

ACCOUNTING INVARIANT

Strong: Prove that bank account is always non-negative

Sufficient: Prove that savings can cover every expensive operation

(typically, quantify bank credits as a function of the data structure)

examples

• multipop: credits in bank = #elements in stack

• binary counter: credits in bank = #1's in counter

• dynamic arrays: credits in bank when we double = #elements in array
= 2 · (#new elements since last expansion) ↗