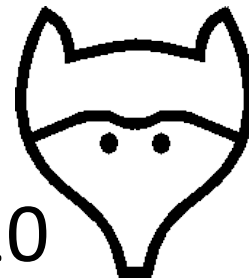


# How to Grow Your Lower Bounds

**Mihai Pătrașcu**



Tutorial, FOCS'10



# A Personal Story

MIT freshman, 2002

What problem could I  
work on?

P vs. NP

... half year and no solution later

How far did you guys  
get, anyway?



# What lower bounds can we prove?

“Partial Sums” problem:

Maintain an array  $A[n]$  under:

**update**( $k, \Delta$ ):  $A[k] = \Delta$

**query**( $k$ ): return  $A[1] + \dots + A[k]$

(Augmented) Binary search trees:  $t_u = t_q = O(\lg n)$

**Open problem:**  $\max \{ t_u, t_q \} = \Omega(\lg n)$



$\Omega(\lg n)$  not known for any dynamic problem

# What kind of “lower bound”?

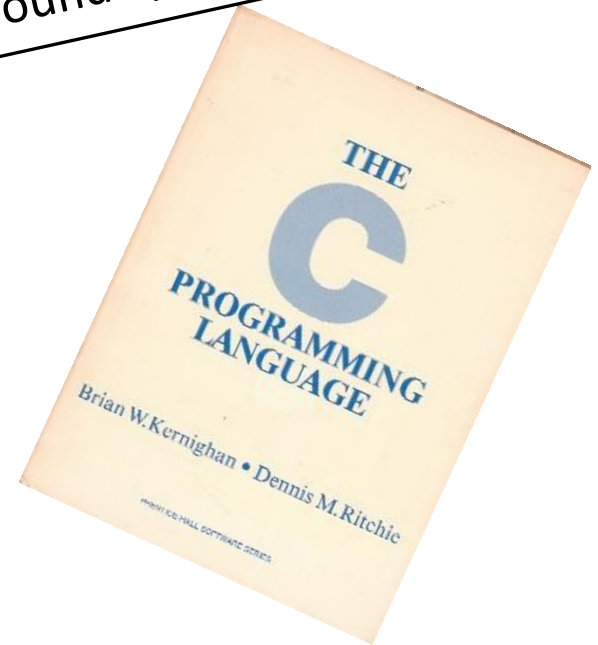
Lower bounds you can trust.™

*Memory:* array of  $S$  words

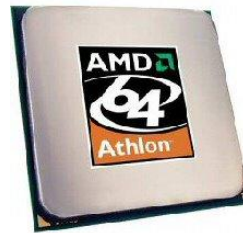
*Word:*  $w = \Omega(\lg S)$  bits

Unit-time operations:

- random access to memory
- $+, -, *, /, \%, <, >, ==, <<, >>, ^, \&, |, \sim$



address  
Mem[address]



Internal state:  $O(w)$  bits  
Hardware:  $TC^0$

# What kind of “lower bound”?

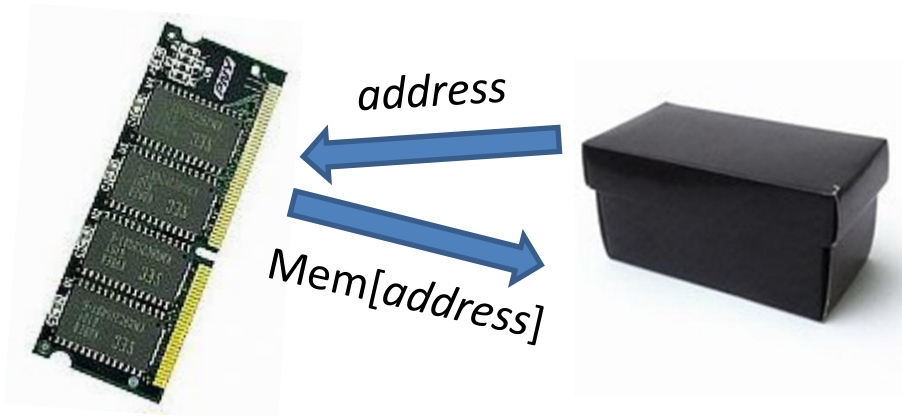
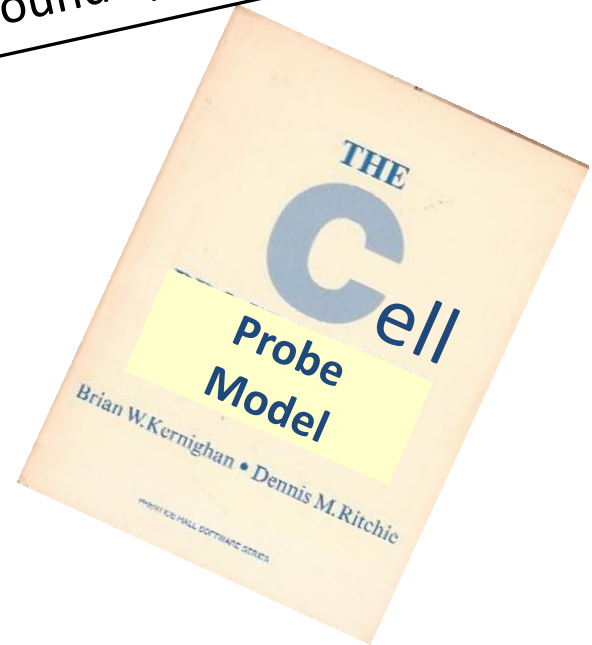
Lower bounds you can trust.™

Memory: array of  $S$  words

Word:  $w = \Omega(\lg S)$  bits

Unit-time operations:

- random access to memory
- *any* function of two words (**nonuniform**)



Maintain an array  $A[n]$  under:

**update**( $k, \Delta$ ):  $A[k] = \Delta$

**query**( $k$ ): return  $A[1] + \dots + A[k]$

Theorem:  **$\max \{ t_u, t_q \} = \Omega(\lg n)$**

[Pătraşcu, Demaine SODA'04]

**I will give the full proof.**

Maintain an array  $A[n]$  under:

**update**( $k, \Delta$ ):  $A[k] = \Delta$

**query**( $k$ ): return  $A[1] + \dots + A[k]$

**The hard instance:**

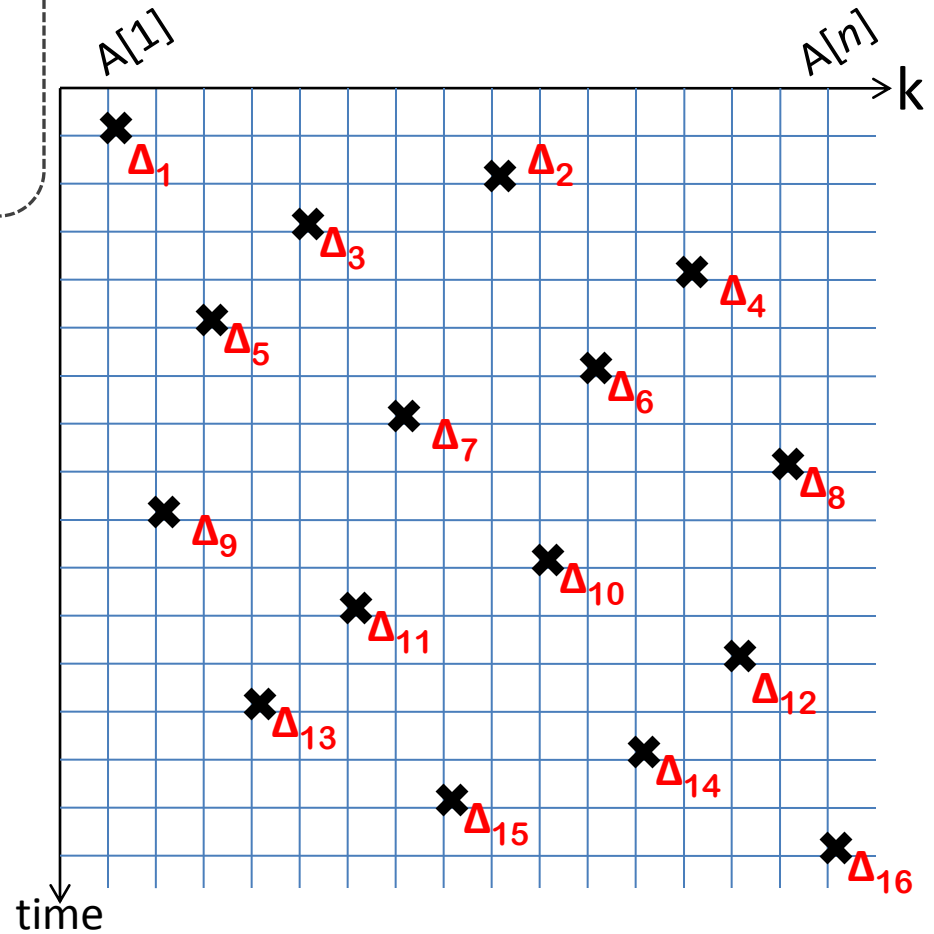
$\pi$  = random permutation

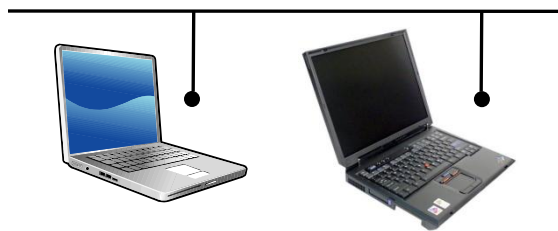
for  $t = 1$  to  $n$ :

**query**( $\pi(t)$ )

$\Delta_t = \text{random}() \bmod 2^w$

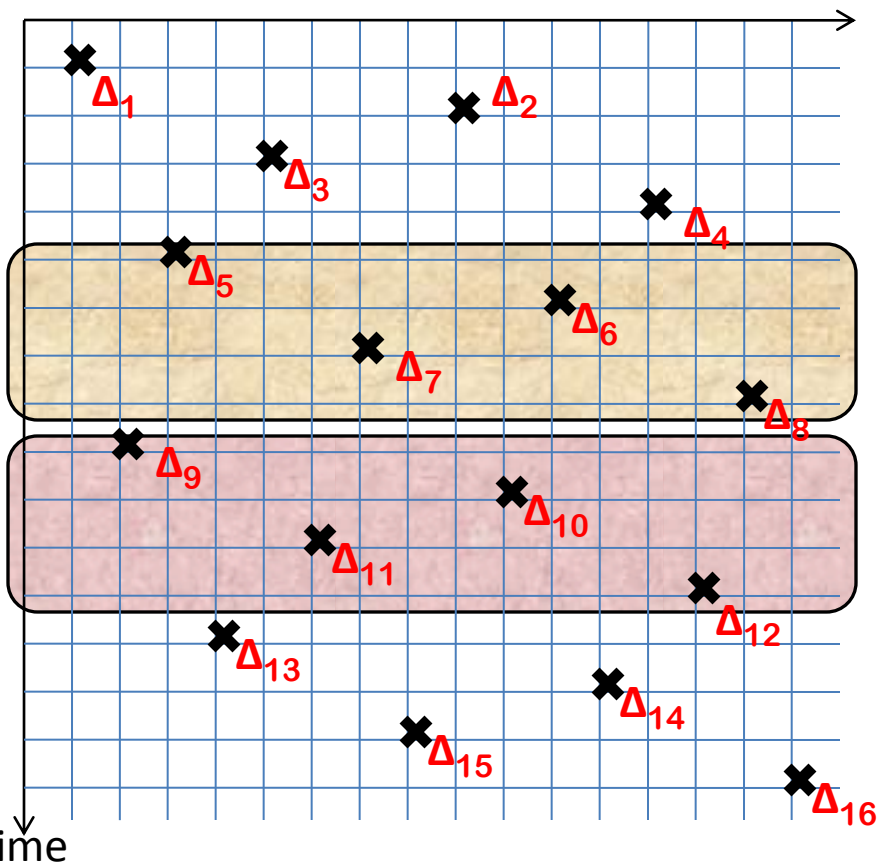
**update**( $\pi(t), \Delta_t$ )






W = written cells

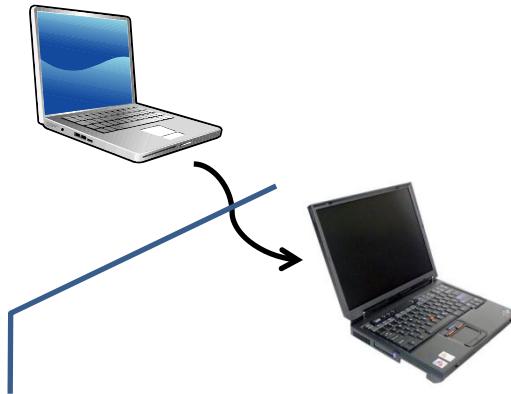
R = read cells



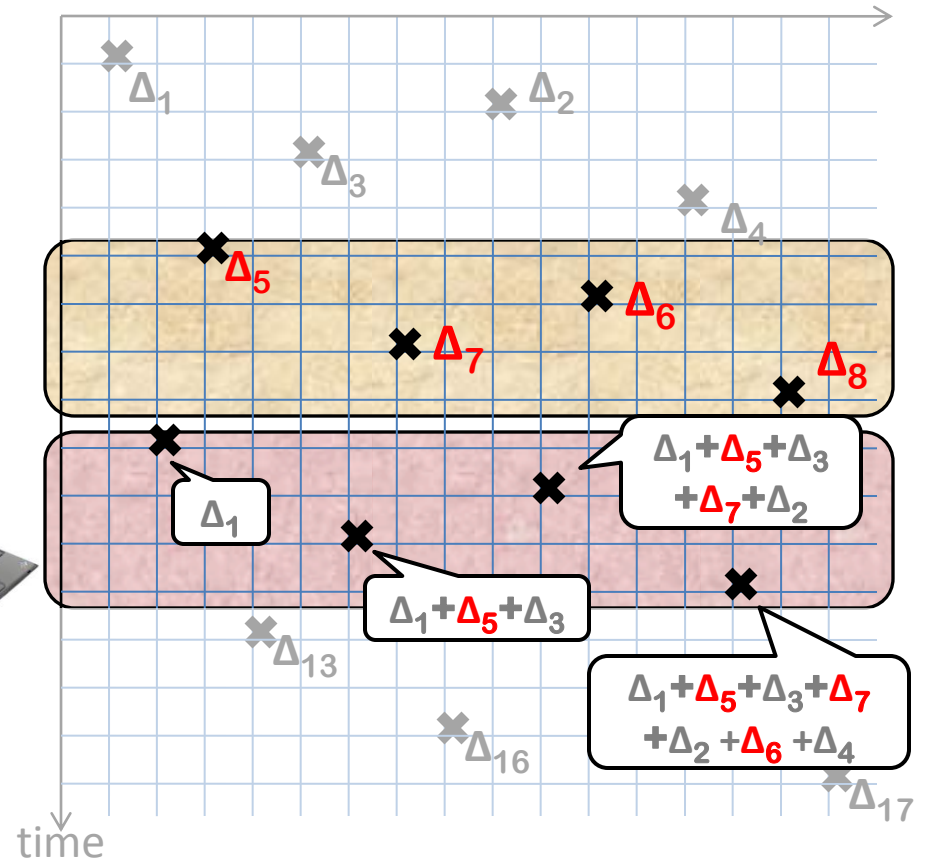
How can Mac help PC run  $t = 9, \dots, 12$  ?

 Address and contents of cells  $W \cap R$





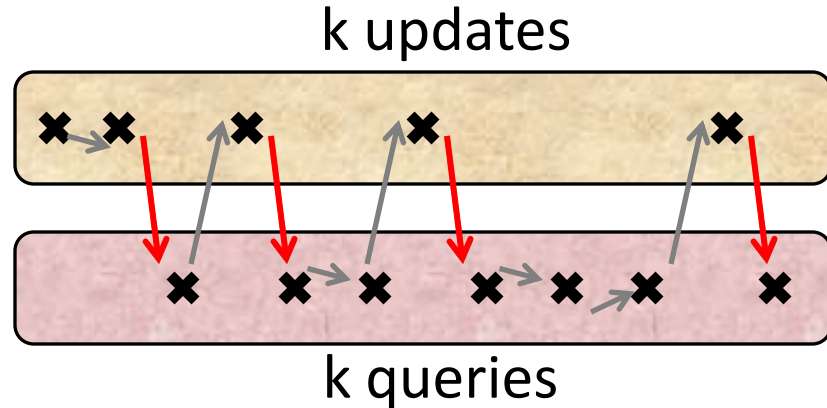
How much information needs to be transferred?



PC learns  $\Delta_5$ ,  $\Delta_5+\Delta_7$ ,  $\Delta_5+\Delta_6+\Delta_7$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **entropy**  $\geq 3$  words

# The general principle

Message entropy  
 $\geq w \cdot \# \text{ down arrows}$



$$E[\text{down arrows}]$$

$$= (2k-1) \cdot \Pr[\text{beige}] \cdot \Pr[\text{mauve}]$$

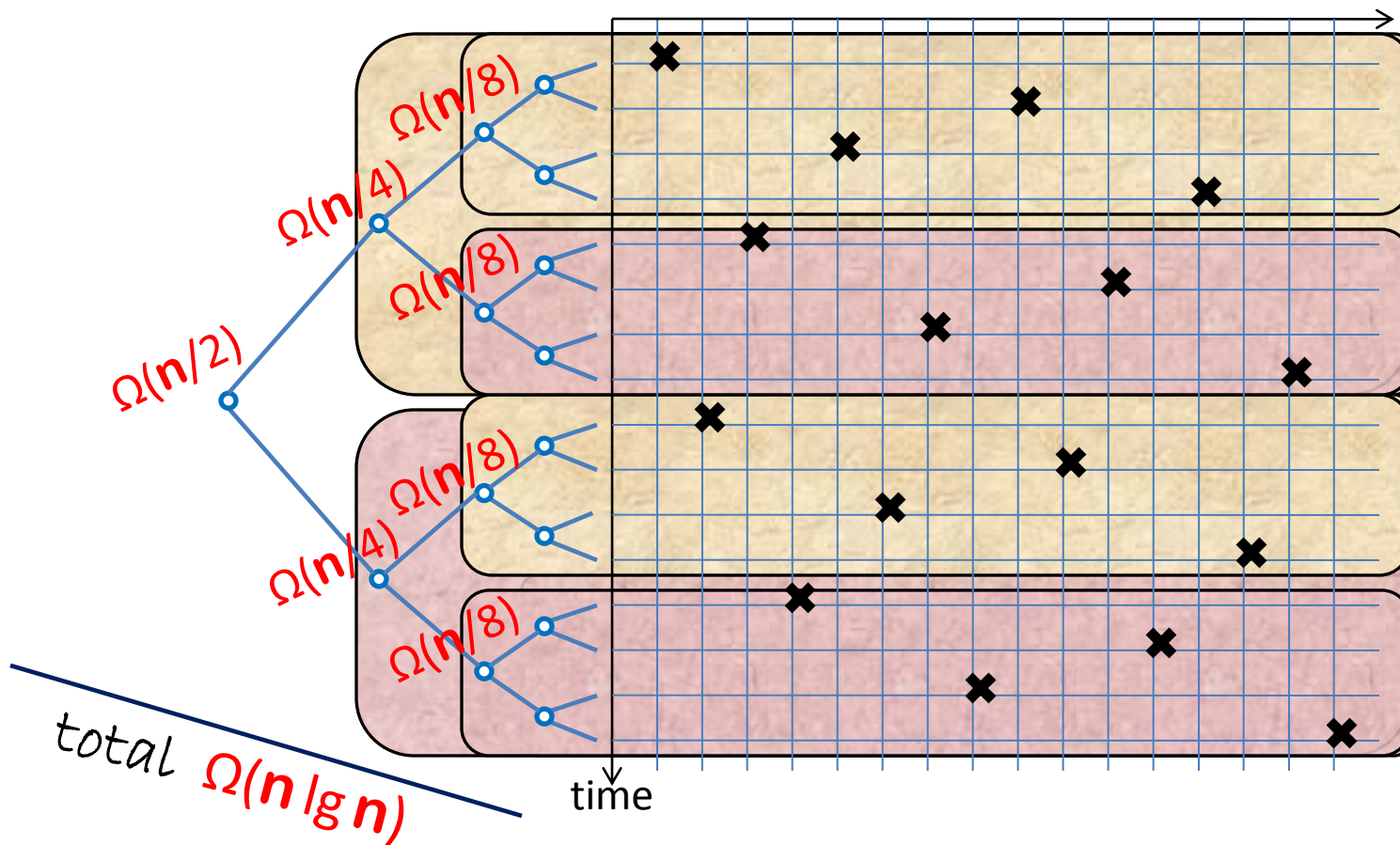
$$= (2k-1) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \Omega(k)$$

# memory cells  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} * \text{ read during } \text{mauve period} \\ * \text{ written during } \text{beige period} \end{array} \right\} = \Omega(k)$



Every read instruction counted once

@ `lowest_common_ancestor(`  
`write time` , `read time` )



Q.E.D.

The optimal solution for maintaining partial sums  
= binary search trees

# What were people trying before?

[Fredman, Saks STOC'89]  
 $\Omega(\lg n / \lg \lg n)$

## The hard instance:

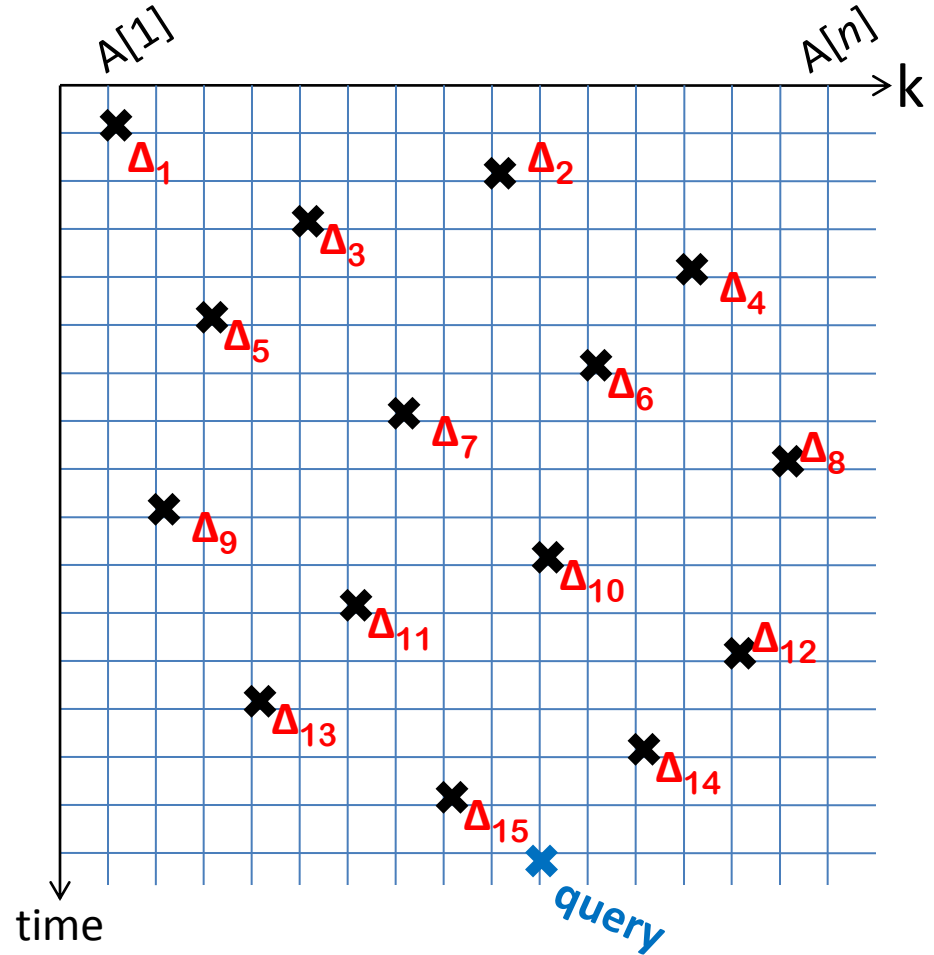
$\pi$  = random permutation

for  $t = 1$  to  $n$ :

$\Delta_t = \text{random}() \bmod 2^w$

**update**( $\pi(t), \Delta_t$ )

**query**( $\text{random}() \bmod n$ )



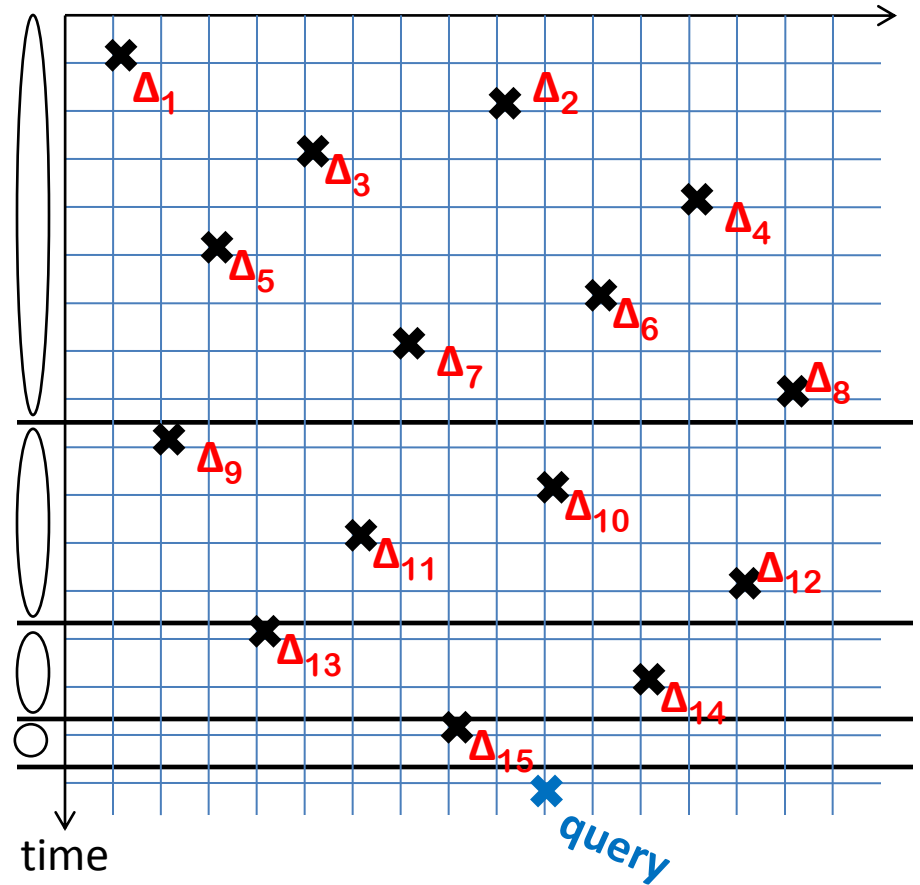
# Epochs

Build *epochs* of  $(\lg n)^i$  updates

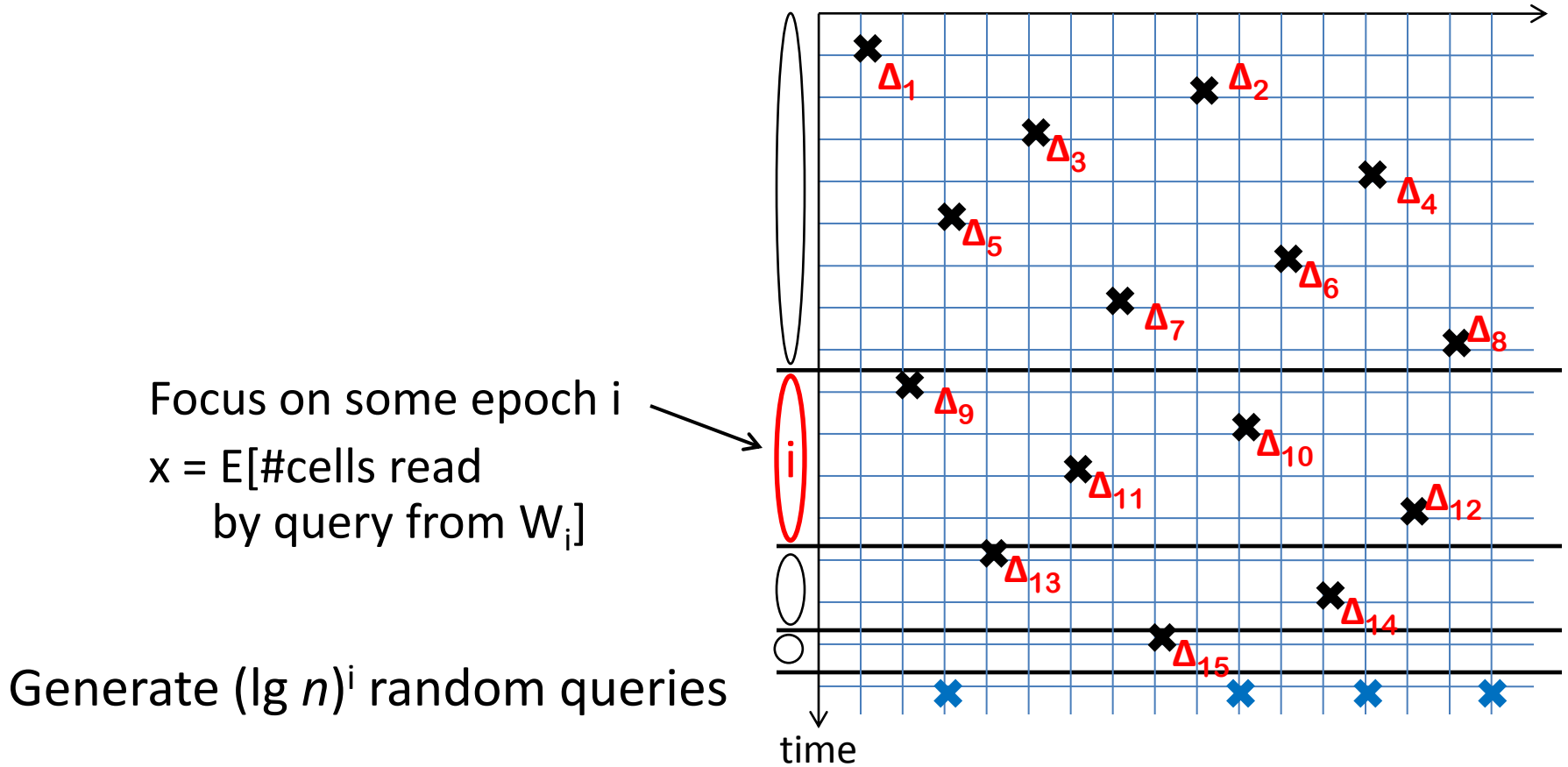
$W_i$  = cells last written in epoch  $i$

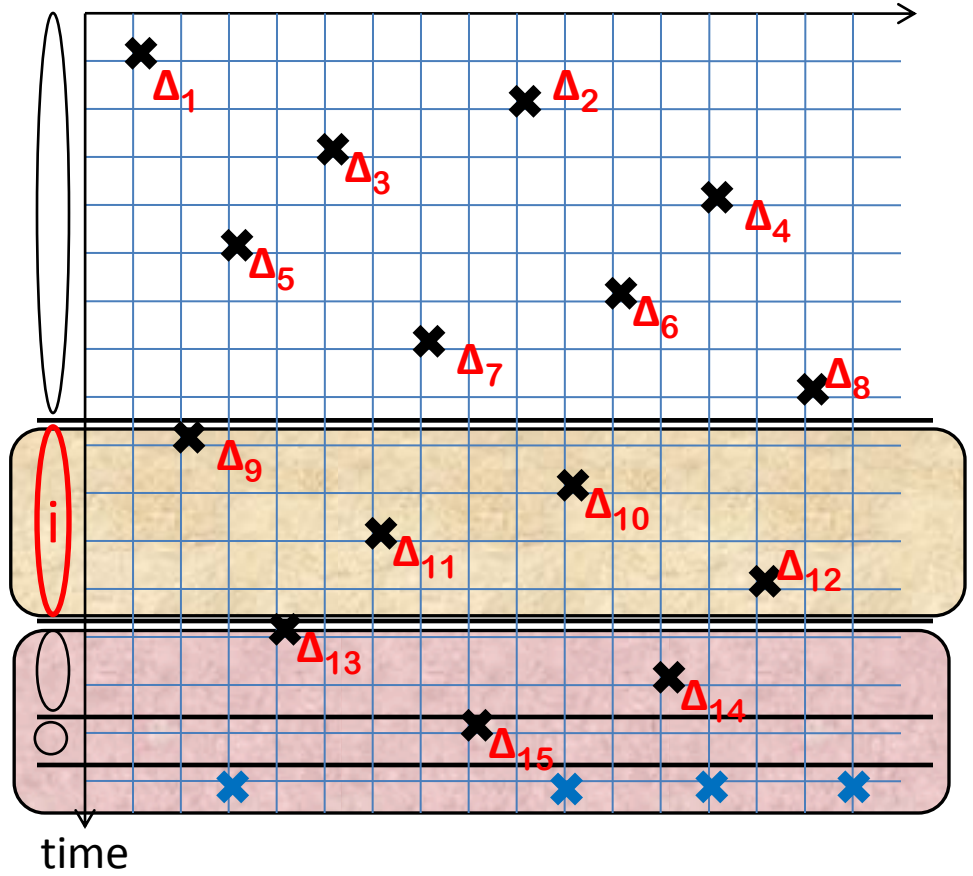
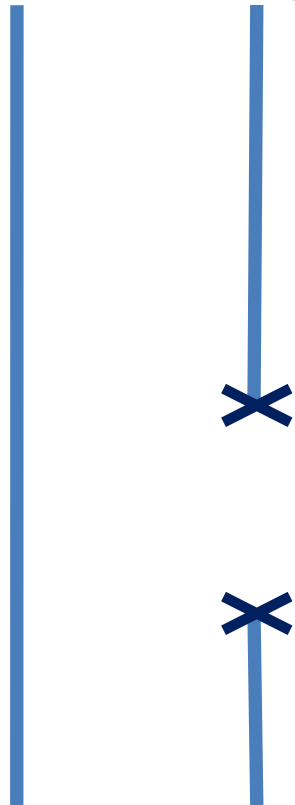
Claim:  $E[\text{\#cells read by query from } W_i] = \Omega(1)$

$\Rightarrow E[t_q] = \Omega(\lg n / \lg \lg n)$

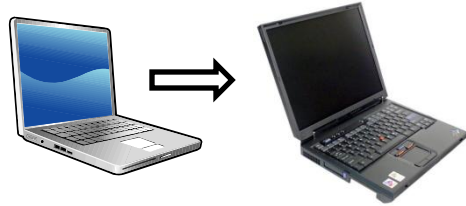


# Epochs









Entropy =  $\Omega(w \cdot \lg^n)$  bits

Possible message:

$W_0 \cup W_1 \cup \dots \cup W_{i-1}$

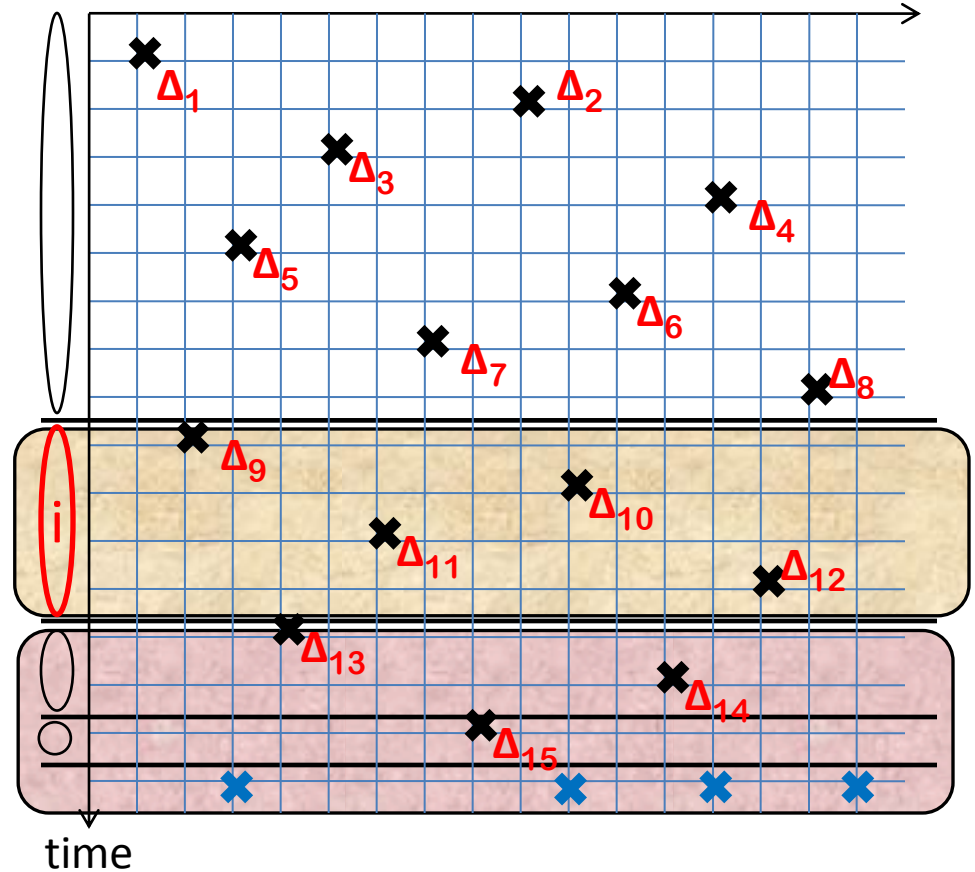
$\sum_{j < i} (\lg n)^j t_u = O(\lg^{i-1} n \cdot t_u)$  cells

cells read by queries from  $W_i$

$E[\# \text{cells}] = x \cdot \lg^i n$

$\Rightarrow x = \Omega(1)$

**Q.E.D.**



# Dynamic Lower Bounds

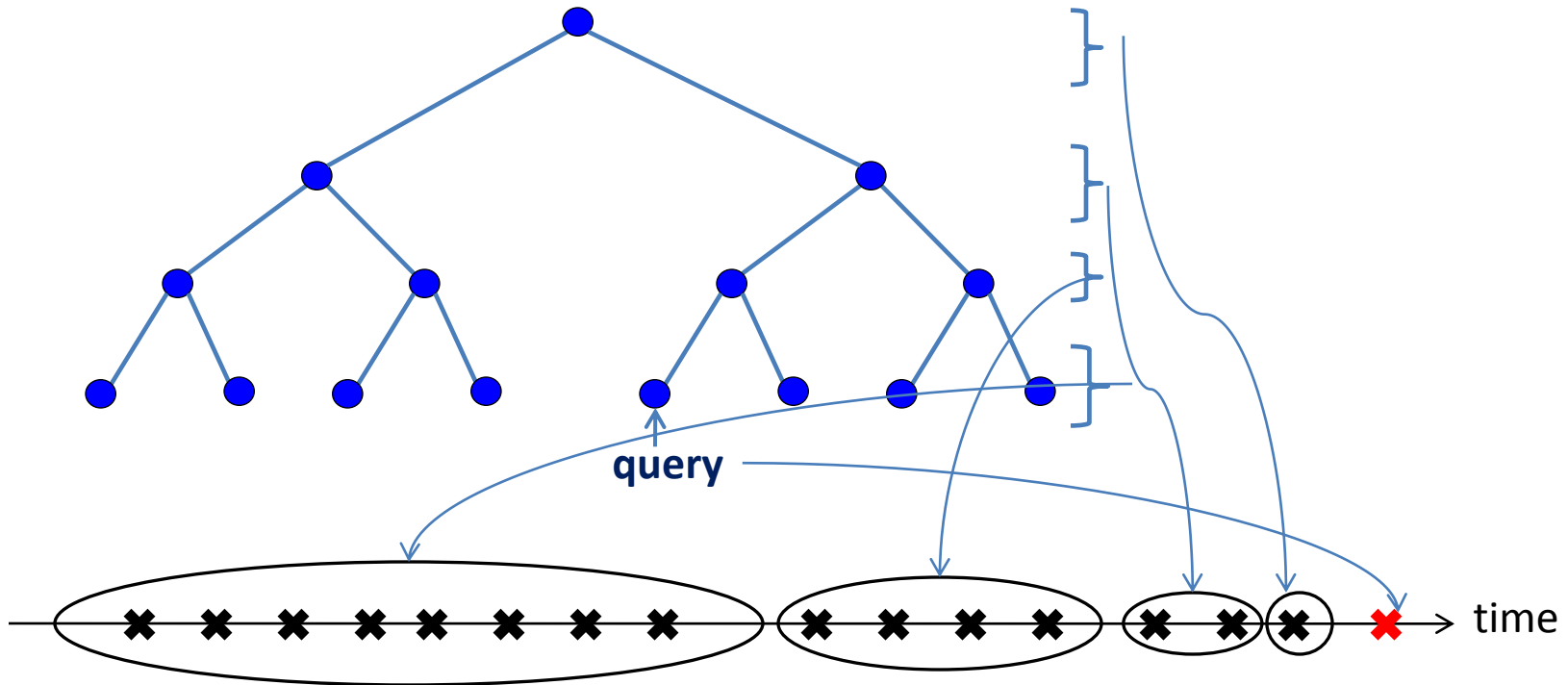
1989	[Fredman, Saks]	partial sums, union-find
1991	[Ben-Amram, Galil]	
1993	[Miltersen, Subramanian, Vitter, Tamassia]	
1996	[Husfeldt, Rauhe, Skyum]	
1998	[Fredman, Henzinger]	dynamic connectivity
	[Husfeldt, Rauhe]	nondeterminism
	[Alstrup, Husfeldt, Rauhe]	marked ancestor
1999	[Alstrup, Ben-Amram, Rauhe]	union-find
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2005	[Pătraşcu, Tarniţă]	$\Omega(\lg n)$ by epochs
2010	[Pătraşcu]	proposal for $n^{\Omega(1)}$
	[Verbin, Zhang]	buffer trees
2011	[Iacono, Pătraşcu]	buffer trees
	[Pătraşcu, Thorup]	dynamic connectivity, union-find

# Marked Ancestor

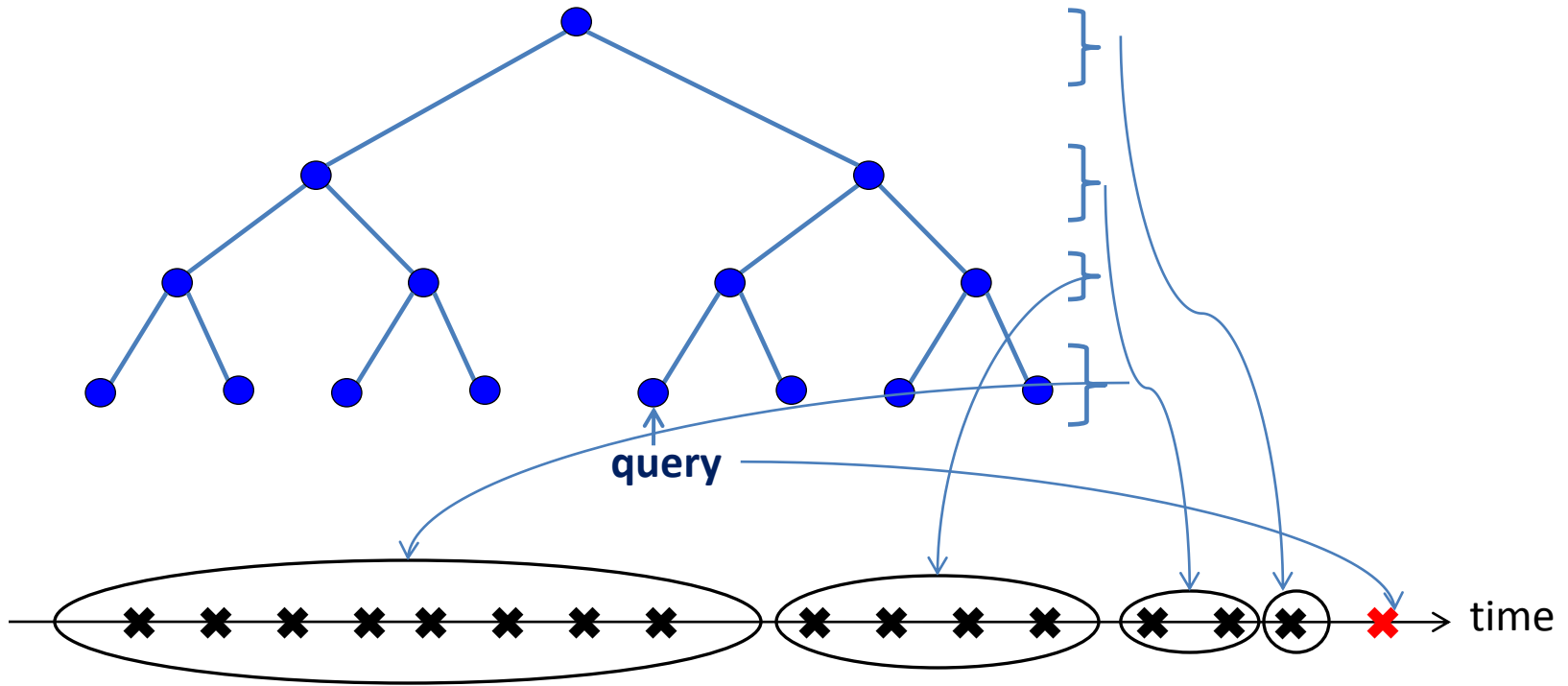
Maintain a perfect B-ary tree under:

$\text{mark}(v)$  /  $\text{unmark}(v)$

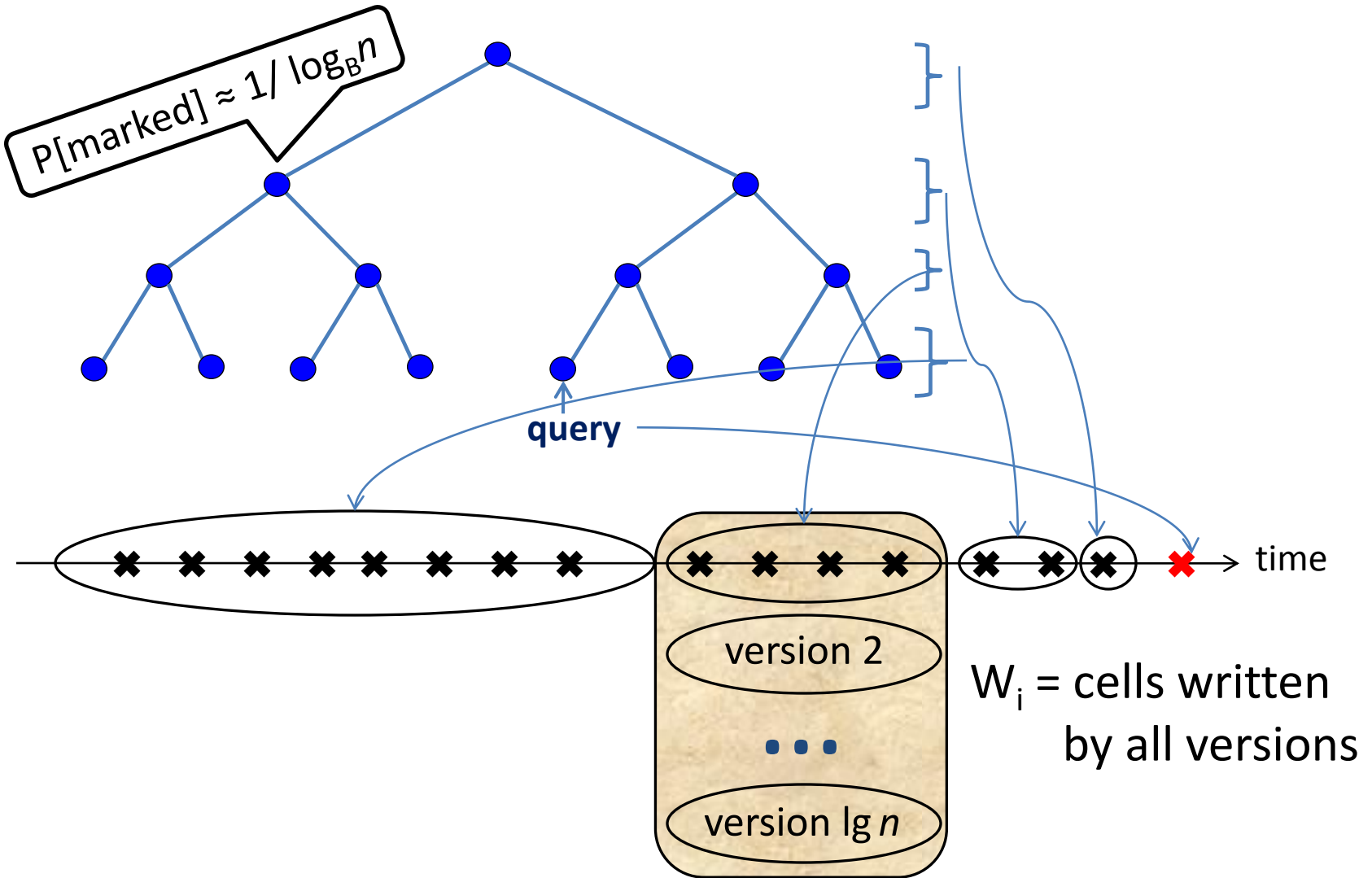
$\text{query}(v)$ : does  $v$  have a marked ancestor?



# Marked Ancestor



# Marked Ancestor



# Reductions from Marked Ancestor

Dynamic 1D stabbing:

Maintain a set of segments  $S = \{ [a_1, b_1], [a_2, b_2], \dots \}$

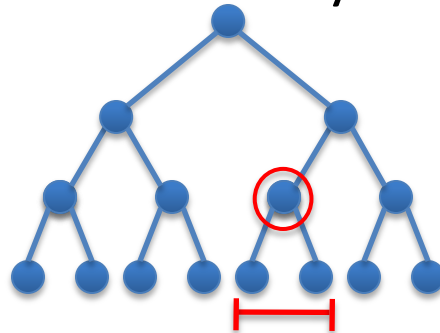
insert / delete

query(x): is  $x \in [a_i, b_i]$  for some  $[a_i, b_i] \in S$  ?

Marked ancestor

$\mapsto$

Dynamic 1D stabbing



Dynamic 1D stabbing  $\mapsto$  Dynamic 2D range reporting

# Dynamic Lower Bounds

1989	[Fredman, Saks]	partial sums, union-find
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1993	[Miltersen, Subramanian, Vitter, Tamassia]	
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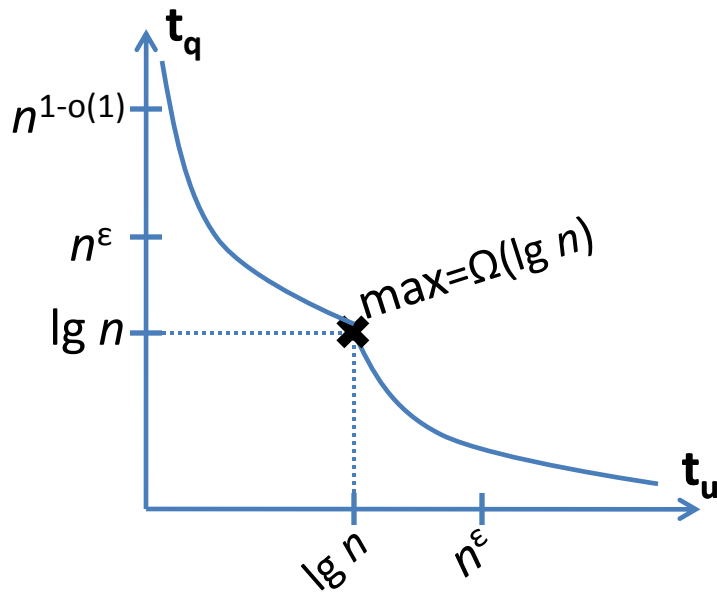
# Dynamic Lower Bounds

[Pătrașcu, Demaine'04]

Partial sums:

$$\max \{ t_u, t_q \} = B \cdot \lg n$$

$$\min \{ t_u, t_q \} = \log_B n$$



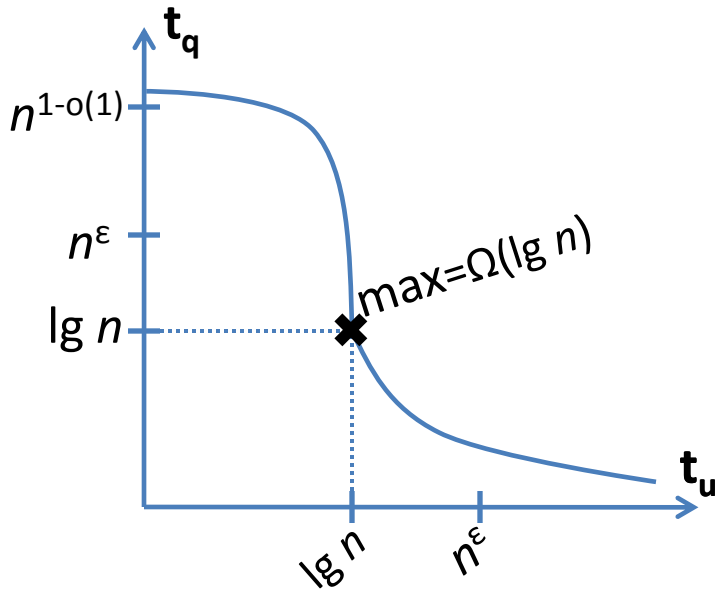


# Dynamic Lower Bounds

[Pătraşcu, Thorup'10]

Dynamic connectivity:

- $t_u = B \cdot \lg n$ ,  $t_q = \log_B n$
- $t_u = o(\lg n) \Rightarrow t_q \geq n^{1-o(1)}$



Maintain an acyclic *undirected* graph under:

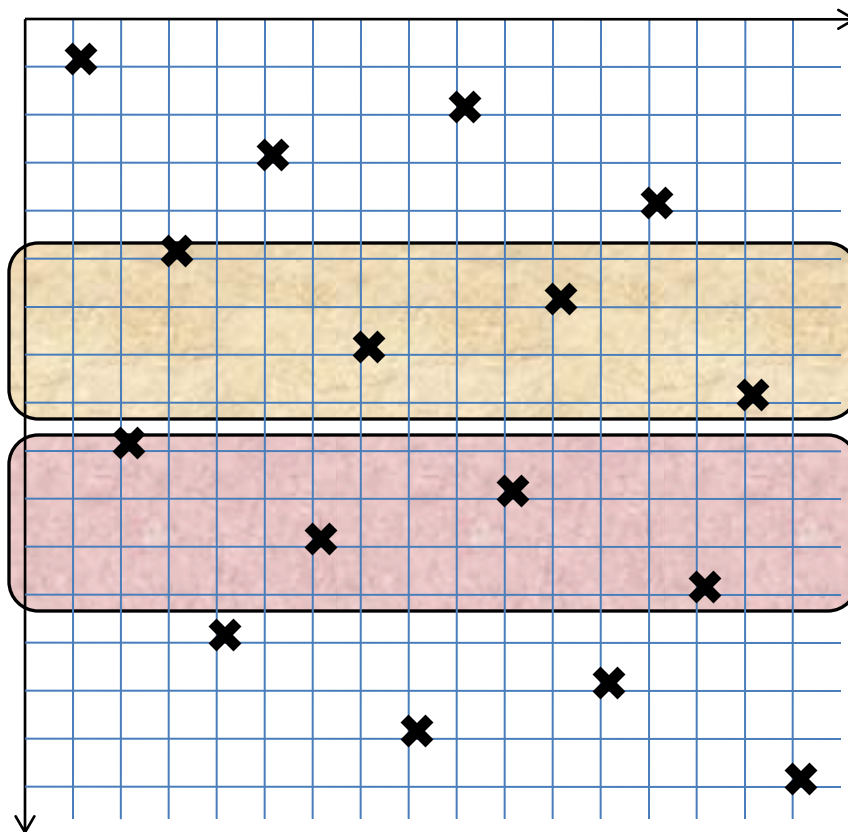
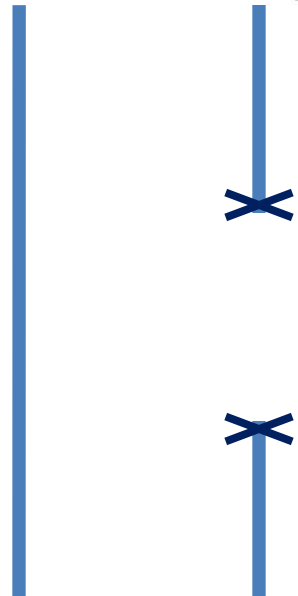
**insert / delete** edges

**connected( $u, v$ )**: is there a path from  $u$  to  $v$ ?



$\geq$

Entropy lower bound  
 $= \Omega(k \cdot w)$  bits



W = cells written

k updates

k queries

R = cells read

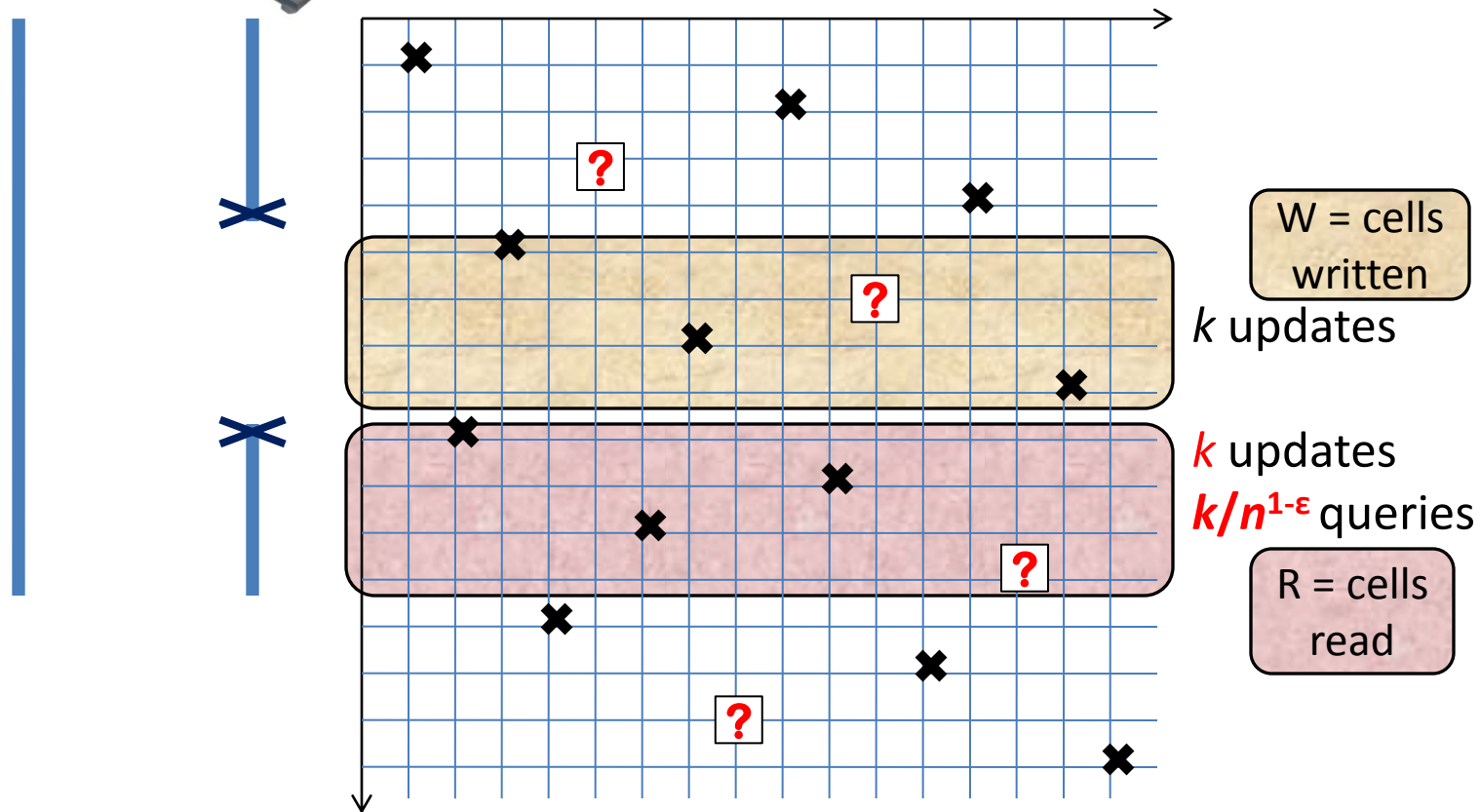


$\geq$

Entropy lower bound  
 $\leq k/n^{1-\epsilon}$  ☹️



$$t_u = o(\lg n), t_q = n^{1-\epsilon}$$



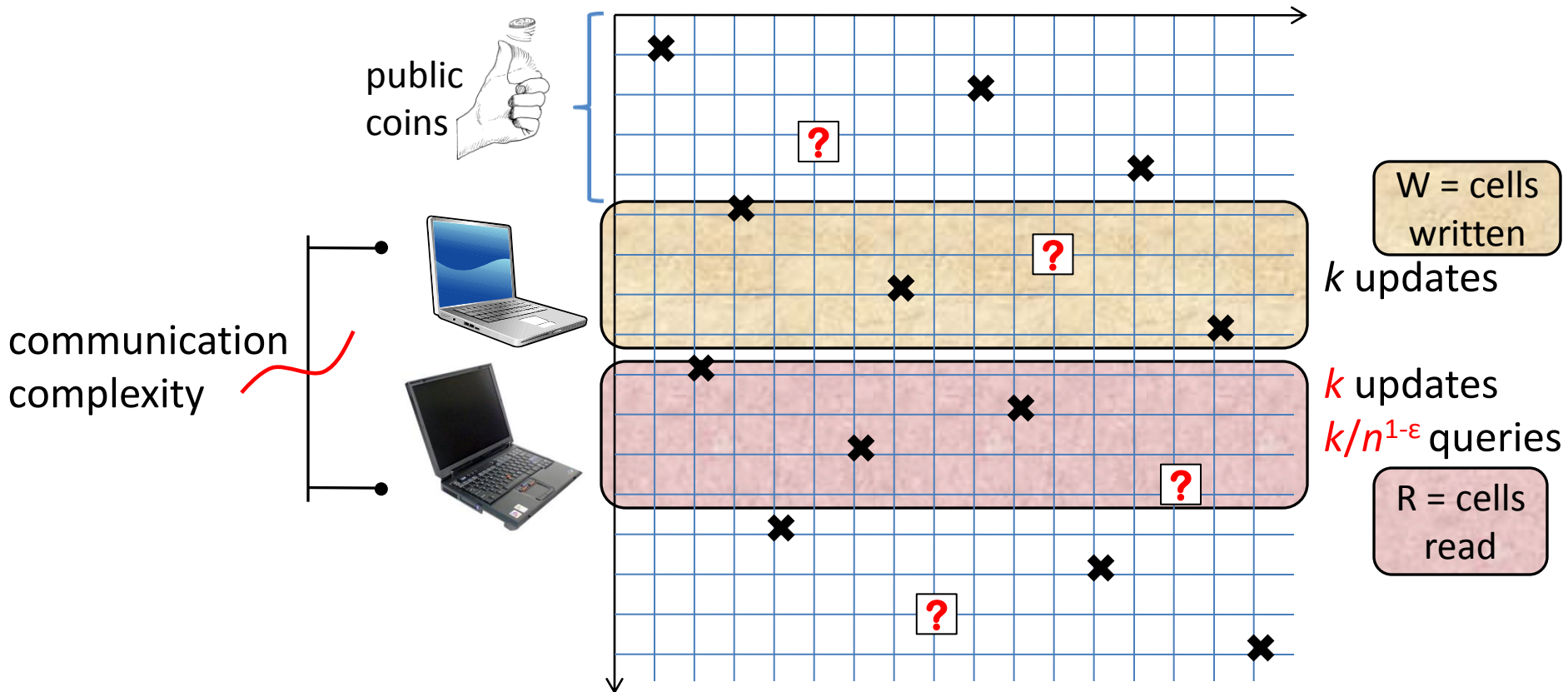
Partial sums: Mac doesn't care about PC's updates

⇒ communication complexity  $\approx k/n^{1-\epsilon}$

Dynamic connectivity:

nontrivial interaction between Mac's and PC's edges

⇒ communication complexity =  $\Omega(k \lg n)$



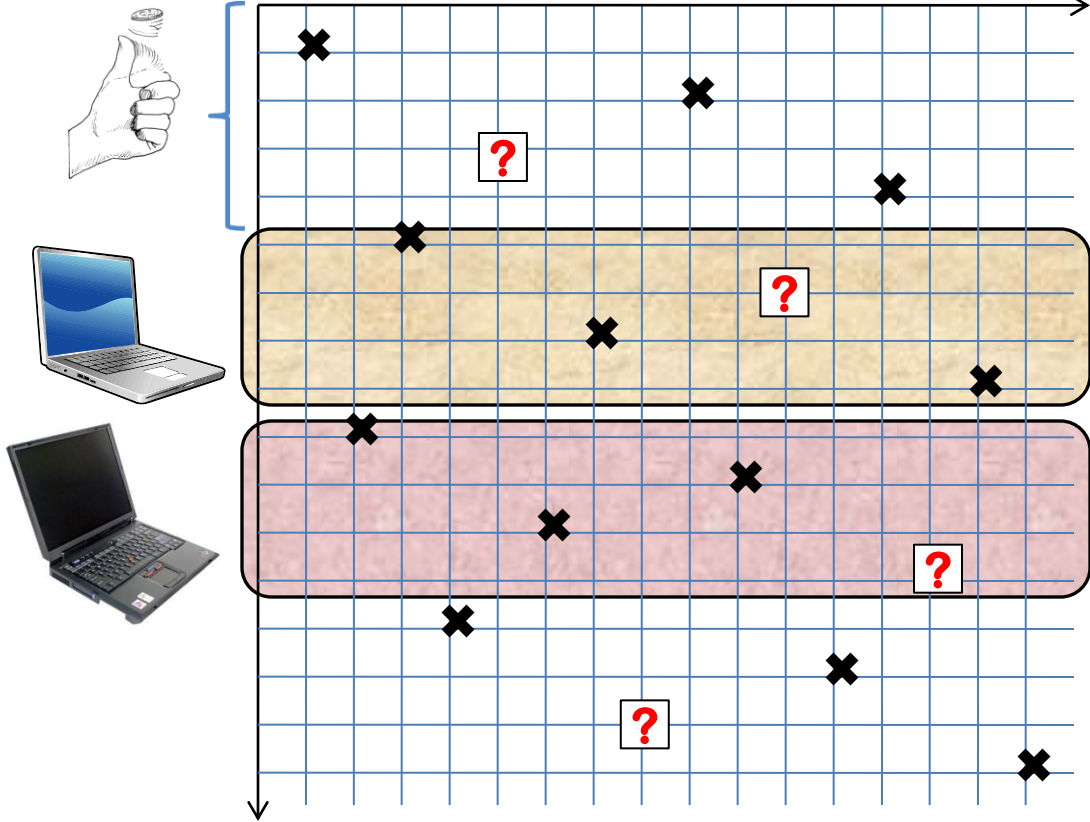
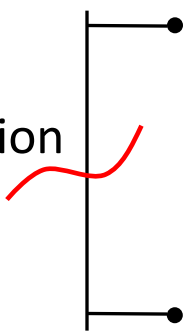
???

$\geq$

communication  
complexity

$\geq$

$\Omega(k \lg n)$



W = cells  
written

k updates

k updates

$k/n^{1-\epsilon}$  queries

R = cells  
read

Note:  $|R|, |W| = o(k \lg n)$

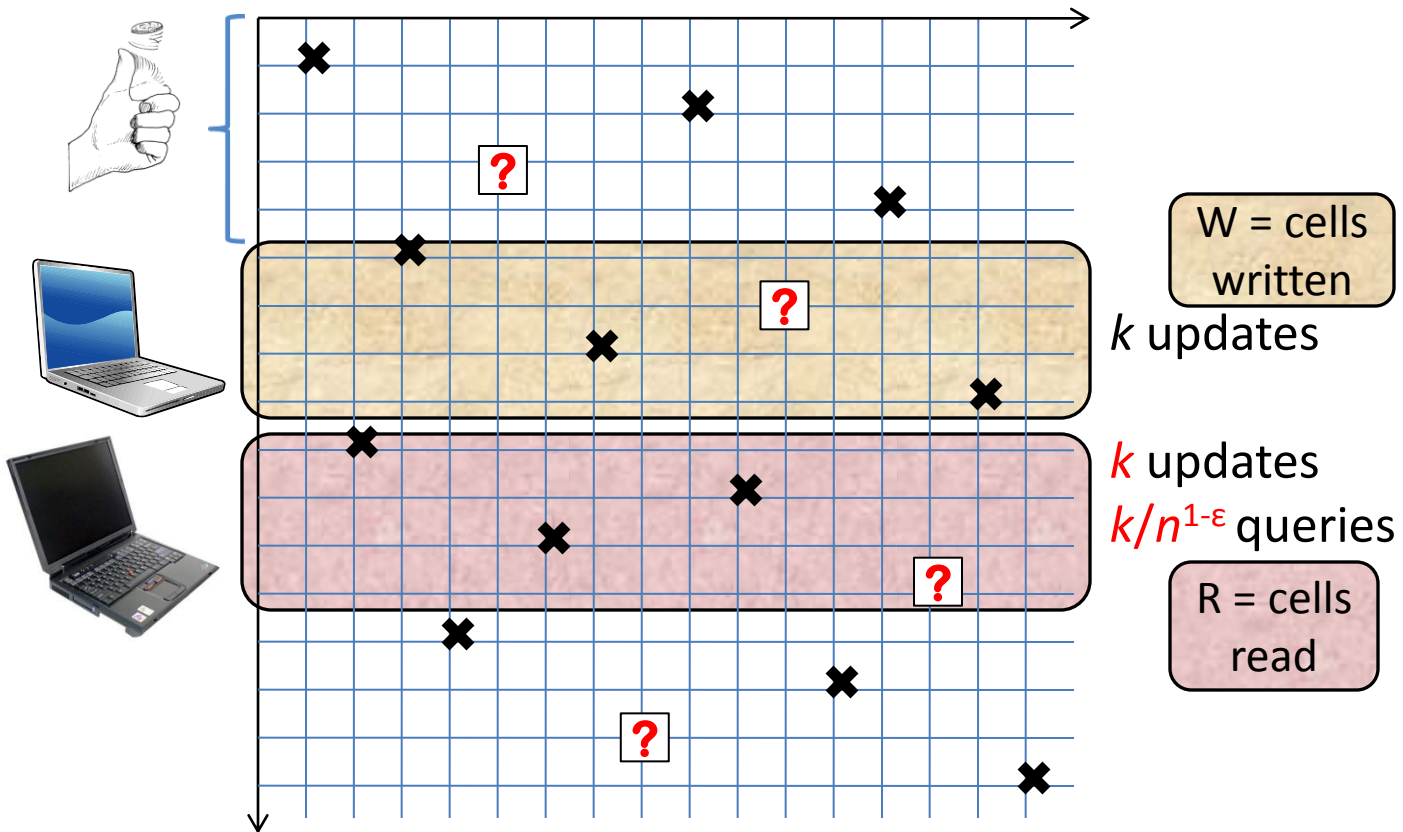
Trivial protocol:  
 $O(|R| \cdot \lg n)$  bits

$\geq$

communication  
complexity

$\geq$

$\Omega(k \lg n)$



Note:  $|R|, |W| = o(k \lg n)$



or



$$|R \cap W| = \Omega(k)$$

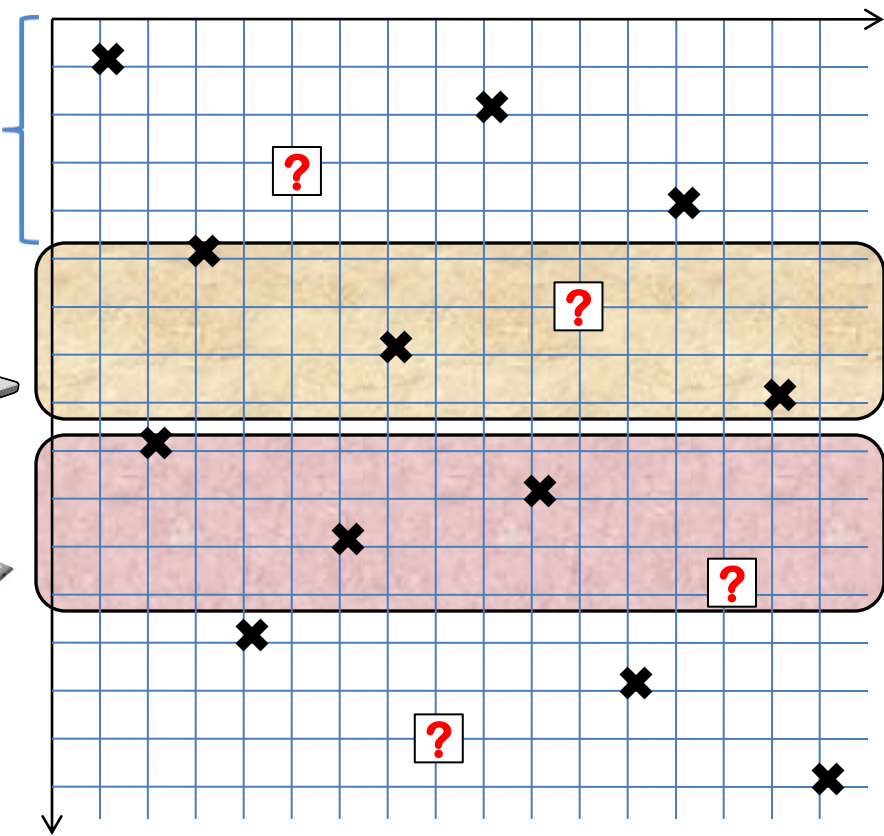
$$|R \cap W| \cdot \lg n + |R| + |W|$$

$\geq$

**nondeterministic**  
communication  
complexity

$\geq$

$$\Omega(k \lg n)$$



W = cells  
written

$k$  updates

$k$  updates

$k/n^{1-\epsilon}$  queries

R = cells  
read

# Dynamic Lower Bounds

1989	[Fredman, Saks]	partial sums, union-find
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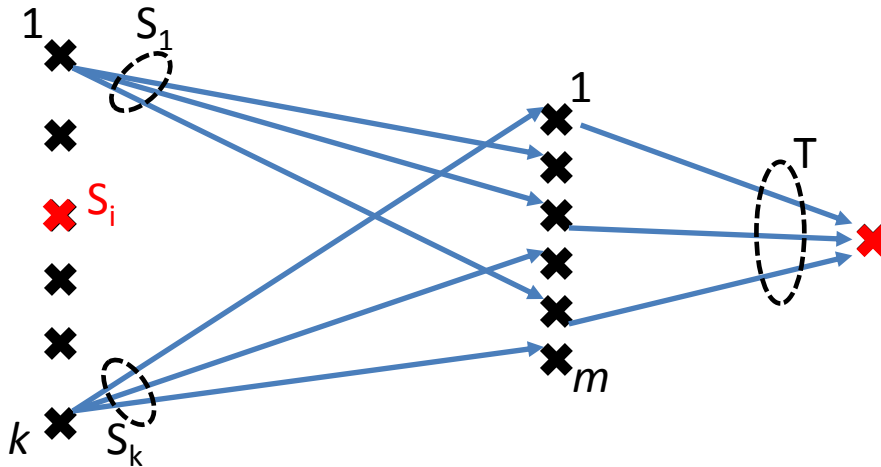


# The Multiphase Problem

Dynamic reachability:

Maintain a directed graph under:  
**insert / delete** edges  
**connected**( $u, v$ ):  $\exists$  path from  $u$  to  $v$ ?

Hard-looking instance:



$S_1, \dots, S_k \subseteq [m]$

$T \subseteq [m]$

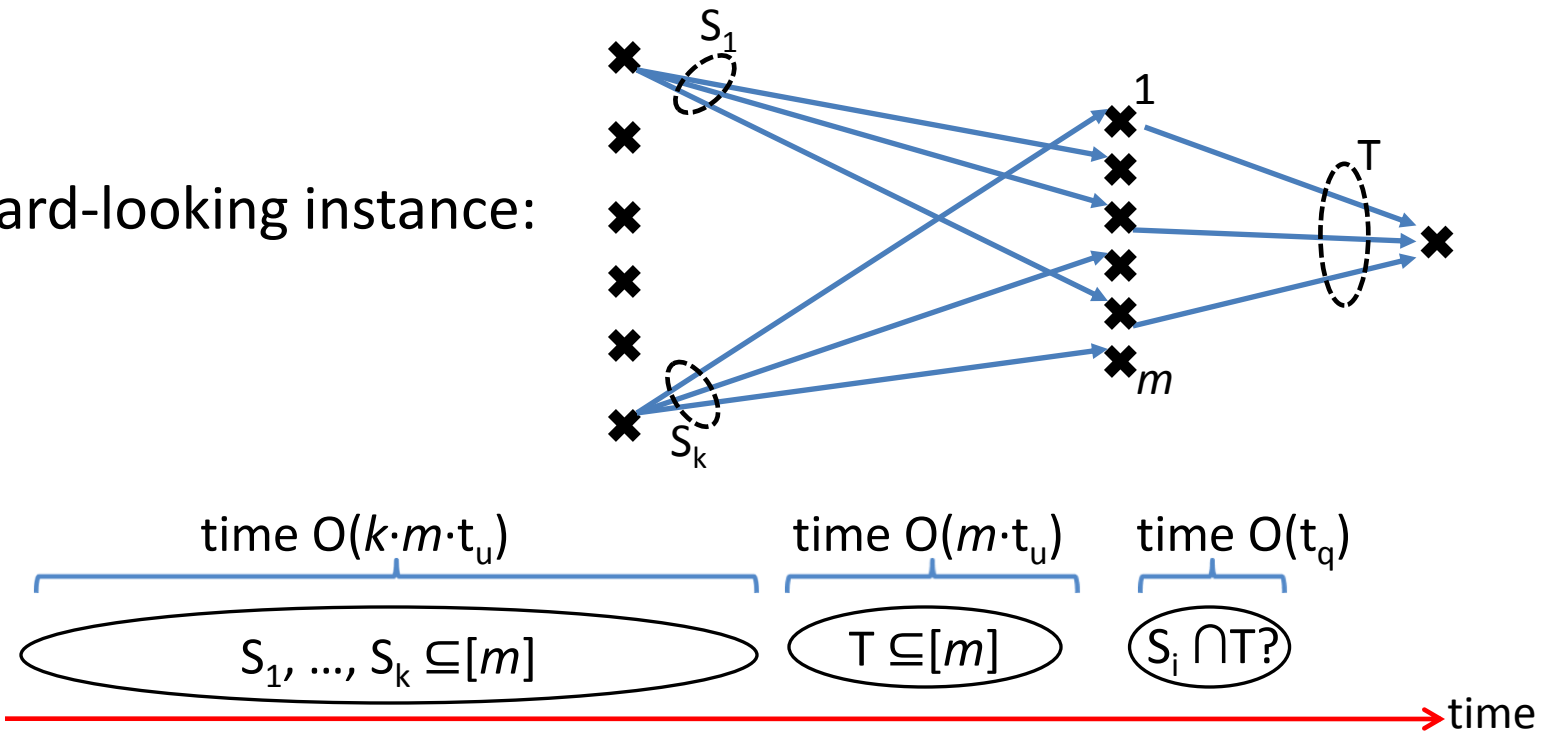
$S_i \cap T?$

time

# The Multiphase Problem

**Conjecture:** If  $m \cdot t_u \ll k$ , then  $t_q = \Omega(m^\epsilon)$

Hard-looking instance:



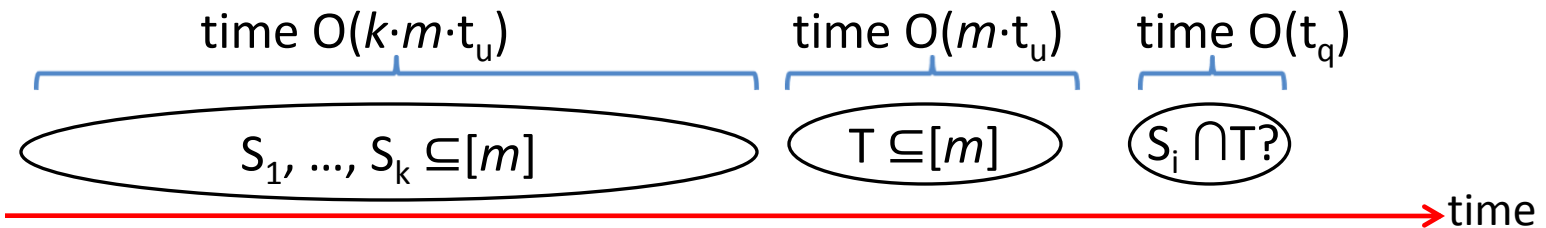
# The Multiphase Problem

**Conjecture:** If  $m \cdot t_u \ll k$ , then  $t_q = \Omega(m^\epsilon)$

Follows from the 3SUM Conjecture:

**3SUM:** Given  $S = \{n \text{ numbers}\}$ ,  $\exists a, b, c \in S: a + b + c = 0$ ?

Conjecture: 3SUM requires  $\Omega^*(n^2)$  time

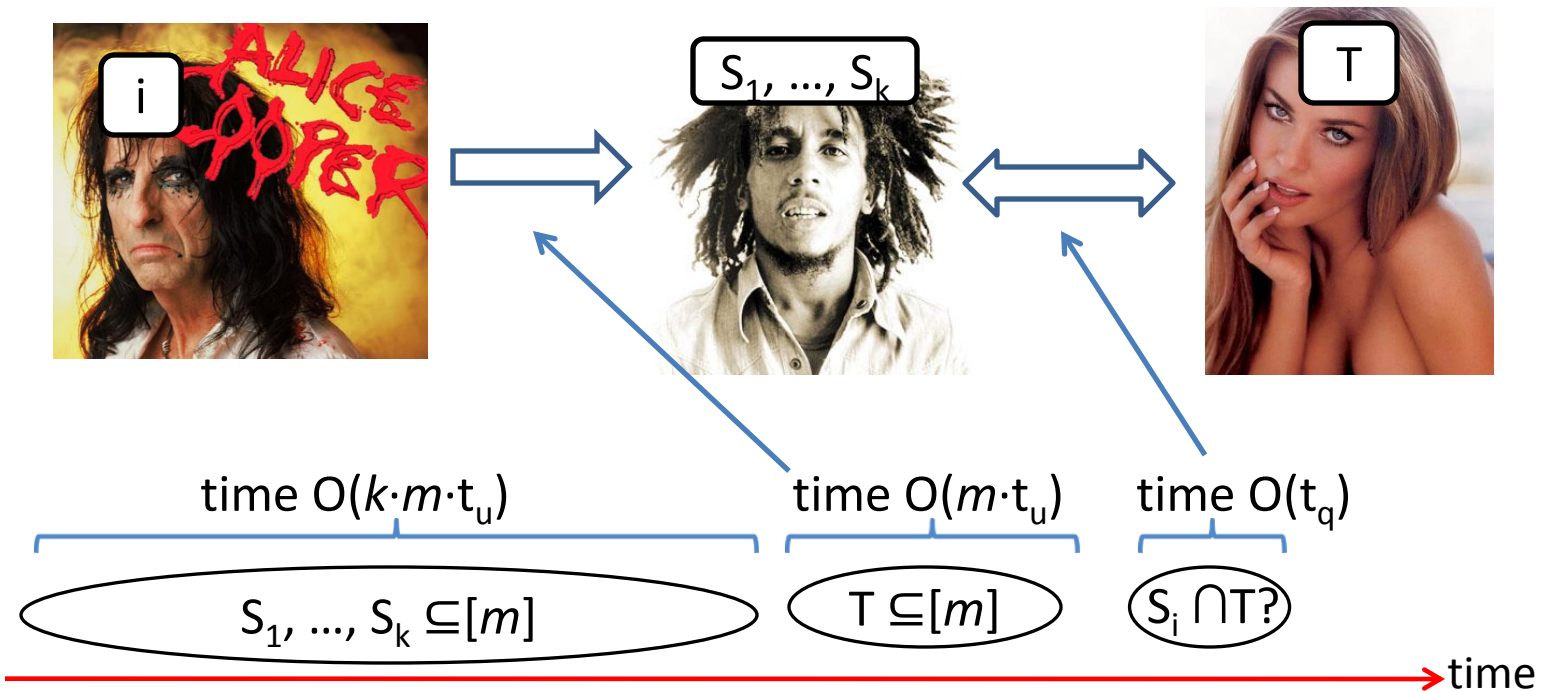


# The Multiphase Problem

**Conjecture:** If  $m \cdot t_u \ll k$ , then  $t_q = \Omega(m^\epsilon)$

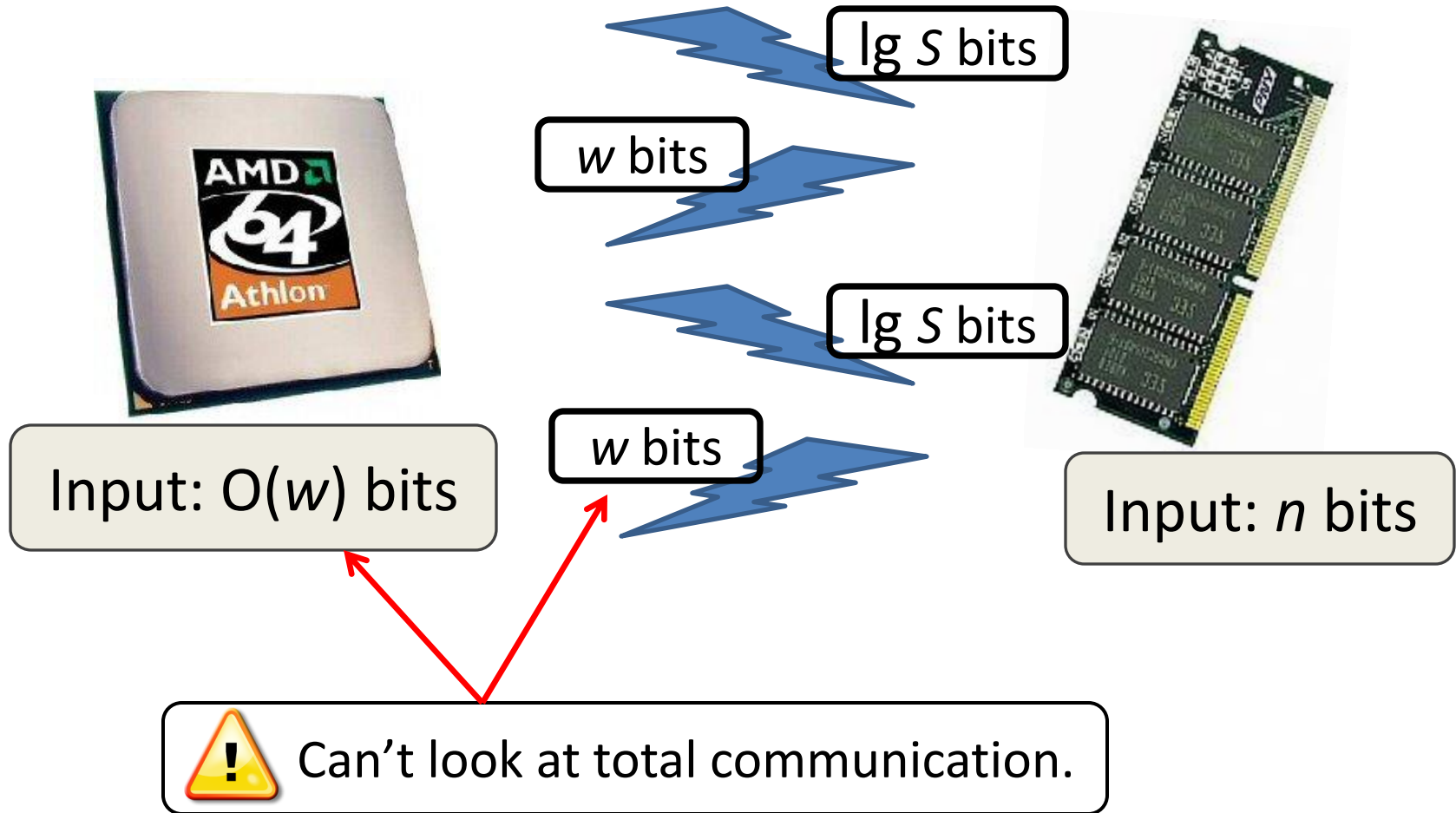
Attack on unconditional proof:

3-party number-on-forehead communication



# Static Data Structures

# Asymmetric Communication Complexity



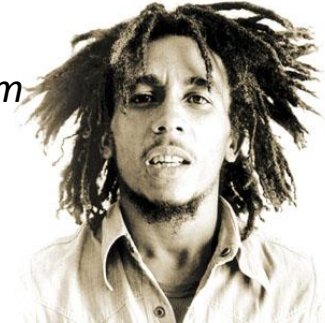
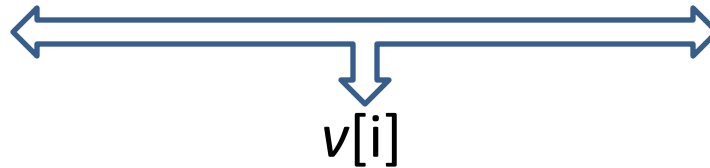


# Indexing

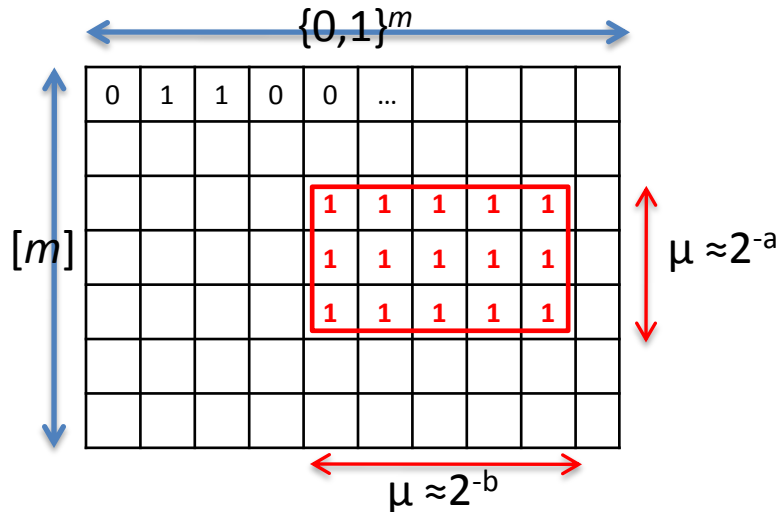


$i \in [m]$

$v \in \{0,1\}^m$



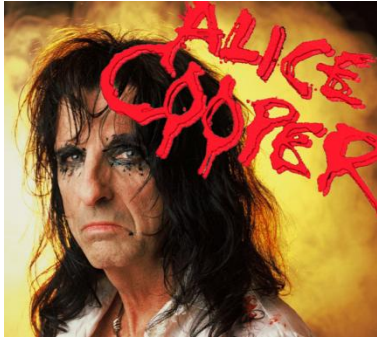
**Theorem.** Either Alice communicates  $a = \Omega(\lg m)$  bits,  
or Bob communicates  $b \geq m^{1-\epsilon}$  bits.



$m/2^a$  positions of  $v$  fixed to 1  
 $\Rightarrow b \geq m/2^a$

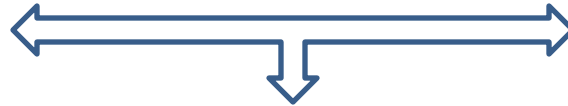


# Lopsided Set Disjointness

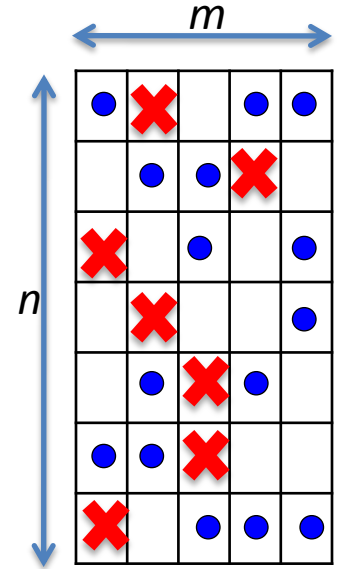
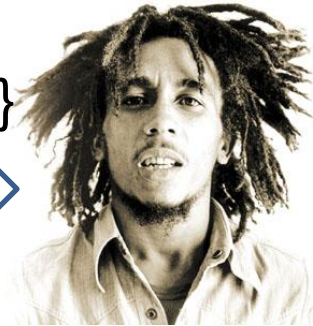


$A = \{ \times \times \times \}$

$B = \{ \bullet \bullet \bullet \}$



$A \cap B = \emptyset ?$



**Theorem.** Either Alice communicates  $\Omega(n \lg m)$  bits,  
or Bob communicates  $\geq n \cdot m^{1-\epsilon}$  bits

Direct sum on Indexing:

- deterministic: trivial
- randomized: [Pătraşcu'08]

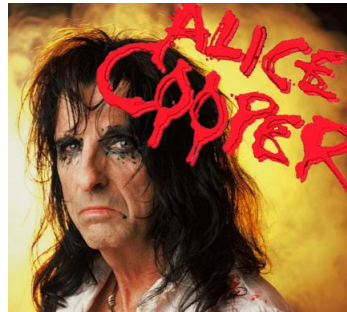
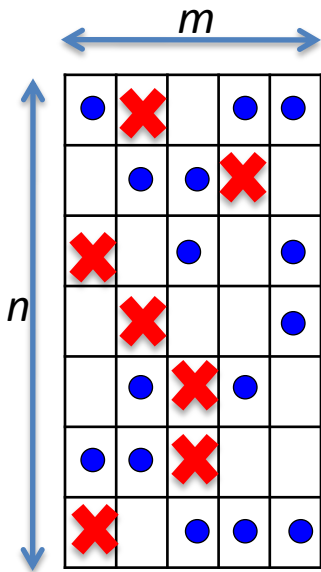
# A Data Structure Lower Bound

Partial match:

Preprocess a database  $D =$  strings in  $\{0,1\}^d$

**query**(  $x \in \{0,1,*\}^d$  ) : does  $x$  match anything in  $D$ ?

$C : [m] \rightarrow \{0,1\}^{3 \lg m}$  constant-weight code



$A = \{ n \text{ } \times \text{'s} \} = \{ (1, x_1), \dots, (n, x_n) \}$   
 $\mapsto \text{query}( C(x_1) \circ \dots \circ C(x_n) )$



$B = \{ \frac{1}{2}mn \text{ } \bullet \text{'s} \} \mapsto D = \{ \frac{1}{2}mn \text{ strings} \}$   
 $(i, x_i) \mapsto 0 \circ \dots \circ 0 \circ C(x_i) \circ 0 \circ \dots$

# A Data Structure Lower Bound

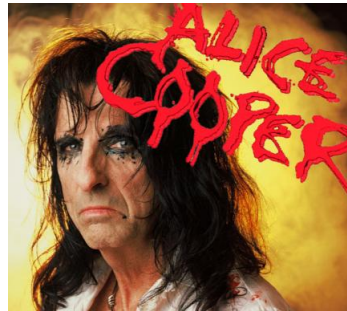
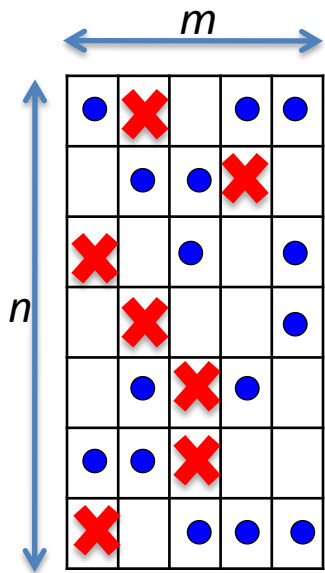
LSD( $n, m$ )

Alice sends  $\Omega(n \lg m)$  bits,  
or Bob sends  $\geq n \cdot m^{1-\varepsilon}$  bits

$\mapsto$  Partial Match:  $d = \Theta(n \lg m)$

CPU sends  $\Omega(d)$  bits,

or Memory sends  $\geq |D|^{1-\varepsilon}$



$A = \{ n \text{ X's} \} = \{ (1, x_1), \dots, (n, x_n) \}$

$\mapsto \text{query}( C(x_1) \circ \dots \circ C(x_n) )$



$B = \{ \frac{1}{2}mn \text{ dots} \} \mapsto D = \{ \frac{1}{2}mn \text{ strings} \}$

$(i, x_i) \mapsto 0 \circ \dots \circ 0 \circ C(x_i) \circ 0 \circ \dots$

# A Data Structure Lower Bound

LSD( $n, m$ )

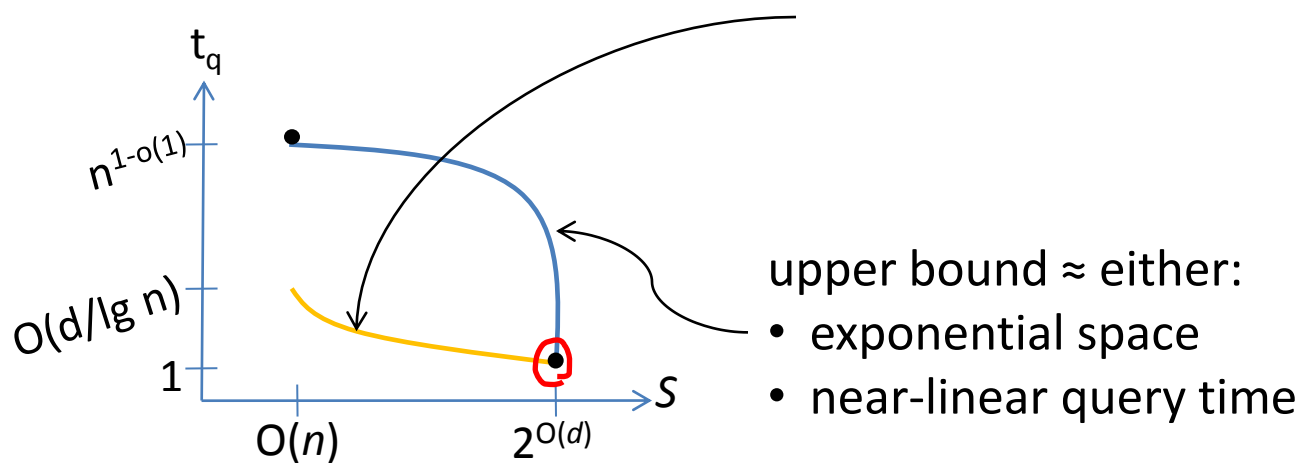
Alice sends  $\Omega(n \lg m)$  bits,  
or Bob sends  $\geq n \cdot m^{1-\varepsilon}$  bits

$\mapsto$  Partial Match:  $d = \Theta(n \lg m)$

CPU sends  $\Omega(d)$  bits,  
or Memory sends  $\geq |D|^{1-\varepsilon}$

$\Rightarrow t \lg S = \Omega(d)$  or  $t \cdot w \geq |D|^{1-\varepsilon}$

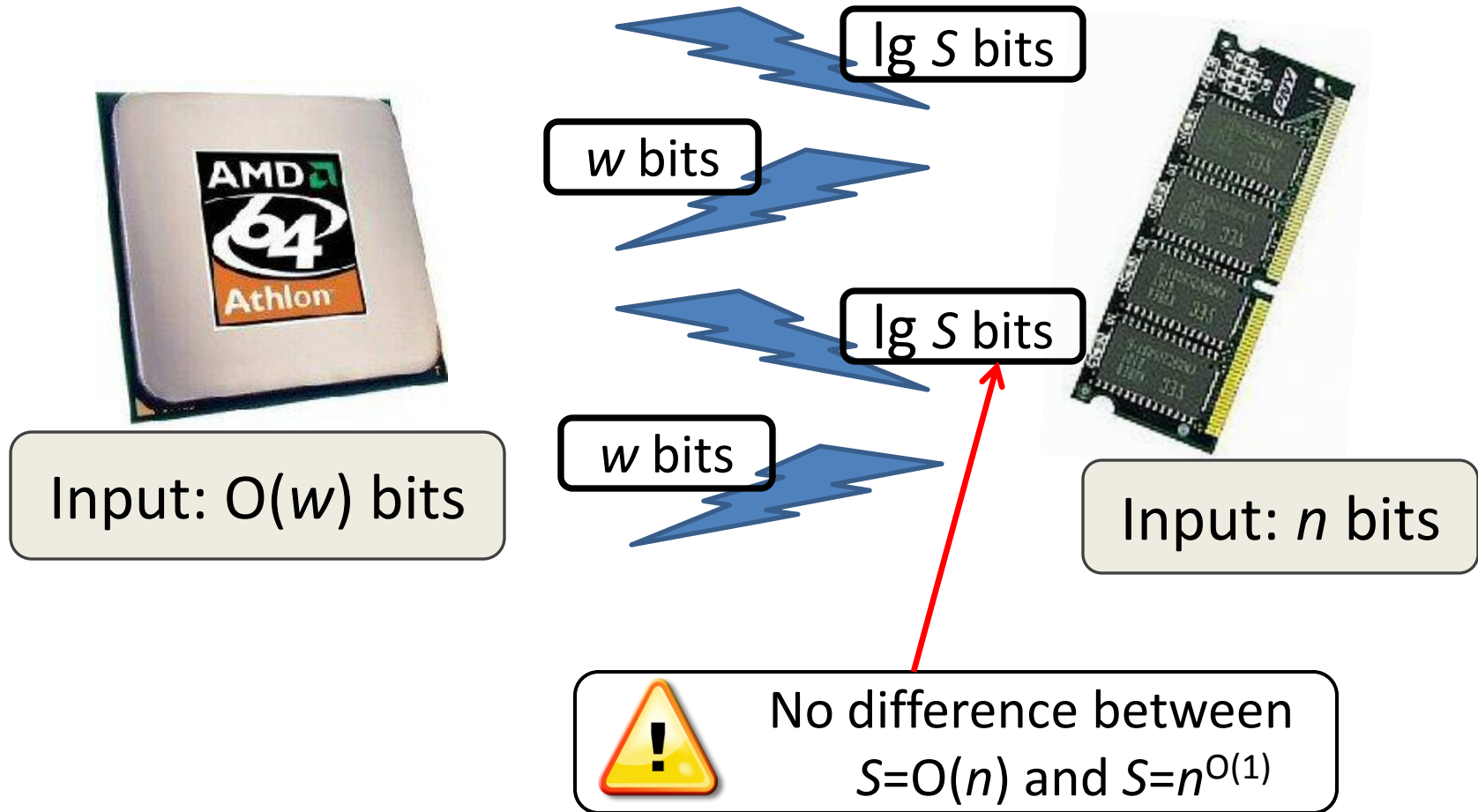
$\Rightarrow S = 2^{\Omega(d/t)}$



# Space Lower Bounds for $t_q = O(1)$

1995	[Miltersen, Nisan, Safra, Wigderson]		
1999	[Borodin, Ostrovsky, Rabani]	partial match	
2000	[Barkol, Rabani]	randomized exact NN	$S = 2^{\Omega(d)}$
2003	[Jayram, Khot, Kumar, Rabani]	partial match	
2004	[Liu]	deterministic $O(1)$ -apx NN	$S = 2^{\Omega(d)}$
2006	[Andoni, Indyk, Pătraşcu]	randomized $(1+\epsilon)$ -apx NN	$S = n^{\Omega(1/\epsilon^2)}$
	[Pătraşcu, Thorup]	direct sum for near-linear space	
2008	[Pătraşcu]	partial match	$S = 2^{\Omega(d)}$
	[Andoni, Croitoru, Pătraşcu]	$\ell_\infty$ : apx = $\Omega(\log_p \log d)$ if	$S = n^p$
	[Panigrahy, Talwar, Wieder]	$c$ -apx NN	$S \geq n^{1+\Omega(1/c)}$
2009	[Sommer, Verbin, Yu]	$c$ -apx distance oracles	$S \geq n^{1+\Omega(1/c)}$
2010	[Panigrahy, Talwar, Wieder]		

# Asymmetric Communication Complexity



# Separation $S=n \lg^{O(1)}n$ vs. $S=n^{O(1)}$

2006	[Pătraşcu, Thorup]	✗ predecessor search
	[Pătraşcu, Thorup]	exact near neighbor
2007	[Pătraşcu]	✗ 2D range counting
2008	[Pătraşcu]	✗ 2D stabbing, etc.
	[Panigrahy, Talwar, Wieder]	c-apx. near neighbor
2009	[Sommer, Verbin, Yu]	c-apx. distance oracles
2010	[Panigrahy, Talwar, Wieder]	c-apx. near neighbor
	[Greve, Jørgensen, Larsen, Truelsen]	range mode
2011	[Jørgensen, Larsen]	✗ range median

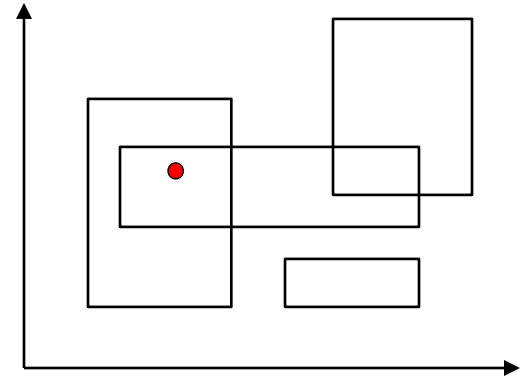
✗ = Tight bounds for space  $n \lg^{O(1)}n$

# 2D Stabbing

Static 2D Stabbing:

Preprocess  $D = \{ n \text{ axis-aligned rectangles} \}$

**query**( $x, y$ ): is  $(x, y) \in R$ , for some  $R \in D$ ?



Goal: If  $S = n \lg^{O(1)} n$ , the query time must be  $t = \Omega(\lg n / \lg \lg n)$

---

Remember: Dynamic 1D Stabbing

Maintain a set of segments  $S = \{ [a_1, b_1], [a_2, b_2], \dots \}$

**insert / delete**

**query**( $x$ ): is  $x \in [a_i, b_i]$  for some  $[a_i, b_i] \in S$ ?

We showed: If  $t_u = \lg^{O(1)} n$ , then  $t_q = \Omega(\lg n / \lg \lg n)$



# Persistence

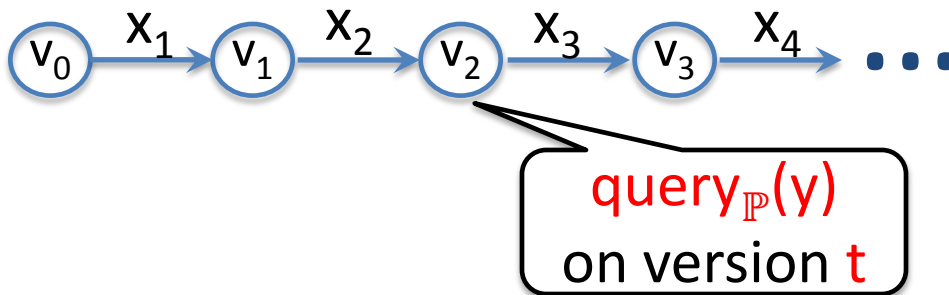
*Persistent* : { dynamic problems }  $\mapsto$  { static problems }

Given dynamic problem  $\mathbb{P}$  with  $\text{update}_{\mathbb{P}}(x)$ ,  $\text{query}_{\mathbb{P}}(y)$

*Persistent*( $\mathbb{P}$ ) = the static problem

Preprocess  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_T)$  to support:

$\text{query}(y, t)$  = the answer of  $\text{query}_{\mathbb{P}}(y)$  after  $\text{update}_{\mathbb{P}}(x_1), \dots, \text{update}_{\mathbb{P}}(x_t)$



# Persistence

*Persistent* : { dynamic problems }  $\mapsto$  { static problems }

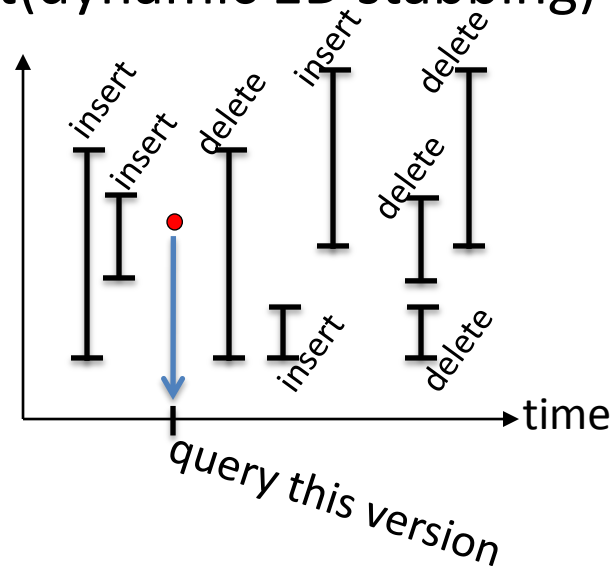
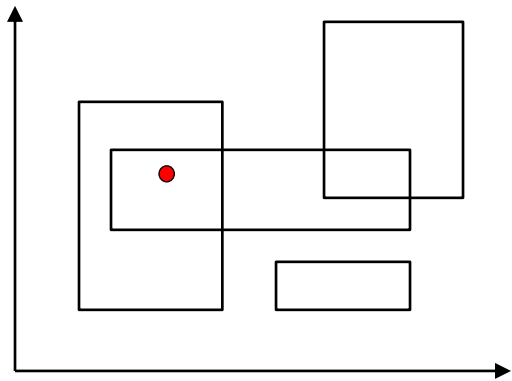
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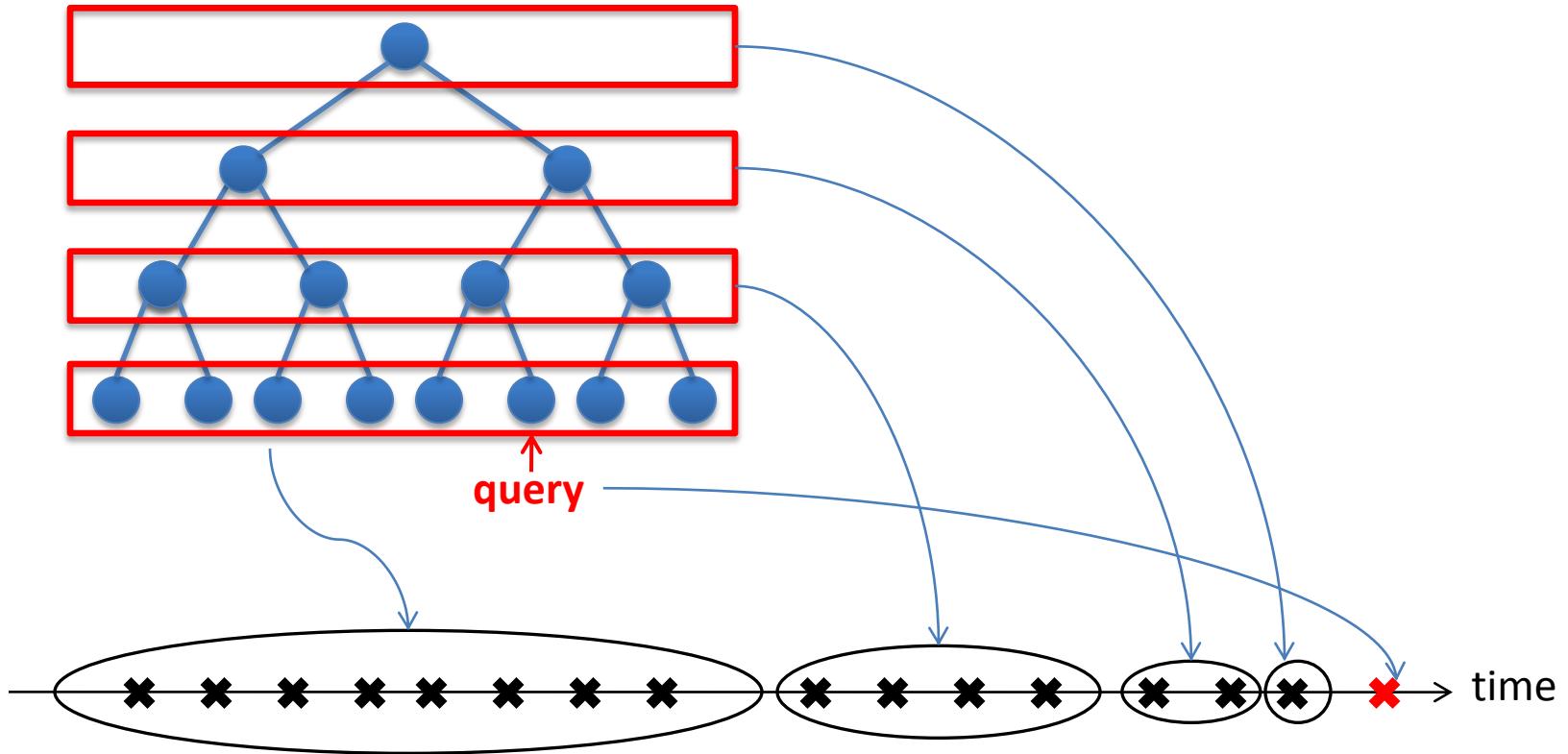
Preprocess  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_T)$  to support:

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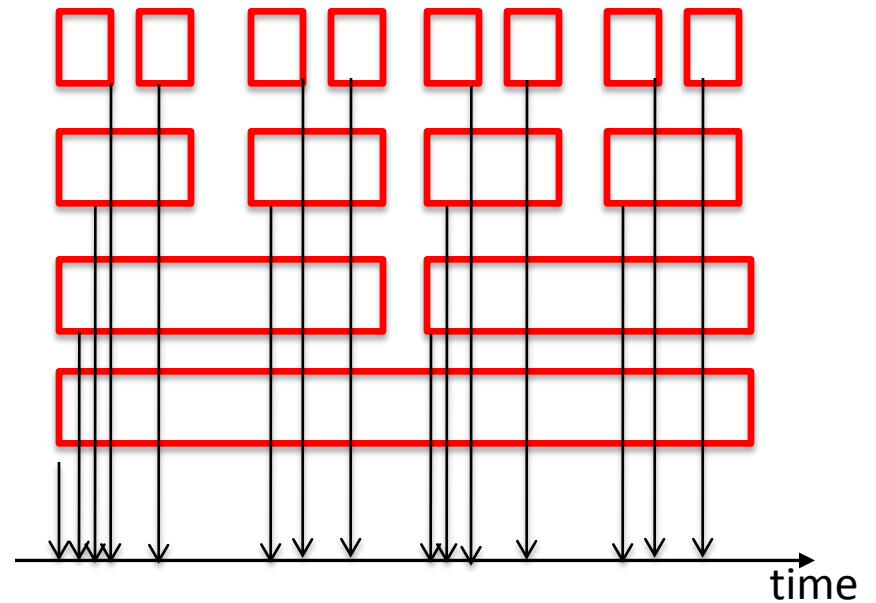
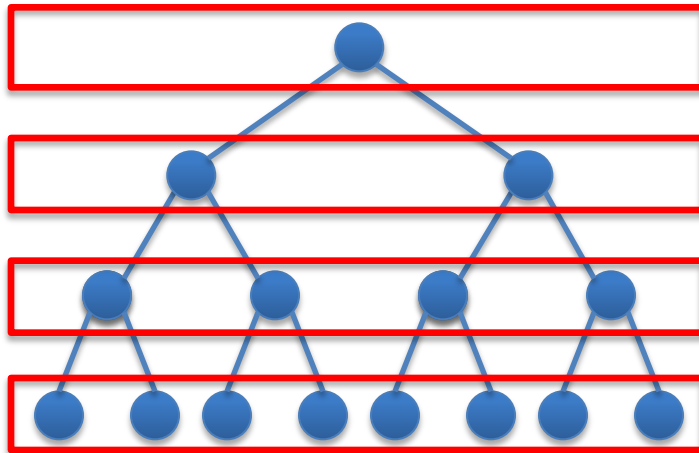
Static 2D stabbing  $\leq$  Persistent(dynamic 1D stabbing)



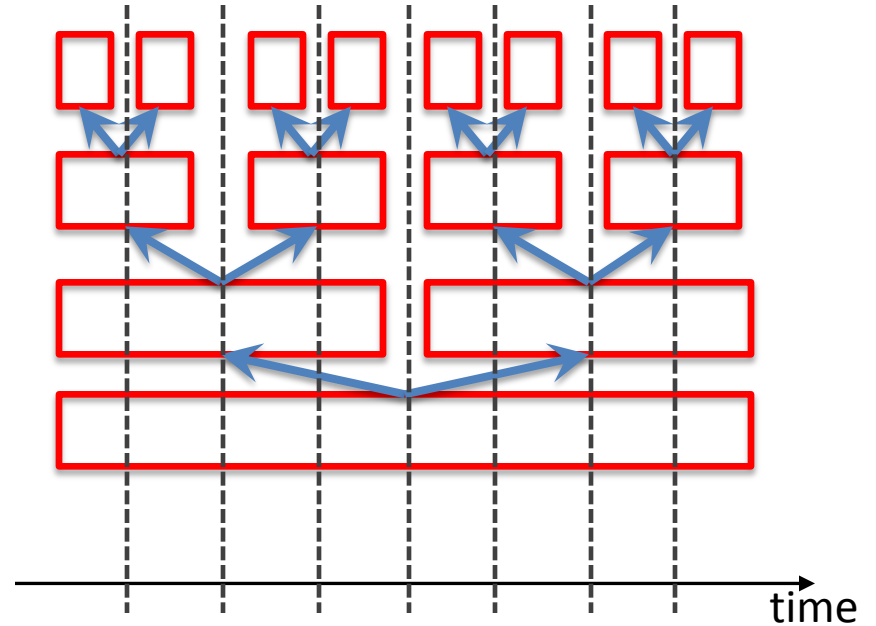
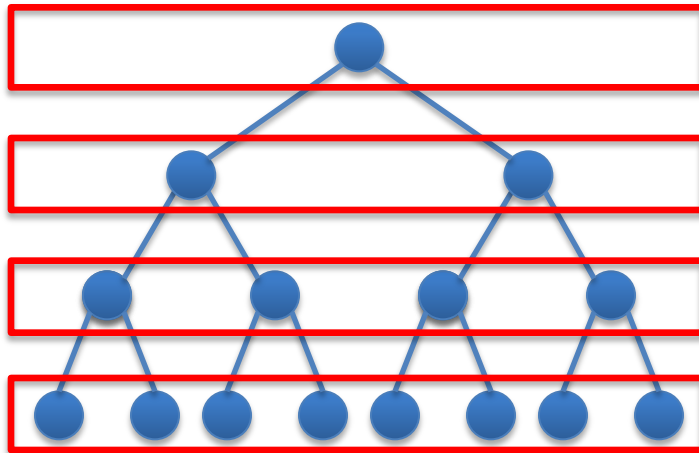
# Recap: Marked Ancestor



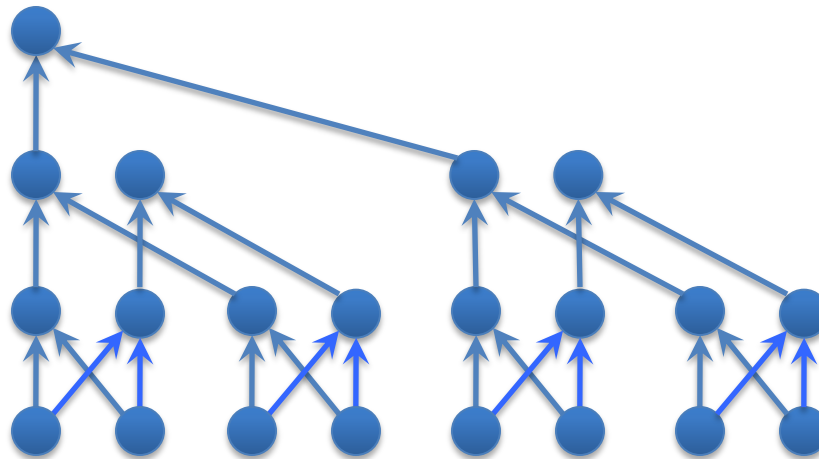
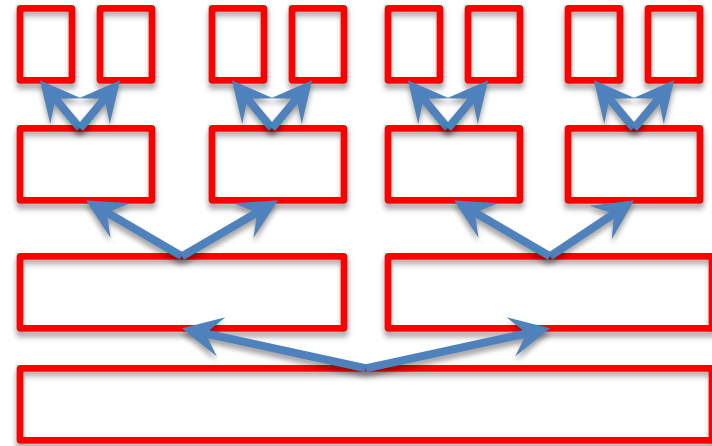
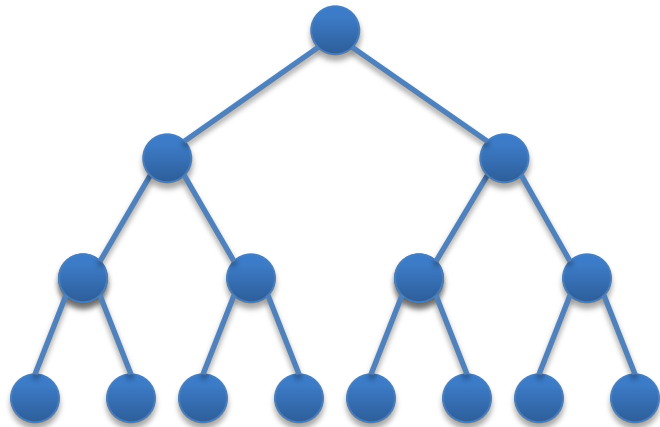
# Persistent (Marked Ancestor)



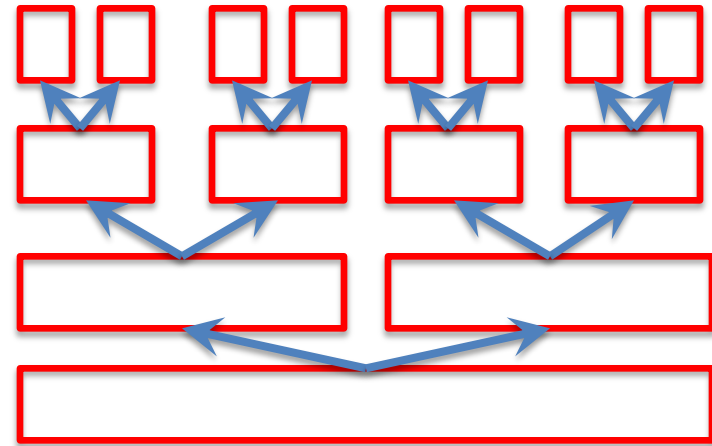
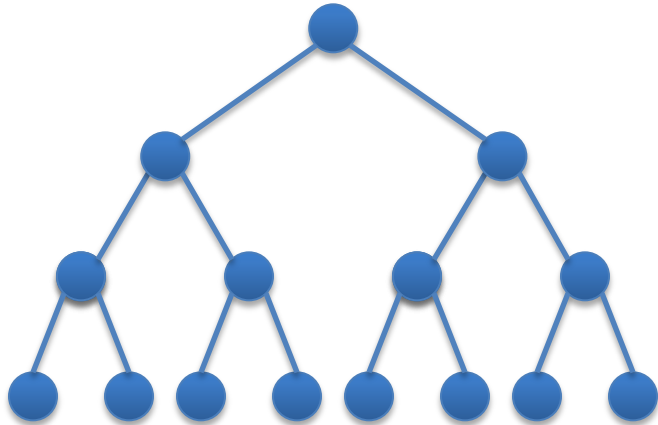
# Persistent (Marked Ancestor)



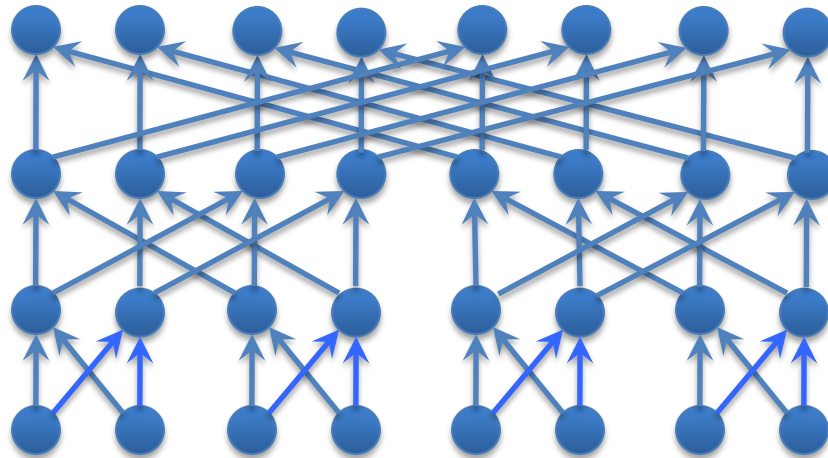
# Persistent (Marked Ancestor)



# Persistent (Marked Ancestor)



Butterfly graph!

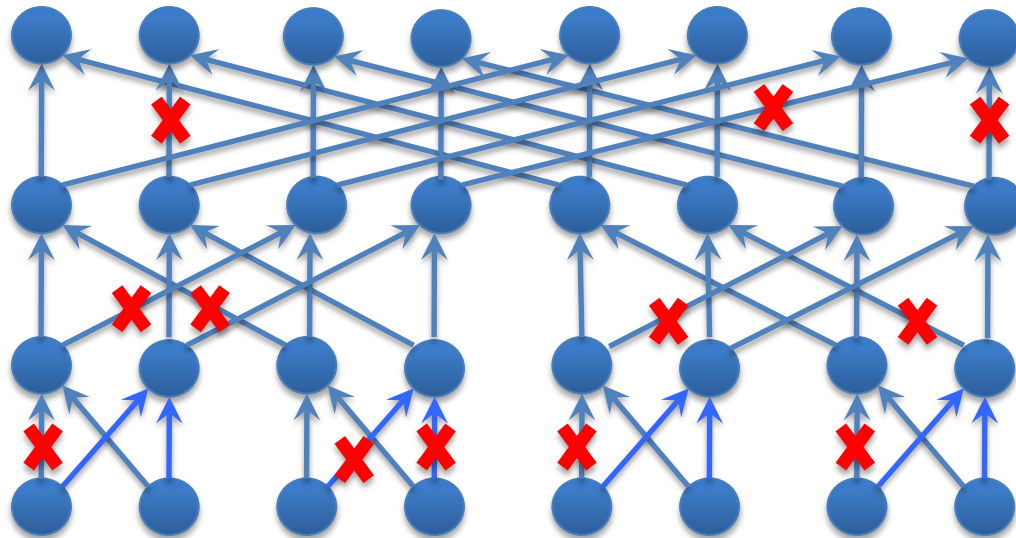


# Butterfly Reachability

Let  $G$  = butterfly of degree  $B$  with  $n$  wires

Preprocess a subgraph of  $G$

$\text{query}(u, v)$  = is there a path from source  $u$  to sink  $v$ ?



# vertices:  $N = n \cdot \log_B n$

# edges:  $N \cdot B$

Database = {**X**'s}

= vector of  $N \cdot B$  bits



# Butterfly Reachability $\mapsto$ 2D Stabbing

Let  $G$  = butterfly of degree  $B$  with  $n$  wires

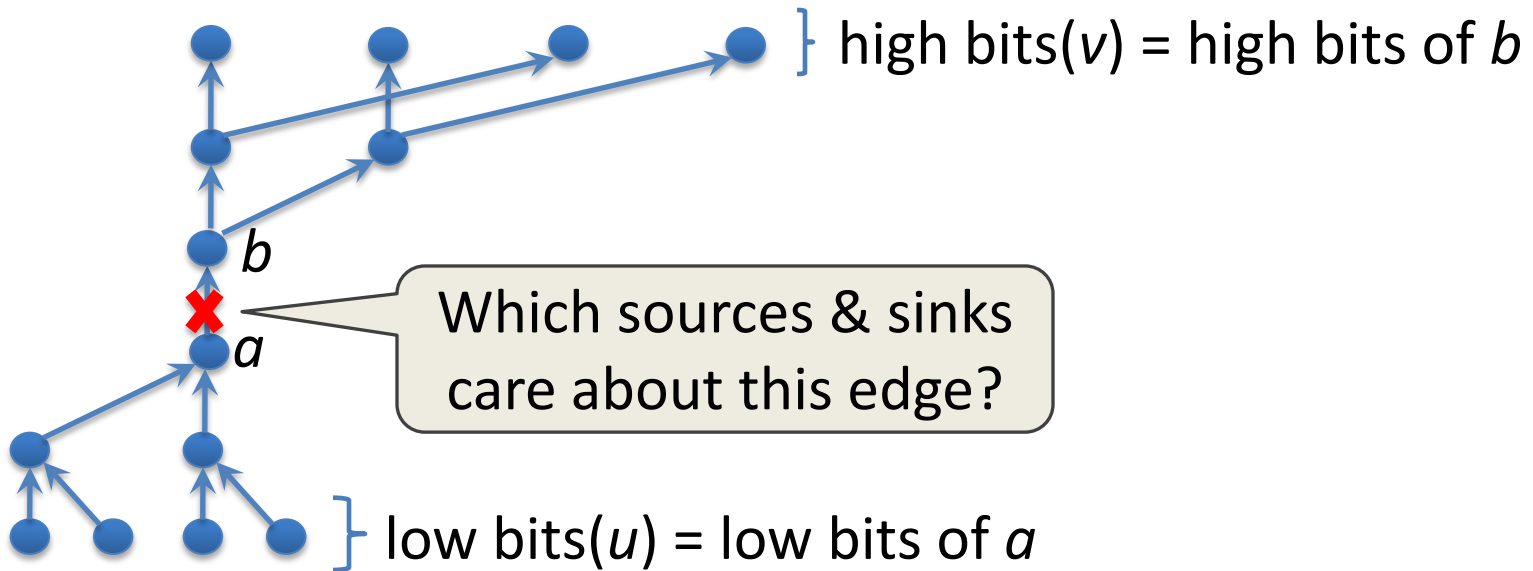
Preprocess a subgraph of  $G$

$query(u,v)$  = is there a path from source  $u$  to sink  $v$ ?



Preprocess  $D = \{ \text{axis-aligned rectangles} \}$

$query(x,y)$ : is  $(x,y) \in R$ , for some  $R \in D$ ?



# Butterfly Reachability $\mapsto$ 2D Stabbing

Let  $G$  = butterfly of degree  $B$  with  $n$  wires

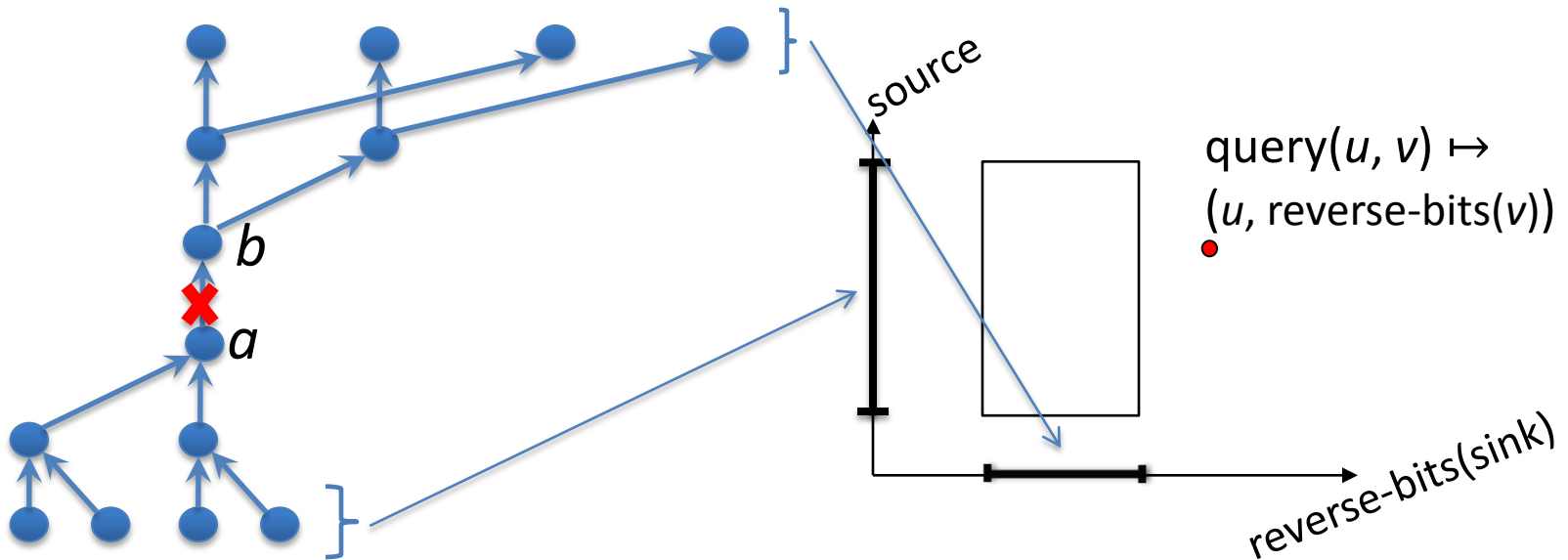
Preprocess a subgraph of  $G$

$\text{query}(u,v)$  = is there a path from source  $u$  to sink  $v$ ?

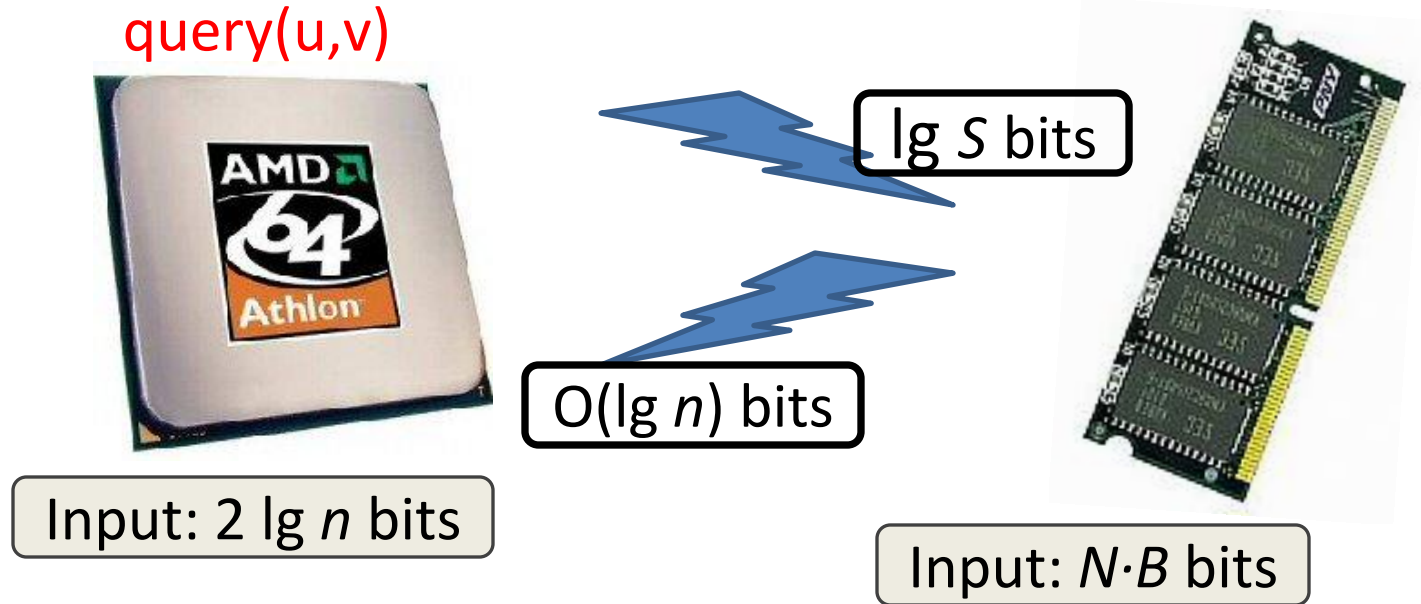


Preprocess  $D = \{ \text{axis-aligned rectangles} \}$

$\text{query}(x,y)$ : is  $(x,y) \in R$ , for some  $R \in D$ ?

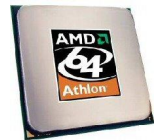


# Hardness of Butterfly Reachability



Either Alice sends  $\Omega(\lg n)$  bits  
or Bob sends  $B^{1-\epsilon}$  bits

$$\lg\binom{S}{n} \approx n \lg \frac{S}{n} = O(n \lg \lg n)$$



query( $u_1, v_1$ )



query( $u_n, v_n$ )



$O(n \lg n)$  bits

$O(n \lg \lg n)$

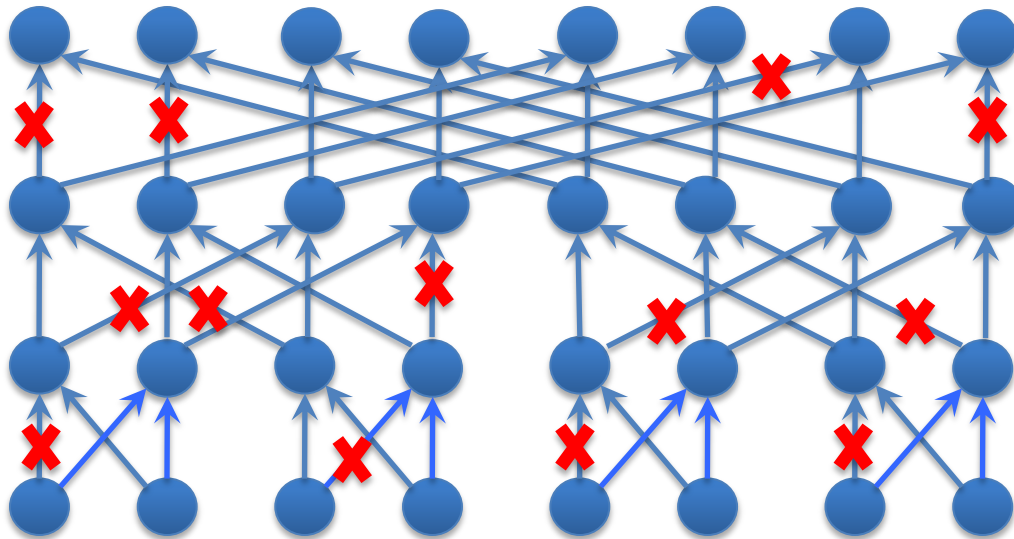


Input:  $O(n \lg n)$

Input:  $N \cdot B$  bits

Either Alice sends  $n \times \Omega(\lg n)$  bits  $\Rightarrow t = \Omega(\lg n / \lg \lg n)$   
 or Bob sends  $n \times B^{1-\epsilon}$  bits

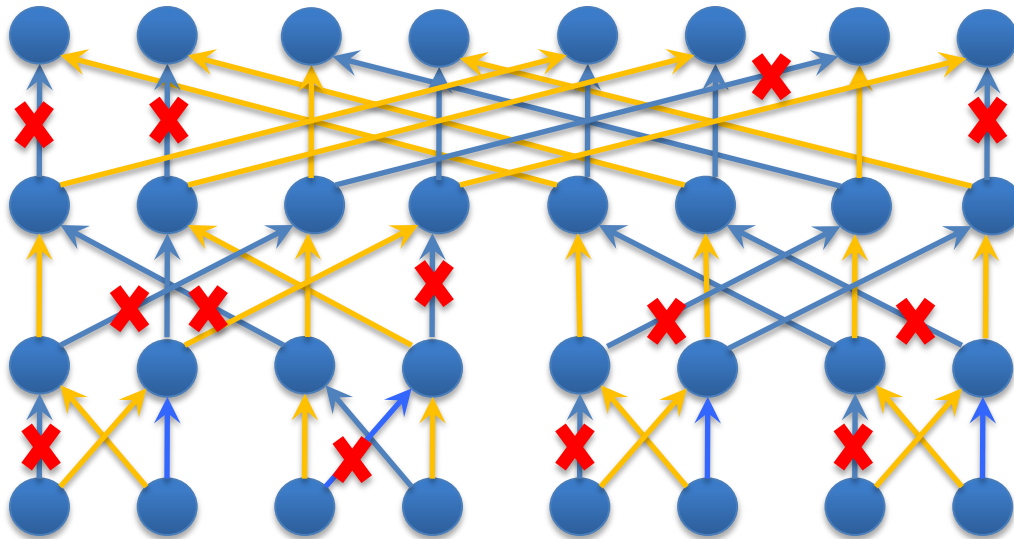
# Hardness of Butterfly Reachability



$B = \{ \frac{1}{2}NB \text{ 'X's} \}$   
 $\mapsto$  database

Either Alice sends  $n \times \Omega(\lg n)$  bits  
or Bob sends  $n \times B^{1-\epsilon}$  bits

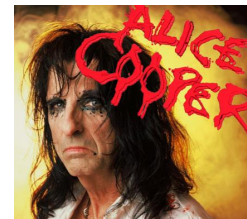
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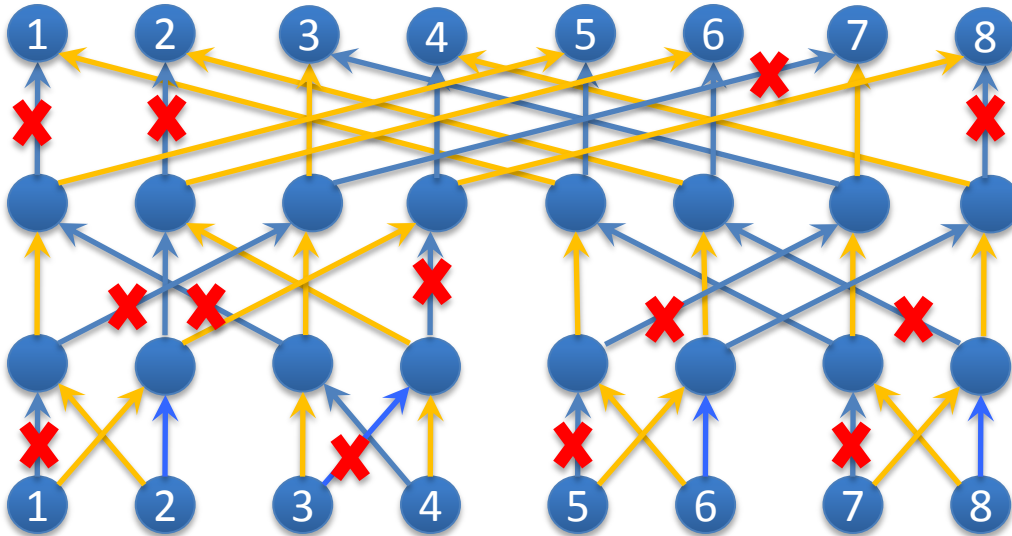


$A = \{ \log_B n \text{ matchings} \}$   
 $= \{ N \text{ '}'s \}$



$$A \cap B = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow$$

query(1,8)=true  $\wedge$  query(2,5)=true  $\wedge$  ...



**LSD lower bound:**

Either Alice sends  $n \times \Omega(\lg n)$  bits  
or Bob sends  $n \times B^{1-\epsilon}$  bits



$$B = \{ \frac{1}{2}NB \text{ 'X's} \}$$

$\mapsto$  database



$$A = \{ \log_B n \text{ matchings} \}$$

$$= \{ N \text{ 'Y's} \}$$

$\mapsto n$  queries

# Bibliography: Predecessor Search

Preprocess a set  $S = \{ n \text{ integers} \}$

**predecessor(x)** :  $\max \{ y \in S \mid y \leq x \}$

1988	[Ajtai]	1 <sup>st</sup> static lower bound
1992	[Xiao]	
1994	[Miltersen]	
1995	[Miltersen, Nisan, Safra, Wigderson]	round elimination lemma
1999	[Beame, Fich]	optimal bound for space $n^{O(1)}$
	[Chakrabarti, Chazelle, Gum, Lvov]**	
2001	[Sen]	randomized
2004	[Chakrabarti, Regev]**	
2006	[Pătraşcu, Thorup]	optimal bound for space $n \lg^{O(1)} n$
		1 <sup>st</sup> separation between polynomial and linear space
2007	[Pătraşcu, Thorup]	randomized

\*\* ) Work on approx. nearest neighbor



# Bibliography: Succinct Data Structures

On input of  $n$  bits, use  $n + o(n)$  bits of space.

[Gál, Miltersen '03] polynomial evaluation  
 $\Rightarrow$  redundancy  $\times$  query time  $\geq \Omega(n)$

[Golynski '09] store a permutation and query  $\pi(\cdot), \pi^{-1}(\cdot)$   
If space is  $(1+\varepsilon) \cdot n \lg n$  bits  $\Rightarrow$  query time is  $\Omega(1/\sqrt{\varepsilon})$

Tight!

[Pătraşcu, Viola '10] prefix sums in bit vector  
For query time  $t \Rightarrow$  redundancy  $\geq n / \lg^{O(t)} n$

Tight!

**NB:** Also many lower bounds under the indexing assumption.

*The End*