

Computer-Aided Reasoning for Software

# Solver-Aided Programming II

# Topics

## Last lecture

- Getting started with solver-aided programming.

## Today

- Going pro with solver-aided programming.



A programming model that integrates solvers into the language, providing constructs for program verification, synthesis, and more.



## Solver-aided programming in two parts: **(1) getting started and (2) going pro**

How to use a solver-aided language: the workflow, constructs, and gotchas.

How to build your own solver-aided tool via direct symbolic evaluation or language embedding.

# How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



## The classic (hard) way to build a tool

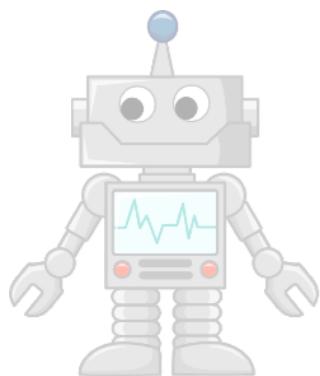
What is hard about building a solver-aided tool?

SDSL



SVM

SMT



## An easier way: tools as languages

How to build tools by stacking layers of languages.

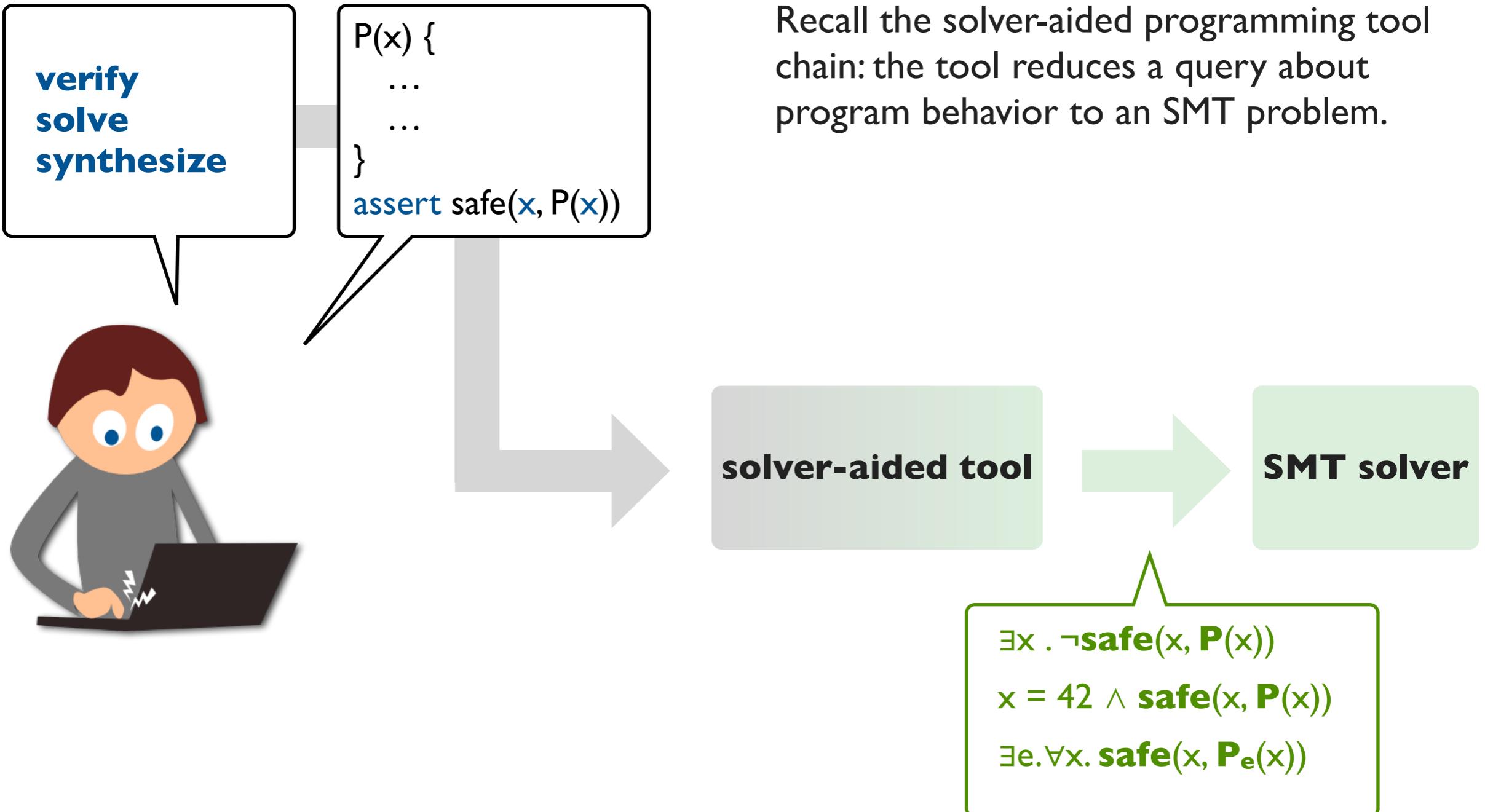
## Behind the scenes: symbolic virtual machine

How Rosette works so you don't have to.

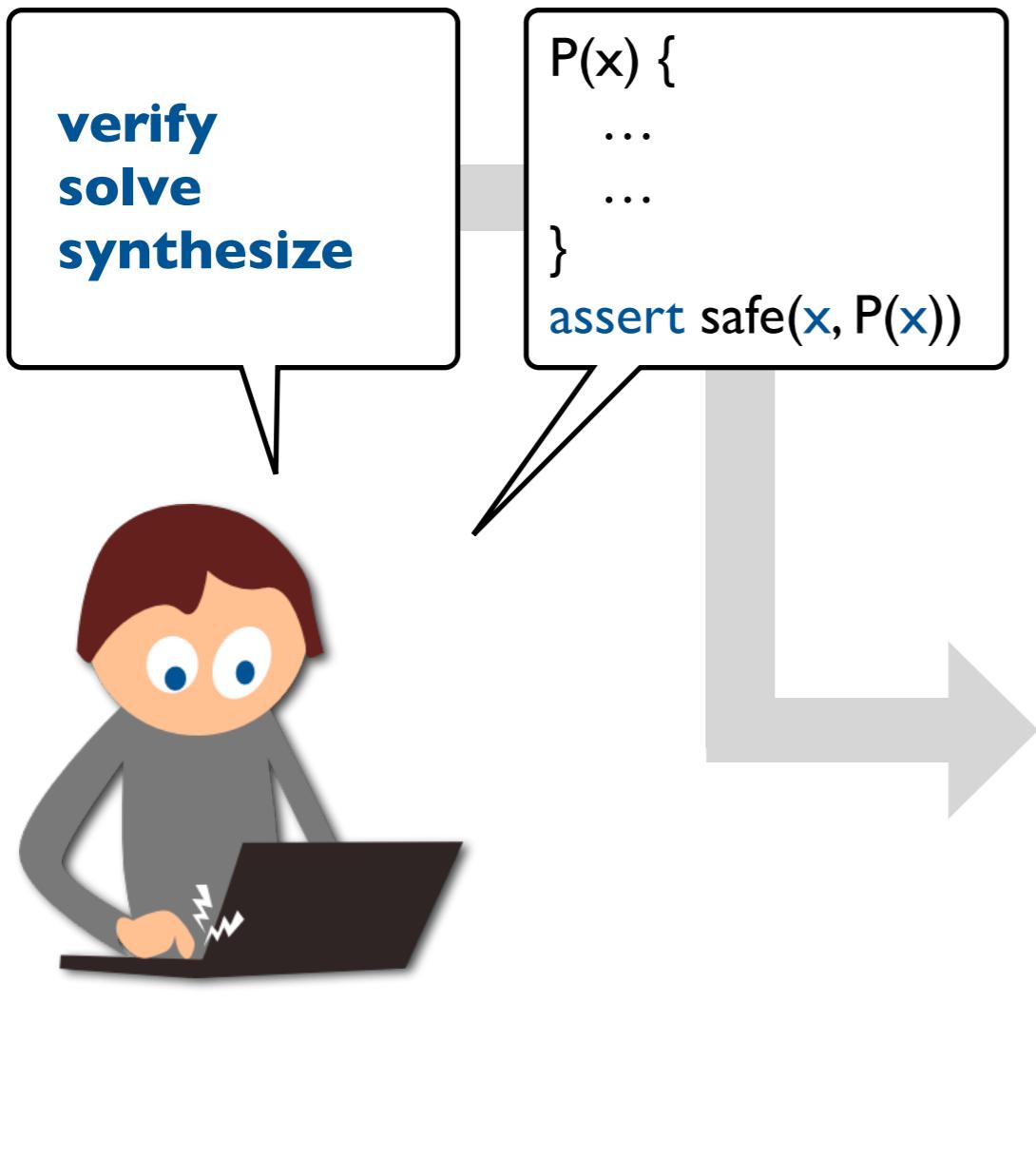
## A last look: a few recent applications

Cool tools built with Rosette!

# The classic (hard) way to build a tool



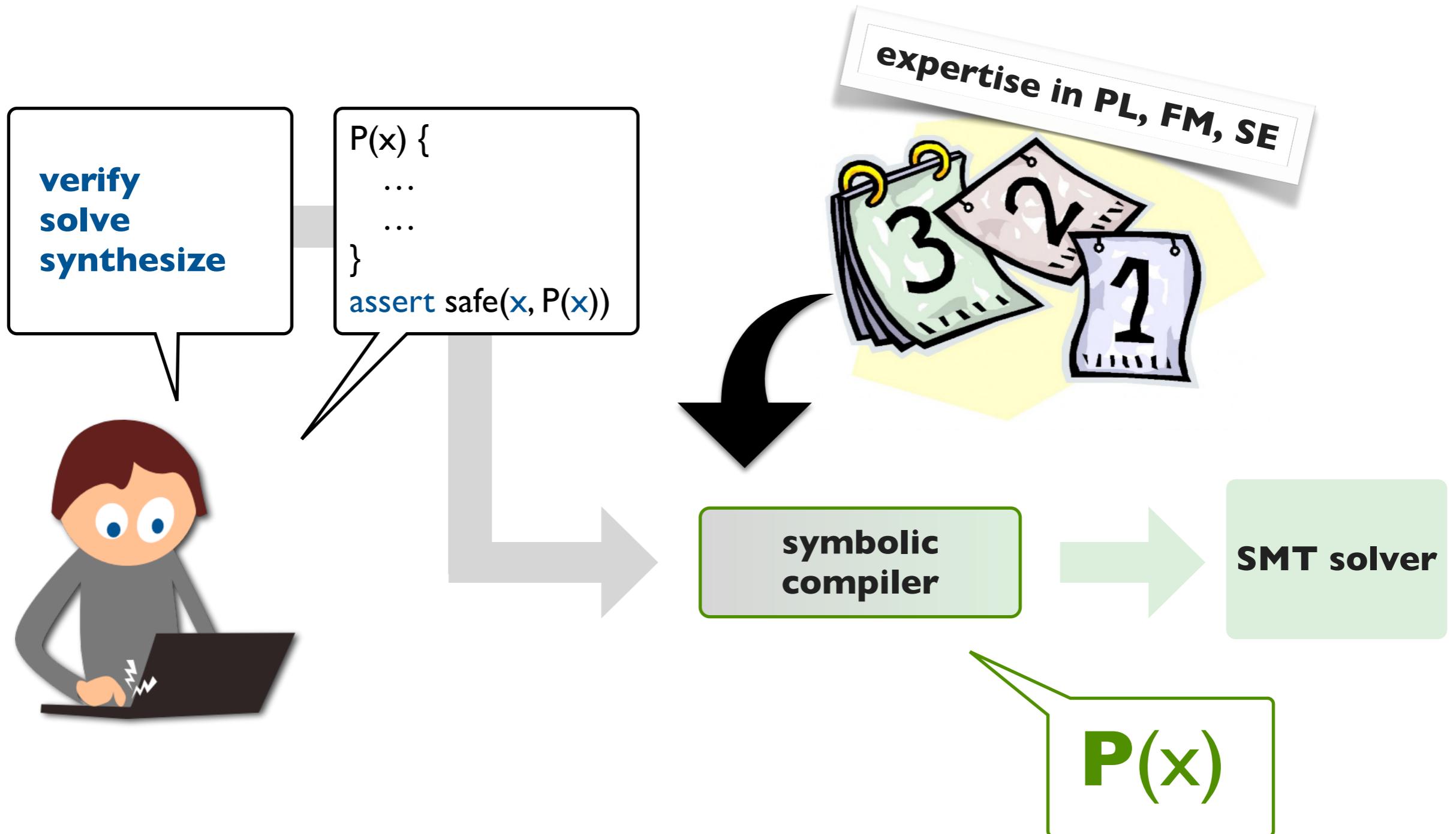
# The classic (hard) way to build a tool



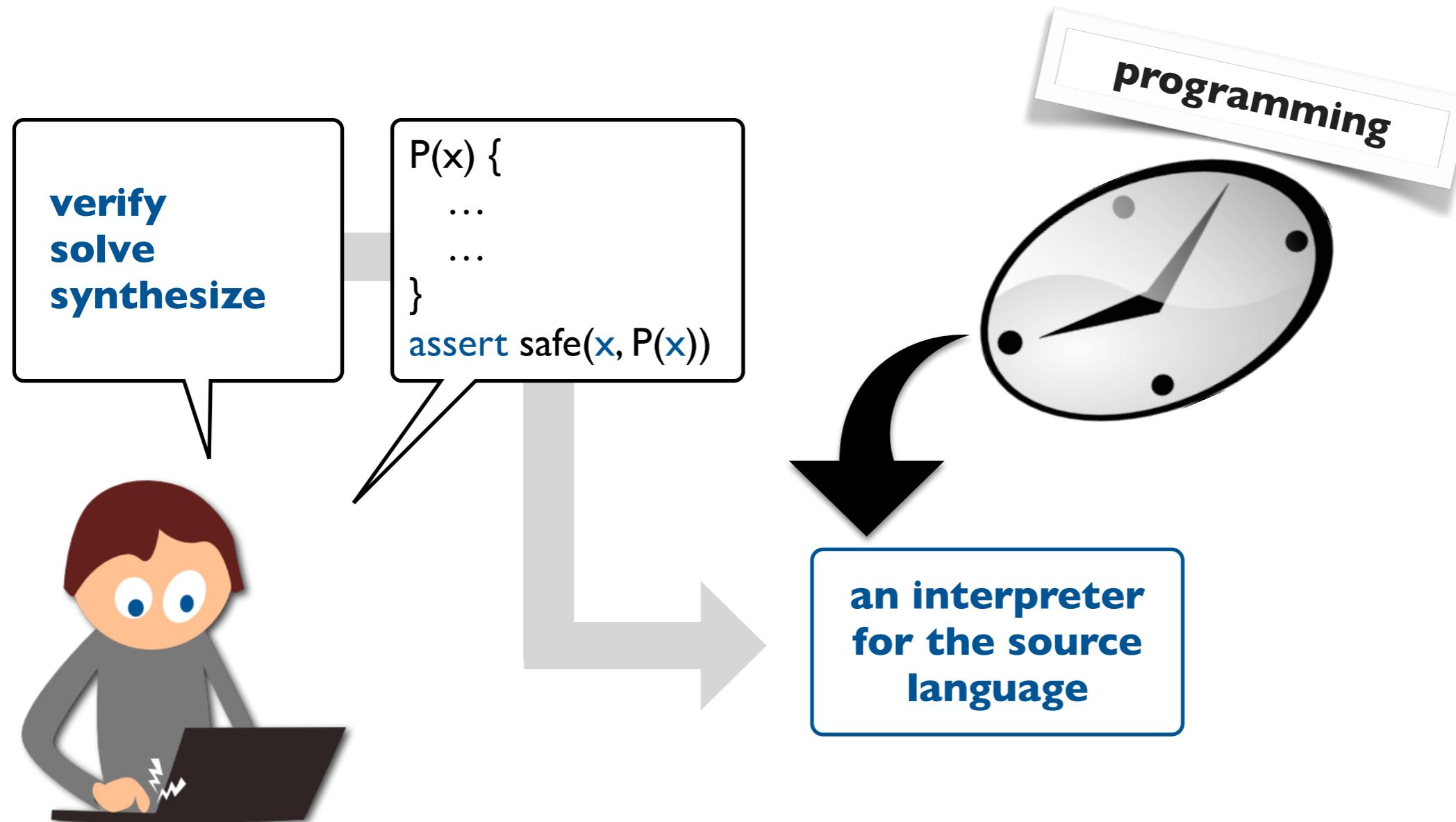
Recall the solver-aided programming tool chain: the tool reduces a query about program behavior to an SMT problem.

What all queries have in common: they need to translate programs to constraints!

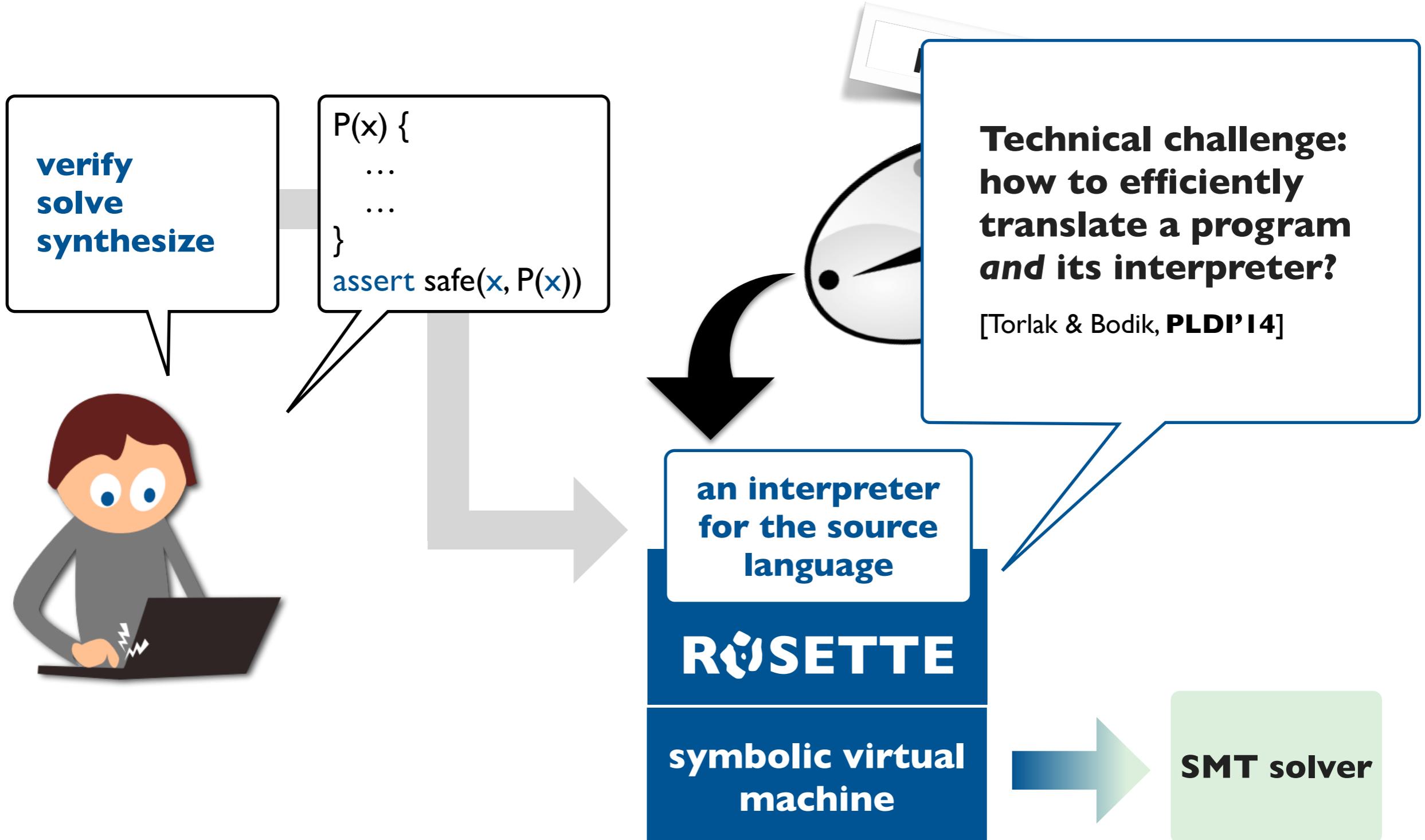
# The classic (hard) way to build a tool



# Wanted: an easier way to build tools



# Wanted: an easier way to build tools



# How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



**The classic (hard) way to build a tool**  
What is hard about building a solver-aided tool?

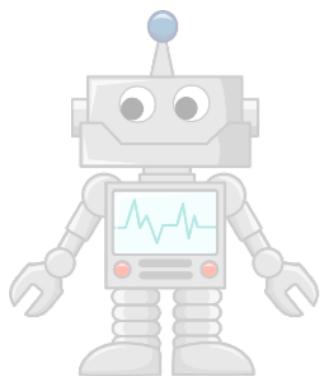
**SDSL**



**An easier way: tools as languages**  
How to build tools by stacking layers of languages.

**SVM**

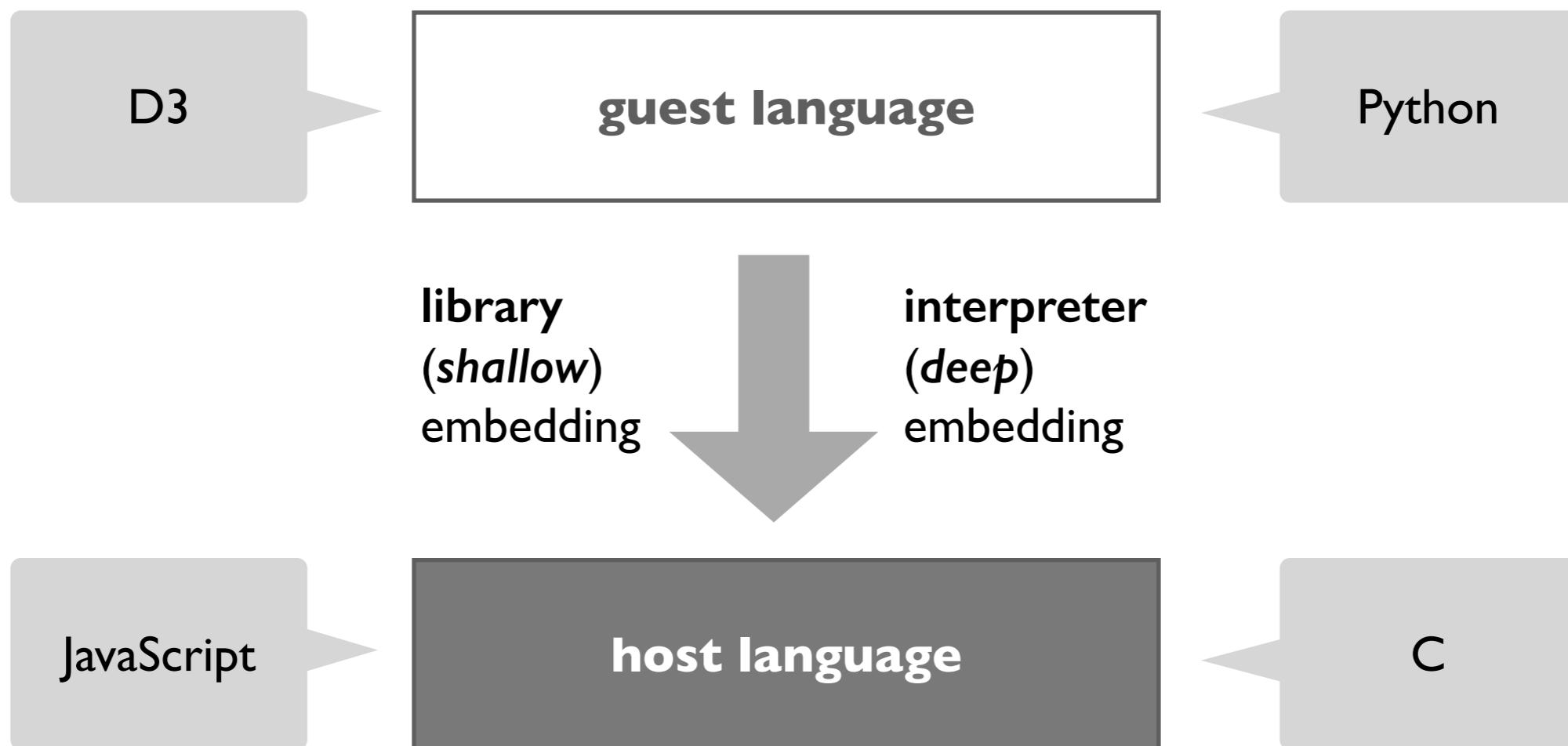
**SMT**



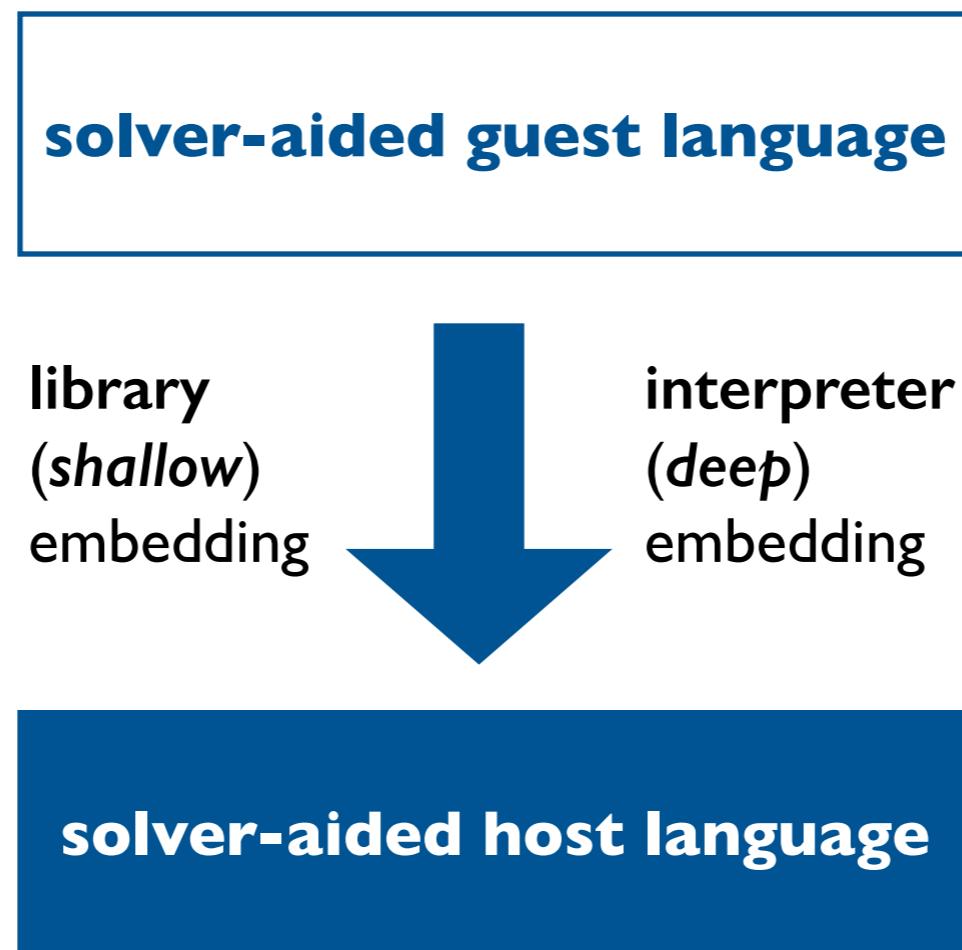
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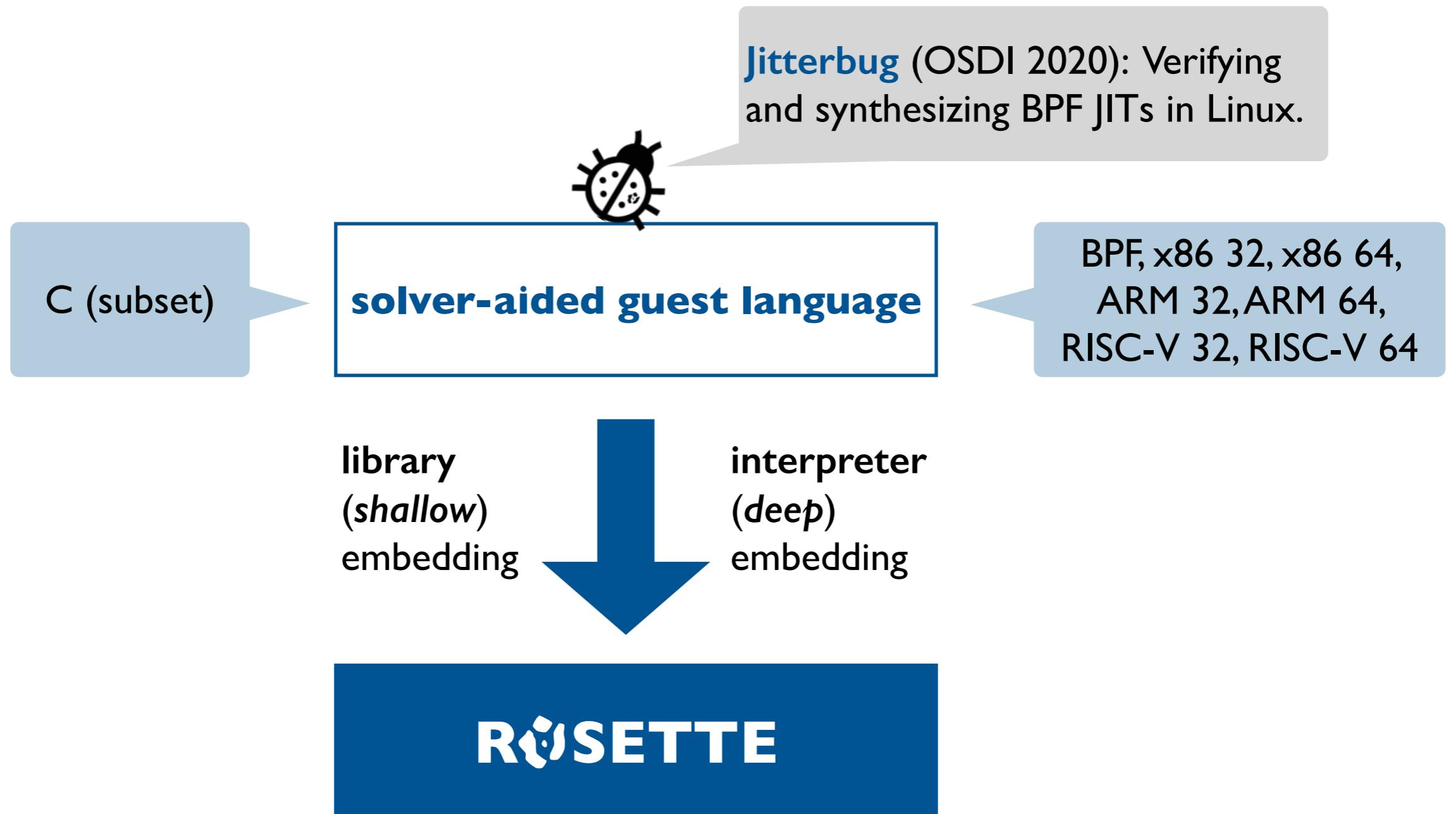
# Layers of classic languages: guests and hosts



# Layers of solver-aided languages



# Layers of solver-aided languages



# A tiny example solver-aided guest language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)  
    r3 = bvneg(r2)  
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)  
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)  
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)  
    return r6
```

We want to **test**, **verify**, and **synthesize** programs in the BV SDSL.

**BV**: A tiny assembly-like language for writing fast, low-level library functions.

1. interpreter [50 LOC]
2. verifier [free]
3. synthesizer [free]

# A tiny example language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)  
    r3 = bvneg(r2)  
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)  
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)  
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)  
    return r6
```

```
> bvmax(-2, -1)
```

parse

```
(define bvmax  
  `((2 bvsge 0 1)  
   (3 bvneg 2)  
   (4 bvxor 0 2)  
   (5 bvand 3 4)  
   (6 bvxor 1 5))))
```

(out opcode in ...)

R<sup>o</sup>SSETTE

# A tiny example language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)  
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    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)  
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)  
return r6
```

```
> bvmax(-2, -1)
```

interpret

```
(define bvmax  
  `((2 bvsge 0 1)  
   (3 bvneg 2)  
   (4 bvxor 0 2)  
   (5 bvand 3 4)  
   (6 bvxor 1 5))))
```

0 -2  
1 -1  
2  
3  
4  
5

` (-2 -1)

```
(define (interpret prog inputs)  
  (make-registers prog inputs)  
  (for ([stmt prog])  
    (match stmt  
      [(list out opcode in ...)  
       (define op (lookup opcode))  
       (define args (map load in))  
       (store out (apply op args))])  
      (load (last))))
```

Rosette

# A tiny example language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)  
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    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)  
return r6
```

```
> bvmax(-2, -1)  
-1
```

```
(define bvmax  
  `((2 bvsge 0 1)  
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```

```
(define (interpret prog inputs)  
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    (load (last))))
```

- ▶ pattern matching
- ▶ first-class & higher-order procedures
- ▶ side effects

# A tiny example language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)  
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    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)  
return r6  
  
> verify(bvmax, max)
```

query

R<sup>o</sup>SSETTE

```
(define-symbolic x y int32?)  
(define in (list x y))  
(verify  
  (assert (equal? (interpret bvmax in)  
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```

# A tiny example language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)  
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    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)  
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)  
    return r6
```

```
> verify(bvmax, max)
```

```
(define (max x y)  
  (if (bvsge x y) x y))
```

query

R<sup>o</sup>SSETTE

```
(define-symbolic x y int32?)  
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# A tiny example language

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def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
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```

query

R<sub>OSSETTE</sub>

Creates two fresh symbolic values of type 32-bit integer and binds them to the variables x and y.

```
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```

# A tiny example language

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```

query

R<sup>o</sup>SSETTE

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Symbolic values can be used just like concrete values of the same type.

# A tiny example language

R<sub>OSSETTE</sub>

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return r6  
  
> verify(bvmax, max)
```

query

Creates two fresh symbolic values of type 32-bit integer and binds them to the variables x and y.

```
(define-symbolic x y int32?)  
(define in (list x y))  
(verify  
  (assert (equal? (interpret bvmax in)  
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```

(**verify** *expr*) searches for a concrete interpretation of symbolic values that causes *expr* to fail.

Symbolic values can be used just like concrete values of the same type.

# A tiny example language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
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    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)  
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)  
    return r6
```

```
> verify(bvmax, max)  
[0, -2]
```



ROSETTE

```
(define-symbolic x y int32?)  
(define in (list x y))  
(verify  
  (assert (equal? (interpret bvmax in)  
                  (apply max in))))
```

# A tiny example language

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :  
    r2...r6 = inst??(bvsge, bvneg,  
                      bvxor, bvand)  
  
    return r6
```

```
> synthesize(bvmax, max)
```

query

R<sub>o</sub>SSETTE

```
(define-symbolic x y int32?)  
(define in (list x y))  
(synthesize  
  #:forall in  
  #:guarantee  
  (assert (equal? (interpret bvmax in)  
                  (apply max in)))))
```

# A tiny example language

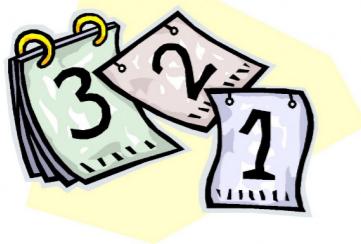
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> synthesize(bvmax, max)
```



ROSSETTE

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```

# How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



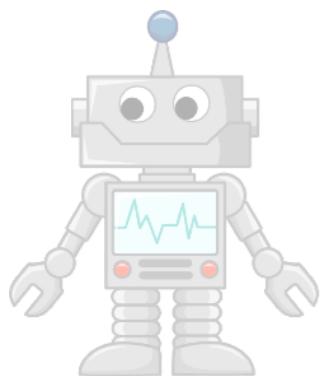
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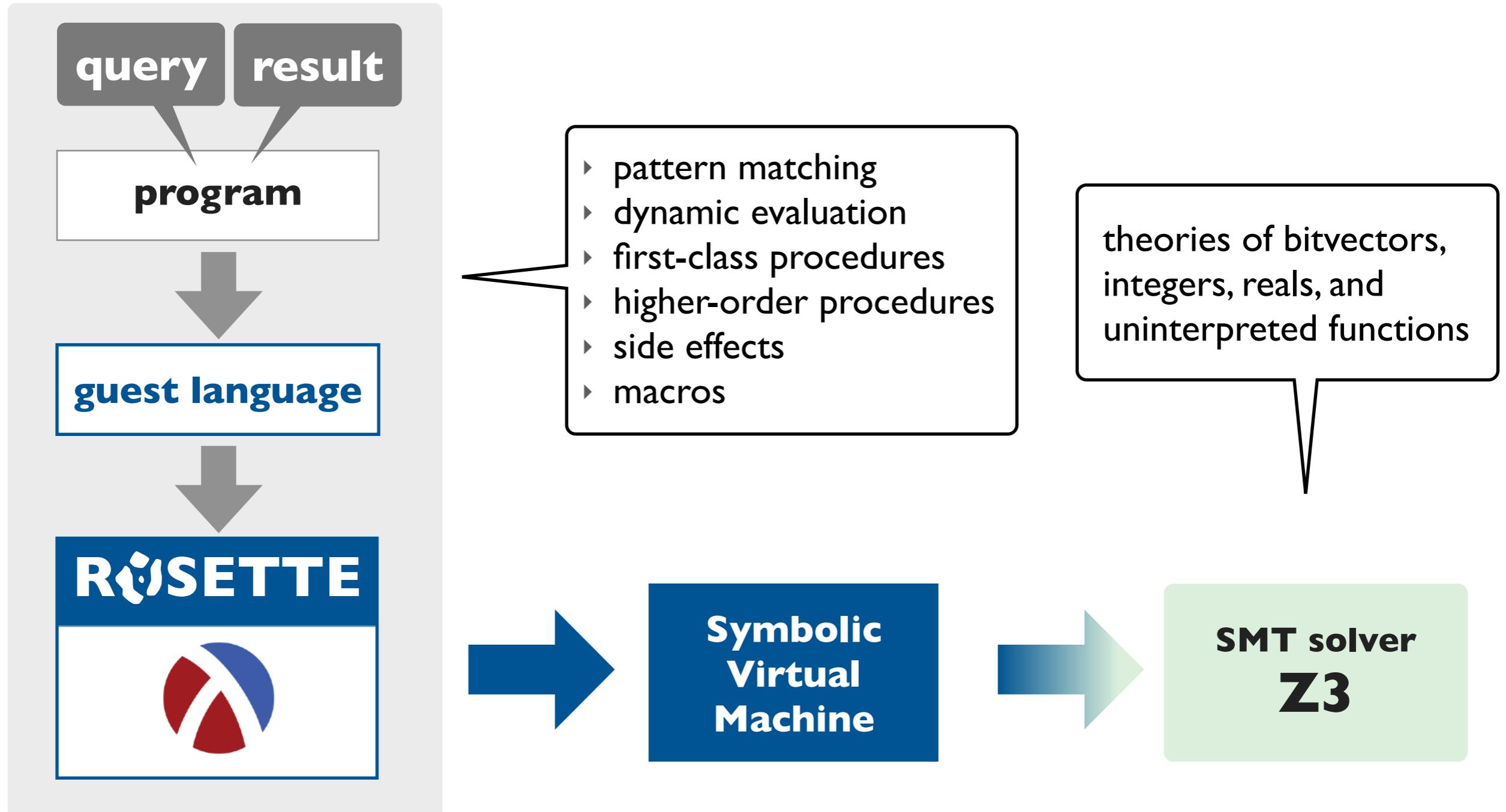


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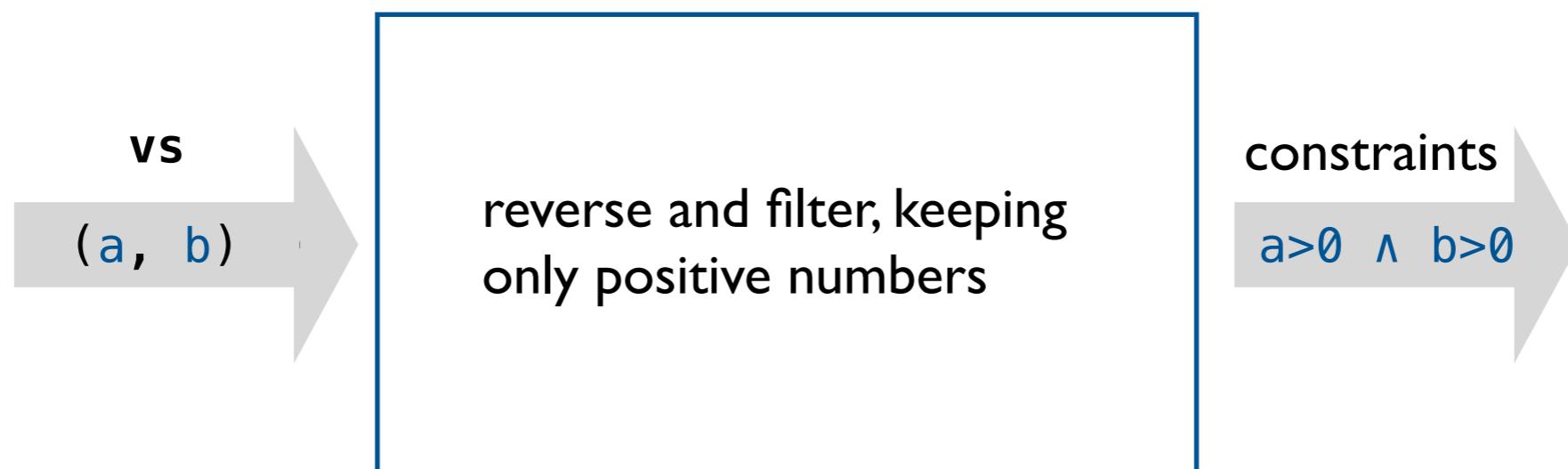
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# How it all works: a big picture view



# Translation to constraints by example

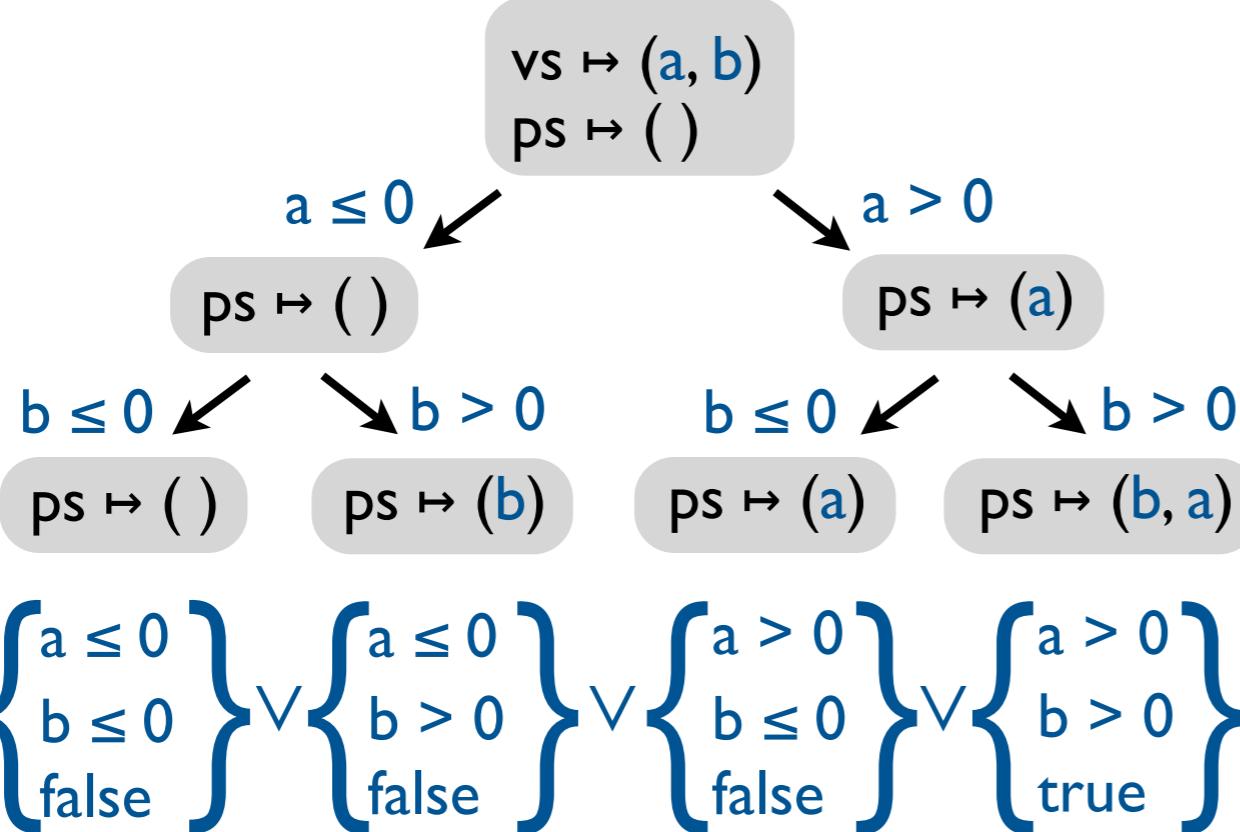


# Design space of precise symbolic encodings

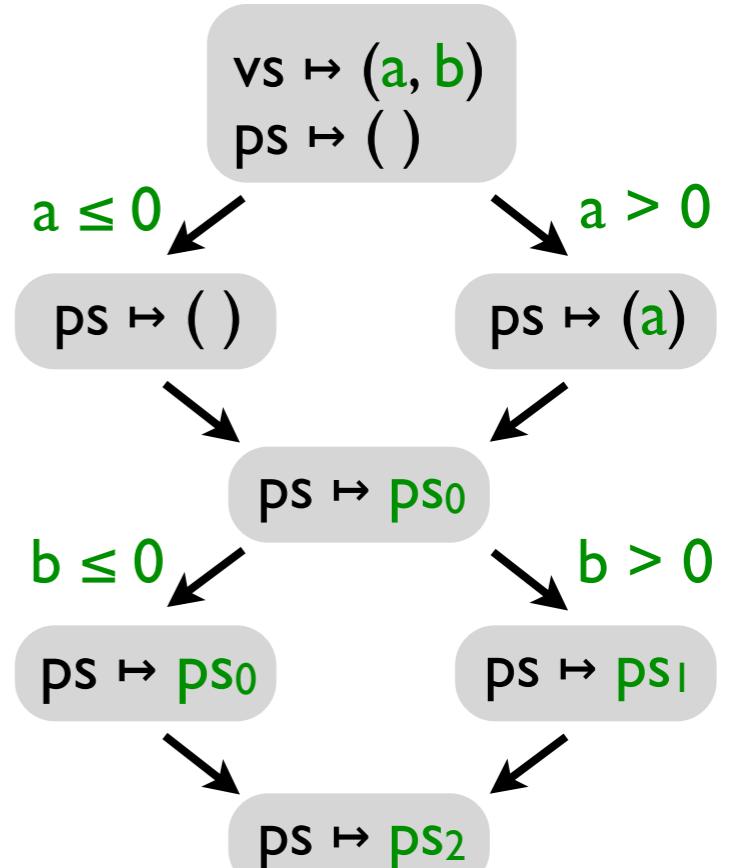
solve:

```
ps = ()  
for v in vs:  
    if v > 0:  
        ps = insert(v, ps)  
assert len(ps) == len(vs)
```

symbolic execution

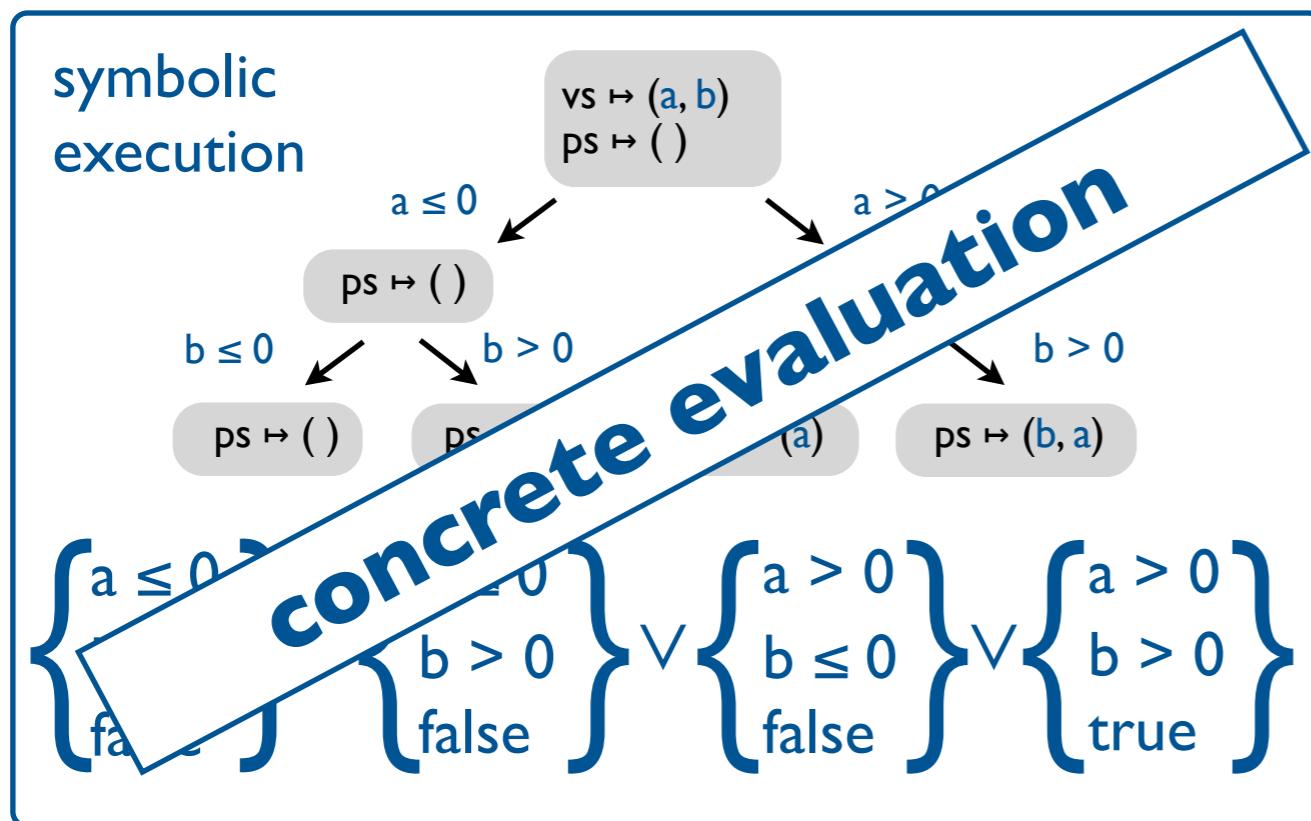
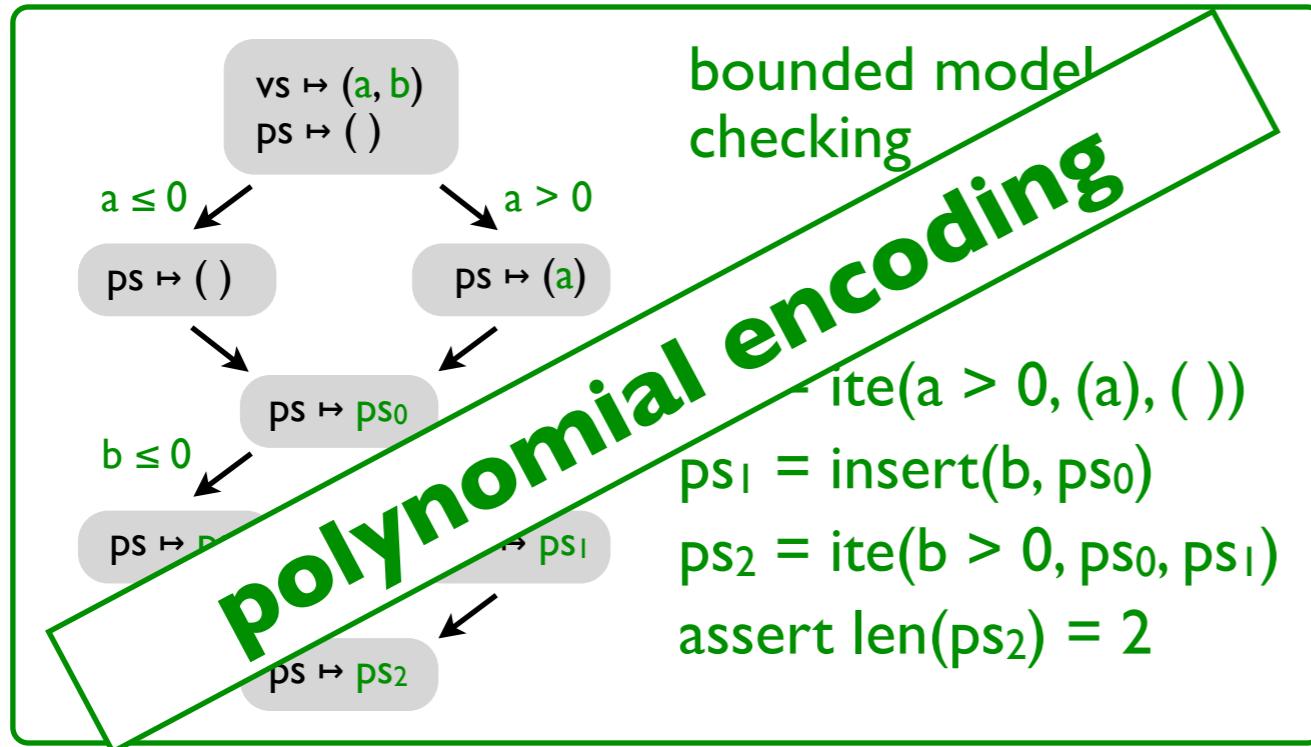


bounded model checking



$$ps_0 = \text{ite}(a > 0, (a), ( ))$$

# Challenge: simple vs compact encoding (SE and BMC)

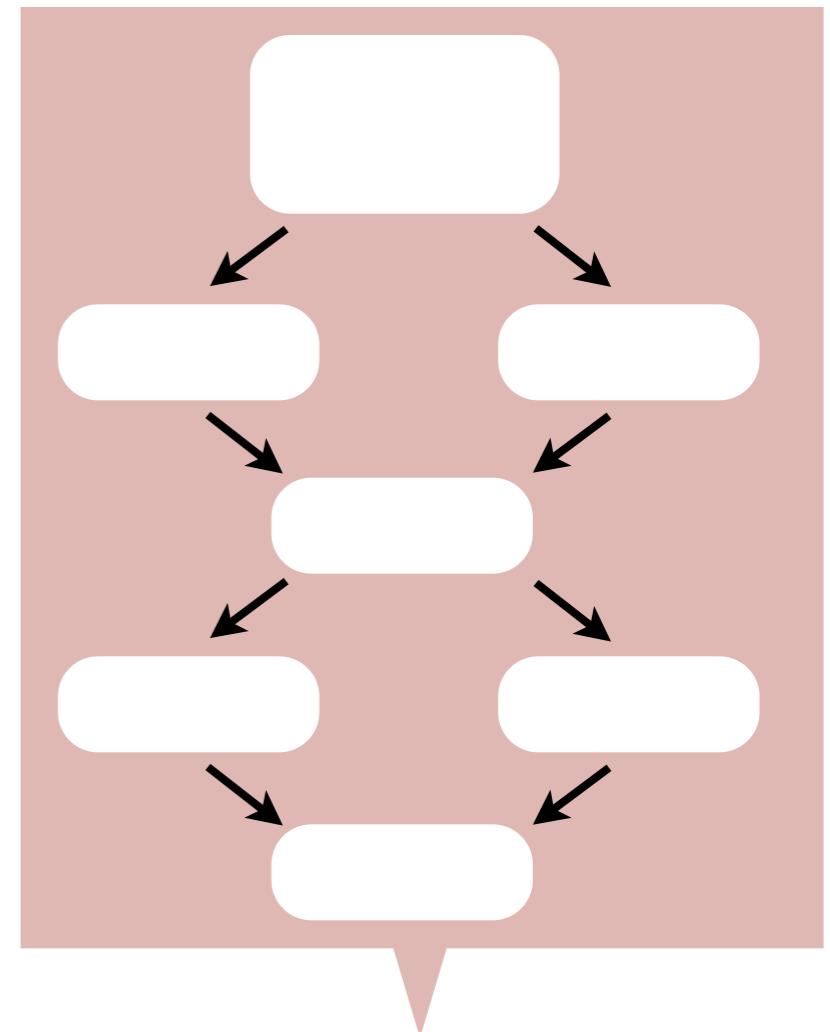


**Can we have both a polynomially sized encoding (like BMC) and concrete evaluation of complex operations (like SE)?**

# Solution: type-driven state merging

**solve:**

```
ps = ()  
for v in vs:  
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        ps = insert(v, ps)  
assert len(ps) == len(vs)
```



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a > 0 \\ b > 0 \\ \text{true} \end{array} \right\}$$



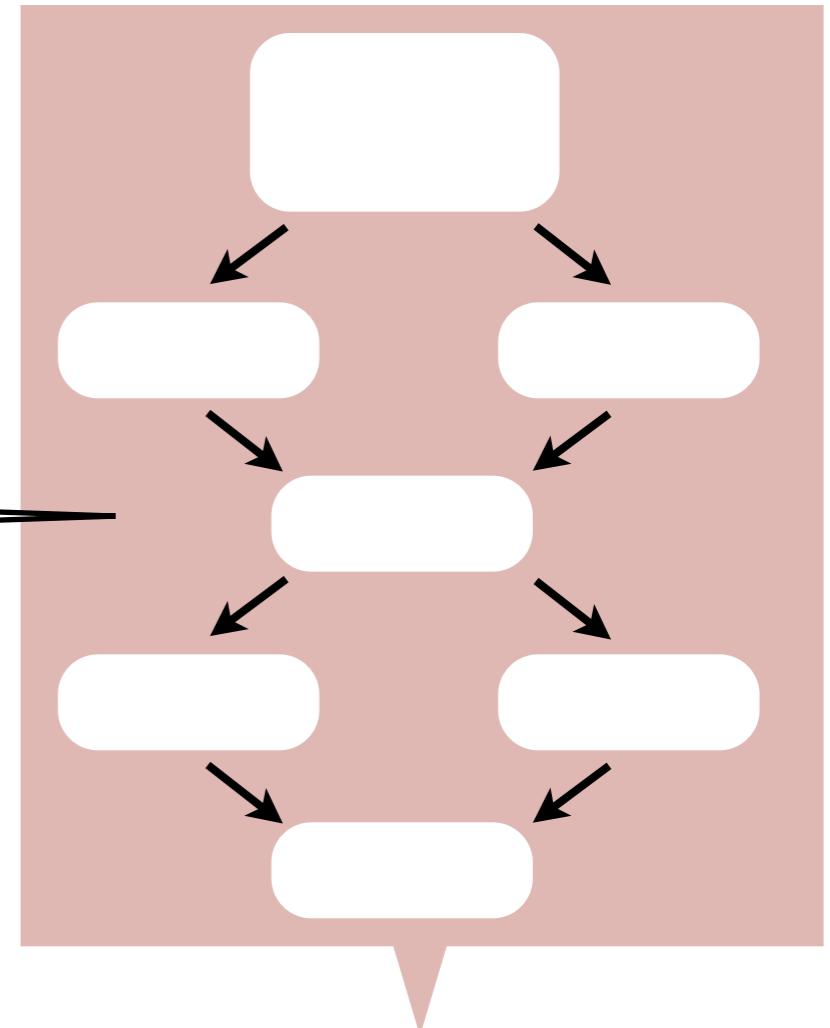
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```

## Merge instances of

- primitive types: symbolically
- value types: structurally
- all other types: via unions



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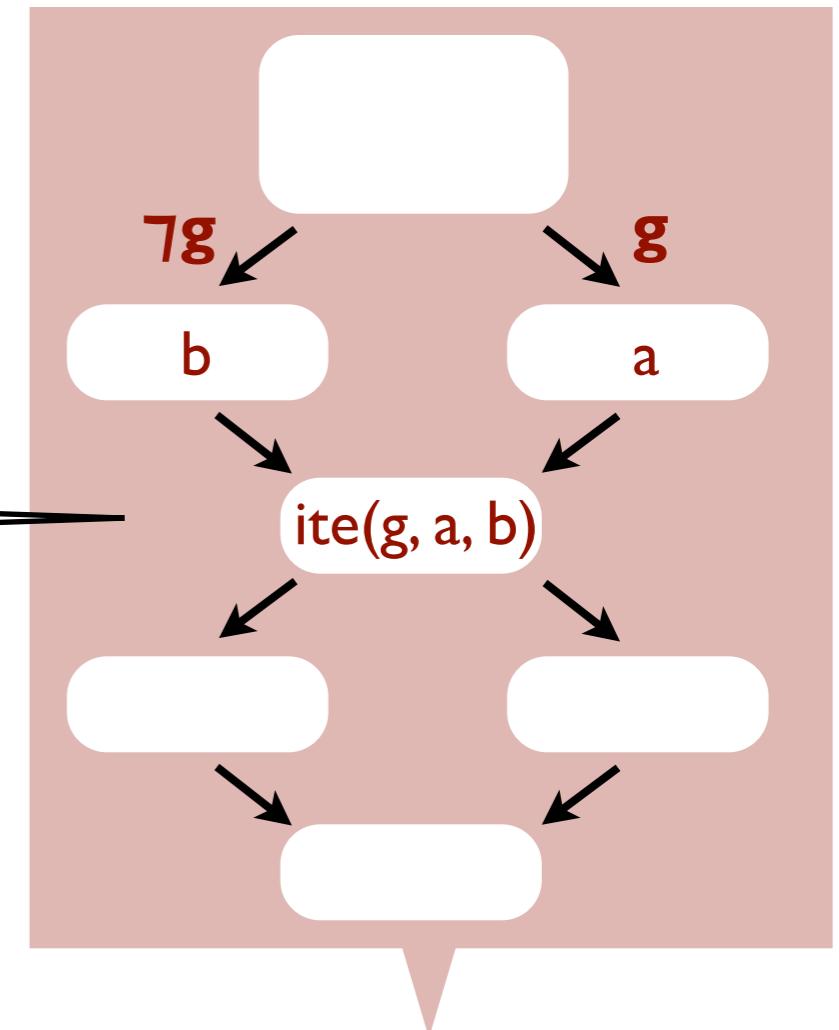
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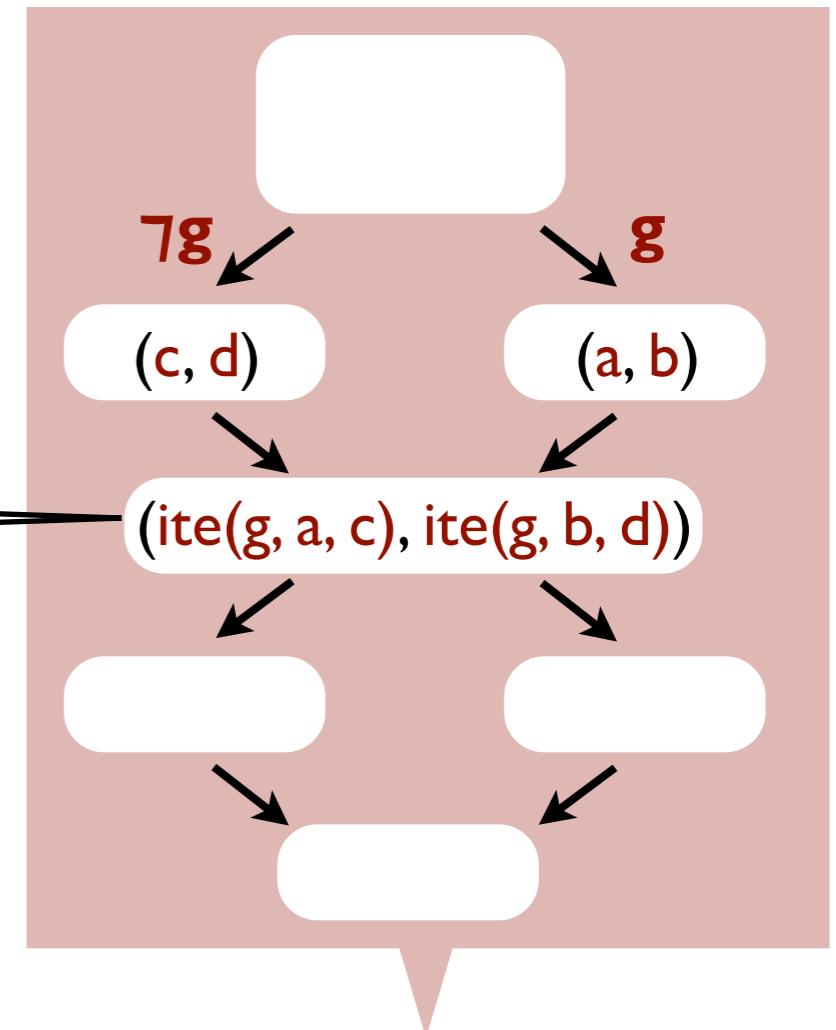
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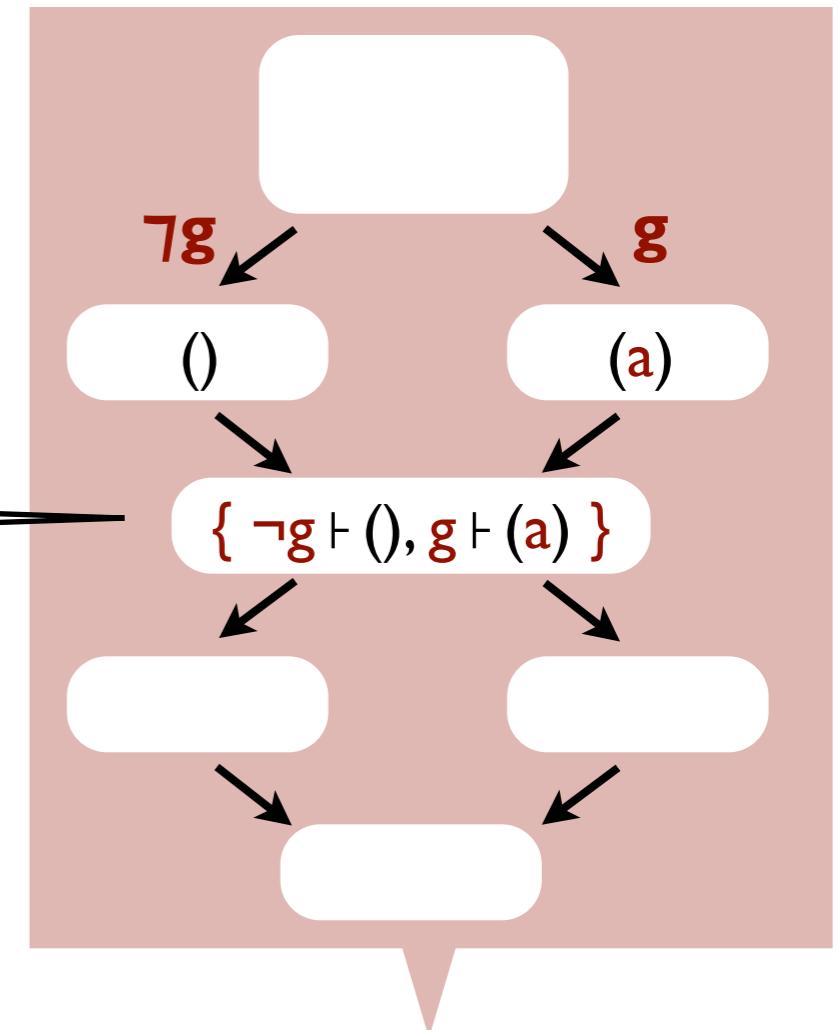
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```
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## Merge instances of

- ▶ primitive types: symbolically
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$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a > 0 \\ b > 0 \\ \text{true} \end{array} \right\}$$



# Solution: type-driven state merging

solve:

```
ps = ()  
for v in vs:  
    if v > 0:  
        ps = insert(v, ps)  
assert len(ps) == len(vs)
```

Execute insert concretely on all lists in the union.

Evaluate len concretely on all lists in the union; assertion true only on the list guarded by  $g_2$ .

$g_0 = a > 0$

symbolic virtual machine

$vs \mapsto (a, b)$   
 $ps \mapsto ()$

$\neg g_0$   $g_0$   
 $ps \mapsto ()$   $ps \mapsto (a)$

$ps \mapsto \{ g_0 \vdash (a),$   
 $\neg g_0 \vdash () \}$

$\neg g_1$   $g_1$   
 $ps \mapsto \{ g_0 \vdash (a),$   
 $\neg g_0 \vdash () \}$   $ps \mapsto \{ g_0 \vdash (b, a),$   
 $\neg g_0 \vdash (b) \}$

$ps \mapsto \{ g_2 \vdash (b, a),$   
 $g_3 \vdash (c),$   
 $g_4 \vdash () \}$

# Solution: type-driven state merging

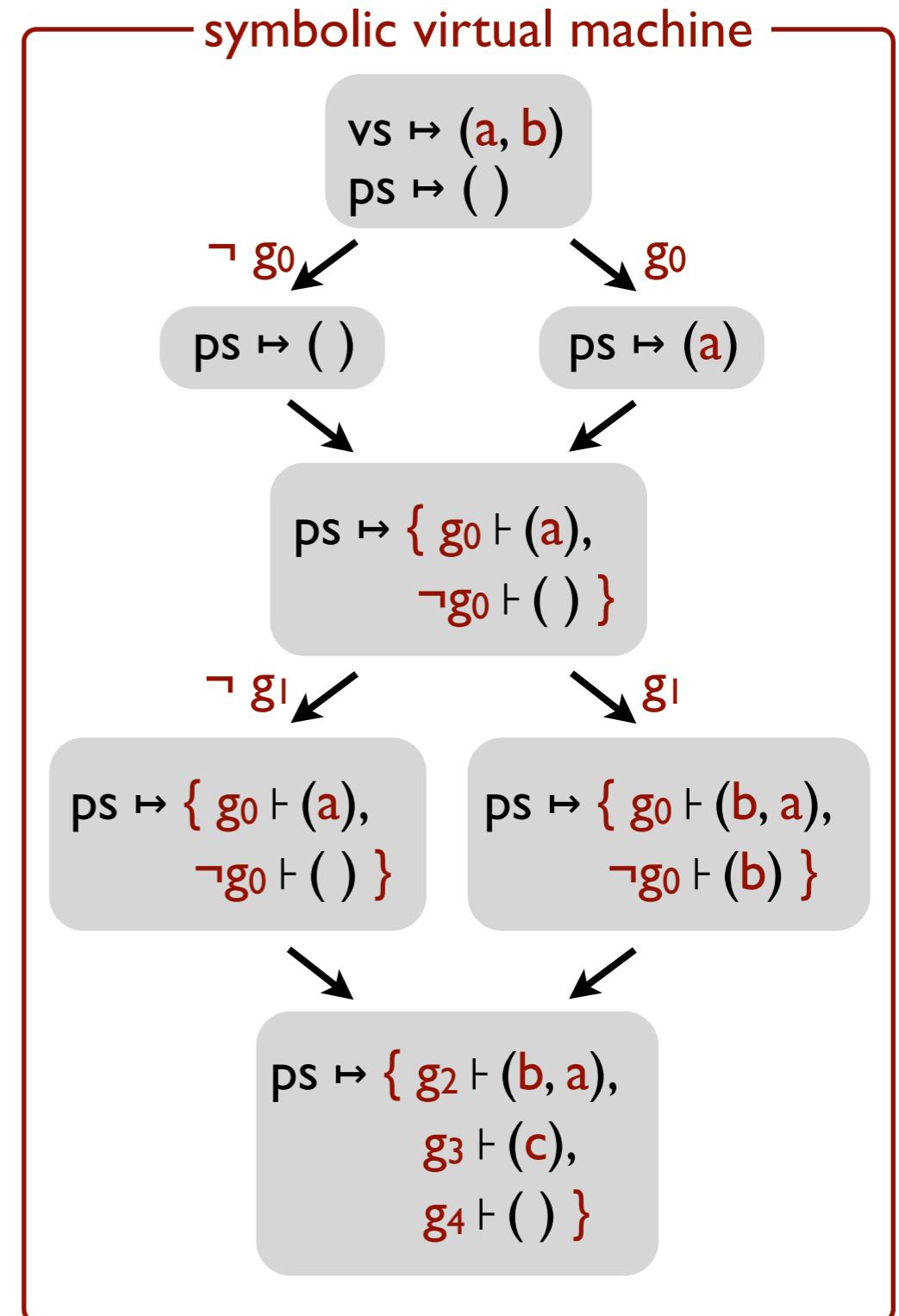
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        ps = insert(v, ps)  
assert len(ps) == len(vs)
```

SymPro (OOPSLA'18): use **symbolic profiling** to find performance bottlenecks in solver-aided code.

polynomial encoding  
concrete evaluation

```
g0 = a > 0  
g1 = b > 0  
g2 = g0 ∧ g1  
g3 = ¬(g0 ⇔ g1)  
g4 = ¬g0 ∧ ¬g1  
c = ite(g1, b, a)  
assert g2
```



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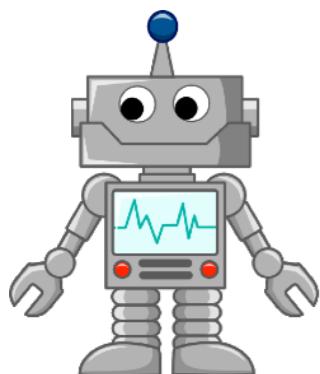
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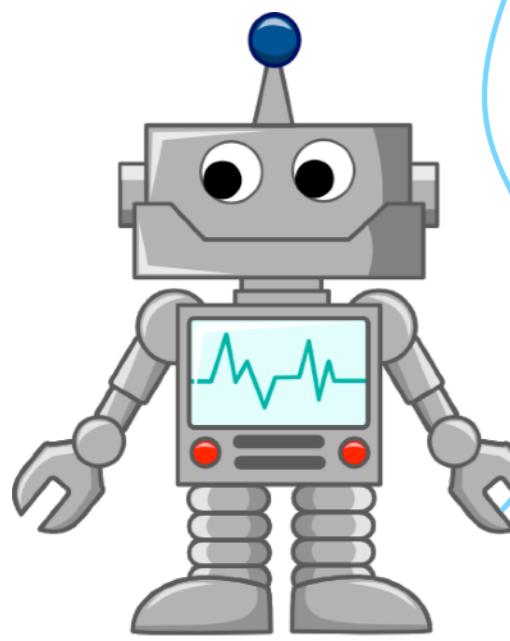
## A last look: a few recent applications

Cool tools built with Rosette!



**30+ tools**

programming languages,  
software engineering,  
systems, architecture,  
networks, security,  
formal methods,  
databases,  
education,  
games,  
...



## **programming languages, formal methods, and software engineering**

type systems and programming models  
compilation and parallelization  
safety-critical systems [CAV'16]  
test input generation  
software diversification



## **education and games**

hints and feedback  
problem generation  
problem-solving strategies



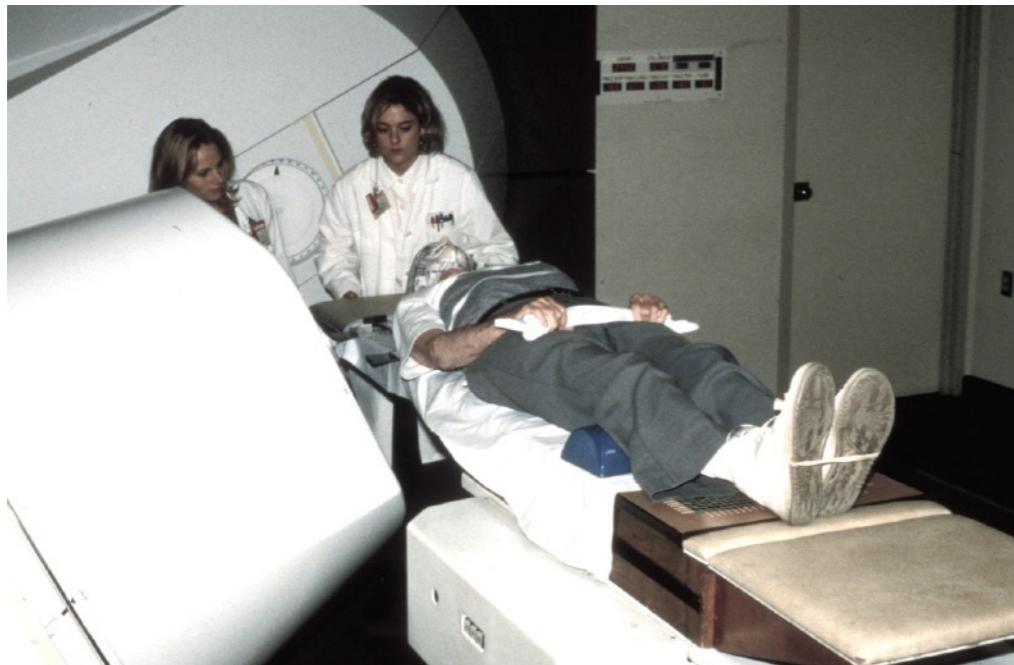
## **systems, architecture, networks, security, and databases**

memory models  
OS components  
data movement for GPUs  
router configuration  
cryptographic protocols



# Verifying a radiation therapy system

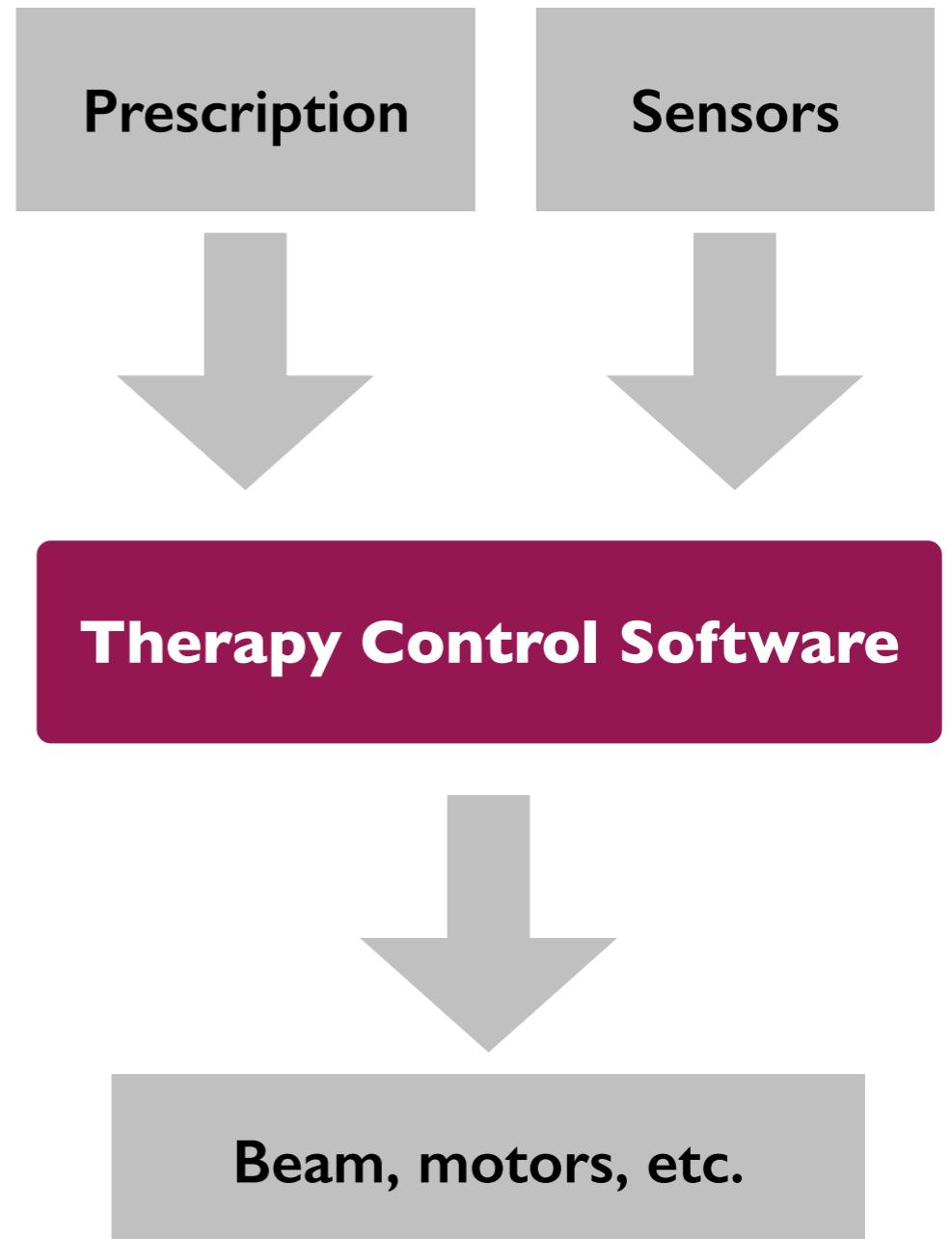
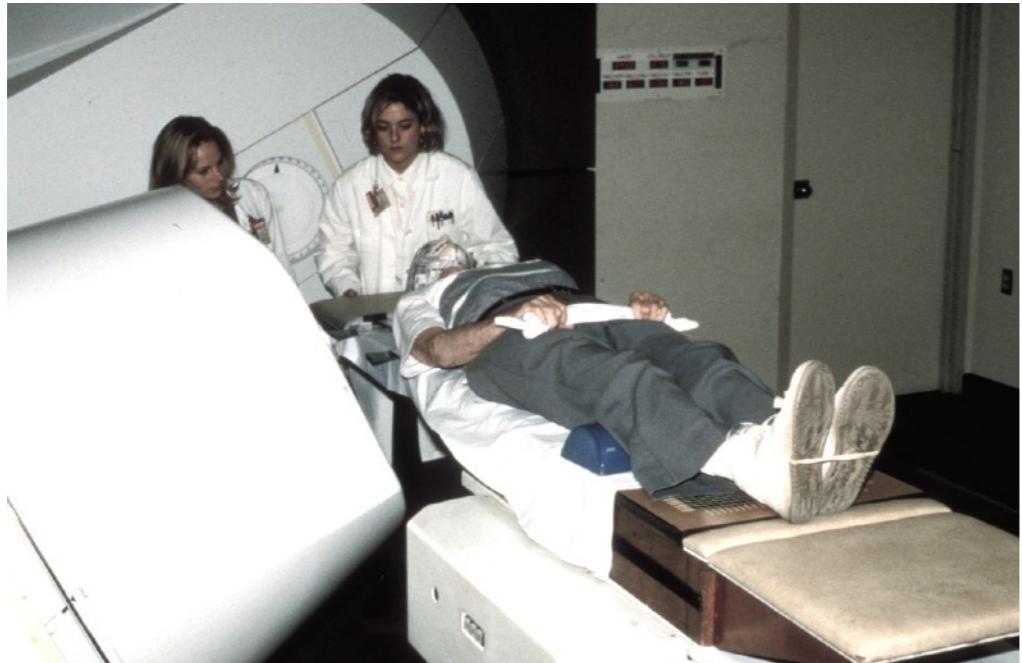
## Clinical Neutron Therapy System (CNTS) at UW



- 30 years of incident-free service.
- Controlled by custom software, built by CNTS engineering staff.
- Third generation of Therapy Control software built recently.

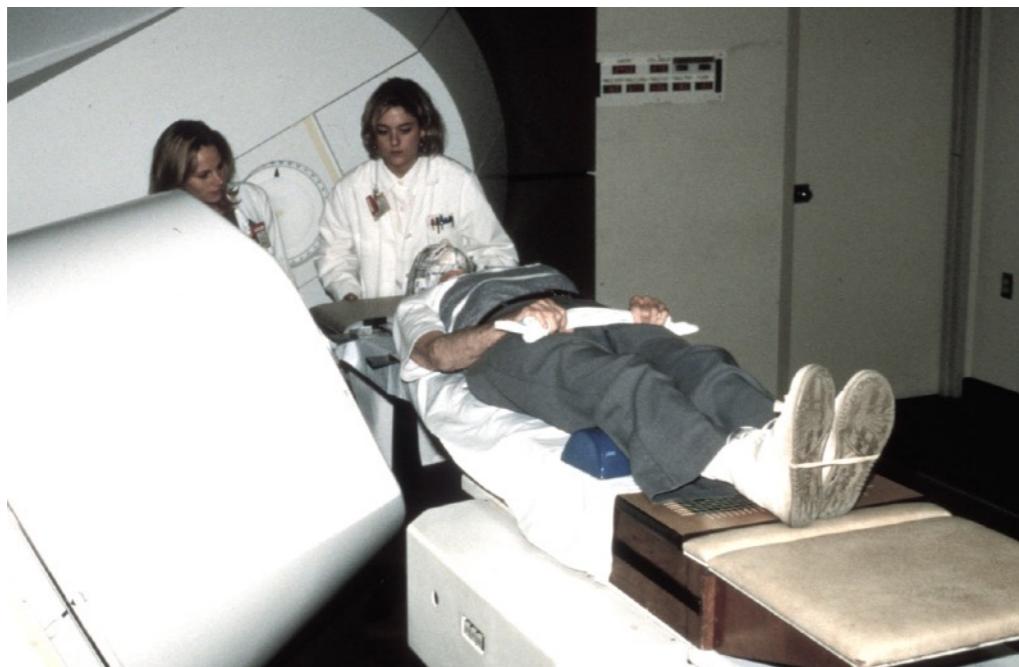
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**Clinical Neutron Therapy  
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# Verifying a radiation therapy system

## Clinical Neutron Therapy System (CNTS) at UW

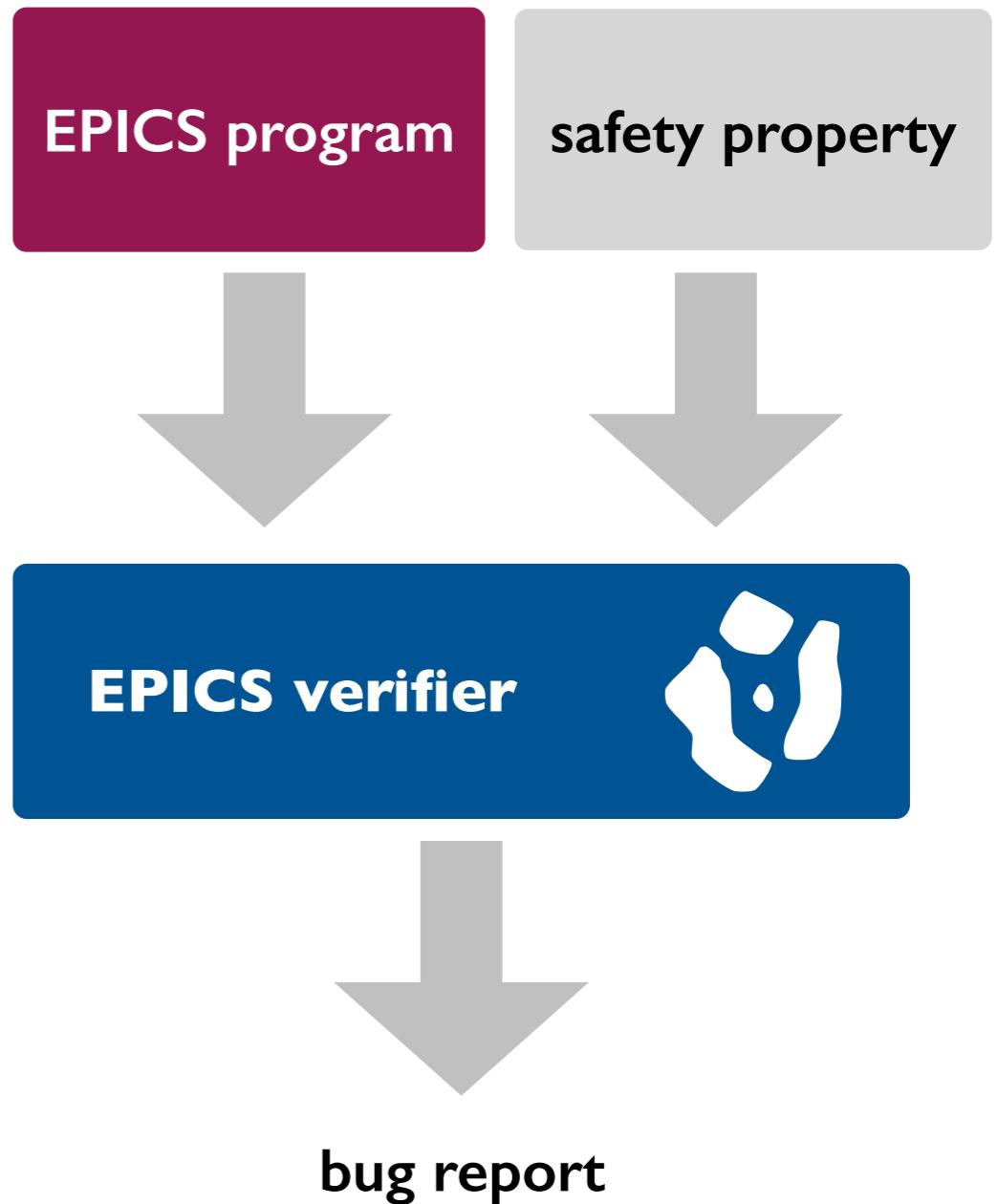
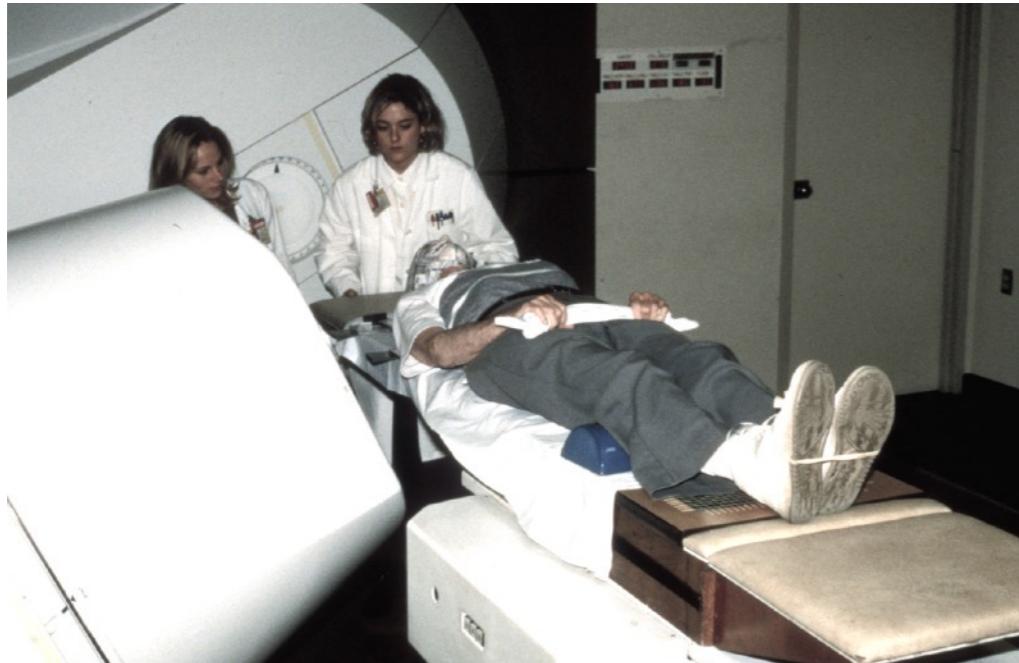


Experimental Physics and Industrial Control System (EPICS) Dataflow Language

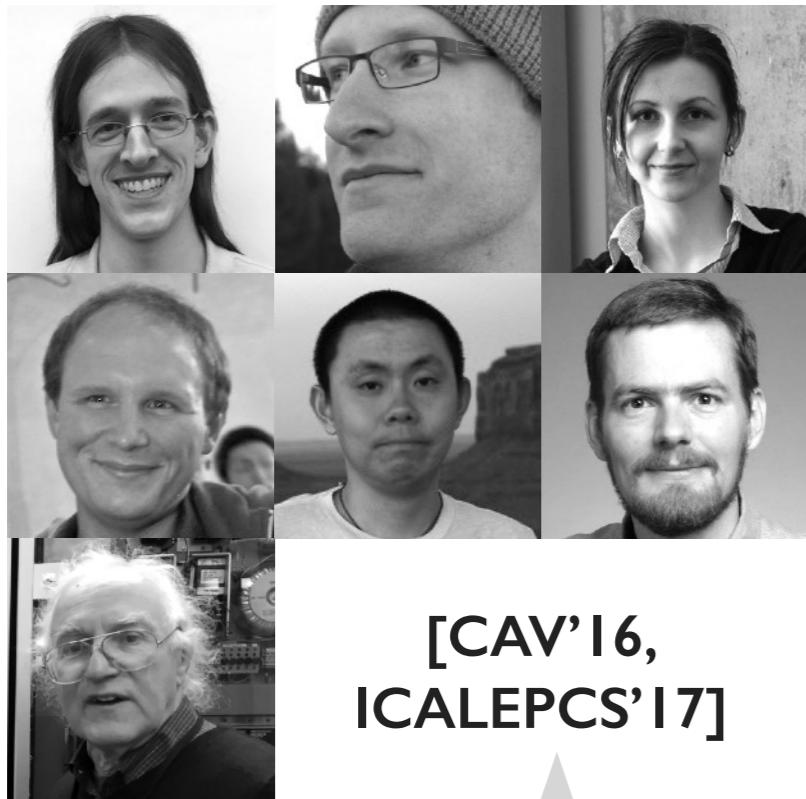
Therapy Control Software

# Verifying a radiation therapy system

Clinical Neutron Therapy  
System (CNTS) at UW



# Verifying a radiation therapy system



[CAV'16,  
ICALEPCS'17]

Found safety-critical defects  
in a pre-release version of  
the therapy control software.  
Used by CNTS staff to verify  
changes to the controller.



# **Summary**

## **Today**

- Going pro with solver-aided programming.

## **Next lecture**

- Getting started with SAT solving!