

On Library Correctness under Weak Memory Consistency

Specifying and Verifying Concurrent Libraries under Declarative Consistency Models



plv.mpi-sws.org/yacovet/

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Tel Aviv University

Concurrent Library Specification

- Sequential Consistency (SC) -- well-explored
 - ▶ semantic-based: linearisability
 - ▶ program logics: Hoare logic, separation logic, etc.
 - ▶ **large** body of case studies

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- tied to a
particular WMC memory model (MM) !
E.g. C11, TSO, ...

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wanted

general

MM-agnostic

declarative

specification & verification

framework

colored

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Declarative Framework Desiderata

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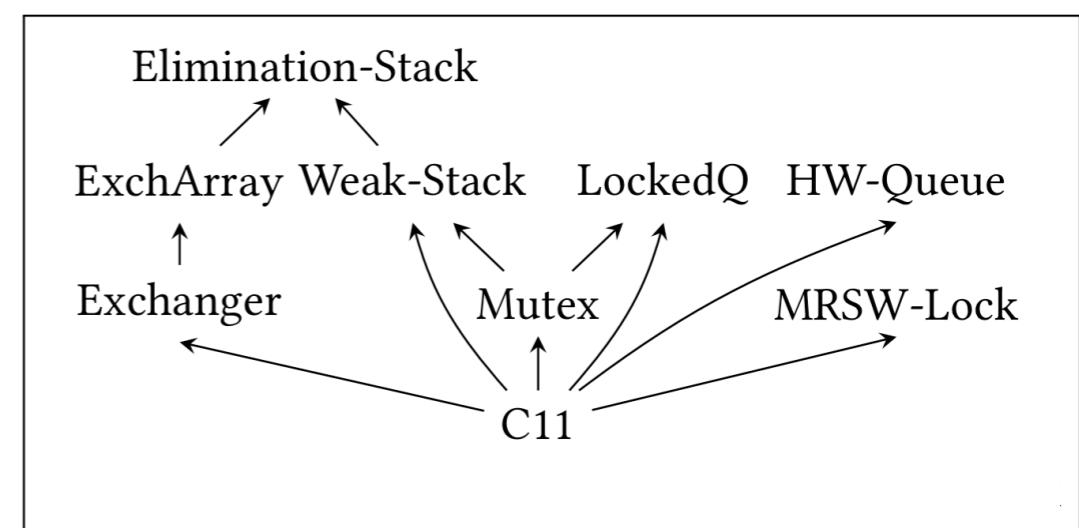
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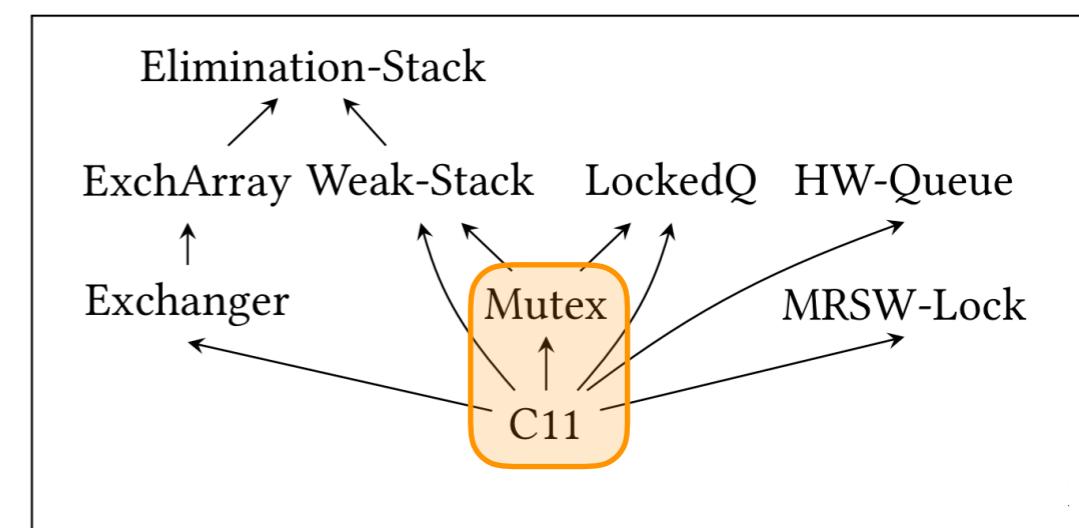
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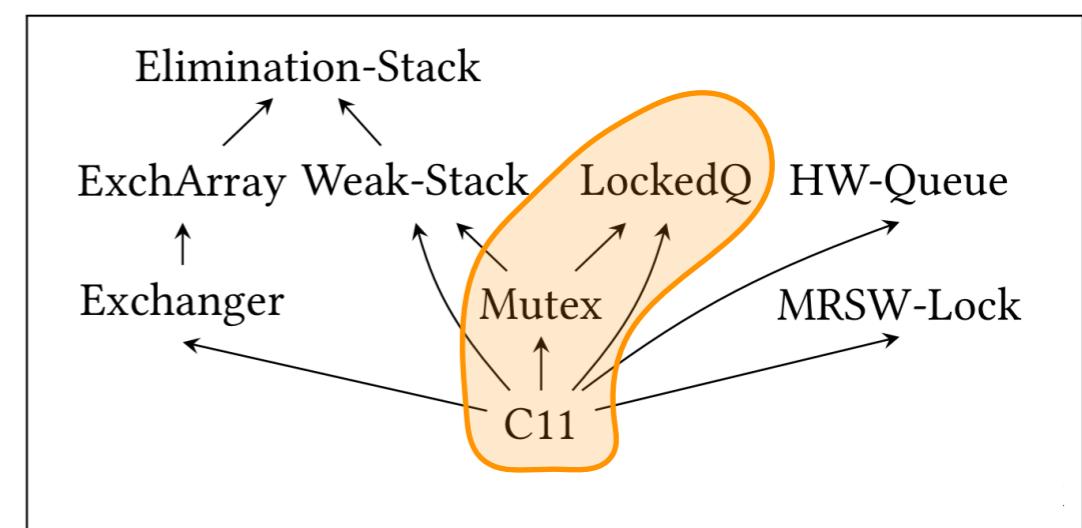
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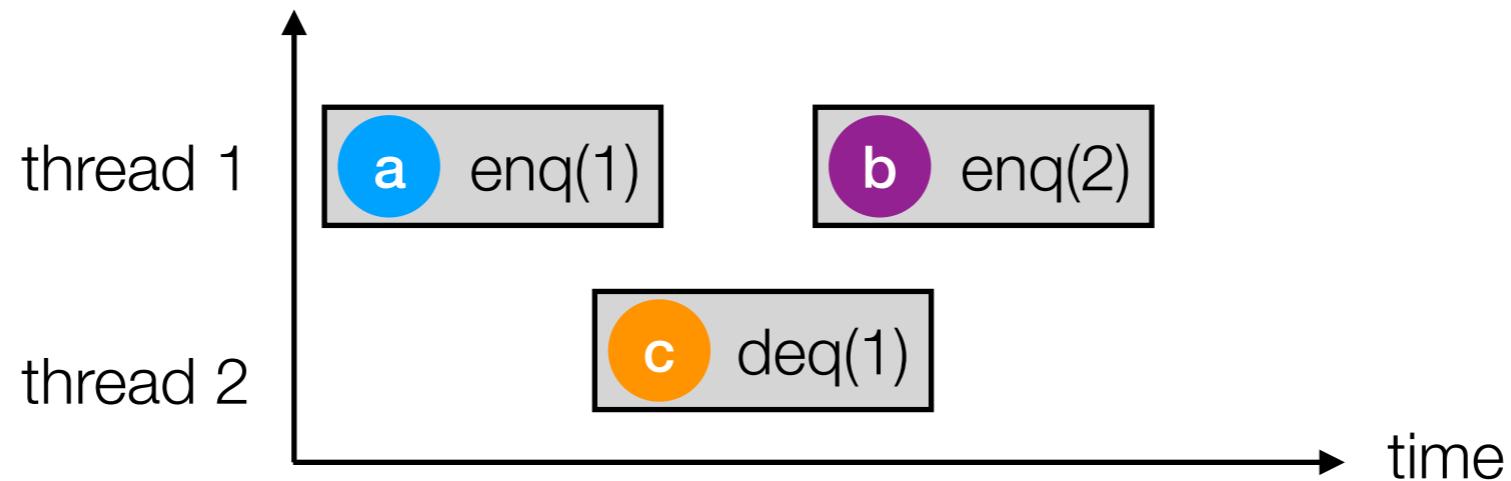
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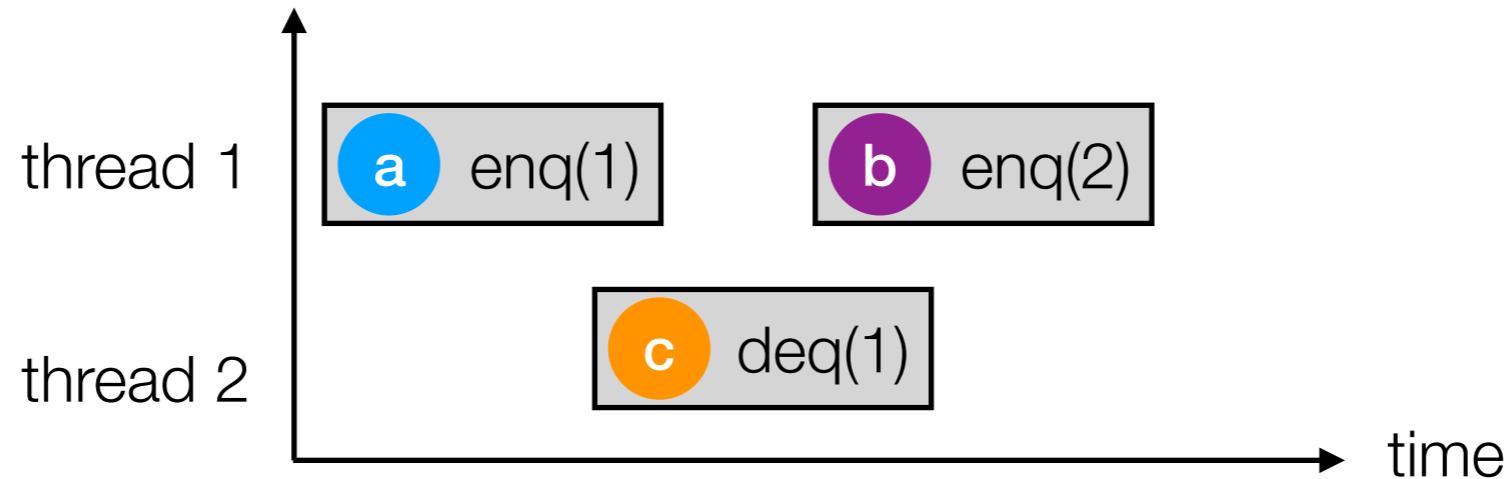


Linearisability



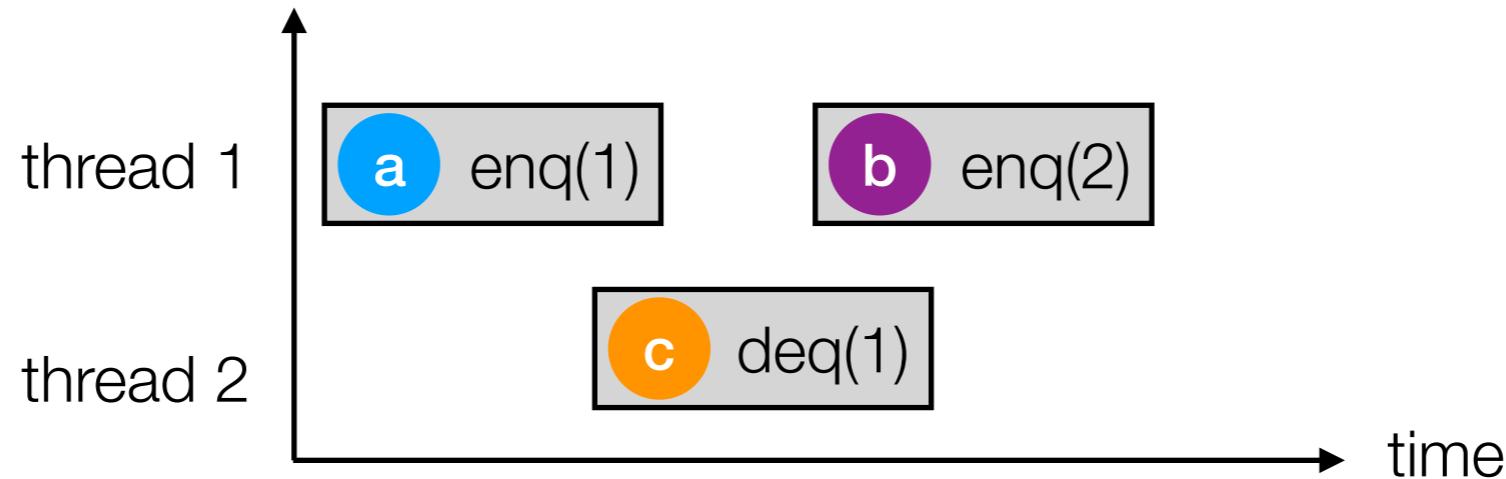
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 - ▶ $(e_1, e_2) \in hb \iff e_1.\text{end} <_{\text{time}} e_2.\text{begin}$
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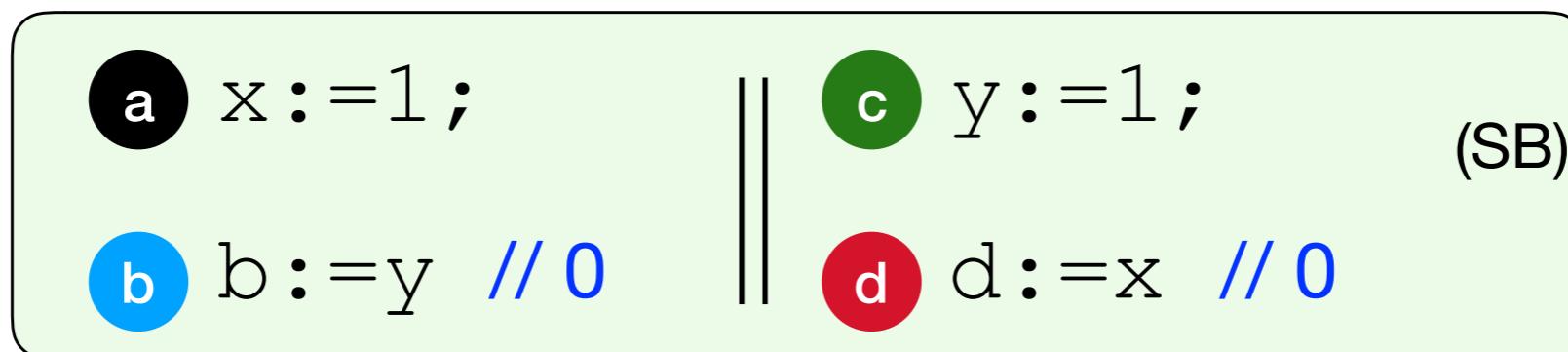
a b c ✓ linearisable

Why Not Linearisability?

- ✗ assumes `<time` order -- not present under WMC
- ✗ requires **total** order **to** on **all** events -- not always possible under WMC

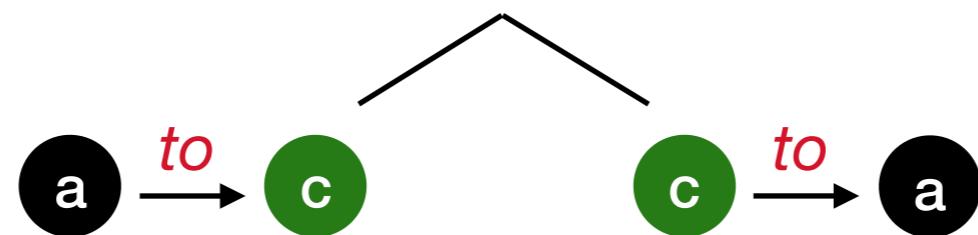
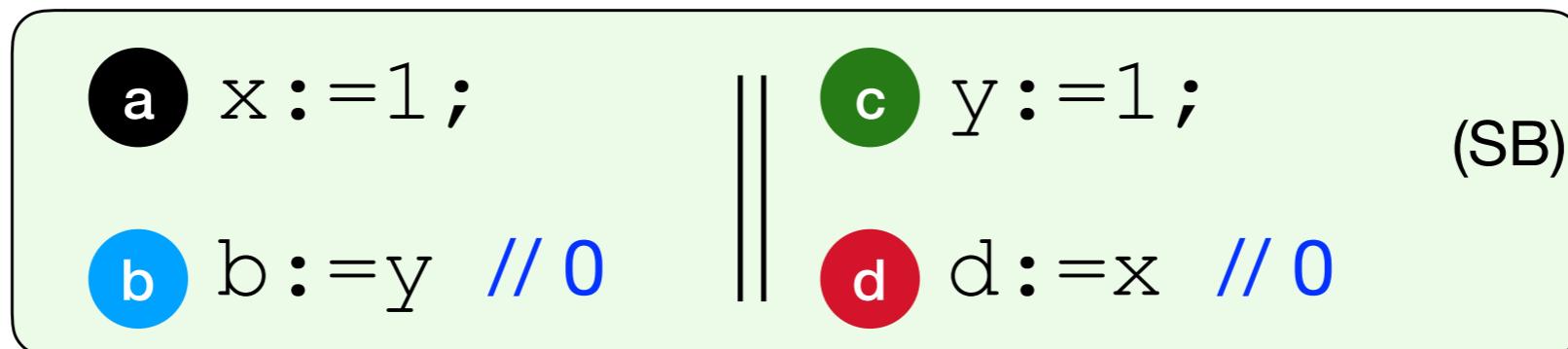
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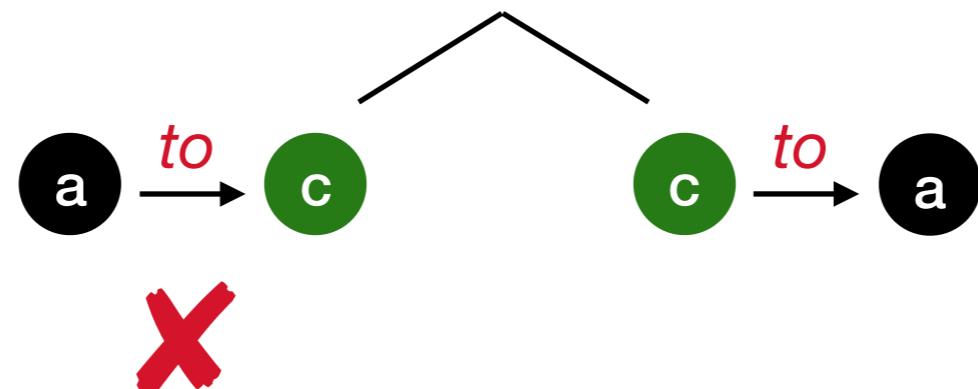
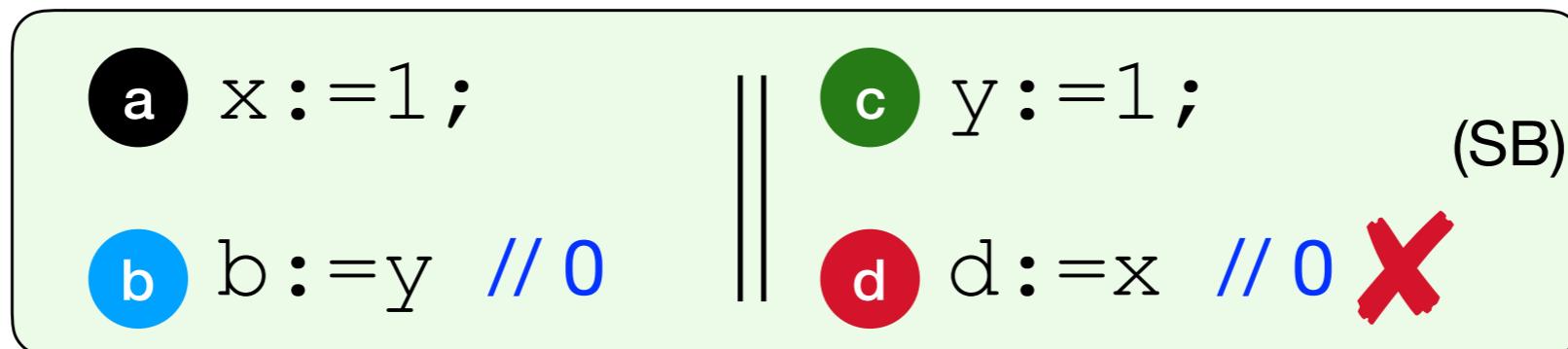
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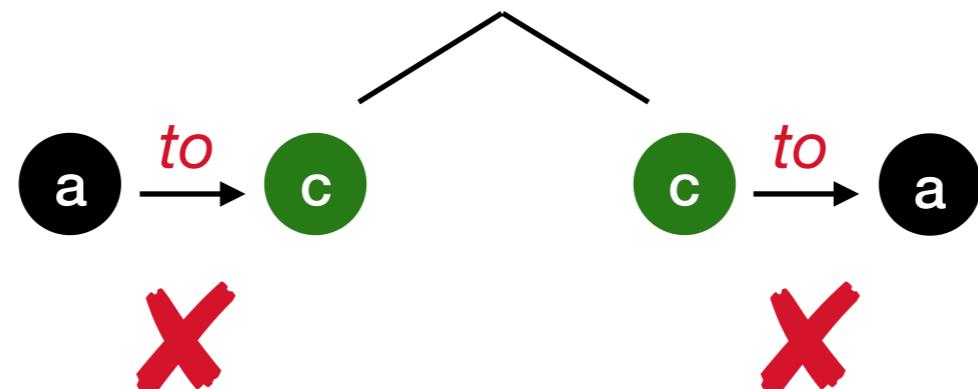
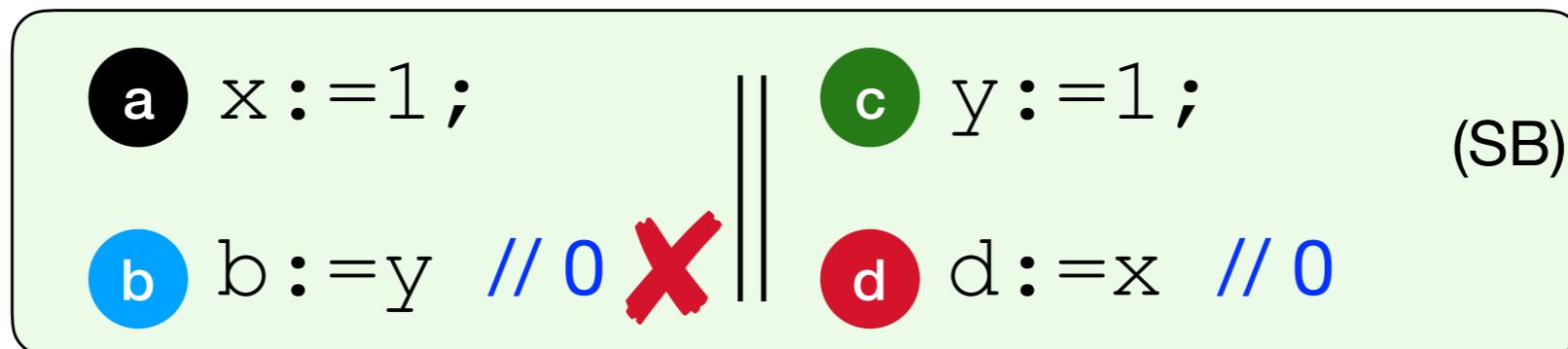
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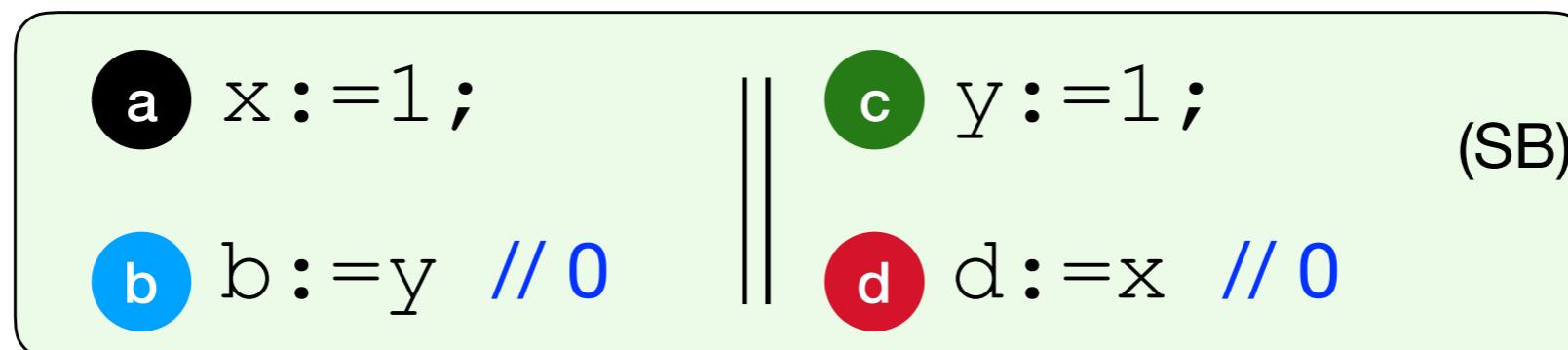
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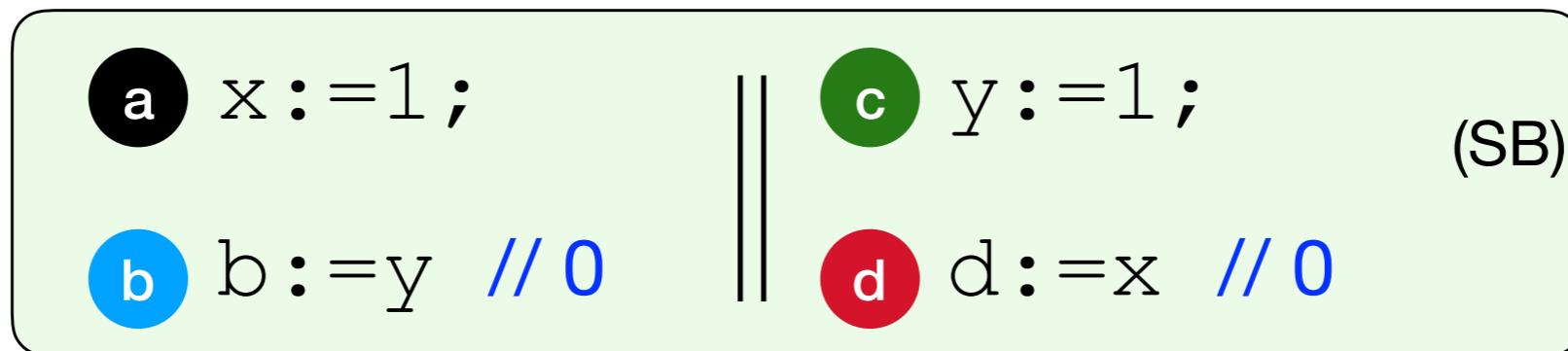
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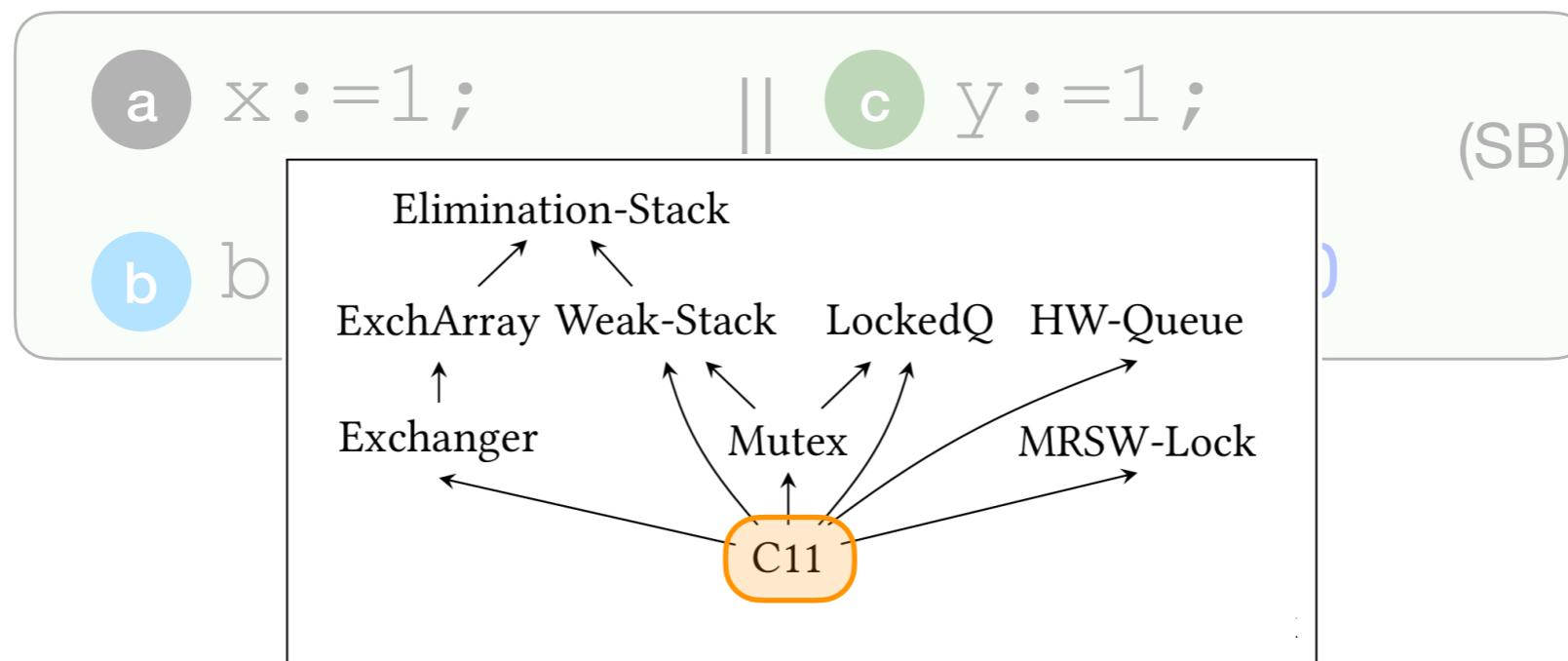
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 - set of *library executions*

$$\{G \mid G \text{ satisfies certain } \mathbf{axioms}\}$$

|
library execution

Library Executions

Example: **Queue** Library

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q:=new-queue();
s:=new-stack();

enq(q,1);    || a:=pop(s);
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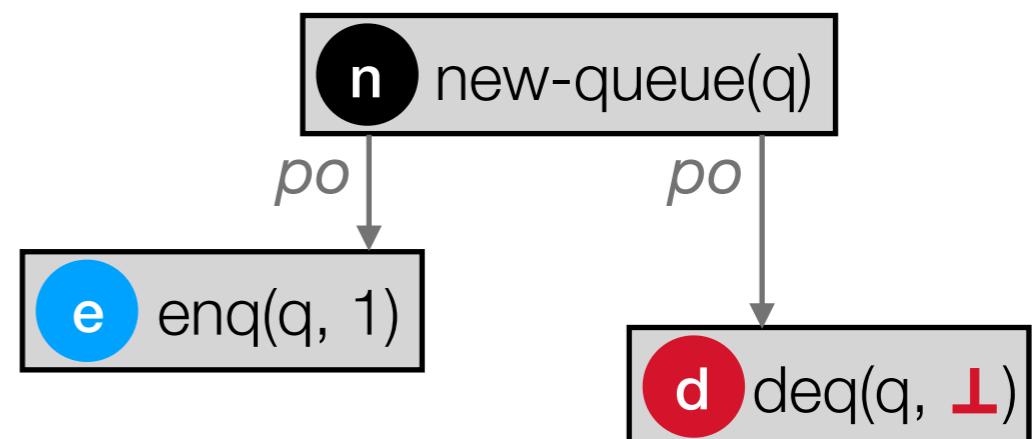
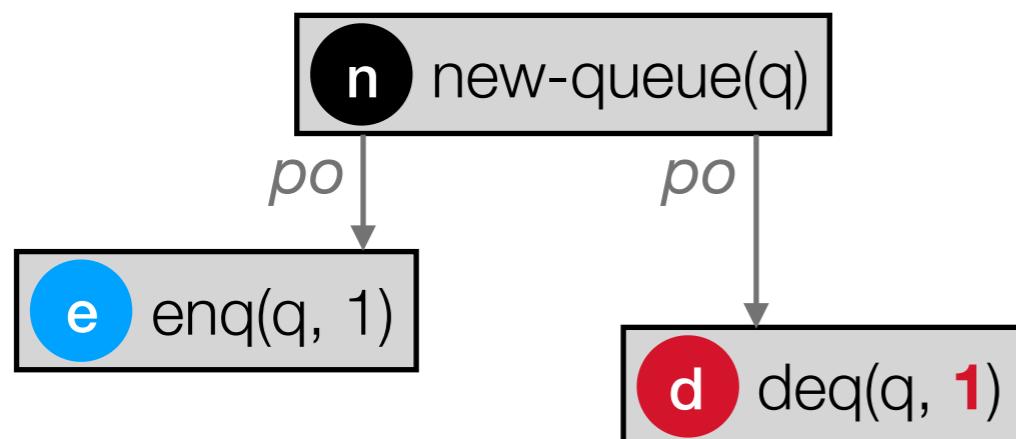
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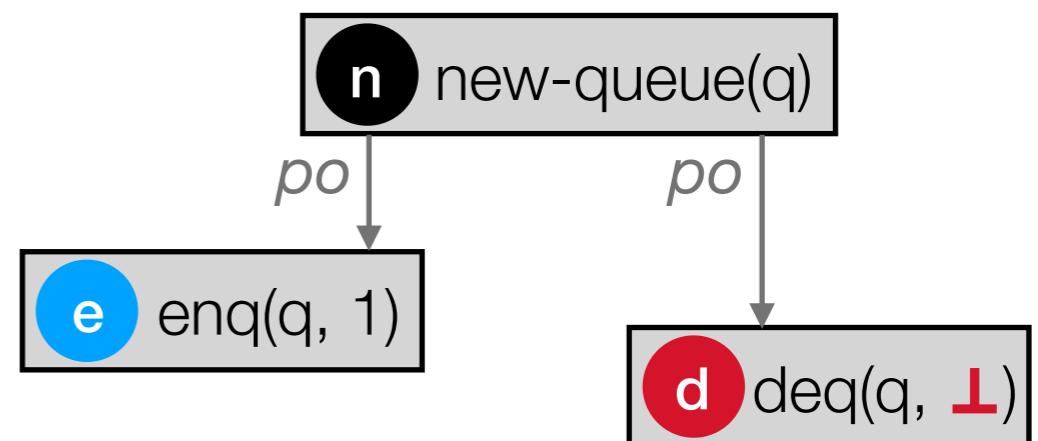
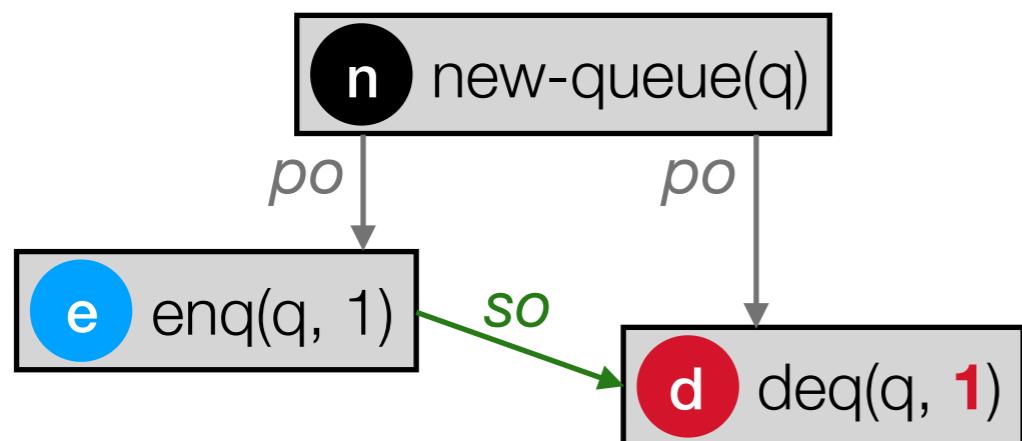
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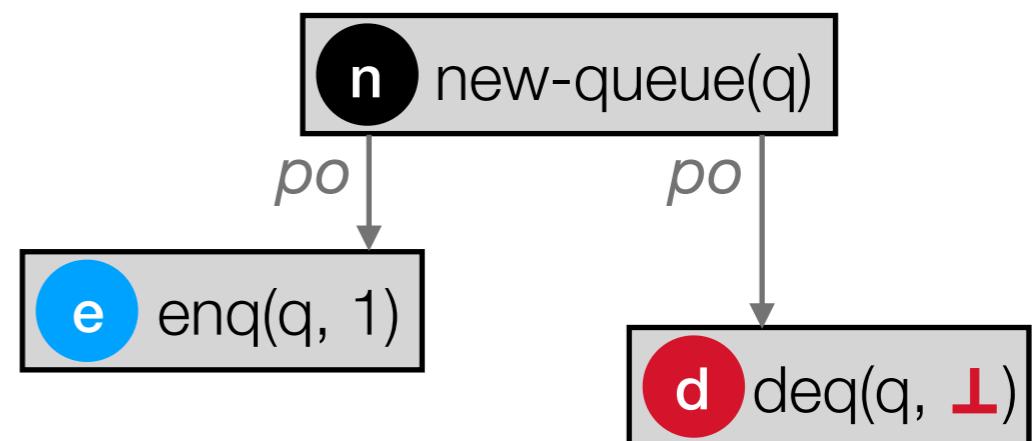
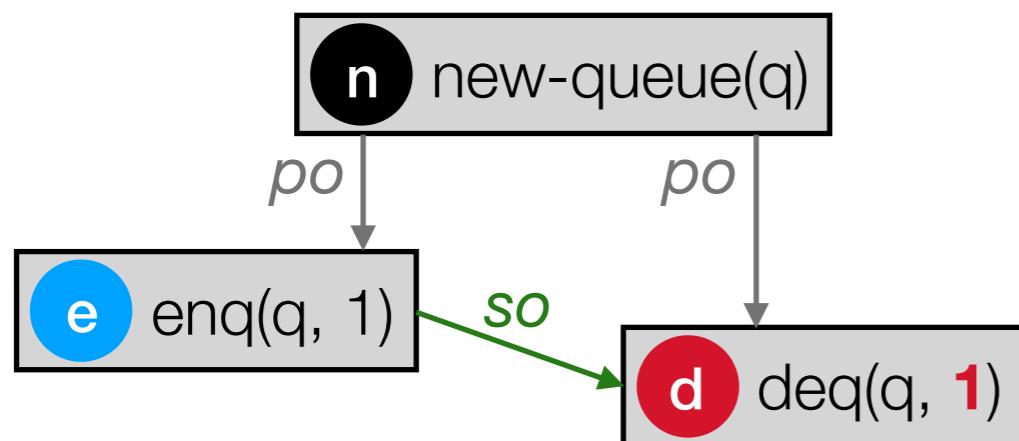
events program-order synchronisation-order



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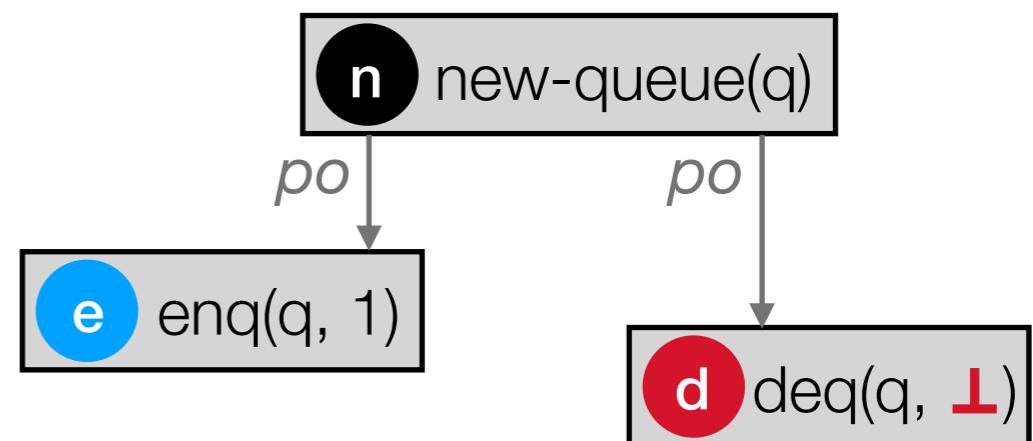
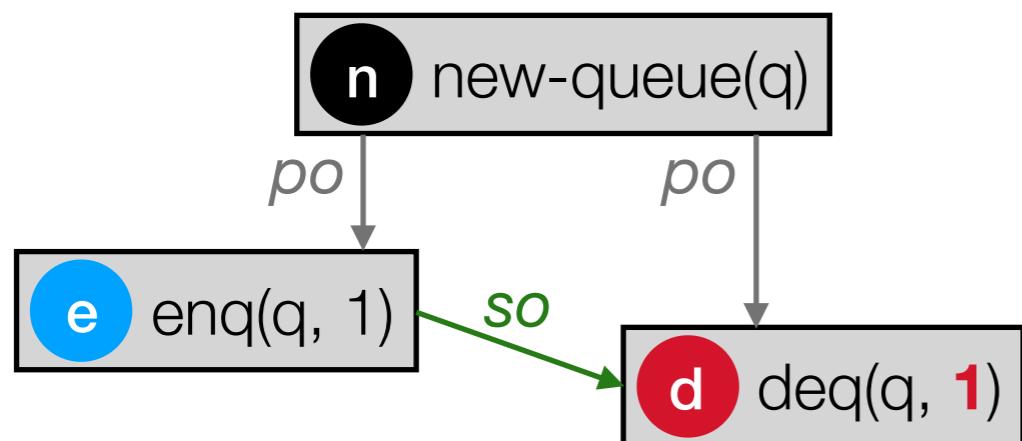
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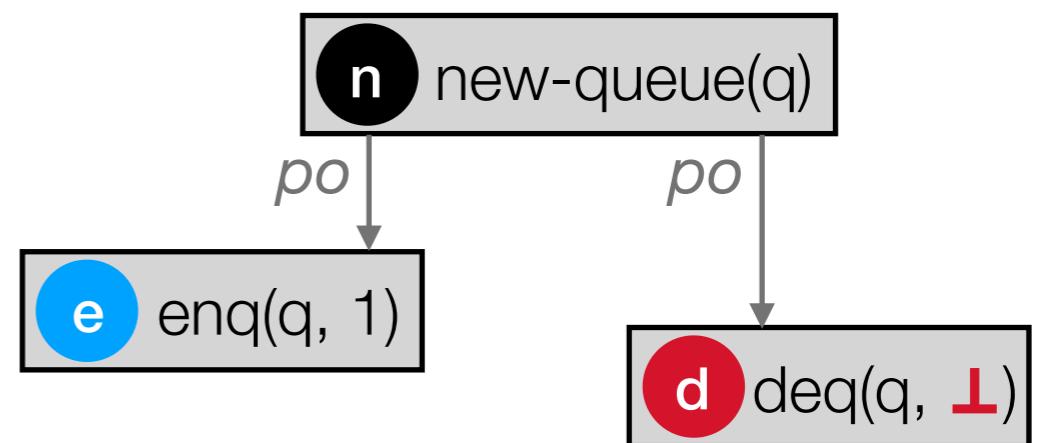
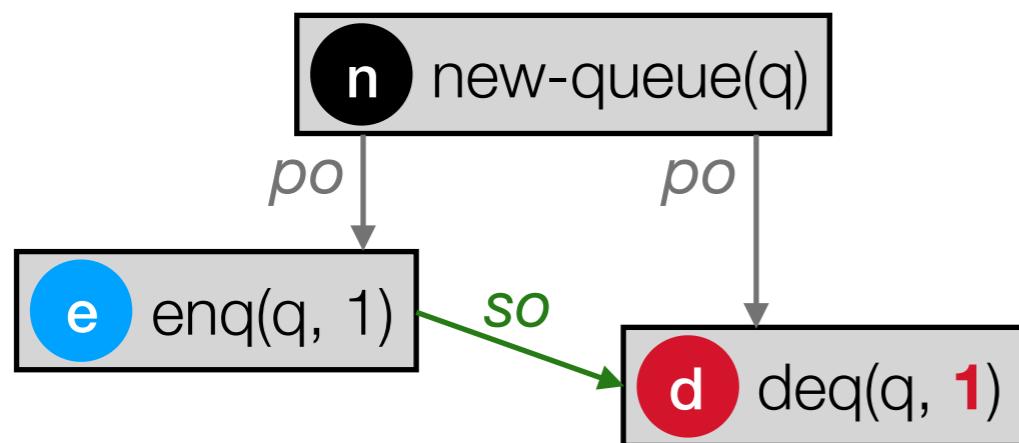


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How to eliminate this "*incorrect*" behaviour?



X

Program Executions

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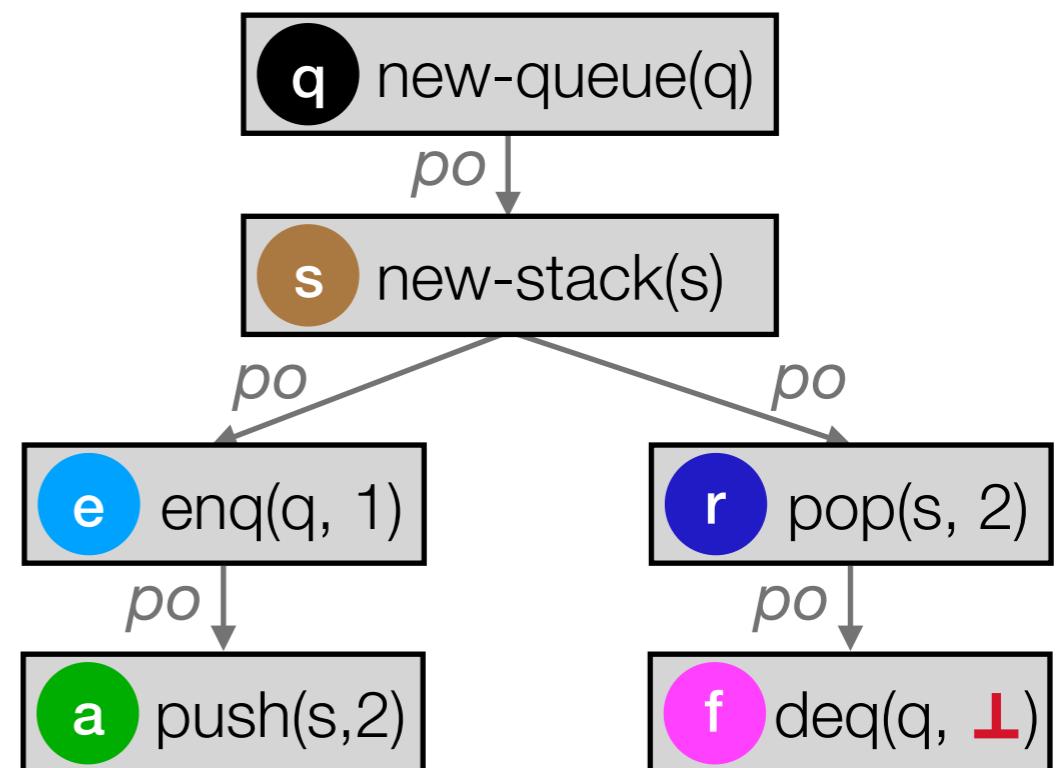
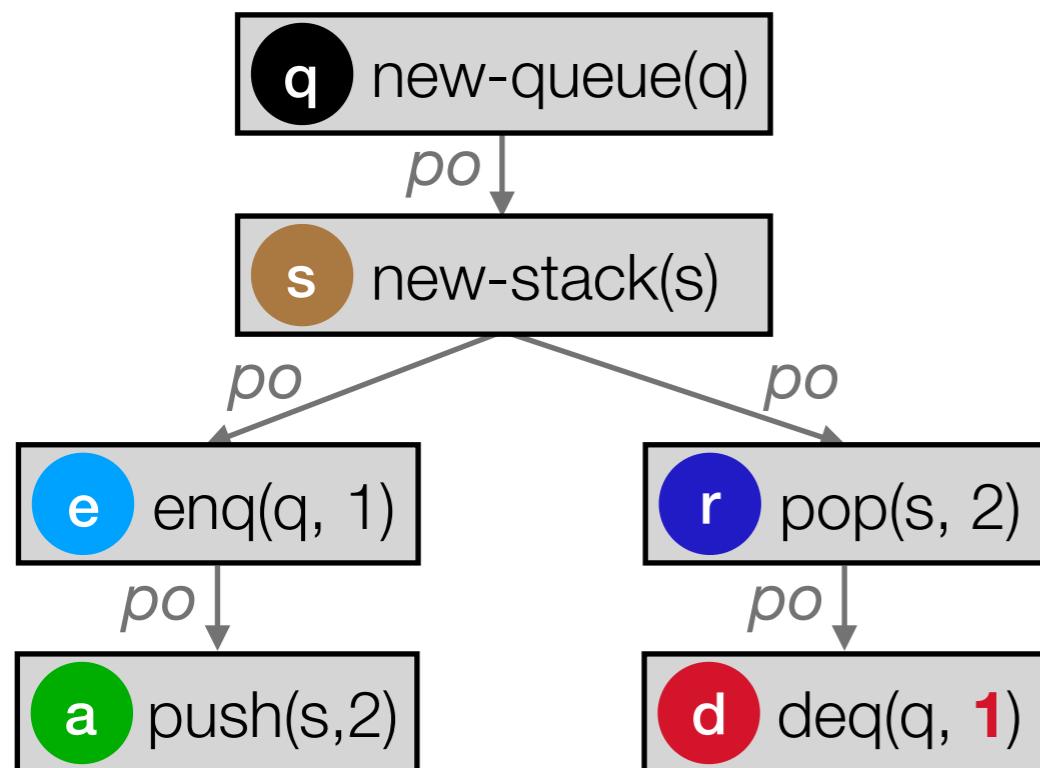
semantics of P | execution of P events | program-order | synchronisation-order
(library-specific)

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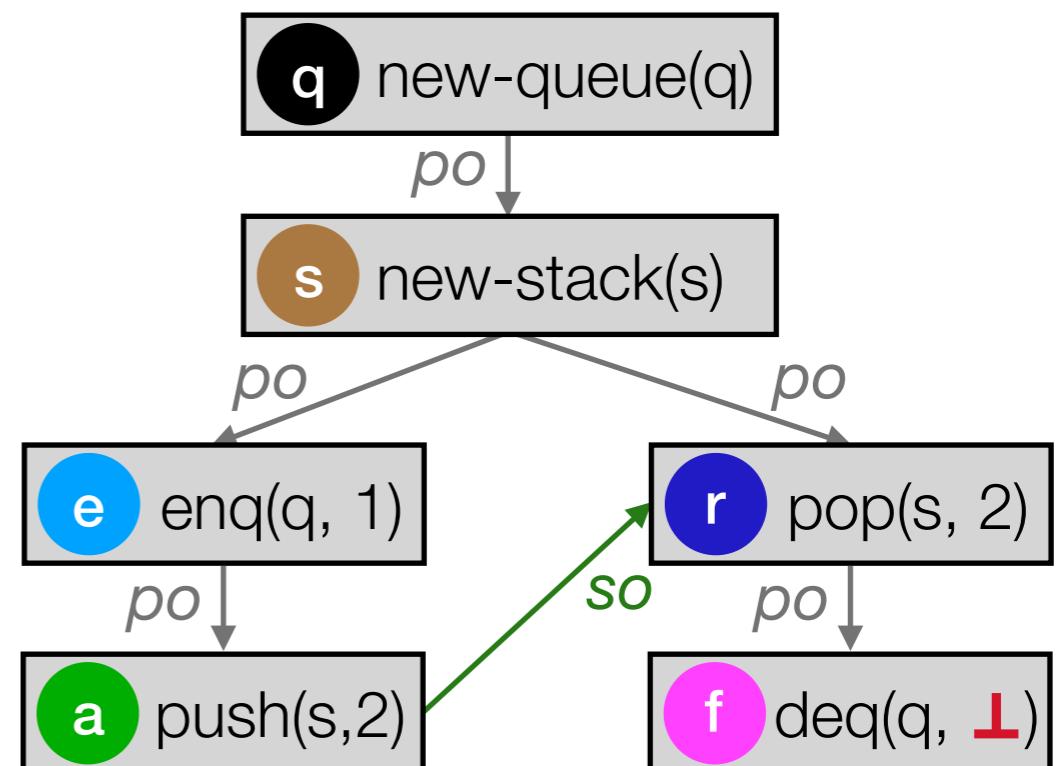
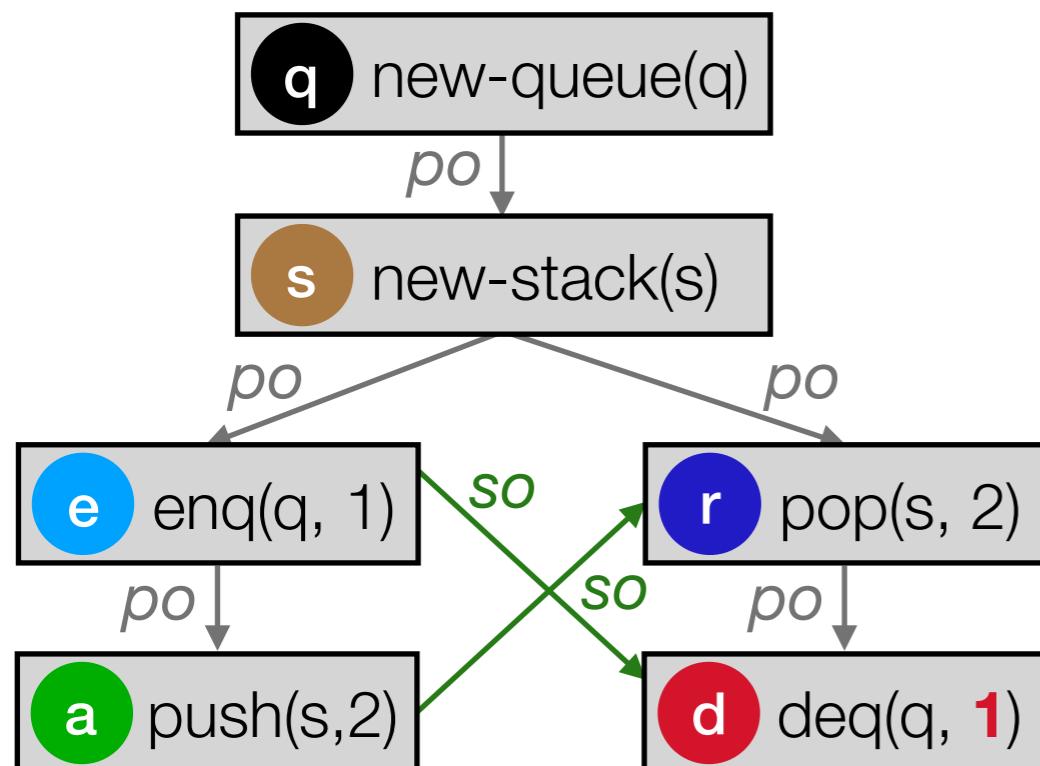


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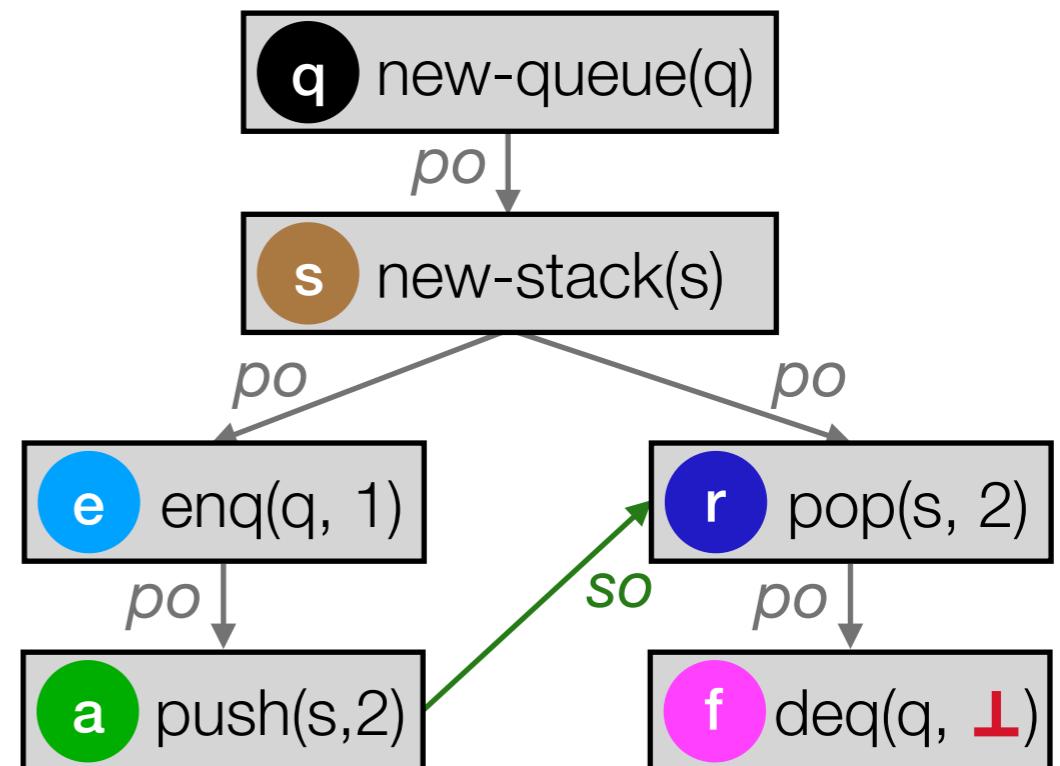
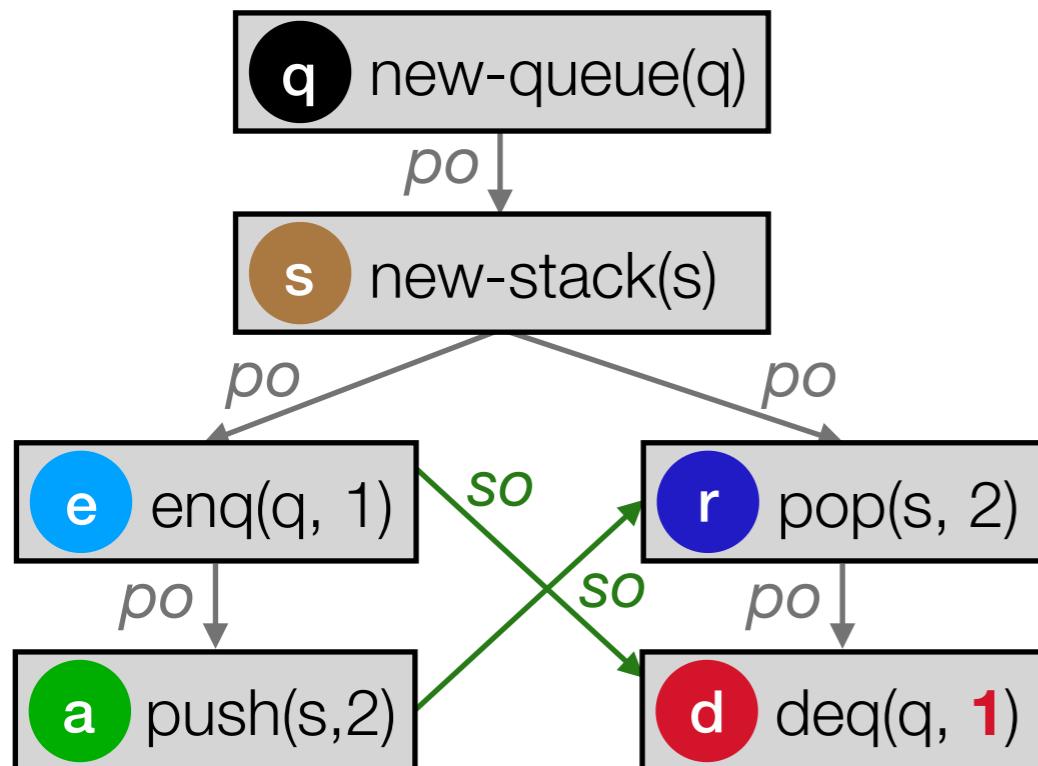
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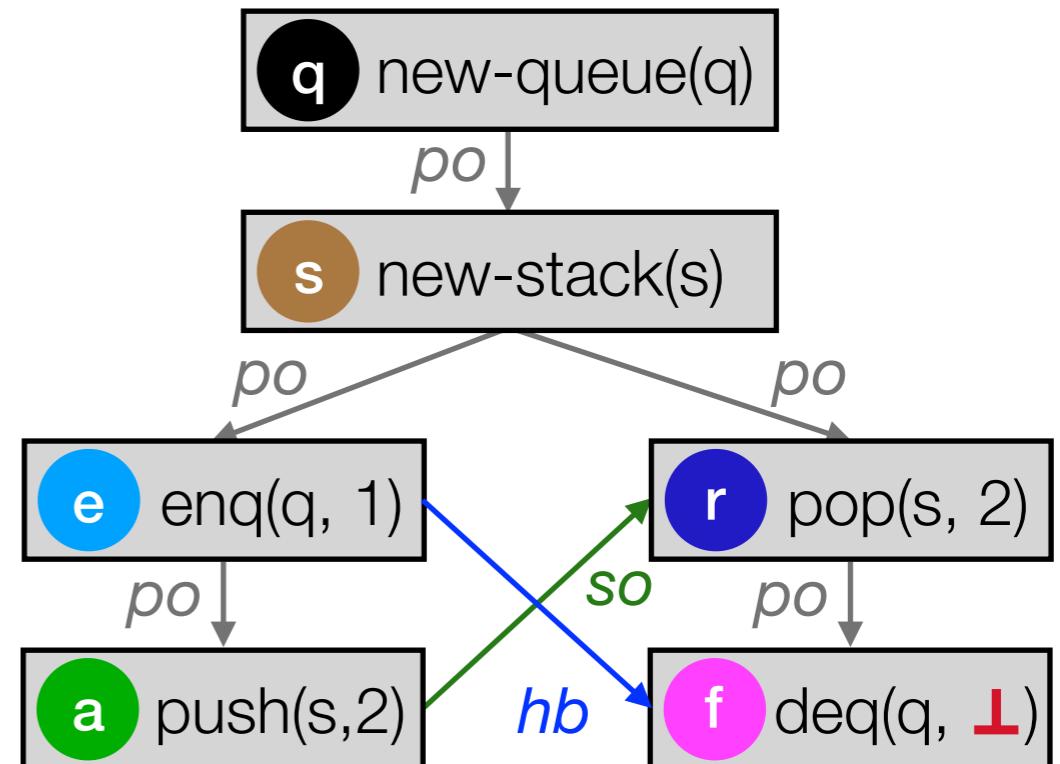
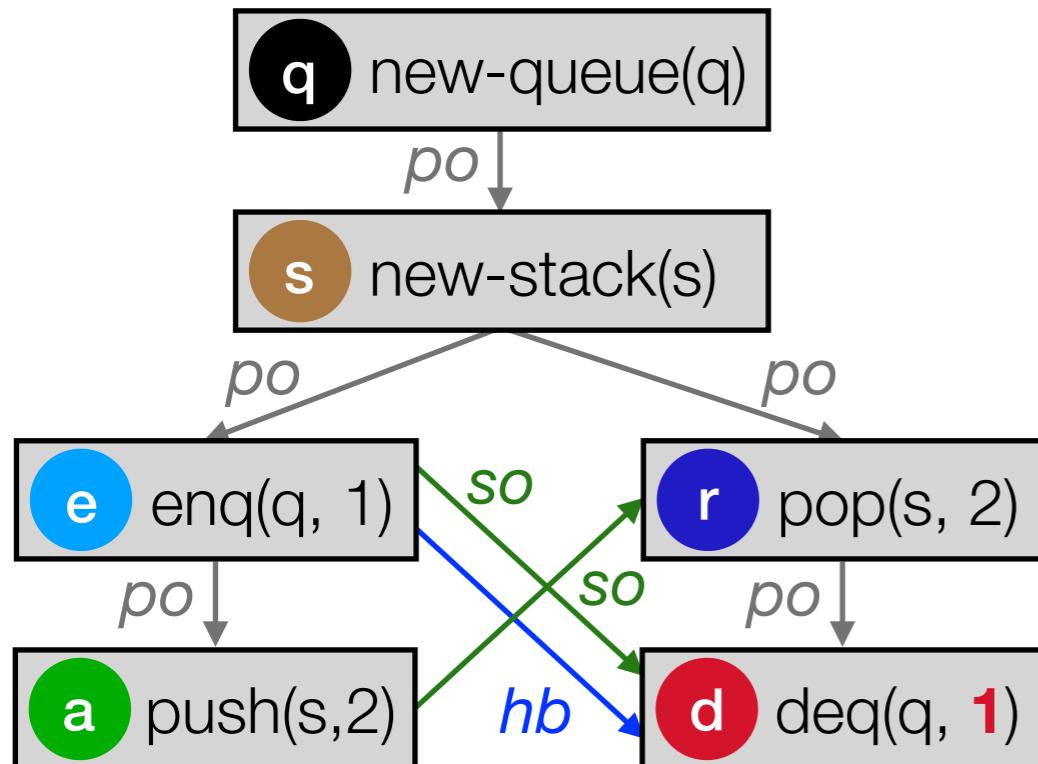
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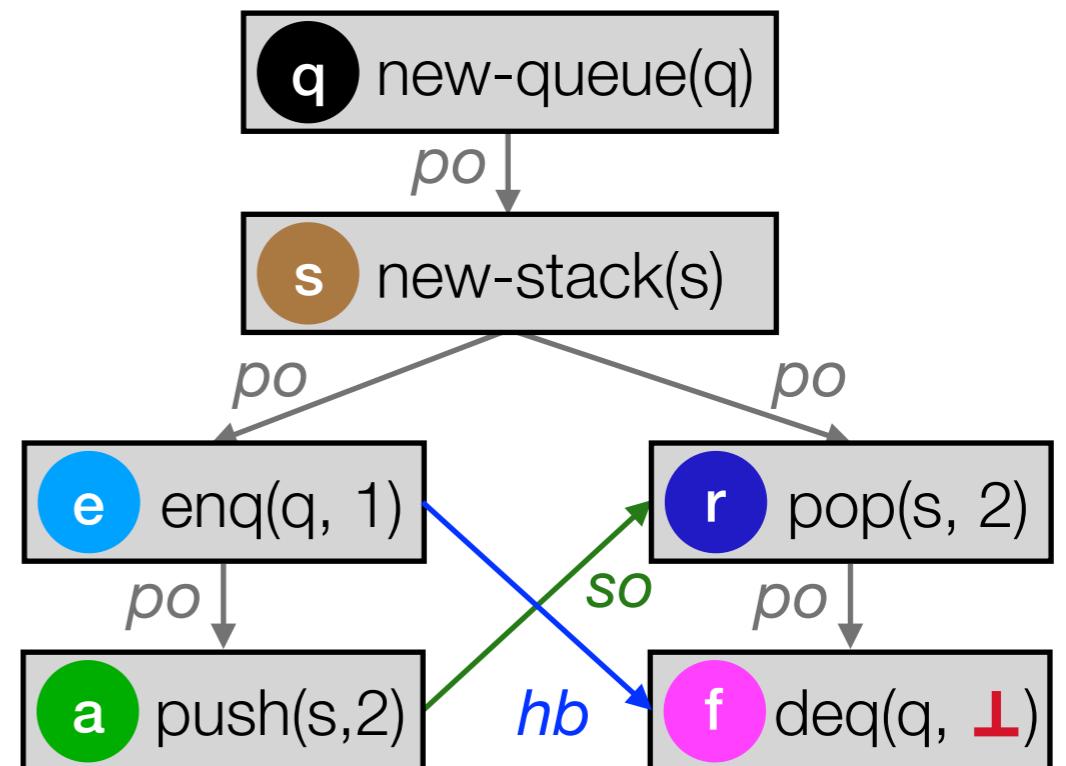
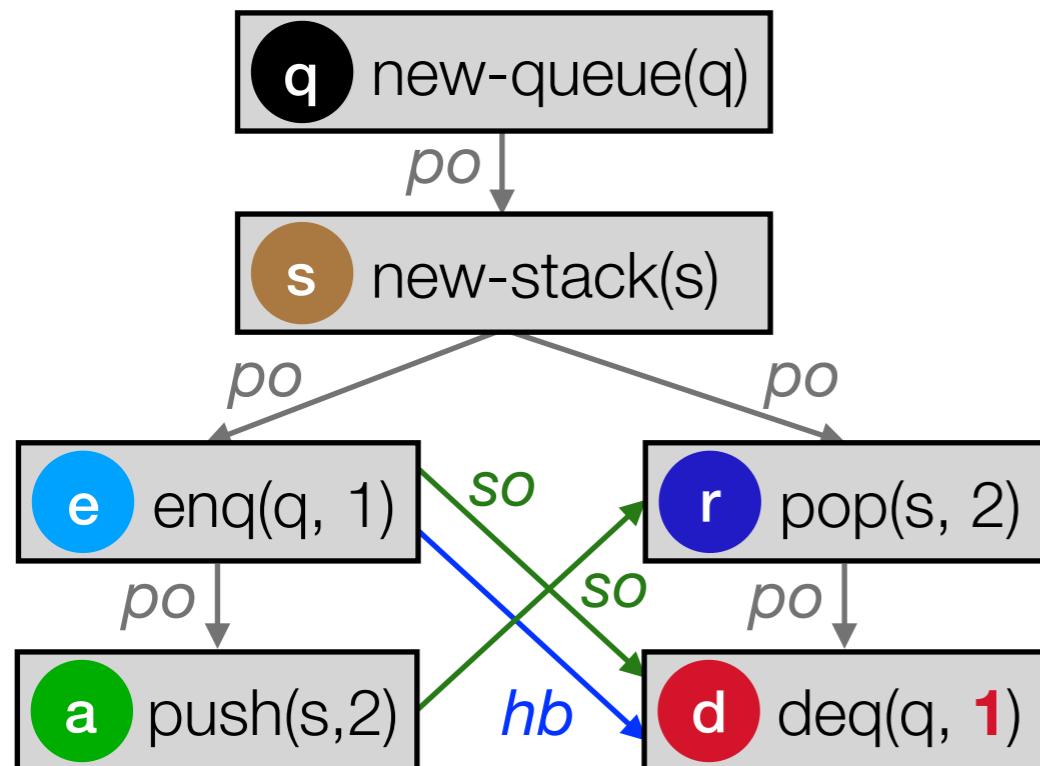
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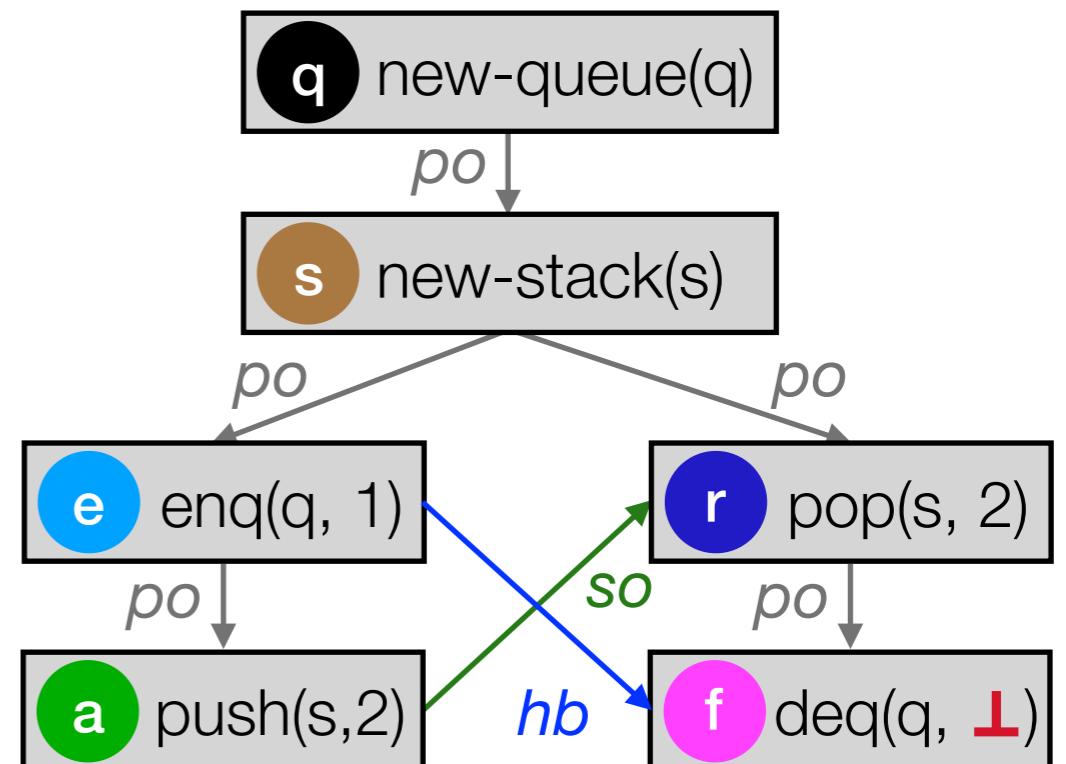
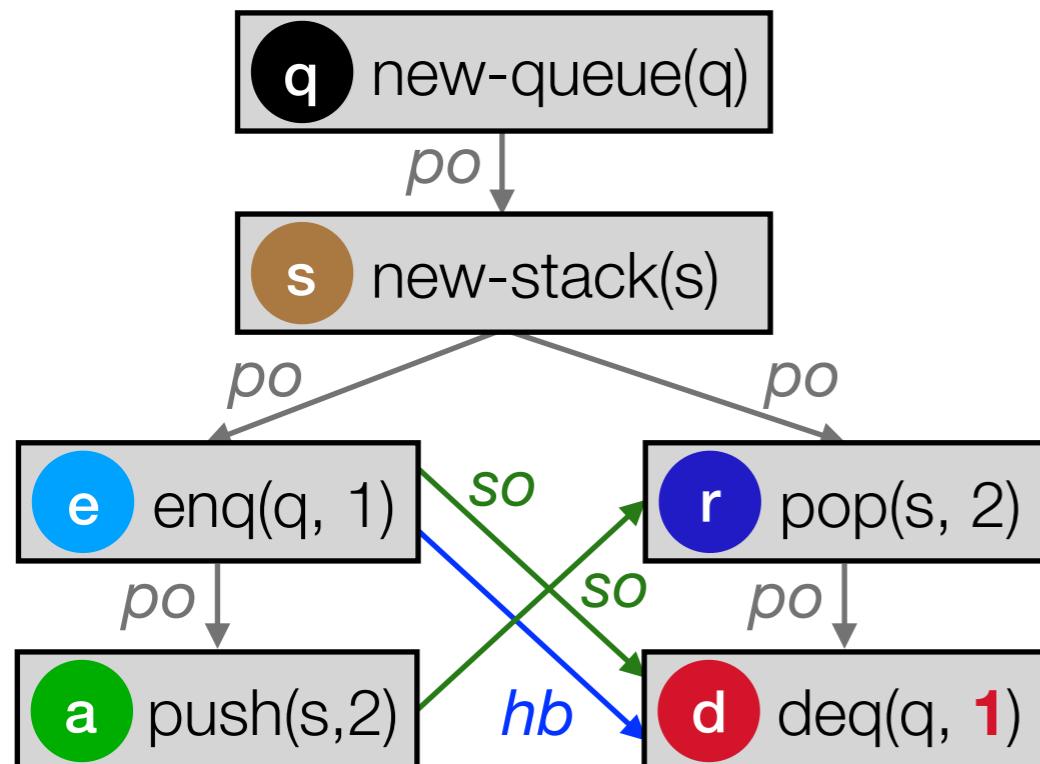
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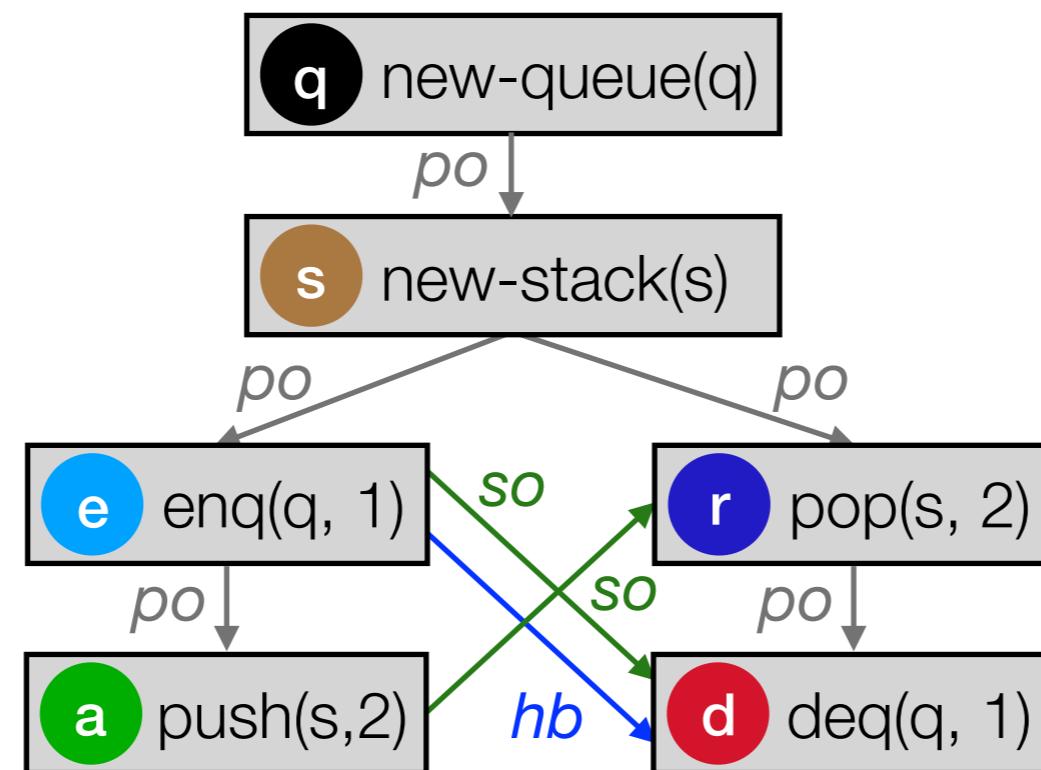
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How? hb defined on program executions



From *Program* to *Library* Executions

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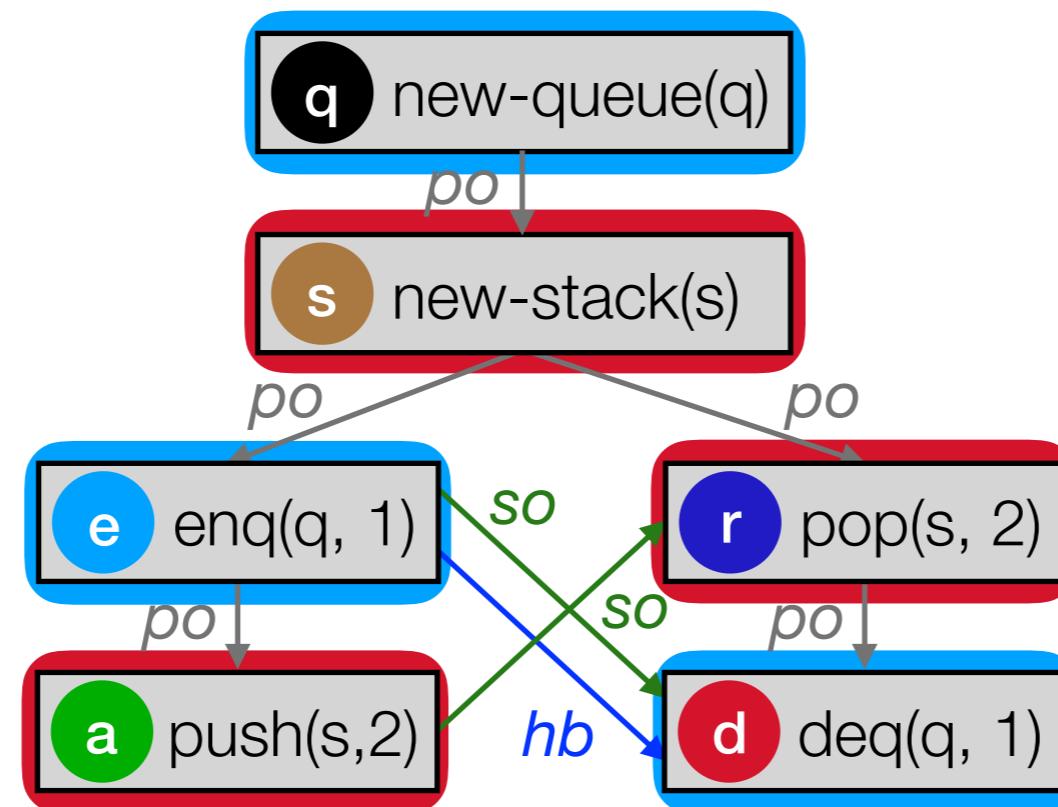


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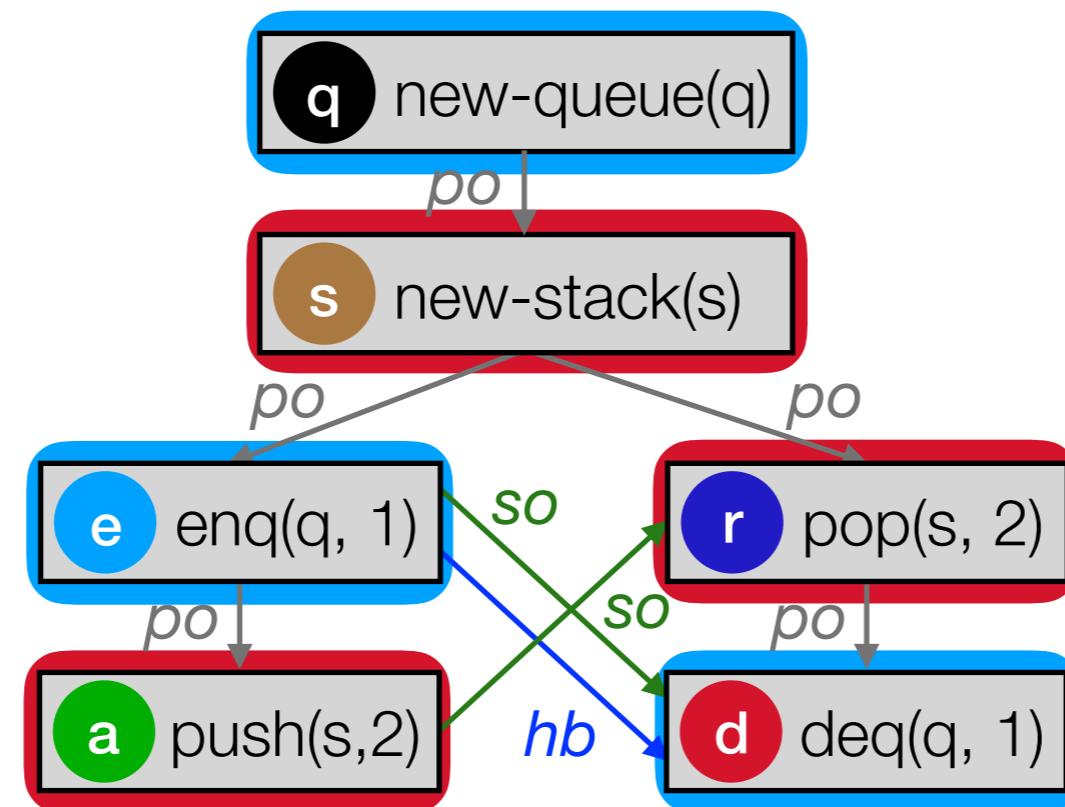
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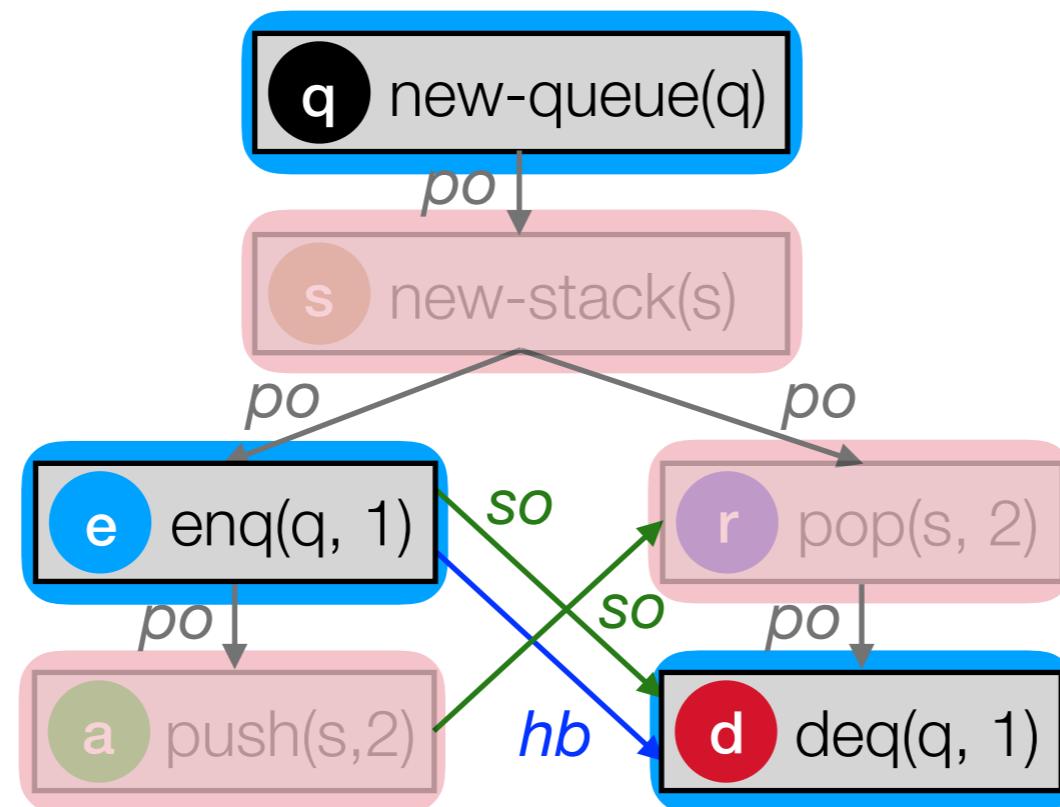
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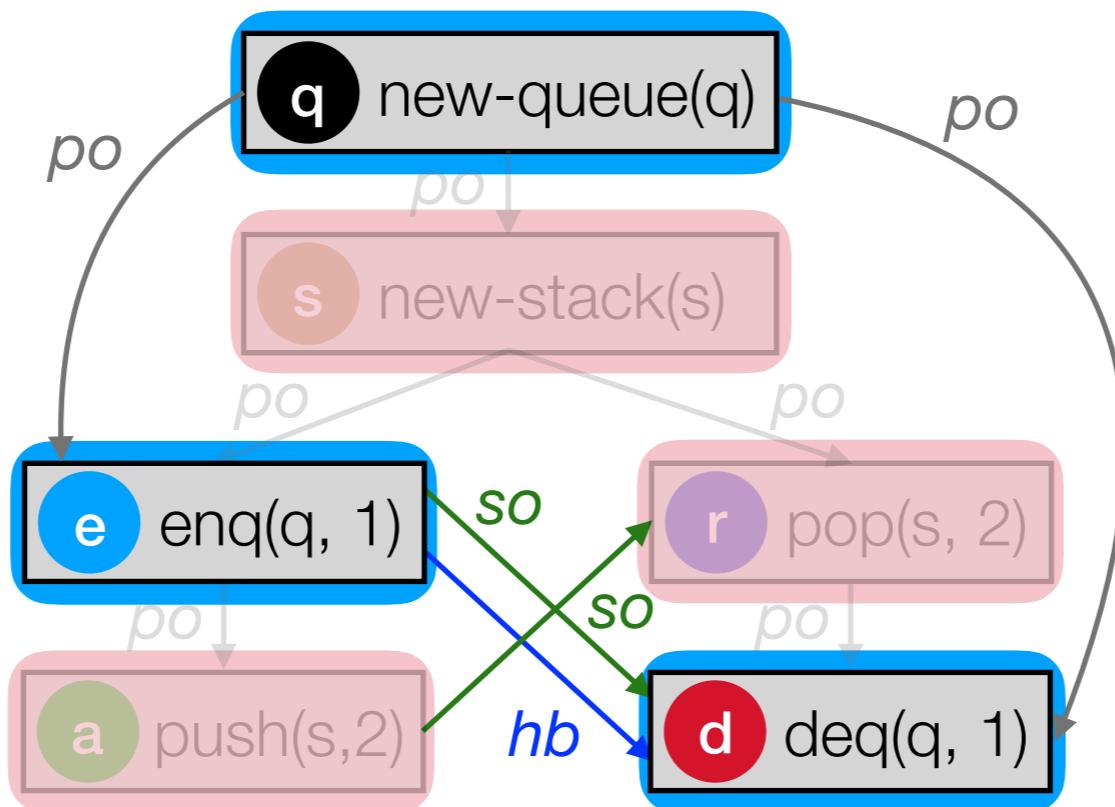
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$E_{queue} \cup E_{stack}$

$$hb = (po \cup so)^+$$



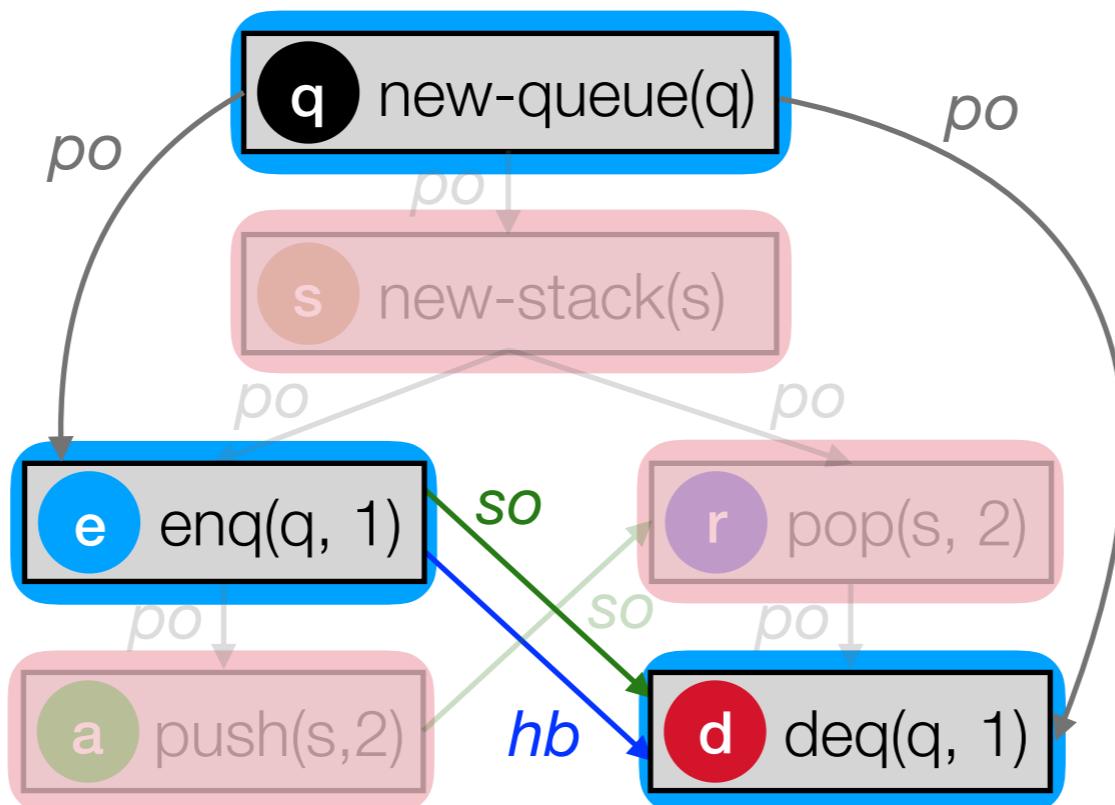
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From *Program* to *Library* Executions

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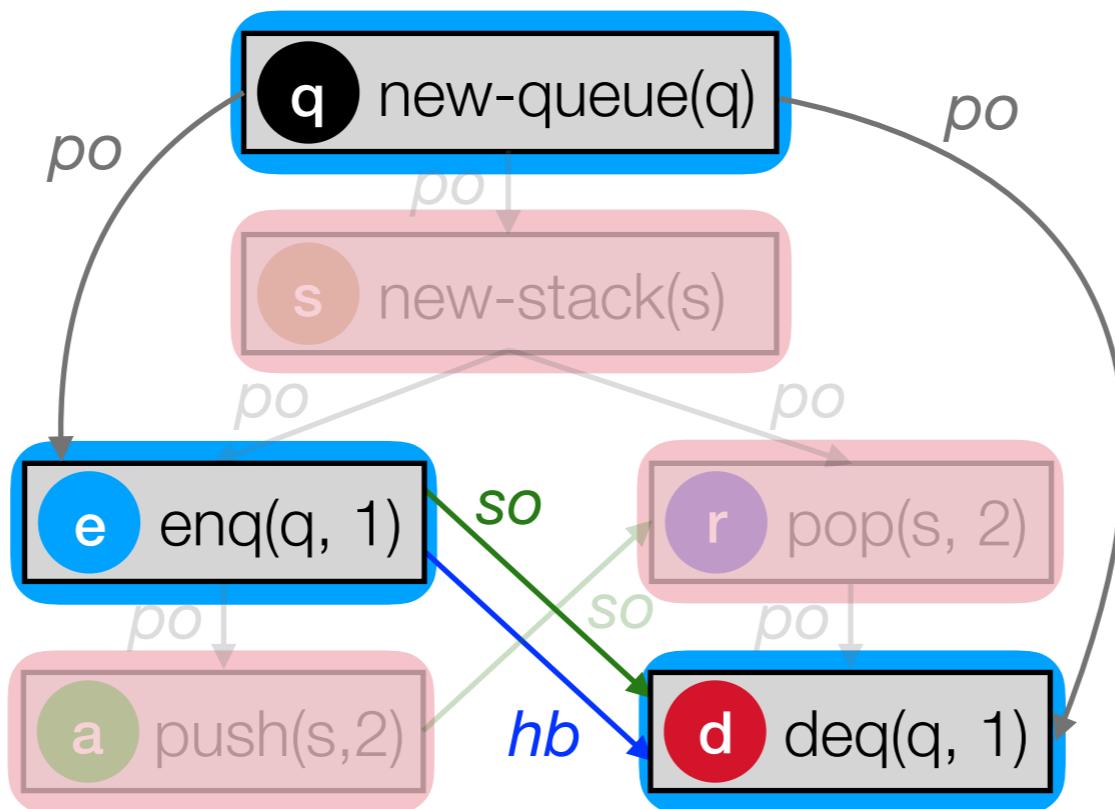
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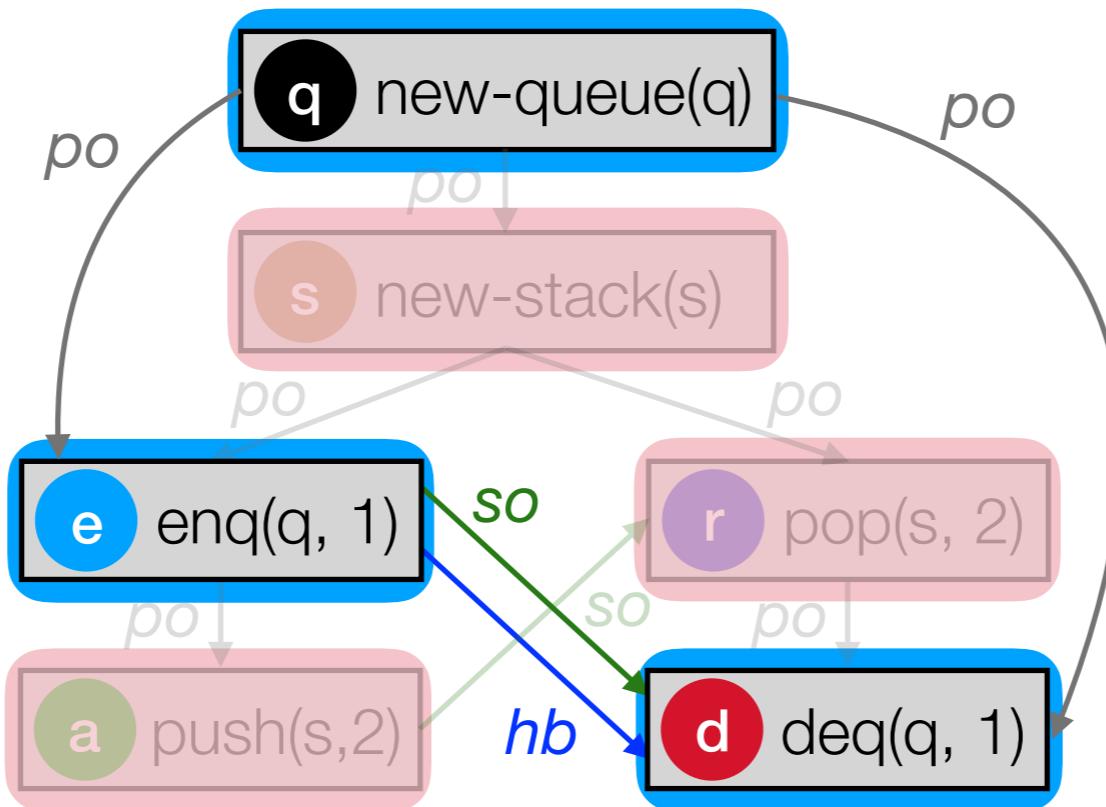
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$|$
 hb_{queue}

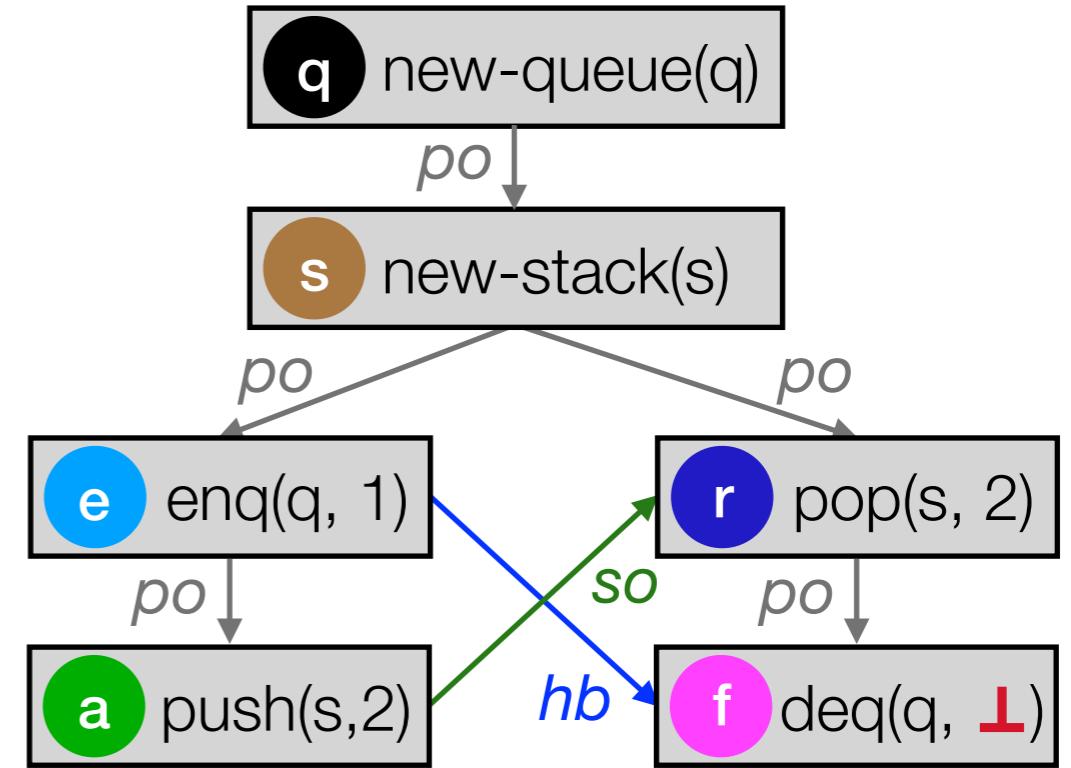
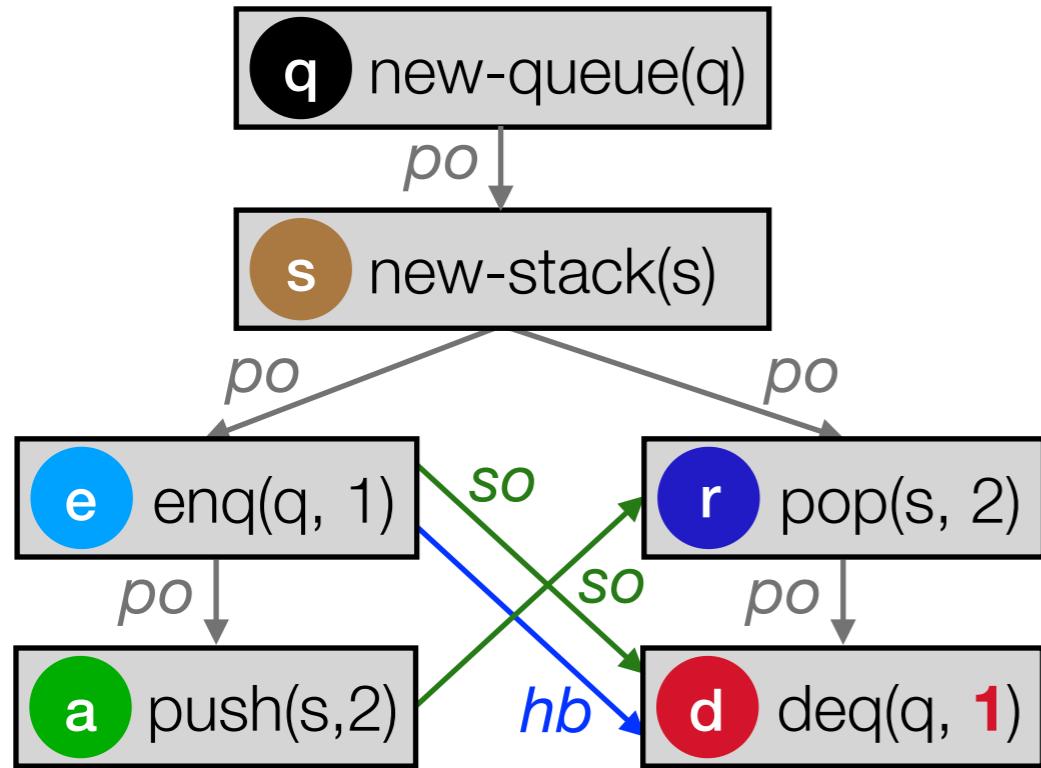
Example Revisited

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q:=new-queue();
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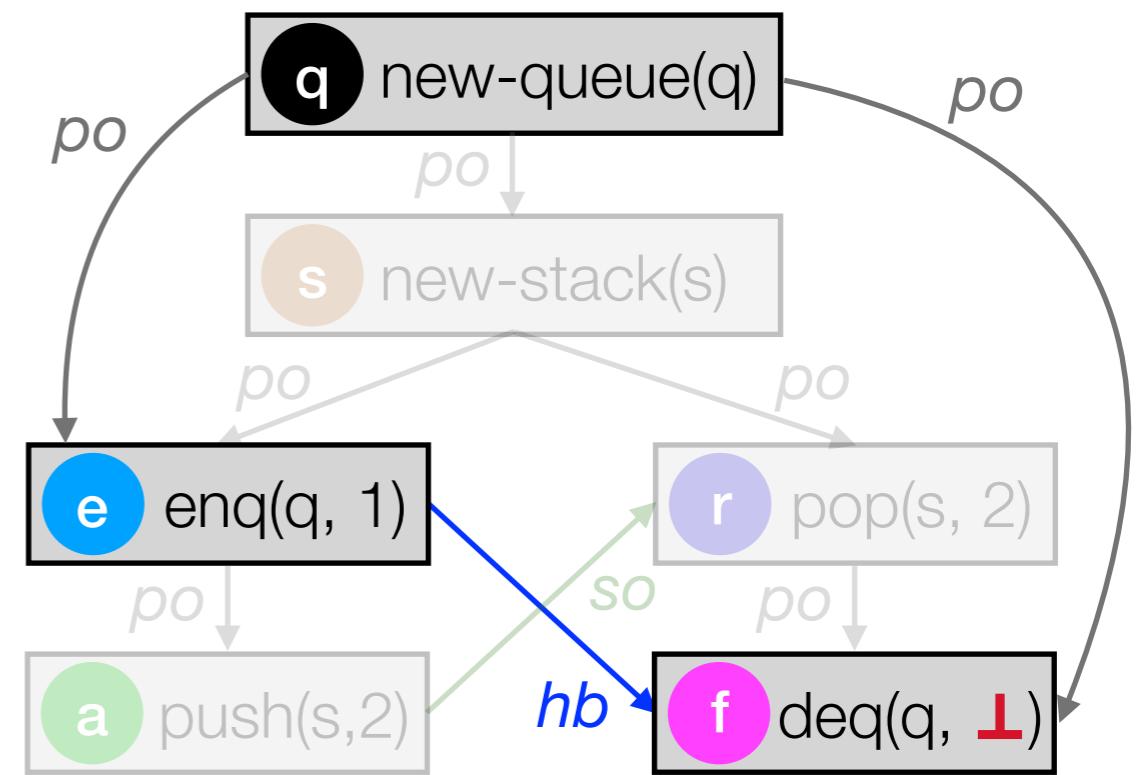
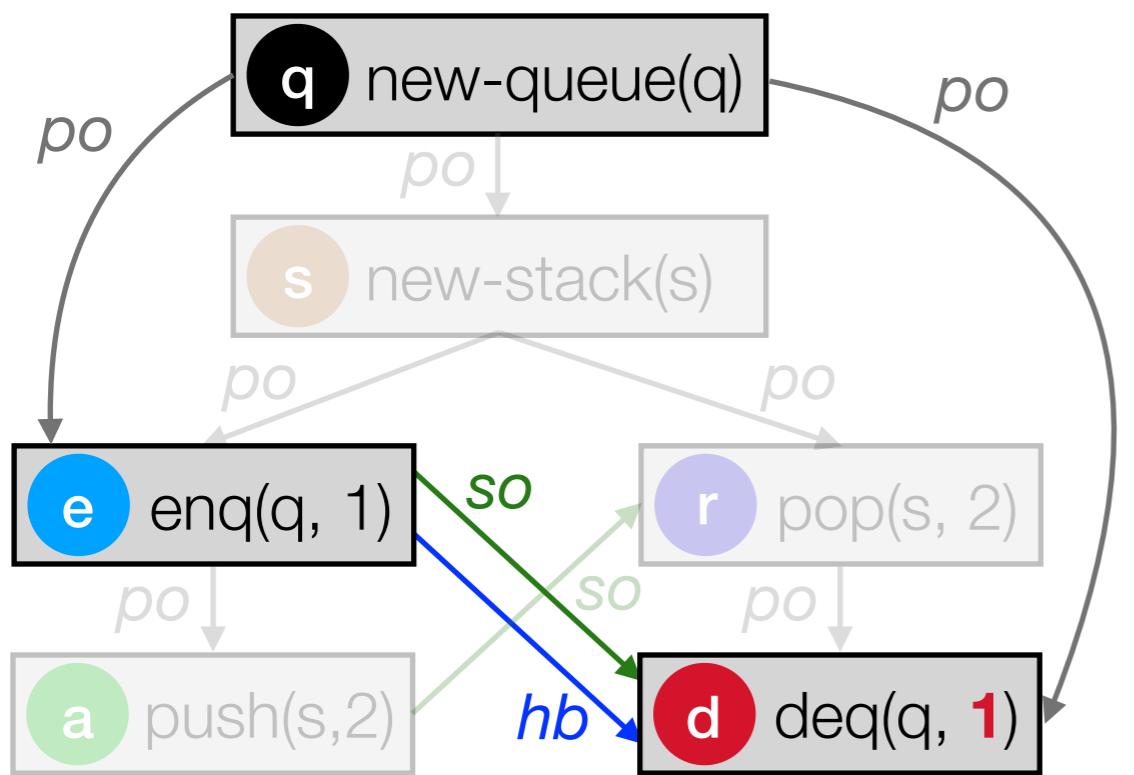


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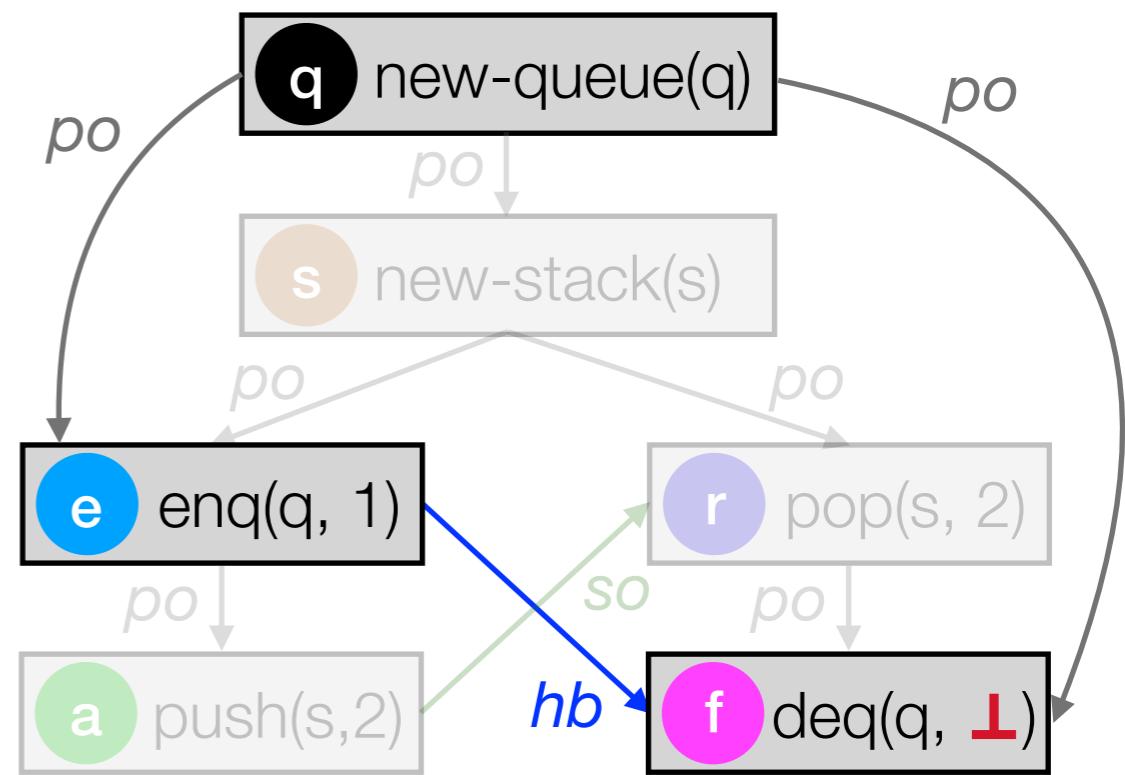
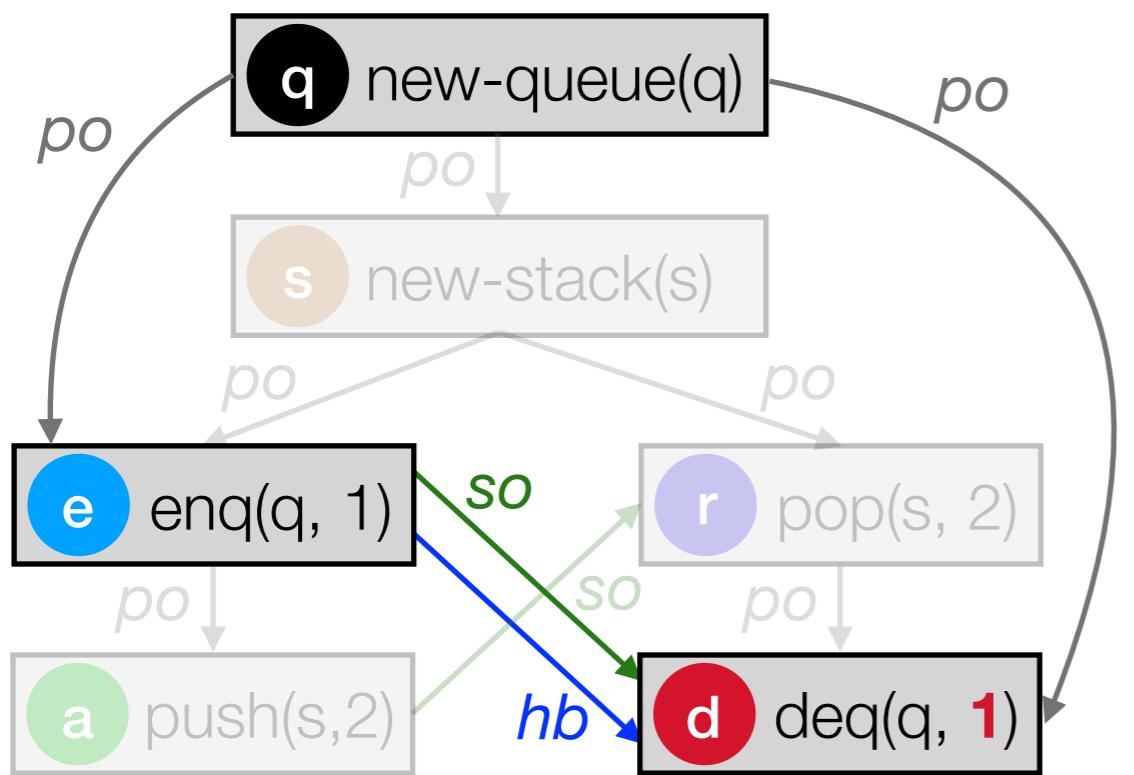
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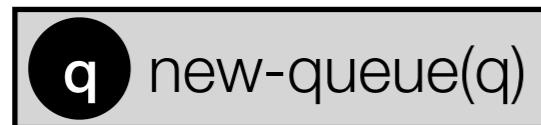
How does *hb* **exclude** the *RHS* execution?
👉 library **axioms!**



Queue Axioms

$G = < E, po, so, hb >$ is a consistent **queue** execution iff:

1. E contains queue events

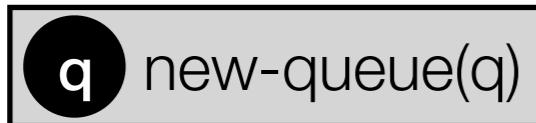


$v, w \in Val$

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$v, w \in Val$

2. so is **1-to-1**

so relates **matching** enq/deq events;

if



then $v = w$

Queue Axioms

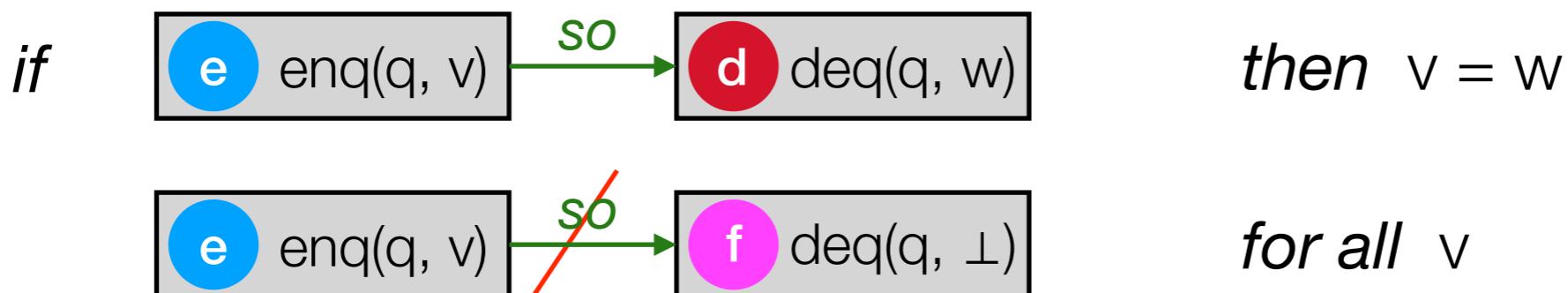
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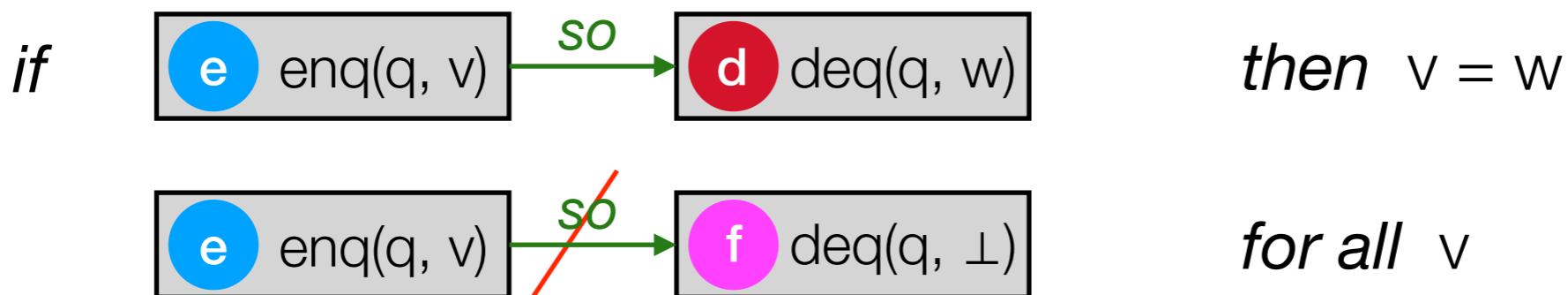
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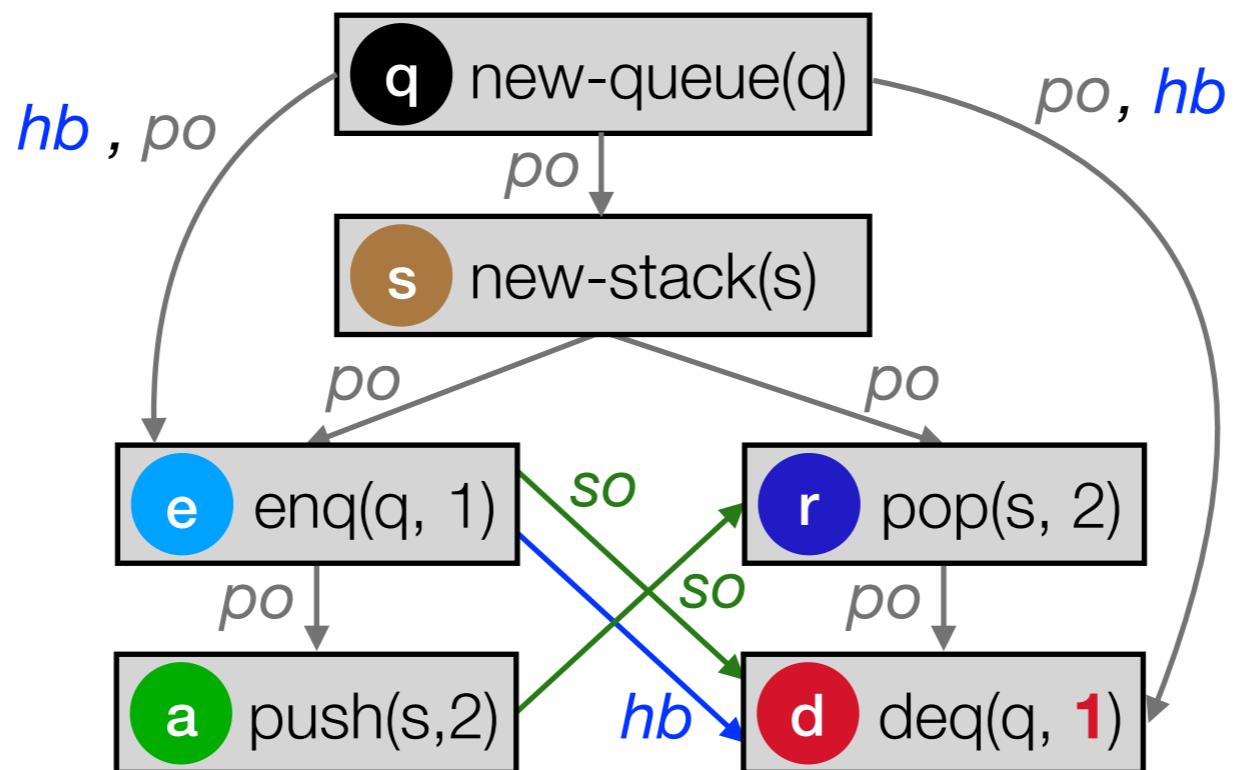


3. \exists **to.** **to totally** orders E ,

$hb \subseteq to$ and to is a FIFO sequence

Example Revisited

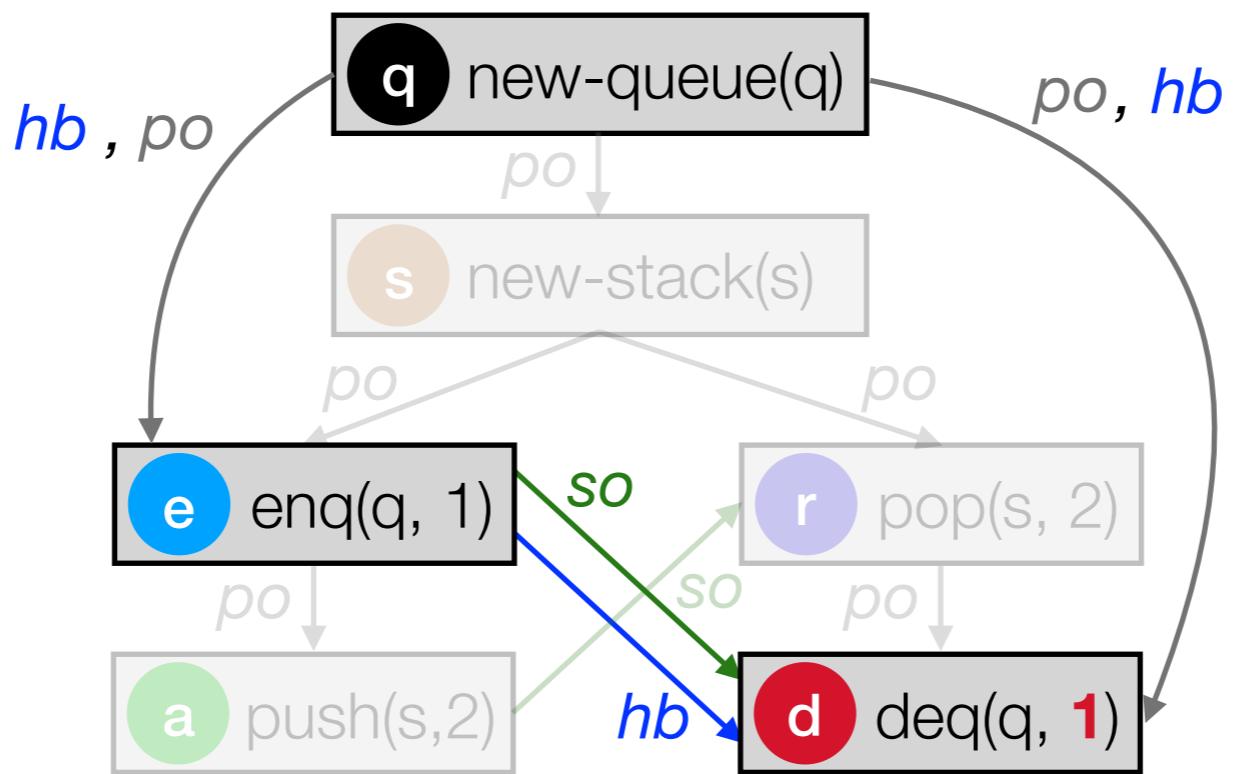
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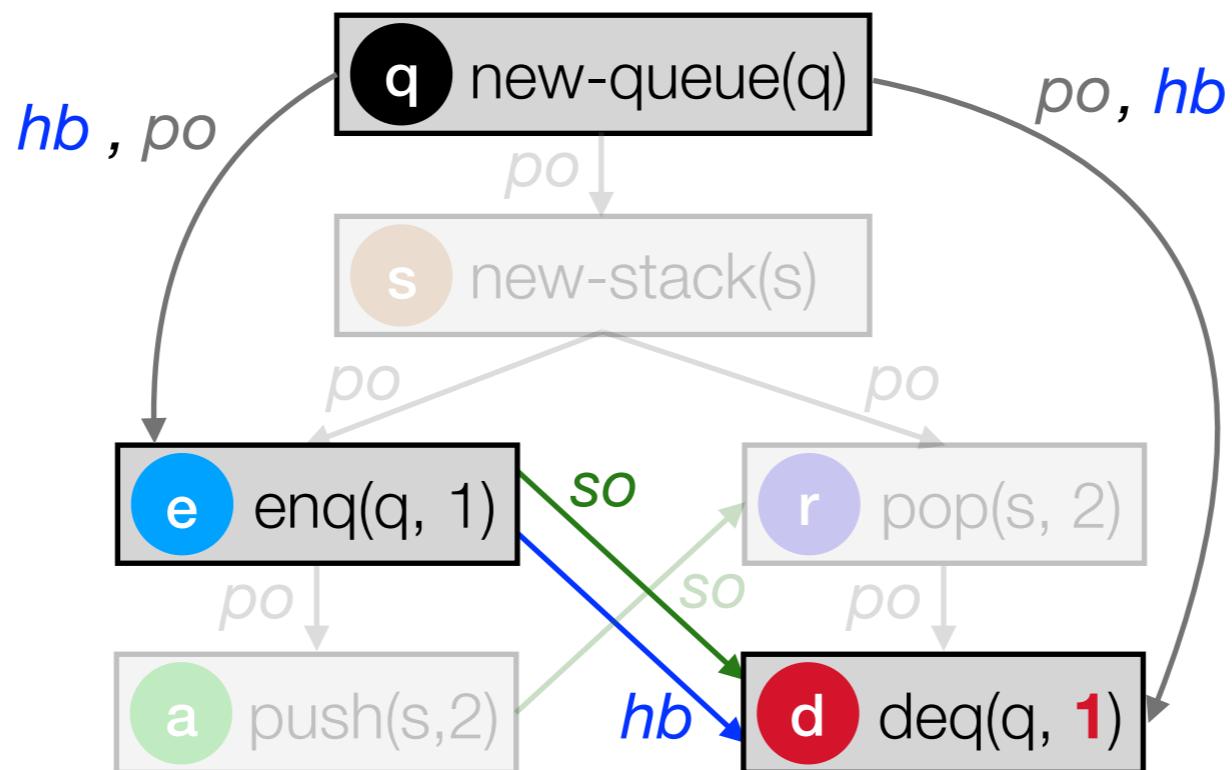
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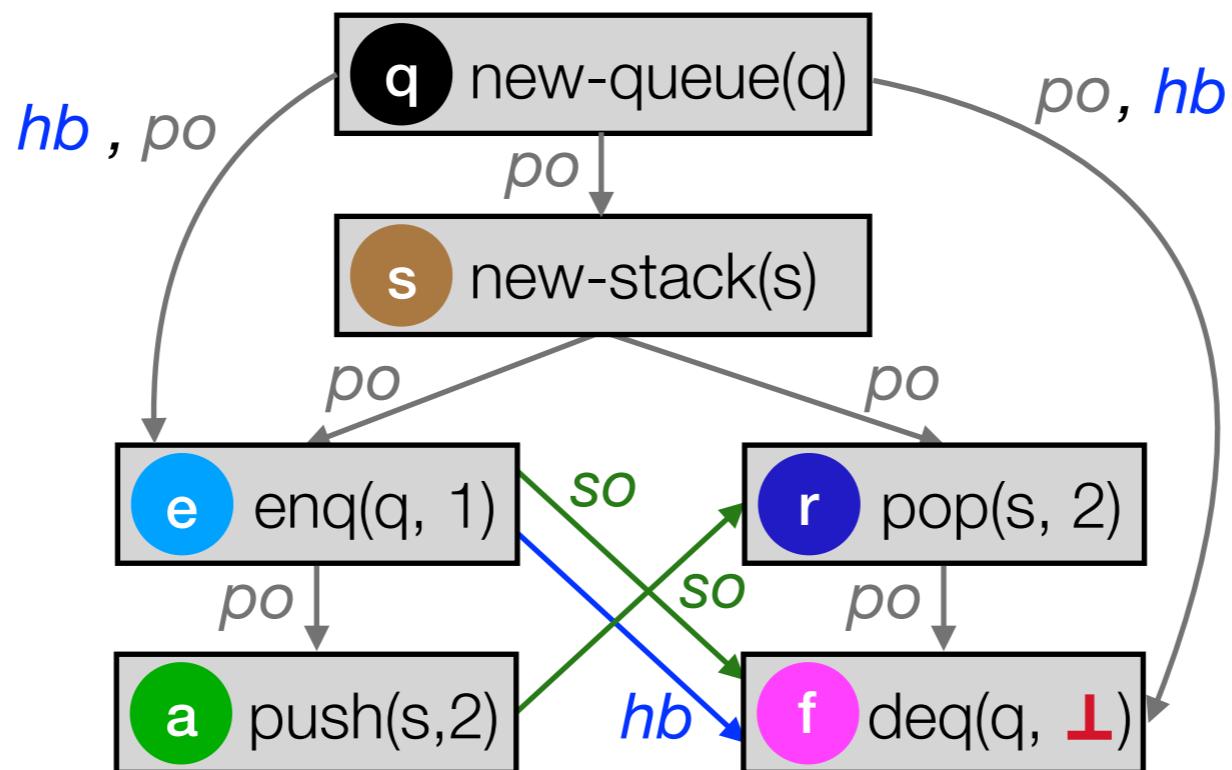


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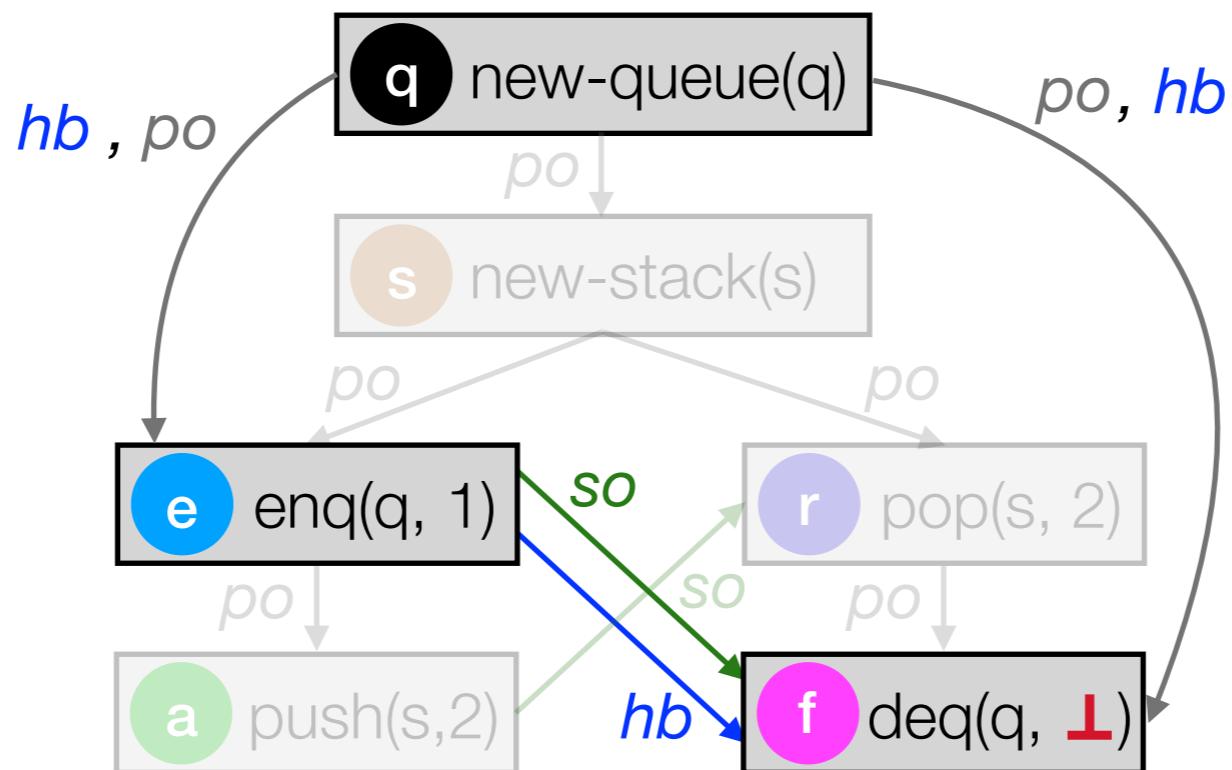


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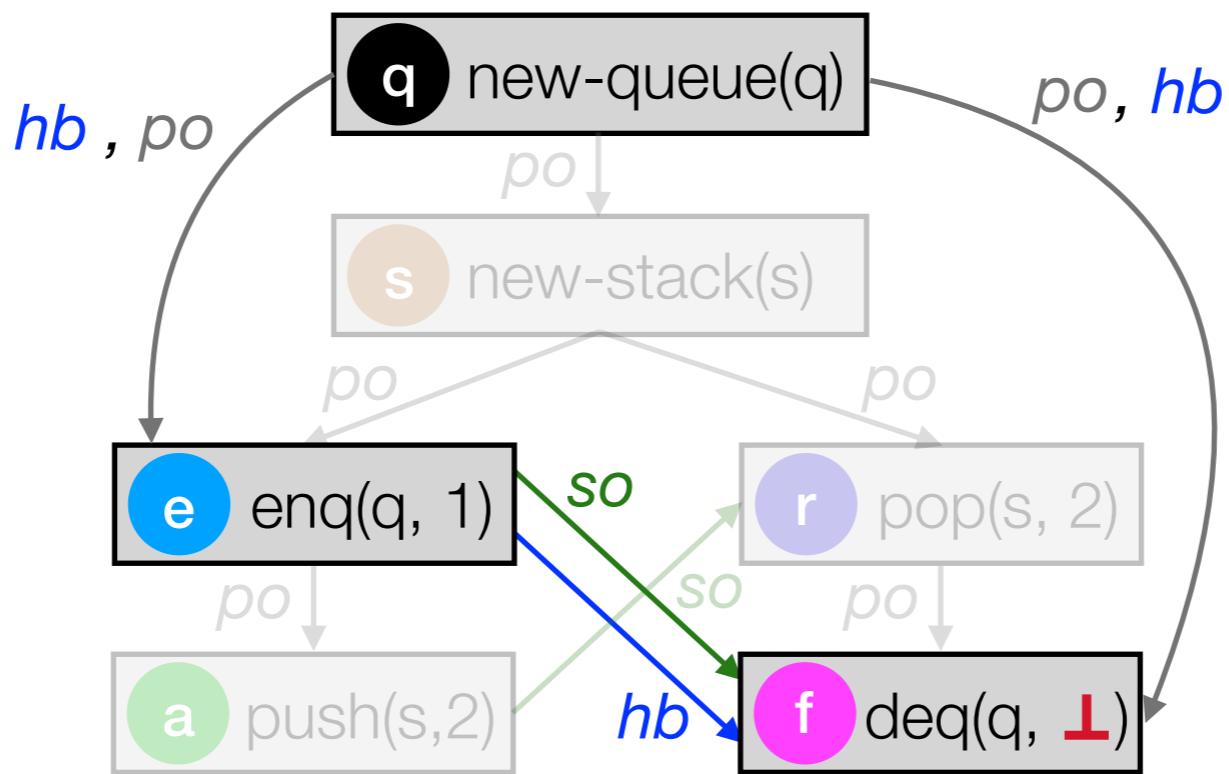
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 too strong
 difficult to find to witness

Why Not Strong Queue Axioms?

C11 Herlihy-Wing Queue Implementation

new-queue() \triangleq
let $q = \text{alloc}(+\infty)$ in q

enq(q, v) \triangleq
let $i = \text{fetch-add}(q, 1, \text{rel})$ in
store($q + i + 1, v, \text{rel}$);

deq(q) \triangleq
loop
let $\text{range} = \text{load}(q, \text{acq})$ in
for $i = 1$ to range do
let $x = \text{atomic-xchg}(q + i, 0, \text{acq})$ in
if $x \neq 0$ then break₂ x

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✗ does **not** satisfy **strong** queue axioms

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wanted

Weaker queue axioms

Why weak axioms?

strong enough for certain uses: **single-producer-single-consumer**

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equivalent acyclicity axiom

(see our paper)

Summary

A declarative ***specification*** and ***verification*** framework:

✓ ***Agnostic*** to memory model

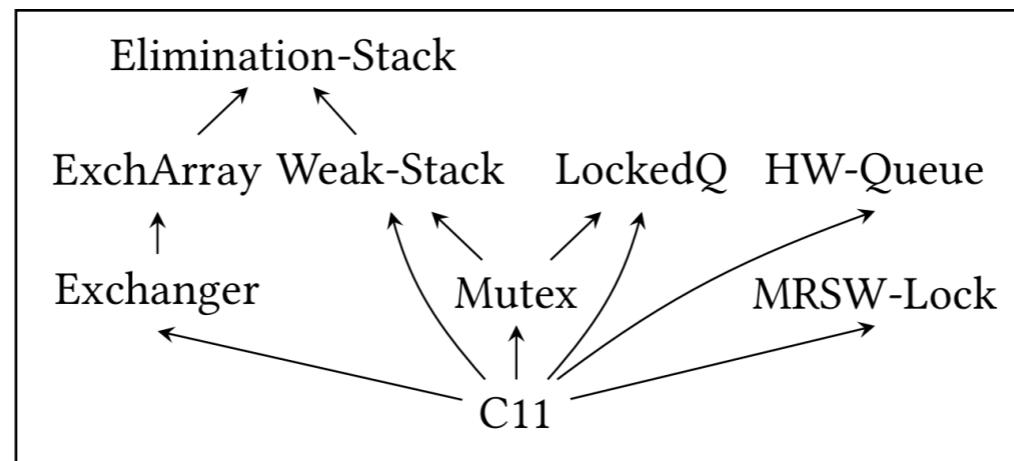
- support both SC and WMC specs

✓ ***General***

- port existing SC (linearisability) specs
- port existing WMC specs (e.g. C11, TSO)
- built from the ground up: assume no pre-existing libraries or specs

✓ ***Compositional***

- vertical composition to verify library implementations
- horizontal composition to verify client programs



Thank You for Listening!

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