

# Language-Parametric Formal Methods in the Field

Thesis Defense

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December 14, 2018



# Reusability problem of formal tools

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- Fragmentation: crafted for a fixed language
  - Implemented similar heuristics/optimizations: duplicating efforts
- Hard to re-target
  - Replace hardcoded semantics, or
  - Implement a translation to the original language

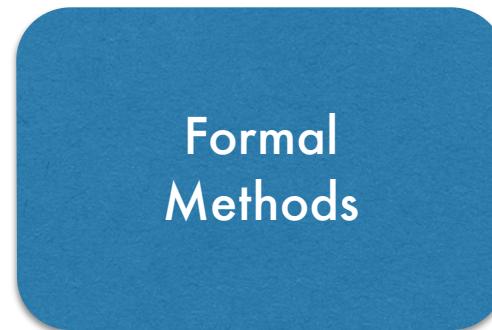
# Language-parametric formal methods

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- Mitigate reusability issue
- Develop universal formal methods
  - Parameterized by language semantics
- Instantiate formal tools
  - By plugging-in language semantics
  - Admit operational semantics

# Language-parametric formal methods

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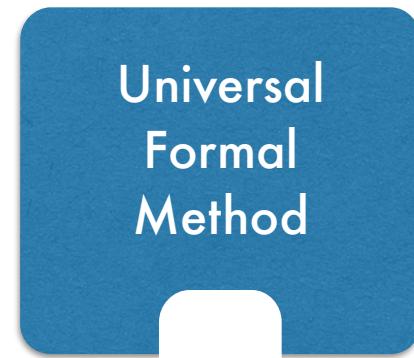
- C (c11, gcc, clang, ...)
  - Java (6, 7, 8, ...)
  - JavaScript (ES5, ES6, ...)
  - ...
- 
- Four lines connect the four items above to the three items below. The first three items each have two lines connecting them to the first three items in the list below. The fourth item has one line connecting it to the last item in the list below.
- Deductive verification
  - Model checking
  - Program equivalence checking
  - ...

Defined/implemented once, and reused for all others

# Thesis work

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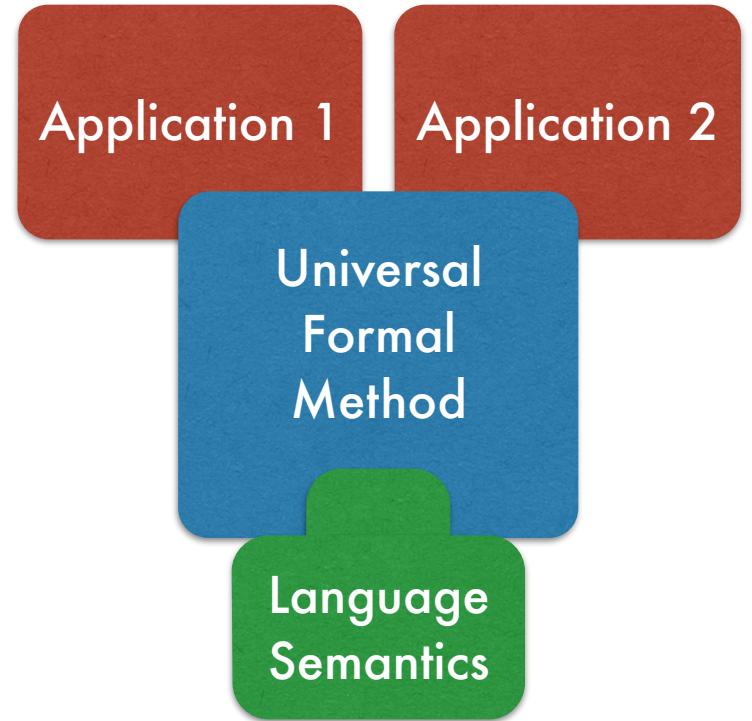
- Specifying real-world language semantics and measuring the specification effort
- Developing language-parametric formal methods
- Instantiating them by plugging-in various language semantics
- Applying the derived formal tools to real-world applications, demonstrating their practical feasibility



# Thesis work

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- Specifying real-world language semantics and measuring the specification effort
- Developing language-parametric formal methods
- Instantiating them by plugging-in various language semantics
- Applying the derived formal tools to real-world applications, demonstrating their practical feasibility



# Thesis work

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Heap  
manipulating  
programs

Smart  
contracts

Translation  
validation

Specification  
refinement

Deductive  
Verifier

Program  
Equivalence  
Checker

C

Java

JavaScript

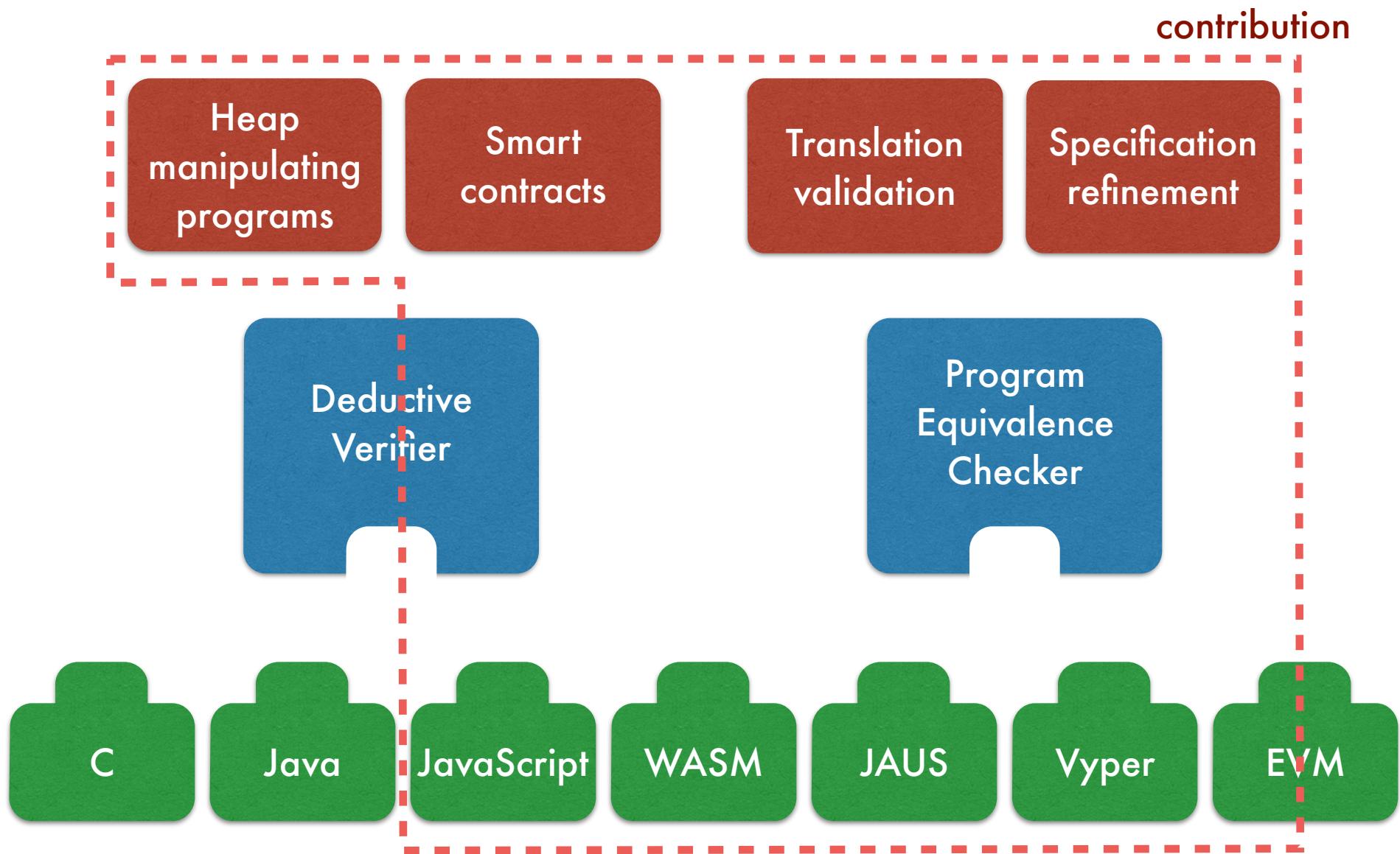
WASM

JAUS

Vyper

EVM

# Thesis work



# Main Results

# Specifying language semantics

Heap manipulating programs

Smart contracts

Translation validation

Specification refinement

Deductive Verifier

Program Equivalence Checker

C

Java

JavaScript

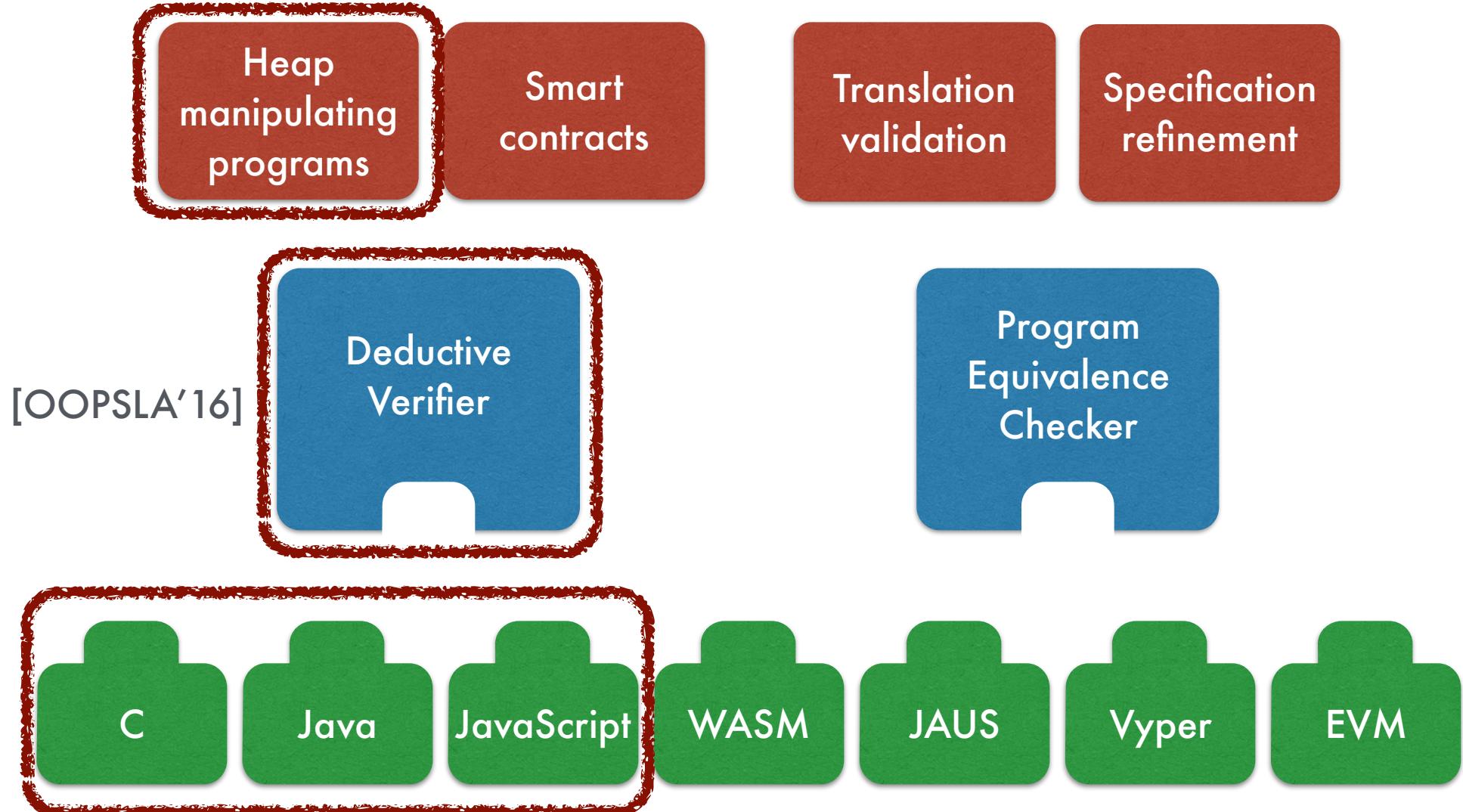
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# Instantiating with various languages



# Applying to real-world systems

[FSE'18]

Heap  
manipulating  
programs

Smart  
contracts

Translation  
validation

Specification  
refinement

Deductive  
Verifier

Program  
Equivalence  
Checker

C

Java

JavaScript

WASM

JAUS

Vyper

EVM

[CSF'18]

# Developing new formal method

Heap manipulating programs

Smart contracts

Translation validation

Specification refinement

Deductive Verifier

Program Equivalence Checker

[TR'18]

C

Java

JavaScript

WASM

JAUS

Vyper

EVM

# Evaluating new formal method

Heap manipulating programs

Smart contracts

Translation validation

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Deductive Verifier

Program Equivalence Checker

[TR'18]

C

Java

JavaScript

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Smart contracts

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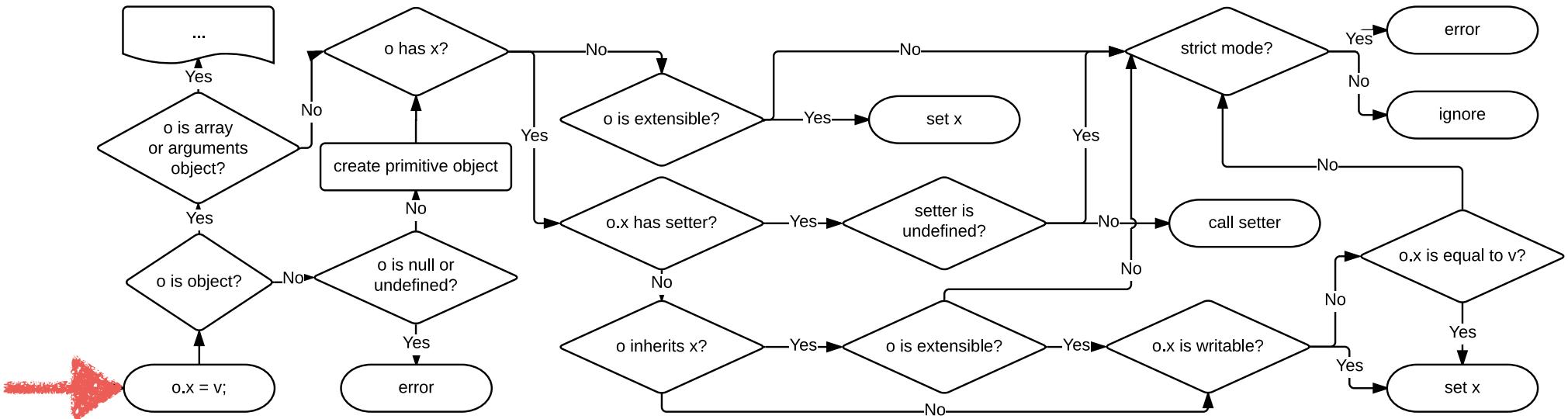
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# Object Property Update: $o.x = v;$



Different behaviors depending on whether:

- $o$  is a normal object or not
- $o$  is extensible or not
- $x$  is inherited or not
- $x$  is writable or not
- strict mode or not

# KJS: complete formal semantics of JavaScript

---

KJS *faithfully* formalizes ECMAScript 5.1 standard.

informal

The expression “`++ Expression`” is evaluated as follows:

1. Let `expr` be the result of evaluating `Expression`.
2. Let `oldValue` be `ToNumber(GetValue(expr))`.
3. Let `newValue` be the result of adding the value 1 to `oldValue`.
4. Call `PutValue(expr, newValue)`.
5. Return `newValue`.

ECMAScript 5.1 standard

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ECMAScript 5.1 standard

rule `++ Expression =>`  
`Let $expr = @GetReference(Expression);`  
`Let $oldValue = ToNumber(GetValue($expr));`  
`Let $newValue = @Addition($oldValue,1);`  
`Call PutValue($expr,$newValue);`  
`Return $newValue;`

KJS

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KJS *faithfully* formalizes ECMAScript 5.1 standard.

each step of informal description → formal pseudo-code statement  
systematic translation

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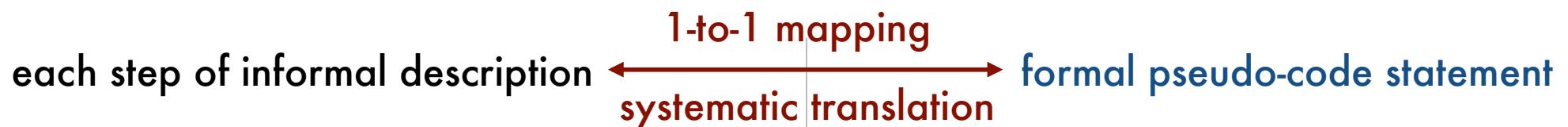
ECMAScript 5.1 standard

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3. Let  $newValue$  be the result of adding the value 1 to  $oldValue$ .  $\xleftarrow{\text{rule } ++ \text{ Expression} \Rightarrow}$  Let  $\$newValue = @Addition(\$oldValue, 1);$
4. Call  $\text{PutValue}(expr, newValue)$ .  $\xleftarrow{\text{rule } ++ \text{ Expression} \Rightarrow}$  Call  $\text{PutValue}(\$expr, \$newValue);$
5. Return  $newValue$ .  $\xleftarrow{\text{rule } ++ \text{ Expression} \Rightarrow}$  Return  $\$newValue;$

ECMAScript 5.1 standard

KJS

manual inspection

# Completeness [PLDI'15]

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Tested against ECMAScript conformance test suite.

Formal Semantics	Passed	Failed	% passed	
KJS	2,782	0	100.0%	✓
[Politz et al. 2012] <sup>5</sup>	2,470	345	87.7%	✗
[Bodin et al. 2014]	1,796	986	64.6%	✗

Took me only four months.

# Semantic coverage measurement

---

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17 rules **never** covered:

Page #	Section # - Step #	KJS	Po	Bo	CR	FF	SF
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p40	8.12.4 [[CanPut]] (P) - Step 8.a	○	⊗	⊗	○	○	○
p53	10.2.1.1.3 SetMutableBinding (N,V,S) - Step 4	○	×	○	×	○	×
p53	10.2.1.1.4 GetBindingValue(N,S) - Step 3.a	-	-	-	-	-	-
p53	10.2.1.1.5 DeleteBinding (N) - Step 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
p54	10.2.1.1.5 DeleteBinding (N) - Step 4 & 5	○	⊗	○	○	○	○
p55	10.2.1.2.4 GetBindingValue(N,S) - Step 4.a	-	-	-	-	-	-
p59	10.5 Declaration Binding Instantiation - Step 5.e.iii.1	○	○	○	○	○	○
p59	10.5 Declaration Binding Instantiation - Step 5.e.iv, 1st condition is true	○	⊗	⊗	○	○	×
p59	10.5 Declaration Binding Instantiation - Step 5.e.iv, 2nd condition is true	○	⊗	⊗	○	○	×
p62	10.6 Arguments Object - [[DefineOwnProperty]], Step 4.a, else-branch	-	-	-	-	-	-

○: Passed    ×: Failed    ⊗: Not applicable (failed due to unsupported semantics)    -: Infeasible semantic behaviors

Po: [Politz et al. 2012] Bo: [Bodin et al. 2014] CR: Chrome 38.0 (V8 3.28.71) FF: Firefox 32.0 (SpiderMonkey 32) SF: Safari 7.0.4 (WebKit 537.76.4)

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# Bugs found in JavaScript engines

---

Chrome 38.0 and Safari 7.0.4 failed to conform to standard.

Fixed in Chrome 41.0 and Safari 8.0.6

```
"use strict";
var _ = function f() {
    f = 0; ← runtime error in Firefox, but
              silently ignored in Chrome and Safari.
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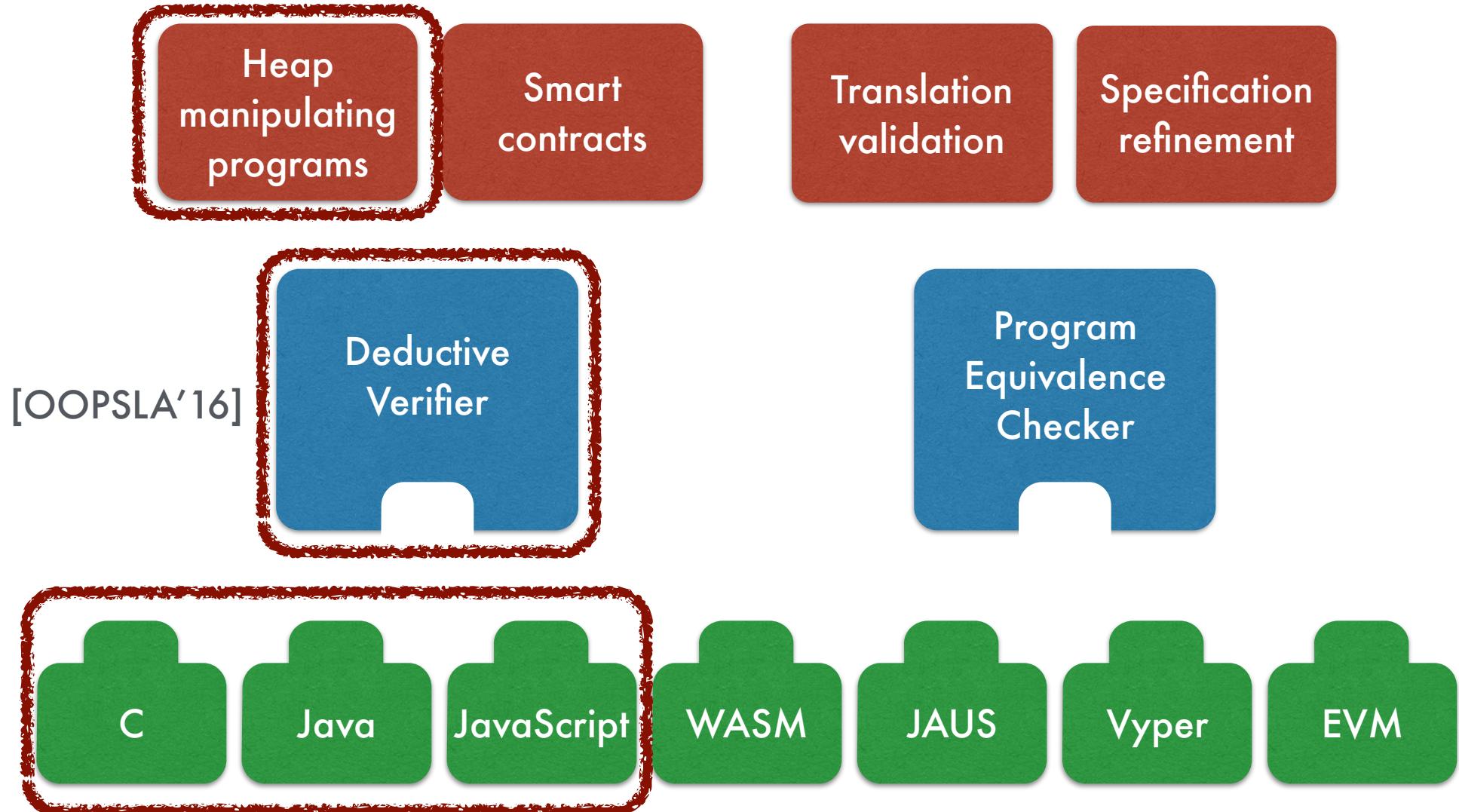
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};
```

---

Compare:

```
"use strict";
        function f() {
            f = 0; ← here, f is this function
                    ← no error
                    ← here, f is 0
    }
```

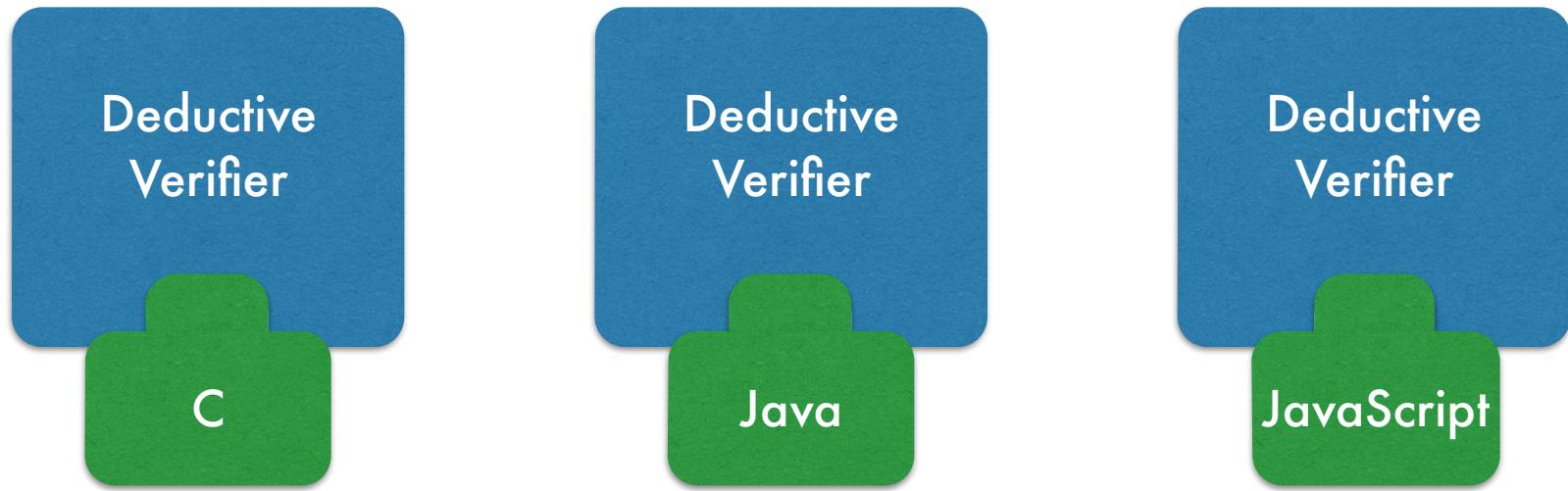
# Instantiating with various languages



# Deductive program verifiers

---

- Instantiated framework by plugging-in three language semantics.



- Verified challenging heap-manipulating programs implementing the same algorithms in all three languages.

# Experiments [OOPSLA'16]

				Time (secs)			
Programs	C	Java	JS	Programs	C	Java	JS
BST find	14.0	4.7	6.3	Treap find	14.4	4.9	6.5
BST insert	30.2	8.6	8.2	Treap insert	67.7	23.1	18.9
BST delete	71.7	24.9	21.2	Treap delete	90.4	28.4	33.2
AVL find	13.0	4.9	6.4	List reverse	11.4	4.1	5.5
AVL insert	281.3	105.2	135.0	List append	14.8	7.3	5.3
AVL delete	633.7	271.6	239.6	Bubble sort	66.4	38.8	31.3
RBT find	14.5	5.0	6.8	Insertion sort	61.9	31.1	44.8
RBT insert	903.8	115.6	114.5	Quick sort	79.2	47.1	48.1
RBT delete	1,902.1	171.2	183.6	Merge sort	170.6	87.0	66.0
				Total	4,441.1	983.5	981.2
				Average	246.7	54.6	54.5

# Experiments [OOPSLA'16]

Programs	Time (secs)		
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Programs	Time (secs)		
	C	Java	JS
Treap find	14.4	4.9	6.5
Treap insert	67.7	23.1	18.9

Full functional correctness:

```
/*
 * @pre bst(t)
 * @post bst(t')
 * @post keys(t') == keys(t) \union { v }
 */
function insert(t, v) {
    ...
}
```

Total	4,441.1	983.5	981.2
Average	246.7	54.6	54.5

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BST delete	71.7	24.9	21.2
AVL find	13.0	4.9	6.4
AVL insert	281.3	105.2	135.0
Treap find	14.4	4.9	6.5
Treap insert	67.7	23.1	18.9
Treap delete	90.4	28.4	33.2
List reverse	11.4	4.1	5.5
List append	14.8	7.3	5.3

Performance is comparable to a state-of-the-art verifier for C, VCDryad, based on a separation logic extension of VCC:  
e.g., AVL insert : 260s vs 280s (ours)

Total	4,441.1	983.5	981.2
Average	246.7	54.6	54.5

# Applying to real-world systems

[FSE'18]

Heap  
manipulating  
programs

Smart  
contracts

Translation  
validation

Specification  
refinement

Deductive  
Verifier

Program  
Equivalence  
Checker

C

Java

JavaScript

WASM

JAUS

Vyper

EVM

[CSF'18]

# Smart contracts

---

- Programs that run on blockchain
- Usually written in a high-level language
  - Solidity (JavaScript-like), Vyper (Python-like), ...
- Compiled down to VM bytecode
  - EVM (Ethereum VM), IELE (LLVM-like VM), ...  
  
our target
  - Runs on VM of blockchain nodes

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] += value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] += value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```



# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] =+ value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

'=+' vs '+='

\* ETHNews.com, "Ether.Camp's HKG Token Has A Bug And Needs To Be Reissued"

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] = +value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

\* ETHNews.com, "Ether.Camp's HKG Token Has A Bug And Needs To Be Reissued"

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] = value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

\* ETHNews.com, "Ether.Camp's HKG Token Has A Bug And Needs To Be Reissued"

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] += value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] += value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```



# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] += value;
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

arithmetic overflow

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] = SafeMath.add(balances[to], value);
        balances[from] -= value;
        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

will throw if overflow

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] = SafeMath.add(balances[to], value);
        balances[from] -= value;

        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```



# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {
        balances[to] = SafeMath.add(balances[to], value);
        balances[from] -= value;
        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

self-transfer may fail

# Smart contract example

---

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {

        balances[from] -= value;
        balances[to] = SafeMath.add(balances[to], value);
        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

more robust

# Why bytecode?

---

*address: 0x01*

```
contract GoodToken {  
    function transfer() {  
        return true;  
    }  
}
```

*address: 0x02*

```
contract BadToken {  
    function transfer() {}  
}
```

# Why bytecode?

---

```
interface Token {  
    function transfer() returns (bool);  
}  
  
contract Wallet {  
    function transfer(address token) {  
        return Token(token).transfer();  
    }  
}
```

*address: 0x01*

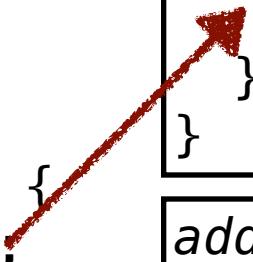
```
contract GoodToken {  
    function transfer() {  
        return true;  
    }  
}
```

*address: 0x02*

```
contract BadToken {  
    function transfer() {}  
}
```

# Why bytecode?

```
interface Token {  
    function transfer() returns (bool);  
}  
  
contract Wallet {  
    function transfer(address token)  
        return Token(token).transfer();  
}  
if token = 0x01
```



```
address: 0x01  
contract GoodToken {  
    function transfer() {  
        return true;  
    }  
}  
  
address: 0x02  
contract BadToken {  
    function transfer() {}  
}
```

# Why bytecode?

```
interface Token {  
    function transfer() returns (bool);  
}  
  
contract Wallet {  
    function transfer(address token) {  
        return Token(token).transfer();  
    }  
}
```

**if token = 0x02**

address: 0x01

```
contract GoodToken {  
    function transfer() {  
        return true;  
    }  
}
```

address: 0x02

```
contract BadToken {  
    function transfer() { }  
}
```

# Why bytecode?

```
interface Token {  
    function transfer() returns (bool);  
}
```

```
contract Wallet {  
    function transfer(address token) {  
        return Token(token).transfer();  
    }  
}
```



**if token = 0x02**

address: 0x01

```
contract GoodToken {  
    function transfer() {  
        return true;  
    }  
}
```

address: 0x02

```
contract BadToken {  
    function transfer() {}  
}
```

# Why bytecode?

```
interface Token {  
    function transfer() returns (bool);  
}
```

```
contract Wallet {  
    function transfer(address token) {  
        return Token(token).transfer();  
    }  
}
```



**if token = 0x02**

address: 0x01

```
contract GoodToken {  
    function transfer() {  
        return true;  
    }  
}
```

address: 0x02

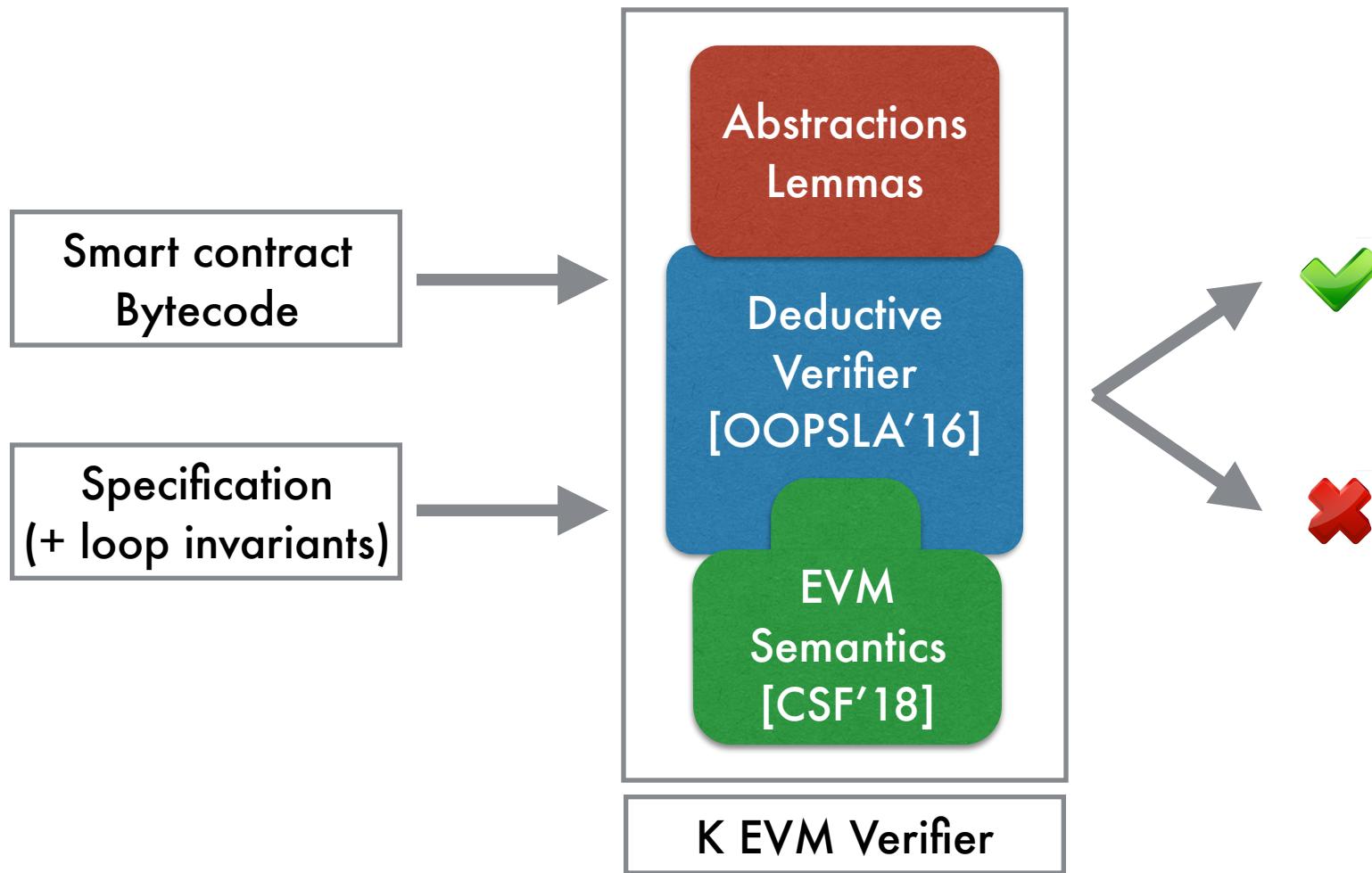
```
contract BadToken {  
    function transfer() {}  
}
```

- **Return true in Solidity 0.4.21 or earlier**
- **Revert in Solidity 0.4.22 or later (latest: 0.5.1)**

\* Lukas Cremer, "Missing return value bug—At least 130 tokens affected"

# K EVM Verifier [FSE'18]

---



# Specification example

*[transfer-success]*

**callData:**

```
#abiCallData("transfer",
    #address(FROM), #address(TO), #uint256(VALUE))
```

**storage:**

```
#(BALANCES[FROM]) ↢ (BAL_FROM ⇒ BAL_FROM - VALUE)
#(BALANCES[TO] ) ↢ (BAL_TO   ⇒ BAL_TO   + VALUE)
```

**requires:**

FROM ≠ TO

VALUE ≤ BAL\_FROM

BAL\_TO + VALUE < (2 ^ 256)

true



**output:**

\_ ⇒ #asByteArray(1, 32)

**statusCode:**

\_ ⇒ EVMC\_SUCCESS

```
function transfer(address from,
                  address to,
                  uint256 value) returns (bool) {

    if ( balances[from] >= value ) {

        balances[from] -= value;
        balances[to] = SafeMath.add(balances[to], value);
        return true;
    } else {
        return false;
    }
}
```

# Verified smart contracts\* [FSE'18]

---

- High-profile ERC20 token contracts
- Ethereum Casper FFG (Hybrid PoW/PoS)
- Gnosis MultiSigWallet (ongoing)
- DappHub MakerDAO (by DappHub)
- Uniswap (decentralized exchange)
- Bihu (KEY token operation)

\* <https://github.com/runtimeverification/verified-smart-contracts>

# Challenges for EVM bytecode verification

---

- Byte-twiddling operations
  - Non-linear integer arithmetic (e.g., modulo reduction)
- Arithmetic overflow detection
- Gas limit
  - Variable gas cost depending on contexts
- Hash collision

# Byte-twiddling operations

---

**Given:**

$$x[n] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x/256^n) \bmod 256$$

$$\text{merge}(x[i..j]) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{merge}(x[i..j+1]) * 256 \pm x[j] \quad \text{when } i > j$$

$$\text{merge}(x[i..i]) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x[i]$$

---

**Prove:**

$$\text{“}x = \text{merge}(x[31..0])\text{”}.$$

# Abstractions

---

```
syntax Int ::= nthByte(Int, Int, Int) [function]
```

```
rule merge(nthByte(V, 0, N) ... nthByte(V, N-1, N))
  => V
  requires 0 <= V < 2 ^ (N * 8)
    and 1 <= N <= 32
```

# Challenges for EVM bytecode verification

---

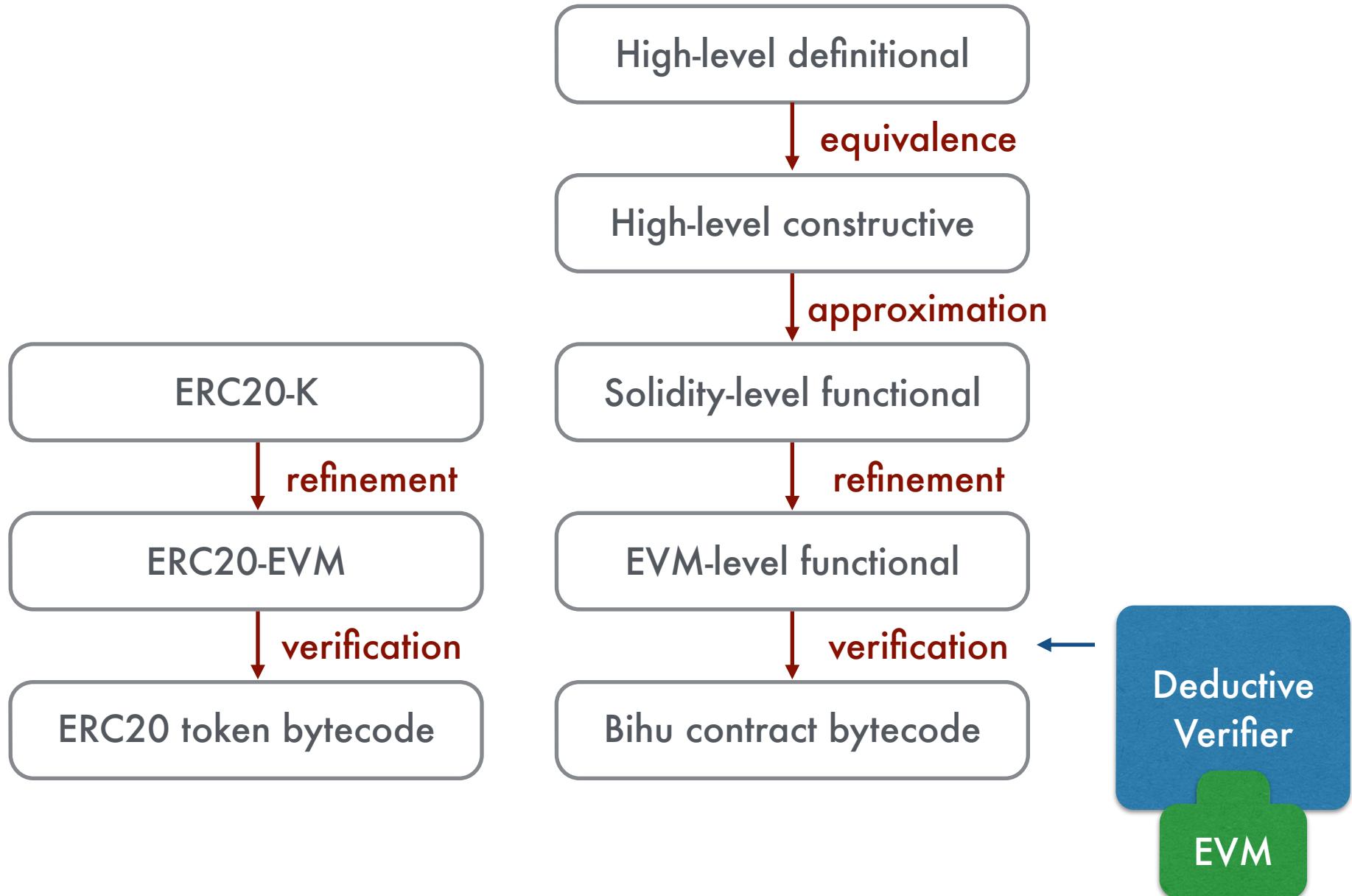
- Byte-twiddling operations
  - Non-linear integer arithmetic (e.g., modulo reduction)
- Arithmetic overflow detection
- Gas limit
  - Variable gas cost depending on contexts
- Hash collision

# End-to-end verification

---

- Formalize high-level business logic
  - Confirmed by contract developers
- Refine it to EVM level
  - Capturing EVM-specific details
- Verify EVM bytecode using derived EVM verifier
  - No need to trust Solidity/Vyper compilers

# End-to-end verification



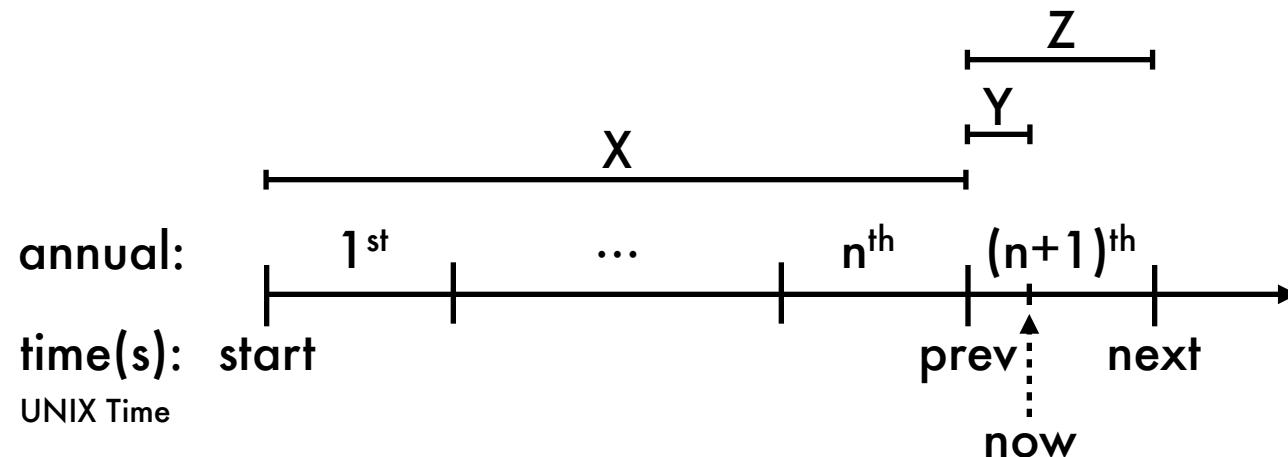
# Informal specification

---

*"KeyRewardPool contract is responsible for releasing key tokens in the reward pool (initially about 45 billion tokens). The reward pool has a start time. From the start time, every 365 days, we define it as an annual. In each year, a total of 10% of the remaining amount is released. In each year, the token is released linearly."*

# High-level definitional specification

---



$$Y = Z \times b$$

$$Z = T \times 0.9^n \times 0.1$$

$$X = T(1 - 0.9^n)$$

$$X + Z = T(1 - 0.9^{n+1})$$

$$b = \frac{\text{now} - \text{prev}}{\text{next} - \text{prev}}$$

# High-level constructive specification

---

```
/* @input: balance                                // T - C
   *      collectedTokens                         // C
   *      rewardStartTime                         // start
   *      now                                    // now
   *
   * @output: balance'                            // T - C'
   *      collectedTokens'                      // C'
   *
   * @pre-condition: now > rewardStartTime
   */
procedure collectToken () {
    total := collectedTokens + balance           // T
    yearCount := floor (days(now - rewardStartTime) / 365) // n
    fractionOfThisYear := (days(now - rewardStartTime) % 365) / 365 // b

    remainingTokens := total * (0.9 ^ yearCount)
    totalRewardThisYear := remainingTokens * 0.1          // Z
    canExtractThisYear := totalRewardThisYear * fractionOfThisYear // Y
    canExtract := canExtractThisYear + (total - remainingTokens)
                  - collectedTokens                    // Y + X - C

    collectedTokens' := collectedTokens + canExtract      // C'
    balance' := balance - canExtract                     // T - C'
}
```

# High-level constructive specification

```
/* @input: balance                                // T - C
   *      collectedTokens                         // C
   *      rewardStartTime                          // start
   *      now                                    // now
   *
   * @output: balance'                            // T - C'
   *      collectedTokens'                      // C'
```

**Lemma 1.** If the inputs of *collectToken* in Figure 2 satisfies the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned}balance &= T - C \\collectedTokens &= C \\rewardStartTime &= start \\now &= now\end{aligned}$$

then the following holds for the outputs of the function:

$$\begin{aligned}balance' &= T - C' = T - (X + Y) \\collectedTokens' &= C' = X + Y\end{aligned}$$

```
collectedTokens' := collectedTokens + canExtract          // C'
balance' := balance - canExtract                         // T - C'
}
```

# Solidity-level functional specification

---

```
/* @input: uint balance
 *         unit collectedTokens
 *         unit rewardStartTime
 *         unit now
 *
 * @output: unit balance'
 *          unit collectedTokens'
 *
 * @pre-condition: now > rewardStartTime
 */
procedure collectToken() {
    unit total := collectedTokens + balance
    unit yearCount := days(now - rewardStartTime) / 365
    unit fractionOfThisYear365 := days(now - rewardStartTime) % 365

    unit remainingTokens := power(total, 90, 100, yearCount)
    unit totalRewardThisYear := remainingTokens * 10 / 100
    unit canExtractThisYear := totalRewardThisYear * fractionOfThisYear365 / 365
    unit canExtract := canExtractThisYear + (total - remainingTokens)
                           - collectedTokens

    collectedTokens' := collectedTokens + canExtract
    balance' := balance - canExtract
}

// return (conceptually): acc * ((base_n / base_d) ^ exp)
function power(acc, base_n, base_d, exp) {
    if exp == 0 {
        return acc
    } else {
        return power(acc * base_n / base_d, base_n, base_d, exp - 1)
    }
}
```

# Solidity-level functional specification

```
/* @input: uint balance
 *         unit collectedTokens
 *         unit rewardStartTime
 *         unit now
```

**Lemma 2.** If the inputs of `collectToken` in Figure 3 satisfies the following equations:

$$\text{balance} = T - C$$

$$\text{collectedTokens} = C$$

$$\text{rewardStartTime} = \text{start}$$

$$\text{now} = \text{now}$$

then the following holds for the outputs of the function:

$$\begin{aligned} (T - C') - 10 &< \text{balance}' &< (T - C') + 3 \\ C' - 3 &< \text{collectedTokens}' &< C' + 10 \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.** Suppose two `collectToken` function (as shown in Figure 3) calls are made at times  $t$  and  $t'$ , respectively, where  $t < t'$ . Let  $r$  and  $r'$  be the output values of `canExtractThisYear + (total - remainingTokens)` for each function call at  $t$  and  $t'$ , respectively. Assume that `total` does not decrease between  $t$  and  $t'$ . Then,  $r \leq r'$ .

**Corollary 1.** If `balance` does not decrease since the last `collectToken` function call, the following always hold:

$$\text{canExtractThisYear} + (\text{total} - \text{remainingTokens}) \geq \text{collectedTokens}$$

```
} else {
    return power(acc * base_n / base_d, base_n, base_d, exp - 1)
}
}
```

# EVM-level functional specification

---

```
k: #execute => (RETURN RET_ADDR:Int 32 ~> _)
output: _
memoryUsed: 0 => _
callData: #abiCallData("collectToken", #uint256(NOW), #uint256(START))
wordStack: .WordStack => _
localMem: .Map => .Map[ RET_ADDR := #asByteStackInWidth(1, 32) ] _:Map
pc: 0 => _
gas: GASCAP => _
log: _
refund: _ => _
storage:
  #hashedLocation("Solidity", {_COLLECTEDTOKENS}, .IntList) |-> (COLLECTED => COLLECTED +Int VALUE)
  #hashedLocation("Solidity", {_BALANCE}, .IntList) |-> (BAL => BAL -Int VALUE)
  _:Map
requires:
  andBool 0 <=Int COLLECTED andBool COLLECTED <Int (2 ^Int 256)
  andBool 0 <=Int BAL andBool BAL <Int (2 ^Int 256)
  andBool 0 <=Int START andBool START <Int (2 ^Int 256)
  andBool 0 <=Int (COLLECTED +Int BAL) andBool (COLLECTED +Int BAL) *Int 3153600 <Int (2 ^Int 256)
  andBool 0 <Int (NOW -Int START) andBool (NOW -Int START) <Int (2 ^Int 256)
  andBool #accumulatedReleasedTokens(BAL, COLLECTED, START, NOW) >Int COLLECTED +Int 3
  andBool #accumulatedReleasedTokens(BAL, COLLECTED, START, NOW) <Int (BAL +Int COLLECTED) -Int 10
  andBool GASCAP >=Int (293 *Int ((NOW -Int START) /Int 3153600)) +Int 43000
ensures: VALUE ==Int @canExtractThisYear(COLLECTED +Int BAL, NOW, START)
          +Int BAL -Int @remainingTokens(COLLECTED +Int BAL, NOW, START)
```

# Developing new formal method

Heap manipulating programs

Smart contracts

Translation validation

Specification refinement

Deductive Verifier

Program Equivalence Checker

[TR'18]

C

Java

JavaScript

WASM

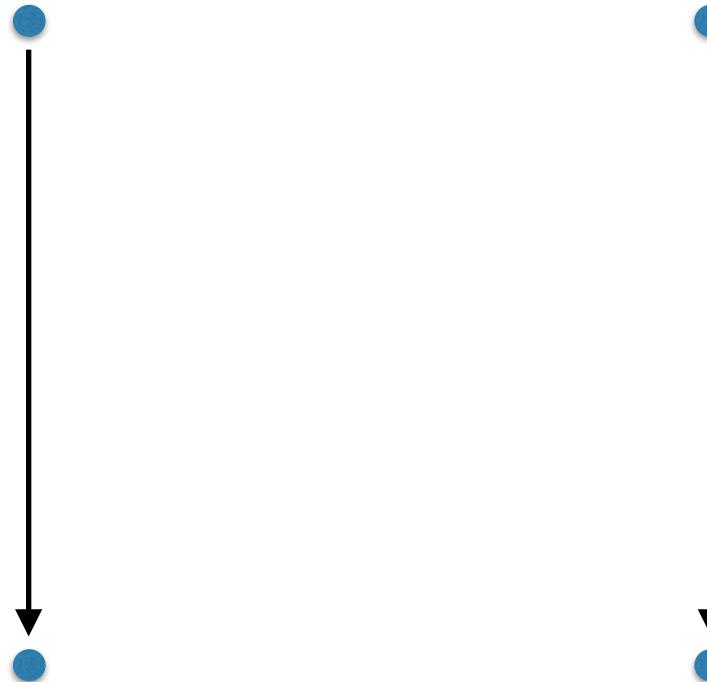
JAUS

Vyper

EVM

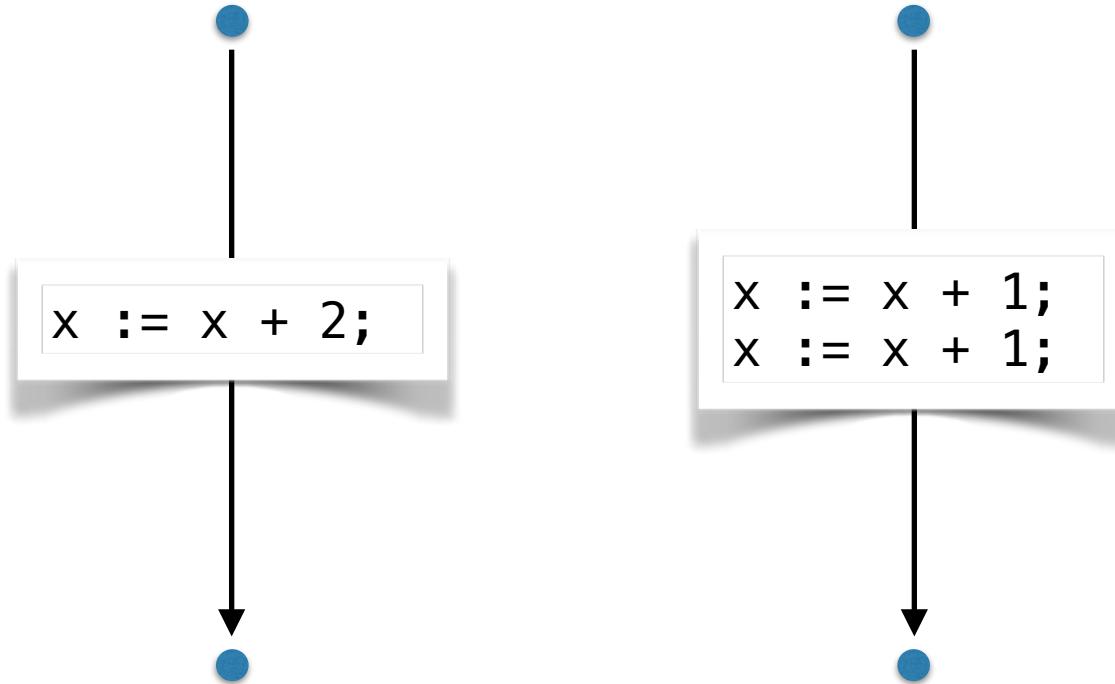
# Deterministic, terminating programs

---



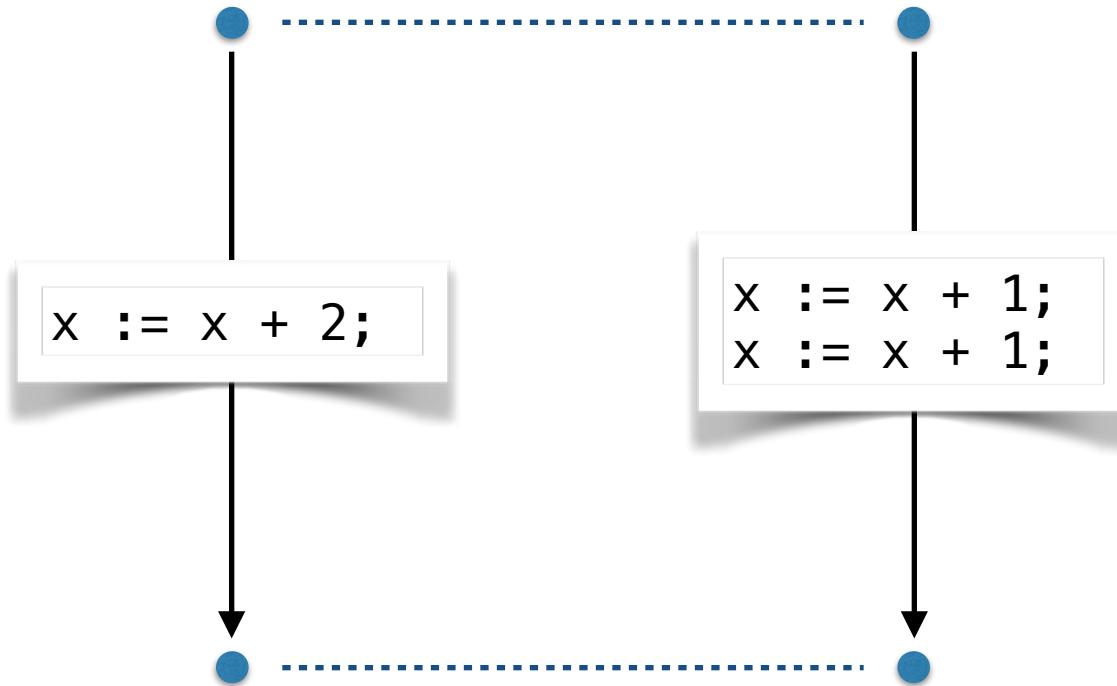
# Deterministic, terminating programs

---



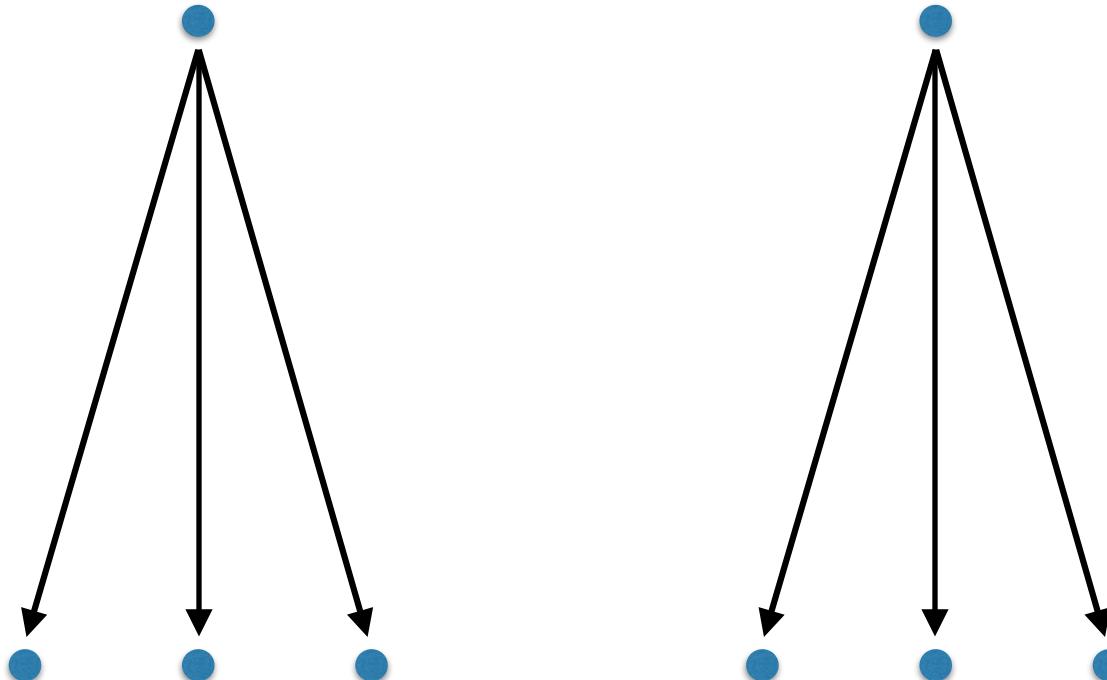
# Deterministic, terminating programs

---



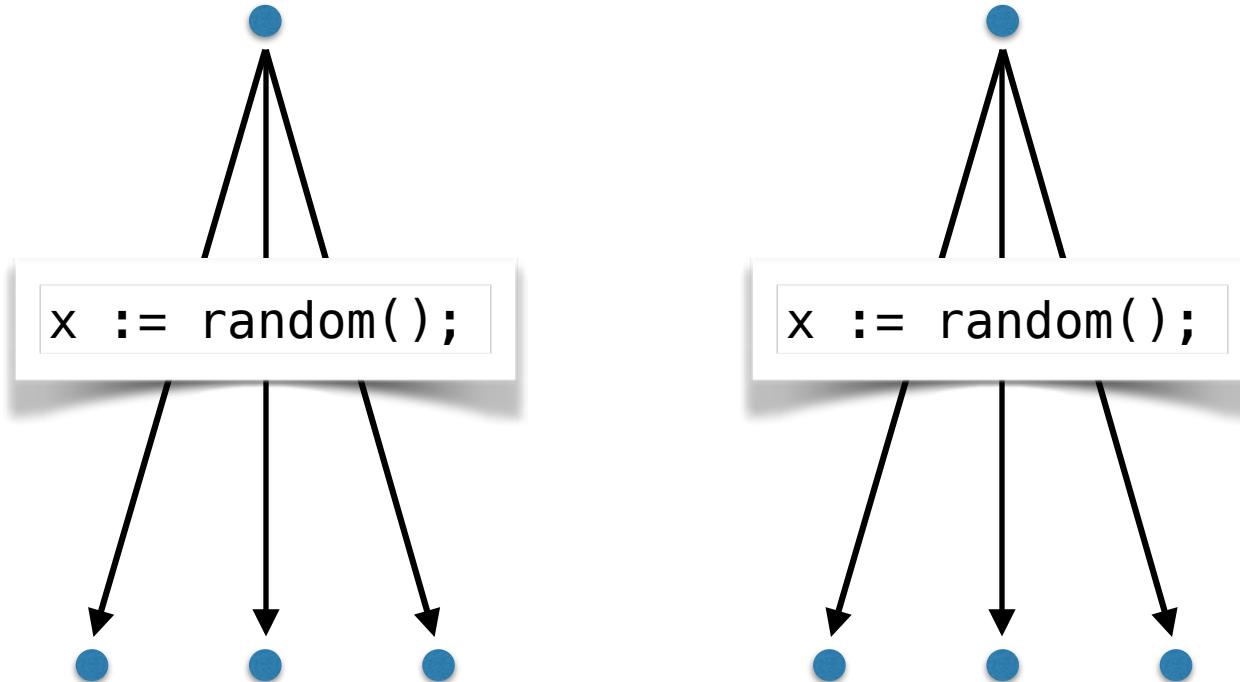
# Nondeterministic programs

---



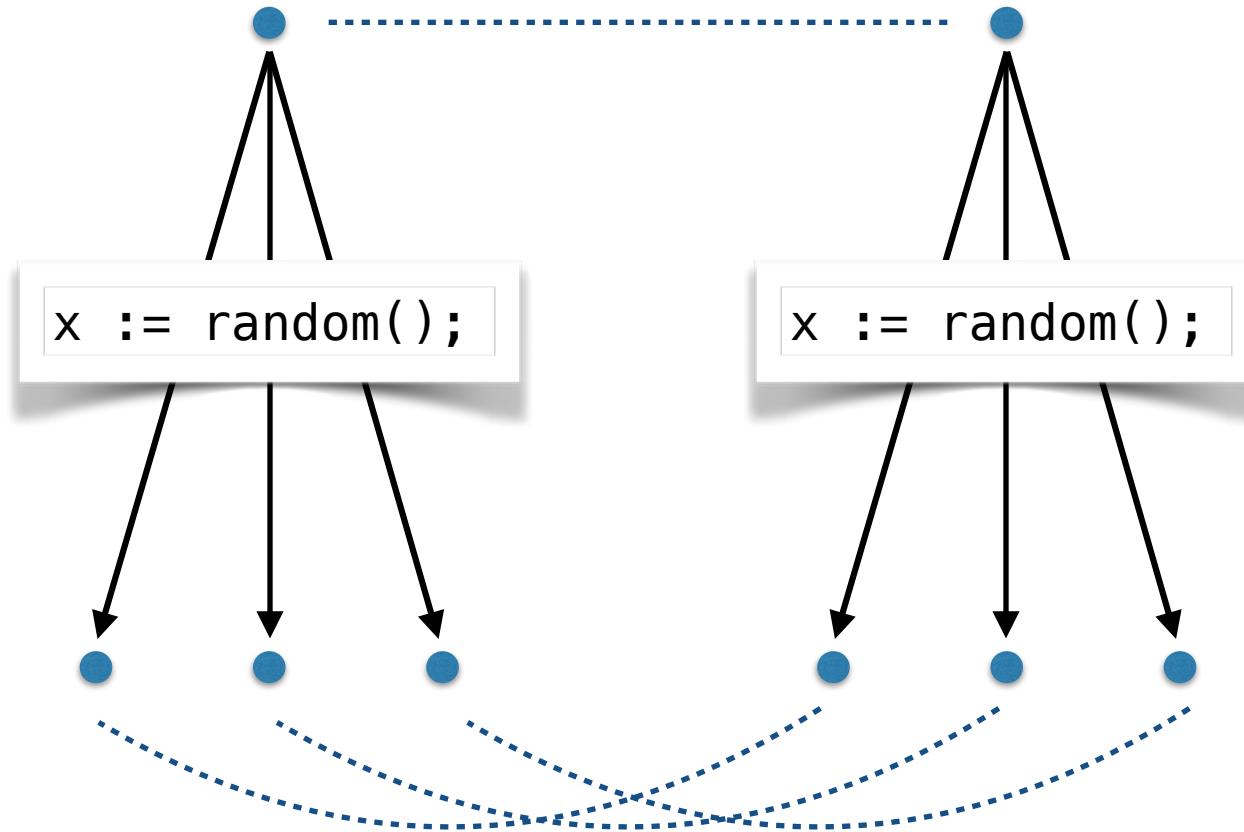
# Nondeterministic programs

---



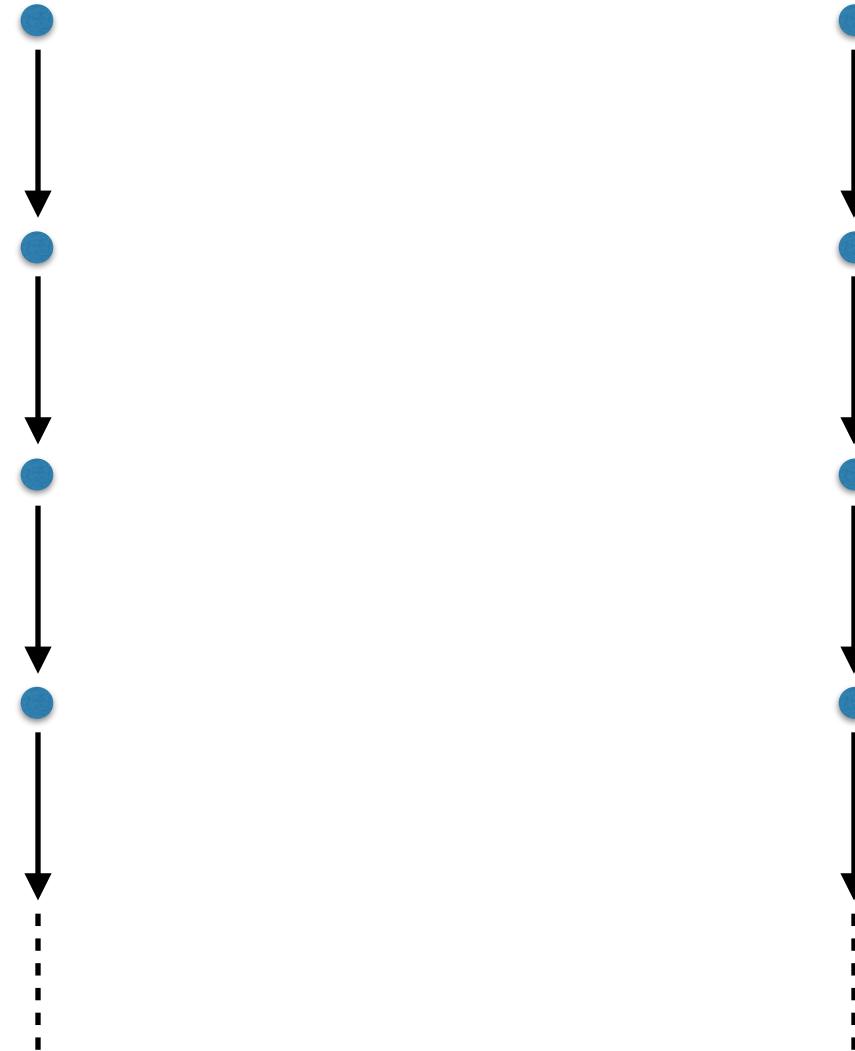
# Nondeterministic programs

---



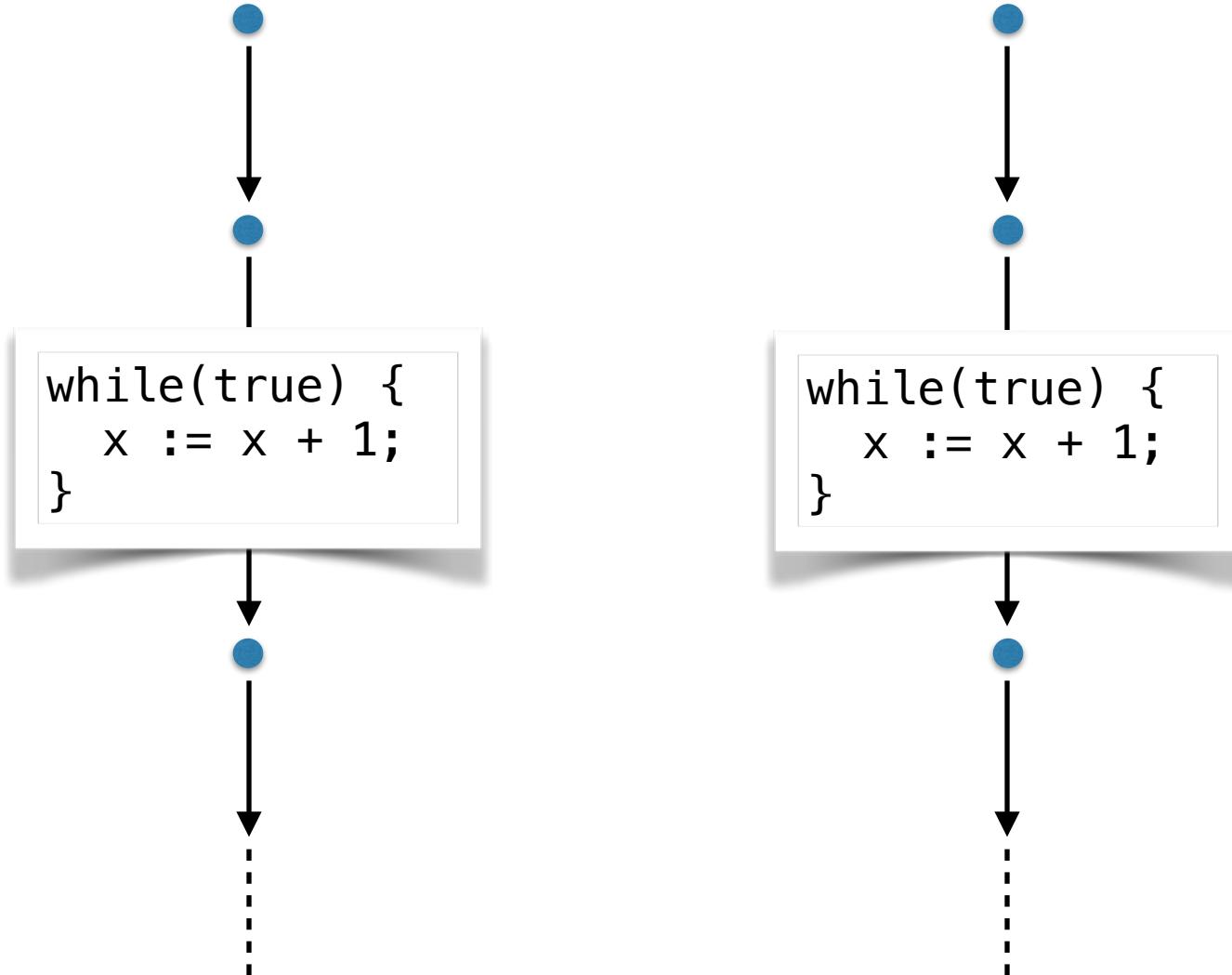
# Non-terminating programs

---



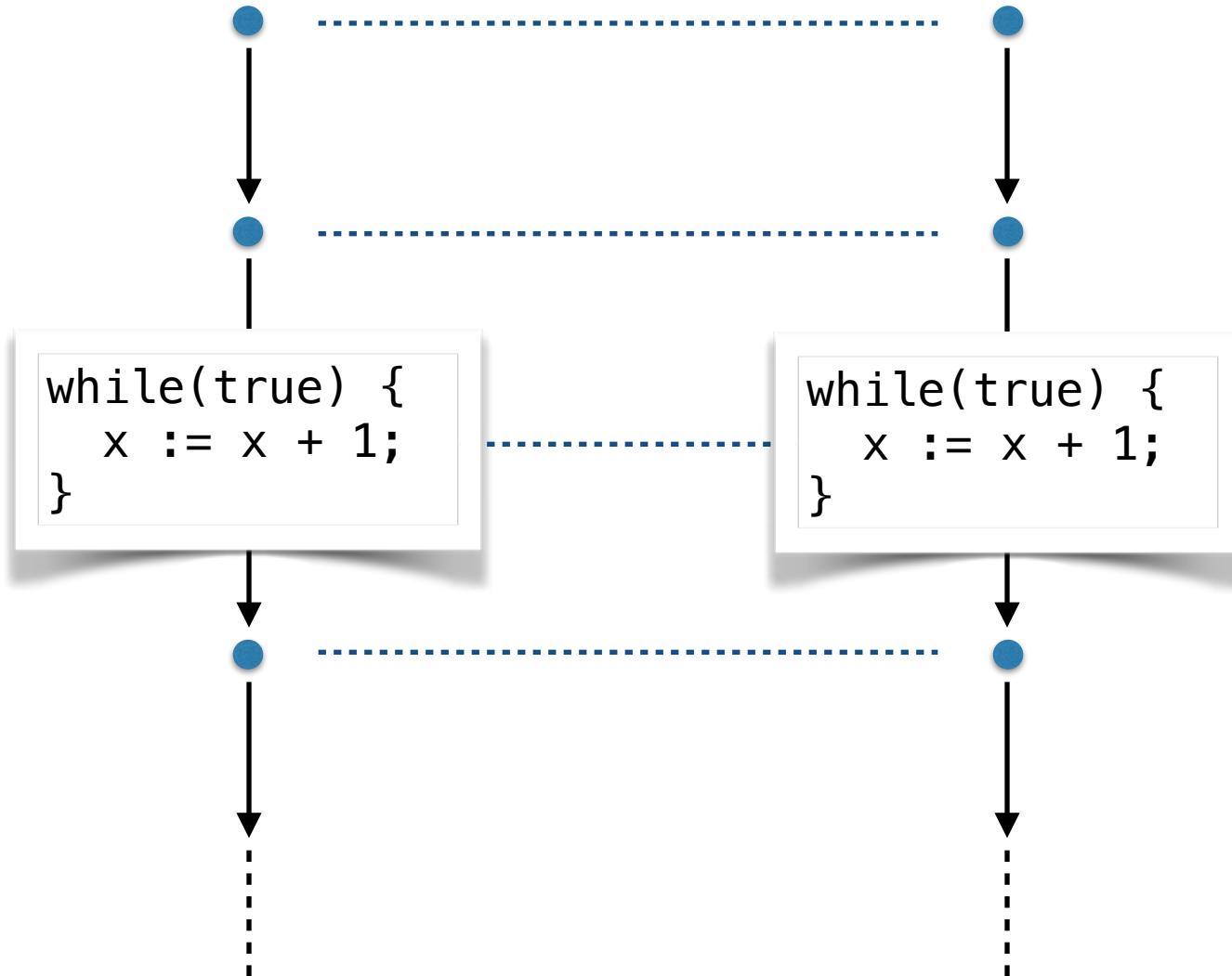
# Non-terminating programs

---



# Non-terminating programs

---



# Bisimulation

---

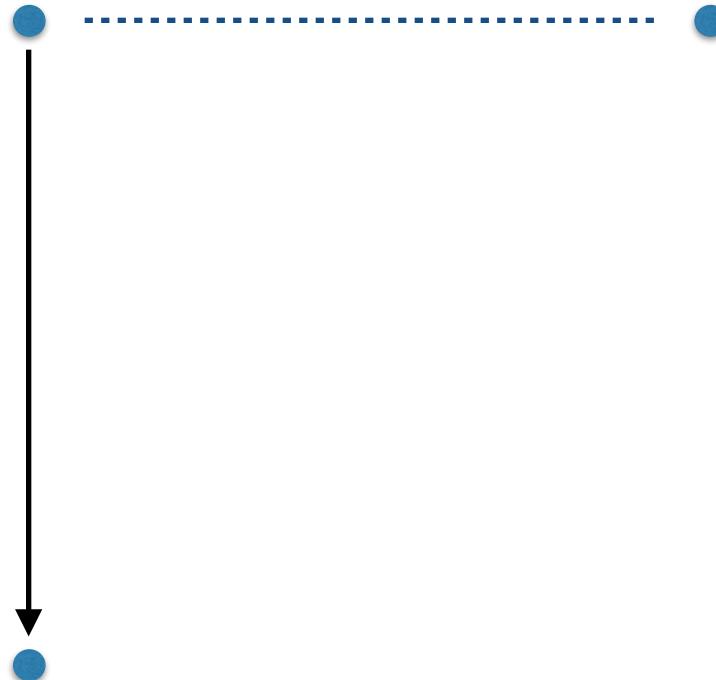
for each pair of related states



# Bisimulation

---

for each pair of related states

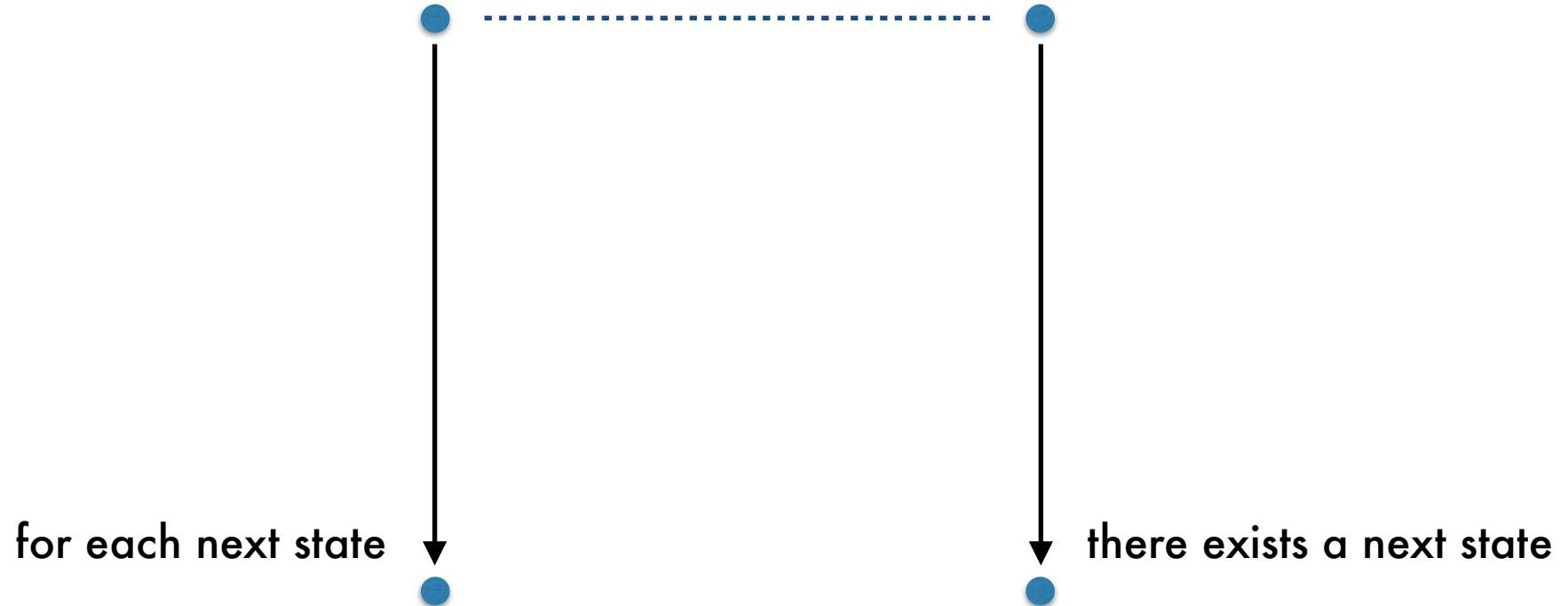


for each next state

# Bisimulation

---

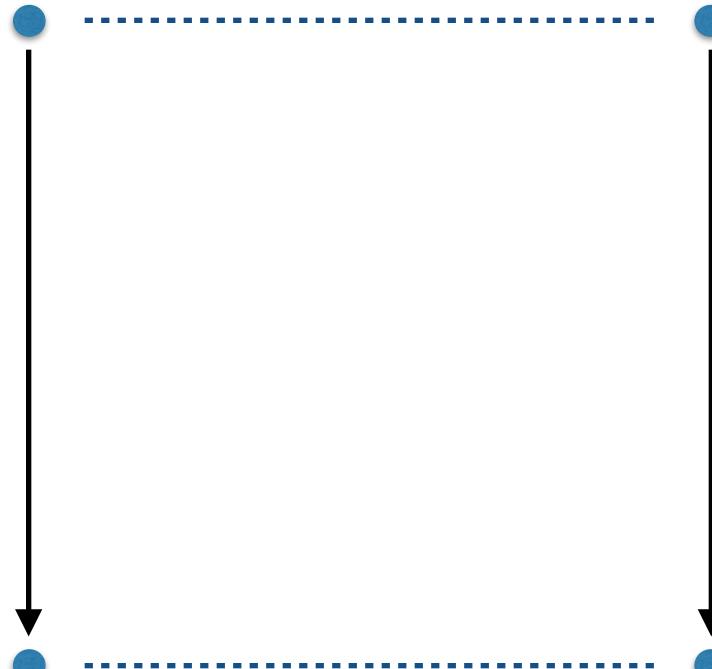
for each pair of related states



# Bisimulation

---

for each pair of related states



for each next state

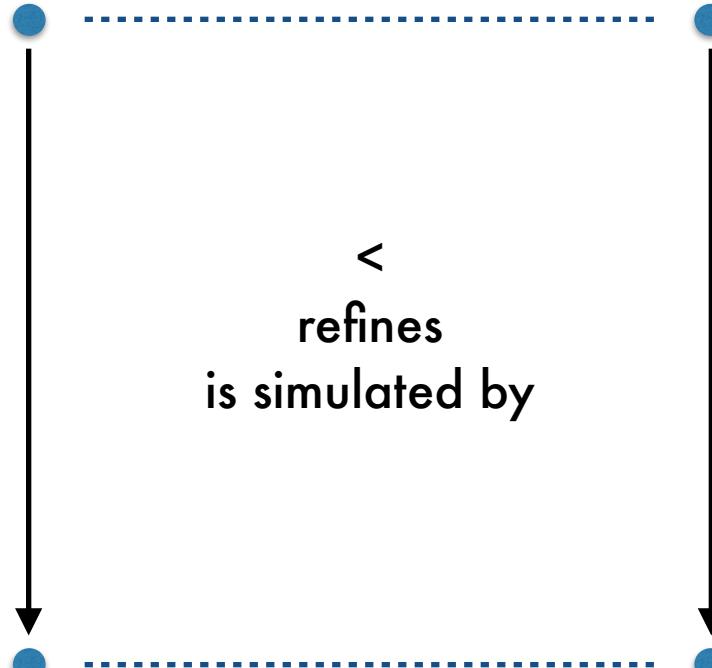
there exists a next state

such that two states are related

# Bisimulation

---

for each pair of related states



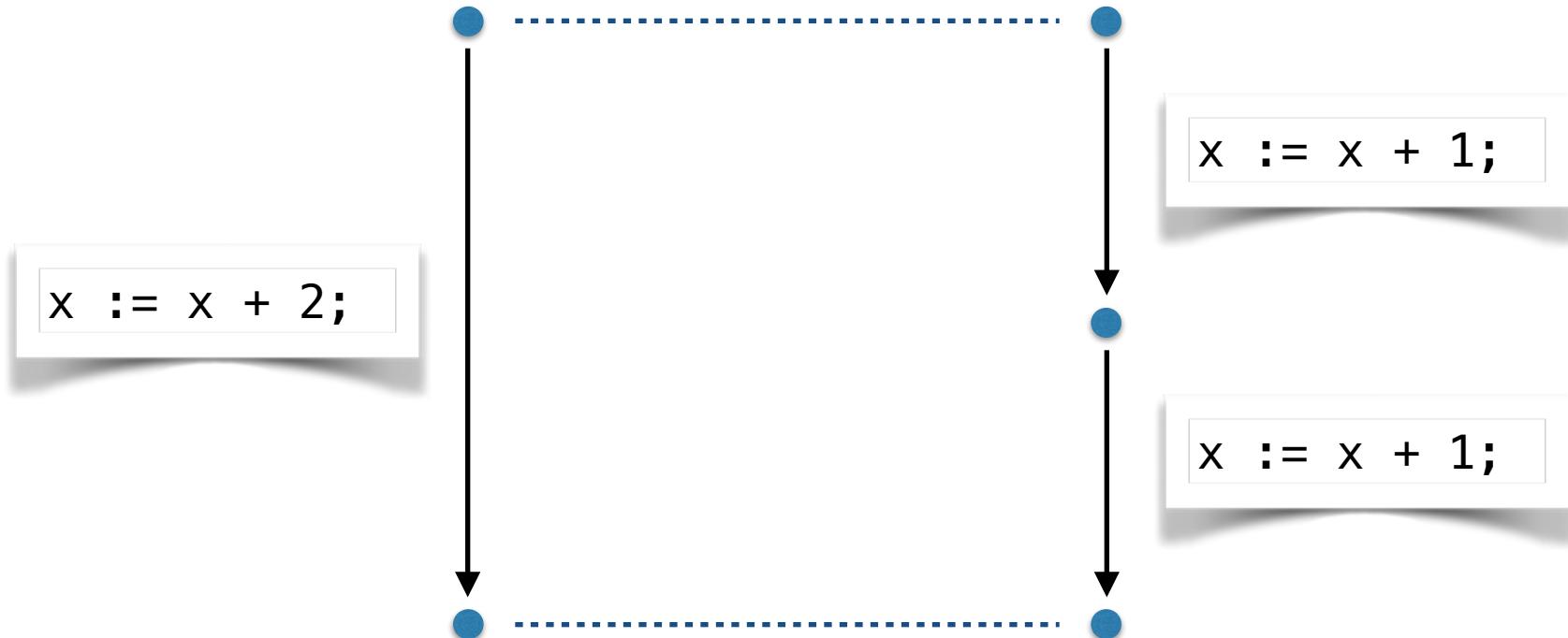
for each next state

such that two states are related

there exists a next state

# Bisimulation?

---



# Cut-bisimulation

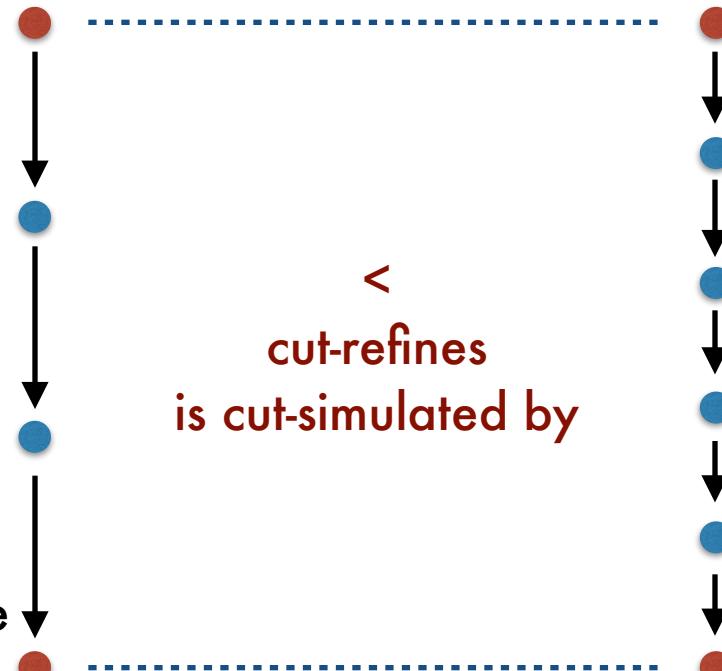
↑  
considering only **relevant** states



# Cut-bisimulation

---

for each pair of related **relevant** states



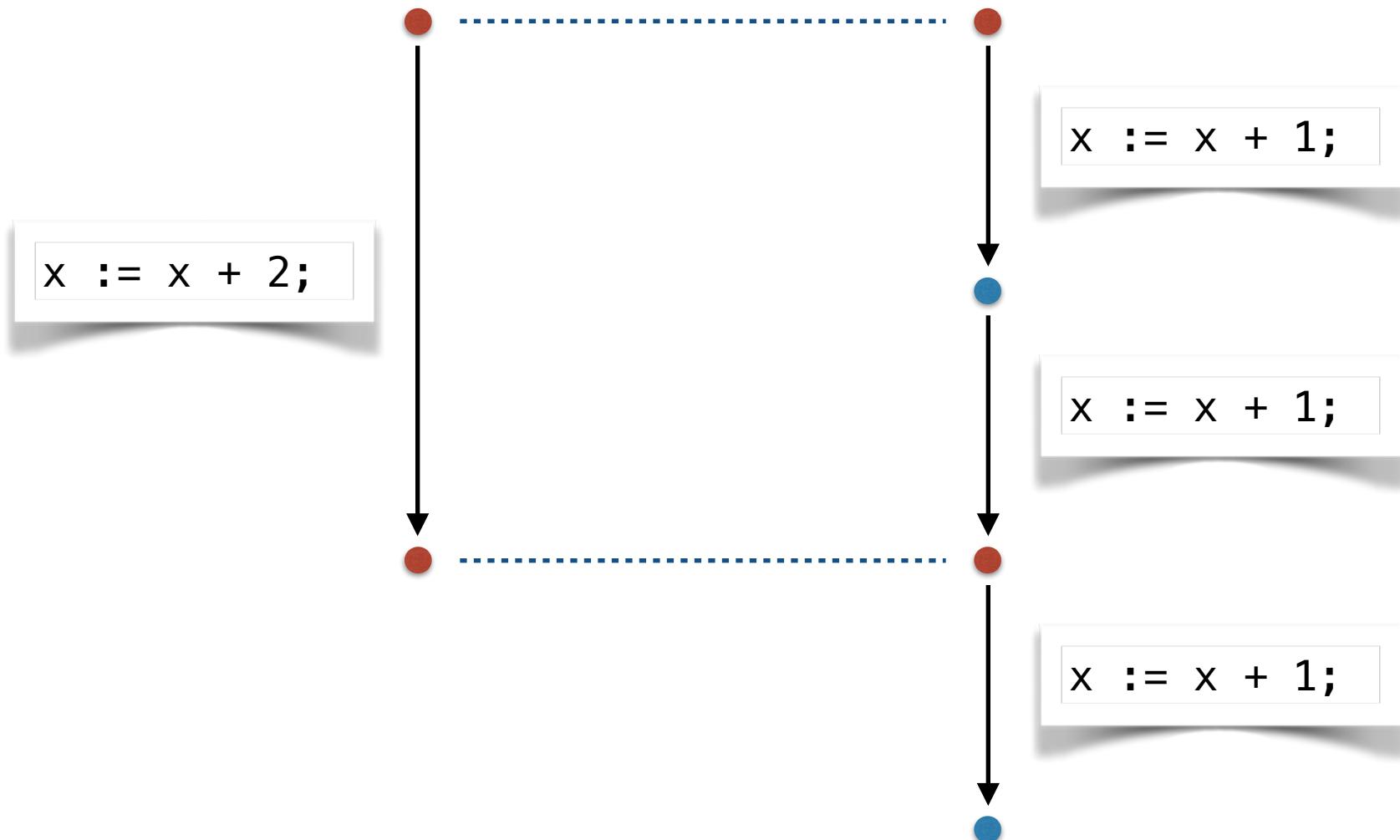
for each next **relevant** state

such that two **relevant** states are related

there exists a next **relevant** state

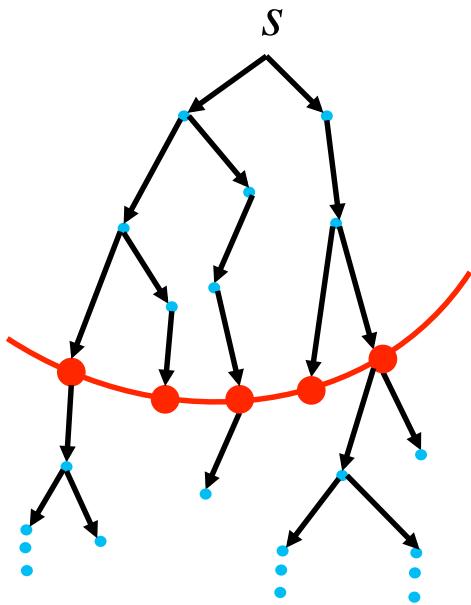
# Well-formedness of relevant states

---

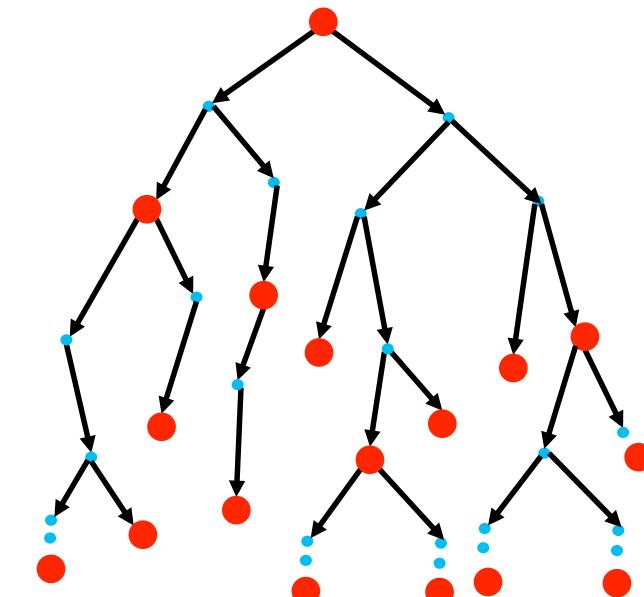


# Cut

---



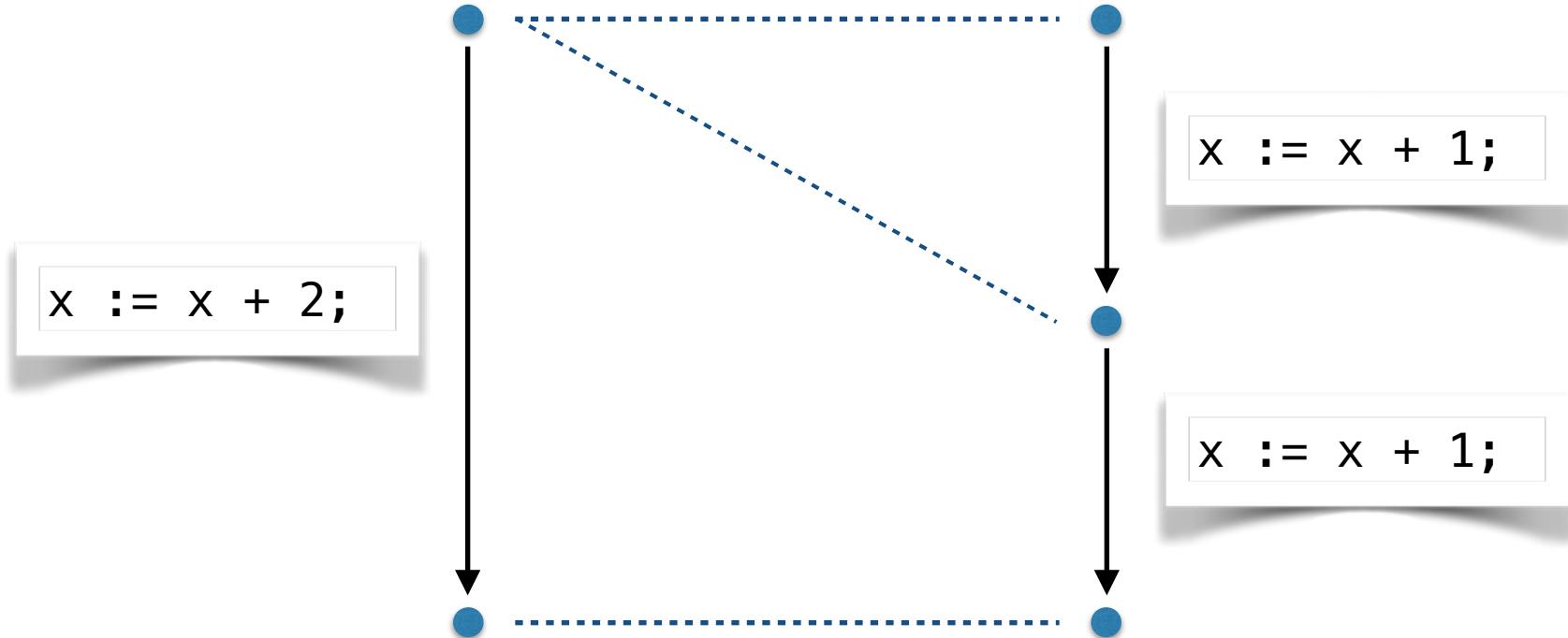
**Cut for  $s$**



**Cut for all**

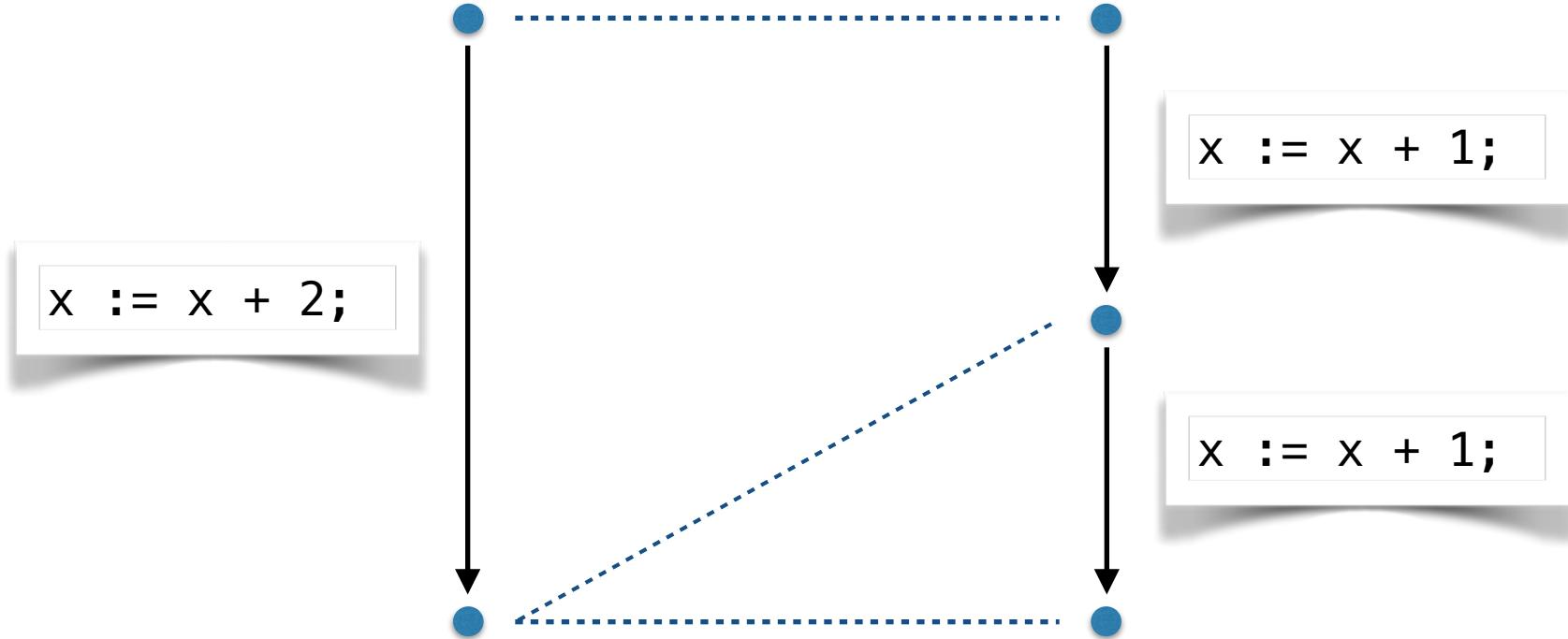
# Stuttering bisimulation [BCG'88, dNV'90]

two possible stuttering bisimulations: 1 of 2



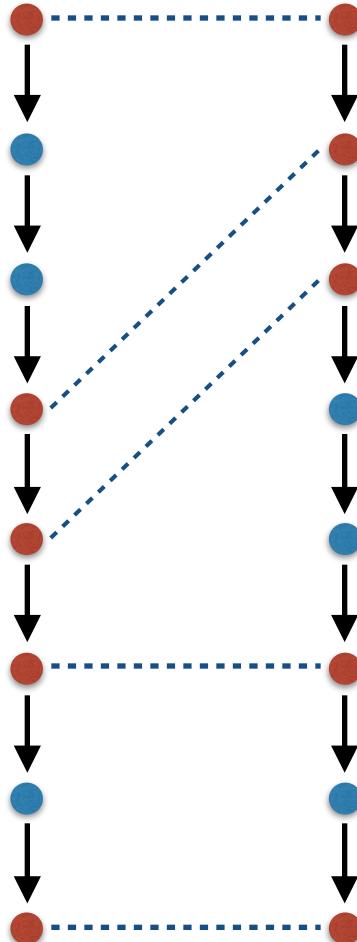
# Stuttering bisimulation [BCG'88, dNV'90]

two possible stuttering bisimulations: 2 of 2

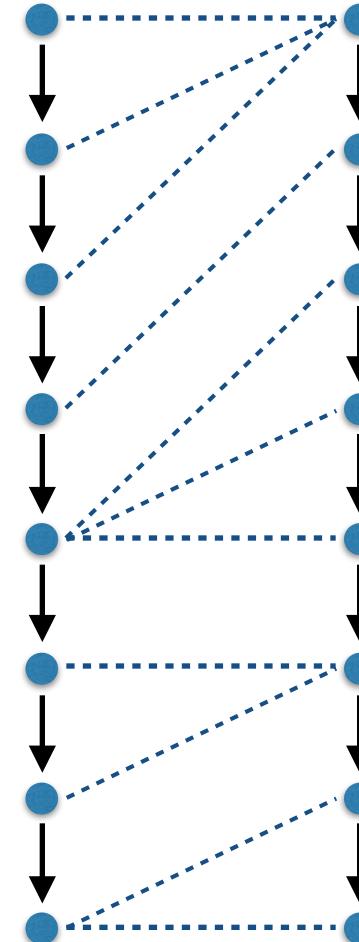


# Cut-bisimulation vs stuttering bisimulation

---



vs

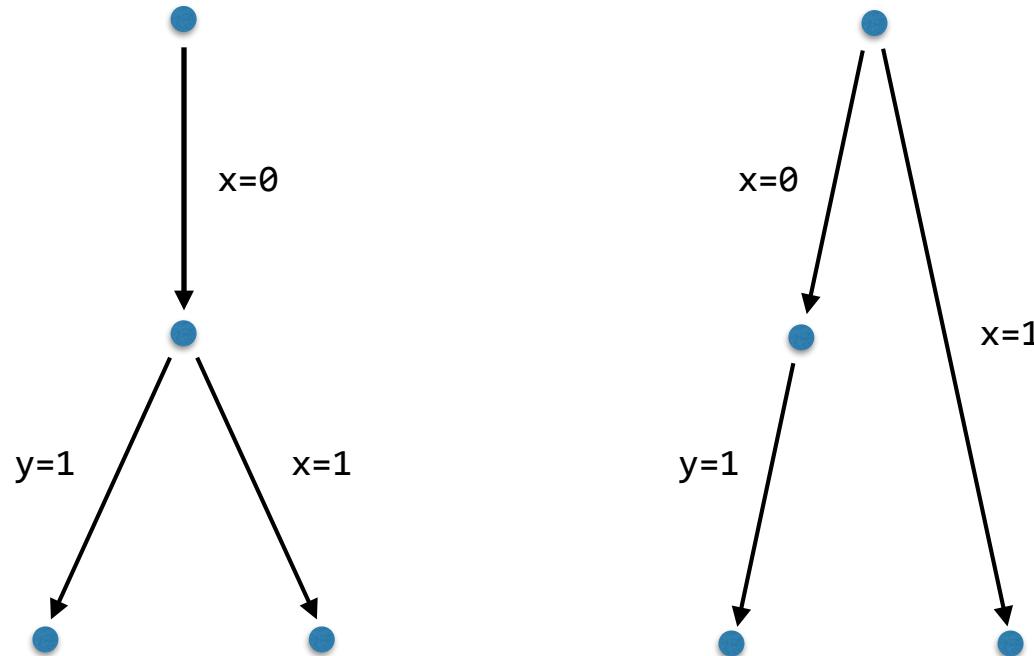


[Namjoshi'97]

# Non-intuitive stuttering bisimulation

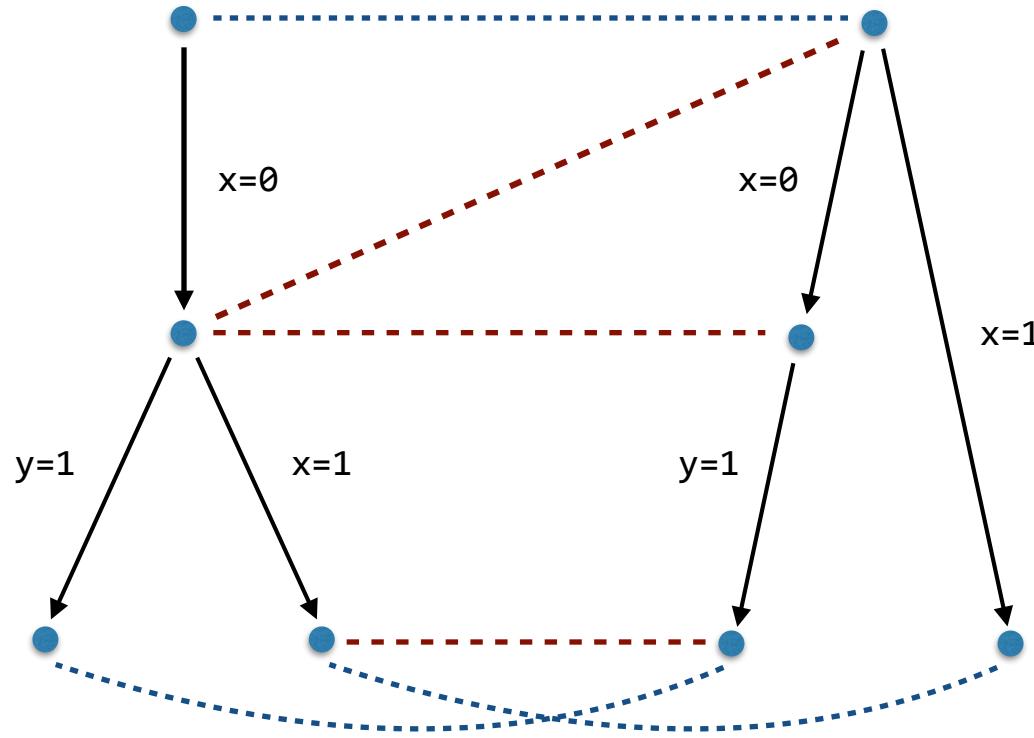
---

Partial redundancy elimination



# Non-intuitive stuttering bisimulation

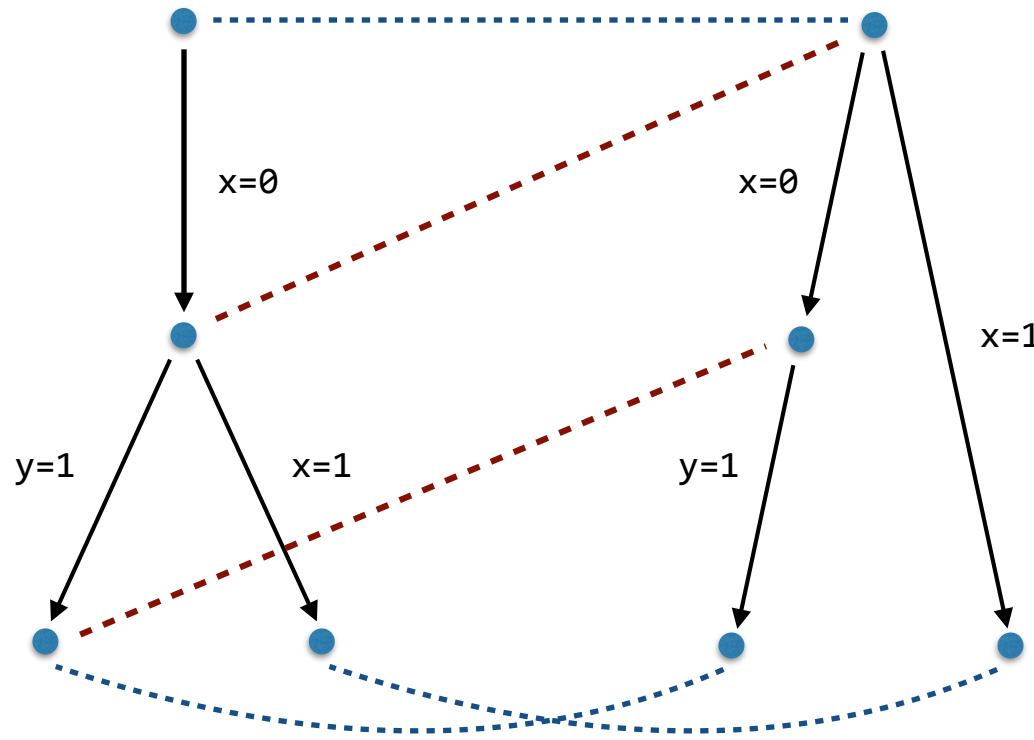
Partial redundancy elimination



two possible stuttering bisimulations: 1 of 2

# Non-intuitive stuttering bisimulation

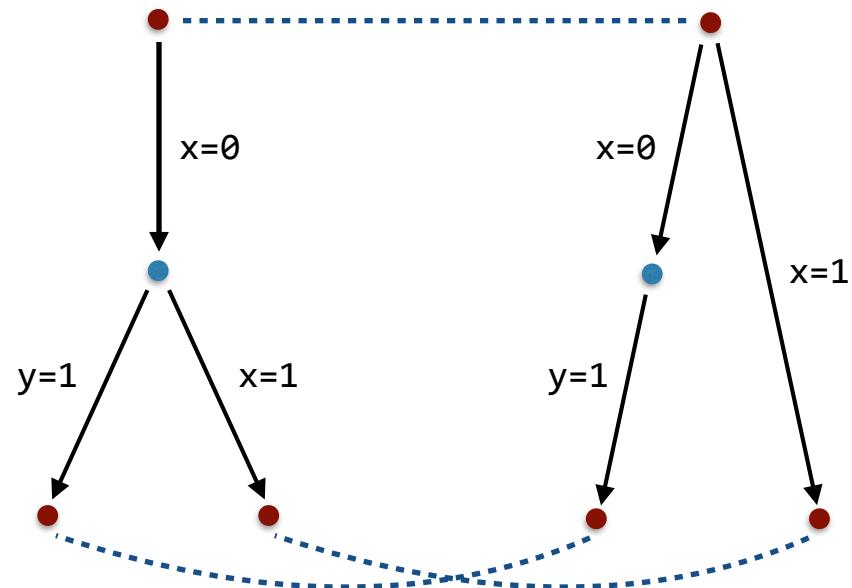
Partial redundancy elimination



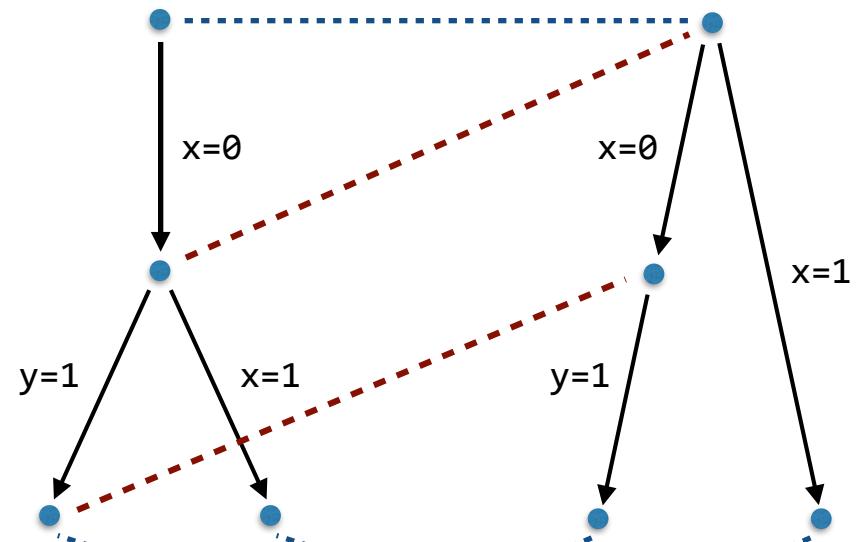
two possible stuttering bisimulations: 2 of 2

# Cut-bisimulation vs stuttering bisimulation

---



vs



# KEQ: universal program equivalence checker

---

- Parameters
  - Two language semantics
- Inputs
  - Two programs
  - A relation (called synchronization points)
- Output
  - True if the relation is a cut-(bi)simulation
  - Can be used for translation validation for compiler

# Evaluating new formal method

Heap manipulating programs

Smart contracts

Translation validation

Specification refinement

Deductive Verifier

Program Equivalence Checker

[TR'18]

C

Java

JavaScript

WASM

JAUS

Vyper

EVM

# Translation validation [Pnueli et al.'98]

---

- Validate each instance of compilation
- Verify equivalence of input/output programs
  - KEQ can be used for checking equivalence
- Practical advantages for compiler verification

# Example

---

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
  
        i = i + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
  
        i = i + 2;  
  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```

# Example

---

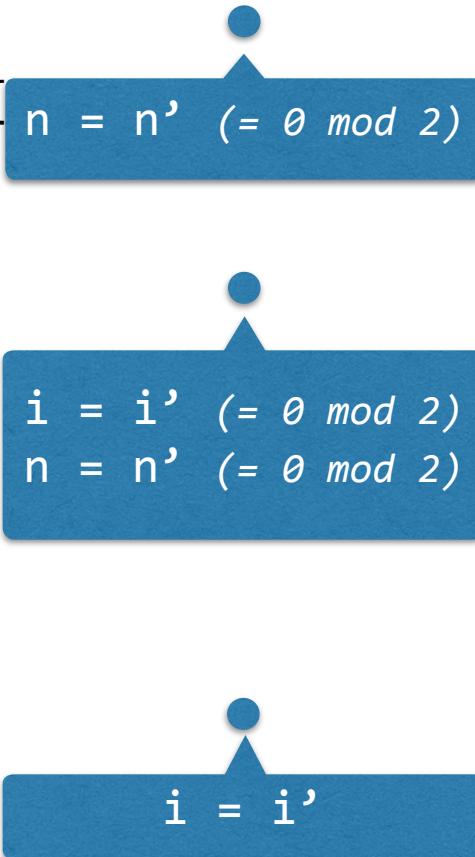
```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
  
        i = i + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
  
        i = i + 2;  
  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```

# Example

---

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```



```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 2;  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```

# Example

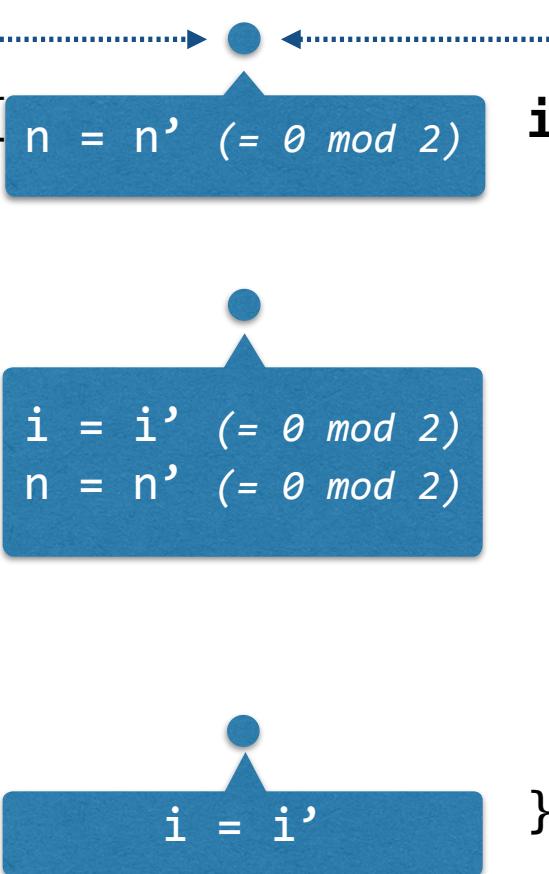
---

$n \mapsto 2k$

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```

$n \mapsto 2k$

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 2;  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```



# Example

$n \mapsto 2k$

$i \mapsto 0$

$n \mapsto 2k$  **while** ( $i < n$ ) {

$i = i + 1;$

}

**return**  $i;$

}

$n = n'$  ( $= \theta \bmod 2$ )

$i = i'$  ( $= \theta \bmod 2$ )  
 $n = n'$  ( $= \theta \bmod 2$ )

$i = i'$

$n \mapsto 2k$

$i \mapsto 0$

**int** foo(**unsigned** n) {

$i = 0;$

**while** ( $i < n$ ) {

$i = i + 2;$

}

**return**  $i;$

}

# Example

$n \mapsto 2k$

```
int foo(unsigned n) { n = n' ( $= 0 \bmod 2$ )
```

$i \mapsto 0$

```
while (i < n) {
```

```
    i = i + 1;
```

```
}
```

```
return i;
```

```
}
```

$i = i'$

```
i = i'
```

$n \mapsto 2k$

```
int foo(unsigned n) {
```

$i \mapsto 0$

```
while (i < n) {
```

```
    i = i + 2;
```

```
}
```

```
return i;
```

```
}
```

$i = i'$

```
i = i'
```

# Example

---

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
    }  
  
    return i;  
}
```

**int foo(unsigned n) {**

**int i = 0;**

**while (i < n) {**

**i = i + 1;**

**}**

**return i;**

**}**

**n = n' ( $= \theta \bmod 2$ )**

**i = i' ( $= \theta \bmod 2$ )**

**n = n' ( $= \theta \bmod 2$ )**

**i = i'**

**int foo(unsigned n) {**

**int i = 0;**

**while (i < n) {**

**i = i + 2;**

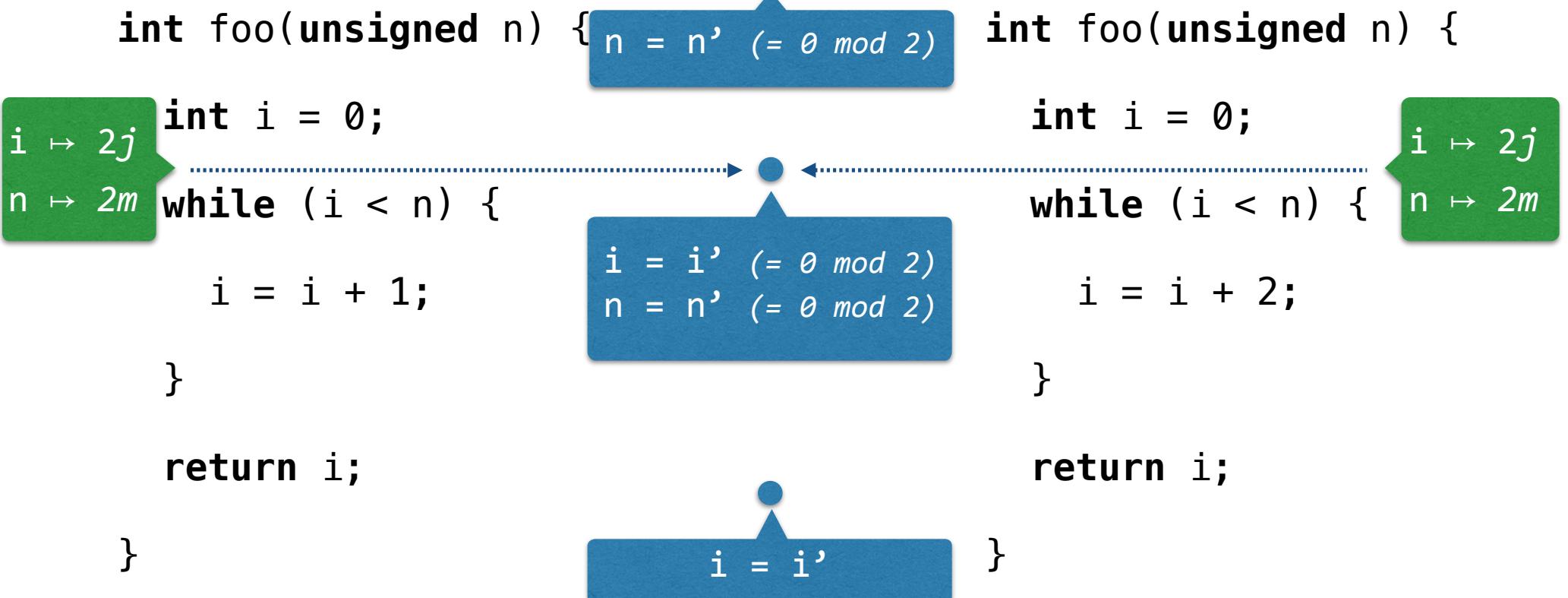
**}**

**return i;**

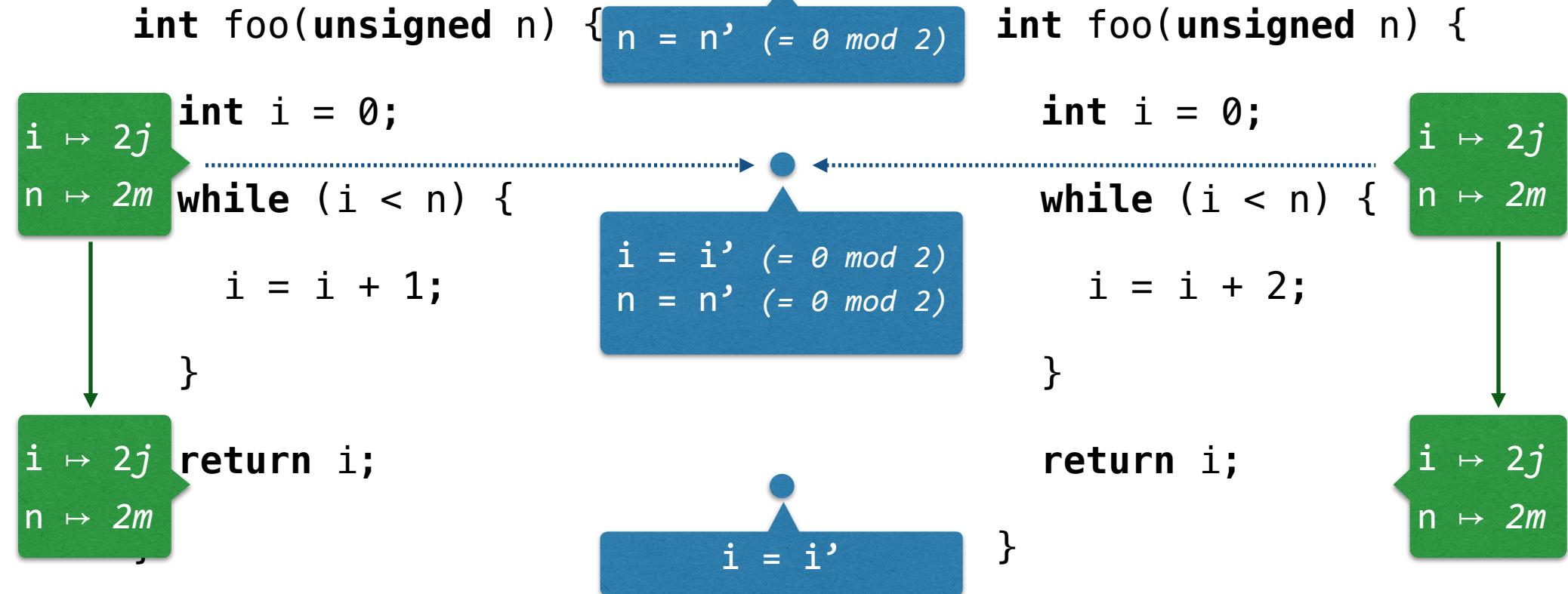
**}**

# Example

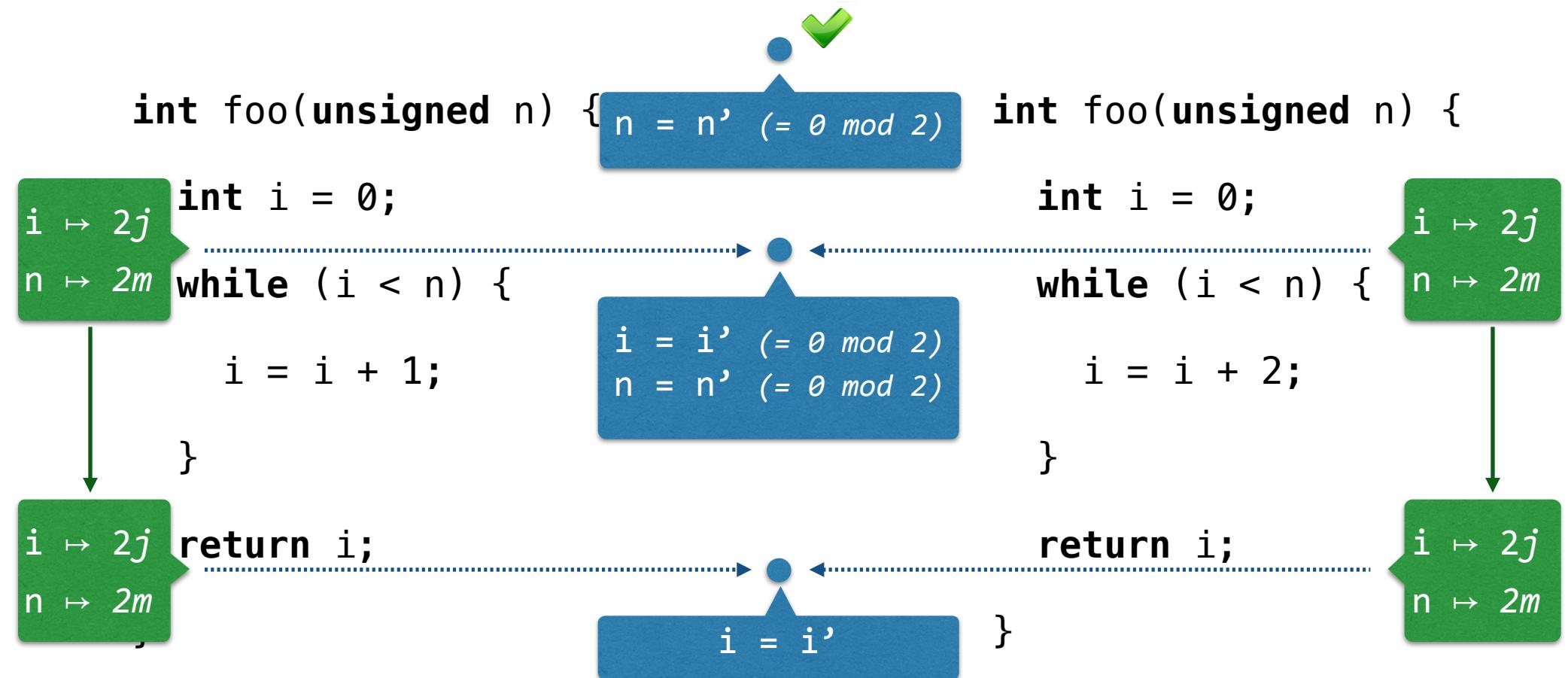
---



# Example



# Example



# Example

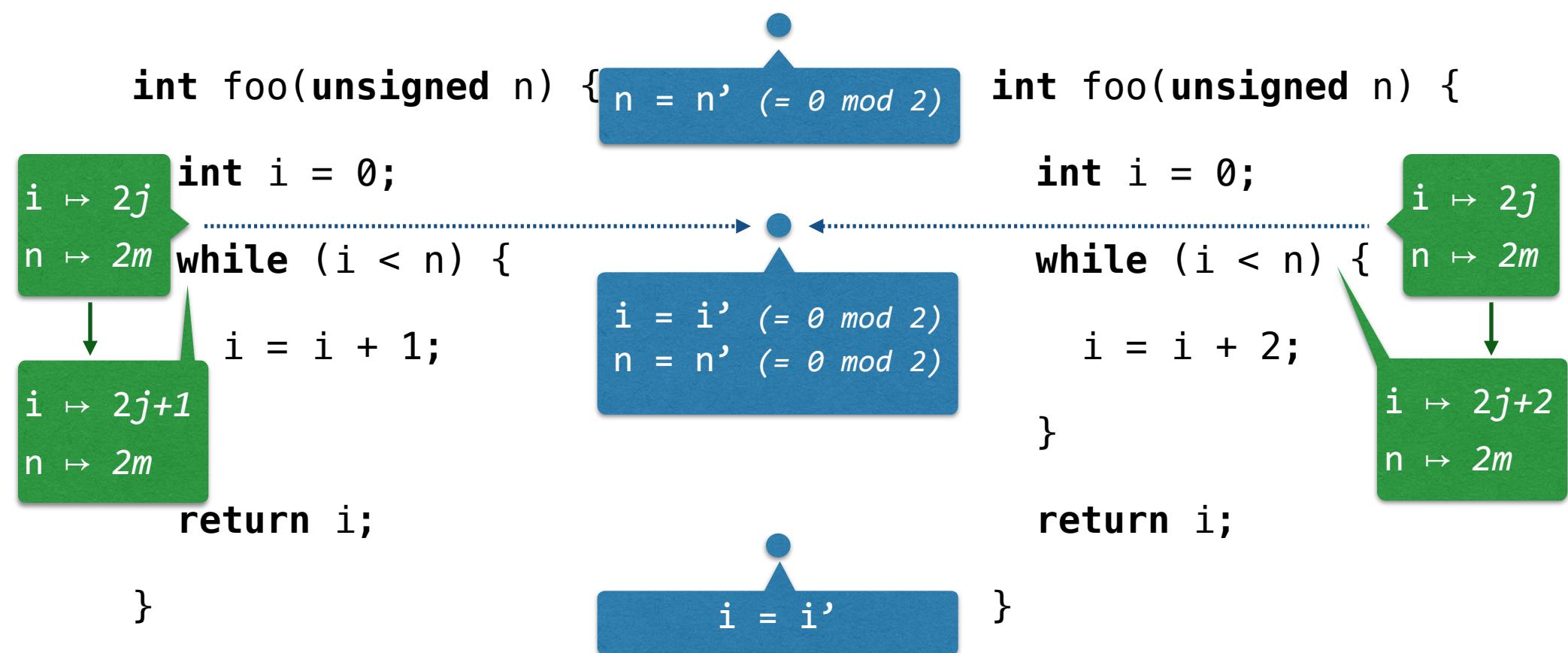
---

```
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
    n ↳ 2m  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
    }  
    return i;  
}  
  
int foo(unsigned n) {  
    int i = 0;  
    i ↳ 2j  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 2;  
    }  
    return i;  
}
```

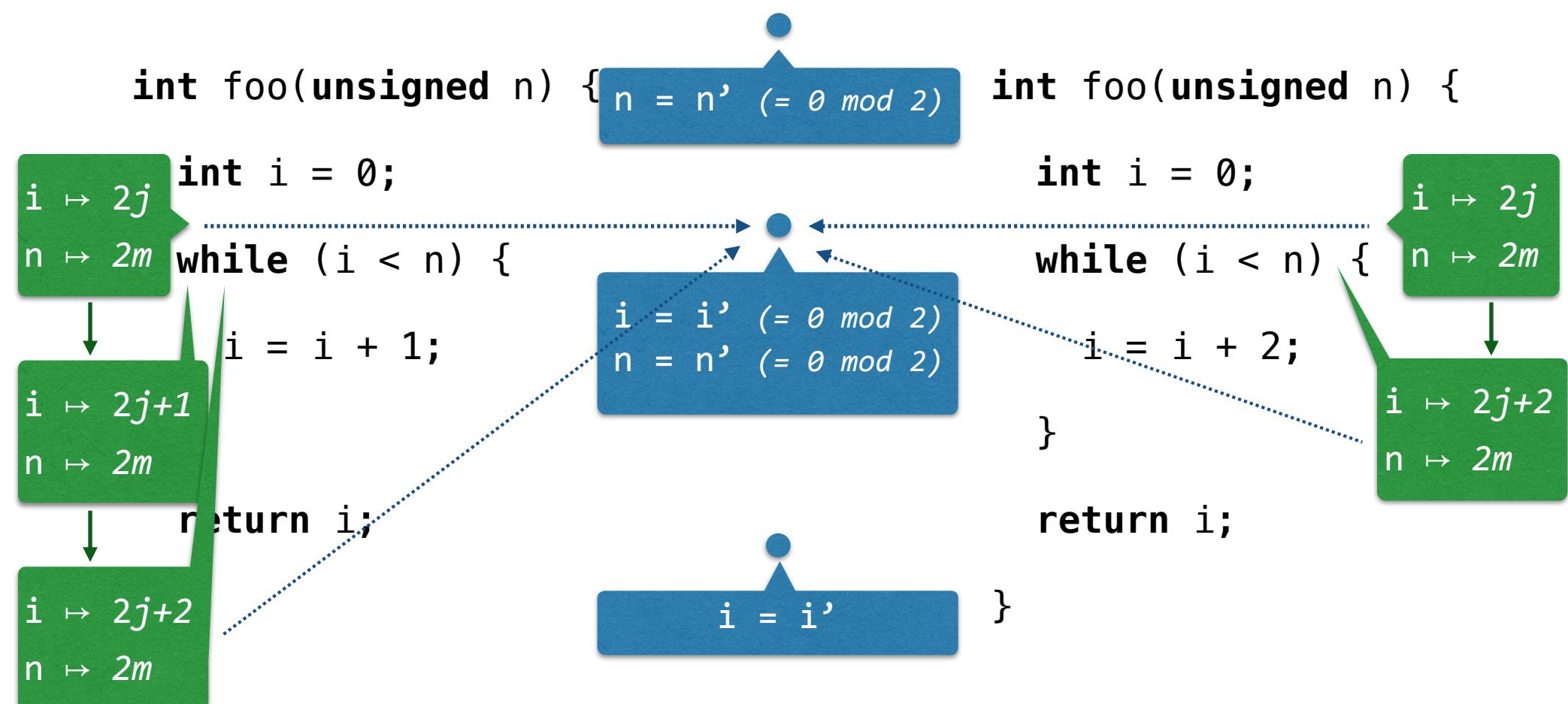
Annotations:

- Initial state:
  - $i \mapsto 2j$
  - $n \mapsto 2m$
- Loop invariant (top blue box):
  - $n = n', (= \theta \bmod 2)$
- Loop invariant (middle blue box):
  - $i = i', (= \theta \bmod 2)$
  - $n = n', (= \theta \bmod 2)$
- Final assignment (bottom blue box):
  - $i = i'$

# Example



# Example



# Example (out-of-order loop iter.)

---

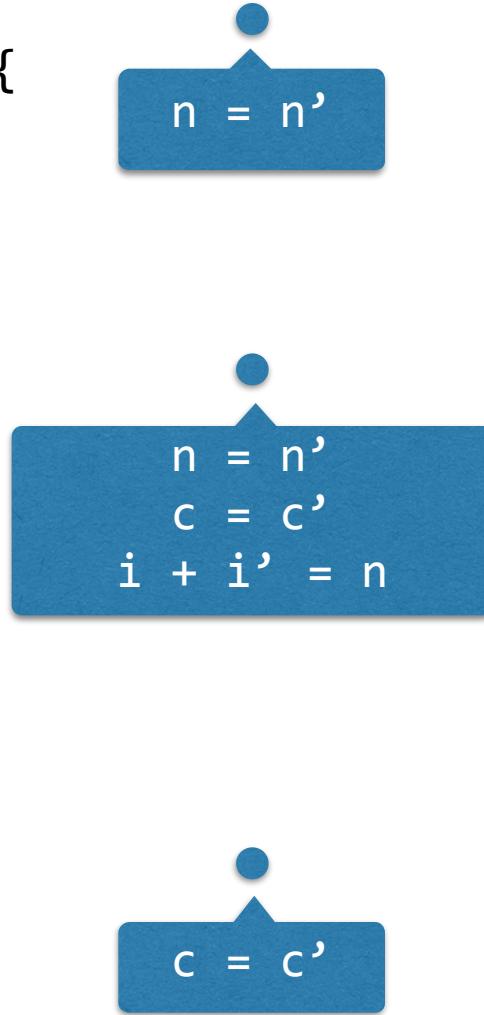
```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
  
        i = i + 1;  
  
        c = c + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return c;  
}
```

```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = n;  
  
    while (i > 0) {  
  
        i = i - 1;  
  
        c = c + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return c;  
}
```

# Example (out-of-order loop iter.)

---

```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return c;  
}
```

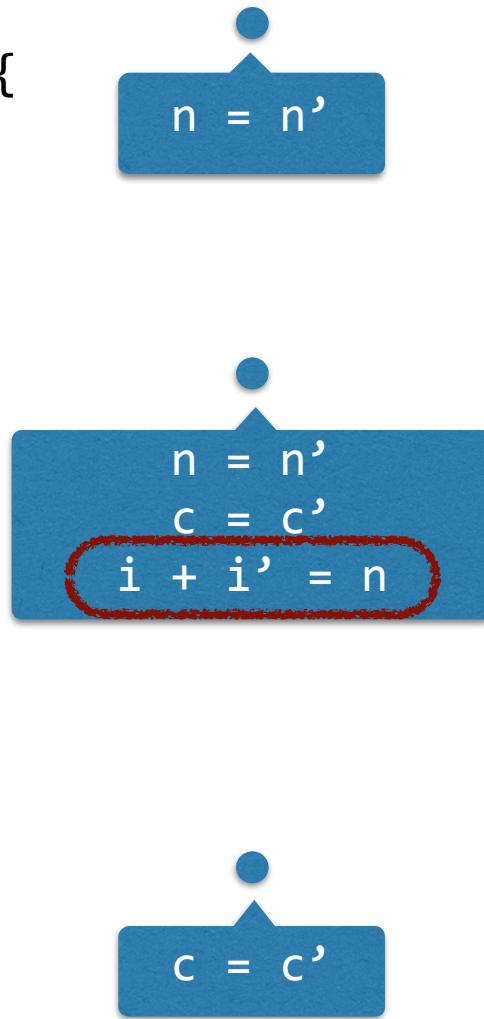


```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = n;  
  
    while (i > 0) {  
        i = i - 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return c;  
}
```

# Example (out-of-order loop iter.)

---

```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = 0;  
  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return c;  
}
```

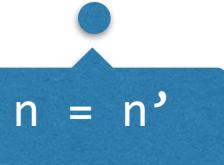


```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = n;  
  
    while (i > 0) {  
        i = i - 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
  
    }  
  
    return c;  
}
```

# Example (out-of-order loop iter.)

```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
        i' = i+1  
    }  
    return c;  
}
```

$n = n'$



```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = n;  
    while (i > 0) {  
        i = i - 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
    }  
    return c;  
}
```

$c = c'$



```
n' = n  
c' = c  
i' = j  
i = j-1  
c = c+1  
i = i+1  
n = n+1  
c = c+1  
i = i+1  
return c;
```

$n \mapsto n$   
 $c \mapsto c$   
 $i \mapsto j$

$n \mapsto n$   
 $c \mapsto c+1$   
 $i \mapsto j-1$

# Example (out-of-order loop iter.)

```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = 0;  
    while (i < n) {  
        i = i + 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
    }  
    return c;  
}
```

$n \mapsto n$   
 $c \mapsto c$   
 $i \mapsto i$

$n \mapsto n$   
 $c \mapsto c+1$   
 $i \mapsto i+1$

$n = n'$

$n$

$n = n'$   
 $c = c'$   
 $i + i' = n$

can be provided  
by compiler

$c = c'$

```
int cnt(unsigned n) {  
    int c = 0;  
  
    int i = n;  
    while (i > 0) {  
        i = i - 1;  
        c = c + 1;  
    }  
    return c;  
}
```

$n \mapsto n$   
 $c \mapsto c$   
 $i \mapsto j$

$n \mapsto n$   
 $c \mapsto c+1$   
 $i \mapsto j-1$

# Checking compatibility

```
function transfer(address to, uint256 value)
    public returns (bool) {
    balances[msg.sender] = balances[msg.sender].sub(value);
    balances[to] = balances[to].add(value);
    emit Transfer(msg.sender, to, value);
    return true;
}
```

Solidity

```
@public
def transfer(to : address, value : uint256(wei)) -> bool:
    sender: address = msg.sender
    self.balances[sender] = self.balances[sender] - value
    self.balances[to] = self.balances[to] + value
    log.Transfer(sender, to, value)
    return True
```

Vyper

# Checking compatibility

```
function transfer(address to, uint256 value)
    public returns (bool) {
    balances[msg.sender] = balances[msg.sender].sub(value);
    balances[to] = balances[to].add(value);
    emit Transfer(msg.sender, to, value);
    return true;
}
```

Solidity 0.4



Solidity 0.5



# Checking compatibility

```
[0000] 60 PUSH1 96:0x60
[0002] 60 PUSH1 64:0x40
[0004] 52 MSTORE
[0005] 60 PUSH1 4:0x04
[0007] 36 CALLDATASIZE
[0008] 10 LT
[0009] 61 PUSH2 142:0x008e
[0012] 57 JUMPI
[0013] 60 PUSH1 0:0x00
[0015] 35 CALLDATALOAD
[0016] 7c PUSH29 0x0100000000000000...
[0046] 90 SWAP1
[0047] 04 DIV
[0048] 63 PUSH4 4294967295:0xffffffff
[0053] 16 AND
[0054] 80 DUP1
[0055] 63 PUSH4 157198259:0x095ea7b3
[0060] 14 EQ
[0061] 61 PUSH2 147:0x0093
[0064] 57 JUMPI
[0065] 80 DUP1
[0066] 63 PUSH4 404098525:0x18160ddd
[0071] 14 EQ
[0072] 61 PUSH2 237:0x00ed
...
[4029] 56 JUMP
[4030] 00 STOP
... // swarm hash
```

Solidity 0.4.19

```
[0000] 60 PUSH1 128:0x80 ←
[0002] 60 PUSH1 64:0x40
[0004] 52 MSTORE
[0005] 60 PUSH1 4:0x04
[0007] 36 CALLDATASIZE
[0008] 10 LT
[0009] 61 PUSH2 142:0x008e
[0012] 57 JUMPI
[0013] 60 PUSH1 0:0x00
[0015] 35 CALLDATALOAD
[0016] 7c PUSH29 0x0100000000000000...
[0046] 90 SWAP1
[0047] 04 DIV
[0048] 63 PUSH4 4294967295:0xffffffff
[0053] 16 AND
[0054] 80 DUP1
[0055] 63 PUSH4 157198259:0x095ea7b3
[0060] 14 EQ
[0061] 61 PUSH2 147:0x0093
[0064] 57 JUMPI
[0065] 80 DUP1
[0066] 63 PUSH4 404098525:0x18160ddd
[0071] 14 EQ
[0072] 61 PUSH2 262:0x0106 ←
...
[4206] 56 JUMP
[4207] fe INVALID ←
... // swarm hash
```

Solidity 0.5.0

# Checking compatibility

```
[0000] 60 PUSH1 96:0x60
```

```
[0002] 60 PUSH1 64:0x10
```

```
[0004] 52
```

```
[0005] 60
```

CONTROL = CONTROL' = #execute

```
[0007] 36 CALL_DATA = CALL_DATA'
```

```
[0008] 10 = transfer(TO_ID, VALUE)
```

```
[0009] 61 ACCT_ID = ACCT_ID'
```

```
[0012] 57 CALLER_ID = CALLER_ID'
```

```
[0013] 60 TO_ID = TO_ID'
```

```
[0015] 35 VALUE = VALUE'
```

```
[0016] 7C LOG = LOG'
```

```
[0046] 90 STORAGE = STORAGE'
```

```
[0047] 04
```

```
[0048] 63
```

```
[0053] 16 AND
```

```
[0054] 80 DUP1
```

```
[0055] 62 PUSH1 157108250:0x005ea7b3
```

CONTROL = CONTROL' = #halt  
STATUS = STATUS' = EVMC\_SUCCESS  
OUTPUT = OUTPUT'  
LOG = LOG'  
STORAGE = STORAGE'

```
[4029] 56 JUMP
```

```
[4030] 00 STOP
```

```
... // swarm hash
```

```
[0000] 60 PUSH1 128:0x80
```

```
[0002] 60 PUSH1 64:0x10
```

CONTROL = CONTROL' = #execute

CALL\_DATA = CALL\_DATA'

ACCT\_ID = ACCT\_ID'

CALLER\_ID = CALLER\_ID'

TO\_ID = TO\_ID'

VALUE = VALUE'

LOG = LOG'

STORAGE = STORAGE'

00000000...

:0xffffffff

```
[0053] 16 AND
```

```
[0054] 80 DUP1
```

```
[0055] 62 PUSH1 157108250:0x005ea7b3
```

CONTROL = CONTROL' = #halt  
STATUS = STATUS' =  
EVMC\_REVERT  
or  
EVMC\_INVALID\_INSTRUCTION

```
[4206] 56 JUMP
```

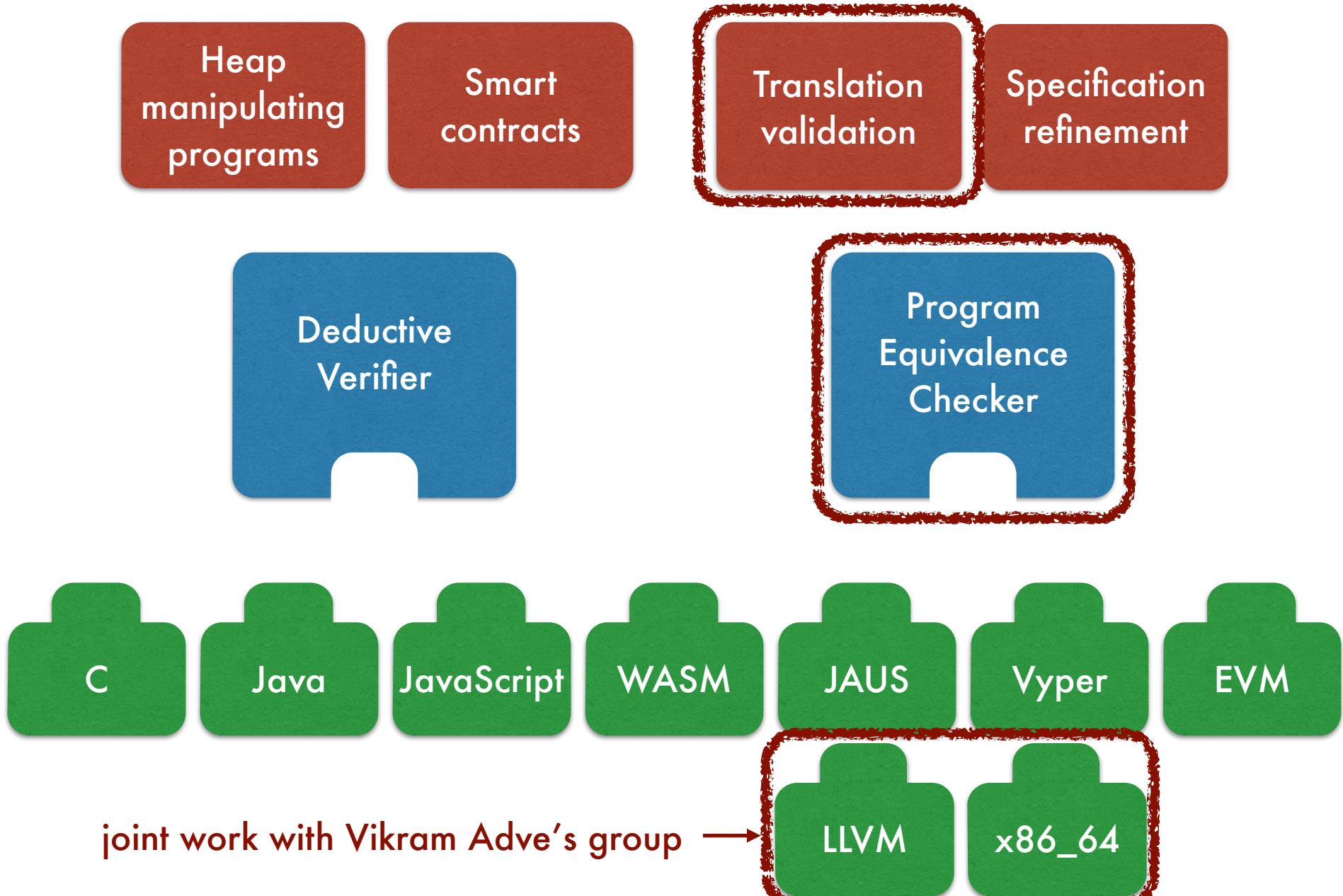
```
[4207] fe INVALID
```

```
... // swarm hash
```

Solidity 0.4.19

Solidity 0.5.0

# Translation validation for LLVM



# Evaluating new formal method

Heap manipulating programs

Smart contracts

Translation validation

Specification refinement

Deductive Verifier

Program Equivalence Checker

[TR'18]

C

Java

JavaScript

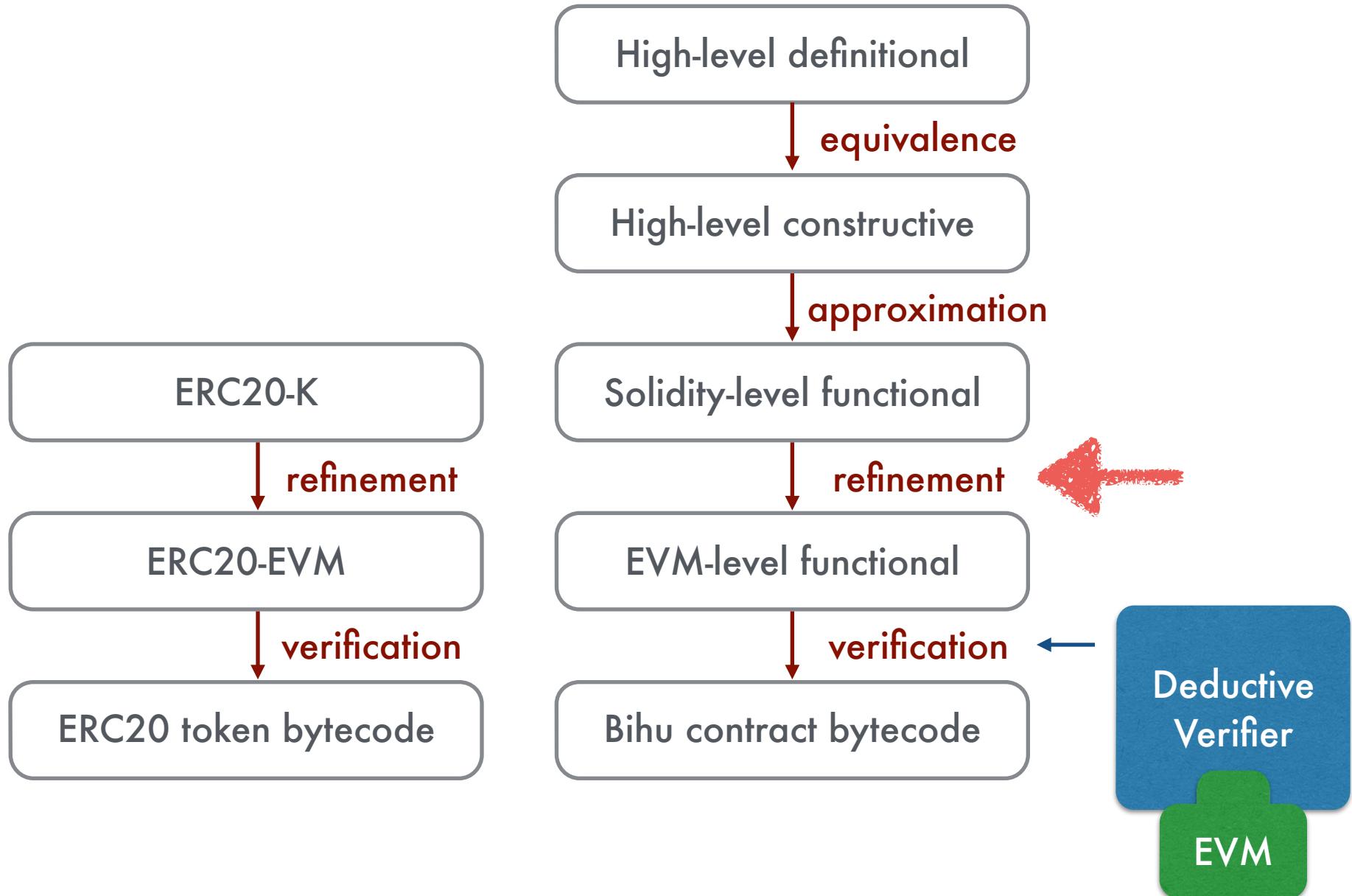
WASM

JAUS

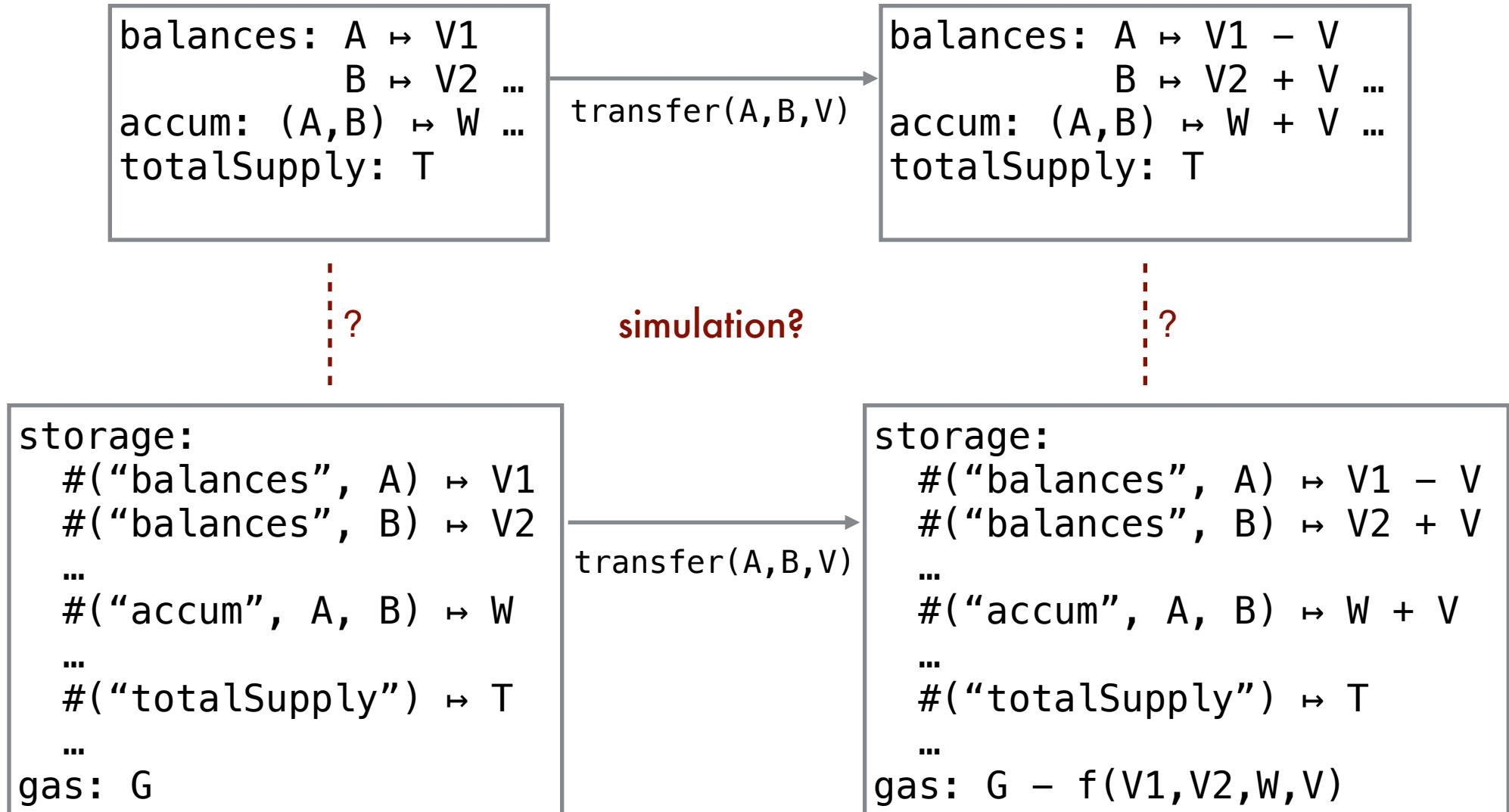
Vyper

EVM

# Validating specification refinement

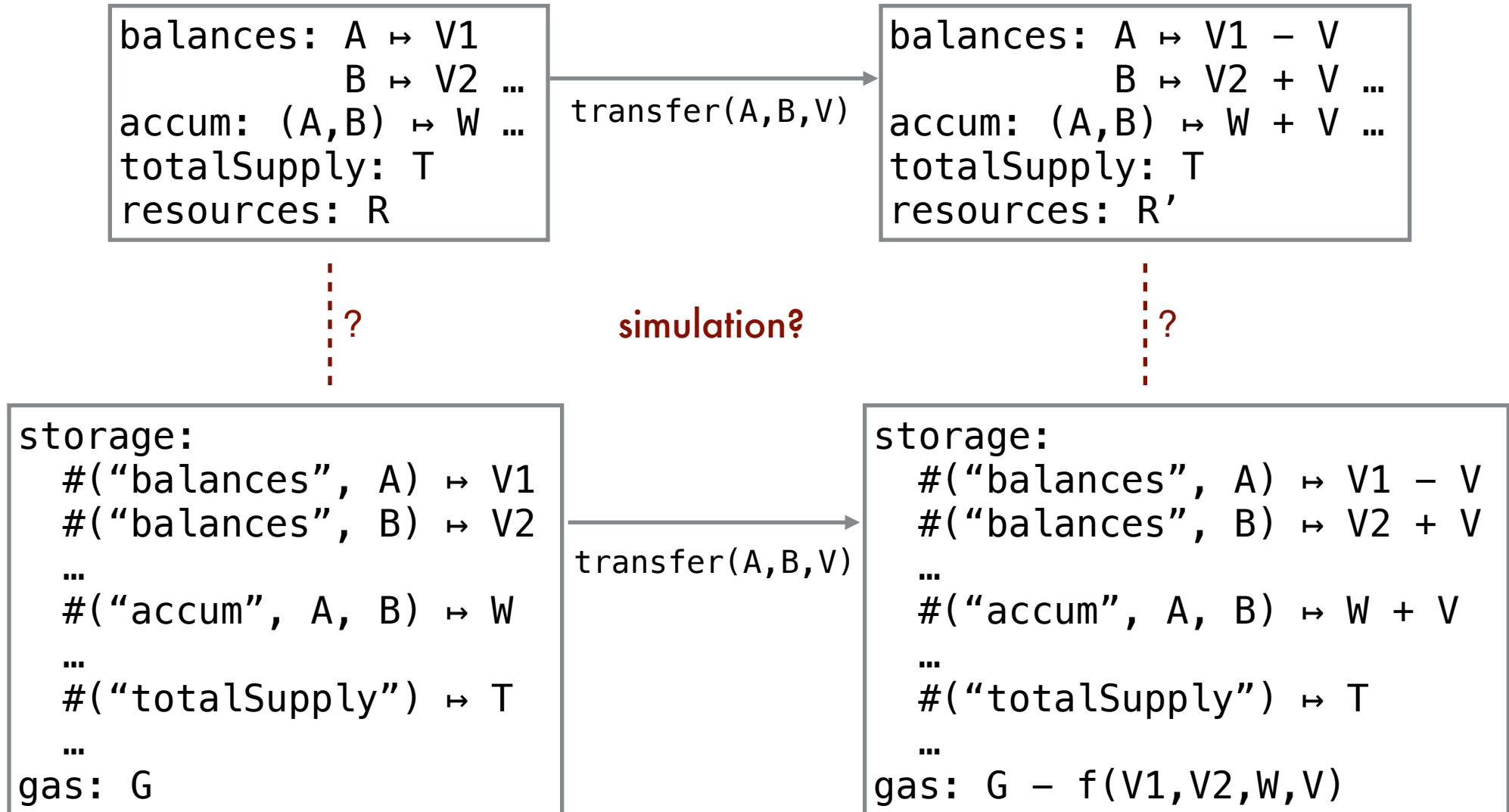


# Soundness of specification refinement



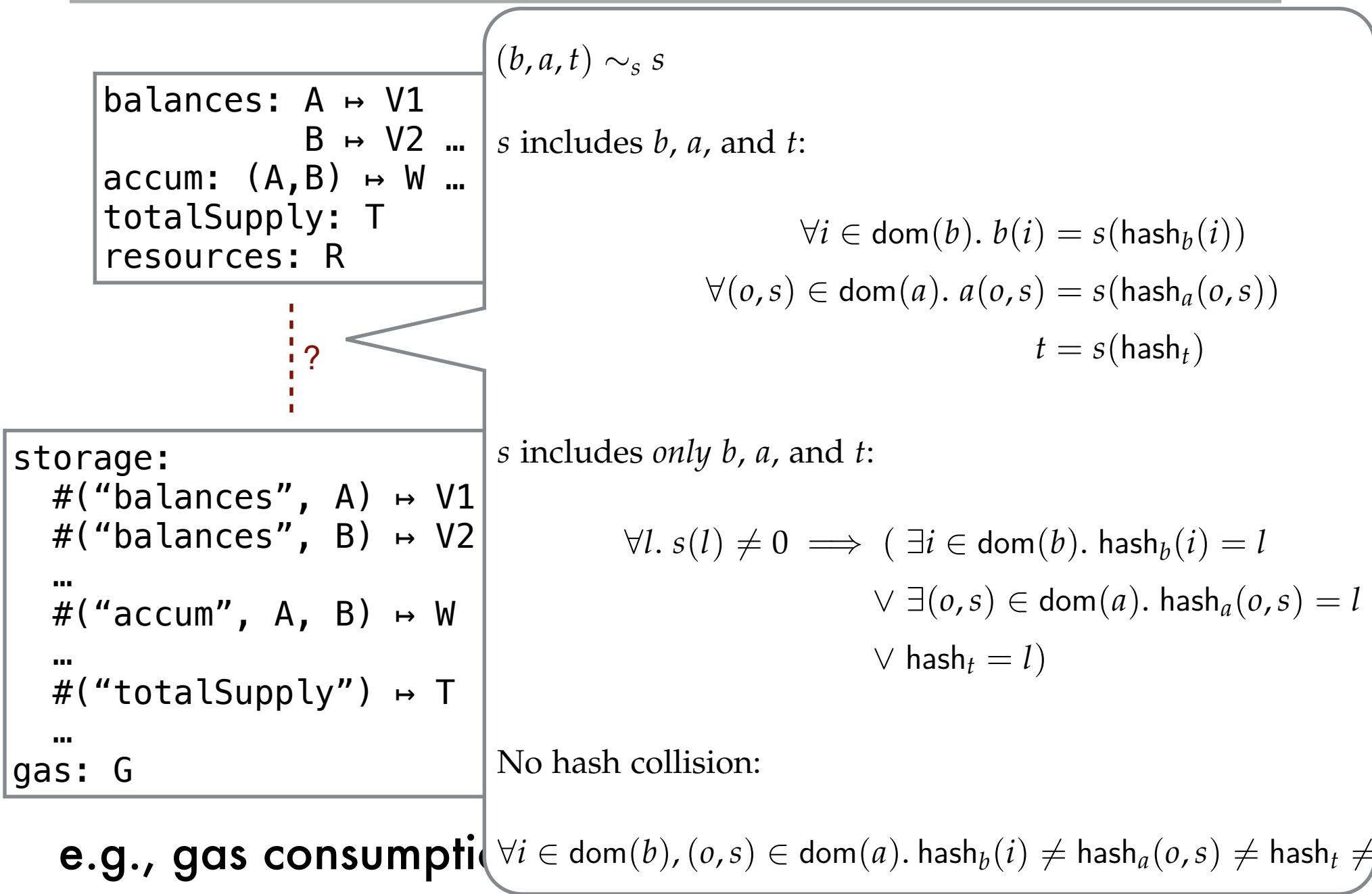
e.g., gas consumption is needed for the high-level spec?

# Soundness of specification refinement

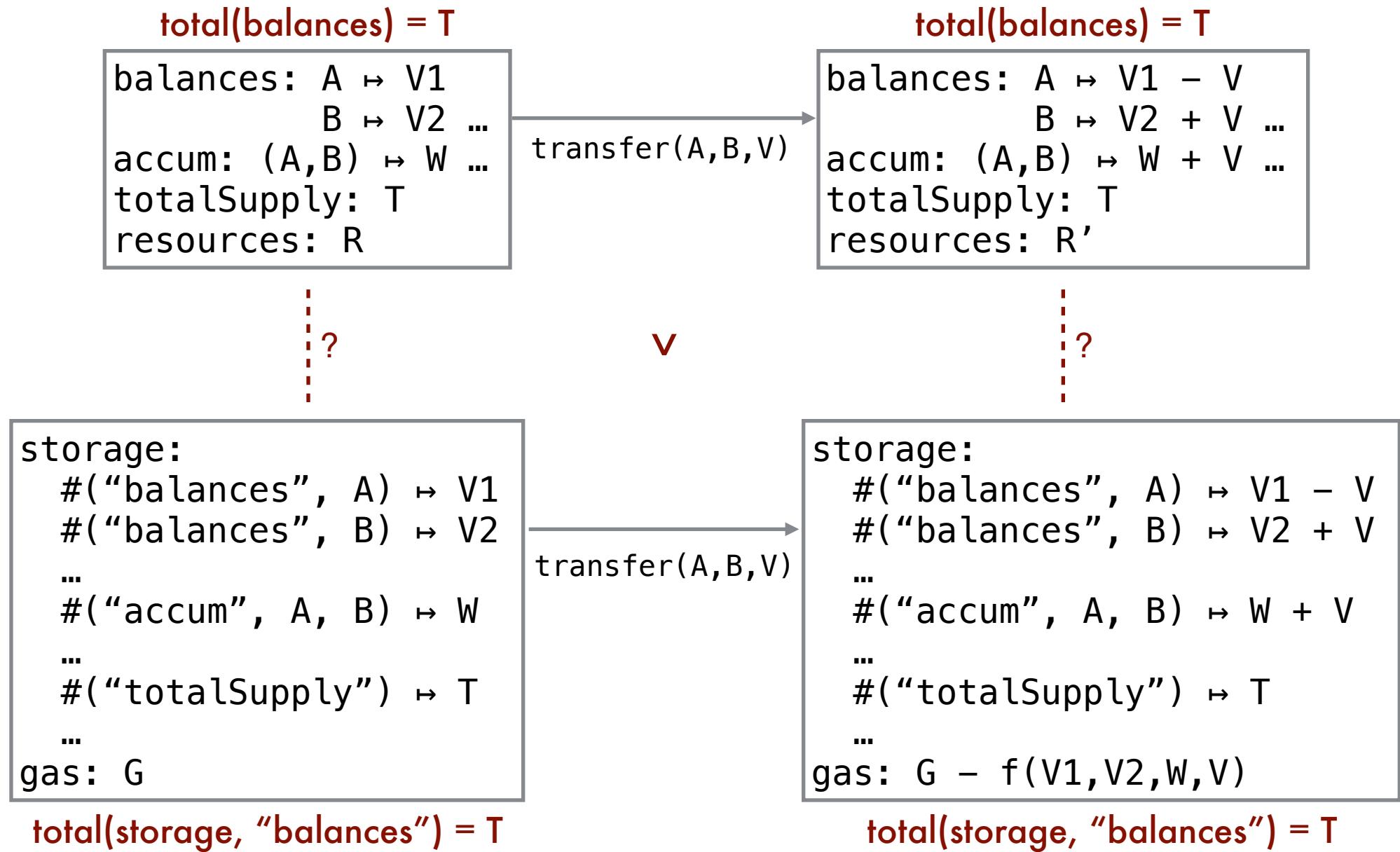


e.g., gas consumption is needed for the high-level spec?

# Soundness of specification refinement



# Property preservation



# Property preservation

$P : D \rightarrow \text{bool}$

$f : S \rightarrow D$

$f' : S' \rightarrow D$

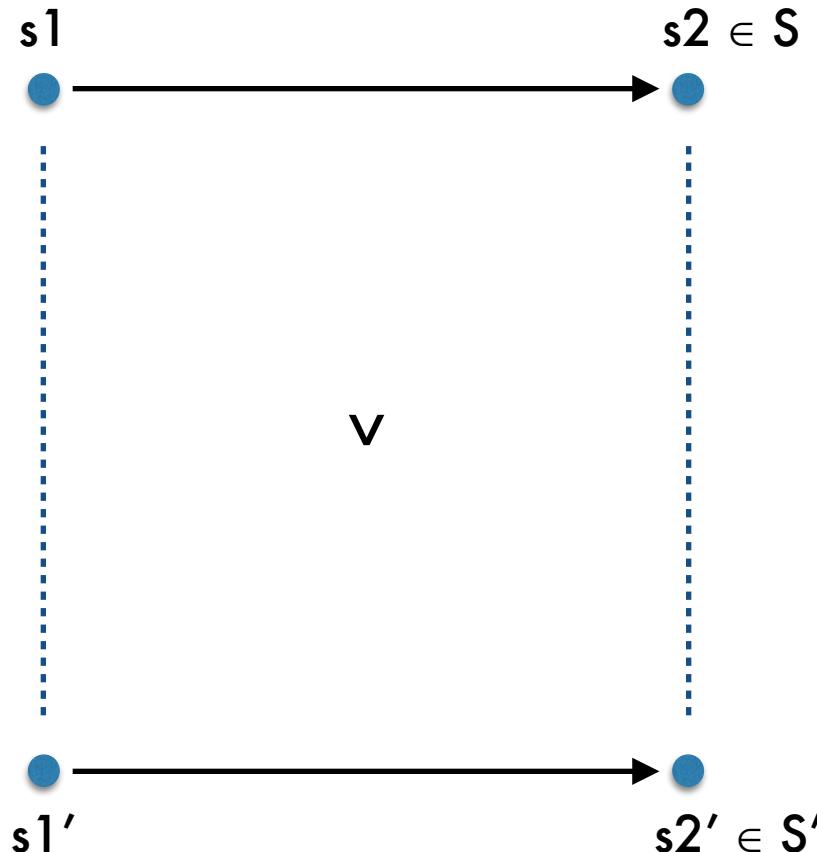
$P \circ f(s) = P(f(s))$

$P \circ f'(s') = P(f'(s'))$

$P \circ f$  is inductive

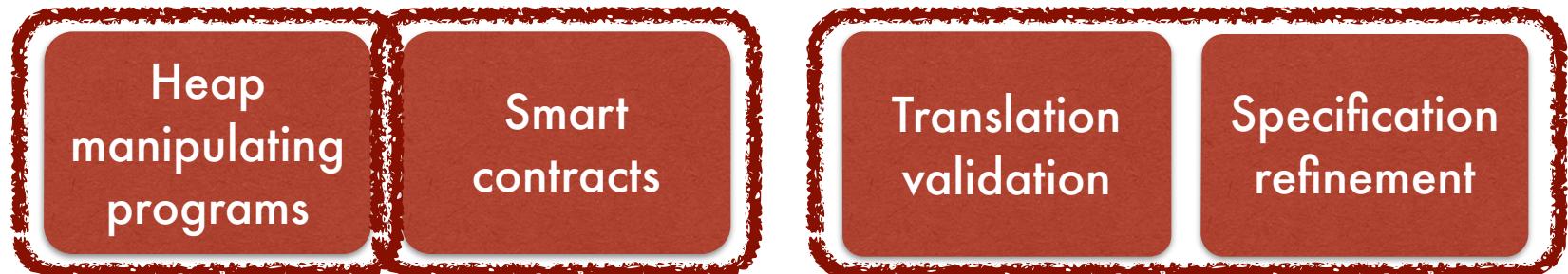
$f(s) = f'(s') \text{ if } s > s'$

$P \circ f'$  is inductive



# Thesis work

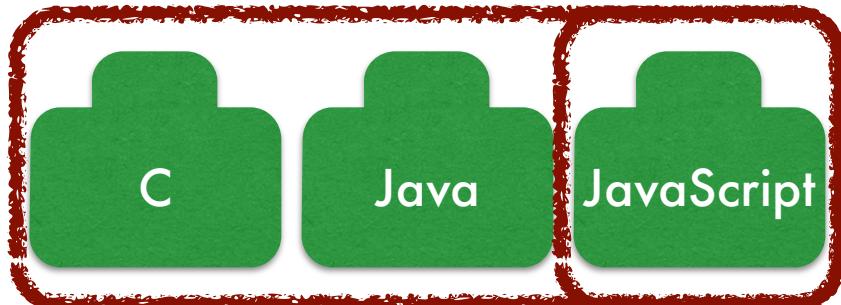
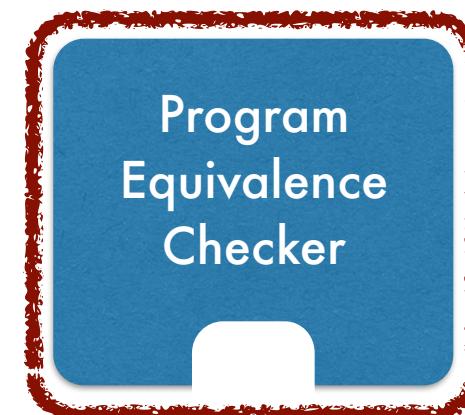
[FSE'18]



[OOPSLA'16]



[TR'18]



[PLDI'15]



[CSF'18]

# Future directions

---

- Verifying cryptographic primitives
- Translation validation of compilers
- Verifiable computing (for approximate computing)
- Semantics coverage guided fuzzing

Thank you

# ERC20-K vs ERC20-EVM configurations

```
<k> $PGM:K </k>
<caller> 0 </caller>
<accounts>
  <account multiplicity="*>
    <id> 0 </id>
    <balance> 0 </balance>
  </account>
</accounts>
<allowances>
  <allowance multiplicity="*>
    <owner> 0 </owner>
    <spenders>
      <allow multiplicity="*>
        <spender> 0 </spender>
        <amount> 0 </amount>
      </allow>
    </spenders>
  </allowance>
</allowances>
<log> Events: </log>
<supply> 0 </supply>
```

```
<k> {K} </k>
<exit-code> 1 </exit-code>
<mode> NORMAL </mode>
<schedule> DEFAULT </schedule> // TODO: pick a right one
<ethereum>
  <evm>
    <output> _ </output>
    <memoryUsed> 0 => _ </memoryUsed>
    <callDepth> CALL_DEPTH </callDepth>
    <callStack> _ => _ </callStack>
    <interimStates> _ </interimStates>
    <substateStack> _ </substateStack>
    <callLog> .Set </callLog> // for vmtest only
    <txExecState>
      <program> #asMapOpCodes(#dasmOpCodes(#parseByteStack({CODE}), DEFAULT)) </program>
      <programBytes> #parseByteStack({CODE}) </programBytes>
      <id> ACCT_ID </id>
      <caller> CALLER_ID </caller>
      <callData> {CALLDATA} </callData>
      <callValue> 0 </callValue>
      <wordStack> .WordStack => _ </wordStack>
      <localMem> {LOCALMEM} </localMem>
      <pc> 0 => _ </pc>
      <gas> {GAS} </gas>
      <previousGas> _ => _ </previousGas>
      <static> false </static> // NOTE: non-static call
    </txExecState>
    <substate>
      <selfDestruct> _ </selfDestruct>
      <log> {LOG} </log>
      <refund> {REFUND} </refund> // TODO: more detail
    </substate>
    <gasPrice> _ </gasPrice>
    <origin> ORIGIN_ID </origin>
  </evm>
  <network>
    <activeAccounts> ACCT_ID |-> false _:Map </activeAccounts>
    <accounts>
      <account>
        <acctID> ACCT_ID </acctID>
        <balance> _ </balance>
        <code> #parseByteStack({CODE}) </code>
        <storage> {STORAGE} </storage>
        <nonce> _ </nonce>
      </account>
    // ... // TODO: fix
    </accounts>
    <txOrder> _ </txOrder>
    <txPending> _ </txPending>
    <messages> _ </messages>
  </network>
</ethereum>
| <previousHash> _ </previousHash>
| <ommersHash> _ </ommersHash>
| <coinbase> _ </coinbase>
| <stateRoot> _ </stateRoot>
| <transactionsRoot> _ </transactionsRoot>
| <receiptsRoot> _ </receiptsRoot>
| <logsBloom> _ </logsBloom>
| <difficulty> _ </difficulty>
| <number> _ </number>
| <gasLimit> _ </gasLimit>
| <gasUsed> _ </gasUsed>
| <timestamp> _ </timestamp>
| <extraData> _ </extraData>
| <mixHash> _ </mixHash>
| <blockNonce> _ </blockNonce>
| <ommerBlockHeaders> _ </ommerBlockHeaders>
| <blockhash> _ </blockhash>
```