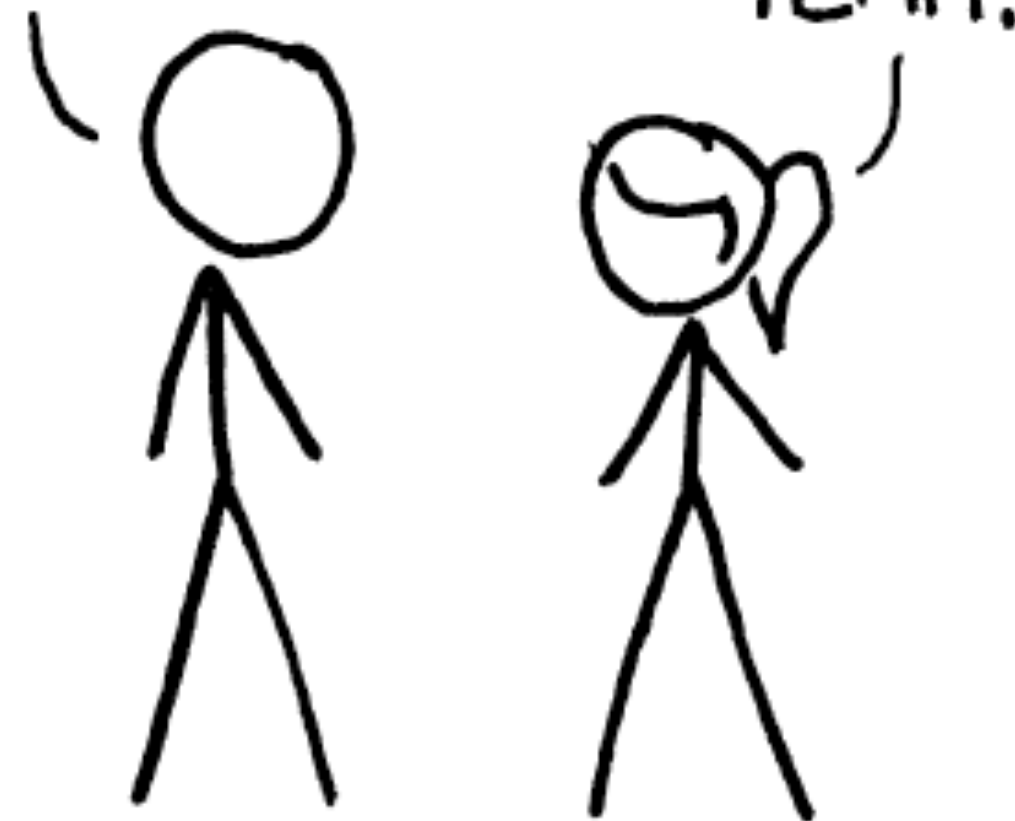


HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:

(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)

SITUATION:
THERE ARE
14 COMPETING
STANDARDS.

14?! RIDICULOUS!
WE NEED TO DEVELOP
ONE UNIVERSAL STANDARD
THAT COVERS EVERYONE'S
USE CASES.



SOON:

SITUATION:
THERE ARE
15 COMPETING
STANDARDS.

'I know (how to implement) it when I see it'

if you show me a 'mode-correct' system

- Mode-correctness is a property of bidirectional type systems.
 - it is intuitively clear but logically vague;
- However, it can't be logically defined without a universal notion of languages first.
- (Un)fortunately, we do not have an agreed universal notion of languages.
 - We choose Aczel's binding signature (1978), which is **simple** and **formalisable**, so it is easy to see the core idea of bidirectional typing.