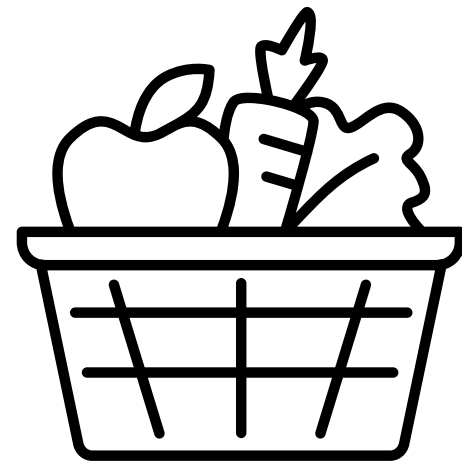


Verifying Lock-free Search Structure Templates

Nisarg Patel
(with Dennis Shasha and Thomas Wies)



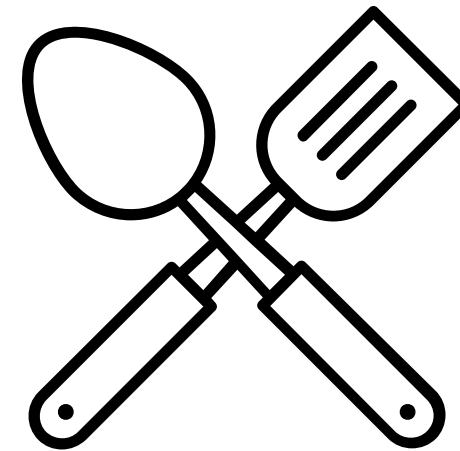
Recipe for modular verification



Step 1:

Find a class of structures with
common correctness reasoning

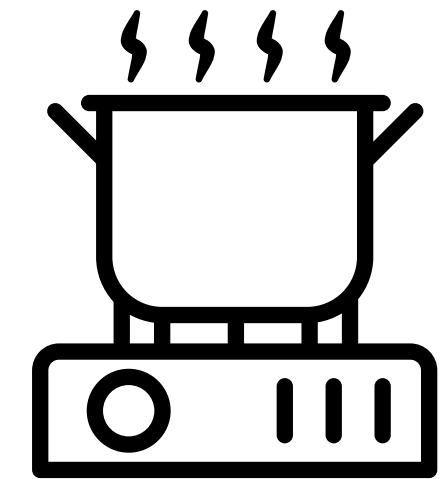
- PLDI20 : (Lock-based, single copy) B-trees, Hash-tables, linked lists
- OOPSLA21 : (Lock-based, multicopy) Log-Structured Merge (LSM) Trees



Step 2:

Develop enabling technology

- Template Algorithms
- Edgeset Framework
- Flow Framework



Step 3:

Formalize the proof

- Resource Algebras
- Supports proof modularity



- Siddharth Krishna et al. *Verifying concurrent search structure templates*. [PLDI 2020]
- Nisarg Patel et al. *Verifying concurrent multicopy search structures*. [OOPSLA 2021]

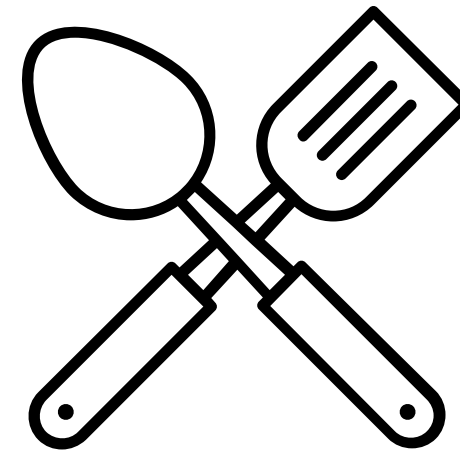
Outline



Step 1:

Find a class of structures with
common correctness reasoning

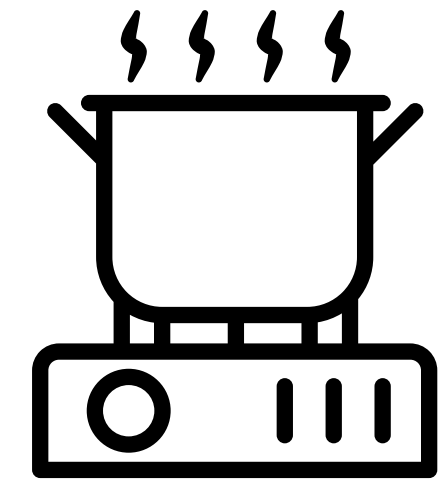
- ECOOP24 : (Lock-free) linked lists and skiplists



Step 2:

Develop enabling technology

- Template Algorithms
- Hindsight Framework



Step 3:

Formalize the proof

- Evaluation

- Nisarg Patel, Dennis E. Shasha and Thomas Wies. *Verifying lock-free search structure templates*. [ECOOP 2024]

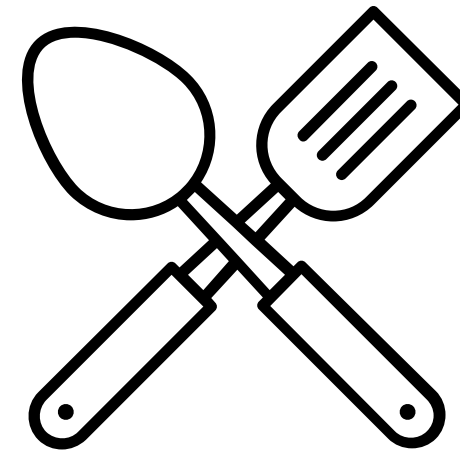
Outline



Step 1:

Find a class of structures with
common correctness reasoning

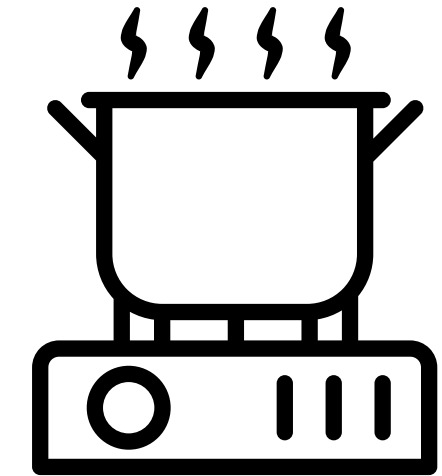
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Step 2:

Develop enabling technology

- Template Algorithms
- Hindsight Framework

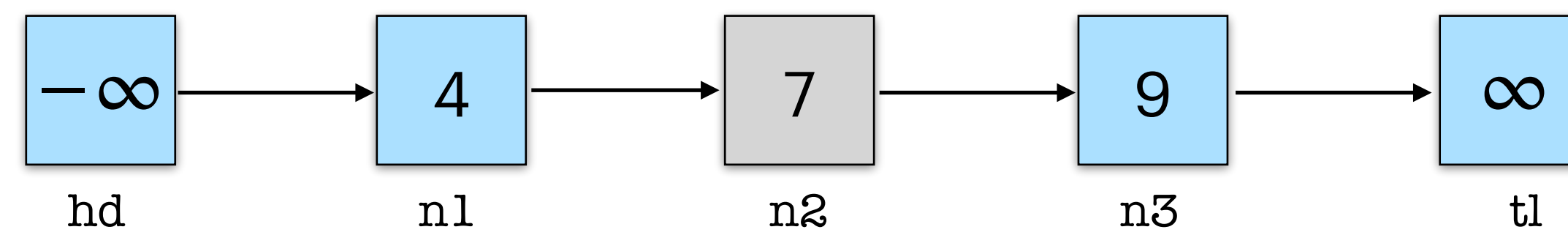


Step 3:

Formalize the proof

- Evaluation

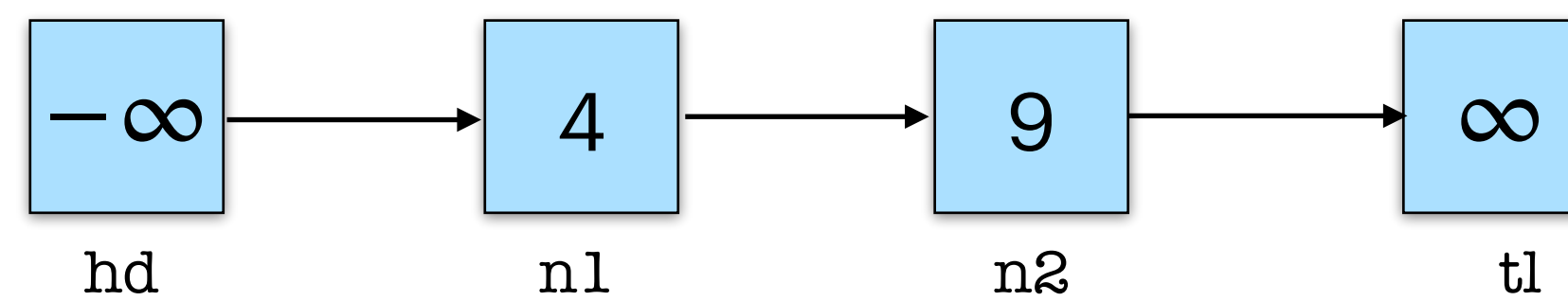
Michael's Set



Michael's Set

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→ insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

insert(7)



Michael's Set

insert(k) =

➔ p, c, res = find(k);

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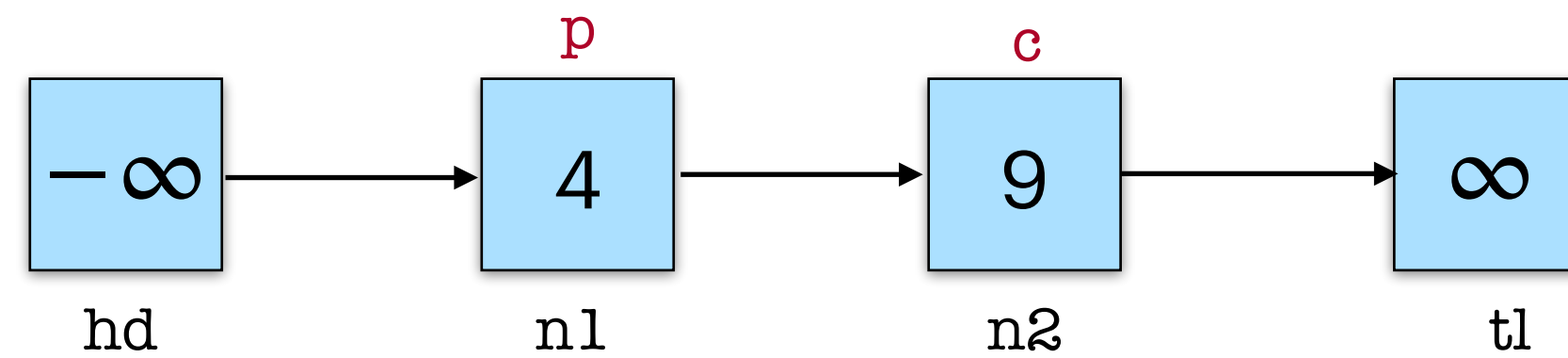
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if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))

then true **else** insert(k)

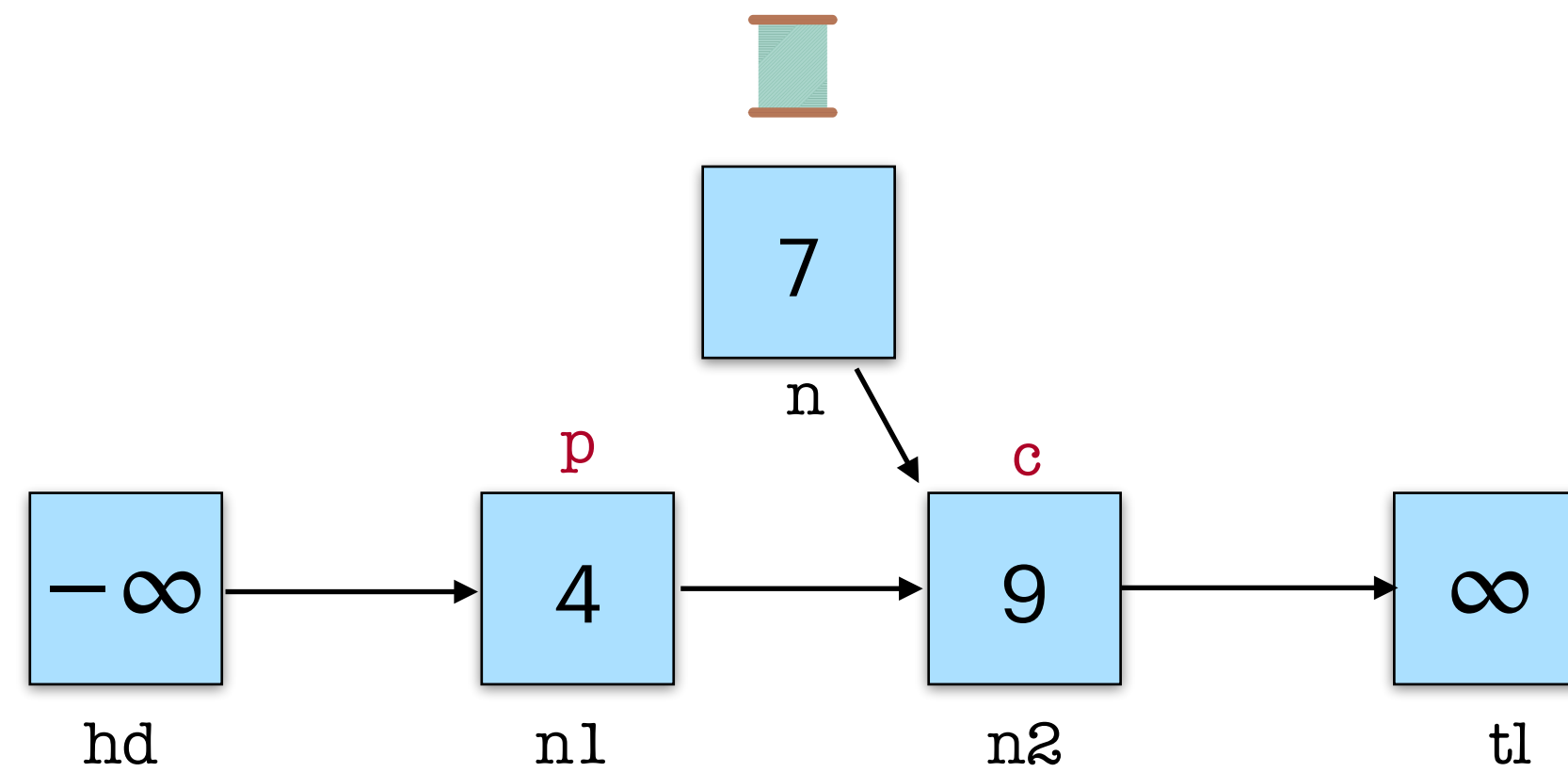
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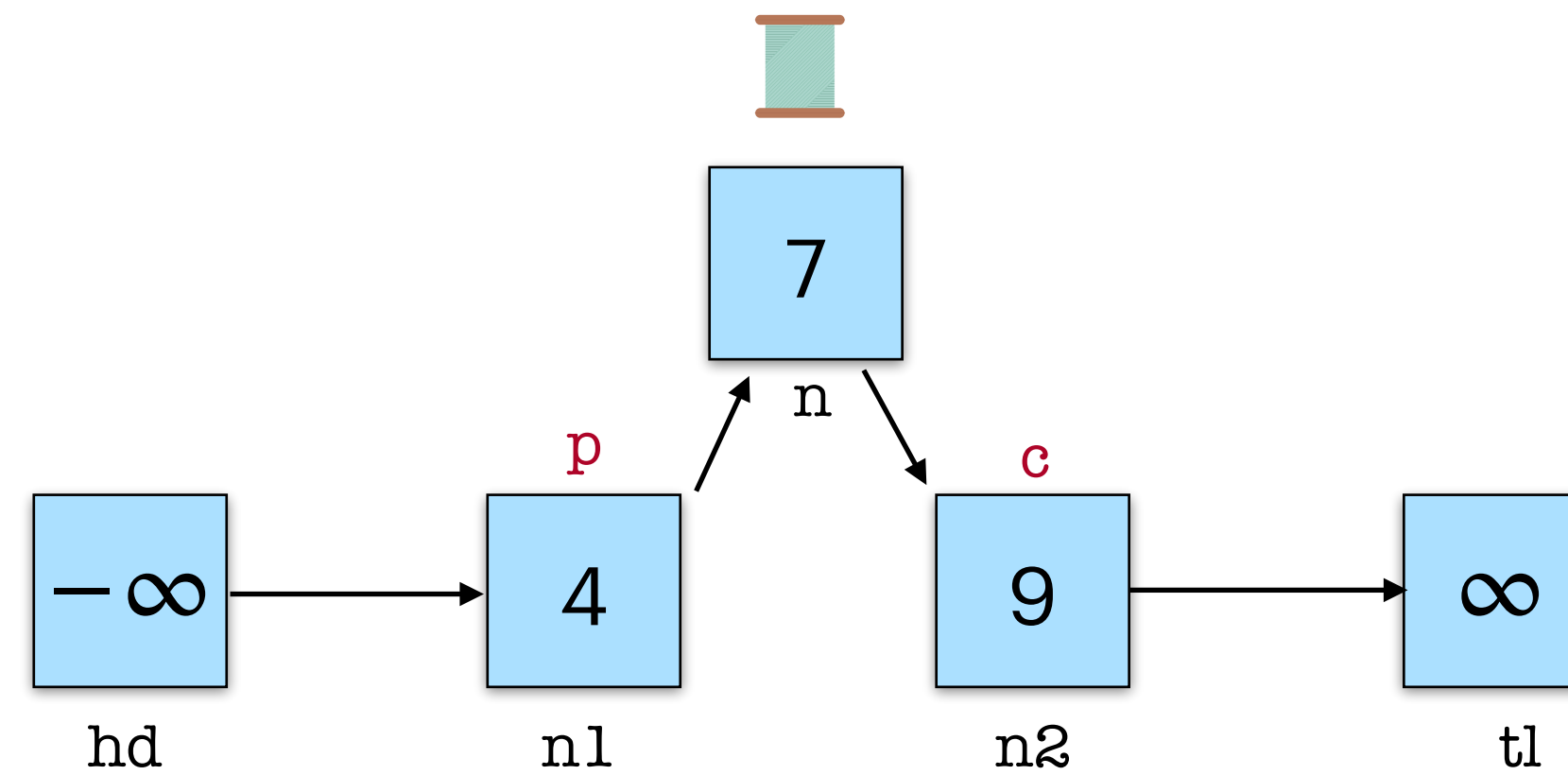
insert(7)



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insert(7)

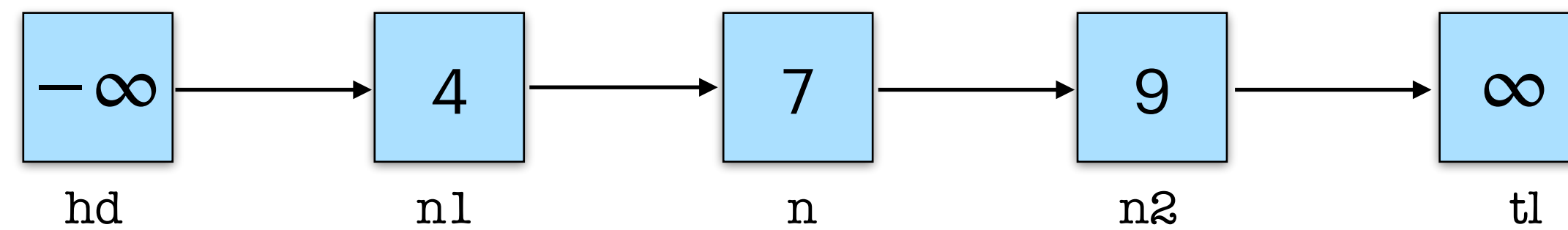


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```

```
→ delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

delete(7)



Michael's Set

insert(k) =

p, c, res = find(k);

if res **then** false

else

n = new_node(k, c);

if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))

then true **else** insert(k)

delete(k) =

➔ p, c, res = find(k);

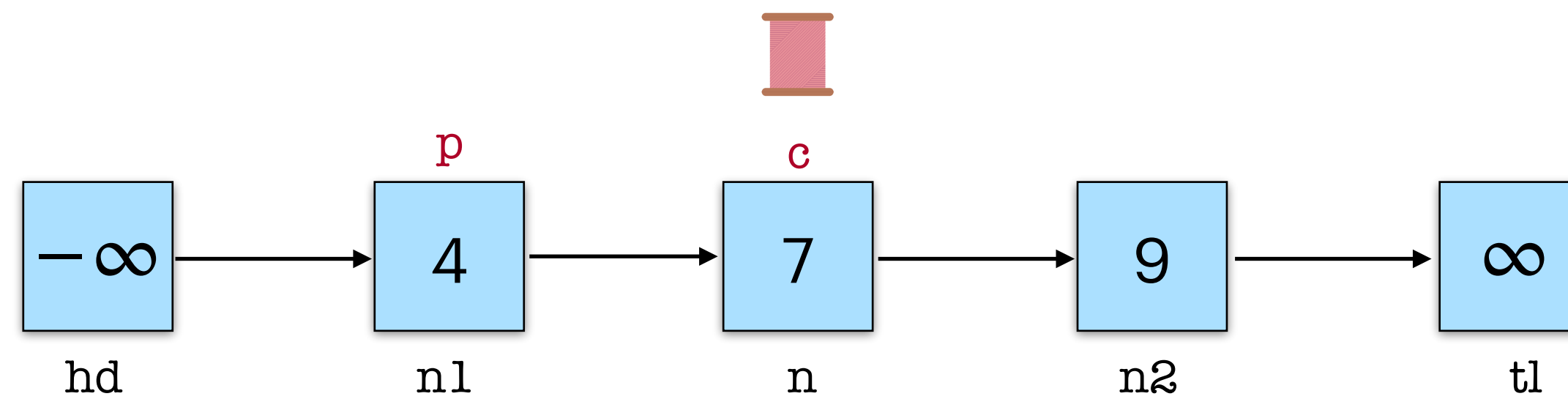
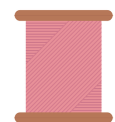
if (not res) **then** false

else

if MARK(c)

then true **else** false

delete(7)

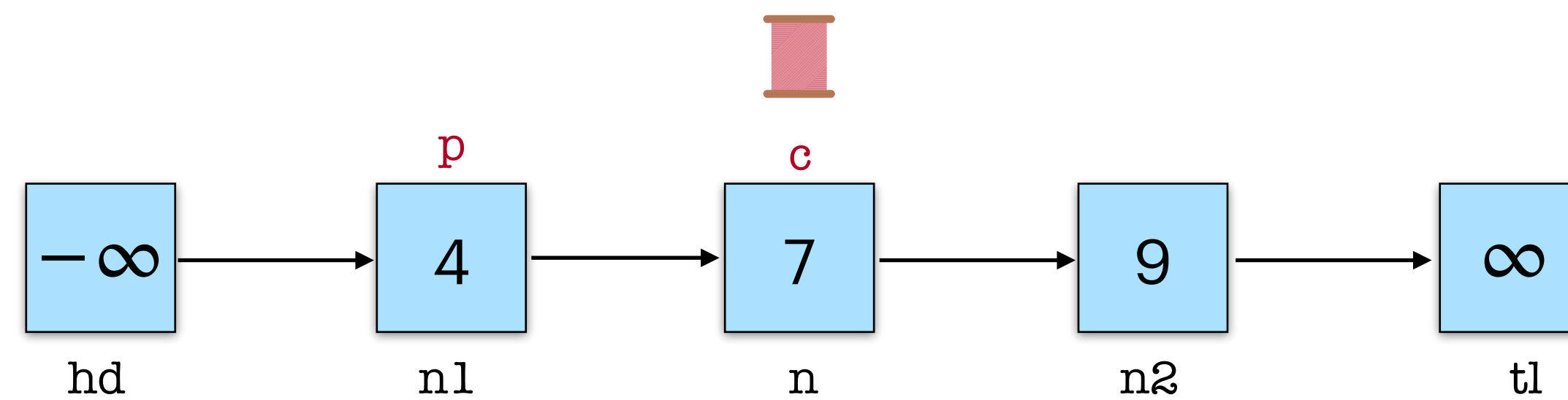


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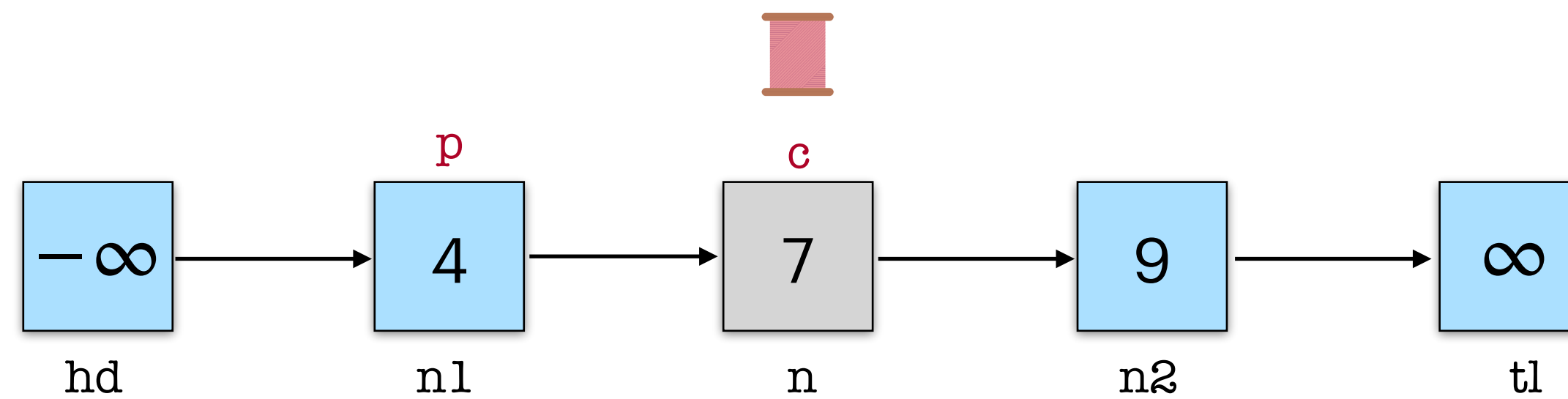


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  else
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    else
      res = c.key == k;
      (p, c, res)
  
```

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→ search(k) =
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find(k) =
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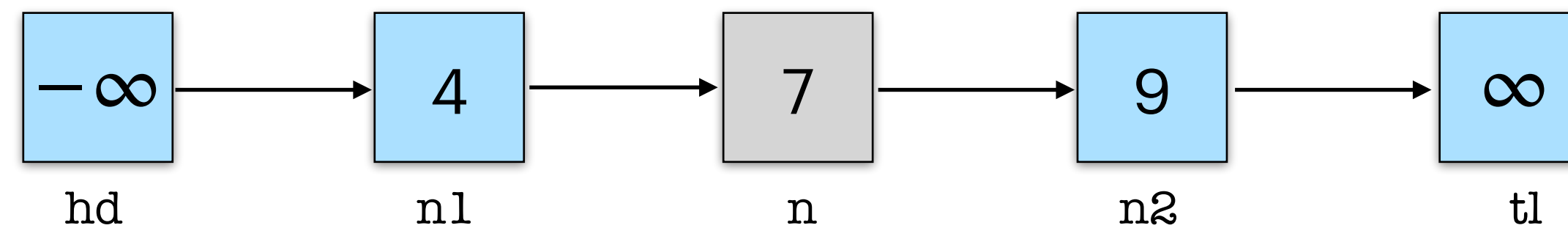
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search(9)



Michael's Set

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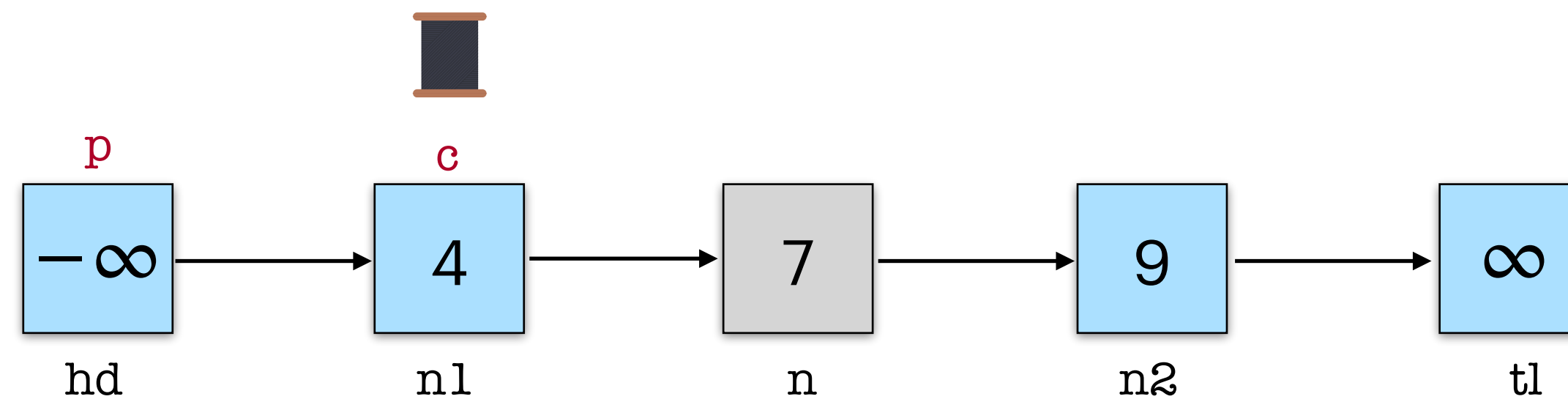
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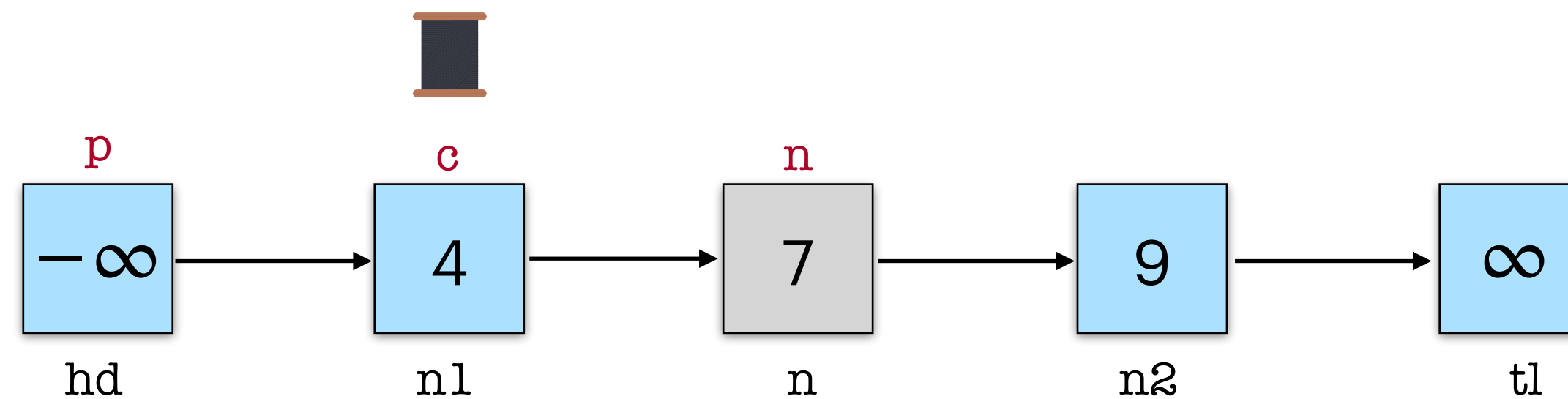
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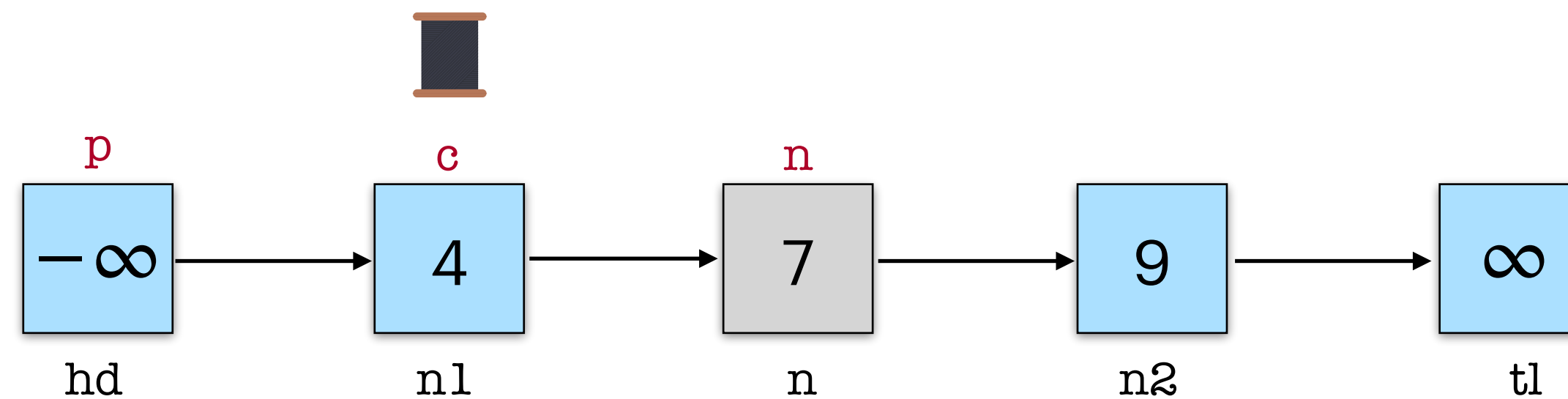
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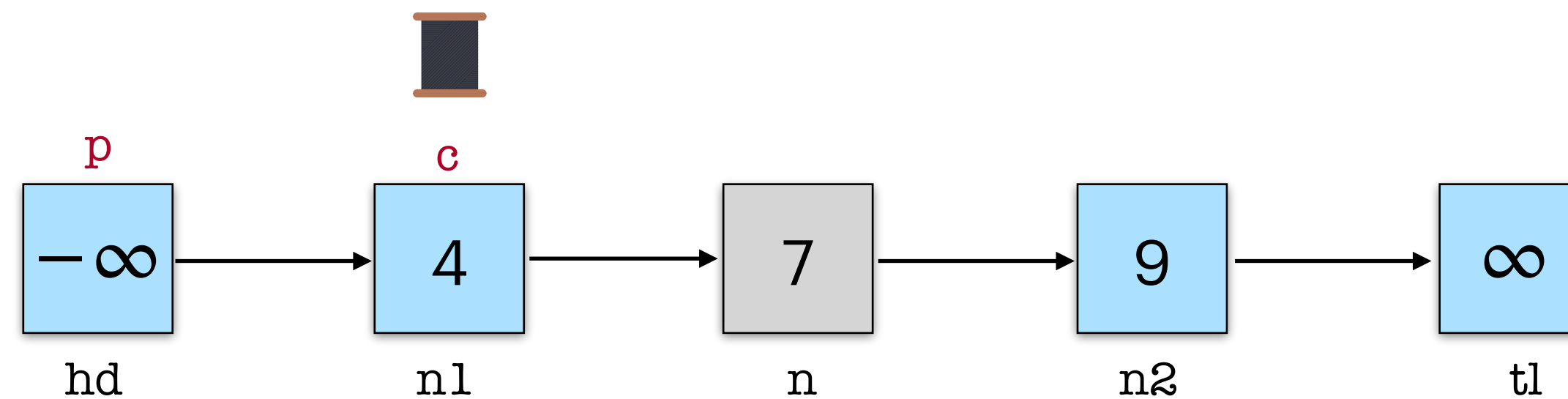
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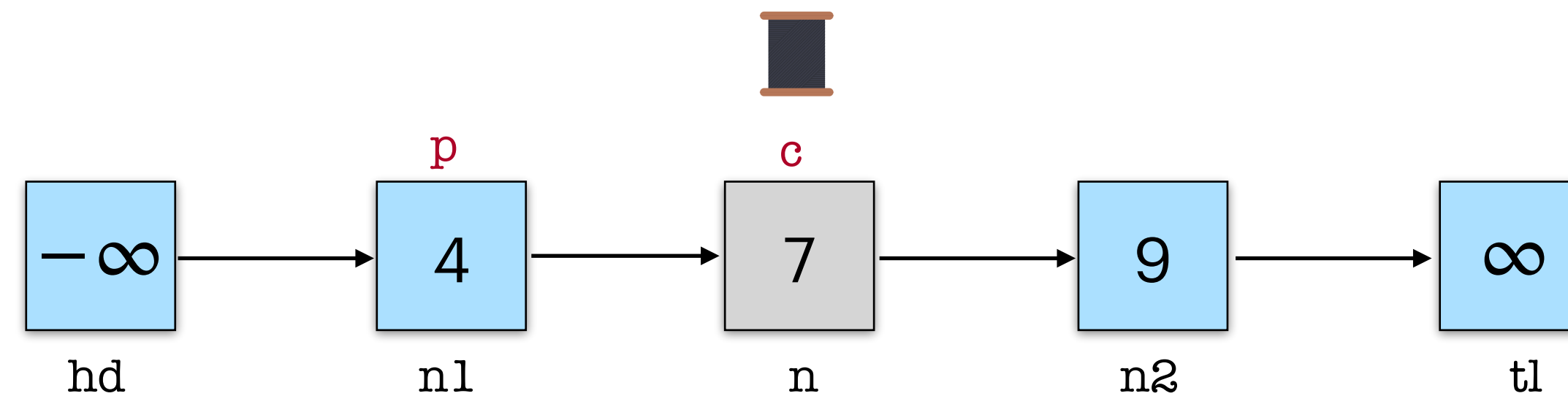
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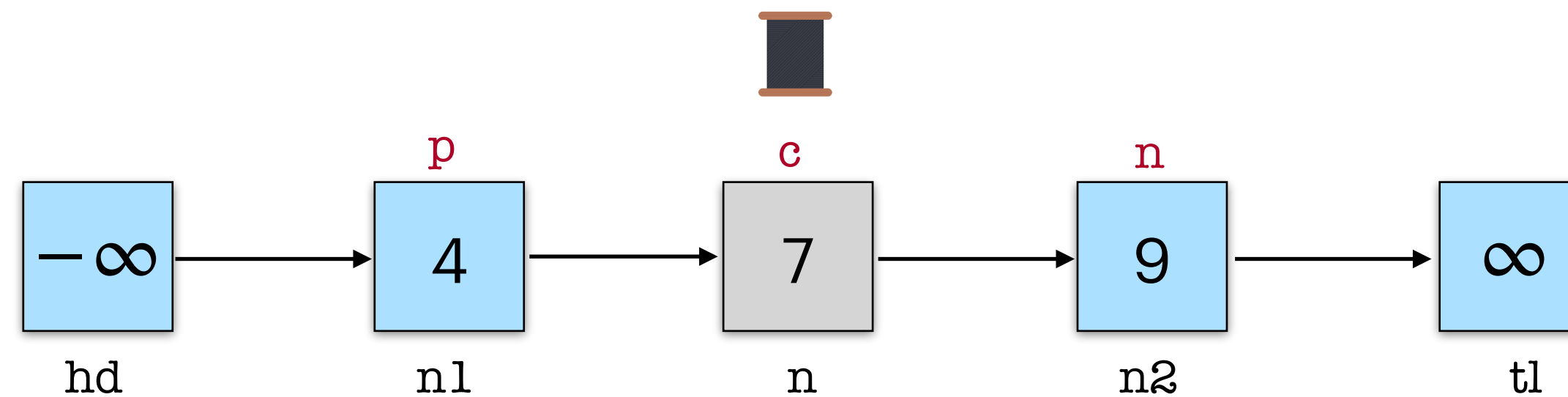
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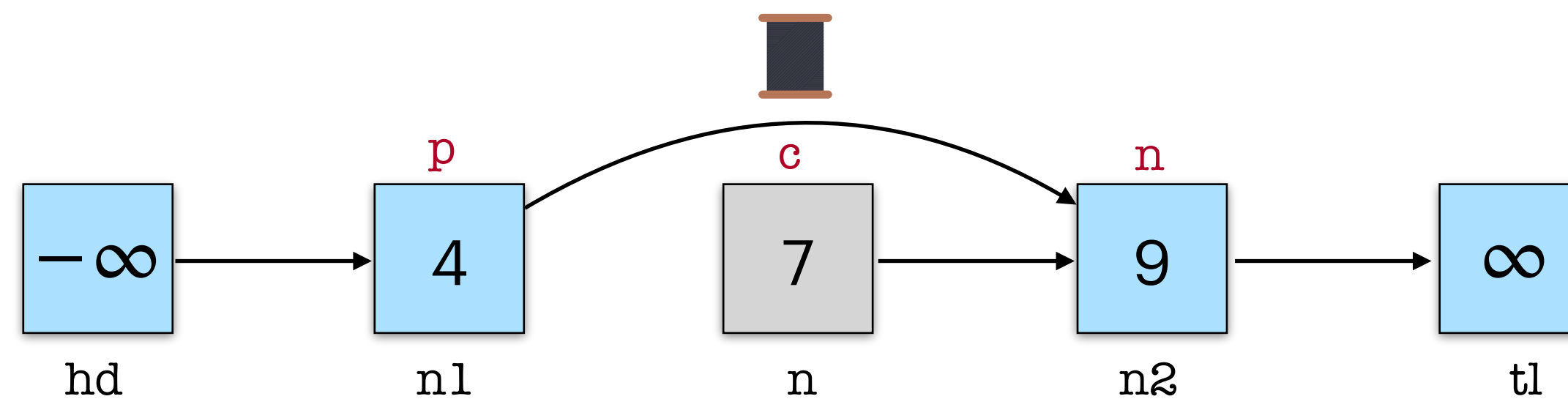
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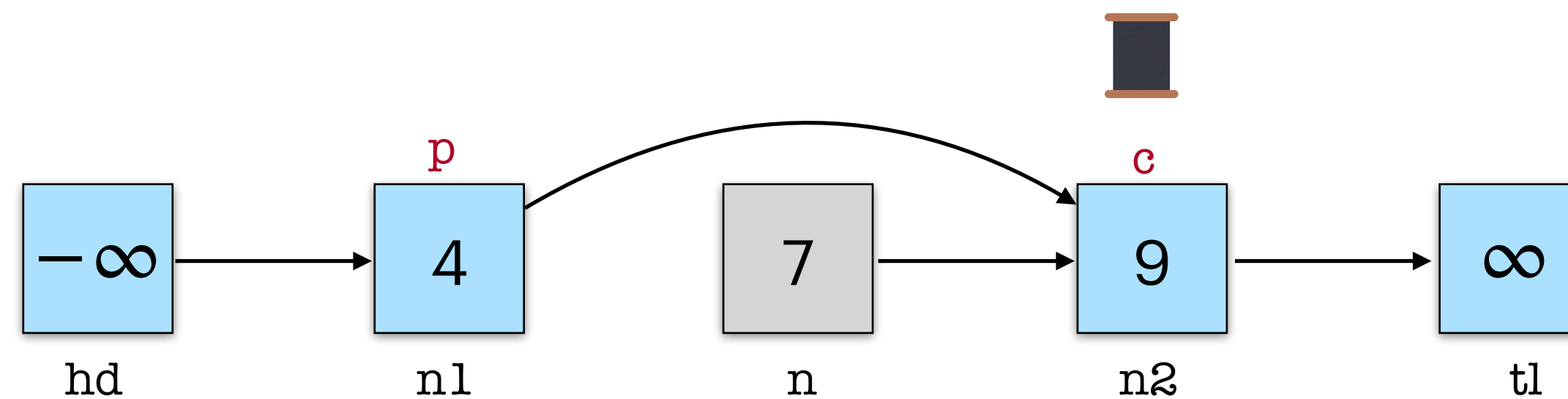
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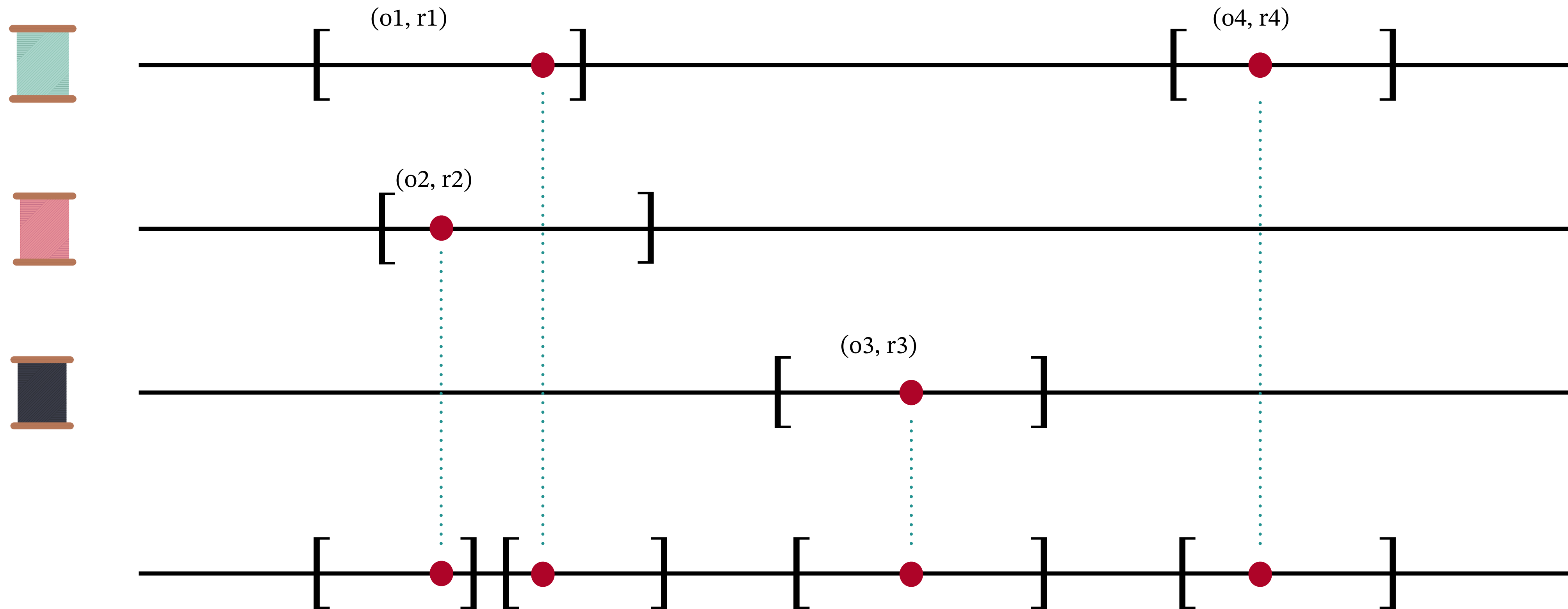
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search(9)



Linearizability

"for each concurrent execution, there exists an equivalent order-preserving sequential execution"



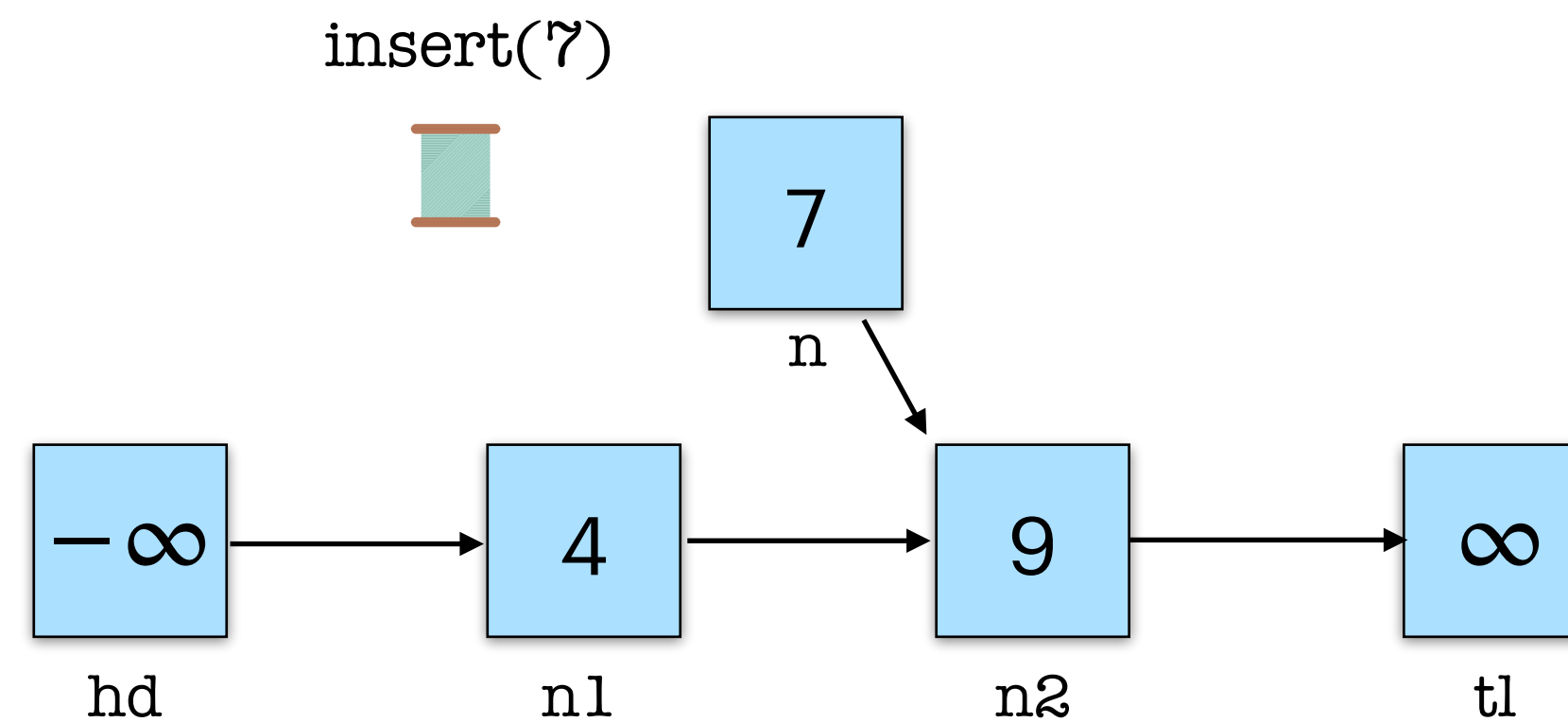
Linearization Points

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Linearization Points

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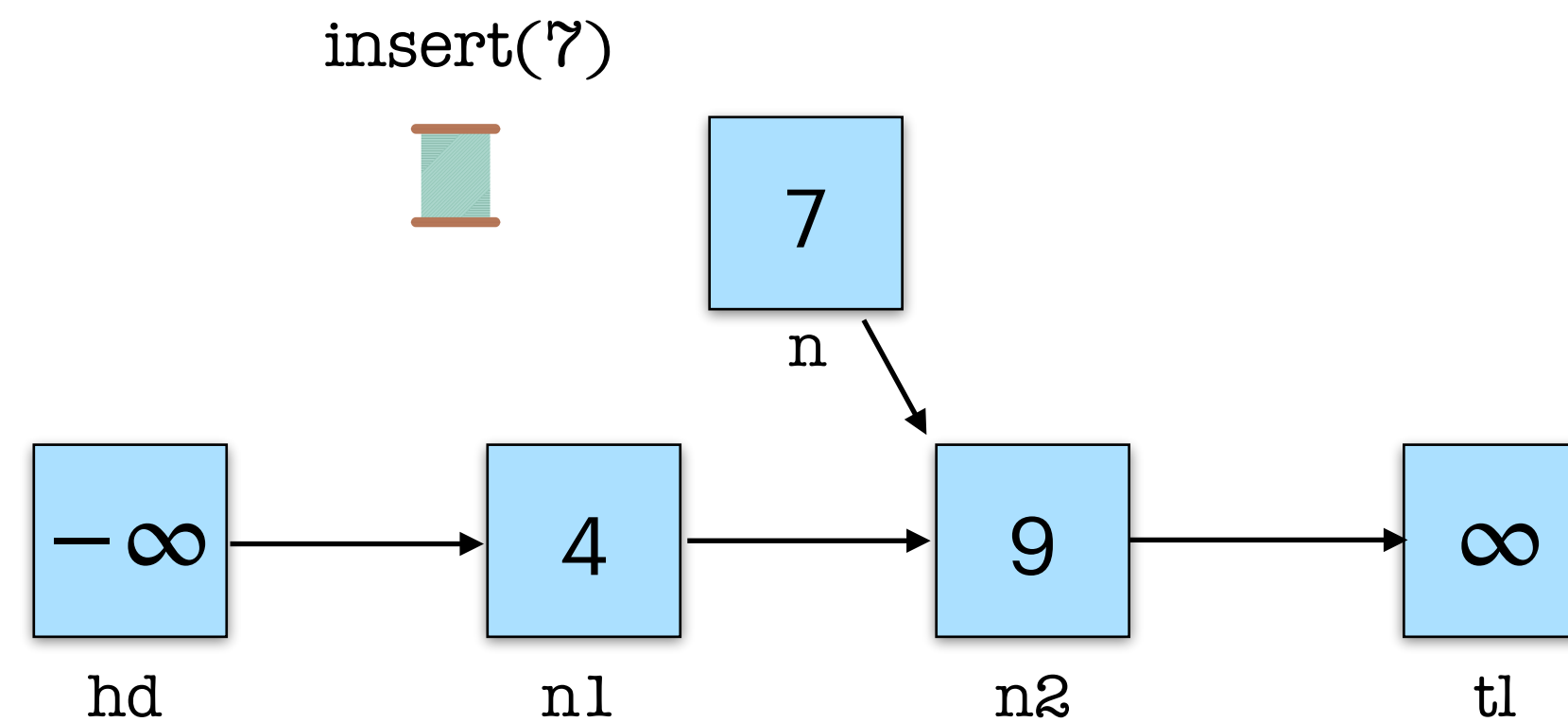
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Modifying Linearization Points

Linearization Points

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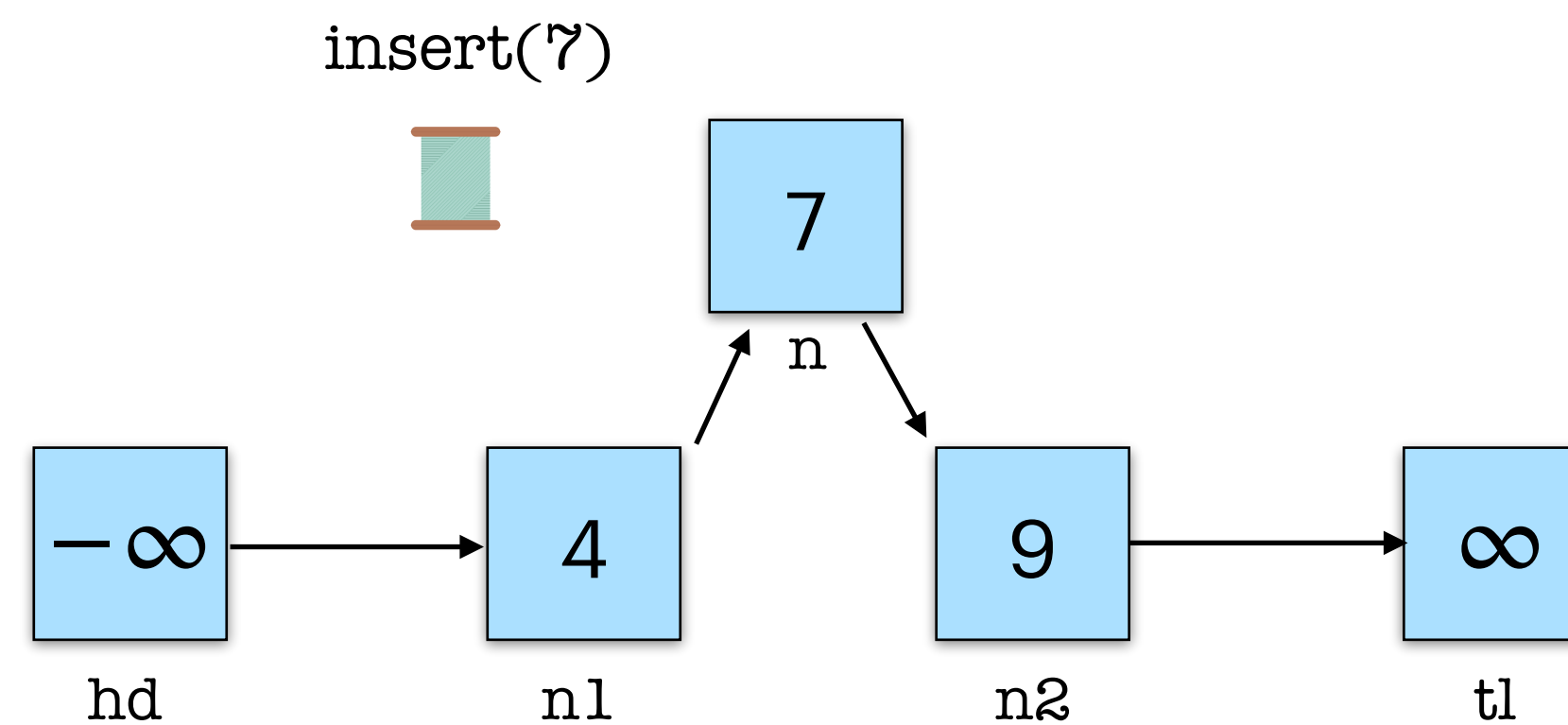
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Linearization Points

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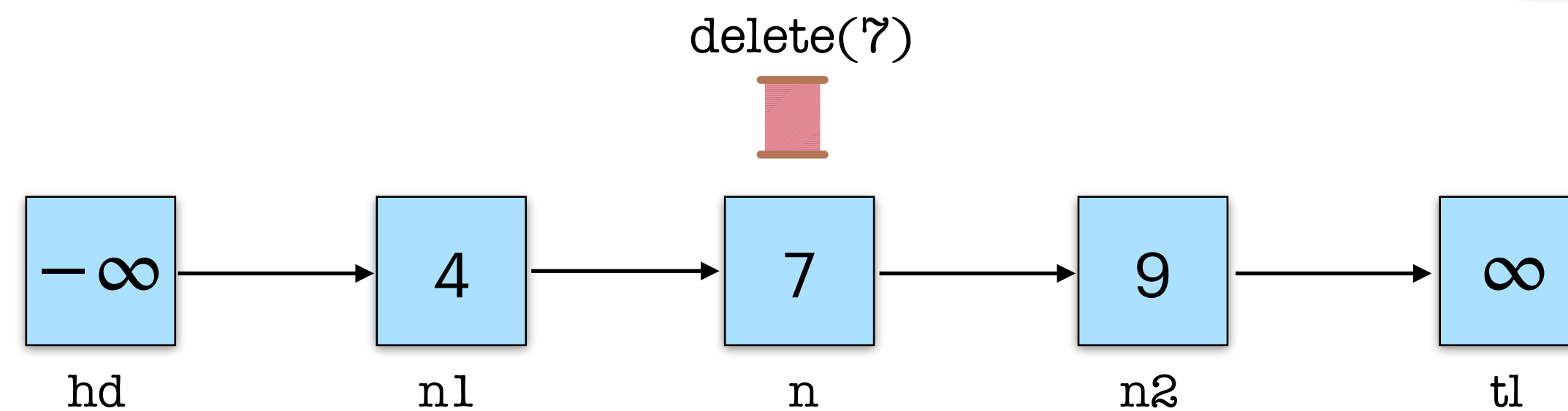
```

insert(k) =
  p, c, res = find(k);
  if res then false
  else
    n = new_node(k, c);
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))
      then true else insert(k)
  
```

```

delete(k) =
  p, c, res = find(k);
  if (not res) then false
  else
    → if MARK(c)
      then true else false
  
```

Modifying Linearization Points



Linearization Points

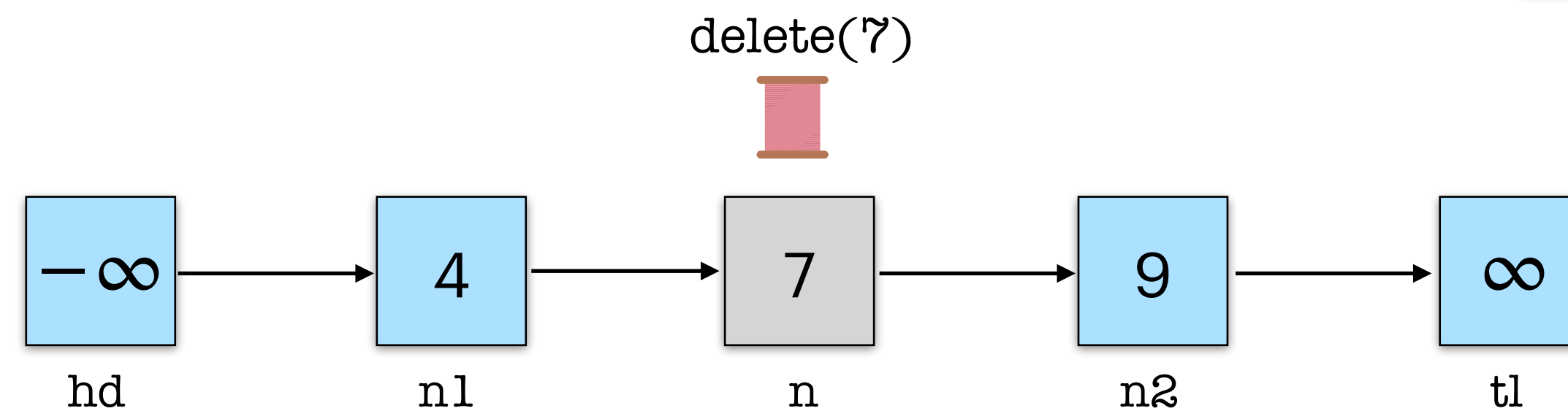
```
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

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  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
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    then true else insert(k)
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delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
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    then true else false
```

Modifying Linearization Points



Linearization Points

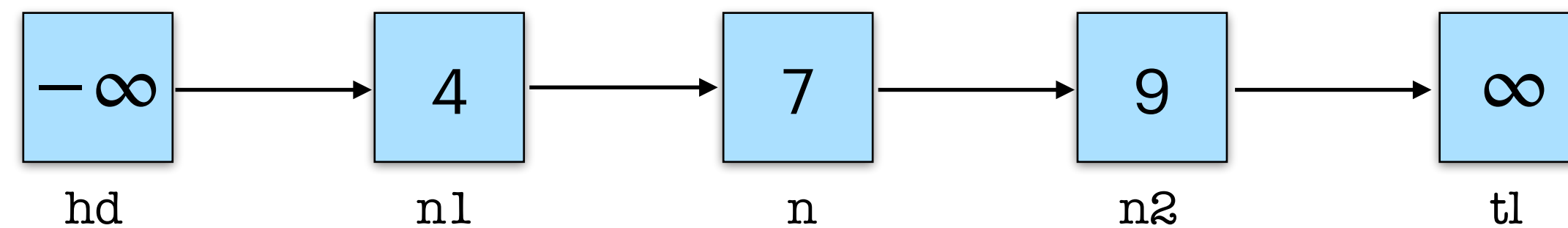
```
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
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```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

Unmodifying Linearization Points?



Linearization Points

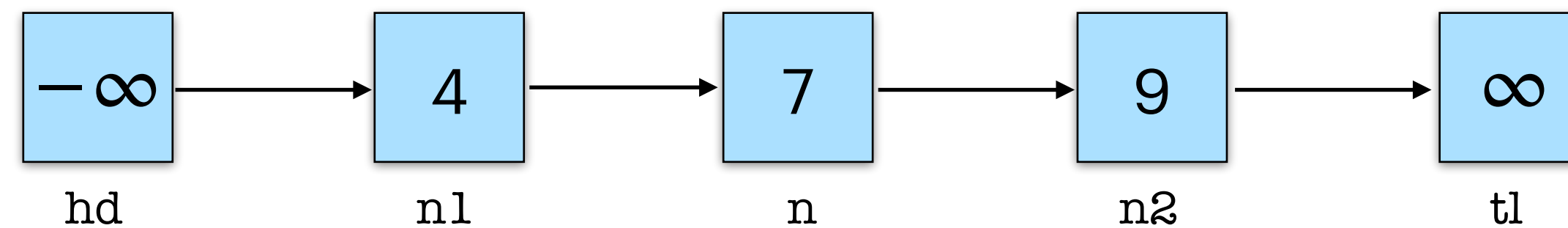
```
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
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```

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    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

Unmodifying Linearization Points?
Future-dependent, external!



Linearization Points

```

traverse(k, p, c) =
  (n, b) = c.next;
  if b == 0 then
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))
      then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)
  else
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)
    else
      res = c.key == k;
      (p, c, res)
  
```

```

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  _, _, res = find(k);
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find(k) =
  n = hd.next;
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```

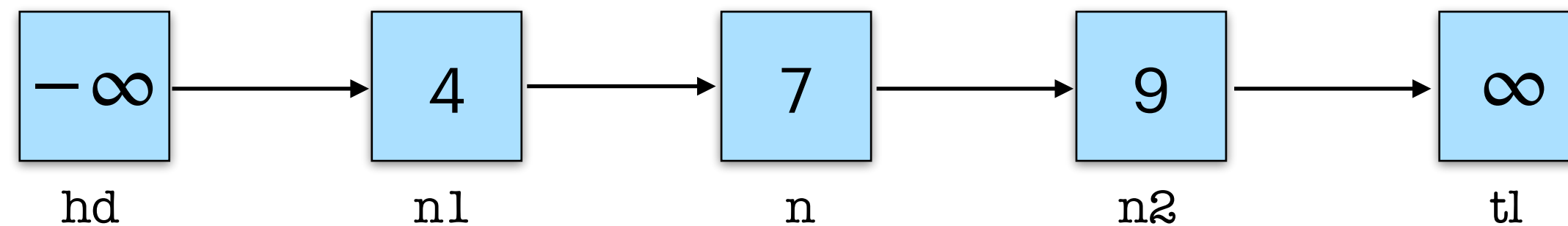
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  else
    if MARK(c)
      then true else false
  
```

search(7)



Linearization Points

```

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```

```

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  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)
  
```

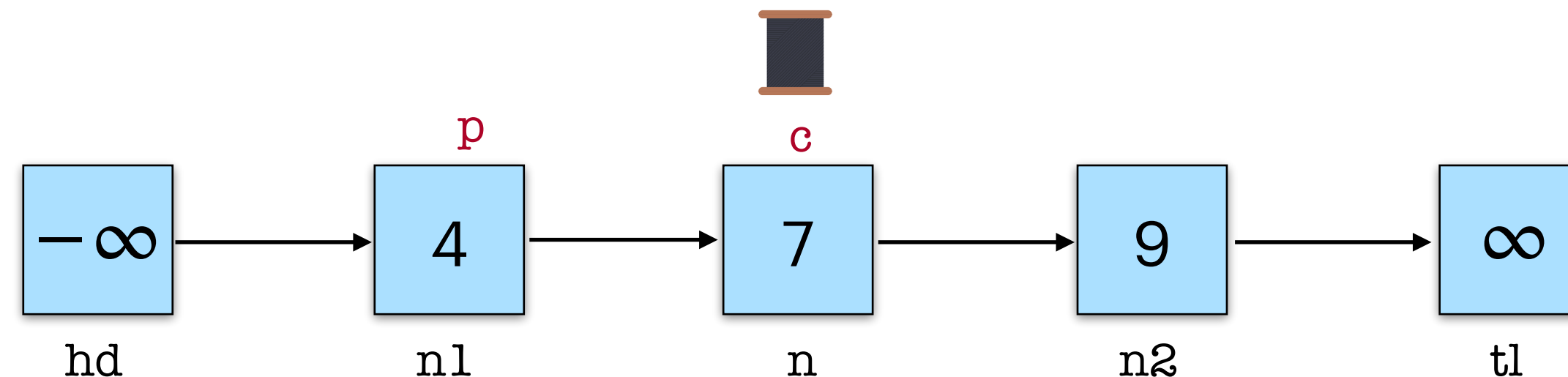
```

insert(k) =
  p, c, res = find(k);
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  else
    n = new_node(k, c);
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      then true else false
  
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search(7)



Linearization Points

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      (p, c, res)
  
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      then true else insert(k)
  
```

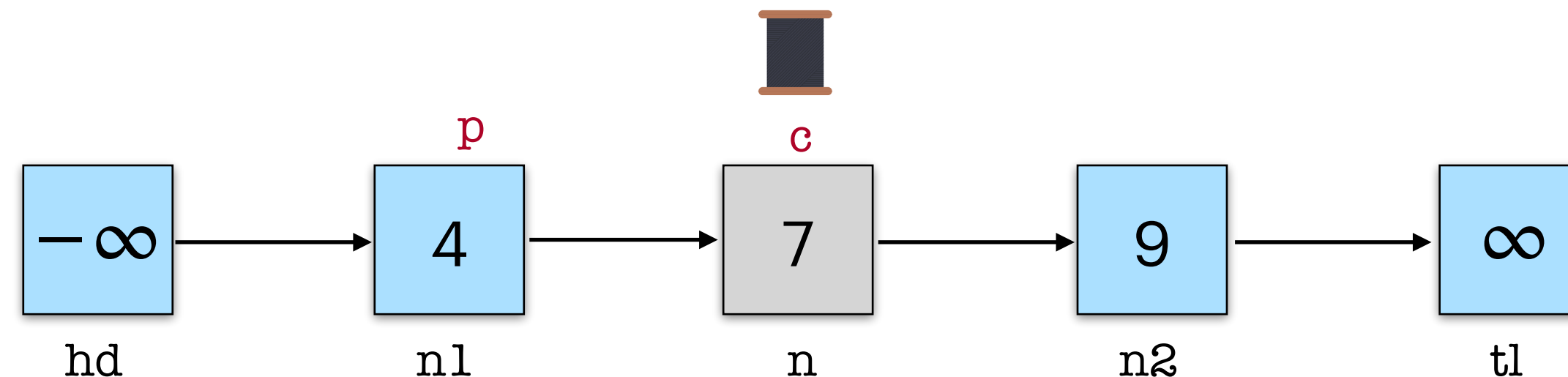
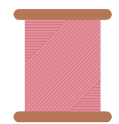
```

delete(k) =
  p, c, res = find(k);
  if (not res) then false
  else
    if MARK(c)
      then true else false
  
```

search(7)



delete(7)



Linearization Points

```

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```

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    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))
      then true else insert(k)
  
```

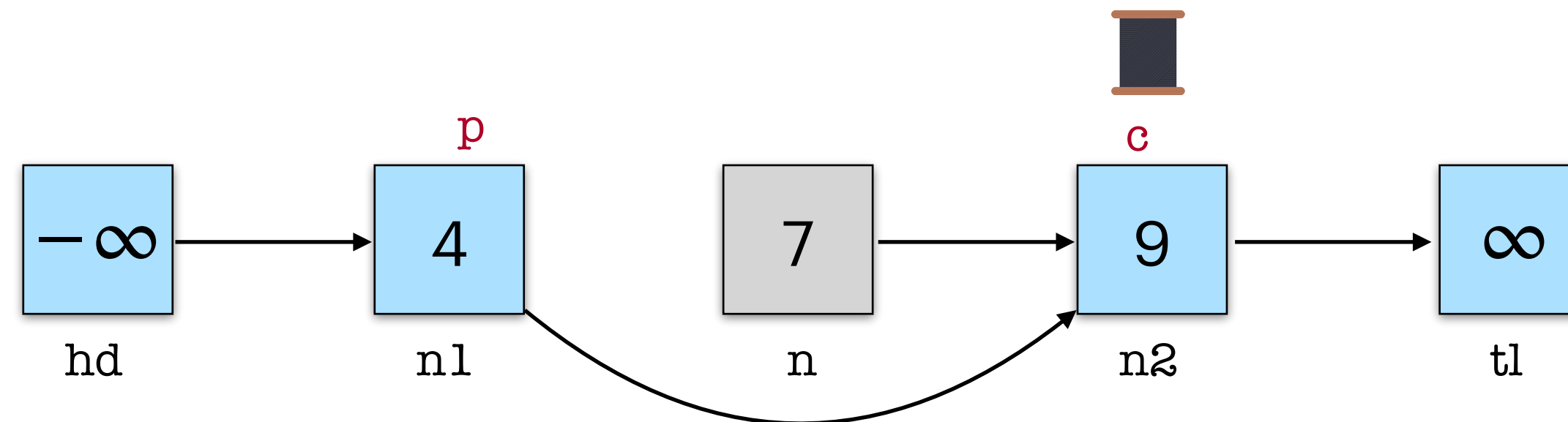
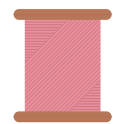
```

delete(k) =
  p, c, res = find(k);
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      then true else false
  
```

search(7)



delete(7)



Linearization Points

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  else
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      then true else false
  
```

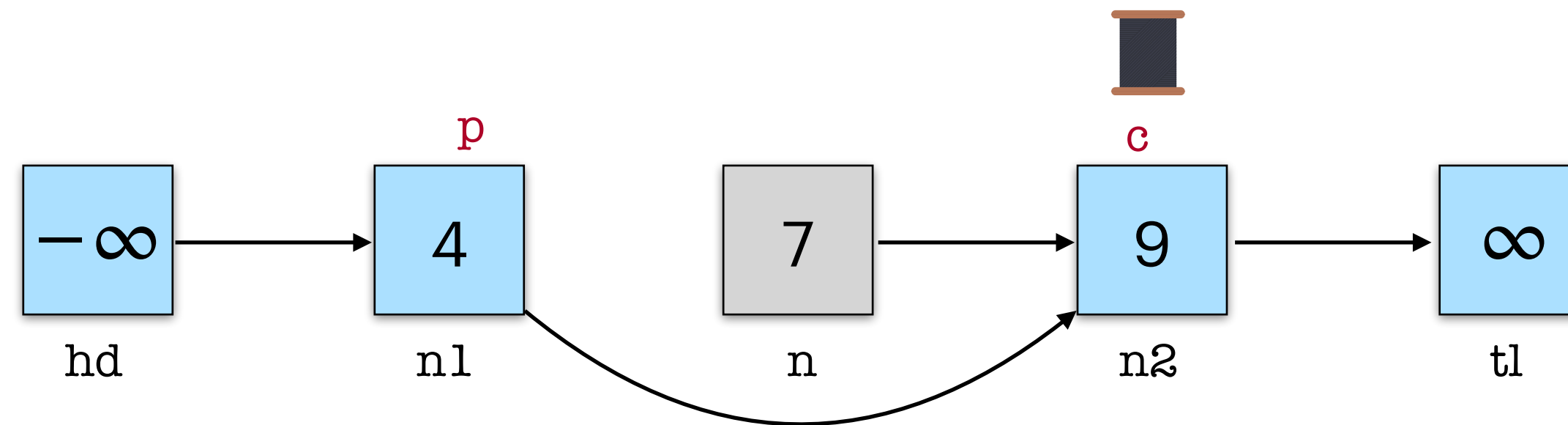
search(7)



delete(7)



insert(7)



Linearization Points

```

traverse(k, p, c) =
  (n, b) = c.next;
  if b == 0 then
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      then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)
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    else
      res = c.key == k;
      (p, c, res)
  
```

```

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  _, _, res = find(k);
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find(k) =
  n = hd.next;
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)
  
```

```

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      then true else insert(k)
  
```

```

delete(k) =
  p, c, res = find(k);
  if (not res) then false
  else
    if MARK(c)
      then true else false
  
```

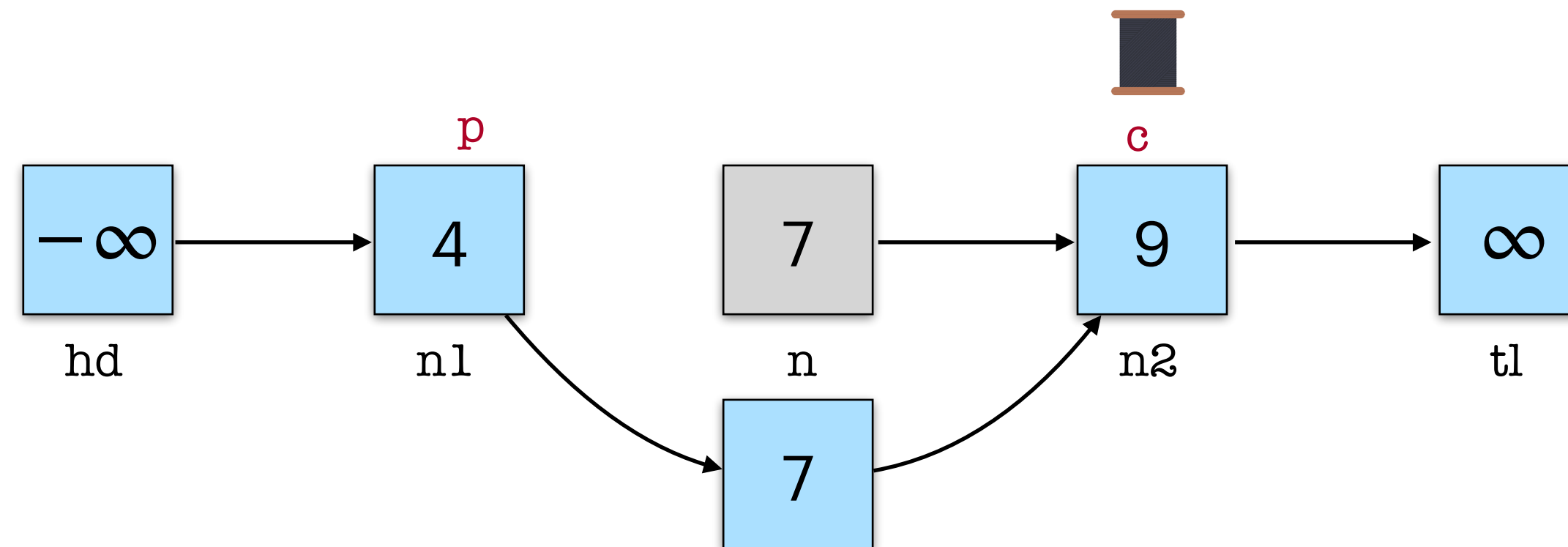
search(7)



delete(7)



insert(7)



Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
      then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

- find(k) returns true \rightarrow at some point, k was in the structure.
- find(k) returns false \rightarrow at some point, k was not in the structure.

Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
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  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
      then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
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- find(k) returns true \rightarrow at some point, k was in the structure.
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traversal invariant := $p.\text{key} < k \ \&\& \ \text{next}(p) = c \ \&\& \ \text{mark}(p) = \text{false}$

Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
      then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

- find(k) returns true → at some point, k was in the structure.
- find(k) returns false → at some point, k was not in the structure.

traversal invariant := p.key < k && next(p) = c && mark(p) = false



Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
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Hindsight Reasoning

Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
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traversal invariant := *at some point*, $p.\text{key} < k \ \&\& \ \text{next}(p) = c \ \&\& \ \text{mark}(p) = \text{false}$



Hindsight Reasoning

- Peter W. O'Hearn et al. *Verifying linearizability with hindsight*. [PODC 2010]
- Yotam M. Y. Feldman et al. *Order out of chaos: Proving linearizability using local views*. [DISC 2018]
- Yotam M. Y. Feldman et al. *Proving highly-concurrent traversals correct*. [OOPSLA 2020]
- Roland Meyer, Thomas Wies and Sebastien Wolff. *A concurrent program logic with a future and history*. [OOPSLA 2022]
- Roland Meyer, Thomas Wies and Sebastien Wolff. *Embedding hindsight reasoning in separation logic*. [PLDI 2023]

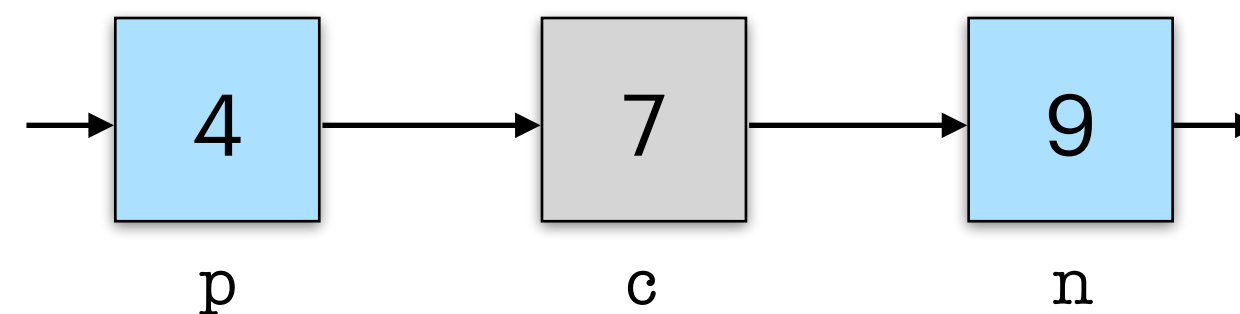
Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
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      then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
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search(7)

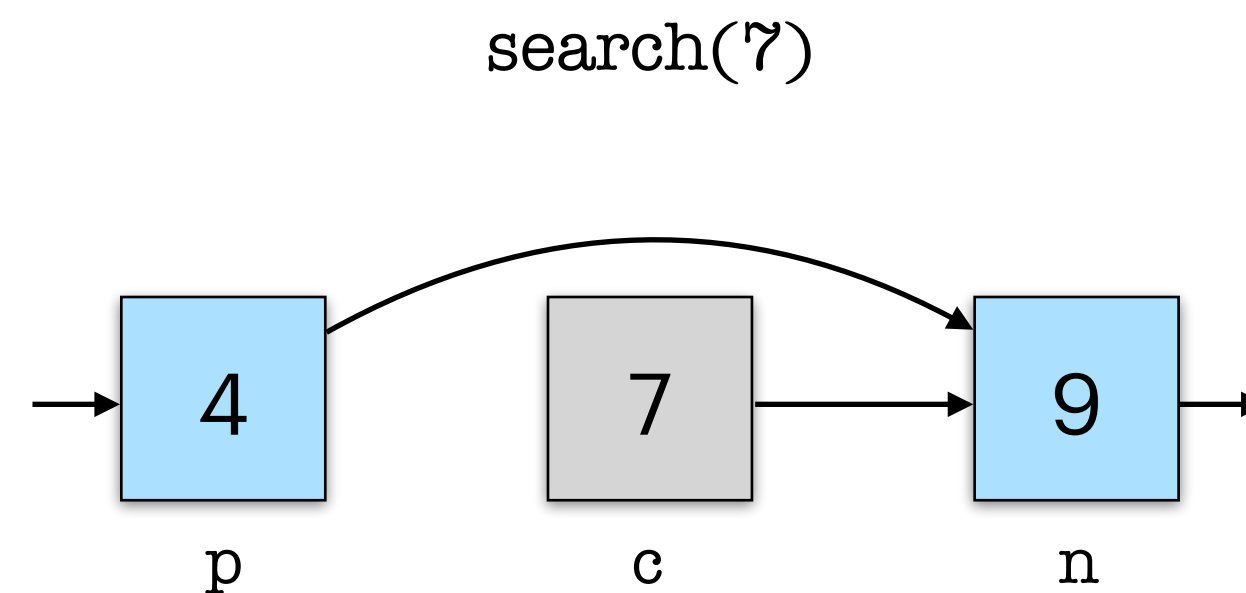


Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
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traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
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      then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
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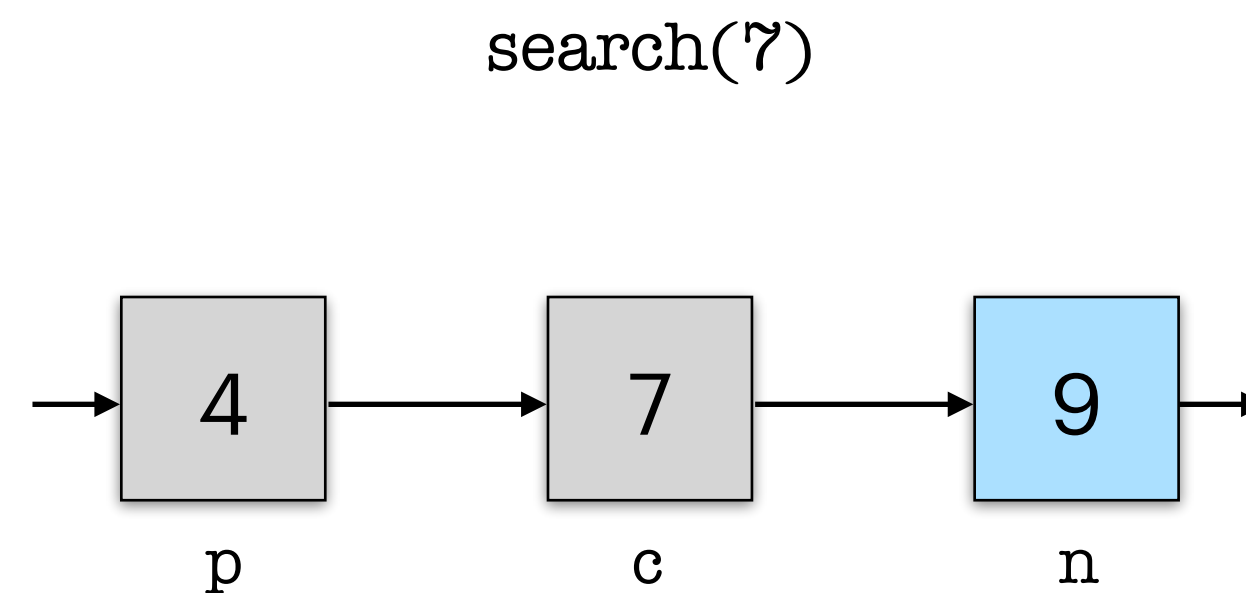


Intuitive Proof

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  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
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      (p, c, res)
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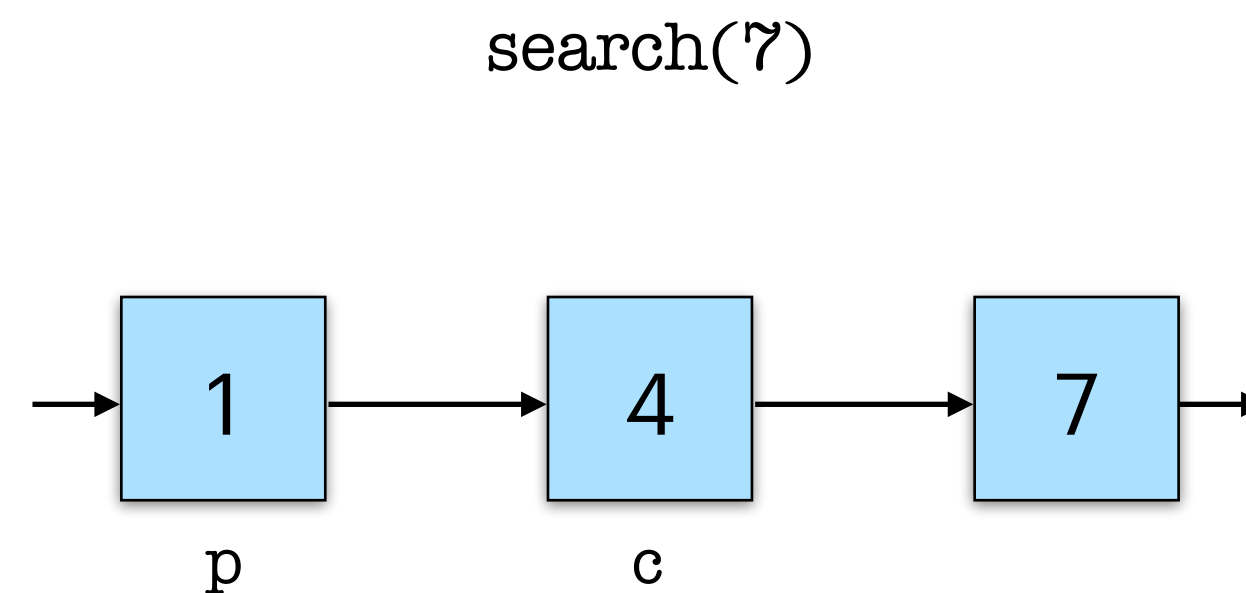


Intuitive Proof

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    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
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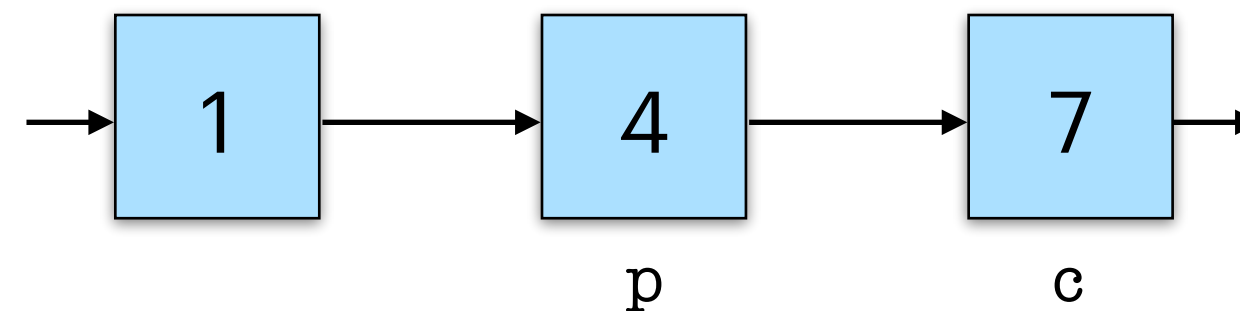
Intuitive Proof

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search(7)



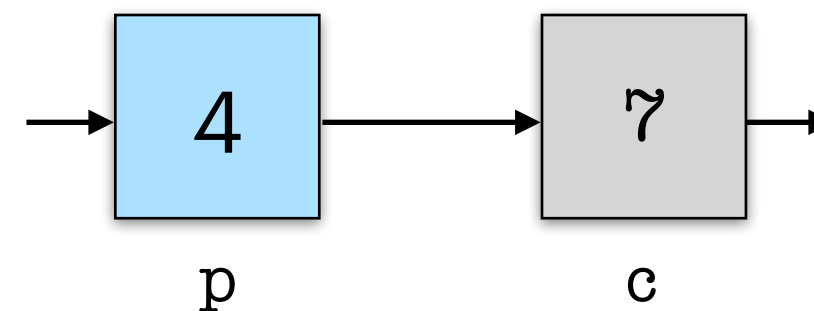
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- find(k) returns true → at some point, k was in the structure.
- find(k) returns false → at some point, k was not in the structure.

traversal invariant := *at some point*, $p.\text{key} < k \ \&\& \ \text{next}(p) = c \ \&\& \ \text{mark}(p) = \text{false}$

search(7)



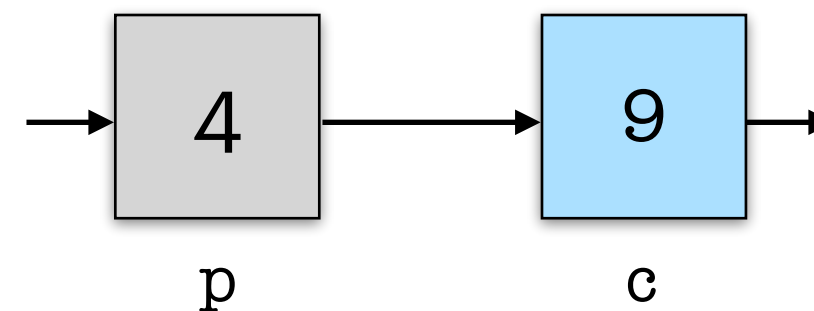
Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      ➔ res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

- find(k) returns true → at some point, k was in the structure.
- find(k) returns false → at some point, k was not in the structure.

traversal invariant := *at some point*, $p.\text{key} < k \ \&\& \ \text{next}(p) = c \ \&\& \ \text{mark}(p) = \text{false}$

search(7)

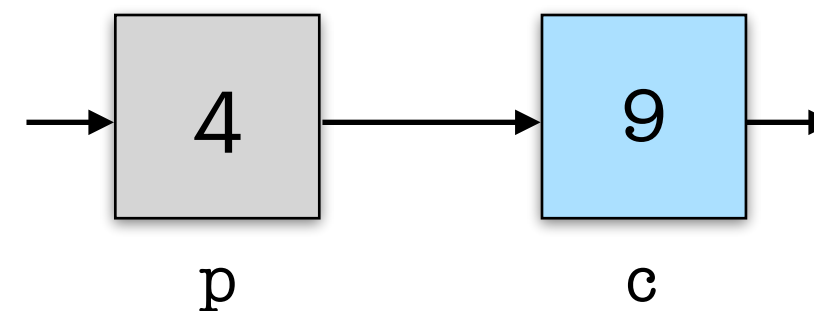
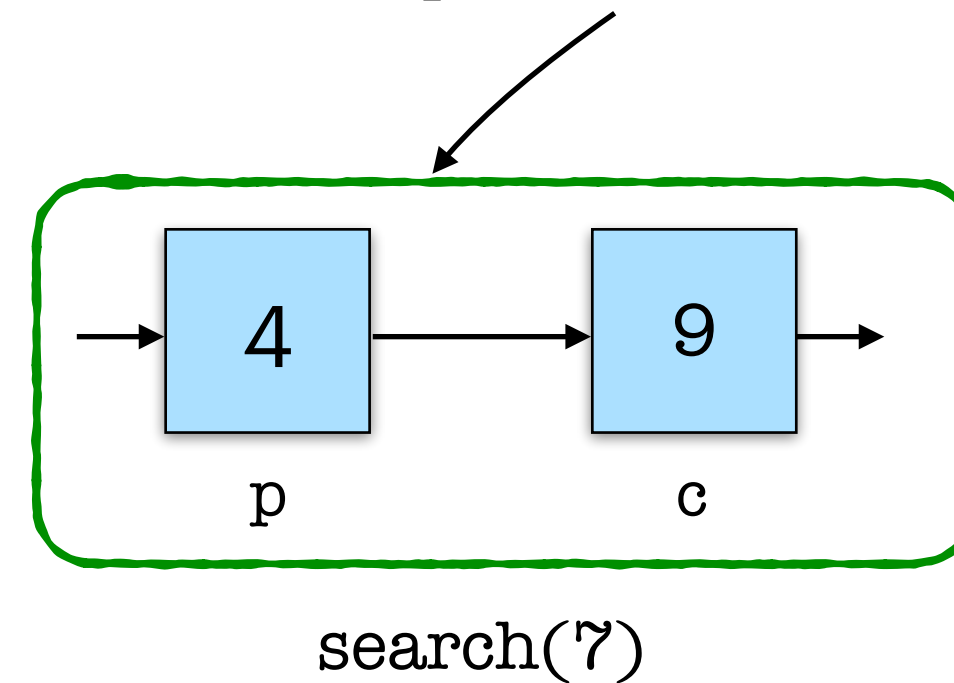


Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      ➔ res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

- find(k) returns true → at some point, k was in the structure.
- find(k) returns false → at some point, k was not in the structure.

traversal invariant := *at some point*, $p.\text{key} < k \ \&\& \ \text{next}(p) = c \ \&\& \ \text{mark}(p) = \text{false}$

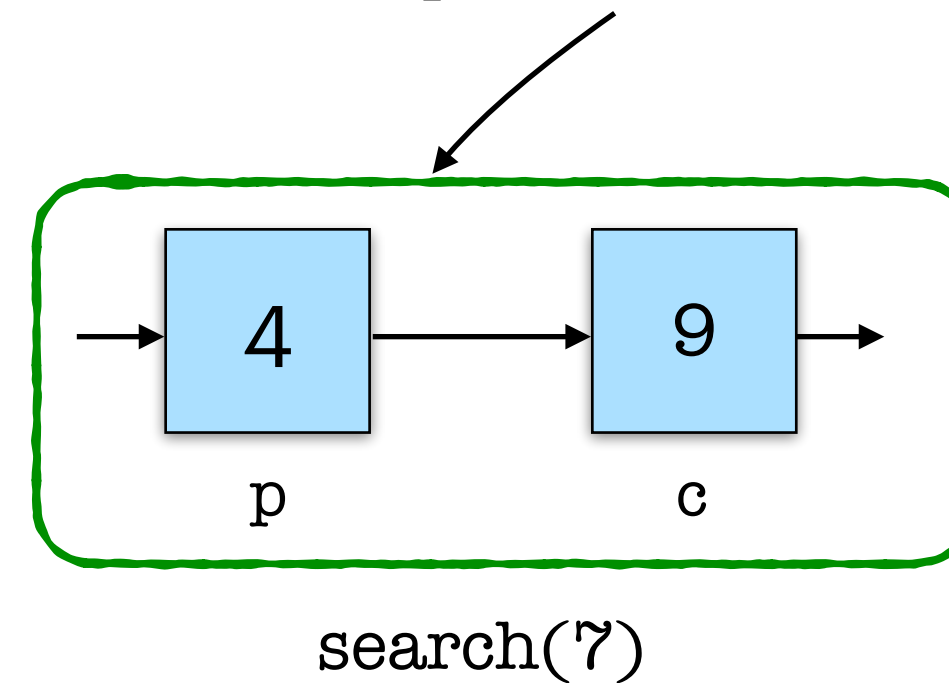


Intuitive Proof

```
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)  
  
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      ➔ res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

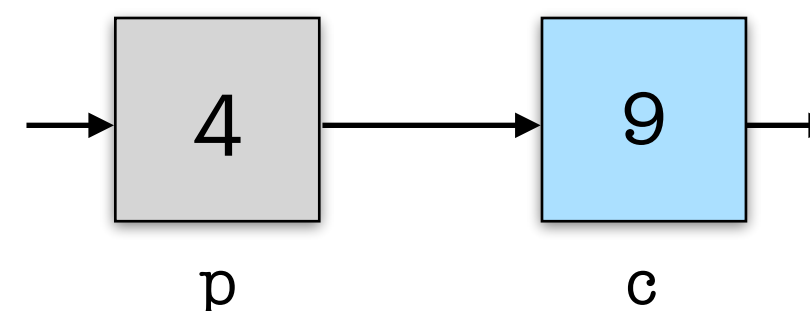
- find(k) returns true → at some point, k was in the structure.
- find(k) returns false → at some point, k was not in the structure.

traversal invariant := *at some point*, $p.\text{key} < k \ \&\& \ \text{next}(p) = c \ \&\& \ \text{mark}(p) = \text{false}$



1. A node once marked remains marked.
2. A node's key never changes.
3. hd-list is sorted.

....



Michael's Set

```
traverse(k, p, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    if CAS(p.next, (c,0), (n,0))  
    then traverse(k, p, n) else find(k)  
  else  
    if c.key < k then traverse(k, c, n)  
    else  
      res = c.key == k;  
      (p, c, res)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if CAS(c.next, (c, 0), (c,1))  
    then true else false
```

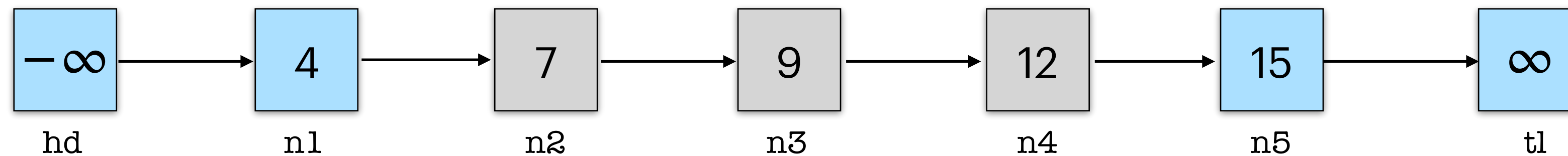
Harris List

```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```



Harris List

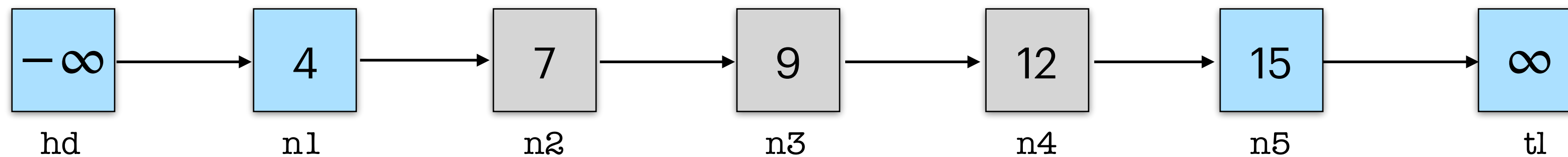
```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

search(15)



Harris List

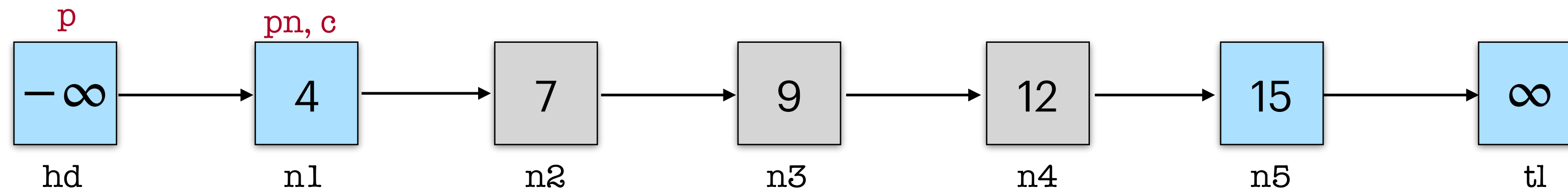
```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

search(15)



Harris List

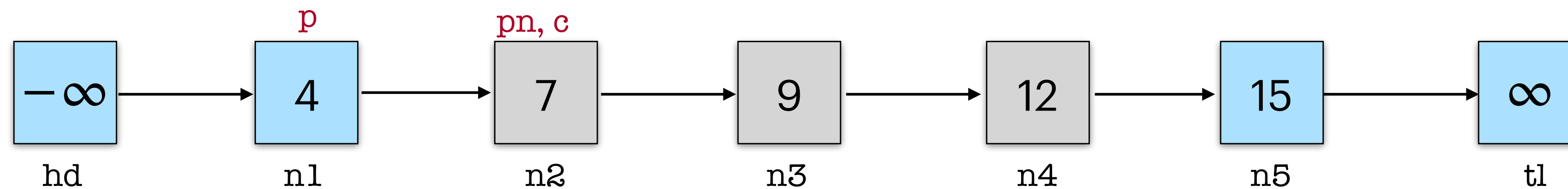
```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

search(15)



Harris List

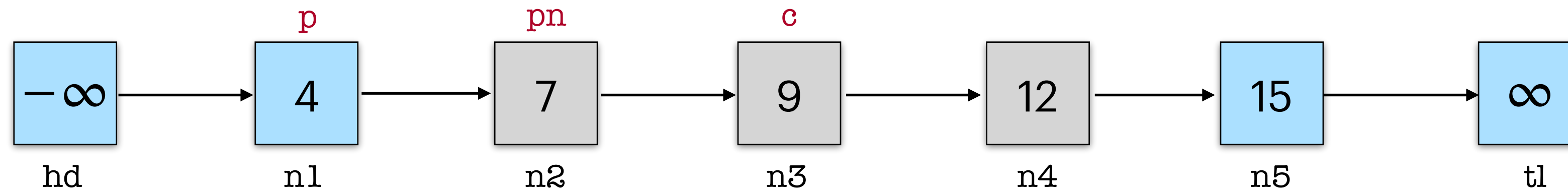
```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

search(15)



Harris List

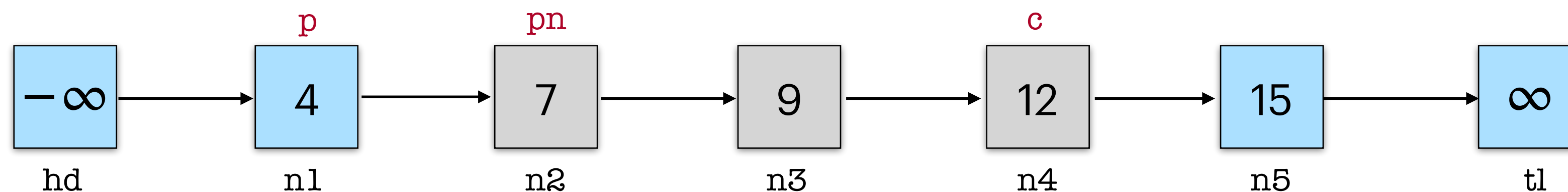
```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

search(15)



Harris List

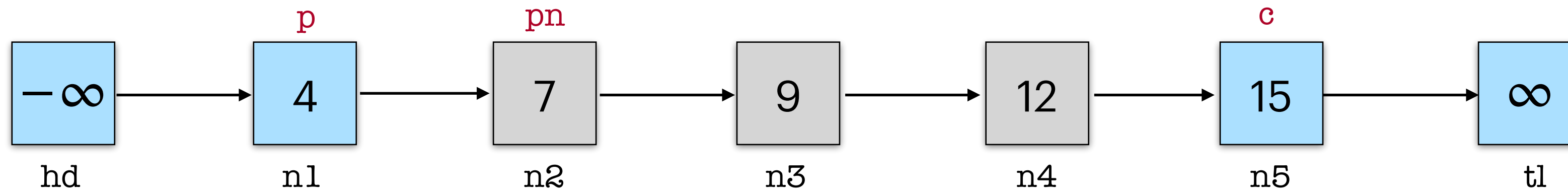
```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

search(15)



Harris List

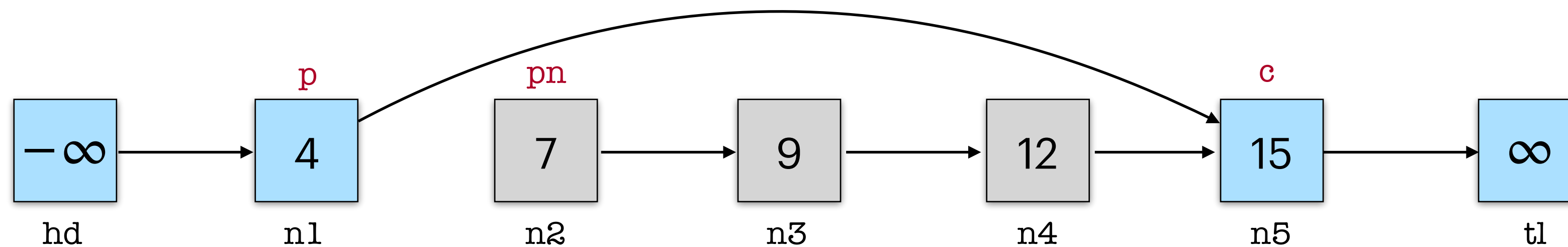
```
traverse(k, p, pn, c) =  
  (n, b) = c.next;  
  if b == 0 then  
    traverse(k, p, pn, n)  
  else  
    if CAS(p.next, (pn, 0), (c, 0)) then  
      if c.key < k then traverse(c, n, n)  
      else  
        res = c.key == k;  
        (p, c, res)  
    else find(k)
```

```
search(k) =  
  _, _, res = find(k);  
  res  
  
find(k) =  
  n = hd.next;  
  p, c, res = traverse(k, hd, n, n)
```

```
insert(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if res then false  
  else  
    n = new_node(k, c);  
    if CAS(p.next, (c, 0), (n, 0))  
    then true else insert(k)
```

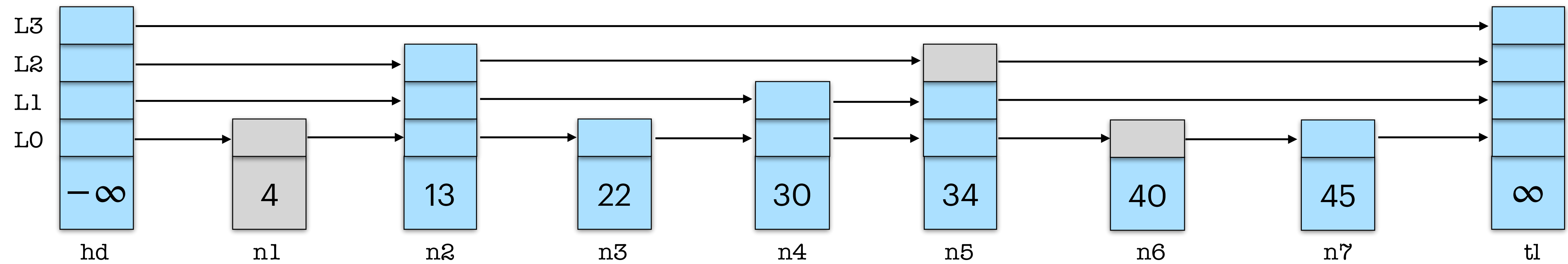
```
delete(k) =  
  p, c, res = find(k);  
  if (not res) then false  
  else  
    if MARK(c)  
    then true else false
```

search(15)



Skiplists

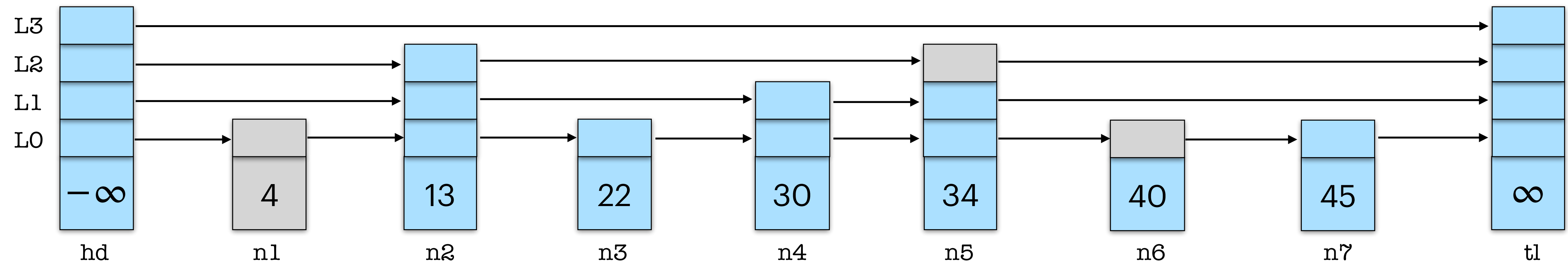
Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist



Skiplists

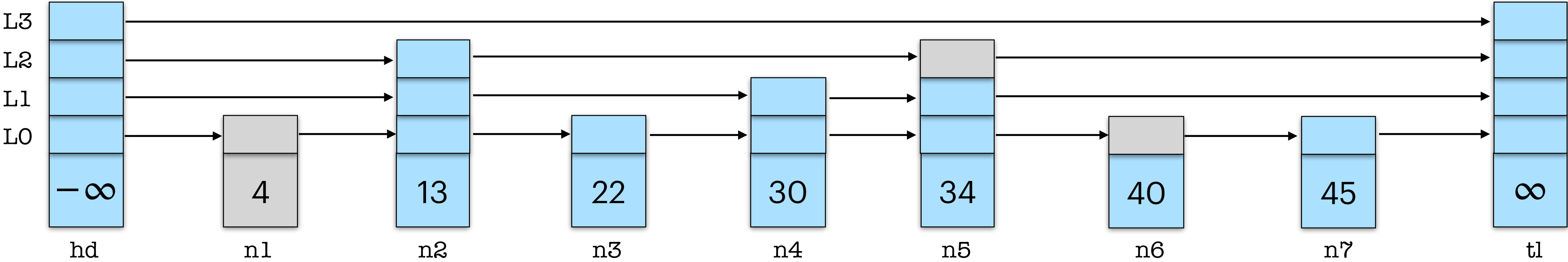
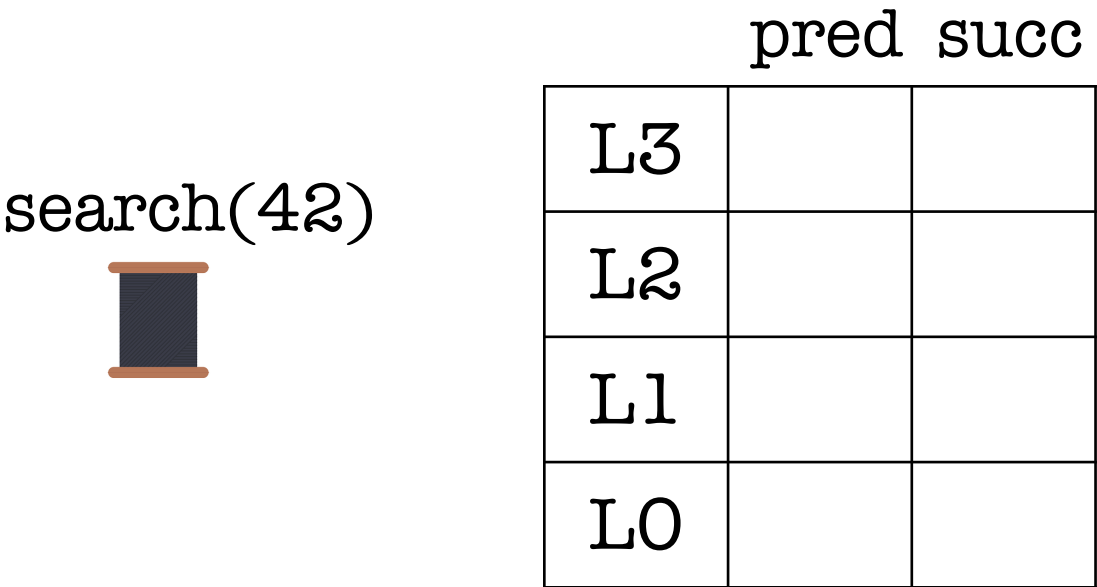
Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

search(42)



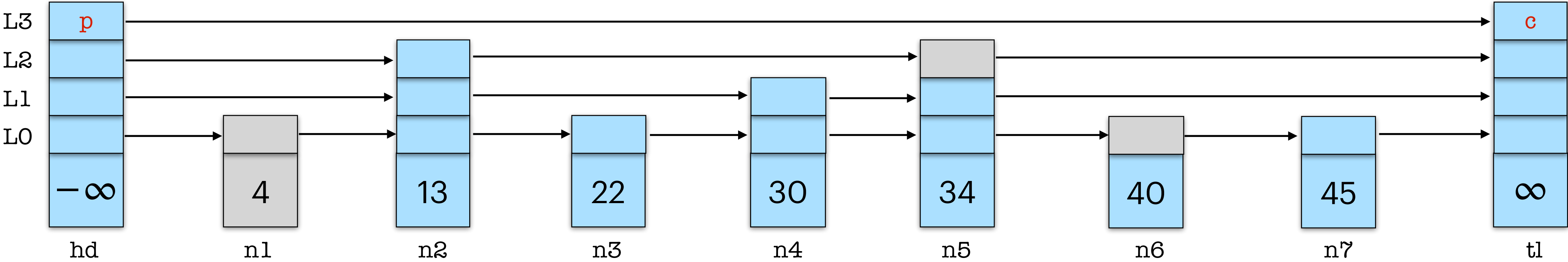
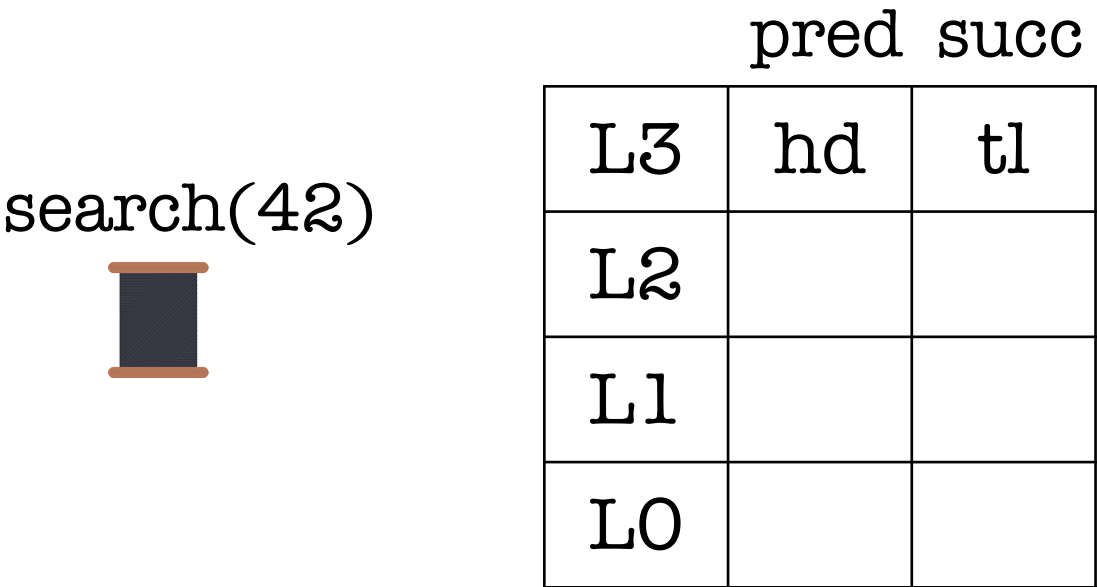
Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist



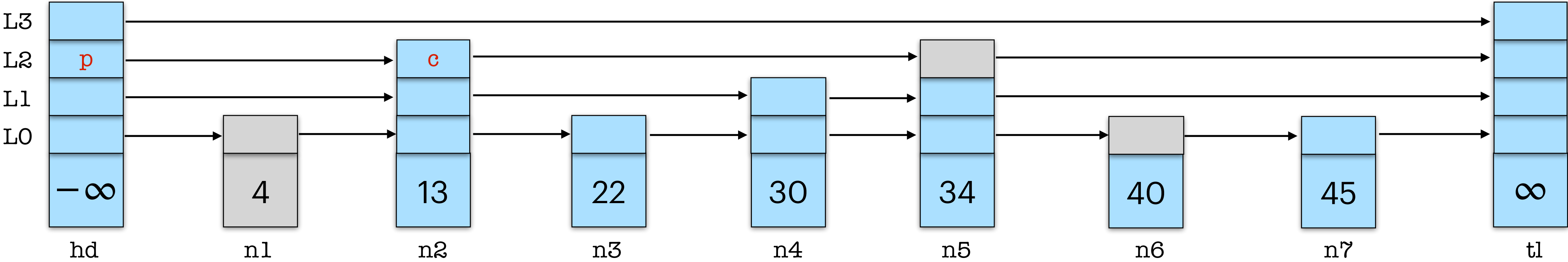
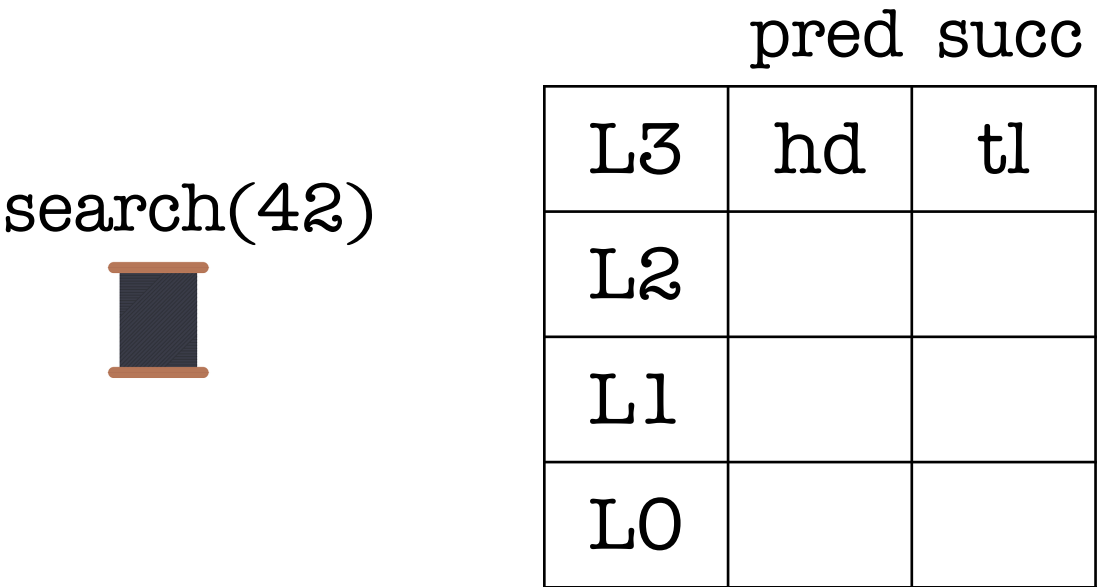
Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist



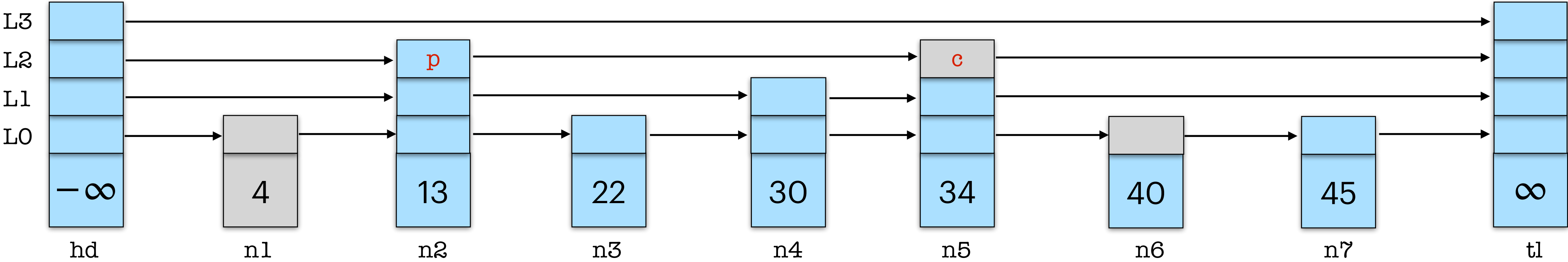
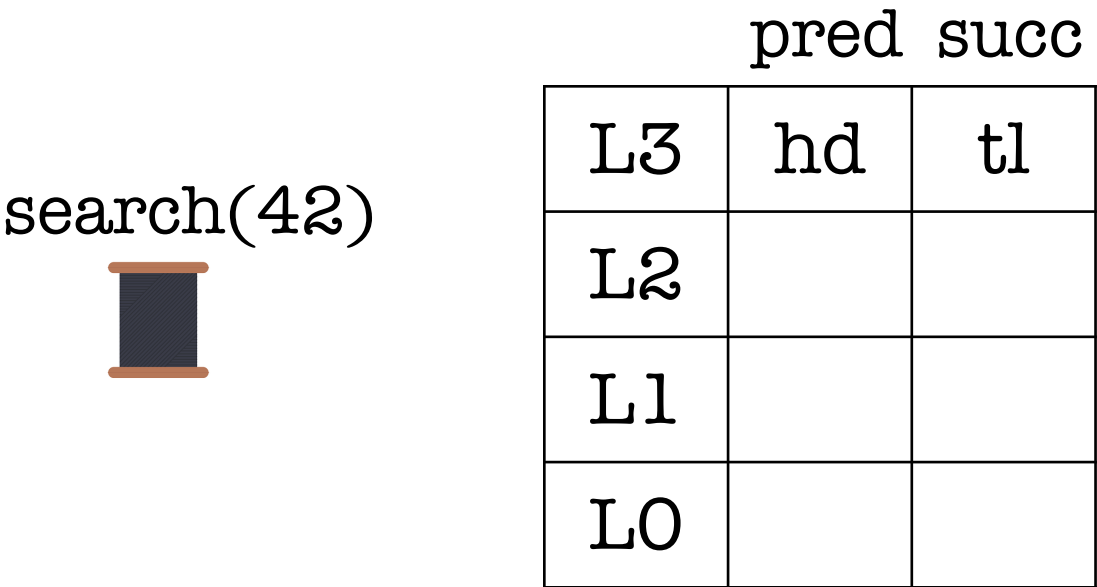
Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist



Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

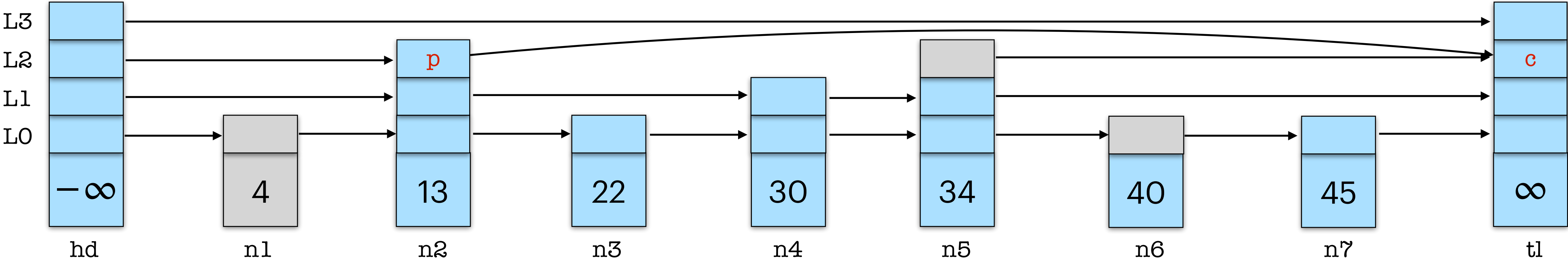


Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

search(42)

	pred	succ
L3	hd	tl
L2	n2	tl
L1		
L0		



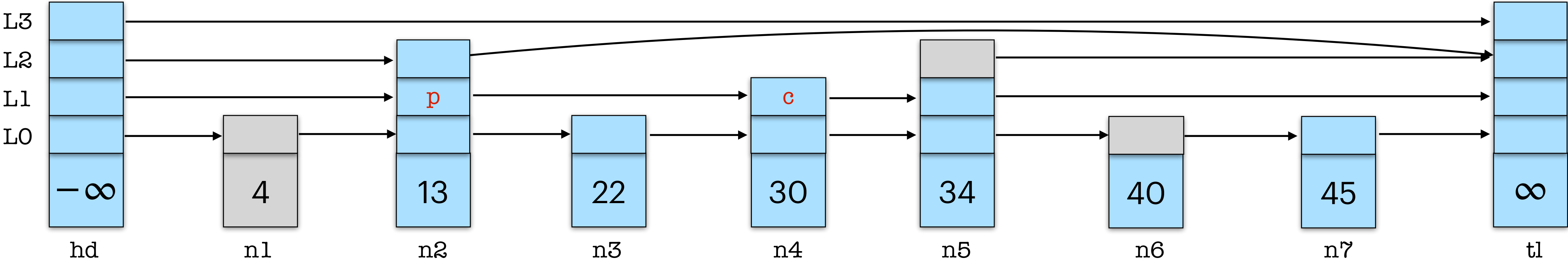
Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

search(42)



	pred	succ
L3	hd	tl
L2	n2	tl
L1		
L0		

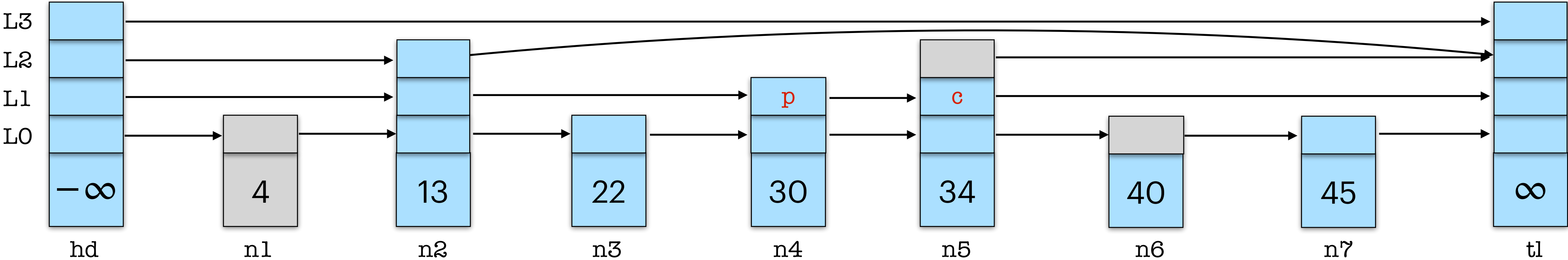


Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

search(42)

	pred	succ
L3	hd	tl
L2	n2	tl
L1		
L0		

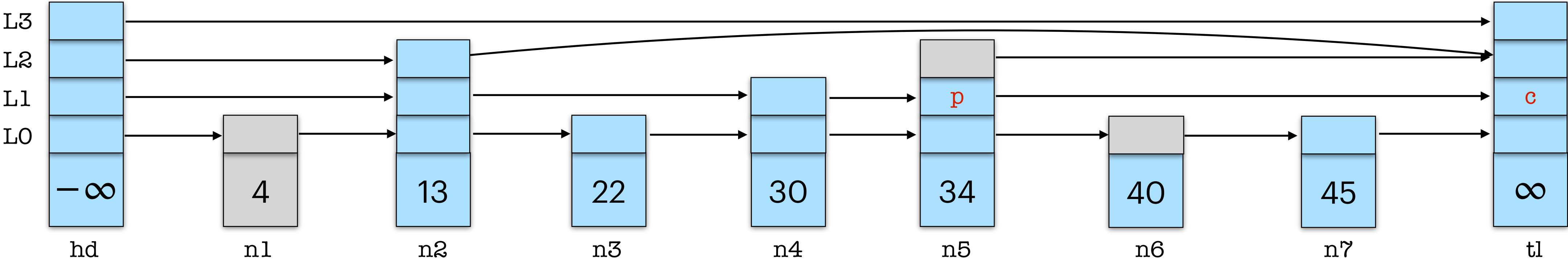


Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

search(42)

	pred	succ
L3	hd	tl
L2	n2	tl
L1	n5	tl
L0		

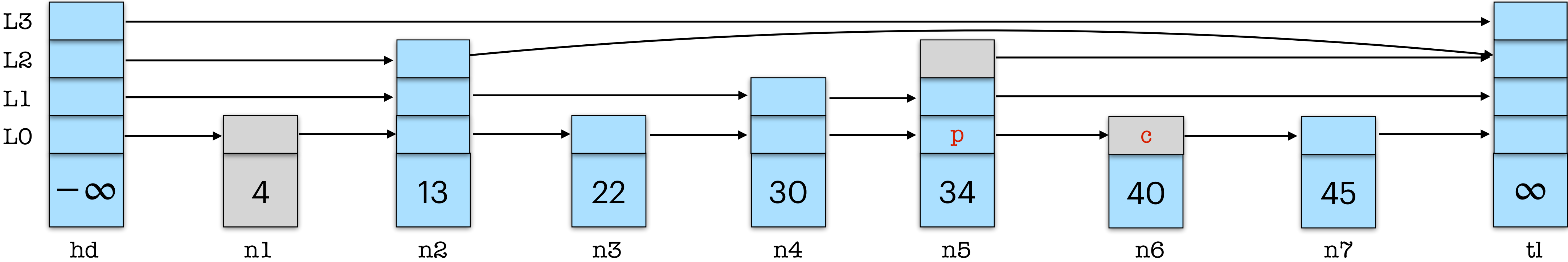


Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

search(42)

	pred	succ
L3	hd	tl
L2	n2	tl
L1	n5	tl
L0		

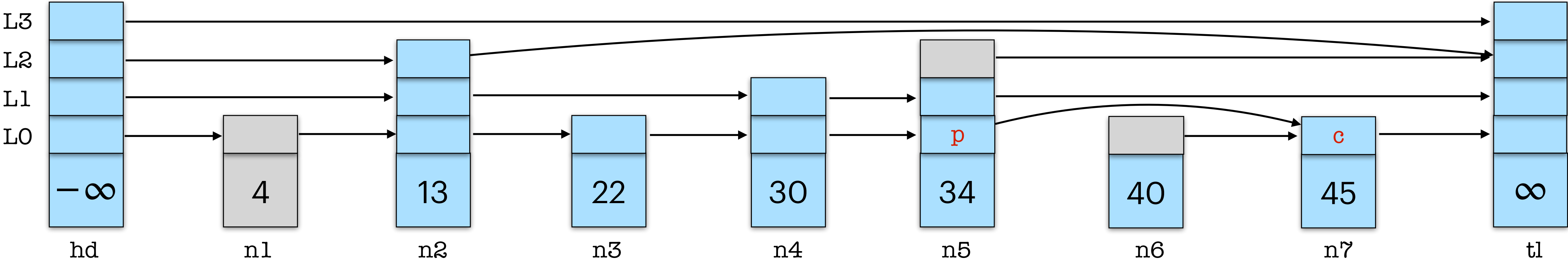


Skiplists

Michael's Set + Levels \approx Herlihy-Shavit Skiplist

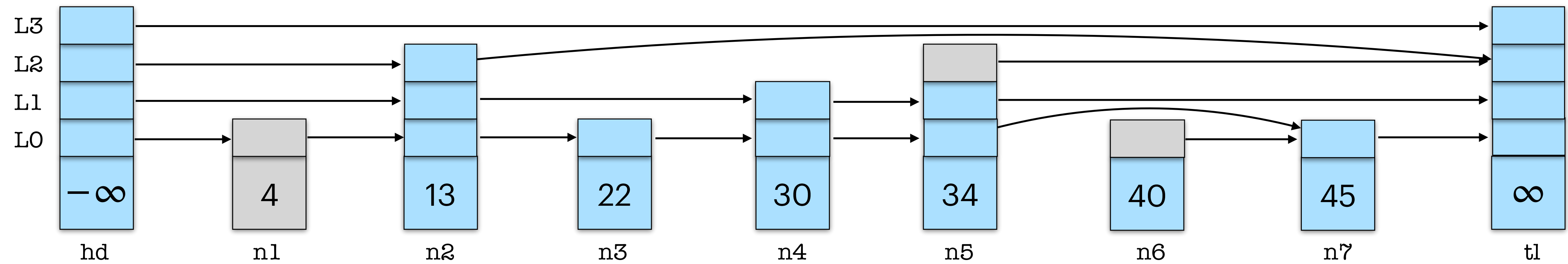
search(42)

	pred	succ
L3	hd	tl
L2	n2	tl
L1	n5	tl
L0	n5	n7



Skiplists

Harris List + Levels \approx ??



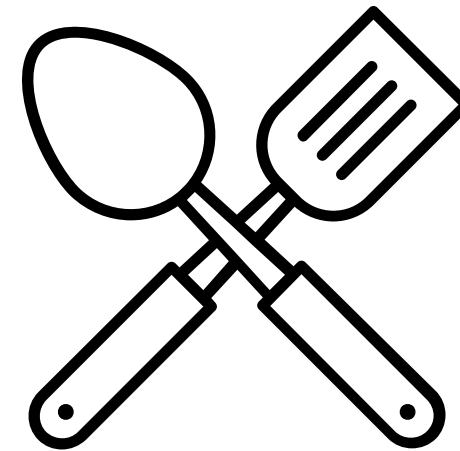
Outline



Step 1:

Find a class of structures with
common correctness reasoning

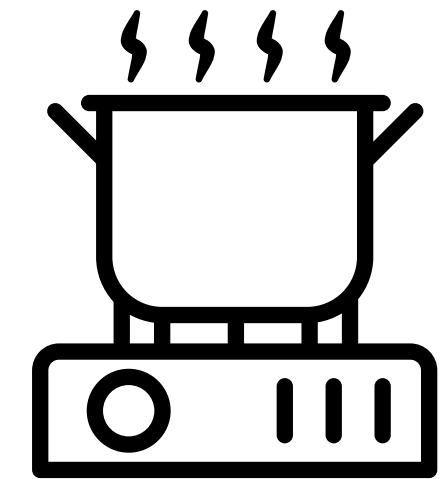
- ECOOP24 : (Lock-free) linked lists and skiplists



Step 2:

Develop enabling technology

- Template Algorithms
- Hindsight Framework



Step 3:

Formalize the proof

- Evaluation

Template Algorithms

```
1 let search k =
2   let ps = allocArr L hd in
3   let cs = allocArr L tl in
4   let _, _, res = traverse ps cs k in
5   res
6
7 let delete k =
8   let ps = allocArr L hd in
9   let cs = allocArr L tl in
10  let p, c, res = traverse ps cs k in
11  if not res then
12    false
13  else
14    maintainanceOp_del c;
15    match markNode 0 c with
16    | Success -> traverse ps cs k; true
17    | Failure -> false
```

```
18 let insert k =
19   let ps = allocArr L hd in
20   let cs = allocArr L tl in
21   let p, c, res = traverse ps cs k in
22   if res then
23     false
24   else
25     let h = randomNum L in
26     let e = createNode k h cs in
27     match changeNext 0 p c e with
28     | Success ->
29       maintainanceOp_ins k ps cs e; true
30     | Failure -> insert k
```

Template Algorithms

```
1 let search k =
2   let ps = allocArr L hd in
3   let cs = allocArr L tl in
4   let _, _, res = traverse ps cs k in
5   res
6
7 let delete k =
8   let ps = allocArr L hd in
9   let cs = allocArr L tl in
10  let p, c, res = traverse ps cs k in
11  if not res then
12    false
13  else
14    maintainanceOp_del c;
15    match markNode 0 c with
16    | Success -> traverse ps cs k; true
17    | Failure -> false
```

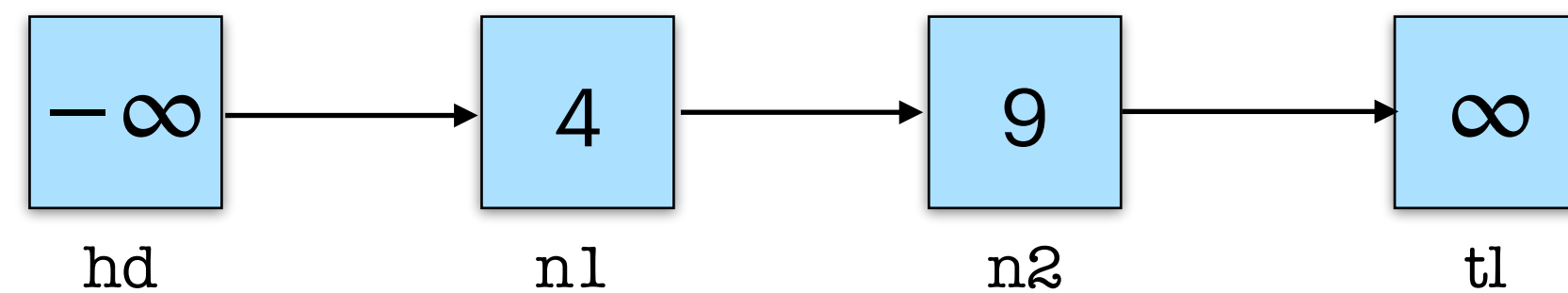
```
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insert('7')



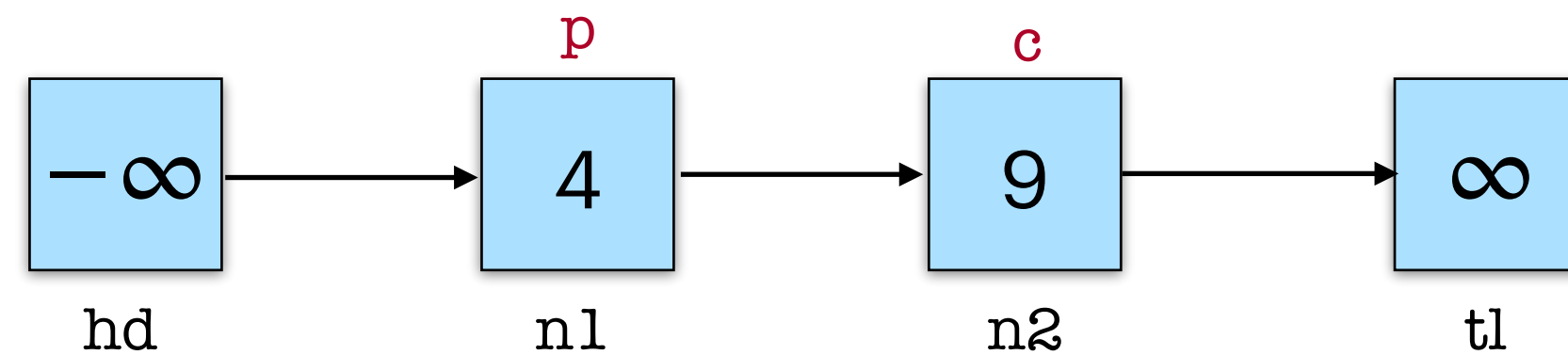
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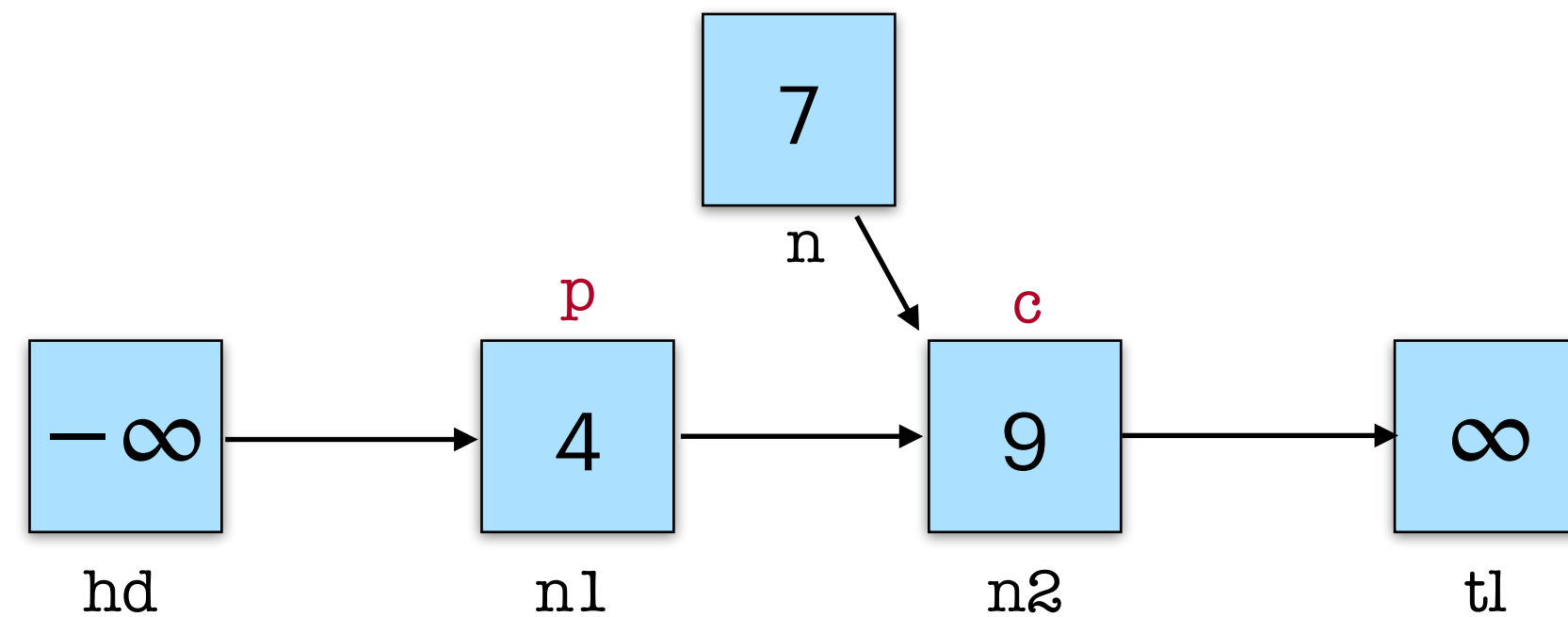


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insert(7)

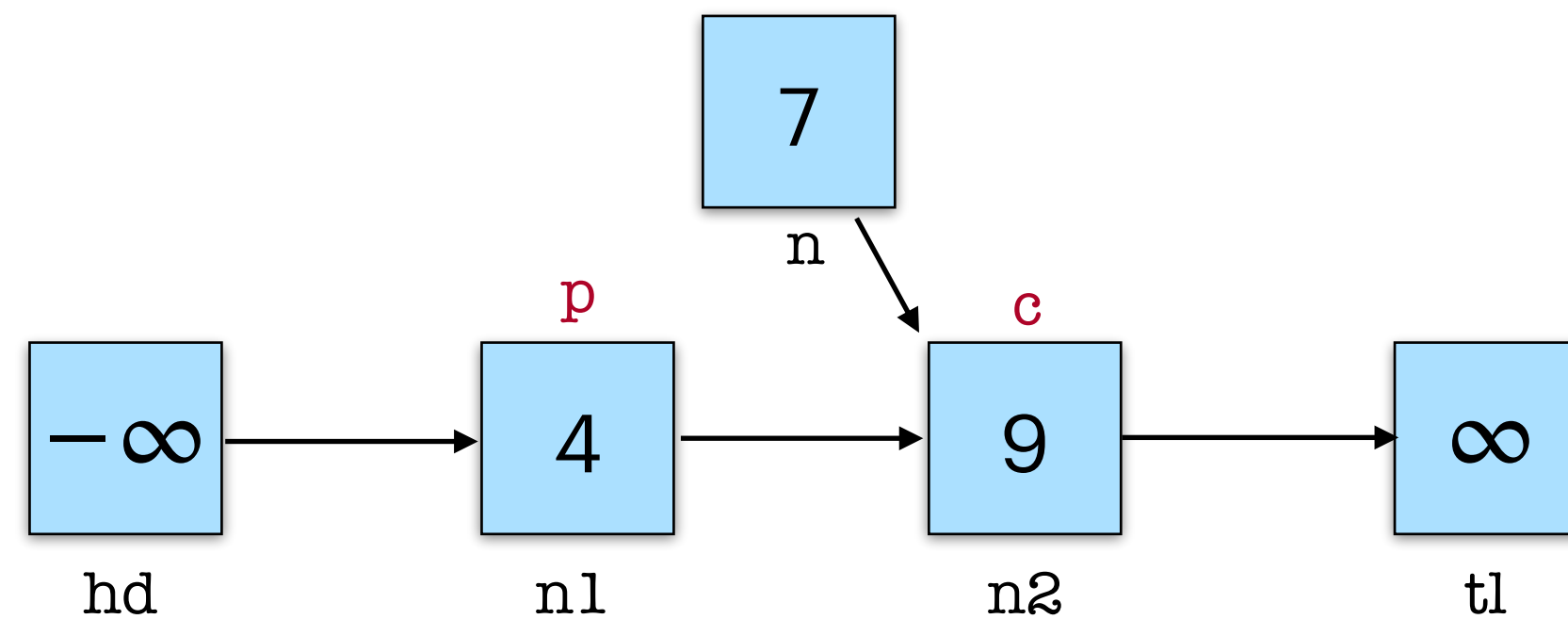


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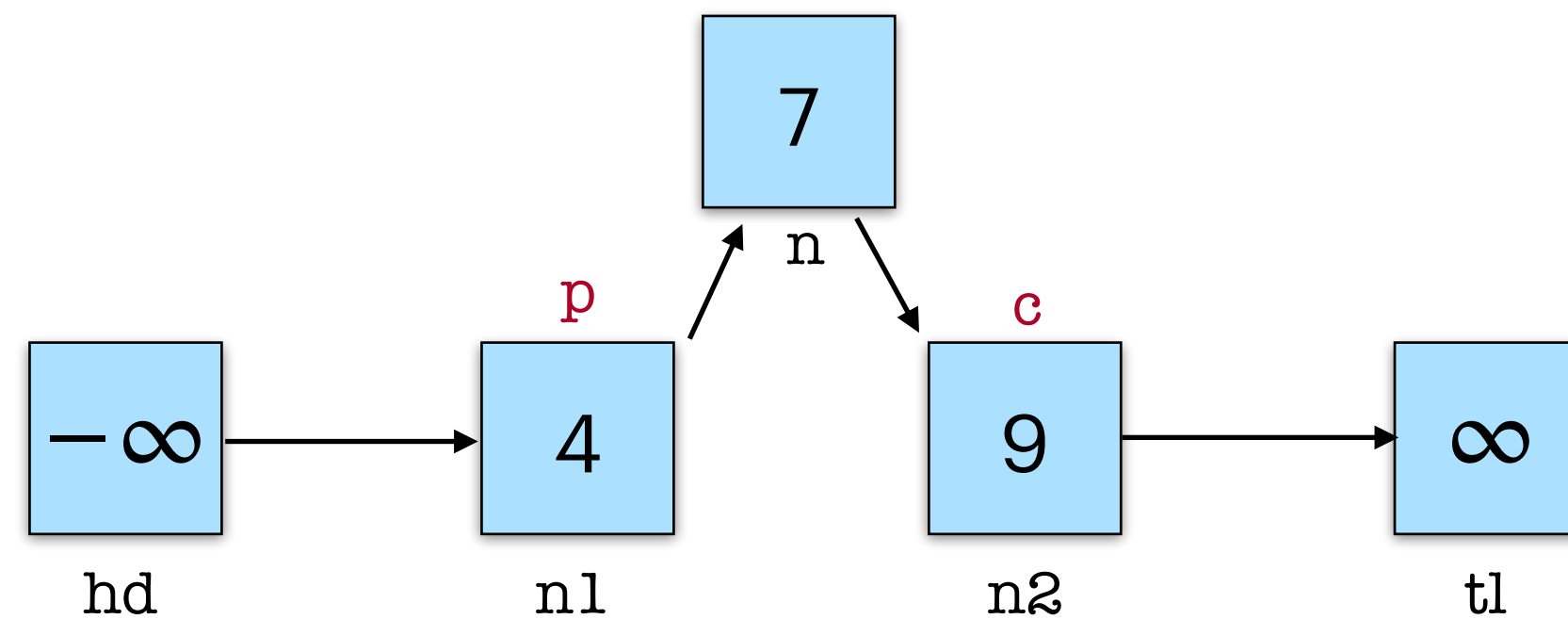


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```

Template Algorithms

```
1 let eager_i i k p c =  
2   match findNext i c with  
3   | cn, true ->  
4     match changeNext i p c cn with  
5     | Success -> eager_i i k p cn  
6     | Failure -> traverse ps cs k  
7   | cn, false ->  
8     let kc = getKey c in  
9     if kc < k then  
10      eager_i i k c cn  
11    else  
12      let res = (kc = k ? true : false) in  
13      (p, c, res)
```

```
14 let eager_rec i ps cs k =  
15   let p = ps[i+1] in  
16   let c, _ = findNext i p in  
17   let p', c', res = eager_i i k p c in  
18   ps[i] <- p';  
19   cs[i] <- c';  
20   if i = 0 then  
21     (p', c', res)  
22   else  
23     eager_rec (i-1) ps cs k  
24  
25 let traverse ps cs k =  
26   eager_rec (L - 2) ps cs k
```

Template Algorithms

```
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$\{ \text{Node}(n, k, m, n') \}$ markNode 0 n $\{ \text{Node}(n, k, m[0 \mapsto \text{true}], n') \}$

Atomic Triples

$\langle C, \text{CSS}(r, C) \rangle \text{ op}(r, k) \langle \text{res. } \exists C', \text{CSS}(r, C') * \Psi(\text{op}, k, C, C', \text{res}) \rangle$

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$$C = C' \ \&\& \ (\text{res} \leftrightarrow k \in C) \quad \text{op} = \text{search}$$

$$\Psi(\text{op}, k, C, C', \text{res}) = C = C' \cup \{k\} \ \&\& \ (\text{res} \leftrightarrow k \notin C) \quad \text{op} = \text{insert}$$

$$C = C' \setminus \{k\} \ \&\& \ (\text{res} \leftrightarrow k \in C) \quad \text{op} = \text{delete}$$

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intuitive proof

- Data Structure invariants
- Proof of the method

Client-level
Specification

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Client-level
Specification

intuitive proof

- Data Structure invariants
- Proof of the method
- Prophecy variables:
 - What to predict?
- Helping Protocol:
 - Which threads require helping?
 - Who does the helping?
 - When is helping required?

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Is there a uniform
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Hindsight Framework



Hindsight Specification :

- Precondition : Modifying LP \longrightarrow Postcondition : Receipt of linearization
- Precondition : Unmodifying LP \longrightarrow Postcondition : at some point during the execution, $\Psi(\text{op}, k, C, C', \text{res})$ was true

Hindsight Framework

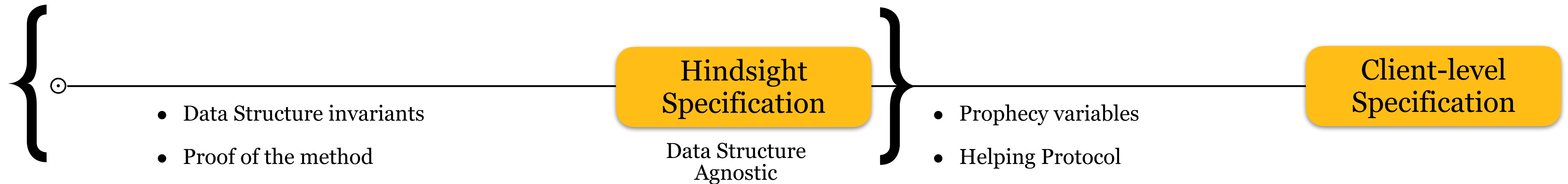


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Hindsight Framework

Proof Author Obligations



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Proof Author POV

Framework provides:



Client-level
Specification

Proof author obligations:

Proof Author POV

Framework provides:

o: Shared state
invariant for
storing history



Client-level
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Client-level
Specification

1: Determine steps that
may change the abstract
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Proof author obligations:

Proof Author POV

Framework provides:

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Client-level
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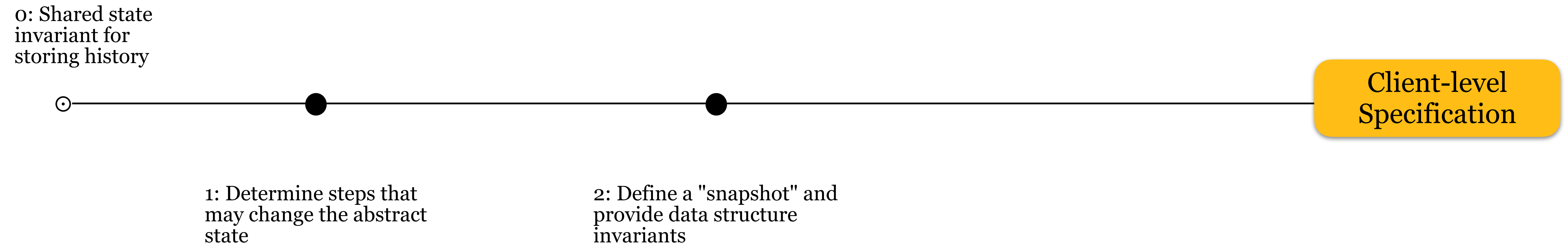
Framework provides:



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Proof Author POV

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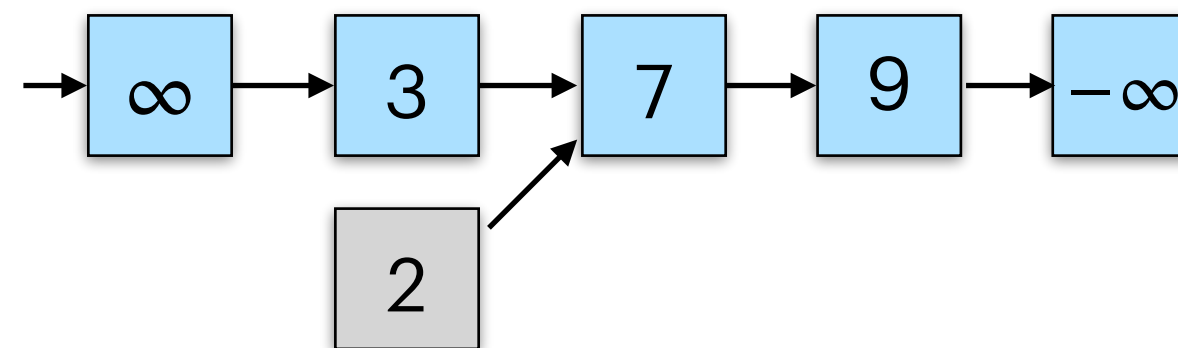
o: Shared state
invariant for
storing history



1: Determine steps that
may change the abstract
state

2: Define a "snapshot" and
provide data structure
invariants

Client-level
Specification

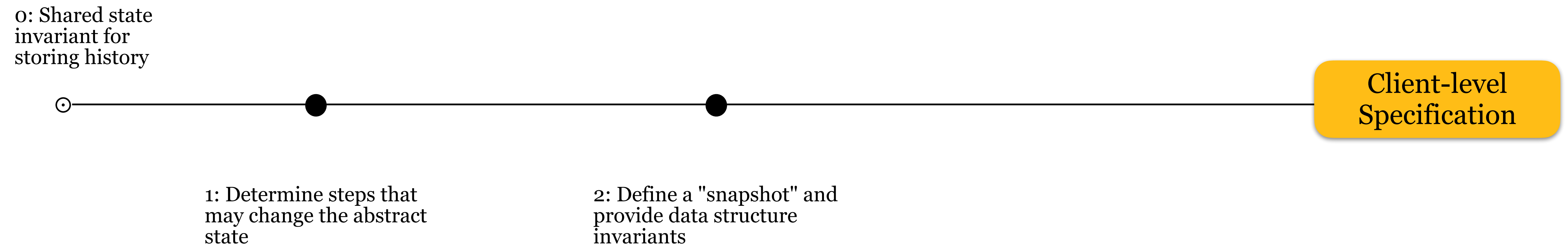


1. A node once marked remains marked.
 2. A node's key never changes.
 3. hd-list is sorted.
-

Proof author obligations:

Proof Author POV

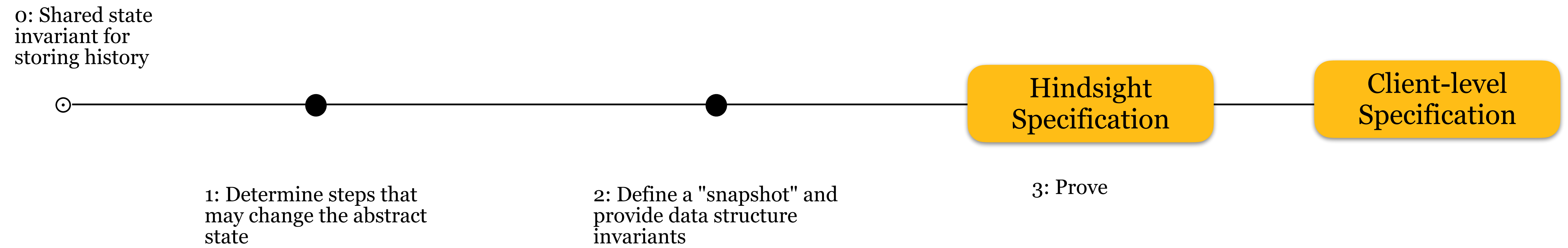
Framework provides:



Proof author obligations:

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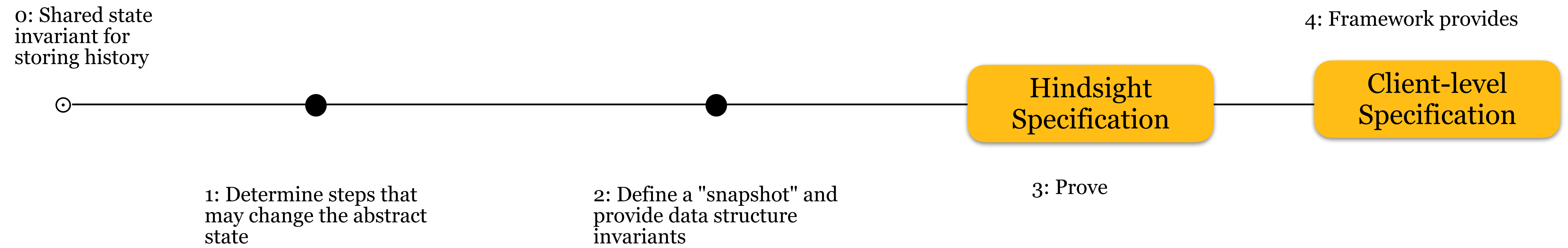
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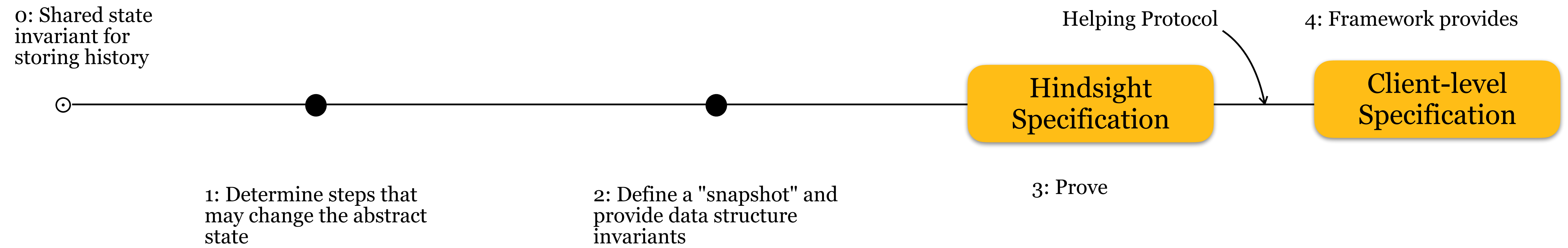
Framework provides:



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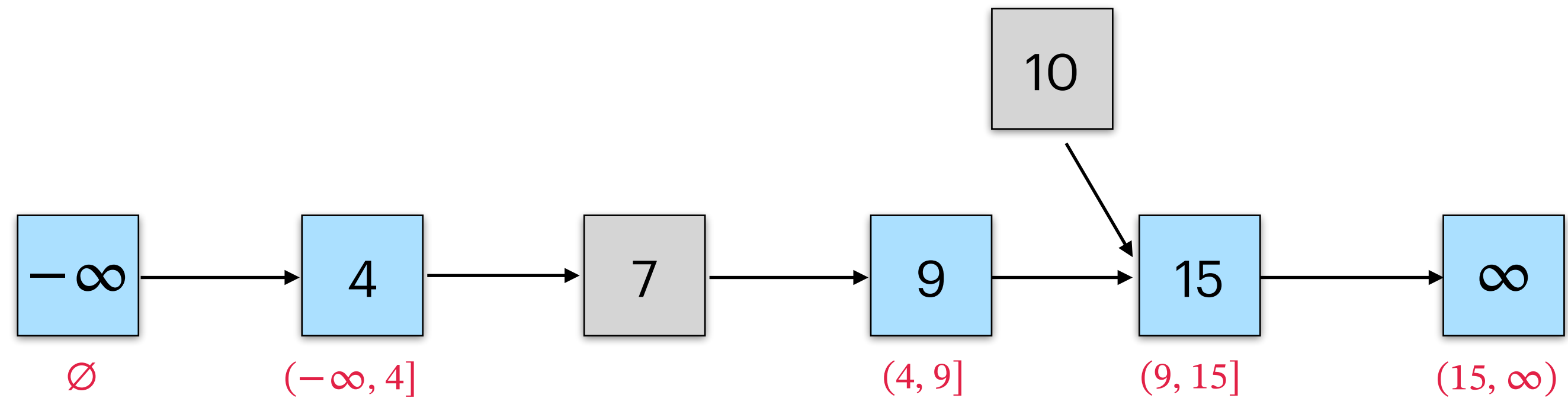
Proof Author POV

Framework provides:



Proof author obligations:

Global Graph Properties



Edgeset Framework :

- Dennis E. Shasha and Nathan Goodman. *Concurrent Search Structure Algorithms*. [Database Syst. 1988]

Flow Framework :

- Siddharth Krishna, Dennis E. Shasha and Thomas Wies. *Go with the flow: compositional abstractions for concurrent data structures*. [POPL 2018]
- Siddharth Krishna, Alexander J. Summers and Thomas Wies. *Local reasoning for global graph properties*. [ESOP 2020]
- Siddharth Krishna et al., *Verifying concurrent search structure templates*. [PLDI 2020]

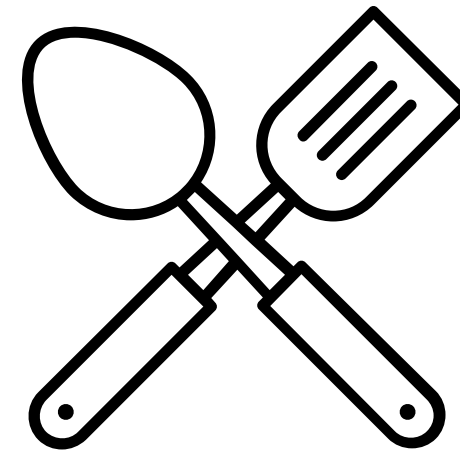
Outline



Step 1:

Find a class of structures with
common correctness reasoning

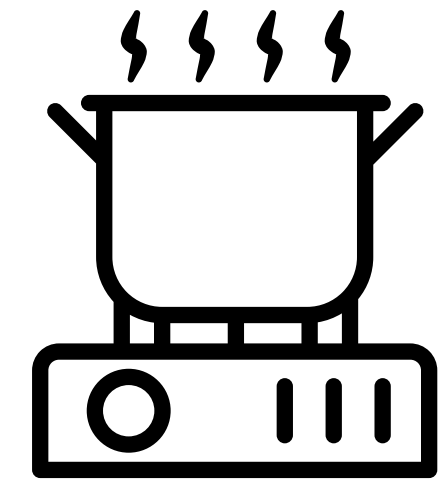
- ECOOP24 : (Lock-free) linked lists and skiplists



Step 2:

Develop enabling technology

- Template Algorithms
- Hindsight Framework



Step 3:

Formalize the proof

- Evaluation

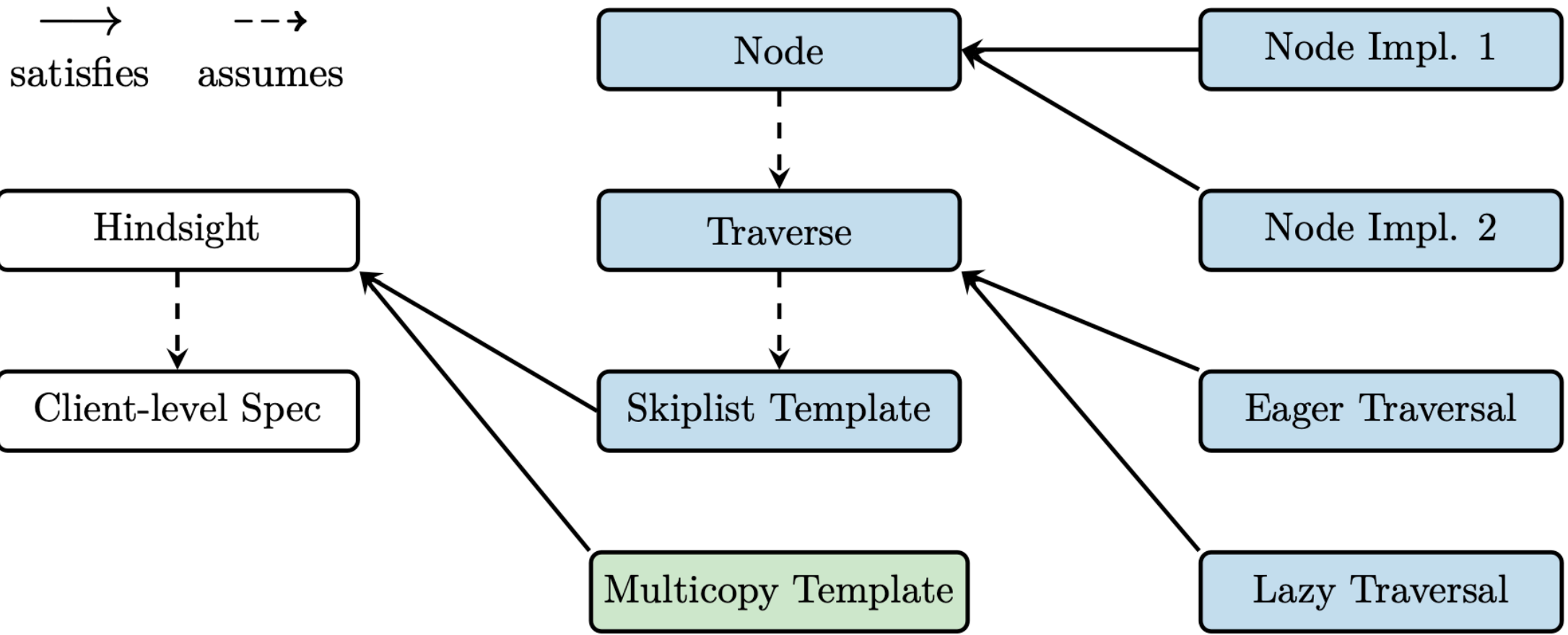
Evaluation

- History stored as shared state invariant using a combination of authoritative and agreement RA.
- Heavy use of Coq's module system.
- Code available publicly on Github, artifact available on Zenodo.



Skiplist Template (Iris/Coq)

Module	Code	Proof	Total	Time
Flow Library	0	5330	5330	33
Hindsight	0	950	950	11
Client-level Spec	9	329	338	18
Skiplist	12	1693	1705	26
Skiplist Init(*)	6	319	325	15
Skiplist Search(*)	7	62	69	6
Skiplist Insert(*)	37	3457	3494	111
Skiplist Delete(*)	28	2401	2429	72
Node Impl. 1	118	908	1026	35
Node Impl. 2	106	836	942	35
Eager Traversal	38	1165	1203	96
Lazy Traversal	47	2063	2110	145
Total	408	19513	19921	603
Herlihy-Shavit	234	9933	10167	361



Evaluation - Multicopy

- Original proofs for the Multicopy template from OOPSLA21.
- Hindsight proofs use the hindsight framework.
- Original proofs use a bespoke helping protocol, while hindsight proofs avoid this.
- $\approx 53\%$ proof reduction.

Multicopy Template (Iris/Coq)		
Module	Original	Hindsight
Defs	866	—
Client-level Spec	434	—
LSM	741	540
Search	411	399
Upsert	327	371
Total	2779	1310

Thank you!



- Data Structure invariants
- Proof of the method

Hindsight Specification

Data Structure
Agnostic

- Prophecy variables
- Helping Protocol

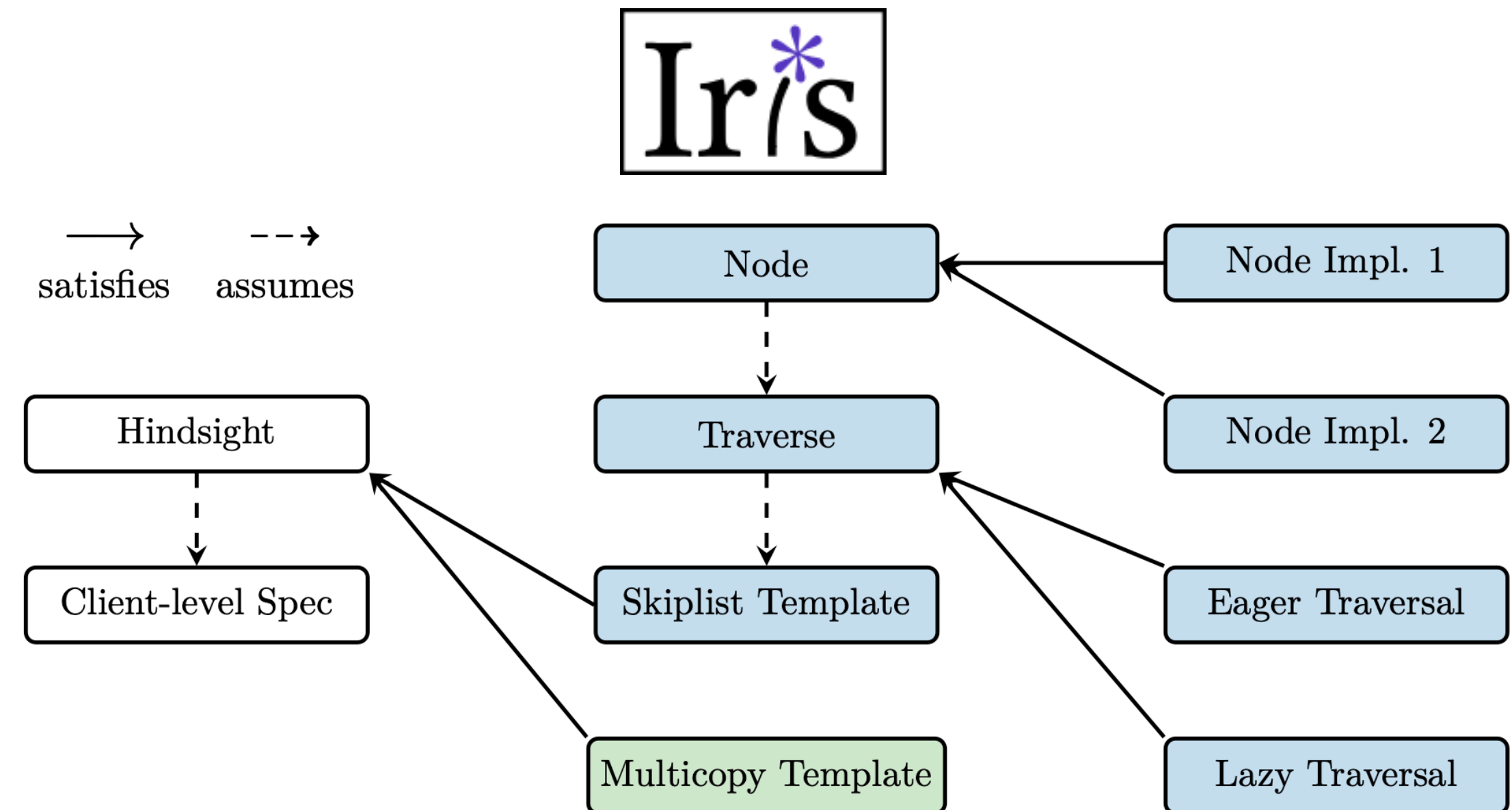
Client-level Specification

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→ satisfies --> assumes



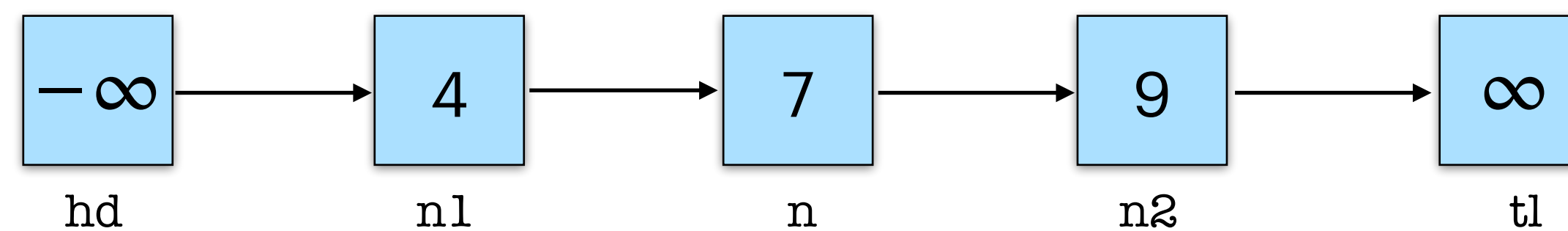
Backup Slides

Template Algorithms

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delete(7)



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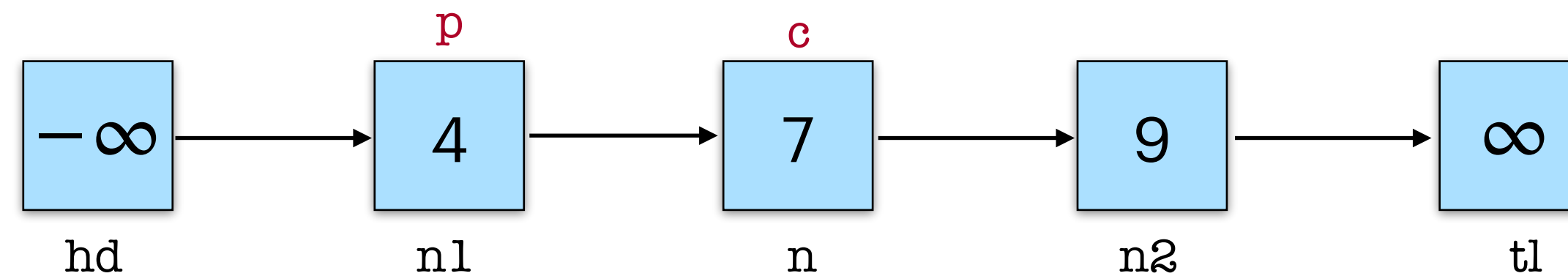
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27     match changeNext 0 p c e with
28     | Success ->
29       maintainanceOp_ins k ps cs e; true
30     | Failure -> insert k

```

delete(7)

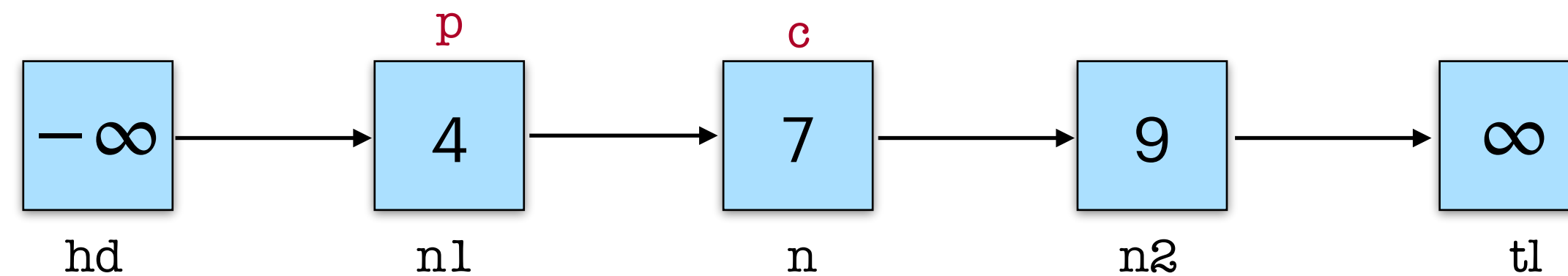


Template Algorithms

```
1 let search k =
2   let ps = allocArr L hd in
3   let cs = allocArr L tl in
4   let _, _, res = traverse ps cs k in
5   res
6
7 let delete k =
8   let ps = allocArr L hd in
9   let cs = allocArr L tl in
10  let p, c, res = traverse ps cs k in
11  if not res then
12    false
13  else
14    maintainanceOp_del c;
15    match markNode 0 c with
16    | Success -> traverse ps cs k; true
17    | Failure -> false

18 let insert k =
19   let ps = allocArr L hd in
20   let cs = allocArr L tl in
21   let p, c, res = traverse ps cs k in
22   if res then
23     false
24   else
25     let h = randomNum L in
26     let e = createNode k h cs in
27     match changeNext 0 p c e with
28     | Success ->
29       maintainanceOp_ins k ps cs e; true
30     | Failure -> insert k
```

delete(7)

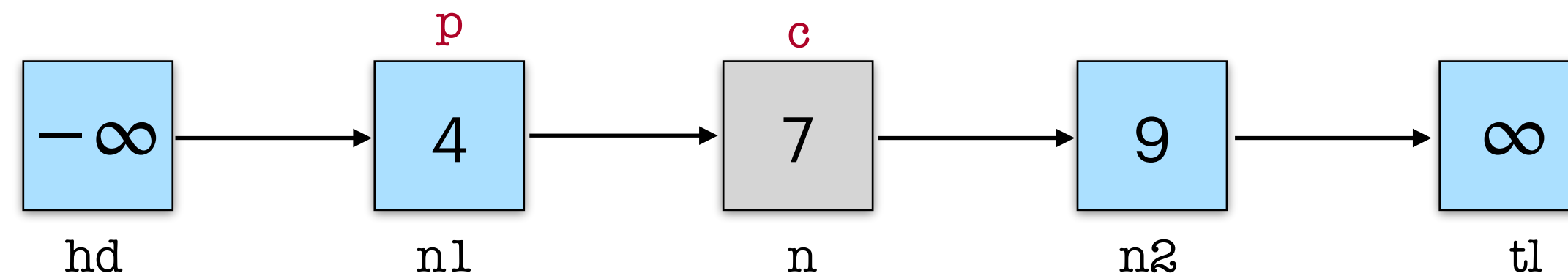


Template Algorithms

```
1 let search k =
2   let ps = allocArr L hd in
3   let cs = allocArr L tl in
4   let _, _, res = traverse ps cs k in
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6
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19   let ps = allocArr L hd in
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22   if res then
23     false
24   else
25     let h = randomNum L in
26     let e = createNode k h cs in
27     match changeNext 0 p c e with
28     | Success ->
29       maintainanceOp_ins k ps cs e; true
30     | Failure -> insert k
```

delete(7)



Template Algorithms

```
1 let maintainanceOp_del_rec i h pm c =
2   if i < h-1 then
3     let idx = pm[i] in
4     markNode idx c;
5     maintainanceOp_del_rec (i+1) h pm c
6   else
7     ()
8
9 let maintainanceOp_del c =
10  let h = getHeight c in
11  let pm = permute h in
12  maintainanceOp_del 0 h pm c
```

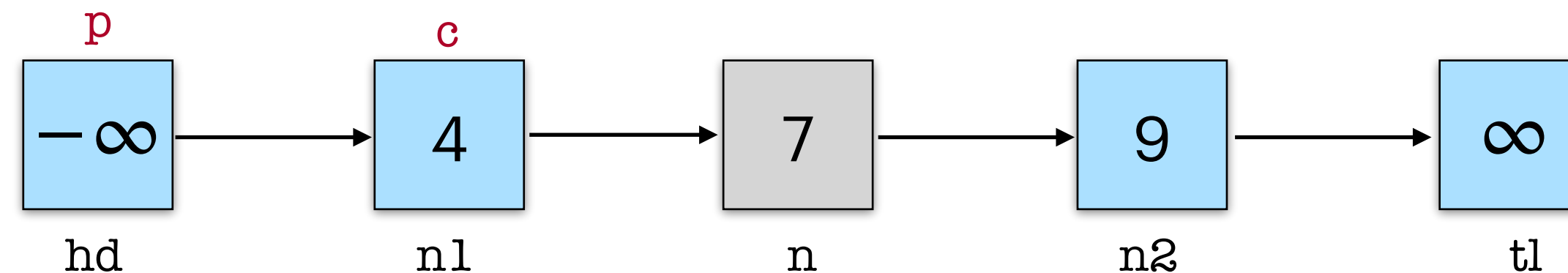
```
13 let maintainanceOp_ins_rec i h pm ps cs e =
14   if i < h-1 then
15     let idx = pm[i] in
16     let p = ps[idx] in
17     let c = cs[idx] in
18     match changeNext idx p c e with
19     | Success ->
20       maintainanceOp_ins_rec (i+1) h pm ps cs e
21     | Failure ->
22       traverse ps cs k;
23       maintainanceOp_ins_rec i h pm ps cs e
24   else
25     ()
26
27 let maintainanceOp_ins k ps cs e =
28   let h = getHeight e in
29   let pm = permute h in
30   maintainanceOp_ins 0 h pm ps cs e
```

Template Algorithms

```
➔ 1 let eager_i i k p c =  
2   match findNext i c with  
3   | cn, true ->  
4     match changeNext i p c cn with  
5     | Success -> eager_i i k p cn  
6     | Failure -> traverse ps cs k  
7   | cn, false ->  
8     let kc = getKey c in  
9     if kc < k then  
10      eager_i i k c cn  
11    else  
12      let res = (kc = k ? true : false) in  
13      (p, c, res)
```

```
14 let eager_rec i ps cs k =  
15   let p = ps[i+1] in  
16   let c, _ = findNext i p in  
17   let p', c', res = eager_i i k p c in  
18   ps[i] <- p';  
19   cs[i] <- c';  
20   if i = 0 then  
21     (p', c', res)  
22   else  
23     eager_rec (i-1) ps cs k  
24  
25 let traverse ps cs k =  
26   eager_rec (L - 2) ps cs k
```

search(9)

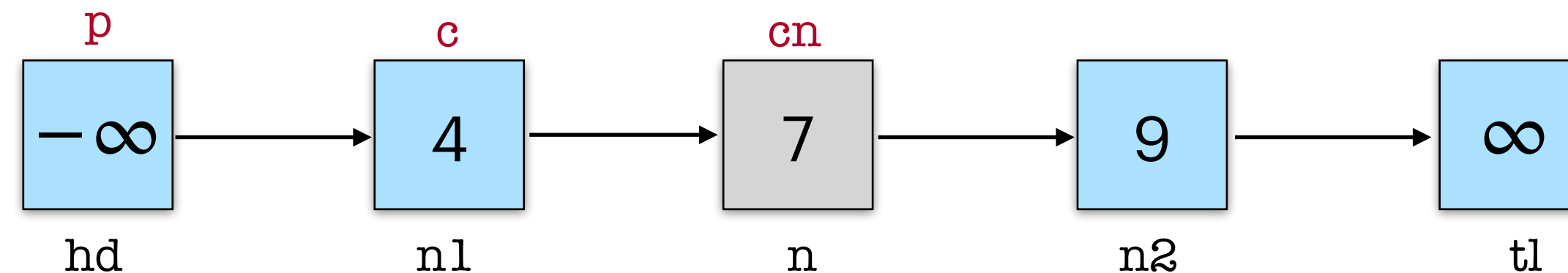


Template Algorithms

```
1 let eager_i i k p c =  
→ 2 match findNext i c with  
3   | cn, true ->  
4     match changeNext i p c cn with  
5       | Success -> eager_i i k p cn  
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```
14 let eager_rec i ps cs k =  
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24  
25 let traverse ps cs k =  
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```

search(9)

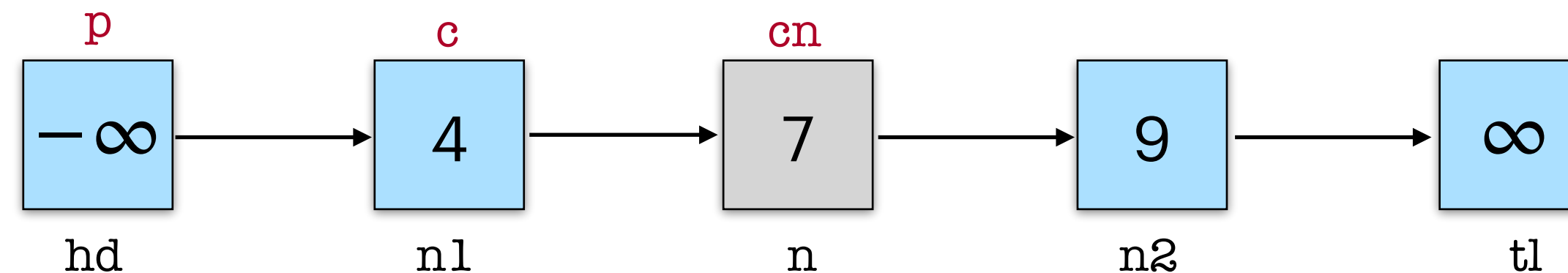


Template Algorithms

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22   else  
23     eager_rec (i-1) ps cs k  
24  
25 let traverse ps cs k =  
26   eager_rec (L - 2) ps cs k
```

search(9)



Template Algorithms

```

1 let eager_i i k p c =
2   match findNext i c with
3   | cn, true ->
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9     if kc < k then
10      eager_i i k c cn
11    else
12      let res = (kc = k ? true : false) in
13      (p, c, res)

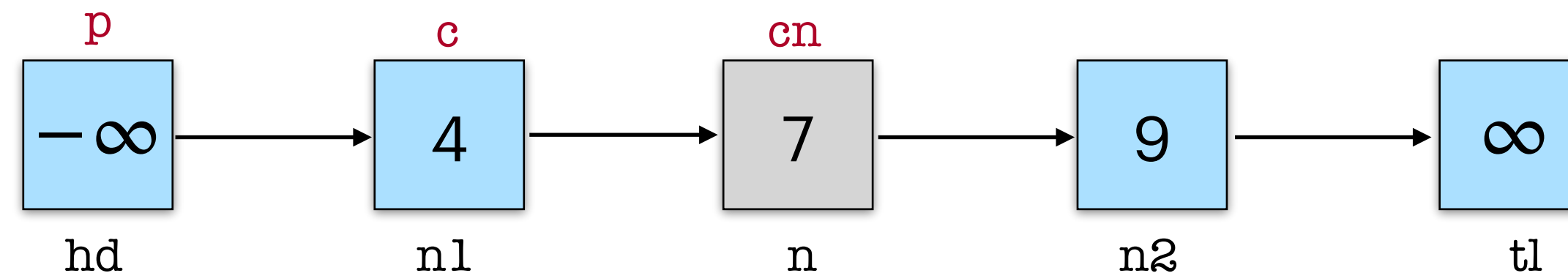
```

```

14 let eager_rec i ps cs k =
15   let p = ps[i+1] in
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```

search(9)



Template Algorithms

```

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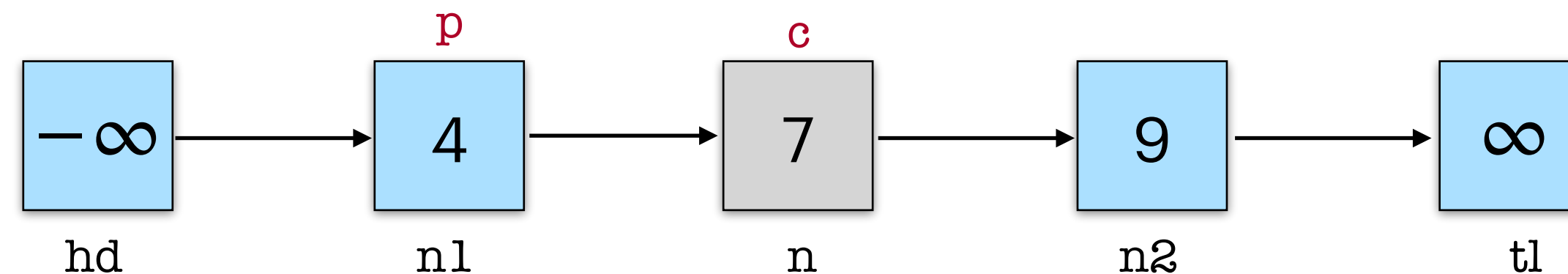
```

```

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25 let traverse ps cs k =
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```

search(9)

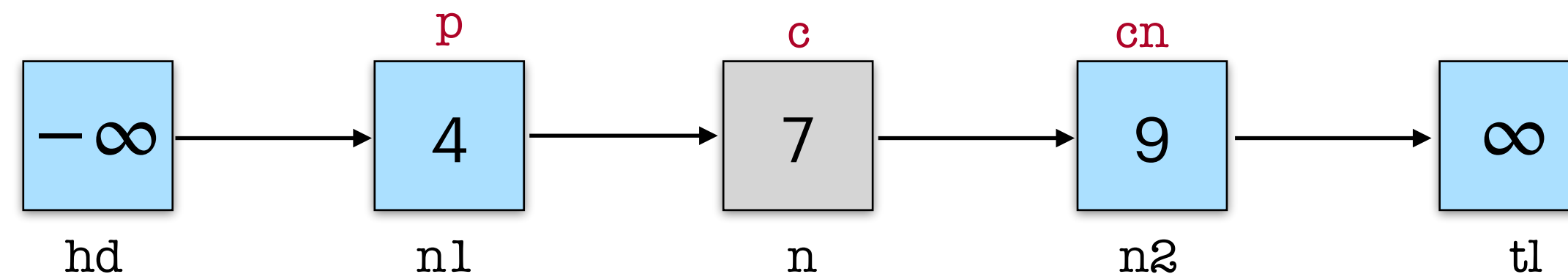


Template Algorithms

```
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2   match findNext i c with  
3   | cn, true ->  
→ 4     match changeNext i p c cn with  
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6     | Failure -> traverse ps cs k  
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24  
25 let traverse ps cs k =  
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```

search(9)

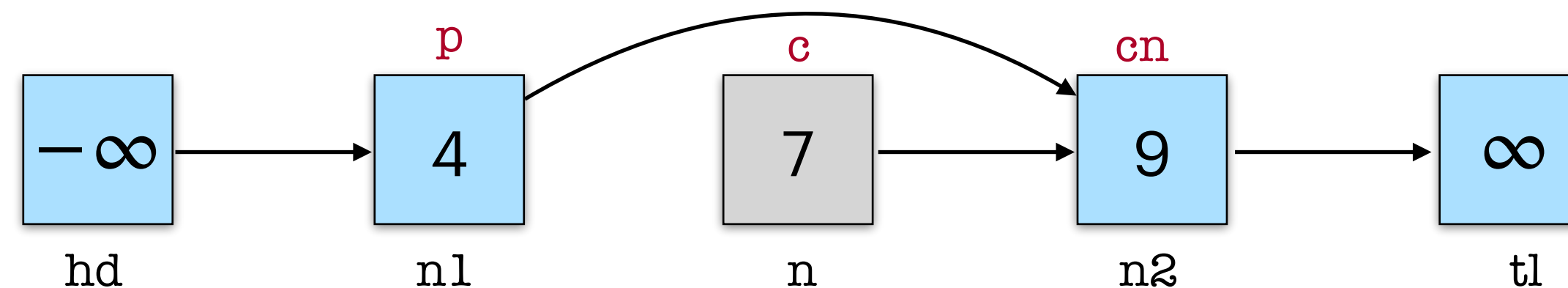


Template Algorithms

```
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2   match findNext i c with  
3   | cn, true ->  
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```

search(9)



Template Algorithms

```

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  5     | Success -> eager_i i k p cn
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  7   | cn, false ->
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10       eager_i i k c cn
11     else
12       let res = (kc = k ? true : false) in
13       (p, c, res)

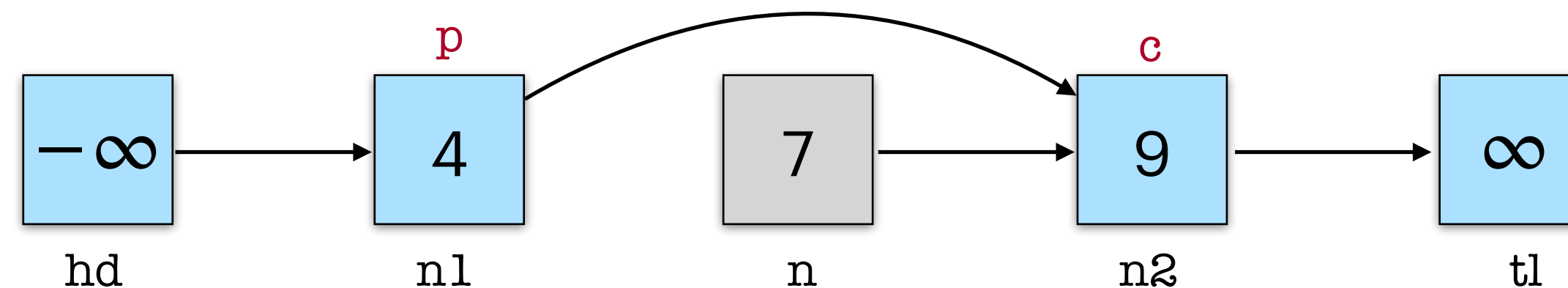
```

```

14 let eager_rec i ps cs k =
15   let p = ps[i+1] in
16   let c, _ = findNext i p in
17   let p', c', res = eager_i i k p c in
18   ps[i] <- p';
19   cs[i] <- c';
20   if i = 0 then
21     (p', c', res)
22   else
23     eager_rec (i-1) ps cs k
24
25 let traverse ps cs k =
26   eager_rec (L - 2) ps cs k

```

search(9)

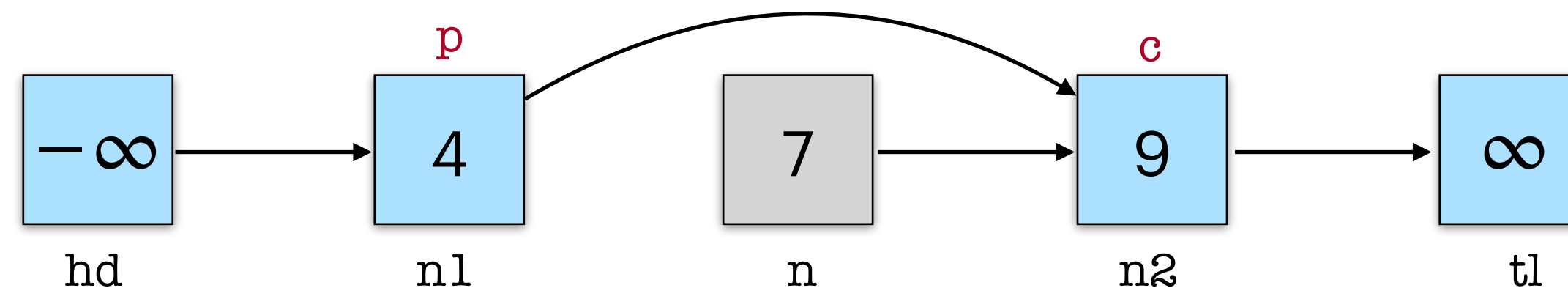


Template Algorithms

```
1 let eager_i i k p c =  
2   match findNext i c with  
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6     | Failure -> traverse ps cs k  
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8     let kc = getKey c in  
9     if kc < k then  
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11    else  
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13      (p, c, res)
```

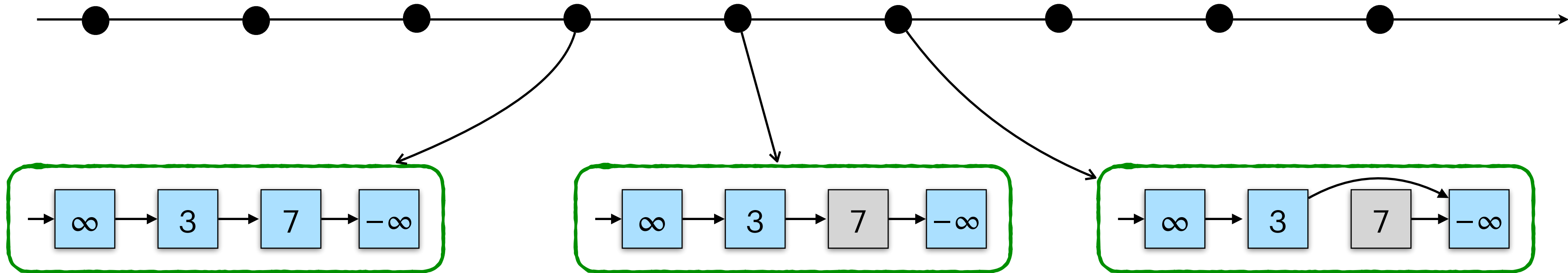
```
14 let eager_rec i ps cs k =  
15   let p = ps[i+1] in  
16   let c, _ = findNext i p in  
17   let p', c', res = eager_i i k p c in  
18   ps[i] <- p';  
19   cs[i] <- c';  
20   if i = 0 then  
21     (p', c', res)  
22   else  
23     eager_rec (i-1) ps cs k  
24  
25 let traverse ps cs k =  
26   eager_rec (L - 2) ps cs k
```

search(9)

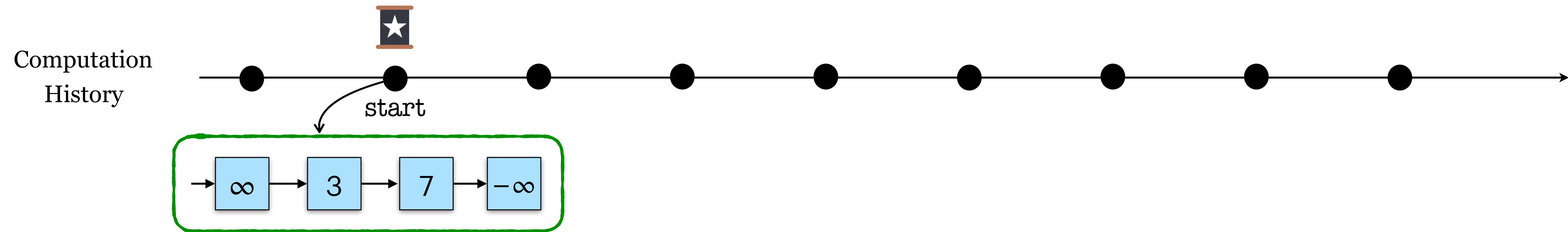



Helping Protocol

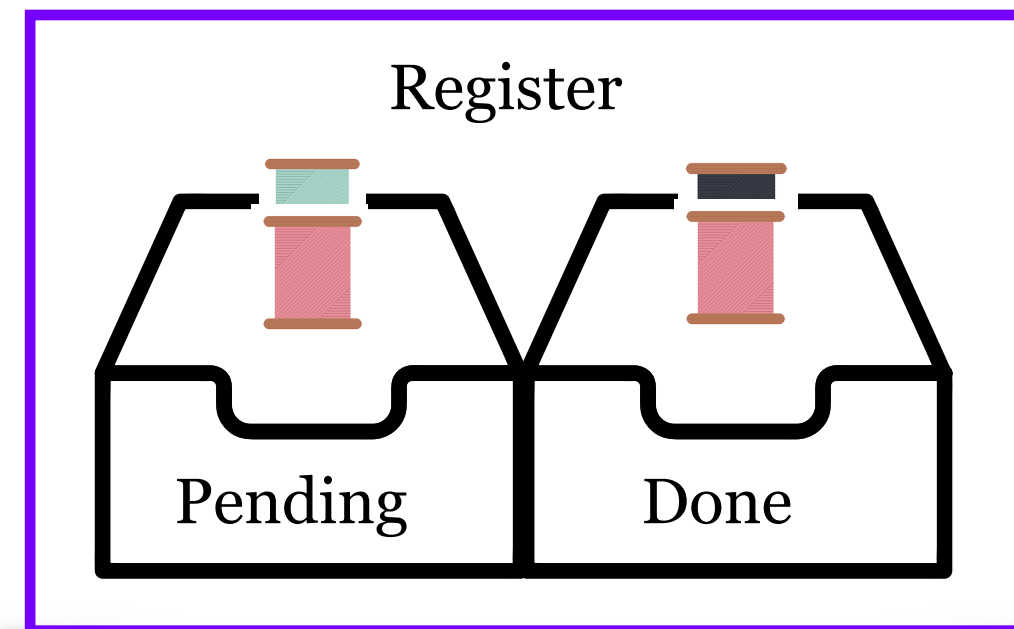
Computation
History



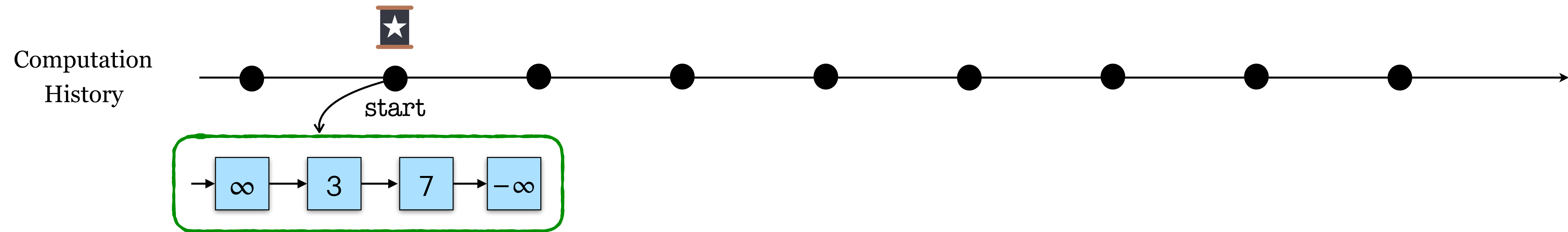
Helping Protocol



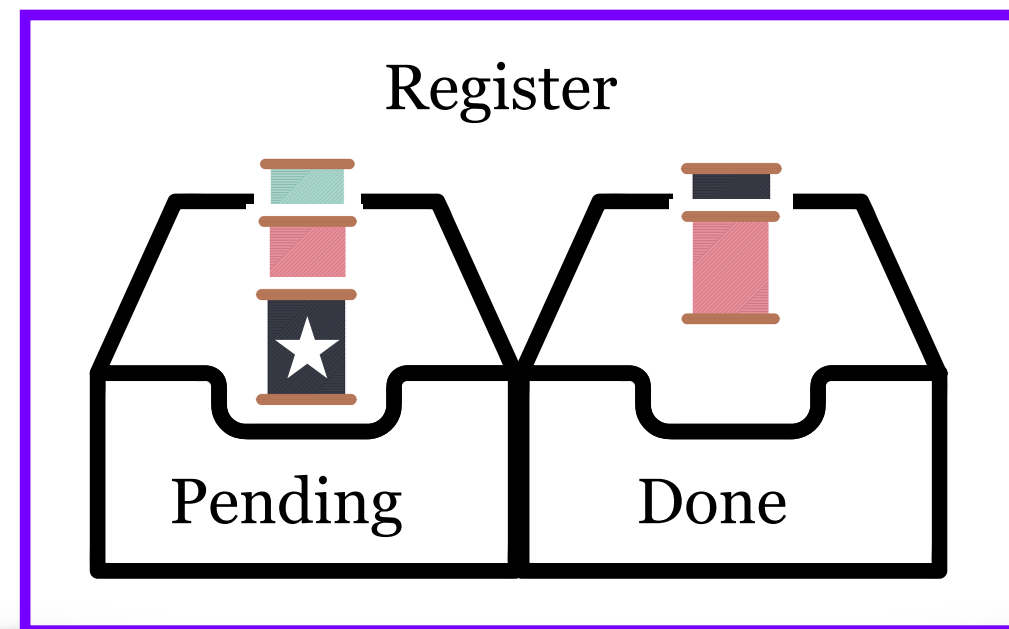
search(9)

Pr(No-upd, true)



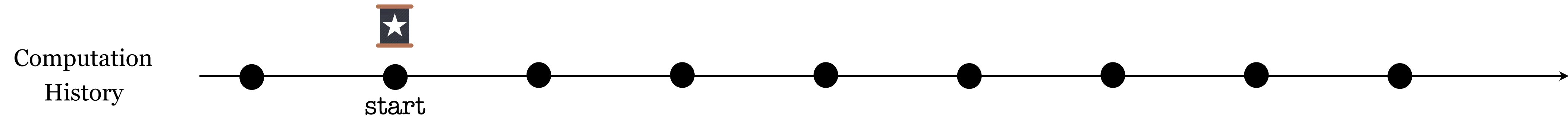
Helping Protocol




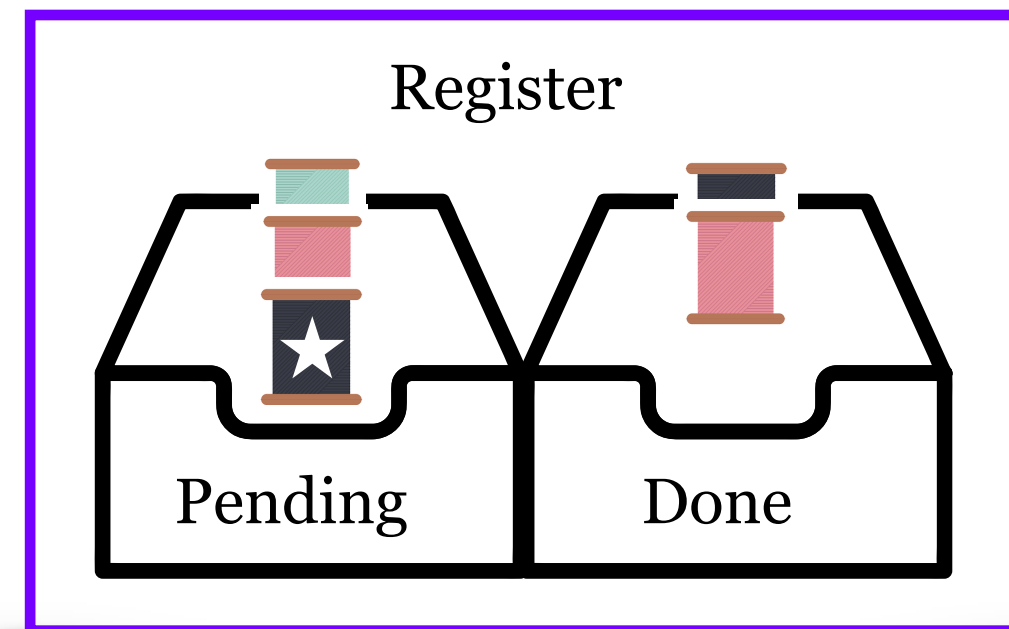
search(9)
★
Pr(No-upd, true)



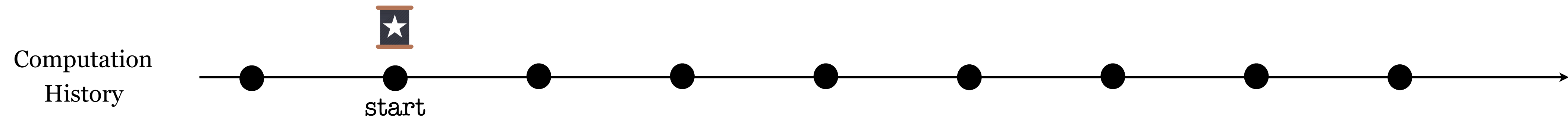
Helping Protocol




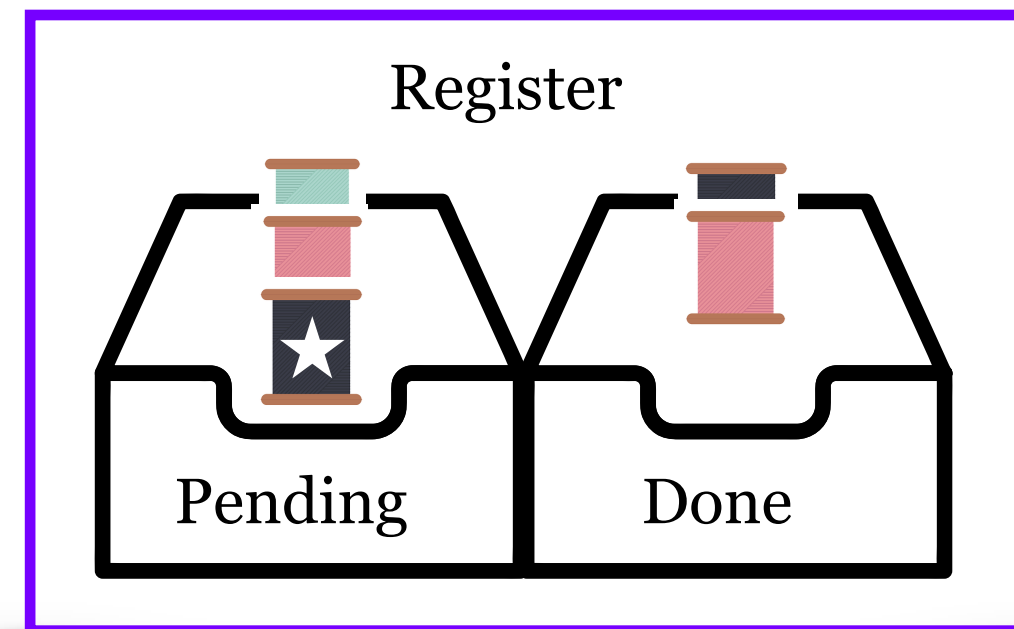
search(9)

Pr(No-upd, true)




Helping Protocol

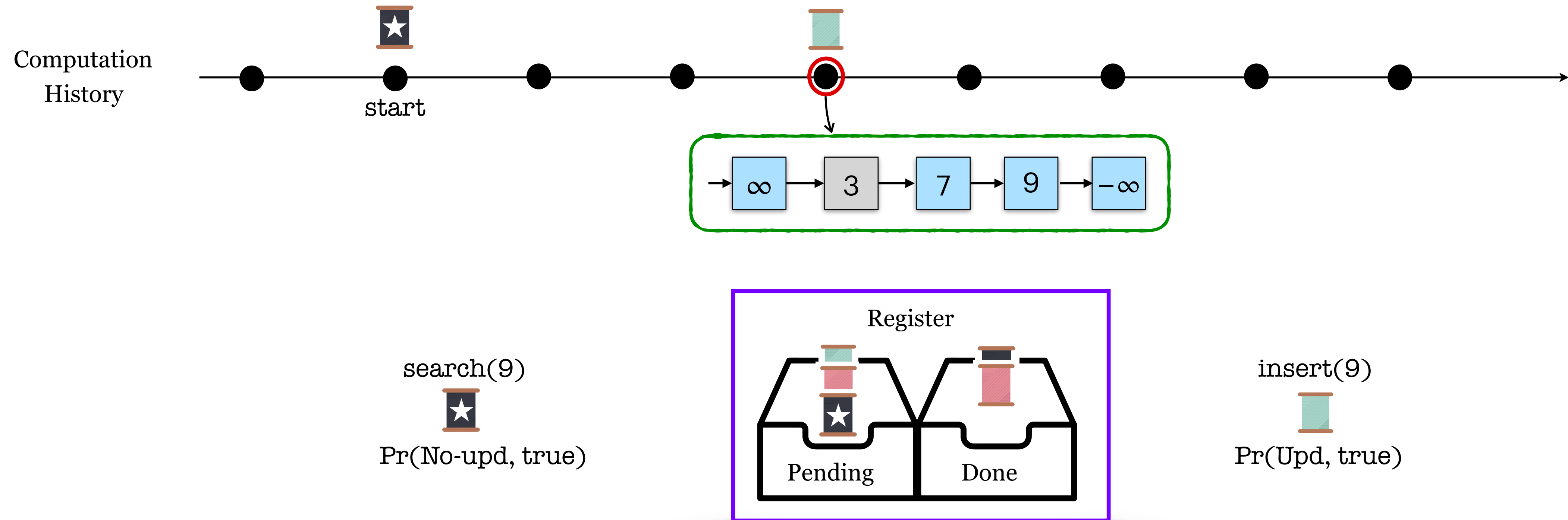


search(9)

Pr(No-upd, true)

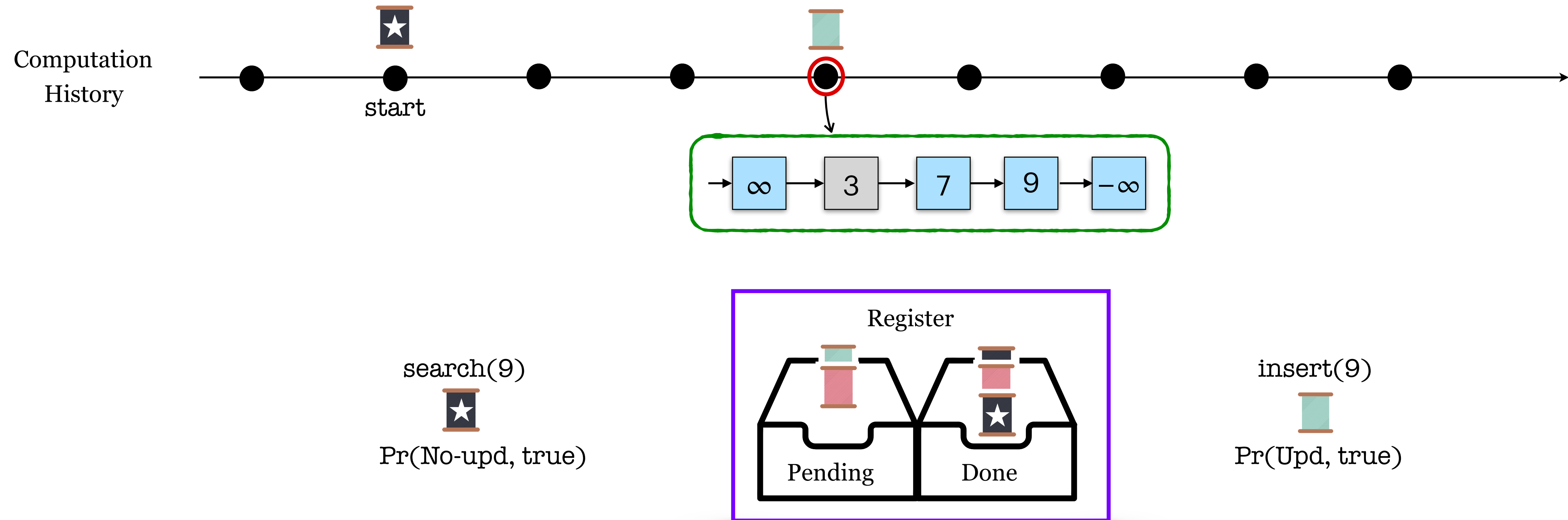


insert(9)

Pr(Upd, true)

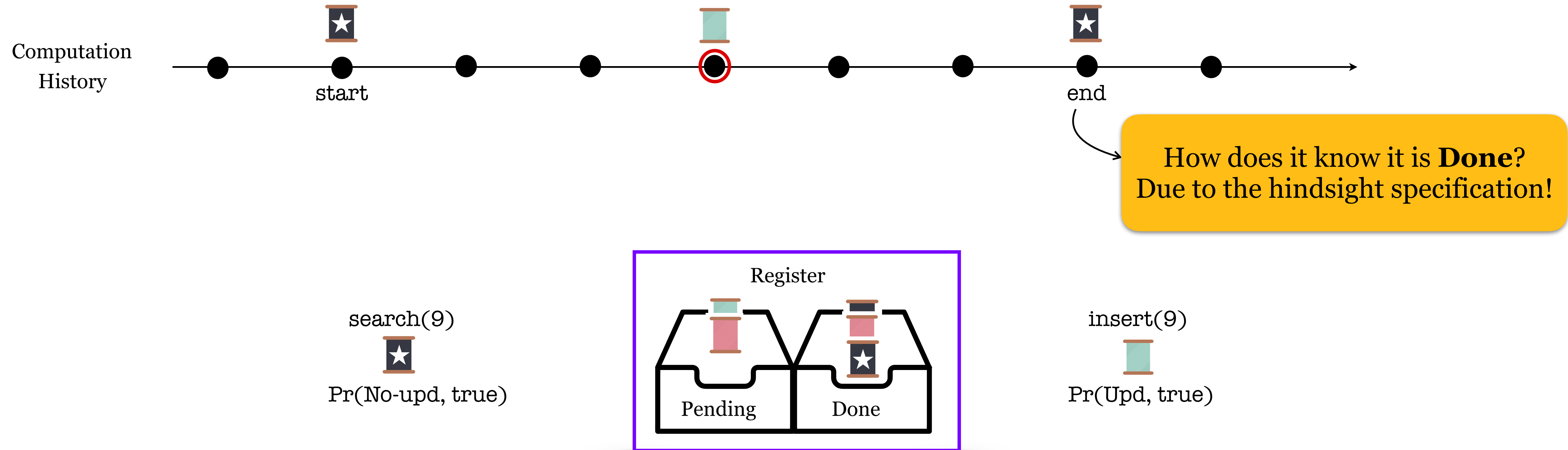
Helping Protocol



Helping Protocol



Helping Protocol



Hindsight Framework



Hindsight Specification :

- Precondition : Modifying LP \longrightarrow Postcondition : Receipt of linearization
- Precondition : Unmodifying LP \longrightarrow Postcondition : at some point during the execution, $\Psi(\text{op}, k, C, C', \text{res})$ was true

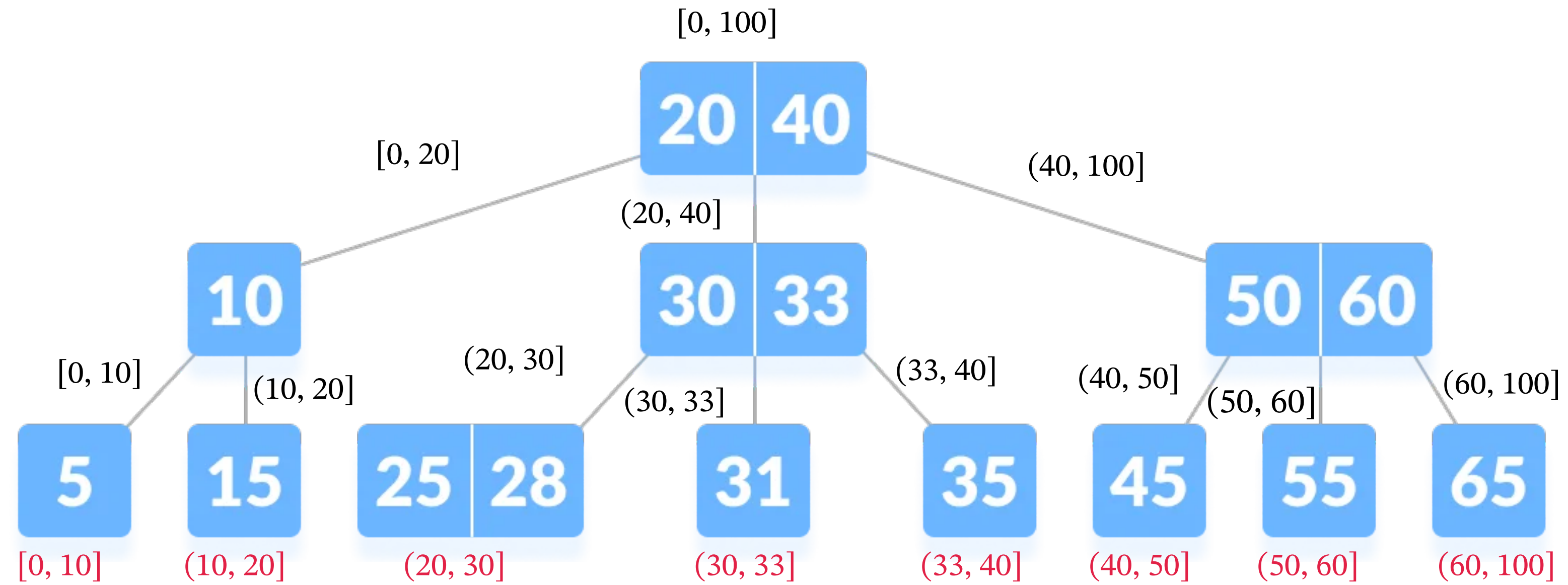
Framework provides:

- Prophecy instantiation
- Helping protocol
- Mechanism for storing history of computation

Proof author obligations:

- Determine steps that potentially change the abstract state
- Define a "snapshot" of the data structure and provide invariants
- Prove the hindsight specification for each operation

Keysets



$$k \in \text{keyset}(n) \rightarrow (k \in C(n) \leftrightarrow k \in C)$$

Expressed using the Flow Framework [POPL18, ESOP20, PLDI20]

Template Algorithms

```
1 let search k =
2   let ps = allocArr L hd in
3   let cs = allocArr L tl in
4   let _, _, res = traverse ps cs k in
5   res
6
7 let delete k =
8   let ps = allocArr L hd in
9   let cs = allocArr L tl in
10  let p, c, res = traverse ps cs k in
11  if not res then
12    false
13  else
14    maintainanceOp_del c;
15    match markNode 0 c with
16    | Success -> traverse ps cs k; true
17    | Failure -> false
```

```
18 let insert k =
19   let ps = allocArr L hd in
20   let cs = allocArr L tl in
21   let p, c, res = traverse ps cs k in
22   if res then
23     false
24   else
25     let h = randomNum L in
26     let e = createNode k h cs in
27     match changeNext 0 p c e with
28     | Success ->
29       maintainanceOp_ins k ps cs e; true
30     | Failure -> insert k
```

Approach :

1. Verify the templates assuming the specification traverse, maintenance and helper functions.
2. Instantiate traverse, etc. and show they satisfy the required specifications.

$\{ \text{Node}(n, k, m, n') \}$ markNode 0 n $\{ \text{Node}(n, k, m[0 \mapsto \text{true}], n') \}$