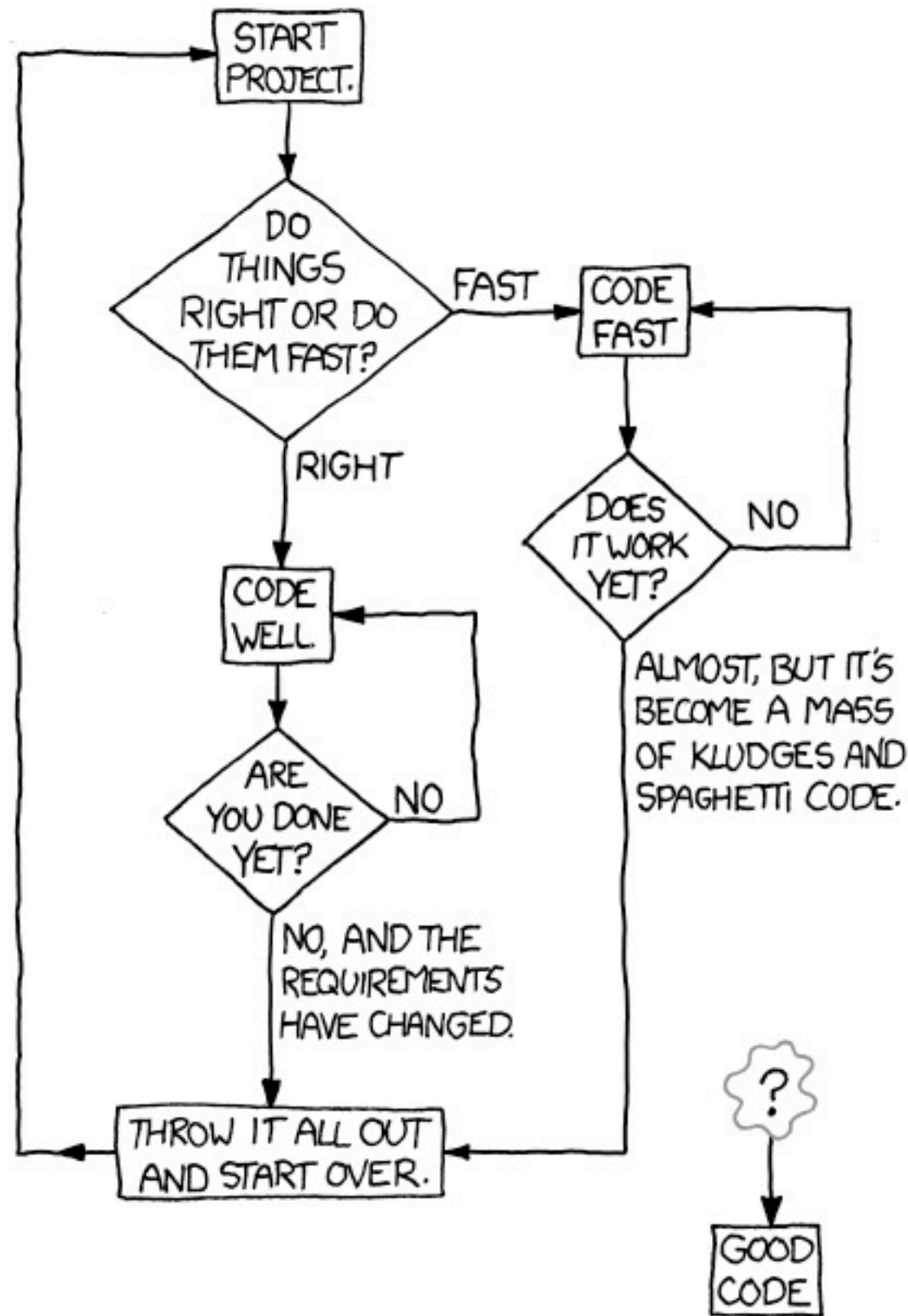


$\exists_p p \in$ Pontificating

Programming is Hard



HOW TO WRITE GOOD CODE:



Who watches the watchers?



Let's talk about verification





XUnit

Standard Practice

- We all use it
- Most of us rely on it day to day
- We seem to trust it implicitly

```
def test_example
  # create something to test
  obj = MyExampleObject.new(arguments)
  # program statement
  result = obj.example_method(arguments)
  # verification
  assert_equal("fact", result)
  #implicit teardown
end
```

```
it "must be an example" do
  obj = MyExampleObject.new(arguments)
  result = obj.example_method(arguments)
  result.should == fact
end
```


XUnit is Complected

- It's doing too much

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- BDD is just XUnit with lots of bad English

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- What are you testing?

XUnit is Complected

- It's doing too much
- BDD is just XUnit with lots of bad English
- Poor separation of the tester and testee
- What are you testing?
 - *Are you sure?!*



*Your mock object is a joke; that object is mocking you.
For needing it. – Rich Hickey*

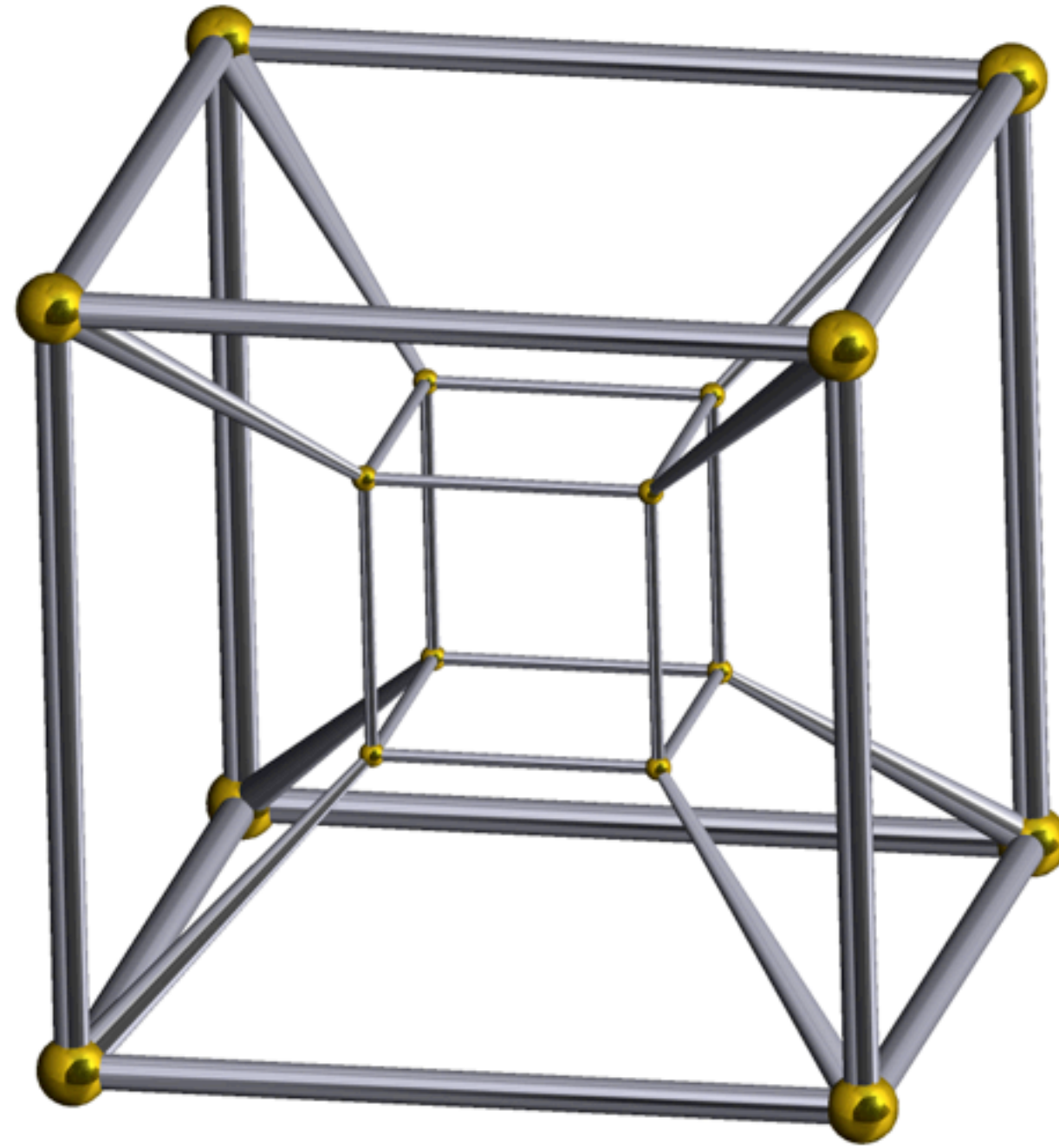
Coverage is a Lie

- Too many false indicators of comprehensive verification
- We work really hard at the wrong things to achieve good coverage
- “The Emperor's new suit”

Always in Manual Drive

- Devise, write, and maintain all cases
- Edge cases are a (big) problem
 - Especially with simple functions
- Example: Integer commutative law

Generative Testing



Logic #fail

$$\exists_x f(x) \neq \textit{expect}(x) \Rightarrow \text{bugs}$$

Logic #fail

$$\exists_x f(x) \neq \textit{expect}(x) \Rightarrow \text{bugs}$$

$$\exists_x f(x) = \textit{expect}(x) \Rightarrow \neg \text{bugs}$$

Logic #fail

$$\exists_x f(x) \neq \textit{expect}(x) \Rightarrow \textit{bugs}$$

~~$$\exists_x f(x) = \textit{expect}(x) \Rightarrow \neg \textit{bugs}$$~~

Generative Testing

- Developing test cases is hard
- We have computers!
- Define your domain, auto-generate inputs
- Write less, test more
- Find edge cases automatically!

Generative Testing

- Developing test cases is hard
- We have computers!
- Define your domain, auto-generate inputs
- Write less, test more
- Find edge cases automatically!
 - (money back guarantee)

```

(defspec integer-commutative-laws
  (partial map identity)
  [^{:tag `integer} a ^{:tag `integer} b]
  (if (longable? (+ ' a b))
      (assert (= (+ a b) (+ b a)
                  (+ ' a b) (+ ' b a)
                  (unchecked-add a b)
                  (unchecked-add b a))))
      (assert (= (+ ' a b) (+ ' b a))))
  (if (longable? (* ' a b))
      (assert (= (* a b) (* b a)
                  (* ' a b) (* ' b a)
                  (unchecked-multiply a b)
                  (unchecked-multiply b a))))
      (assert (= (* ' a b) (* ' b a))))

```

```
"integer commutative law" in {  
  check { (x: Int, y: Int) =>  
    (x + y) mustEqual (y + x)  
    (x * y) mustEqual (y * x)  
  }  
}
```

Generative Testing

- Real world cases?

Generative Testing

- Real world cases?
 - Sparse trees

Generative Testing

- Real world cases?
 - Sparse trees
 - Complex pre-conditions

Generative Testing

- Real world cases?
 - Sparse trees
 - Complex pre-conditions
- How many iterations?

Rice's Theorem



[...] there exists no automatic method that decides with generality non-trivial questions on the black-box behavior of computer programs. – Wikipedia

Rice's Theorem

- You can *never* have enough assertions

Rice's Theorem

- You can *never* have enough assertions
- All you can do is improve “confidence”
 - (for some naïve definition thereof)

Rice's Theorem

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- Black box testing is a farce

Rice's Theorem

- You can *never* have enough assertions
- All you can do is improve “confidence”
 - (for some naïve definition thereof)
- Black box testing is a farce
- Partial function indistinguishable from total

```
def addGood(x: Int, y: Int) = x + y
```

```
// egad!
```

```
def addBad(x: Int, y: Int) = (x, y) match {  
  case (0, 0) => 0  
  case (0, 1) => 1  
  case (1, 0) => 1  
  case (2, 3) => 5  
  case (100, 500) => 600  
}
```

Black Box Testing

- Do we just...enumerate cases?

Black Box Testing

- Do we just...enumerate cases?
- When do we stop? (hint: never!)

Black Box Testing

- Do we just...enumerate cases?
- When do we stop? (hint: never!)
- Can we assume edge cases are predictable?

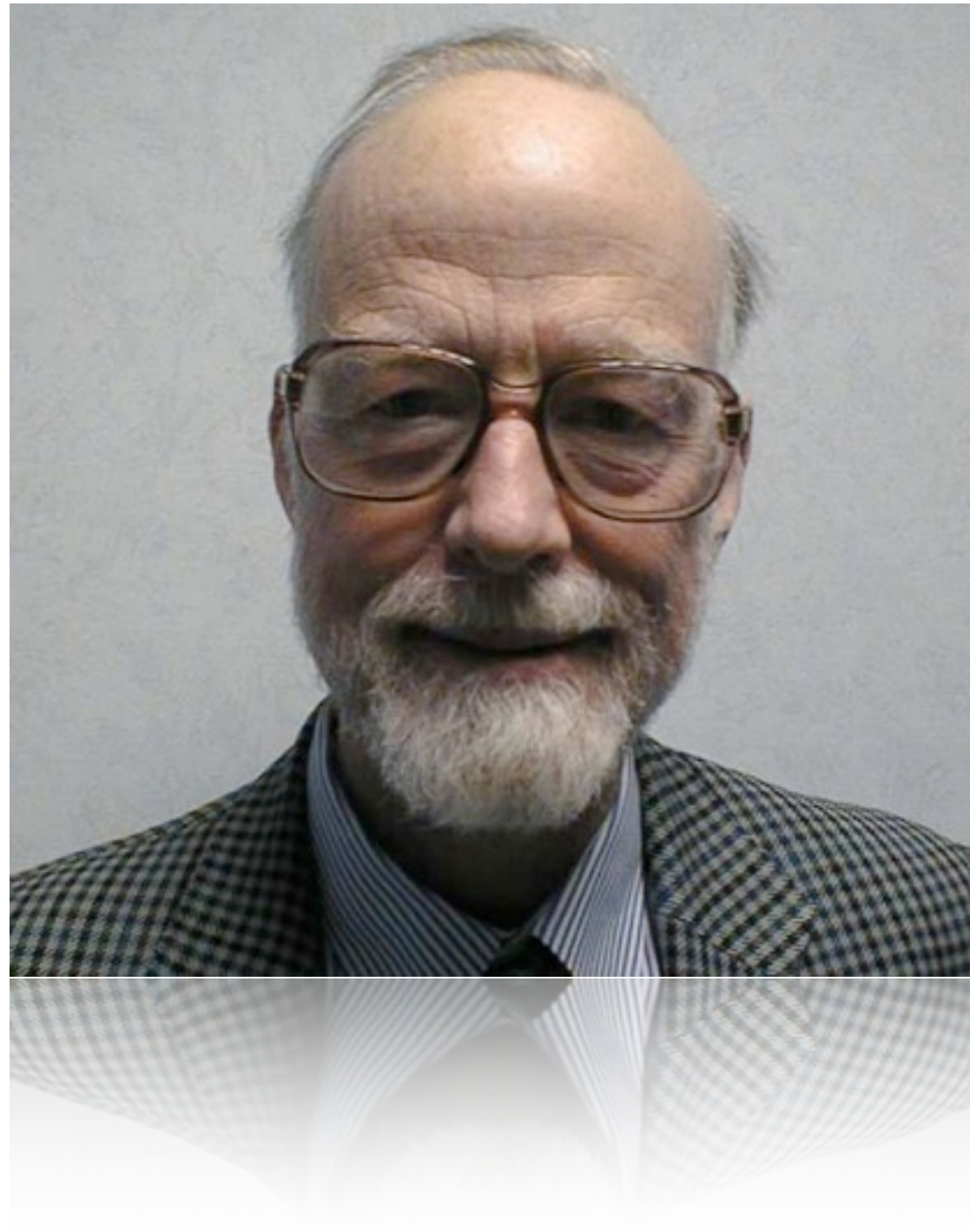
Black Box Testing

- Do we just...enumerate cases?
- When do we stop? (hint: never!)
- Can we assume edge cases are predictable?
- What *can* we assume?

Black Box Testing

- Do we just...enumerate cases?
- When do we stop? (hint: never!)
- Can we assume edge cases are predictable?
- What *can* we assume?
- It's all undecidable, let's go shopping

In the beginning...



An Axiomatic Basis for Computer Programming

Partial Correctness

$$P \{Q\} R$$

Built on two ideas

- Axioms
 - The foundation of proofs in our system (assignment, precedence, identity, etc)
- Inference
 - Higher order ideas that use combinations of axioms to draw conclusions

**It drove us to think
about consequence in
program execution**

Be Careful!

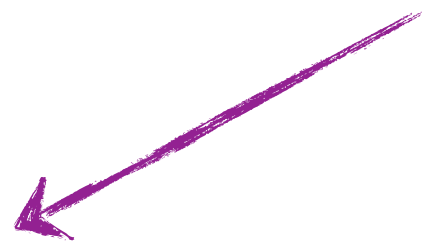
$$\neg \exists x \forall y (y \leq x)$$

Computers are finite!

$$\forall x \ (x \leq \max)$$

Real Example

Commutative law



$$x + y = y + x$$

$$x \times y = y \times x$$

Rules of Consequence

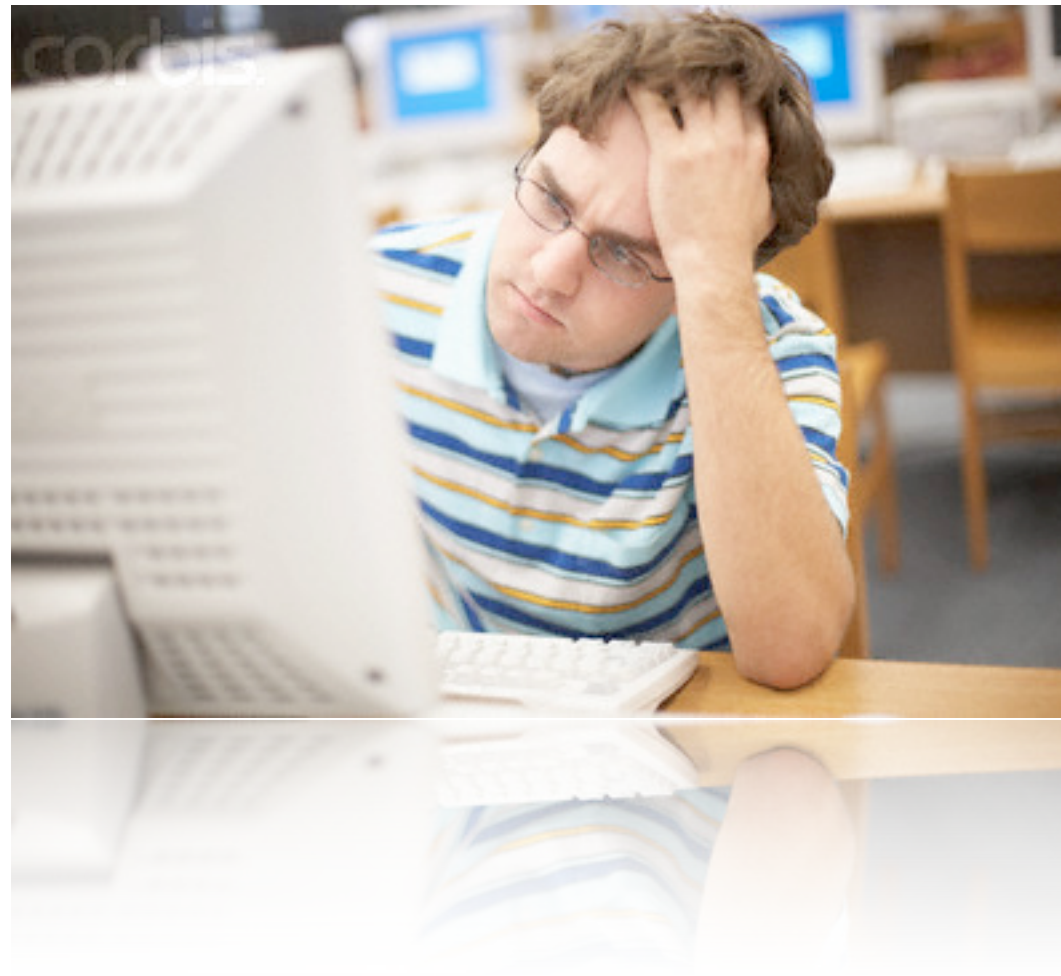
$$(\vdash P \{Q\} R) \wedge (\vdash R \supset S) \Rightarrow (\vdash P \{Q\} S)$$

$$(\vdash P \{Q\} R) \wedge (\vdash S \supset P) \Rightarrow (\vdash S \{Q\} R)$$

Our problems are solved!

See
Our problems are solved!
model

Type Systems



Type Systems

- Mildly controversial...

Type Systems

- Mildly controversial...
- Formal verification...that you can't disable!

Type Systems

- Mildly controversial...
- Formal verification...that you can't disable!
- Part of the language (inextricably)
 - (yes, that is a definitional requirement)

Type Systems

- Mildly controversial...
- Formal verification...that you can't disable!
- Part of the language (inextricably)
 - (yes, that is a definitional requirement)
- Model correctness as consistency

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : T}{t \Rightarrow t' \vee t \text{ is value}} \text{ PROGRESS}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : T \quad t \Rightarrow t'}{\Gamma \vdash t' : T} \text{ PRESERVATION}$$

```
case class Miles(value: Int)
case class Kilometers(value: Int)

def launchMarsMission(distance: Miles) = {
  val kph = distance.value / (6 * 30 * 24)
  increaseSpeedToKPH(kph)
}
```

```
trait forall[CC[_]] {  
  def apply[A]: CC[A]  
}
```

```
trait ST[S, A] {  
  def flatMap[B](f: A => ST[S, B]): ST[S, B]  
}
```

```
object ST {  
  def run[A](  
    f: forall[({ type λ[S] = ST[S, A] => A })#λ]): A  
}
```

Correct by Construction

- Incorrect algorithms fail to compile



Call me Ishmael...

Correct by Construction

- Incorrect algorithms fail to compile
- Bugs are a thing of the past



Call me Ishmael...

Correct by Construction

- Incorrect algorithms fail to compile
- Bugs are a thing of the past
- Programmers herald new era



Call me Ishmael...

Correct by Construction

- Incorrect algorithms fail to compile
- Bugs are a thing of the past
- Programmers herald new era
- Profit?



Call me Ishmael...

Curry-Howard

- Types are logical propositions
- Values are proofs of propositions
- Type checking is testing logical validity
- A system's *consistency* is what is checked

-- Thm. Integer implies Walrus

theorem :: Integer -> Walrus

theorem a = theorem a

-- Thm. everything implies Walrus

theorem :: forall a . a -> Walrus

theorem a = theorem a

-- Thm. everything is true!

theorem :: forall a . a
theorem = theorem

Gödel

- Self-referentiality is a problem

Gödel

- Self-referentiality is a problem
 - Hello, Strange Loop!

Gödel

- Self-referentiality is a problem
 - Hello, Strange Loop!
- Incomplete *or* inconsistent

Gödel

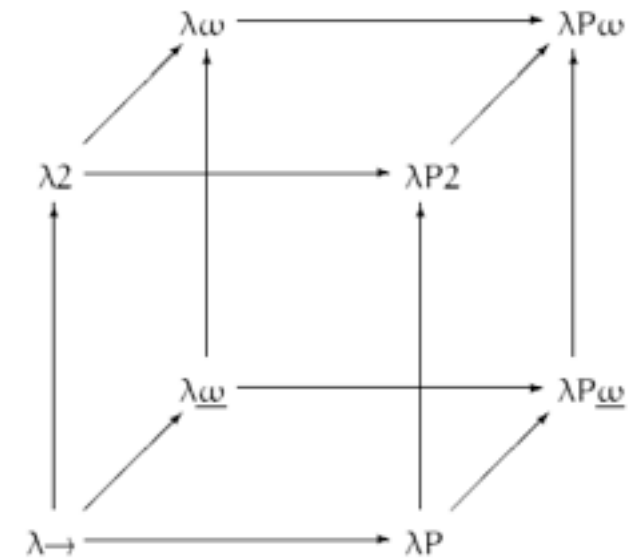
- Self-referentiality is a problem
 - Hello, Strange Loop!
- Incomplete *or* inconsistent
- Some valid programs cannot be typed

Gödel

- Self-referentiality is a problem
 - Hello, Strange Loop!
- Incomplete *or* inconsistent
- Some valid programs cannot be typed
- Strong normalization helps
 - (avoids the need for recursive types!)

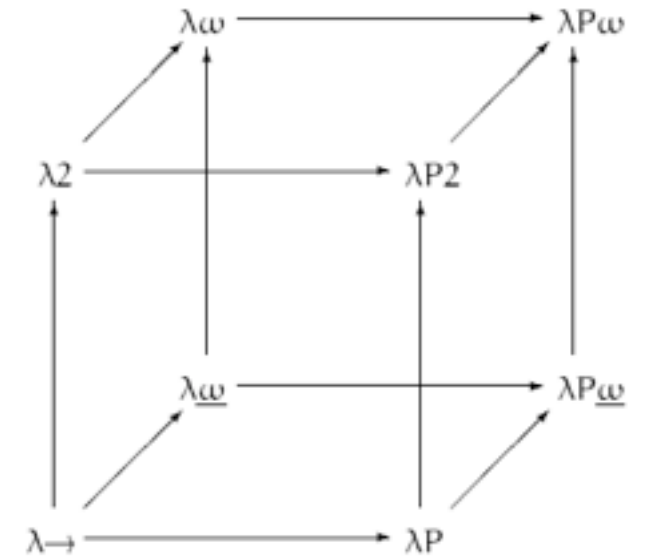
System F

- Strongly normalizing λ calculus

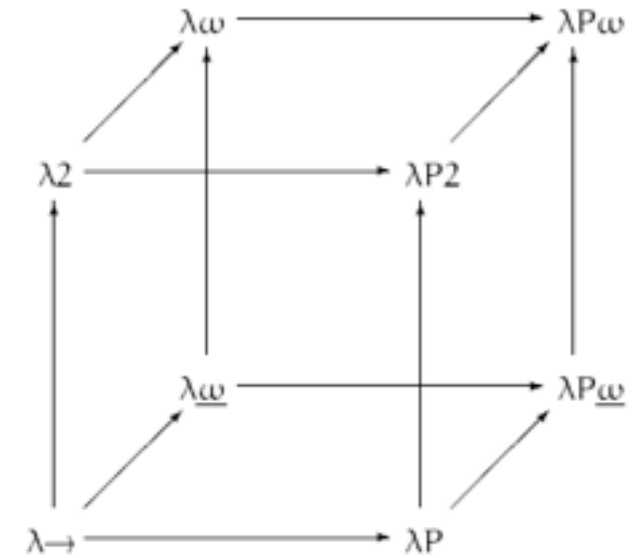


System F

- Strongly normalizing λ calculus
- Statically typed, and complete!

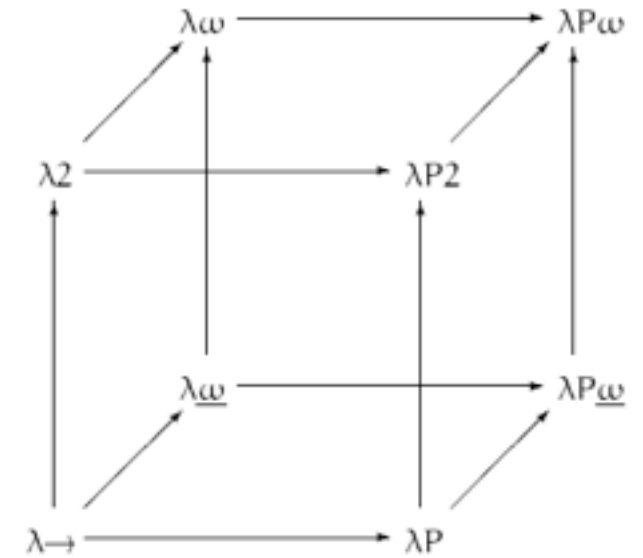


System F



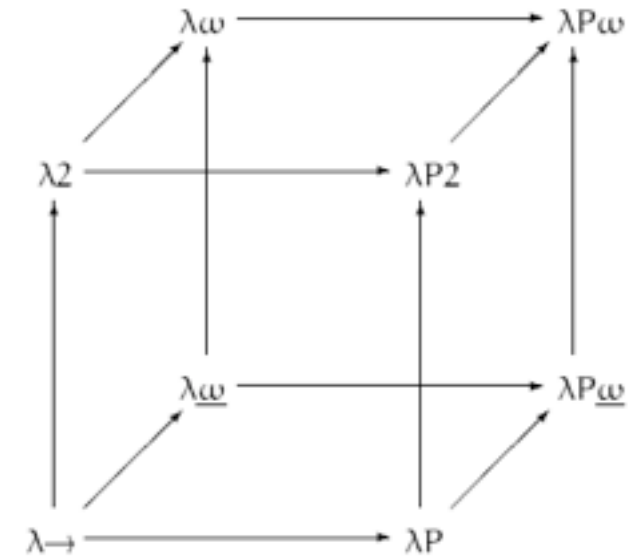
- Strongly normalizing λ calculus
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System F



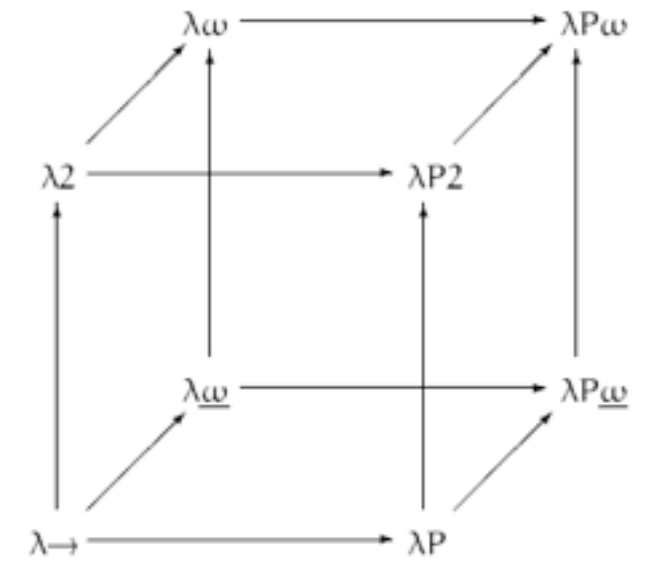
- Strongly normalizing λ calculus
- Statically typed, and complete!
 - All valid programs can be typed
 - No invalid programs can be typed

System F

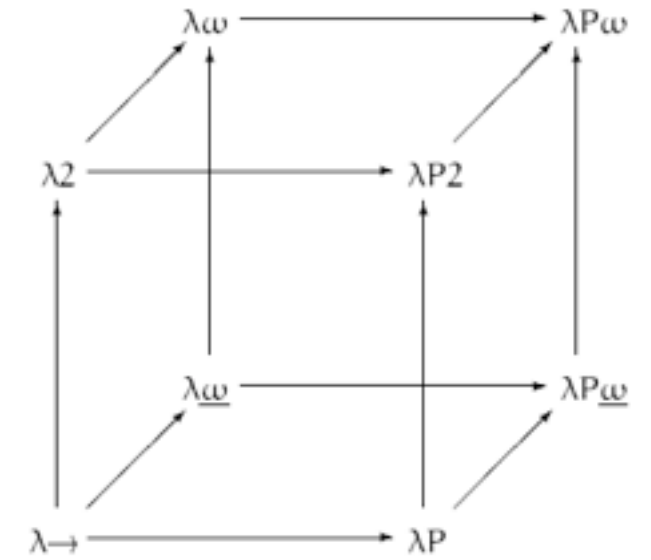


- Strongly normalizing λ calculus
- Statically typed, and complete!
 - All valid programs can be typed
 - No invalid programs can be typed
- Immensely expressive (lists, numbers, etc)

System F

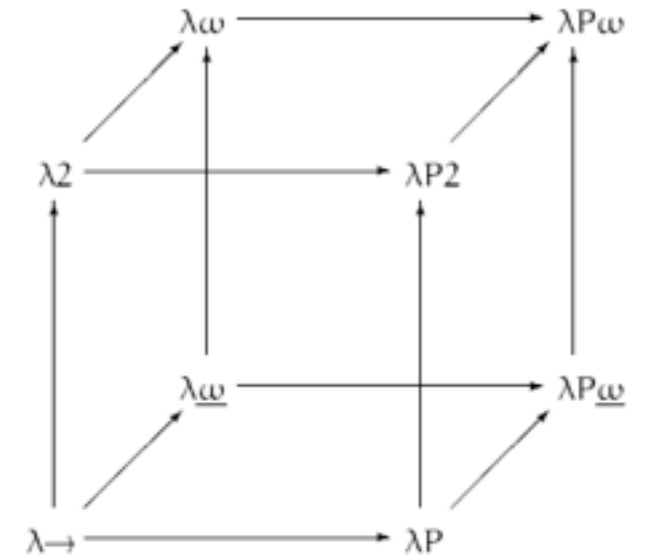


System F



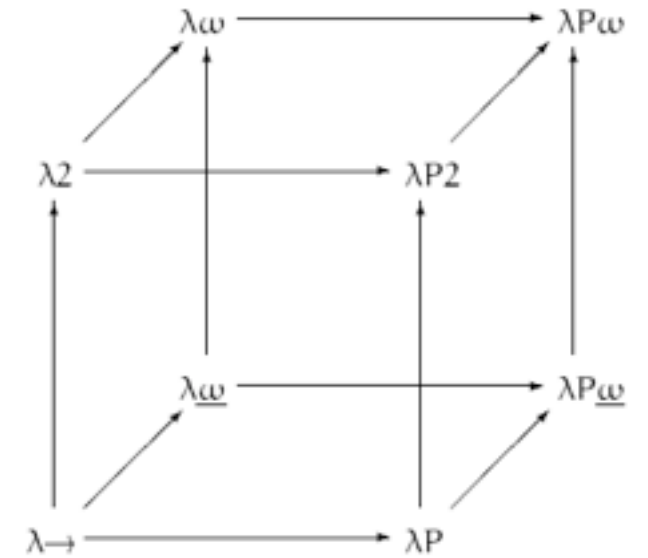
- Not expressive enough

System F



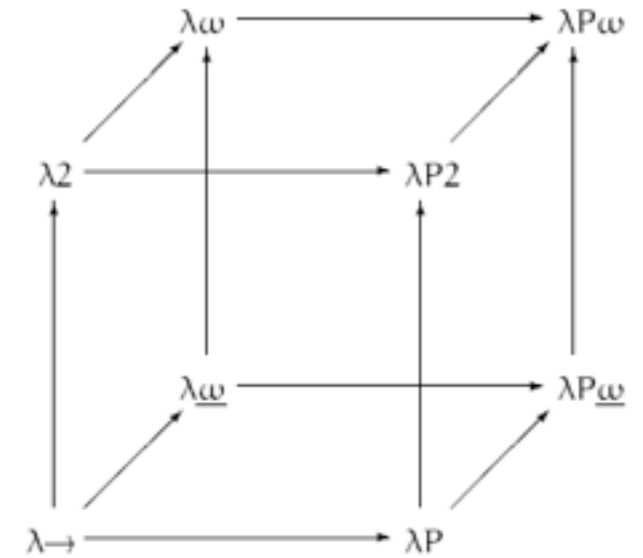
- Not expressive enough
- Cannot bootstrap its own compiler

System F



- Not expressive enough
- Cannot bootstrap its own compiler
- Many valid programs have no encoding

System F



- Not expressive enough
- Cannot bootstrap its own compiler
- Many valid programs have no encoding
- Not Turing-complete! (trivially so)

Static Typing

- Can't even answer some basic questions

Static Typing

- Can't even answer some basic questions
- Fails to definitively answer *any* questions
 - ...for Turing-complete calculi

Static Typing

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- Fails to definitively answer *any* questions
 - ...for Turing-complete calculi
- Arms race of inconvenience

Static Typing

- Can't even answer some basic questions
- Fails to definitively answer *any* questions
 - ...for Turing-complete calculi
- Arms race of inconvenience
- Guardrails on a sidewalk

Contract

I will: finish my lunch on
time and not dawdle.

My teacher will: give me
a fish sticker.

Then, I will get: to pick
out a goldfish for the class
when I have 10 stickers.

Signed: Raoult
^{me}
My Sambertino
^{my teacher}
May 8
today

`add :: Integer -> Integer -> Integer`
`add x y = x + y`

`add :: Integer -> Integer -> Integer`
`add x y = x + y`

`add :: Prime -> Prime -> Integer`
`add x y = x + y`

```
(define (add x y)  
  (+ x y))
```

```
(define (add x y)
  (+ x y))
```

```
(module strange-loop racket
  (provide
    (contract-out
      [add (->* (prime? prime?)
                 ()
                 integer?)])))
```

```
(define (divisible? i m)
  (cond
    [(= i 1) true]
    [else (cond
              [(= (remainder m i) 0) false]
              [else (divisible? (sub1 i) m)])[ ]))
```

```
(define (prime? n)
  (divisible? (sub1 n) n))
```

```
(require 'strange-loop)
(add 7 7)
;; > 14
```


(add 4 7)

```
;; > add: contract violation
;; expected: prime?, given: 4
;; in: the 1st argument of
;;      (-> prime? prime?
;;          integer?)
;; contract from: strangeloop
;; blaming: top-level
;; at: stdin::79-82
;; context...:
```

**But like everything
else, it suffers from
deficiencies...**

Before Contract Application

```
(time (add 492876847 492876847))  
;; > cpu time: 0 real time: 0 gc time: 0  
;; 985753694
```

Before Contract Application

```
(time (add 492876847 492876847))  
;; > cpu time: 0 real time: 0 gc time: 0  
;; 985753694
```

After Contract Application

```
(time (add 492876847 492876847))  
;; > cpu time: 15963 real time: 15995 gc time: 0  
;; 985753694
```

**Runtime issues can
make contracts a non-
starter for production
code**

It's All Bunk

- Black-Box verification is insufficient

It's All Bunk

- Black-Box verification is insufficient
- White-Box verification is undecidable

It's All Bunk

- Black-Box verification is insufficient
- White-Box verification is undecidable
 - ...in general!

It's All Bunk

- Black-Box verification is insufficient
- White-Box verification is undecidable
 - ...in general!
- Constrain the domain

Functional Style

- Write your code in a functional style
- It is constraining...that's the point!
- FP is easier to reason about
 - (both formally and informally)
- Easier to test, *and* easier to verify



Programming: The Good Parts

References

- From System F to Typed Assembly Language
- An Axiomatic Basis for Computer Programming
- Hoare Logic and Auxiliary Variables
- The Underlying Logic of Hoare Logic
- Applying Design by Contract
- Proof Carrying Code
- Uniform Proofs as a Foundation for Logic Programming
- Safe Kernel Extensions Without Run-Time Checking