

Modularity for Accurate Static Analysis of Smart Contracts

MOOLY SAGIV



The Smart Contract Spechub

JUNE 2019

And also...



Noam Rinetzky



James Wilcox



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Guy Golan-Gueta



David Dill



Yan Michalevsky



Yoni Zohar



Shelly Grossman



Marcelo Taube



Pain Point: Buggy & Untrusted Software Components

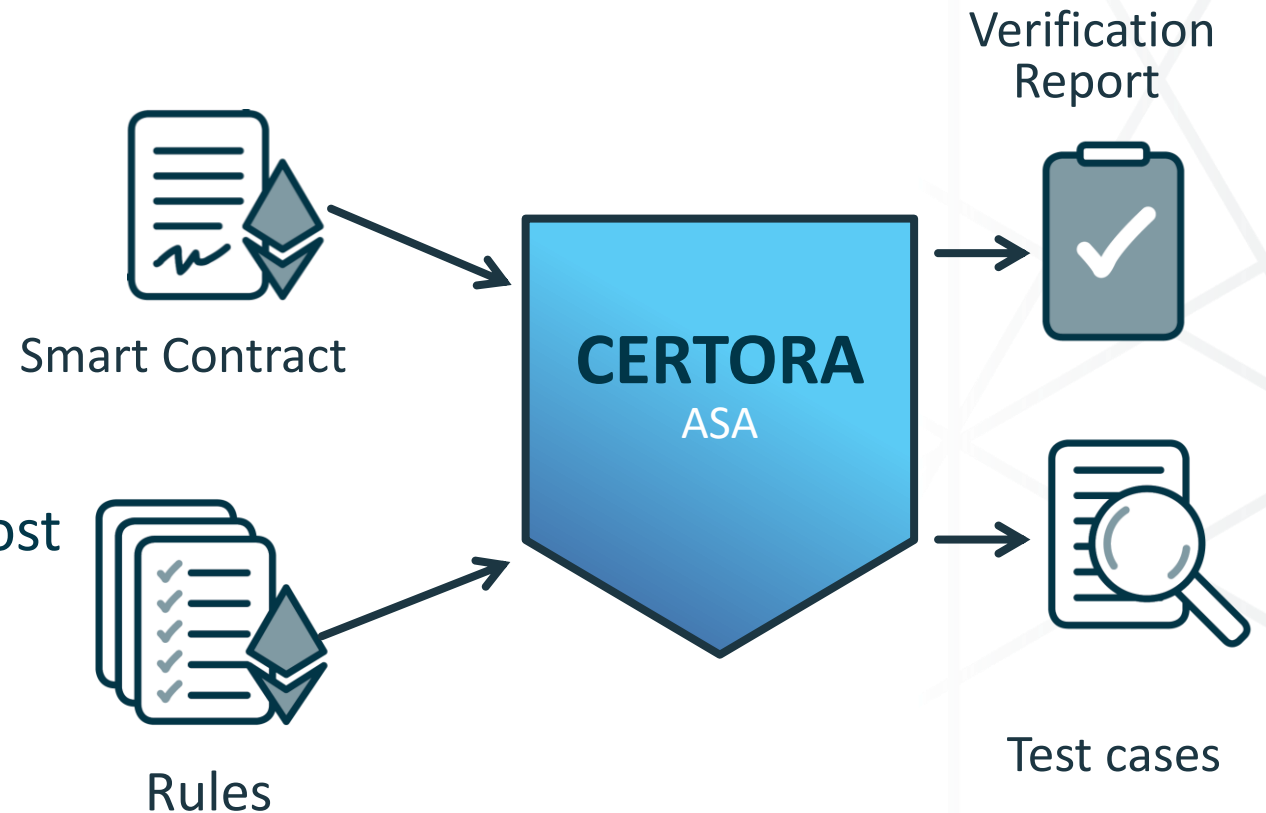
- Software is Eating the World
- Software applications are built of numerous disparate sources
 - unknown
 - untrusted
 - constantly evolving
- Correctness of code = safety, money, human life, ...
- Even worse in blockchain
 - Immutability: code is law
 - Cryptocurrency: code is money

The Business Case

- Problem: Automated financial contracts
 - Bugs in contracts = money lost to adversaries for ever
- Pain: Very hard to find bugs in the contracts
 - Lots of examples where people have lost large amounts of money
 - Customers are willing to ≥ 6 figures for solutions
- Solution: Automatic Verification
 - Find bugs, or prove the absence of bugs (one or the other!)
 - Key enabler: **higher level specifications that can be checked**
 - Developers are willing to do most of the work, for reward
 - Standards ERC20, ERC721

Certora's Mission

- Develop a library of reusable correctness rules
- Community effort
 - ~~Code is the law~~ → Spec is the law
 - No overdraft
 - If no transaction is executed then no cost
 - No radical currency changes
- Develop unique static analysis of code



Business Snapshot

- Top-tier **paying** customers:

- Compound Finance

“We installed Certora's technology and it is used daily by our software engineers to locate mind blowing bugs”

Geoff Hayes

CTO of Compound Finance

- Coinbase

“The Certora ASA surfaces problems before a contract is available on our platforms, to help us better inform our customers of risk. The ASA has already surfaced significant problems missed by expensive and unscalable manual audits.”

Shamiq Islam

Head of Security at Coinbase Global

- Investors

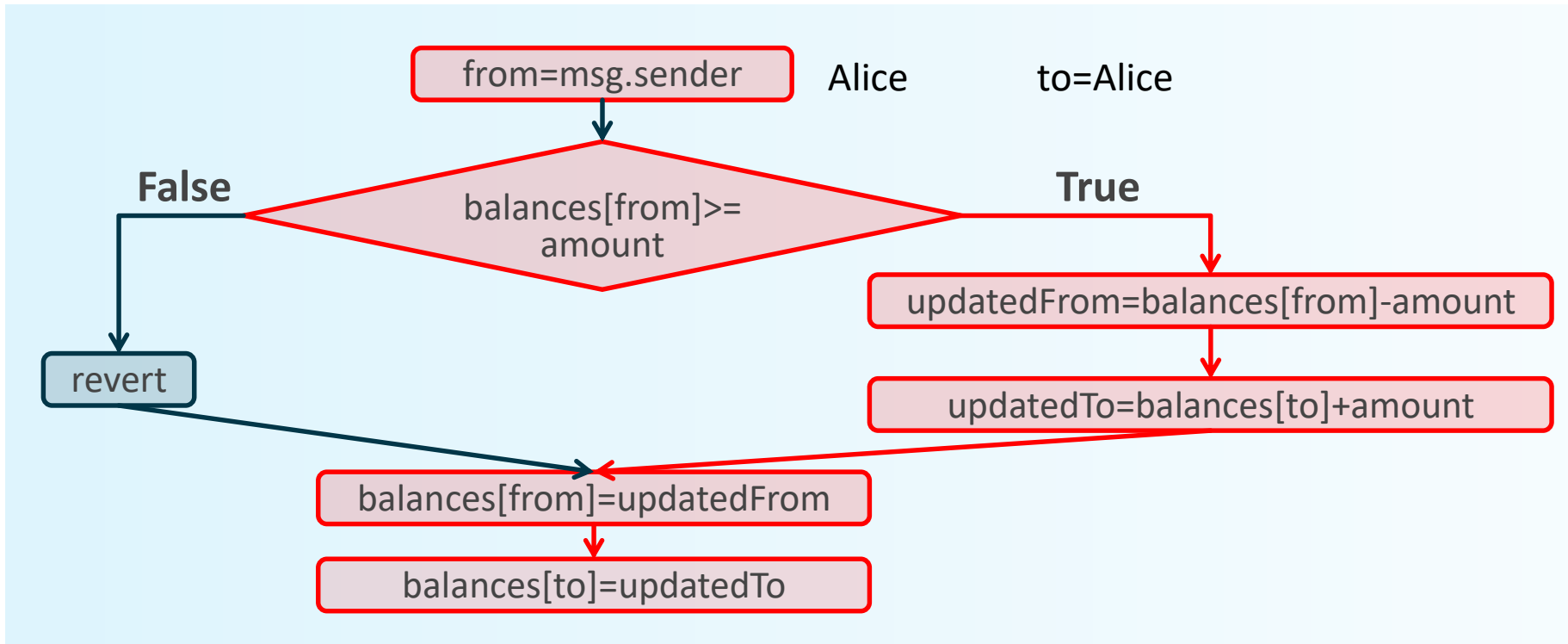
- Scott Shenker, repeat unicorn founder (Nicira, Databricks, Nefali)
 - Coinbase

Toy ERC20 token

```
contract toyERC20 {
    mapping (address => uint) balances;
    constructor(address bank, uint initial_amount) {
        balances[bank] = initial_amount;
    }
    function transfer(address to, uint amount) {
        uint updatedFrom;
        uint updatedTo;
        address from = msg.sender;
        if (balances[from] >= amount) {
            updatedFrom = balances[from] - amount;
            updatedTo = balances[to] + amount;
        } else { revert(); }
        balances[from] = updatedFrom;
        balances[to] = updatedTo;
    }
}
```

invariant $\sum_{a: \text{address}} \text{balances}[a]$

Toy ERC20 token



Alice	Bob
50	70
0	
100	
100	70

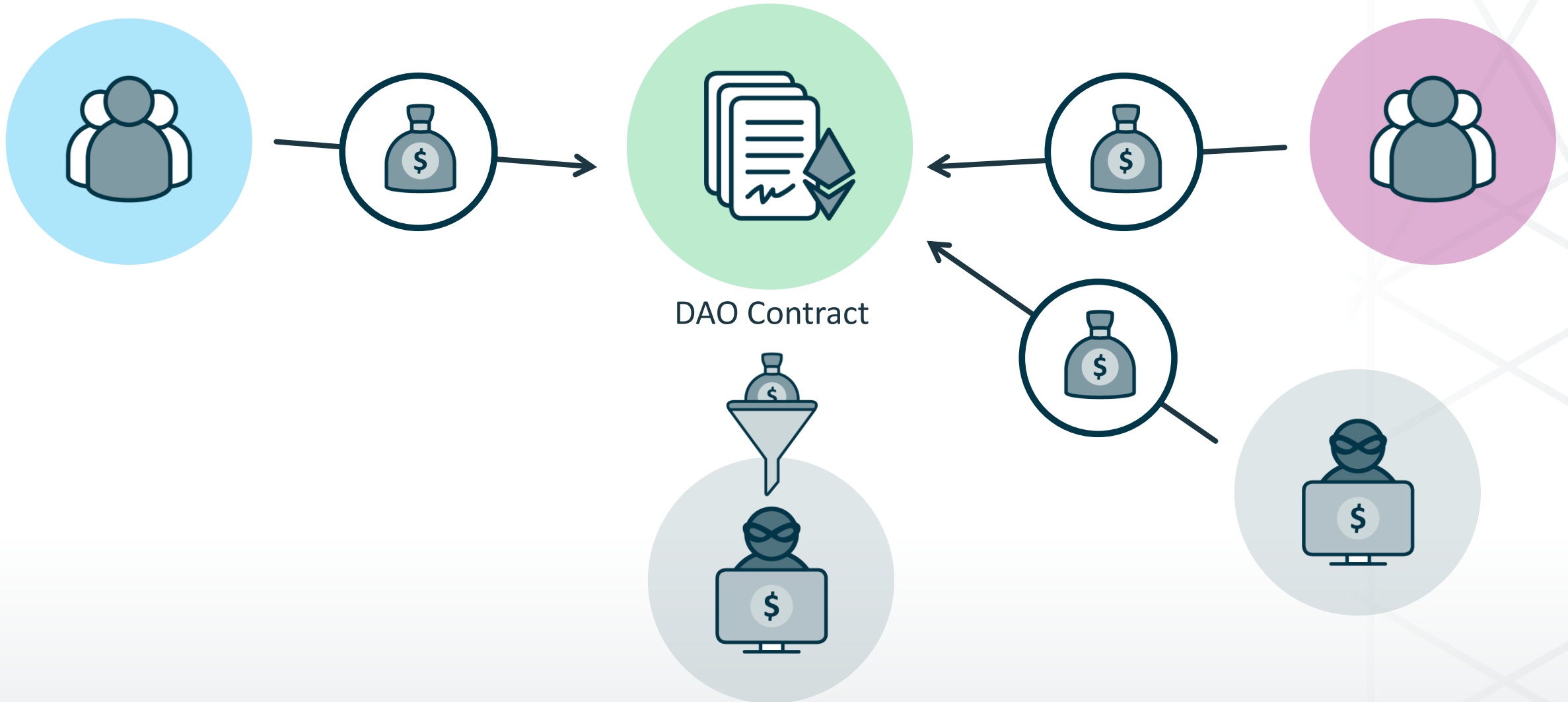
invariant $\sum_{a: \text{address}} \text{balances}[a]$

Fixed Toy ERC20 token

```
contract toyERC20 {
    mapping (address => uint) balances;
    constructor(address bank, uint initial_amount)
    {
        balances[bank] = initial_amount;
    }
    function transfer(address to, uint amount) {
        uint updatedFrom;
        uint updatedTo;
        address from = msg.sender;
        require from != to ;
        if (balances[from] >= amount) {
            updatedFrom = balances[from]-amount;
            updatedTo = balances[to] + amount;
        } else { revert(); }
        balances[from] = updatedFrom;
        balances[to] = updatedTo;
    }
}
```

invariant $\sum_{a: \text{address}} \text{balances}[a]$

Reentrancy attacks



Reentrancy attacks

```
DAO_withdraw(to) {  
  if (shares[to] > 0) {  
    to.send(shares[to]);  
    shares[to] = 0 ;  
  }  
}
```

```
f () {  
  DAO(x).withdraw(me)  
}
```



Immune Reentrancy attacks(Atomicity)

```
DAO_withdraw(to) {  
  if (shares[to] > 0) {  
    to.send(shares[to]);  
    shares[to] = 0 ;  
  }  
}
```

```
DAO_withdraw(to) {  
  if (shares[to] > 0) {  
    shares[to] = 0 ;  
    to.send(shares[to]);  
  }  
}
```

Atomicity[POPL'18]

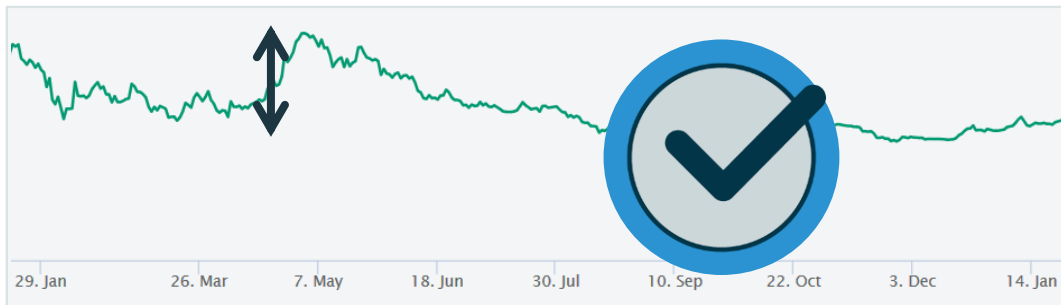
- Contracts that are vulnerable to reentrancy attacks are dangerous to use
 - Sensitive to changes in the EVM
 - Constantinople fork postponement
- **Most precise method**
- Guarantee atomicity in presence of callbacks



Math is the law

Geoff Hayes | CTO  **Compound**

- **Goal:** enable human mitigation of money theft
- **Requirement:** Price changes must be less than 10% every hour



```
(err, onePlusMaxSwing) = addExp(one, maxSwing);
if (err != Error.NO_ERROR) {
    return (err, false, Exp({mantissa : 0}));
}

// max = anchorPrice * (1 + maxSwing)
(err, max) = mulExp(anchorPrice, onePlusMaxSwing);
if (err != Error.NO_ERROR) {
    return (err, false, Exp({mantissa : 0}));
}

// If price > anchorPrice * (1 + maxSwing)
// Set price = anchorPrice * (1 + maxSwing)
if (greaterThanExp(price, max)) {
    return (Error.NO_ERROR, true, max);
}

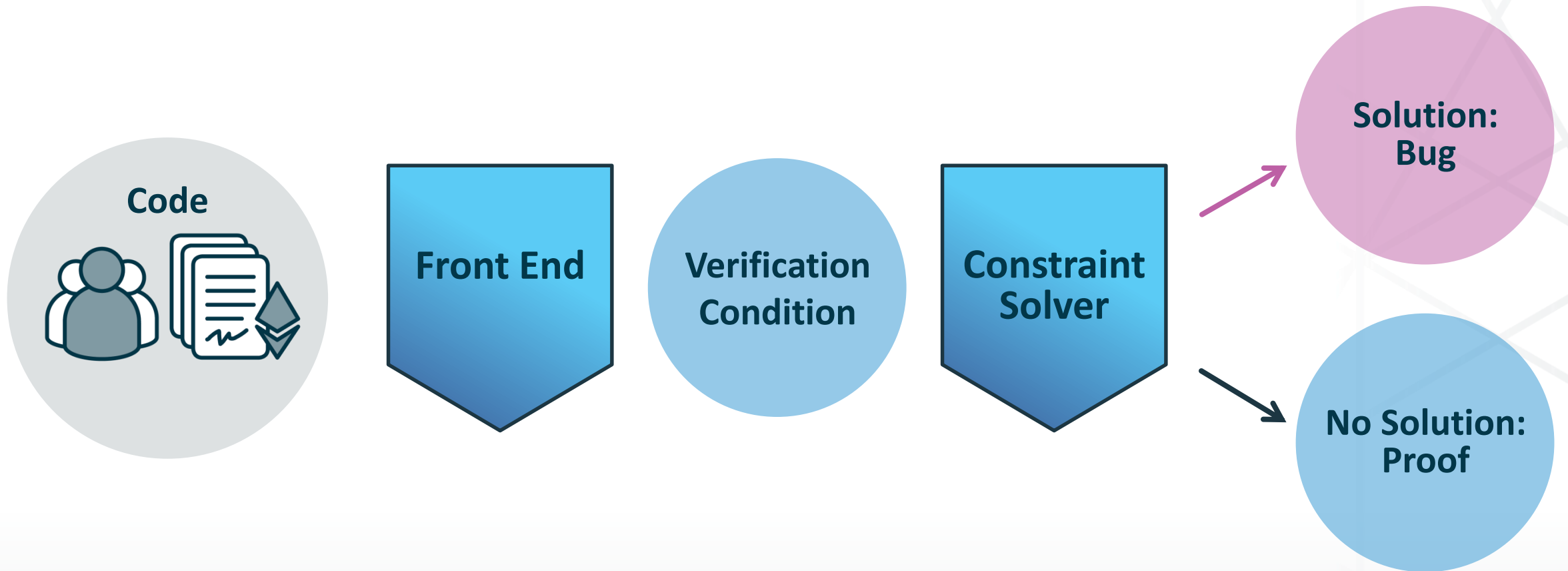
(err, oneMinusMaxSwing) = subExp(one, maxSwing);
if (err != Error.NO_ERROR) {
    return (err, false, Exp({mantissa : 0}));
}

// min = anchorPrice * (1 - maxSwing)
(err, min) = mulExp(anchorPrice, oneMinusMaxSwing);
// We can't overflow here or we would have already overflowed
assert(err == Error.NO_ERROR);

// If price < anchorPrice * (1 - maxSwing)
// Set price = anchorPrice * (1 - maxSwing)
if (lessThanExp(price, min)) {
    return (Error.NO_ERROR, true, min);
}
```

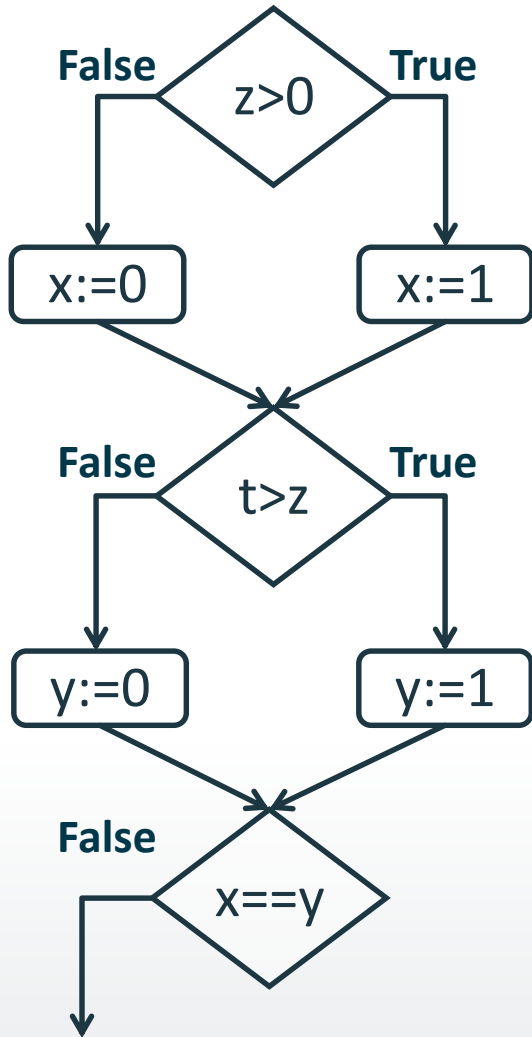
For all t_1, t_2 . $|t_2 - t_1| < 1 \text{ hour}$, $|p_2 - p_1| < 0.1p_1$

ASA via Constraint Solving

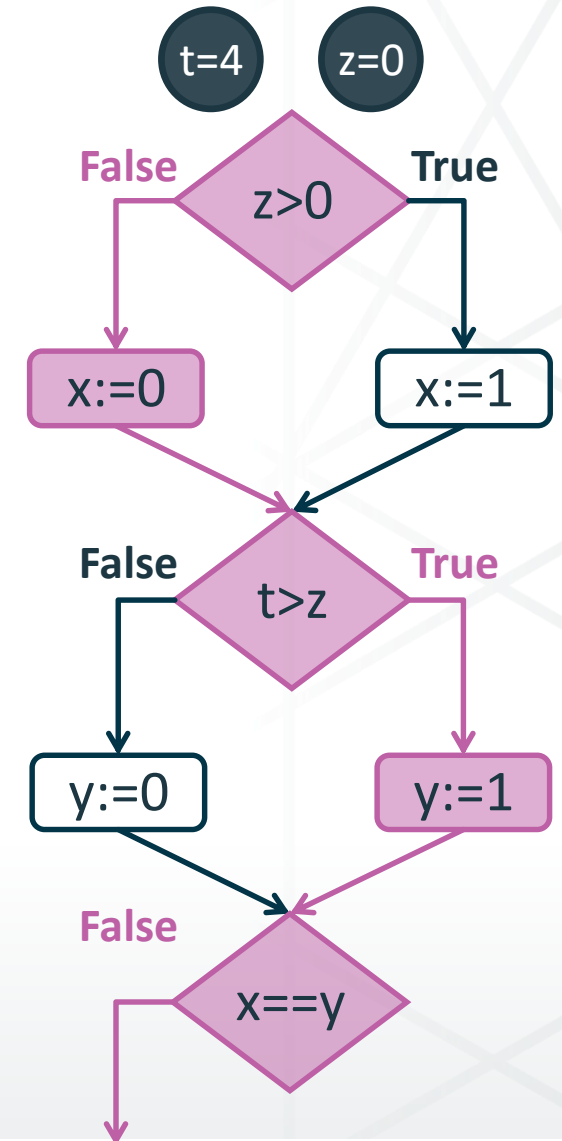


[Z3] Microsoft Research, [CVC4] Stanford University, [Yices] Stanford Research Institute [SMT*](#)

ASA via Constraint Solving



$(z > 0 \wedge x = 1) \vee (z \leq 0 \wedge x = 0)$
 $(t > z \wedge y = 1) \vee (z \leq 0 \wedge y = 0)$
 $x \neq y$



Modularity for decidability of deductive verification with applications to distributed systems

Mooly Sagiv



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission



Contributors

Marcelo Taube, Giuliano Losa, Kenneth McMillan, Oded Padon, Sharon Shoham



<http://microsoft.github.io/ivy/>



James R. Wilcox,

Doug Woos



And Also

Anindya Benerjee



Yotam Feldman



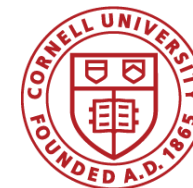
Neil Immerman



Aurojit Panda

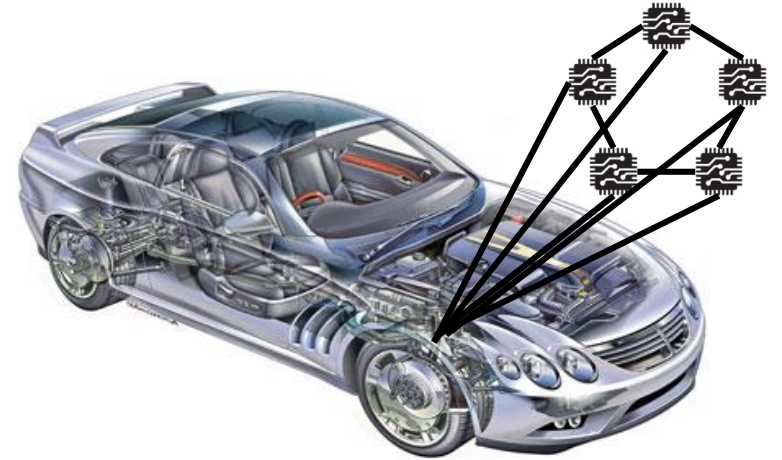


Shachar Itzhaky Aleks Nanevsky Orr Tamir Robbert van Renesse



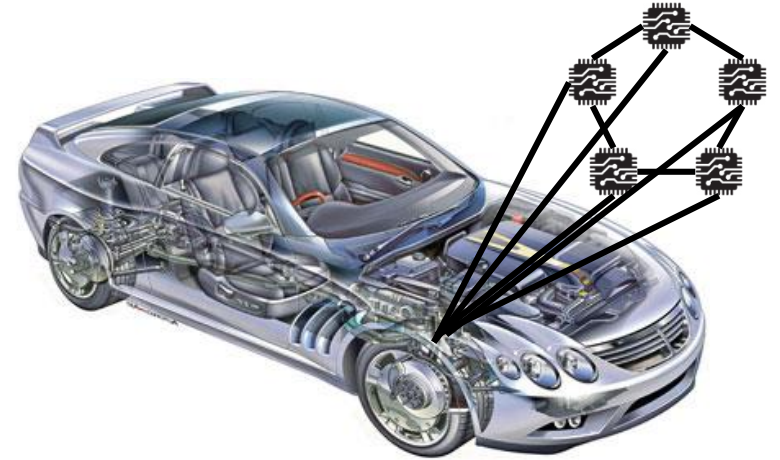
Why verify distributed protocols?

- Distributed systems are everywhere
 - Safety-critical systems
 - Cloud infrastructure
 - Blockchain
- Distributed systems are notoriously hard to get right
 - Even small protocols can be tricky
 - Bugs occur on rare scenarios
 - Testing is costly and not sufficient



Why verify distributed protocols?

- Distributed systems are everywhere
 - Safety-critical systems
 - Cloud infrastructure
 - Blockchain
- Distributed systems are notoriously hard to get right



SIGCOMM'01

Chord: A Scalable Peer-to-Peer
for Internet Appli

Ion Stoica, Robert Morris, David Liben-Nowell, David R. Kar
Hari Balakrishnan, Membr

Attractive features of Chord include
correctness, and provable performance
concurrent node arrivals and departure

CCR'12

Using Lightweight Modeling To Understand Chord

Pamela Zave
AT&T Laboratories—Research
Florham Park, New Jersey USA
pamela@research.att.com

Under the same assumptions made in the Chord papers,
the [SIGCOMM] version of the protocol is not correct, and
not one of the properties claimed invariant in [PODC] is
actually invariantly true of it. The [PODC] version satis-
fies one invariant, but is still not correct. The
presented by means of

SOSP'07

Best Paper Award

Zyzzyva: Speculative Byzantine Fault Tolerance

Ramakrishna Kotla, Lorenzo Alvisi, Mike Dahlin, Allen Clement, and Edmund Wong
Dept. of Computer Sciences
University of Texas at Austin

Zyzzyva is a state machine replication protocol based on protocols: (1) agreement, (2) view change, and (3) agreement protocol orders requests for execution. The view change protocol coordinates

CACM'08

Zyzzyva: Speculative Byzantine Fault Tolerance

ACM Transactions on Computer Systems '09

Zyzzyva: Speculative Byzantine Fault Tolerance

RAMAKRISHNA KOTLA
Microsoft Research, Silicon Valley
and

LORENZO ALVISI, MIKE DAHLIN, ALLEN CLEMENT, and EDMUND WONG
The University of Texas at Austin

arXiv:1712.01367v1 [cs.DC] 4 Dec 2017

Revisiting Fast Practical Byzantine Fault Tolerance

Ittai Abraham, Guy Gueta, Dahlia Malkhi
VMware Research

with:
Lorenzo Alvisi (Cornell),
Rama Kotla (Amazon),
Jean-Philippe Martin (Verily)

We now proceed to demonstrate that the view-change mechanism in Zyzzyva does not guarantee safety.

What about correctness of the low level implementation?

Decidable Reasoning for Verification: How Far Can You EPR?

Oded Padon

PhD Thesis

<http://www.cs.tau.ac.il/~odedp>

<http://microsoft.github.io/ivy/>

Deductive Verification in First-Order Logic

[CAV'13] **Shachar Itzhaky**, Anindya Banerjee, Neil Immerman, Aleksandar Nanevski, MS:

Effectively-Propositional Reasoning about Reachability in Linked Data Structures

[PLDI'16] **Oded Padon**, Kenneth McMillan, Aurojit Panda, MS, Sharon Shoham

Ivy: Safety Verification by Interactive Generalization

[POPL'16] **Oded Padon**, Neil Immerman, Aleksandr Karbyshev, Sharon Shoham, MS

Decidability of Inferring Inductive Invariants

[OOPSLA'17] **Oded Padon**, Giuliano Losa, MS, Sharon Shoham

Paxos made EPR: Decidable Reasoning about Distributed Protocols

[POPL'18] **Oded Padon**, Jochen Hoenicke, Giuliano Losa, Andreas Podelski, MS, Sharon Shoham

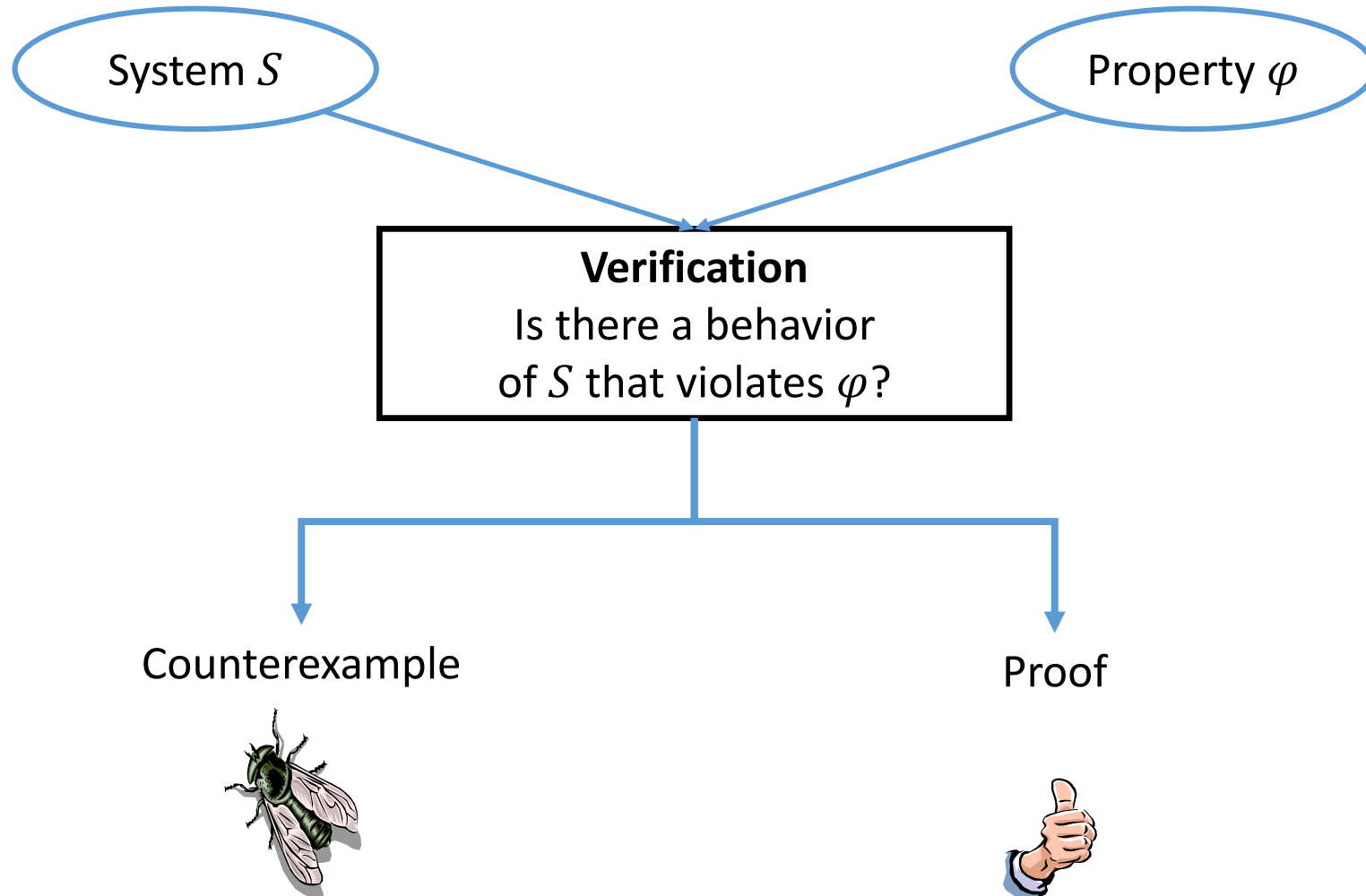
Reducing liveness to safety in first-order logic. PACMPL 2(POPL): 26:1-26:33 (2018)

[PLDI'18] **Marcelo Taube**, Giuliano Losa, Kenneth L. McMillan, **Oded Padon**, MS, Sharon Shoham, James R. Wilcox, Doug Woos: Modularity for Decidability of Deductive Verification with Applications to Distributed Systems

[FMCAD'18] **Oded Padon**, Jochen Hoenicke, Kenneth L. McMillan, Andreas Podelski, MS, Sharon Shoham:

Temporal Prophecy for Proving Temporal Properties of Infinite-State Systems. FMCAD 2018: 1-11

Automatic verification of infinite-state systems



Naïve period in program verification 70's

ROBERT W. FLOYD

ASSIGNING MEANINGS TO PROGRAMS¹

INTRODUCTION

This paper attempts to provide an adequate basis for formal definitions of the meanings of programs in appropriately defined programming languages, in such a way that a rigorous standard is established for proofs about computer programs, including proofs of correctness, equivalence, and termination. The basis of our approach is the notion

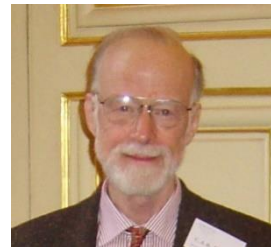


An Axiomatic Basis for Computer Programming

C. A. R. HOARE

The Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland*

In this paper an attempt is made to explore the logical foundations of computer programming by use of techniques which were first applied in the study of geometry and have later been extended to other branches of mathematics. This in-

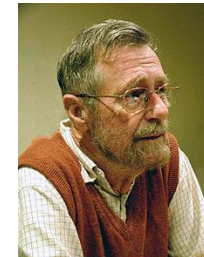


Programming
Languages

T.A. Standish
Editor

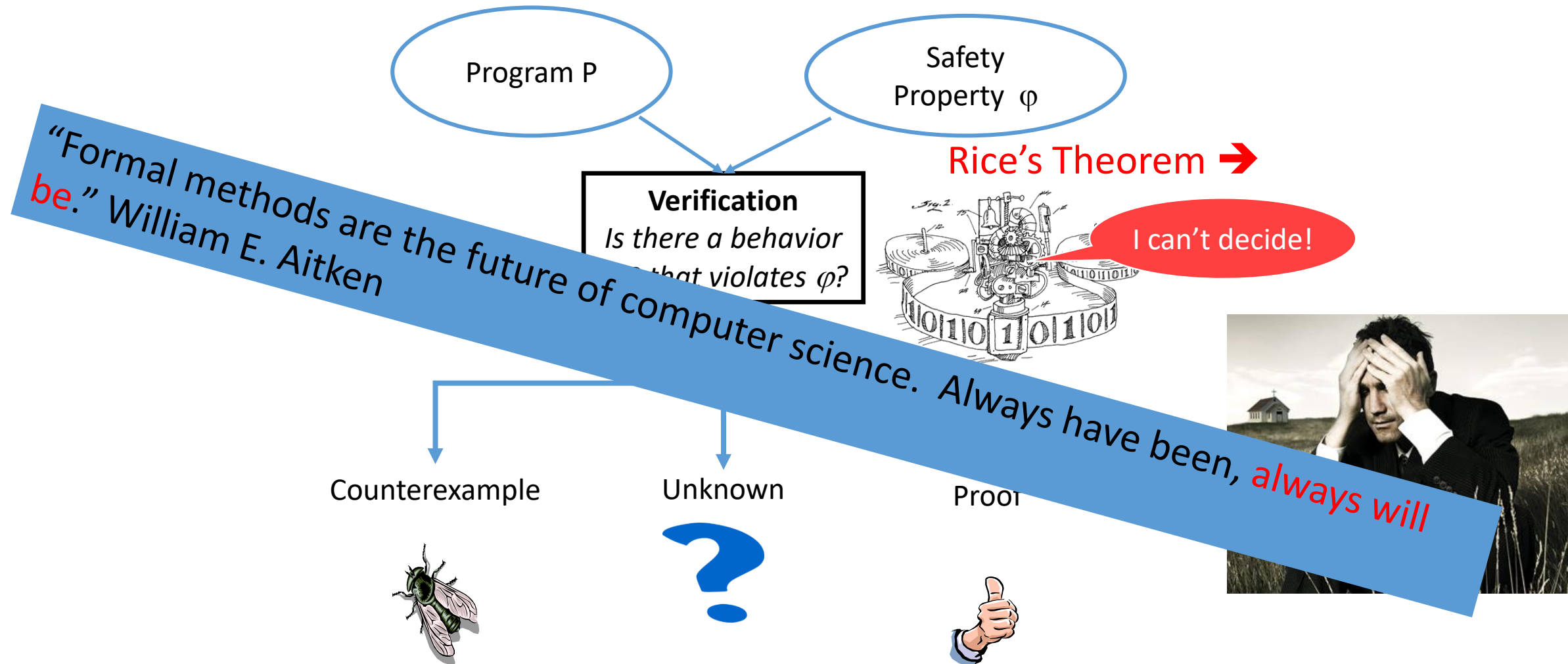
Guarded Commands, Nondeterminacy and Formal Derivation of Programs

Edsger W. Dijkstra
Burroughs Corporation



“Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their absence!” Dijkstra (1970)

Disillusionment in program verification 80's



Challenges in program verification

- Specifying program behavior
- Asymptotic complexity of program verification
 - The halting problem
 - Rice theorem
 - The ability of simple programs to represent complex behaviors
- The complexity of realistic systems
 - Huge code
 - Heterogeneous code
 - Missing code

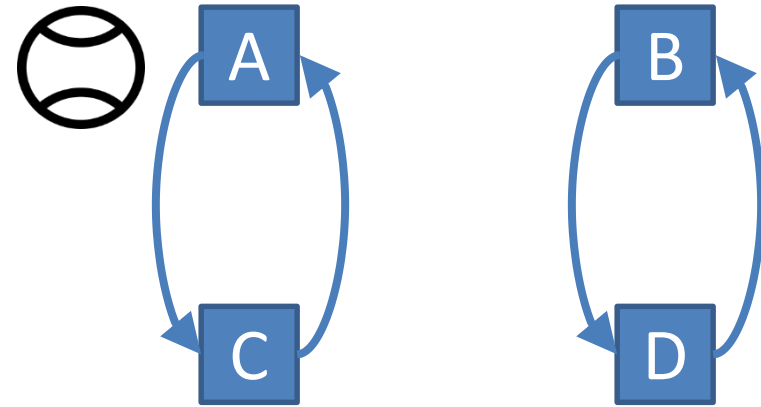
Mathematical Induction

- $P(n)$ is a property of natural number n
- To show that $P(n)$ holds for every n , it suffices to show that:
 - $P(0)$ is true
 - If $P(m)$ is true then $P(m+1)$ is true for every number m
- In logic
 - $(P(0) \wedge \forall m \in \mathbb{N}. P(m) \Rightarrow P(m+1)) \Rightarrow \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. P(n)$



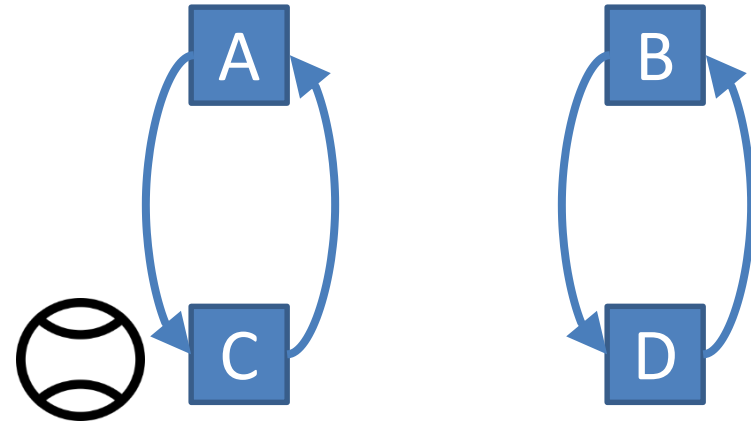
Induction on a ball game

- Four players pass a ball:
 - A will pass to C
 - B will pas to D
 - C will pass to A
 - D will pass to B
- The ball starts at player A
- Can the ball get to D?



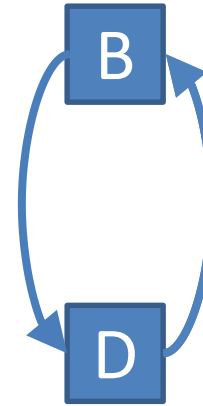
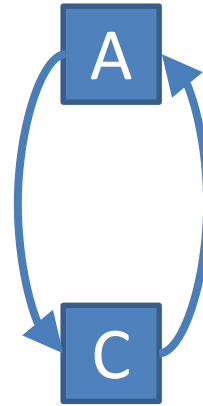
Induction on a ball game

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- Can the ball get to D?



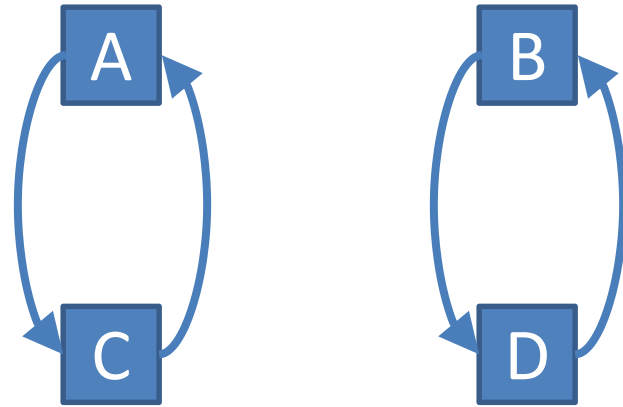
Formalizing with induction

- $x_0 = A$
- $x_{n+1} = \begin{cases} C & \text{if } x_n = A \\ D & \text{if } x_n = B \\ A & \text{if } x_n = C \\ B & \text{if } x_n = D \end{cases}$
- Prove by induction $\forall n. x_n \neq D$
 - $x_0 \neq D$?
 - $x_m \neq D \Rightarrow x_{m+1} \neq D$?

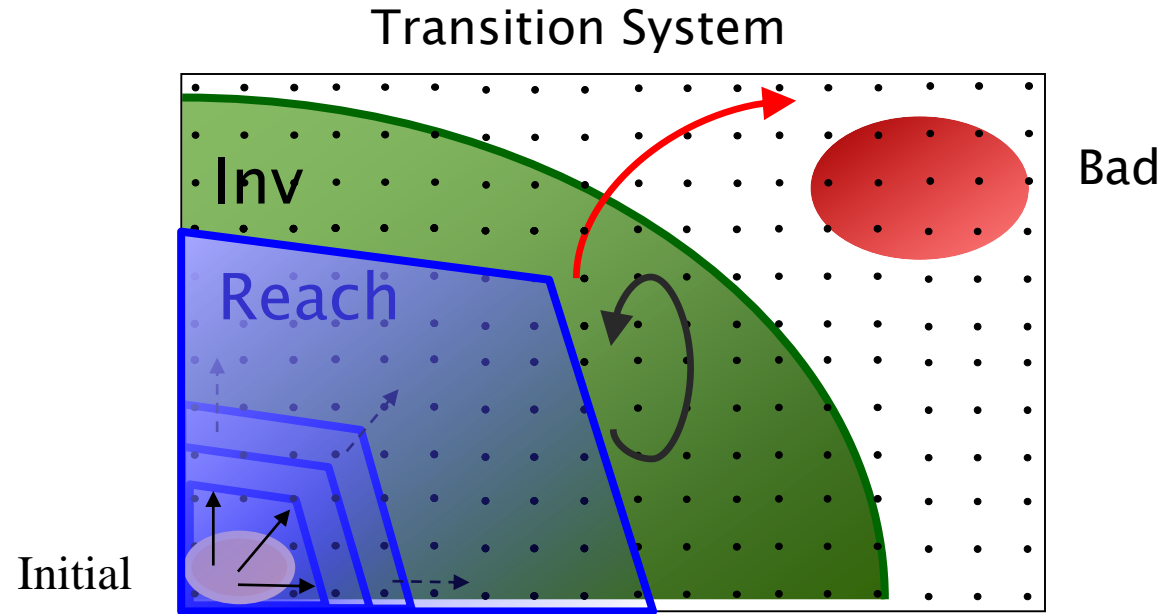


Formalizing with induction

- $x_0 = A$
- $x_{n+1} = \begin{cases} C & \text{if } x_n = A \\ D & \text{if } x_n = B \\ A & \text{if } x_n = C \\ B & \text{if } x_n = D \end{cases}$
- Prove a stronger claim by induction $\forall n. x_n \neq B \wedge x_n \neq D$
 - $x_0 \neq B \wedge x_0 \neq D$
 - $x_m \neq B \wedge x_m \neq D \Rightarrow x_{m+1} \neq B \wedge x_{m+1} \neq D$



Inductive Invariants



The program is **safe** if all the reachable states satisfy the property

The program is safe with respect Bad iff there exists an

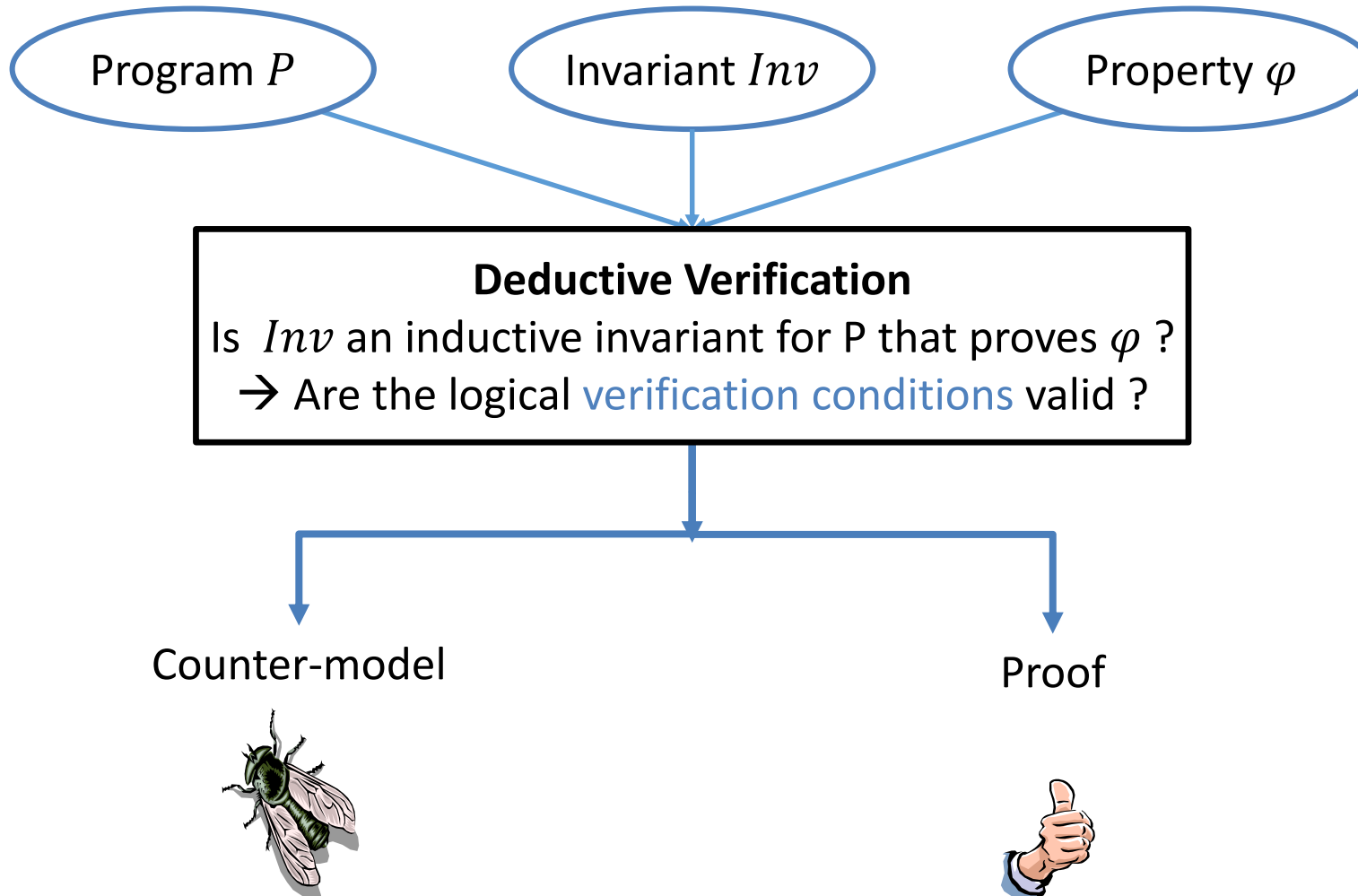
inductive invariant Inv satisfying:

$$Inv \cap Bad = \emptyset \text{ (Safety) } Bad = \neg \text{Safety}$$

$$Init \subseteq Inv \text{ (Initiation)}$$

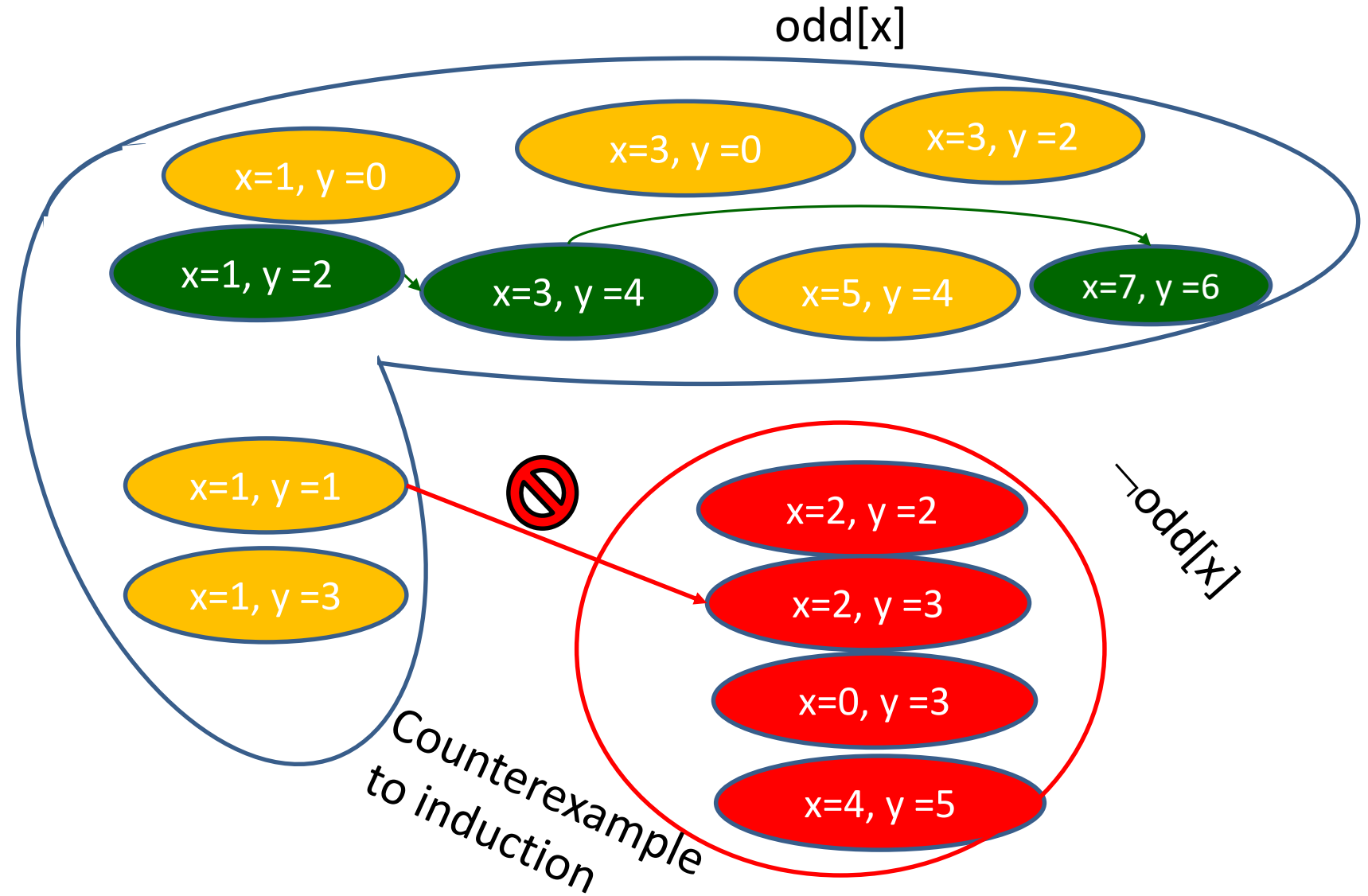
$$\text{if } \sigma \in Inv \text{ and } \sigma T \sigma' \text{ then } \sigma' \in Inv \text{ (Consecution)}$$

Deductive verification



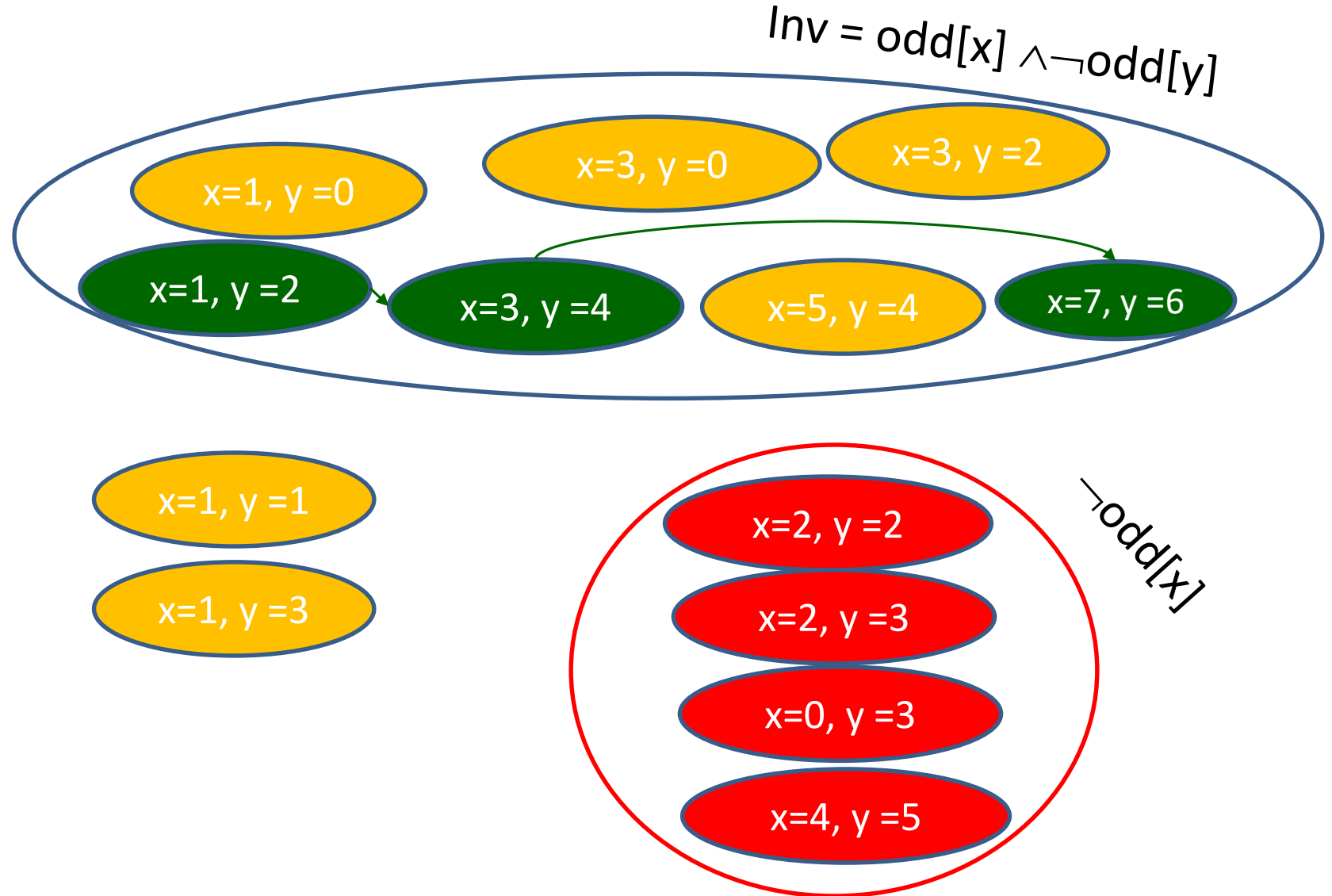
Simple Example: inductive Invariants

```
1: x := 1;  
2: y := 2;  
while * do {  
  3: assert odd[x];  
  4: x := x + y;  
  5: y := y + 2;  
}  
6:
```



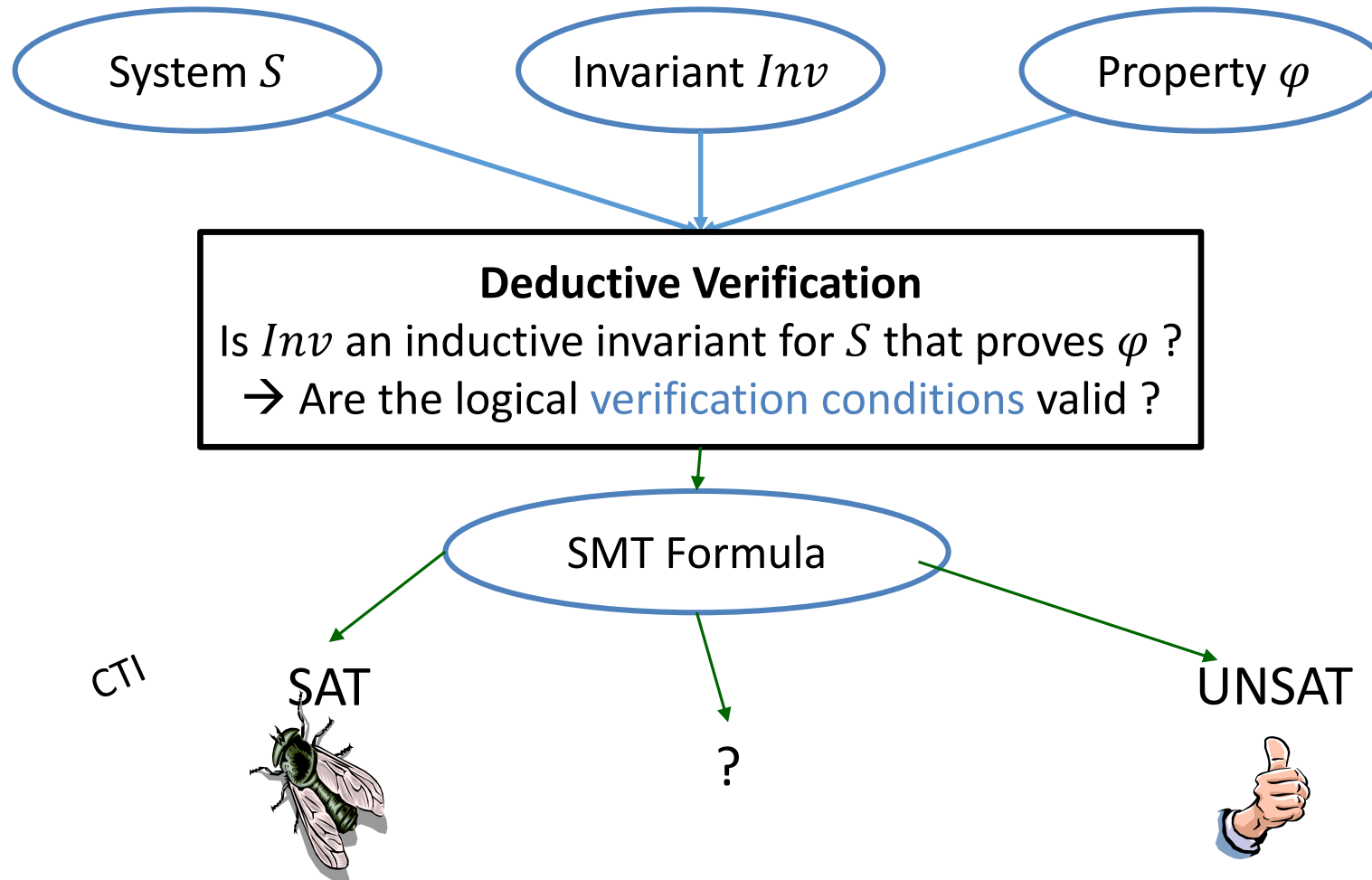
Simple Example: inductive Invariants

```
1: x := 1;  
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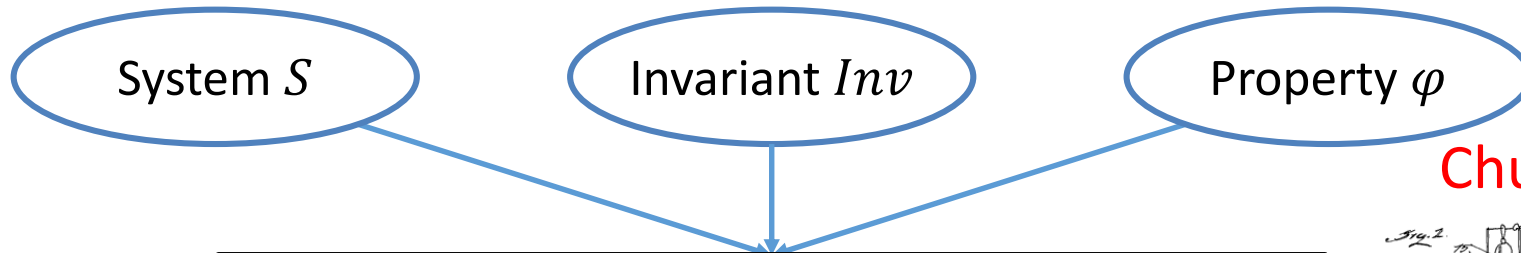




Dafny [Leino'17]

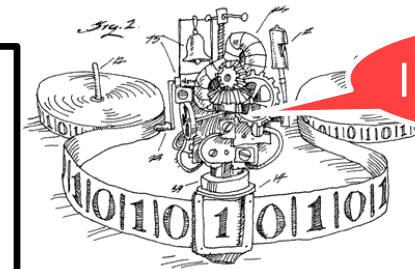


Deductive verification



Deductive Verification
Is Inv an inductive invariant for S that proves φ ?
→ Are the logical **verification conditions** valid ?

Church's Theorem



Counter-model



Unknown / Diverge



Proof



Effects of undecidability(SMT)

- The verifier may fail on tiny program
- No explanation when tactics fails
 - Counterproofs

Trigger Selection Strategies to Stabilize Program Verifiers

K. Rustan M. Leino and Clément Pit-Claudel

Abstract. SMT-based program verifiers often suffer from the so-called butterfly effect, in which minor modifications to the program source cause significant instabilities in verification times, which in turn may lead to spurious verification failures and a degraded user experience. This paper identifies matching loops (ill-behaved quantifiers causing an SMT solver to repeatedly instantiate a small set of quantified formulas) as a significant contributor to these instabilities, and describes some techniques to detect and prevent them. At their core, the contributed



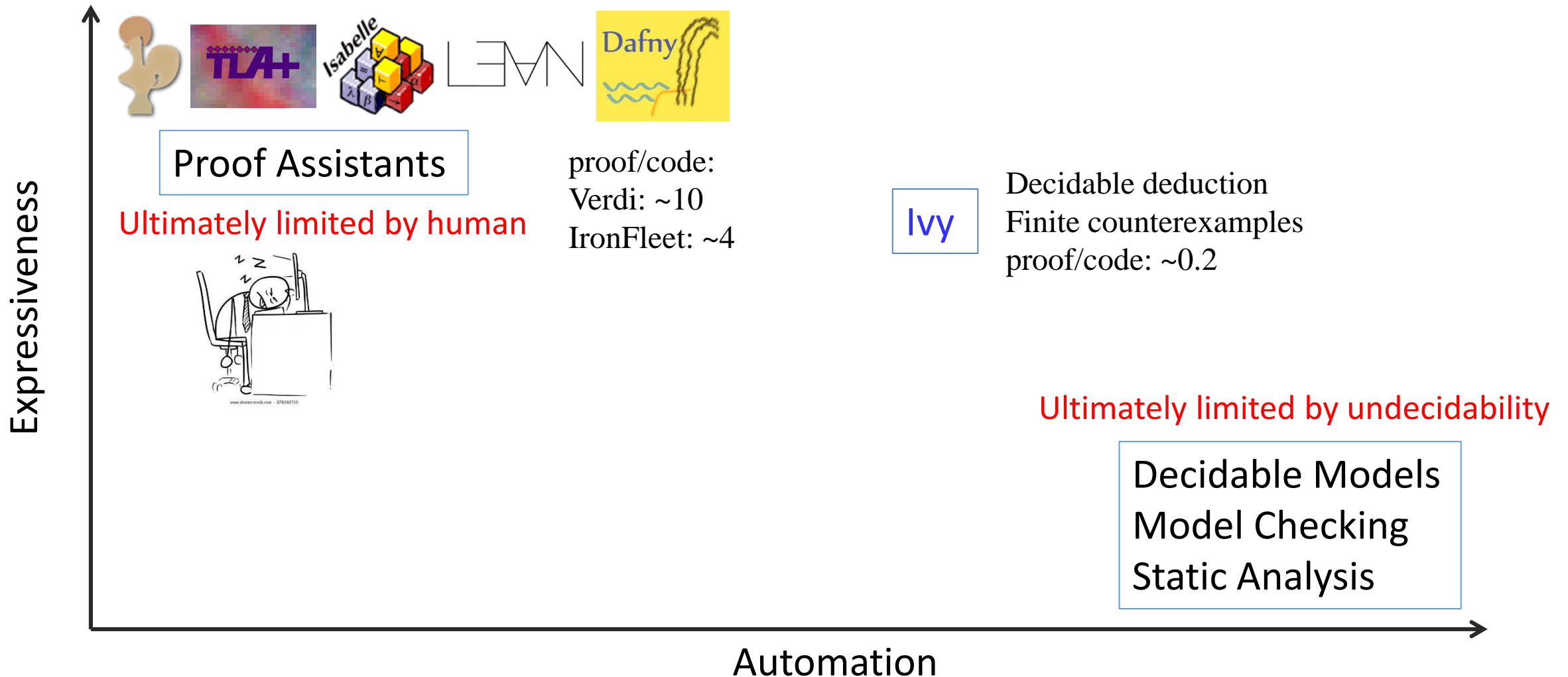
Copyright: Michael Hanke



Challenges in deductive verification

1. **Formal specification**: formalizing infinite-state systems and their **properties**
2. **Deduction**: checking inductiveness
 - Undecidability of implication checking
 - Unbounded state (threads, messages), arithmetic, quantifier alternation
3. **Inference**: finding **inductive invariants** (Inv)
 - Hard to specify
 - Hard to maintain
 - Hard to infer
 - Undecidable even when deduction is decidable

State of the art in formal verification



Effectively Propositional Logic – EPR

a.k.a. Bernays-Schönfinkel-Ramsey class

- Limited fragment of first-order logic **without theories**
 - No function symbols
 - Restricted quantifier prefix: $\exists^* \forall^* \varphi_{QF}$
 - No $\forall \exists$



EPR Satisfiability



Skolem

$$\exists x, y. \forall z. r(x, z) \leftrightarrow r(z, y)$$

$$=_{\text{SAT}} \forall z. r(c_1, z) \leftrightarrow r(z, c_2)$$



Herbrand

$$=_{\text{SAT}} (r(c_1, c_1) \leftrightarrow r(c_1, c_2)) \wedge (r(c_1, c_2) \leftrightarrow r(c_2, c_2))$$

$$=_{\text{SAT}} (p_{11} \leftrightarrow p_{12}) \wedge (p_{12} \leftrightarrow p_{22})$$

Effectively Propositional Logic – EPR a.k.a. Bernays-Schönfinkel-Ramsey class

- Limited fragment of first-order logic **without theories**
 - No function symbols
 - Restricted quantifier prefix: $\exists^* \forall^* \varphi_{QF}$
- Finite model property
 - A formula is satisfiable iff it has a model of size:
constant symbols + # existential variables
- Complexity:
 - NEXPTIME-complete
 - Σ_2^P if relation arities are bounded by a constant
 - NP if quantifier prefix is also bounded by a constant

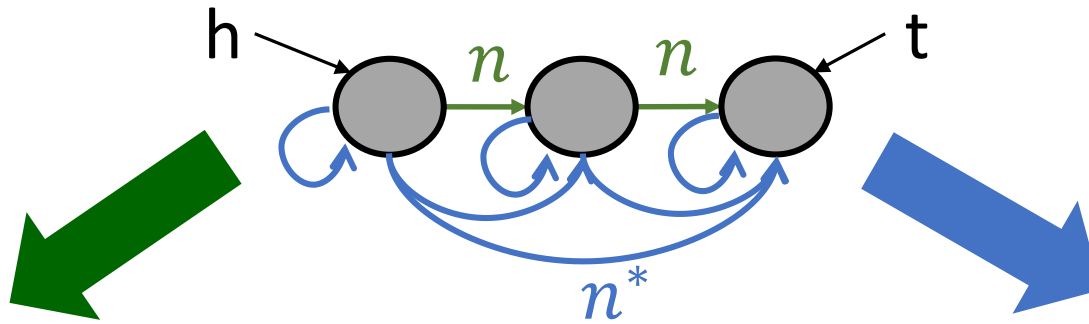


EPR++

- EPR++ allow **acyclic** function and quantifier alternations
 - E.g., $f: A \rightarrow B$ without $g: B \rightarrow A$
 - Maintains small model property of EPR
 - Finite complete instantiations
- But what can you possibly express in such a restricted logic?
 - Transitive closure over deterministic paths
 - Set cardinalities
 - Avoiding quantifier alternations
 - Encoding liveness and LTL [POPL'18]

Key idea: representing deterministic paths

[Shachar Itzhaky PhD, SIGPLAN Dissertation Award 2016]



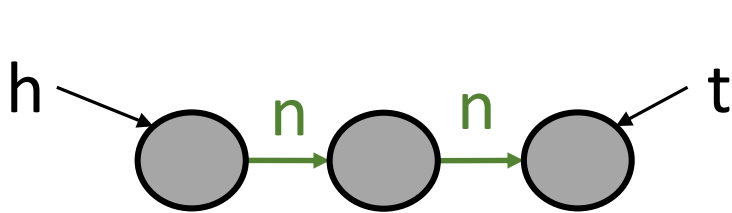
Alternative 1: maintain n

- n^* defined by transitive closure of n
- **not definable in first-order logic**

Alternative 2: maintain n^*

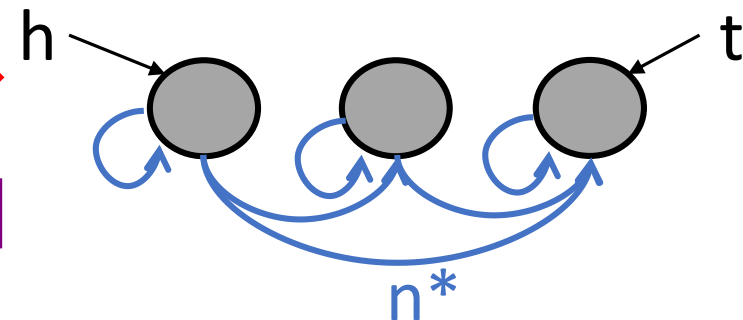
- n defined by transitive reduction of n^*
- Unique due to outdegree ≤ 1
- Definable in first order logic

$$n(x, y) \equiv n^*(x, y) \wedge x \neq y \wedge \forall z. n^*(x, z) \rightarrow z = y \vee z = x$$



Not first order expressible

First order expressible



Ivy's principles

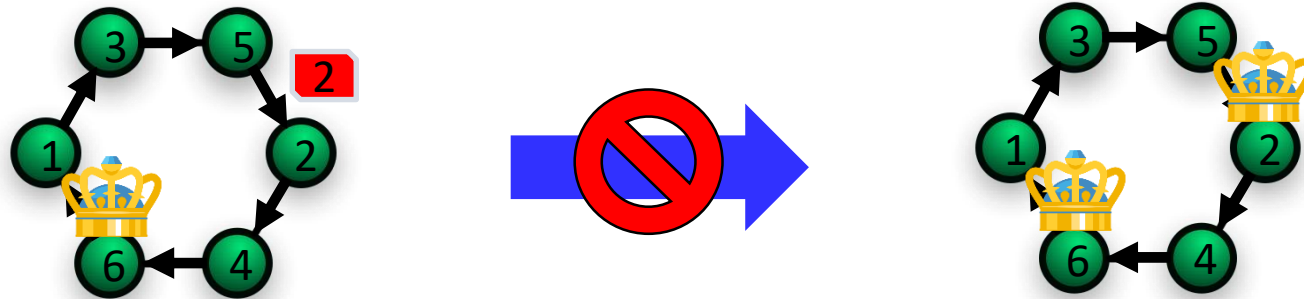
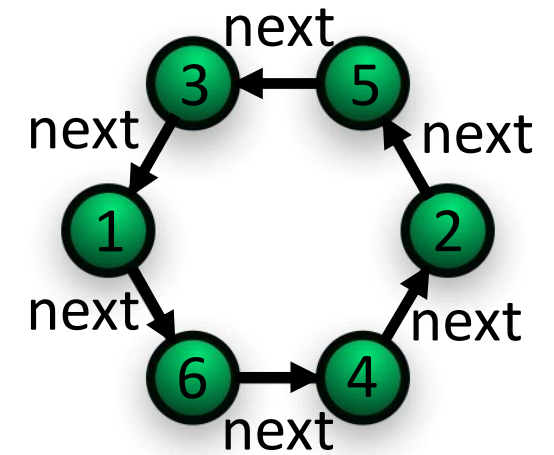
- Modularity
 - The user breaks the verification system into small problems expressed in decidable logics
 - The system explores circular assume/guarantee reasoning to prove correctness
- Inductive invariants and transition systems are expressed in decidable logics
 - Turing complete imperative programs over unbounded relations
 - Allows quantifiers to reason about unbounded sets
 - But no arbitrary quantifier alternations and theories
 - Checking inductiveness is decidable
 - Display CTIs as graphs (similar to Alloy)

Languages and verification

Language	Executable	Expressiveness	Inductiveness
C, Java, Python...	☑	Turing-Complete	Undecidable
SMV	☒	Finite-state	Temporal Properties
TLA+	☒	Turing-Complete	Manual
Coq, Isabelle/HOL	☑	Expressive	Manual with tactics
Dafny	☑	Turing-Complete	Undecidable with lemmas
Ivy	☑	Turing-Complete	Decidable(EPR)

Example: Leader election in a ring

- Unidirectional ring of nodes, unique numeric ids
- Protocol:
 - Each node sends its id to the next
 - Upon receiving a message, a node passes it (to the next) if the id in the message is higher than the node's own id
 - A node that receives its own id becomes a leader
- Theorem: The protocol selects at most one leader
 - Inductive? **NO**



Example: Leader election in a ring

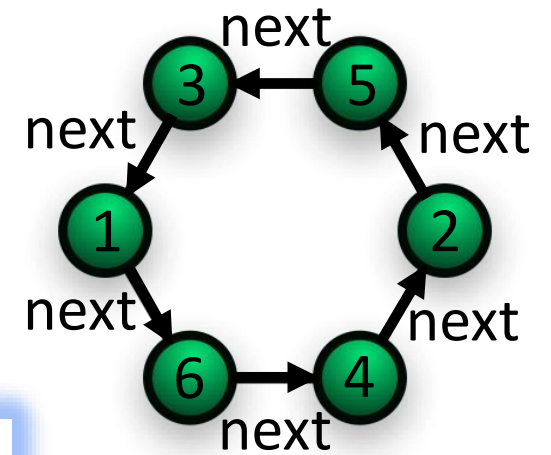
- Unidirectional ring of nodes, unique numeric ids
- Protocol:

- Each node sends its id to the next
- Upon receiving a message, a node passes it (to the next) if the id is higher than its own
- A node is the leader if it receives its own message

- Theorem

Proposition: This algorithm detects one and only one highest number.

Argument: By the circular nature of the configuration and the consistent direction of messages, any message must meet all other processes before it comes back to its initiator. Only one message, that with the highest number, will not encounter a higher number on its way around. Thus, the only process getting its own message back is the one with the highest number.

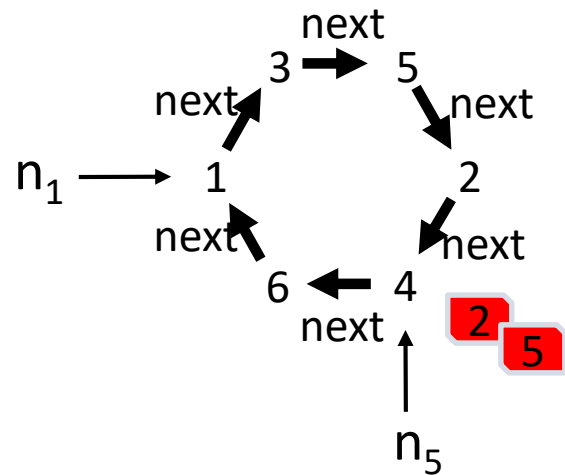


Leader election protocol – first-order logic

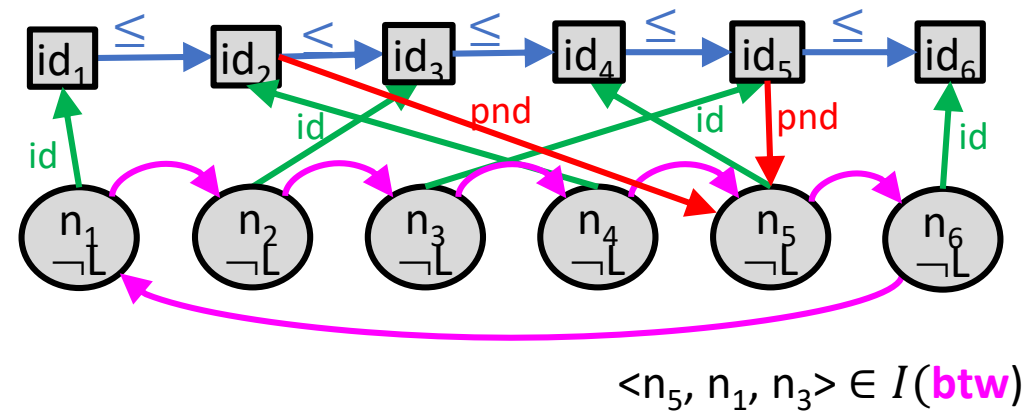
- \leq (ID, ID) – total order on node id's
- **btw** (Node, Node, Node) – the ring topology
- **id**: Node \rightarrow ID – relate a node to its unique id
- **pending**(ID, Node) – pending messages
- **leader**(Node) – leader(n) means n is the leader

} Axiomatized in first-order logic

protocol state



first-order structure



Leader election protocol – first-order logic

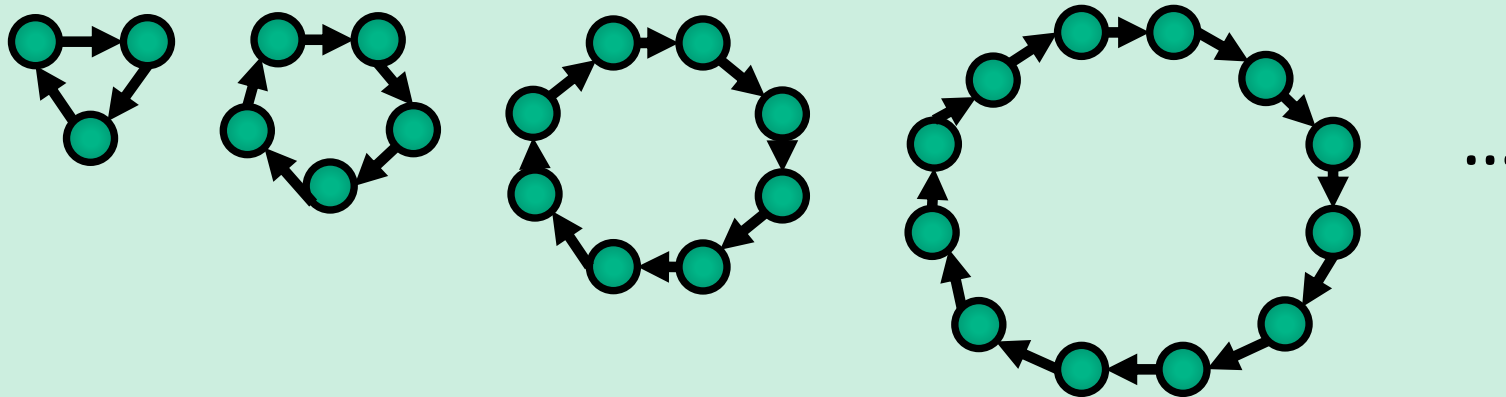
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} Axiomatized in first-order logic

protocol state

first-order structure

Specify and verify the protocol for **any** number of nodes in the ring



Leader election protocol – first-order logic

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- **id**: Node \rightarrow ID – relate a node to its unique id
- **pending**(ID, Node) – pending messages
- **leader**(Node) – leader(n) means n is the leader

```
action send(n: Node) = {  
    "s := next(n)";  
    pending(id(n), s) := true  
}
```

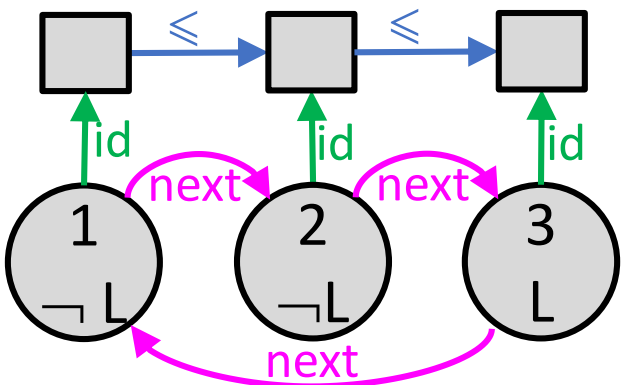
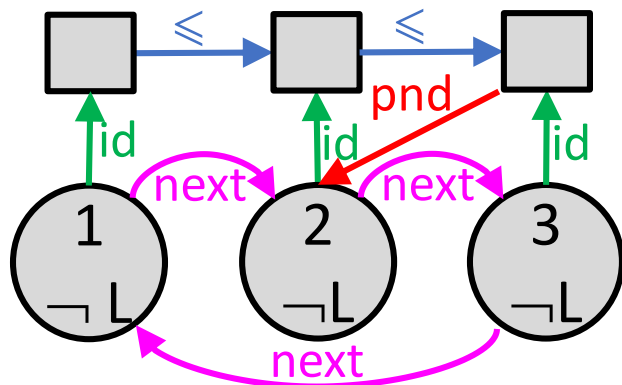
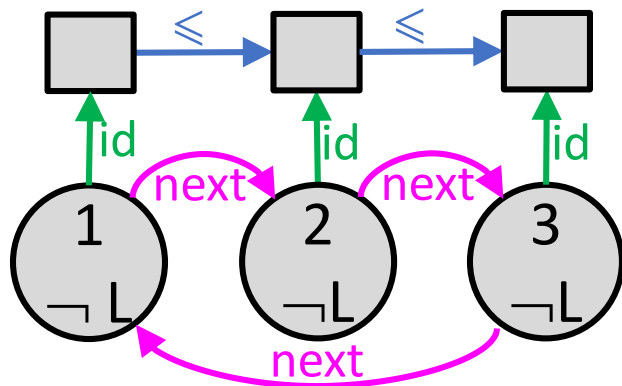
```
action receive(n: Node, m: ID) = {  
    requires pending(m, n);  
    if id(n) = m then  
        // found leader  
        leader(n) := true  
    else if id(n)  $\leq$  m then  
        // pass message  
        "s := next(n)";  
        pending(m, s) := true  
}
```

TR(send):

$\exists n, s: \text{Node}. \text{"s = next(n)"} \wedge \forall x: \text{ID}, y: \text{Node}. \text{pending}'(x, y) \leftrightarrow (\text{pending}(x, y) \vee (x = \text{id}(n) \wedge y = s))$

Bad:

$\text{assert } I0 = \forall x, y: \text{Node}. \text{leader}(x) \wedge \text{leader}(y) \rightarrow x = y$

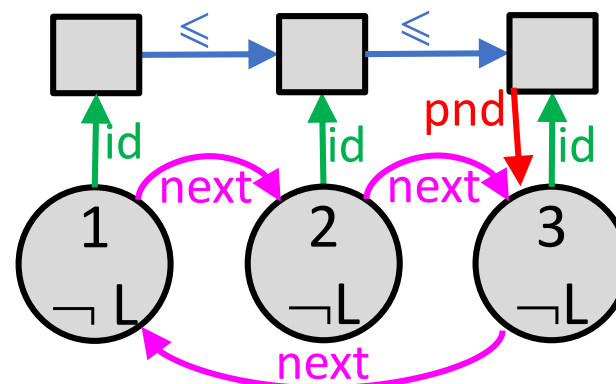
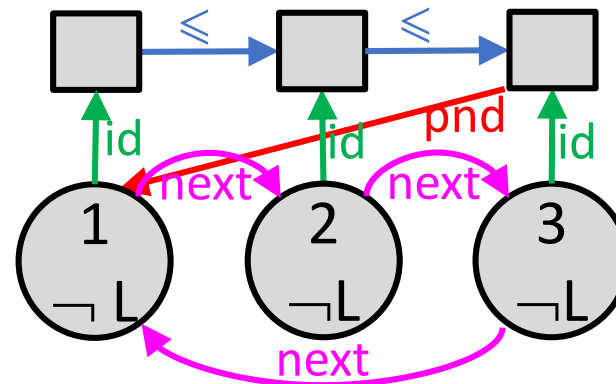


send(3)

rcv(1, *id*(3))

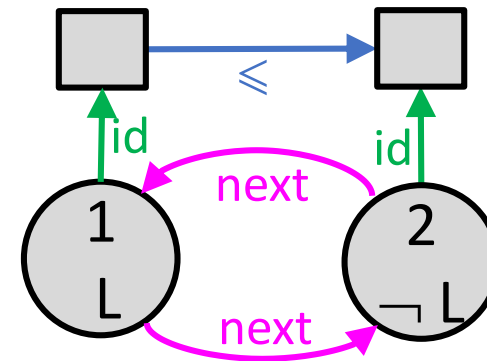
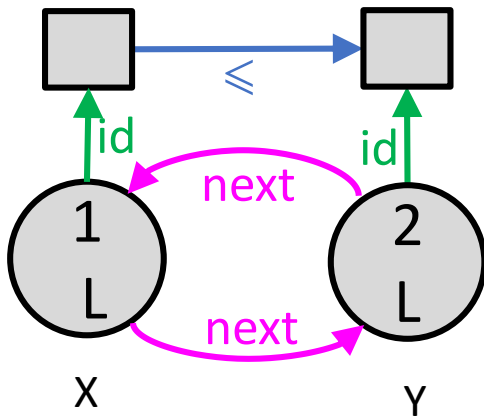
rcv(2, *id*(3))

rcv(3, *id*(3))



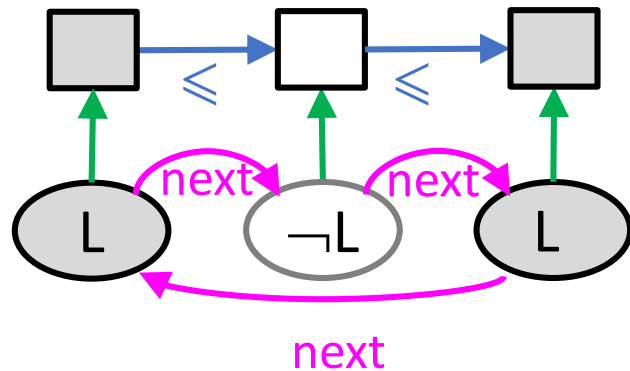
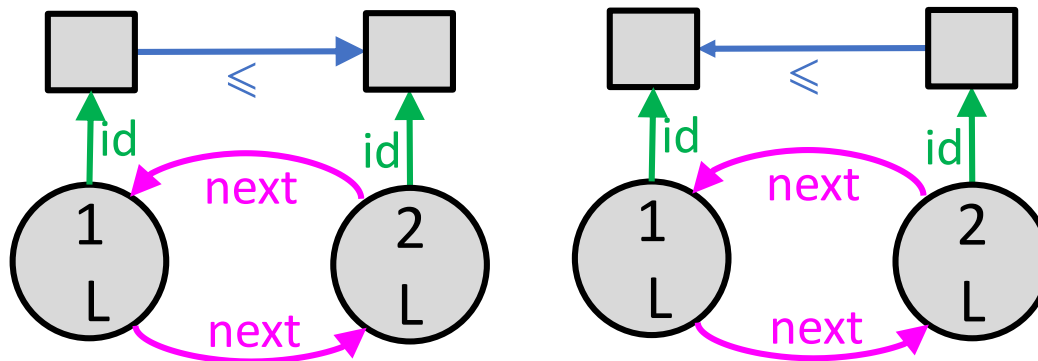
Representing Sets of States with First Order Formulas

- Configurations with at least two leaders
 - $\exists X, Y: \text{Node}. \text{leader}(X) \wedge \text{leader}(Y) \wedge X \neq Y$



Representing Sets of States with First Order Formulas

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...

Leader election protocol – inductive invariant

Safety property: I_0

$$I_0 = \forall x, y: \text{Node}. \text{leader}(x) \wedge \text{leader}(y) \rightarrow x = y$$

Inductive invariant: $\text{Inv} = I_0 \wedge I_1 \wedge I_2 \wedge I_3$

$$I_1 = \forall n_1, n_2: \text{Node}. \text{leader}(n_2) \rightarrow \text{id}[n_1] \leq \text{id}[n_2]$$

The leader has the highest ID

$$I_2 = \forall n_1, n_2: \text{Node}. \text{pending}(\text{id}[n_2], n_2) \rightarrow \text{id}[n_1] \leq \text{id}[n_2]$$

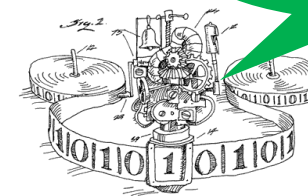
Only the leader can be self-pending

$$I_3 = \forall n_1, n_2, n_3: \text{Node}. \text{btw}(n_1, n_2, n_3) \wedge \text{pending}(\text{id}[n_2], n_1) \rightarrow \text{id}[n_1] < \text{id}[n_2]$$

I can decide EPR!

cannot bypass higher nodes

- \leq (ID, ID) – total order on node id's
- **VC Generator** – the invariant logic
- **id**: Node \rightarrow ID – relate a node to its ID
- **pending**(ID, Node) – pending messages
- **leader**(Node) – leader(n) means n is the leader

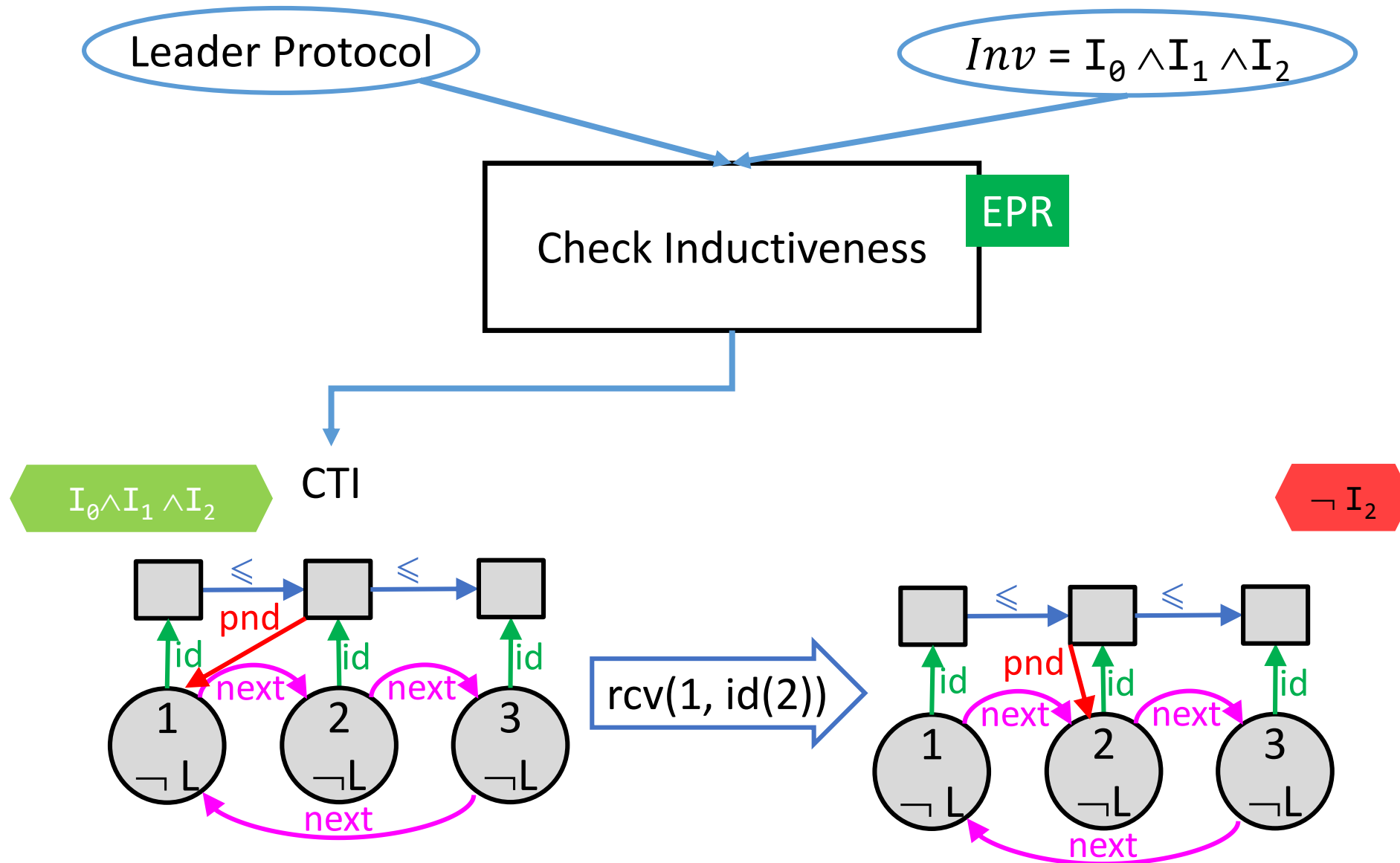


EPR Solver

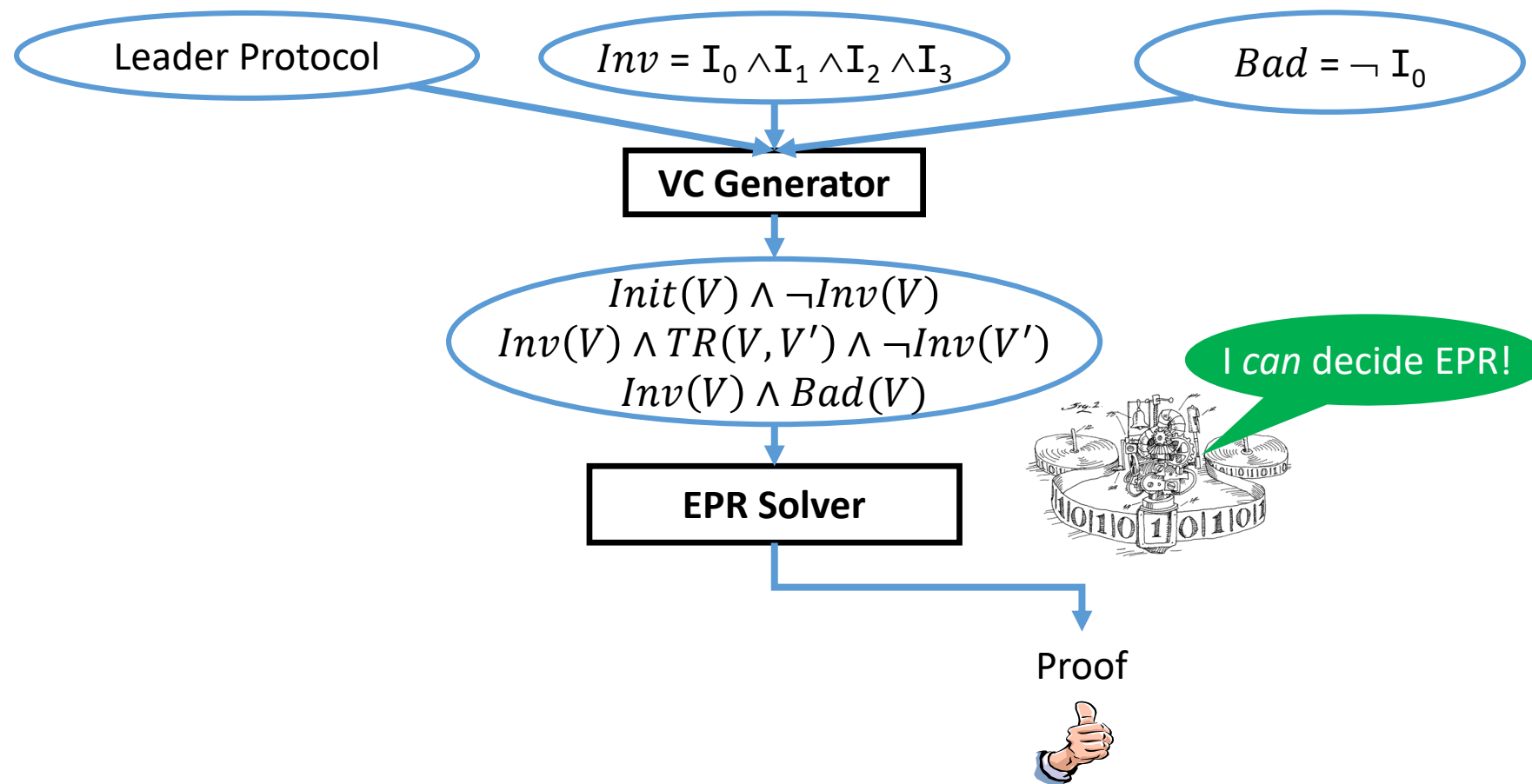
Proof



Ivy: check inductiveness

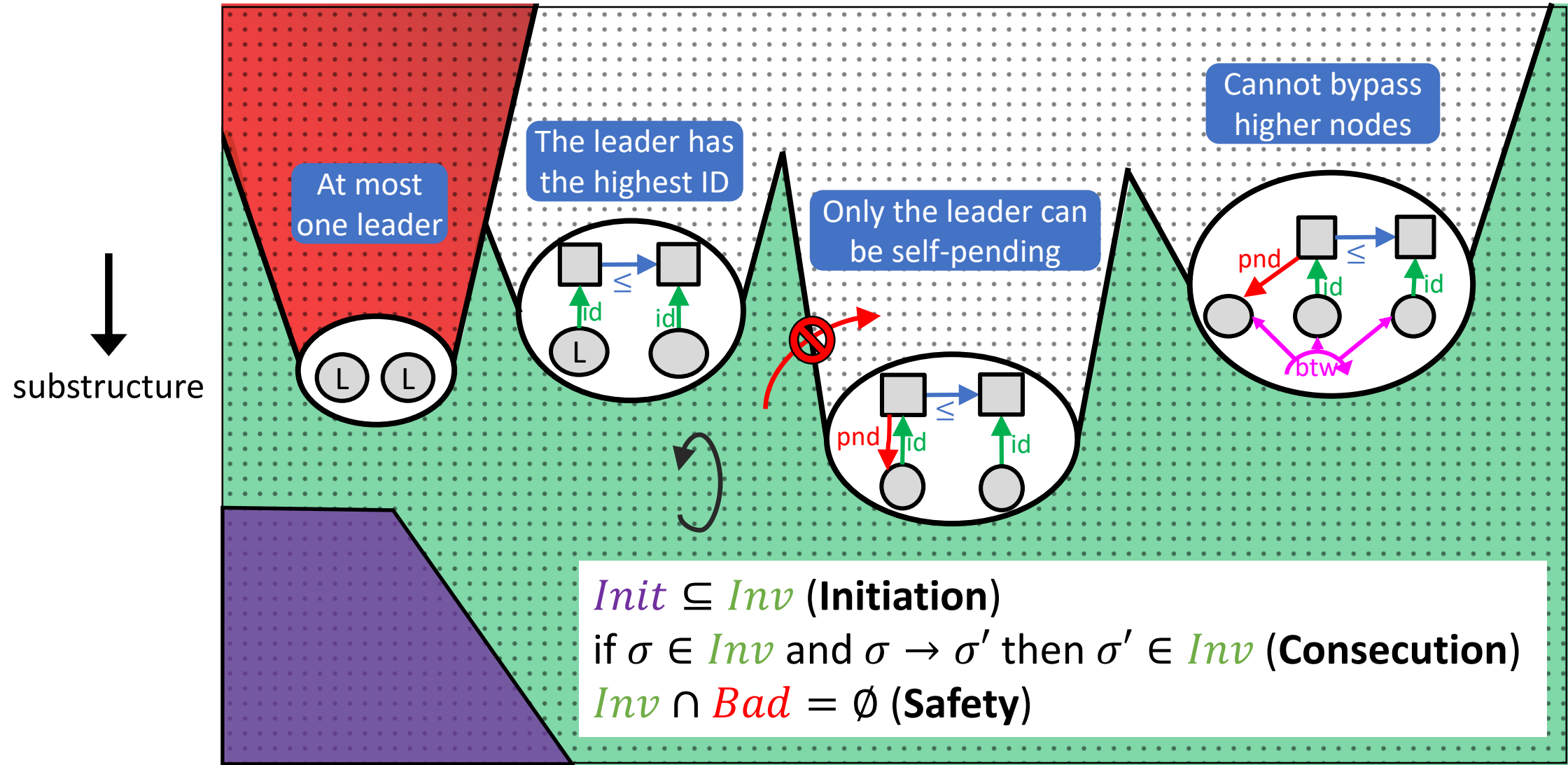


Ivy: check inductiveness



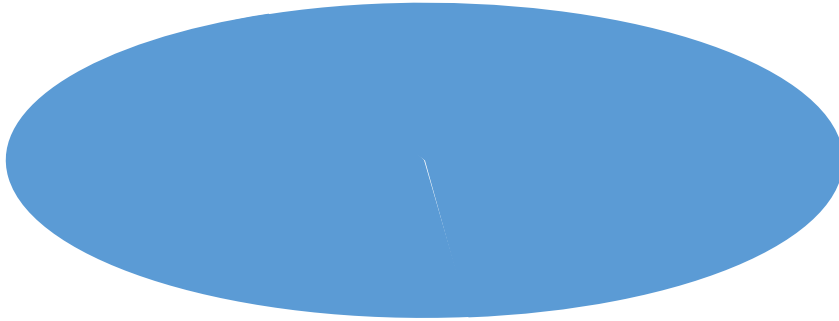
$I_0 \wedge I_1 \wedge I_2 \wedge I_3$ is an inductive invariant for the leader protocol, proving its safety

\forall^* invariant – excluded substructures



Modularity

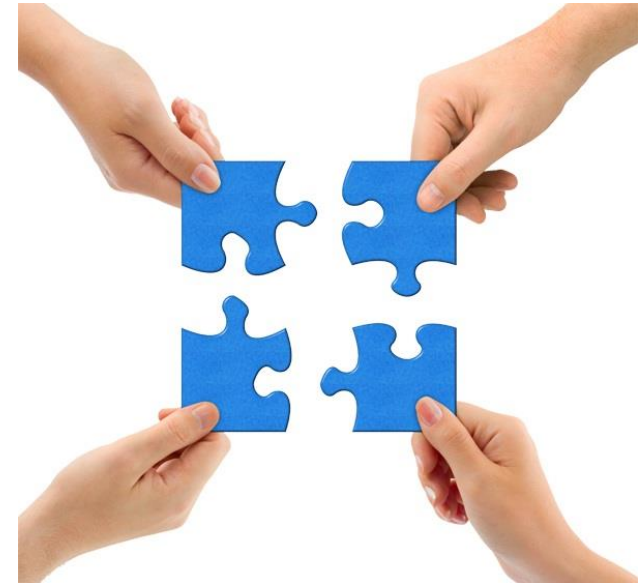
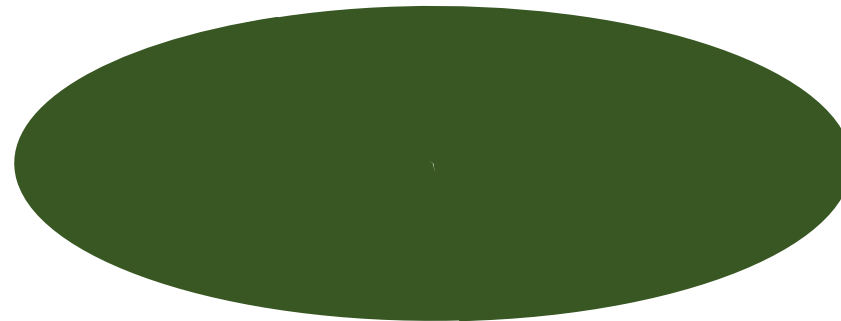
Original system



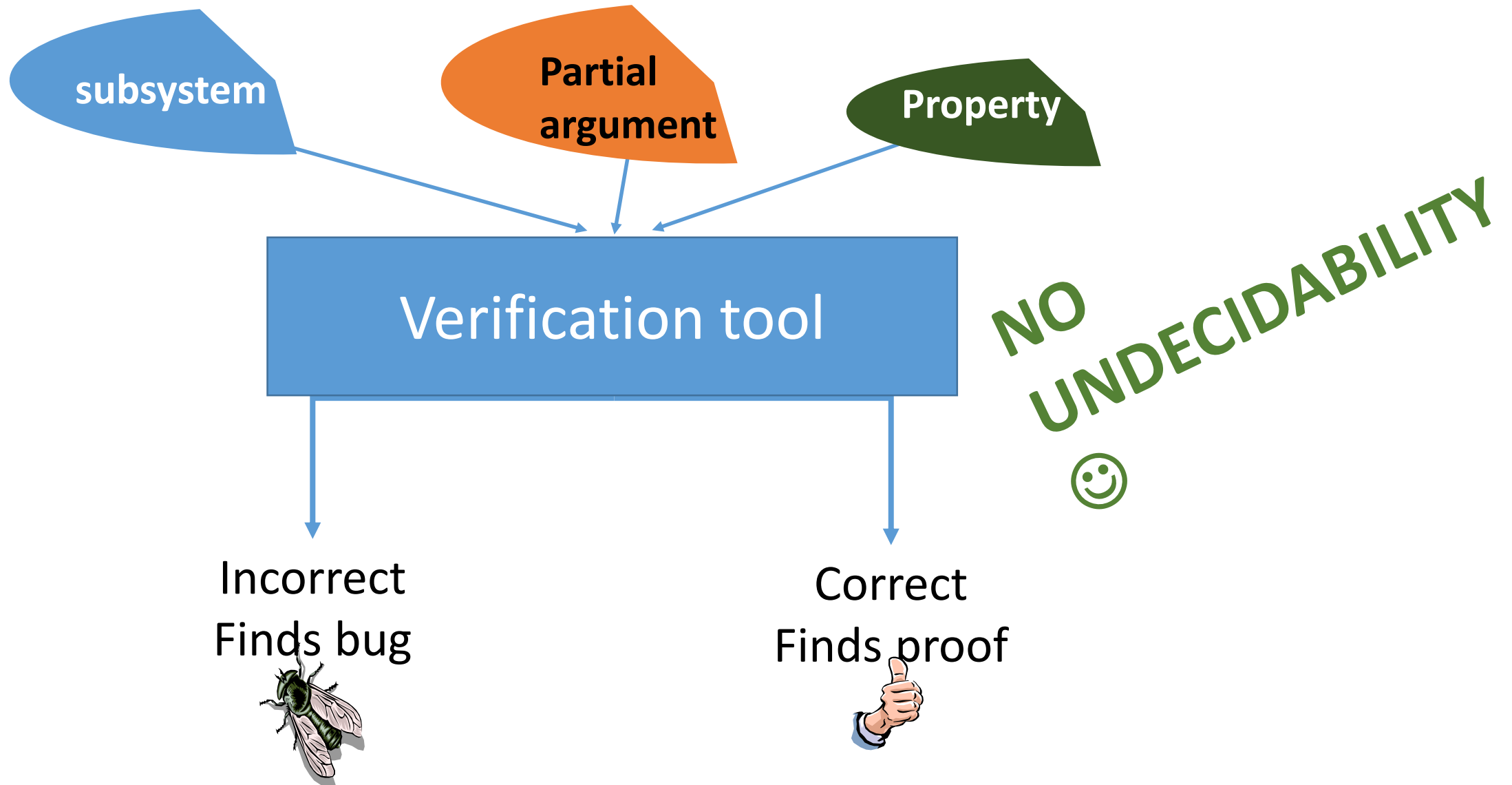
Original inductive argument



Original property



Separate Verification of each module



An ADT for pid sets

```
datatype set(pid) = {  
    relation member (pid, set)  
    relation majority(set)  
    procedure empty returns (s:set)  
    procedure add(s:set,e:pid) returns (r:set)
```

```
specification {  
    procedure empty ensures  $\forall p. \neg \text{member}(p, s)$   
    procedure add ensures  $\forall p. \text{member}(p, r) \leftrightarrow (\text{member}(p, s) \vee p = e)$   
    property [maj]  $\forall s, t. \text{majority}(s) \wedge \text{majority}(t) \rightarrow \exists p. \text{member}(p, s) \wedge \text{member}(p, t)$   
    }  
}
```

We have hidden the cardinality and arithmetic

The key is to recognize that the protocol only needs property maj

Implementation of the set ADT

- Standard approach
 - Implement operations sets using array representation
 $\text{member}(p, s) \equiv \exists i. \text{repr}(s)[i] = p$
 - Define cardinality of sets as a recursive function $||: \text{set} \rightarrow \text{int}$
 - $\text{majority}(s) \equiv |s| + |s| > |\text{all}|$
 - Prove lemma by induction on $|\text{all}|$

$$\forall s, t. |s| + |t| > |\text{all}| \rightarrow \exists p. \text{member}(p, s) \wedge \text{member}(p, t)$$

- The lemma implies property **maj**
- All the verification conditions are in EPR++ + limited arithmetic (FAU)

Quantifier alternation cycles

- Protocol state

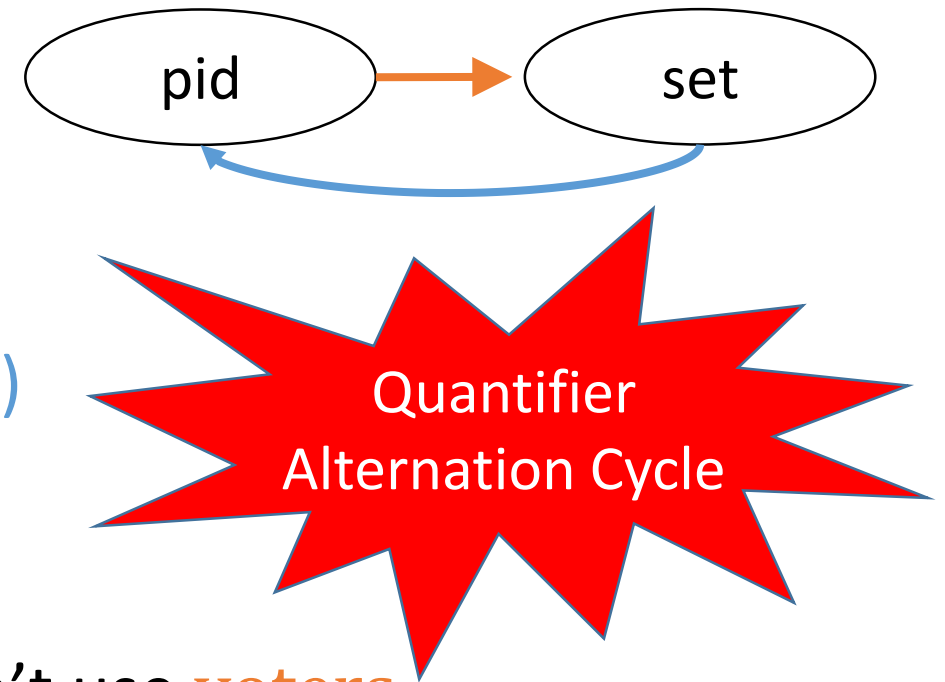
voters: pid \rightarrow set

- Property **maj**

$\forall s, t: \text{set}. \exists p: \text{pid}. \text{majority}(s) \wedge \text{majority}(t) \Rightarrow$
 $\text{member}(p, s) \wedge \text{member}(p, t)$

- Solution: Harness modularity

- Create an abstract protocol model that doesn't use **voters**
- Prove an invariant using **maj**, then use this as a lemma to prove the concrete protocol implementation



Abstract protocol model

relation voted(pid, pid)

relation isleader(pid)

var quorum: set

procedure vote(v : pid, n : pid) = {
 require $\forall m. \neg \text{voted}(v, m)$;
 $\text{voted}(v, n) := \text{true}$;
}

procedure make_leader(n : pid, s : set) = {
 require majority(s);
 require $\forall m. \text{member}(m, s) \rightarrow \text{voted}(m, n)$;
 $\text{isleader}(n) := \text{true}$;
 $\text{quorum} := s$;
}

Invariant:

- one leader: $\forall n, m. \text{isleader}(n) \wedge \text{isleader}(m) \rightarrow n = m$
- voted is a partial function: $\forall p, n, m. \text{voted}(p, n) \wedge \text{voted}(p, m) \rightarrow n = m$
- leader has a quorum: $\forall n, m. \text{isleader}(n) \wedge \text{member}(m, \text{quorum}) \rightarrow \text{voted}(m, n)$

Provable in EPR++

Implementation

- Uses real network vote messages
- Decorated with ghost calls to abstract model
- Uses abstract mode invariant in proof

```
relation already_voted(pid)
handle req(p:pid, n:pid) {
  if  $\neg$ already_voted(p) {
    already_voted(p) := true;
    send vote(p,n);
    ghost abs.vote(p,n); call to abstract model must satisfy precondition
  }
}
```

In place of property **maj**, we use the *one leader* invariant of the abstract model

$$\begin{aligned} &\forall p, n. \text{abs.voted}(p, n) \rightarrow \text{already_voted}(p) \\ &\forall p, n. \text{network.vote}(p, n) \leftrightarrow \text{abs.voted}(p, n) \\ &\forall n. \text{leader}(n) \leftrightarrow \text{abs.isleader}(n) \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

Proof using Ivy/Z3

- For each module, we provide suitable inductive invariants
 - Reduces the verification to EPR++ verification conditions
 - the sub verification problems
- Each module's VC's in decidable fragment
 - Support from Z3
 - If not, Ivy gives us an explanation, for example a function cycle
- Z3 can quickly and reliably prove all the VC's



Proof Length

Protocol	System/Project	LOC	# manual proof	Ratio
RAFT	Coq/Verdi	530	50,000	94
	Ivy	560	200	0.36
MULTIPAXOS	Dafny/IronFleet	3000	12,000	4
	Ivy	330	266	0.8

Verification Effort

Protocol	System/Project	Human Effort	Verification Time
RAFT	Coq/Verdi	3.7 years	-
	Ivy	3 months (from ground up)	Few min
MULTIPAXOS	Dafny/IronFleet	Several years	6hr in cloud
	Ivy	1 month (pre-verified model)	few minutes on laptop

IVY summary

- A system with the following properties
 - Proof Automation
 - Can be used by non-experts
 - Transparency
 - The user either get CTI or an error message that the verification condition falls outside the decidable fragments
- Used to verify small but intricate distributed protocols all the way from the design to the implementation
- Publically available <https://github.com/Microsoft/ivy>