



# Component-Based Software Development







# Component-Based Software Development

How to Reason Formally  
about Your Code





Components

Specification

Reasoning

The Future



# Components







# Characteristics



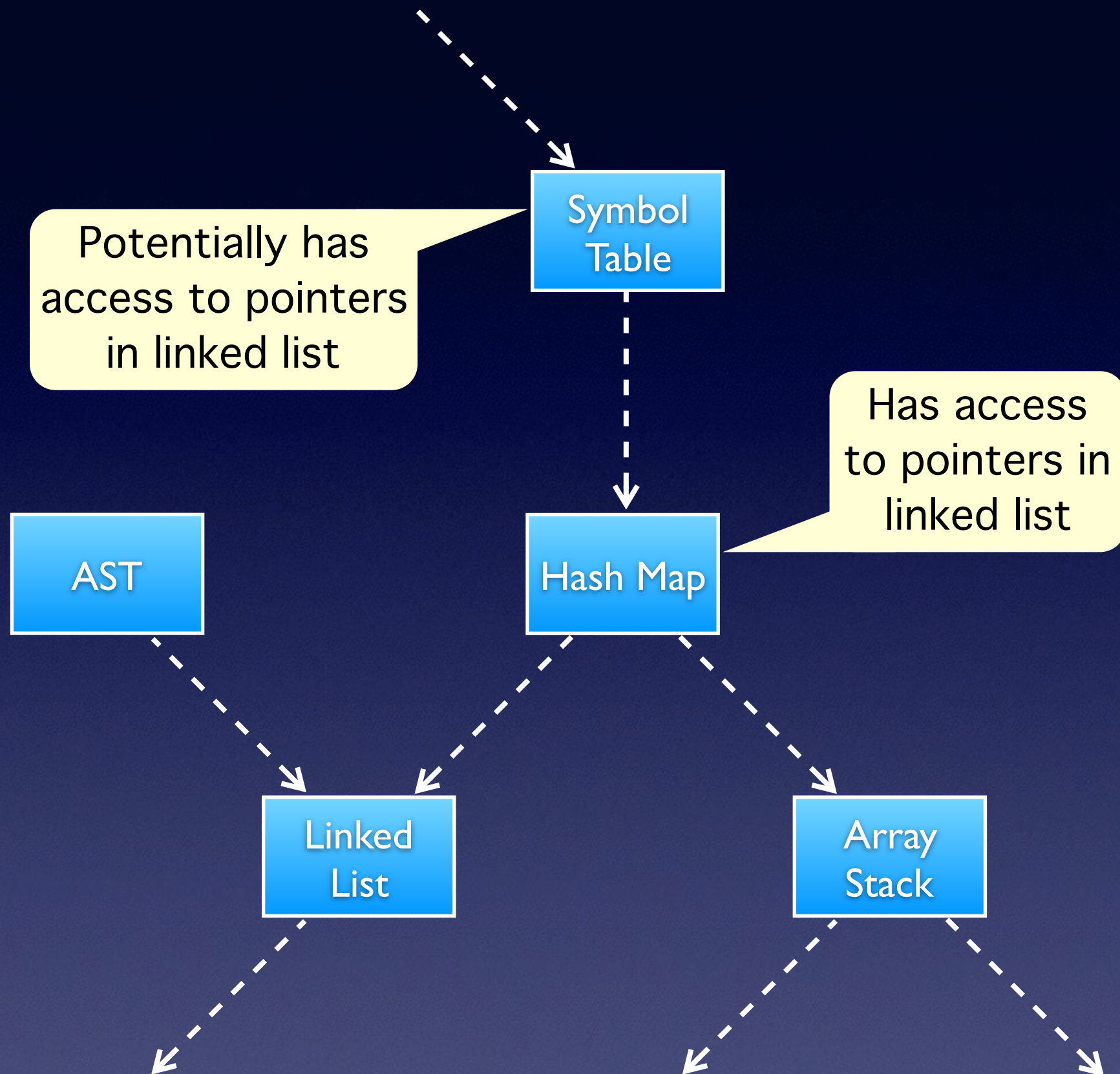
- Components communicate with each other via interfaces
- They are cohesive
- They are substitutable
- They are reusable



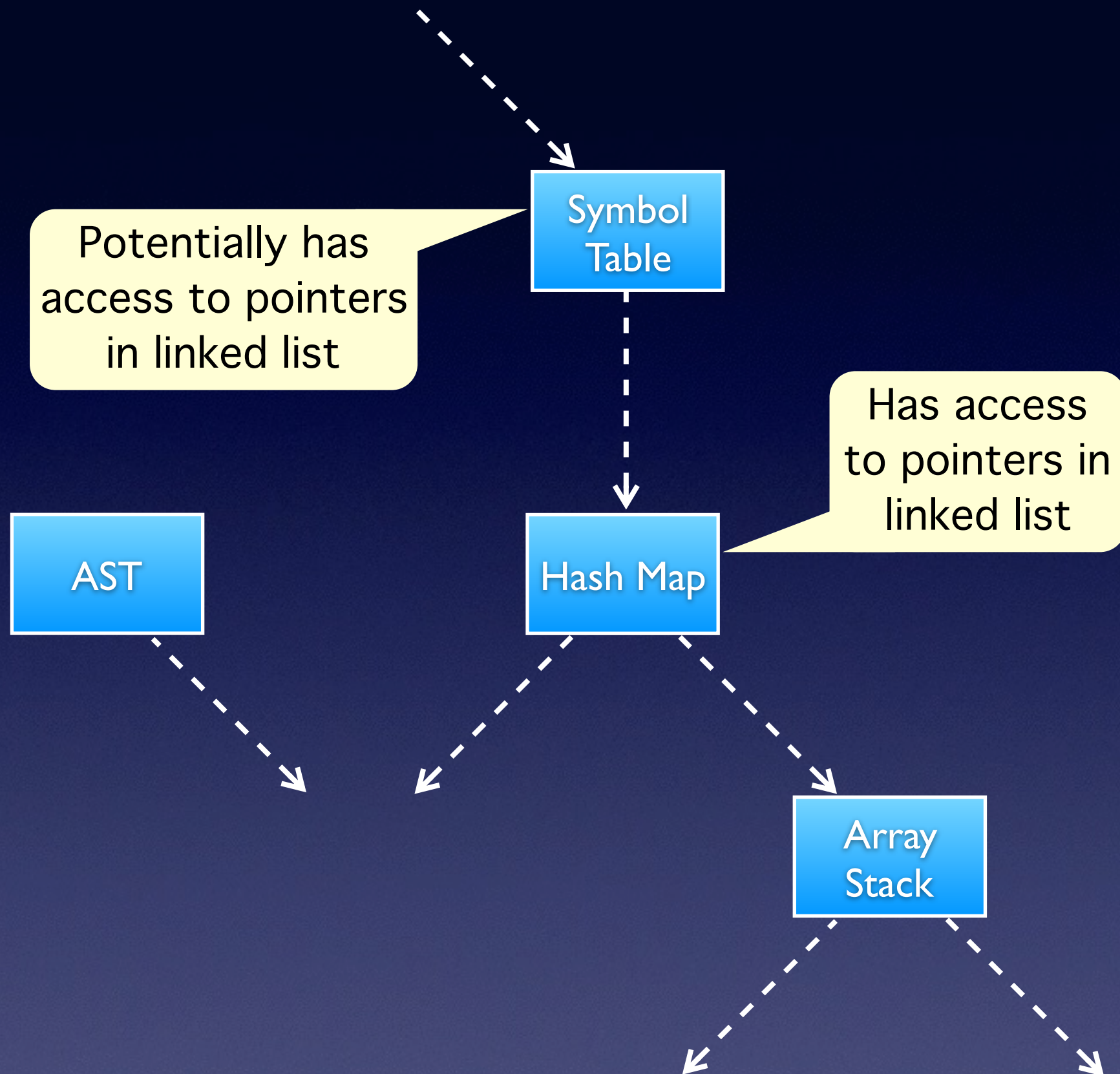
# First Principle of Component Design

A component should be usable solely  
on the basis of its specification

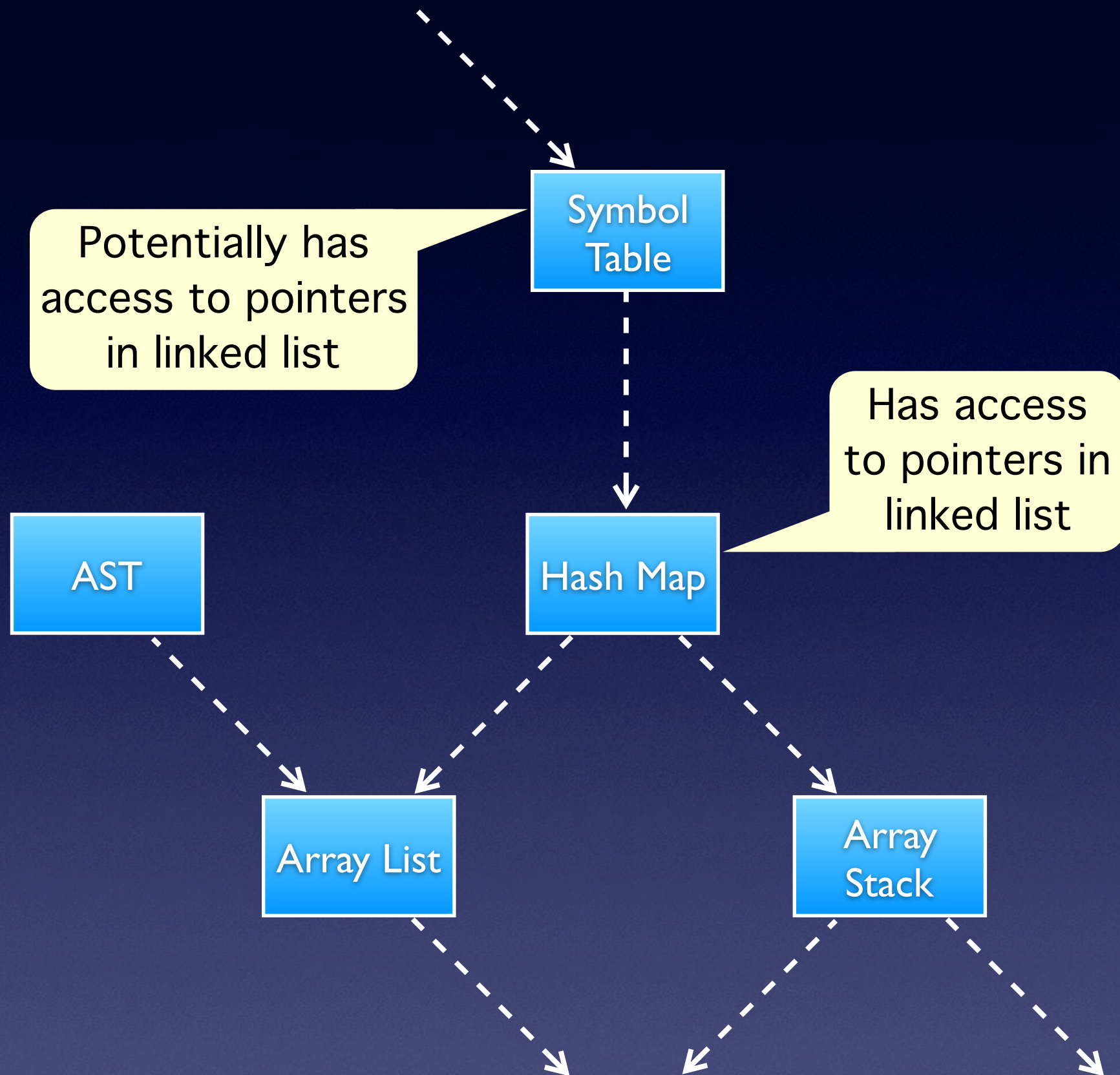




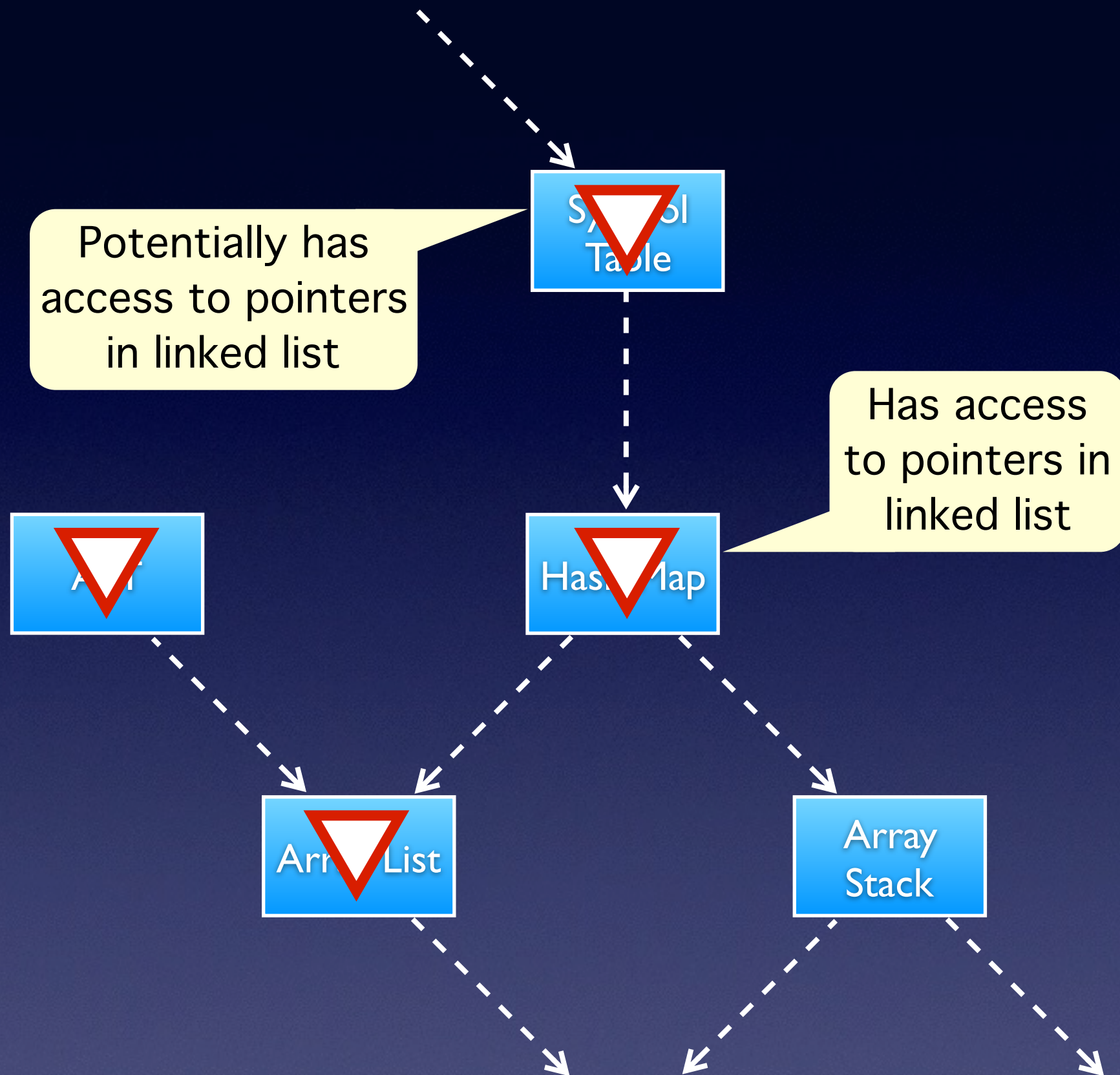




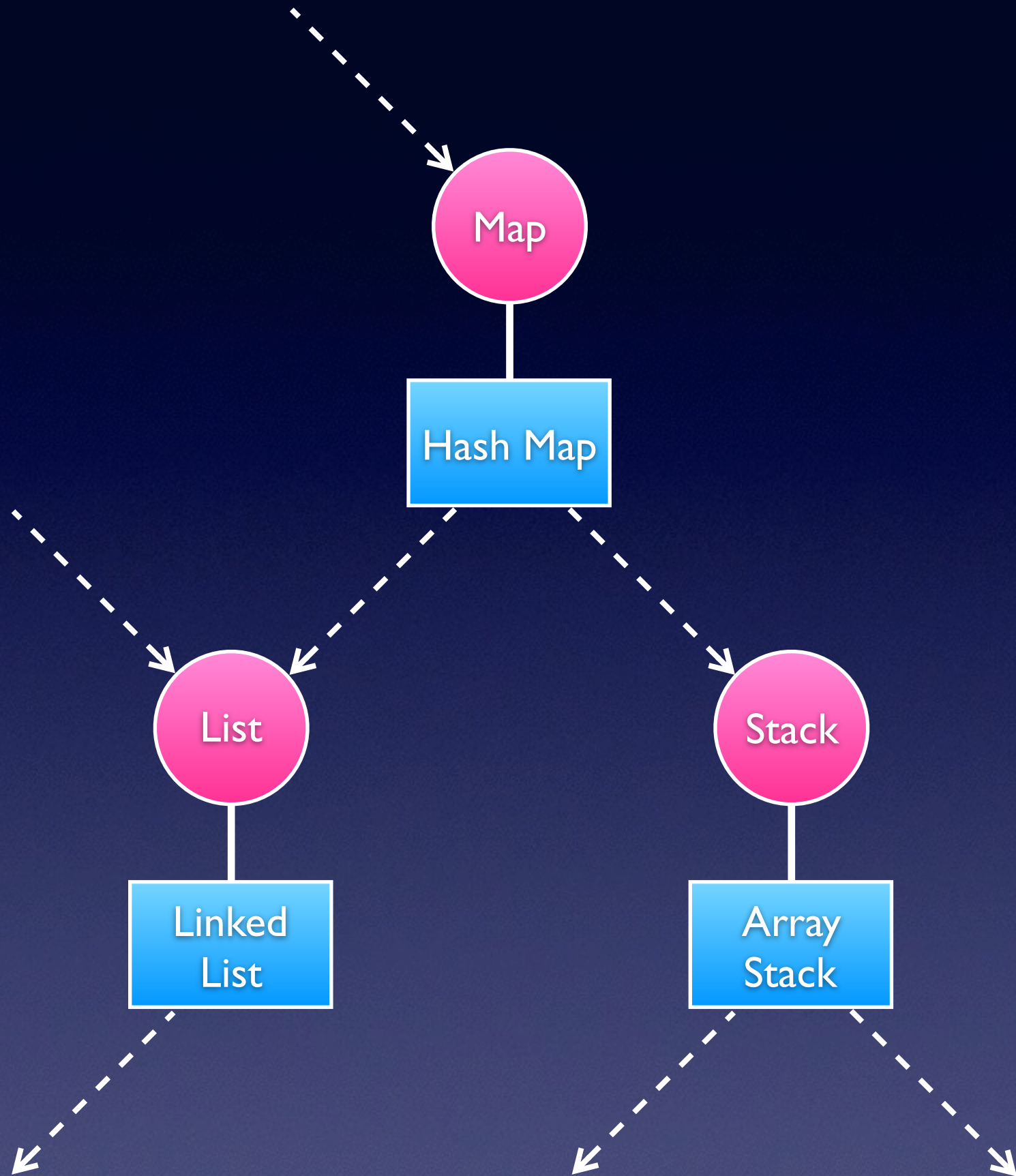




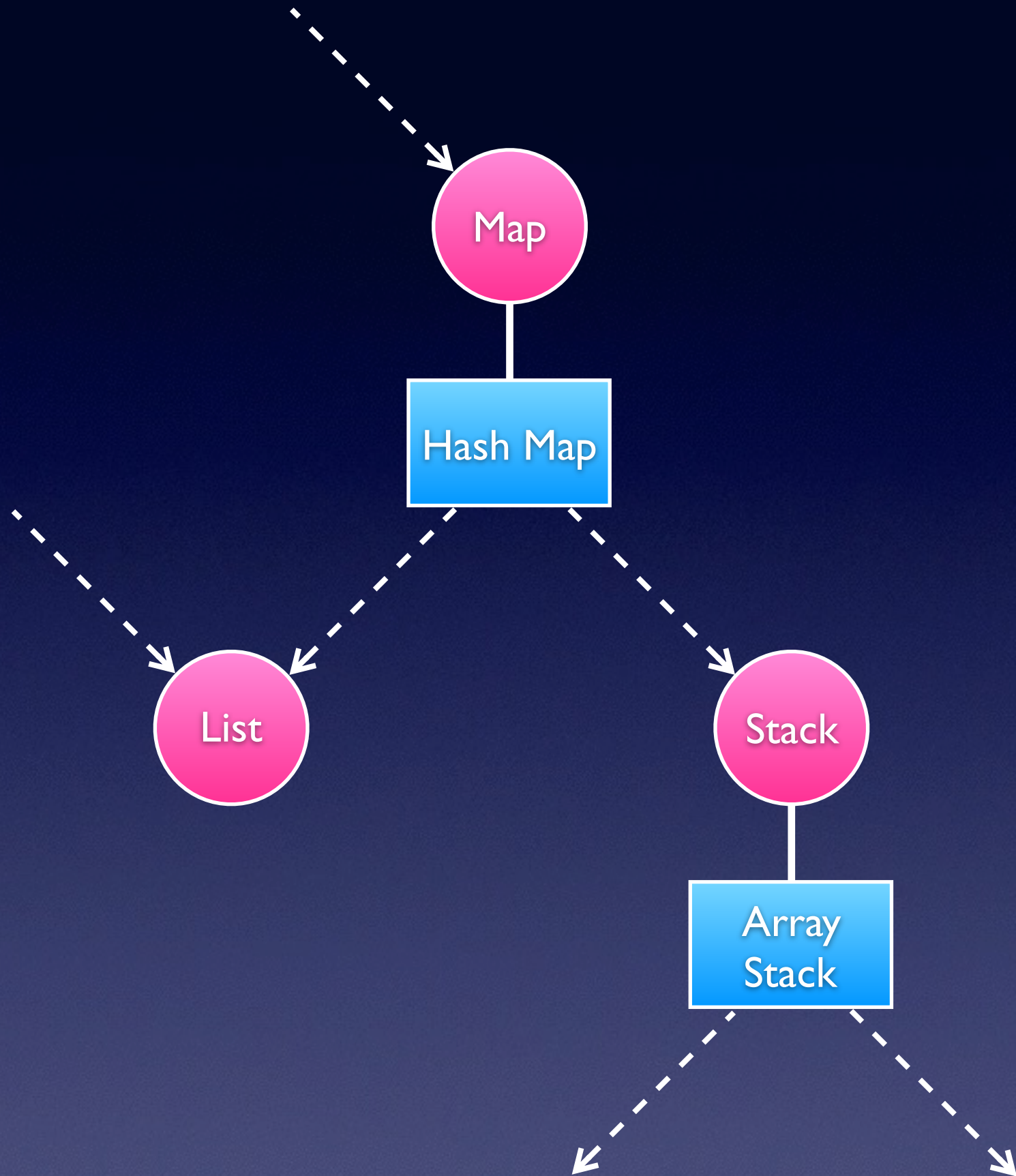




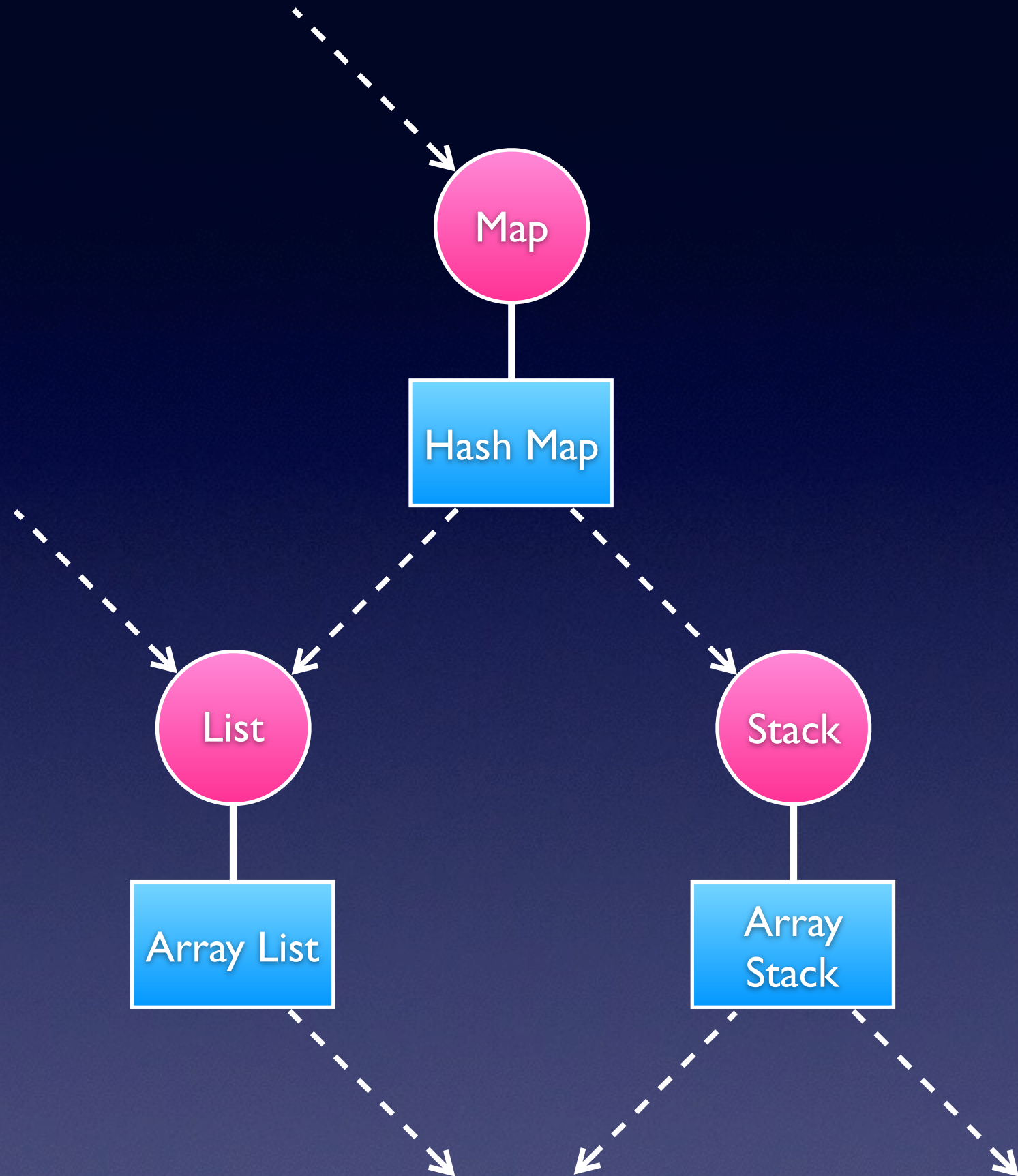




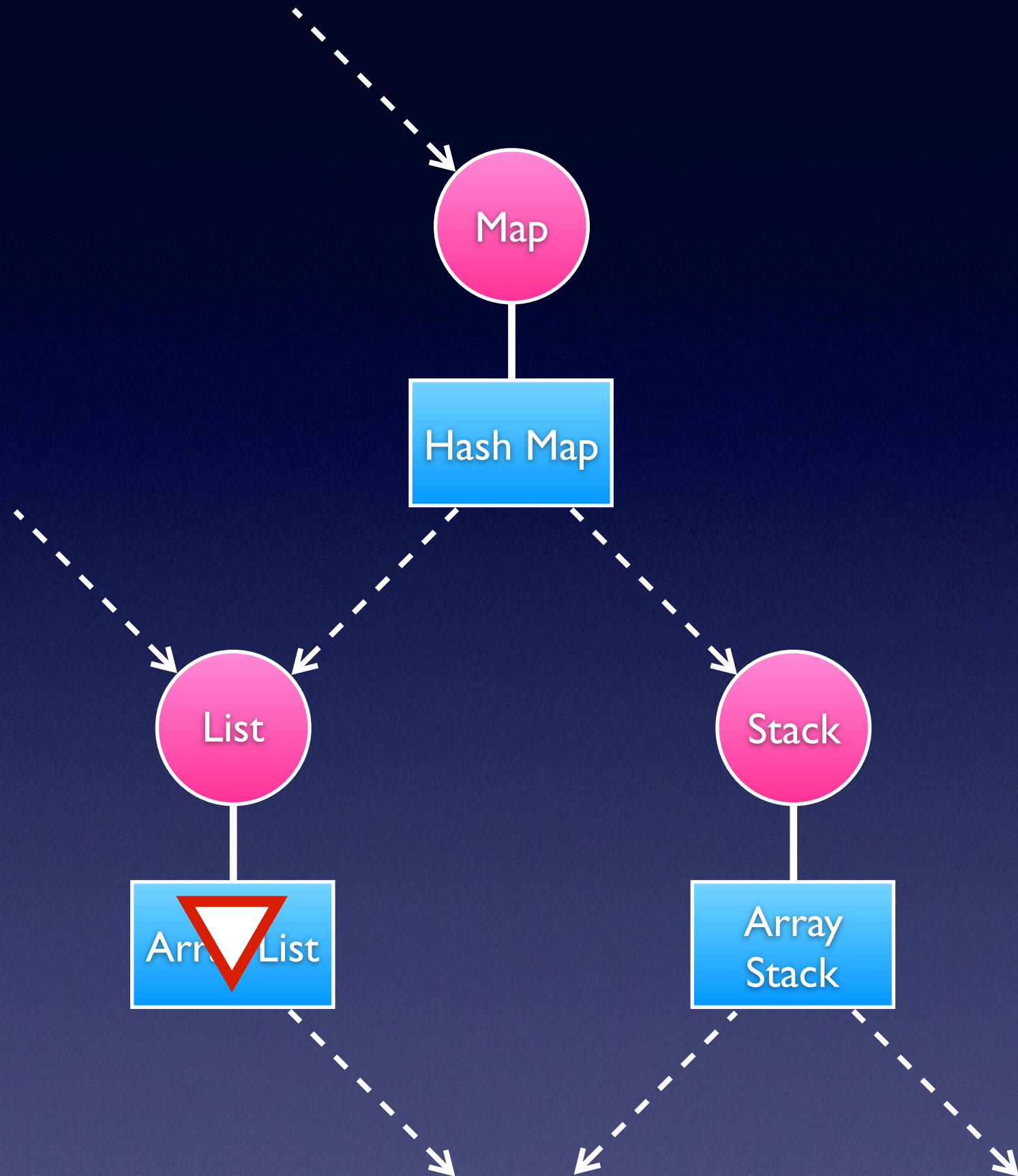














✓ Components

Specification

Reasoning

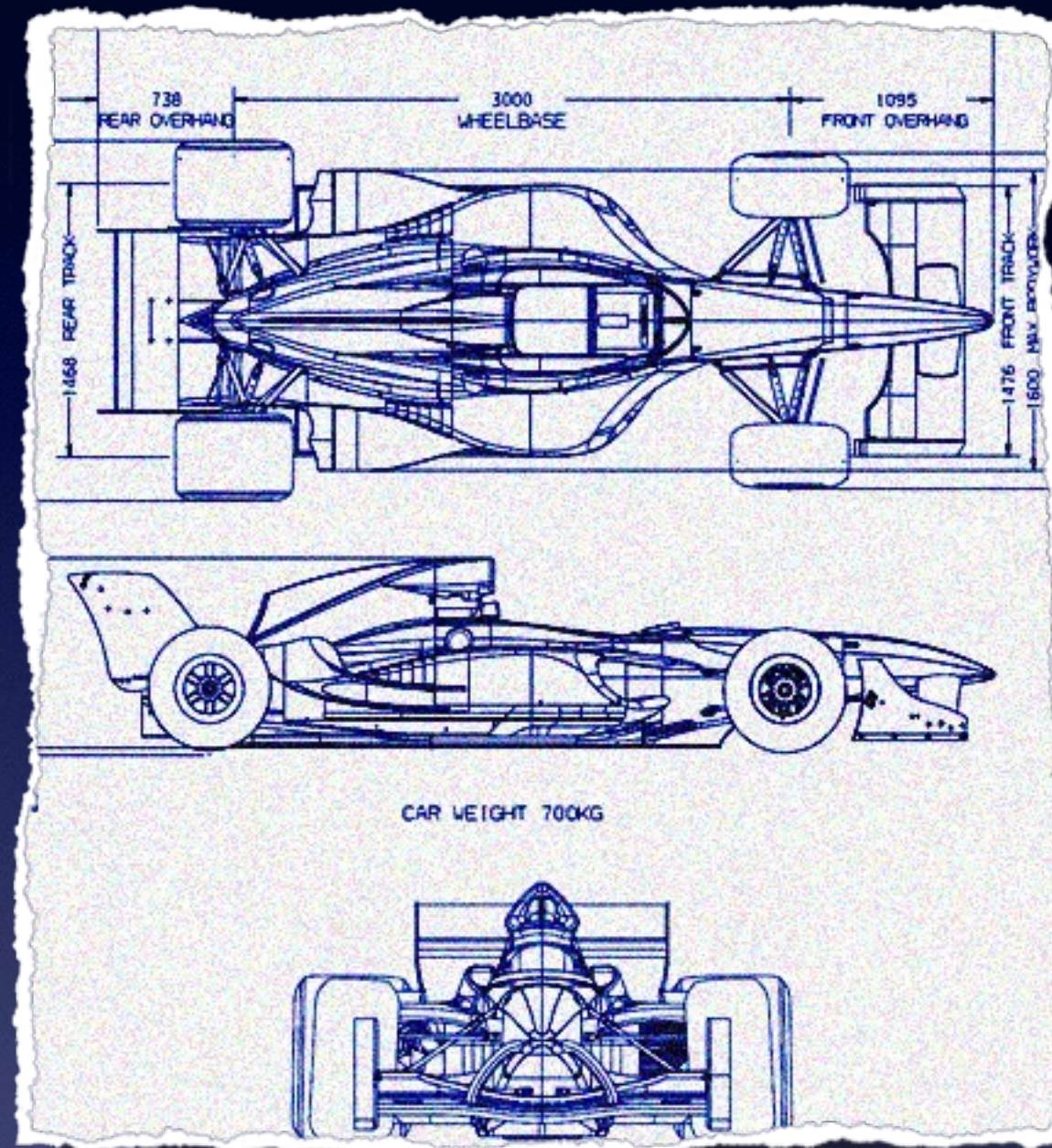
The Future



# Specification



specification

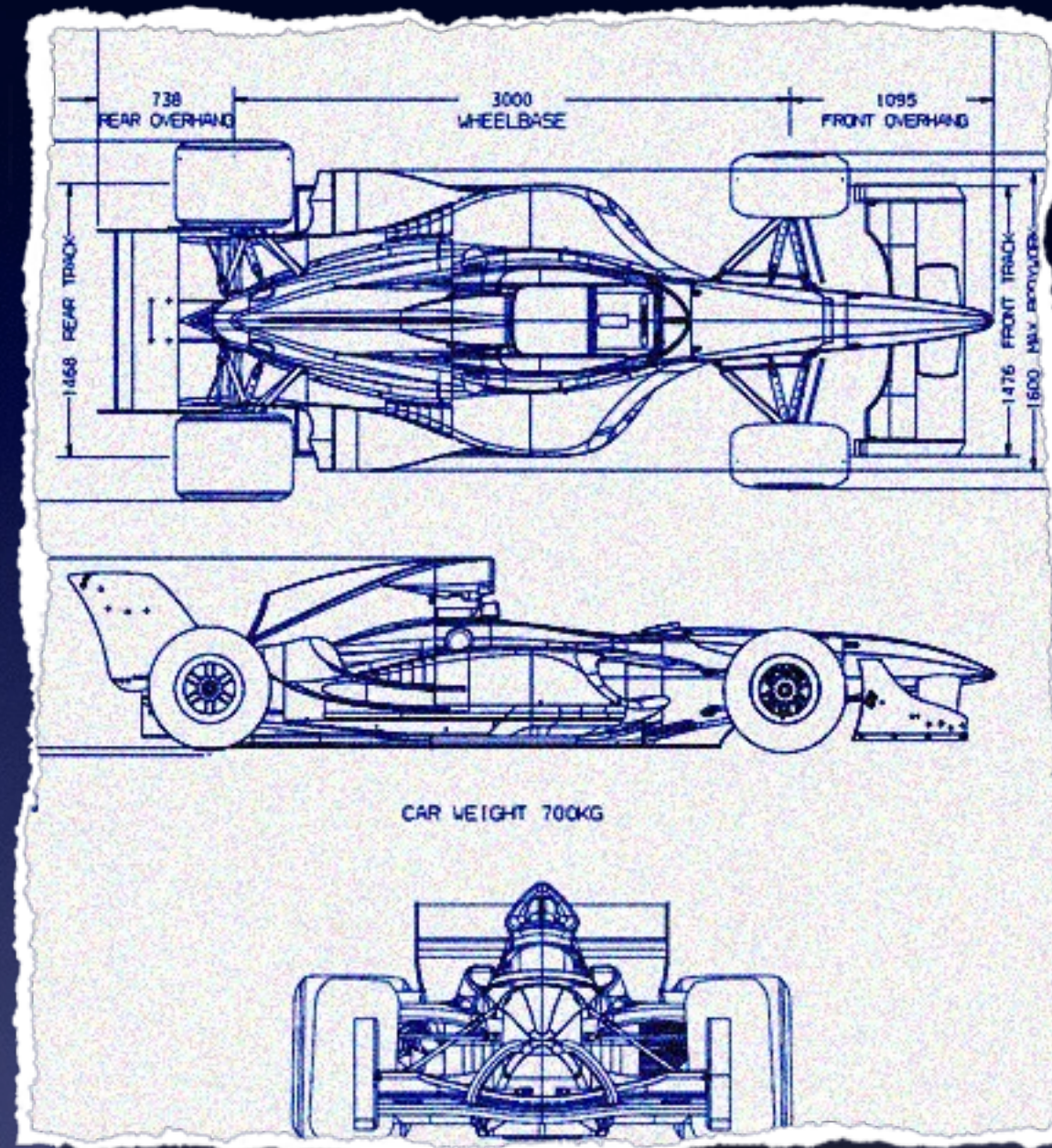


implementation



specification

What it  
does



implementation

How it  
does it



# Informal Specification

Describe what a component does using natural language, pictures, or real-world metaphors



```
public interface Stack<E> {  
  
    public Stack();  
  
    public void push(E element);  
  
    public E pop();  
  
    public Integer depth();  
  
}
```



```
// The Stack class describes a LIFO stack of objects
public interface Stack<E> {

    // Creates an empty stack
    public Stack();

    // Pushes the specified element
    // onto the top of the stack
    public void push(E element);

    // Removes top element from the stack
    // and returns it
    public E pop();

    // Returns the number of items in this stack
    public Integer depth();

}
```



# Formal Specification



# Formal Specification

Describe what a component does  
using a mathematical specification  
language



# Formal Specification

Describe what a component does  
using a mathematical specification  
language

Z, Resolve, JML, Spec#




```
public interface Stack<E> {  
  
    public Stack();  
  
    public void push(E element);  
  
    public E pop();  
  
    public Integer depth();  
  
}
```




```
public interface Stack<E> {  
    model MathSequence<E>;  
  
    public Stack();  
        ensures this = [];  
  
    public void push(E element);  
        ensures this = [#element] + #this and  
            element = ??;  
  
    public E pop();  
        requires this ≠ [];  
        ensures this = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#this) and  
            result = FIRST(#this);  
  
    public Integer depth();  
        ensures result = |#this| and this = #this;  
}
```



```
// Transfers the top element in s to the top of t
public static void transferTop(Stack<E> s;
                               Stack<E> t) {
    
}
```

Input	Expected output
$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$	



```
// Transfers the top element in s to the top of t
public static void transferTop(Stack<E> s;
                               Stack<E> t) {
    
}
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Input	Expected output
$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [5, 4, 3]$



```
// Transfers the top element in s to the top of t
public static void transferTop(Stack<E> s;
                               Stack<E> t) {
    E temp := s.pop();
    t.push(temp);
}
```

Input	Expected output
$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [5, 4, 3]$



State	Facts
1	$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$
E temp := s.pop();	
2	
t.push(temp);	
3	

**we expect:**  
 **$s = [6, 8]$**   
 **$t = [5, 4, 3]$**



State	Facts
1	$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$
E temp := s.pop();	
2	
t.push(temp);	
3	

```

public E pop();
requires this ≠ [];
ensures
    this = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#this) and
    result = FIRST(#this);

```

**we expect:**  
 $s = [6, 8]$   
 $t = [5, 4, 3]$



State	Facts
1	$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$
E temp := s.pop();	
2	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$ temp = 5
t.push(temp);	
3	

```

public E pop();
requires this ≠ [];
ensures
    this = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#this) and
    result = FIRST(#this);

```

**we expect:**  
 $s = [6, 8]$   
 $t = [5, 4, 3]$



State	Facts
1	$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$
E temp := s.pop();	
2	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$ temp = 5
t.push(temp);	
3	

**we expect:**  
 $s = [6, 8]$   
 $t = [5, 4, 3]$



State	Facts
1	$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$
E temp := s.pop();	
2	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$ temp = 5
t.push(temp);	
3	

```

public void push(E element);
ensures
    this = [#element] + #this and
    element = ??;

```



State	Facts
1	$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$
E temp := s.pop();	
2	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$ temp = 5
t.push(temp);	
3	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [5, 4, 3]$ temp = ??

```

public void push(E element);
ensures
    this = [#element] + #this and
    element = ??;

```



State	Facts
1	$s = [5, 6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$
E temp := s.pop();	
2	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [4, 3]$ temp = 5
t.push(temp);	
3	$s = [6, 8]$ $t = [5, 4, 3]$ temp = ??

**we expect:**  
 $s = [6, 8]$   
 $t = [5, 4, 3]$



# Pause and Think

## Question:

By tracing through the code as we did,  
what did we prove about the code  
relative to it's specification?



# Pause and Think

## Question:

By tracing through the code as we did,  
what did we prove about the code  
relative to it's specification?

## Answer:

We have shown that the code is correct  
with respect to the specification,  
for one particular input.



```
public interface Stack<E> {  
    model MathSequence<E>;  
  
    public Stack();  
        ensures this = [];  
  
    public void push(E element);  
        ensures this = [#element] + #this and  
            element = ??;  
  
    public E pop();  
        requires this ≠ [];  
        ensures this = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#this) and  
            result = FIRST(#this);  
  
    public Integer depth();  
        ensures result = |#this| and this = #this;  
}
```



Informal Specification	Formal Specification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Easier to write than formal specifications</li><li>● Understanding and writing them does not require a lot of math</li><li>● Pictures and diagrams help clients quickly grasp the big picture</li><li>● They are often vague and ambiguous</li><li>● They cannot be understood by computer programs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● More concise than informal specifications</li><li>● Precise and unambiguous</li><li>● Can be understood by other computer programs, which is important if you want tools to help you analyze, test, or verify your code</li><li>● Understanding them requires basic math knowledge</li><li>● Writing good specifications requires a solid mathematical background</li></ul>



✓ Components

✓ Specification

Reasoning

The Future



# Reasoning



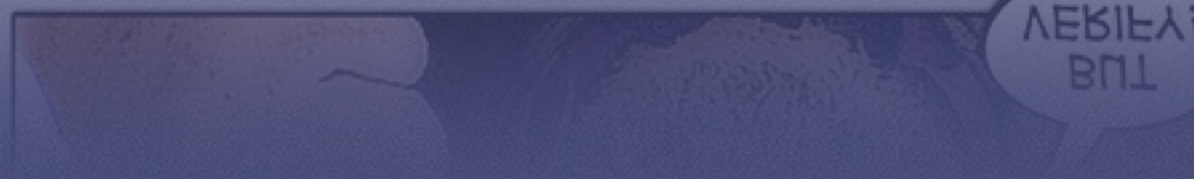
THE  
COFFEEBLOGGER  
SEZ...



TRUST...



BUT  
VERIFY!



ΛΕΒΙΕΛΙ  
ΒΠΛ



```
public static void transferTop(Stack<E> s;  
                               Stack<E> t)  
    requires s ≠ [];  
    ensures s = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#s) and  
           t = [FIRST(#s)] + #t;  
{  
    E temp := s.pop();  
    t.push(temp);  
}
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```

public static void transferTop(Stack<E> s;
                               Stack<E> t)
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    E temp := s.pop();
    t.push(temp);
}

```

Input (state 1)	Expected output (state 3)



```

public static void transferTop(Stack<E> s;
                               Stack<E> t)
    requires s ≠ [];
    ensures s = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#s) and
           t = [FIRST(#s)] + #t;
{
    E temp := s.pop();
    t.push(temp);
}

```

Input (state 1)	Expected output (state 3)
$s_1 \neq []$	



```

public static void transferTop(Stack<E> s;
                               Stack<E> t)
    requires s ≠ [];
    ensures s = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#s) and
           t = [FIRST(#s)] + #t;
{
    E temp := s.pop();
    t.push(temp);
}

```

Input (state 1)	Expected output (state 3)
$s_1 \neq []$	$s_3 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_3 = \text{FIRST}(s_1) + t_1$



State	Facts	Obligations
1	$s_1 \neq []$	
E temp := s.pop();		
2		
t.push(temp);		
3		$s_3 =$ $\text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$



State	Facts	Obligations
1	$s_1 \neq []$	
E temp := s.pop();		
2		
t.push(temp);		
3		

```

public E pop();
requires this ≠ [];
ensures
    this = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#this) and
    result = FIRST(#this);

```



State	Facts	Obligations
1	$s_1 \neq []$	$s_1 \neq []$
E temp := s.pop();		
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t.push(temp);		
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```

public E pop();
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    this = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#this) and
    result = FIRST(#this);

```



State	Facts	Obligations
1	$s_1 \neq []$	$s_1 \neq []$
E temp := s.pop();		
2	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_2 = t_1$ $\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	
t.push(temp);		
3		

```

public E pop();
requires this ≠ [];
ensures
    this = ALL_BUT_FIRST(#this) and
    result = FIRST(#this);

```



State	Facts	Obligations
1	$s_1 \neq []$	$s_1 \neq []$
E temp := s.pop();		
2	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_2 = t_1$ $\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	
t.push(temp);		
3		$s_3 =$ $\text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$



State	Facts	Obligations
	<div> <pre> public void push(E element);   ensures     this = [#element] + #this and     element = ??; </pre> </div>	$\neq []$
2	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_2 = t_1$ $\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	
$t.\text{push}(\text{temp});$		
3		$s_3 =$ $\text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$



State	Facts	Obligations
<div> <pre> public void push(E element);   ensures     this = [#element] + #this and     element = ??; </pre> </div>		
		$\neq []$
2	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_2 = t_1$ $\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	<code>/* no obligations */</code>
<code>t.push(temp);</code>		
3		$s_3 =$ $\text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$



State	Facts	Obligations
	<pre> public void push(E element);   ensures     this = [#element] + #this and     element = ??; </pre>	≠ []
2	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_2 = t_1$ $\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	/* no obligations */
t.push(temp);		
3	$s_3 = s_2$ $t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$ $\text{temp}_3 = ??$	$s_3 =$ $\text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$



State	Facts	Obligations
1	$s_1 \neq []$	$s_1 \neq []$
E temp := s.pop();		
2	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_2 = t_1$ $\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	/* no obligations */
t.push(temp);		
3	$s_3 = s_2$ $t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$ $\text{temp}_3 = ??$	$s_3 =$ $\text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$ $t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$



# Pause and Think

## Question:

By completing the symbolic reasoning table,  
what did we prove about the code  
relative to it's specification?



# Pause and Think

## Question:

By completing the symbolic reasoning table, what did we prove about the code relative to it's specification?

## Answer:

Nothing! (yet)

To prove that the code is correct with respect to the specification, we need to prove all the obligations.



$s_1 \neq []$	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$	$s_3 = s_2$
	$t_2 = t_1$	$t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$
	$\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	$\text{temp}_3 = ??$



$s_1 \neq []$	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$	$s_3 = s_2$
	$t_2 = t_1$	$t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$
	$\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	$\text{temp}_3 = ??$

$t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$



$s_1 \neq []$	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$	$s_3 = s_2$
	$t_2 = t_1$	$t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$
	$\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	$\text{temp}_3 = ??$

$$t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$$

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_2 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 3



$s_1 \neq []$	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$	$s_3 = s_2$
	$t_2 = t_1$	$t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$
	$\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	$\text{temp}_3 = ??$

$$t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$$

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_2 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 3

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_1 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 2



$s_1 \neq []$	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$	$s_3 = s_2$
	$t_2 = t_1$	$t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$
	$\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	$\text{temp}_3 = ??$

$$t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$$

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_2 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 3

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_1 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 2

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)]$  Algebra on sequences



$s_1 \neq []$	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$	$s_3 = s_2$
	$t_2 = t_1$	$t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$
	$\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	$\text{temp}_3 = ??$

$$t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$$

➡  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_2 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 3

➡  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_1 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 2

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$s_1 \neq []$	$s_2 = \text{ALL\_BUT\_FIRST}(s_1)$	$s_3 = s_2$
	$t_2 = t_1$	$t_3 = [\text{temp}_2] + t_2$
	$\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$	$\text{temp}_3 = ??$

$$t_3 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$$

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_2 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 3

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] + t_1 = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)] + t_1$  Substitution from Fact 2

⇒  $[\text{temp}_2] = [\text{FIRST}(s_1)]$  Algebra on sequences

⇒  $\text{temp}_2 = \text{FIRST}(s_1)$  Algebra on sequences

True from Fact 2     Q.E.D



✓ Components

✓ Specification

✓ Reasoning

The Future



The Future



C11 (L) TOTAL

C1  
25

	A	B	C	D
	ITEM	NO.	UNIT	COST
	----	----	----	----
MUCK	RAKE	4	12.95	556.85
HORN	CUT	1	10.75	10.75
TONER		25	49.95	1248.75
SNUFF		2	4.95	9.90
				-----
			SUBTOTAL	13155.50
		9.75% TAX		1282.66
				-----
			TOTAL	14438.16



C11 (L) TOTAL

C1  
25

A		B	C	D
ITEM	NO.	UNIT	COST	
BUCK RAKE	43	12.95	556.85	
BUCK CUT	15	8.75	131.25	
TONER	25	49.95	1248.75	
SNUFF	2	4.95	9.90	
SUBTOTAL			13155.50	
9.75% TAX			1282.66	
TOTAL			14438.16	

VisiCalc



# Grand Challenge

## for Computing Research

The construction and application of a **verifying compiler** that guarantees correctness of a program before running it.

– Tony Hoare, 2003



# Typical Grand Challenges

- Prove Fermat's last theorem (done)
- Put a man on the moon (done)
- Cure cancer in 10 years (failed in 1970's)
- Prove that  $P$  is not equal to  $NP$  (open)
- Turing test (done)
- Championship chess program (done)



# Verifying Compiler

## Editor

```
public interface Stack {  
  model MathSequence;  
  public Stack();  
  ensures this = [];
```

## Compiler

## Component Library



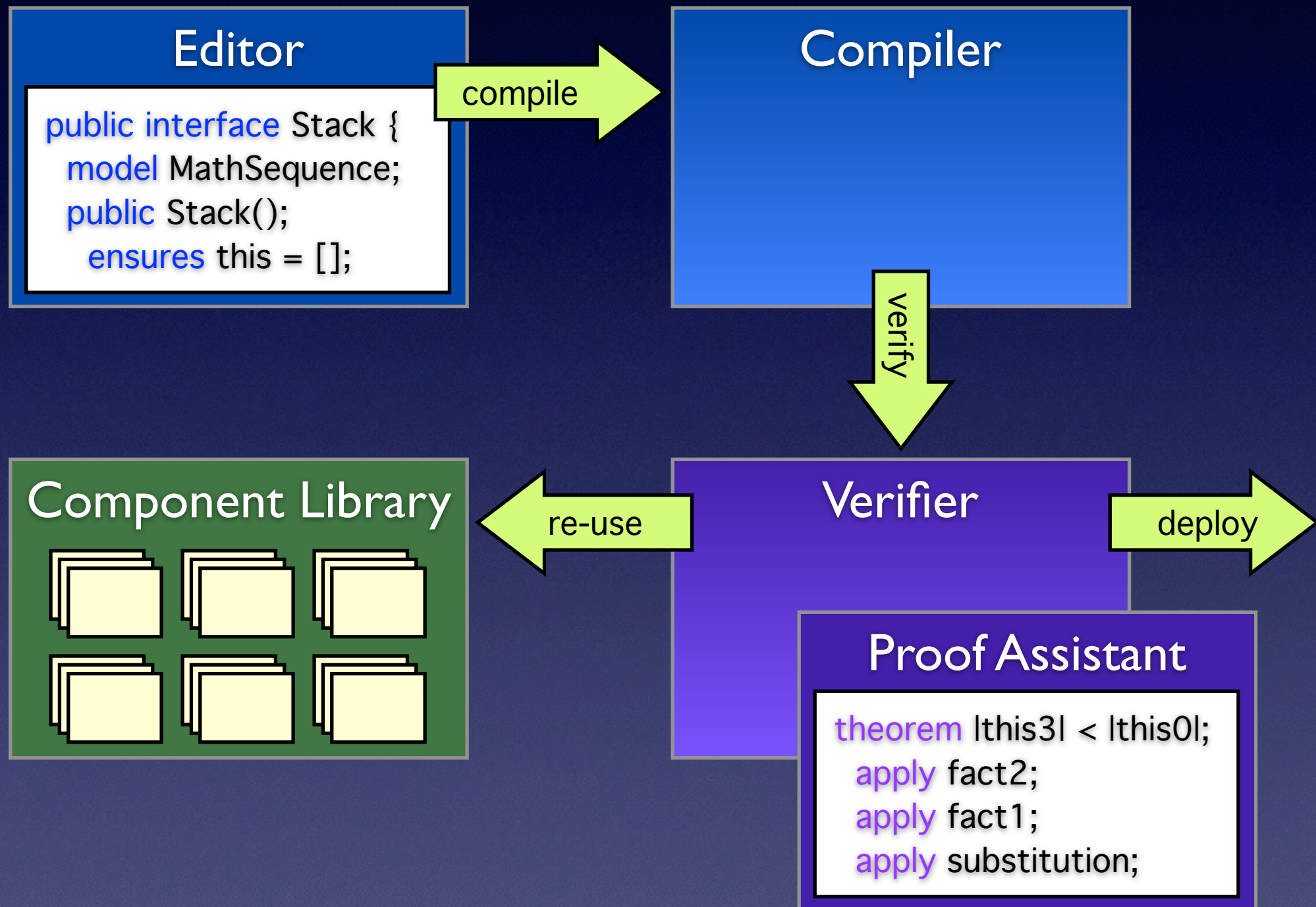
## Verifier

### Proof Assistant

```
theorem lthis3l < lthis0l;  
  apply fact2;  
  apply fact1;  
  apply substitution;
```



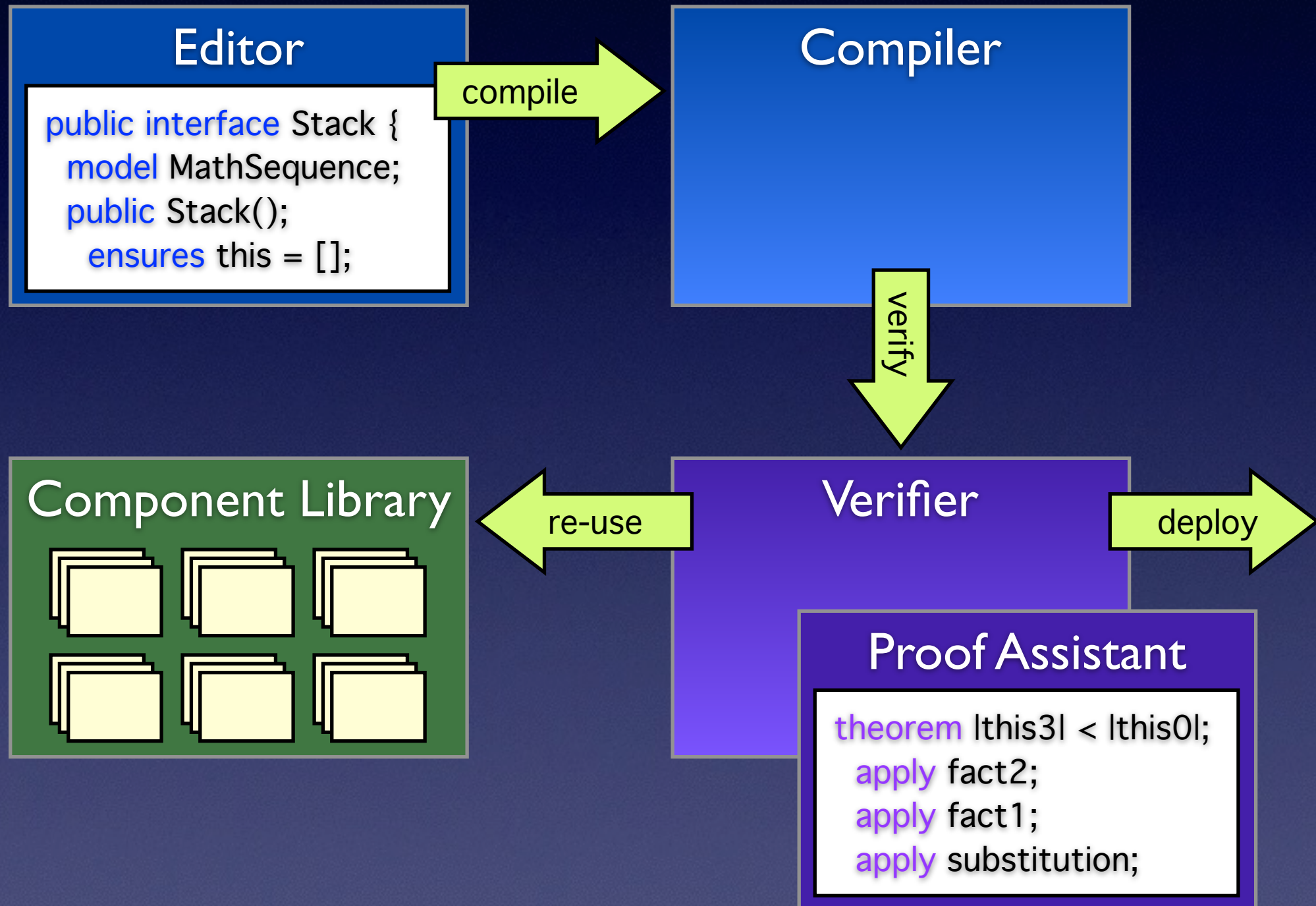
# Verifying Compiler





Both specifications  
and implementations  
are required

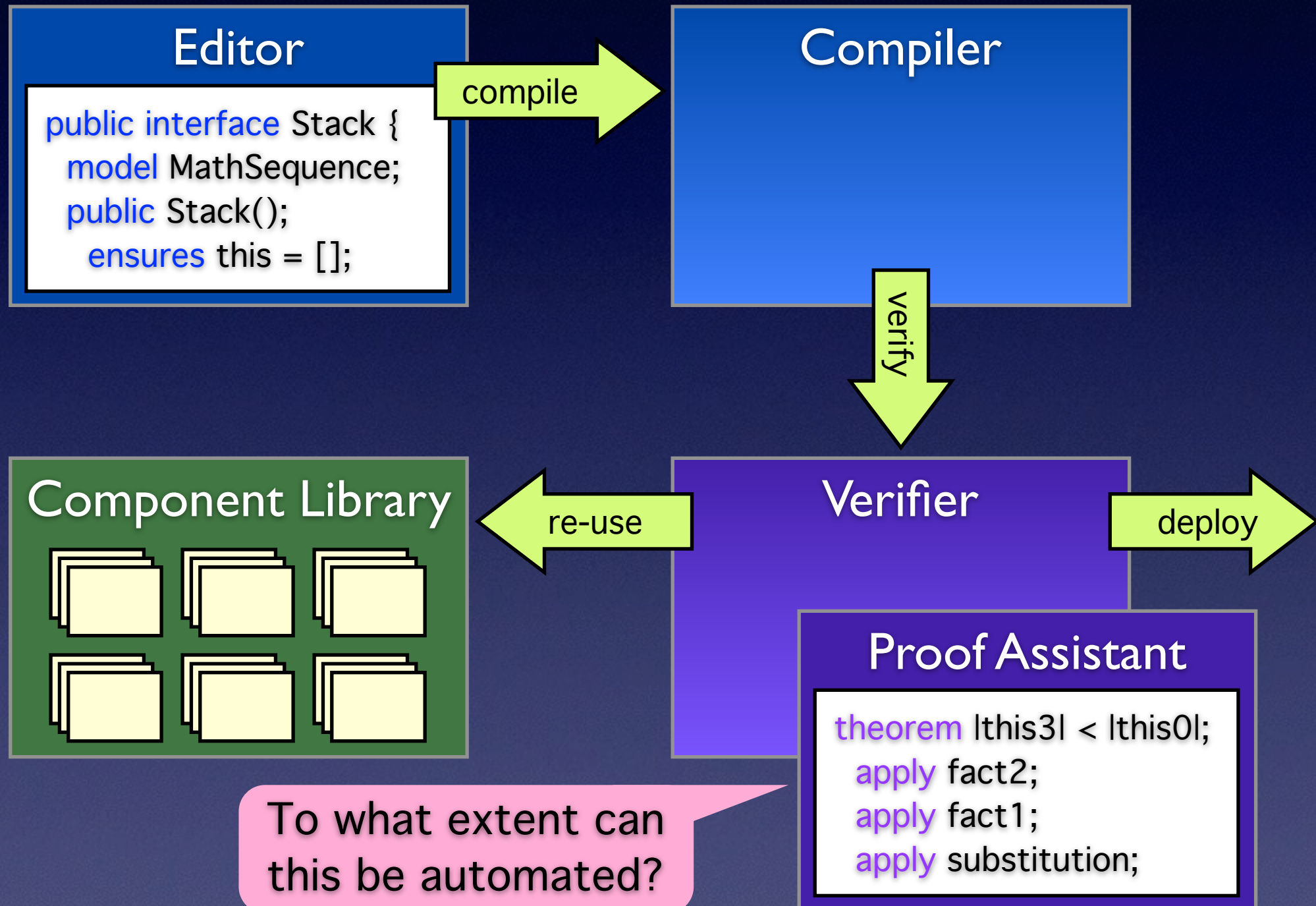
# Verifying Compiler





Both specifications  
and implementations  
are required

# Verifying Compiler





# References

- **Dafny Tutorial** at [rise4fun.com/Dafny/tutorial](http://rise4fun.com/Dafny/tutorial)
- “The Seven Myths of Formal Methods” by Anthony Hall
- “Reasoning about Software Component Behavior” by Sitaraman et al.
- “The Verifying Compiler: A Grand Challenge for Computing Research” by Tony Hoare