

Testing stateful, concurrent, and async systems using test.check



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Outline

- Example-based testing is inadequate
- Generating test data
- Generating sequential tests
- Adding parallelism

A stateful example

- A key-value database

- Operations:

(db/create)

(db/clear! db)

(db/store! db k v)

(db/delete! db k)

(db/fetch db k)

(db/size db)

**For the video and transcript
of this presentation,
click here:**

<https://lispcast.com/testing-stateful-and-concurrent-systems-using-test-check/>

Let's test it!

DB should contain a key/value
after storing

(deftest store-contains

)

DB should contain a key/value after storing

```
(deftest store-contains
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v "b"]
    ))
```

DB should contain a key/value after storing

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(deftest store-contains
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v "b"]
    (db/store! db k v)
  ))
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DB should contain a key/value after storing

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(deftest store-contains
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v "b"]
    (db/store! db k v)
    (db/fetch db k) ))
```

DB should contain a key/value after storing

```
(deftest store-contains
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v "b"]
    (db/store! db k v)
    (is (= v (db/fetch db k)))))
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(deftest store-overwrite
```

```
)
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(deftest store-overwrite
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v1 "b"
        v2 "c"]
```

```
))
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(deftest store-overwrite
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v1 "b"
        v2 "c"]
    (db/store! db k v1)
    (db/store! db k v2)
  ))
```

store! should overwrite old values

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(deftest store-overwrite
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v1 "b"
        v2 "c"]
    (db/store! db k v1)
    (db/store! db k v2)
    (db/fetch db k)  ))
```

store! should overwrite old values

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(deftest store-overwrite
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v1 "b"
        v2 "c"]
    (db/store! db k v1)
    (db/store! db k v2)
    (is (= v2 (db/fetch db k)))))
```

DB should be empty after clearing

```
(deftest clear-empty
```

```
)
```

DB should be empty after clearing

```
(deftest clear-empty  
  (let [db (db/create)  
        k "a"  
        v "b"]
```

```
))
```

DB should be empty after clearing

```
(deftest clear-empty
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v "b"]
    (db/store! db k v)
    (db/clear! db)
  ))
```

DB should be empty after clearing

```
(deftest clear-empty
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v "b"]
    (db/store! db k v)
    (db/clear! db)
    (db/size db) ))
```

DB should be empty after clearing

```
(deftest clear-empty
  (let [db (db/create)
        k "a"
        v "b"]
    (db/store! db k v)
    (db/clear! db)
    (is (zero? (db/size db)))))
```

I don't want you to
feel bad, but . . .

you should feel bad
about these tests.

Not *guilty*, but scared.



How big is our system?

- How many strings are there?
- How many unicode characters are there?
- How many key-value pairs are there?
- How many operations are there?
- How many pairs of operations are there?
- How many triples of operations are there?

The *description* of the
database is small.

Let's set up some generators

```
(def gen-key gen/string)
(def gen-value gen/string)
```

```
> (gen/sample gen-key 20)
```

```
("" "ï" "û" "ù" "p7Ä" "î" "§" "p8zÈäè" "" "õ" "¢
öU÷," "W\b^è÷-Ð\\ " "\ngz|µpòW." "ño" "ô>,
βiWA,\r!" ";ÊÑ²ãô9" "pèIàθTzJÜ\bι" "ó¥è¬#À&ö\\\ "
ÈjF#" "u=?" "'ö")
```

Some easy properties...

DB should contain a key/value
after storing

```
(defspec store-contains 100
```

```
)
```

DB should contain a key/value after storing

```
(defspec store-contains 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v gen-value]
                ))
```

DB should contain a key/value after storing

```
(defspec store-contains 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      )))
```

DB should contain a key/value after storing

```
(defspec store-contains 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      (db/store! db k v)
      )))
```

DB should contain a key/value after storing

```
(defspec store-contains 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      (db/store! db k v)
      (= v (db/fetch db k))))))
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(defspec store-overwrite 100
```

```
)
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(defspec store-overwrite 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v1 gen-value
                 v2 gen-value]
                ))
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(defspec store-overwrite 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v1 gen-value
                 v2 gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      )))
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(defspec store-overwrite 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v1 gen-value
                 v2 gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      (db/store! db k v1)
      (db/store! db k v2)
      )))
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(defspec store-overwrite 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v1 gen-value
                 v2 gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      (db/store! db k v1)
      (db/store! db k v2)
      )))
```

store! should overwrite old values

```
(defspec store-overwrite 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v1 gen-value
                 v2 gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      (db/store! db k v1)
      (db/store! db k v2)
      (= v2 (db/fetch db k))))))
```

DB should be empty after clearing

```
(defspec clear-empty 100
  (prop/for-all [k gen-key
                 v gen-value]
    (let [db (db/create)]
      (db/store! db k v)
      (db/clear! db)
      (zero? (db/size db)))))
```

```
{:result false,  
 :test-var "store-contains",  
 :failing-size 28,  
 :num-tests 29,  
 :fail ["æ]qÜ\"Î¹±W¿pZϕËμgä>Å" "õZãºí®"],  
 :shrunk {:total-nodes-visited 139,  
          :depth 33,  
          :result false,  
          :smallest ["æ" "" ]},  
 :seed 1489522410083}
```

Can we describe the behavior
in one go?

1. Build a simple, pure model

- A key-value database is like a *hash map*.

2. Reify the operations and make generators

```
(def gen-clear (gen/return [:clear!]))
(def gen-size (gen/return [:size]))
(def gen-store (gen/tuple (gen/return :store!)
                          gen-key
                          gen-value))
(def gen-delete (gen/tuple (gen/return :delete!)
                           gen-key))
(def gen-fetch (gen/tuple (gen/return :fetch)
                           gen-key))

(def gen-ops (gen/vector
             (gen/one-of [gen-clear gen-store
                          gen-delete gen-fetch
                          gen-size])))
```

```
> (gen/sample gen-ops)
```

```
([[]  
  [[:clear!]]  
  []  
  [[:fetch "wo"] [:clear!]]  
  [[:clear!] [:fetch "*QZü"] [:clear!] [:fetch "α'"]]  
  [[:size] [:size] [:delete! "K]" "j"]]  
  []  
  [[:fetch "t"]]  
  [[:fetch "$6"] [:size] [:size] [:clear!]]  
  [[:fetch "P/71"] [:store! "p=" ""] [:delete! "Â"]  
  [:store! "B" "¬Ê'y"]])
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn db-run [db ops]
```

```
)
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn db-run [db ops]  
  (doseq [[op k v] ops]
```

```
))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn db-run [db ops]  
  (doseq [[op k v] ops]  
    (case op
```

```
    )))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn db-run [db ops]
  (doseq [[op k v] ops]
    (case op
      :clear! (db/clear! db)
      )))
```

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```
(defn db-run [db ops]
  (doseq [[op k v] ops]
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      )))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn db-run [db ops]
  (doseq [[op k v] ops]
    (case op
      :clear! (db/clear! db)
      :size   (db/size   db)
      )))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn db-run [db ops]
  (doseq [[op k v] ops]
    (case op
      :clear! (db/clear! db)
      :size (db/size db)
      :store! (db/store! db k v)
      :delete! (db/delete! db k)
      :fetch (db/fetch db k))))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn hm-run [db ops]
  (reduce
    (fn [hm [op k v]]
      (hm op k v))
    db ops))
```


3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn hm-run [db ops]
  (reduce
    (fn [hm [op k v]]
      (case op
        :clear! {}
        ))
    db ops))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn hm-run [db ops]
  (reduce
    (fn [hm [op k v]]
      (case op
        :clear! {}
        :size   hm))
    db ops))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn hm-run [db ops]
  (reduce
    (fn [hm [op k v]]
      (case op
        :clear!  {}
        :size    hm
        :store!  (assoc hm k v)
      ))
    db ops))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

```
(defn hm-run [db ops]
  (reduce
    (fn [hm [op k v]]
      (case op
        :clear!  {}
        :size    hm
        :store!  (assoc hm k v)
        :delete! (dissoc hm k)
        ))
    db ops))
```

3. Make 2 "runners"

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(defn hm-run [db ops]
  (reduce
    (fn [hm [op k v]]
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        :size    hm
        :store!  (assoc hm k v)
        :delete! (dissoc hm k)
        :fetch   hm))
    db ops))
```

4. Define your property

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100  
  (prop/for-all [ops gen-ops]
```

```
  ))
```

4. Define your property

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops gen-ops]
    (let [hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      )))
```

4. Define your property

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops gen-ops]
    (let [hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      (db-run db ops)
    )))
```

4. Define your property

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops gen-ops]
    (let [hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      (db-run db ops)
      (equiv? db hm))))
```

4. Define your property

```
(defn equiv? [db hm]
```

```
)
```

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(defspec hash-map-equiv 100  
  (prop/for-all [ops gen-ops]  
    (let [hm (hm-run {} ops)  
          db (db/create)]  
      (db-run db ops)  
      (equiv? db hm))))
```

4. Define your property

```
(defn equiv? [db hm]
  (and (= (count hm) (db/size db))

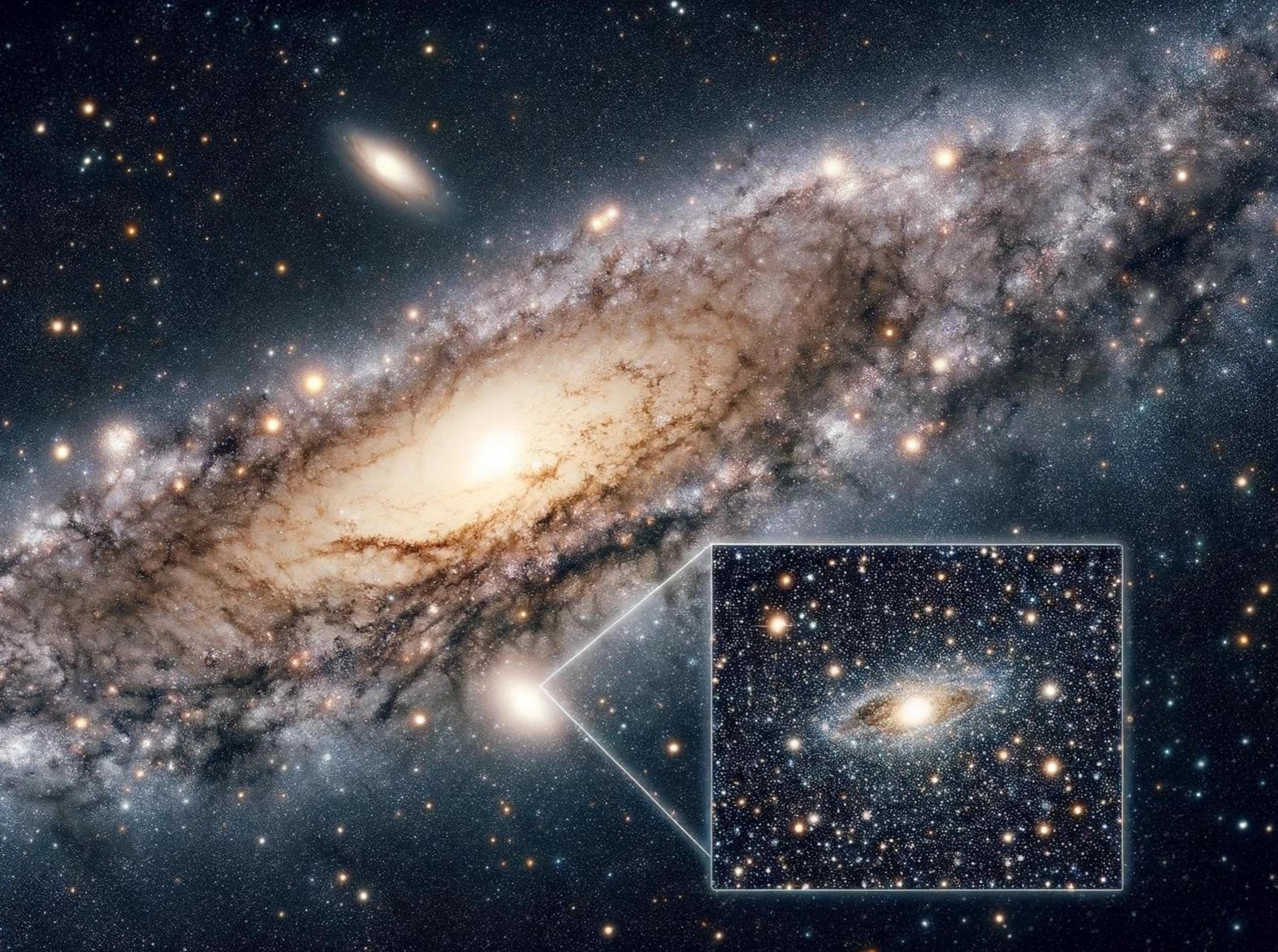
        ))
```

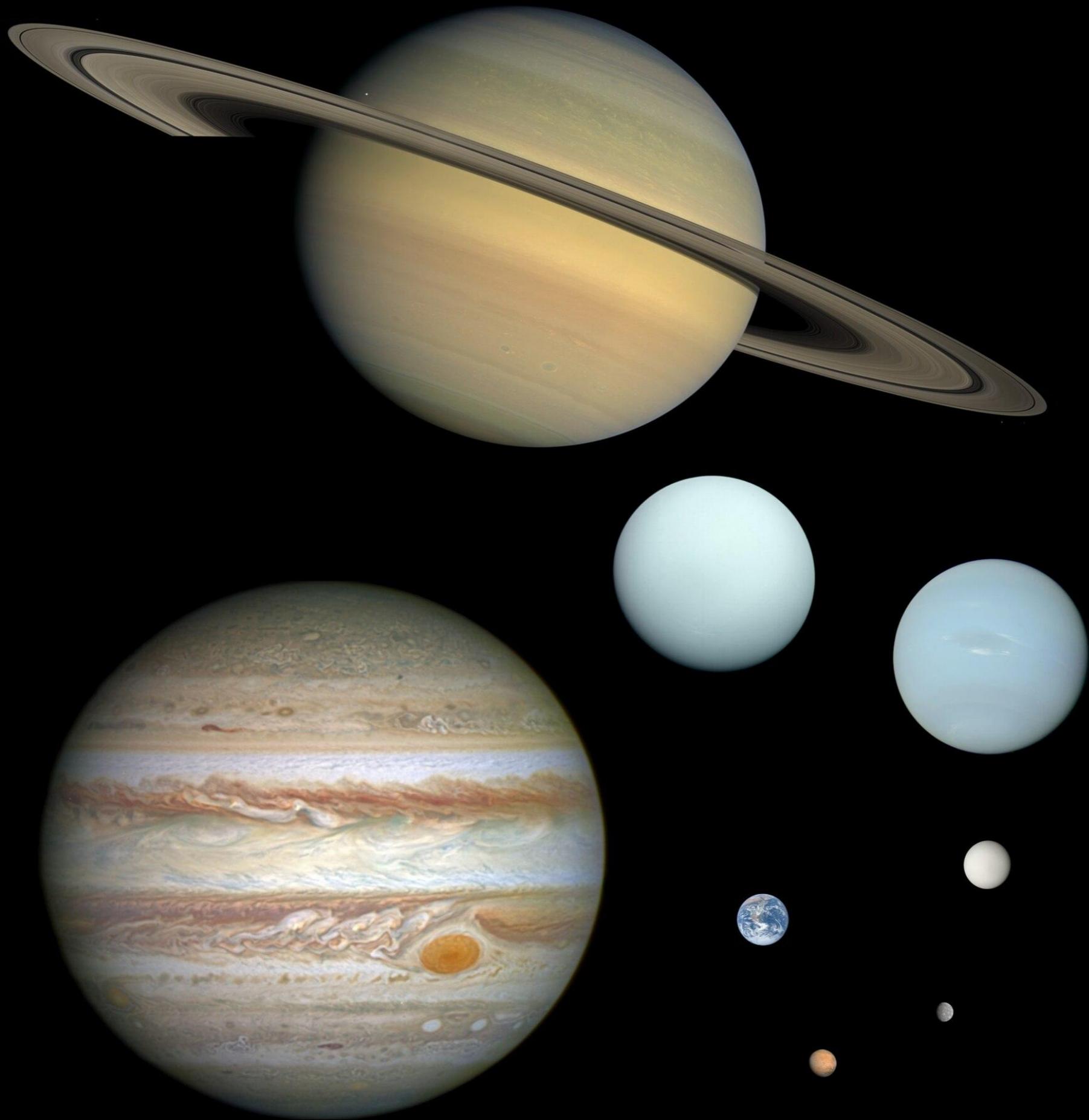
```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops gen-ops]
    (let [hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      (db-run db ops)
      (equiv? db hm))))
```

4. Define your property

```
(defn equiv? [db hm]
  (and (= (count hm) (db/size db))
        (every? (fn [[k v]]
                  (= v (db/fetch db k)))
                hm)))
```

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops gen-ops]
    (let [hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      (db-run db ops)
      (equiv? db hm))))
```





Encourage collisions

```
(def gen-clear (gen/return [:clear!]))
(def gen-size (gen/return [:size]))

(defn gen-store [keys]
  (gen/tuple (gen/return :store!) (gen/elements keys) gen-value))

(defn gen-delete [keys]
  (gen/tuple (gen/return :delete!) (gen/elements keys)))

(defn gen-fetch [keys]
  (gen/tuple (gen/return :fetch) (gen/elements keys)))

(defn gen-ops* [keys]
  (gen/vector
    (gen/one-of [gen-clear (gen-store keys)
                 (gen-delete keys) (gen-fetch keys)
                 gen-size])))

(def gen-ops (gen/let [keys (gen/not-empty (gen/vector gen-key))]
  (gen-ops* keys)))
```

```
> (gen/sample gen-ops)
```

```
([]
```

```
 []
```

```
 [[:fetch ""] [:size]]
```

```
 [[:fetch "w?"] [:clear!]]
```

```
 [[:delete! "Zi"]]
```

```
 [[:fetch "ü"] [:fetch "ü"] [:size] [:clear!]]
```

```
 []
```

```
 [[:store! ")Á@" "k"] [:store! ")Á@" "c"] [:fetch "G,"]
```

```
 [:clear!]]
```

```
 [[:clear!]]
```

```
 [[:store! "w·$" "ý}"] [:clear!] [:fetch "`çp"]
```

```
 [:fetch "ï*]p@_" [:delete! "`çp"]])
```

```
> (apply max (map count (gen/sample gen-ops 100)))  
91
```

```
> (apply max (map count (gen/sample gen-ops 1000)))  
96
```

```
> (Math/pow 5 91)  
4.038967834731581E63
```

49 operations

```
{:result false,
 :test-var "hash-map-equiv",
 :seed 1489523387287,
 :failing-size 26,
 :num-tests 27,
 :fail [[[:delete! "9kàµ¼!9PÀglDÁF"æy8ì)"] [:size] [:delete! "
\re`Ú²<*/Ho^|üç6lÉÊ"] [:clear!] [:size] [:clear!] [:delete! "t_@cWuPû"] [:size] [:clear!] [:fetch
"B·7{ÎÔ"] [:clear!] [:size] [:delete! "¥?t·í\\Â\fZ"] [:clear!] [:clear!] [:delete! "Ê5Pí$
uÉVzÓâH½ëi¥W#6"] [:size] [:size] [:size] [:delete! "ku"] [:delete! "Me±àÛJzCw ²²¼Yp~£~£üjÁQW\tU"]
[:delete! "9kàµ¼!9PÀglDÁF"æy8ì)"] [:delete! "ËKssy,Îe>°Æµ¶qí3
sAËx¹\fø\\tdB$!"] [:size] [:store! "V%tCÀx0û{¼ô5·z0Uy|\nåöb$,òUCdGÁBl" "²ìò¿,ø
1Ö¹z¥²\fl\">GÌ?2 ¹3çÚÔ<¹°A·ç"] [:clear!] [:clear!] [:clear!] [:fetch "è²Ú'ÃË·\\Ý÷-Þ(äkÿ2bß'Fdón²0
£ÂH×"] [:delete! "Z¹5ýuá`&v"] [:store! "¥?t·í\\Â\fZ" ""] [:store! "ËKssy,Îe>°Æµ¶qí3
sAËx¹\fø\\tdB$!" "\rUmfûRç)2õ'Ûß rÄ«ûbåÛ¶~±9"] [:delete! "ö$åRÁj÷9Êê³ÈxÎÂDX³RB\""] [:delete!
"t_@cWuPû"] [:clear!] [:delete! "®â¼Tùwl°|çì"] [:store! "ÏPtDá\r\"jR
Îm]AÛ°SÊ"É?kõfø«WÌX·\tÚ~ßCm0hÉ" "iIô£·"²-x\btatøýóS)¶h)É9FÔ&"] [:fetch "e#ðE"] [:fetch "t_@cWuPû"]
[:delete! "(¼"] [:clear!] [:fetch "ö$åRÁj÷9Êê³ÈxÎÂDX³RB\""] [:fetch "è²Ú'ÃË·\\Ý÷-Þ(äkÿ2bß'Fdón²0
£ÂH×"] [:delete! "Z¹5ýuá`&v"] [:size] [:store! "úöYø
g¶Ò\r@¹òõï" "3£>°Sn"] [:delete! "Oc@ªÄia"] [:store! "}Ûòò\r" "8ª$8,QøÛN+,ø£kÐ)°ñ¼THA{öNó÷qñ\\Fç
W"] [:store! "5BÑp9¿³'<TáÓBföQ" "x½Ut*Æ#B»GÑÝXçtan'tºí" ]],
 :shrunk {:total-nodes-visited 361,
          :depth 162,
          :result false,
          :smallest [[[:store! "ø" ""]]]}]}
```

But what about race
conditions?

Run it in multiple threads

```
(defn run-in-thread [db ops]  
  (.start (Thread. (fn []  
                    (db-run db ops))))))
```

```
(defn thread-run [db ops-sequences]  
  (run! #(run-in-thread db %) ops-sequences))
```


Wait for them all to finish

```
(defn run-in-thread [db ops]
  (let [done (promise)]
    (.start (Thread. (fn []
                      (db-run db ops)
                      (deliver done :done!))))
    done))
```

```
(defn thread-run [db ops-sequences]
  (let [threads (map #(run-in-thread db %)
                    ops-sequences)]
    (dorun threads)
    (run! deref threads)))
```


Start all threads at once

```
(defn run-in-thread [latch db ops]
  (let [done (promise)]
    (.start (Thread. (fn []
                      @latch
                      (db-run db ops)
                      (deliver done :done!))))
    done))
```

```
(defn thread-run [db ops-sequences]
  (let [latch (promise)
        threads (map #(run-in-thread latch db %)
                      ops-sequences)]
    (dorun threads)
    (deliver latch :go!)
    (run! deref threads)))
```

Test against the model

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
```

```
)
```

Test against the model

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops-a gen-ops
                 ops-b gen-ops]
                ))
```

Test against the model

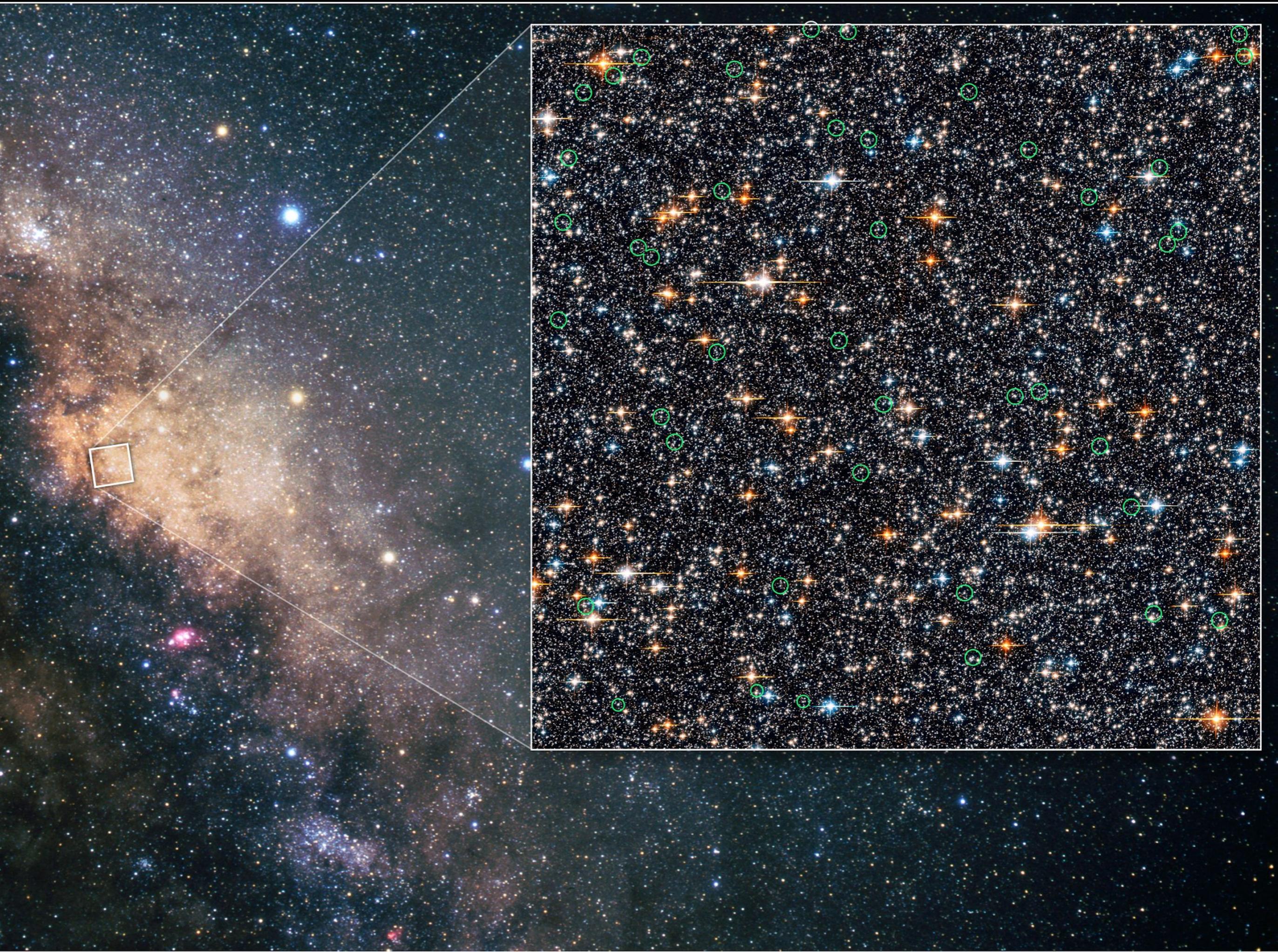
```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops-a gen-ops
                 ops-b gen-ops]
    (let [ops (concat ops-a ops-b)]
      ]
    )))
```

Test against the model

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops-a gen-ops
                 ops-b gen-ops]
    (let [ops (concat ops-a ops-b)
          hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      )))
```

Test against the model

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [ops-a gen-ops
                 ops-b gen-ops]
    (let [ops (concat ops-a ops-b)
          hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      (thread-run db [ops-a ops-b])
      (equiv? db hm))))
```



Encourage collisions across threads

```
(defn gen-ops-sequences [n]
```

```
)
```

Encourage collisions across threads

```
(defn gen-ops-sequences [n]
  (gen/let [keys (gen/not-empty
                 (gen/vector gen-key))]
           ))
```

Encourage collisions across threads

```
(defn gen-ops-sequences [n]
  (gen/let [keys (gen/not-empty
                  (gen/vector gen-key))]
    (apply gen/tuple
      (repeat n (gen-ops* keys)))))
```

Collisions

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [[ops-a ops-b]
                 (gen-ops-sequences 2)]
    ))
```

Collisions

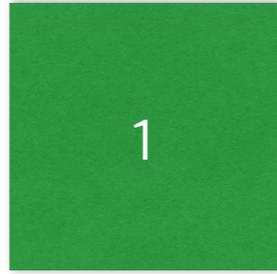
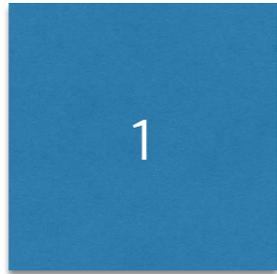
```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [[ops-a ops-b]
                 (gen-ops-sequences 2)]
    (let [ops (concat ops-a ops-b)
          hm (hm-run {} ops)
          db (db/create)]
      (thread-run db [ops-a ops-b])
      (equiv? db hm))))
```

Time

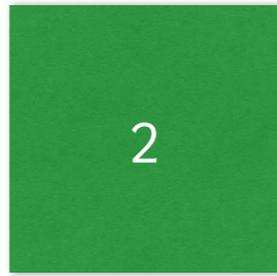
A

B

DB



?

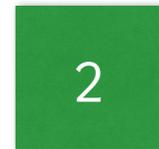
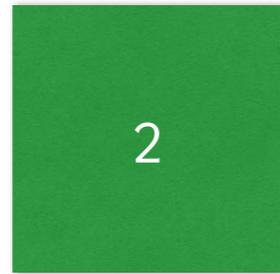
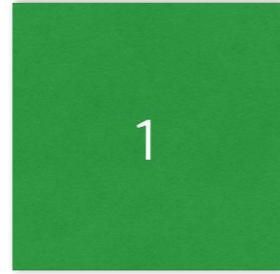
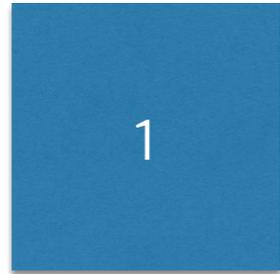


Time

A

B

DB

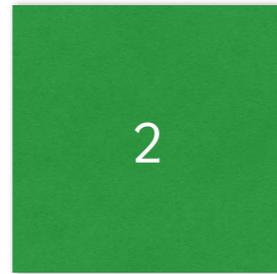
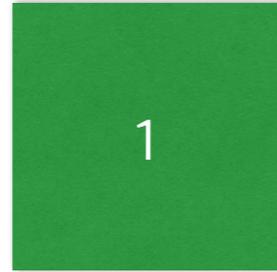
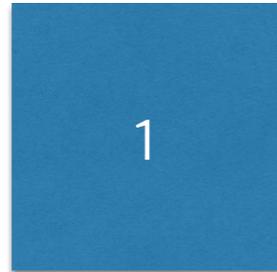


Time

A

B

DB

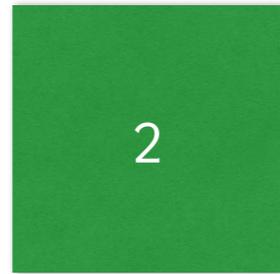
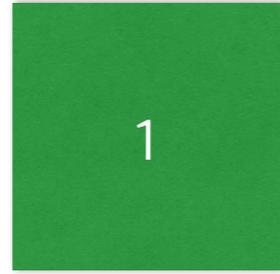
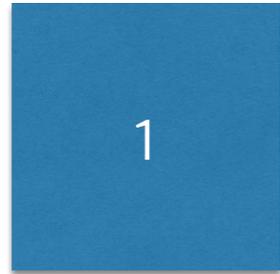


Time

A

B

DB

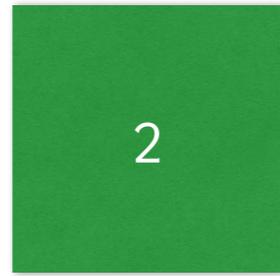
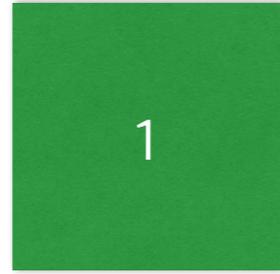
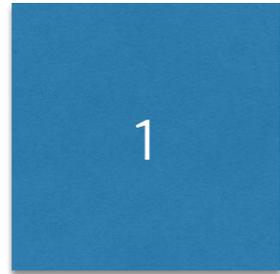


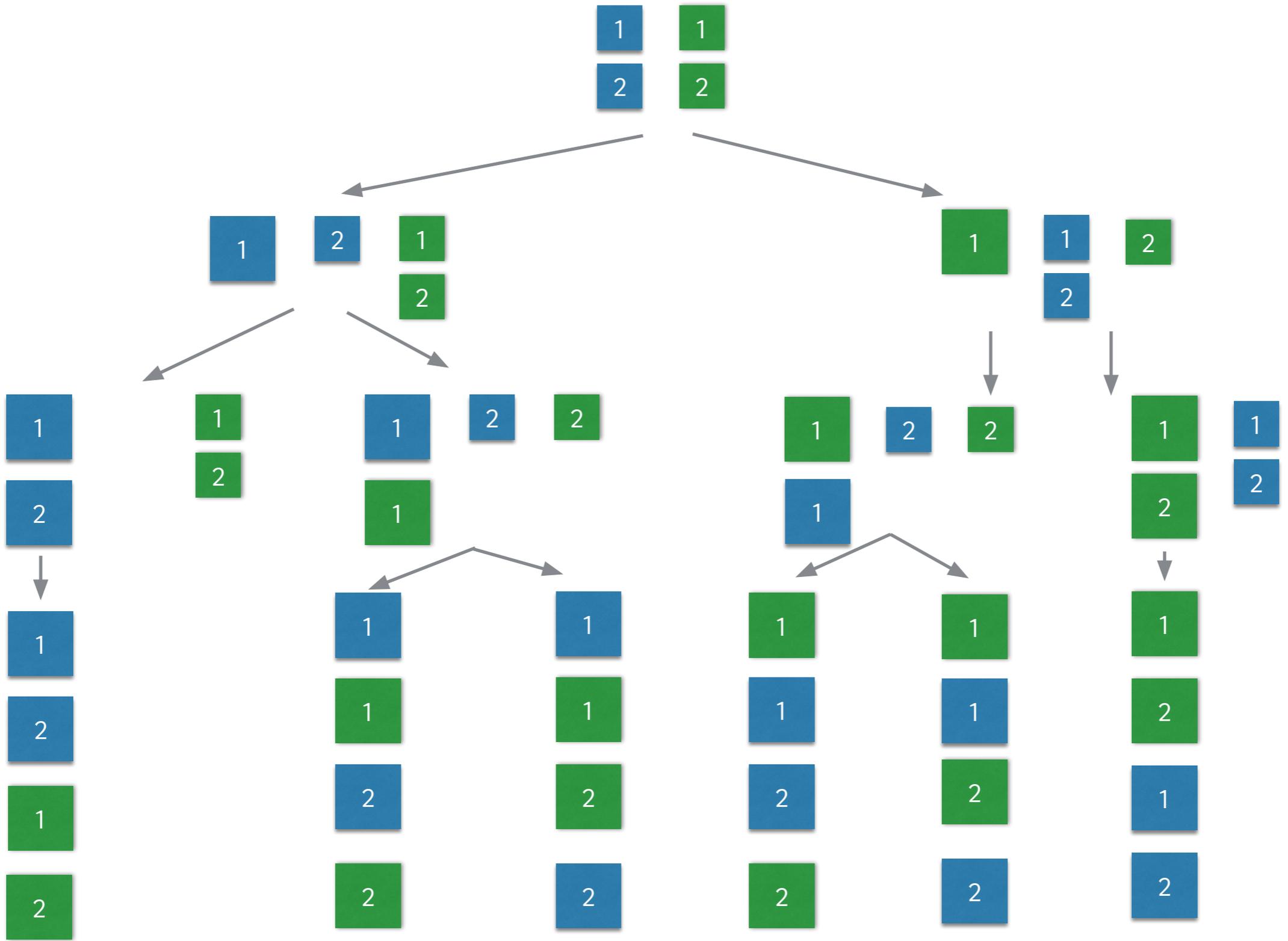
Time

A

B

DB





Possible interleavings

```
(defn children [{:keys [sequence threads]}]
  (for [[k [v & thread]] threads]
    {:sequence (conj sequence v)
     :threads (if thread
                (assoc threads k thread)
                (dissoc threads k))}))
```

```
(defn branch? [x]
  (-> x :threads not-empty))
```

```
(defn possible-interleavings [& sequences]
  (let [threads (into {} (map vector (range) sequences))]
    (->>
      (tree-seq branch? children {:sequence [] :threads threads})
      (remove branch?)
      (map :sequence))))
```


Equivalent to some possible interleaving

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [[ops-a ops-b]
                 (gen-ops-sequences 2)]
    (let [ops-i (possible-interleavings ops-a
                                         ops-b)]
      db (db/create)]
      (thread-run db [ops-a ops-b])
      )))
```

Equivalent to some possible interleaving

```
(defspec hash-map-equiv 100
  (prop/for-all [[ops-a ops-b]
                 (gen-ops-sequences 2)]
    (let [ops-i (possible-interleavings ops-a
                                         ops-b)

          db (db/create)]
      (thread-run db [ops-a ops-b])
      (some? #(equiv? db %)
              (map #(hm-run {} %) ops-i))))))
```


A

[:store! "a" "b"]

[:store! "a" "c"]

B

[:fetch ""]

[:delete! ""]

[:delete! ""]

[:size]

[:delete! ""]

[:fetch ""]

[:fetch ""]

[:size]

[:fetch ""]

...

[:delete! "a"]

Timing

```
(def gen-sleep (gen/tuple (gen/return :sleep)
                          (gen/choose 1 100)))
```

```
(defn gen-ops* [keys]
  (gen/vector
    (gen/one-of [gen-sleep
                 gen-size
                 (gen-fetch keys)
                 (gen-store keys)
                 (gen-delete keys)
                 gen-clear])))
```

DB Runner

```
(defn db-run [db ops]
  (doseq [[op k v] ops]
    (case op
      :sleep      (Thread/sleep k)
      :clear!     (db/clear!   db)
      :size       (db/size     db)
      :store!     (db/store!   db k v)
      :delete!    (db/delete!  db k)
      :fetch      (db/fetch    db k))))
```

Hash map runner

```
(defn hm-run [db ops]
  (reduce
    (fn [hm [op k v]]
      (case op
        :sleep    hm
        :clear!   {}
        :size     hm
        :store!   (assoc hm k v)
        :delete! (dissoc hm k)
        :fetch    hm))
    db ops))
```

A

[:store! "a" "b"]

[:store! "a" "c"]

B

[:sleep 66]

[:delete! "a"]



Eric Normand

LispCast

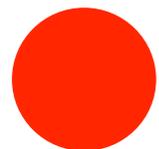
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