

# Thread-Safe Built-in Collections for Dynamic Languages

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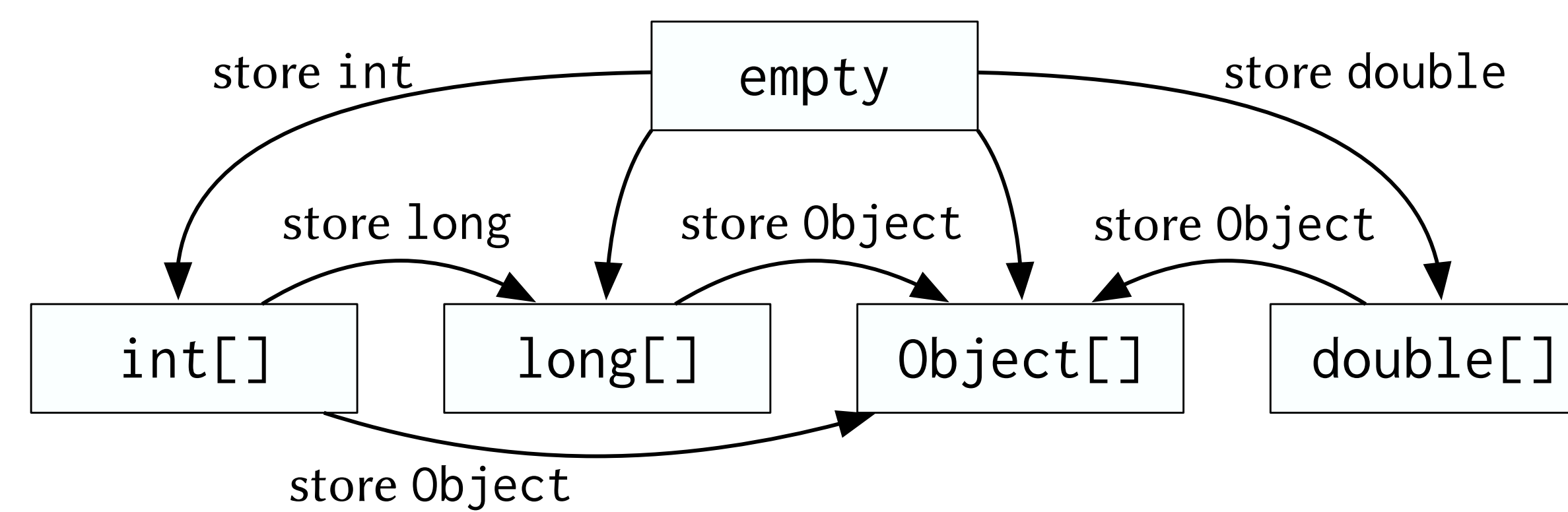
## Thread-Safety Problems

```
array = []
# Create 100 threads
100.times.map {
  Thread.new {
    # Append 1000 integers to the array
    1000.times { |i|
      array << i
    }
  }
}.each { |thread| thread.join }
puts array.size
```

MRI, with a GIL:  
ruby append.rb  
100000

JRuby, with concurrent threads:  
jruby append.rb  
**ConcurrencyError:** Detected invalid array contents due to unsynchronized modifications  
<< at org/jruby/RubyArray.java:1256

## Storage Strategies

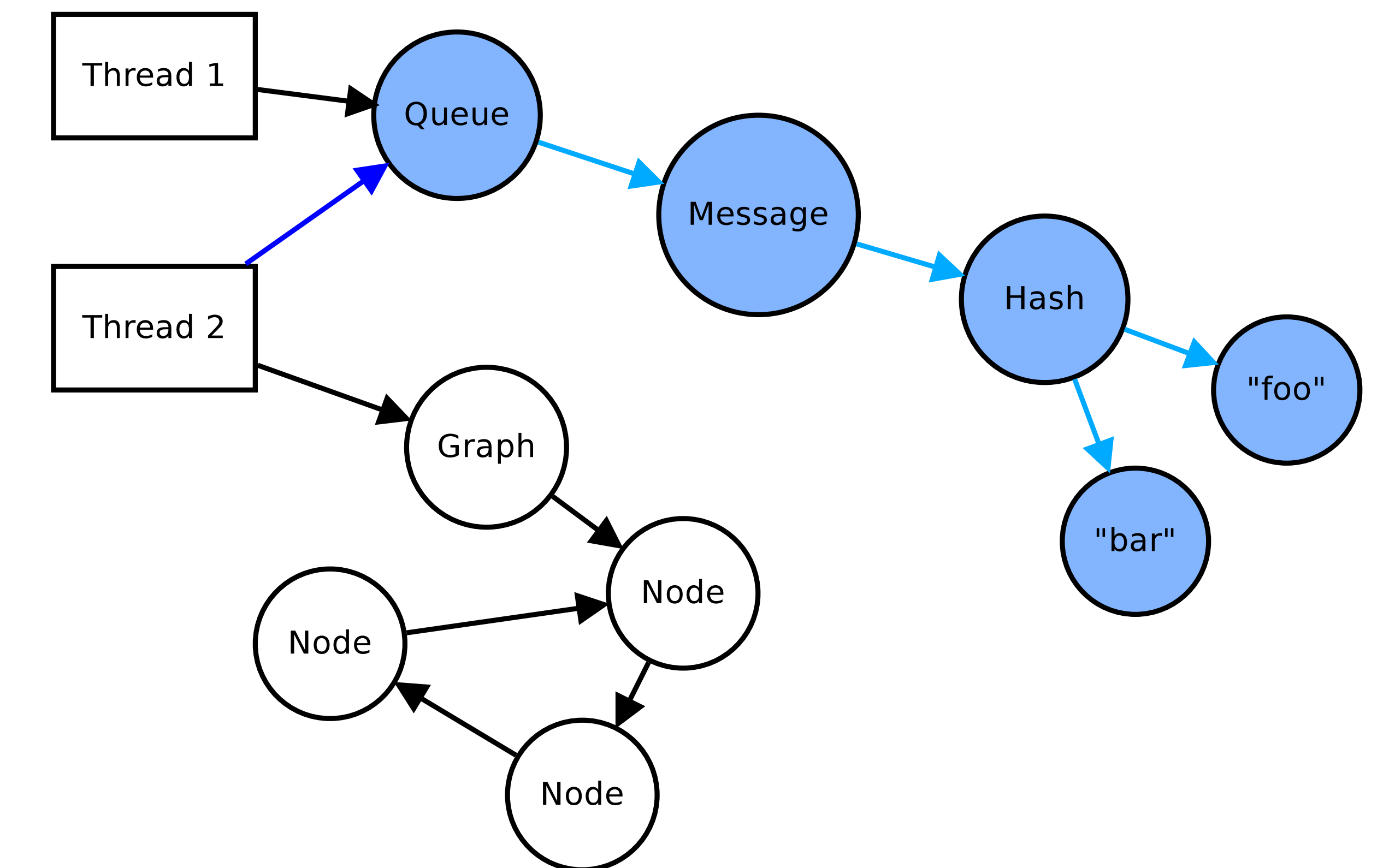


```
array = [] # empty
array << 1 # int[]
array << 2**42 # long[]
array[0] = "Hi" # Object[]

Array.new(42, 0.0) # double[]
```

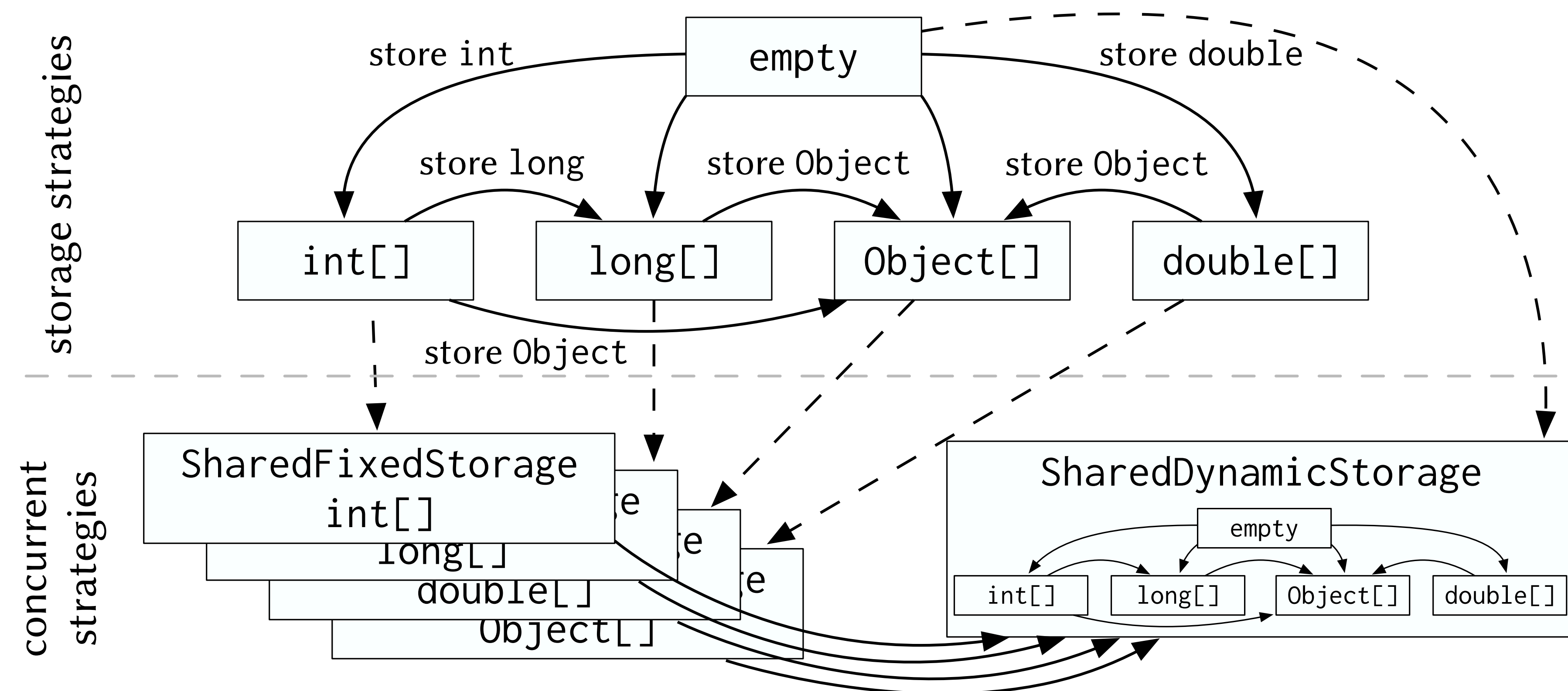
Storage Strategies for Collections in Dynamically Typed Languages, Bolz, Diekmann and Tratt, OOPSLA'13

## Tracking sharing of collections



Efficient and Thread-Safe Objects for Dynamically-Typed Languages, Daloze, Marr, Bonetta and Mössenböck, OOPSLA'16

## Idea: Concurrent Strategies



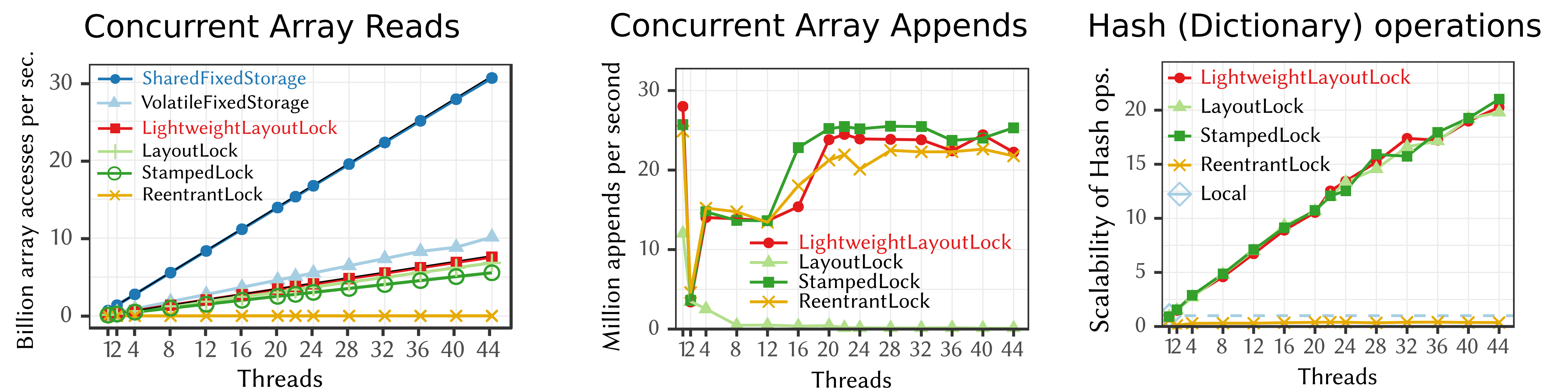
← storage transition  
← on sharing

internal storage change: <<, delete, etc

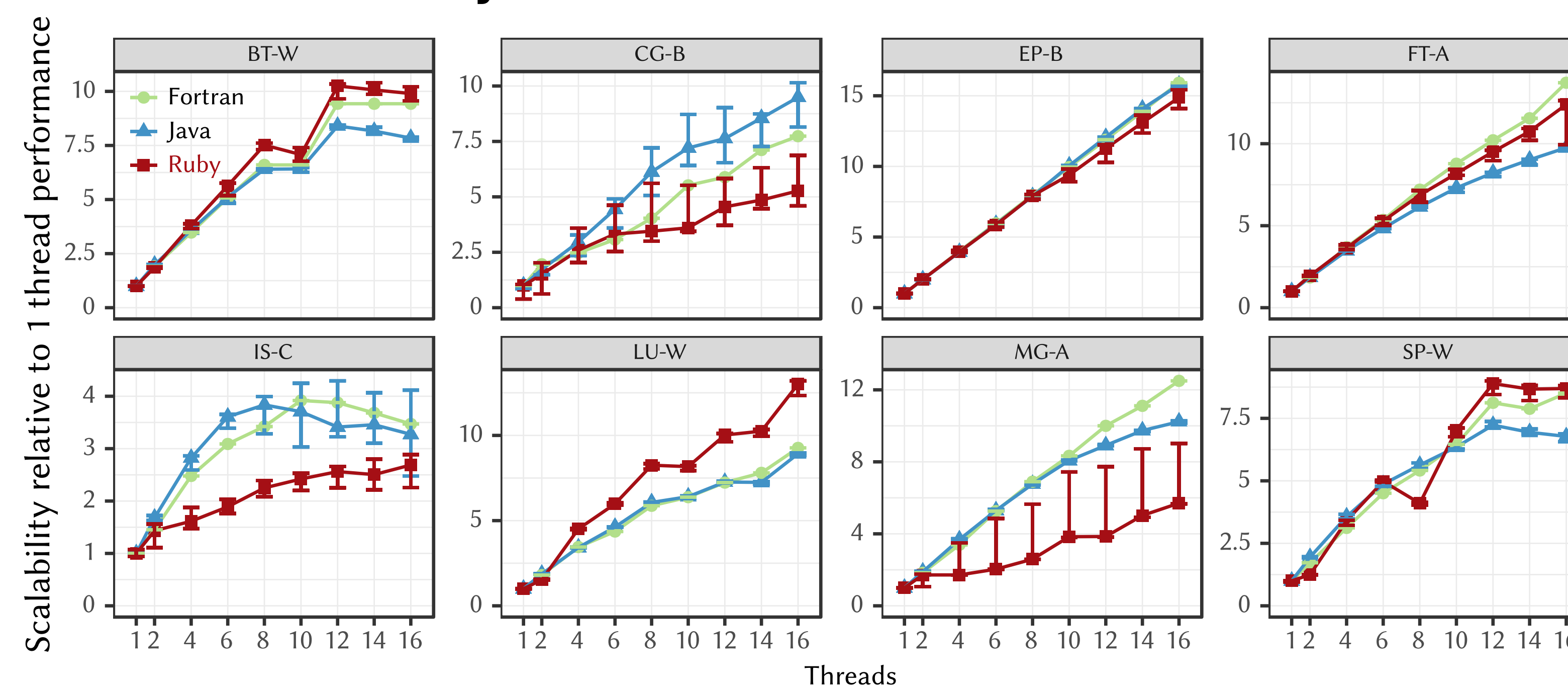
```
array = [1, 2, 3, 4] # int[]
$global = array # => SharedFixedStorage(int[])
$global[0] = $global[-1] # OK

# these migrate to SharedDynamicStorage:
array[1] = Object.new
array << 5
array.delete_at(2)
```

## Performance and Scalability ↑ Higher is better



## Scalability on NAS Parallel Benchmarks



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