

Regression Verification: Proving Partial Equivalence

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Seminar within the
Projektgruppe Formale Methoden der Softwareentwicklung

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Introduction

Formal Verification

Formally prove correctness of software
⇒ Requires formal specification

Regression Testing

Discover new bugs by testing for them
⇒ Requires test cases

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Regression Verification

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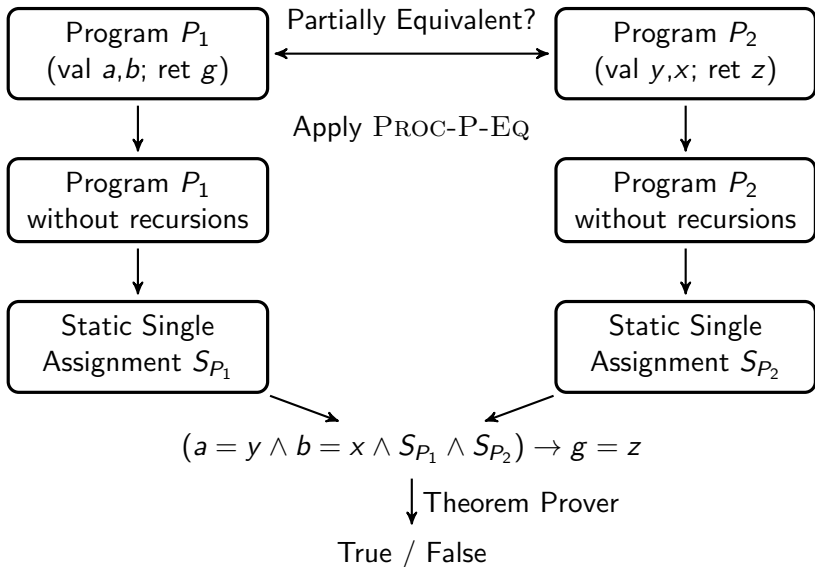
- Goal: Proving the equivalence of two **closely related** programs
- No formal specification or test cases required
- Instead use old program version
- Make use of similarity between programs

Overview

- ① Theoretical Framework
- ② Practical Framework
- ③ Limitations

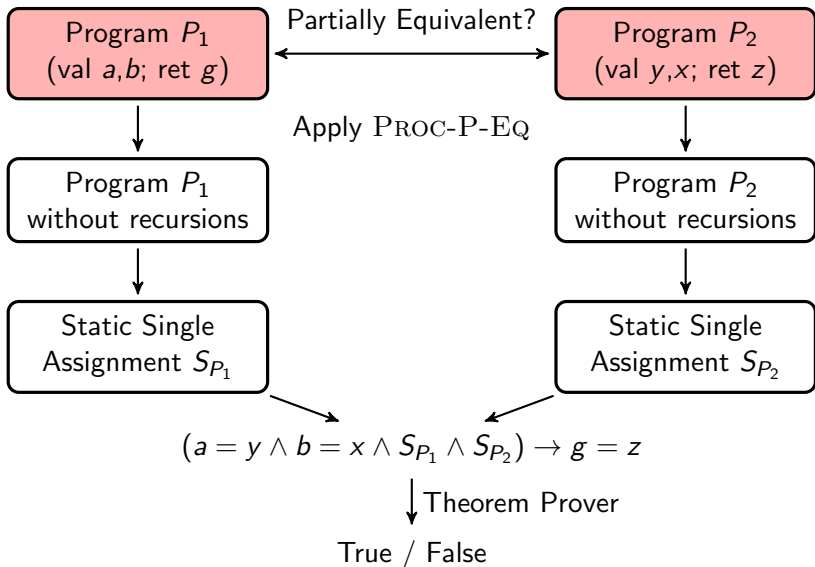
Theoretical Framework

Overview



Linear Procedure Language

Overview



Linear Procedure Language

Example

```
procedure gcd3(val x,y,z; ret w):  
  call gcd(x,y; a);  
  call gcd(a,z; w);  
  return
```

```
procedure gcd(val a,b; ret g):  
  if b = 0 then  
    g := a  
  else  
    a := a%b;  
    call gcd(b,a; g)  
  fi;  
  return
```


Linear Procedure Language

Syntax

$Program \quad :: \quad \langle \text{procedure } p(\text{val } \overline{arg} - r_p; \text{ret } \overline{arg} - w_p): S_p \rangle_{p \in Proc}$

$S \quad :: \quad x := e$

 | $S ; S$

 | **if** B **then** S **else** S **fi**

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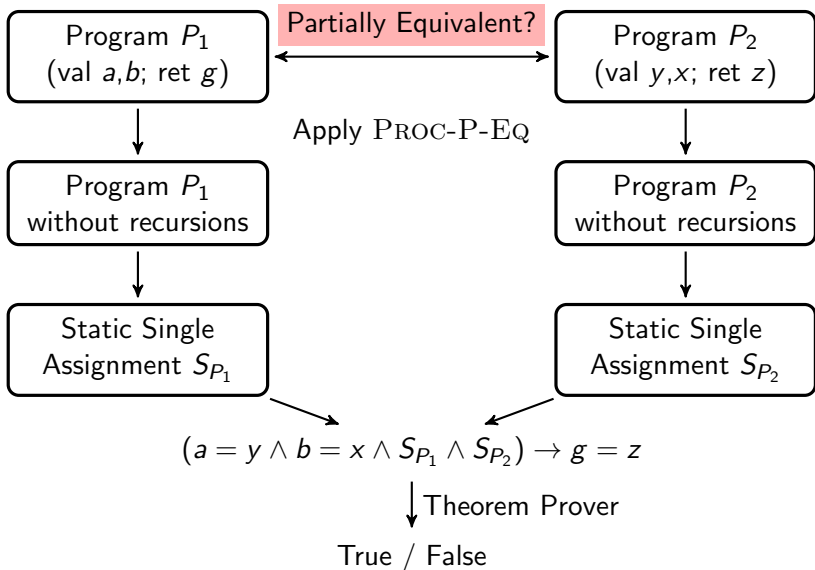
 | **call** $p(\overline{e}; \overline{x})$

 | **return**

\Rightarrow No loops

Partial Equivalence

Overview



Partial Equivalence

Partial Equivalence: Given the same inputs, any two terminating executions of programs P_1 and P_2 return the same value.

\Rightarrow Partial Equivalence is undecidable

In LPL:

$$\text{part-equiv}(P_1, P_2) = in[P_1] = in[P_2] \rightarrow out[P_1] = out[P_2]$$

Uninterpreted Procedures

Given the same inputs an **Uninterpreted Procedure** always produces the same outputs.

In LPL:

```
procedure U(val r1 , r2 , ...; ret w1 , w2 , ...):  
  return
```

Mappings

Programs P_1 and P_2 consist of procedures
Map equivalent procedures onto each other

In LPL:

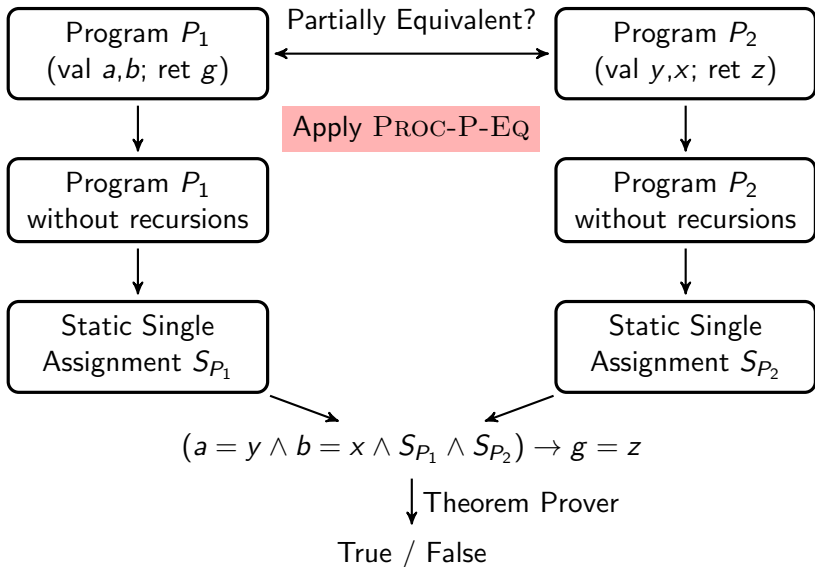
$map : Proc[P_1] \mapsto Proc[P_2]$

UP maps procedures to their respective uninterpreted procedures:

$$\langle F, G \rangle \in map \iff UP(F) = UP(G)$$

Rule for Proving Partial Equivalence

Overview



Example

$$\frac{\text{part-equiv}(\text{gcd1}, \text{gcd2}) \vdash \text{part-equiv}(\text{gcd1 } \mathbf{body}, \text{gcd2 } \mathbf{body})}{\text{part-equiv}(\text{gcd1}, \text{gcd2})}$$

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procedure gcd1
(val a, b; ret g):
  if b = 0 then
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  else
    a := a%b;
    call gcd1 (b, a; g)
  fi;
return
```

```
procedure gcd2
(val x, y; ret z):
  z := x;

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    call gcd2 (y, z%y; z)
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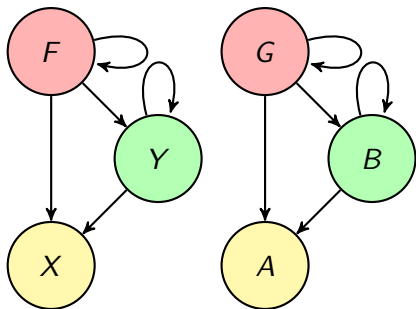
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- \mathbb{L}_{UP} is a sound proof system for a non-recursive LPL
- $F^{UP} = F[f \leftarrow UP(f) \mid f \in \text{Proc}[P]]$ is an isolated procedure

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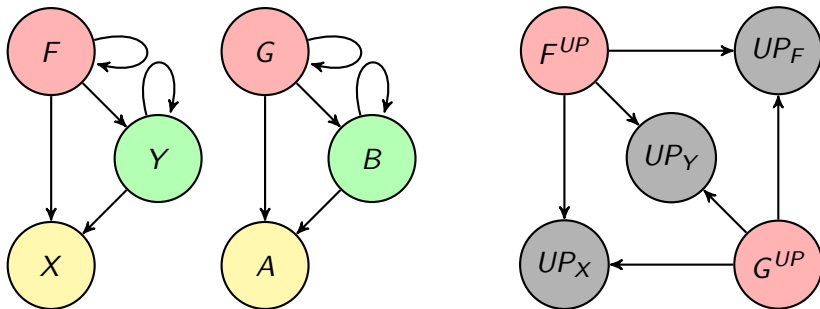
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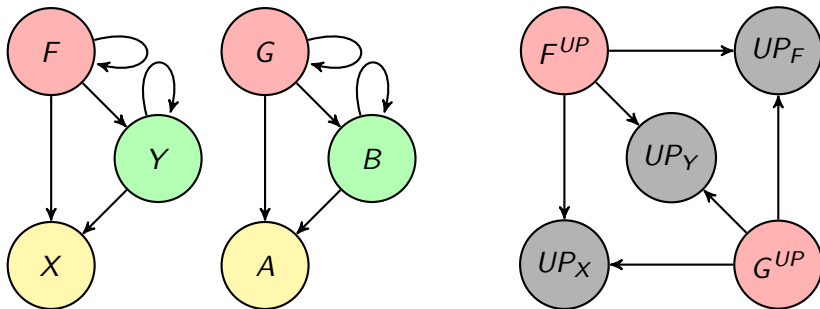
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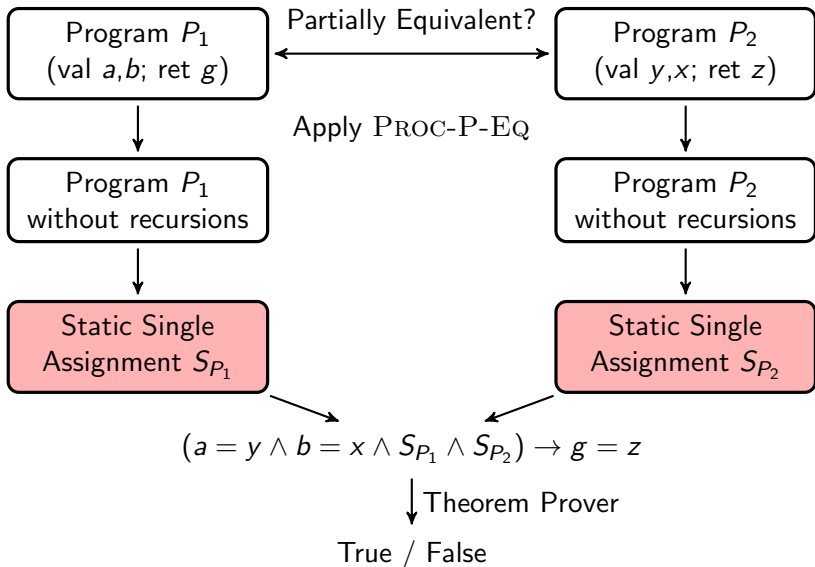
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\Rightarrow PROC-P-EQ is sound, not complete

Static Single Assignment

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- Translate procedures to formulas
- No loops or recursions
- In assignments $x := exp$ replace x with a new variable x_1
- Represents the states of the program

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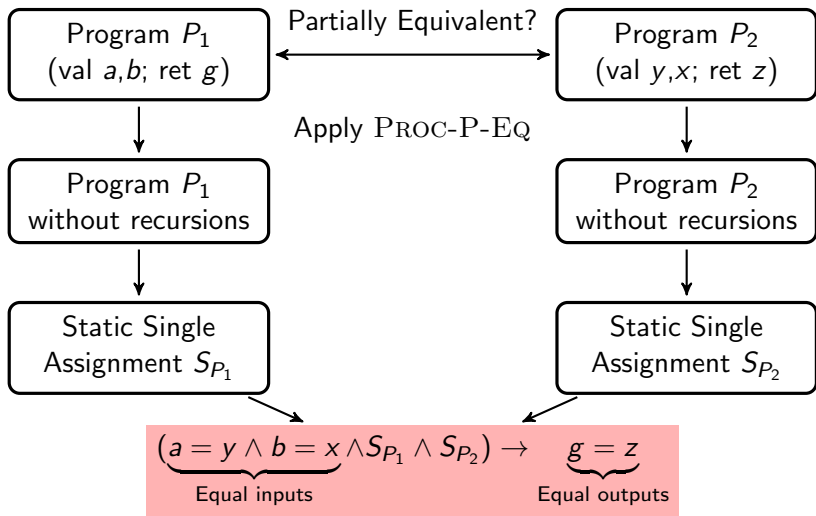
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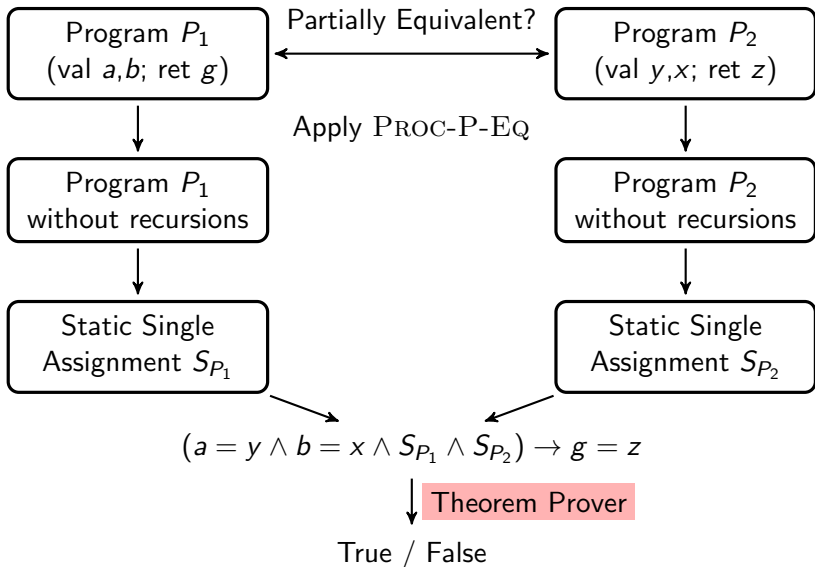
Formula

Overview

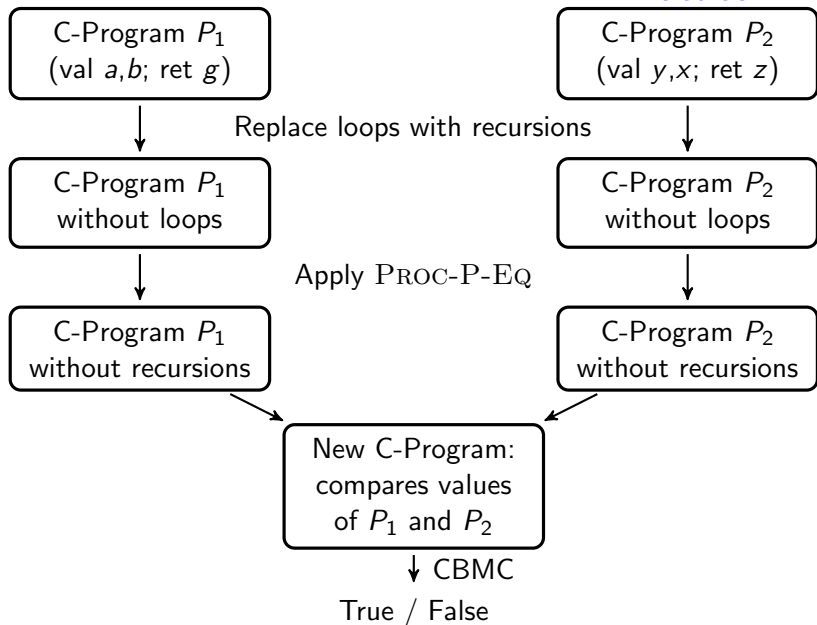


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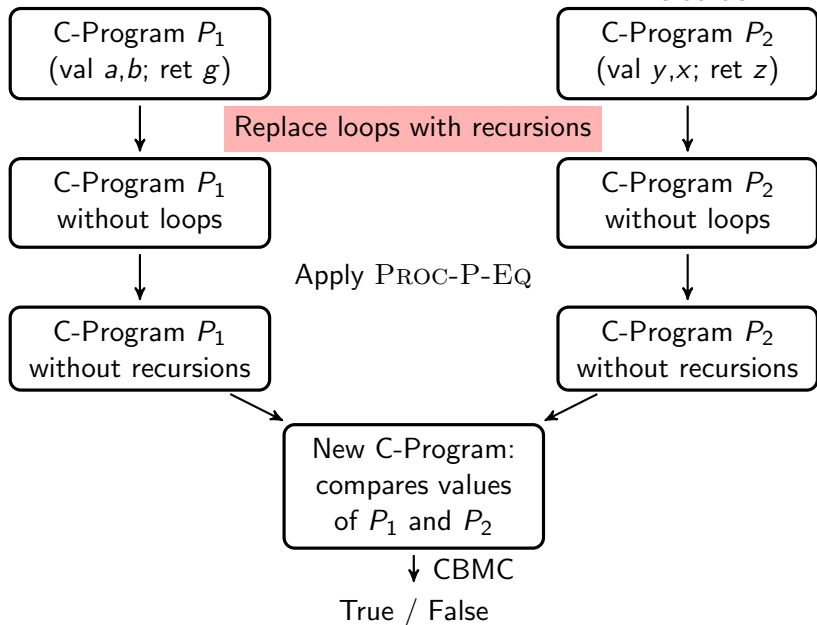
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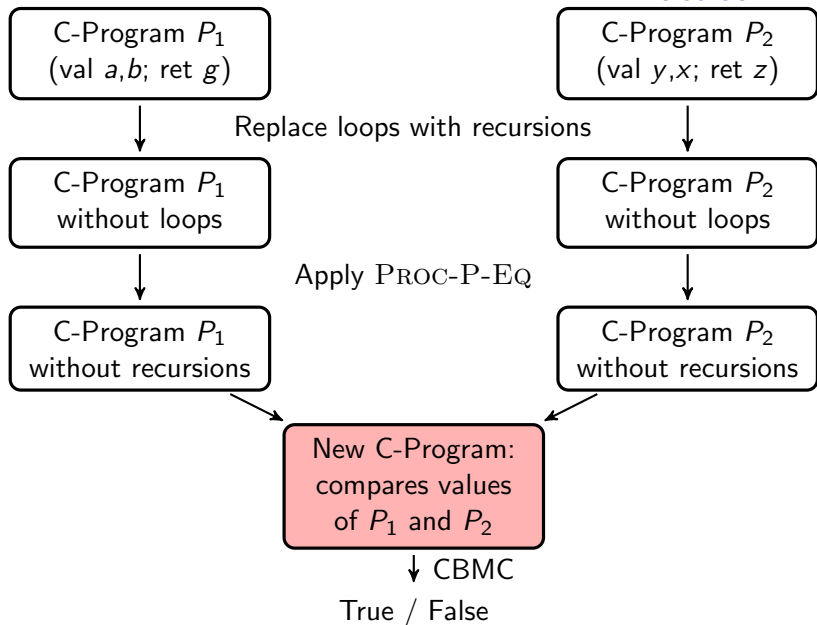
Practice



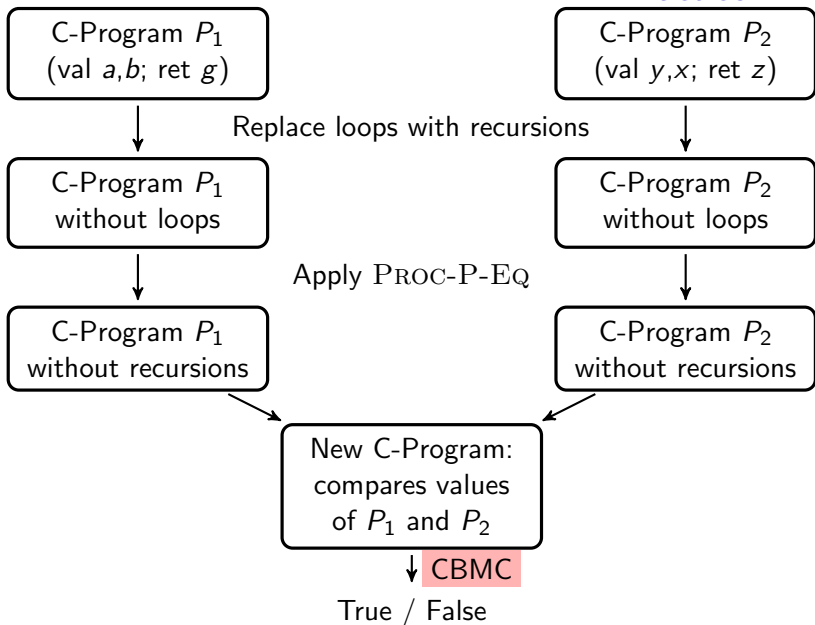
Practice



Practice



Practice



Regression Verification Tool

Demo

Limitations

PROC-P-EQ

PROC-P-EQ cannot prove recursions where

- procedures are called with different arguments :

```
procedure F
(val n; ret r):
  if  $n \leq 1$  then
     $r := n$ 
  else
    call F( $n-1$ ; r);
     $r := n + r$ 
  fi
return
```

```
procedure G
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  if  $n \leq 1$  then
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    call G( $n-2$ ; r);
     $r := n + (n-1) + r$ 
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- the procedure body is not equivalent
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procedure G
(val n; ret r):
  if  $n \leq 0$  then
     $r := 0$ 
  else
    call G( $n-1$ ; r);
    if  $r \geq 0$  then  $r := n+r$ 
    fi
  fi
return
```

Limitations

Regression Verification Tool

- Condition of equality cannot be specified
- Counterexample not quickly found because of function inlining
- Mapping only by function names and locations

Conclusion

Regression Verification

- Better chance of being adopted than Functional Verification
- More powerful than Regression Testing
- Simple rule PROC-P-EQ for many cases, but not all
- Regression Verification has recently been extended to multi-threaded programs