

How do we specify correctness  
for concurrent objects?

# Linearizability

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**L1:**  $\text{complete}(H')$  is equivalent to some legal sequential history  $S$ , and

**L2:**  $\prec_H \subseteq \prec_S$ .

Execution history has equivalent behavior to  
some sequential execution

Each method call takes effect instantaneously  
at some point between call/return

Linearizability does not require blocking  
(or non-blocking!) behavior

# Linearizable FIFO history?

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Enq(x)

Deq(y)

Enq(y)

# Linearizable FIFO history?

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Enq(x)

Deq(y)

Enq(y)

Deq(y)

# Linearizable FIFO history?

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Enq(x)

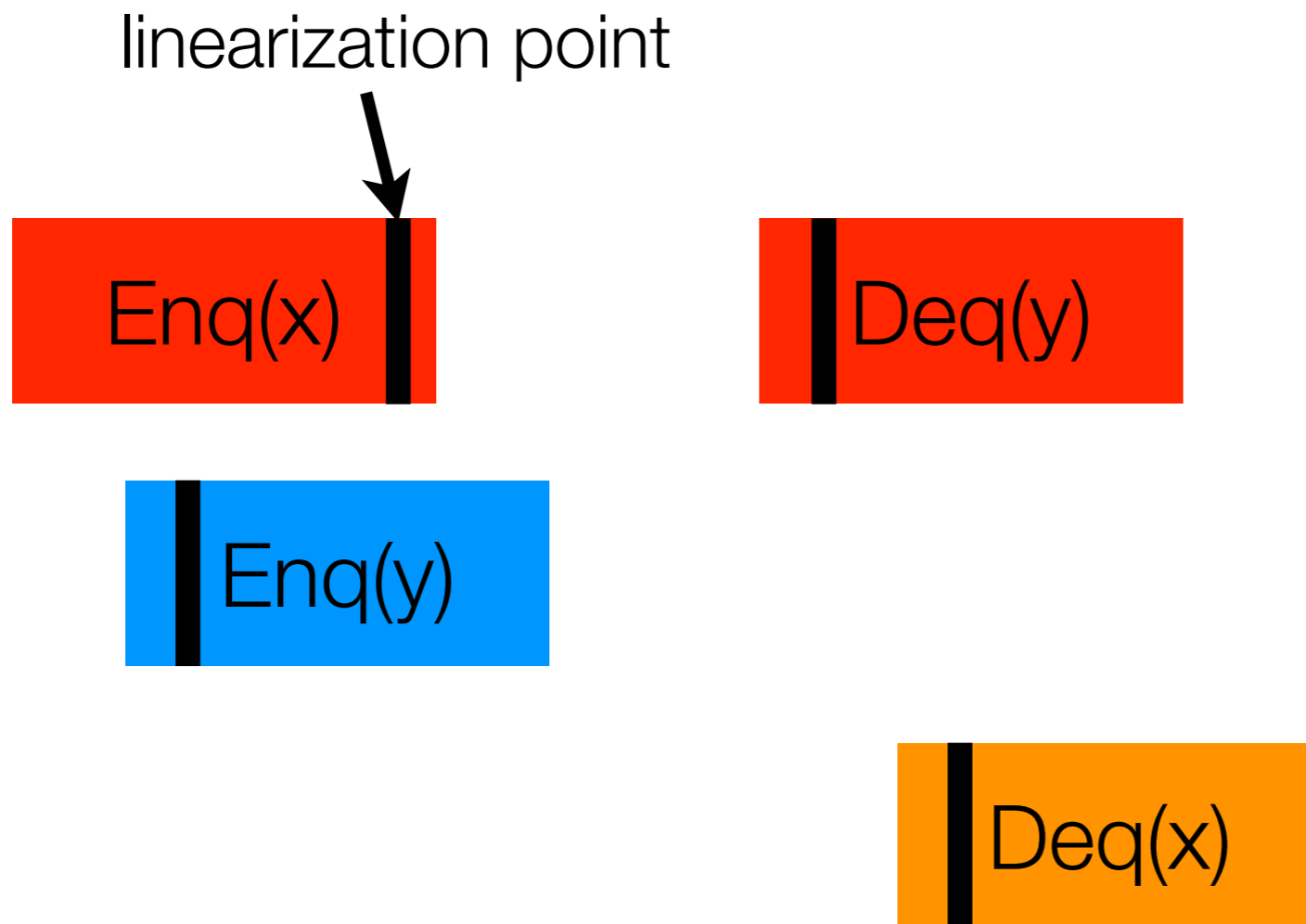
Deq(y)

Enq(y)

Deq(x)

# Linearizable FIFO history?

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# SC is not local

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a.Enq(x)

b.Enq(x)

a.Deq(y)

b.Enq(y)

a.Enq(y)

b.Deq(x)

# SC is not local

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a.Enq(x)

b.Enq(x)

a.Deq(y)

b.Enq(y)

a.Enq(y)

b.Deq(x)



# SC is not local

---

a.Enq(x)

b.Enq(x)

a.Deq(y)

b.Enq(y)

a.Enq(y)

b.Deq(x)

# SC is not local

---

a.Enq(x)

b.Enq(x)

a.Deq(y)

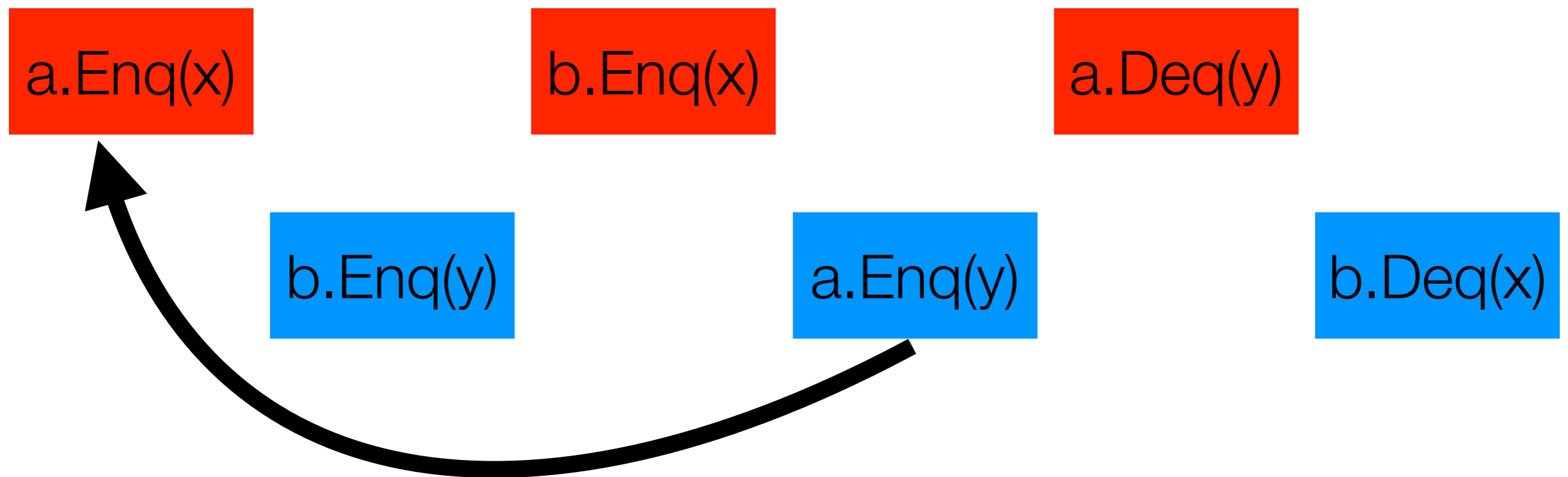
b.Enq(y)

a.Enq(y)

b.Deq(x)

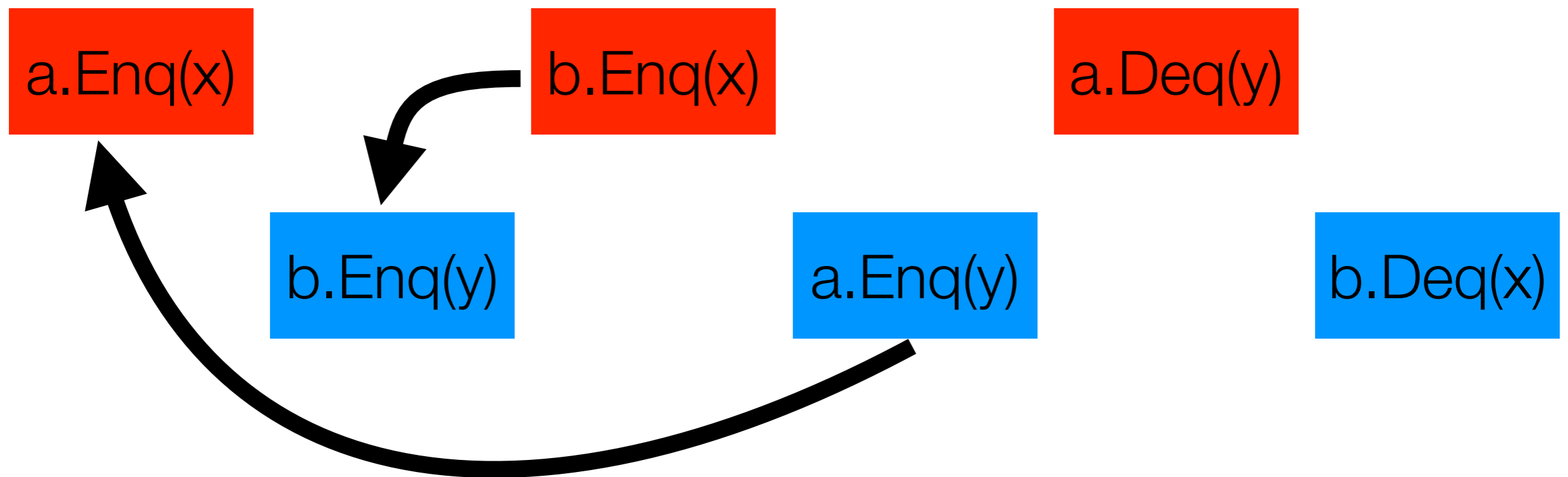
# SC is not local

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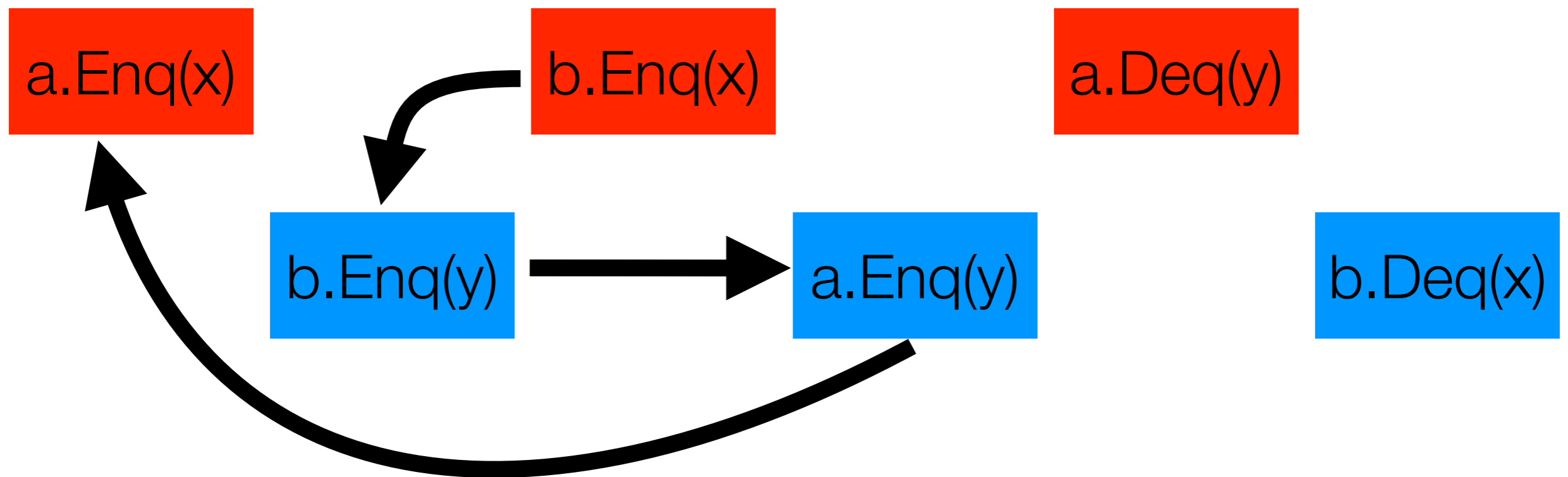
# SC is not local

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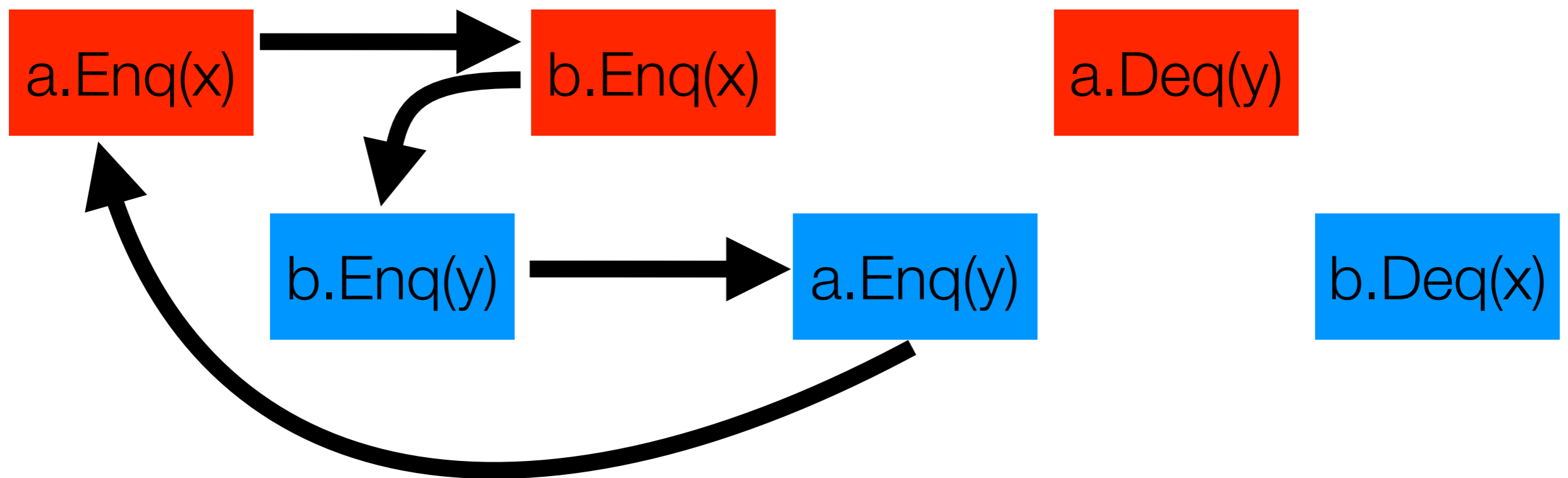
# SC is not local

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# SC is not local

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# Serializability is not local

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a.Enq(x); b.Enq(x)

b.Enq(y); a.Enq(y)

a.Deq(y)

b.Deq(x)

# Serializability is not local

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a.Enq(x); b.Enq(x)

b.Enq(y); a.Enq(y)

a.Deq(y)

b.Deq(x)



# Serializability is not local

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a.Enq(x); b.Enq(x)

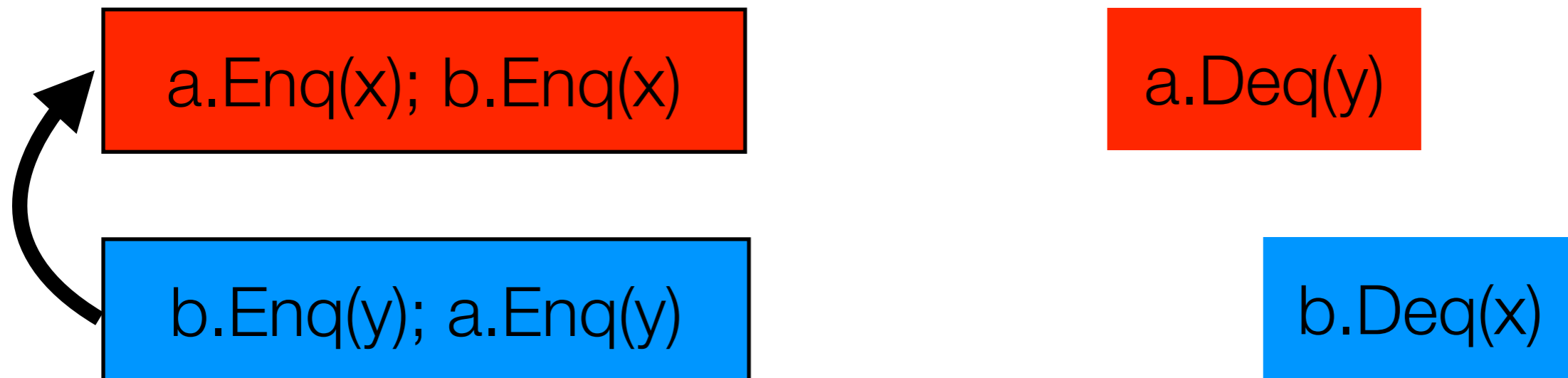
b.Enq(y); a.Enq(y)

a.Deq(y)

b.Deq(x)

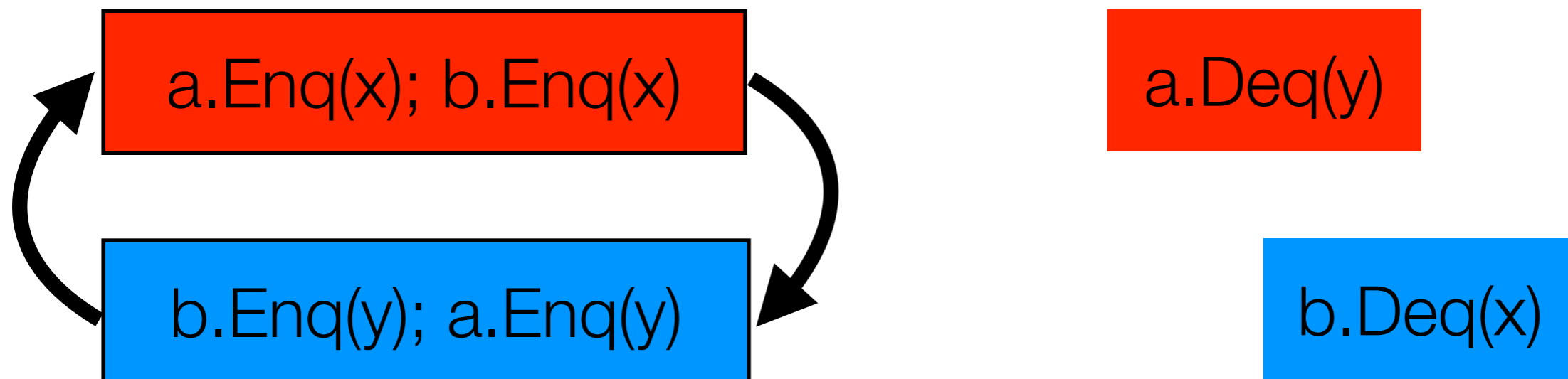
# Serializability is not local

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# Serializability is not local

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# Different granularities

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- SC: single memory location
- Linearizability: single object
- Serializability: arbitrary set of memory locations
- Unifying theme: reduce concurrency to (nondeterministic) sequential behavior