

# SYNTHESIS

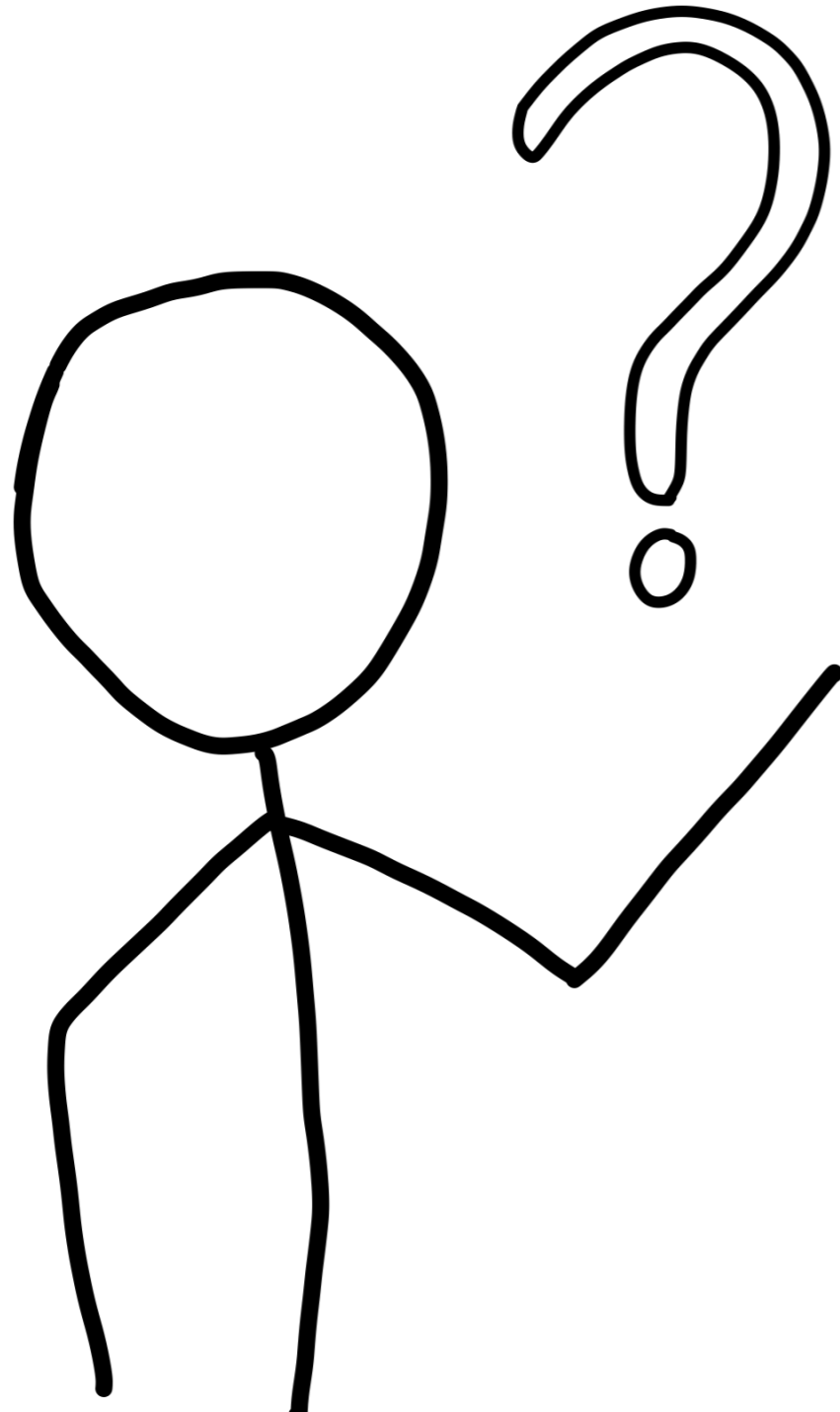
is  
the  
new

# SAT

Dr. Elizabeth Polgreen

**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

**SYNTHESIS**  
is  
the  
new **SAT**



# SAT

$A$  : Boolean

$B$  : Boolean

$\exists A, B$   
 $A \wedge \neg B$

$A$  : true

$B$  : false

# SMT

# (program) Synthesis

# SAT

$A$  : Boolean

$B$  : Boolean

$\exists A, B$

$A \wedge \neg B$

$A$  : true

$B$  : false

# SMT

$A$  : Integer

$B$  : Integer

$\exists A, B$

$A > 0 \wedge B < 0$

$A$  : 10

$B$  : -3

# (program) Synthesis



# SAT

$A$  : Boolean

$B$  : Boolean

$\exists A, B$

$A \wedge \neg B$

$A$  : true

$B$  : false

# SMT

$A$  : Integer

$B$  : Integer

$\exists A, B$

$A > 0 \wedge B < 0$

$A$  : 10

$B$  : -3

# (program) Synthesis

$A$  : integer

$B$  : integer

$F$  : integer  $\times$  integer

$\rightarrow$  integer

$\exists F \forall A, B$

$F(A, B) \geq A \wedge$

$F(A, B) \geq B \wedge$

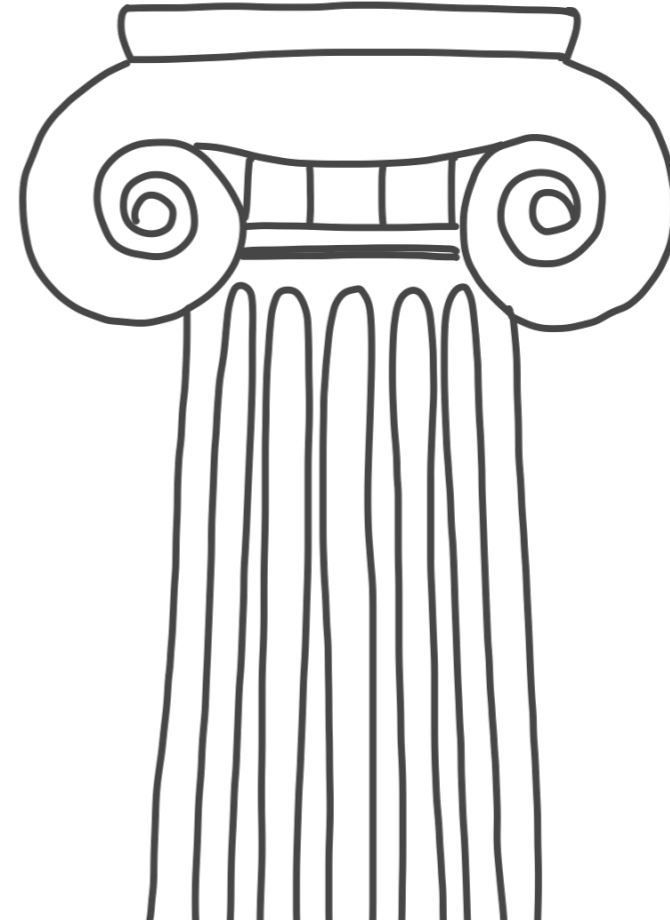
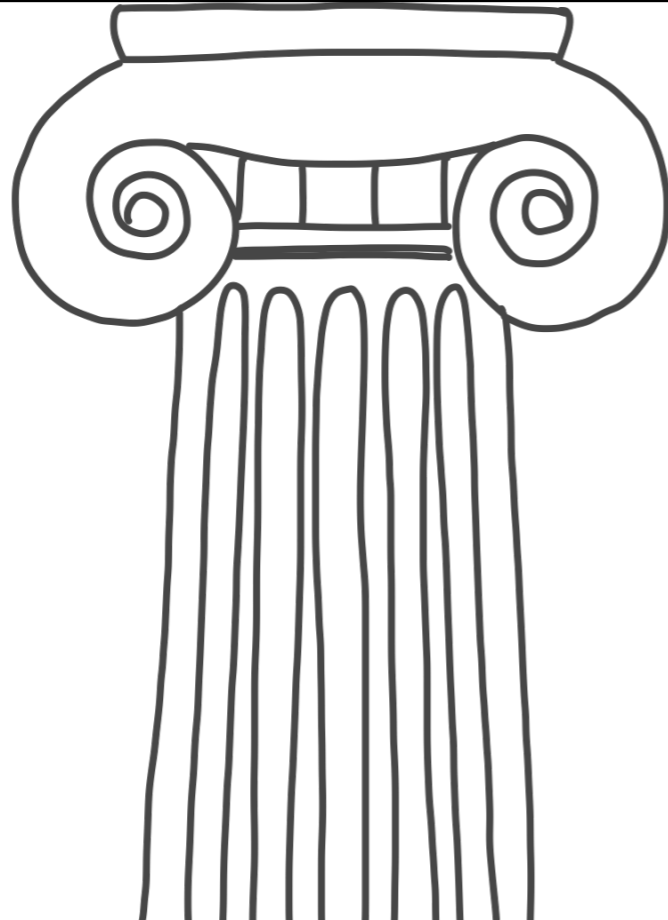
$(F(A, B) = A \vee$

$F(A, B) = B)$

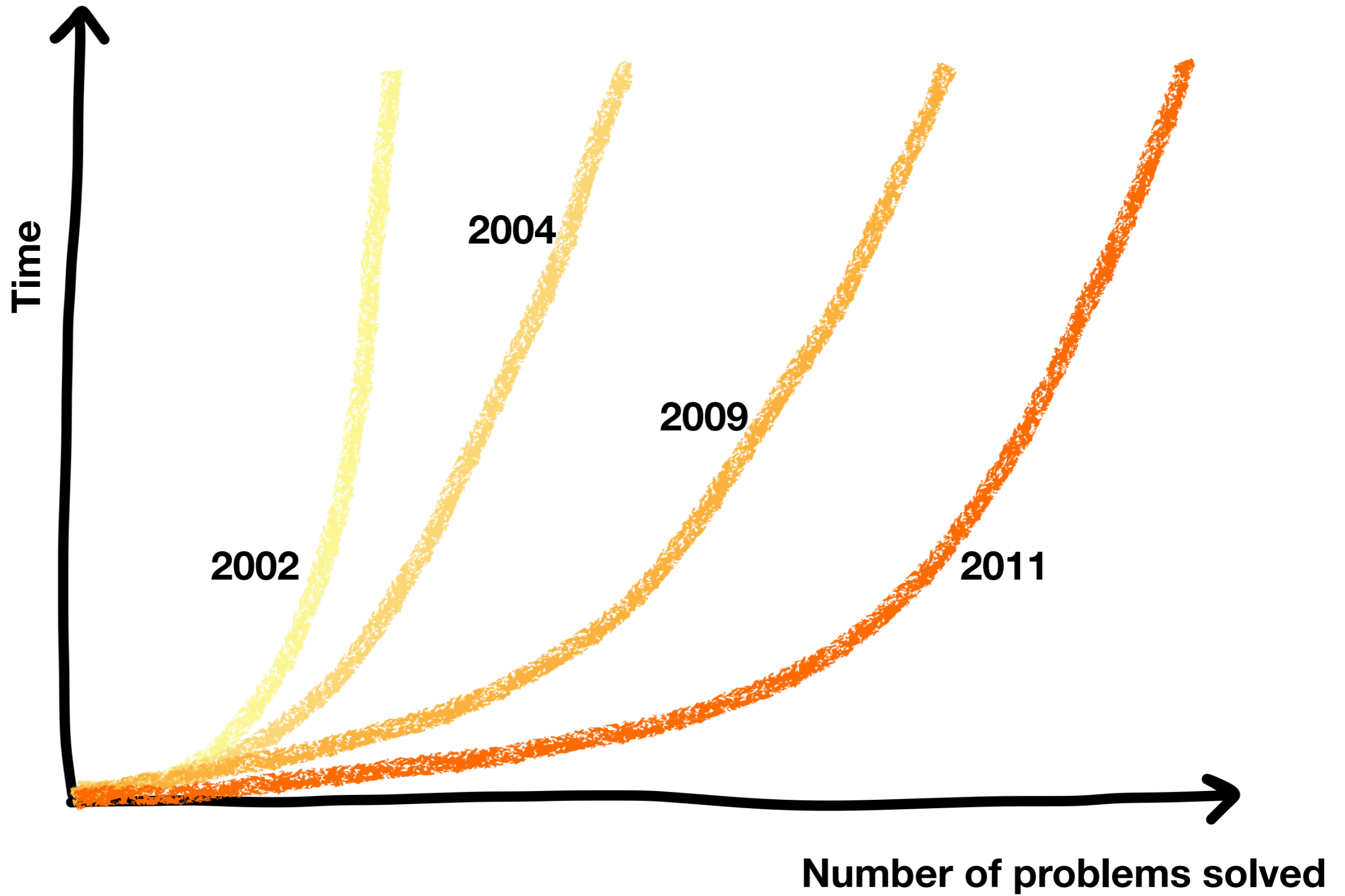
$F$ : max(A,B)

# The Success of Boolean Satisfiability Solvers

Algorithmic Improvements

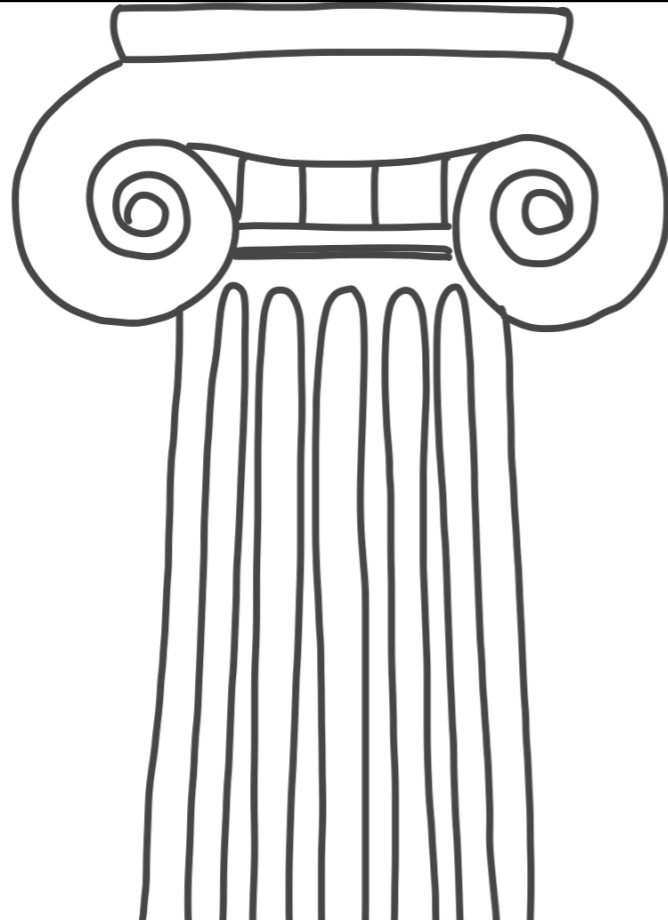


# Progress of SAT solvers in SAT competition

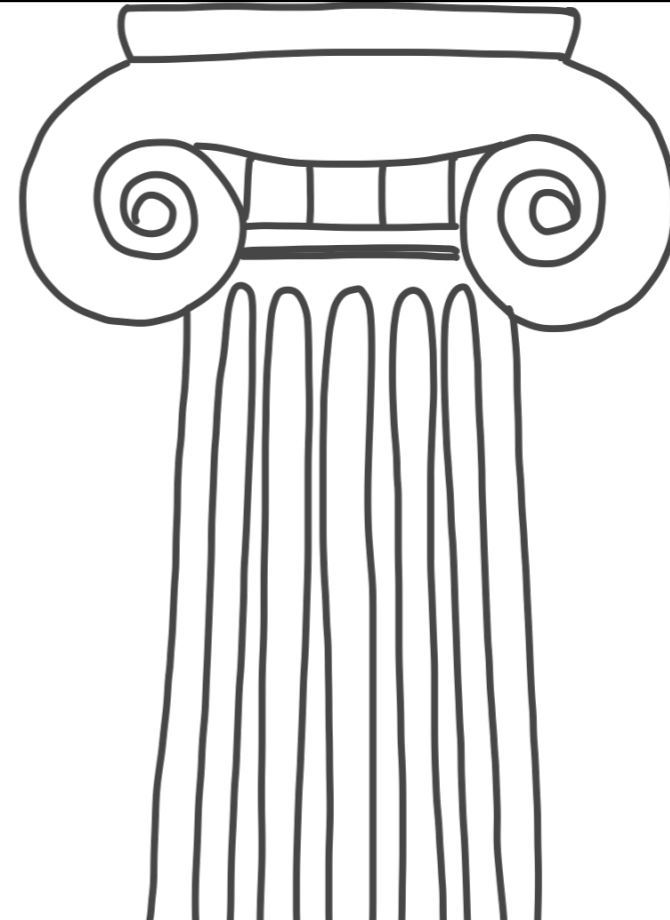


# The Success of Boolean Satisfiability Solvers

Algorithmic Improvements



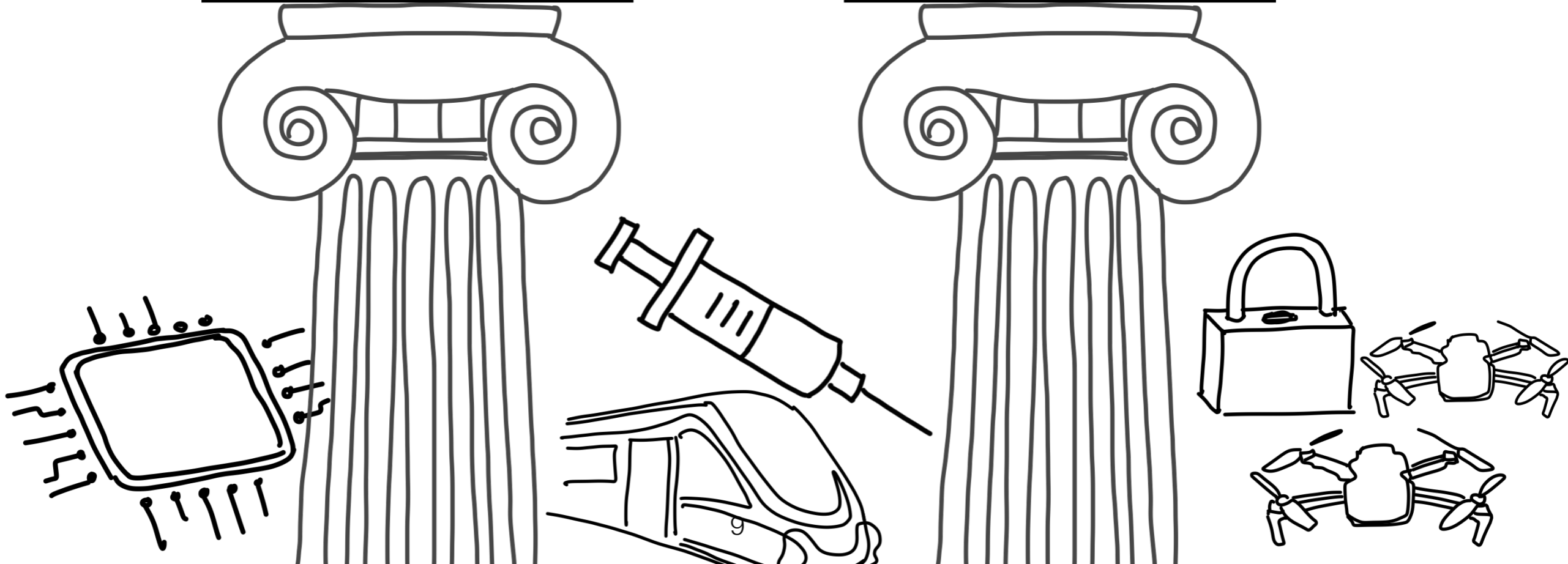
Applications



# The Success of Boolean Satisfiability Solvers

Algorithmic Improvements

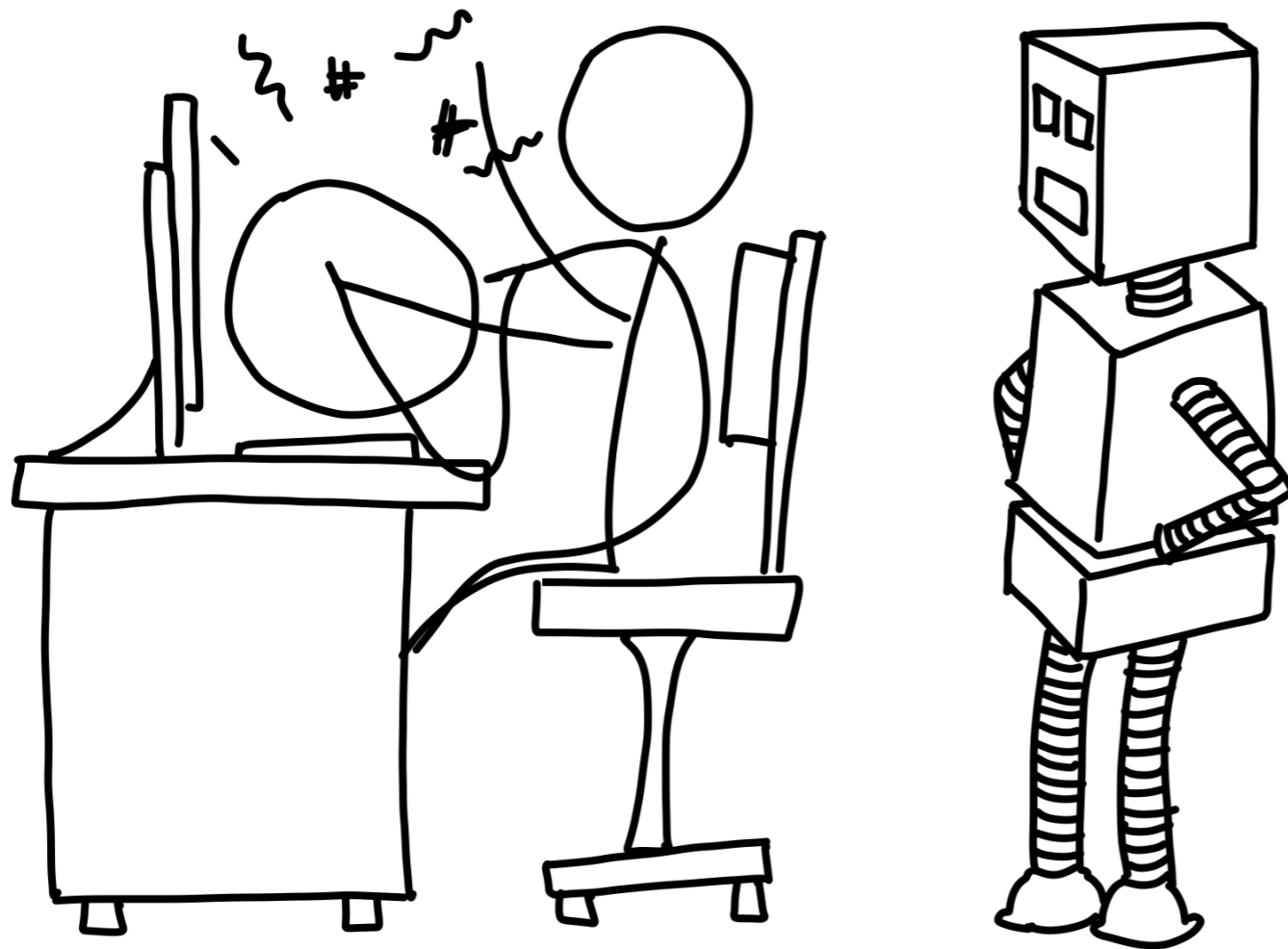
Applications



We all write code

But writing correct code is hard...

SAT solvers allow computers to check code for us.

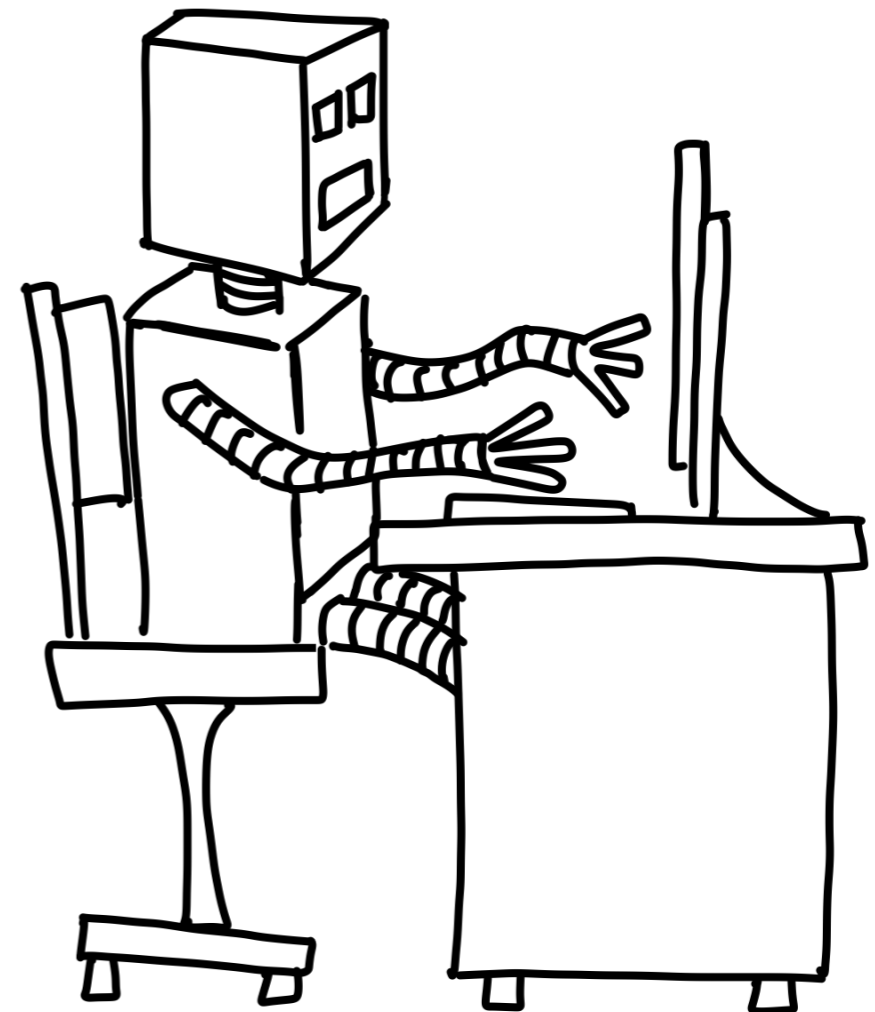


We all write code

But writing correct code is hard...

SAT solvers allow computers to check code for us.

Synthesis could allow computers to repair code for us.



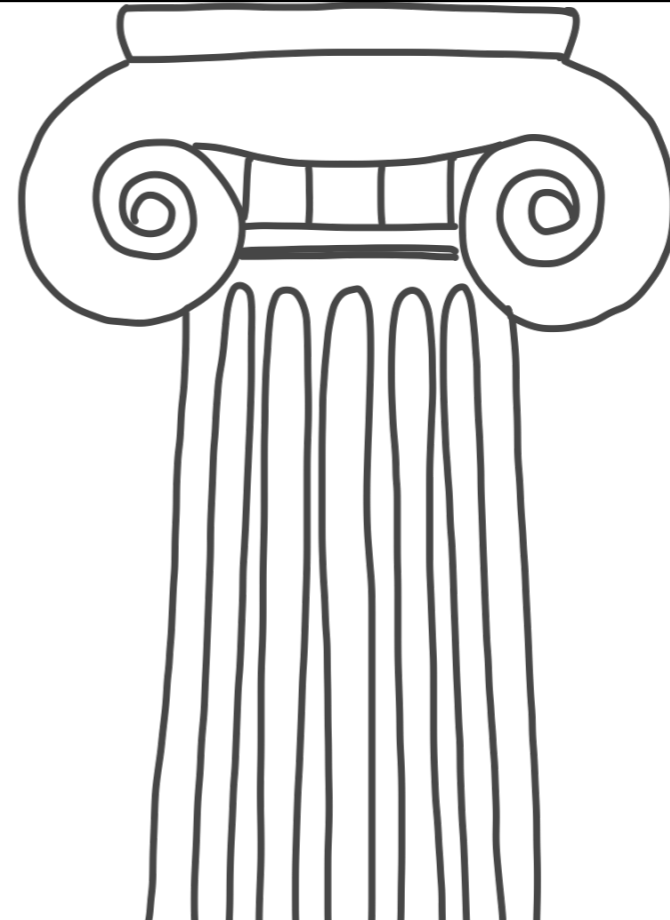
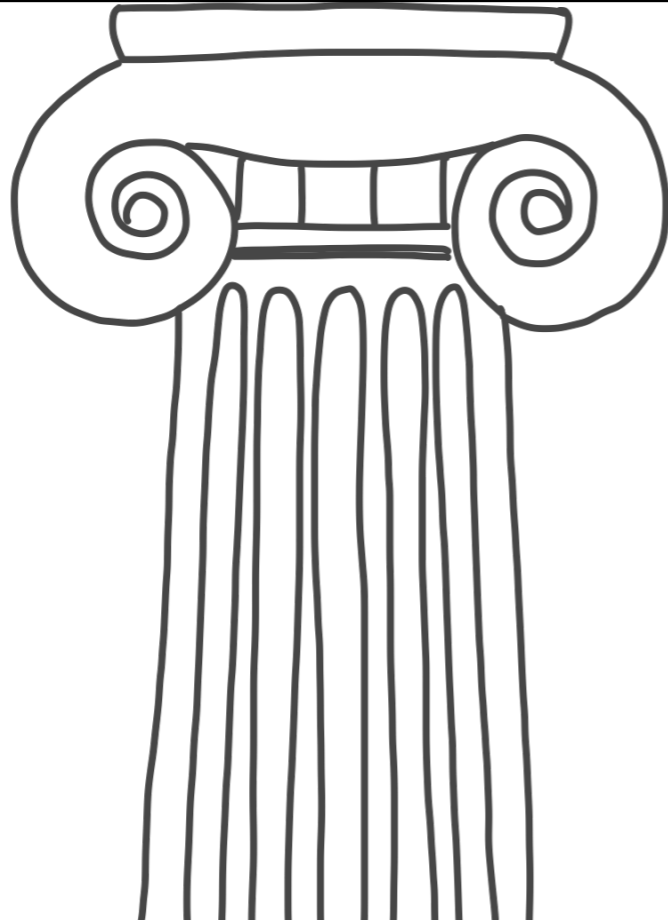
# **(program) Synthesis**



# (program) Synthesis

Algorithmic  
Improvements

Applications



# (program) Synthesis

Algorithmic  
Improvements

Applications

**Synthesising Environment  
Invariants for Modular Hardware  
Verification - Zhang et al.**

**Counterexample-Guided Synthesis of  
Perception Models and Control - Ghosh et al.**

**SyGuS Techniques in the Core of  
an SMT solver - Reynolds et al.**

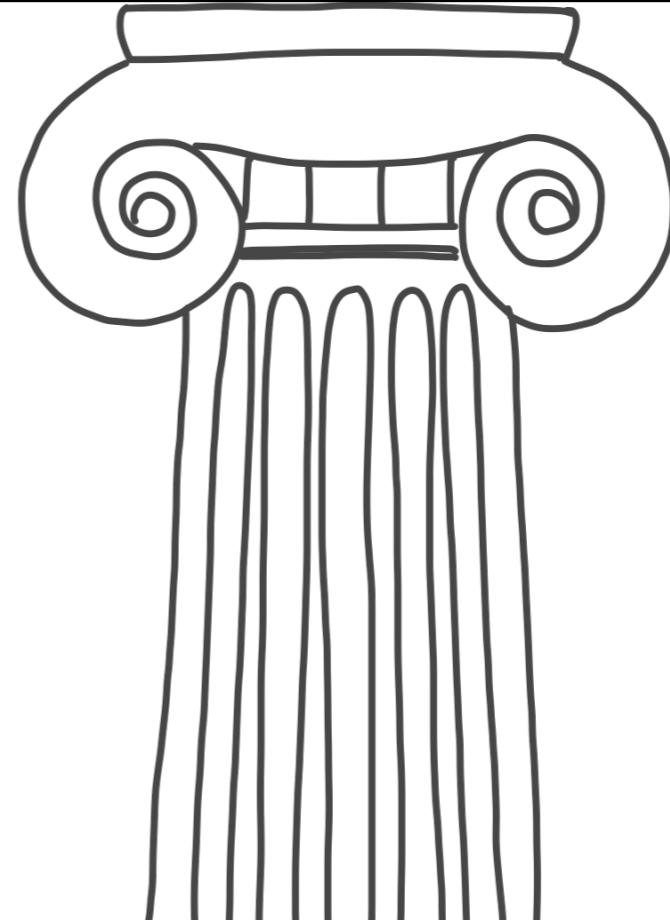
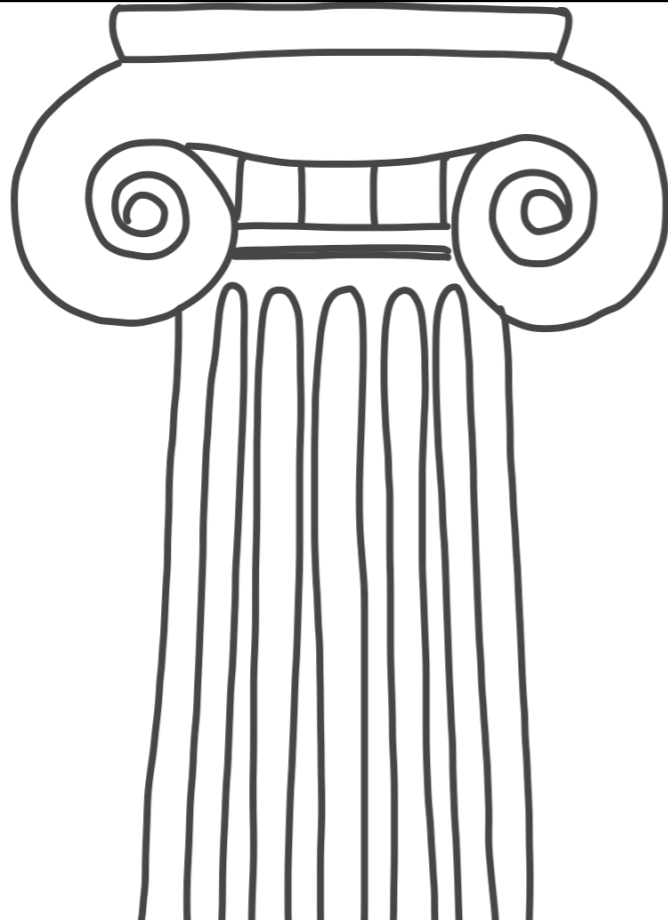
**Counterexample-Guided Data  
Augmentation - Dreossi et al.**

# SYNTHESIS

is the new  
SAT

Algorithmic  
Improvements

Applications



# In this talk

- Define synthesis
- Describe how my research fits into this vision
- Details: CounterExample Guided Inductive Synthesis modulo Theories
- Future

# What is <sup>formal</sup> synthesis?

- Synthesis that satisfies a specification  $\sigma$ .
  - Input-output examples
  - constraints

# What is <sup>formal</sup> synthesis?

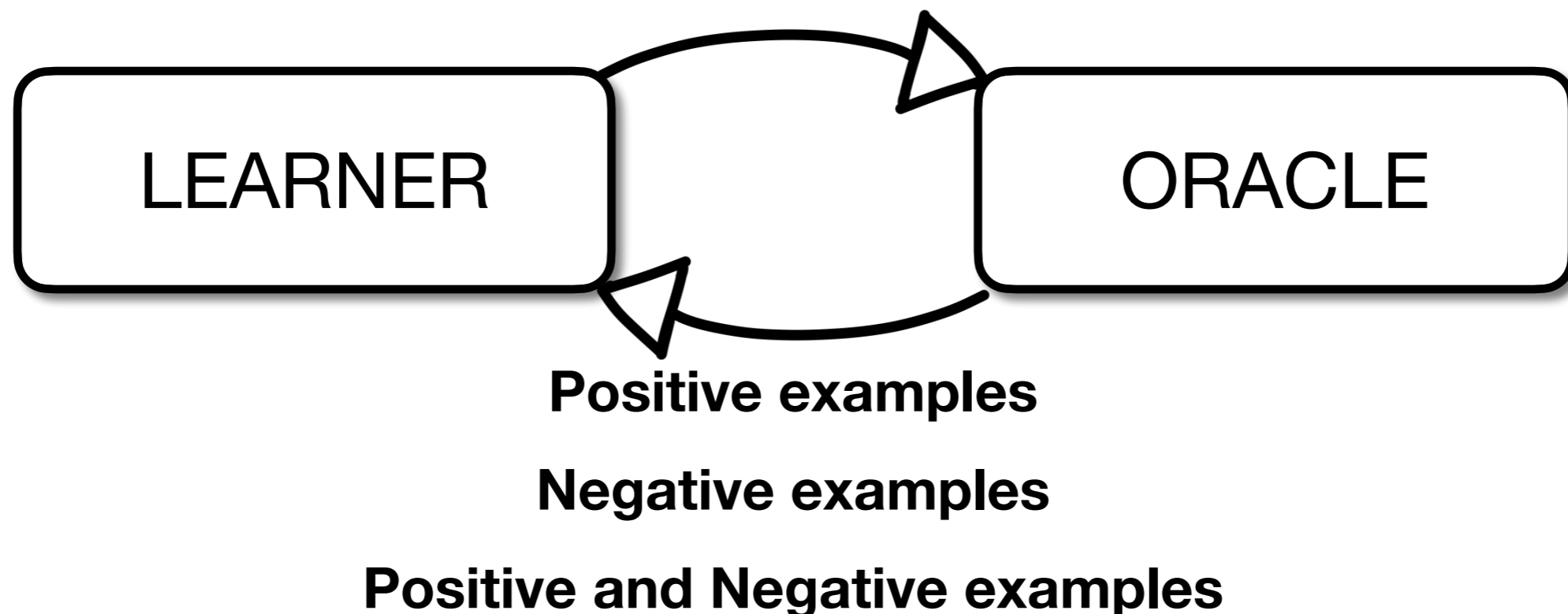
- Synthesis that satisfies a specification  $\sigma$ .
  - Input-output examples
  - constraints
- Can be framed as Oracle Guided Learning.

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# What is <sup>formal</sup> synthesis?

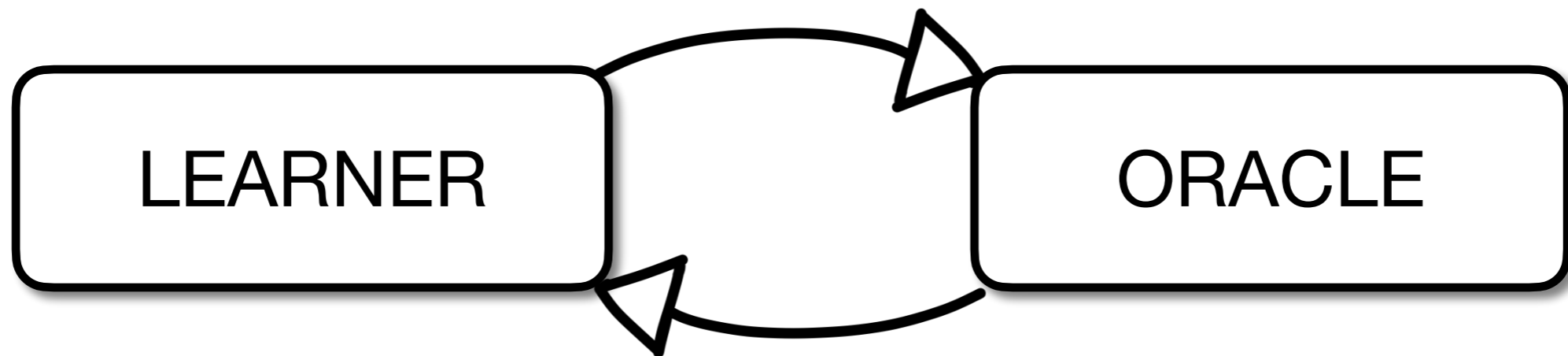
- Synthesis that satisfies a specification  $\sigma$ .
- Can be framed as Oracle Guided Learning.



# What is <sup>formal</sup> synthesis?

## CounterExample Guided Inductive Synthesis (CEGIS)[1]

- Logical specification  $\sigma$ .
- Synthesizes expressions/loop-free programs



**Counterexamples**

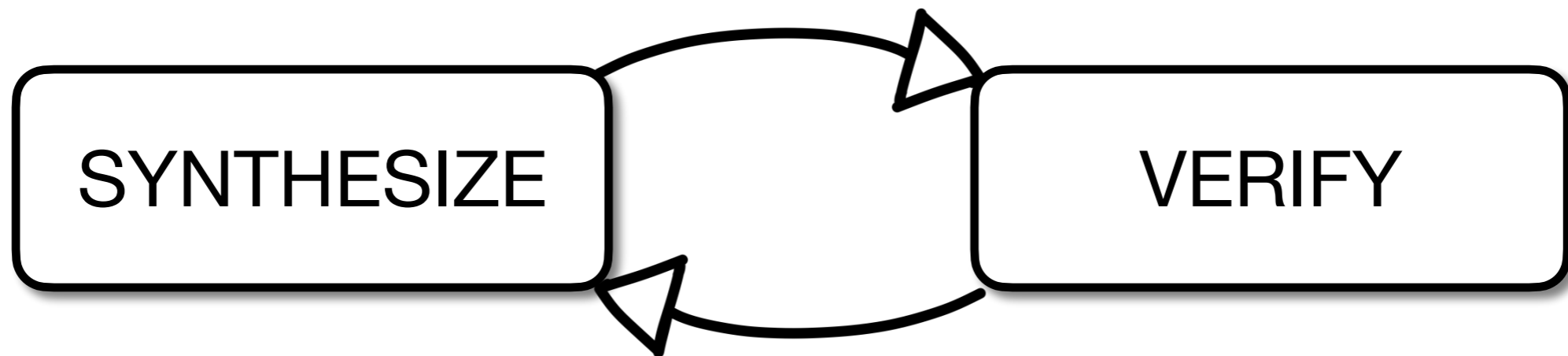
[1] Sketching stencils, Solar-Lezama et al. PLDI 2007



# What is <sup>formal</sup> synthesis?

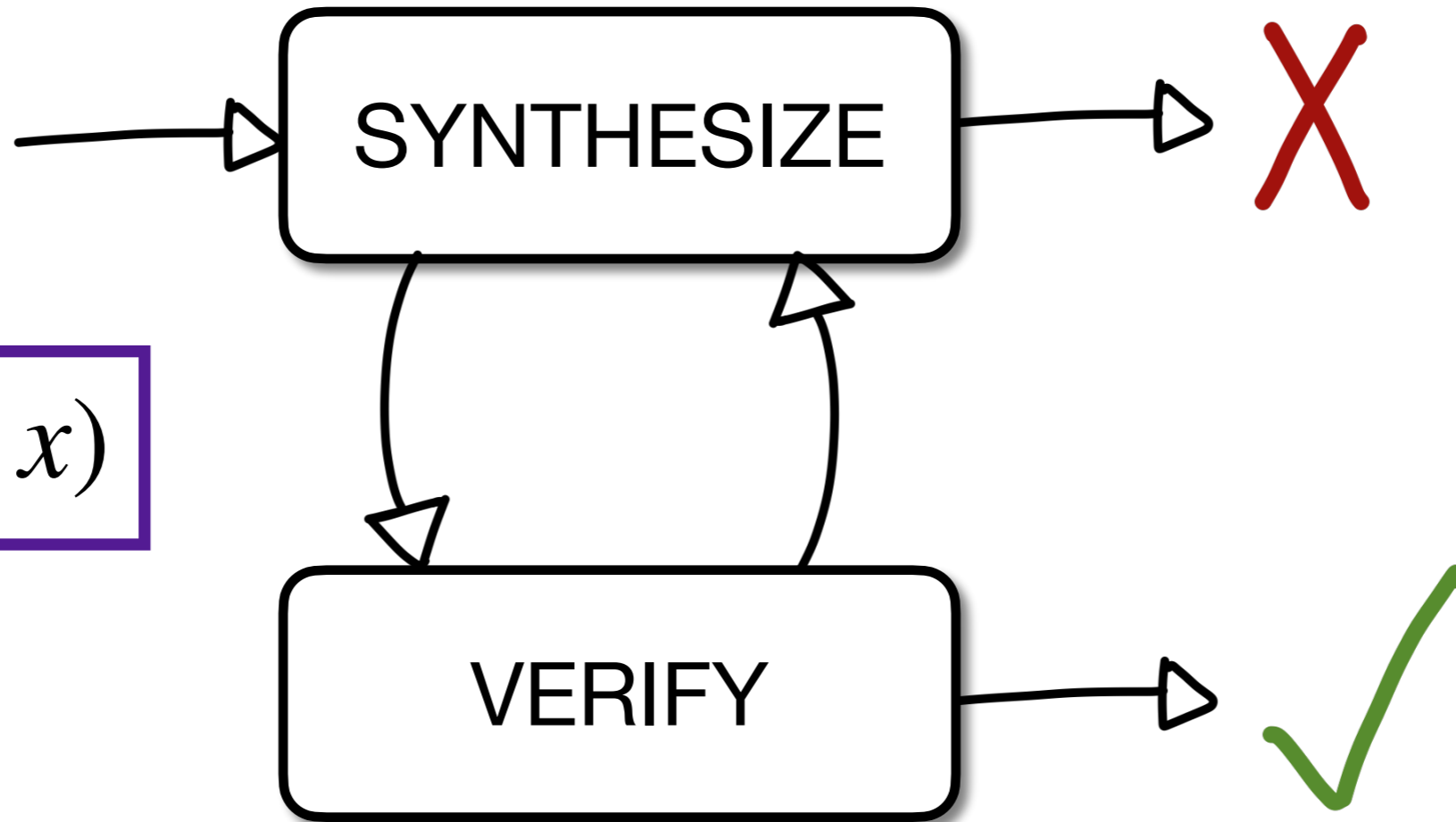
## CounterExample Guided Inductive Synthesis (CEGIS)

- Logical specification  $\sigma$ .
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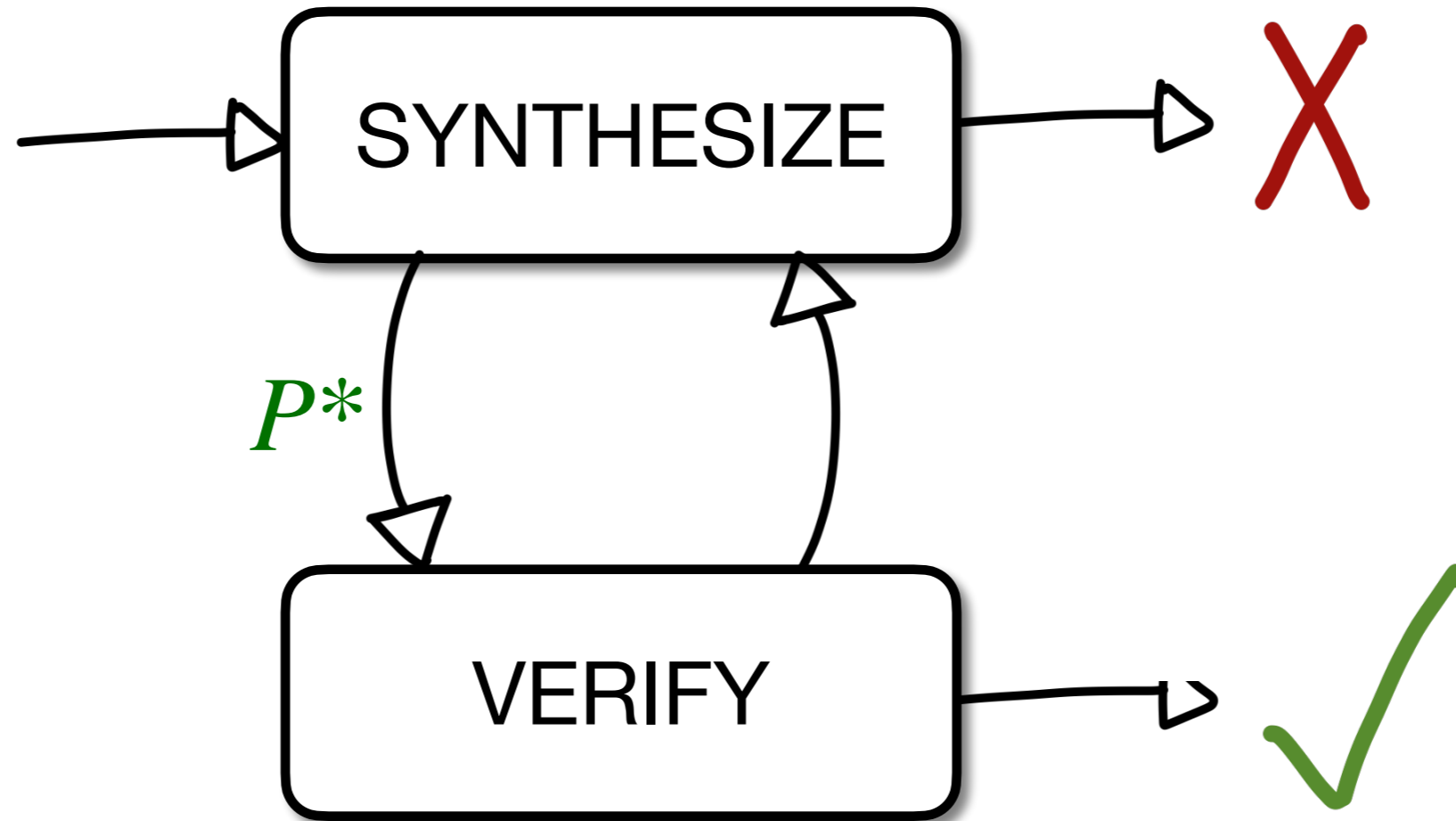
**Counterexamples**

# CEGIS

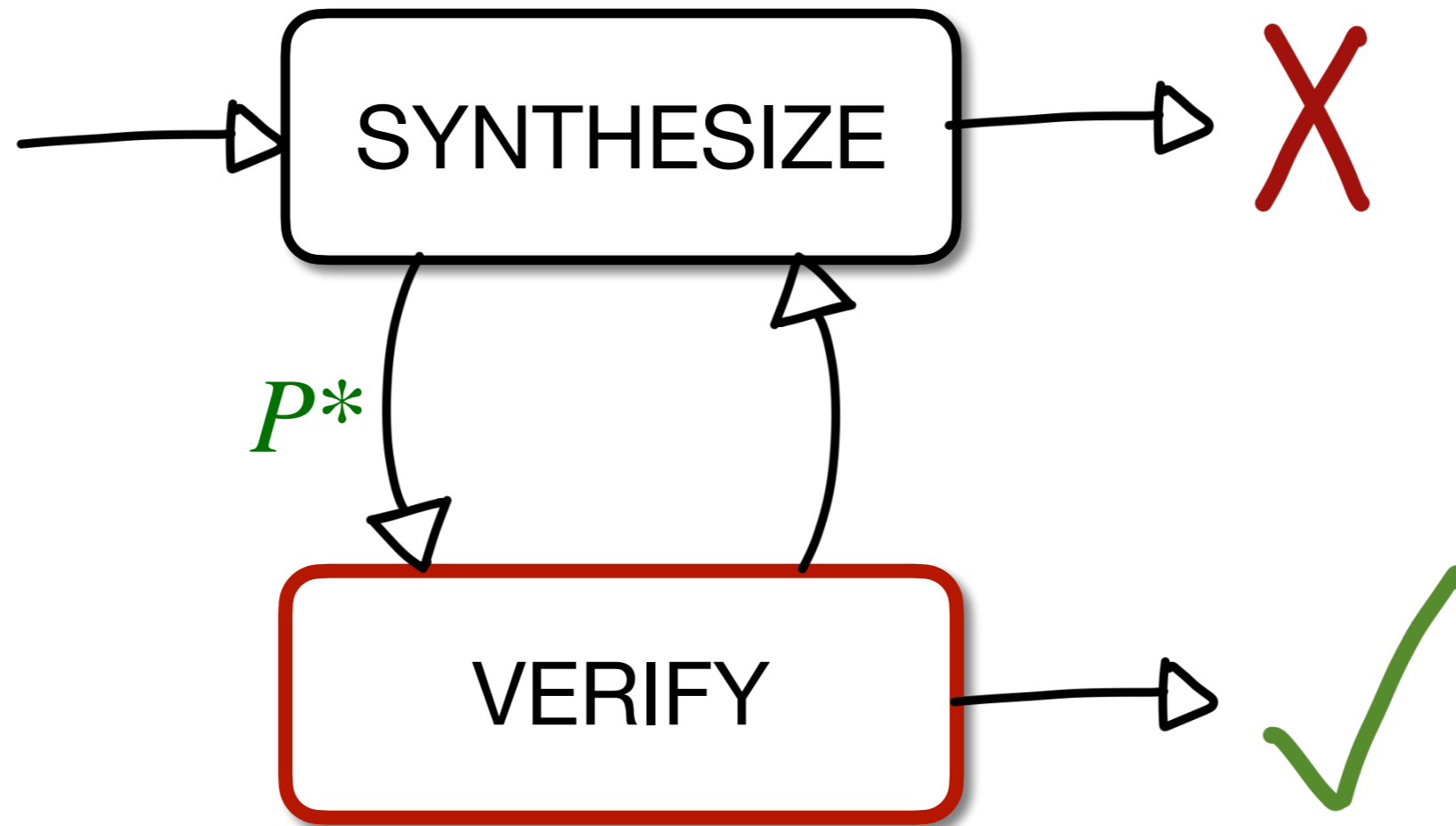


$$\exists P \forall x . \sigma(P, x)$$

# CEGIS

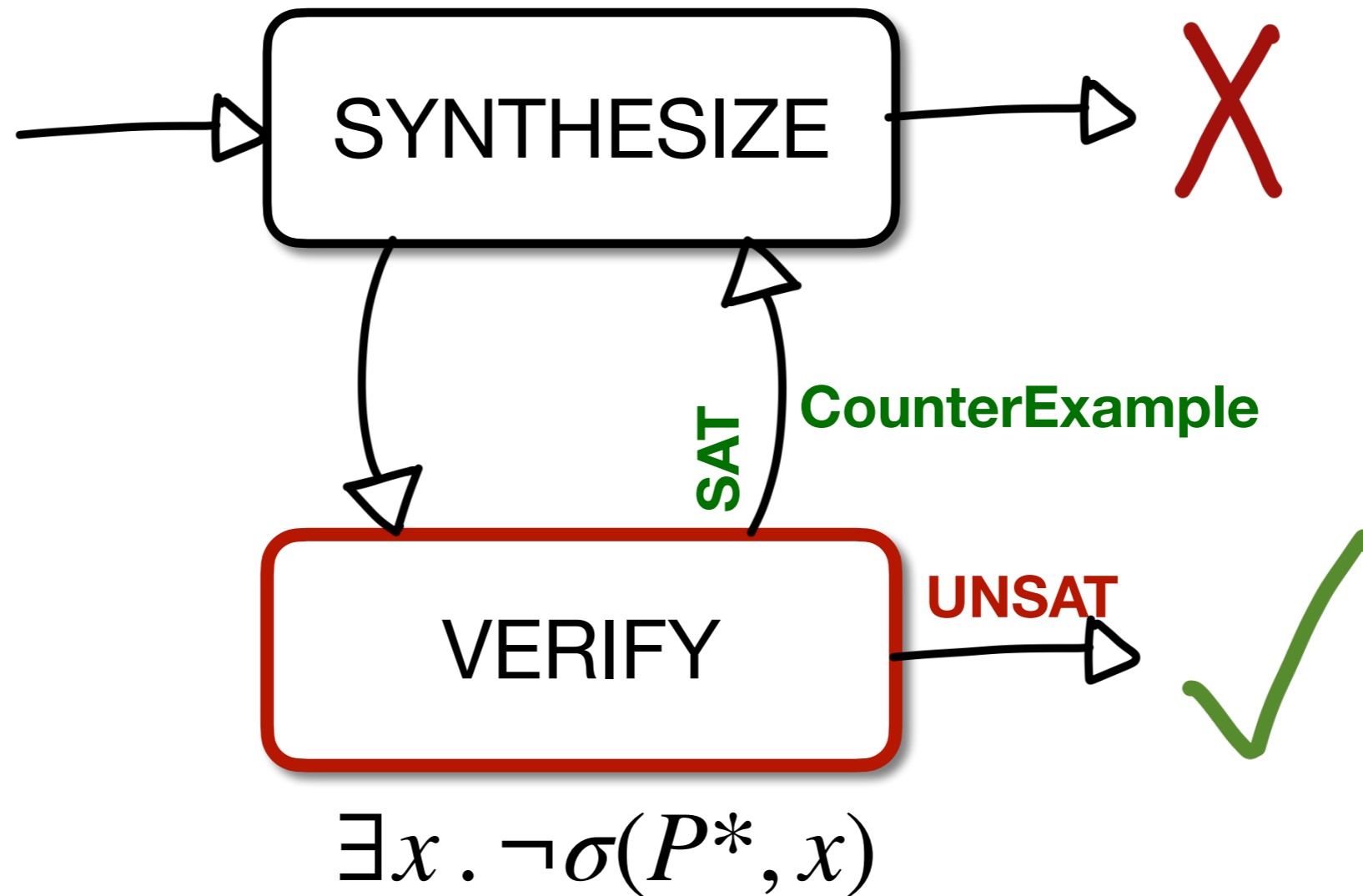


# CEGIS



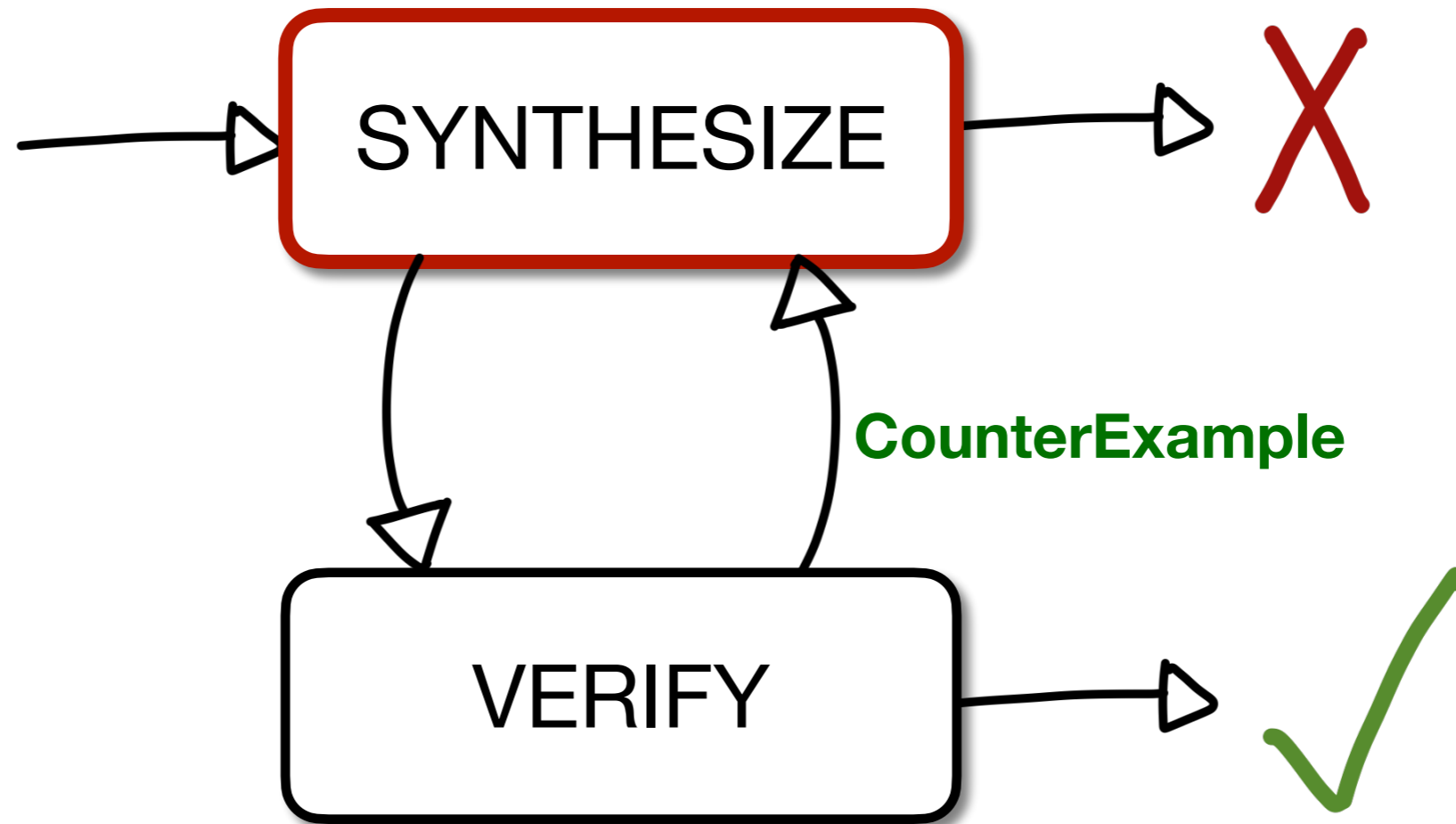
$$\exists x. \neg \sigma(P^*, x)$$

# CEGIS



# CEGIS

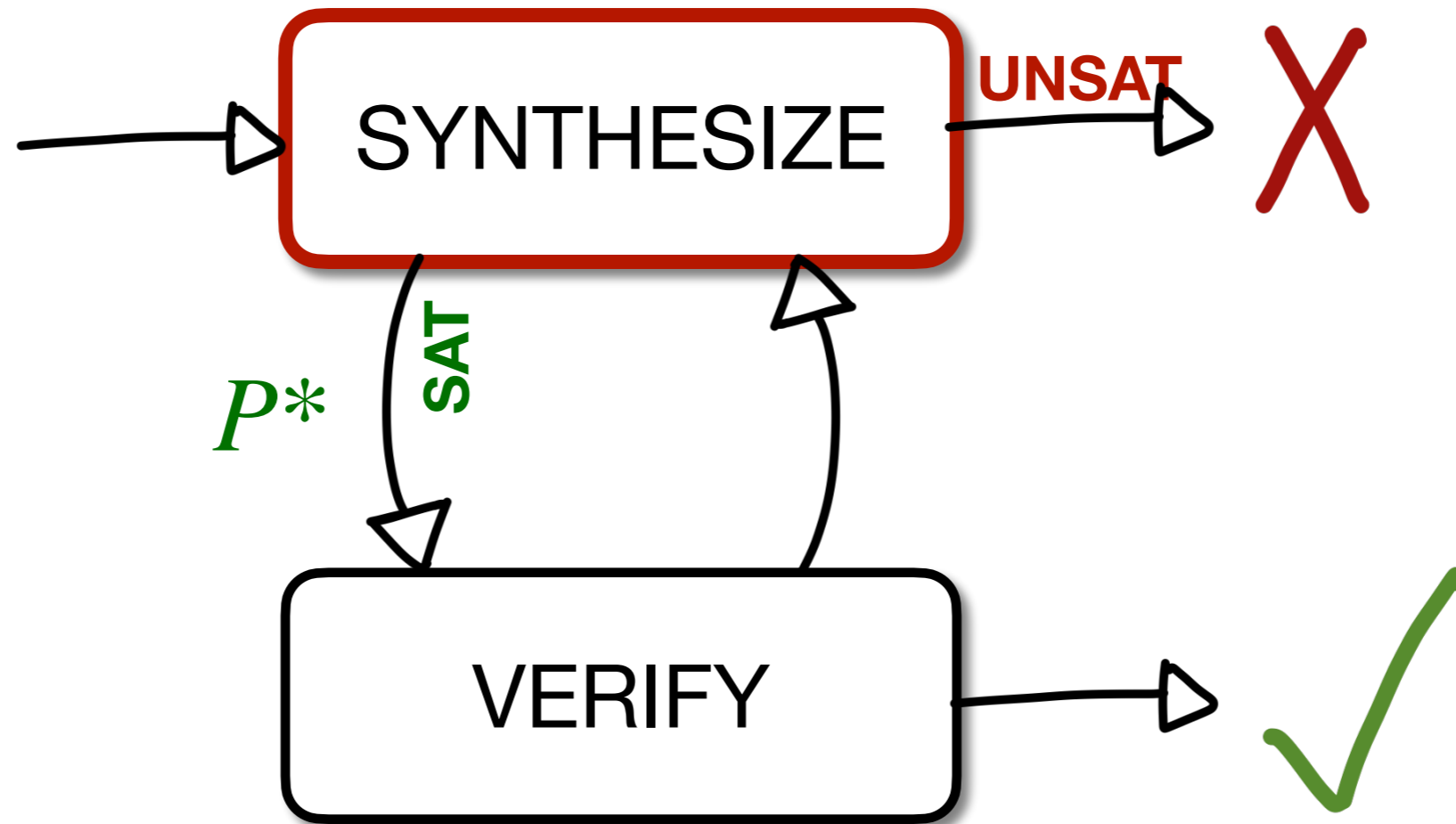
$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$



$$\exists x . \neg \sigma(P^*, x)$$

# CEGIS

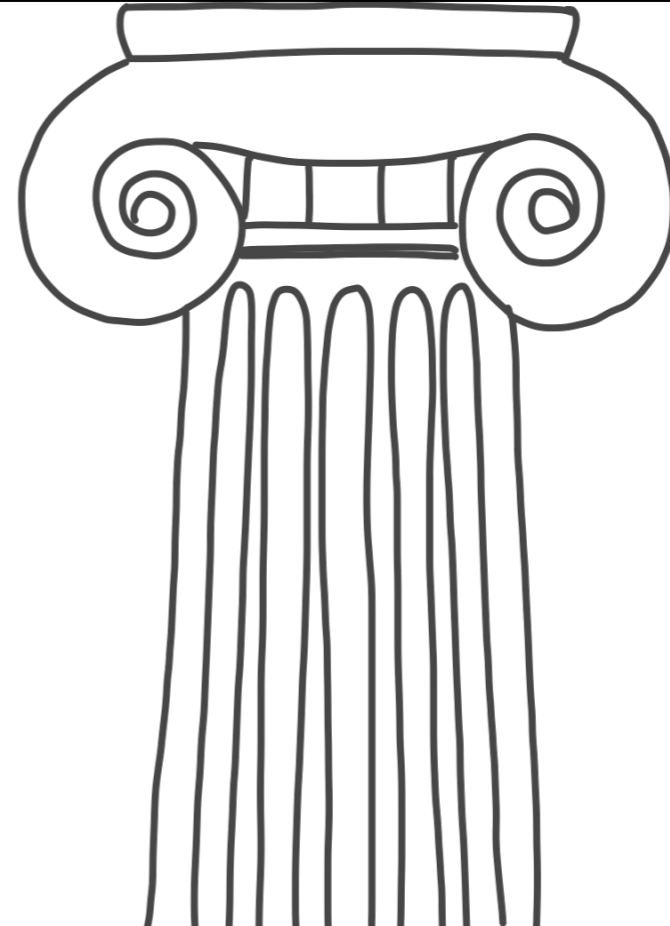
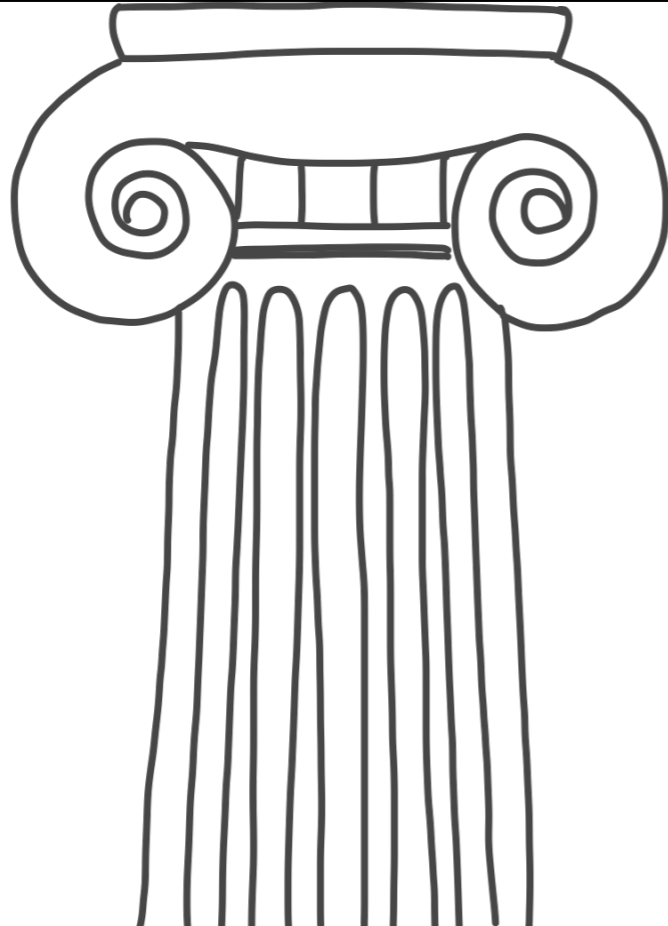
$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$



# Synthesis

Algorithmic  
Improvements

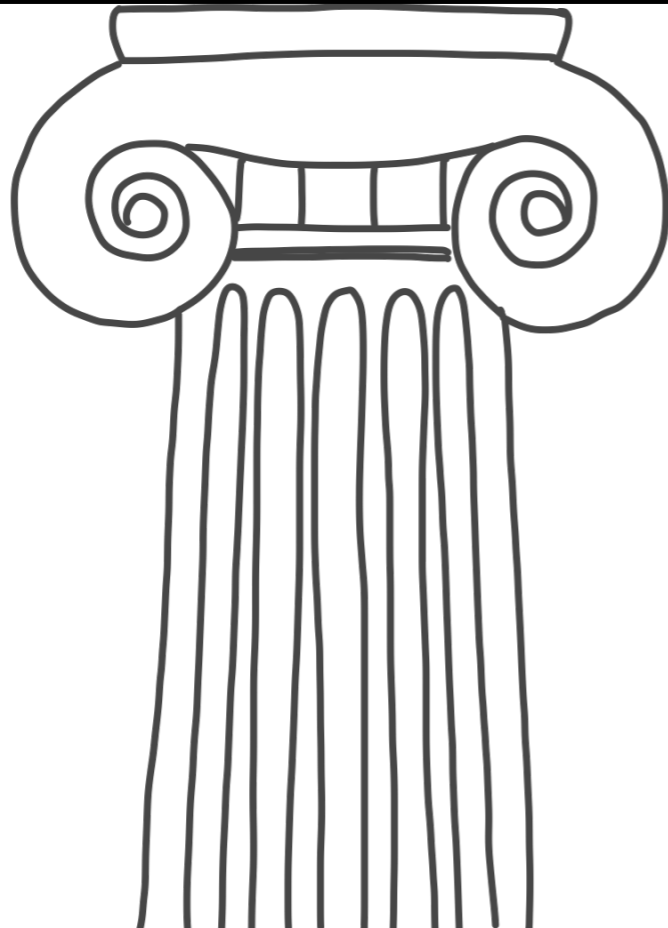
Applications





# Synthesis

Algorithmic  
Improvements



Applications

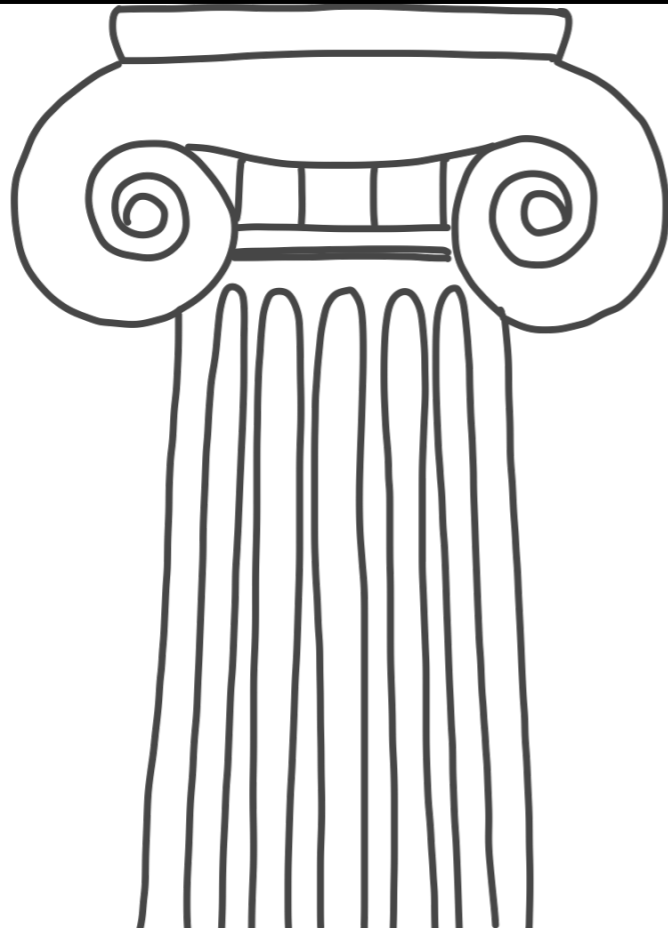


Synthesis of safe  
Digital Controllers  
for LTI systems

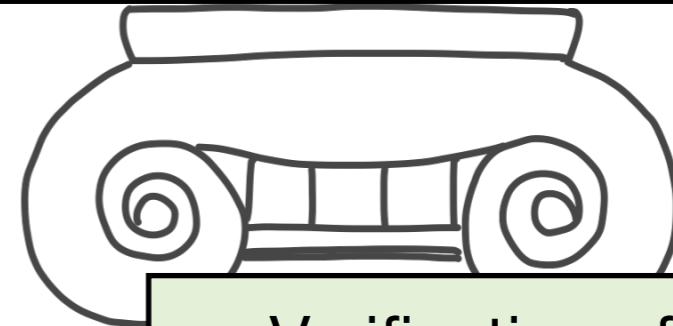
**CAV 2017**  
**Acta Inf. 2020**  
**ASE 2017**

# Synthesis

Algorithmic Improvements



Applications



Verification of Parametric Markov Models

**QEST 2016**  
**QEST 2017**

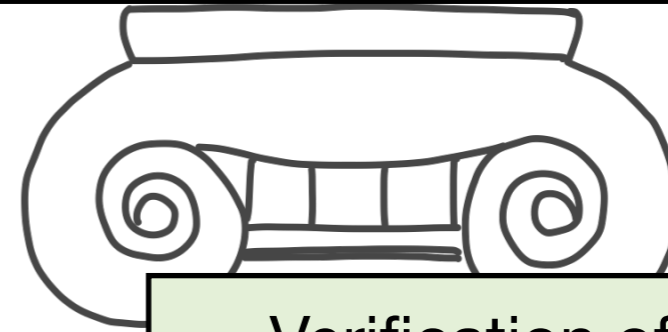
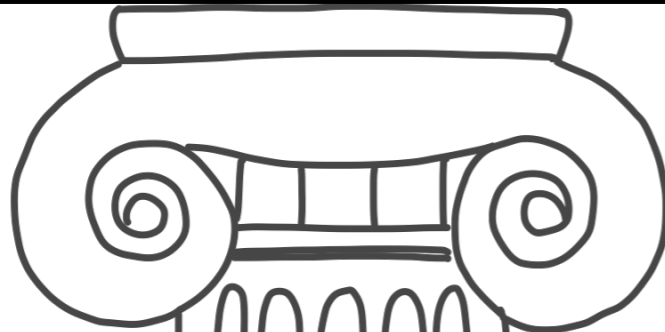
Synthesis of safe Digital Controllers for LTI systems

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**Acta Inf. 2020**  
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# Synthesis

Algorithmic Improvements

Applications



CounterExample Guided  
Neural Synthesis

arxiv

Verification of  
Parametric Markov  
Models

**QEST 2016**

**QEST 2017**

Synthesis of safe  
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**Acta Inf. 2020**

**ASE 2017**

# Synthesis

Algorithmic Improvements

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Incremental SAT solving in CEGIS

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Efficient symbolic synthesis encodings

Thesis

33

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# Synthesis

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CEGIS(T)

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arxiv

Thesis

# CounterExample Guided Inductive Synthesis Modulo Theories

CAV 2018

Extends CEGIS framework to

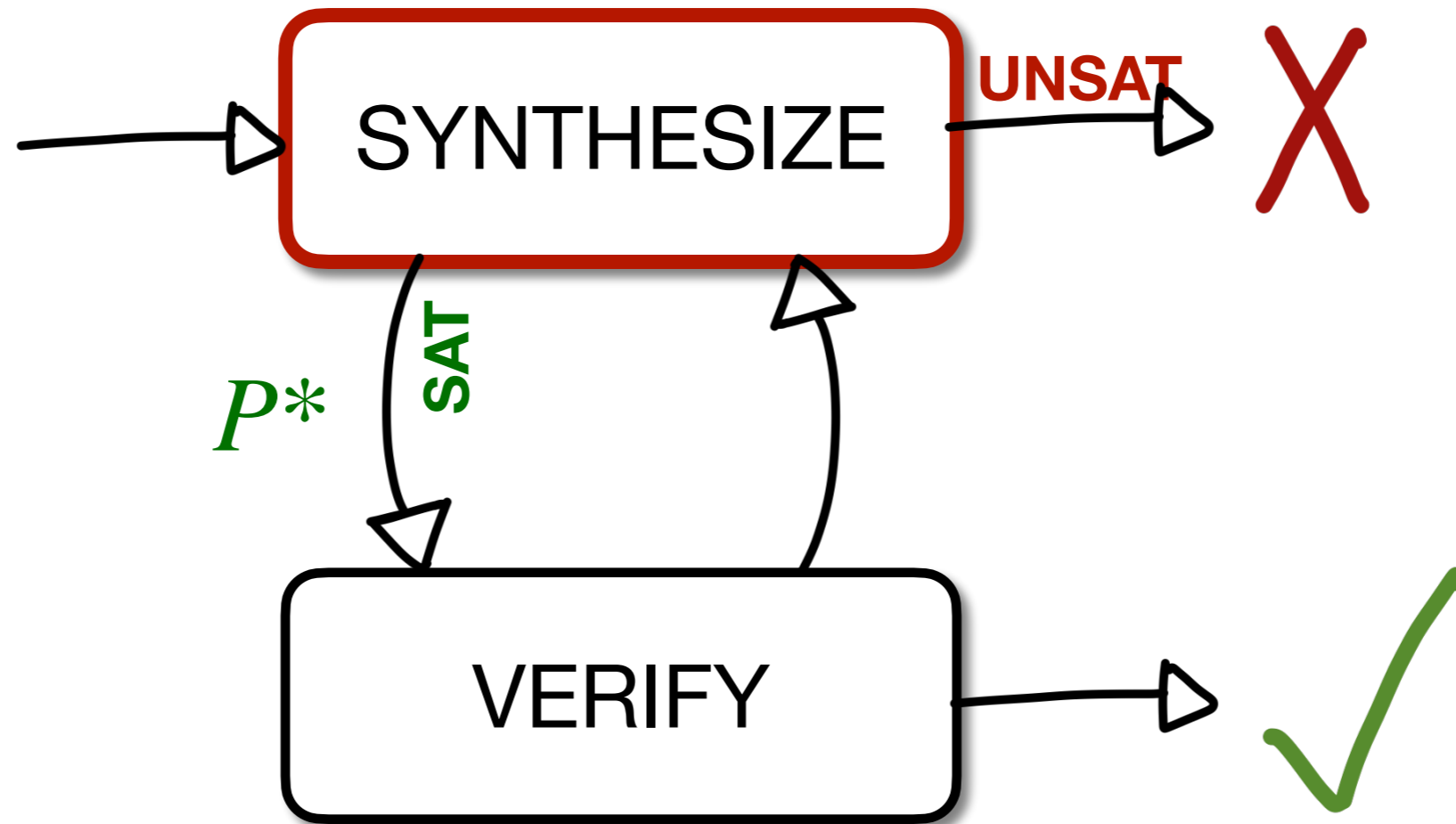
- verify **generalized** candidate solutions and
- return more **general** counterexamples.

CEGIS(T) is able to synthesize programs containing **arbitrary** constants that elude other solvers.

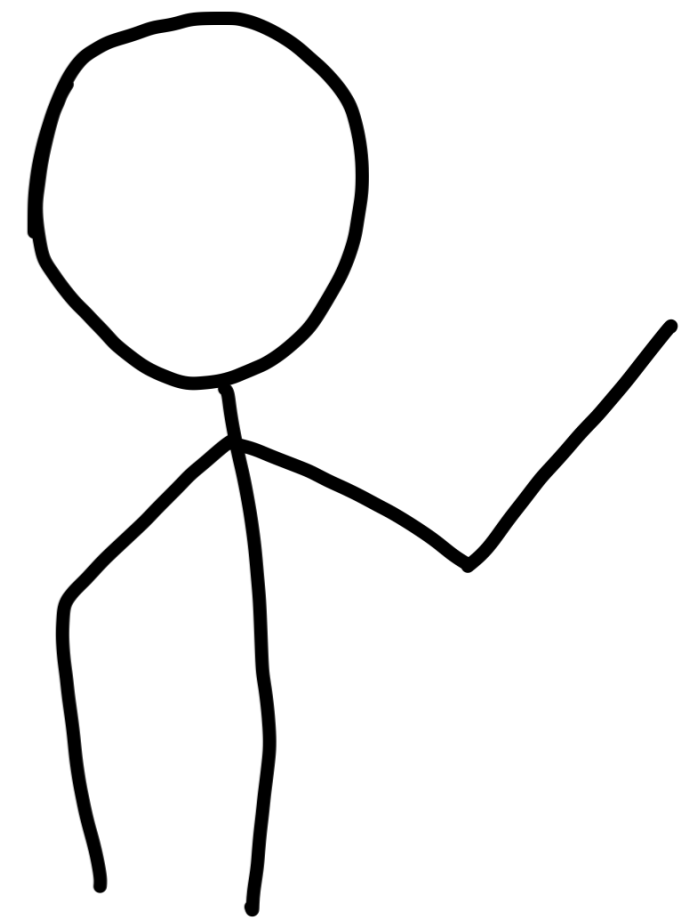
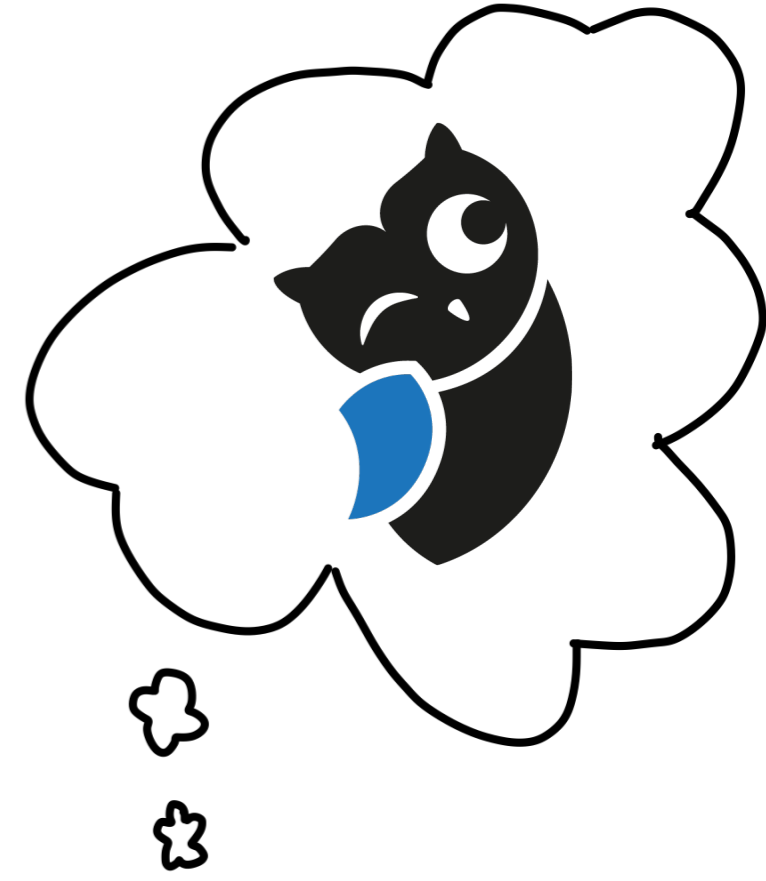
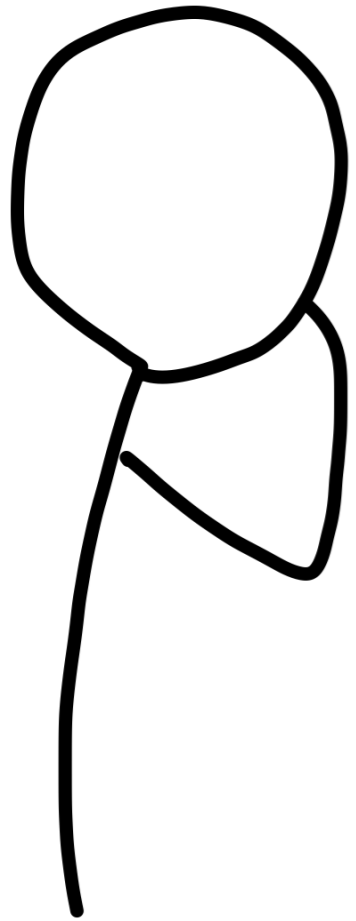
- **Do not appear in the synthesis problem**
  - **Not 0, 1 or FFFF**

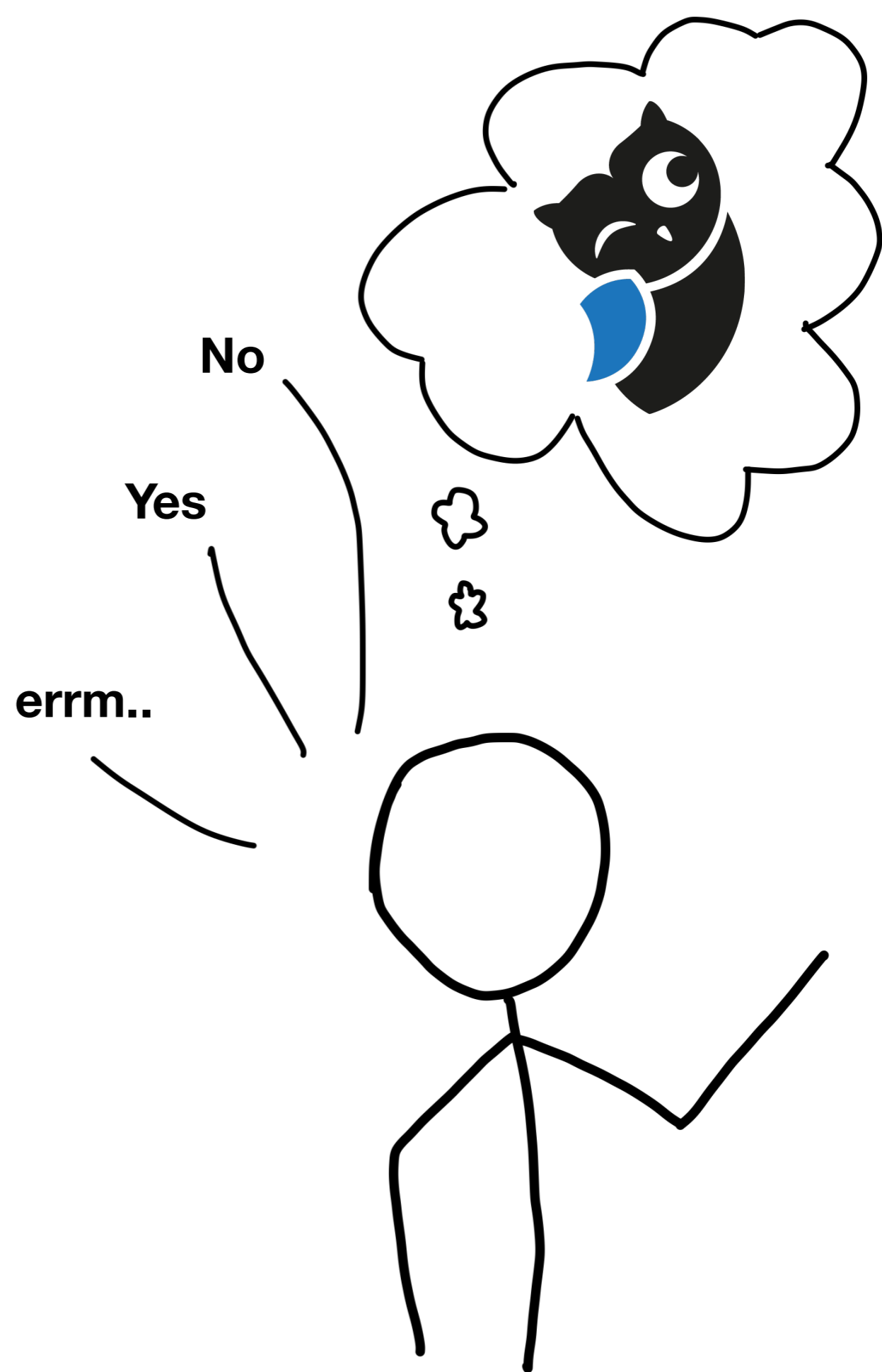
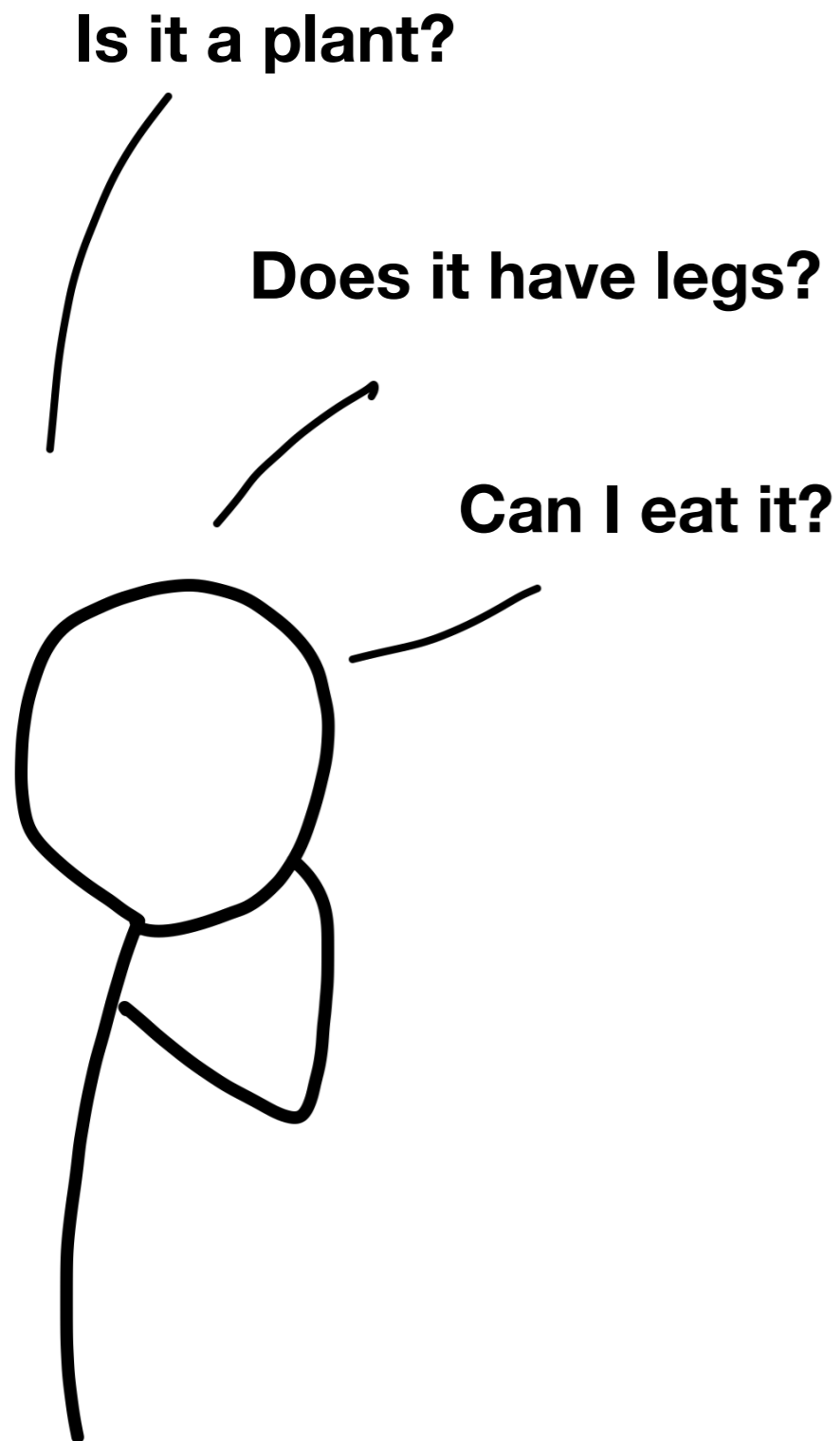
# CEGIS

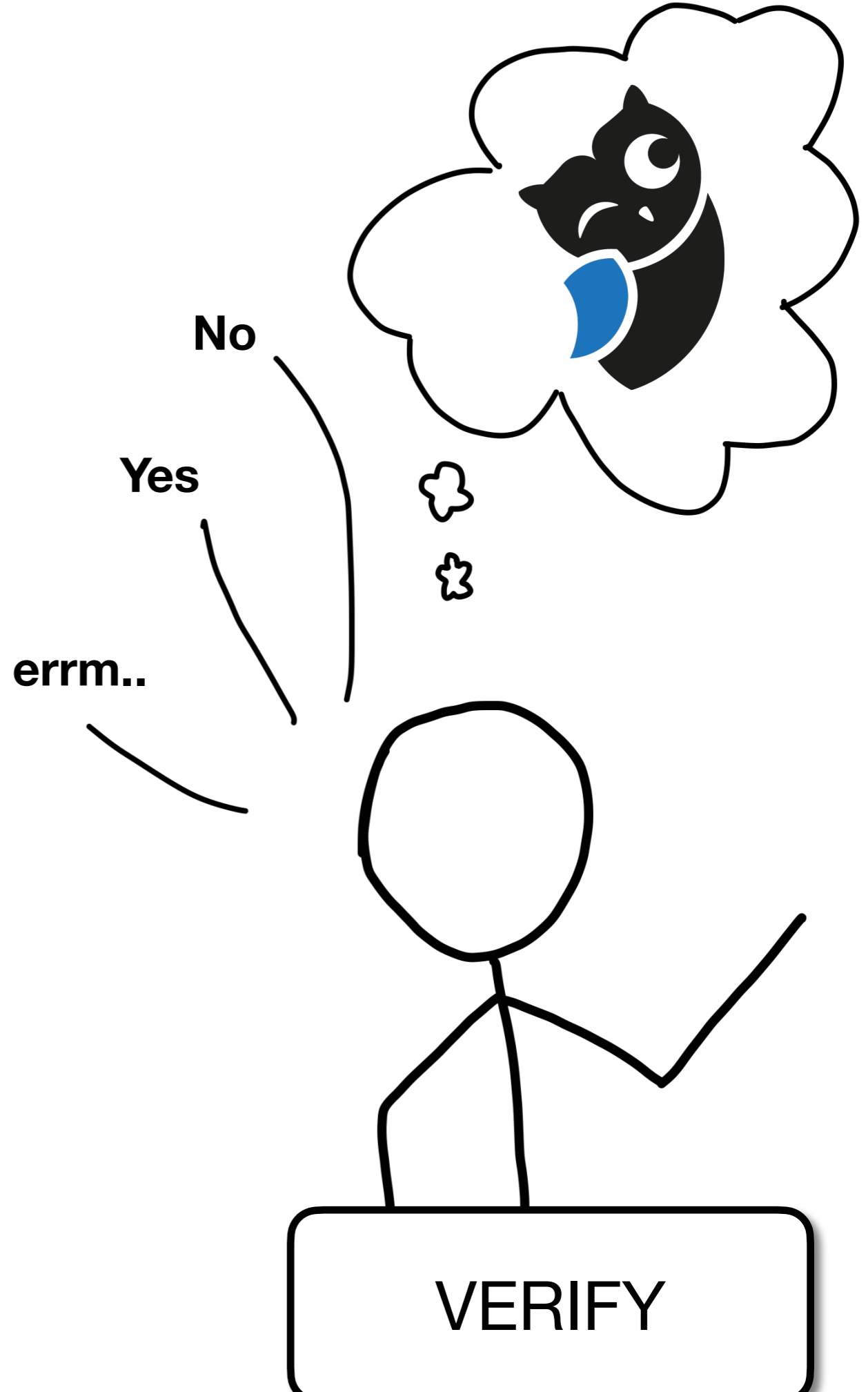
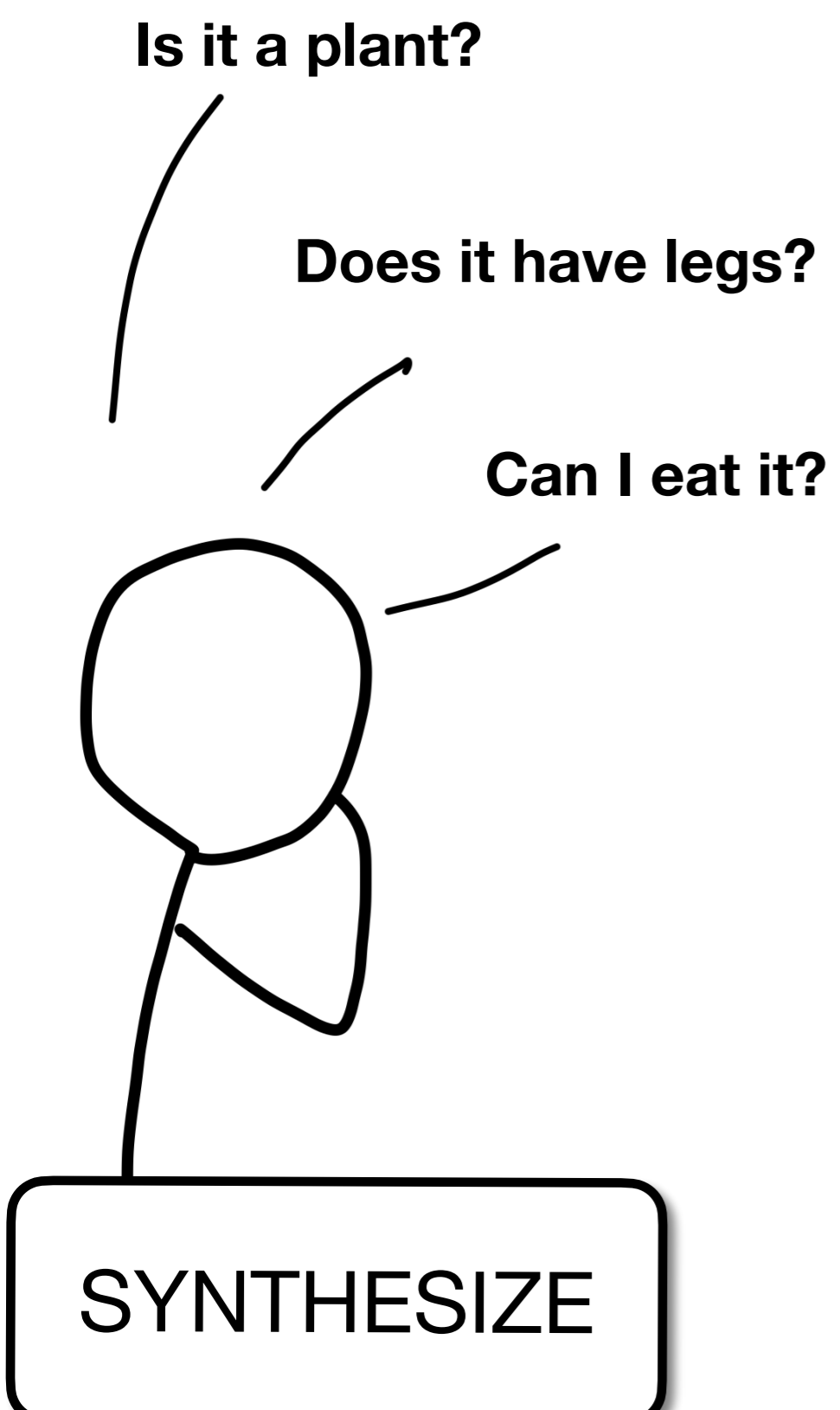
$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$

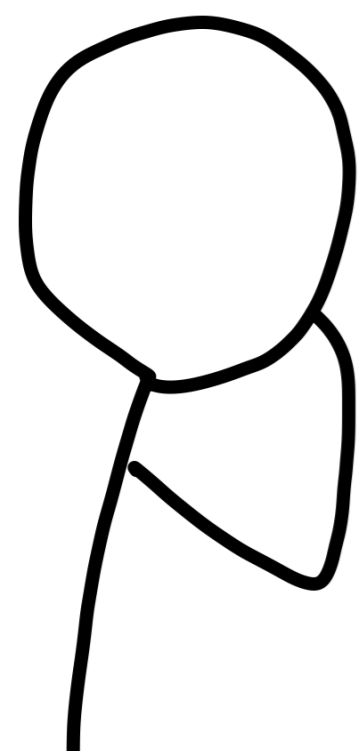




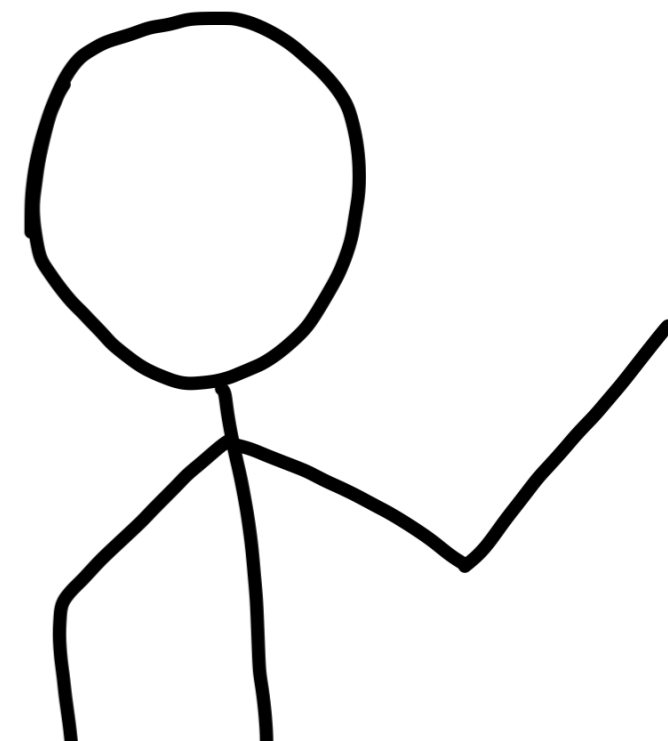
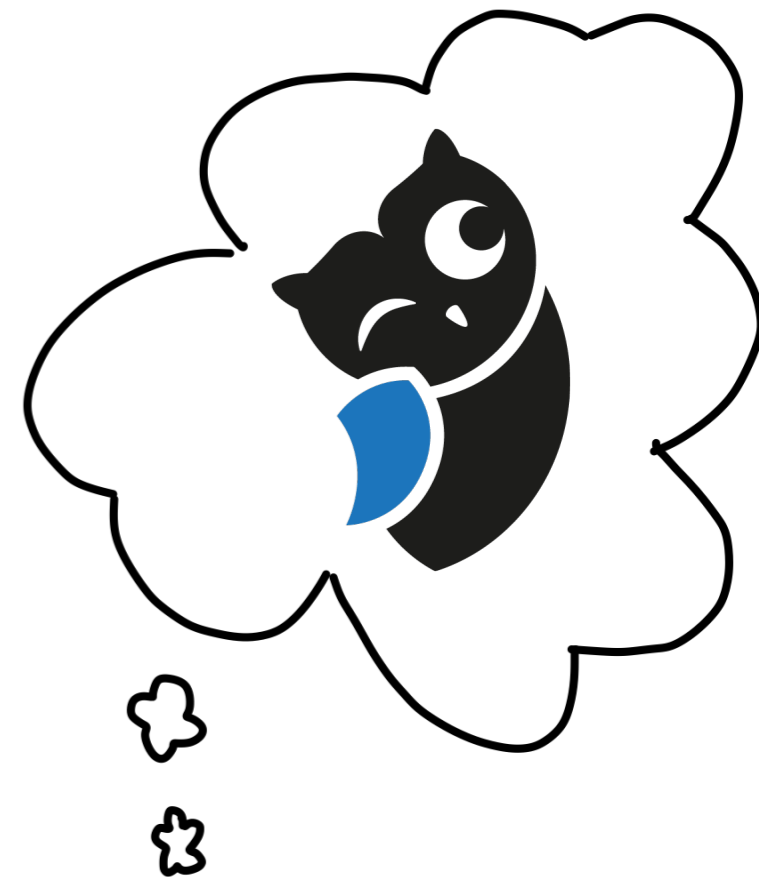




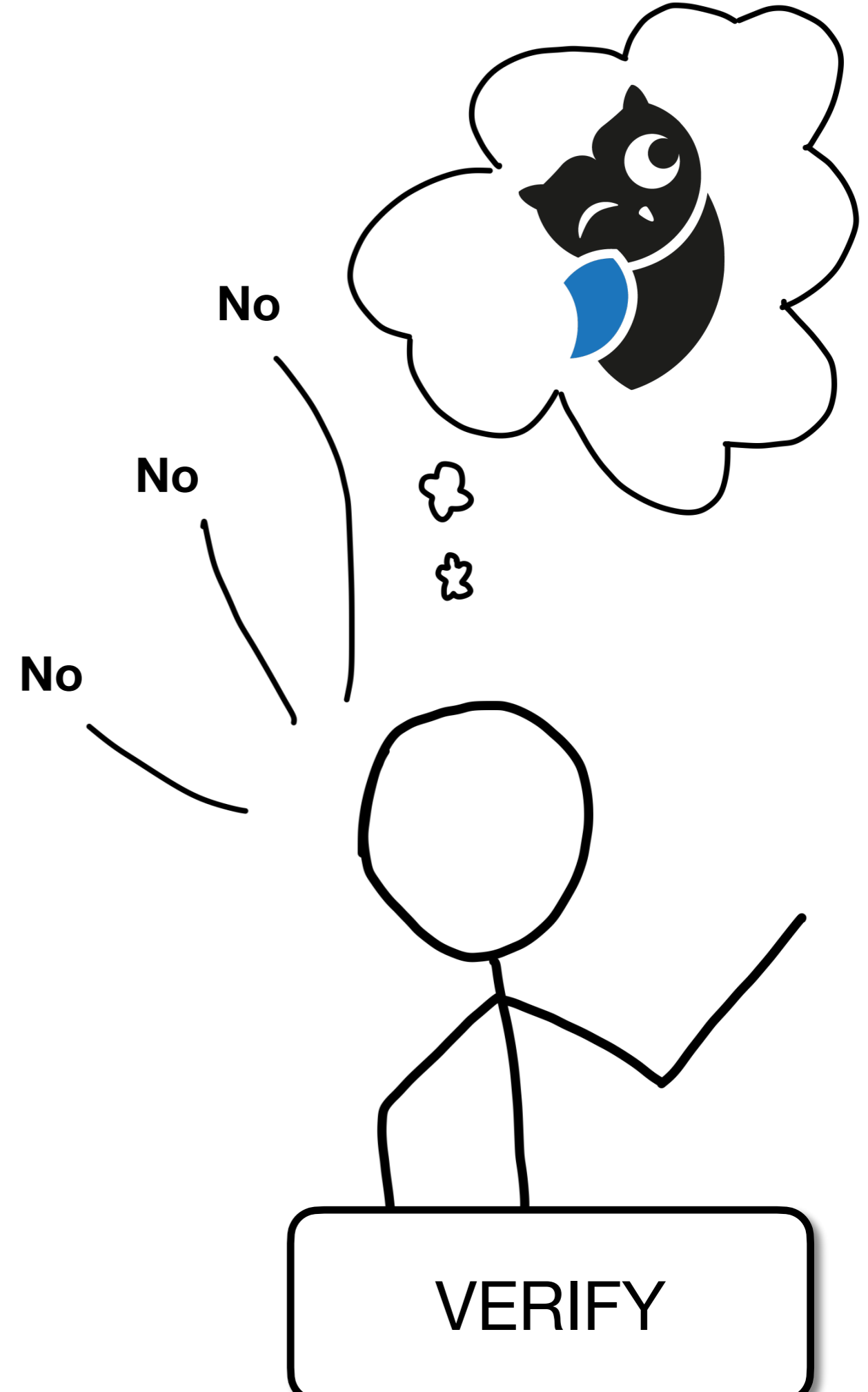
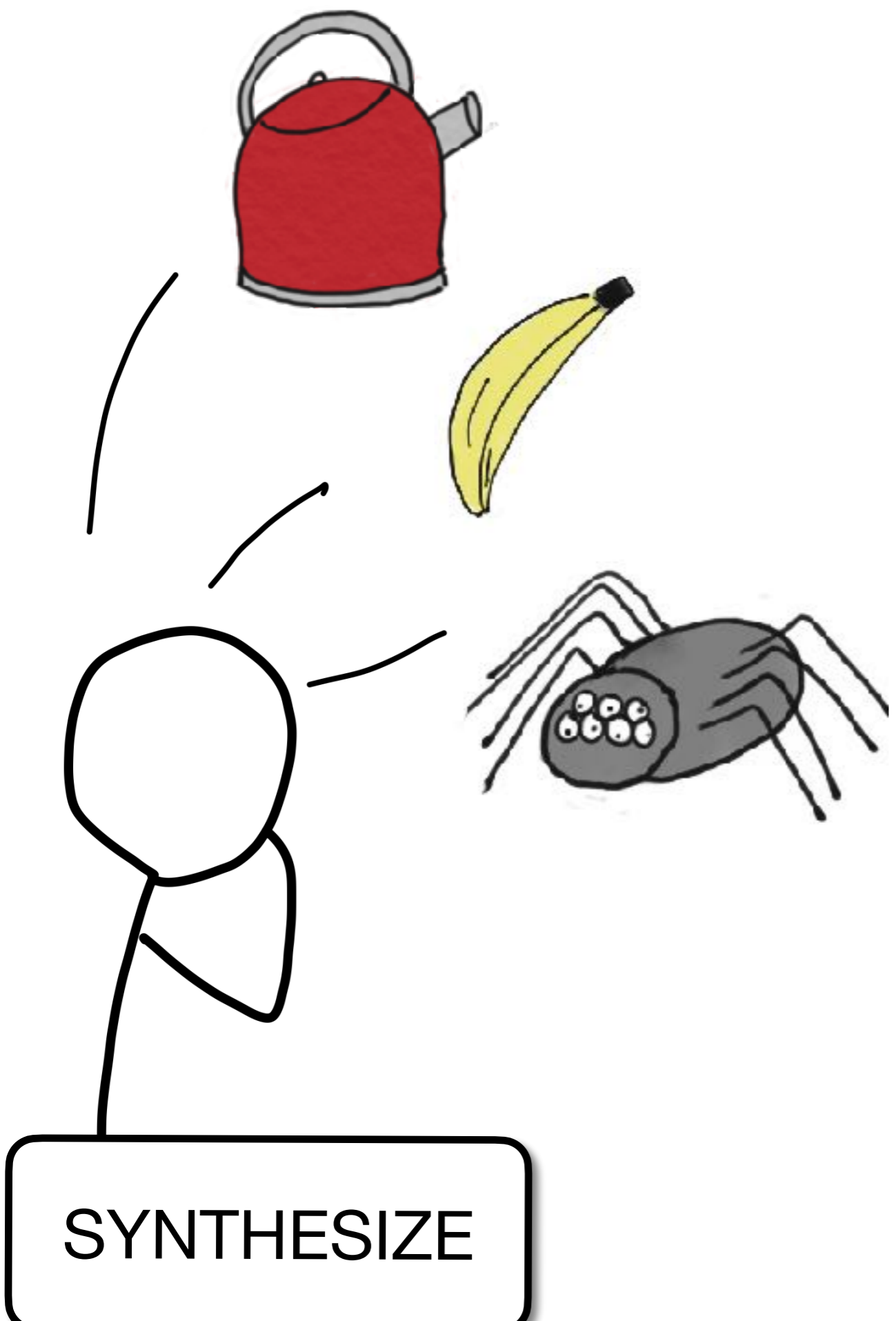


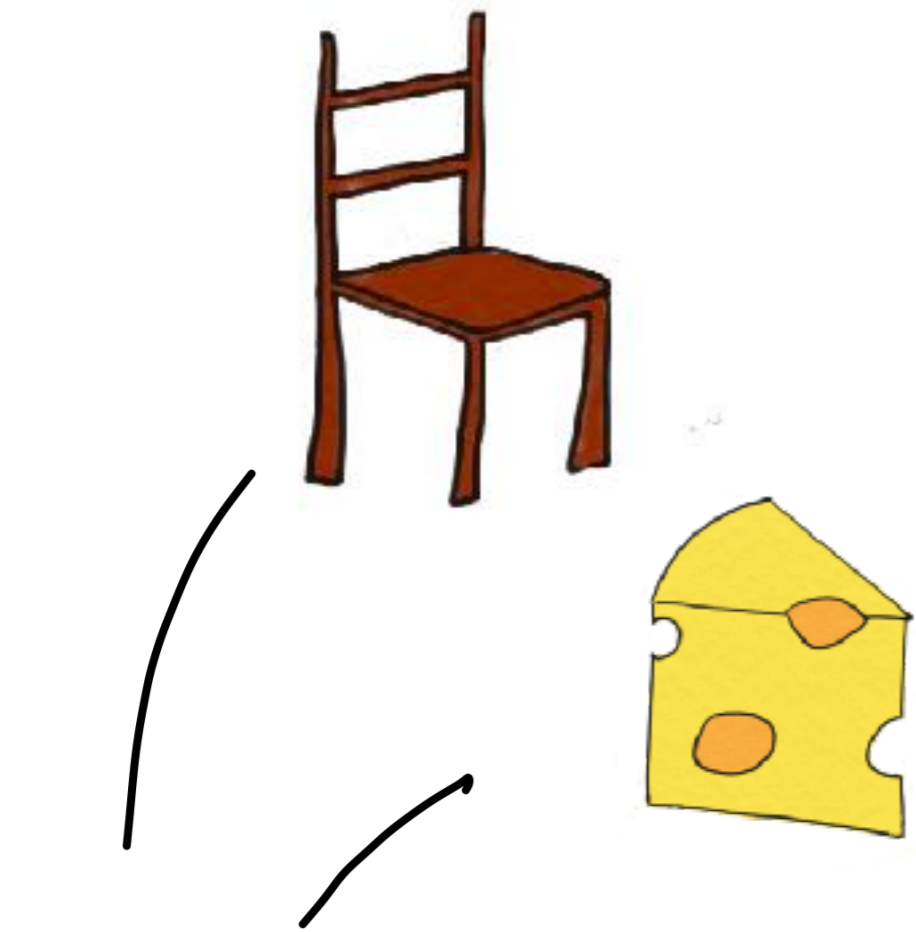


SYNTHESIZE

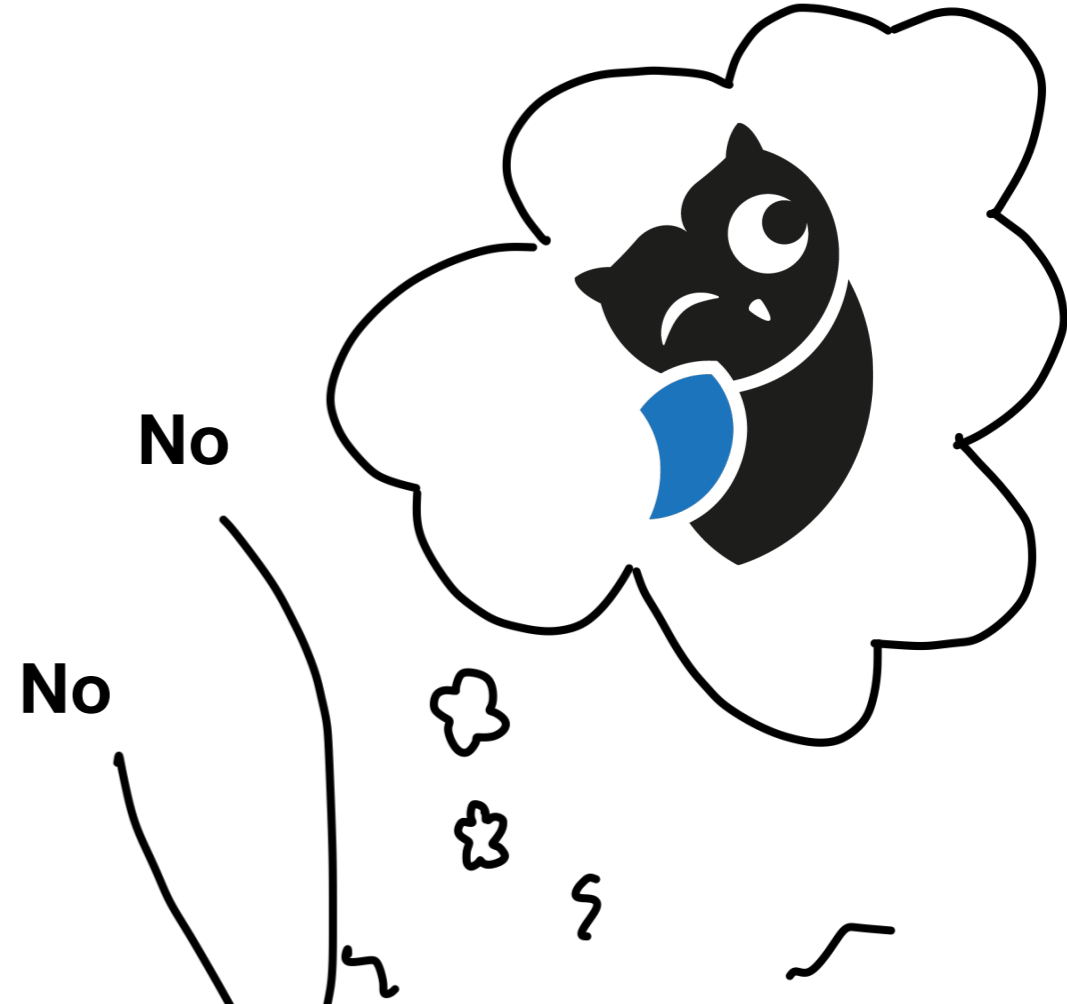


VERIFY

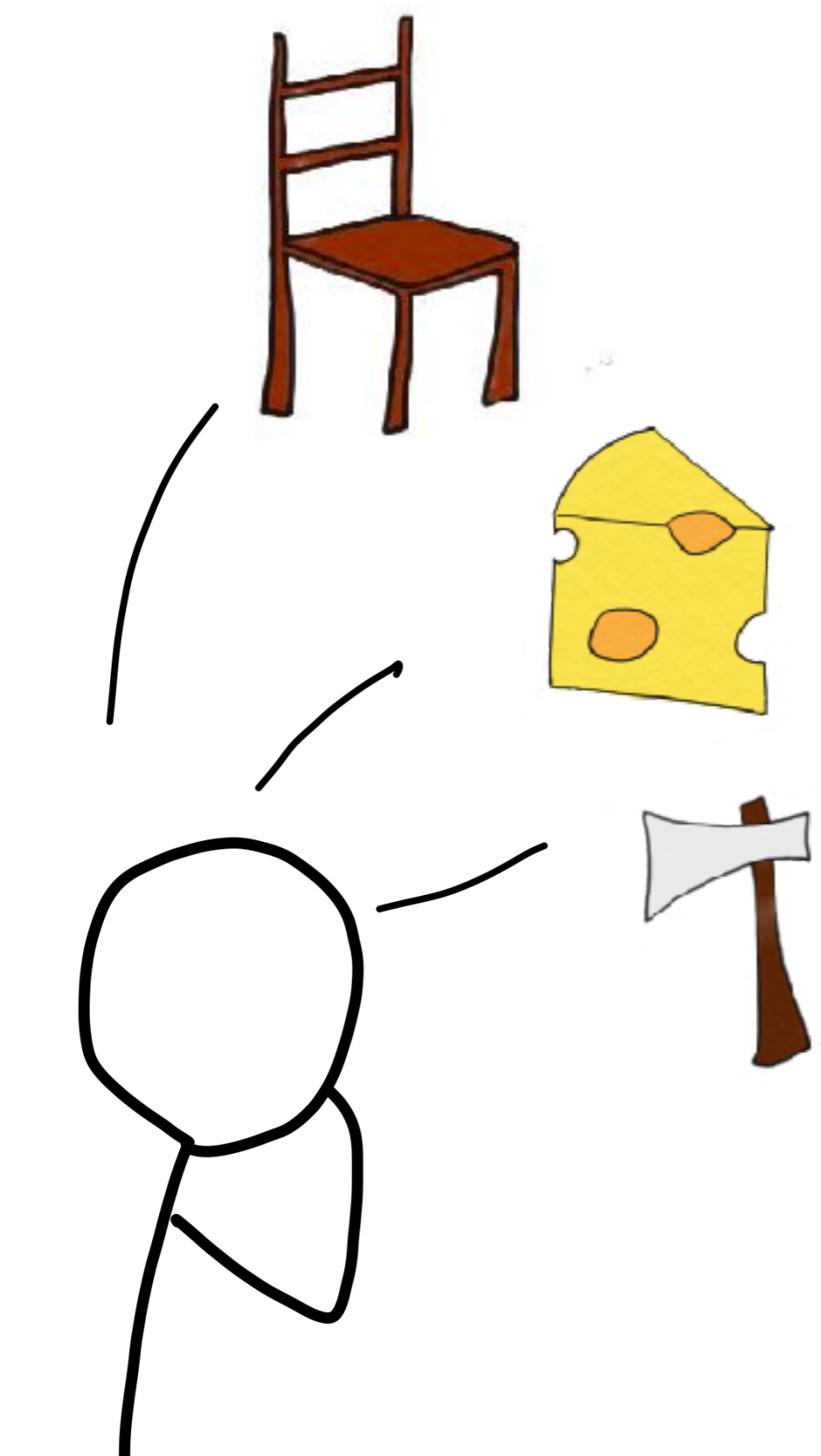




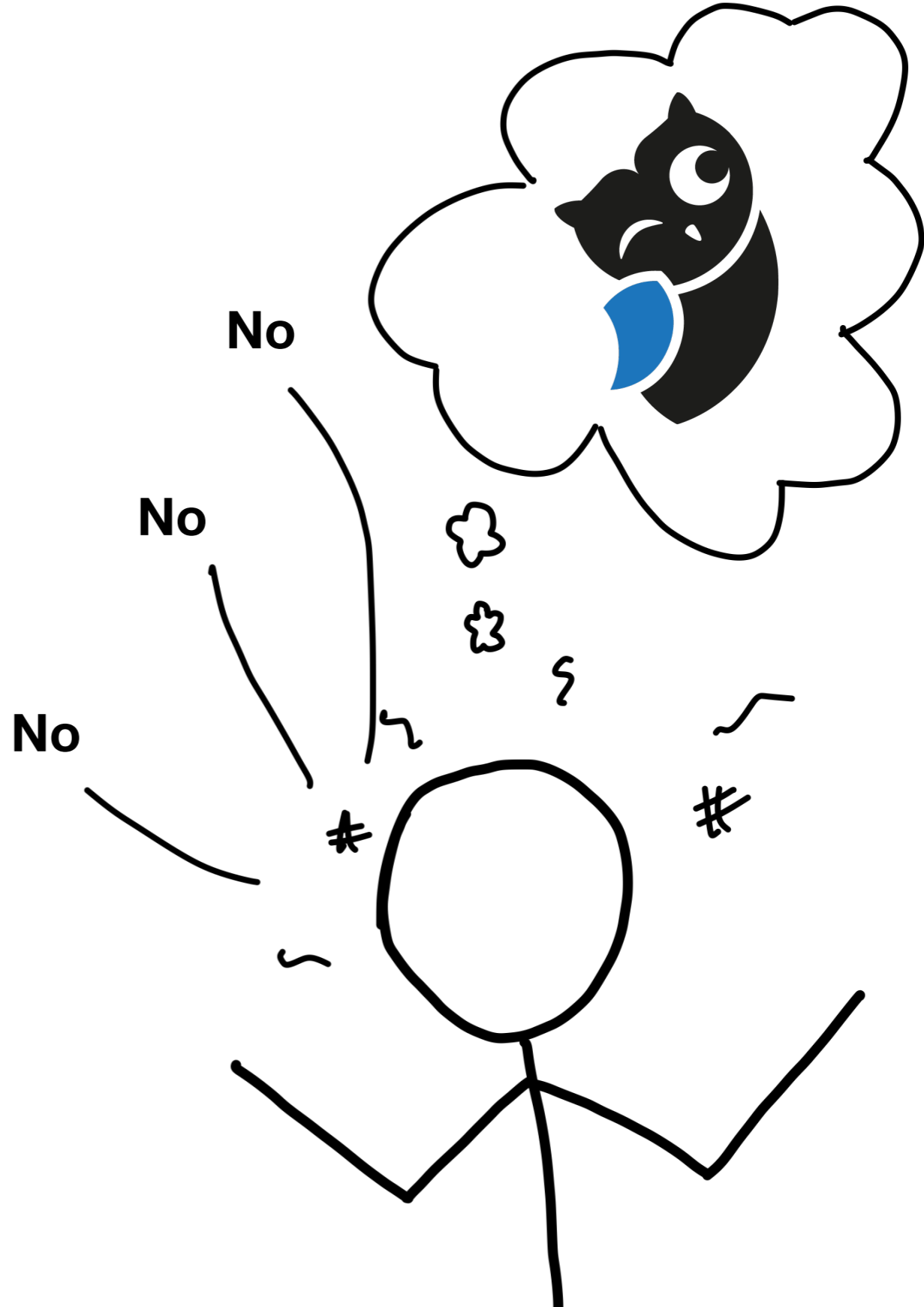
SYNTHESIZE



VERIFY



SYNTHESIZE



VERIFY

# Safety Invariant

```
int x = 5;  
while ( x < 1000 )  
    x++;  
assert( 5 < x && x < 1005 )
```

$$init(x) \iff x = 0$$

$$trans(x, x') \iff x' = x + 1$$

**find  $inv(x)$  such that:**

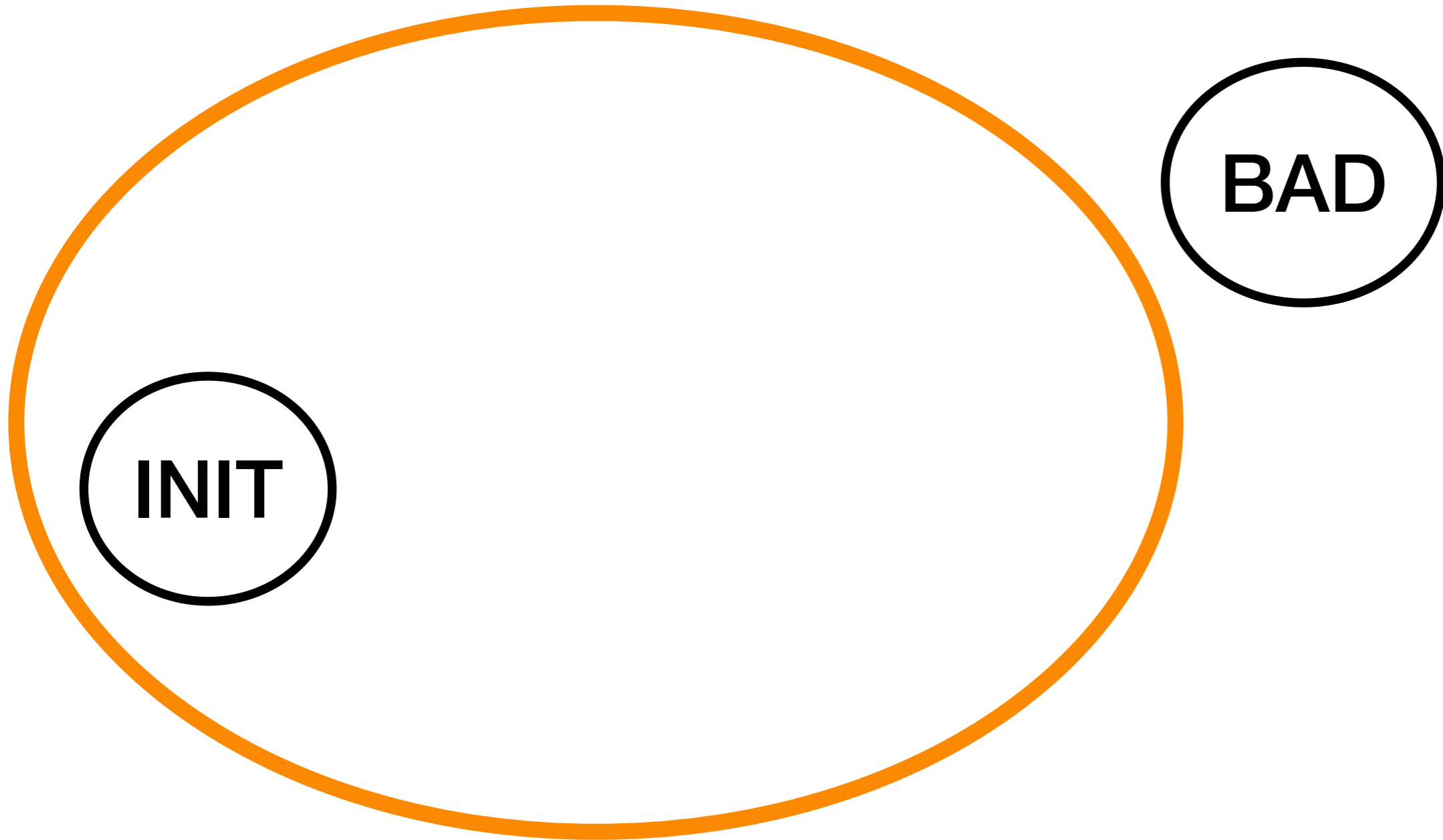
$$init(x) \implies inv(x)$$

$$inv(x) \wedge (x < 1000) \wedge trans(x, x') \implies inv(x')$$

$$inv(x) \wedge \neg(x < 1000) \implies (x < 1005) \wedge (x > 5)$$



# Safety Invariant



# Safety Invariant

```
int x = 5;  
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assert( 5 < x && x < 1005 )
```

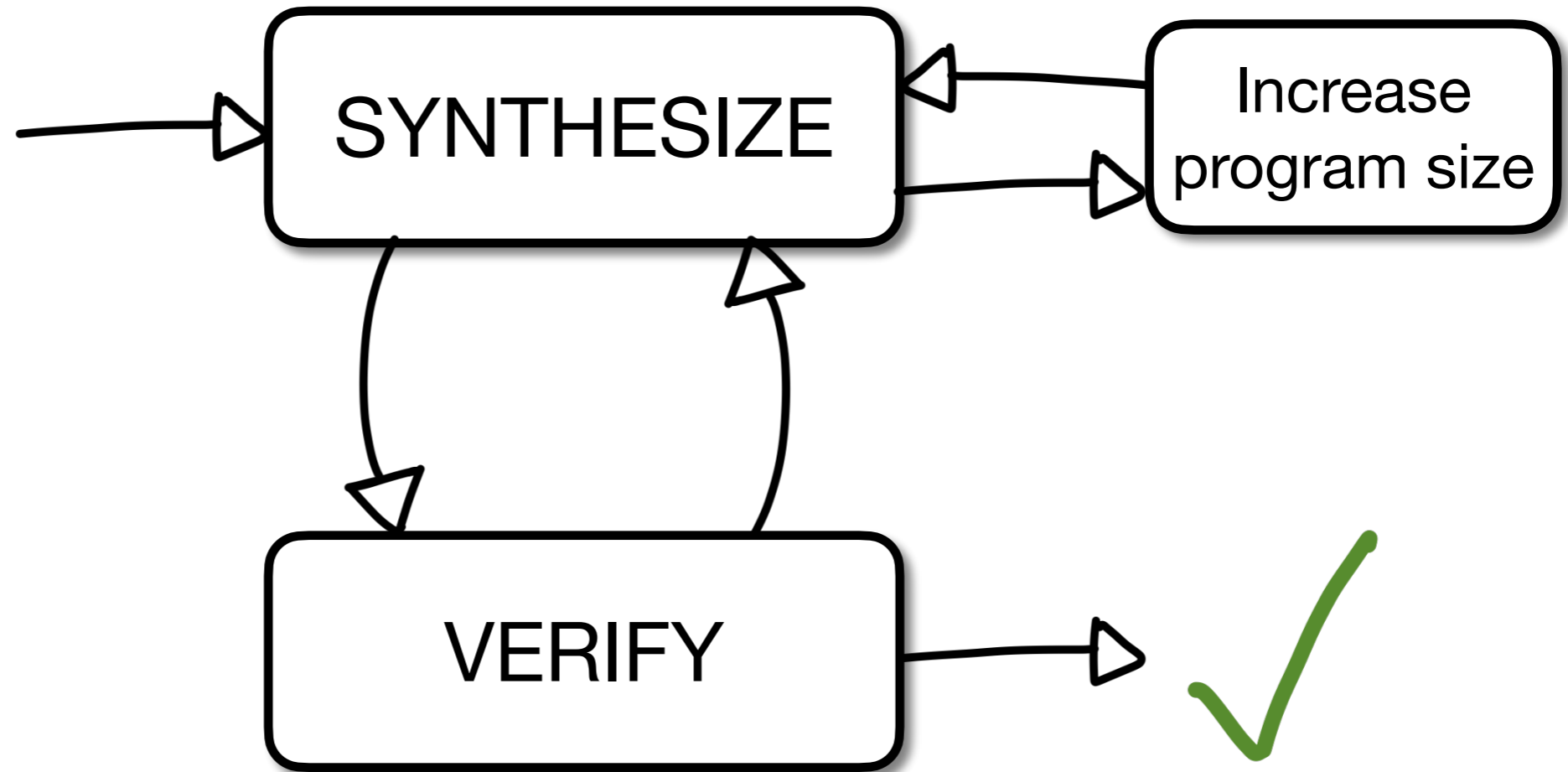
$$init(x) \iff x = 0$$

$$trans(x, x') \iff x' = x + 1$$

$$inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$$

# Synthesis Encoding

$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$



# Synthesis Encoding

$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$

$C_0 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$

$P_1 ::= arg_1 \mid arg_2 \mid C_0$

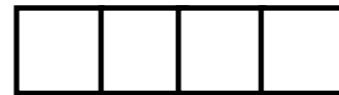


# Synthesis Encoding

$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$

$C_0 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$

$P_1 ::= \text{arg}_1 \mid \text{arg}_2 \mid C_0$



$$P_1 = \text{arg}_1$$

# Synthesis Encoding

$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$

$C_0 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$

$P_1 ::= arg_1 \mid arg_2 \mid C_0$



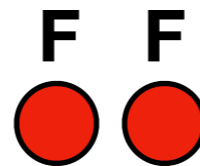
$P_1 = arg_2$

# Synthesis Encoding

$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$

$C_0 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$

$P_1 ::= arg_1 \mid arg_2 \mid C_0$



$P_1 = 1$

# Synthesis Encoding

$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$

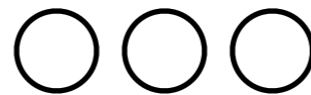
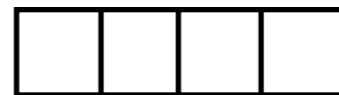
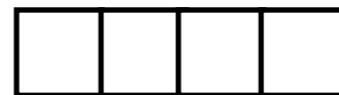
$C_0 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$

$C_1 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$

$P_1 ::= arg_1 \mid arg_2 \mid C_0$

$P_2 ::= P_1 + P_1 \mid arg_1 \mid arg_2 \mid C_1$

$P_3 ::= P_2 + P_1 \mid P_2 - P_1 \mid \dots$





# Synthesis Encoding

$$\exists P^* . \forall x_i . \sigma(P^*, x_i)$$

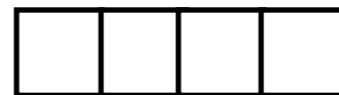
$$C_0 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$$

$$C_1 ::= 0000 \mid 0001 \mid \dots \mid 1111$$

$$P_1 ::= arg_1 \mid arg_2 \mid C_0$$

$$P_2 ::= P_1 + P_1 \mid arg_1 \mid arg_2 \mid C_1$$

$$P_3 ::= P_2 + P_1 \mid P_2 - P_1 \mid \dots$$



$$P_3 = 15 + arg_1$$

# Safety Invariant

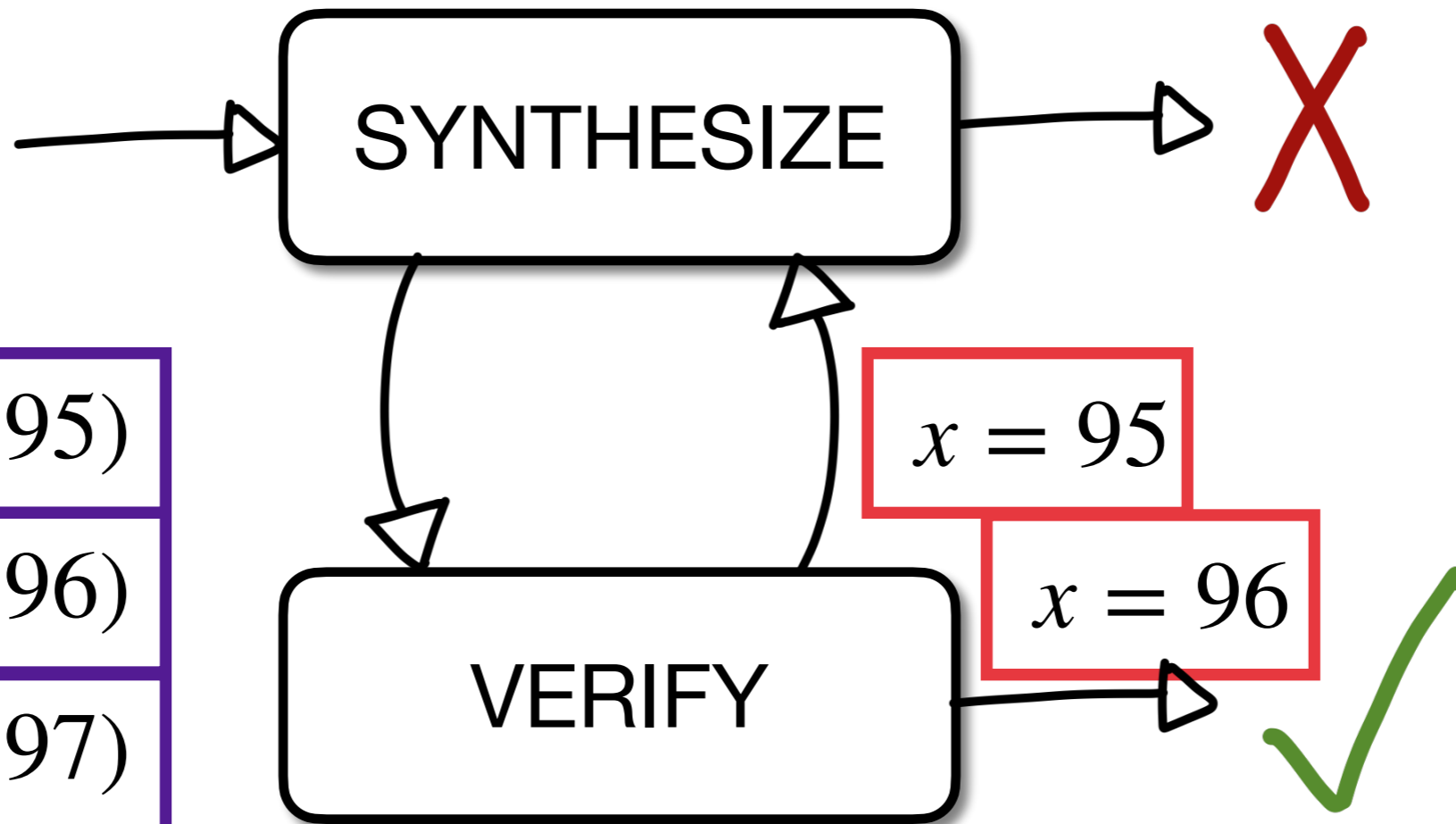
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$$inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x > 1003)$$

Target:  
 $inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$

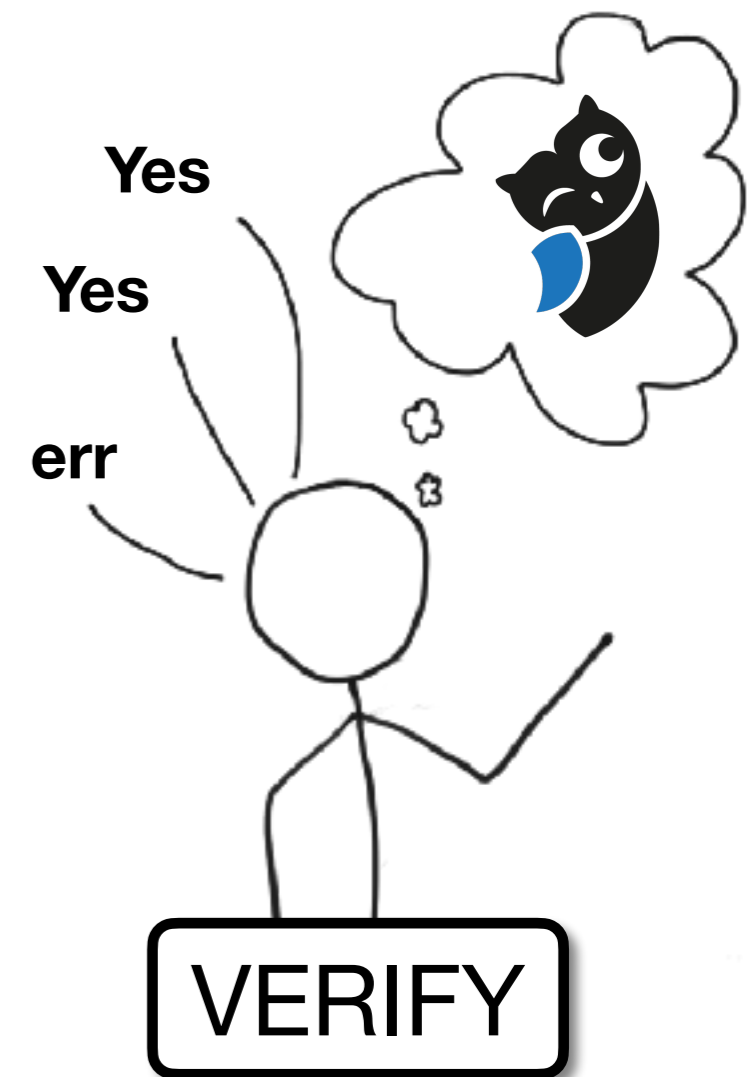
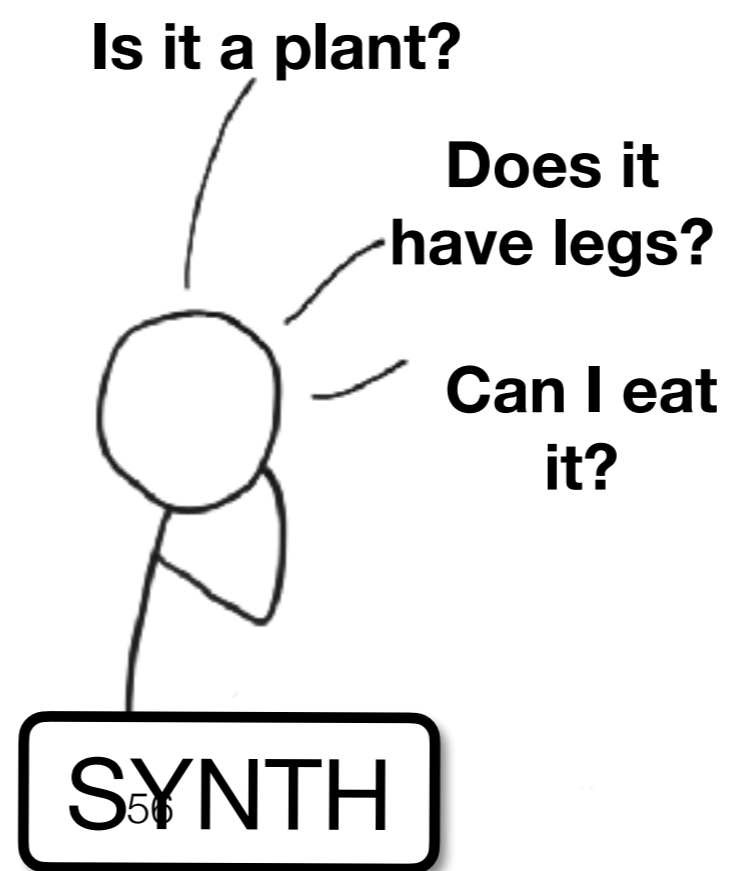
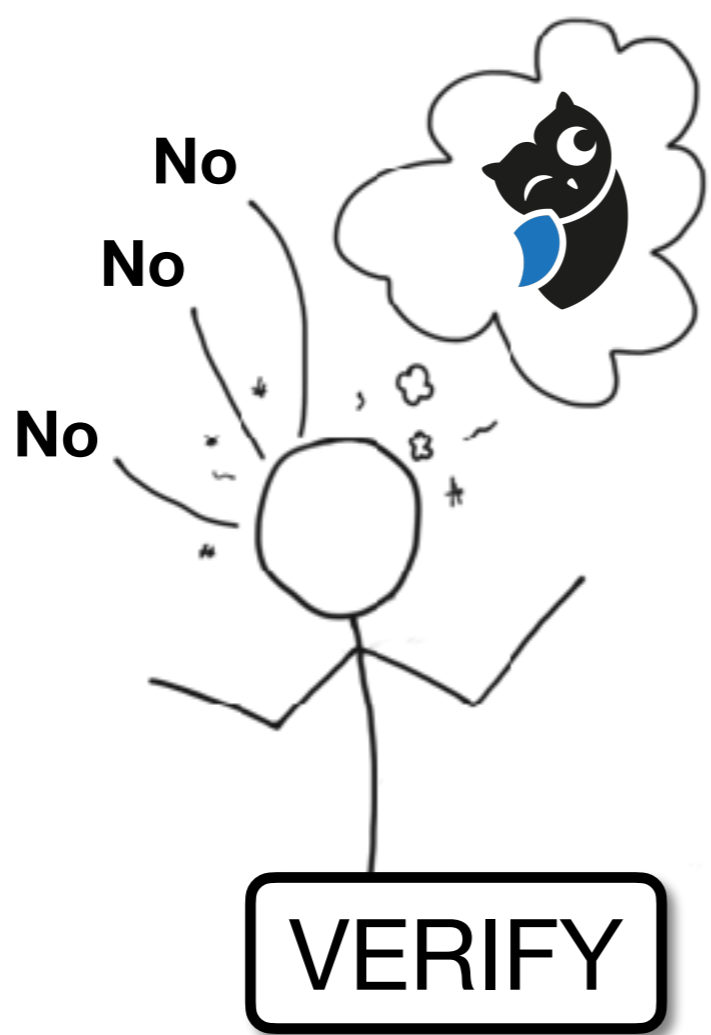
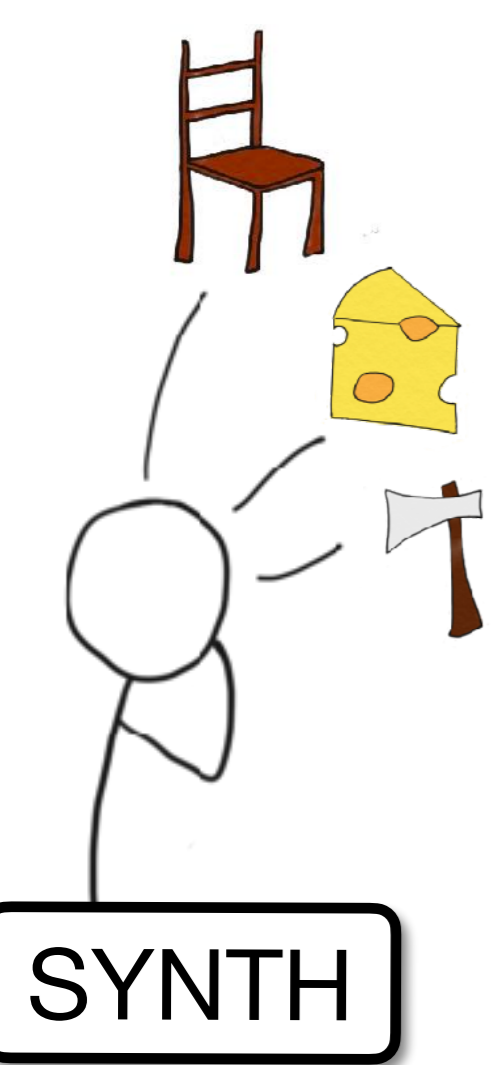


$inv(x) = (x < 95)$

$inv(x) = (x < 96)$

$inv(x) = (x < 97)$

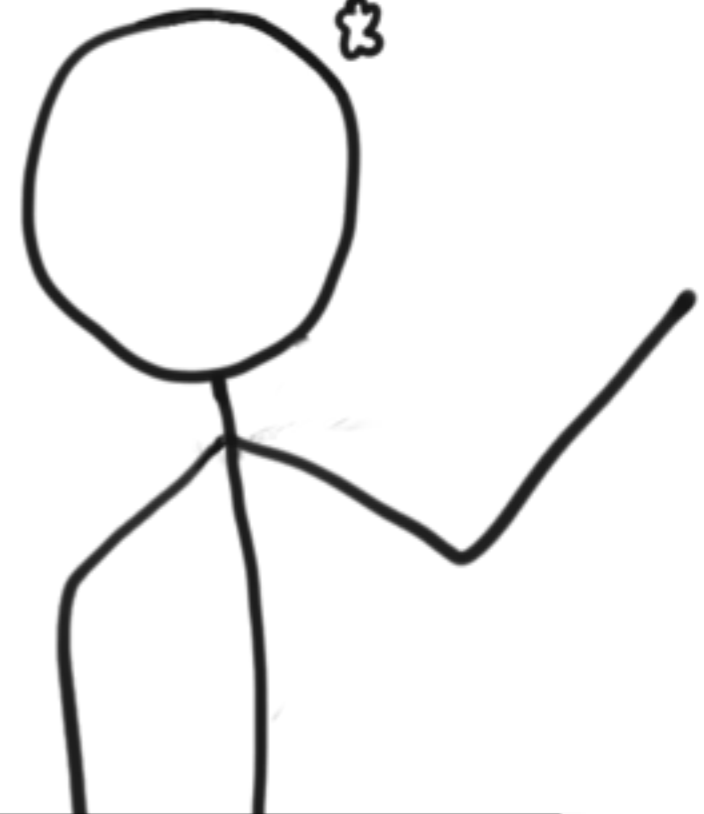
And so on ..



**Can we ask more general  
questions?**



SYNTHESIZE

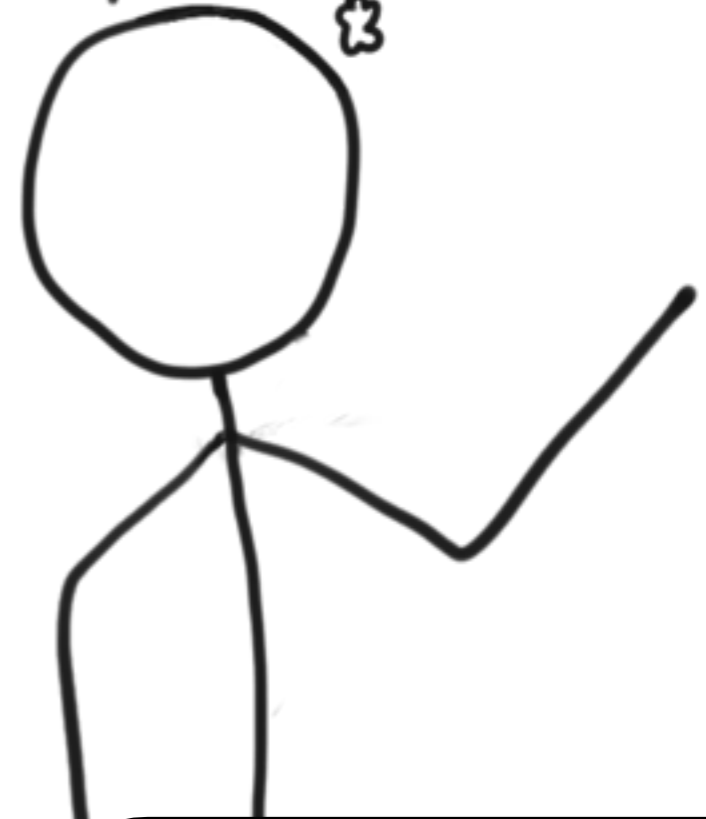


VERIFY

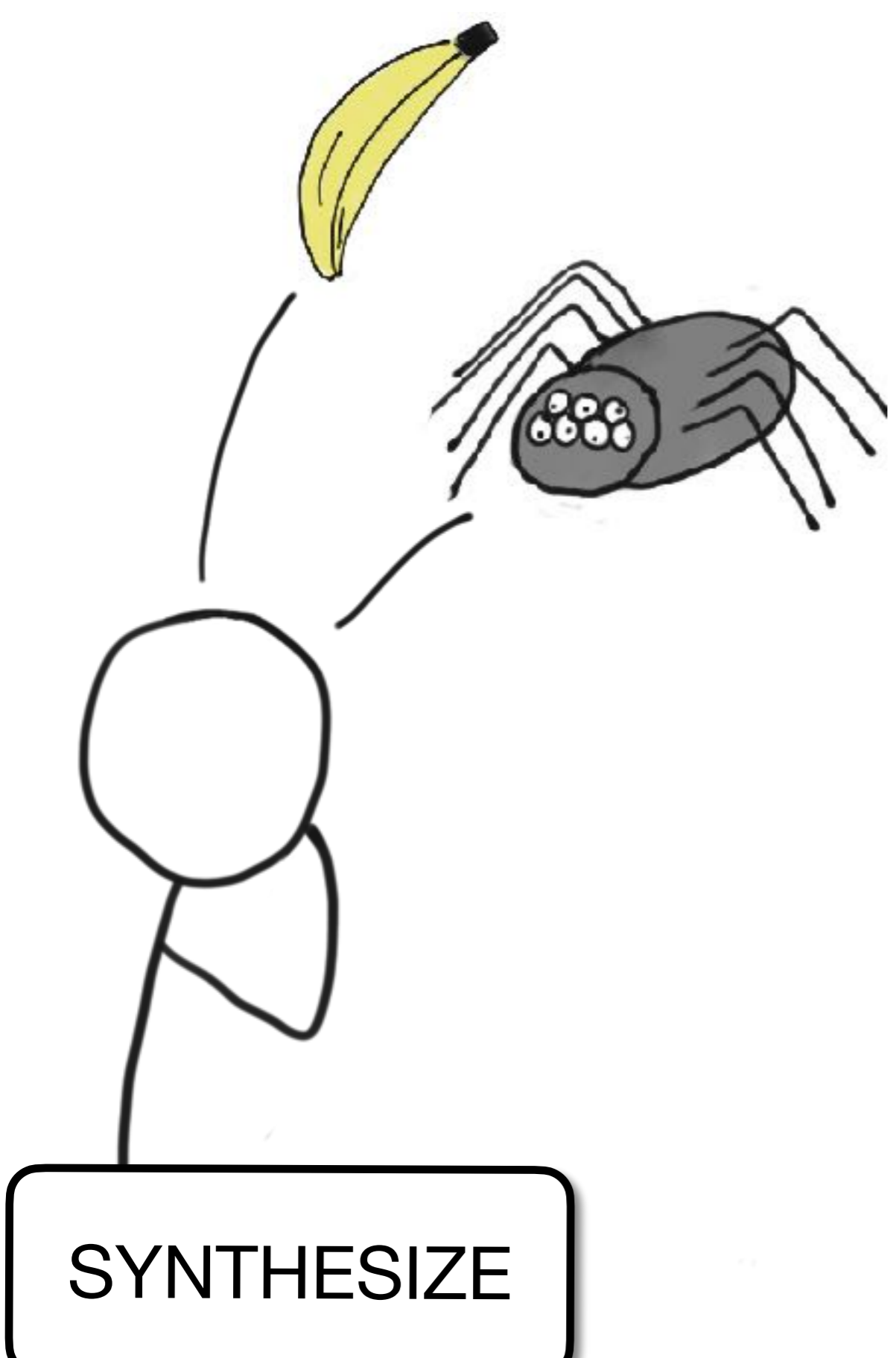


SYNTHESIZE

No, it's not a plant



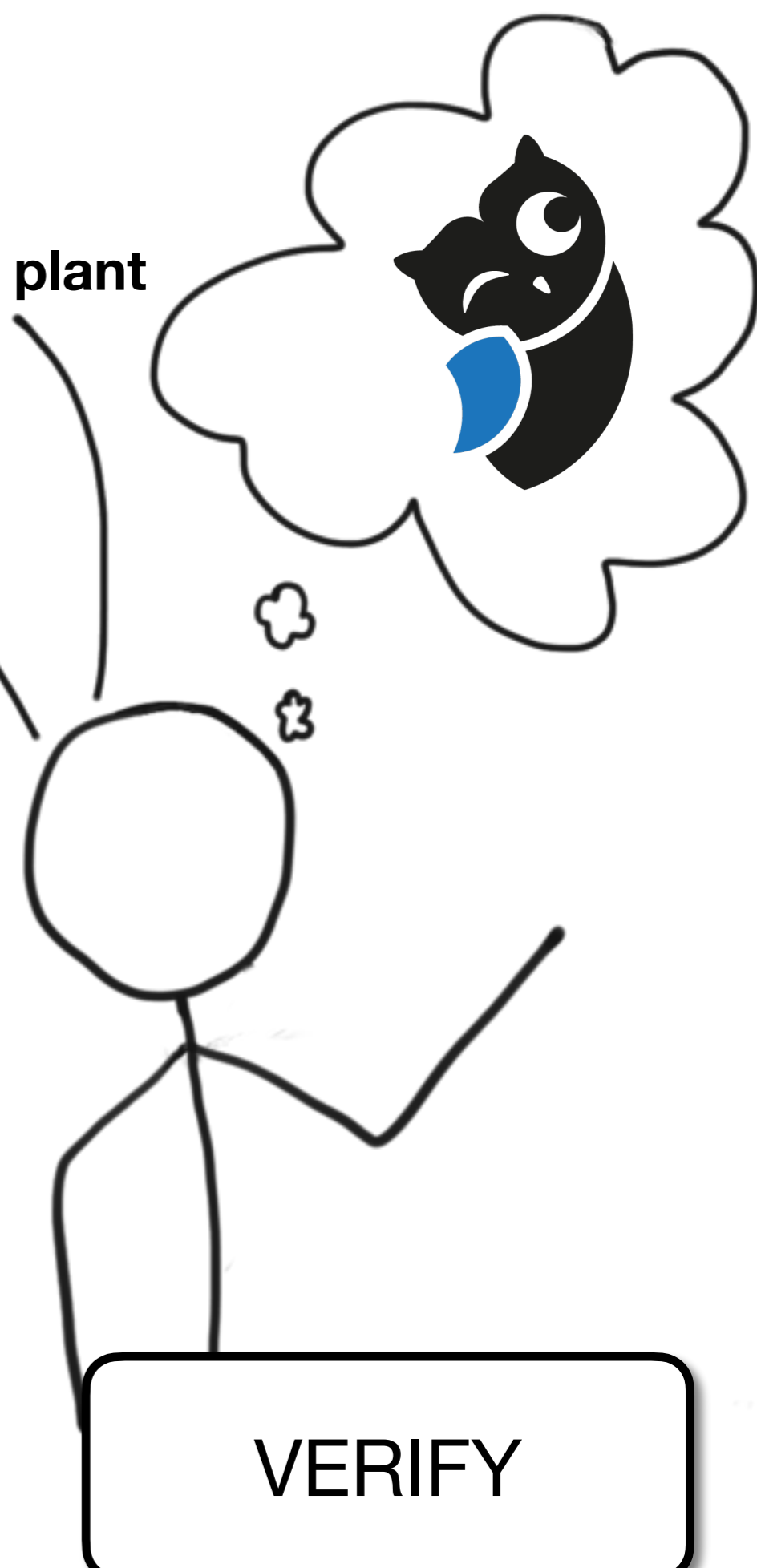
VERIFY



**SYNTHESIZE**

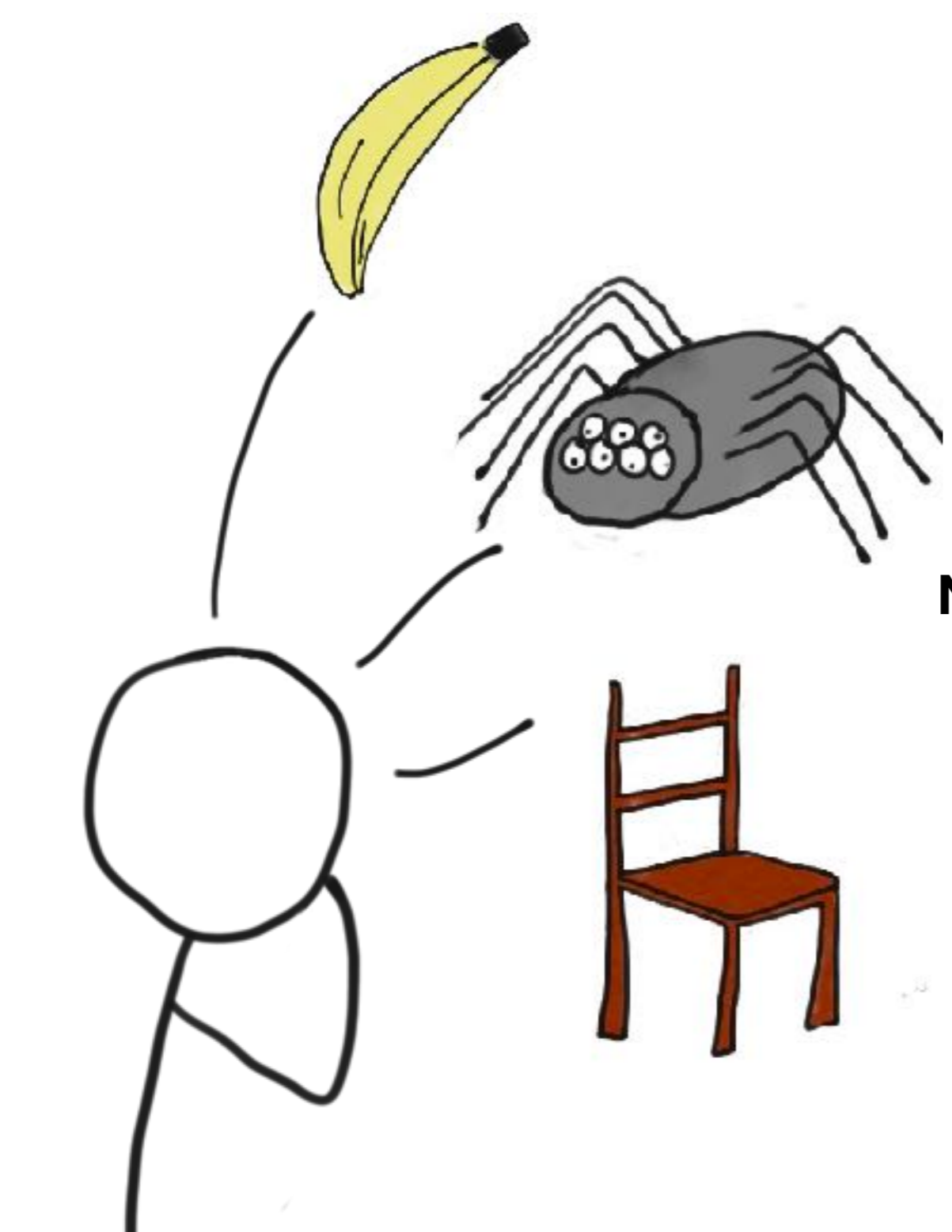
**No, it's not a plant**

**No, it has  
< 4 legs**



**VERIFY**



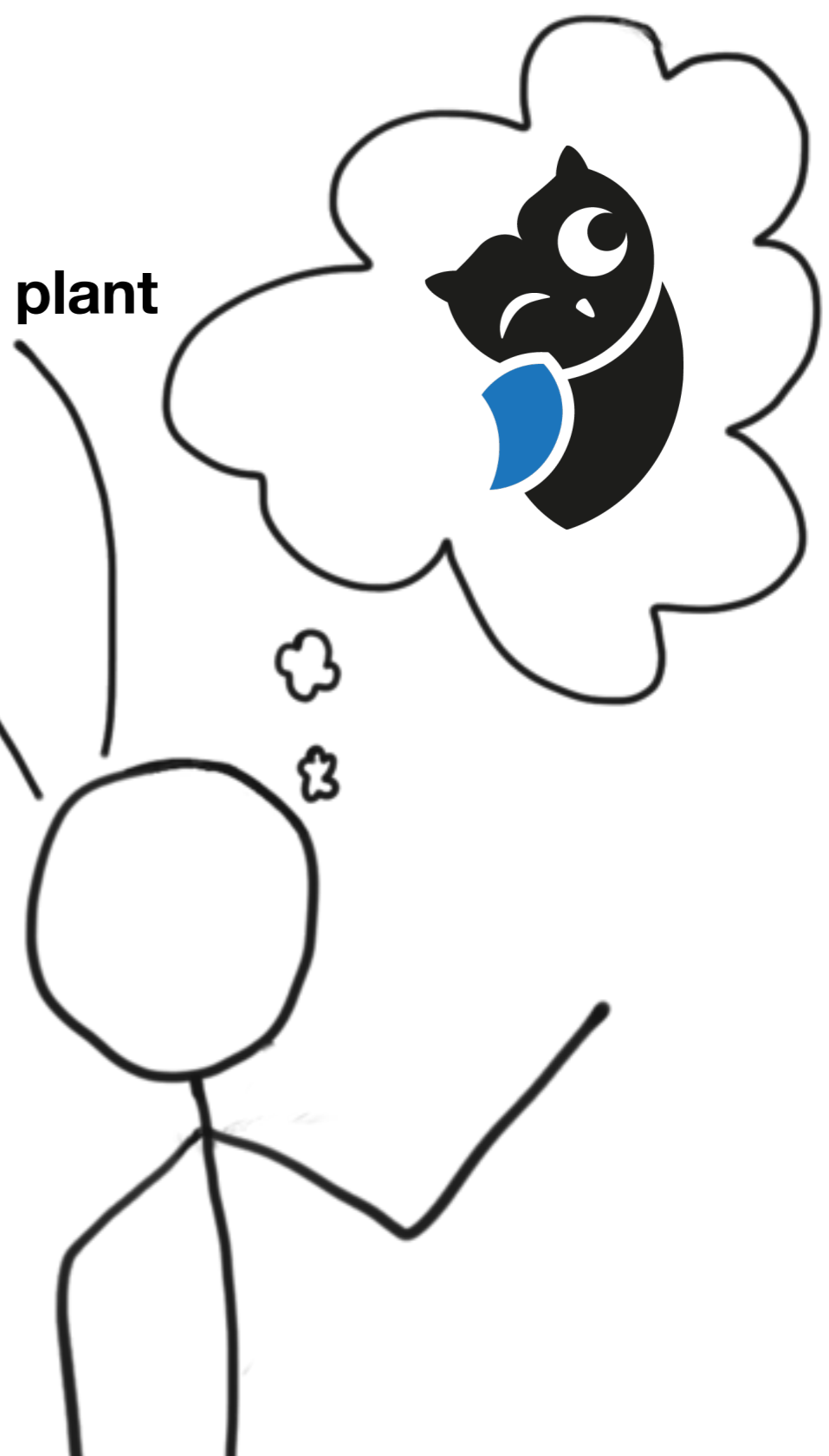


**SYNTHESIZE**

**No, it's not a plant**

**No, it has  
< 8 legs**

**No, it has  
< 4 legs**



**VERIFY**

**Can we give more general  
answers?**

**More general questions**

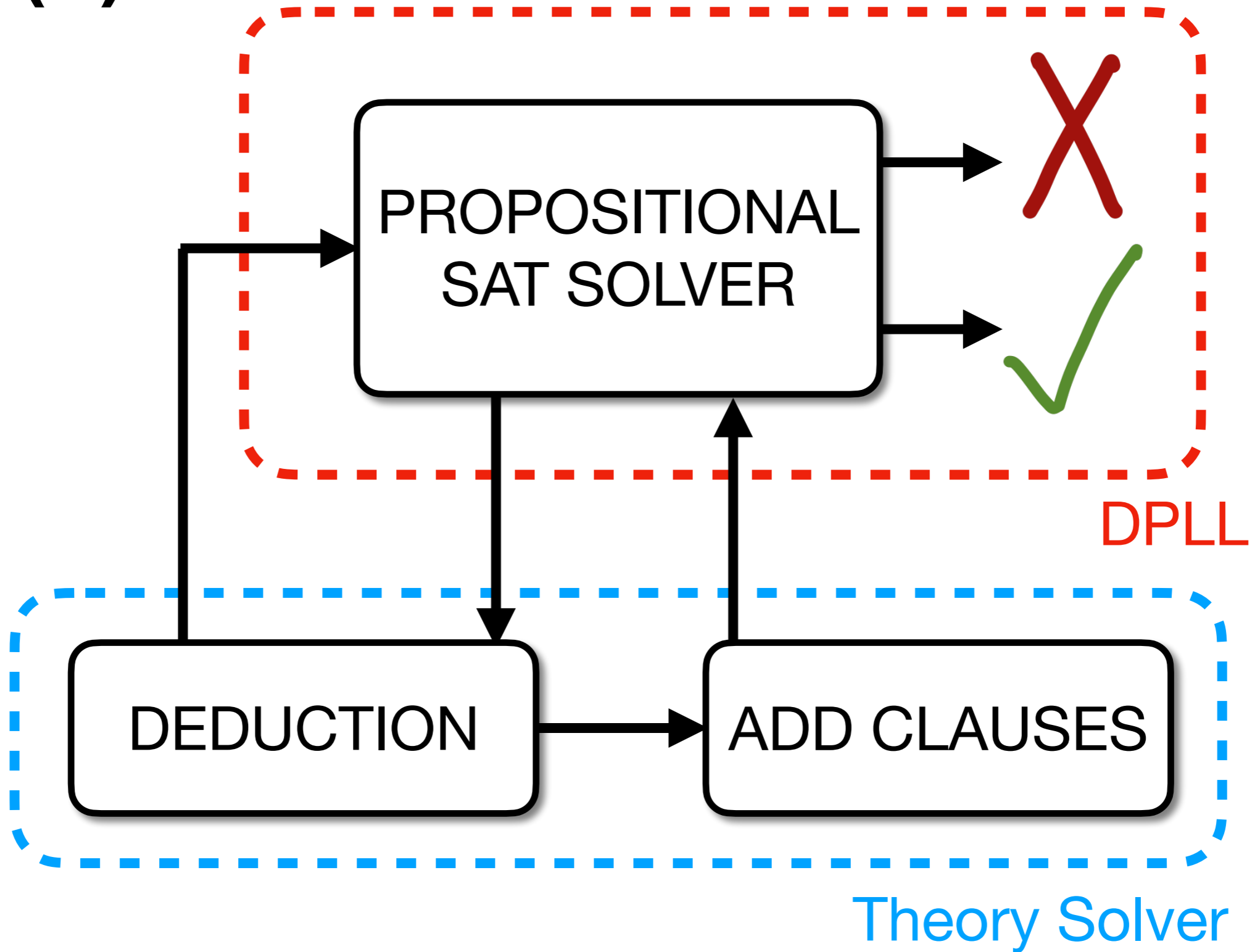


**More general answers**

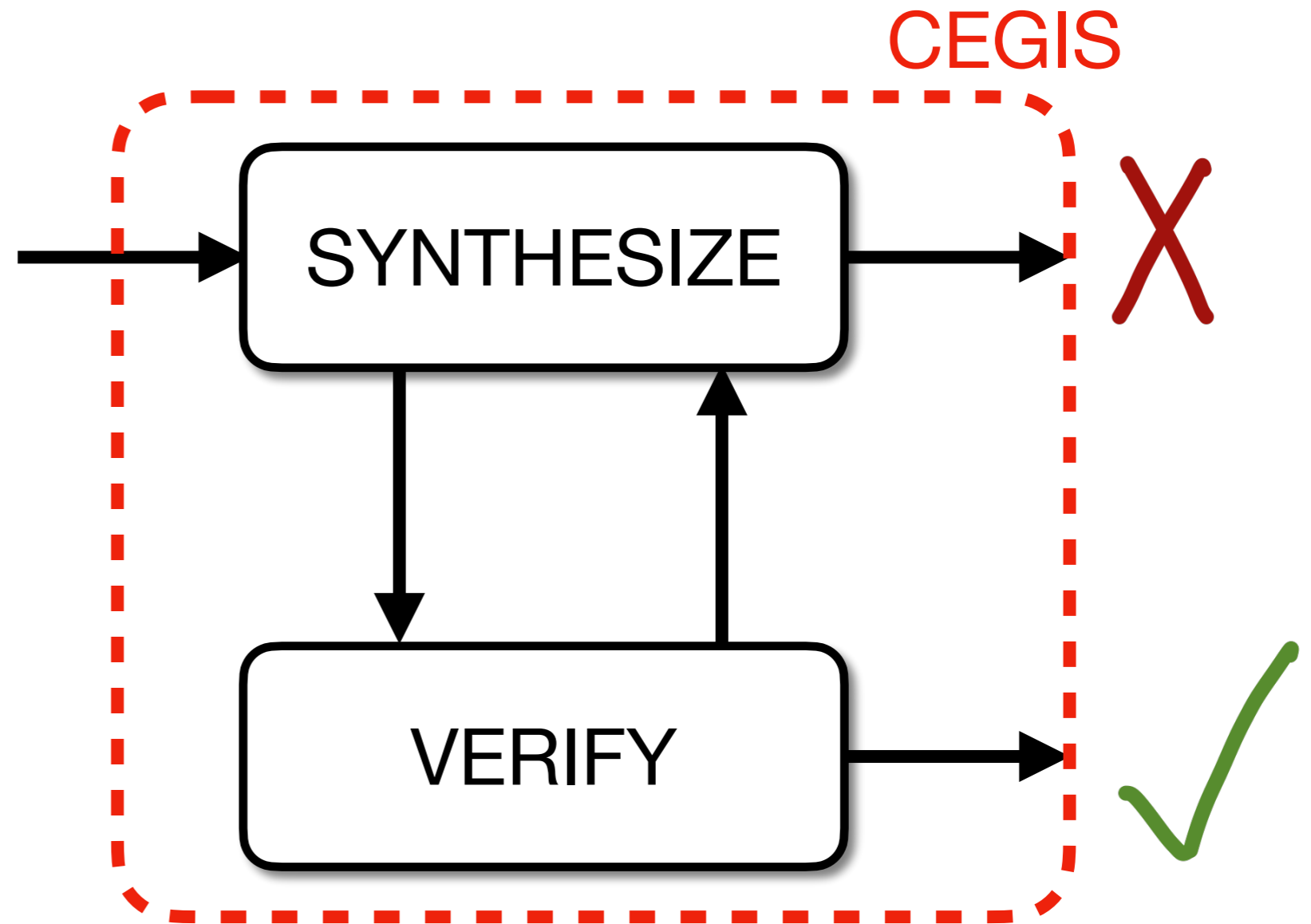


**CEGIS(T)**

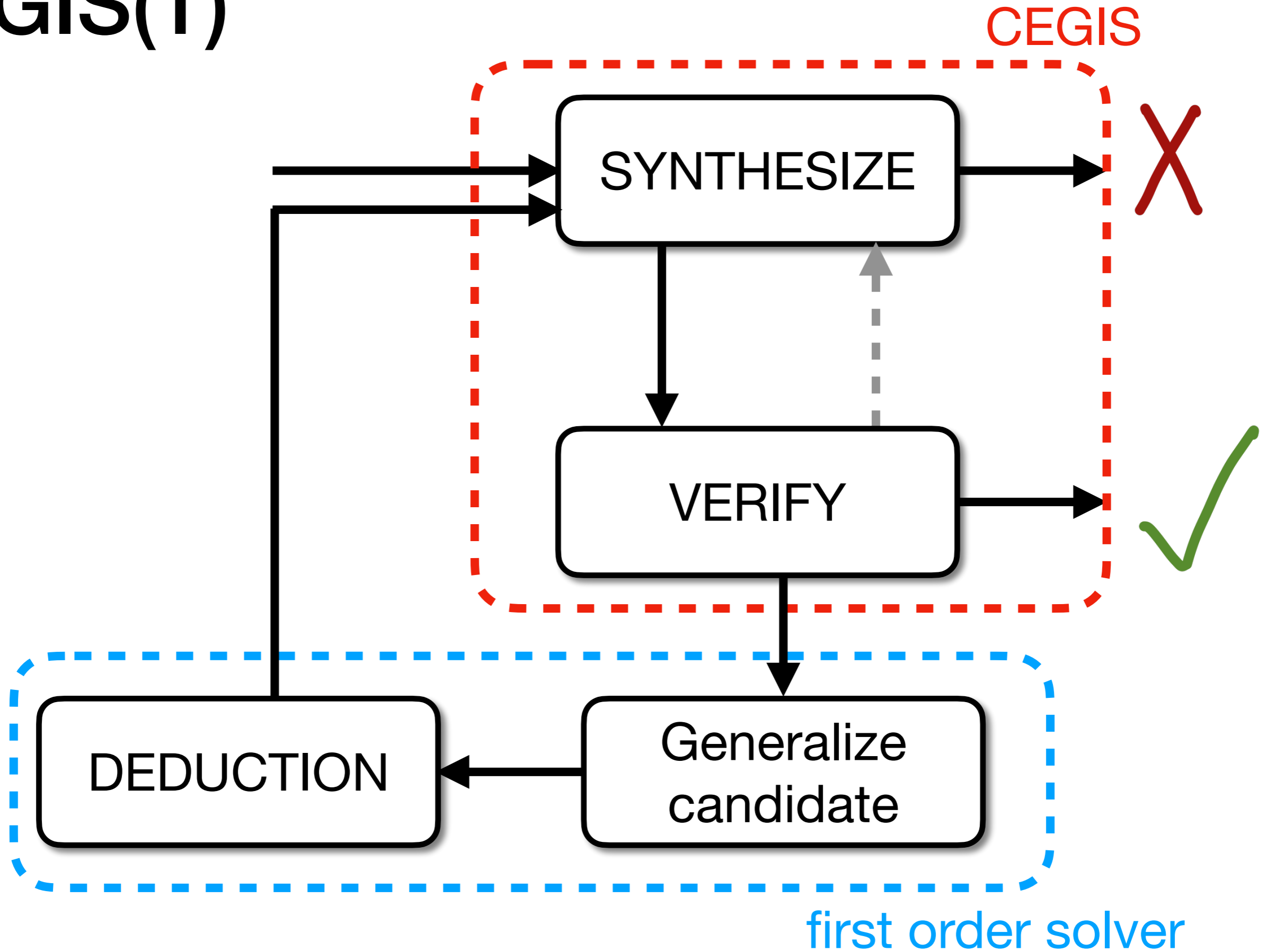
# DPLL(T)



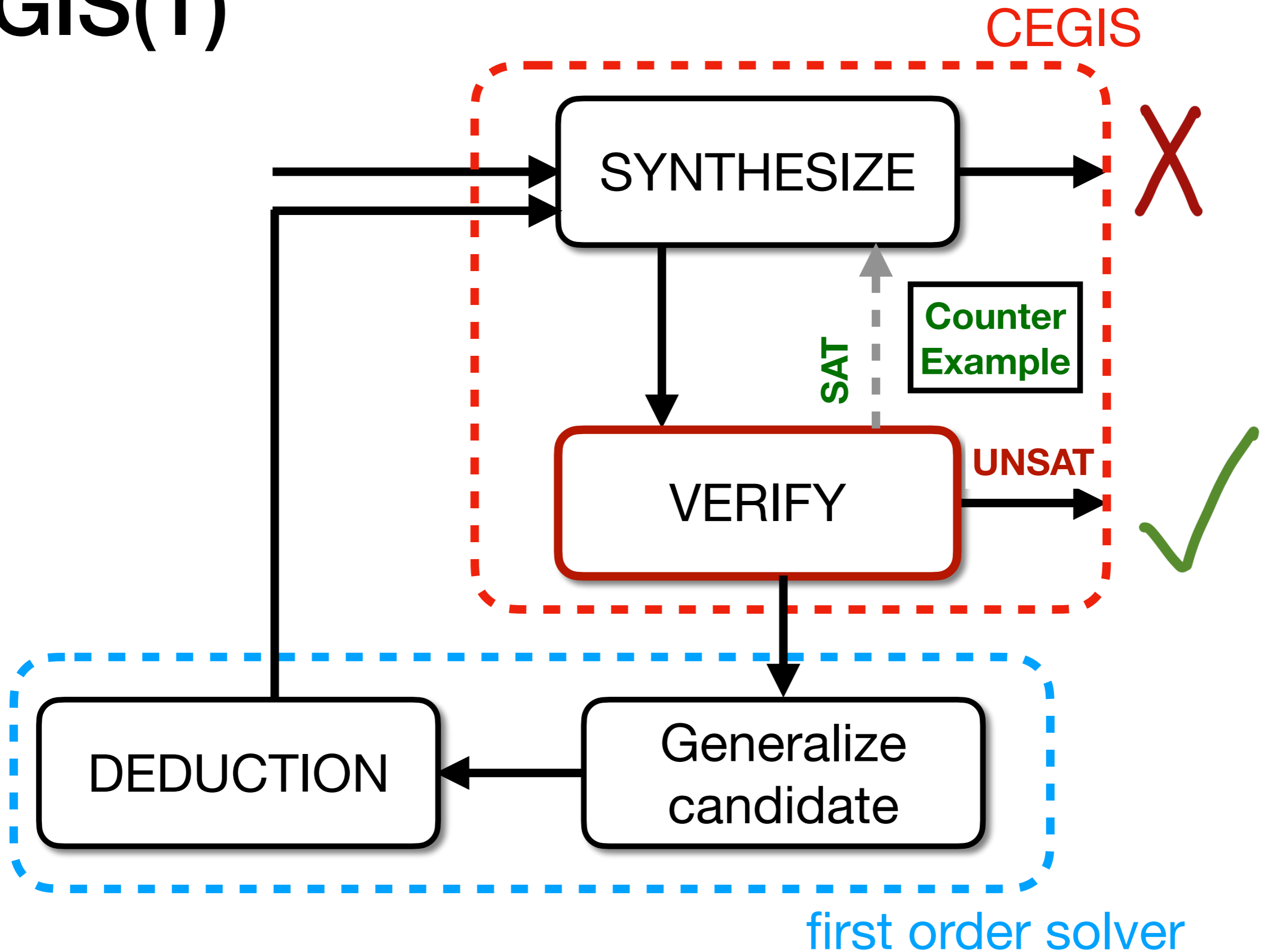
# CEGIS(T)



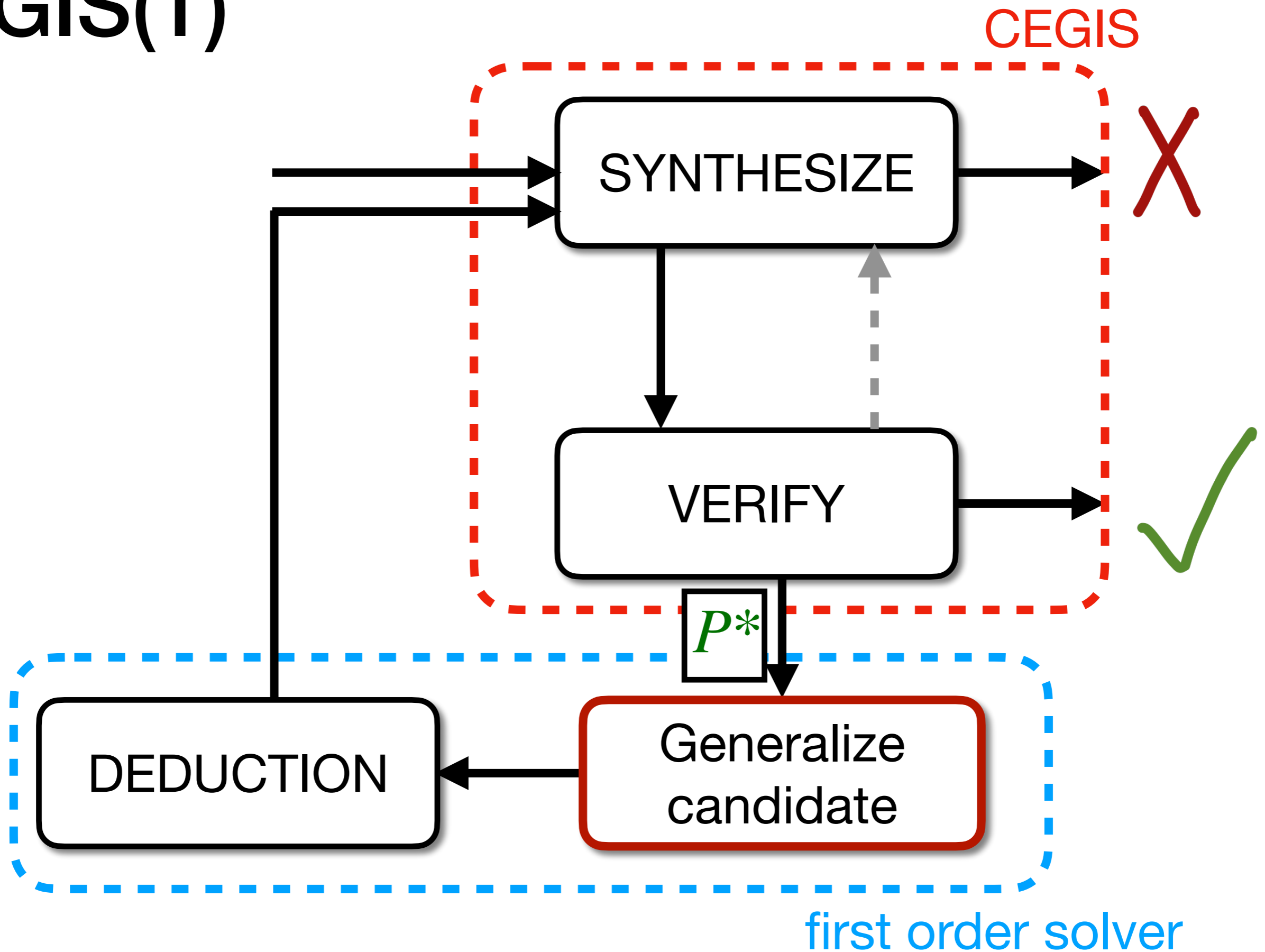
# CEGIS(T)



# CEGIS(T)

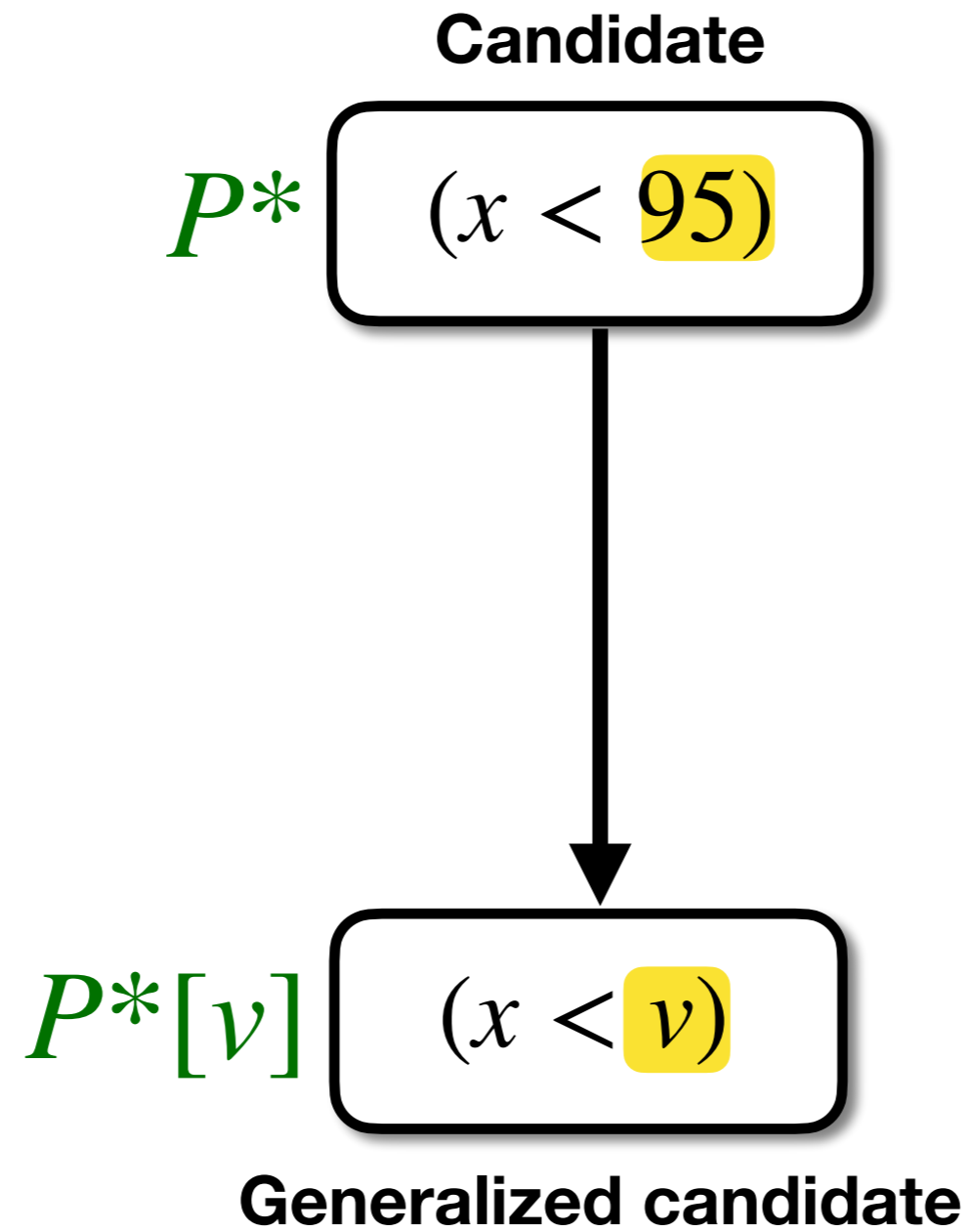


# CEGIS(T)

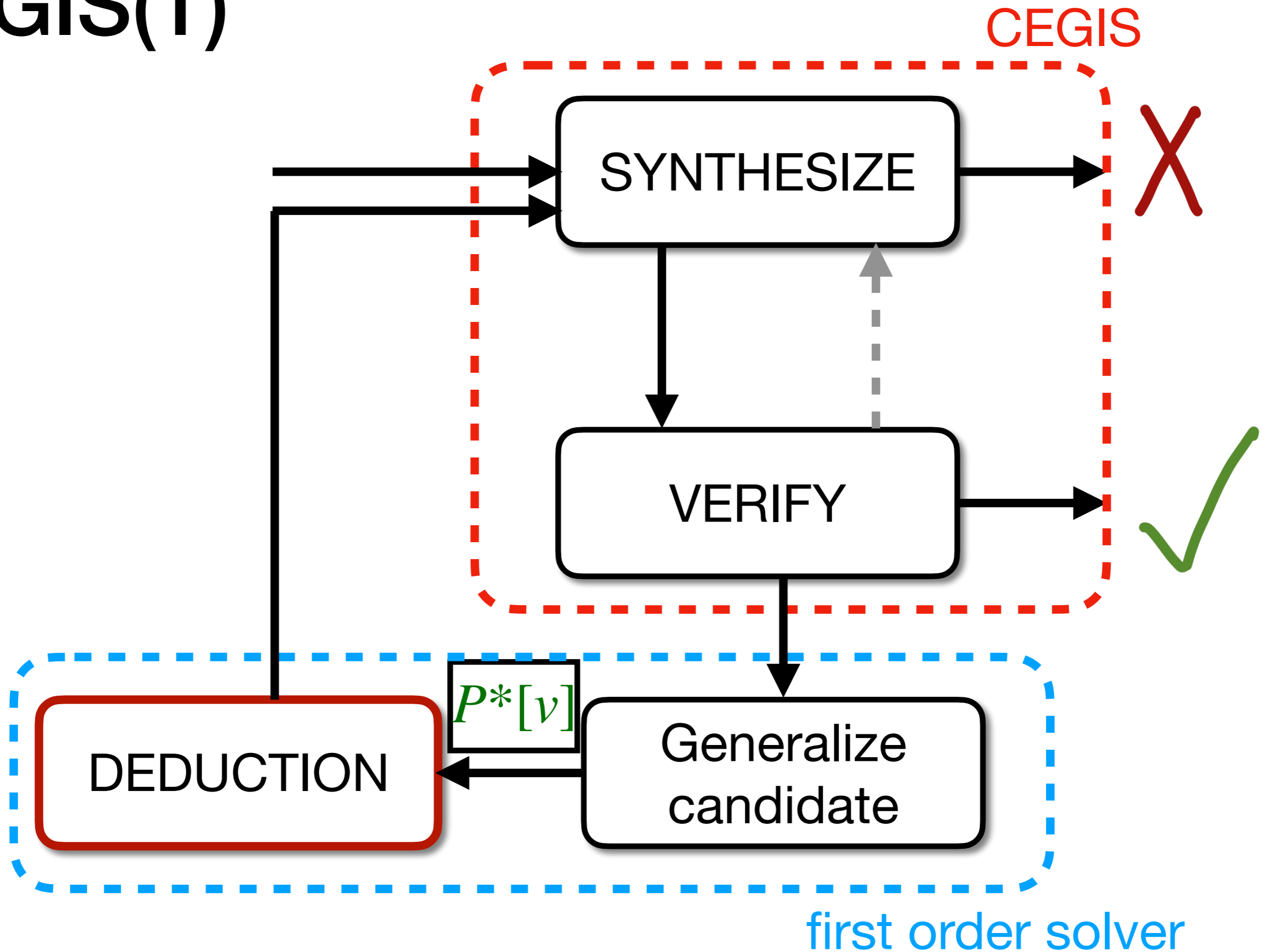




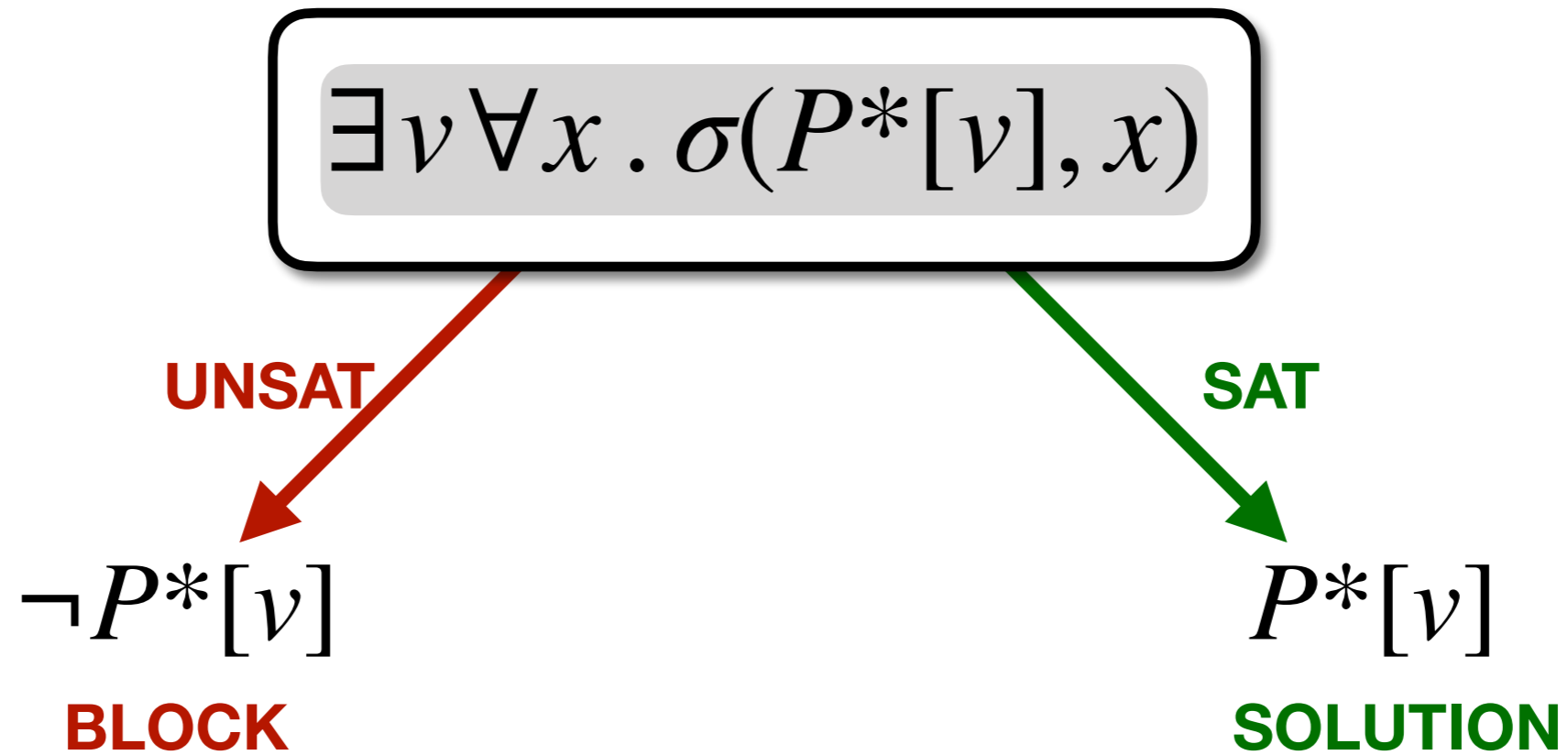
# Generalize



# CEGIS(T)

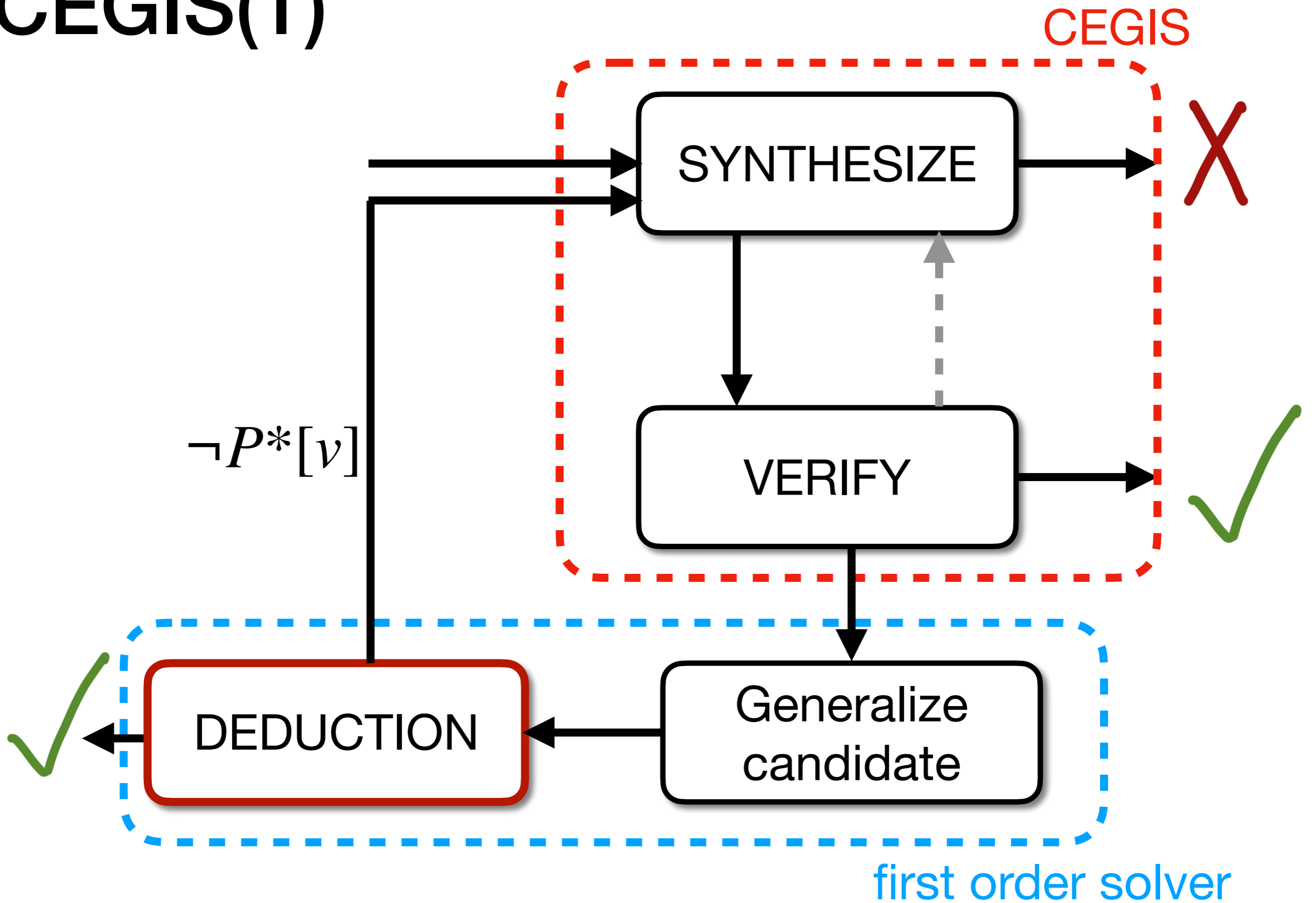


# Deduction

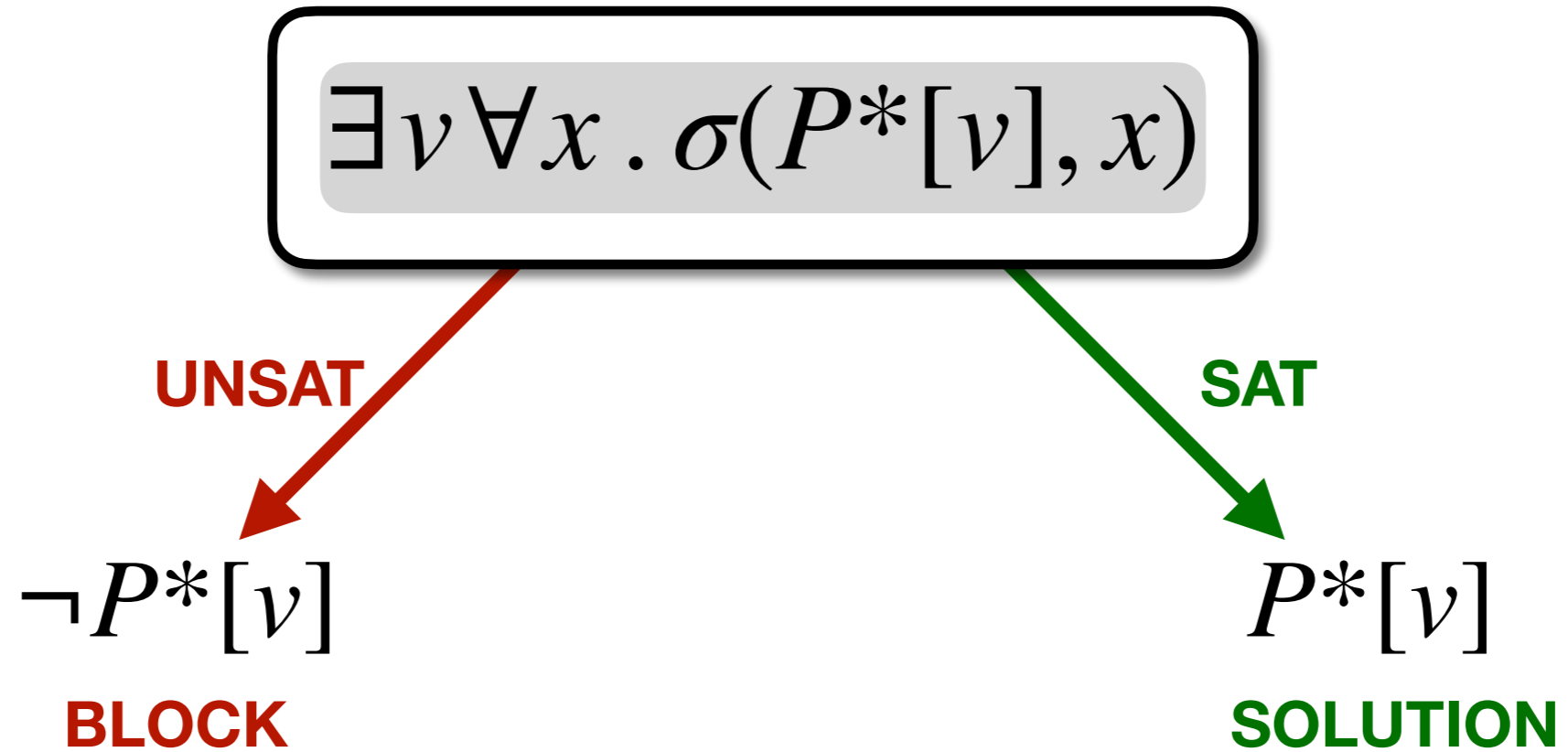


**is there a value for  $v$  that makes  $(x < v)$  a valid invariant**

# CEGIS(T)



# CEGIS(T) - SMT



# First Order Solver

Solves first order formula with:

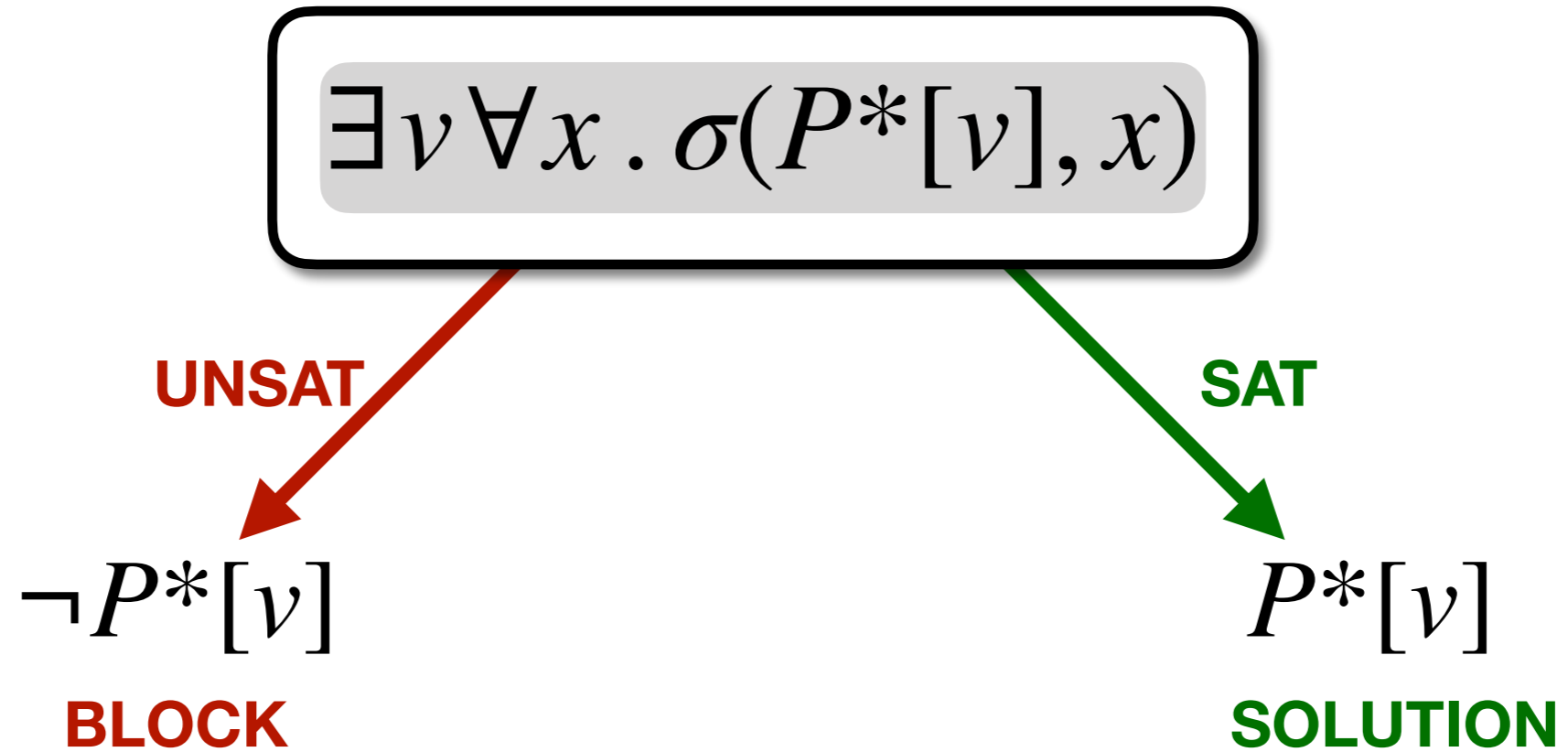
- Arbitrary propositional structure
- 1 quantifier alternation

Paper presents 2 versions:

- SMT (Z3) [1]
- Fourier Motzkin

**[1] Z3: An Efficient SMT Solver. De Moura et al. TACAS 2008**

# CEGIS(T) - SMT



# CEGIS(T) - SMT

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v < c)$$

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v > c)$$

$\neg P^*[v]$   
**BLOCK**

$v > c$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$v < c$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$P^*[v]$   
**SOLUTION**



Target:

$$\text{inv}(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$$

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v < c)$$

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v > c)$$

$$P^* = (x < 95)$$

$$P^*[v] = (x < v)$$

$$\neg P^*[v]$$

**BLOCK**

$$v > c$$

**CONSTRAINT**

$$v < c$$

**CONSTRAINT**

$$P^*[v]$$

**SOLUTION**

Target:

$$\text{inv}(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$$

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v < 95)$$

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v > 95)$$

$$P^* = (x < 95)$$

$$P^*[v] = (x < v)$$

$$\neg P^*[v]$$

**BLOCK**

$$v > 95$$

**CONSTRAINT**

$$v < 95$$

**CONSTRAINT**

$$P^*[v]$$

**SOLUTION**

Target:  
 $inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$

UNSAT

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v < 95)$

UNSAT

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v > 95)$

$\neg P^*[v]$

**BLOCK**

$v > 95$

**CONSTRAINT**

$v < 95$

**CONSTRAINT**

$P^*[v]$

**SOLUTION**

Target:  
 $inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$

**UNSAT**

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v < 95)$

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v > 95)$

$\neg P^*[v]$   
**BLOCK**

$v > 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$v < 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$P^*[v]$   
**SOLUTION**

Target:  
 $inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$

**UNSAT**

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v < 95)$

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v > 95)$

$\neg P^*[v]$   
**BLOCK**

$v > 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$v < 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$P^*[v]$   
**SOLUTION**

Target:  
 $inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$

**SAT**

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v_1 < 95)$

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v_1 > 95)$

$\neg P^*[v]$   
**BLOCK**

$v > 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$v < 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$P^*[v]$   
**SOLUTION**

Target:  
 $inv(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$

SAT

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v_1 < 95)$

$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v_1 > 95)$

$\neg P^*[v]$   
**BLOCK**

$v > 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$v < 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$P^*[v]$   
**SOLUTION**

Target:

$$\text{inv}(x) = (4 < x) \wedge (x < 1003)$$

**TIMEOUT**

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v_1 < 95)$$

**TIMEOUT**

$$\exists v \forall x . \sigma(P^*[v], x) \wedge (v_1 > 95)$$



$\neg P^*[v]$   
**BLOCK**

$v > 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$v < 95$   
**CONSTRAINT**

$P^*[v]$   
**SOLUTION**



# Experiments

## Benchmarks:

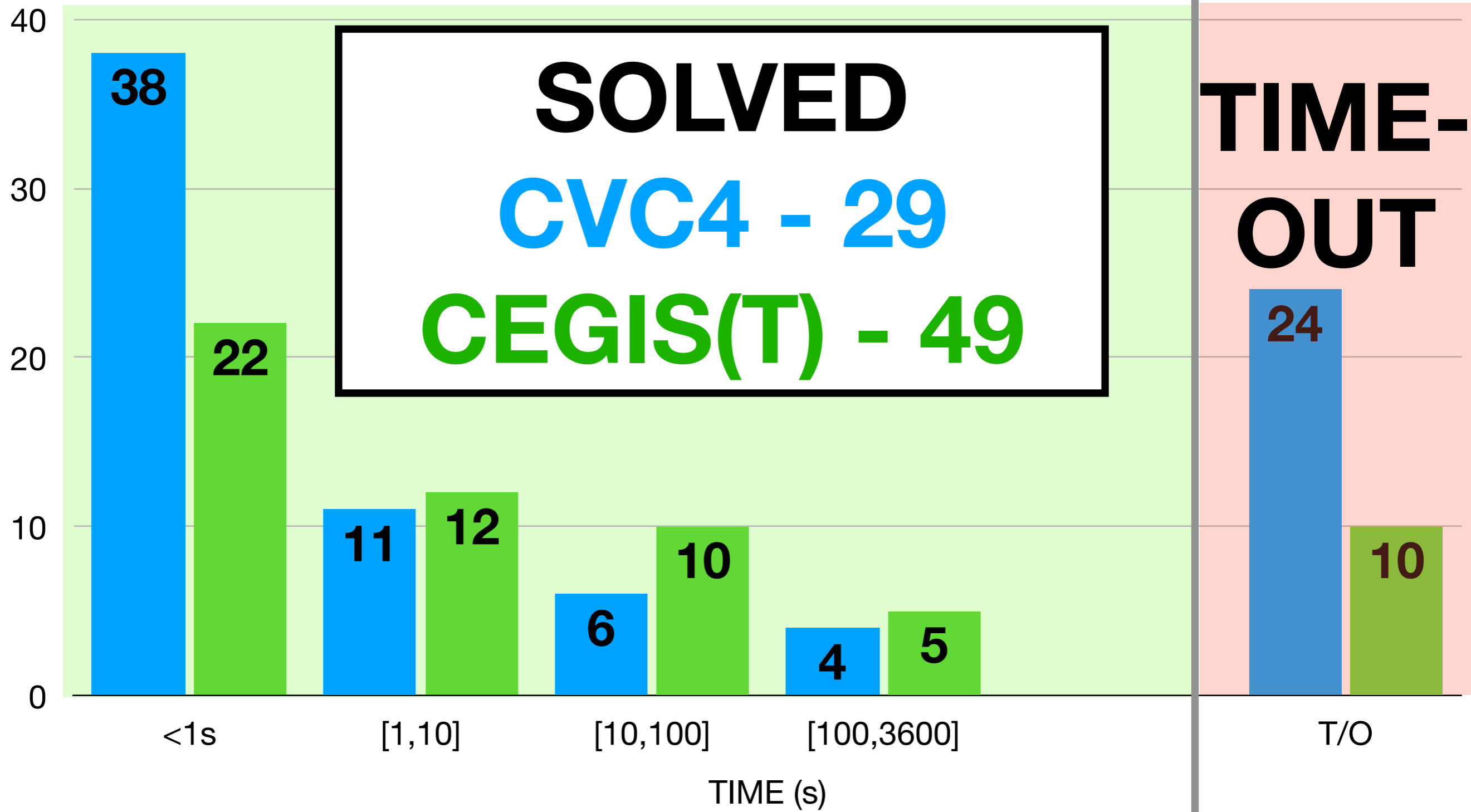
- Bitvectors
- Syntax-guided Synthesis competition (**without** the syntax)
- Loop invariants
- Danger invariants

## Solvers:

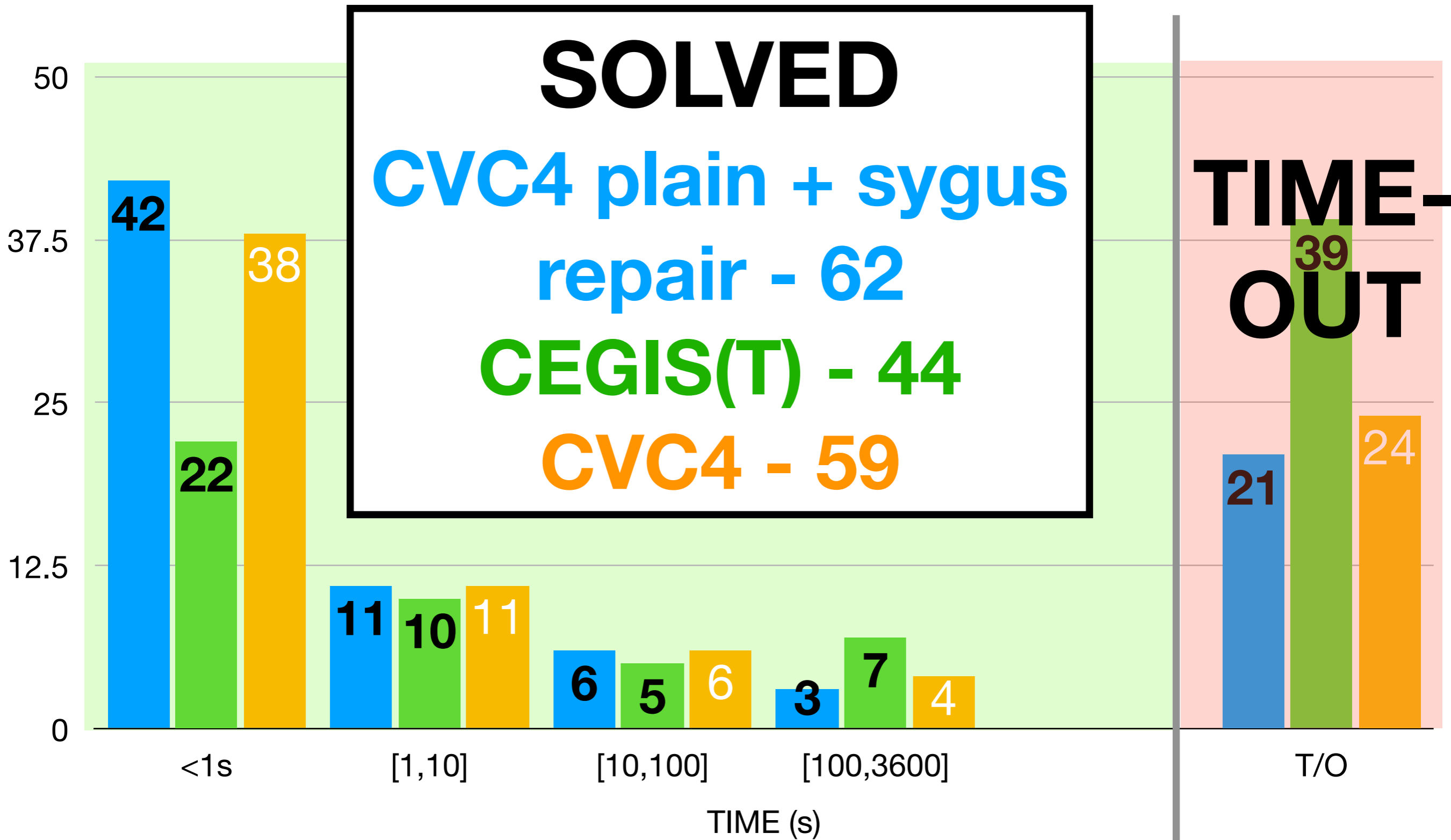
- CVC4 [1]
- EUSolver, E3Solver, LoopInvGen – bitvectors with no grammar unsupported

[1] CVC4. Barrett et al. CAV 2011

# Experiments



# Experiments



# CEGIS(T) - Conclusions

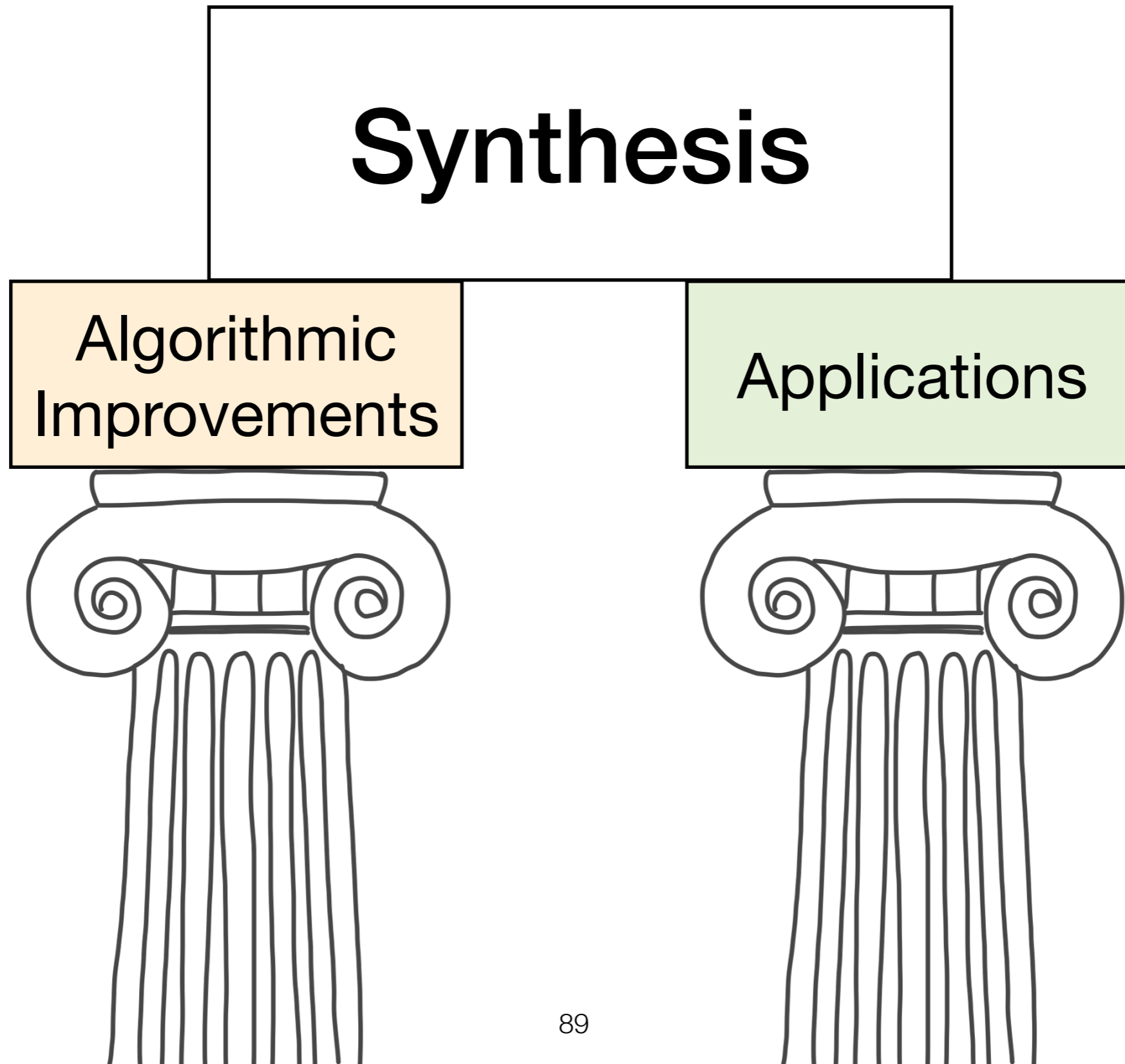
CEGIS(T) solves program synthesis via 1<sup>st</sup> order solvers that support quantifiers:

- Enables use of existing solvers

Algorithmic insights:

- verify generalized candidate solutions
- return generalized counterexamples

# Future Work



# Future Work

## Synthesis

Algorithmic  
Improvements

Applications

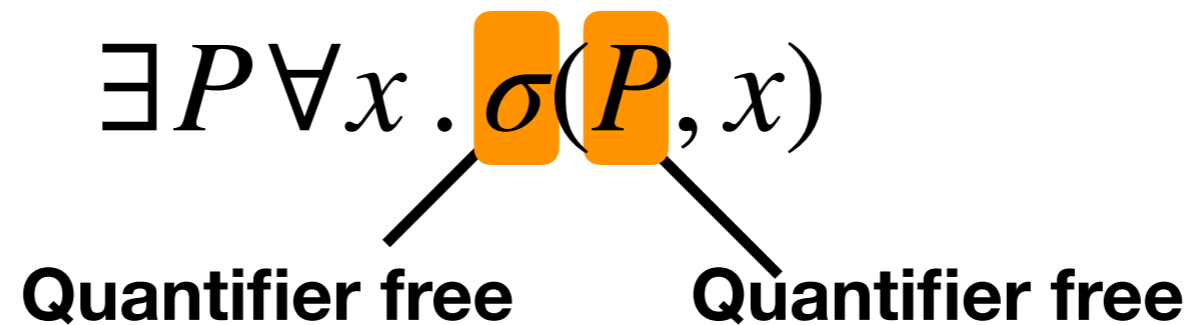
More theories

Quantification  
over infinite  
domains

**Fully** automating  
verification using  
synthesis

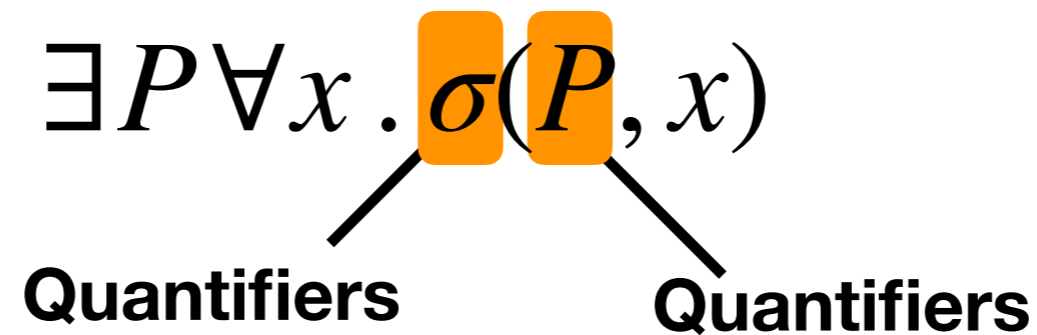
# Quantification Over Infinite Domains

- Reasoning about unbounded or large data structures requires quantification



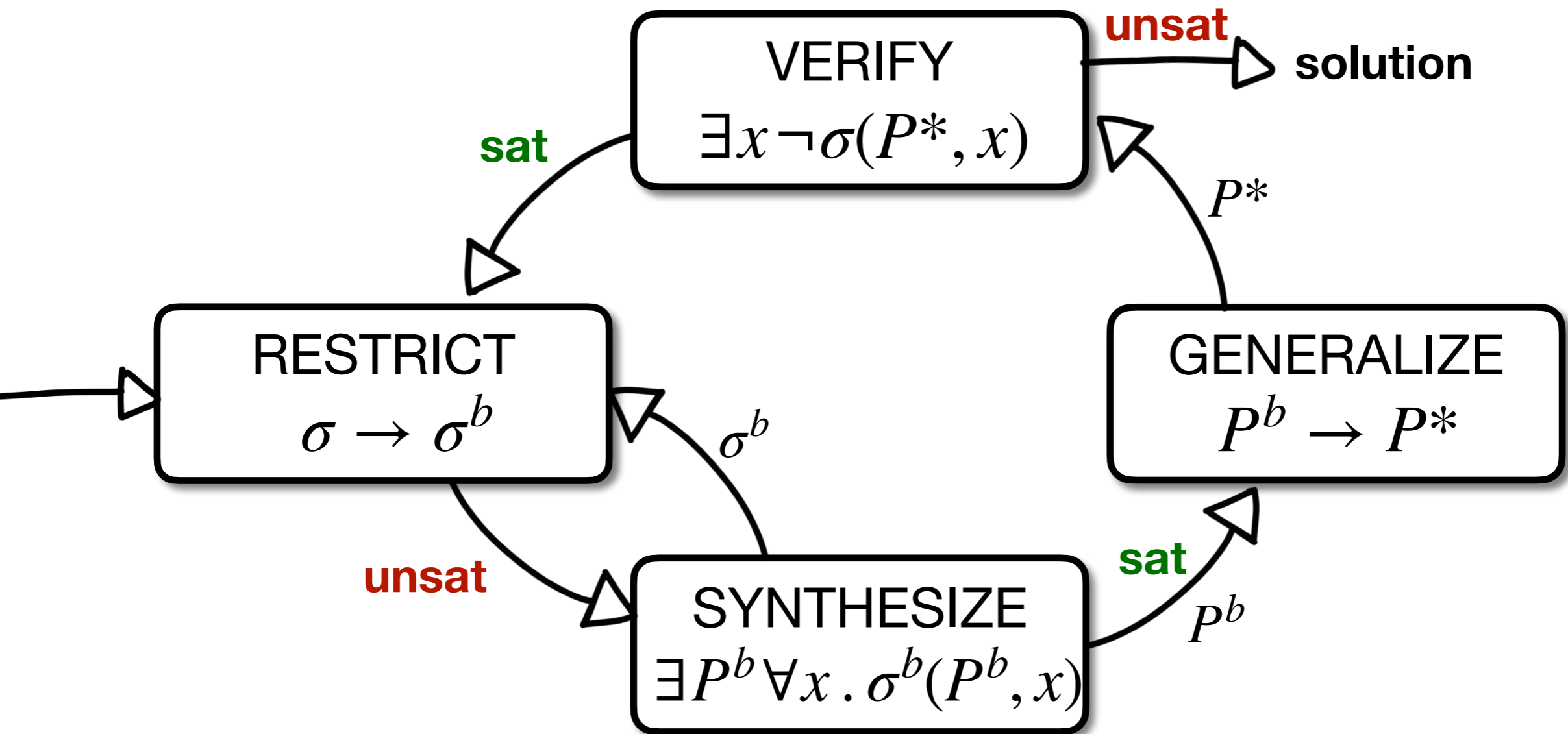
# Quantification Over Infinite Domains

- Reasoning about unbounded or large data structures requires quantification

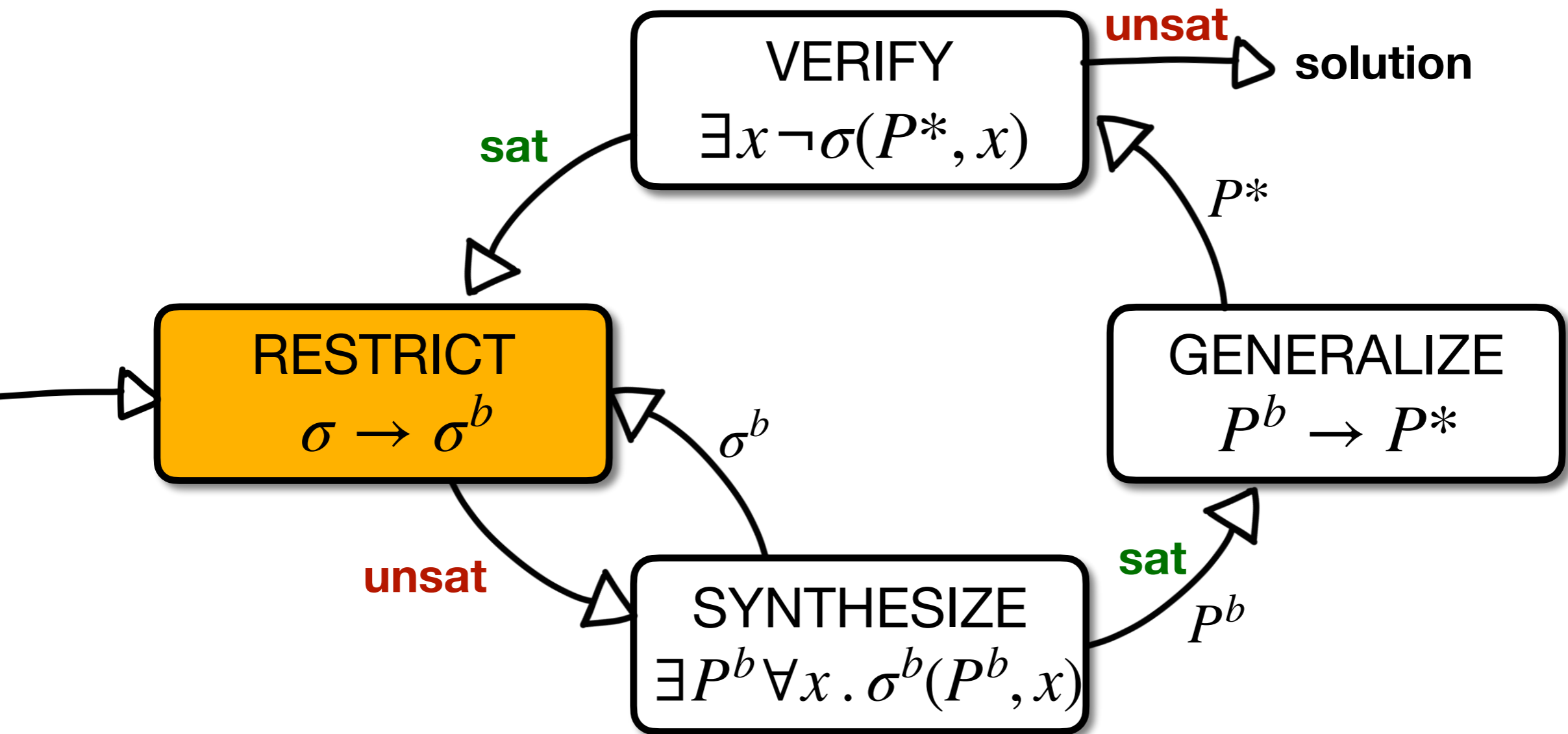




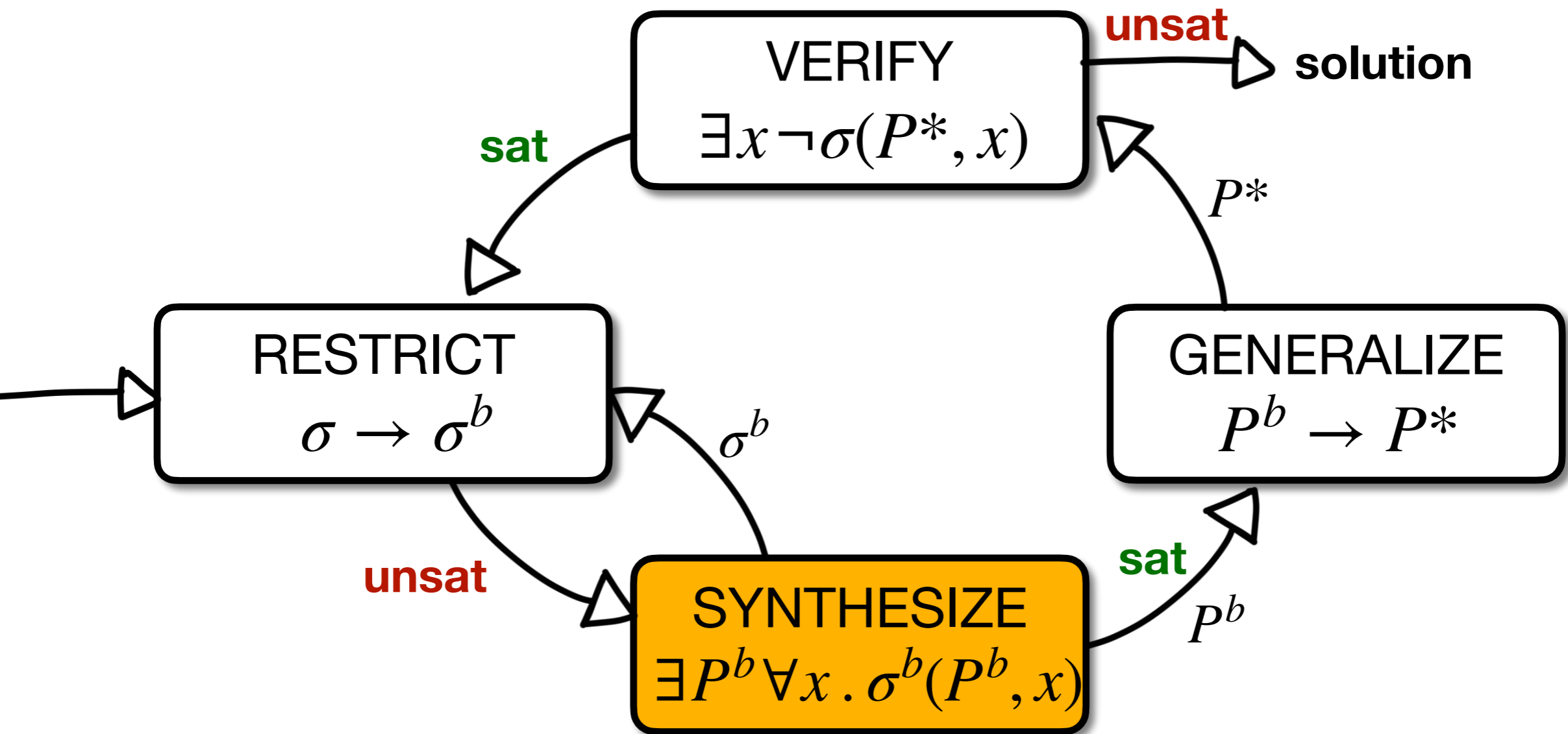
# Quantification Over Infinite Domains



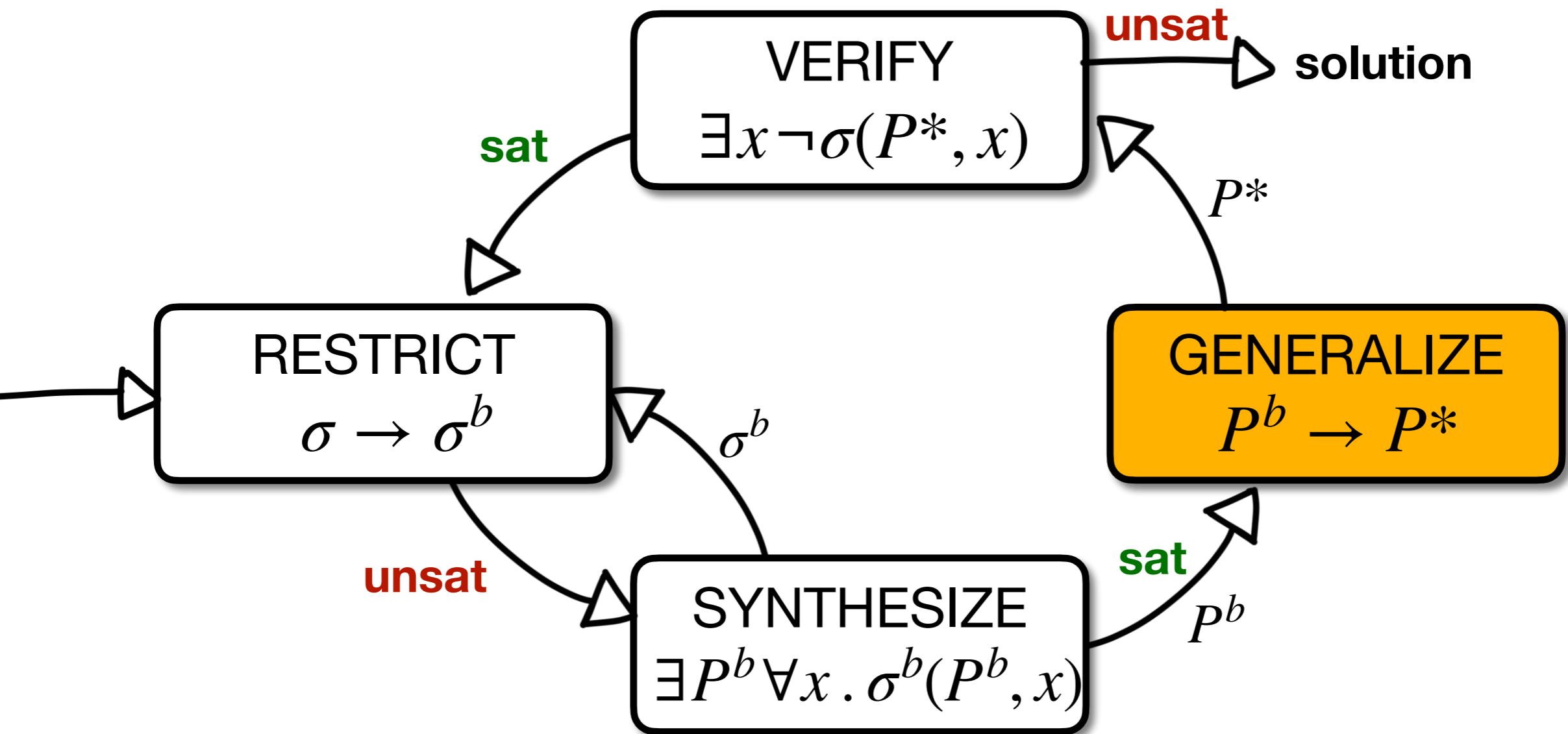
# Quantification Over Infinite Domains



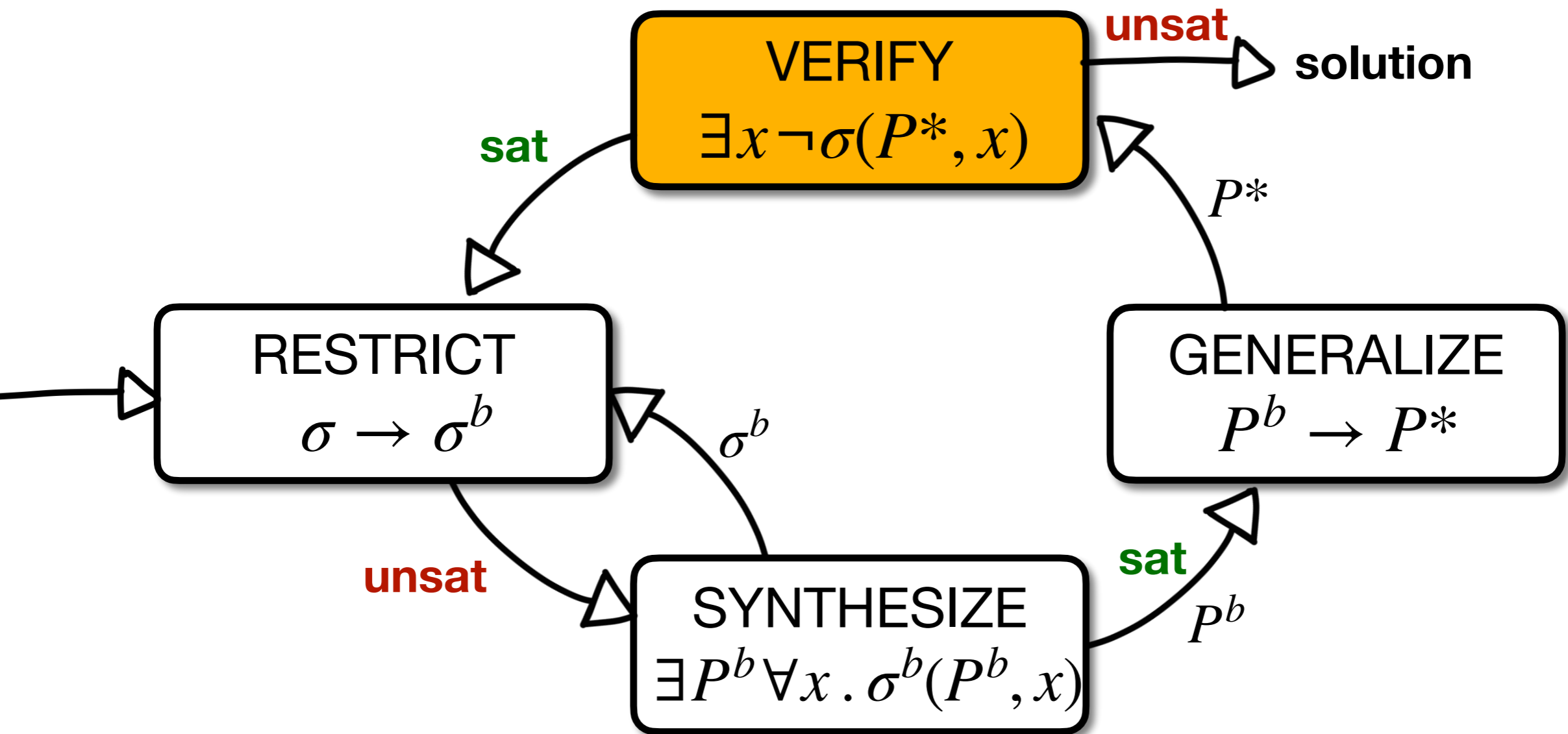
# Quantification Over Infinite Domains



# Quantification Over Infinite Domains



# Quantification Over Infinite Domains



Example	Z3-Horn solver	QUIC3	SYNRG
duplication	t/o	t/o	t/o
equal arrays 1	✓	✓	✓
equal arrays 2	<b>u</b>	<b>u</b>	t/o
exists 1	<b>u</b>	<b>u</b>	✓
Fibonacci	t/o	t/o	t/o
fill 1	t/o	t/o	✓
fill 2	t/o	t/o	t/o
find first 1	✓	✓	✓
find first 2	<b>u</b>	<b>u</b>	✓
permutation 1	<b>u</b>	<b>u</b>	t/o
permutation 2	t/o	t/o	✓
permutation 3	t/o	t/o	✓
permutation 4	t/o	t/o	✓
permutation 5	t/o	t/o	✓
simple array	t/o	t/o	✓
array and constant	t/o	t/o	✓
two indices 1	t/o	✓	✓

**Table 1.** Examples solved by each solver. We ran the experiments with a 600 s timeout but all the solved examples were solved within 10s. t/o indicates the time-out was exceeded. **u** indicates the solver returned “unknown”.

# Future Work

## Synthesis

Algorithmic Improvements

Applications

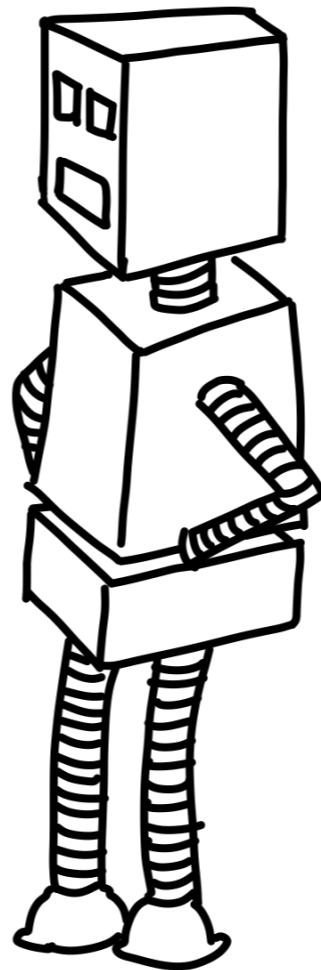
More theories

Quantification over infinite domains

**Fully** automating verification using synthesis

# Fully Automated Assertion Verification

- Verification of real-world software is not yet fully automated



Manual writing:

- invariants
- pre-and-post-conditions
- code summaries



# Future Work

**SYNTHESIS**  
is the new  
**SAT**

Algorithmic  
Improvements

Applications

More theories

Quantification  
over infinite  
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**Fully** automating  
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# Questions?

**SYNTHESIS**  
is the new  
**SAT**

Algorithmic  
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**Fully** automating  
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