

# Robustly Safe Compilation

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Marco Patrignani<sup>1,2</sup>

Deepak Garg<sup>3</sup>



10<sup>th</sup> April 2019



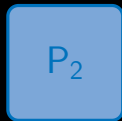
# What is Secure Compilation?

Rust

Java

ML

...



...



...



C

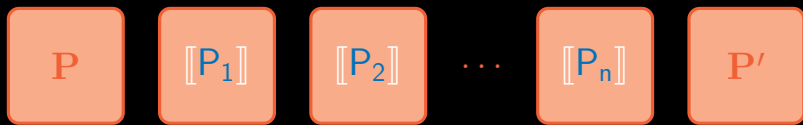
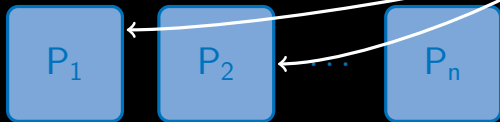
C++

Asm

...

# What is Secure Compilation?

Preserve the security properties of



C

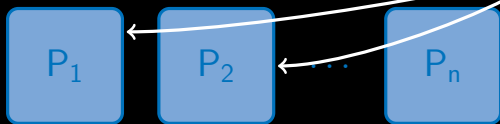
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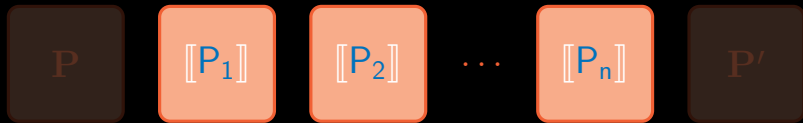
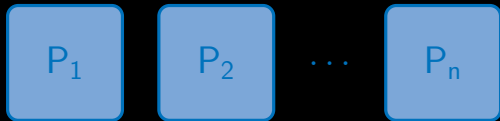
Preserve the security properties of



when interoperating with

# What is Secure Compilation?

*Correct compilation*



# What is Secure Compilation?

**Secure** compilation

$P_1$

$P_2$

...

$P_n$

$P$

$\llbracket P_1 \rrbracket$

$\llbracket P_2 \rrbracket$

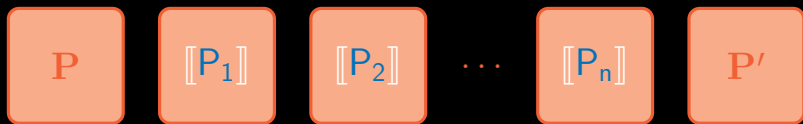
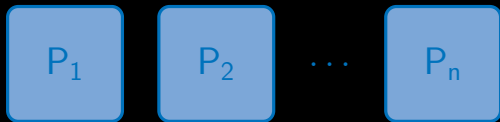
...

$\llbracket P_n \rrbracket$

$P'$

# What is Secure Compilation?

Enable source-level security reasoning



# Do Secure Compilers Exist?



# Do Secure Compilers Exist?

Yes!

# Do Secure Compilers Exist?

Yes!

They rely on **security mechanisms**:

- enclaves
- capabilities
- types
- tagged memory
- ASLR
- CFI, SFI
- processes
- ...

# But...

Some secure compilers:

- P1 : **lack** formal proof of their security guarantees

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# But...

Some secure compilers:  
complex proofs

: **lack** formal proof of their security guarantees

- P2 : prove preservation of **ad-hoc** security properties
- P3 : **inefficient**

dictated by existing definitions

unclear how to generalise

# Goal:

Define a **formal criterion** for secure compilation:

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- **attainable**
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- ~~easy~~ **not too hard** to prove



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# Contributions

- *RSC*: a criterion fulfilling our goals

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- a comparison between *RSC* and *FAC*

# Talk Roadmap

Robust Safety

Robustly Safe Compilation

Backtranslation Proof Technique

# Robust Safety

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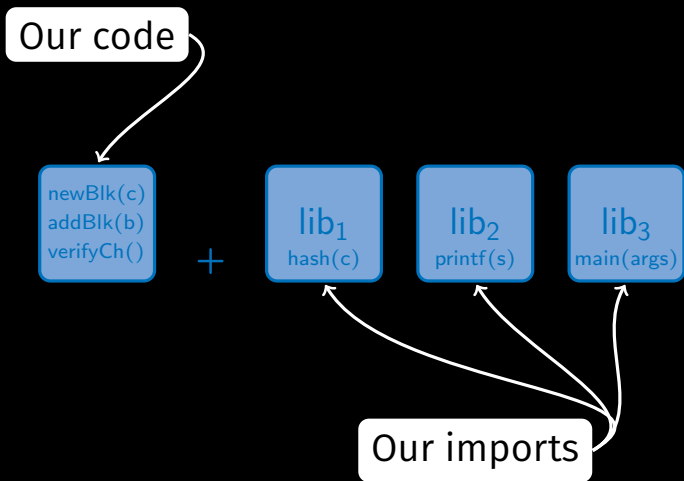
# Robustness

Our code

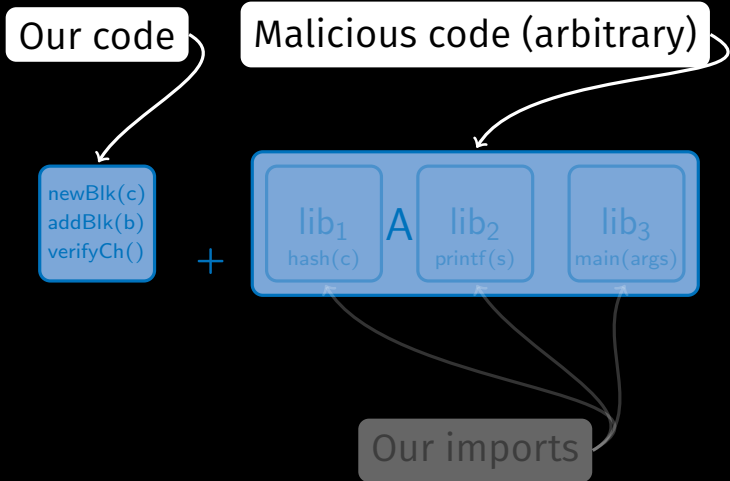


```
newBlk(c)  
addBlk(b)  
verifyCh()
```

# Robustness

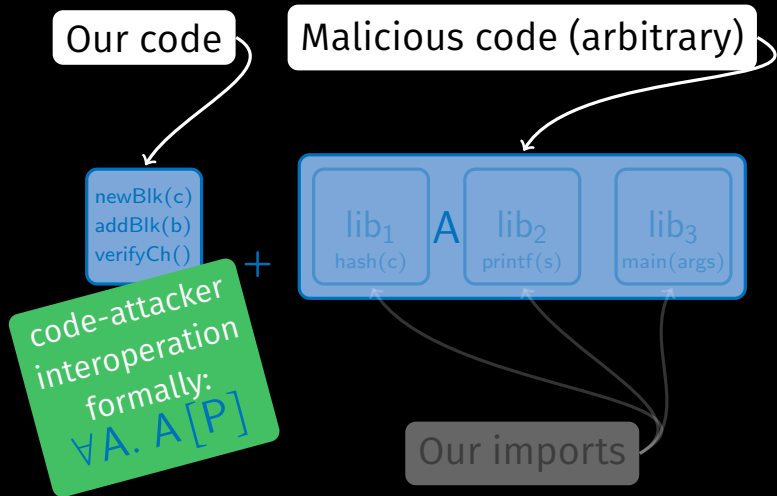


# Robustness

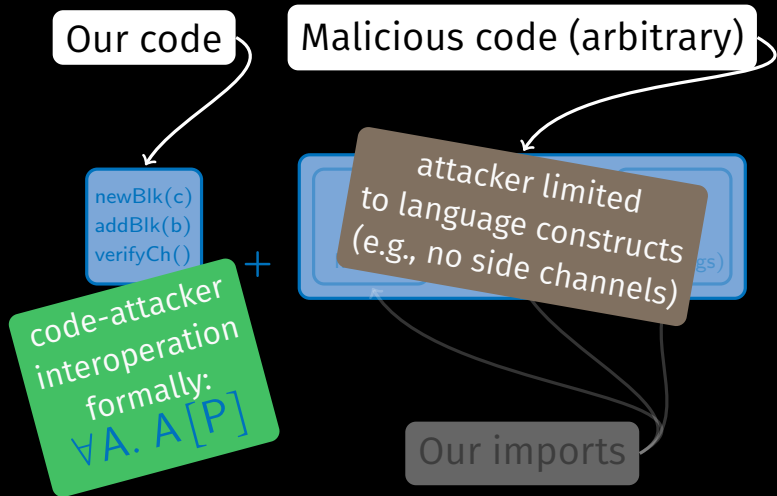




# Robustness



# Robustness



# Program Behaviour

Our code

```
newBlk(c)  
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+

Malicious code (arbitrary)

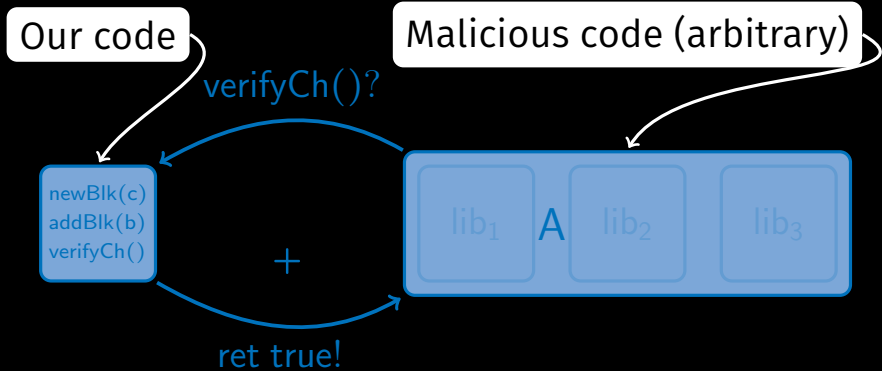
lib<sub>1</sub>

A

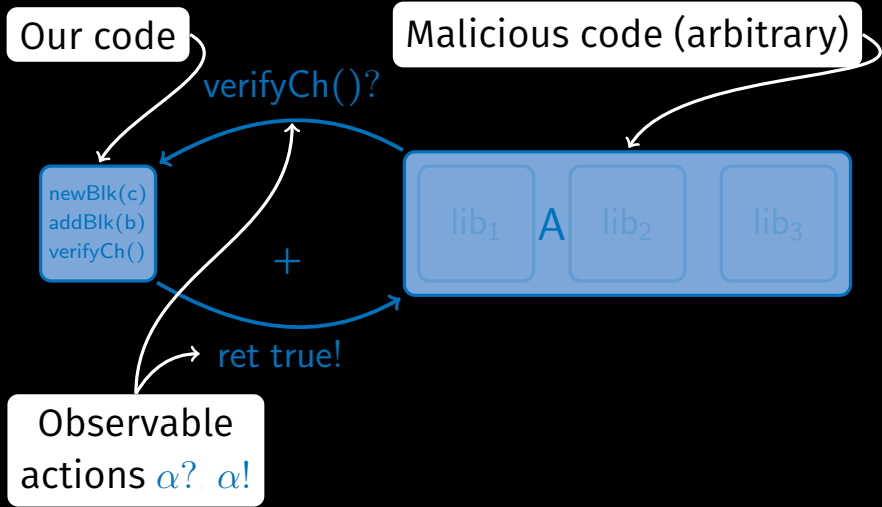
lib<sub>2</sub>

lib<sub>3</sub>

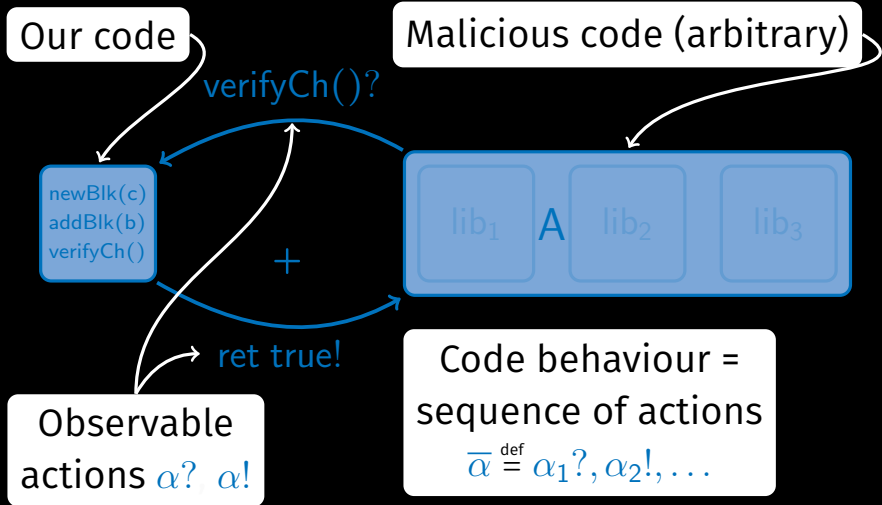
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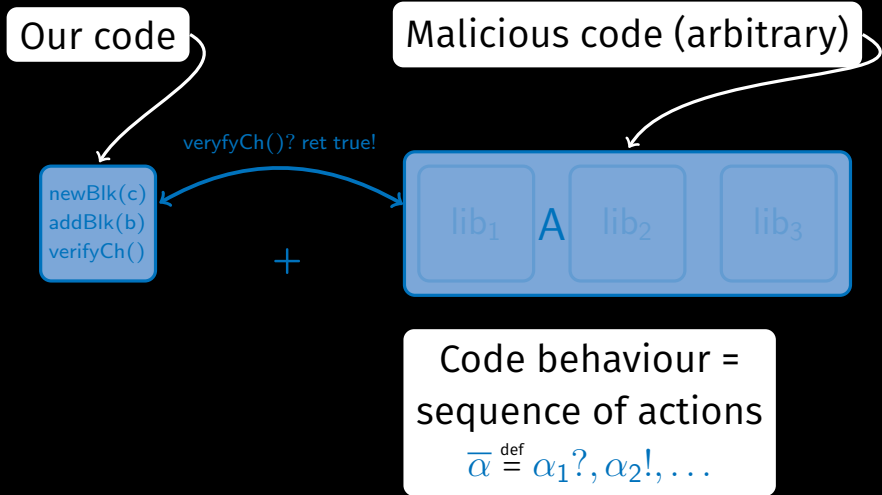
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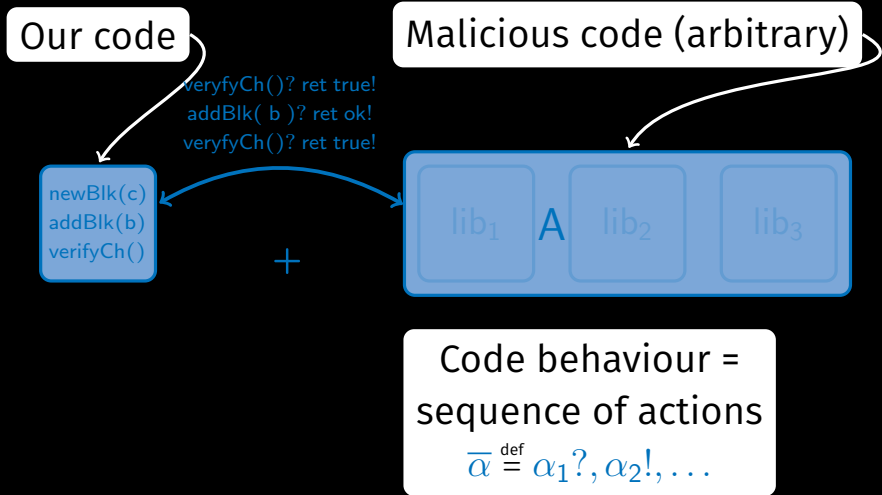
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```
verifyCh()? ret true!  
addBlk( b)? ret ok!  
verifyCh()? ret true!
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Malicious code (arbitrary)

code behaviour formally

$A[P] \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}}$

A

lib<sub>2</sub>

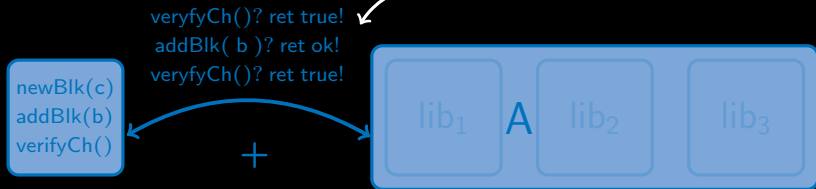
lib<sub>3</sub>

Code behaviour =  
sequence of actions

$\bar{\alpha} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \alpha_1?, \alpha_2!, \dots$

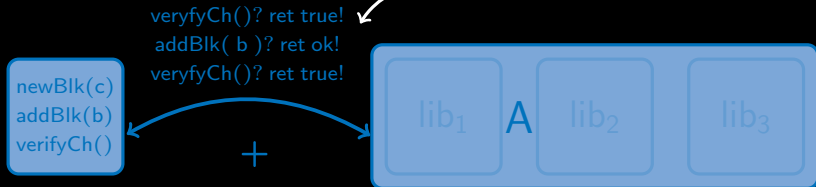
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no bad thing happens (finitely)



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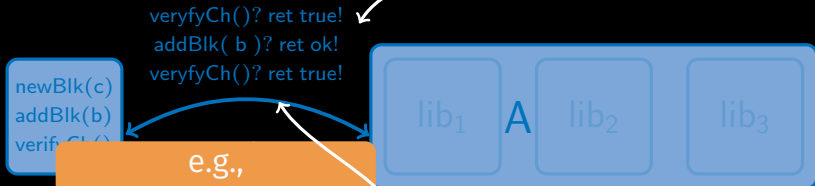
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safety = integrity, functional correctness,  
weak secrecy, ...

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e.g.,  
chain is always valid

NO: addBlk( b )? ret ok!

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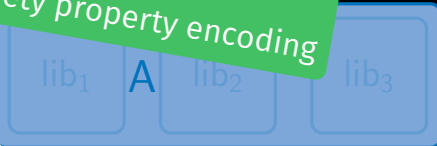
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$M =$   
safety property encoding

newBlk(c)  
addBlk(b)  
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verifyCh()? ret true!  
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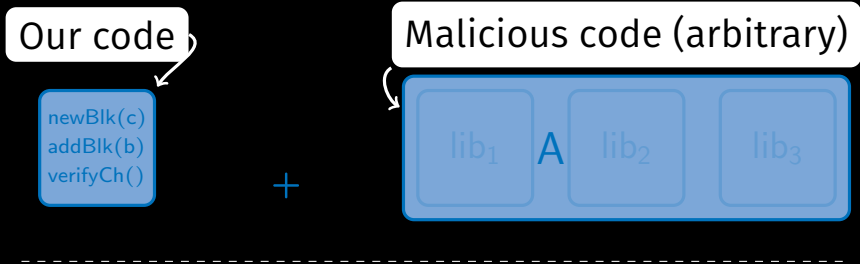
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robust safety formally  
 $M \vdash P$

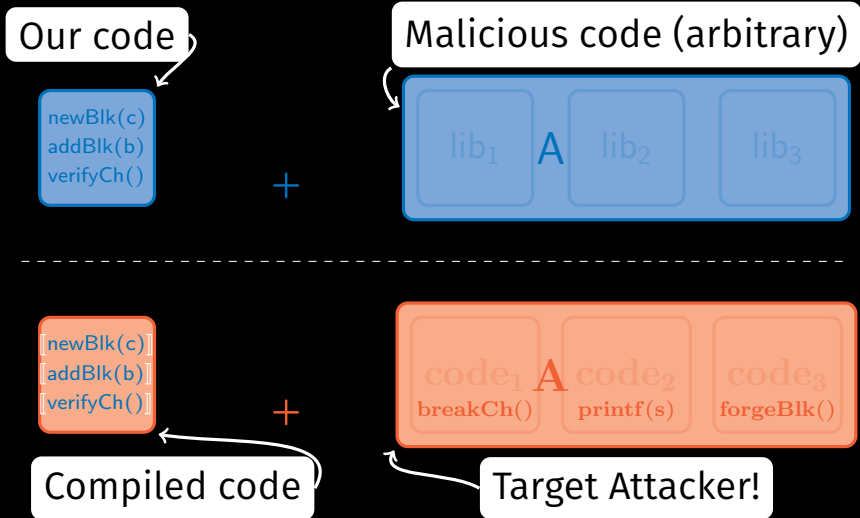
# Robustly Safe Compilation

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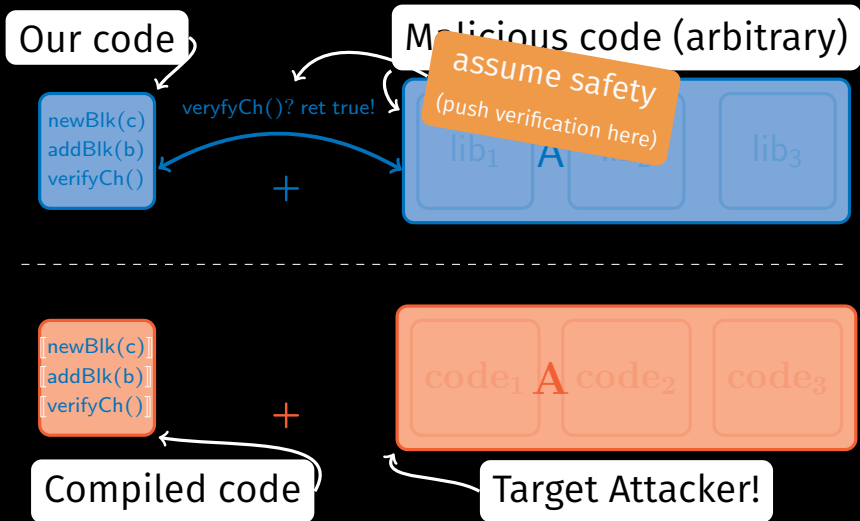
# Robust Safety Across Compilation



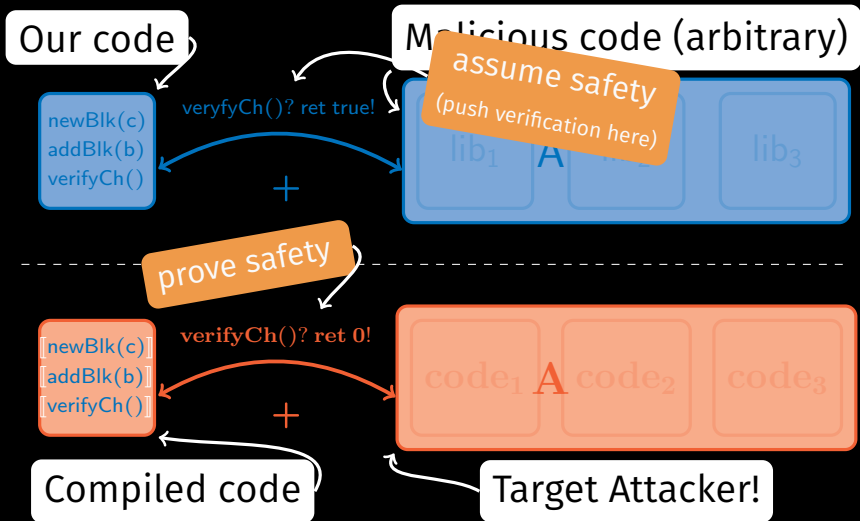
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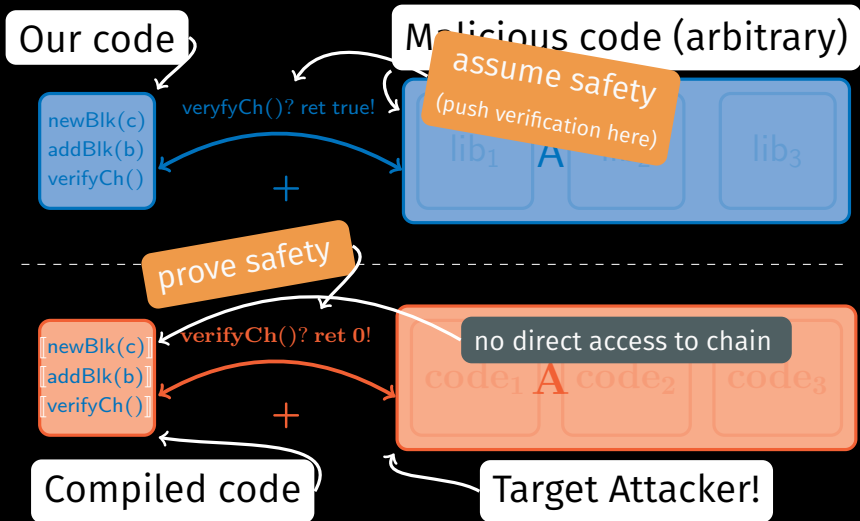


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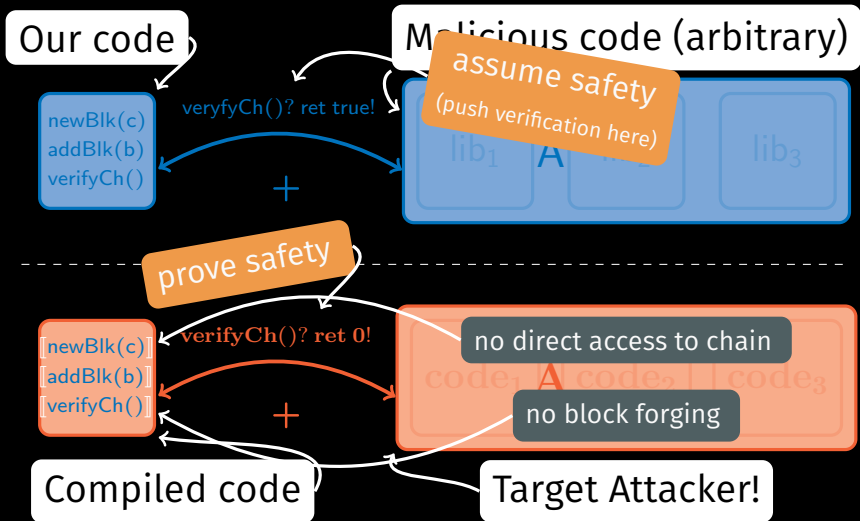




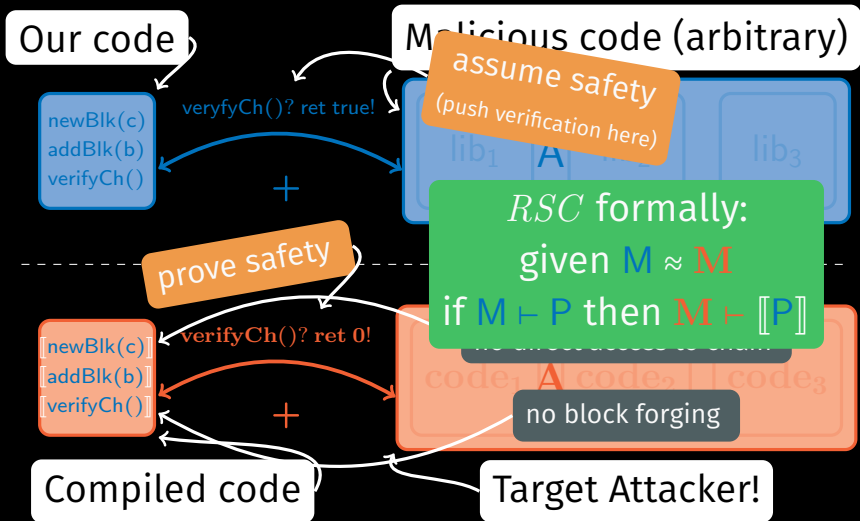
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*PF-RSC*: equivalent definition easier to prove than *RSC*

(equivalence to be proven, generally true)



# Backtranslation Proof Technique

---

# Backtranslation: Build $A$ From $A$ or $\bar{\alpha}$

HP: P is RS

```
newBlk(c)
addBlk(b)
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+

lib<sub>1</sub>

lib<sub>2</sub>

lib<sub>3</sub>

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```

+

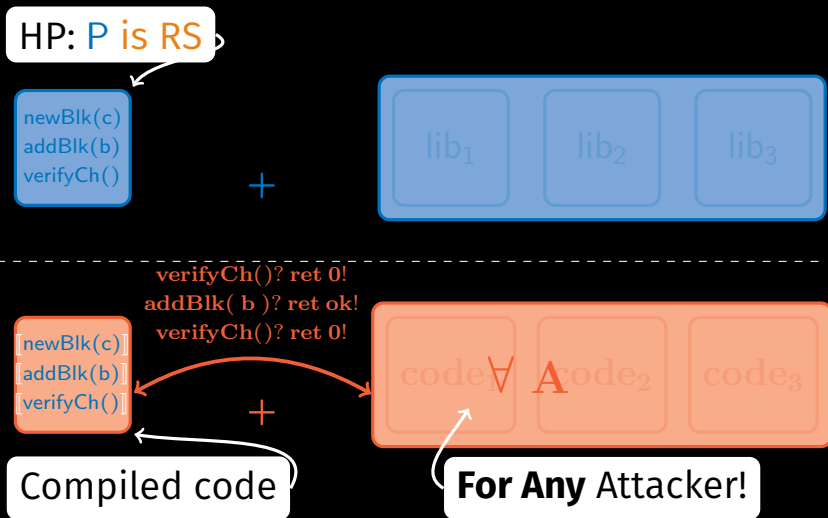
code<sub>1</sub>

code<sub>2</sub>

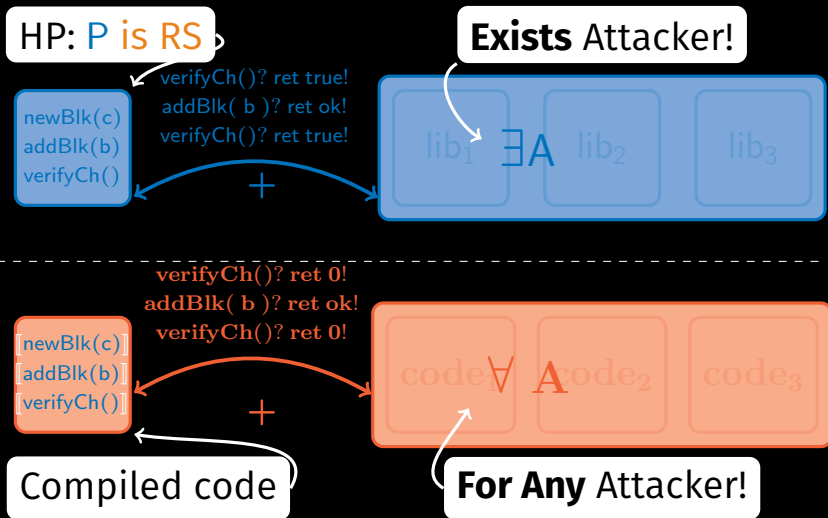
code<sub>3</sub>

Compiled code

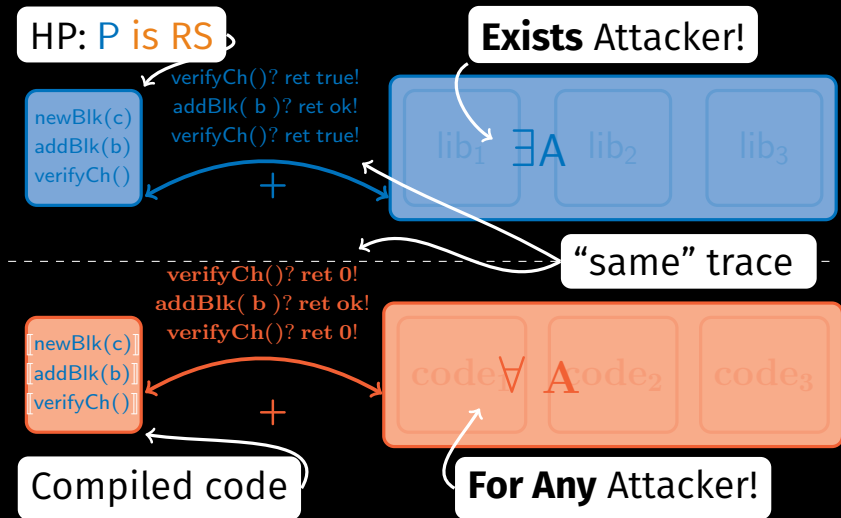
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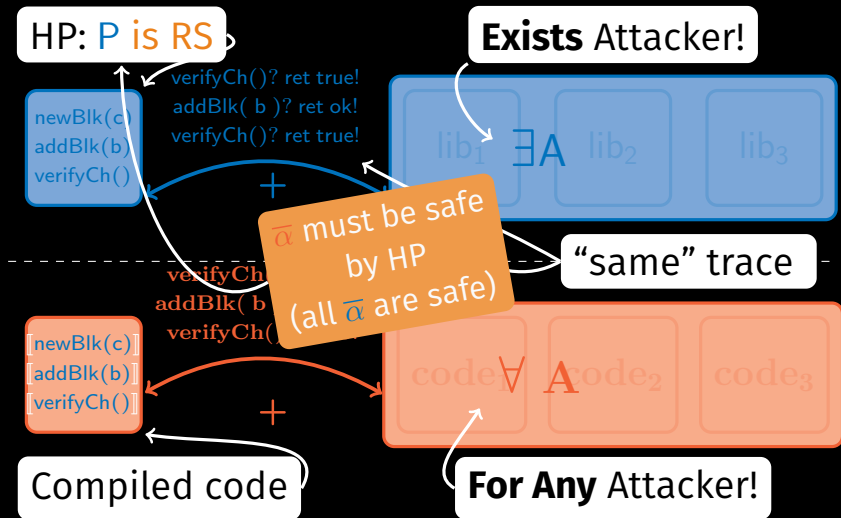
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- if we can replicate

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(by RS of  $P$ )

- so necessarily neither does  $\bar{\alpha}$  (for  $\bar{\alpha} \approx \bar{\alpha}$ )

$PF$ -RSC formally:

if  $\forall A.A \llbracket P \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}}$

then  $\exists A.A \llbracket P \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}}$  and  $\bar{\alpha} \approx \bar{\alpha}$

# RSC and PF-RSC

RSC: given  $M \approx M$   
if  $M \vdash P$  then  $M \vdash \llbracket P \rrbracket$



PF-RSC: if  $\forall A. A \llbracket P \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\bar{\alpha}}$   
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- $\iff$  **must** be proven (when needed)
- proof is (generally) **trivial**
- **sanity-check** for cross-language safety encoding ( $M \approx M$ )

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What to make of this result?

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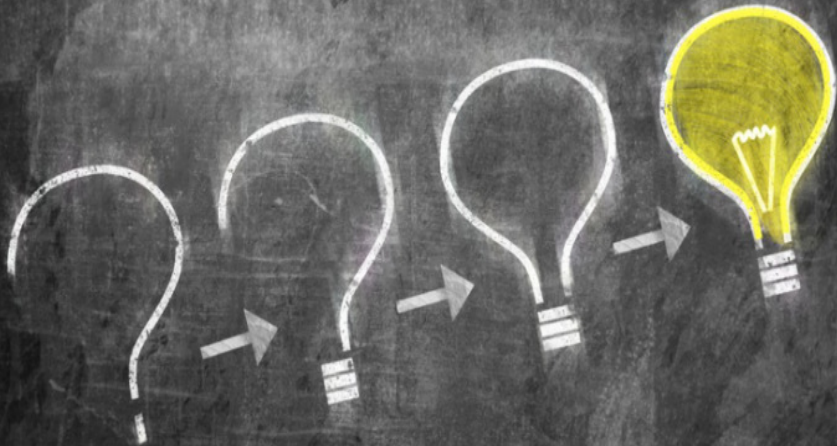
- **encode** safety properties in your systems
- ensure your desired property **follows** from the encoding
- **use our** proof techniques to prove safety is preserved

# What Else?

The paper (or the techreport) contains more:

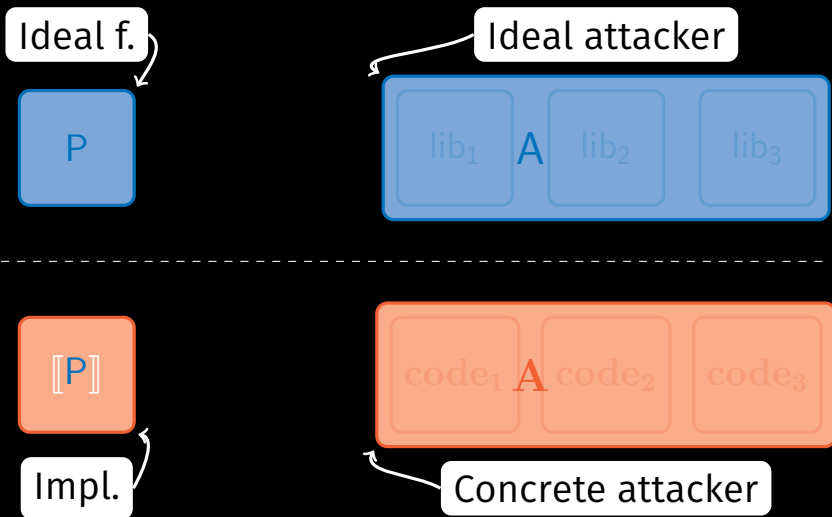
- one  $RSC \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{L^P}^{L^U}$  from **untyped while** to **capabilities**
- one  $RSC \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{L^\pi}^{L^\tau}$  from **typed, concurrent while** to **capabilities**
- one  $RSC \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{L^I}^{L^\tau}$  from **typed, concurrent while** to *enclaves*
- a backtranslation-based  $RSC$  proof (for  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{L^P}^{L^U}$ )
- two simulation-based  $RSC$  proofs (for  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{L^\pi}^{L^\tau}$  and  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{L^I}^{L^\tau}$ )
- a  $FAC \llbracket \square \cdot \rrbracket_{L^P}^{L^U}$  from **untyped while** to **capabilities**
- a backtranslation-based  $FAC$  proof sketch (for  $\llbracket \square \cdot \rrbracket_{L^P}^{L^U}$ )
- a comparison of efficiency and proof complexity between  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{L^P}^{L^U}$  and  $\llbracket \square \cdot \rrbracket_{L^P}^{L^U}$

# Questions?

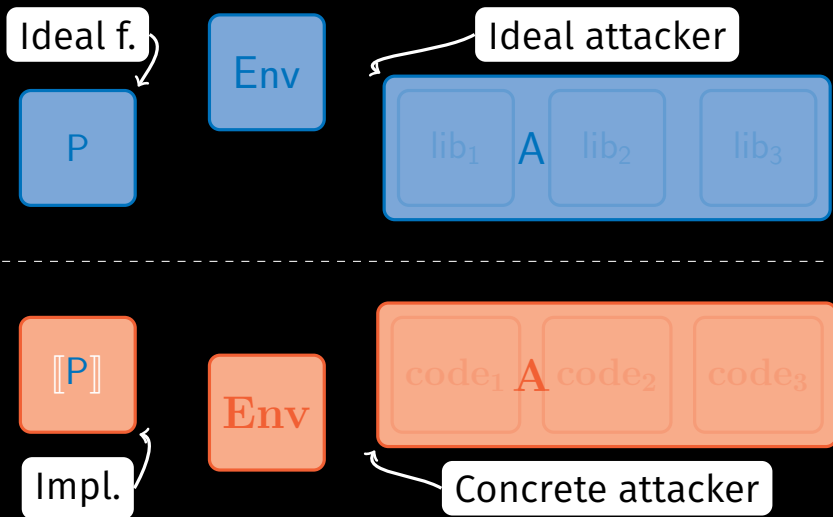




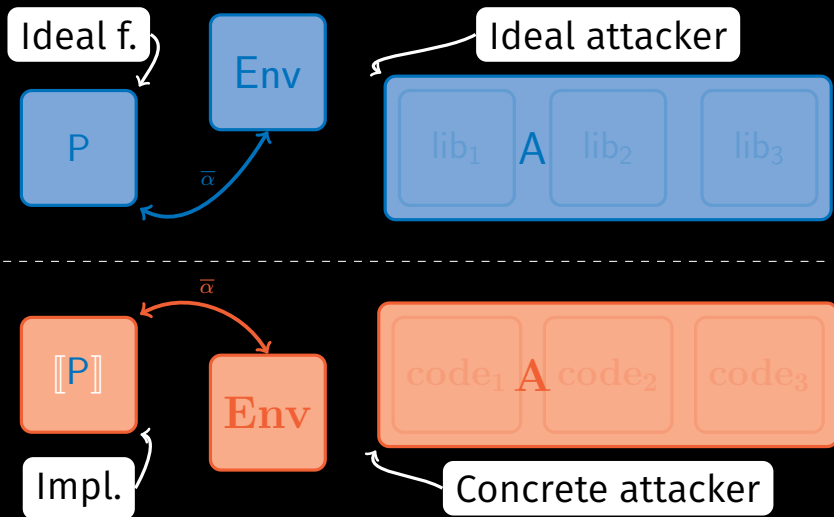
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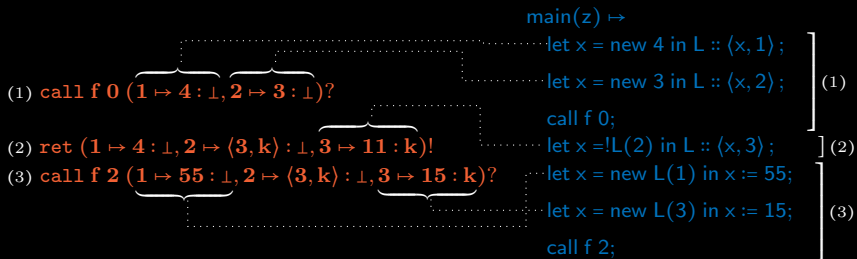
# RSC and UC



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# Backtranslation Example



# Simulation-Based Proof

Set up cross-language relation  $\approx_\beta$  that:

- knows trusted locations:  $\tau \neq \circ$ .
- splits heaps (**source** and **target**) into trusted and untrusted;
- constitutes trusted **heap** by trusted locations ( $\tau \neq \circ$ );
- relates trusted **heap** to **trusted heap**
- protects every trusted **location** by a capability;
- capability protecting a trusted **location** is not in attacker code, nor in the untrusted heap