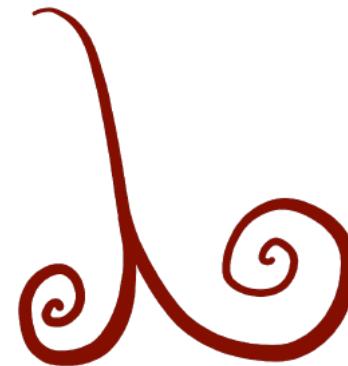
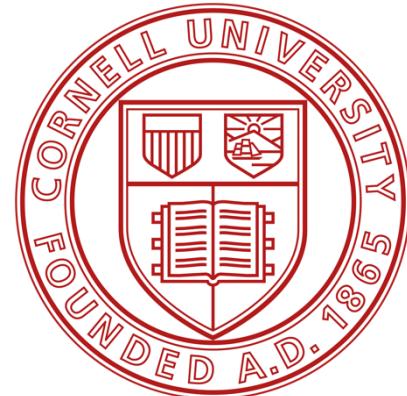


# Unifying Static and Dynamic Intermediate Languages for Accelerator Generators

Caleb Kim\*, Pai Li\*, Anshuman Mohan, Andrew Butt,  
Adrian Sampson, Rachit Nigam



# “Unifying Static and Dynamic Intermediate Languages for Accelerator Generators”

# “Unifying Static and Dynamic Intermediate Languages for **Accelerator Generators**”

- **Compiler** for hardware accelerator design

# “Unifying **Static** and **Dynamic** Intermediate Languages for Accelerator Generators”

- ILs have two paradigms (**static** and **dynamic**) with expressiveness/efficiency trade-offs

# “**Unifying** Static and Dynamic Intermediate Languages for Accelerator Generators”

- We apply **semantic refinement** to fluidly **unify** these two styles, allowing us to build compilers that can **do things that neither style can do alone.**



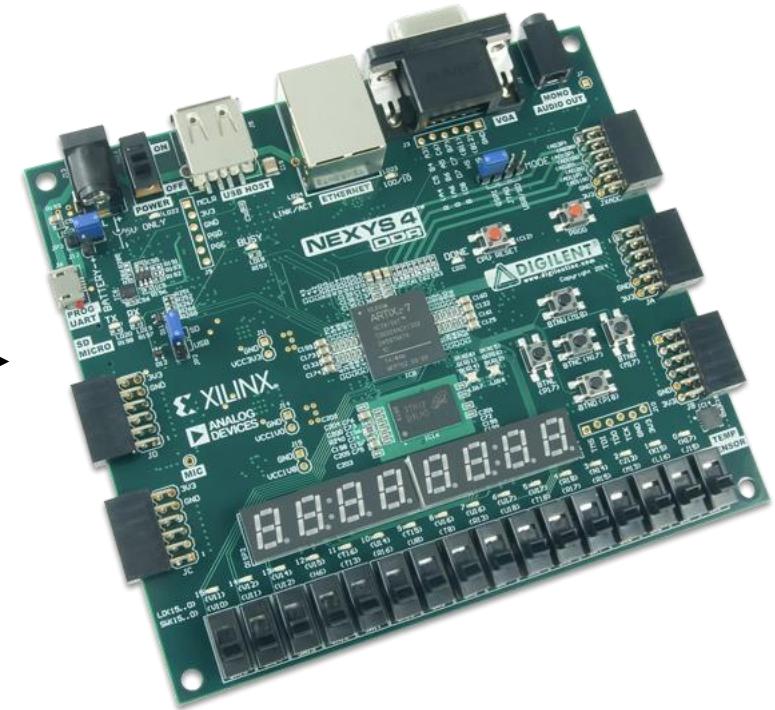
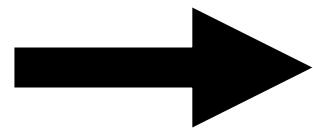
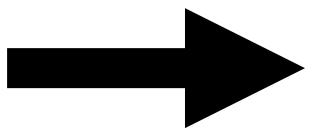
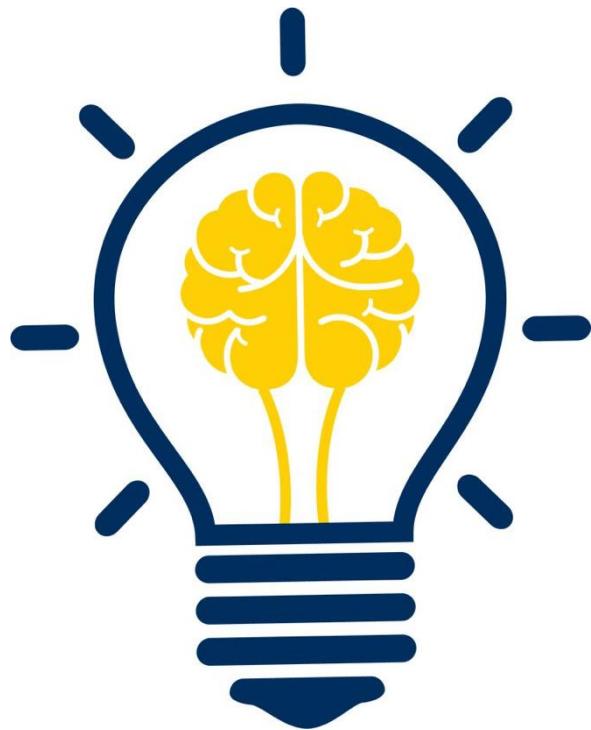
Google  
Tensor Processing Unit

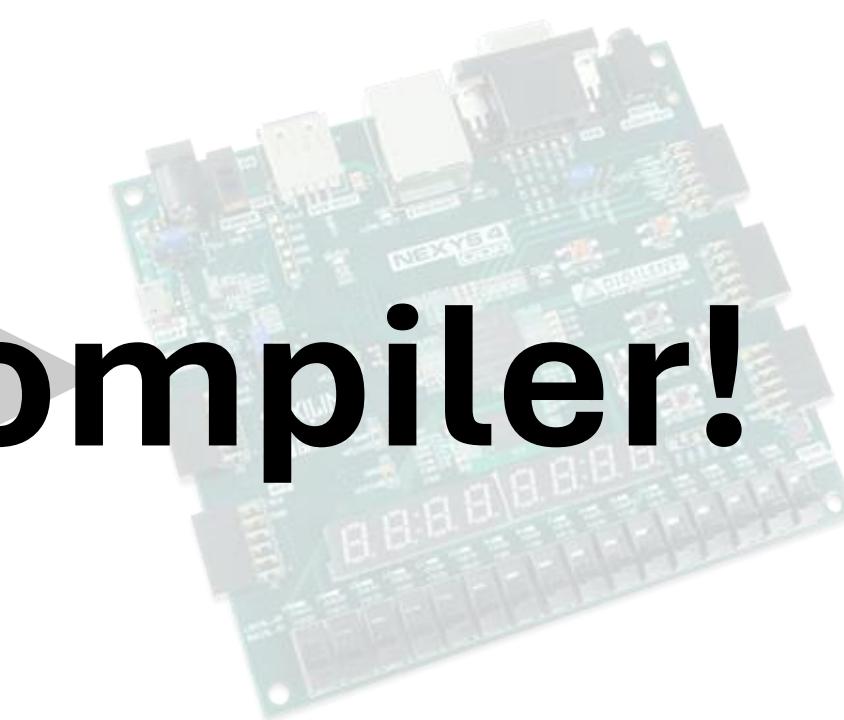


Google  
Video Coding Unit



Microsoft  
Catapult



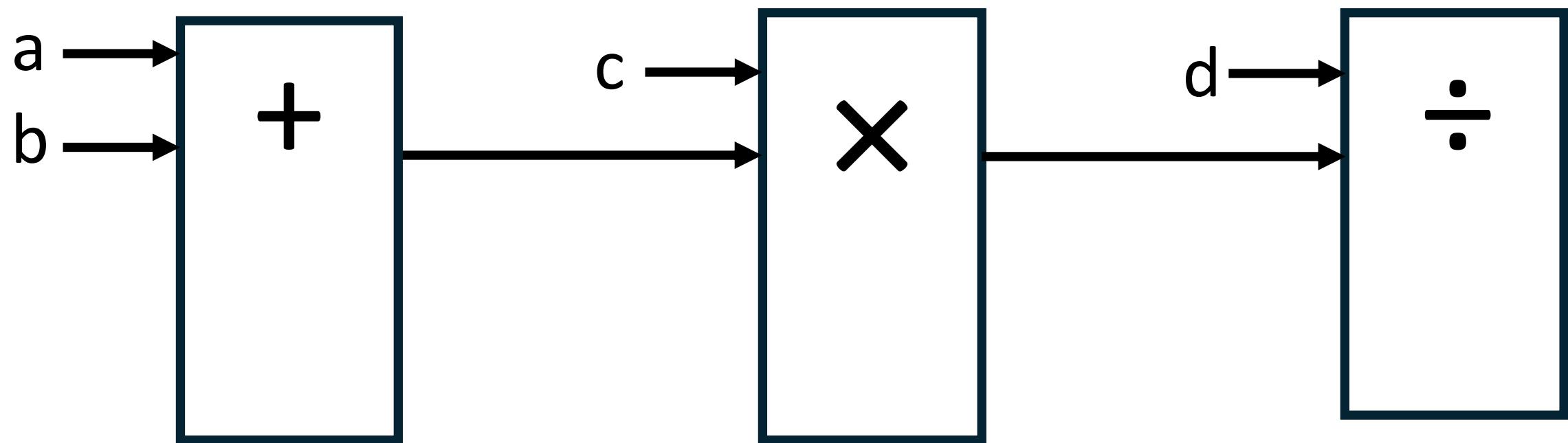


# **Let's build a compiler!**

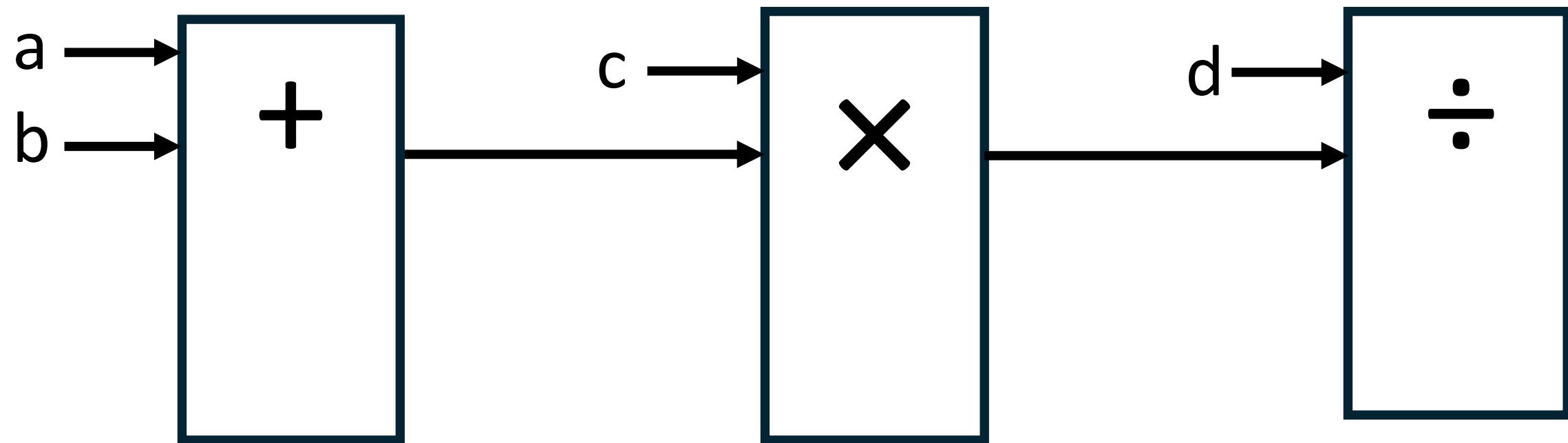
# Toy Language: (simple) math expressions on integers

$$((a+b)\times c)\div d$$

$$((a+b)\times c)\div d$$

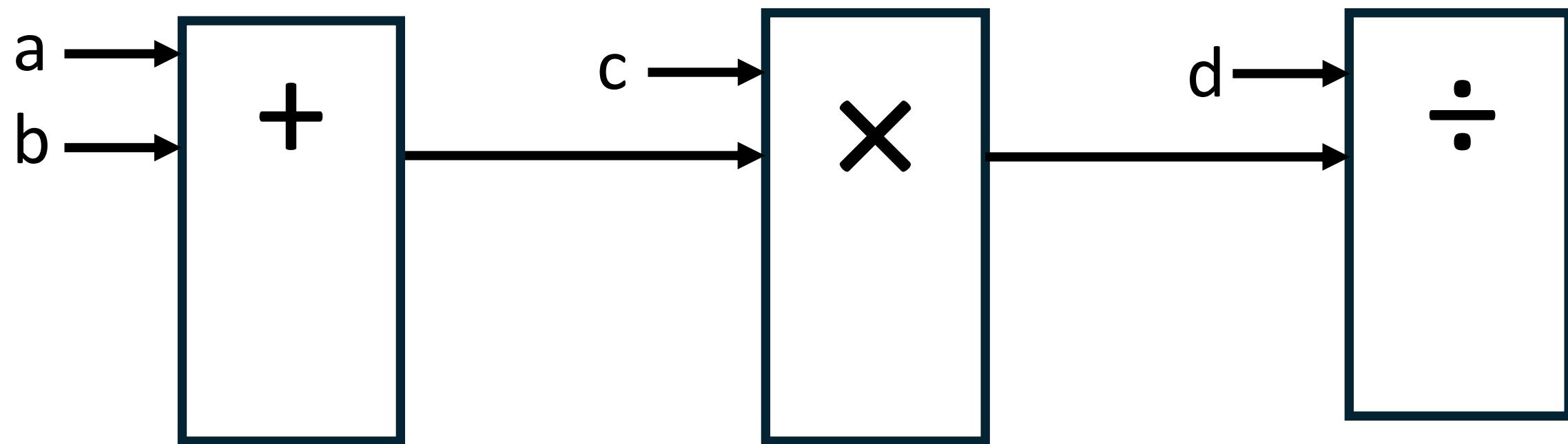


# Structure (✓)

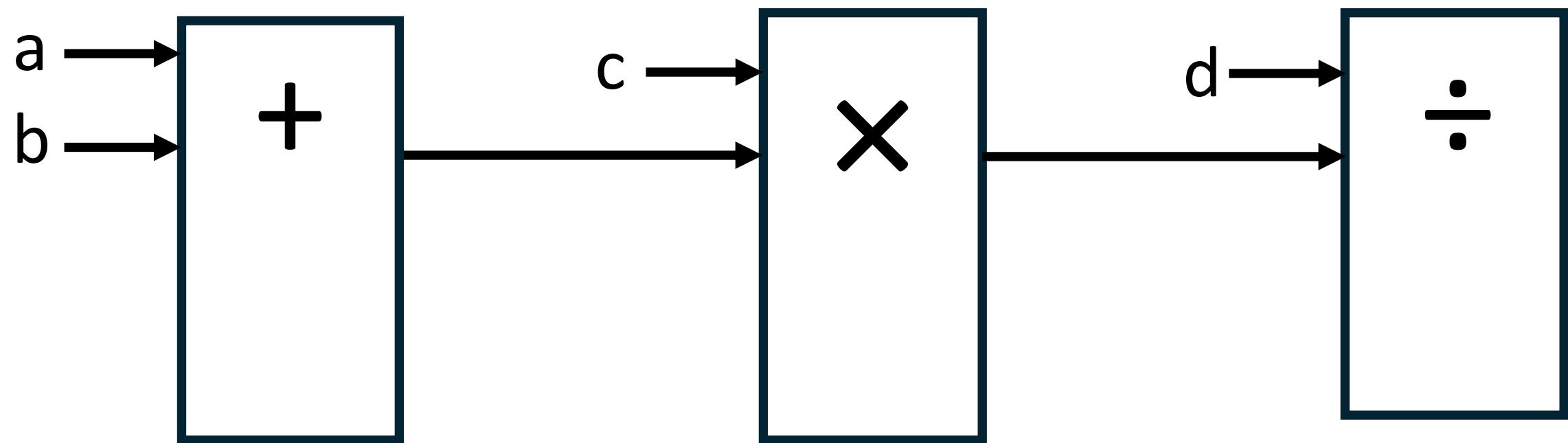


# Structure (✓)

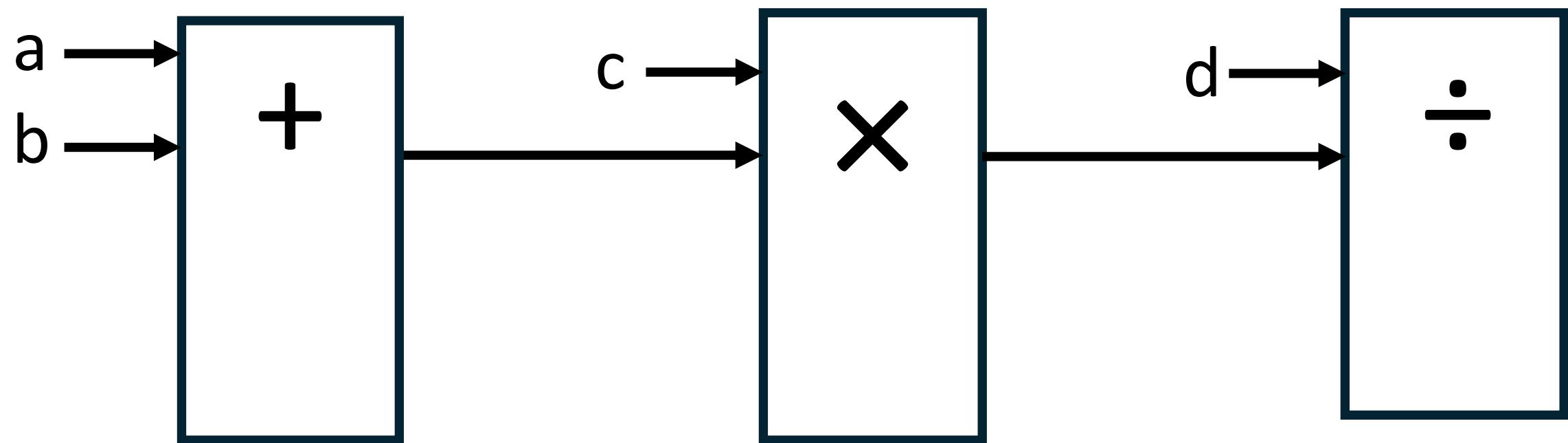
# Timing (✗)



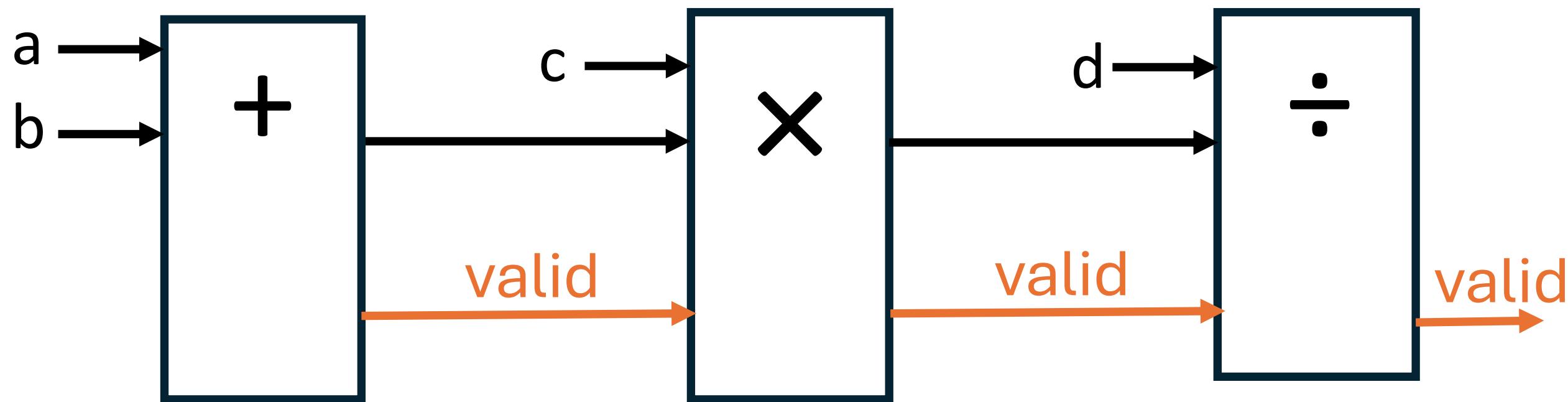
# Timing



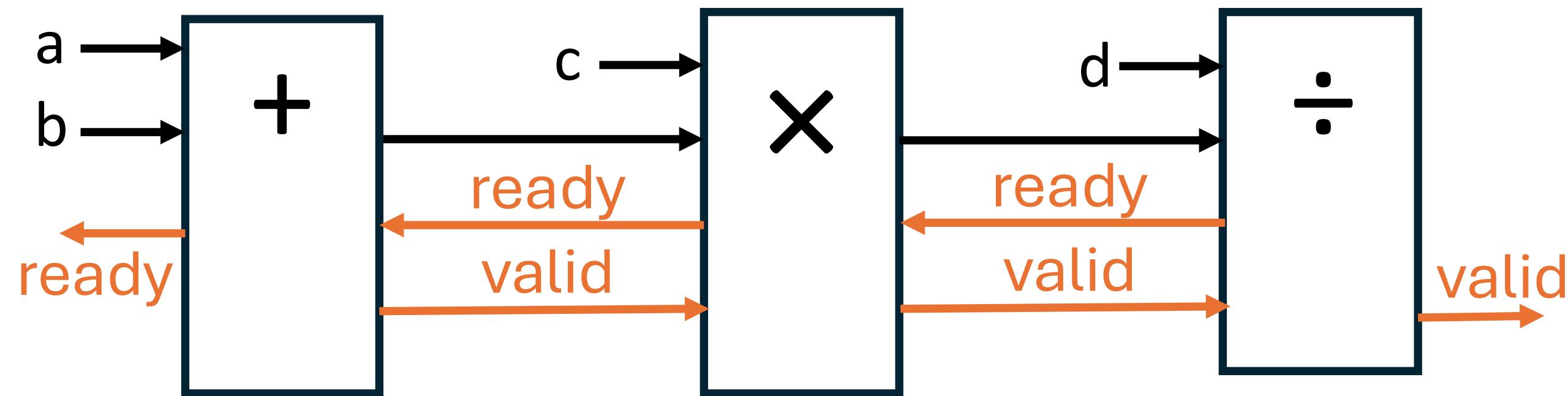
# Dynamic (Latency-Insensitive) Interfaces



# Dynamic (Latency-Insensitive) Interfaces

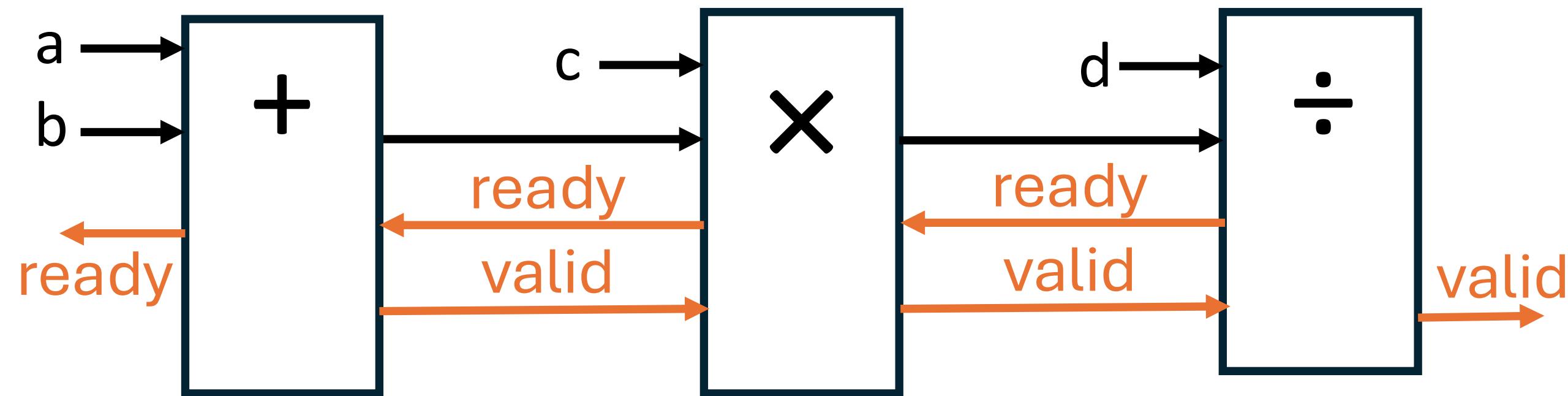


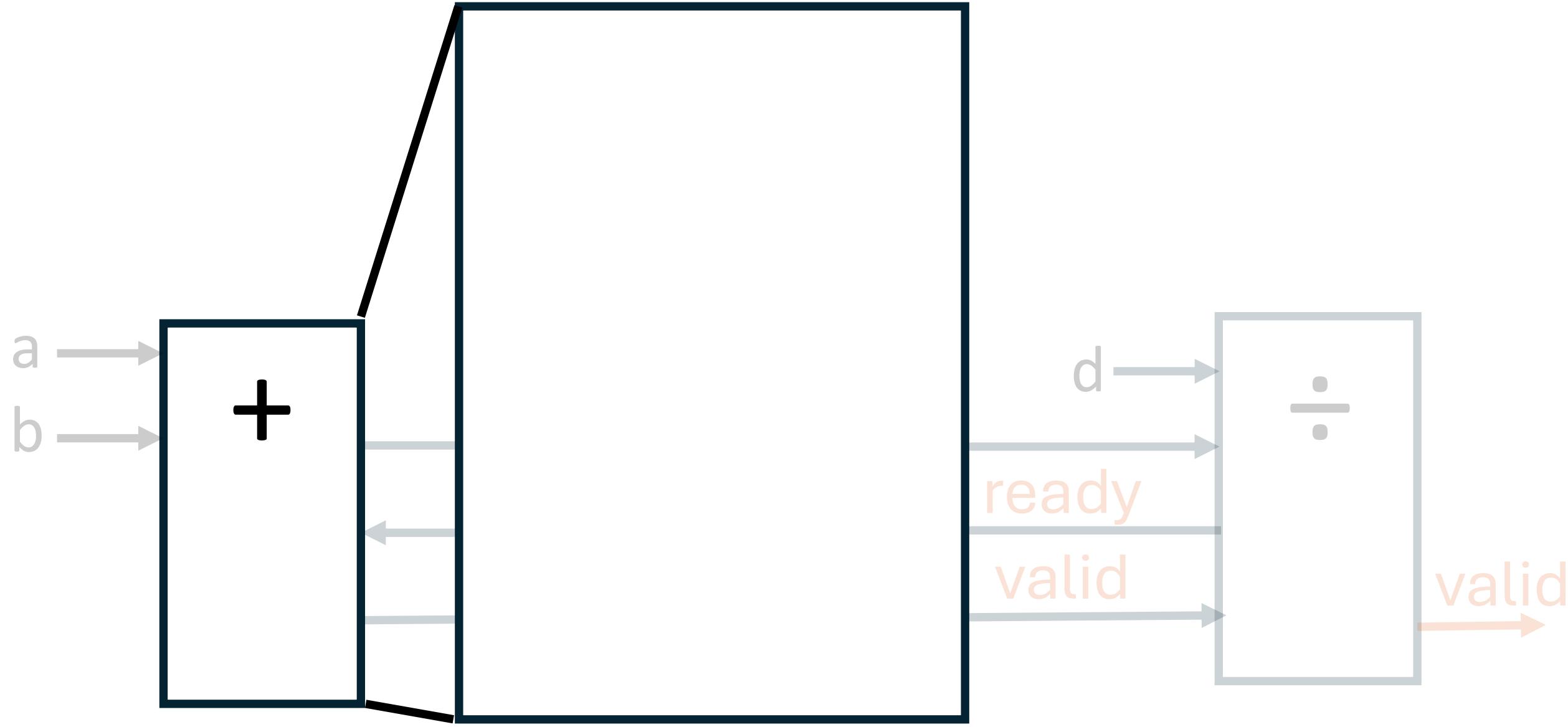
# Dynamic (Latency-Insensitive) Interfaces



# Dynamic (Latency-Insensitive) Interfaces

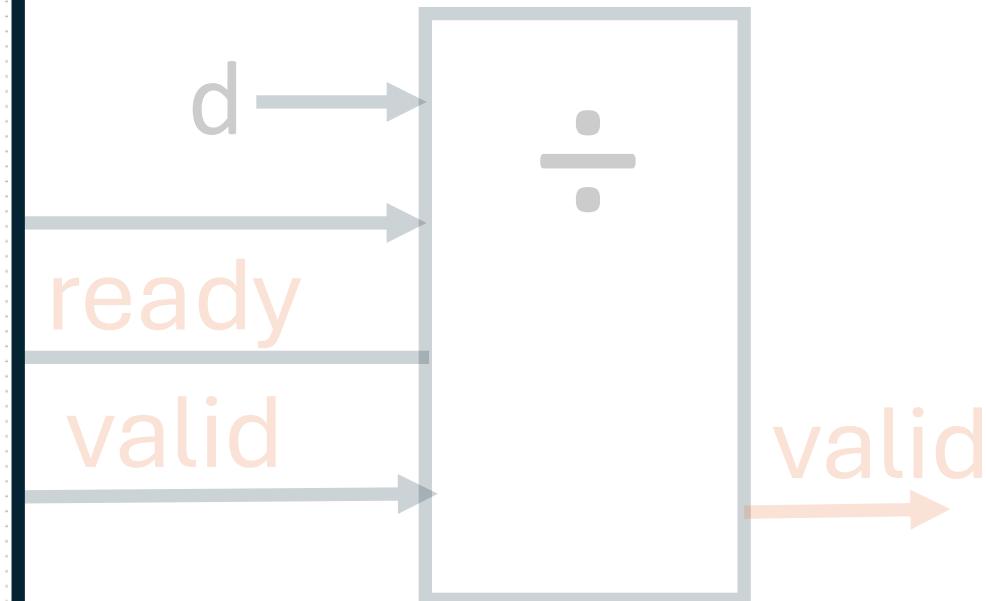
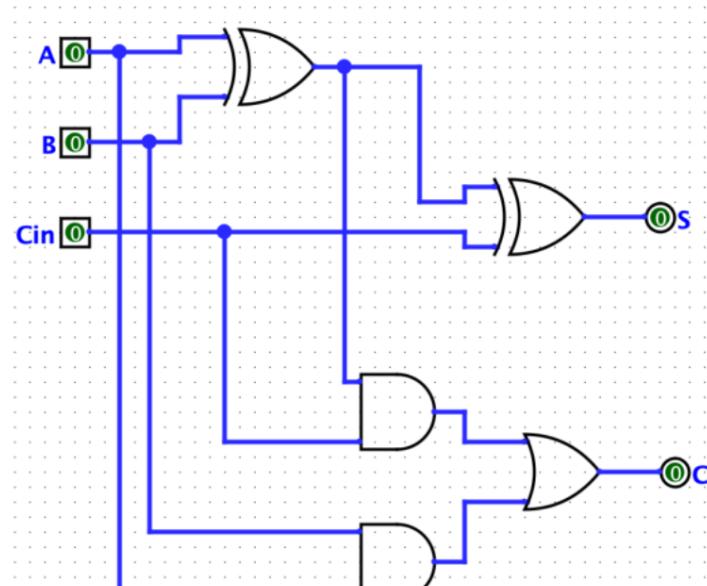
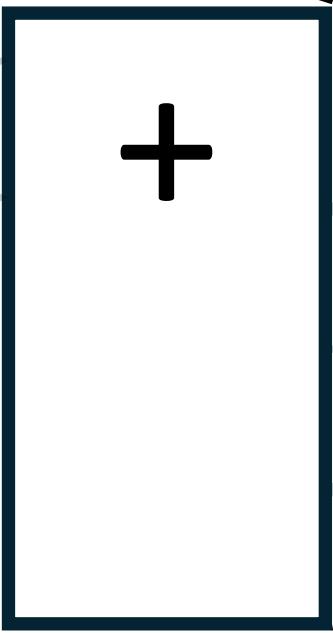
Simple, Modular

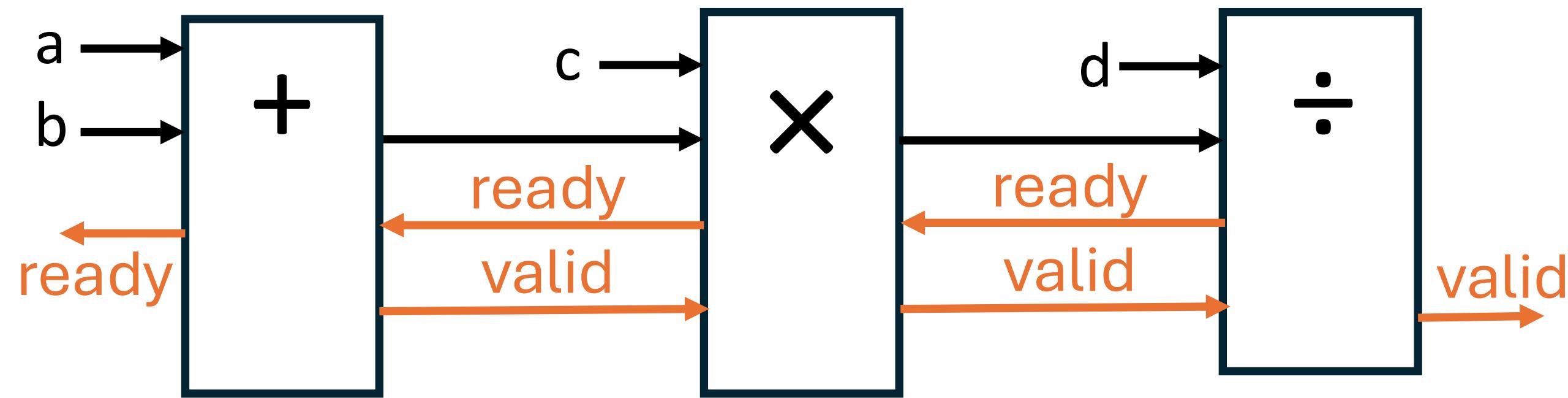




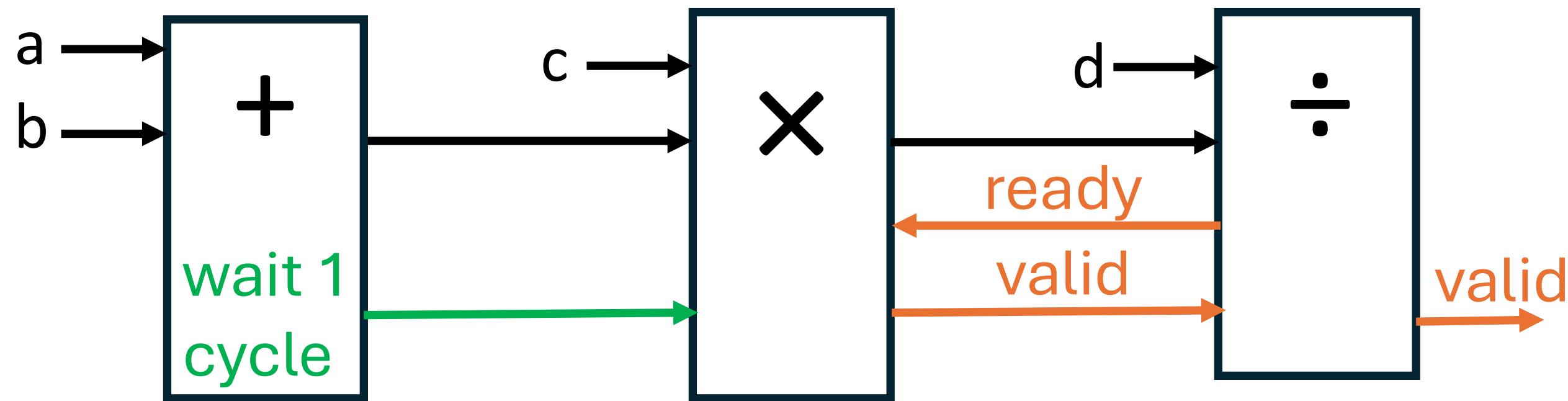
# Always Takes 1 Cycle!

a →  
b →



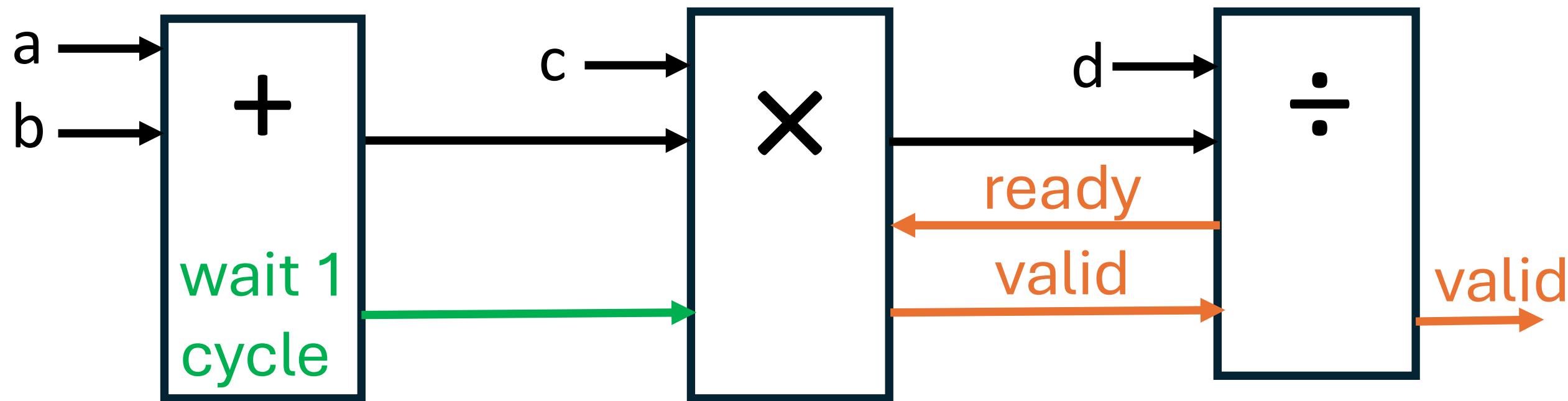


# Static (Latency-Sensitive) Interfaces

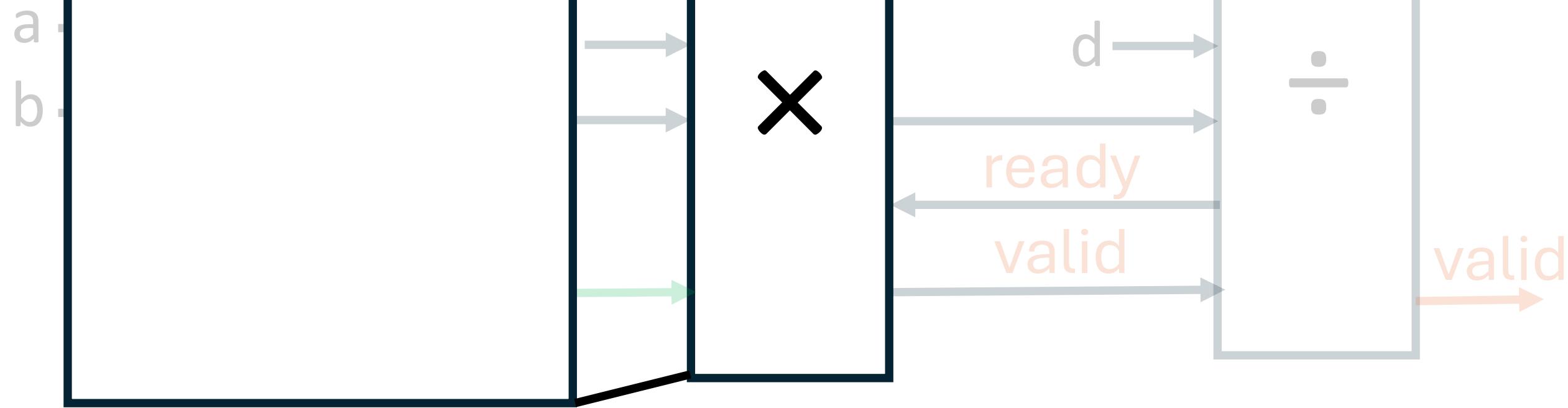


# Static (Latency-Sensitive) Interfaces

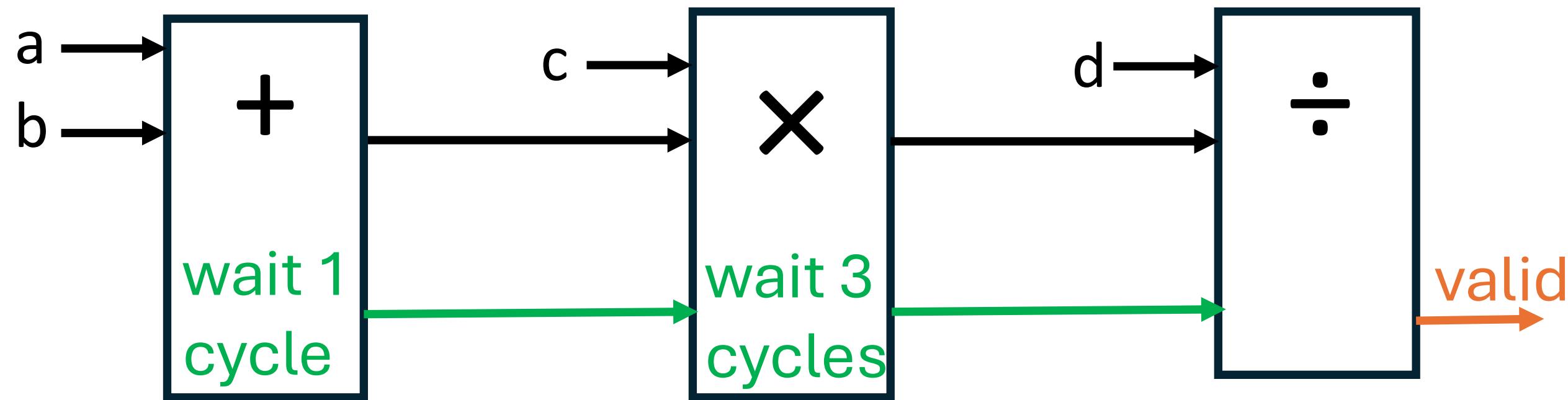
Eliminate ready/valid wiring,  $\uparrow$  efficiency



**Always Takes  
3 Cycles!**

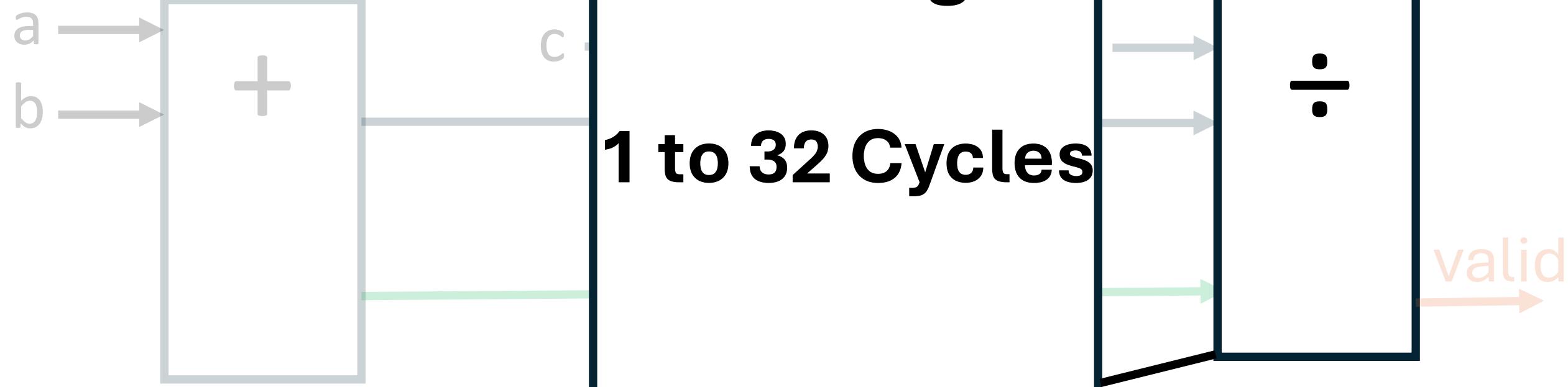


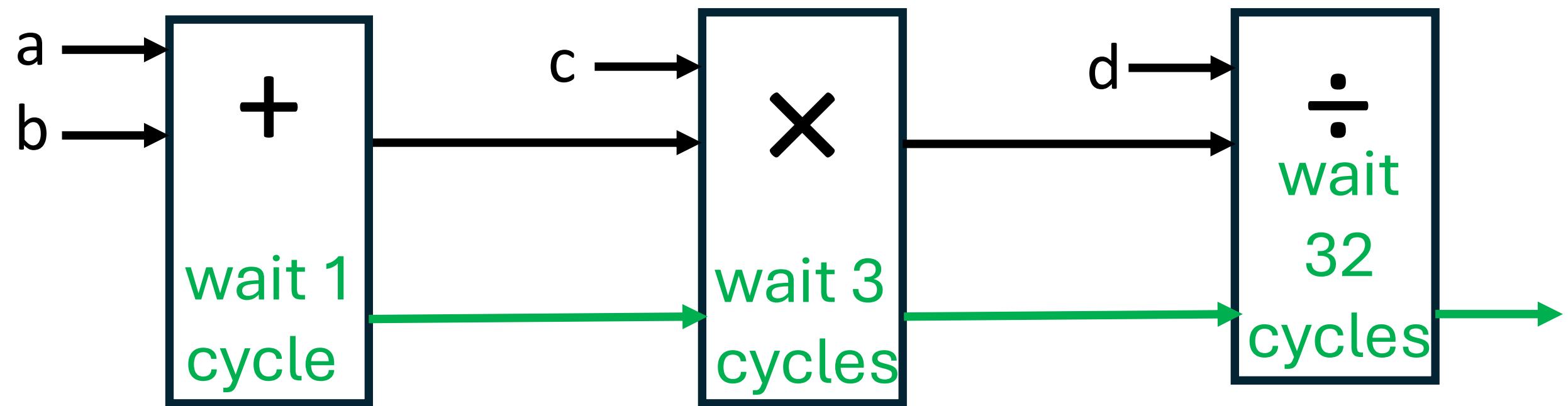
# Static (Latency-Sensitive) Interfaces



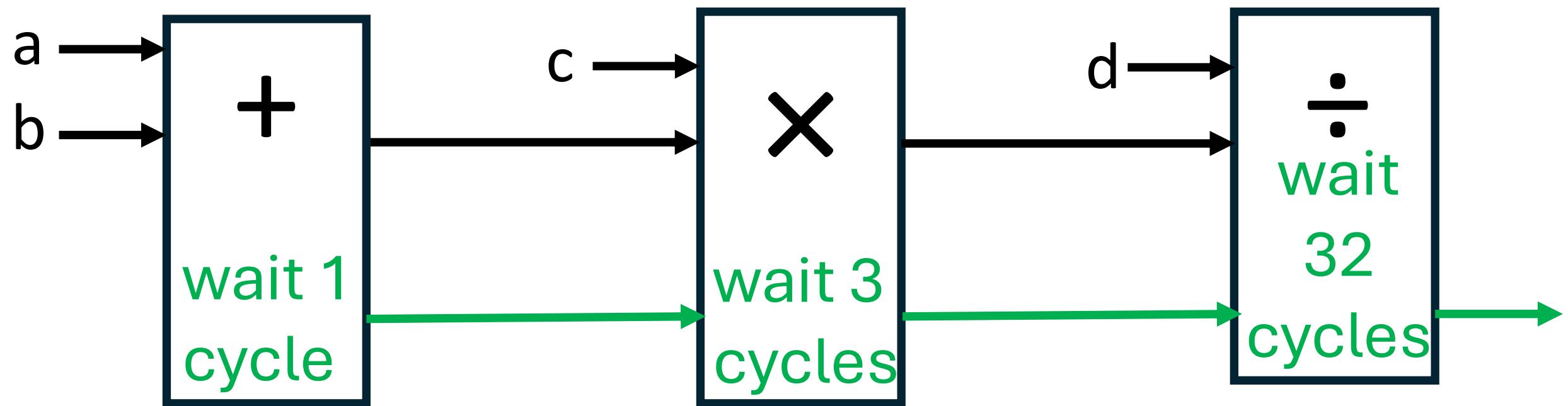
# *Input- Dependent Timing*

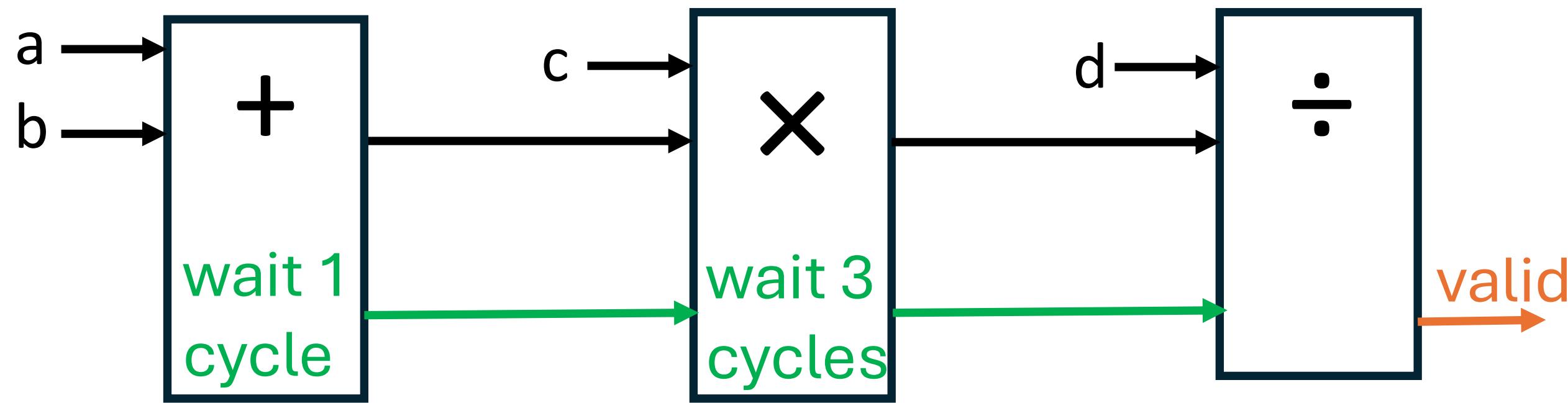
**1 to 32 Cycles**





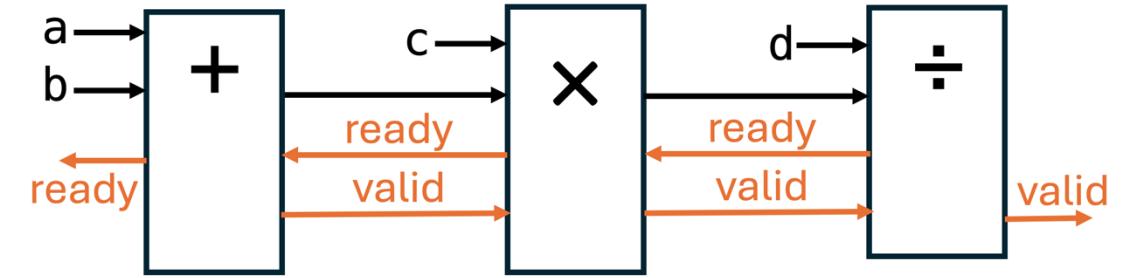
Too Conservative,  
Wastes Cycles





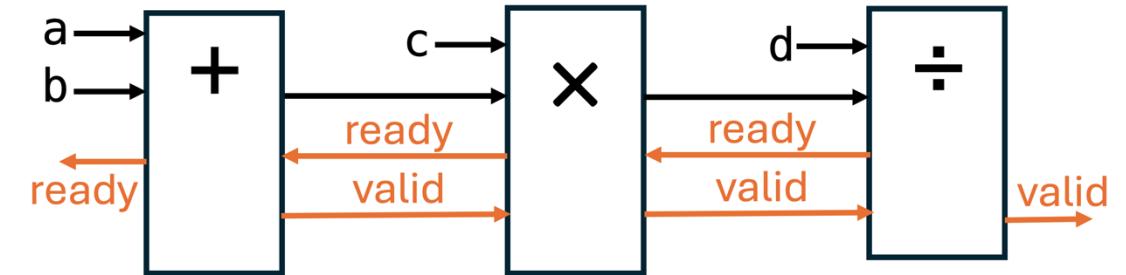
# Recap: So Many Choices!

# Recap: So Many Choices!



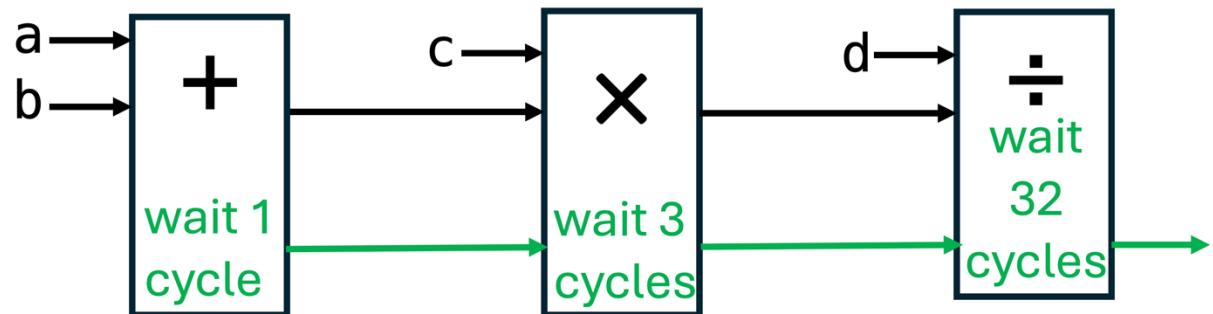
Dynamic Only

# Recap: So Many Choices!

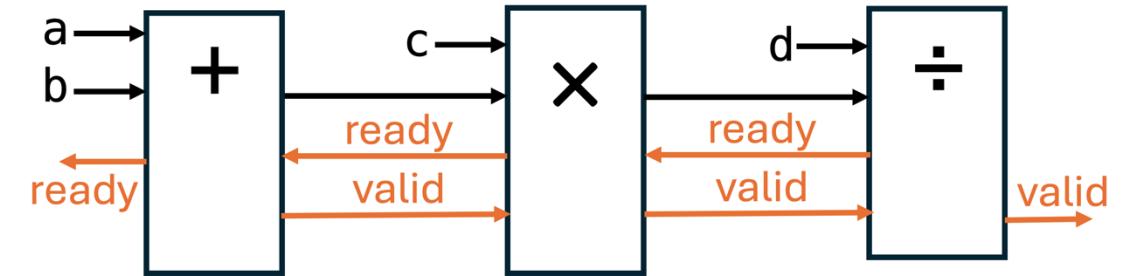


Dynamic Only

Static Only

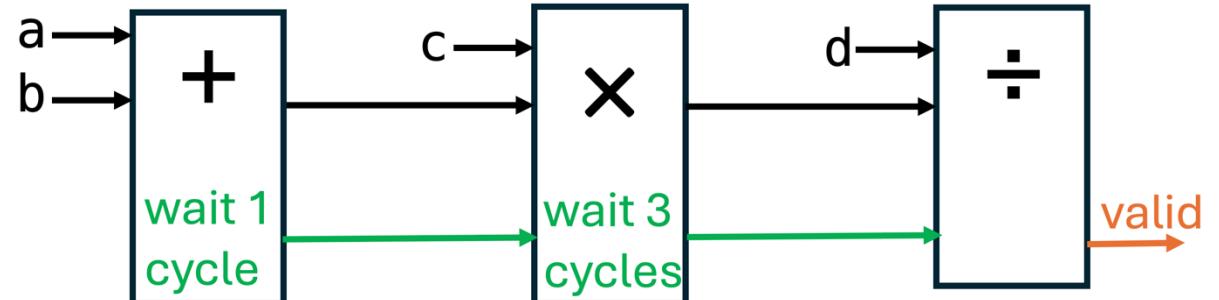
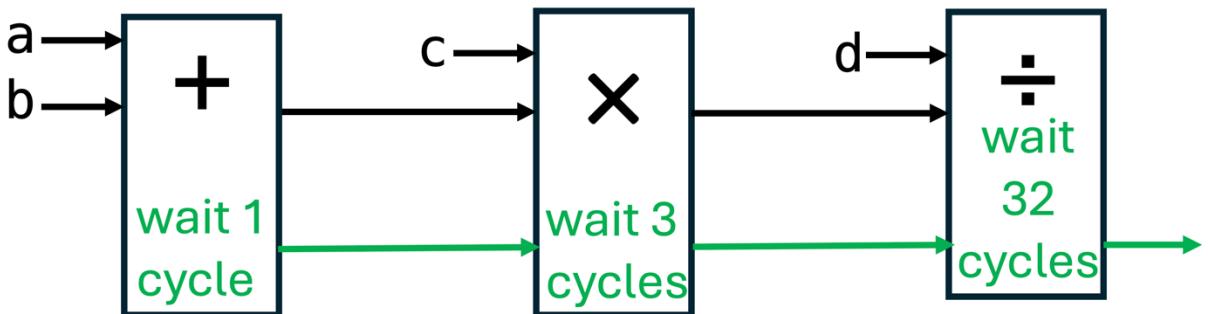


# Recap: So Many Choices!



Dynamic Only

Static Only



Mixed Static Dynamic

Key Idea #1: Two paradigms  
**(static and dynamic)** for  
hardware compiler IRs with  
severe **trade-offs**

# Recap: So Many Choices!

# Recap: So Many Choices!

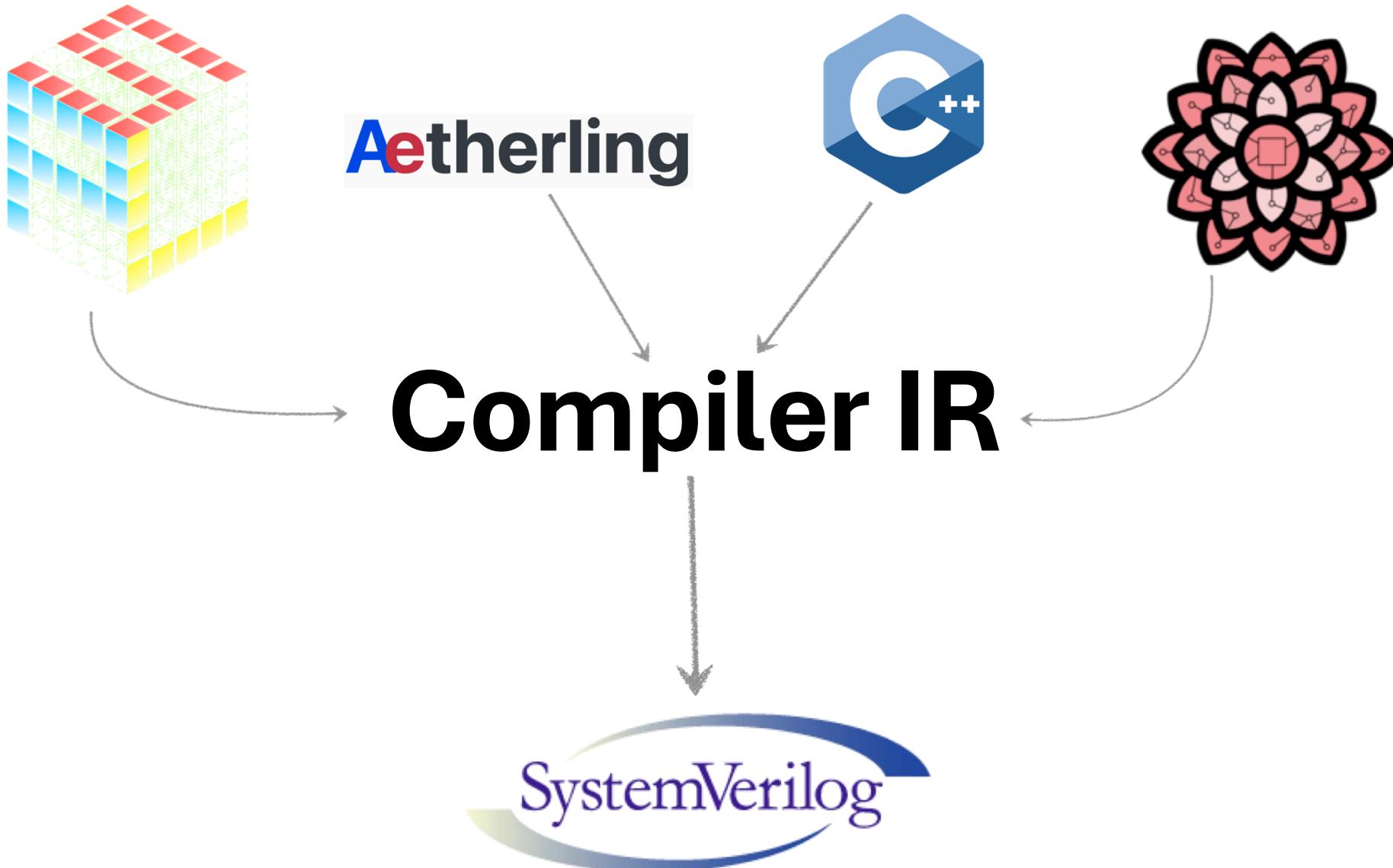
... just for  $((a+b)\times c)\div d$  !

# What about “real” languages?

# What about “real” languages?

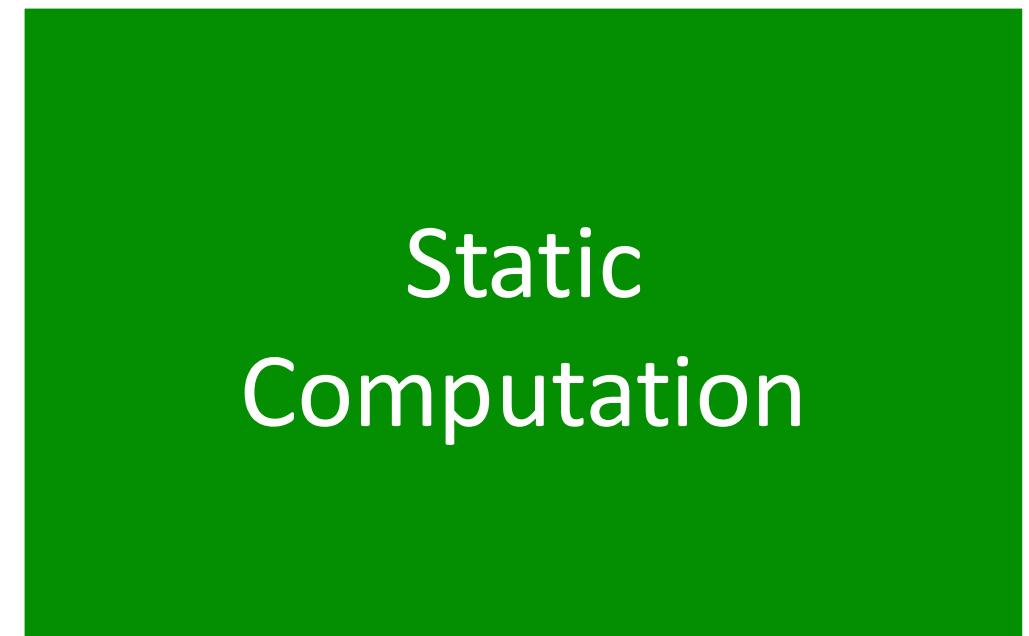
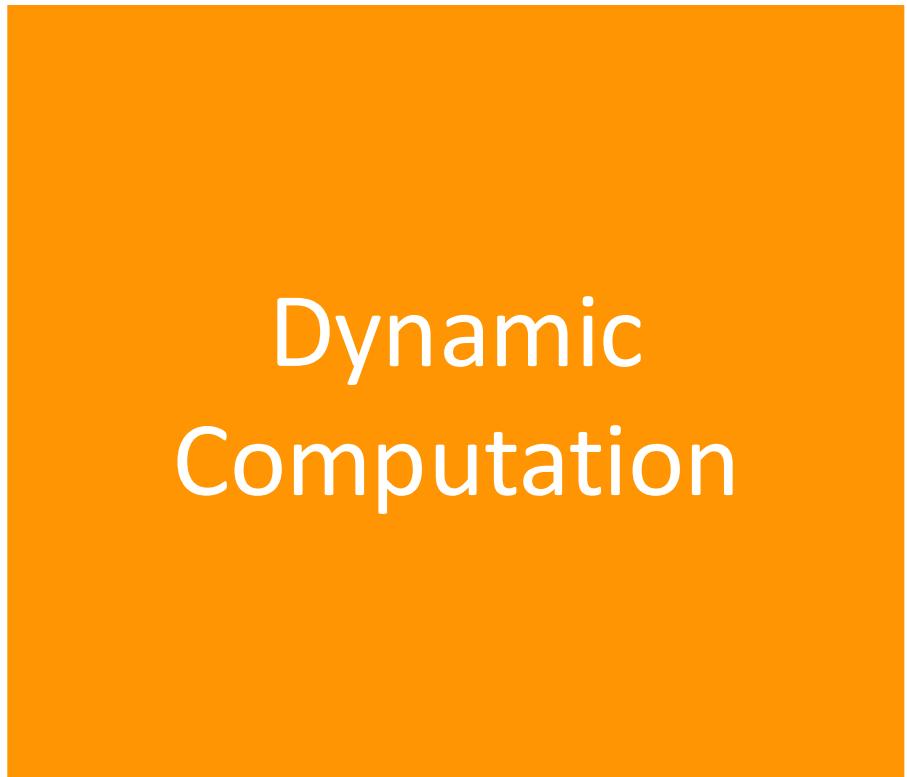
```
let a: float[10];
let b: float[10 bank 2];
for (let i = 0 .. 10) unroll 2 {
    a[i] := b[i] * 2.0;
}
```

# What about “real” languages?

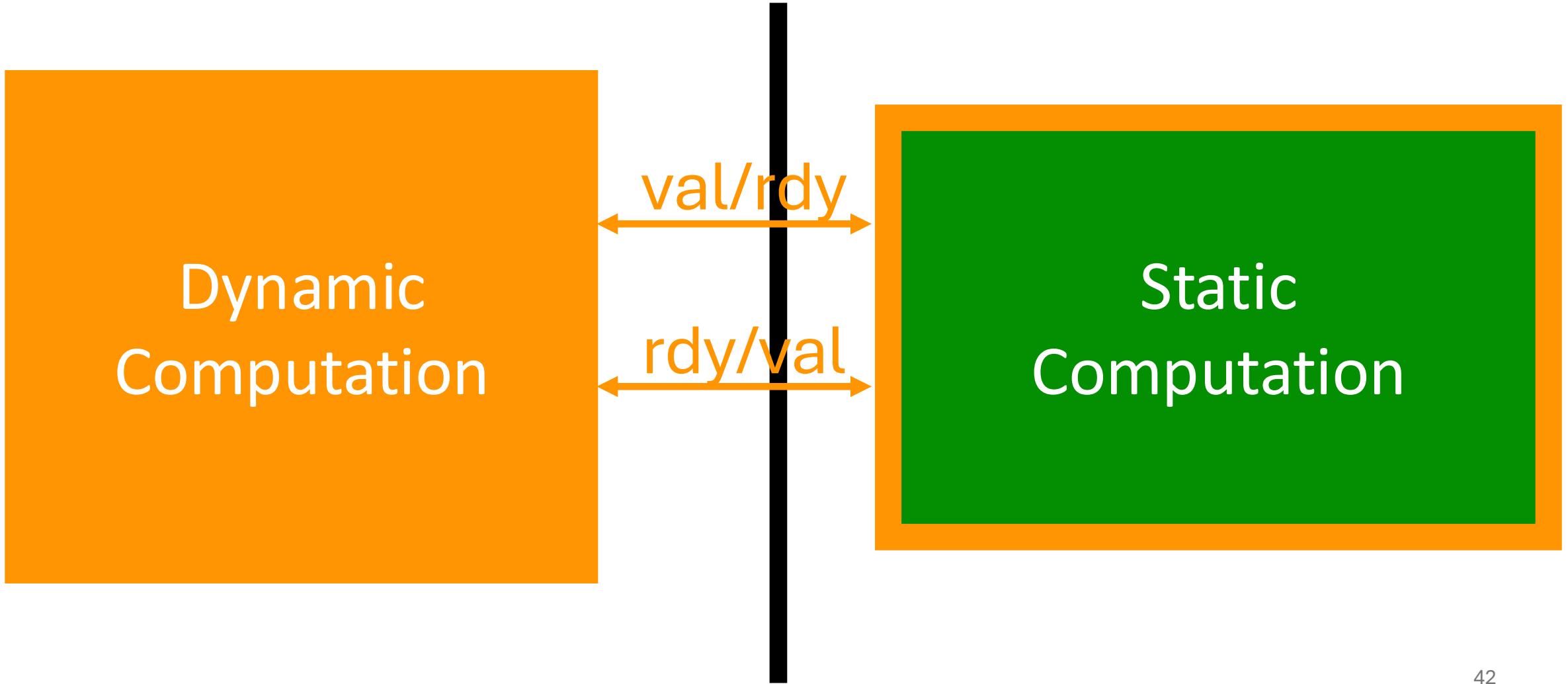


# **Static and dynamic compiler IRs live in *separate worlds***

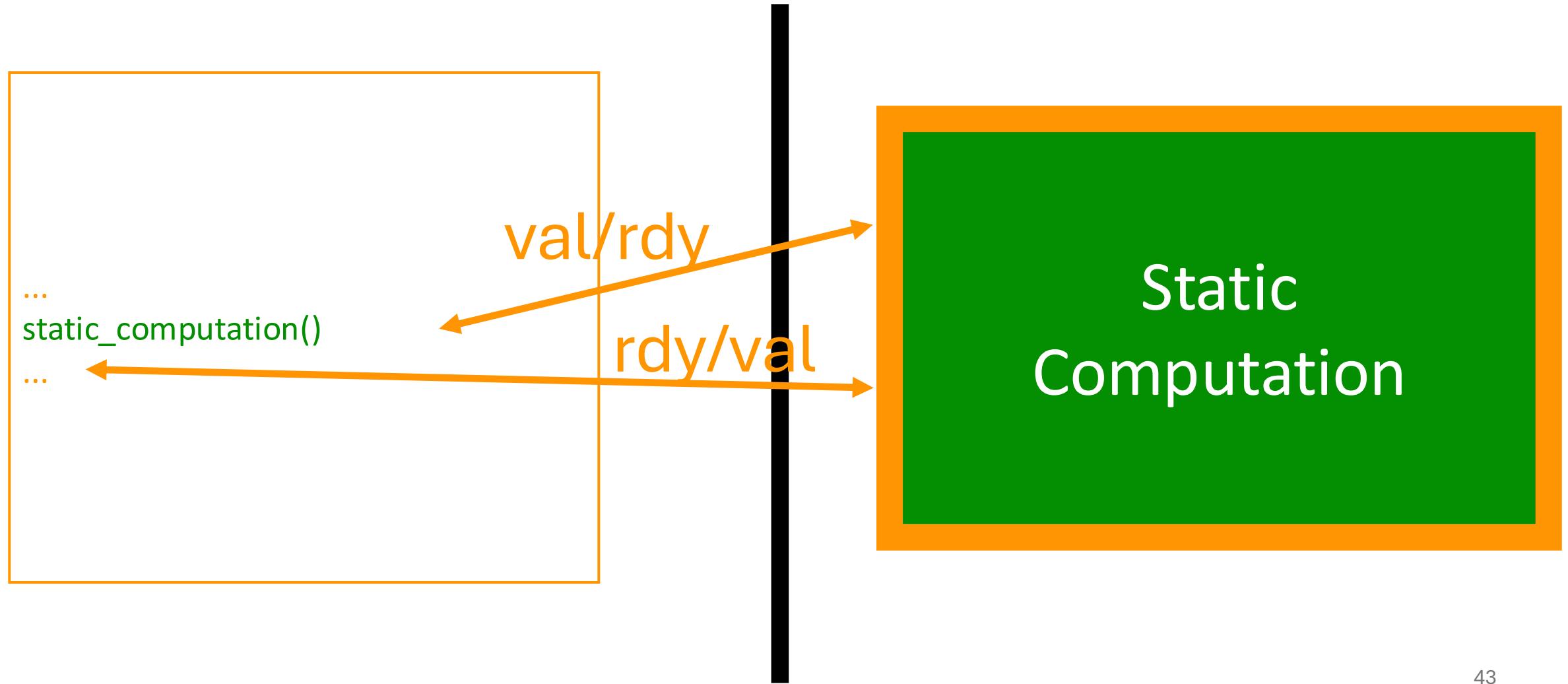
# **Static and dynamic compiler IRs** *live in separate worlds*



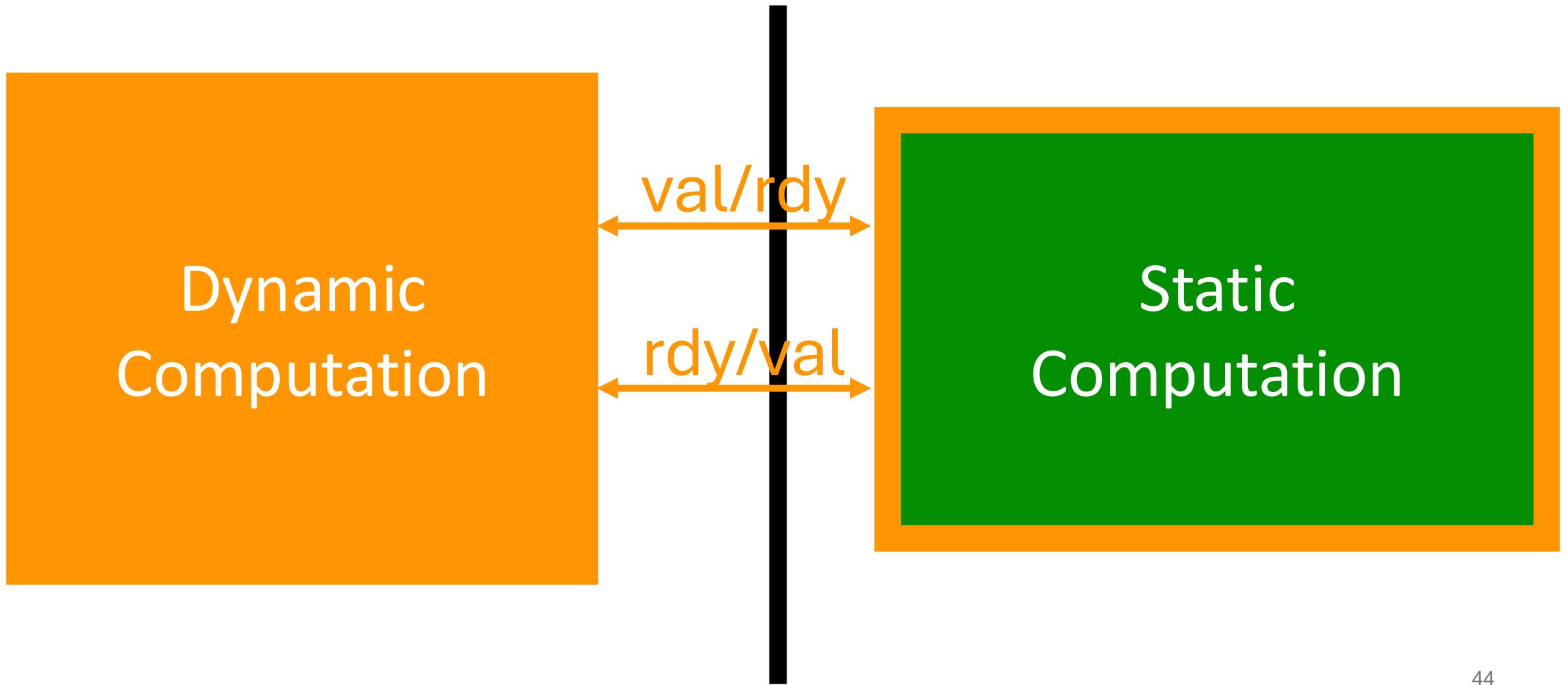
# Static and dynamic compiler IRs live in *separate worlds*



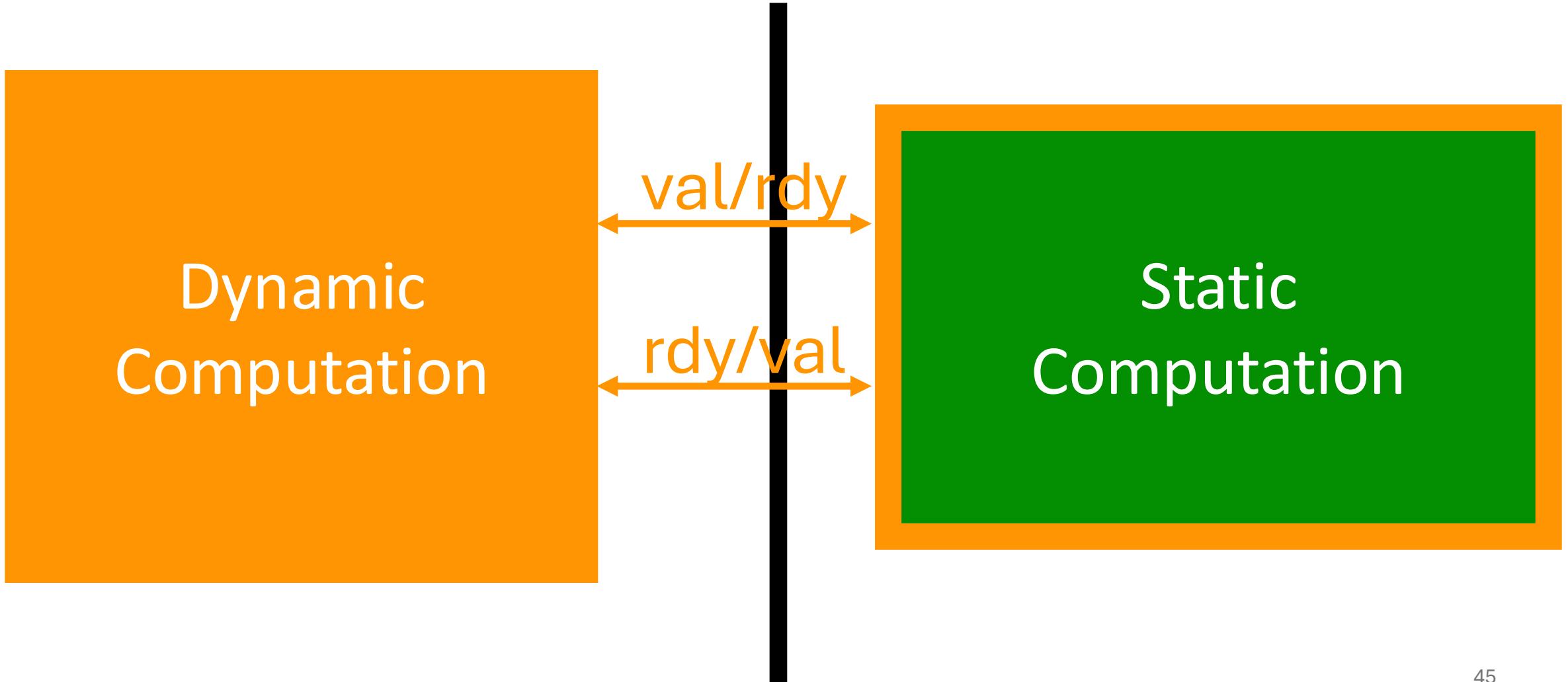
# Static and dynamic compiler IRs live in *separate worlds*



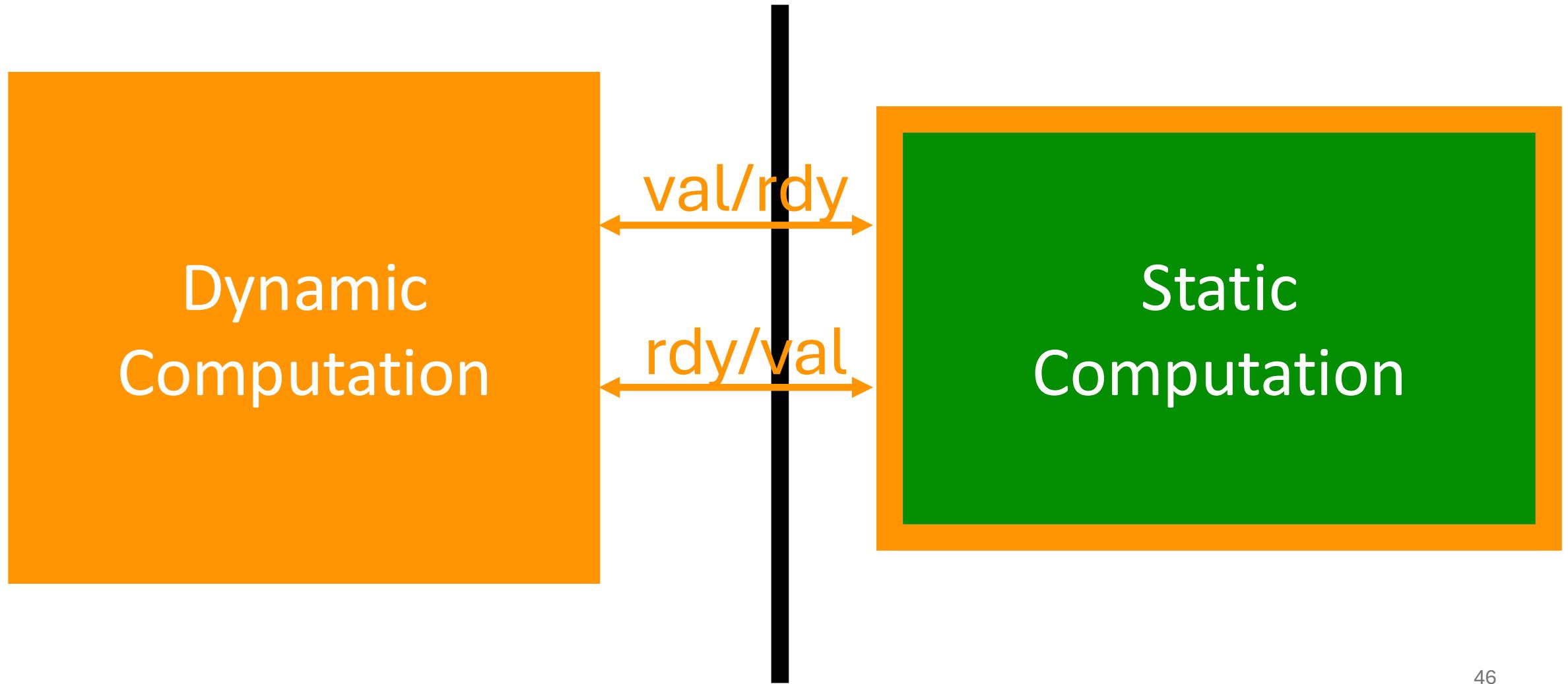
# Compiler developers must maintain 2 IRs



# Optimizations must analyze and transform 2 IRs

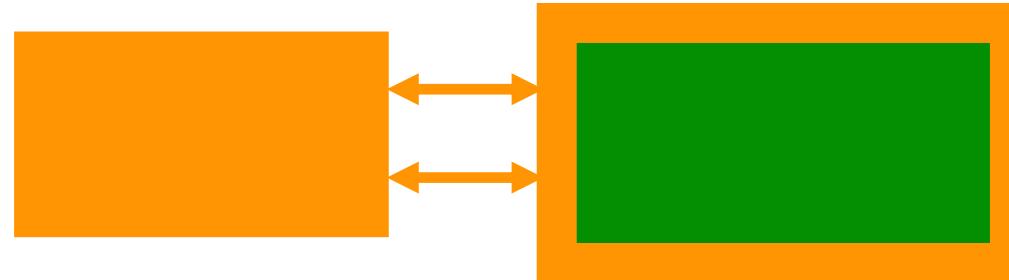


# Global optimizations are limited by the static-dynamic boundary



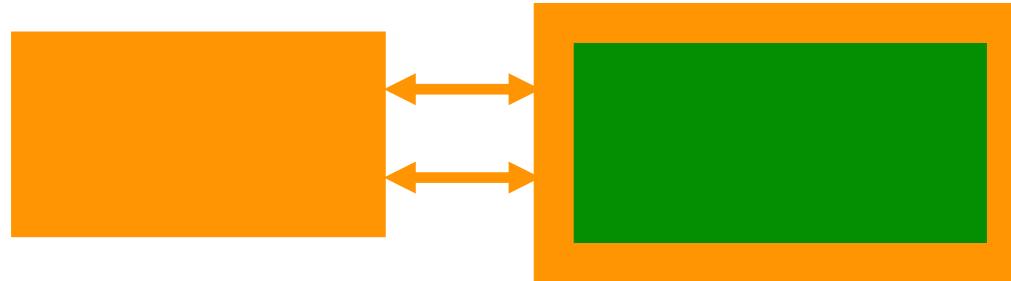
# Summary: Existing Compilers

Stratified  
Static-Dynamic

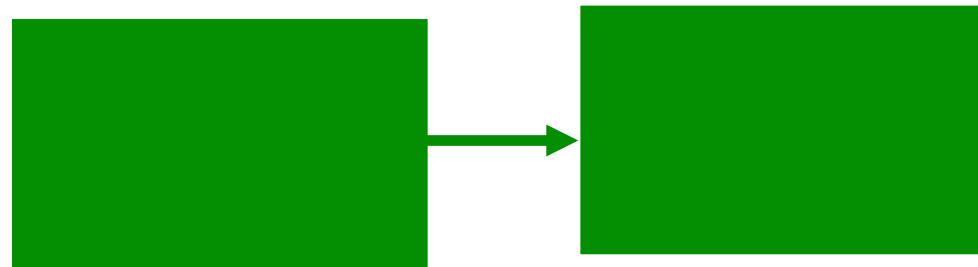


# Summary: Existing Compilers

Stratified

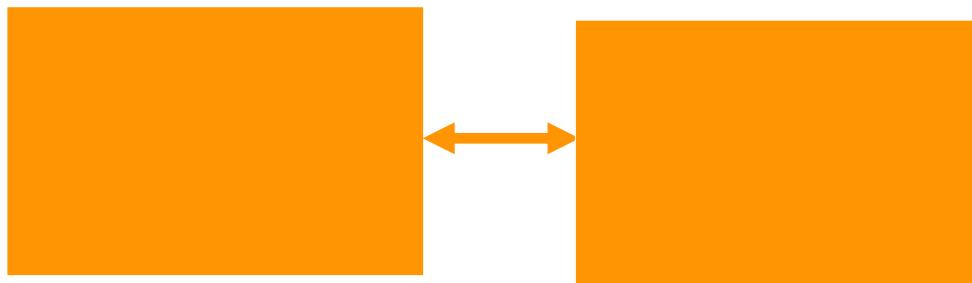


Static-Dynamic



Static  
Only

Dynamic  
Only



**Key Idea #2: Existing compilers  
IRs stratify static and dynamic  
sections into separate  
languages/representations**

# Our work: *unifying* static and dynamic compiler IRs

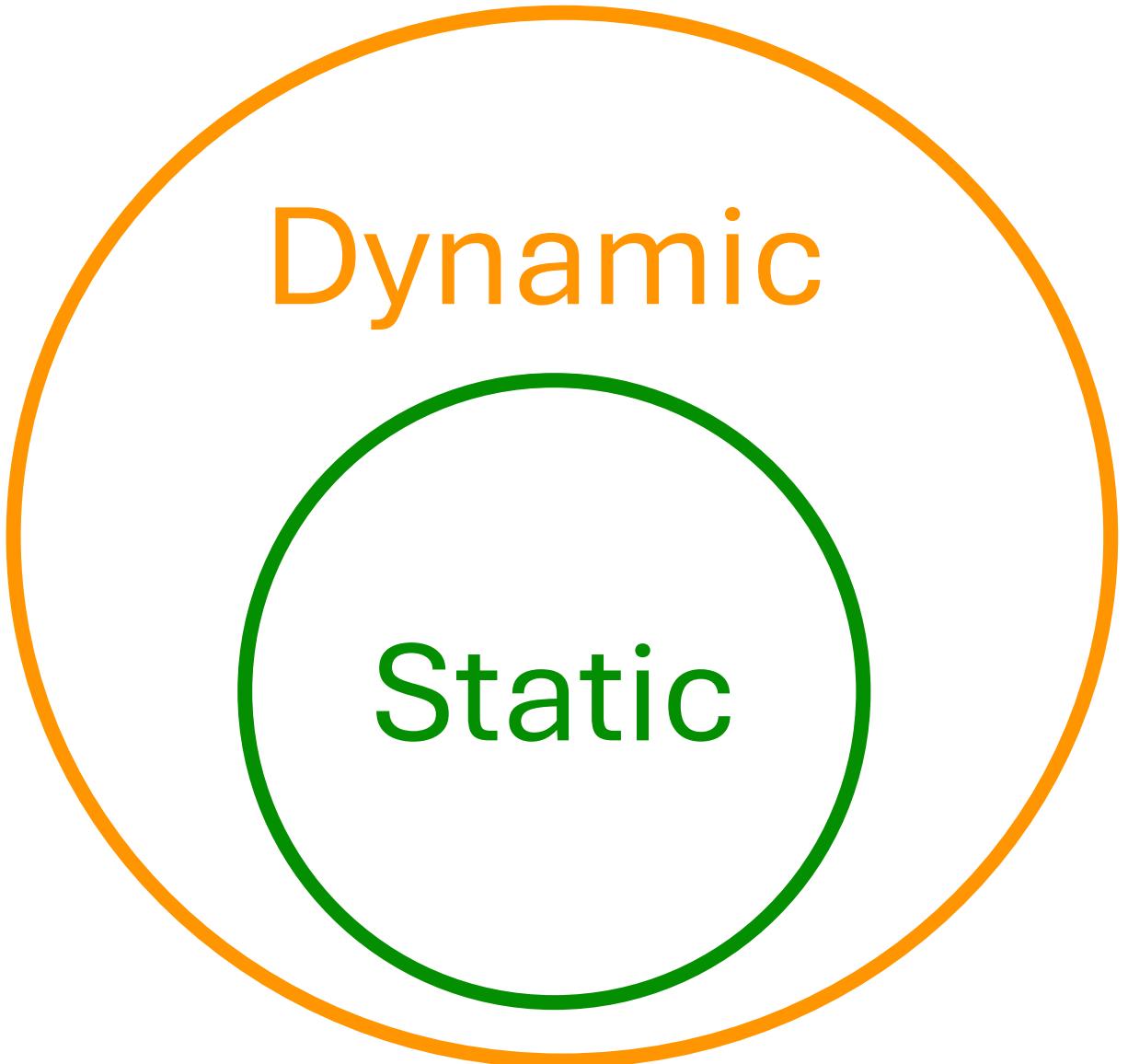
**Our work: *unifying* static and  
dynamic compiler IRs  
through *semantic refinement***

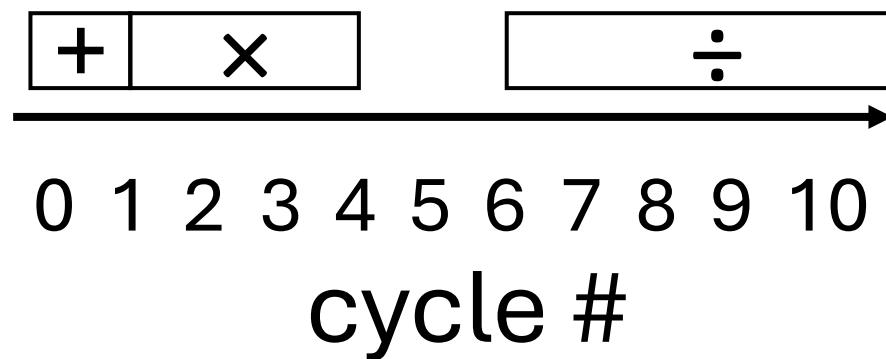
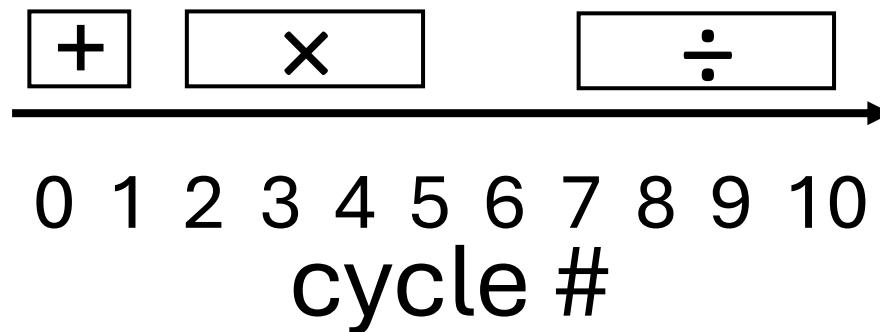
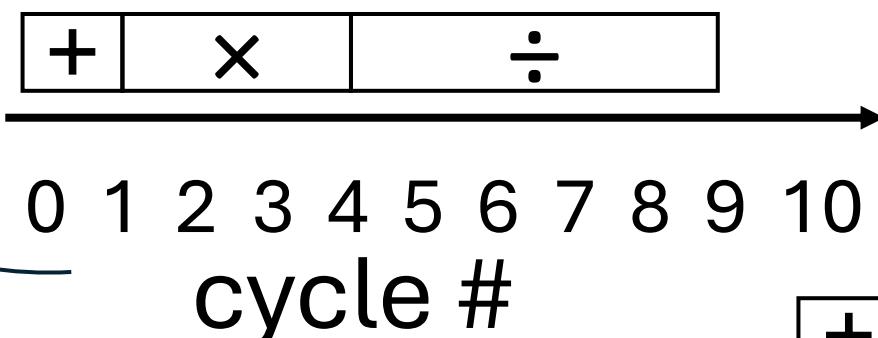
# Semantic Refinement

# Semantic Refinement

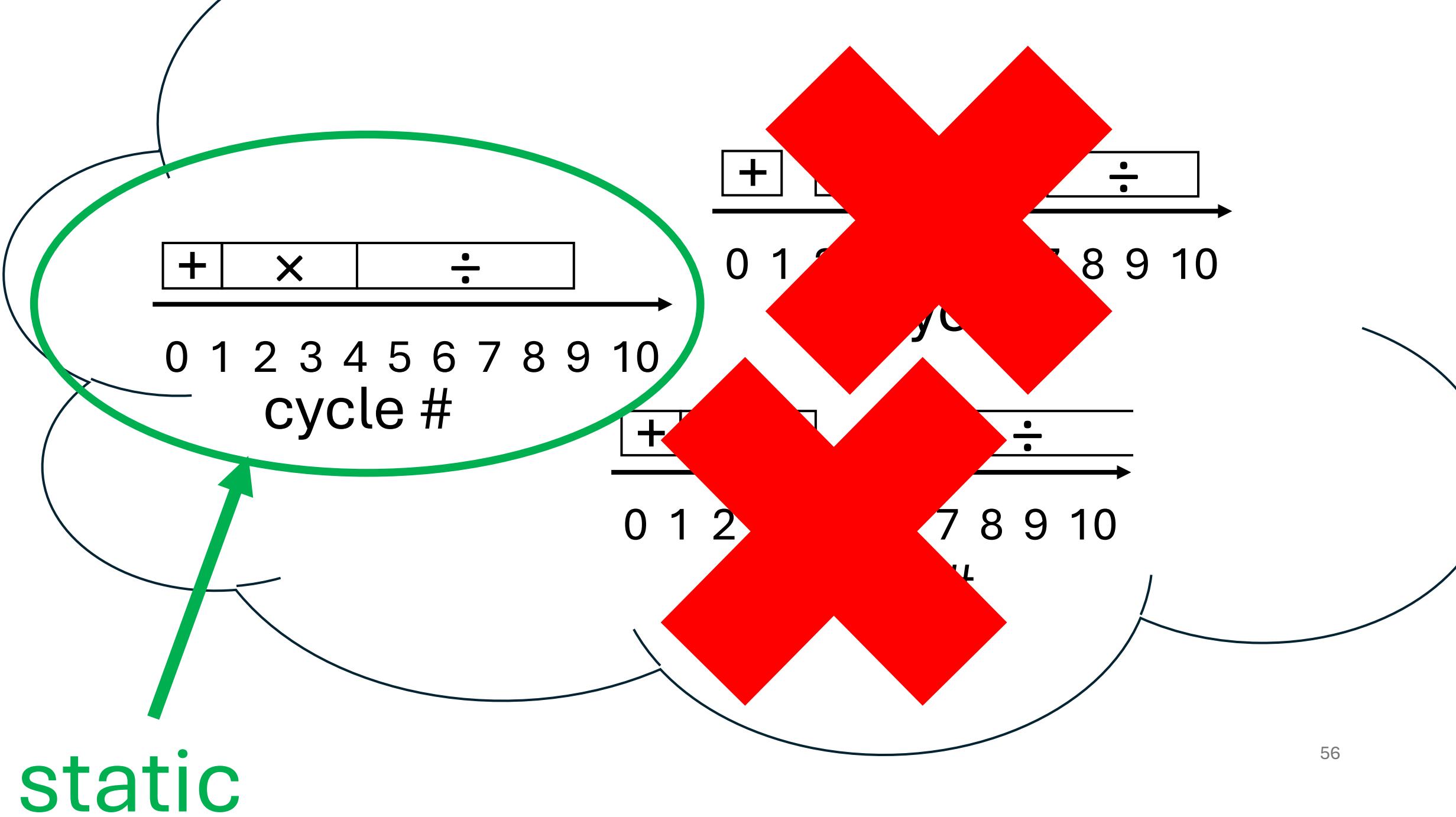
“P refines Q iff P allows a subset of the behaviors that Q allows.”

*static refines dynamic*

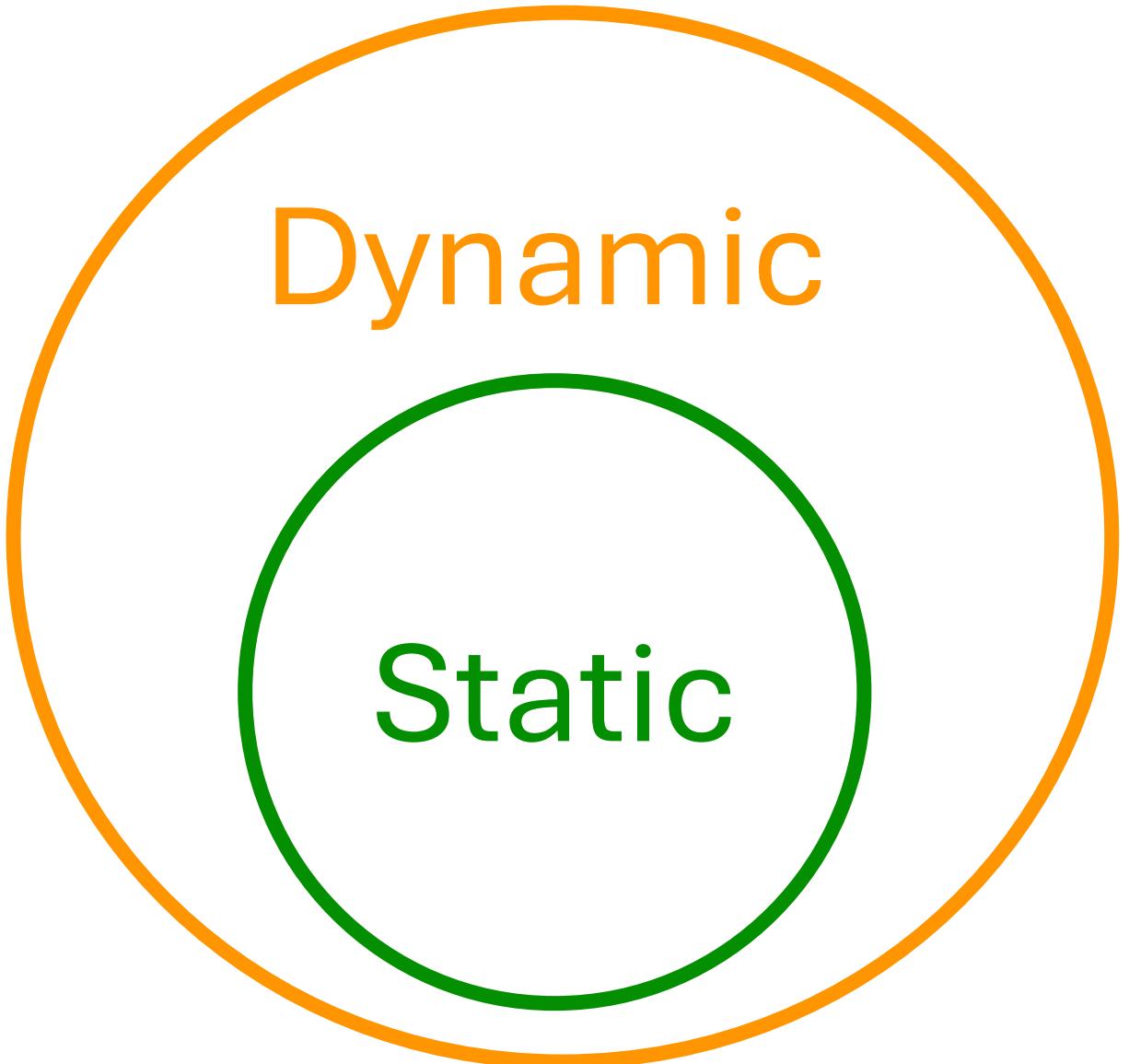




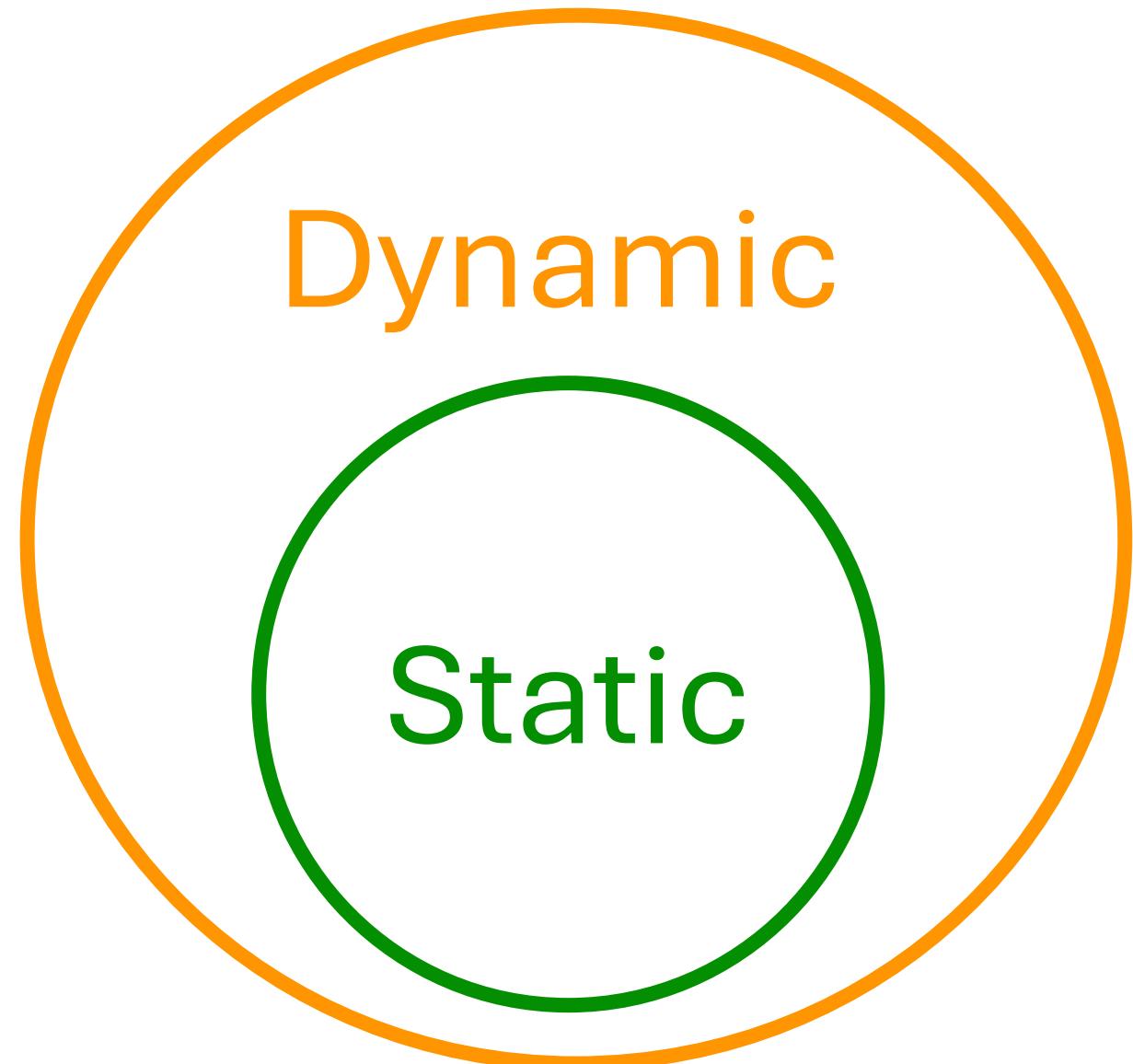
dynamic



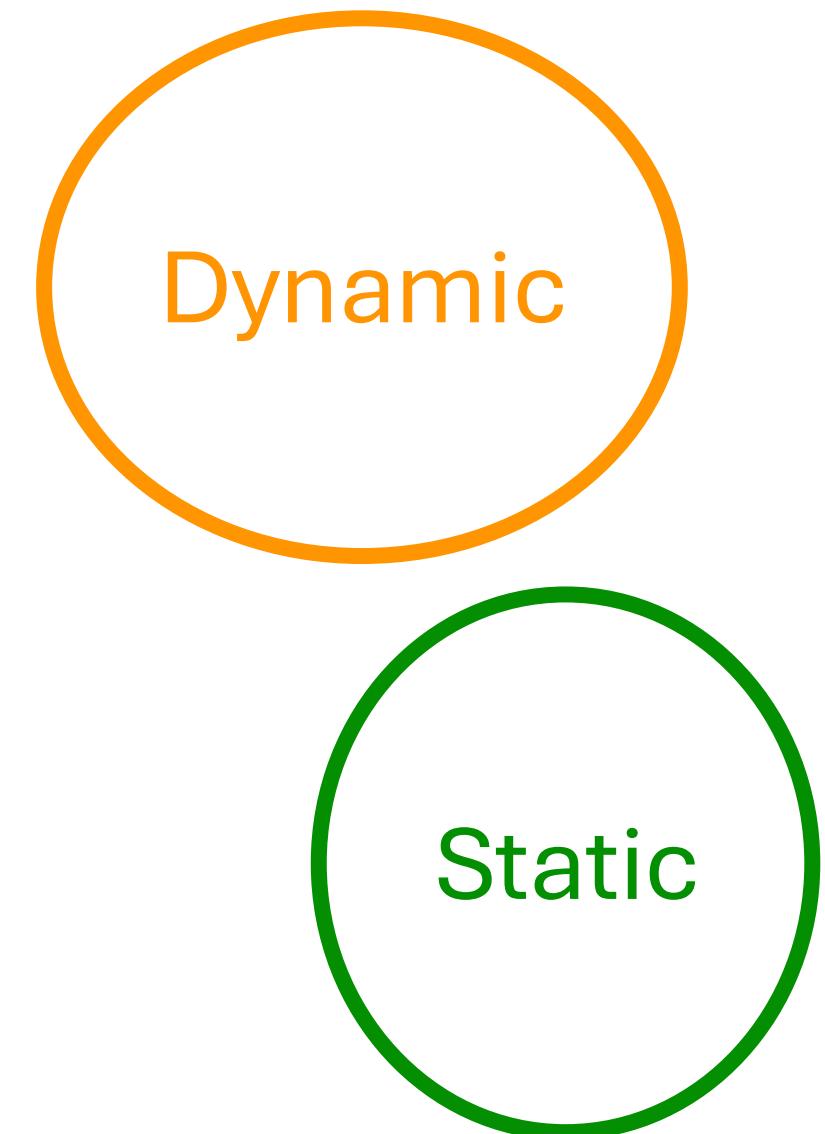
*static refines dynamic*



*static refines dynamic*



separate behaviors



Unified  
Static-  
Dynamic  
Language

Dynamic  
Language

Static  
Language

Our work builds on a purely **dynamic** language

# Dynamic

```
wires {
    group do_add {
        add.left = a;
        add.right = b;
        do_add[done] = add.done;
    }
    group do_mult {
        mult.left = add.out;
        mult.right = c;
        do_mult[done] = mult.done;
    }
    group do_div {
        div.go = 1;
        div.left = mult.out;
        div.right = d;
        do_div[done] = div.done;
    }
}
control {
    seq {
        seq { do_add; do_mult; }
        do_div;
    }
}
```

# Dynamic +Static

```
wires {
    group do_add {
        add.left = a;
        add.right = b;
        do_add[done] = add.done;
    }
    group do_mult {
        mult.left = add.out;
        mult.right = c;
        do_mult[done] = mult.done;
    }
    group do_div {
        div.go = 1;
        div.left = mult.out;
        div.right = d;
        do_div[done] = div.done;
    }
}
control {
    seq {
        seq { do_add; do_mult; }
        do_div;
    }
}
```

```
wires {
    static<1> group do_add {
        add.left = a;
        add.right = b;
        do_add[done] = add.done;
    }
    static<3> group do_mult {
        mult.left = add.out;
        mult.right = c;
        do_mult[done] = mult.done;
    }
    group do_div {
        div.go = 1;
        div.left = mult.out;
        div.right = d;
        do_div[done] = div.done;
    }
}
control {
    seq {
        static seq { do_add; do_mult; }
        do_div;
    }
}
```

# Dynamic

+

# Static

=

## Unification

```
wires {
    group do_add {
        add.left = a;
        add.right = b;
        do_add[done] = add.done;
    }
    group do_mult {
        mult.left = add.out;
        mult.right = c;
        do_mult[done] = mult.done;
    }
    group do_div {
        div.go = 1;
        div.left = mult.out;
        div.right = d;
        do_div[done] = div.done;
    }
}
control {
    seq {
        seq { do_add; do_mult; }
        do_div;
    }
}
```

```
wires {
    static<1> group do_add {
        add.left = a;
        add.right = b;
        do_add[done] = add.done;
    }
    static<3> group do_mult {
        mult.left = add.out;
        mult.right = c;
        do_mult[done] = mult.done;
    }
    group do_div {
        div.go = 1;
        div.left = mult.out;
        div.right = d;
        do_div[done] = div.done;
    }
}
control {
    seq {
        static seq { do_add; do_mult; }
        do_div;
    }
}
```

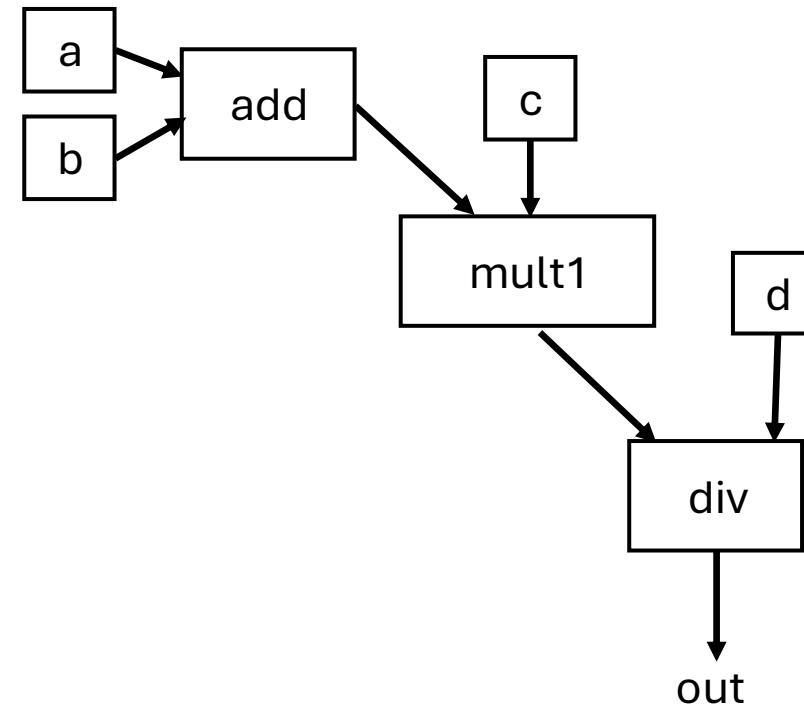
Key Idea #3: Our work uses the idea of **semantic refinement** to unify static and dynamic sub-languages

# Concrete benefits of unification?

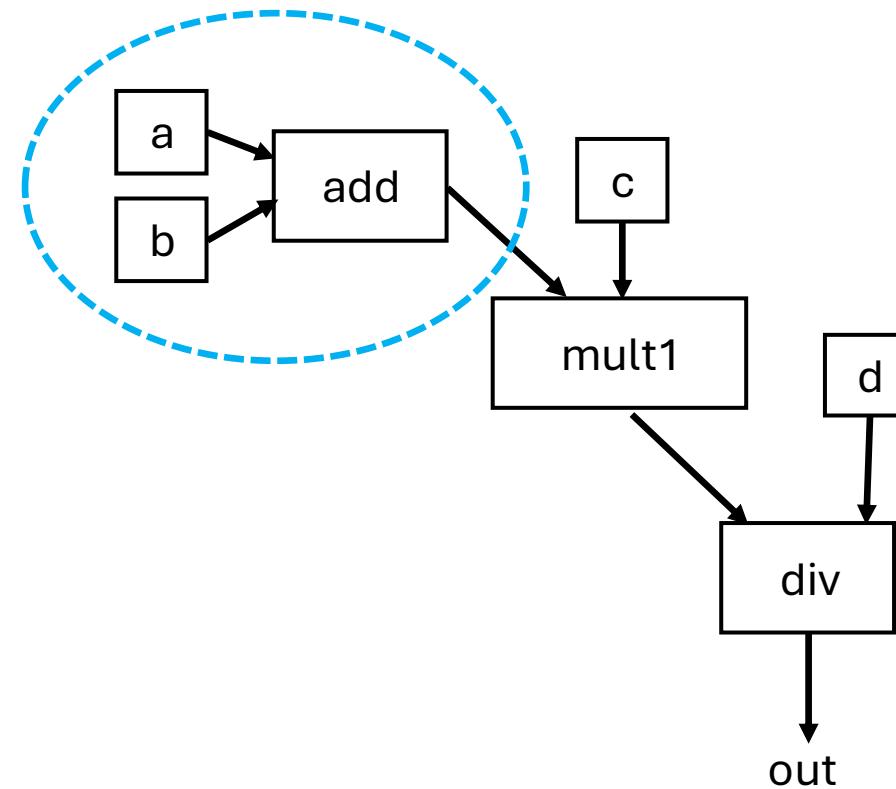
# **Background: Calyx**

$$((a+b)\times c)/d$$

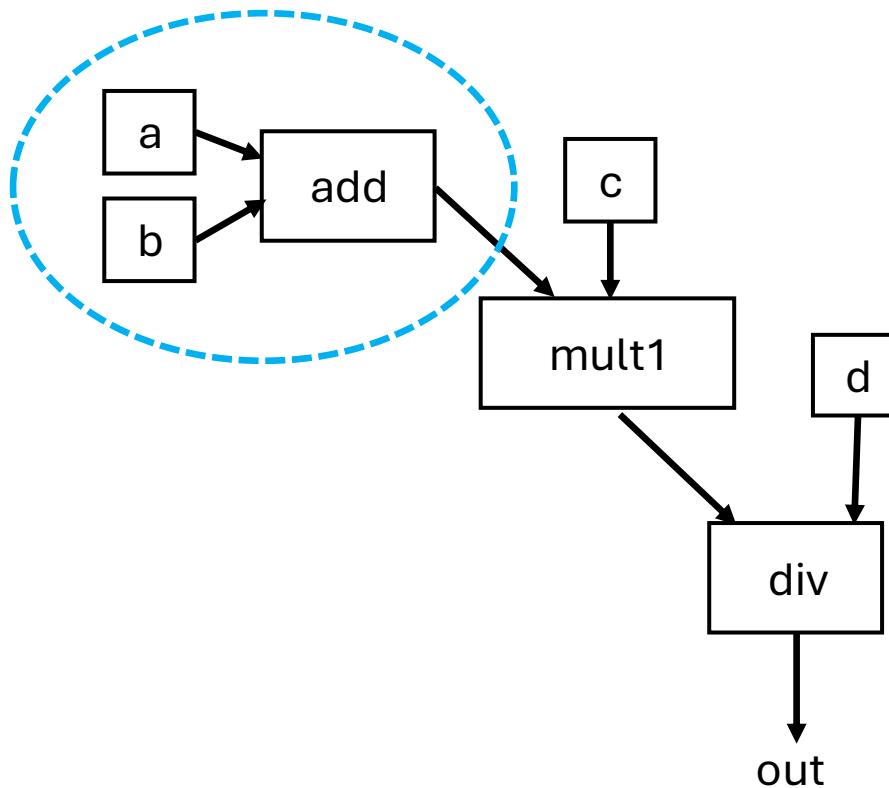
$$((a+b)\times c)/d$$



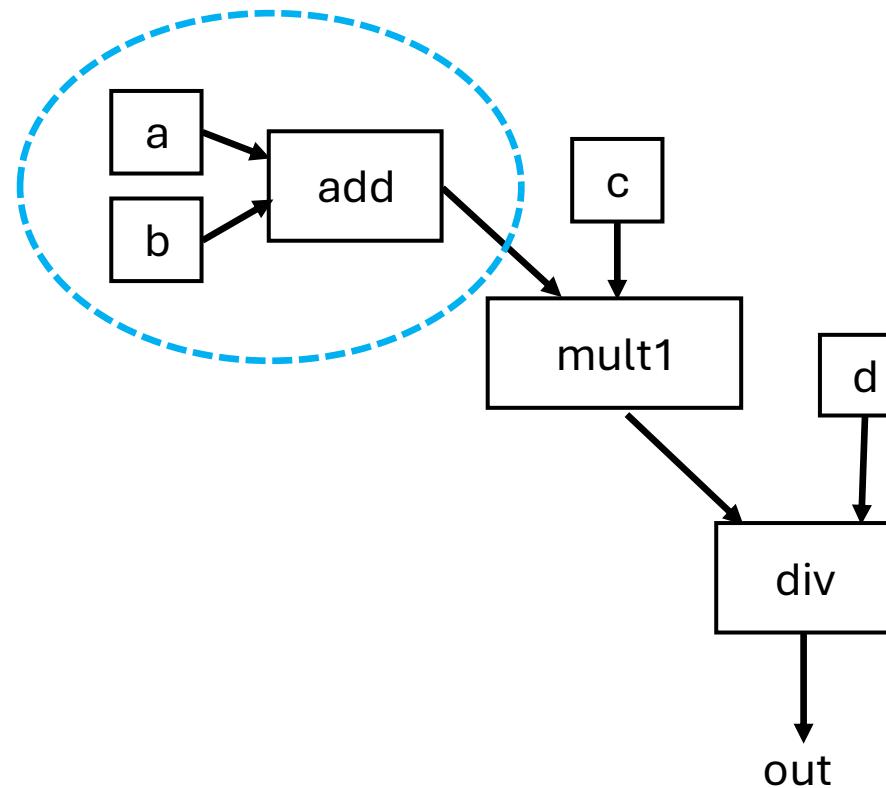
$$((a+b)\times c)/d$$



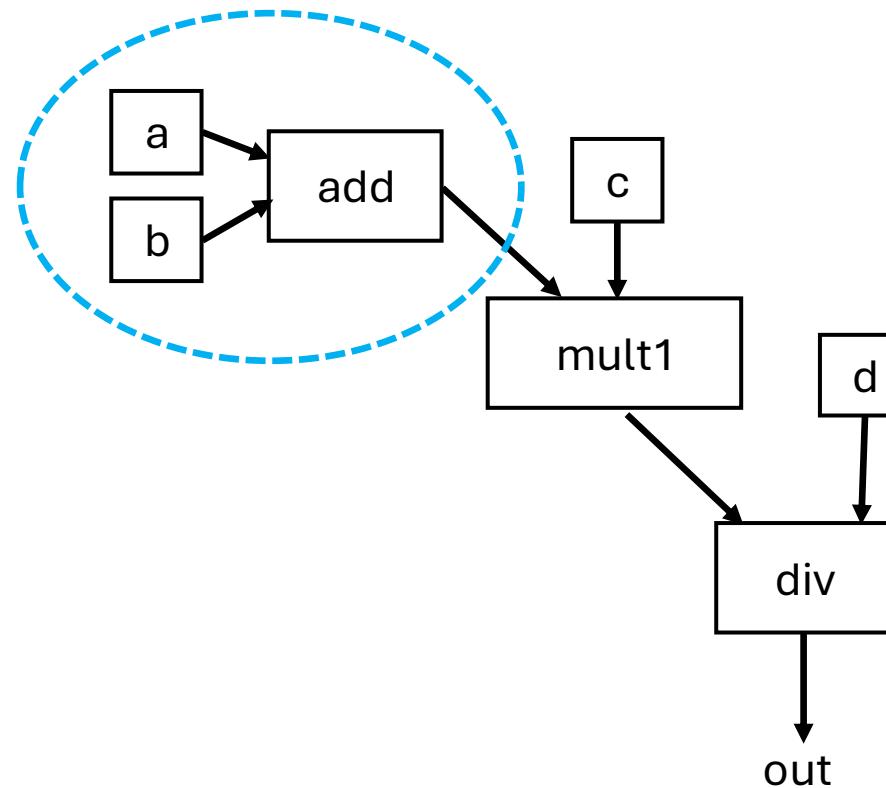
```
group do_add {  
}  
}
```



```
group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
}  
}
```



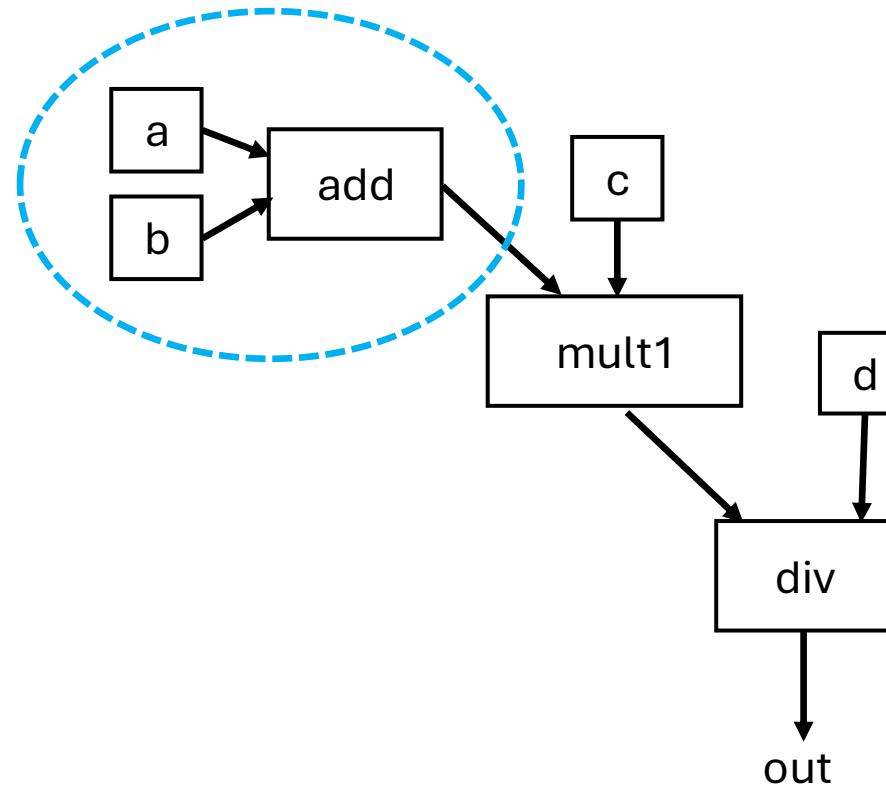
```
group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
    do_add[done] = add.done;  
}
```



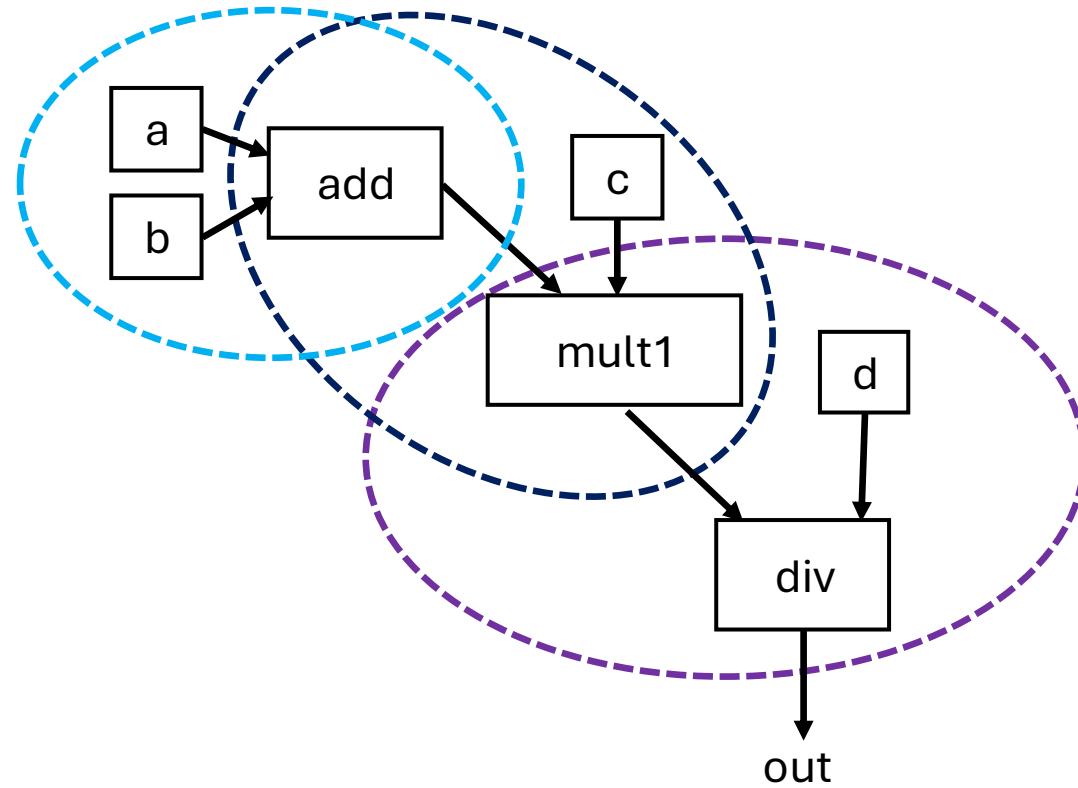
```
group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
    do_add[done] = add.done;  
}
```



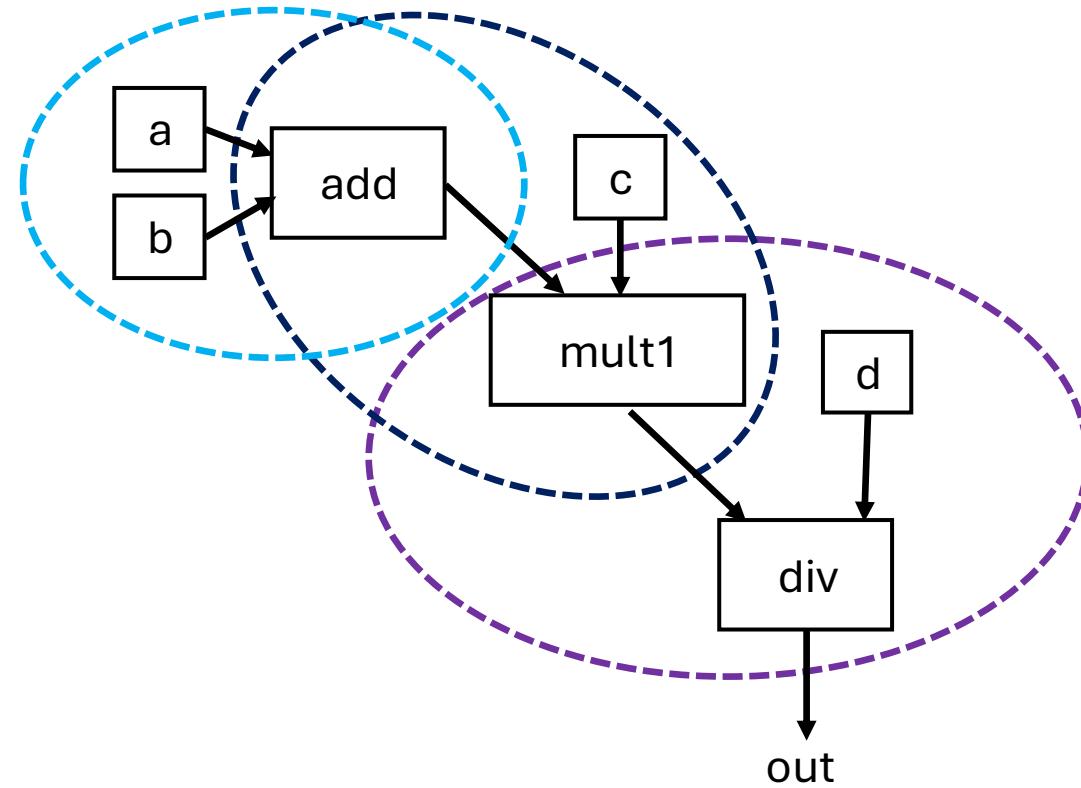
*Dynamic Interface*



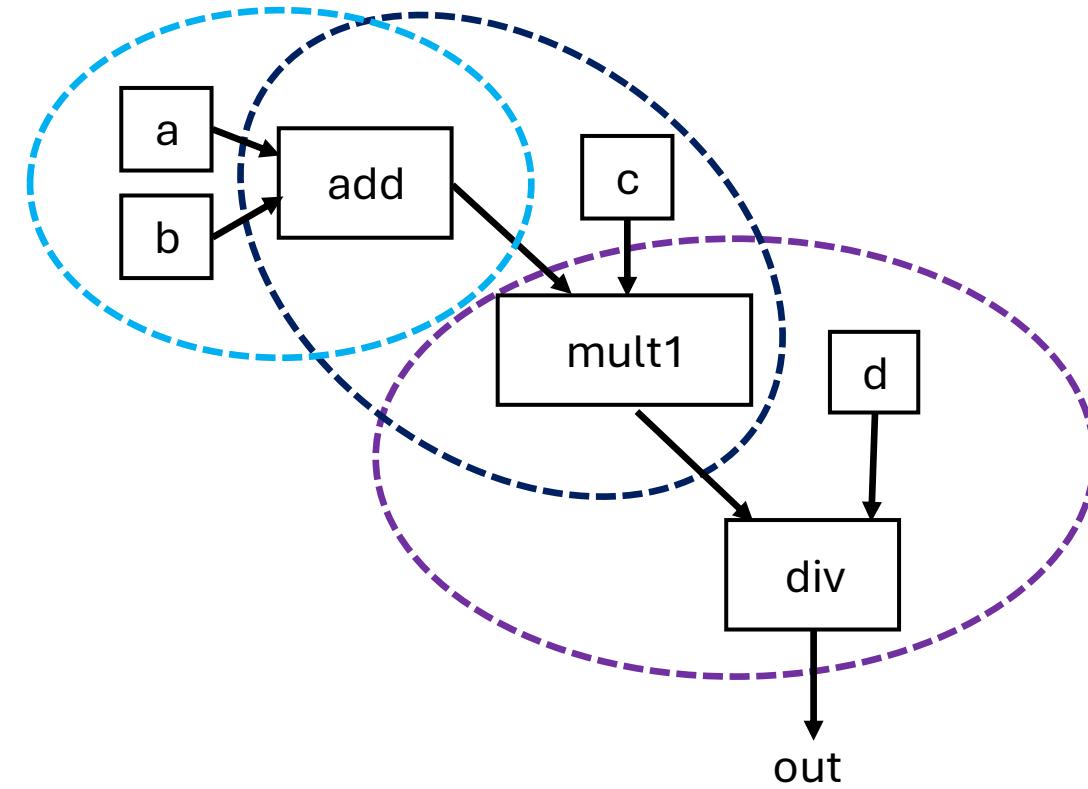
```
group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
    do_add[done] = add.done;  
}  
group do_mult {...}  
group do_div {...}
```



```
control {  
    seq {  
        }  
    }  
}
```



```
control {  
    seq {  
          
    }  
}
```



**Also par, while, if**

**Piezo** is a set of lightweight extensions to  
**Calyx** which introduce static interfaces

```
group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
    do_add[done] = add.done;  
}
```

```
group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
    do_add[done] = add.done;  
}
```

```
static<1> group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
}
```

```
group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
    do_add[done] = add.done;  
}
```

```
static<1> group do_add {  
    add.left = a;  
    add.right = b;  
}
```

do\_add takes 1  
cycle

par {...}

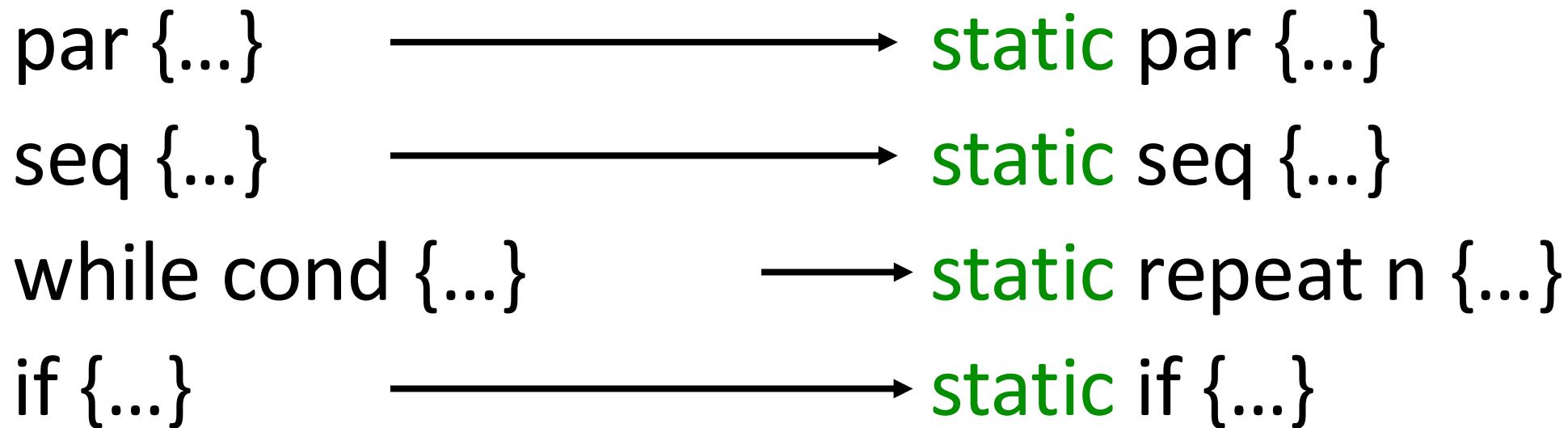
seq {...}

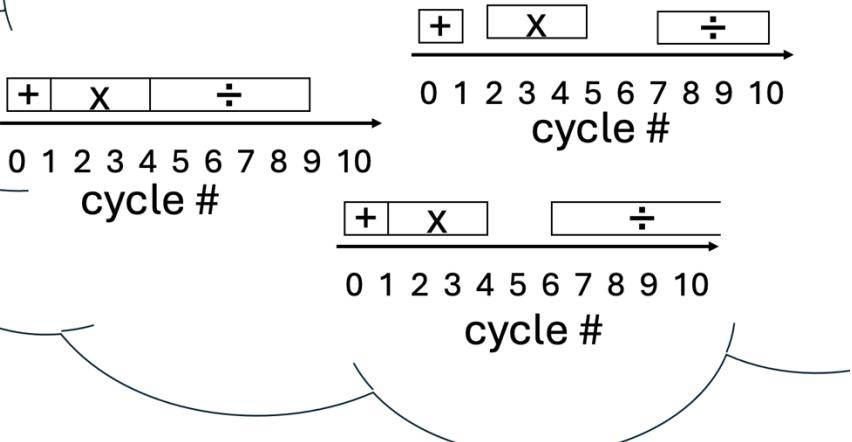
while cond {...}

if {...}

par {...}	→	static par {...}
seq {...}	→	static seq {...}
while cond {...}	→	static repeat n {...}
if {...}	→	static if {...}

adding **static** keyword *refines* dynamic control



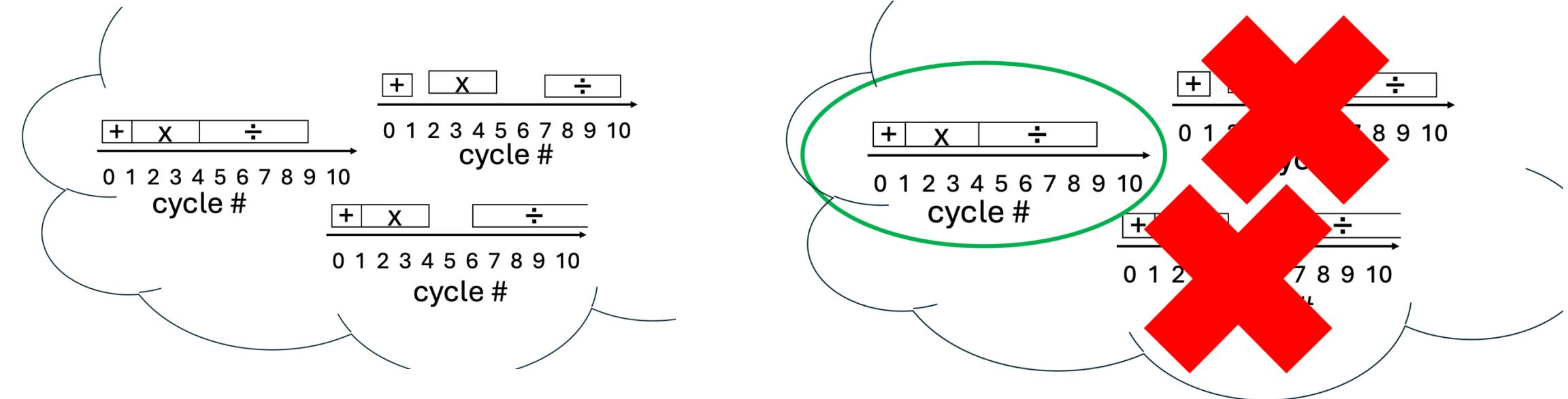


par {...} → static par {...}

seq {...} → static seq {...}

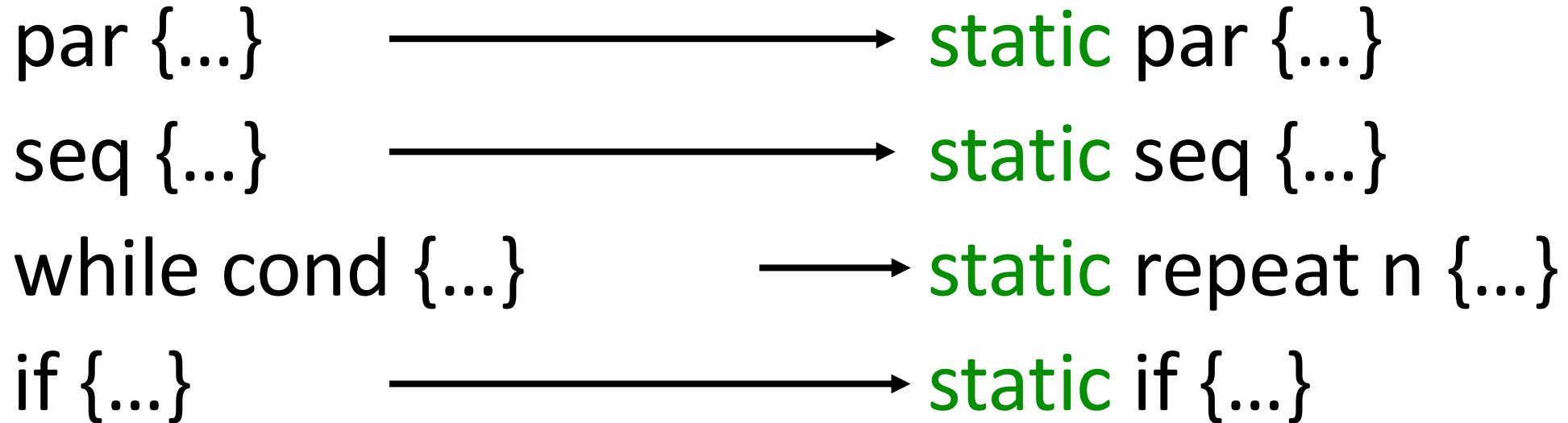
while cond {...} → static repeat n {...}

if {...} → static if {...}

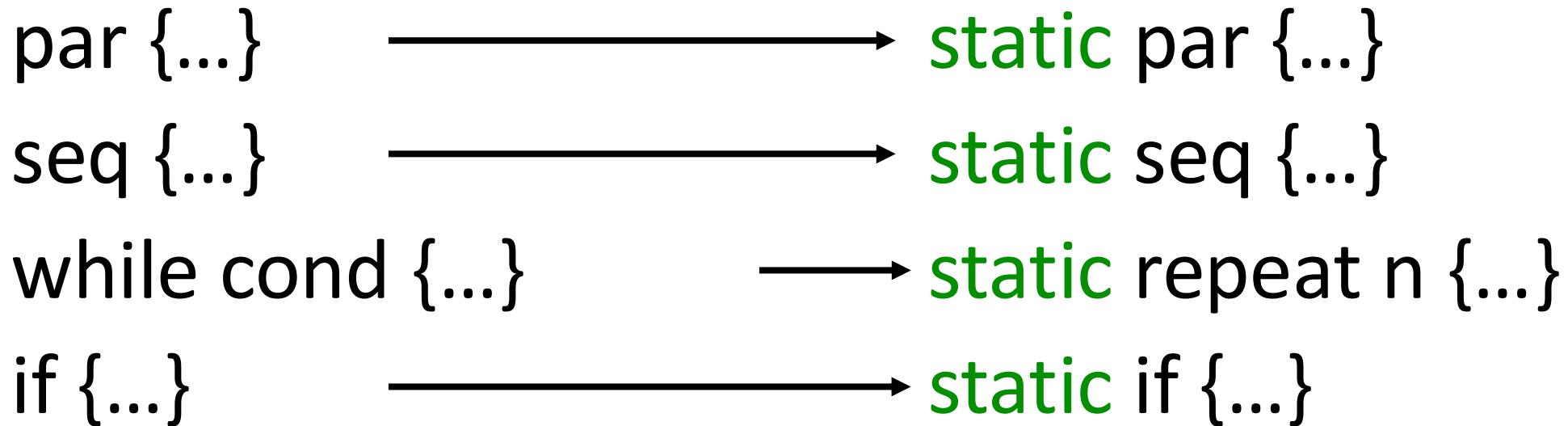


par { ... }	$\longrightarrow$	static par { ... }
seq { ... }	$\longrightarrow$	static seq { ... }
while cond { ... }	$\longrightarrow$	static repeat n { ... }
if { ... }	$\longrightarrow$	static if { ... }

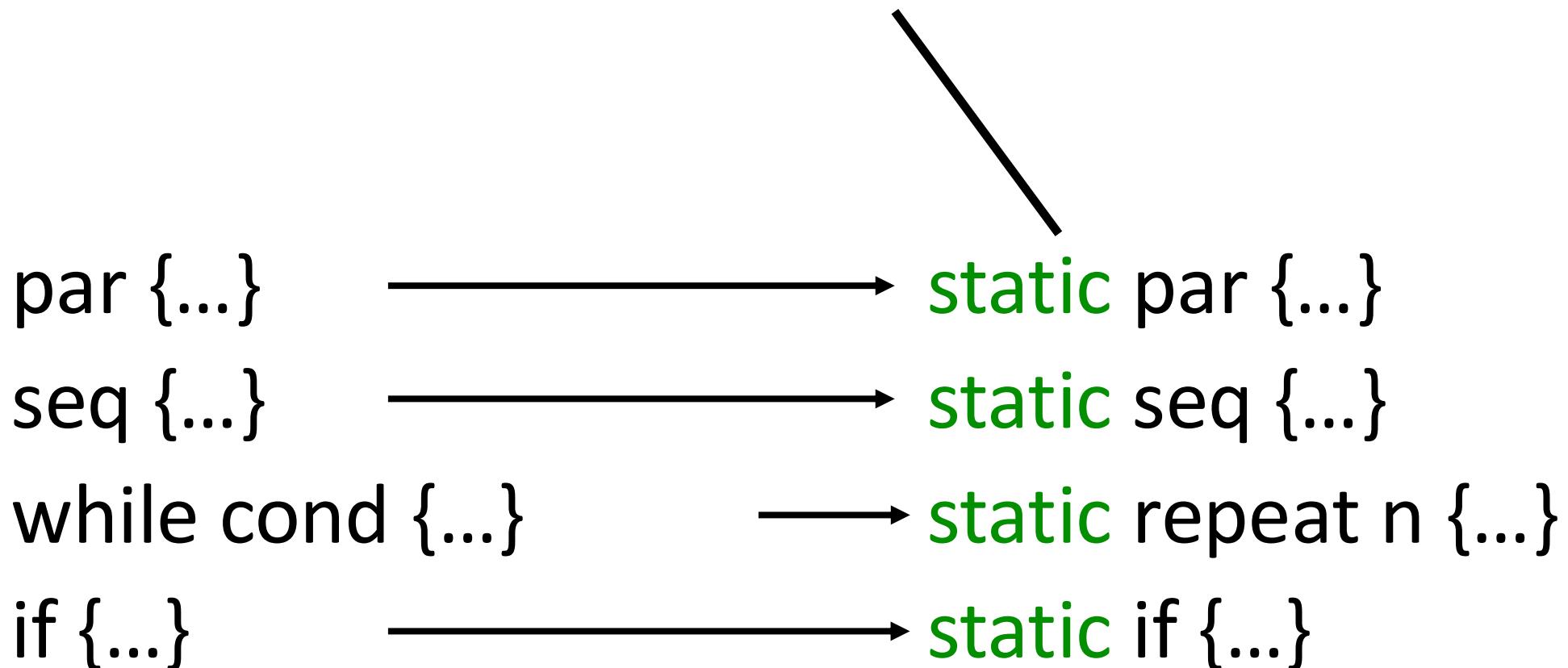
## no <n> annotation



no `<n>` annotation  
→ latency inferred by compiler



no `<n>` annotation  
→ latency inferred by compiler  
→ all “child” control is static



# Dynamic “ocean” with static “islands”

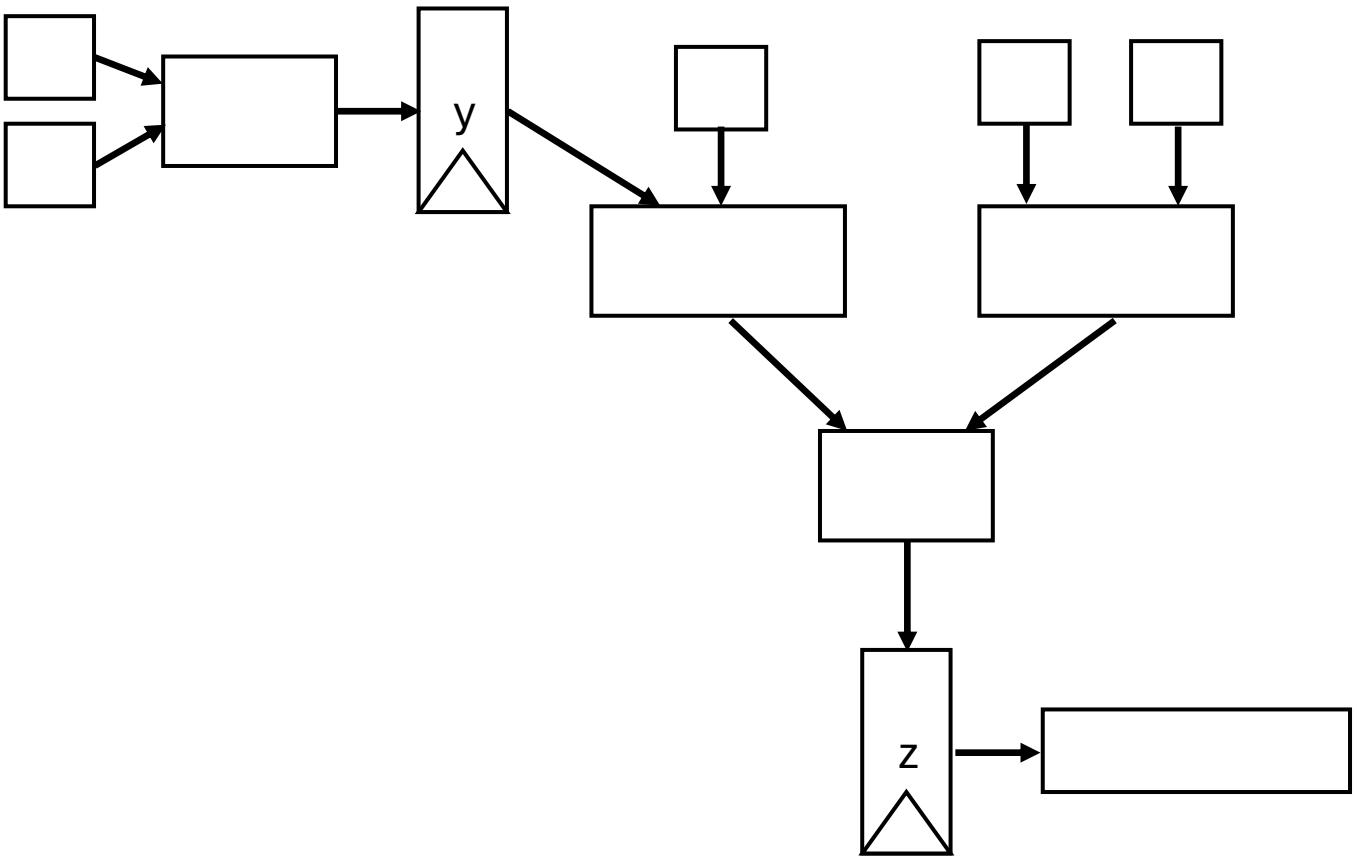
# Dynamic “ocean” with static “islands”

```
control {  
    seq {  
        A;  
  
        D;  
    }  
}
```

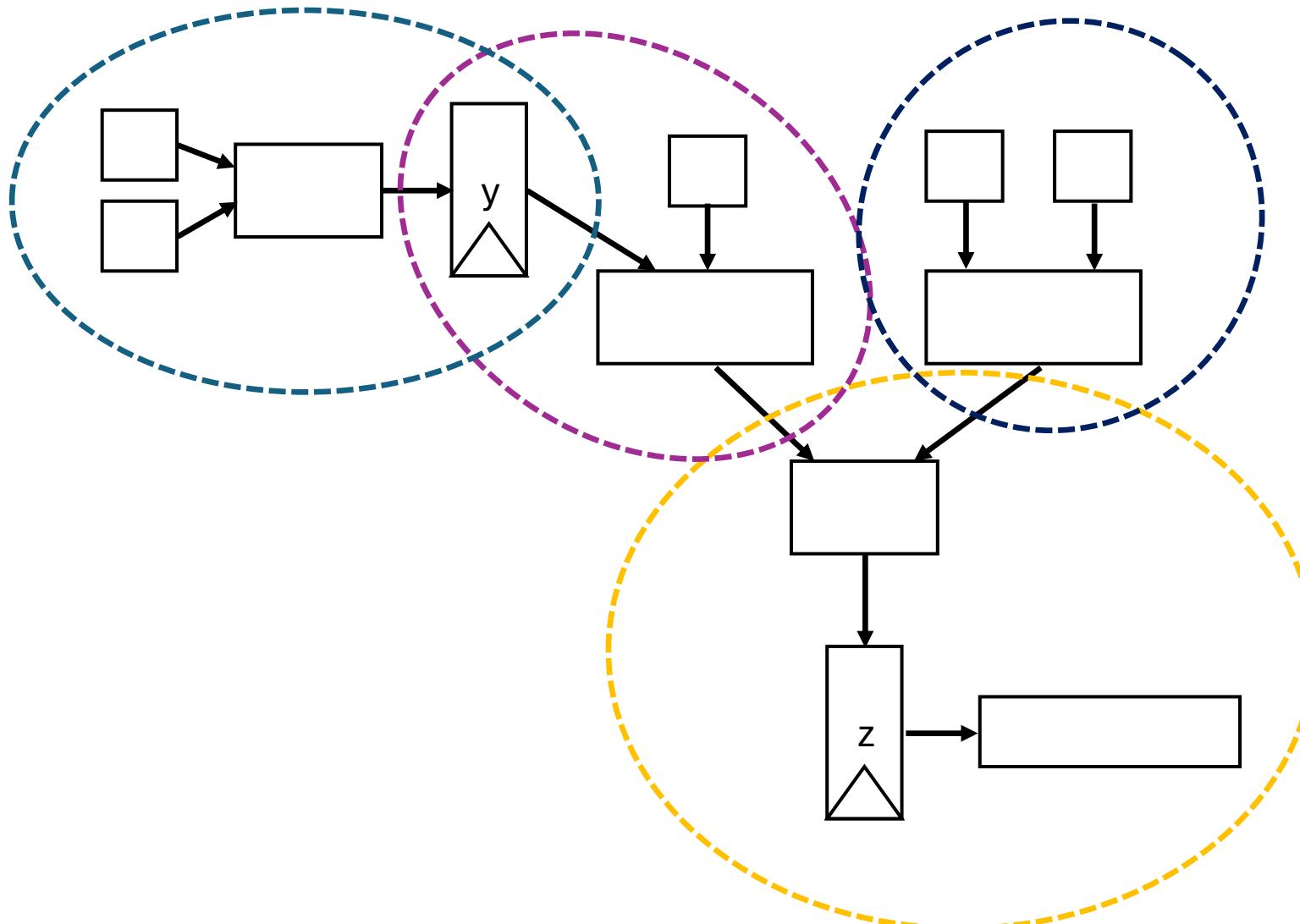
# Dynamic “ocean” with static “islands”

```
control {  
    seq {  
        A;  
    static par {  
        B;  
        C;  
    }  
    D;  
}  
}
```

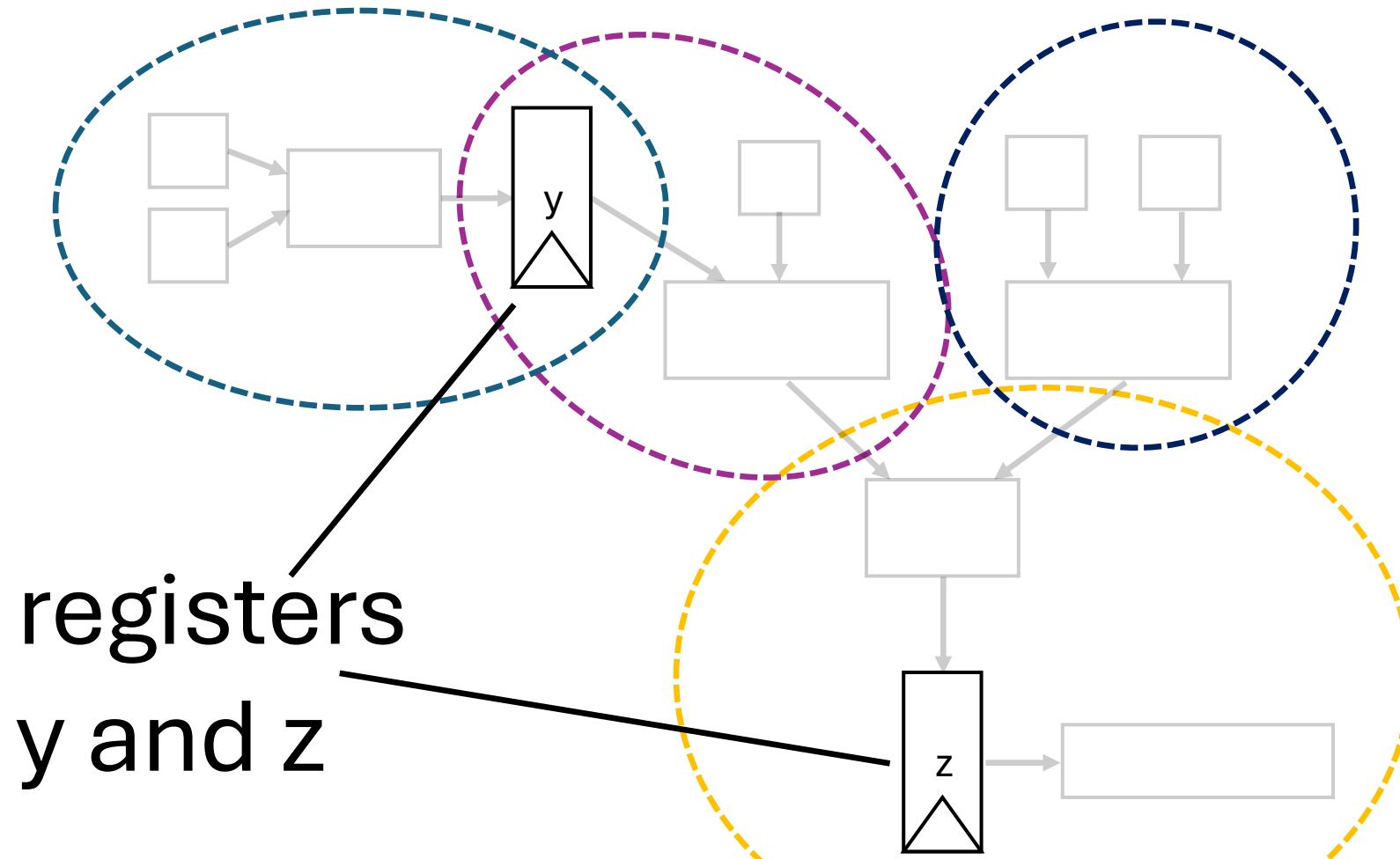
```
control {  
    seq {  
        A;  
    static par {  
        B;  
        C;  
    }  
    D;  
}  
}
```

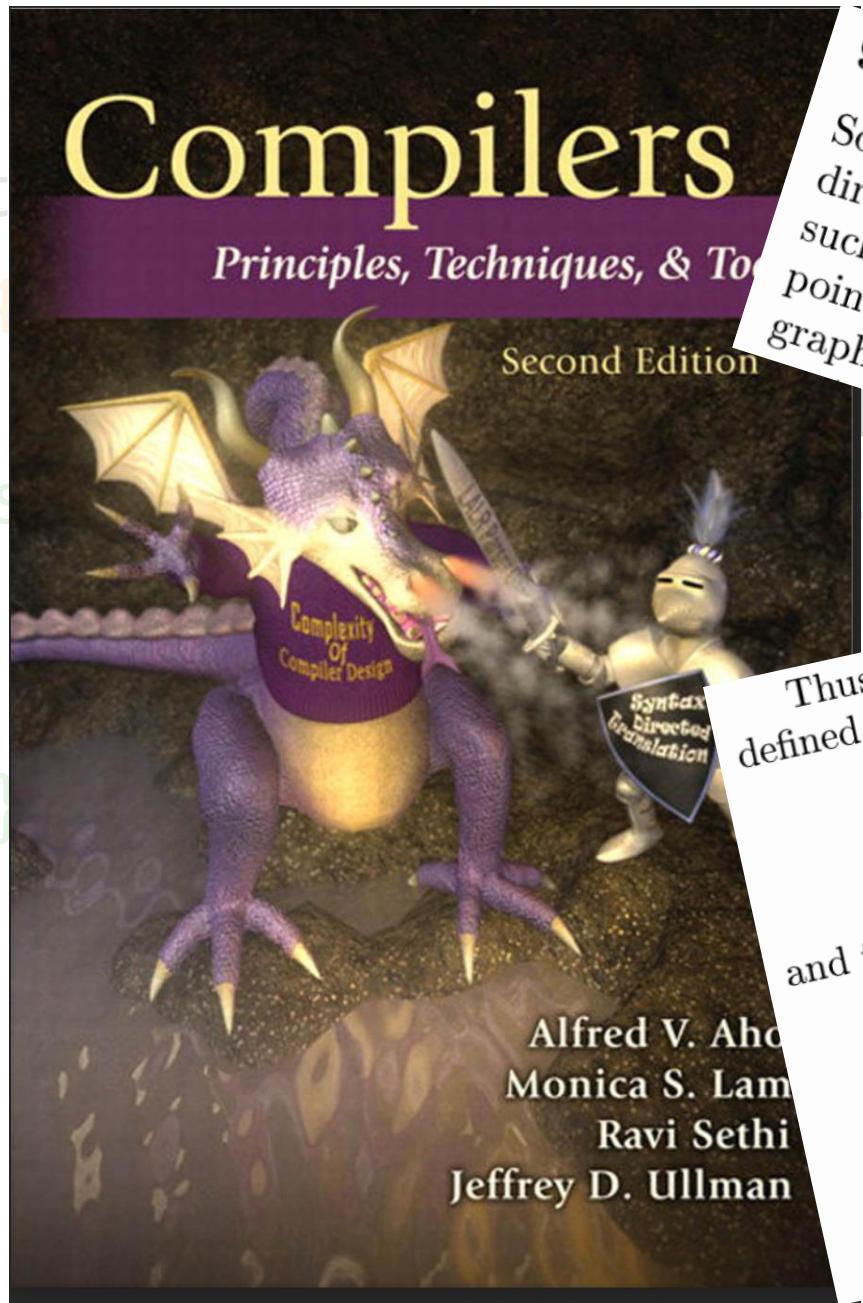


```
control {  
    seq {  
        static par {  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```



```
control {  
    seq {  
        static par {  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```





## 9.2.5 Live-Variable Analysis

Some code-improving transformations depend on information computed in the direction opposite to the flow of control in a program; we shall examine one such example now. In *live-variable analysis* we wish to know for variable  $x$  and point  $p$  whether the value of  $x$  at  $p$  could be used along some path in the flow graph starting at  $p$ . If so, we say  $x$  is *live* at  $p$ ; otherwise,  $x$  is *dead* at  $p$ .

Thus, the equations relating def and use are defined as follows:

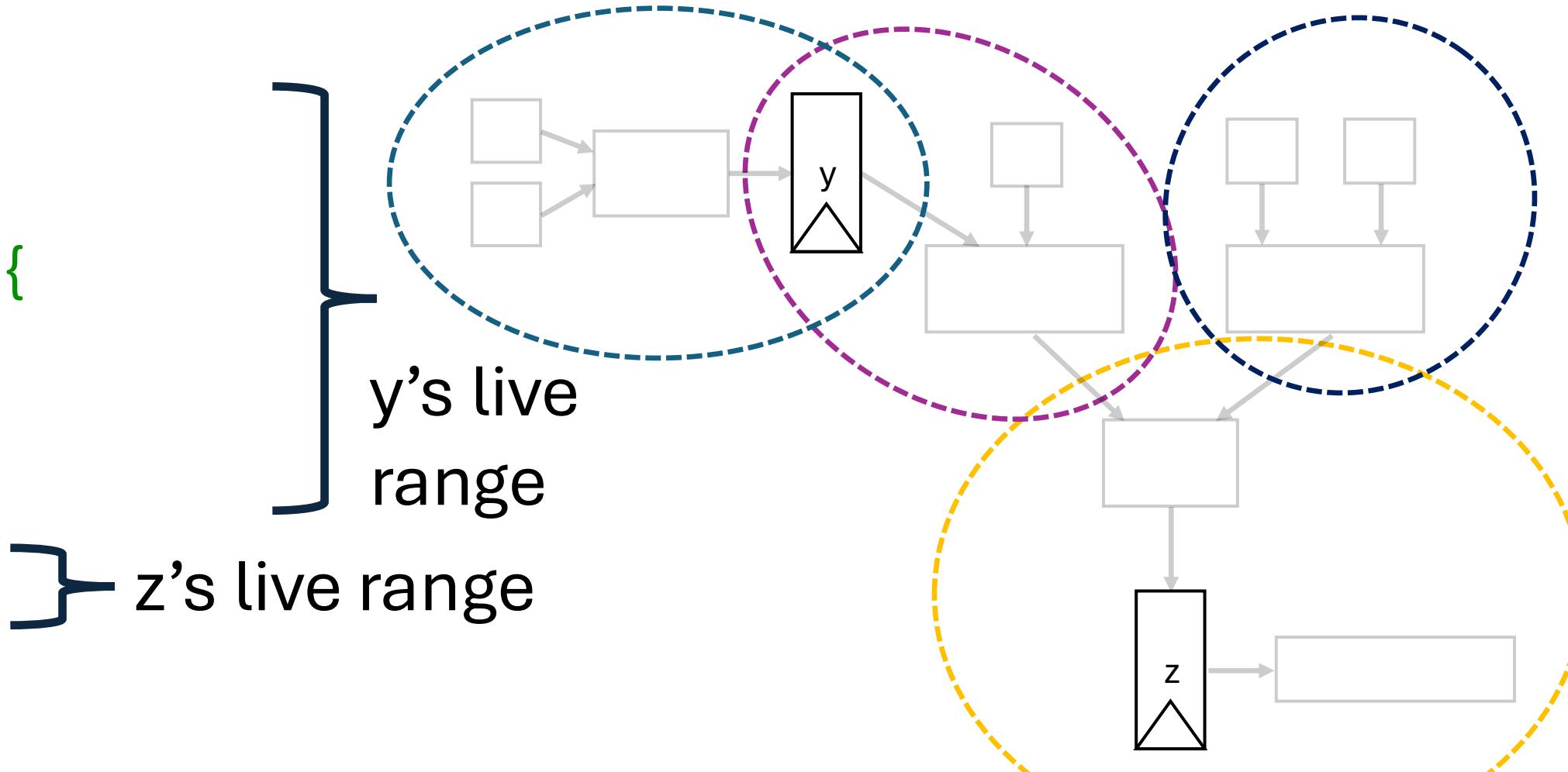
$$IN[EXIT] = \emptyset$$

and for all basic blocks  $B$  other than EXIT,

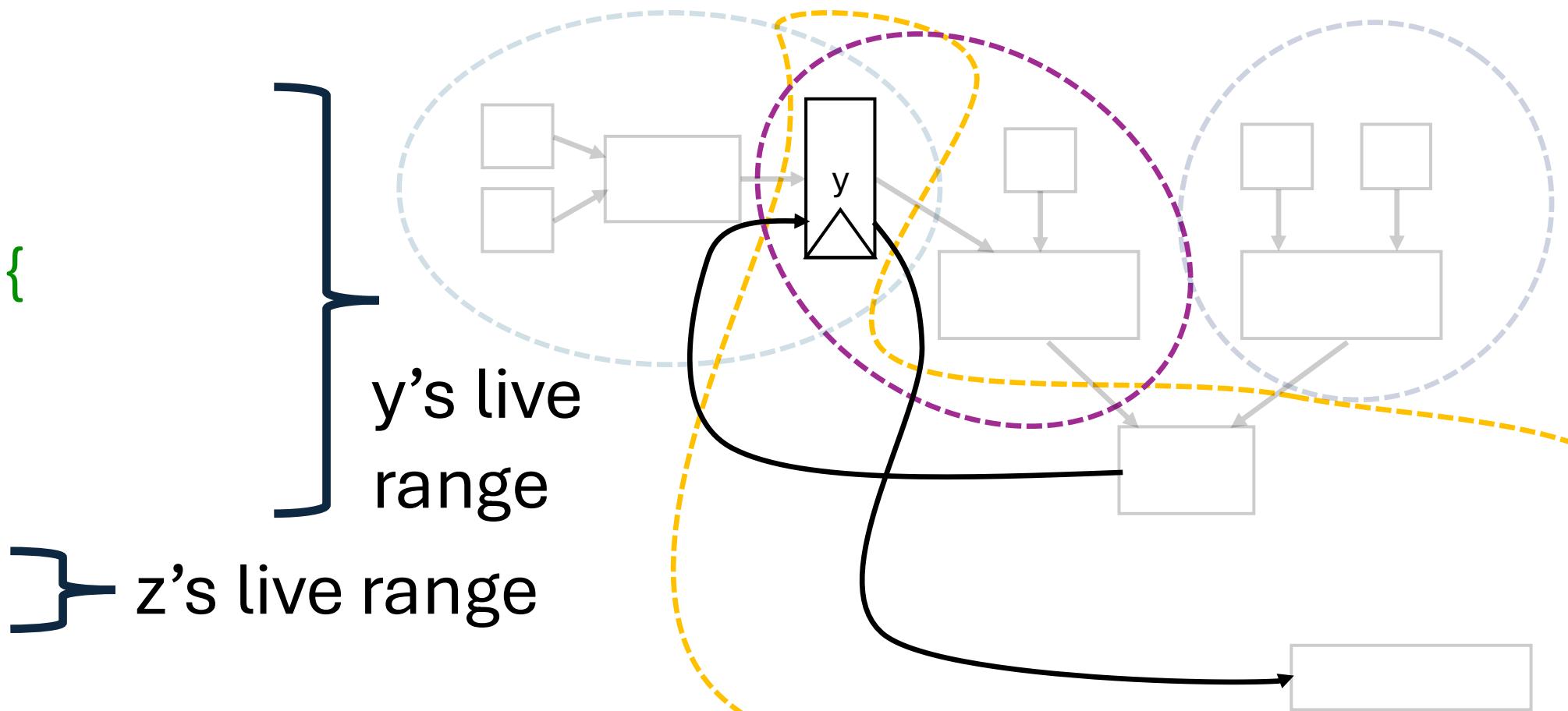
$$IN[B] = use_B \cup (OUT[B] - def_B)$$

$$OUT[B] = \bigcup_{S \text{ a successor of } B} IN[S]$$

```
control {  
    seq {  
        static par {  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```



```
control {  
    seq {  
        static par {  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

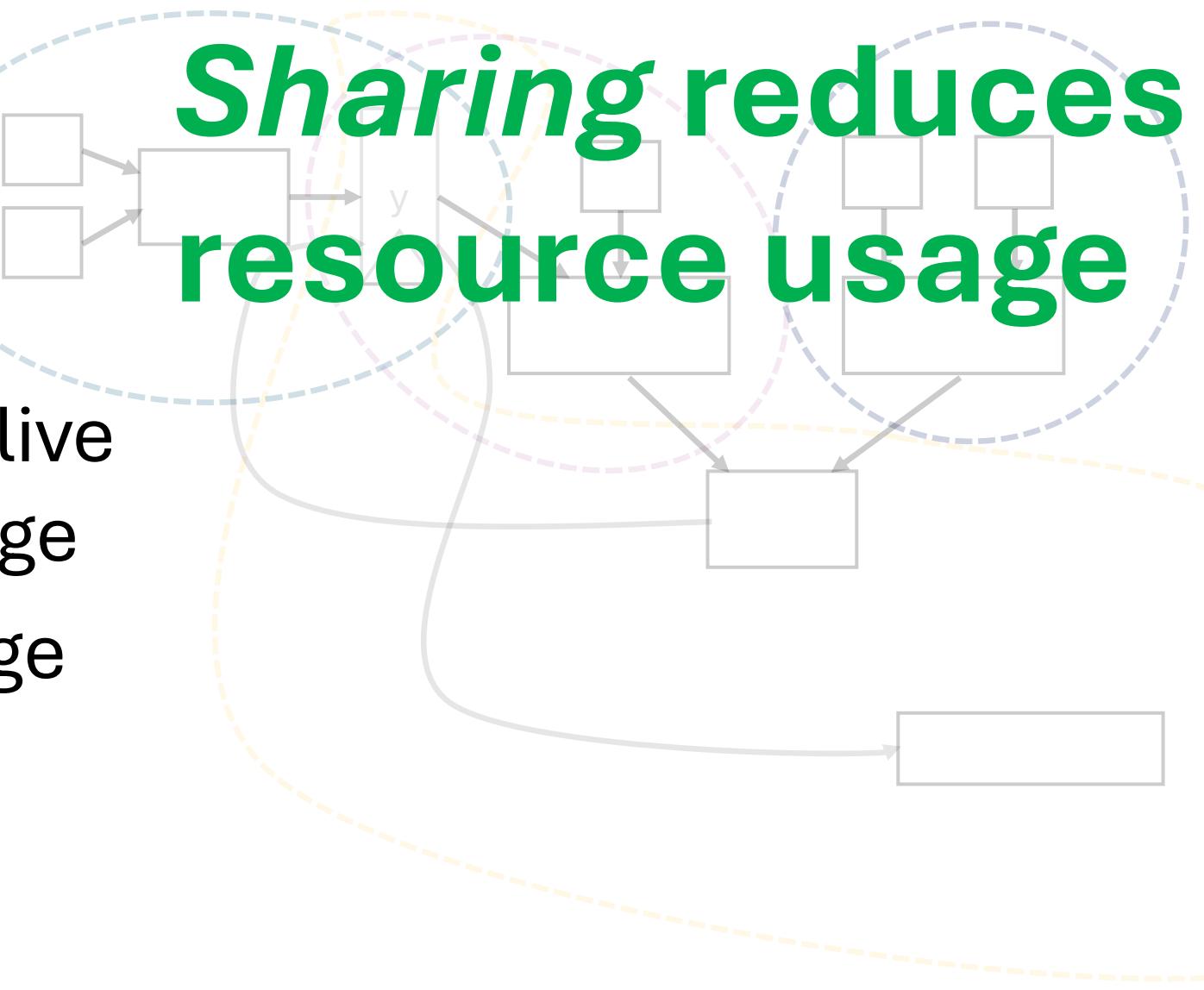


```
control {  
    seq {  
        static par {  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

} z's live range

y's live  
range

**Sharing reduces  
resource usage**



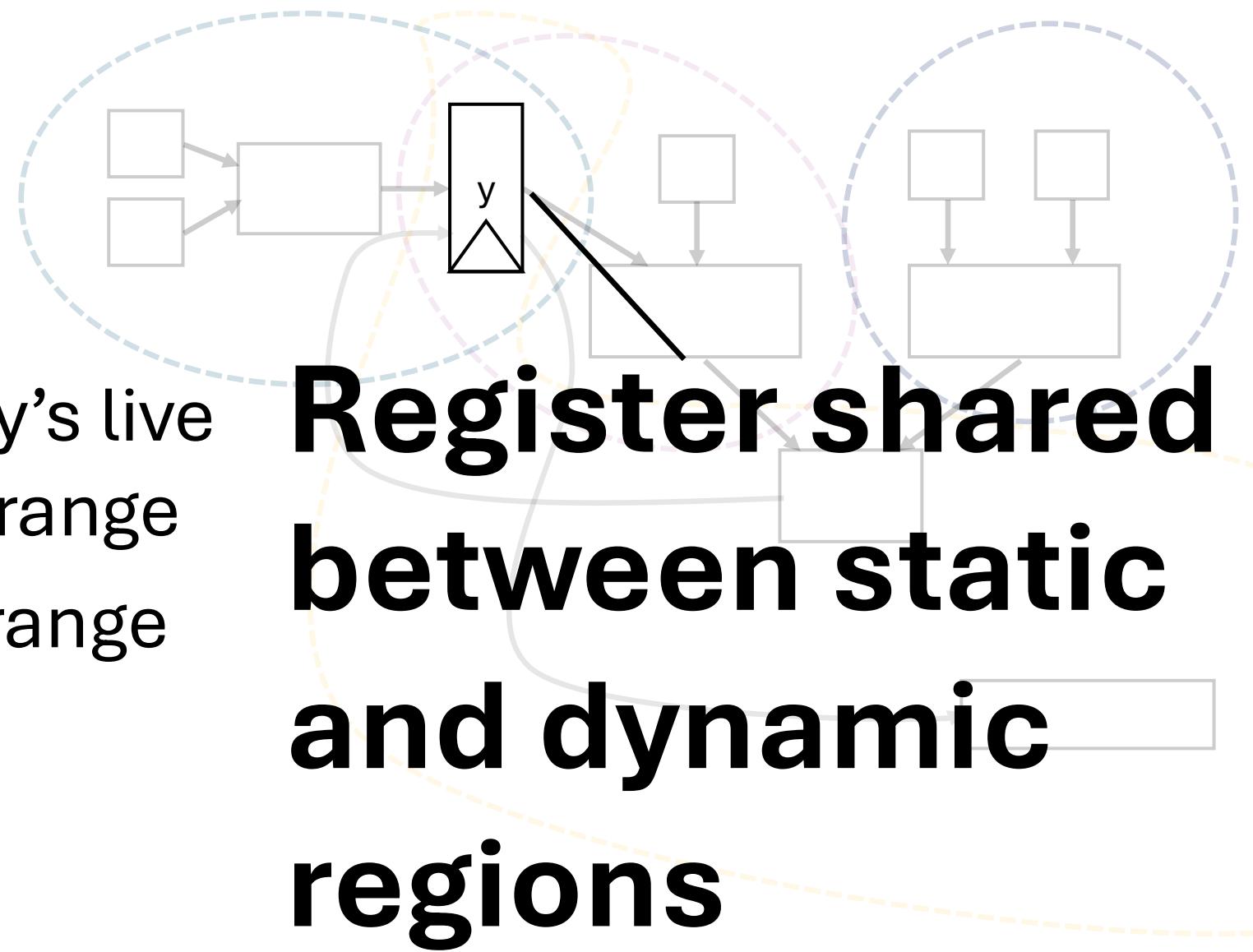
```
control {  
    seq {  
        static par {  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

**Analysis trivially  
spans static and  
dynamic code**

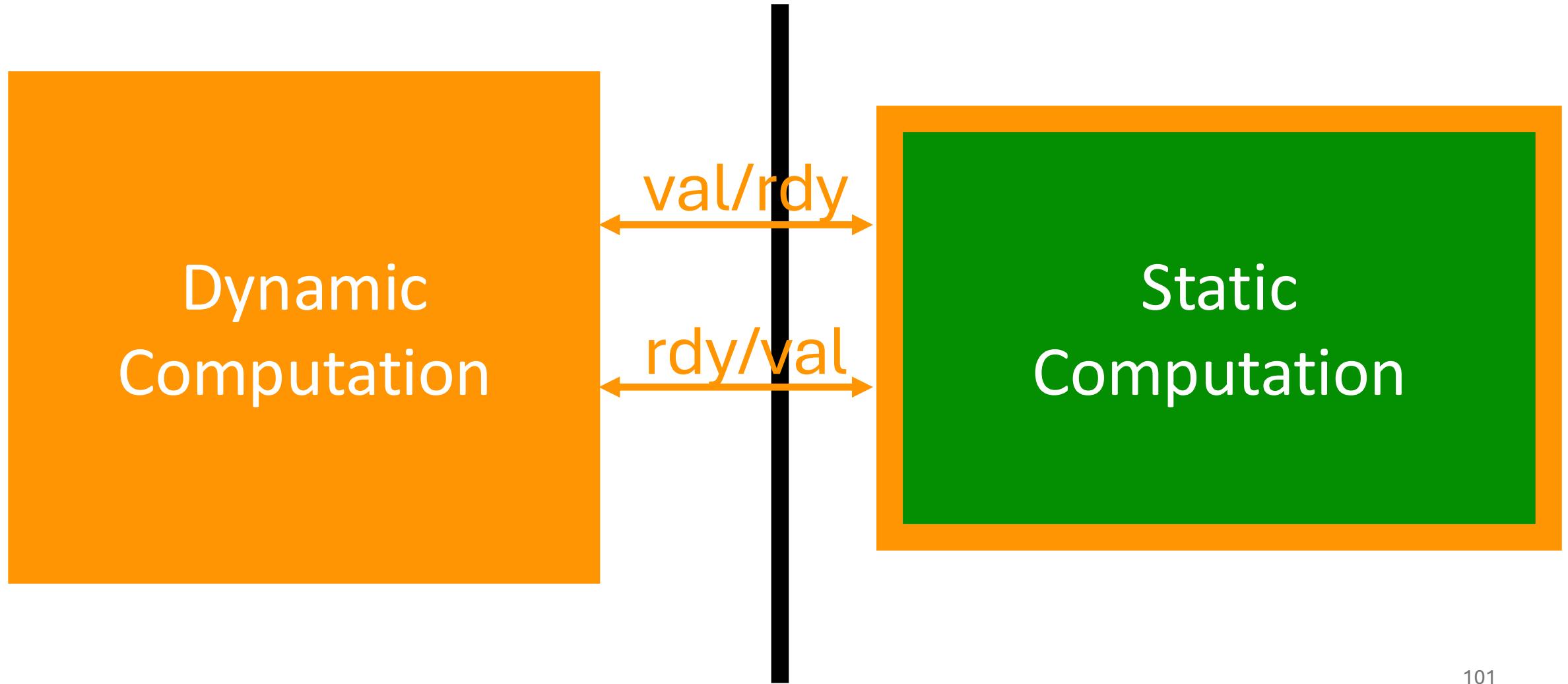
The diagram shows a control flow graph with nodes represented by rectangles. A large dashed oval encloses several nodes, indicating the analysis's scope. Inside this oval, a node labeled 'y's live range' is connected to another node. A bracket labeled 'z's live range' points to a yellow circle on the left, which is also connected to the same node. The text 'y's live range' is positioned near the top of the oval, and 'z's live range' is at the bottom right.

```
control {  
    seq {  
        static par {  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

} z's live range



# Reminder: Unclear how to accomplish this in a stratified IR

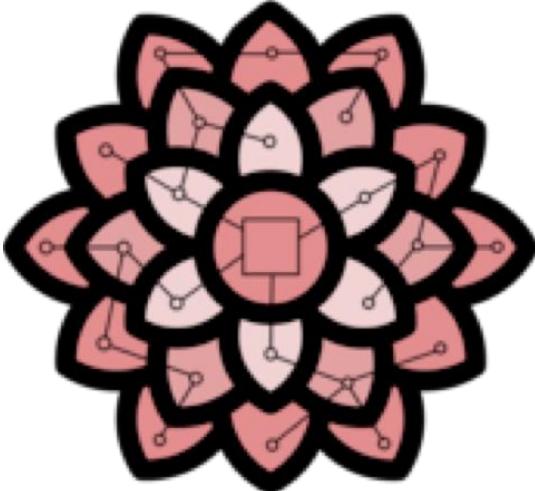


Key Idea #4: Unification lets  
you write compiler  
optimizations that were  
**difficult or impossible** before

# Evaluation



**MLIR**

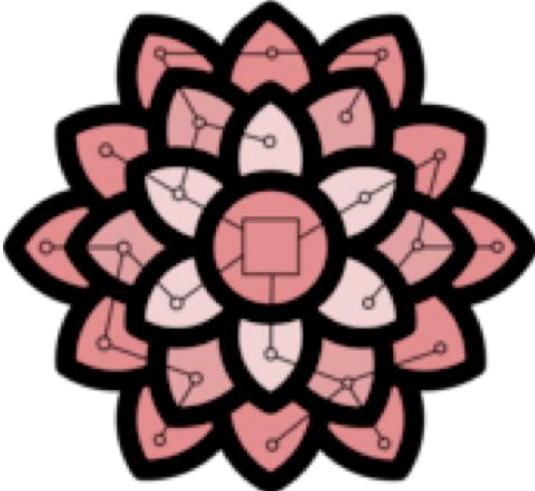


Your Next  
Language

**Calyx**



**MLIR**

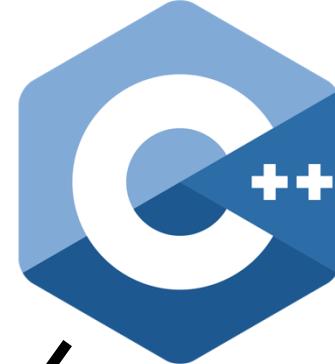
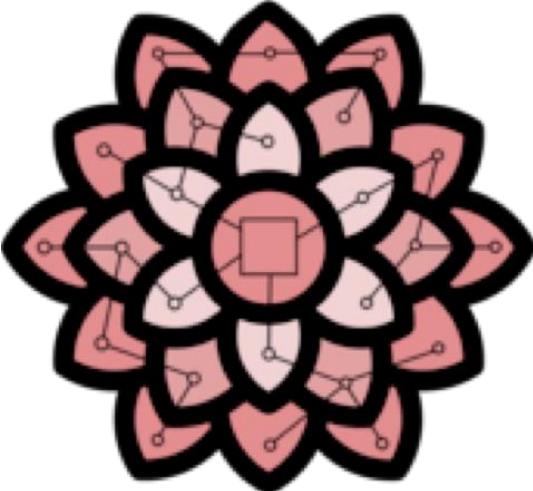


Your Next  
Language

Calyx → Piezo



**MLIR**

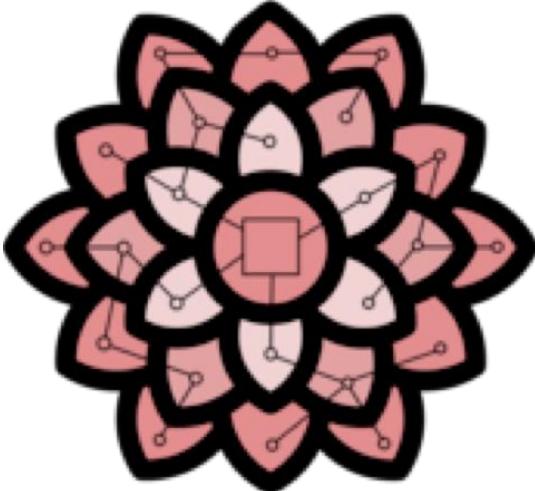


Your Next  
Language

Calyx  $\longleftrightarrow$  Piezo



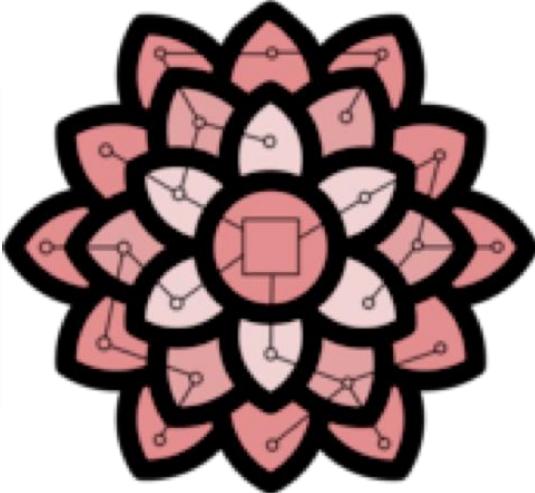
**MLIR**



Your Next  
Language

Calyx  $\longleftrightarrow$  Piezo

SystemVerilog

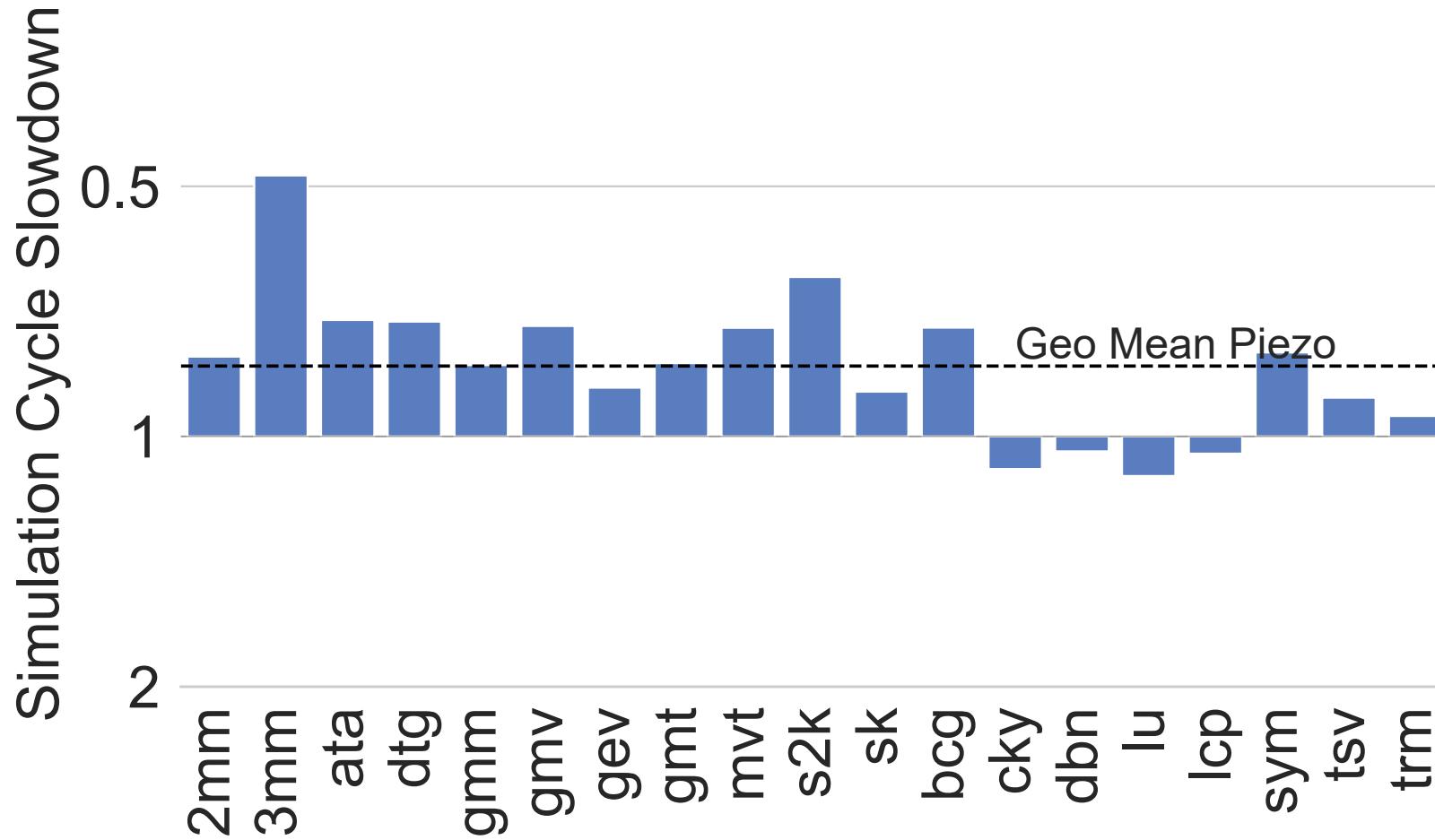


Your Next  
Language

Calyx  $\longleftrightarrow$  Piezo

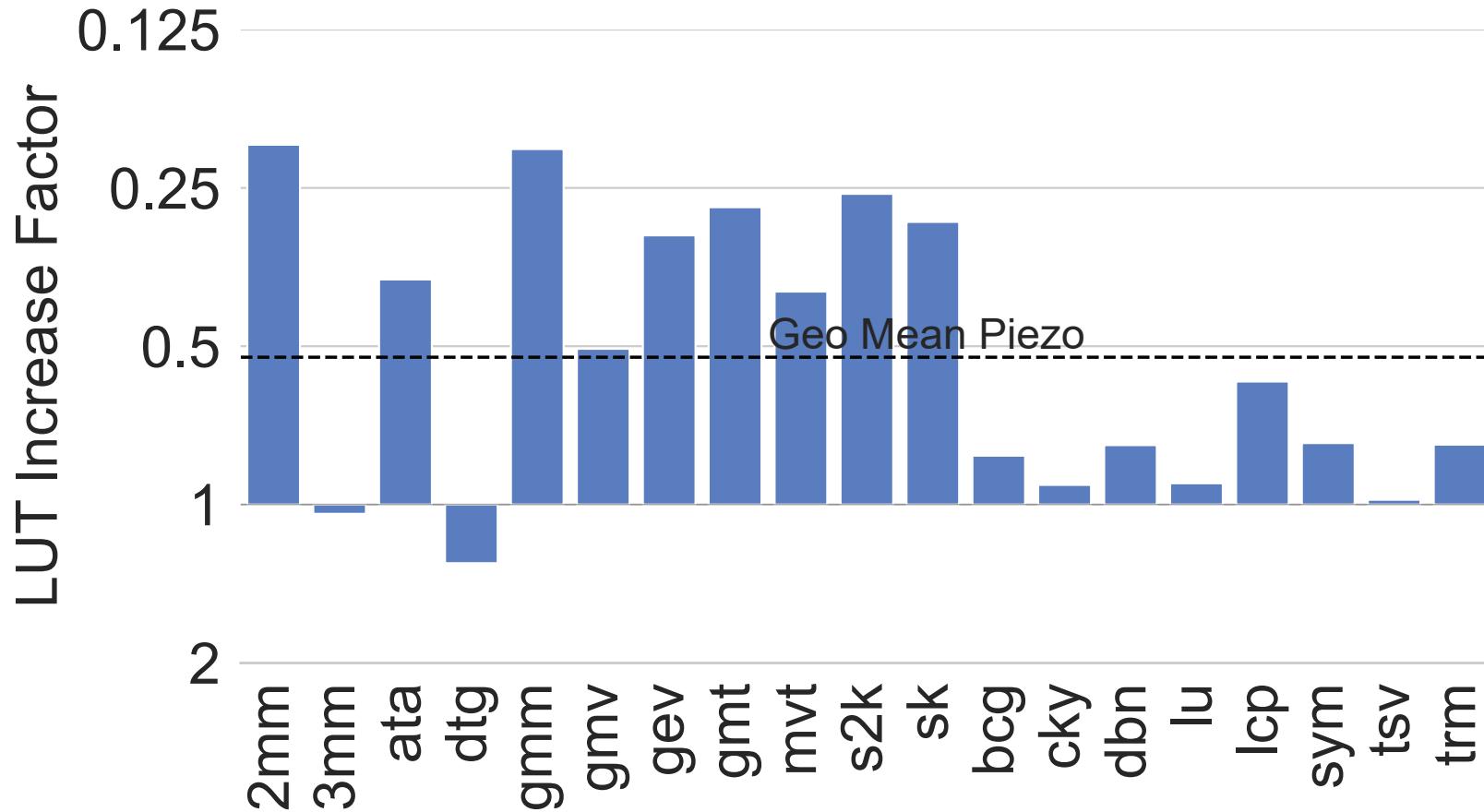
SystemVerilog

# Performance (Cycle Count)



Piezo  
Normalized  
to Calyx  
(Higher is  
better)

# Area (LUT)



Piezo  
Normalized  
to Calyx  
(Higher is  
better)

# Recap

Key Idea #1: Two paradigms (**static** and **dynamic**) for hardware compiler IRs with severe **trade-offs**

Key Idea #2: Existing compilers IRs **stratify** static and dynamic sections into **separate languages/representations**

Key Idea #3: Our work uses the idea of **semantic refinement** to **unify** static and dynamic sub-languages

Key Idea #4: Unification lets you write compiler optimizations that were **difficult** or **impossible** before

# Another Optimization

seq {A; B; C; D;}

seq {A; B; C; D;}

```
group A {  
    reg.in = 10;  
    reg.write_en = 1;  
    A[done] = reg.done;  
}
```

seq {A; B; C; D;}

```
group A {  
    reg.in = 10;  
    reg.write_en = 1;  
    A[done] = reg.done;  
}
```

Always takes 1  
cycle

seq {A<sub>1</sub>; B; C; D;}

```
static<1> group A {  
    reg.in = 10;  
    reg.write_en = 1;  
}
```

seq {A<sub>1</sub>; B; C; D;}

```
static<1> group A{  
    reg.in = 10;  
    reg.write_en = 1;  
}
```

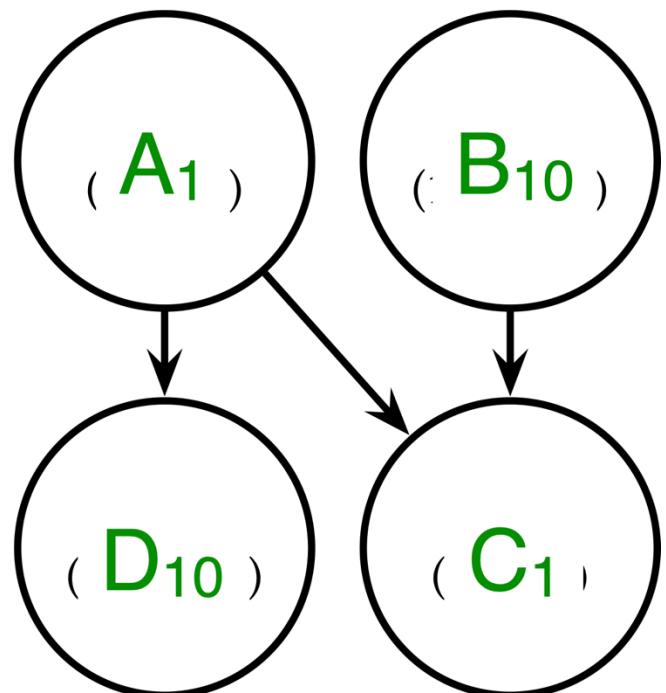
## *Promotion*

seq {A<sub>1</sub>; B; C; D;}

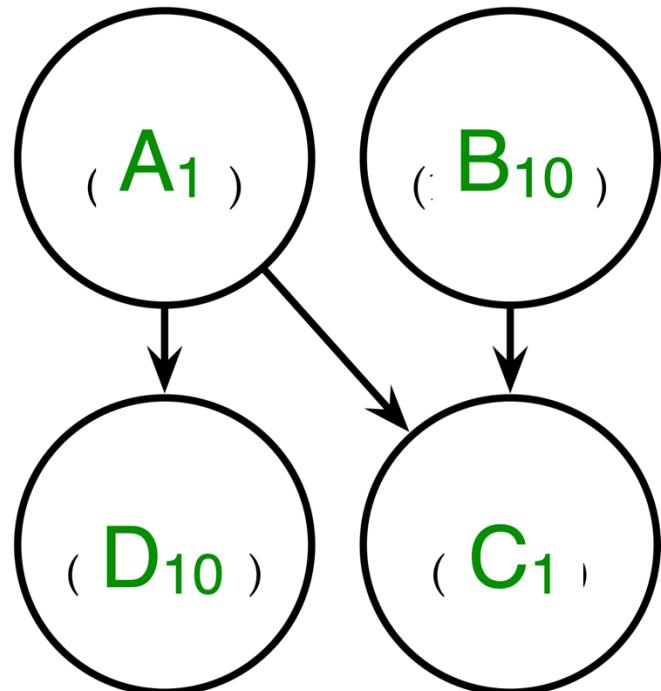
**seq {A<sub>1</sub>; B<sub>10</sub>; C<sub>1</sub>; D<sub>10</sub> ;}**

$\text{seq}_{22} \{A_1; B_{10}; C_1; D_{10};\}$

$\text{seq}_{22} \{A_1; B_{10}; C_1; D_{10};\}$



Dependency Graph



```
par11 {  
    seq11 {A1;D10;}  
    seq11 {B10;C1}  
}
```

Dependency Graph

```
par11 {  
    seq11 {A1;D10;}  
    seq11 {B10;C1}  
}
```

# *Compaction*

seq {A; B; C; D;}

seq {A; B; C; D;}



par<sub>11</sub> {  
  seq<sub>11</sub> {A<sub>1</sub>;D<sub>10</sub>;}  
  seq<sub>11</sub> {B<sub>10</sub>;C<sub>1</sub>;}  
}

```
seq {A; B; C; D;}
```



*Refinement*

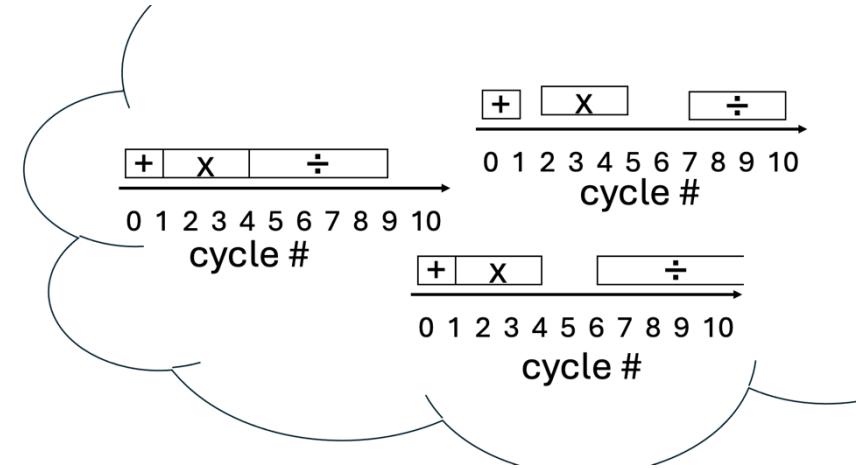
```
par11 {  
    seq11 {A1;D10;}  
    seq11 {B10;C1;}  
}
```

seq {A; B; C; D;}



*Refinement*

par<sub>11</sub> {  
  seq<sub>11</sub> {A<sub>1</sub>;D<sub>10</sub>;}  
  seq<sub>11</sub> {B<sub>10</sub>;C<sub>1</sub>;}  
}

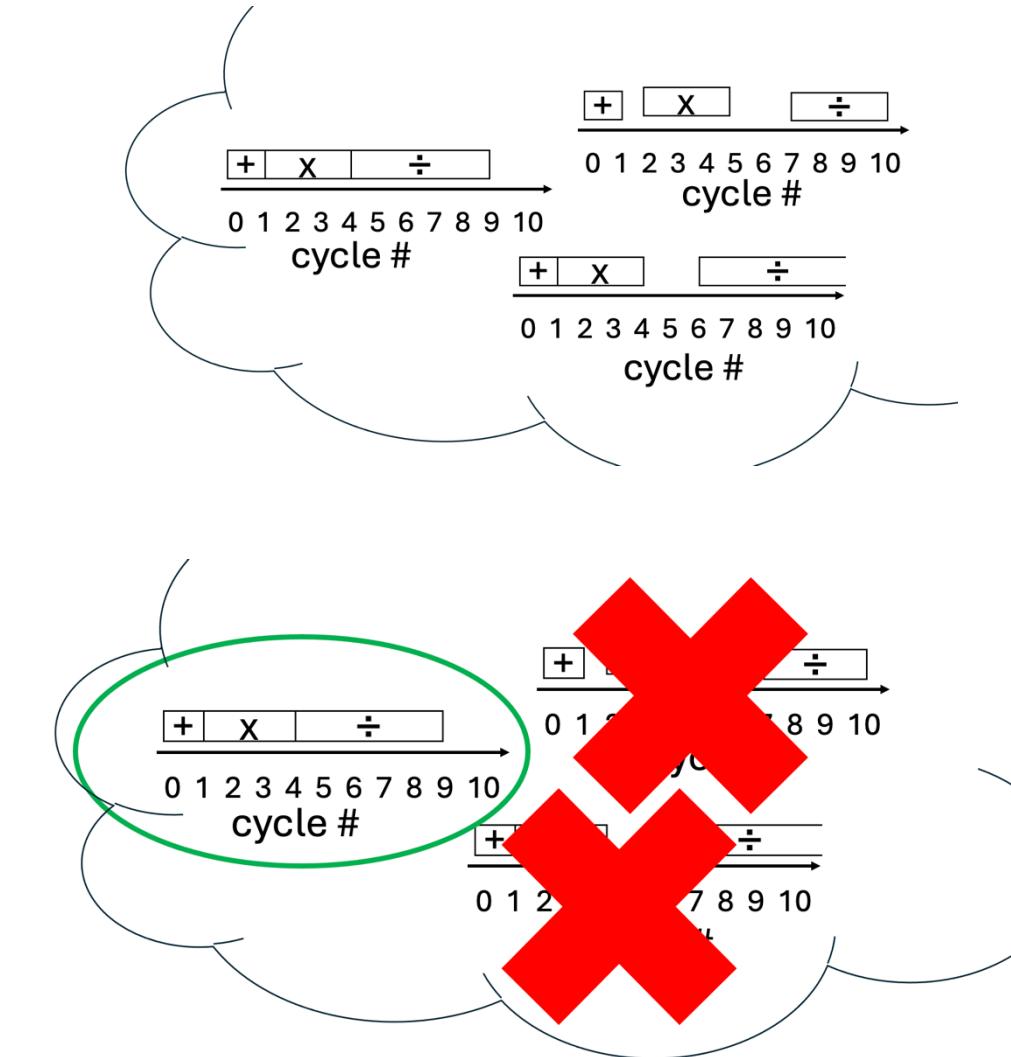


seq {A; B; C; D;}



*Refinement*

par<sub>11</sub> {  
  seq<sub>11</sub> {A<sub>1</sub>;D<sub>10</sub>;}  
  seq<sub>11</sub> {B<sub>10</sub>;C<sub>1</sub>;}  
}



# How does this unified approach help us?