



# Compositional Symbolic Testing and Verification

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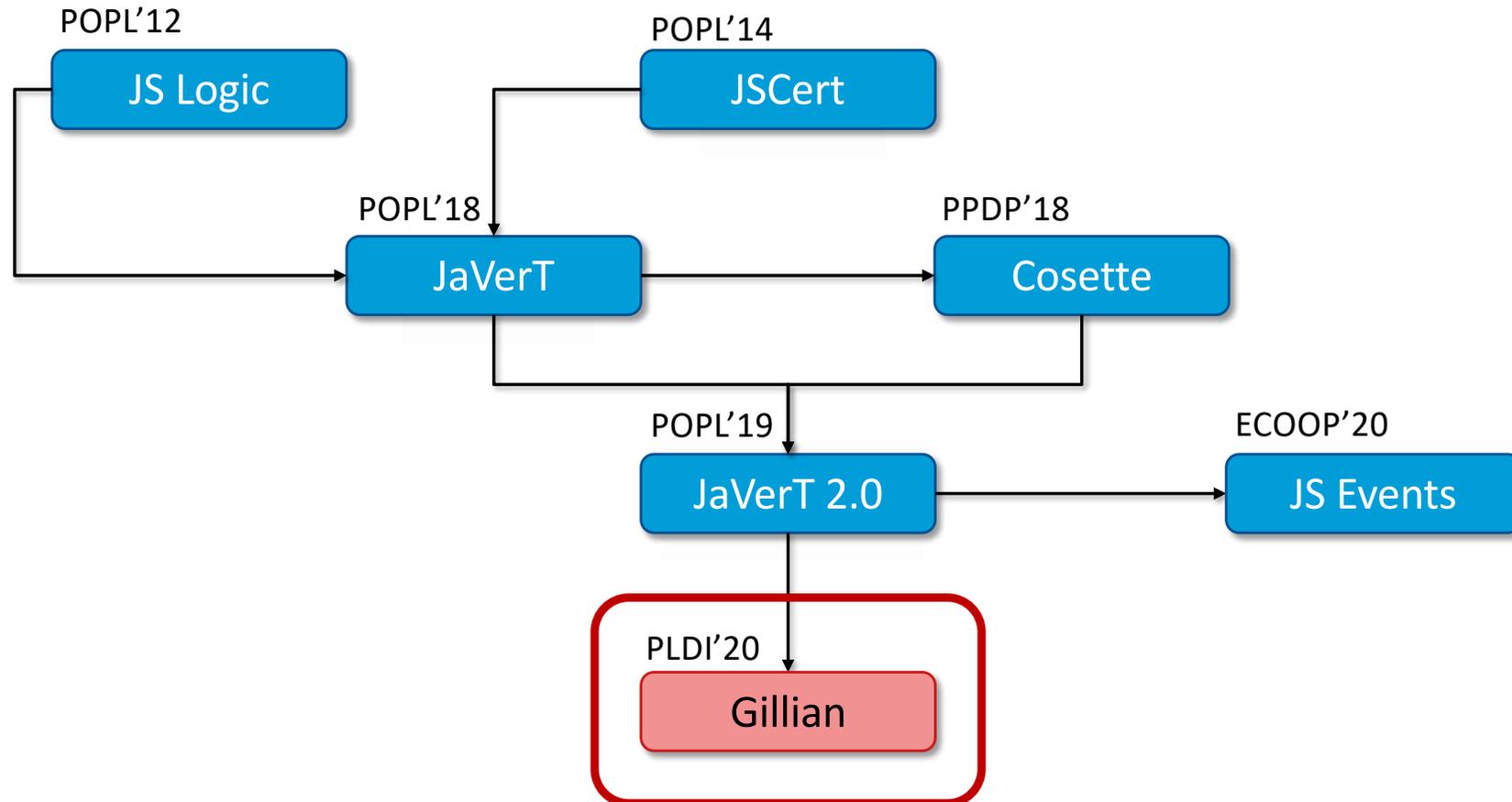


Sacha-Élie Ayoun



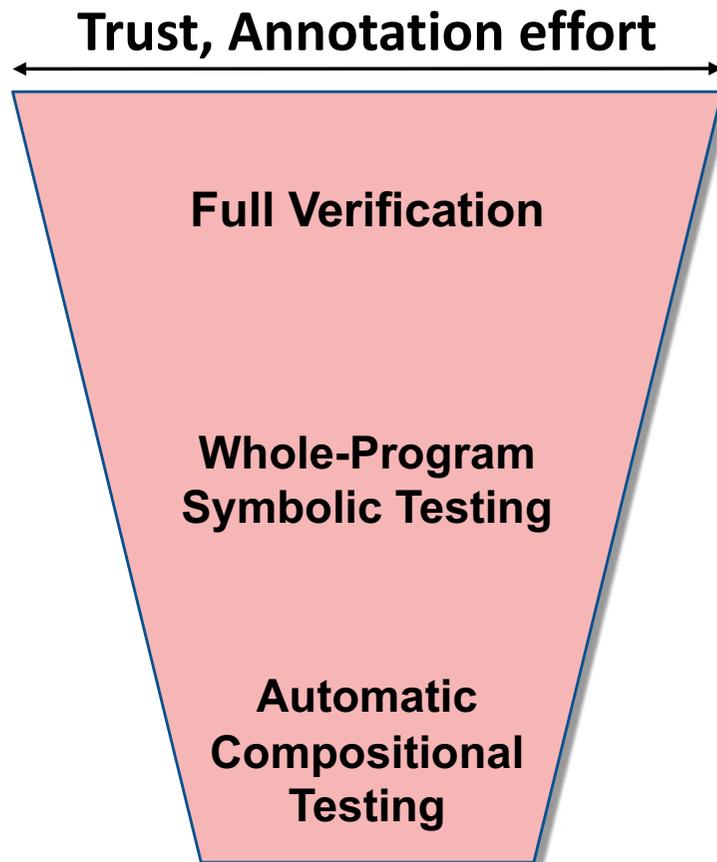
Philippa Gardner

# Verified Software: JavaScript Analysis



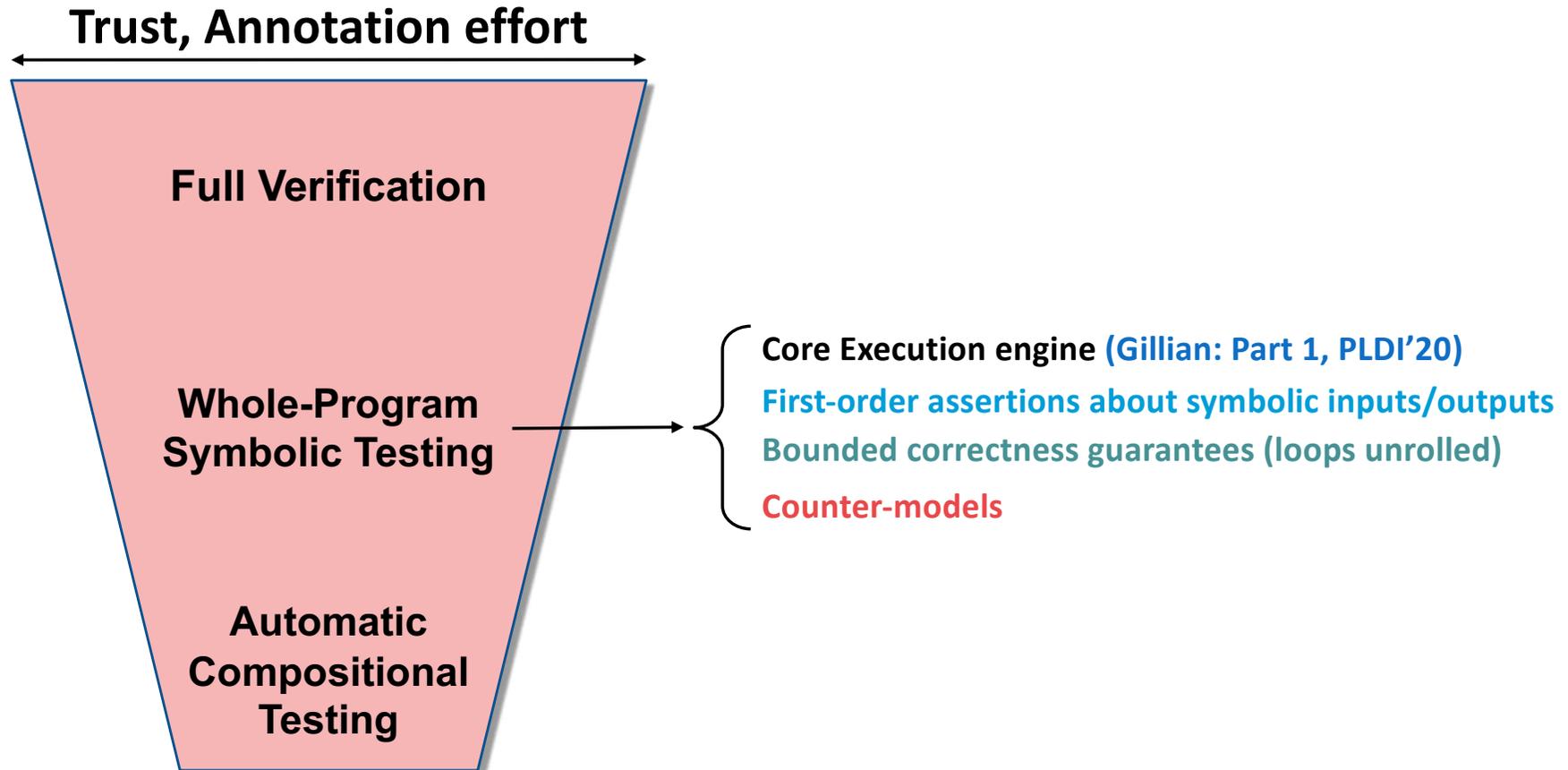
# Gillian: Unified Symbolic Analysis

■ Technique   ■ Annotations   ■ Success   ■ Failure

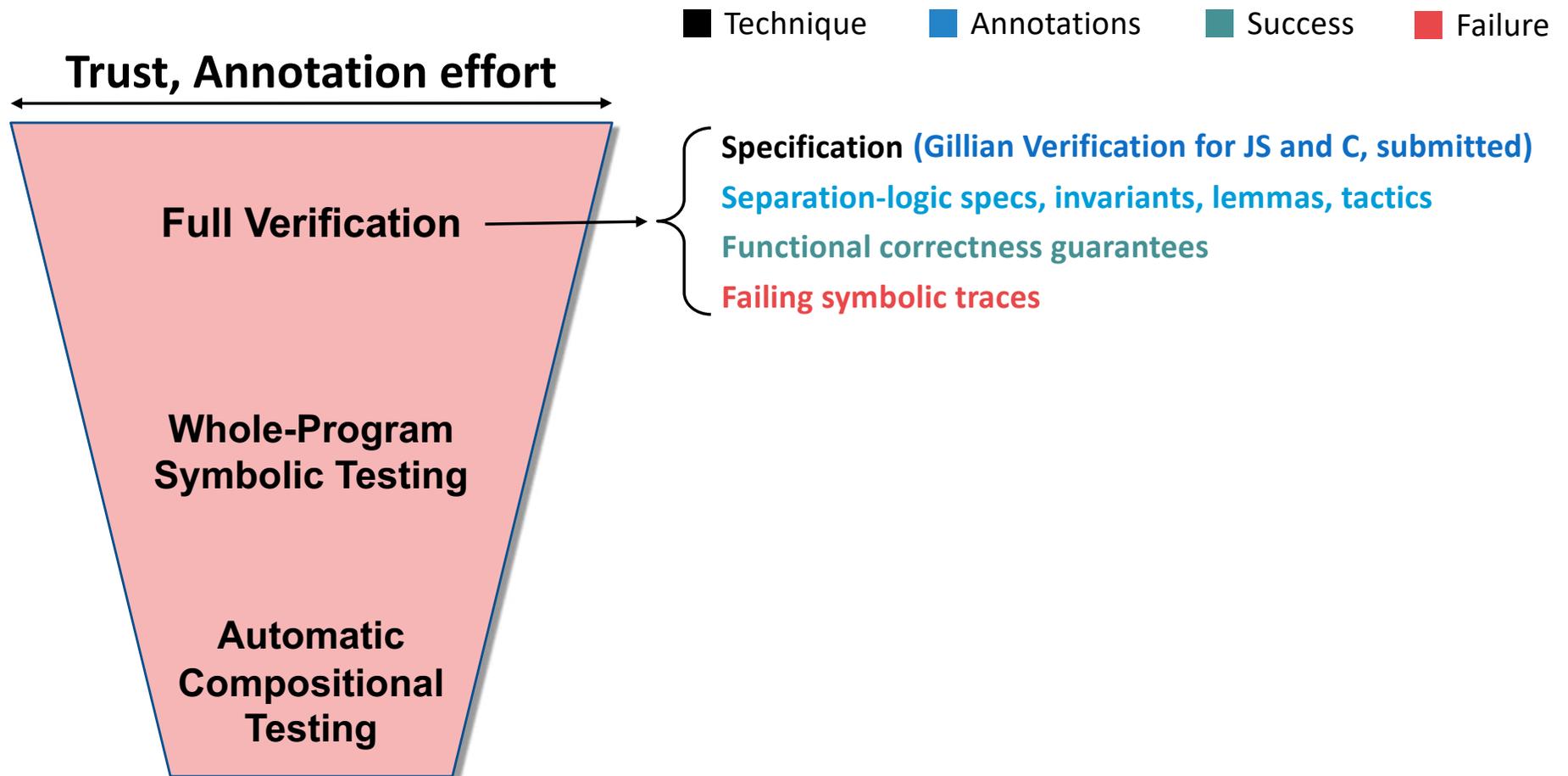


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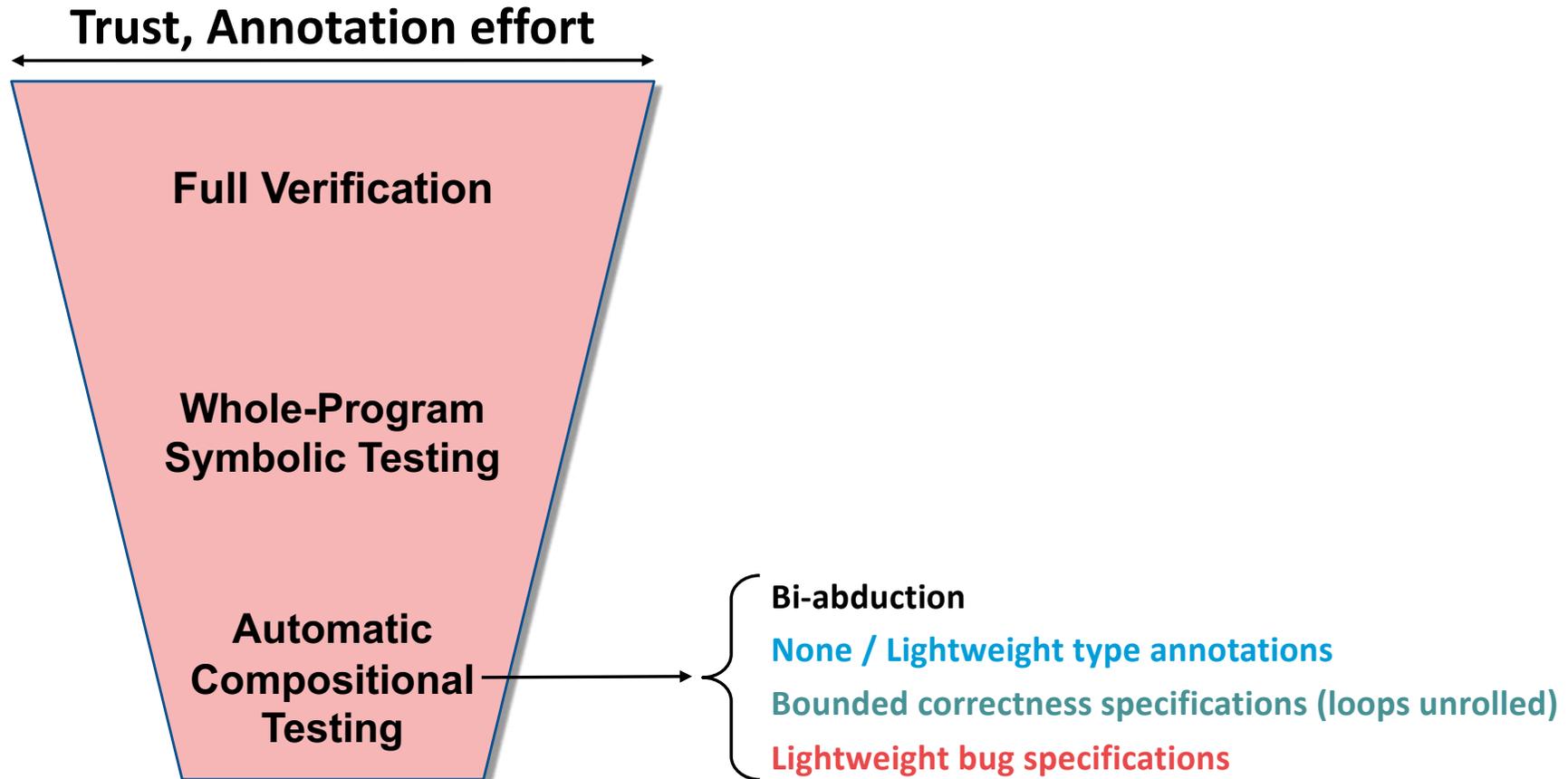


# Gillian: Unified Symbolic Analysis

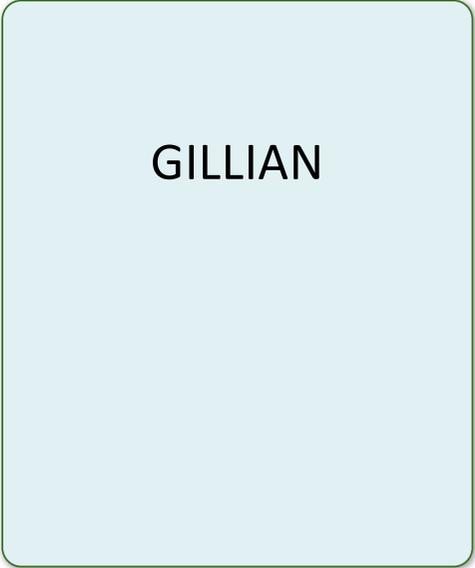


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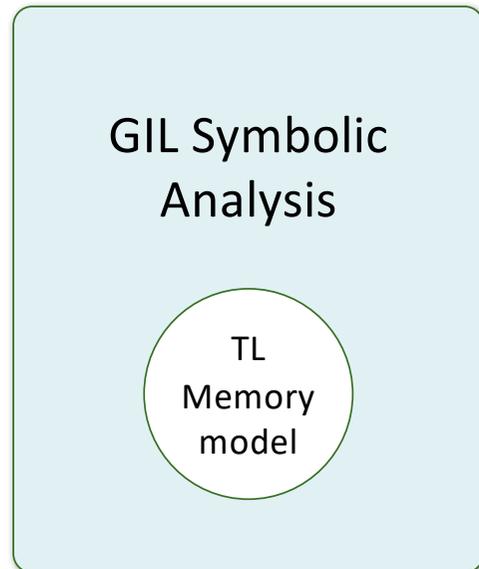


# The Gillian Platform



GILLIAN

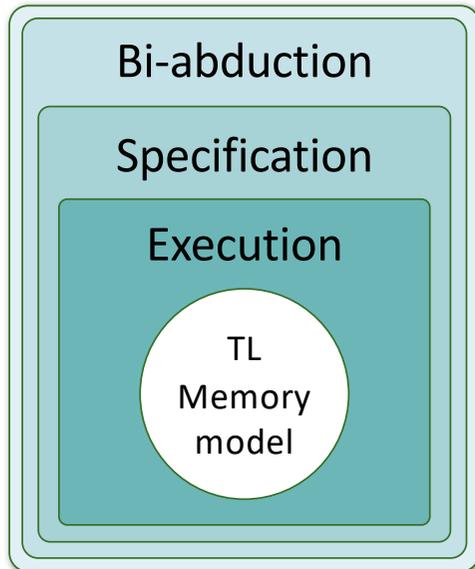
# The Gillian Platform



## Gillian Infrastructure

- GIL, an intermediate goto language parametric on the memory model of the target language (TL)
- First-order solver powered by the Z3 theorem prover

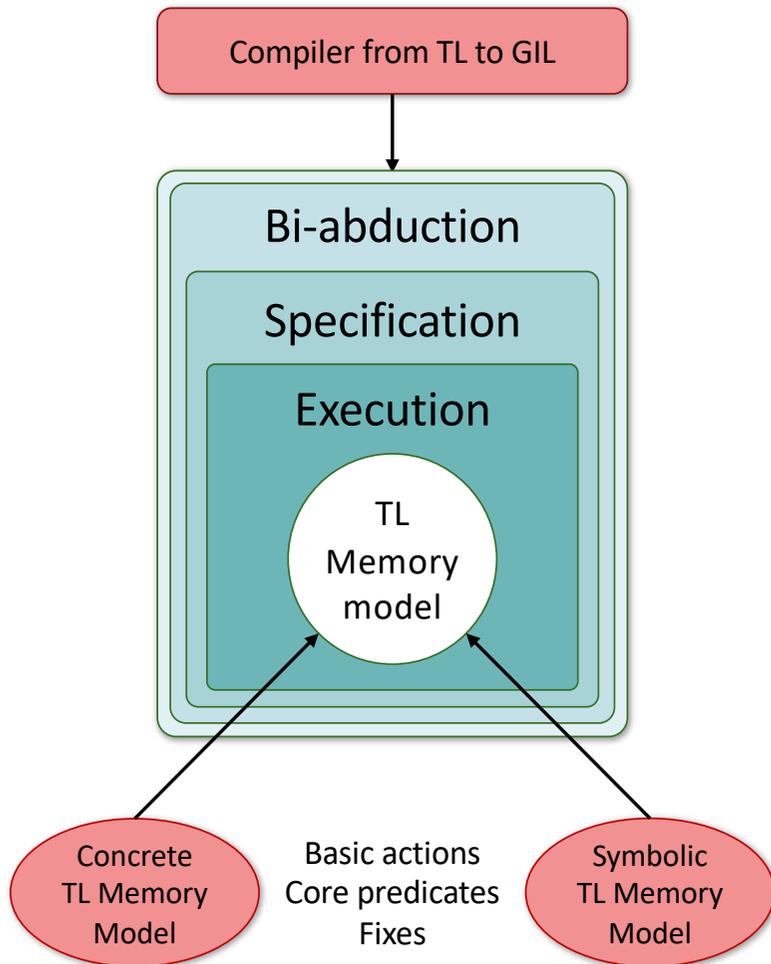
# The Gillian Platform



## Gillian Infrastructure

- GIL, an intermediate goto language parametric on the memory model of the target language (TL)
- First-order solver powered by the Z3 theorem prover
- Modular analyses: execution, specification, bi-abduction

# The Gillian Platform



## Gillian Instantiation (by a tool developer)

- OCaml impl. of TL **concrete** and **symbolic** memory models, using **basic actions**, **core predicates** and **fixes**
- Trusted **compiler** from the TL to GIL, preserving the memory models and the semantics

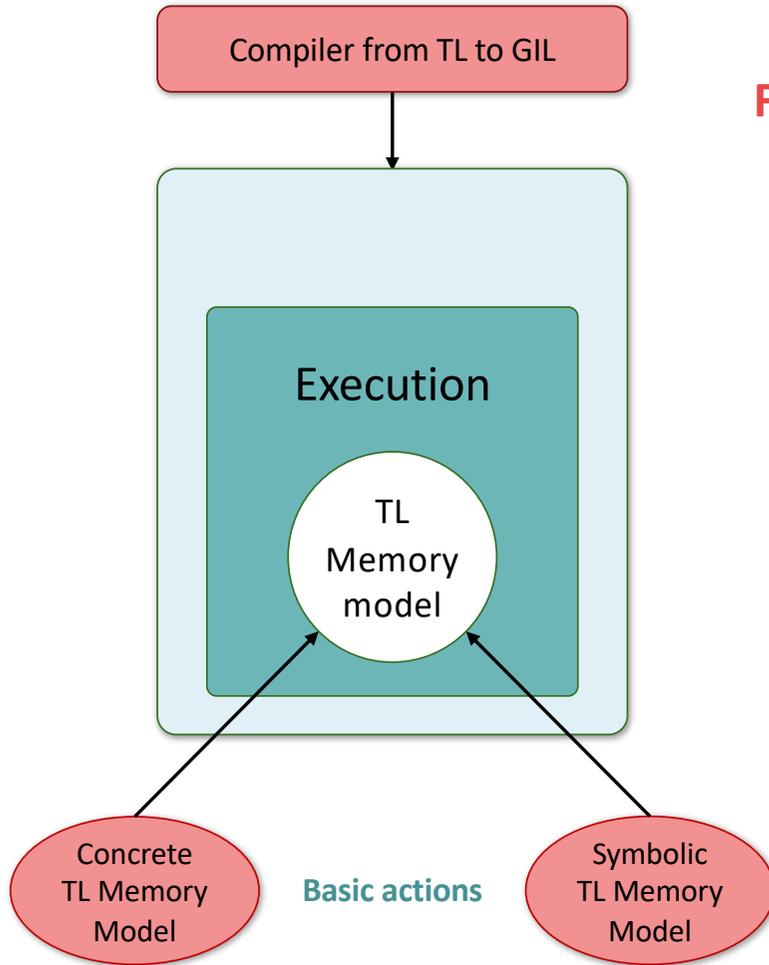
## Example Instantiations

- **Gillian-While**: for teaching and experimentation
- **Gillian-JS**: extensible-object memory model, JaVerT compiler
- **Gillian-C**: block-offset memory model, CompCert compiler
- **Gillian-Rust**: just started (Sacha)

G<sup>\*</sup>illan  
**IN THEORY**

# Core Execution Engine

Formal semantics, closely followed by OCaml implementation



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{ASSIGNMENT} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = x := e \\
 \frac{\sigma.(\text{setVar}_x \circ \text{eval}_e)(-) \rightsquigarrow \sigma'}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, i+1 \rangle}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{IFGOTO - TRUE} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = \text{ifgoto } e \ j \\
 \frac{\sigma.(\text{assume} \circ \text{eval}_e)(-) \rightsquigarrow \sigma'}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, j \rangle}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{IFGOTO - FALSE} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = \text{ifgoto } e \ j \\
 \frac{\sigma.(\text{assume} \circ \text{eval}_{\neg e})(-) \rightsquigarrow \sigma'}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, i+1 \rangle}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{CALL} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = x := e(e') \quad \sigma.((\text{getStore} \circ \text{eval}_{e'} \circ \text{eval}_e)([-, [-, -]]) \rightsquigarrow (\sigma', [f, [v, \rho']])) \\
 \frac{cs' = \langle f, x, \rho', i+1 \rangle : cs \quad p(f) = f(y)\{\bar{e}\} \quad \sigma'.\text{setStore}(\llbracket y, v \rrbracket) \rightsquigarrow \sigma''}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma'', cs', 0 \rangle}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{RETURN} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = \text{return } e \quad cs = \langle -, x, \rho, j \rangle : cs' \\
 \frac{\sigma.\text{eval}_e(-) \rightsquigarrow (\sigma', v) \quad \sigma'.(\text{setVar}_x \circ \text{setStore})(\llbracket \rho, v \rrbracket) \rightsquigarrow \sigma''}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma'', cs', j \rangle}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{TOP RETURN} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = \text{return } e \\
 \frac{cs = \langle f \rangle \quad \sigma.\text{eval}_e(-) \rightsquigarrow (\sigma', v)}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, i \rangle^{N(v)}}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{FAIL} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = \text{fail } e \\
 \frac{\sigma.\text{eval}_e(-) \rightsquigarrow (\sigma', v)}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, i \rangle^{E(v)}}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{USYM} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = x := \text{uSym}_j \\
 \frac{\sigma.(\text{setVar}_x \circ \text{uSym})(j) \rightsquigarrow \sigma'}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, i+1 \rangle}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{ISYM} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = x := \text{iSym}_j \\
 \frac{\sigma.(\text{setVar}_x \circ \text{iSym})(j) \rightsquigarrow \sigma'}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, i+1 \rangle}
 \end{array}$$

## User Input: Basic Actions

Fundamental interactions between the language and its memory

## Single Additional Rule

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{ACTION} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = x := \alpha(e) \\
 \frac{\sigma.(\text{setVar}_x \circ \alpha \circ \text{eval}_e)(-) \rightsquigarrow \sigma'}{p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs, i+1 \rangle}
 \end{array}$$

# Specification

## User Input: Core predicates

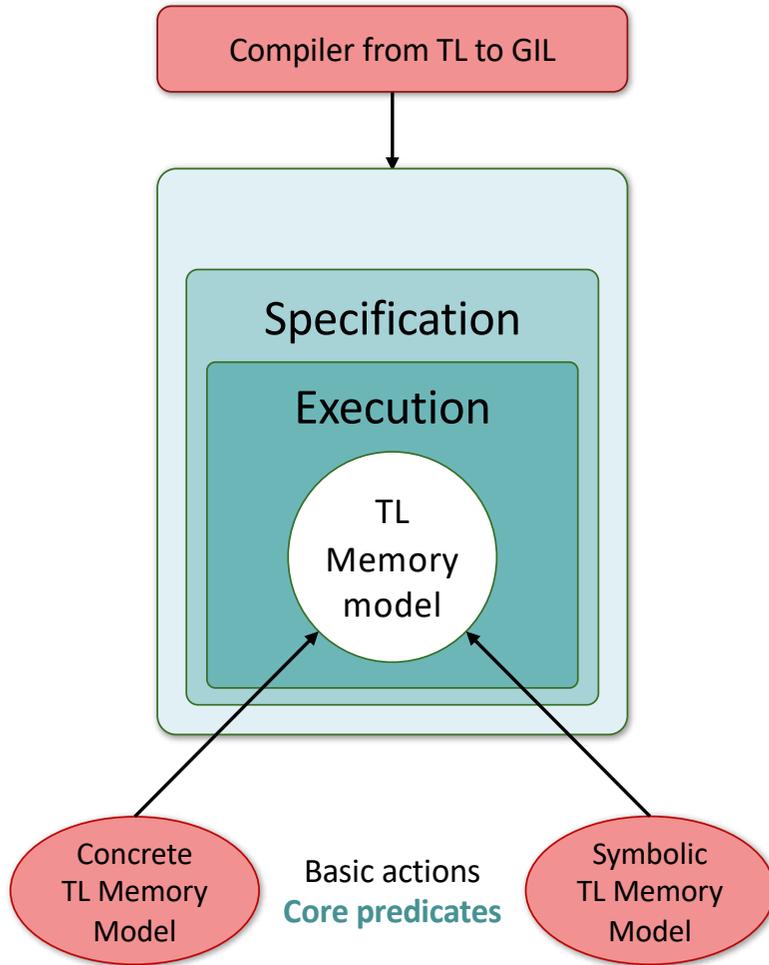
Separation-logic assertions describing the memory building blocks

Consumer and producer actions for each core predicate

## Additional Rules

Unfolding/folding of user-defined predicates

Re-use of function specifications



NON-LOGICAL CMD  
 $\text{cmd}(p, cs, i) \in C_A$   
 $p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow \langle \sigma', cs', j \rangle$   
 $p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow_a \langle \sigma', cs', j \rangle$

UNFOLD  
 $\text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = \text{unfold } pn(e) \quad \sigma.\text{eval}_e(-) \rightsquigarrow v$   
 $p.\text{preds}.pn = \text{pred } pn(x) := P_0; \dots; P_n \quad \theta = [x \mapsto v] \quad 0 \leq j \leq n$   
 $\sigma.\text{cons}(pn(v)) \rightsquigarrow \sigma' \quad \sigma'.\text{prod}(\theta(P_j)) \rightsquigarrow \sigma''$   
 $p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow_a \langle \sigma'', cs, i+1 \rangle$

FOLD  
 $\text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = \text{fold } pn(e) \quad \sigma.\text{eval}_e(-) \rightsquigarrow v$   
 $p.\text{preds}.pn = \text{pred } pn(x) := P_0; \dots; P_n \quad \theta = [x \mapsto v]$   
 $\sigma.\text{cons}(\theta(P_j)) \rightsquigarrow \sigma' \quad \sigma'.\text{prod}(pn(v)) \rightsquigarrow \sigma''$   
 $p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow_a \langle \sigma'', cs, i+1 \rangle$

SPEC CALL  
 $\text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = x := e(e_0)$   
 $\sigma.\text{eval}_e(-) \rightsquigarrow f \quad \sigma.\text{eval}_{e_0}(-) \rightsquigarrow v_0$   
 $\{P\} f(x_0) \{Q, e'\} \in p.\text{specs}.f$   
 $\theta = [x_0 \mapsto v_0] \quad \sigma.\text{eval}_{e'}(-) \rightsquigarrow v$   
 $\sigma.\text{cons}(\theta(P)) \rightsquigarrow \sigma' \quad \sigma'.\text{prod}(\theta(Q)) \rightsquigarrow \sigma''$   
 $p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow_a \langle \sigma'', \text{setVar}(x, v), cs, i+1 \rangle$

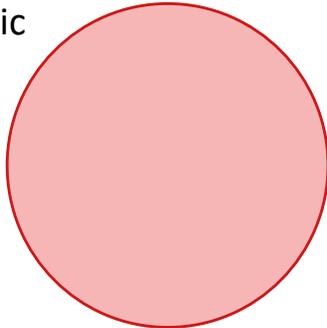
(slightly simplified)

# Aside: Specification Re-Use

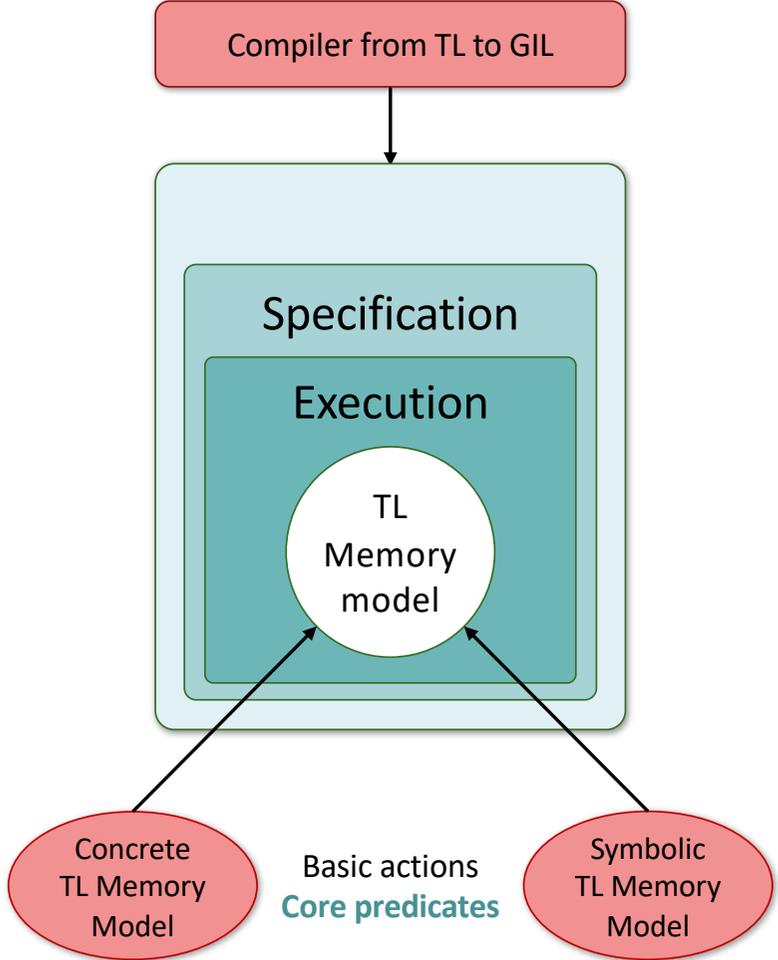
**Function specifications:**  $\{P\} f(x) \{Q\}$

**Goal:** apply a given function specification instead of symbolically executing a function

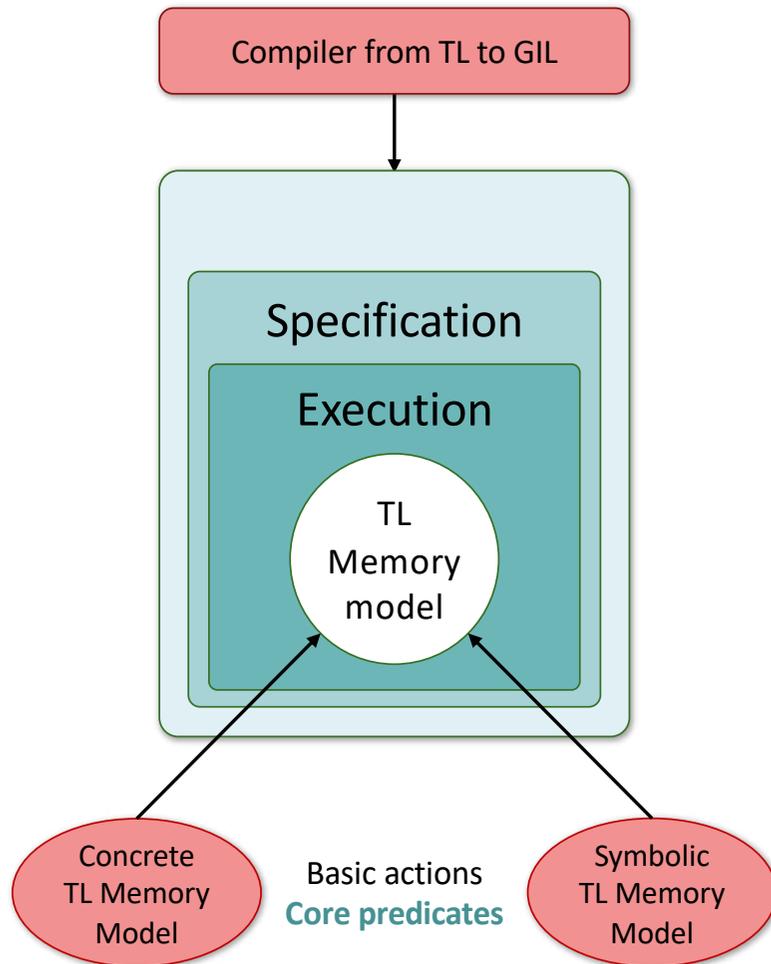
Symbolic state



$\{P\} f(x) \{Q\}$   
Specification



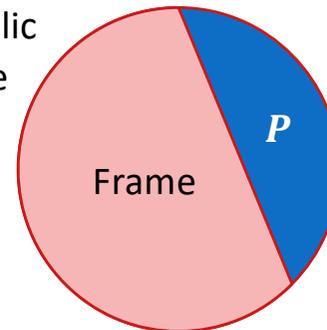
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Symbolic state

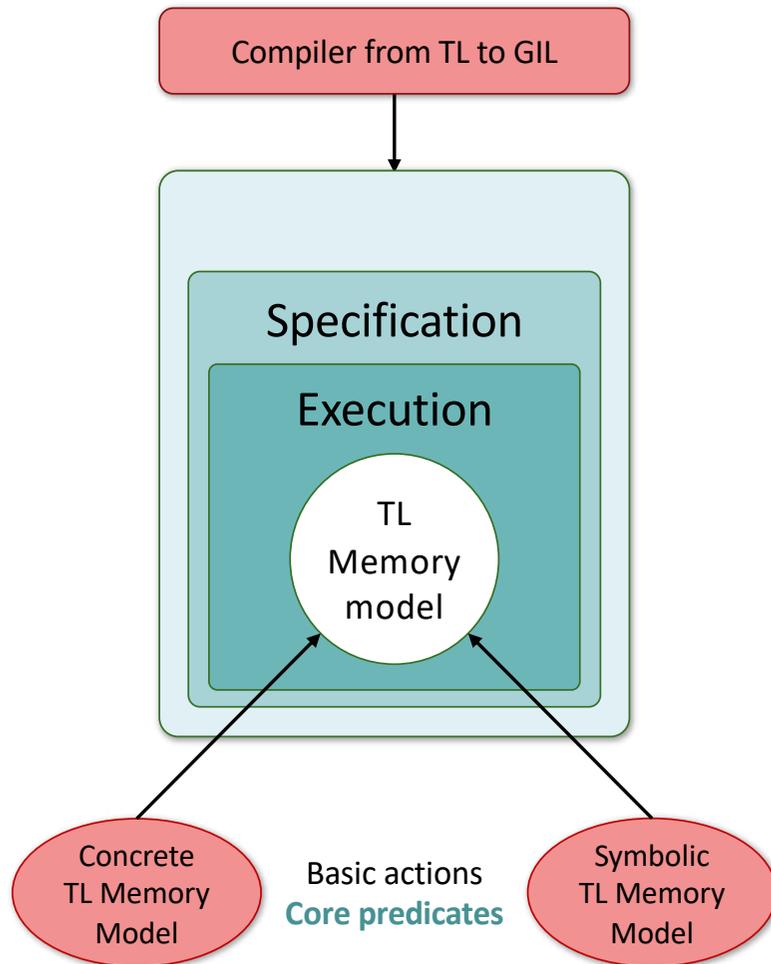


$\{P\} f(x) \{Q\}$   
Specification

**Step 1: consume** the pre-condition

Unify the part of the state that corresponds to the pre-condition and consume it, leaving the frame; learn the bindings  $\theta$  for the logical variables in the pre-condition

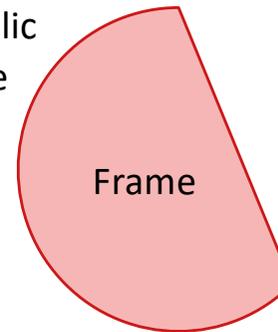
# Aside: Specification Re-Use



**Function specifications:**  $\{P\} f(x) \{Q\}$

**Goal:** apply a given function specification instead of symbolically executing a function

Symbolic state

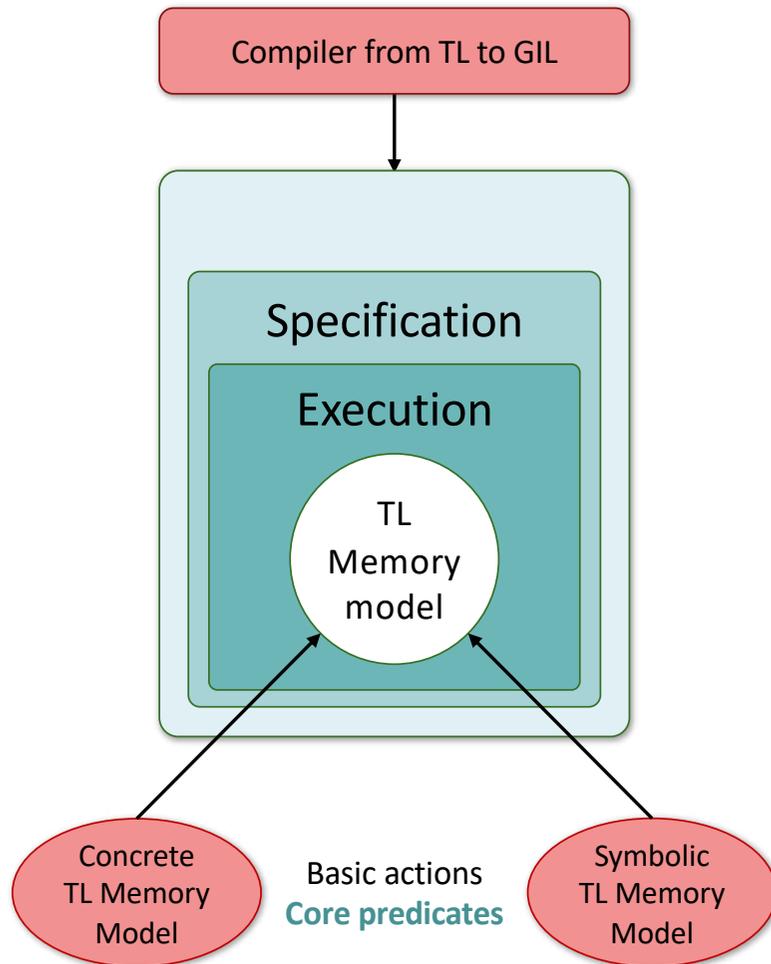


$\{P\} f(x) \{Q\}$   
Specification

**Step 1: consume** the pre-condition

Using a unification algorithm, identify the part of the symbolic state that corresponds to the pre-condition and consume it, leaving the frame; in this process, we learn the bindings for the logical variables in the pre-condition

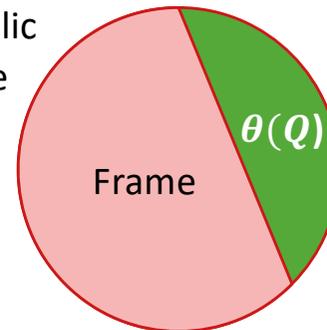
# Aside: Specification Re-Use



**Function specifications:**  $\{P\} f(x) \{Q\}$

**Goal:** apply a given function specification instead of symbolically executing a function

Symbolic state



$\{P\} f(x) \{Q\}$   
Specification

**Step 1:** consume the pre-condition

**Step 2:** produce the post-condition

Using the learned bindings, produce the resource corresponding to the post-condition

# Bi-abduction

Fundamental connection with execution engine (POPL'19)

## User Input: Fixes

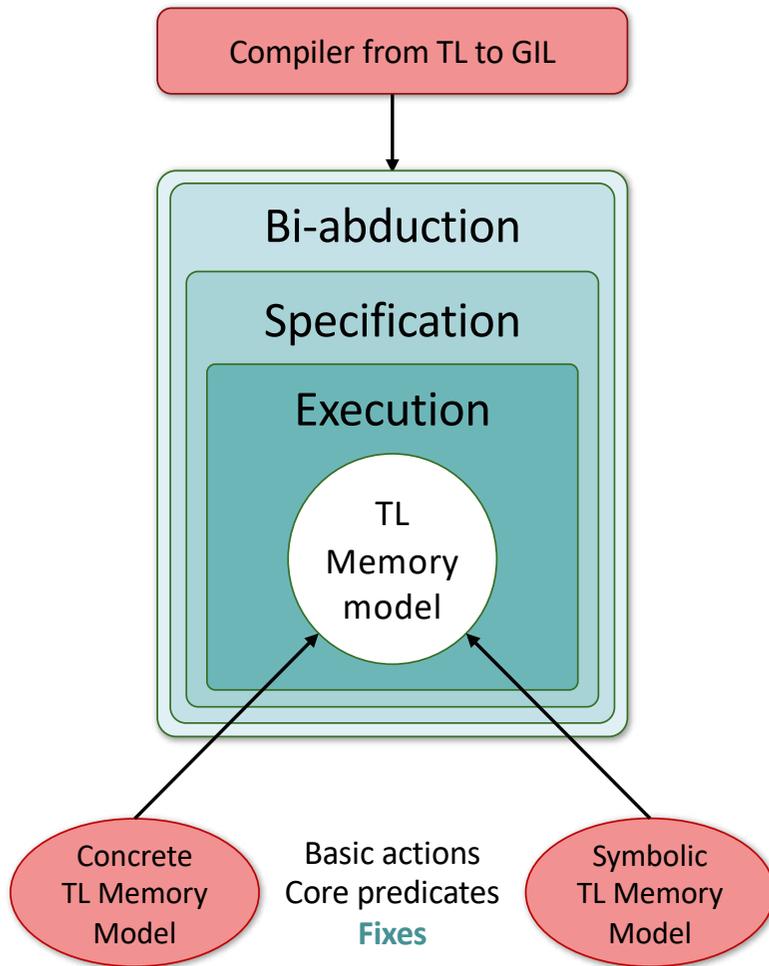
Missing information errors yield *fixes*, which represent ways of correcting the errors

An error can have multiple possible fixes that the tool developer needs to understand

## Single additional rule

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{BI-ACTION} \\
 \text{cmd}(p, cs, i) = x := \alpha(e) \quad \sigma.\text{eval}_e(-) \rightsquigarrow (\sigma', v) \\
 \sigma'.\alpha(v) \rightsquigarrow (-, [\mathcal{E}, v']) \\
 \text{fix}(v') \rightsquigarrow Q \quad \sigma'.\text{prod}(Q) \rightsquigarrow (\sigma'', -) \\
 \sigma''.(\text{setVar}_x \circ \alpha)(v) \rightsquigarrow \sigma''' \\
 \hline
 p \vdash \langle \sigma, cs, i \rangle \rightsquigarrow_a^{bi} \langle \sigma''', cs, i+1 \rangle
 \end{array}$$

*if an action fails with a given fix, produce that fix in the current state and re-execute the action*

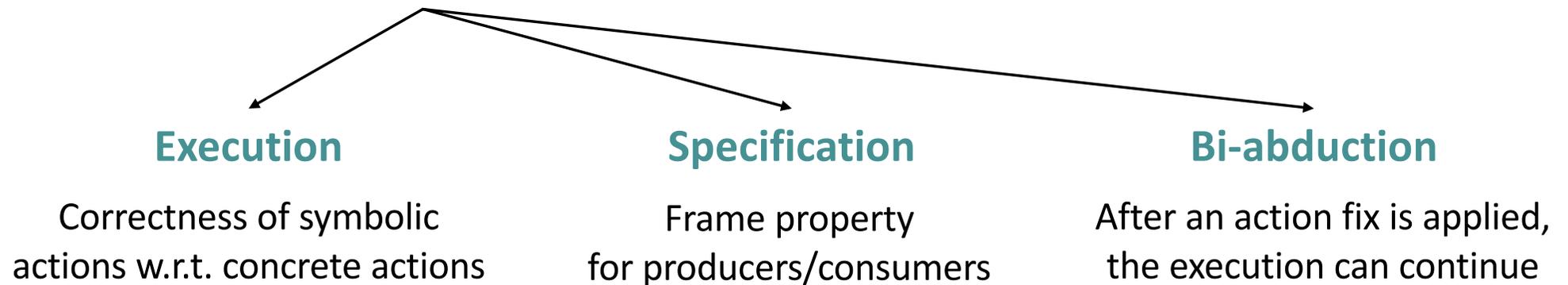


# General Correctness Results

## Parametric correctness results

Stated and proven independently of the underlying memory model

Minimal proof effort for the user



# General Correctness Results

## Parametric correctness results

### Symbolic Execution

- **Forward soundness** (analogy with Hoare triples)
- **Forward completeness** (no false positives)
- **Backward completeness** (no false positives, analogy with incorrectness triples)
- **Bounded verification guarantees**

ly of the underlying memory model

**Specification**

me property  
ducers/consumers

**Bi-abduction**

After an action fix is applied,  
the execution can continue

# General Correctness Results

## Parametric correctness results

Stated and proven independently of the underlying memory model

Minimal proof effort for the user



# General Correctness Results

## Parametric correctness results

Stated and proven independently  
Minimal proof effort for the user

### Execution

Correctness of symbolic  
actions w.r.t. concrete actions

### Spec

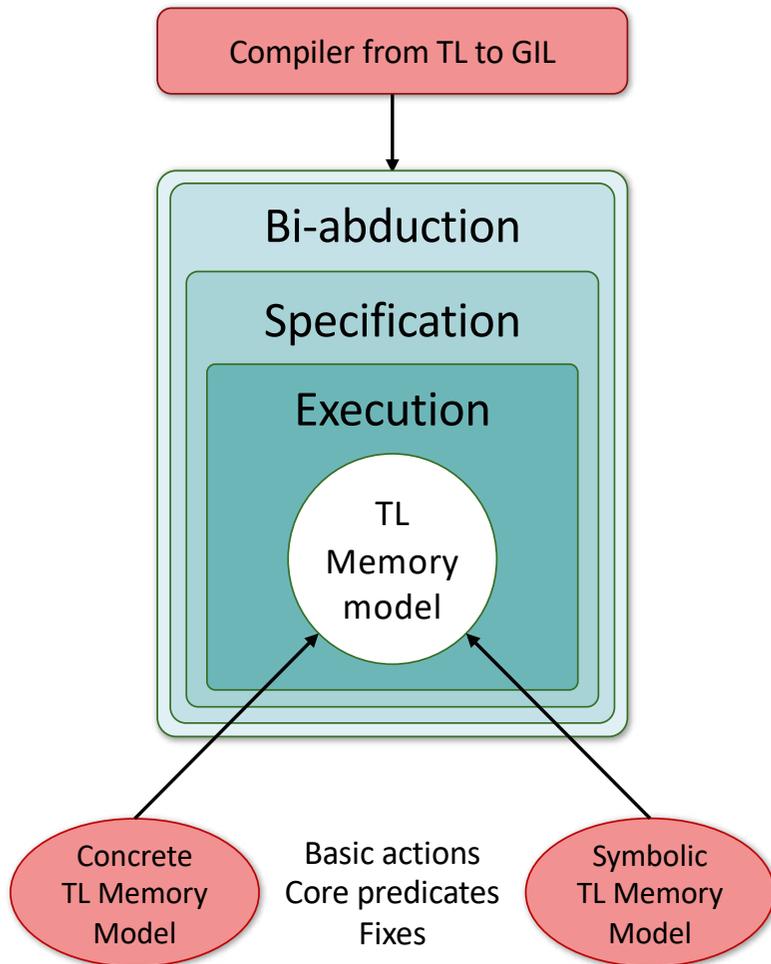
Frame  
for produc

### Bi-abduction

- **No false positives** if and only if
  - fixes are not over-approximating
  - no over-approximating specifications are used
- **Bounded verification guarantees** if and only if
  - fixes are not under-approximating

Gillan  
**INSTANTIATIONS**

# Gillian Instantiation



## Compositional Memory Models

- TL **concrete** and **symbolic** memory models, using **basic actions**, **core predicates** and **fixes**
- The memory models are **compositional** to provide compositional analysis
- Basic actions must therefore account for positive, **negative** and missing information

## Gillian-JS

- partial extensible object memory models
- explicit absence of object properties  
(POPL'12, POPL'18, PPDP'18, POPL'19)

## Gillian-C

- partial block-offset memory models
- explicit tracking of freed locations and block bounds

# Gillian-JS

## JS Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}al_{\emptyset}) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_{\perp} \times \mathcal{V}al_{\perp})$

$\emptyset$  : absent

$\perp$  : potentially  
missing

# Gillian-JS

## JS Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_\emptyset) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_\perp \times \mathcal{Val}_\perp)$

↑  
location

$\emptyset$  : absent

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# Gillian-JS

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**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_\emptyset) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_\perp \times \mathcal{Val}_\perp)$

↑                    ↑  
location            property  
                         table

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$\uparrow$                      $\uparrow$                      $\uparrow$   
location            property            **domain**  
                         table                    **table**

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$\uparrow$                      $\uparrow$                      $\uparrow$                      $\uparrow$   
location            property            domain            metadata  
                         table                    table

$\emptyset$  : absent

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missing

# Gillian-JS

## JS Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_{\emptyset}) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_{\perp} \times \mathcal{Val}_{\perp})$

$\emptyset$  : absent

**Symbolic memory:**  $\hat{\mu} : \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow ((\hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\emptyset}) \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\perp})$

$\perp$  : potentially  
missing

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**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_{\emptyset}) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_{\perp} \times \mathcal{Val}_{\perp})$

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$\perp$  : potentially missing

**Well-formedness:** Captures separation of object locations and properties within an object, as well as the connection between the domain table and the property table

**Symbolic well-formedness:**  $\mathcal{W}f_{\pi}(\hat{\mu}) \triangleq \left( \pi \Rightarrow \bigwedge_{\substack{\hat{l}, \hat{l}' \in \text{dom}(\hat{\mu}) \\ \hat{l} \neq \hat{l}'}} \hat{l} \neq \hat{l}' \wedge \bigwedge_{\substack{(\hat{h}, -, -) \in \text{codom}(\hat{\mu}) \\ \hat{p}, \hat{p}' \in \text{dom}(\hat{h}), \hat{p} \neq \hat{p}'}} \hat{p} \neq \hat{p}' \wedge \bigwedge_{\substack{(\hat{h}, \hat{d}, -) \in \text{codom}(\hat{\mu}) \\ \hat{d} \neq \perp}} \text{dom}(\hat{h}) \subseteq \hat{d} \right)$

# Gillian-JS

## JS Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_{\emptyset}) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_{\perp} \times \mathcal{Val}_{\perp})$   $\emptyset$  : absent

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## Basic actions, Core Predicates and Fixes

Six basic actions for the management of property table, domain table, and metadata

Three core predicates:  $(\hat{l}, \hat{p}) \mapsto \hat{v}_{\emptyset}, \text{domain}(\hat{l}, \hat{d}), \text{metadata}(\hat{l}, \hat{m})$

Exact fixes for all actions

# Gillian-JS

## JS Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_{\emptyset}) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_{\perp} \times \mathcal{Val}_{\perp})$   $\emptyset$  : absent

**Symbolic memory:**  $\hat{\mu} : \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow ((\hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\emptyset}) \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\perp})$   $\perp$  : potentially missing

## Basic actions, Core Predicates and Fixes

Six basic actions for the management of property table, domain table, and metadata

Three core predicates:  $(\hat{l}, \hat{p}) \mapsto \hat{v}_{\emptyset}$ ,  $\text{domain}(\hat{l}, \hat{d})$ ,  $\text{metadata}(\hat{l}, \hat{m})$

Exact fixes for all actions

**Explicit Negative Information:** absence of object properties (expressed via core predicates)

$$(\hat{l}, \hat{p}) \mapsto \emptyset \quad \text{domain}(\hat{l}, \hat{d}) \iff \forall \hat{p} \notin \hat{d}. (\hat{l}, \hat{p}) \mapsto \emptyset$$

# Gillian-JS

## JS Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_{\emptyset}) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_{\perp} \times \mathcal{Val}_{\perp})$

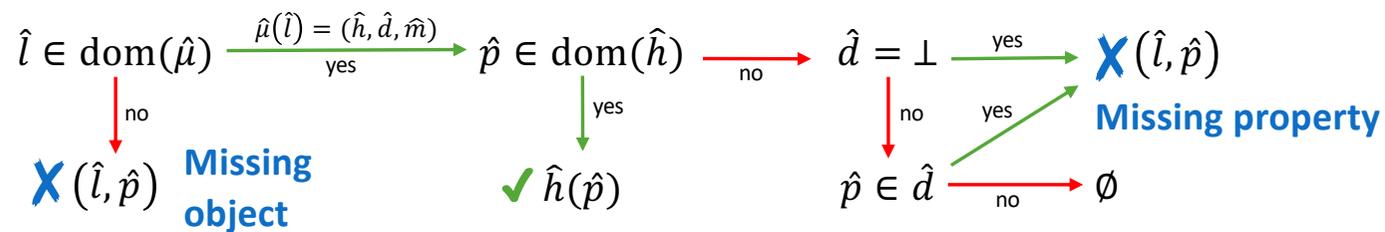
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**Symbolic memory:**  $\hat{\mu} : \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow ((\hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\emptyset}) \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\perp})$

$\perp$  : potentially missing

## Actions account for positive, negative and missing information

Symbolic execution of action  $\text{getProp}(\hat{l}, \hat{p})$ :



# Gillian-JS

## JS Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{Val}_\emptyset) \times \wp(\mathcal{S})_\perp \times \mathcal{Val}_\perp)$

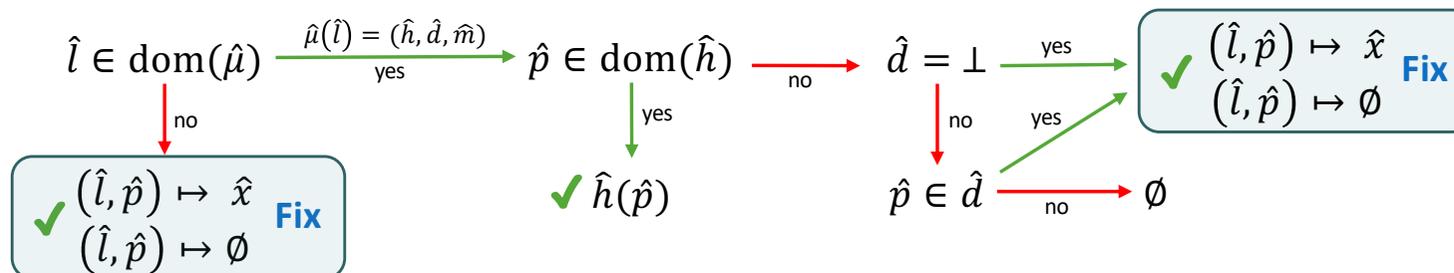
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$\perp$  : potentially missing

## Actions account for positive, negative and missing information

Bi-abductive execution of action `getProp( $\hat{l}, \hat{p}$ )`:



# Gillian-C

## C Simplified Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}al) \times \mathbb{N}_{\perp})_{\emptyset}$

$\emptyset$  : freed

$\perp$  : potentially  
missing

# Gillian-C

## C Simplified Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}al) \times \mathbb{N}_{\perp})_{\emptyset}$

↑  
location

$\emptyset$  : freed

$\perp$  : potentially  
missing

# Gillian-C

## C Simplified Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}al) \times \mathbb{N}_{\perp})_{\emptyset}$

↑                    ↑  
location            block  
                          contents

$\emptyset$  : freed

$\perp$  : potentially  
missing

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$\uparrow$  location       $\uparrow$  block contents       $\uparrow$  **block bound**

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**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}al) \times \mathbb{N}_{\perp})_{\emptyset}$

**Symbolic memory:**  $\hat{\mu} : \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow ((\hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr) \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_{\perp})_{\emptyset}$

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missing

# Gillian-C

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**Well-formedness:** Captures separation of block locations and offsets within a block, as well as the connection between the block bound and the block contents

**Symbolic well-formedness:**  $\mathcal{W}f_\pi(\hat{\mu}) \triangleq \left( \pi \Rightarrow \bigwedge_{\substack{i, i' \in \text{dom}(\hat{\mu}) \\ i \neq i'}} \hat{i} \neq \hat{i}' \wedge \bigwedge_{\substack{(\hat{k}, -) \in \text{codom}(\hat{\mu}) \\ \hat{o}, \hat{o}' \in \text{dom}(\hat{k}), \hat{o} \neq \hat{o}'}} \hat{o} \neq \hat{o}' \wedge \bigwedge_{\substack{(\hat{k}, \hat{n}) \in \text{codom}(\hat{\mu}) \\ \hat{n} \neq \perp, \hat{o} \in \text{dom}(\hat{k})}} \hat{o} < \hat{n} \right)$

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## Basic actions, Core Predicates and Fixes

Six basic actions for the management of blocks, bounds, and freed objects

Three core predicates:  $(\hat{l}, \hat{o}) \mapsto \hat{v}$ ,  $\text{bound}(\hat{l}, \hat{n})$ ,  $\hat{l} \mapsto \emptyset$

Exact fixes for all actions

# Gillian-C

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Six basic actions for the management of blocks, bounds, and freed objects

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Exact fixes for all actions

**Explicit Negative Information:** freed locations and block bounds (expressed via core predicates)

$$\hat{l} \mapsto \emptyset$$

$$\text{bound}(\hat{l}, \hat{n})$$

# Gillian-C

## C Simplified Compositional Memories

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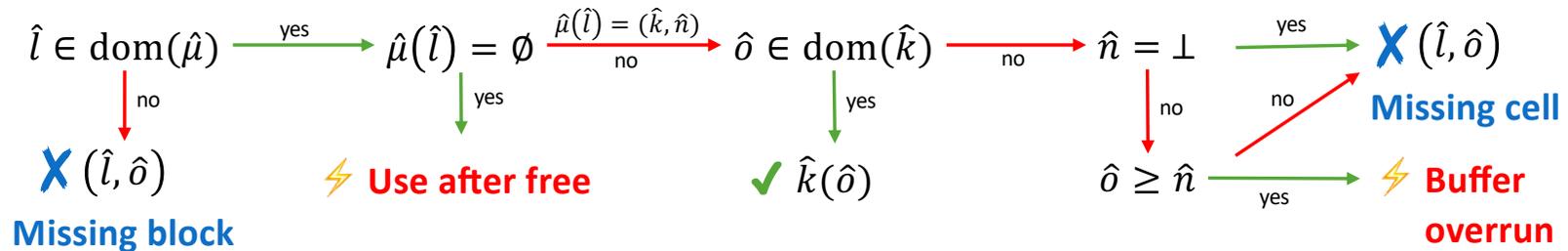
$\emptyset$  : freed

**Symbolic memory:**  $\hat{\mu} : \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow ((\hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr) \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_\perp)_\emptyset$

$\perp$  : potentially missing

## Actions account for positive, negative and missing information

Symbolic execution of the action `getCell( $\hat{l}, \hat{o}$ )`:



# Gillian-C

## C Simplified Compositional Memories

**Concrete memory:**  $\mu : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow ((\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}al) \times \mathbb{N}_\perp)_\emptyset$

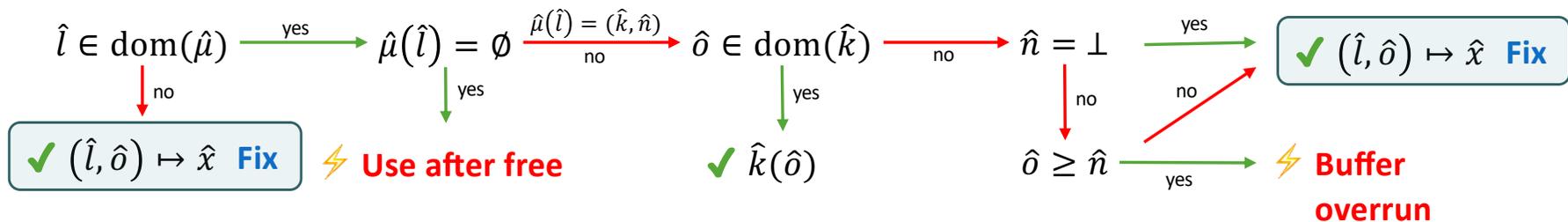
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**Symbolic memory:**  $\hat{\mu} : \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow ((\hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr) \times \hat{\mathcal{E}}xpr_\perp)_\emptyset$

$\perp$  : potentially missing

## Actions account for positive, negative and missing information

Bi-abductive execution of the action `getCell( $\hat{l}$ ,  $\hat{o}$ )`:



Gillan  
**IN PRACTICE**

# Symbolic Testing: Buckets.js and Collections-C

Stand-alone real-world data-structure libraries for JavaScript and C

Buckets.js: ~1.5Kloc, > 65K downloads on npm

Data Structure	Symbolic Tests	Executed GIL cmds	Time
array	9	329,854	2.53s
bag	7	1,343,808	4.78s
bst	11	3,750,552	12.47s
dict	7	401,964	1.81s
heap	4	1,487,554	3.36s
llist	9	588,699	3.97s
mdict	6	1,106,058	3.84s
queue	6	407,061	2.22s
pqueue	5	2,297,943	4.02s
set	6	2,181,474	4.56s
stack	4	306,434	1.63s
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>14,201,401</b>	<b>45.19s</b>

100% line coverage, 3 bugs found and fixed

Collections-C: ~5.5Kloc, 2K stars on GitHub

Data Structure	Symbolic Tests	Executed GIL Cmds	Time
array	22	109,290	4.21s
deque	34	106,737	6.57s
list	37	730,655	13.02s
pqueue	4	39,828	0.65s
queue	2	15,726	0.64s
pqueue	3	27,284	0.52s
queue	38	325,383	7.18s
stack	2	5,211	0.28s
treetbl	13	618,326	2.98s
treeset	6	108,583	3.29s
<b>Total</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>2,097,023</b>	<b>39.34s</b>

Bugs found in library and concrete tests, fixed

# Symbolic Testing: Cash Events Module (ECOOP'20)

**Cash:** A compact alternative for jQuery, > 450K downloads on npm, 4.4K stars on GitHub  
Uses DOM Core Level 1, DOM UI Events, JS promises, await/async

8 symbolic tests, 100% line coverage

Test Name	rHand	sHand	tOff	other	Total
Time (s)	5.54	144.38	22.87	66.53	<b>239.34</b>
Executed GIL cmds	1,468,907	38,240,506	9,400,471	23,439,230	<b>72,549,114</b>



Gabriela Sampaio

## Bounded Correctness Guarantees

**rHand:** If a handler has been triggered, then it must have previously been registered

**sHand:** If a single handler has been registered to a given event, then that is the only handler that can be triggered for that event (**revealed two bugs, fixed**)

**Correctness bound:** length of the event type is at most 20 characters

# Full Verification: AWS Encryption SDK

**Target code:** AWS Encryption SDK message header manipulation in JS and C

**Current approach to validation:**

**JS:** concrete testing, runtime correctness assertions

**C:** concrete testing, runtime correctness assertions, bounded model checking (CBMC)

```
/* Precondition: readPos must be non-negative and within the byte length of the buffer given. */
needs(
  readPos >= 0 && dataView.byteLength >= readPos,
  'readPos out of bounds.'
)

/* Precondition: elementCount and fieldsPerElement must be non-negative. */
needs(
  elementCount >= 0 && fieldsPerElement >= 0,
  'elementCount and fieldsPerElement must be non-negative.'
)
```

```
int aws_cryptosdk_enc_ctx_deserialize(
  struct aws_allocator *alloc, struct aws_hash_table *enc_ctx, struct aws_byte_cursor *cursor) {
  AWS_PRECONDITION(aws_allocator_is_valid(alloc));
  AWS_PRECONDITION(aws_hash_table_is_valid(enc_ctx));
  AWS_PRECONDITION(aws_byte_cursor_is_valid(cursor));

  aws_cryptosdk_enc_ctx_clear(enc_ctx);

  if (cursor->len == 0) {
    AWS_POSTCONDITION(aws_allocator_is_valid(alloc));
    AWS_POSTCONDITION(aws_hash_table_is_valid(enc_ctx));
    AWS_POSTCONDITION(aws_byte_cursor_is_valid(cursor));
    return AWS_OP_SUCCESS;
  }
}
```

**First project:** verification of the message header deserialisation module  
(~200loc for JS, ~950loc for C, using full features of both languages)

# AWS Verification: Header Deserialisation

**Results:** Gillian-JS and Gillian-C verify that the JS and C deserialisation modules:

- correctly deserialise a well-formed header
- return false (JS) or throw an appropriate error (C) if supplied an incomplete header
- throw an appropriate error if supplied a malformed header

**Impact on AWS code and Gillian:**

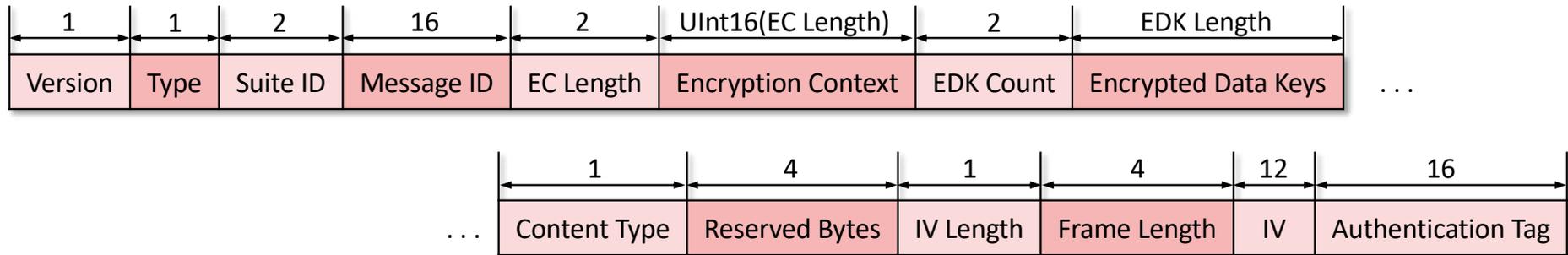
- improved the implementation of the JS readElements auxiliary function
- discovered **one bug** and **one vulnerability** in the JS decodeEncryptionContext function
- found one **over-allocation** and one **undefined behaviour** in the aws-c-common library
- substantially improved the reasoning capabilities of Gillian

**Workload:**

- ~2 person months for JS, ~1 person-month for C
- ~3.5K lines of annotations (predicates, specifications, invariants, lemmas, proof tactics)  
(~1.2K language-independent, ~1K for C, ~1.3K for JS)

# AWS SDK Message Header

A sequence of bytes, divided into sections

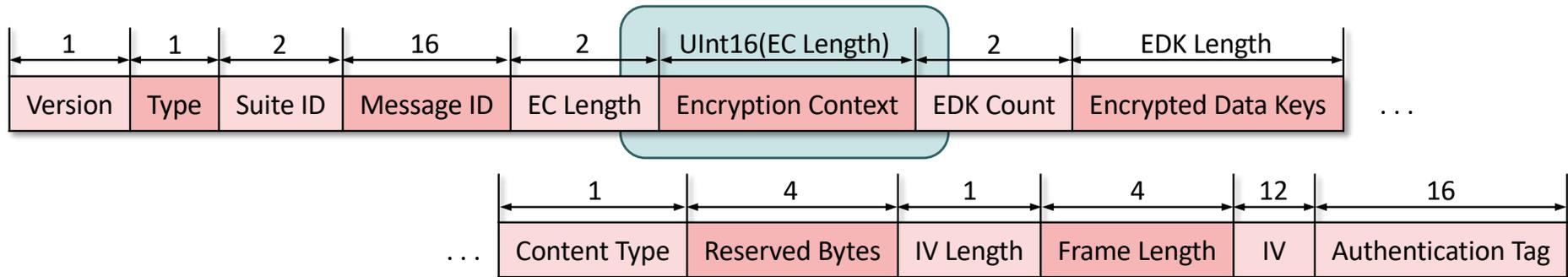


## Our Approach:

- build **language-independent** first-order abstractions capturing the header structure
- using these abstractions, build **language-specific** abstractions capturing header-related objects and structures in JS and C memories used in the AWS SDK implementations
- prove lemmas about all abstractions
- specify and verify all functions of the deserialisation modules

# AWS SDK Message Header

A sequence of bytes, divided into sections



## Our Approach:

- build **language-independent** first-order abstractions capturing the header structure
- using these abstractions, build **language-specific** abstractions capturing header-related objects

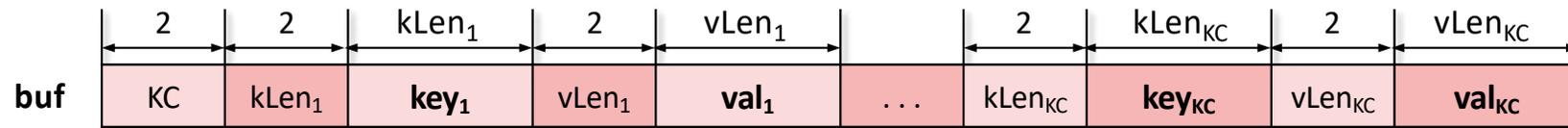
## **FOCUS: Encryption context & related functions**

- Section of variable length, complex to specify and reason about
- Source of the JS bugs

# **AWS: LANGUAGE-INDEPENDENT SPECIFICATION**

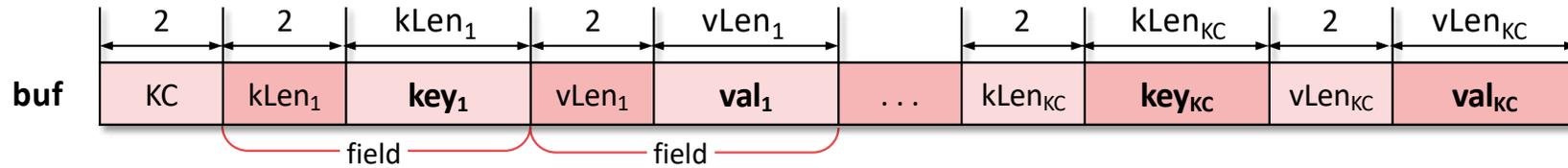
# Specification: Encryption Context

**Encryption context:** serialised list of key-value pairs



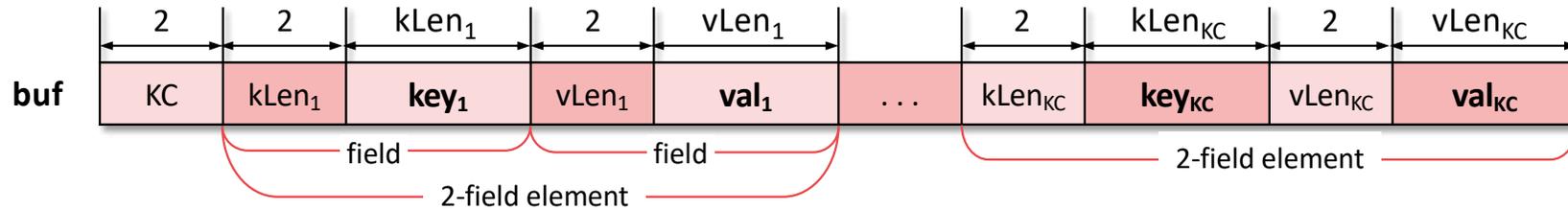
# Specification: Encryption Context

**Encryption context:** serialised list of key-value pairs



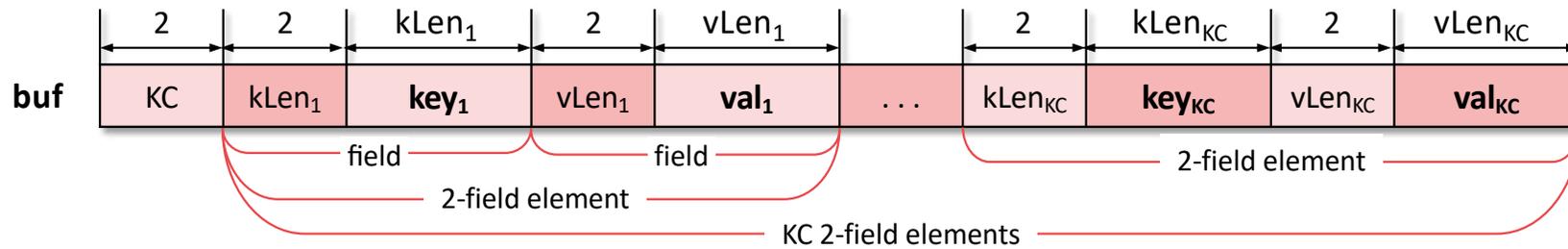
# Specification: Encryption Context

**Encryption context:** serialised list of key-value pairs

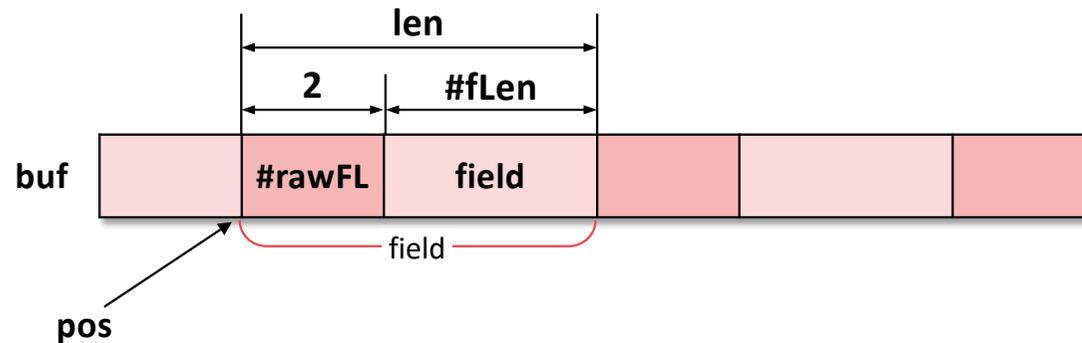


# Specification: Encryption Context

**Encryption context:** serialised list of key-value pairs



# Specification: Field



```
pred Field(buf : byte list, pos : int, field : byte list, len : int)
```

```
(0 <= pos) *
```

```
(#rawFL = l-sub(buf, pos, 2)) *
```

```
UInt16(#rawFL, #fLen) *
```

```
(field = l-sub(buf, pos + 2, #fLen)) *
```

```
(len = 2 + #fLen) *
```

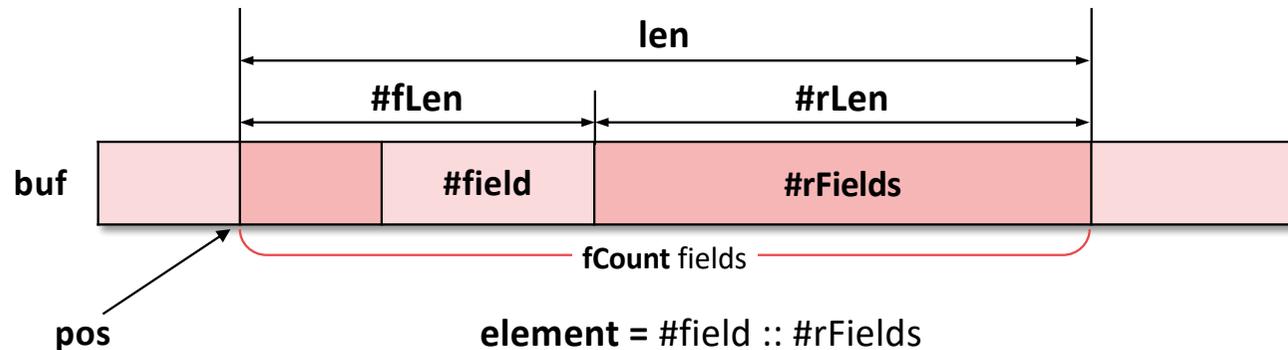
```
(pos + len <= l-len buf);
```

```
// l-sub(buf, pos, n): sublist of buf at pos of length n
```

```
// Conversion to an unsigned 16-bit integer
```

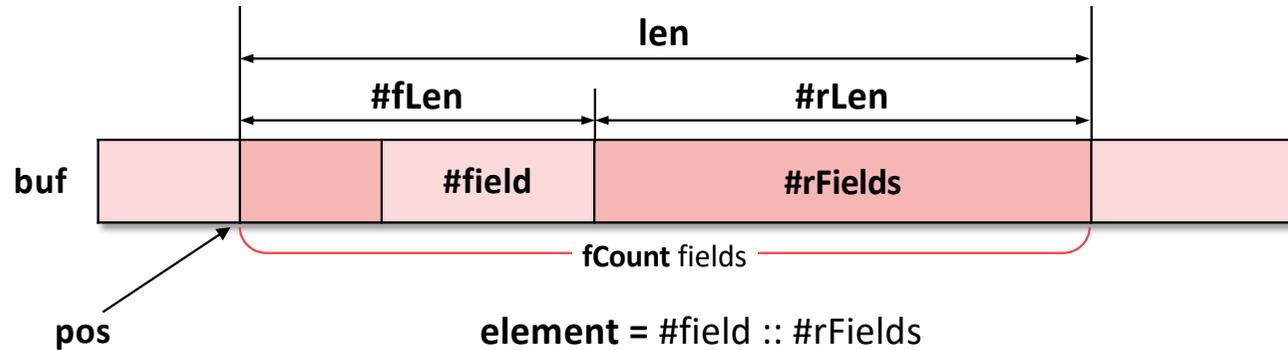
```
// Field must fit in buffer
```

# Specification: Complete Element



```
pred CElement(buf : byte list, pos : int, fCount : int, element : (byte list) list, len : int) :  
  (0 <= pos) * (pos <= l-len buf) * // Base case: no more fields to read  
  (fCount = 0) * (element = [ ]) * (len = 0),  
  
  (0 < fCount) * // Inductive case: first field and rest  
  Field(buf, pos, #field, #fLen) *  
  CElement(buf, pos + #fLen, fCount - 1, #rFields, #rLen) *  
  (element = #field :: #rFields) *  
  (len = #fLen + #rLen);
```

# Specification: Complete Element

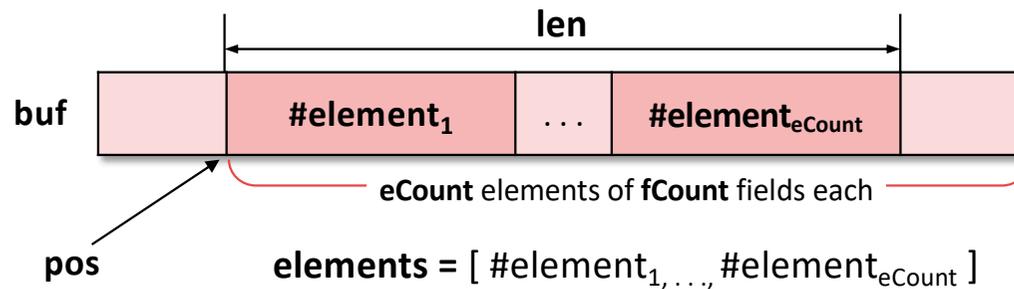


pred **CElement**(buf : byte list, pos : int, fCount : int, element : (byte list) list, len : int) :

## Additionally:

- **Incomplete element:** part of an element with correct structure
- **Broken element:** element with incorrect structure
- A general **Element** abstraction incorporating all three types of elements

# Specification: Complete Element Sequence

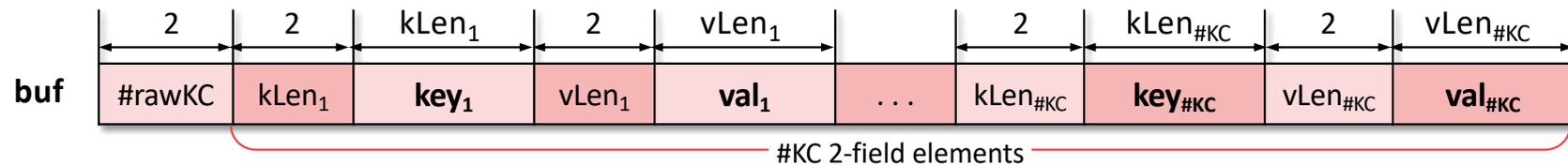


```
pred CElements(buf : byte list, pos : int, eCount : int, fCount : int,  
                elements : ((byte list) list) list, len : int)
```

```
// The buffer buf contains, at position pos, a sequence of eCount complete elements,  
// each consisting of fCount fields, with overall contents denoted by elements (list of  
// lists of field contents) and total length len
```

# Specification: Complete Encryption Context

**Encryption context:** serialised list of key-value pairs



$KVs = [ [ key_1, val_1 ], \dots, [ key_{\#KC}, val_{\#KC} ] ]$

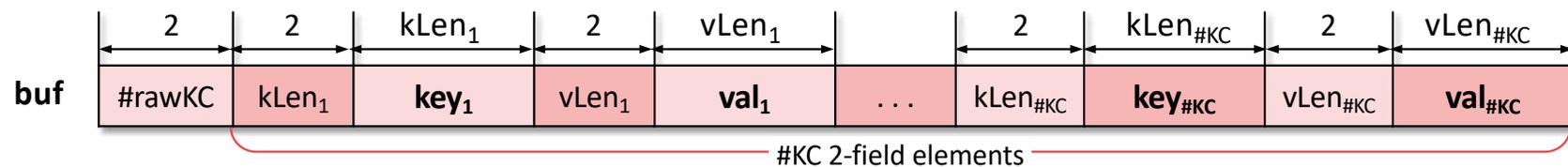
```

pred CEncryptionContext(buf : byte list, KVs : ((byte list) list) list) :
  (buf = [ ]) * (KVs = [ ]), // The EC is empty, no key-value pairs

  (#rawKC = l-sub(buf, 0, 2)) * // EC not empty: learn raw key count
  UInt16(#rawKC, #KC) * (0 < #KC) * // Learn actual key count, which must be positive
  CElements(buf, 2, #KC, 2, KVs, #ECLen) * // #KC elements, each with 2 fields (key-value pairs)
  FirstProj(KVs, #keys) * Unique(#keys) * // The keys (first projection) must be unique
  (2 + #ECLen = l-len buf); // And the EC must fill the buffer completely
  
```

# Specification: Complete Encryption Context

**Encryption context:** serialised list of key-value pairs



$KVs = [ [ key_1, val_1 ], \dots, [ key_{\#KC}, val_{\#KC} ] ]$

pred **CEncryptionContext**(buf : byte list, KVs : ((byte list) list) list) :

## Analogously to elements:

- Additional abstractions capturing **incomplete** and **broken** encryption contexts
- A general **EncryptionContext** abstraction incorporating all three types of elements

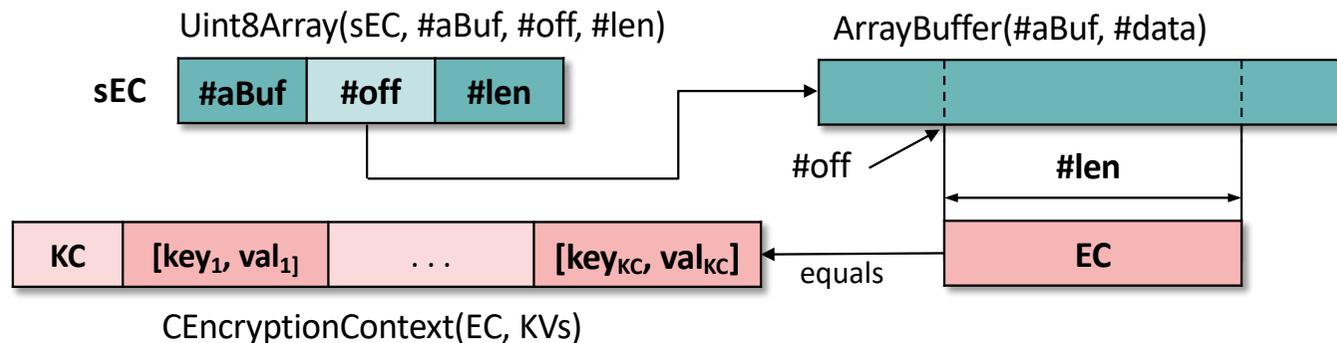
# **AWS: LANGUAGE-DEPENDENT SPECIFICATION FOR JS AND C**

# JS: Serialised Encryption Context

In JS, the serialised encryption context is accessible via an ES6 Uint8Array object

```
pred JSSerialisedEC(sEC : Obj, EC : byte list, KVs : ((byte list) list) list) :
```

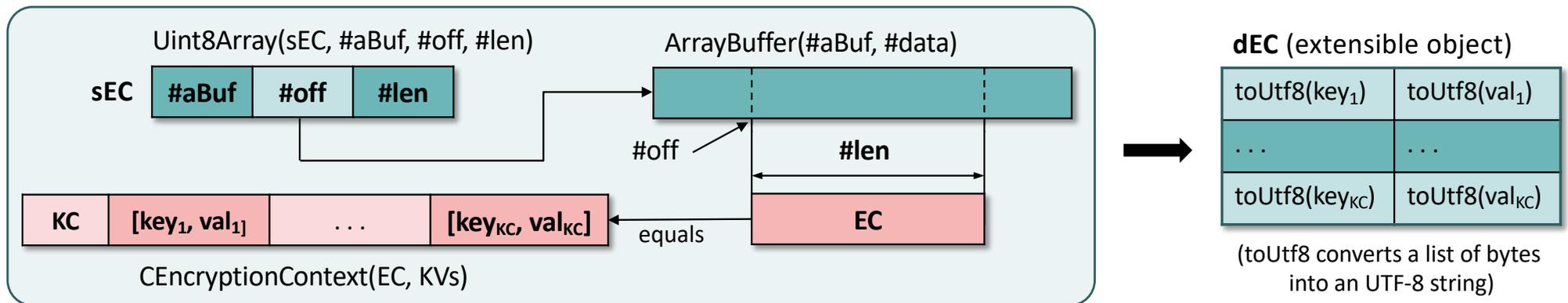
```
Uint8Array(sEC, #aBuf, #off, #len) * // sEC is a Uint8Array on top of the ArrayBuffer #aBuf  
ArrayBuffer(#aBuf, #data) * // which holds the information #data (a list of bytes),  
(EC == l-sub(#aBuf, #off, #len) * // of which the encryption context EC is part,  
CEncryptionContext(EC, KVs) // and the EC contains the key-value pairs KVs
```



# JS: Deserialised Encryption Context

In JS, the encryption context is deserialised into a JS object representing a key-value map

**JSSerialisedEC(sEC, #EC, #KVs)**



- The keys, when encoded with toUtf8, must be unique
- The resulting key-value map should be frozen to prevent tampering

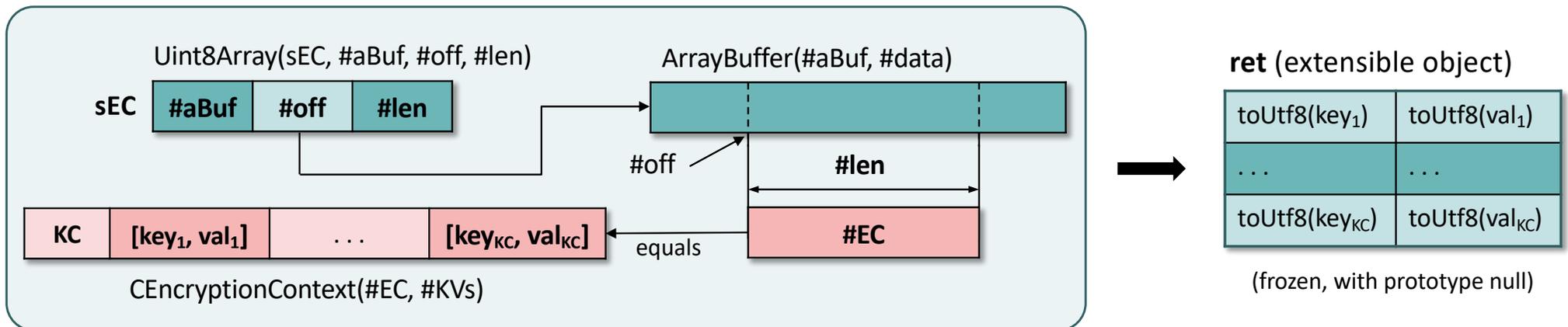
pred **JSDeserialisedEC**(dEC : Obj, KVs : ((byte list) list) list) :

```
FrozenObject(dEC, null, #utf8KVs) * // dEC is a frozen JS object with prototype null
// that holds the property-value pairs given by #utf8KVs
toUtf8(KVs, #utf8KVs) // which are obtained from KVs by converting to UTF-8
```

# JS Specification: Header Deserialisation

**decodeEncryptionContext:** deserialises the encryption context in JS

**JSSerialisedEC(sEC, #EC, #KVs)**



```
{ JSSerialisedEC(sEC, #EC, #KVs) }
```

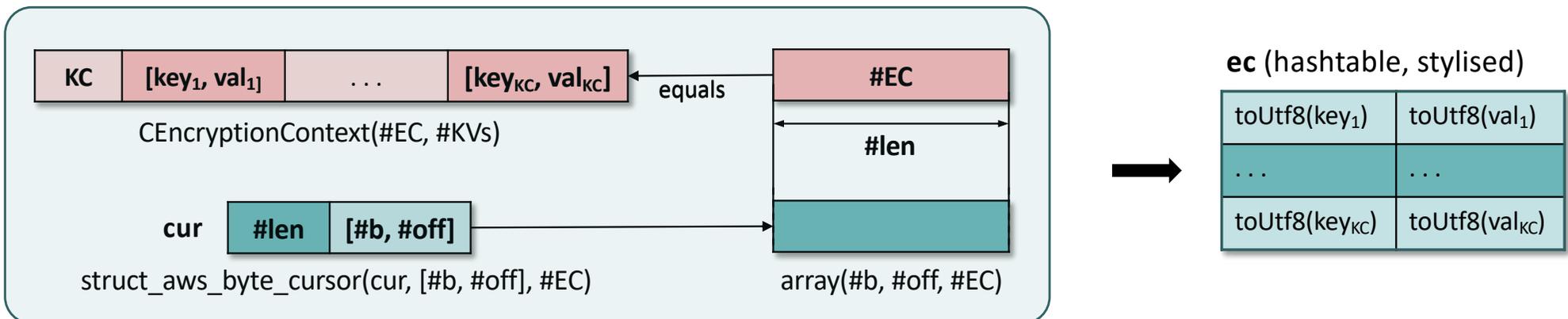
```
function decodeEncryptionContext(sEC)
```

```
{ JSSerialisedEC(sEC, #EC, #KVs) * JSDeserialisedEC(ret, #KVs) }
```

# C Specification: Header Deserialisation

**aws\_cryptosdk\_enc\_ctx\_deserialize:** deserialises the encryption context in C into a hashtable

**CSerialisedEC(cur, #buf, #EC, #KVs)**



```
{ CSerialisedEC(cur, [#b, #off], #EC, #KVs) * empty_hash_table(ec) }
```

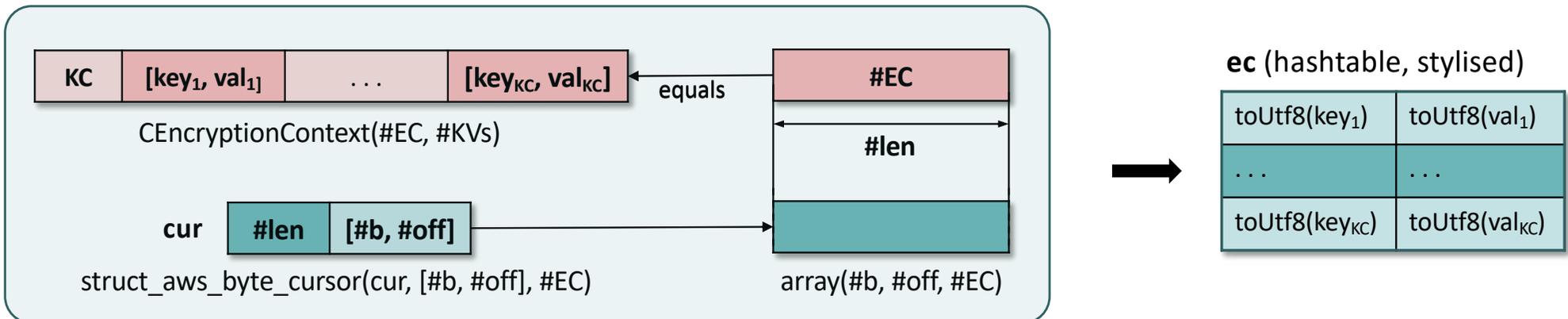
```
int aws_cryptosdk_enc_ctx_deserialize(
    struct aws_hash_table *ec, struct aws_byte_cursor *cur)
```

```
{ array(#b, #off, #EC) * CEncryptionContext(#EC, #KVs) *
    aws_byte_cursor(cur, [#b, #off + l-len #EC], [ ]) * CDeserialisedEC(ec, #KVs) }
```

# C Specification: Header Deserialisation

**aws\_cryptosdk\_enc\_ctx\_deserialize**: deserialises the encryption context in C into a hashtable

**CSerialisedEC**(cur, #buf, #EC, #KVs)



```

struct aws_byte_cursor {
    size_t len;
    uint8_t *buf;
}
    (automatically generated)
    pred aws_byte_cursor(cur : Ptr, buf : Ptr, c : byte list) :
    struct_aws_byte_cursor(cur, #len, buf) * // cur points to a byte cursor that views
    (buf = [#b, #off]) * array(#b, #off, c) * // an array with contents c starting from
    (#len = l-len c) // offset #off in the block #b
    
```

Abstractions: language-dependent, resource; language-independent, pure

# Caveats

- Changes to JS source code

Original code written in TypeScript, types elided to get pure JavaScript, could be automated

Some ES6 features rewritten to ES5 (let, const, patterns in function parameters), no expressivity loss

- Used library functions mostly axiomatised, some verified, some executed

JS ES6 built-in libraries fully axiomatised (ArrayBuffer, DataView, etc.)

JS ES5 built-in libraries mostly executed, a few axiomatised (Object.freeze, Array.prototype.map)

aws-c-common library functions mostly axiomatised; a few verified with bugs discovered

- Higher-order functions either axiomatised or specialised

The toUtf8 function is supplied as a parameter of the deserialisation module, and axiomatised as an injective function from lists of bytes to strings.

Functions in the aws-c-common array-list library specialised for encrypted data keys

# **AWS: VERIFICATION**

# Verification Effort

Verification requires complex automatic and manual reasoning about:

- (A) List concatenation and sublists with lists of symbolic size and content
- (M) First projection of lists of pairs
- (M) List element uniqueness
- (M) List-to-set conversion
- (M) Conversion to/from UTF-8
- (M) Manipulation of all user-defined abstractions (some unfolding, lemmas; folding is automatic)

## Example of reasoning complexity

```
// Main loop of decodeEncryptionContext (JS)
// Set-up and establish loop invariant
for (var count = 0; count < pairsCount; count++) {
  var [key, value] = elements[count].map(toUtf8)
  needs(encryptionContext[key] === undefined)
  encryptionContext[key] = value
  // Re-establish invariant
}
```

# Verification: decodeEncryptionContext

Set-up and establish loop invariant: 4 tactics, 27 invariant components

```
/*
@tactic
assert (
  (#EC == l+ ({{ #b0, #b1 }}, #rest)) *
  Elements("Complete", #EC, 2, ((256 * #b0) + #b1), 2, #ECKs, l-len #rest)
) [bind: #b0, #b1, #rest];
unfold Elements("Complete", #EC, 2, ((256 * #b0) + #b1), 2, #ECKs, l-len #rest);
apply lemma CElementsFacts(#EC, 2, ((256 * #b0) + #b1), 2, #ECKs, l-len #rest);
assert (
  scope(pairsCount: #pairsCount) * (#pairsCount == l-len #ECKs) *
  scope(elements: #elements) * ArrayOfArraysOfUInt8Arrays(#elements, #ECKs) *
  scope(encryptionContext: #dECObj) * JSObjWithProto(#dECObj, null) * empty_fields(#dECObj : -{ }-) *
  toUtf8PairMap(#ECKs, #utf8ECKs) * FirstProj(#ECKs, #rProps) * UniqueOrDuplicated(#definition, #rProps, {{ }}, #rProps)
) [bind: #pairsCount, #elements, #dECObj, #utf8ECKs, #rProps]

@invariant
scope(pairsCount: #pairsCount) * scope(elements: #elements) * scope(encryptionContext: #dECObj) *
ArrayPrototype ($larr_proto) * ObjectPrototype($lobj_proto) * GlobalObject () *
scope(needs : #needs) * JSFunctionObject(#needs, "needs", #n_sc, #n_len, #n_proto) *
scope(toUtf8: #toUtf8) * JSFunctionObject(#toUtf8, "toUtf8", #t_sc, #t_len, #t_proto) *
toUtf8PairMap(#ECKs, #utf8ECKs) * FirstProj(#ECKs, #rProps) * types(#rProps : List) *
UniqueOrDuplicated(#definition, #rProps, {{ }}, #rProps) *

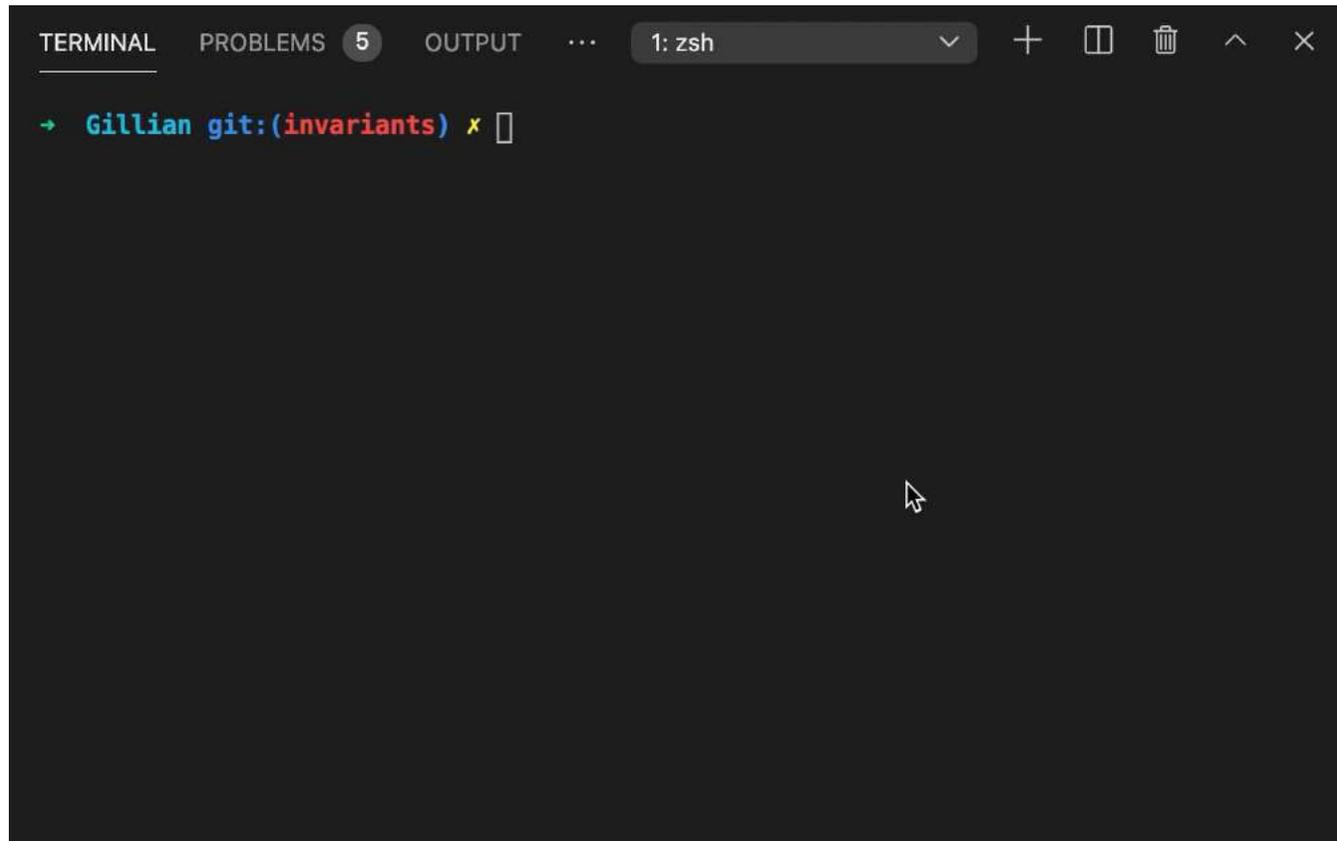
scope(count: #count) * (#count <=# #pairsCount) *
ArrayOfArraysOfUInt8ArraysContents(#elements, #done, 0, #count) *
ArrayOfArraysOfUInt8ArraysContents(#elements, #left, #count, #pairsCount - #count) *
(#ECKs == l+ (#done, #left)) *
FirstProj(#done, #doneRProps) * types(#doneRProps : List) * Unique(#doneRProps) *
FirstProj(#left, #leftRProps) * types(#leftRProps : List) * UniqueOrDuplicated(#definition, #leftRProps, #doneRProps, #leftRProps) *
toUtf8PairMap(#done, #utf8Done) * types(#utf8Done : List) *
JSObjWithProto(#dECObj, null) * ObjectTable(#dECObj, #utf8Done)
[bind: #count, #done, #left, #doneRProps, #leftRProps, #utf8Done] */
for (var count = 0; count < pairsCount; count++) {
```

# Verification: decodeEncryptionContext

Re-establish loop invariant: 9 tactics

```
/*
  @tactic
  apply lemma ArrayOfArraysOfUInt8ArraysContentsAppend(#elements, #done, 0, #count);
  apply lemma IntegerLtPlusOneLe(#count, #pairsCount);
  apply lemma ObjectTableStructureAppendPVPair(#dECObj, #utf8Done, #utf8NProp, #utf8NVal);
  apply lemma toUtf8PairMapAppendPair(#done, #utf8Done, #new_prop, #new_value);
  apply lemma FirstProjAppendPair(#done, #doneRProps, #new_prop, #new_value);
  apply lemma FirstProjAppendPair(#utf8Done, #doneProps, #utf8NProp, #utf8NVal);
  apply lemma ListToSetAddElement(#doneProps, #donePropsSet, #utf8NProp);
  apply lemma UniqueAppendElement(#doneRProps, #new_prop);
  if (#definition = "Complete") then {
    | unfold Unique(#leftRProps)
  }
*/
```

# Actual JS Verification



A terminal window with a dark background. The title bar at the top shows 'TERMINAL', 'PROBLEMS 5', 'OUTPUT', and '1: zsh'. The main area contains a prompt: `→ Gillian git:(invariants) x []`. A mouse cursor is visible in the lower right quadrant of the terminal area.

# Summary of Discovered Issues

## JavaScript: Encryption Context

- if a key coincides with a property of Object.prototype, an exception is thrown erroneously\*
- deserialised key-value map returned non-frozen in one scenario, allowing potential manipulation (adding/removing keys) by third parties after authentication

## C: The aws-c-common Library

- over-allocation of strings: each allocated string contains eight additional, unused bytes
- undefined behaviour (adding null with 0) in the function that advances the byte cursor

\* Bug predicted in the original JaVerT paper (POPL'18); found here, in cash, and in jQuery.

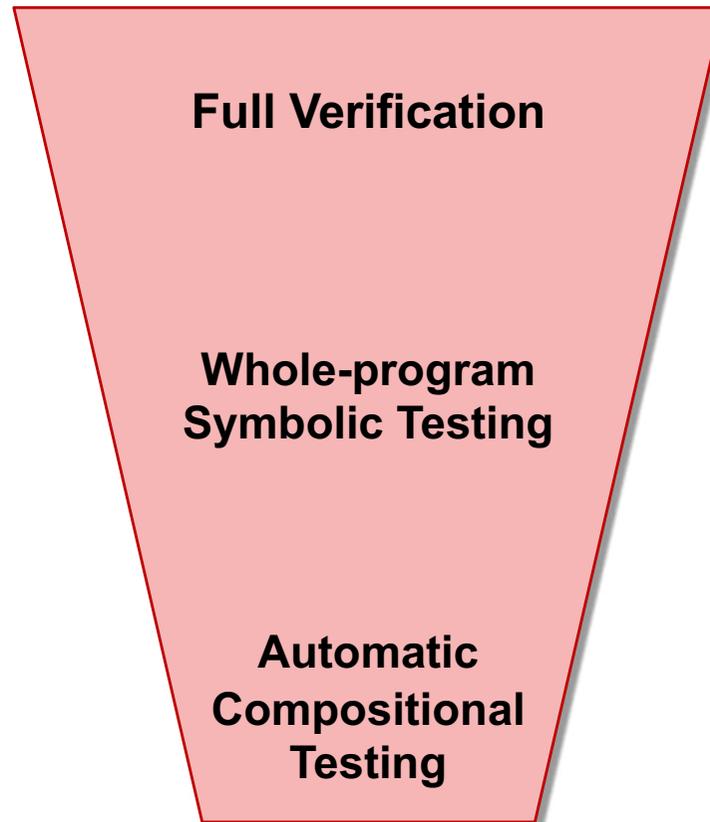
# Gillian: Unified, Compositional Symbolic Analysis

## Improving Instantiations

**Gillian-While, Gillian-C,  
Gillian-JS**

## Improving Gillian

**Better bi-abduction  
Better first-order solver  
Better error reporting  
Continuous integration  
Coq certification**



## More languages

**Rust (Sacha)  
WebAssembly  
Various DSLs**

## More Analyses

**Inter-operability  
Concurrency  
Incorrectness logic**

**THANK YOU!**

**QUESTIONS?**