


# Ribbon Proofs for Separation Logic


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# An Axiomatic Basis for Computer Programming

C. A. R. HOARE



Line number	Formal proof	Justification
1	$\text{true} \supset x = x + y \times 0$	Lemma 1
2	$x = x + y \times 0 \{r := x\} x = r + y \times 0$	D0
3	$x = r + y \times 0 \{q := 0\} x = r + y \times q$	D0
4	$\text{true} \{r := x\} x = r + y \times 0$	D1 (1, 2)
5	$\text{true} \{r := x; q := 0\} x = r + y \times q$	D2 (4, 3)
6	$x = r + y \times q \wedge y \leq r \supset x =$ $(r - y) + y \times (1 + q)$	Lemma 2
7	$x = (r - y) + y \times (1 + q) \{r := r - y\} x =$ $r + y \times (1 + q)$	D0
8	$x = r + y \times (1 + q) \{q := 1 + q\} x =$ $r + y \times q$	D0
9	$x = (r - y) + y \times (1 + q) \{r := r - y;$ $q := 1 + q\} x = r + y \times q$	D2 (7, 8)
10	$x = r + y \times q \wedge y \leq r \{r := r - y;$ $q := 1 + q\} x = r + y \times q$	D1 (6, 9)
11	$x = r + y \times q \{\text{while } y \leq r \text{ do}$ $(r := r - y; q := 1 + q)\}$ $\neg y \leq r \wedge x = r + y \times q$	D3 (10)
12	$\text{true} \{((r := x; q := 0); \text{while } y \leq r \text{ do}$ $(r := r - y; q := 1 + q))\} \neg y \leq r \wedge x =$ $r + y \times q$	D2 (5, 11)

**begin**

**comment** This program operates on an array  $A[1:N]$ , and a value of  $f$  ( $1 \leq f \leq N$ ). Its effect is to rearrange the elements of  $A$  in such a way that:

$\forall p, q (1 \leq p \leq f \leq q \leq N \supset A[p] \leq A[f] \leq A[q]);$

**integer**  $m, n;$  **comment**

$m \leq f \ \& \ \forall p, q (1 \leq p < m \leq q \leq N \supset A[p] \leq A[q]),$   
 $f \leq n \ \& \ \forall p, q (1 \leq p \leq n < q \leq N \supset A[p] \leq A[q]);$

$m := 1; \ n := N;$

**while**  $m < n$  **do**

**begin integer**  $r, i, j, w;$

**comment**

$m \leq i \ \& \ \forall p (1 \leq p < i \supset A[p] \leq r),$   
 $j \leq n \ \& \ \forall q (j < q \leq N \supset r \leq A[q]);$

$r := A[f]; \ i := m; \ j := n;$

**while**  $i \leq j$  **do**

**begin while**  $A[i] < r$  **do**  $i := i + 1;$

**while**  $r < A[j]$  **do**  $j := j - 1$

**comment**  $A[j] \leq r \leq A[i];$

**if**  $i \leq j$  **then**

**begin**  $w := A[i]; \ A[i] := A[j]; \ A[j] := w;$

**comment**  $A[i] \leq r \leq A[j];$

$i := i + 1; \ j := j - 1;$

**end**

**end increase**  $i$  **and decrease**  $j;$

**if**  $f \leq j$  **then**  $n := j$

**else if**  $i \leq f$  **then**  $m := i$

**else go to**  $L$

**end reduce middle part;**

$L:$

**end Find**

Communications of the ACM

January, 1971

## Proof of a Program: FIND

C. A. R. HOARE

Queen's University,\* Belfast, Ireland

Acta Informatica 6, 319—340 (1976)

# An Axiomatic Proof Technique for Parallel Programs I\*

Susan Owicki and David Gries



$\{x=0\}$

**S: cobegin**  $\{x=0\}$

$\{x=0 \vee x=2\}$

**S1: await true then**  $x := x + 1$

$\{Q1: x=1 \vee x=3\}$

//

$\{x=0\}$

$\{x=0 \vee x=1\}$

**S2: await true then**  $x := x + 2$

$\{Q2: x=2 \vee x=3\}$

**coend**

$\{(x=1 \vee x=3) \wedge (x=2 \vee x=3)\}$

$\{x=3\}$

## Separation Logic: A Logic for Shared Mutable Data Structures

John C. Reynolds\*

$$\{\exists \alpha, \beta. (\text{list } \alpha (i, \text{nil}) * \text{list } \beta (j, \text{nil}))$$

$$\wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = \alpha^\dagger \cdot \beta \wedge i \neq \text{nil}\}$$

$$\{\exists a, \alpha, \beta. (\text{list } a \cdot \alpha (i, \text{nil}) * \text{list } \beta (j, \text{nil}))$$

$$\wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = (a \cdot \alpha)^\dagger \cdot \beta\}$$

$$\{\exists a, \alpha, \beta, k. (i \mapsto a, k * \text{list } \alpha (k, \text{nil}) * \text{list } \beta (j, \text{nil}))$$

$$\wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = (a \cdot \alpha)^\dagger \cdot \beta\}$$

$$k := [i + 1];$$

$$\{\exists a, \alpha, \beta. (i \mapsto a, k * \text{list } \alpha (k, \text{nil}) * \text{list } \beta (j, \text{nil}))$$

$$\wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = (a \cdot \alpha)^\dagger \cdot \beta\}$$

$$[i + 1] := j;$$

$$\{\exists a, \alpha, \beta. (i \mapsto a, j * \text{list } \alpha (k, \text{nil}) * \text{list } \beta (j, \text{nil}))$$

$$\wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = (a \cdot \alpha)^\dagger \cdot \beta\}$$

$$\{\exists a, \alpha, \beta. (\text{list } \alpha (k, \text{nil}) * \text{list } a \cdot \beta (i, \text{nil}))$$

$$\wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = \alpha^\dagger \cdot a \cdot \beta\}$$

$$\{\exists \alpha, \beta. (\text{list } \alpha (k, \text{nil}) * \text{list } \beta (i, \text{nil})) \wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = \alpha^\dagger \cdot \beta\}$$

$$j := i; i := k$$

$$\{\exists \alpha, \beta. (\text{list } \alpha (i, \text{nil}) * \text{list } \beta (j, \text{nil})) \wedge \alpha_0^\dagger = \alpha^\dagger \cdot \beta\}.$$


# Ribbon proofs are...

- ▶ an alternative to **proof outlines**
- ▶ **readable, flexible, and attractive**
- ▶ applicable to **separation logic** (and descendants)
- ▶ less **repetitive** than proof outlines, so more **scalable**

Tiny example

[x] := 1 ;

[y] := 1 ;

[z] := 1 ;



$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{x}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{y}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{z}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 1 \}$$

$$\{x \mapsto 0 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$
$$[x] := 1;$$
$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$
$$[y] := 1;$$
$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 0\}$$
$$[z] := 1;$$
$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 1\}$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{x}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{y}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{z}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 1 \}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{frame} \\
\mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0
\end{array}
\left[
\begin{array}{l}
\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \} \\
[\mathbf{x}] := 1; \\
\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \} \\
\{ \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 \} \\
[\mathbf{y}] := 1; \\
\{ \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 \} \\
\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \} \\
[\mathbf{z}] := 1; \\
\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 1 \}
\end{array}
\right]
\begin{array}{l}
\text{small axiom} \\
\text{for heap update}
\end{array}$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{x}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 0 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{y}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 0 \}$$

$$[\mathbf{z}] := 1;$$

$$\{ \mathbf{x} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{y} \mapsto 1 * \mathbf{z} \mapsto 1 \}$$

```

mchunkptr b, p;
idx += ~smallbits & 1; /* Uses next bin if idx empty */

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \exists\{U_i \mid i \in [0, 63)\}, n. arena(A_a \uplus (\biguplus_{i=0}^{64}. U_i)_u) * least\_addr = 5w \\ * nw = \lceil bytes \rceil_w * 8idx \geq (n+1)w * 2 \leq idx < 32 * smallmap_{[idx]} = 1 \\ * *_{i=0}^{32}. smallbin_i(U_i) * *_{i=0}^{32}. treebin_i(U_{i+32}) \end{array} \right\}$$

b = smallbin_at(gm, idx);

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \exists\{U_i \mid i \in [0, 63)\}, n. arena(A_a \uplus (\biguplus_{i=0}^{64}. U_i)_u) * least\_addr = 5w \\ * nw = \lceil bytes \rceil_w * 8idx \geq (n+1)w * 2 \leq idx < 32 * smallmap_{[idx]} = 1 \\ * b = smallbins + 8idx * bin(|idx|, b, U_{idx}) * U_{idx} \neq \{\} \\ * *_{i \in [0..32)-idx}. smallbin_i(U_i) * *_{i=0}^{32}. treebin_i(U_{i+32}) \end{array} \right\}$$

// rename U_idx to U_idx++[p+2w->8idx-1w]

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \exists\{U_i \mid i \in [0, 63)\}, p, n. arena(A_a \uplus (\biguplus_{i=0}^{64}. U_i)_u \uplus \{p + 2w \mapsto_u 8idx - 1w\}) \\ * least\_addr = 5w * nw = \lceil bytes \rceil_w * 8idx \geq (n+1)w * 2 \leq idx < 32 \\ * smallmap_{[idx]} = 1 * b = smallbins + 8idx \\ * b \xrightarrow{fd} p * p \xrightarrow{bk} b * (bnode |idx|)^*(p, b, U_{idx} \uplus \{p + 2w \mapsto 8idx - 1w\}) \\ * *_{i \in [0..32)-idx}. smallbin_i(U_i) * *_{i=0}^{32}. treebin_i(U_{i+32}) \end{array} \right\}$$

p = b->fd;

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \exists\{U_i \mid i \in [0, 63)\}, n, F. arena(A_a \uplus (\biguplus_{i=0}^{64}. U_i)_u \uplus \{p + 2w \mapsto_u 8idx - 1w\}) \\ * least\_addr = 5w * nw = \lceil bytes \rceil_w * 8idx \geq (n+1)w * 2 \leq idx < 32 \\ * smallmap_{[idx]} = 1 * b = smallbins + 8idx \\ * b \xrightarrow{fd} p * p \xrightarrow{bk} b * \frac{1}{2}(p \xrightarrow{size} 8idx) * p \xrightarrow{fd} F * F \xrightarrow{bk} p * (bnode |idx|)^*(F, b, U_{idx}) \\ * *_{i \in [0..32)-idx}. smallbin_i(U_i) * *_{i=0}^{32}. treebin_i(U_{i+32}) \end{array} \right\}$$

//assert(chunksize(p) == small_index2size(idx));
unlink_first_small_chunk(gm, b, p, idx);

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \exists\{U_i \mid i \in [0, 63)\}, n. arena(A_a \uplus (\biguplus_{i=0}^{64}. U_i)_u \uplus \{p + 2w \mapsto_u 8idx - 1w\}) \\ * least\_addr = 5w * nw = \lceil bytes \rceil_w * 8idx \geq (n+1)w * 2 \leq idx < 32 \\ * \frac{1}{2}(p \xrightarrow{size} 8idx) * p \xrightarrow{fd} \_ * p \xrightarrow{bk} \_ * *_{i=0}^{32}. smallbin_i(U_i) * *_{i=0}^{32}. treebin_i(U_{i+32}) \end{array} \right\}$$


$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \exists\{U_i \mid i \in [0, 63)\}, B_1, B_2, n. coalesced(A_a \uplus (\biguplus_{i=0}^{64}. U_i)_u \uplus \{p + 2w \mapsto_u 8idx - 1w\}) \\ * start \xrightarrow{prevfoot} \_ * start \xrightarrow{pinuse} 1 * ublock(top, top + topsize, \_) \\ * block^*(start, p, B_1) * ublock(p, p + 8idx, \{p + 2w \mapsto_u 8idx - 1w\}) \\ * block^*(p + 8idx, top, B_2) * B_1 \uplus B_2 = A_a \uplus (\biguplus_{i=0}^{64}. U_i)_u \\ * least\_addr = 5w * nw = \lceil bytes \rceil_w * 8idx \geq (n+1)w * 2 \leq idx < 32 \\ * \frac{1}{2}(p \xrightarrow{size} 8idx) * p \xrightarrow{fd} \_ * p \xrightarrow{bk} \_ * *_{i=0}^{32}. smallbin_i(U_i) * *_{i=0}^{32}. treebin_i(U_{i+32}) \end{array} \right\}$$


```

$$\{x \mapsto 0 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

$$[x] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

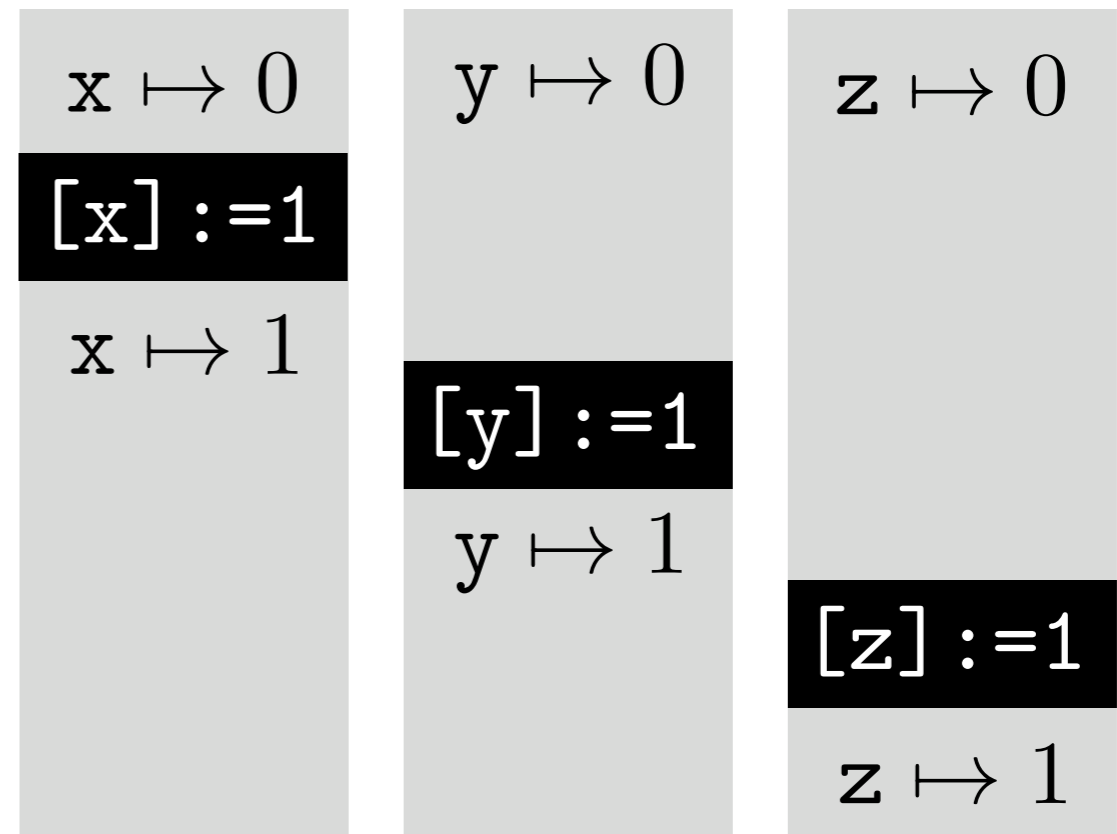
$$[y] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

$$[z] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 1\}$$

A proof outline



A ribbon proof

$$\{x \mapsto 0 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

$$[x] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

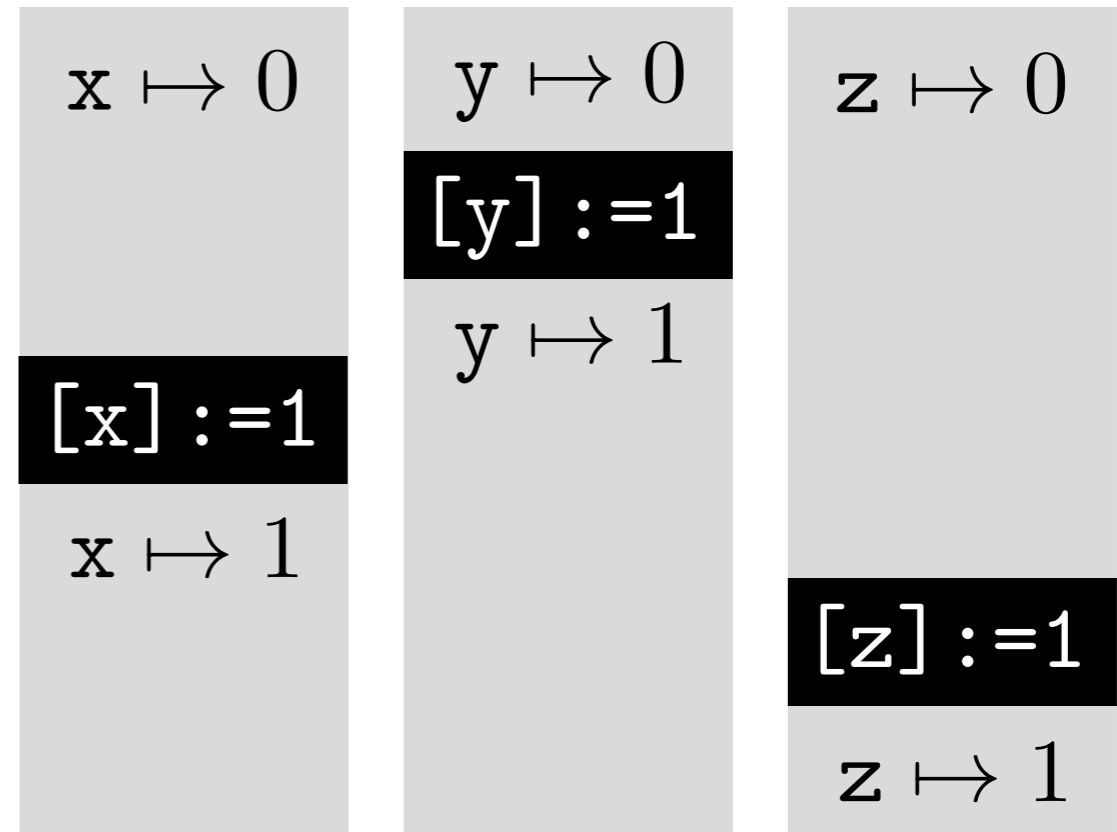
$$[y] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

$$[z] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 1\}$$

A proof outline



A ribbon proof



$$\{x \mapsto 0 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

$$[x] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 0 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

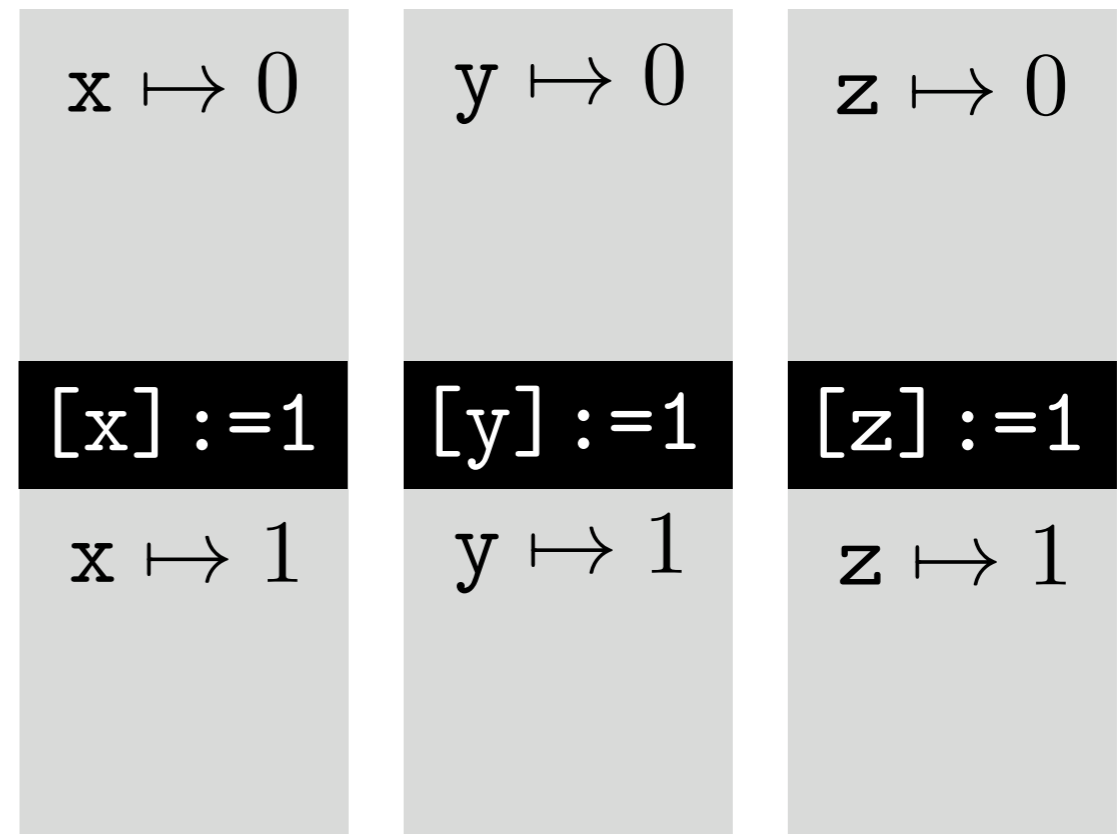
$$[y] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 0\}$$

$$[z] := 1;$$

$$\{x \mapsto 1 * y \mapsto 1 * z \mapsto 1\}$$

A proof outline

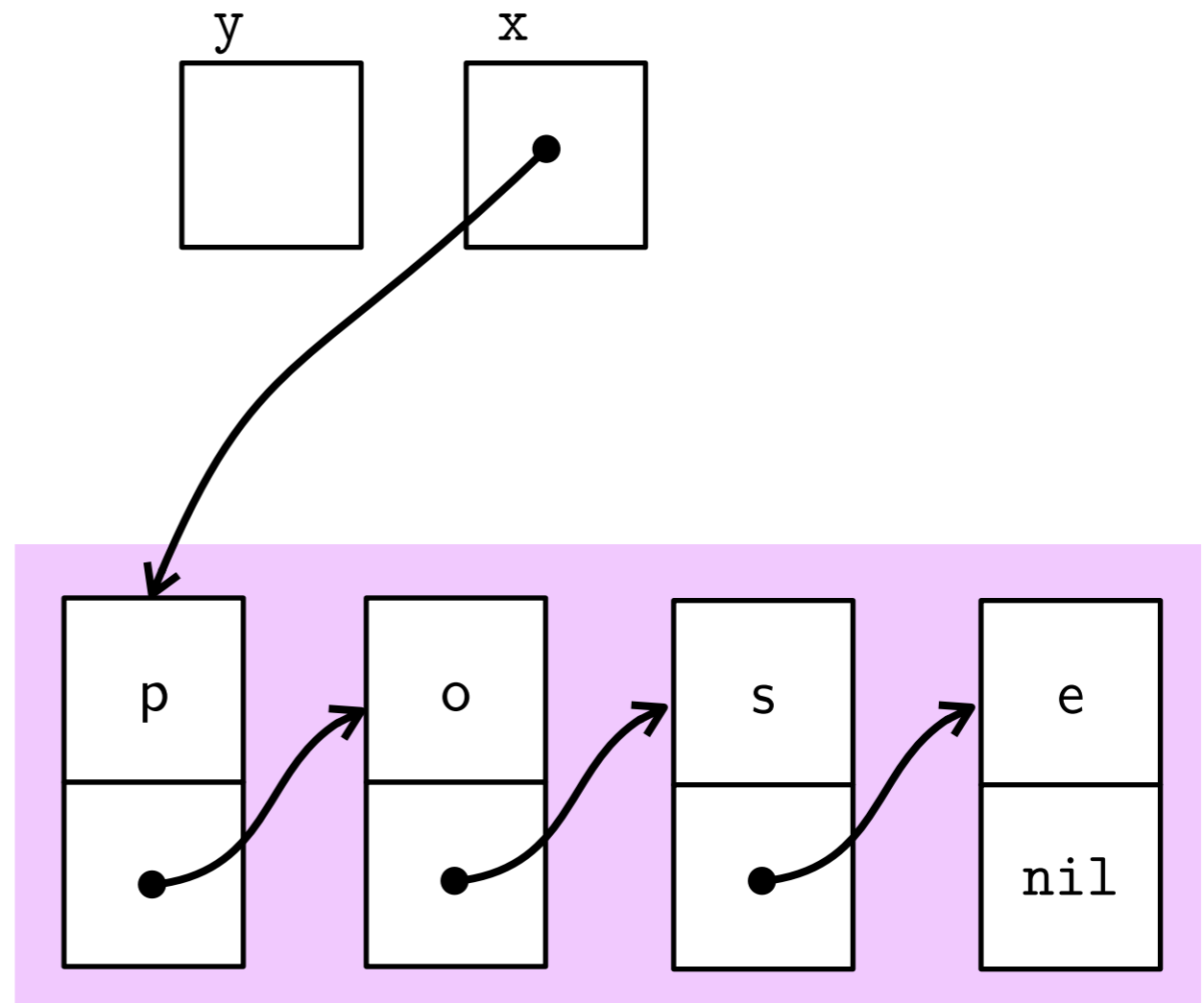


A ribbon proof

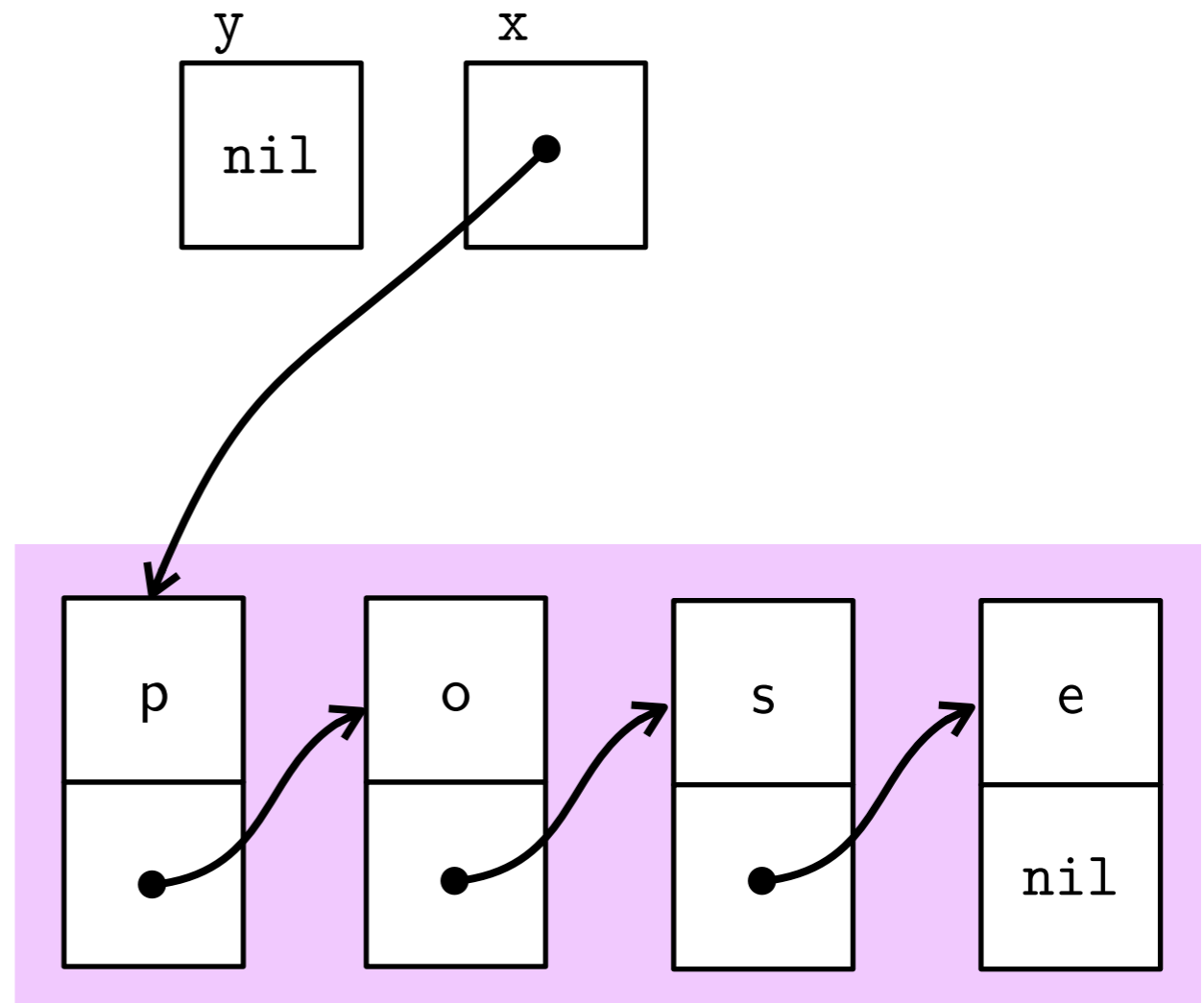
Example: in-place list reversal

```
y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
    z := [x+1];
    [x+1] := y;
    y := x;
    x := z;
}
```

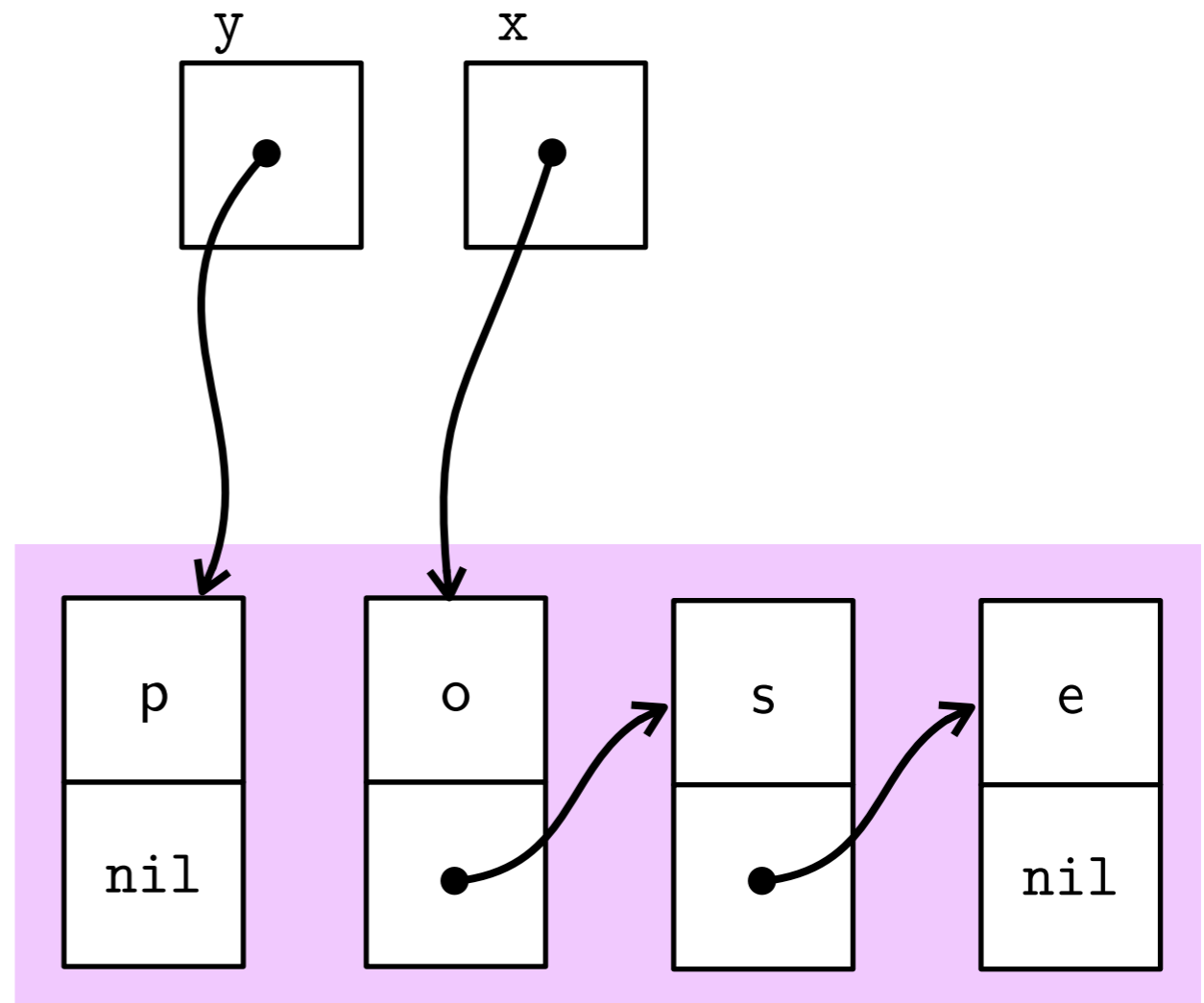
```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```



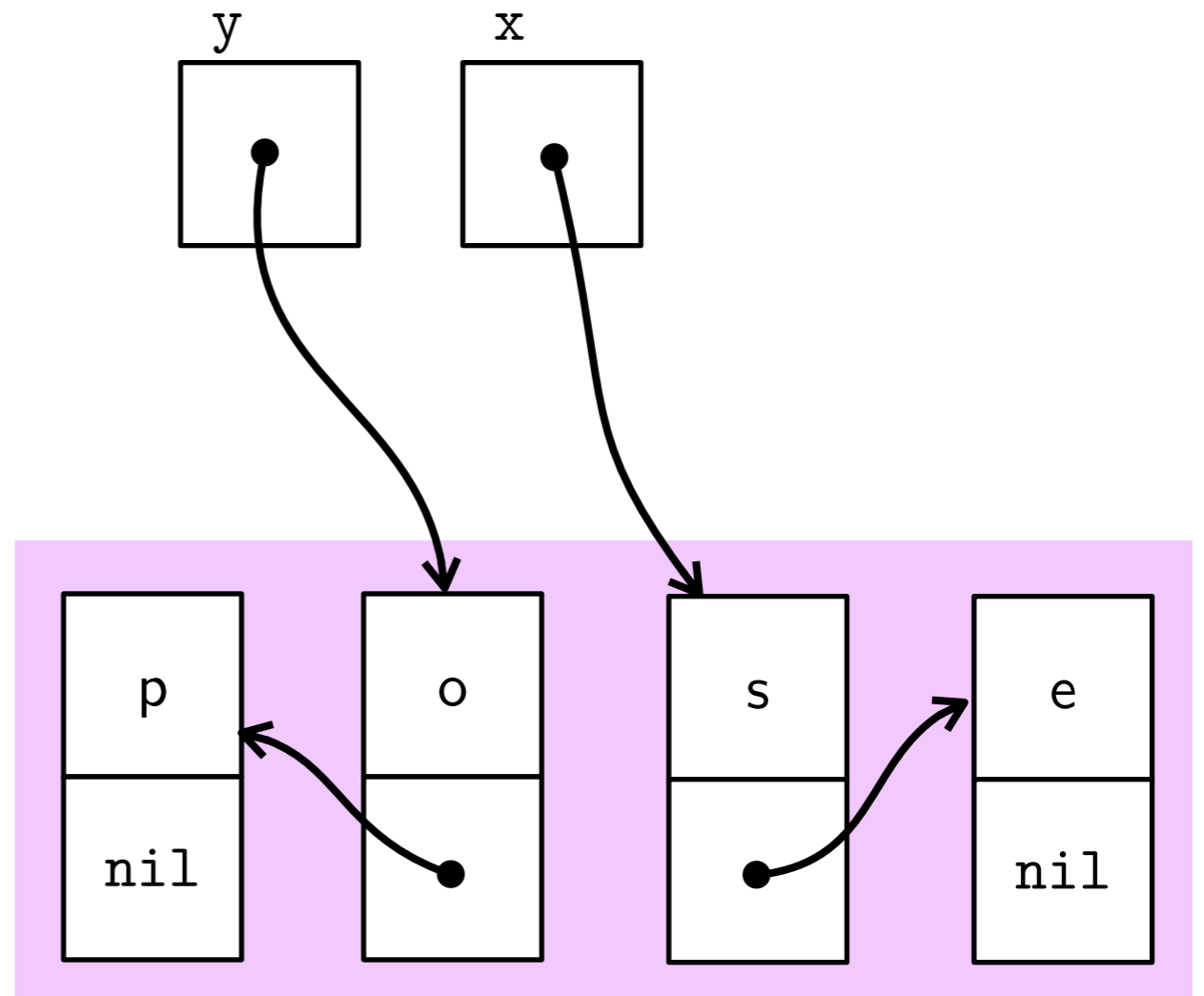
```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```



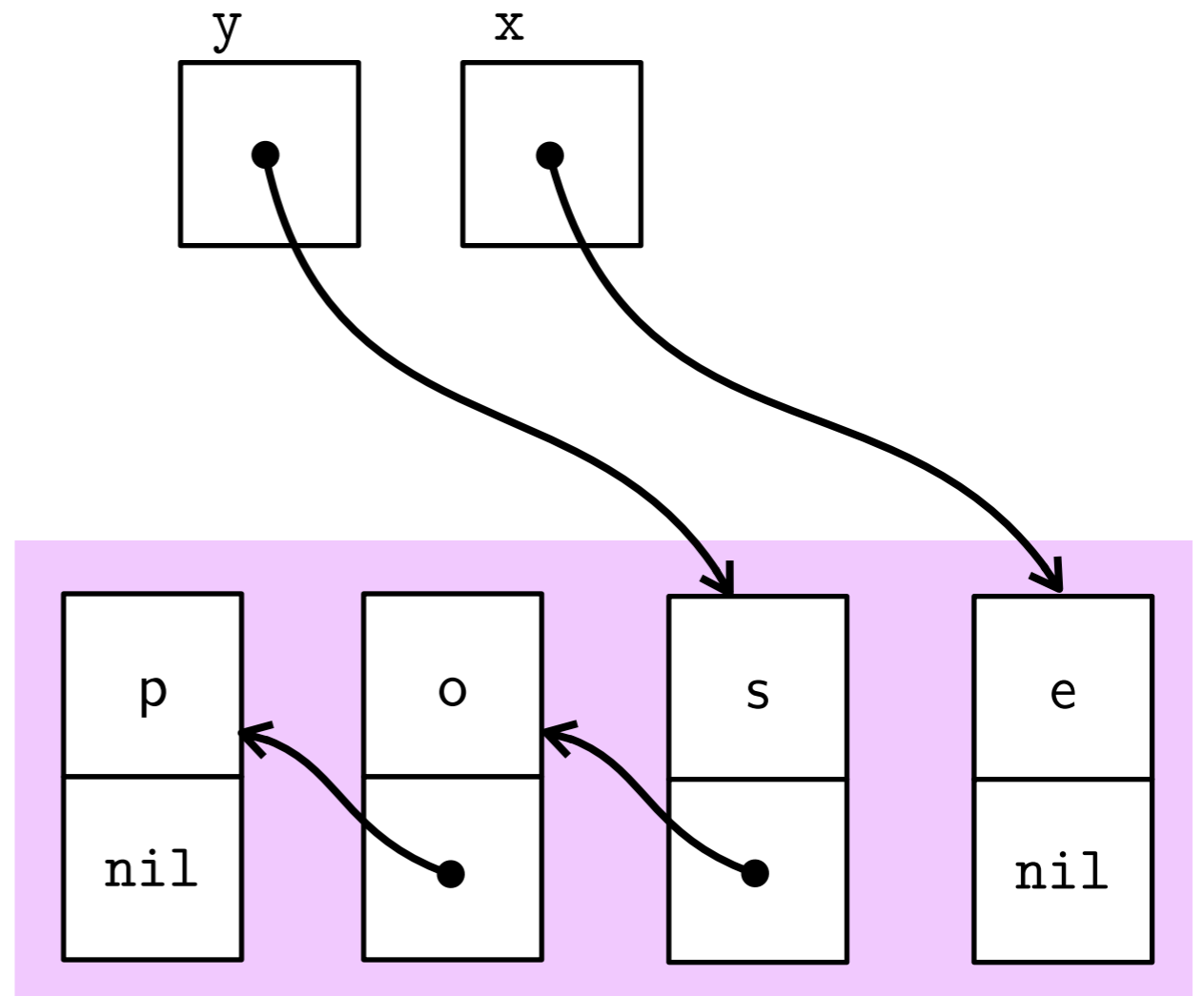
```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```



```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

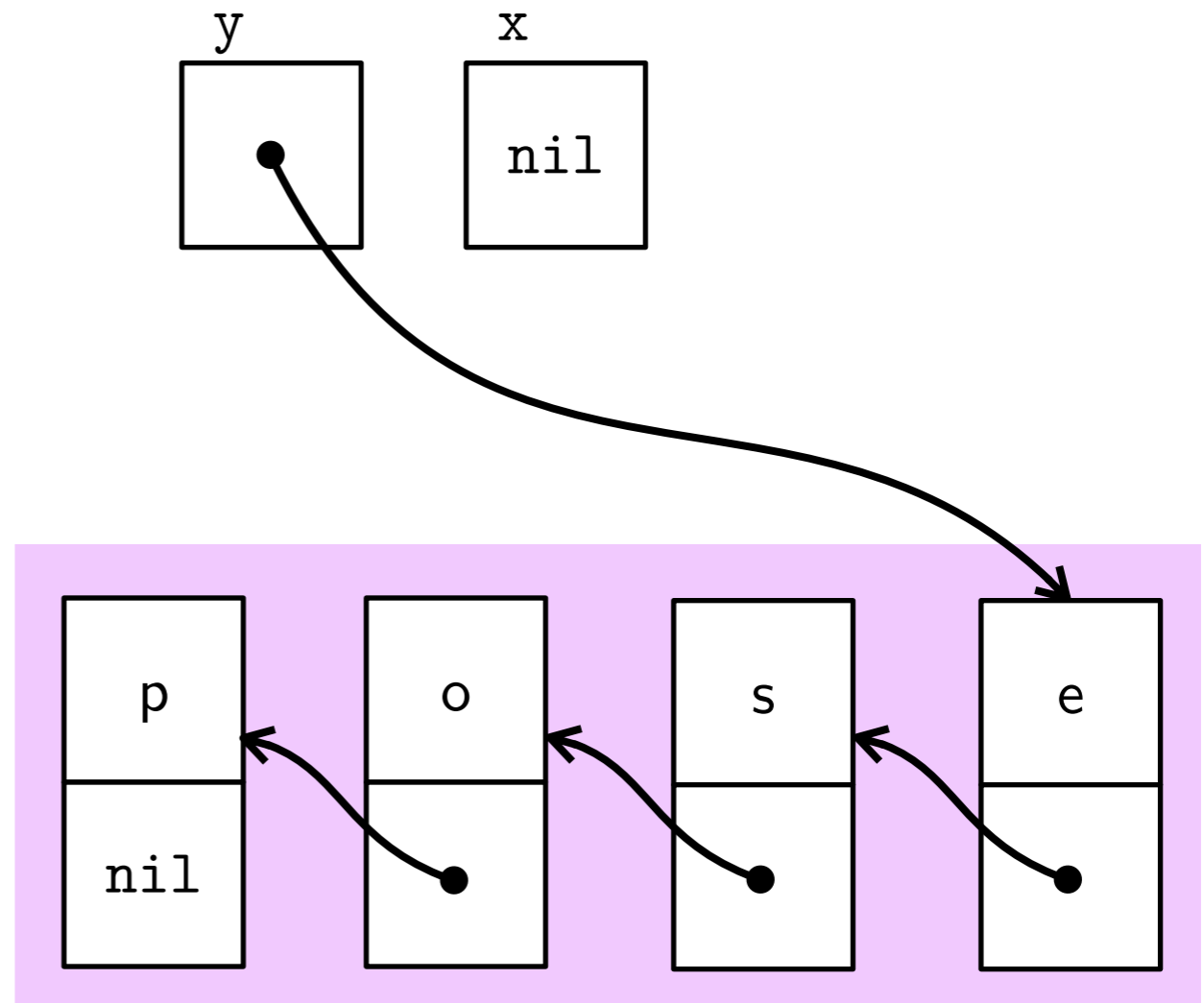


```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```





```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```



*list*  $\alpha_0$  x

```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

*list*  $\alpha_0^\dagger$  y

$list \in x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil})$

$list (i \cdot \alpha') x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\exists x'. x \mapsto i, x' * list \alpha' x')$

$list \alpha_0 x$

```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

$list \alpha_0^\dagger y$

$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee$   
 $(\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$

*list x*

```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

*list y*

*list x*

$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee$   
 $(\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$

*list x*

```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

*list y*

*list y*

$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee$   
 $(\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$

*list x*

`y:=nil`

*list y*

*list x*

```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

*list y*

*list y*

$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee$   
 $(\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$

*list x*

```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

*list y*

*list x*

```
y:=nil
```

*list y*

```
while (x!=nil) {
```

```
}
```

*list y*

$$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$

```

list x
y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
  z := [x+1];
  [x+1] := y;
  y := x;
  x := z;
}
list y

```

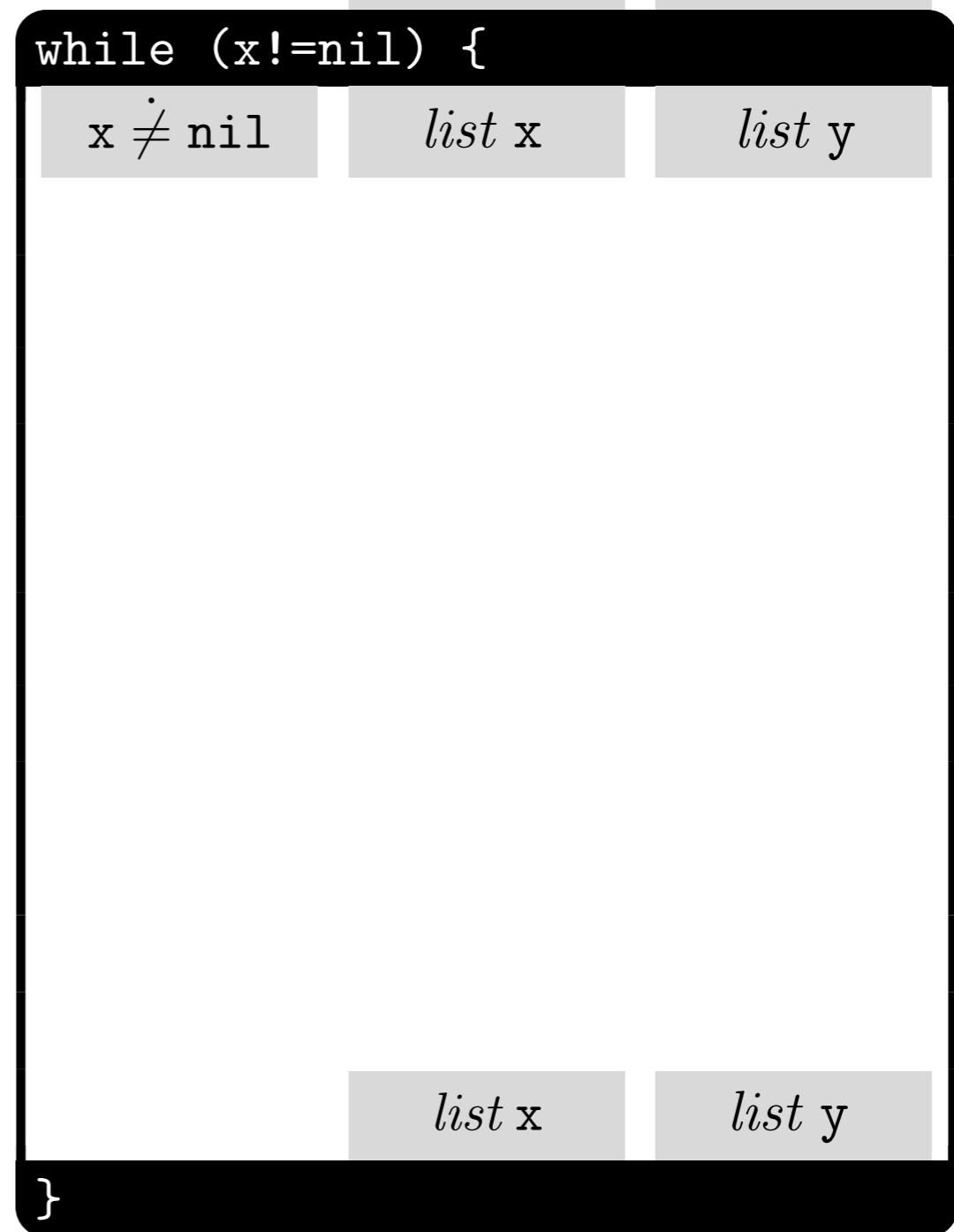
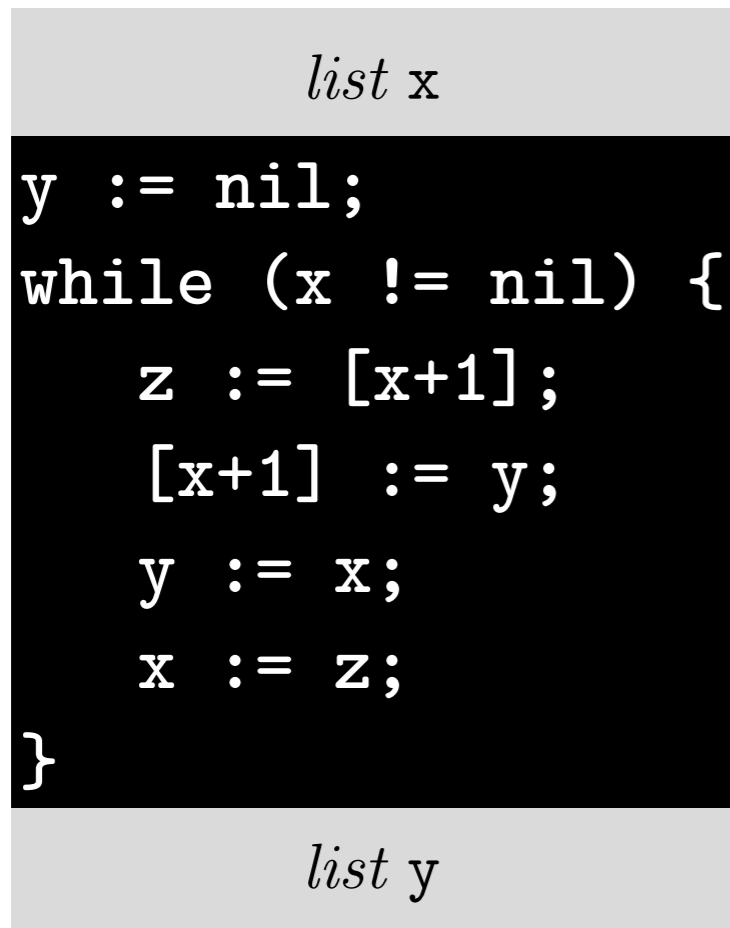
```

list x
y := nil
list y
while (x != nil) {
x != nil
list x
list y
}

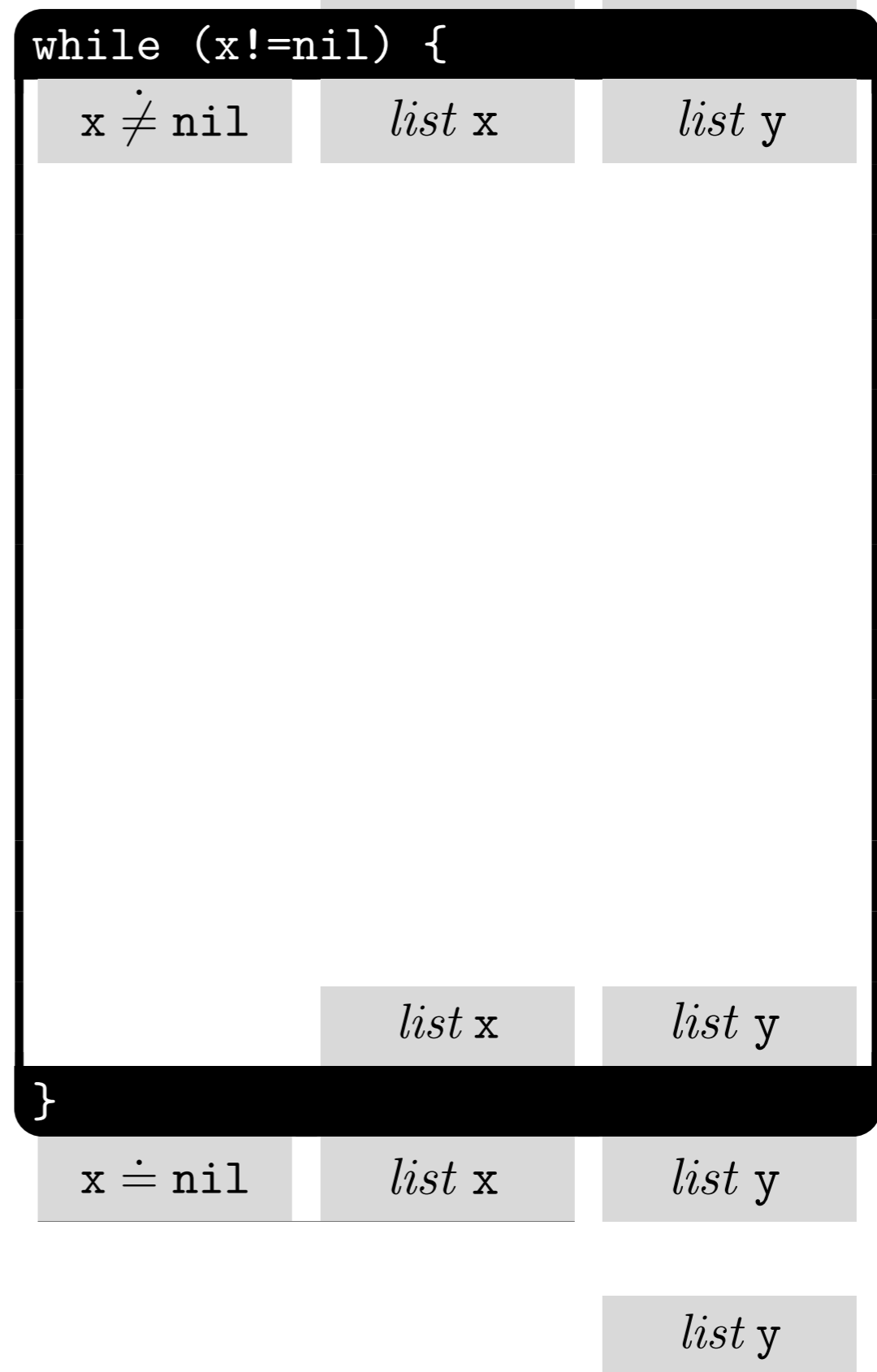
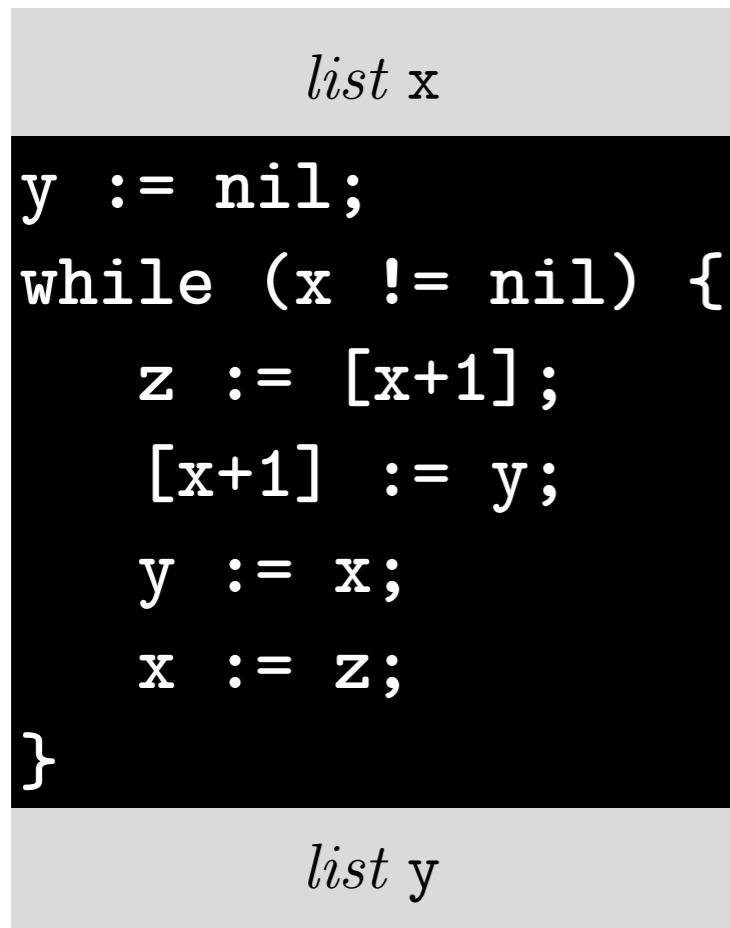
```

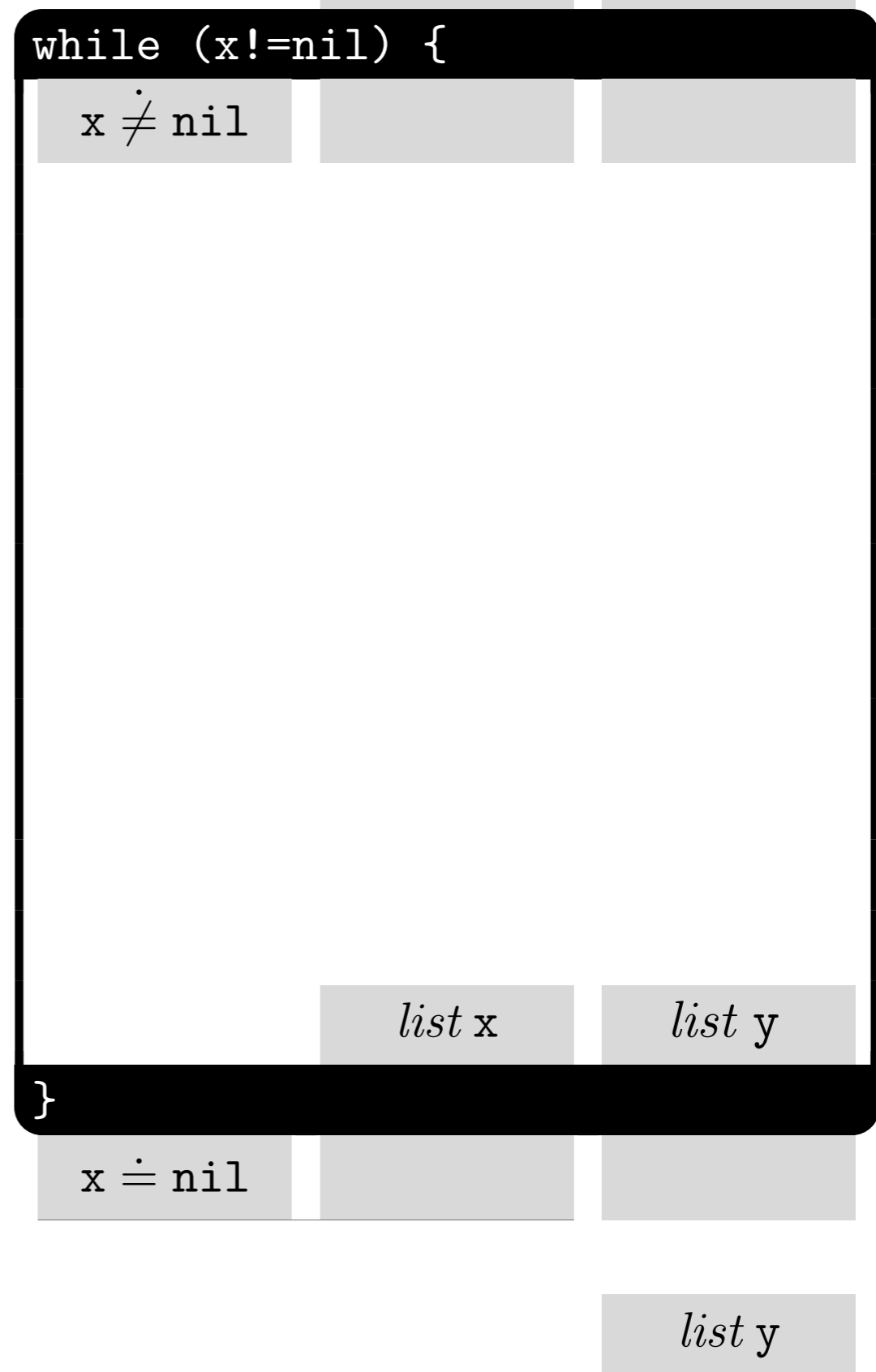
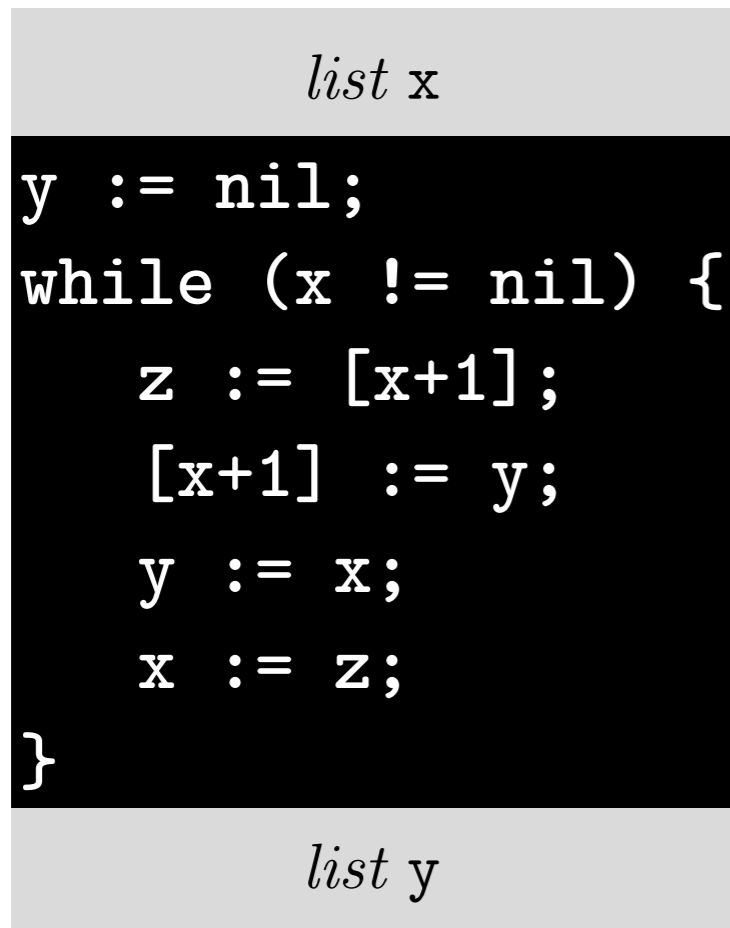
list y



$$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$


*list y*

$$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$


$$list\ x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil}) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$


$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$

*list x*

```

y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
  z := [x+1];
  [x+1] := y;
  y := x;
  x := z;
}

```

*list y*

	<i>list x</i>	<i>y := nil</i>
		<i>list y</i>
<b>while (x != nil) {</b>		
<i>x ≠ nil</i>		
Unfold <i>list</i> def		
$\exists Z. x \mapsto \_, Z * list\ Z$		
	<i>list x</i>	<i>list y</i>
<b>}</b>		
<i>x ≐ nil</i>		
		<i>list y</i>

$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$

```

list x
y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
  z := [x+1];
  [x+1] := y;
  y := x;
  x := z;
}
list y

```

```

list x
y := nil
list y

while (x != nil) {
  x ≠ nil
  Unfold list def
  ∃Z. x ↦ _, Z * list Z
  z := [x+1]
  list z      x ↦ _, z
}

list x      list y
x ≐ nil
list y

```

$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$

```

list x
y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
  z := [x+1];
  [x+1] := y;
  y := x;
  x := z;
}
list y

```

```

list x
y := nil
list y

while (x != nil) {
  x ≠ nil
  Unfold list def
  ∃Z. x ↦ _, Z * list Z
  z := [x+1]
  list z
  x ↦ _, z
  [x+1] := y
  x ↦ _, y
  list x
  list y
}

```

```

x ≐ nil
list y

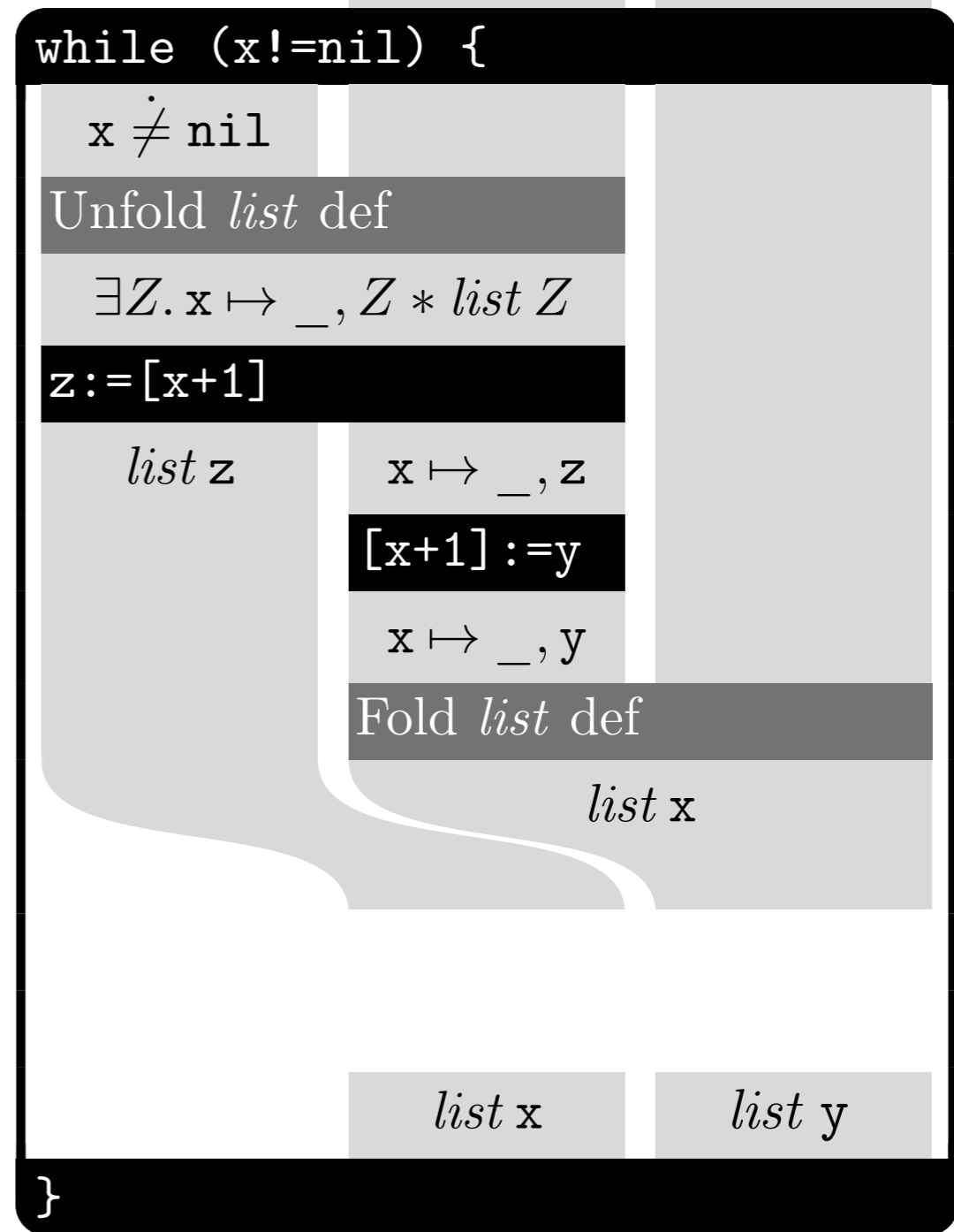
```

$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$

```

list x
y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
  z := [x+1];
  [x+1] := y;
  y := x;
  x := z;
}
list y

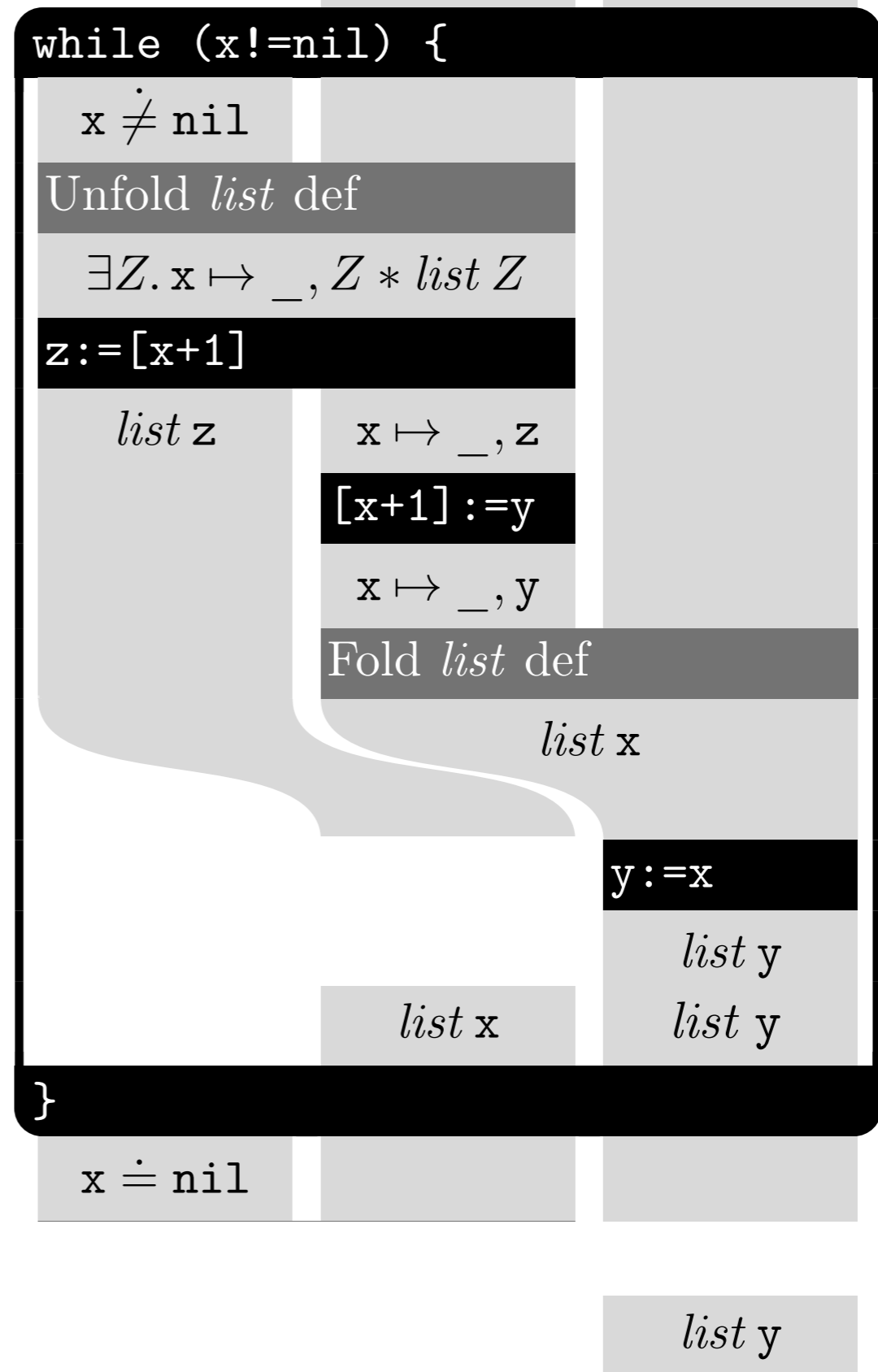
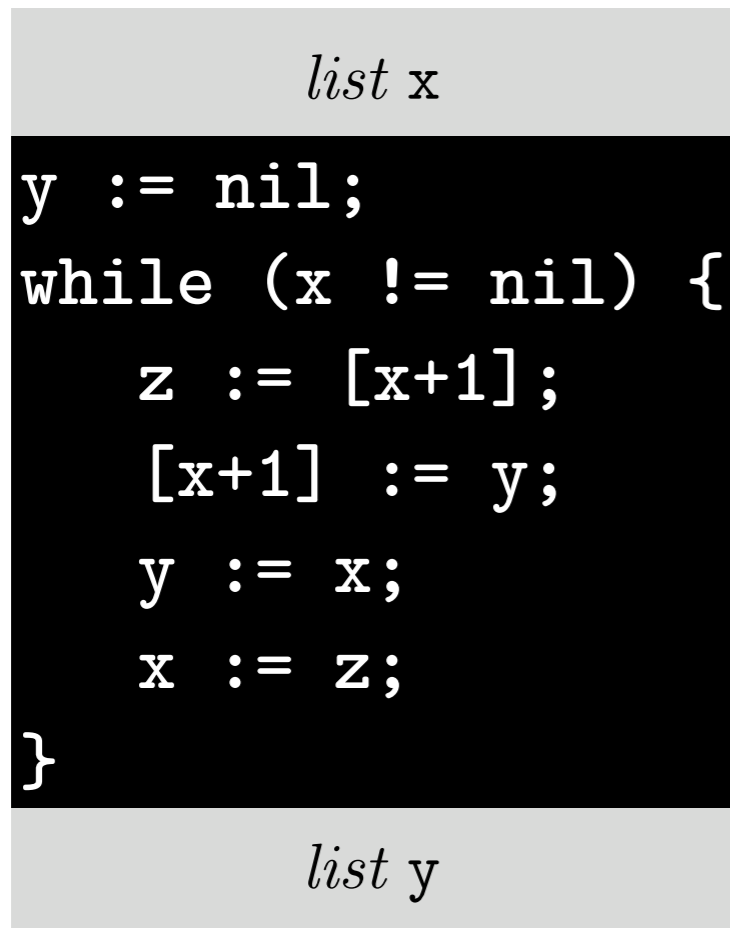
```



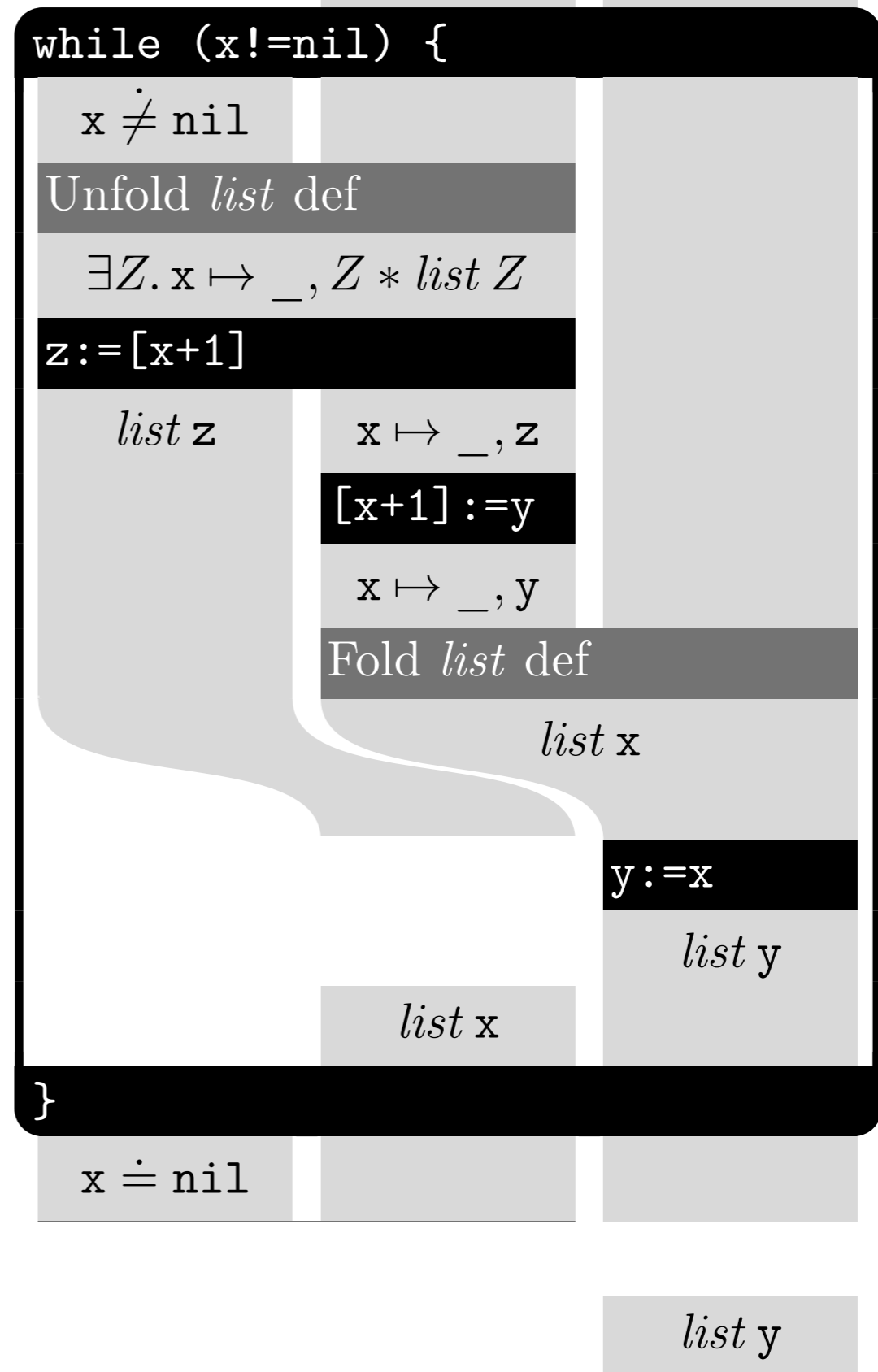
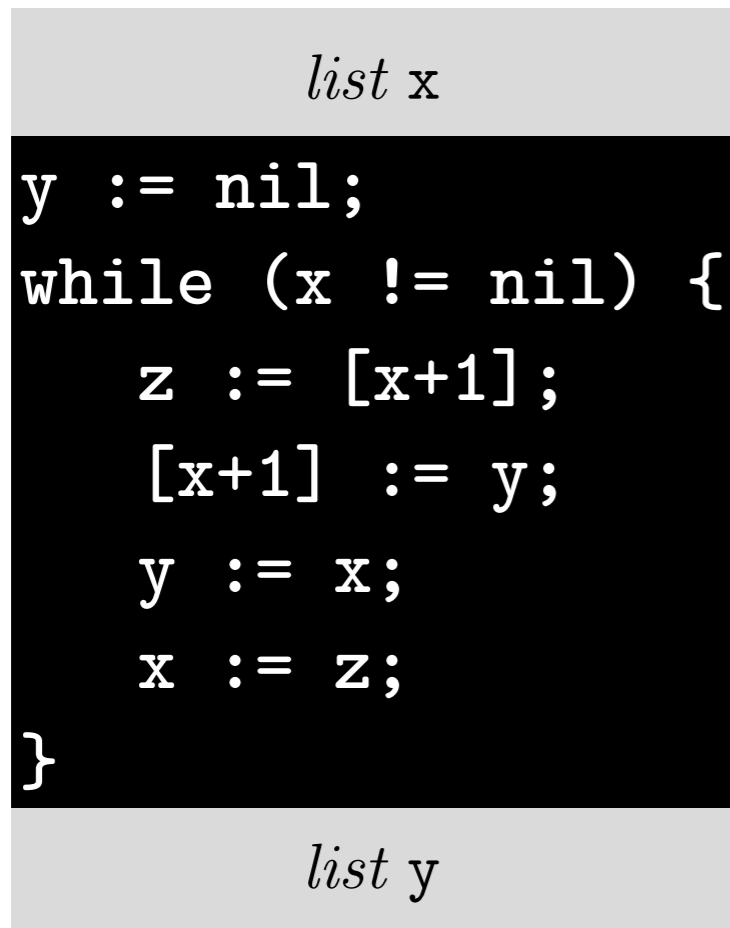
```

}
x := nil
list x
list y
list y

```

$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$




$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$


$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$

```

list x
y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
  z := [x+1];
  [x+1] := y;
  y := x;
  x := z;
}
list y

```

```

list x
y := nil
list y

while (x != nil) {
  x ≠ nil
  Unfold list def
  ∃Z. x ↦ _, Z * list Z
  z := [x+1]
  list z
  x ↦ _, z
  [x+1] := y
  x ↦ _, y
  Fold list def
  list x
  y := x
  list y
  x := z
  list x
}
x ≐ nil
list y

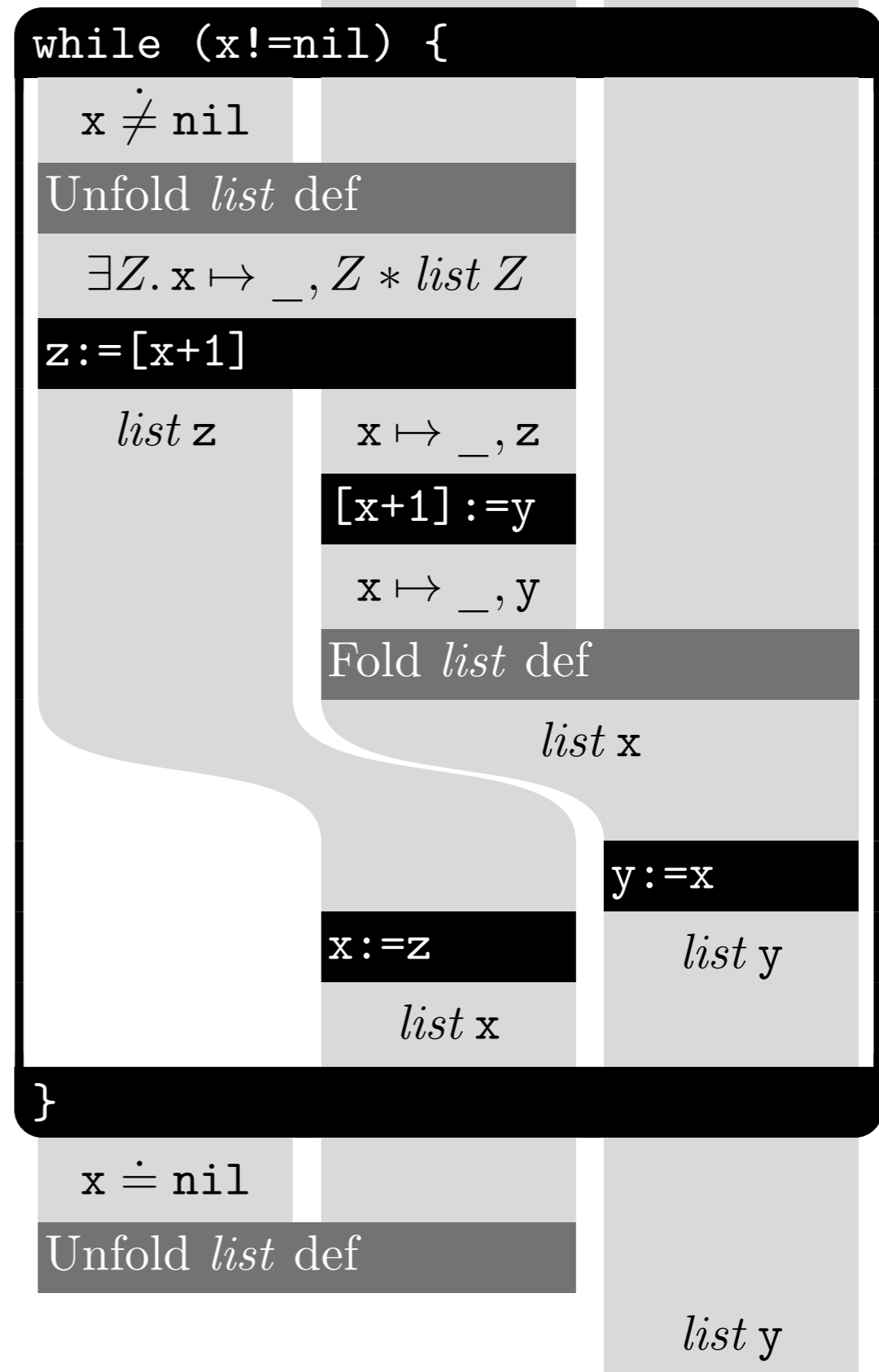
```

$$list\ x \stackrel{def}{=} (x \doteq nil) \vee (\exists x'. x \mapsto \_, x' * list\ x')$$

```

list x
y := nil;
while (x != nil) {
  z := [x+1];
  [x+1] := y;
  y := x;
  x := z;
}
list y

```



# Dealing with quantifiers

$list \in x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil})$

$list (i \cdot \alpha') x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\exists x'. x \mapsto i, x' * list \alpha' x')$

$list \alpha_0 x$

```
y := nil;  
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

$list \alpha_0^\dagger y$

$$\text{list } \epsilon x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x \doteq \text{nil})$$
$$\text{list } (i \cdot \alpha') x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\exists x'. x \mapsto i, x' * \text{list } \alpha' x')$$
$$\text{list } \alpha_0 x$$

```
y := nil;
```

$$\exists \alpha, \beta. \text{list } \alpha x * \text{list } \beta y$$
$$* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$$

```
while (x != nil) {  
  z := [x+1];  
  [x+1] := y;  
  y := x;  
  x := z;  
}
```

$$\text{list } \alpha_0^\dagger y$$

```

{list  $\alpha_0$  x}
y:=nil;
{list  $\alpha_0$  x * list  $\epsilon$  y}
// Choose  $\alpha := \alpha_0$  and  $\beta := \epsilon$ 
while { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha x * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
(x!=nil) {
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. x \neq nil * list \alpha x * list \beta y$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Unfold list def
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. (\exists \alpha', i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z * list \alpha' z)$ }
  { $* \alpha \doteq i \cdot \alpha' * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Choose  $\alpha := \alpha'$ 
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z * list \alpha Z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha) * list \beta y$ }
  z:=[x+1];
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * x \mapsto i, z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha) * list \beta y$ }
  // Reassociate i
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * x \mapsto i, z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha * list \beta y$ }
  [x+1]:=y;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * x \mapsto i, y$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha * list \beta y$ }
  // Fold list def
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * list (i \cdot \beta) x$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Choose  $\beta := (i \cdot \beta)$ 
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha z * list \beta x * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  y:=x;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha z * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  x:=z;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha x * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
}
{ $\exists \alpha, \beta. x \doteq nil * list \alpha x * list \beta y$ }
{ $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
// Unfold list def
{ $\exists \alpha, \beta. \alpha \doteq \epsilon * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
// Concatenate empty sequence
{ $\exists \beta. list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger$ }
// Fold list def
{list  $\alpha_0^\dagger y$ }

```

```

y := nil;
{ list α₀ x * list ε y }
// Choose α := α₀ and β := ε
while { ∃α, β. list α x * list β y * α₀ ≐ β† · α }
(x := nil) {
  { ∃α, β. x ≠ nil * list α x * list β y }
  { * α₀ ≐ β† · α }
  // Unfold list def
  { ∃α, β. (∃α', i, Z. x ↦ i, Z * list α' z )
  { * α ≐ i · α' ) * list β y * α₀ ≐ β† · α }
  // Choose α := α'
  { ∃α, β, i, Z. x ↦ i, Z * list α Z }
  { * α₀ ≐ β† · (i · α) * list β y }
  z := [x+1];
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * x ↦ i, z }
  { * α₀ ≐ β† · (i · α) * list β y }
  // Reassociate i
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * x ↦ i, z }
  { * α₀ ≐ (i · β)† · α * list β y }
  [x+1] := y;
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * x ↦ i, y }
  { * α₀ ≐ (i · β)† · α * list β y }
  // Fold list def
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * list (i · β) x }
  { * α₀ ≐ (i · β)† · α }
  // Choose β := (i · β)

```



```

y := nil;
{ list α₀ x * list ε y }
// Choose α := α₀ and β := ε
while { ∃α, β. list α x * list β y * α₀ ≐ β† · α }
(x != nil) {
  { ∃α, β. x ≠ nil * list α x * list β y }
  { * α₀ ≐ β† · α }
  // Unfold list def
  { ∃α, β. ∃α', i, Z. x ↦ i, Z * list α' z }
  { * α = i · α' * list β y * α₀ ≐ β† · α }
  // Choose α := α'
  { ∃α, β, i, Z. x ↦ i, Z * list α Z }
  { * α₀ ≐ β† · (i · α) * list β y }
  z := [x+1];
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * x ↦ i, z }
  { * α₀ ≐ β† · (i · α) * list β y }
  // Reassociate i
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * x ↦ i, z }
  { * α₀ ≐ (i · β)† · α * list β y }
  [x+1] := y;
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * x ↦ i, y }
  { * α₀ ≐ (i · β)† · α * list β y }
  // Fold list def
  { ∃α, β, i. list α z * list (i · β) x }
  { * α₀ ≐ (i · β)† · α }
  // Choose β := (i · β)

```

```

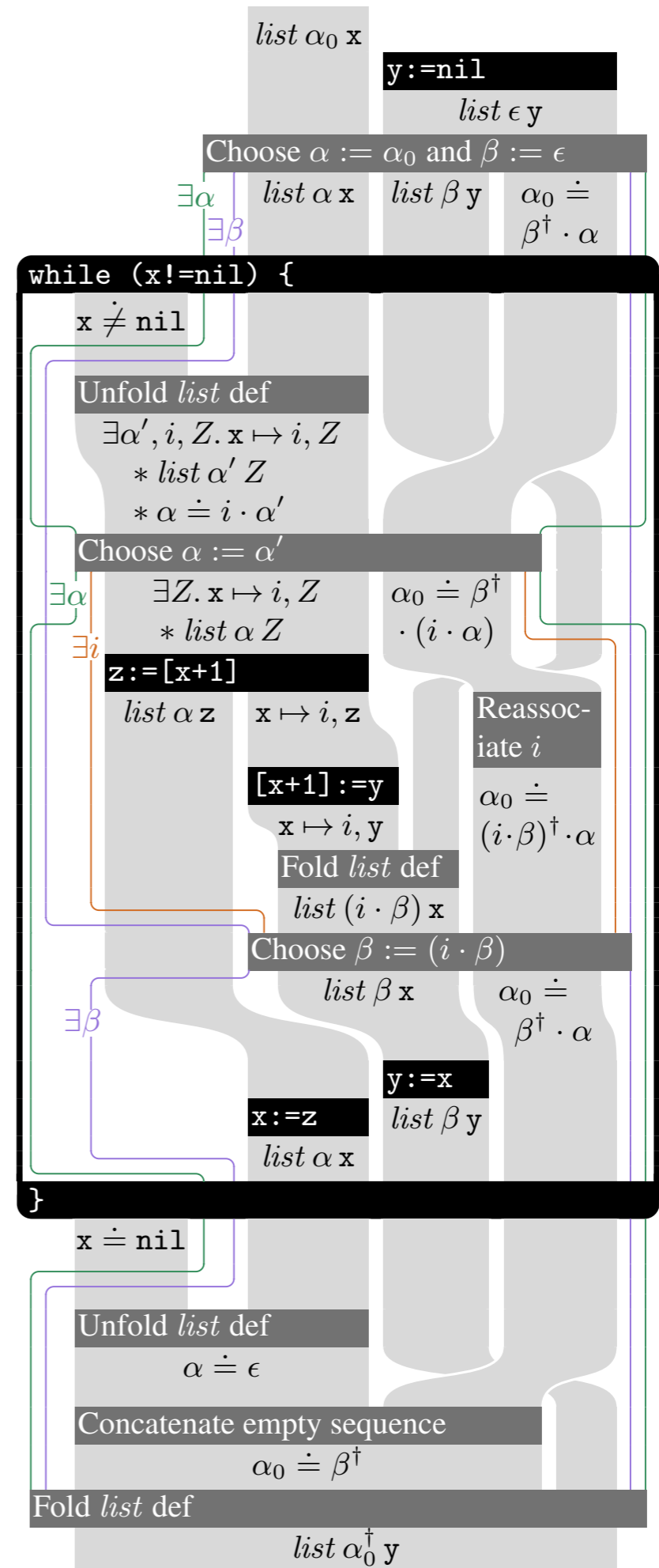
{list  $\alpha_0$  x}
y:=nil;
{list  $\alpha_0$  x * list  $\epsilon$  y}
// Choose  $\alpha := \alpha_0$  and  $\beta := \epsilon$ 
while { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha x * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
(x!=nil) {
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. x \neq nil * list \alpha x * list \beta y$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Unfold list def
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. (\exists \alpha', i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z * list \alpha' z)$ }
  { $* \alpha \doteq i \cdot \alpha' * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Choose  $\alpha := \alpha'$ 
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z * list \alpha Z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha) * list \beta y$ }
  z:=[x+1];
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * x \mapsto i, z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha) * list \beta y$ }
  // Reassociate i
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * x \mapsto i, z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha * list \beta y$ }
  [x+1]:=y;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * x \mapsto i, y$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha * list \beta y$ }
  // Fold list def
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. list \alpha z * list (i \cdot \beta) x$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Choose  $\beta := (i \cdot \beta)$ 
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha z * list \beta x * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  y:=x;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha z * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  x:=z;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. list \alpha x * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
}
{ $\exists \alpha, \beta. x \doteq nil * list \alpha x * list \beta y$ }
{ $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
// Unfold list def
{ $\exists \alpha, \beta. \alpha \doteq \epsilon * list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
// Concatenate empty sequence
{ $\exists \beta. list \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger$ }
// Fold list def
{list  $\alpha_0^\dagger y$ }

```

```

{list  $\alpha_0$  x}
y:=nil;
{list  $\alpha_0$  x * list  $\epsilon$  y}
// Choose  $\alpha := \alpha_0$  and  $\beta := \epsilon$ 
while { $\exists \alpha, \beta. \text{list } \alpha x * \text{list } \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
(x!=nil) {
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. x \neq \text{nil} * \text{list } \alpha x * \text{list } \beta y$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Unfold list def
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. (\exists \alpha', i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z * \text{list } \alpha' z)$ }
  { $* \alpha \doteq i \cdot \alpha' * \text{list } \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Choose  $\alpha := \alpha'$ 
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z * \text{list } \alpha Z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha) * \text{list } \beta y$ }
  z:=[x+1];
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. \text{list } \alpha z * x \mapsto i, z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha) * \text{list } \beta y$ }
  // Reassociate i
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. \text{list } \alpha z * x \mapsto i, z$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha * \text{list } \beta y$ }
  [x+1]:=y;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. \text{list } \alpha z * x \mapsto i, y$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha * \text{list } \beta y$ }
  // Fold list def
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta, i. \text{list } \alpha z * \text{list } (i \cdot \beta) x$ }
  { $* \alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  // Choose  $\beta := (i \cdot \beta)$ 
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. \text{list } \alpha z * \text{list } \beta x * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  y:=x;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. \text{list } \alpha z * \text{list } \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
  x:=z;
  { $\exists \alpha, \beta. \text{list } \alpha x * \text{list } \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
}
}
{ $\exists \alpha, \beta. x \doteq \text{nil} * \text{list } \alpha x * \text{list } \beta y$ }
{ $* \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
// Unfold list def
{ $\exists \alpha, \beta. \alpha \doteq \epsilon * \text{list } \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$ }
// Concatenate empty sequence
{ $\exists \beta. \text{list } \beta y * \alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger$ }
// Fold list def
{list  $\alpha_0^\dagger y$ }

```



$list\ \alpha_0\ x$

$y := nil$

$list\ \epsilon\ y$

Choose  $\alpha := \alpha_0$  and  $\beta := \epsilon$

$\exists \alpha$

$list\ \alpha\ x$

$list\ \beta\ y$

$\alpha_0 \doteq$

$\exists \beta$

$\beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$

**while (x!=nil) {**

$x \neq nil$

Unfold *list* def

$\exists \alpha', i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z$

$* list\ \alpha'\ Z$

$* \alpha \doteq i \cdot \alpha'$

Choose  $\alpha := \alpha'$

$\exists \alpha$

$\exists Z. x \mapsto i, Z$

$\alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger$

$* list\ \alpha\ Z$

$\cdot (i \cdot \alpha)$

$\exists i$

**z := [x+1]**

$list\ \alpha\ z$

$x \mapsto i, z$

Reassoc-  
iate *i*

**[x+1] := y**

$\alpha_0 \doteq$

$x \mapsto i, y$

$(i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha$

Unfold *list* def

$$\exists \alpha', i, Z. \mathbf{x} \mapsto i, Z$$

$$* \textit{list } \alpha' Z$$

$$* \alpha \doteq i \cdot \alpha'$$

Choose  $\alpha := \alpha'$

$\exists \alpha$

$$\exists Z. \mathbf{x} \mapsto i, Z$$

$$* \textit{list } \alpha Z$$

$$\alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha)$$

$\exists i$

**$z := [x+1]$**

*list*  $\alpha z$

$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto i, z$$

Reassoc-  
iate *i*

**$[x+1] := y$**

$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto i, y$$

$$\alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha$$

Fold *list* def

$$\textit{list } (i \cdot \beta) \mathbf{x}$$

Choose  $\beta := (i \cdot \beta)$

$$\textit{list } \beta \mathbf{x}$$

$$\alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot \alpha$$

$\exists \beta$

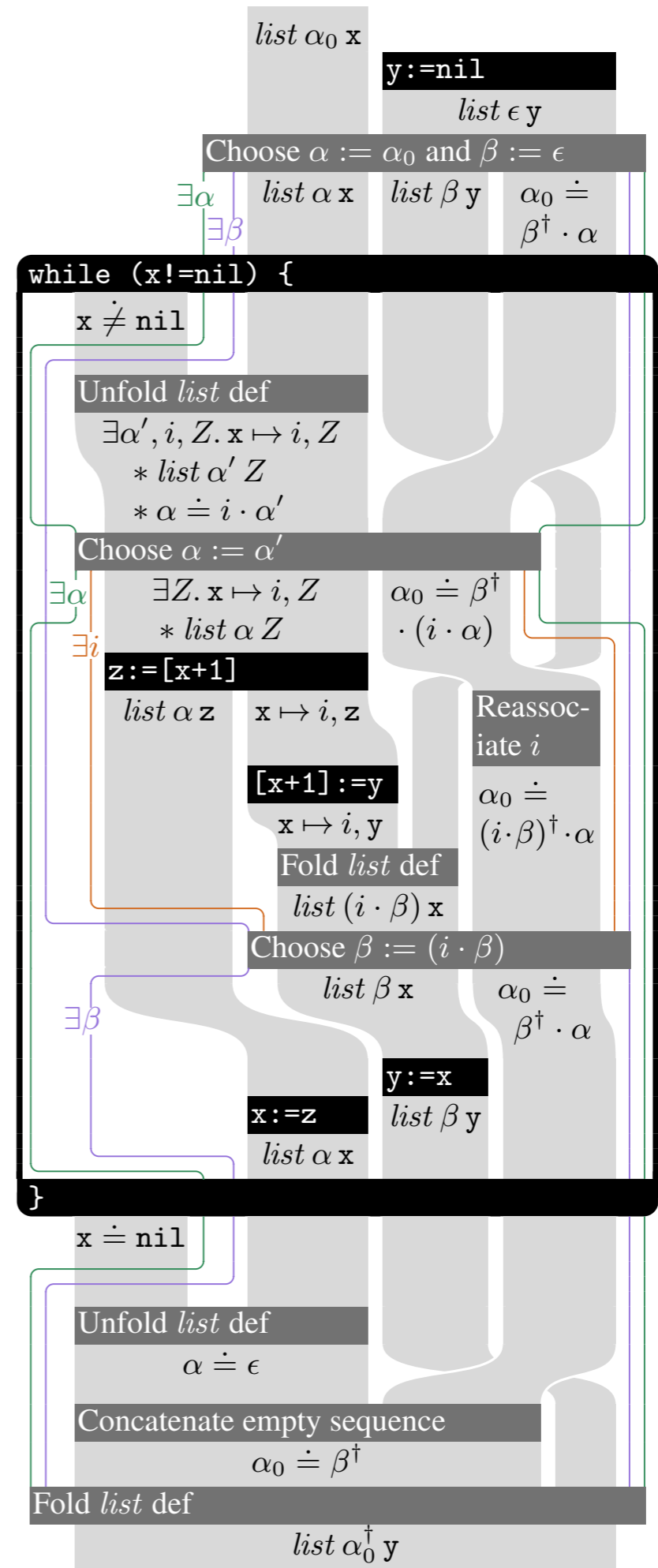
**$y := x$**

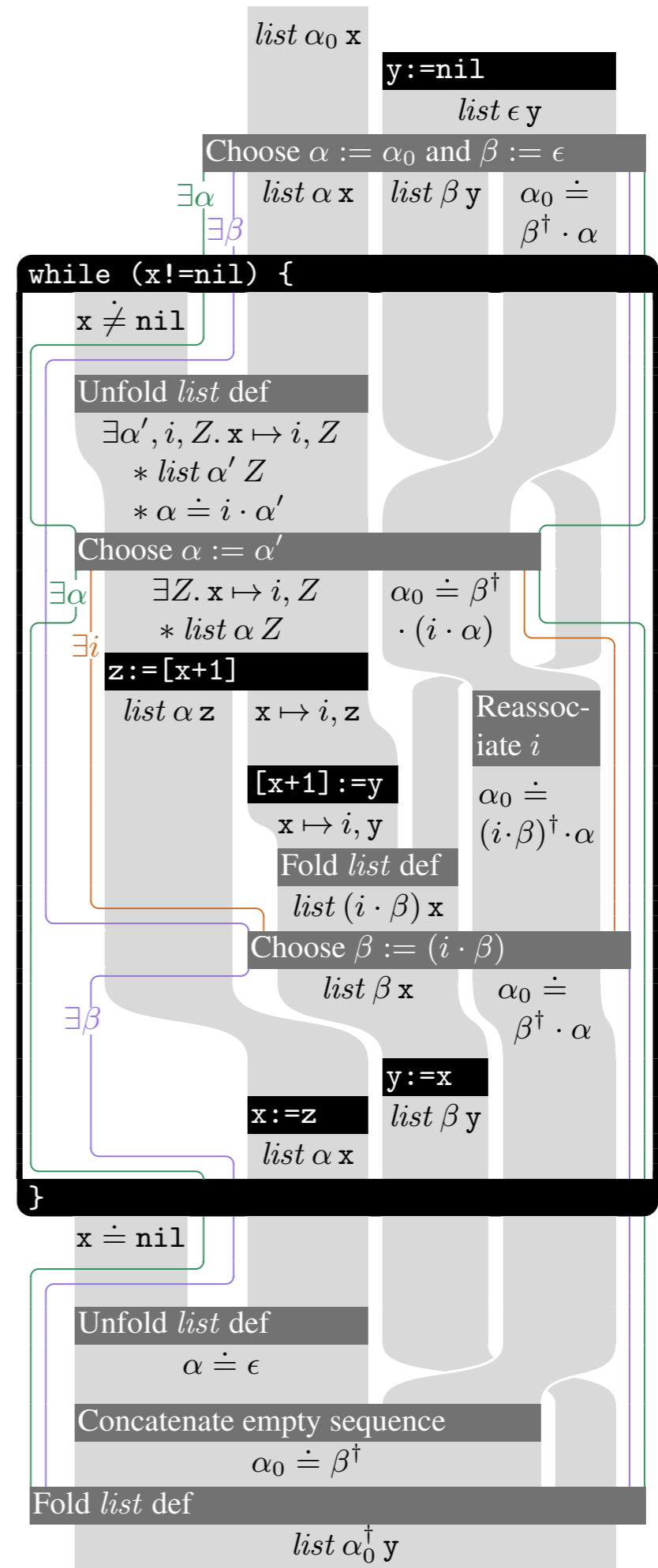
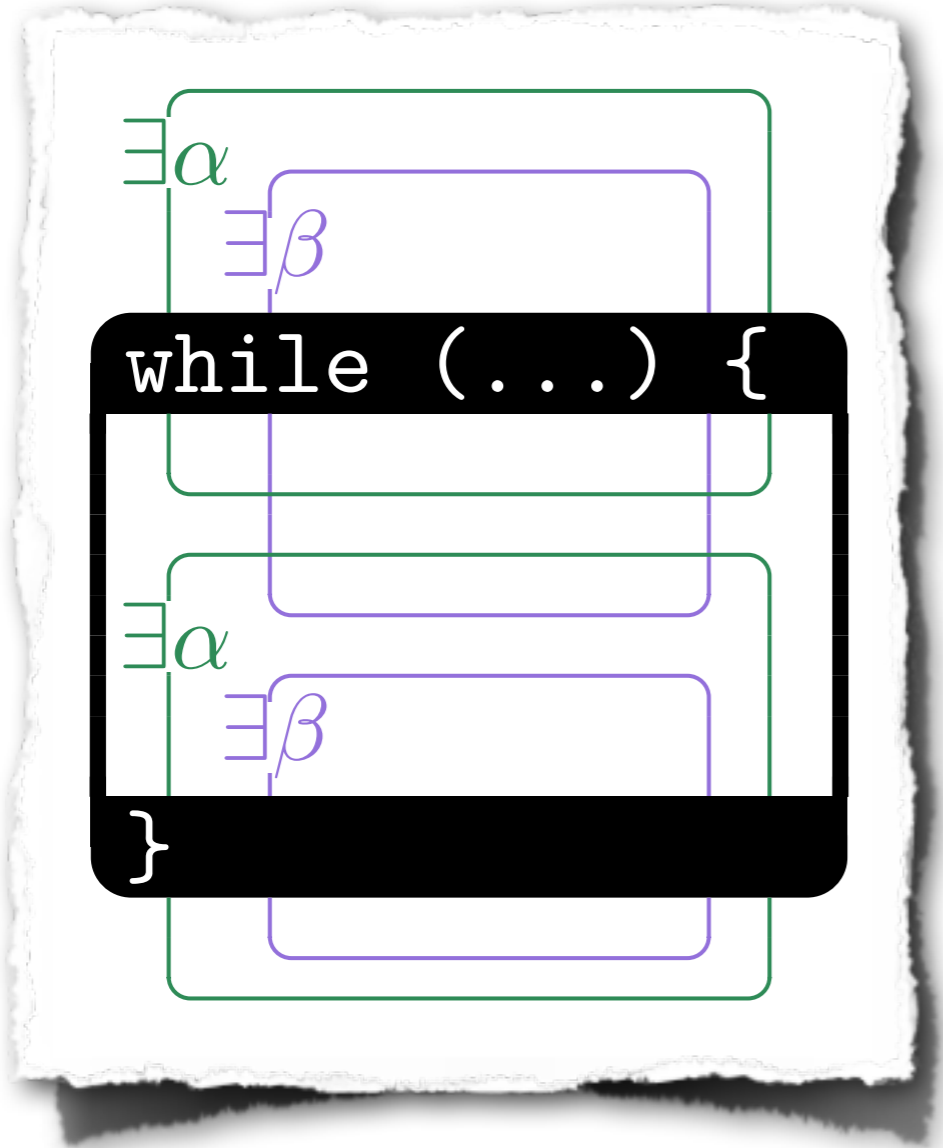
**$x := z$**

$$\textit{list } \beta y$$

$$\textit{list } \alpha \mathbf{x}$$

}





# Dealing with program variables



$x \mapsto 0$

**$[x] := 1$**

$x \mapsto 1$

$y \mapsto 0$

**$[y] := 1$**

$y \mapsto 1$

$z \mapsto 0$

**$[z] := 1$**

$z \mapsto 1$

$x \mapsto 0$

$y \mapsto 0$

$z \mapsto 0$

**$[x] := 1$**

**$[y] := 1$**

**$[z] := 1$**

$x \mapsto 1$

$y \mapsto 1$

$z \mapsto 1$

$b = 1$

**$a := b$**

$a = 1$

$c = 2$

**$b := c$**

$b = 2$

b = 1

**a := b**

a = 1

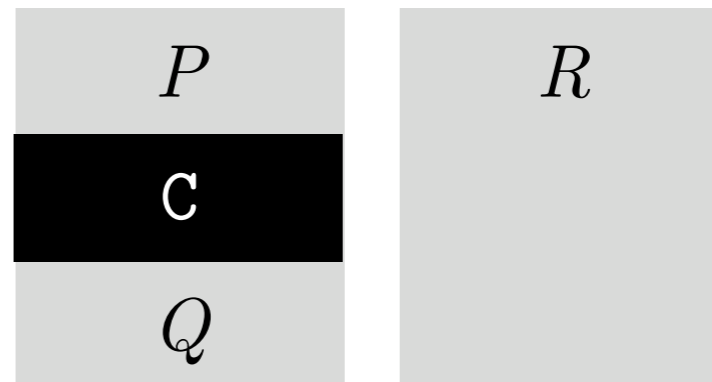
c = 2

**b := c**

b = 2

$$\frac{\{P\} \mathbf{C} \{Q\}}{\{P * R\} \mathbf{C} \{Q * R\}}$$

providing  $fv(R) \cap modified(\mathbf{C}) = \{\}$



b = 1

**a := b**

a = 1

c = 2

**b := c**

b = 2

$b = 1$

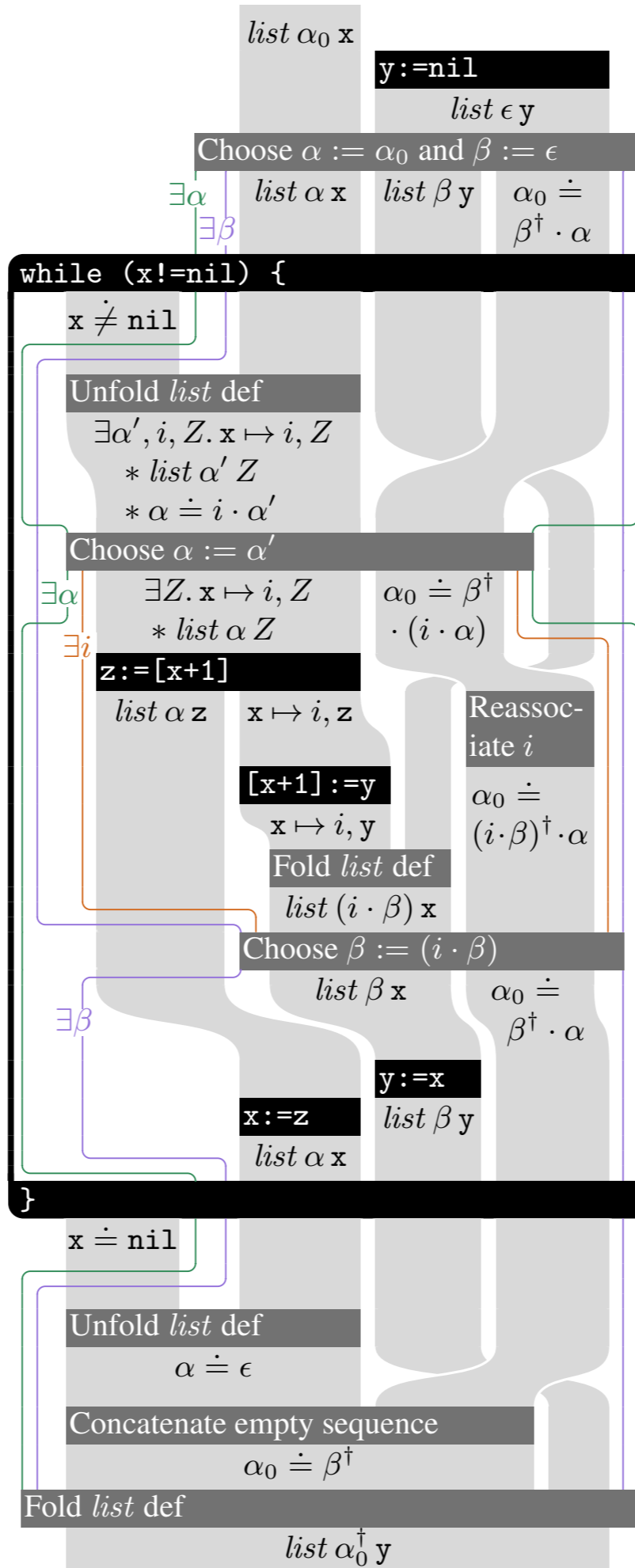
**$a := b$**

$a = 1$

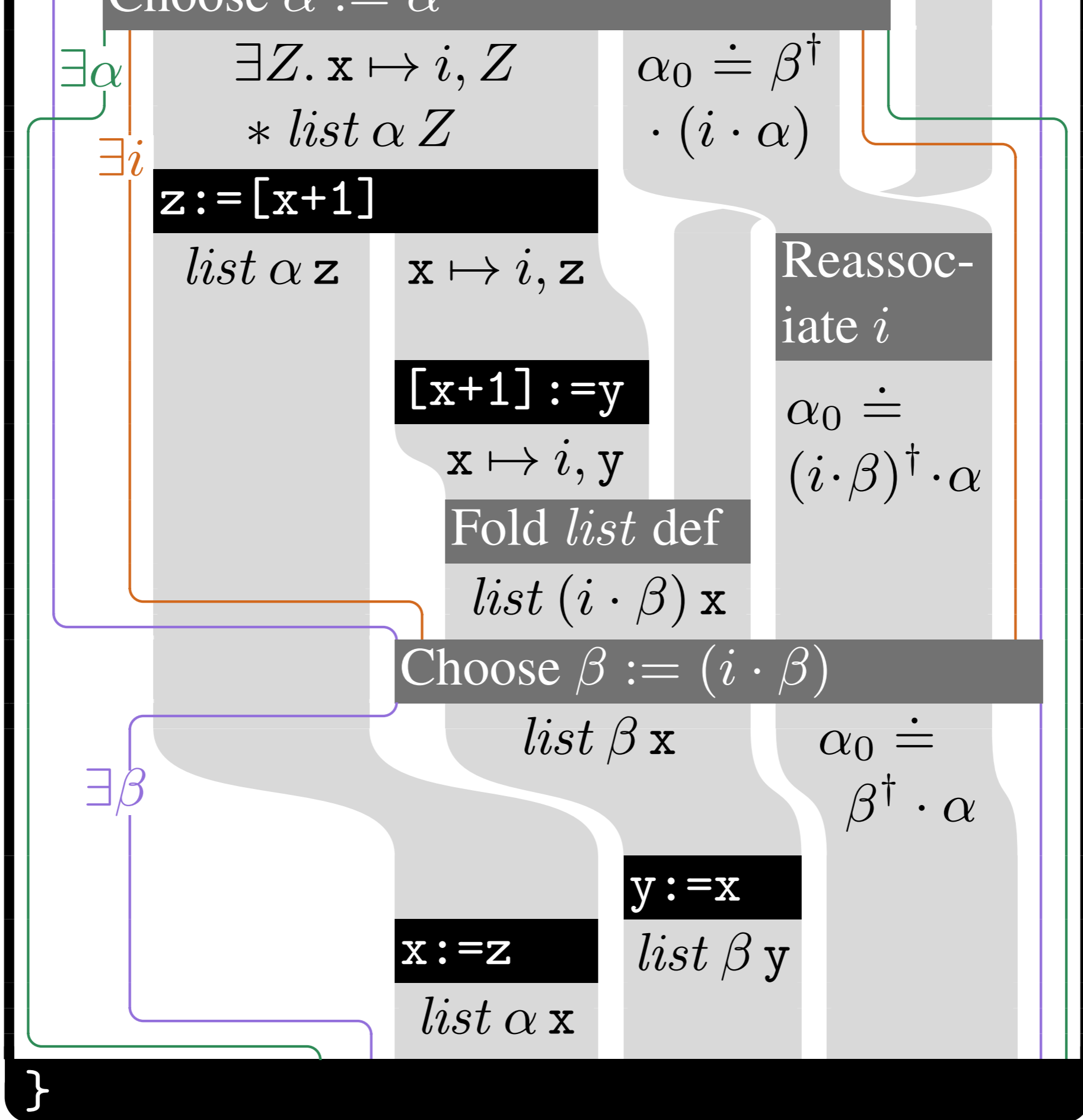
$c = 2$

**$b := c$**

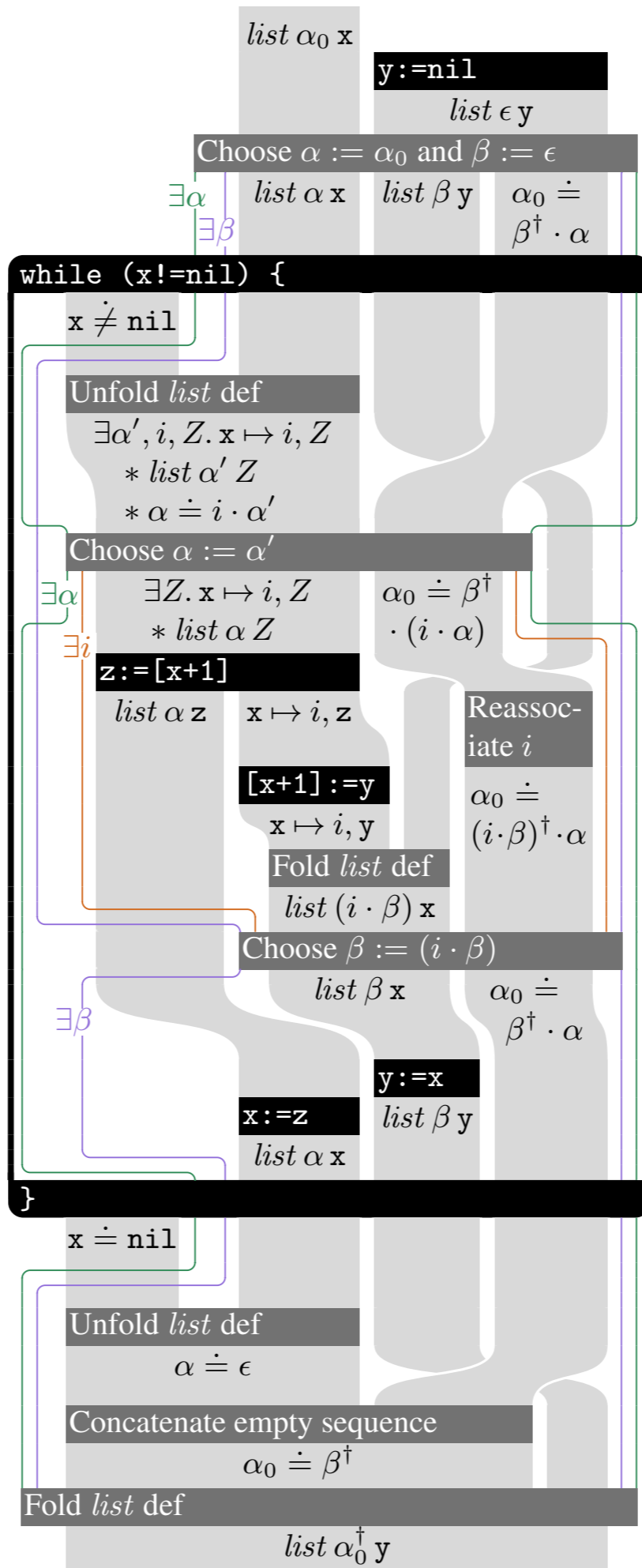
$b = 2$





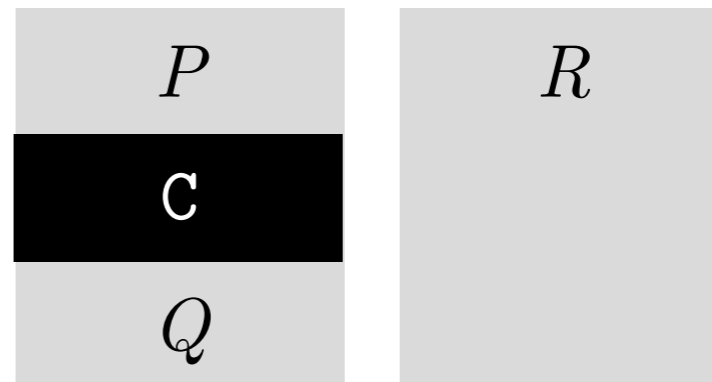


$\mathbf{x} \doteq \text{nil}$



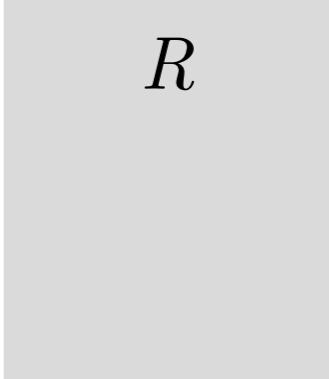
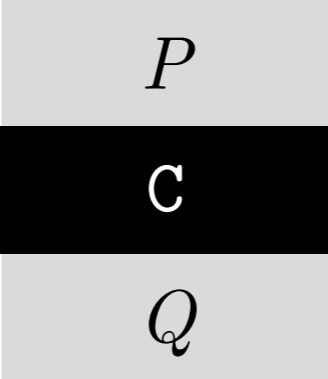
$$\frac{\{P\} \mathbf{C} \{Q\}}{\{P * R\} \mathbf{C} \{Q * R\}}$$

providing  $fv(R) \cap modified(\mathbf{C}) = \{\}$



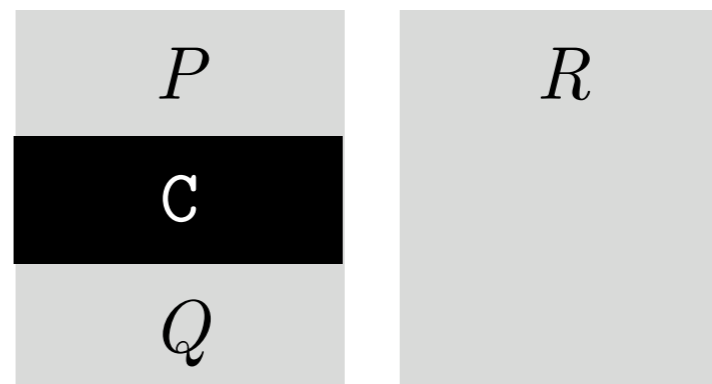
$$\frac{\{P\} \text{ c } \{Q\}}{\{P * R\} \text{ c } \{Q * R\}}$$

~~providing  $f_{\text{c}}(P)$  and  $\text{modified}(C) \equiv \{\}$~~



$$\frac{\{P\} \text{ C } \{Q\}}{\{P * R\} \text{ C } \{Q * R\}}$$

~~providing  $f_{\text{c}}(P)$  and  $\text{modified}(C) \equiv \{\}$~~



Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science 155 (2006)

## Variables as Resource in Separation Logic

Richard Bornat    Cristiano Calcagno    Hongseok Yang

b = 1

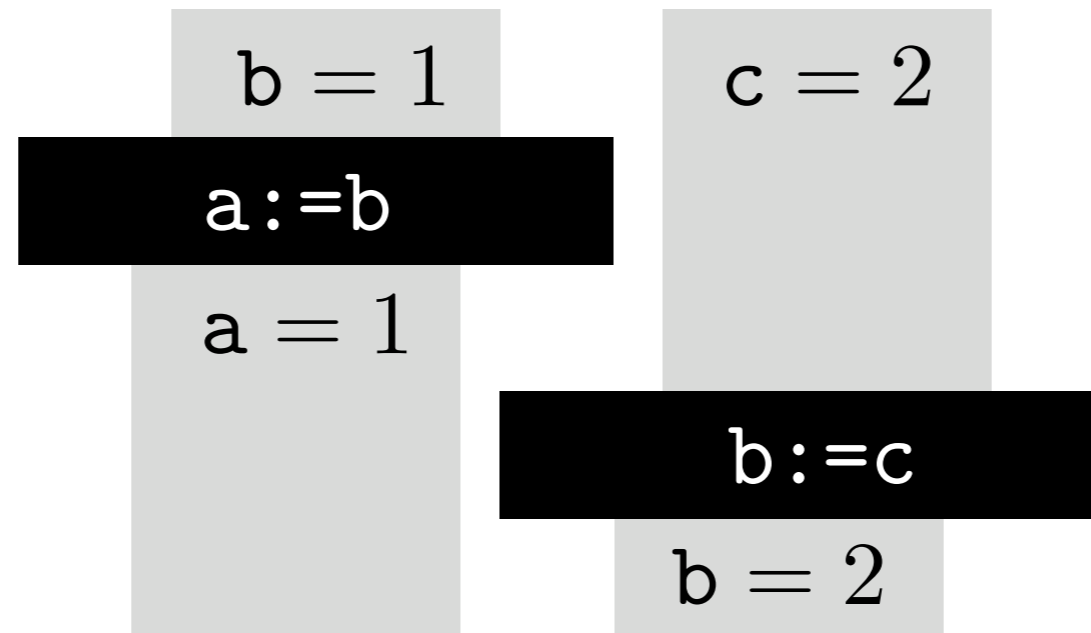
**a := b**

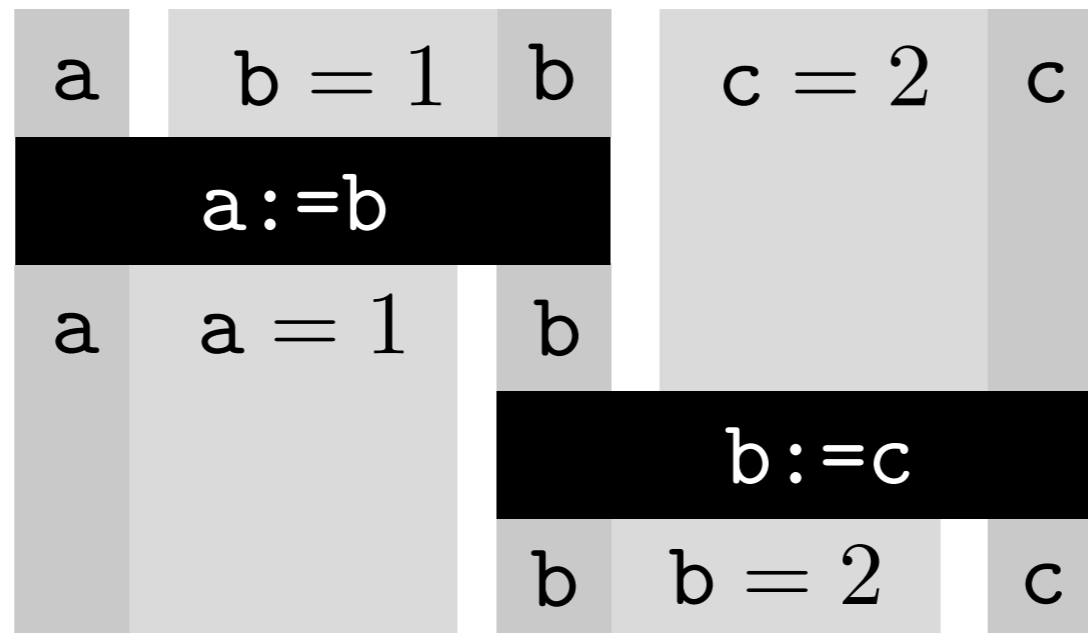
a = 1

c = 2

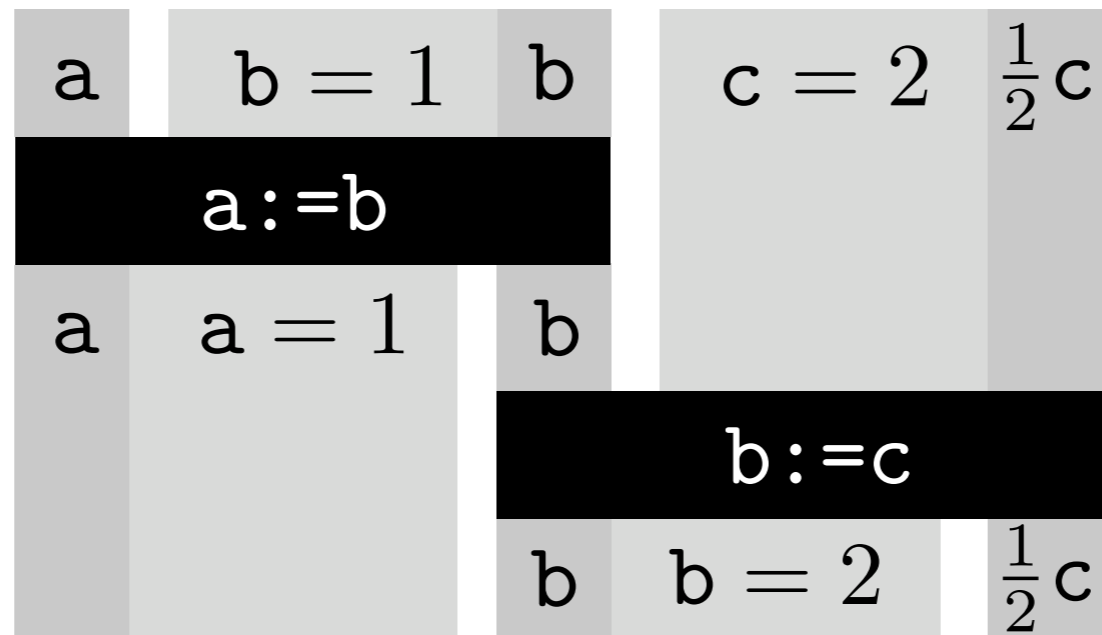
**b := c**

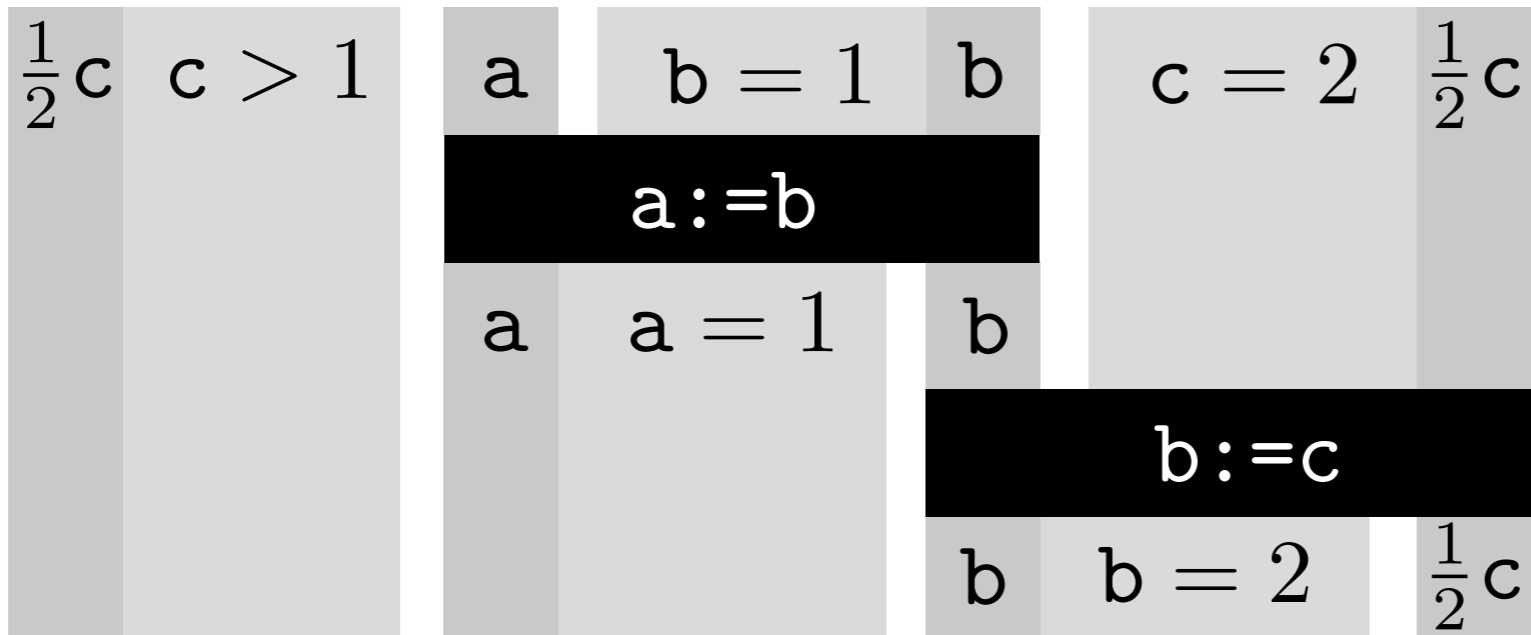
b = 2

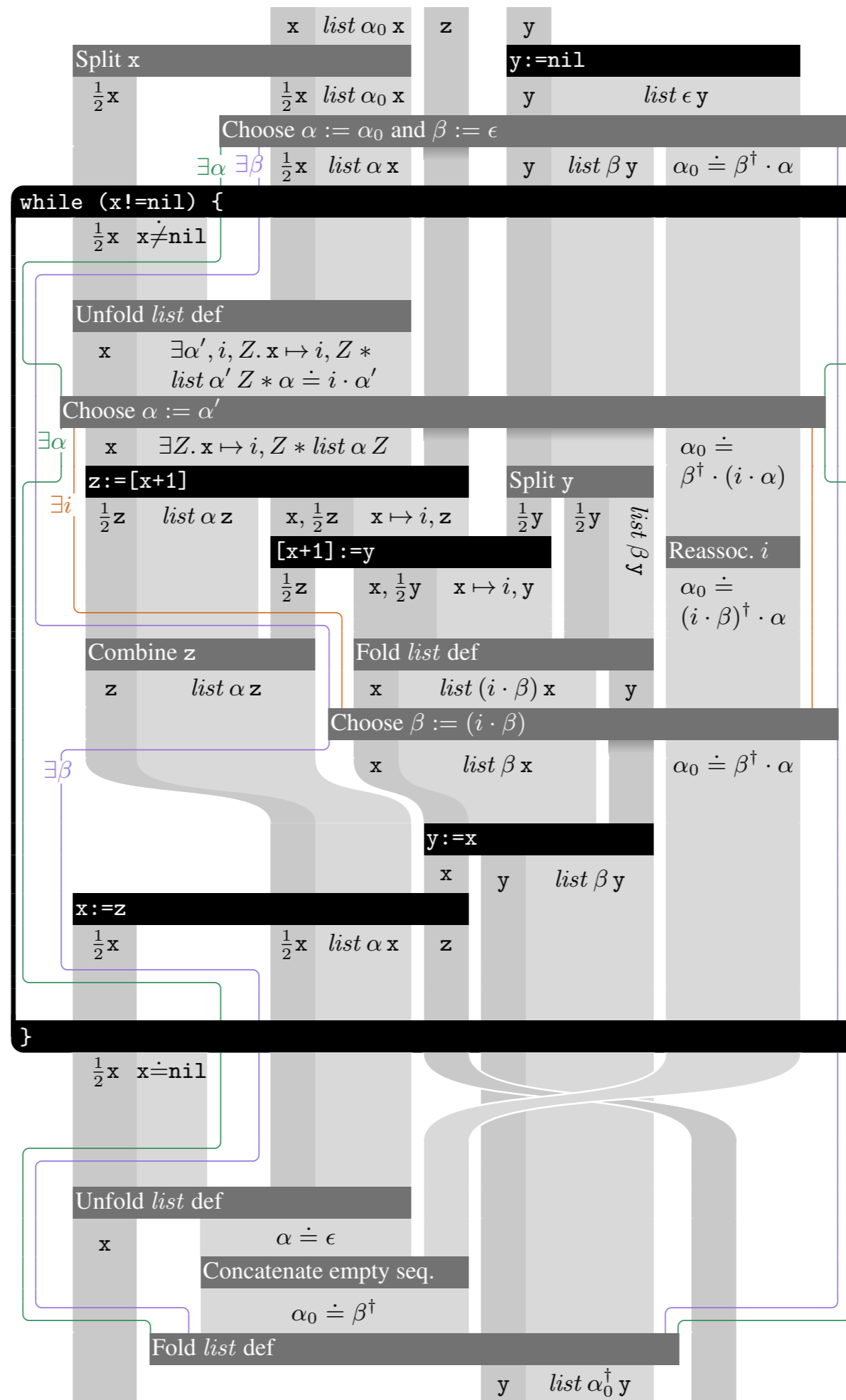


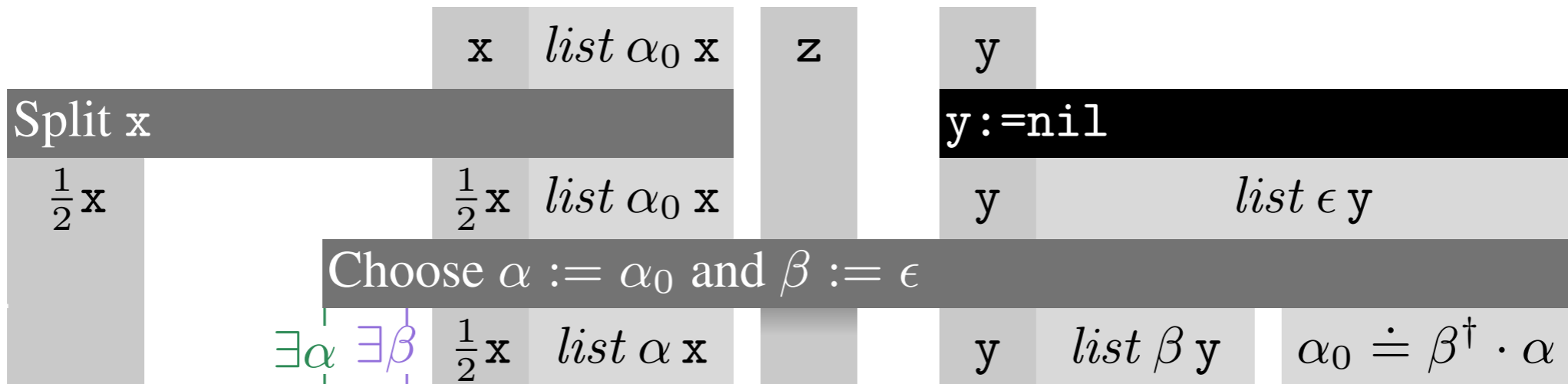












**while** ( $x \neq nil$ ) {

$\frac{1}{2}x$   $x \neq nil$

Unfold *list* def

$x$   $\exists\alpha', i, Z. x \mapsto i, Z * list\ \alpha' Z * \alpha \doteq i \cdot \alpha'$

Choose  $\alpha := \alpha'$

$\exists\alpha$   $x$   $\exists Z. x \mapsto i, Z * list\ \alpha\ Z$

$z := [x+1]$

Split  $y$

$\alpha_0 \doteq \beta^\dagger \cdot (i \cdot \alpha)$

$\exists i$   $\frac{1}{2}z$   $list\ \alpha\ z$

$x, \frac{1}{2}z$   $x \mapsto i, z$

$\frac{1}{2}y$   $\frac{1}{2}y$

*list*  $\beta\ y$

$[x+1] := y$

Reassoc.  $i$

$\frac{1}{2}z$   $x, \frac{1}{2}y$   $x \mapsto i, y$

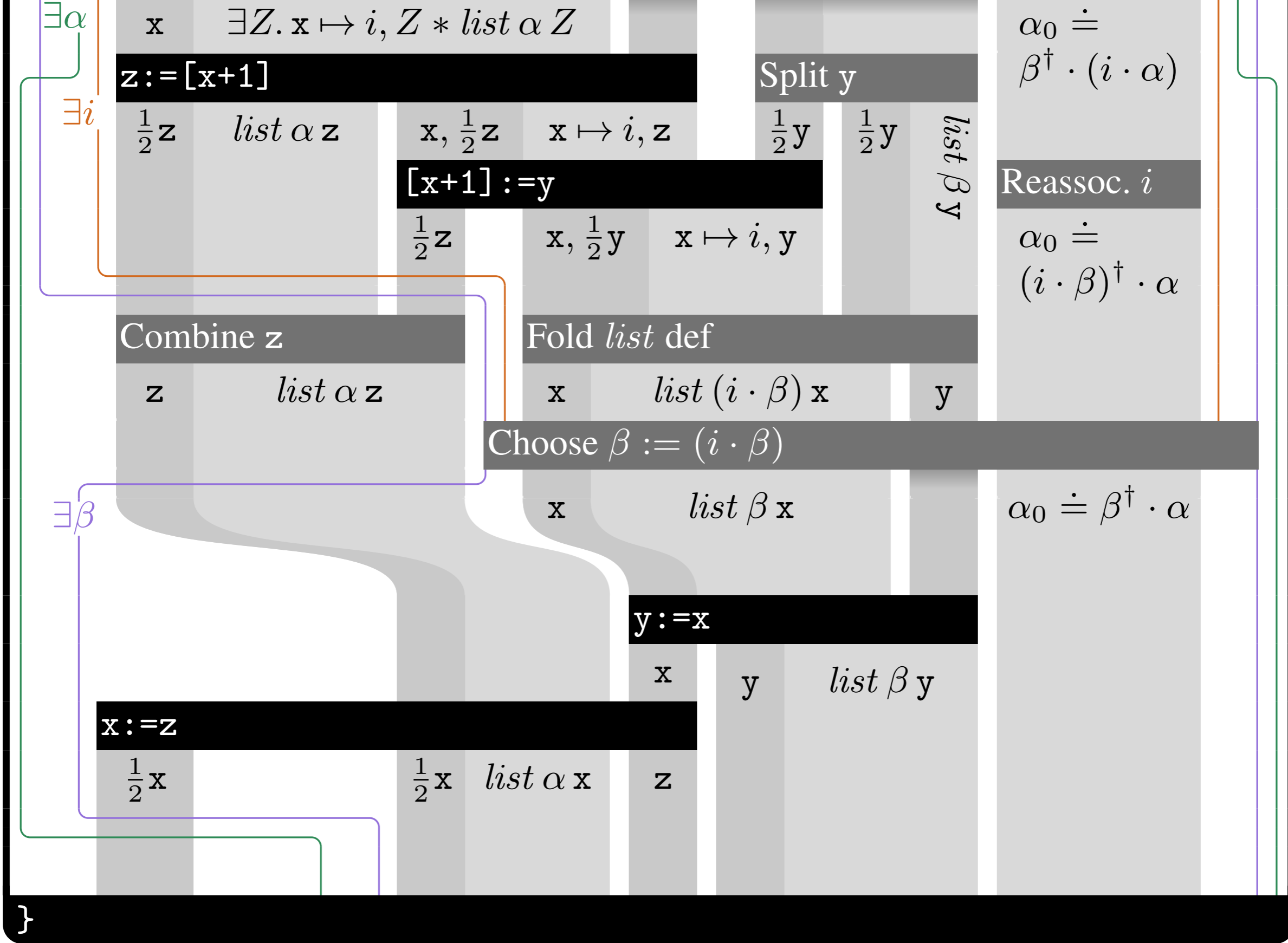
$\alpha_0 \doteq (i \cdot \beta)^\dagger \cdot \alpha$

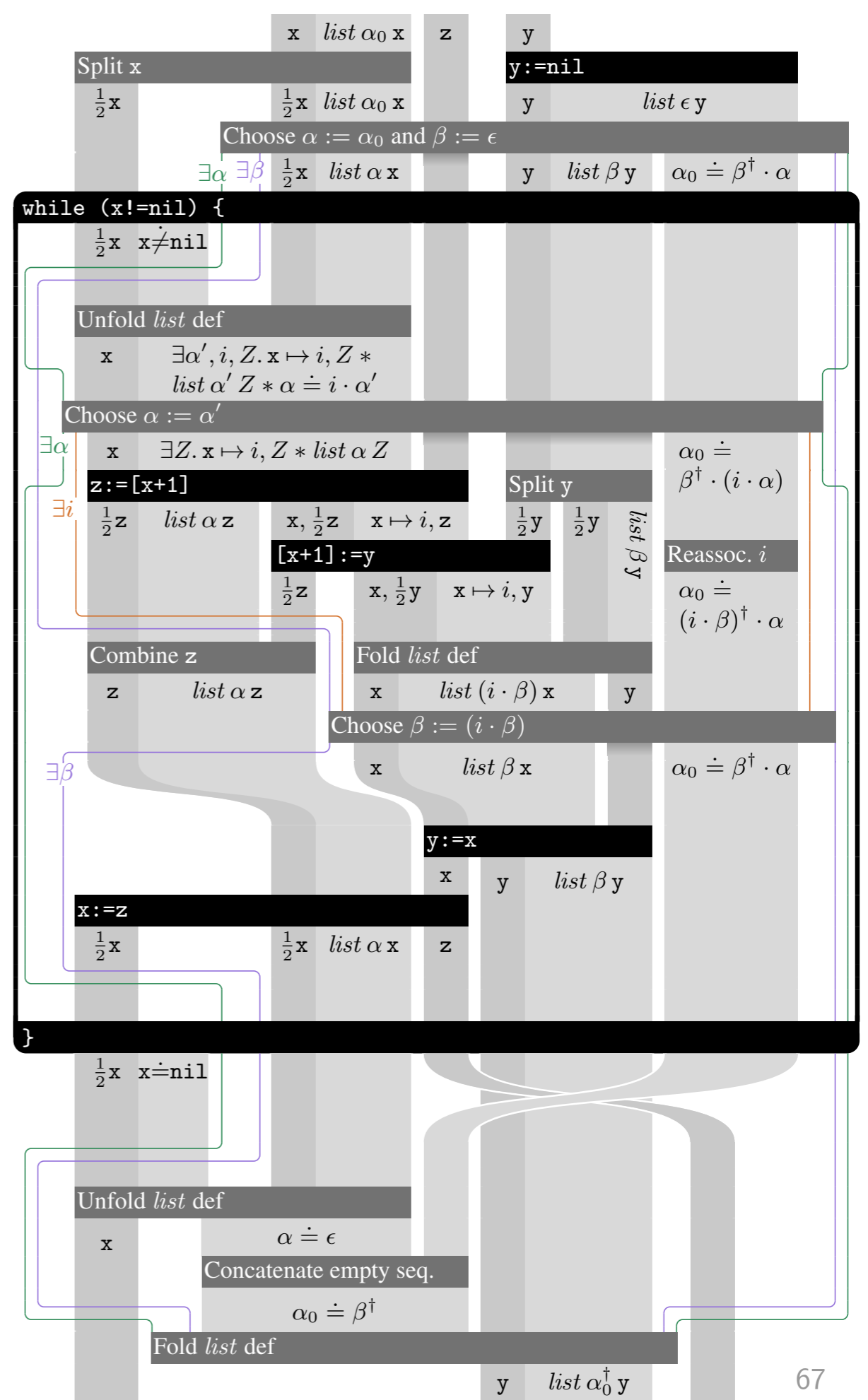
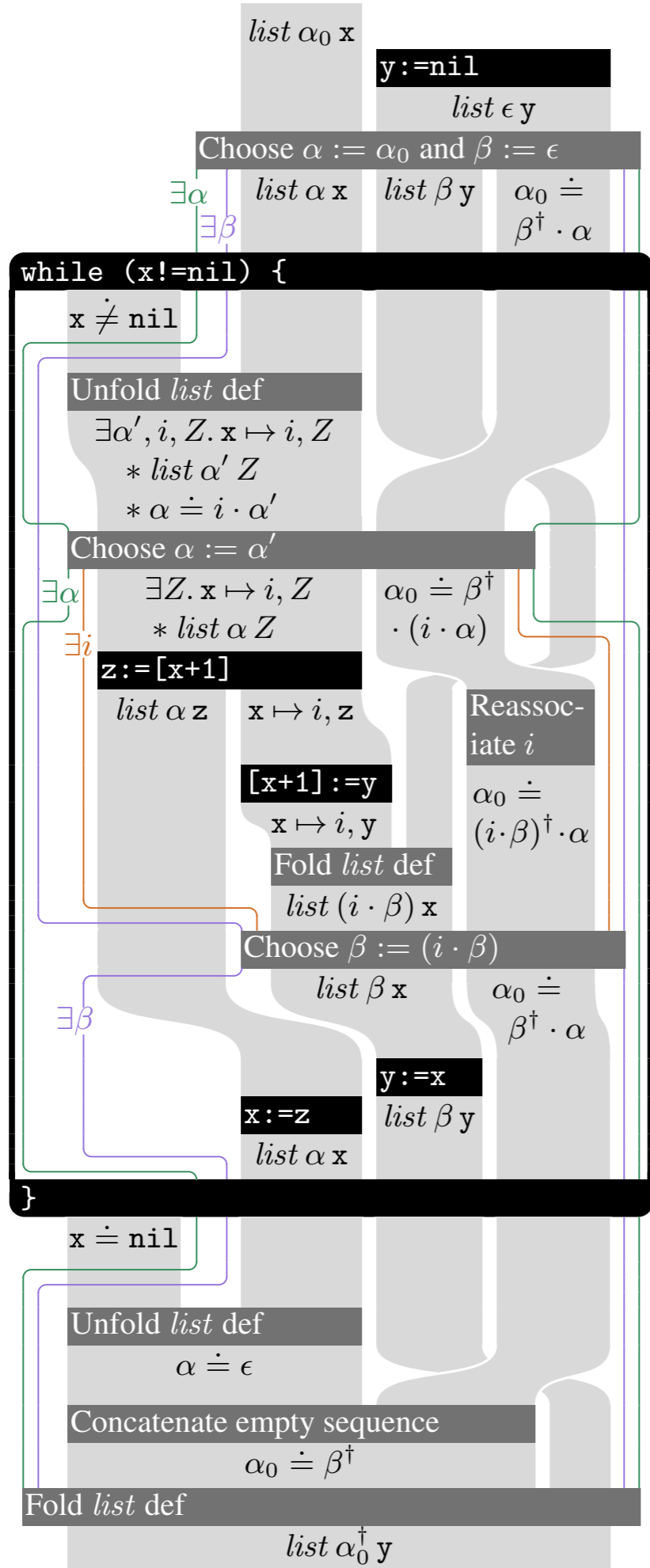
Combine  $z$

$z$   $list\ \alpha\ z$

Fold *list* def

$x$   $list\ (i \cdot \beta)\ x$   $y$





# Future directions

# Where now?

- Define two-dimensional syntax of ribbon proofs, a formal semantics, and a collection of proof rules
- Graphical user interface for constructing and checking ribbon proofs
- Application to more exotic program logics
- Connections to bigraphs, string diagrams, proof nets



# Ribbon proofs are...

- ▶ an alternative to **proof outlines**
- ▶ **readable, flexible, and attractive**
- ▶ applicable to **separation logic** (and descendants)
- ▶ less **repetitive** than proof outlines, so more **scalable**