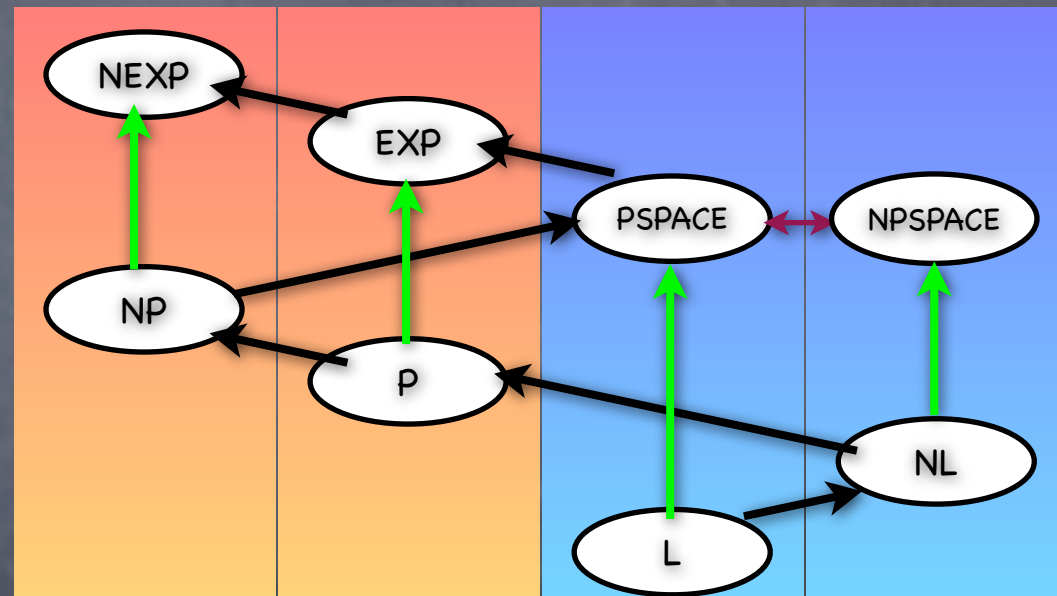


# Computational Complexity

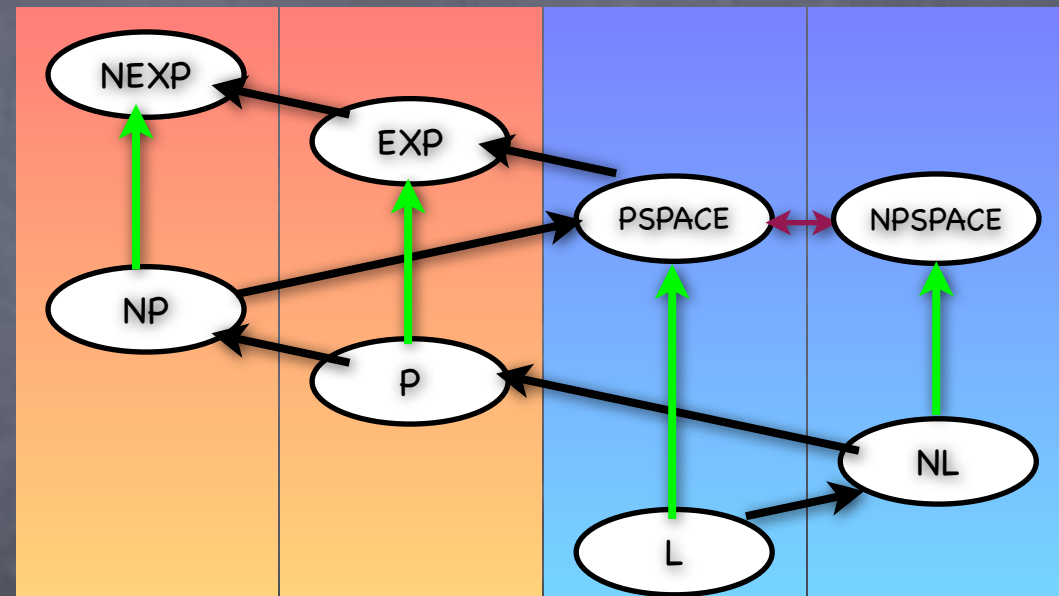
Lecture 6  
NL-Completeness and  $NL=co-NL$

# Story, so far



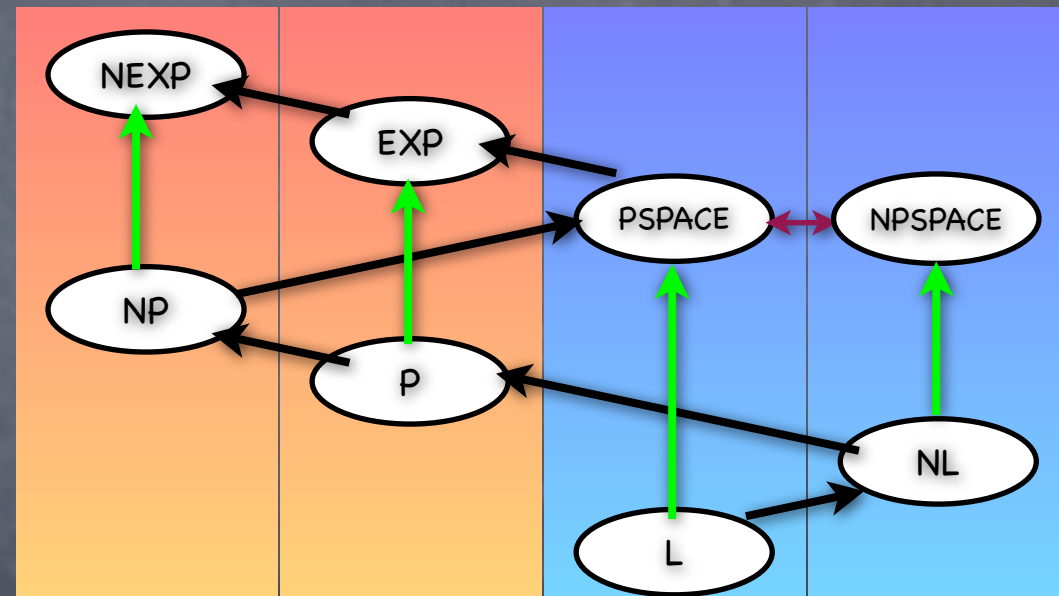
# Story, so far

- Time/Space Hierarchies



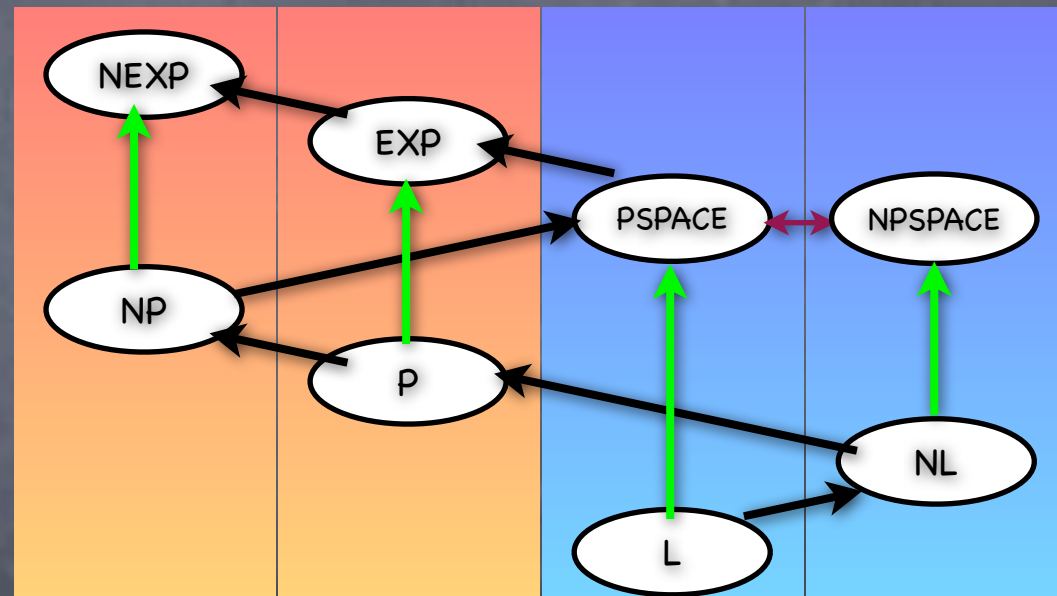
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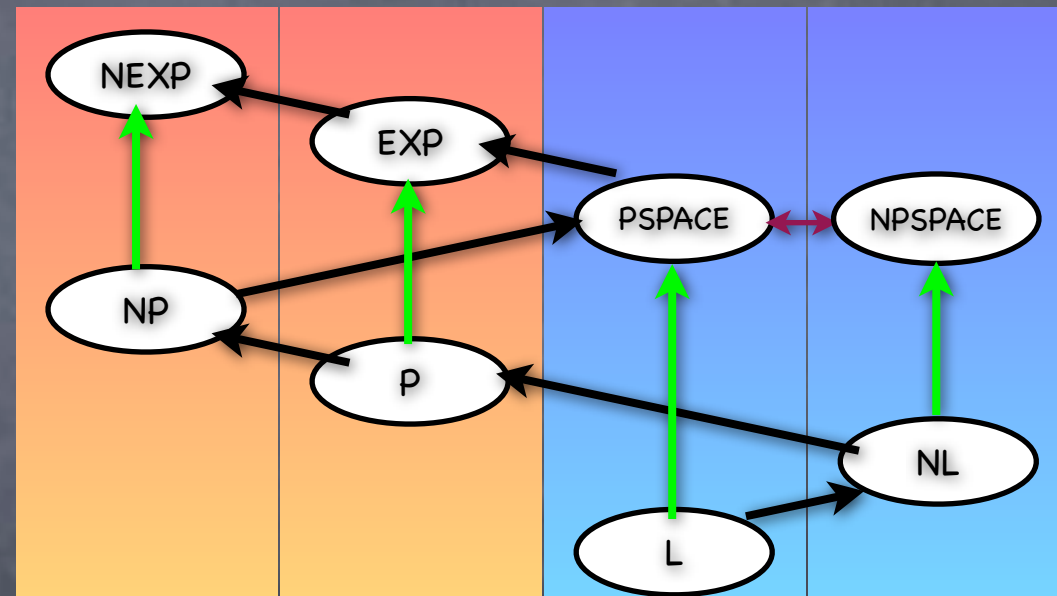
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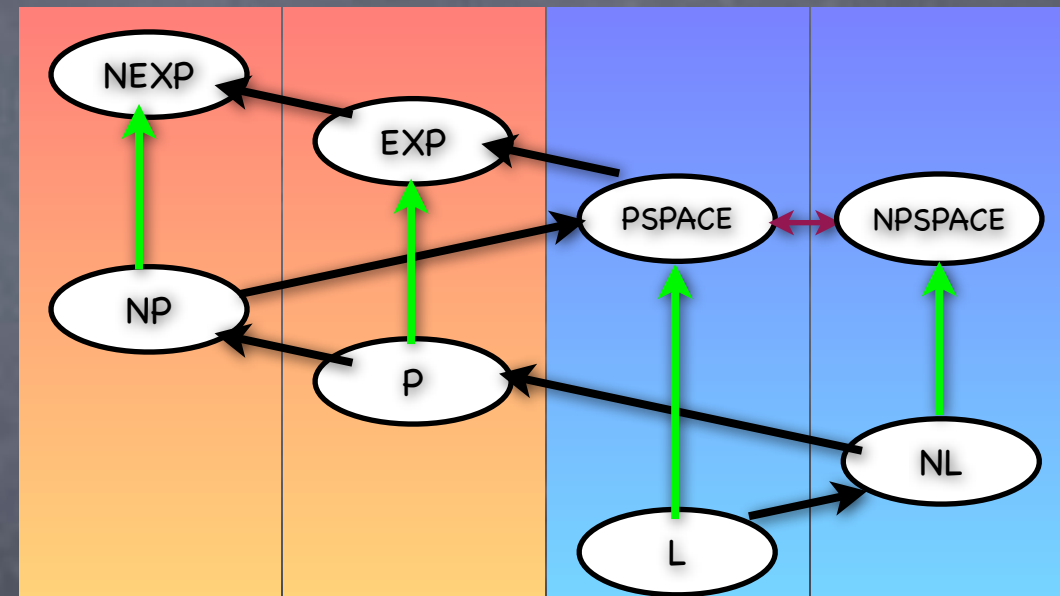
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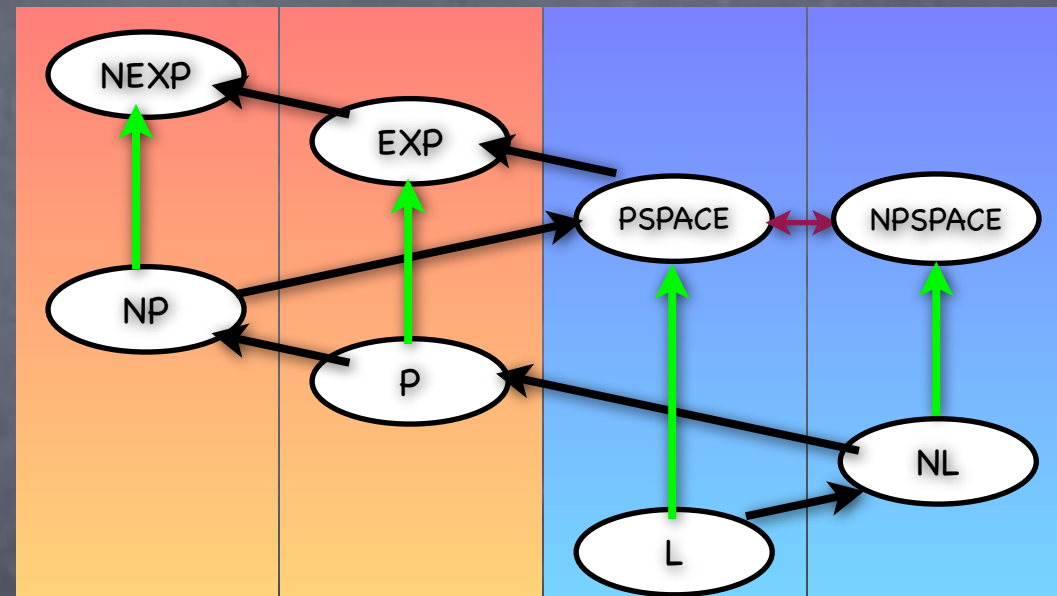
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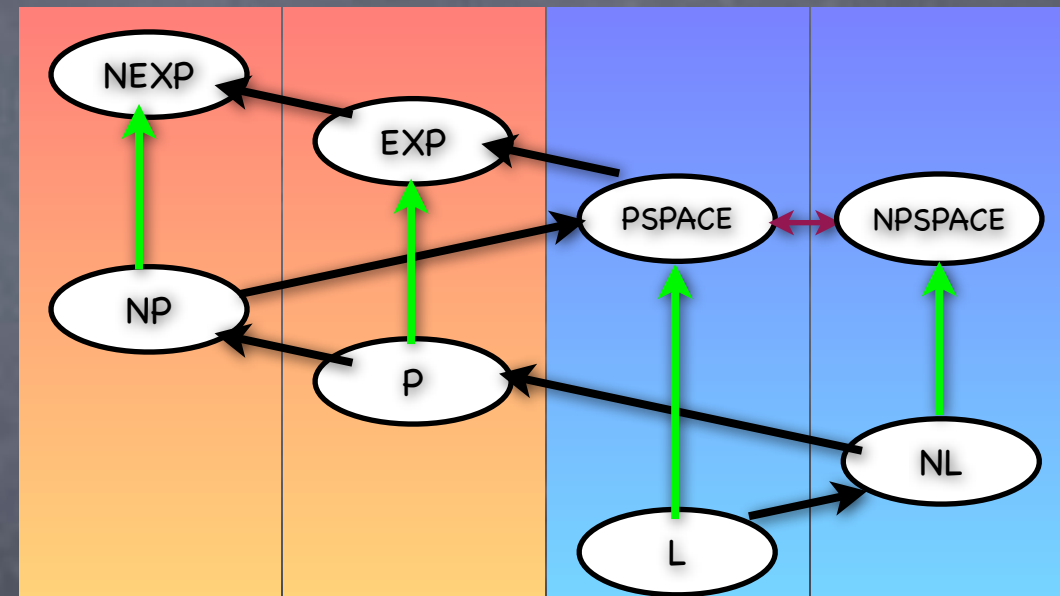
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- Time/Space Hierarchies
- Relations across complexity measures
- SAT is NP-complete, TQBF is PSPACE-complete
- Today
  - Log-space reductions
  - An NL-complete language: PATH
  - NSPACE = co-NSPACE (one less kind to worry about!)



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- Need a tighter notion of reduction to capture “(almost) as hard as it gets” within  $X$

# Log-Space Reduction



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Not suitable  
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  - Implies  $\text{co-NL} = \text{NL}$  (why?)
    - If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $\text{co-}Y \subseteq \text{co-}X$ . Consider  $X = \text{NL}$ ,  $Y = \text{co-NL}$ .



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  - $PATH^c \in NL$  implies an NTM that decides if the instance is in  $PATH^c$  in  $NSPACE(\log N) = NSPACE(S)$



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# If $PATH \in co-NL$

- In fact,  $PATH \in co-NL$  implies  $co-NSPACE(S) = NSPACE(S)$ 
  - Recall:  $O(S)$ -space reduction from  $L \in NSPACE(S)$  to  $PATH$ 
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- And indeed,  $\text{PATH} \in \text{co-NL}$ !
  - There is a (polynomial sized) certificate that can be verified in log-space, that there is no path from  $s$  to  $t$  in a graph  $G$

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    - List has  $|C|$  many  $v \in C$ , without repeating

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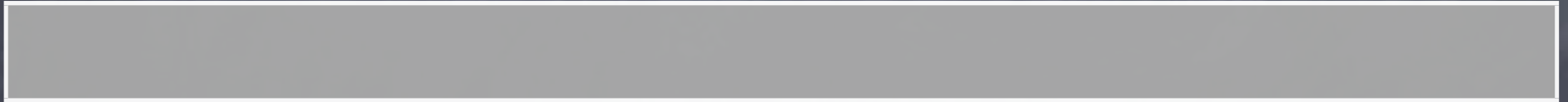
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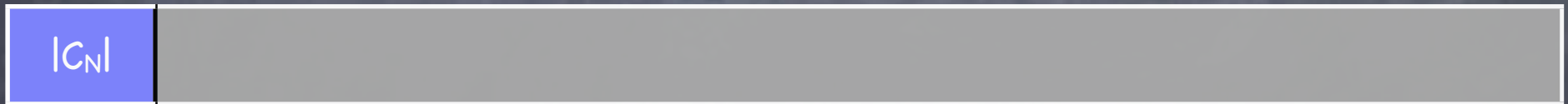
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- **Certificate that  $v \notin C_i$  given (i.e., believing)  $|C_{i-1}|$** : list of all vertices in  $C_{i-1}$  in order, with certificates. As before verify  $C_{i-1}$  believing  $|C_{i-1}|$  (scan and ensure list is correct/complete), but also check that no node in the list has  $v$  as a neighbor

Certificate for  $t \notin C_N$

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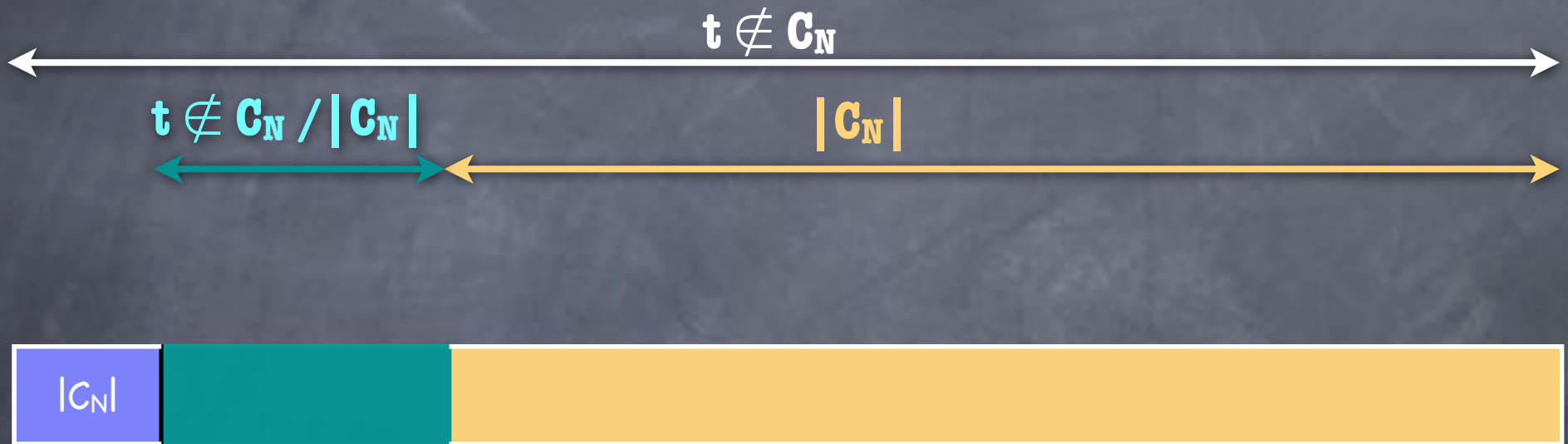


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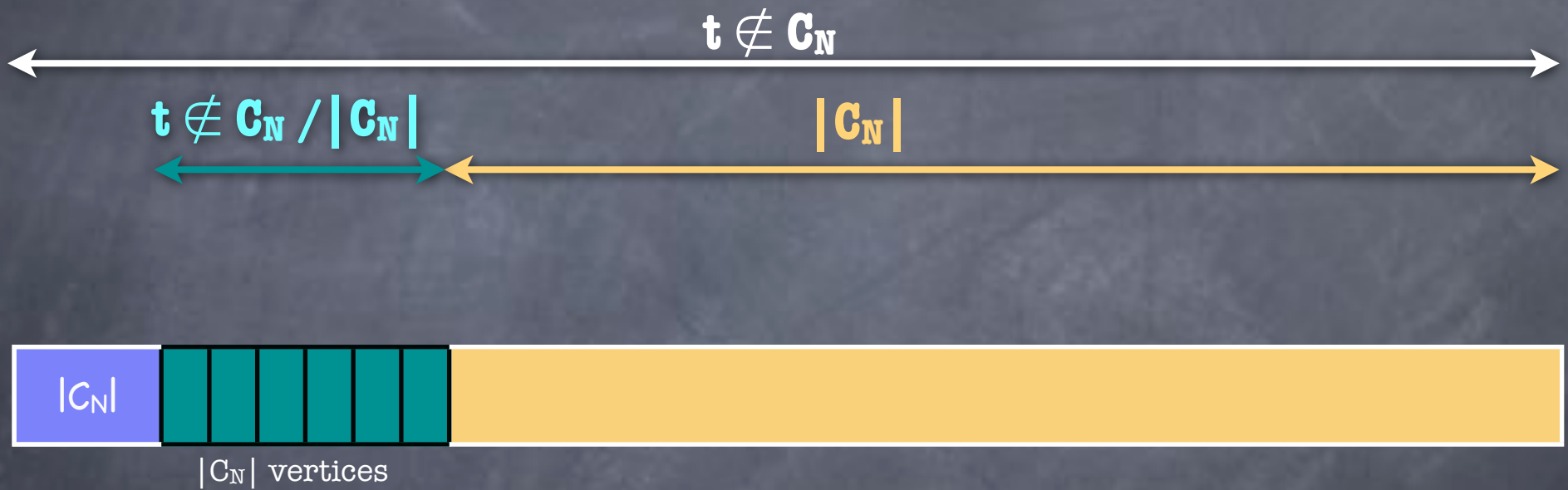




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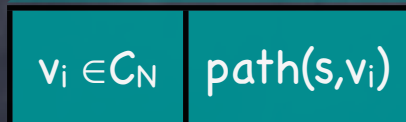
# Certificate for $t \notin C_N$



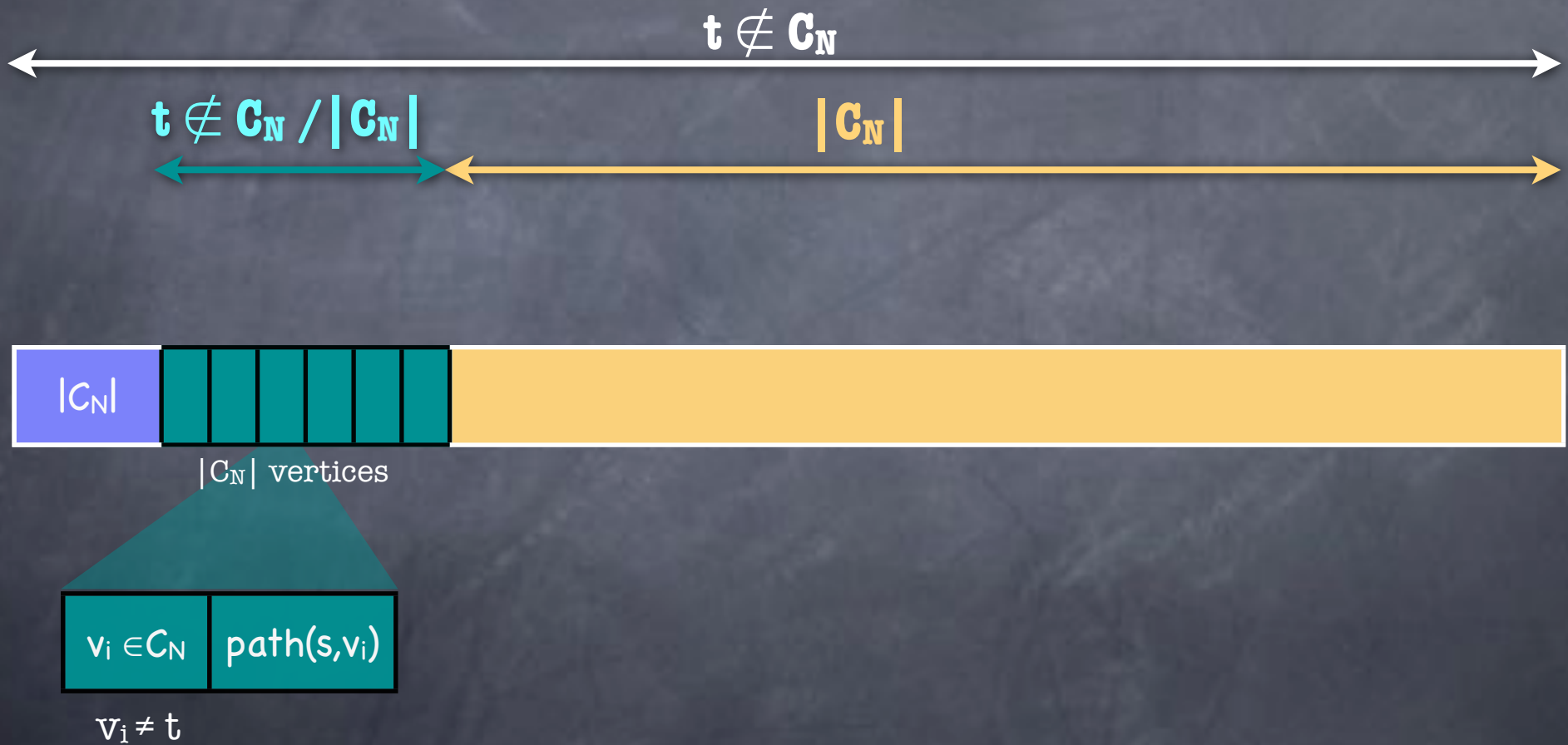
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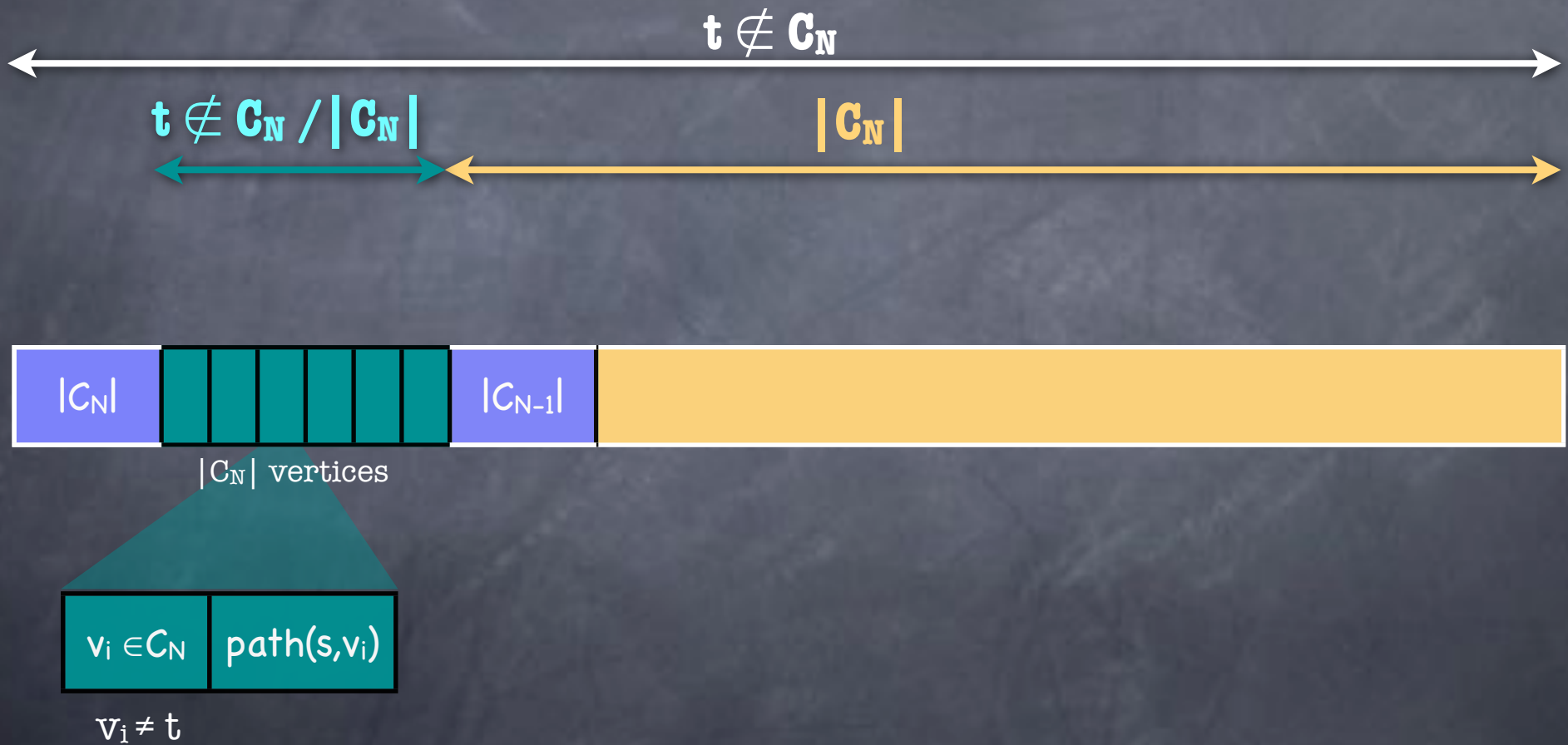
$|C_N|$  vertices



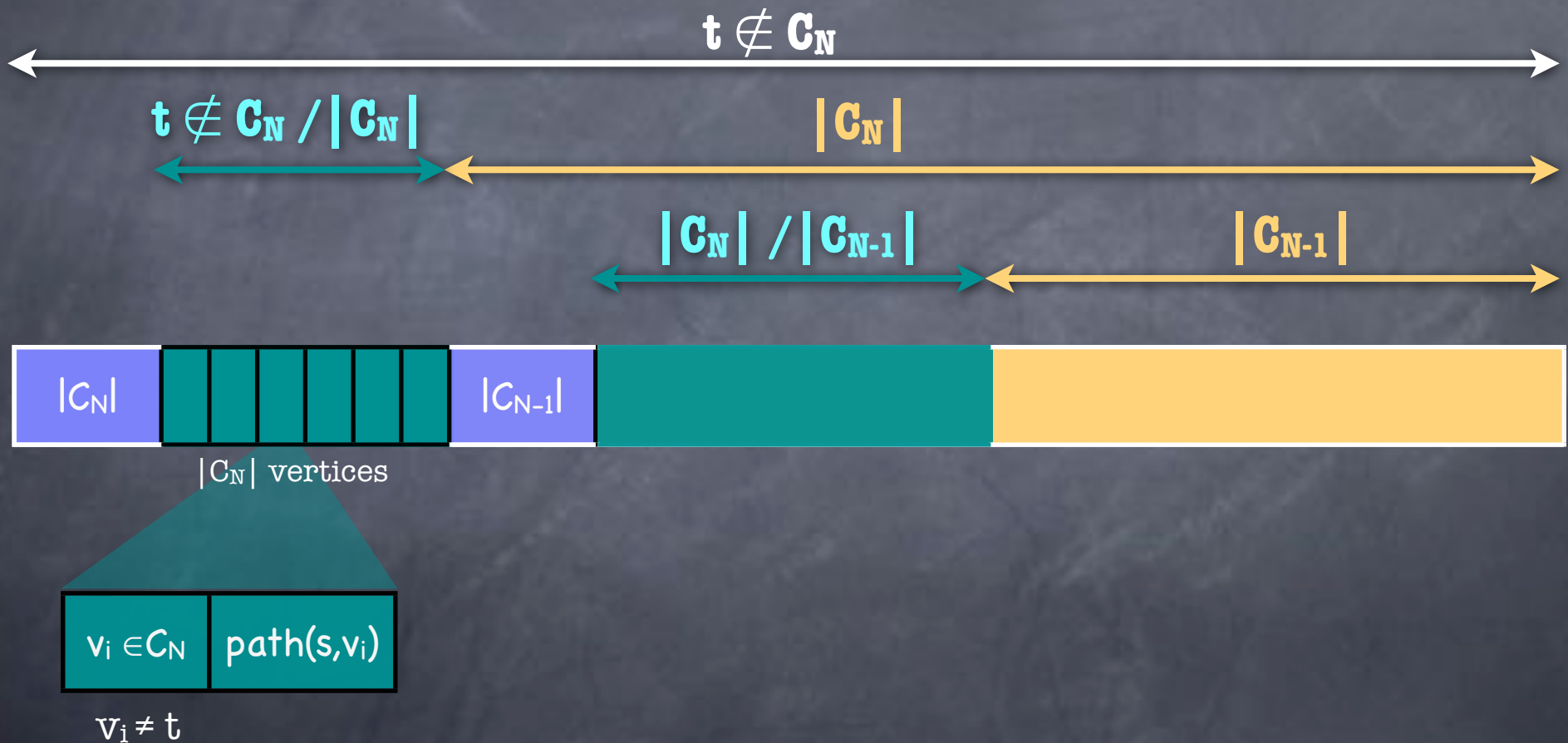
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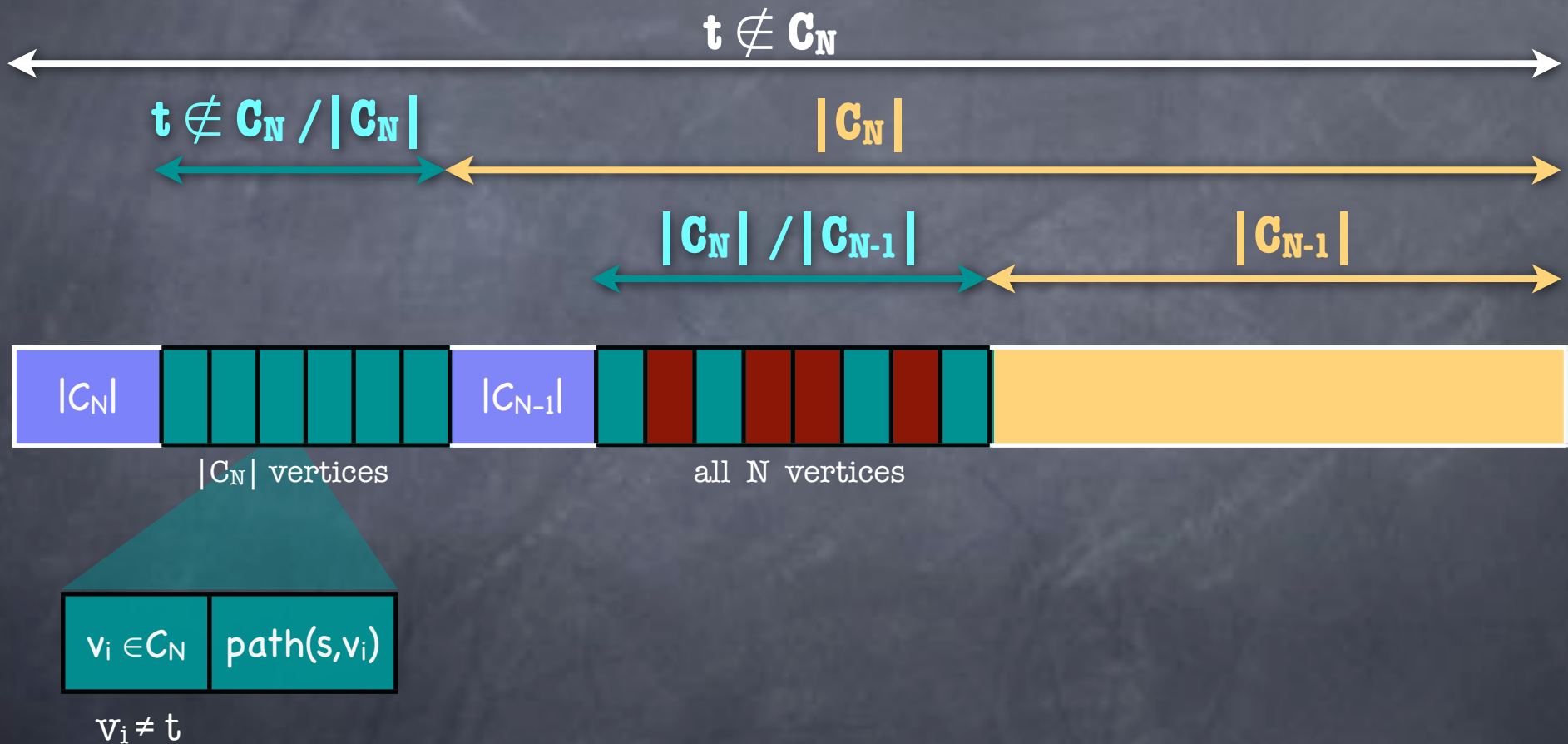


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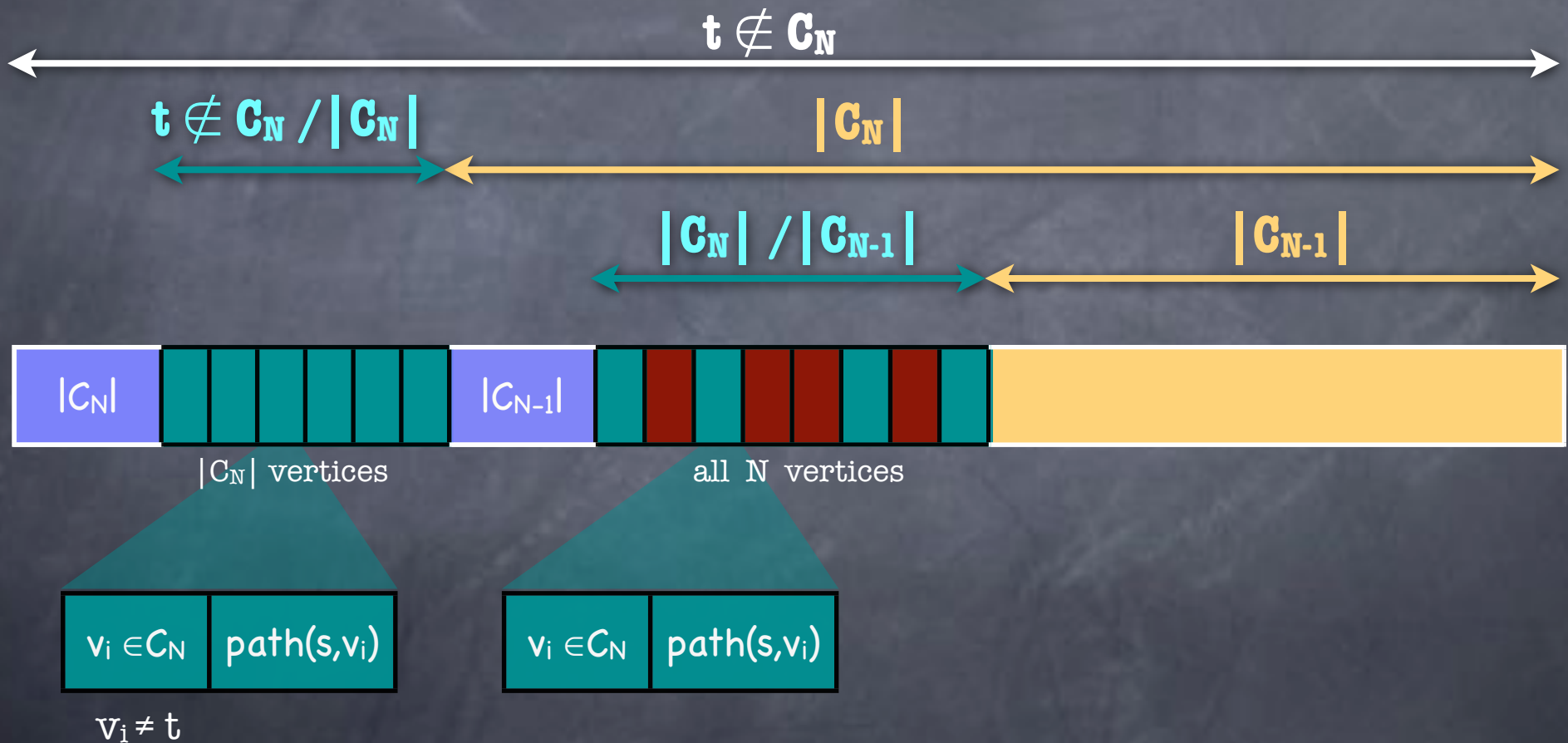




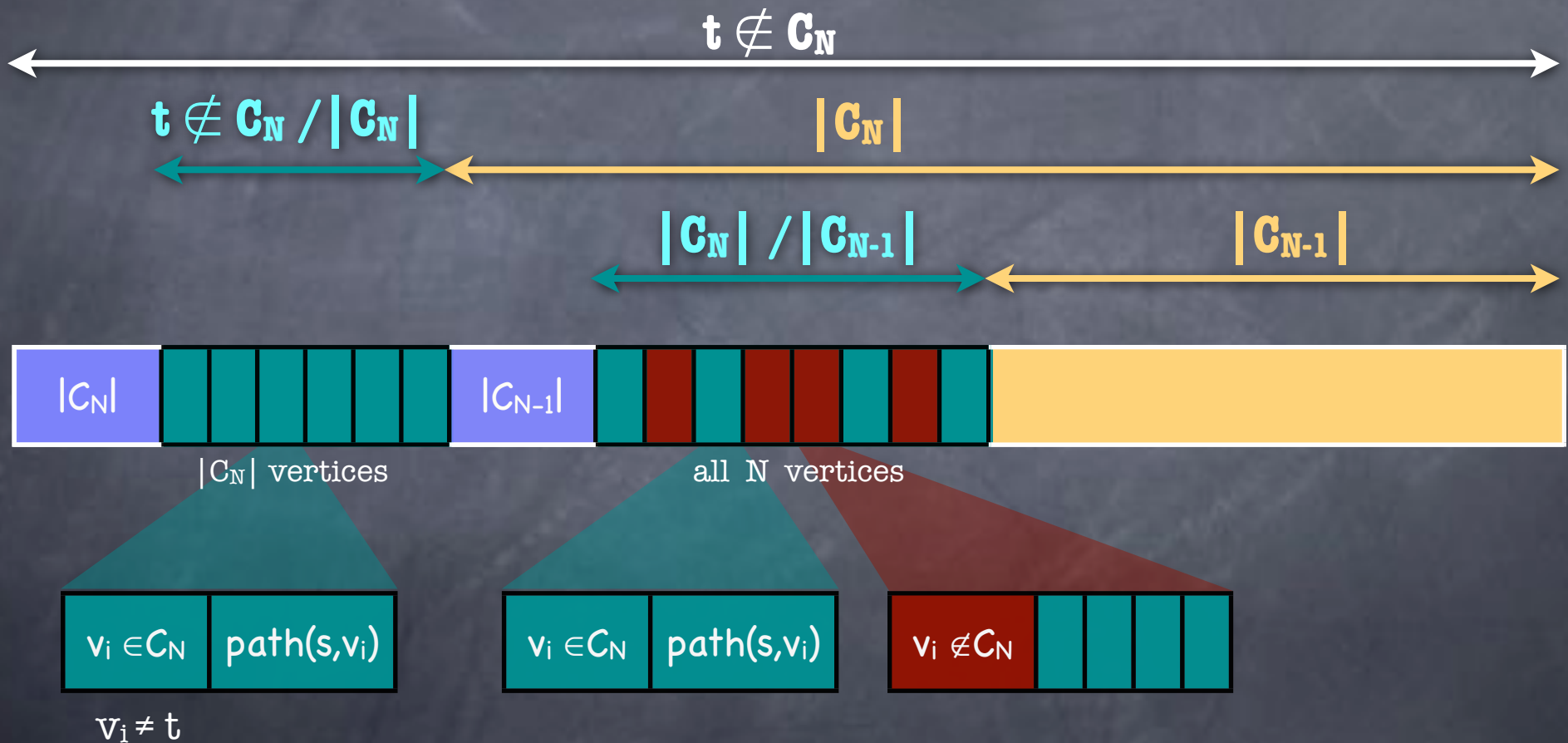
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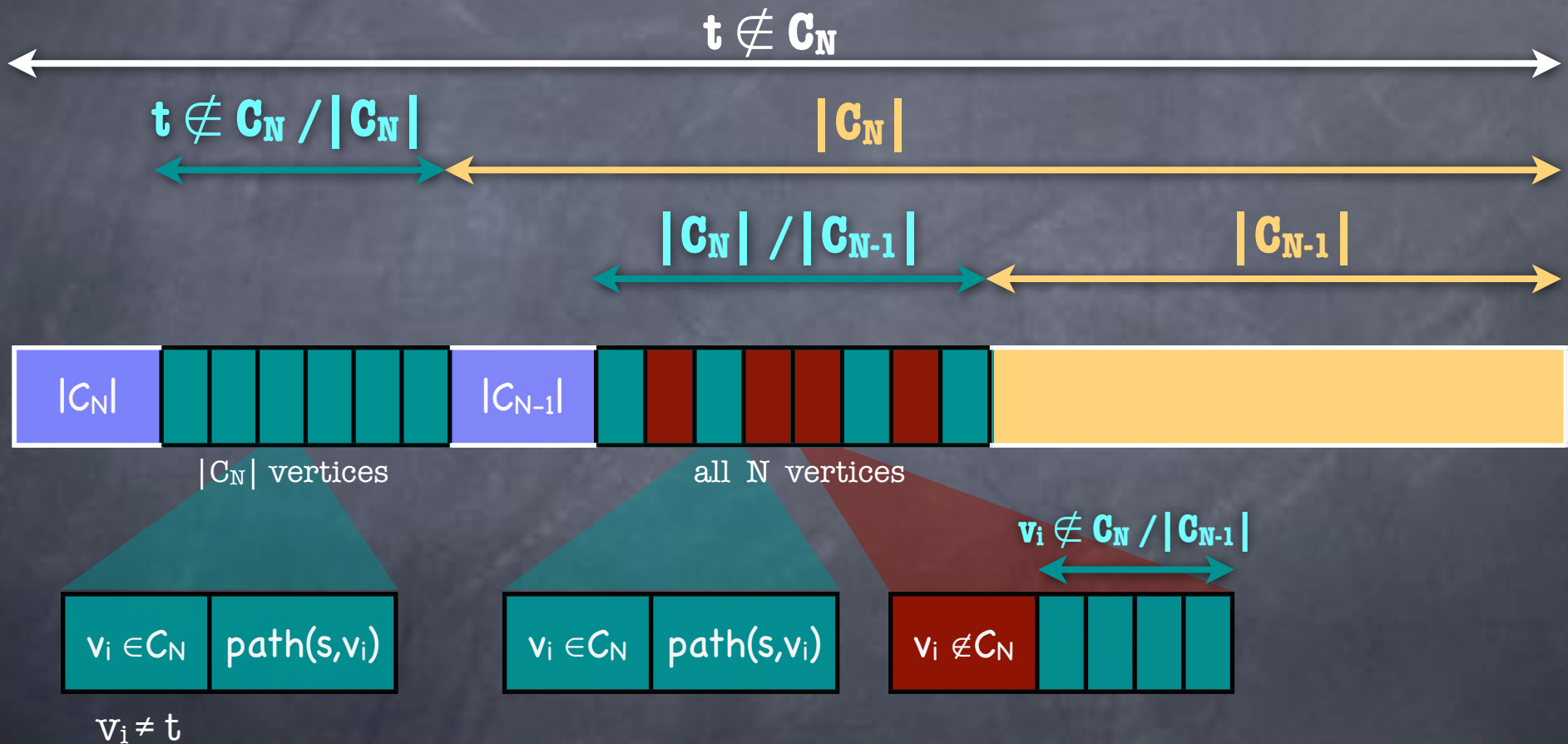
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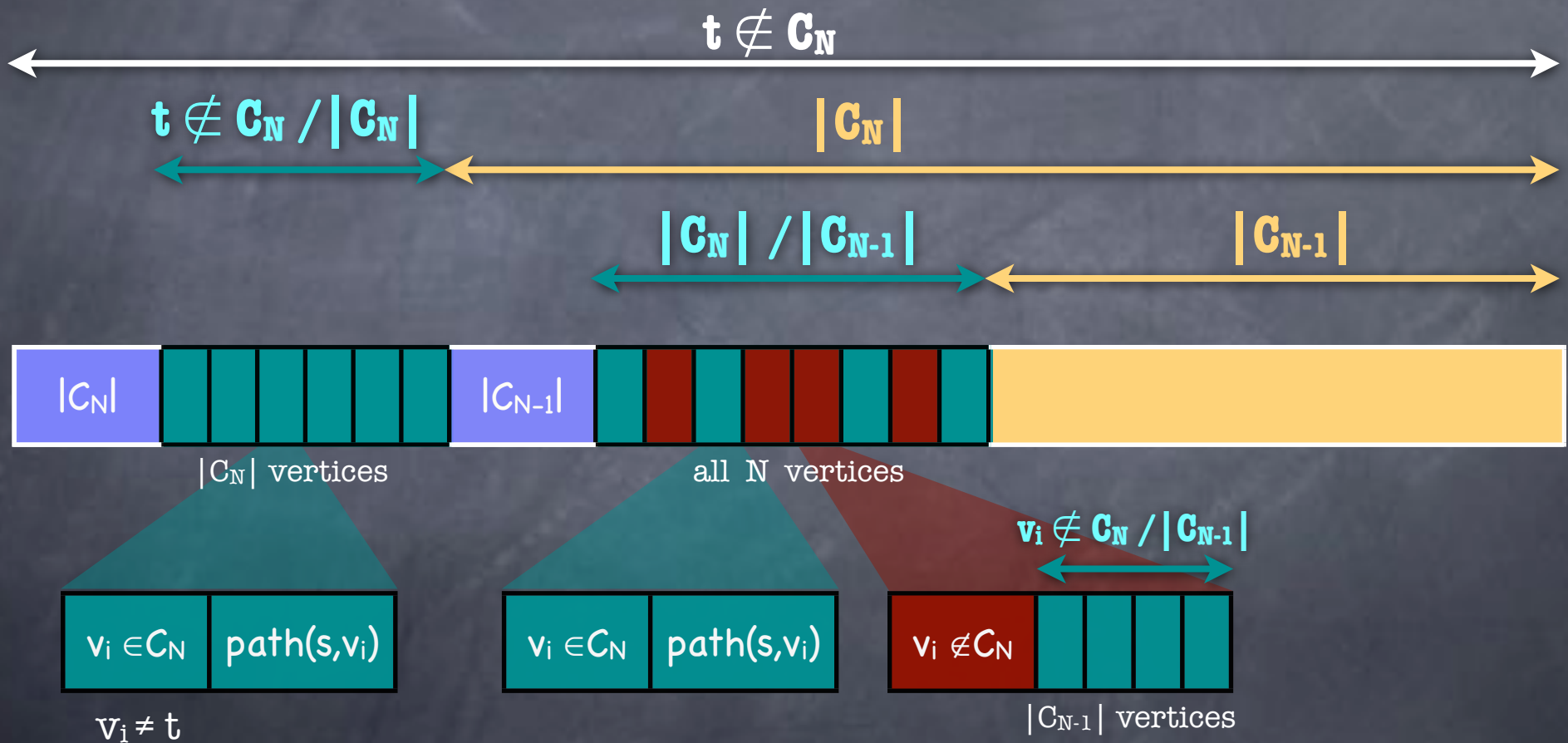
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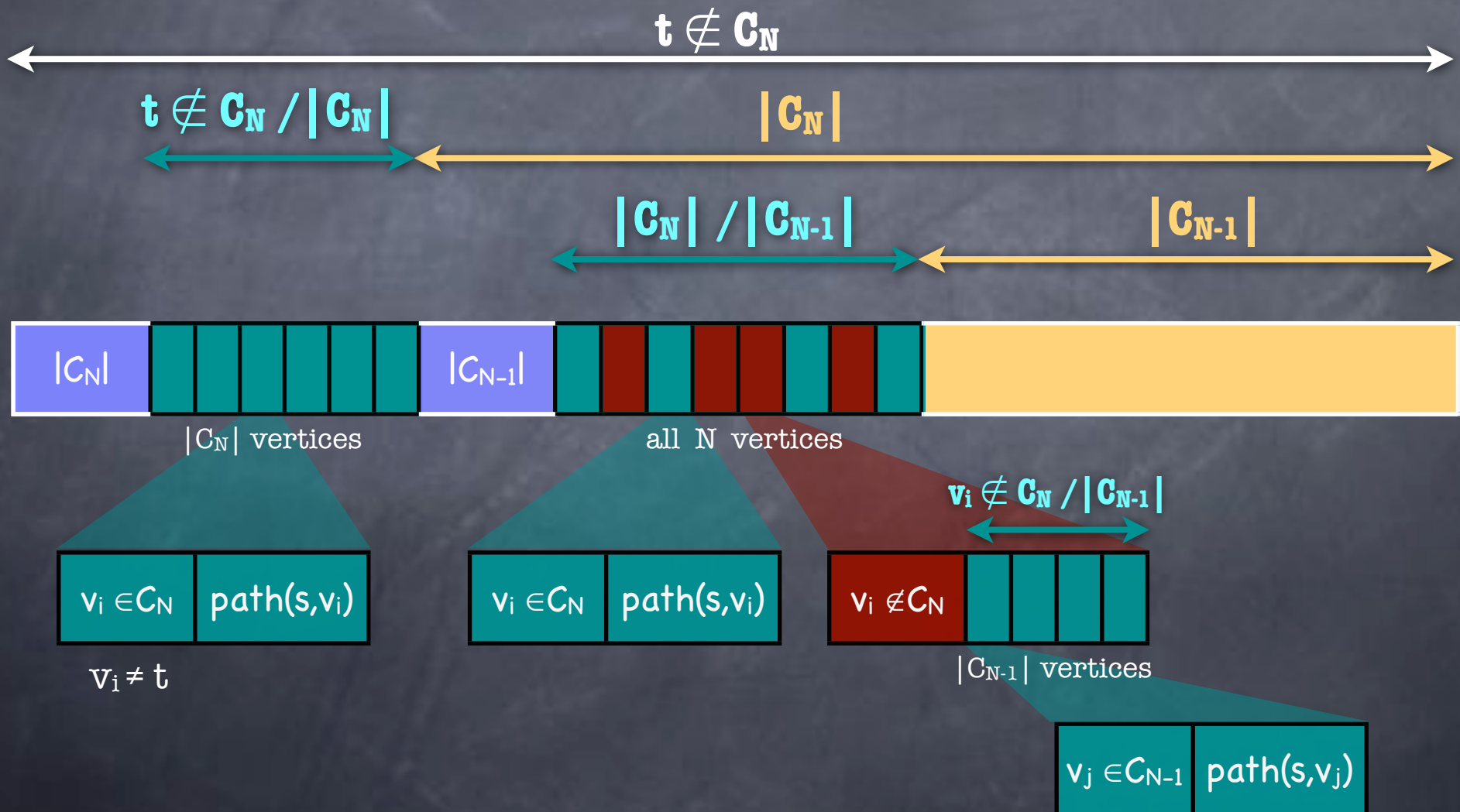
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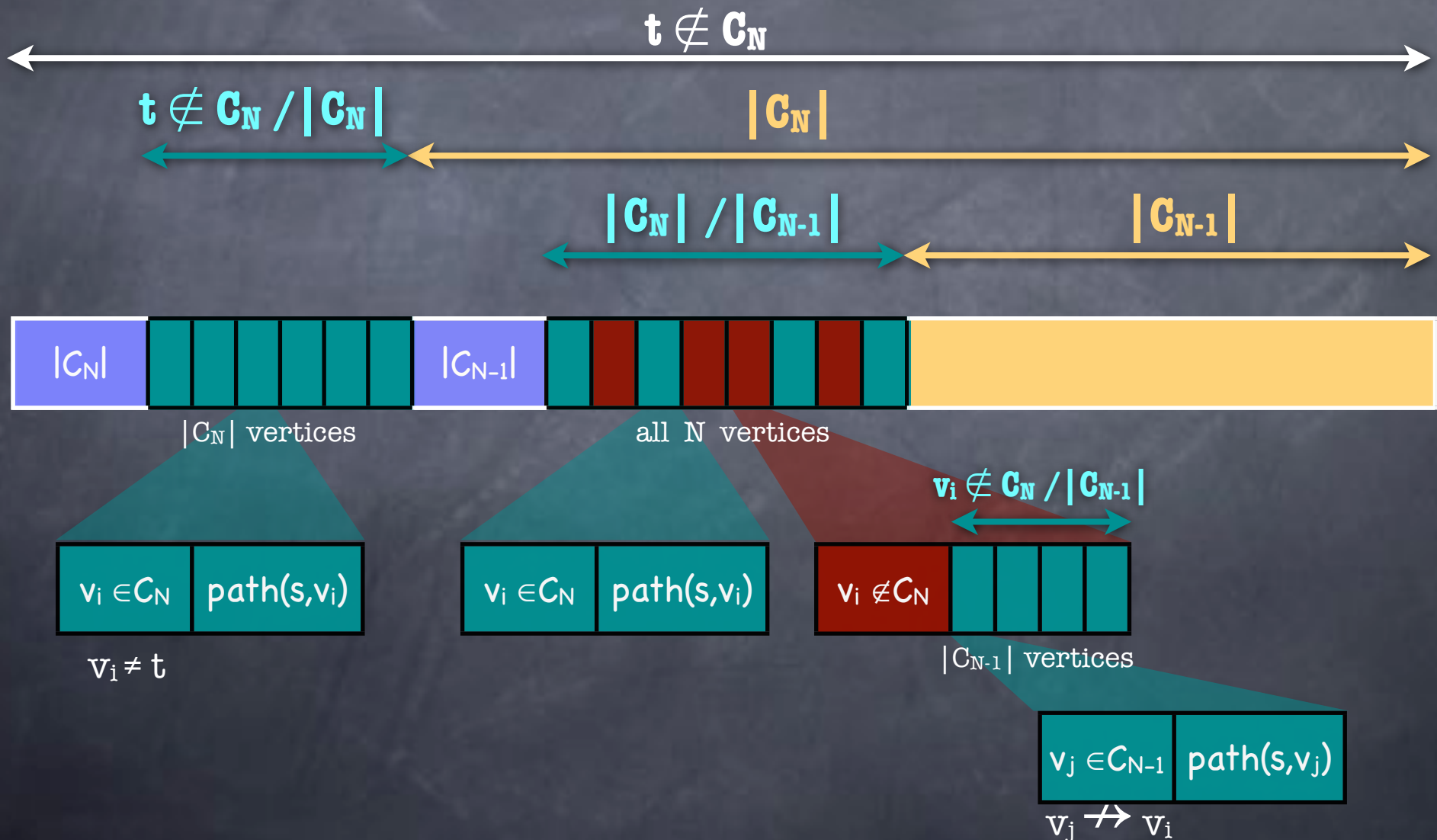


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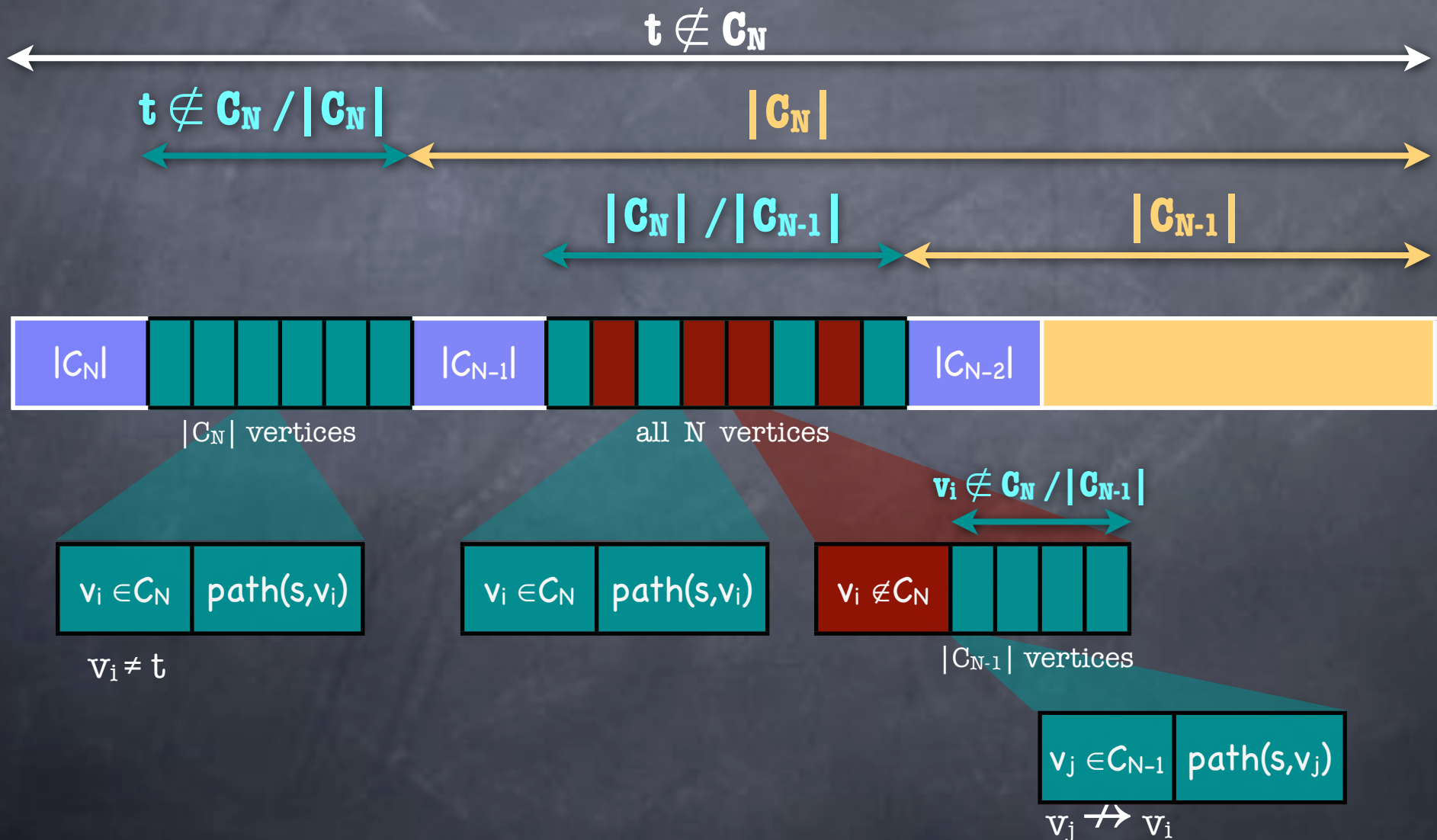




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