

# Separation Logic Modulo Theories

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joint work with Andrey Rybalchenko

# Analyse This

```
node* insert_at(node* p, int k, int v) {  
    node* q = p;  
    for (int i = 0; i < k - 1; i++)  
        q = q->next;  
    node* r = new node;  
    r->next = r->next;  
    r->data = v;  
    q->next = r;  
    return p;  
}
```

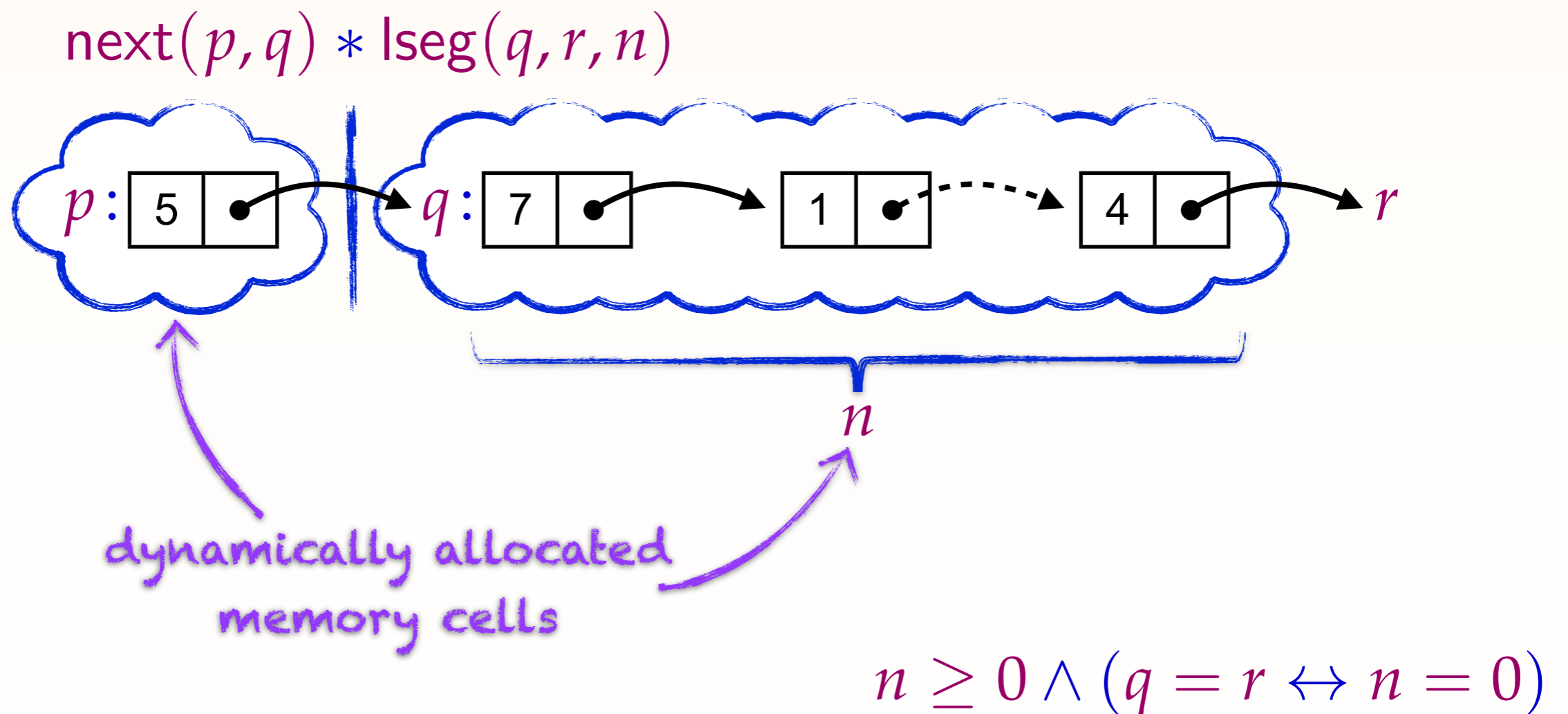
# Analyse This

assume:  $\text{lseg}(p, \text{nil}, n) \wedge 0 < k < n$

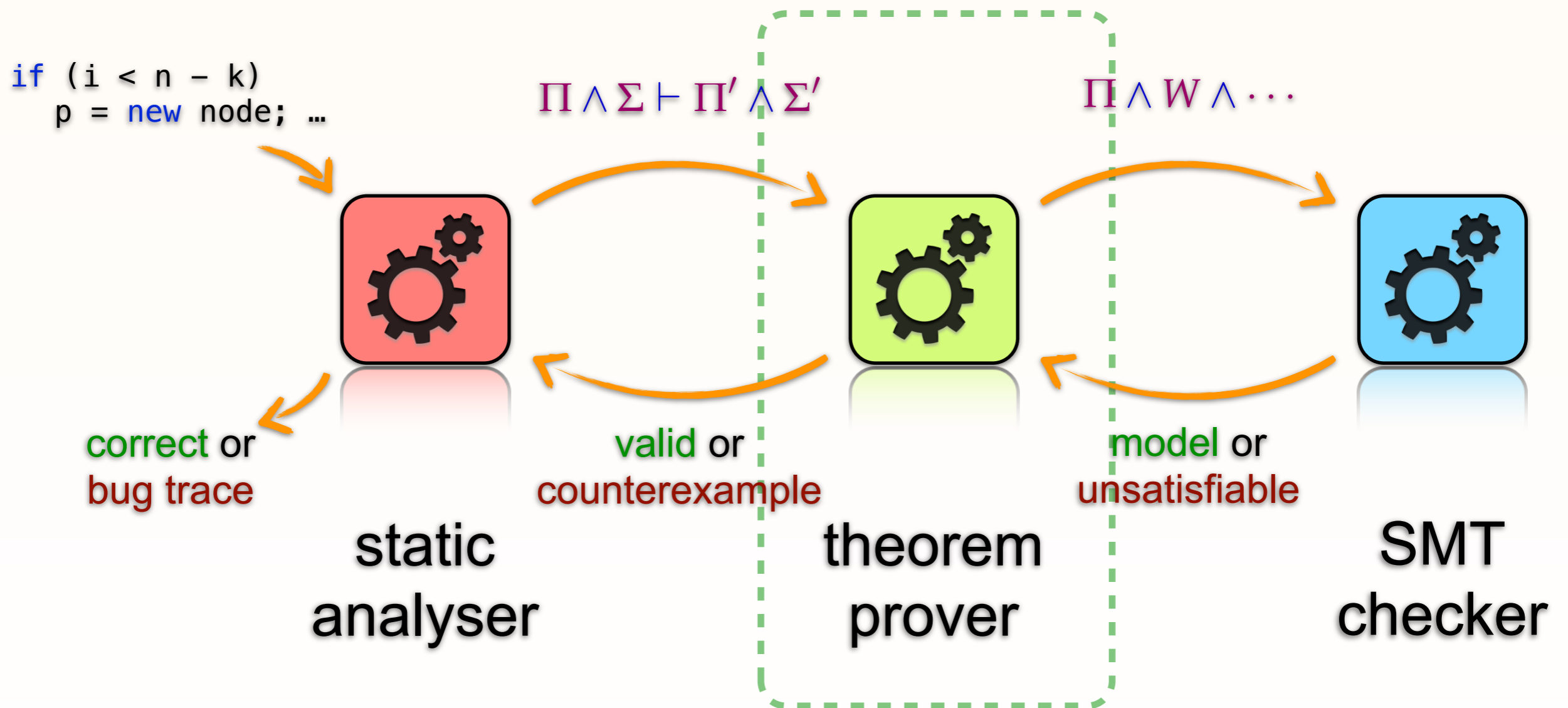
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}
```

to prove:  $\text{lseg}(p, \text{nil}, n + 1)$

# Separation Logic



# This work in context



# Program Analysis

assume:  $\text{lseg}(p, \text{nil}, n) \wedge 0 < k < n$

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node* insert_at(node* p, int k, int v) {  
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to prove:  $\text{lseg}(p, \text{nil}, n + 1)$

# Program Analysis

assume:  $\text{lseg}(p, \text{nil}, n) \wedge 0 < k < n$

```
node* insert_at(node* p, int k, int v) {
    node* q = p;
    for (int i = 0; i < k - 1; i++)
        q = q->next;

```

**automatically and efficiently check:**

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge \text{lseg}(p, q', i') * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i' - 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, i) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i)$$

to prove:  $\text{lseg}(p, \text{nil}, n + 1)$



Prover

# Wellformedness

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge \text{lseg}(p, q', i') * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i' - 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, i) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i)$$



Prover

hypothesis

side conditions

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge i' \geq 0 \wedge (p = q' \leftrightarrow i' = 0) \wedge \\ n - i' - 1 \geq 0 \wedge (q = \text{nil} \leftrightarrow n - i' - 1 = 0) \wedge \\ q' \neq \text{nil} \wedge (p = q \rightarrow p = q' \vee q = \text{nil}) \wedge (q' = q \rightarrow q = \text{nil})$$

separation  
conditions



# Wellformedness

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge \text{lseg}(p, q', i') * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i' - 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, i) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i)$$



Prover

hypothesis

side conditions

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge i' \geq 0 \wedge (p = q' \leftrightarrow i' = 0) \wedge$$

equisatisfiable with the premise of the entailment, pure formula

$$q' \neq \text{nil} \wedge (p = q \rightarrow p = q' \vee q = \text{nil}) \wedge (q' = q \rightarrow q = \text{nil})$$

separation conditions



SMT

# Matching

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge \text{lseg}(p, q', i') * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i' - 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, i) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i)$$



Prover

$$\text{lseg}(p, q', 1) * \text{next}(q', \text{nil}) * \text{lseg}(\text{nil}, \text{nil}, 0) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, \text{nil}, 2) * \text{lseg}(\text{nil}, \text{nil}, 0)$$



SMT

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| $p' = 42$        | $p = 42$ |
| $q' = 41$        | $q = 0$  |
| $i' = 1$         | $i = 2$  |
| $\text{nil} = 0$ | $n = 2$  |

match:  $q = \text{nil}$

$\dots \wedge q \neq \text{nil}$



SMT

# Rinse and repeat

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge \text{lseg}(p, q', i') * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i' - 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, i) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i)$$



Prover

$$\text{lseg}(p, p, 0) * \text{next}(p, q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, 1) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, 1)$$



SMT

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| $p' = 42$        | $p = 42$ |
| $q' = 42$        | $q = 41$ |
| $i' = 0$         | $i = 1$  |
| $\text{nil} = 0$ | $n = 2$  |

match:  $p = q'$

$\dots \wedge p \neq q'$



SMT

# ... and repeat

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge \text{lseg}(p, q', i') * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i' - 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, i) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i)$$



Prover

$$\text{lseg}(p, q', 1) * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, 2) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, 1)$$



SMT

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| $p' = 42$        | $p = 42$ |
| $q' = 43$        | $q = 41$ |
| $i' = 1$         | $i = 2$  |
| $\text{nil} = 0$ | $n = 3$  |

match:  $q \neq \text{nil}$

$\dots \wedge q = \text{nil}$



SMT

# Theorem proved

$$i = i' + 1 \wedge \text{lseg}(p, q', i') * \text{next}(q', q) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i' - 1) \\ \vdash \text{lseg}(p, q, i) * \text{lseg}(q, \text{nil}, n - i)$$



Prover

no more models to check,  
the theorem is proved!

unsatisfiable



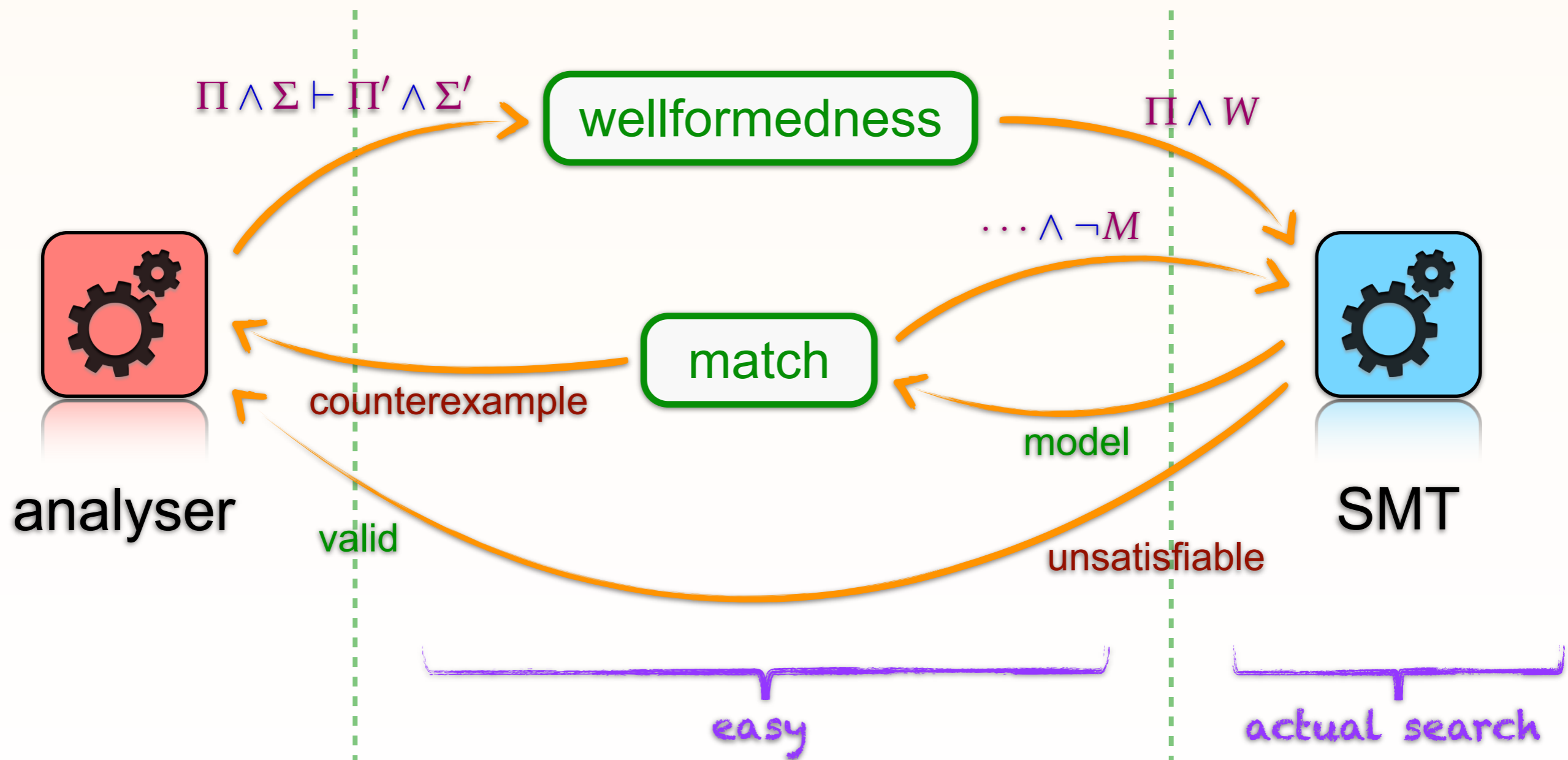
SMT

valid

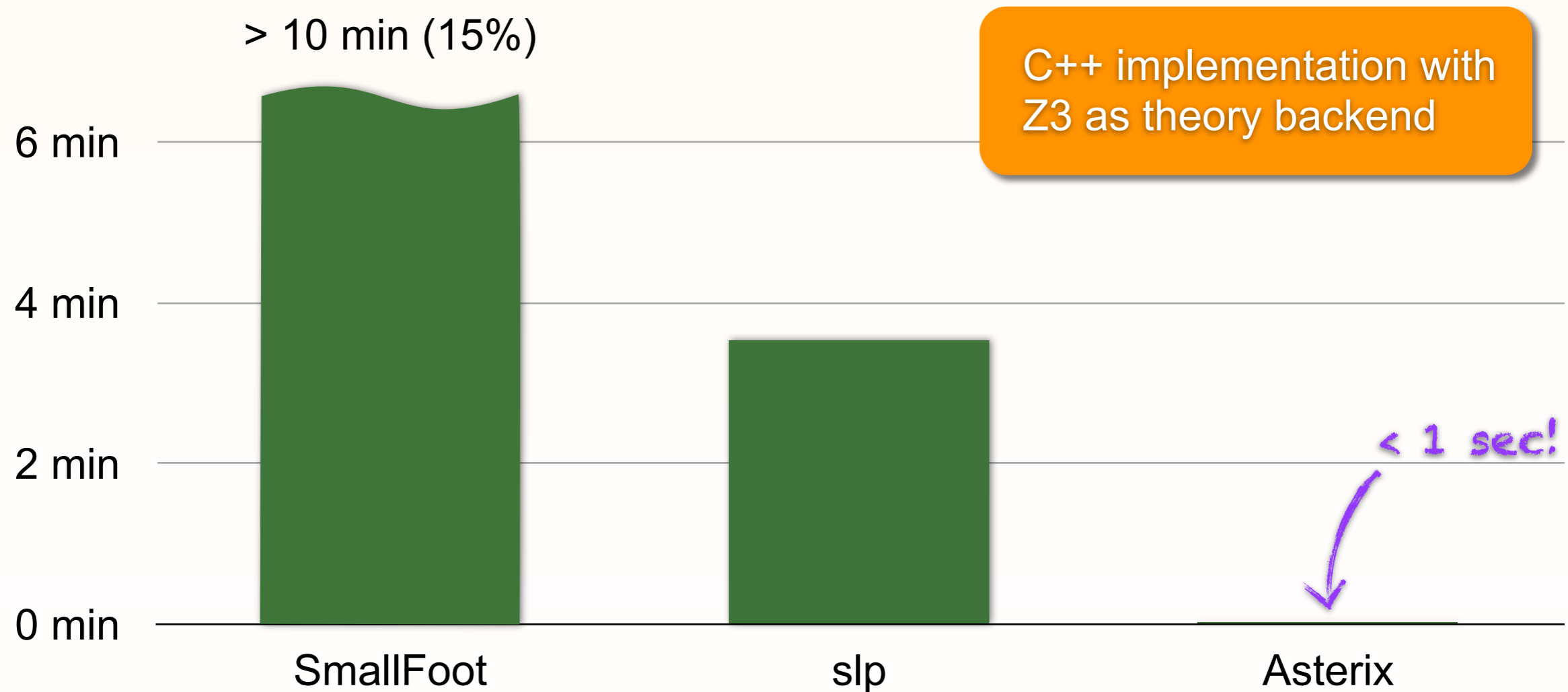


Analyser

# Algorithm



# Implementation



Time to solve 8x 'clones' of typical verification conditions

# Conclusions

- We designed a decision procedure for Separation Logic entailments
- It leverages on existing SMT checker technology for theory reasoning
- An efficient implementation is provided
- Full text available at [arXiv:1303.2489](https://arxiv.org/abs/1303.2489)



# Future work

- Integration with a static analyser
- Support for user defined predicate definitions (e.g. inductive data types)
- Reasoning about sharing and overlap in sub-structures (e.g. DAGs)