

Verifying relational program properties by transforming constrained Horn clauses

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joint work with:

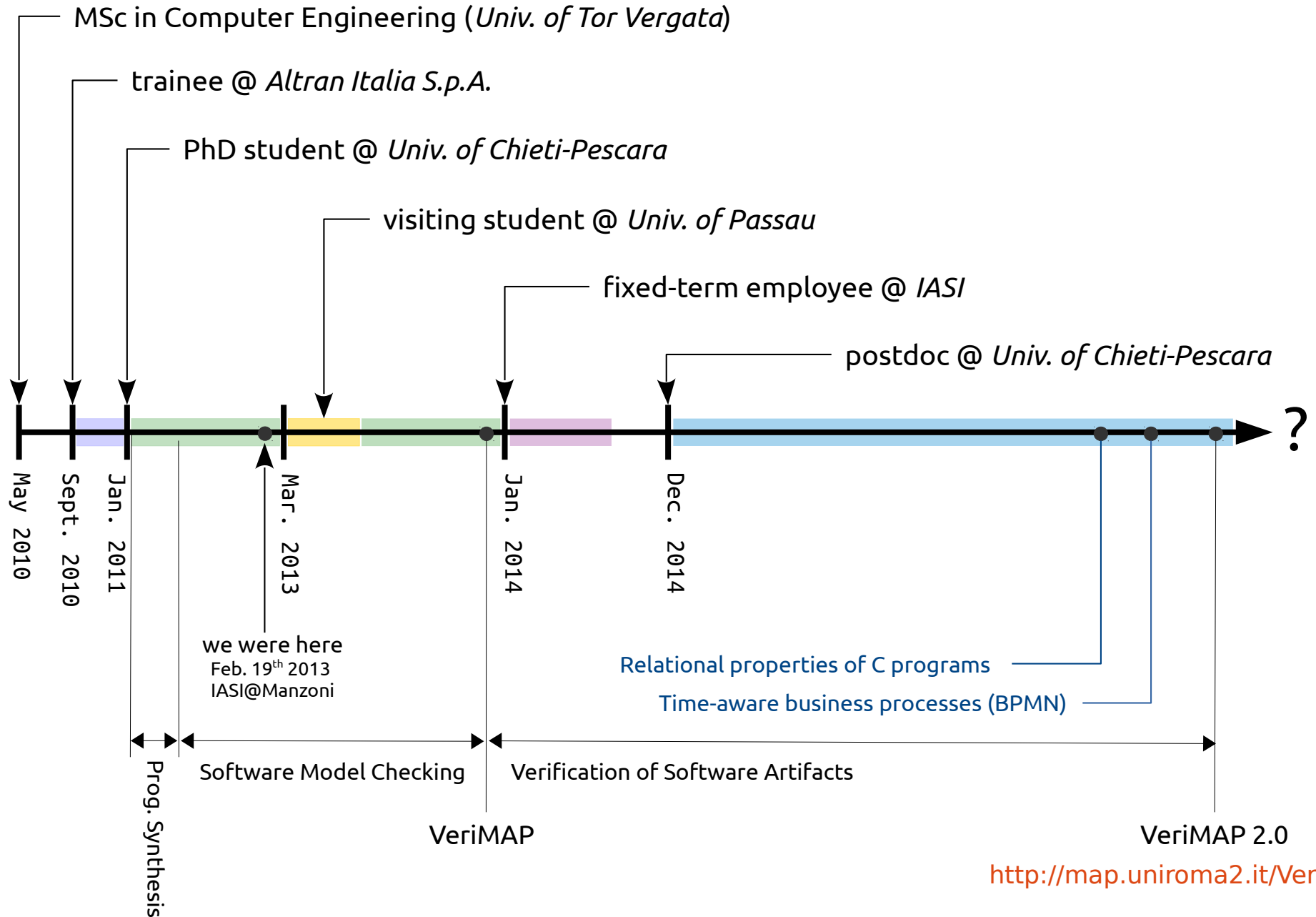
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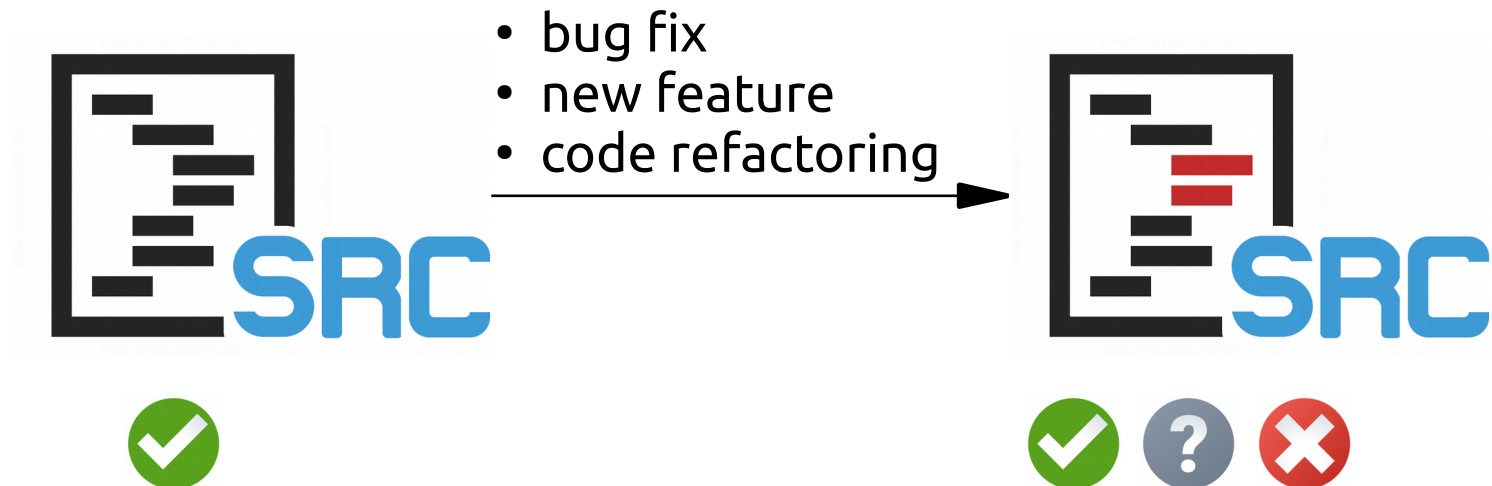
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Biosketch



Relational verification



Proving **relations** between fragments of program versions may be easier than proving the correctness of the final version from scratch.

Example

```
 $P_1$ : void sum_upto() {  
    z1=f(x1);  
}  
int f(int n1){  
    int r1;  
    if (n1 <= 0) {  
        r1 = 0;  
    } else {  
        r1 = f(n1 - 1) + n1;  
    }  
    return r1;  
}
```

non-tail recursive

global variables of P_1 : {x1, z1}

$$z1 = \sum_{i=0}^{x1} i$$

```
 $P_2$ : void prod() {  
    z2 = g(x2,y2);  
}  
int g(int n2, int m2){  
    int r2;  
    r2=0;  
    while (n2 > 0) {  
        r2 += m2;  
        n2--;  
    }  
    return r2;  
}
```

iterative

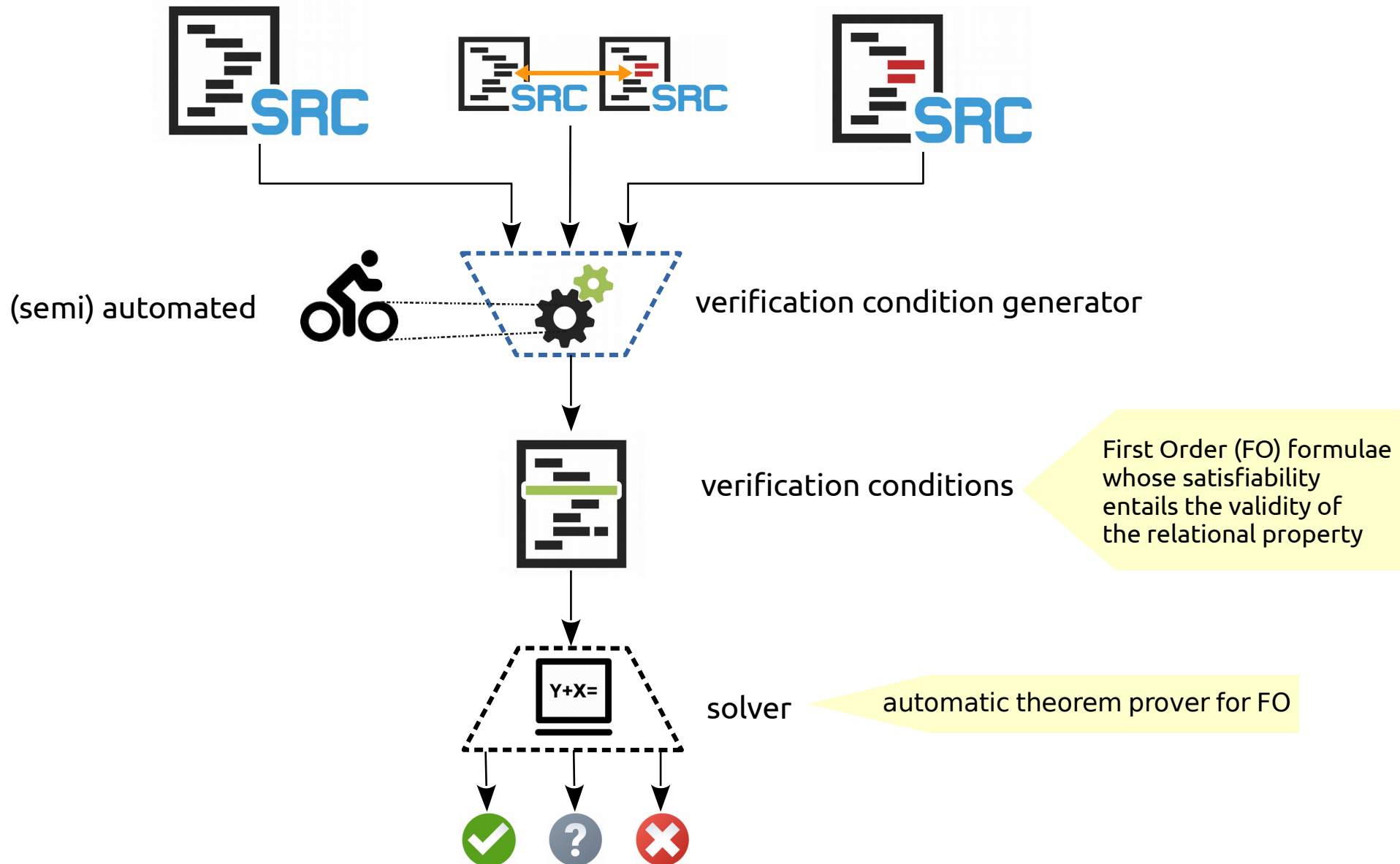
global variables of P_2 : {x2, y2, z2}

$$z2 = x2 \times y2$$

Leq : {x1=x2, x2 ≤ y2} sum_upto ~ prod {z1 ≤ z2}

Verification methods

State-of-the-art



Weakness



specific for

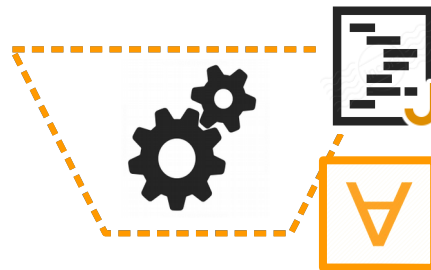
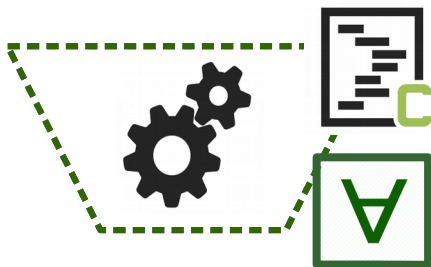


**programming
language**



properties

verification condition generator



...



Our goal & contribution

Achieve a higher level of **parametricity** with respect to



Verification method based on

Transformation of Constrained Horn Clauses (CHCs)

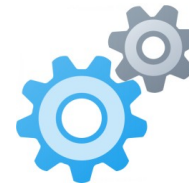
- **CHCs** as a metalanguage for representing  SRC and 
as a set of implications of the form $A_0 \leftarrow c, A_1, \dots, A_n$
- **Transformations** of CHCs to compose clauses representing the programs and the relational property
- **Transformations** increase the effectiveness of solvers

Transformation of CHCs

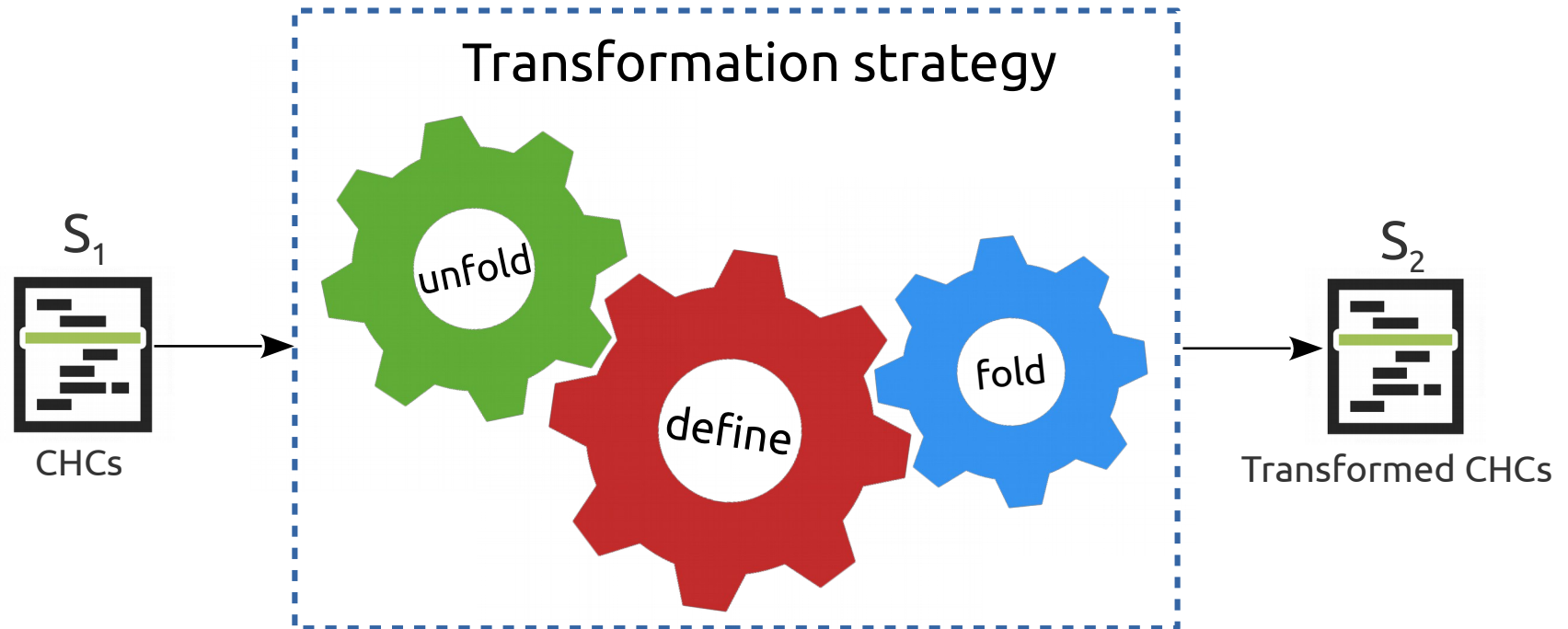
A technique that

- manipulates clauses
- preserves their satisfiability

Transformation strategies:

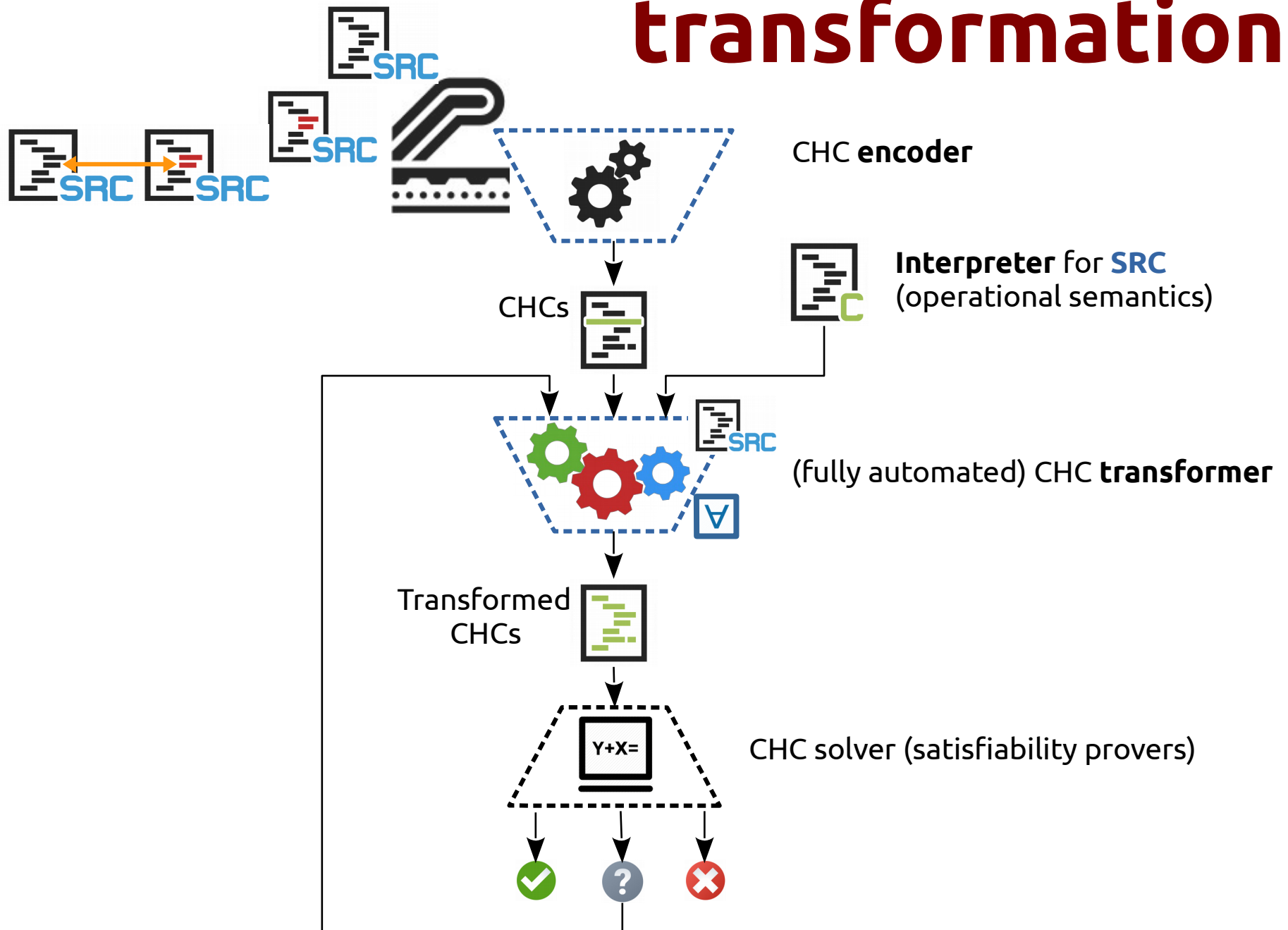


1. CHC specialization
2. Predicate pairing



S_1 is satisfiable *iff* S_2 is satisfiable

Relational verification by CHC transformation



Specifying relational properties using CHCs

The relational property $\{\varphi\} P_1 \sim P_2 \{\psi\}$ is translated into the clause
 $post(X', Y') \leftarrow pre(X, Y), p1(X, X'), p2(Y, Y')$

pre-relation	φ	$pre(X, Y)$
input/output relation	P_1	$p1(X, X')$
input/output relation	P_2	$p2(Y, Y')$
post-relation	ψ	$post(X', Y')$

Relational property: $\{x1 = x2, x2 \leq y2\} \text{ sum_upto } \sim \text{ prod } \{z1 \leq z2\}$

CHC translation: $Z1' \leq Z2' \leftarrow X1 = X2, X2 \leq Y2, su(X1, Z1'), p(X2, Y2, Z2')$

check the **validity** of a relational property **reduces to** check the **satisfiability** of CHCs

Interpreter (a glimpse)

Operational semantics of the programming language

$$\underline{\text{prog}(X, X')} \leftarrow \underline{\text{initConf}(C, X)}, \boxed{\text{reach}(C, C')}, \underline{\text{finalConf}(C', X')}$$

input/output relation

initial C and final C' configurations

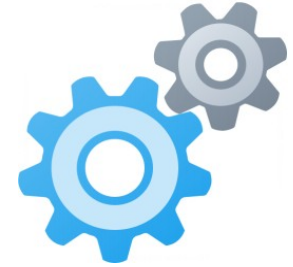
$cf(cmd(Label, Command), Environment)$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{reach}(C, C) \\ \text{reach}(C, C2) \leftarrow \boxed{\text{tr}(C, C1)}, \text{reach}(C1, C2) \end{array}$$

$x=e;$

$$\text{tr}(cf(cmd(L, asgn(X, expr(E))), Env), cf(cmd(L1, C), Env1)) \leftarrow \text{eval}(E, Env, V), \text{update}(Env, X, V, Env1), \text{nextlab}(L, L1), \text{at}(L1, C)$$

Interpreters & CHC specialization



Take advantage of static information, that is,

- actual programs
- relational property

to customize the interpreter

By specializing the interpreter w.r.t. the static input, we get CHCs with no references to

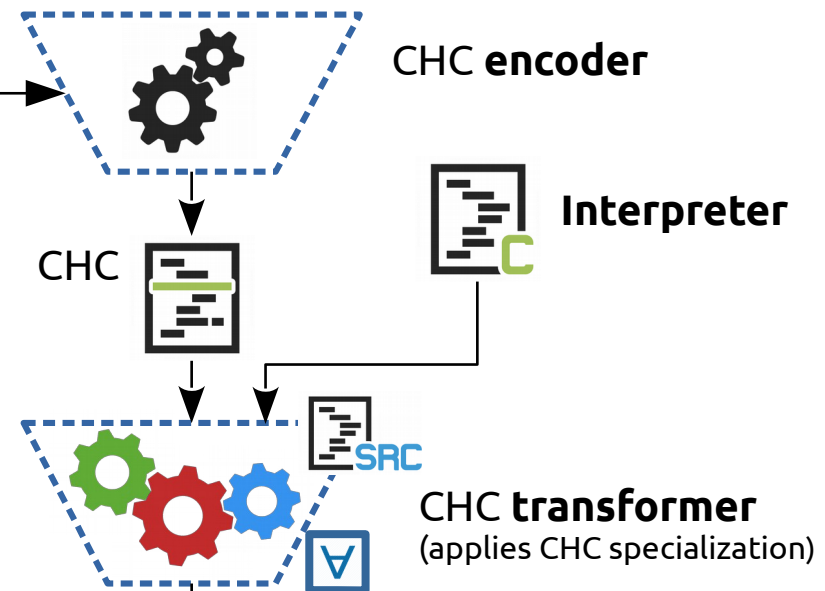
- **reach**
- **tr**
- complex terms representing **configurations**

CHC specialization

```

P1: void sum_upto() {
    z1=f(x1);
}
int f(int n1){
    int r1;
    if (n1 <= 0) {
        r1 = 0;
    } else {
        r1 = f(n1 - 1) + n1;
    }
    return r1;
}

```



$su(X1, Z1') \leftarrow f(X1, Z, X1, R, N1, Z1')$

$f(X, Z, N, R, N, 0) \leftarrow N \leq 0$

$f(X, Z, N, R, N, Z1) \leftarrow N \geq 1, N1 = N - 1, Z1 = R2 + N, f(X, Z, N1, R1, N2, R2)$

Satisfiability of CHCs

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \{\varphi\} P_1 \sim P_2 \{\psi\} \\
 P_1 \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 Z1' \leq Z2' \leftarrow X1=X2, X2 \leq Y2, \textcolor{green}{su}(X1, Z1'), \textcolor{pink}{p}(X2, Y2, Z2') \\
 \textcolor{green}{su}(X1, Z1') \leftarrow \textcolor{green}{f}(X1, Z, X1, R, N1, Z1') \\
 \textcolor{green}{f}(X, Z, N, R, N, 0) \leftarrow N \leq 0 \\
 \textcolor{green}{f}(X, Z, N, R, N, Z1) \leftarrow N \geq 1, N1 = N - 1, Z1 = R2 + N, \textcolor{green}{f}(X, Z, N1, R1, N2, R2)
 \end{array} \right. \\
 P_2 \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 \textcolor{pink}{p}(X2, Y2, Z2') \leftarrow g(X2, Y2, Z, X2, Y2, 0, N, P, Z2') \\
 \textcolor{pink}{g}(X, Y, Z, N, P, R, N, P, R) \leftarrow N \leq 0 \\
 \textcolor{pink}{g}(X, Y, Z, N, P, R, N2, P2, R2) \leftarrow N \geq 1, N1 = N - 1, R1 = P + R, \\
 \textcolor{pink}{g}(X, Y, Z, N1, P, R1, N2, P2, R2)
 \end{array} \right.
 \end{array}$$

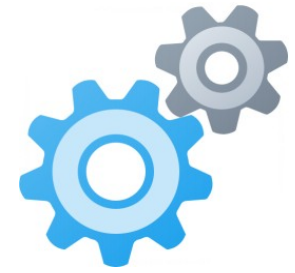
- state-of-the-art solvers for CHCs with **Linear Integer Arithmetic (LIA)** are unable to prove their satisfiability
 - problem: LIA solvers should discover **quadratic relations**

$$Z1' = X1 \times (X1 - 1) / 2$$

$$Z2' = X2 \times Y2$$

- reasoning on $\textcolor{green}{su}$ and $\textcolor{pink}{p}$ separately is unhelpful

Predicate pairing



- **Solution 1:** use a solver for non-linear integer arithmetic
drawback: satisfiability of constraints is **undecidable**
(decide satisfiability of Diophantine equations)
- **Solution 2: predicate pairing** transformation
 - composes the predicates f and g into a new predicate fg equivalent to their **conjunction**
 - objective: discover linear relations among variables occurring in f and g may help solvers in proving the satisfiability of CHCs

Satisfiability of CHCs

Transformed CHCs

$$\begin{aligned} Z1' \leq Z2' &\leftarrow X1 \leq Y2, \text{ } fg(X1, Z, X1, R, N1, Z1', Y2, Z, 0, N2, P2, Z2') \leftarrow \\ fg(X, Z, N, R, N, 0, Y2, V, Z2, N, P2, Z2) &\leftarrow N \leq 0 \\ fg(X, Z, N, R, N, Z1, Y2, V, W, N2, P2, Z2) &\leftarrow \\ N \geq 1, N1 = N - 1, Z1 = R2 + N, M = Y2 + W, & \\ fg(X, Z, N1, R1, S, R2, Y2, V, M, N2, P2, Z2) & \end{aligned}$$

Predicate Pairing makes it possible to infer linear relations among variables in the conjunction fg of predicates f and g

$$\begin{aligned} fg(X1, Z, N, R, N1, Z1', Y2, V, W, N2, P2, Z2') &\leftarrow \\ f(X1, Z, N, R, N1, Z1'), g(X1, Y2, V, N, Y2, W, N2, P2, Z2') & \end{aligned}$$

The conjunction fg enforces the linear constraint

$$(X1 > Y2) \vee (Z1' \leq Z2')$$

Hence the satisfiability of the first clause

Verification Problems

Types of Verified Properties and Programs

- **ITERATIVE**: equivalence of two iterative programs P1, P2

$$X'=Y' \leftarrow p1(X,X'), p2(Y,Y'), X=Y$$

- **RECURSIVE**: equivalence of two recursive programs

- **ITERATIVE-RECURSIVE**: equivalence of an iterative and a recursive program

- **ARRAYS**: equivalence of two programs on arrays

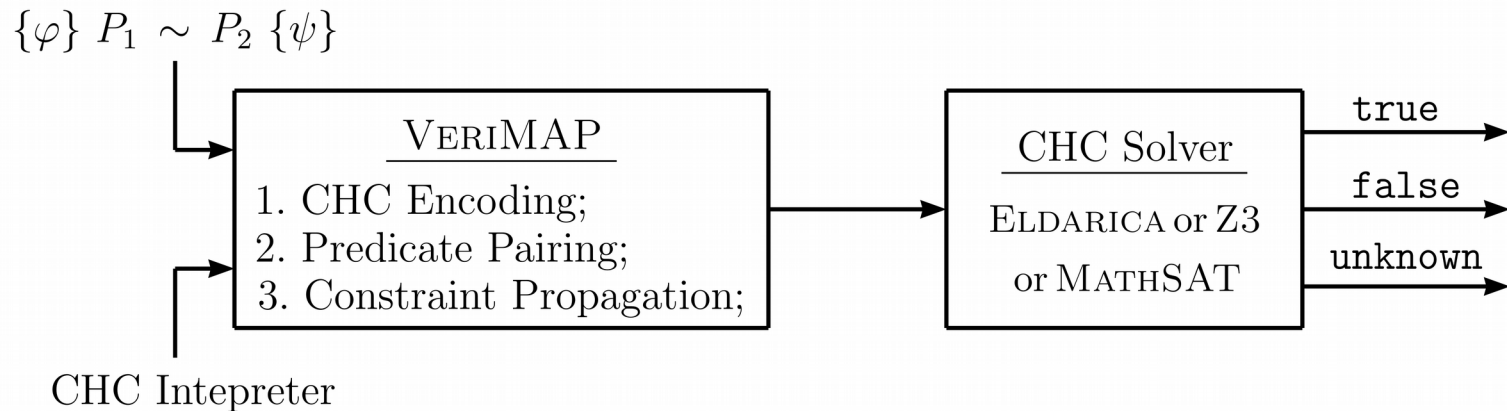
- **LEQ**: $X' \leq Y' \leftarrow p(X,X'), p(Y,Y'), X=Y$

- **MONOTONICITY**: $X' \leq Y' \leftarrow p(X,X'), p(Y,Y'), X \leq Y$

- **INJECTIVITY**: $X=Y \leftarrow p(X,X'), p(Y,Y'), X'=Y'$

- **FUNCTIONALITY**: $X'=Y' \leftarrow p(X,f(X),X'), p(Y,f(Y),Y'), X=Y$

Implementation & Experimental Evaluation



<i>Properties</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>Enc+Eld</i>	<i>Enc+Z3</i>	<i>PP+Eld</i>	<i>PP+MS</i>	<i>PP+Z3</i>	<i>CP+Eld</i>	<i>CP+MS</i>	<i>CP+Z3</i>
ITERATIVE	21	7	6	13	19	6	17	20	21
RECURSIVE	18	7	8	7	11	6	14	11	13
ITERATIVE-RECURSIVE	4	0	0	0	3	0	4	4	4
ARRAYS	5	0	1	1	1	4	2	2	5
LEQ	6	1	1	1	6	1	3	6	4
MONOTONICITY	18	4	4	11	16	8	11	17	14
INJECTIVITY	11	0	0	0	11	4	7	11	10
FUNCTIONALITY	7	5	5	6	7	5	6	7	7
Total	90	24	25	39	74	34	64	78	78

Conclusions

A method for **proving relational properties**

- **Independent of the programming language**
 - The only language specific element is the **interpreter**
 - Can be applied to prove relations between programs written in different programming languages
- **Improves effectiveness** of state-of-the art **CHC solvers**