

# The Transformation Game: Joining Forces for Verification

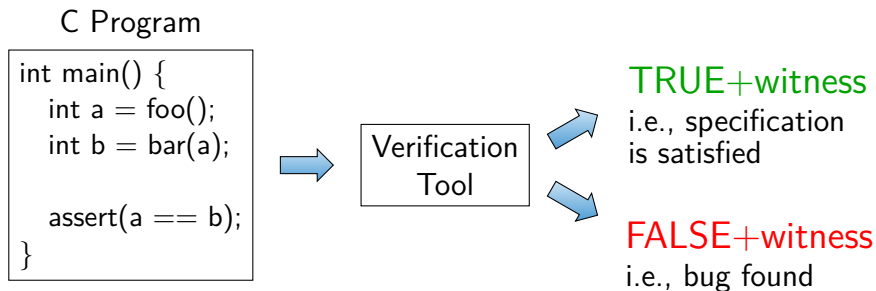
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SoSy-Lab @ LMU Munich

June 25, 2025, at Petri Nets '25 in Paris



# Background of this presentation: Automatic Software Verification



# Status on Software Verifiers

- ▶ From lack of verifiers to plentitude
- ▶ 76 verification tools publicly available [41]
- ▶ SV-COMP 2025: 62 verification tools and 18 witness validation tools

# Competitions in Software Verification and Testing

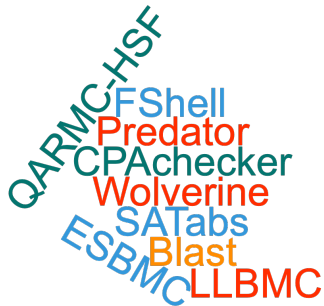
Mature research area, and there are tool competitions (alphabetic order):

- ▶ RERS: off-site, tools, free-style [57]
- ▶ SV-COMP: off-site, automatic tools, controlled [10]
- ▶ Test-Comp: off-site, automatic tools, controlled [11]
- ▶ VerifyThis: on-site, interactive, teams [58]

Broader in formal methods:

- ▶ MCC [3]
- ▶ SAT-COMP [8]
- ▶ SMT-COMP [9]
- ▶ TPTP [70]
- ▶ HWMCC [43]

# SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2012)



# SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2013, cumulative)



# SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2014, cumulative)

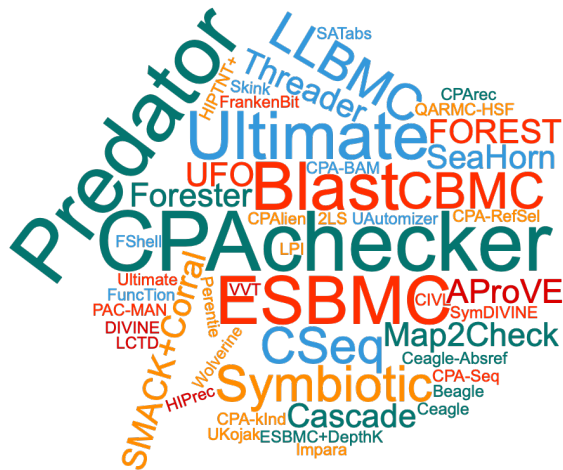


# SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2015, cumulative)

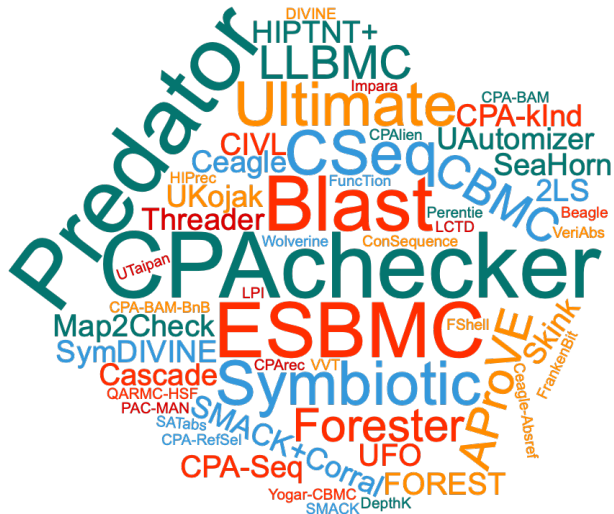




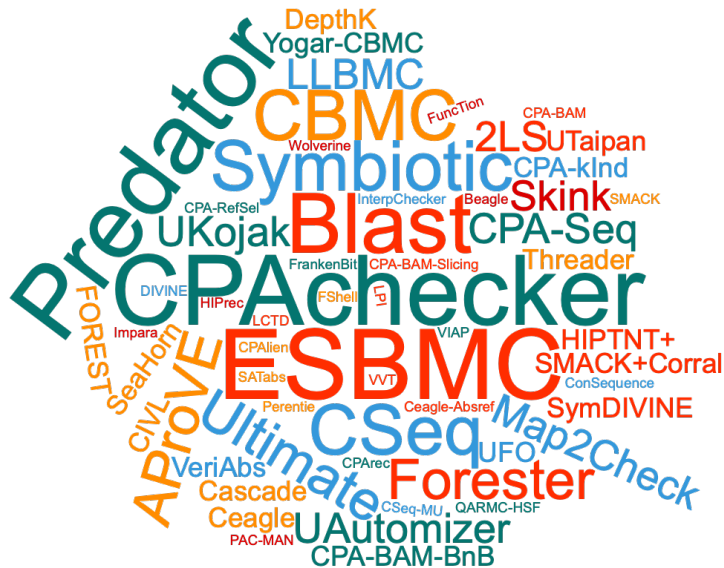
# SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2016, cumulative)



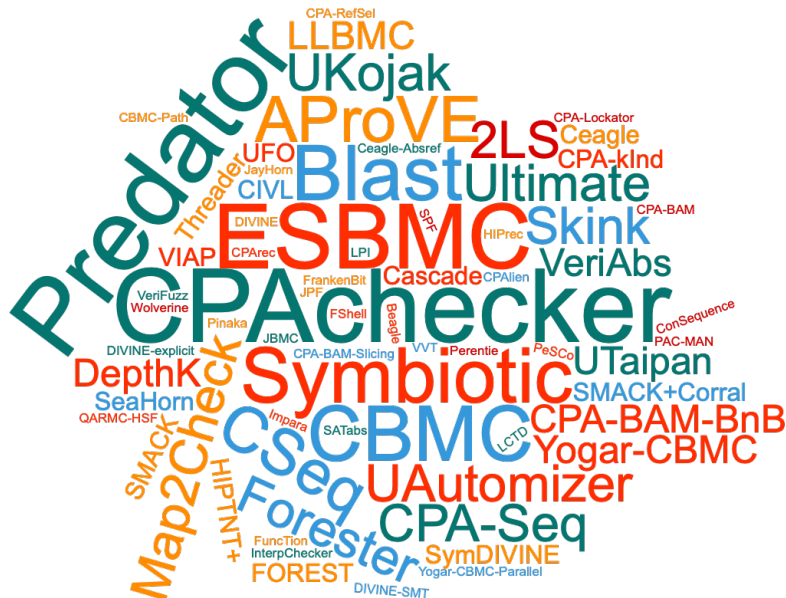
# SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2017, cumulative)



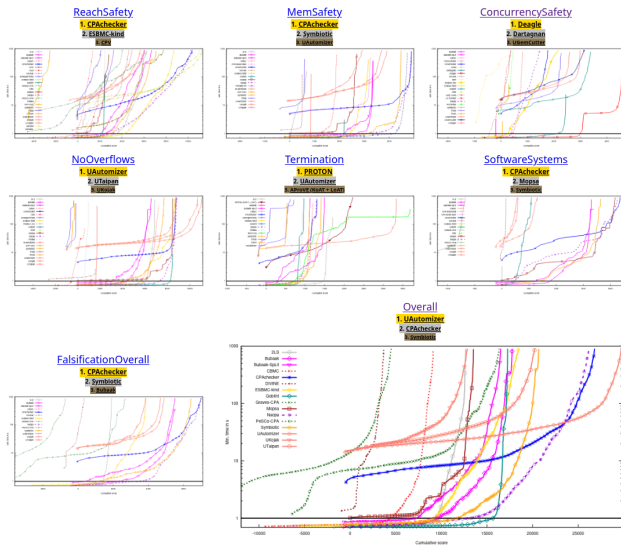
# SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2018, cumulative)



## SV-COMP (Automatic Tools 2019, cumulative)



# Different Strengths



<https://sv-comp.sosy-lab.org/2025/results>

# Different Techniques (Extract from Report)

Table 8: Algorithms and techniques used by the participating tools;

⊗ for inactive, meta for meta verifiers, and new for first-time participants

Tool	CEGAR	Predicate Abstraction	Symbolic Execution	Bounded Model Checking	k-Induction	Property-Directed Reach.	Explicit-Value Analysis	Numeric. Interval Analysis	Shape Analysis	Separation Logic	Bit-Precise Analysis	ARG-Based Analysis	Lazy Abstraction	Interpolation	Automata-Based Analysis	Concurrency Support	Ranking Functions	Evolutionary Algorithms	Algorithm Selection	Portfolio	Task Translation
2LS				✓	✓			✓	✓		✓						✓				
AISE			✓																		
AProVE																	✓				
BRICK	✓		✓	✓				✓									✓				
BUBAAK			✓								✓						✓	✓		✓	
BUBAAK-SpLiT			✓		✓						✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
CBMC <sup>⊗</sup>				✓							✓					✓				✓	
CoASTAL <sup>⊗</sup>			✓																		
CONCURRENTW2T																✓					
CoOPERACE <sup>meta new</sup>																✓	✓		✓	✓	
CPACHECKER	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
CPALockATOR <sup>⊗</sup>	✓	✓					✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
CPA-BAM-BNB <sup>⊗</sup>	✓	✓					✓				✓	✓	✓	✓							
CPA-BAM-SMG <sup>⊗</sup>											✓										
CPA-w2t <sup>⊗</sup>						✓						✓			✓						
CPROVER-W2T <sup>⊗</sup>				✓																	
CPV	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓			✓					✓	✓	✓
CRUX <sup>⊗</sup>			✓																		
CSeq <sup>⊗</sup>				✓							✓					✓					

(continues on next page)

Competition Report [38]

[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-90660-2\\_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-90660-2_9)

## Example CPACHECKER [29]: Many Concepts

- ▶ Included Concepts:
  - ▶ CEGAR [49]      Interpolation [33, 21]
  - ▶ Configurable Program Analysis [24, 25]
  - ▶ Adjustable-block encoding [30]
  - ▶ Conditional model checking [23]
  - ▶ Verification witnesses [19, 17]
  - ▶ Various abstract domains: predicates, intervals, BDDs, octagons, explicit values
- ▶ Available analyses approaches:
  - ▶ Predicate abstraction [15, 30, 25, 34]
  - ▶ IMPACT algorithm [65, 40, 21]
  - ▶ Bounded model checking [50, 21]
  - ▶ k-Induction [20, 21]
  - ▶ IC3/Property-directed reachability [16]
  - ▶ Explicit-state model checking [33]
  - ▶ Interpolation-based model checking [31]

# Insights from Software Model Checking

- ▶ Verifiers have different strengths
- ▶ There are plenty of tools
- ▶  $\Rightarrow$  Combination of Verification Approaches



# Cooperative Verification — Think big!

- ▶ Introduce a new level!
- ▶ Current tools should become "low level" components (engines)
- ▶ Construct combinations
- ▶ Clear Interfaces  
via, e.g., Conditions, Witnesses, Test Suites
- ▶ Success: SAT, SMT (common interfaces, usable as libraries)
- ▶ See also: Little Engines [69], Evidential Tool Bus [51]

# Verification by Transformations

## **Vision: Modular Transformation Paradigm**

- ▶ Standalone and reusable transformers to construct verifiers
- ▶ Well-defined interfaces and exchange formats
- ▶ Construction recipes: easy to build new verifiers for different applications

# Inputs and Outputs of Transformers: Artifacts

Type	Notation	Usage
Model	$\mathcal{M}$	Description of the system under verification
Specification	$\Phi$	Expected behavior of the system under verification
Verdict	$\mathcal{R}$	Decision on whether a model satisfies a specification
Witness	$\Omega$	Certificate explaining the verdict of a tool
Verification condition	$\mathcal{VC}$	Set of constraints that encode the behavior of a model

# Example Transformers

Type	Signature	Functionality
Translator	$\mathcal{M} \mapsto \mathcal{M}$	Translates a model to a behaviorally equivalent one in a different language
Encoder	$\mathcal{M} \mapsto \mathcal{VC}$	Describes partial or complete behavior of a model as a verification condition
Specification transformer	$\mathcal{M} \times \Phi \mapsto \mathcal{M} \times \Phi$	Converts a verification task to an equisatisfiable one with a different specification
Witness transformer	$\mathcal{M} \times \Omega \mapsto \Omega$	Transforms a witness for a model to another witness, e.g., by making it more precise
Pruner	$\mathcal{M} \times \Omega \mapsto \mathcal{M}$	Removes irrelevant or fully-explored parts of a model based on a witness

**The Transformation Game: Joining Forces for Verification**, Festschrift 60th Birthday Jost-Pieter Katoen, 2024, available at [doi:10.1007/978-3-031-75778-5\\_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-75778-5_9)



# Application Examples

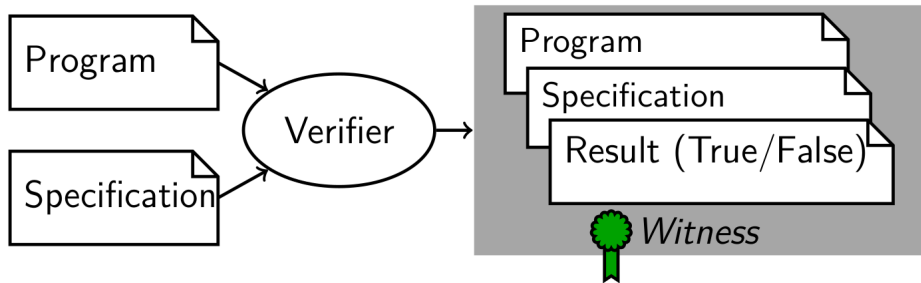
- ▶ (A1) Verification Witnesses and Validation
- ▶ (A2) LIV: Decomposing Validator
- ▶ (A3) CoVeriTeam: Language and Tool for Combination
- ▶ (A4) Simple Combinations
- ▶ (A5) Btor2C: Transforming from Hardware to Software
- ▶ (A6) Certifying Verification for BTOR2 with SV Tools
- ▶ (A7) Transformation-Based Verification with MoXI

# Application Examples

- ▶ (A8) Transformation of Specifications
- ▶ (A9) Conditional Model Checking (CMC)
- ▶ (A10) Reducer-Based CMC
- ▶ (A11) Modularization of CEGAR
- ▶ (A12) Combining Interactive and Automatic Methods
- ▶ (A13) Loop Abstraction

## (A1) Software Verification with Witnesses

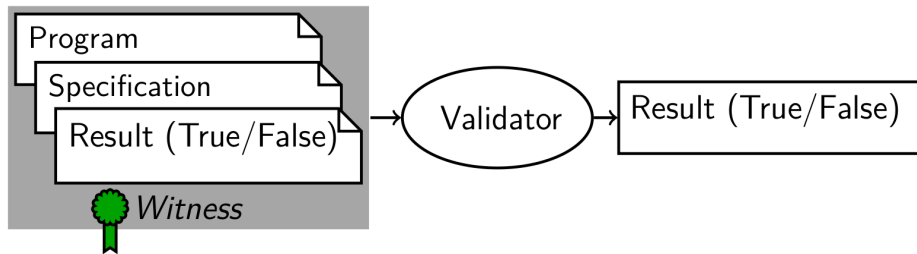
Witnesses are an important interface between tools.



[19, Proc. FSE 2015] [17, Proc. FSE 2016] [18, TOSEM 2022]



## (A1) Witness-Based Result Validation



- ▶ Validate untrusted results
- ▶ Reestablish proof of correctness or violation
- ▶ Easier than full verification

## (A1) Verification and Validation

Given program  $P$  and specification  $\varphi$

- ▶ Verification: **prove** that  $P \models \varphi$   
(mainly invariant construction)
- ▶ Validation with witness  $w$ : **re-prove** that  $P \models \varphi$

AI can be used to

- ▶ **write** programs
- ▶ **suggest** invariants for programs

## (A1) Correctness Witnesses

Program  $P$ , specification  $\varphi$ , proof  $\pi$

$$\boxed{P} \models \boxed{\varphi}$$

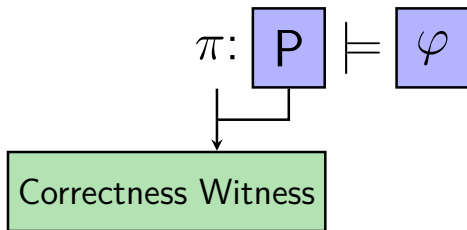
## (A1) Correctness Witnesses

Program  $P$ , specification  $\varphi$ , proof  $\pi$

$$\pi: \boxed{P} \models \boxed{\varphi}$$

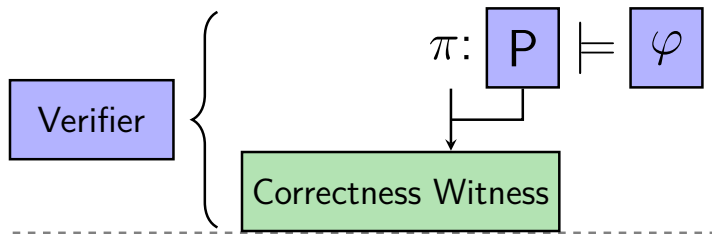
## (A1) Correctness Witnesses

Program  $P$ , specification  $\varphi$ , proof  $\pi$



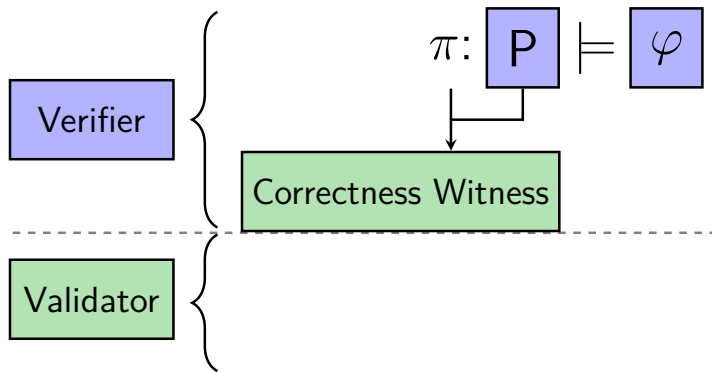
## (A1) Correctness Witnesses

Program  $P$ , specification  $\varphi$ , proof  $\pi$



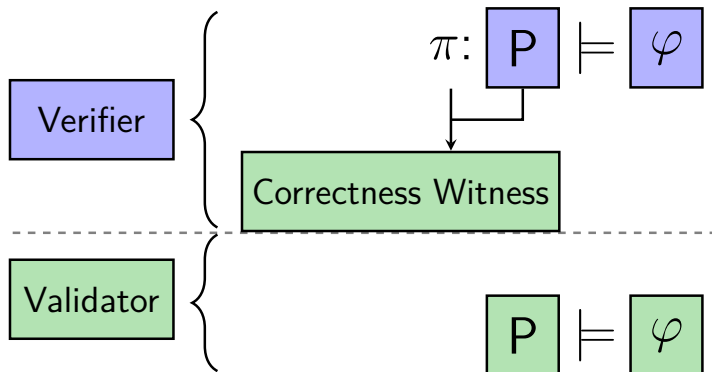
## (A1) Correctness Witnesses

Program  $P$ , specification  $\varphi$ , proof  $\pi$



## (A1) Correctness Witnesses

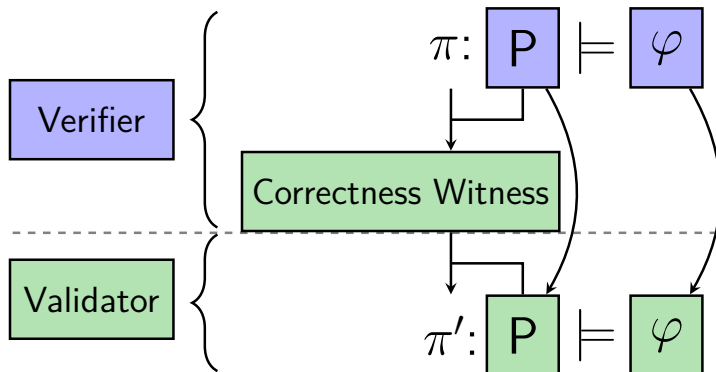
Program  $P$ , specification  $\varphi$ , proof  $\pi$





# (A1) Correctness Witnesses

Program  $P$ , specification  $\varphi$ , proof  $\pi$



# (A1) Example Program and Witness

Program:

```
int main() {
    unsigned char n = __nondet_uchar();
    if (n == 0) {
        return 0;
    }
    unsigned char v = 0;
    unsigned int s = 0;
    unsigned int i = 0;
    while (i < n) {
        v = __nondet_uchar();
        s += v;
        ++i;
    }
    if (s < v) {
        reach_error();
        return 1;
    }
    if (s > 65025) {
        reach_error();
        return 1;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Witness (format v2.0):

content:

— invariant:

type: loop\_invariant

location:

file\_name: "inv-a.c"

line: 12

column: 1

function: main

value: "s <= i\*255 && 0 <= i && i <= 255 && n <= 255"

format: c\_expression

## (A1) State of the Art

- ▶ 18 validators exist for C and Java
- ▶ 4 formats for witnesses exist  
(GraphML and YAML, correctness and validation)
- ▶ Competition on Software Verification (SV-COMP) has a validation track

Certifying Algorithms [64] are used also in SAT and SMT.

## (A2) LIV — Decomposing Validator

[36, Proc. ASE 2023], Idea from A. Appel

Program:

```
1  int x = 0;
2  int sum = 0 ;
3  //@ loop invariant I;
4  while (x<10) {
5      x++;
6      sum+=x;
7  }
8  assert (sum<=55);
```

Proof Obligations:

►  $\{P\} s_0 \{Inv\}$       ►  $\{Inv \wedge Cond\} Body \{Inv\}$       ►  $Inv \Rightarrow Q$

## (A2) From Proof Obligations to Straight-Line Programs

### Proof Obligations:

►  $\{P\}_{s_0}\{Inv\}$   
(Base Case)

►  $\{Inv \wedge Cond\}Body\{Inv\}$   
(Inductiveness)

►  $Inv \wedge \neg Cond \Rightarrow Q$   
(Safety)

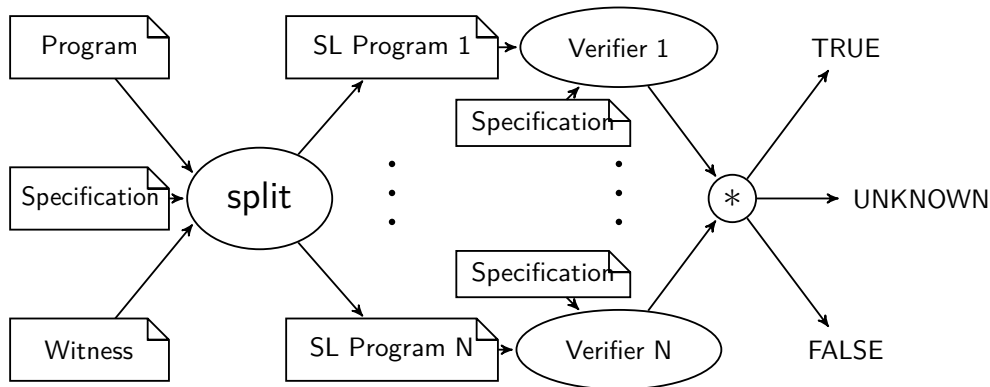
### Straight-Line Programs:

```
1  int x = 0;  
2  int sum = 0;  
3  assert (Inv);
```

```
1  int x = nondet();  
2  int sum = nondet();  
3  assume(Inv && C);  
4  x++;  
5  sum += x;  
6  assert (Inv);
```

```
1  int x = nondet();  
2  int sum = nondet();  
3  assume(Inv && ! C);  
4  assert (Q);
```

## (A2) Workflow of LIV



- ▶ Can use any off-the-shelf verifier from SV-COMP as backend
- ▶ Small frontend using pycparser for AST-based splitting

## (A3) Example Combination (in DSL CoVeriTeam)

COVERITEAM: Language and Tool [27, Proc. TACAS 2022]

---

**Algorithm** Witness Validation [19, 17]

---

**Input:** Program  $p$ , Specification  $s$

**Output:** Verdict

- 1:  $\text{verifier} := \text{Verifier}(\text{"Ultimate Automizer"})$
  - 2:  $\text{validator} := \text{Validator}(\text{"CPAchecker"})$
  - 3:  $\text{result} := \text{verifier.verify}(p, s)$
  - 4: **if**  $\text{result.verdict} \in \{\text{TRUE}, \text{FALSE}\}$  **then**
  - 5:      $\text{result} = \text{validator.validate}(p, s, \text{result.witness})$
  - 6: **return**  $(\text{result.verdict}, \text{result.witness})$
-

## (A4) Simple Combination without Cooperation

Often, even simple combinations help!

Portfolio construction using off-the-shelf verification tools [28, Proc. FASE 2022]

Consider AWS category (177 tasks) in SV-COMP 2022:

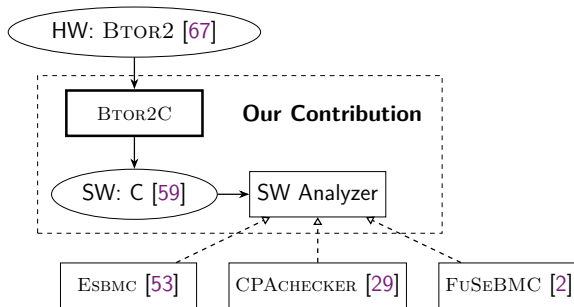
CBMC: 69 (8 wrong)

CoVeriTeam-Parallel-Portfolio: 147 (3 wrong)

(improvement did not require any change in a verification tool)



## (A5) Btor2C: Transforming from Hardware to Software

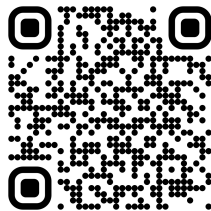


- **43** HW-verification tasks uniquely solved by SW analyzers in our evaluation  
→ enhance HW quality assurance using SW analyzers  
[14, Proc. TACAS '23]

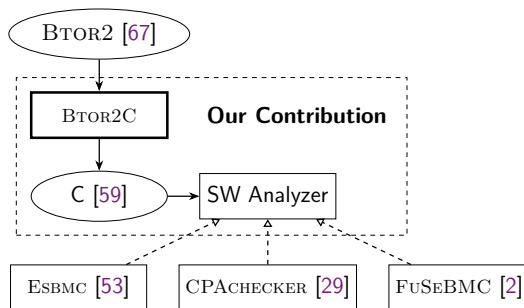
## (A5) BTOR2C: Btor2-to-C Translator

- ▶ A lightweight tool
  - ▶ Written in C++ with  $\sim 2$  K LOC
  - ▶ Use the frontend parser provided by BTOR2TOOLS [66]
- ▶ Open-source under Apache License 2.0

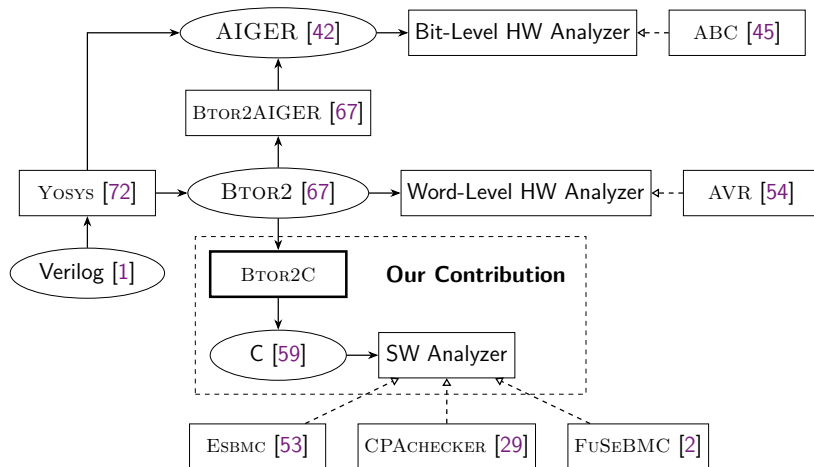
[https://gitlab.com/  
sosy-lab/software/btor2c](https://gitlab.com/sosy-lab/software/btor2c)



## (A5) BTOR2C in Action



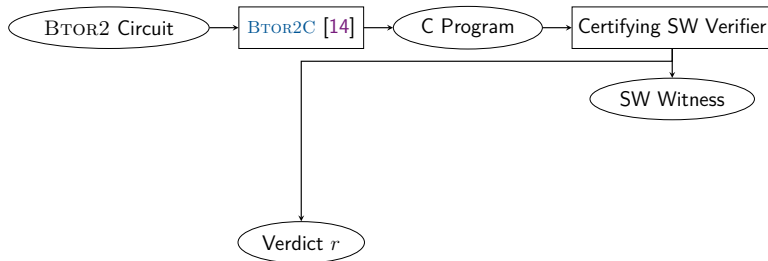
## (A5) BTOR2C in Action



## (A5) Results using BTOR2C

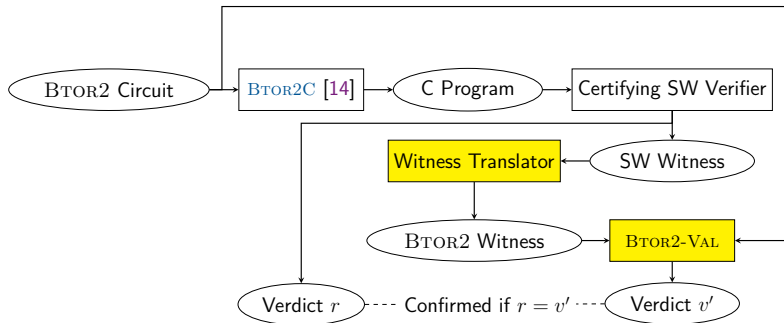
Tool	ABC	AVR	CPACHECKER	ESBMC	VERIABS
Algorithm	PDR	PDR	PA	KI	LA
Input	AIGER	BTOR2	C (bit-masking applied lazily)		
Correct results	<b>862</b>	736	280	<b>410</b>	393
BV proofs	<b>524</b>	458	<b>189</b>	93	49
BV alarms	<b>338</b>	233	91	315	<b>342</b>
Array proofs	–	<b>45</b>	0	0	0
Array alarms	–	0	0	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

## (A6) Certifying Verification for BTOR2 with SV Tools



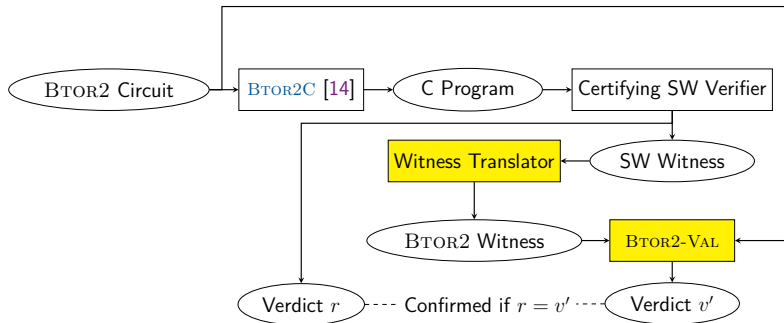
- ▶ BTOR2 [67] word-level circuits and translator BTOR2C [14]
- ▶ Software verifiers in SV-COMP [13]

## (A6) Certifying Verification for BTOR2 with SV Tools



- ▶ BTOR2 [67] word-level circuits and translator BTOR2C [14]
- ▶ Software verifiers in SV-COMP [13]
- ▶ SW-to-HW witness translation and BTOR2-VAL

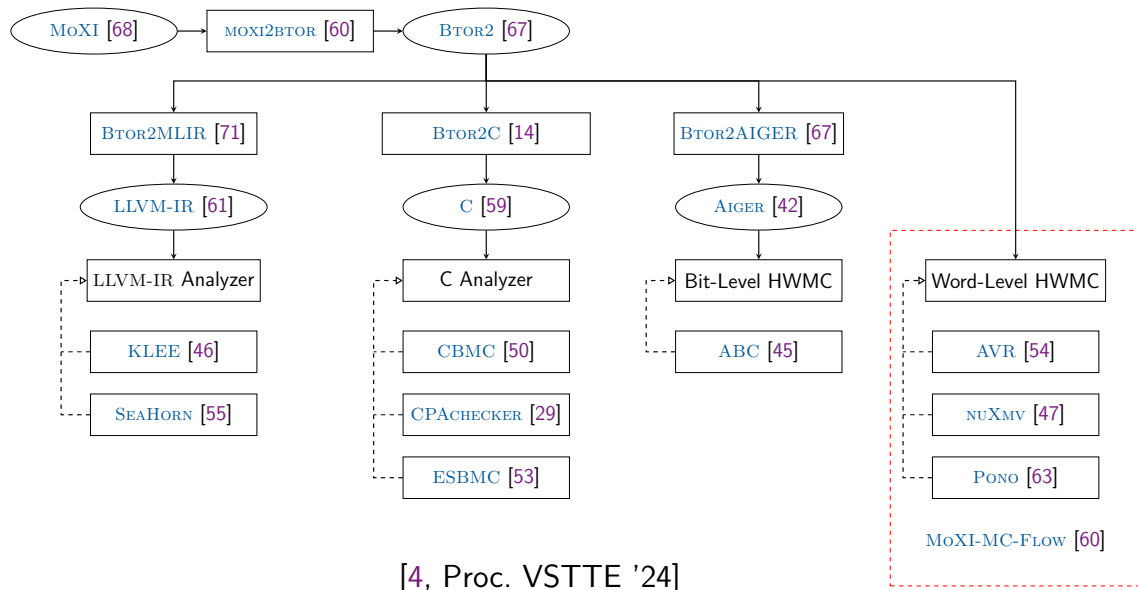
## (A6) Certifying Verification for BTOR2 with SV Tools



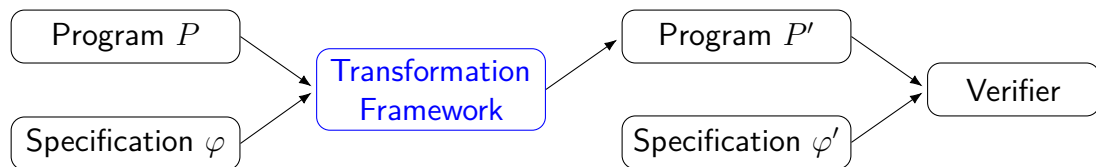
- ▶ BTOR2 [67] word-level circuits and translator BTOR2C [14]
- ▶ Software verifiers in SV-COMP [13]
- ▶ SW-to-HW witness translation and BTOR2-VAL
- ▶ On 1214 BTOR2 circuits, BTOR2-CERT achieved that
  - ▶ CBMC [50] found 37 bugs that ABC [45] missed
  - ▶ derived invariants by CPAchecker [29] accelerated ABC



## (A7) Transformation-Based Verification with MoXI



## (A8) Transformation of Specifications

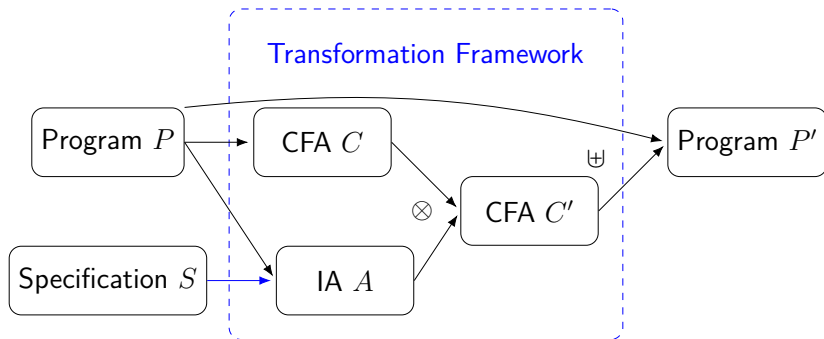


Our framework:

- ▶ *Easy to adopt* → Used by three tools in SV-COMP 25
- ▶ *Modular* → Can be used by any verifier supporting SV-COMP syntax
- ▶ *Configurable* → The transformations given by *Instrumentation Automata (IA)*

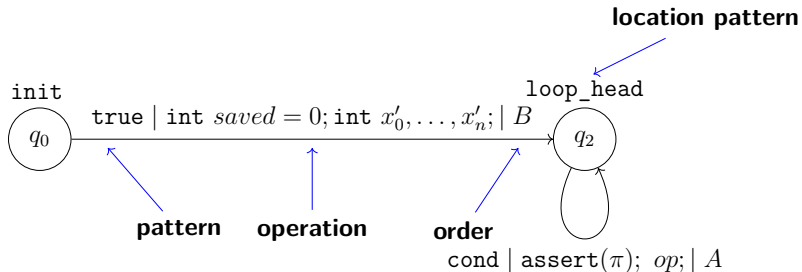
Proc. SPIN 2025

## (A8) Transformation of $P \models \varphi$ to $P' \models \varphi'$



- ▶ Instrumentation Automaton (IA)
- ▶ Sequentialization Operation ( $\otimes$ )
- ▶ Instrumentation Operation ( $\oplus$ )

## (A8) An Instrumentation Automaton for Termination

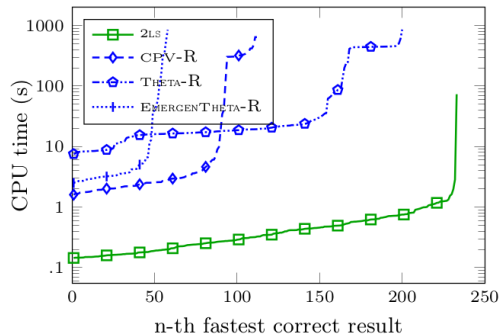
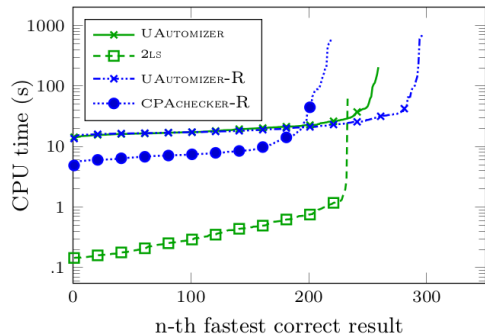


$op \equiv [\text{nondet}() \wedge \text{saved} = 0] ? x'_0 = x_0; \dots; x'_n = x_n; \text{saved} = 1;$   
 $\pi \equiv (\text{saved} = 1) \Rightarrow (x'_0 \neq x_0 \vee x'_1 \neq x_1 \vee \dots \vee x'_n \neq x_n);$

## (A8) Tools and Their Specifications

Tool	reachability	no overflow	memory cleanup	termination
CPACHECKER [5]	✓	✓	✓	✓
UAUTOMIZER [56]	✓	✓	✓	✓
UTAIPAN [52]	✓	✓	✗	✗
2LS [62]	✓	✗	✗	✓
THETA [7]	✓	✗	✗	✗
EMERGENTHETA [6]	✓	✗	✗	✗
CPV [48]	✓	✗	✗	✗

## (A8) Results for Termination $\rightarrow$ Reachability



## (A8) Results on Termination Reduction

Results (#Tasks)		UAUTOMIZER	2LS	UAUTOMIZER-R	CPACHECKER-R
Correct	377	312	259	<b>333</b>	121
Proofs	264	250	189	<b>264</b>	55
Alarms	69	62	<b>70</b>	69	66

## (A9) Facing Hard Verification Tasks

Given: Program  $P \models \varphi?$

Verifier A

Program Paths

$P \models \varphi?$   
UNKNOWN

Verifier B

Program Paths

$P \models \varphi?$   
UNKNOWN



## (A9) Facing Hard Verification Tasks

Given: Program  $P \models \varphi?$

Verifier A

Program Paths

$P \models \varphi?$   
UNKNOWN

Verifier B

Program Paths

$P \models \varphi?$   
UNKNOWN

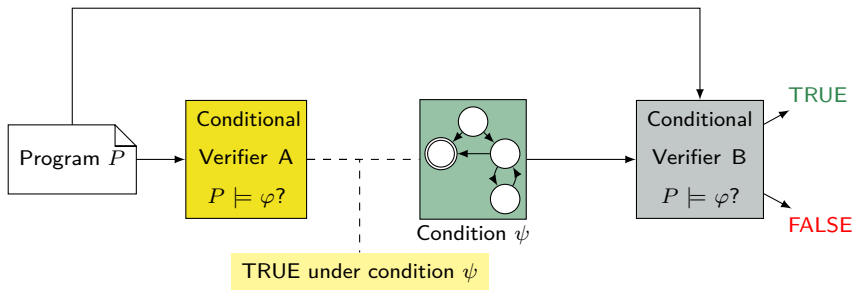
Verifier A + Verifier B

Program Paths

$P \models \varphi \checkmark$

e.g., conditional model checking

## (A9) Conditional Model Checking



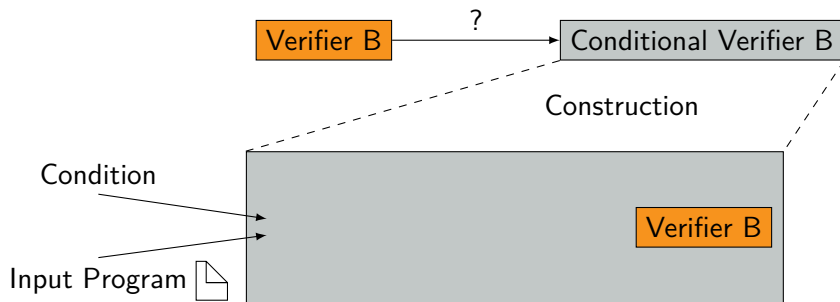
Proc. FSE 2012 [23]

## (A10) Reducer-Based Construction



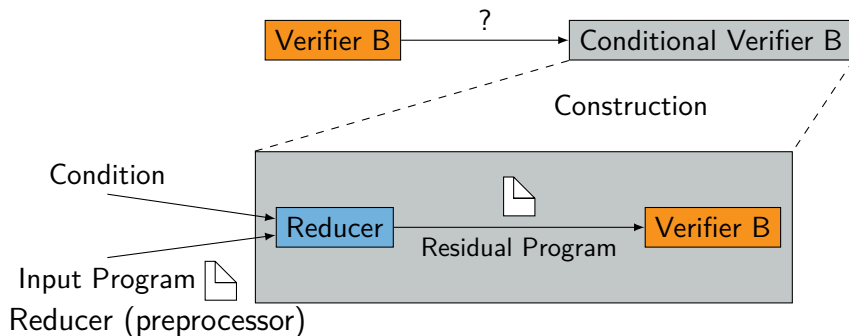
Proc. ICSE 2018 [26]

## (A10) Reducer-Based Construction



Proc. ICSE 2018 [26]

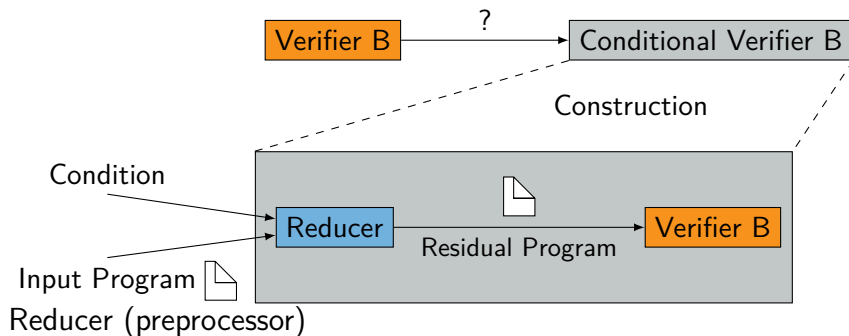
## (A10) Reducer-Based Construction



- ▶ Builds standard input (C program)
- ▶ Representing a subset of paths
- ▶ Contains at least all non-verified paths

Proc. ICSE 2018 [26]

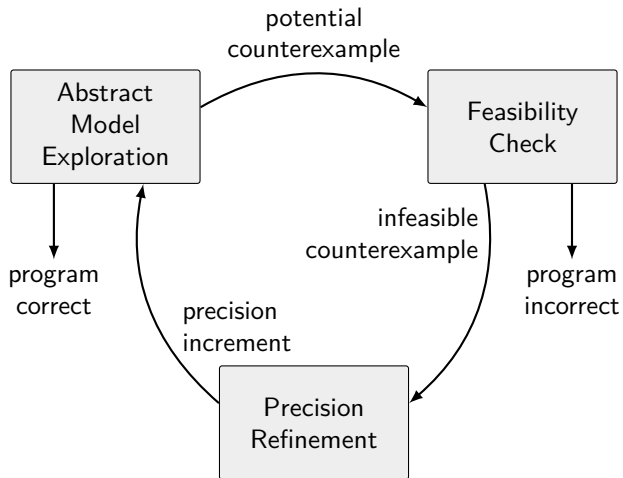
## (A10) Reducer-Based Construction



- ▶ Builds standard input (C program)
- ▶ Representing a subset of paths
- ▶ Contains at least all non-verified paths
- + Verifier-unspecific approach
- + Many conditional verifiers possible

Proc. ICSE 2018 [26]

# (A11) CEGAR

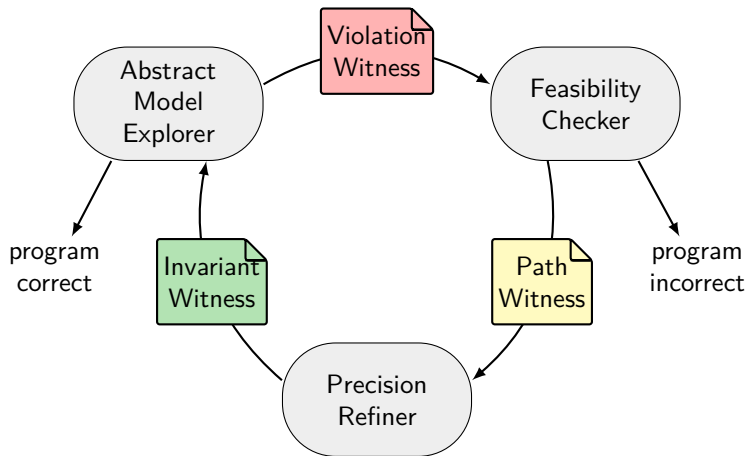


## (A11) Modularization of CEGAR

- ▶ CEGAR defines I/O interfaces
  - ▶ But instances not exchangeable
  - ▶ Aim: generalize CEGAR, allow exchange of components
- ⇒ Modular reformulation



## (A11) Workflow of Modular CEGAR



Proc. ICSE 2022 [22]

## (A12) Interactive and Automatic Methods

- ▶ How to achieve cooperation between automatic and interactive verifiers?
- ▶ Idea: Try to use existing interfaces for information exchange
- ▶ [37, Proc. SEFM '22]

```
//@ensures \return==0;
int main() {
    unsigned int x = 0;
    unsigned int y = 0;
    //@loop invariant x==y;
    while (nondet_int()) {
        x++;
        //@assert x==y+1;
        y++;
    }
    assert(x==y);
    return 0;
}
```

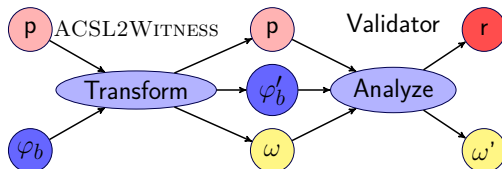
ACSL-annotated program, as used by  
FRAMA-C

```
...
<node id="q1">
  <data key="invariant">( y == x )</data>
  <data key="invariant.scope">main</data>
</node>
<edge source="q0" target="q1">
  <data key="enterLoopHead">true</data>
  <data key="startline">6</data>
  <data key="endline">6</data>
  <data key="startoffset">157</data>
  <data key="endoffset">165</data>
</edge>
...
```

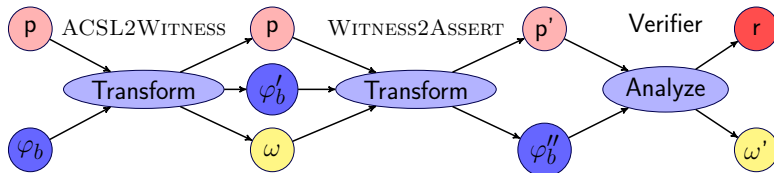
GraphML-based witness  
automaton generated by  
automatic verifiers

## (A12) From Components: Construct Interactive Verifiers

- Turn a witness validator into an interactive verifier:



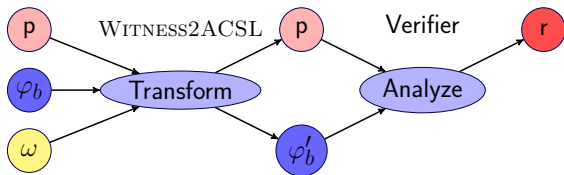
- Turn an automatic verifier into an interactive verifier:



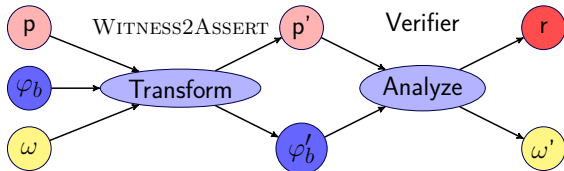
- Annotating in ACSL is more human-readable than witness automata
- Works for a wide range of automatic verifiers/validators

## (A12) Component Framework: Constructing Validators

- Turn an interactive verifier (FRAMA-C) into a validator:

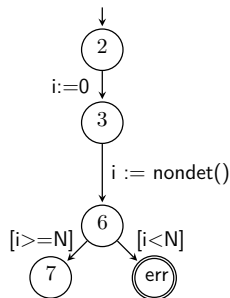
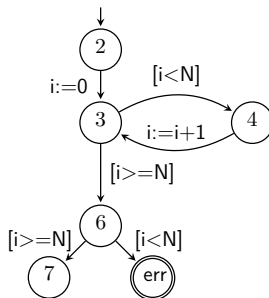


- Turn an automatic verifier into a validator [35, CAV '20]:



## (A13) Loop Abstraction

```
1 void main() {  
2   int i = 0;  
3   while (i<N) {  
4     i=i+1;  
5   }  
6   assert (i>=N);  
7 }
```



- ▶ Instead of a precise acceleration, we can also apply an overapproximating *abstraction*
- ▶ Here we just havoc all variables that are modified in the loop, but more elaborate abstraction strategies exist

## (A13) Example: Havoc Abstraction

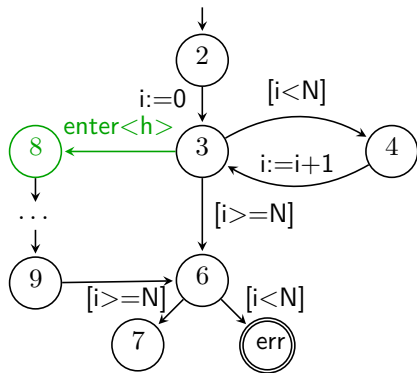
```
1 void main() {  
2   int i = 0;  
3   while (i<N) {  
4     i=i+1;  
5   }  
6   assert (i>=N);  
7 }
```

```
1 void main() {  
2   int i = 0;  
3   if (i<N) {  
4     i = nondet();  
5     assume(!(i<N));  
6   }  
7   assert (i>=N);  
8 }
```

- ▶ **Havoc Abstraction:** if loop is entered, havoc all input variables of the loop and perform one loop iteration, then assume the loop is left
- ▶ Only sound if the loop body does not contain assertions
- ▶ Overapproximation, but sometimes enough (as in this example)

## (A13) Configurable Solution a la CPAchecker

- ▶ Use the CFA as interface
- ▶ Add our loop abstractions next to the original loop
- ▶ Mark the entry nodes of each added alternative with an identifier for the applied strategy:  $\sigma : L \rightarrow S$
- ▶ In the example:  
 $S = \{b, h\}$   
 $\sigma(8) = h$   
 $\sigma(l) = b$  for all  $l$  except 8
- ▶ Select allowed strategies during state-space exploration using  $\sigma$
- ▶ [32, Proc. SEFM '22]



## (A12) Accessibility of Loop Abstractions via Patches

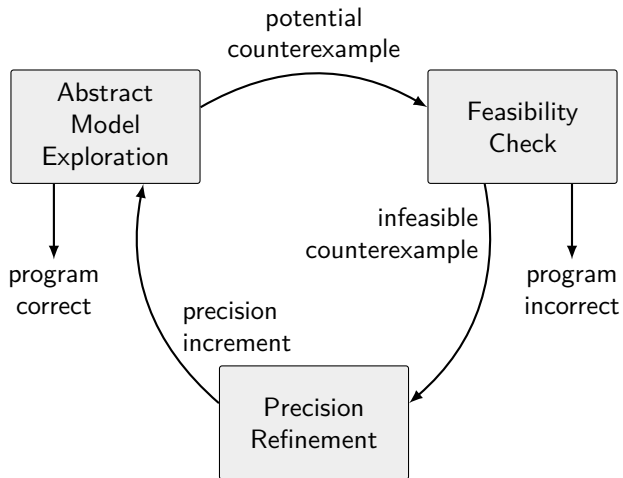
- ▶ We provide loop abstractions as patches
- ▶ We also output a the abstracted version of the program in case we found a proof
- ▶ Can be used independently by other tools
- ▶ Does this work in practice?  
⇒ Experiments

```
--- havoc.c
+++ havoc.c
-14,13 +14,16
    return ;
}

int main(void) {
    unsigned int x = 1000000;
- while (x > 0) {
- x -= 4;
+ // START HAVOCSTRATEGY
+ if (x > 0) {
+ x = __VERIFIER_nondet_uint();
+ }
+ if (x > 0) abort();
+ // END HAVOCSTRATEGY
    __VERIFIER_assert(!(x % 4));
}
```



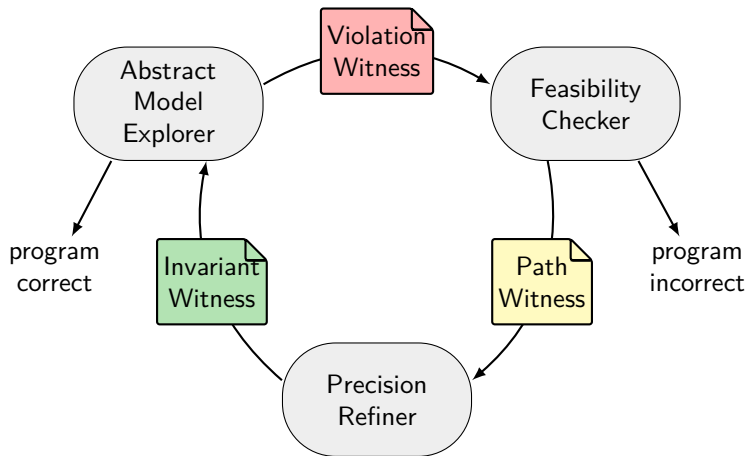
# (A11) CEGAR



## (A11) Modularization of CEGAR

- ▶ CEGAR defines I/O interfaces
  - ▶ But instances not exchangeable
  - ▶ Aim: generalize CEGAR, allow exchange of components
- ⇒ Modular reformulation

## (A11) Workflow of modular CEGAR



Proc. ICSE 2022 [22]

# Why Transformation?

- ▶ Join forces
- ▶ Re-use verifier components off-the-shelf
- ▶ Divide and conquer
- ▶ Robust components because more widely used and tested
- ▶ Community involvement
- ▶ Have a tool chain and replace components for better ones
- ▶ Transformation tools as separate off-the-shelf components

## Part 2: Verification Tools as Exchangable Components

### Vision:

- ▶ All tools for formal methods work together to solve hard verification problems and make our world safer and more secure.
- ▶ Model checkers and theorem provers can be integrated into the software-development process as seamless as unit testing today.
- ▶ Model checkers, theorem provers, SMT solvers, and testers use common interfaces for interaction and composition.

# Some Steps Towards the Vision

- ▶ **Find:** Which tools for software verification exist?
- ▶ ... for test-case generation?
- ▶ ... for SMT solving?
- ▶ ... for hardware verification?
- ▶ **Reuse:** How to get executables?
- ▶ Where to find documentation?
- ▶ Am I allowed to use it?
- ▶ How to use them?
- ▶ **Conserve:** Which operating system, libraries, environment?

# Requirements for Solution

- ▶ Support documentation and reuse
- ▶ Easy to query and generate knowledge base
- ▶ Long-term availability/executability of tools
- ▶ Must come with tool support
- ▶ Approach must be compatible with competitions

## Solution [12]

One central repository:

<https://gitlab.com/sosy-lab/benchmarking/fm-tools> which gives information about:

- ▶ Location of the tool (via DOI, just like other literature)
- ▶ License
- ▶ Contact (via ORCID)
- ▶ Project web site
- ▶ Options
- ▶ Requirements (certain Docker container / VM)
- ▶ Limits

Maintained by formal-methods community



## Example: Entry for LTS<sub>MIN</sub> [44]

---

```
id: ltsmin
name: LTSmin
description: |
  LTSmin is a language-independent model-checking ...
input_languages:
  - B
  - DVE
  - ETF
  - PNML
  - Promela
  - ...
project_url: https://ltsmin.utwente.nl/
repository_url: https://github.com/utwente-fmt/ltsmin
spdx_license_identifier: BSD-3-Clause
benchexec_toolinfo_module:
  "https://www.cip.ifi.lmu.de/~wachowitz/ltsmin.py"
fmttools_format_version: "2.0"
fmttools_entry_maintainers:
  - ricffb
```

---

## Example: LTS<sub>MIN</sub>'s Contacts

---

`maintainers:`

- `orcid`: 0000-0002-2433-4174
  - `name`: Alfons Laarman
  - `institution`: Leiden Institute for Advanced Computer Science
  - `country`: Netherlands
  - `url`: <https://alfons.laarman.com/>
-

## Example: LTS<sub>MIN</sub>'s Versions

---

versions:

- `version`: "pnml2lts-sym-3.0.2"

- `url`:

- "https://github.com/utwente-fmt/ltsmin/releases/download/v3.0.2/ltsmin-v3.0.2-1"

- `benchexec_toolinfo_options`: ["pnml2lts-sym"]

- `required_ubuntu_packages`: []

- `base_container_image`: ["ubuntu:24.04"]

---

# Example: LTS<sub>MIN</sub>'s Documentation

---

## `literature:`

- `doi:` 10.1007/978-3-662-46681-0\_61  
`title:` "LTsmin: High-Performance Language-Independent Model Checking"  
`year:` 2015
  - `doi:` 10.1007/978-3-642-20398-5\_40  
`title:` "Multi-Core LTsmin: Marrying Modularity and Scalability"  
`year:` 2011
  - `doi:` 10.1007/978-3-642-14295-6\_31  
`title:` "LTsmin: Distributed and Symbolic Reachability"  
`year:` 2010
-

## Example: LTS<sub>MIN</sub>'s Web-Page Entry



## Tools for Formal Methods: Tools

[Tools](#) [Techniques](#) [Competitions](#) [Frameworks](#) [Input Languages](#) [Documentation of the YAML Schema](#) ↗

Code on  **GitLab**

## Table of Contents

- ZLS
- aise
- AProVE (KoAT + LoAT)
- BLAST
- BRICK
- Bubaak
- Bubaak-SpLit
- CADP
- CBMC
- cetfuzz
- COASTAL
- ConcurrentWitness2Test
- CoOpeRace
- CoVeriTeam-Verifier-AlgoSelection
- CoVeriTeam-Verifier-ParallelPortfolio
- CoVeriTest
- CPA-BAM-BnB
- CPA-BAM-SMG
- CPA-witness2test
- CPAchecker

**LTSmin**

LTSMIn is a language-independent model-checking toolset supporting multiple input languages and advanced state-space generation techniques via a unified PINS interface. It features modular architecture, symbolic/distributed/multi-core reachability, and easy extensibility for new languages.

**Project URL:** <https://itsmin.utwente.nl/>

**Repository URL:** <https://github.com/utwente-fmt/ltsmin>




**Maintainers:** •  [Alfons Laarman](#)

**Supported input languages:** [B](#) · [DVE](#) · [ETF](#) · [Event-B](#) · [MCRL](#) · [MCRL2](#) · [PNML](#) · [Promela](#) · [TLA+](#) · [Z](#)

**License:** • [BSD-3-Clause](#)

**Releases:** • [pnml2lts-sym-3.0.2](#)

**Literature:**

-  *LTSmin: High-Performance Language-Independent Model Checking*. 2015. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-662-46681-0\_61
-  *Multi-Core LTSmin: Marrying Modularity and Scalability*. 2011. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-642-20398-5\_40
-  *LTSmin: Distributed and Symbolic Reachability*. 2010. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-642-14295-6\_31

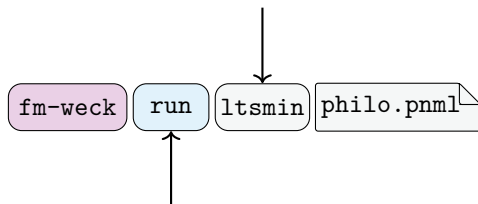
# FM-Tools is FAIR

- ▶ **F**indable:  
overview is available on internet,  
generated knowledge base
- ▶ **A**ccessible:  
data retrievable via Git, format is YAML
- ▶ **I**nteroperable:  
Format is defined in schema,  
archives identified by DOIs, researchers by ORCIDs
- ▶ **R**eusable:  
Data are CC-BY, each tool comes with a license,  
format of tool archive standardized

# FM-WECK: Run Tools in Conserved Environment

[39, Proc. FM 2024]

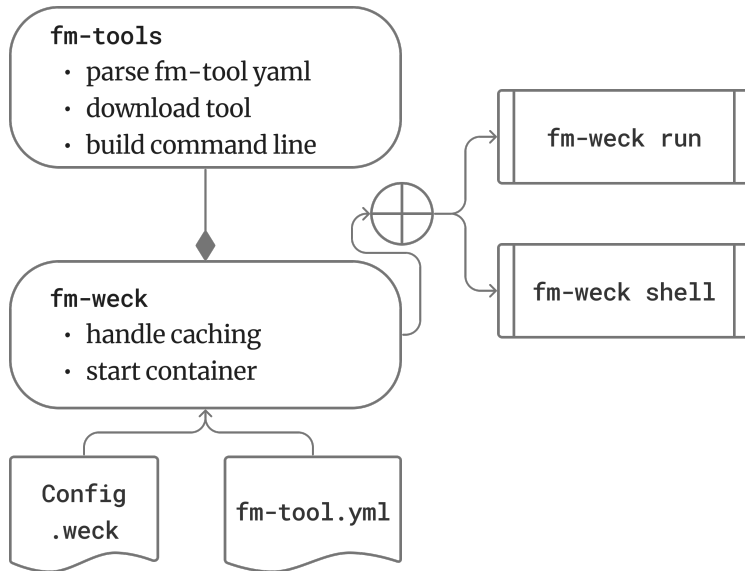
Refer to known fm-tools by name:version



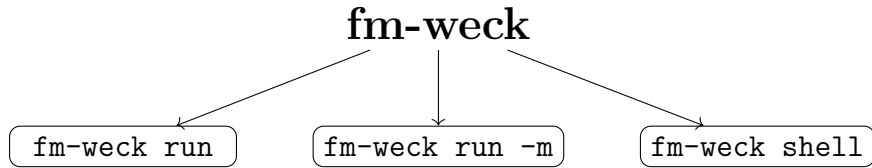
Download, Install and run the tool

- ▶ No knowledge of the tools CLI needed
- ▶ Tool runs in a container (no dependencies on host system)

# FM-WECK: Architecture







- ▶ Download and execute tool in container
- ▶ No knowledge of tool needed
- ▶ Download and execute tool in container
- ▶ Expert knowledge about tool required
- ▶ Spin up interactive shell in tool environment

# Conclusion FM-Tools and FM-Weck

FM-TOOLS collects and stores essential information to:

- ▶ Generate a knowledge base about formal-methods tools [12]  
<https://fm-tools.sosy-lab.org>
- ▶ Conserve tool versions and their required environment  
(with help by Zenodo and Podman/Docker)
- ▶ Run a tool in conserved environment via FM-WECK [39]
- ▶ Please add your tool



<https://fm-tools.sosy-lab.org>

# Conclusion

- ▶ Many verification tools and techniques
- ▶ External combinations are important
- ▶ Interfaces (artifacts, actors)
- ▶ Combinations and Cooperation
- ▶ Leverage Cooperation between Tools
- ▶ Conserve tools and make findable in FM-TOOLS

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