CSE 401 - Compilers
Dataflow and SSA

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Winter 2017

Adapted from Nathaniel Mote's Winter 2015 slides

FYI

- Compiler additions due tonight
- Project report due Saturday night
- Review session Monday at 4:30
  - Location TBD
- Final exam Tuesday at 2:30
  - Topic list is live
- Then you're done!

Common Dataflow Problems

- Common Subexpression Elimination
  - Solved by computing available expressions with a dataflow problem
- Live Variable Analysis – used for:
  - Register Allocation
  - Eliminating useless stores
  - Detecting uses of uninitialized variables
  - Avoid placing useless Φ functions in SSA construction
- Reaching Definitions
  - Basically computes what SSA computes
- Etc... You should know the basics for the final!

Example from Au11 Final

In most production compilers, optimization is done using intermediate code that consists of simple 3-address instructions like the following:

r5 = r3 + r7

r6 = r5 * 8

Some of the instructions in the intermediate code may be dead code because the results of the instructions are never used later in the program. An important optimization in compilers is dead-code elimination, where we remove such instructions to save space and execution time.

What data flow analysis should be used to discover which instructions are dead code? Describe the appropriate data flow problem to use and explain how to use its results to identify dead instruction(s).

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A: Live variable analysis. If the destination is not live, the statement can be deleted

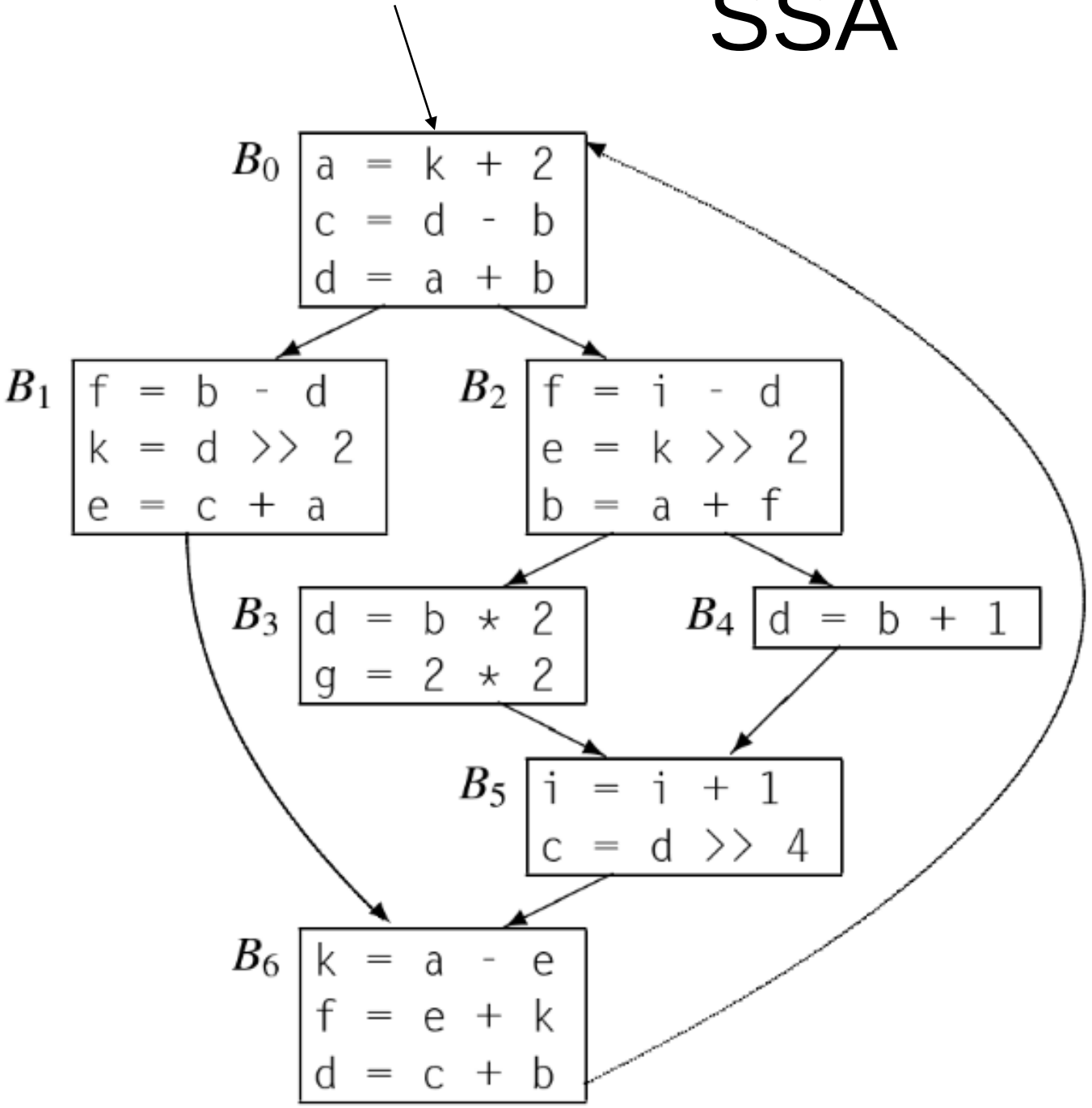
Review of Live Variable Analysis

- Two equations:
  - in[b] = use[b] ∪ (out[b] – def [b])
  - out[b] = $\cup_{s \in succ[b]}$ in[s]
  - Where use[a] and def[a] are functions of a single block
- This is how a dataflow problem is defined:
  - A system of simultaneous equations that must be solved iteratively
  - Sometimes propagates information down, sometimes up

Common Subexpression Elimination

- Compute available expressions:
  - $\mathrm{AVAIL}(b) = \cap_x \left(\mathrm{DEF}(x) \cup \left(\mathrm{AVAIL}(x) \cap \mathrm{NKILL}(x) \right) \right)$
    - x comes from $\mathrm{preds}(b)$
  - Again, where DEF(a) and NKILL(a) are functions that only need to inspect a single block.

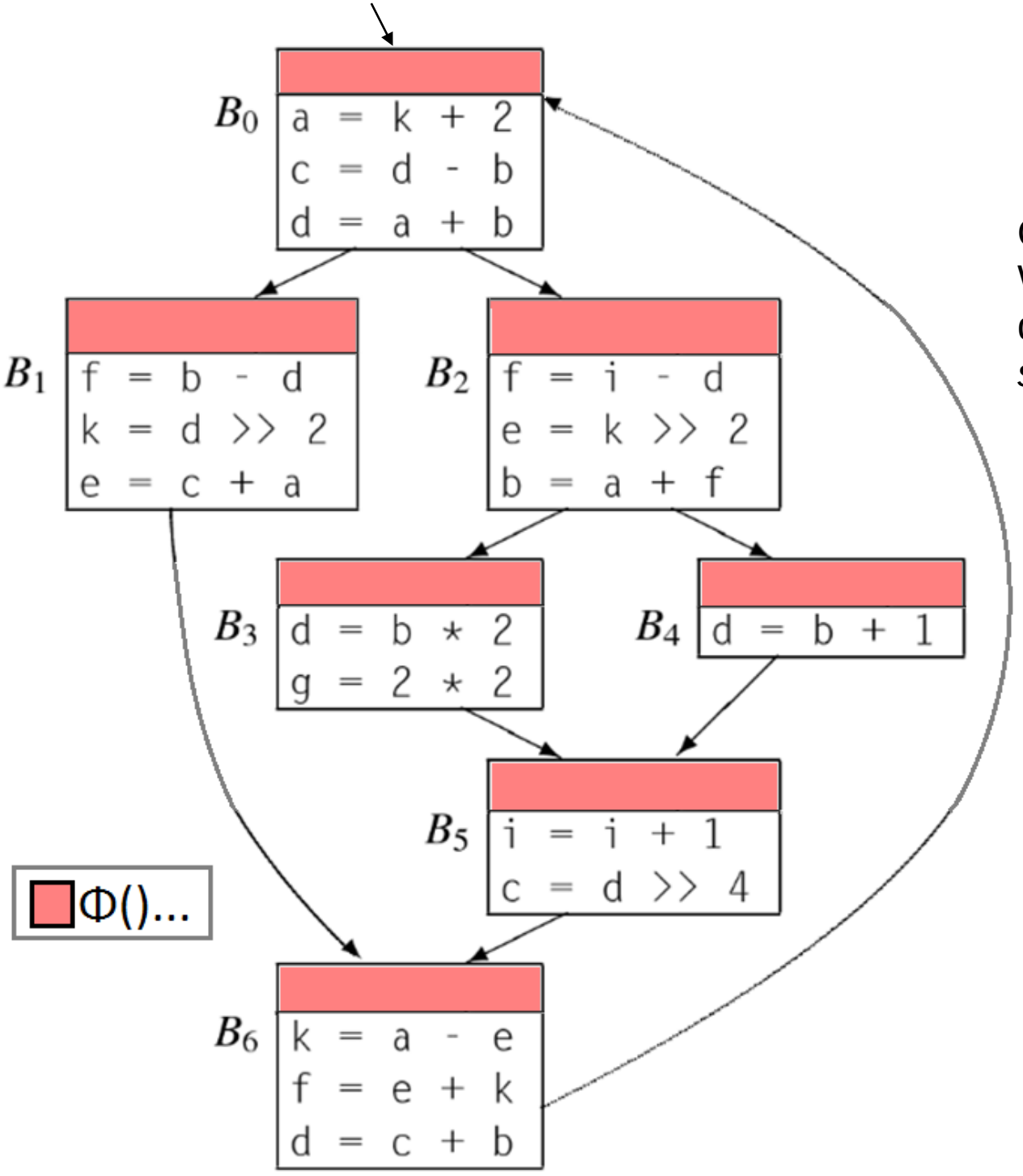
SSA



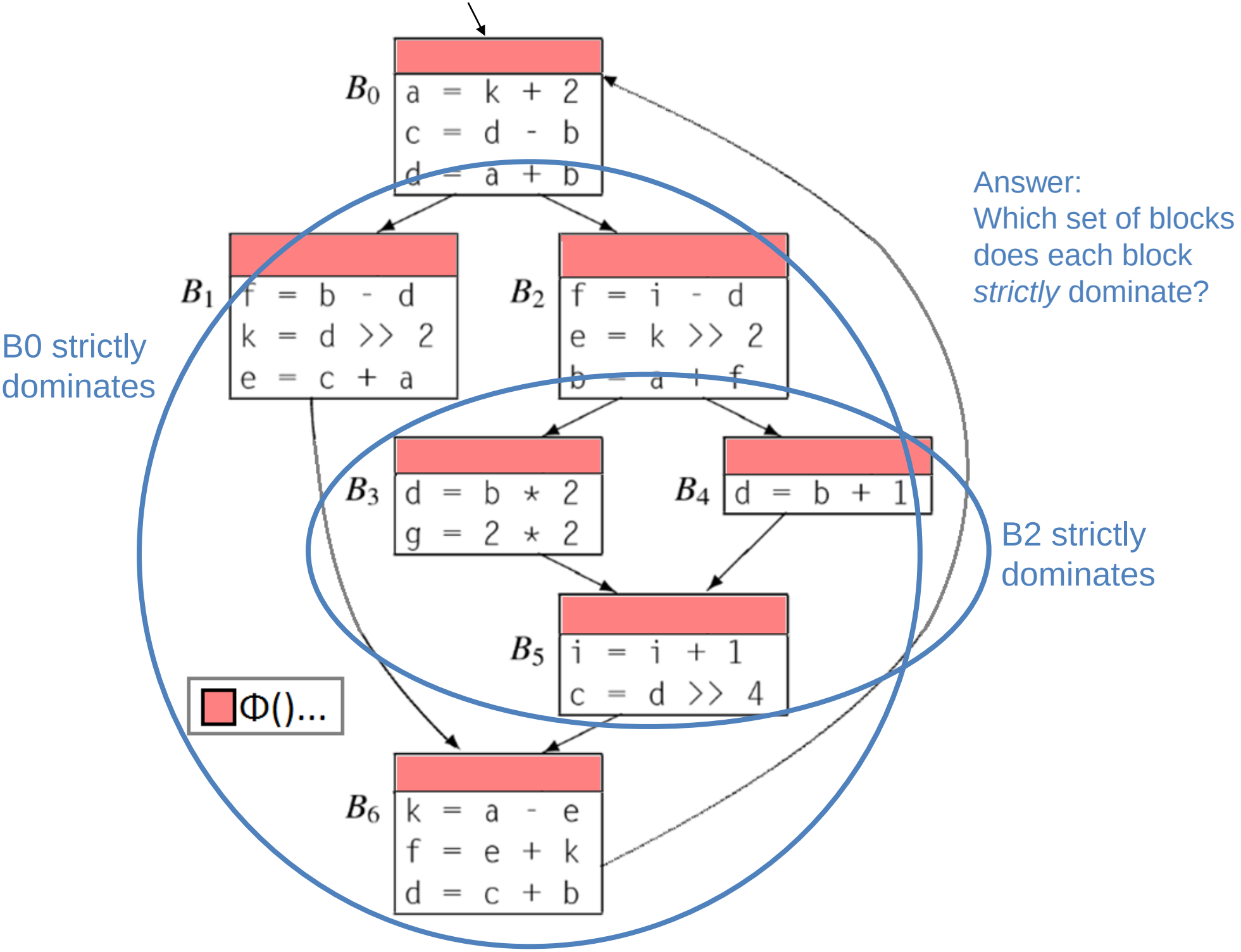
Translate this code to SSA form (Cooper & Torczon 9.6)

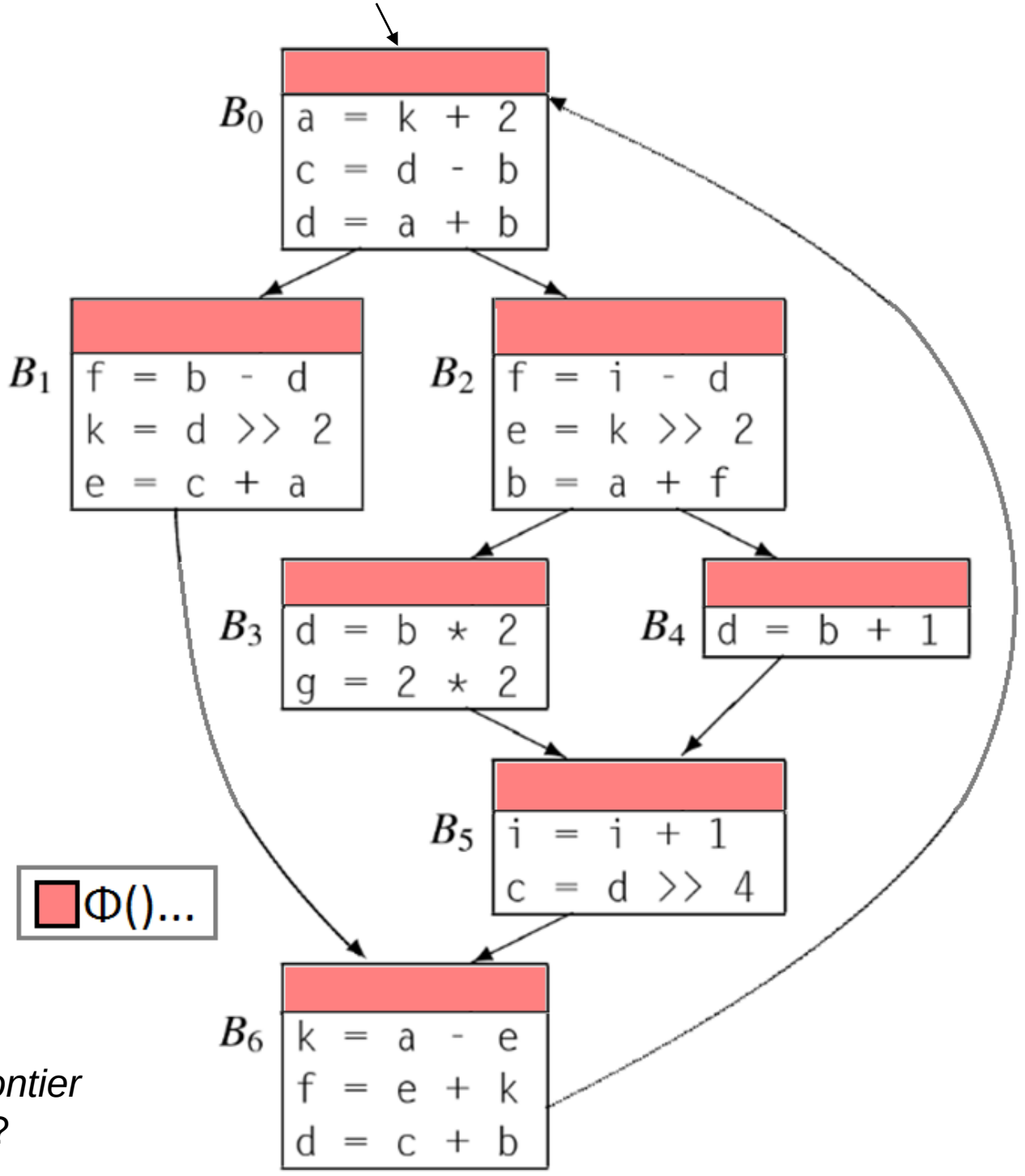
Reminder: The dominance frontier of a node x is the set of all nodes w such that

- x dominates a predecessor of w
- but x does not strictly dominate w

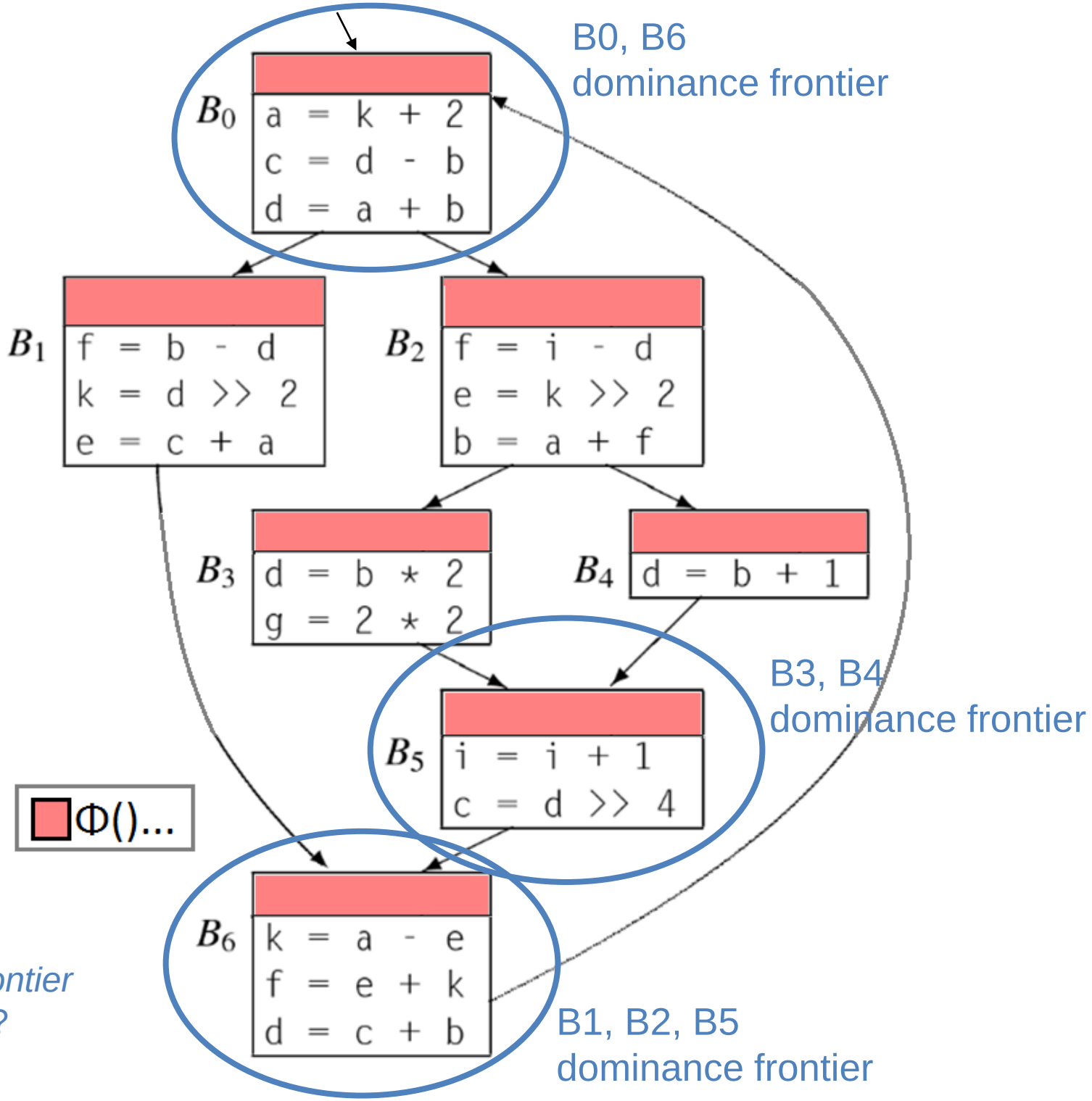


Question:
Which set of blocks does each block *strictly* dominate?


B_0
a = k + 2
c = d - b
d = a + b
B_1
f = b - d
k = d >> 2
e = c + a
B_2
f = i - d
e = k >> 2
b = a + f
B_3
d = b * 2
g = 2 * 2
B_4
d = b + 1
B_5
i = i + 1
c = d >> 4
B_6
k = a - e
f = e + k
d = c + b
Φ()...
B0 strictly dominates
B2 strictly dominates
Answer:
Which set of blocks does each block *strictly* dominate?



Question:
What is the
dominance frontier
of each block?



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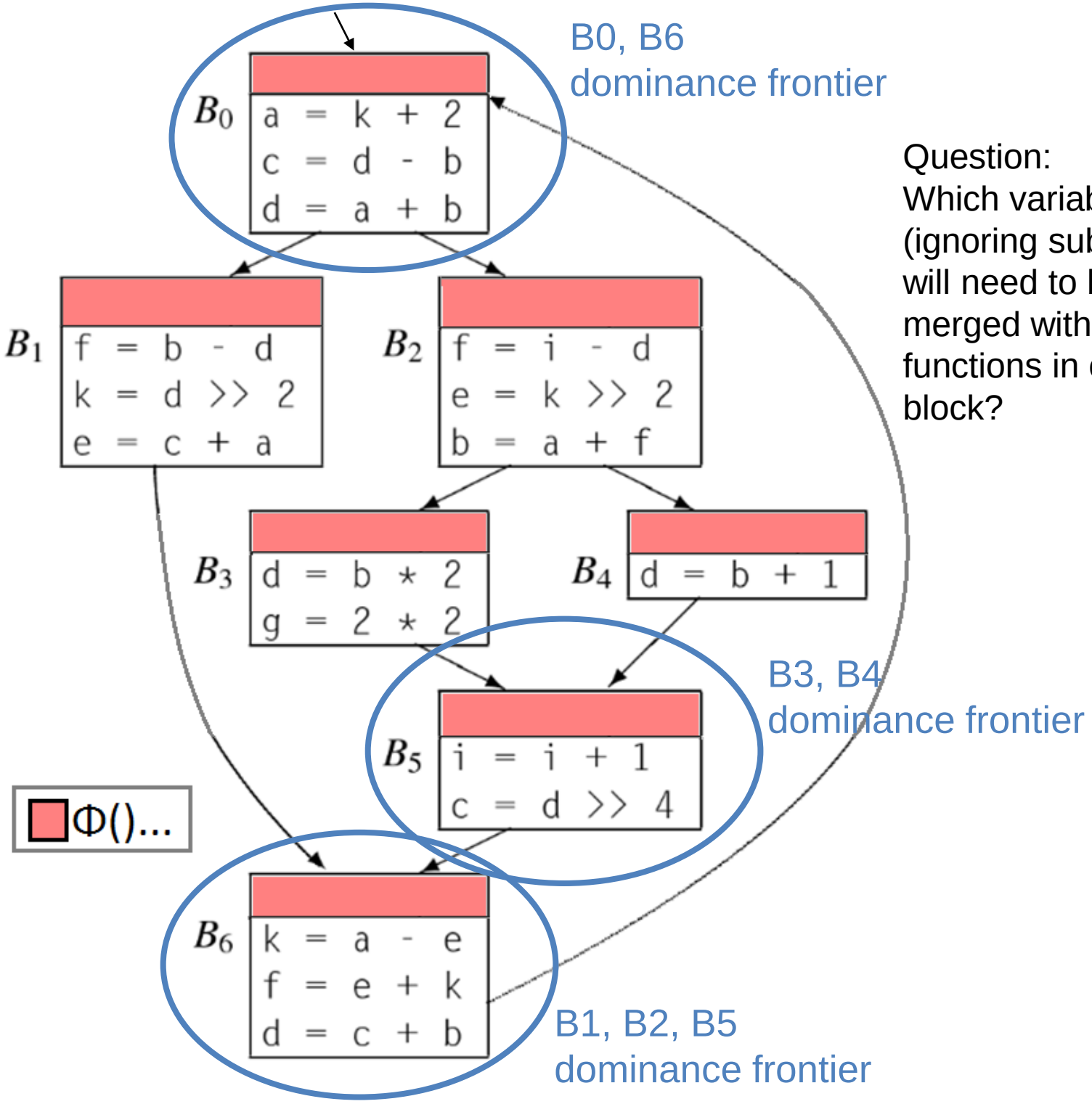
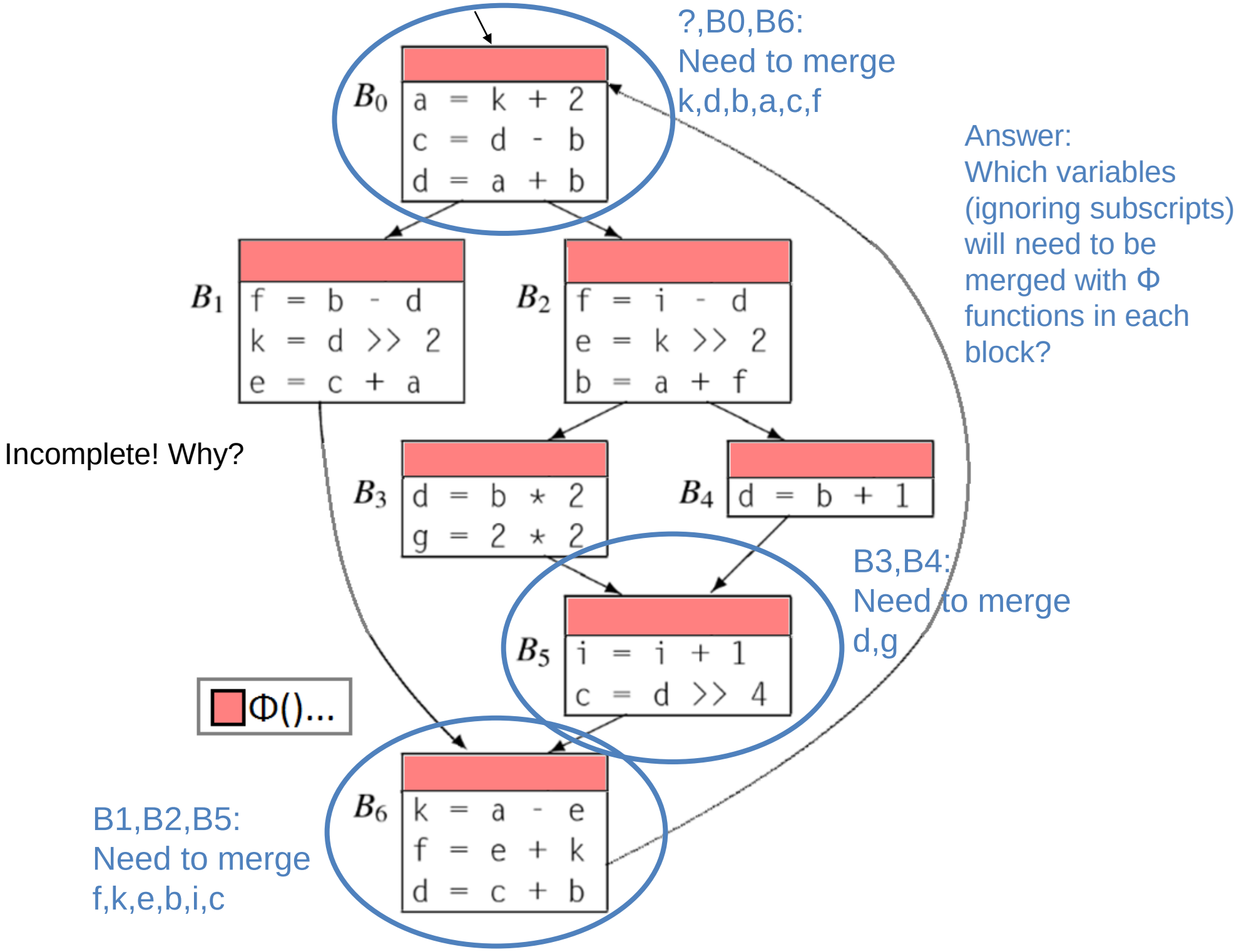
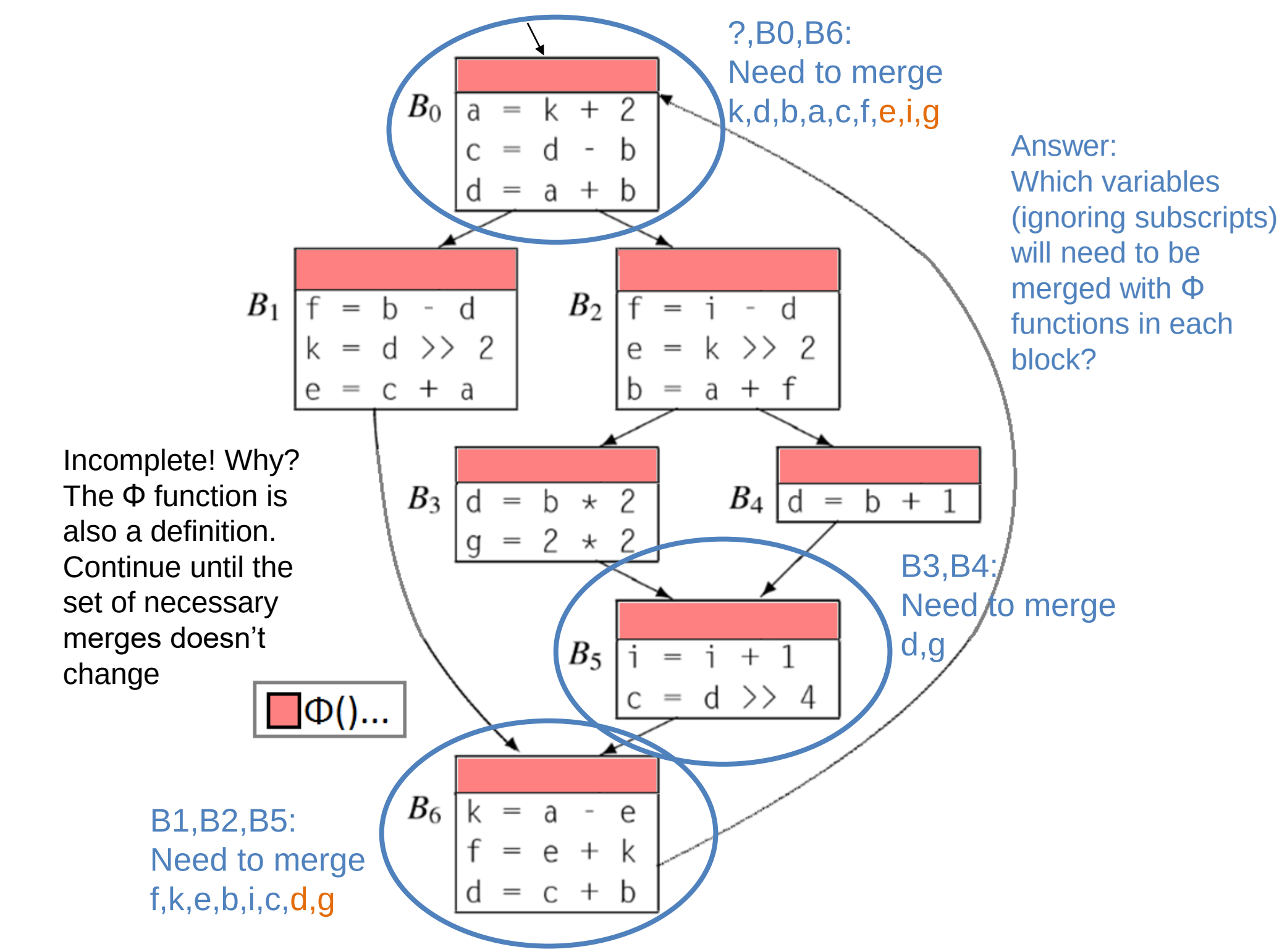


Question:
Which variables (ignoring subscripts) will need to be merged with Φ functions in each block?


?,B0,B6:
Need to merge
k,d,b,a,c,f
Answer:
Which variables
(ignoring subscripts)
will need to be
merged with Φ
functions in each
block?
Incomplete! Why?
B0
a = k + 2
c = d - b
d = a + b
B1
f = b - d
k = d >> 2
e = c + a
B2
f = i - d
e = k >> 2
b = a + f
B3
d = b * 2
g = 2 * 2
B4
d = b + 1
B5
i = i + 1
c = d >> 4
B6
k = a - e
f = e + k
d = c + b
Φ()...
B3,B4:
Need to merge
d,g
B1,B2,B5:
Need to merge
f,k,e,b,i,c


?,B0,B6:
Need to merge
k,d,b,a,c,f,e,i,g
Answer:
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a = k + 2
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k = d >> 2
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B_2
f = i - d
e = k >> 2
b = a + f
B_3
d = b * 2
g = 2 * 2
B_4
d = b + 1
B_5
i = i + 1
c = d >> 4
B_6
k = a - e
f = e + k
d = c + b
Incomplete! Why?
The Φ function is also a definition.
Continue until the set of necessary merges doesn't change
Φ()...
B3,B4:
Need to merge
d,g
B1,B2,B5:
Need to merge
f,k,e,b,i,c,d,g

Final Exam Topics

http://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse401/17wi/exams/final-topics.html