

CS5733 Program Synthesis

#13. Sketching and constraints based search

Ashish Mishra, September 20, 2024

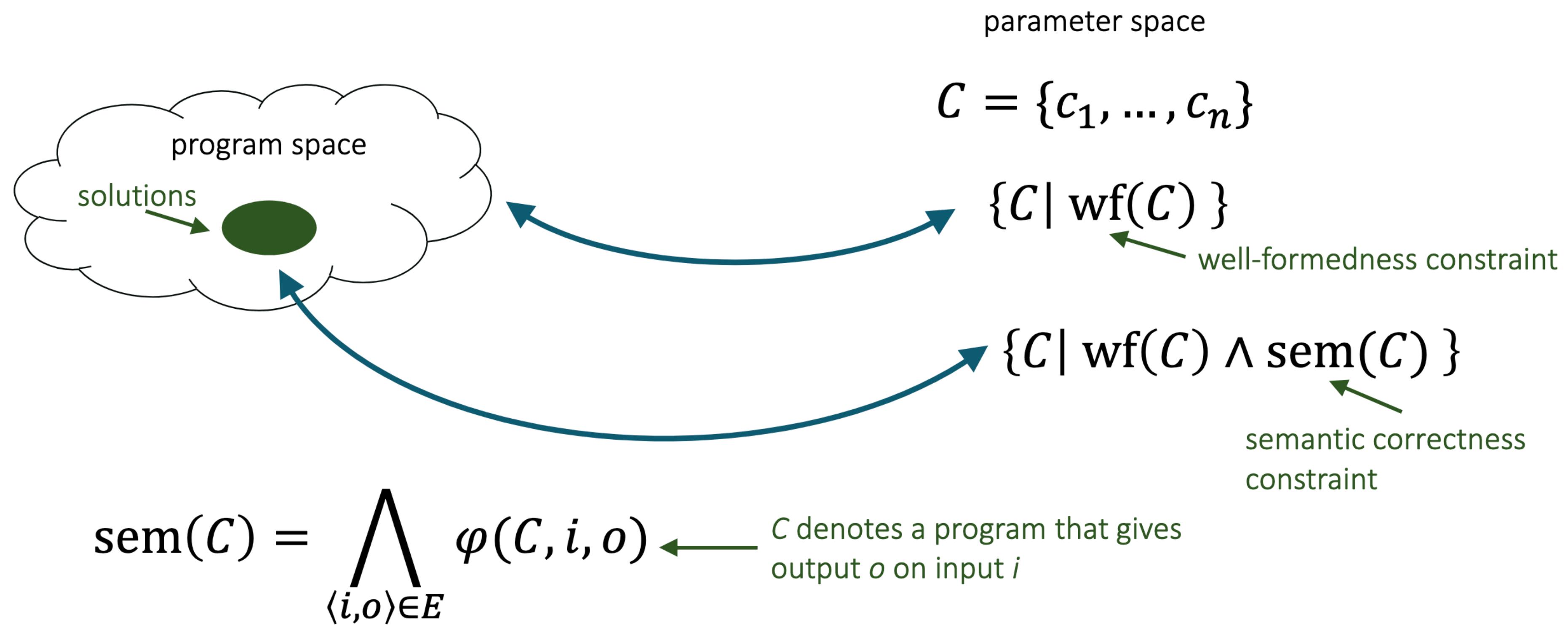
RECAP

- CBS
 - Parameterized Programs
- Sketches : A language to write Parameterized Programs
- Language
 - Imperative language
 - Unknown Constants
 - Harness/ Test-harness
 - Generators : Allow complex parametrized programs
 - Recursive
 - Higher-order

Constraint-Based Search

Idea: encode the synthesis problem as a SAT/SMT problem and let a solver deal with it

What is an Encoding



How to define an encoding

Define the parameter space $C = \{c_1, \dots, c_n\}$

- `decode` : $c \rightarrow \text{Prog}$ (might not be defined for all C)

Define a formula $\text{wf}(c_1, \dots, c_n)$

- that holds iff `decode[C]` is defined

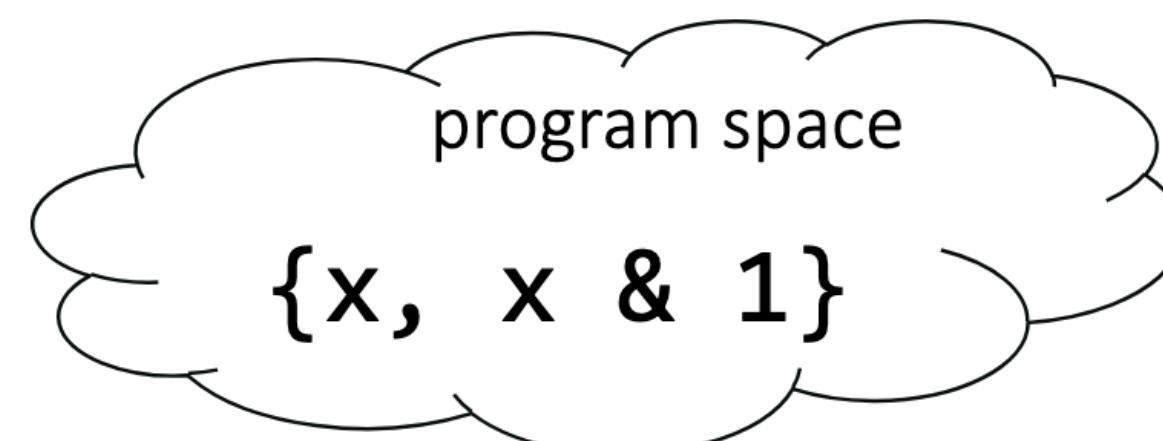
Define a formula $\varphi(c_1, \dots, c_n, i, o)$

- that holds iff $(\text{decode}[C])(i) = o$

Solve the constraints

```
constraint-based (wf,  $\varphi$ ,  $E = [i \rightarrow o]$ ) {  
  match SAT(wf( $C$ )  $\wedge \bigwedge_{(i,o) \in E} \varphi(C, i, o)$ ) with ← Find a satisfying assignment  
    Unsat -> return “No solution”  
    Model  $C^*$  -> return decode[ $C^*$ ]  
}
```

SAT encoding: example



$\text{wf}(c) \equiv \top$

x is a two-bit word
($x = x_h x_l$)
 $E = [11 \rightarrow 01]$

parameter space
 $C = \{c: \text{Bool}\}$
 $\text{decode}[0] \rightarrow x$
 $\text{decode}[1] \rightarrow x \& 1$

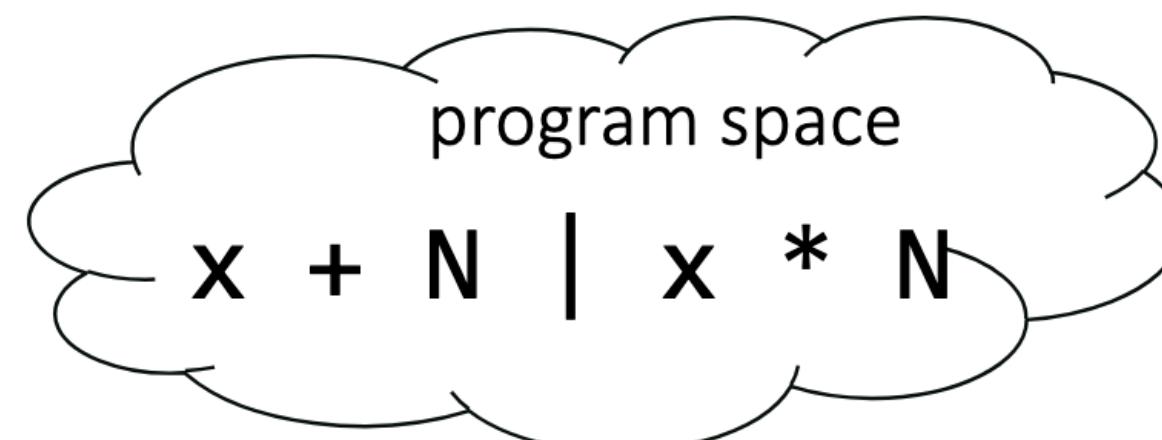
$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(c, i_h, i_l, o_h, o_l) \equiv & (\neg c \Rightarrow o_h = i_h \wedge o_l = i_l) \\ \wedge & (c \Rightarrow o_h = 0 \wedge o_l = i_l)\end{aligned}$$

$\text{SAT}(\varphi(c, 1, 1, 0, 1))$

$\text{SAT}((\neg c \Rightarrow 0 = 1 \wedge 1 = 1) \wedge (c \Rightarrow 0 = 0 \wedge 1 = 1)) \xrightarrow{\text{SAT solver}} \text{Model } \{c \rightarrow 1\}$

return $\text{decode}[1]$ i.e. $x \& 1$

SMT encoding: example



$$\text{wf}(c_{op}, c_N) \equiv \top$$

N is an integer literal
 x is an integer input
 $E = [2 \rightarrow 9]$

parameter space

$$C = \{c_{op}: \text{Bool}, c_N: \text{Int}\}$$

decode[0, N] $\rightarrow x + N$
decode[1, N] $\rightarrow x * N$

$$\varphi(c_{op}, c_N, i, o) \equiv (\neg c_{op} \Rightarrow o = i + c_N) \wedge (c_{op} \Rightarrow o = i * c_N)$$

$$\text{SAT}(\varphi(c_{op}, c_N, 2, 9))$$

$$\text{SAT}(\neg c_{op} \Rightarrow 9 = 2 + c_N) \wedge (c_{op} \Rightarrow 9 = 2 * c_N))$$

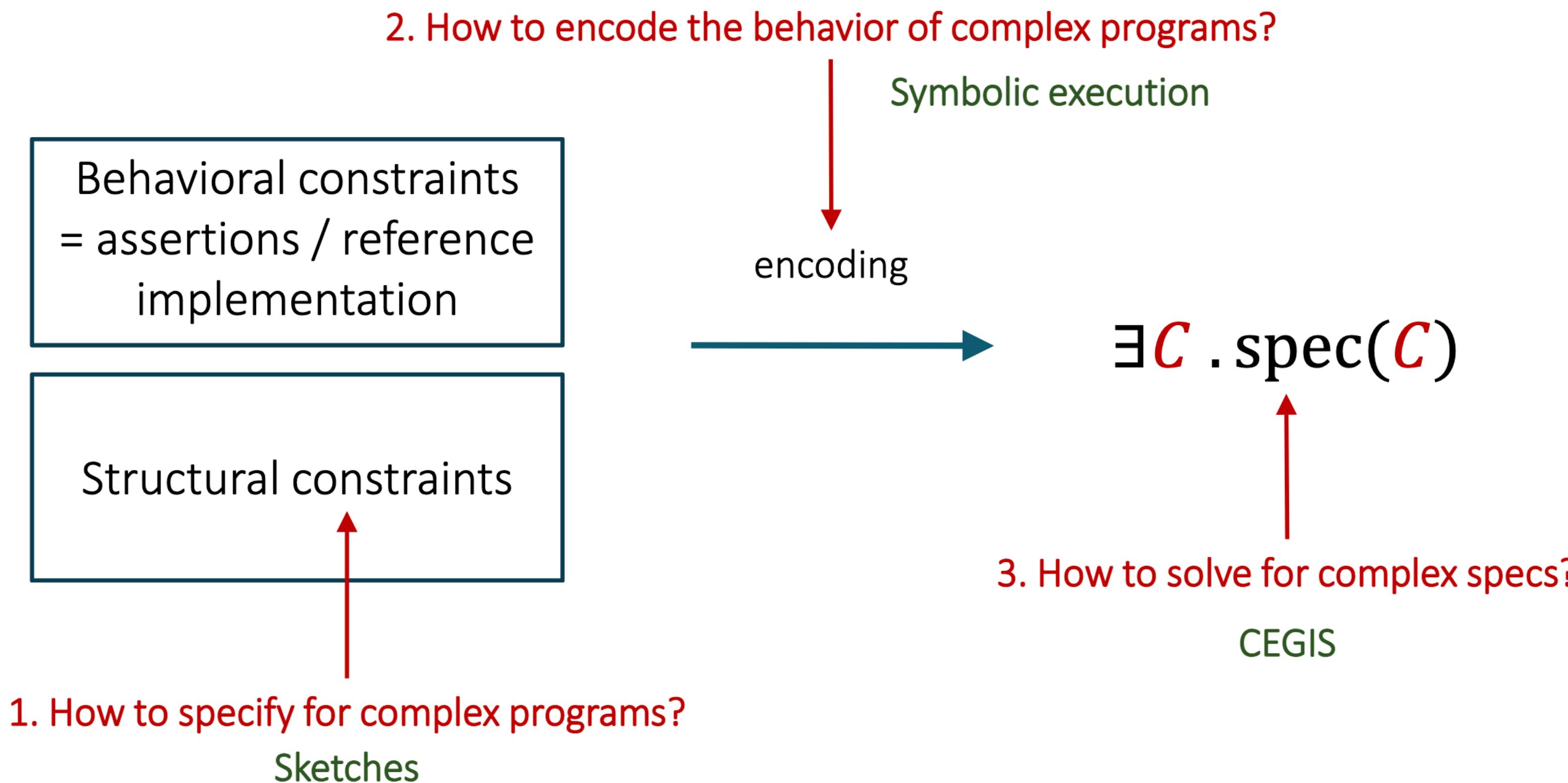
return decode[0, 7] i.e. $x + 7$

SMT solver

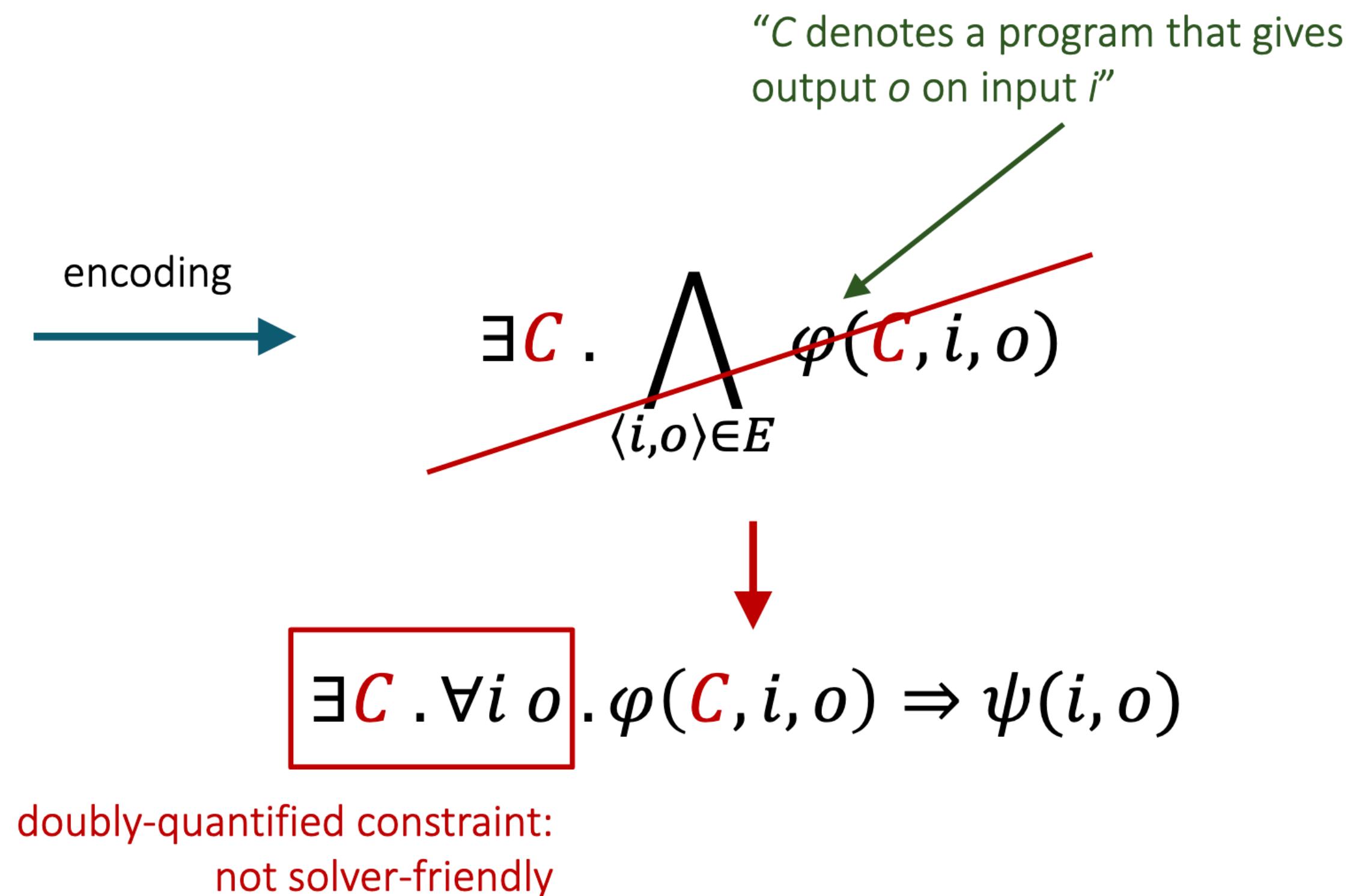
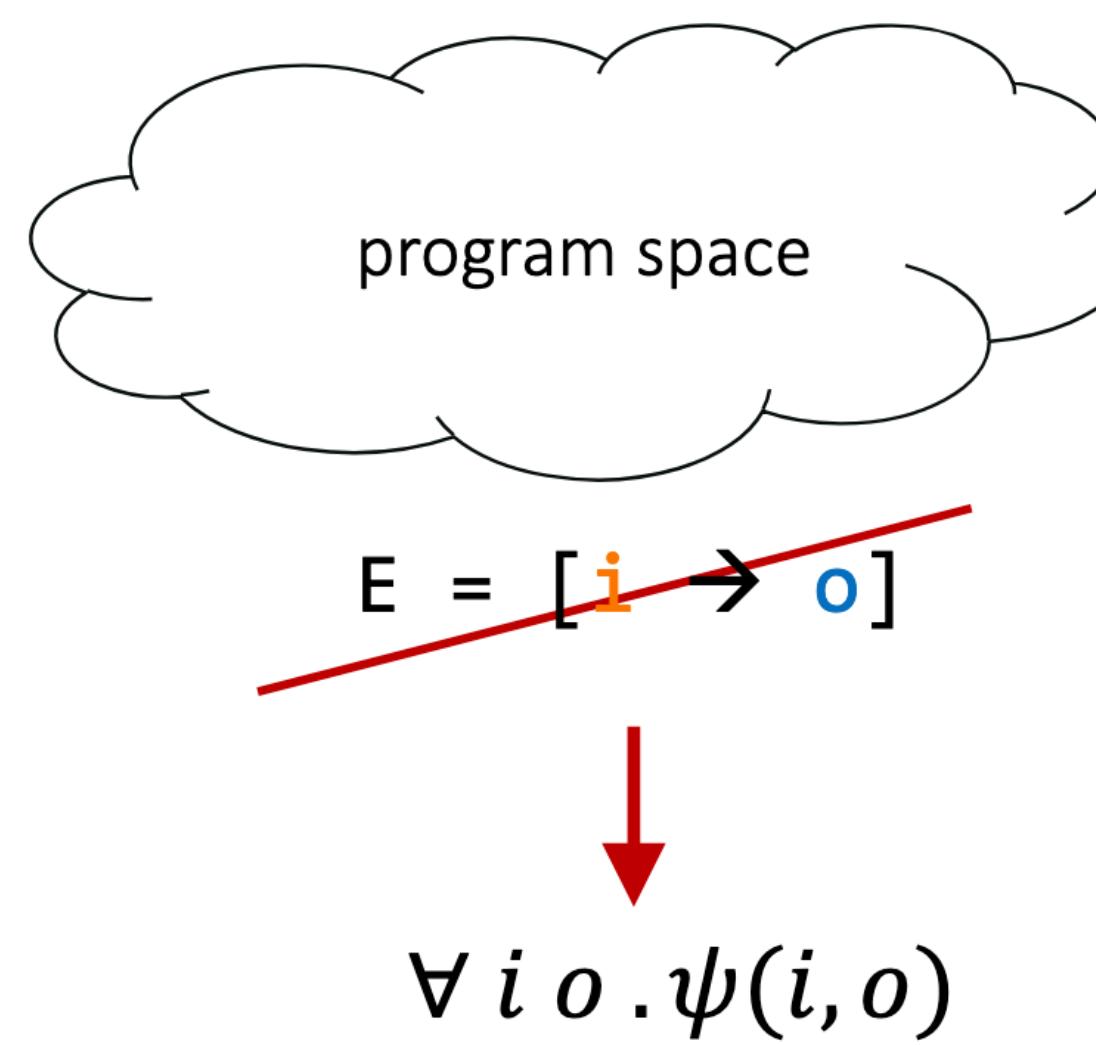


Model $\{c_{op} \rightarrow 0, c_N \rightarrow 7\}$

Program Sketching



A small change: specs rather than i/o



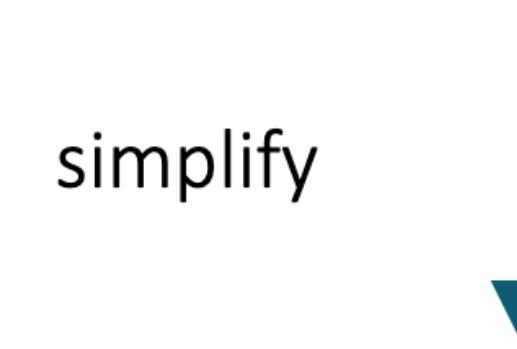
Example : Sketches

```
harness void main(int x) {  
    int y := ?? * x + ??;  
    assert y - 1 == x + x;  
}
```



$$\exists \mathcal{C} . \forall i o . \varphi(\mathcal{C}, i, o) \Rightarrow \psi(i, o)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \exists c_1 c_2 . \forall x y . y &= c_1 * x + c_2 \\ &\Rightarrow y - 1 = x + x \end{aligned}$$



$$\exists c_1 c_2 . \forall x . c_1 * x + c_2 - 1 = x + x$$

Constraint-based search Over sketched Space

Overall Strategy



Symbolic Execution

Semantics of a simple imperative language

How to use it for symbolic execution?

Adding while loops

Adding holes

Semantics of a simple language

$e ::= n \mid x \mid e_1 + e_2 \mid e_1 > e_2$

$c ::= x := e \mid c_1 ; c_2 \mid \text{if } e \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \mid \text{while } e \text{ do } c$

What does an expression mean?

- An expression reads the state and produces a value
- The state is modeled as a map σ from vars to values
- $\mathcal{A}[\cdot] : e \rightarrow \Sigma \rightarrow \text{int}$

Ex:

- $\mathcal{A}[x] = \lambda\sigma. \sigma(x)$
- $\mathcal{A}[n] = \lambda\sigma. n$
- $\mathcal{A}[e_1 + e_2] = \lambda\sigma. \mathcal{A}[e_1]\sigma + \mathcal{A}[e_2]\sigma$
- $\mathcal{A}[e_1 > e_2] = \lambda\sigma. \text{if } \mathcal{A}[e_1]\sigma > \mathcal{A}[e_2]\sigma \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } 0$

Semantics of a simple language

$e ::= n \mid x \mid e_1 + e_2$

$c ::= x := e \mid c_1 ; c_2 \mid \text{if } e \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \mid \text{while } e \text{ do } c$

What does a command mean?

- A command modifies the state
- $\mathcal{C}[\cdot] : c \rightarrow \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$

Ex:

- $\mathcal{C}[x := e] = \lambda\sigma. \sigma[x \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}[e]\sigma)]$
- $\mathcal{C}[c_1; c_2] = \lambda\sigma. \mathcal{C}[c_2](\mathcal{C}[c_1]\sigma)$
- $\mathcal{C}[\text{if } e \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2] =$

$$\lambda\sigma. \lambda x. \text{if } \mathcal{A}[e]\sigma = 1 \text{ then } (\mathcal{C}[c_1]\sigma)x \text{ else } (\mathcal{C}[c_2]\sigma)x$$

Semantics of assertions

```
e   :=  n | x | e1 + e2
c   :=  x := e | assert e
      | c1 ; c2 | if e then c1 else c2 | while e do c
```

What does a command mean?

- Commands also generate constraints on valid executions
- $\mathcal{C}[\cdot] : c \rightarrow \langle \Sigma, \Psi \rangle \rightarrow \langle \Sigma, \Psi \rangle$

Constraints on values in initial σ

Ex:

- $\mathcal{C}[\text{assert } e] = \lambda \langle \sigma, \psi \rangle. \langle \sigma, \psi \wedge \mathcal{A}[e]\sigma \neq 0 \rangle$

Symbolic Execution

Semantics of a simple imperative language

How to use it for symbolic execution?

Adding while loops

Adding holes

Concrete execution: Example 1

Let's run this with $x = 2$

```
void main(int x){  
    int y = 2 * x;  
    assert y > x;  
}
```

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &= \{x \rightarrow 2\}, & \psi &= \top \\ \sigma &= \{x \rightarrow 2, y \rightarrow 4\}, & \psi &= \top \\ \sigma &= \{x \rightarrow 2, y \rightarrow 4\}, & \psi &= \{4 > 2\}\end{aligned}$$



Test passed

Symbolic execution : Example 1

```
void main(int x){  
    int y = 2 * x;  
    assert y > x;  
}
```

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &= \{x \rightarrow X\}, \psi = \top \\ \sigma &= \{x \rightarrow X, y \rightarrow 2X\} \\ \psi &= \{2X > X\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{C}[p]\langle \{\}, \top \rangle = \langle \{x \rightarrow X, y \rightarrow 2X\}, 2X > X \rangle$$

$$\{X \mapsto 0\}$$



SMT solver

$$\forall X. 2X > X$$

Verification constraint

Symbolic execution : Example 2

```
void main(int x, int u){  
    int y = 0;  
    if (u > 0) {  
        y = 2 * x;  
    } else {  
        y = x + x;  
    }  
    assert [y == 2*x];  
}
```

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, u \rightarrow U\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, u \rightarrow U, y \rightarrow 0\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, u \rightarrow U, y \rightarrow 2X\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, u \rightarrow U, y \rightarrow X + X\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, u \rightarrow U, y \rightarrow U > 0 ? 2X : X + X\}$$

$$\psi = \{(U > 0 ? 2X : X + X) = 2X\} \quad \checkmark$$

Symbolic Execution

Semantics of a simple imperative language

How to use it for symbolic execution?

Adding while loops

Adding holes

What about loops?

Semantics of a while loop

- Let $W: \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma = \mathcal{C}[\text{while } e \text{ do } c]$
- W satisfies the following equation:
$$W\sigma = \mathcal{A}[e]\sigma \neq 0 \ ? \ W(\mathcal{C}[c]\sigma) : \sigma$$
- One strategy: find a fixpoint (see later in class)
- We'll settle for a simpler strategy: unroll k times and then give up

Symbolic Execution : example 3

```
void main(int x){  
    int y = 0;  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < 2) {  
        y = y + x;  
        i = i + 1;  
    }  
    assert y == i * x;  
}
```

Step 1: unroll
with depth = 2

```
if (i < 2) {  
    y = y + x;  
    i = i + 1;  
    if (i < 2) {  
        y = y + x;  
        i = i + 1;  
        assert !(i < 2);  
    }  
}
```

Symbolic Execution : example 3

```
void main(int x){  
    int y = 0;  
    int i = 0;  
    if (i < 2) {  
        y = y + x;  
        i = i + 1;  
        if (i < 2) {  
            y = y + x;  
            i = i + 1;  
            assert !(i < 2);  
        }  
    }  
    assert y == i*x;  
}
```

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, y \rightarrow 0, i \rightarrow 0\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, y \rightarrow X, i \rightarrow 1\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, y \rightarrow X, i \rightarrow 1\}$$

Simplified from $0 < 2 ? (1 < 2 ? X + X : X) : 0$

$$\psi = \{\neg(2 > 2)\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, y \rightarrow X + X, i \rightarrow 2\}$$

$$\psi = \{\neg(2 > 2) \wedge X + X = 2X\} \quad \checkmark$$

Symbolic Execution

Semantics of a simple imperative language

How to use it for symbolic execution?

Adding while loops

Adding holes

Semantics of sketches

```
e   :=  n | x | e1 + e2 | ??i
c   :=  x := e | assert e
      | c1 ; c2 | if e then c1 else c2 | while e do c
```

What does an expression mean?

- Like before, but with a “hole environment” ϕ $\phi : H \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$
- $\mathcal{A}[\cdot] : e \rightarrow \Phi \rightarrow \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

Ex:

- $\mathcal{A}[x] = \lambda\phi.\lambda\sigma.\sigma[x]$
- $\mathcal{A}[??_i] = \lambda\phi.\lambda\sigma.\phi[i]$
- $\mathcal{A}[e_1 + e_2] = \lambda\phi.\lambda\sigma.\mathcal{A}[e_1]\phi\sigma + \mathcal{A}[e_2]\phi\sigma$

Symbolic Evaluation of Commands

Commands have two roles

- Modify the symbolic state
- Generate constraints

$$\mathcal{C}[\![\cdot]\!]: c \rightarrow \Phi \rightarrow \langle \Sigma, \Psi \rangle \rightarrow (\Sigma, \Psi)$$

Symbolic Evaluation of Commands

Example: assignment and assertion

$$\mathcal{C}[x := e]\phi\langle\sigma, \psi\rangle = \langle\sigma[x \mapsto \mathcal{A}[e]\phi\sigma], \psi\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{C}[\text{assert } e]\phi\langle\sigma, \psi\rangle = \langle\sigma, \psi \wedge \mathcal{A}[e]\phi\sigma \neq 0\rangle$$

Symbolic Evaluation of Commands

If statement

$$\mathcal{C}[\![\text{if } e \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2]\!]^\tau \langle \sigma, \Phi \rangle = \langle \sigma', \Phi' \rangle$$

$$\Phi_t = \{\phi \in \Phi : \mathcal{A}[e]^\tau \sigma \phi = \text{true}\}$$

$$\Phi_f = \{\phi \in \Phi : \mathcal{A}[e]^\tau \sigma \phi = \text{false}\}$$

$$\langle \sigma_1, \Phi_1 \rangle = \mathcal{C}[\![c_1]\!]^\tau \langle \sigma, \Phi_t \rangle$$

$$\langle \sigma_2, \Phi_2 \rangle = \mathcal{C}[\![c_2]\!]^\tau \langle \sigma, \Phi_f \rangle$$

$$\Phi' = (\Phi_1) \cup (\Phi_2)$$

$$\sigma' = \lambda x. \lambda \phi. \mathcal{A}[e]^\tau \sigma \phi ? \sigma_1 x \phi : \sigma_2 x \phi$$

Symbolic execution of sketch : example

```
void main(int x){  
    int z = ??1 * x;  
    int y = 0;  
    int i = 0;  
    if (i < 2) {  
        y = y + x;  
        i = i + 1;  
        if (i < 2) {  
            y = y + x;  
            i = i + 1;  
            assert !(i < 2);  
        }  
    }  
    assert y == z;  
}
```

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X\} \quad \psi = \top$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, z \rightarrow \phi_1 * X, y \rightarrow 0, i \rightarrow 0\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, z \rightarrow \phi_1 * X, y \rightarrow X, i \rightarrow 1\}$$

$$\sigma = \{x \rightarrow X, z \rightarrow \phi_1 * X, y \rightarrow X + X, i \rightarrow 2\}$$

$$\psi = \{\neg(2 > 2)\}$$

CEGIS

$$\{\phi_1 \mapsto 2\} \leftarrow \exists \phi_1. \forall X. X + X = \phi_1 * X$$

Controls for generators

```
harness void main(int x, int y){  
    → z = mono(x) + mono(y);  
    assert z == x + x + 3;  
}
```

$$\sigma = \{z \rightarrow (\phi_1 ? \phi_2 : X * \phi_2) + (\phi_1 ? \phi_2 : Y * \phi_2)\}$$

No solution!

```
generator int mono(int x) {  
    if (??_1) {return ??_2;}  
    else {return x * mono(x);} }  
}
```

unroll with
depth = 1

```
if (??_1) {return ??_2;}  
else {return x * ??_2;}
```

We need to map different calls to `mono` to different controls!

Controls for generators: context

```
harness void main(int x, int y){  
    z = mono1(x,1) + mono2(y,2);  
    → assert z == x + x + 3;  
}
```

$$\sigma = \{z \rightarrow (\phi_1^1 ? \phi_2^1 : X * \phi_2^{1.3}) + (\phi_1^2 ? \phi_2^2 : X * \phi_2^{2.3})\}$$

```
generator int mono(int x, context τ) {  
    if (??τ1) {return ??τ2;}  
    else {return x * mono3(x, τ.3);}  
}
```

$$\{\phi_1^1 \mapsto 0, \phi_2^{1.3} \mapsto 2, \phi_1^2 \mapsto 1, \phi_2^{2.3} \mapsto 3\}$$

Example

- Goal: Find a function from holes to values
 - Easy in the absence of generators

```
bit[W] isolateSk (bit[W] x) implements isolate0 {  
    return !(x +  $\phi(??_1)$ ) & (x +  $\phi(??_2)$ );  
}
```

- Finite set of holes so function is just a table

Framing the synthesis problem

- Generators with recursion need something more

```
generator bit[W] gen(bit[W] x, int bnd) {
    assert bnd > 0;
    if(??_1) return x;
    if(??_2) return ??_5;
    if(??_3) return ~geng1(x, bnd-1);
    if(??_4) {
        ...
    }
}

bit[W] isolate0sk (bit[W] x) implements isolate0 {
    return geng0(x, 3);
}
```

because the same syntactic instance of a hole is supposed to have different values for different instances of the generator.

Framing the synthesis problem

- Generators need something more

```
generator bit[W] gen(bit[W] x, int bnd) {
    assert bnd > 0;
    if( $\phi(\text{??}_1)$ ) return x;
    if( $\phi(\text{??}_2)$ ) return  $\phi(\text{??}_5)$ ;
    if( $\phi(\text{??}_3)$ ) return ~geng1(x, bnd-1);
    if( $\phi(\text{??}_4)$ ) {
        ...
    }
}

bit[W] isolate0sk (bit[W] x) implements isolate0 {
    return geng0(x, 3);
}
```

Make ϕ a function of a hole
and a Context

Framing the synthesis problem

- Generators need something more
 - The value of the holes depends on the context

```
generator bit[W] gen(context  $\tau$ , bit[W] x, int bnd) {
    assert bnd > 0;
    if( $\phi(\tau, ??_1)$ ) return x;
    if( $\phi(\tau, ??_2)$ ) return  $\phi(\tau, ??_5)$ ;
    if( $\phi(\tau, ??_3)$ ) return ~geng1( $\tau \cdot g_1$ , x, bnd-1);
    if( $\phi(\tau, ??_4)$ ) {
        ...
    }
}

bit[W] isolate0sk (bit[W] x) implements isolate0 {
    return geng0( $g_0$ , x, 3);
}
```

Solving Constraints: CEGIS

CEGIS

$$\exists \textcolor{red}{c} . \forall x . Q(\textcolor{red}{c}, x)$$

Idea 1: Bounded Observation Hypothesis

- Assume there exists a small set of inputs $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ such that whenever c satisfies

it also satisfies

$$\bigwedge_{i \in 1..n} Q(\textcolor{red}{c}, x_i)$$

$$\forall x . Q(\textcolor{red}{c}, x)$$

No quantifiers here, can give to
SAT / SMT

Example

This is a linear constraint, two inputs are enough!

$$\exists c_1 c_2 . \forall x . c_1 * x + c_2 - 1 = x + x$$

$$X = \{0, 1\}$$

$$Q(c_1, c_2, 0) \equiv c_2 - 1 = 0$$

$$Q(c_1, c_2, 1) \equiv c_1 + c_2 - 1 = 2$$

$$\{c_1 \rightarrow 2, c_2 \rightarrow 1\}$$

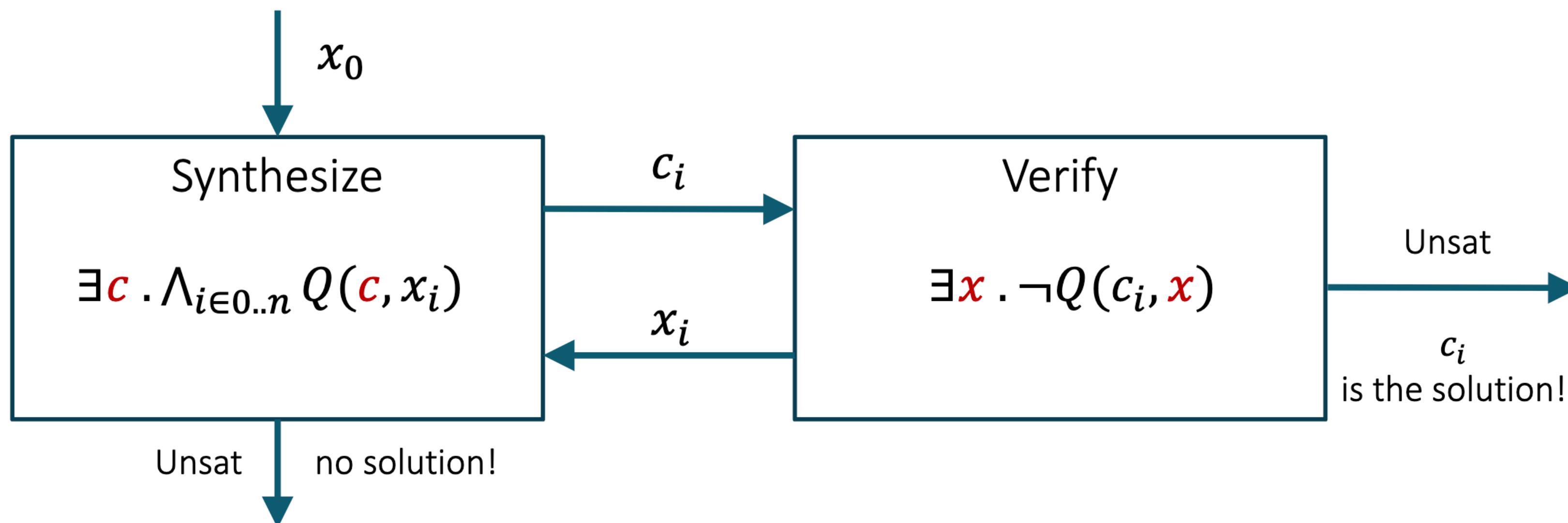
```
harness void main(int x) {  
    int y := 2 * x + 1;  
    assert y - 1 == x + x;  
}
```

How do we find X in a general case?

CEGIS

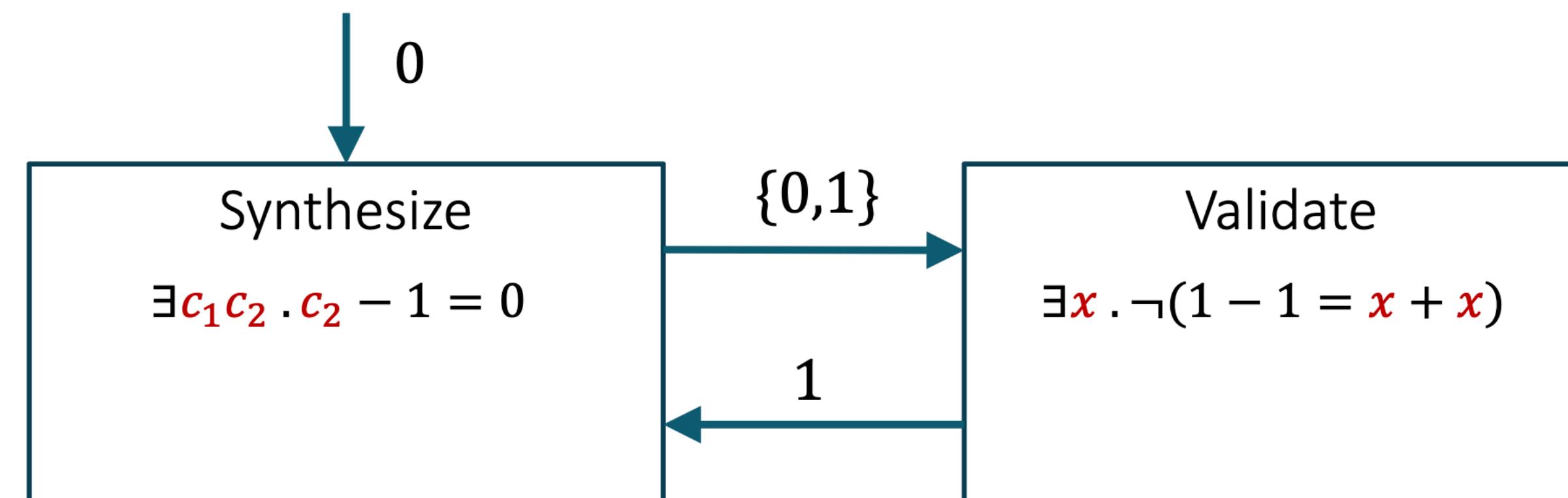
$$\exists \mathbf{c} . \forall x . Q(\mathbf{c}, x)$$

Idea 2: Rely on verification oracle to generate counterexamples



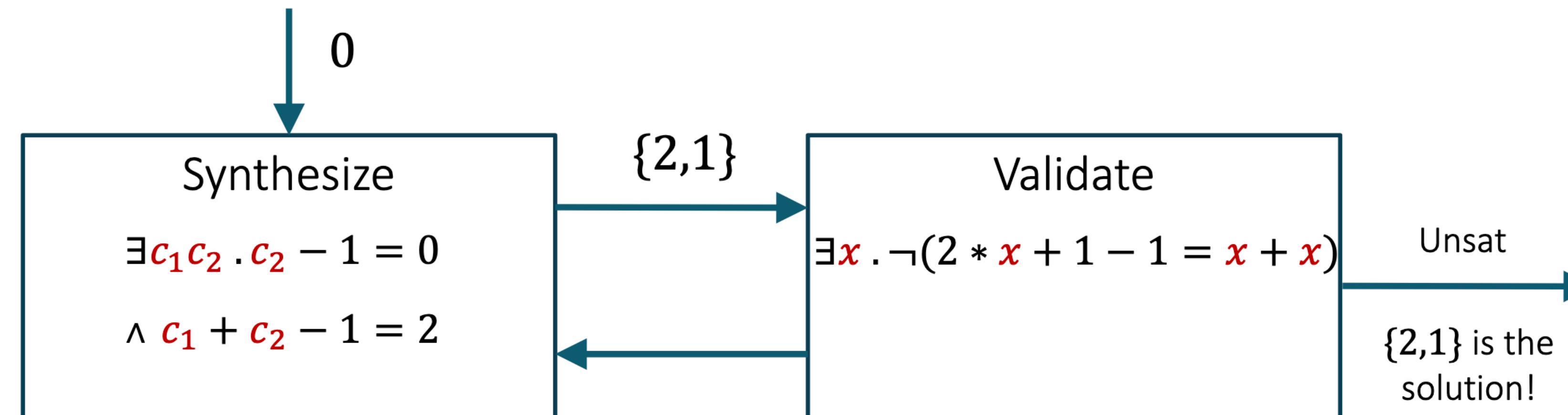
Example

$$\exists c_1 c_2 . \forall x . c_1 * x + c_2 - 1 = x + x$$

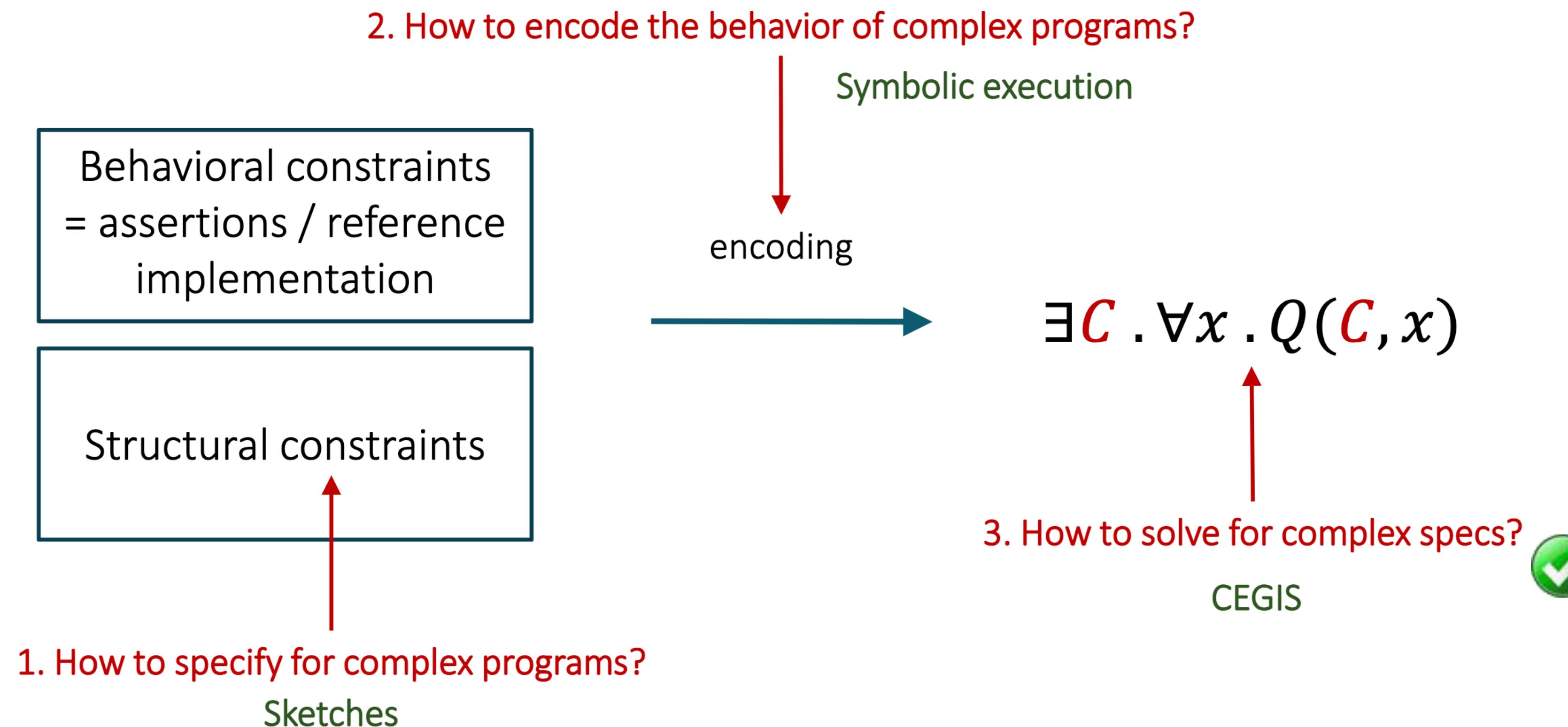


Example

$$\exists c_1 c_2 . \forall x . c_1 * x + c_2 - 1 = x + x$$



Program Sketching



Sketch: contributions

Expressing structural and behavioral constraints as programs

- the only primitive extension is an integer hole ??
- why is it important to keep extensions minimal?

Synthesis by translating to SAT

CEGIS

- became extremely popular!

Handles imperative programs with loops

- and proposes an encoding for those

Can discover constants

Sketch: limitations

Everything is bounded

- loops are unrolled
- integers are bounded
- are any of the above easily fixable?

Too much input from the programmer?

- but: as search gets better, less user input is required

CEGIS relies on the Bounded Observation Hypothesis

Sketches hard to debug

No bias, no non-functional constraints

Logistics

- Reading assignment due on Sunday.
- The 1-2 page proposal, due on next Friday.
 - Something similar to the Sec. 1 and 2 in the papers.
 - A concrete example showing inputs to the synthesizer.
 - How does algorithm roughly works on the example.
- A class test 10 marks:
 - October 1, Tuesday
 - Syllabus, TBA