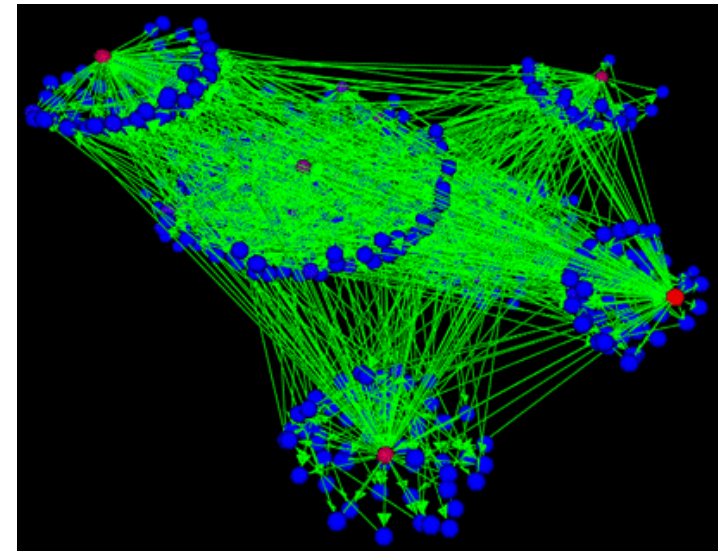


# PL, meet Networking

**Colin Scott**, Andreas Wundsam, Scott Shenker

$\vdash \{A\} c \{B\}$



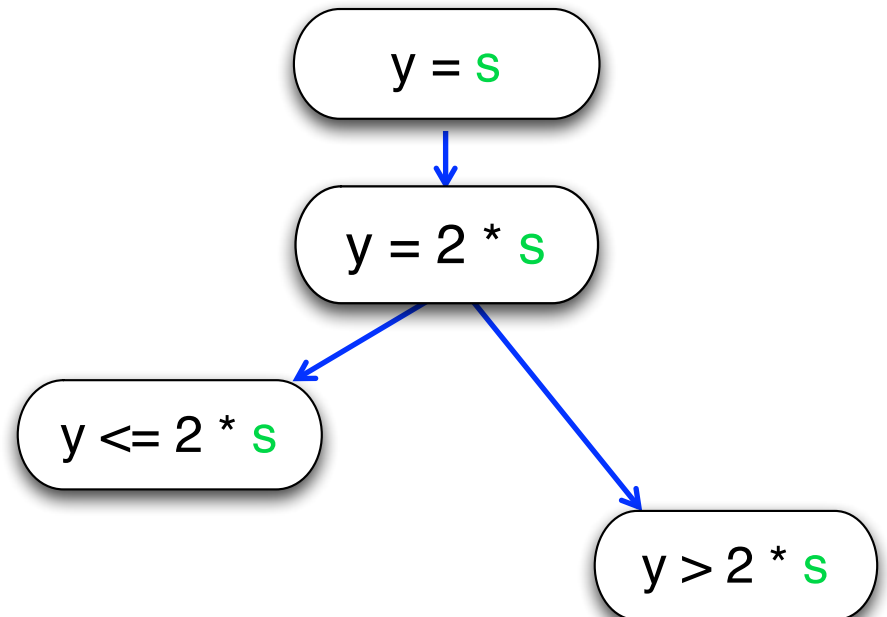
# Overview

- ▣ Symbolic execution -> detect policy-violations
- ▣ Axiomatic semantics -> prove correctness

# Symbolic Execution

■ Goal: Which **code path** will be taken for a given input?

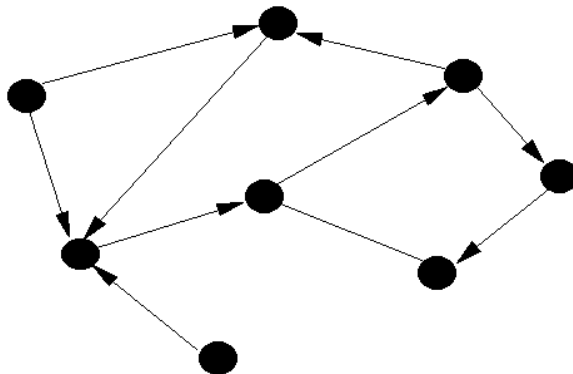
```
y = read()  
y = 2 * y  
if (y <= 12)  
    fail()  
else  
    print("OK")
```



# Formalism for Networking

Networks:

$$G = (V, E)$$



Packets:

$$h \in \{0,1\}^L = H$$

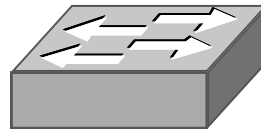
0110110101101  
1001101110110  
10011110001...

\* Peyman et al., Header Space Analysis, NSDI '12

# Formalism for Networking

Routers:

$$T : (H \times E) \rightarrow (H \times E_{\phi})$$



# Formalism for Networking

Configuration:

Packet Forwarding:

$$\Psi = \{ \begin{matrix} T_1 \\ \dots \\ T_n \end{matrix} \quad \Psi^k(h, e) = \Psi(\dots \Psi(\Psi(h, e))\dots)$$

\* Peyman et al., Header Space Analysis, NSDI '12

# Symbolic Execution For Networking

□ Goal: Which **network path** will be taken for a given input?

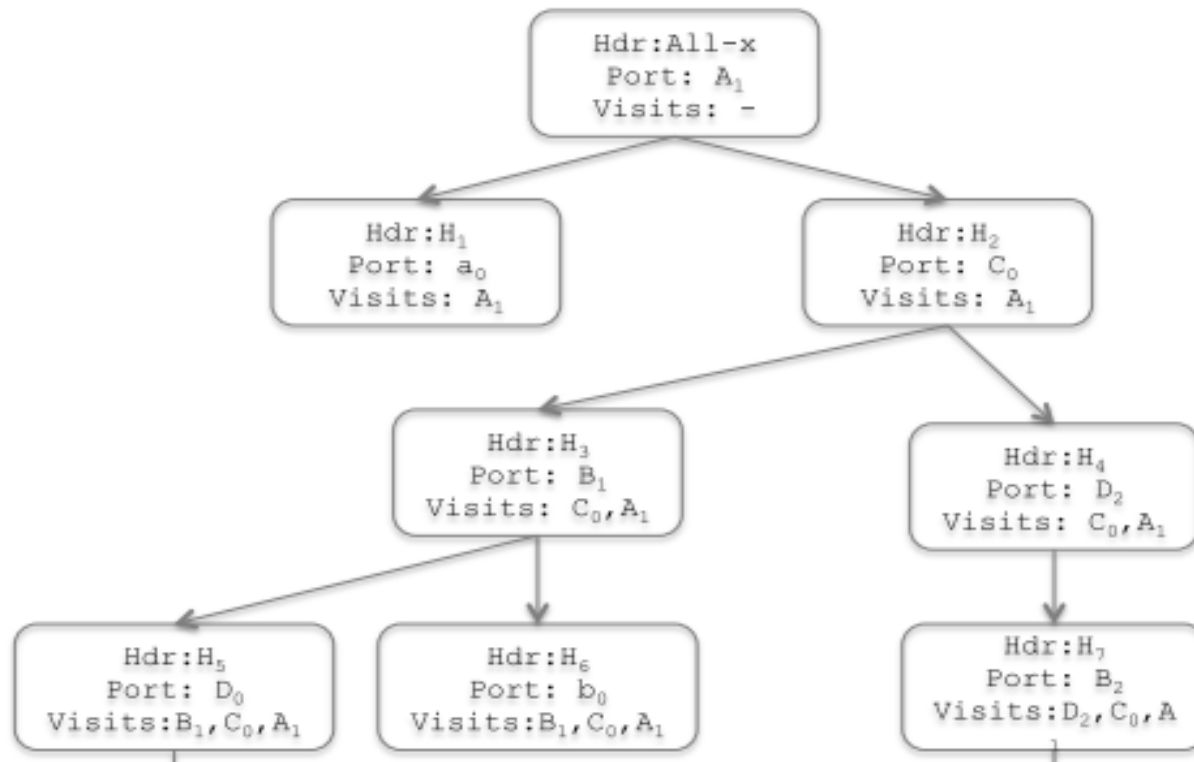
# Symbolic Execution For Networking

- Compute  $\Psi$  from routing tables
- For each host:
  - Insert symbolic packet  $x^L$
  - Iteratively apply  $\Psi$

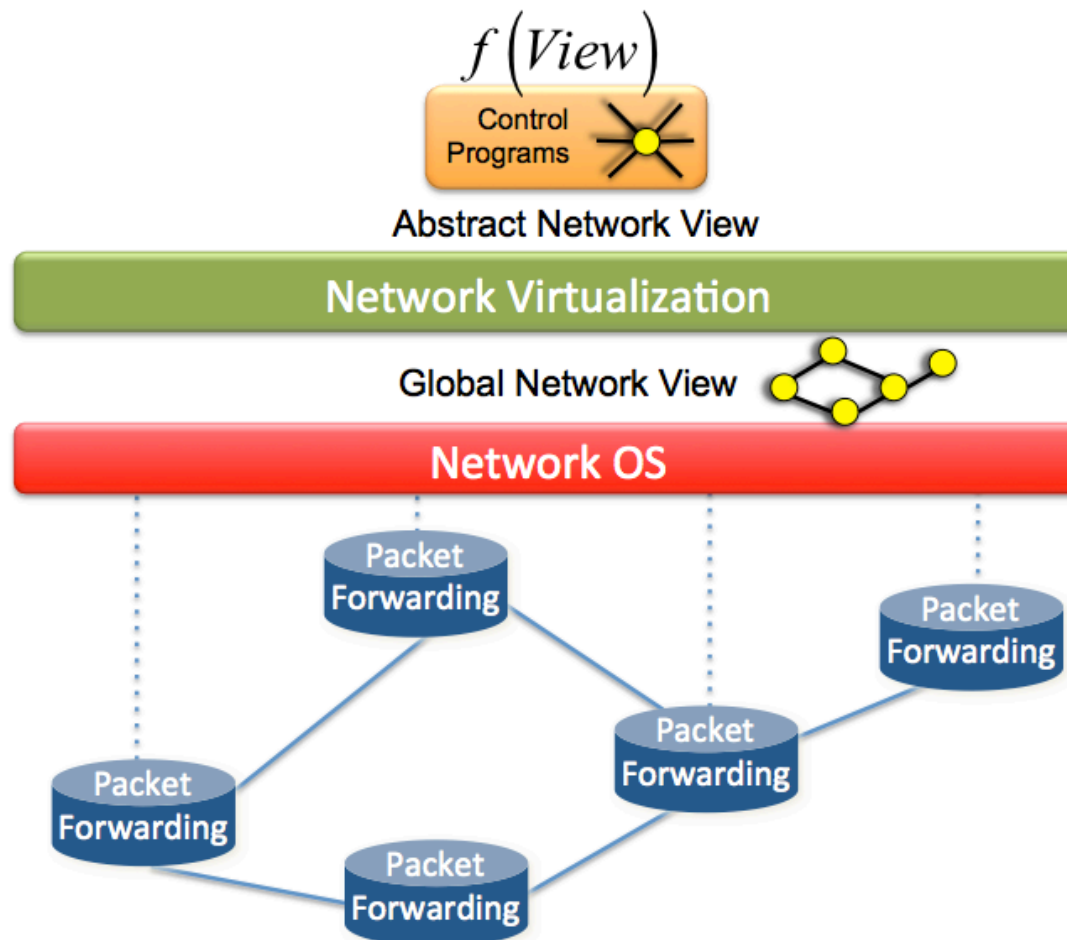


# Symbolic Execution For Networking

## ■ End Result: Propagation Graph

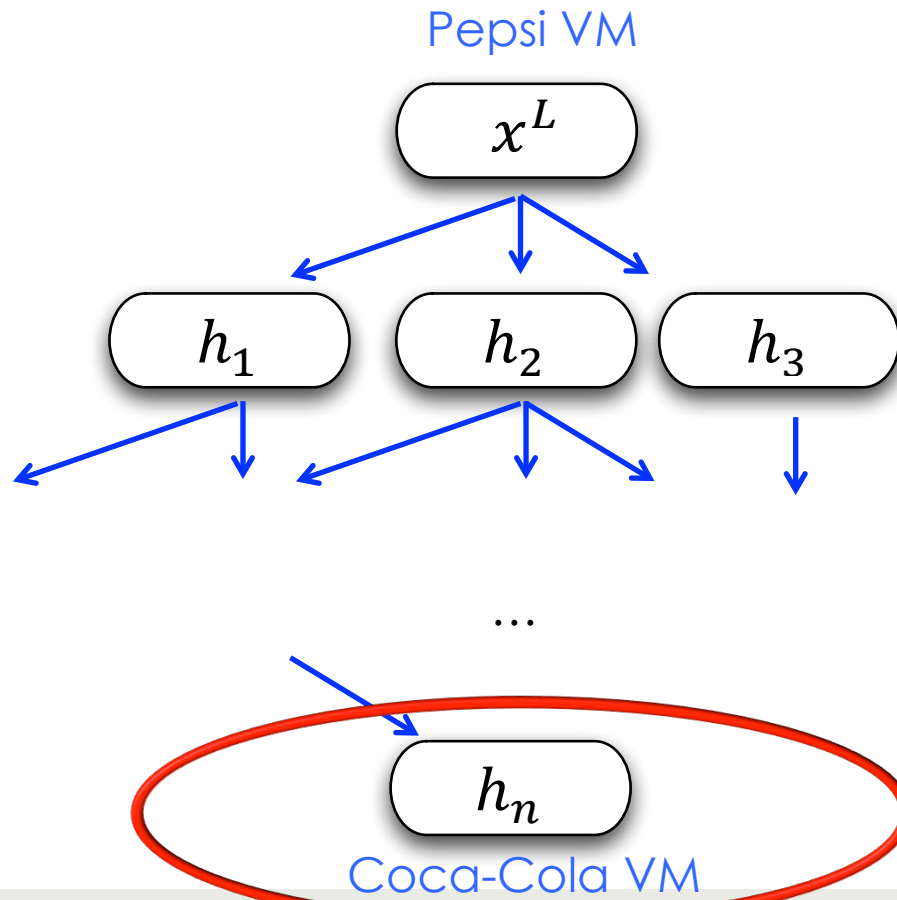


# Brief Aside: Software-Defined Networking



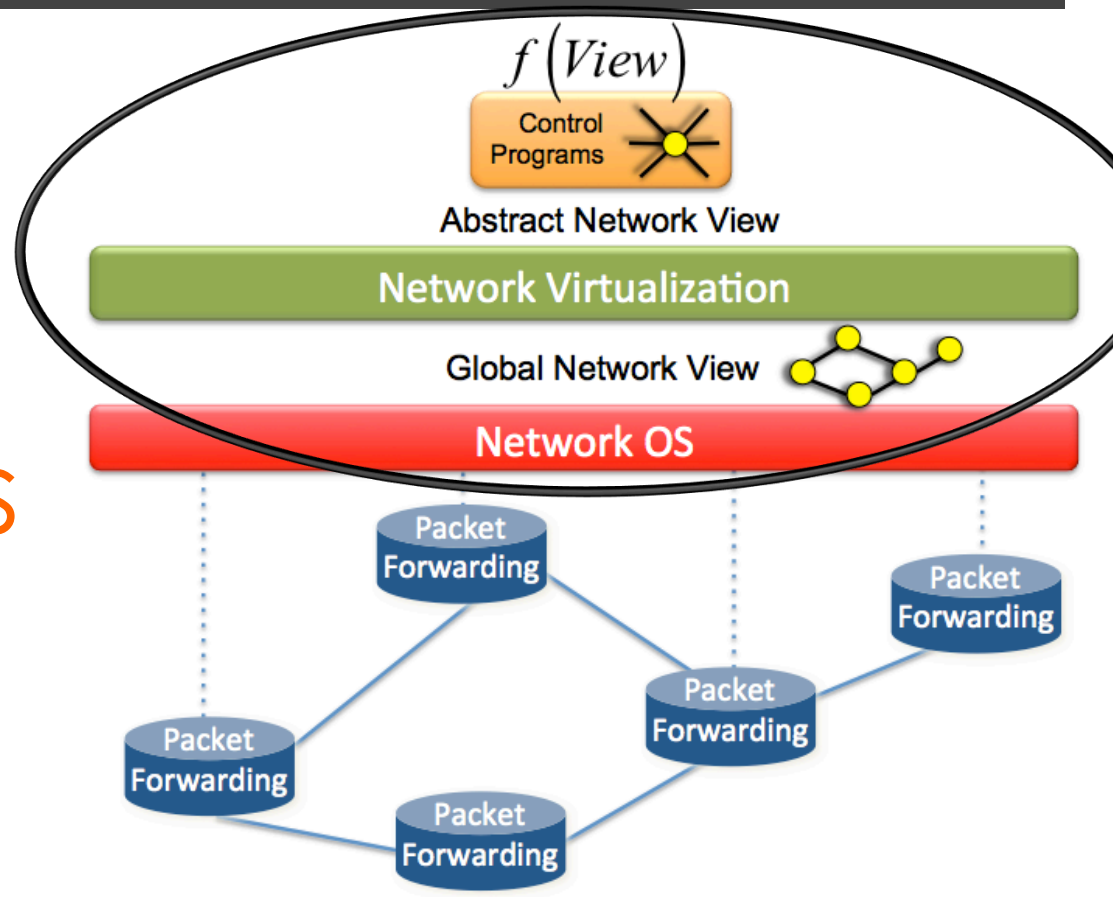
# Example Policy-Violation

□ “Pepsi can’t talk to Coca-Cola”



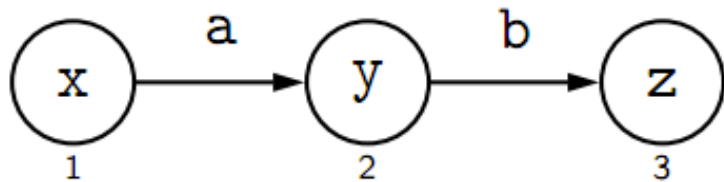
# Proving Correctness

□ Can we  
prove  
correctness  
of network  
software?

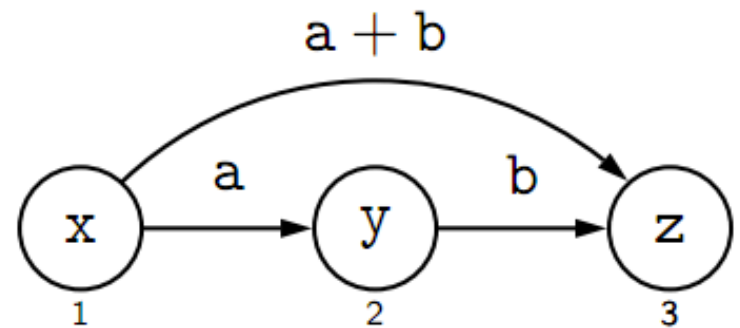


# GP Graph Programming

`bridge(a, b, x, y, z: int)`



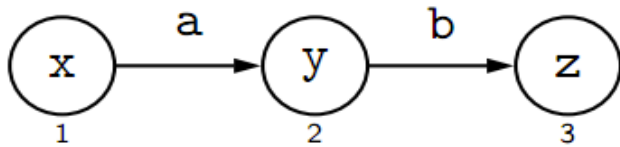
$\Rightarrow$



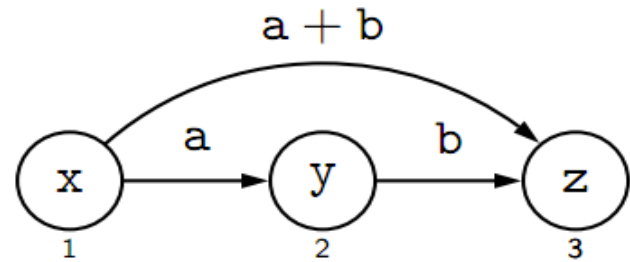
`where not edge(1, 3)`

# GP Graph Programming

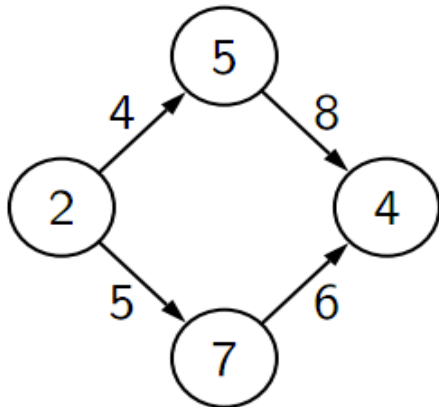
`bridge(a, b, x, y, z: int)`



$\Rightarrow$



where `not edge(1, 3)`

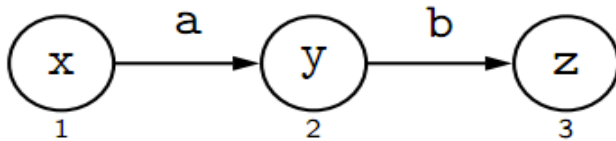


$\xrightarrow{\text{bridge}}$

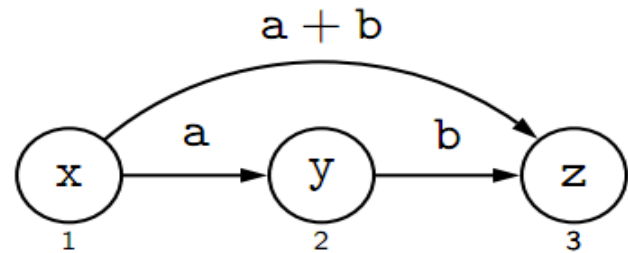
\* Poskitt, Plump, Hoare Style Verification of Graph Programs

# GP Graph Programming

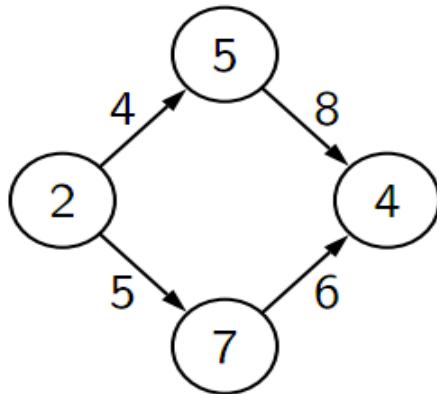
`bridge(a, b, x, y, z: int)`



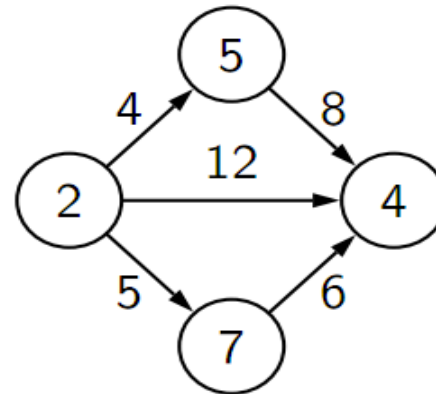
$\Rightarrow$



where `not edge(1, 3)`



$\xrightarrow{\text{bridge}}$

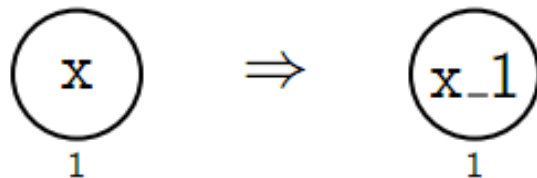


\* Poskitt, Plump, Hoare Style Verification of Graph Programs

# GP Graph Coloring

```
main = init!; inc!
```

```
init(x: int)
```



```
inc(i, k, x, y: int)
```





# Proving Correctness

- Goal: Hoare-style axiomatic semantics to prove graph programs correct

# Proving Correctness

- ▣ Assertions can range over anything (not just integers and booleans)

“there exists at least one non-looping edge”

- $\exists ( \textcircled{x} \xrightarrow{k} \textcircled{y} )$

# Axiomatic Semantics

Sequential composition.

$$[\text{comp}] \frac{\{c\} P \{e\} \quad \{e\} Q \{d\}}{\{c\} P; Q \{d\}}$$

Rule of consequence.

$$[\text{cons}] \quad c \implies c' \frac{\{c'\} P \{d'\}}{\{c\} P \{d\}} d' \implies d$$

# Axiomatic Semantics

As long as possible iteration.

$$[!]\frac{\{inv\} \mathcal{R} \{inv\}}{\{inv\} \mathcal{R}! \{inv \wedge \neg \text{App}(\mathcal{R})\}}$$

# Axiomatic Semantics

Rule schema application.

$$[\text{rule}] \frac{}{\{ \text{Pre}(r, c) \} \ r \ \{ c \}}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{[rule]} \frac{}{\{\text{Pre}(\text{init}, e)\} \text{ init } \{e\}} \\
\text{[cons]} \frac{}{\{e\} \text{ init } \{e\}} \\
\text{[!]} \frac{}{\{e\} \text{ init! } \{e \wedge \neg \text{App}(\{\text{init}\})\}} \\
\text{[cons]} \frac{}{\{c\} \text{ init! } \{d\}} \\
\text{[comp]} \frac{}{\{c\} \text{ init!; inc! } \{d \wedge \neg \text{App}(\{\text{inc}\})\}}
\end{array}
\qquad
\begin{array}{c}
\text{[rule]} \frac{}{\{\text{Pre}(\text{inc}, d)\} \text{ inc } \{d\}} \\
\text{[cons]} \frac{}{\{d\} \text{ inc } \{d\}} \\
\text{[!]} \frac{}{\{d\} \text{ inc! } \{d \wedge \neg \text{App}(\{\text{inc}\})\}}
\end{array}$$

$$c = \neg \exists (\textcircled{a} \mid \text{type}(a) \neq \text{int})$$

$$d = \forall (\textcircled{a}, \exists (\textcircled{a} \mid a = b\_c \wedge \text{type}(b, c) = \text{int}))$$

$$e = \forall (\textcircled{a}_1, \exists (\textcircled{a}_1 \mid \text{type}(a) = \text{int}) \vee \exists (\textcircled{a}_1 \mid a = b\_c \wedge \text{type}(b, c) = \text{int}))$$

$$\neg \text{App}(\{\text{init}\}) = \neg \exists (\textcircled{x} \mid \text{type}(x) = \text{int})$$

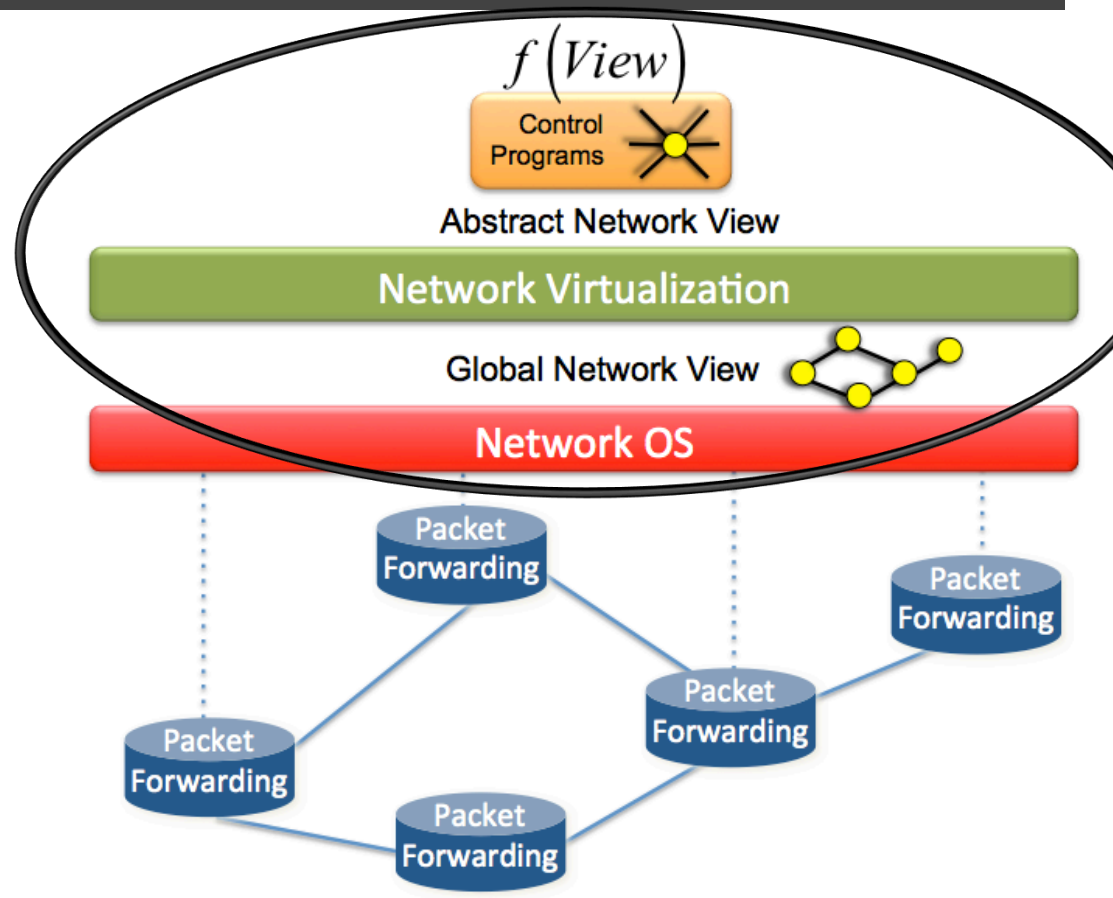
$$\neg \text{App}(\{\text{inc}\}) = \neg \exists (\textcircled{x\_i} \xrightarrow{k} \textcircled{y\_i} \mid \text{type}(i, k, x, y) = \text{int})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Pre}(\text{init}, e) &= \forall (\textcircled{x}_1 \textcircled{a}_2 \mid \text{type}(x) = \text{int}, \exists (\textcircled{x}_1 \textcircled{a}_2 \mid \text{type}(a) = \text{int})) \\
&\vee \exists (\textcircled{x}_1 \textcircled{a}_2 \mid a = b\_c \wedge \text{type}(b, c) = \text{int}))
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Pre}(\text{inc}, d) &= \forall (\textcircled{x\_i}_1 \xrightarrow{k} \textcircled{y\_i}_2 \textcircled{a}_3 \mid \text{type}(i, k, x, y) = \text{int}, \\
&\exists (\textcircled{x\_i}_1 \xrightarrow{k} \textcircled{y\_i}_2 \textcircled{a}_3 \mid a = b\_c \wedge \text{type}(b, c) = \text{int}))
\end{aligned}$$

# Proving Correctness

□ Prove  
all the  
things!

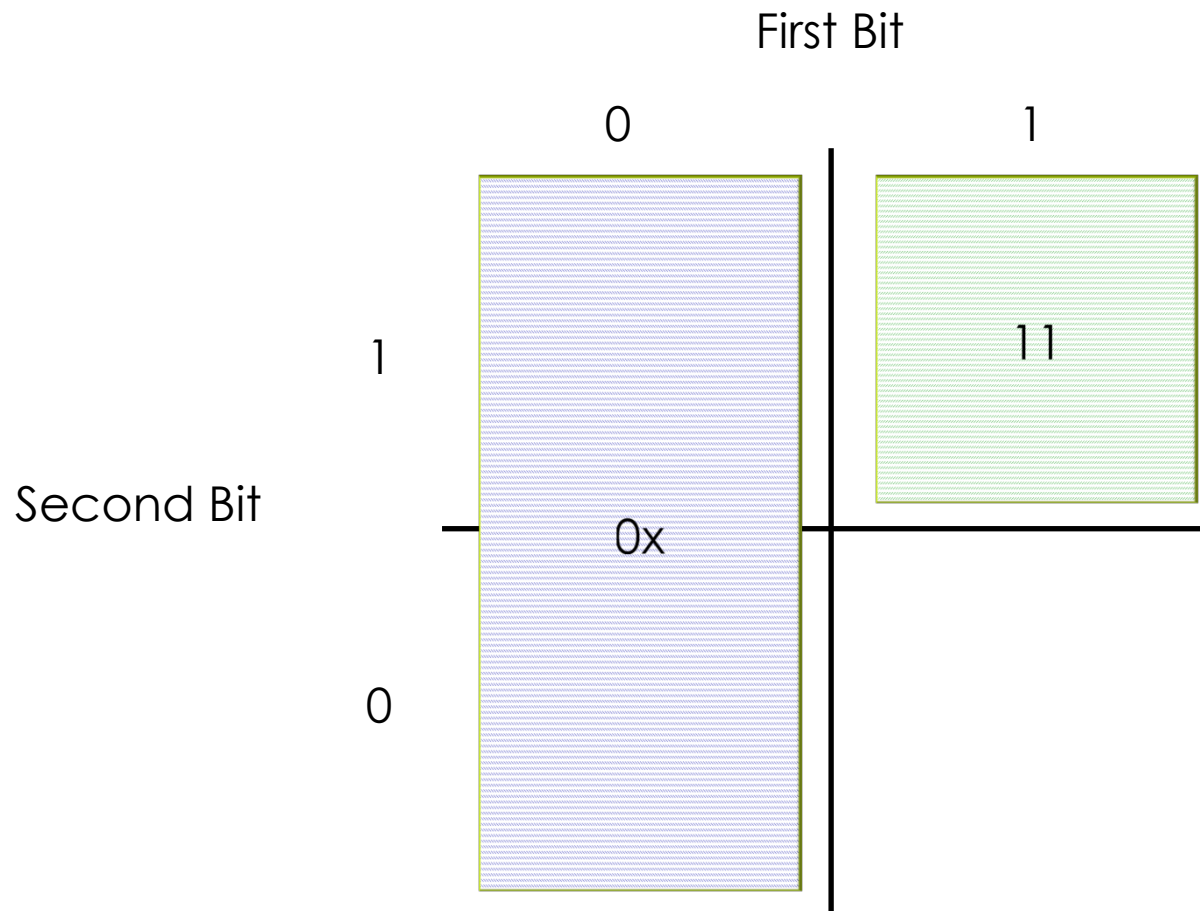


# Summary

- PL techniques FTW!
- I adapted symbolic execution to find bugs in network software
- I demonstrated correctness proving for network algorithms



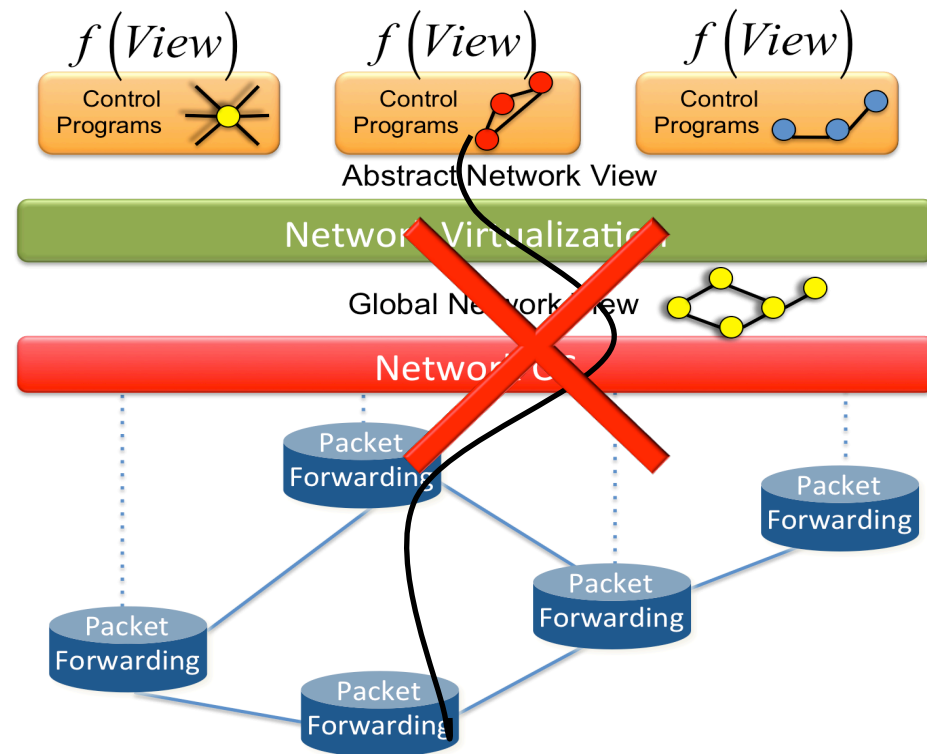
# Symbolic Headerspace



# Symbolic Execution For Networking

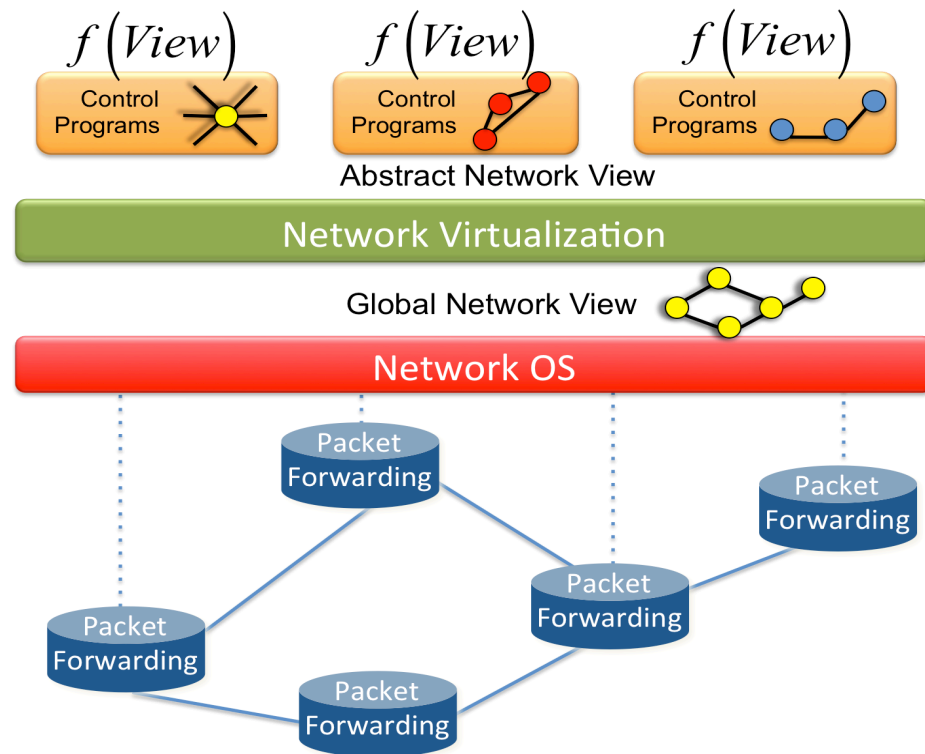
□ Goal: detect **policy-violations**

□ “Network doesn’t do what I tell it to”



# Symbolic Execution For Networking

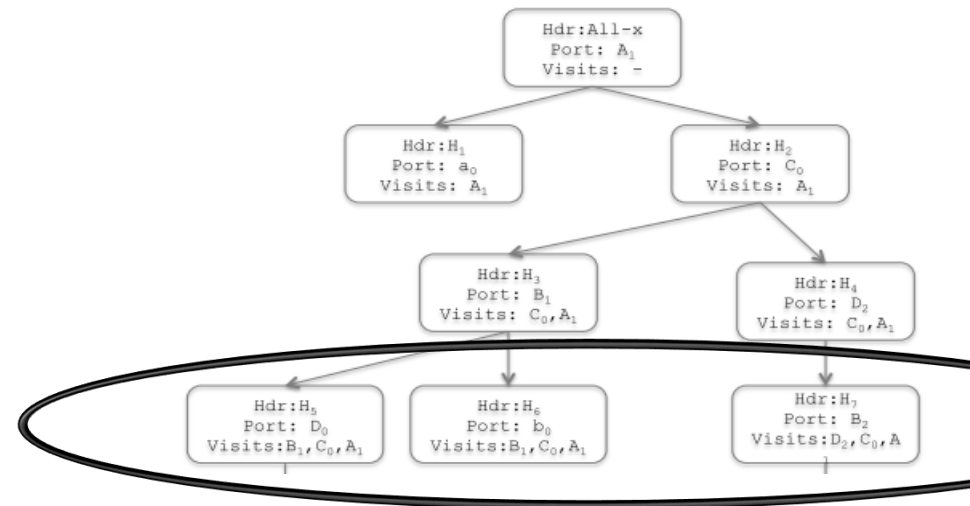
- Approach:
  - Demonstrate **isomorphism** between behavior of virtual view and physical network



# Symbolic Execution For Networking

Network Behavior:

$$\Omega = \Phi^\infty$$



“Packets’ final locations”

# Policy compliance

$$\Omega^{virtual} \sim \Omega^{physical}$$

“All paths in logical network should have a corresponding path in the physical network”

## More GP constructs

- Sequential composition:

$P; Q$

- If-then-else:

if  $C$  then  $P$  else  $Q$

- As-long-as-possible iteration:

$P!$

# Axiomatic Semantics

Set of rule schemata (none of which are applicable).

$$[\text{ruleset}_1] \frac{}{\{\neg \text{App}(\mathcal{R})\} \mathcal{R} \{\text{false}\}}$$

Set of rule schemata (when the non-applicability of a rule schema set is not implied by the precondition).

$$[\text{ruleset}_2] \frac{\{c\} r_1 \{d\} \dots \{c\} r_n \{d\}}{\{c\} \{r_1, \dots, r_n\} \{d\}}$$