

# Verifying Casper

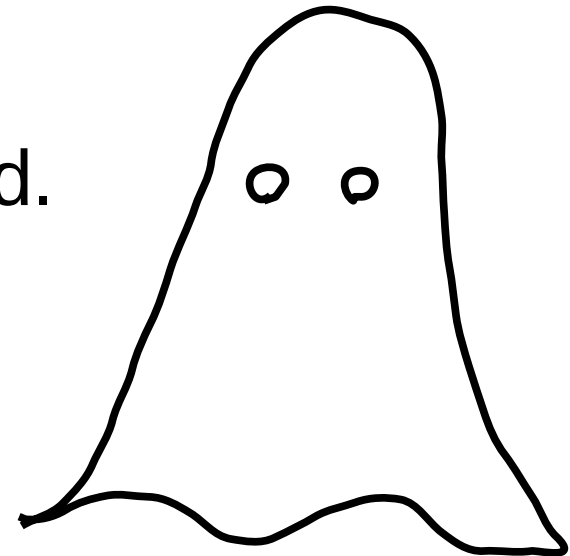
Yoichi Hirai

Ethereum Foundation

Cancun, Nov. 1, 2017

# The Casper contract

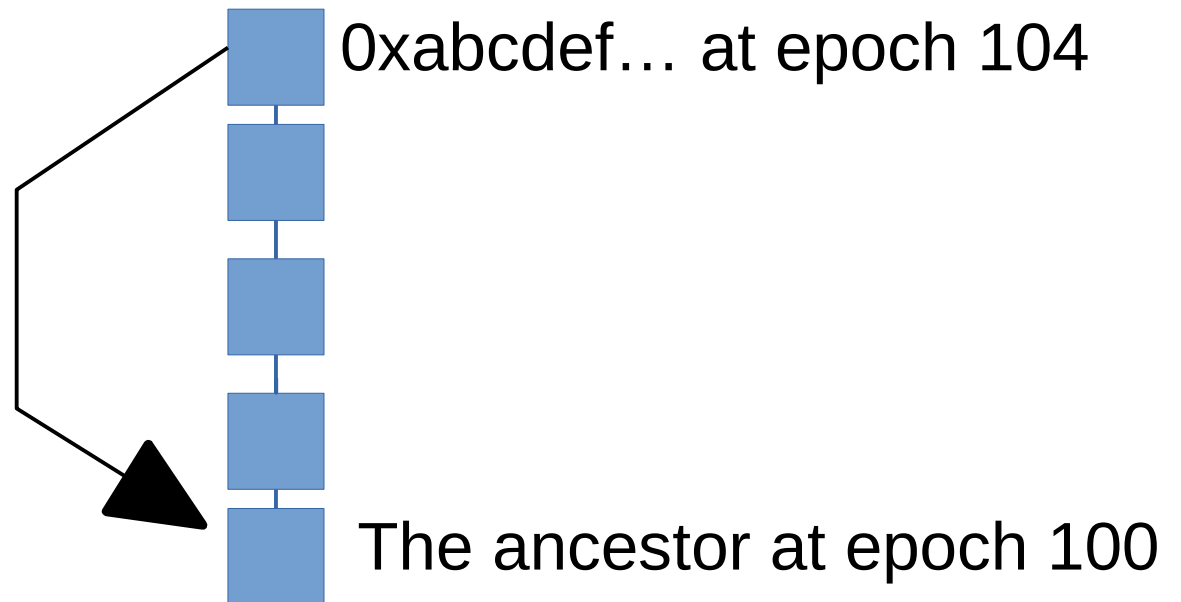
- There will be the Casper contract on each fork
- Validators deposit ETH.
- Casper contract sees validators' signed messages.
- and says which block is finalized.
- Validators get rewards, or get deposits taken away.
- Everything in this talk is seen from one of the Casper contracts.



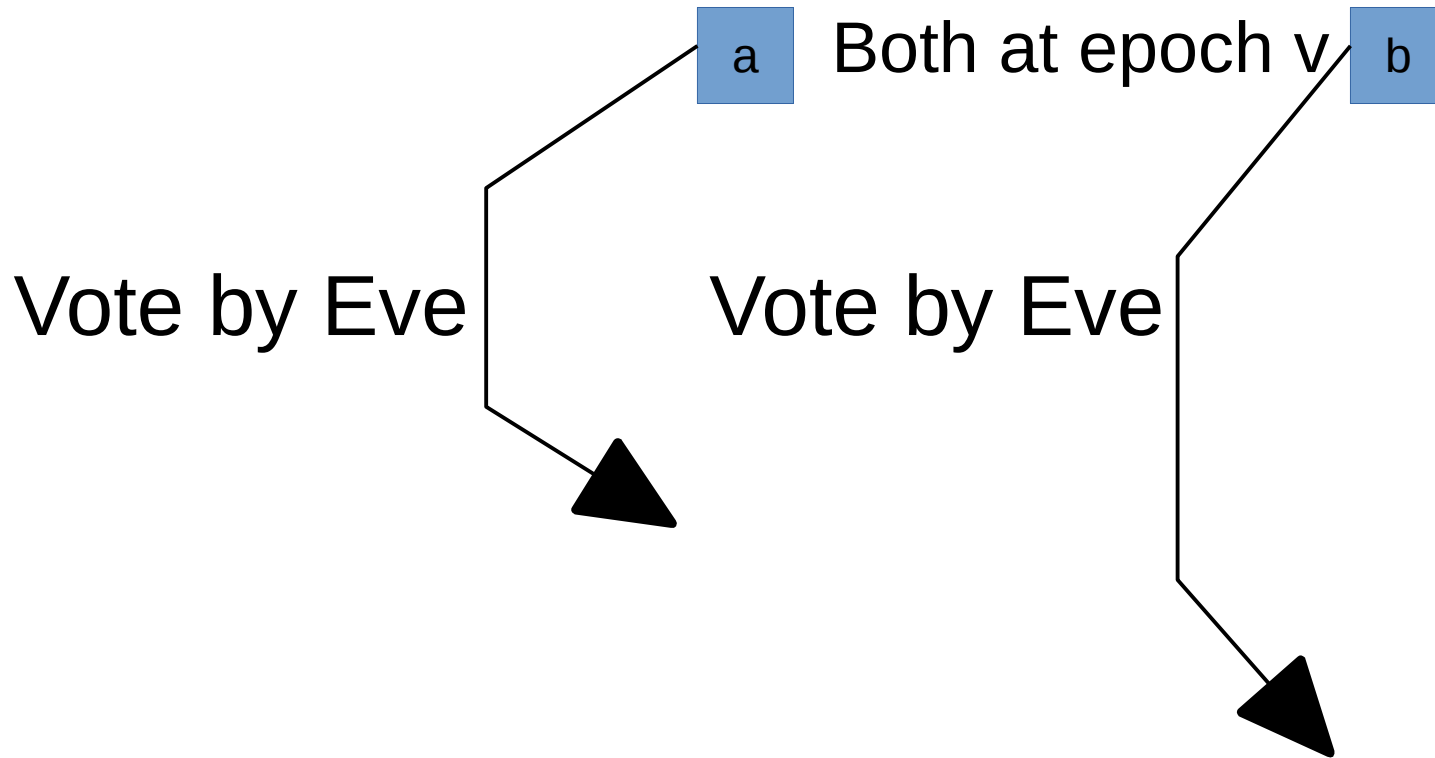
# Validators can vote for a block

- `Vote(epoch, hash, source)` by a validator
- `Vote(104, 0xabcdef..., 100)`

- Voting for 0xabcdef...  
at epoch 104,  
citing the ancestor at  
epoch 100 as  
a source

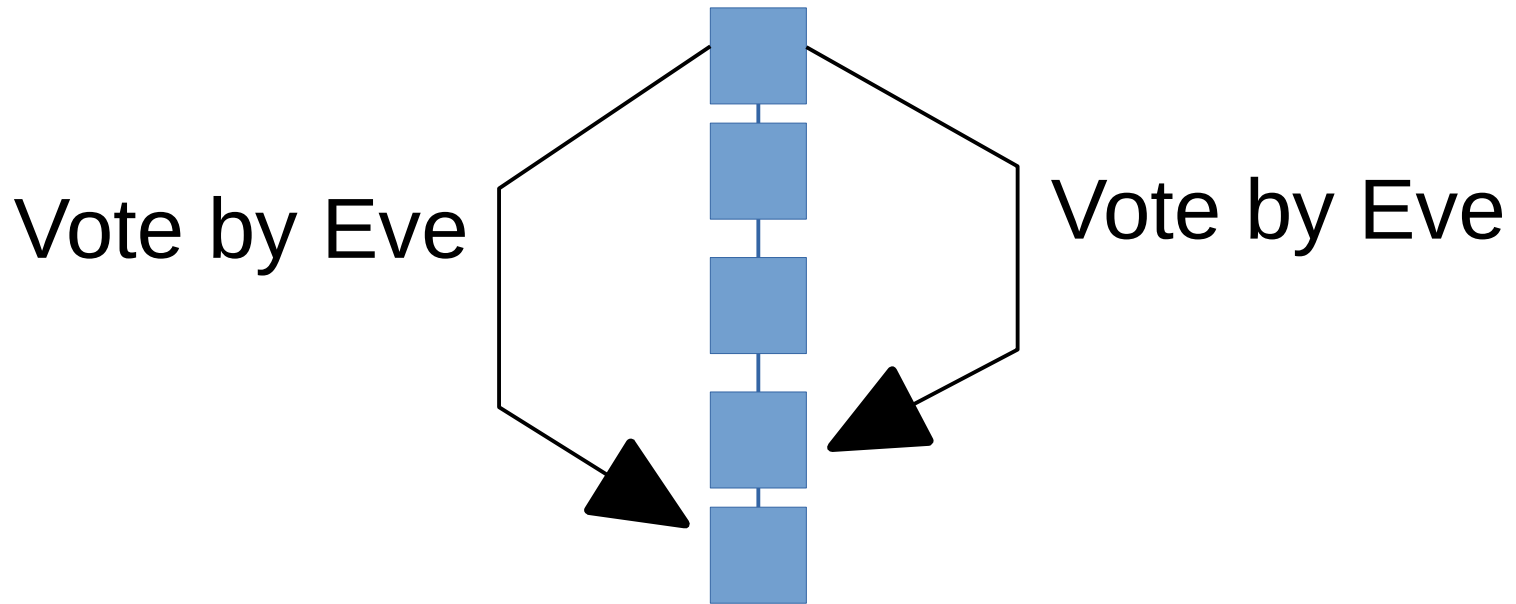


# No double voting (diff blocks, same epoch)



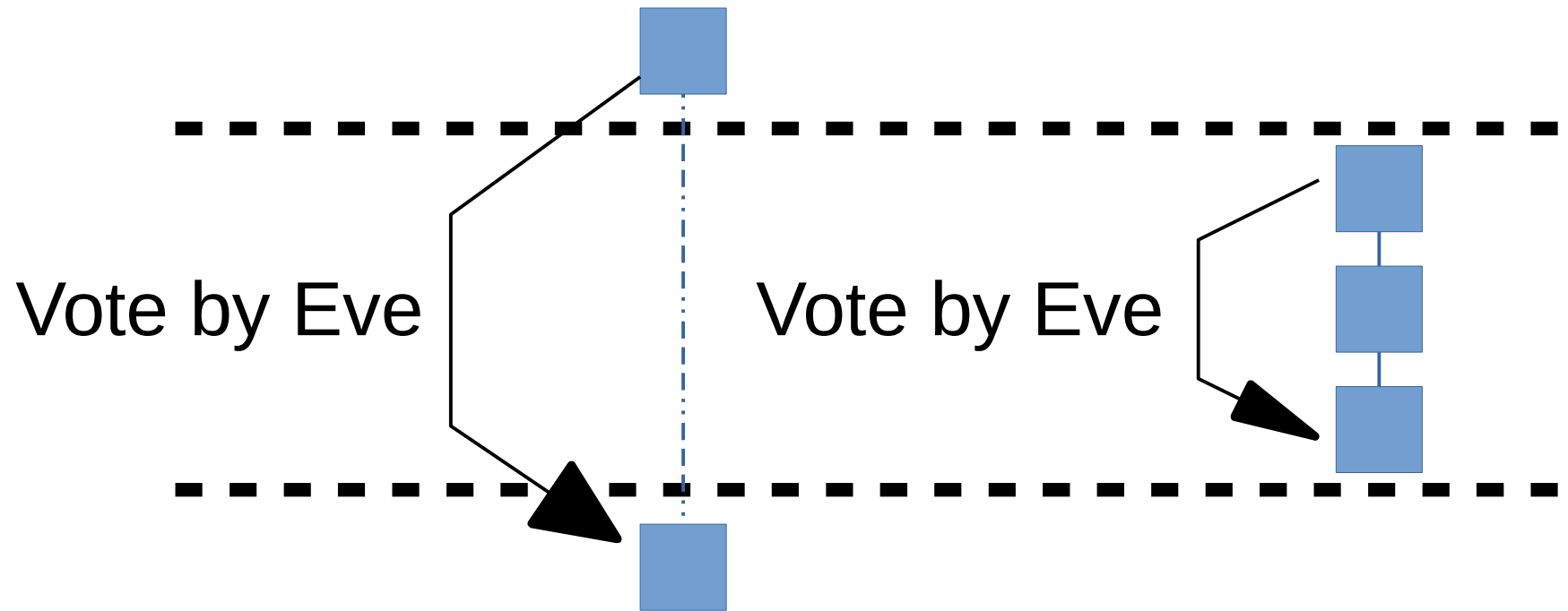
- Eve's deposits are gone if a and b are different.

# No double voting (same epoch, different source)



- Eve's deposits are gone if sources are different for the same epoch.

# No “surrounding”



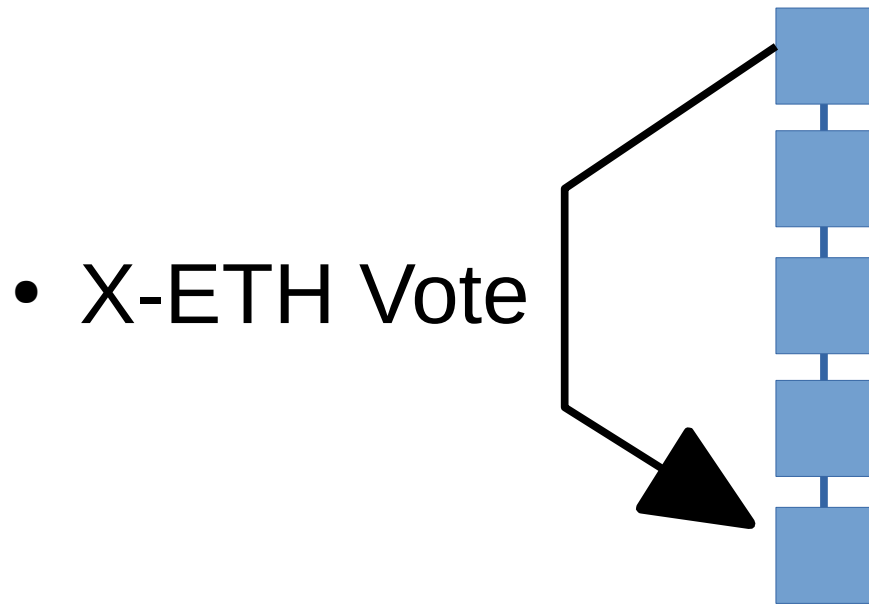
- Eve’s deposits are gone if her vote jumps over another (judged by epoch heights only)

# Sole Responsibility

- To avoid being slashed,  
you just need to be careful what you sign.

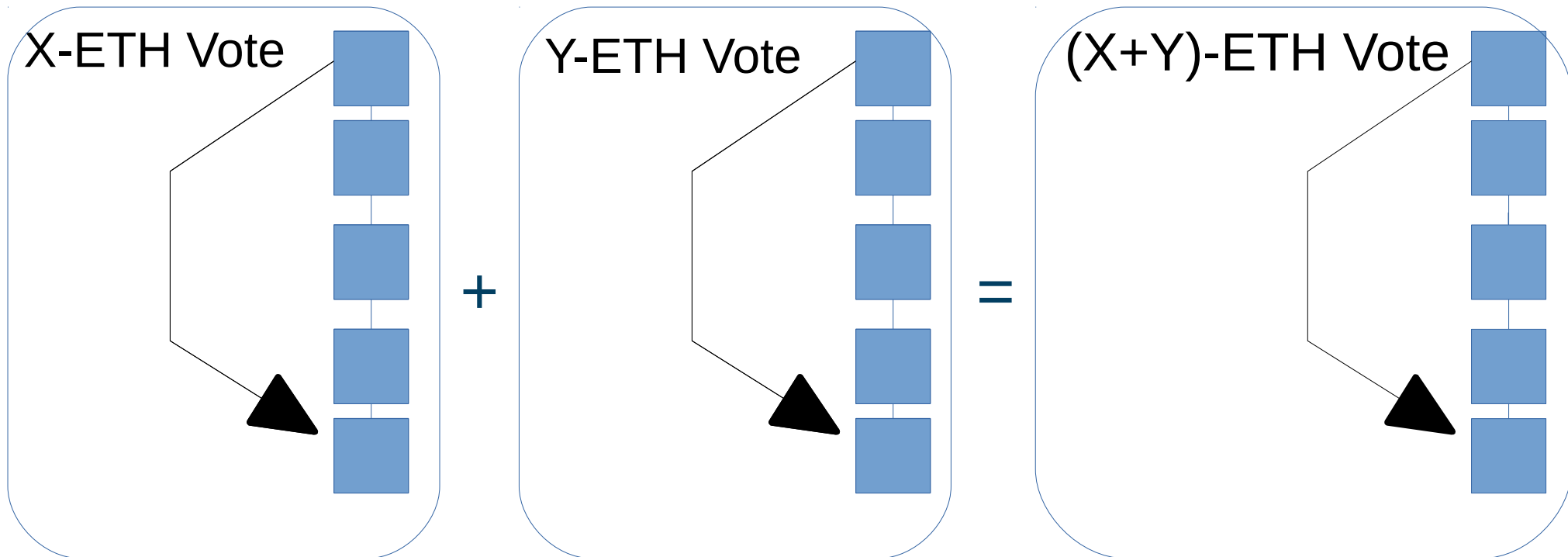
# Validators have deposits

## Votes can be weighed by deposits



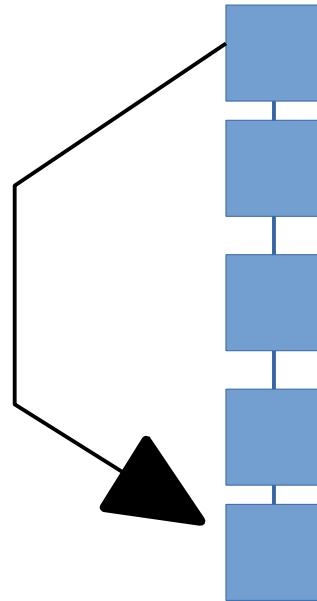


# Weights can be added

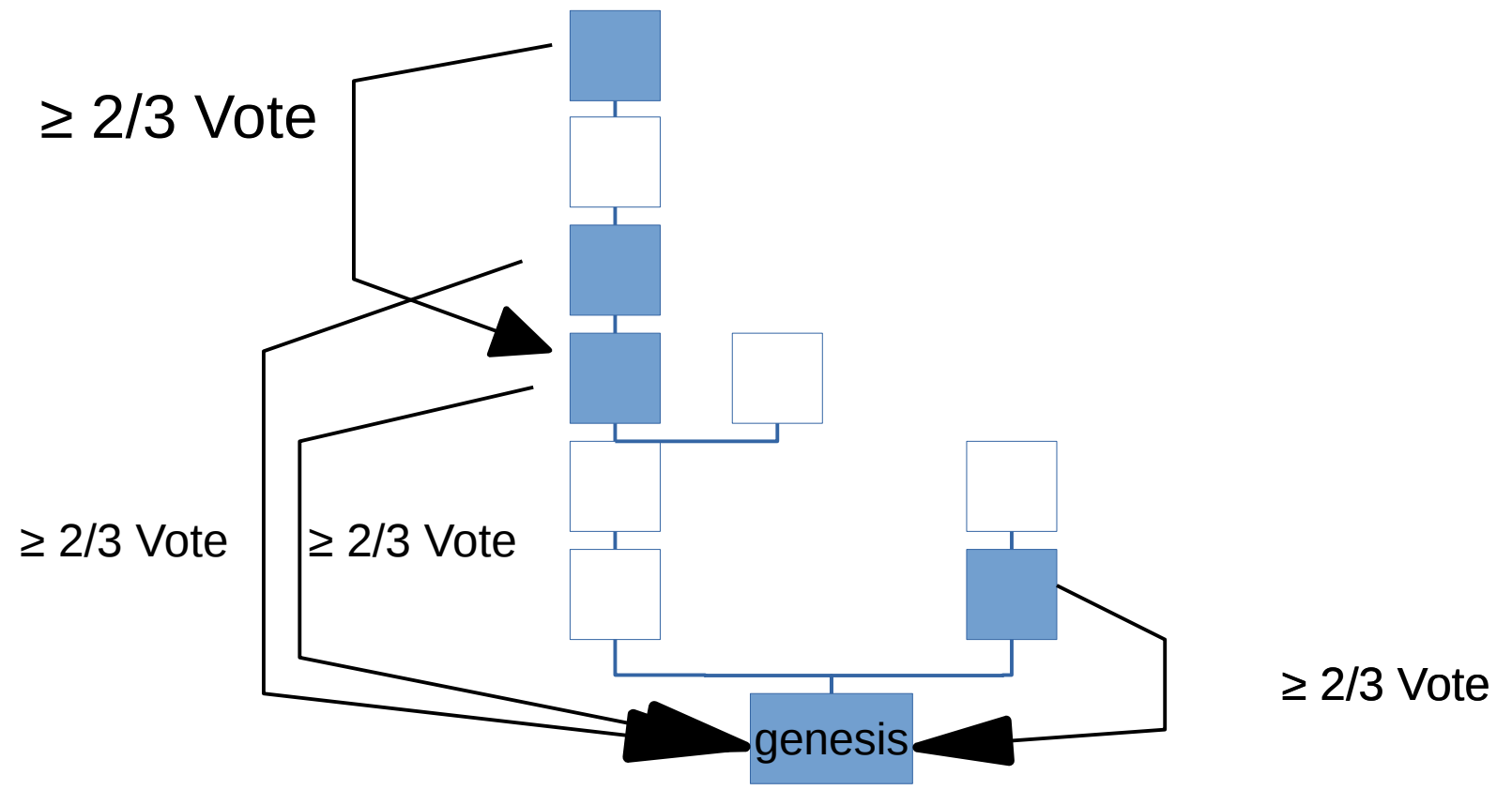


# Ratio in the whole deposits

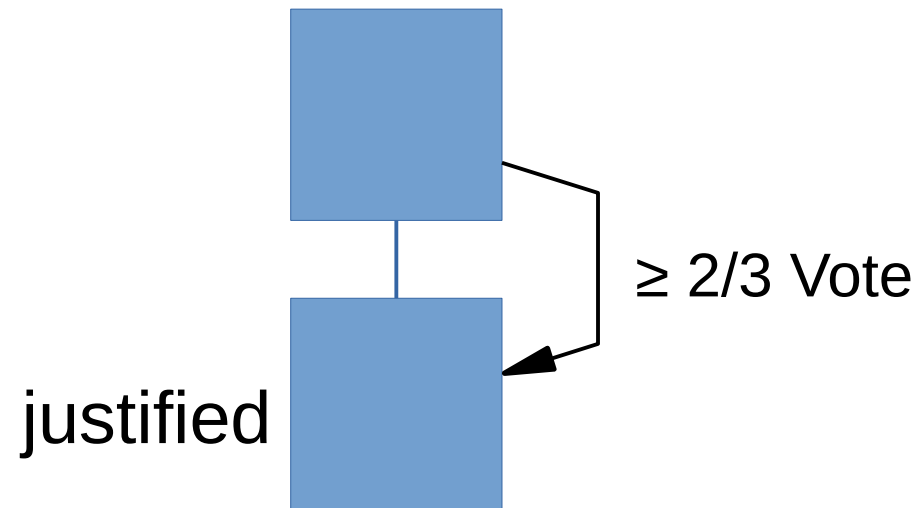
- $2/3$  Vote



# Justified Blocks ■



# Finalized Blocks

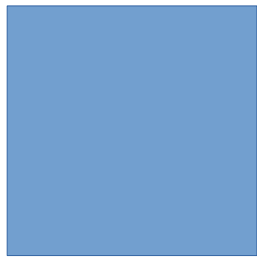


# Accountable Safety

- If finalized blocks fork, we can find  $1/3$  slashed.

# Assumption

Finalized



Finalized

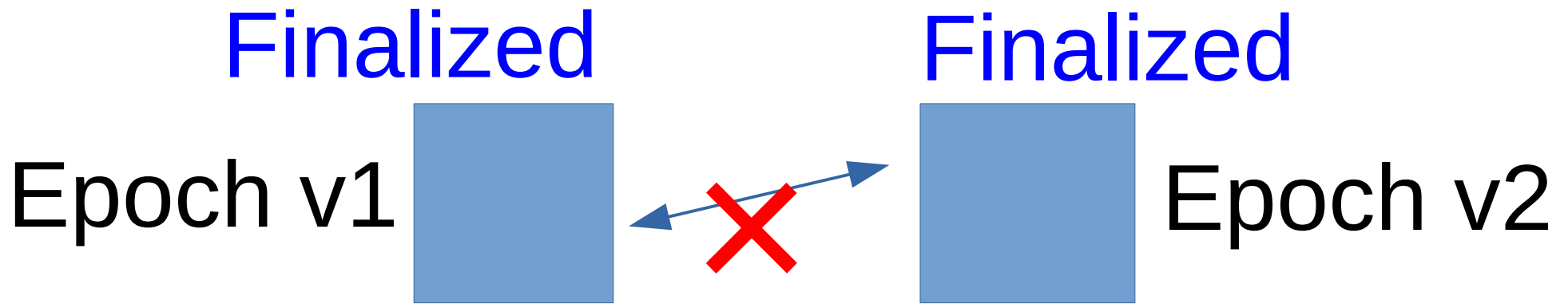


Not on the same chain

# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption



Not on the same chain

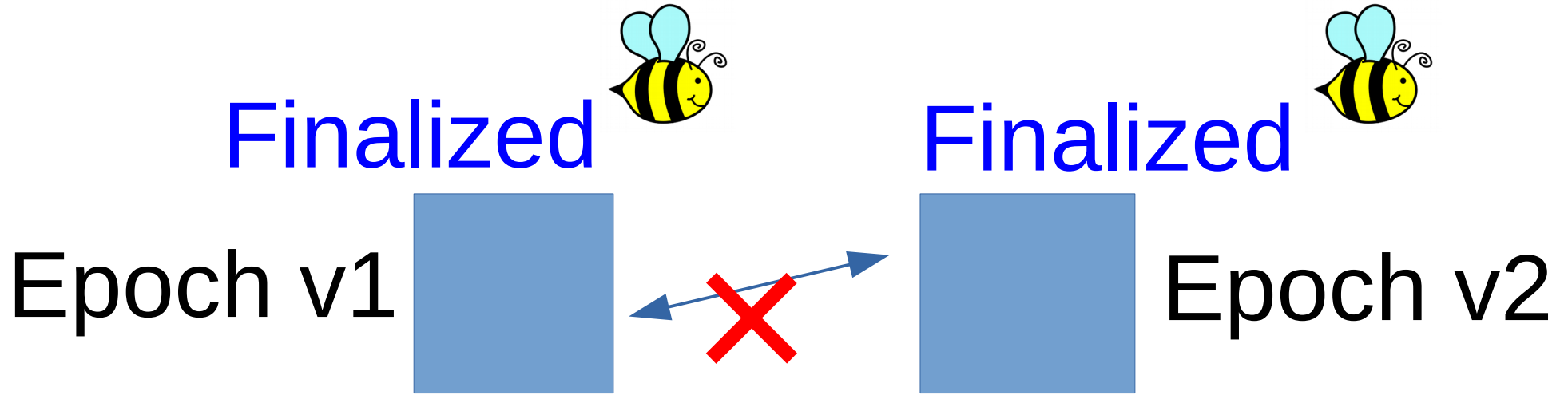
$v1 = v2$  or  $v1 \neq v2$

Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption

<https://openclipart.org/detail/191898/bumble-bee>



Not on the same chain

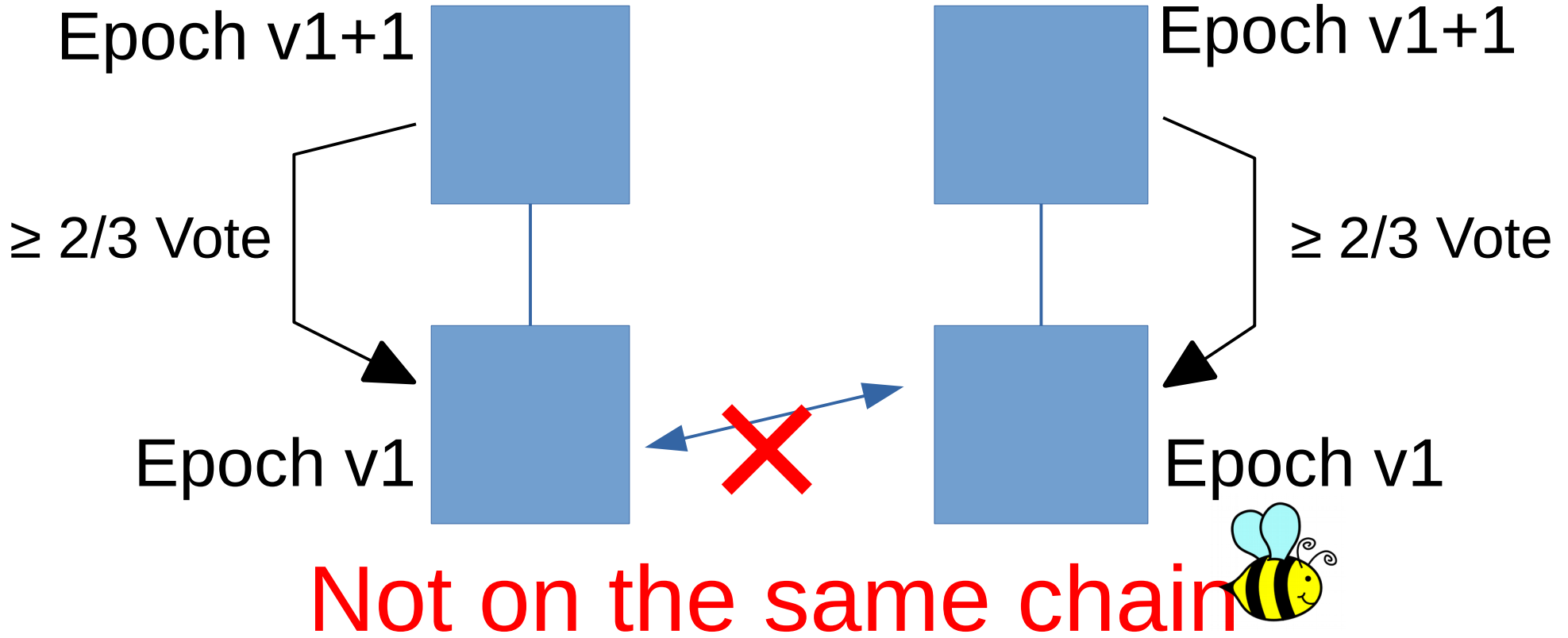
$$v1 = v2$$

Goal

1/3 validators slashed



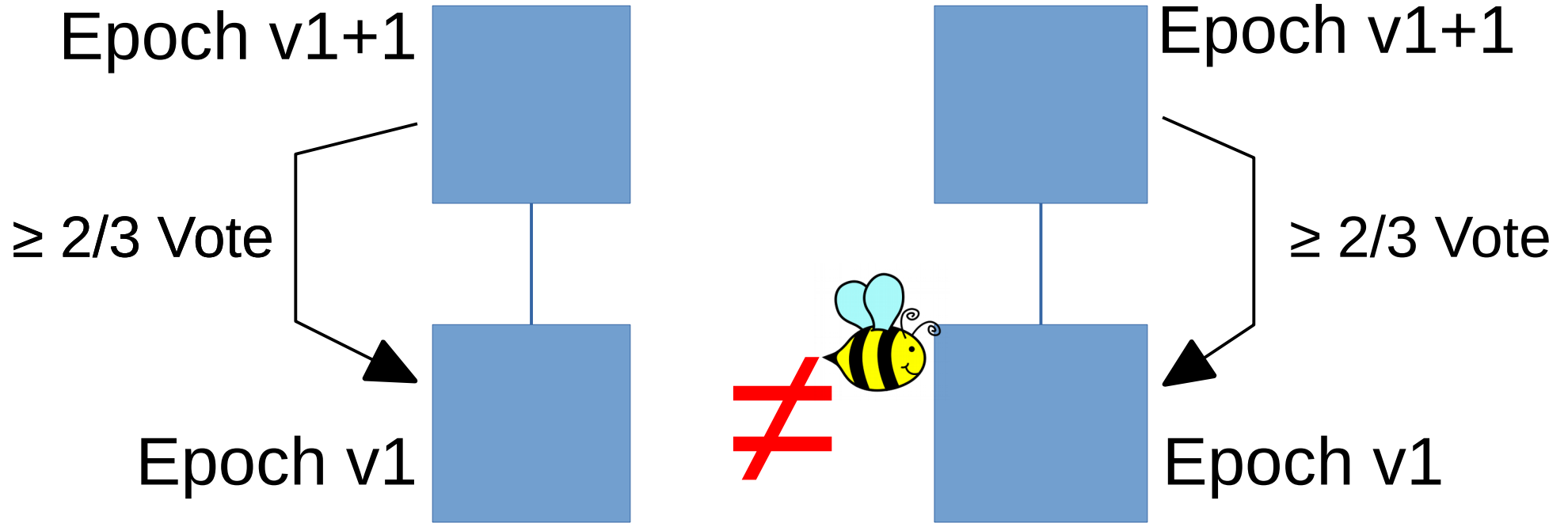
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

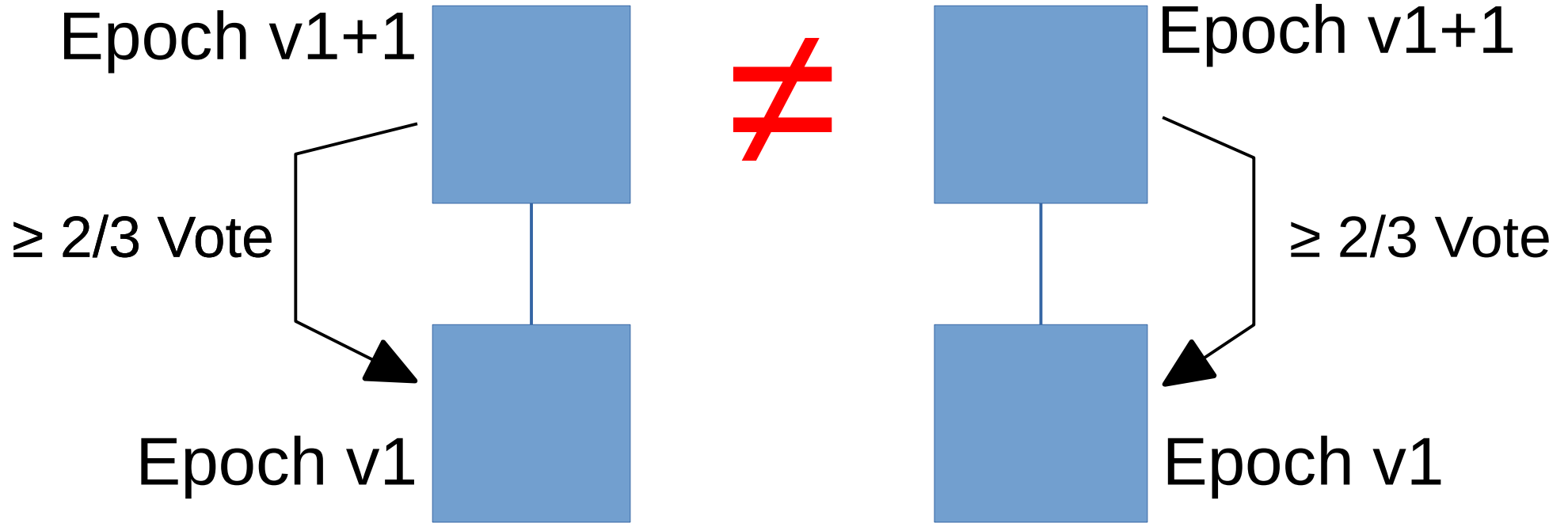
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

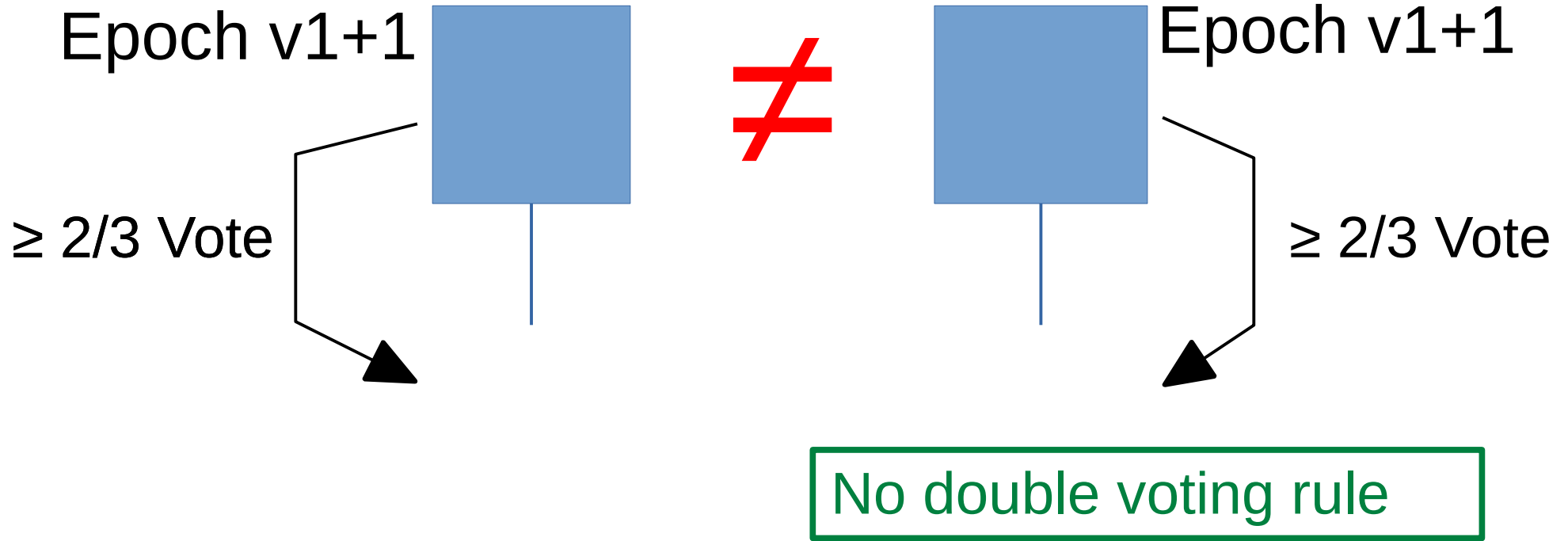
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

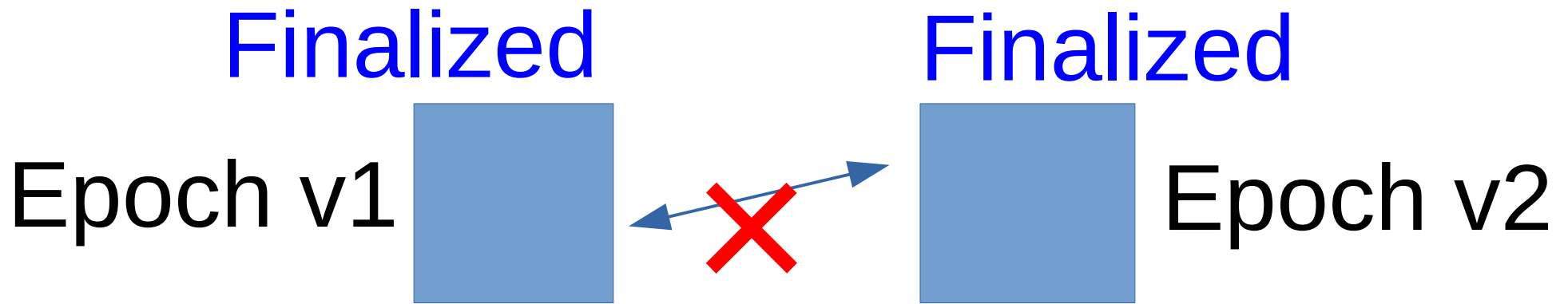
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption



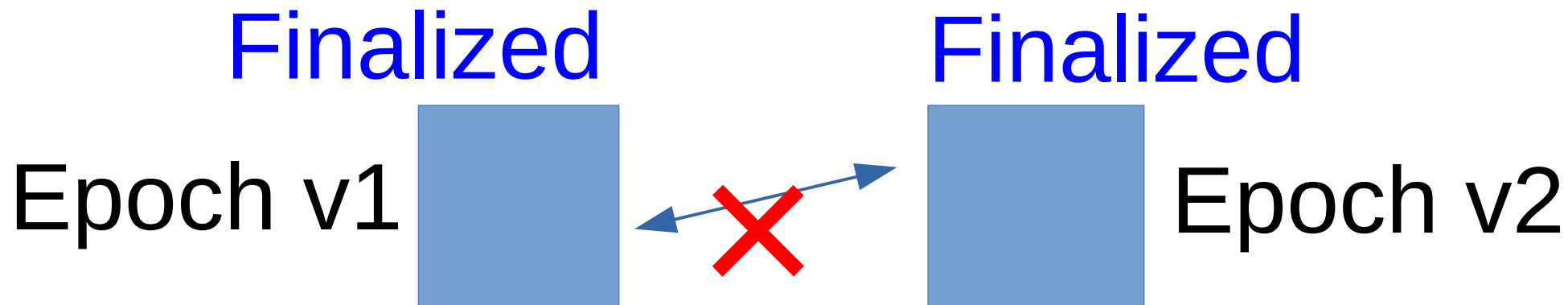
Not on the same chain

$v1 \neq v2$  

Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption



Not on the same chain

$v1 > v2$  or  $v1 < v2$



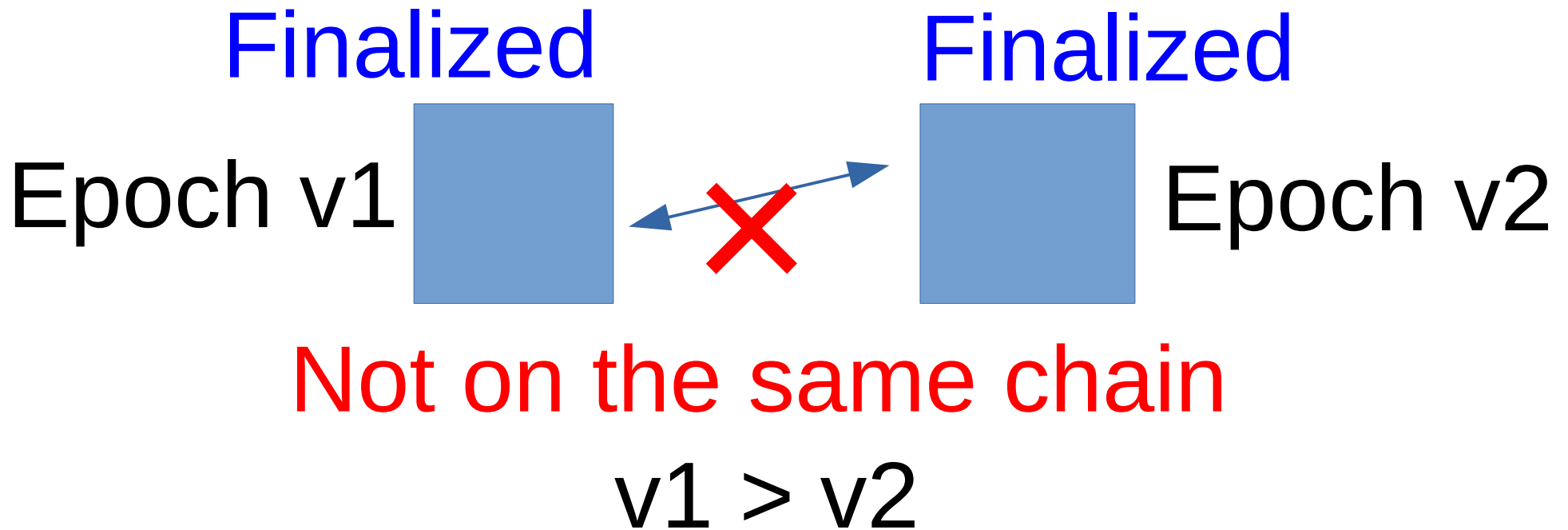
Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# WLOG!

- Without Loss Of Generality

# Assumption



Goal

1/3 validators slashed

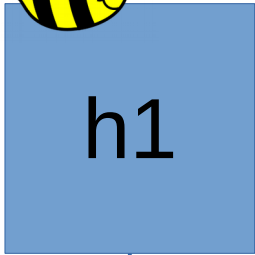


# Assumption

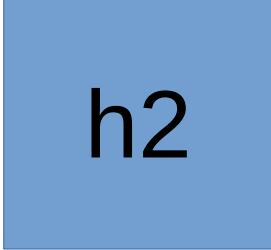


Finalized

Epoch v1



Not ancestor-descendant



Finalized  
Epoch v2

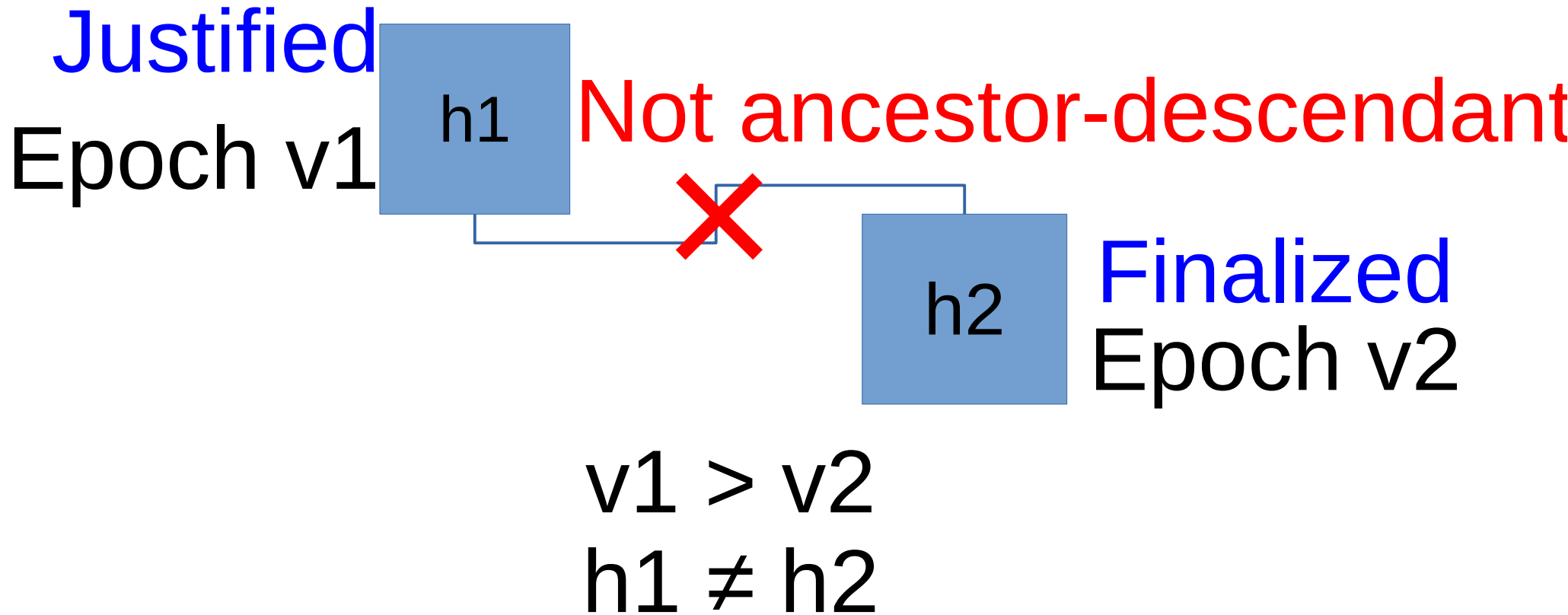
$$v1 > v2$$

$$h1 \neq h2$$

# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption

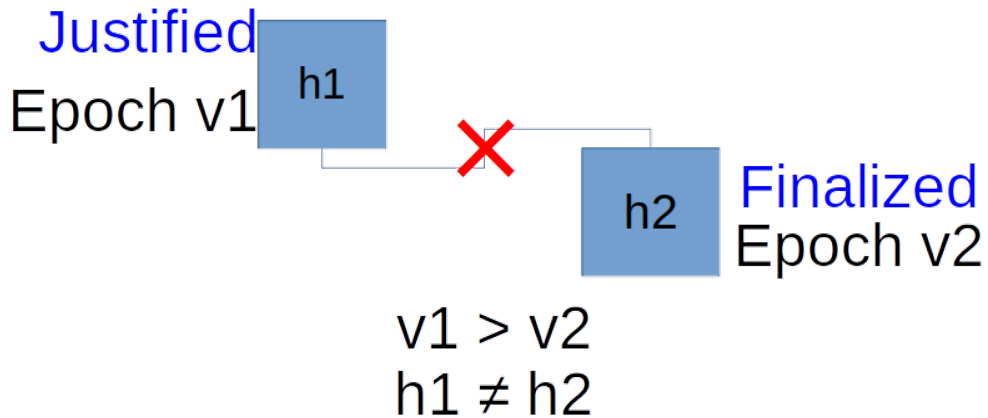


# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Induction on $v1 - v2$

## Assumption



Goal 1/3 validators slashed

What next?

$v1 - v2 = 5 \dots$  done

$v1 - v2 = 4 \dots$  done

$v1 - v2 = 3 \dots$  done

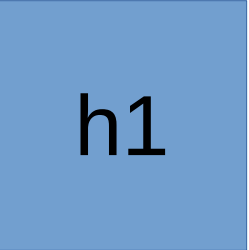
$v1 - v2 = 2 \dots$  done

$v1 - v2 = 1 \dots$  done

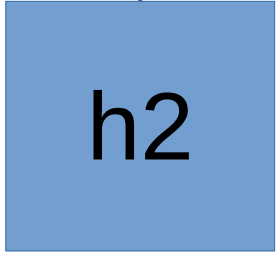
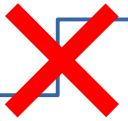
# Assumption



Justified  
Epoch v1



Not ancestor-descendant



Finalized  
Epoch v2

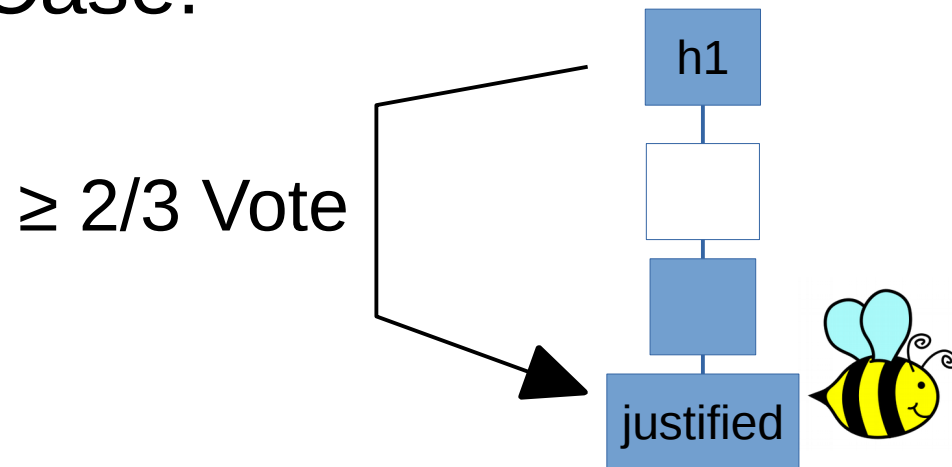
$v1 > v2$   
 $h1 \neq h2$

# Goal

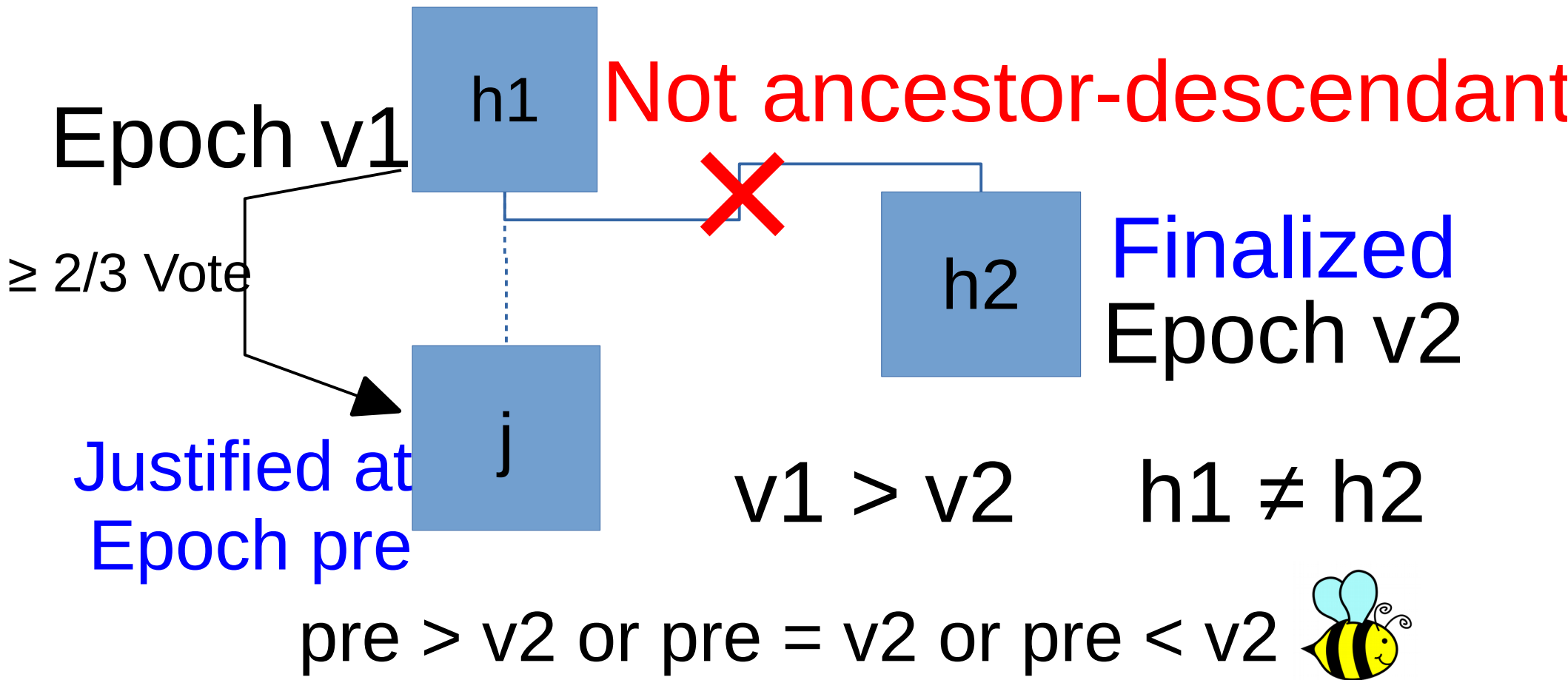
1/3 validators slashed

# h1 is justified

- Case: h1 is genesis and  $v1 = 0$   
(cannot be the case because  $v1 > v2$ )
- Case:



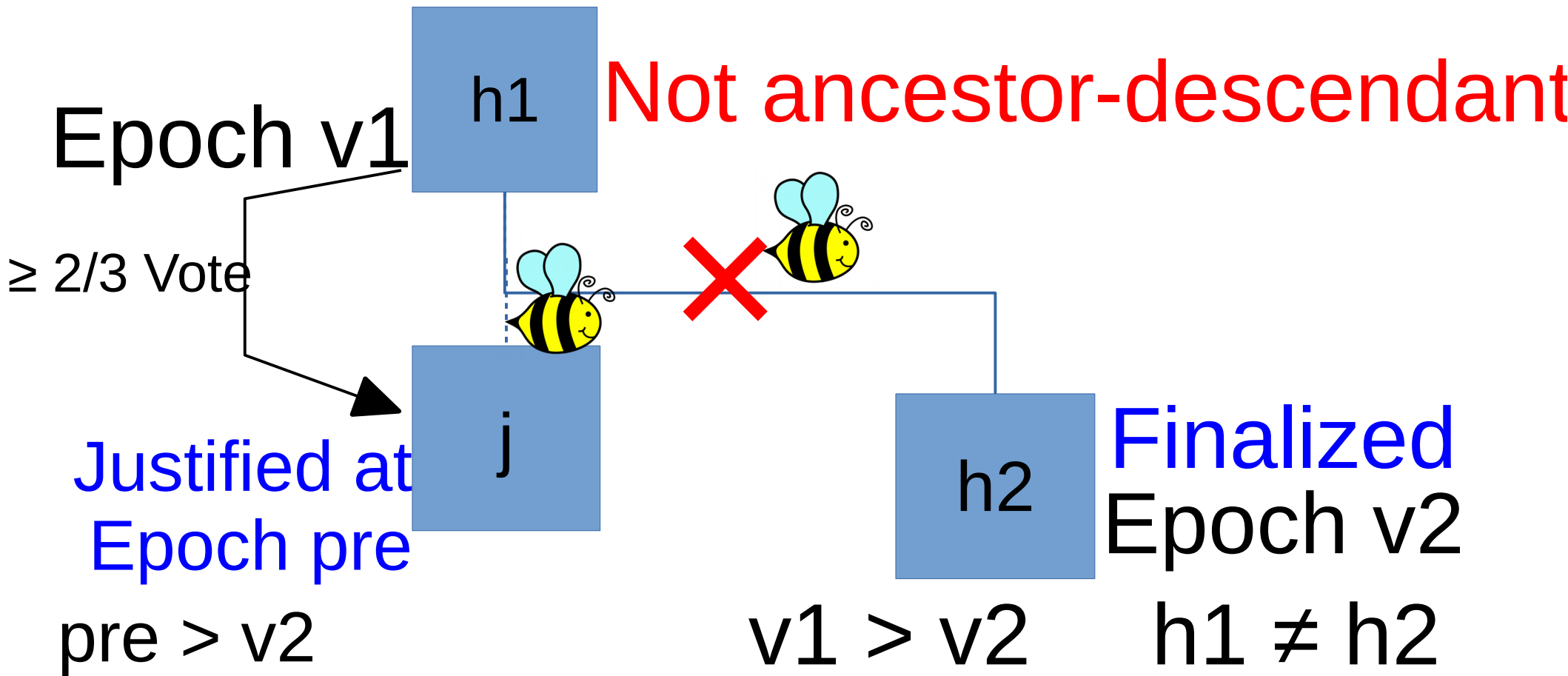
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

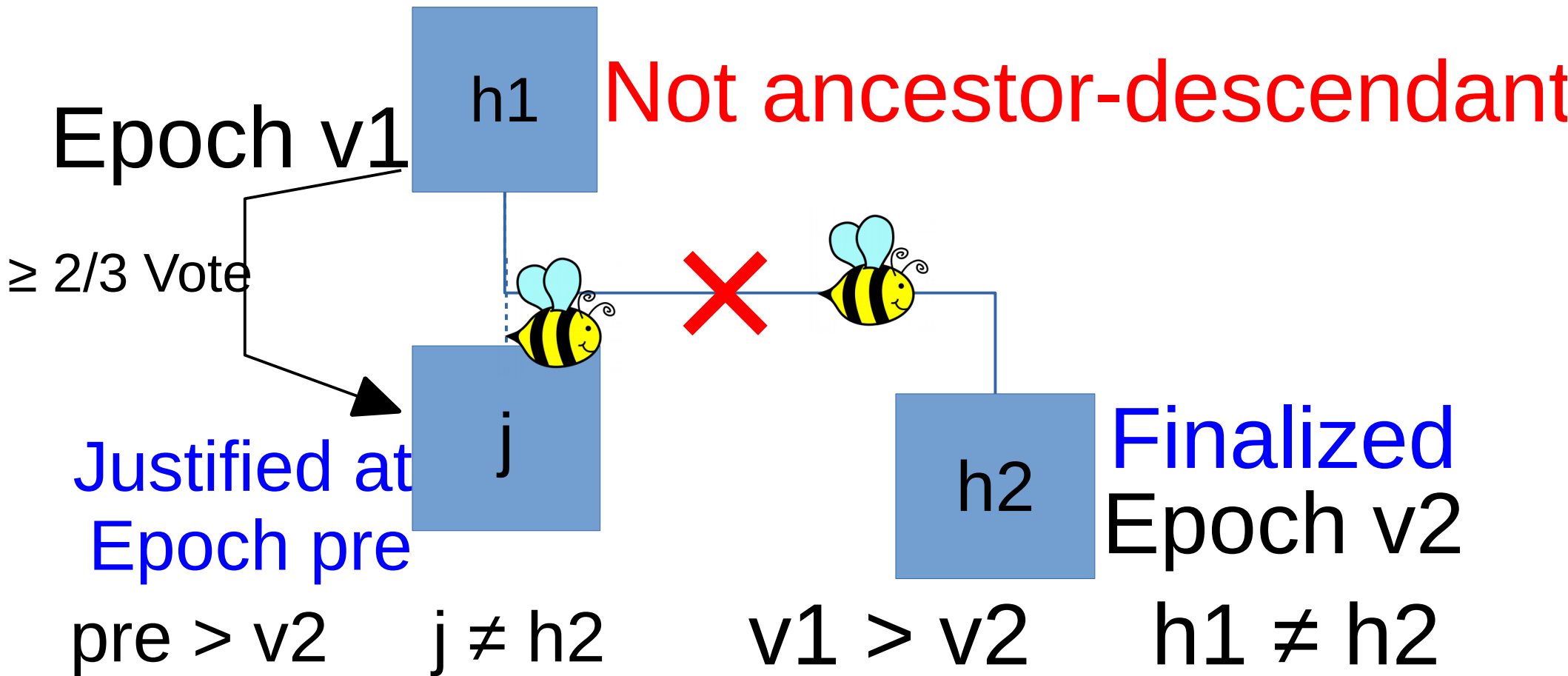
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption

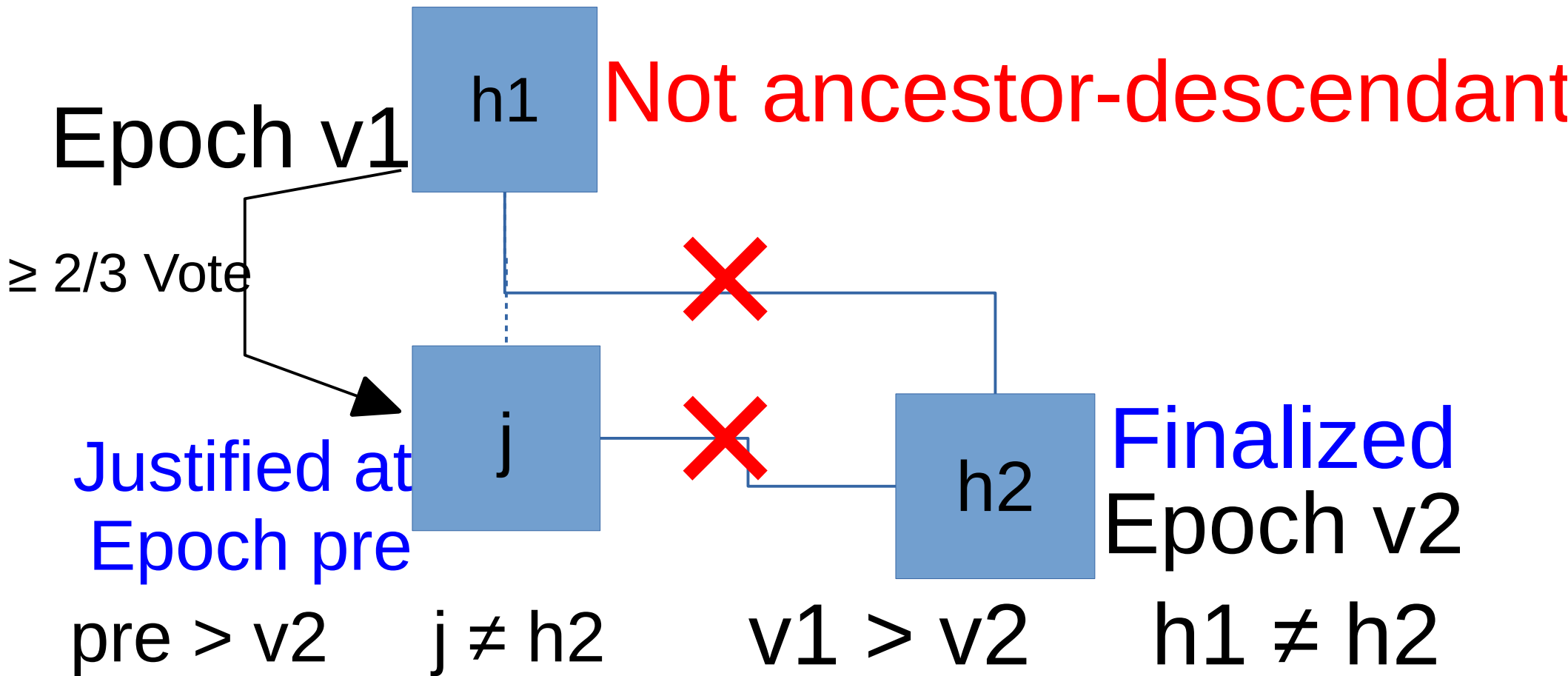


# Goal

1/3 validators slashed



# Assumption



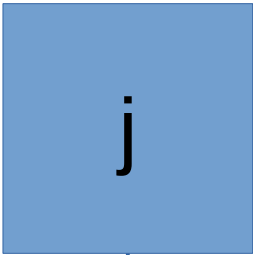
# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

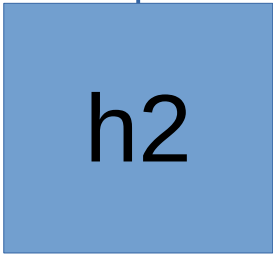
# Assumption

Justified

Epoch  
pre



Not ancestor-descendant



Finalized  
Epoch v2

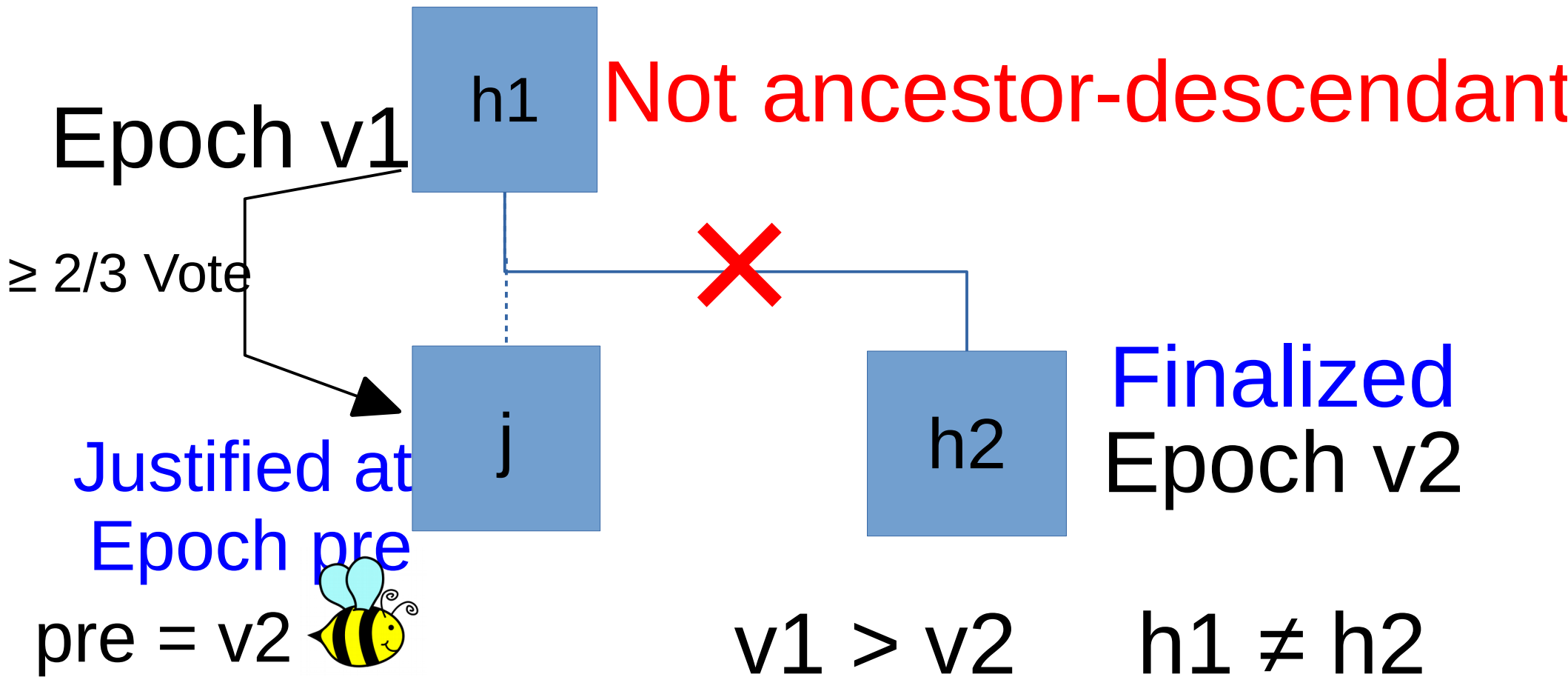
$$\text{pre} > \text{v2}$$
$$j \neq \text{h2}$$

The same thing, with a smaller v1 (now pre).

# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

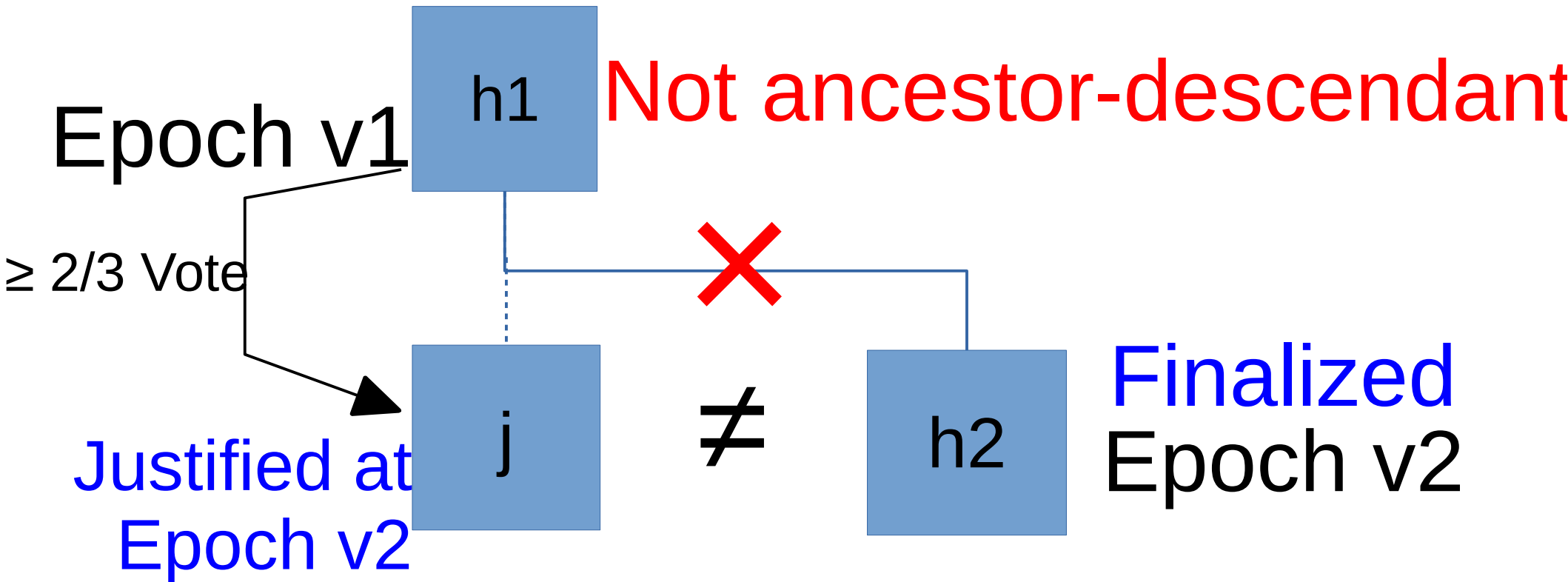
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption

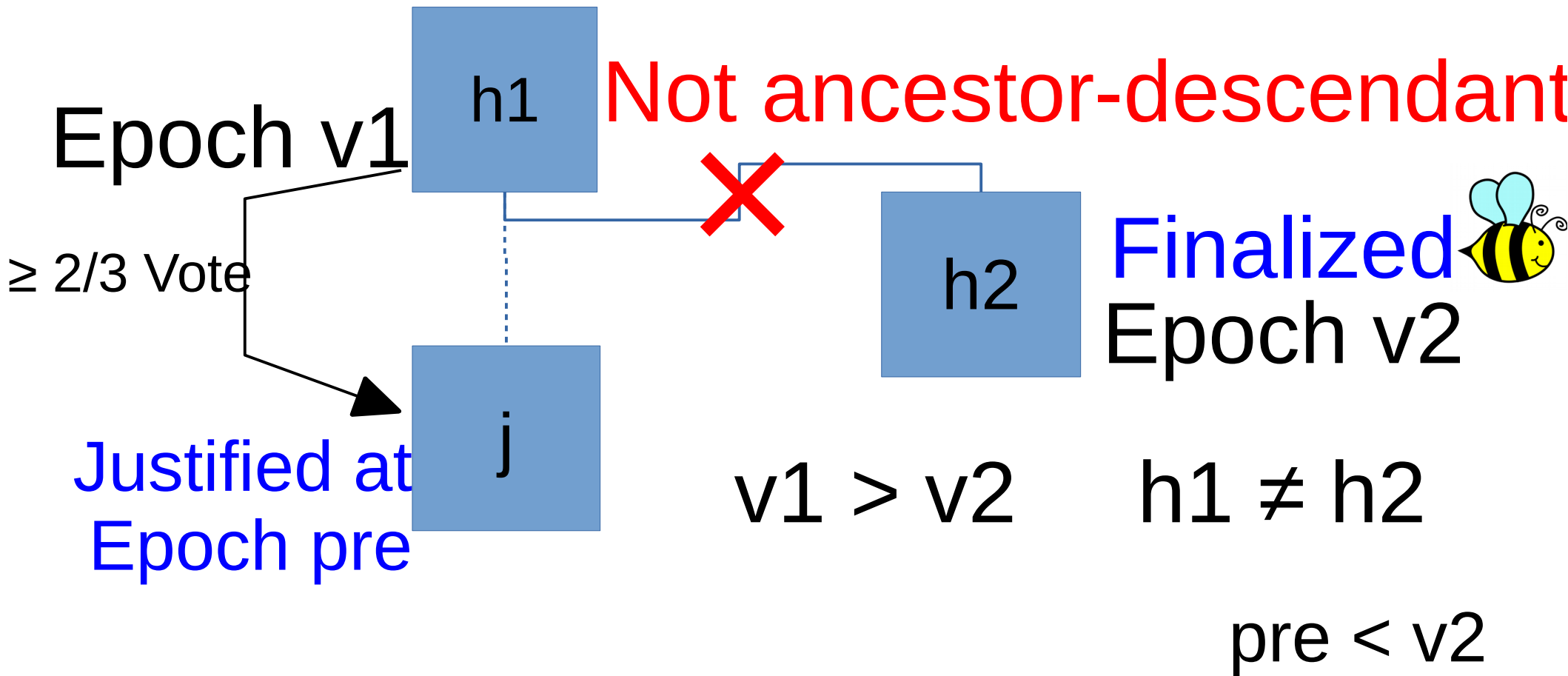


Different blocks are justified on the same block!

# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

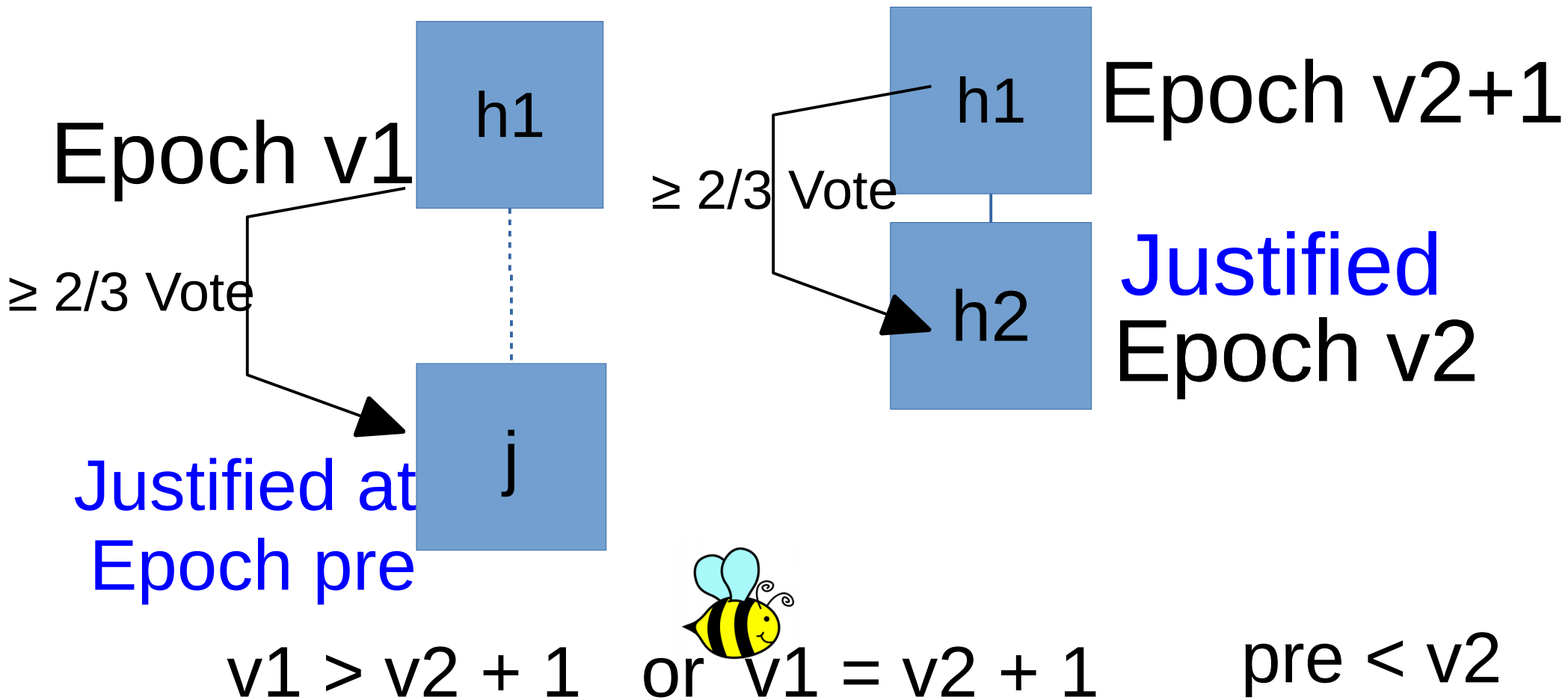
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

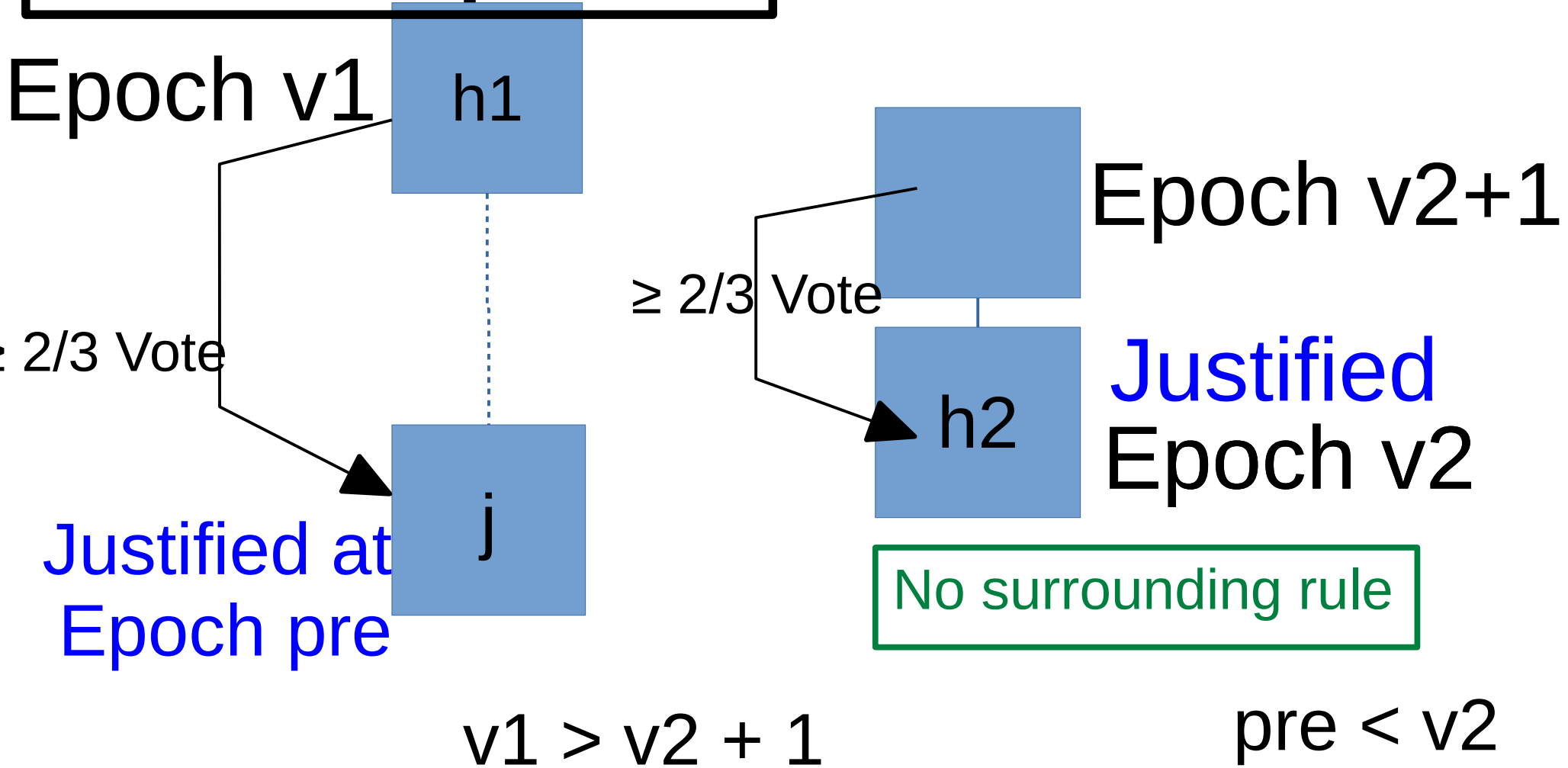
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

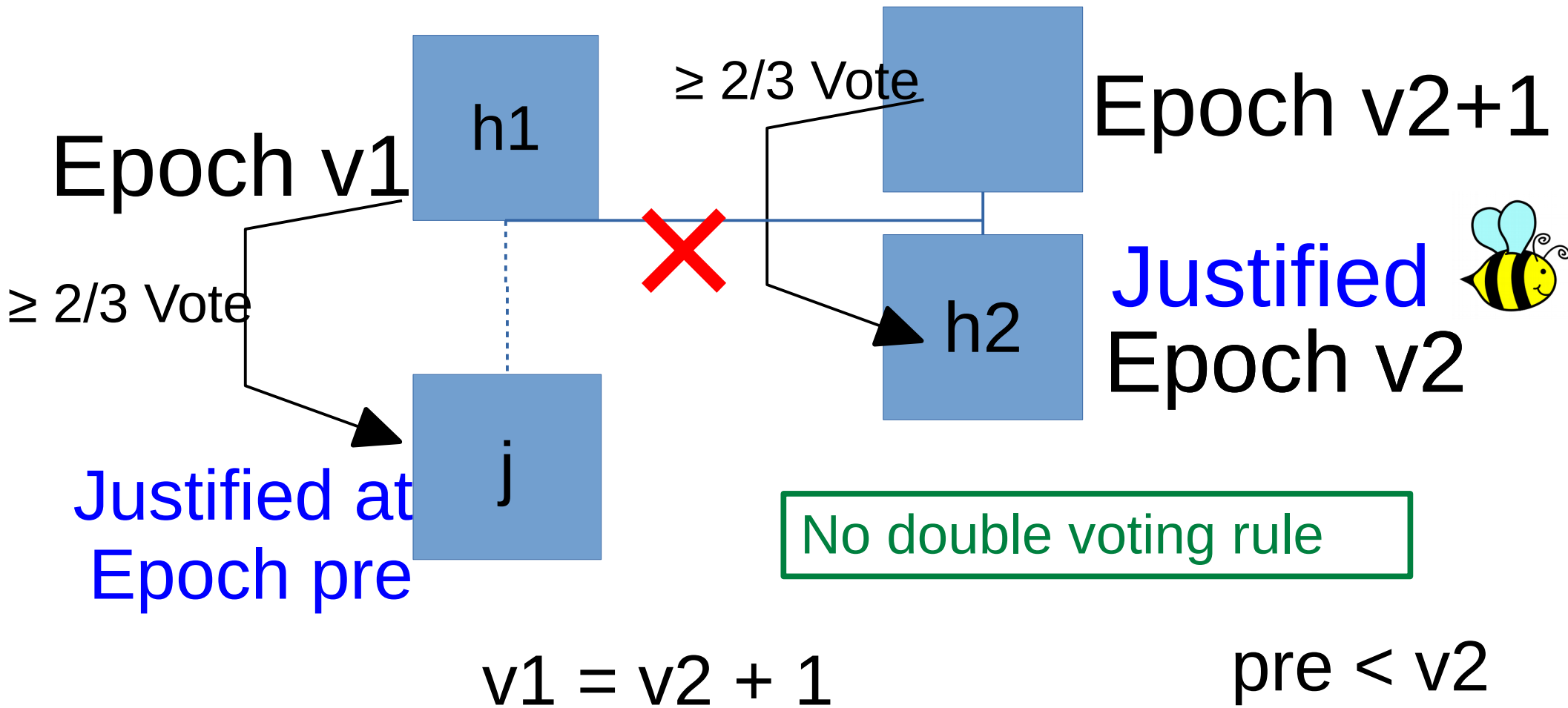
# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed

# Assumption



# Goal

1/3 validators slashed



# I checked it with machines first

	Static Validator Set		Dynamic Validator Set	
	Safety	Plausible Liveness	Safety	Plausible Liveness
2-message Casper (obsolete)	done	done	done	obsolete
1-message Casper	Done here	Not yet	Not yet	Not yet

<https://github.com/pirapira/pos>

- I've shown you the rigor a machine forces.