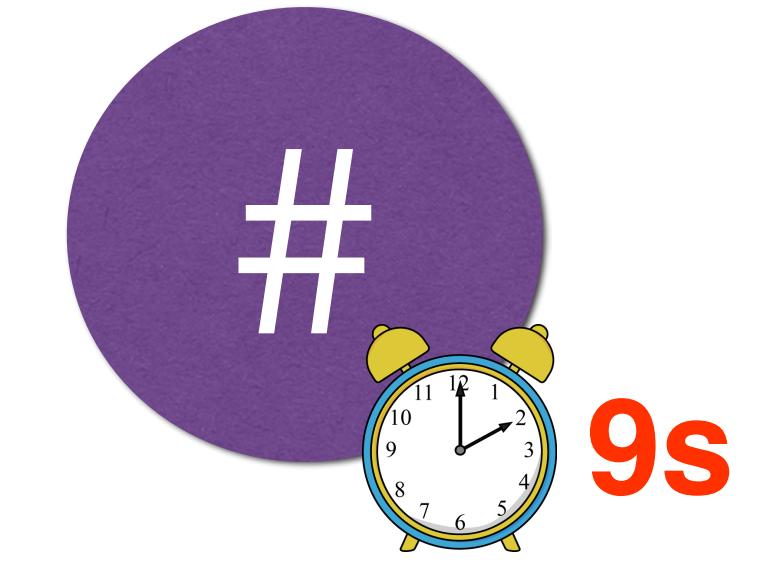
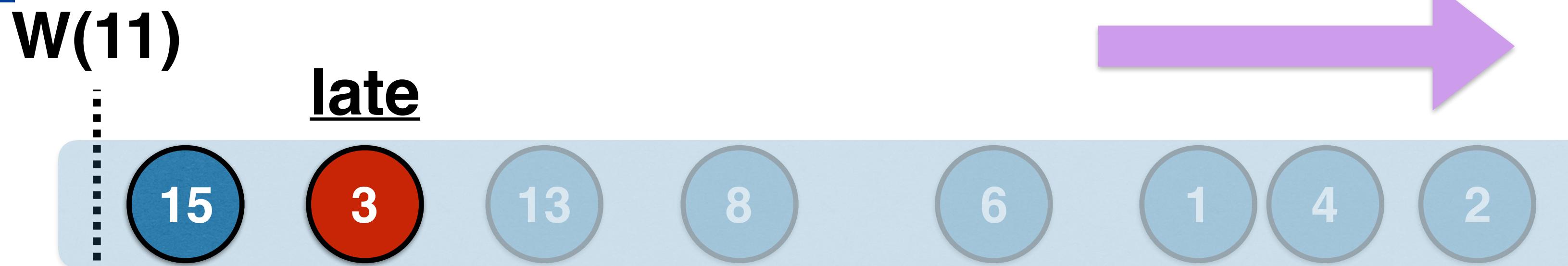


window [6-10sec]



window [11-15sec]

# Example



event time "clock"





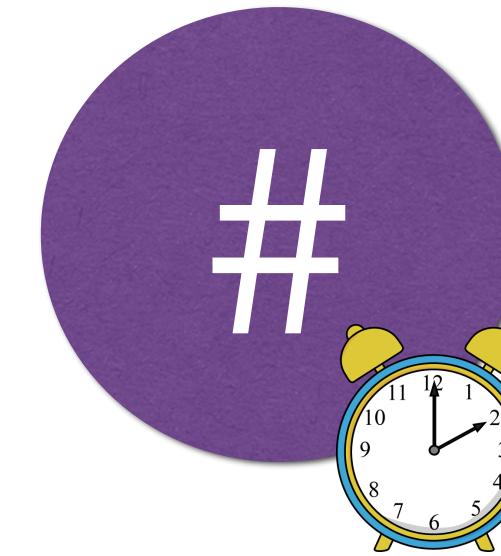
# Late Events?

- Allow applications to choose how to handle late events:
  - Drop them
  - Bound Lateness and update or.. drop

# Example

**W(11)**

late



event time "clock"

3 ←

complete

Lateness  
Bound: 10sec

window [0-5sec]



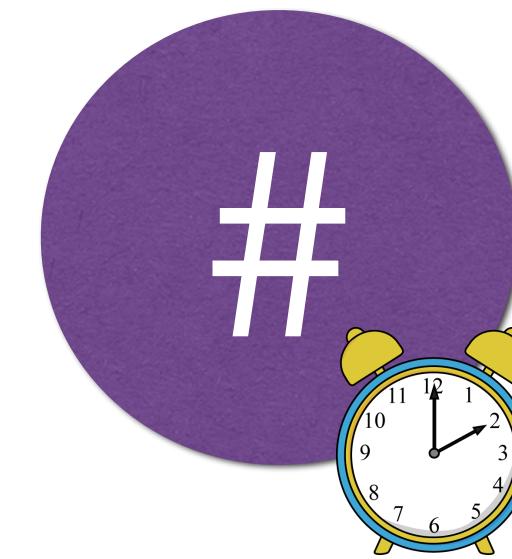
window [6-10sec]



window [11-15sec]

# Example

**W(11)**



event time "clock"

4 ← 3 ←



Lateness  
Bound: 10sec

window [0-5sec]



window [6-10sec]

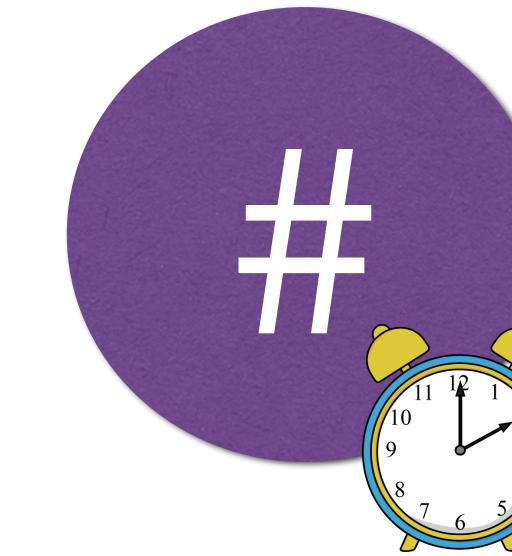


window [11-15sec]

# Example

**W(11)**

late



event time "clock"

3 ←

complete

Lateness  
Bound: 2sec

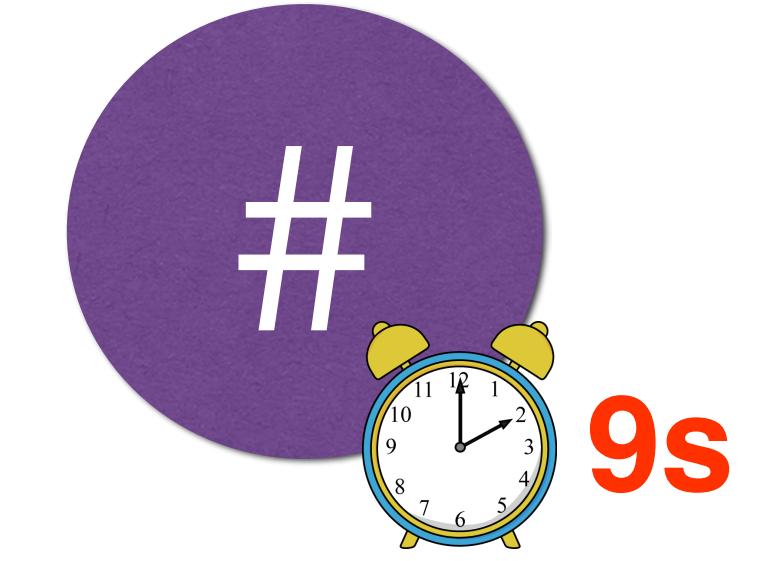
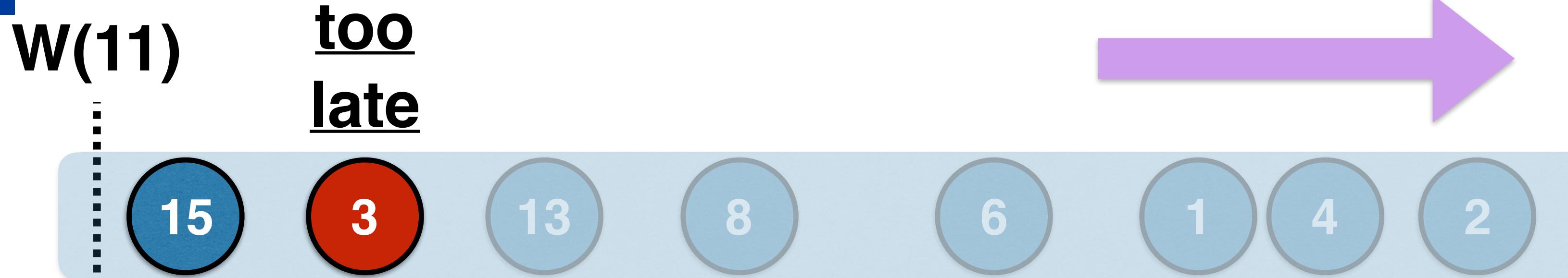
window [0-5sec]



window [6-10sec]

window [11-15sec]

# Example



Lateness  
Bound: 2sec



window [0-5sec]

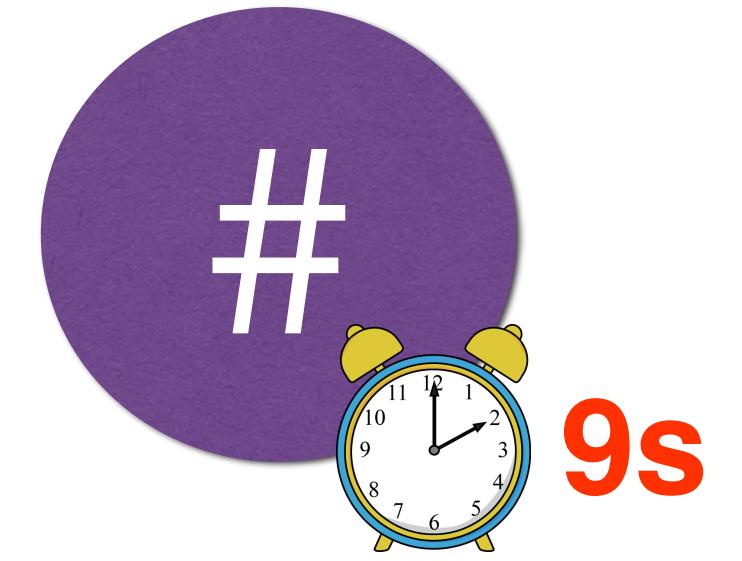


window [6-10sec]

window [11-15sec]

# Example

**W(11)**



event time “clock”

3 ←



**Lateness  
Bound: 2sec**



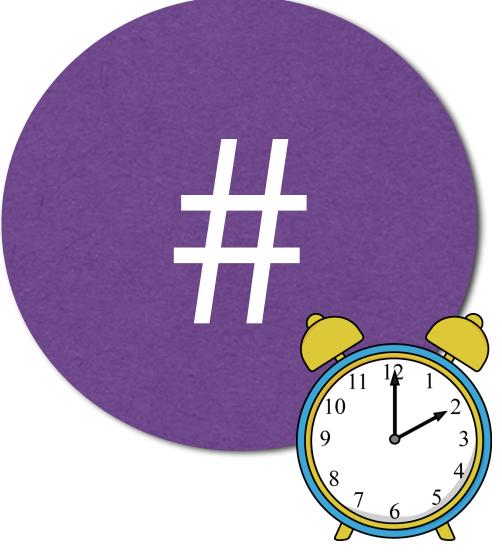
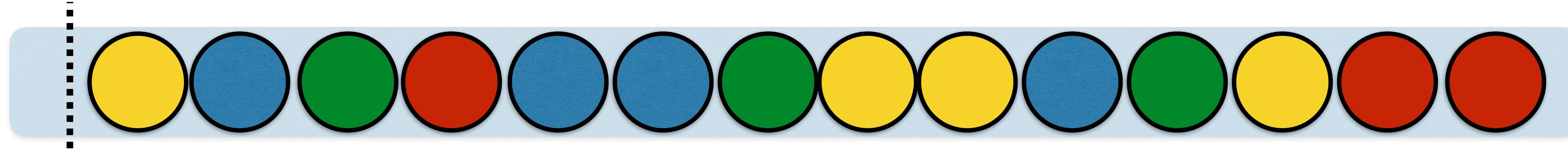
**window [0-5sec]**

**window [6-10sec]**

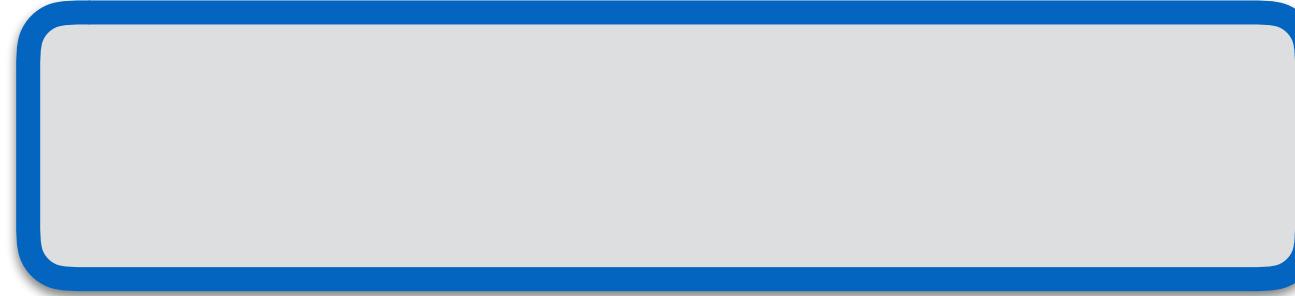
**window [11-15sec]**

# Data Parallel Windows (per key)

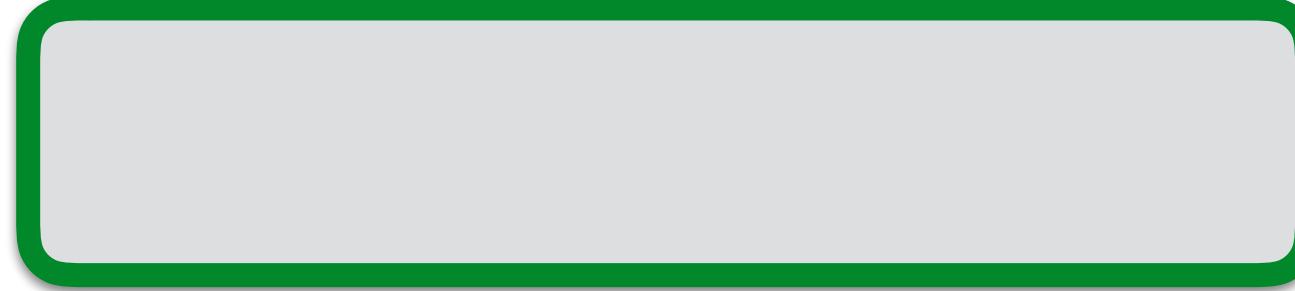
**W(6)**



**window [0-5sec]**



**window [0-5sec]**



**window [0-5sec]**

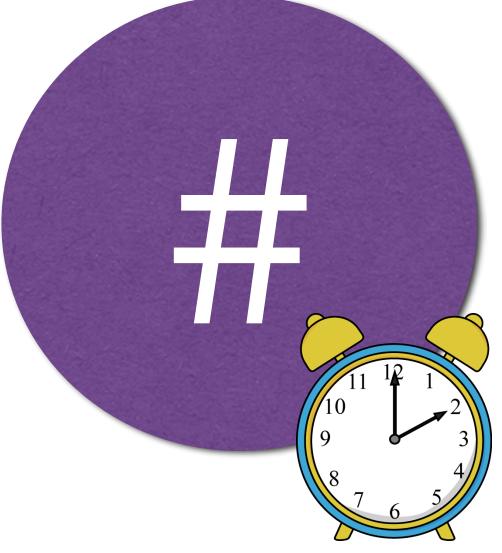


**window [0-5sec]**

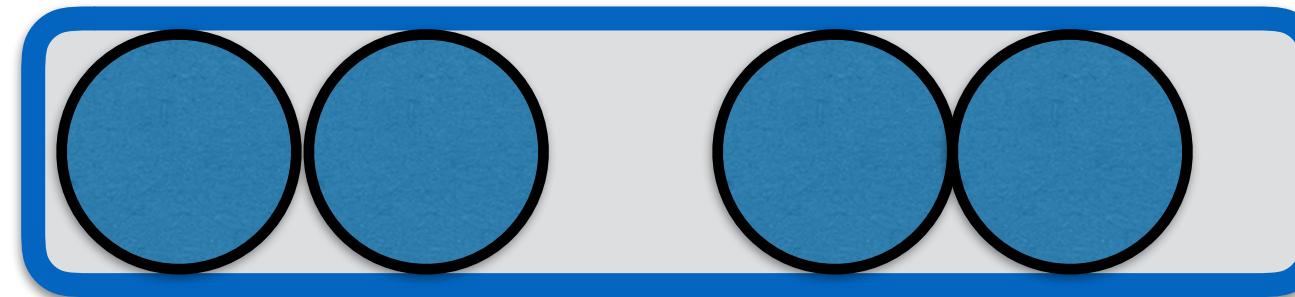


# Data Parallel Windows (per key)

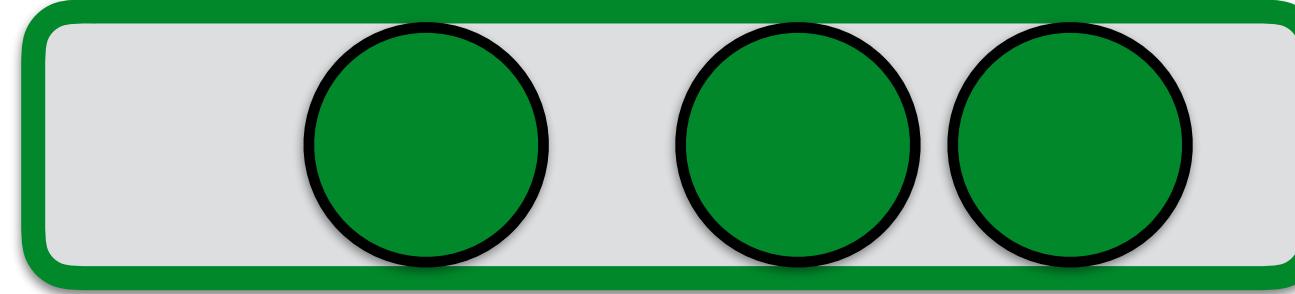
W(6)



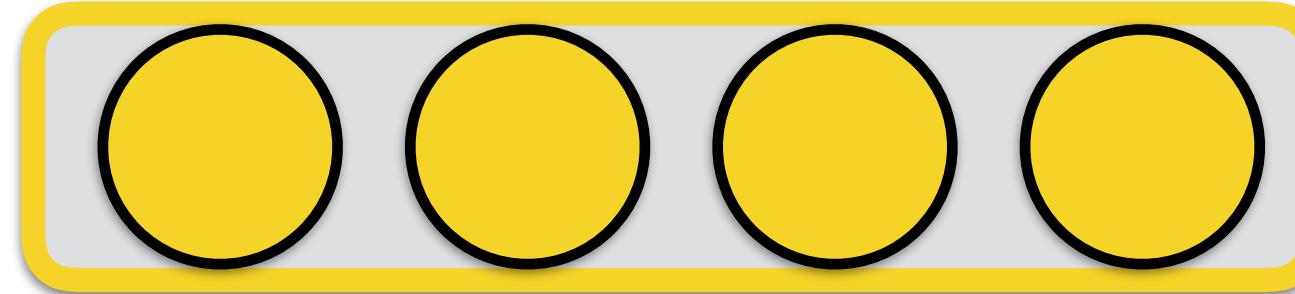
window [0-5sec]



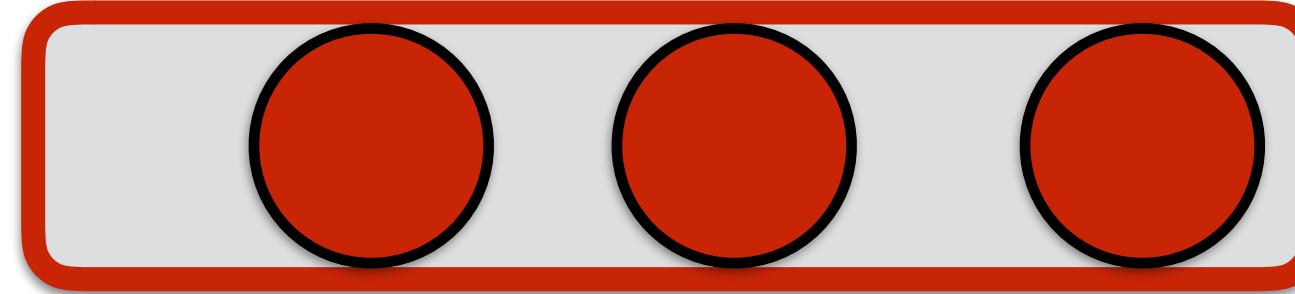
window [0-5sec]



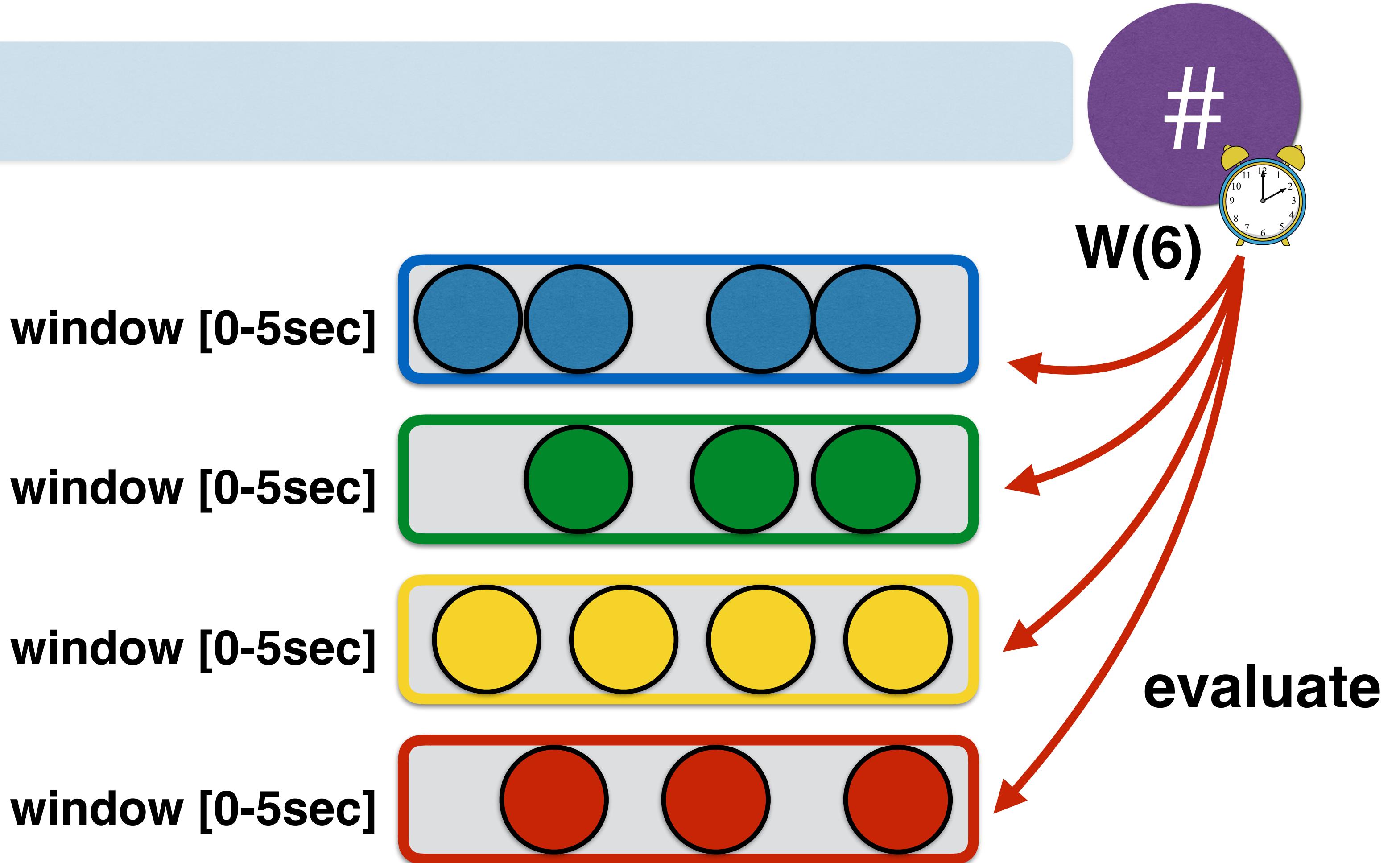
window [0-5sec]



window [0-5sec]



# Data Parallel Windows (per key)





# Getting Hands Dirty

<http://training.ververica.com>

<https://github.com/ververica/sql-training>

**DOCS : https://ci.apache.org/projects/flink/flink-docs-release-1.9/**



# Further Readings

- [Paper] State Management In Apache Flink
- [Thesis] Scalable and Reliable Data Stream Processing
- [Paper] The dataflow model: a practical approach to balancing correctness, latency, and cost in massive-scale, unbounded, out-of-order data processing.
- [Paper] One SQL to Rule Them All: An Efficient and Syntactically Idiomatic Approach to Management of Streams and Tables
- [Paper] Out-of-order processing: a new architecture for high-performance stream systems.
- [Blog] The world beyond batch: Streaming 101 by Tyler Akidau  
<https://www.oreilly.com/ideas/the-world-beyond-batch-streaming-101>



# Announcements

- Flink Forward 2019, the premier conference in Apache Flink needs volunteers (attendance free of charge). <https://europe-2019.flink-forward.org/register>
- For MSc Thesis / Summer Job in Data Processing Systems Research mail me!

# Next-Gen Continuous Analytics

*teaser*

