

Verification and Synthesis for Data Structures

Anders Miltner



Data Structures!

Key part of large software systems

Provides...

1. Data persistence
2. Mechanisms to restrict access to underlying data

And yet...

**There's relatively little work
surrounding them!**

Why? 🤔

It's **HARD**

➔ 1. Data persistence

Must ensure the data structure is *always* safe

➔ 2. Mechanisms to restrict access to underlying data

Sometimes safety of the overall system relies on the data access restrictions

Proving a data structure maintains a proper invariant solves both of these problems!

This talk...

Hanoi

- Tool for data structure verification
- Focuses on the important task of *invariant generation*

Burst

- Tool for data structure synthesis
- Can synthesize recursive functions on data structures that ensure the invariants are upheld

But first...

**What do I mean when I
say *Data Structure***

SET

```
1 module type SET = sig
2   type t
3   val empty   : t
4   val insert  : t -> int -> t
5   val delete  : t -> int -> t
6   val lookup  : t -> int -> bool
7 end
```

$$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \forall s' : t. \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i) \\ \wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i) \\ \wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i)$$

Implementing SET

```
1 module type SET = sig
2   type t
3   val empty : t
4   val insert : t -> int -> t
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$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \forall s' : t. \neg(\text{lookup empty } i)$
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```


Hanoi

for Verification

Time to Verify!

$$\begin{aligned} \forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. & \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i) \\ & \quad \wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i) \end{aligned}$$

`t = int list`

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`t = int list`

$$\begin{aligned} s &= [\emptyset; \emptyset] \\ i &= \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

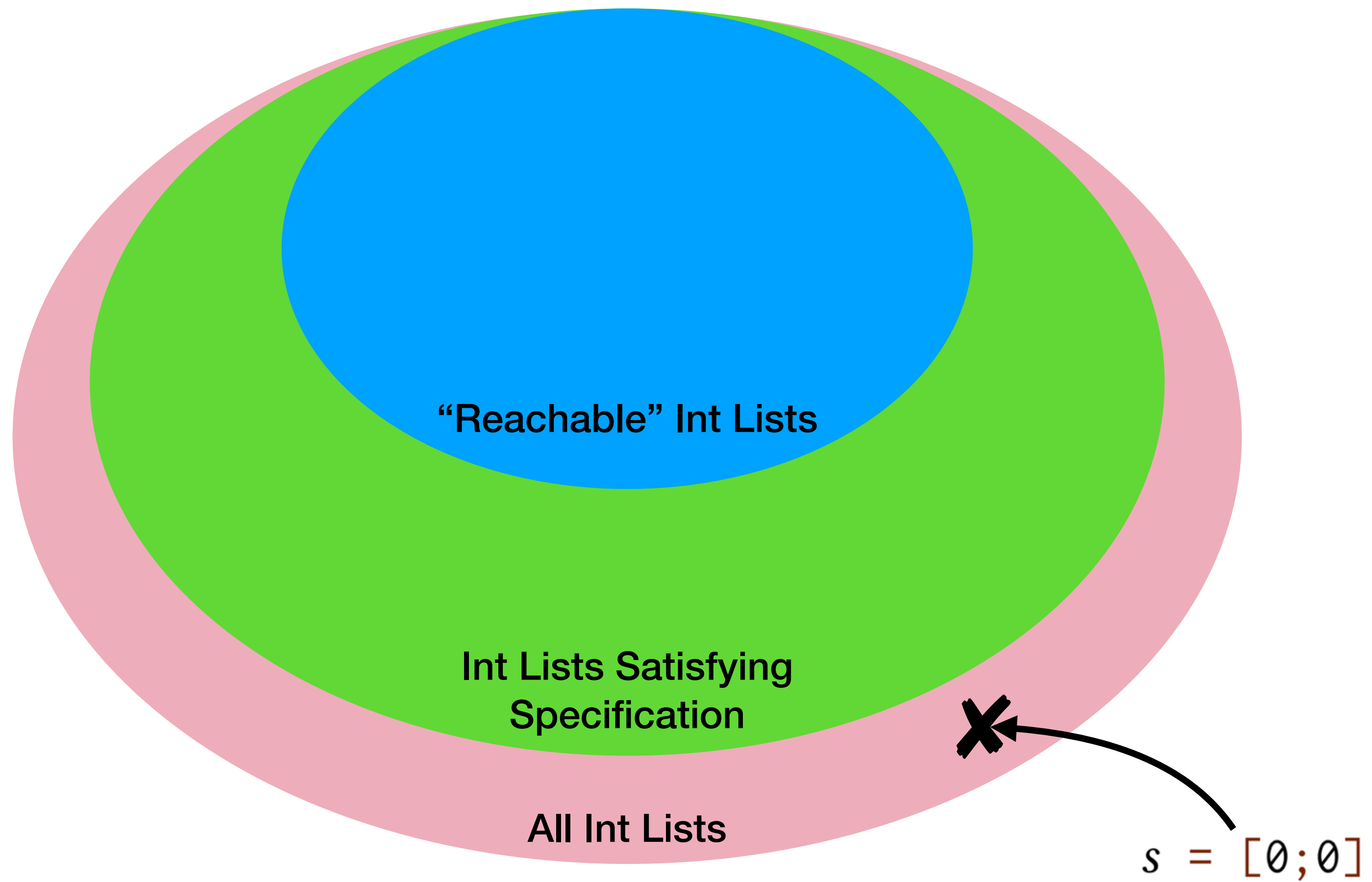
Is ListSet wrong?

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No, it isn't.

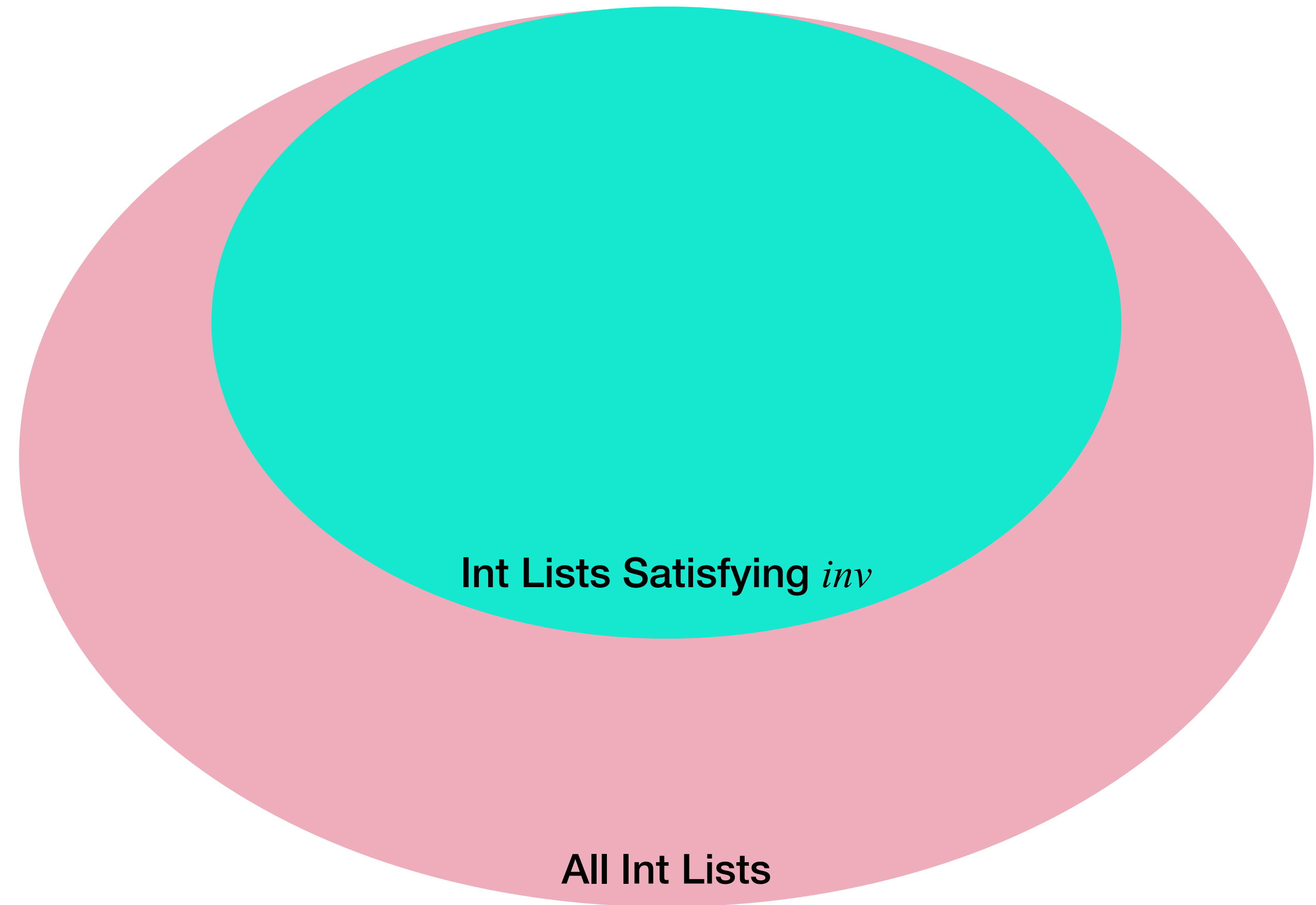


How do you verify this?



How do you verify this?

Step 1: Find *inv*



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**Step 2: Prove lists
satisfying *inv*
satisfy the
specification**



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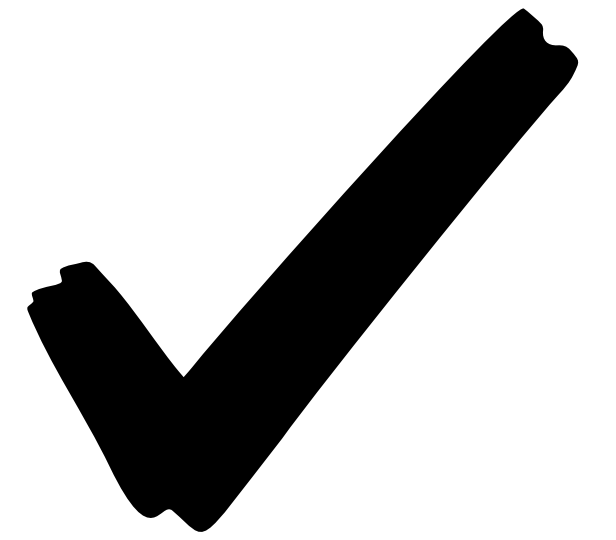
Step 1: Find inv

**Step 2: Prove lists
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**Step 3: Prove inv is
inductive –
preserved by
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How do you verify this?

Step 1: Find *inv*

Step 2: Prove lists satisfying *inv* satisfy the specification

Step 3: Prove *inv* is inductive – preserved by module operations



```
inv l = match l with  
  | [] -> true  
  | h::t -> ¬(lookup h t) ∧ inv t
```

Time to Prove Correct!

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Step 2: Prove lists satisfying inv satisfy the specification

$$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \quad (inv \ s)$$

Step 3: Prove inv is inductive – preserved by module operations

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i) \\ & \wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i) \\ & \wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i) \end{aligned}$$

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⋮

```
 $inv\ l = match\ l\ with$   
  | [] -> true  
  | h::t ->  $\neg(lookup\ h\ t) \wedge inv\ t$ 
```

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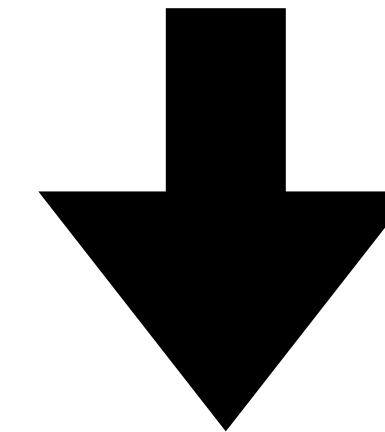
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Hanoi



$inv \ l = \text{match } l \ \text{with}$
 $\quad | [] \rightarrow \text{true}$
 $\quad | h :: t \rightarrow \neg(\text{lookup } h \ t) \wedge inv \ t$

```

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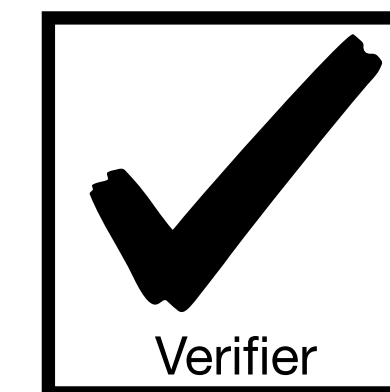
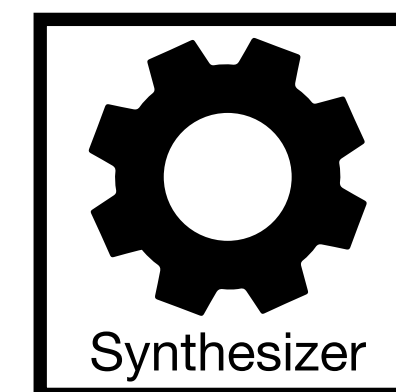
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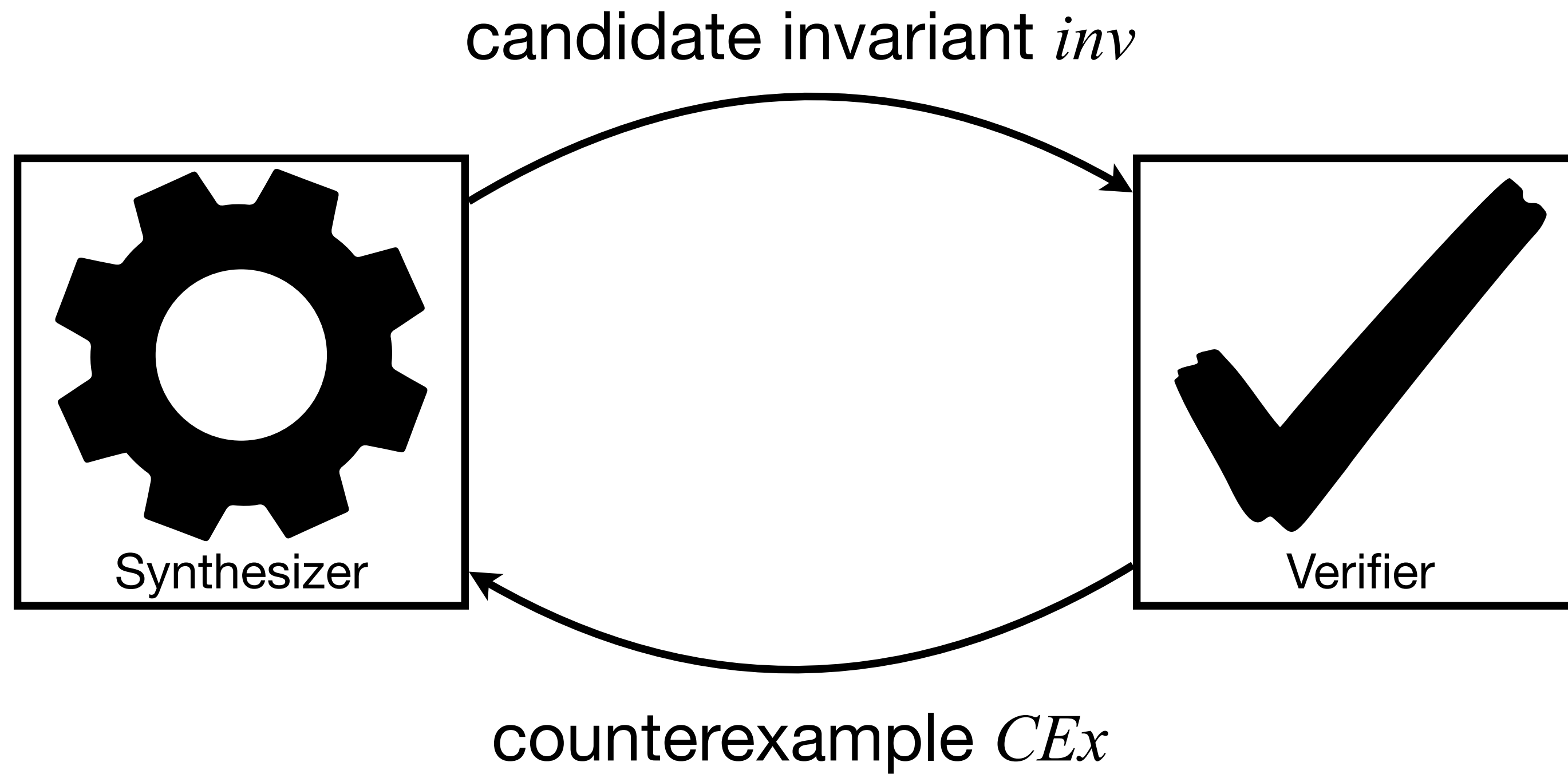
Algorithm



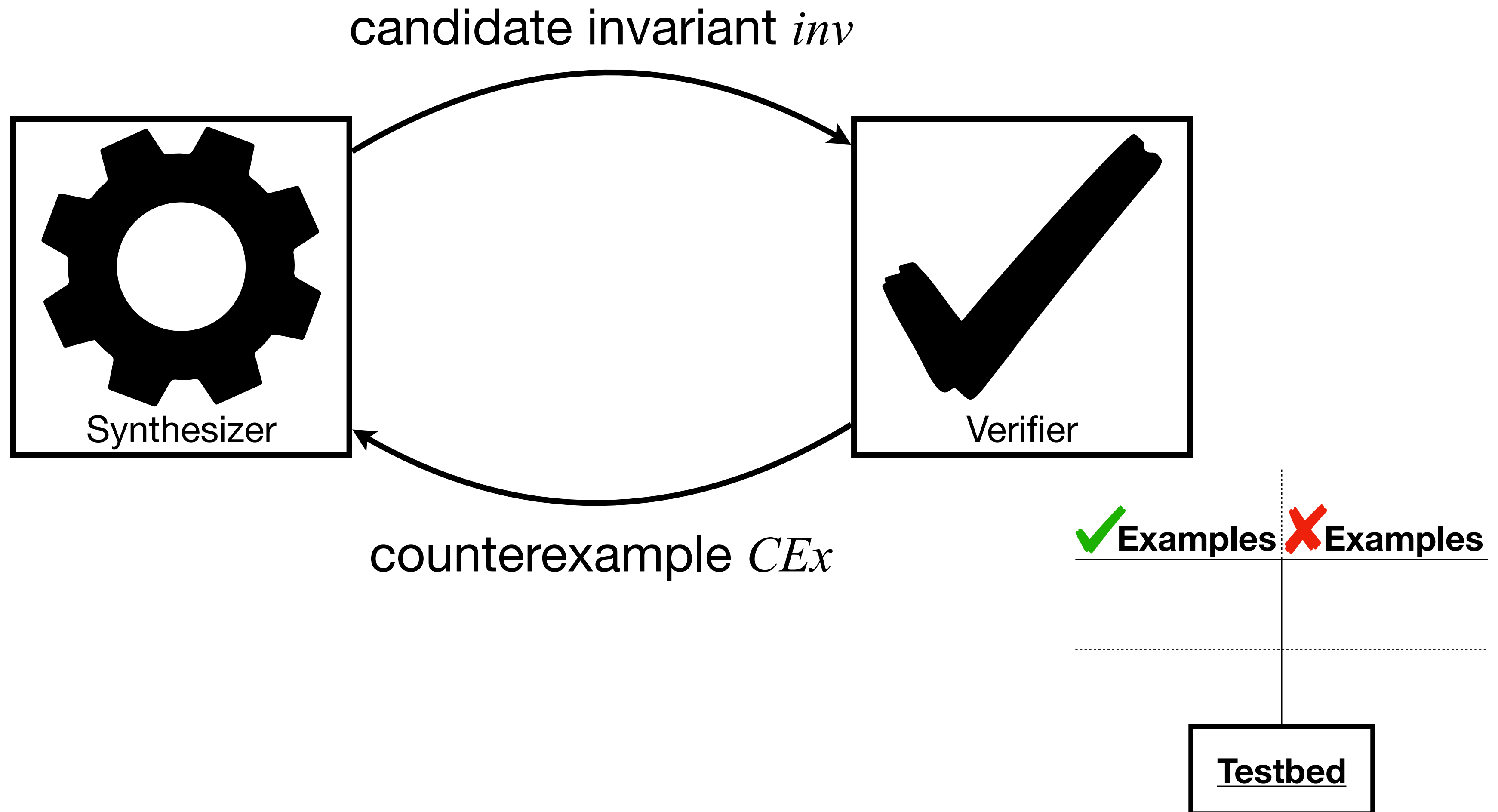
inv

$$\begin{aligned}
&\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i) \\
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\end{aligned}$$

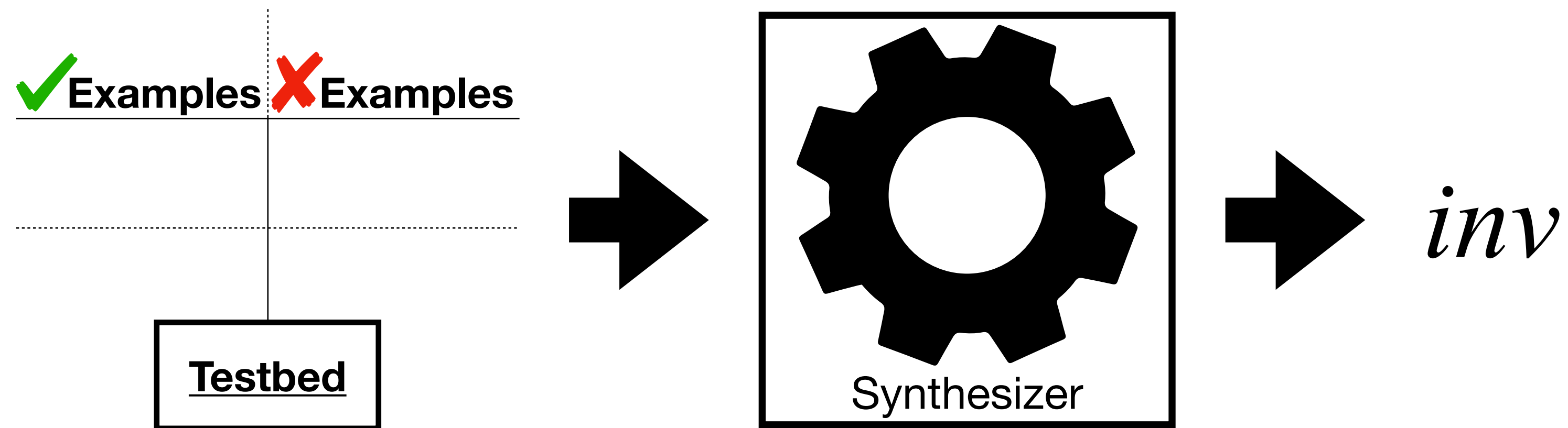
Algorithm



Algorithm



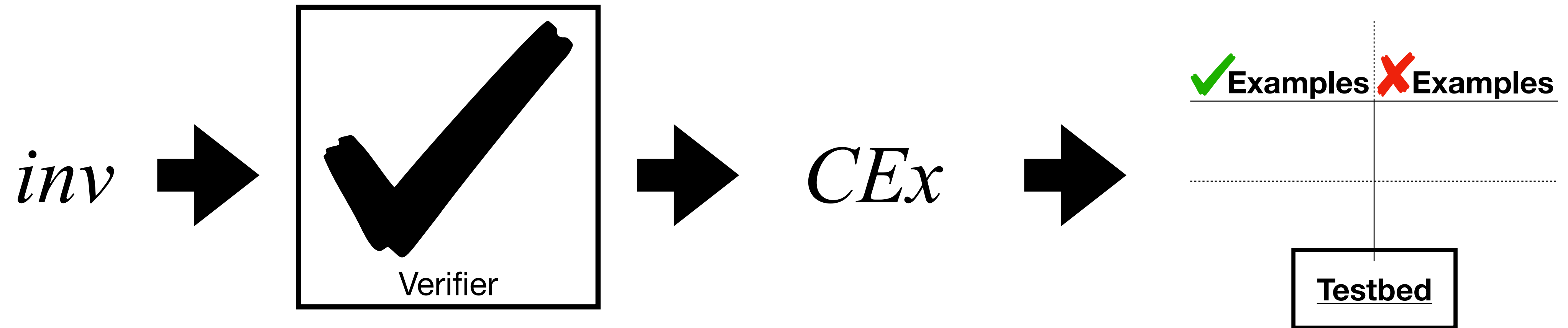
Synthesizer



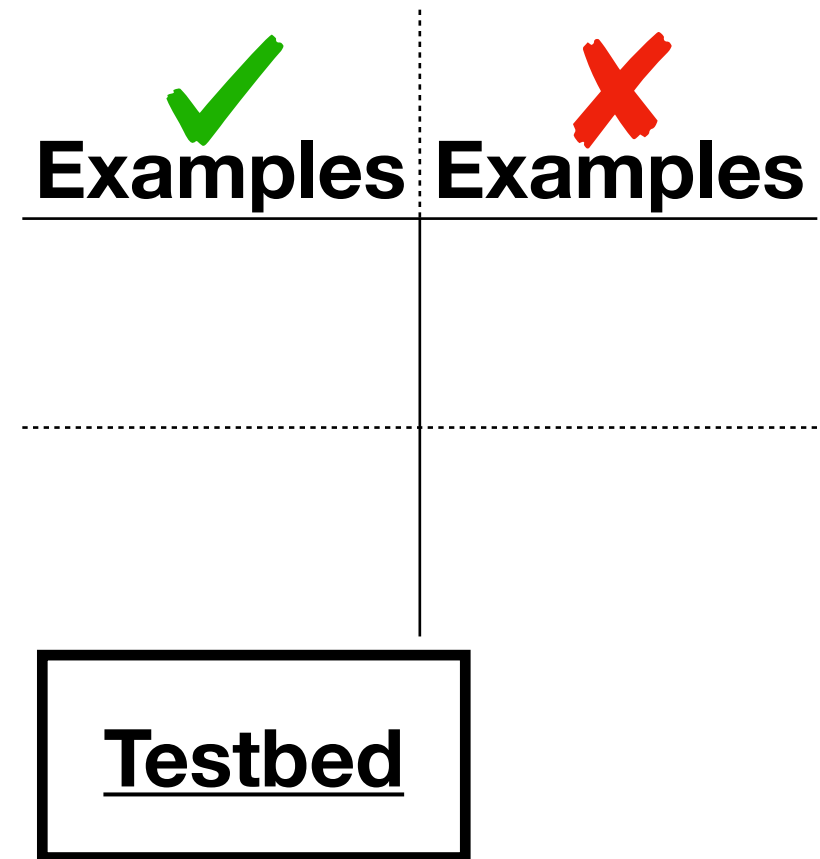
$inv(\checkmark) = \text{true}$

$inv(\text{X}) = \text{false}$

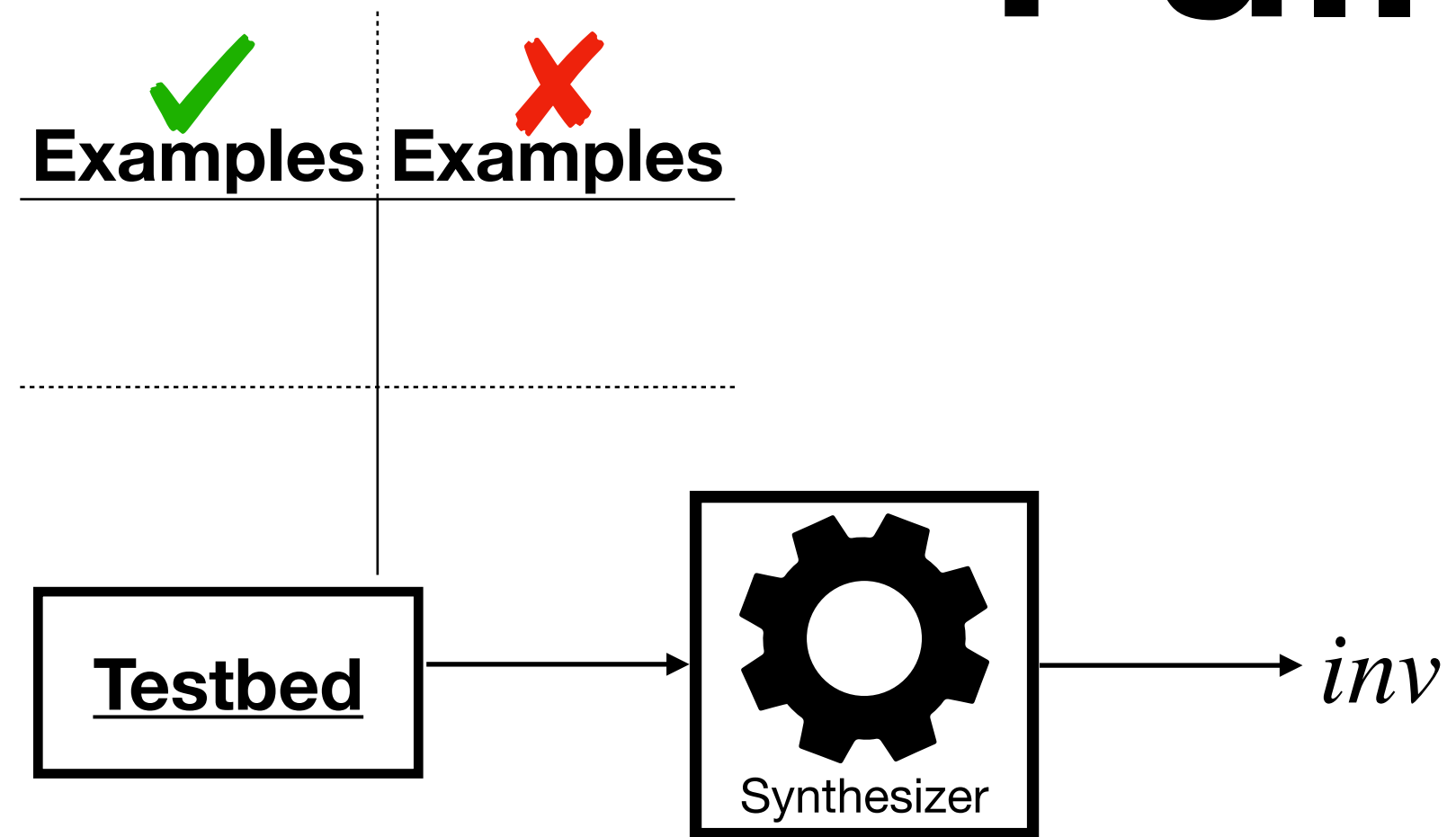
Verifier



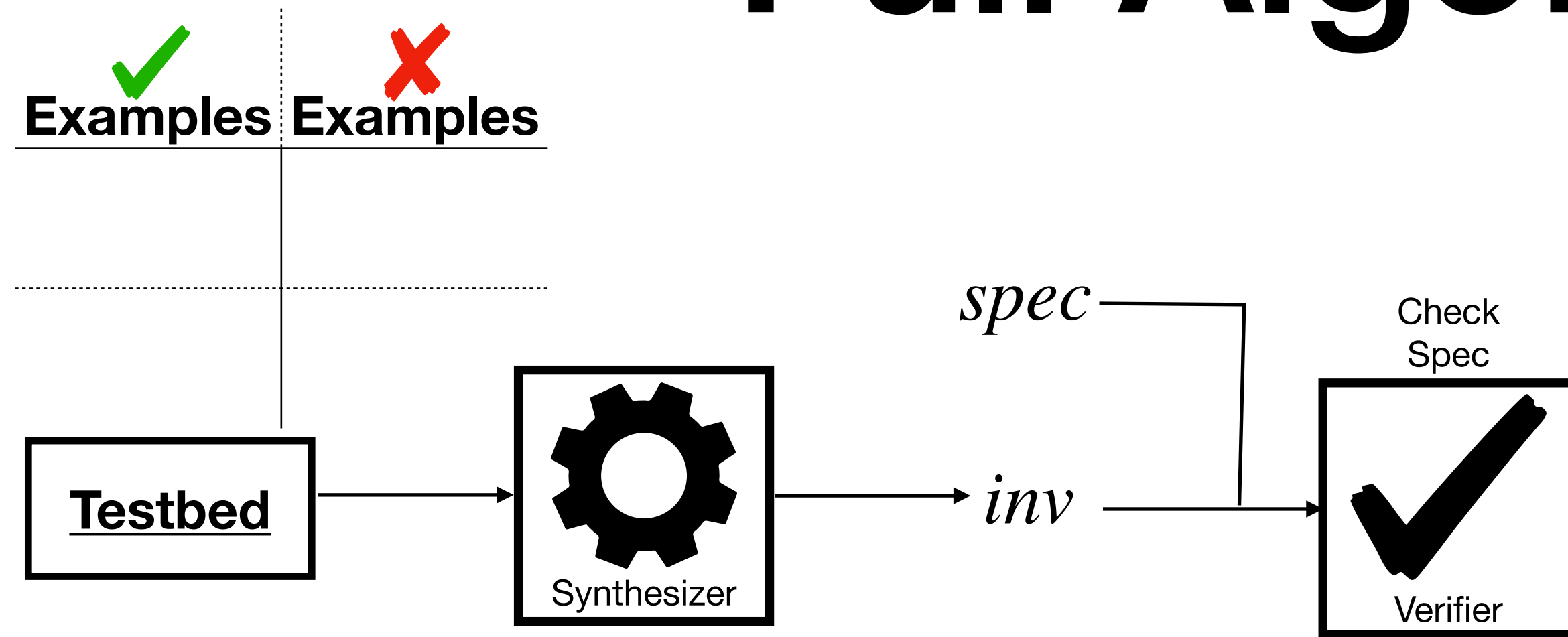
Full Algorithm



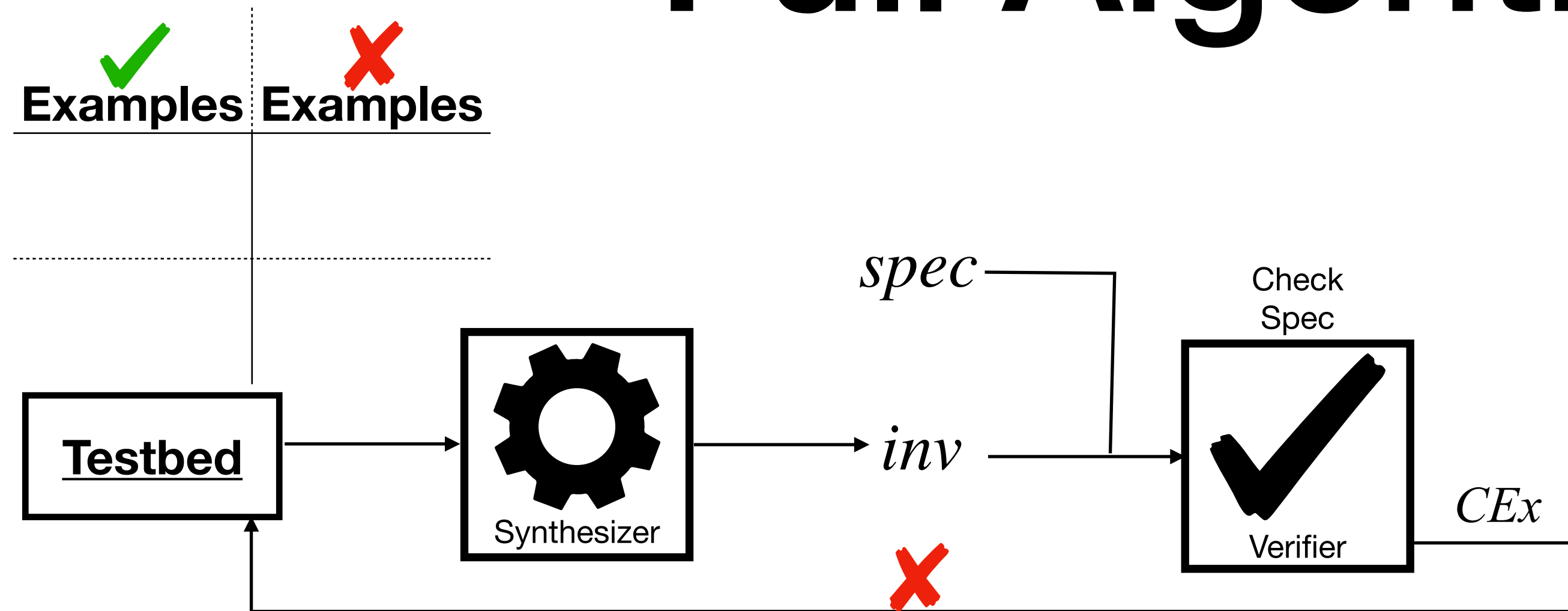
Full Algorithm



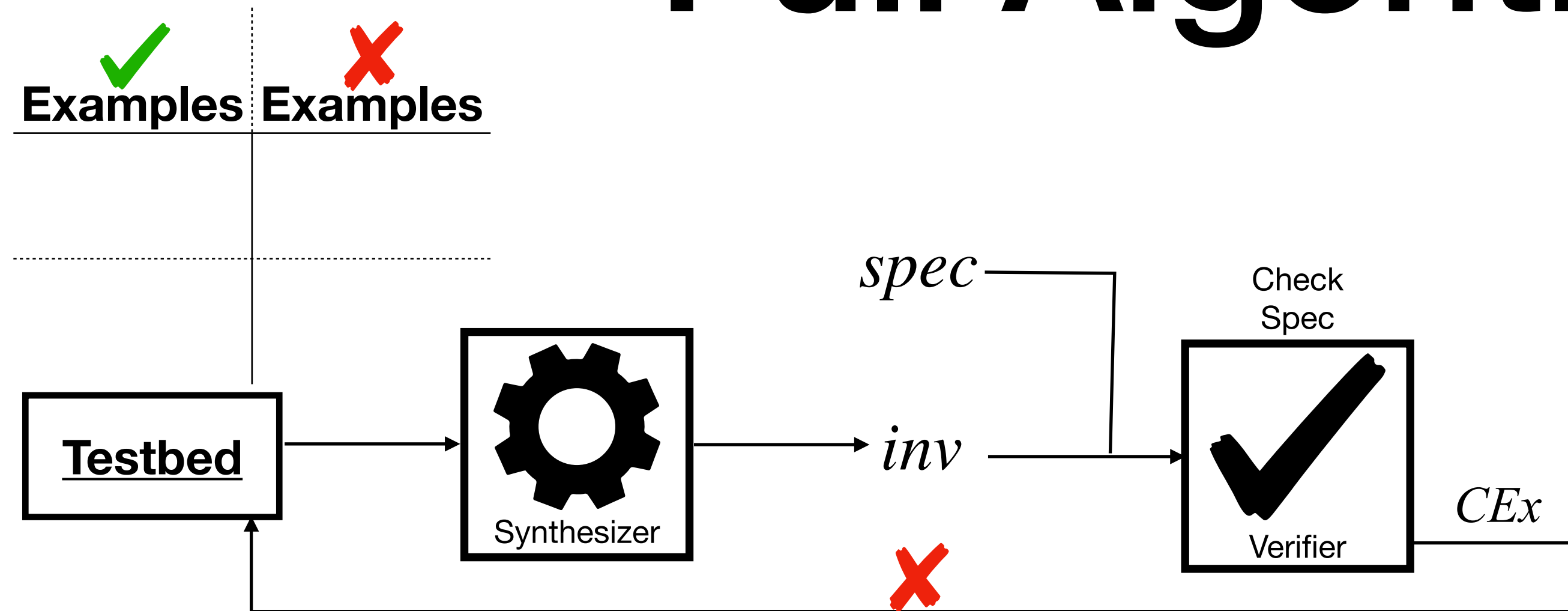
Full Algorithm



Full Algorithm



Full Algorithm



$$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \quad (\text{inv } s)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i)$$

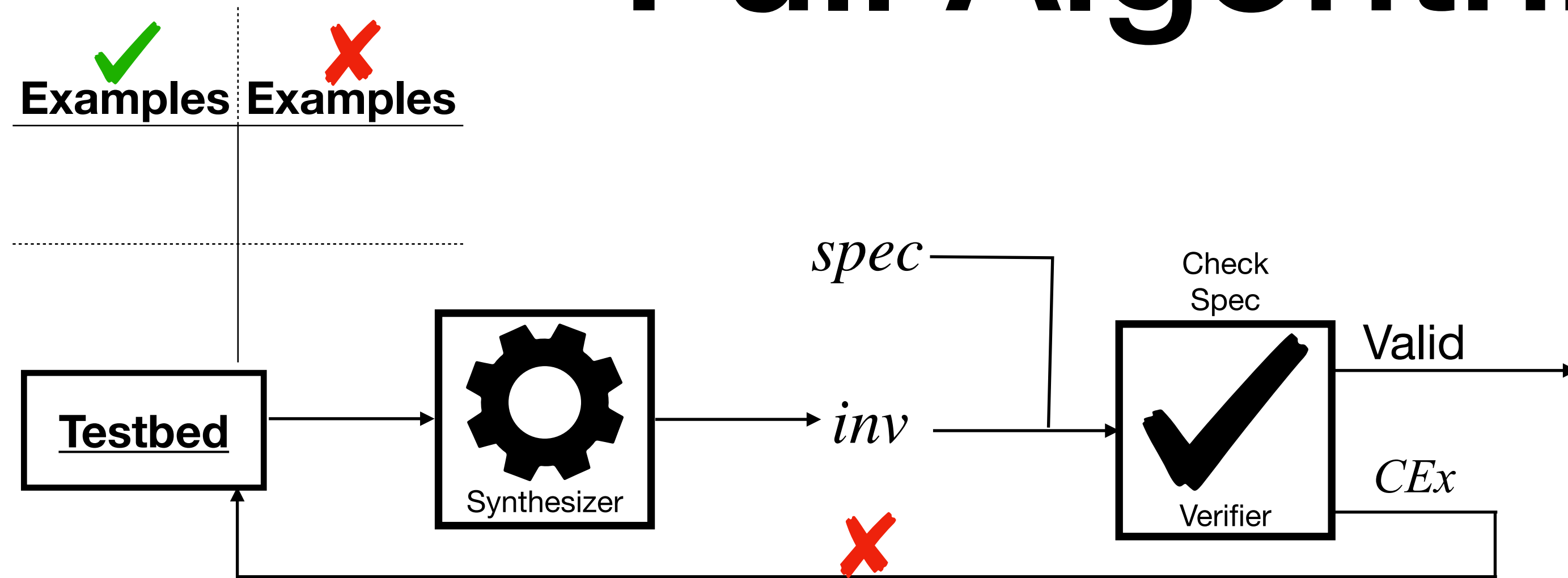
$$\quad \wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i)$$

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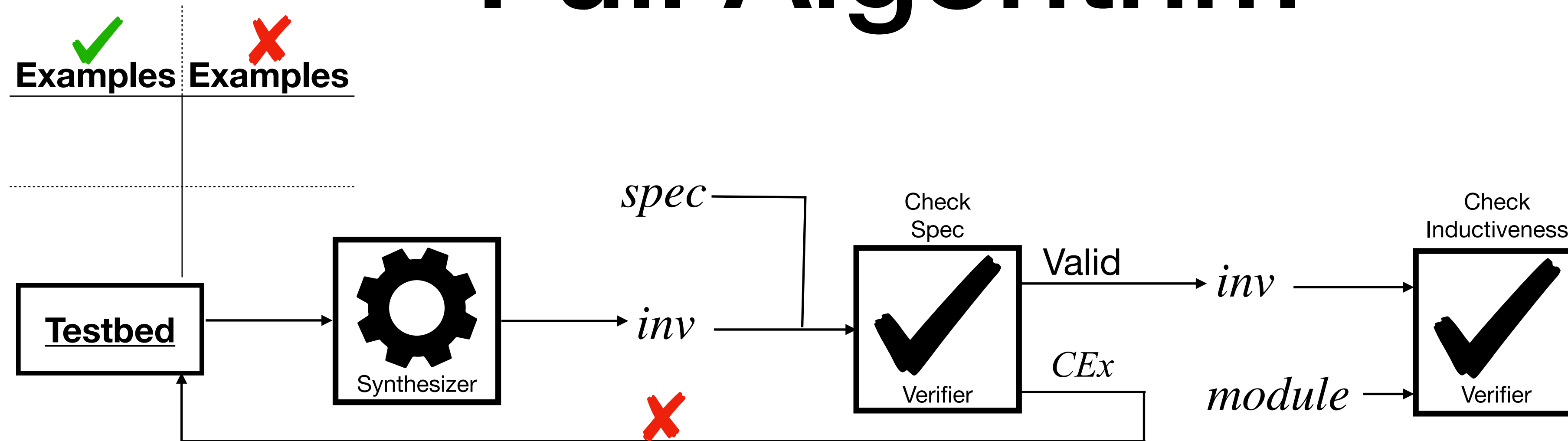
$$s = [0; 0]$$

$$i = 0$$

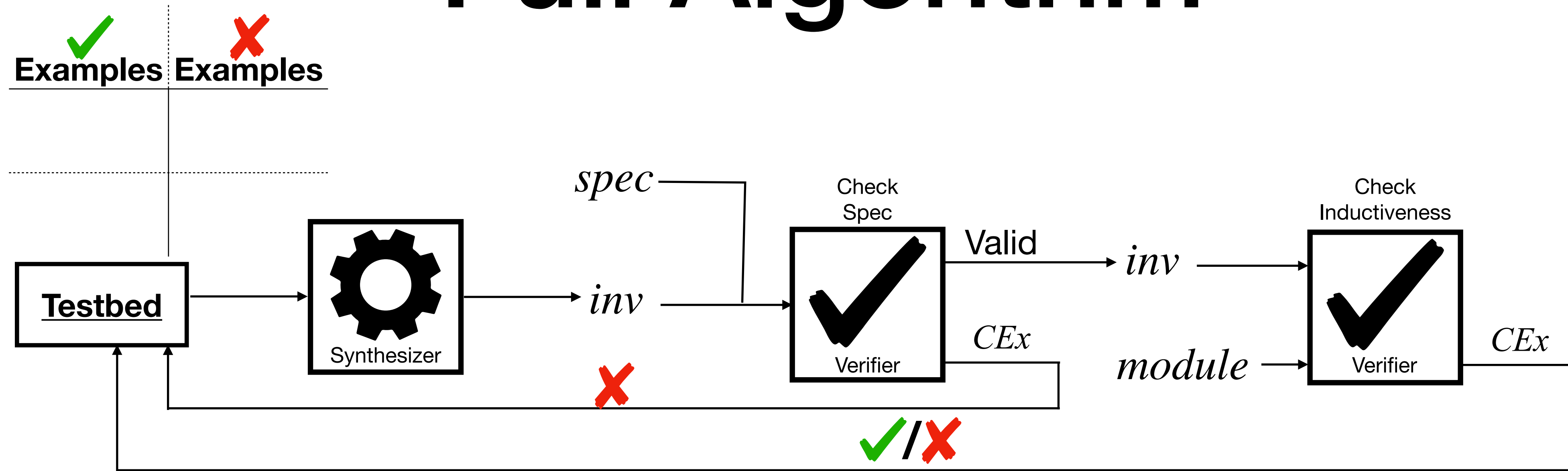
Full Algorithm



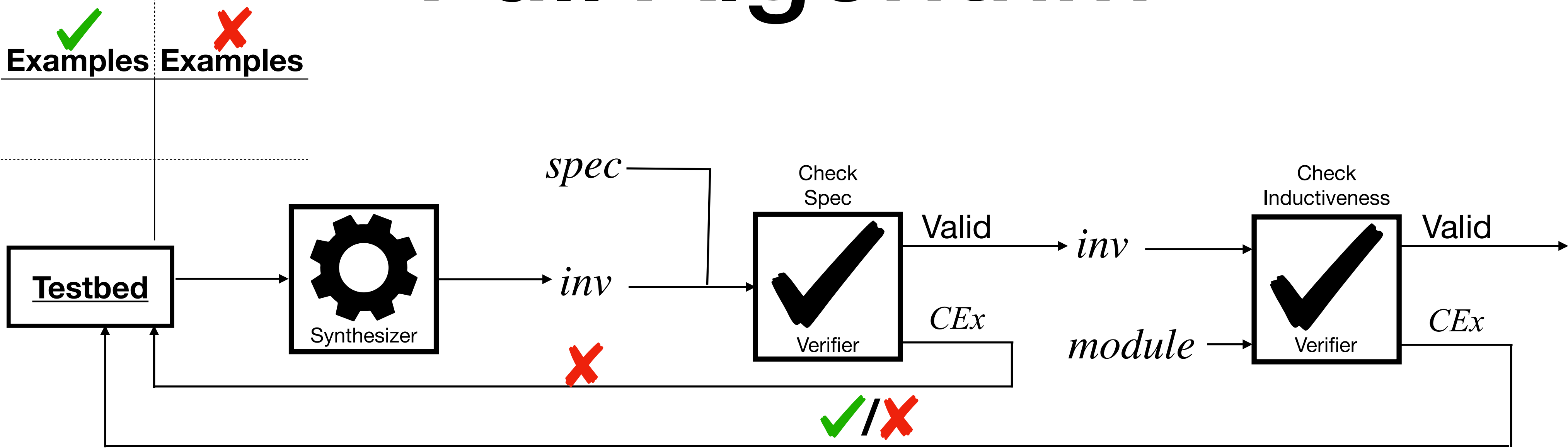
Full Algorithm



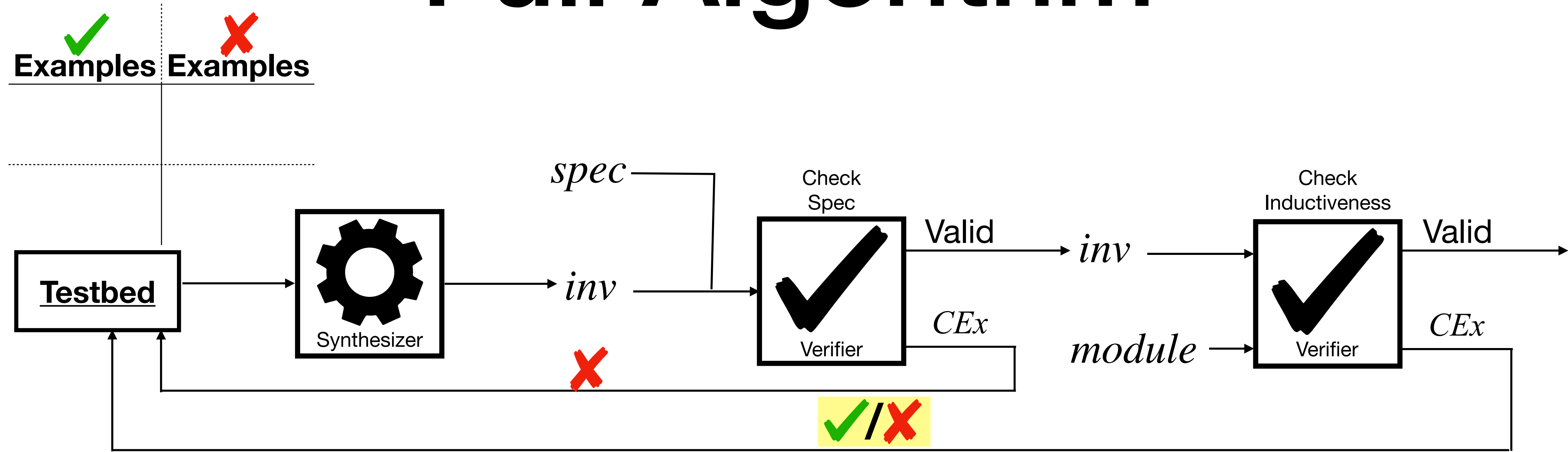
Full Algorithm



Full Algorithm



Full Algorithm



Verifying Inductiveness

inv l = length l < 2

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1 module ListSet : SET = struct
2   type t = int list
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$\text{insert } [1]\ 0 = [0;1]$

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Verifying Inductiveness

$inv\ l = \text{length } l < 2$

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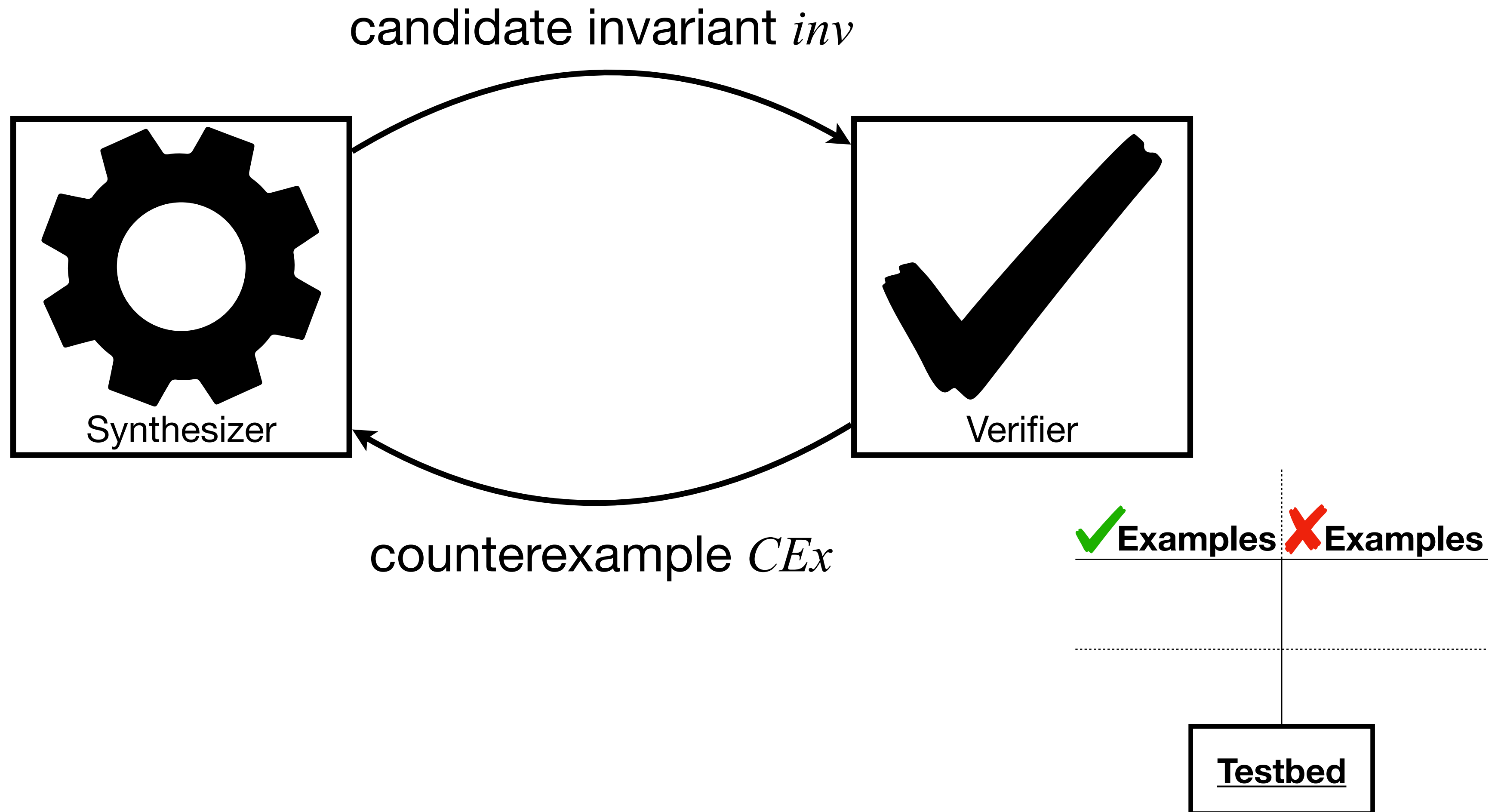
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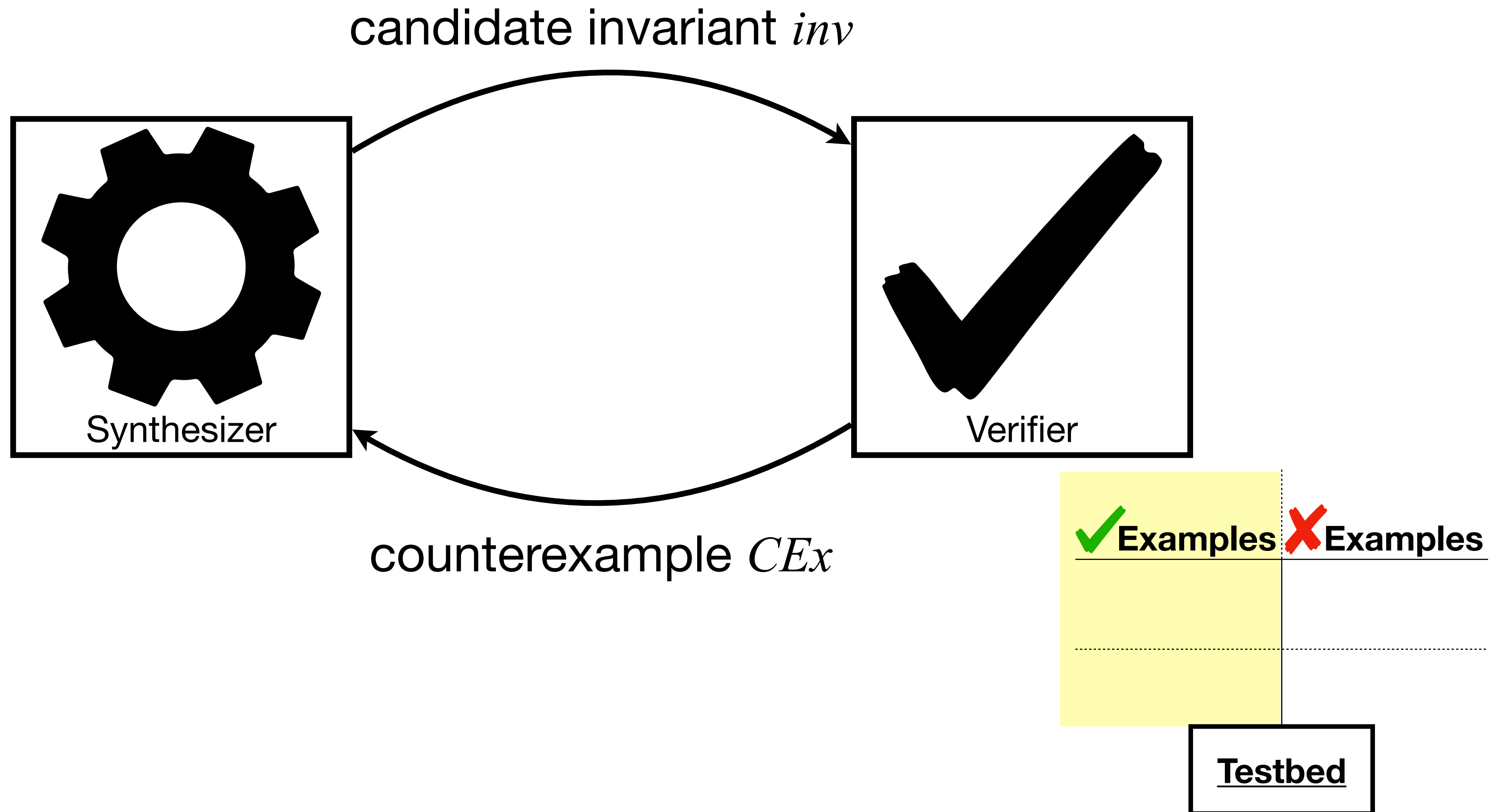
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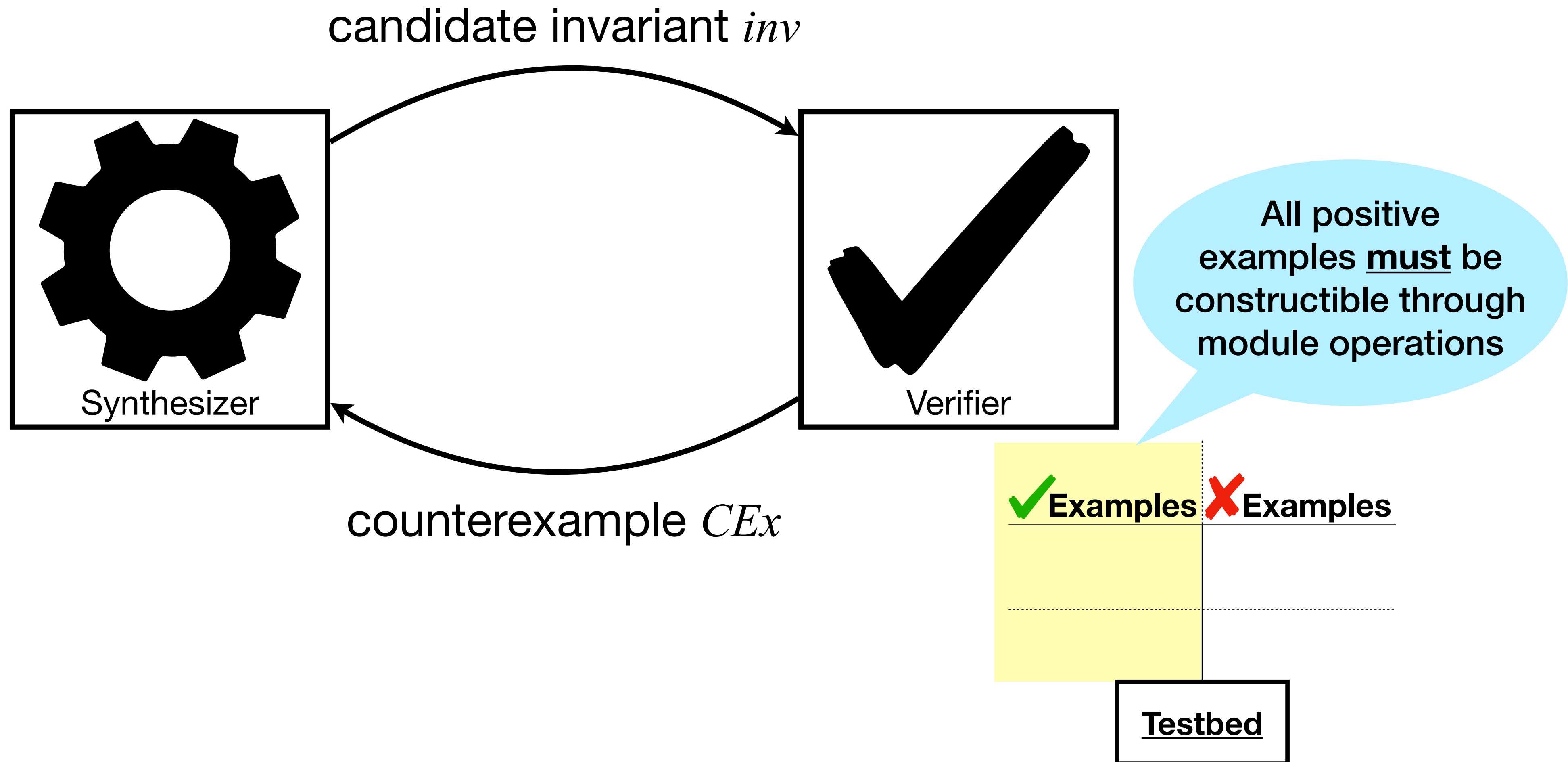
Algorithm



Algorithm



Algorithm



Visible Inductiveness

✓ Examples	✗ Examples
[]	
[1]	

Can we find an inductiveness counterexample where the inputs must be ✓ examples

$inv\ l = length\ l < 2$

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Visible Inductiveness

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Visible Inductiveness

✓ Examples	✗ Examples
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Can we find an inductiveness counterexample where the inputs must be ✓ examples

inv l = length l < 3

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Visible Inductiveness

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⋮

Visibly Inductive

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Say we are visibly inductive...

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Then do a full inductiveness check!

✓ Examples	Examples
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Verifying Full Inductiveness

inv l = length l < 3

? *inv* [] = true

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$\text{insert } [0;1]\ 2 = [2;0;1]$

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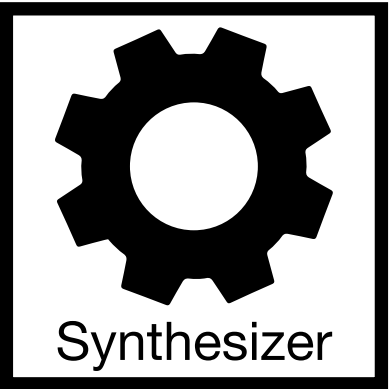
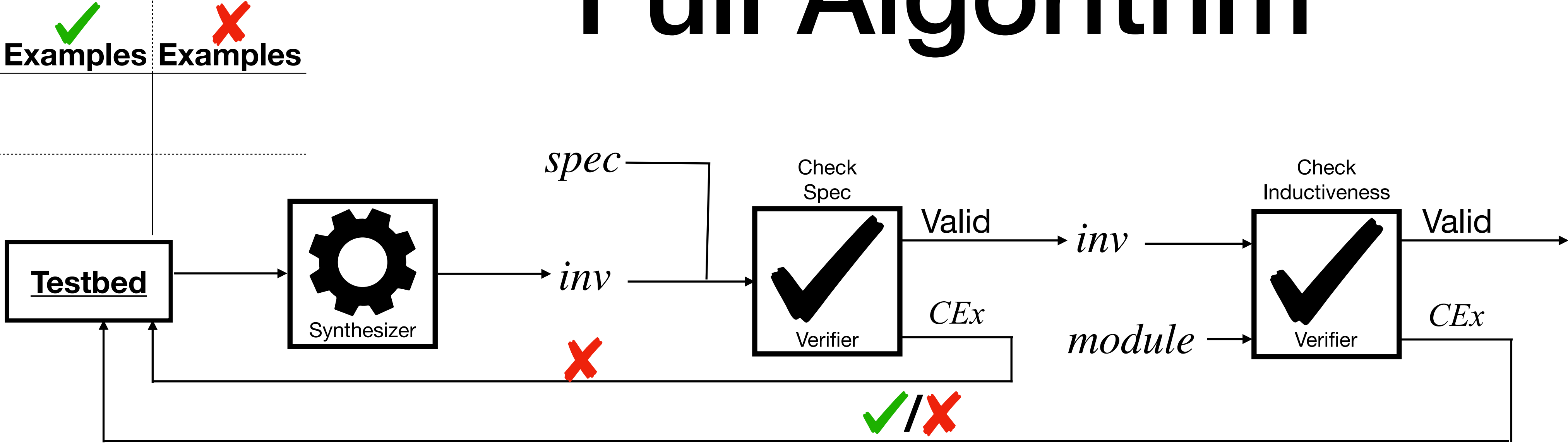
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Add it to
negative set

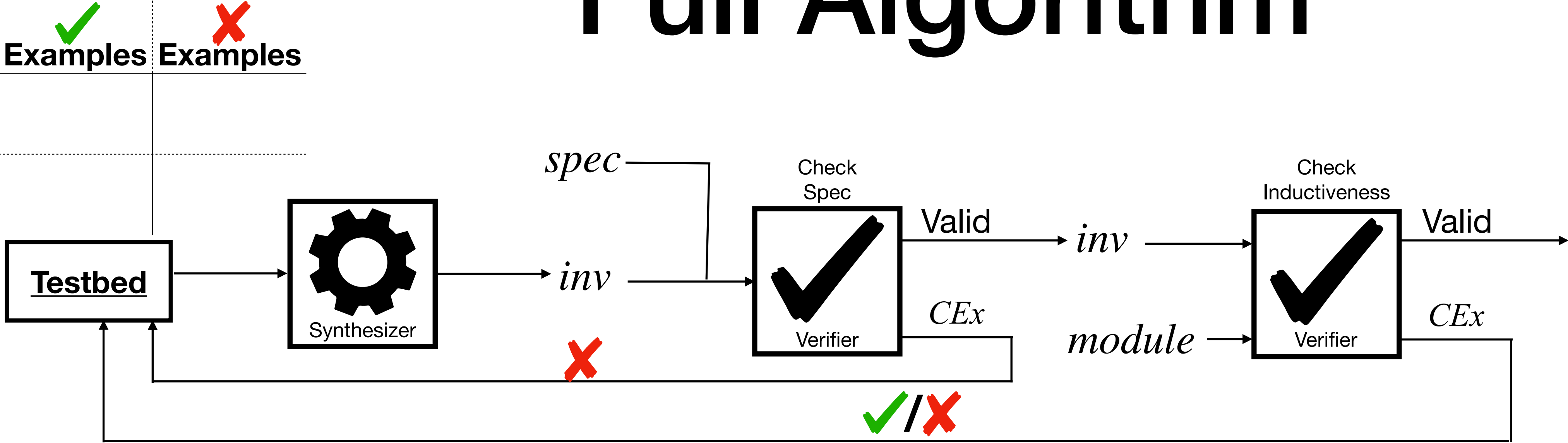
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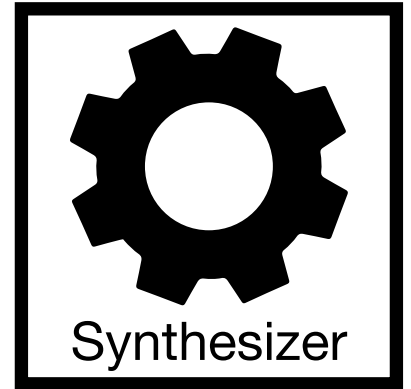
Full Algorithm



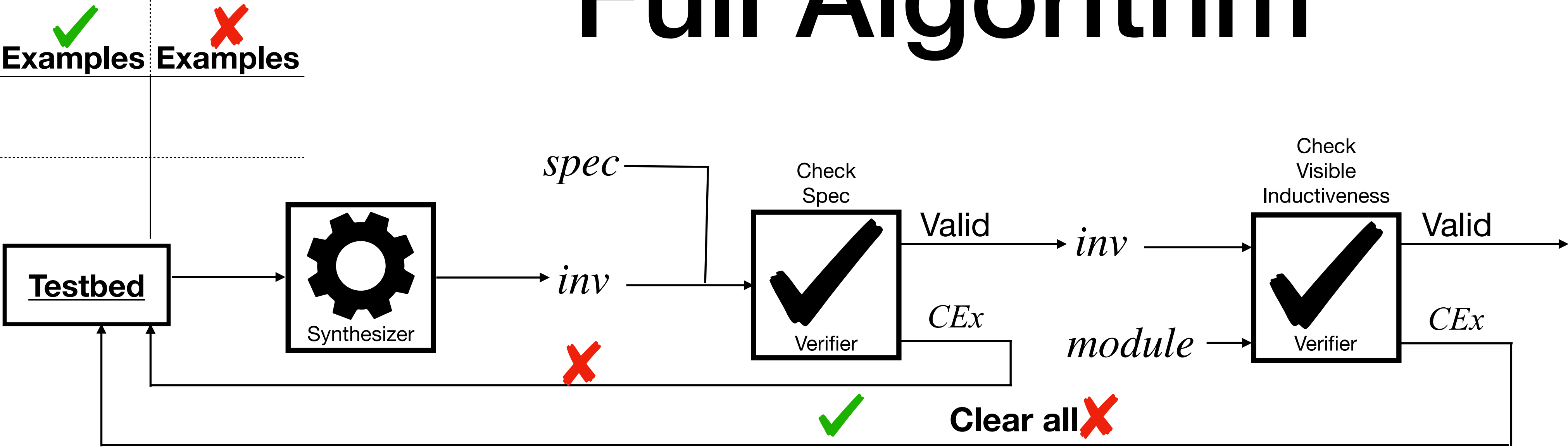
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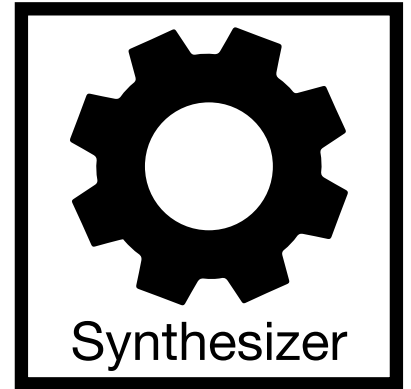
Constraint:
 ✓ are always
 reachable



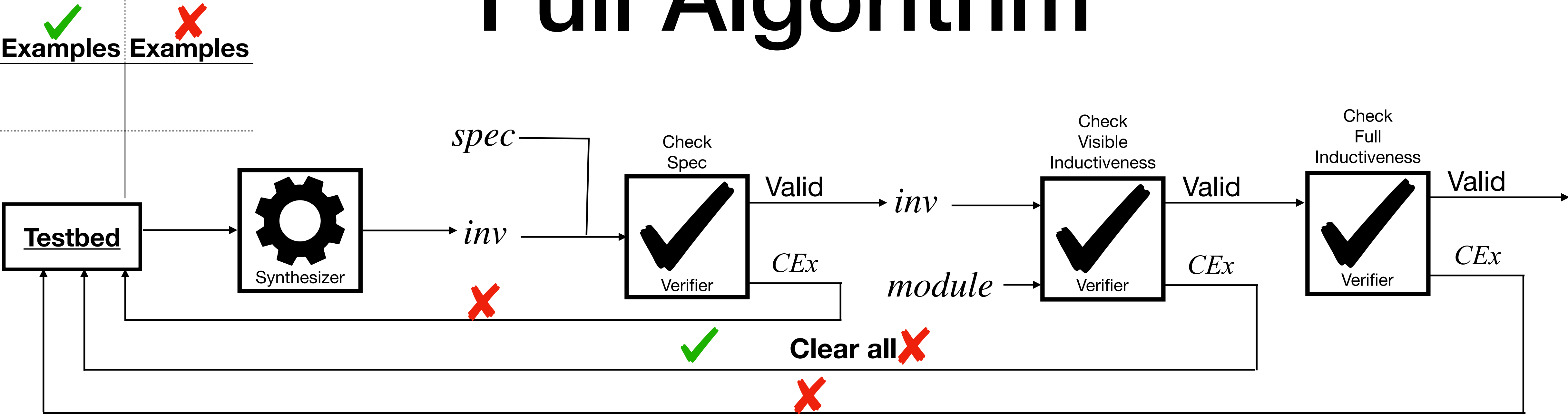
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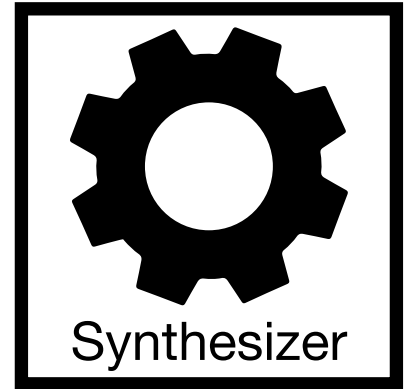
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Full Algorithm



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Correctness Theorem

If:

1. Our verifier is sound and complete
2. Our synthesizer is sound and complete
3. Our concrete data type only has a finite number of elements

Then our algorithm will find a sufficient representation invariant, if one exists

Hanoi

Hanoi

Synthesizer

MYTH

[Osera and Zdancewic 2015]

Hanoi

Synthesizer

MYTH

[Osera and Zdanczewic 2015]

```
inv l = match l with  
  | [] -> true  
  | h::t -> ¬(lookup h t) ∧ inv t
```

Hanoi

Synthesizer

MYTH

[Osera and Zdancewic 2015]

Verifier

**Enumerative
Tester**

Hanoi

Synthesizer

MYTH

[Osera and Zdanczewicz 2015]

Verifier

**Enumerative
Tester**

 Unsound

Hanoi

Synthesizer

MYTH

[Osera and Zdanczewicz 2015]

Verifier

Enumerative Tester

- 👎 Unsound
- 👍 Fast
- 👍 Guaranteed to terminate

Hanoi




Synthesizer

MYTH

[Osera and Zdanczewicz 2015]

Verifier

Enumerative Tester

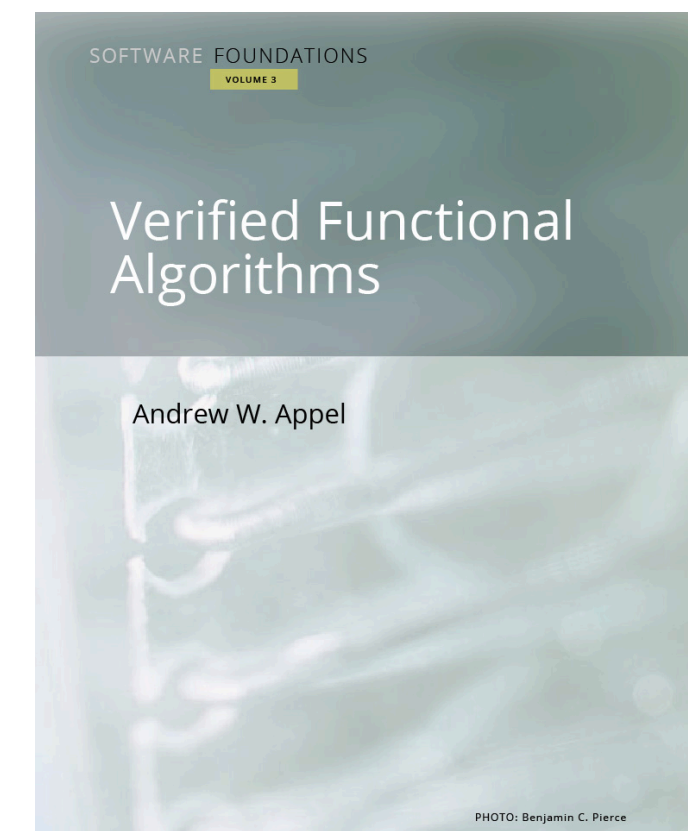
-  Unsound
-  Fast
-  Guaranteed to terminate

Theory doesn't address higher-order functions.
Hanoi does (using higher-order contracts).

Evaluation

Benchmark Suite Construction

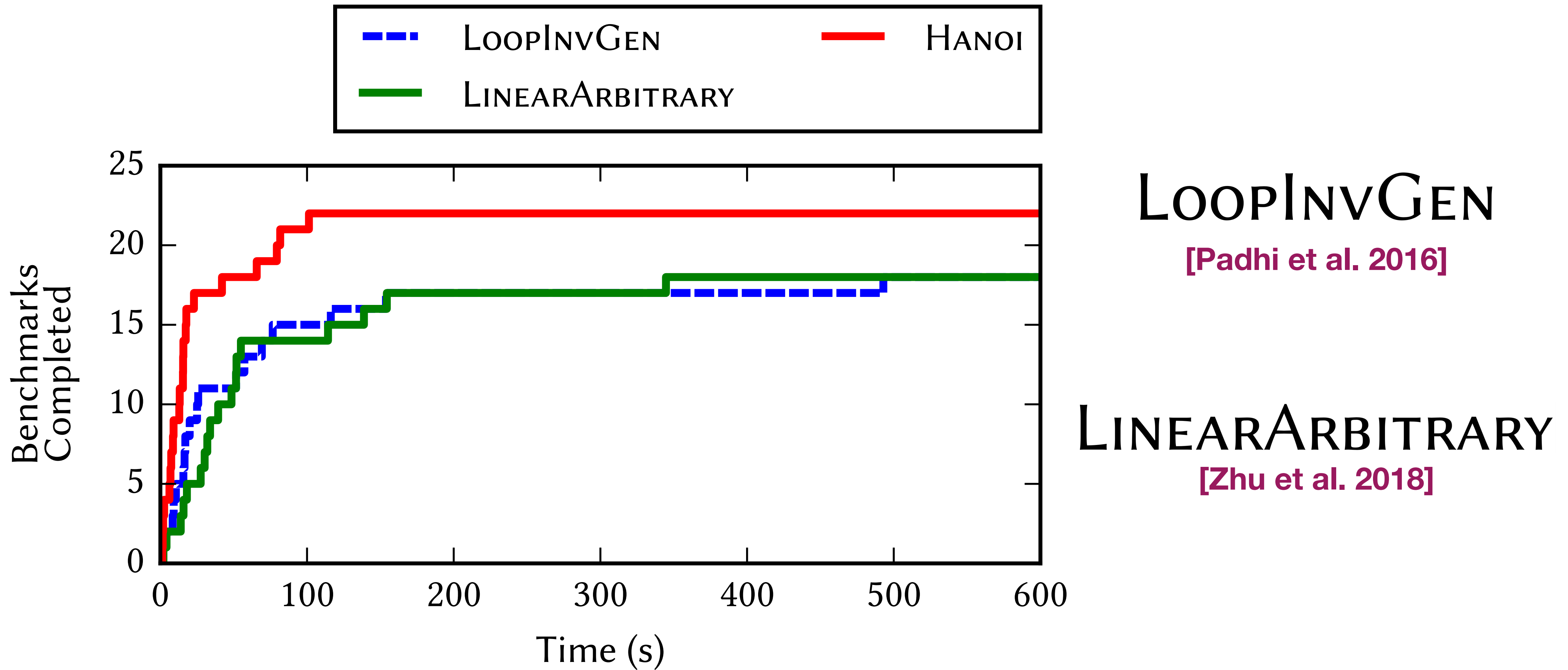
- Verified Function Algorithms (5)
- VFAExt (3)
- Coq (14)
- Other (6)




Numbers

- Timeout of 30 minutes
- Inferred 22/28 Invariants
- All of our inferred invariants were correct, despite using a tester for verification

Comparisons





Burst
for Synthesis

ListSet

```
1 module type SET = sig
2   type t
3   val empty : t
4   val insert : t -> int -> t
5   val delete : t -> int -> t
6   val lookup : t -> int -> bool
7 end
```

$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \forall s' : t. \neg(\text{lookup empty } i)$
 $\wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i)$
 $\wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i)$

```
1 module ListSet : SET = struct
2   type t = int list
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4   let empty = []
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6   let rec lookup l x =
7     match l with
8     | [] -> false
9     | hd :: tl -> (hd = x) || (lookup tl x)
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11   let insert l x =
12     if (lookup l x) then l else (x :: l)
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14   let rec delete l x =
15     match l with
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19   end
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ListSet

NOW WITH INVARIANTS!

```
1 module type SET = sig
2   type t
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$$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \forall s' : t. \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i) \\ \wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i) \\ \wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i)$$

```
inv l = match l with
| [] -> true
| h::t ->  $\neg(\text{lookup h t}) \wedge \text{inv t}$ 
```

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ListSet++

```
1 module type SET = sig
2   type t
3   val empty : t
4   val insert : t -> int -> t
5   val delete : t -> int -> t
6   val lookup : t -> int -> bool
7   val insert_all : t -> int list -> t
8 end
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$$\forall is : \text{int list}. \forall s : t. \forall out : t. \quad out = (\text{insert_all } s \ is) \\ \Rightarrow (\text{size } out) = (\text{size } s) + (\text{size (dedup } is))$$

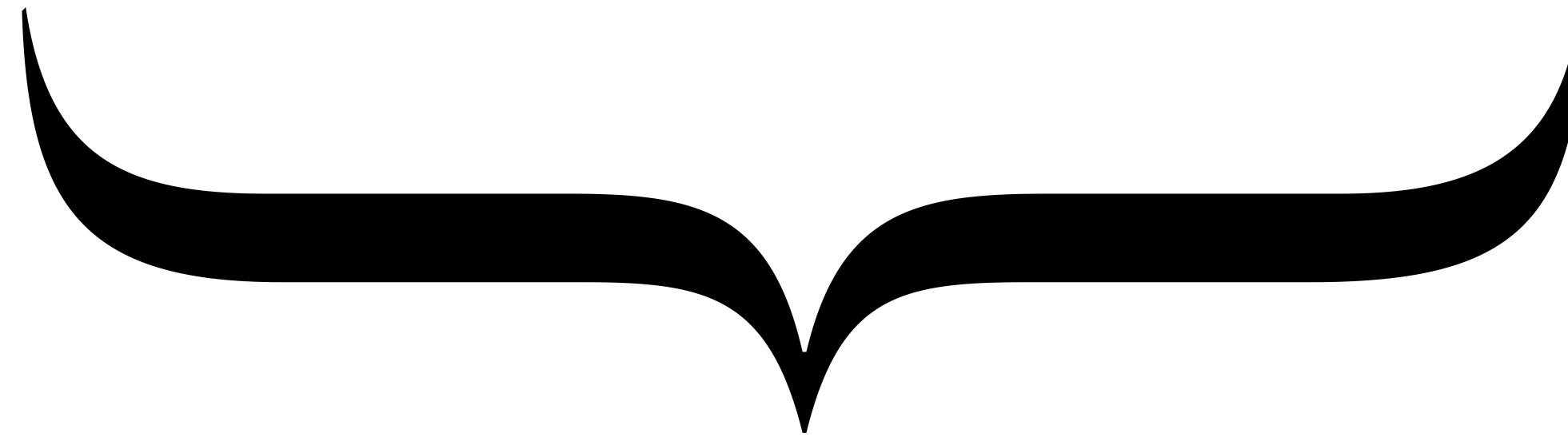
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inv l = match l with
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```

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ListSet++

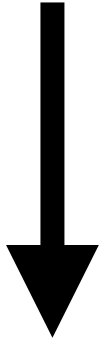
```
inv l = match l with  
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```

```
∀ is : int list. ∀ s : t. ∀ out : t.    out = (insert_all s is)  
⇒ (size out) = (size s) + (size is)
```

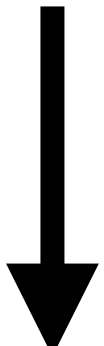


```
∀ is : int list. ∀ s : t. ∀ out : t.    out = (insert_all s is)  
⇒ (inv s)  
⇒ ((size out) = (size s) + (size (dedup is))  
  ∧ (inv out))
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⇒ ((size out) = (size s) + (size (dedup is))
  ∧ (inv out))
```



Burst



```
let rec insert_all (s:t) (is:int list) =
  match is with
  | [] -> s
  | h::t -> insert h (insert_all s t)
```

What can do this?



What else do we want?



1. Recursion

What else do we want?



1. Recursion

a. Non-inductive Specifications



SyGUS
Syntax-Guided Synthesis

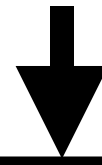


What else do we want?

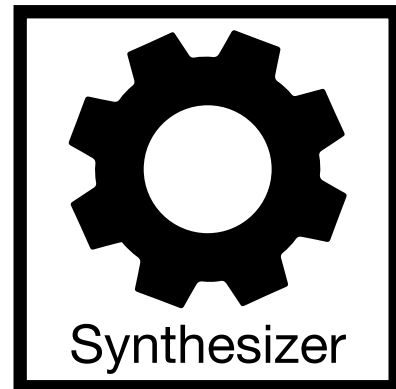
1. Recursion
 - a. Non-inductive Specifications
2. No Top-Down Reasoning



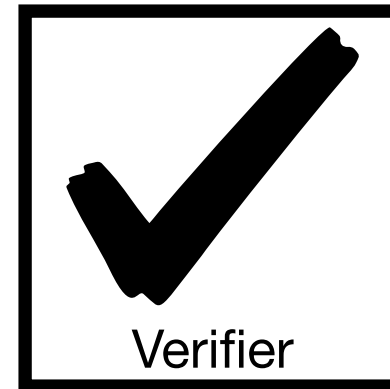

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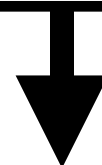
Algorithm



Synthesizer

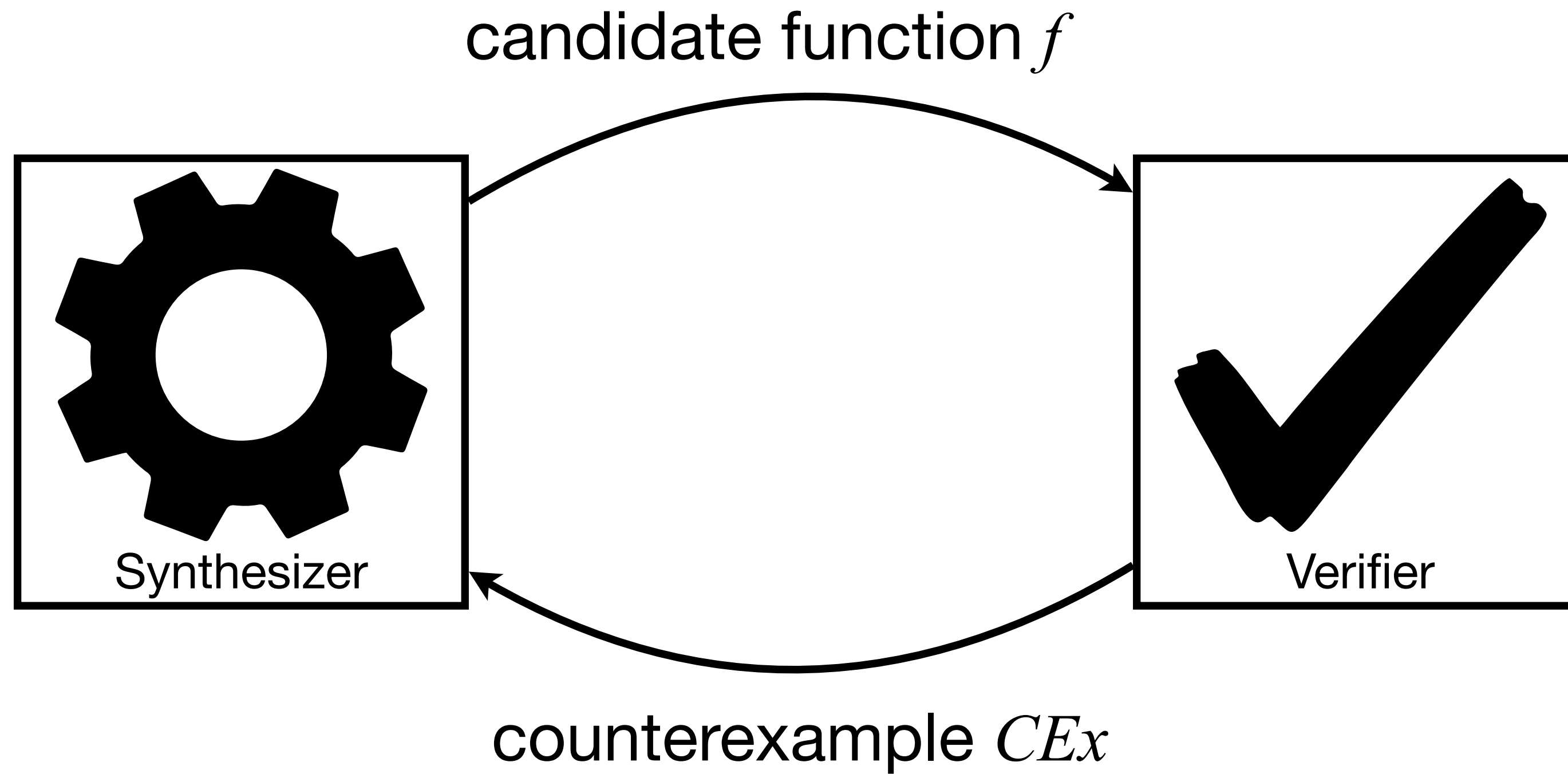


Verifier

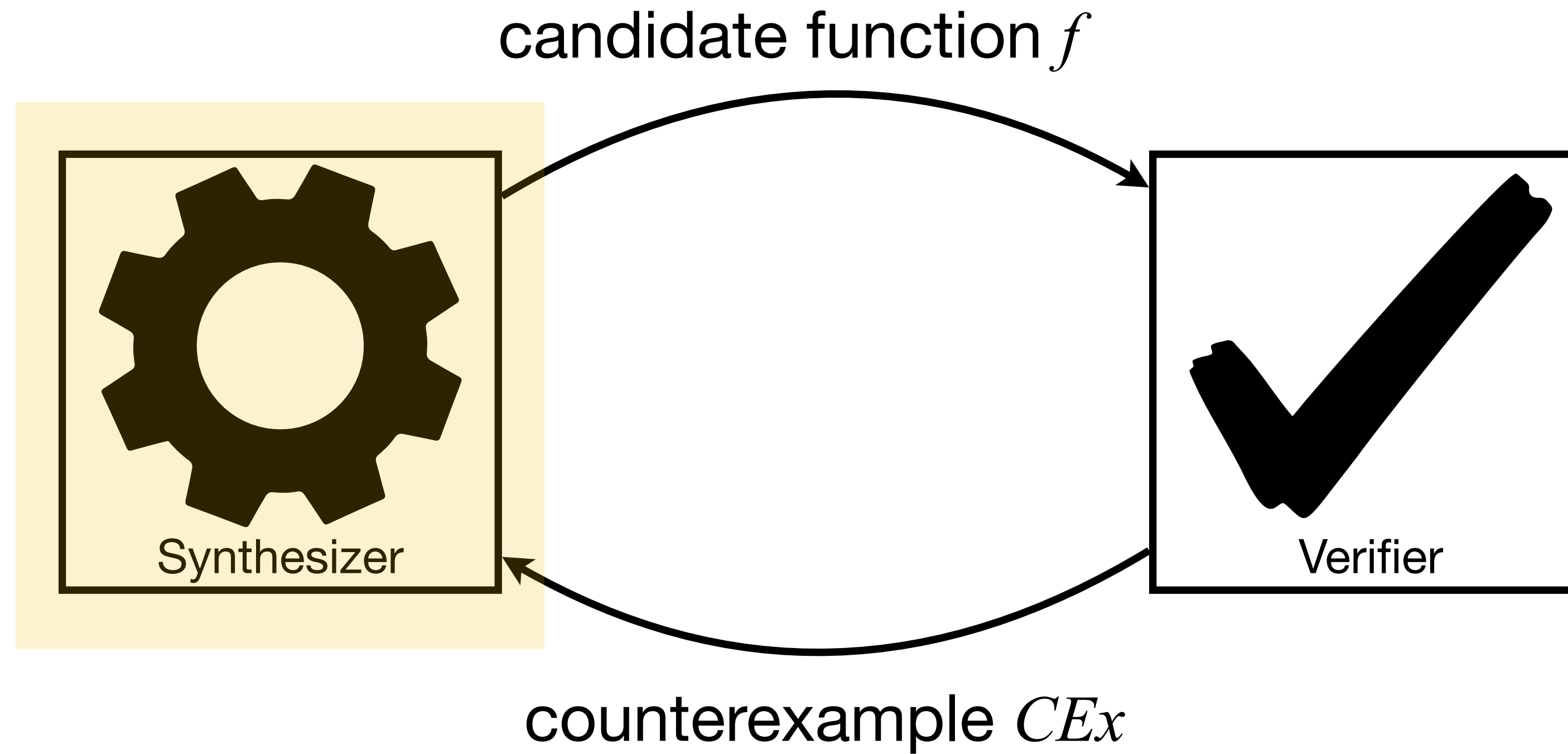


```
let rec insert_all (s:t) (is:int list) =
  match is with
  | [] -> s
  | h::t -> insert h (insert_all s t)
```

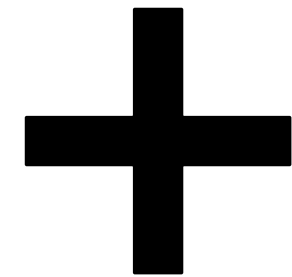
Algorithm



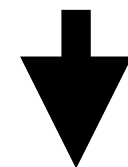
Algorithm



`s = [], is = [0]`

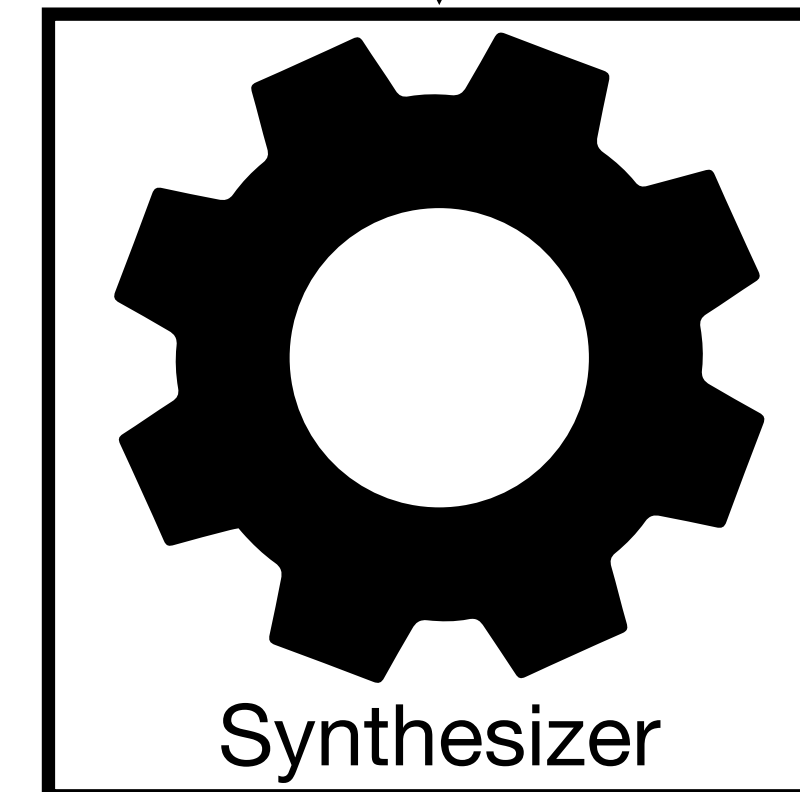
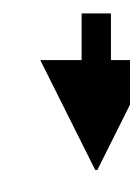


$\forall is : \text{int list}. \forall s : t. \forall out : t. \quad out = (\text{insert_all } s \ is)$
 $\Rightarrow (inv \ s)$
 $\Rightarrow ((\text{size } out) = (\text{size } s) + (\text{size } is))$
 $\wedge (inv \ out))$



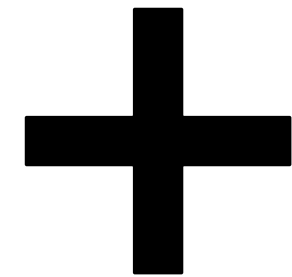
$\varphi_{[],[0]}(out) = (\text{size } out) = (\text{size } []) + (\text{size } [0])$
 $\wedge inv \ out$

?

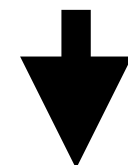


Ground Formulas

$s = [], is = [\emptyset]$

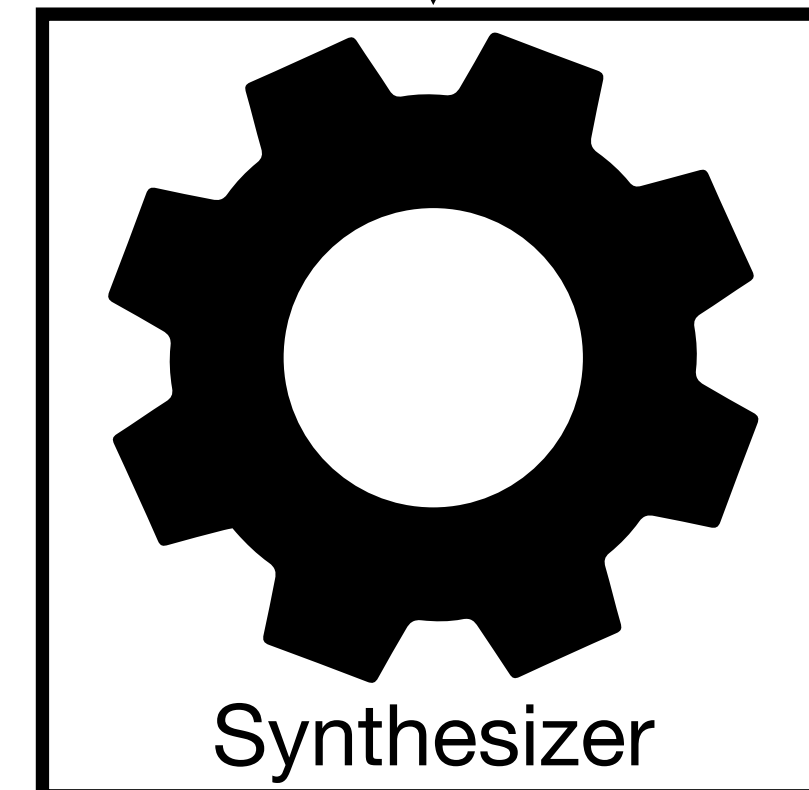


$\forall is : \text{int list}. \forall s : t. \forall out : t. \quad out = (\text{insert_all } s \ is)$
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$\varphi_{[],[0]}(out) = (\text{size } out) = (\text{size } []) + (\text{size } [\emptyset])$
 $\wedge inv \ out$

$\varphi_{[],[0]} \wedge (\varphi_{[0],[]} \vee \psi_{[0],[1]})$



Let's Simplify First

1. Recursion

a. Non-inductive Specifications

2. No Top-Down Reasoning

Let's Simplify First

1. Recursion

~~a. Non-inductive Specifications~~ Inductive IO Specs

2. No Top-Down Reasoning

FTA Synthesis [Wang 2017]

FTAs or Finite Tree Automata are automata

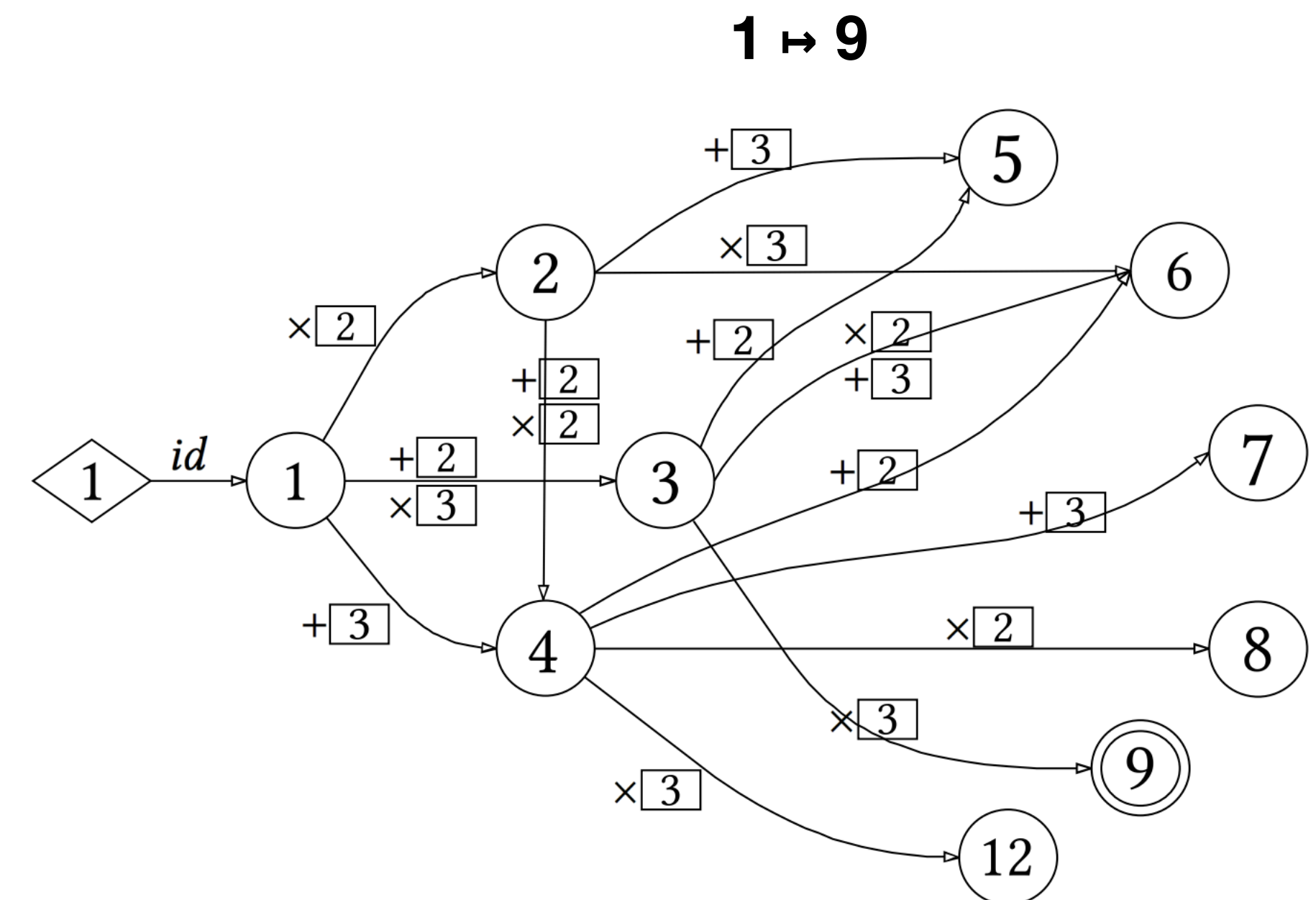
Where DFAs represent sets of strings, FTAs represent sets of *trees*

Programs are trees

FTAs can describe the set of all valid programs

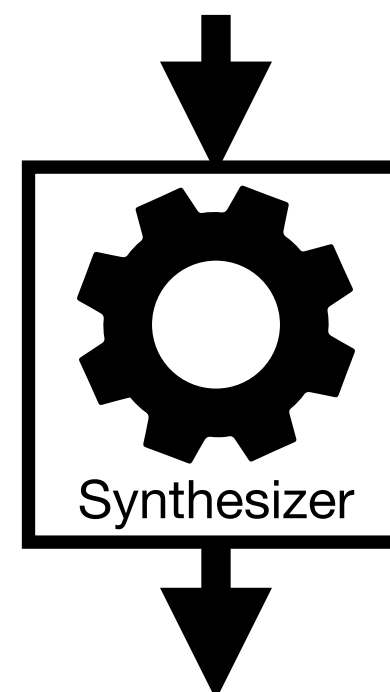
Guarantee

$e \mapsto e'$ and $f \in A$ if, and only if $f e \rightarrow^* e'$



Example Task

```
insert_all [0] [2,1,2] = [0,1,2]  
insert_all [0] [1,2] = [0,1,2]  
insert_all [0] [2] = [0,2]  
insert_all [0] [] = [0]
```



```
let rec insert_all (s:t) (is:int list) =  
  match is with  
  | [] -> s  
  | h::t -> insert h (insert_all s t)
```

FTA Synthesis [Wang 2017]

insert_all [0] [2,1,2] = [0,1,2]

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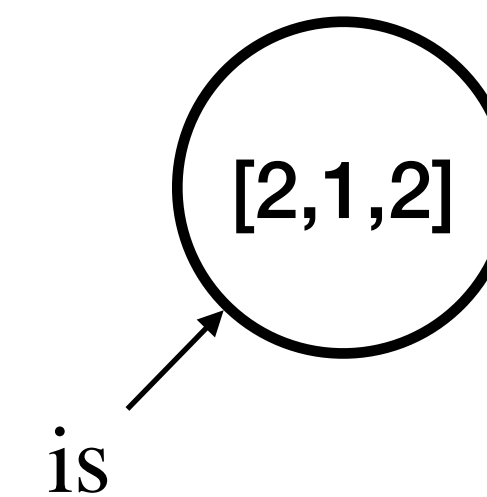
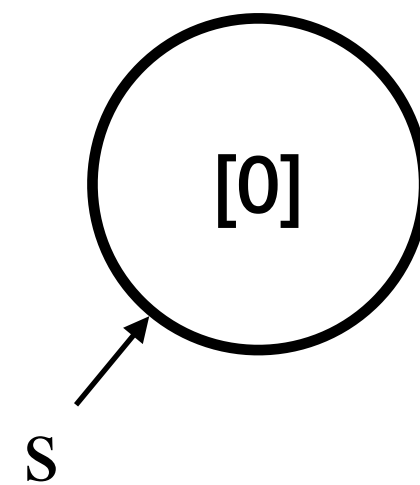
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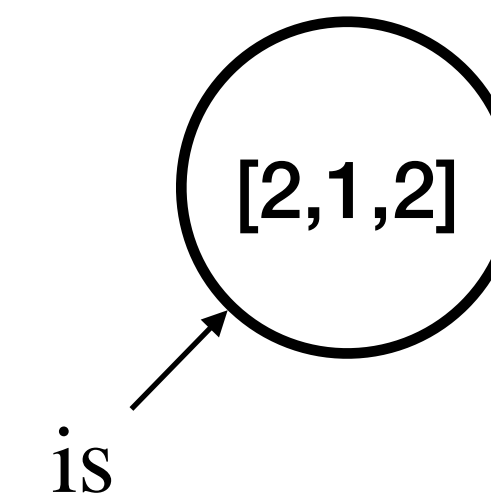
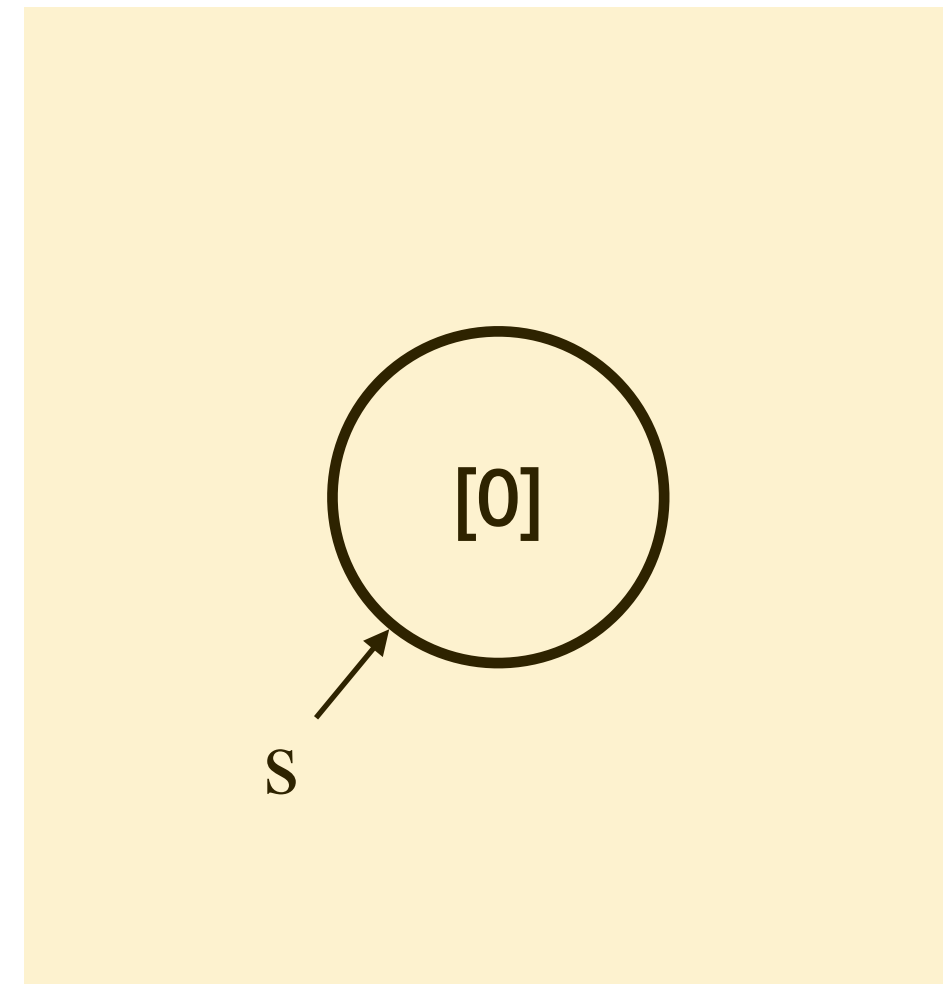
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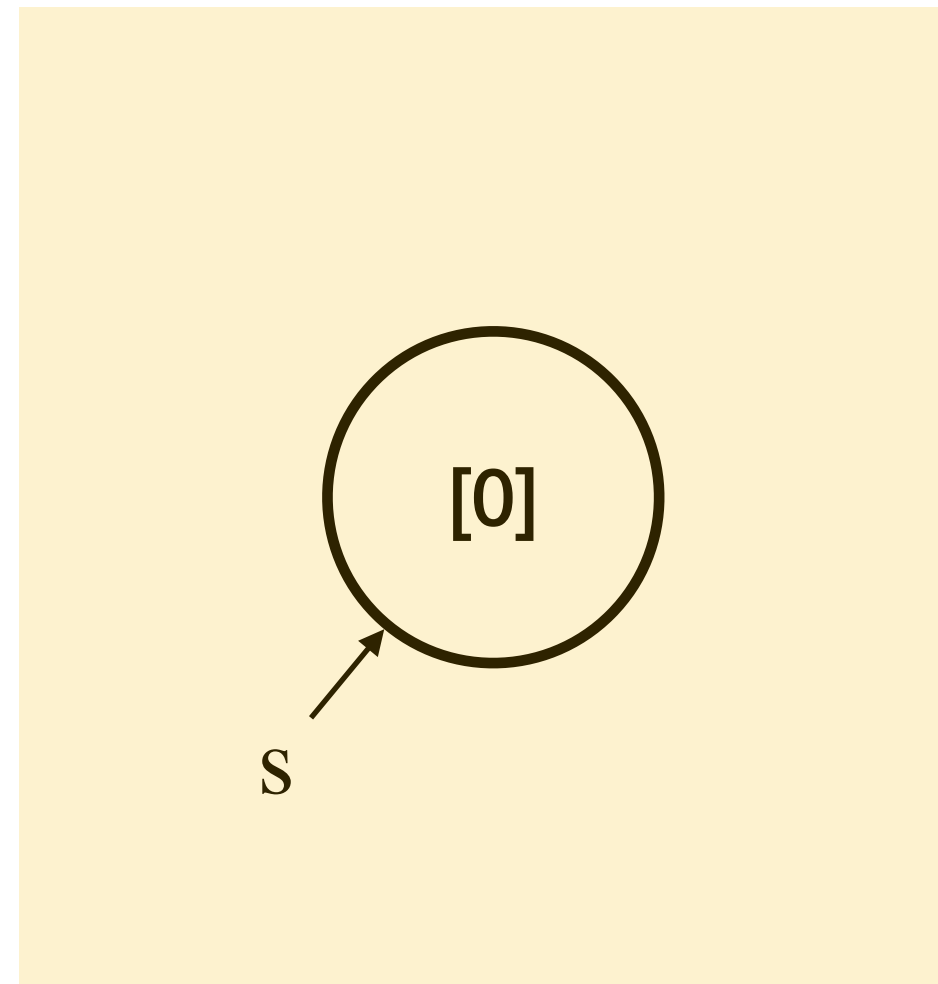
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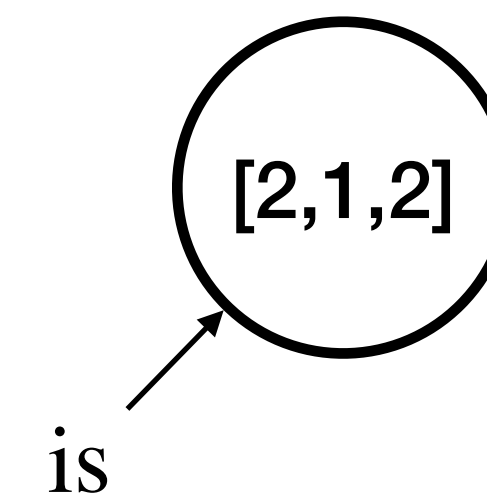


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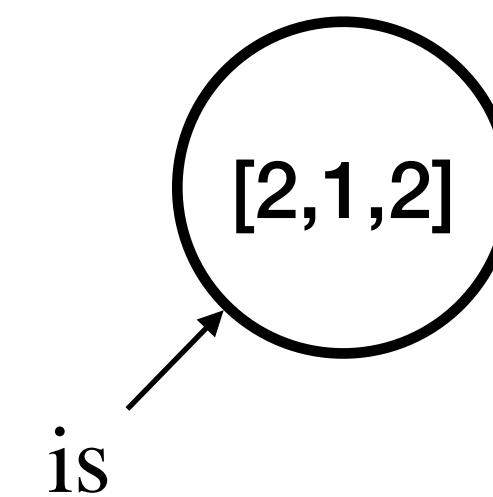
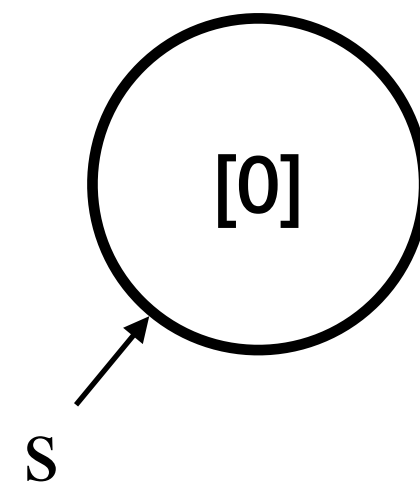


```
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  s
```



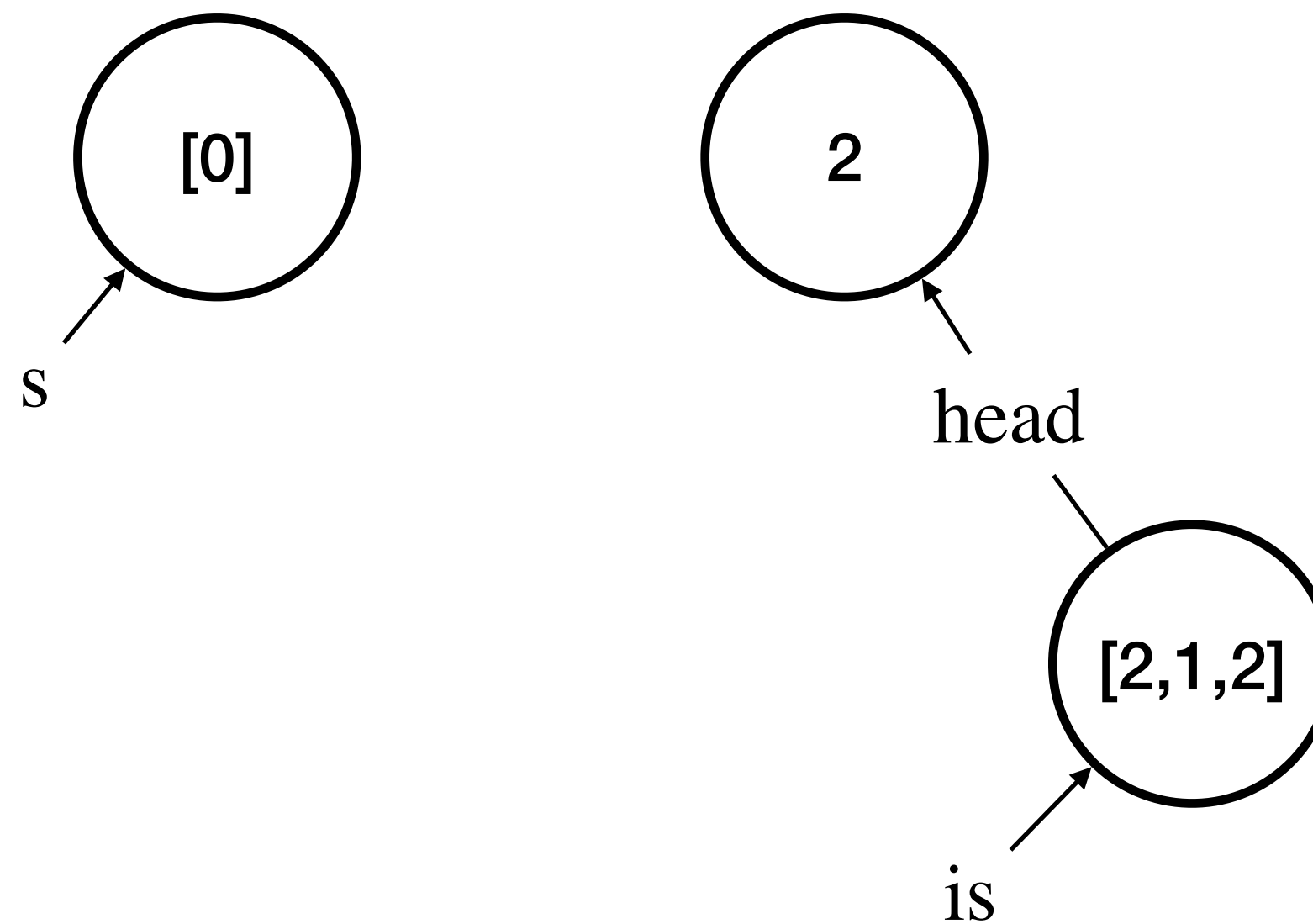
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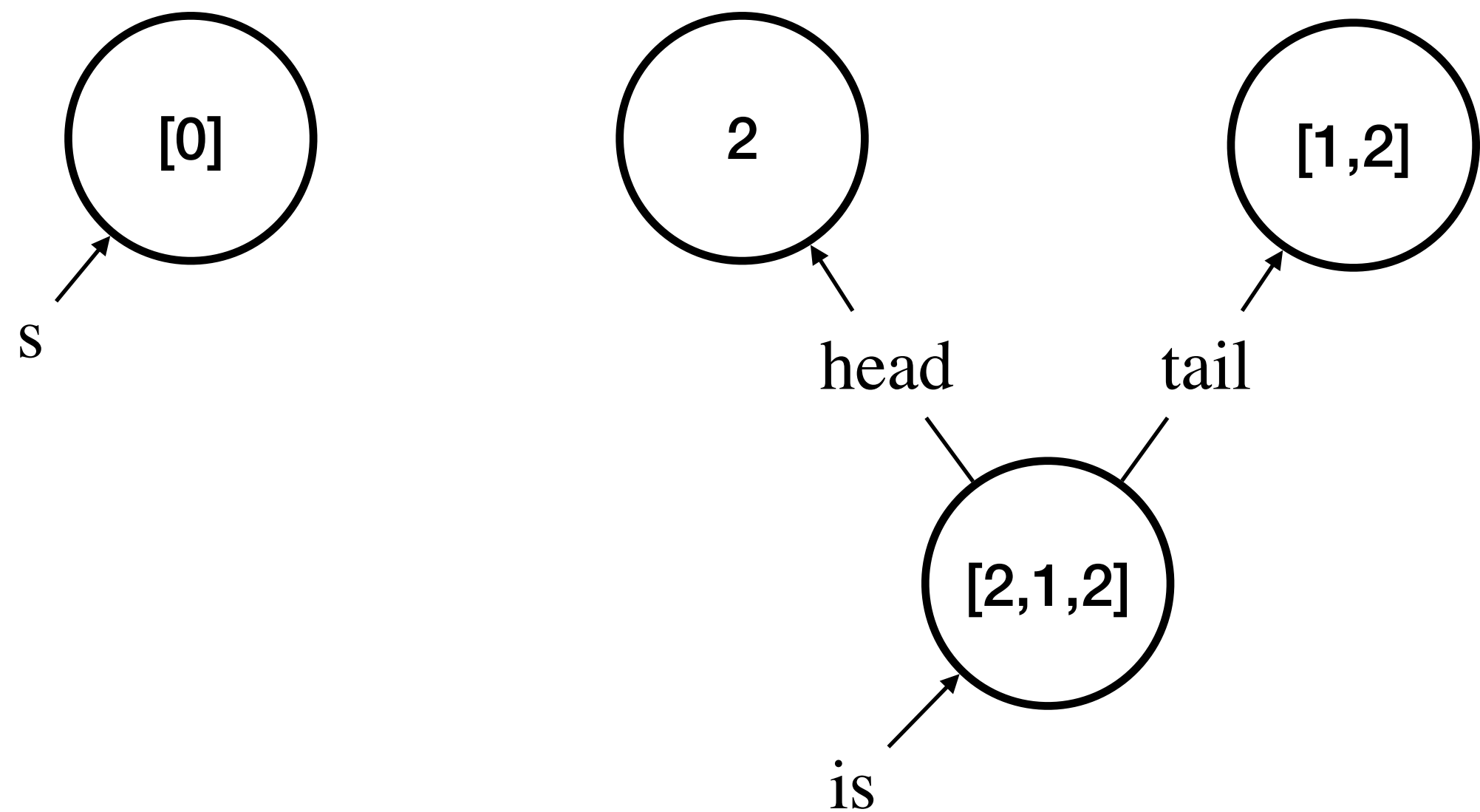
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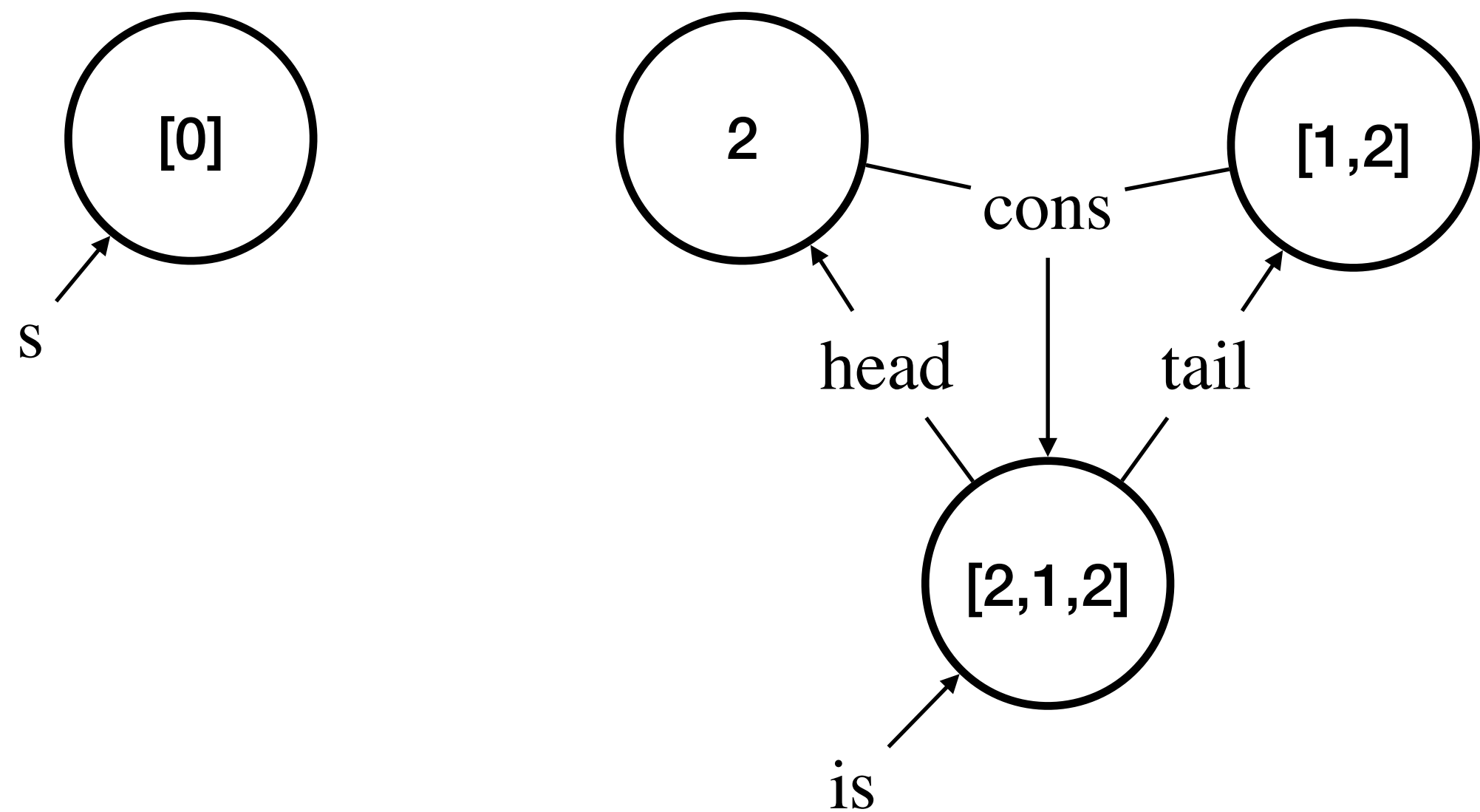
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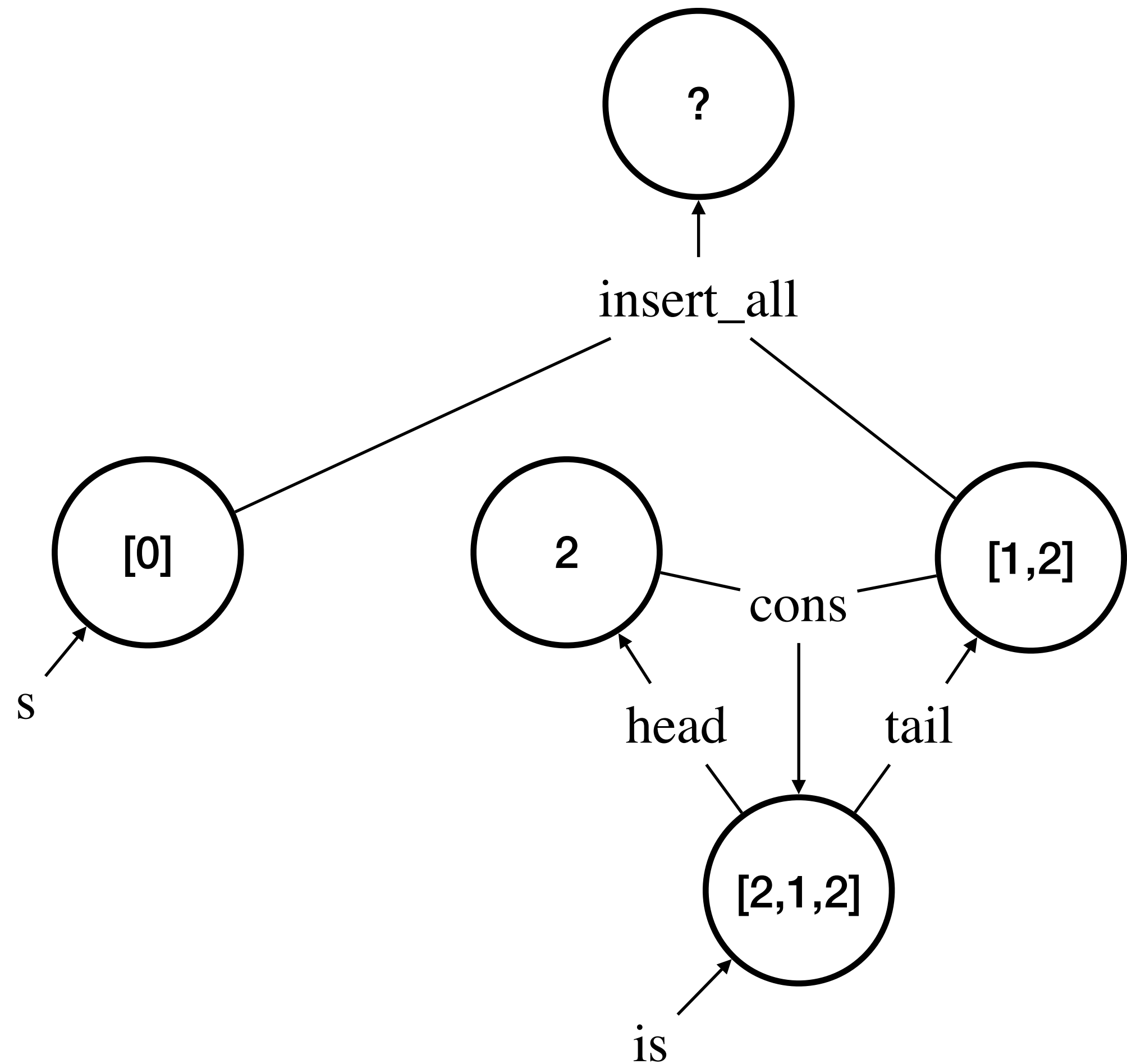
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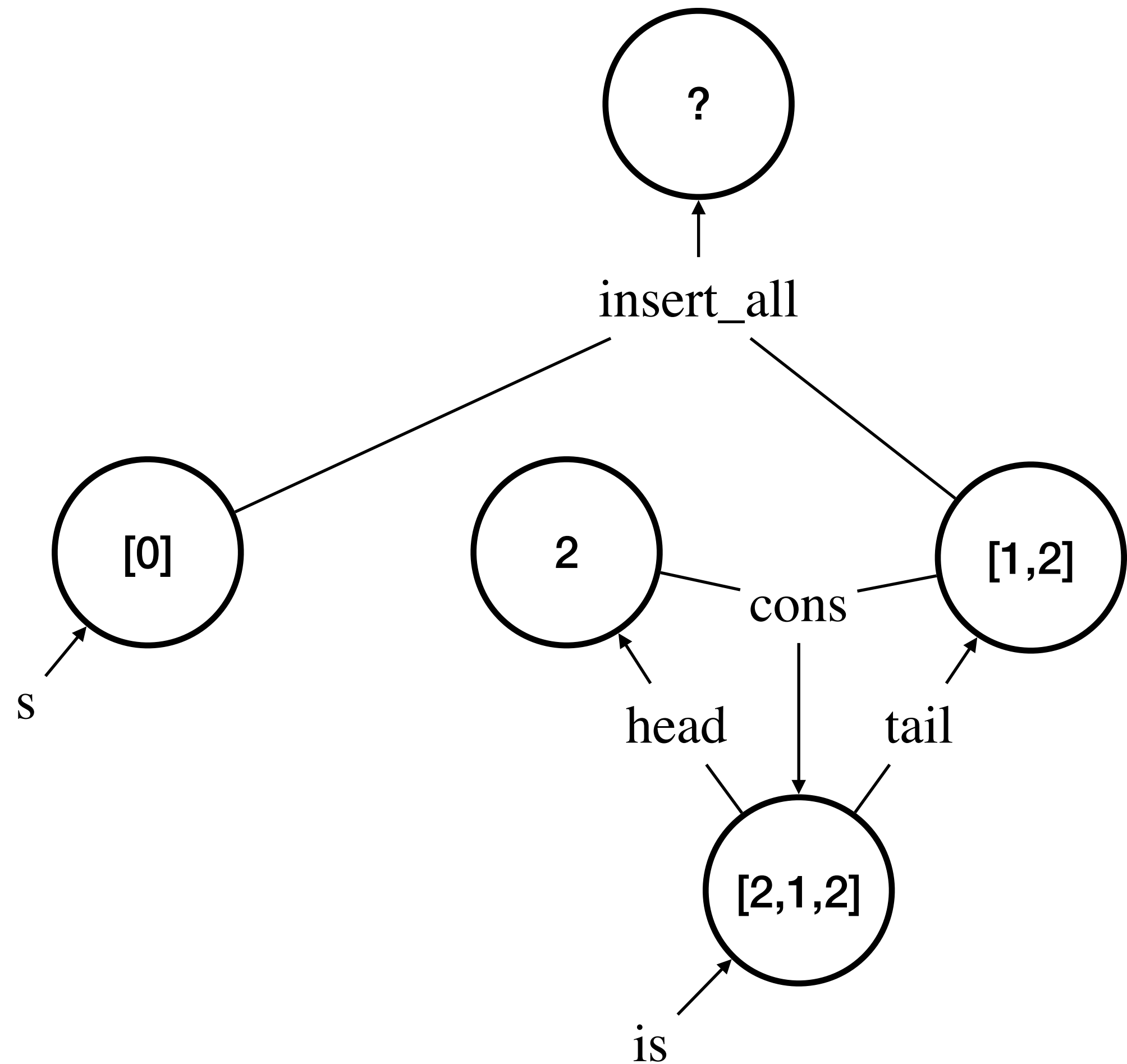
FTA Synthesis with Recursion

→ insert_all [0] [2,1,2] = [0,1,2]
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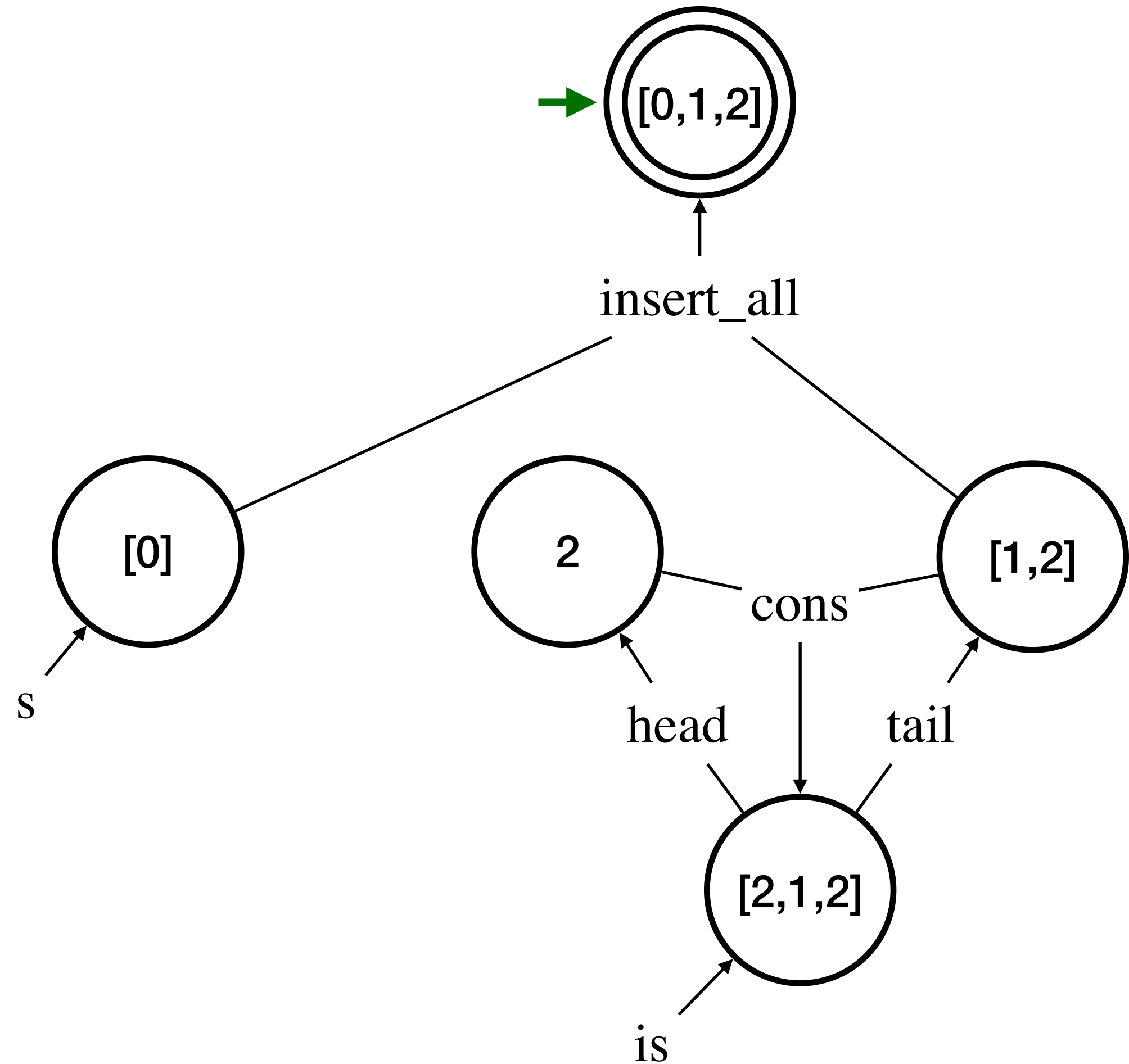
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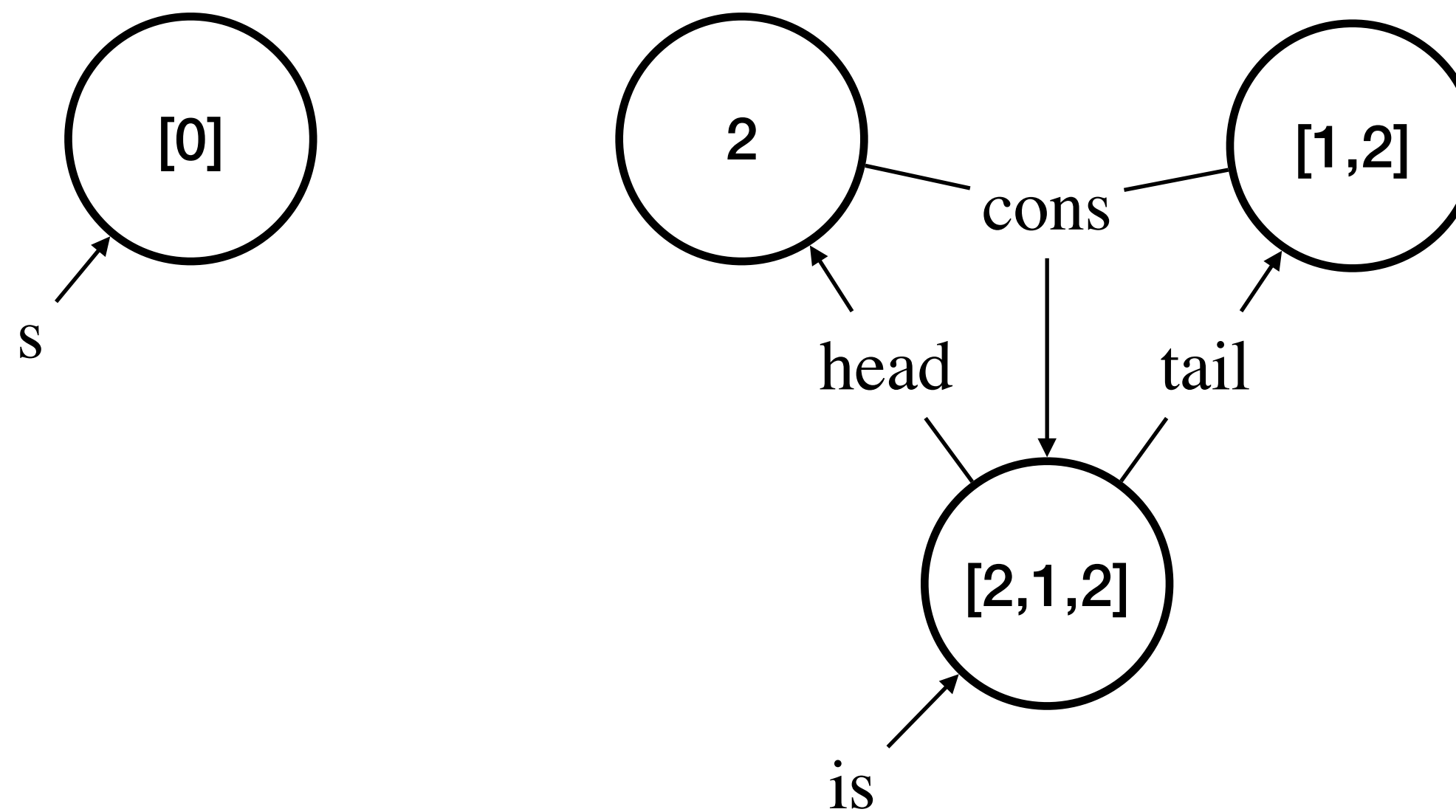
FTA Synthesis over Ground Specs

FTA Synthesis over Ground Specs

$\varphi_{[0],[2,1,2]}(out) =$
 $(size\ out) = (size\ [0]) + (size\ (dedup\ [2,1,2]))$
 $\wedge\ inv\ out$

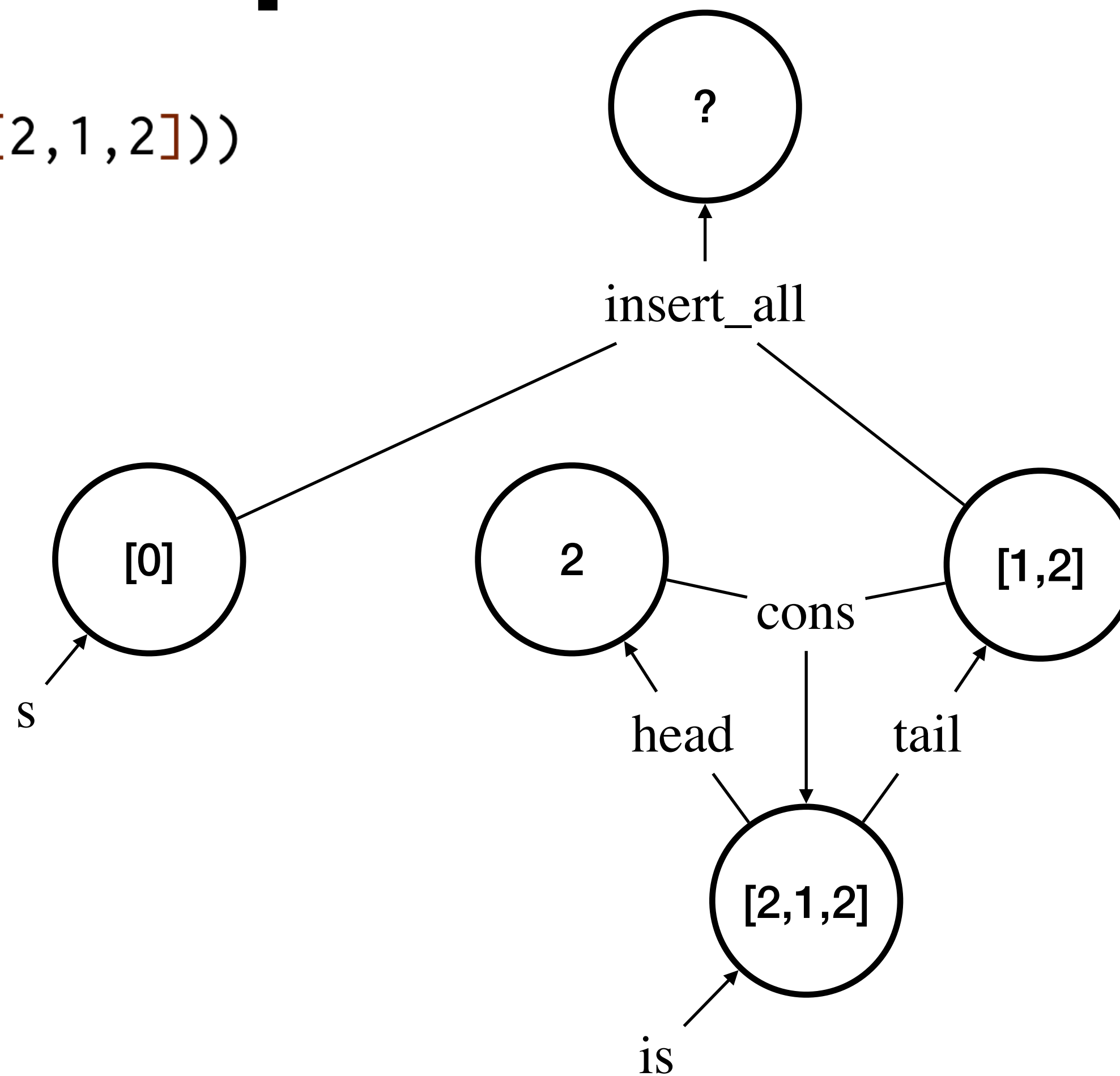
FTA Synthesis over Ground Specs

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{[0],[2,1,2]}(out) = \\ (\text{size } out) &= (\text{size } [0]) + (\text{size } (\text{dedup } [2,1,2])) \\ \wedge \text{inv } out \end{aligned}$$



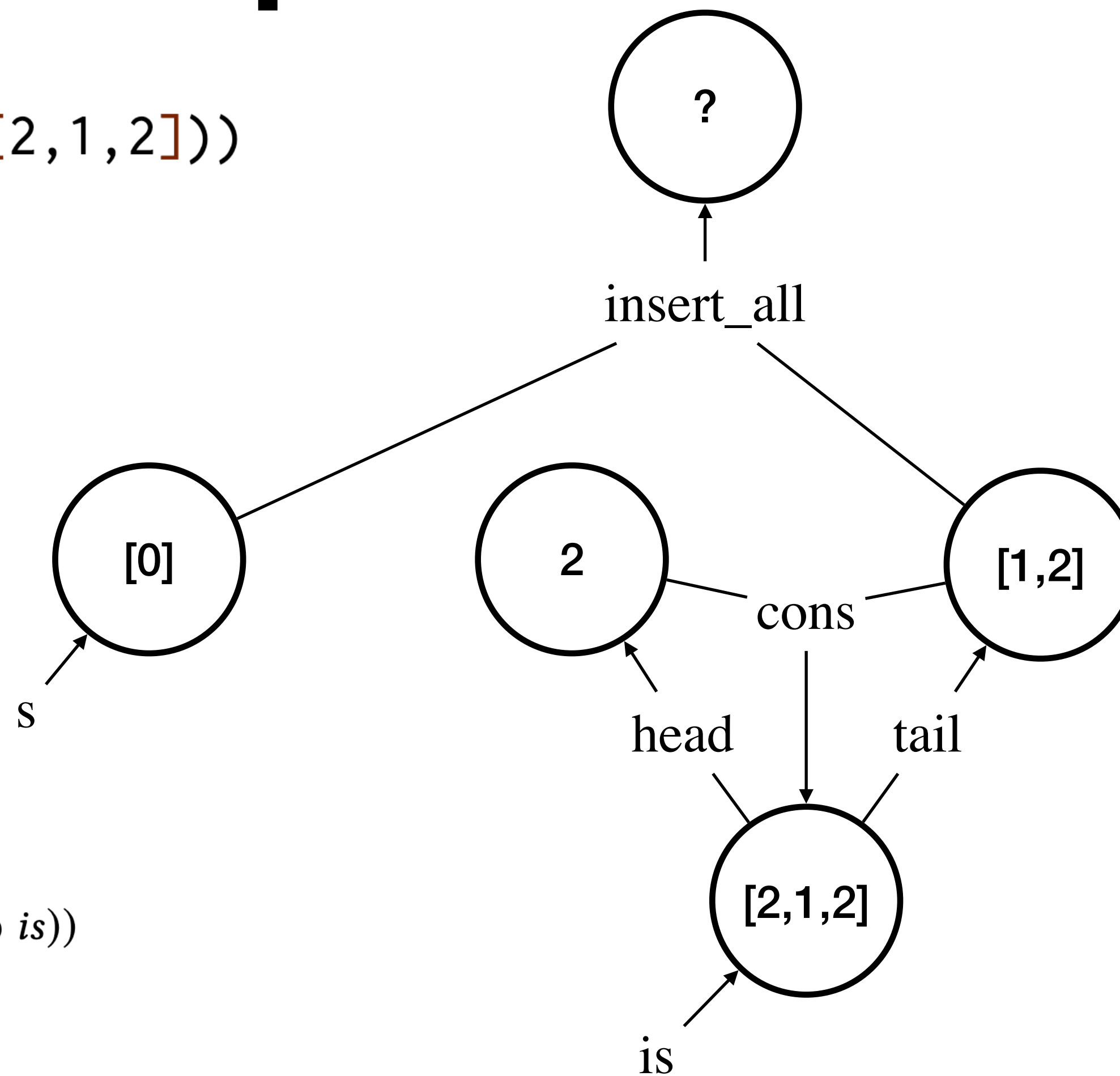
FTA Synthesis over Ground Specs

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FTA Synthesis over Ground Specs

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$$\begin{aligned} \forall is : int\ list. \forall s : t. \forall out : t. \quad & out = (insert_all\ s\ is) \\ \Rightarrow & (inv\ s) \\ \Rightarrow & ((size\ out) = (size\ s) + (size\ (dedup\ is))) \\ \wedge & (inv\ out) \end{aligned}$$

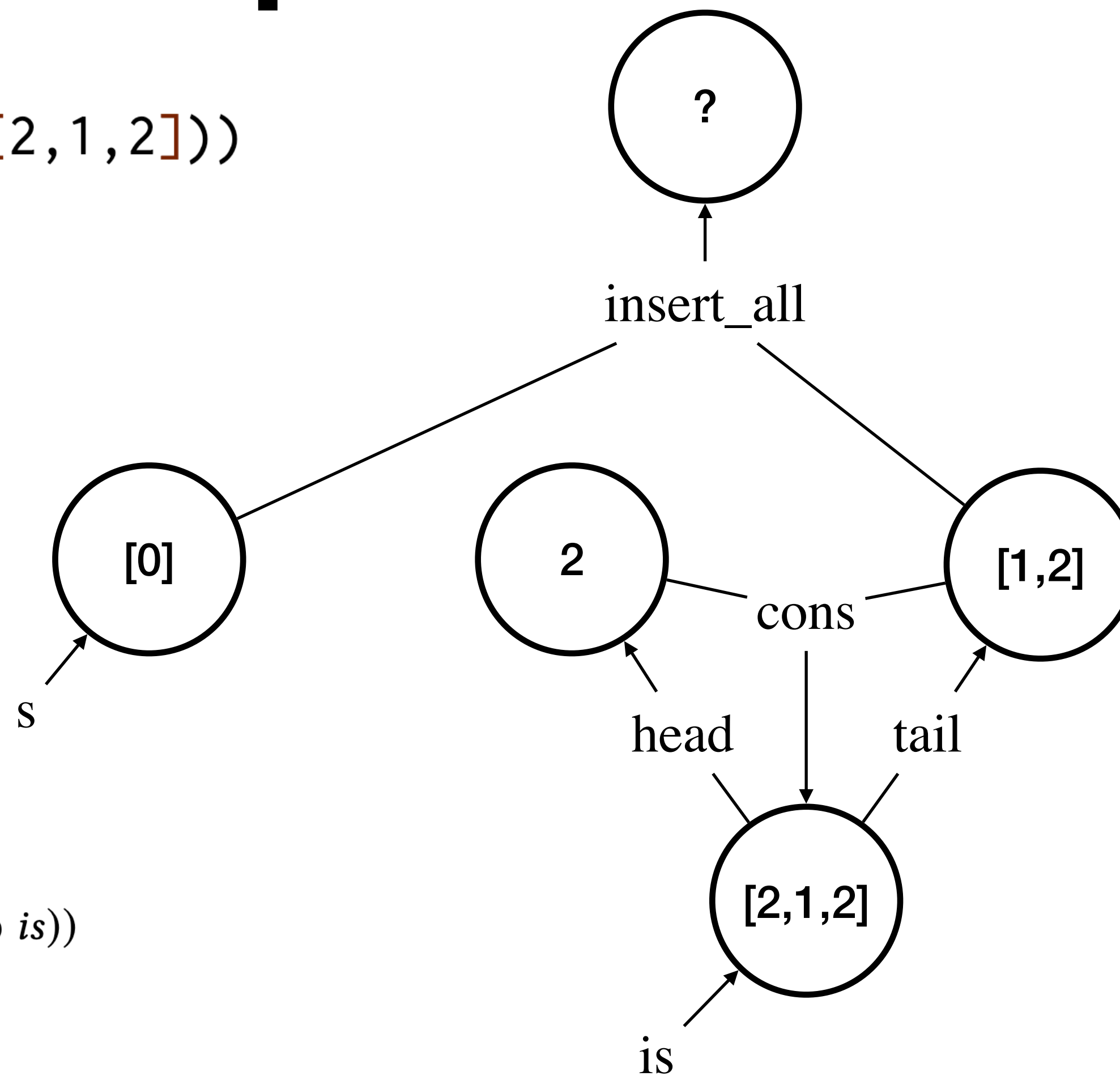
We Add Everything.

$SAT(\chi \wedge (\text{insert_all } [\emptyset] [1, 2] = l))$

where χ is the ground specification

FTA Synthesis over Ground Specs

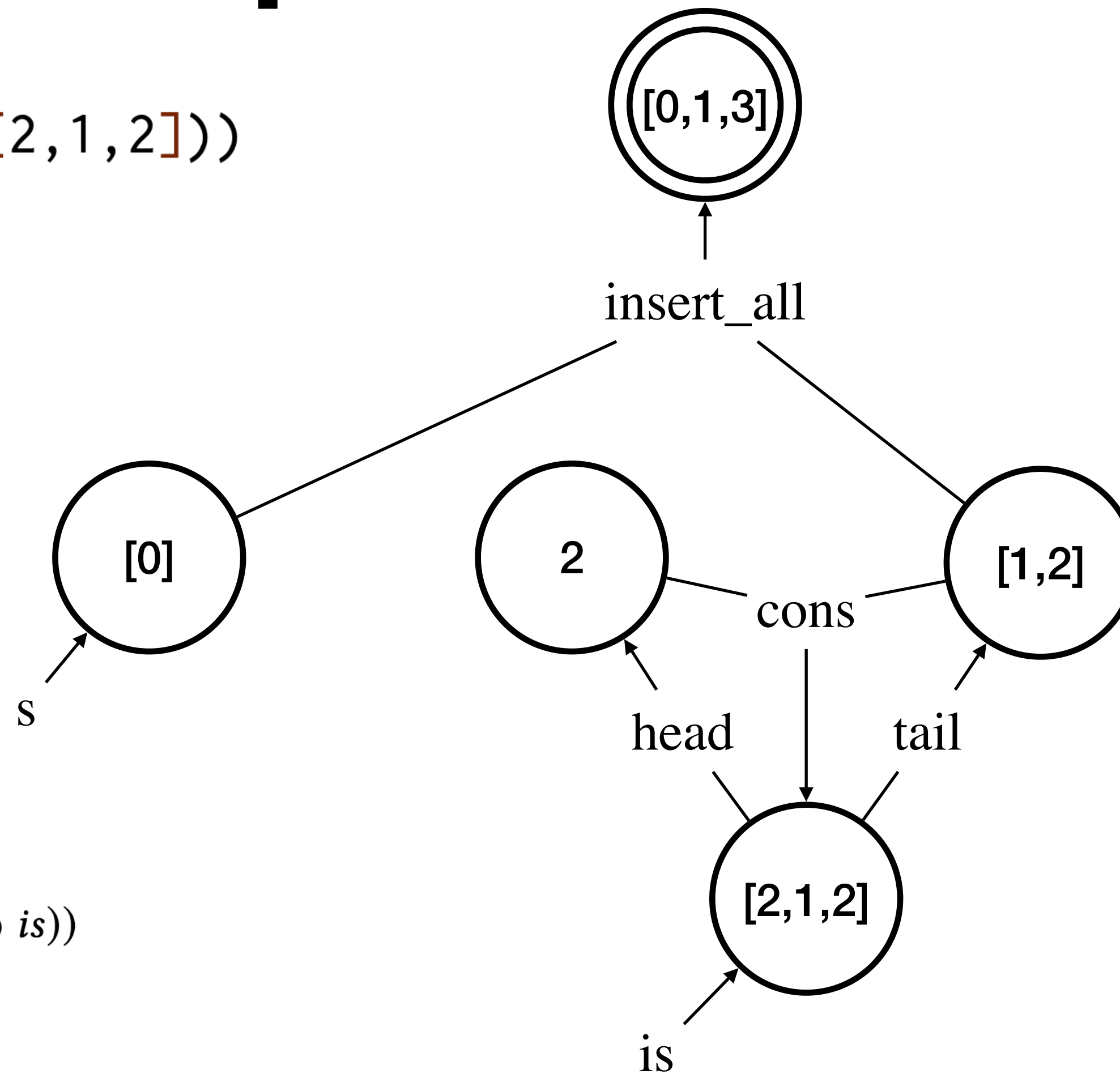
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FTA Synthesis over Ground Specs

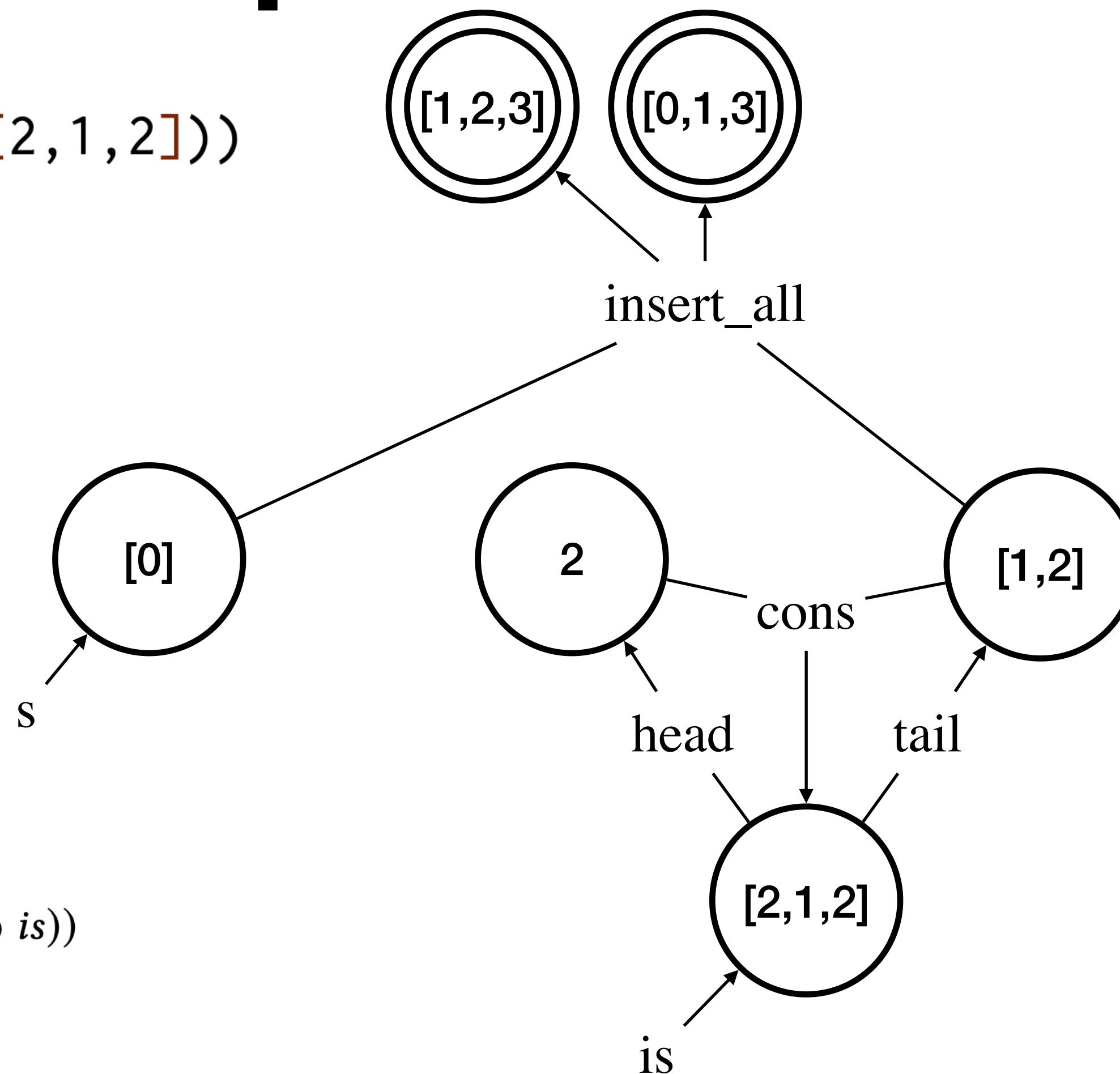
$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{[0],[2,1,2]}(out) = \\ (size\ out) = (size\ [0]) + (size\ (dedup\ [2,1,2])) \\ \wedge\ inv\ out \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \forall is : int\ list. \forall s : t. \forall out : t. \quad & out = (insert_all\ s\ is) \\ \Rightarrow & (inv\ s) \\ \Rightarrow & ((size\ out) = (size\ s) + (size\ (dedup\ is))) \\ \wedge & (inv\ out) \end{aligned}$$

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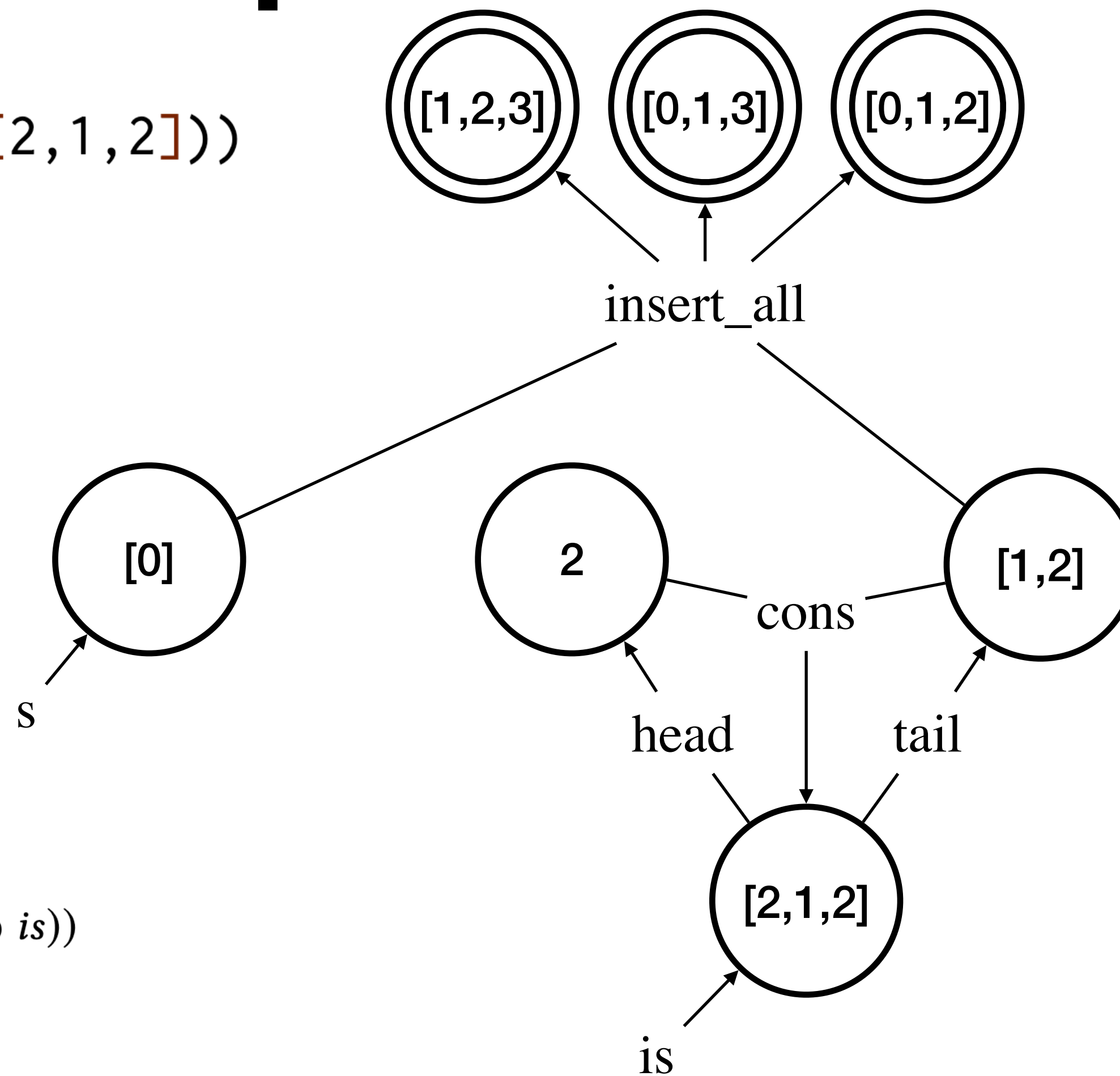
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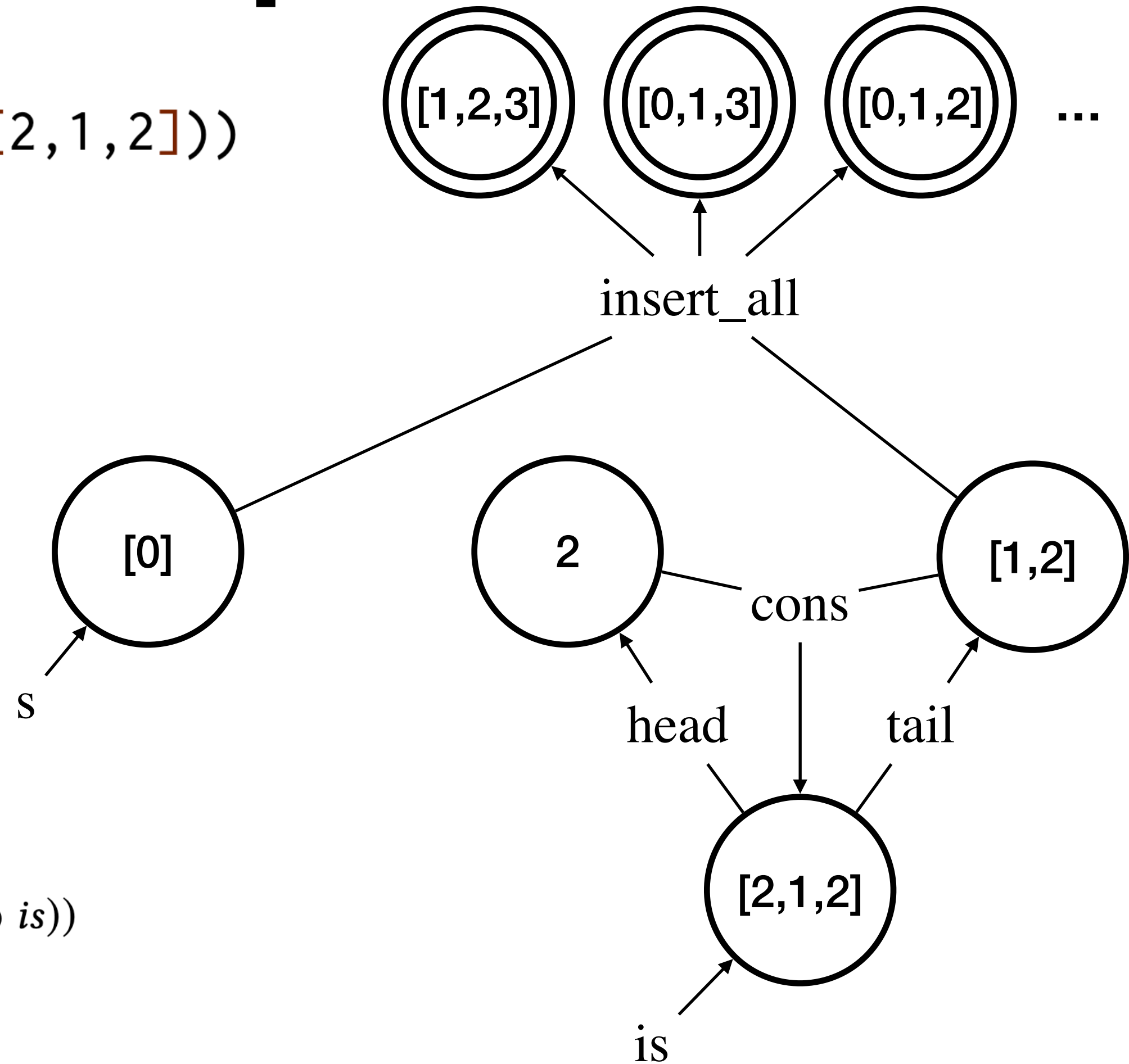
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**Before, there was a
meaning to our FTAs**

$e \mapsto e'$ and $f \in A$ if, and only if $f e \rightarrow^* e'$

**Is there any meaning
to these FTAs?**

Now, we ensure

$$SAT(\chi \wedge (f \ e = e'))$$

and $f \in A$

if, and only if

$$f e \rightarrow_{\chi}^* e'$$

Problem:

We are over approximating

Solution:

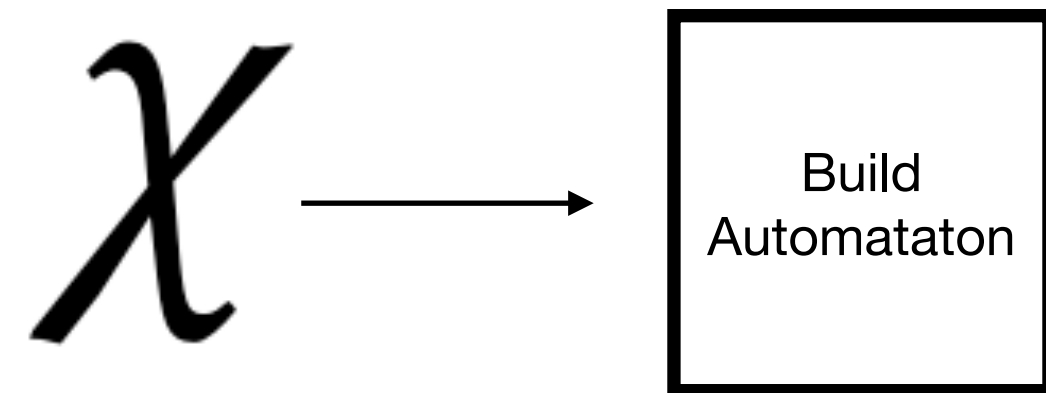
Backtracking Search

Synthesis Algorithm

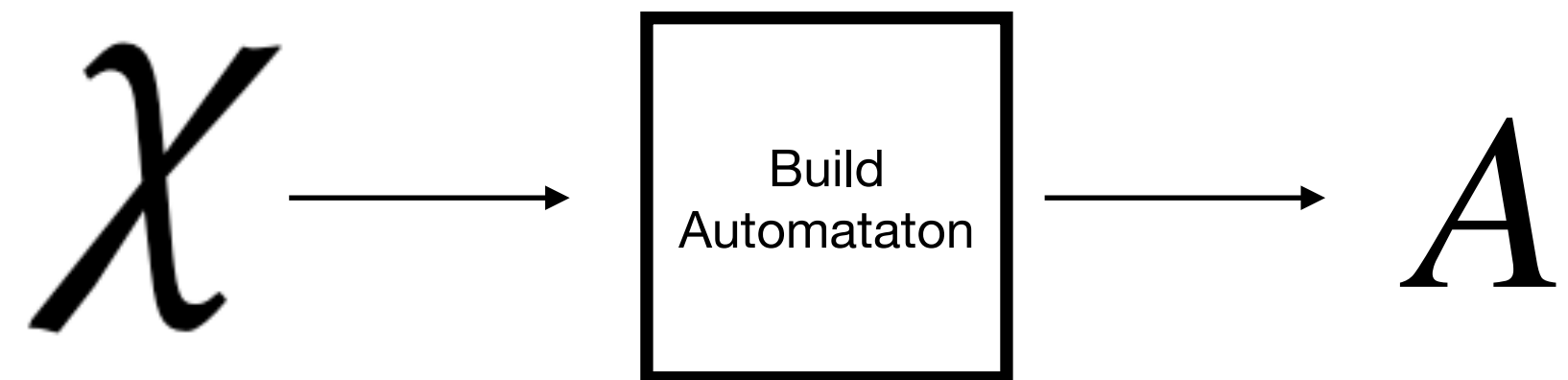
x



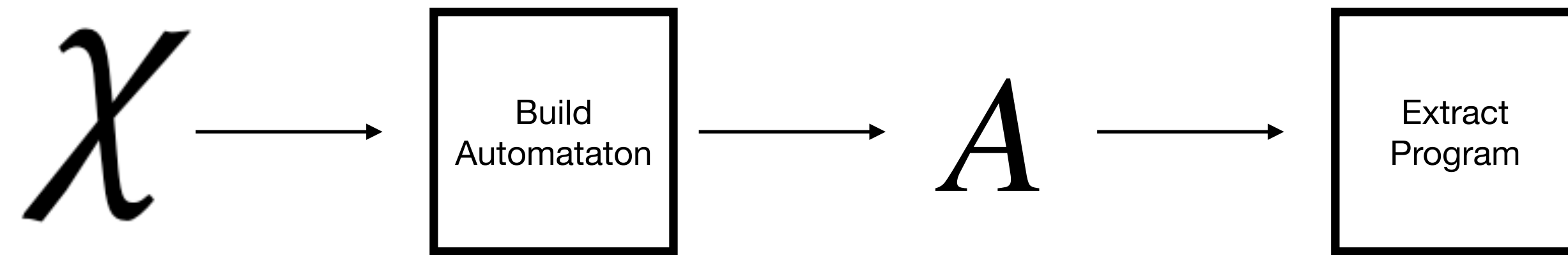
Synthesis Algorithm



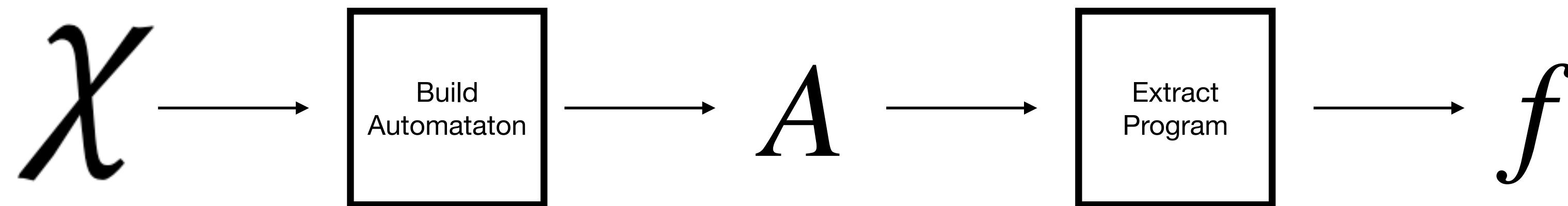
Synthesis Algorithm



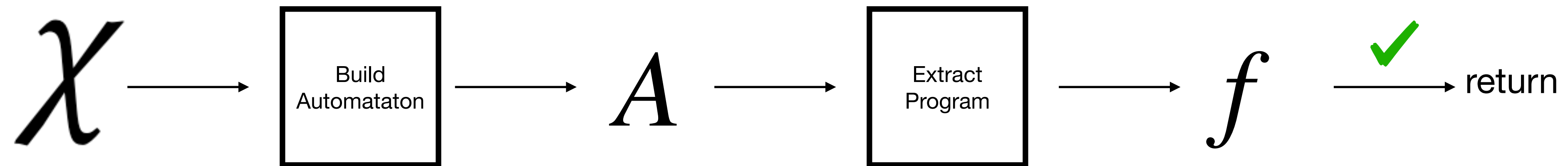
Synthesis Algorithm



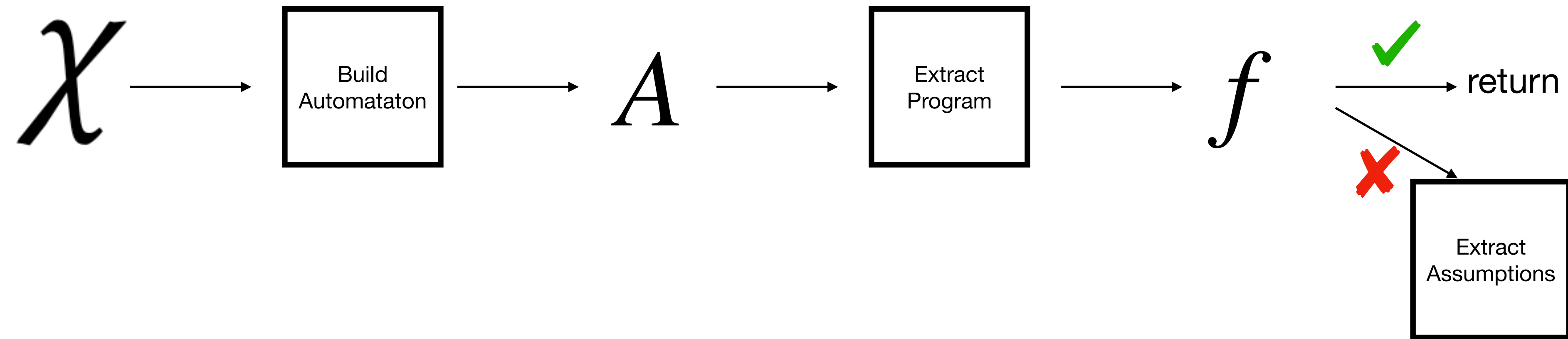
Synthesis Algorithm



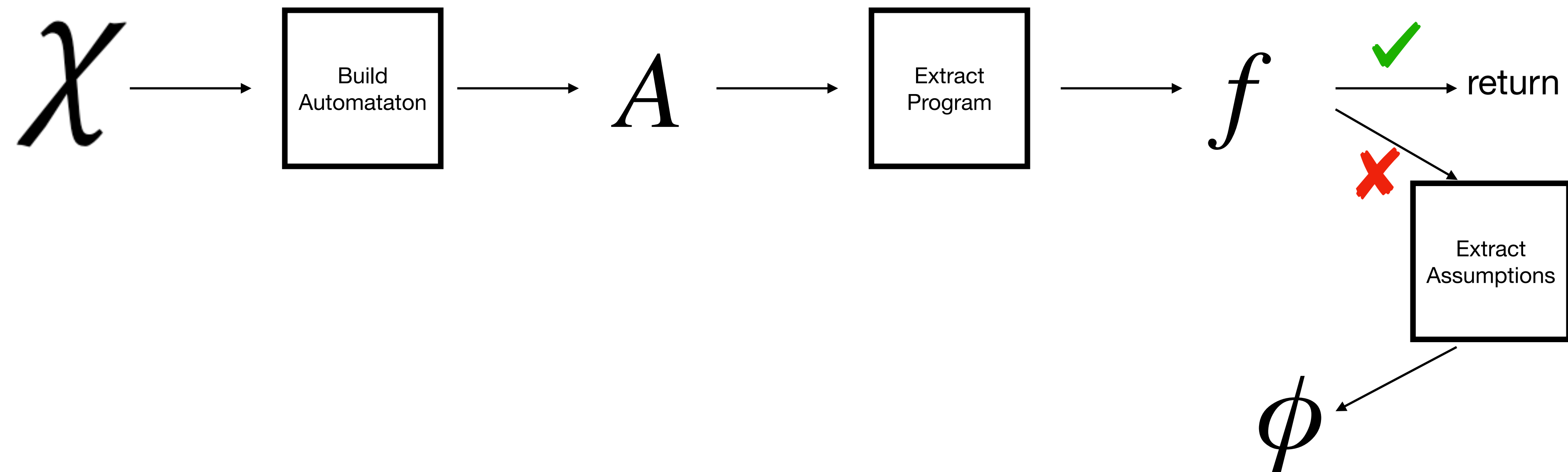
Synthesis Algorithm



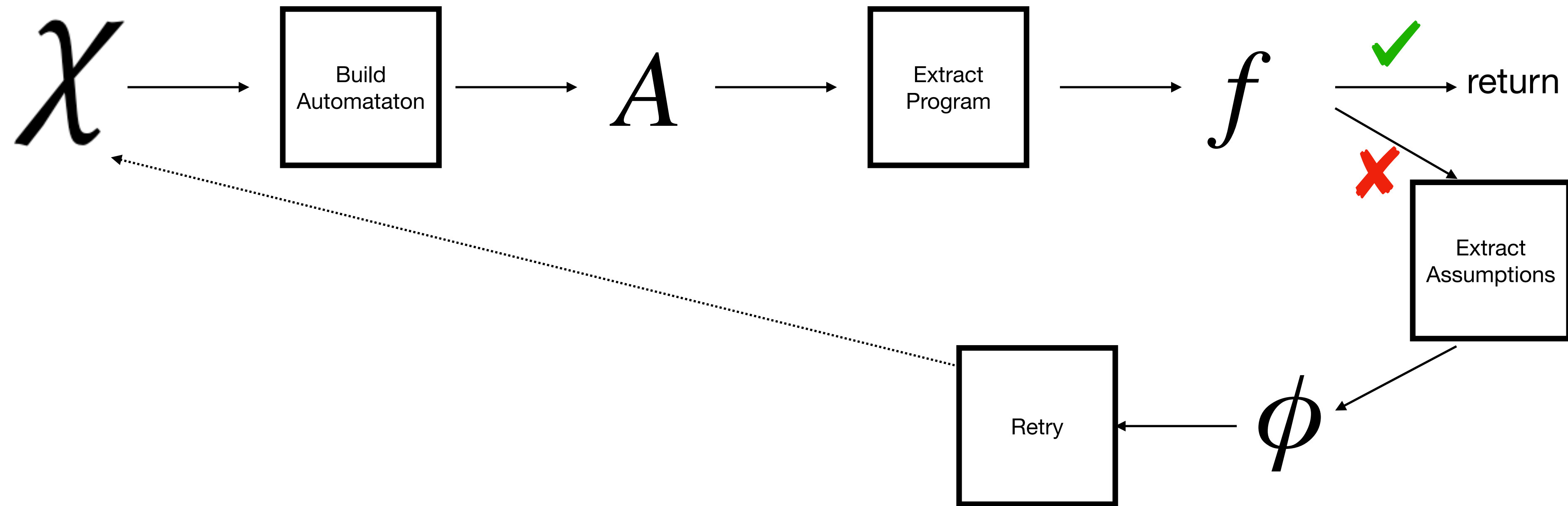
Synthesis Algorithm



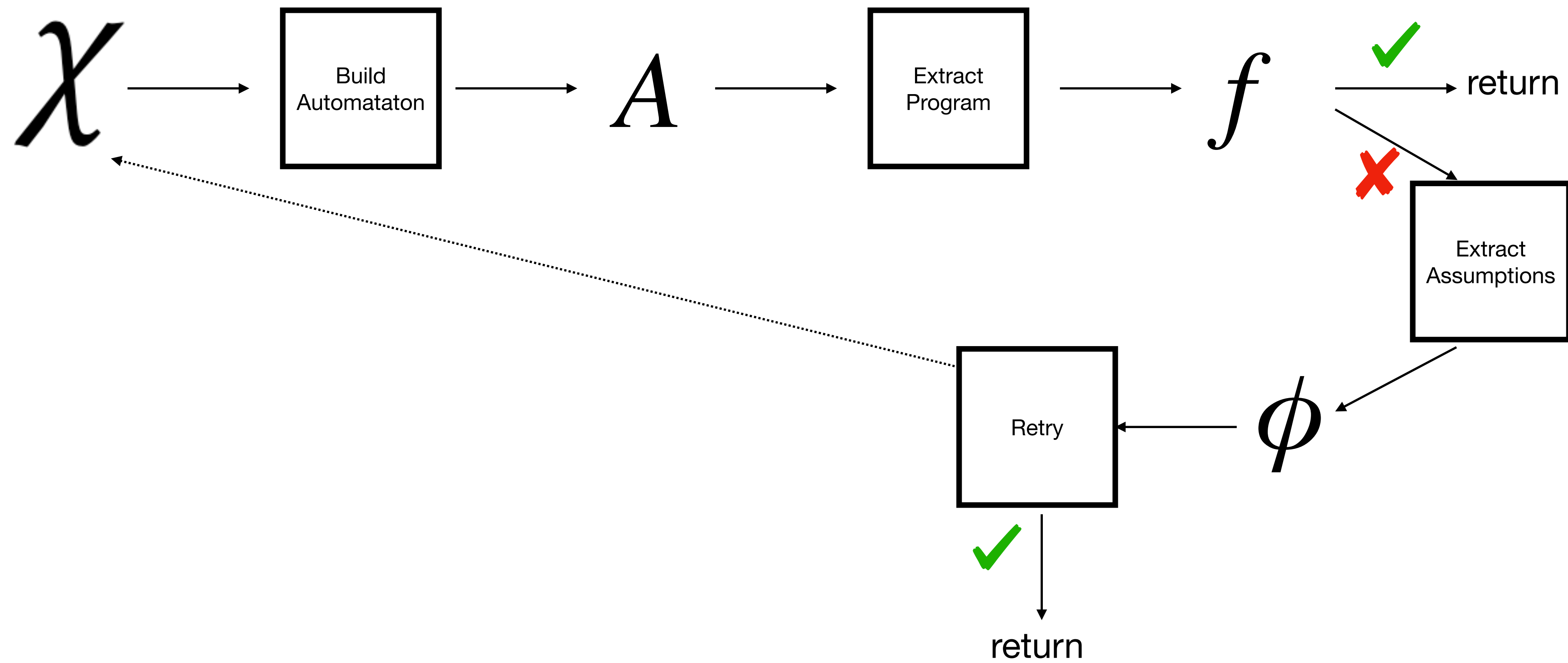
Synthesis Algorithm



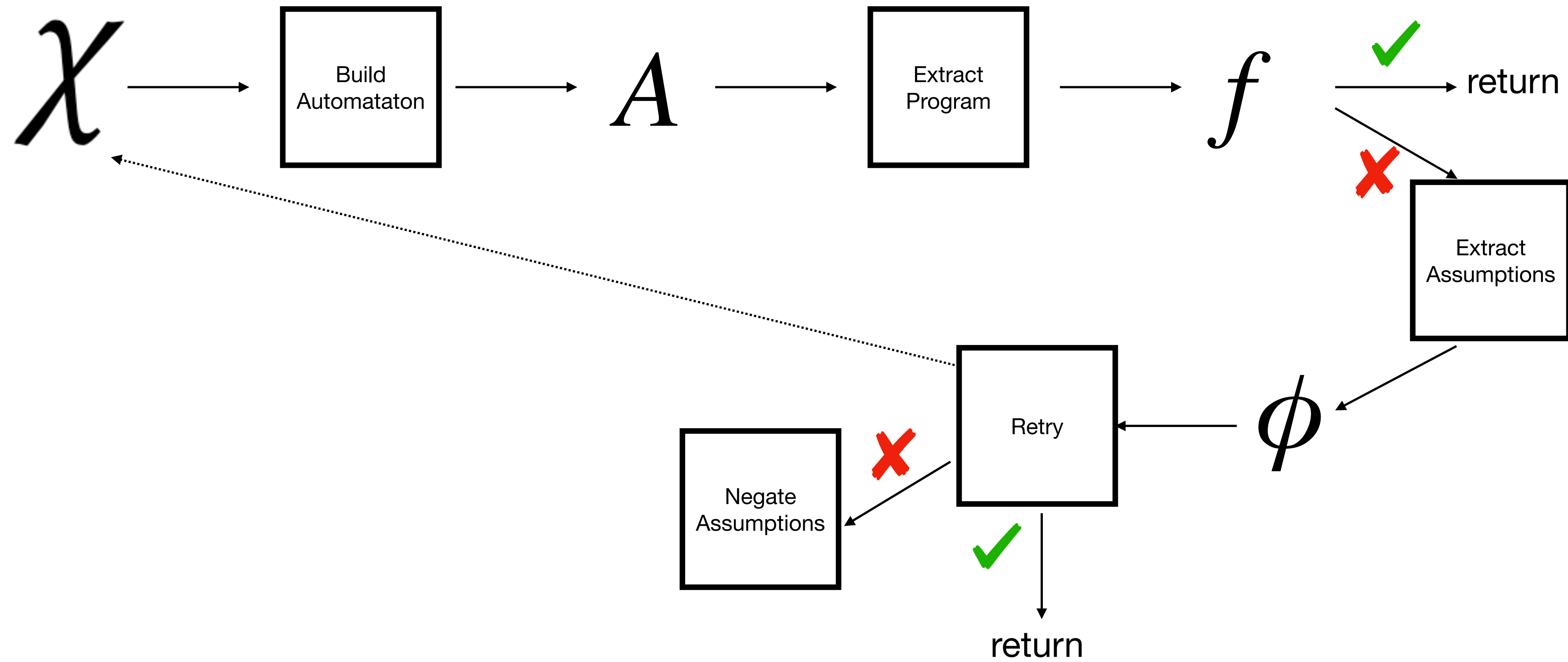
Synthesis Algorithm



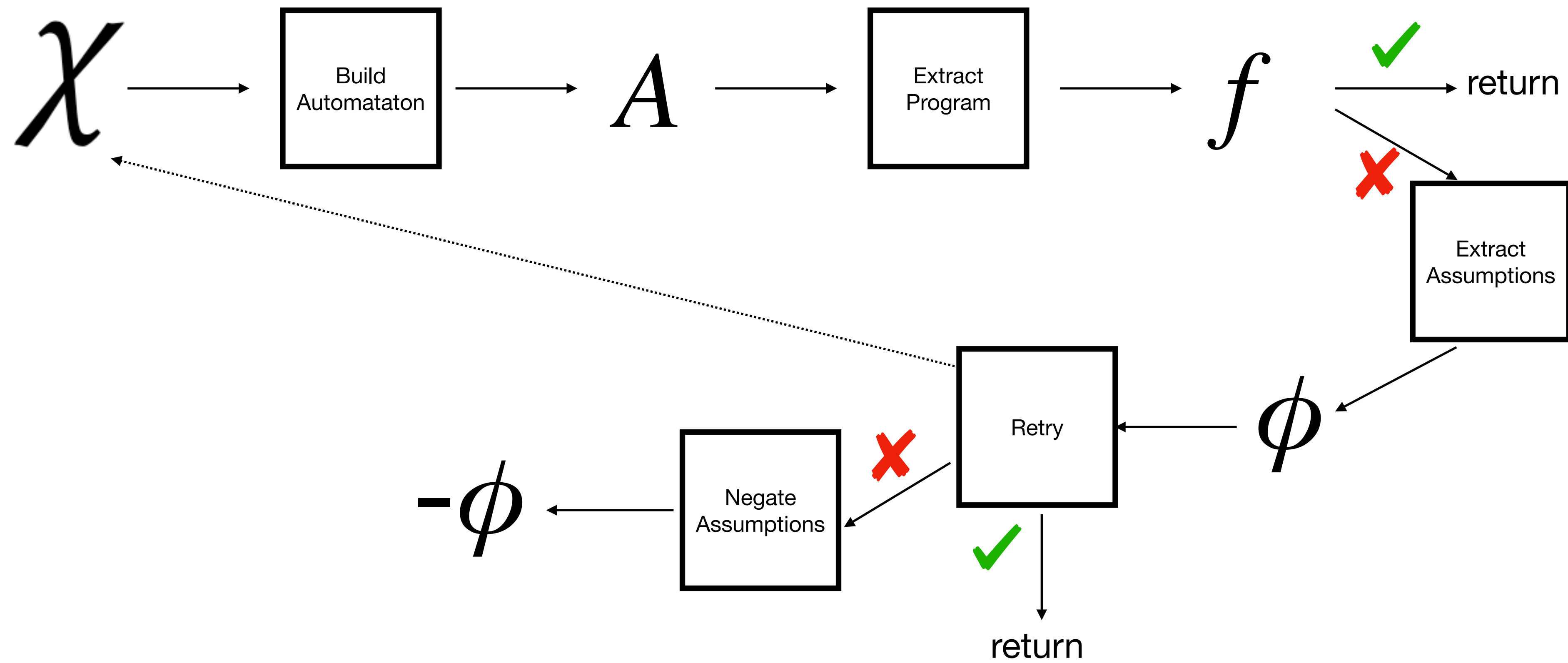
Synthesis Algorithm



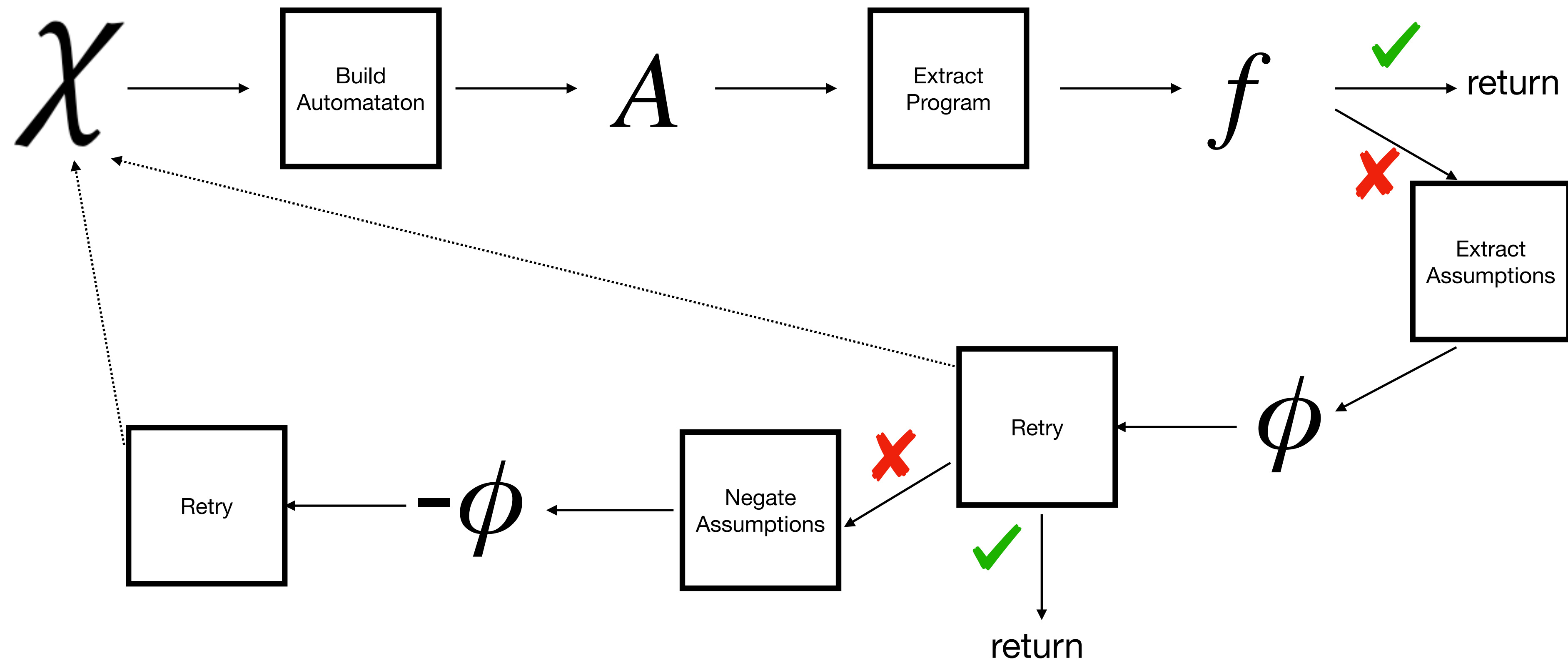
Synthesis Algorithm



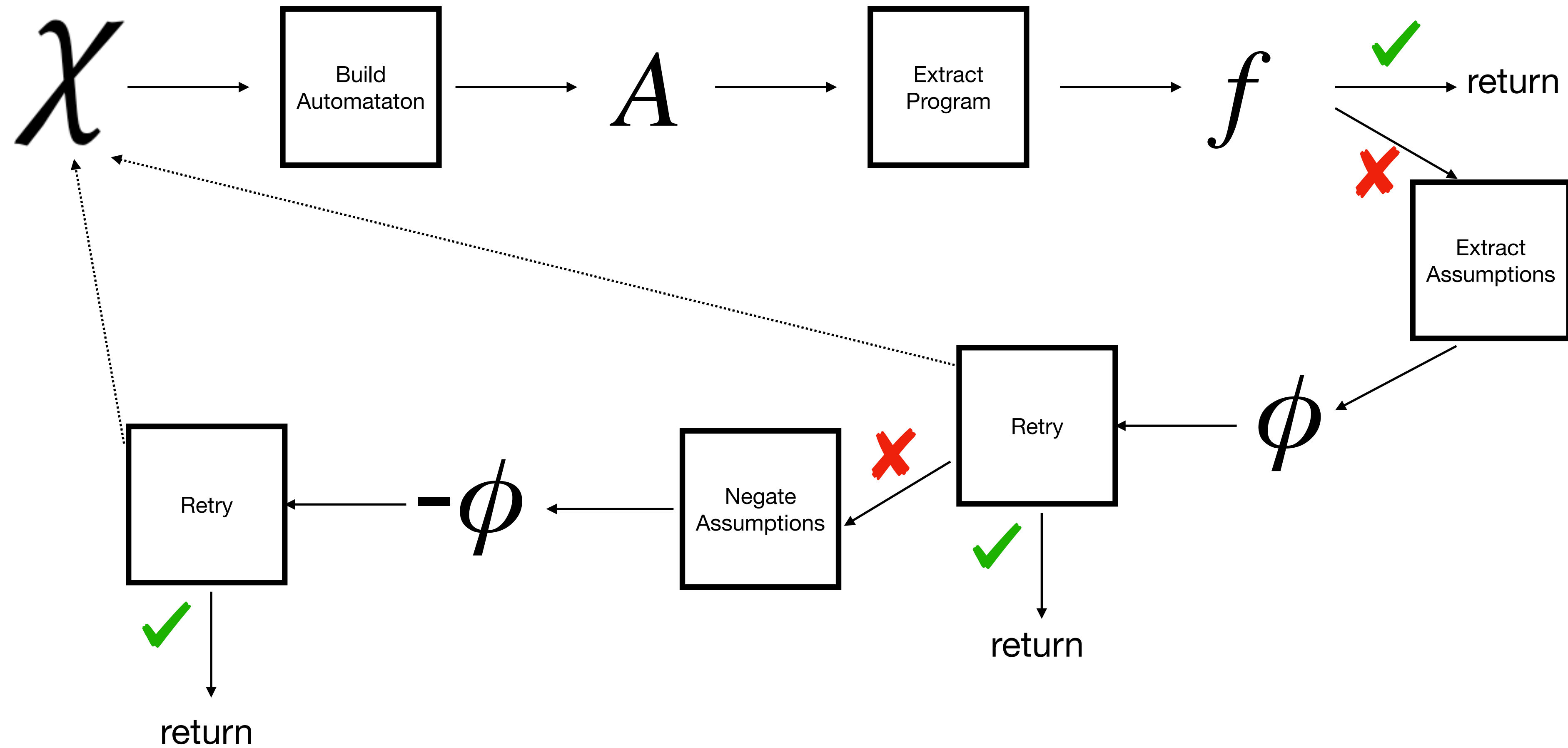
Synthesis Algorithm



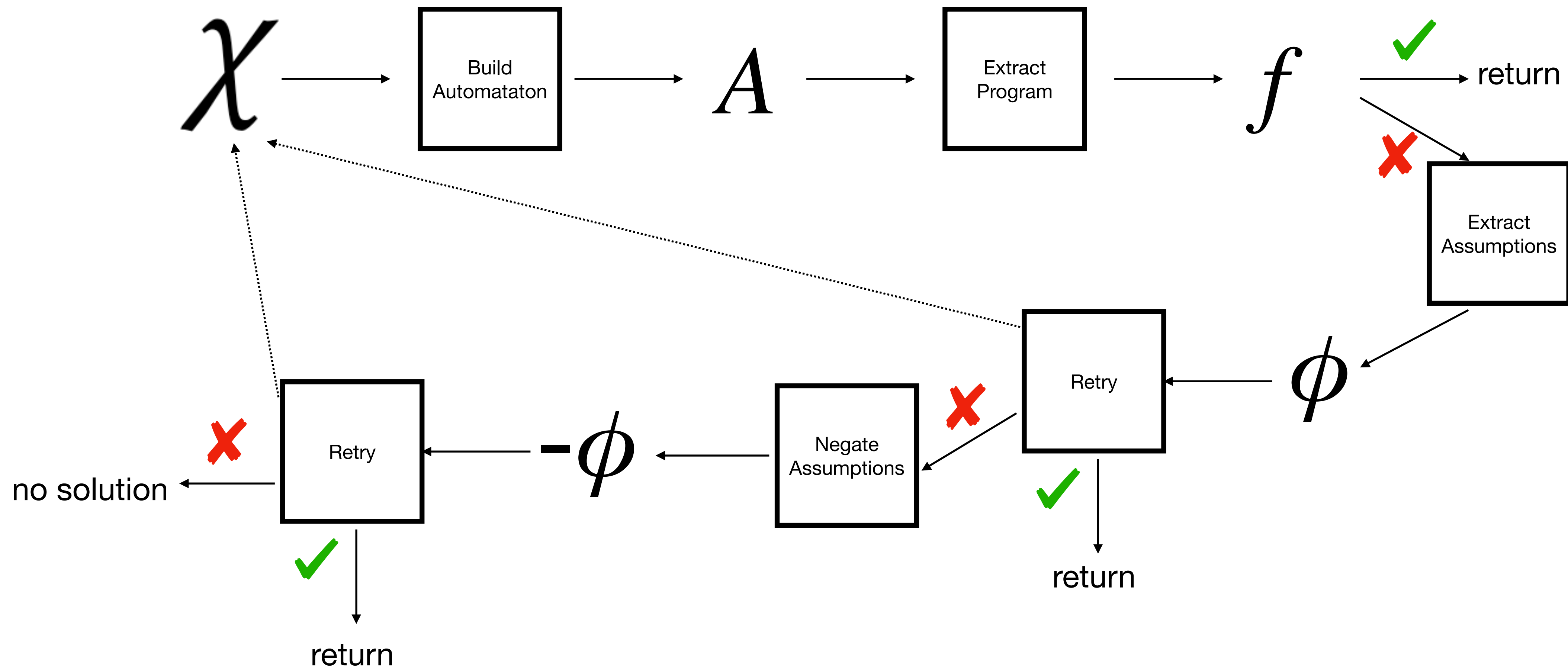
Synthesis Algorithm



Synthesis Algorithm



Synthesis Algorithm



Benchmark Suite Construction

- Myth Benchmark Suite (45)
 - Example-Based
 - Reimplementation
 - Logical Specification

Numbers

- Timeout of 2 minutes
- Inferred:
 - 43/45 for Example-based
 - 43/45 for Reimplementation
 - 41/45 for Logical

Future Work

Full Data Structure Synthesis

Future Work

Full Data Structure Synthesis

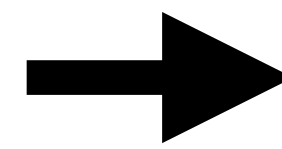
```
1 module type SET = sig
2   type t
3   val empty  : t
4   val insert : t -> int -> t
5   val delete : t -> int -> t
6   val lookup : t -> int -> bool
7 end
```

$$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \forall s' : t. \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i) \\ \wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i) \\ \wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i)$$

Future Work

Full Data Structure Synthesis

```
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$\forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \forall s' : t. \neg(\text{lookup empty } i)$
 $\wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i)$
 $\wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i)$

```
1 module ListSet : SET = struct
2   type t = int list
4   let empty = []
6   let rec lookup l x =
7     match l with
8     | [] -> false
9     | hd :: tl -> (hd = x) || (lookup tl x)
11  let insert l x =
12    if (lookup l x) then l else (x :: l)
14  let rec delete l x =
15    match l with
16    | [] -> []
17    | hd :: tl -> if (hd = x) then tl
18                  else (hd :: (delete tl x))
19 end
```

Future Work

Full Data Structure Synthesis

$$\begin{aligned} \forall i : \text{int}. \forall s : t. \forall s' : t. & \quad \neg(\text{lookup empty } i) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{lookup (insert } s \ i) \ i) \\ & \quad \wedge \neg(\text{lookup (delete } s \ i) \ i) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{lookup } i \ s) \Rightarrow (\text{lookup } i \ (\text{union } s \ s')) \end{aligned}$$

Future Work

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This is a relational specification

Future Work

Full Data Structure Synthesis

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This is a relational specification

Relish [Wang 2018] synthesizes functions from relational specifications

Future Work

Full Data Structure Synthesis

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This is a relational specification

Relish [Wang 2018] synthesizes functions from relational specifications

Can we integrate relational specification synthesis with recursive synthesis?

Summary

- Data structure verification & synthesis is an important problem
- Find Representation Invariants with **Hanoi**
 - Visible inductiveness tames the ambiguity of inductiveness counterexamples
- Synthesize functions that respect the invariant with **Burst**
- Angelic synthesis extends prior approaches to work with logical specifications

Collaborators Slide

Verification



Saswat Padhi
(AWS)

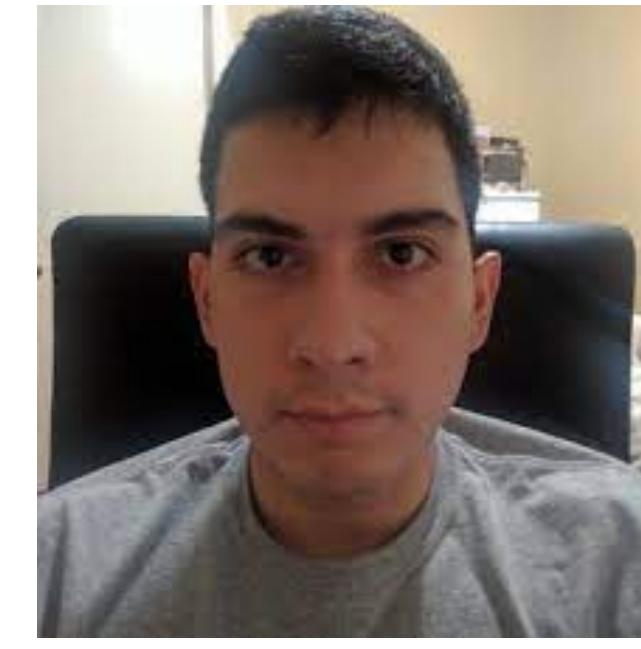


Todd Millstein
(UCLA)



David Walker
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Synthesis



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(UT Austin)



Ana Brendel
(UT Austin)



Swarat Chaudhuri
(UT Austin)



Işıl Dillig
(UT Austin)

Summary

- Data structure verification & synthesis is an important problem
- Find Representation Invariants with **Hanoi**
 - Visible inductiveness tames the ambiguity of inductiveness counterexamples
- Synthesize functions that respect the invariant with **Burst**
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