



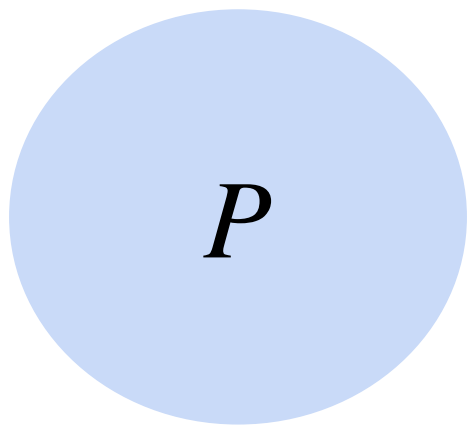
Computing Precise Control Interface Specifications

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The Unknown

How do we verify programs with unknown code?

A Verification Myth



Program

\models



Spec

Source code is
incomplete!

Libraries

Modules

System
Calls

$$F = \{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$$

$P[F]$

\models

Φ

Program

Spec

```
from unknown import foo, bar
```

```
def code(x):
```

$\lambda x. 0xFF$

```
    y = foo(x)
```

```
    z = bar(x)
```

$\lambda x. 0x00$

```
    assert y|z != 0x00
```

Which implementations?

```
import unknown as foo, bar
```

```
def code(x):  
    y = foo(x)  
    z = bar(x)  
    assert y | z ≠ 0x00
```

Which implementations
satisfy the spec?

Independent Specs
[POPL '16, SIGCOMM '20]

$\varphi(\mathbf{foo}) \wedge \psi(\mathbf{bar})$

Necessary [SIGCOMM '20]

true

Not Safe!!!

Eliminates
no "good runs"
[VMCAI '13]

Safe

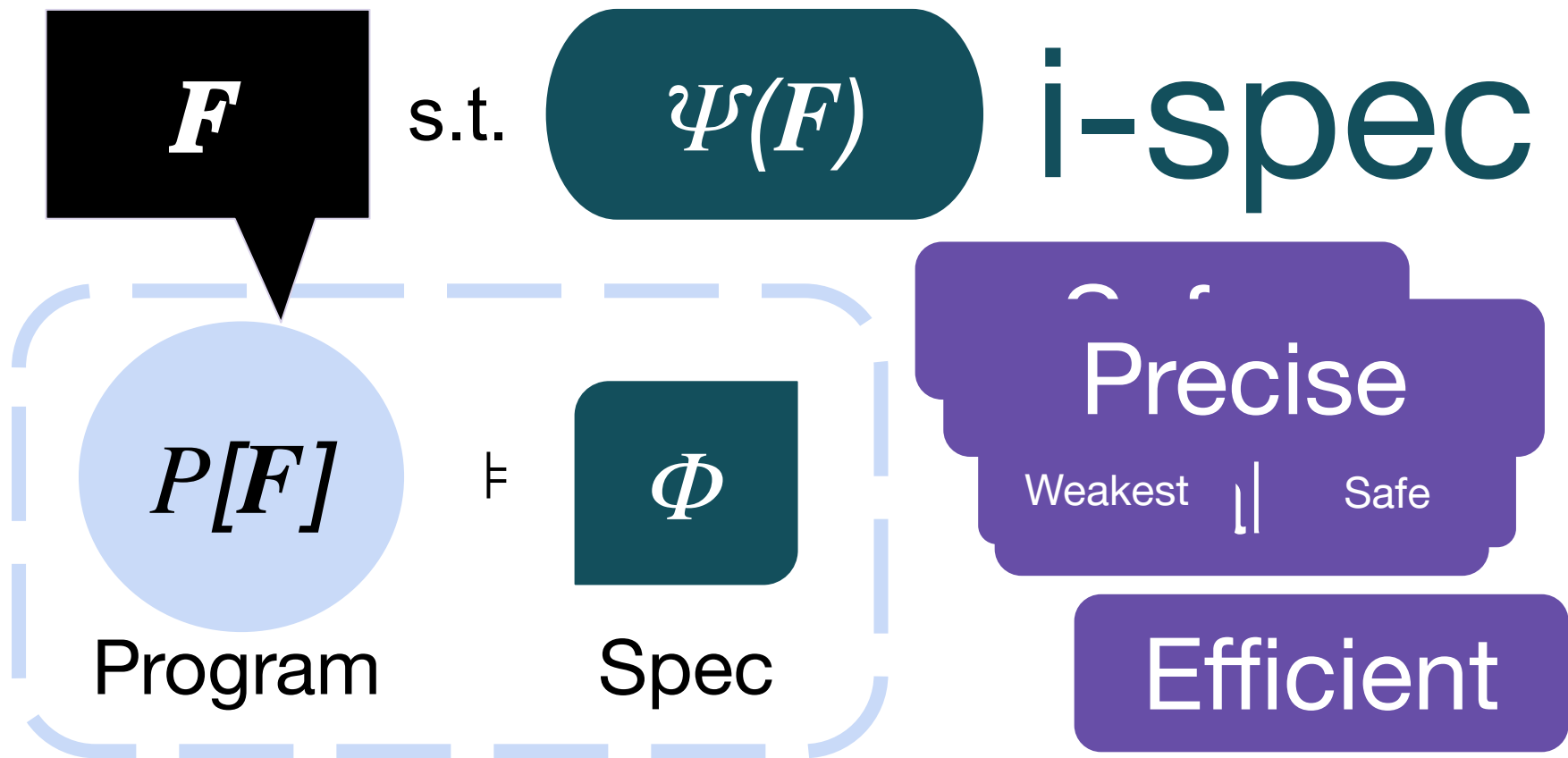
Unsafe!

**Overly
Restrictive!**

Permissive

[POPL '16]

[SIGCOMM '20]



```
import unknown as foo, bar
```

```
def code(x):  
    y = foo(x)  
    z = bar(x)  
    assert y|z ≠ 0x00
```

Goal:
Compute
precise i-specs

foo(x) | **bar**(x) ≠ 0x00

Safe

Weakest

Efficient

How to use computed i-specs?

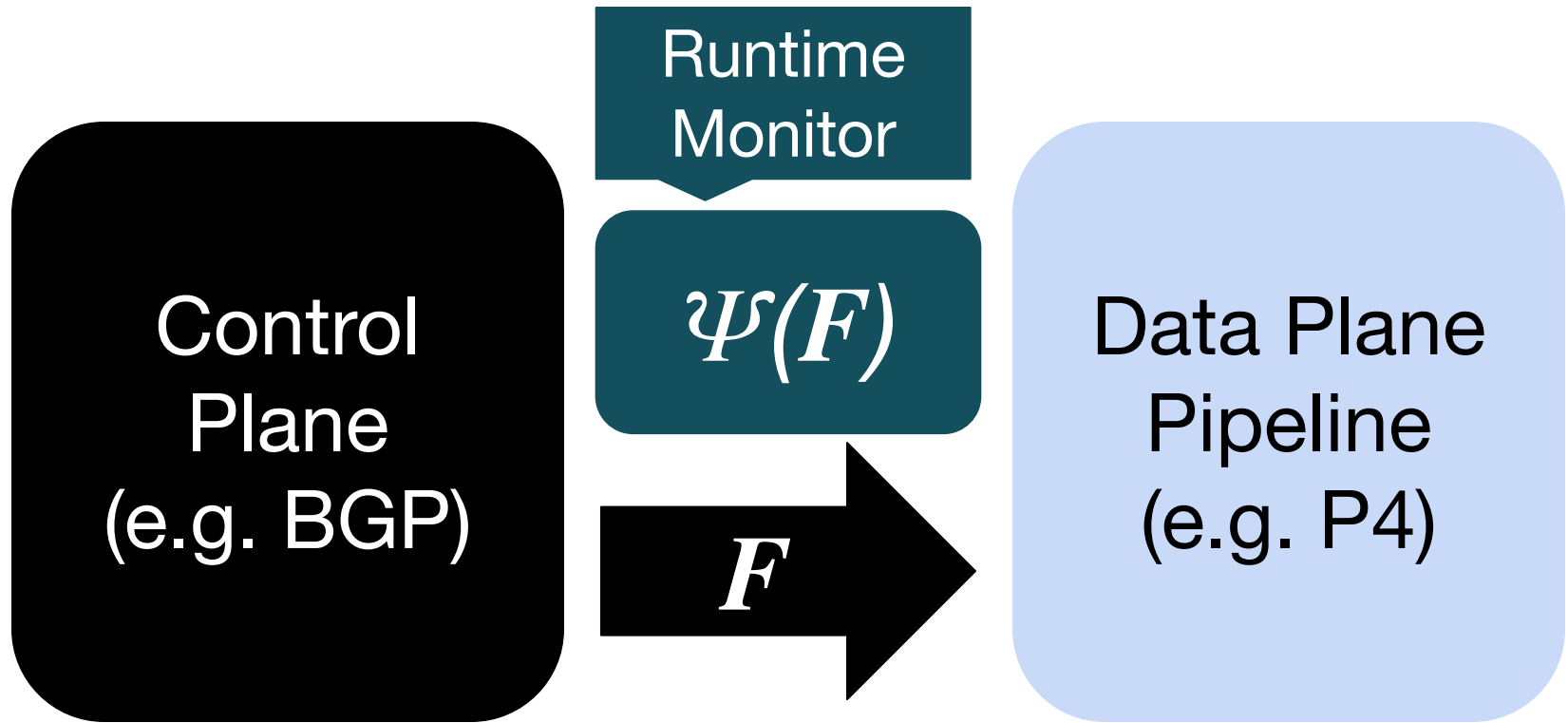
Documentation



Manual
Verification



Automated
Verification



Computer Network

Capisce

computes control interface specs
(ci-specs)

Precise

Safe

Weakest

Efficient

Step 1: Model Pipeline Programs

GCL(**F**)

?

$c ::=$ assume φ
| $x := e$
| $c ; c$
| $c [] c$

$\mathbf{F} : 2^w \rightarrow 2^l$

$e ::= \dots \mid \mathbf{F}(e)$

$\varphi \in \text{QFBV}$

Control Flow in GCL(**F**)

if φ c_1 c_2

assume $\varphi; c_1$
 []
assume $\neg\varphi; c_2$

Step 2:

Symbolic

Compilation

GCL(**F**)

Lifting

```
assume  
   $\vartheta(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{cfg});$ 
```

$c[\mathbf{F}, \text{pkt}]$

$c'[\mathbf{cfg}, \text{pkt}]$

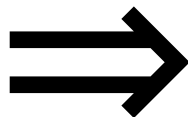
GCL

assume $\vartheta(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{cfg});$

$c'[\text{pkt}, \mathbf{cfg}]$

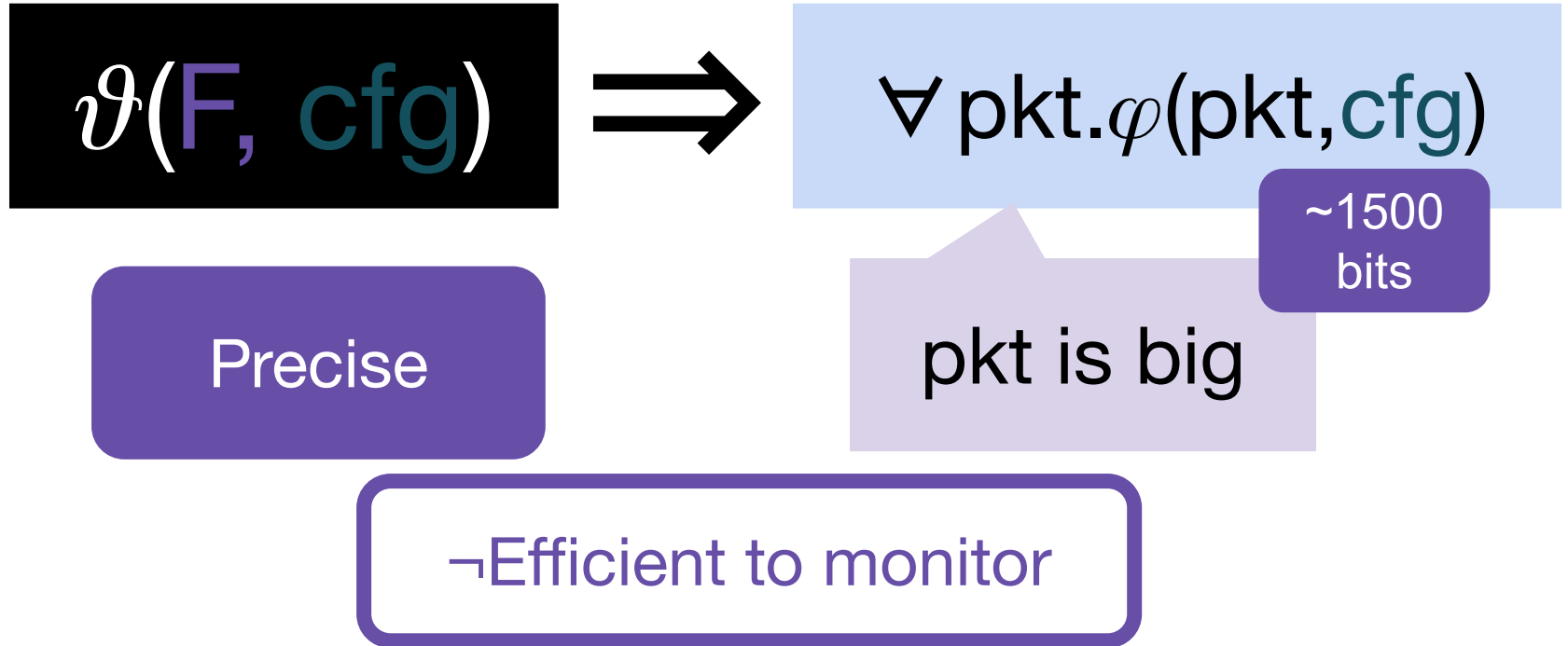
Symbolic
Compilation

$\vartheta(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{cfg})$



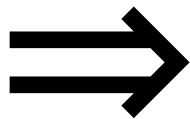
$\forall \text{pkt}. \varphi(\text{pkt}, \mathbf{cfg})$

ci-spec



Step 3: Quantifier Elimination

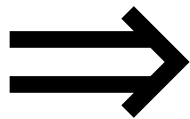
$\vartheta(F, \text{cfg})$



$\forall \text{pkt.} \varphi(\text{pkt}, \text{cfg})$

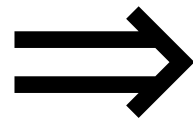
QE

$\vartheta(F, \text{cfg})$



$\psi(\text{cfg})$

ci-spec

 $\vartheta(F, y)$  $\psi(y)$

Theorem. *Precise*

\Rightarrow *safe*

\Rightarrow *weakest*

Theorem. *Efficiently monitorable*

Efficiently Control-Monitorable Sentences

Theorem. *Terminates*

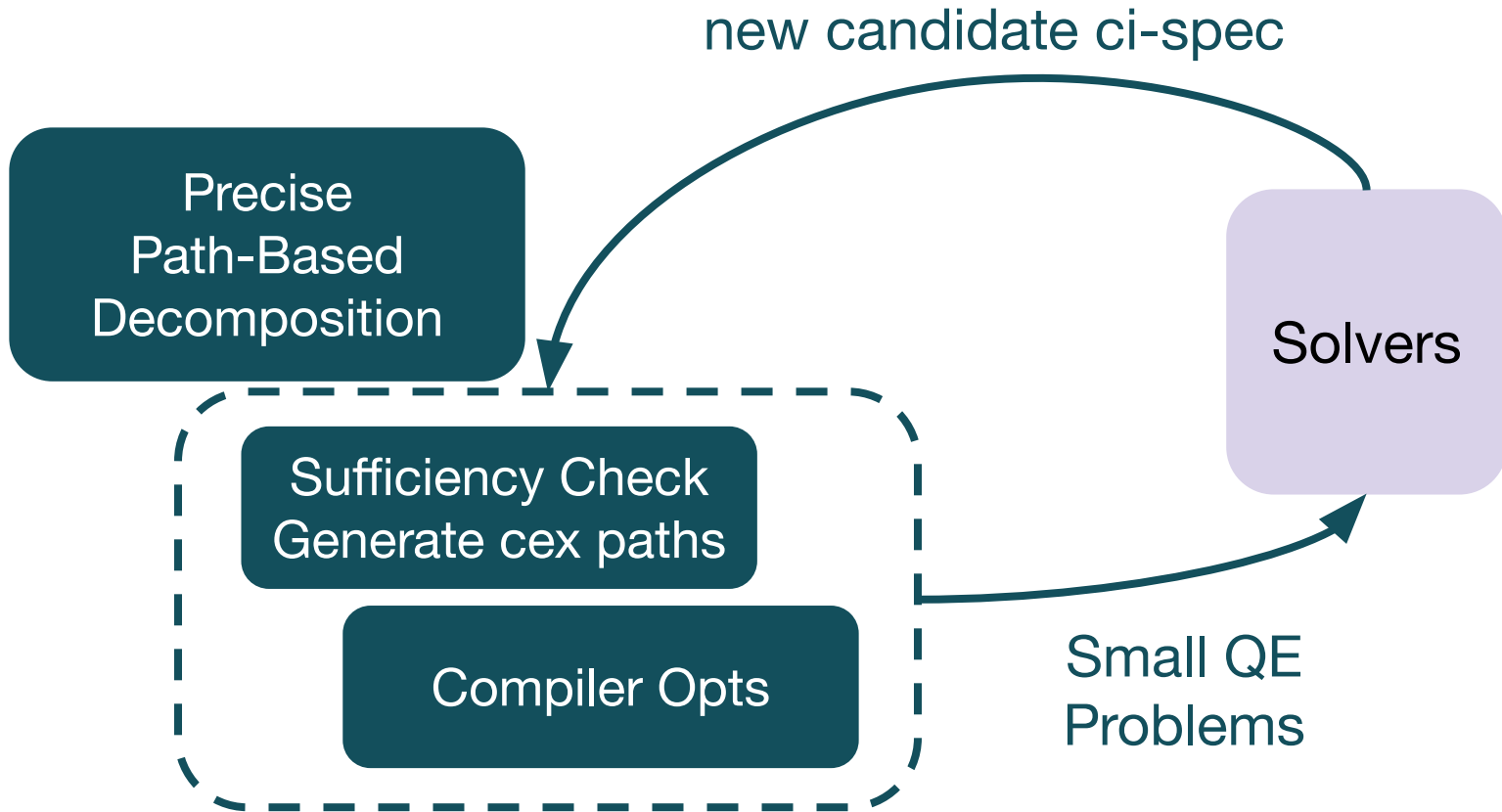
... have polynomial expression complexity

Quantifier
Elimination
is *Intractable*

$\forall \text{pkt}.\varphi(\text{pkt}, \text{cfg})$

QE

$\psi(\text{cfg})$



Evaluation

Survey of Industrial and Academic P4 Programs

Ensure Invalid Data is not Read

Program	Program Paths	Result	Time (s)	Explored Paths	Spec AST Size	Explored Ratio
ABSTRACT PROGRAMS						
ts-switching	21	⊥	0.160	2	1	0.095
mc-nat	39	⊥	0.089	1	1	0.026
FIXED POINT ABSURD PROGRAMS						
ts-switching-fixed	21	T	0.030	0	1	0.0
mc-nat-fixed	39	T	0.027	0	1	0.0
TRIVIAL PROGRAMS						
resubmit	9	T	0.028	0	1	0.0
netpaxos-acceptor	0.116	T	30.0	0	1	0.0
ecmp	102	T	0.030	0	1	0.0
hula	3629	T	0.068	0	1	0.0
ndp-router	3843	T	2.9	0	1	0.0
NON-TRIVIAL PROGRAMS						
arp	95	φ	5.0	0.016	349	0.17
heavy-hitter-2	267	φ	0.29	3	26	0.011
heavy-hitter-1	327	φ	0.60	7	90	0.021
flowlet	649	φ	1.8	9	127	0.014
simple_nat	66531	φ	5.2	54	1421	0.00081
07-multiprotocol	54459	φ	16	143	3138	0.0026
netchain	26726780	φ	2.9×10^3	264	11658	9.9×10^{-6}
linearroad	54477696		timeout			
fabric	133365047559893		timeout			
SPEC SMALL PROGRAMS						
heavy-hitter-1-fixed	327	φ	0.63	7	107	0.021
linearroad-fixed	54477696	φ	5.9×10^4	3236	179885	5.9×10^{-5}
fabric-fixed	133365047559893	φ	1.2×10^3	653	41140	4.9×10^{-12}

Program Survey

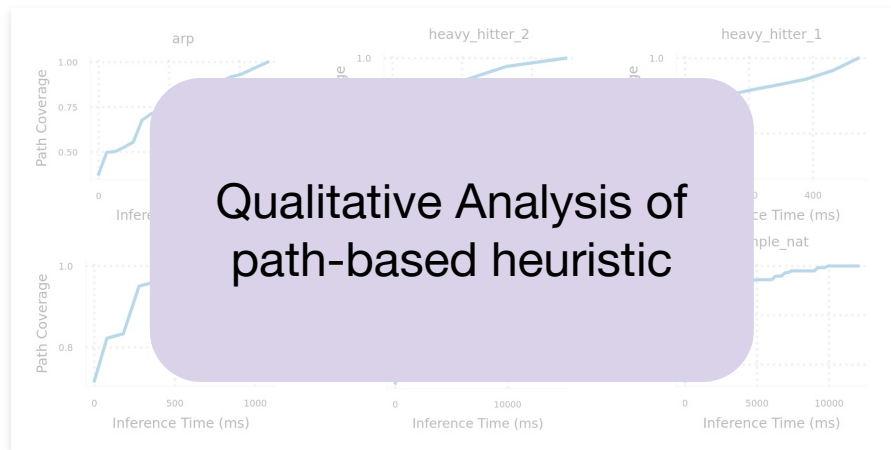
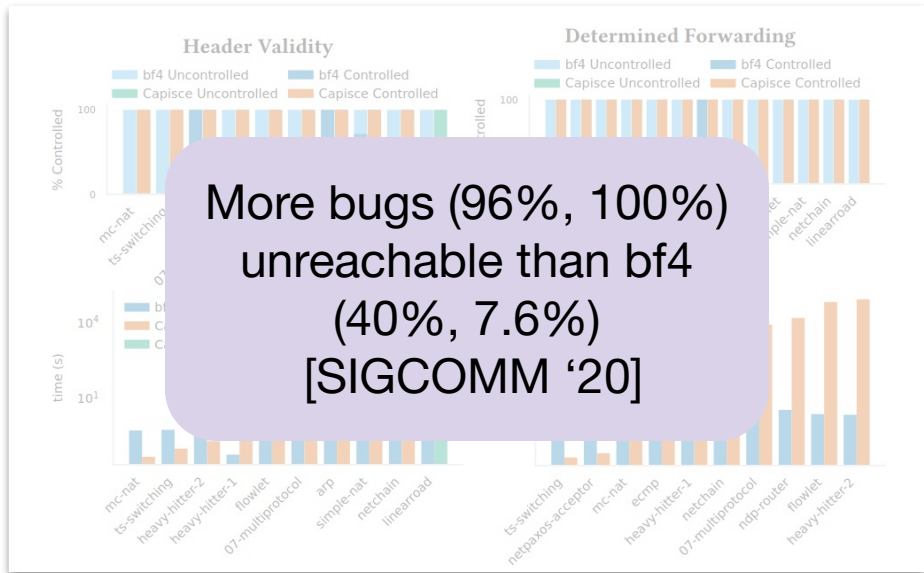
Ensure Invalid
Data is not
Read

Program	Program Paths	Result	Time (s)	Explored Paths	Spec AST Size	Explored Ratio
ABSURD PROGRAMS						
ts-switching	21	⊥	0.160	2	1	0.095
mc-nat	39	⊥	0.089	1	1	0.026
FIXES TO ABSURD PROGRAMS						
ts-switching-fixed	21	T	0.030	0	1	0.0
mc-nat-fixed	39	T	0.027	0	1	0.0
TRIVIAL PROGRAMS						
resubmit	9	T	0.028	0	1	0.0
netpaxos-acceptor	0.116	T	30.0	0	1	0.0
ecmp	102	T	0.030	0	1	0.0
hula	3629	T	0.068	0	1	0.0
ndp-router	3843	T	2.9	0	1	0.0
NONTRIVIAL PROGRAMS						
arp	95	φ	5.0	0.016	349	0.17
heavy-hitter-2	267	φ	0.29	3	26	0.011
heavy-hitter-1	327	φ	0.60	7	90	0.021
flowlet	649	φ	1.8	9	127	0.014
simple_nat	66531	φ	5.2	54	1421	0.00081
07-multiprotocol	54459	φ	16	143	3138	0.0026
				264	11658	9.9×10^{-6}
linearroad	54477696	timeout				
fabric	133365047559893	timeout				
SPEC SMELL PROGRAM FIXES						
linearroad-fixed	54477696	φ	5.9×10^4	3236	179885	5.9×10^{-5}
fabric-fixed	133365047559893	φ	1.2×10^3	653	41140	4.9×10^{-12}

Program Survey

Defined Forwarding

Program	Program Paths	Result	Time (s)	Explored Paths	ci-spec Size	Explored Ratio
ABSURD PROGRAMS						
ecmp	102	⊥	0.320	4	1	0.039
fabric	133365047559893	⊥	7.3	5	1	3.7×10^{-14}
netchain	26726780	⊥	27	7	1	2.6×10^{-7}
TRIVIAL PROGRAMS						
arp	95	T	0.027	0	1	0.0
linearroad	54477696	T	0.054	0	1	0.0
simple-nat	5548	T	0.034	0	1	0.0
NONTRIVIAL PROGRAMS						
resubmit	9	∅	0.016	2	17	0.22
ts-switching	21	∅	0.10	1	4	0.048
mc-nat	39	∅	0.27	3	21	0.077
netpaxos-acceptor	116	∅	0.12	1	4	0.0086
heavy-hitter-2	267	∅	88	15	233	0.056
heavy-hitter-1	327	∅	0.10	11	187	0.034
flowlet	649	∅	79	15	490	0.023
hula	3629	∅	0.39	1	9	0.00028
ndp-router	3843	∅	40	36	824	0.0094
07-multiprotocol	54459	∅	30	232	5034	0.0043
SPECIMENS & FIXES						
ecmp-fixed	102	∅	0.28	3	34	0.029
mc-nat-fixed	27	T	0.029	0	1	0.0



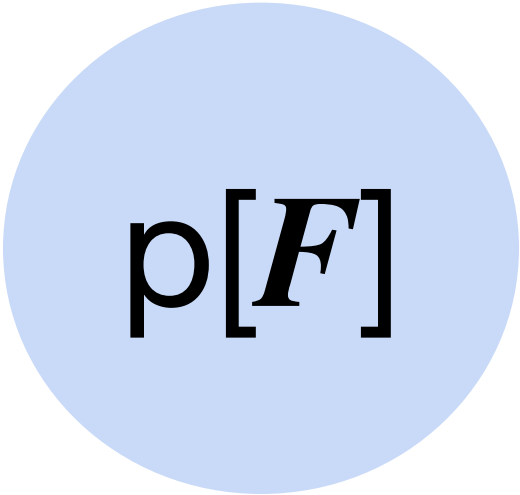


F

Capisce



$\psi(F)$




$\rho[F]$



Φ

Guarded Pipeline Language (GPL)


 $p ::= \mathbf{t}(e) \quad \textit{table}$
 $\quad | c \quad \quad \in GCL$

$e ::= \dots \quad \varphi ::= \dots$

$\mathbf{t} : 2^w \rightarrow \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$

$a ::= \lambda x. c \quad c \in GCL$

Declaration

```
fwd :  $2^{32} \rightarrow \{$   
   $(\lambda p:2^9. \text{port} := p),$   
   $(\lambda _:2^0. \text{drop} := 1)$   
}
```

Program

```
fwd(ipv4_dst)
```

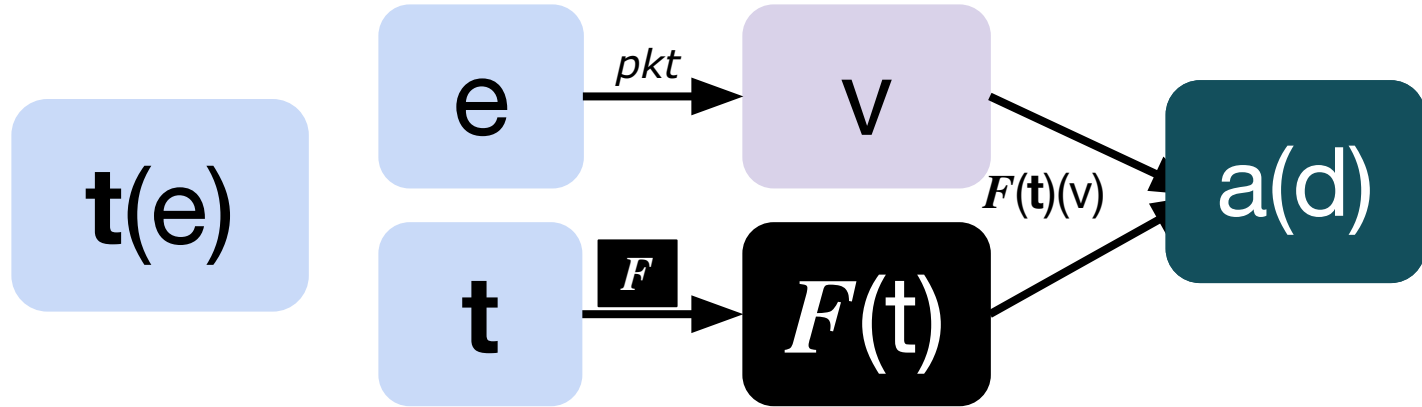
Unknown
Implementation

Variable Store

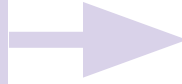
Table
Semantics

$F: \text{Tbl} \rightarrow \text{BV} \rightarrow \text{Act} \times \text{BV}$

$\text{pkt}: \text{Var} \rightarrow \text{BV}$

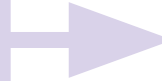


GPL



GCL(F)

```
fwd :  $2^{32} \rightarrow \{$   
  ( $\lambda p:2^9$ . port := p),  
  ( $\lambda _:2^0$ . drop := 1)  
}
```



```
fwd(ipv4_dst)
```

```
Fwd :  $2^{32} \rightarrow 2^1 \times 2^9$   
i, p := Fwd(ipv4_dst);  
if i = 0 {  
  port := p  
} else {  
  drop := 1  
}
```

P4

```
// table declarations
forward : bitvec<32> -> {
    (lambda dmac : bitvec<48>. hdr.ethernet.dstAddr := dmac),
    (lambda _ : bitvec<0>. standard_metadata.egress_spec := 511),
    (lambda _ : bitvec<0>. assume true)
}

send_frame : bitvec<9> -> {
    (lambda smac : bitvec<48>. hdr.ethernet.srcAddr := smac),
    (lambda _ : bitvec<0>. standard_metadata.egress_spec := 511)
}

ecmp_group : bitvec<48> -> {
    (lambda _ : bitvec<0>. standard_metadata.egress_spec 511),
    (lambda (nhop : bitvec<32>)) (port : bitvec<9>).
        meta.routing_metadata.nhop_ipv4 := nop_ipv4;
        standard_metadata.egress_spec := port;
        hdr.ipv4.ttl := 1;
        (lambda _ : bitvec<0>. assume true)
}

zombie.parse_result := 0;
hdr.ethernet.isValid := 1;
if (var hdr.ethernet.ethernetType == 0x00000000) {
    hdr.ipv4.isValid := 1;
    if (hdr.ipv4.protocol == 6) {
        hdr.tcp.isValid := 1;
        zombie.parse_result := 1;
    } else {
        zombie.parse_result := 1;
    }
} else {
    zombie.parse_result := 1;
};
if (hdr.ipv4.isValid == 1) {
    if (hdr.ipv4.ttl > 0) {
        ecmp_group(hdr.ipv4.dst);
        forward(meta.routing_metadata.nhop_ipv4)];
    }
}
if (standard_metadata.egress_spec != 511) {
    standard_metadata.egress_port := standard_metadata.egress_port;
    send_frame(standard_metadata.egress_port)
}
```