

# babble

*learning better abstractions with e-graphs and anti-unification*

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<sup>†</sup> equal contribution

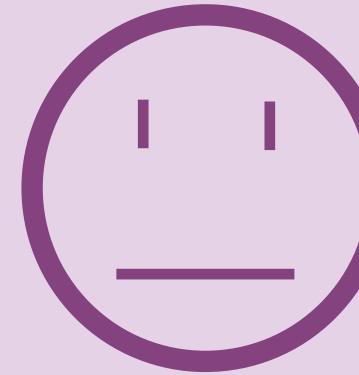
input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



*common pattern: face, where mouth is stretched out eyes*

input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



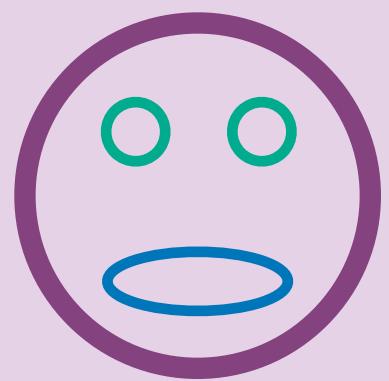
input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



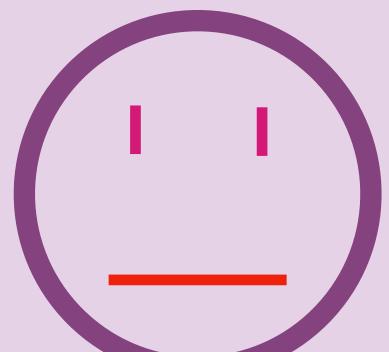
input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 circle,
 move 2 -1.5 circle,
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



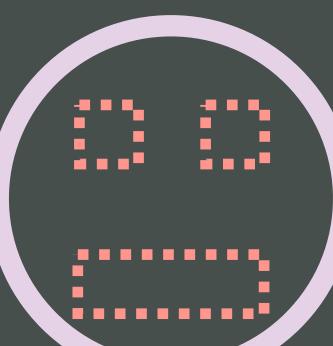
input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```

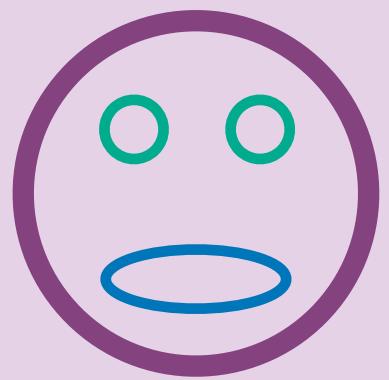


abstraction

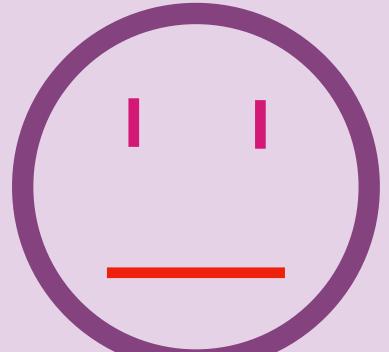
```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



face circle



face line



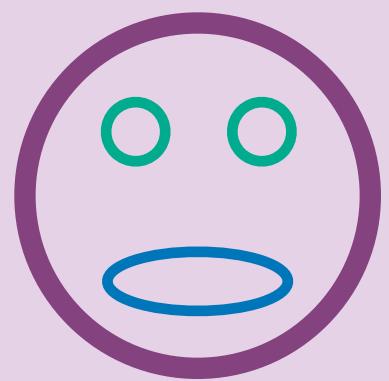
```
let square = ...
in face square
```



etc.

input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 circle,
 move 2 -1.5 circle,
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```

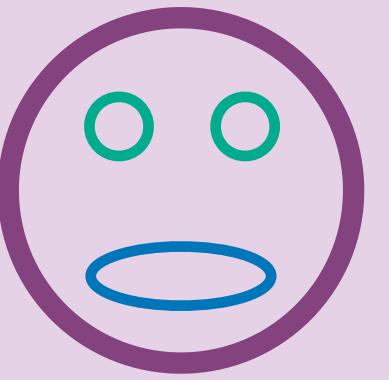


abstraction

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



face circle



face line



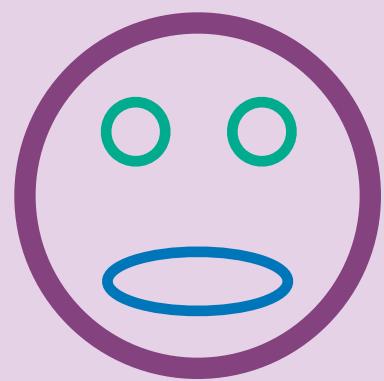
```
let square = ...
in face square
```



etc.

input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 circle,
 move 2 -1.5 circle,
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



`let face =  $\lambda$ shape  $\rightarrow$`

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



face circle



face line



abstraction

humans are really  
good at this!

etc.

`let square = ...`  
`in face square`



input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 circle,
 move 2 -1.5 circle,
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



let face = *λshape* →

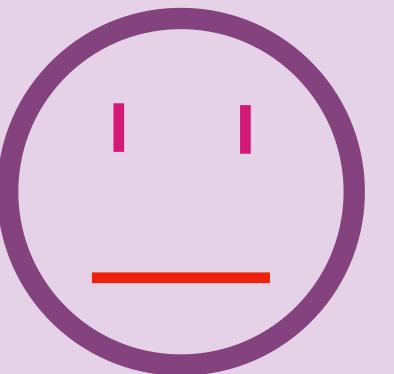
```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



face circle



face line



abstraction

humans are really  
good at this!



how can we get  
computers to do this?

let square = ...  
in face square

etc.

# library learning

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```

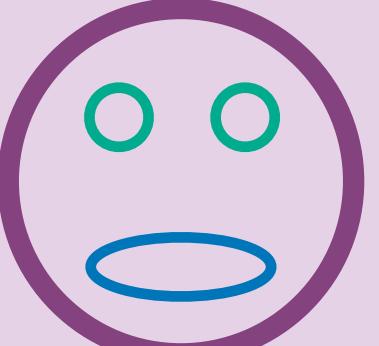


algorithm to learn  
"best" abstractions

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



face circle

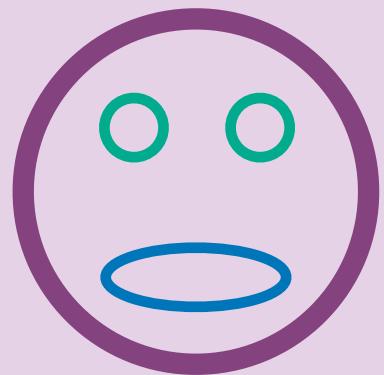


face line



# library learning

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



algorithm to learn  
"best" abstractions  
i.e. best compression:  
minimize abstraction +  
program size

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



face circle



face line



# library learning

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



**babble**

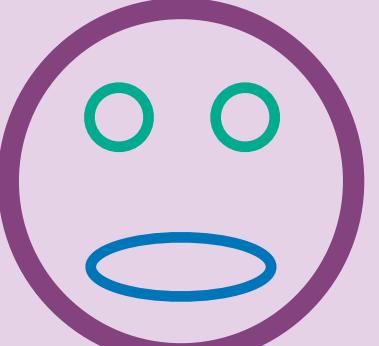
algorithm to learn  
"best" abstractions

i.e. best compression:  
minimize abstraction +  
program size

```
let face = λshape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



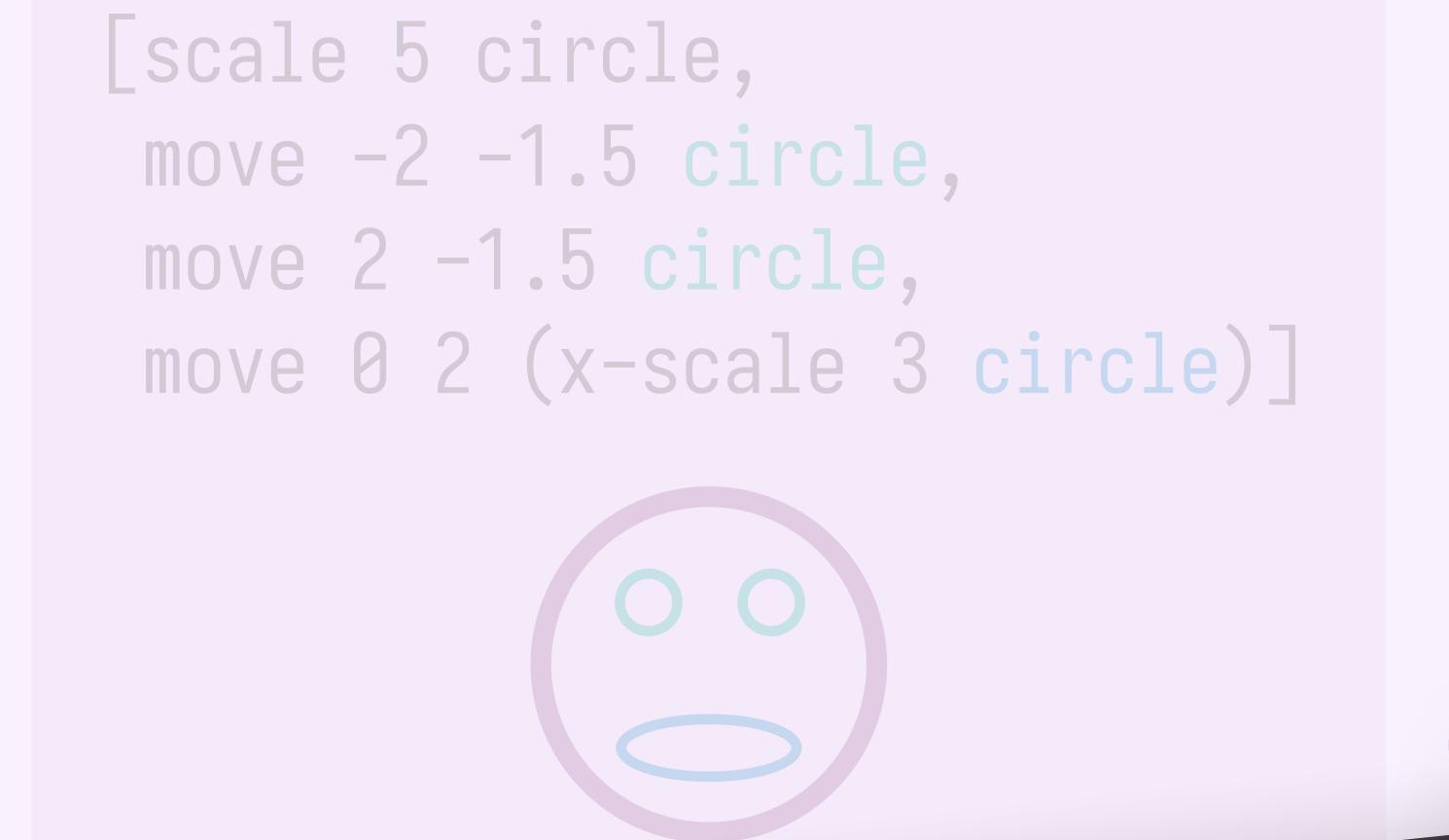
face circle



face line



# who cares about library learning?



## fpga design

*learn best library of operations to  
optimize hardware for*

*pick 2:*

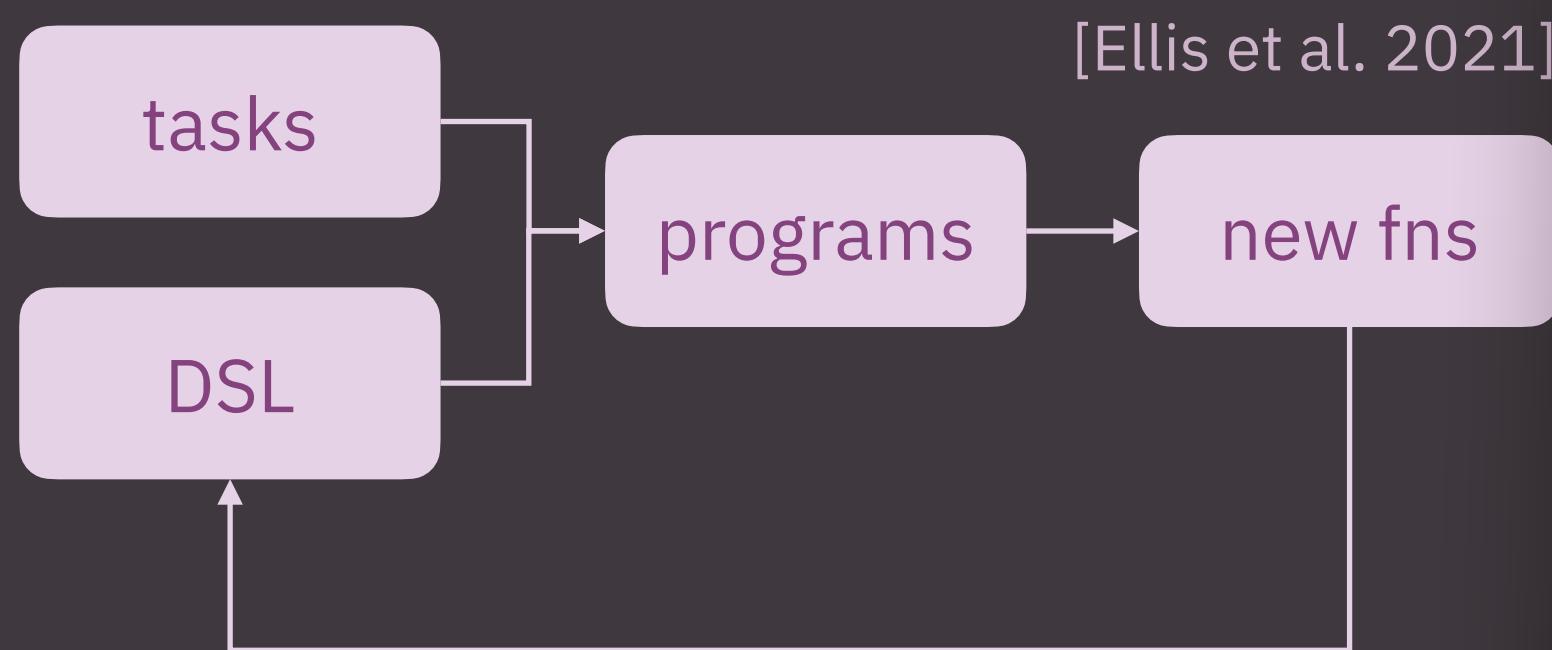
map

filter

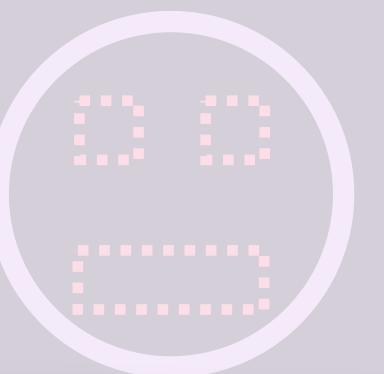
foldl

## improved program synthesis

*use past synthesis solutions to learn  
improved DSLs*

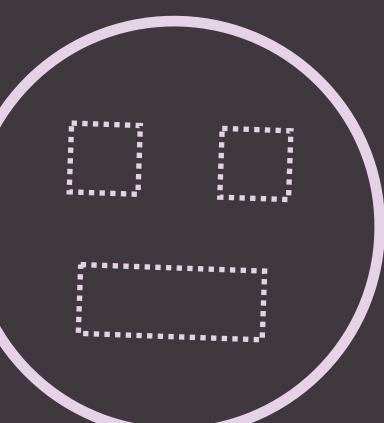


let face =  $\lambda$ shape  $\rightarrow$   
[scale 5 circle,  
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move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]



## modeling human perception

*make algorithm to examine how  
humans recognize visual structure*



[Wang et al. 2021]

# what's the challenge?

how does babble work?

how well does it work?

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



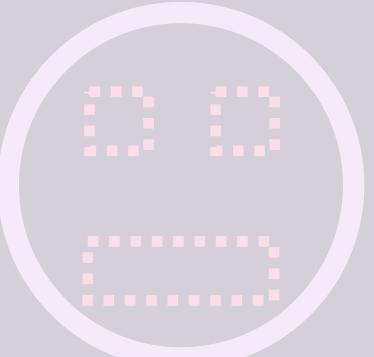
```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```

**babble**

algorithm to learn  
"best" abstractions

i.e. best compression:  
minimize abstraction +

```
let face =  $\lambda$ shape  $\rightarrow$ 
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



face circle



# what's the challenge?

how does babble work?

how well does it work?

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
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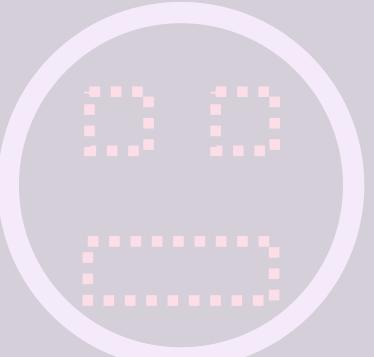
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[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```

**babble**

algorithm to learn  
"best" abstractions

i.e. best compression:  
minimize abstraction +

```
let face =  $\lambda$ shape  $\rightarrow$ 
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
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face circle



# what's the challenge?

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
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move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



**a non-exhaustive list of requirements:**

# what's the challenge?

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



**a non-exhaustive list of requirements:**

**be scalable**

run reasonably quickly on large corpuses with complex programs

# what's the challenge?

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



**a non-exhaustive list of requirements:**

**be scalable**

run reasonably quickly on large corpuses with complex programs

**learn abstractions in subterms**

not just abstractions which can be applied at the top level

# what's the challenge?

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



**a non-exhaustive list of requirements:**

**be scalable**

run reasonably quickly on large corpuses with complex programs

**learn abstractions in subterms**

not just abstractions which can be applied at the top level

**handles nested abstractions**

allowing for common structure across abstractions themselves to be shared

# what's the challenge?

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```

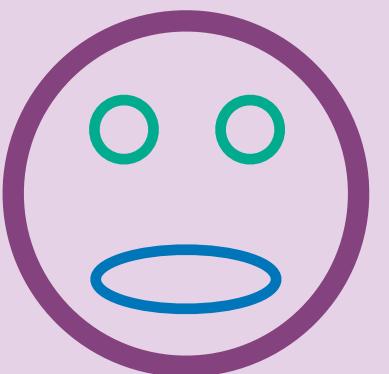


**what babble tackles:**

**incorporating semantic equivalence**

# what's the challenge?

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



# what's the challenge? syntactic alignment

input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



# what's the challenge? syntactic alignment

input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 2 -1.5 circle,  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,  
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



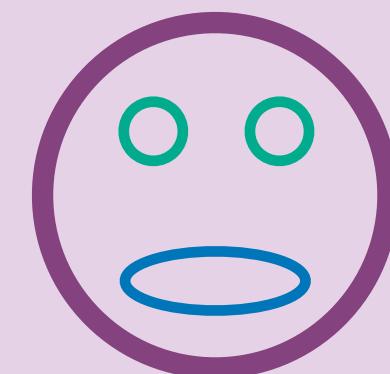
arg 1: circle (rotate 90 line)

# what's the challenge?

## syntactic alignment

input 1

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



input 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



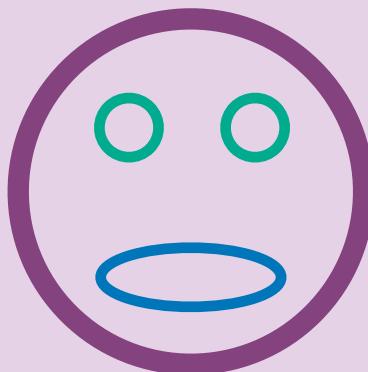
arg 1: circle (rotate 90 line)

arg 2: circle line

# what's the challenge?

## syntactic alignment

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



```
let face-ish = λeye mouth →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 eye,
move 2 -1.5 eye,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 mouth)]
```



face-ish circle circle

face-ish (rotate 90 line) line

# what's the challenge? syntactic alignment

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



## purely syntactic

```
let face-ish = λeye mouth →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 eye,
move 2 -1.5 eye,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 mouth)]
```

face-ish *circle circle*

face-ish *(rotate 90 line) line*

## ideal

```
let face = λshape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

face *circle*

face *line*

# what's the challenge? syntactic alignment

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



## purely syntactic

```
let face-ish =  $\lambda$ eye mouth  $\rightarrow$ 
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 eye,
move 2 -1.5 eye,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 mouth)]
```

face-ish **circle** **circle**

face-ish **(rotate 90 line)** **line**

face-ish **circle** **circle**

face-ish **(rotate 90 line)** **line**

face-ish **circle** **circle**

## ideal

```
let face =  $\lambda$ shape  $\rightarrow$ 
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

**face** **circle**

**face** **line**

**face** **circle**

**face** **line**

**face** **circle**

# what's the challenge? syntactic alignment

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



**ideal**

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

face circle

face line

# what's the challenge? syntactic alignment

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



## ideal

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

face **circle**

face **line**

# what's the challenge? syntactic alignment

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



≡

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

**ideal**

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

face **circle**face **line**

**semantically equivalent version of  
input shares common structure!**

# what's the challenge?

a library learning approach which discovers **more precise structure** by considering **semantically equivalent versions** of our programs.

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line)]
```

 $\equiv$ 

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



ideal

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

face *circle*

face *line*

# what's the challenge?

**how does babble work?**

**how well does it work?**

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



=

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



**ideal**

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

**face circle**

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line)]
```



**face line**

# what's the challenge?

how does babble work?

how well does it work?

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line)]
```

=

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



ideal

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```

face *circle*

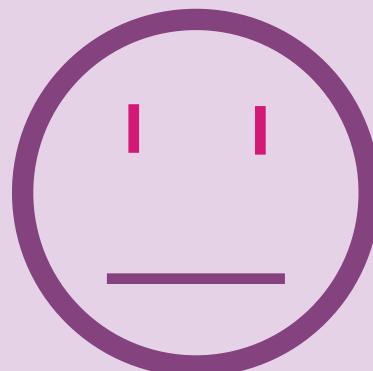
face *line*

# how does babble work? intuition

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



≡

input 1, version 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

≡

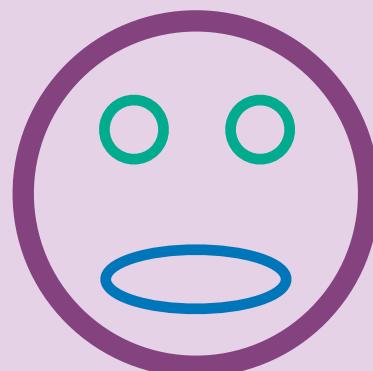
input 1, version 3

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

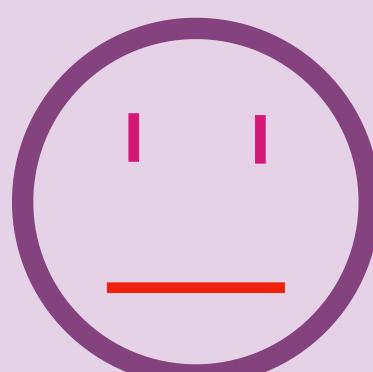
**idea:**  
**consider every equivalent version of our inputs**

# how does babble work? changing the problem

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 circle,
move 2 -1.5 circle,
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



**babble**

```
let face = shape →
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 shape),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 shape)]
```



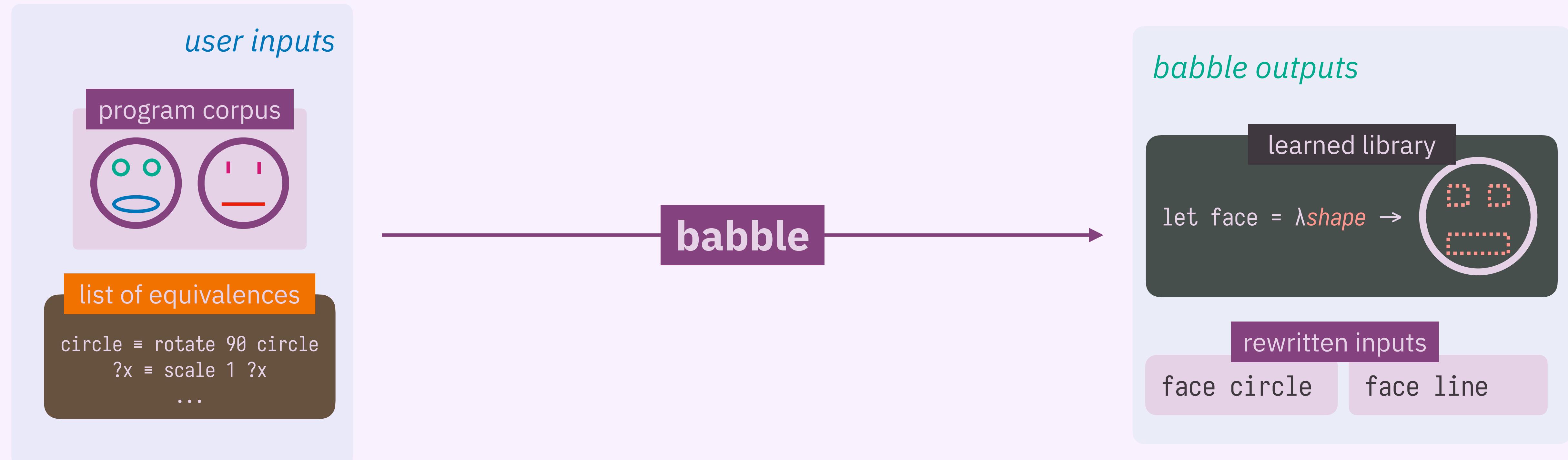
face circle



face line

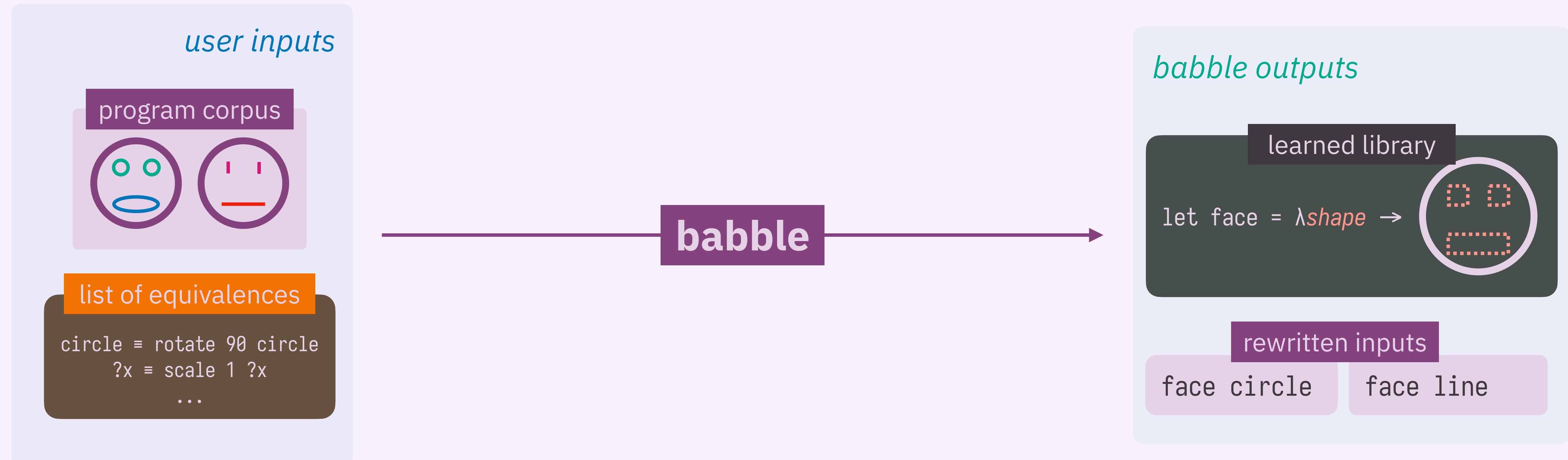


# how does babble work? changing the problem

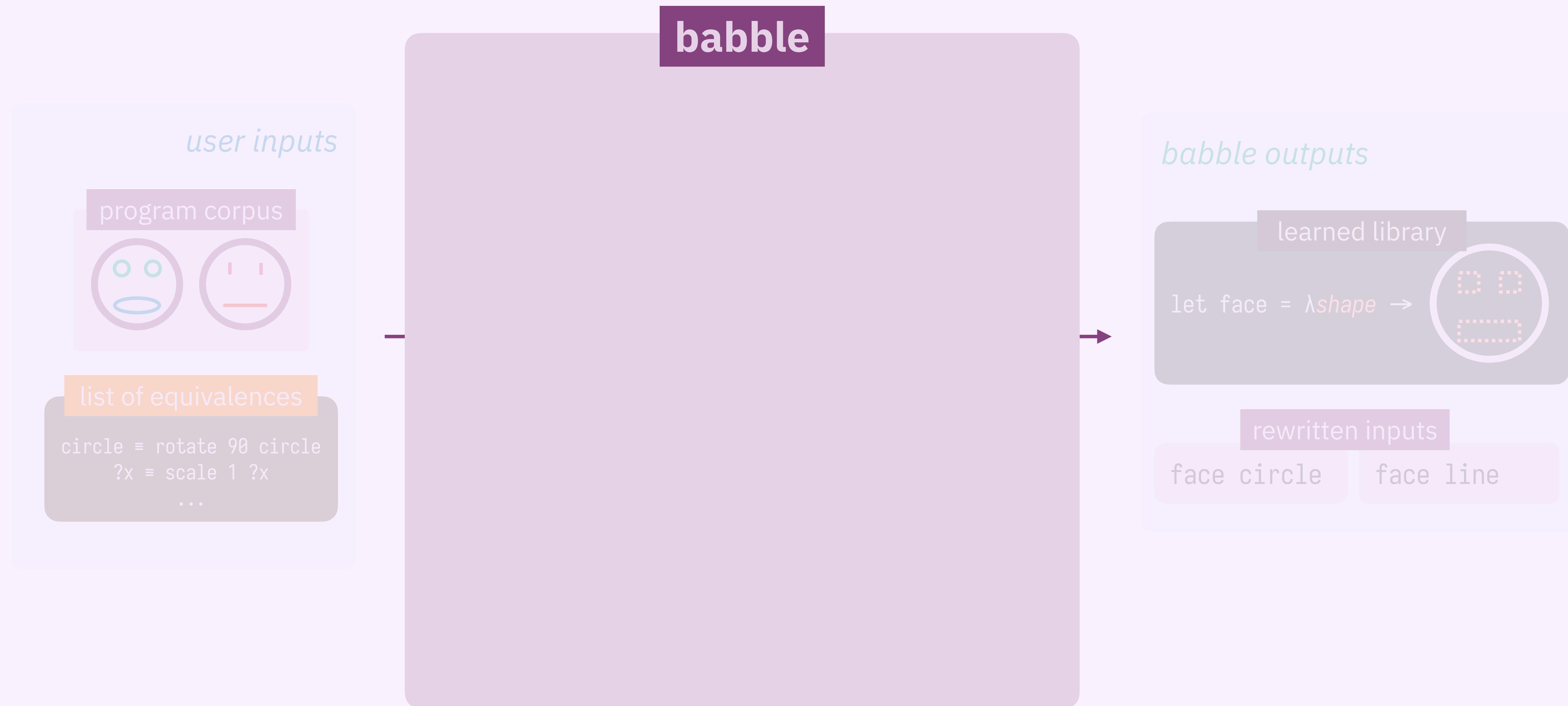


# how does babble work?

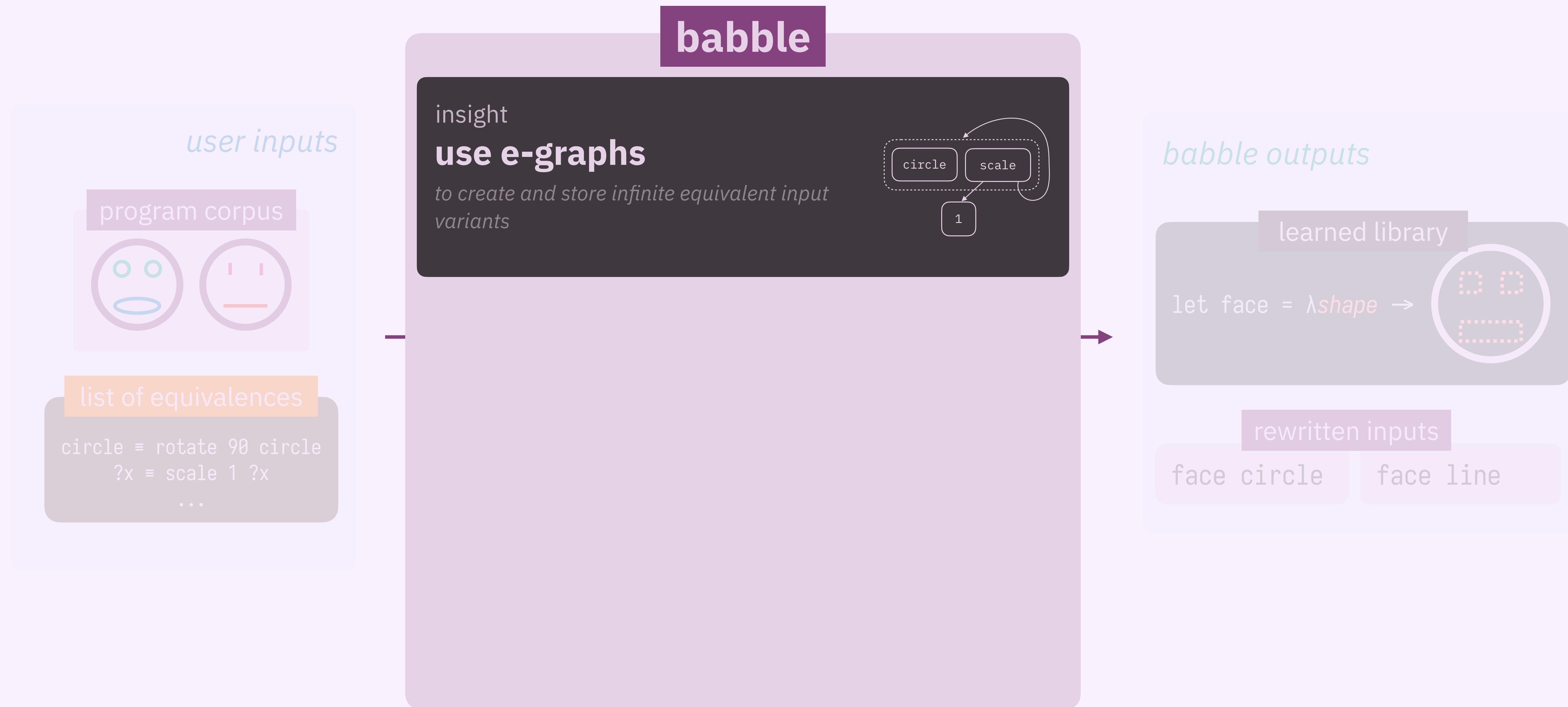
## contribution 1: library learning modulo theory (LLMT)



# how does babble work? library learning modulo theory (LLMT)

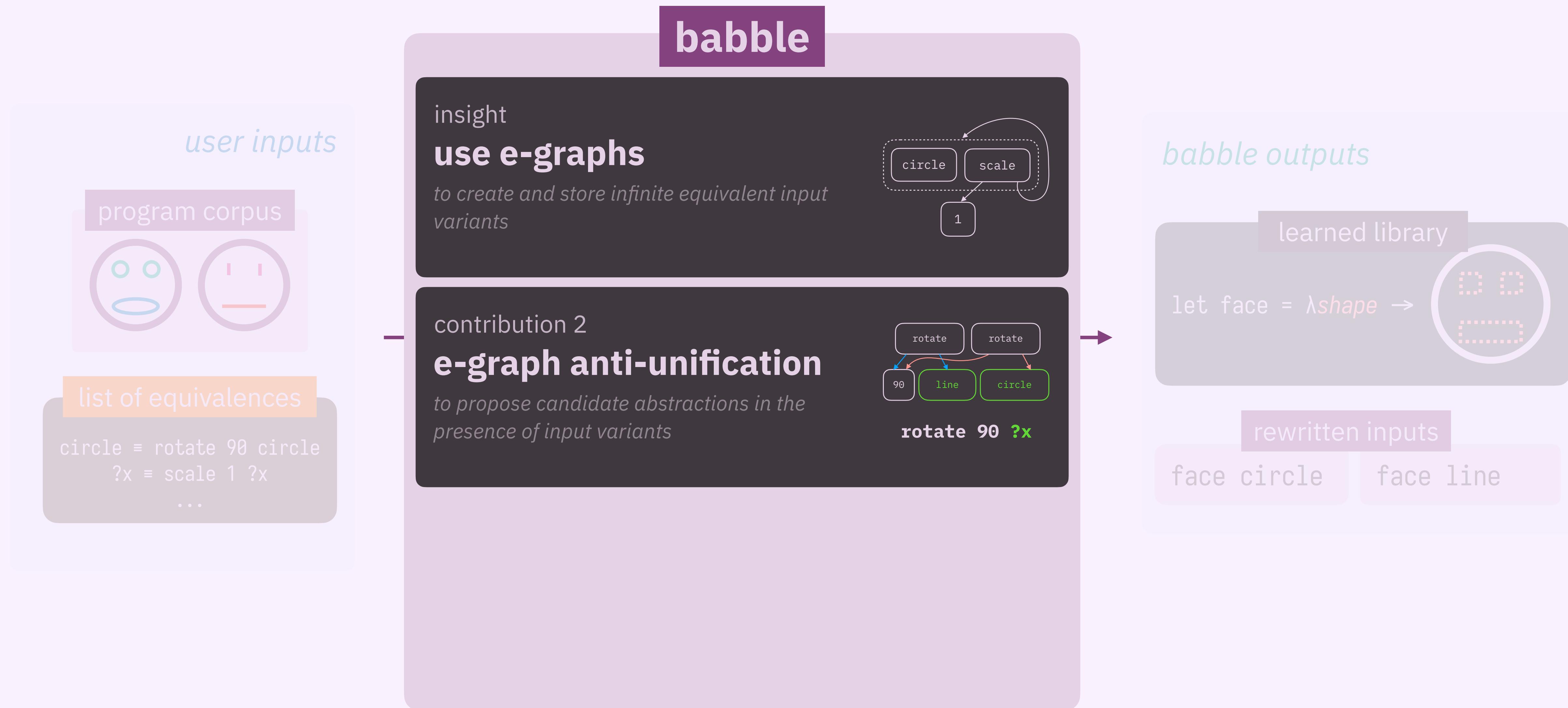


# how does babble work? library learning modulo theory (LLMT)

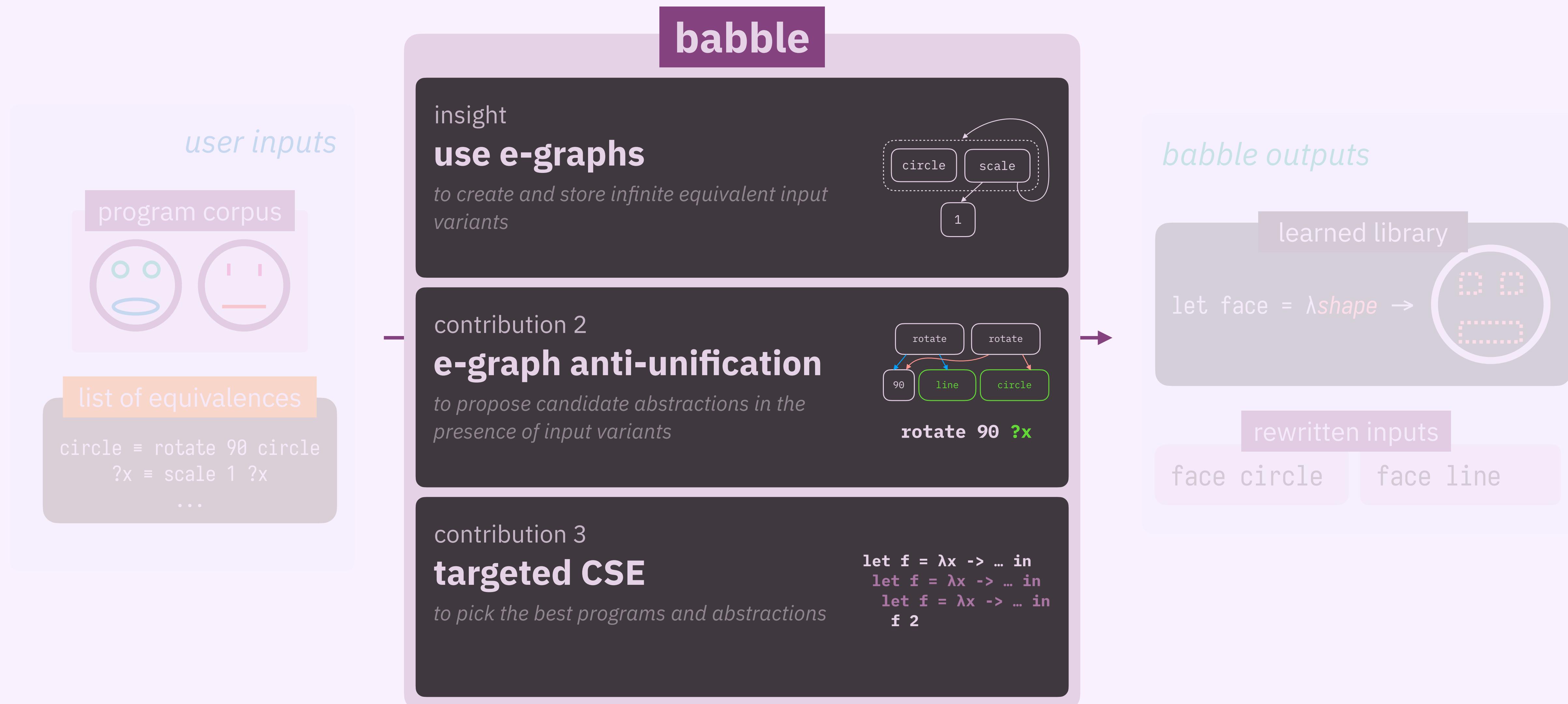


# how does babble work?

## library learning modulo theory (LLMT)

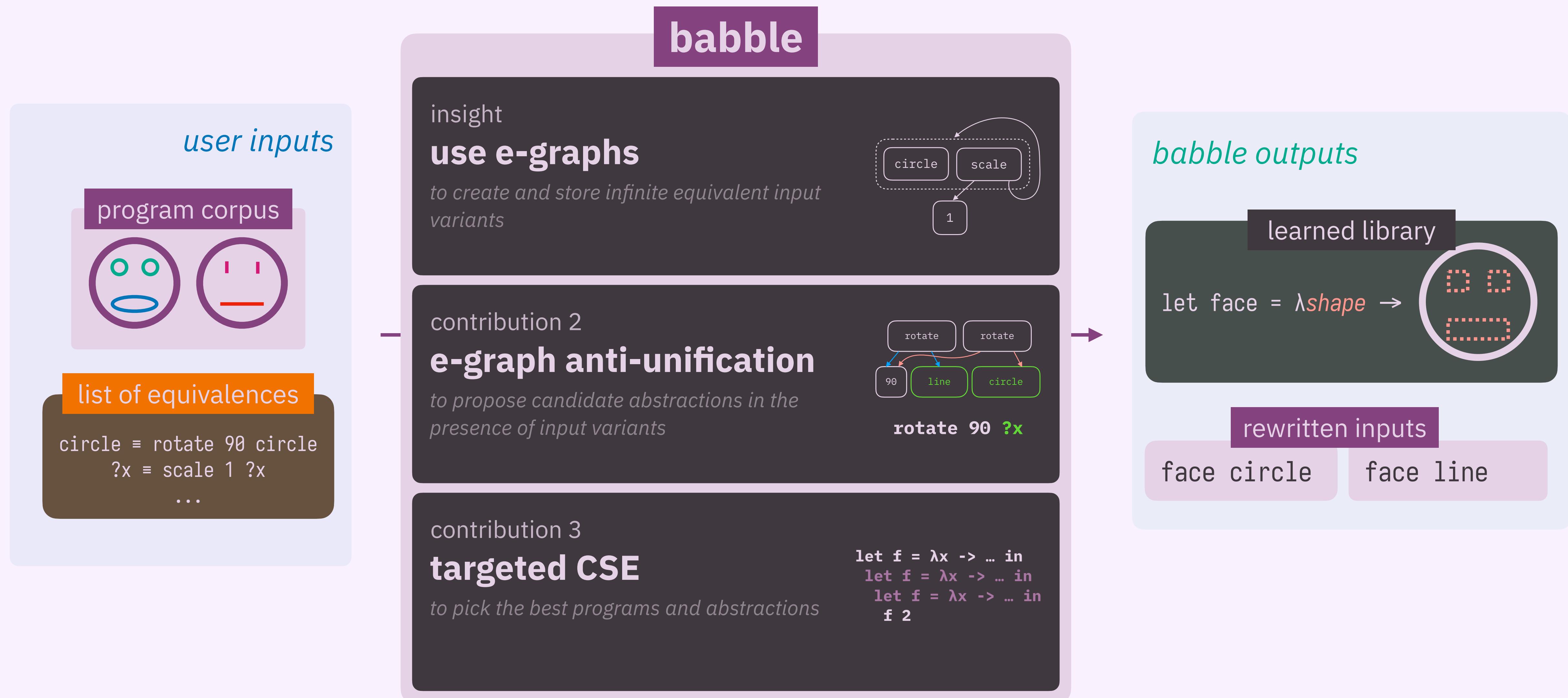


# how does babble work? library learning modulo theory (LLMT)

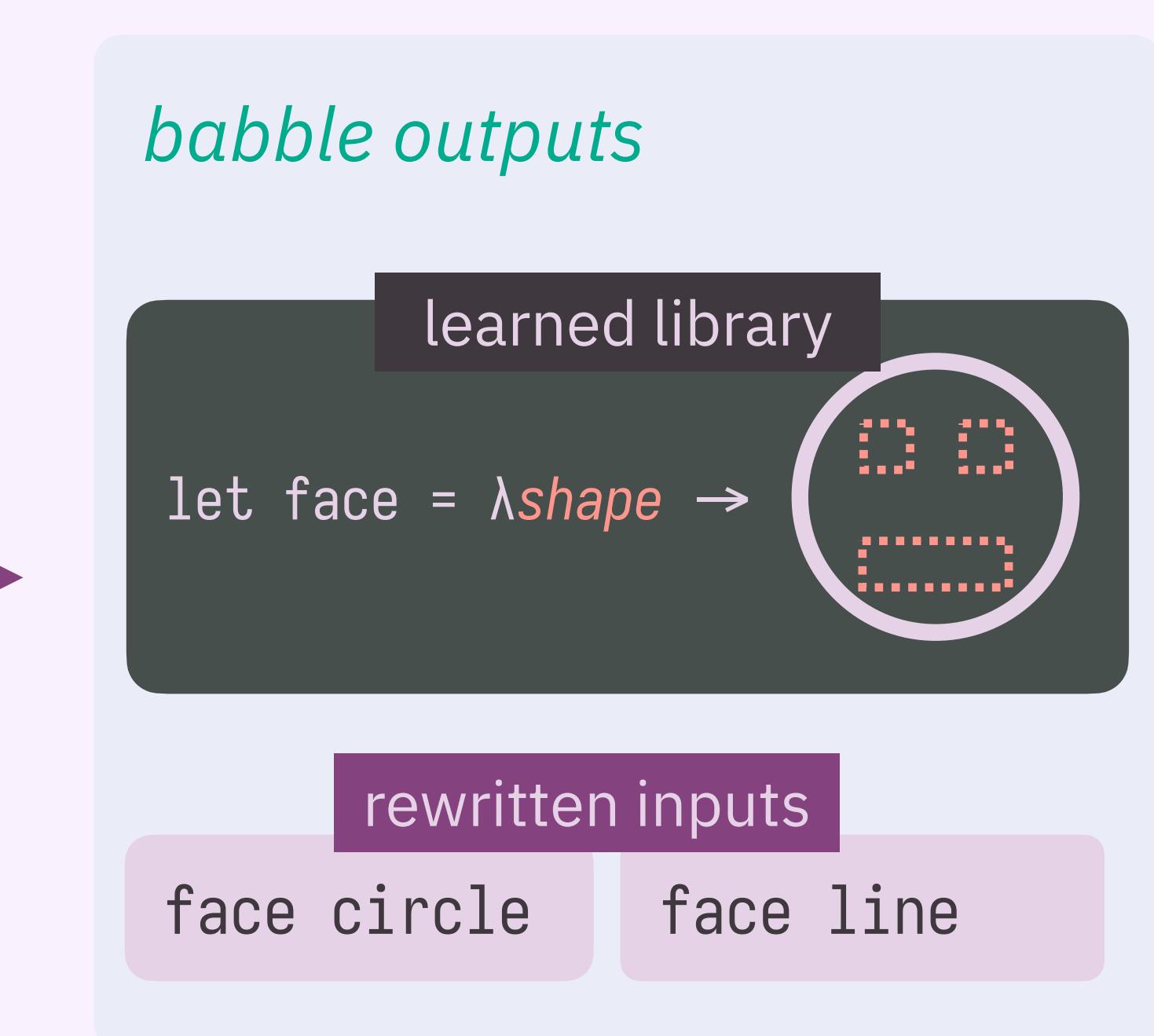
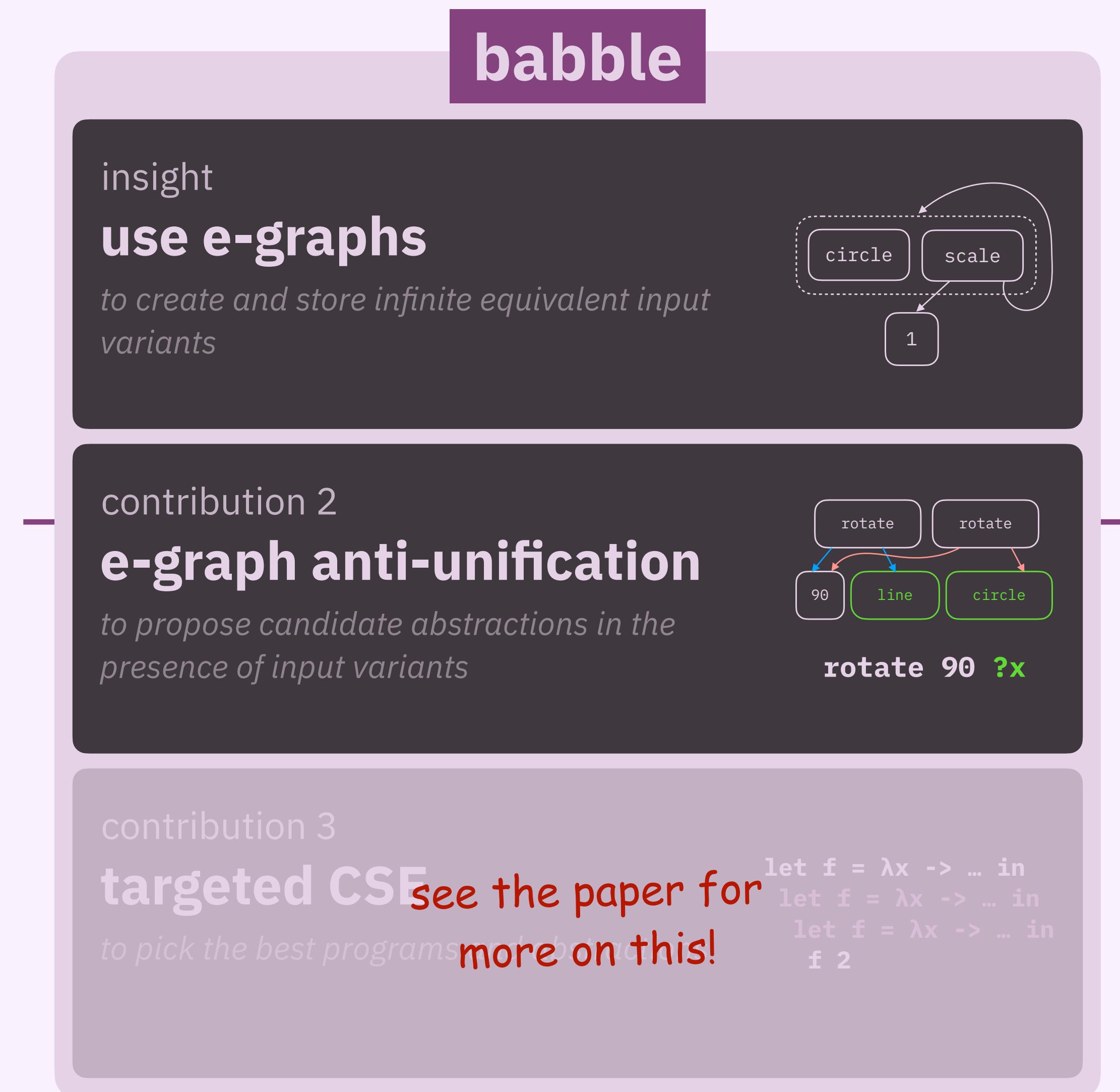
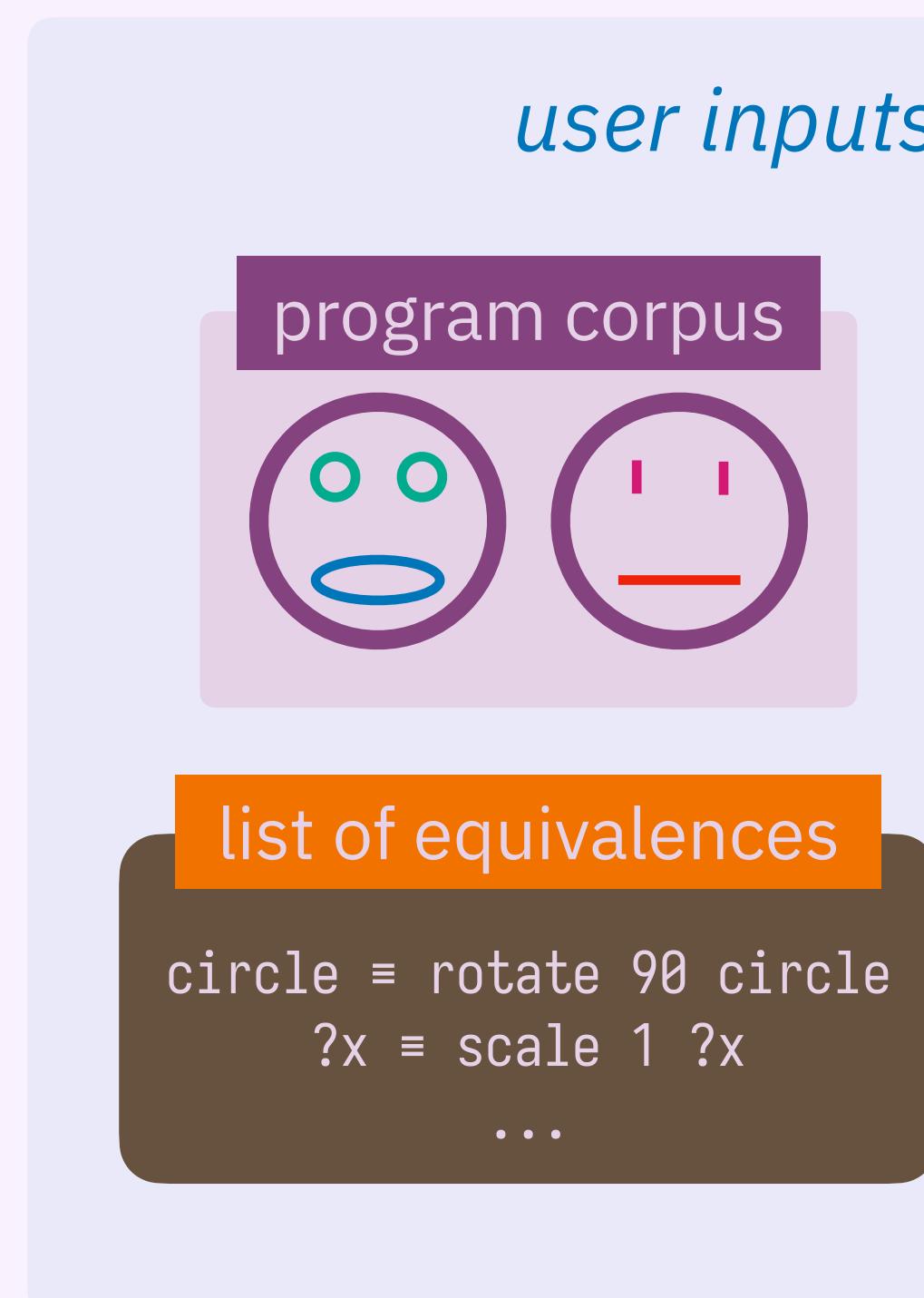


# how does babble work?

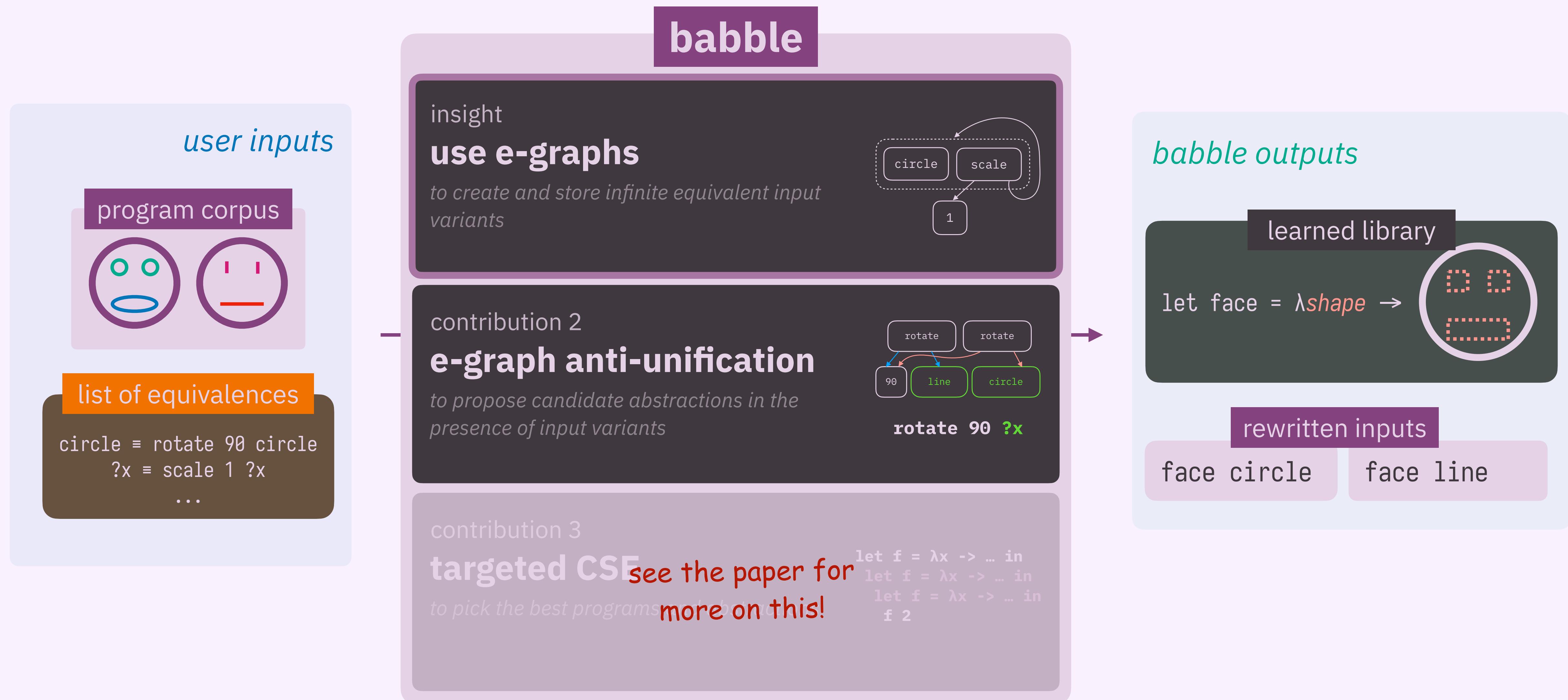
## library learning modulo theory (LLMT)



# how does babble work? library learning modulo theory (LLMT)



# how does babble work? library learning modulo theory (LLMT)



# how do e-graphs work?

## how do e-graphs work?

### why e-graphs?

```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 circle,  
move 2 -1.5 circle,  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



```
[scale 5 circle,  
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),  
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



# how do e-graphs work?

## why e-graphs?

*user inputs*

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 circle,
 move 2 -1.5 circle,
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```



=

input 1, version 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 line),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 line)]
```



=

input 1, version 3

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

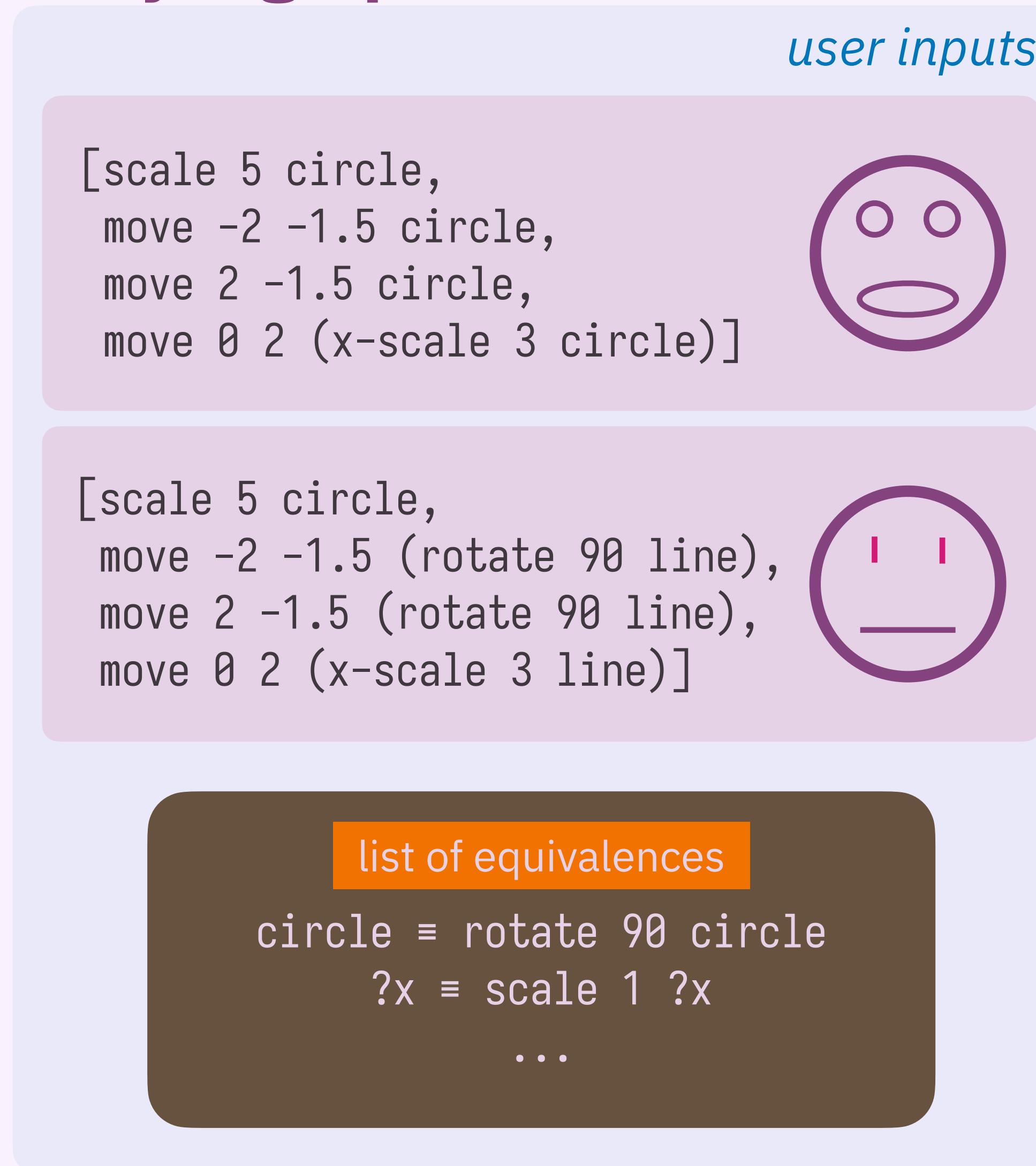
list of equivalences

```
circle ≡ rotate 90 circle
?x ≡ scale 1 ?x
```

...

# how do e-graphs work?

## why e-graphs?



input 1, version 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

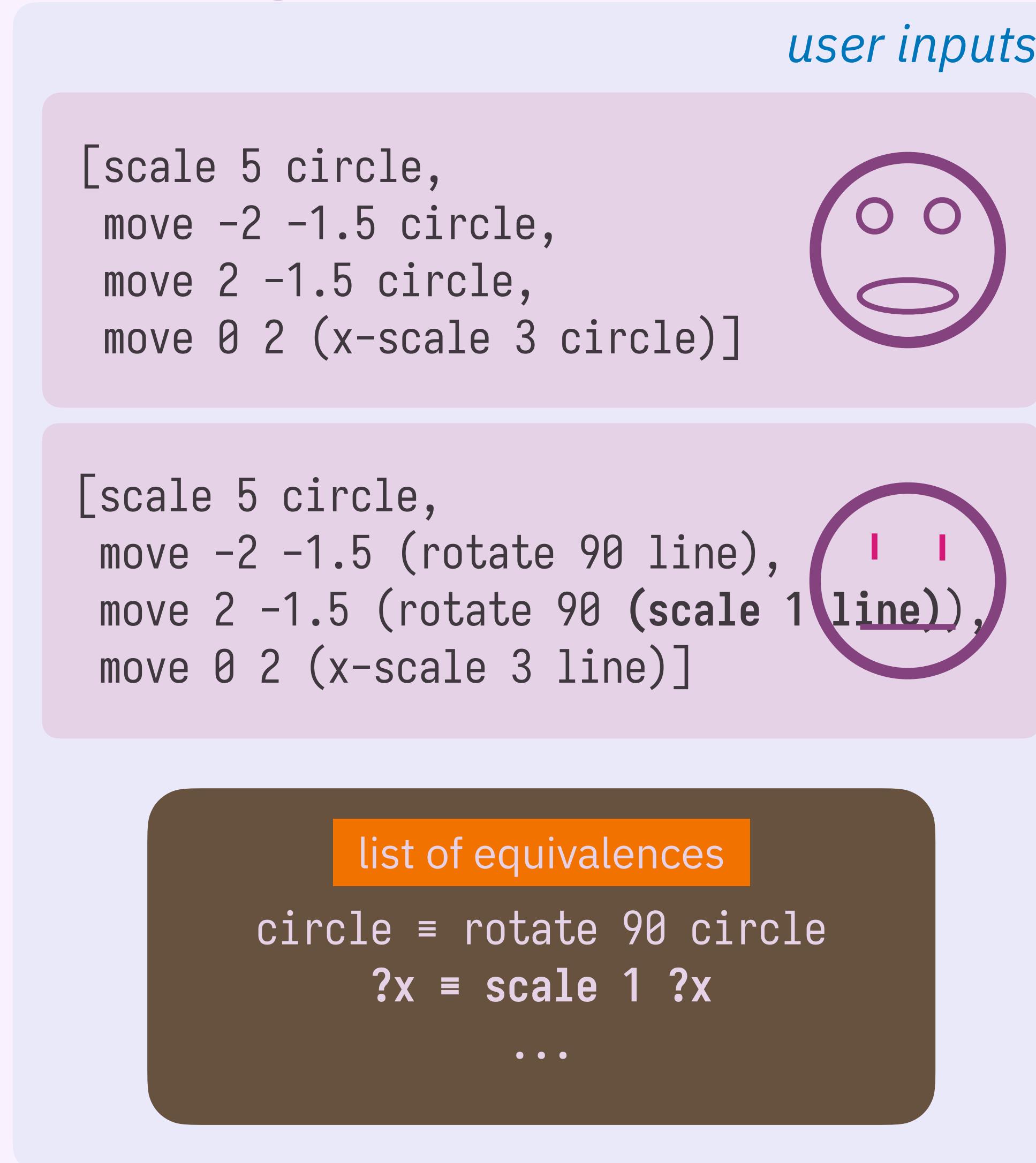
input 1, version 3

```
[scale 5 circle,
 move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
 move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

challenge:  
when do we stop rewriting?

# how do e-graphs work?

## why e-graphs?



input 1, version 2

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

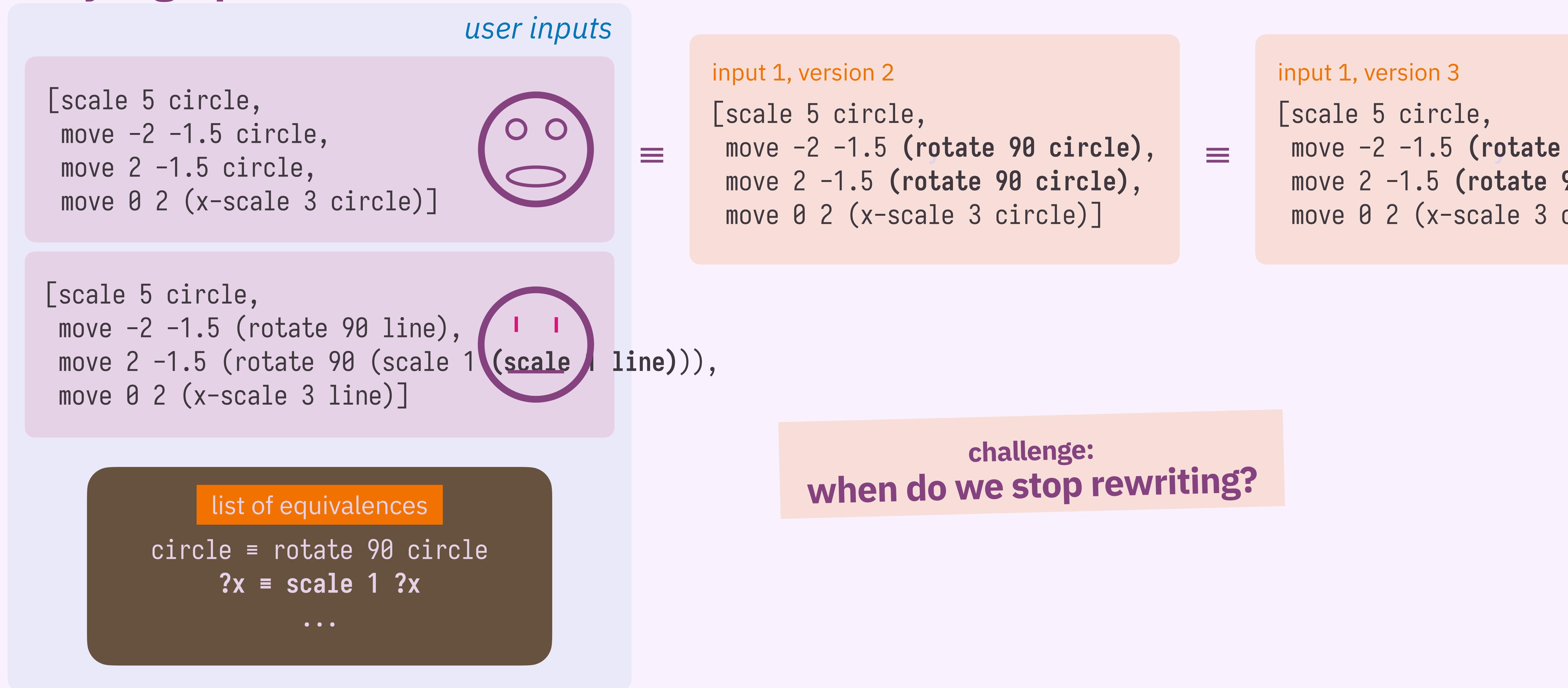
input 1, version 3

```
[scale 5 circle,
move -2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 2 -1.5 (rotate 90 circle),
move 0 2 (x-scale 3 circle)]
```

**challenge:**  
**when do we stop rewriting?**

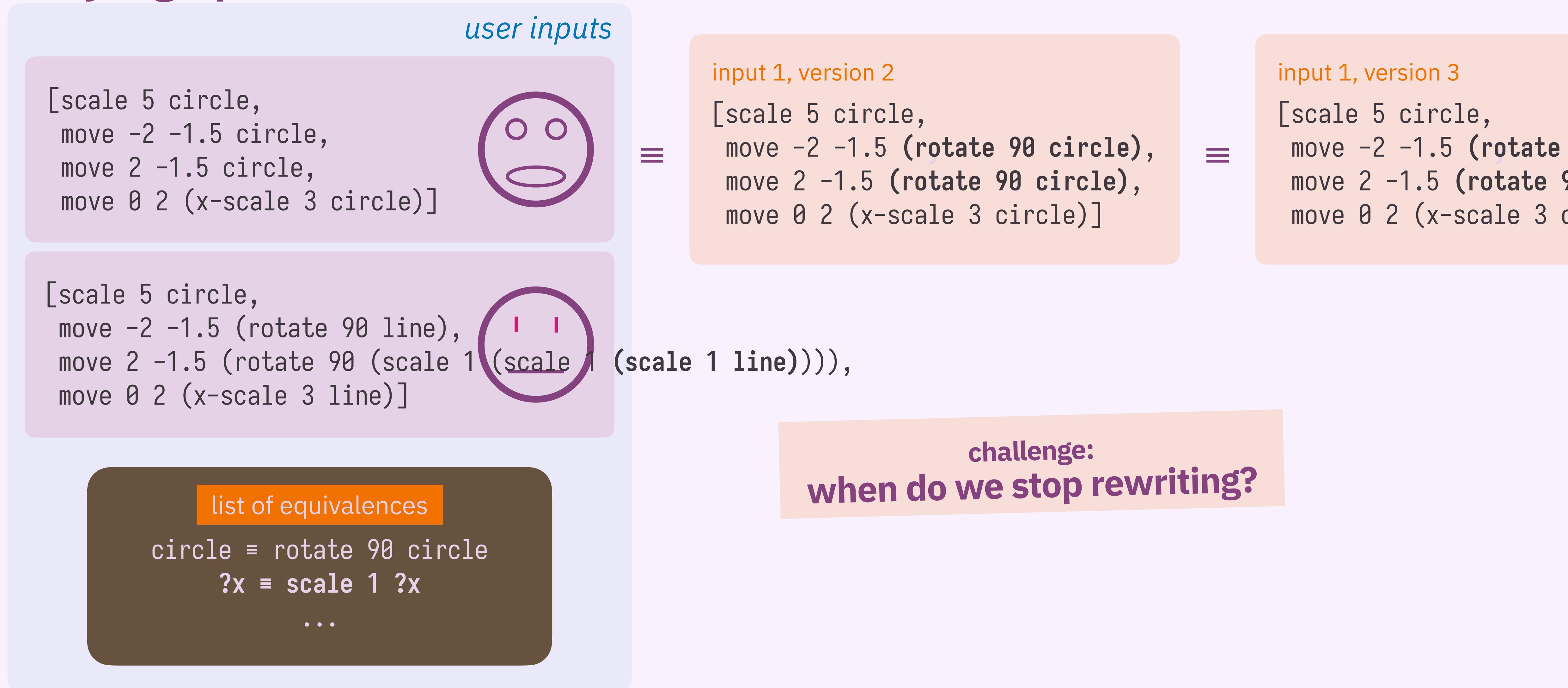
# how do e-graphs work?

## why e-graphs?



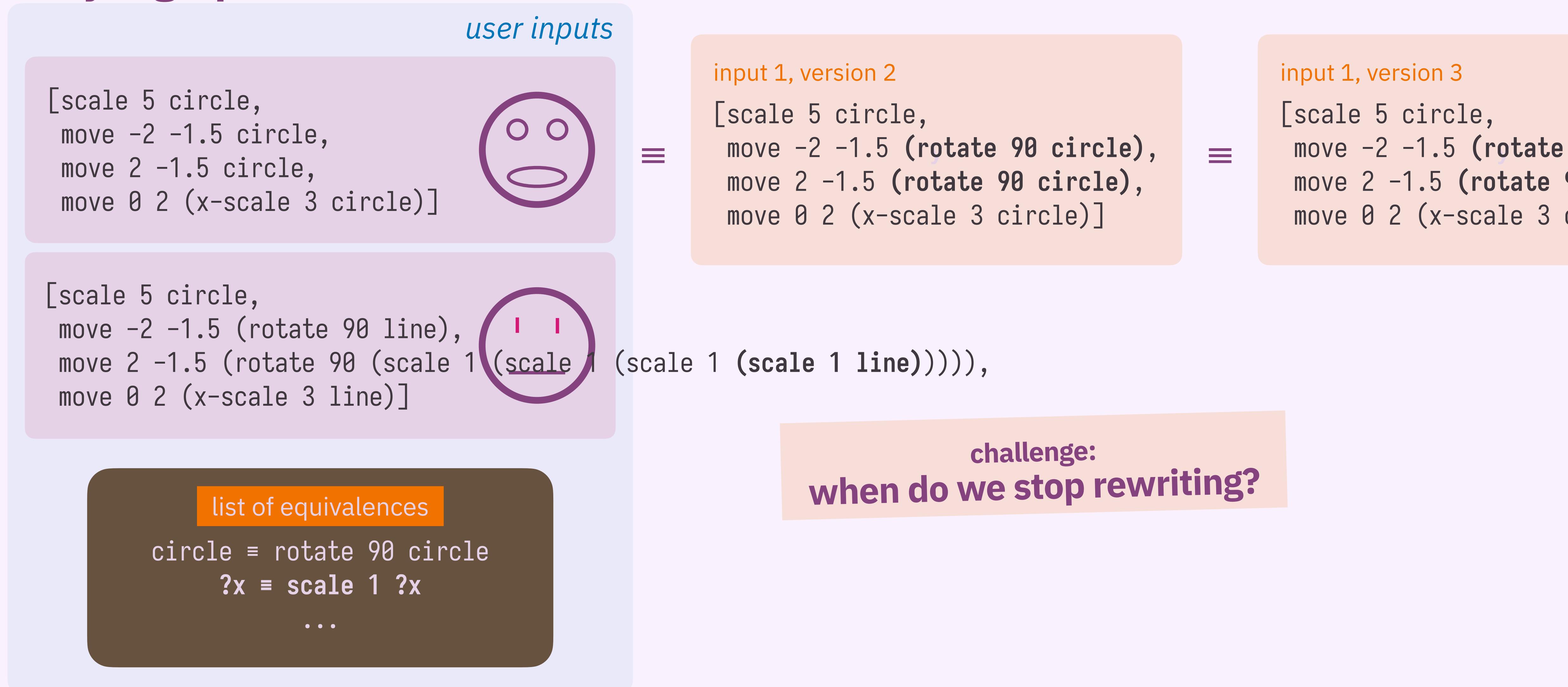
# how do e-graphs work?

## why e-graphs?

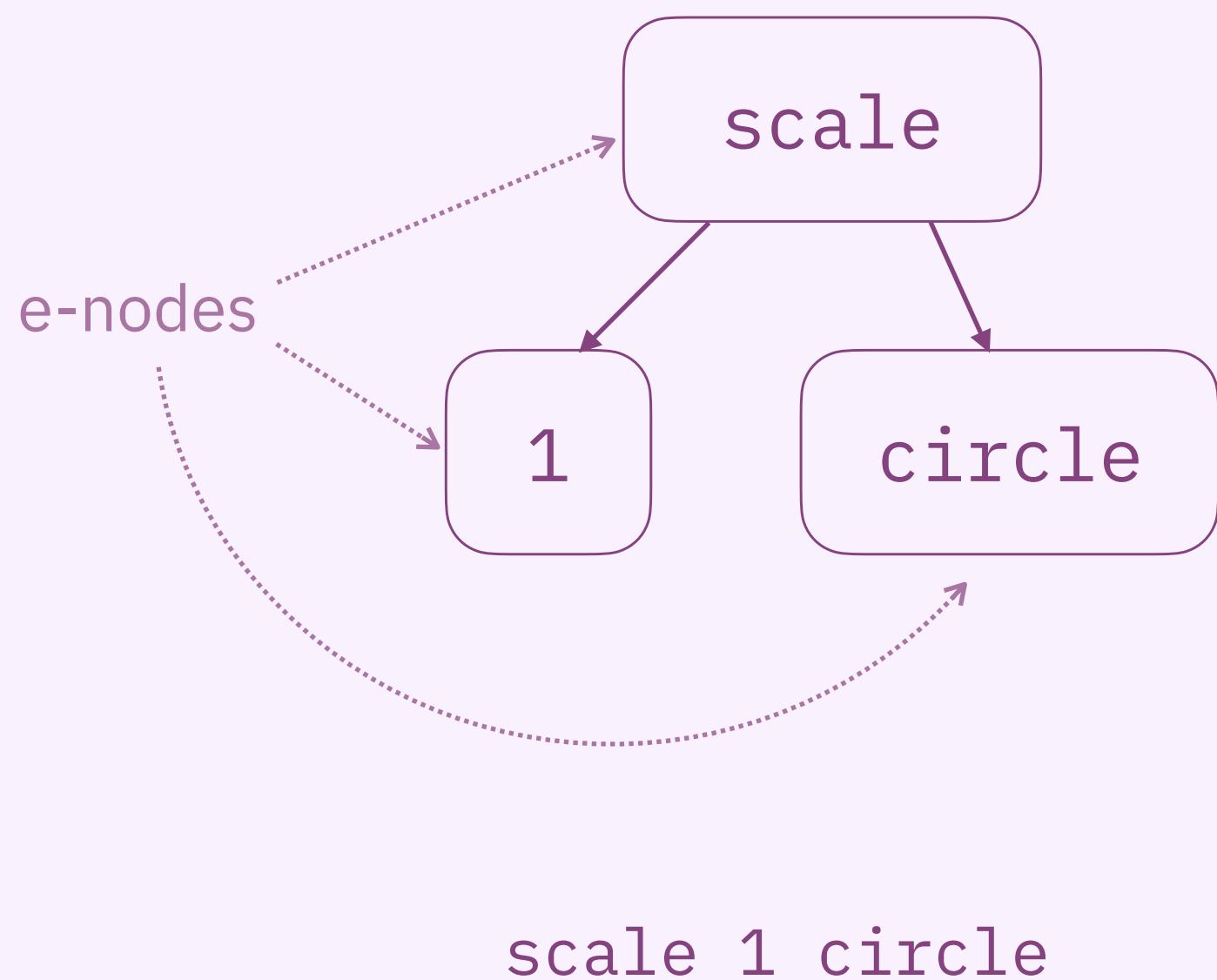


# how do e-graphs work?

## why e-graphs?



# how do e-graphs work?

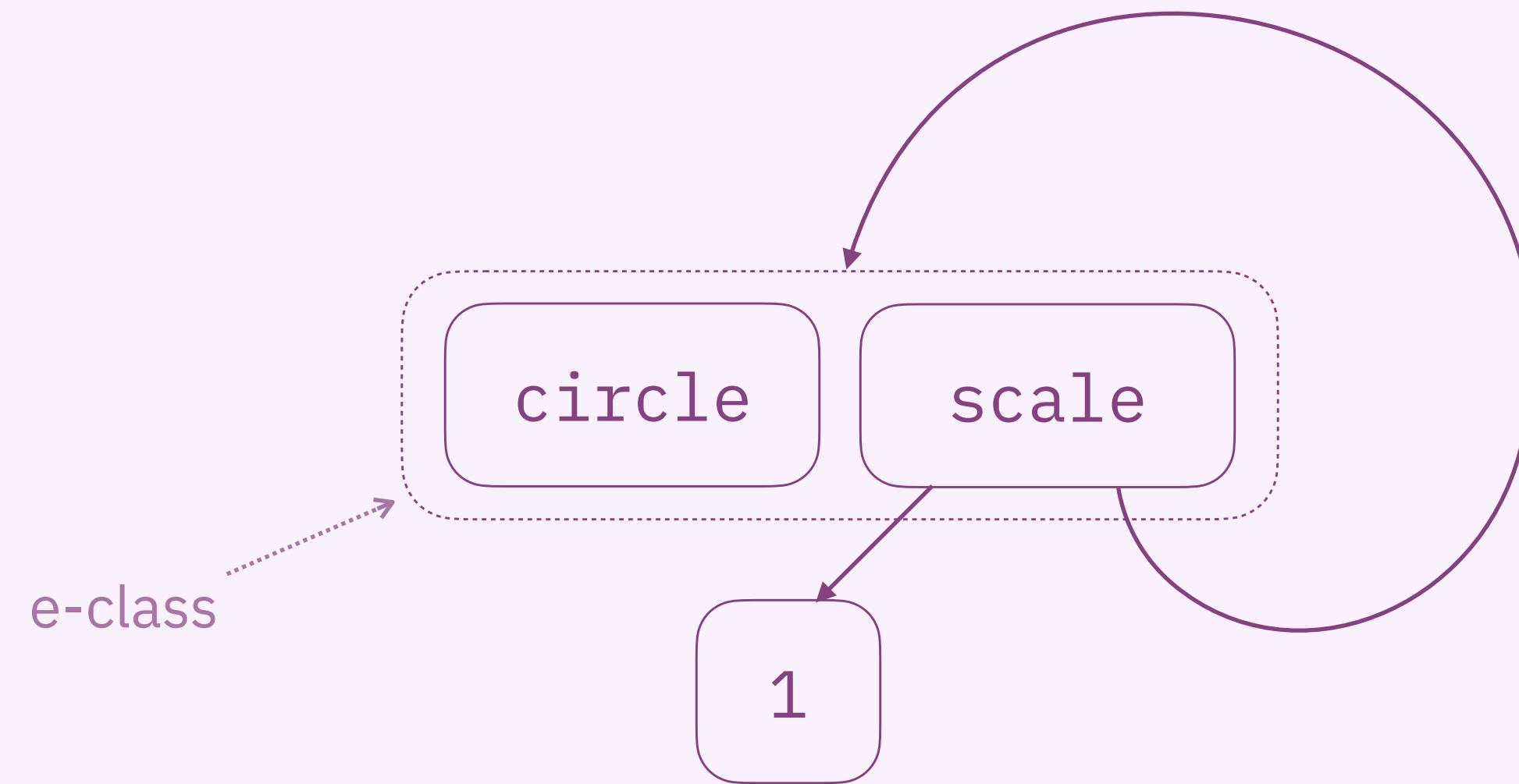


**e-graphs compactly represent sets of equivalent terms!**

[Tate et al. 2009]

[Willsey et al. 2021]

# how do e-graphs work?



**e-graphs compactly represent  
sets of equivalent terms!**

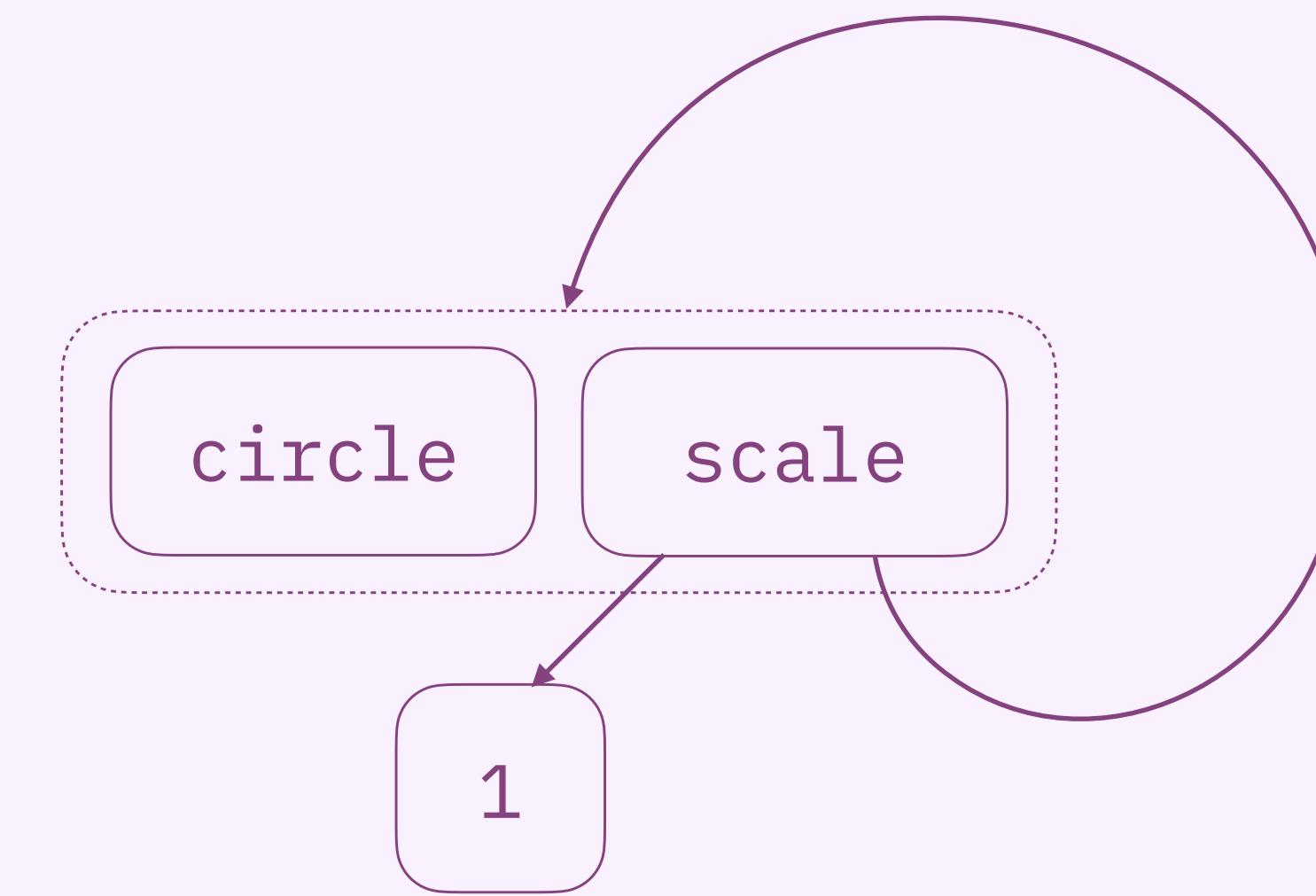
circle, scale 1 circle, scale 1 (scale 1 circle), ...

[Tate et al. 2009]  
[Willsey et al. 2021]

# how do e-graphs work?

equivalences

```
circle ≡ rotate 90 circle  
?x ≡ scale 1 ?x  
...
```

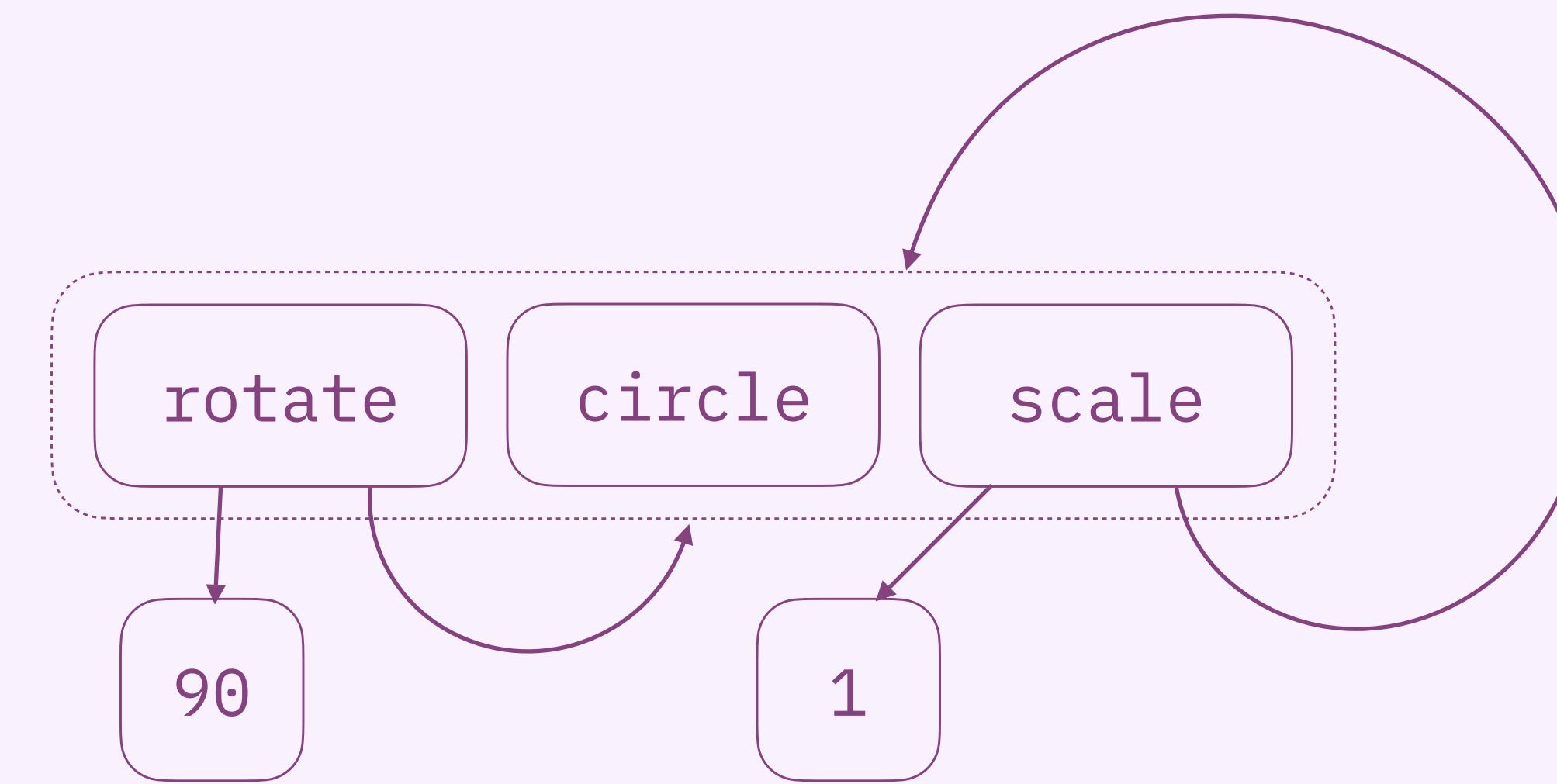


circle, scale 1 circle, scale 1 (scale 1 circle), ...

# how do e-graphs work?

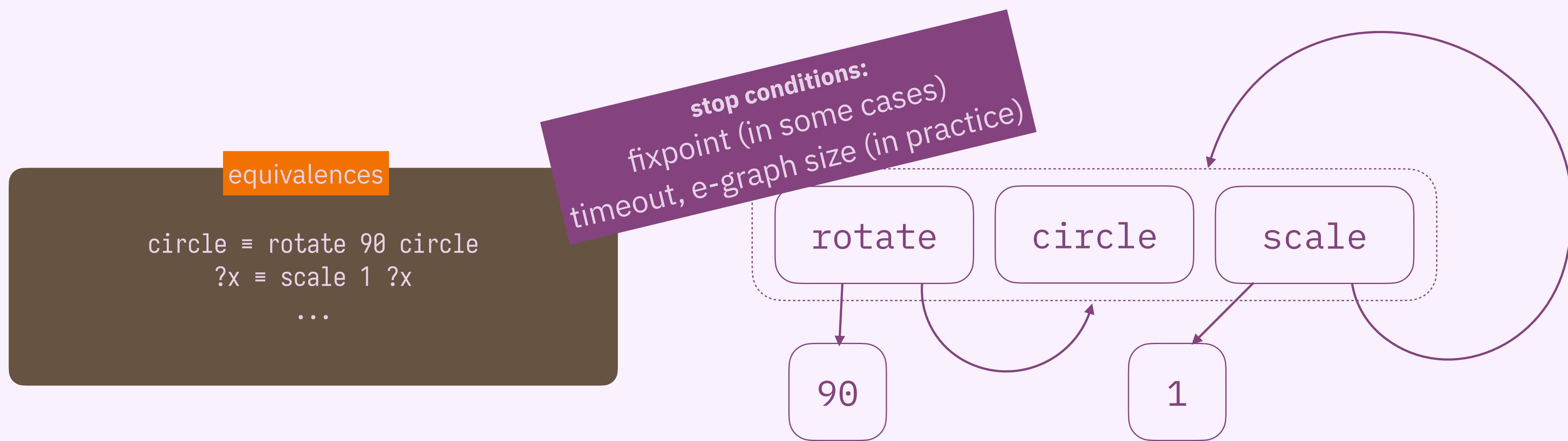
equivalences

```
circle ≡ rotate 90 circle
?x ≡ scale 1 ?x
...
```



circle, scale 1 circle, rotate 90 circle,  
 rotate 90 (scale 1 circle), scale 1 (rotate 90 circle), ...

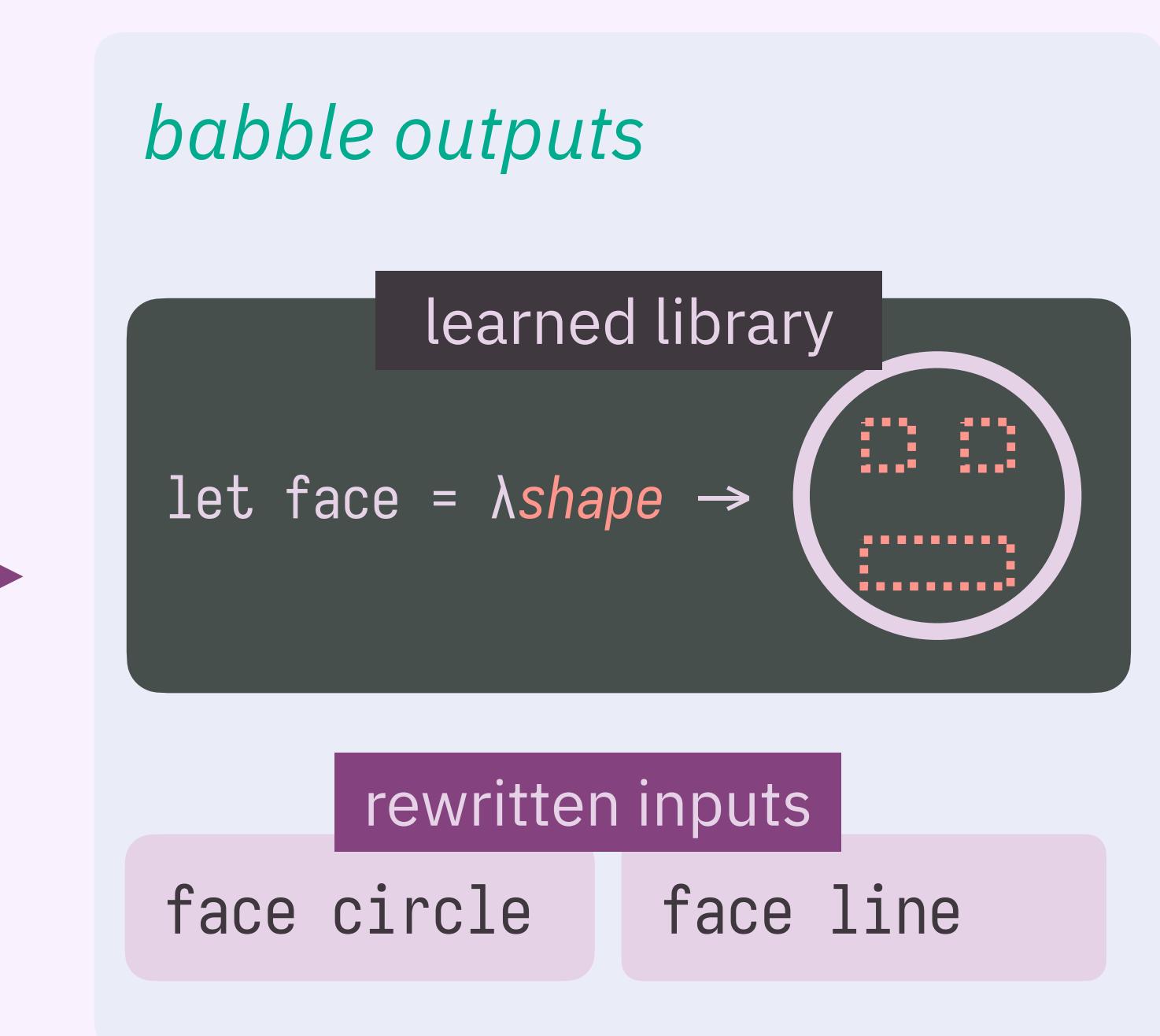
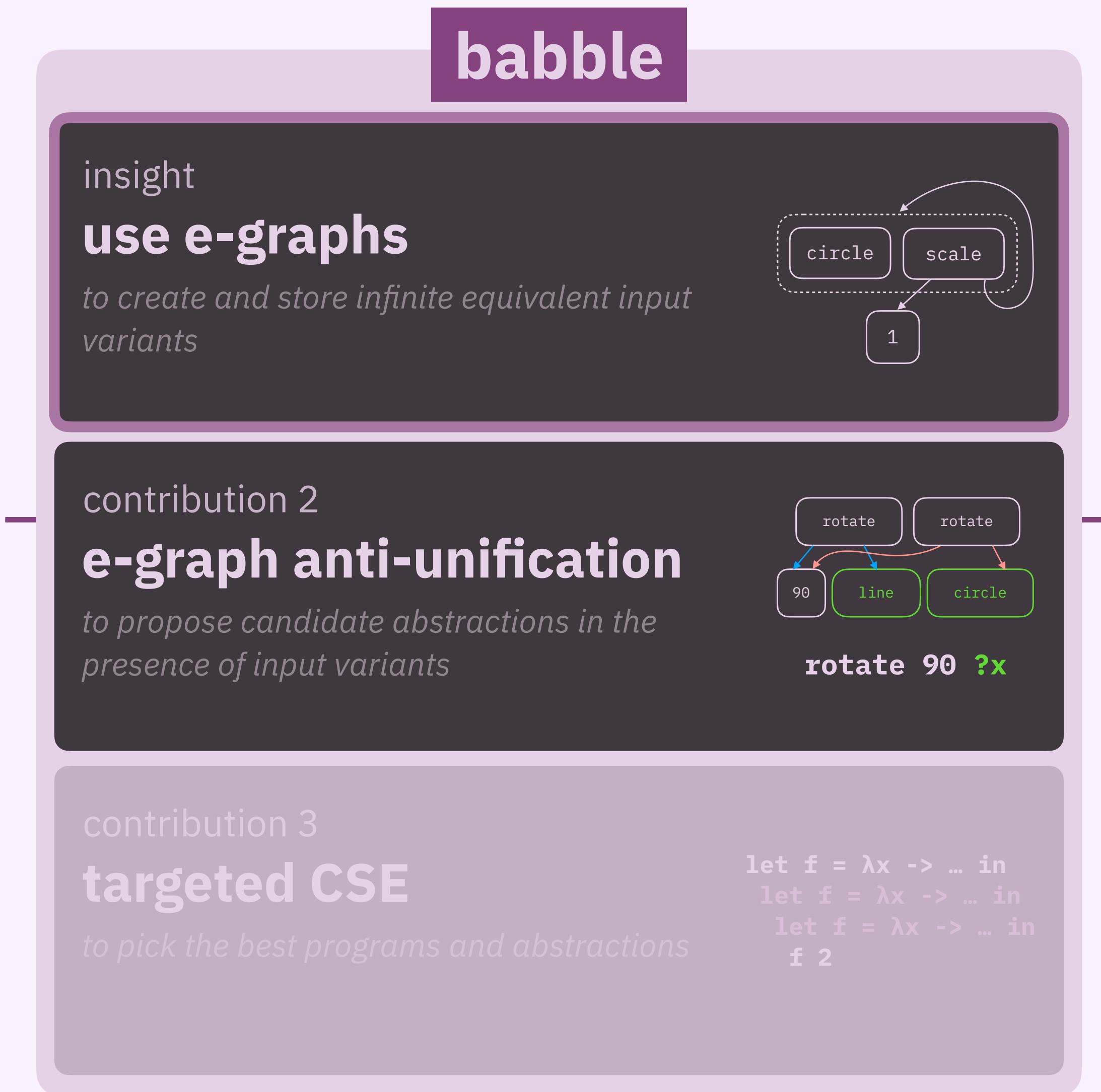
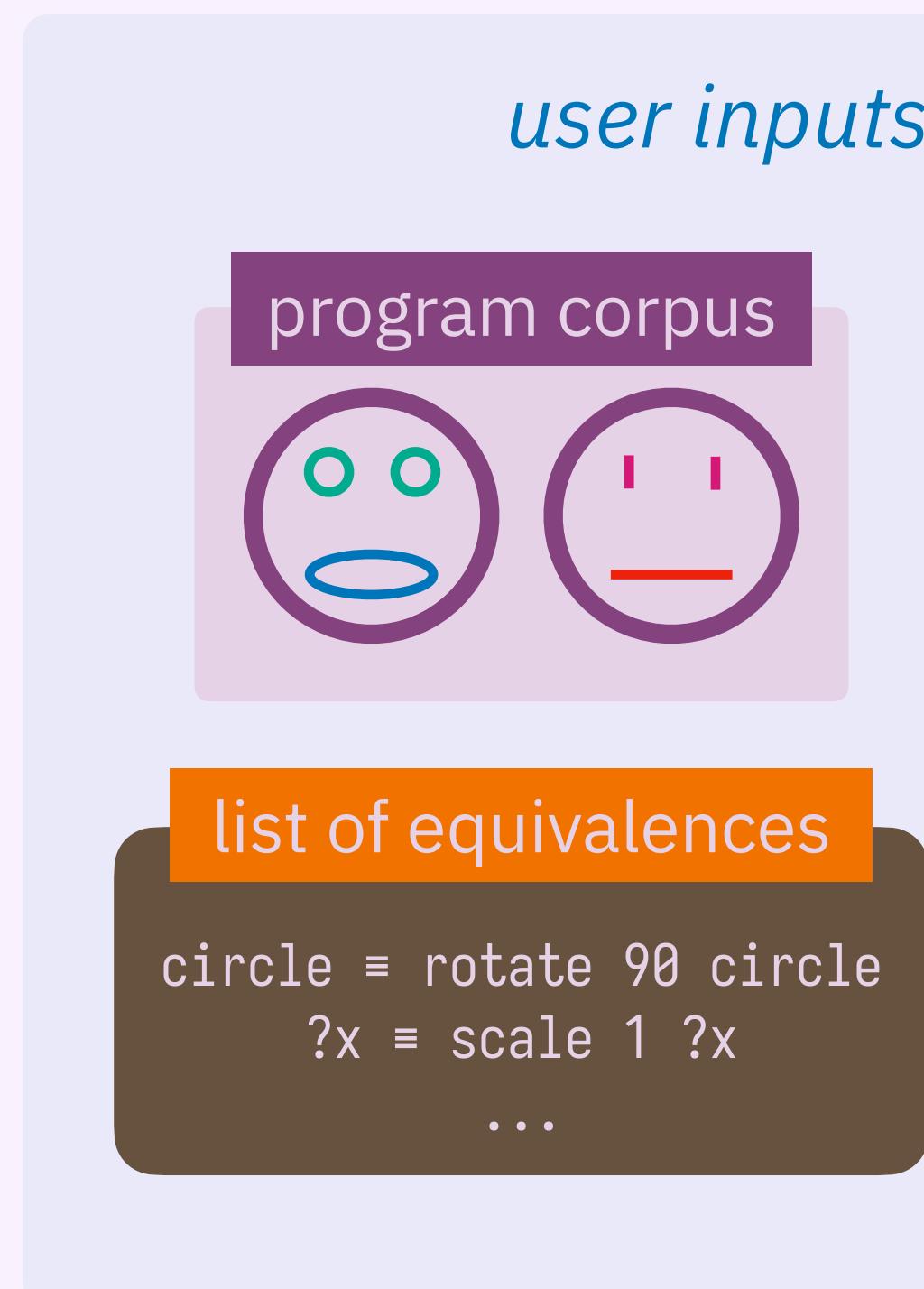
# how do e-graphs work?



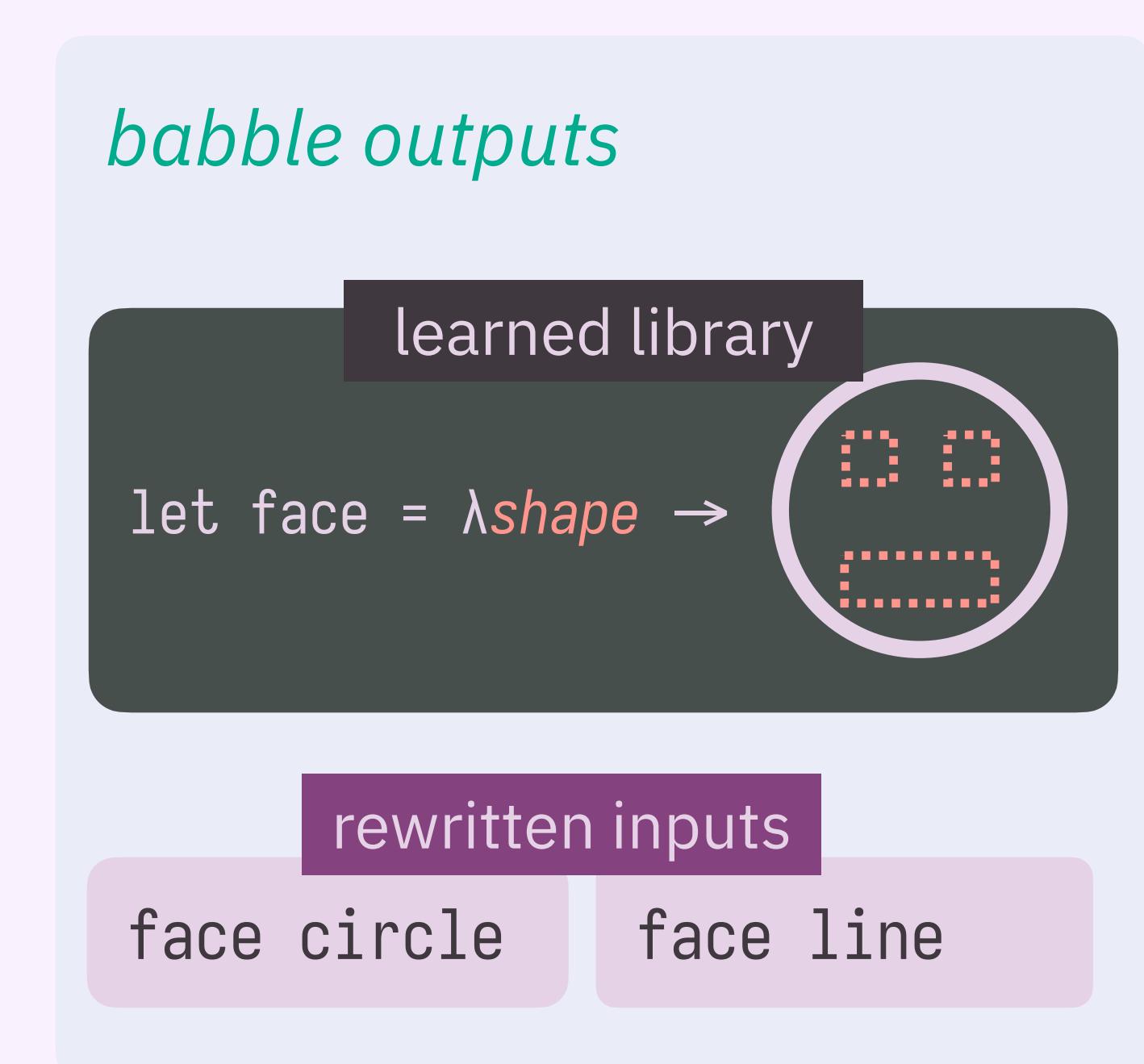
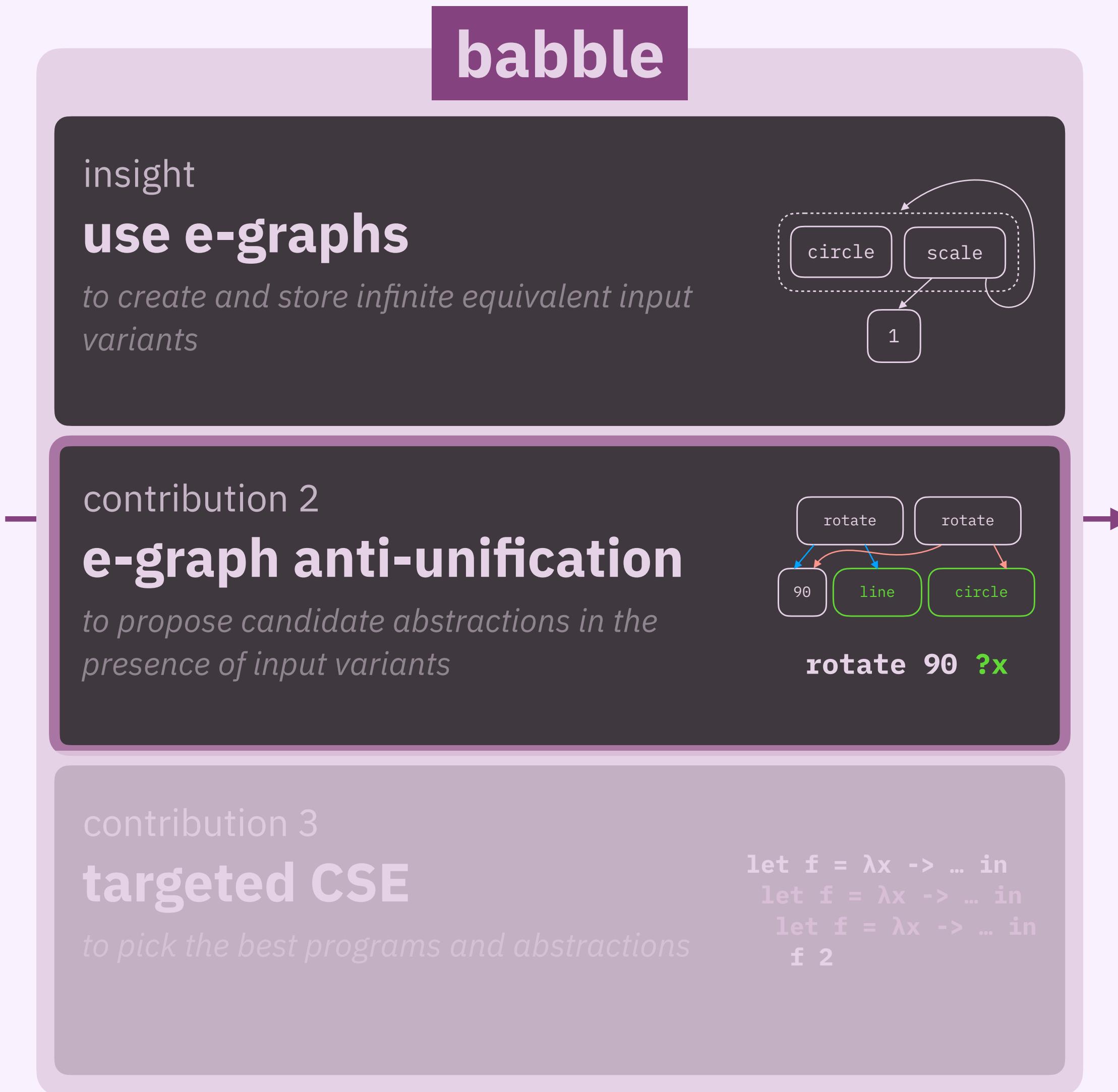
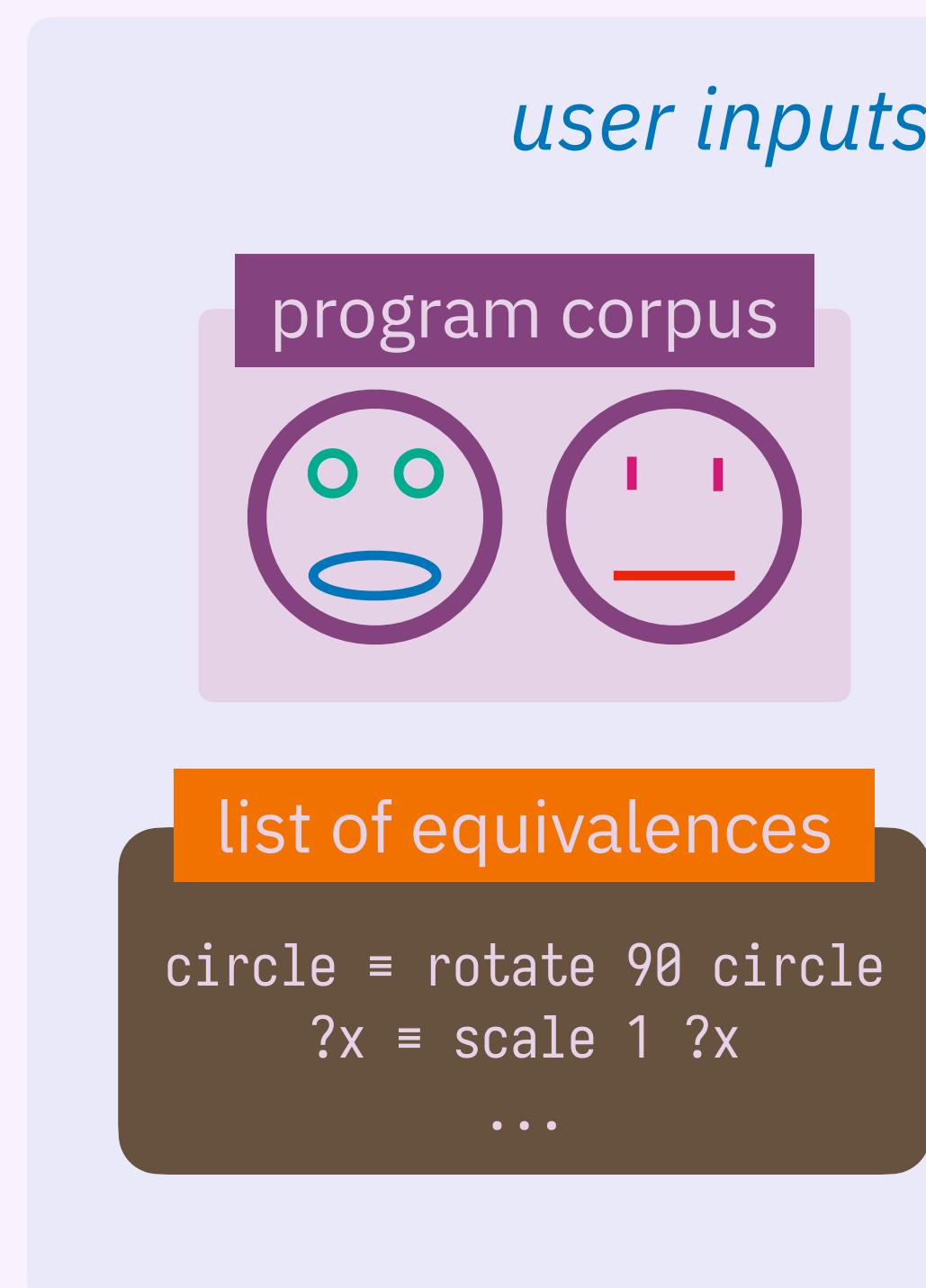
circle, scale 1 circle, rotate 90 circle,  
 rotate 90 (scale 1 circle), scale 1 (rotate 90 circle), ...

# how do e-graphs work?

# how does babble work?



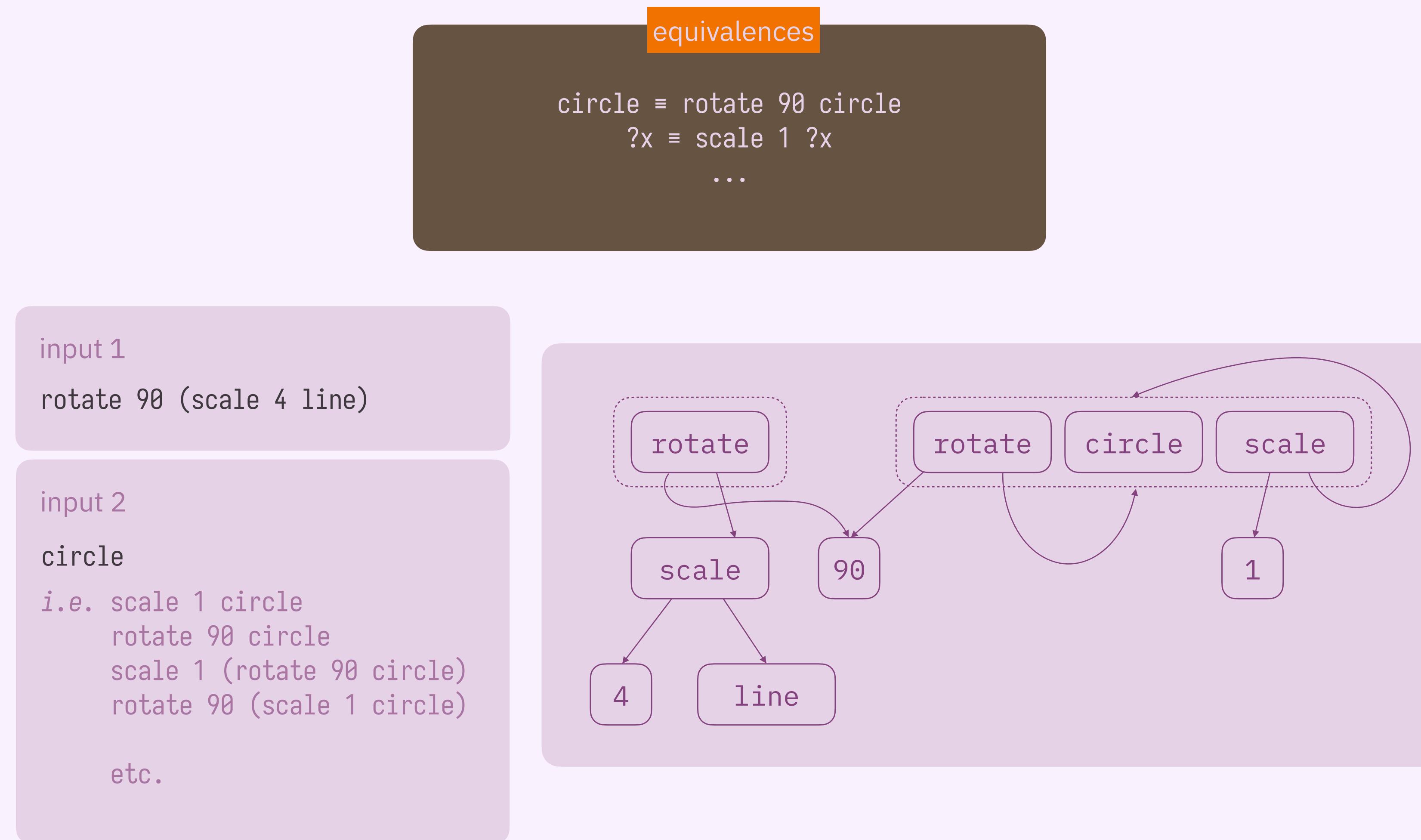
# how does babble work?



# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## finding common structure



# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

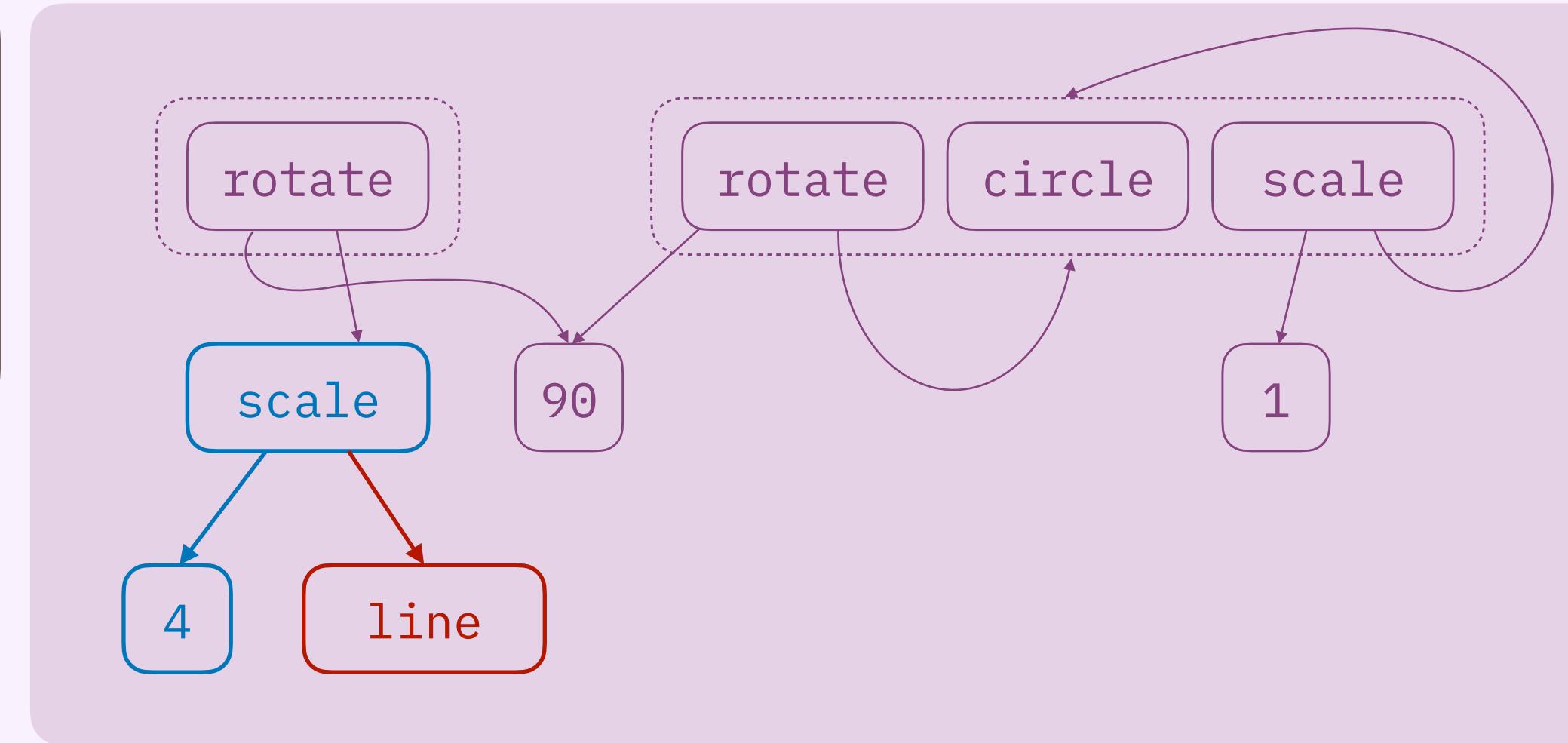
## finding common structure

equivalences

```
circle ≡ rotate 90 circle
?x ≡ scale 1 ?x
...
```

input 1  
rotate 90 (scale 4 line)

input 2  
circle  
*i.e.* scale 1 circle  
rotate 90 circle  
scale 1 (rotate 90 circle)  
rotate 90 (scale 1 circle)  
etc.



criterion 1. **occurs multiple times**

scale 4 ?x won't work

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

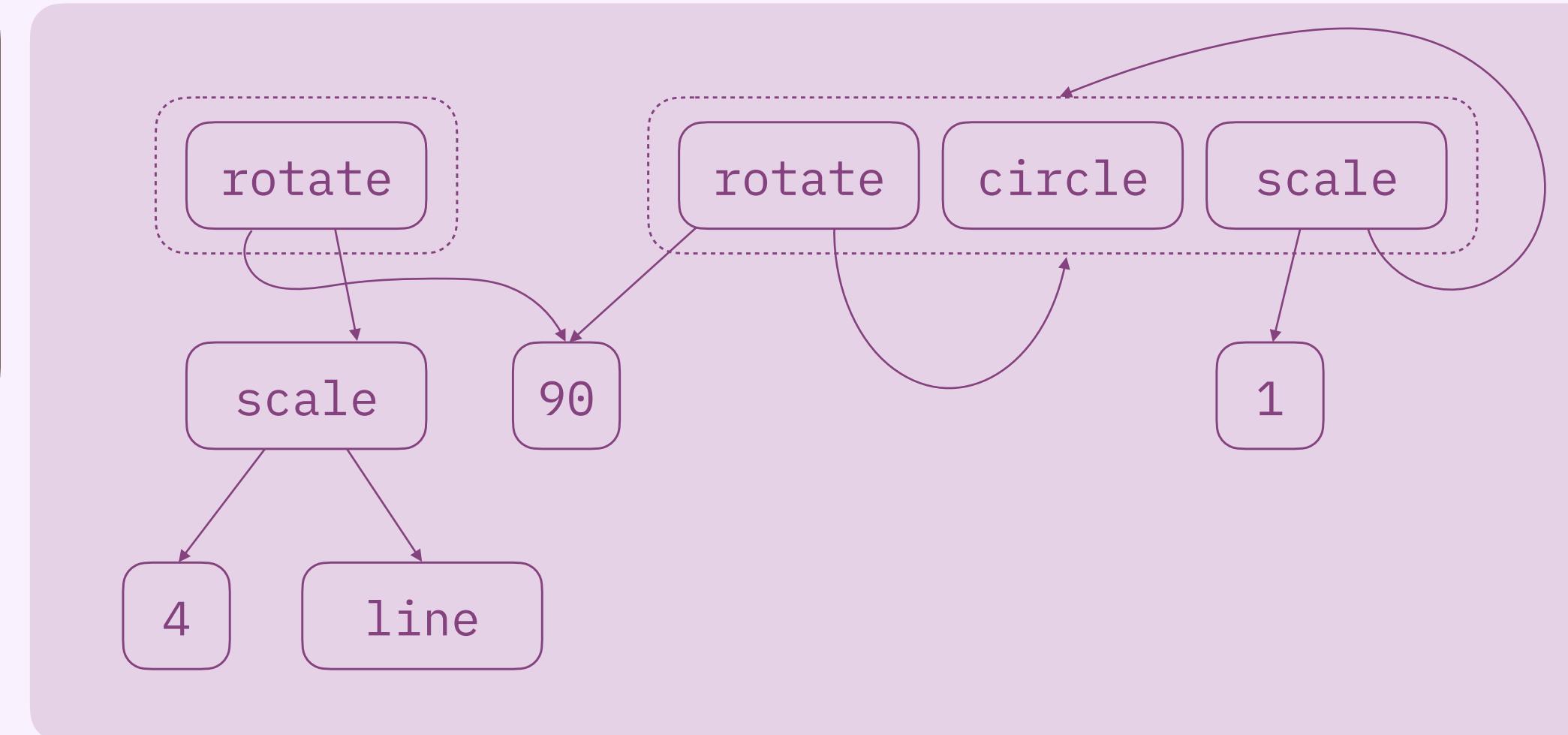
## finding common structure

equivalences

```
circle ≡ rotate 90 circle
?x ≡ scale 1 ?x
...
```

input 1  
rotate 90 (scale 4 line)

input 2  
circle  
*i.e.* scale 1 circle  
rotate 90 circle  
scale 1 (rotate 90 circle)  
rotate 90 (scale 1 circle)  
etc.



criterion 1. occurs multiple times

scale 4 ?x won't work

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

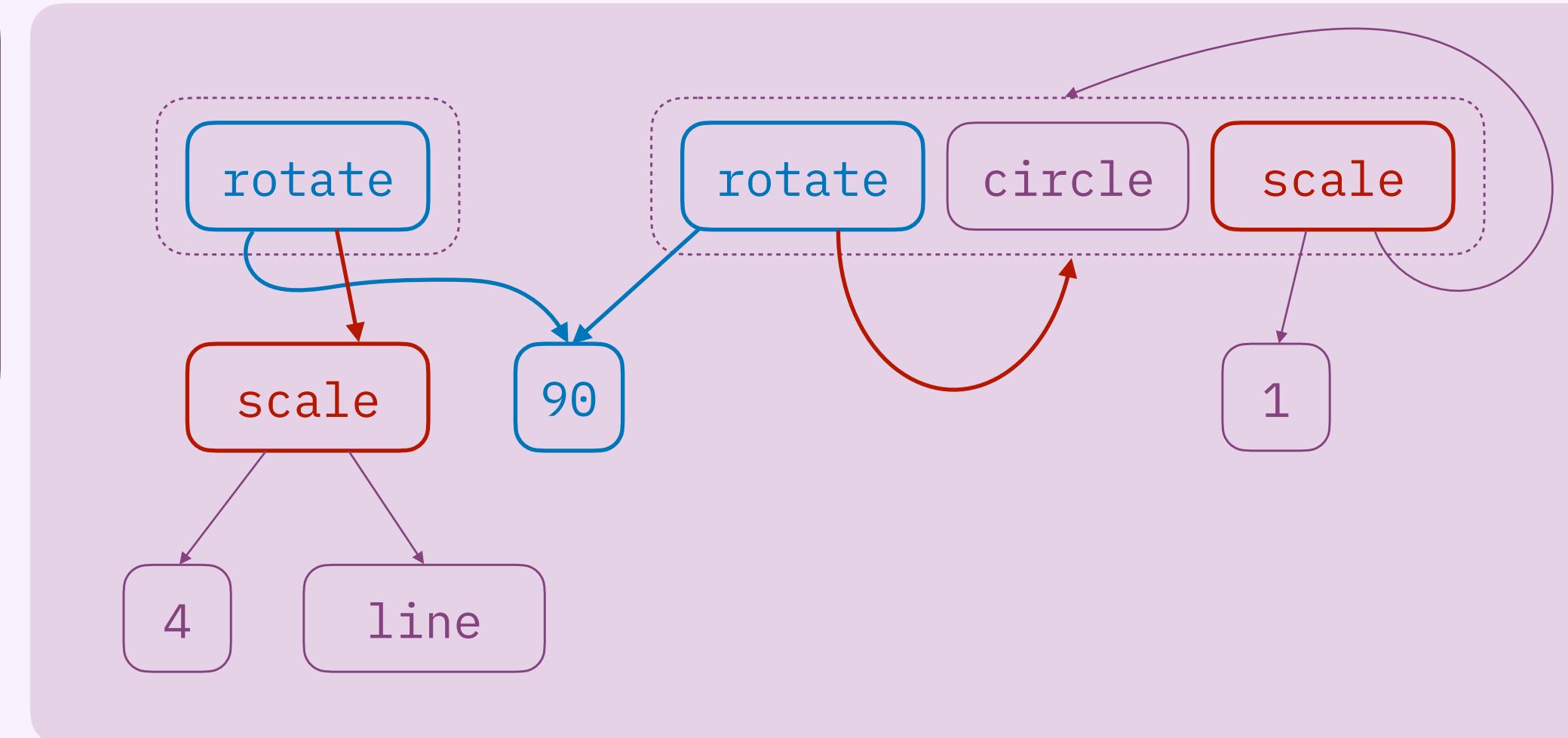
## finding common structure

equivalences

```
circle ≡ rotate 90 circle
?x ≡ scale 1 ?x
...
```

input 1  
rotate 90 (scale 4 line)

input 2  
circle  
i.e. scale 1 circle  
rotate 90 circle  
scale 1 (rotate 90 circle)  
rotate 90 (scale 1 circle)  
etc.



criterion 1. **occurs multiple times**

scale 4 ?x won't work

criterion 2. **prefer specific abstractions**

rotate 90 ?x

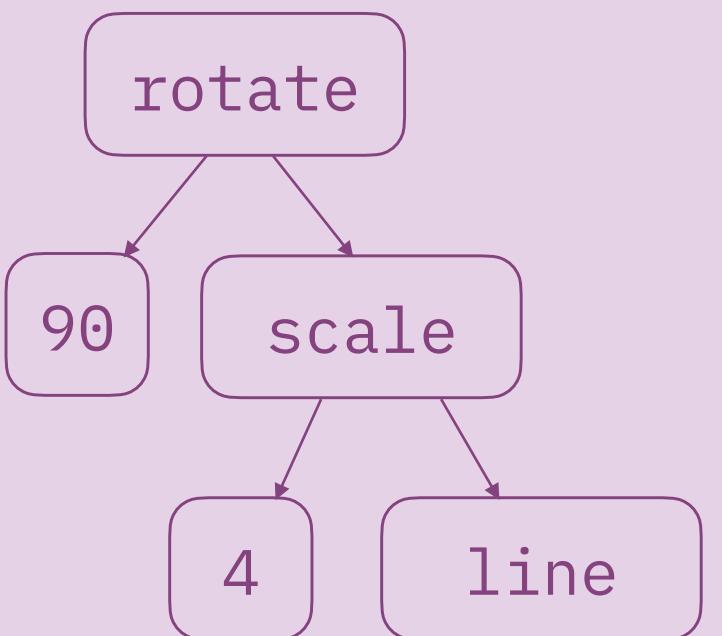
works, but we can do better

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## term anti-unification

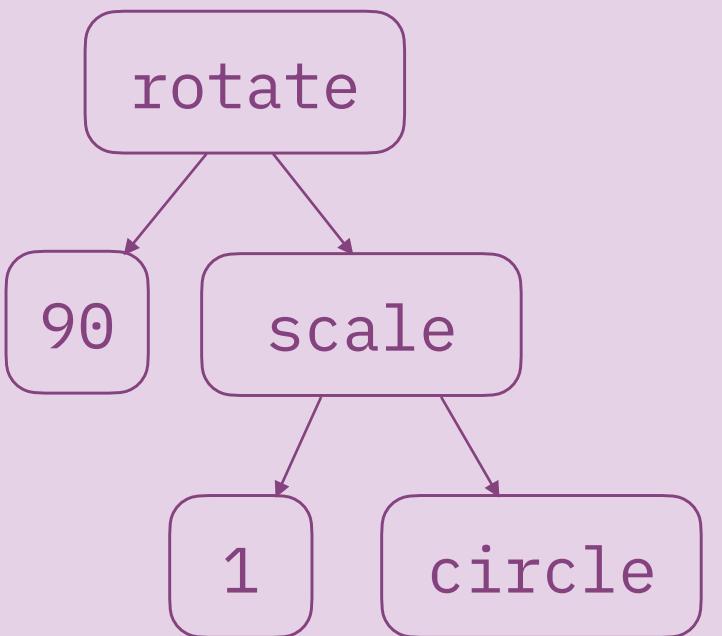
input 1

rotate 90 (scale 4 line)



input 2

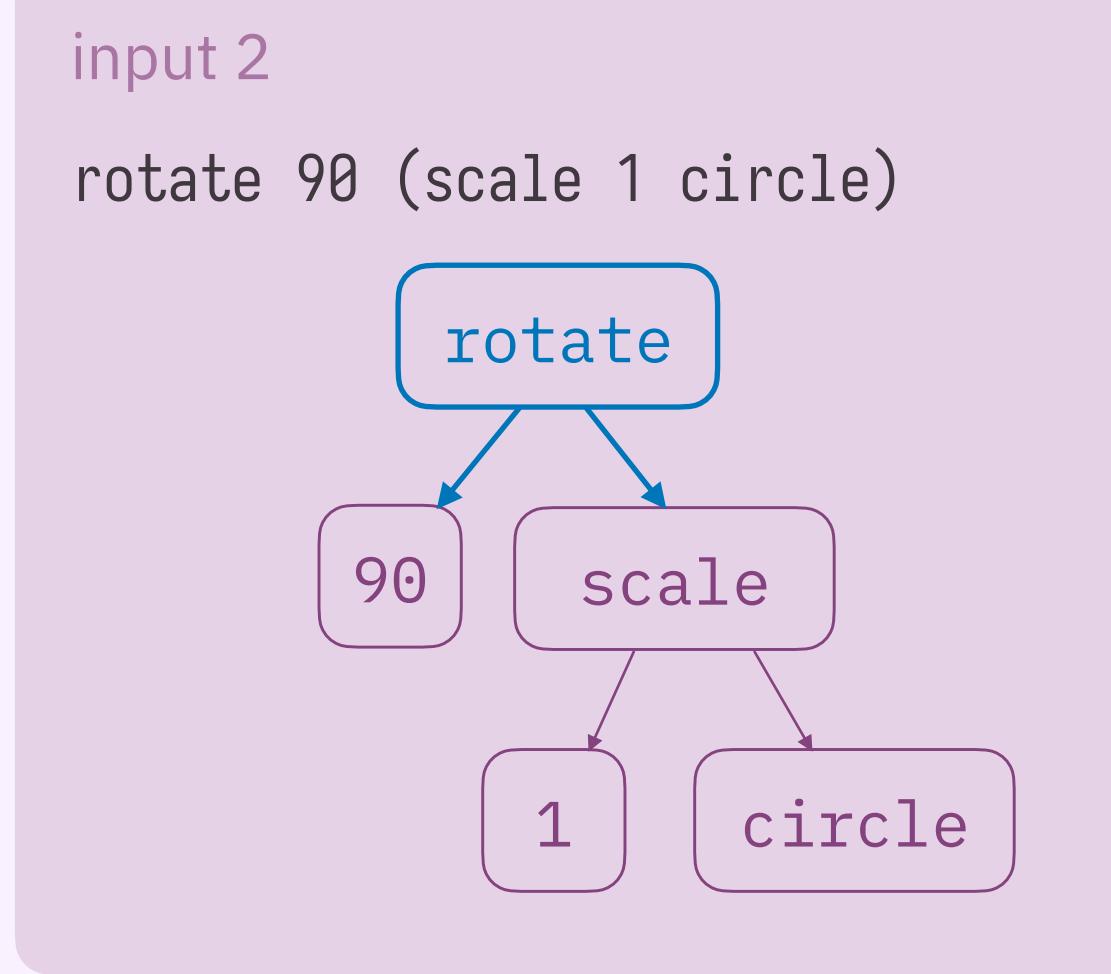
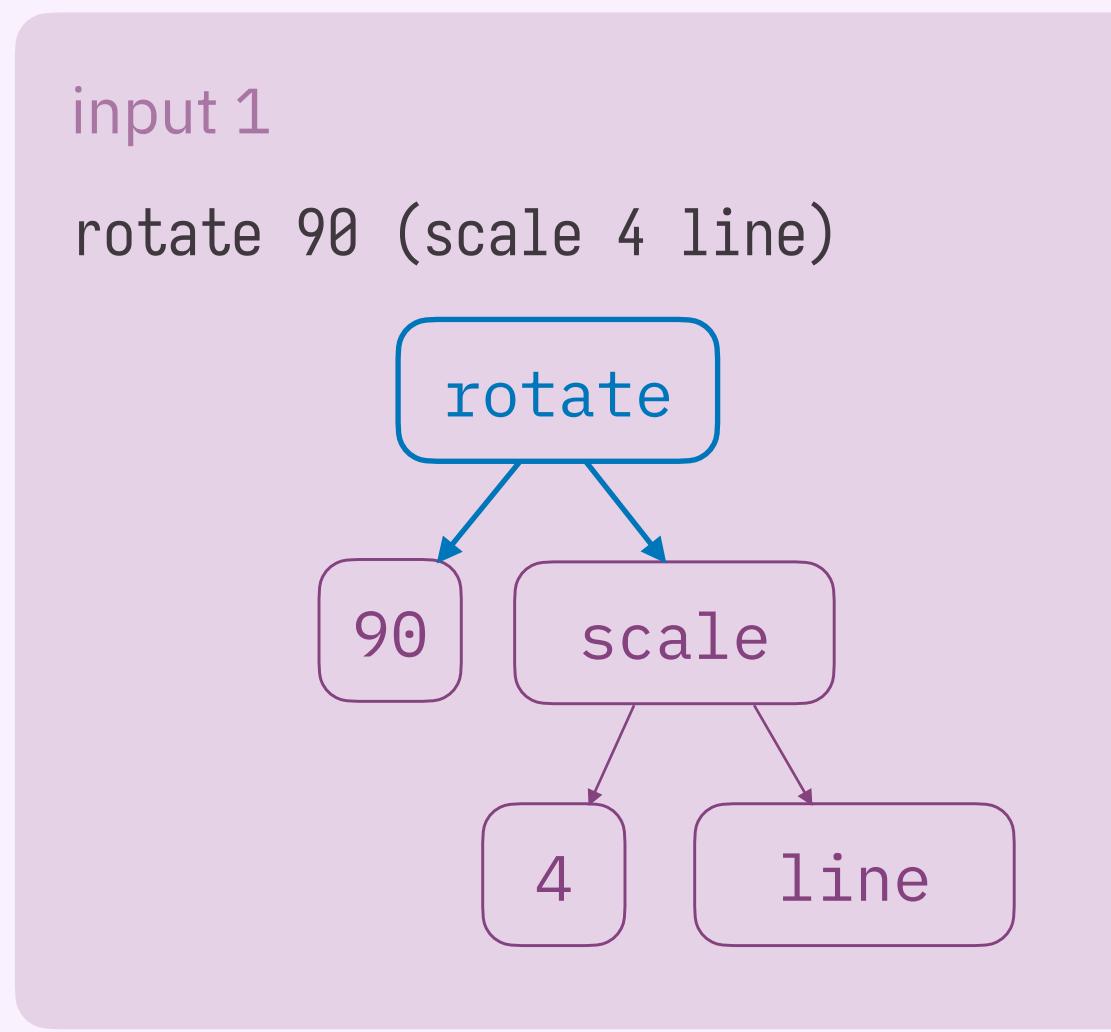
rotate 90 (scale 1 circle)



A top-down approach to  
finding common structure.  
*(prior work!)*

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## term anti-unification



(starting from the root of both terms)

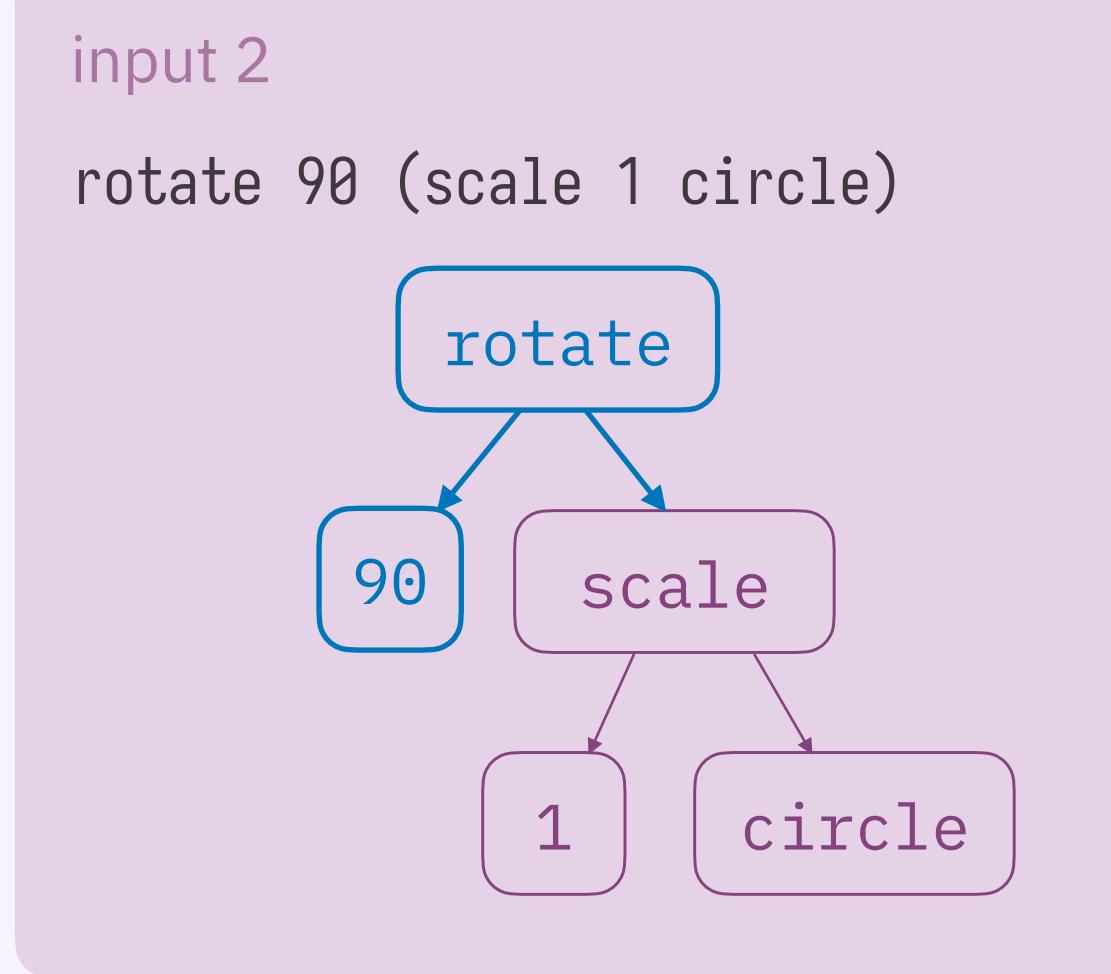
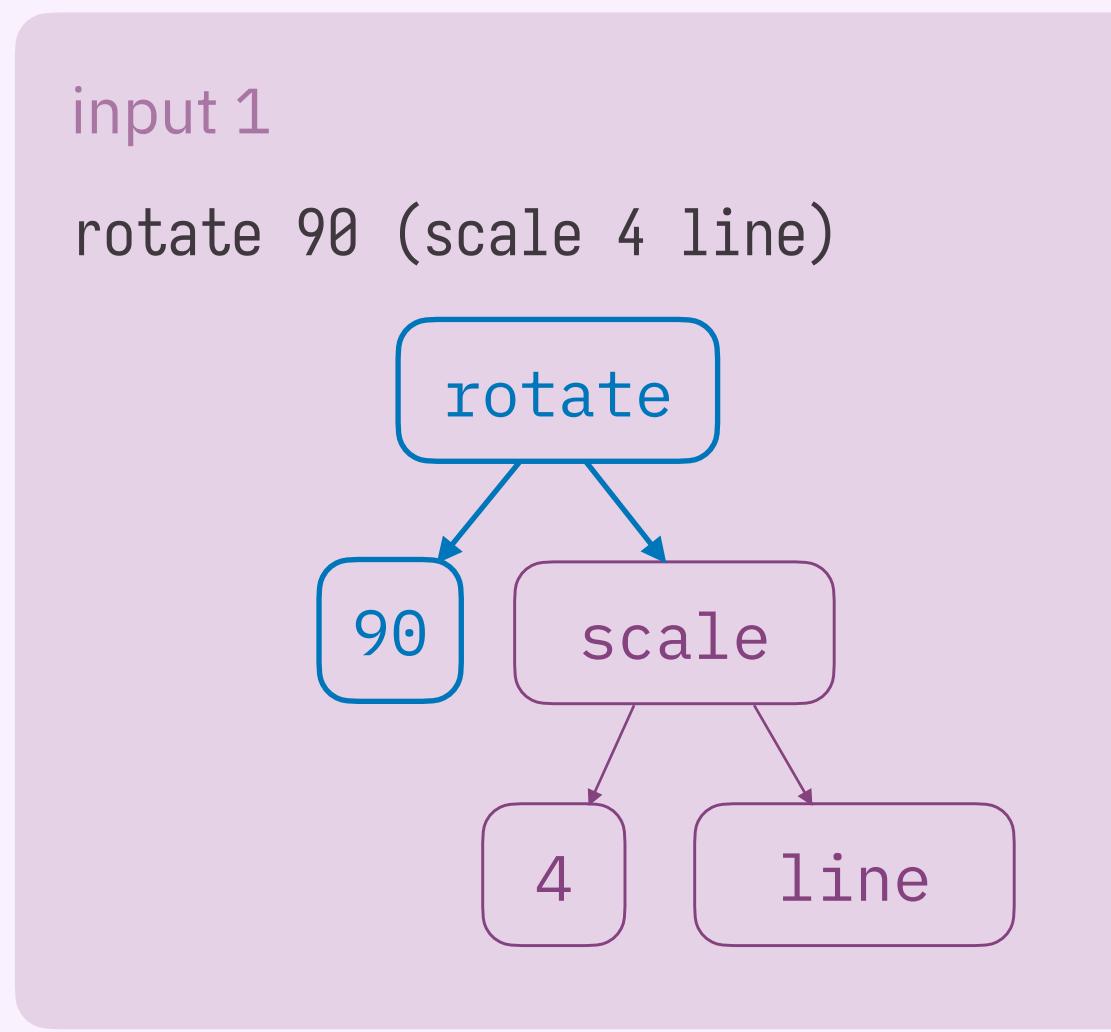
**option 1 if nodes are same, add to pattern & recurse**

*current pattern*

rotate

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## term anti-unification



(starting from the root of both terms)

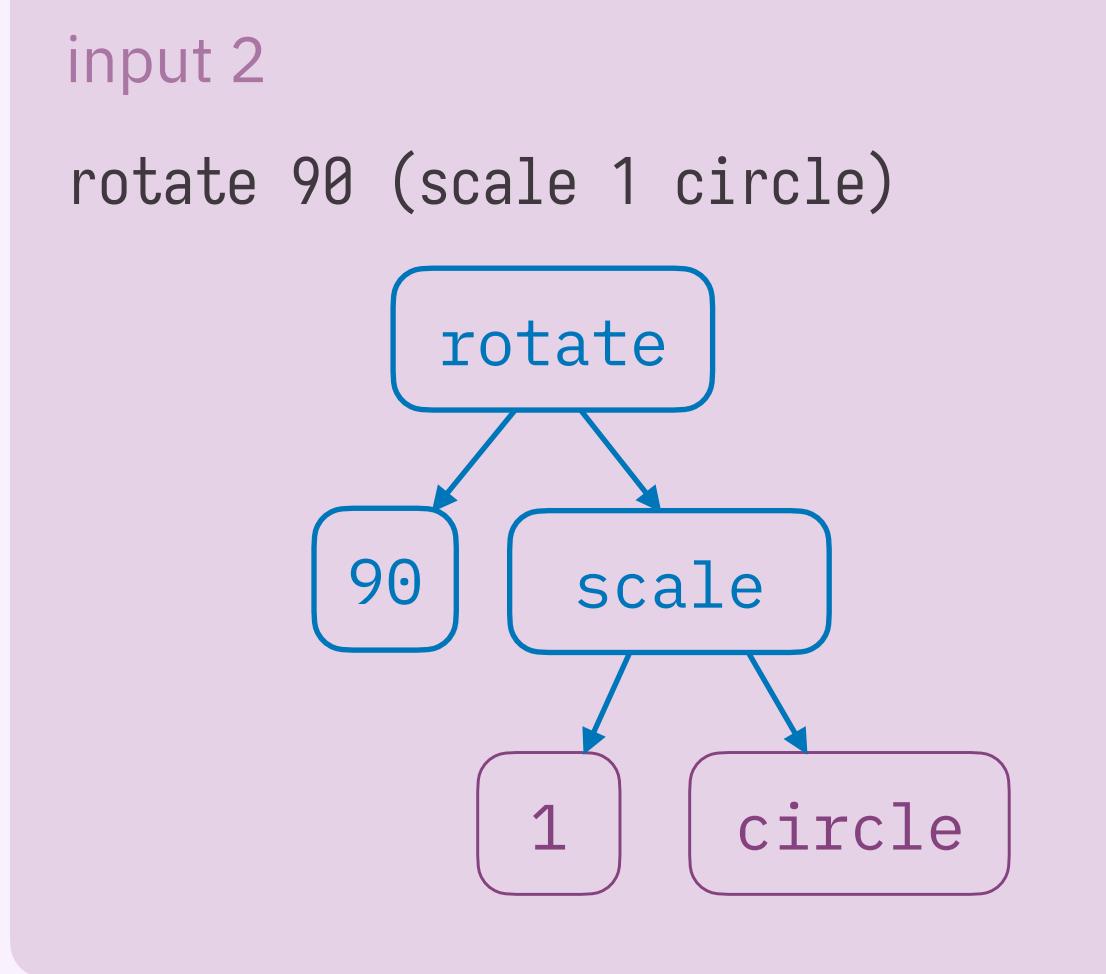
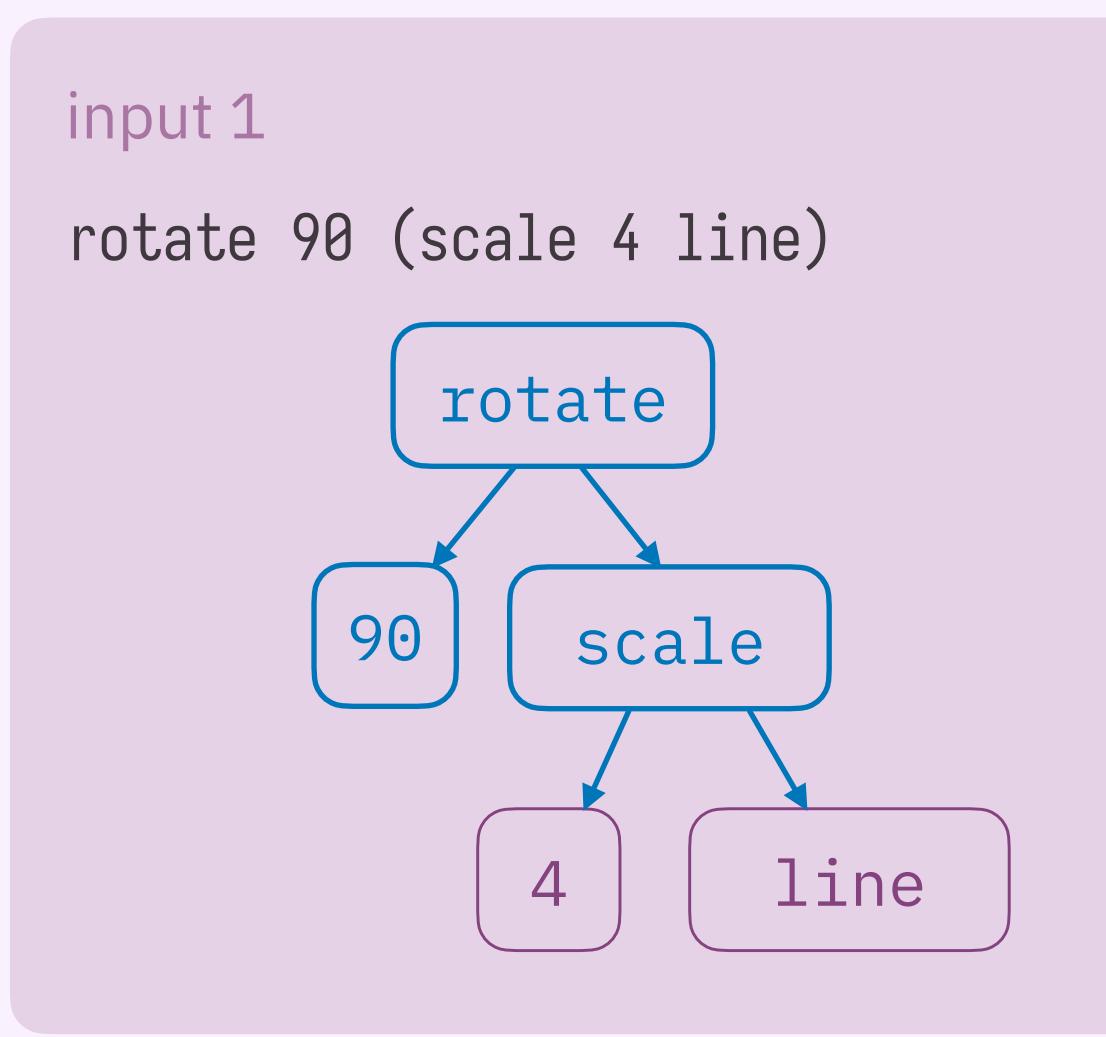
**option 1 if nodes are same, add to pattern & recurse**

*current pattern*

rotate 90

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## term anti-unification



(starting from the root of both terms)

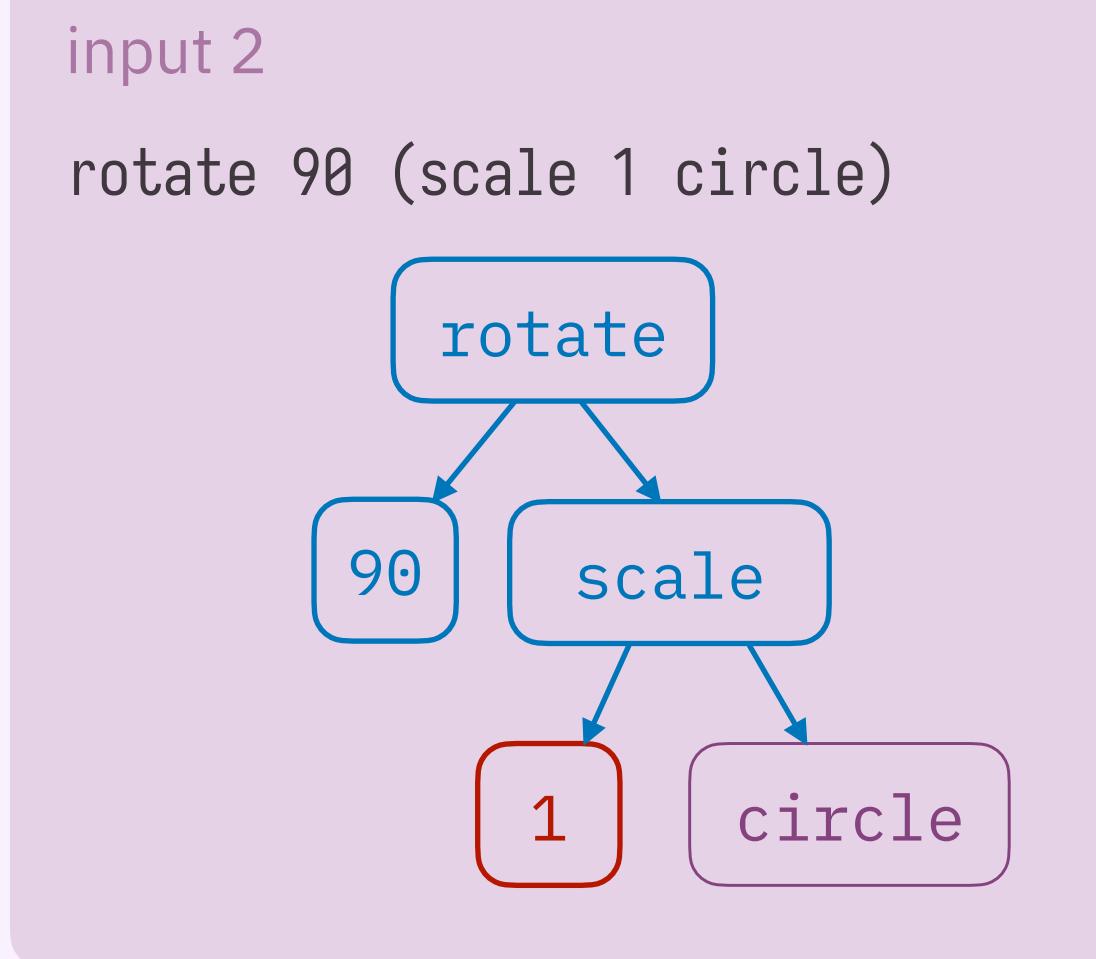
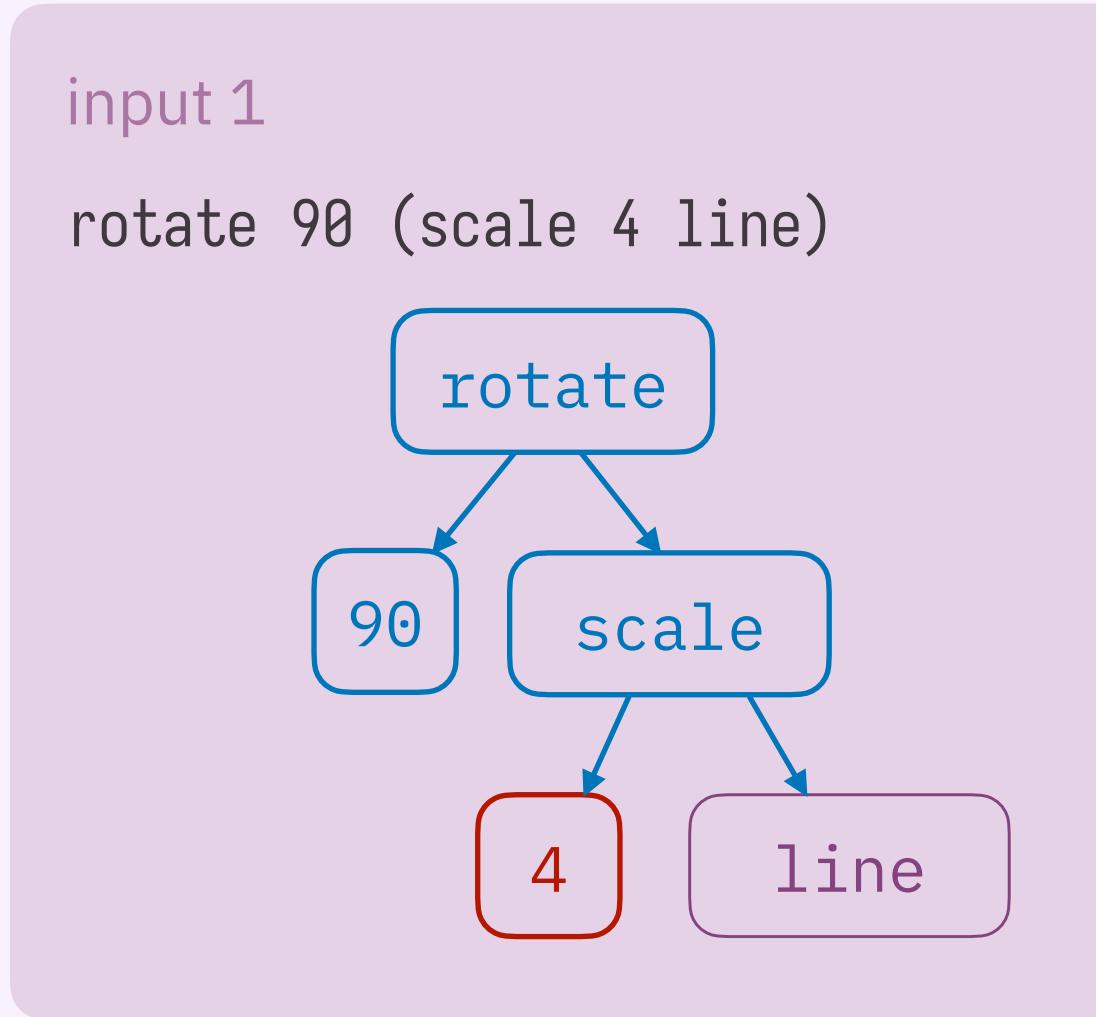
**option 1 if nodes are same, add to pattern & recurse**

*current pattern*

rotate 90 (scale )

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## term anti-unification



(starting from the root of both terms)

option 1 **if nodes are same, add to pattern & recurse**

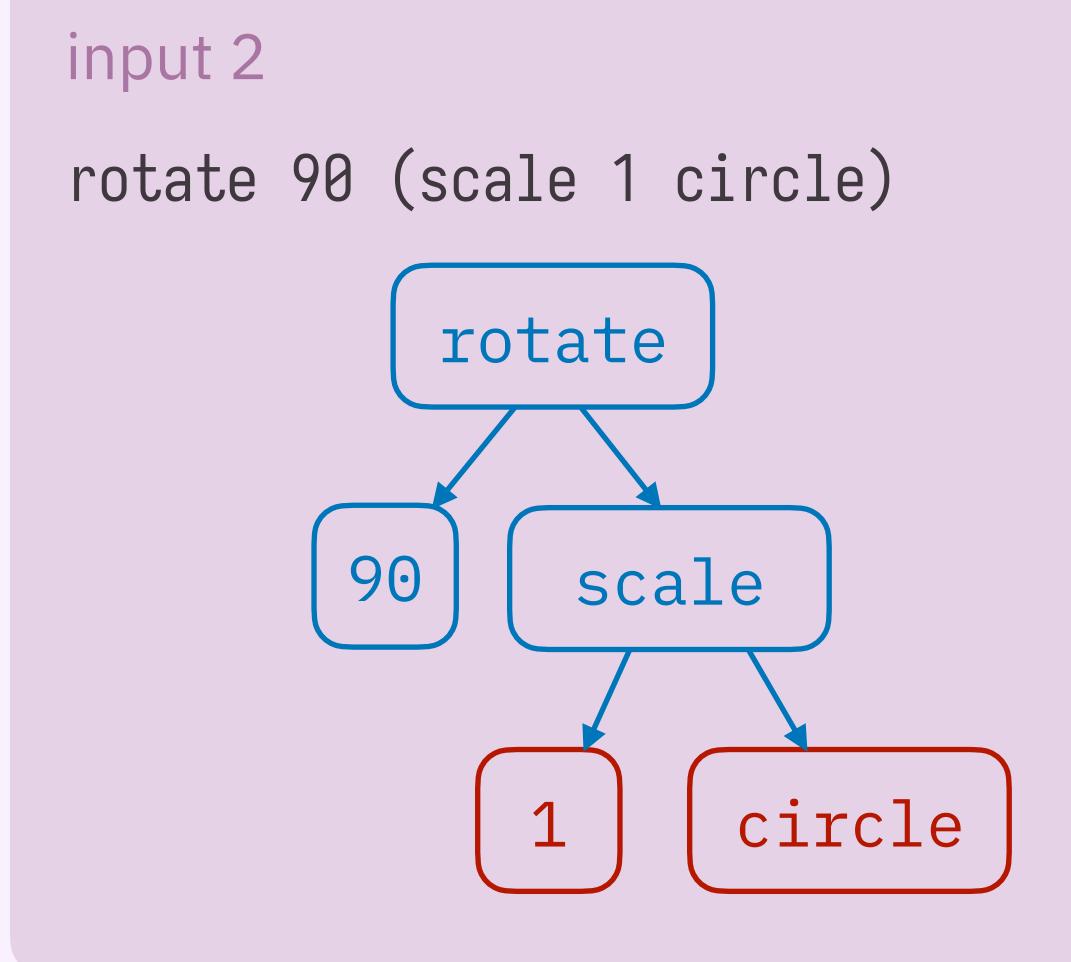
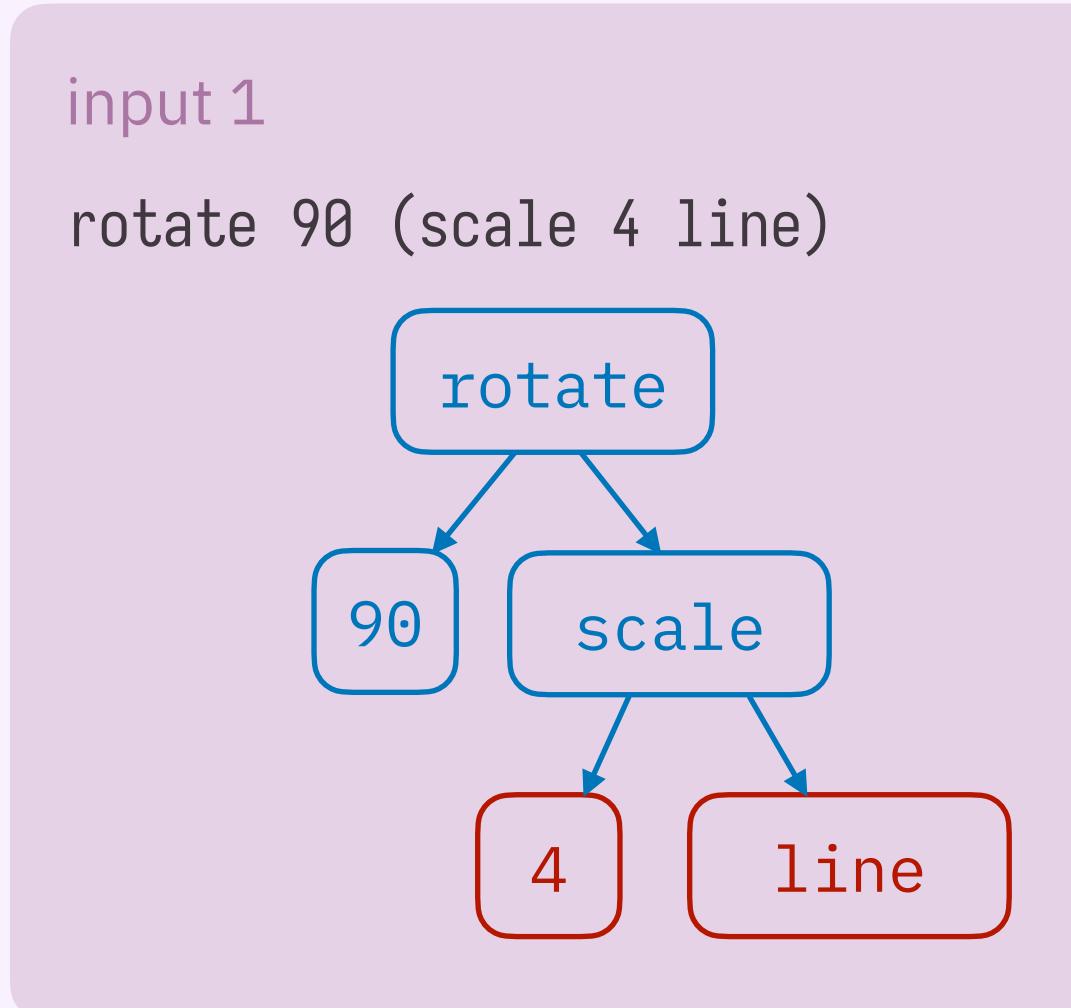
option 2 **if nodes differ, insert hole**

*current pattern*

rotate 90 (scale ?x )

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## term anti-unification



(starting from the root of both terms)

option 1 **if nodes are same, add to pattern & recurse**

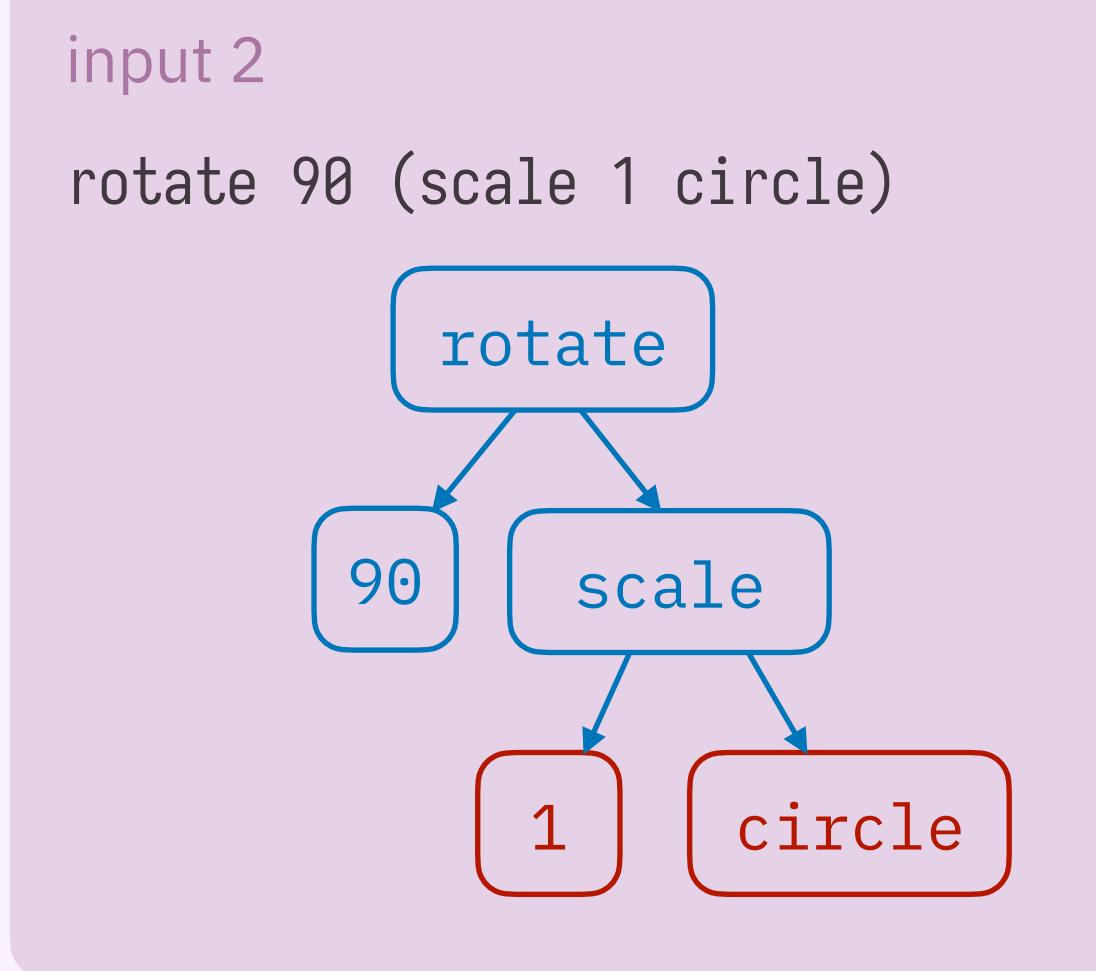
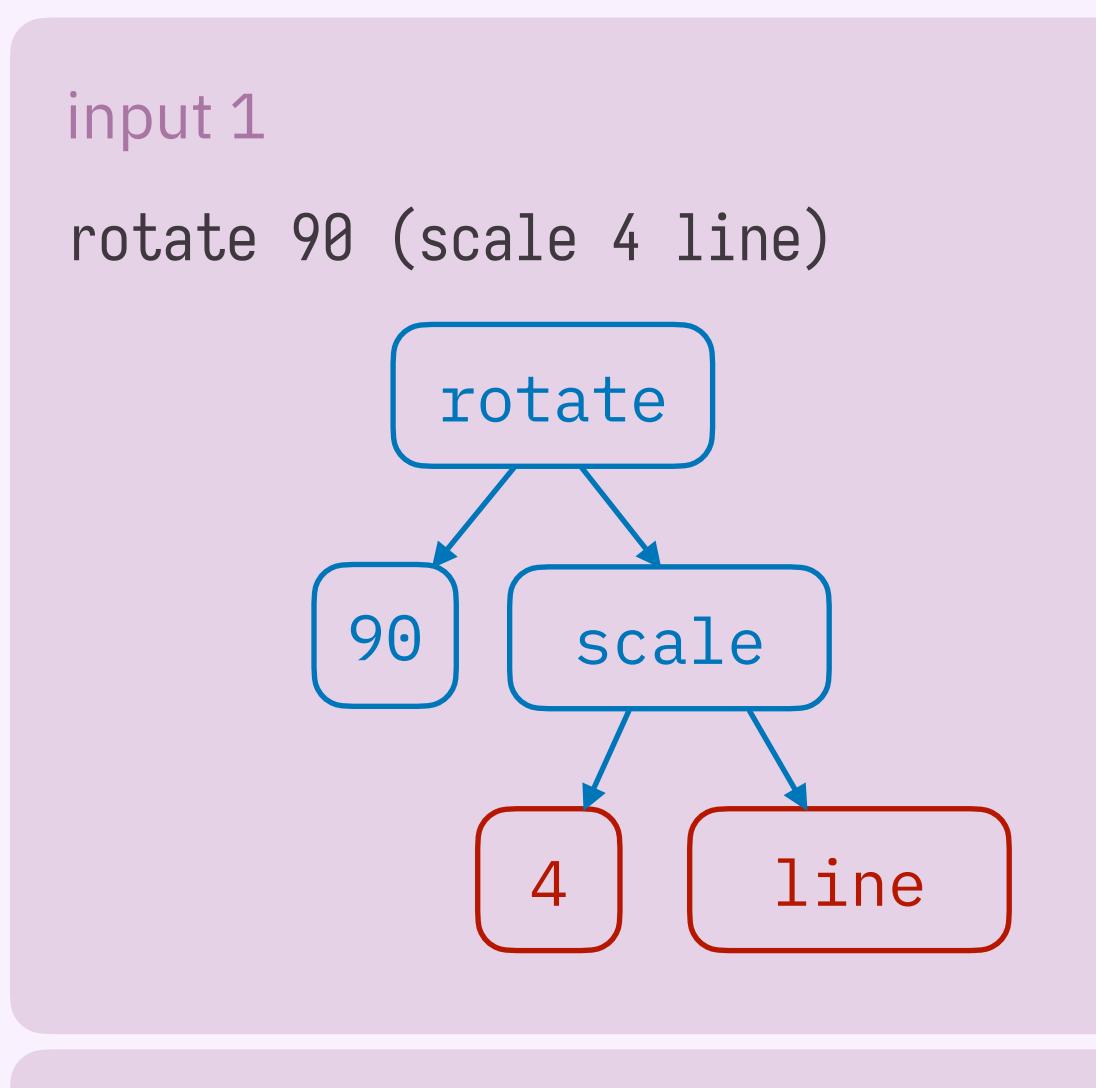
option 2 **if nodes differ, insert hole**

*current pattern*

rotate 90 (scale ?x ?y)

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

## term anti-unification



(starting from the root of both terms)

option 1 if nodes are same, add to pattern & recurse

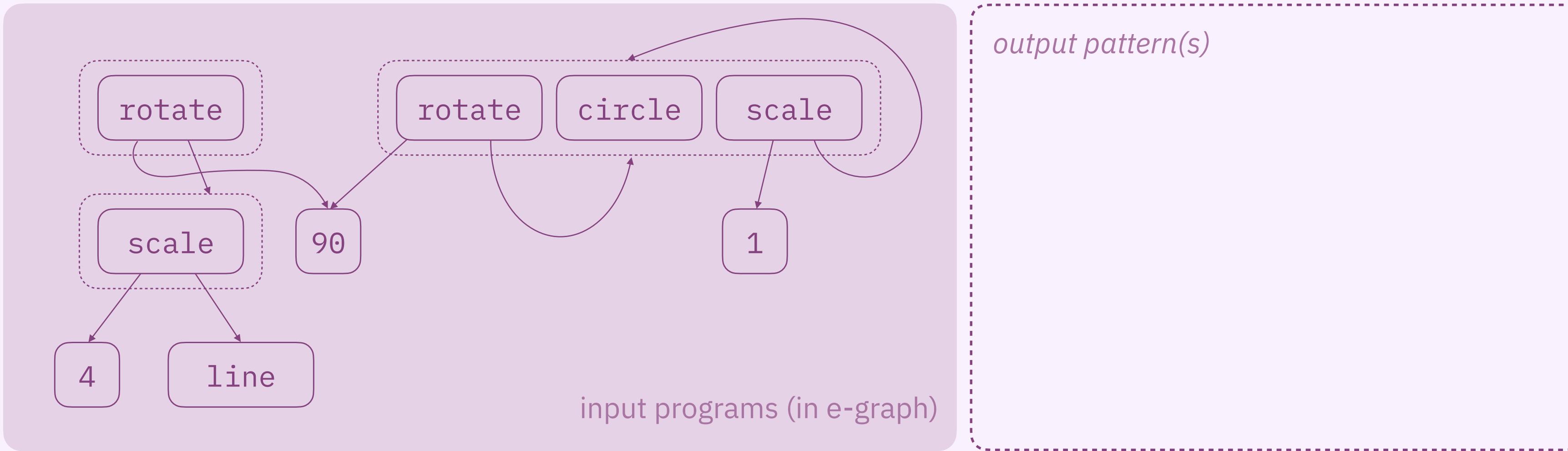
option 2 if nodes differ, insert hole

**challenge:**  
how to apply this to e-graphs?

current pattern

rotate 90 (scale ?x ?y)

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

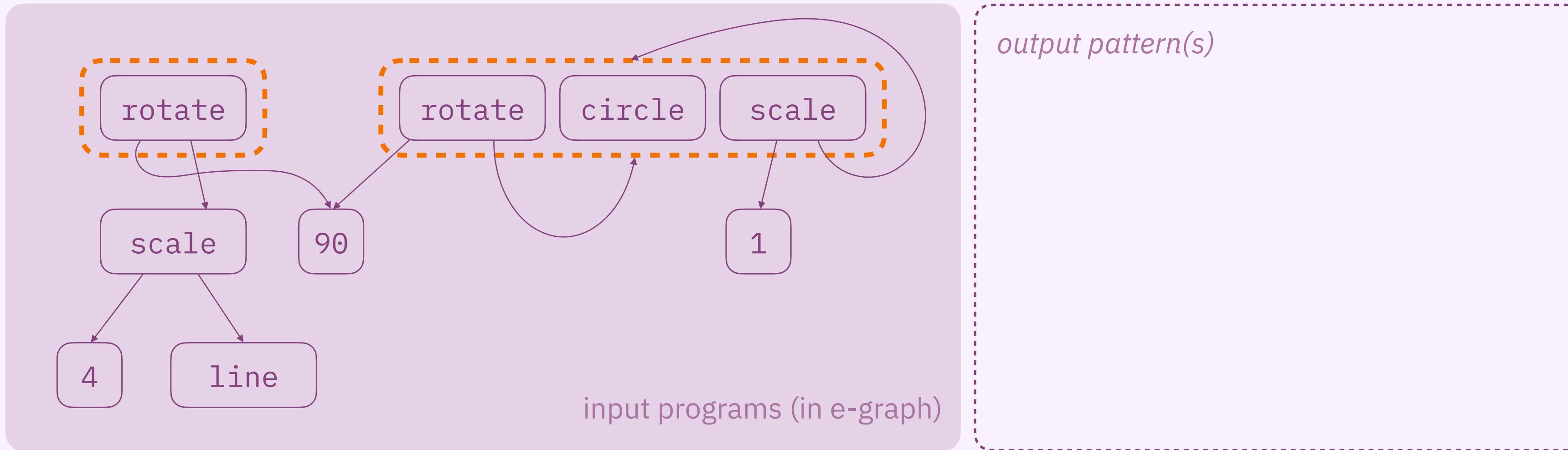


(*the intuition behind*)

A top-down approach to finding common structure

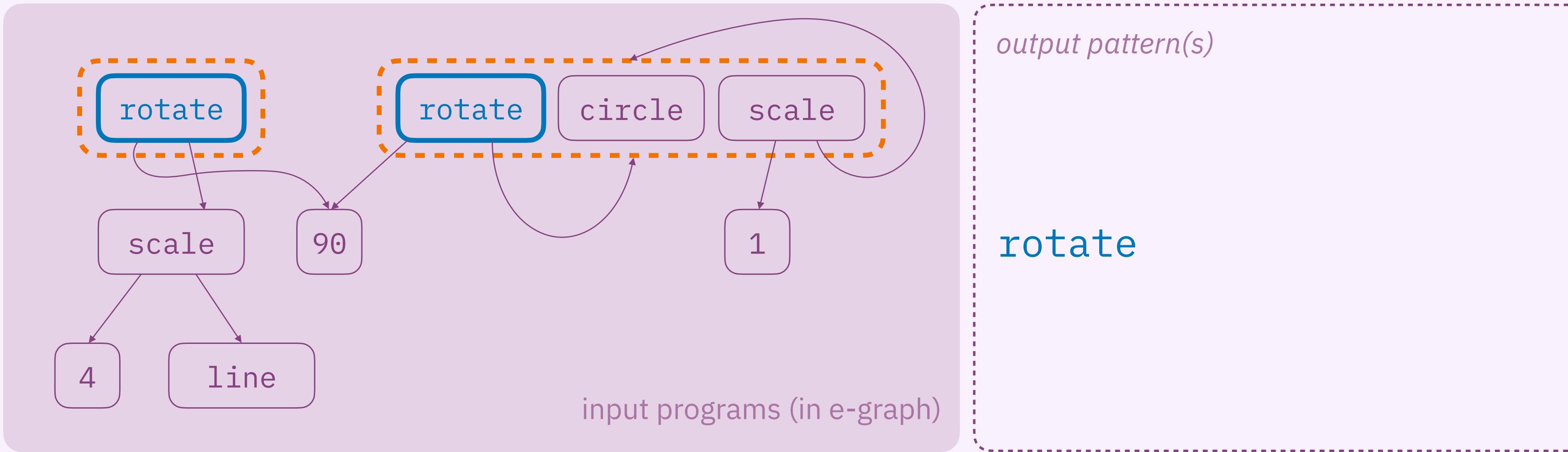
**in the presence of e-graphs.**

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?



step 1 **pick two e-classes**

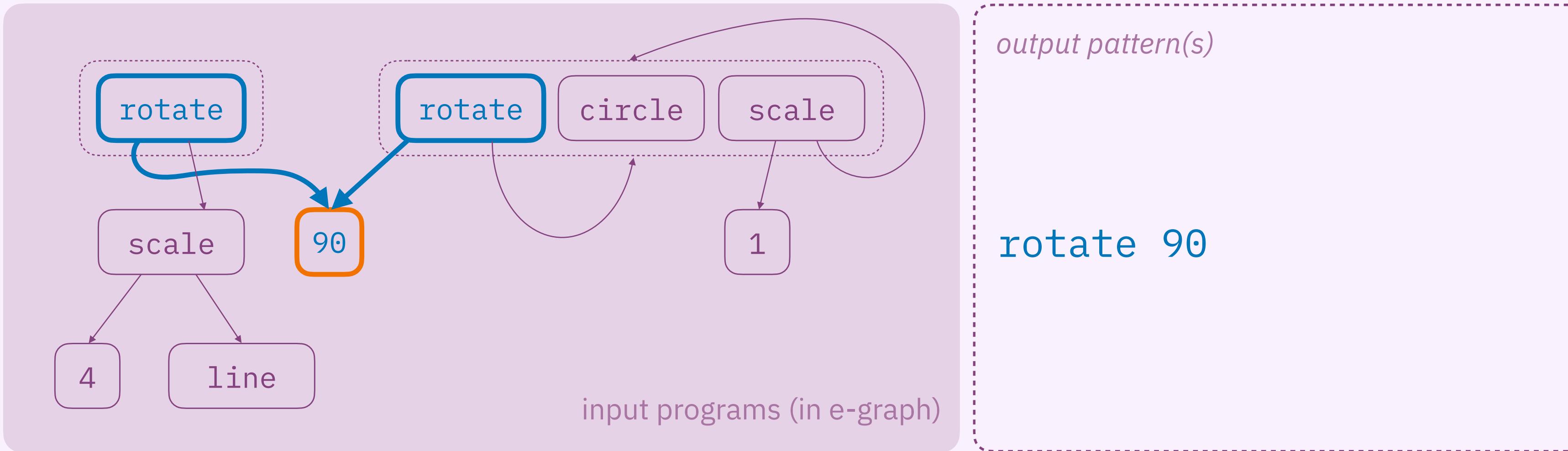
# how does e-graph anti-unification work?



step 1 pick two e-classes

step 2a if e-classes contain matching e-nodes, for each pair of matching e-nodes, add to pattern & run step 2 with matching e-nodes' children

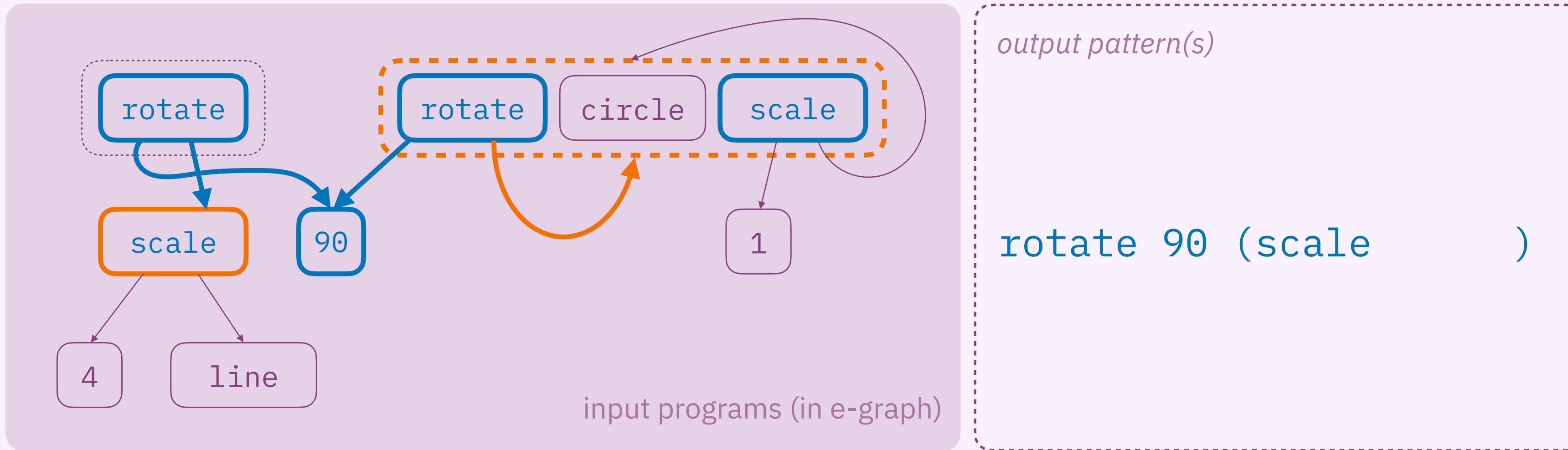
# how does e-graph anti-unification work?



step 1 pick two e-classes

step 2a if e-classes contain matching e-nodes, for each pair of matching e-nodes, add to pattern & run step 2 with matching e-nodes' children

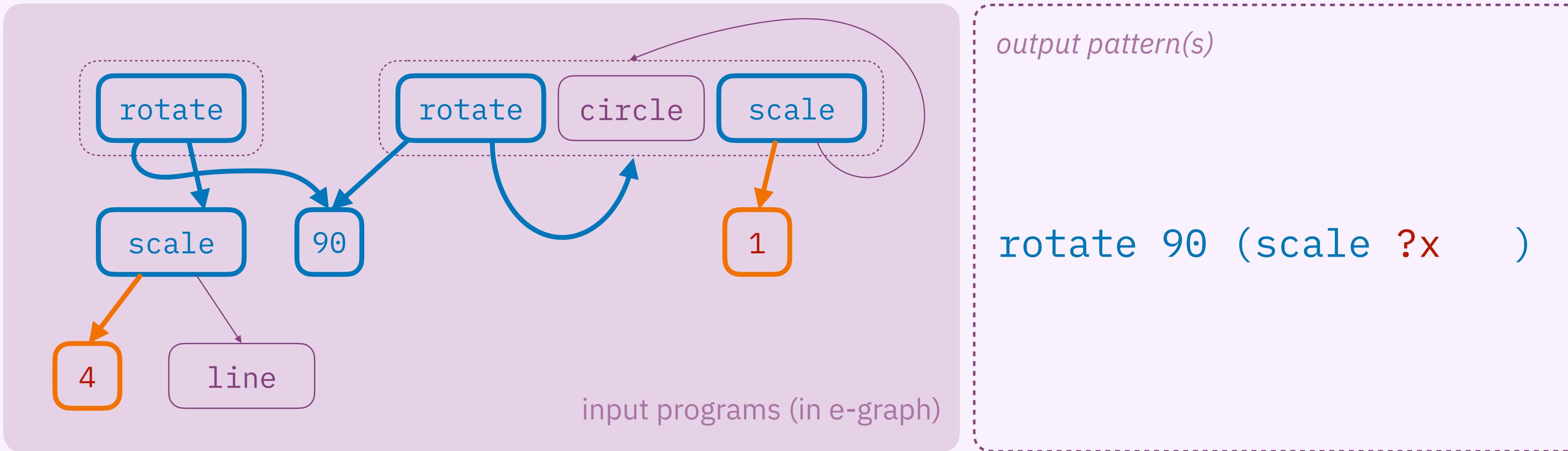
# how does e-graph anti-unification work?



step 1 pick two e-classes

step 2a if e-classes contain matching e-nodes, for each pair of matching e-nodes, add to pattern & run step 2 with matching e-nodes' children

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

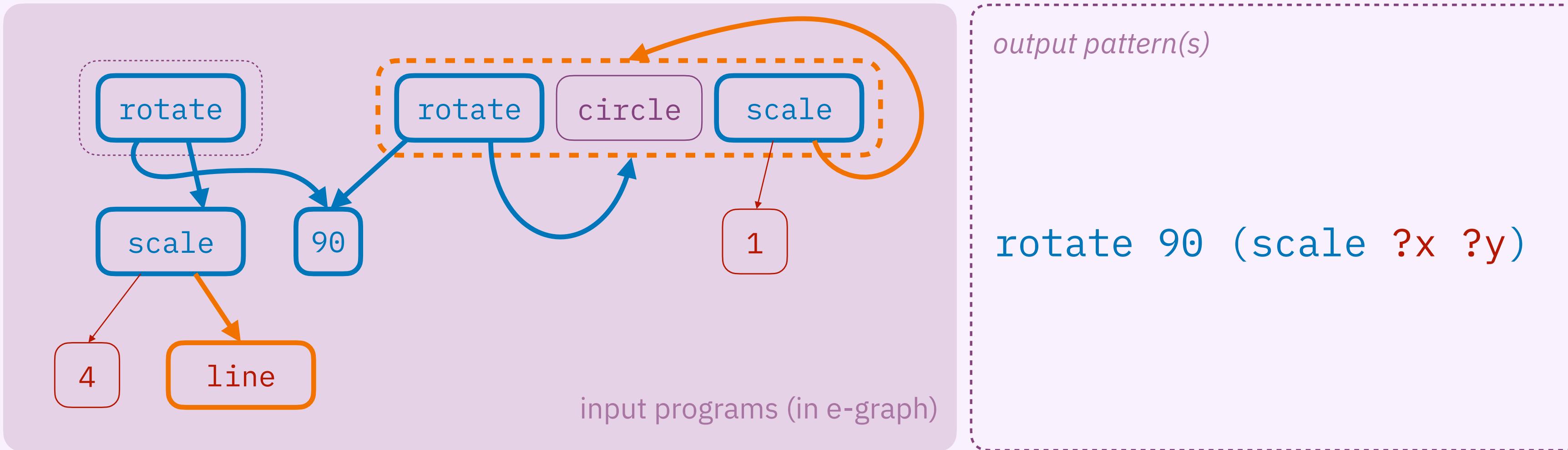


step 1 **pick two e-classes**

step 2a **if e-classes contain matching e-nodes, for each pair of matching e-nodes,  
add to pattern & run step 2 with matching e-nodes' children**

step 2b **otherwise, insert hole in pattern**

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

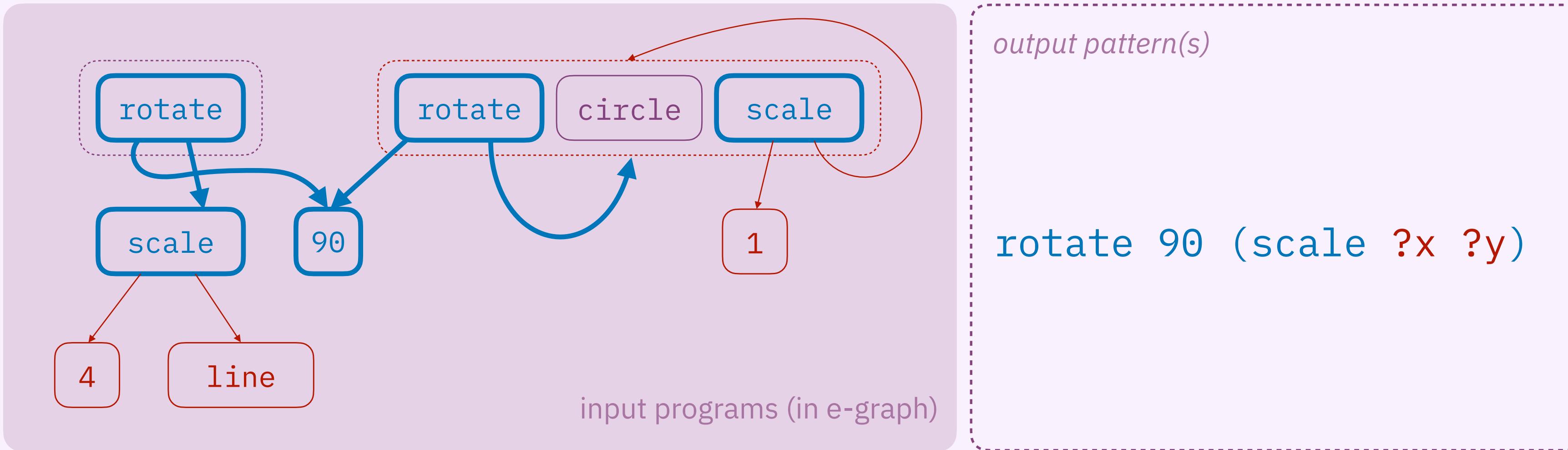


step 1 **pick two e-classes**

step 2a **if e-classes contain matching e-nodes, for each pair of matching e-nodes,  
add to pattern & run step 2 with matching e-nodes' children**

step 2b **otherwise, insert hole in pattern**

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?



step 1 **pick two e-classes**

step 2a **if e-classes contain matching e-nodes, for each pair of matching e-nodes,  
add to pattern & run step 2 with matching e-nodes' children**

step 2b **otherwise, insert hole in pattern**

**step 3 do this for all pairs of e-classes in the e-graph**

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

step 1 **pick two e-classes**

step 2a **if e-classes contain matching e-nodes, for each pair of matching e-nodes,  
add to pattern & run step 2 with matching e-nodes' children**

step 2b **otherwise, insert hole in pattern**

step 3 **do this for all pairs of e-classes in the e-graph**

# how does e-graph anti-unification work?

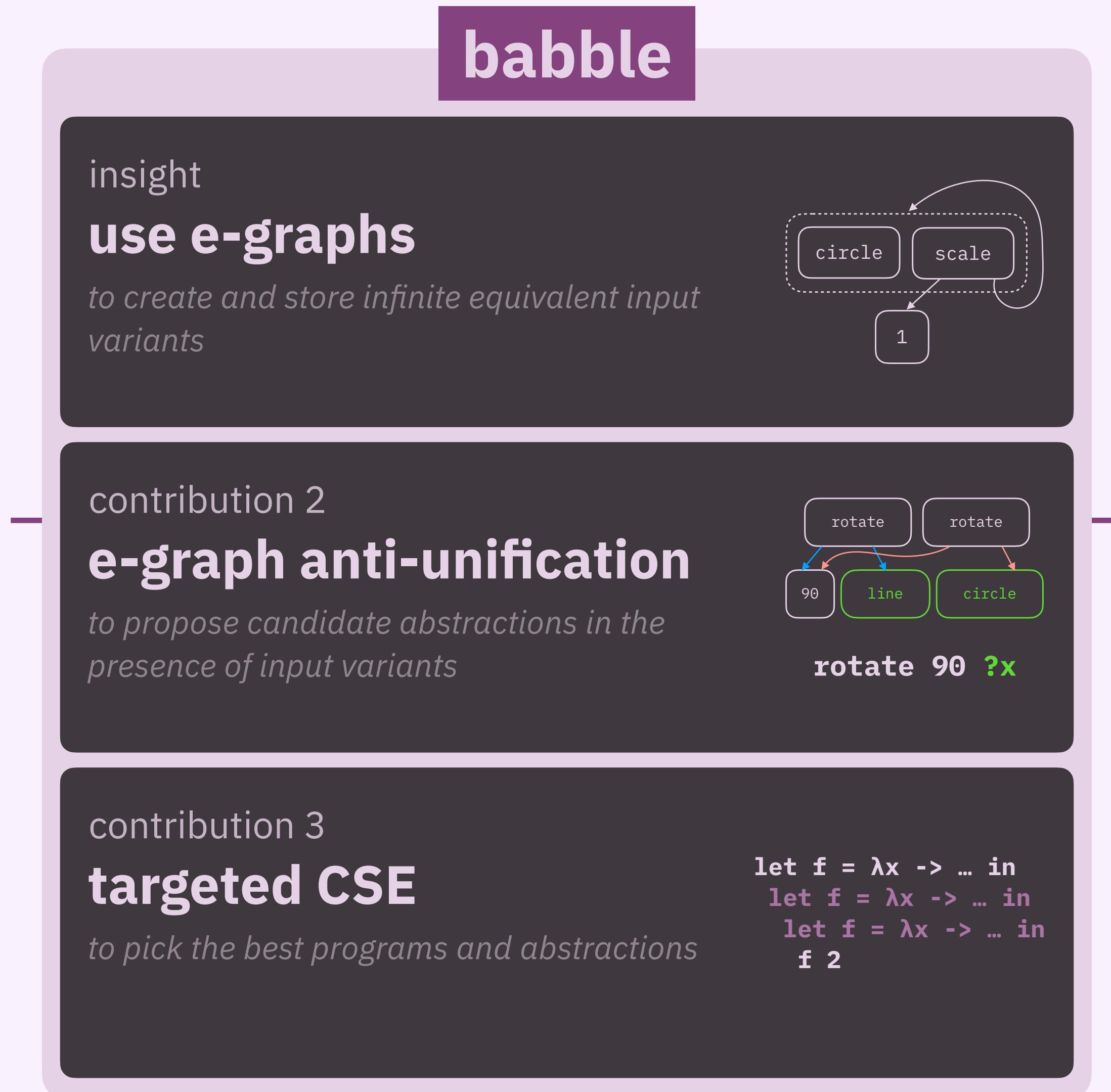
# how does babble work?

*user inputs*

program corpus

list of equivalences

```
circle ≡ rotate 90 circle
?x ≡ scale 1 ?x
...
```



*babble outputs*

learned library

```
let face = λshape →
```

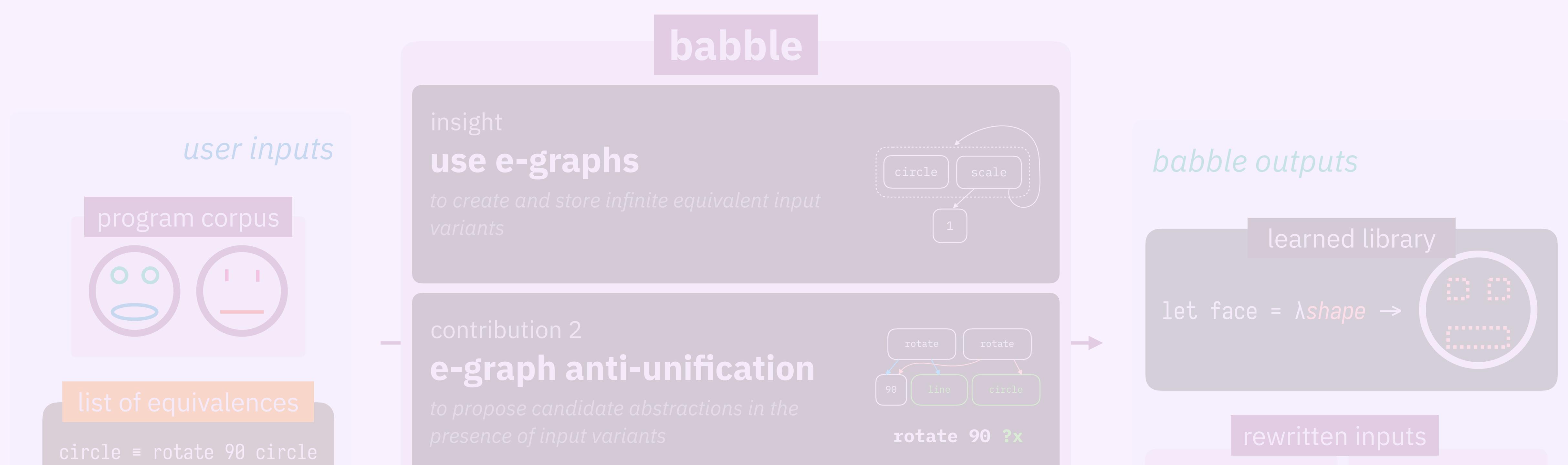
rewritten inputs

face circle      face line

# what's the challenge?

## how does babble work?

## how well does it work?



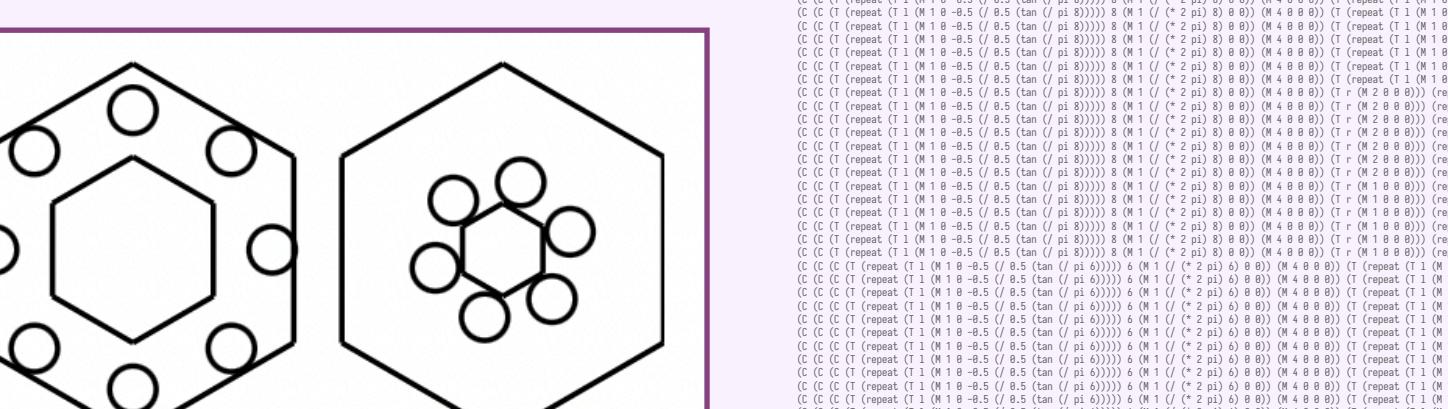
what's the challenge?

how does babble work?

how well does it work?

250 programs

nuts & bolts



# how well does it work?



babble demo 2 – iTerm

Welcome to fish, the friendly interactive shell

Type `help` for instructions on how to use fish

```
david@mbpro ~/D/d/babble (pop123)> cargo run --bin=drawings --release -- harness/data/
cogsci/nuts-bolts.bab --beams 400 --lps 1 --rounds 5 --max-arity 2 --dsr harness/data/
benchmark-dsrs/drawings.nuts-bolts.rewrites
```



nuts-bolts.bab – BSCode

```
(C (C (T (repeat (T 1 (M 1 0 -0.5 (/ 0.5 (tan (/ pi 6)))))) 6 (M 1 (/ (* 2 pi) 6) 0
0)) (M 2 0 0 0)) (T (repeat (T 1 (M 1 0 -0.5 (/ 0.5 (tan (/ pi 6)))))) 6 (M 1 (/ (* 2
pi) 6) 0 0)) (M 2.25 0 0 0)) (T (repeat (T 1 (M 1 0 -0.5 (/ 0.5 (tan (/ pi 6)))))) 6
(M 1 (/ (* 2 pi) 6) 0 0)) (M 1 0 0 0))
```

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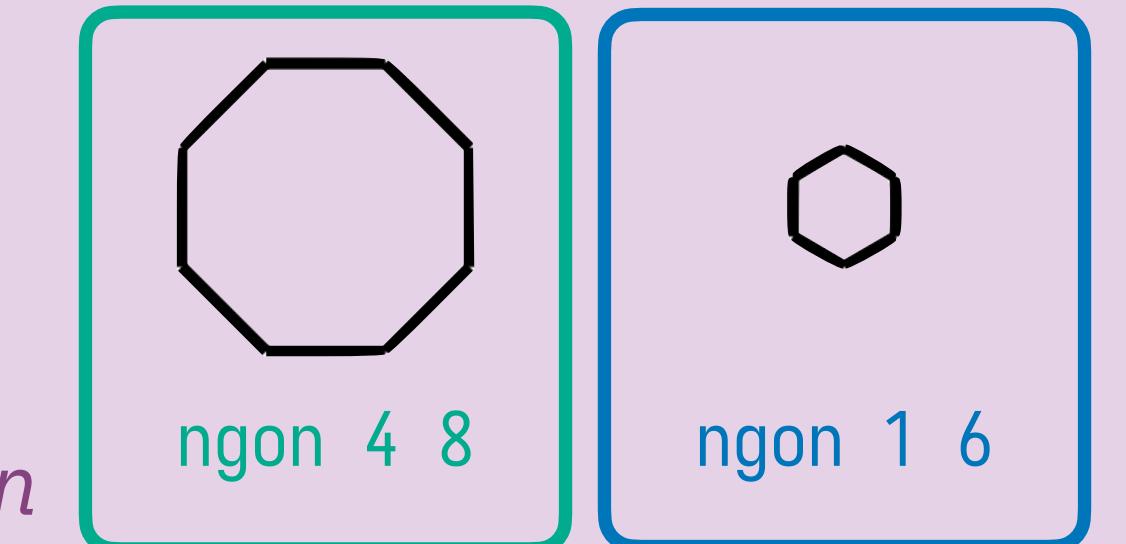
(M 0 0 0 0)) (M 0 0 0 0))

# how well does it work?

## qualitative eval

```
ngon = λsize sides →
  T (repeat (T 1 (M 1 0 -0.5 (0.5 / tan (π / sides)))) sides
      (M 1 ((2 * π) / sides) 0 0))
  (M size 0 0 0)
```

*scaled n-gon*



```
con_hex = λinner_size →
  C (ngon 4 6) (ngon inner_size 6)
```

con\_hex 2

con\_hex 4.25

con\_hex 1

*concentric scaled hexagons*

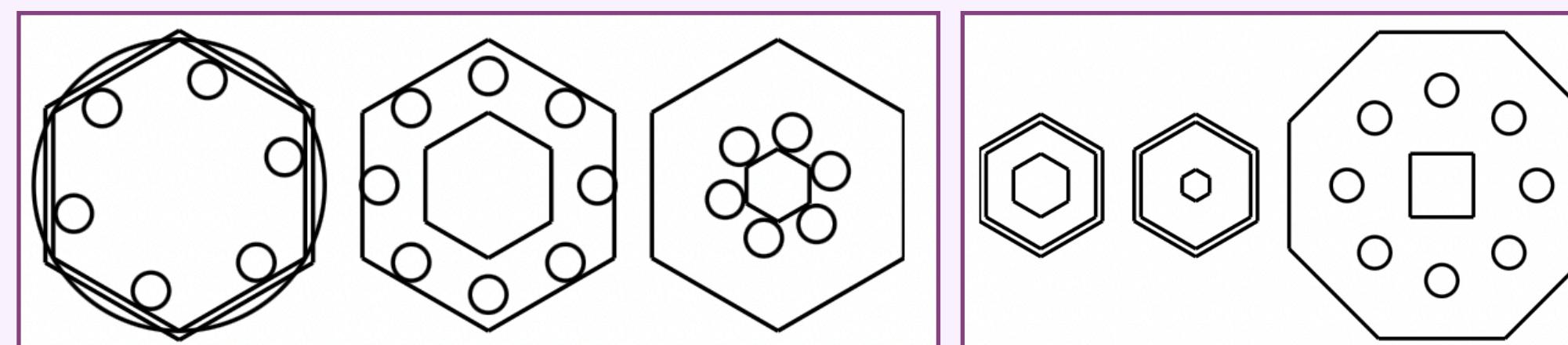
```
ring = λn shape →
  repeat (offset 1.5 shape) n (rotate n)
```

ring 6 s

ring 6 s

*ring of shapes*

*nuts & bolts*



# how well does it work?

## qualitative eval

*furniture*

The diagram illustrates the generation of 3D model code from icons. On the left, there are icons for a dresser, a chair, a sofa, and a shelf. An arrow points from the shelf icon to a code block. The code defines a 'shelf' function that generates a complex 3D model of a shelf unit. Below the code are two simplified 3D models labeled 'shelf c' and 'shelf s', each with a different color border (green for 'shelf c' and blue for 'shelf s').

```

shelf = λhandle →
  C (T (move_y -3 (C (move_y 0 (r_s 15 3))
    (T (repeat (T (T handle (M 0.84375 0 0 0)) (xform_x 0))
      2
      (xform_x 6.375))
      (xform_x -3.1875))))
    (M 1 0 0 0.75))
  (move_y -2.25 (r_s 16.5 4.5)))

```

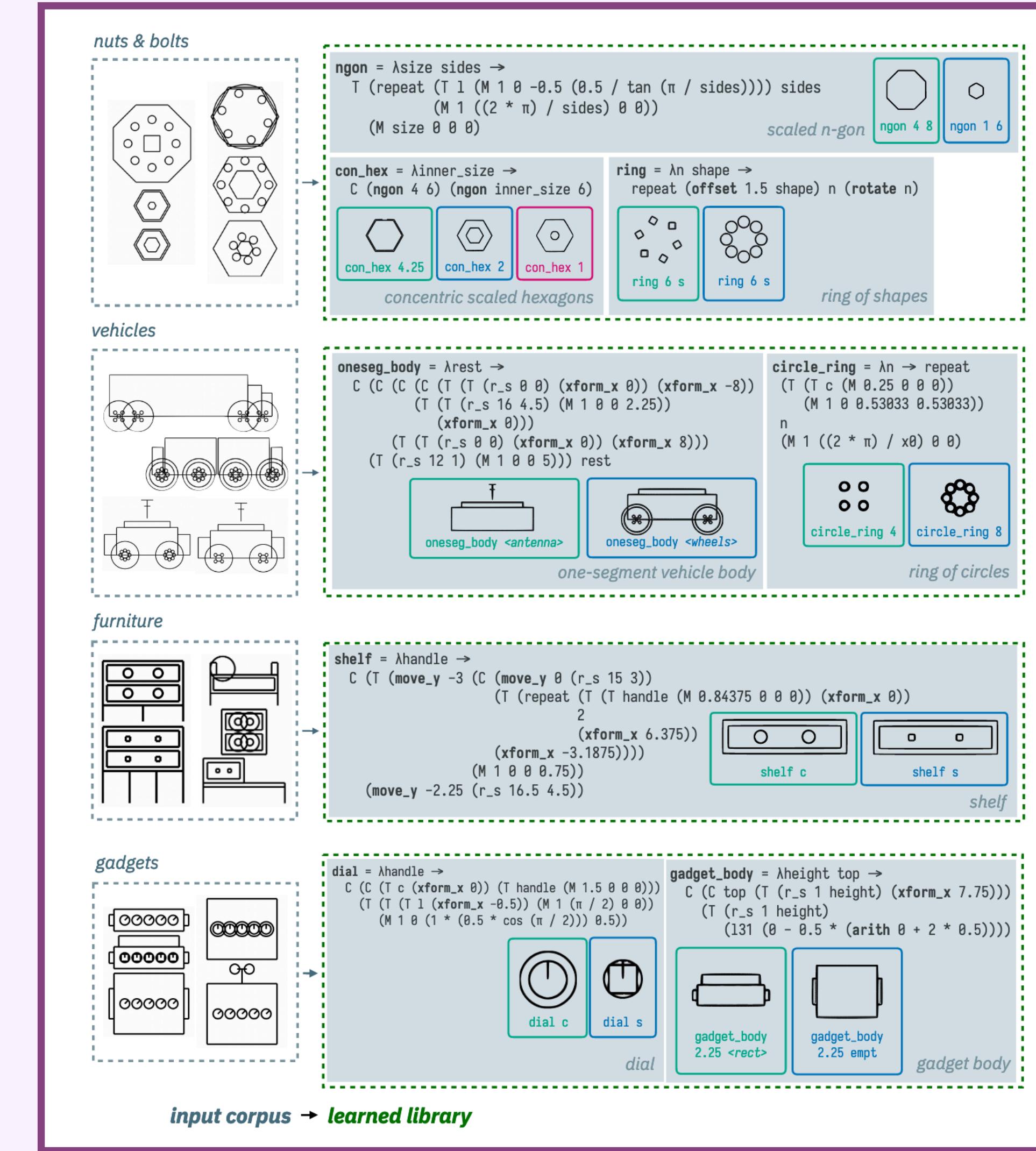
shelf

shelf c

shelf s

# how well does it work? qualitative eval

check the paper for more examples!



**how well does it work?**

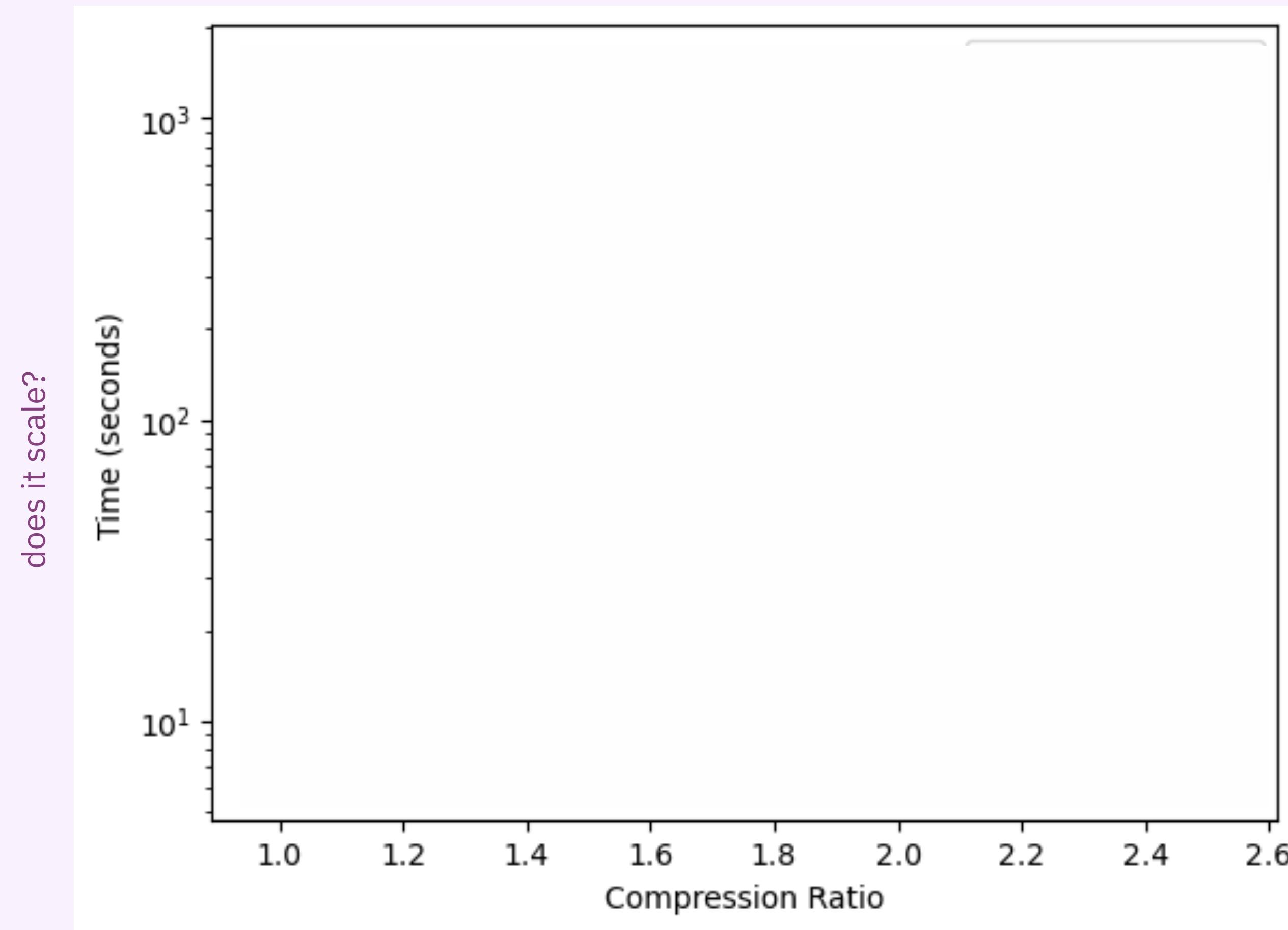
**quantitative eval**

does it scale?

does it compress?

how well does it work?

quantitative eval

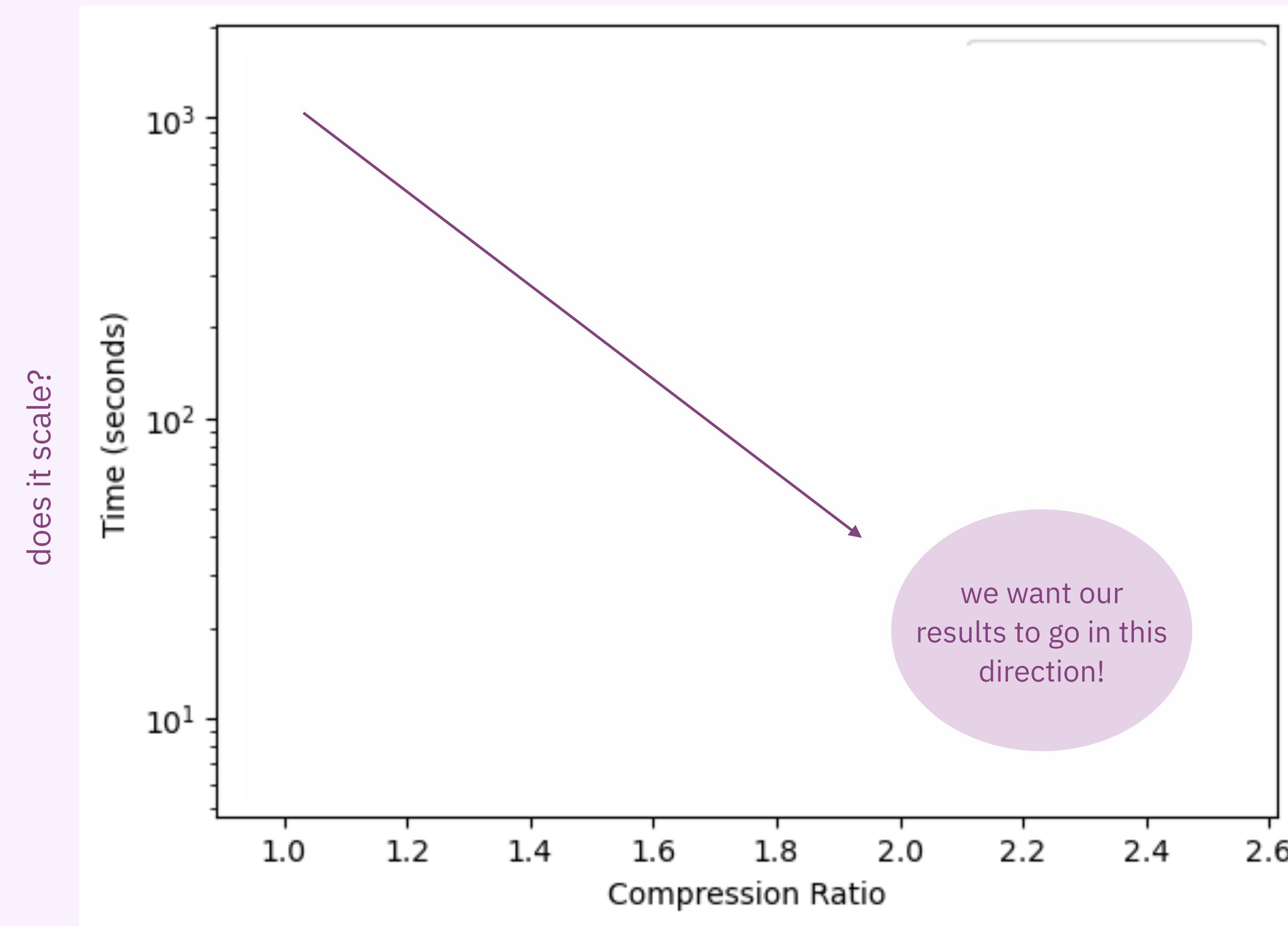


does it scale?

does it compress?

# how well does it work?

## quantitative eval

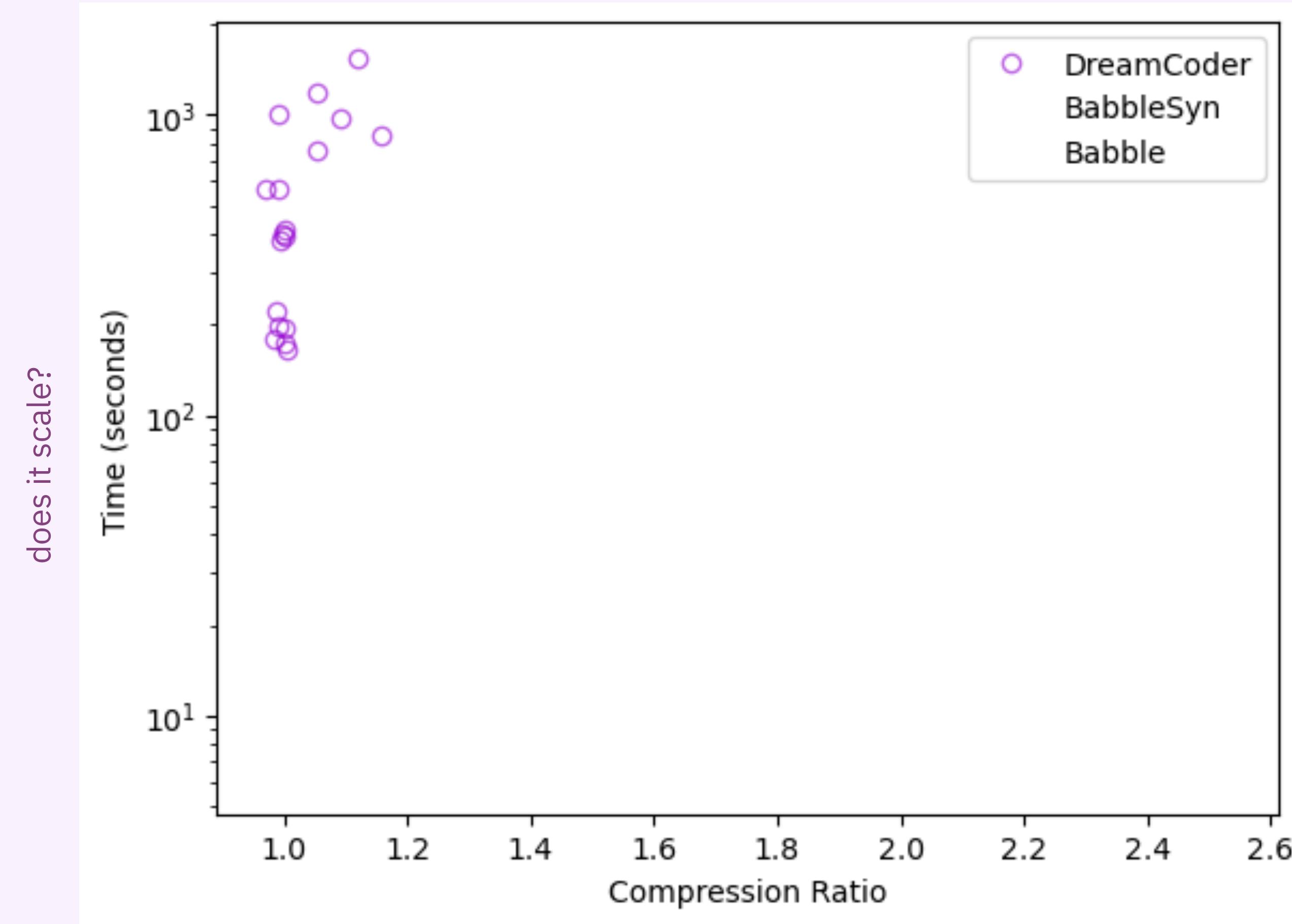


does it compress?

# how well does it work?

## quantitative eval

physics domain results



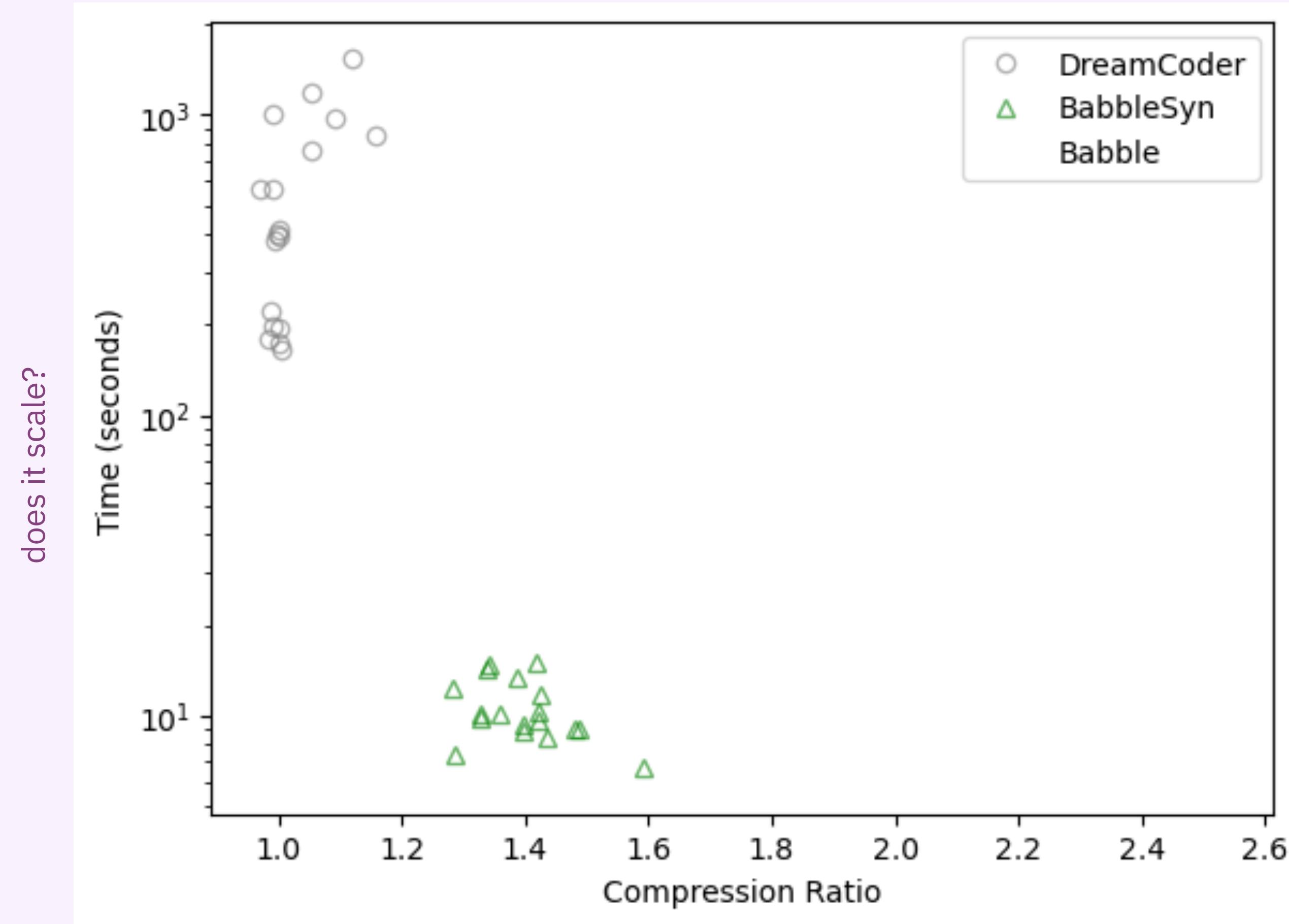
does it scale?

does it compress?

# how well does it work?

## quantitative eval

physics domain results

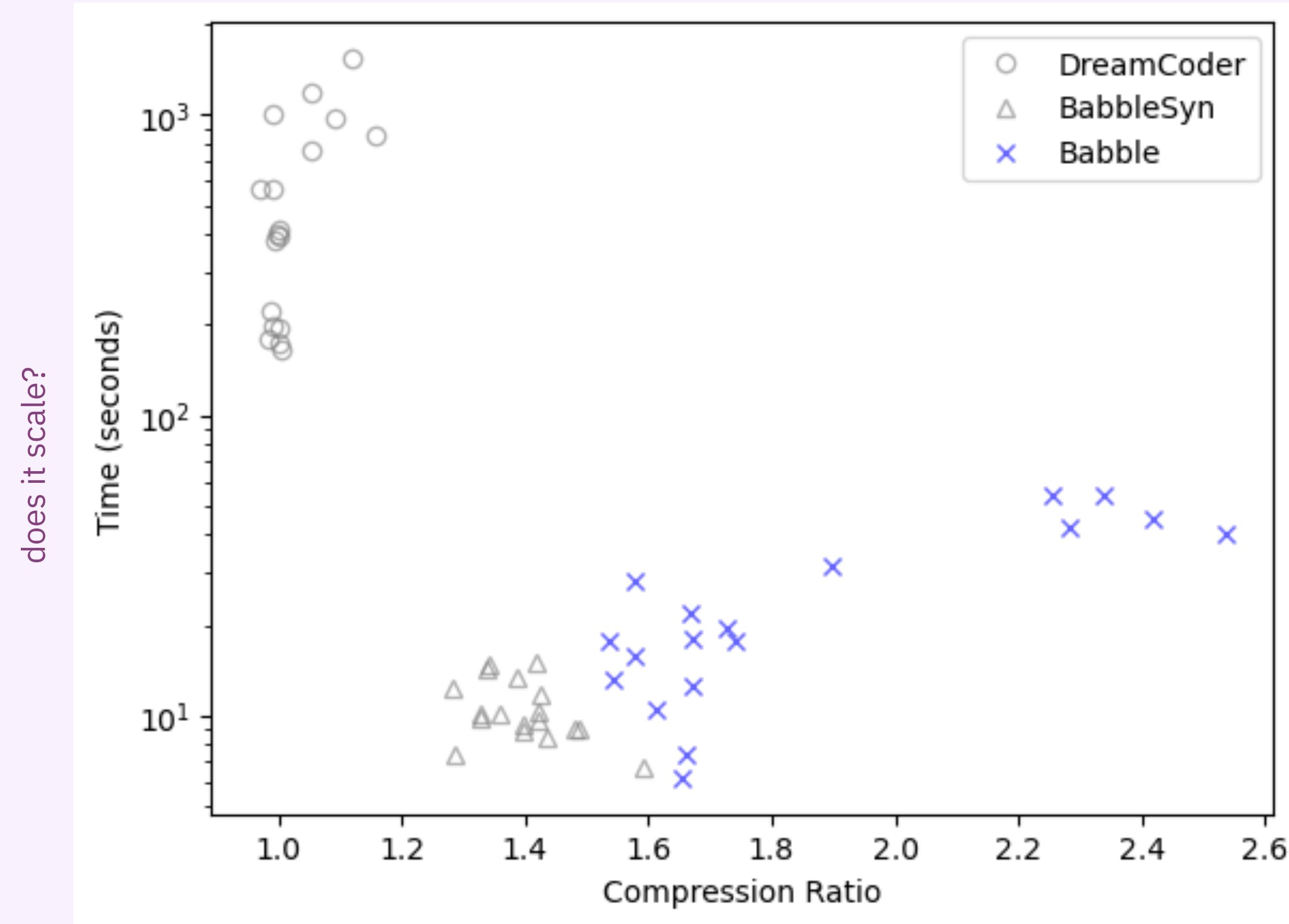


does it scale?

does it compress?

# how well does it work? quantitative eval

physics domain results



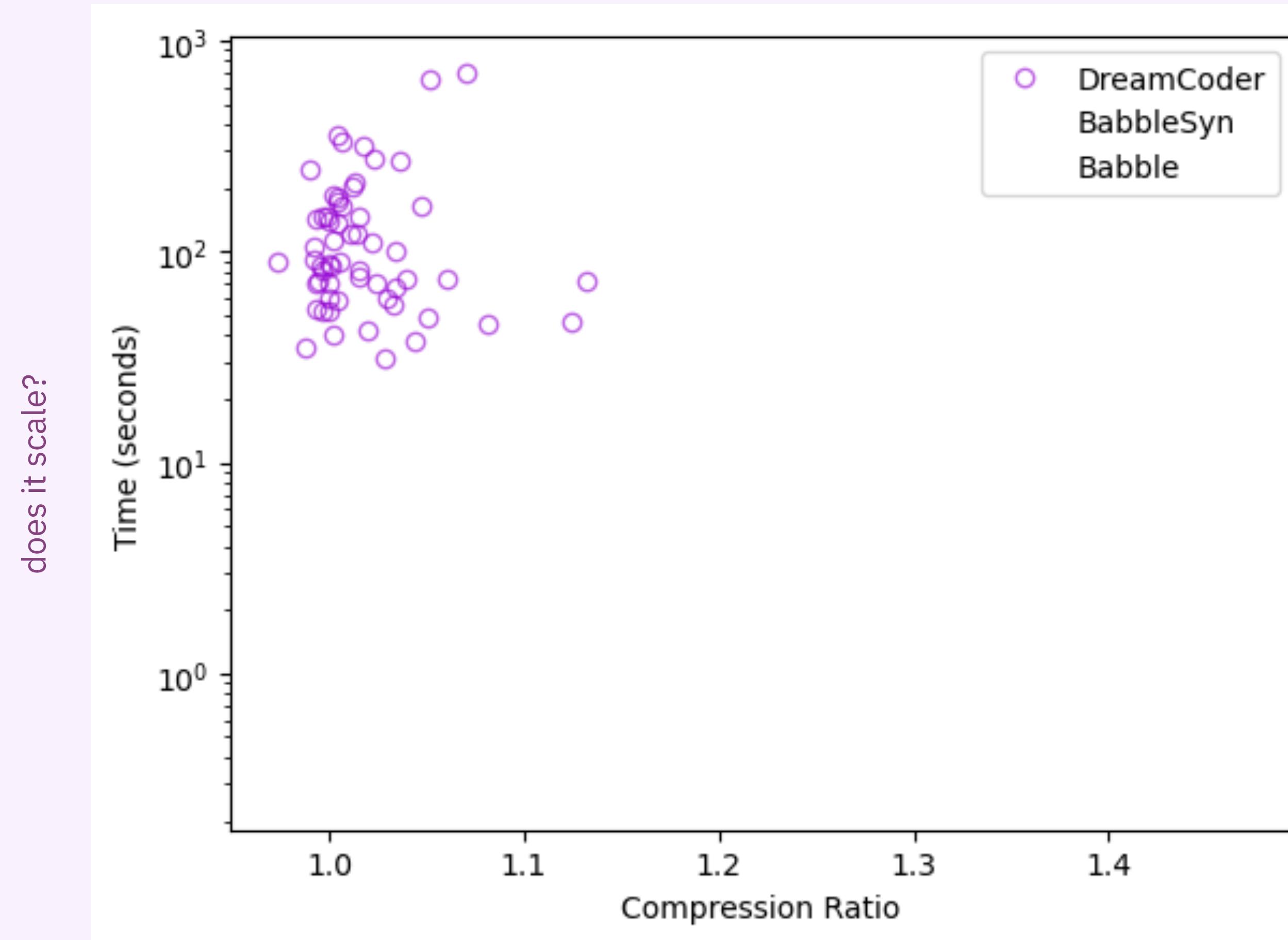
does it scale?

does it compress?

# how well does it work?

## quantitative eval

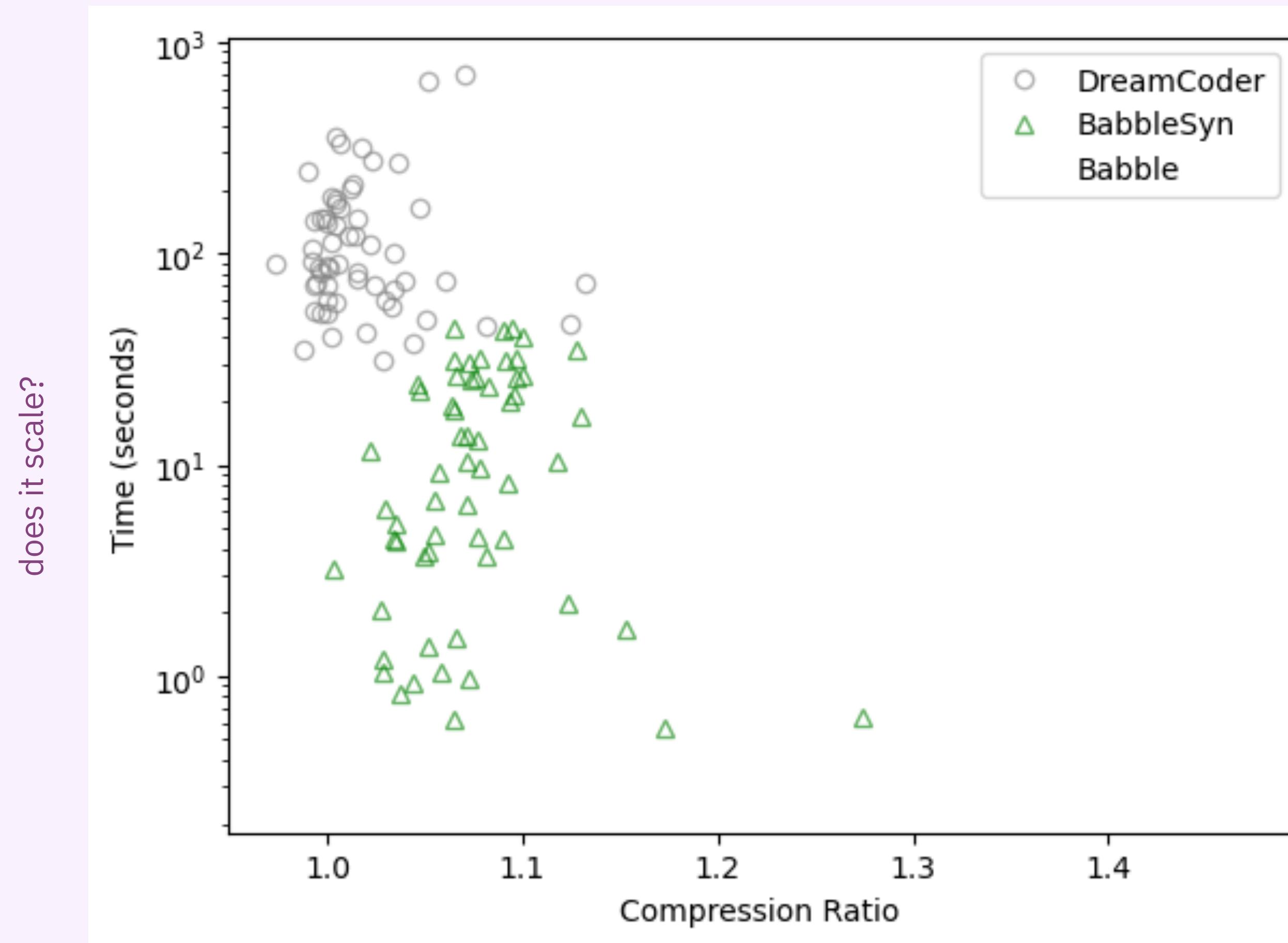
list domain results



does it compress?

# how well does it work? quantitative eval

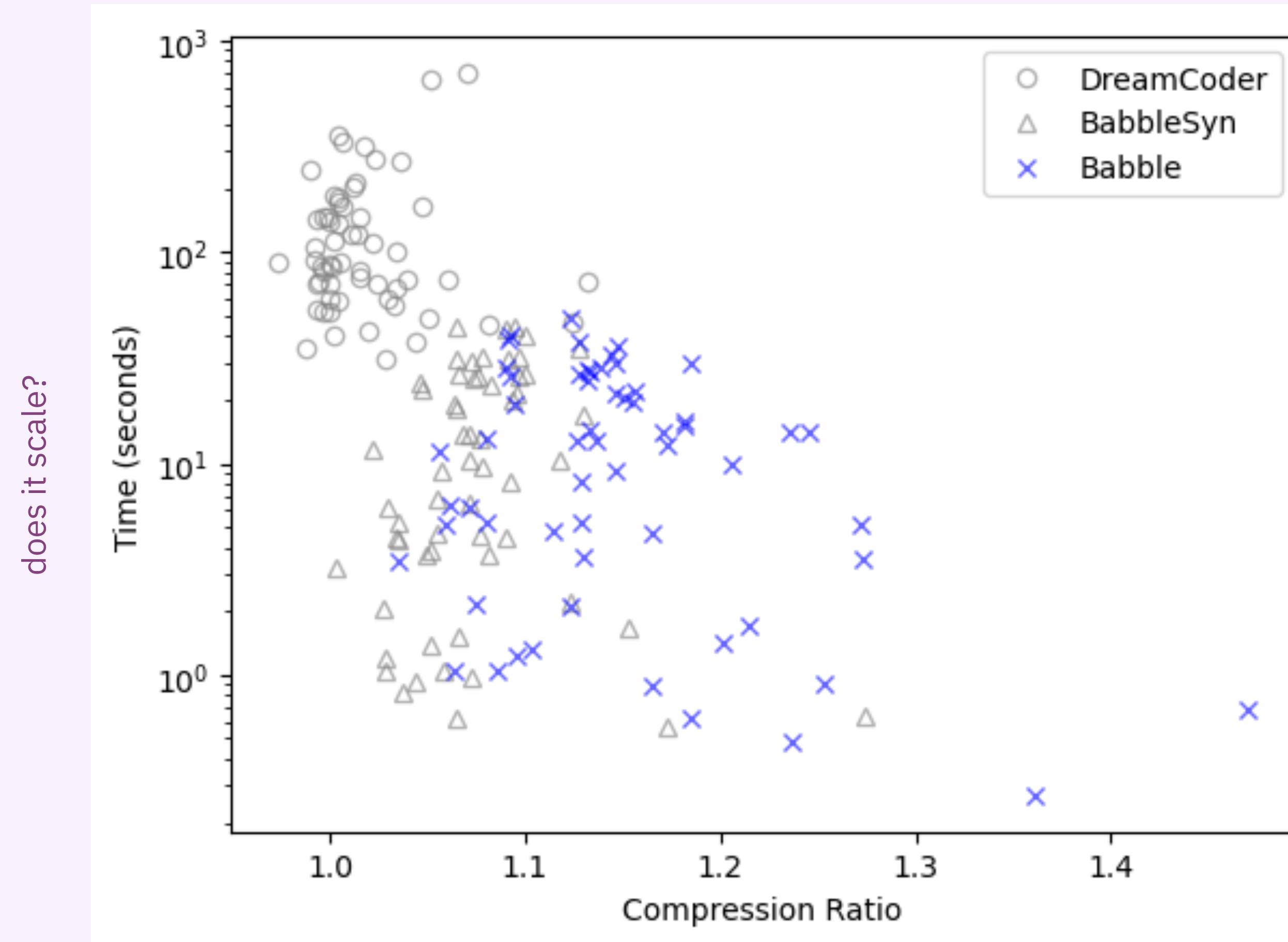
list domain results



does it compress?

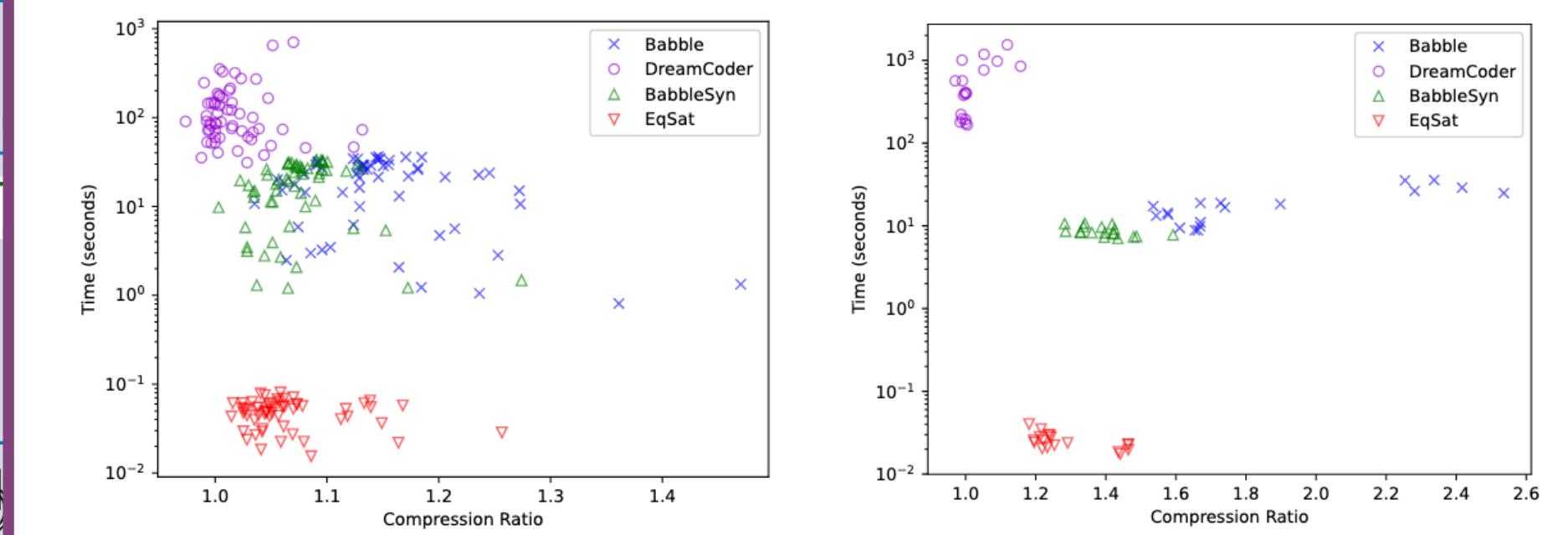
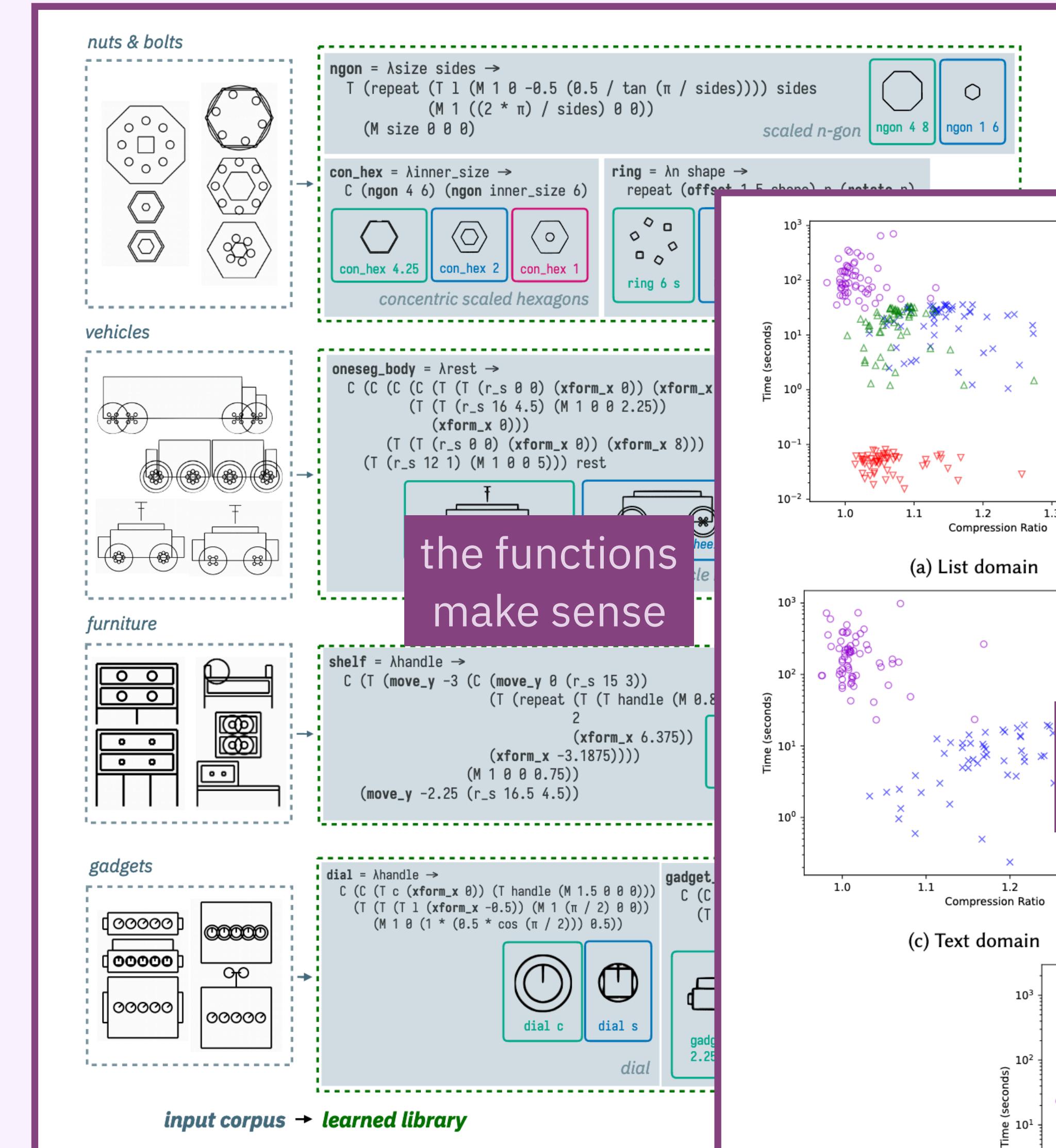
# how well does it work? quantitative eval

list domain results



does it compress?

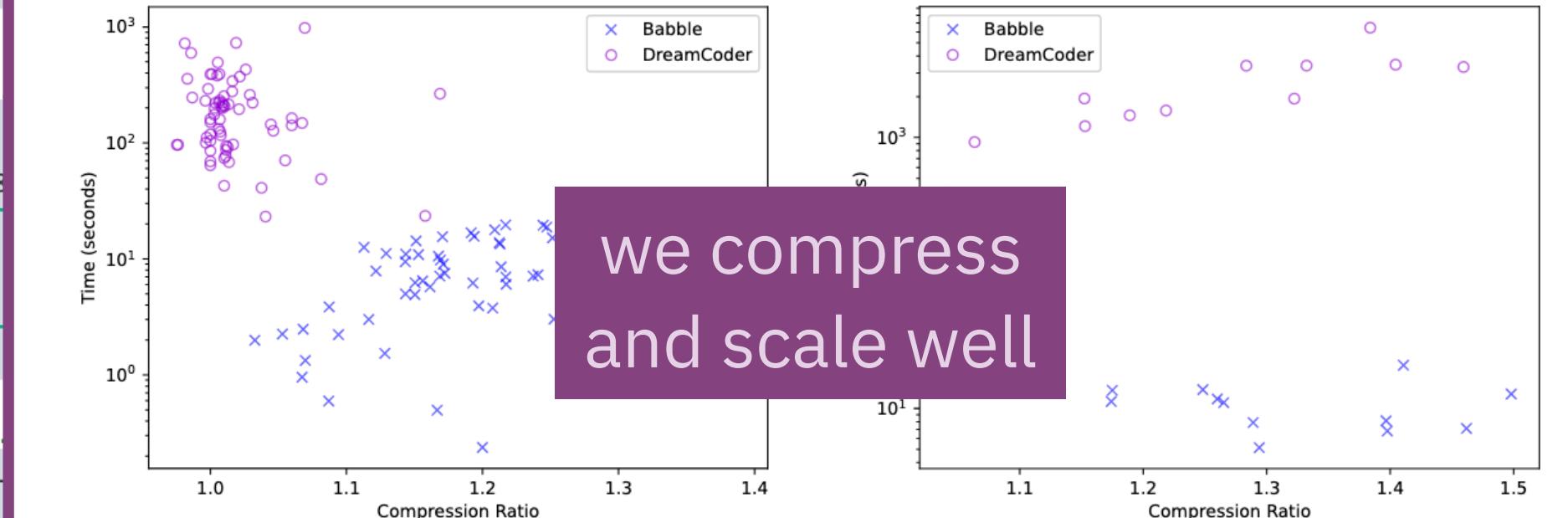
# what's the challenge? how does babble work? how well does it work?



Time (seconds)

Compression Ratio

Babble DreamCoder BabbleSyn EqSat



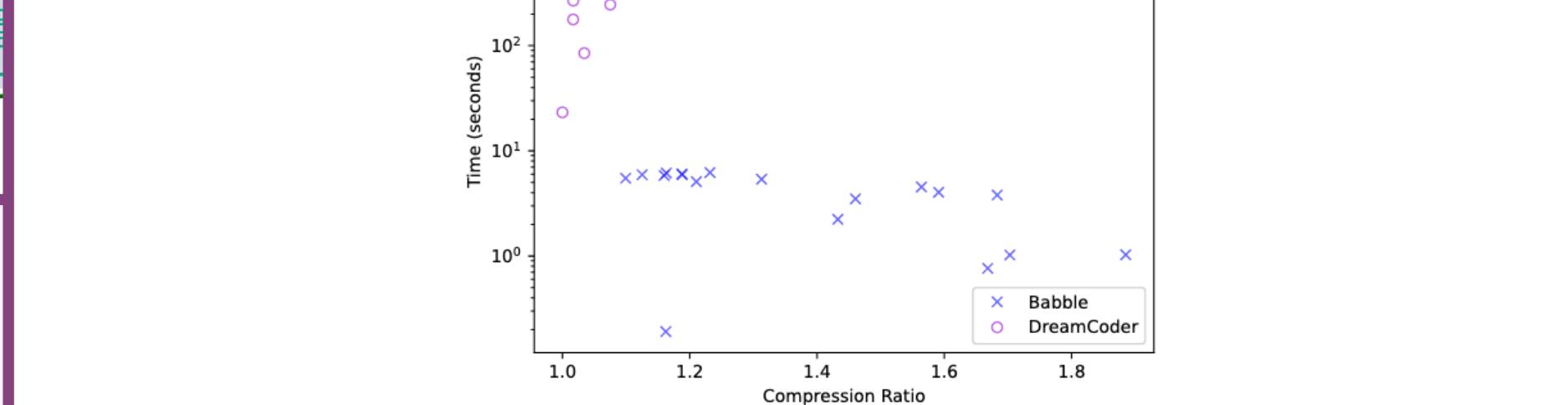
we compress and scale well



Time (seconds)

Compression Ratio

Babble DreamCoder



Time (seconds)

Compression Ratio

Babble DreamCoder

(e) Towers domain

# babble *learning better abstractions* with e-graphs and anti-unification

