

# Cuckoo Hashing

# Outline for Today

- ***Towards Perfect Hashing***
  - Reducing worst-case bounds
- ***Cuckoo Hashing***
  - Hashing with worst-case  $O(1)$  lookups.
- ***Random Graph Theory***
  - Just how fast is cuckoo hashing?

# Perfect Hashing

# Collision Resolution

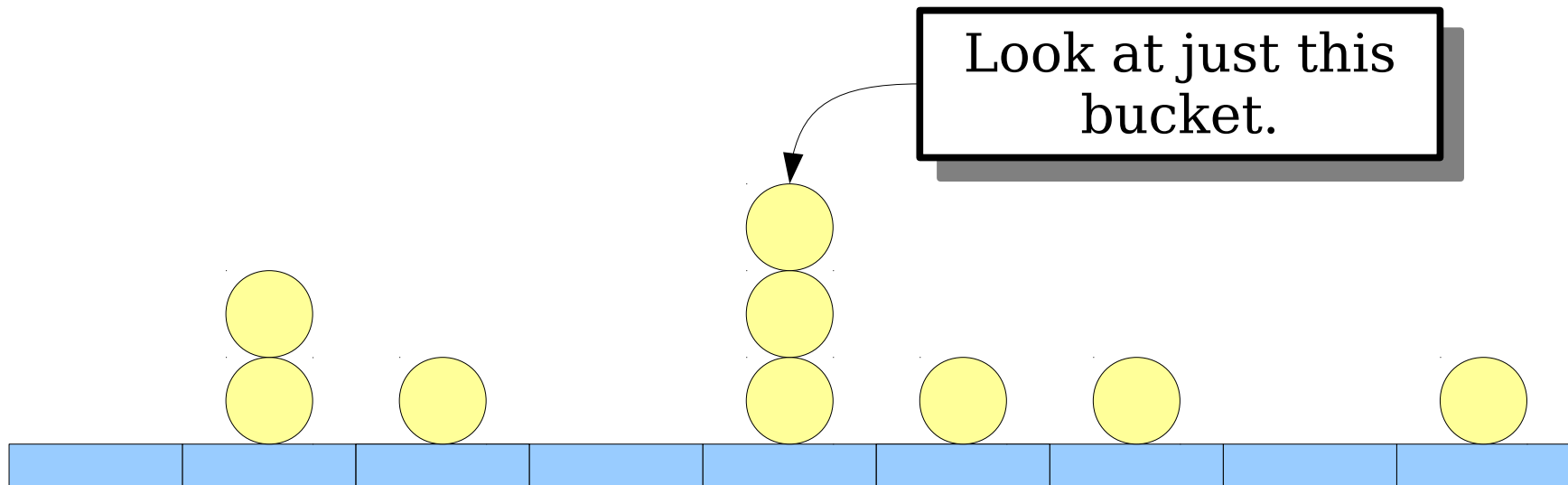
- Last time, we mentioned three general strategies for resolving hash collisions:
  - ***Closed addressing:*** Store all colliding elements in an auxiliary data structure like a linked list or BST.
  - ***Open addressing:*** Allow elements to overflow out of their target bucket and into other spaces.
  - ***Perfect hashing:*** Choose a hash function with no collisions.
- We have not spoken on this last topic yet.

# Why Perfect Hashing is Hard

- For fixed, constant load factors, the expected cost of a lookup in a chained hash table or linear probing table is  $O(1)$ .
- However, the expected cost of a lookup in these tables is not the same as the expected *worst-case* cost of a lookup in these tables.

# Expected Worst-Case Bounds

- **Theorem:** Assuming truly random hash functions, the expected worst-case cost of a lookup in a chained hash table is  $\Theta(\log n / \log \log n)$ , assuming the number of slots is  $\Theta(n)$ .
- **Theorem:** Assuming truly random hash functions, the expected worst-case cost of a lookup in a linear probing hash table is  $\Omega(\log n)$ .
- **Proofs:** Exercises 11-1 and 11-2 from CLRS. ☺

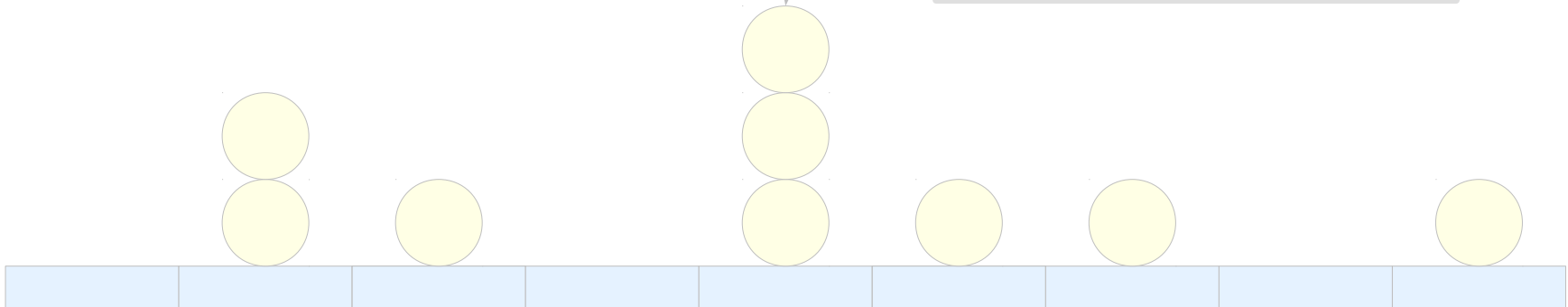


# Expected Worst-Case Bounds

- **Theorem:** Assuming truly random hash functions, the expected worst-case cost of a **separate chaining** hash table is  $\Theta(\log n / \log \log n)$ , assuming  $n$  slots is  $\Theta(n)$ .
- **Theorem:** Assuming truly random hash functions, the expected worst-case cost of a **linear probing** hash table is  $\Omega(\log n)$ .
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How can we get  
from these  
bounds down to  
 $O(1)$ ?

Look at just this  
bucket.



## ***Technique 1:*** Multiple-Choice Hashing



# Second-Choice Hashing

- Suppose that we distribute  $n$  balls into  $\Theta(n)$  bins using the following strategy:
  - For each ball, choose two bins totally at random.
  - Put the ball into the bin with fewer balls in it; tiebreak randomly.



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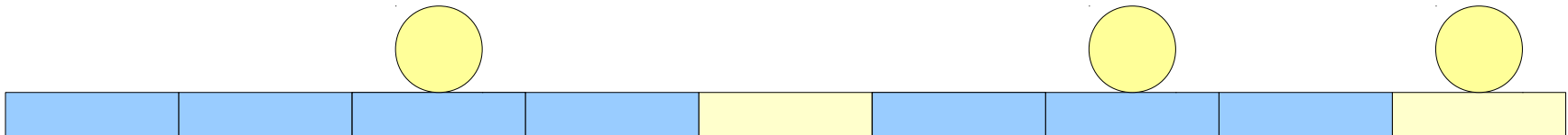
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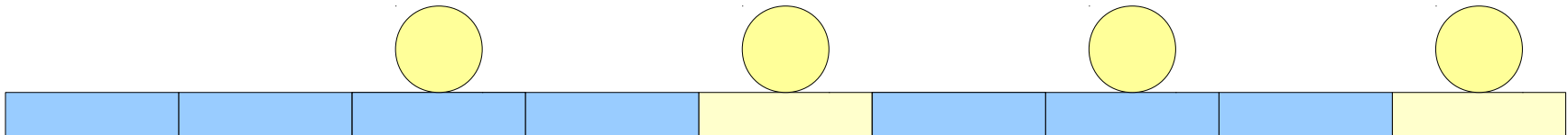
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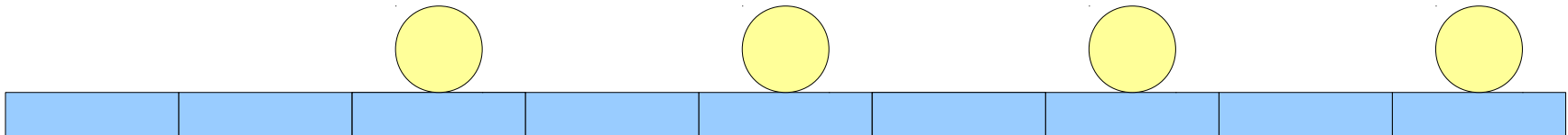
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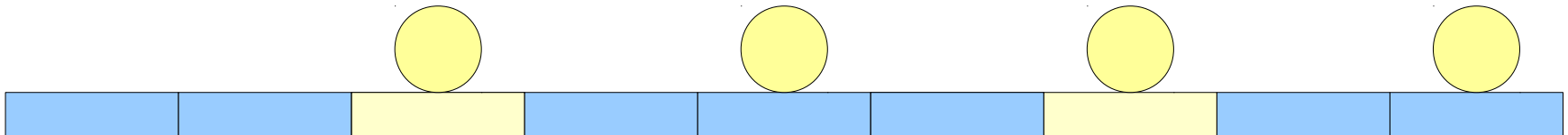
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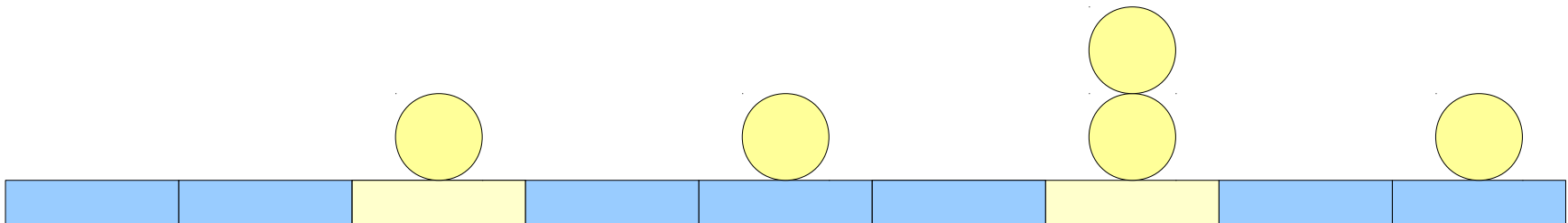
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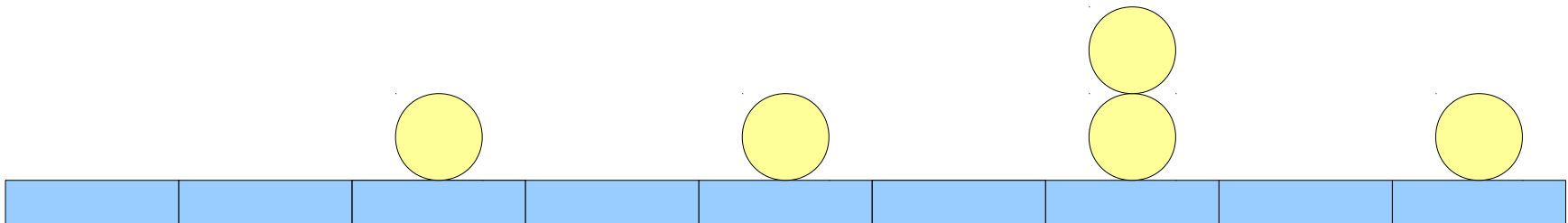
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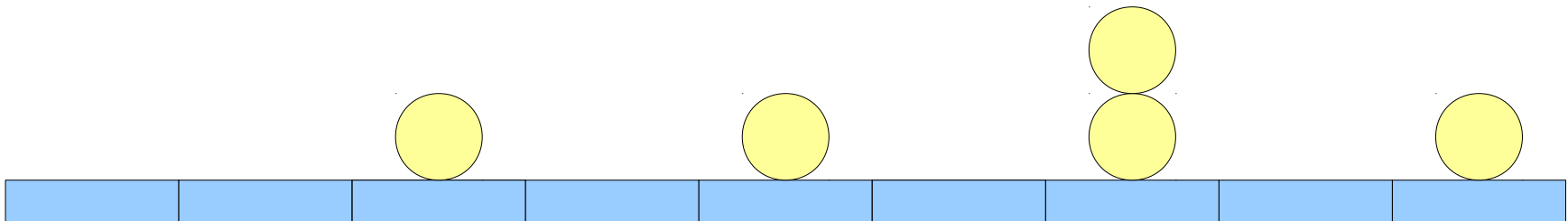
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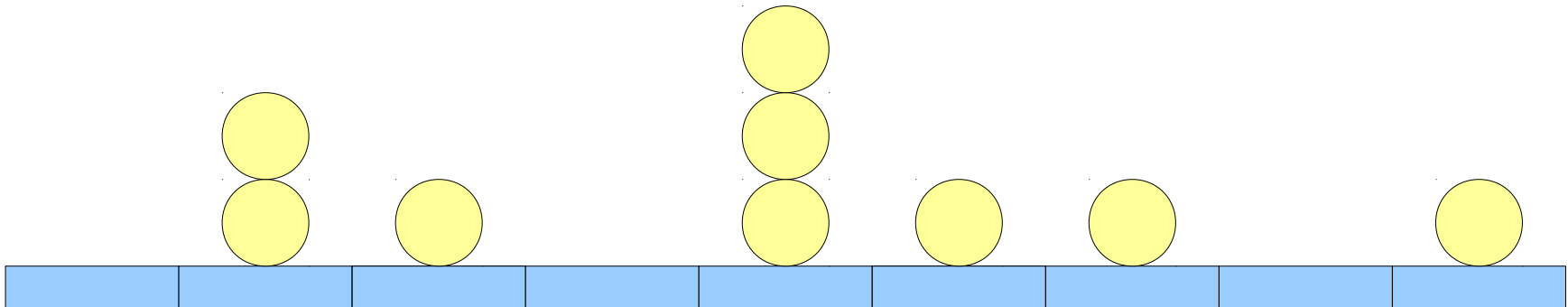
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  - For each ball, choose two bins totally at random.
  - Put the ball into the bin with fewer balls in it; tiebreak randomly.
- **Theorem:** The expected value of the maximum number of balls in any urn is  $\Theta(\log \log n)$ .
- **Proof:** Nontrivial; see “Balanced Allocations” by Azar et al.



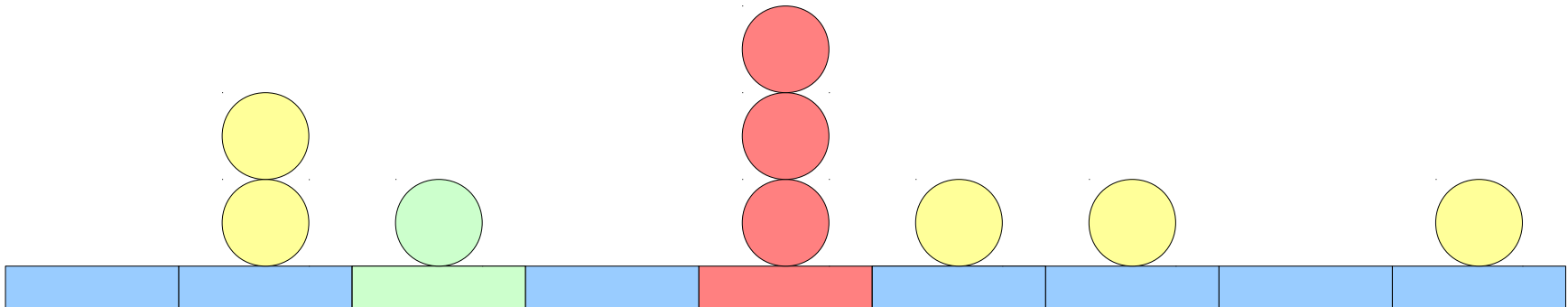
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- **Idea:** Build a chained hash table with two hash functions  $h_1$  and  $h_2$ .
- To insert an element  $x$ , compute  $h_1(x)$  and  $h_2(x)$  and place  $x$  into whichever bucket is less full.
- To perform a lookup, compute  $h_1(x)$  and  $h_2(x)$  and search both buckets for  $x$ .



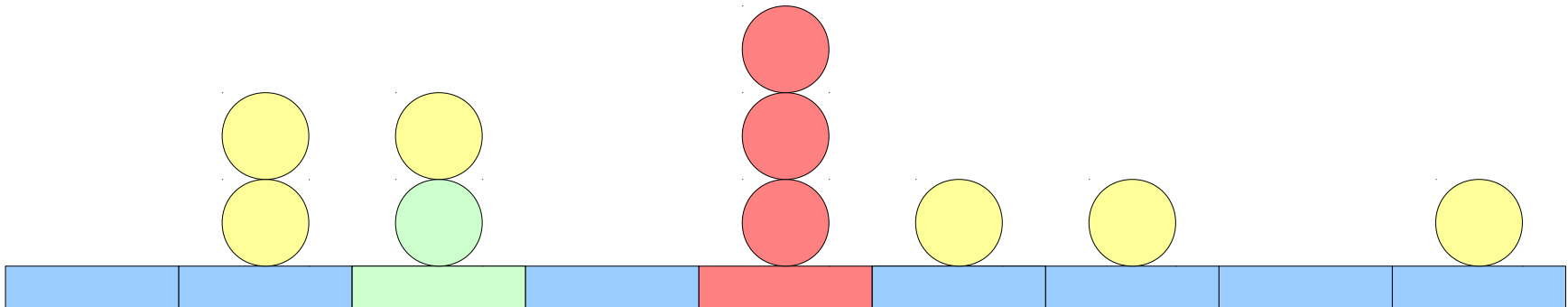
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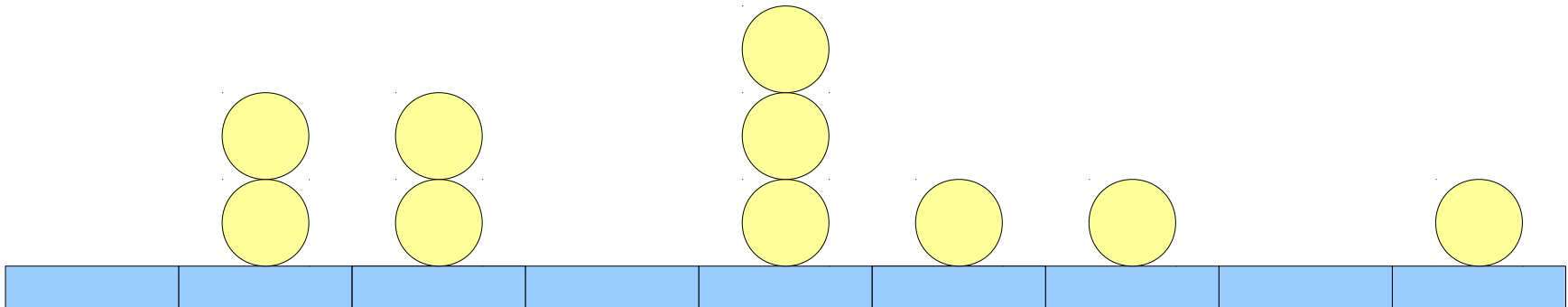
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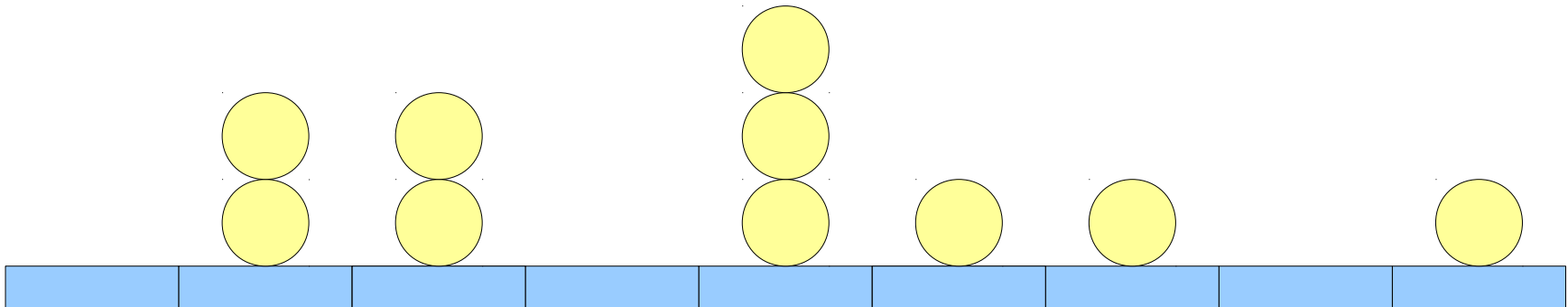
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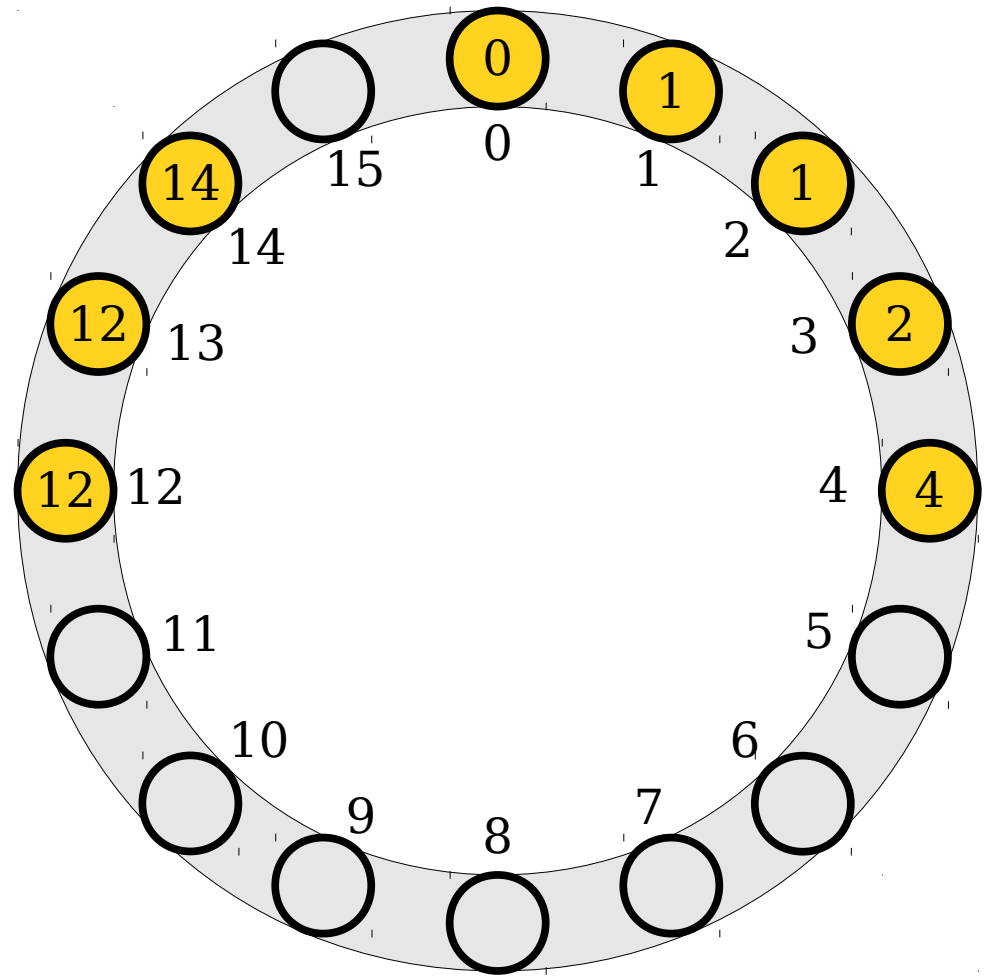
- **Theorem:** The expected cost of a lookup in such a hash table is  $O(1 + \alpha)$ . (*Why?*)
- **Theorem:** Assuming truly random hash functions, the expected worst-case cost of a lookup in such a hash table is  $O(\log \log n)$ . (*Why?*)
- **Open problem:** What is the smallest  $k$  for which there are  $k$ -independent hash functions that match the bounds using truly random hash functions?



## ***Technique 2:*** Hashing with Relocation

# Robin Hood Hashing

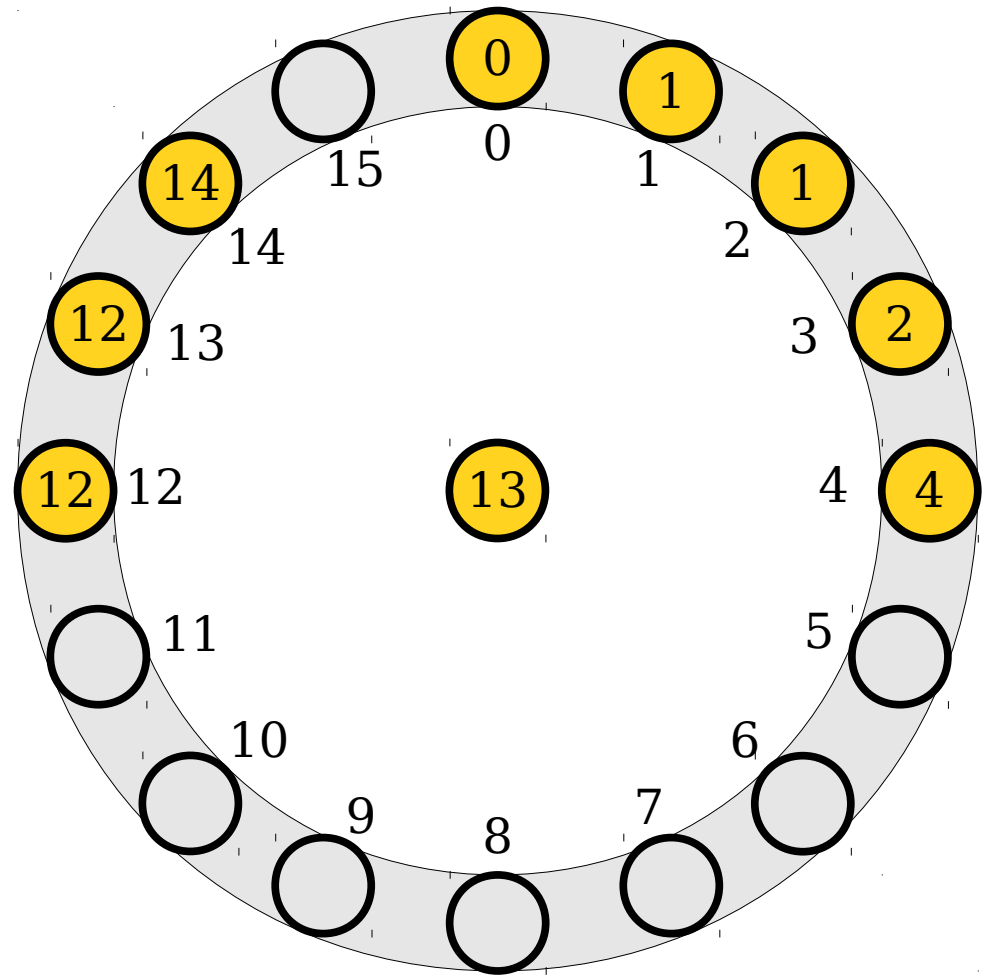
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- When an existing key is found during an insertion that's closer to its “home” location than the new key, it's displaced to make room for it.
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- It also makes it possible to terminate searches early.





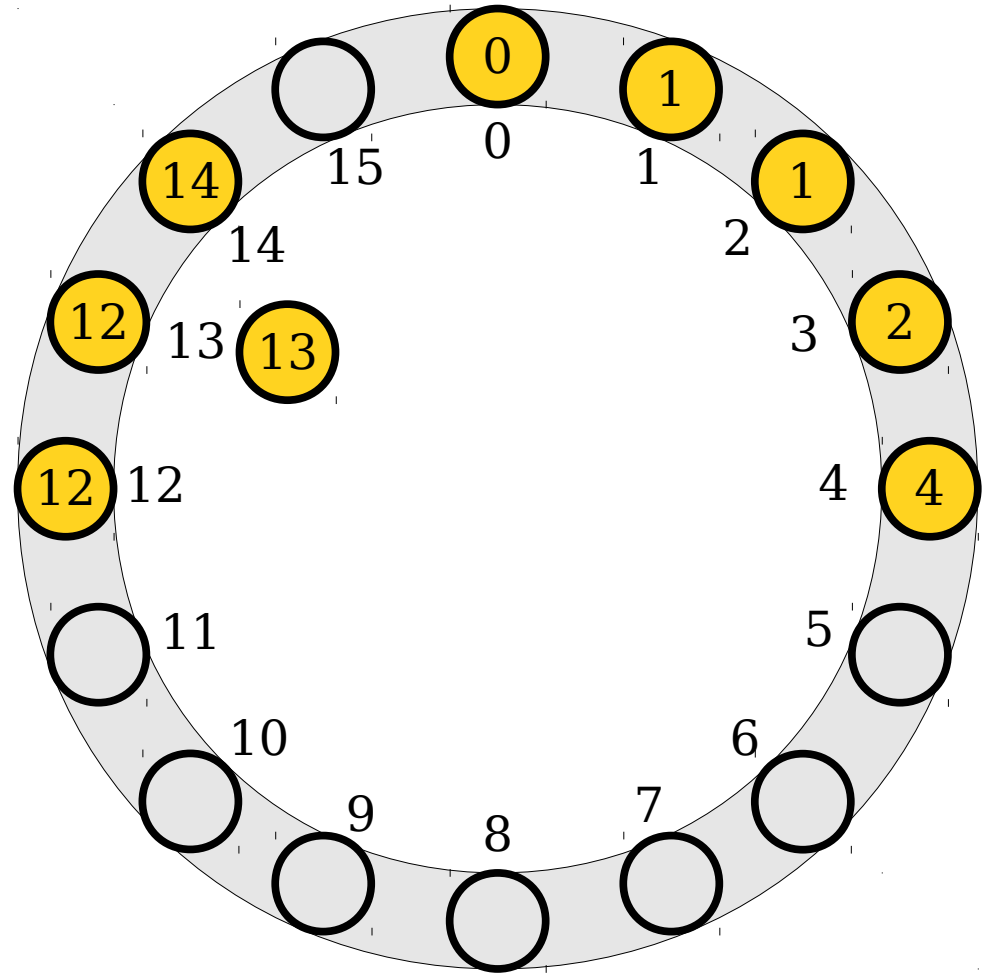
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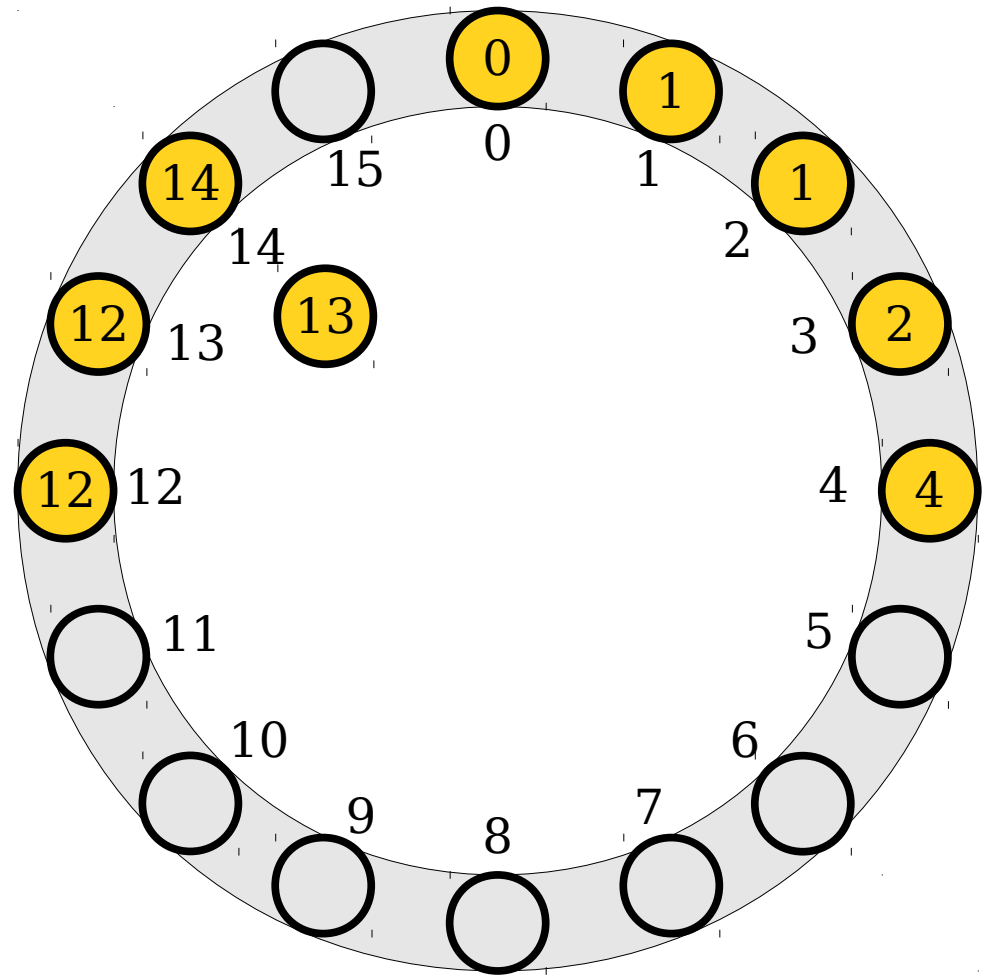
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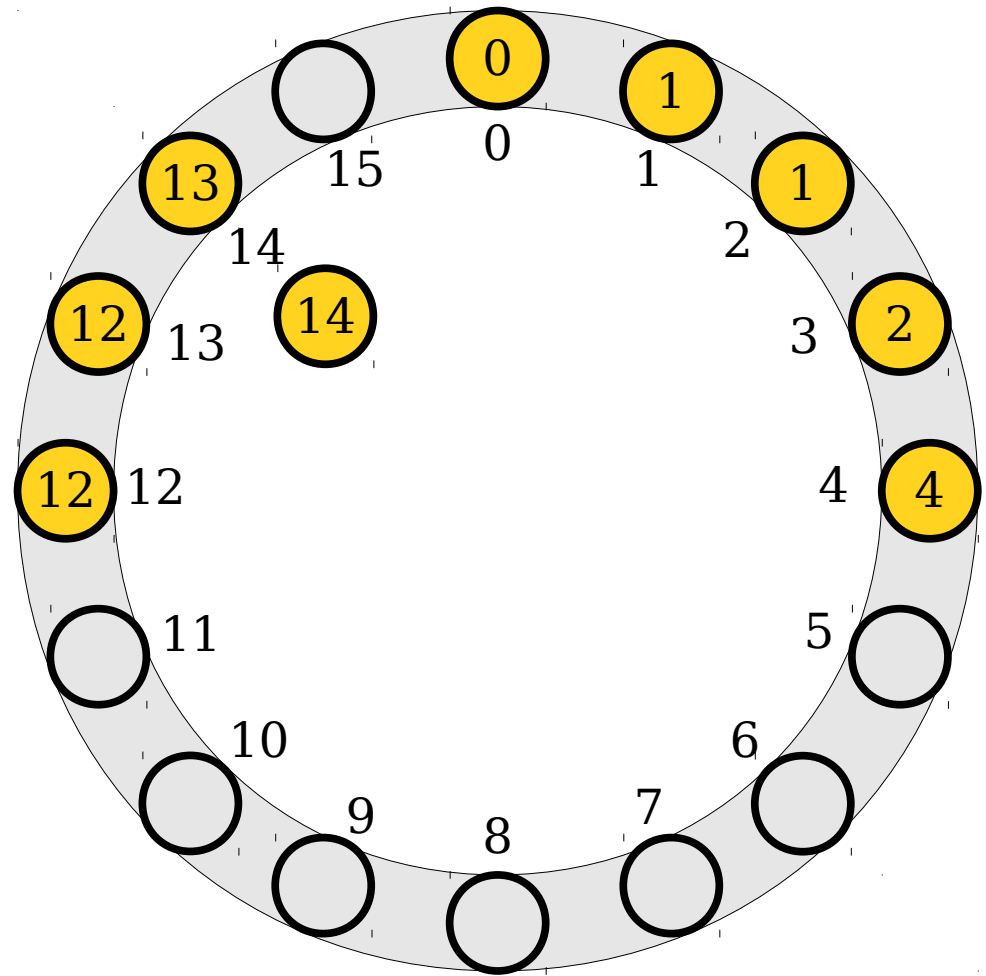
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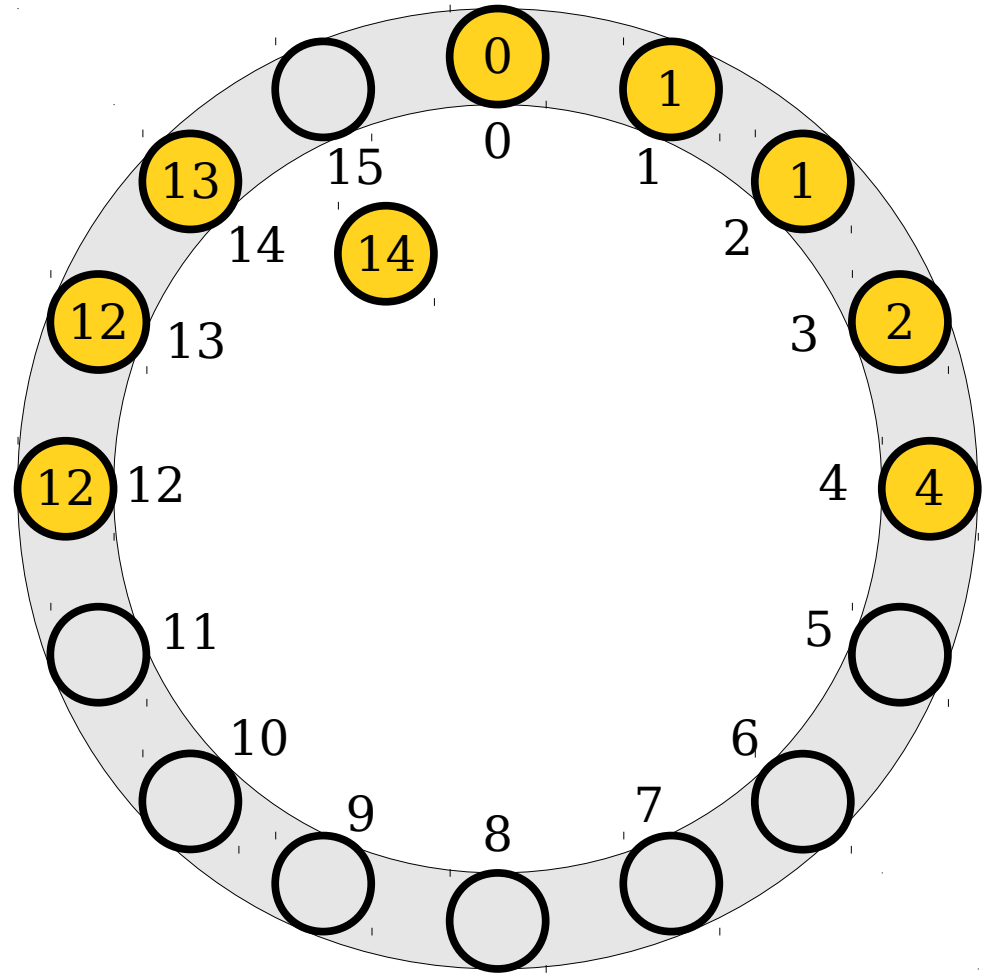
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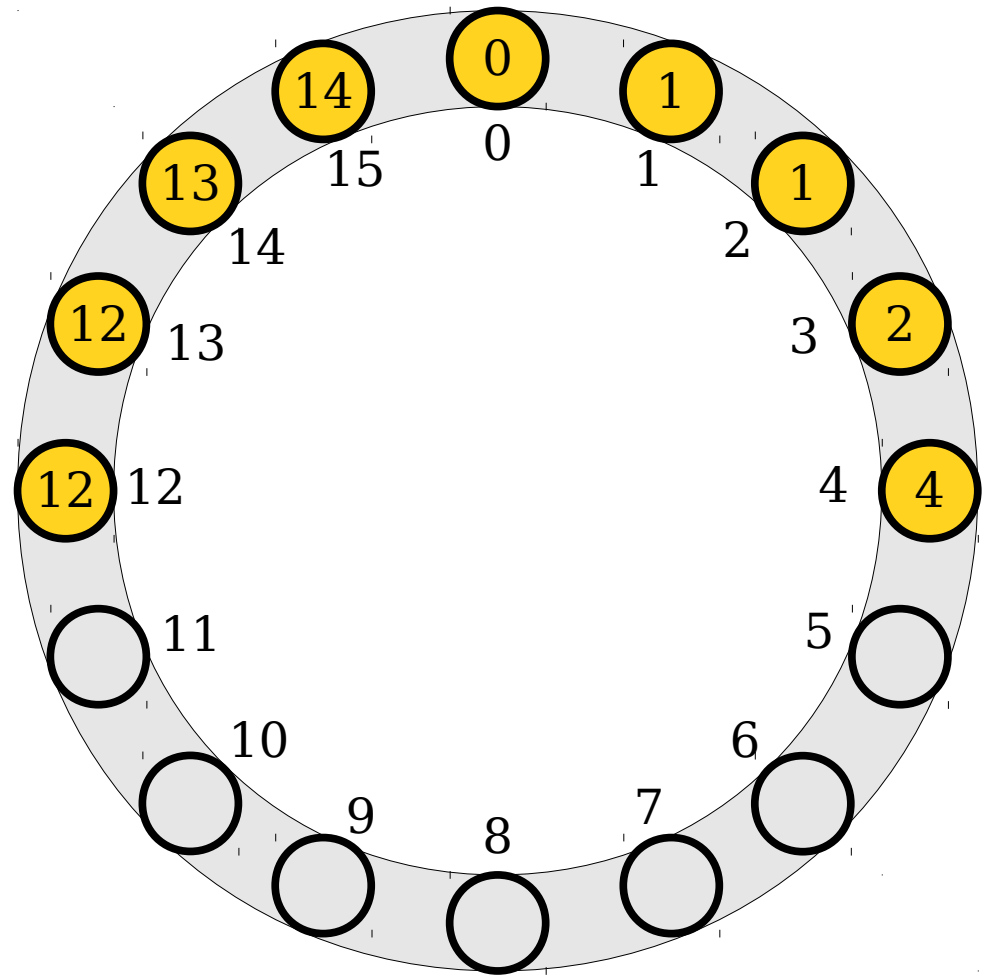
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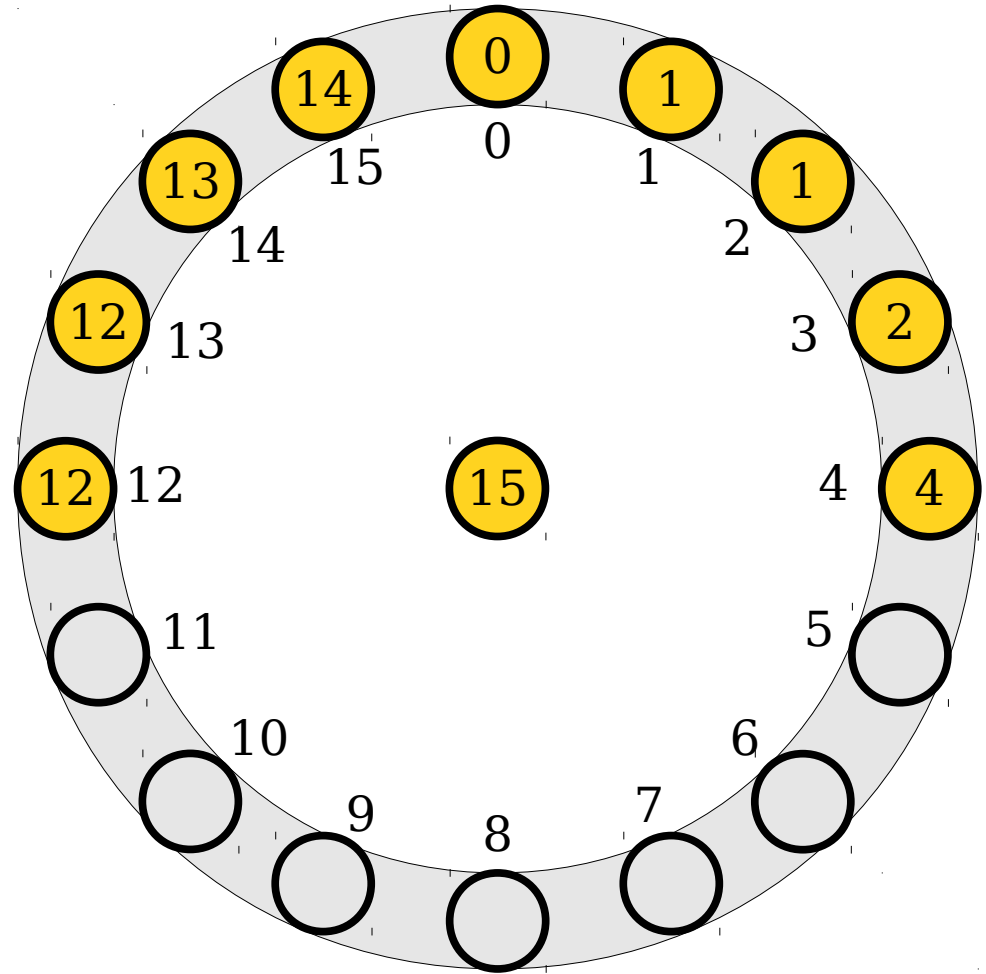
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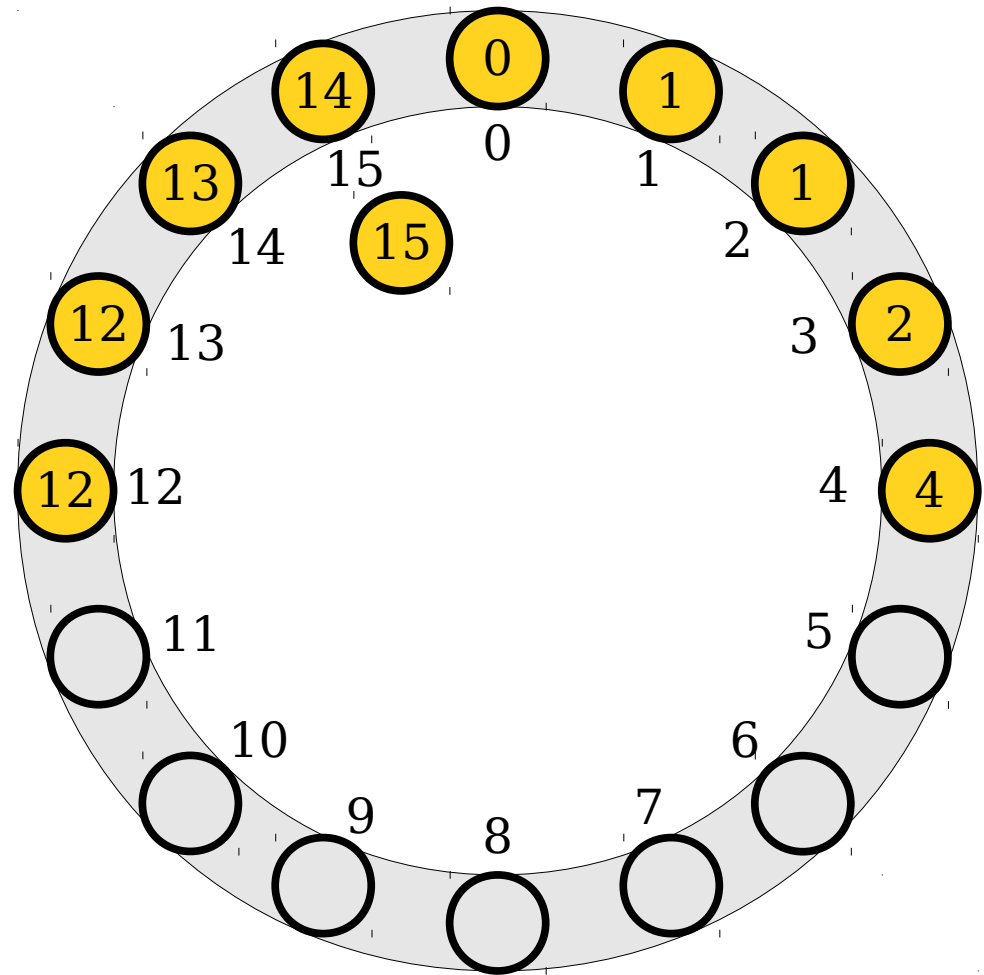
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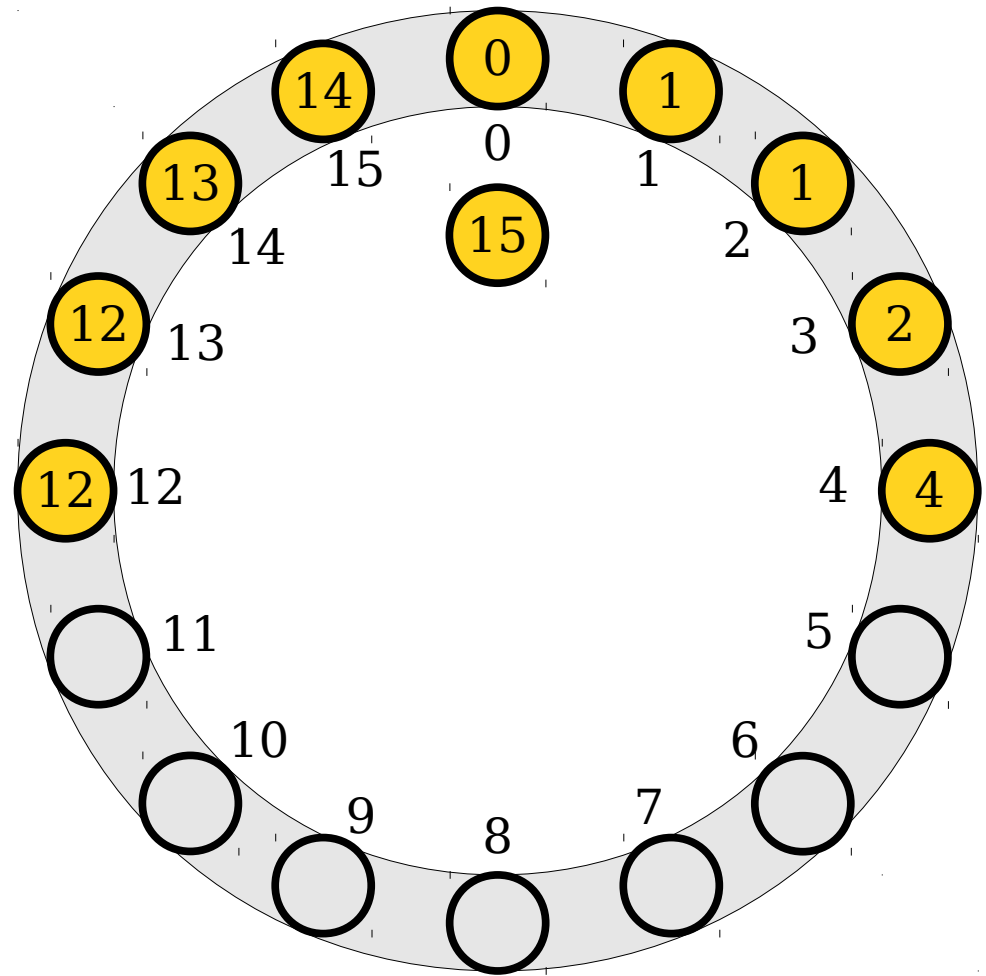
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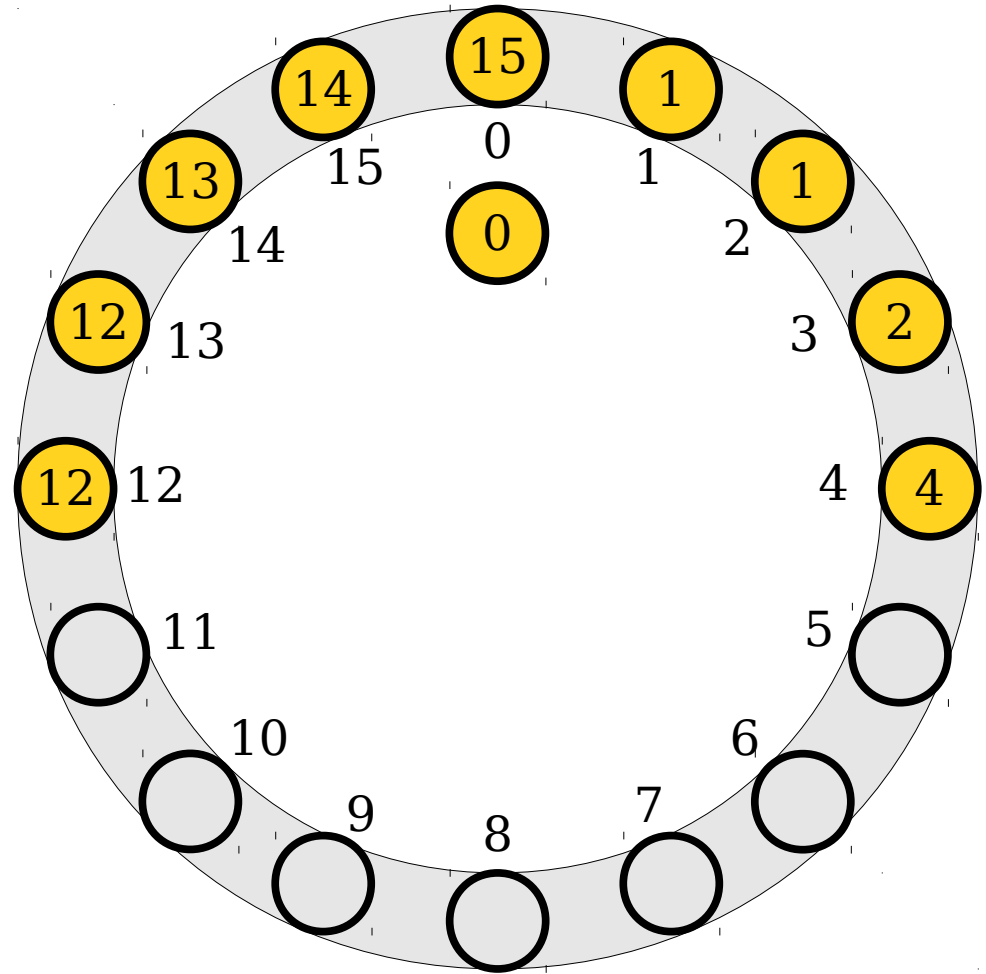
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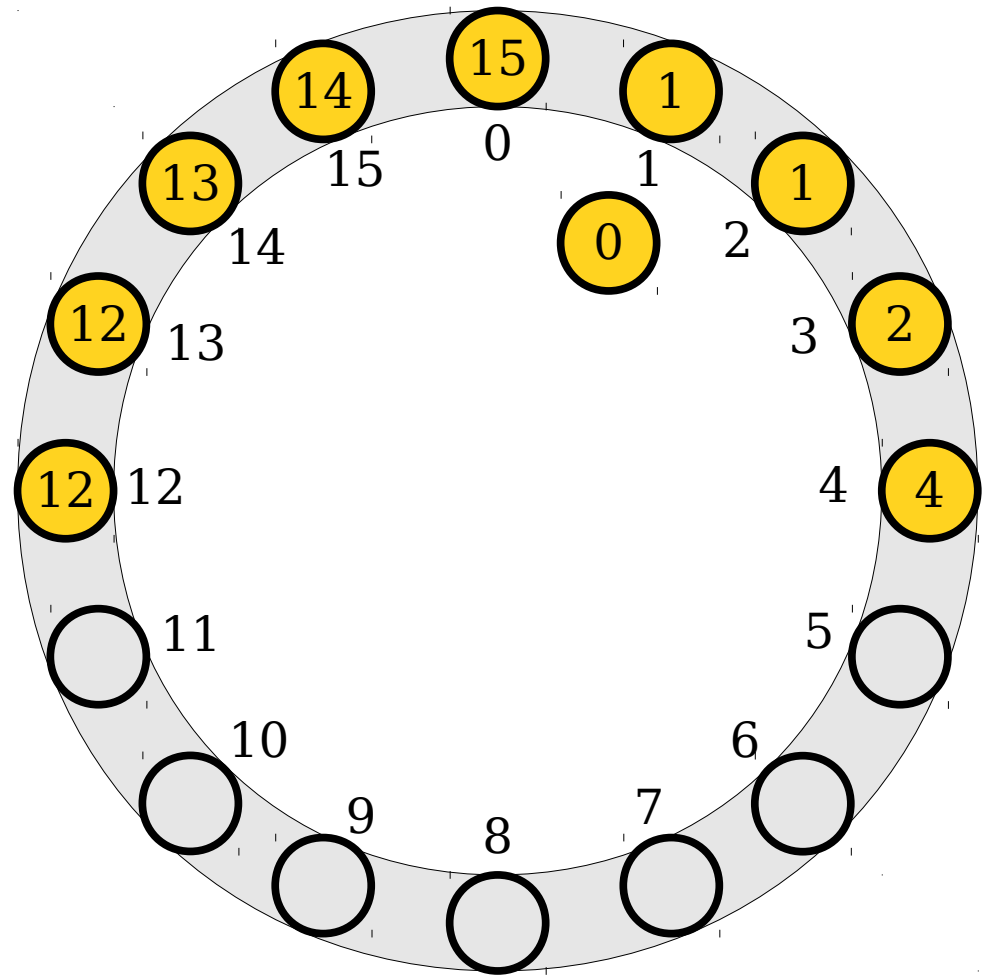
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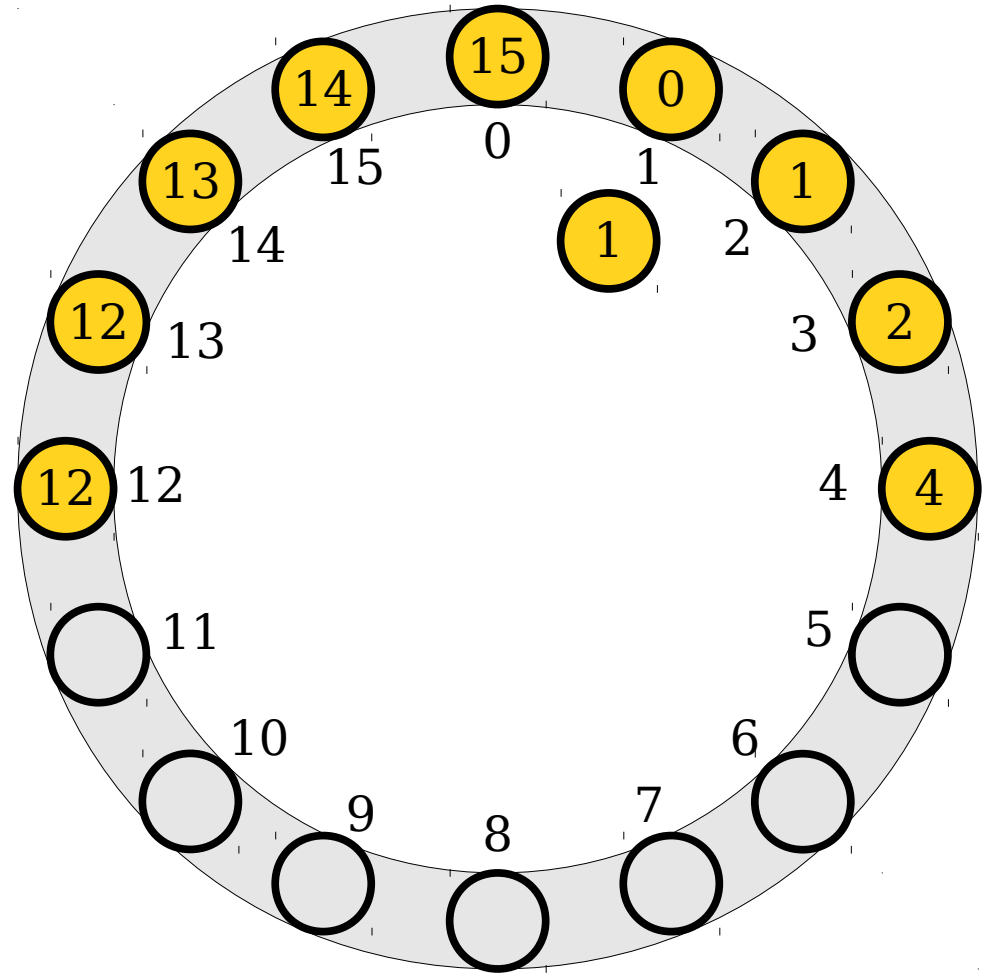
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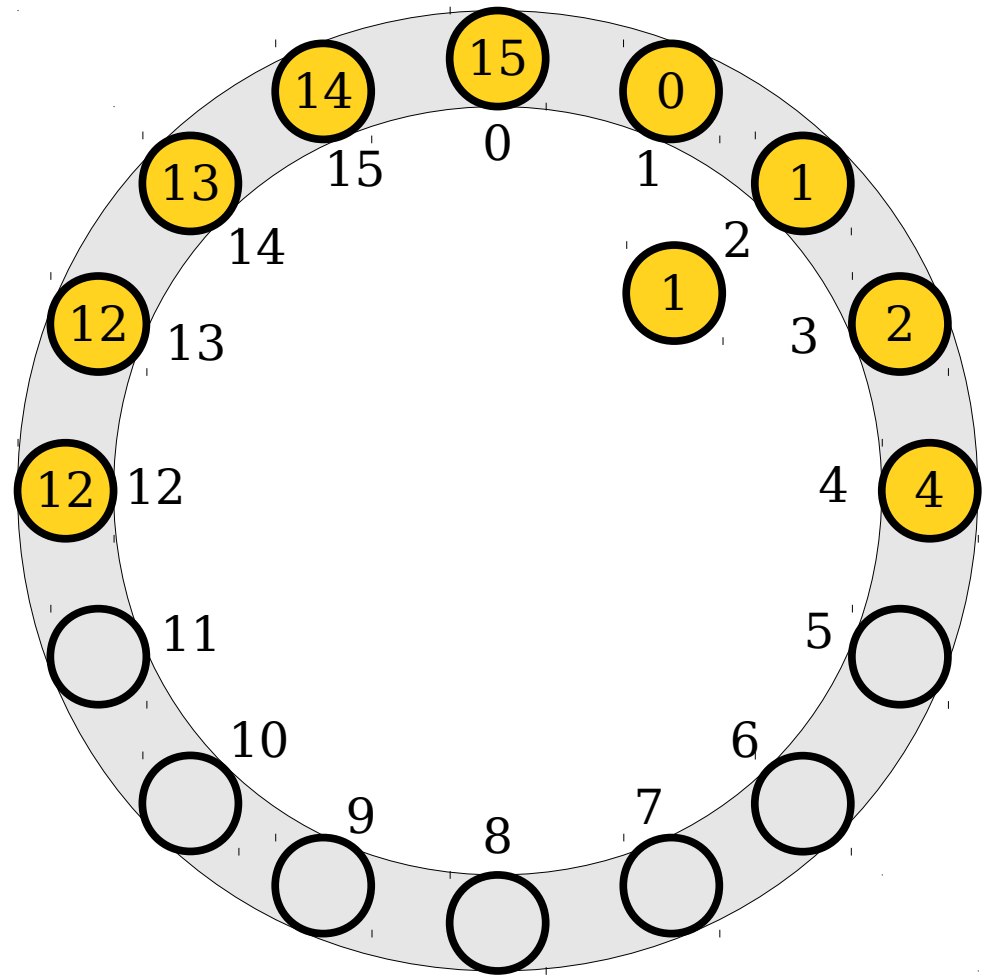
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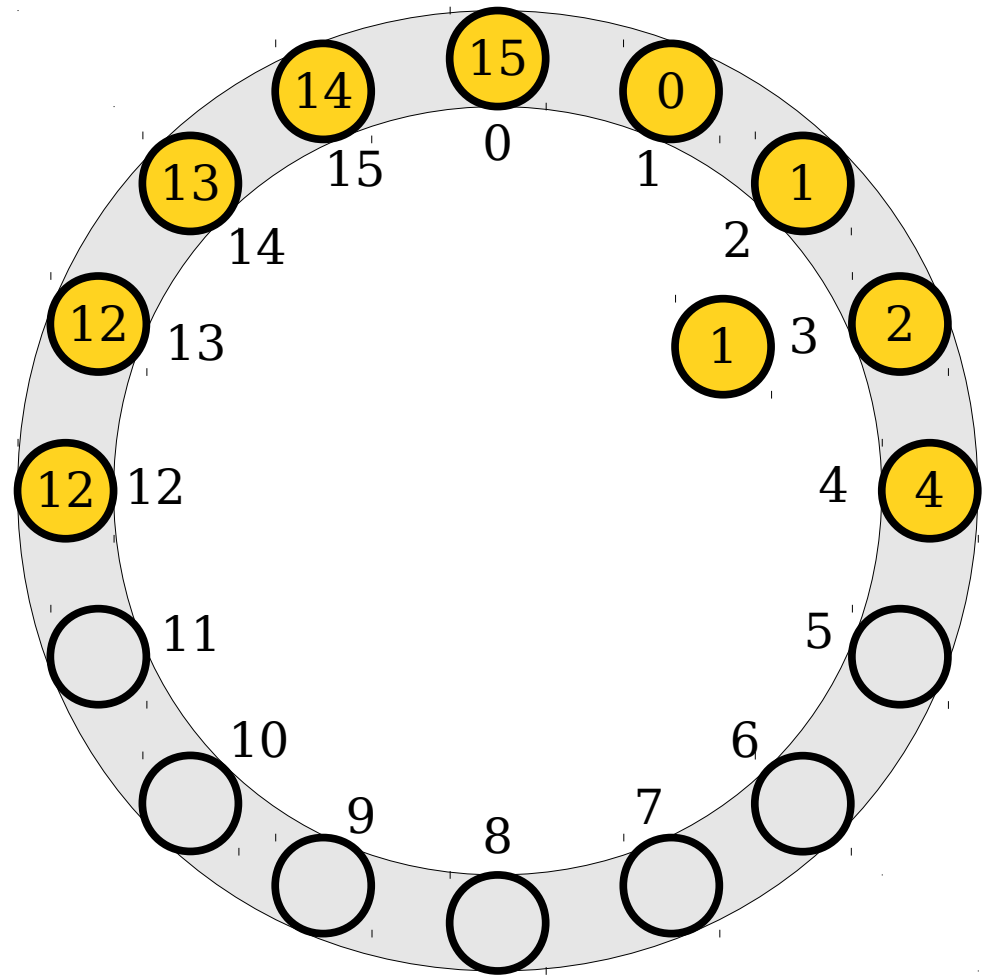
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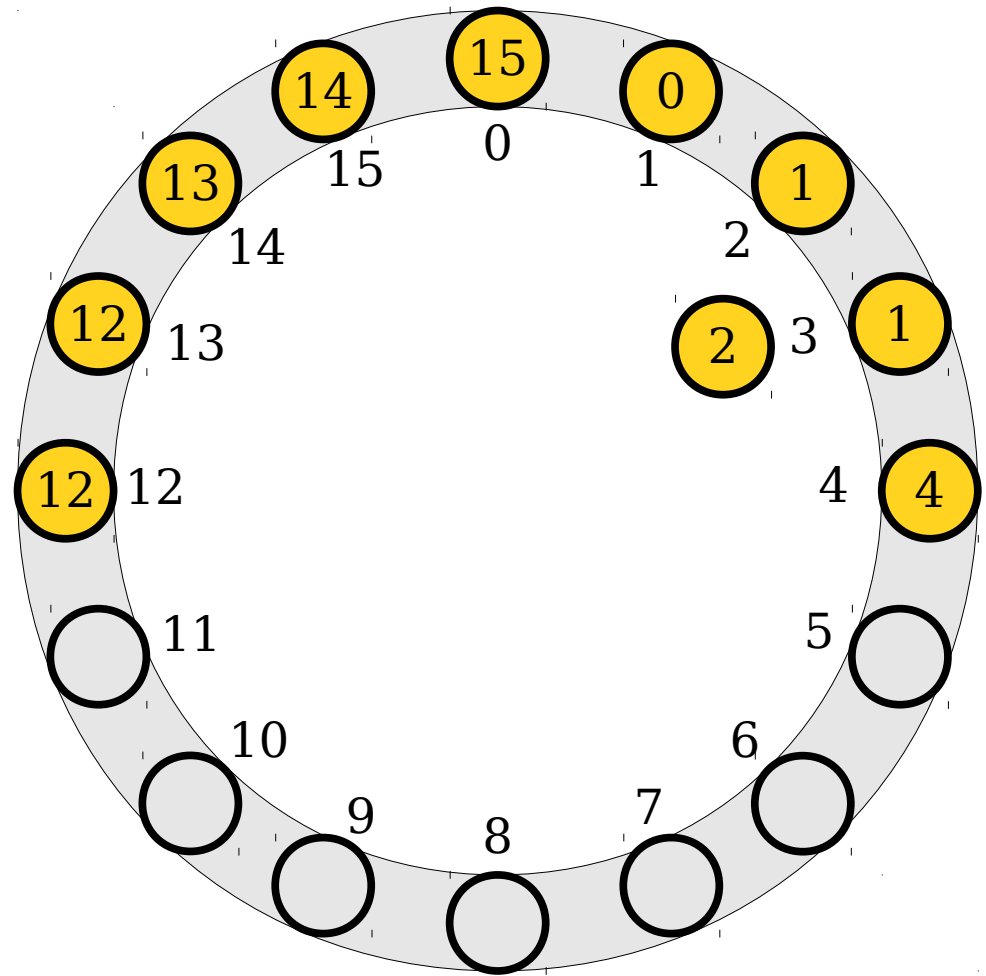
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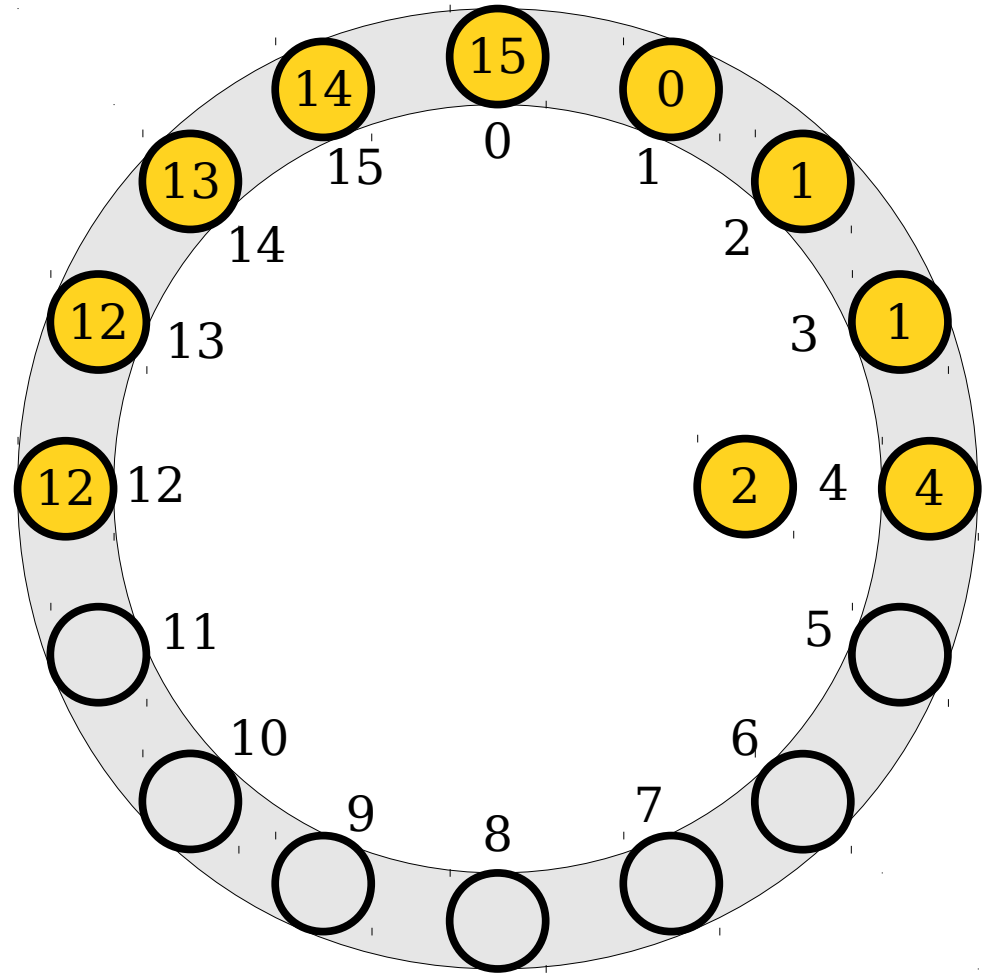
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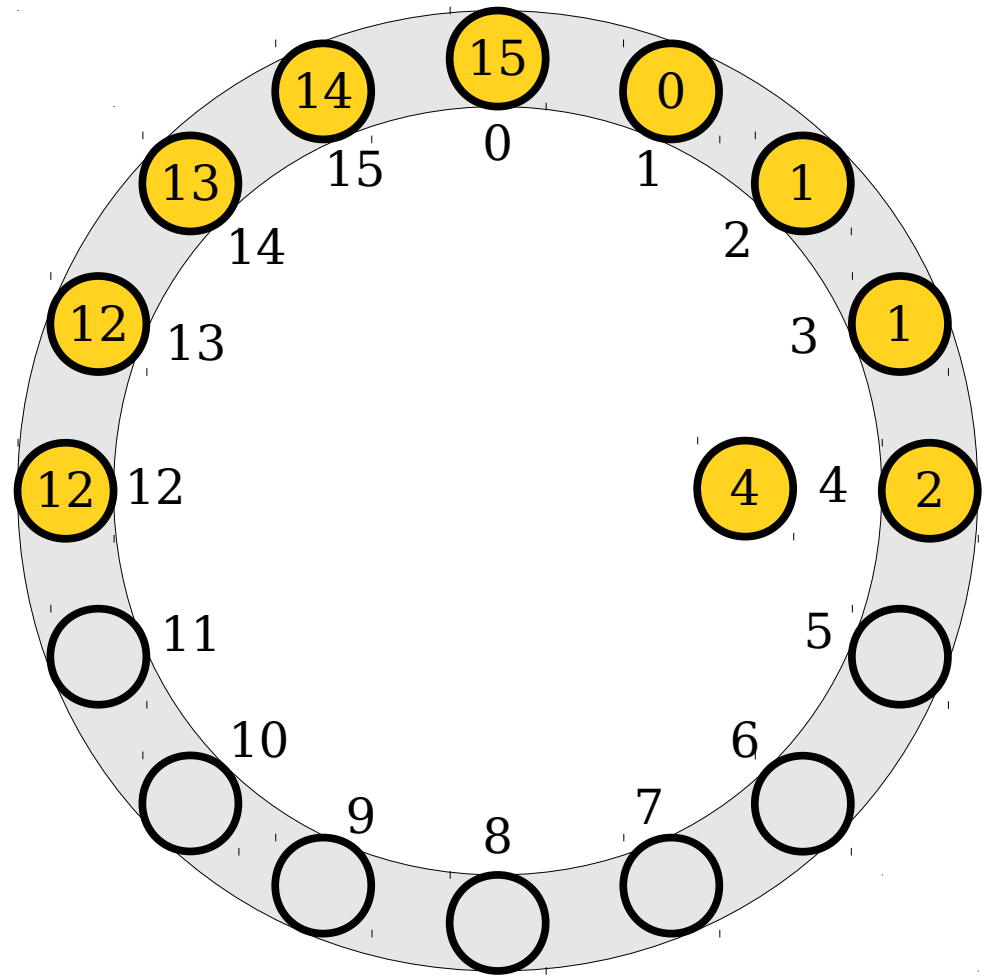
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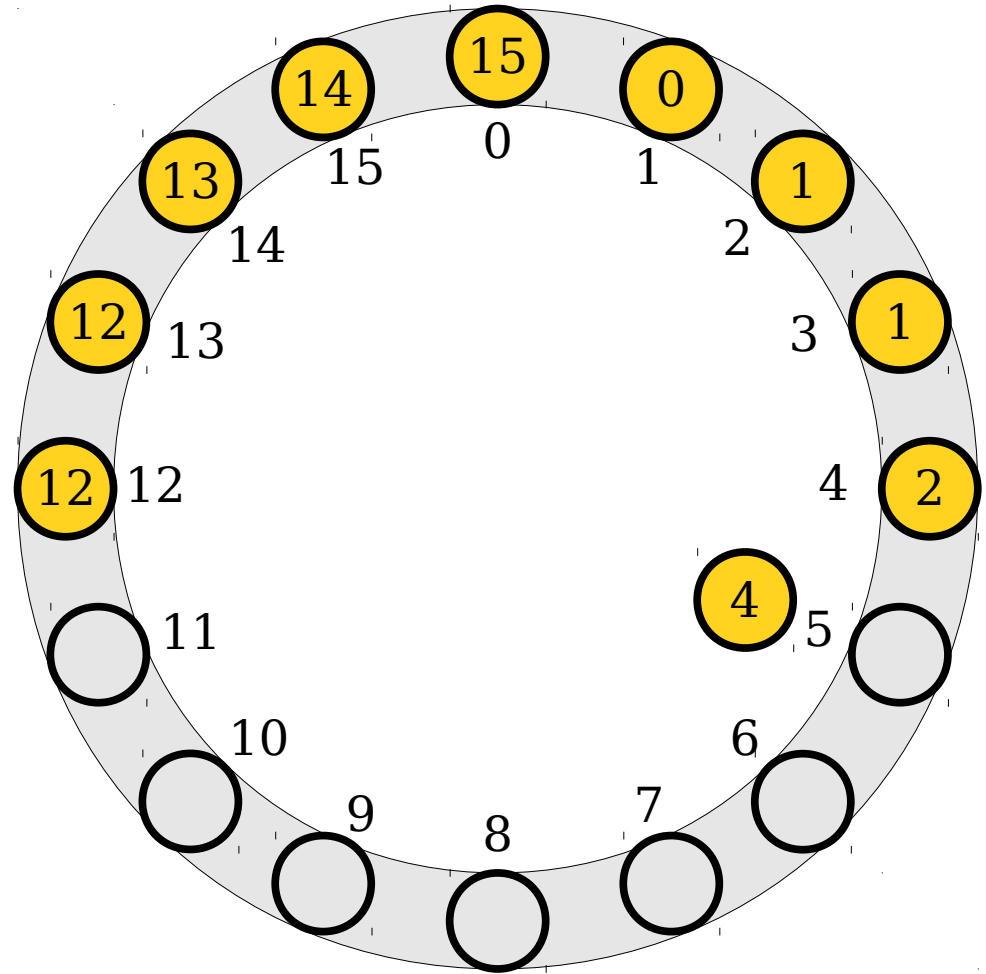
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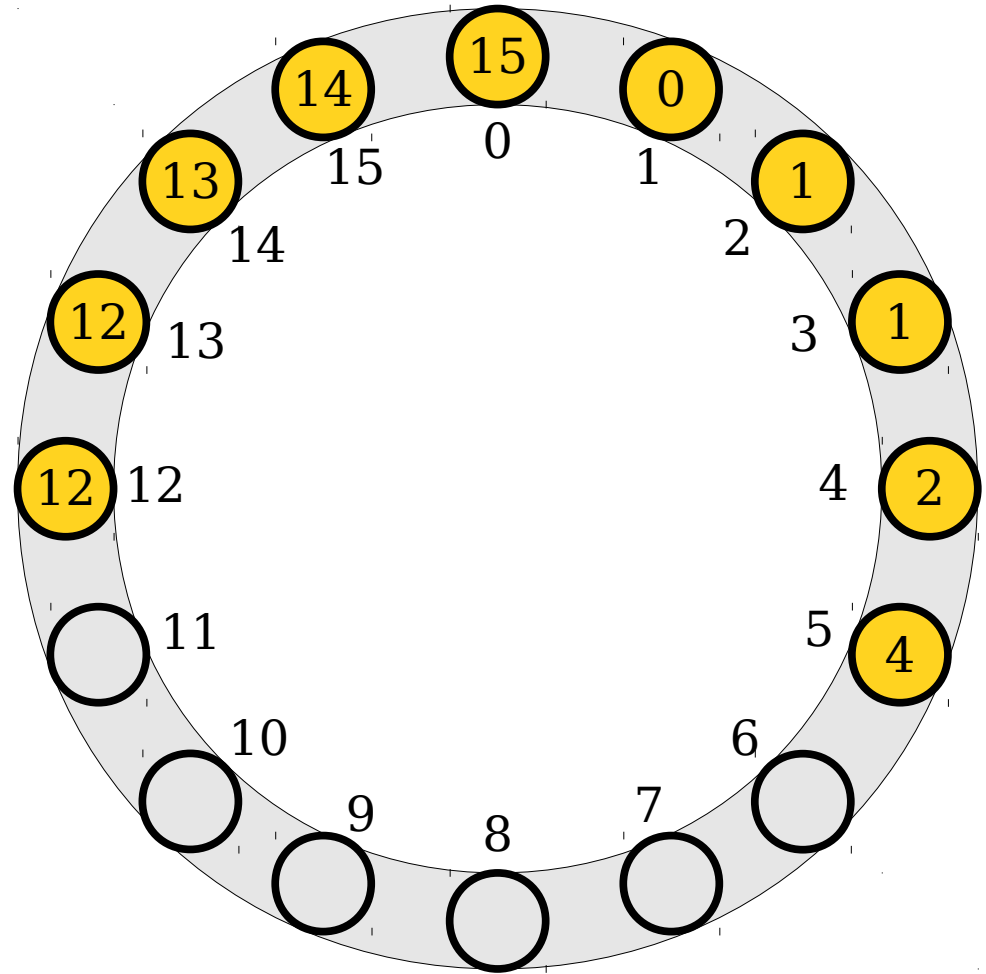
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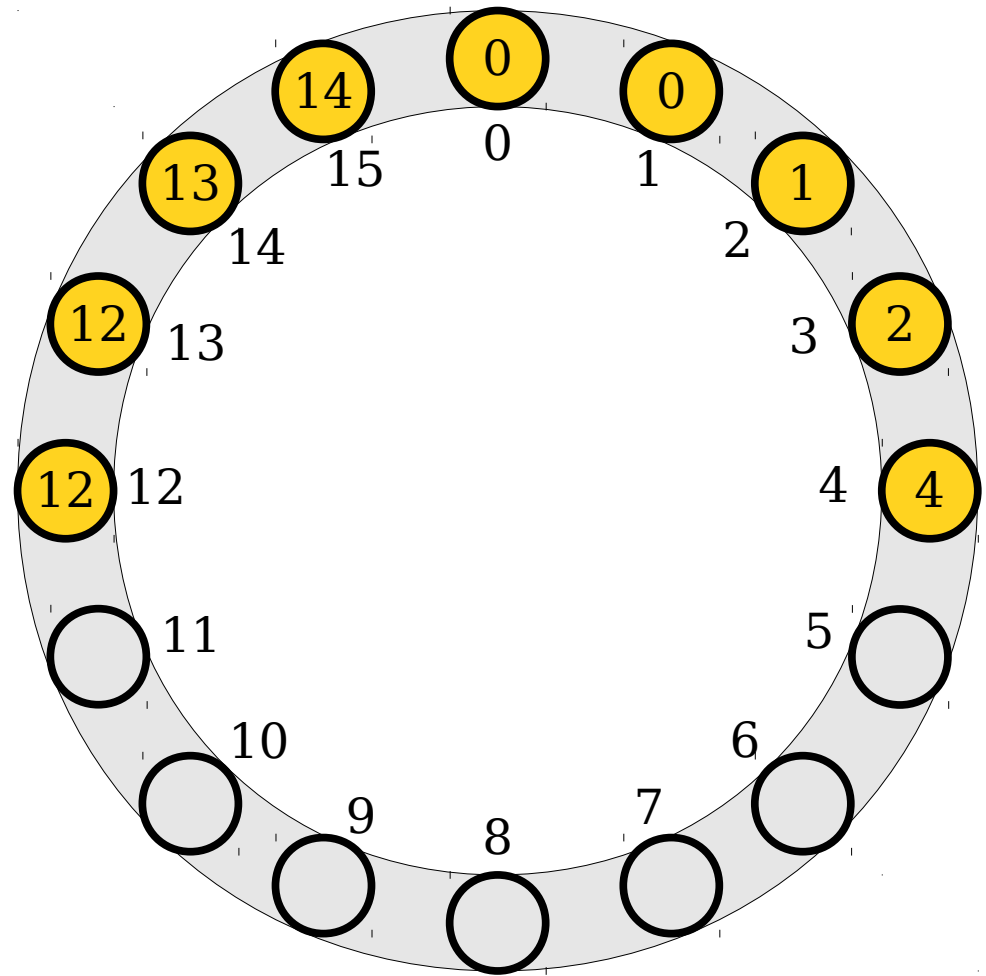
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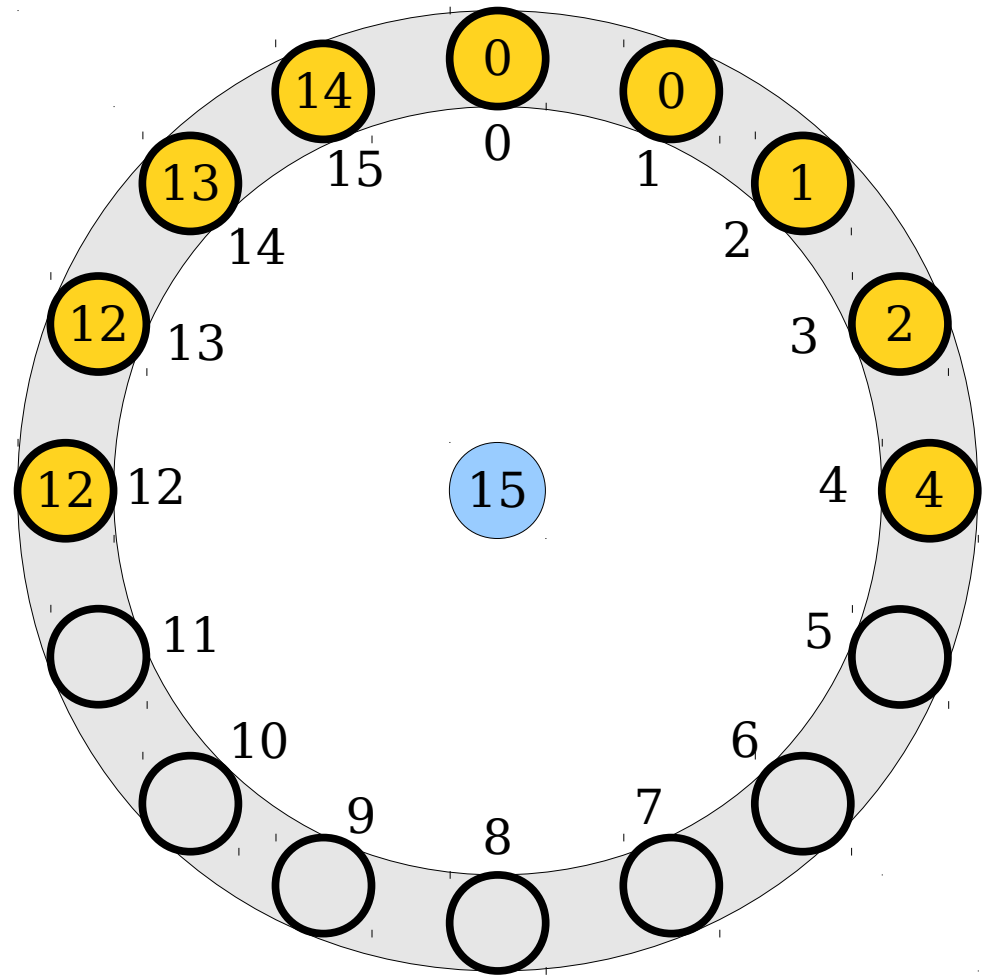
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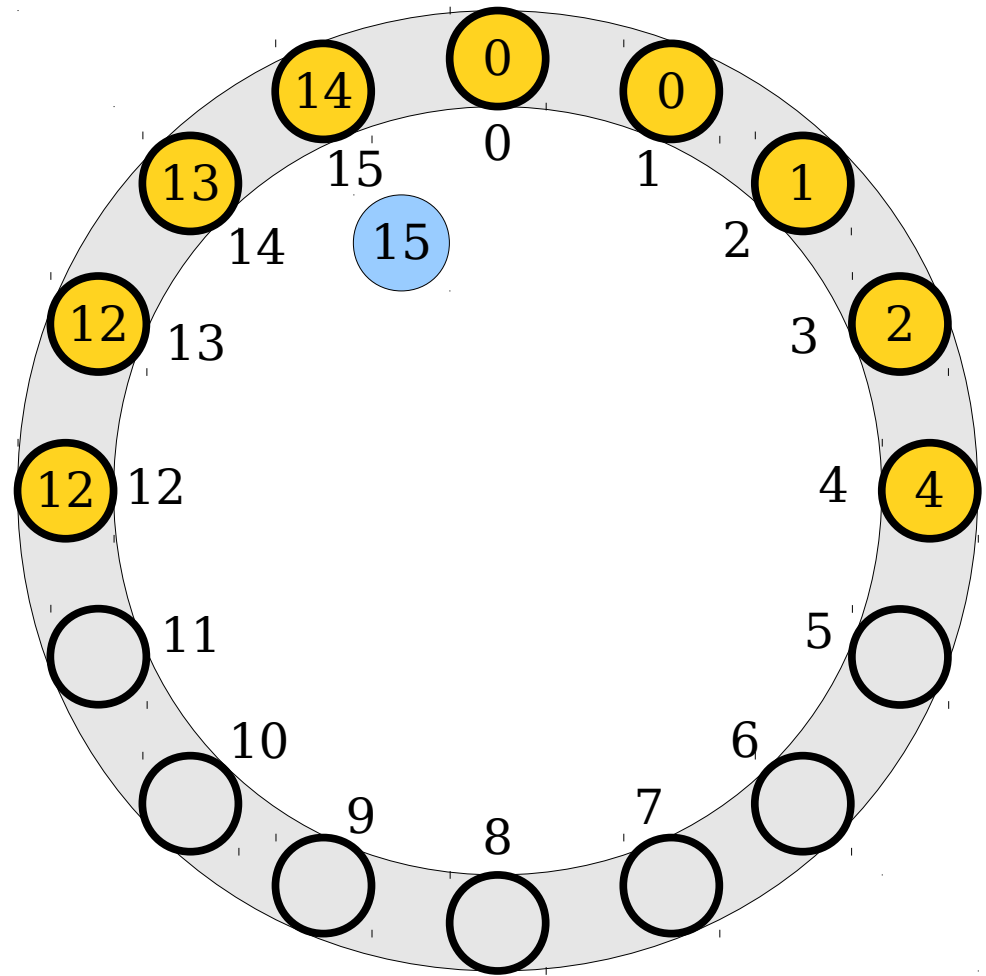
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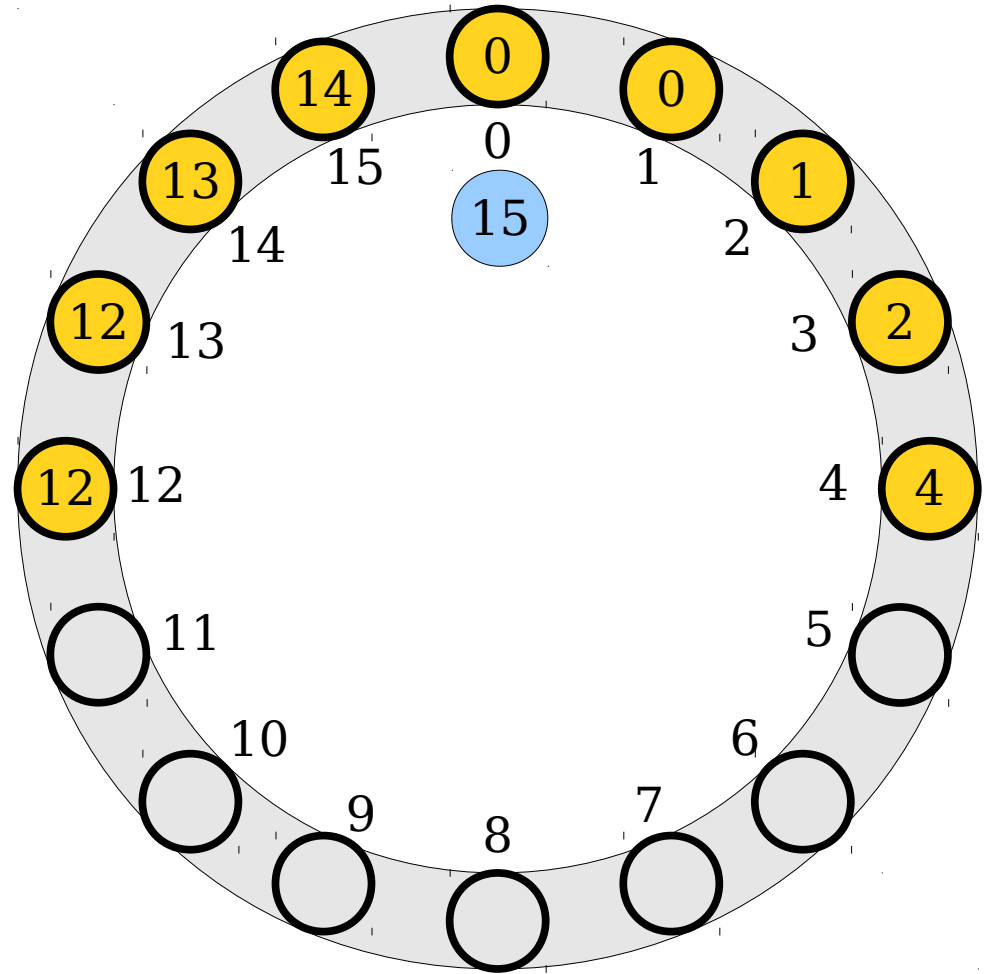
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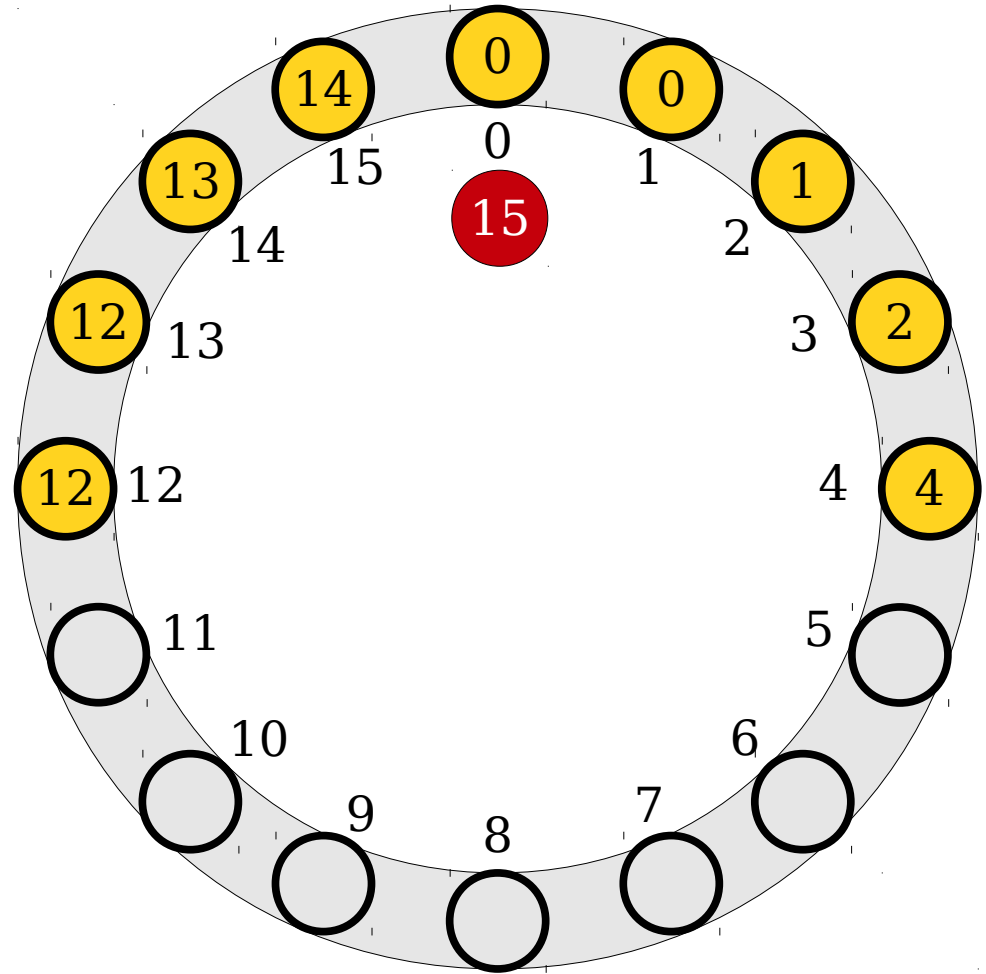
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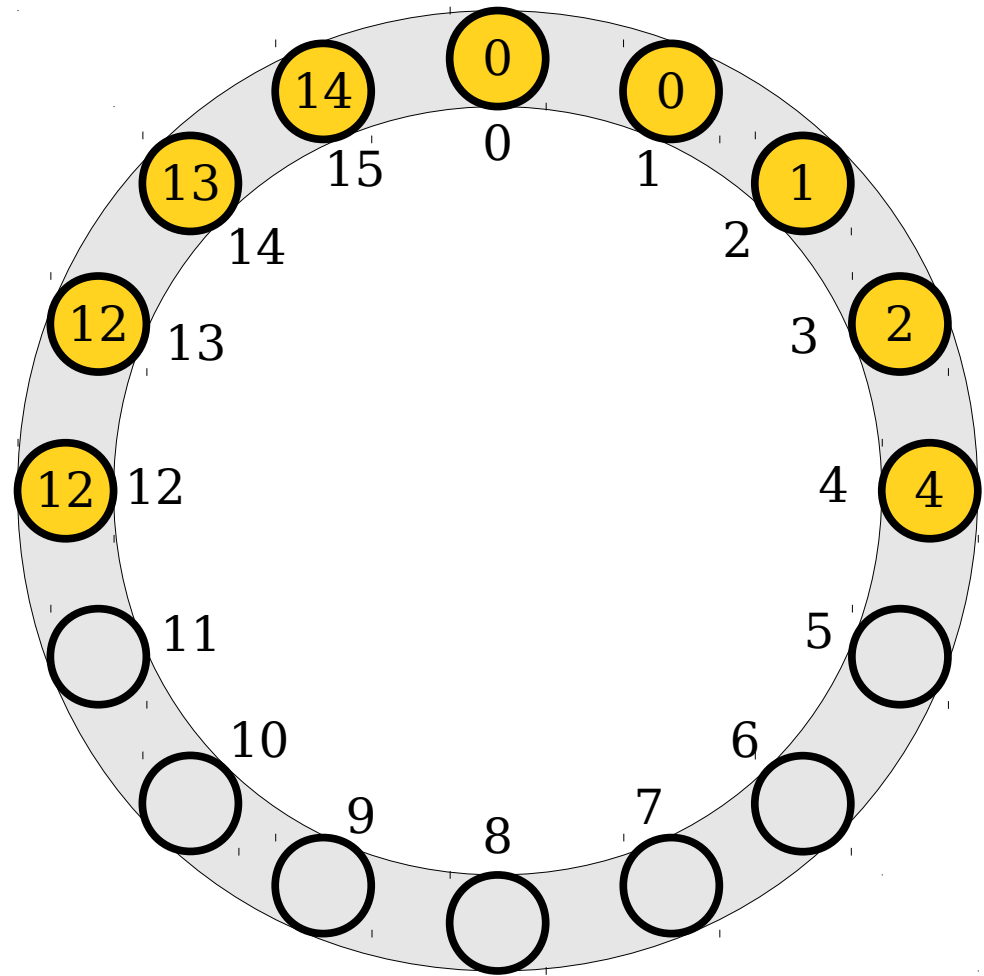
- **Robin Hood hashing** is a variation of open addressing where keys can be moved after they're placed.
- When an existing key is found during an insertion that's closer to its “home” location than the new key, it's displaced to make room for it.
- This dramatically decreases the variance in the expected number of lookups.
- It also makes it possible to terminate searches early.





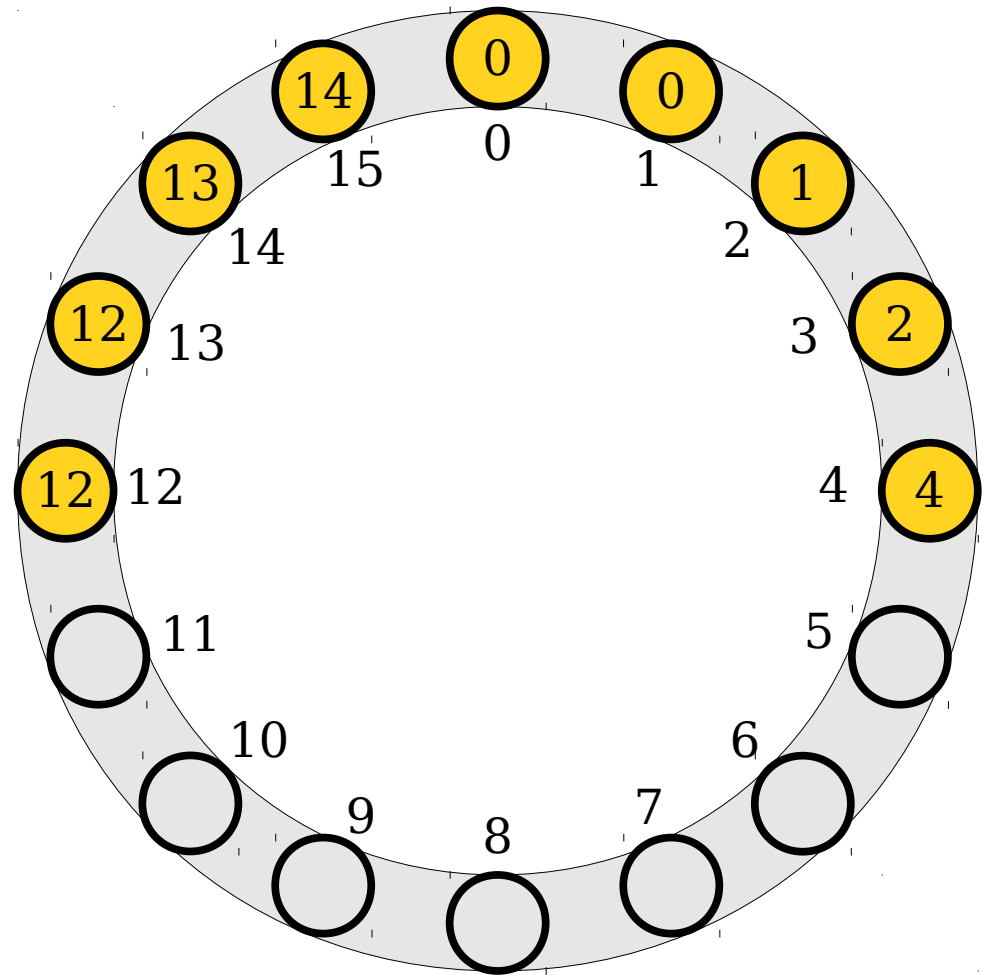
# Robin Hood Hashing

- **Theorem:** The expected cost of a lookup in Robin Hood hashing, using 5-independent hashing, is  $O(1)$ , assuming a constant load factor.
- **Proof idea:** Each element is hashed into the same run as it would have been hashed to in linear probing.



# Robin Hood Hashing

- **Theorem:** Assuming truly random hash functions, the variance of the expected number of probes required in Robin Hood hashing is  $O(\log \log n)$ .
- **Proof:** Tricky; see Celis' Ph.D thesis.



# Where We Stand

- We now have two interesting ideas for improving performance:
  - ***Second-choice hashing***: Give each element multiple homes to pick from.
  - ***Relocation hashing***: Move elements after placing them.
- Each idea, individually, exponentially decreases the worst-case cost of a lookup by decreasing the variance in the element distribution.
- What happens if we combine these ideas together?

# Cuckoo Hashing

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- Maintain two tables, each of which has  $m$  elements.
- We choose two hash functions  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  from  $\mathcal{U}$  to  $[m]$ .
- Every element  $x \in \mathcal{U}$  will either be at position  $h_1(x)$  in the first table or  $h_2(x)$  in the second.

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$T_1$

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$T_2$

# Cuckoo Hashing

- Lookups take *worst-case* time  $O(1)$  because only two locations must be checked.

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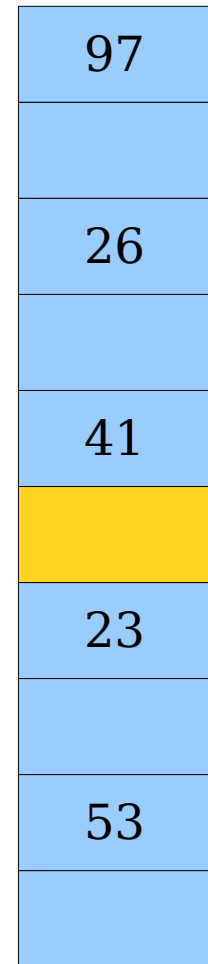
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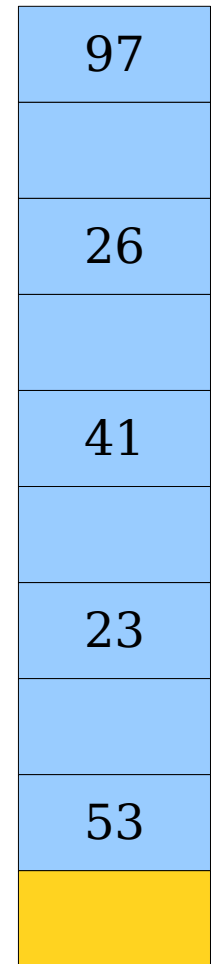


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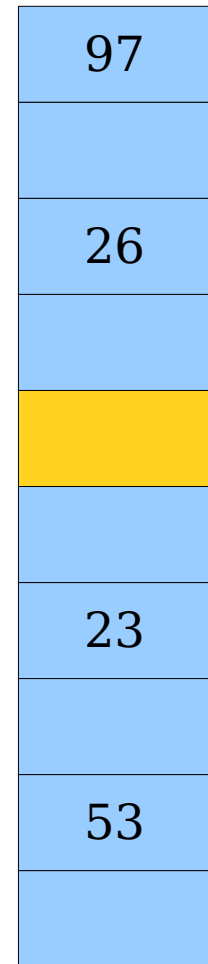
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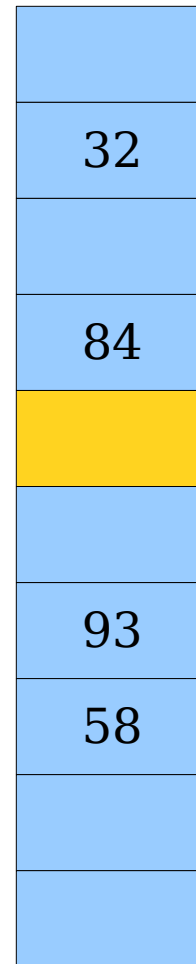
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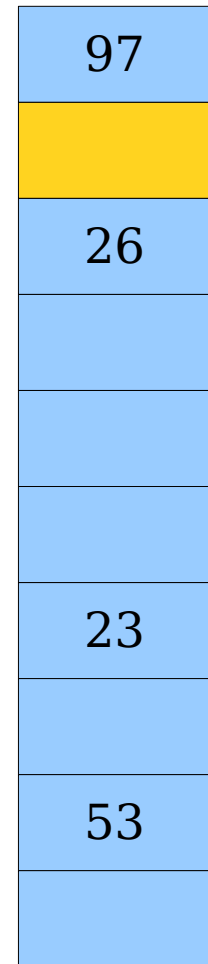


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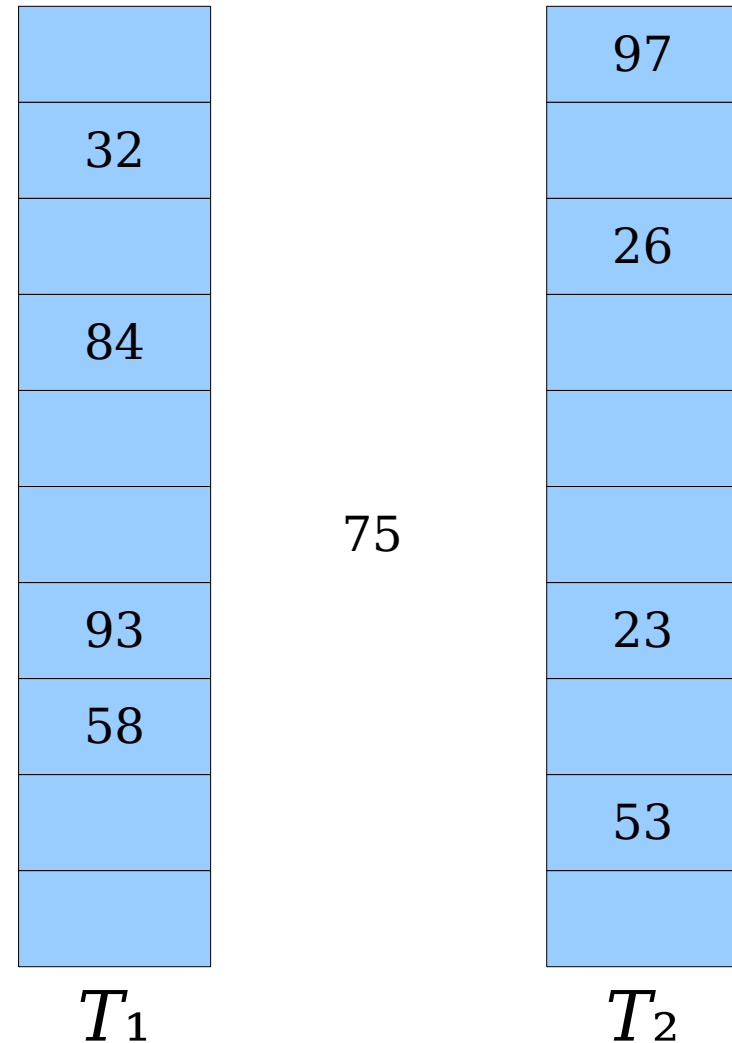
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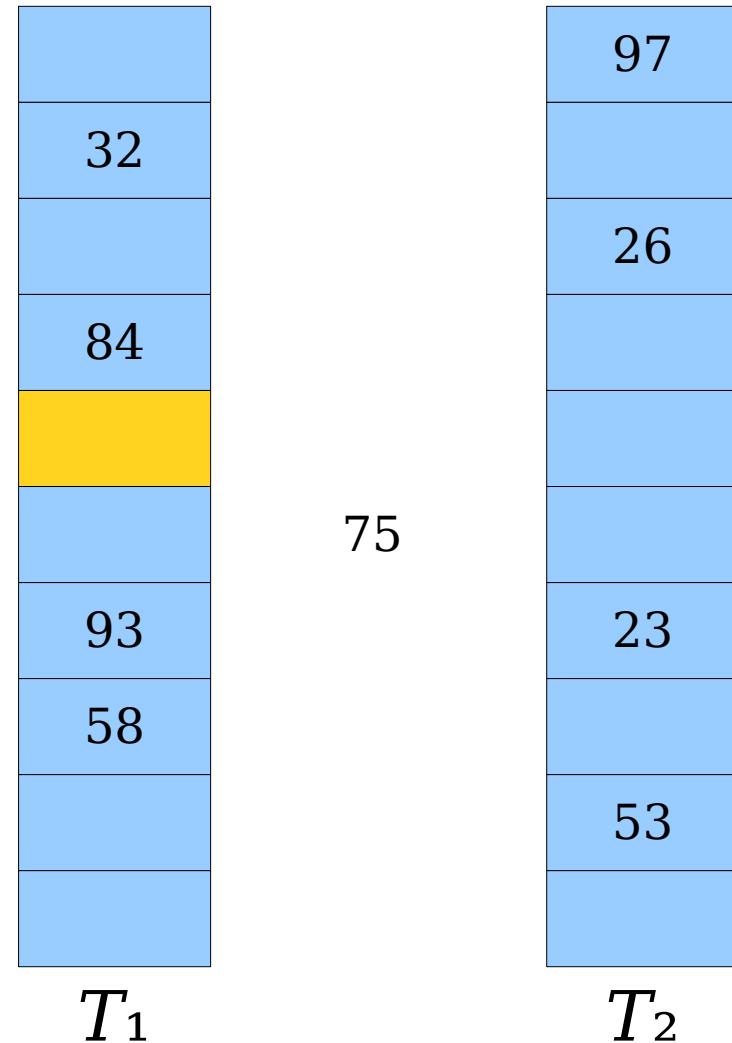
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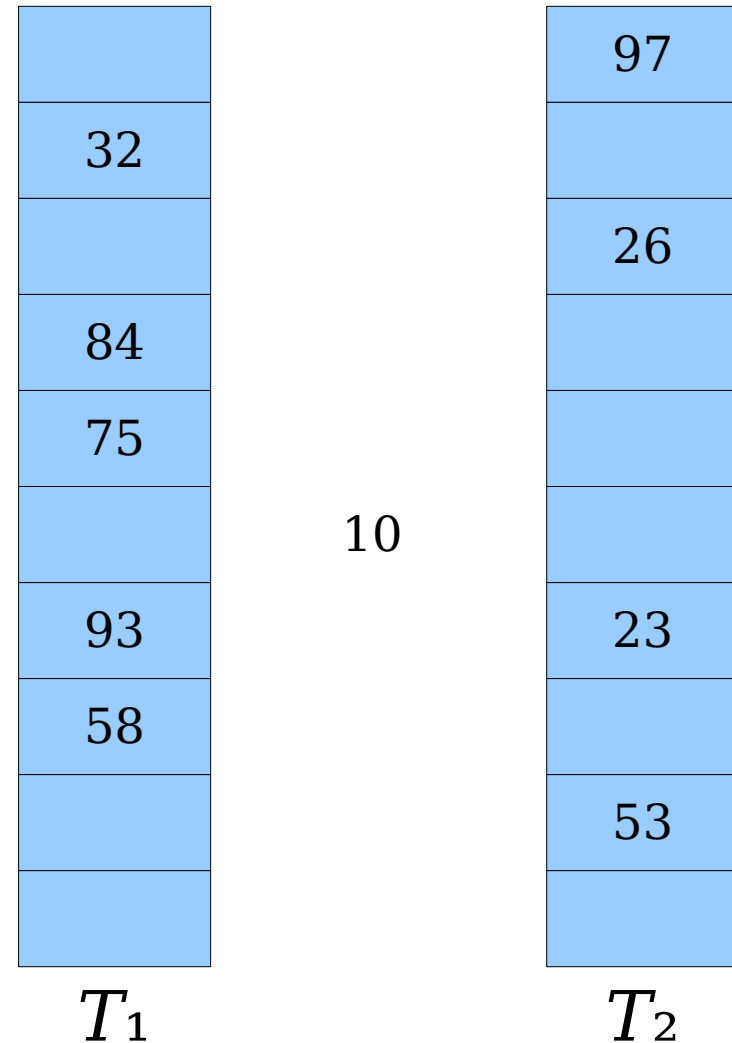
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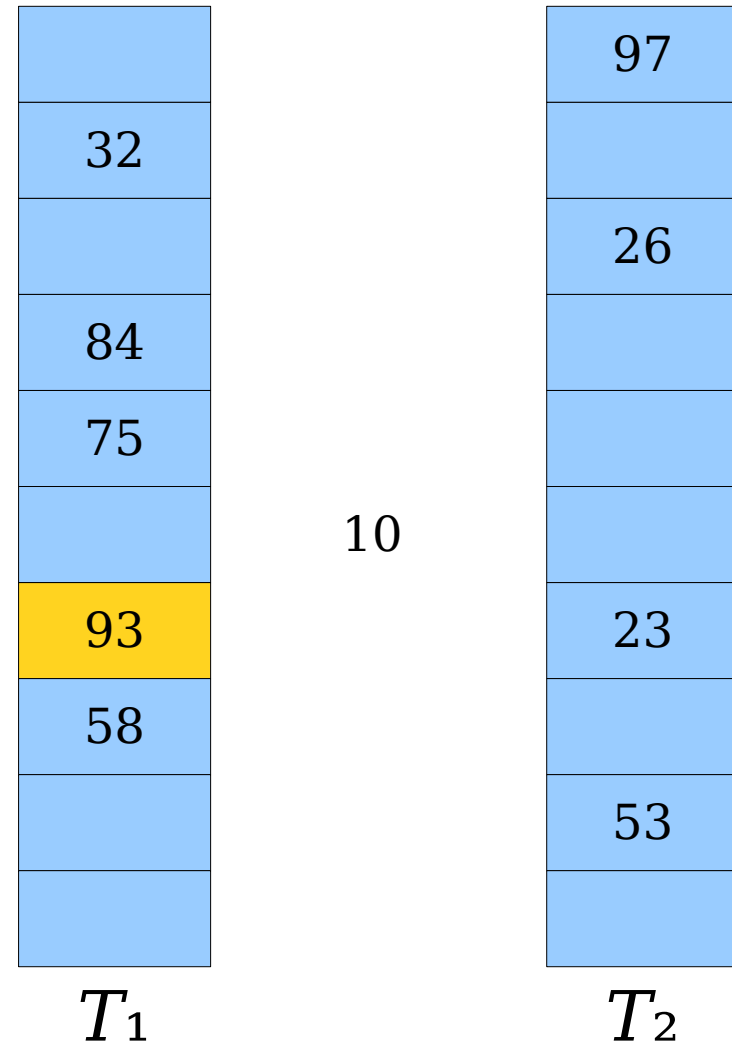
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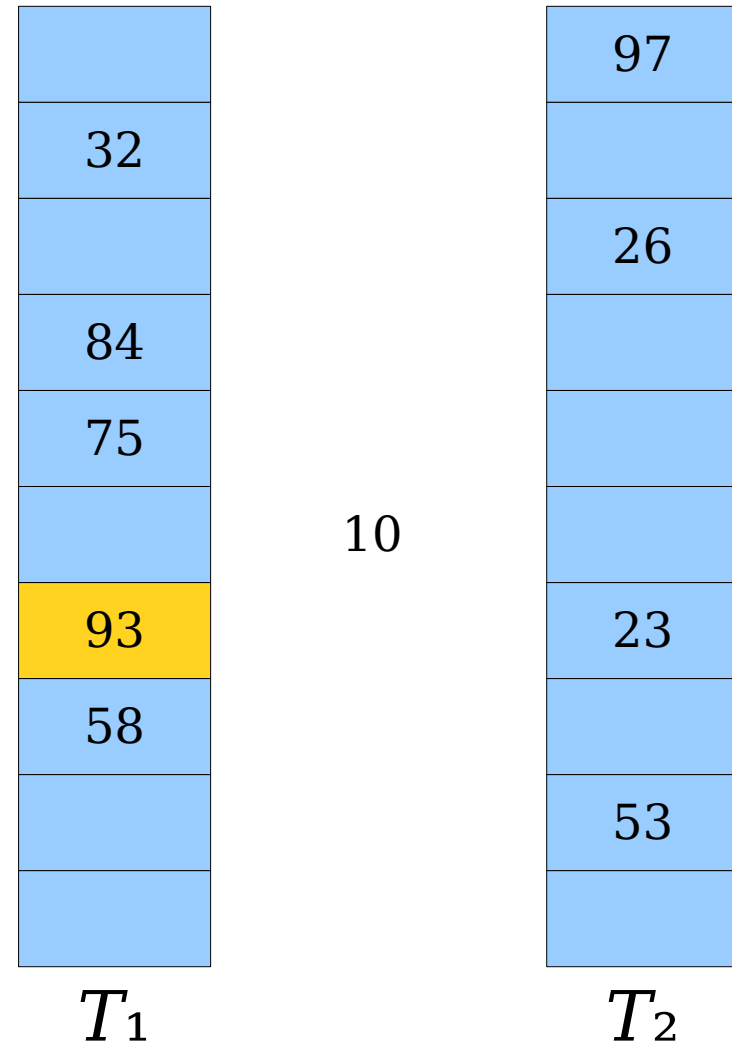
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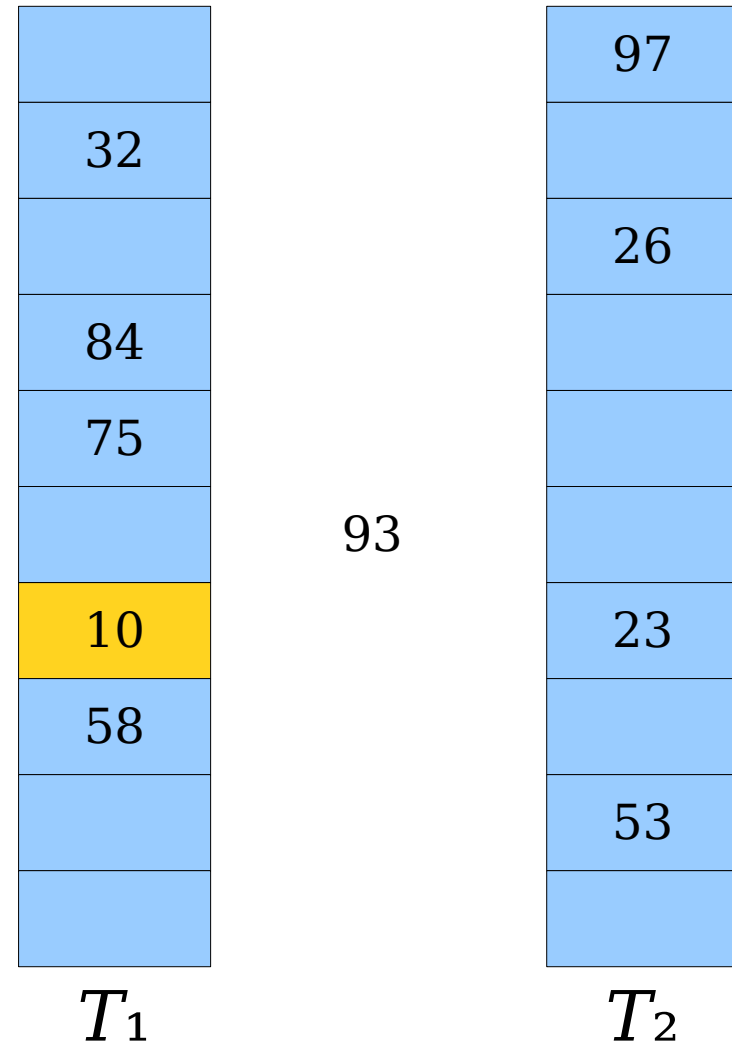
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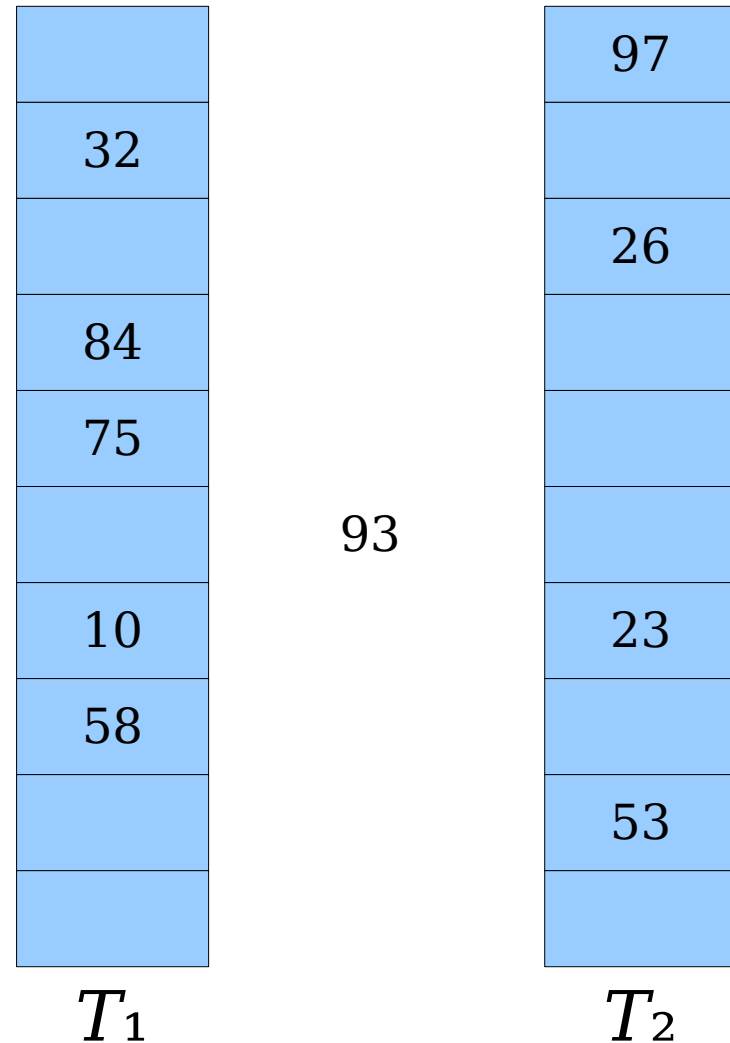
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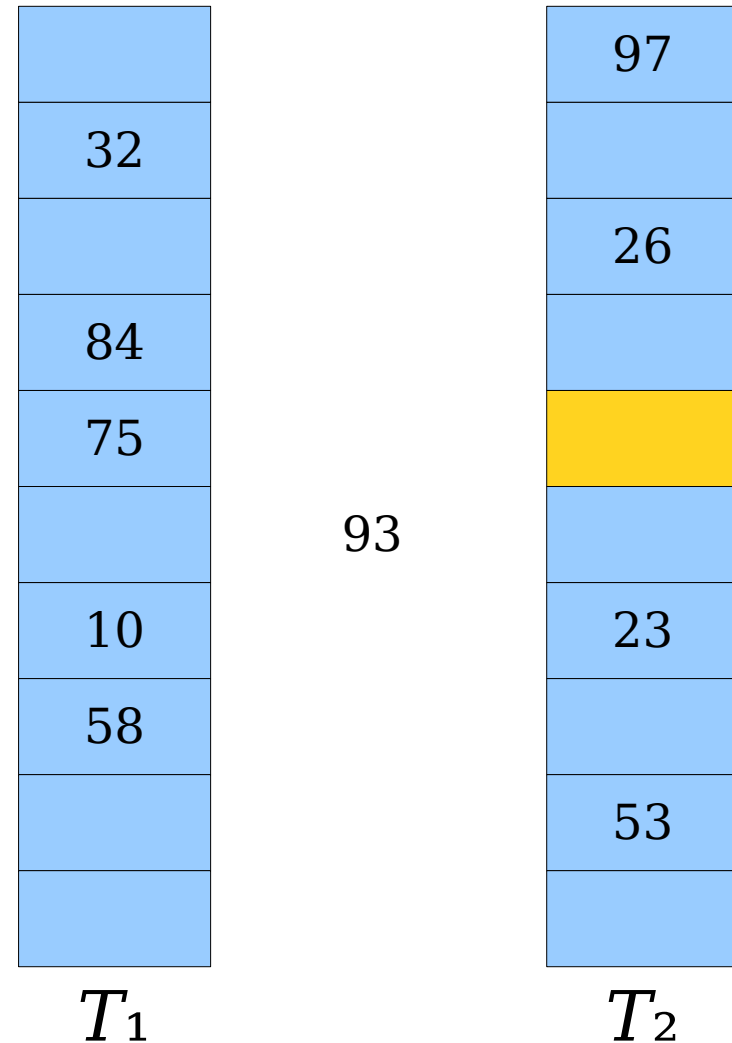
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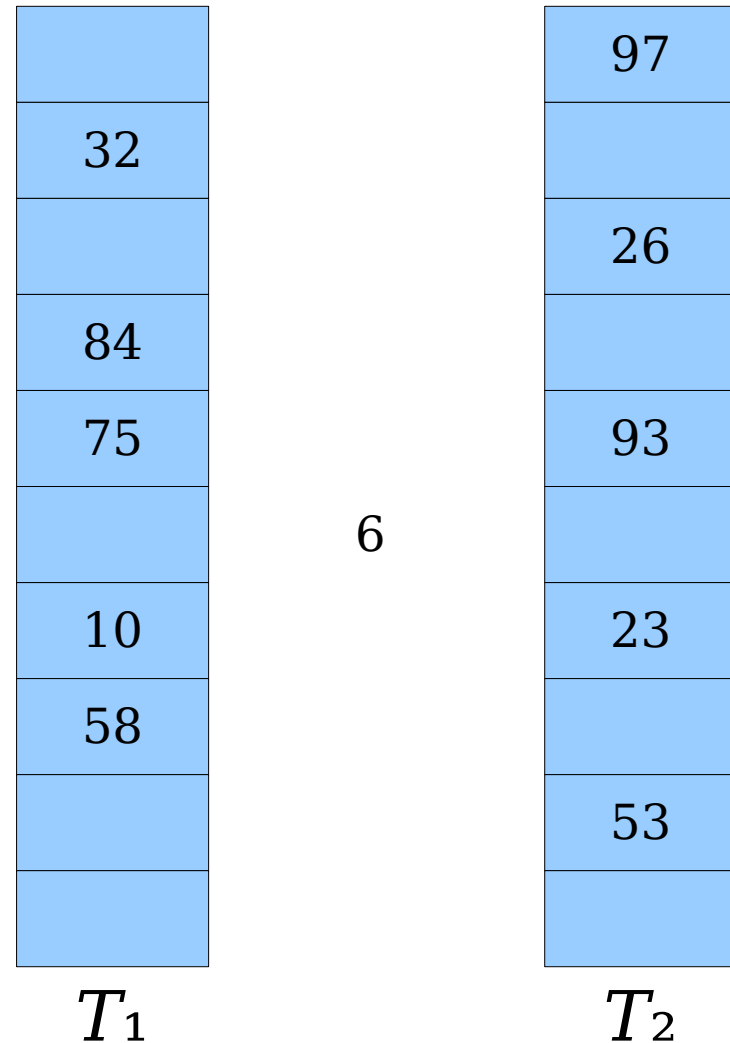
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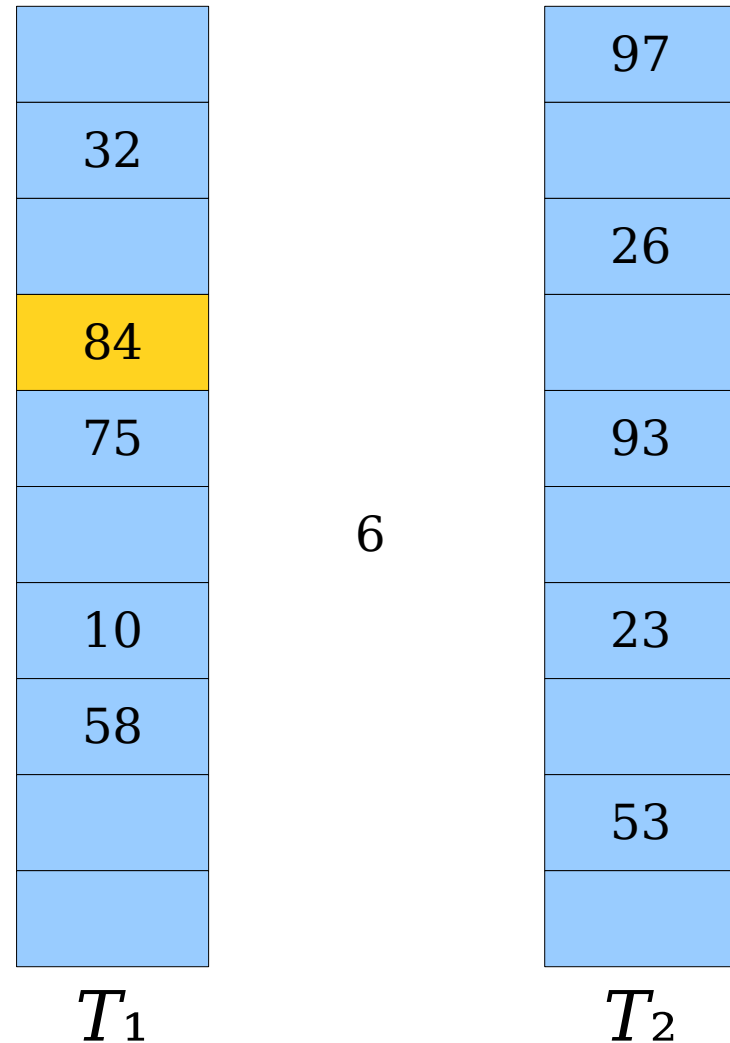
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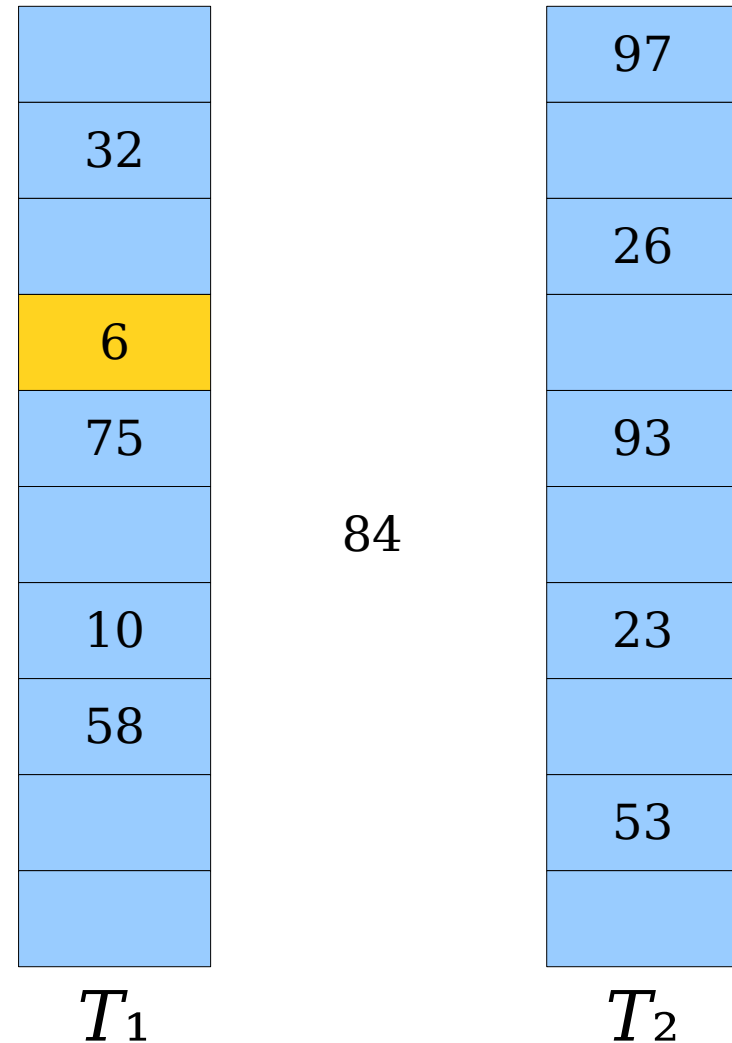
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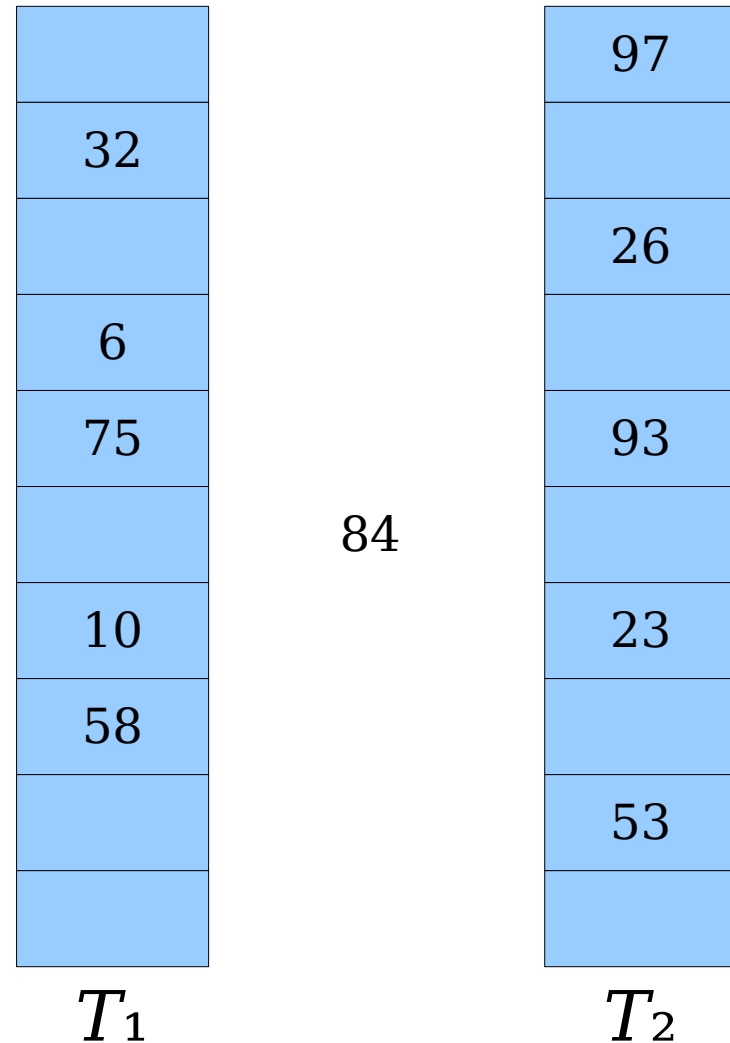
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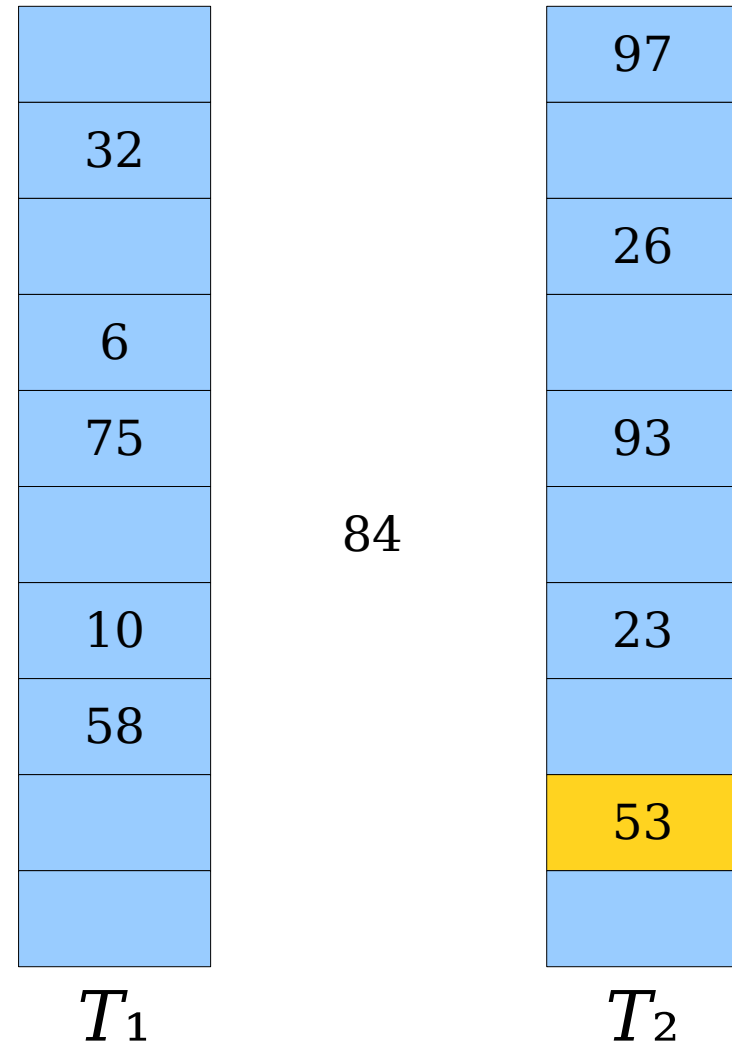
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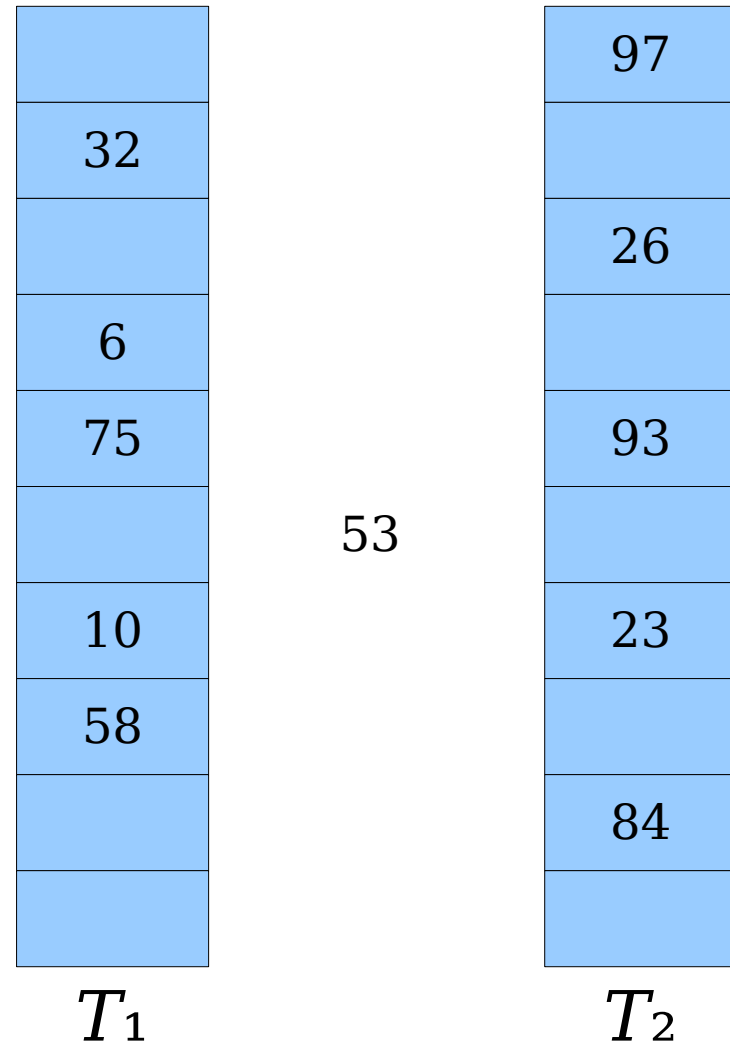
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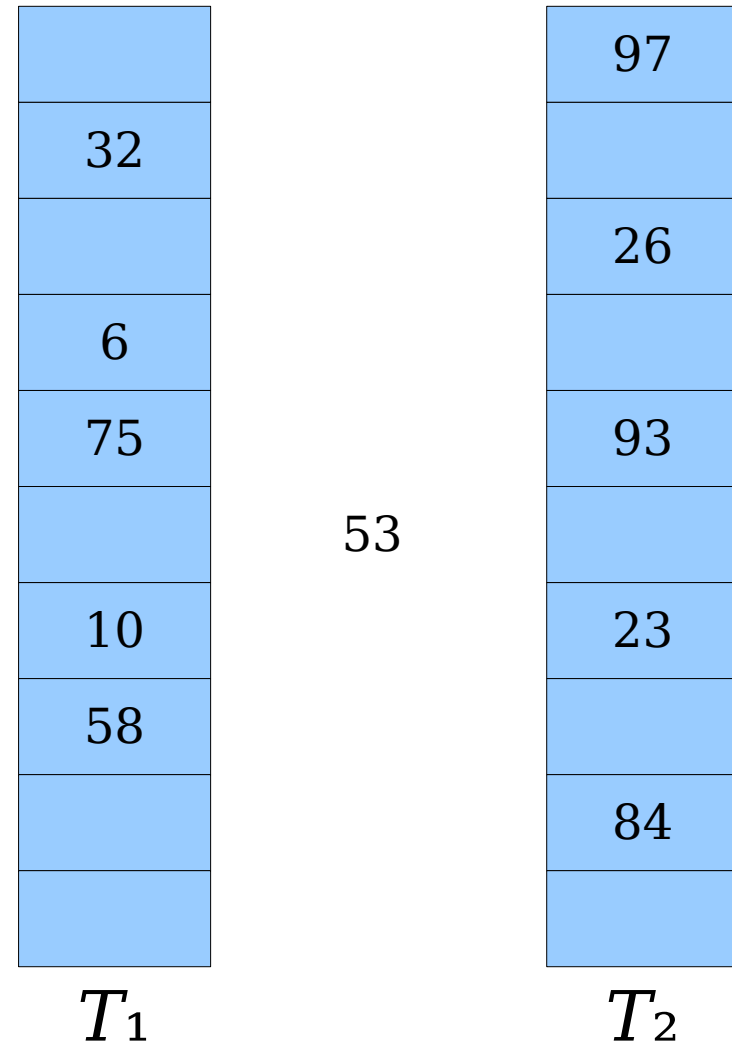
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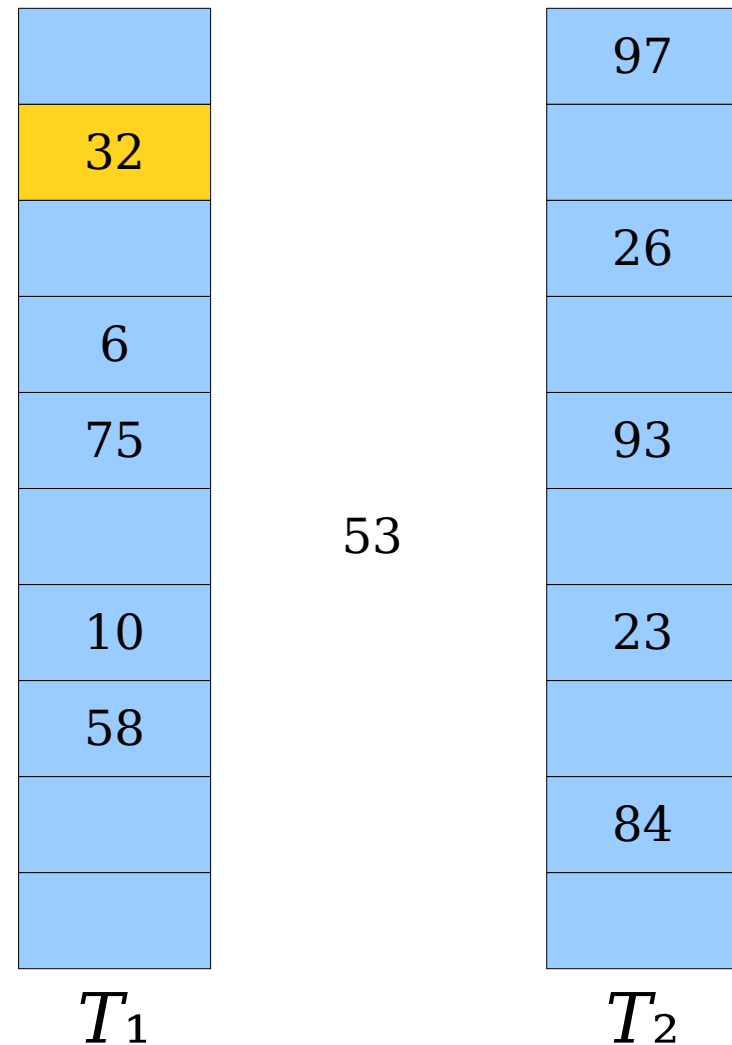
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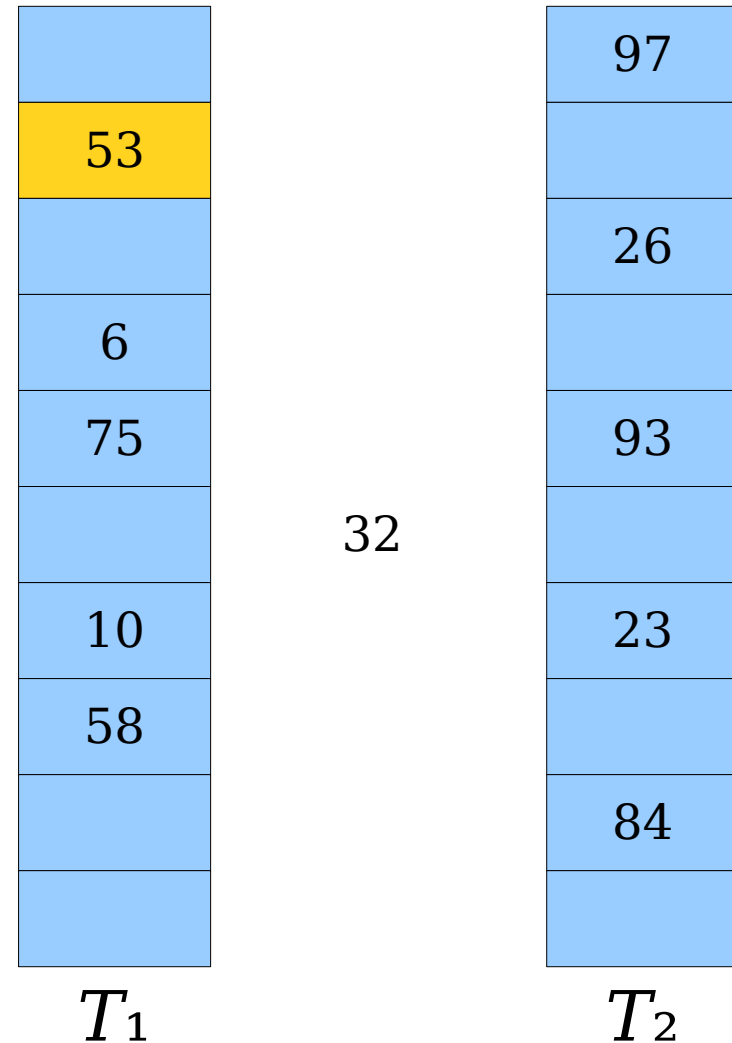
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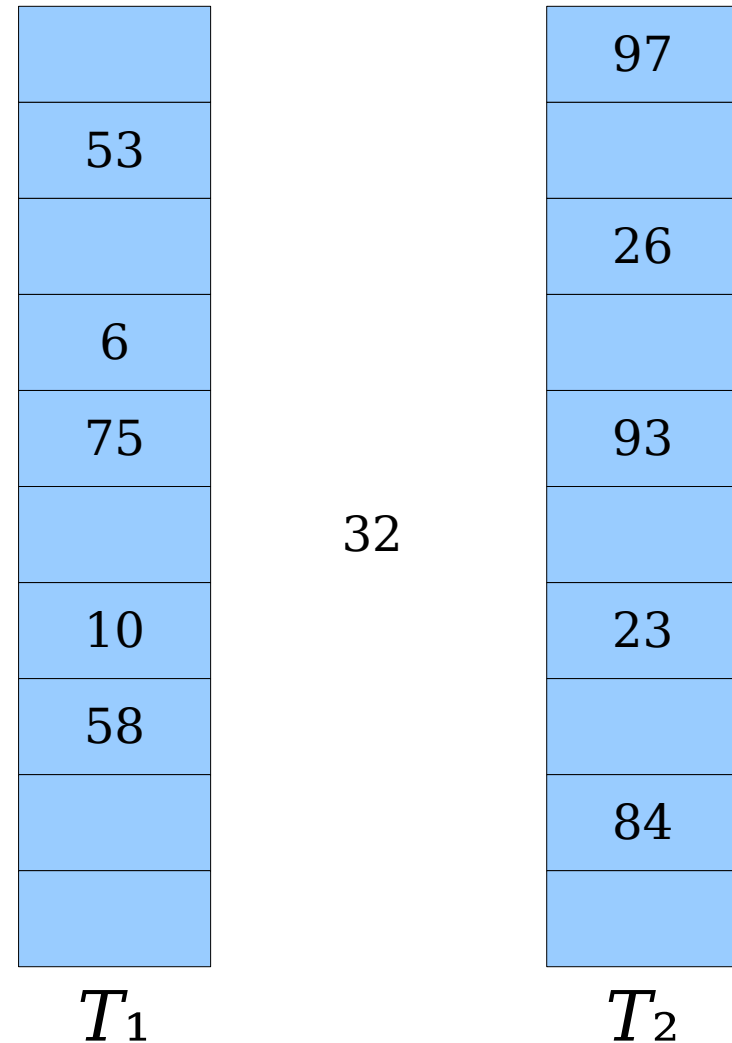
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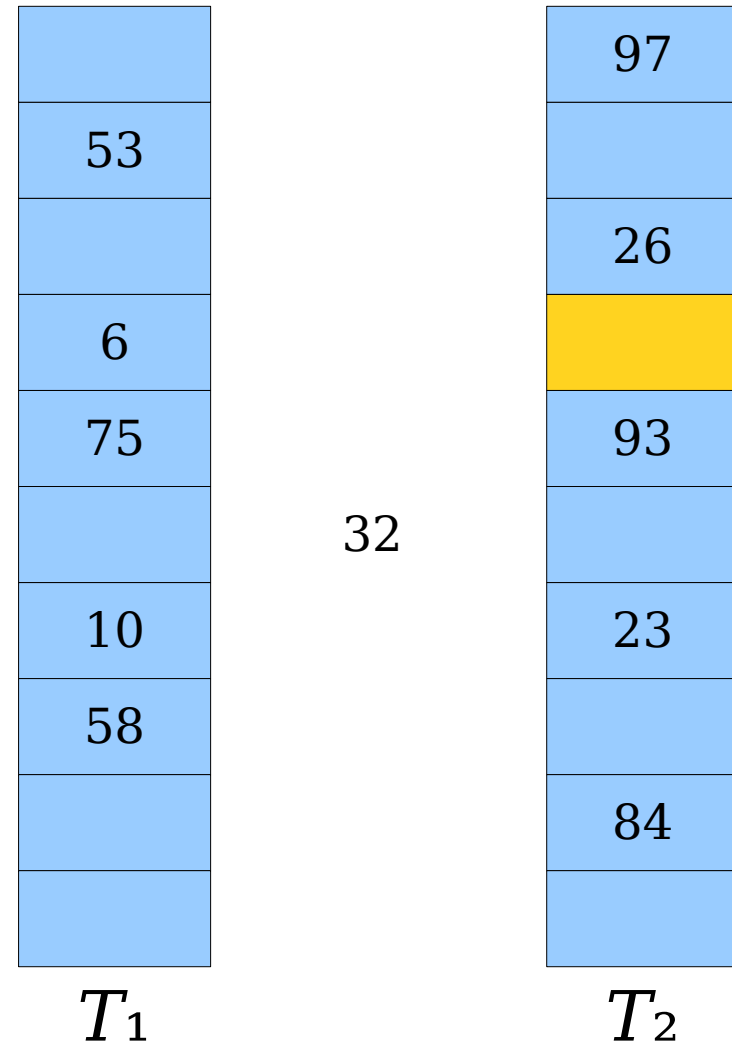
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- An insertion *fails* if the displacements form an infinite cycle.

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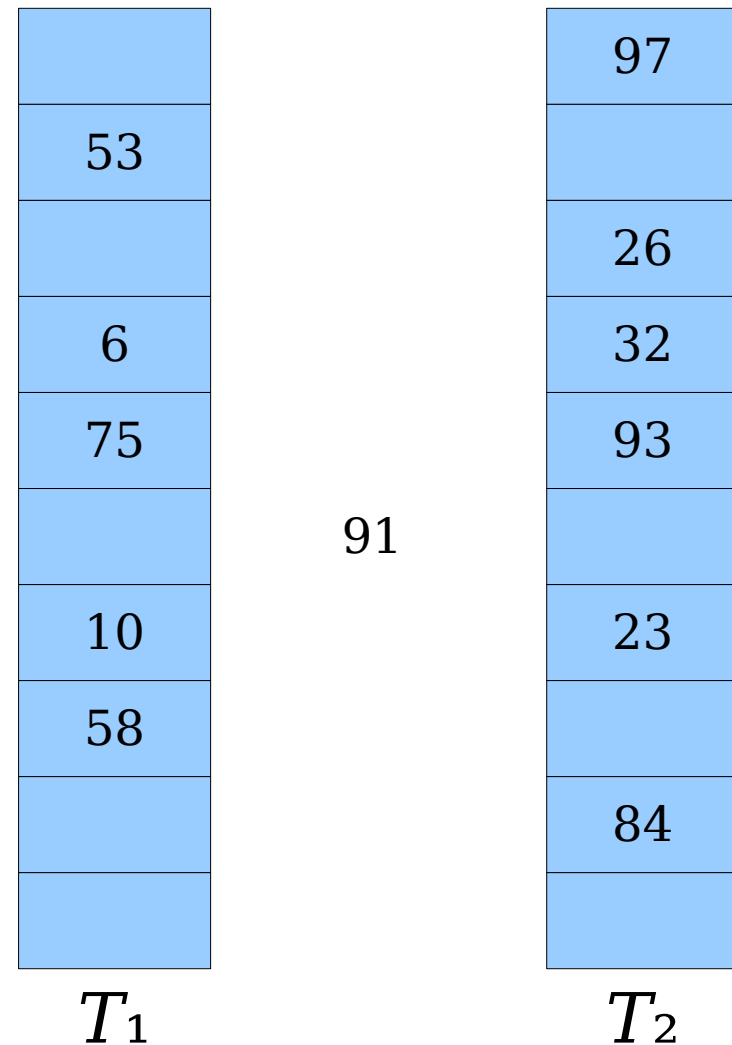
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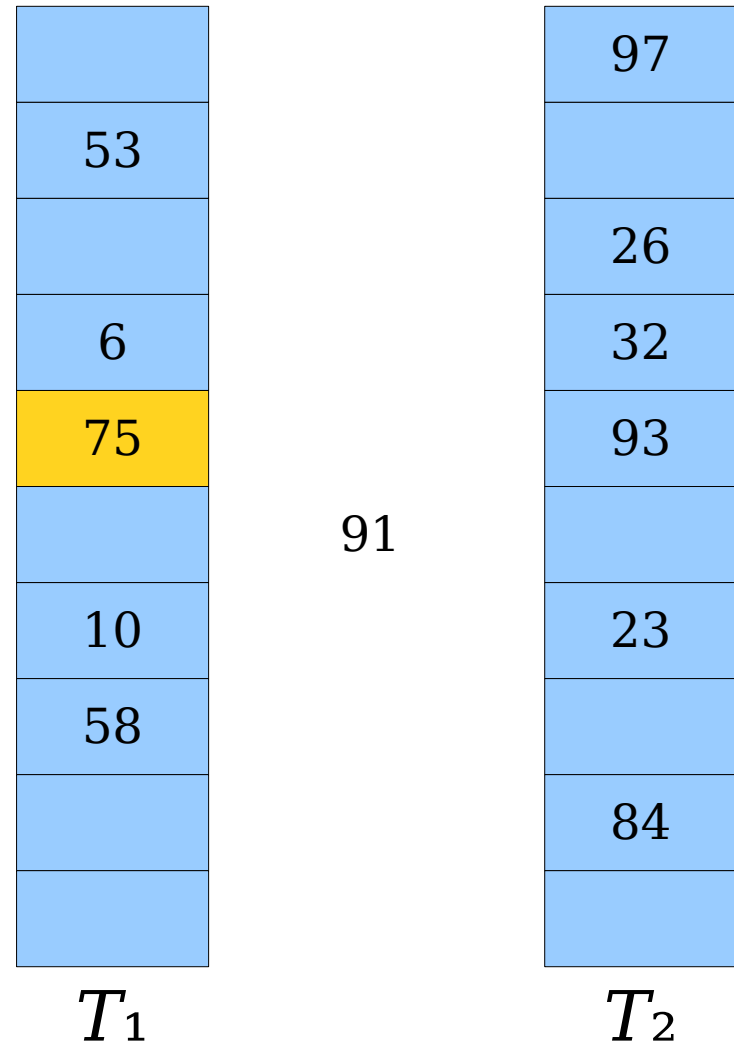
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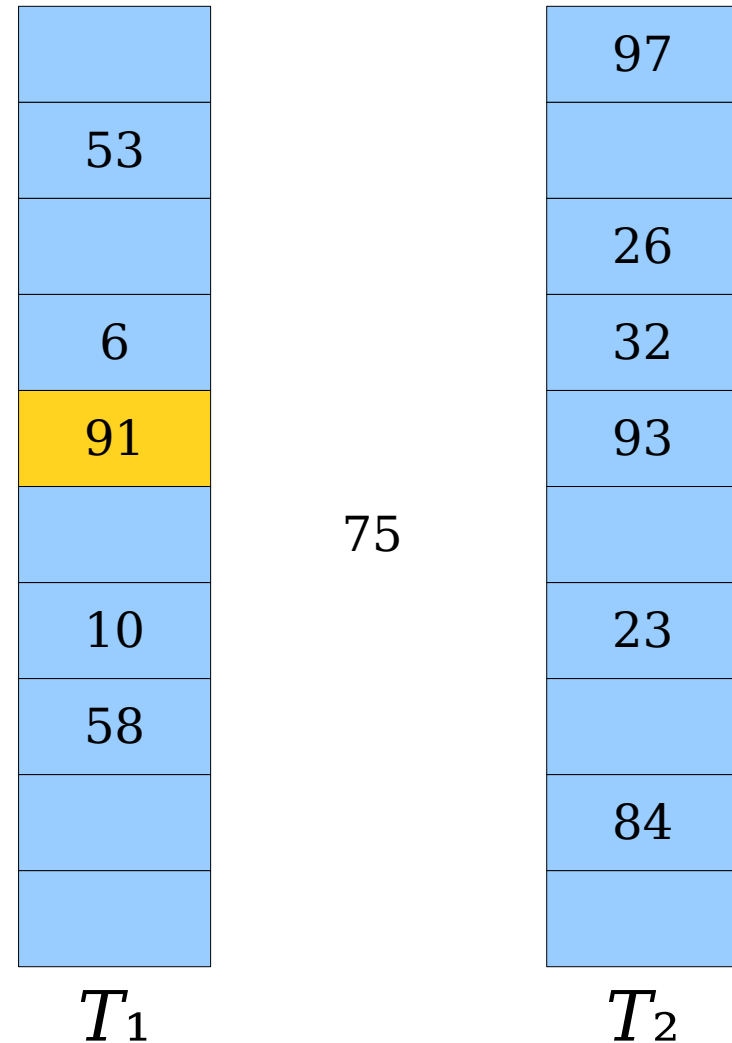
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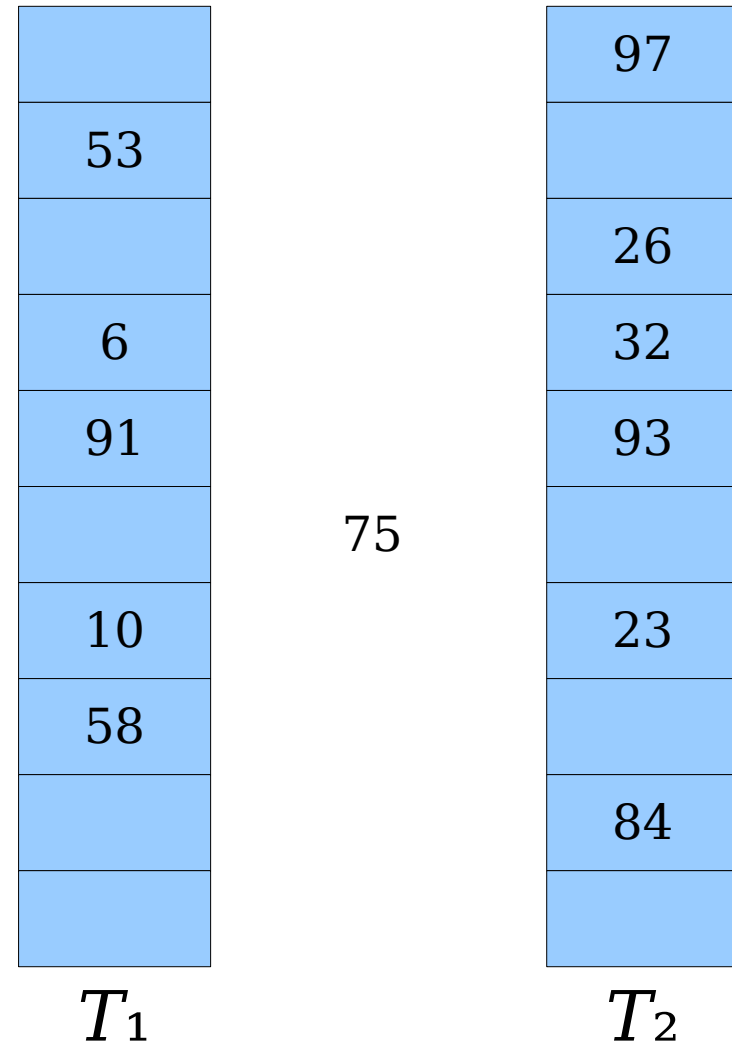
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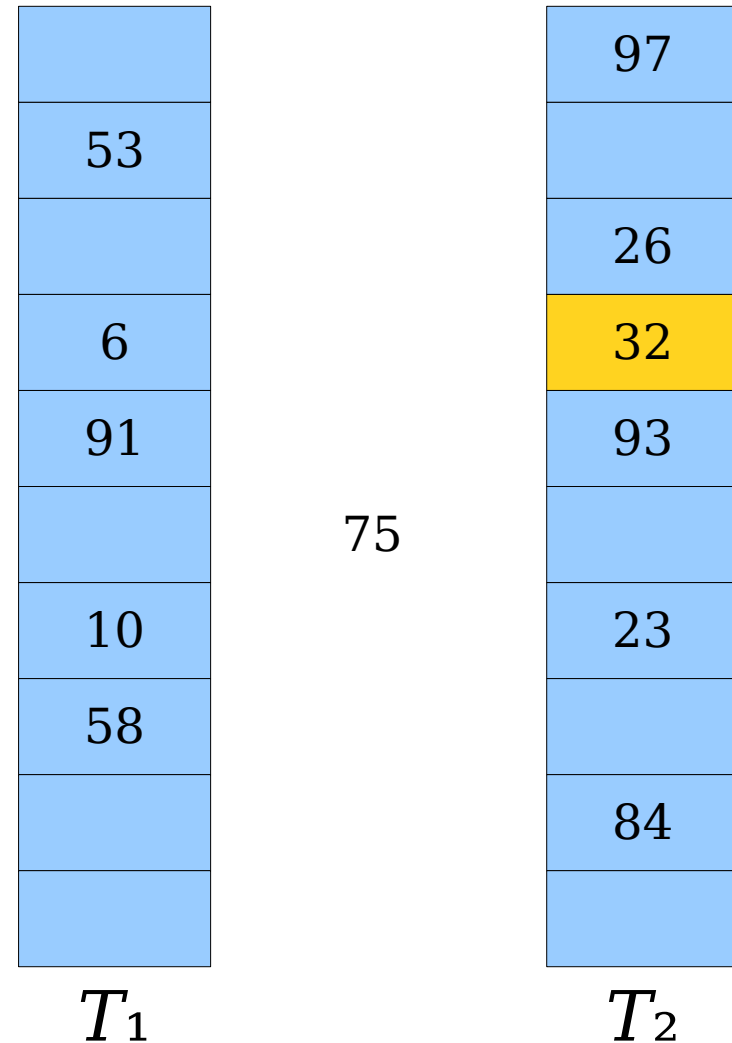
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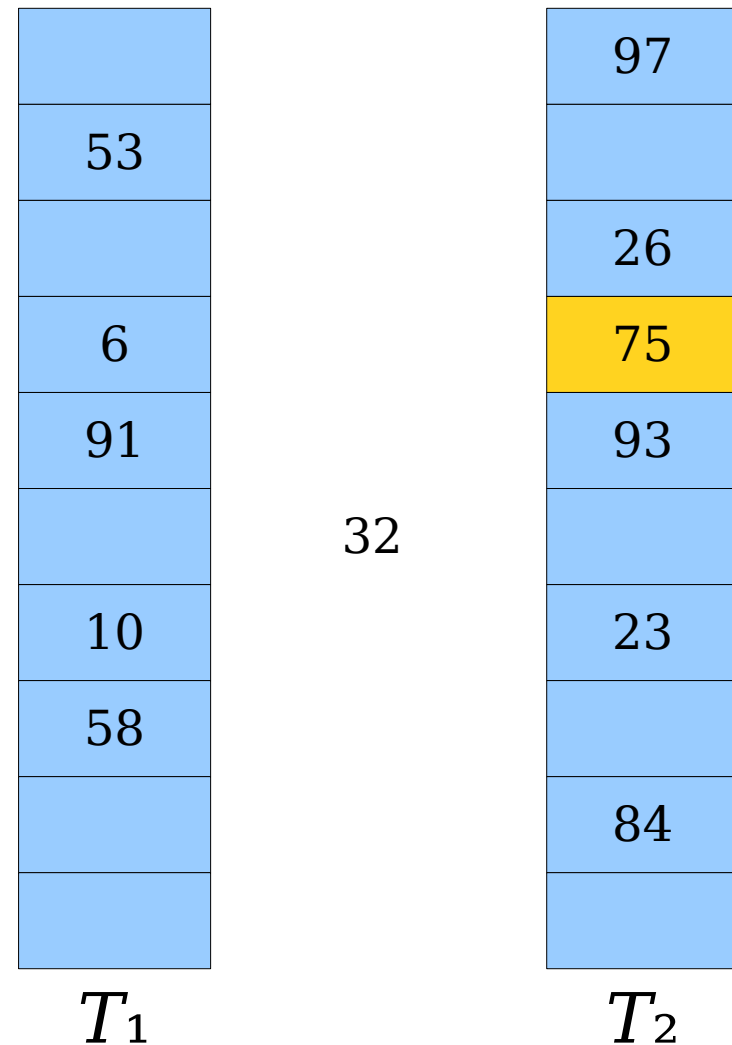
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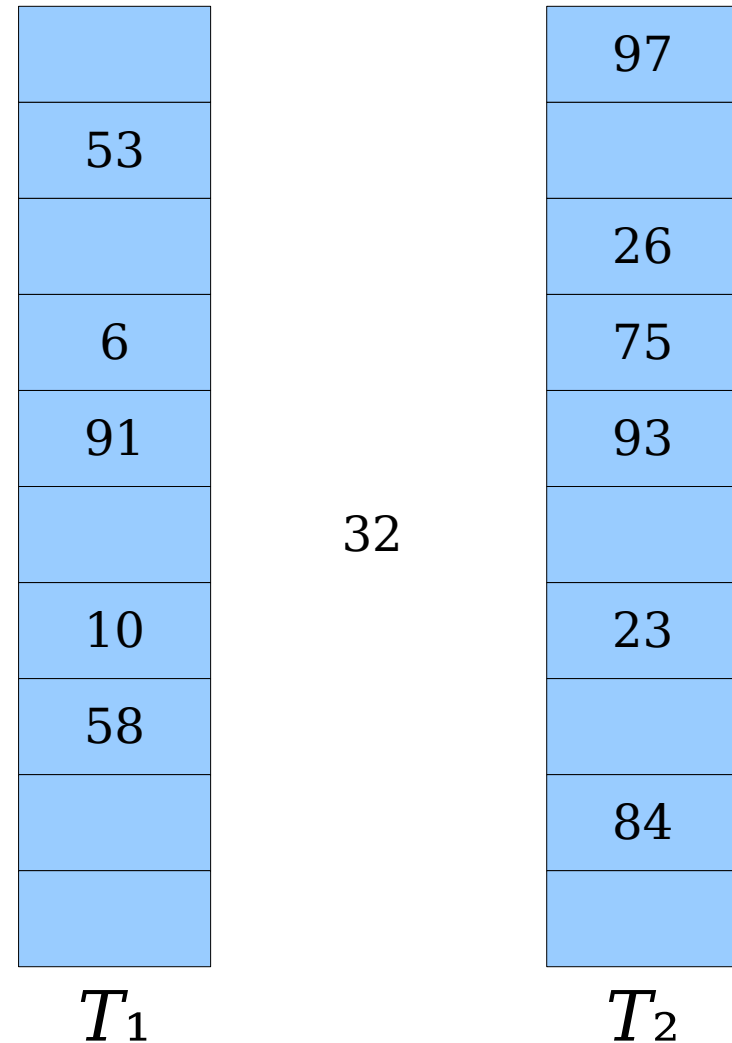
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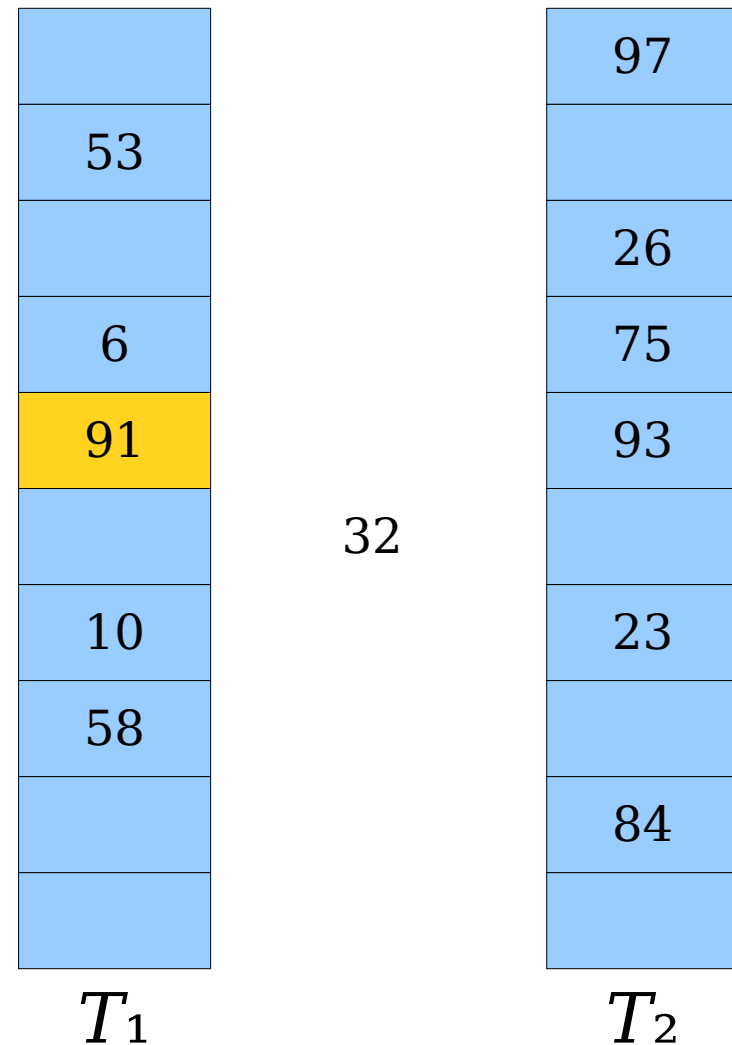
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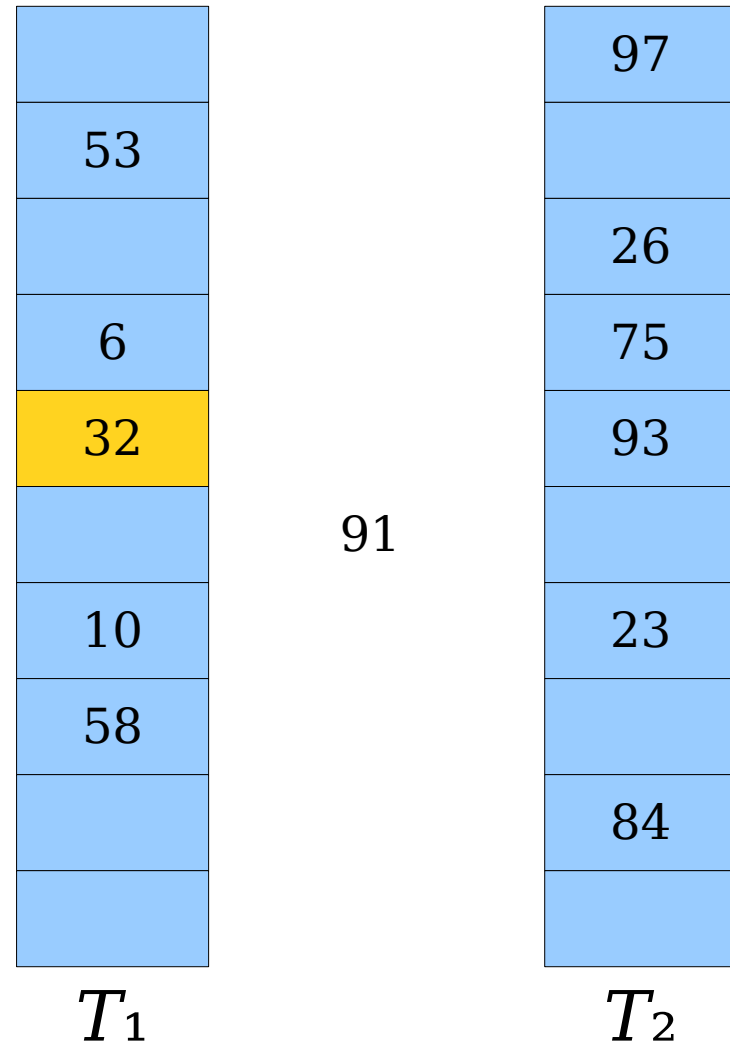
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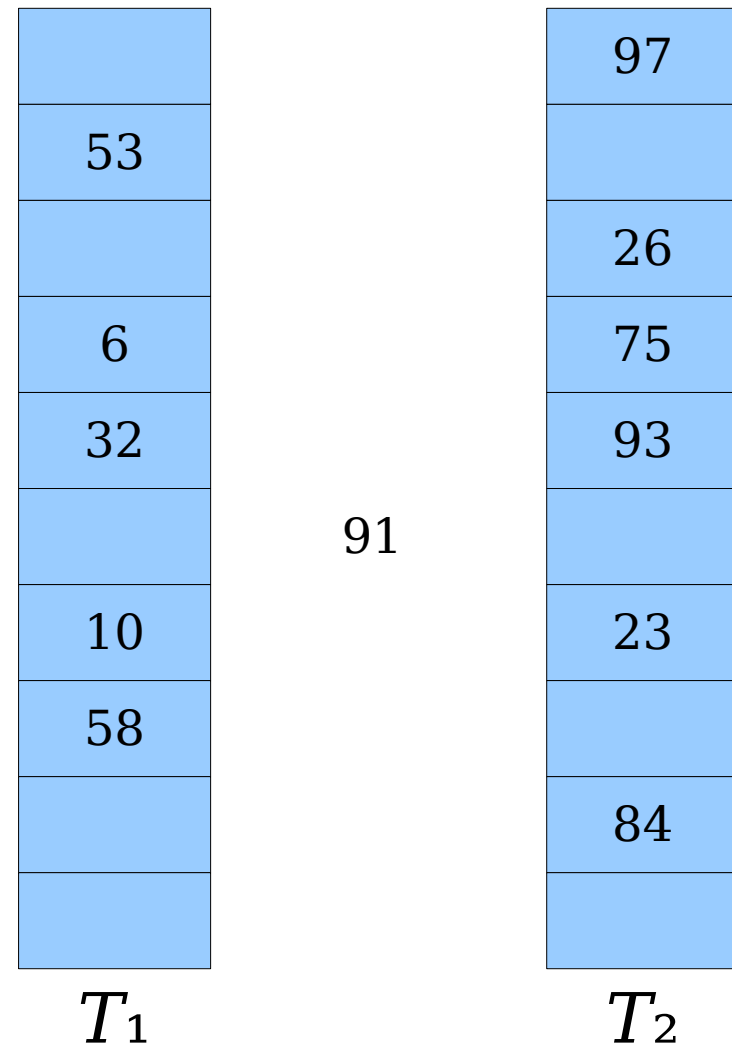
# Cuckoo Hashing

- An insertion *fails* if the displacements form an infinite cycle.



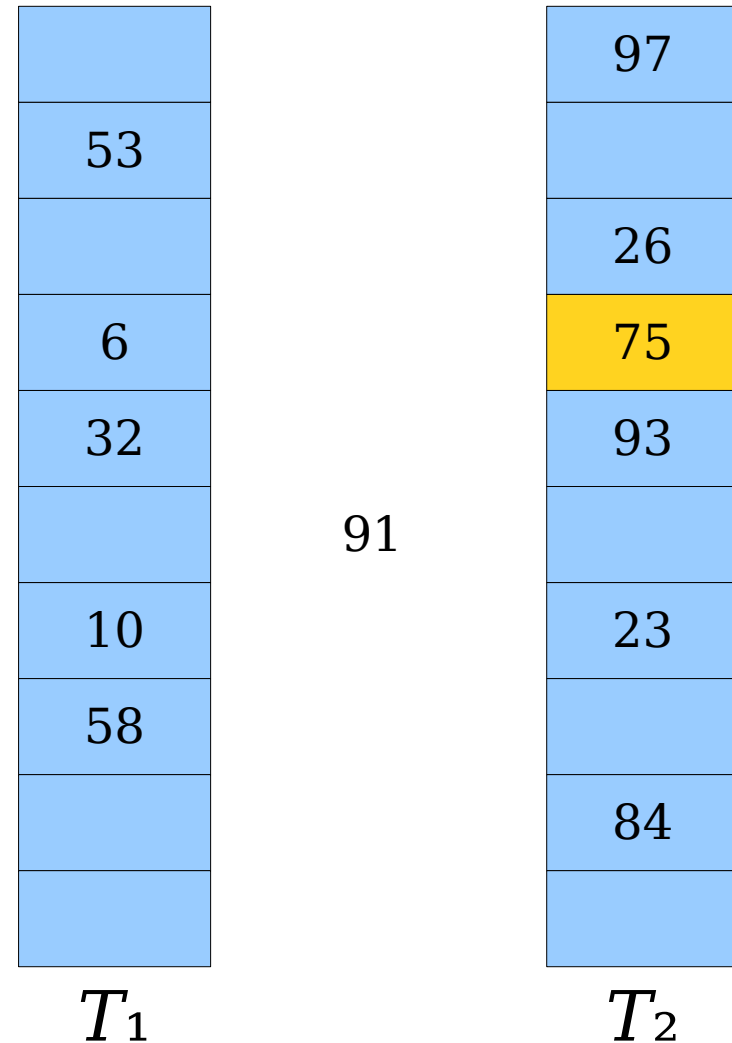
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# Cuckoo Hashing

- An insertion *fails* if the displacements form an infinite cycle.

53
6
32
10
58

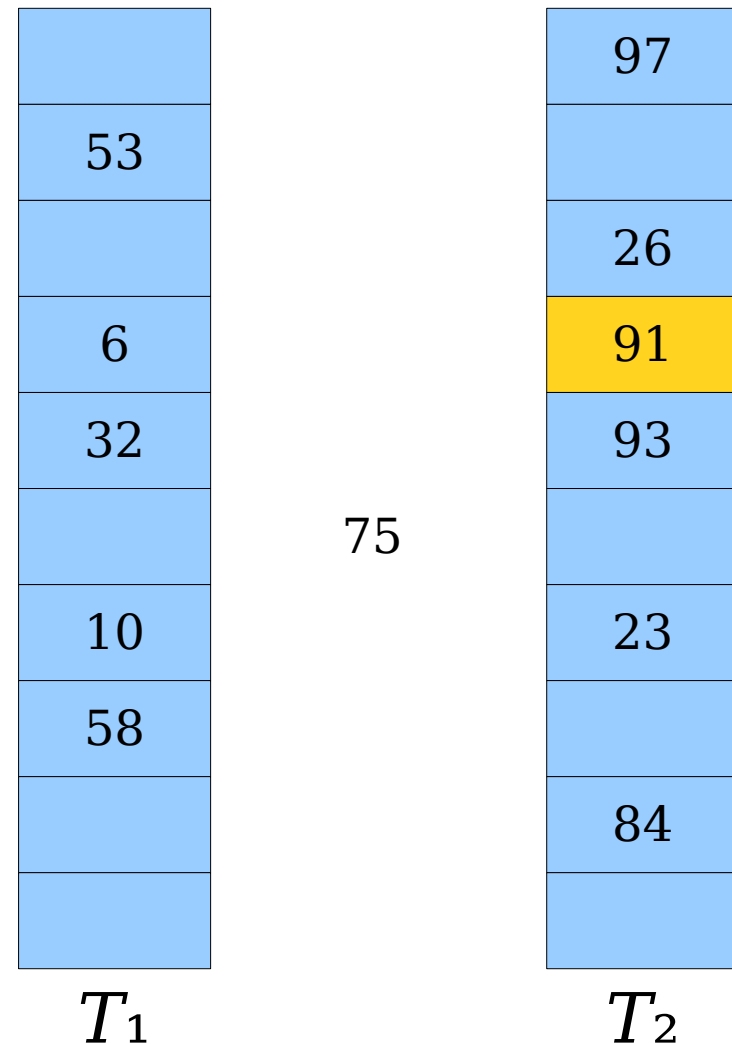
$T_1$

97
26
75 91
93
23
84

$T_2$

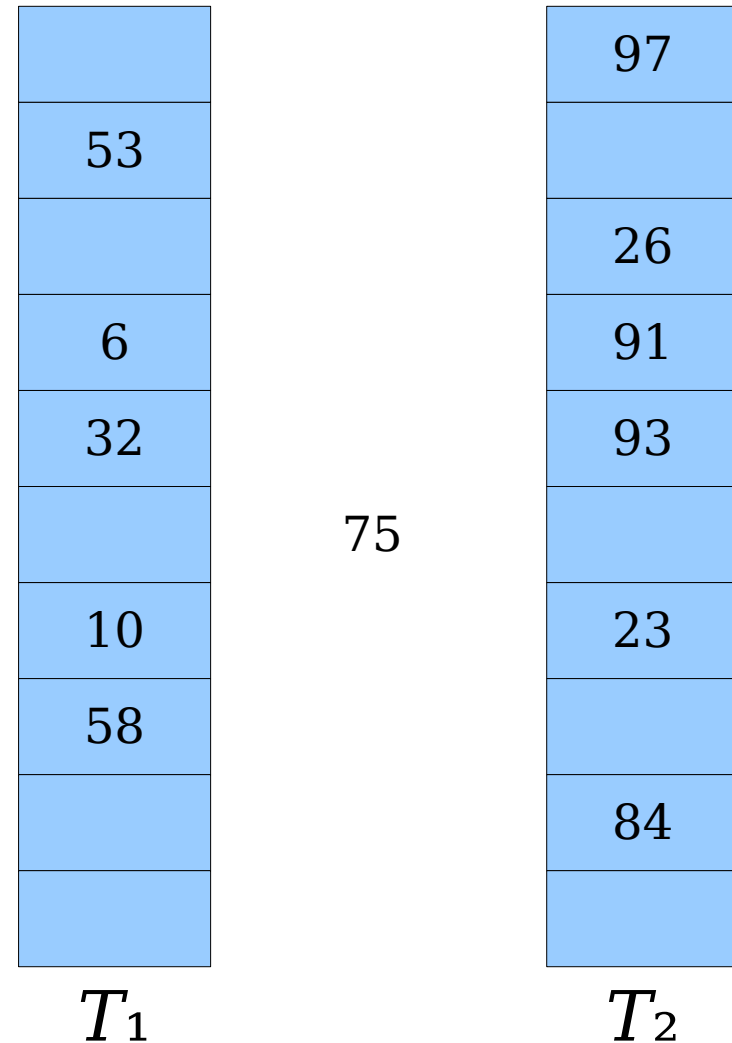
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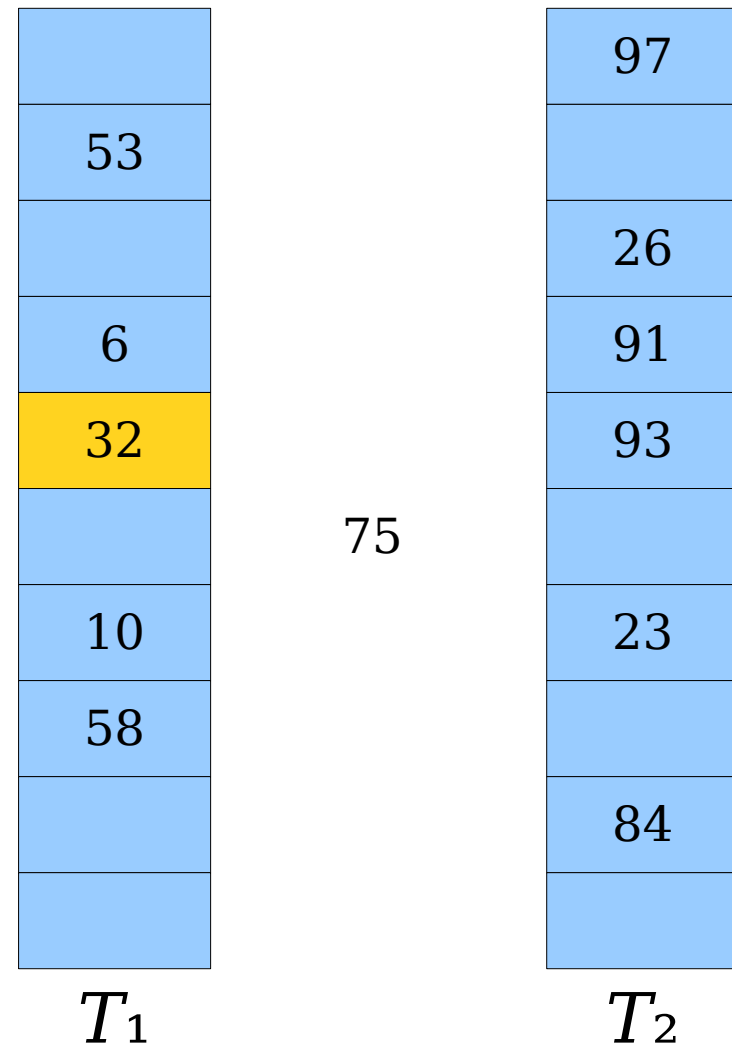
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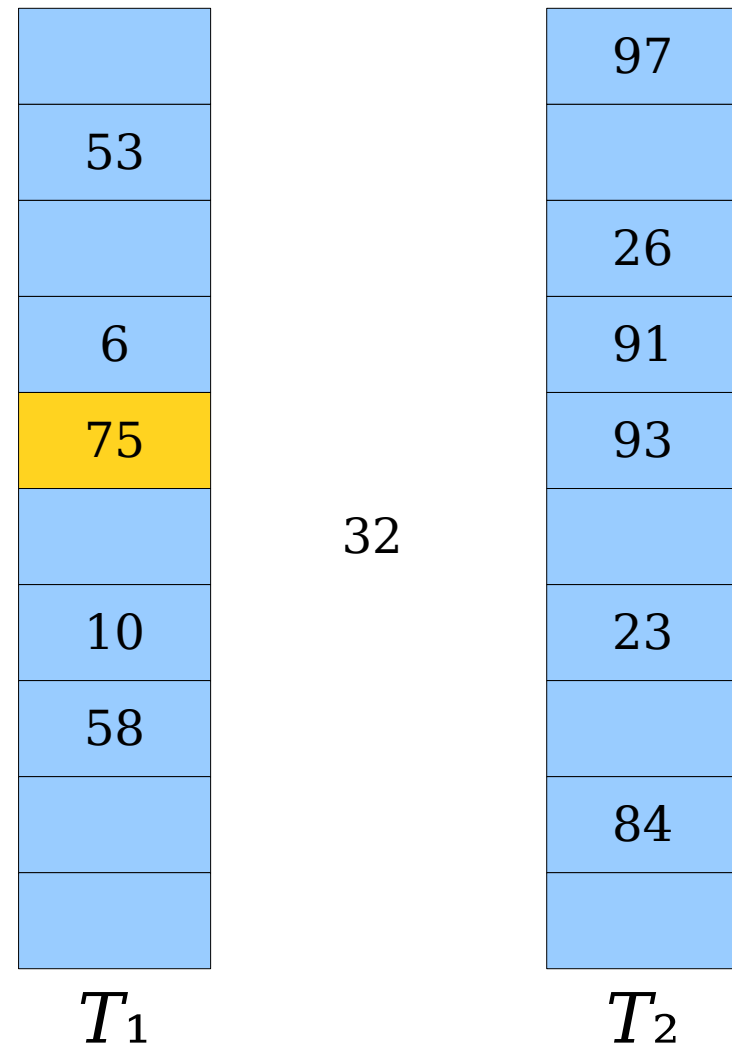
$T_1$

97
26
91
93
23
84

$T_2$

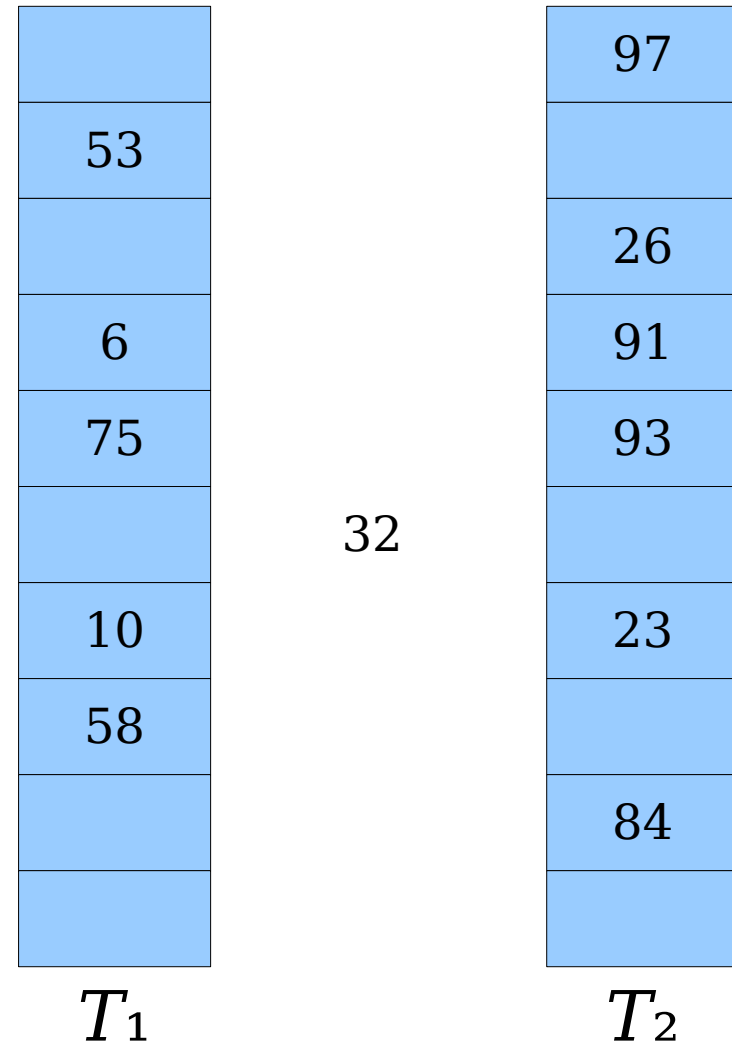
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- An insertion ***fails*** if the displacements form an infinite cycle.



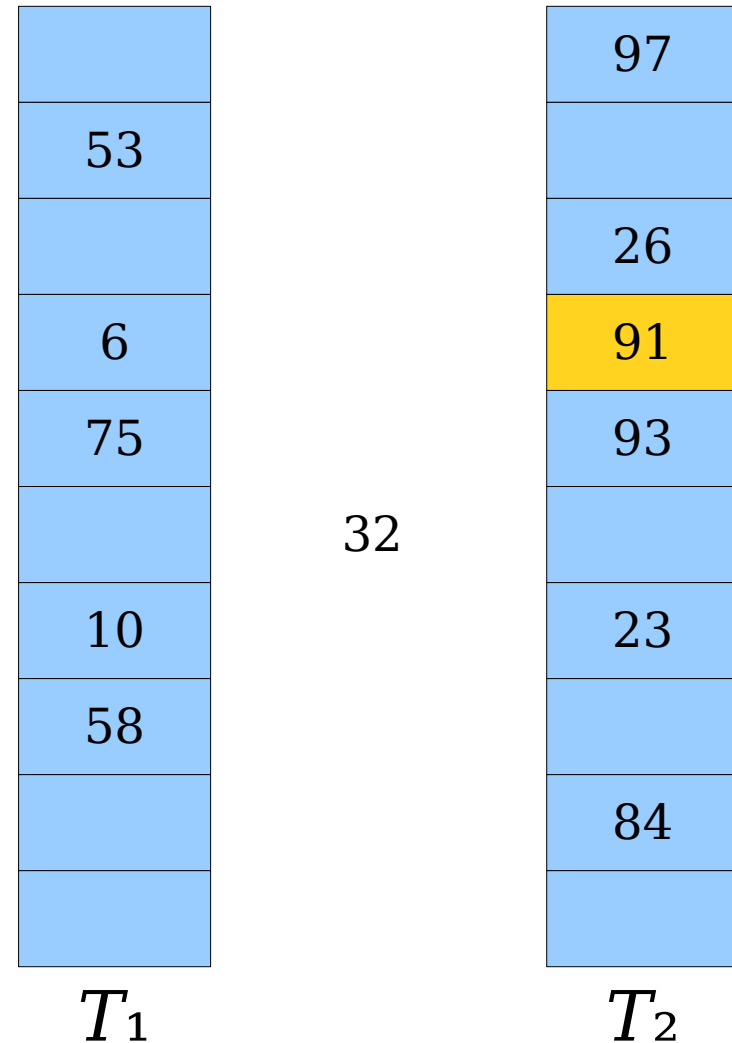
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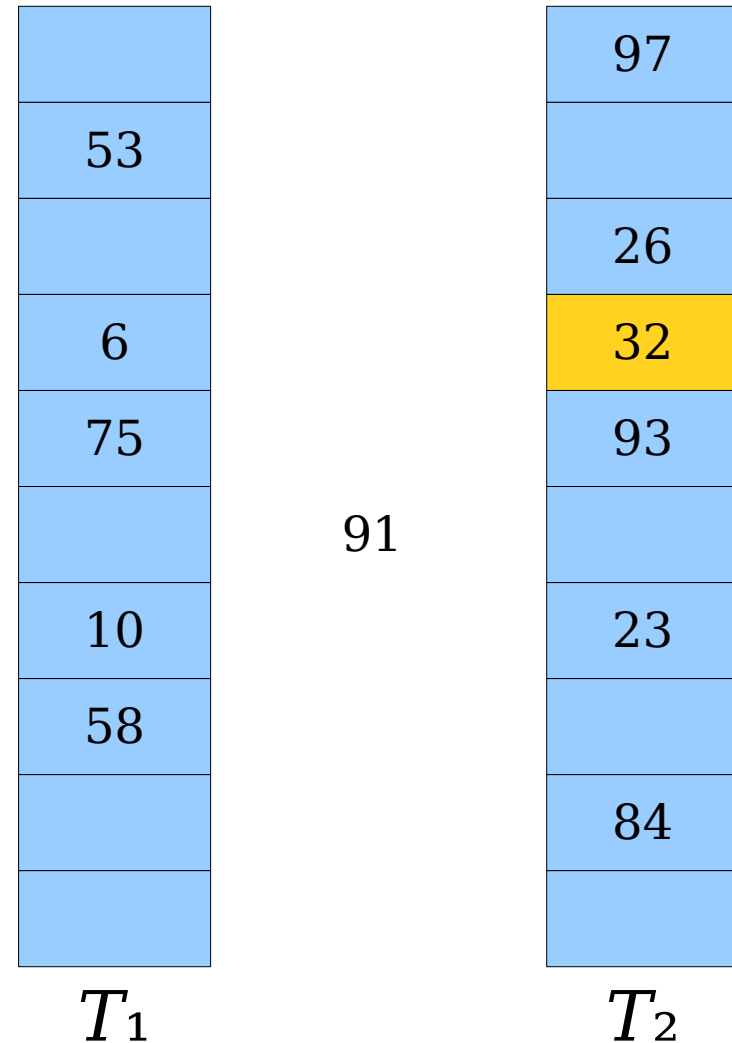
$T_1$

97
26
91 32
93
23
84

$T_2$

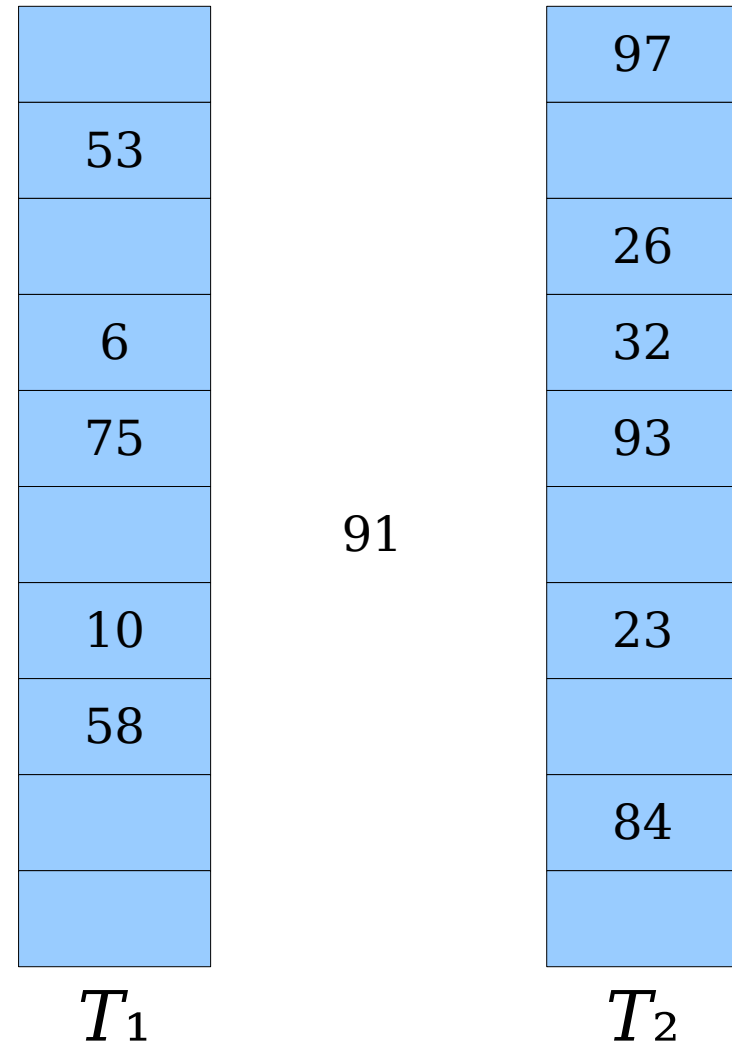
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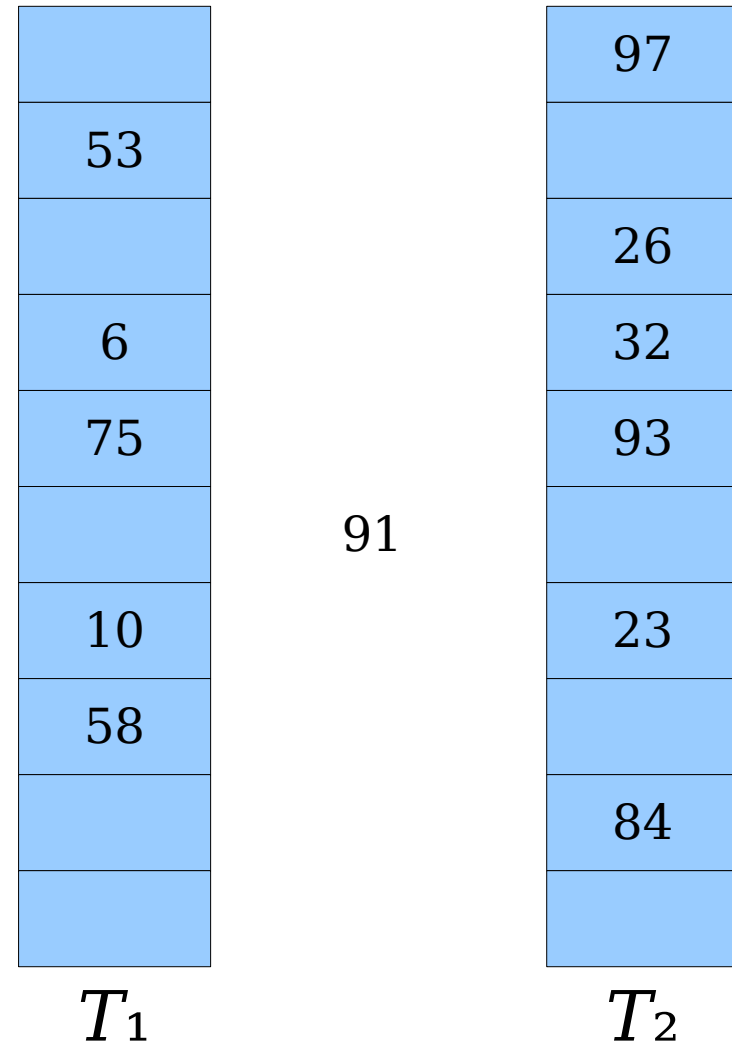
# Cuckoo Hashing

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# Cuckoo Hashing

- An insertion ***fails*** if the displacements form an infinite cycle.
- If that happens, perform a ***rehash*** by choosing a new  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  and inserting all elements back into the tables.



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32
58
93
53
26

$T_1$

10
91
97
75
23
6
84

$T_2$

# Cuckoo Hashing

- An insertion ***fails*** if the displacements form an infinite cycle.
- If that happens, perform a ***rehash*** by choosing a new  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  and inserting all elements back into the tables.
- Multiple rehashes might be necessary before this succeeds.

32
58
93
53
26

$T_1$

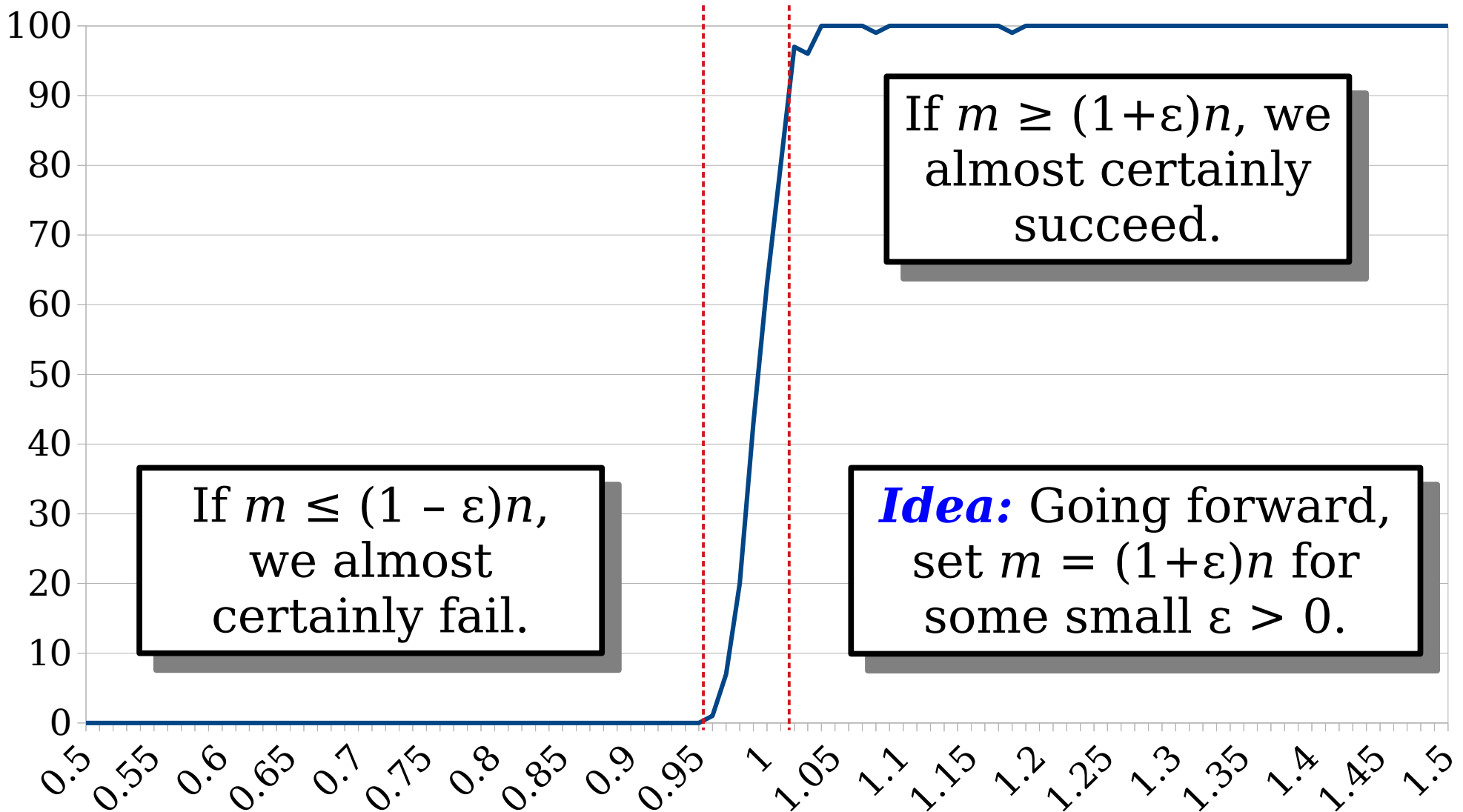
10
91
97
75
23
6
84

$T_2$

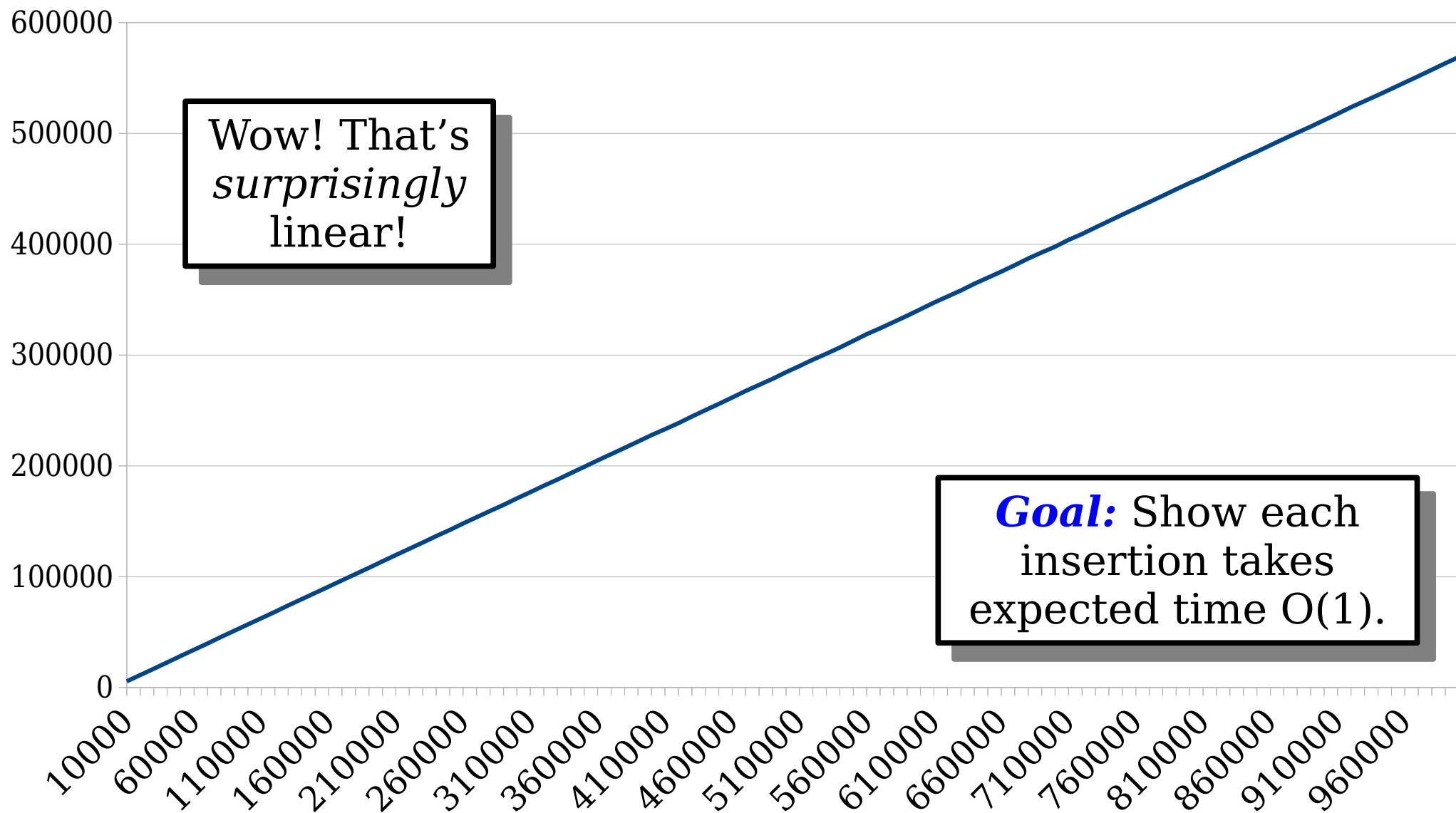
How efficient is cuckoo hashing?

***Pro tip:*** When analyzing a data structure,  
it never hurts to get some empirical  
performance data first.





Suppose we store  $n$  total elements in two tables of  $m$  slots each.  
What's probability all insertions succeed, assuming  $m = \alpha n$ ?



Suppose we store  $n$  total elements with  $m = (1+\varepsilon)n$ .  
How many total displacements occur across all insertions?

**Goal:** Show that insertions take expected time  $O(1)$ , under the assumption that  $m = (1+\varepsilon)n$  for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

# Analyzing Cuckoo Hashing

- The analysis of cuckoo hashing presents some challenges.
- **Challenge 1:** We may have to consider hash collisions across multiple hash functions.
- **Challenge 2:** We need to reason about chains of displacement, which can be fairly complicated.
- To resolve these challenges, we'll need to bring in some new techniques.

6
12
5
1

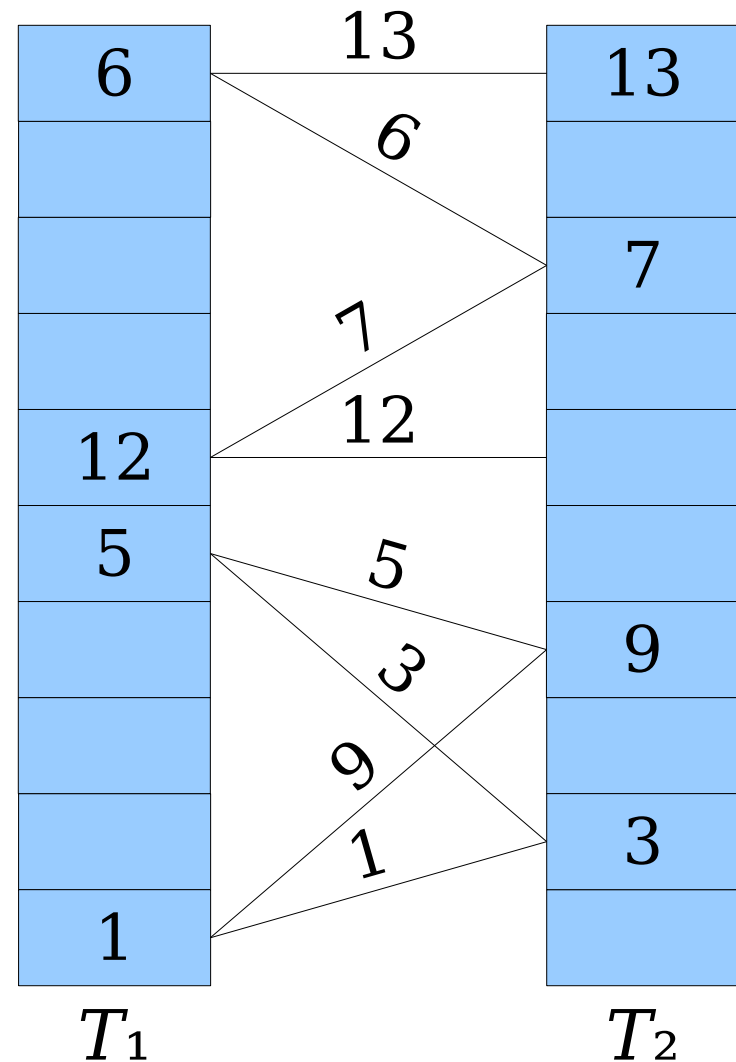
$T_1$

13
7
9
3

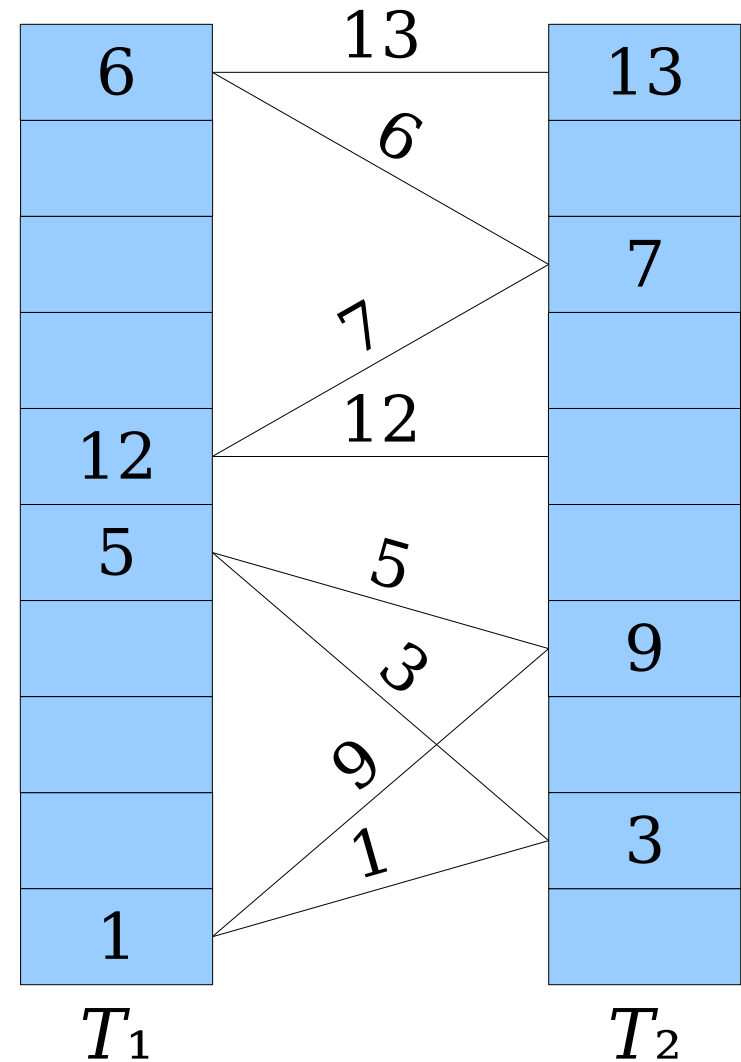
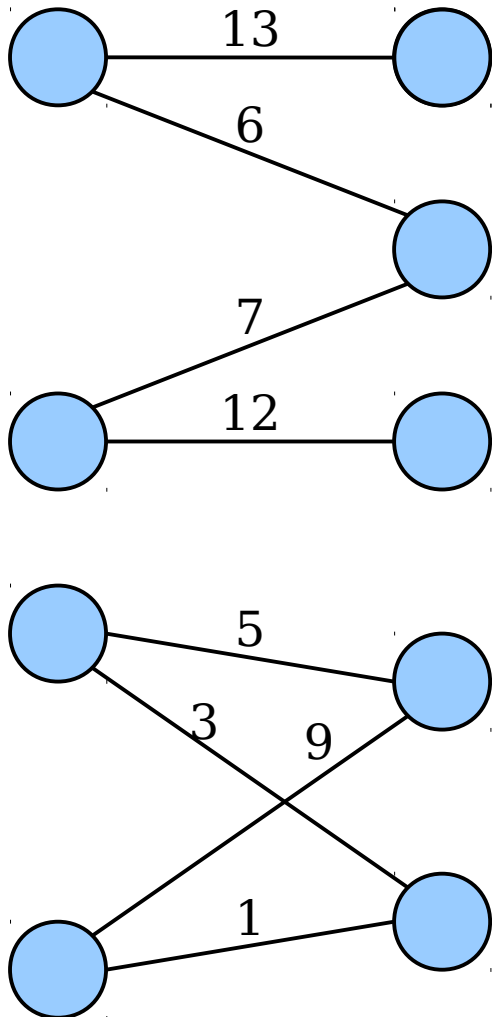
$T_2$

# The Cuckoo Graph

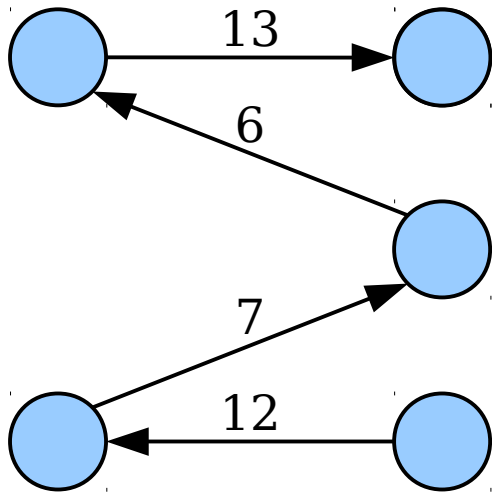
- The **cuckoo graph** is a bipartite multigraph derived from a cuckoo hash table.
- Each table slot is a node.
- Each element is an edge.
- Edges link slots where each element can be.
- Each insertion introduces a new edge into the graph.



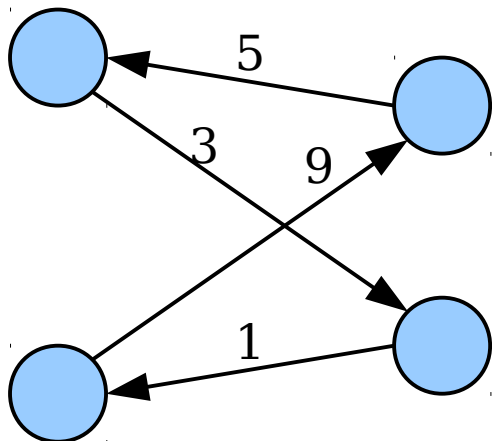
# The Cuckoo Graph



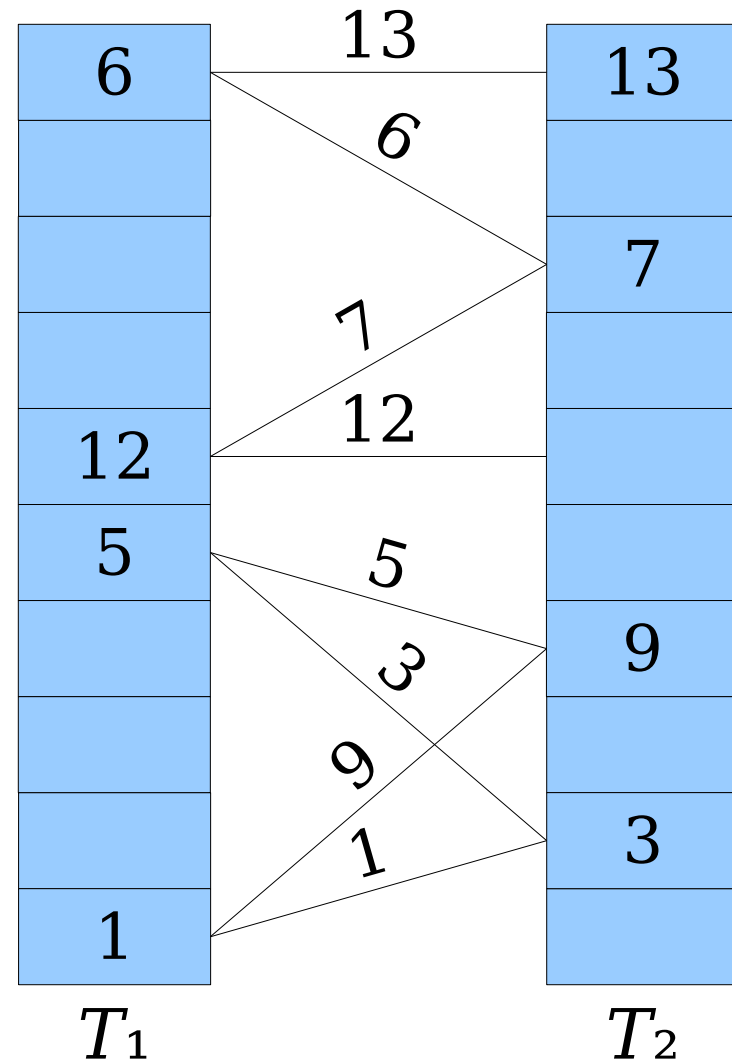
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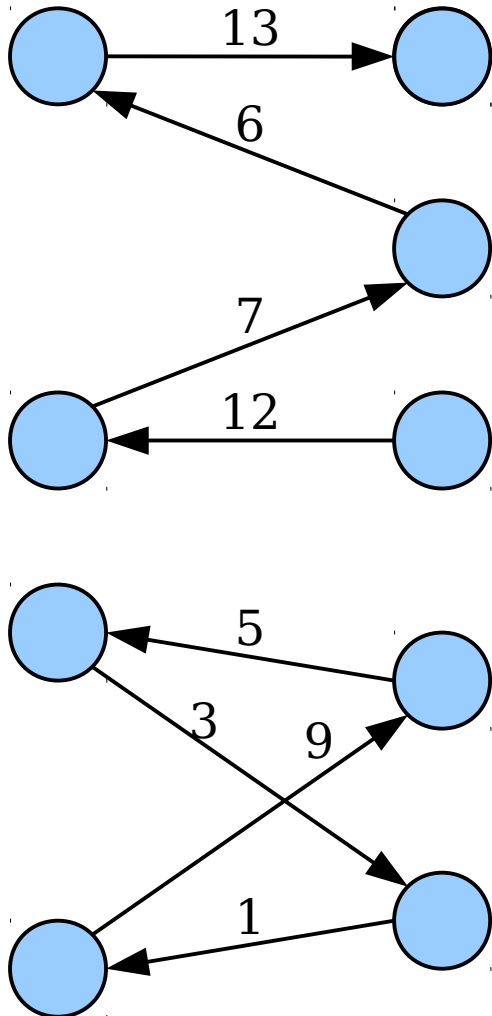
Arrowheads indicate which slots elements is stored in.



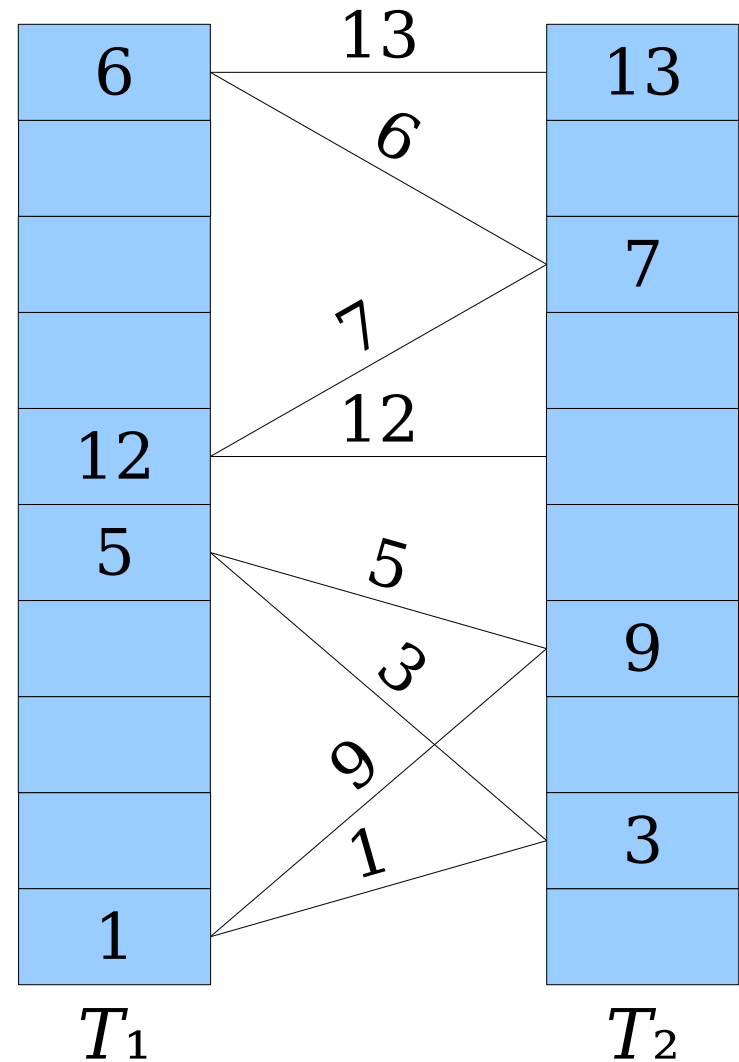
Each node has at most one incoming edge.



# The Cuckoo Graph

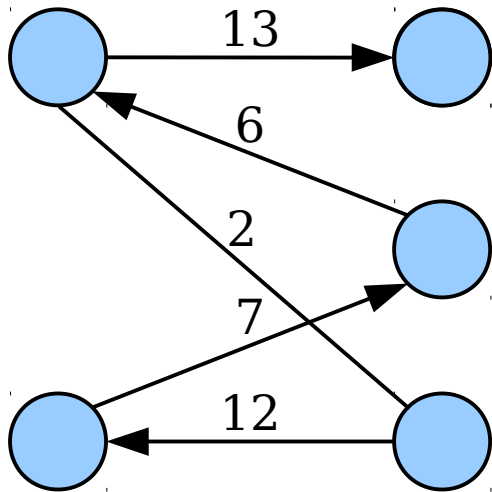


Insertions  
correspond to  
sequences of  
flipping  
arrowheads.

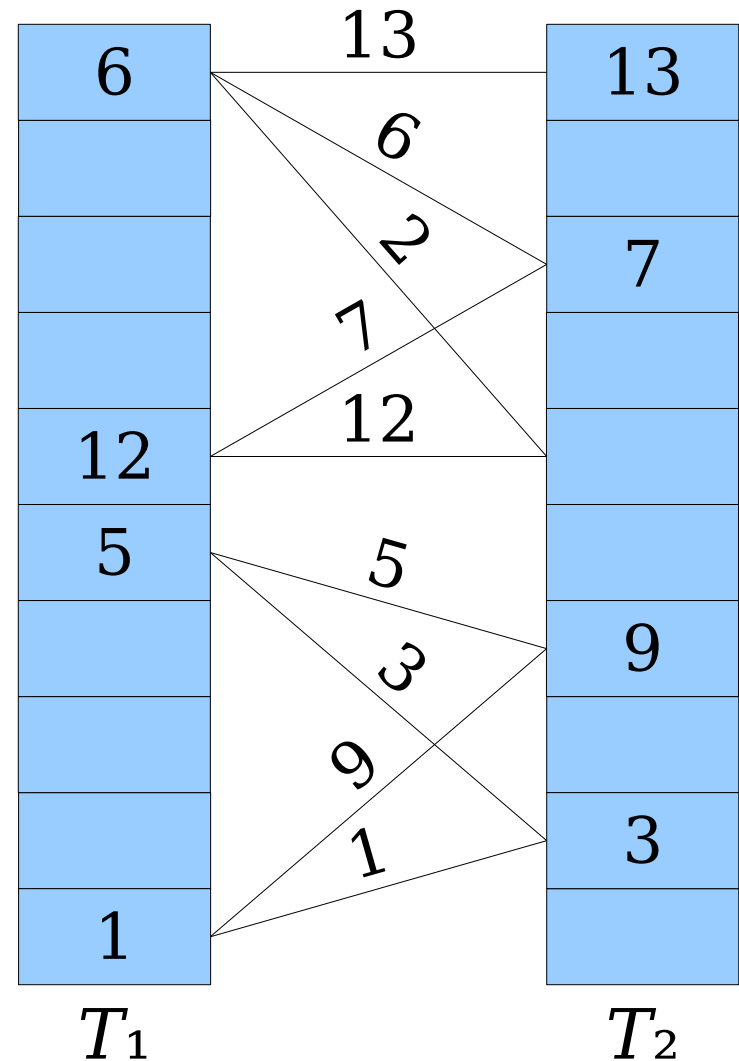
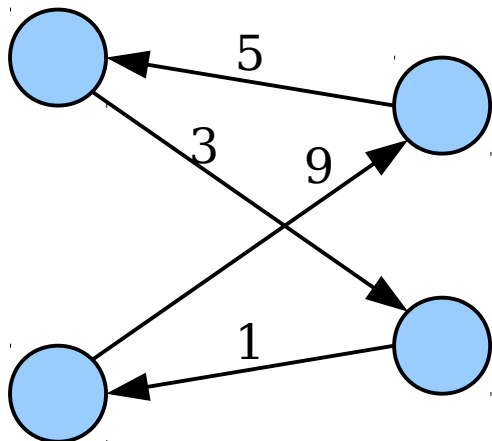




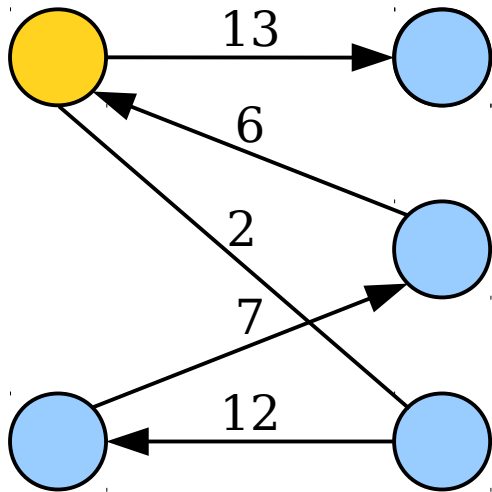
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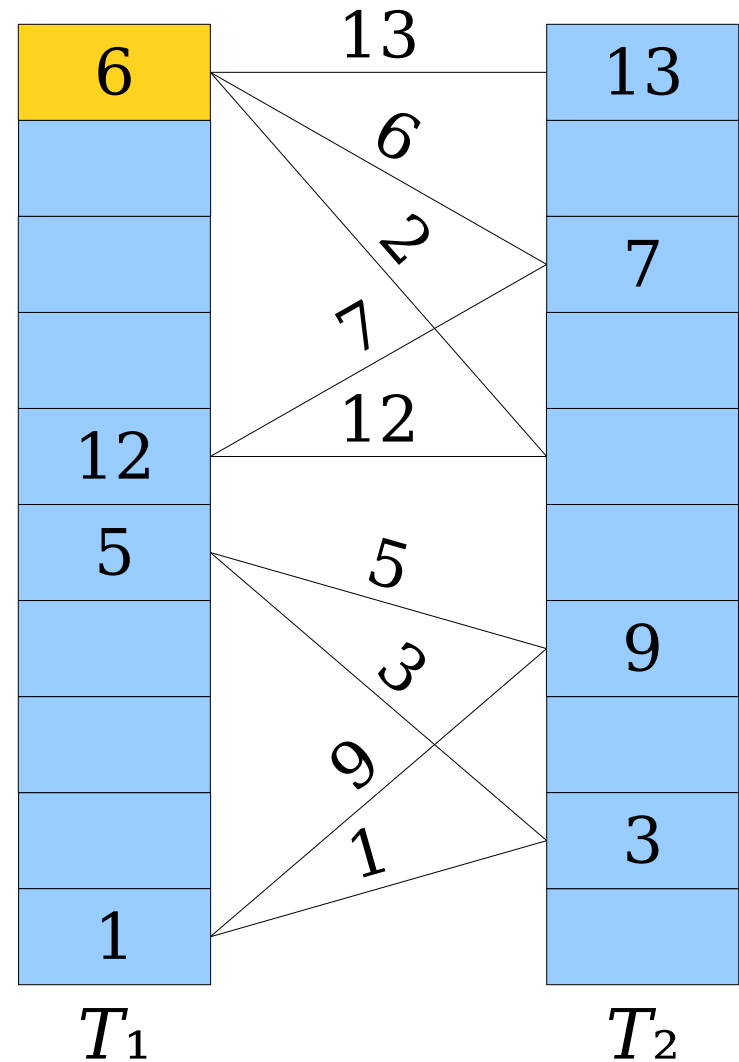
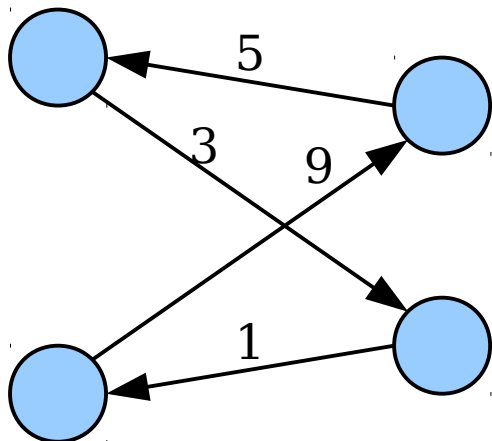
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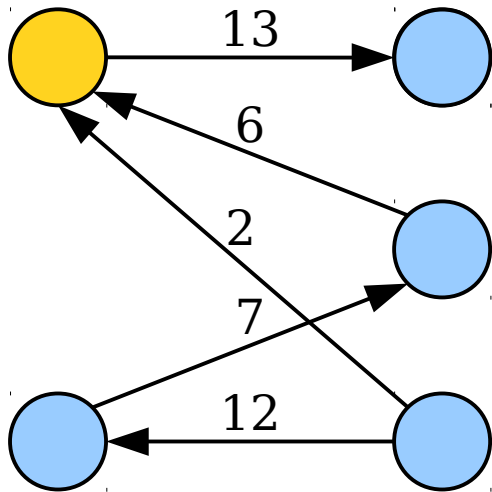
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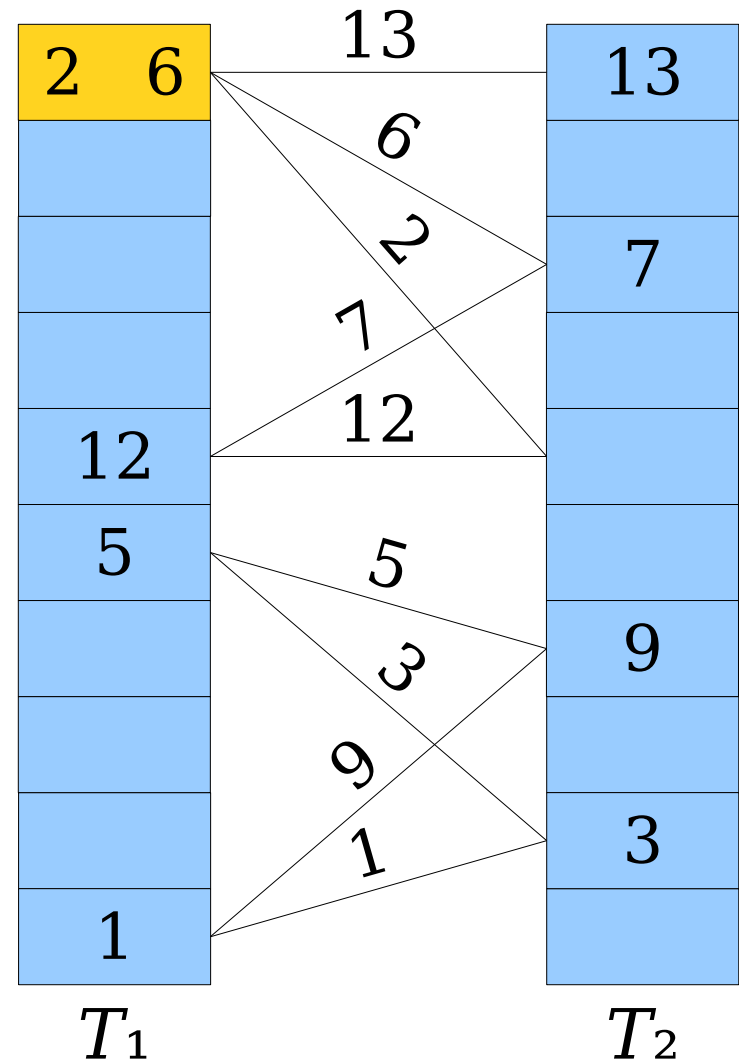
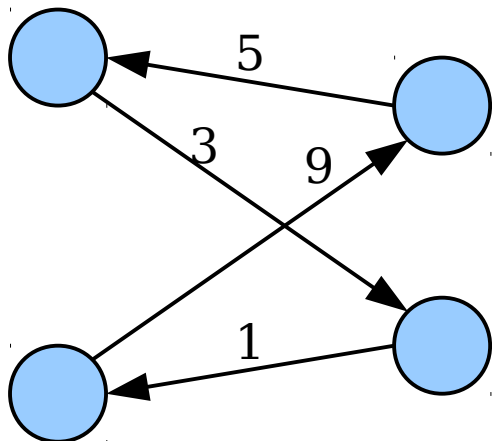
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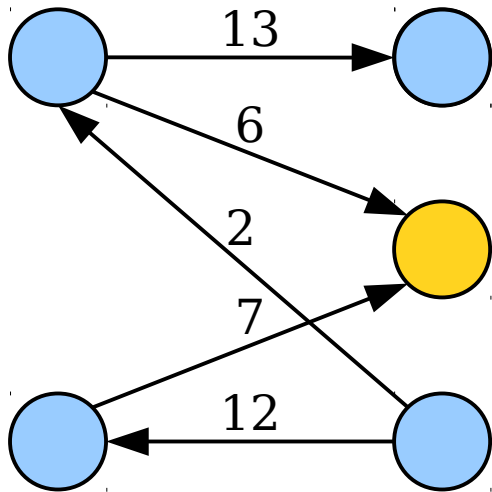
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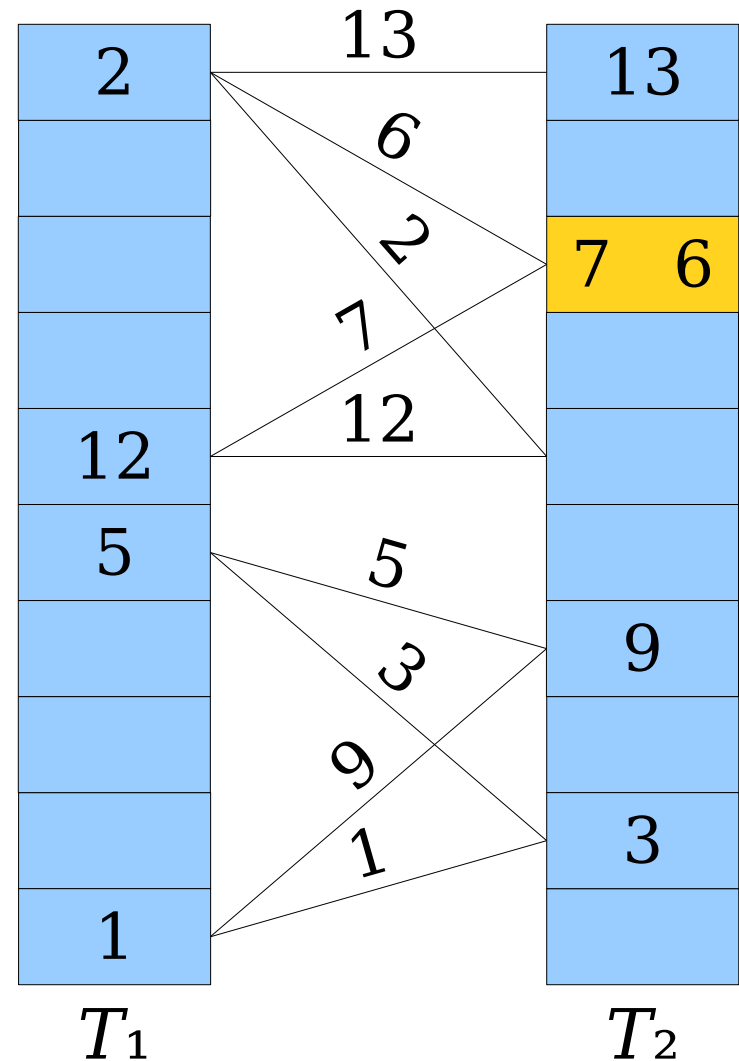
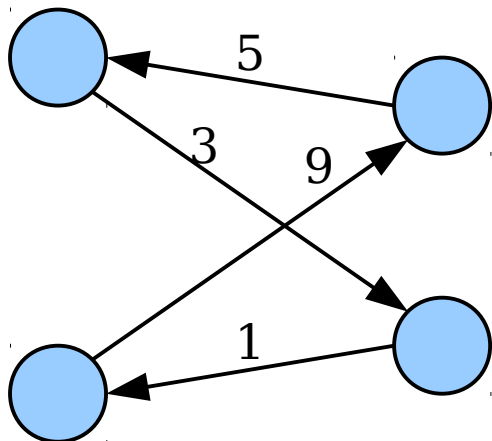
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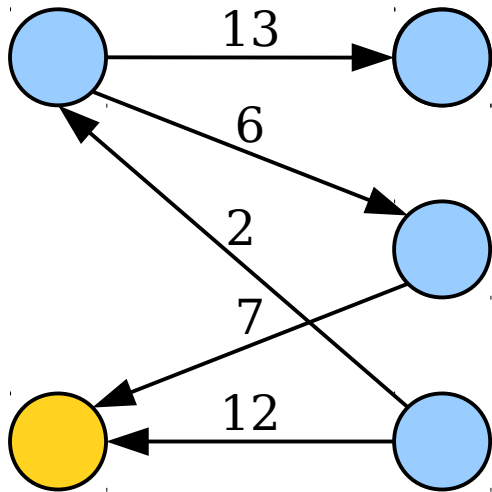
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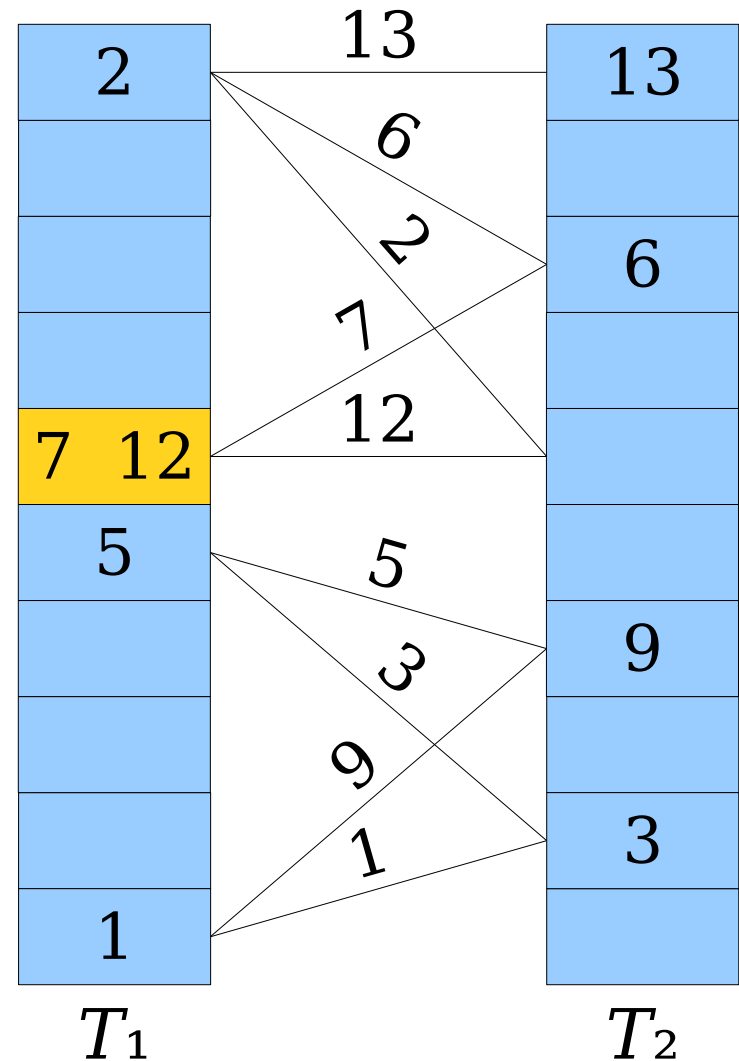
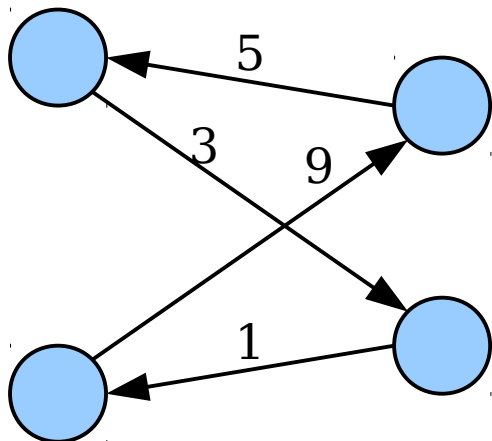
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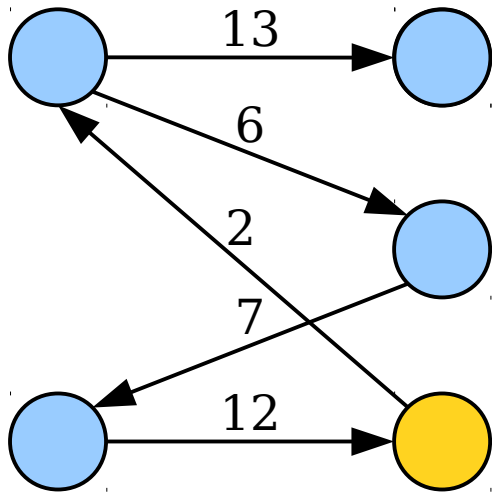
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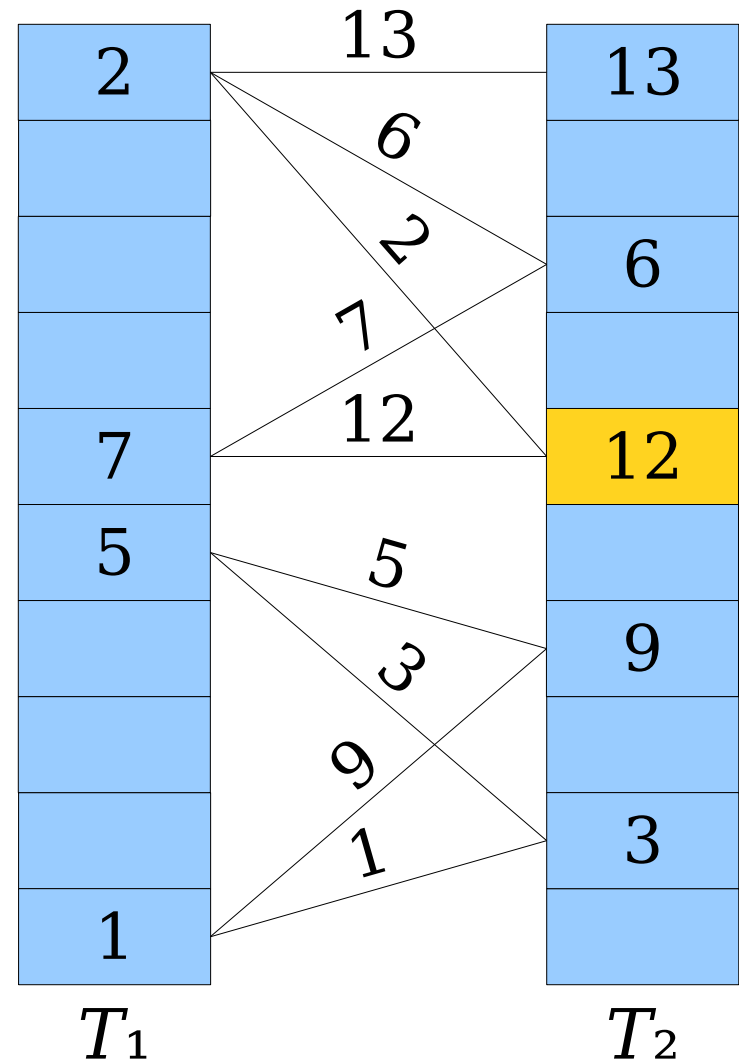
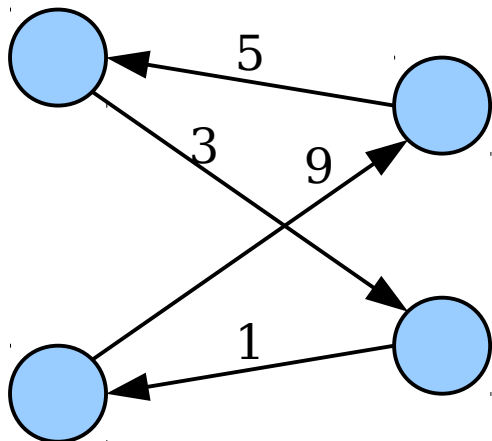
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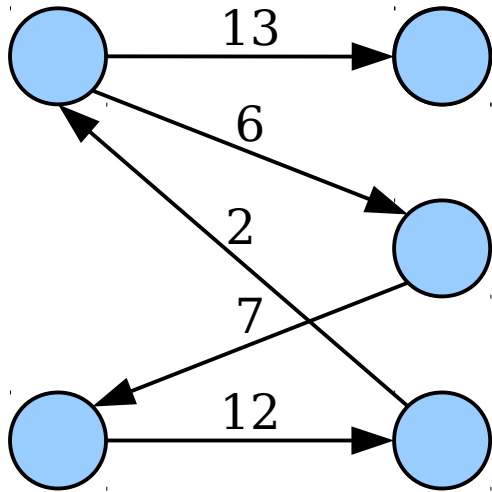
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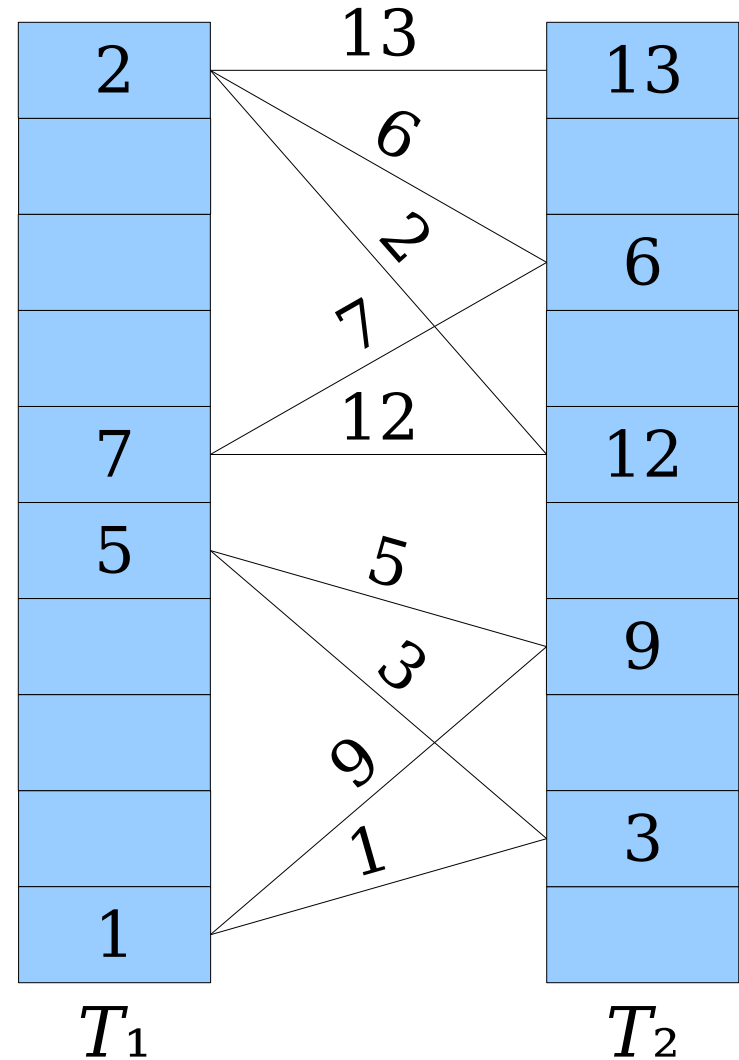
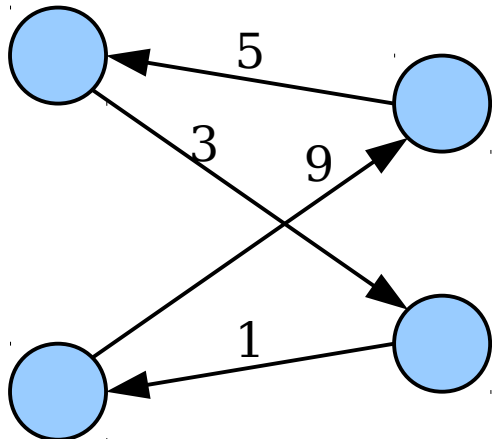
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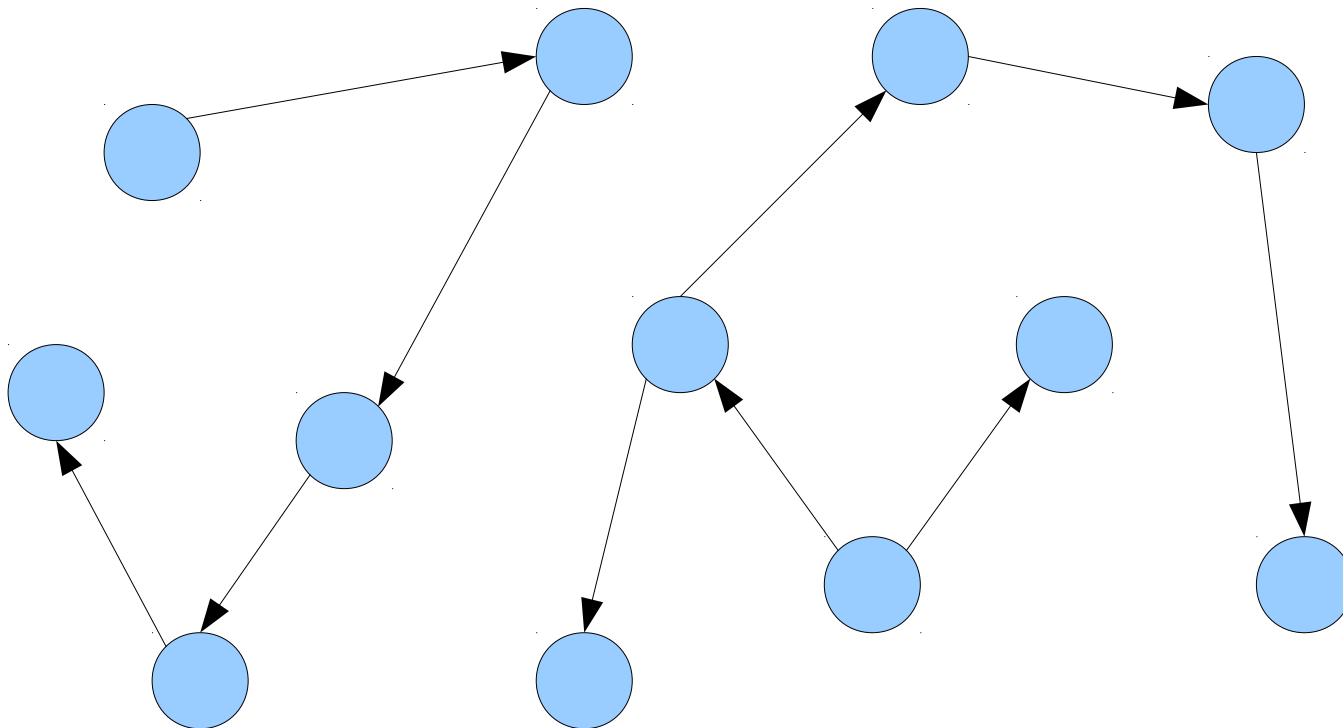
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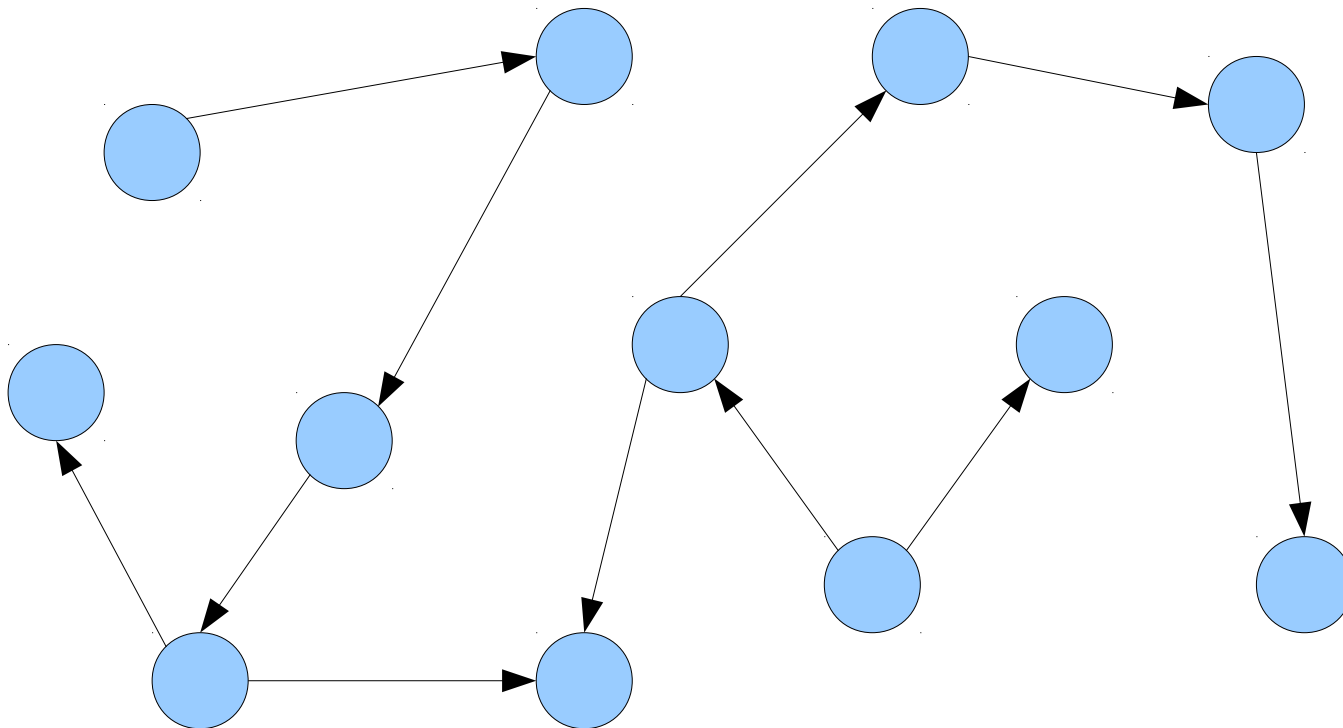
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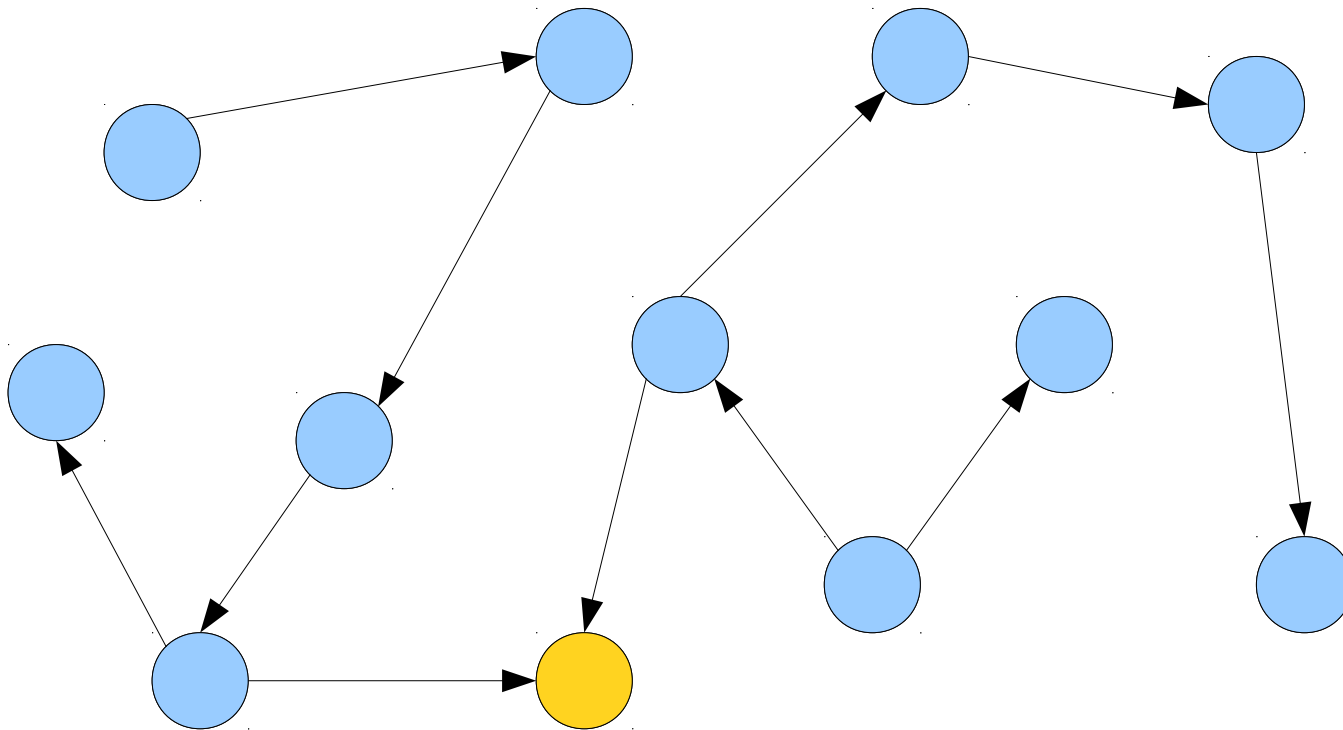
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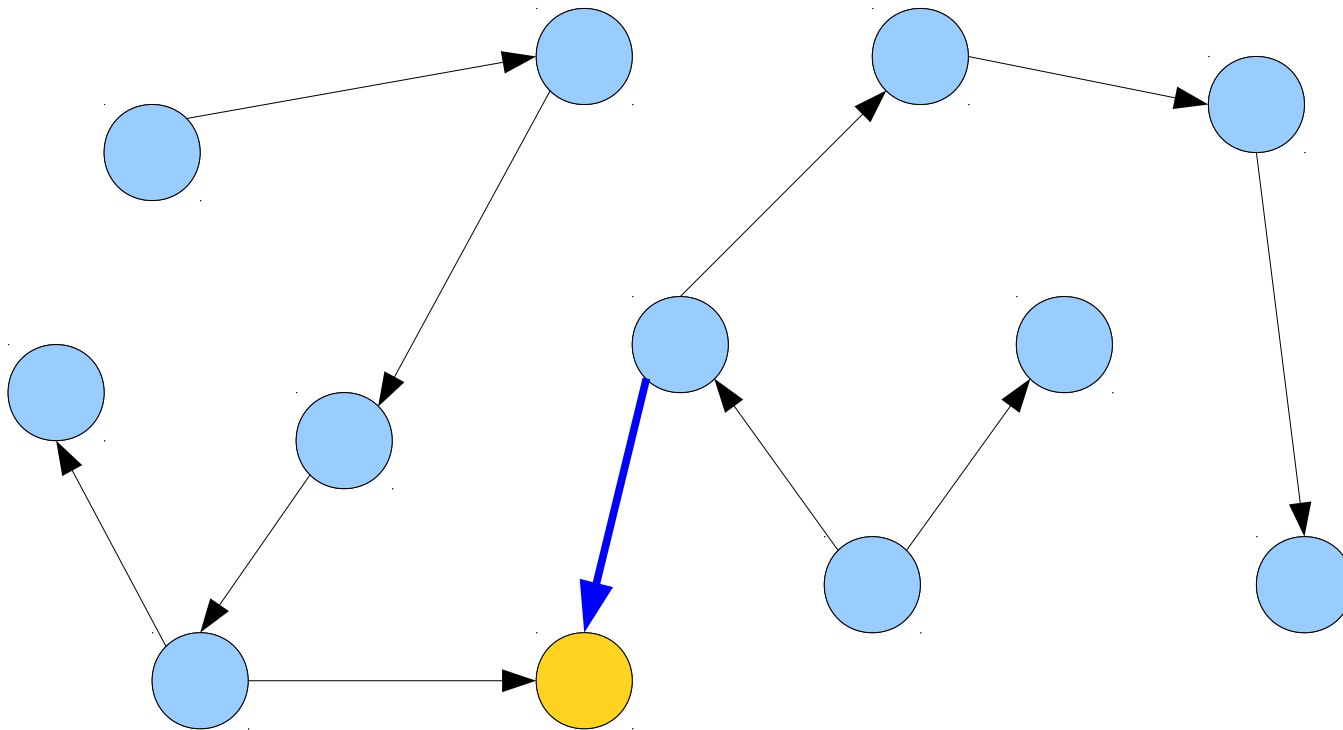
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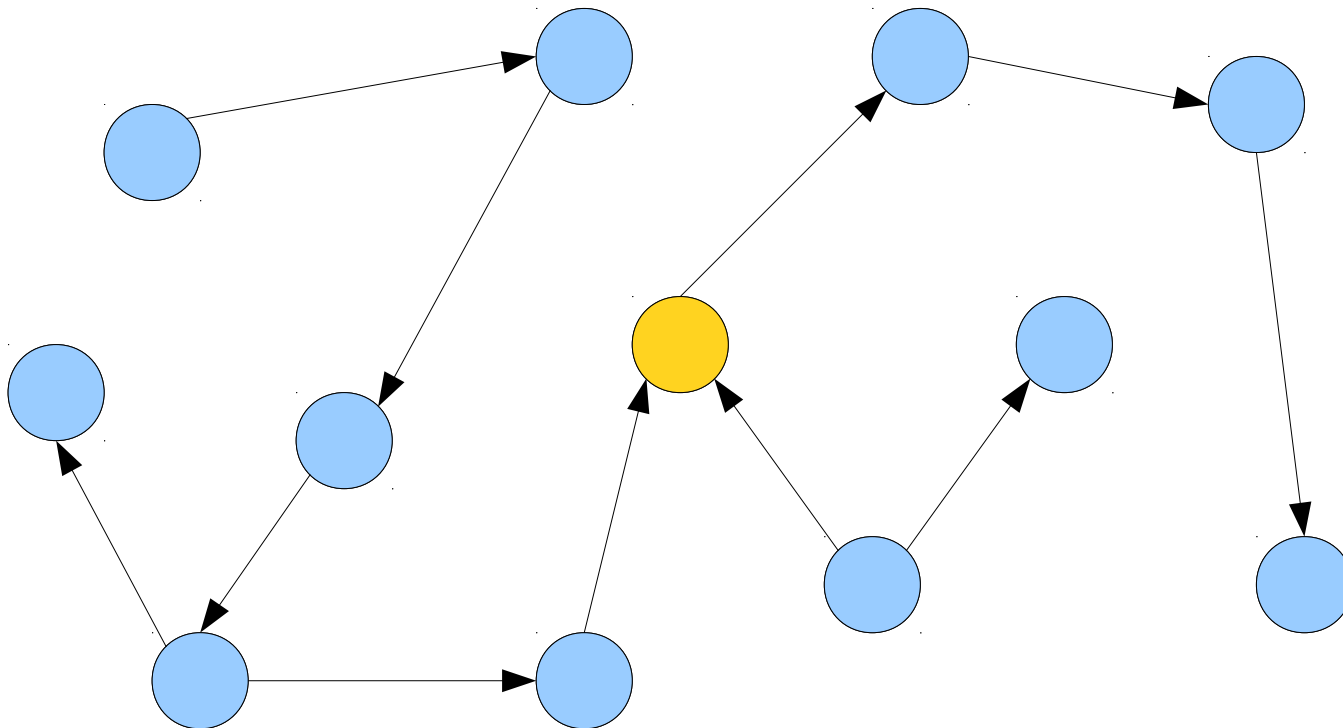
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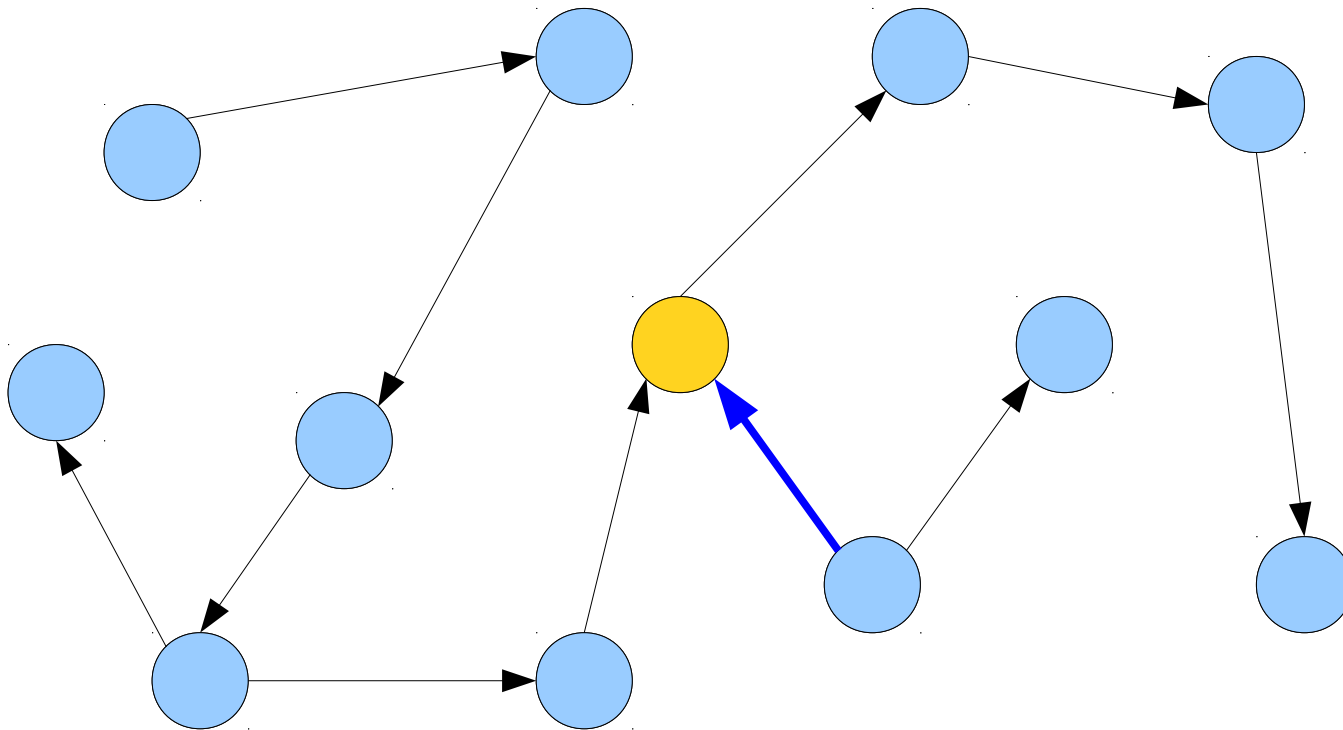
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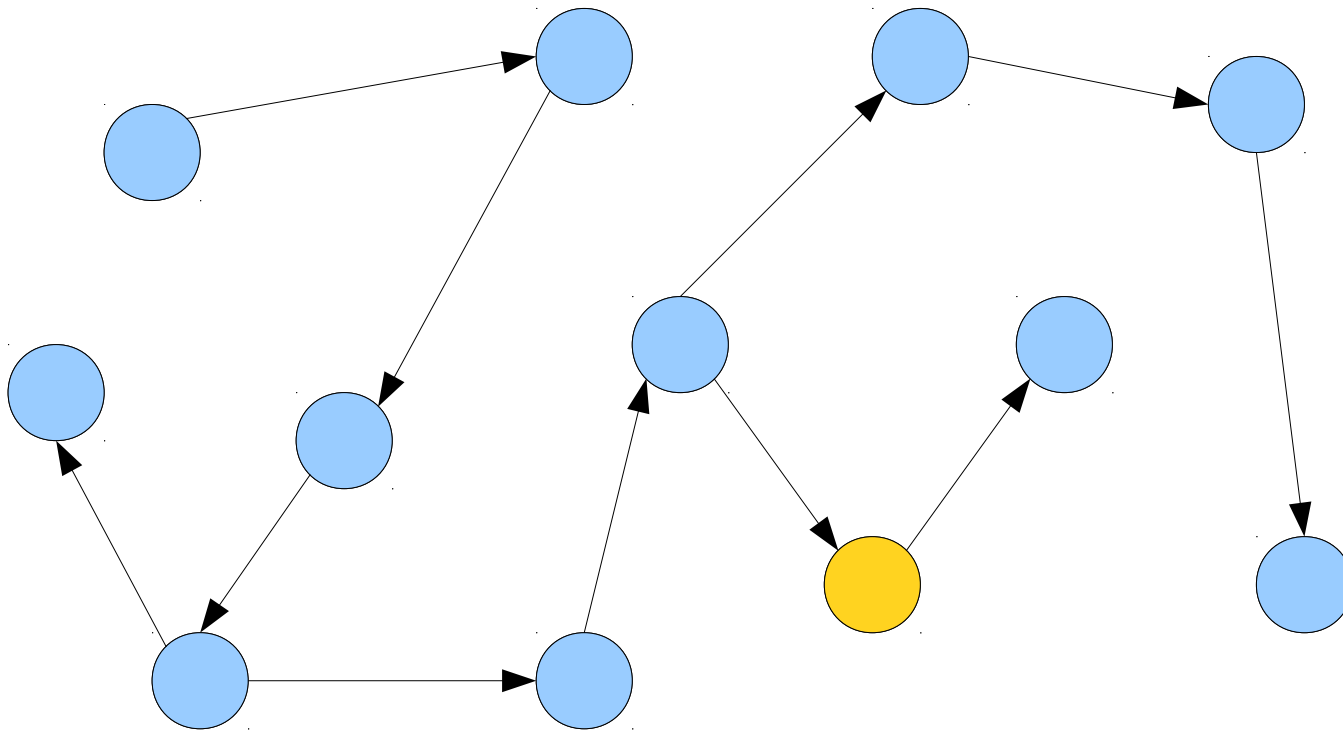
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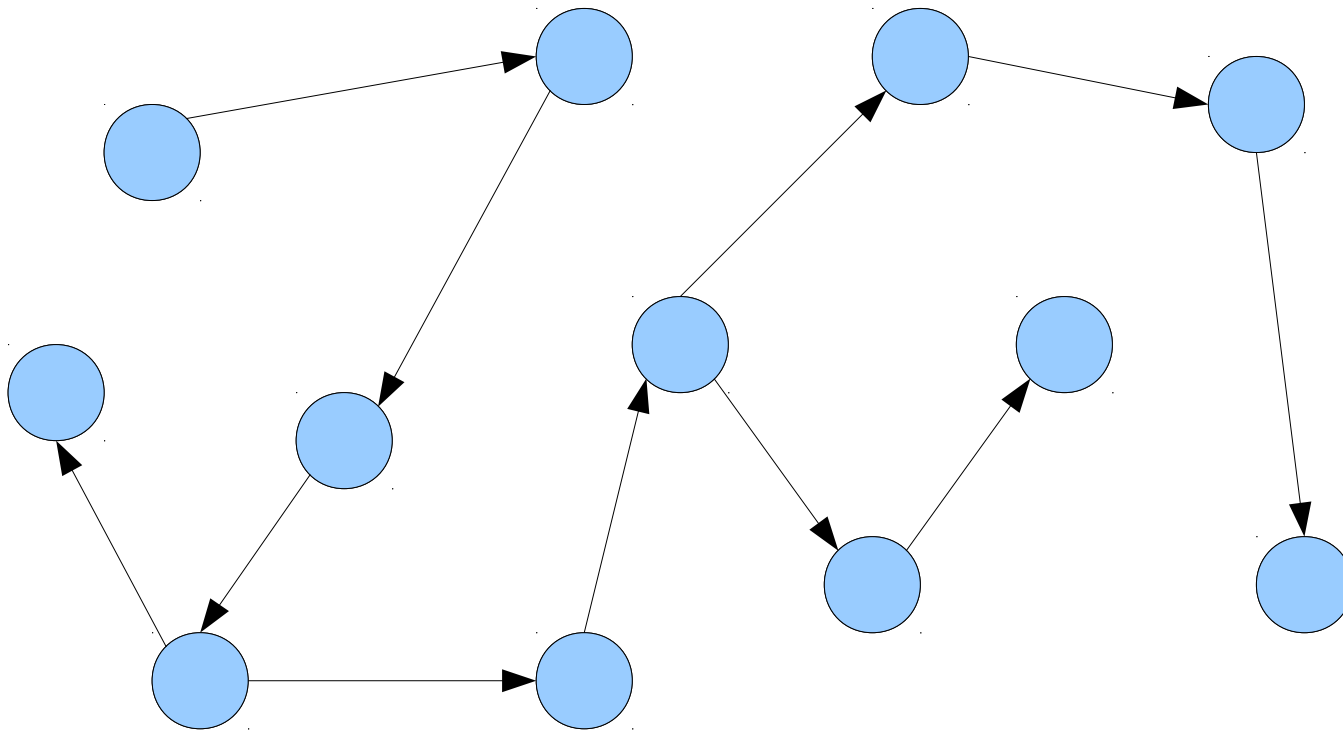
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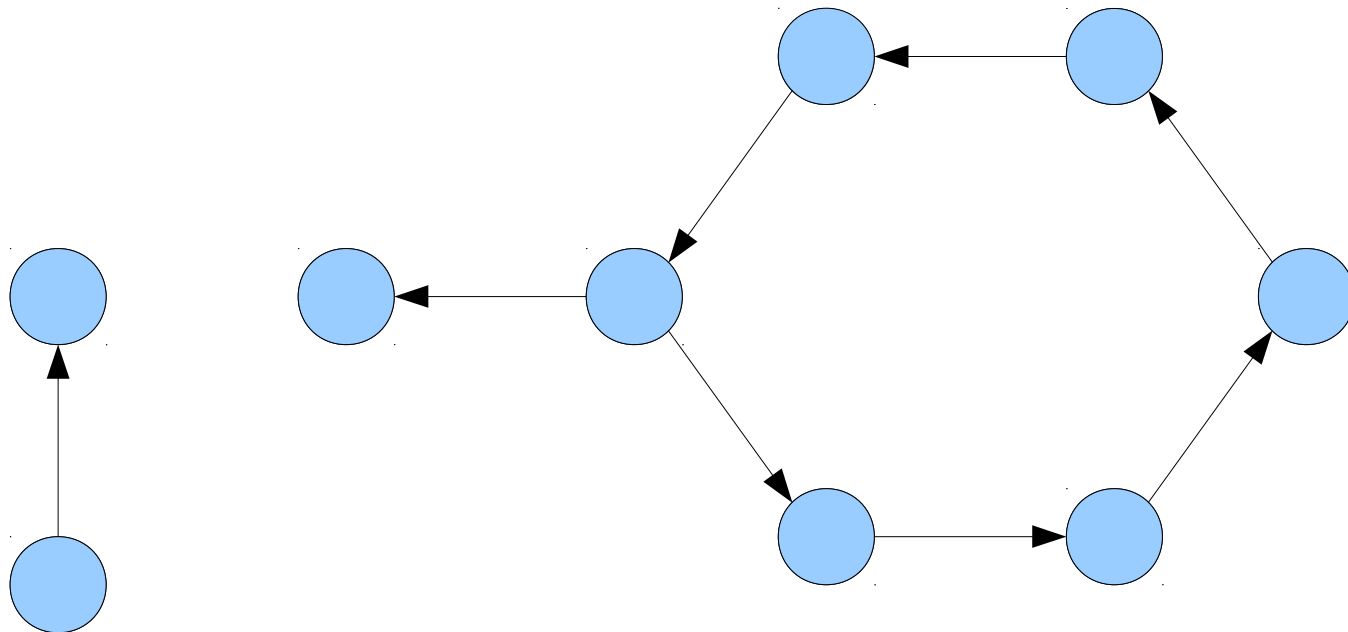


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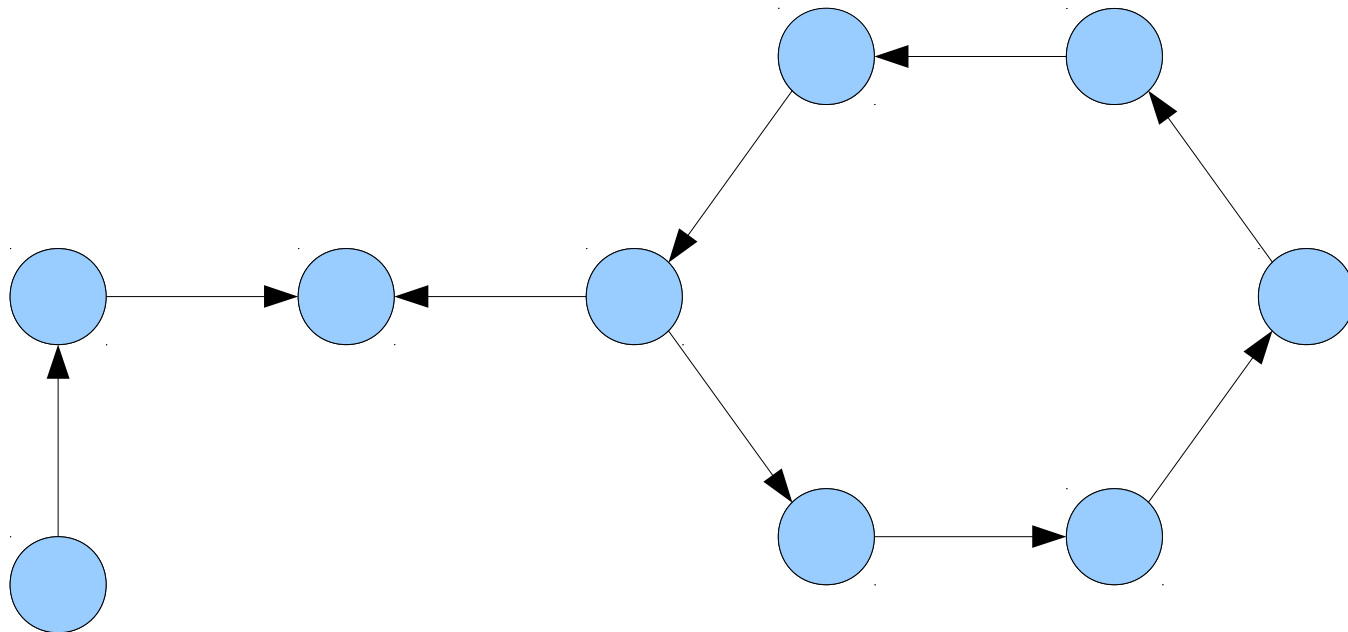
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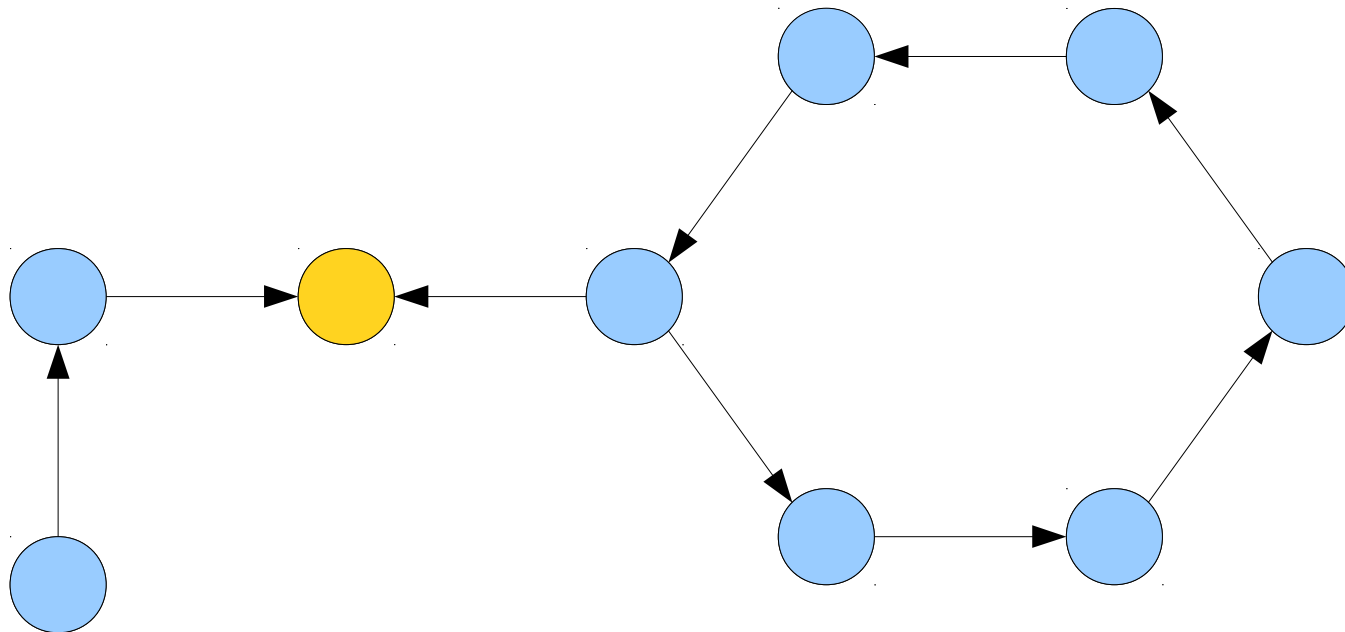
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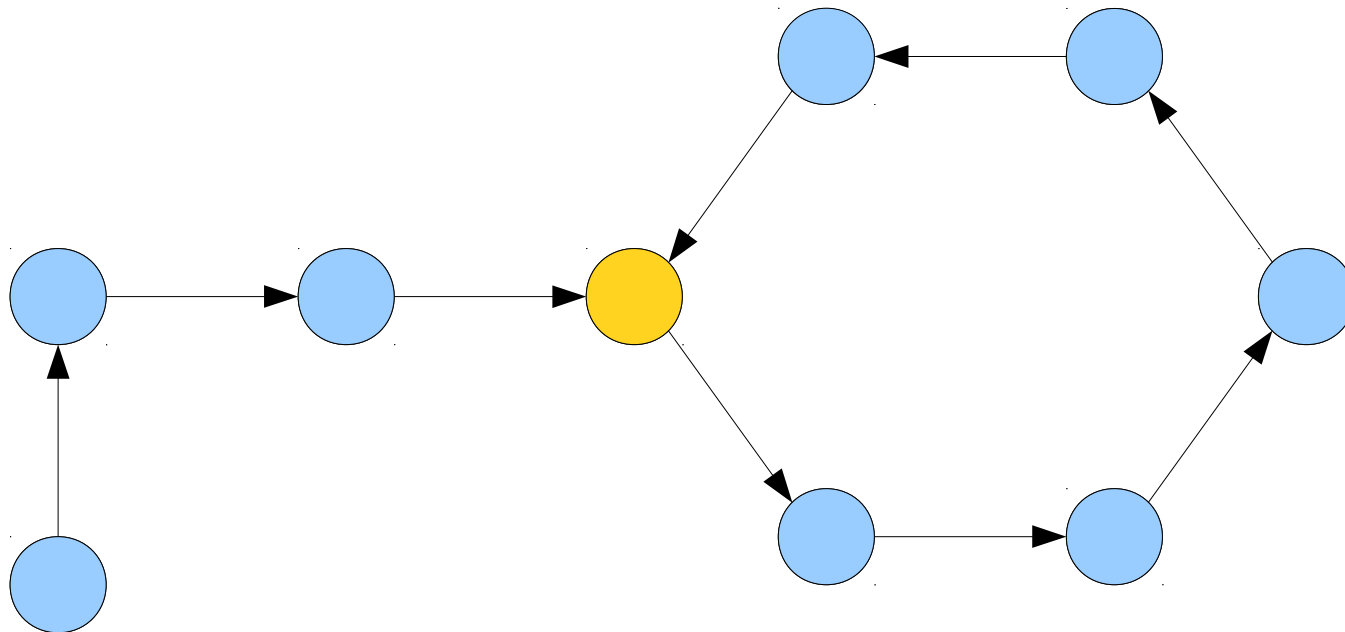
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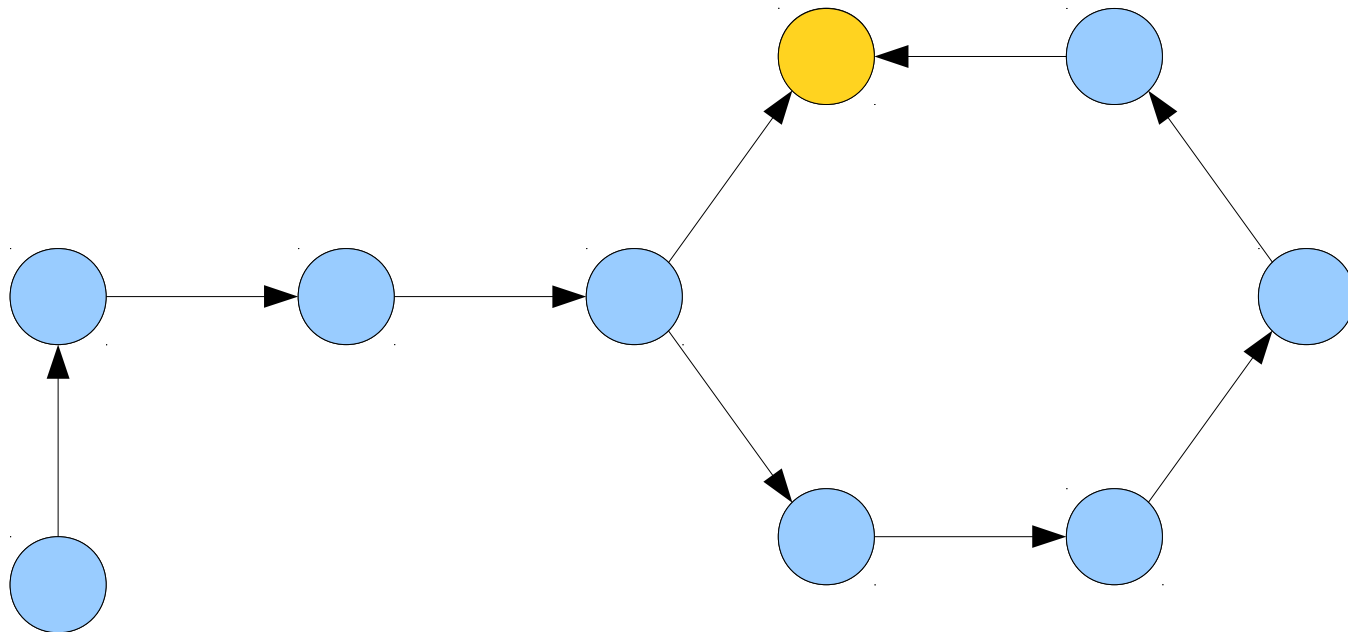
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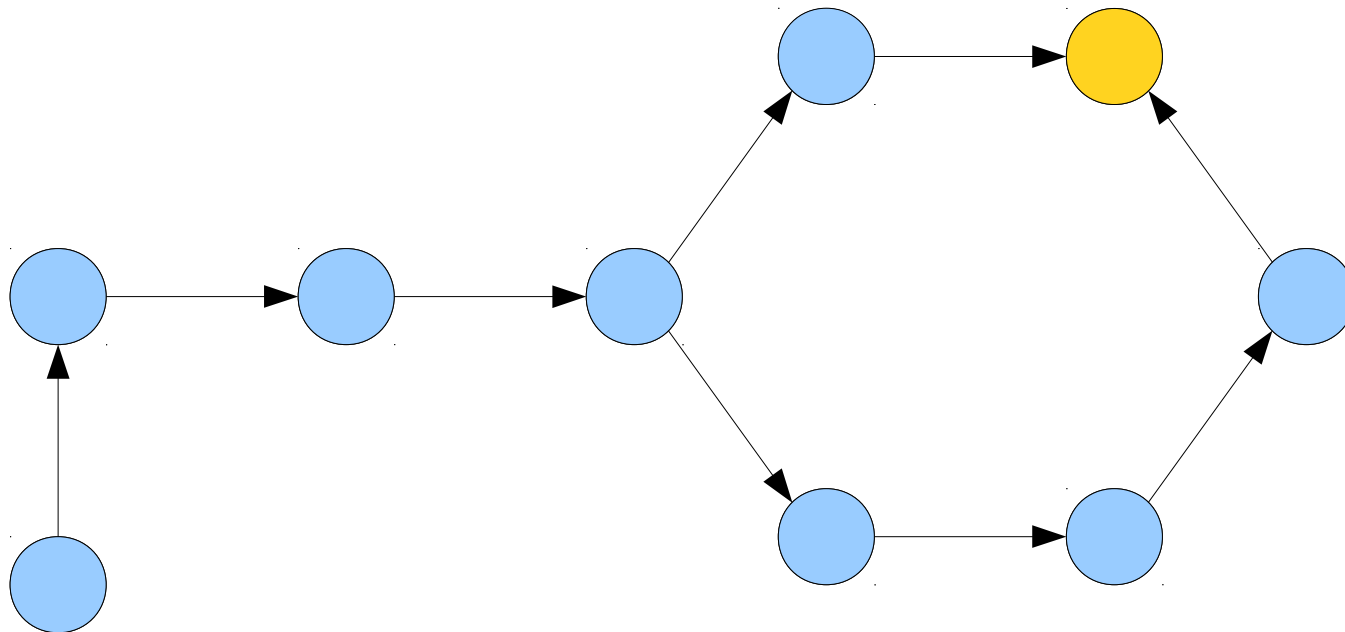
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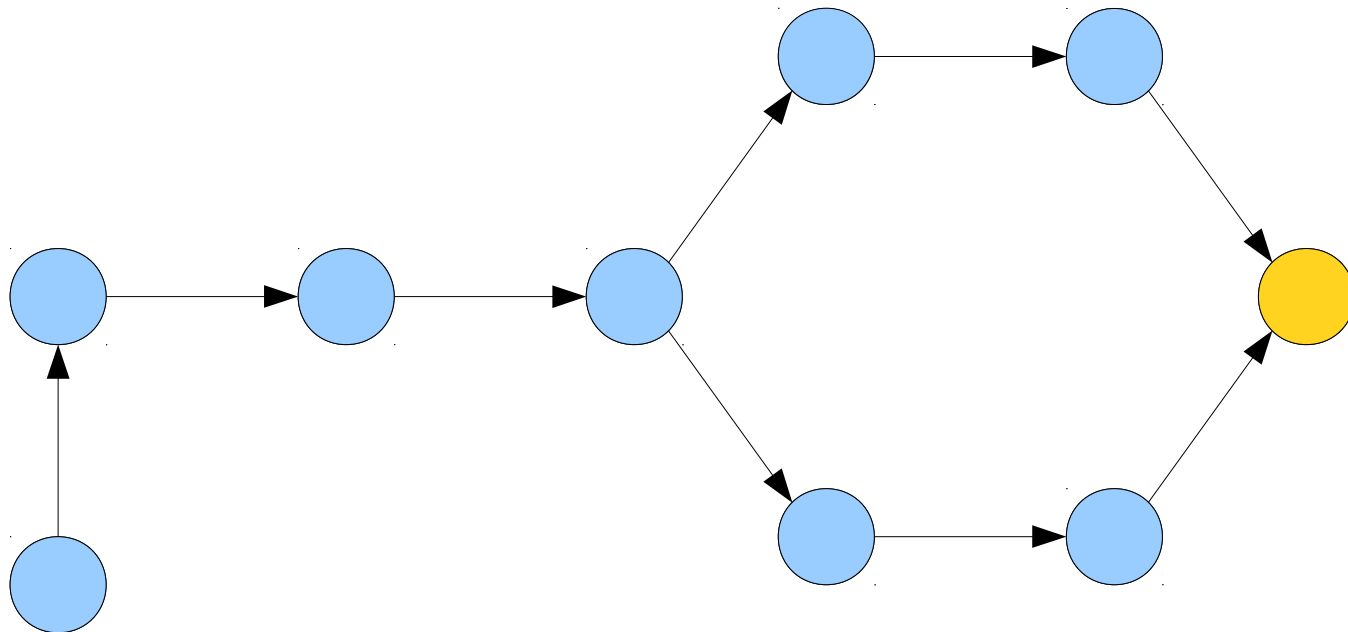
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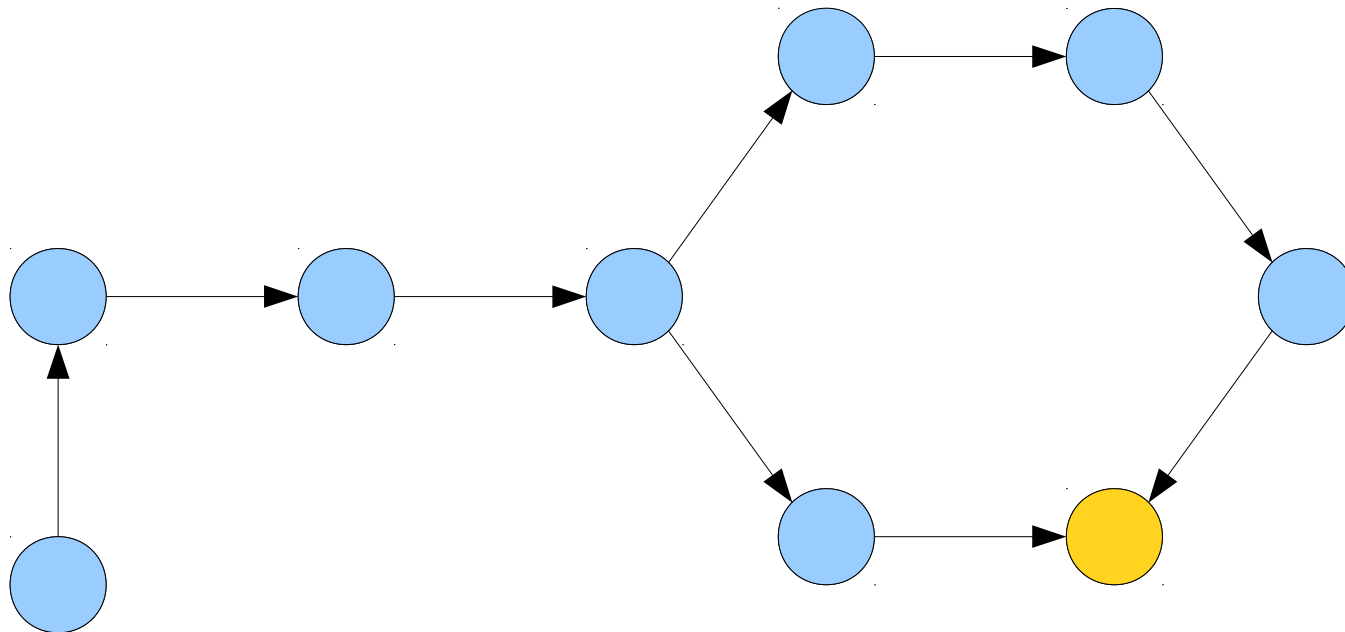
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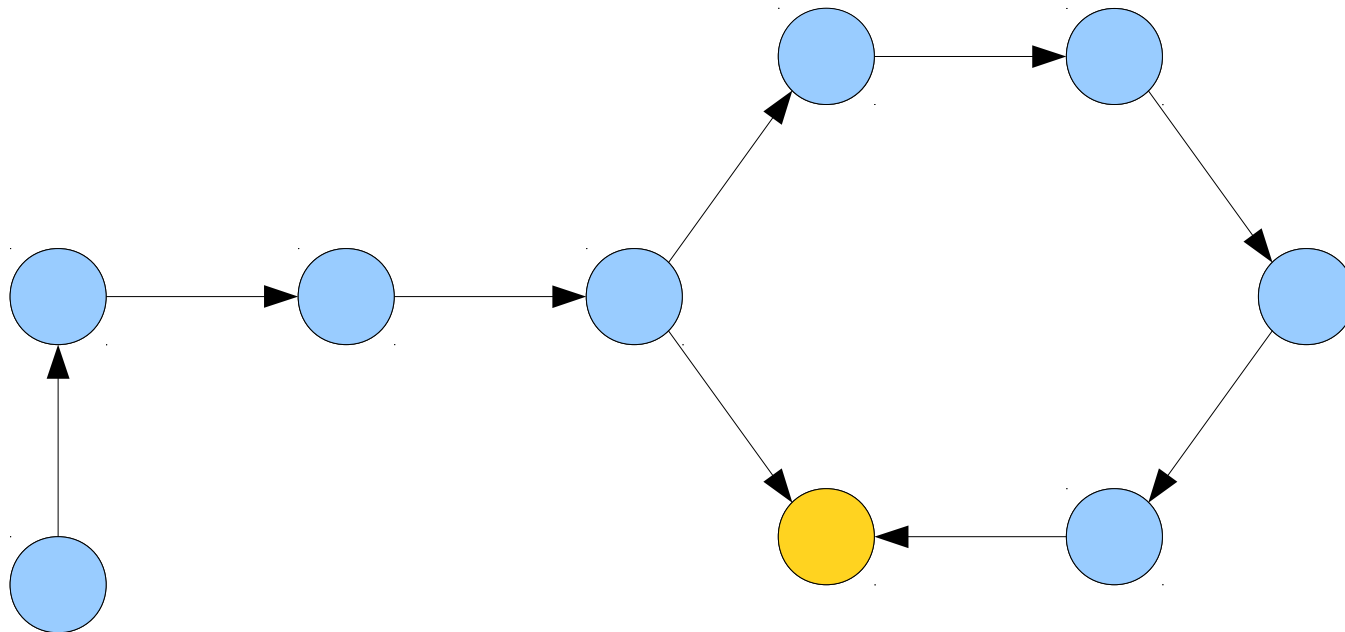
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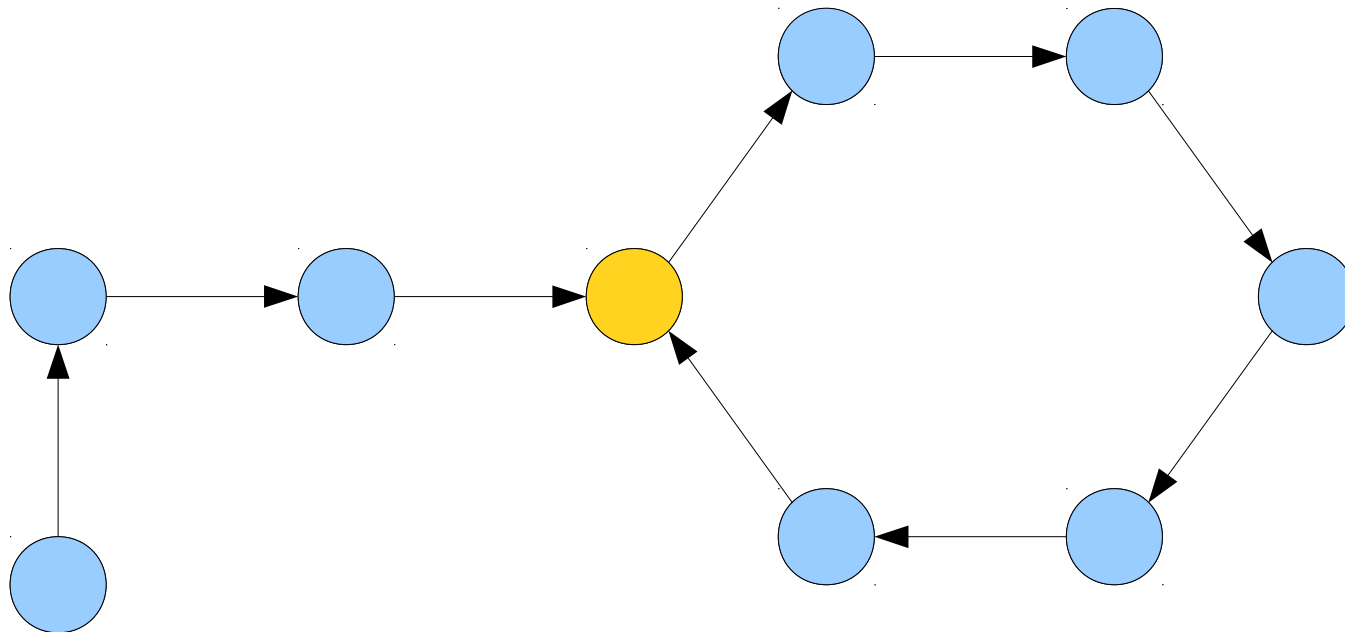
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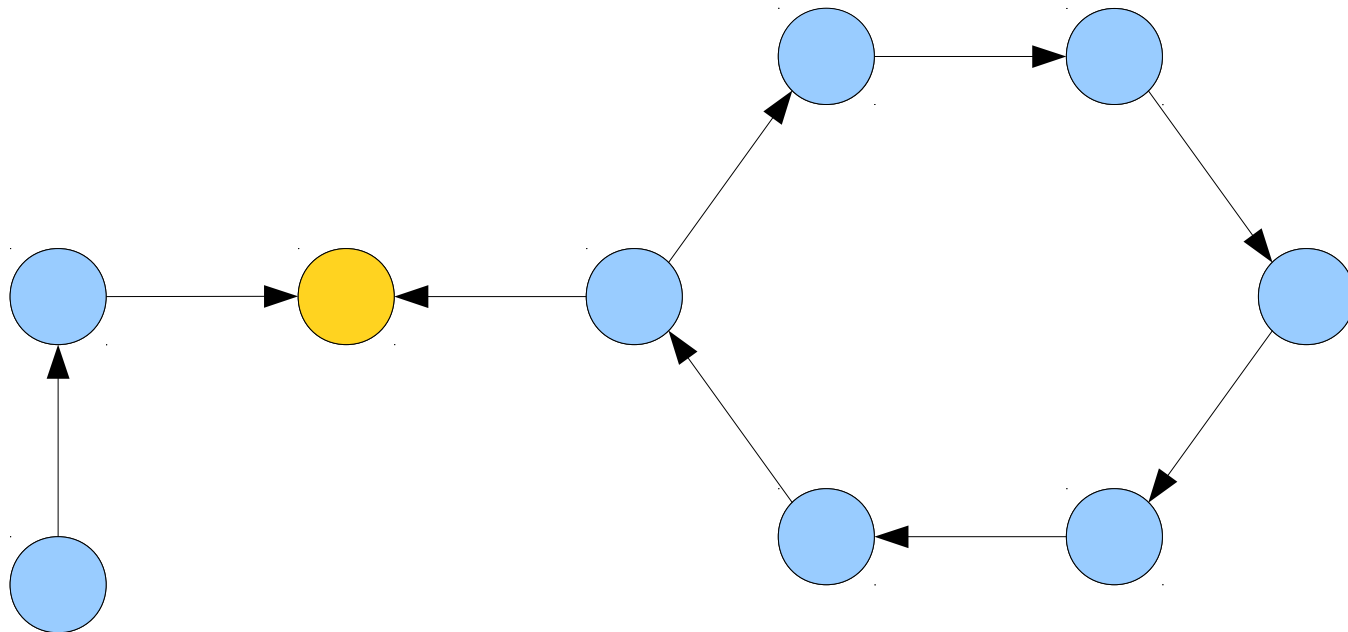
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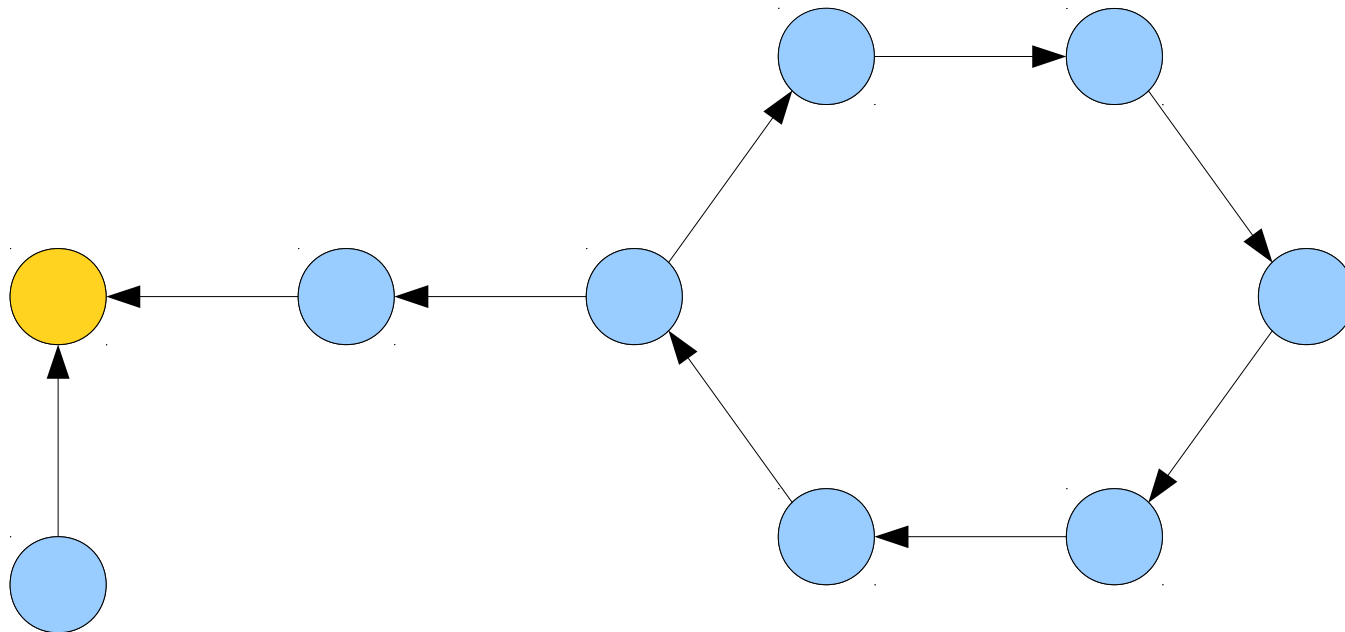
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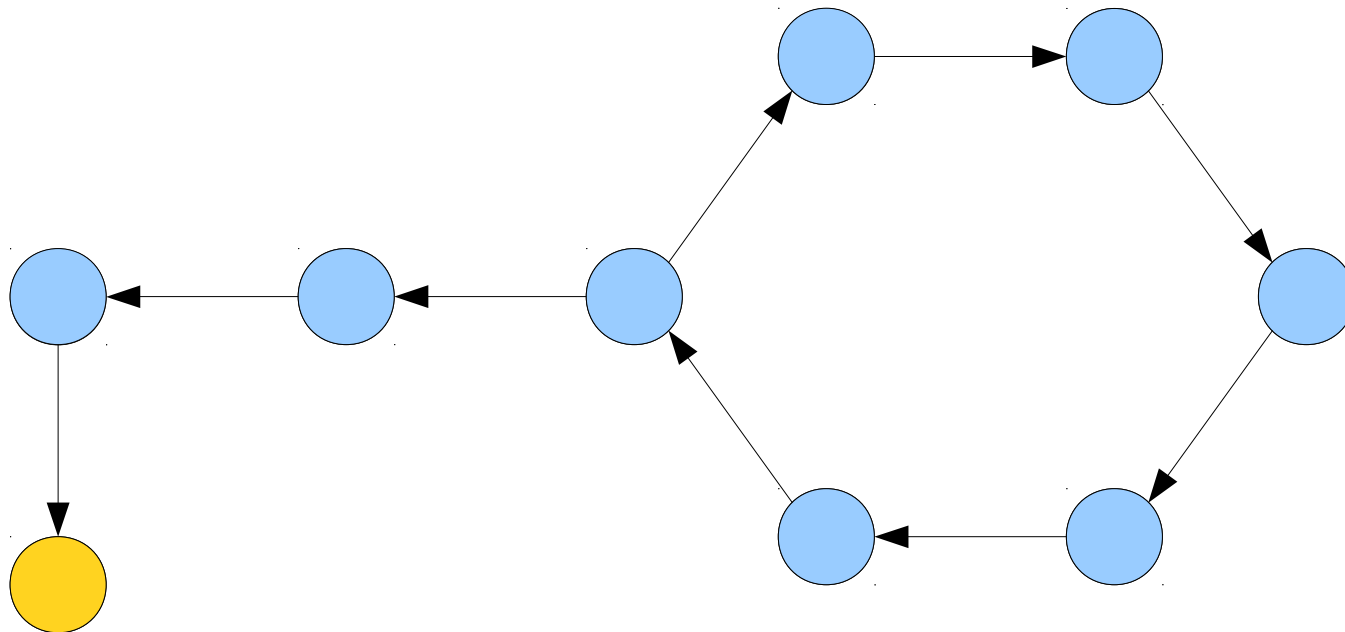
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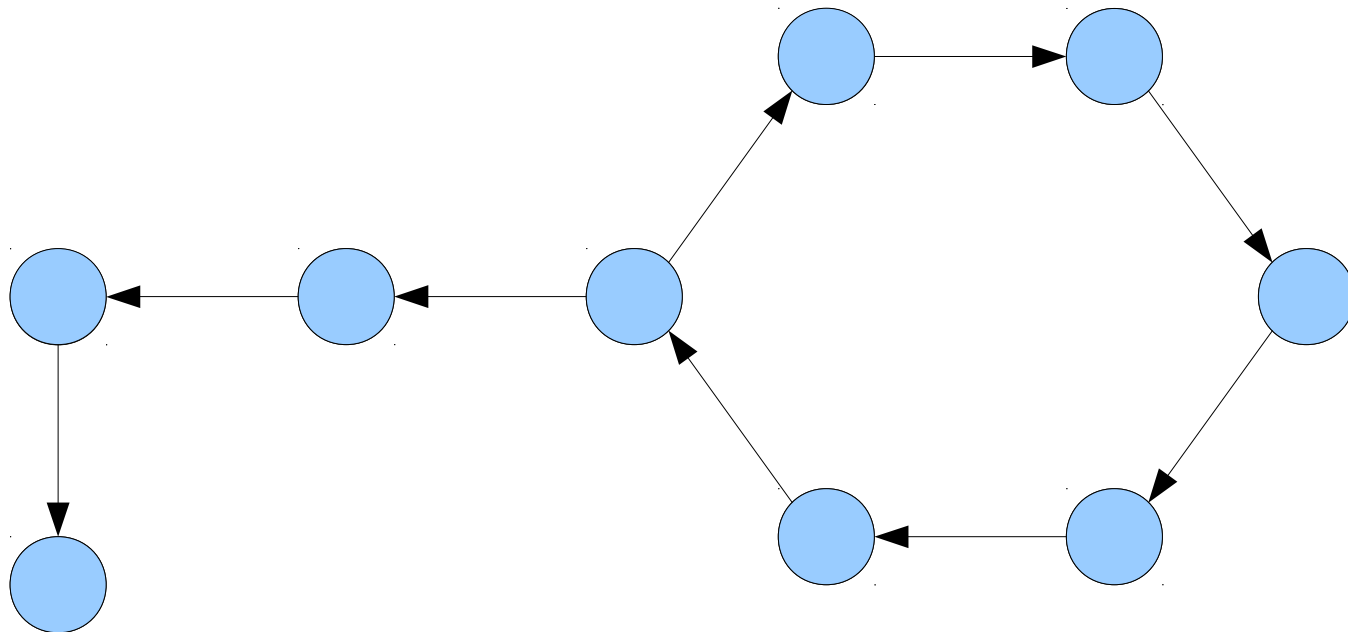
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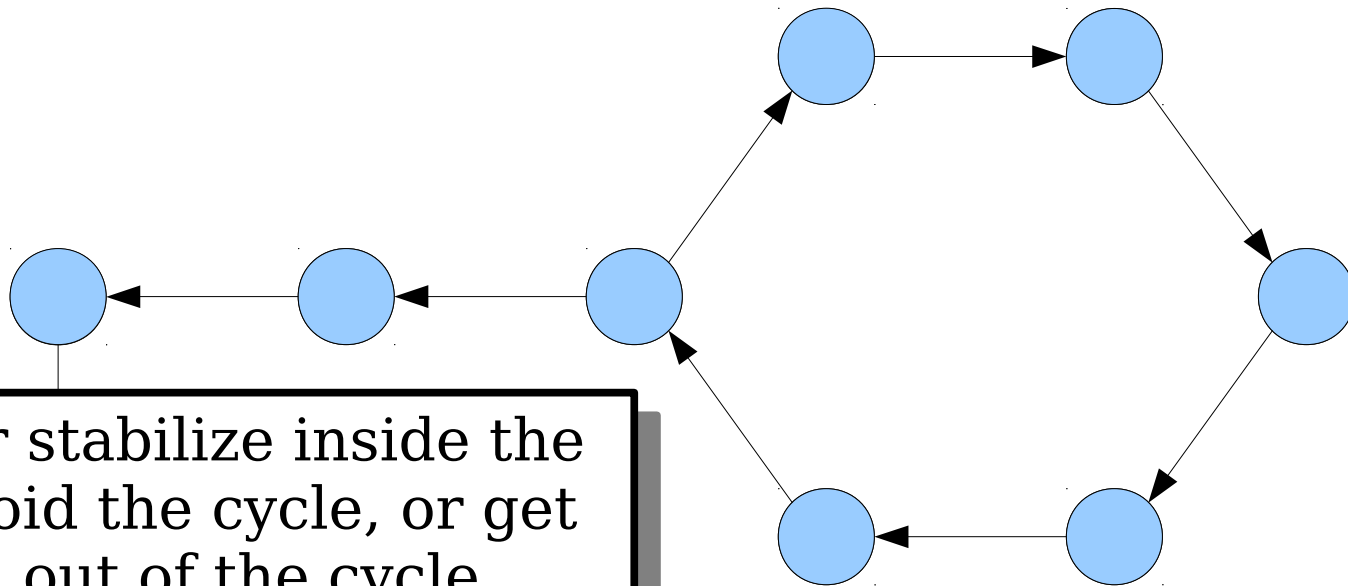
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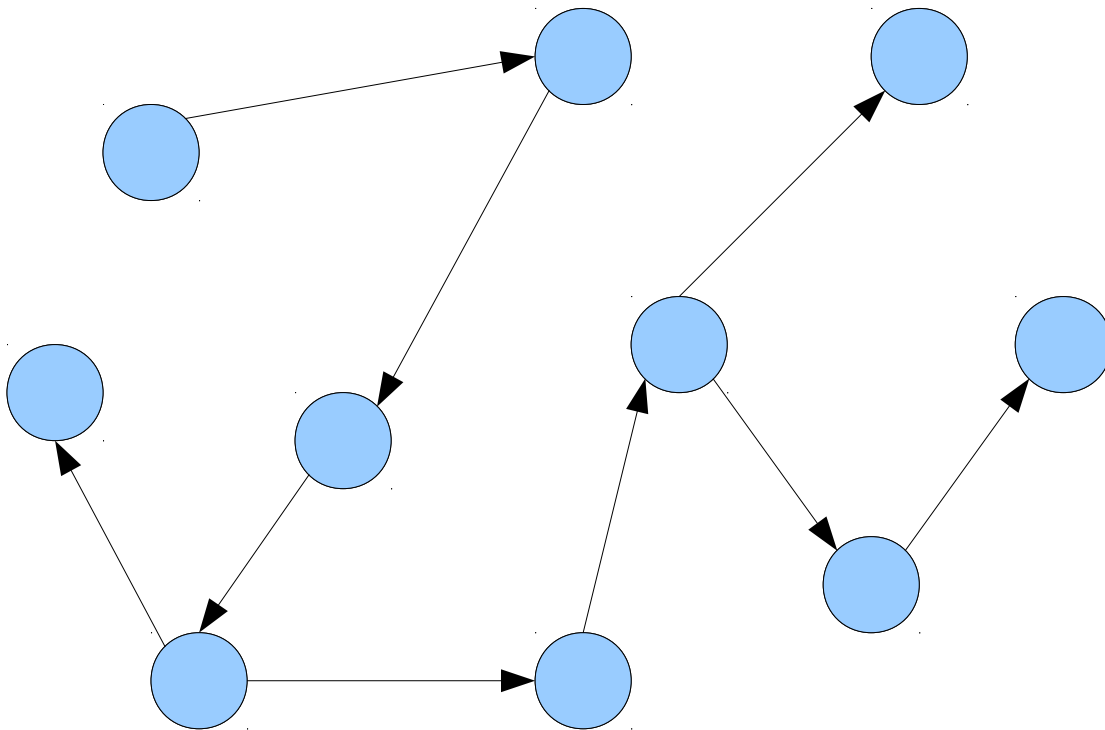


We either stabilize inside the cycle, avoid the cycle, or get kicked out of the cycle.



# The Cuckoo Graph

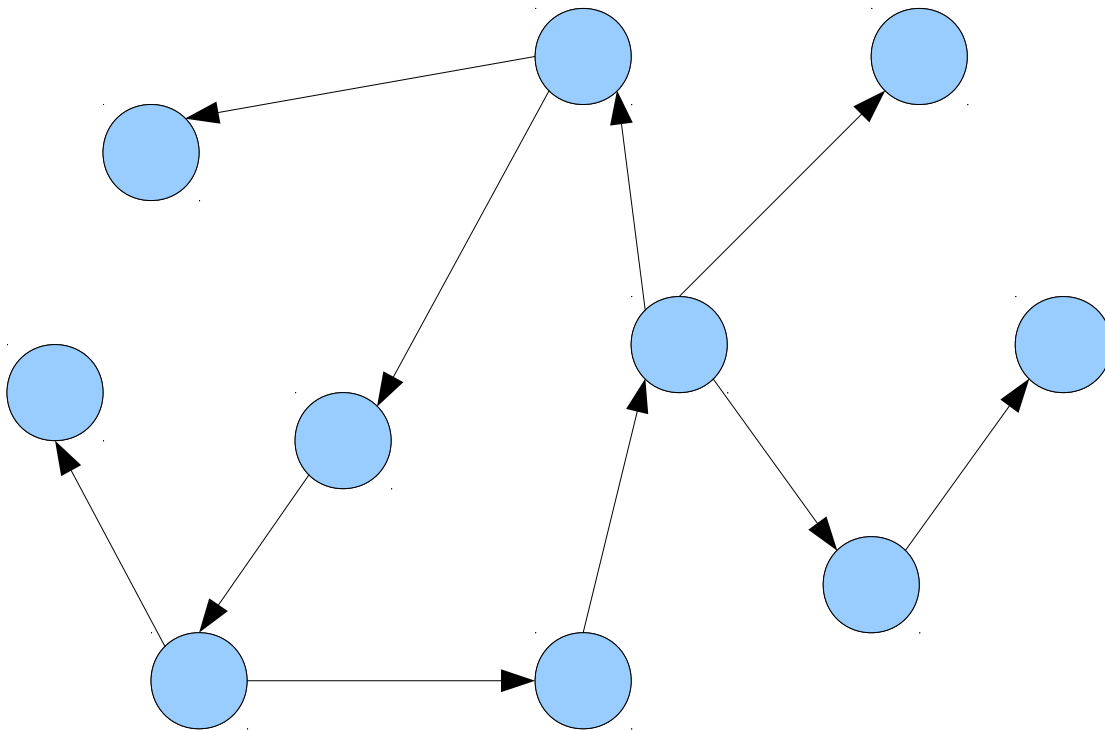
- **Claim 2:** If  $x$  is inserted into a cuckoo hash table, the insertion fails if the connected component containing  $x$  contains more than one cycle.



***No cycles:*** The graph is a directed tree. A tree with  $k$  nodes has  $k - 1$  edges.

# The Cuckoo Graph

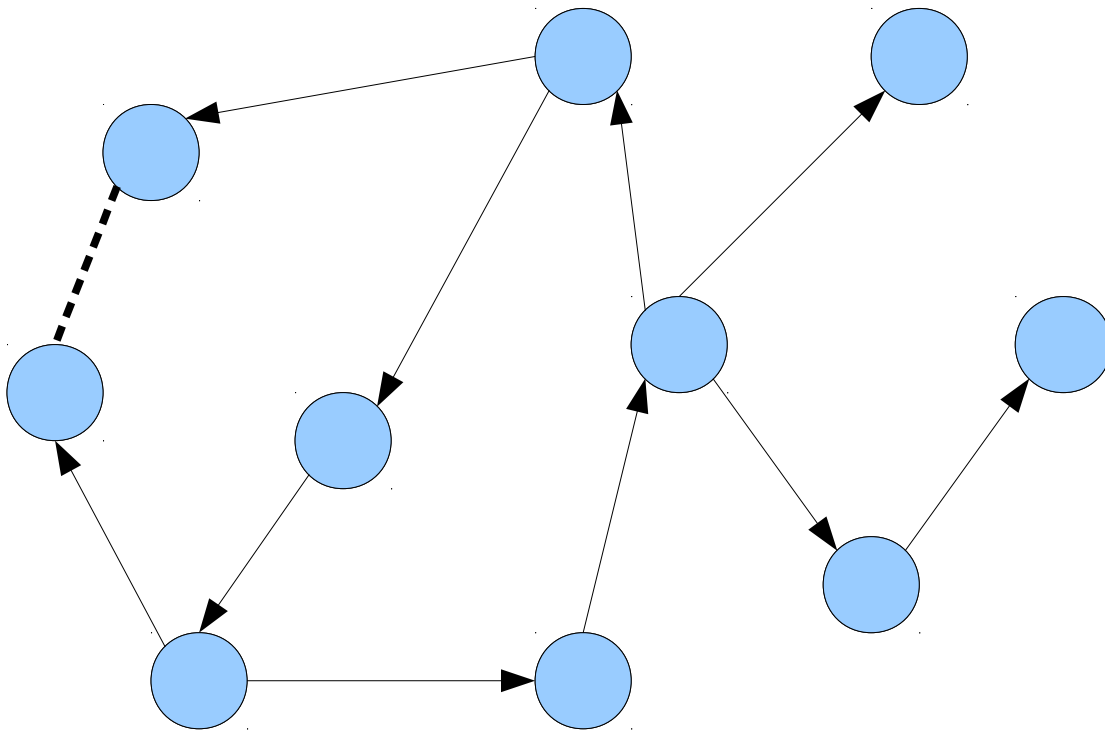
- **Claim 2:** If  $x$  is inserted into a cuckoo hash table, the insertion fails if the connected component containing  $x$  contains more than one cycle.



**One cycle:** We've added an edge, giving  $k$  nodes and  $k$  edges.

# The Cuckoo Graph

- **Claim 2:** If  $x$  is inserted into a cuckoo hash table, the insertion fails if the connected component containing  $x$  contains more than one cycle.



**Two cycles:** There are  $k$  nodes and  $k+1$  edges. There are too many arrowheads to place at most one arrowhead per node.

# The Cuckoo Graph

- A connected component of a graph is called **complex** if it contains two or more cycles.
- **Theorem:** Insertion into a cuckoo hash table succeeds if and only if the resulting cuckoo graph has no complex connected components.
- Questions we still need to answer:
  - The number of nodes in a connected component can be used to bound the cost of an insertion. On average, how big are those connected components?
  - What is the probability that an insertion fails because we create a complex connected component?

Time-Out for Announcements!

# Project Checkpoints

- Project checkpoints were due today at 2:30PM.
- We'll be reviewing them over the weekend with the aim of getting back to you by early next week.
- In general, please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions about the project or your topic! We're happy to help out.

# Problem Set Four

- Problem Set Four is due next Tuesday at 2:30PM.
- You know the drill! Ask questions if you have them, get in touch with us if there's anything we can assist with, and have a lot of fun working through these exercises!

Back to CS166!



## ***Two Major Questions***

How big are the connected components  
in the cuckoo graph?

How likely is it for an insertion to fail?

***Step One:*** Sizing Connected Components

# Analyzing Connected Components

- The cost of inserting  $x$  into a cuckoo hash table is proportional to the size of the CC containing  $x$ .
- ***Question:*** What is the expected size of a CC in the cuckoo graph?

**Idea:** Count the number of nodes in a connected component by simulating a BFS.

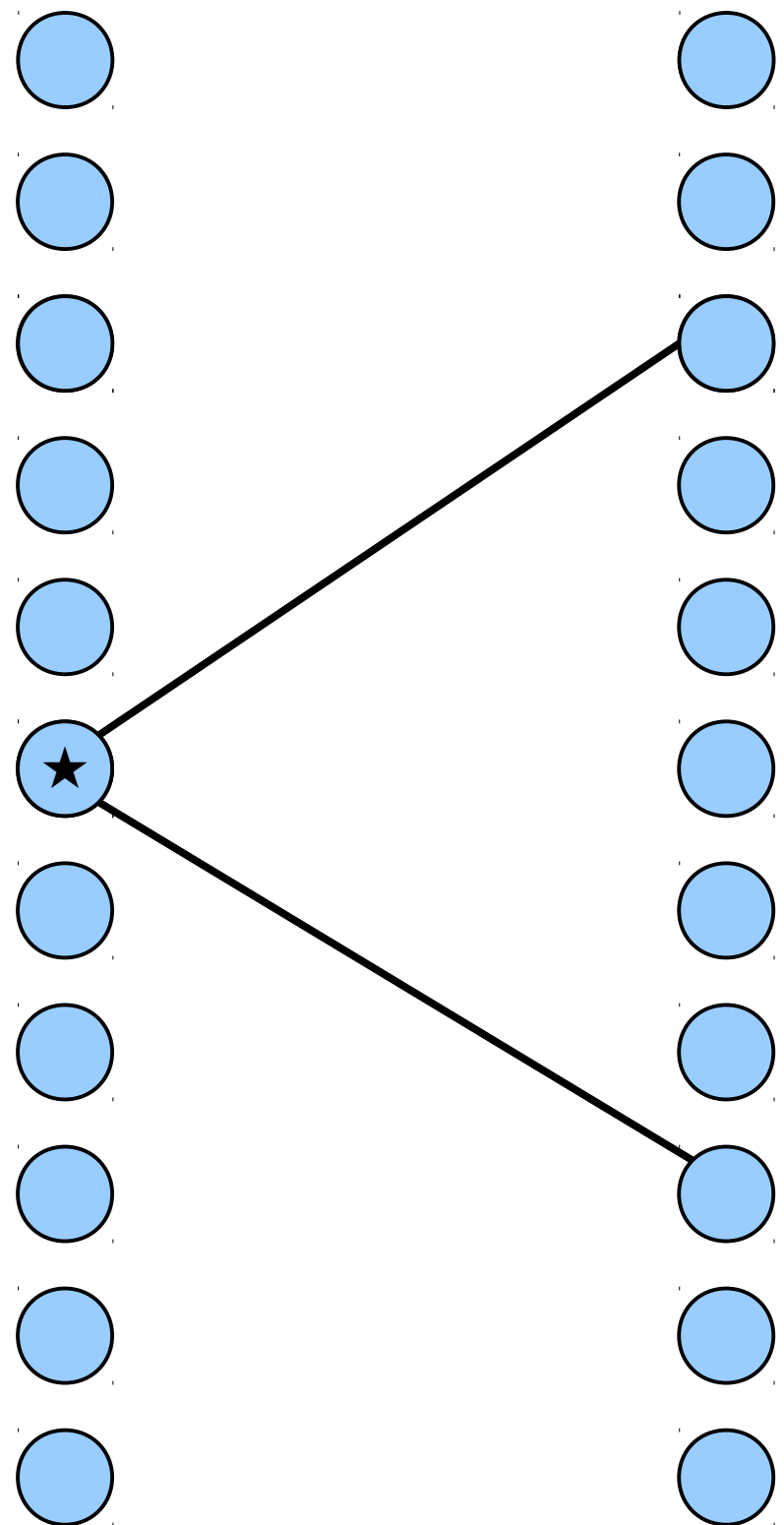
Pick some starting table slot.

There are  $n$  elements in the table, so this graph has  $n$  edges.

Assume, for now, that our hash functions are truly random.

Each edge has a  $1/m$  chance of touching this table slot.

The number of adjacent nodes, which will be visited in the next step of BFS, is a  $\text{Binom}(n, 1/m)$  variable.



**Idea:** Count the number of nodes in a connected component by simulating a BFS.

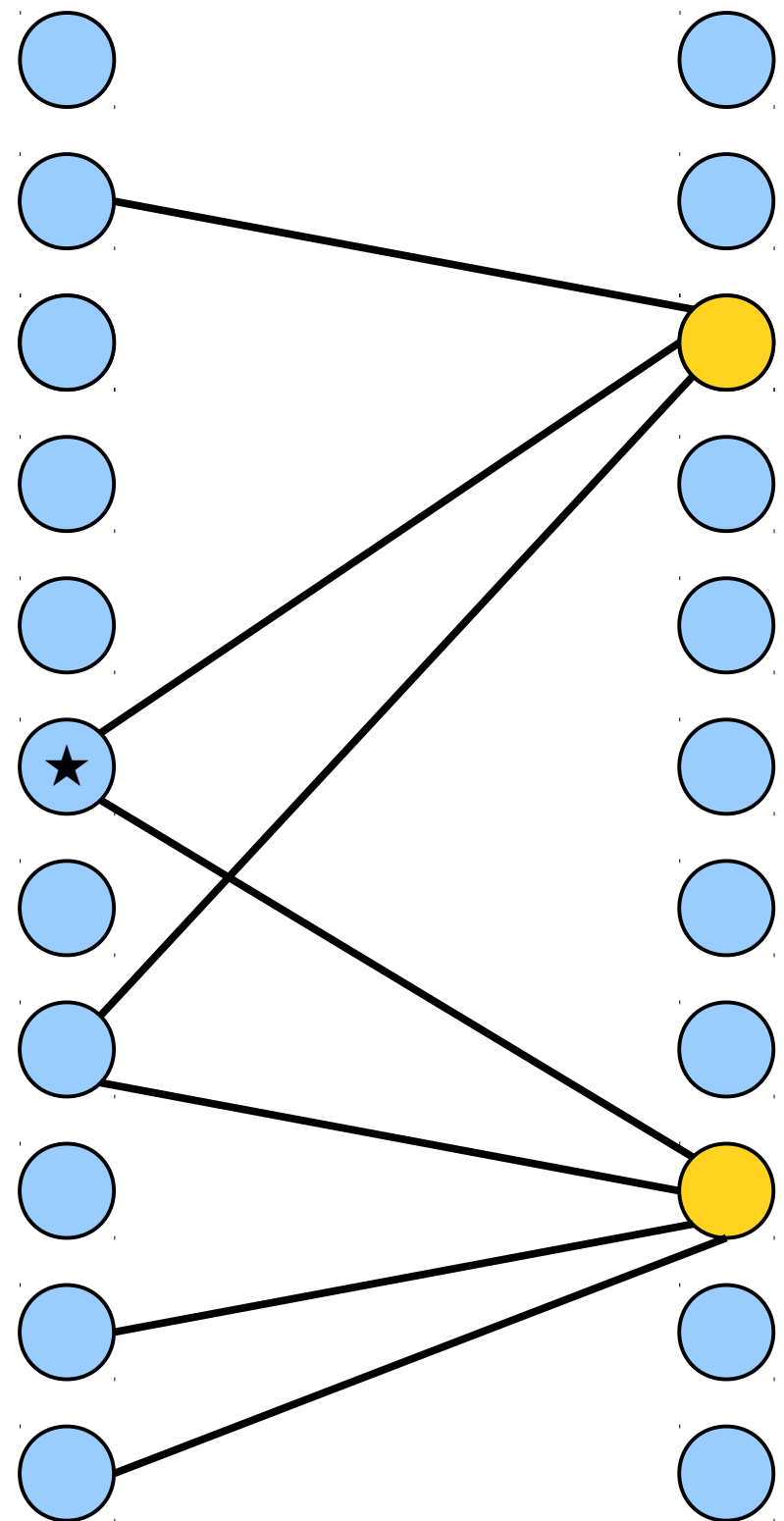
Each new node kinda sorta ish also touches a number of new nodes on the other side that can be modeled as a  $\text{Binom}(n, 1/m)$  variable.

This ignores double-counting nodes.

This ignores existing edges.

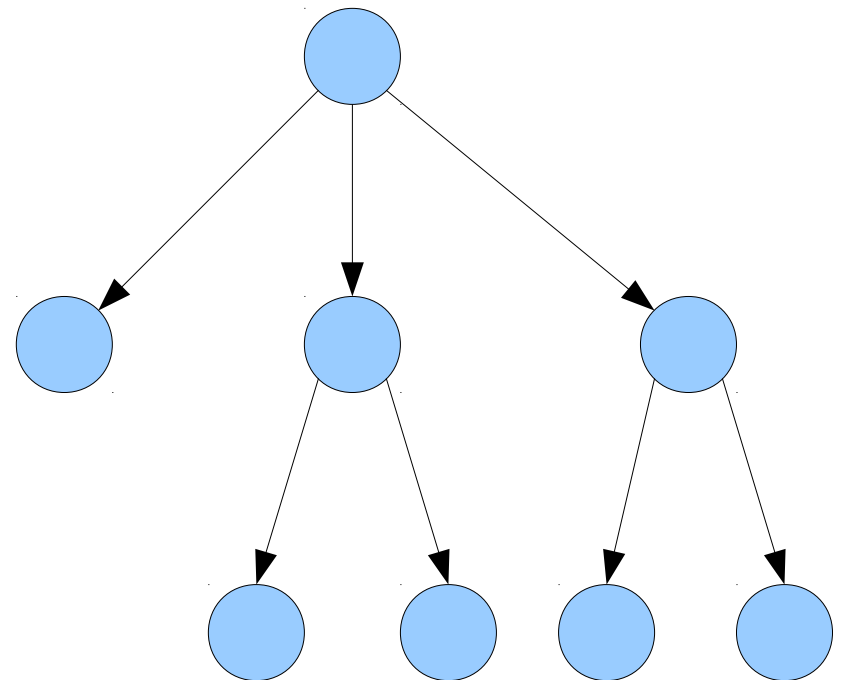
This ignores correlations between edge counts.

However, it conservatively bounds the next BFS step.



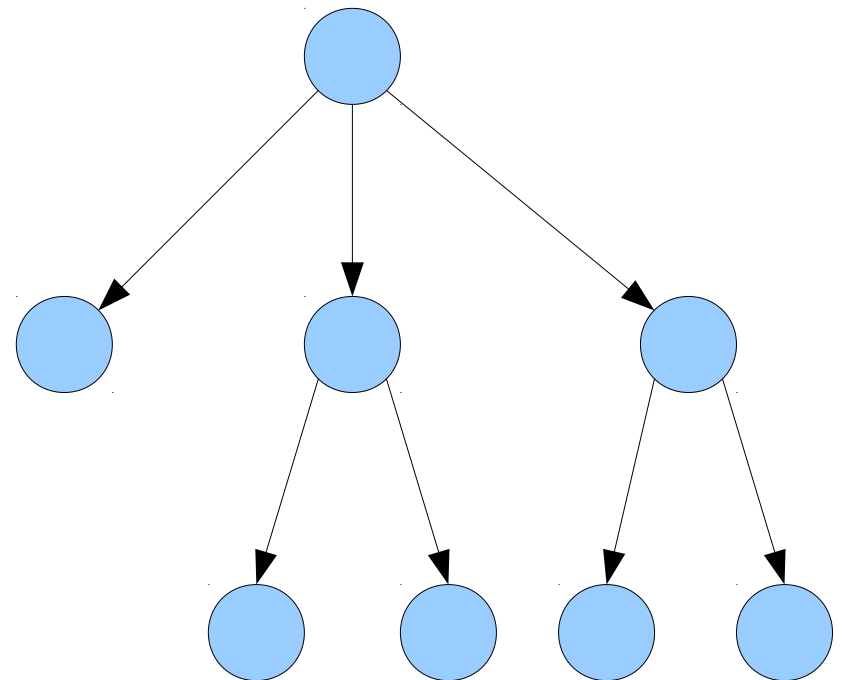
# Modeling the BFS

- Simulate a BFS tree using  $\text{Binom}(n, 1/m)$  variables!
  - Begin with a root node.
  - Each node has children distributed as a  $\text{Binom}(n, 1/m)$  variable.
- **Question:** How many total nodes will this simulated BFS discover before terminating?



# Modeling the BFS

- A tree-shaped process where each node has an i.i.d. number of children is called a **Galton-Watson process**.
- A **subcritical** process is one where the expected number of children of each node is less than one.
- **Question:** Assuming each node's child count is an i.i.d. copy of some random variable  $\xi$ , how many nodes should we expect to see in the tree?





Paris, Lacroix & Morin, des.

Imp. Lemercier & Co., Paris

February 1<sup>st</sup> 1868.

GAZETTE OF FASHION

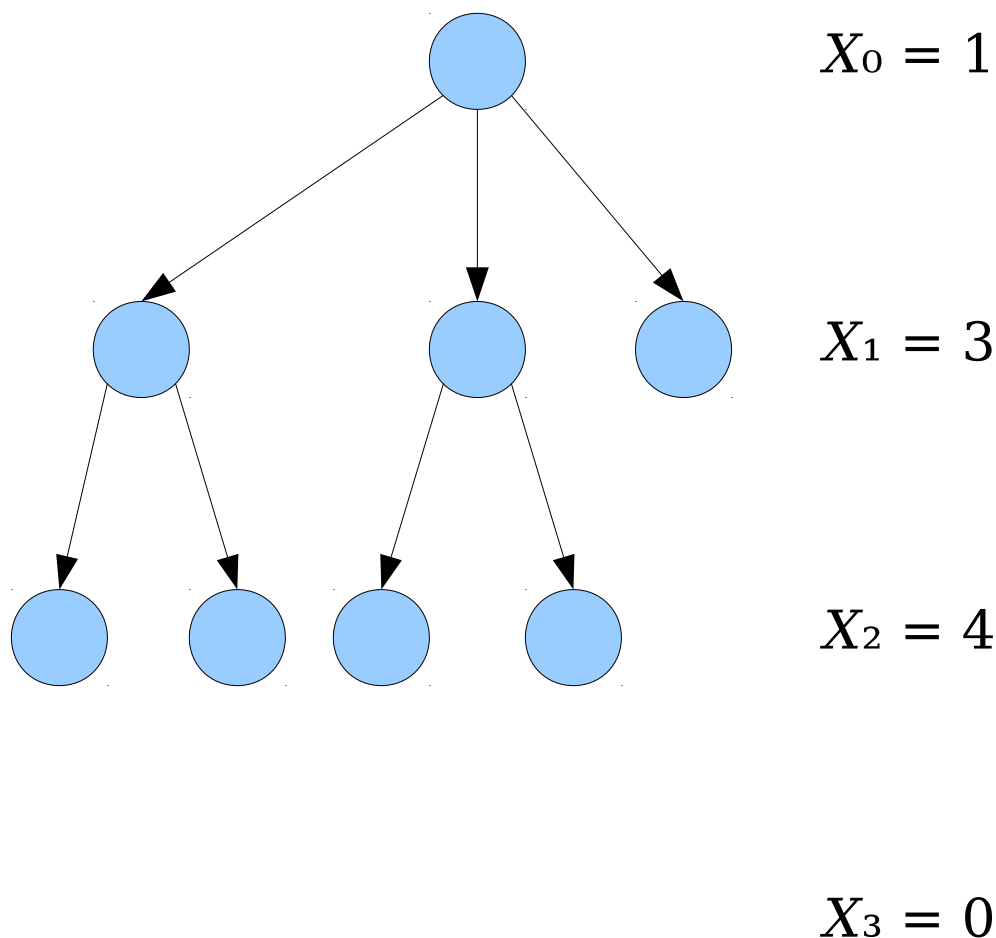


# Subcritical Galton-Watson Processes

- Denote by  $X_n$  the number of nodes alive at depth  $n$ . This gives a series of random variables  $X_0, X_1, X_2, \dots$ .
- These variables are defined by the following randomized recurrence:

$$X_0 = 1 \quad X_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{X_n} \xi_{i,n}$$

- Here, each  $\xi_{i,n}$  is an i.i.d. copy of  $\xi$ .

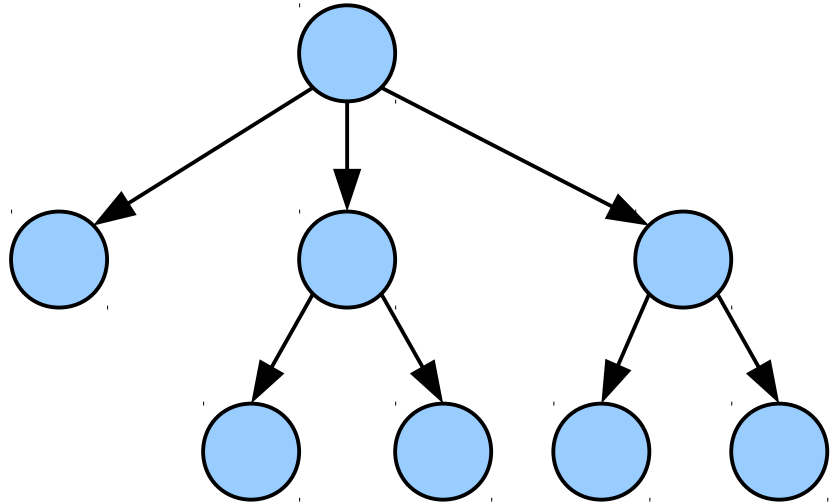


**Lemma 1:**  $E[X_i] = E[\xi]^i$ .

*(Induction and conditional expectation.)*

**Lemma 2:**  $E[\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} X_i] = \frac{1}{1 - E[\xi]}$

*(Linearity of expectation;  
sum of a geometric series.)*



**Theorem:** The expected number of nodes in a connected component of the cuckoo graph is  $O(1)$ , assuming that  $m = (1 + \varepsilon)n$ .

**Proof:**  $\xi$  in this case is a  $\text{Binom}(n, 1/m)$  variable. So  $E[\xi] = n/m = O(1)$ .

$$X_0 = 1 \qquad X_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{X_n} \xi_{i,n} \qquad E[\xi] < 1$$

# The Story So Far

- The expected size of a connected component in the cuckoo graph is  $O(1)$ .
- Therefore, each *successful* insertion takes expected time  $O(1)$ .
- **Question:** What happens in an unsuccessful insertion? And what does that do for our expected cost of *any* insertion?

Step Two:

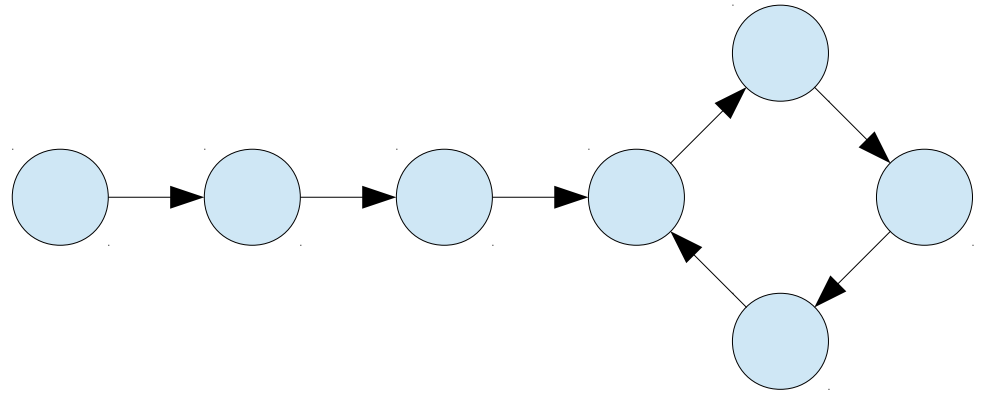
***Exploring the Graph Structure***

# Exploring the Graph Structure

- Cuckoo hashing will always succeed in the case where the cuckoo graph has no complex connected components.
- If there are no complex CC's, then we will not get into a loop and insertion time will depend only on the sizes of the CC's.
- It's reasonable to ask, therefore, how likely we are to not have complex components.

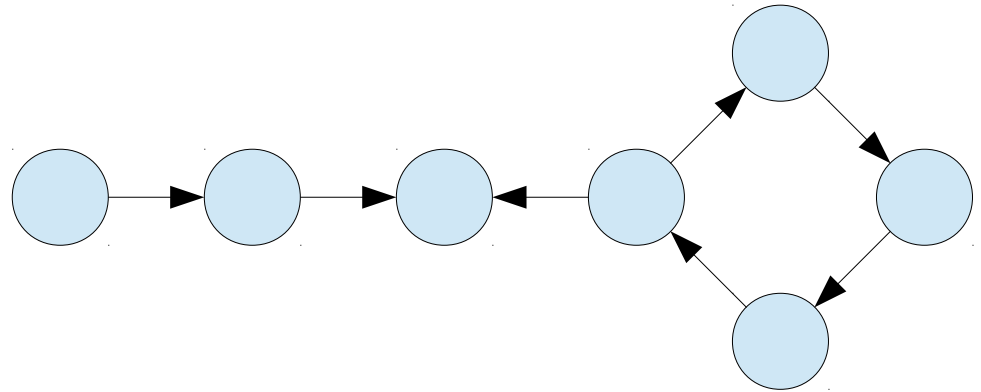
# Exploring the Graph Structure

- **Question:** What is the probability that a randomly-chosen bipartite multigraph with  $2m$  nodes and  $n$  edges will contain a complex connected component?
- Directly answering this question is challenging and requires some fairly detailed combinatorics.
- However, there's a very clever technique we can use to bound this probability indirectly.



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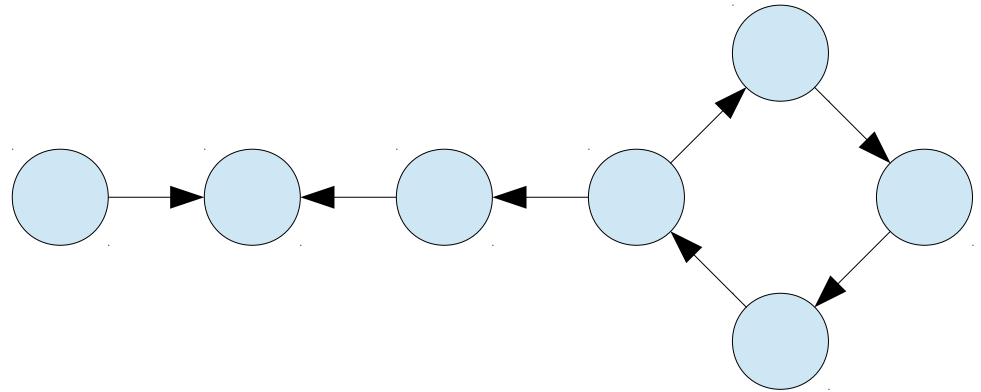
Insertion fails if we have a complex connected component.  
What specifically happens in that case?



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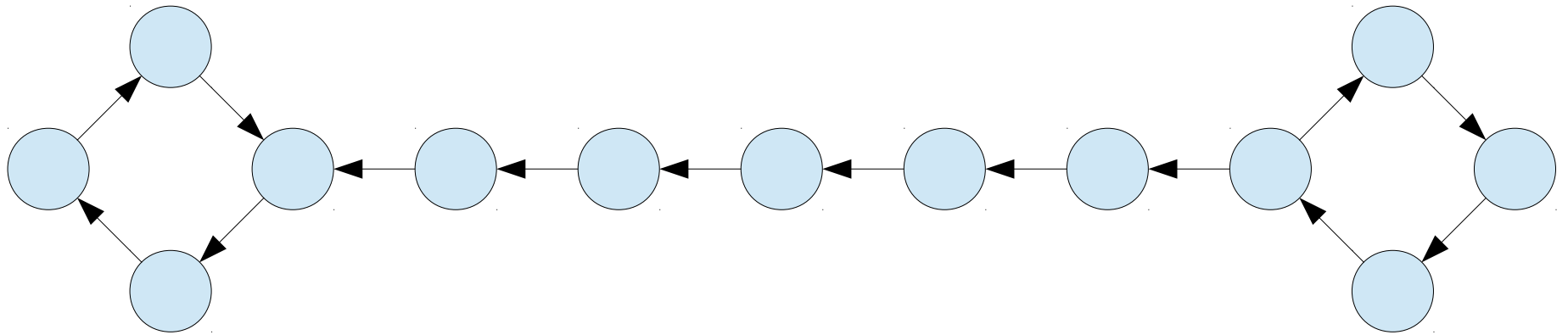
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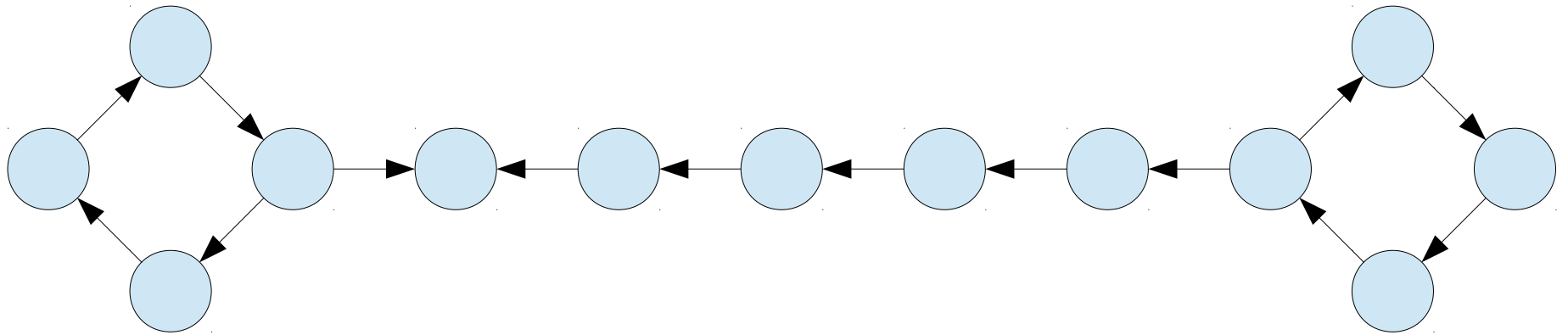
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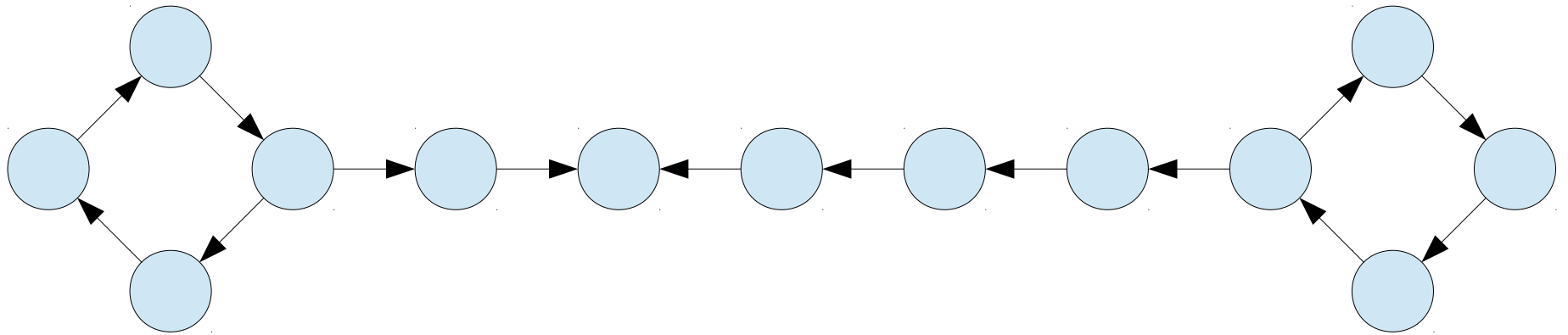
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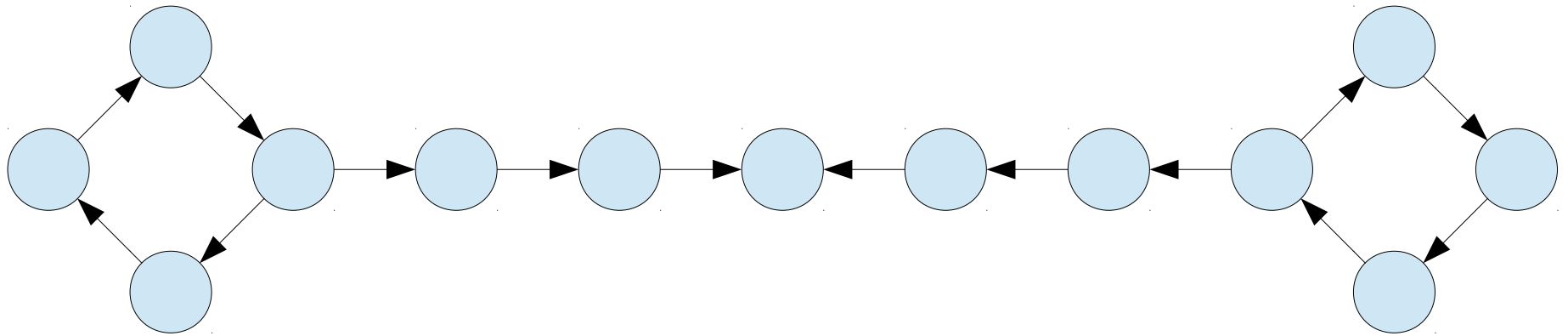
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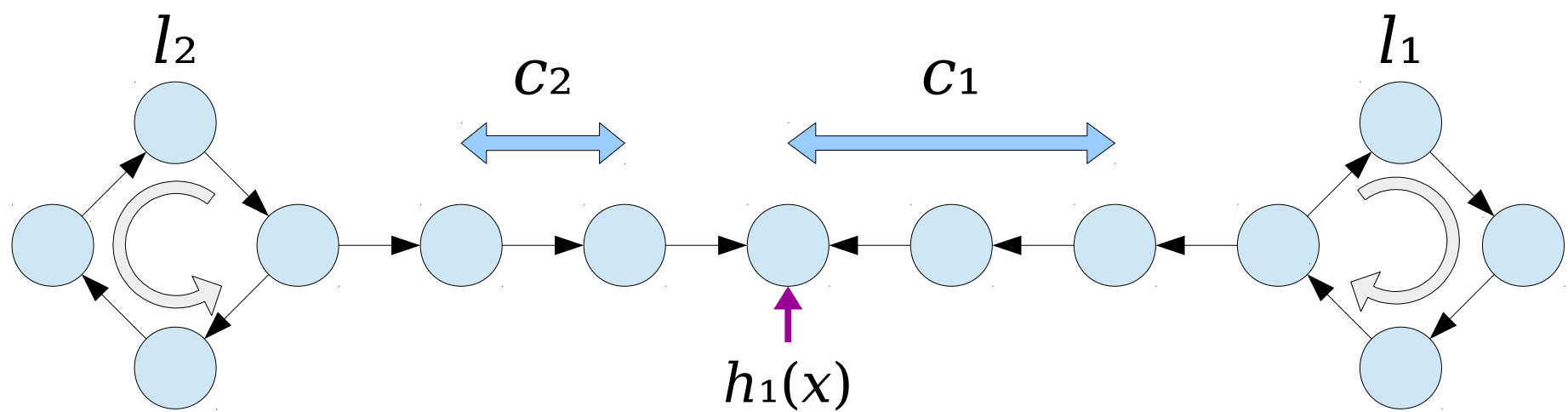
Insertion fails if we have a complex connected component.  
What specifically happens in that case?



We're right back where we started. This pattern will continue indefinitely.

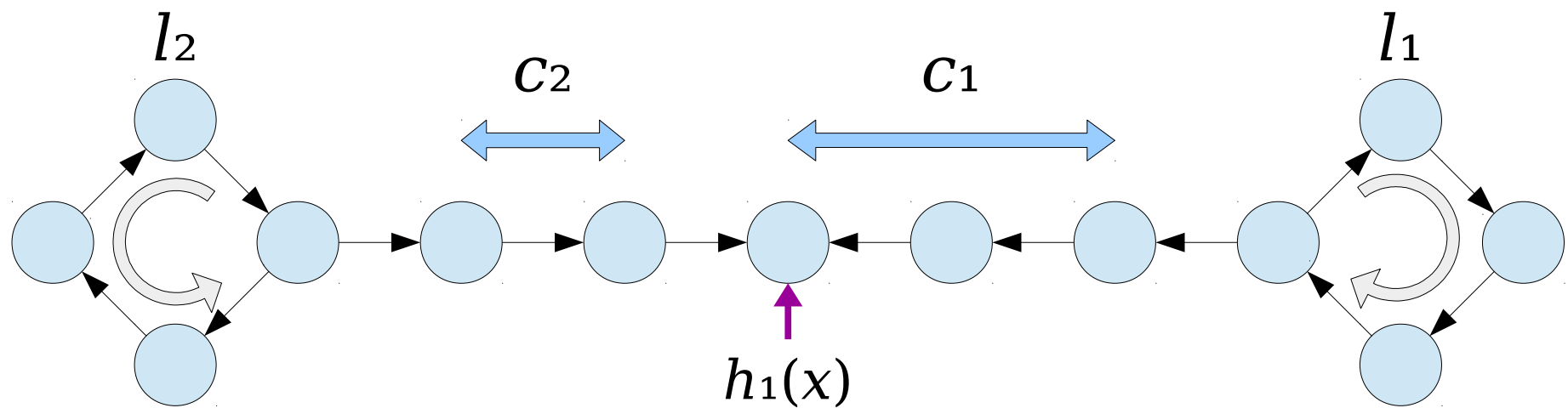
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Insertion fails if we have a complex connected component.  
What specifically happens in that case?



**Question:** What's the probability that we end up with a configuration like this one?

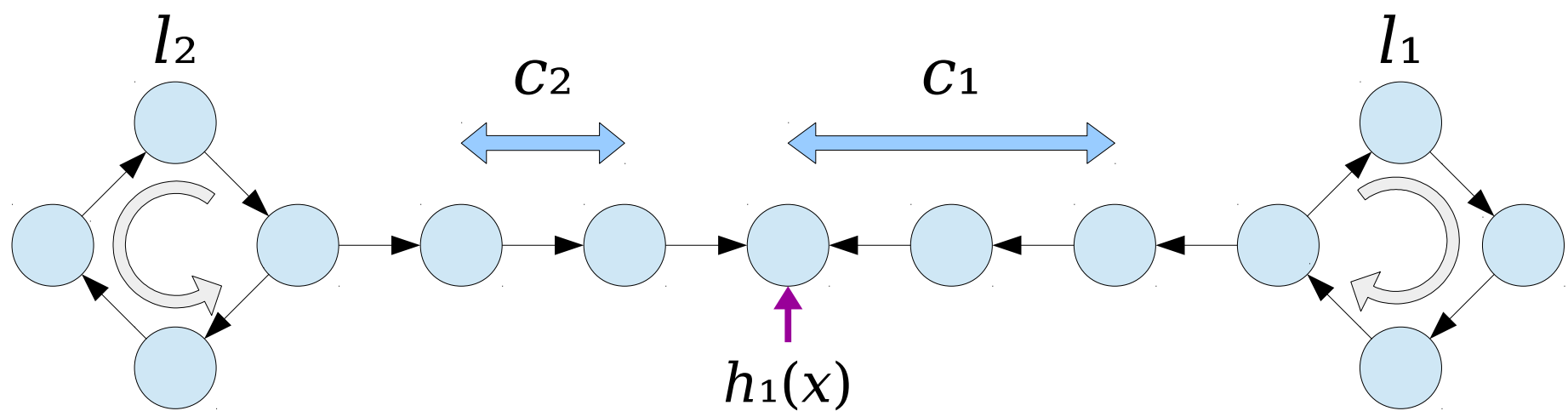
Insertion fails if we have a complex connected component.  
What specifically happens in that case?



This next proof comes from a CS166 final project by Noah Arthurs, Joseph Chang, and Nolan Handali. It's inspired by another argument due to Charles Chen (another Stanford student), which is a modification of one by Sanders and Vöcking, which was an improvement of one by Pagh and Rodler.

**Key idea:** Use a traditional, CS109-style counting argument. Admittedly, it's a *nontrivial* counting argument, but it's a counting argument nonetheless!

Insertion fails if we have a complex connected component.  
What specifically happens in that case?



Ways to split  $k$  nodes into  $c_1$ ,  $l_1$ ,  $c_2$ , and  $l_2$ . (upper bound)

Ways to pick  $k$  nodes (table slots) given the first is  $h_1(x)$ . (upper bound)

Ways to assign  $k$  keys to those slots. (upper bound)

Sum over all possible numbers of other keys being displaced.

Ways  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  can be chosen for those keys.

Ways  $h_2(x)$  can be chosen.

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{(k+1)^4 m^{k-1} n^k}{m^{2k} m} \right)$$

Insertion fails if we have a complex connected component.  
What specifically happens in that case?



$$\sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{(k+1)^4 m^{k-1} n^k}{m^{2k} m} \right)$$

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$m = (1 + \varepsilon)n$

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Numerator grows  
*polynomially* as a  
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Denominator grows  
*exponentially* as a  
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$$= \frac{1}{m^2} \cdot O(1)$$

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\end{aligned}$$

**Question 1:** What is the probability at least one insert fails if we do  $n$  total insertions?

---

The probability that a single insertion fails is  $O(1 / m^2)$  if  $m = (1 + \varepsilon)n$ .

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---

The probability that a single insertion fails is  $O(1 / m^2)$  if  $m = (1+\varepsilon)n$ .

If an insertion fails, we **rehash** by building a brand-new table, with new hash functions, and inserting all old elements.

It's possible that, when we do a rehash, one of the insertions fails. Therefore, we keep rehashing until we find a working table.

**Question 2:** On expectation, how many rehashes are needed per insertion?

---

The probability that a series of  $n$  insertions fail is  $O(1 / m)$ .

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Let  $X$  be a random variable counting the number of rehashes assuming at least one rehash occurs.

$X$  is geometrically distributed with success probability  $1 - O(1 / m)$ .

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{1 - O(1/m)} = \mathbf{O(1)}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & E[\text{\#rehashes}] \\ &= E[X] \cdot \Pr[\text{\#rehashes} > 0] \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & E[\text{\#rehashes}] \\ &= E[X] \cdot \Pr[\text{\#rehashes} > 0] \\ &= O(1) \cdot O(1/m^2) \end{aligned}$$

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$X$  is geometrically distributed with success probability  $1 - O(1 / m)$ .

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{1 - O(1/m)} = \mathbf{O(1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & E[\text{\#rehashes}] \\ &= E[X] \cdot \Pr[\text{\#rehashes} > 0] \\ &= O(1) \cdot O(1/m^2) \\ &= \mathbf{O(1/m^2)} \end{aligned}$$

The probability that a series of  $n$  insertions fail is  $O(1 / m)$ .



**Question 3:** What is the expected cost of an insertion into a cuckoo hash table?

$$O(1) + O(1 / m^2) \cdot O(m)$$

Expected cost of successful insertion.

Expected number of rehashes.

Cost of doing one rehash.

The expected number of rehashes on any insertion is  $O(1 / m^2)$ .

**Question 3:** What is the expected cost of an insertion into a cuckoo hash table?

$$O(1) + O(1 / m^2) \cdot O(m)$$

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**Question 3:** What is the expected cost of an insertion into a cuckoo hash table?

**$O(1)$**

---

The expected number of rehashes on any insertion is  $O(1 / m^2)$ .

# The Overall Analysis

- Cuckoo hashing gives worst-case lookups and deletions.
- Insertions are expected, amortized  $O(1)$ .
- The hidden constants are small, and this is a practical technique for building hash tables.

## ***Cuckoo Hashing:***

- ***lookup***:  $O(1)$
- ***insert***:  $O(1)^*$
- ***delete***:  $O(1)$

\* *expected, amortized*

More to Explore

# Hash Function Strength

- We analyzed cuckoo hashing assuming our hash functions were truly random. That's often too strong of an assumption.
- What we know:
  - 6-independent hashing isn't sufficient for expected  $O(1)$  insertion time, but that  $O(\log n)$ -independence is.
  - Some simple classes of hash functions (e.g. 2-independent polynomial) perform poorly for cuckoo hashing.
  - Some simple classes of hash functions (e.g. 3-independent simple tabulation) perform very well.
- **Open problem:** Determine the strength of hash function needed for cuckoo hashing to work efficiently.

# Multiple Tables

- Cuckoo hashing works well with two tables. So why not 3, 4, 5, ..., or  $k$  tables?
- In practice, cuckoo hashing with  $k \geq 3$  tables tends to perform much better than cuckoo hashing with  $k = 2$  tables:
  - The load factor can increase substantially; with  $k=3$ , it's only around  $\alpha = 0.91$  that you run into trouble with the cuckoo graph.
  - Displacements are less likely to chain together; they only occur when all hash locations are filled in.
- ***Open problem:*** Determine where these phase transition thresholds are for arbitrary  $k$ .



# Increasing Bucket Sizes

- What if each slot in a cuckoo hash table can store multiple elements?
- When displacing an element, choose a random one to move and move it.
- This turns out to work remarkably well in practice, since it makes it really unlikely that you'll have long chains of displacements.
- ***Open problem:*** Quantify the effect of larger bucket sizes on the overall runtime of cuckoo hashing.

# Restricting Moves

- Insertions in cuckoo hashing only run into trouble when you encounter long chains of displacements during insertions.
- **Idea:** Cap the number of displacements at some fixed factor, then store overflowing elements in a secondary hash table.
- In practice, this works remarkably well, since the auxiliary table doesn't tend to get very large.
- **Open problem:** Quantify the effects of “hashing with a stash” for arbitrary stash sizes and displacement limits.

# Other Dynamic Schemes

- There is another famous dynamic perfect hashing scheme called ***dynamic FKS hashing***.
- It works by using closed addressing and resolving collisions at the top level with a secondary (static) perfect hash table.
- In practice, it's not as fast as these other approaches. However, it only requires 2-independent hash functions.
- Check CLRS for details!

# Lower Bounds?

- ***Open Problem:*** Is there a hash table that supports amortized  $O(1)$  insertions, deletions, and lookups?
- You'd think that we'd know the answer to this question, but, sadly, we don't.

# Next Time

- ***Approximate Membership Queries***
  - Educated guesses about whether things have been seen before.
- ***Bloom Filters***
  - The original – and one of the most popular – solutions to this problem.
- ***Quotient Filters***
  - Adapting linear probing for AMQ.
- ***Cuckoo Filters***
  - Adapting cuckoo hashing for AMQ.