

Harmonizing Speculative and Non-Speculative Execution in Architectures for Ordered Parallelism

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There is a (false) dichotomy in parallelization

SPECULATIVE PARALLELIZATION

Simplifies parallel programming

Uncovers abundant parallelism

NON-SPECULATIVE PARALLELIZATION

Lower overheads

Parallel irrevocable actions

Current systems offer all-or-nothing speculation

Goal: Bring non-speculative execution to systems that support ordered parallelism

Espresso

- Expressive task-based execution model
- Coordinates concurrent speculative and non-speculative ordered tasks
- 256-core speedups up to **2.5x** vs. all-speculative

Capsules

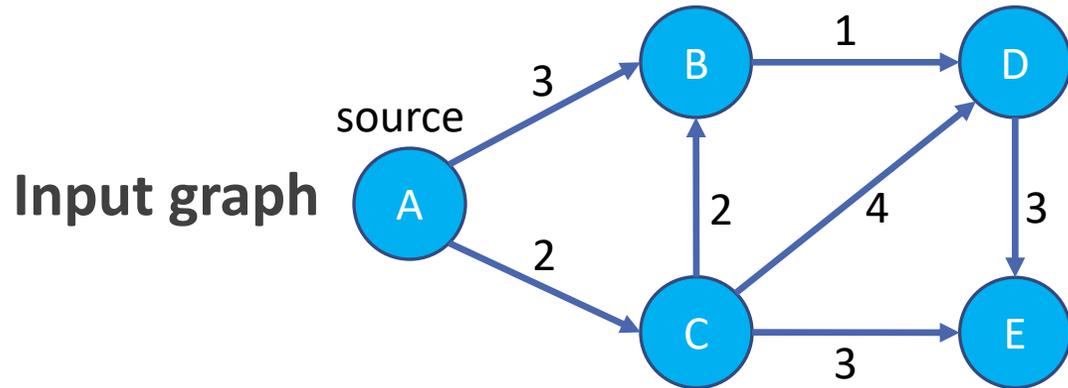
- Let speculative tasks safely invoke software-managed speculation
- Enable important system services:
e.g. memory allocator that improves performance up to **69x**

Espresso in action

THE NEED FOR SPECULATIVE AND NON-SPECULATIVE PARALLELISM

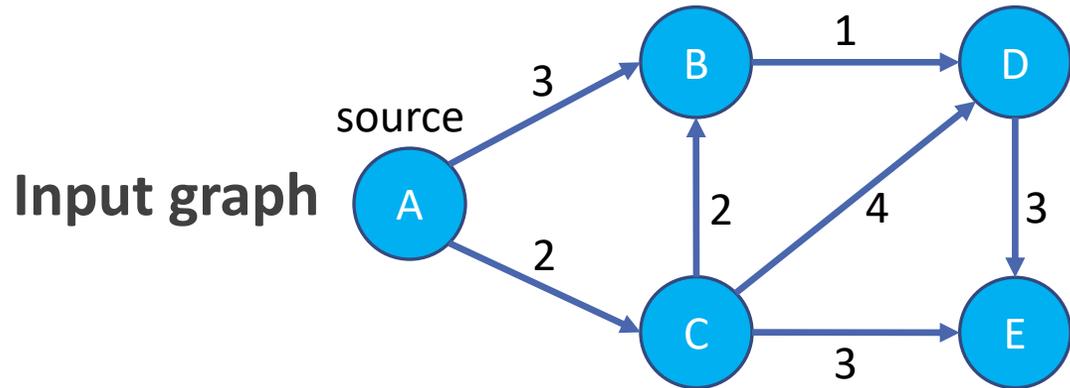
Example: Dijkstra's algorithm

Finds shortest path tree on a graph with weighted edges



Example: Dijkstra's algorithm

Finds shortest path tree on a graph with weighted edges



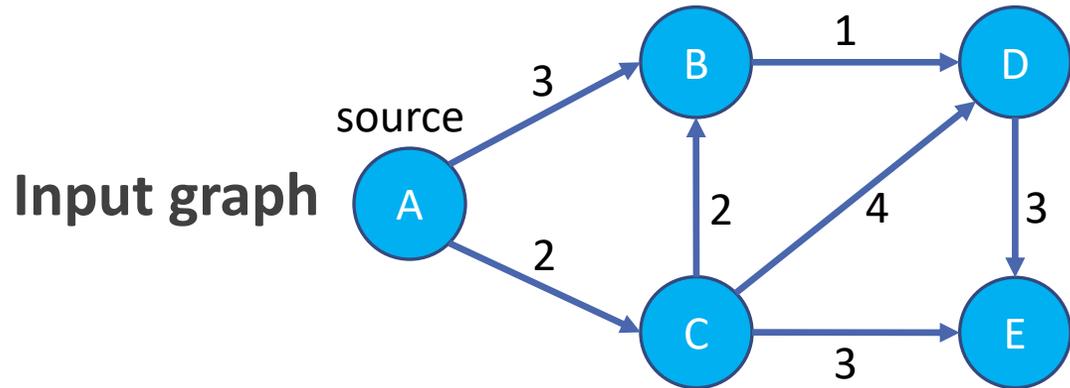
Task graph



Order = Distance from source node

Example: Dijkstra's algorithm

Finds shortest path tree on a graph with weighted edges



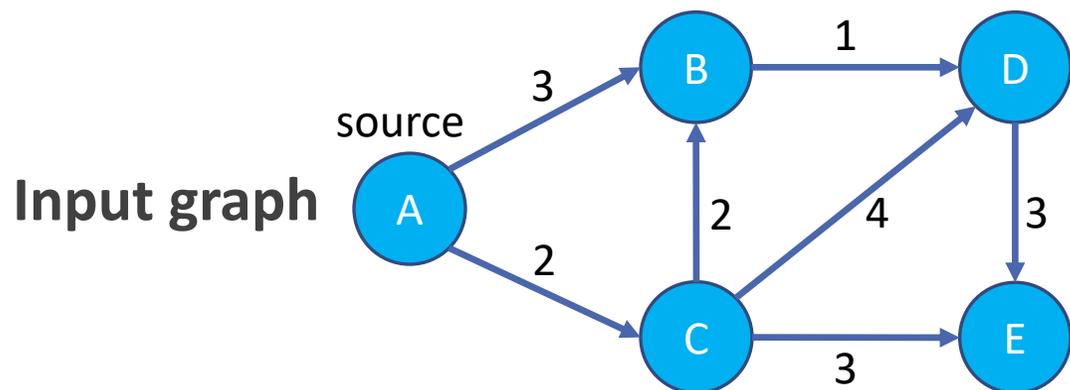
Task graph



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Finds shortest path tree on a graph with weighted edges



Task graph



 To be processed

 First to visit vertex

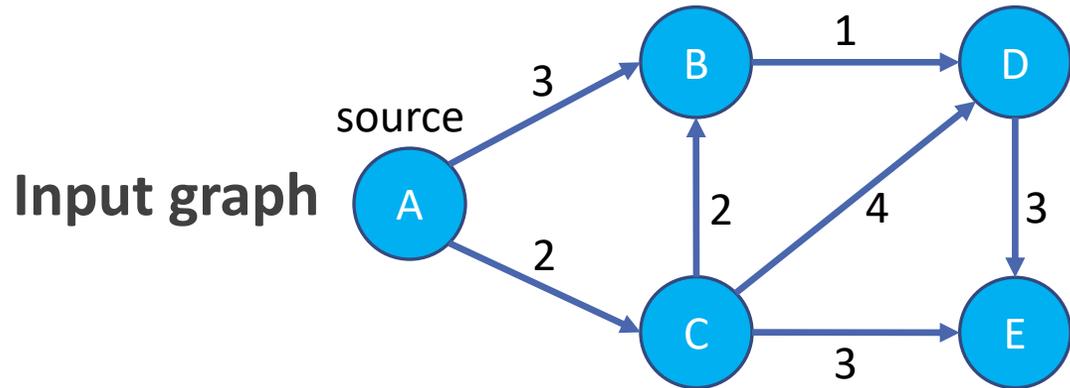
 Vertex already visited



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○ To be processed

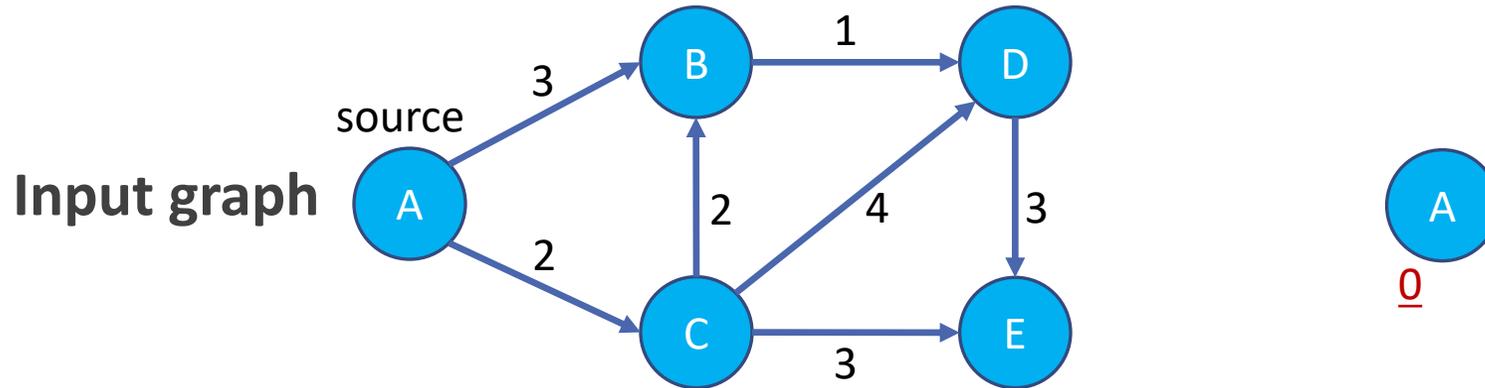
● First to visit vertex

● Vertex already visited



Example: Dijkstra's algorithm

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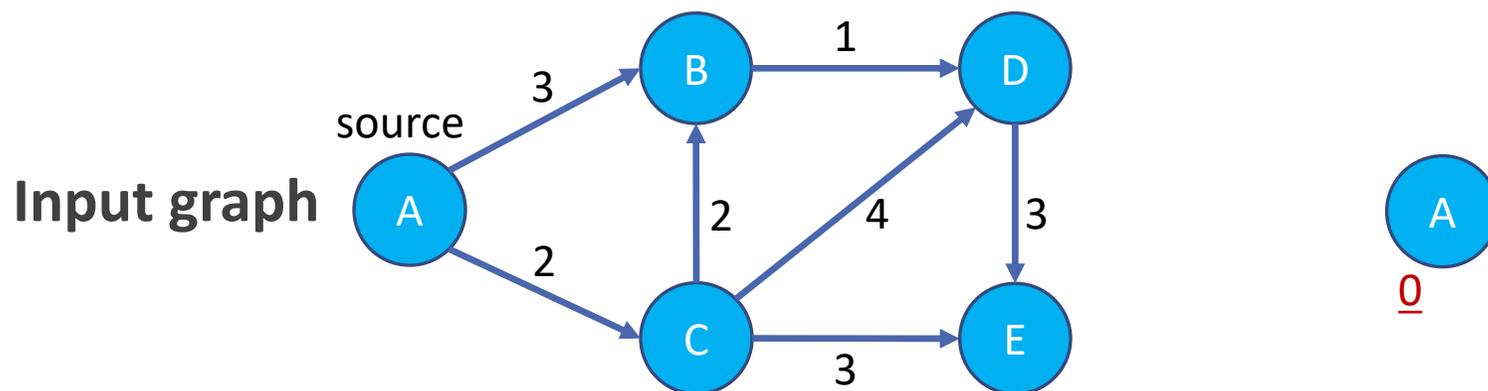
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Example: Dijkstra's algorithm

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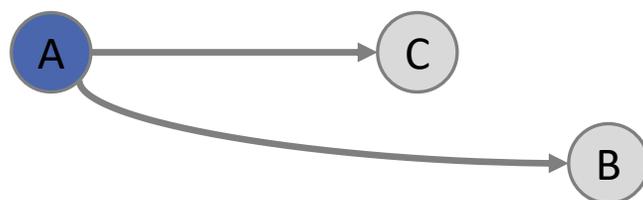


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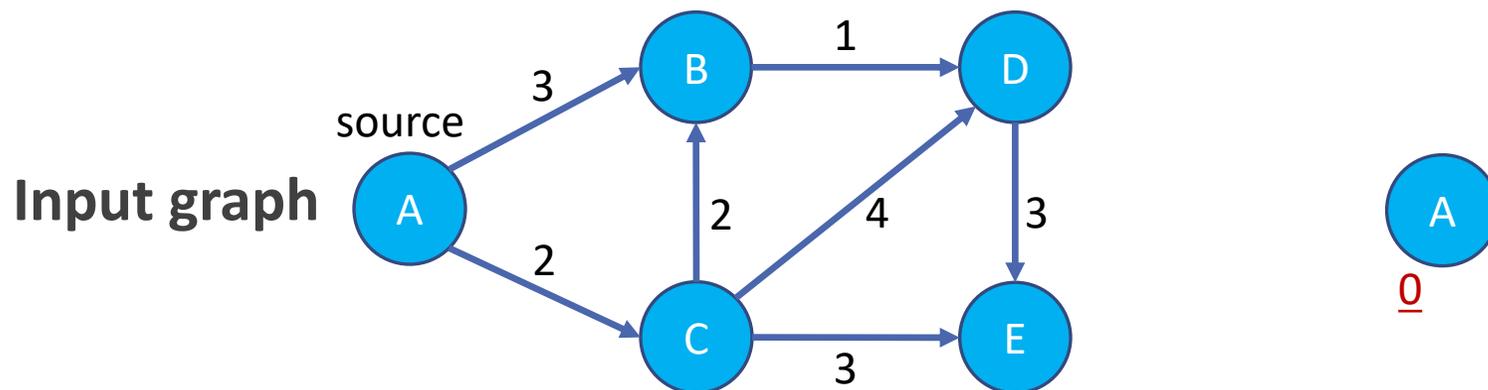
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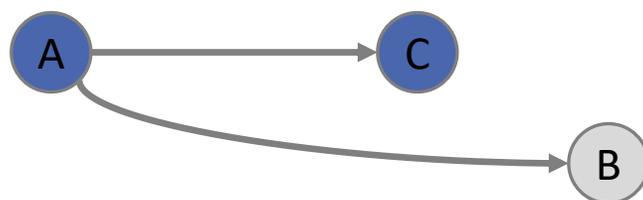


Task graph

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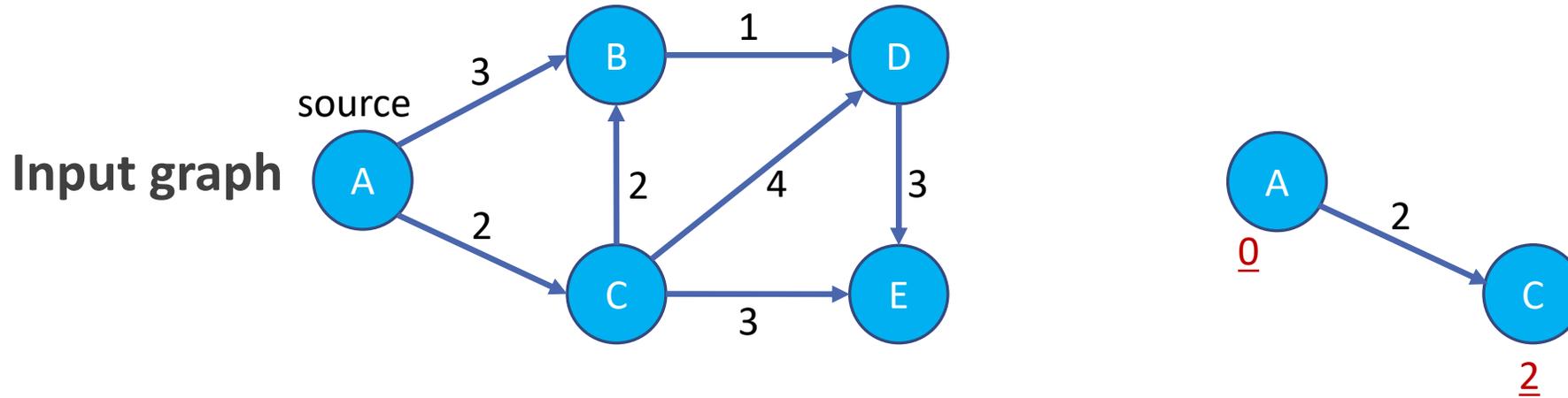
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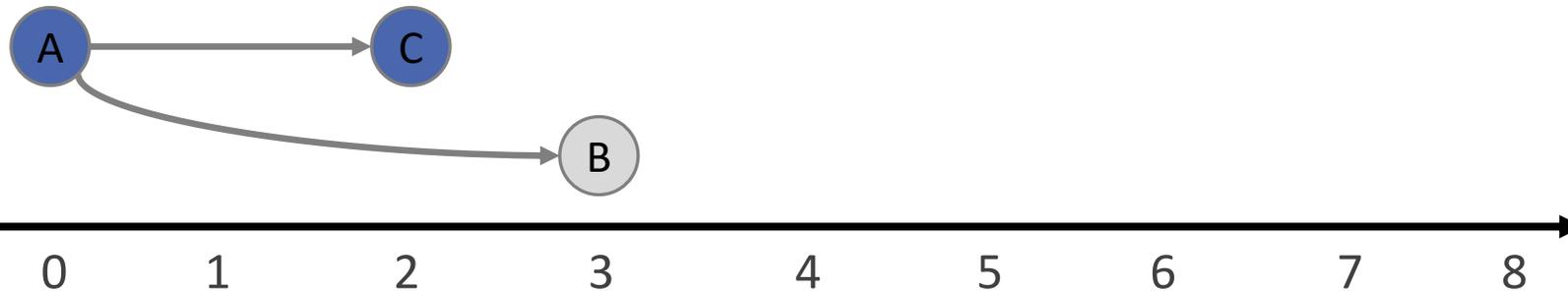


Task graph

○ To be processed

● First to visit vertex

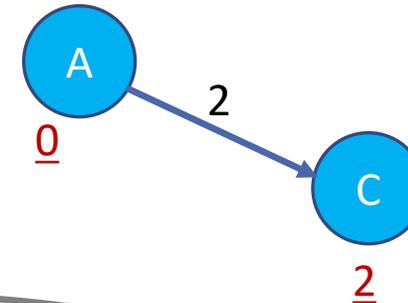
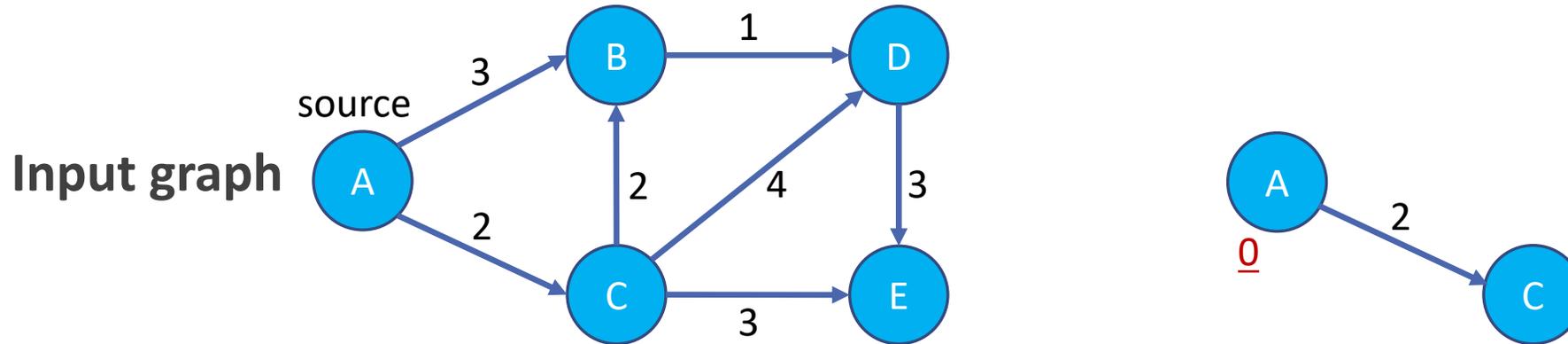
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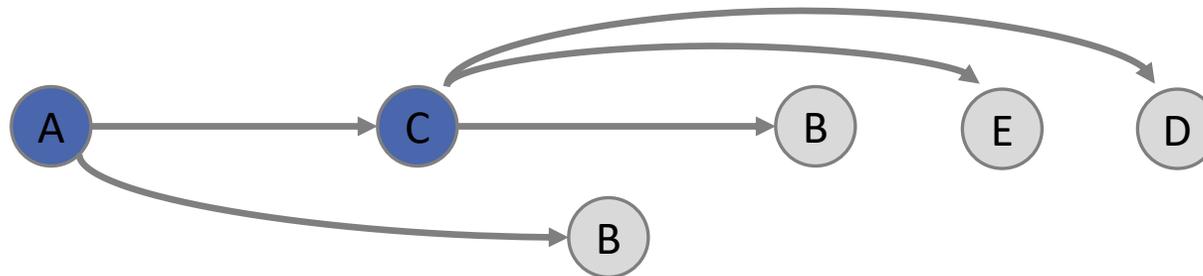


Task graph

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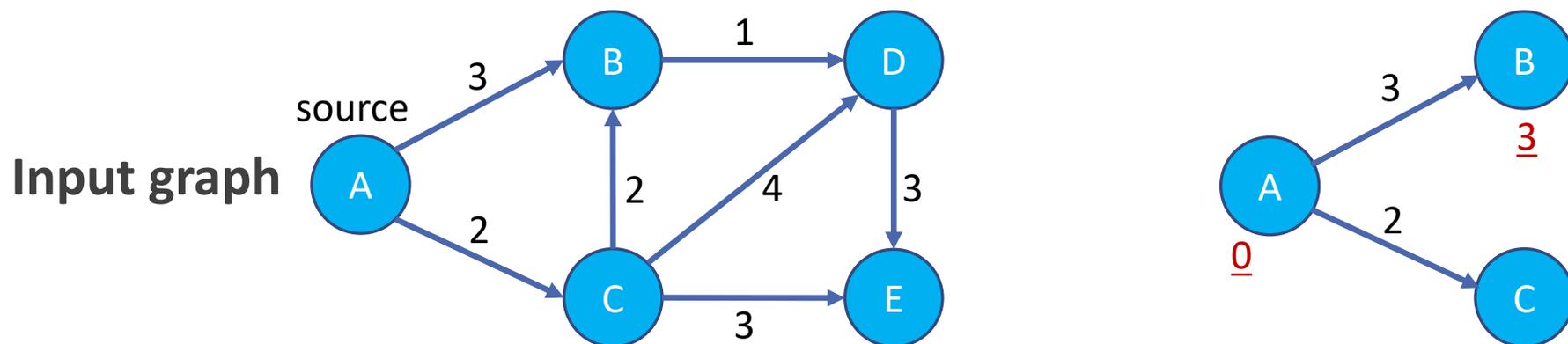
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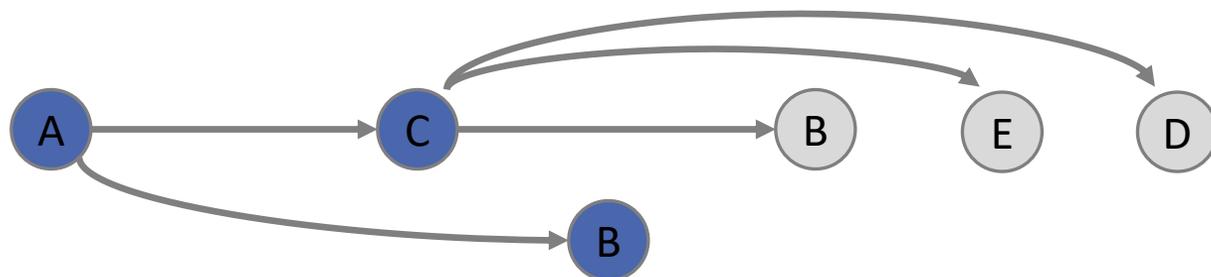


Task graph

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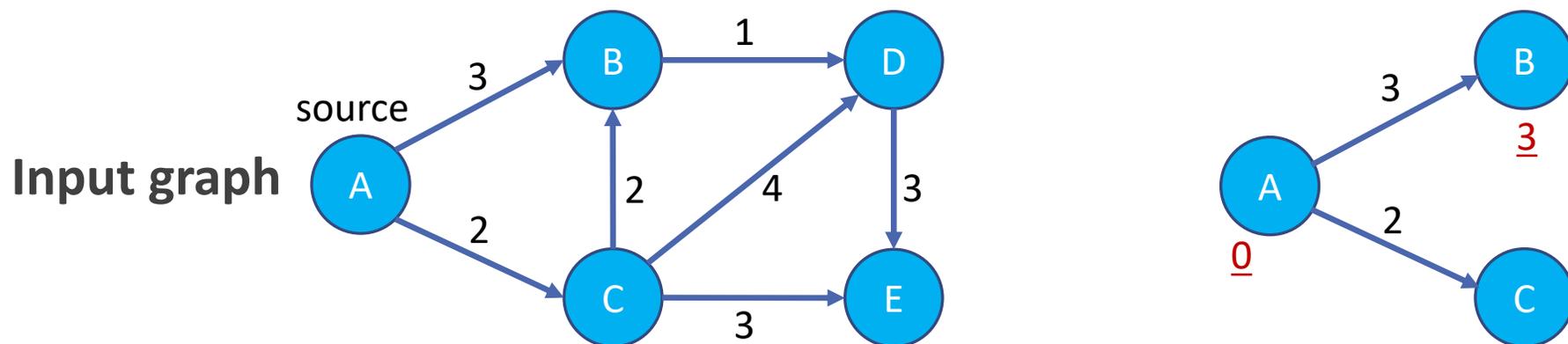
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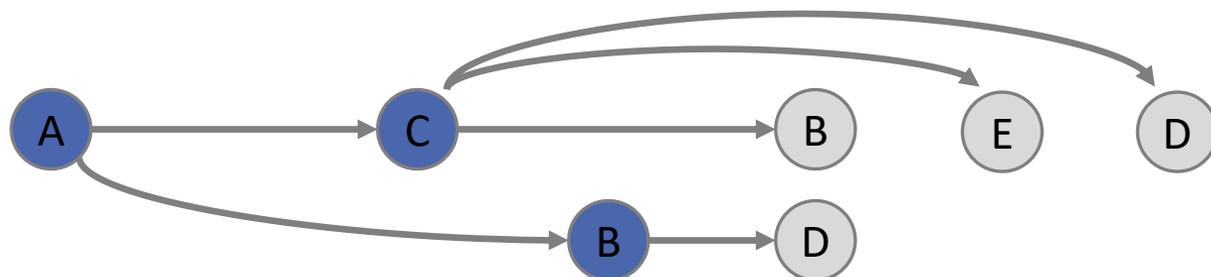


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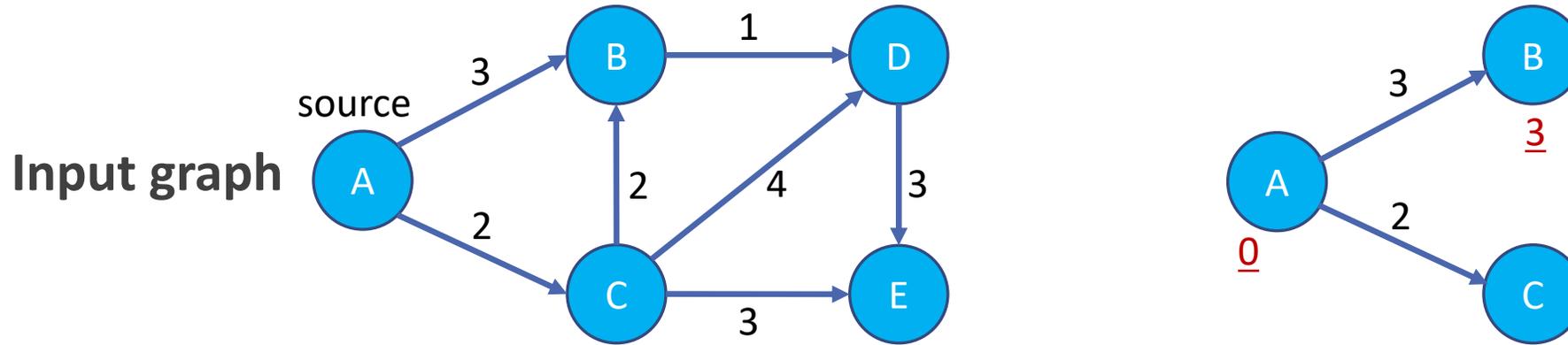
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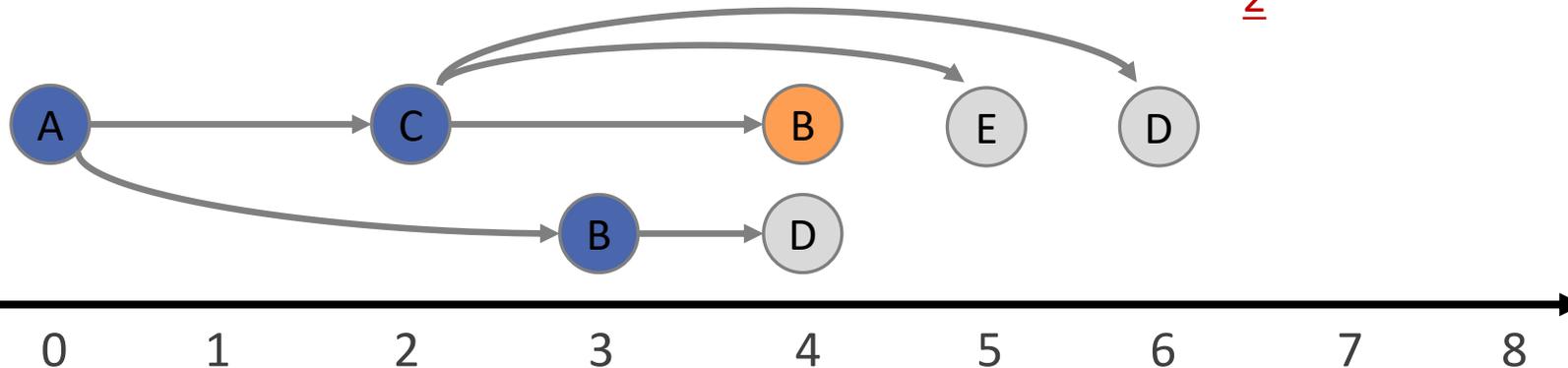


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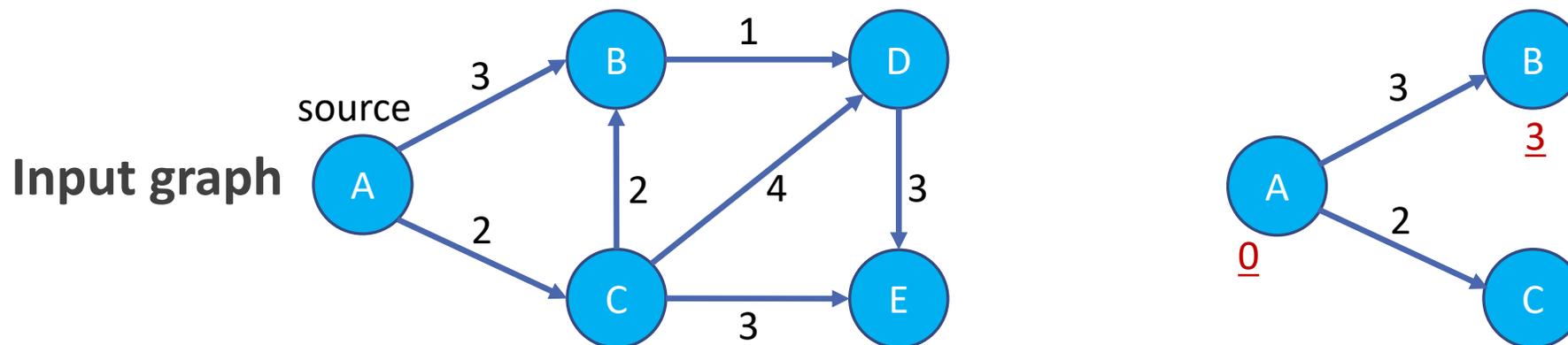
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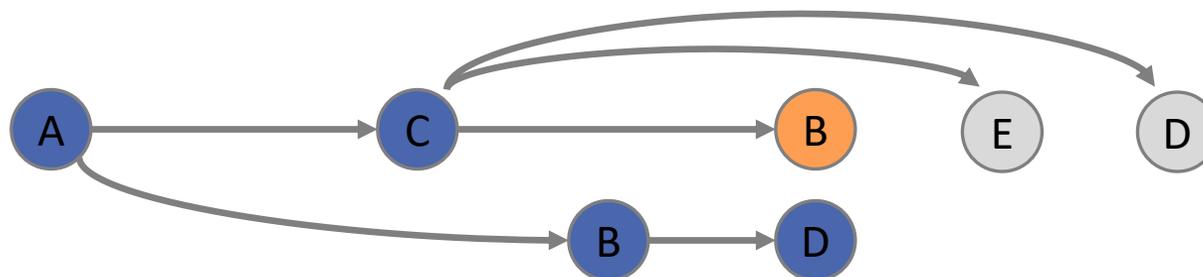


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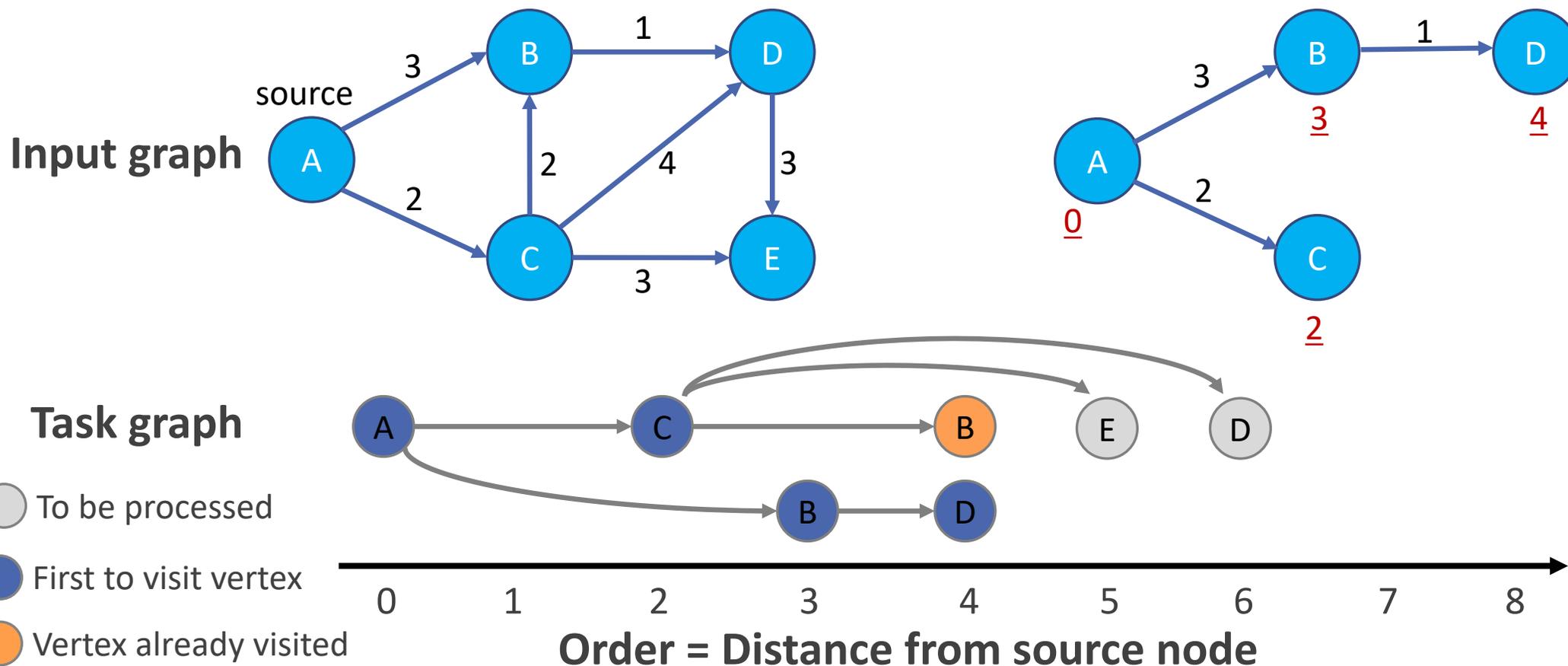
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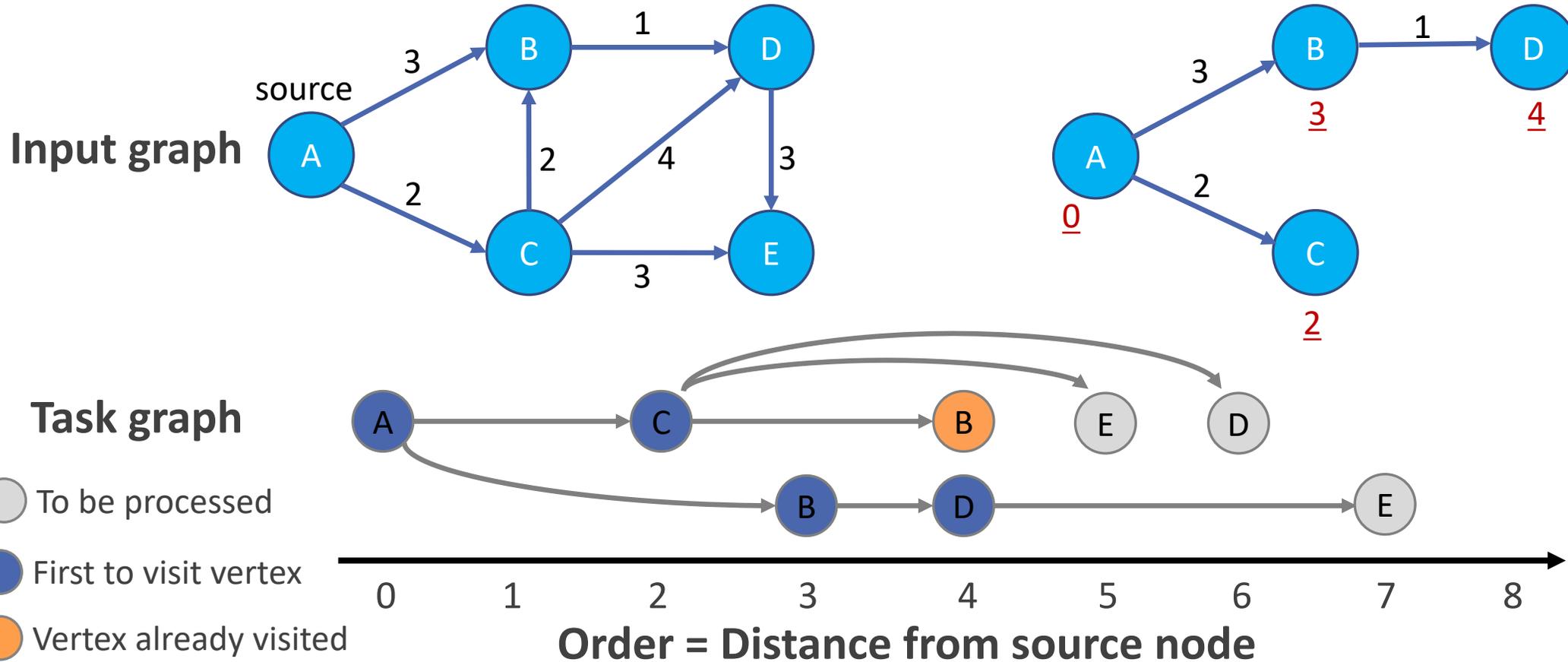
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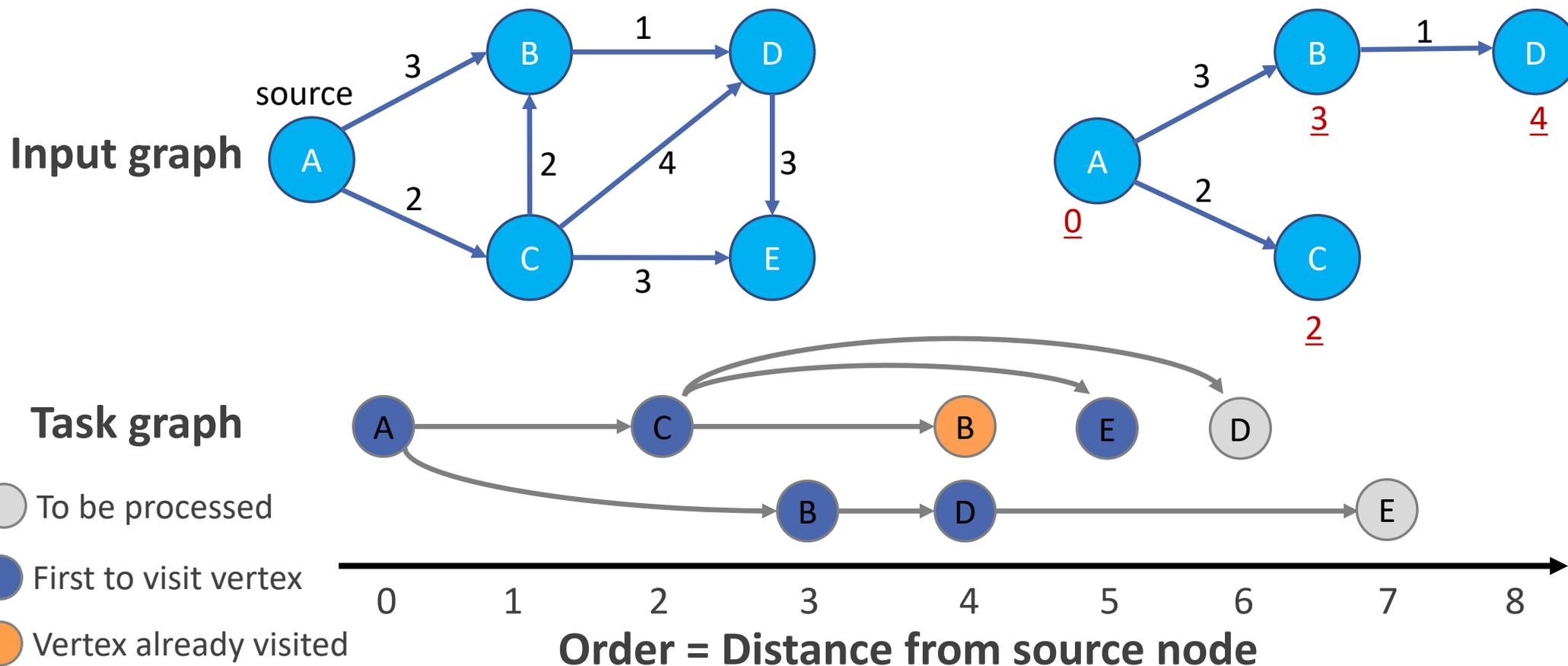
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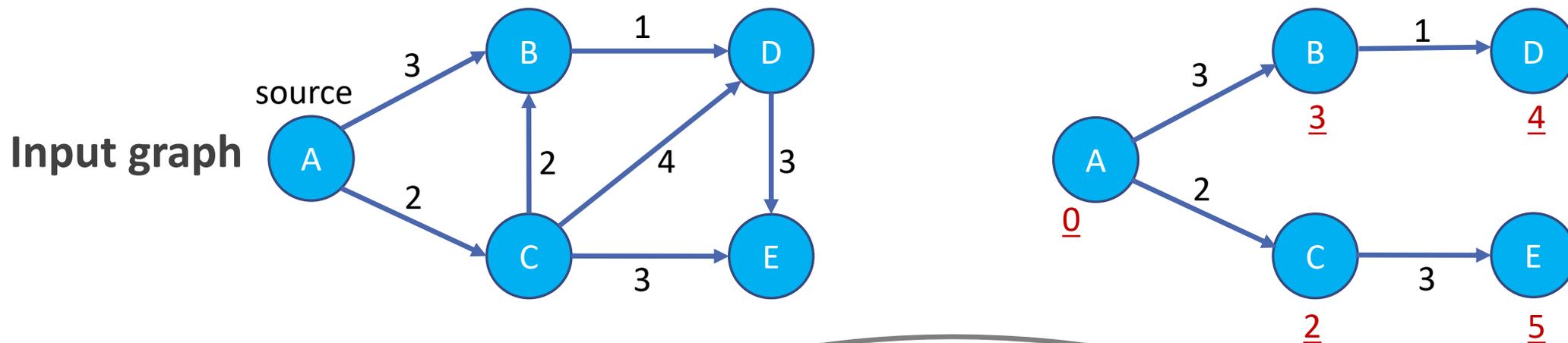
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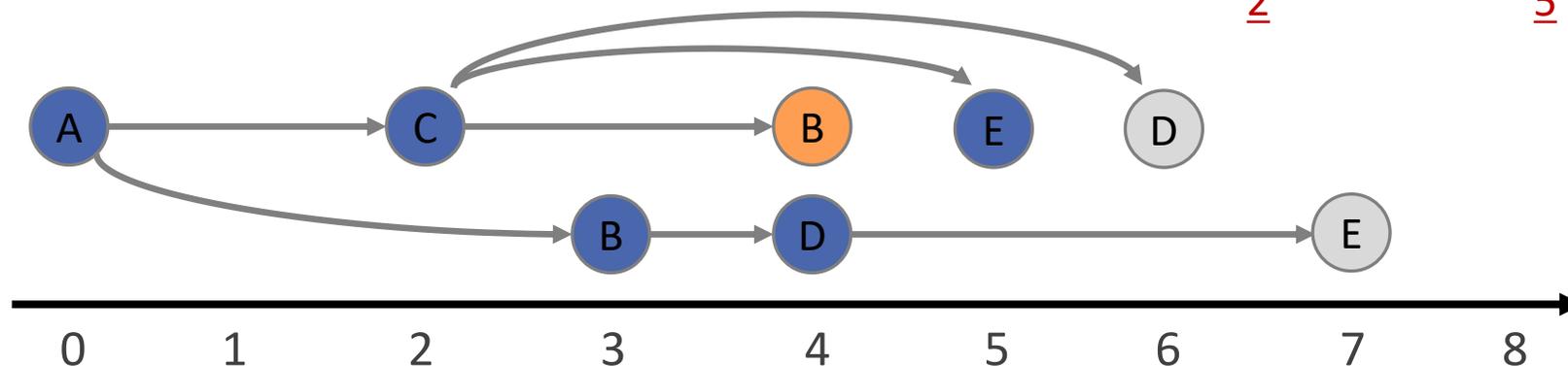


Task graph

○ To be processed

● First to visit vertex

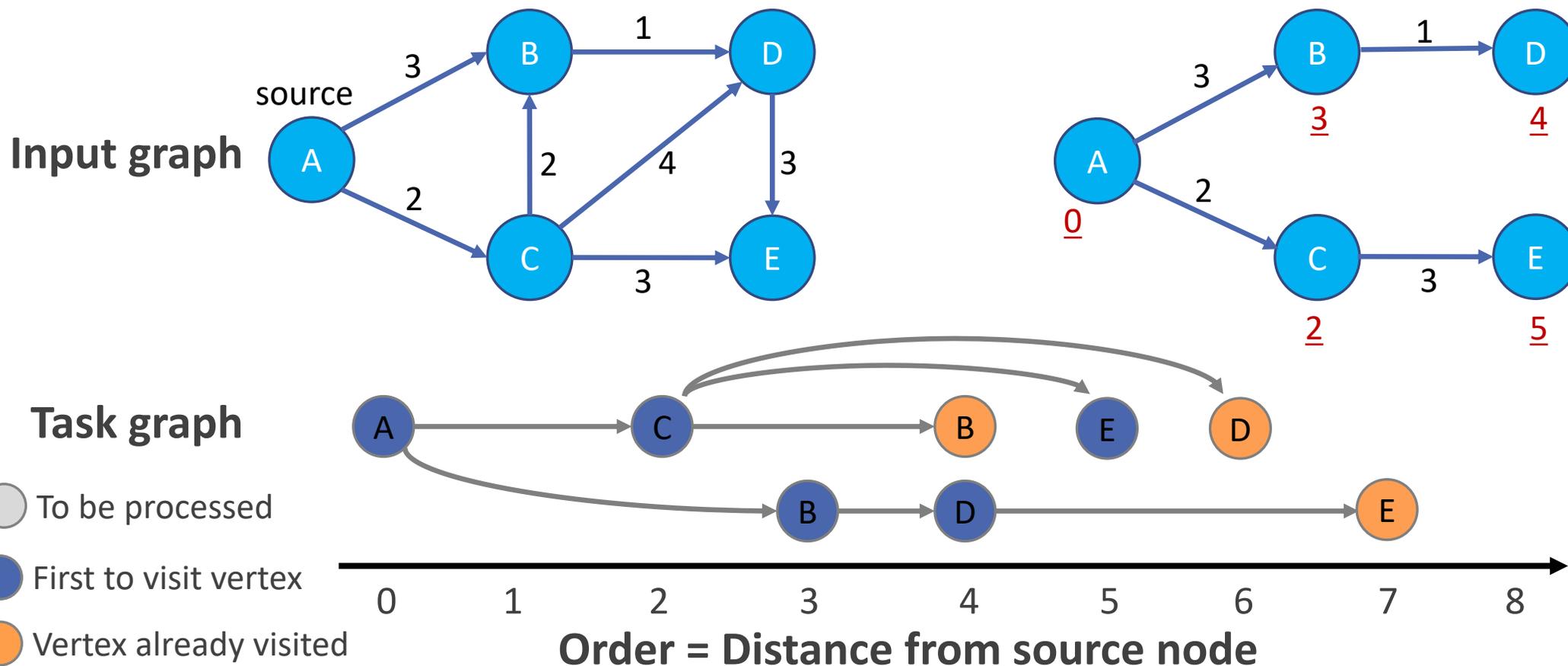
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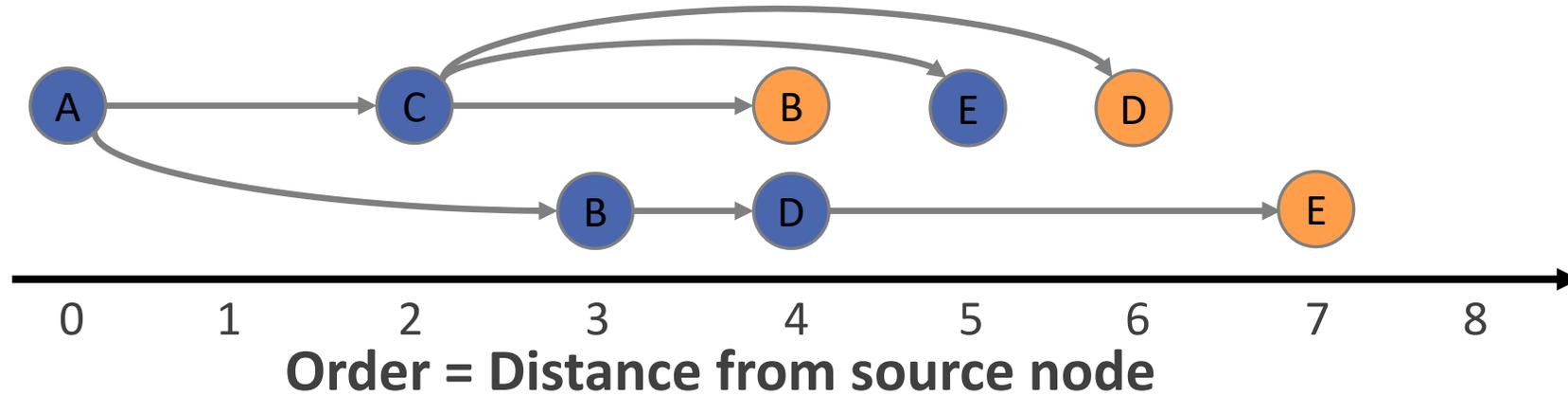
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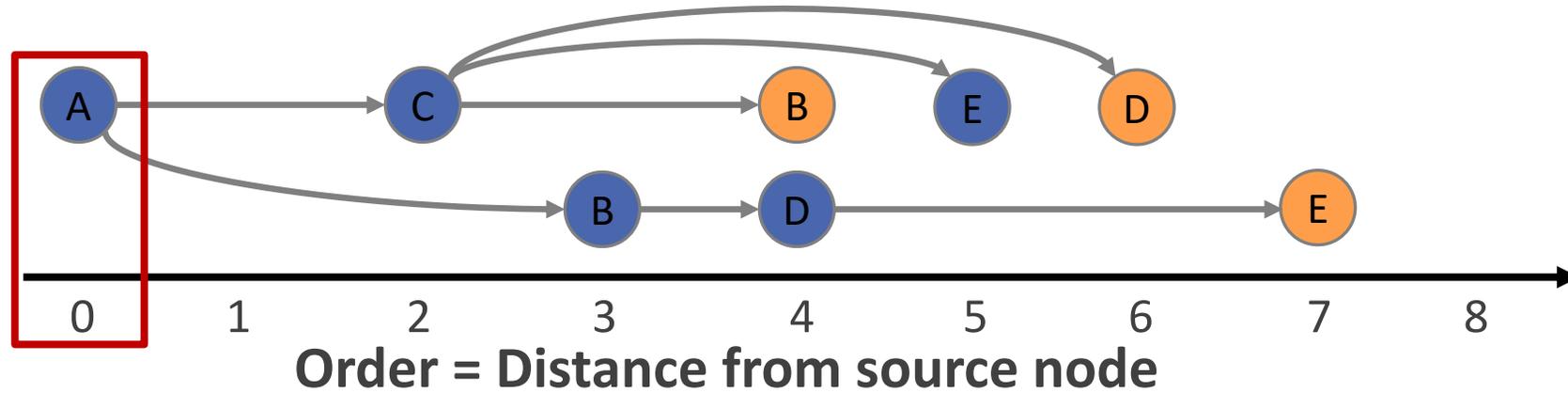
Parallelism in Dijkstra's algorithm?

Task graph



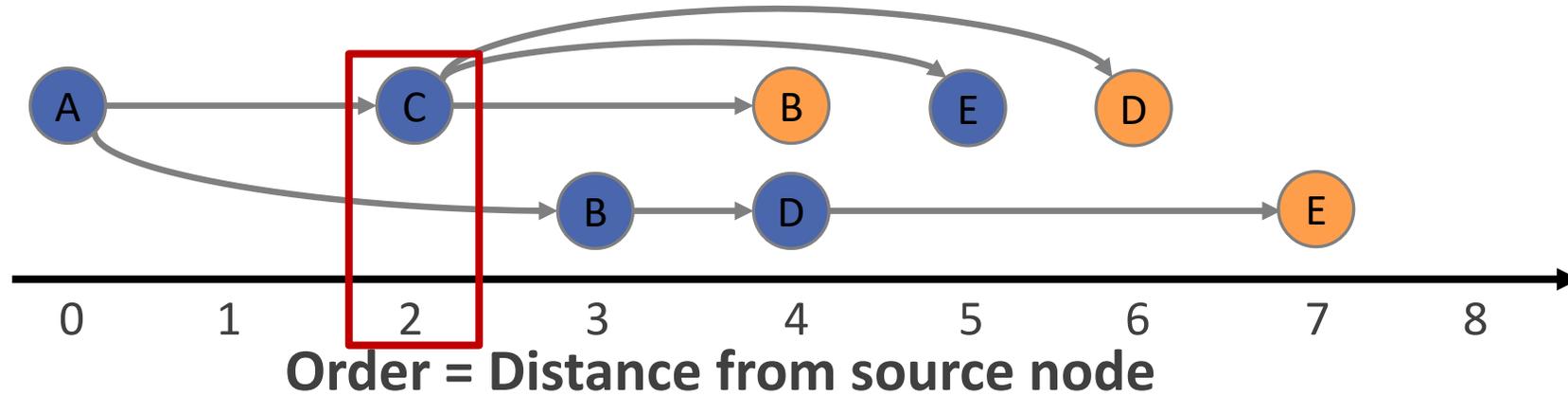
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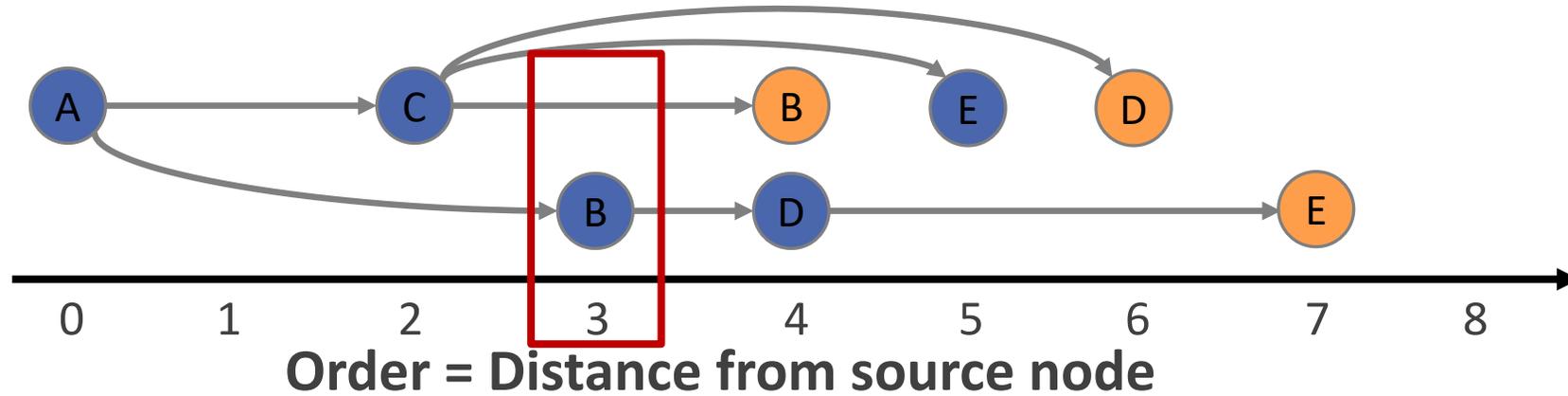
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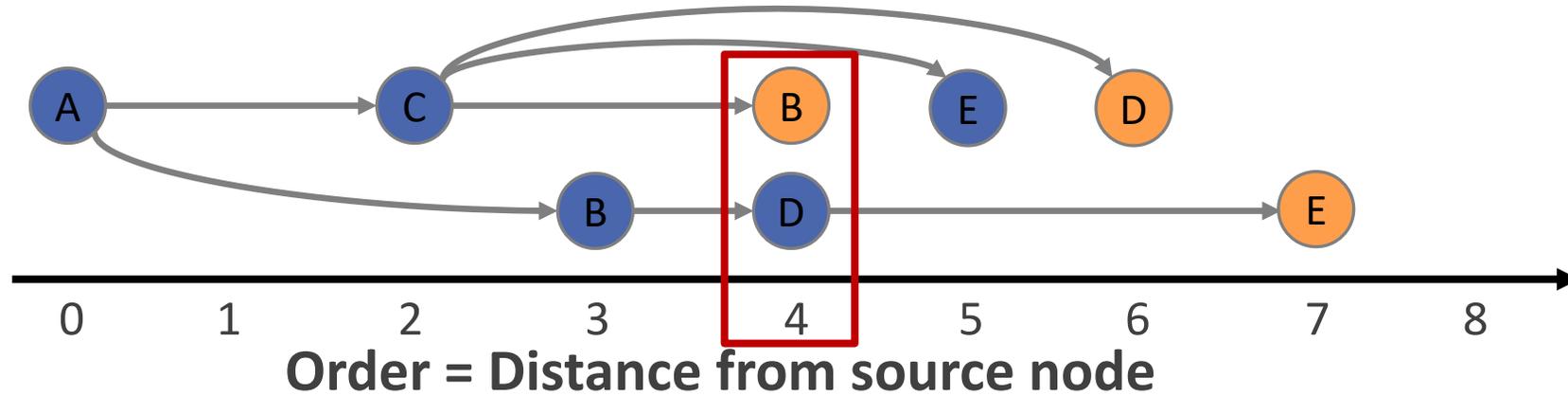
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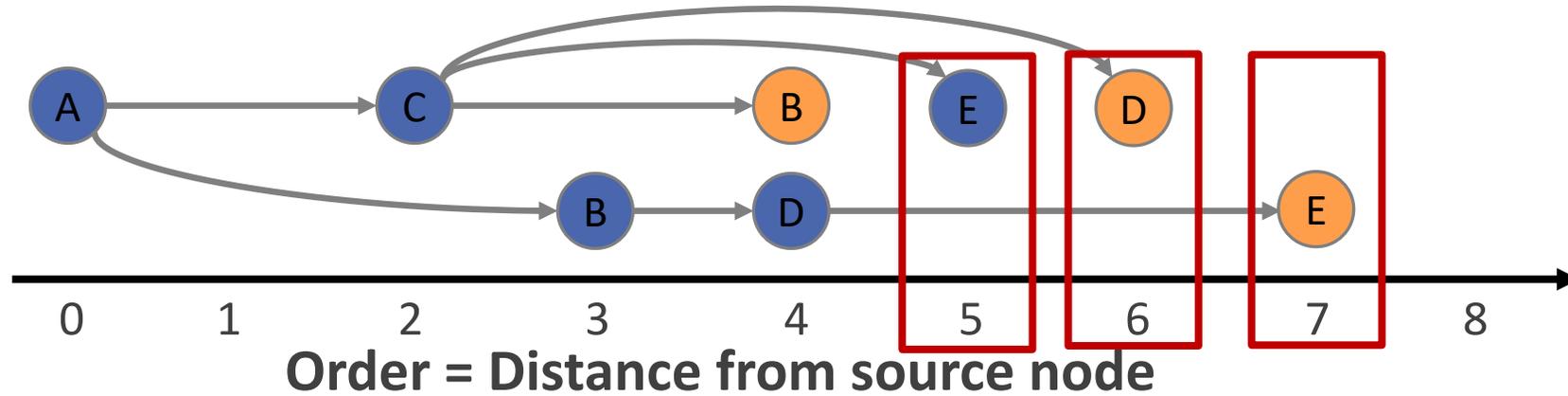
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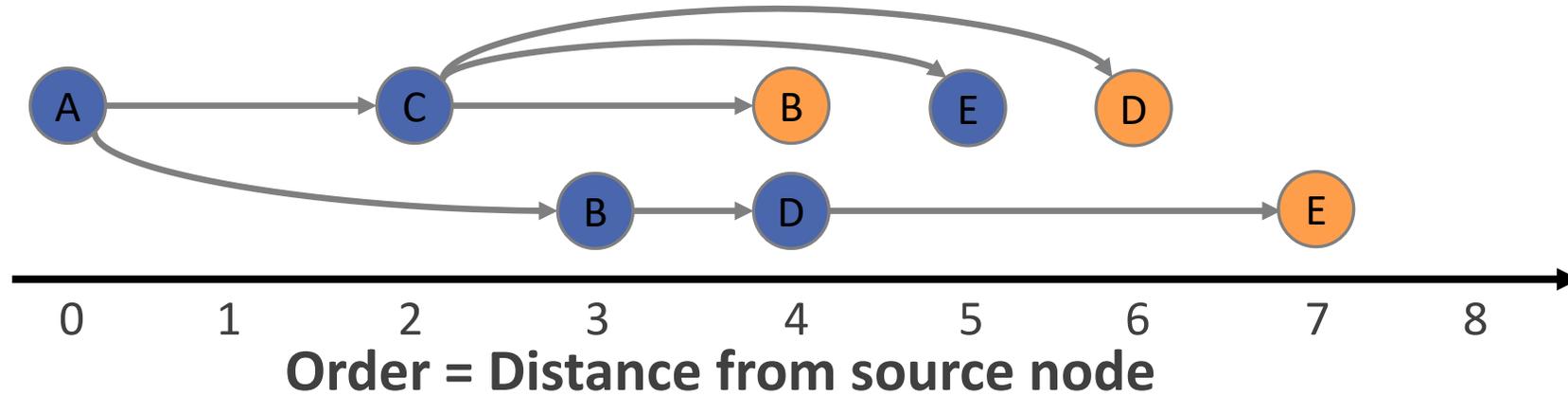
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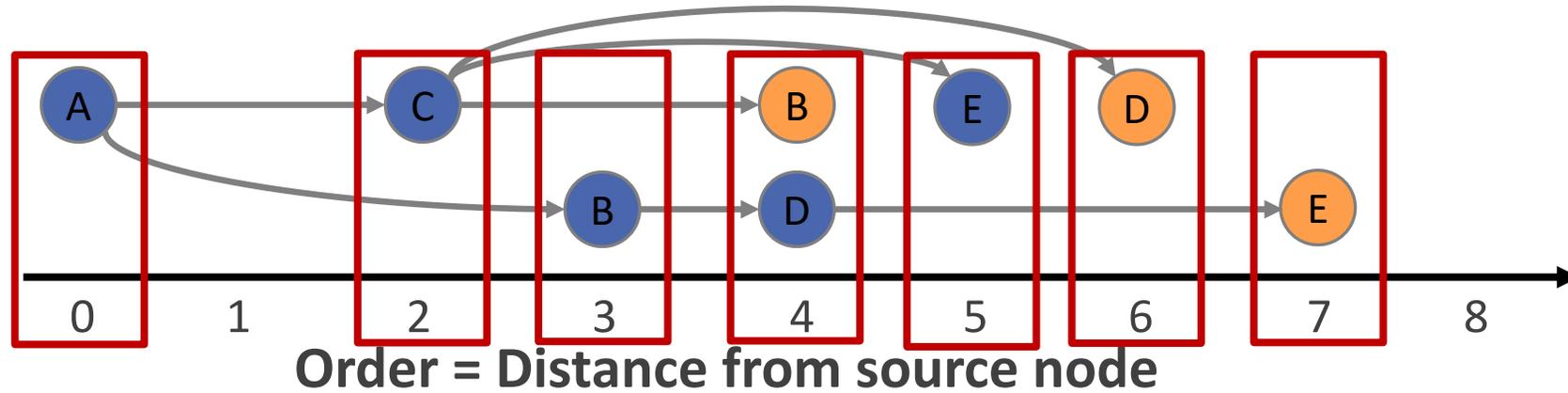
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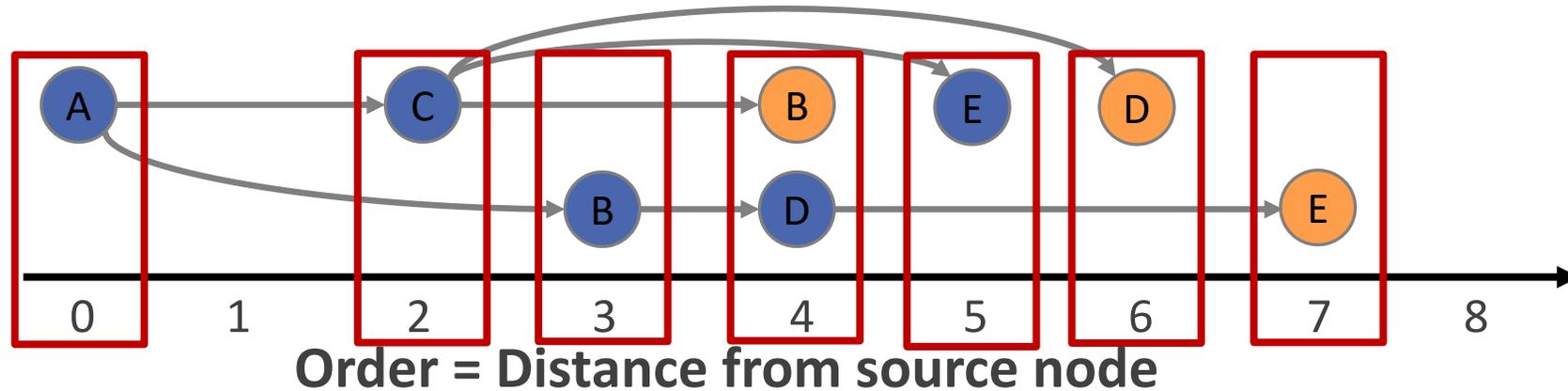
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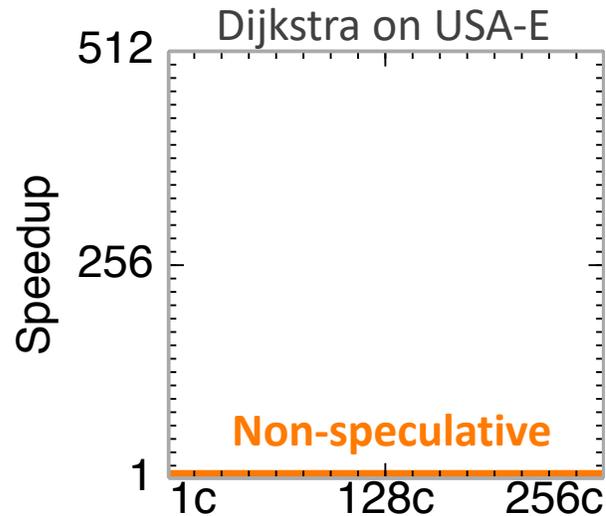


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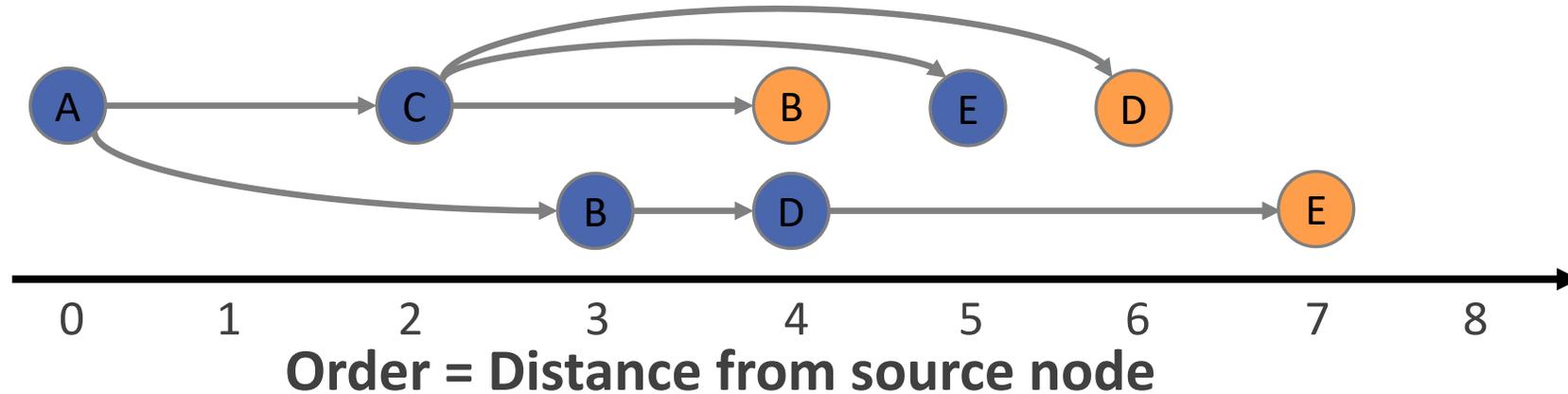


Dijkstra performance

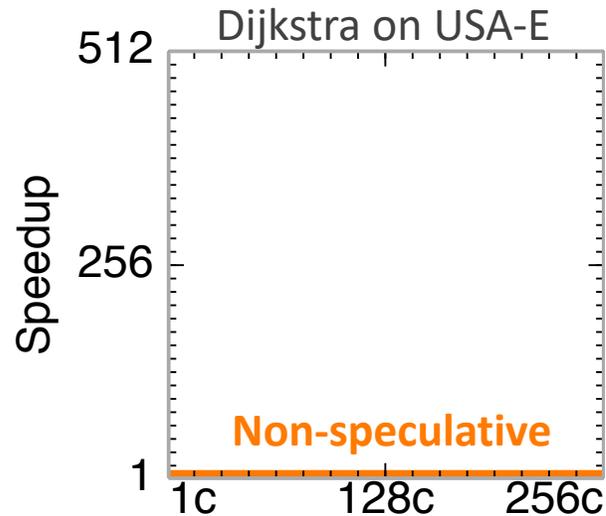


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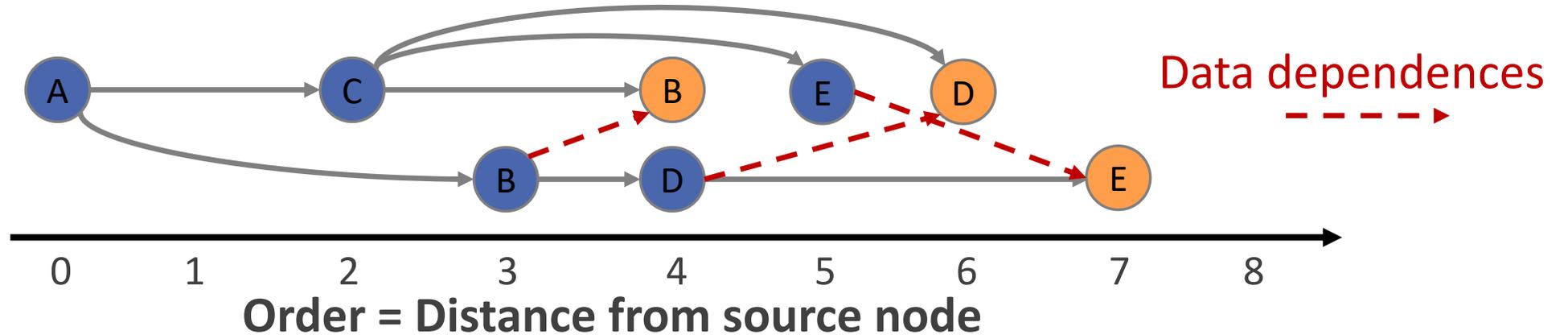


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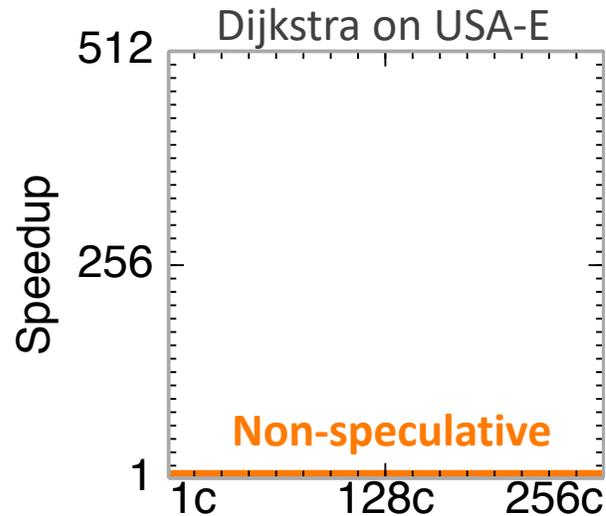


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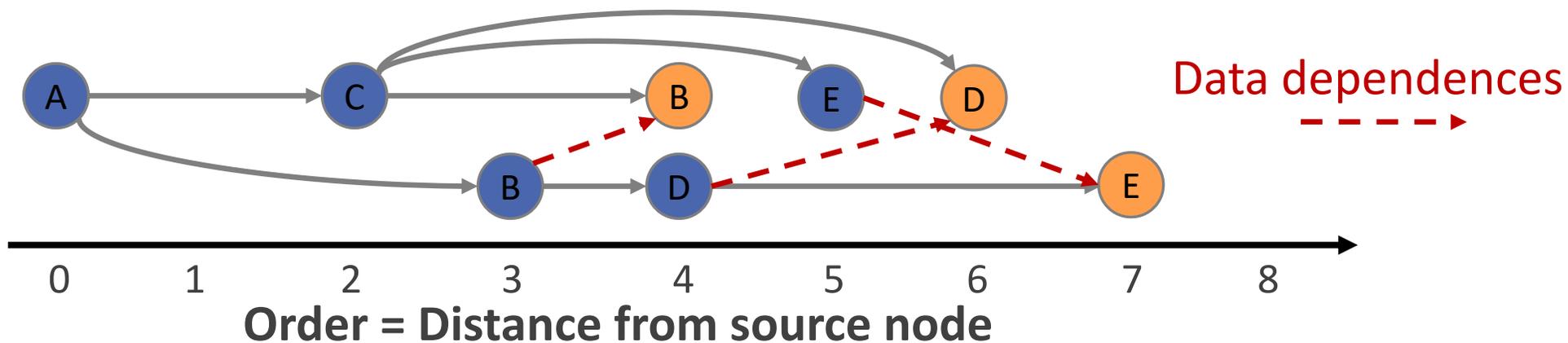


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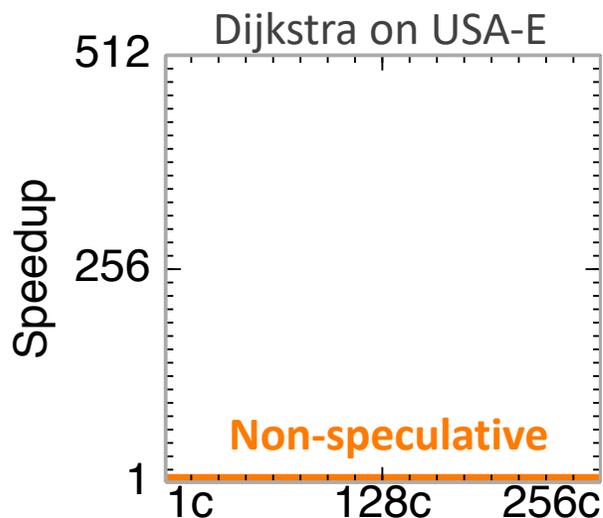


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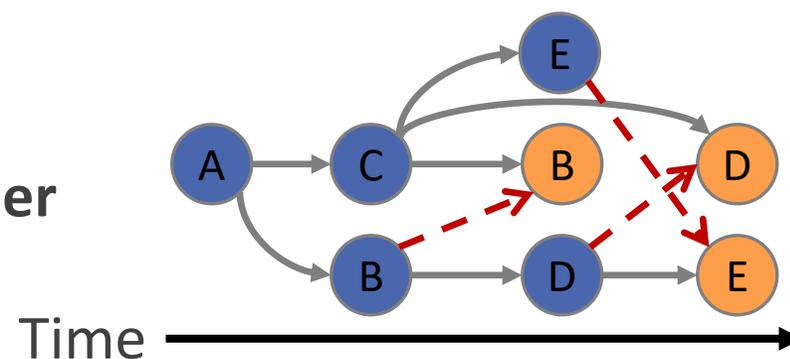
Task graph



Dijkstra performance



Valid out-of-order schedule



Dijkstra as a Swarm program [MICRO'15]

```
void dijkstraTask(Timestamp dist, Vertex* v) {
    if (v->distance == UNSET) {
        v->distance = dist;
        for (Vertex* n : v->neighbors) {
            Timestamp nDist = dist + weight(v, n);
            swarm::enqueue(dijkstraTask, nDist, n);
        }
    }
}
```

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            swarm::enqueue(dijkstraTask, nDist, n);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Function Pointer **Timestamp** **Arguments**

The diagram consists of three bold labels: 'Function Pointer', 'Timestamp', and 'Arguments'. Three black arrows point upwards from these labels to the arguments of the 'swarm::enqueue' function call in the code above. The first arrow points from 'Function Pointer' to 'dijkstraTask', the second from 'Timestamp' to 'nDist', and the third from 'Arguments' to 'n'.

Dijkstra as a Swarm program [MICRO'15]

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            swarm::enqueue(dijkstraTask, nDist, n);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Function Pointer

Timestamp Arguments

```
swarm::enqueue(dijkstraTask, 0, sourceVertex);  
swarm::run();
```

Dijkstra as a Swarm program [MICRO'15]

```
void dijkstraTask(Timestamp dist, Vertex* v) {  
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            swarm::enqueue(dijkstraTask, nDist, n);  
        }  
    }  
}  
  
swarm::enqueue(dijkstraTask, 0, sourceVertex);  
swarm::run();
```

Implicit Parallelism

**No explicit
synchronization**

Function Pointer

Timestamp Arguments

Conveys new work to hardware as soon as possible

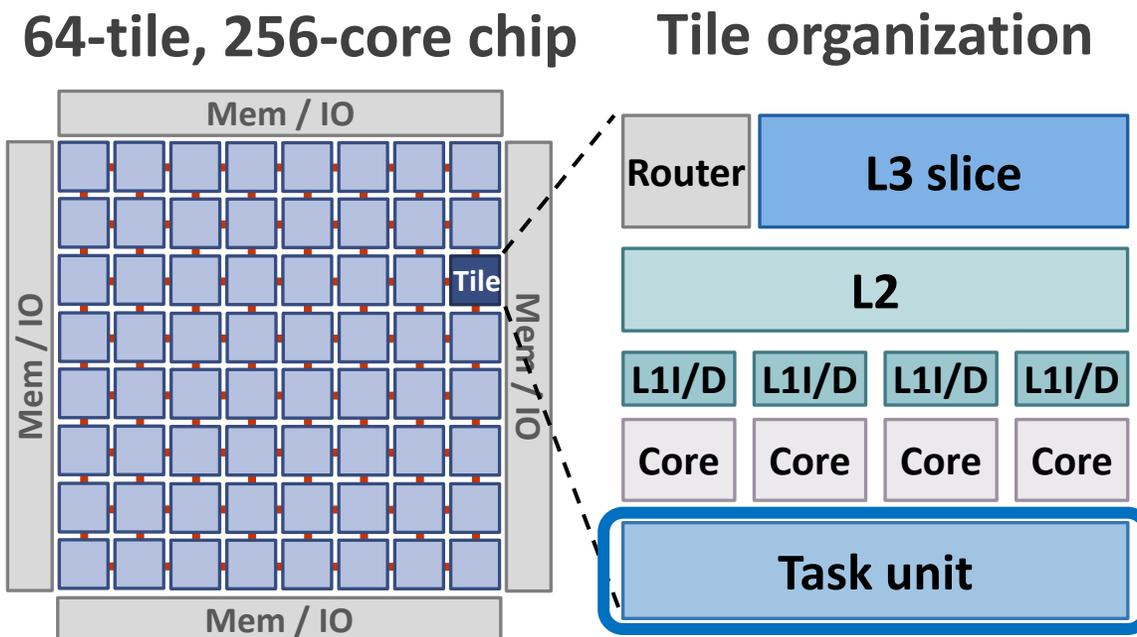
Swarm microarchitecture [MICRO'15]

Swarm executes all tasks
speculatively and out of order

Large hardware task queues

Scalable ordered speculation

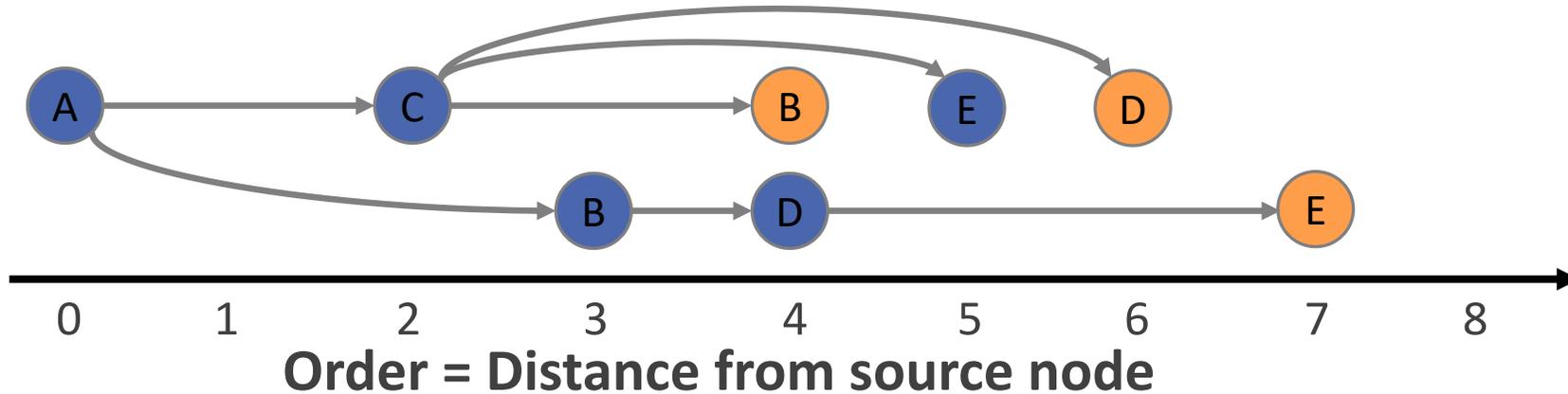
Scalable ordered commits



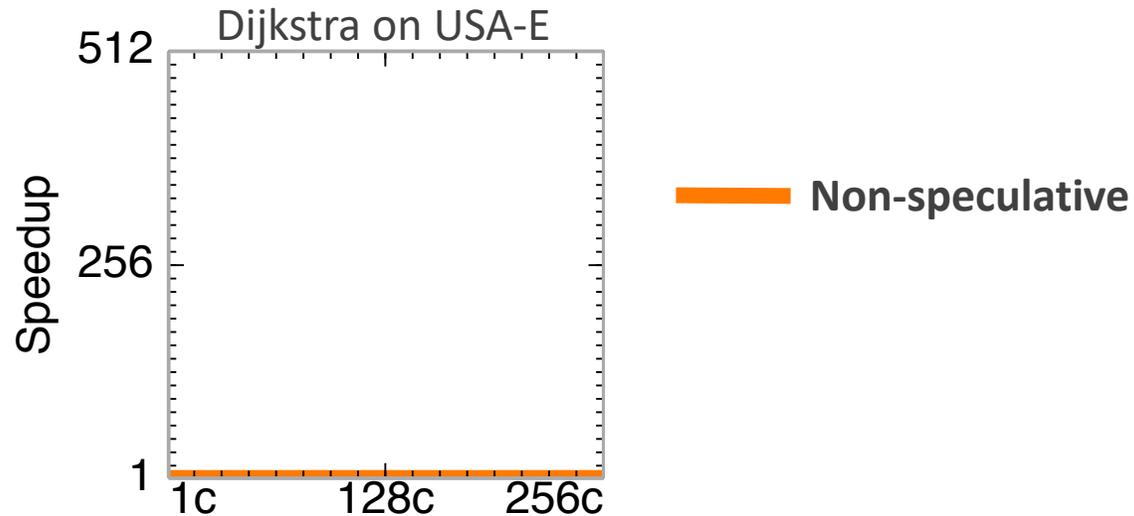
Efficiently supports thousands of tiny speculative tasks

Dijkstra's algorithm has speculative parallelism

Task graph

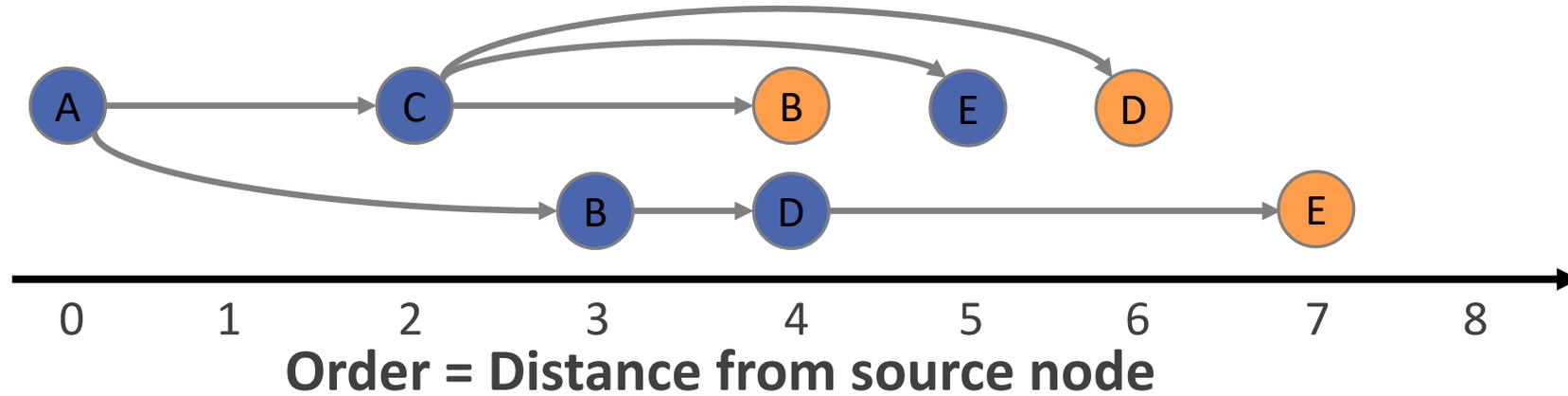


Dijkstra performance

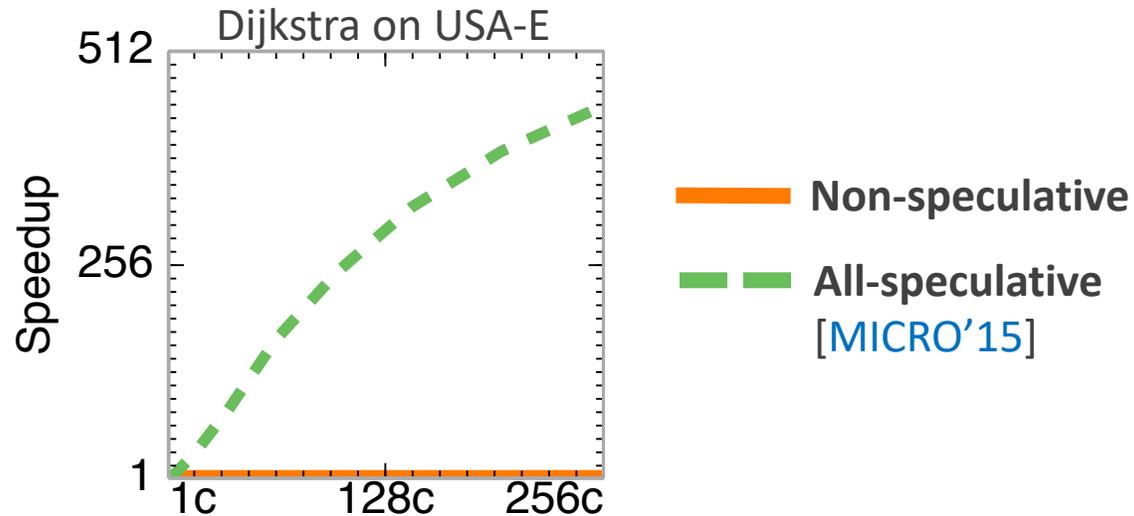


Dijkstra's algorithm has speculative parallelism

Task graph

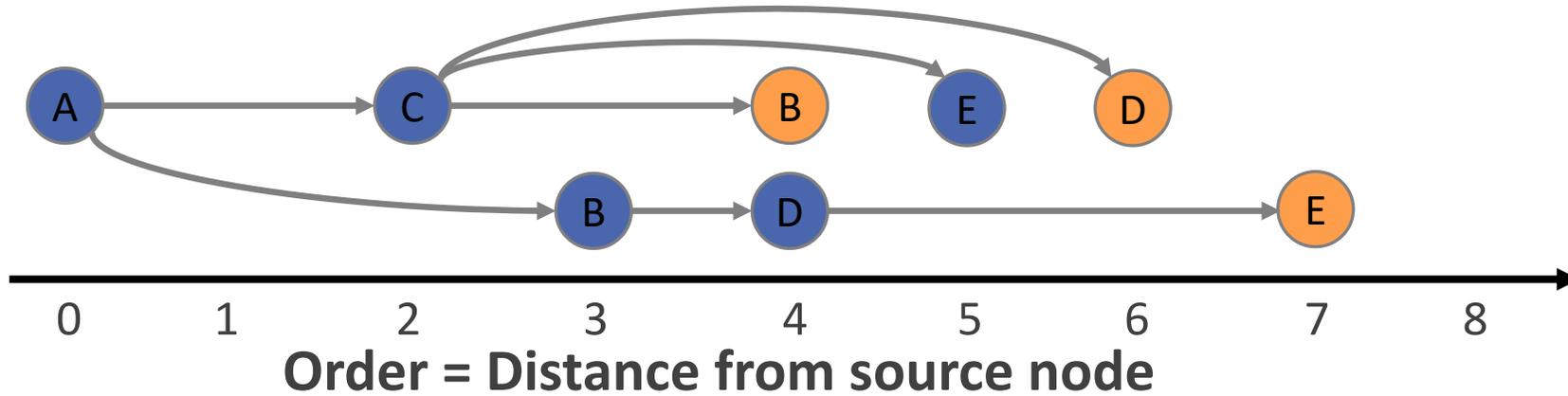


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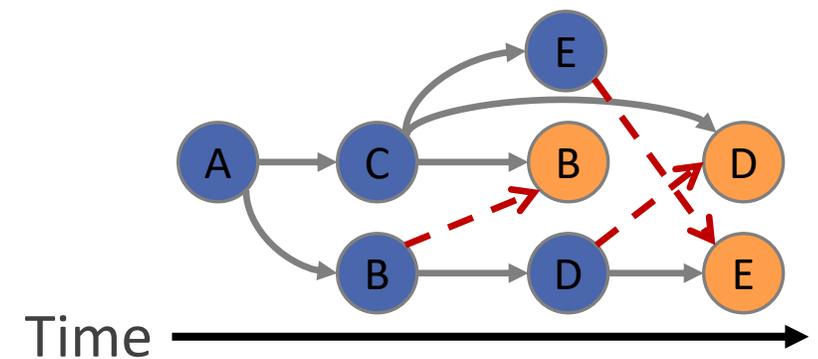
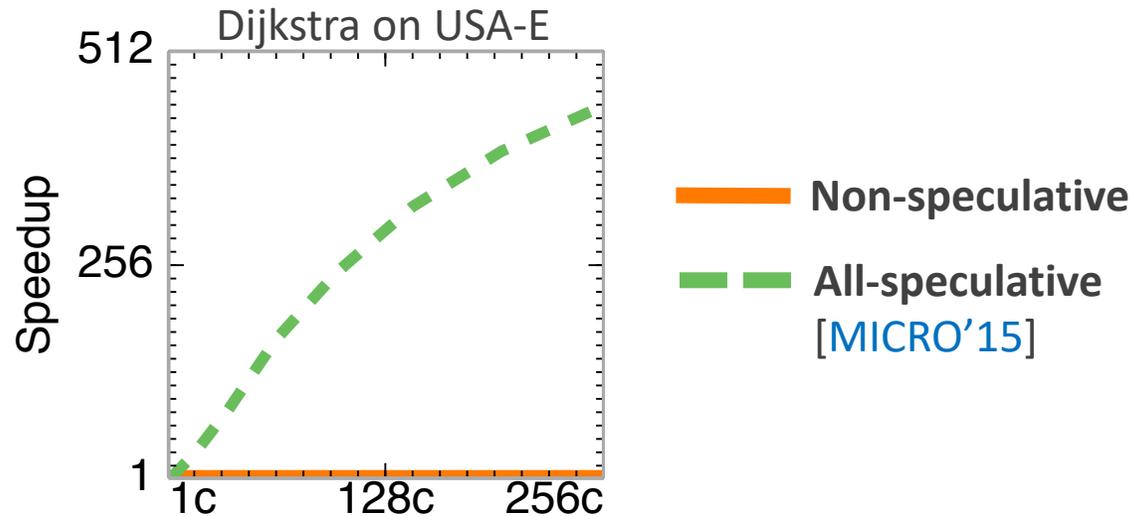


Dijkstra's algorithm has speculative parallelism

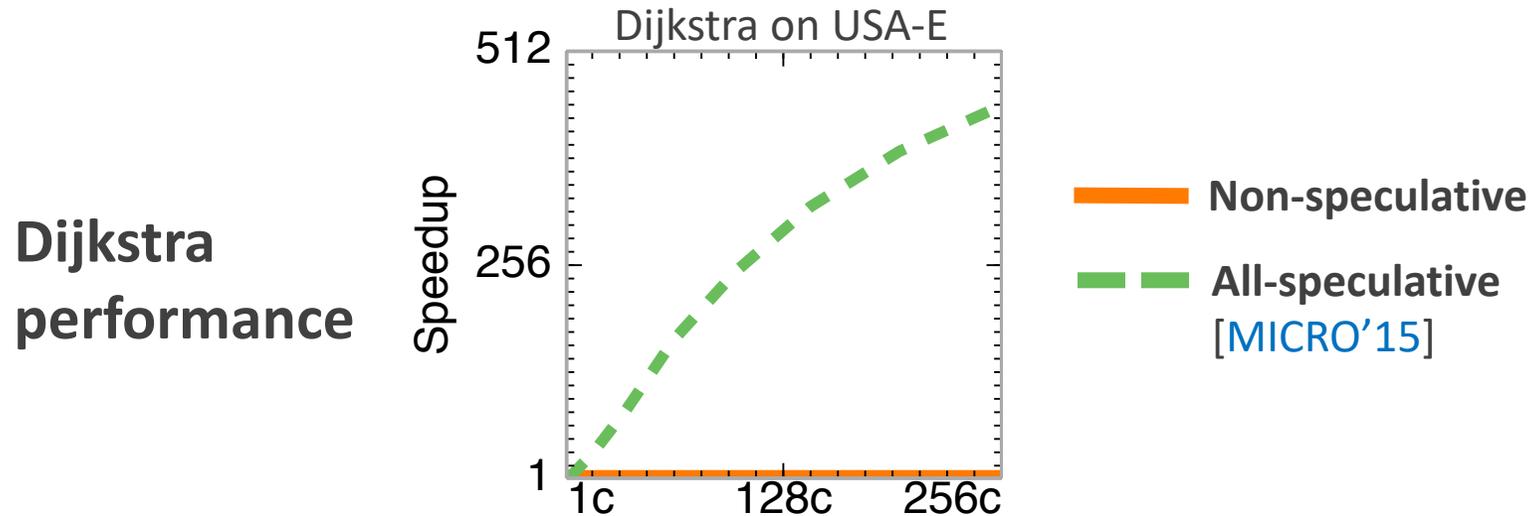
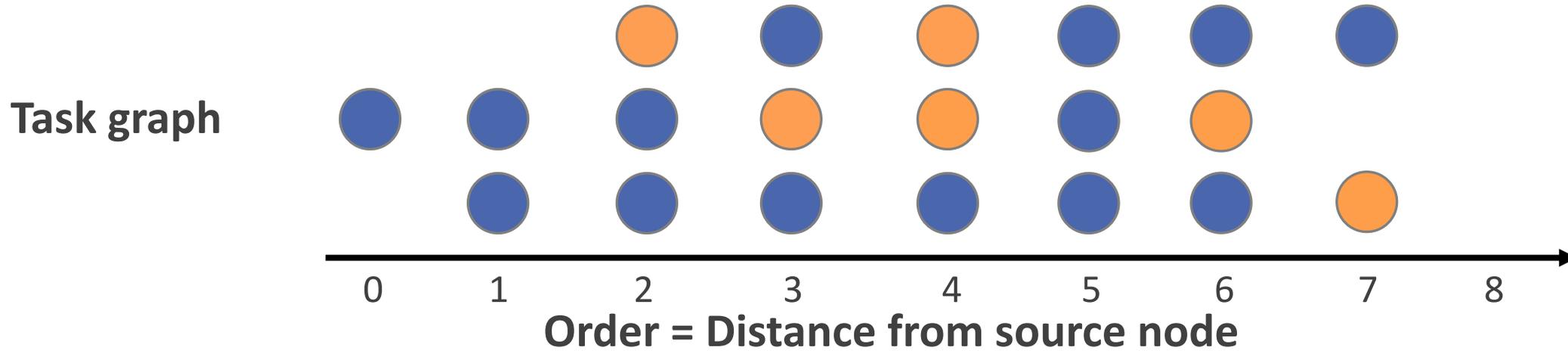
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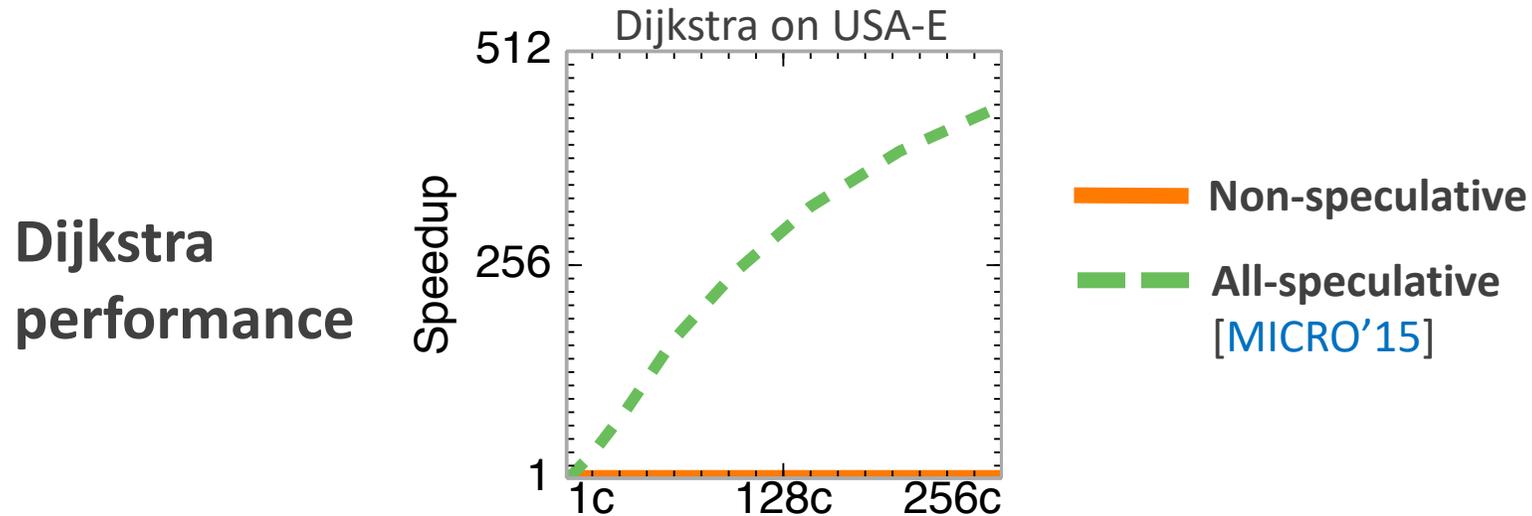
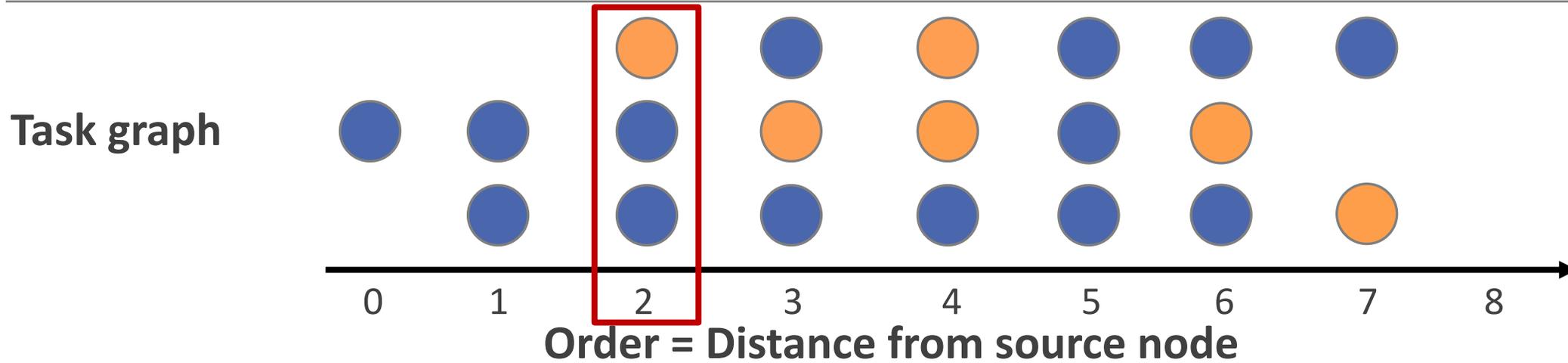
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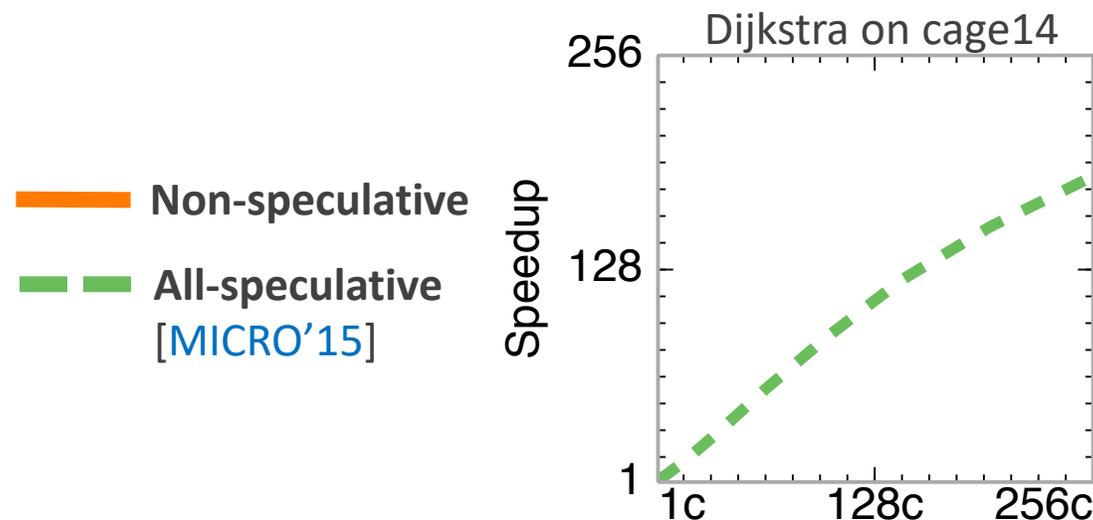
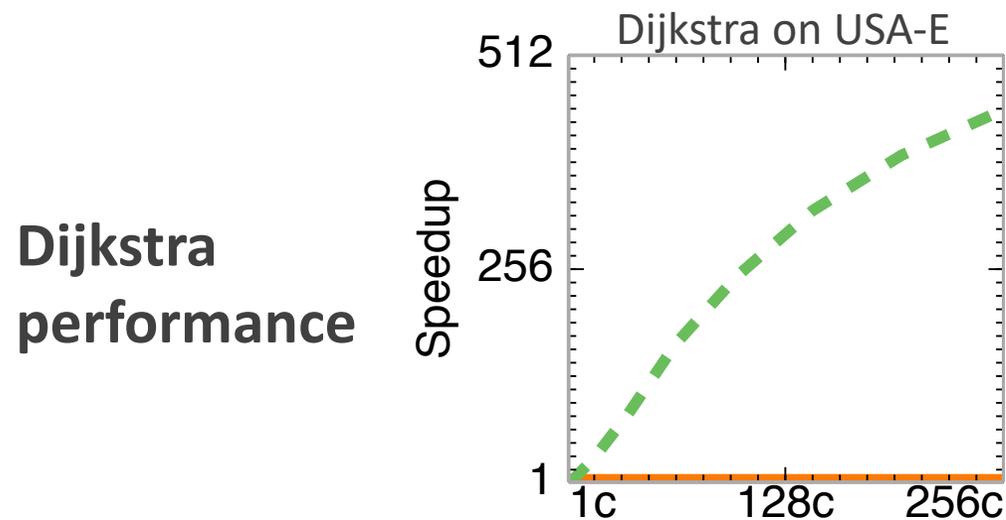
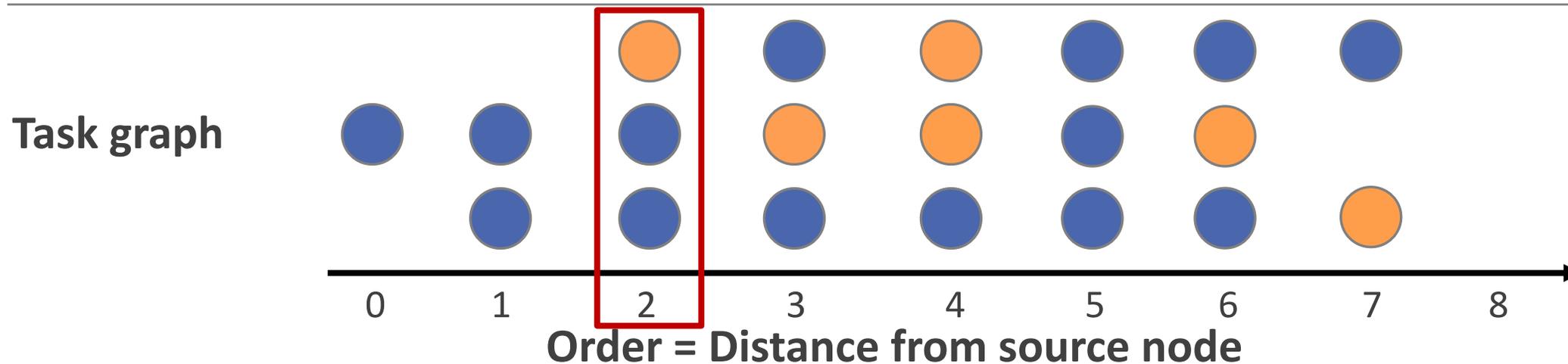
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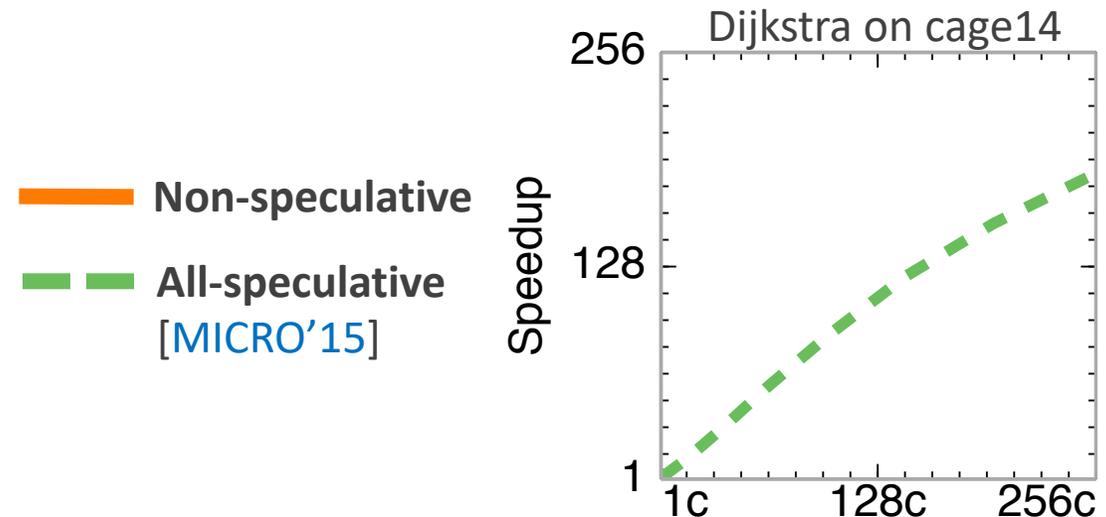
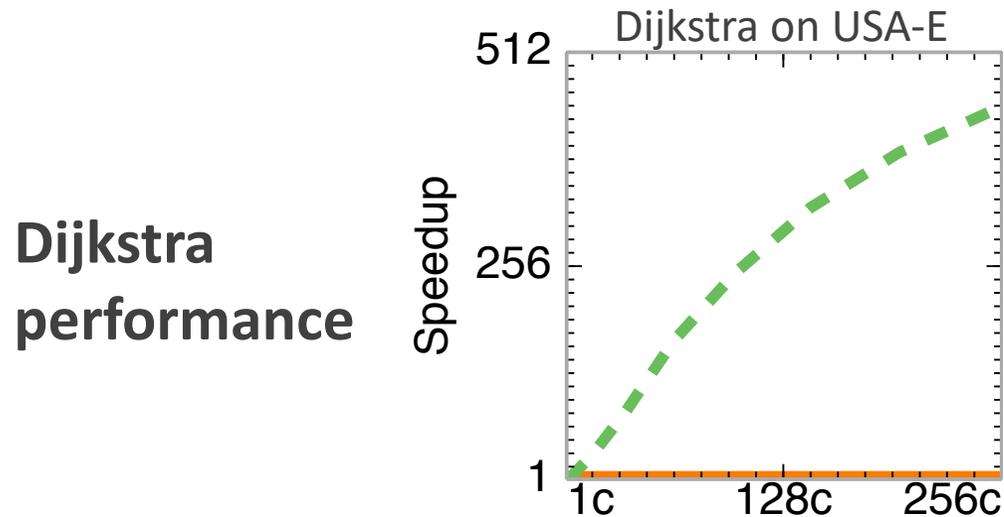
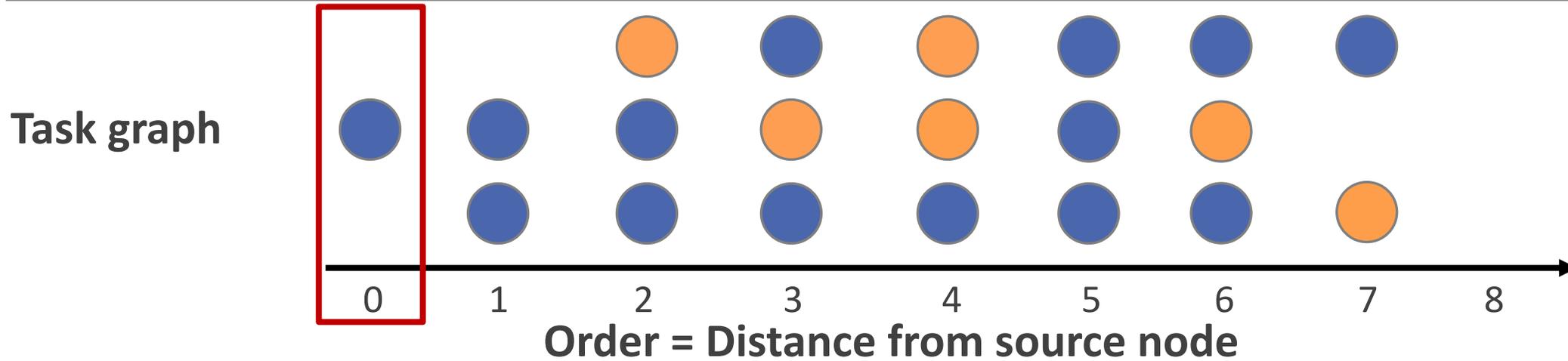
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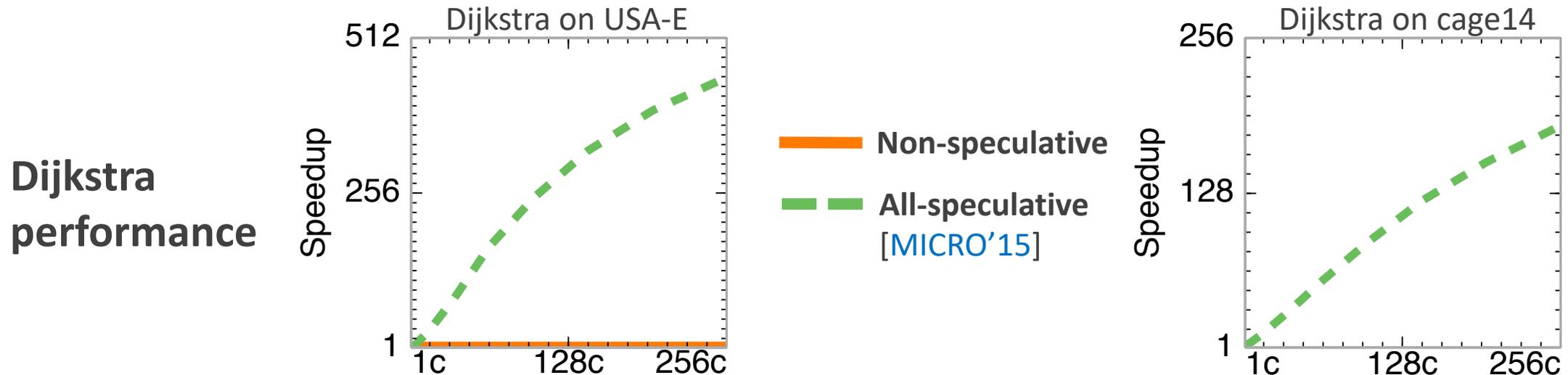
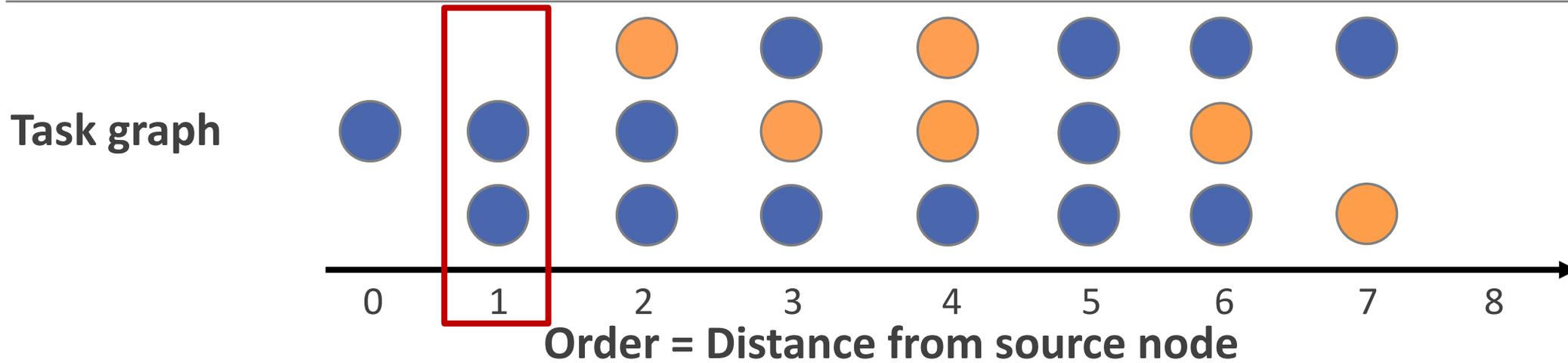
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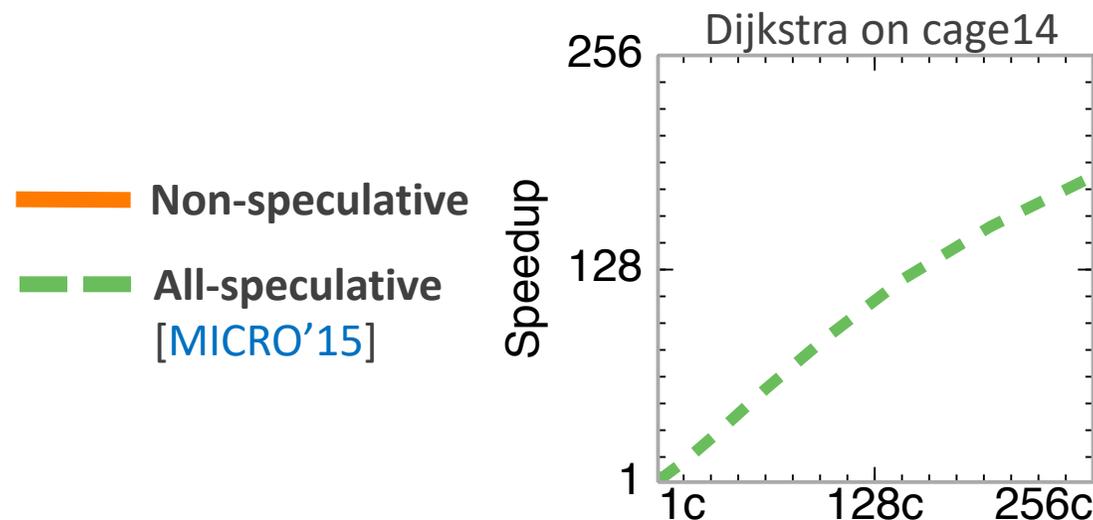
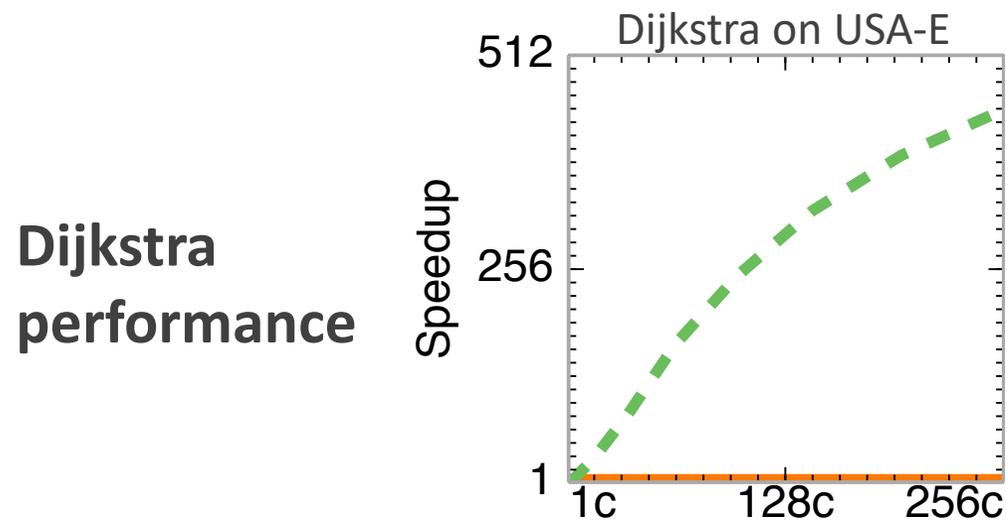
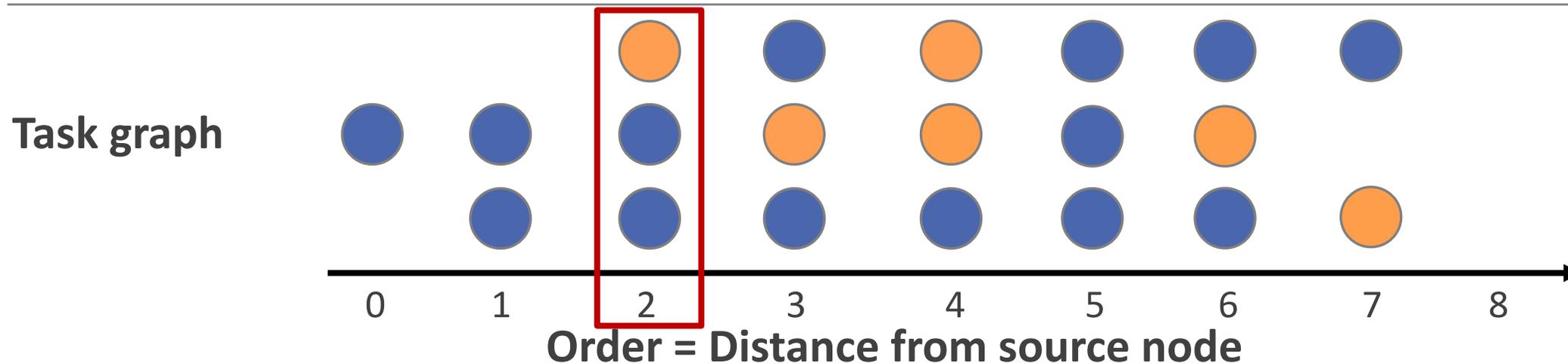
Dijkstra's algorithm has speculative parallelism



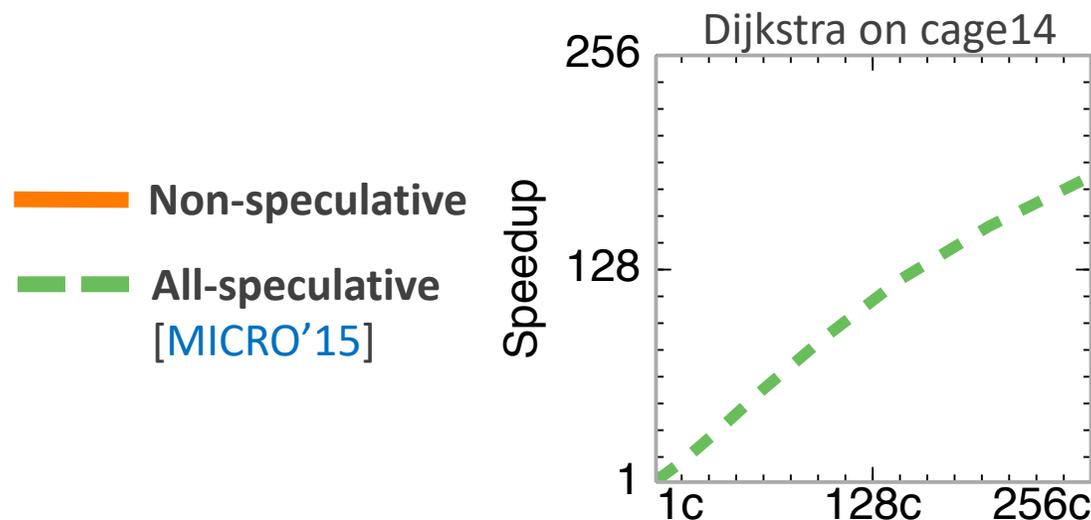
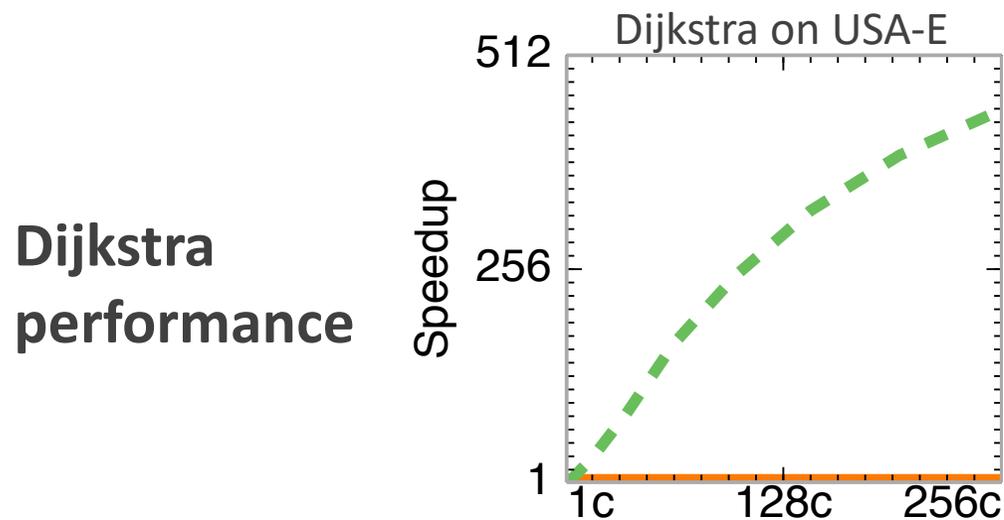
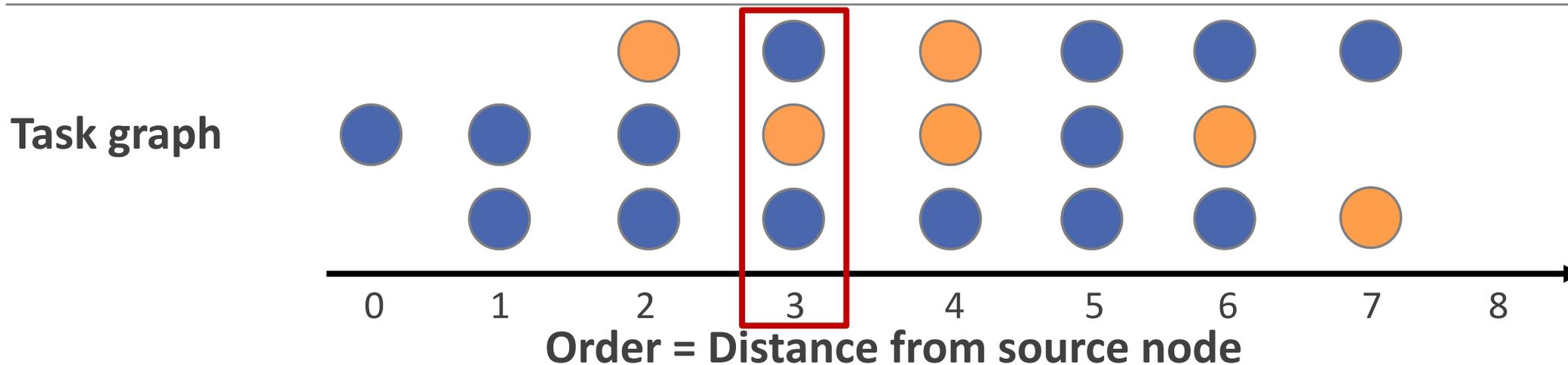
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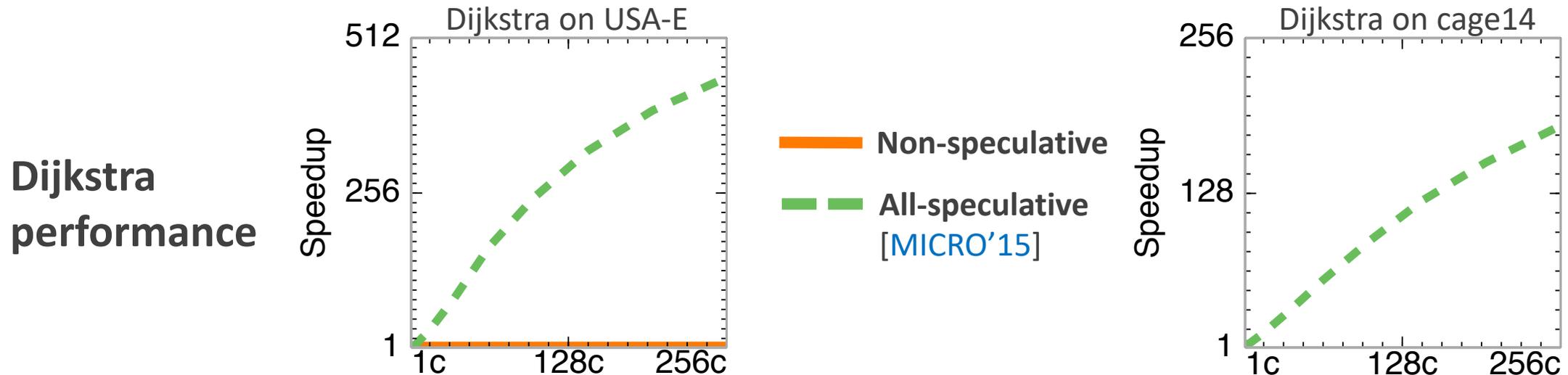
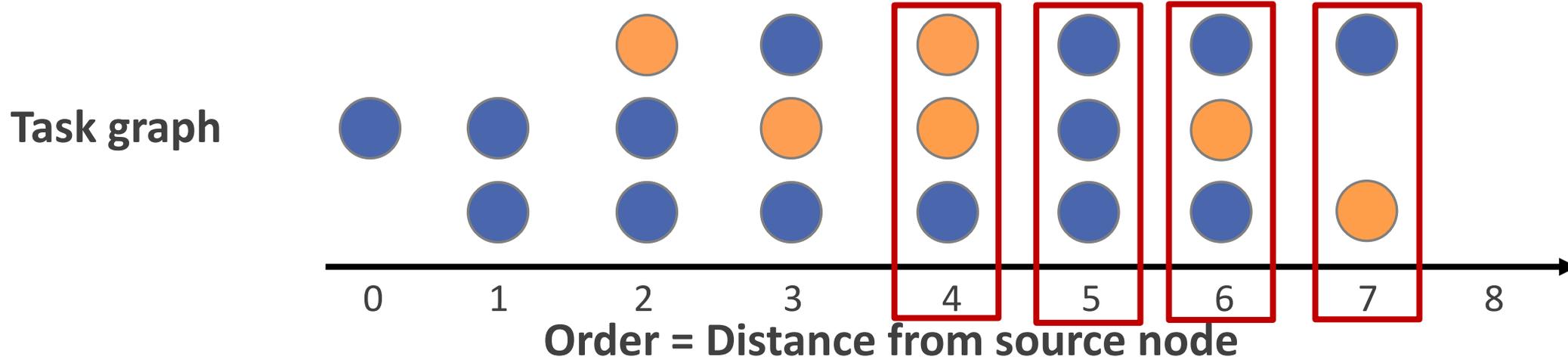
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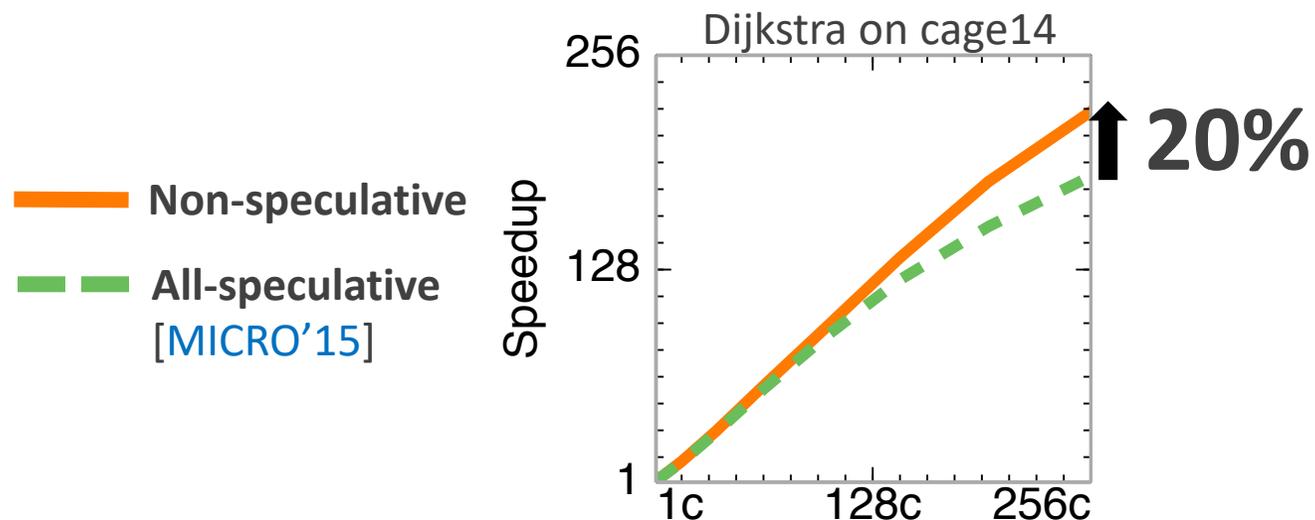
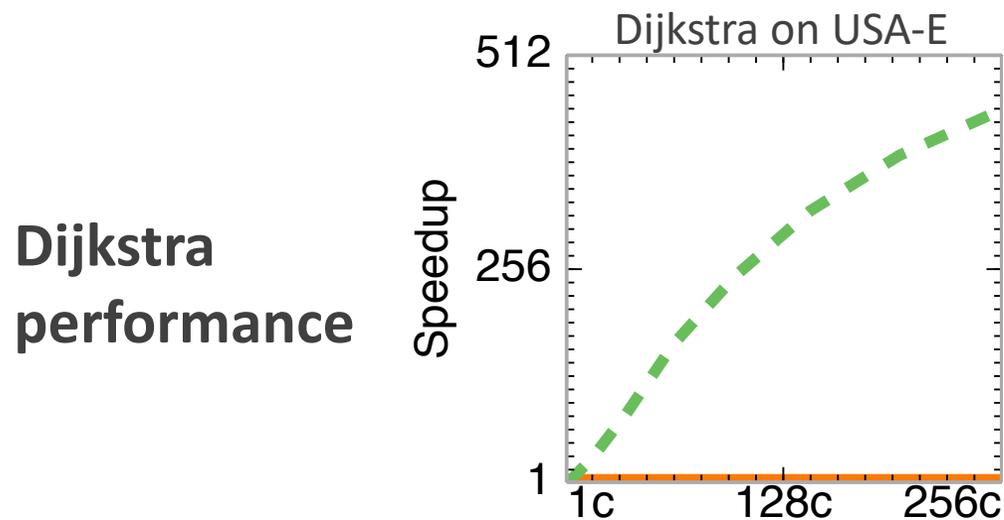
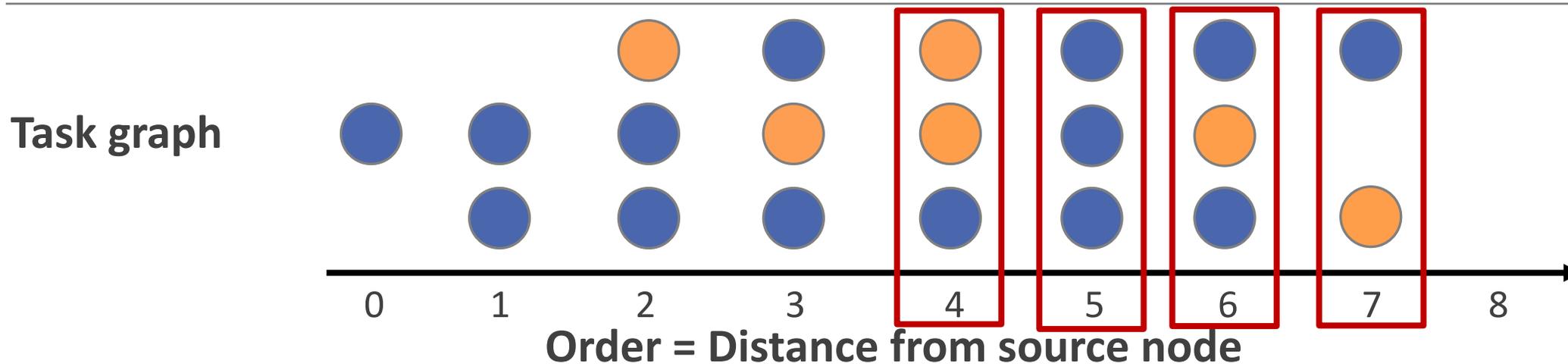
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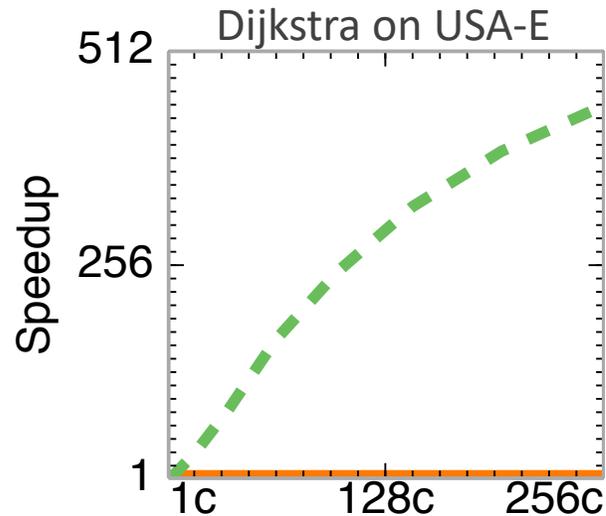
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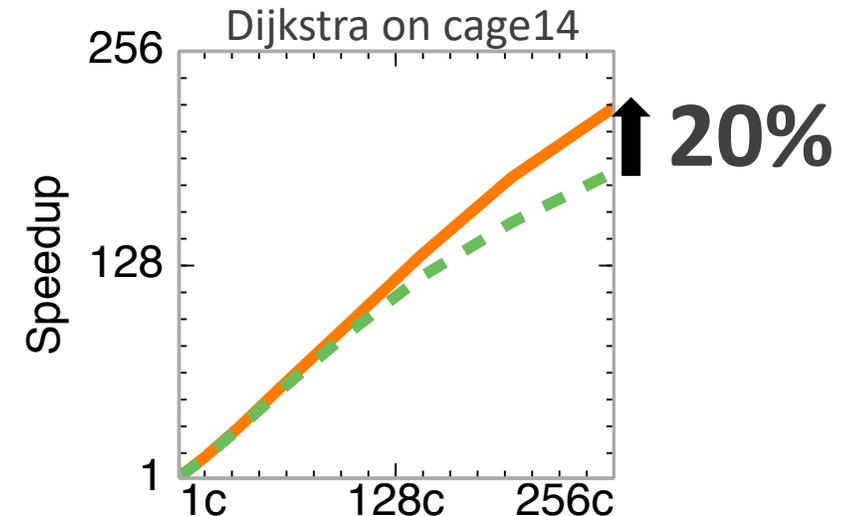
Dijkstra's algorithm has speculative parallelism

All-or-nothing speculation unduly burdens programmers

Dijkstra performance



— Non-speculative
- - All-speculative [MICRO'15]

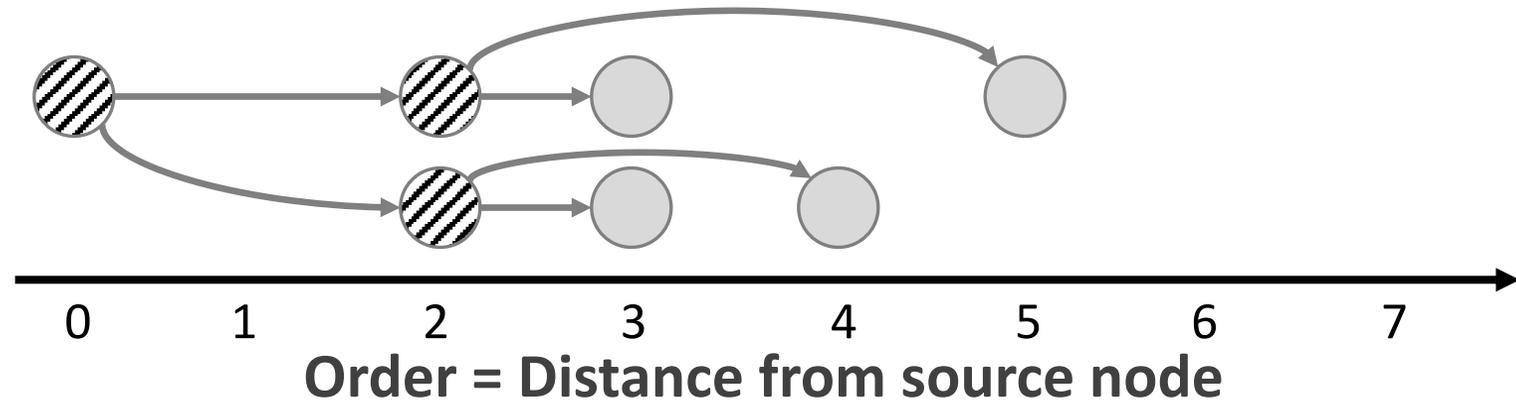


Dijkstra's algorithm needs a hybrid strategy

Dijkstra's algorithm needs a hybrid strategy

Task graph

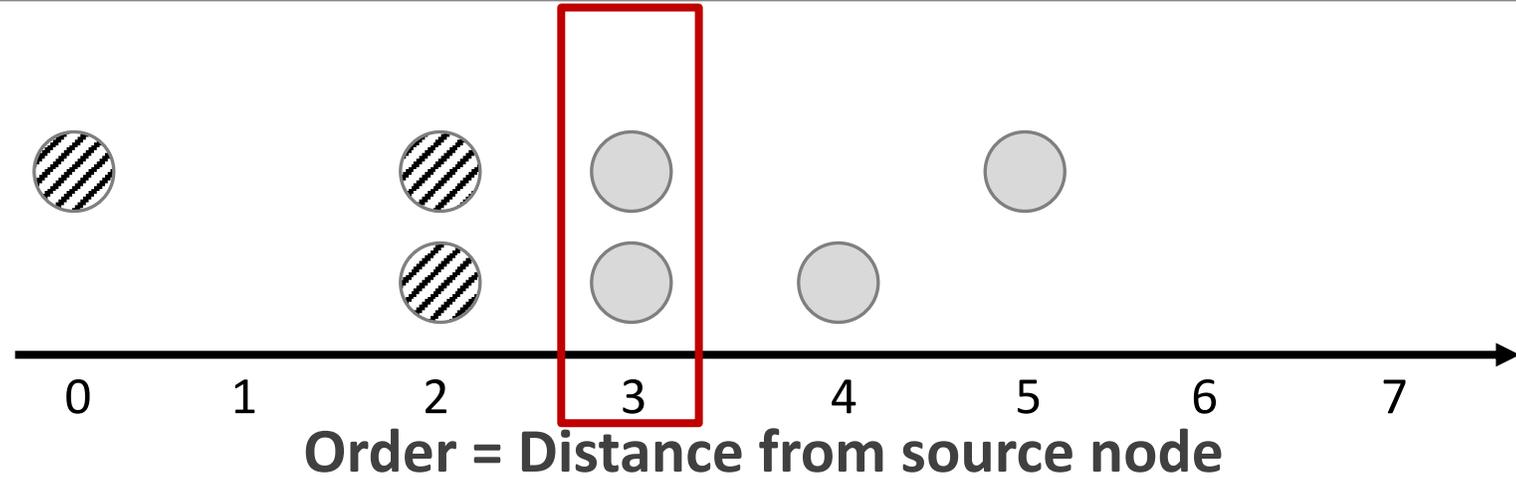
- To be processed
- ◐ Finished



Dijkstra's algorithm needs a hybrid strategy

Task graph

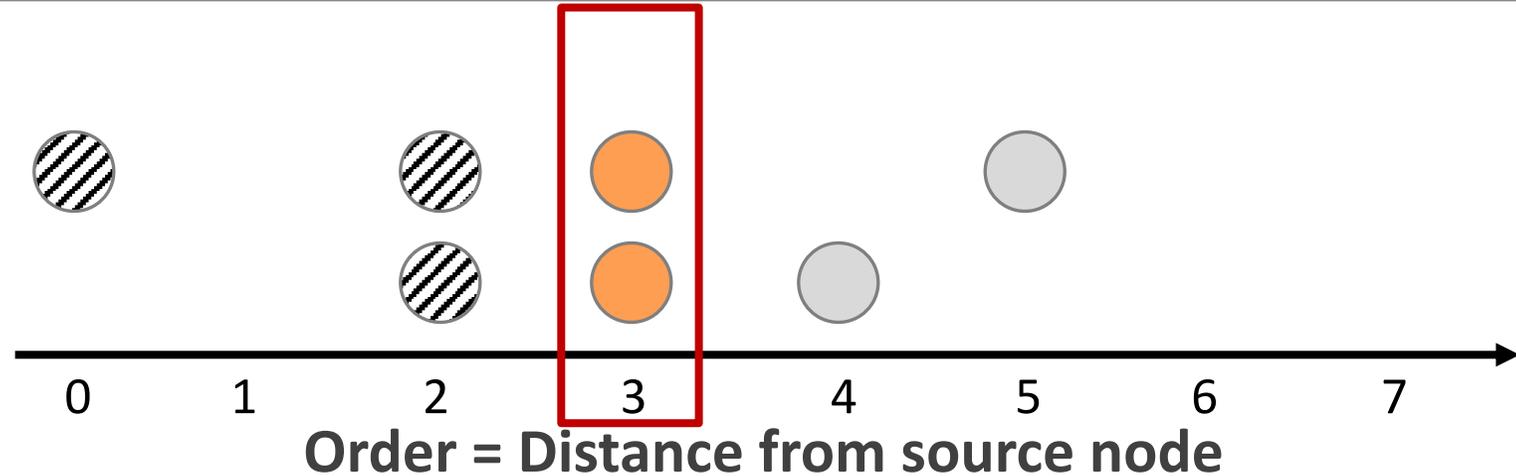
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Dijkstra's algorithm needs a hybrid strategy

Task graph

- To be processed
- ◐ Finished
- Running non-speculatively

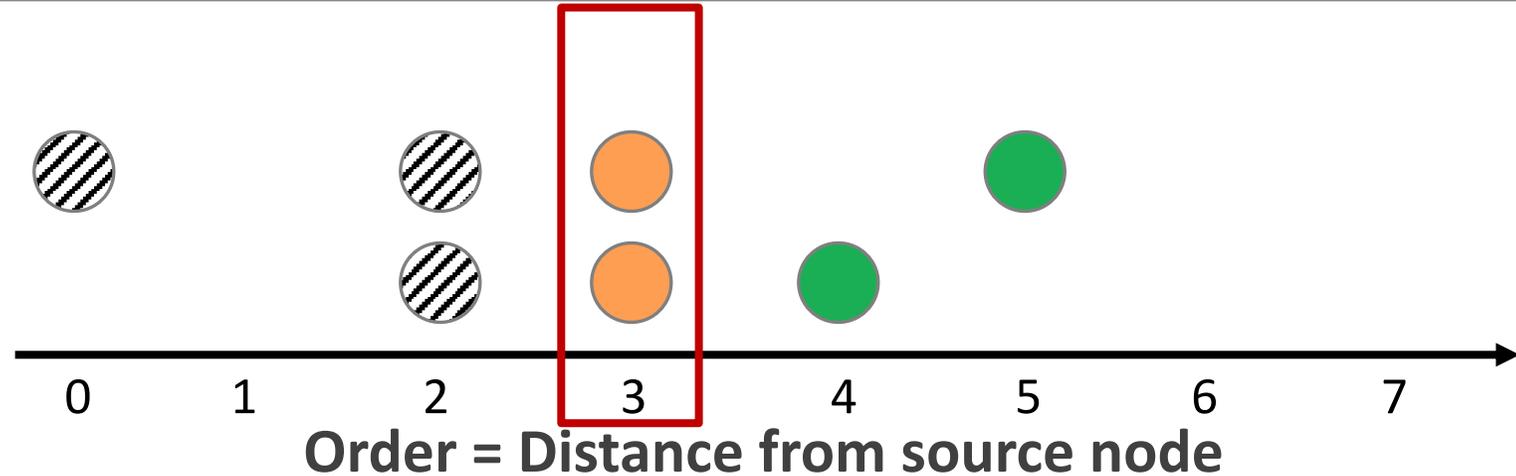


Run tasks **non-speculatively** when possible

Dijkstra's algorithm needs a hybrid strategy

Task graph

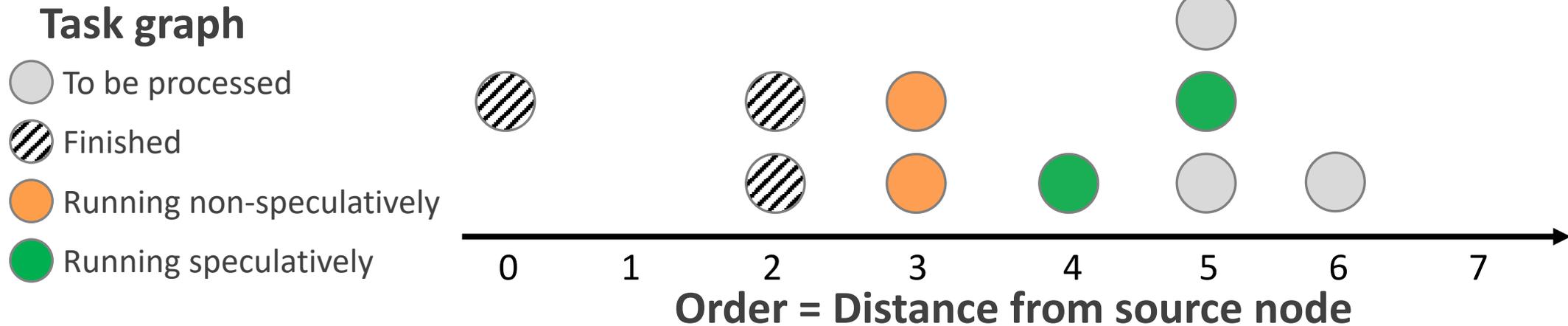
- To be processed
- ◌ Finished
- Running non-speculatively
- Running speculatively



Run tasks **non-speculatively** when possible

Keep cores busy with **speculative** ordered parallelism

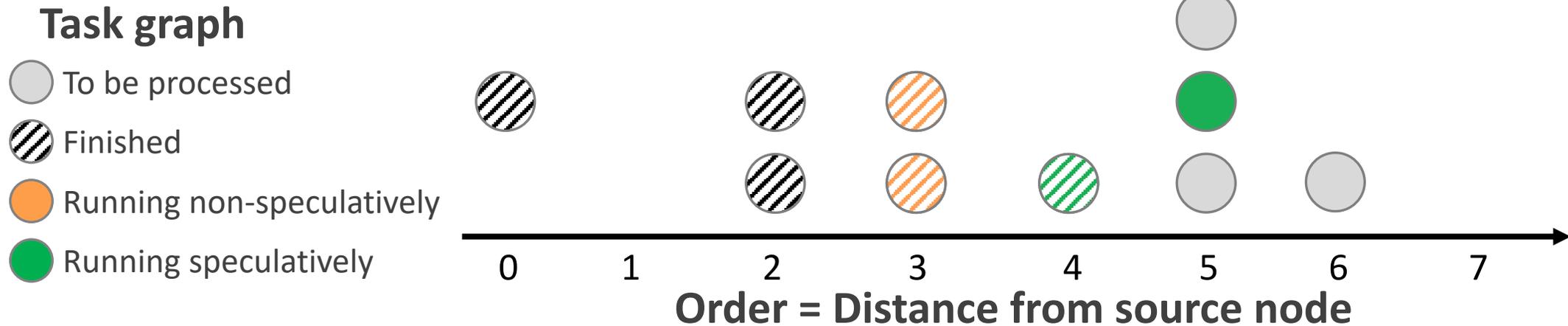
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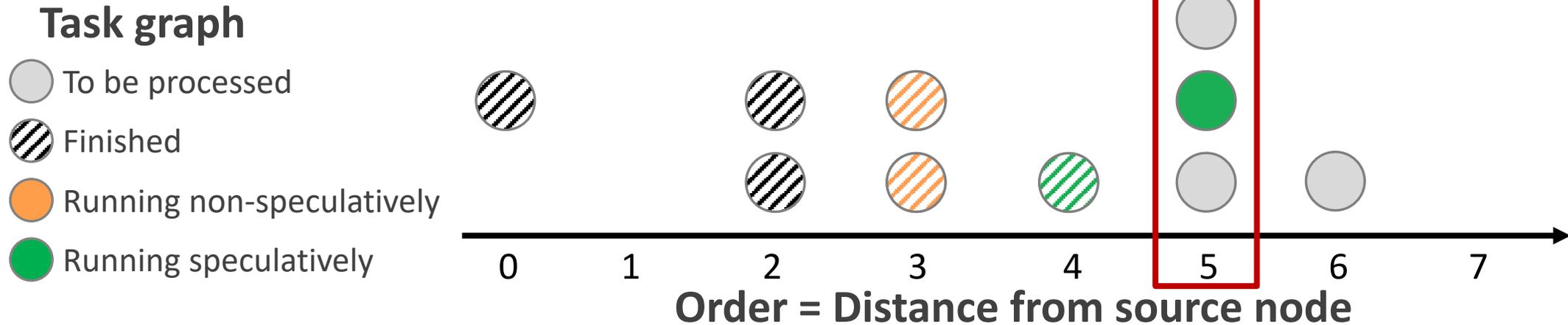
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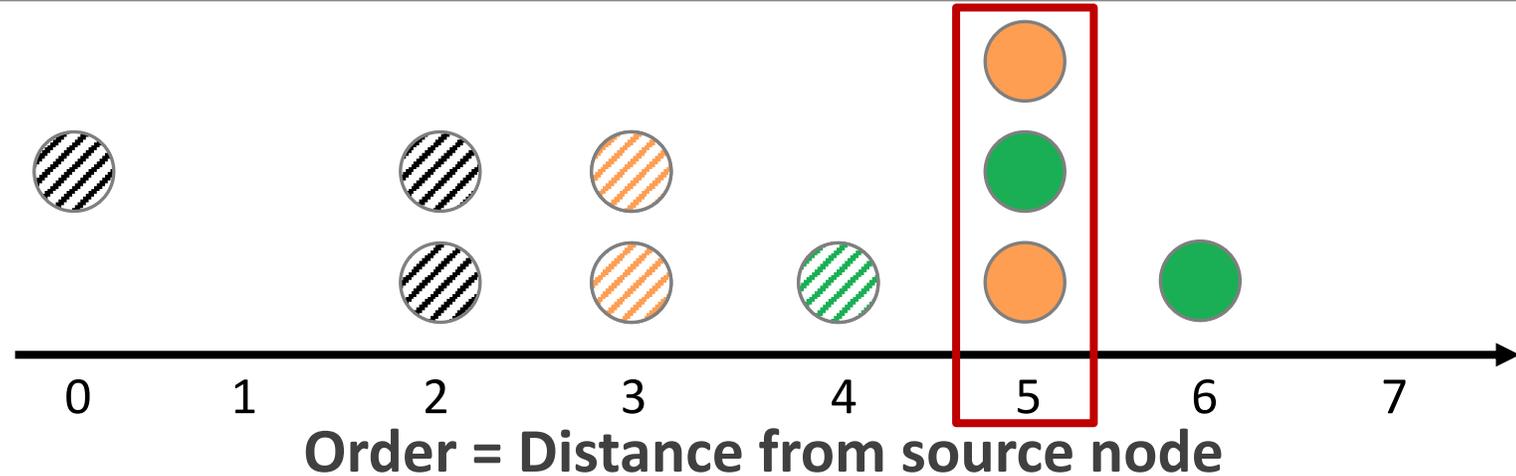
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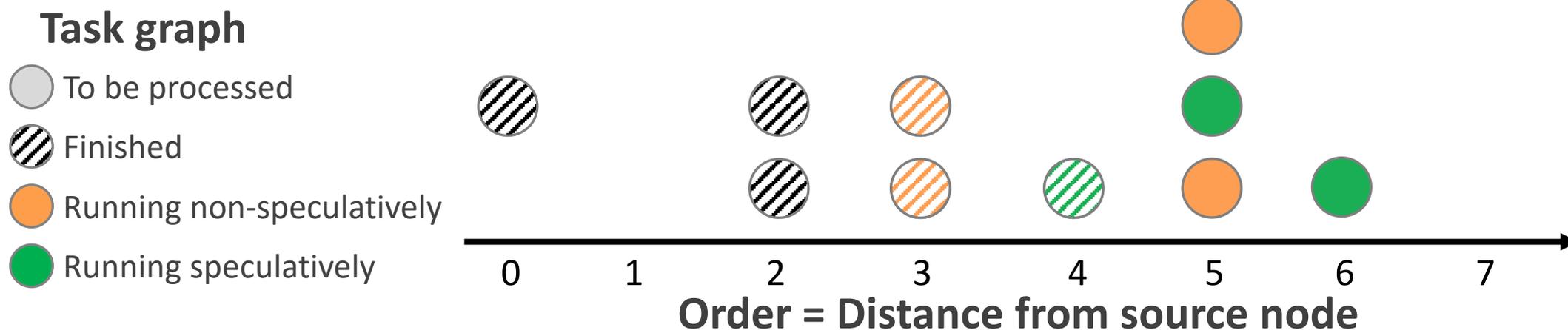
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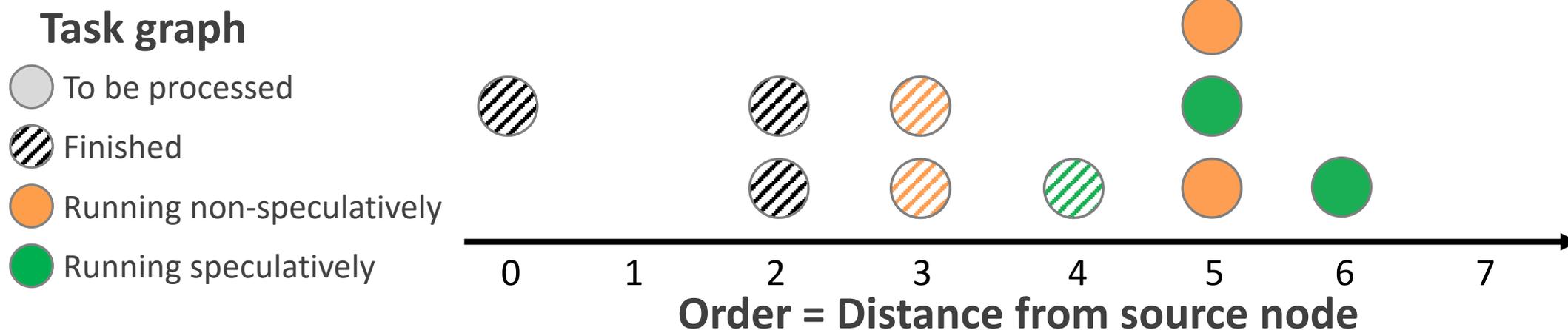


Run tasks **non-speculatively** when possible

Keep cores busy with **speculative** ordered parallelism

Each task must be runnable in either mode

Dijkstra's algorithm needs a hybrid strategy



Run tasks **non-speculatively** when possible

Keep cores busy with **speculative** ordered parallelism

Each task must be runnable in either mode

Tasks in both modes must coordinate on shared data

Espresso reaps the benefits of non-speculative and speculative parallelism



Espresso avoids pathologies and scales best

Espresso

COORDINATING SPECULATIVE AND NON-SPECULATIVE PARALLELISM



Espresso execution model

Programs consist of tasks that run *speculatively* or *non-speculatively*

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void dijkstraTask(Timestamp dist, Vertex* v) {  
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        v->distance = dist;  
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                dijkstraTask,  
                dist + weight(v, n),  
                n->id,  
                n);  
    }  
}
```

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            espresso::create(  
Function → dijkstraTask,  
pointer    dist + weight(v, n),  
            n->id,  
Arguments→ n);  
        }  
    }  
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```

Non-Spec.

Spec.

Timestamp

barrier

ordered
commits

Function pointer → `espresso::create(dijkstraTask, dist + weight(v, n), n->id, n);`

Arguments → `n);`

Espresso execution model

Programs consist of tasks that run *speculatively* or *non-speculatively*

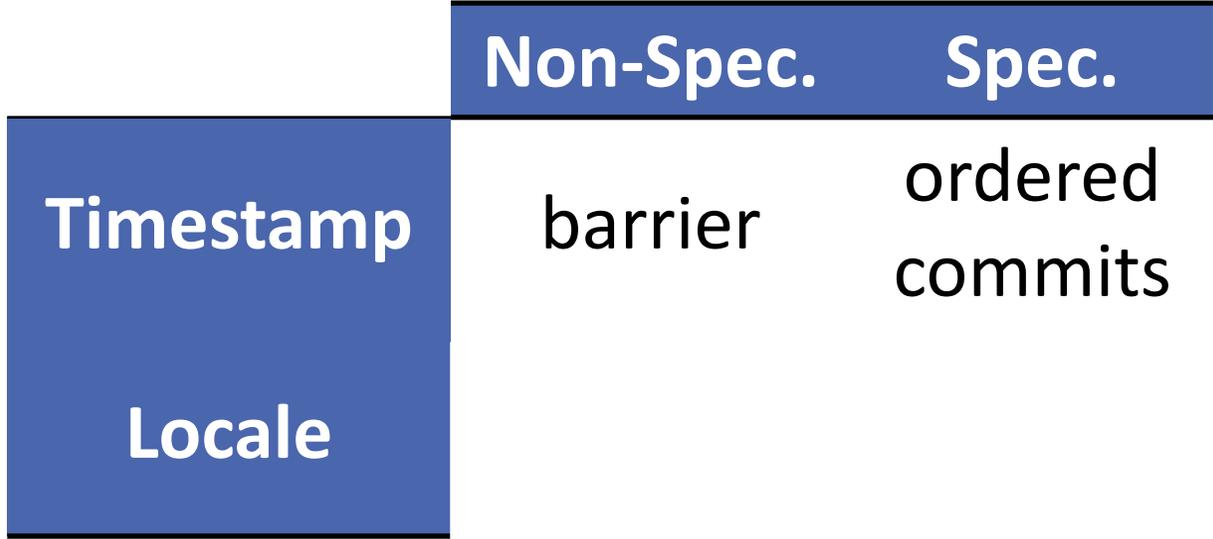
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Function pointer

espresso::create(

dijkstraTask,
dist + weight(v, n),
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Espresso execution model

Programs consist of tasks that run *speculatively* or *non-speculatively*

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void dijkstraTask(Timestamp dist, Vertex* v) {  
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        v->distance = dist;  
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Function pointer → `espresso::create(dijkstraTask,`
Arguments → `dist + weight(v, n),`
`n->id,`
`n);`
`}`
`}`

	Non-Spec.	Spec.
Timestamp	barrier	ordered commits
Locale	mutex	reduce conflicts

Espresso execution model

Programs consist of tasks that run *speculatively* or *non-speculatively*

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void dijkstraTask(Timestamp dist, Vertex* v) {  
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Arguments → `dist + weight(v, n),`
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Timestamp

Locale

Non-Spec.

Spec.

barrier

ordered
commits

mutex

reduce
conflicts

Tasks in either mode can coordinate access to shared data

Espresso task dispatch

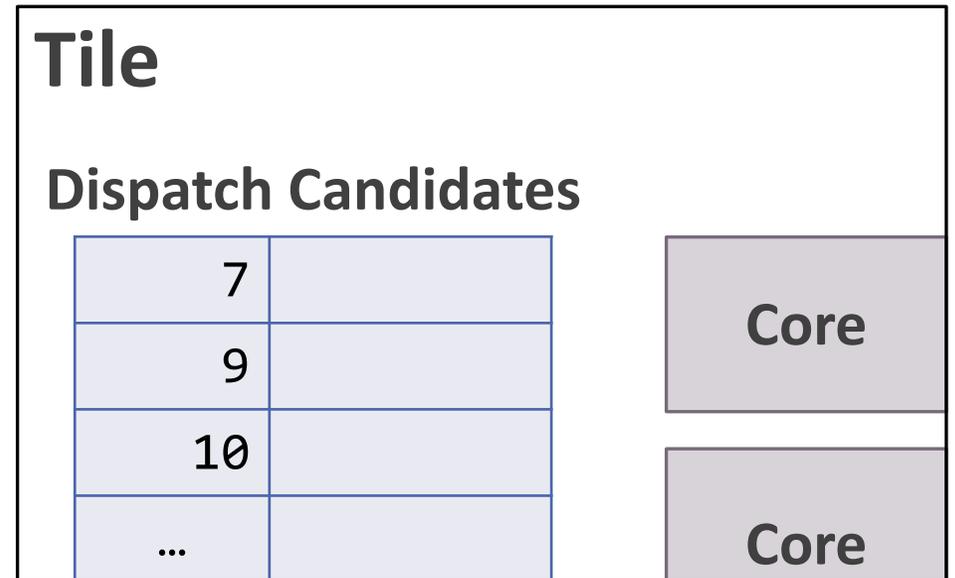
Espresso supports three task *types* that control speculation

```
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Espresso task dispatch

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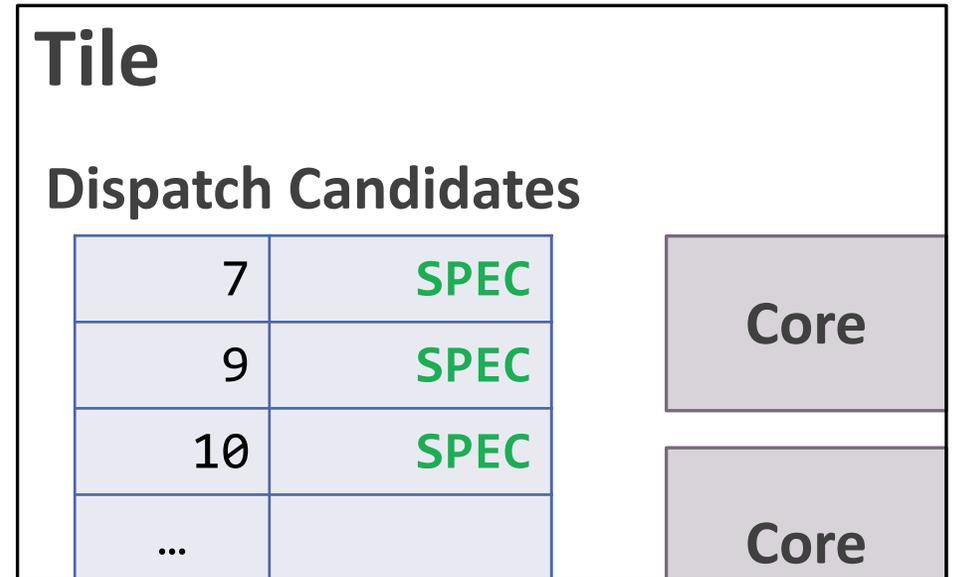
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Espresso task dispatch

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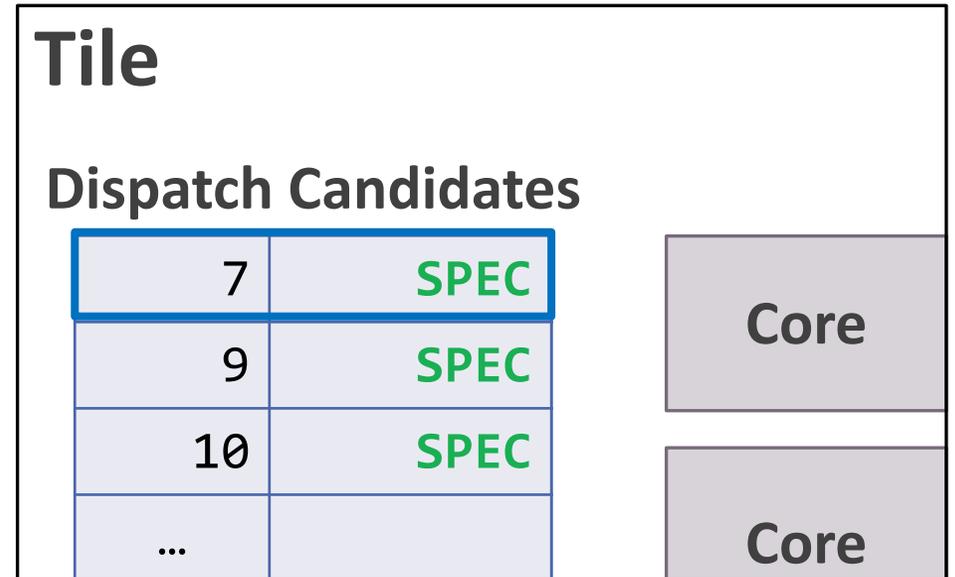
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Espresso task dispatch

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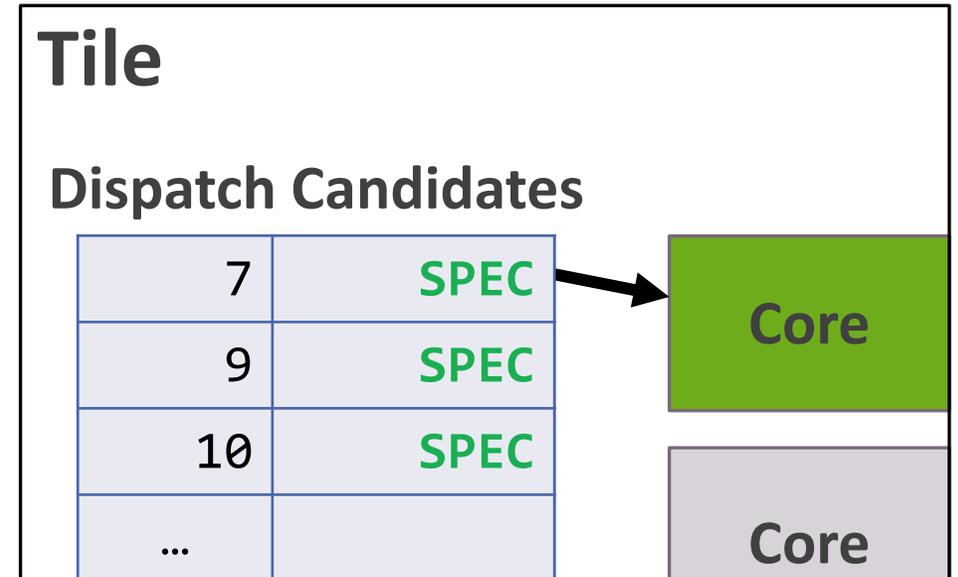
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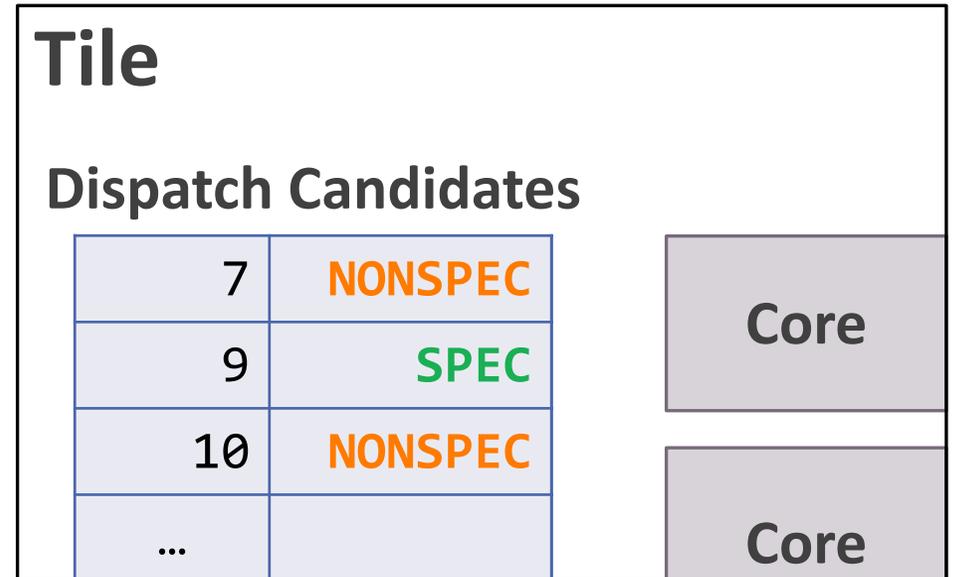
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Espresso task dispatch

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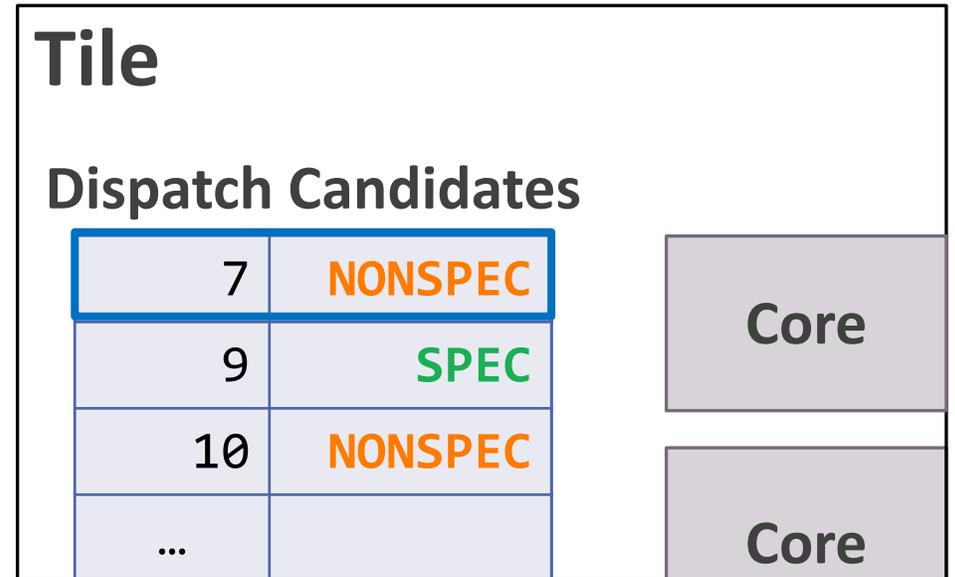
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    if (v->distance == UNSET) {  
        v->distance = dist;  
        for (Vertex* n : v->neighbors)  
            espresso::create<NONSPEC>(  
                dijkstraTask,  
                dist + weight(v, n),  
                n->id,  
                n);  
    }  
}
```



Espresso task dispatch

Espresso supports three task *types* that control speculation

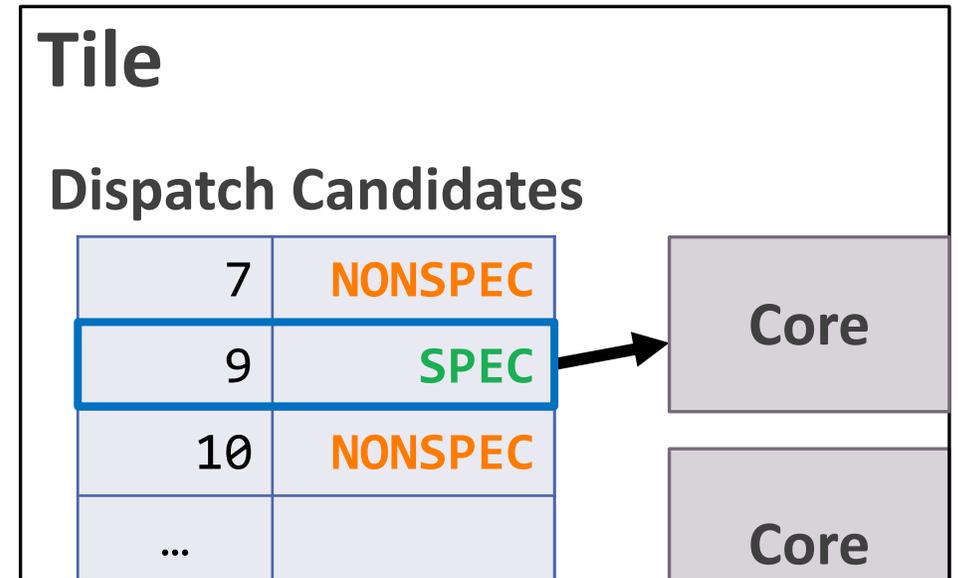
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Espresso task dispatch

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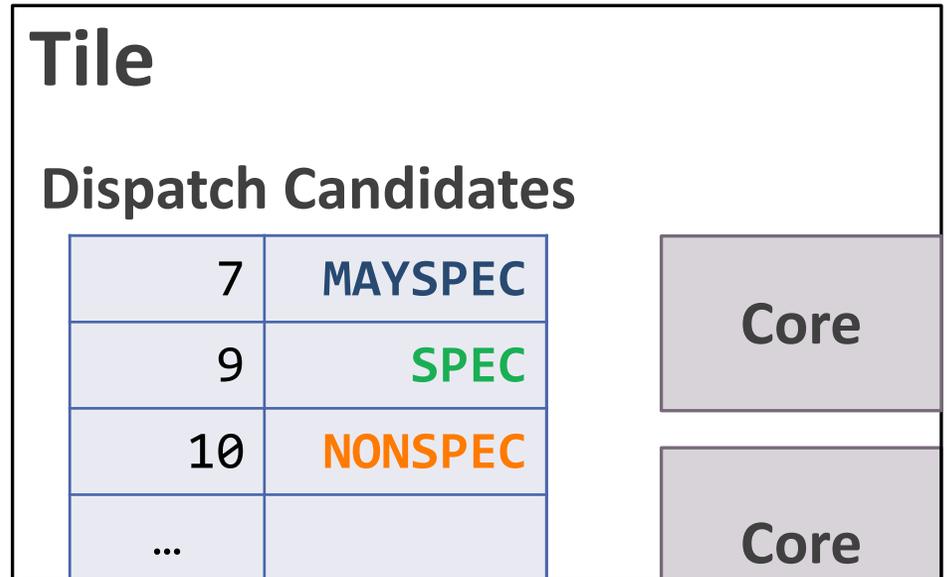
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Espresso task dispatch

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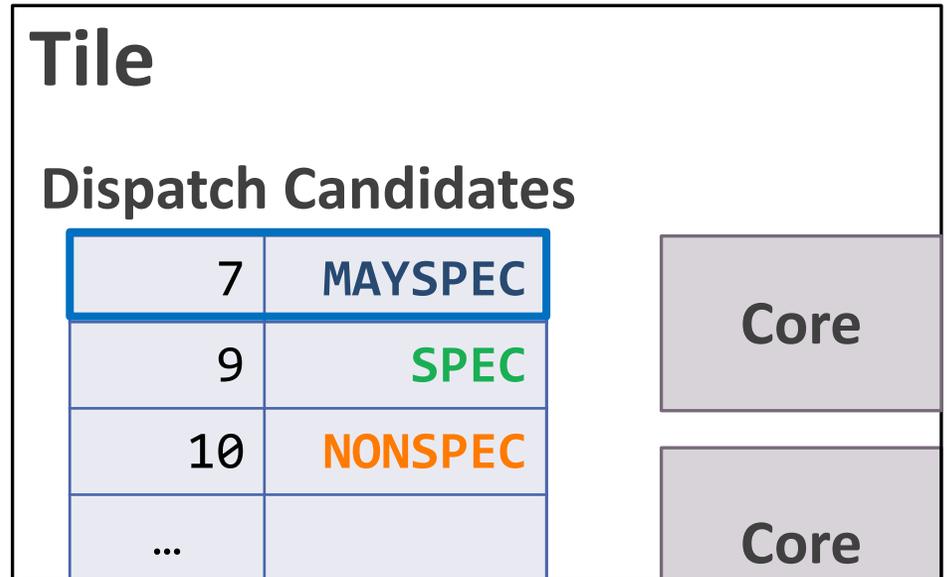
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Espresso task dispatch

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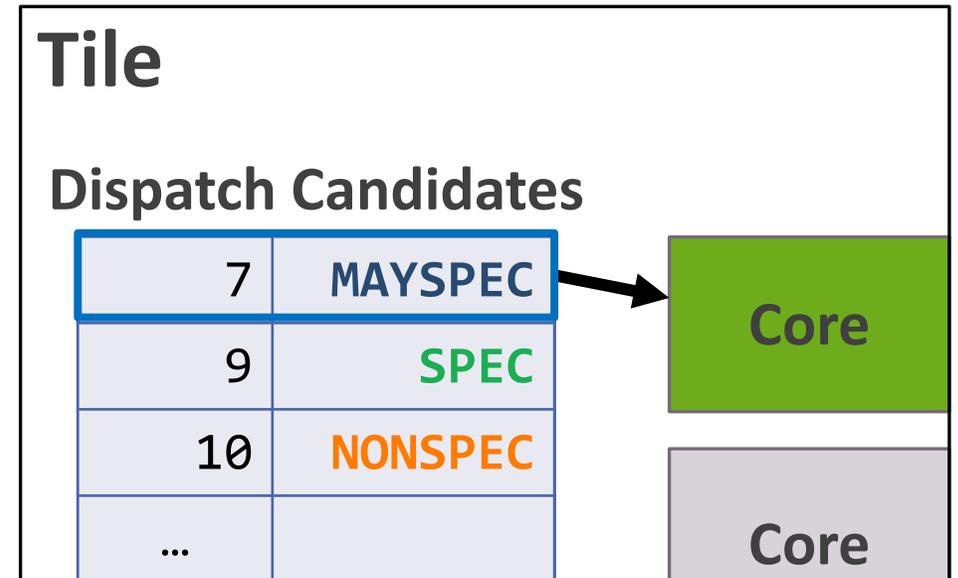
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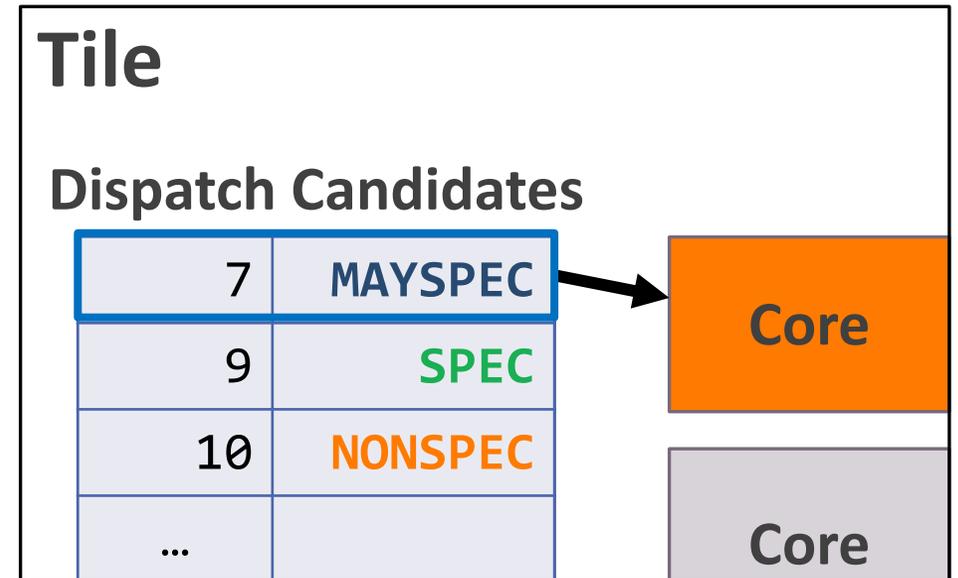
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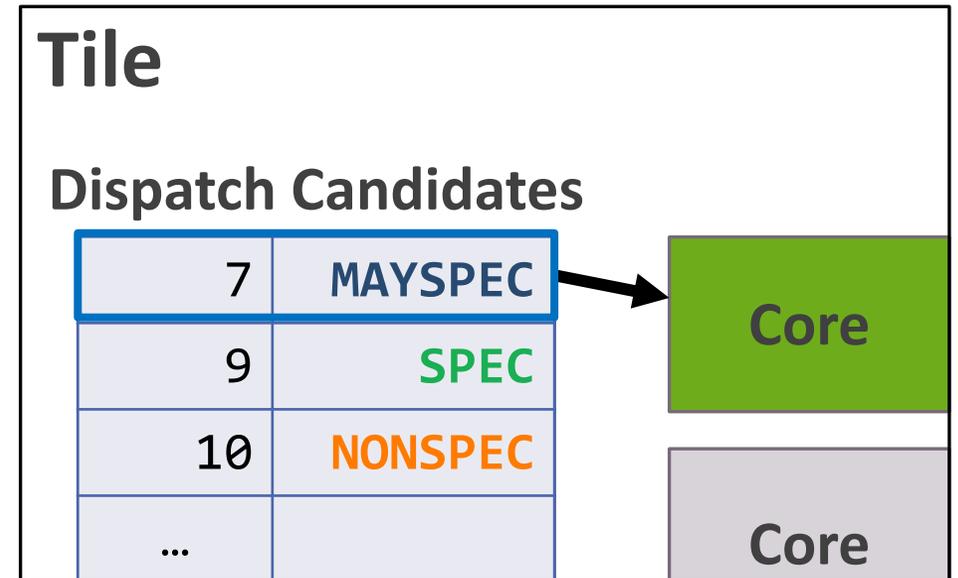
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Espresso task dispatch

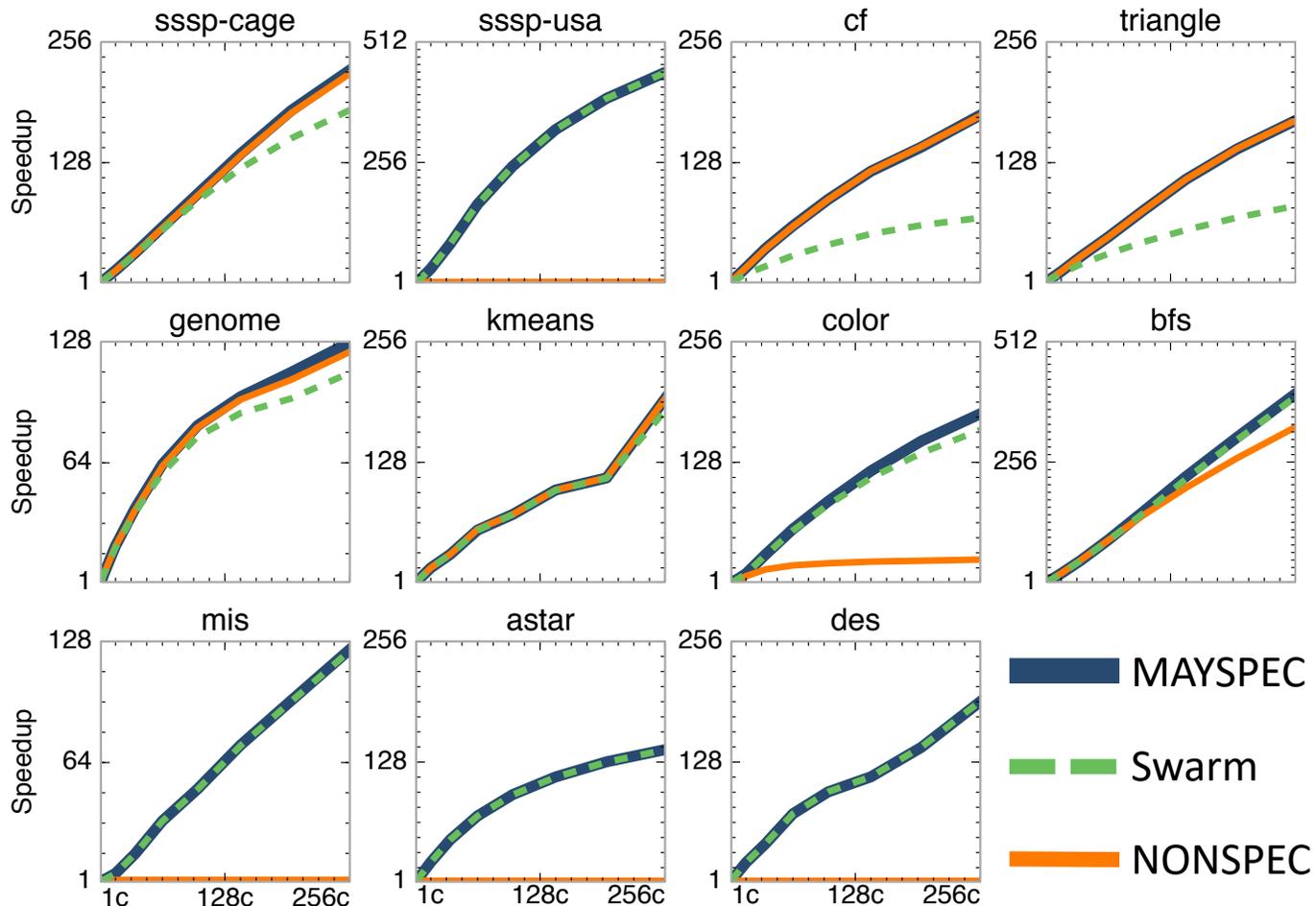
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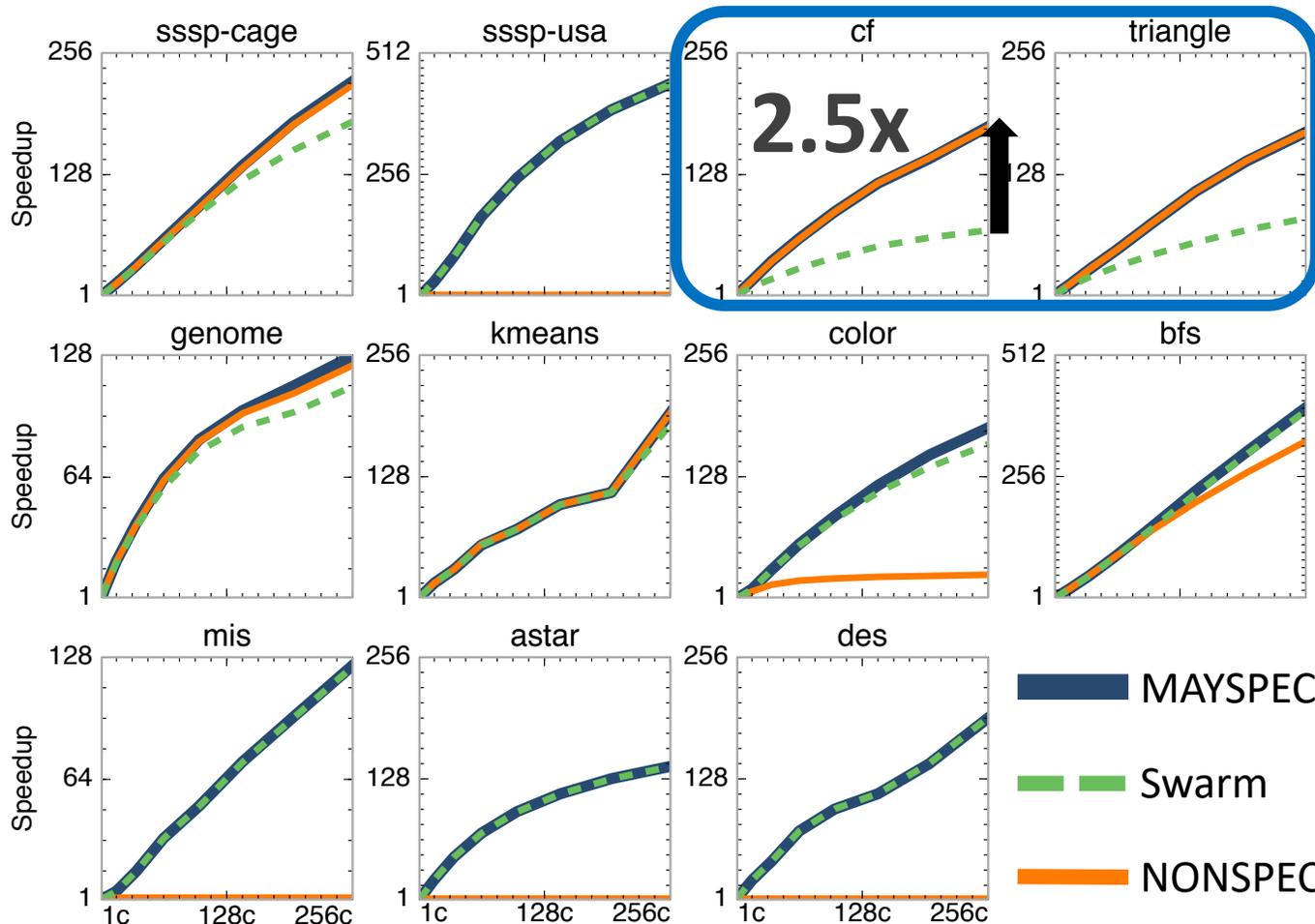
MAYSPEC lets the system decide whether to speculate

Espresso improves efficiency and programmability



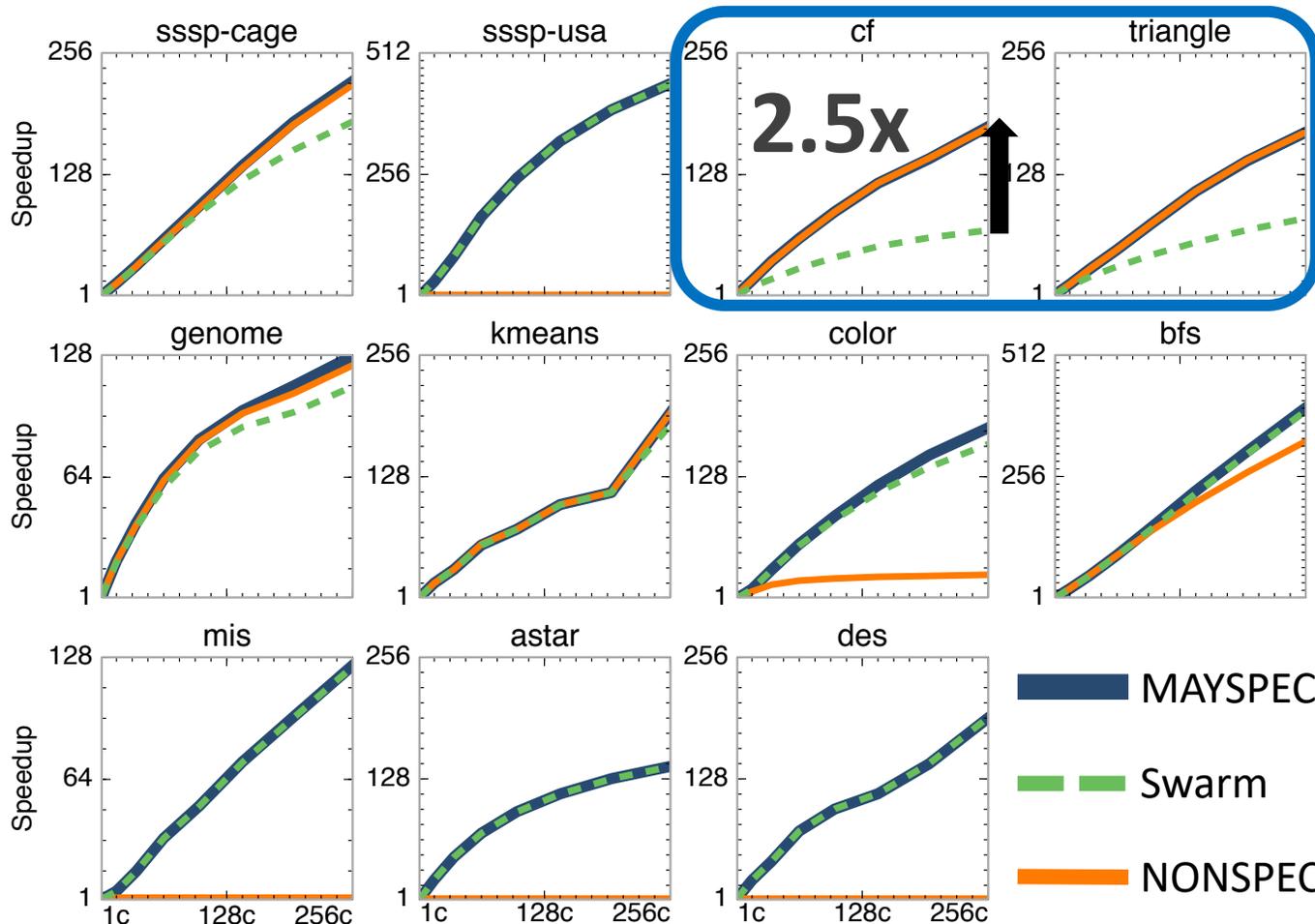
MAYSPEC allows programmers to exploit the best of speculative and non-speculative parallelism

Espresso improves efficiency and programmability



MAYSPEC allows programmers to exploit the best of speculative and non-speculative parallelism

Espresso improves efficiency and programmability



MAYSPEC allows programmers to exploit the best of speculative and non-speculative parallelism

MAYSPEC: 198x }
Swarm: 162x } 22% } 6.9x
NONSPEC: 29x gmean }

Please see the paper for more details!

Microarchitectural details

Interactions between speculative and non-speculative tasks:

- How are conflicts detected and resolved?
- How do timestamps-as-barriers affect the ordered commit protocol?

Espresso exception model

Additional results analysis

Capsules



ENABLING SOFTWARE-MANAGED SPECULATION WITH ORDERED PARALLELISM

Some actions should bypass HW speculation

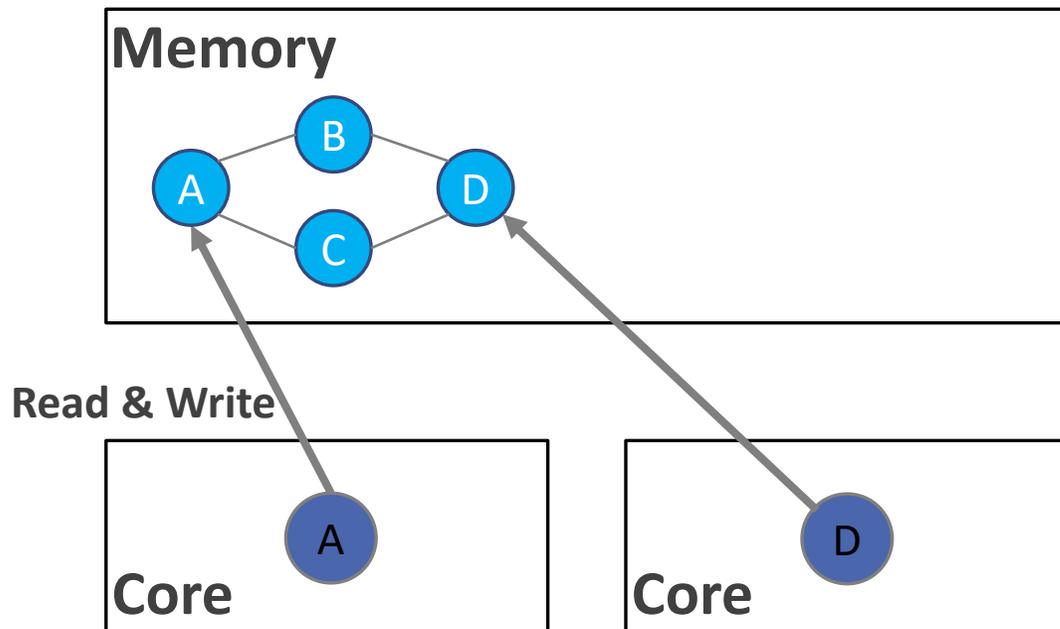
Discrete event simulation (DES) needs speculation to scale

DES also allocates memory within tasks

Some actions should bypass HW speculation

Discrete event simulation (DES) needs speculation to scale

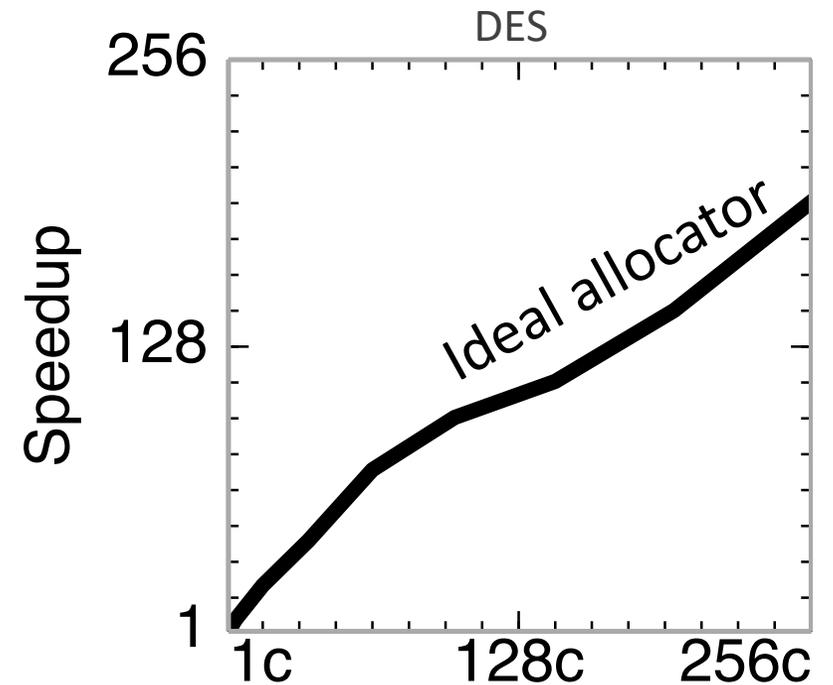
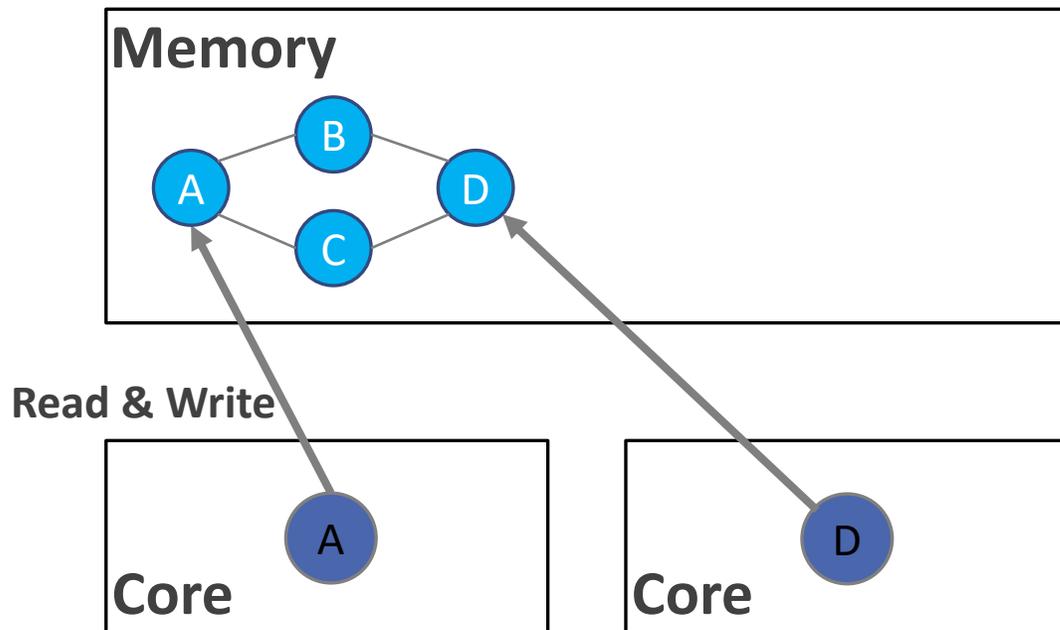
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Discrete event simulation (DES) needs speculation to scale

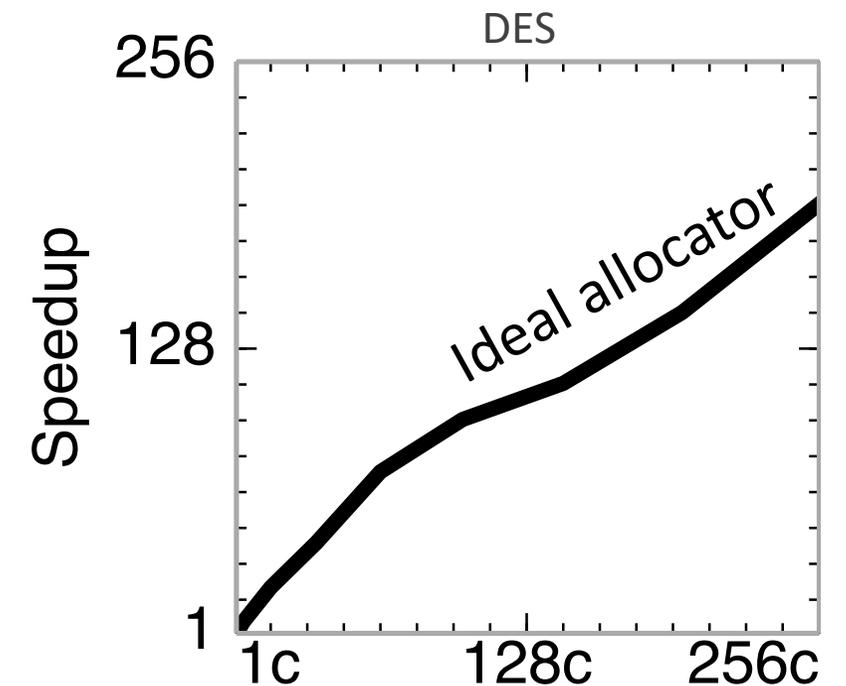
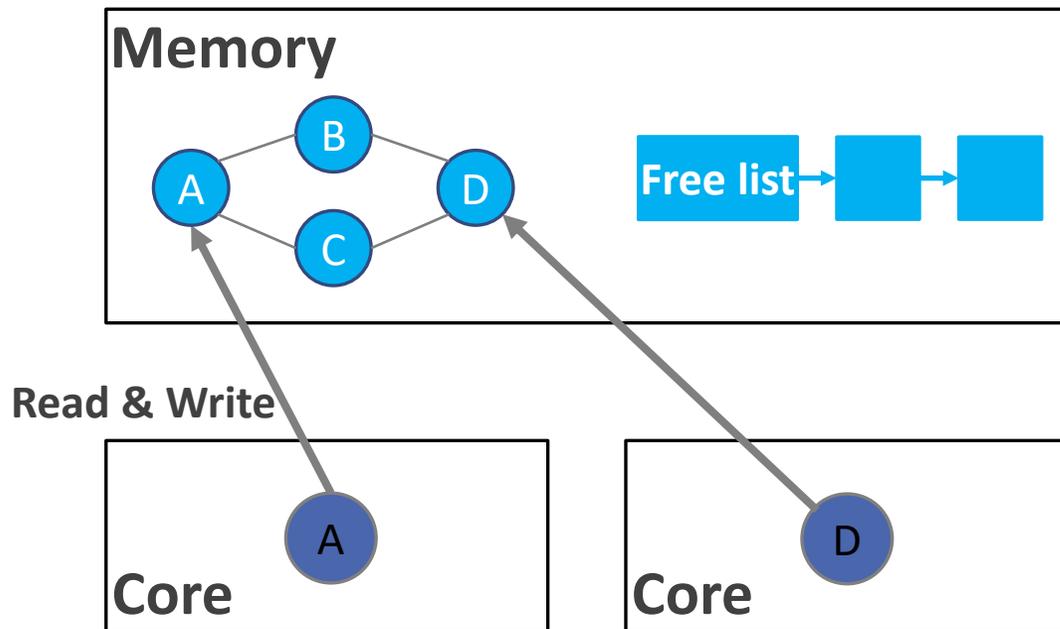
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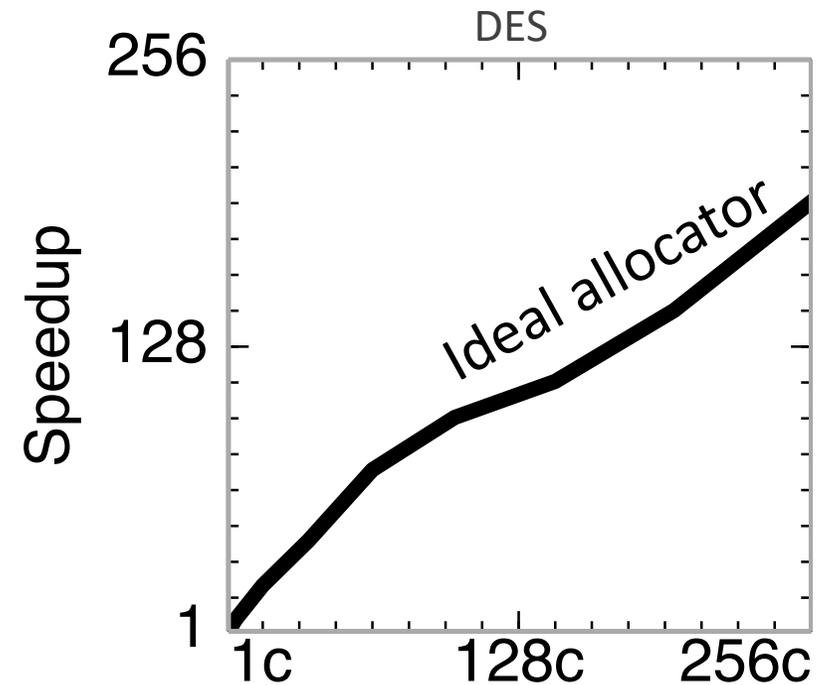
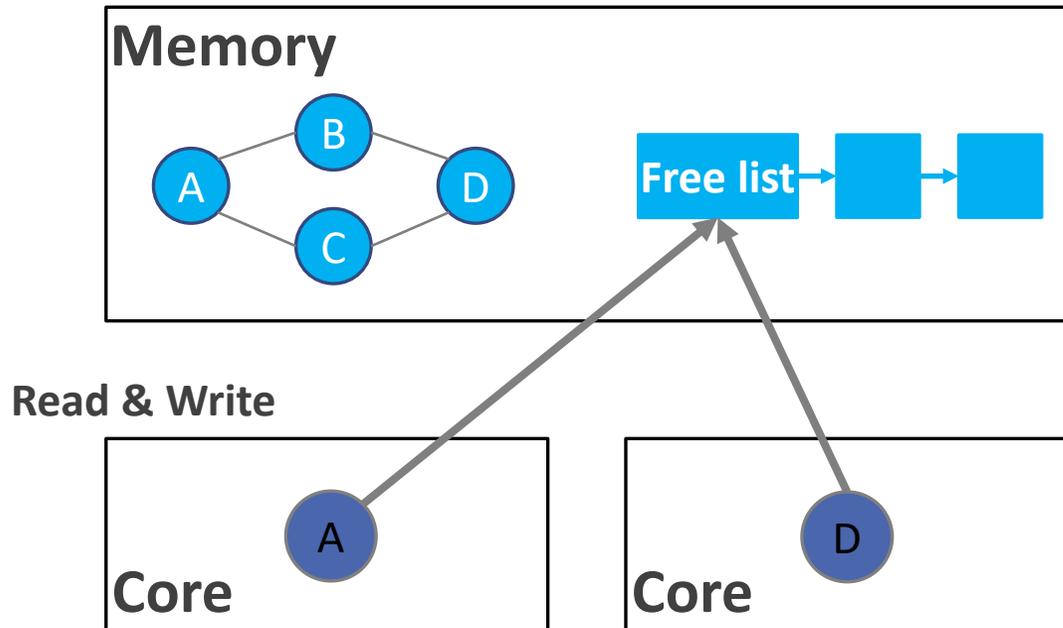
DES also allocates memory within tasks



Some actions should bypass HW speculation

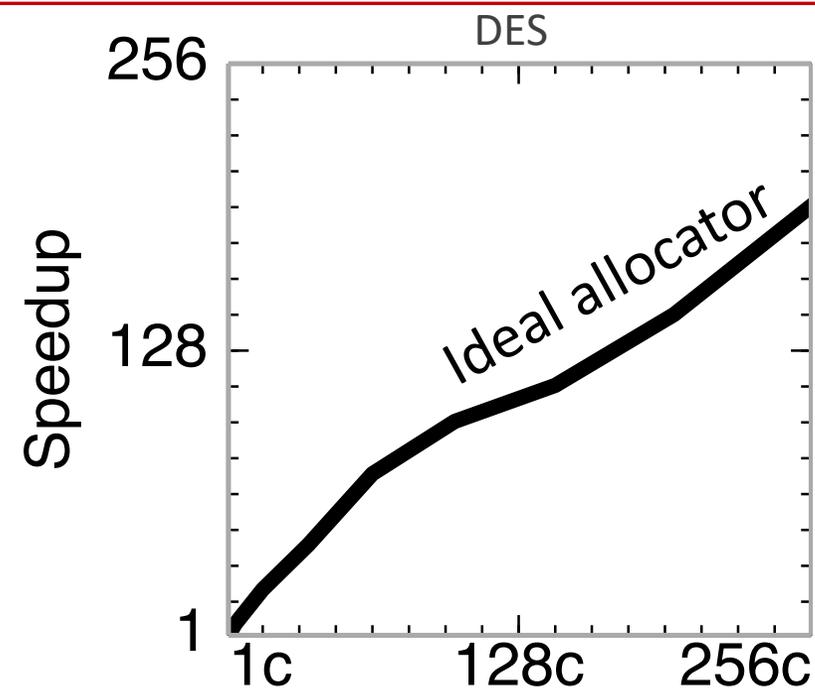
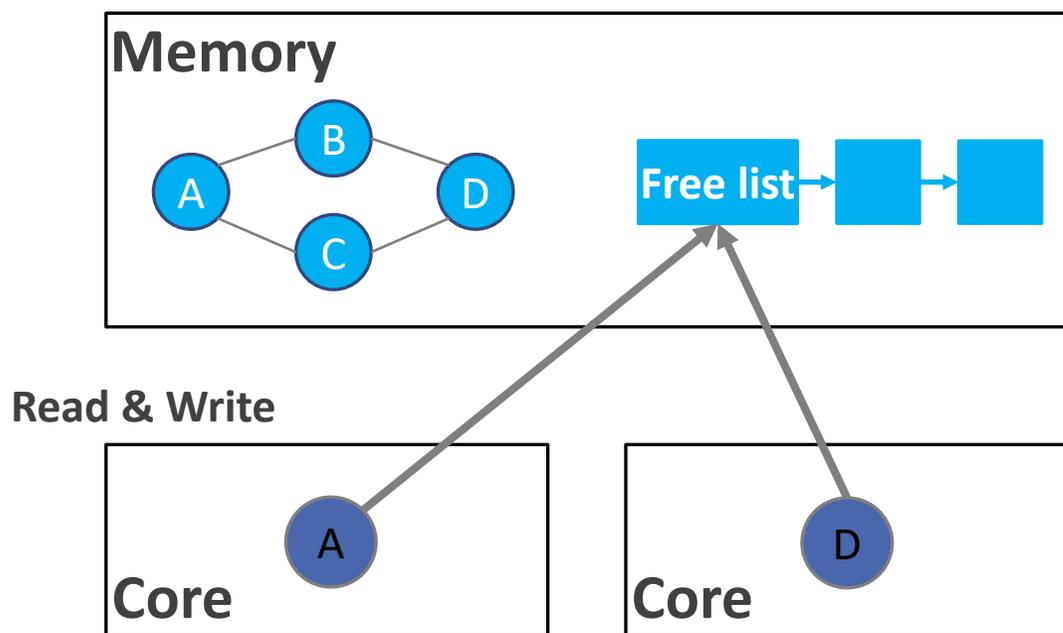
Discrete event simulation (DES) needs speculation to scale

DES also allocates memory within tasks



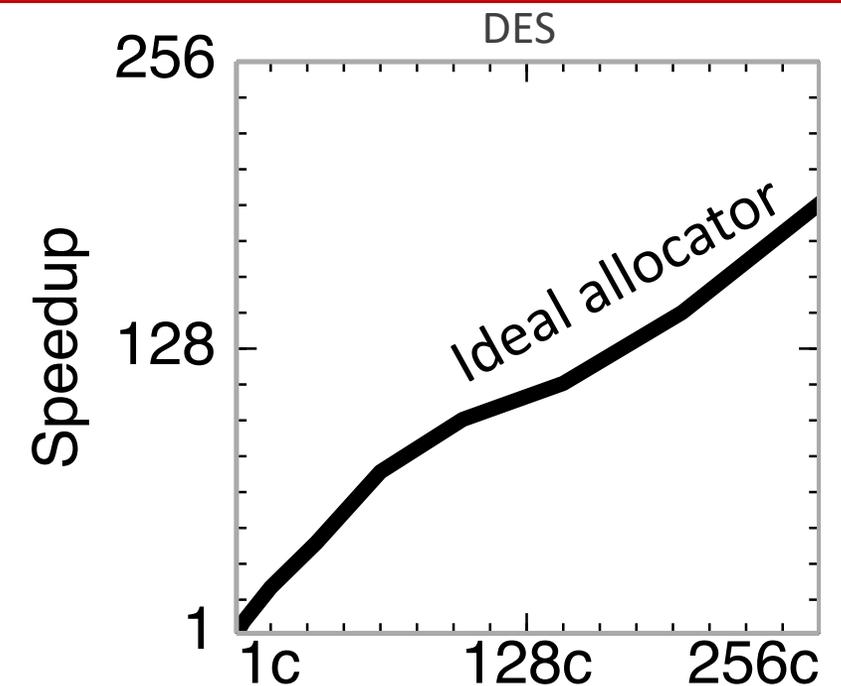
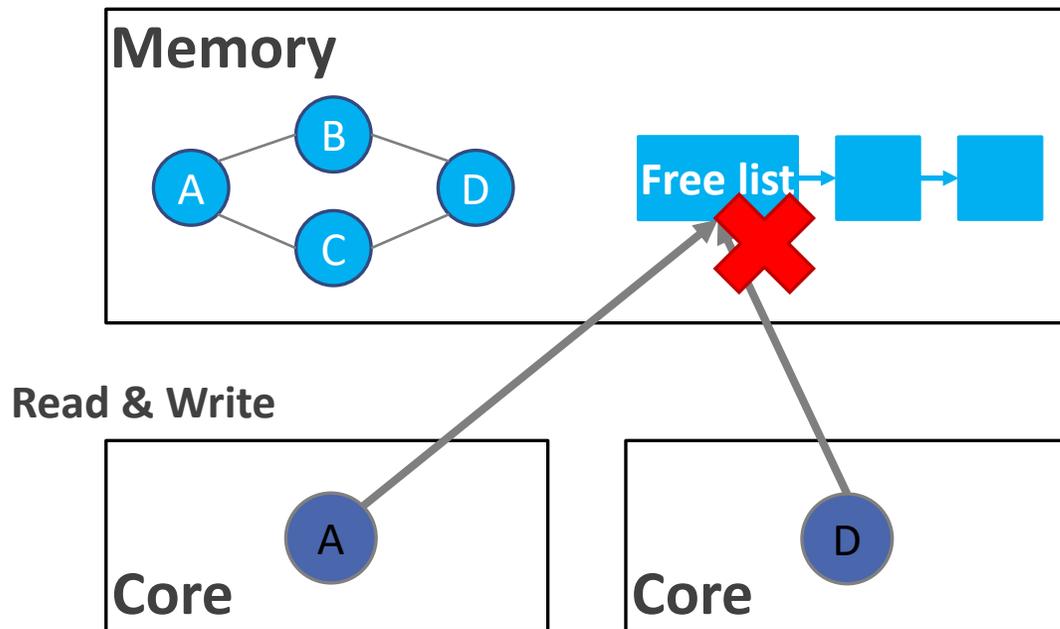
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Dependences on allocator metadata cause aborts among otherwise independent tasks



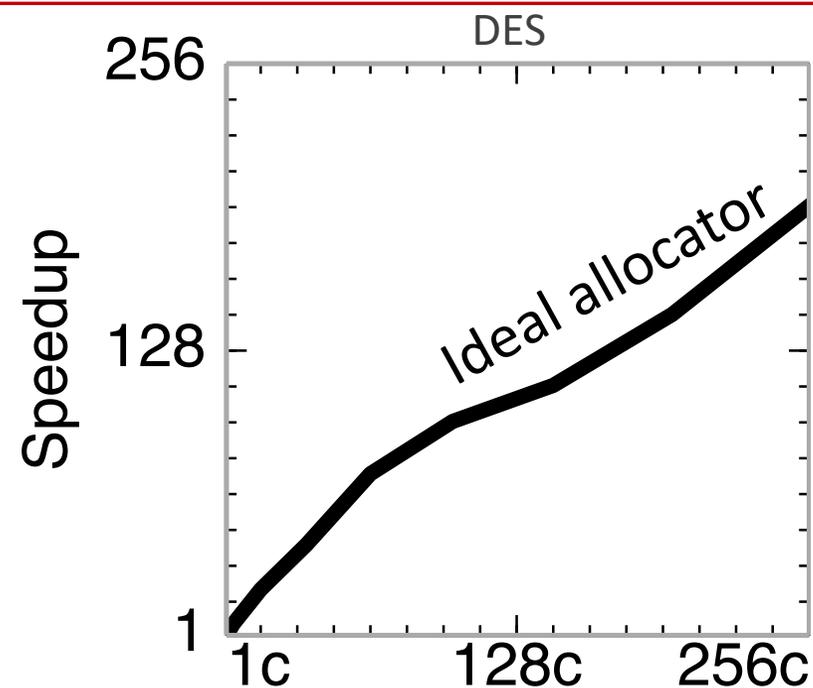
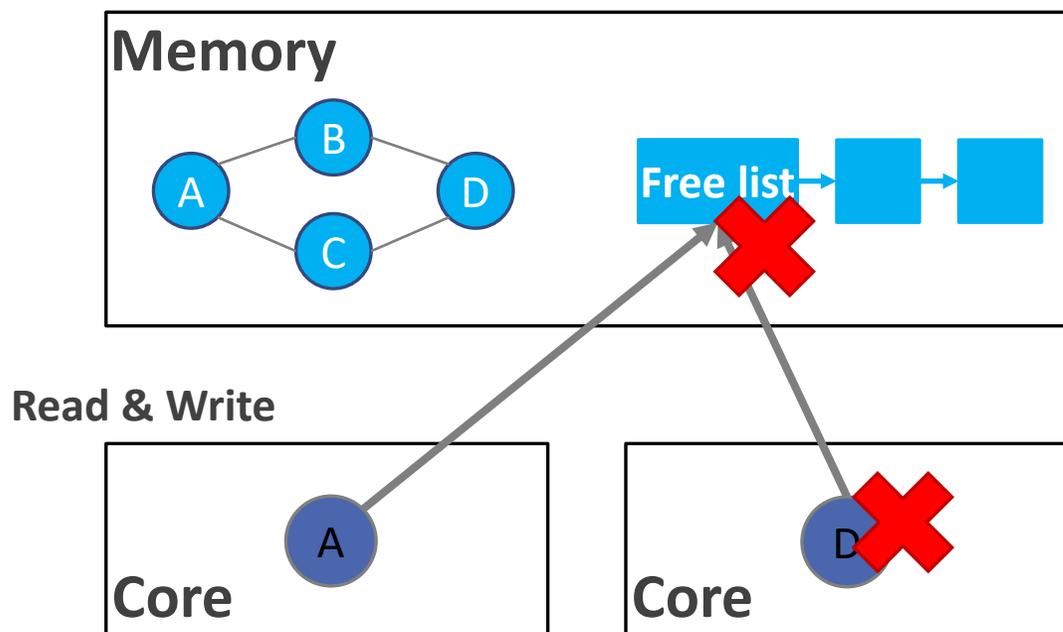
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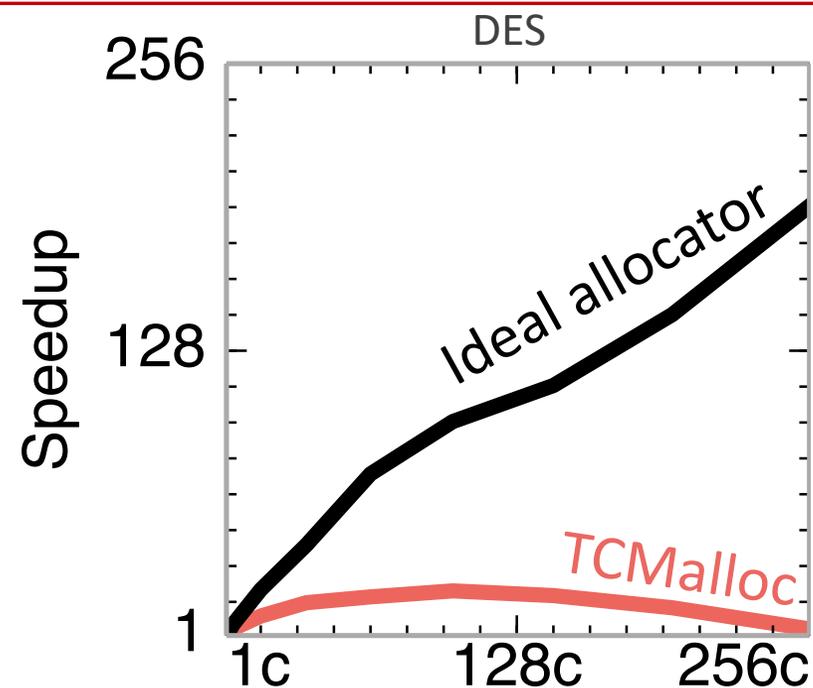
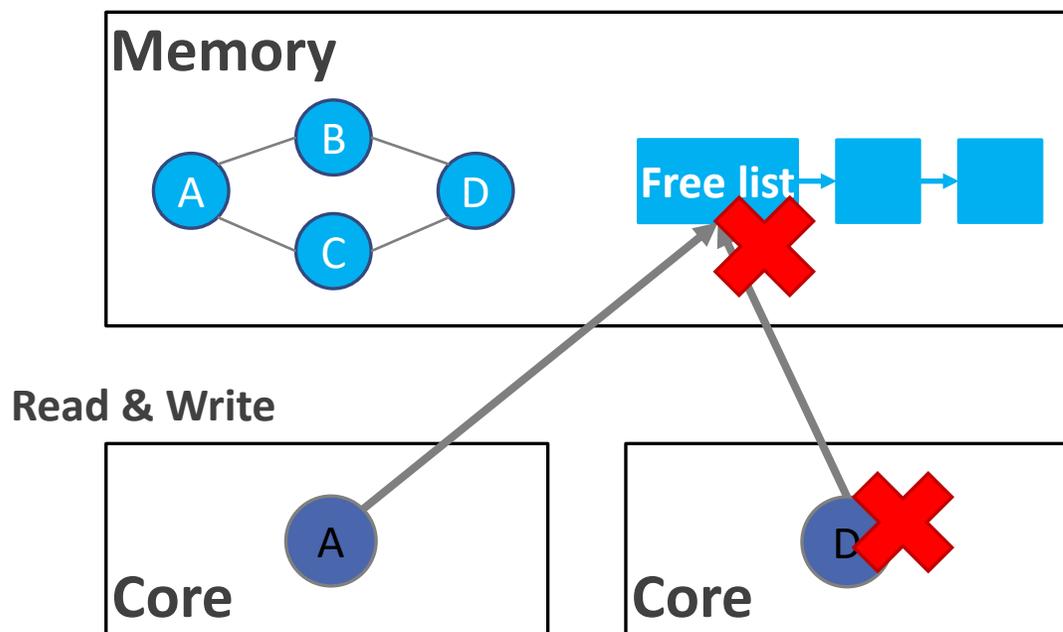
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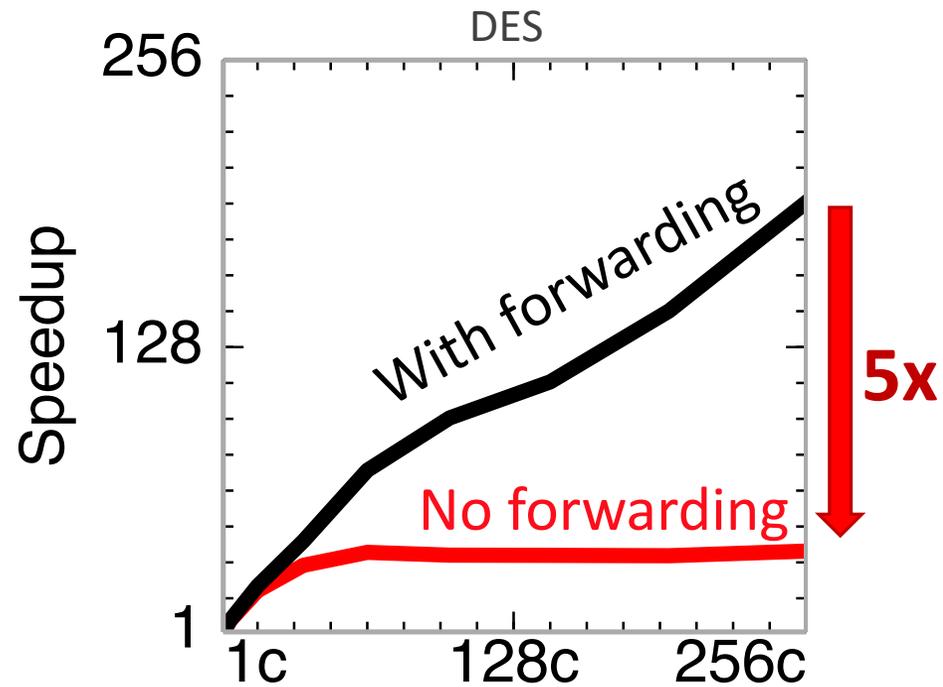
Disable hardware speculation [[Moravan, ASPLOS'06](#)]? Speculative data forwarding creates challenges

Speculative tasks can access data written by earlier, uncommitted tasks

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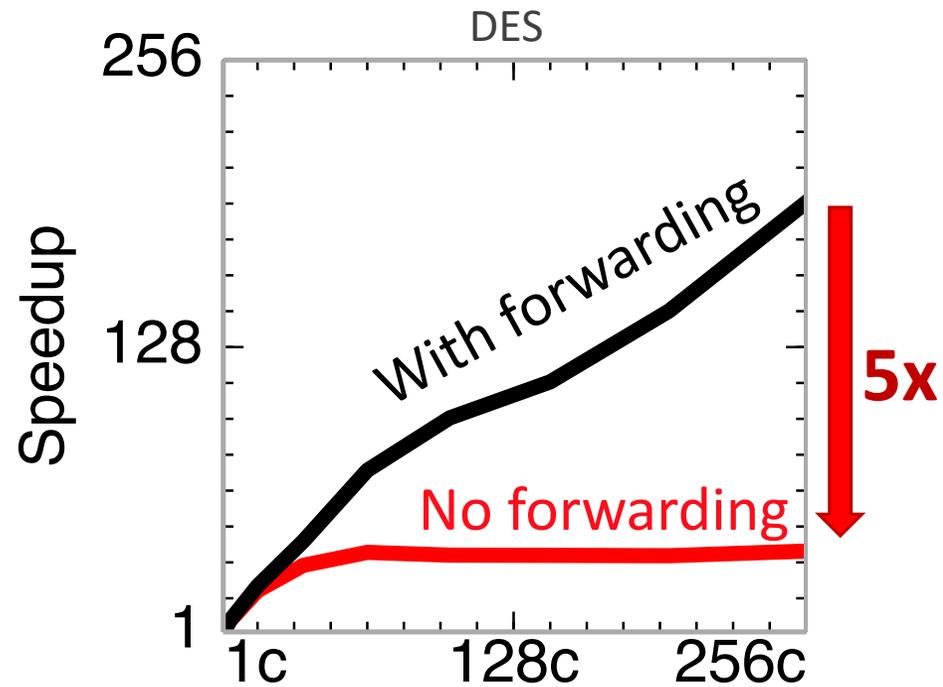


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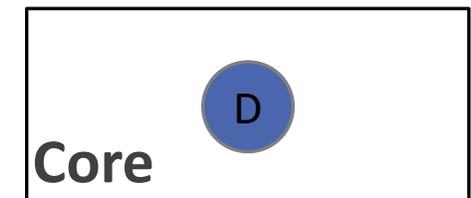
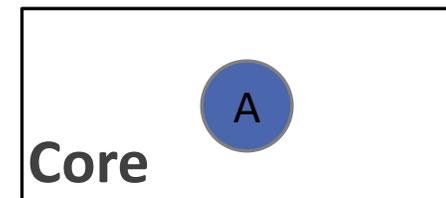
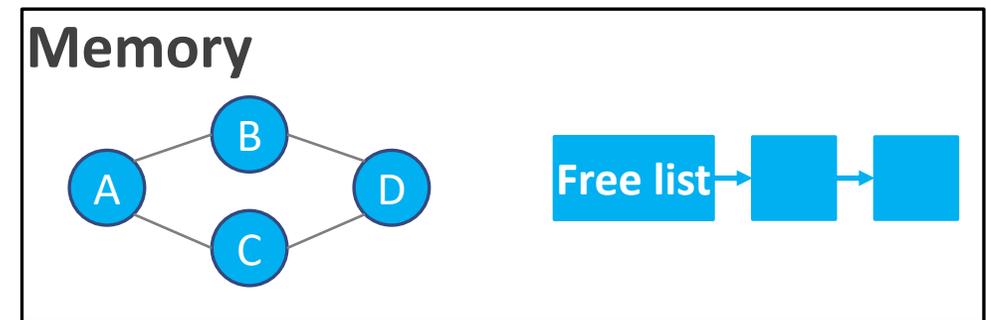
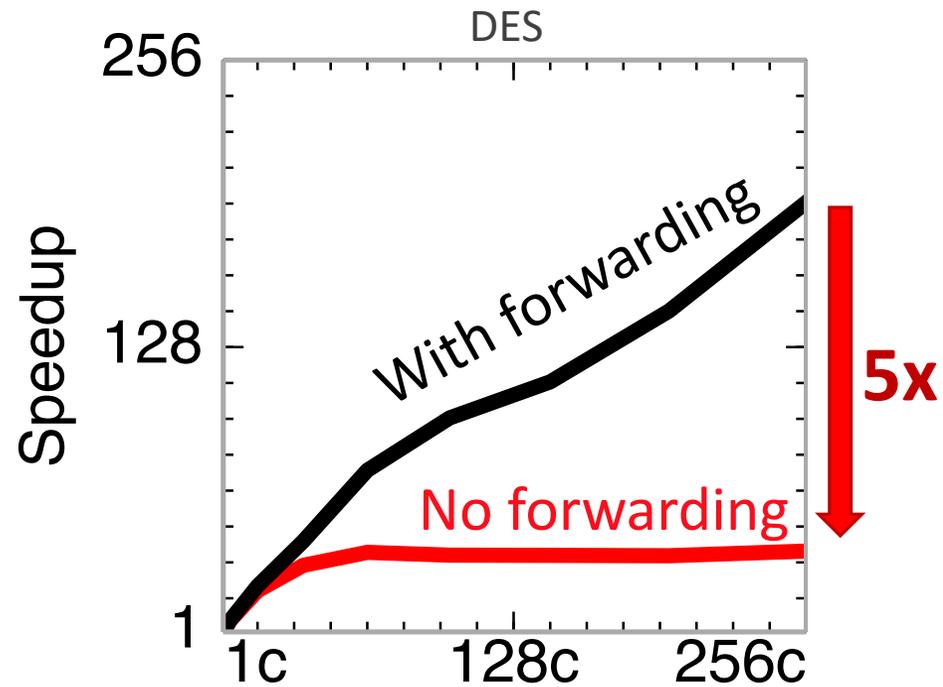


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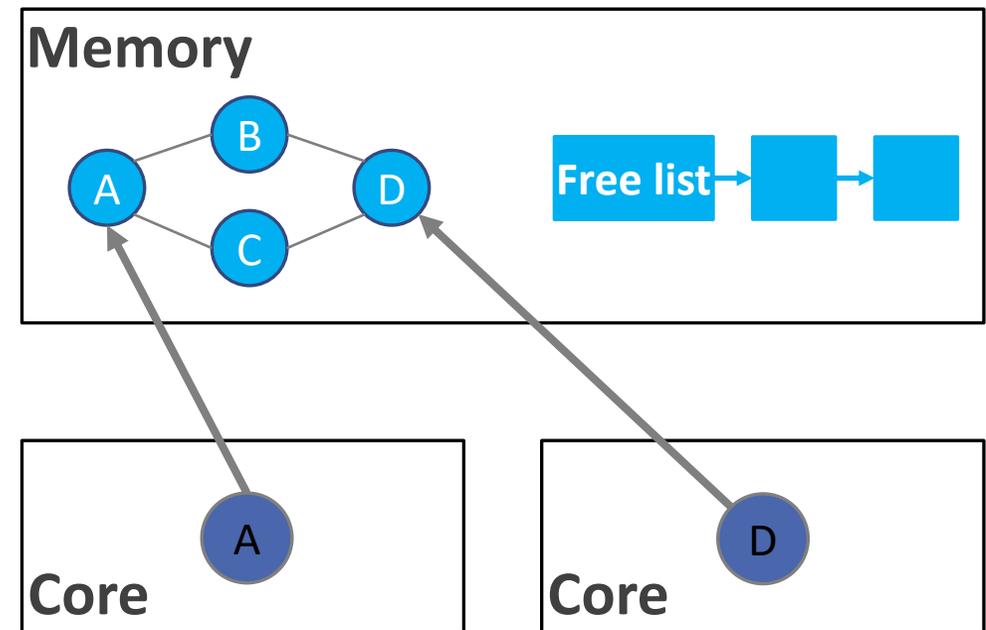
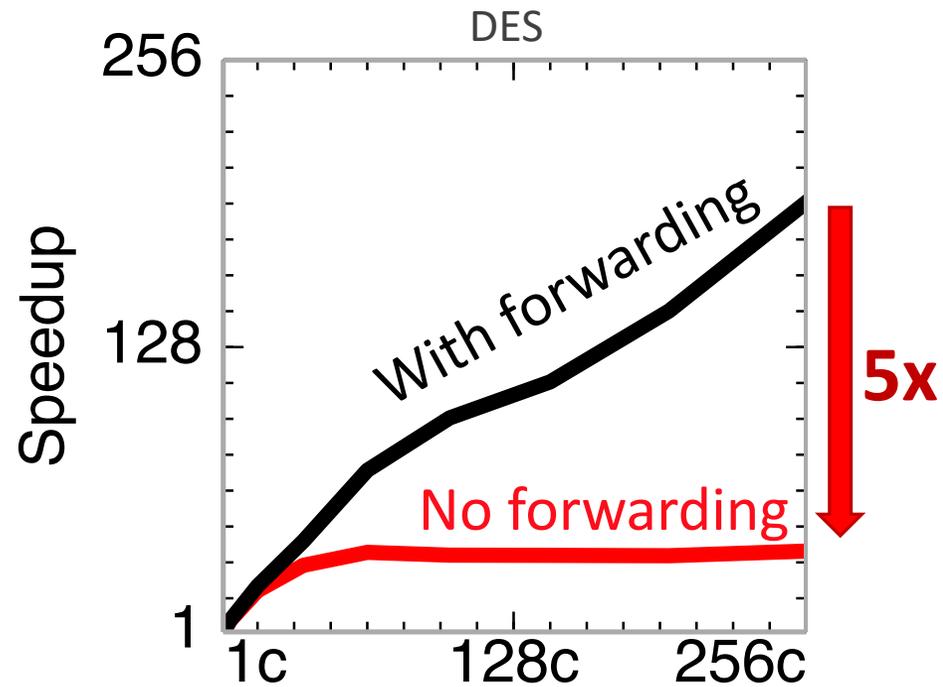


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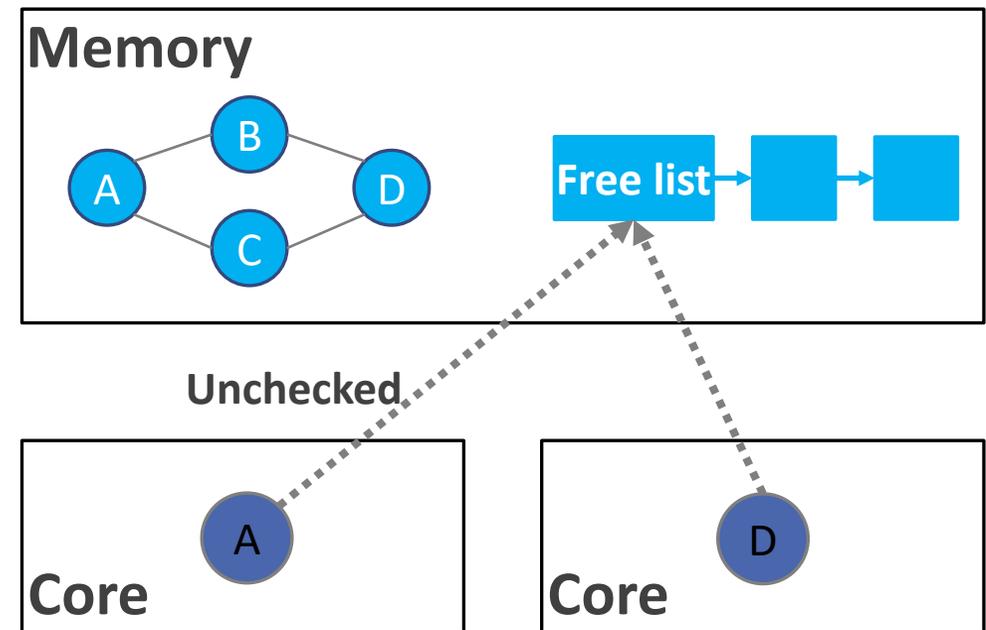
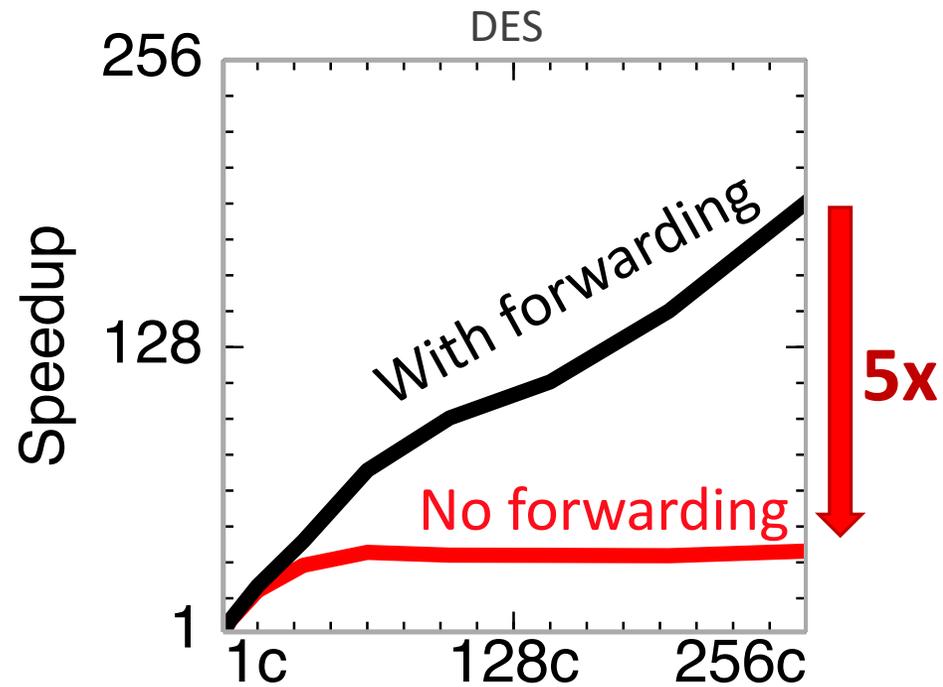


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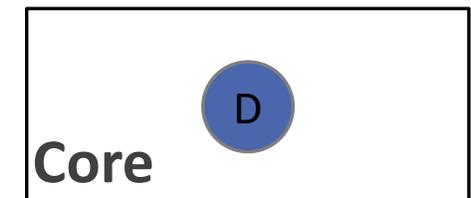
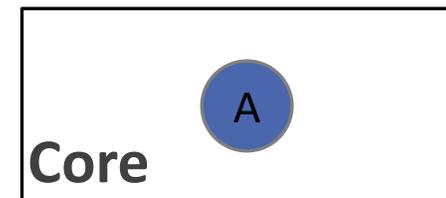
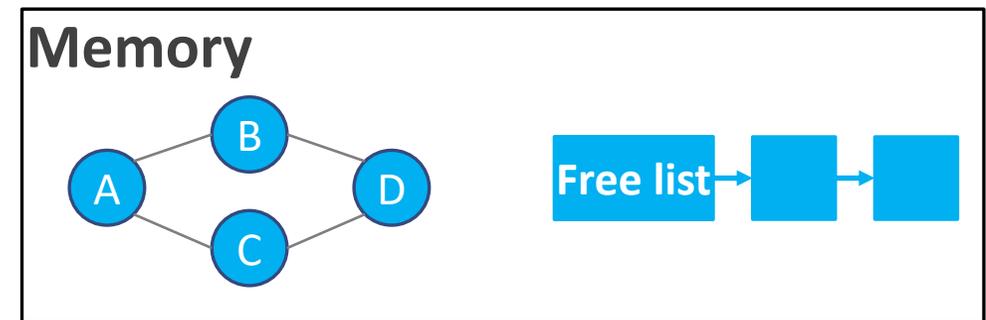
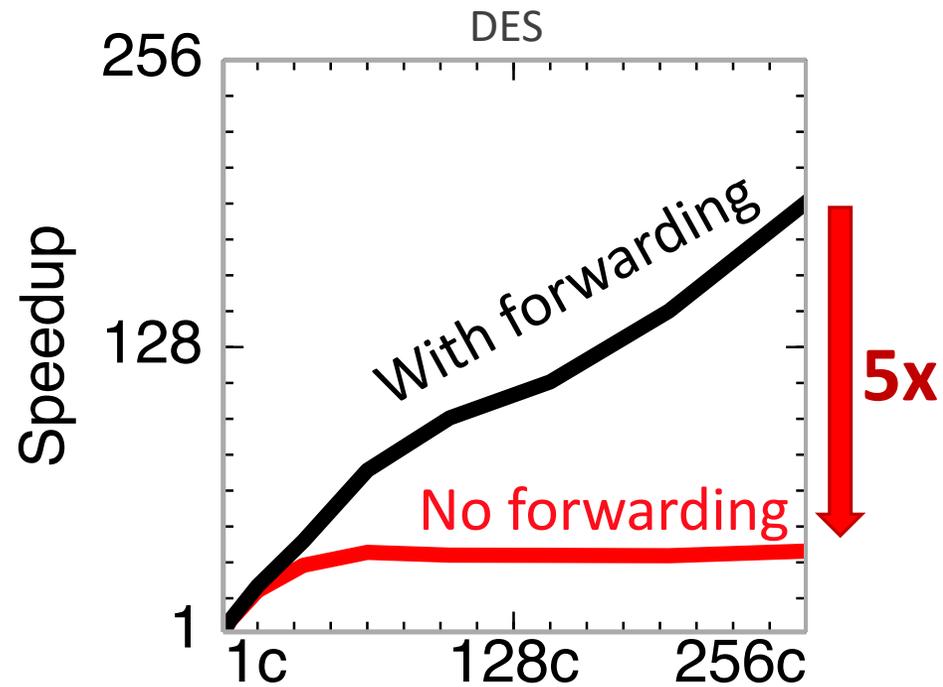


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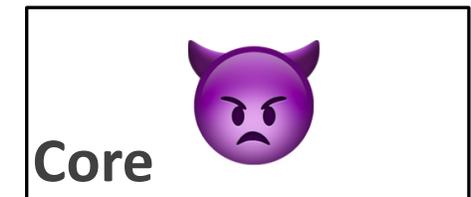
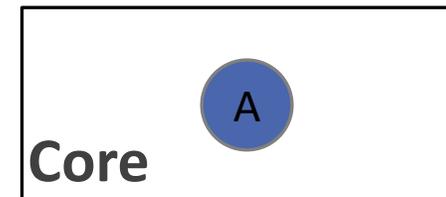
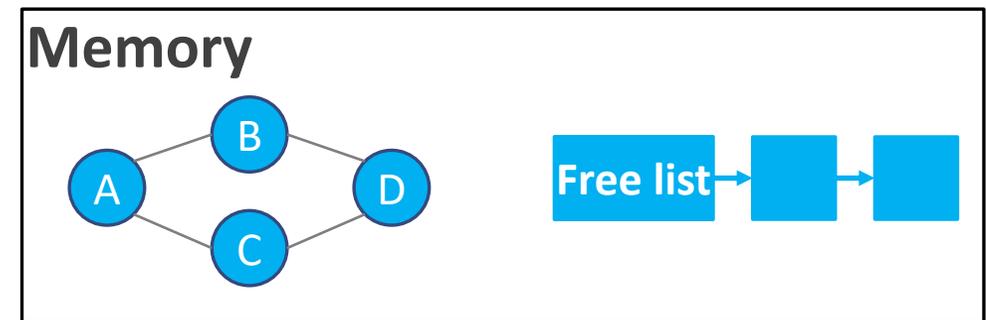
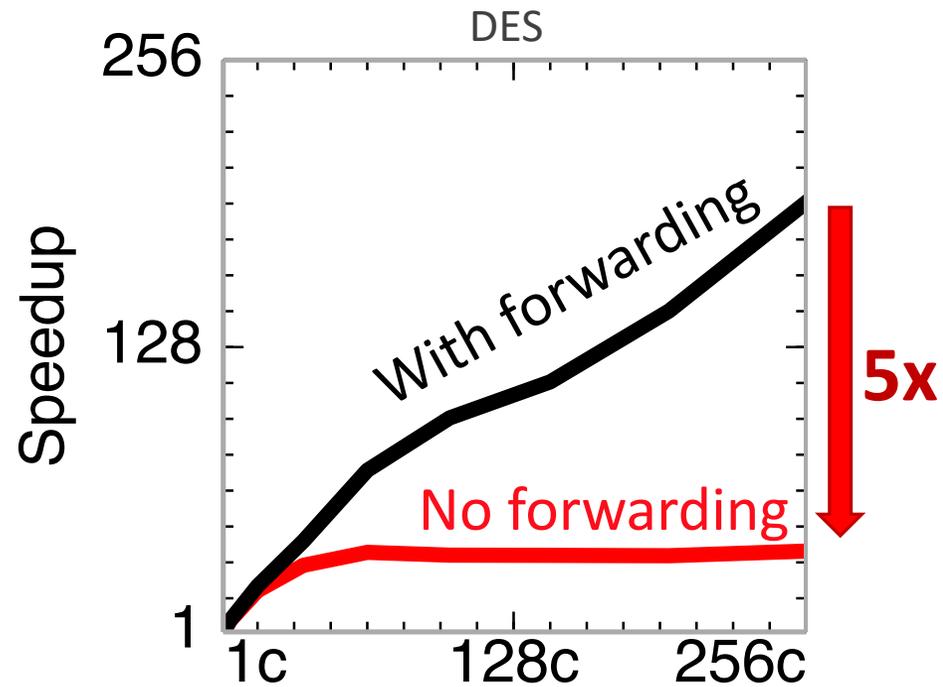


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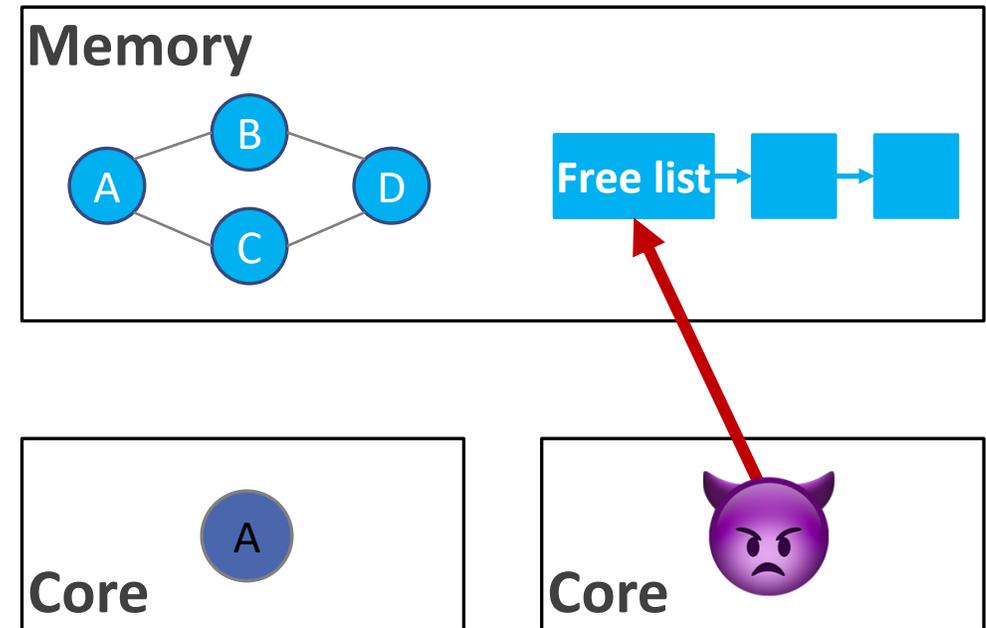
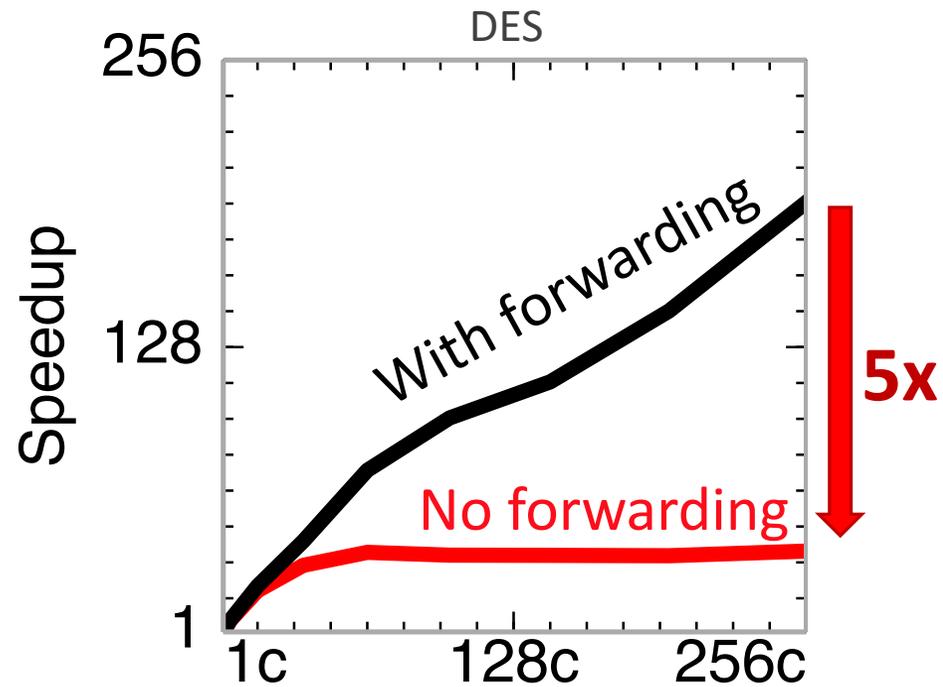


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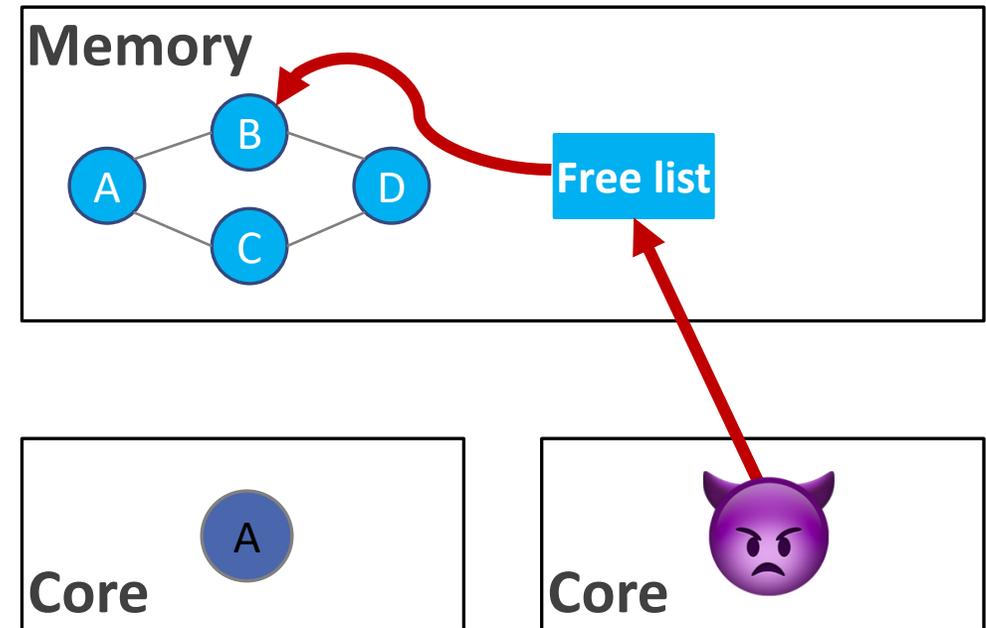
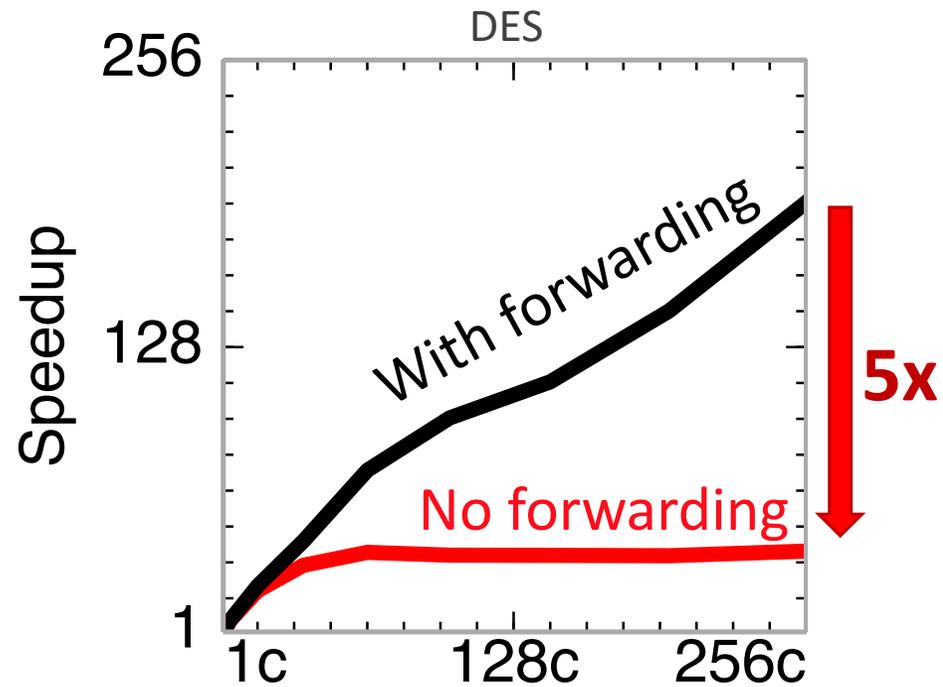


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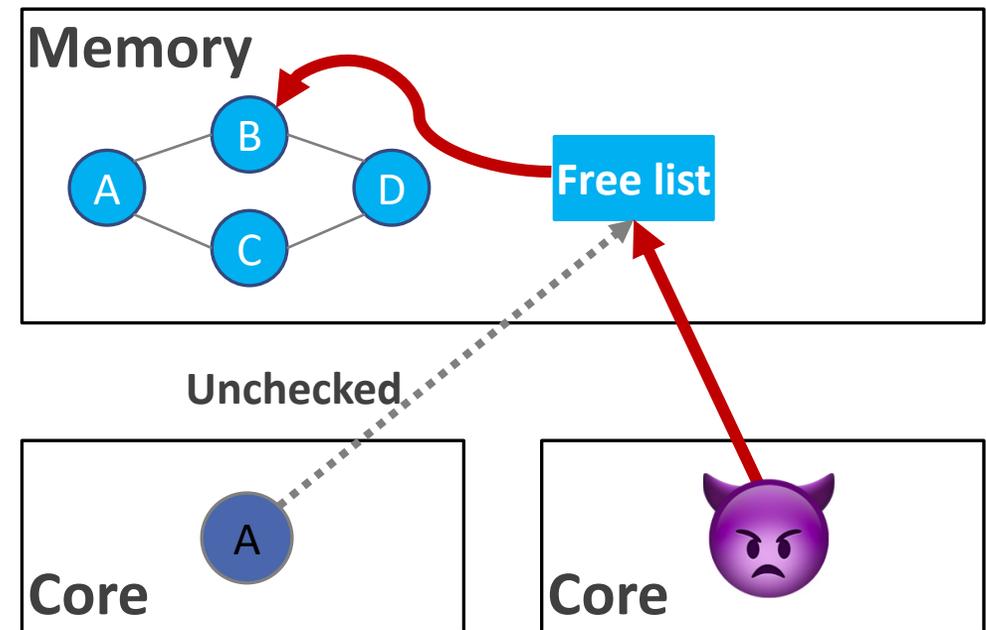
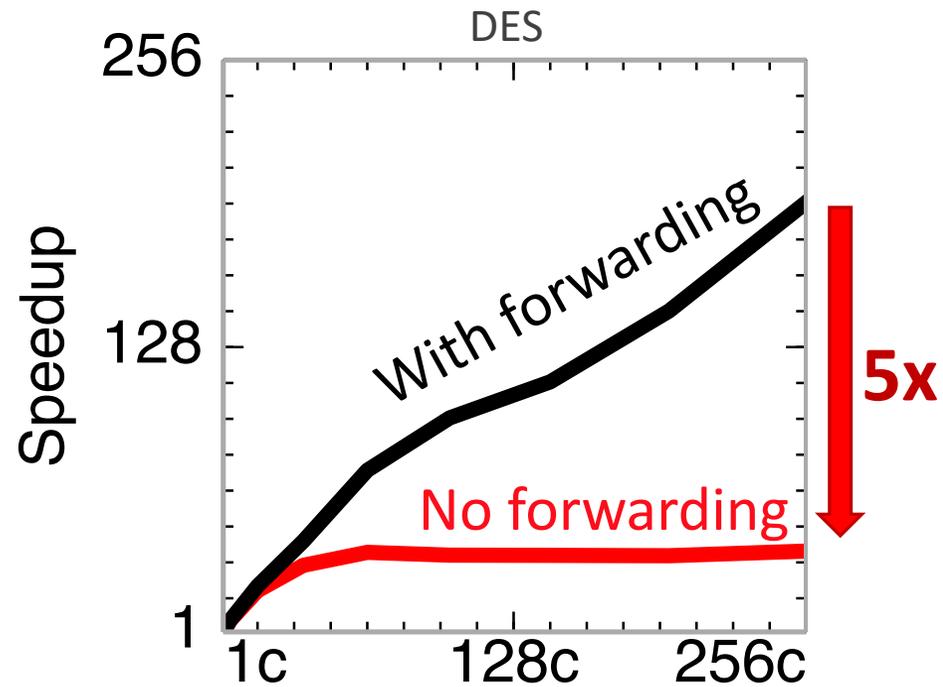


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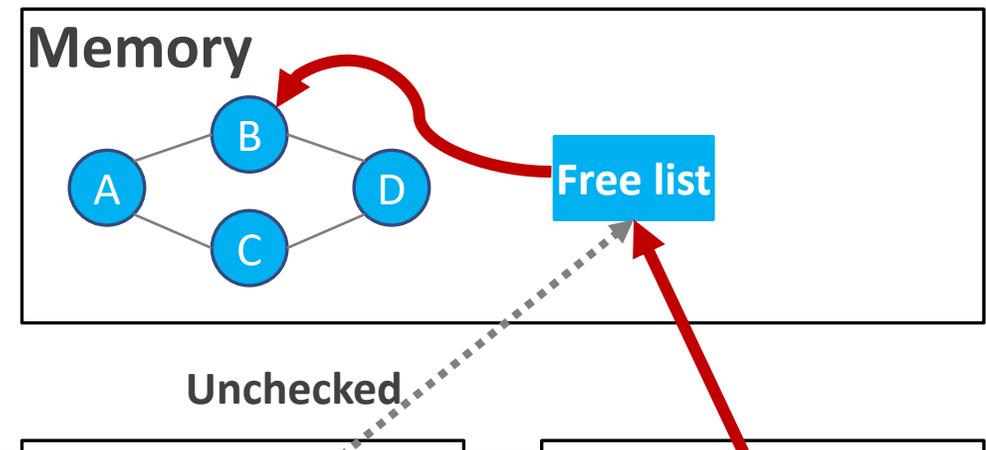
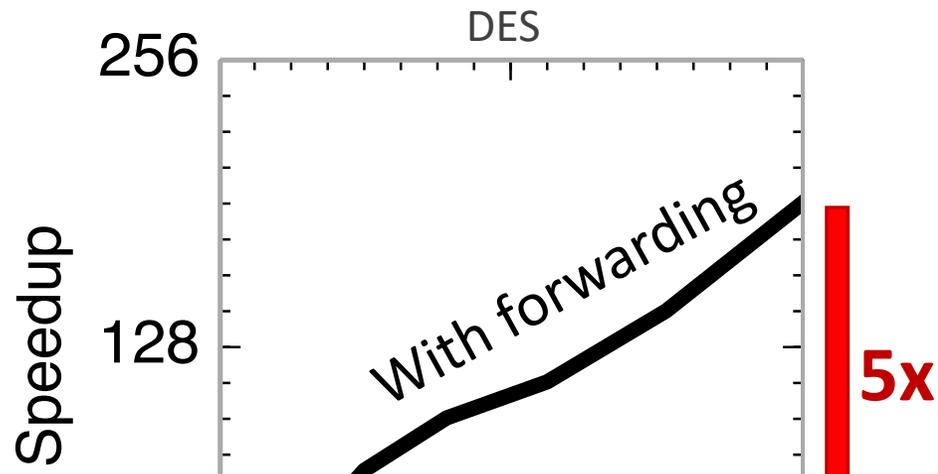


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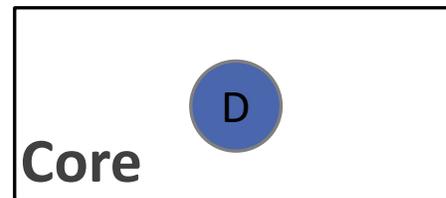
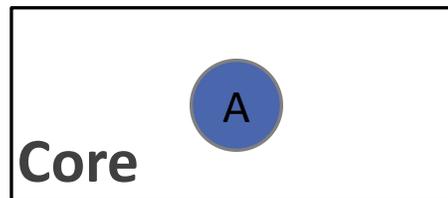
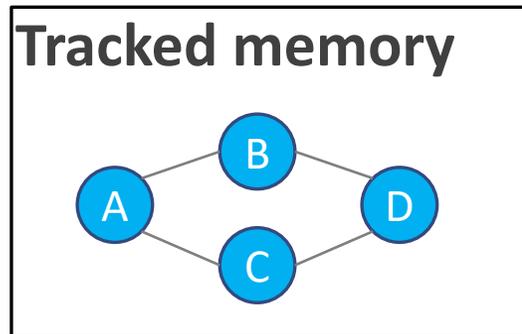
**Simply disabling hardware speculation
is unsafe with speculative forwarding**

Capsules ensure safety through OS-like protections

Untracked memory: protected from tasks that lose integrity

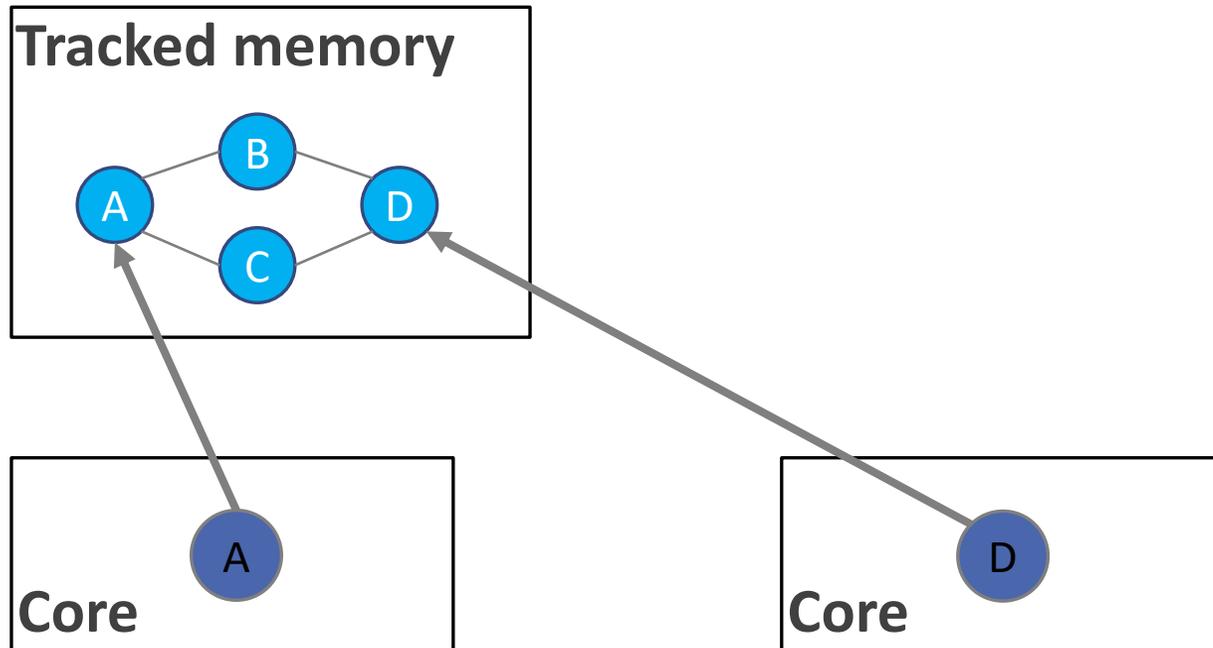
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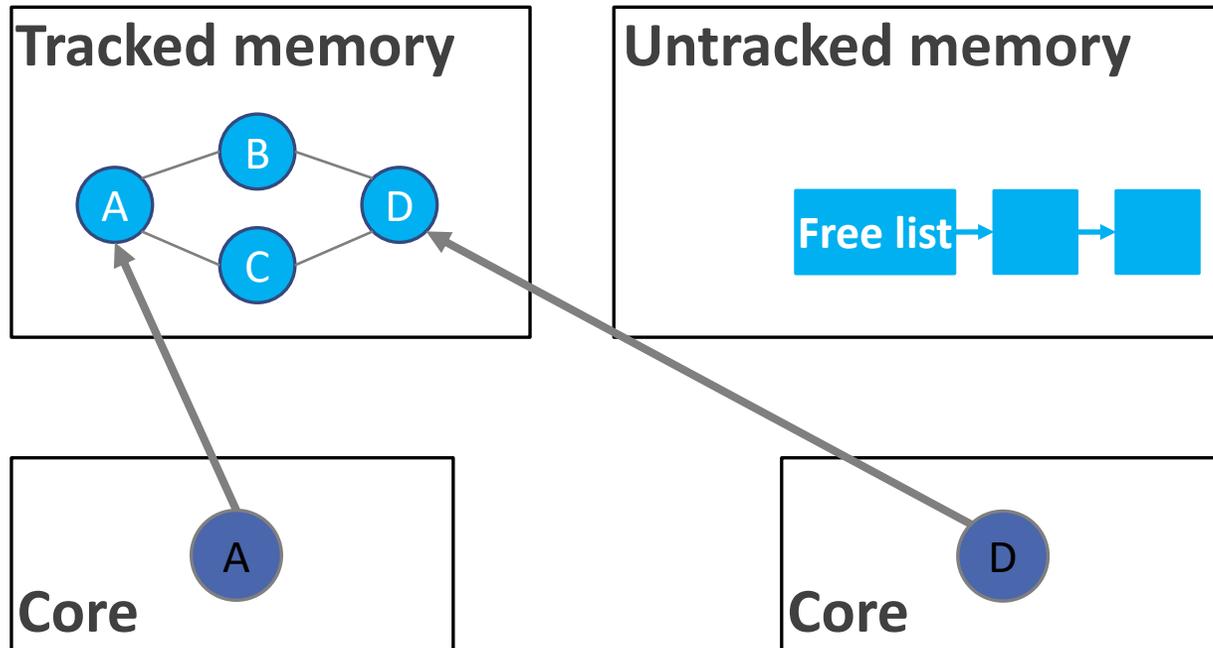
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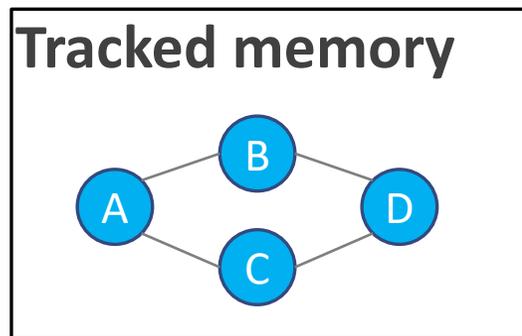
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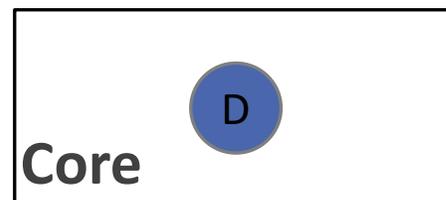
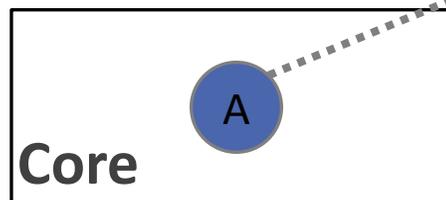


Unversioned, no conflict checks

Only accessible by

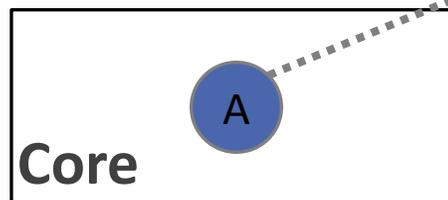
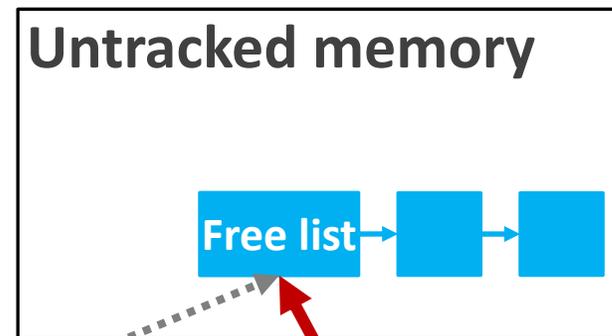
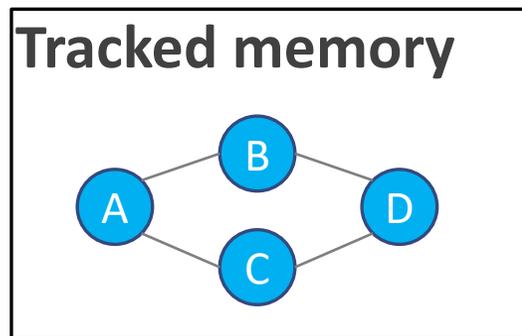
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Unchecked

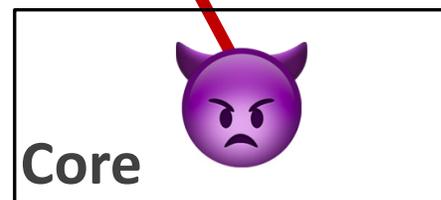


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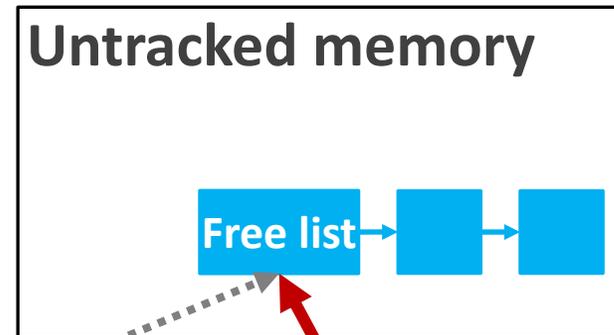
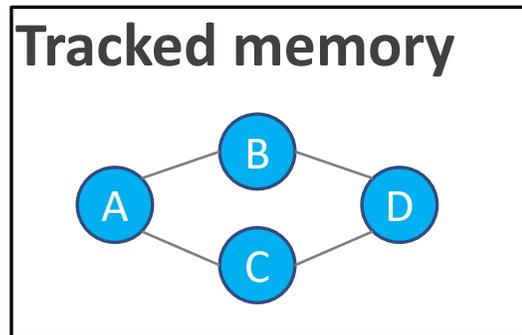
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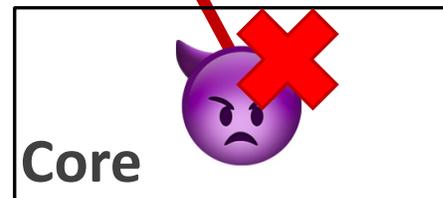
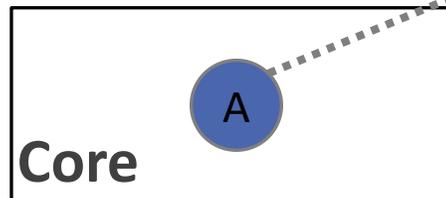


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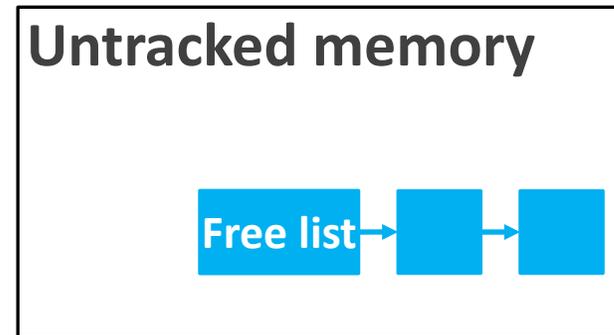
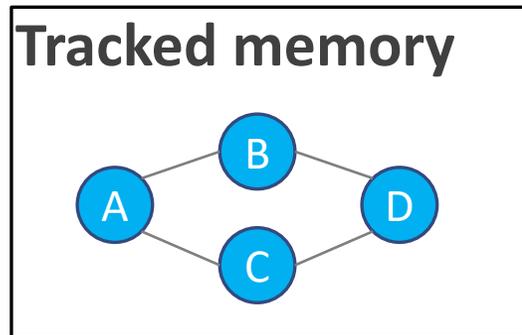
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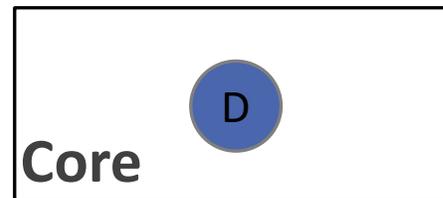
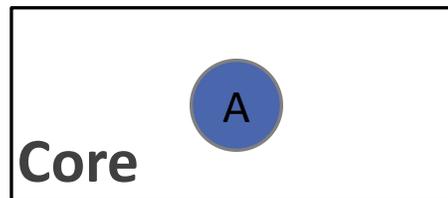
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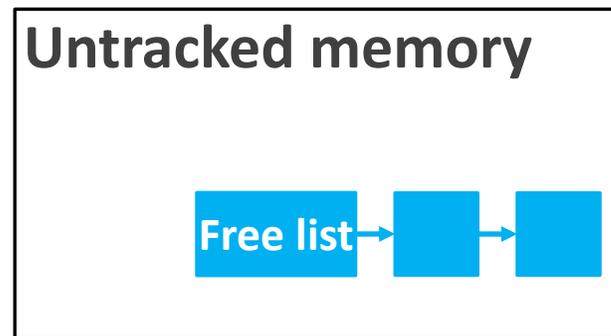
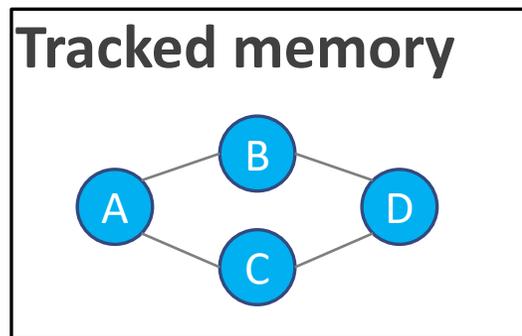
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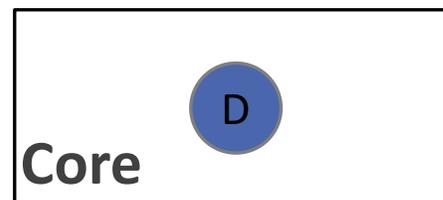
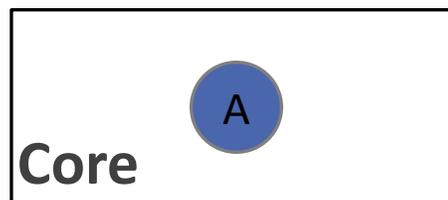
Vectored call interface: guarantees control-flow integrity in a capsule



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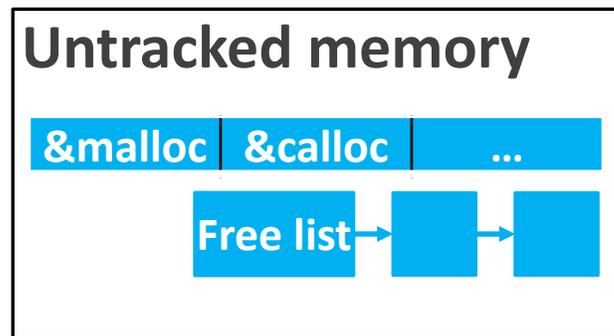
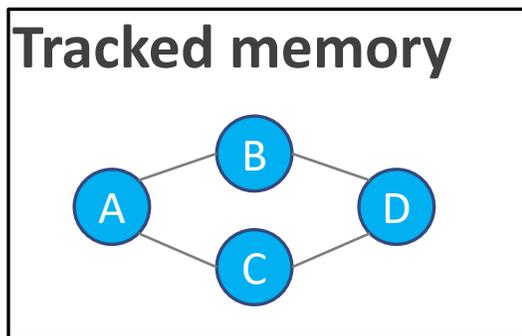
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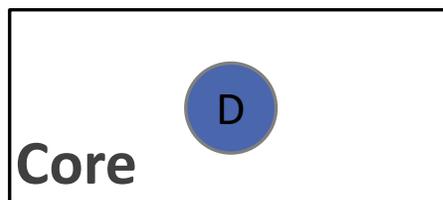
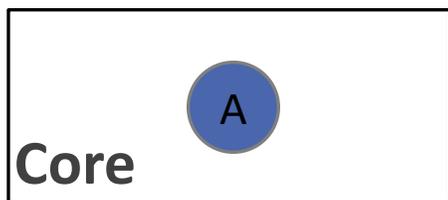


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Holds the capsule call vector



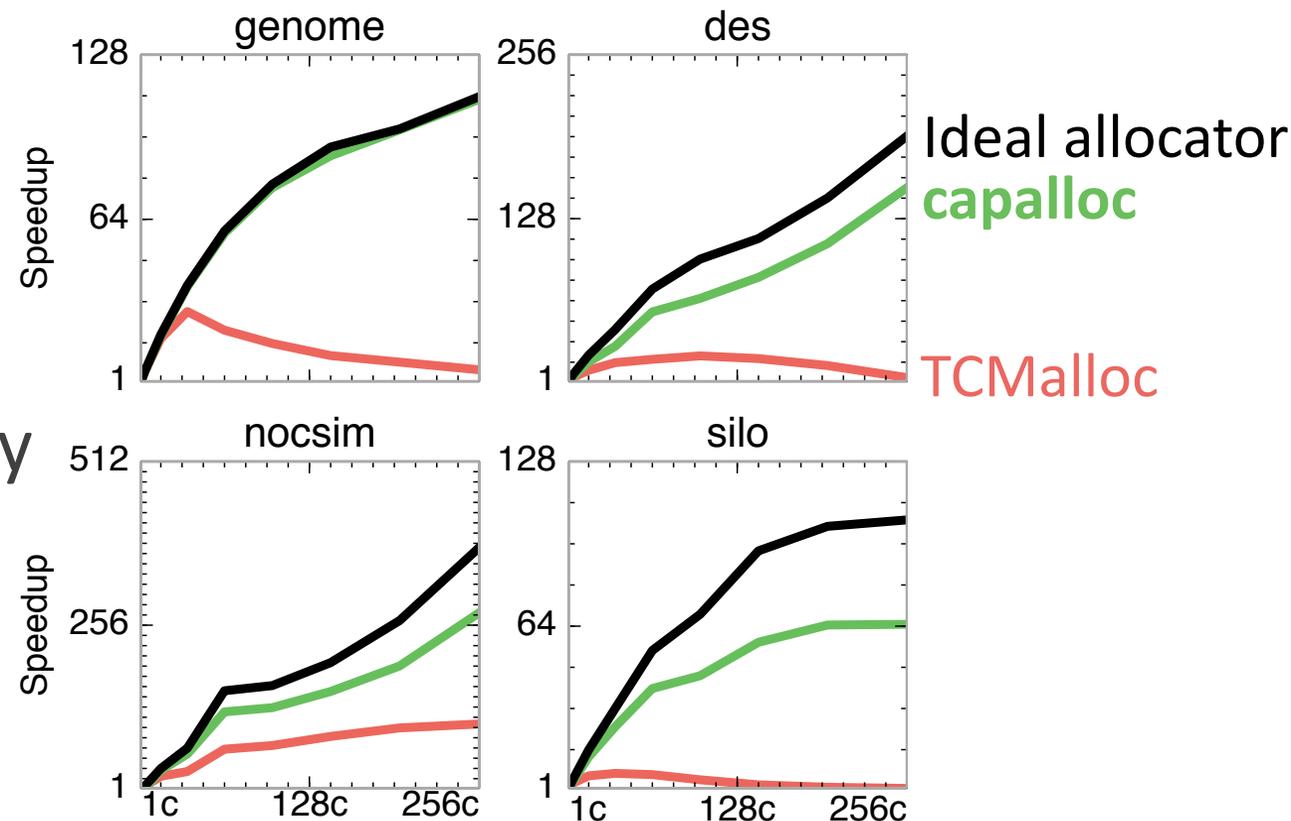
Capsules enable important system services

Capsule-based allocator

malloc, etc. are capsule functions

metadata resides in untracked memory

Only gmean 30% slower than ideal



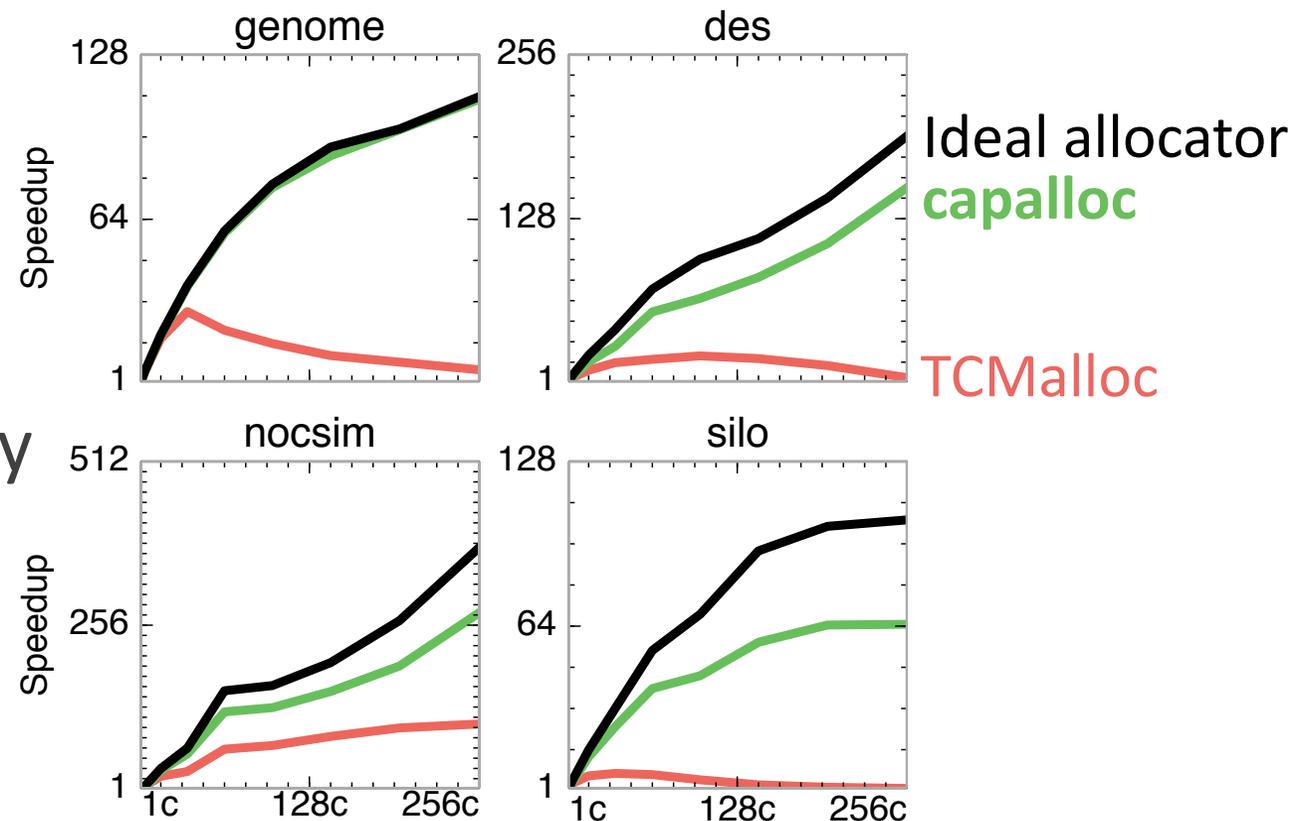
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capalloc retains the scalability of an ideal allocator

Conclusion

Speculative systems should support non-speculative execution to improve efficiency, ease programmability, and enable new capabilities

Espresso: an execution model for speculative and non-speculative tasks

- Provides shared synchronization mechanisms to all tasks
- Lets the system adaptively run tasks speculatively or non-speculatively

Capsules: speculative tasks safely invoke software-managed speculation

- Enable important speculation-friendly services like scalable memory allocation