

Cambium seminar

Coq Coq Correct!

Verification of Type Checking and Erasure for Coq, in Coq



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joint work with

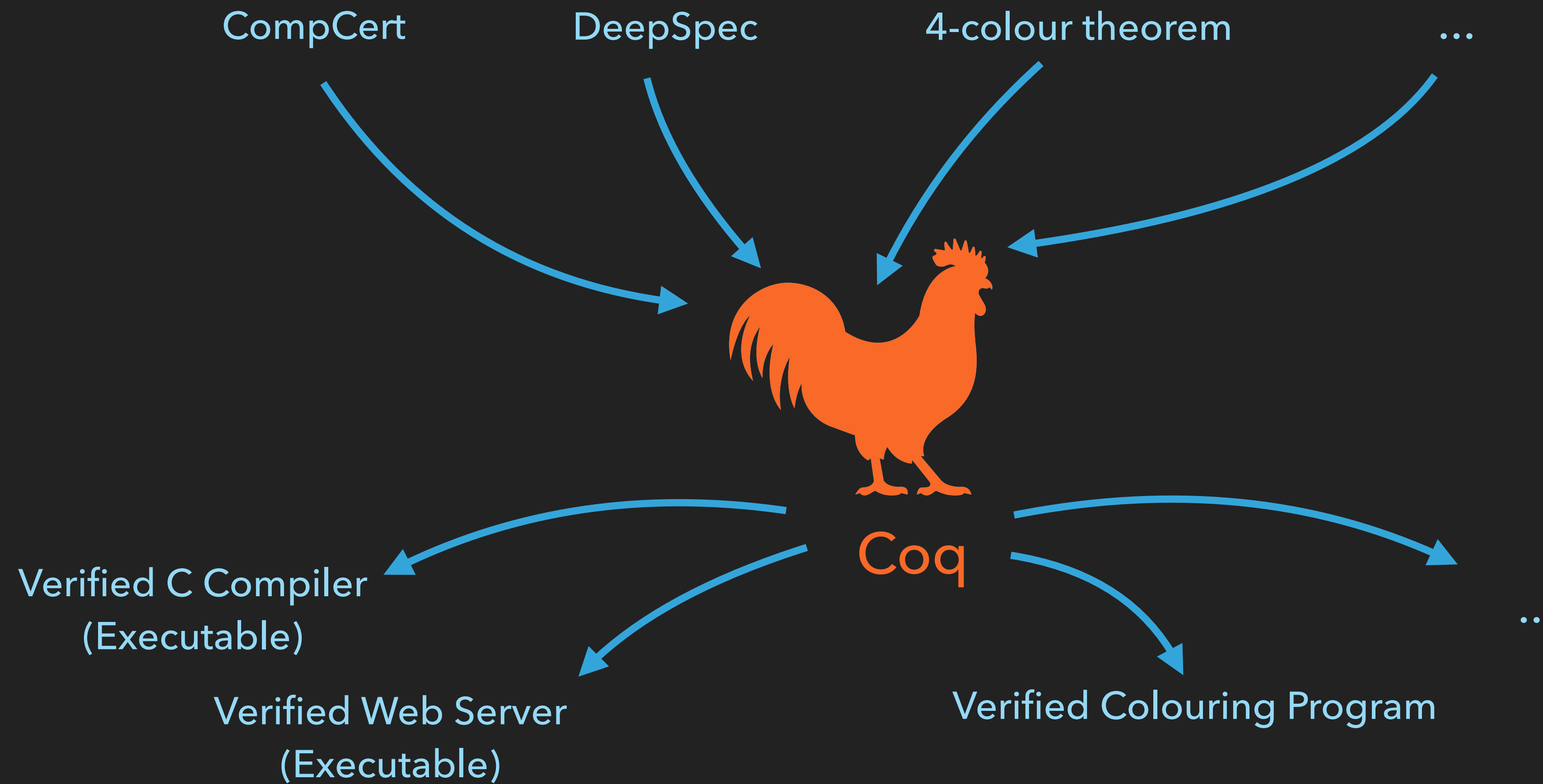
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Nicolas **Tabareau**

Motivation

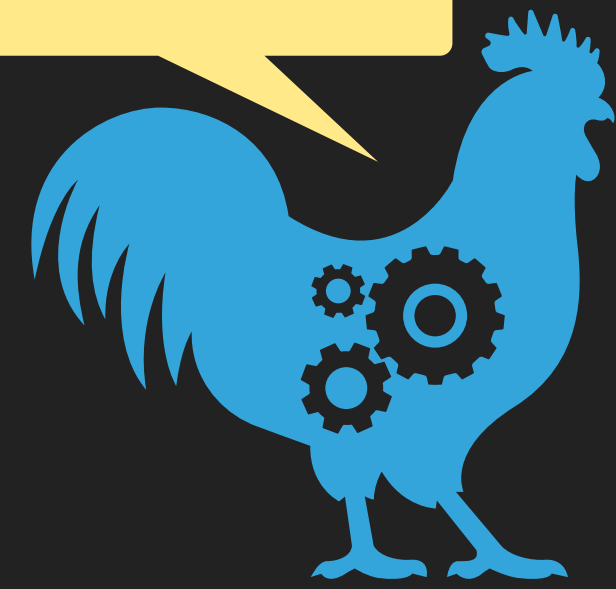


What do you trust?



Ideal Coq

Trusted Core



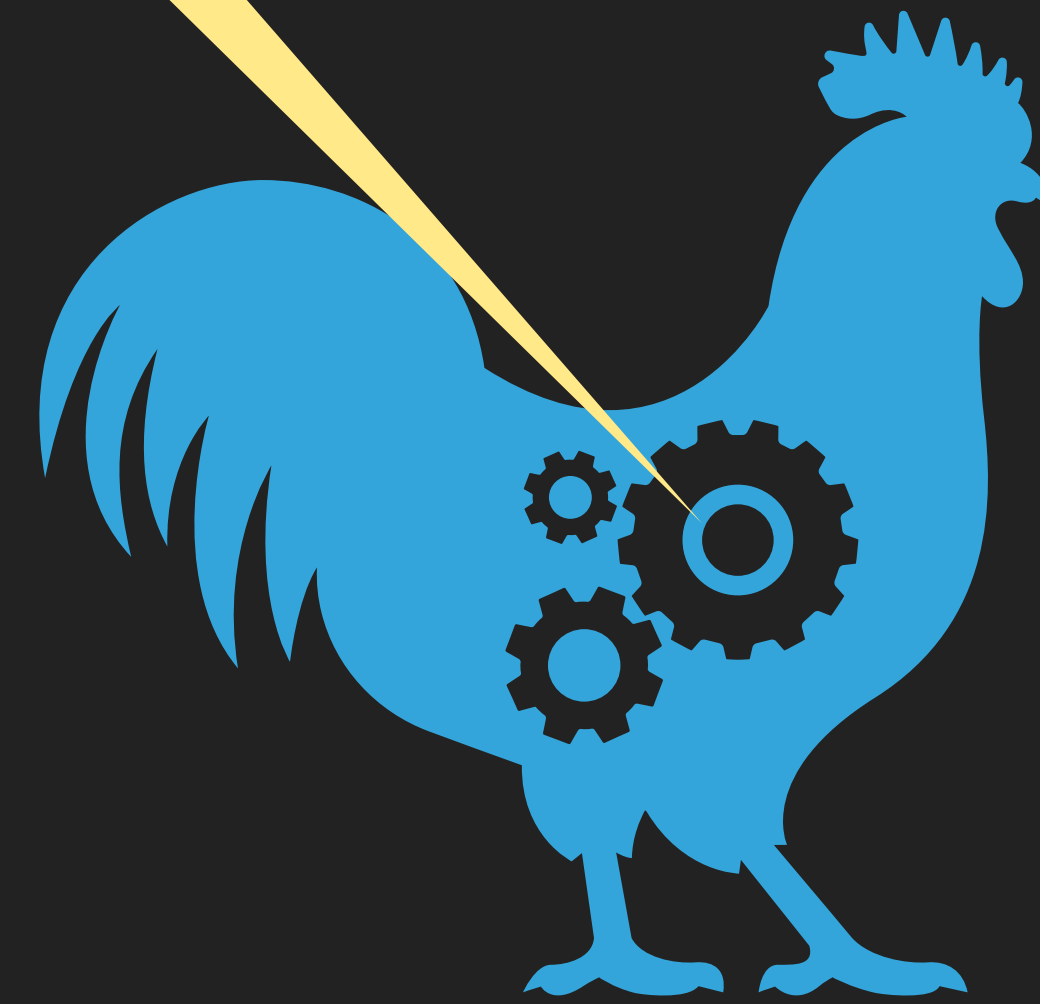
Implemented Coq

What do you trust?

Dependent Type Checker (18kLoC, 30+ years)

- Inductive Families w/ Guard Checking
- Universe Cumulativity and Polymorphism
- ML-style Module System
- KAM, VM and Native Conversion Checkers
- OCaml's Compiler and Runtime

Trusted Core



Implemented Coq

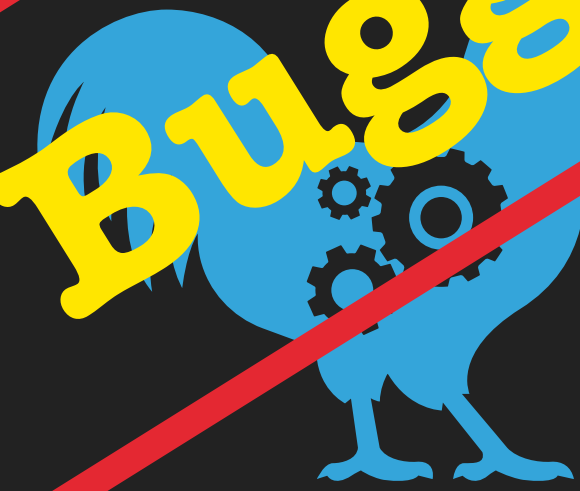
The Reality

Unspecified



Ideal Coq

Buggy



Implemented Coq

The Reality



Unspecified

Ideal Coq

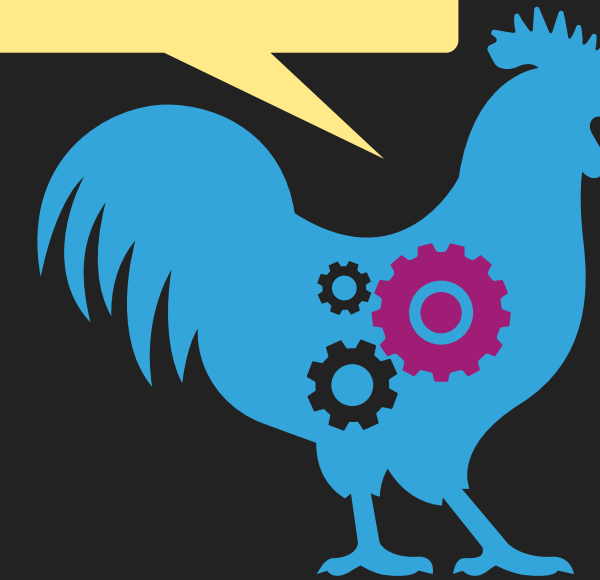
- Reference Manual roughly specifies on paper the basic core metatheory. The rest is (at best) in various papers and PhD theses, e.g. module system, treatment of eta-conversion, guard condition, SProp....
- Discrepancies with the actual implementation
- Combination of features not worked-out in detail. E.g. cumulative inductive types + let-bindings in parameters of inductives???

The Reality

354 lines (314 sloc) | 16.7 KB

```
1 Preliminary compilation of critical bugs in stable releases of Coq
2 =====
3 WORK IN PROGRESS WITH SEVERAL OPEN QUESTIONS
4
5
6 To add: #7723 (vm_compute universe polymorphism), #7695 (modules and
7 introduced: ?)
8 Typing constructions
9
10 component: "match"
11 summary: substitution missing in the body of a let
12 introduced: ?
13 impacted released versions: V8.3-V8.3pl2, V8.4-V8.4pl4
14 impacted development branches: none
15 impacted coqchk versions: ?
16 fixed in: master/trunk/v8.5 (e583a79b5, 22 Nov 2015, Herbelin), v
17 found by: Herbelin
```

Trusted Core



~ 1 critical bug every year

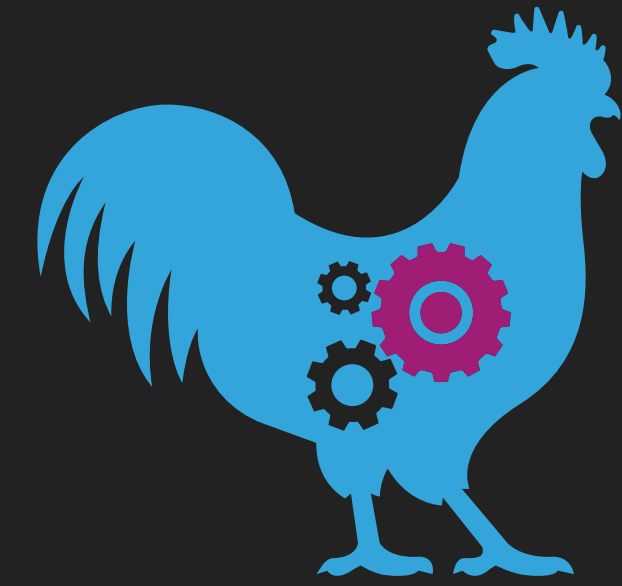
Implemented Coq

Our Goal: Improving Trust

Trusted Theory



Ideal Coq

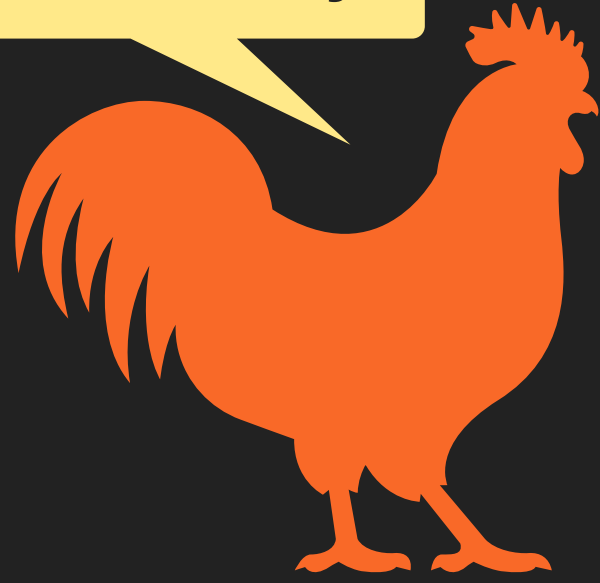


~ 1 critical bug every year

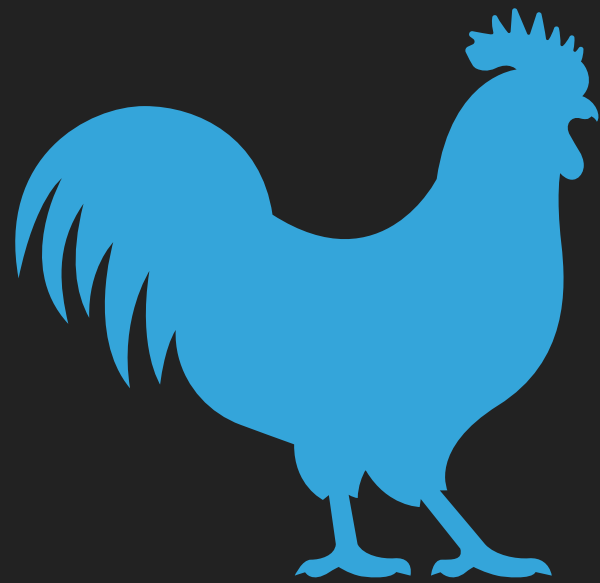
Implemented Coq

Coq in MetaCoq

Trusted Theory



Part I: Coq's Calculus PCUIC



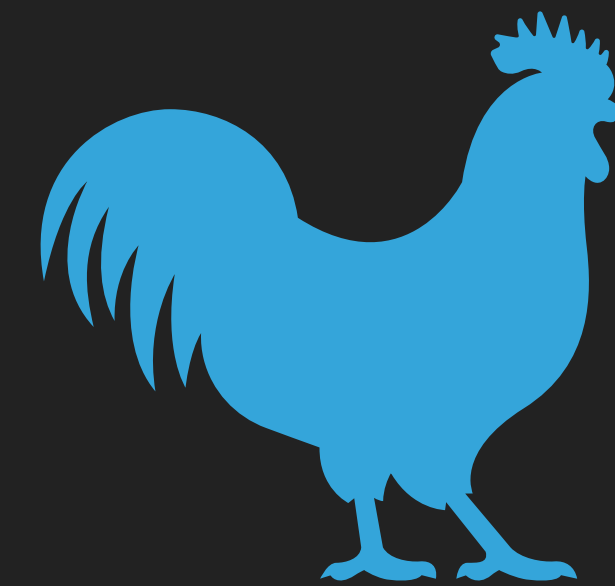
Part II: Verified Coq

in



MetaCoq
Formalization of
Coq in Coq
JAR'20

in



Implemented Coq

What we have...

```
fix vrev {A : Type@{i}} {n m : nat} (v : vec@{i} A n) (acc : vec@{i} A m) :=
  match v in vec _ n return vec@{i} A (n + m) with
  | vnil           => acc
  | vcons a n v' =>
    let idx := S n + m in
    coerce (vec A) idx (e : n + S m = idx) (vrev v' (vcons a m acc))
end.
```

```
vrev_term : term :=
tFix [{}
  dname := nNamed "vrev" ;
  dtype := tProd (nNamed « A") (tSort (Universe.make' (Level.Level "Top.160", false) []))
    (tProd (nNamed "n") (tInd {} inductive_mind := "Coq.Init.Datatypes.nat";
      inductive_ind := 0 |} []))
    (tProd (nNamed "m") (tInd {} ...
```

What we have...

```
fix vrev {A : Type@{i}} {n m : nat} (v : vec@{i} A n) (acc : vec@{i} A m) :=
  match v in vec _ n return vec@{i} A (n + m) with
  | vnil           => acc
  | vcons a n v' =>
    let idx := S n + m in
    coerce (vec A) idx (e : n + S m = idx) (vrev v' (vcons a m acc))
end.
```

...and what we don't

~~(fun x => f x) = f (x ∉ f)~~

η-conversion (WIP)

~~list nat : Set
list Type@{i} : Type@{i}~~

« template » polymorphism

~~Module M <: S. Definition t := nat. End M.~~

module system

No existential or named variables (yet)

Specification

Example: Reduction

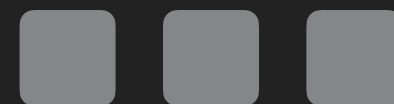
DEFINITIONS IN
CONTEXTS

$$(x : T := t) \in \Gamma$$
$$\Gamma \vdash x \rightarrow t$$

GENERAL
SUBSTITUTION

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x : T := t \text{ in } b \rightarrow b'[x := t]$$

STRONG REDUCTION

$$\Gamma, x : T := t \vdash b \rightarrow b'$$
$$\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x : T := t \text{ in } b \rightarrow \text{let } x : T := t \text{ in } b'$$


Specification

Example: Call-by-Value Evaluation

WEAK REDUCTION

$$t \rightarrow_{cbv} v \quad b[x := v] \rightarrow_{cbv} v'$$

CLOSED VALUE
SUBSTITUTION

$$\text{let } x : T := t \text{ in } b \rightarrow_{cbv} v'$$
$$_ \rightarrow_{cbv} _ \quad \sqsubseteq \quad \varepsilon \vdash _ \rightarrow _$$

Meta-Theory

Structures

```
term, t, u ::=  
  | Rel (n : nat) | Sort (u : universe) | ...
```

```
global_env, Σ ::= []  
  | Σ , (kername × InductiveDecl idecl)           (global environment)  
  | Σ , (kername × ConstantDecl cdecl)
```

```
global_env_ext ::= (global_env × universes_decl) (global environment  
                                                    with universes)
```

```
Γ ::= [] (local environment)  
  | Γ , aname : term  
  | Γ , aname := t : u
```

Meta-Theory

Judgments

$\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t \rightarrow u, t \rightarrow^* u$

One-step reduction and its reflexive transitive closure

$\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t =_{\alpha} u, t \leq_{\alpha} u$

α -equivalence + equality or cumulativity of universes

$\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash T = U, T \leq U$

Conversion and cumulativity

$\Leftrightarrow T \rightarrow^* T' \wedge U \rightarrow^* U' \wedge T' \leq_{\alpha} U'$

$\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t : T$

Typing

$wf \ \Sigma, wf_local \ \Sigma \ \Gamma$

Well-formed global and local environments

Basic Meta-Theory

Structural Properties

- Traditional de Bruijn lifting and substitution operations in the spec
- Show that σ -calculus operations simulate them (à la Autosubst) :
 - $\text{ren} : (\text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}) \rightarrow \text{term} \rightarrow \text{term}$
 - $\text{inst} : (\text{nat} \rightarrow \text{term}) \rightarrow \text{term} \rightarrow \text{term}$
- **Weakening and Substitution** from renaming and instantiation theorems
- Easier to lift to strengthening/exchange lemmas in the future (strengthening is not immediate here)

Universes

```
universe ::= Prop | SProp  
          | Type (ne_sorted_list (universe_level * nat)).
```

Typing $\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash \text{tSort } u : \text{tSort } (\text{Universe.super } u)$

No distinction of *algebraic* universes (more general than current Coq)

```
universe_constraint ::=  
  universe_level *  $\mathbb{Z}$  * universe_level.      (u + x ≤ v)
```

Specification Global set of consistent constraints, satisfy a valuation in \mathbb{N} .

- ▶ `lSet` always has level 0, smaller than any other universe.
- ▶ Impredicative sorts are separate from the predicative hierarchy.

Universes

Basic Meta-Theory

Global environment weakening

Monotonicity of typing under context extension: universe consistency is monotone.

Universe instantiation

Easy, de Bruijn level encoding of universe variables (no capture)

Implementation

Longest simple paths in the graph generated by the constraints ϕ , with source λ Set

$$\forall \lambda, \lambda \text{sp } \phi \quad \lambda \lambda = 0 \iff \text{satisfiable } \phi \quad (\lambda \lambda, \lambda \text{sp } \lambda \text{Set } \lambda)$$

Meta-Theory

The path to subject reduction

Validity	$\frac{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t : T}{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash T : \text{tSort } s}$	Requires transitivity of conversion/cumulativity
Context Conversion	$\frac{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t : T \quad \Sigma \vdash \Delta \leq \Gamma}{\Sigma ; \Delta \vdash t : T}$	More generally, context cumulativity
Subject Reduction	$\frac{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t : T \quad \Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t \rightarrow u}{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash u : T}$	Relies on injectivity of product types, a consequence of confluence

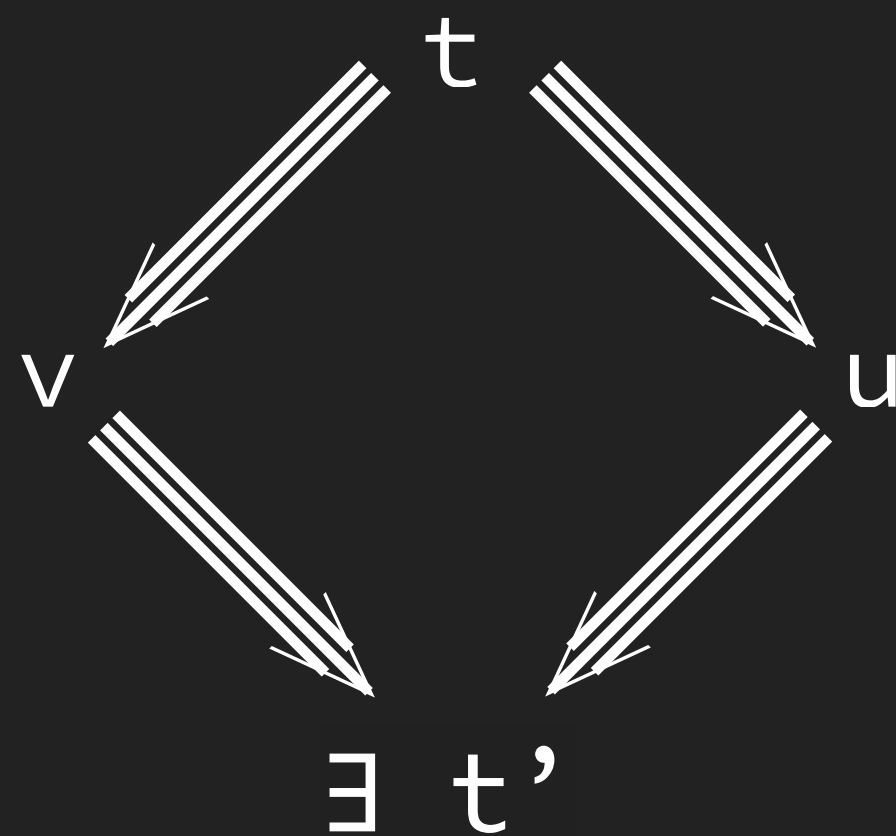
Confluence

The traditional way

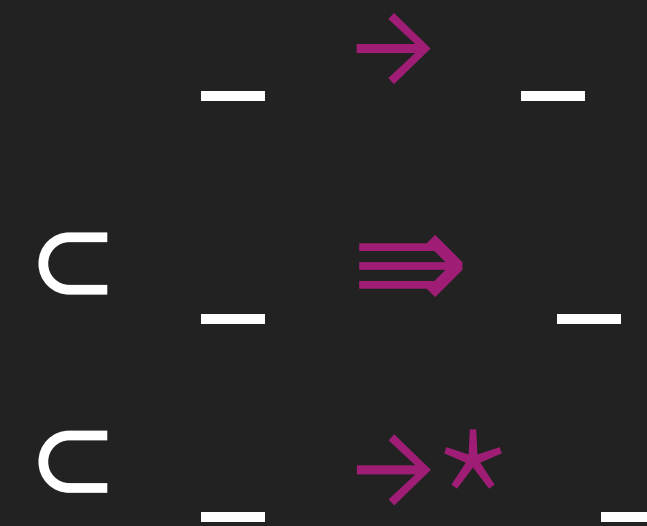
$\Sigma, \Gamma \vdash t \Rightarrow u$ One-step parallel reduction

À la Tait-Martin-Löf/Takahashi:

Diamond for \Rightarrow



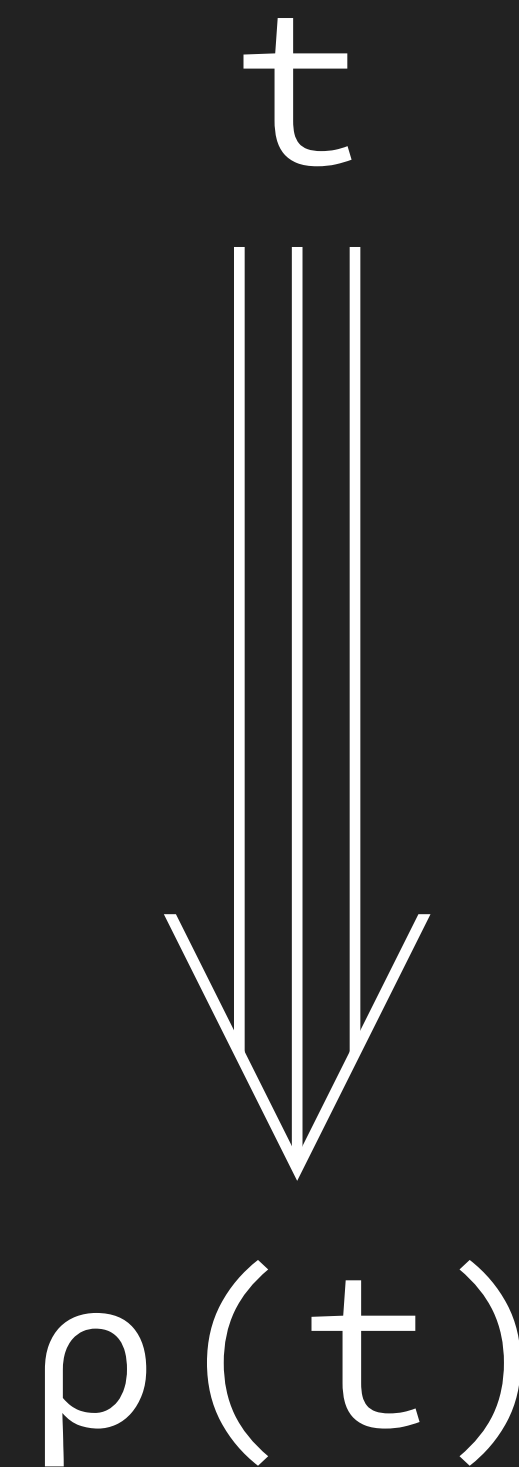
“Squash” lemma



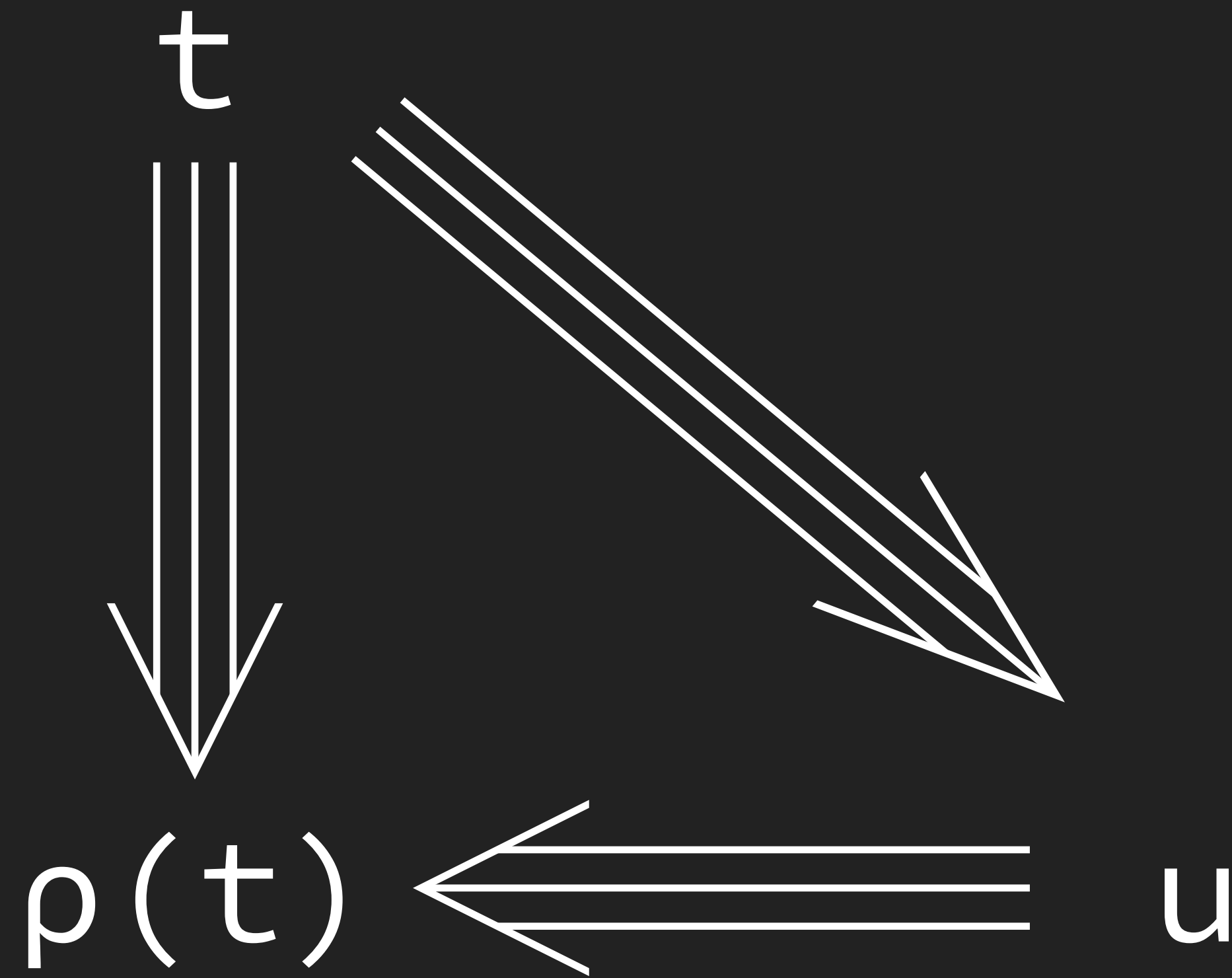
Takahashi's Trick

$\rho : \text{term} \rightarrow \text{term}$

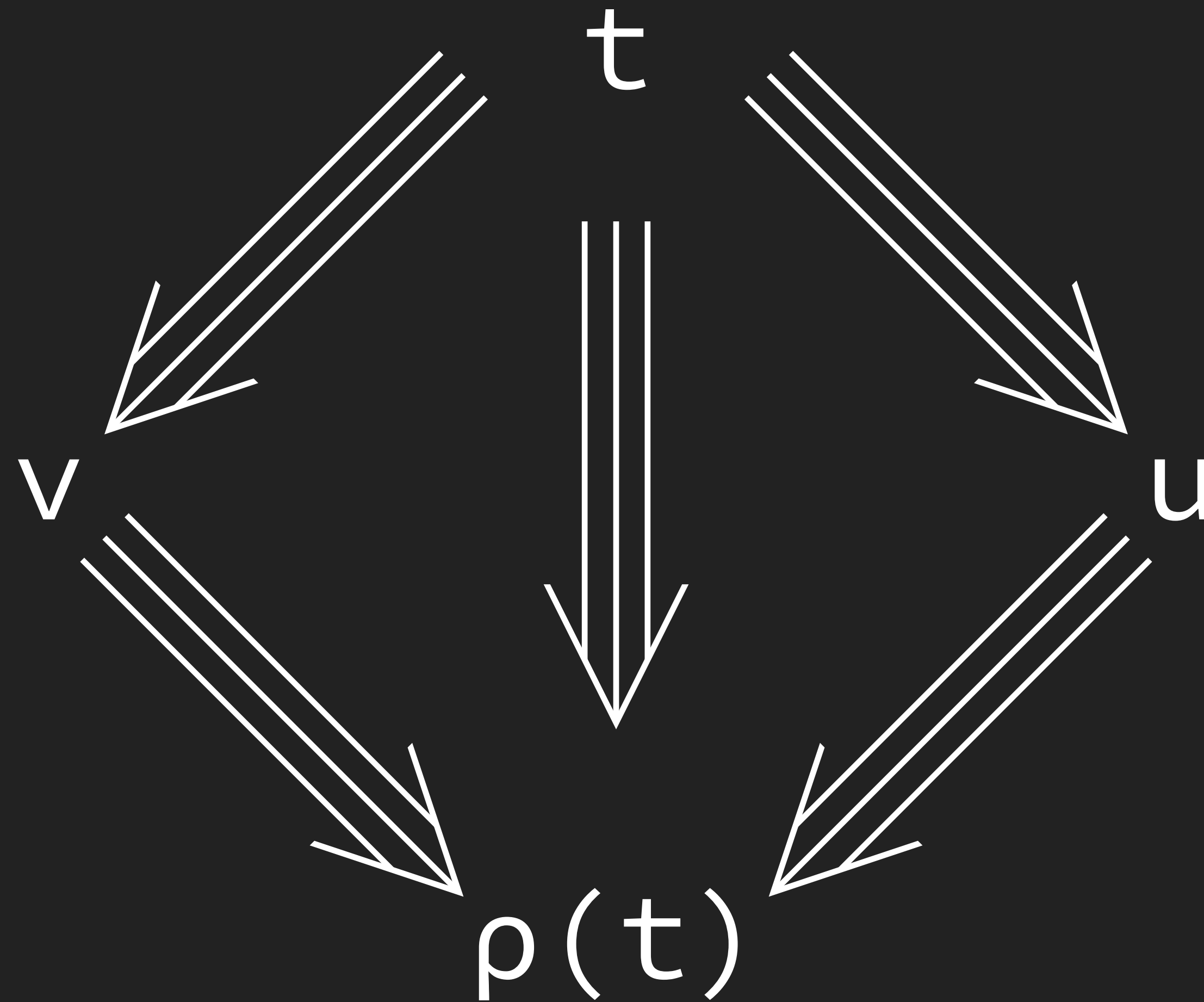
*An optimal one-step parallel
reduction function.*



The triangle property



The triangle property



Confluence

For a theory with definitions in contexts

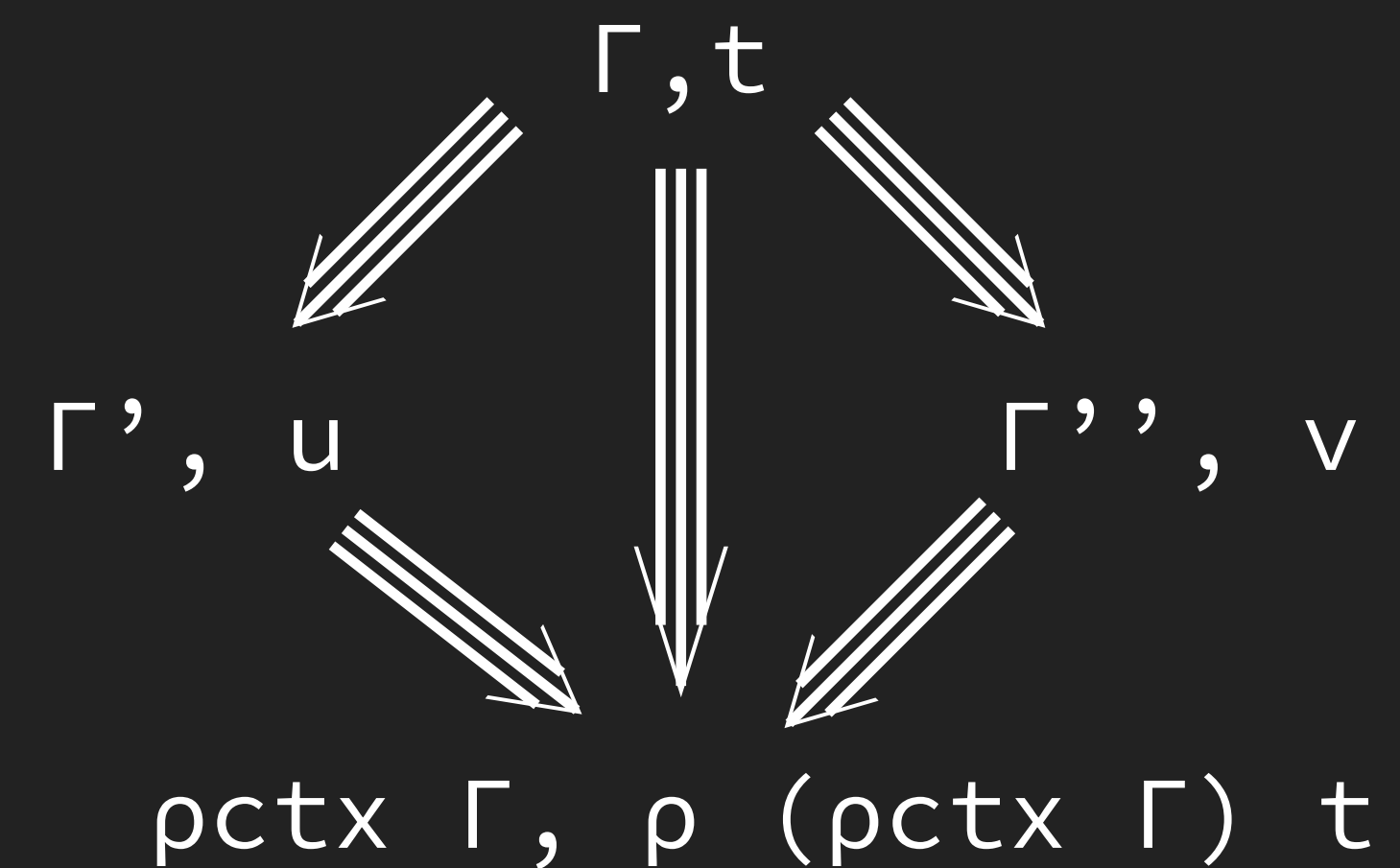
$$\Sigma \vdash \Gamma, t \Rightarrow \Delta, u$$

One-step parallel reduction,
including reduction in contexts.

$$\Sigma \vdash \Gamma, x := t \Rightarrow \Delta, x := t' \quad \Sigma \vdash (\Gamma, x := t), b \Rightarrow (\Delta, x := t'), b'$$

$$\Sigma \vdash \Gamma, (\text{let } x := t \text{ in } b) \Rightarrow \Delta, (\text{let } x := t' \text{ in } b')$$

$\rho : \text{context} \rightarrow \text{term} \rightarrow \text{term}$
 $\text{pctx} : \text{context} \rightarrow \text{context}$



Principality and changing equals for equals

Definition `principality` $\{\Sigma \Gamma t\} : (\text{welltyped } \Sigma \Gamma t : \text{Prop}) \rightarrow$
 $\Sigma (P : \text{term}), \Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t : P \times \text{principal_type } \Sigma \Gamma t P$

$$\frac{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t : T \quad \Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash u : U \quad \Sigma \vdash u \leq_{\alpha_noind} t}{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash u : T}$$

Informally: (well-typed) smaller terms have more types than larger ones.

Justifies the change tactic up-to-cumulativity (excluding inductive type cumulativity).

Cumulativity and Prop

$$\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash T \sim U$$

Conversion identifying all predicative universes (hence larger than cumulativity).

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash t : T \quad \Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash u : U \\ \Sigma \vdash u \leq_{\alpha} t \end{array}}{\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash T \sim U}$$

Informally: for two well-typed terms, if they are syntactically equal up-to cumulativity of inductive types, then they live in the same hierarchy (Prop, SProp or Type)

Required for erasure correctness

Trusted Theory Base

Assumptions

- ▶ The specifications of typing, reduction and cumulativity
~ 500 LoC from scratch (verified and testable)
- ▶ Guard Conditions. **Oracles:**
`check_fix : global_env → context → fixpoint → bool`
+ preservation by renaming/instantiation/equality/reduction
- ▶ Strong Normalization (not provable thanks to Gödel, but also not used in the preceding results). Consistency and canonicity follow easily.

Axiom normalisation :

$\forall \Gamma t, \text{welltyped } \Sigma \Gamma t \rightarrow \text{Acc } (\text{cored } (\text{fst } \Sigma) \Gamma) t.$

Verifying Type-Checking

Conversion

Objective

Input

$u : A$

$v : B$

Output

$(u \equiv v) + (u \neq v)$

Conversion

Objective

Input

$u : A$

$v : B$

Output

$(u \equiv v) + (u \not\equiv v)$

`isconv :`

$\forall \Sigma \Gamma (u \ v \ A \ B : \text{term}),$

$(\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash u : A) \quad ?$

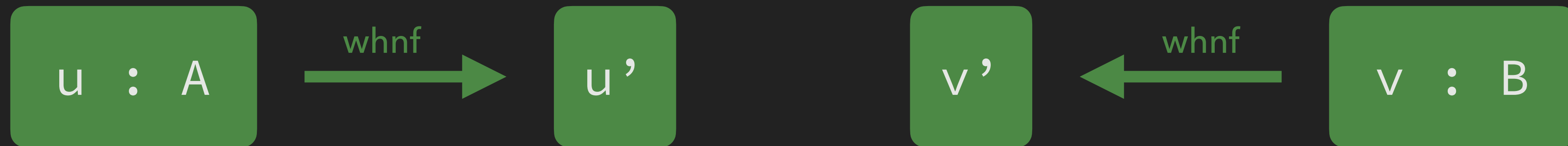
$(\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash v : B) \quad ?$

$(\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash u \equiv v) +$

$(\Sigma ; \Gamma \vdash u \equiv v \quad ? \perp)$

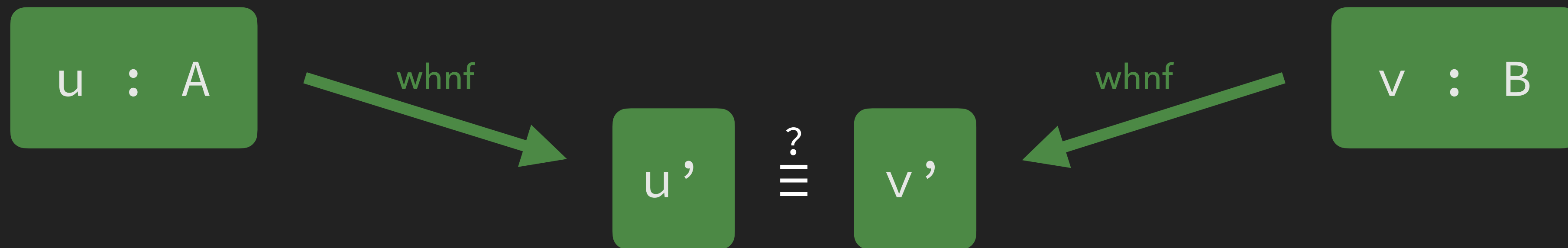
Conversion

Algorithm



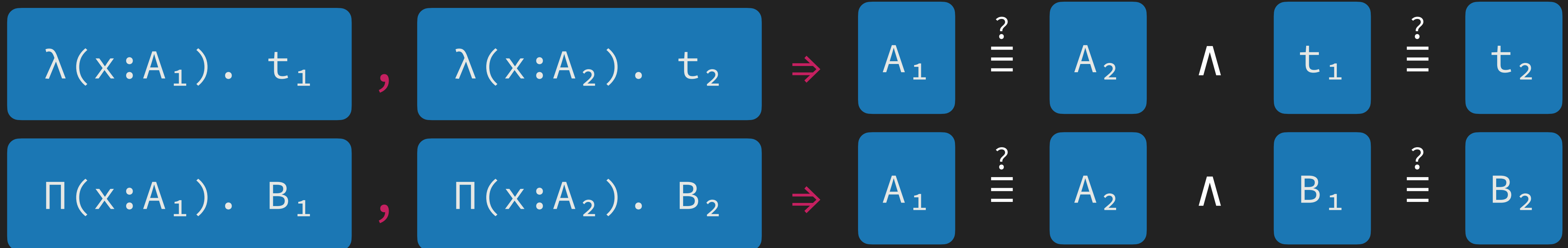
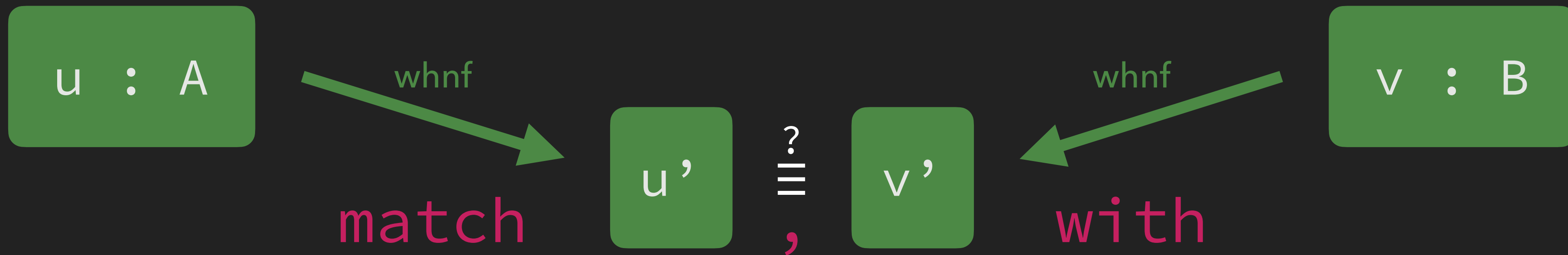
Conversion

Algorithm



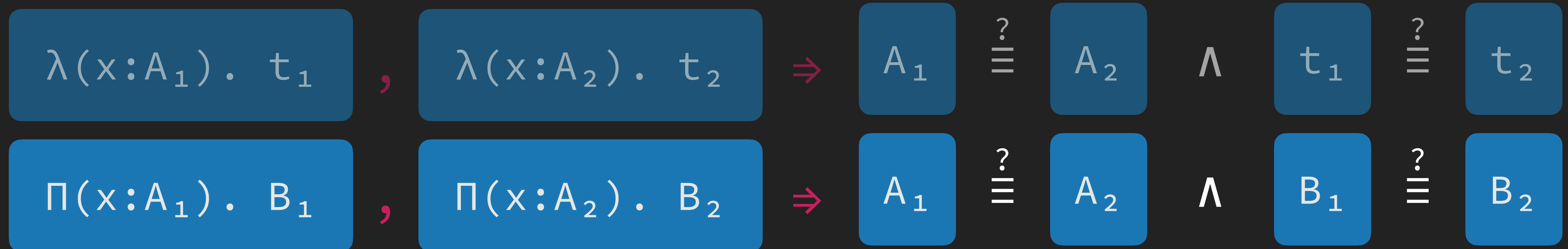
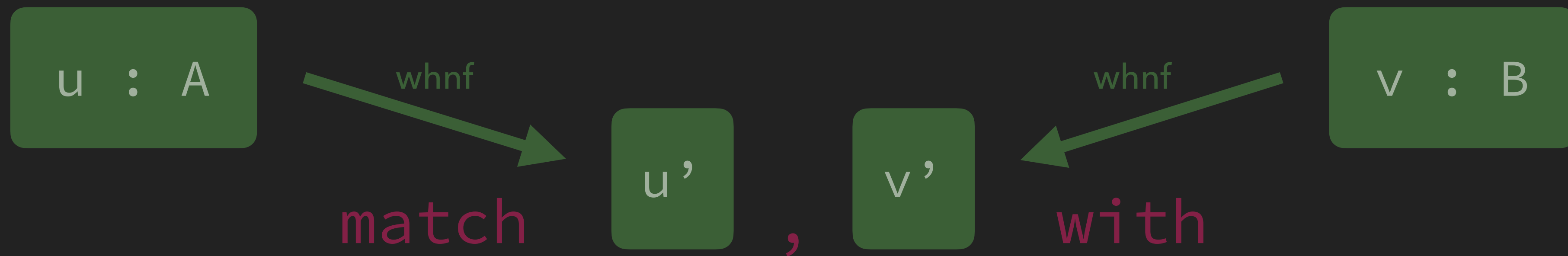
Conversion

Algorithm



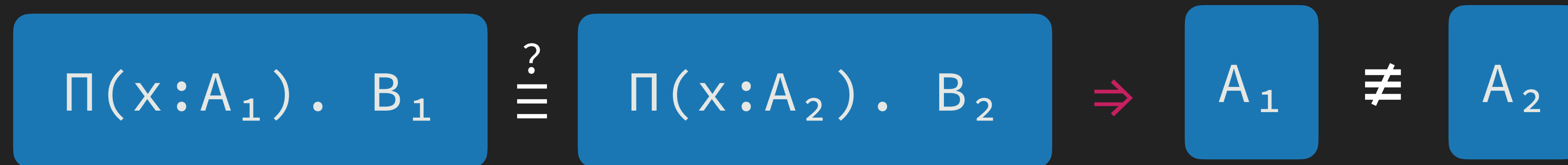
Conversion

Completeness



Conversion

Completeness



Conversion

Completeness

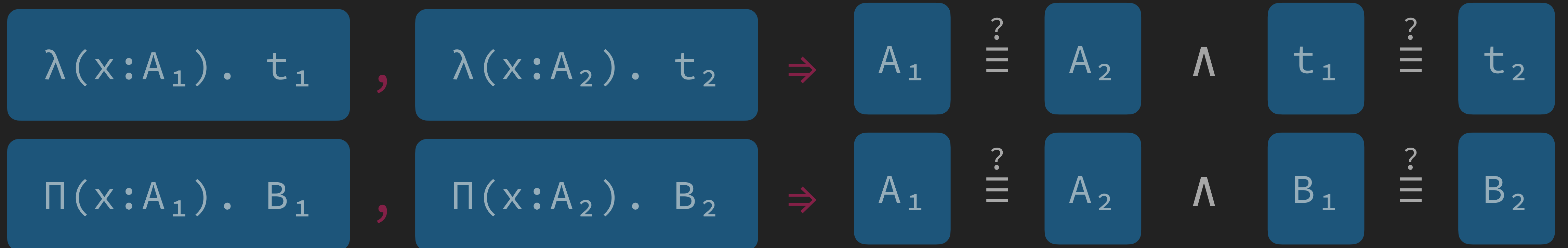
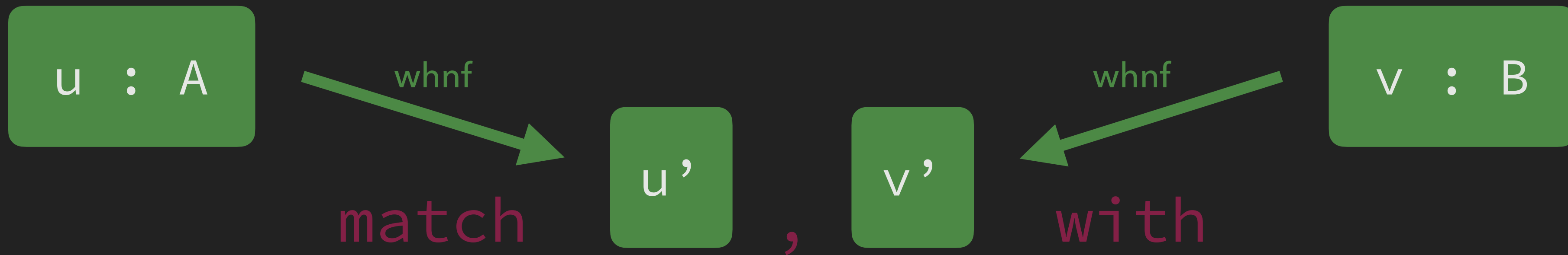
$$\Pi(x:A_1) \cdot B_1 \stackrel{?}{\equiv} \Pi(x:A_2) \cdot B_2 \Rightarrow A_1 \not\equiv A_2$$

we conclude

$$\Pi(x:A_1) \cdot B_1 \not\equiv \Pi(x:A_2) \cdot B_2$$

using inversion lemmata and confluence

Conversion



Weak head reduction

Objective

Input



term

Output



term

Weak head reduction

Objective

Input

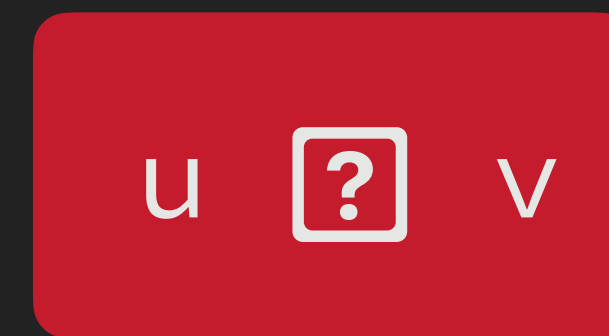


term

Output



term



Prop

Weak head reduction

Objective

Input



term

Output



term



Prop

```
weak_head_reduce :  $\forall$  (u : term),  $\Sigma$  (v : term), u  $\boxed{?}$  v
```

Weak head reduction

Example

Input

u

Output

v

u ?

```
Definition foo := λ(x:nat). x.
```

foo 0

Weak head reduction

Example

Input

u

Output

v

u ?

Definition `foo := λ(x:nat). x.`

foo 0

`foo` \longrightarrow `λ(x:nat).x`

Weak head reduction

Example

Input

u

Output

v

u ?

Definition `foo := λ(x:nat). x.`

`λ(x:nat). x` 0

`foo` \longrightarrow `λ(x:nat). x`

Weak head reduction

Example

Input

u

Output

v

u ?

```
Definition foo := λ(x:nat). x.
```

0

foo \longrightarrow $\lambda(x:\text{nat}). x$

Weak head reduction

Example

Input

u

Output

v

u ?

Definition `foo := λ(x:nat). x.`

0

`foo 0` \longrightarrow `(λ(x:nat).x) 0` \longrightarrow `0`

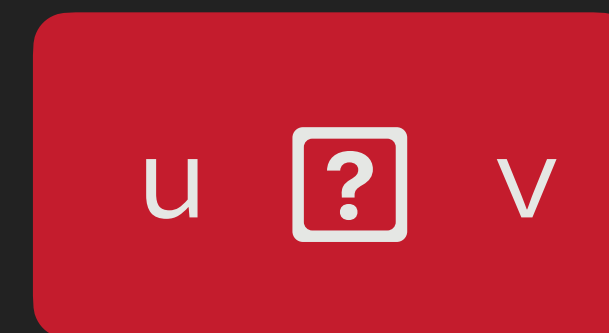
Weak head reduction

Termination

Input



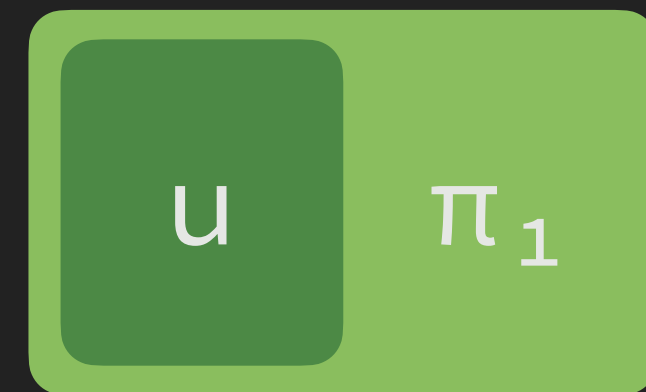
Output



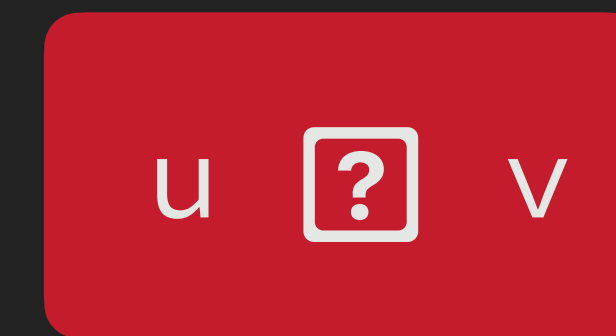
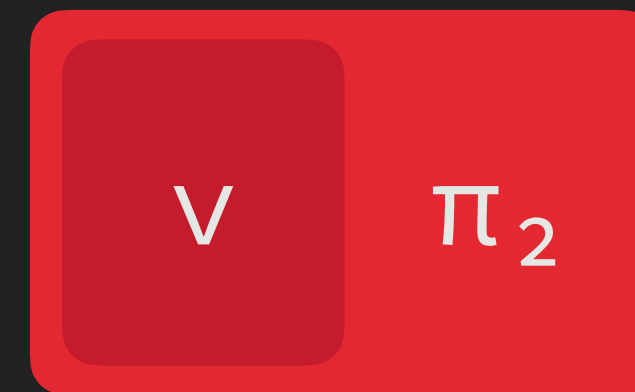
Weak head reduction

Termination

Input



Output



Weak head reduction

Termination



Weak head reduction

Termination

foo 0

foo 0

$\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x$ 0

0

Weak head reduction

Termination

foo 0

foo 0

$\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x$ 0

0

$(\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) 0 \longrightarrow 0$

Weak head reduction

Termination

$\text{foo } 0 \longrightarrow (\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) 0$



$(\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) 0 \longrightarrow 0$

Weak head reduction

Termination

$$\text{foo } \theta \longrightarrow (\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) \ \theta$$



$$\text{foo } \theta \sqsupset \text{foo}$$

$$(\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) \ \theta \longrightarrow \theta$$

Weak head reduction

Termination

$$\text{foo } \theta \longrightarrow (\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) \theta$$



$$\text{foo } \theta \sqsupset \text{foo}$$

$$(\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) \theta \longrightarrow \theta$$



Lexicographic order of `[?]` and `□`

Weak head reduction

Termination

$$\text{foo } \theta \longrightarrow (\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) \theta$$



$$\text{foo } \theta \sqsupset \text{foo}$$

$$(\lambda(x:\text{nat}).x) \theta \longrightarrow 0$$

$$\text{and } \text{foo } \theta = \text{foo } \theta$$



Lexicographic order of $\boxed{?}$ and \sqsupset

Weak head reduction

Termination

p. 1



Lexicographic order of \square and \sqsubset

Weak head reduction

Termination

p. 1



Lexicographic order of \square and \sqsubset

Weak head reduction

Termination

p.1

p.1

but $p.1 \neq p$



Lexicographic order of $\boxed{?}$ and \sqsubset

Weak head reduction

Termination



and $p.1 = p.1$



Lexicographic order of `[?]` and `□`

Weak head reduction

Termination

```
fix f (n:nat). t end n
```



Lexicographic order of \square and \sqsubset

Weak head reduction

Termination

```
fix f (n:nat). t end n
```



Lexicographic order of \square and \sqsubset

Weak head reduction

Termination

```
fix f (n:nat). t end n
```



Lexicographic order of \square and \sqsubset

Weak head reduction

Termination

```
fix f (n:nat). t end n
```



```
fix f (n:nat). t end n
```



~~Lexicographic order of `[?]` and `ε`~~

Weak head reduction

Termination



~~Lexicographic order of λ and ϵ~~

Weak head reduction

Termination



Lexicographic order of $\boxed{?}$ and an order on positions

Weak head reduction

Termination



Lexicographic order of λ and an order on positions

Weak head reduction

Termination



Lexicographic order of \square and an order on positions

Weak head reduction

Termination



$$\langle u \pi_1, \underbrace{\text{stack_pos } u \pi_1}_{\text{pos } (u \pi_1)} \rangle > \langle v \pi_2, \underbrace{\text{stack_pos } v \pi_2}_{\text{pos } (v \pi_2)} \rangle$$



Lexicographic order of $\boxed{?}$ and an order on positions

Weak head reduction

Termination



$$\langle u \pi_1, \underbrace{\text{stack_pos } u \pi_1}_{\text{pos } (u \pi_1)} \rangle > \langle v \pi_2, \underbrace{\text{stack_pos } v \pi_2}_{\text{pos } (v \pi_2)} \rangle$$



Dependent lexicographic order of \square and an order on positions

Type Checking

Weak head reduction



Conversion

Type Checking

Weak head reduction



Cumulativity



Inference

Type Checking

Weak head reduction



Cumulativity



Inference

Infer t

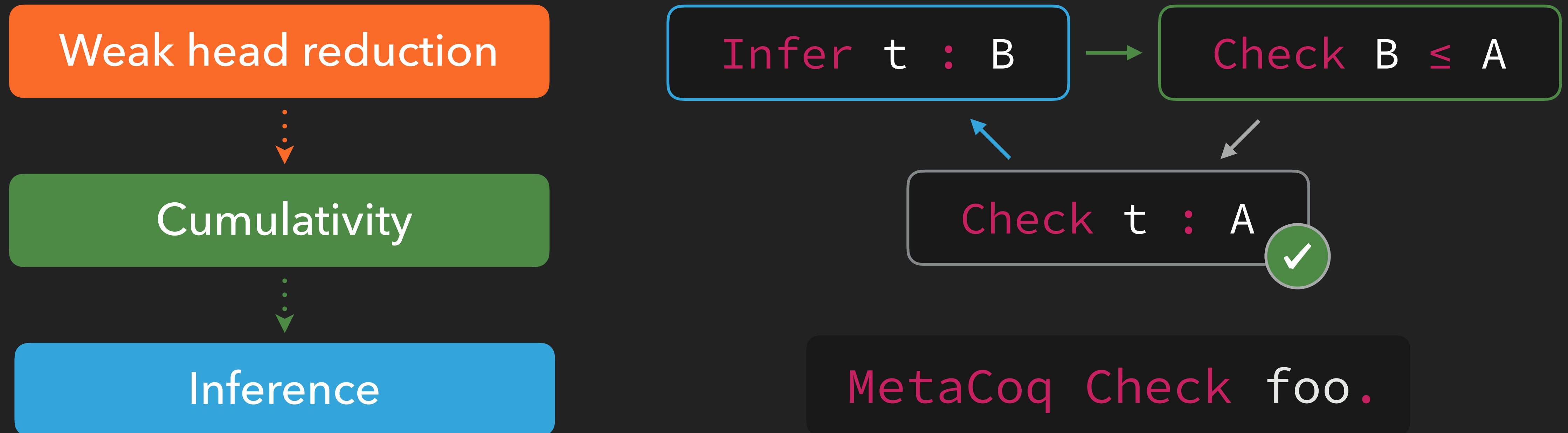


Check $B \leq A$

Check $t : A$



Type Checking



A little success story

Spec/Proof/Program co-design for the new `match` representation in Coq (PR #13563 by P.M. Pédrot, CEP #34 by H. Herbelin).

- ▶ MetaCoq => typechecking of case on cumulative inductive types is incomplete
- ▶ Failure of subject reduction in Coq.
- ▶ “Quick” fix requires strengthening which in turn is not provable without subject reduction, leading to a messy meta-theory. Also incompatible with eta-conversion.
- ▶ The new representation solves all these issues **and** reflects the high-level user syntax more faithfully. It's win/win/win!

Benefits of Bidirectional Type-Checking

- ▶ MetaCoq => typechecking of case on cumulative inductive types is incomplete
- ▶ Failure of subject reduction in Coq.
- ▶ “Quick” fix requires strengthening which in turn is not provable without subject reduction, leading to a messy meta-theory. Also incompatible with eta-conversion.
- ▶ The new representation solves all these issues **and** reflects the high-level user syntax more faithfully. It's win/win/win!

Verifying Erasure

Erasure

At the core of the **extraction** mechanism:

$\mathcal{E} : \text{term} \rightarrow \Lambda_{\square, \text{match}, \text{fix}, \text{cofix}}$

Erases non-computational content:

- Type erasure:

$$\mathcal{E} (t : \text{Type}) = \square$$

- Proof erasure:

$$\mathcal{E} (p : P : \text{Prop}) = \square$$

```
fix vrev {A : Type@{i}} {n m : nat} (v : vec A n)
(acc : vec A m) :=
  match v in vec _ n return vec A (n + m) with
  | vnil          => acc
  | vcons a n v' =>
    let idx := S n + m in
    coerce (vec A) idx (e : n + S m = idx)
      (vrev v' (vcons a m acc))
end.
```

$\mathcal{E} (\text{vrev}) =$

```
fix vrev n m v acc :=
  match v with
  | vnil          => acc
  | vcons a n v' =>
    let idx := S n + m in
    coerce  $\square$  idx  $\square$  (vrev v' (vcons a m acc))
end.
```

Erase

Singleton elimination principle

Erase propositional content used in computational content:

$$\varepsilon (\text{match } p \text{ in eq _ } y \text{ with eq_refl } \Rightarrow b \text{ end}) = \varepsilon (b)$$

```
Definition coerce {A} {B : A -> Type} {x} (y : A)
  (e : x = y) : P x -> P y :=
  match e with
  | eq_refl          => fun p => p
  end.

fix vrev n m v acc :=
  match v with
  | vnil            => acc
  | vcons a n v'   =>
    let idx := S n + m in
    coerce [] idx [] (vrev v' (vcons a m acc))
  end.
```

Erase

Singleton elimination principle

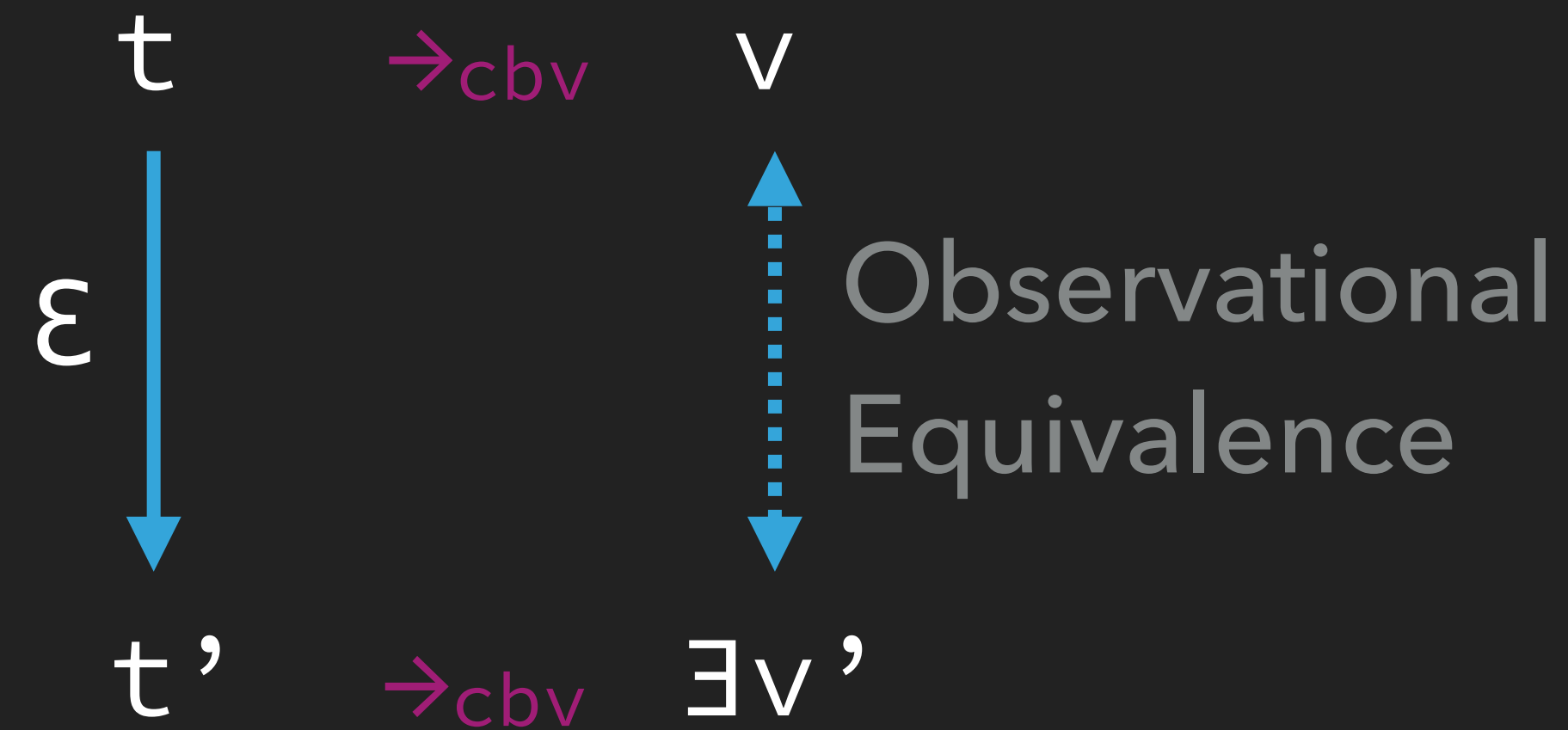
Erase propositional content used in computational content:

$$\varepsilon (\text{match } p \text{ in } \text{eq } _ \text{ y with } \text{eq_refl} \Rightarrow b \text{ end}) = \varepsilon (b)$$

$$\varepsilon (\text{coerce}) \sim \text{coerce } x \text{ y} := (\text{fun } p \Rightarrow p)$$

$$\varepsilon (\text{vrev}) \sim \text{fix vrev n m v acc} := \\ \text{match v with} \\ | \text{vnil} \quad \quad \quad \Rightarrow \text{acc} \\ | \text{vcons a n v'} \Rightarrow \text{vrev v'} (\text{vcons a m acc}) \\ \text{end.}$$

Erasure Correctness



With Canonicity and SN:

$$\begin{aligned} & \vdash t : \text{nat} \\ \Rightarrow & \vdash t \rightarrow n : \text{nat} \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}) \\ \Rightarrow & t \xrightarrow{\text{cbv}} n : \text{nat} \\ \Rightarrow & \varepsilon(t) \xrightarrow{\text{cbv}} n \end{aligned}$$

Erasure Correctness

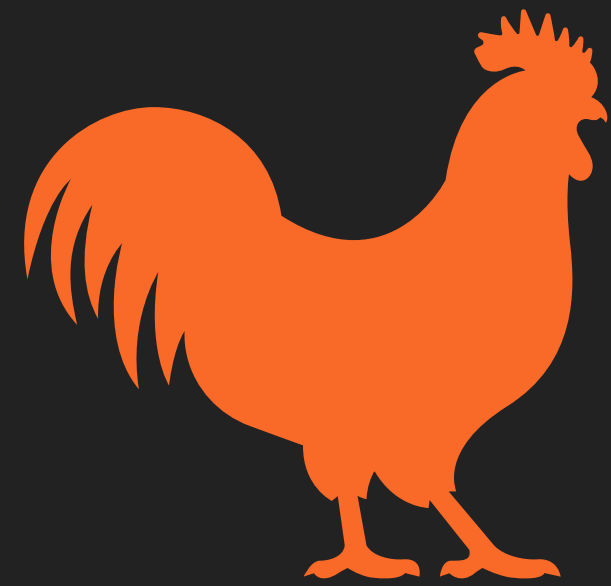
First define a non-deterministic erasure relation, then define:

$$\varepsilon : \forall \Sigma \Gamma t \text{ (wt : welltyped } \Sigma \Gamma t) \rightarrow \text{EAst.term}$$

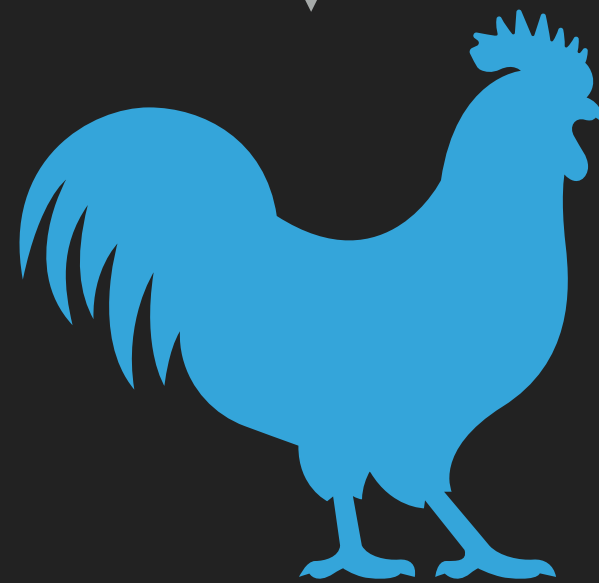
Finally show that ε 's graph is in the erasure relation. Two additional optimizations:

- ▶ Remove trivial cases on singleton inductive types in Prop
- ▶ Compute the dependencies of the erased term to erase only the computationally relevant subset of the global environment. I.e. remove unnecessary proofs the original term depended on.

Summary



Ideal Coq



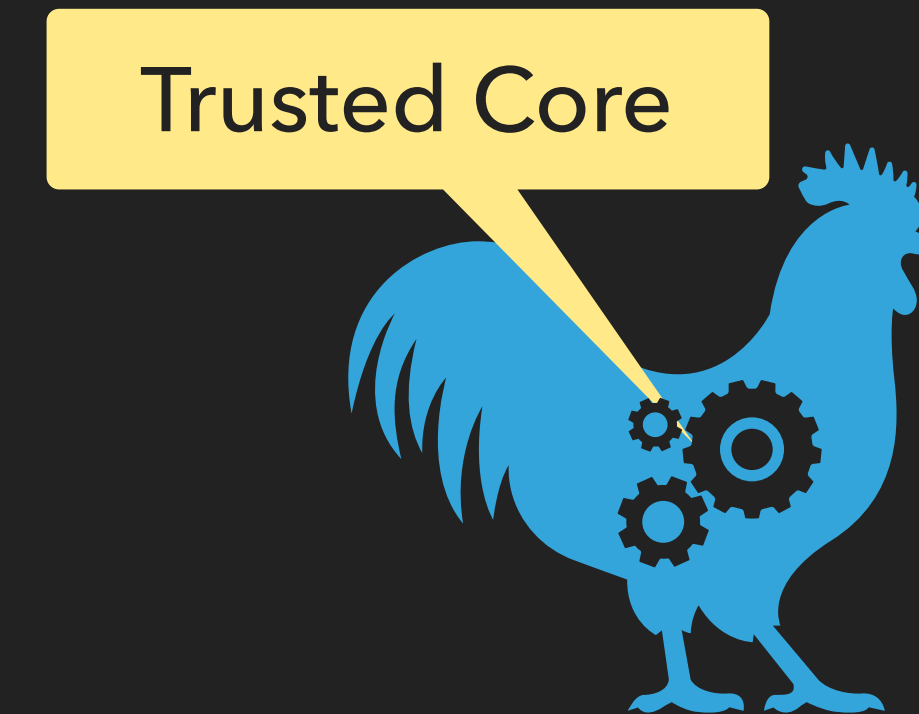
Verified Coq

in



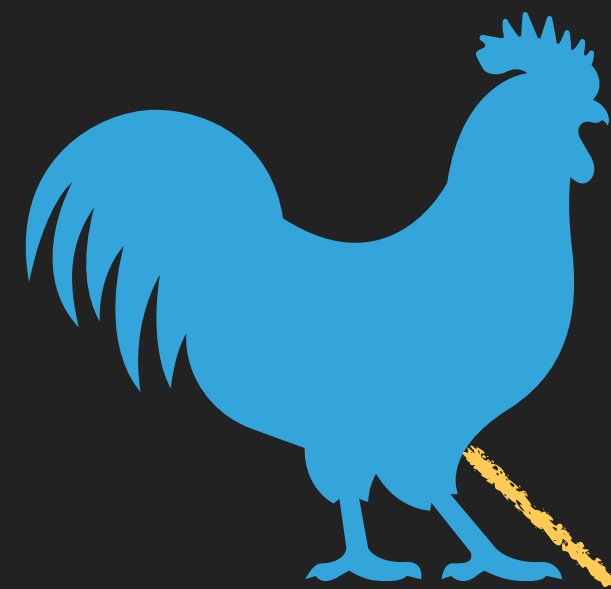
MetaCoq

in



Implemented Coq

Summary



Verified Coq

```
MetaCoq Check vrev.
```

Spec: 30kLoC
Proofs: 60kLoC
Comments: 10kLoC

in

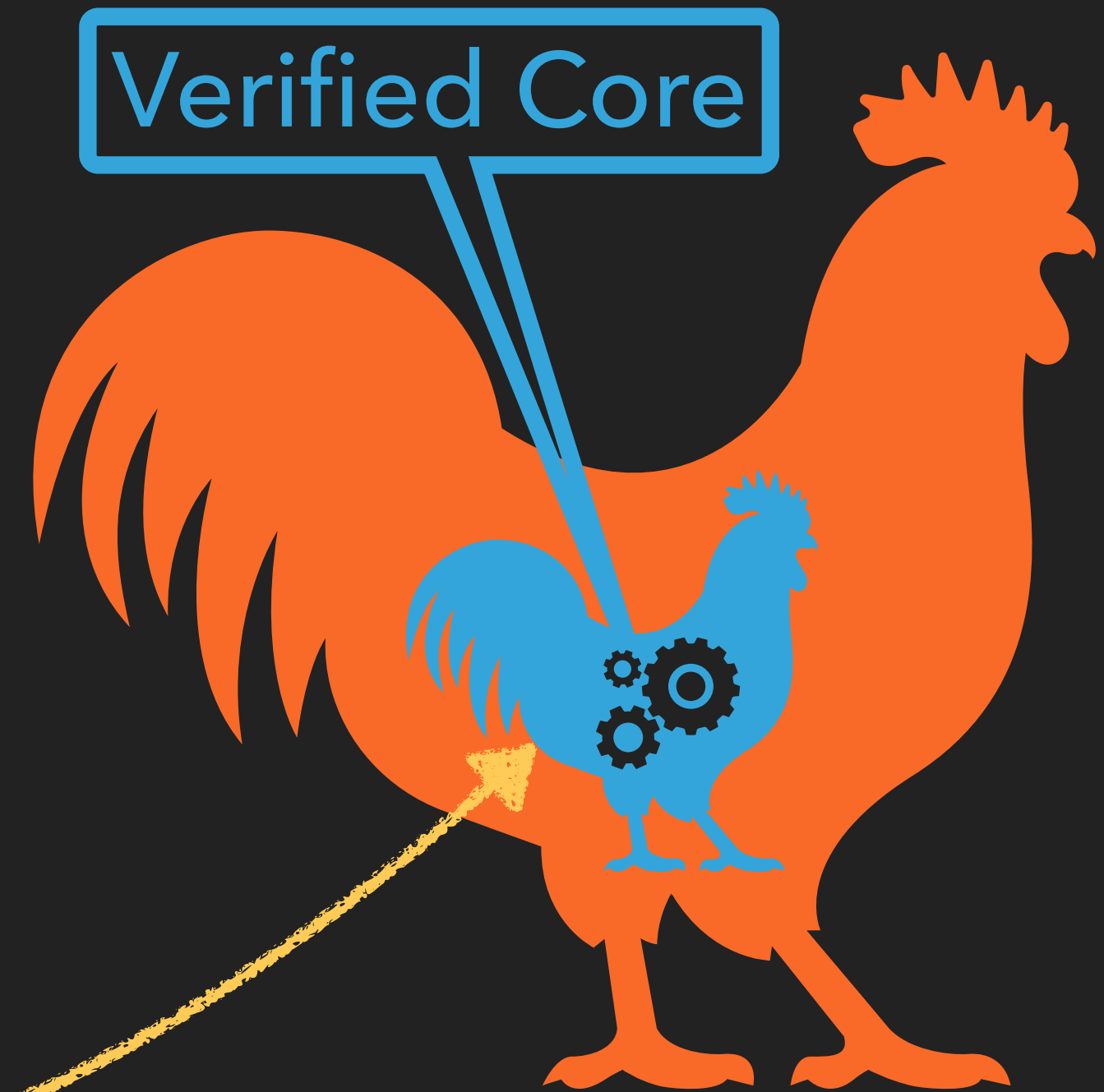


MetaCoq

Verified ϵ

```
MetaCoq Erase vrev.
```

in

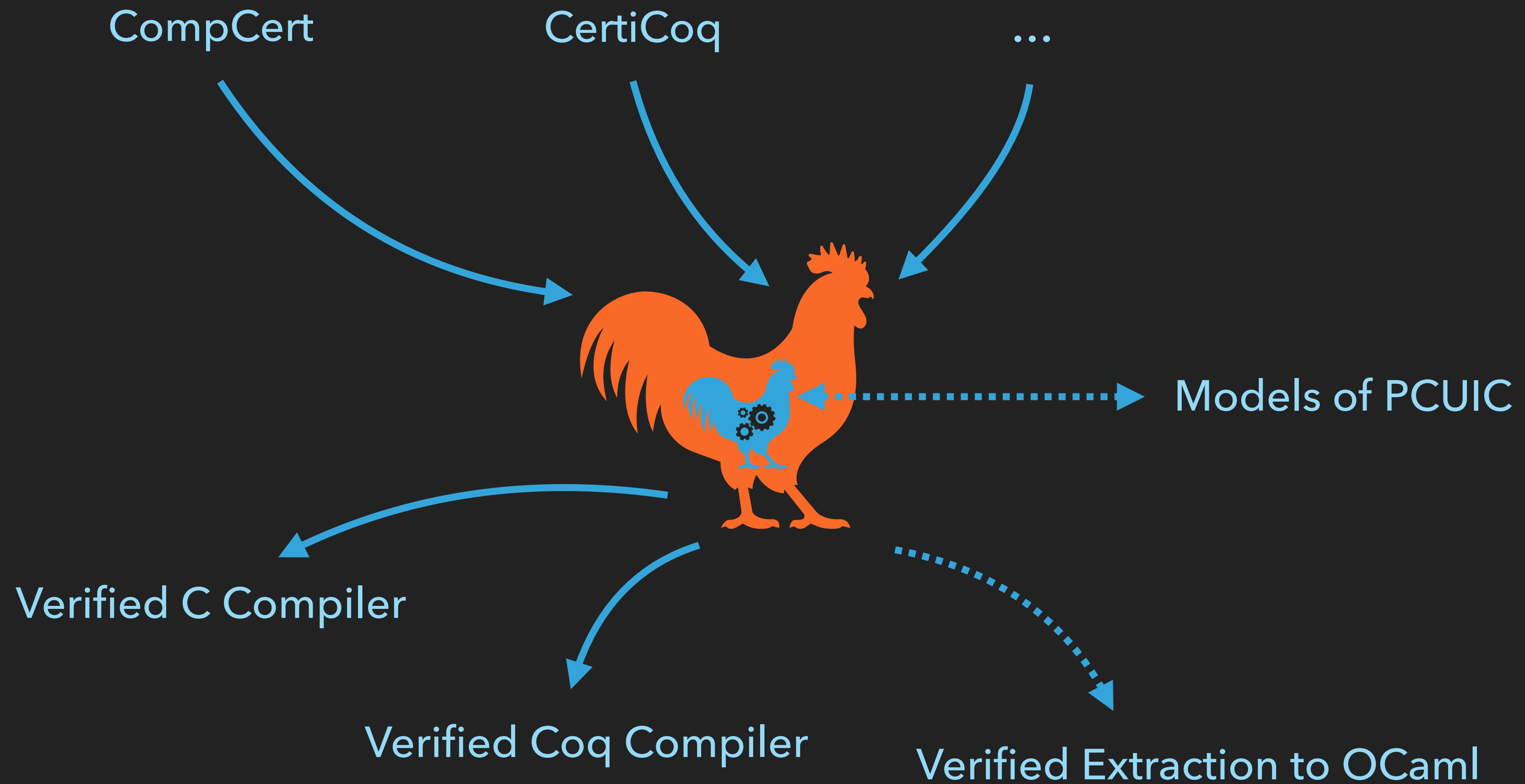


Implemented Coq

=

Ideal Coq

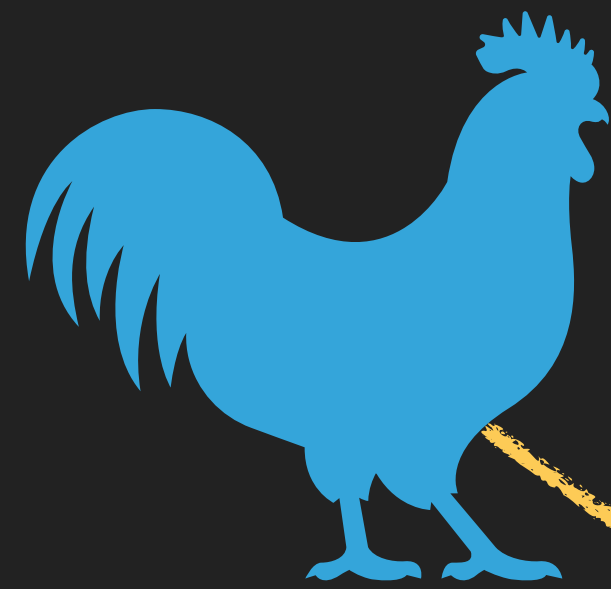
Perspectives



Ongoing and future work

- ▶ Integration of rewrite rules (CEP #50)
- ▶ Interoperability of erased code with OCaml
(Nomadic Labs CoqExtra project, Pierre Giraud's PhD thesis)
- ▶ Full meta-theory for the `SProp` sort and irrelevance checking
- ▶ Eta-reduction and contravariant subtyping (CEP #47)
- ▶ Integration of a sort-polymorphism system, generalising universe polymorphism to deal more uniformly with impredicative sorts and alternative hierarchies (exceptional type theory, setoid type theory, erasable sets...) (Kenji Maillard).

Conclusion



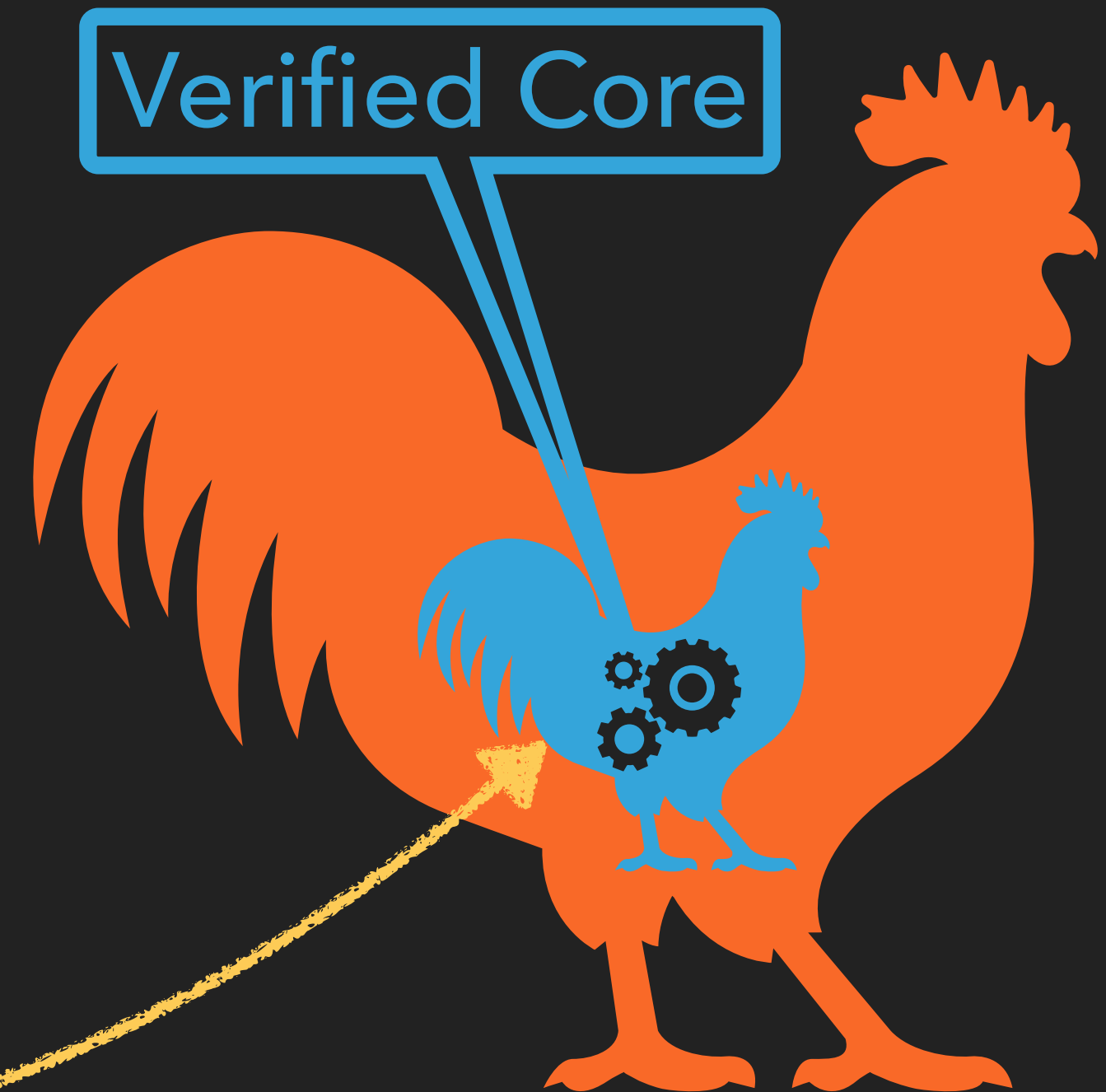
Verified Coq

in



MetaCoq

in



Verified Core

Implemented Coq

=

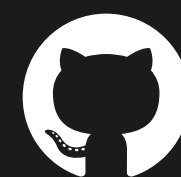
Ideal Coq

Spec: 30kLoC

Proofs: 60kLoC

Comments: 10kLoC

Verified ϵ



<https://metacoq.github.io>

Coq in MetaCoq

« *Cot Cot Codet* ». French, Interjection.

1. Cackle (the cry of a hen, especially one that has laid an egg).

Related Work

- ▶ Kumar et al., HOL + CakeML (JAR'16)
- ▶ Strub et al., Self-Certification of F* starting with Coq (POPL'12)
- ▶ Rahli and Anand, NuPRL in Coq (ITP'14)