

An ACL2 Tutorial

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Outline

- ACL2 Background
- Elementary Examples
- A Closer Look at a Big JVM Model
- Two Styles of Code Proofs

Boyer-Moore Project

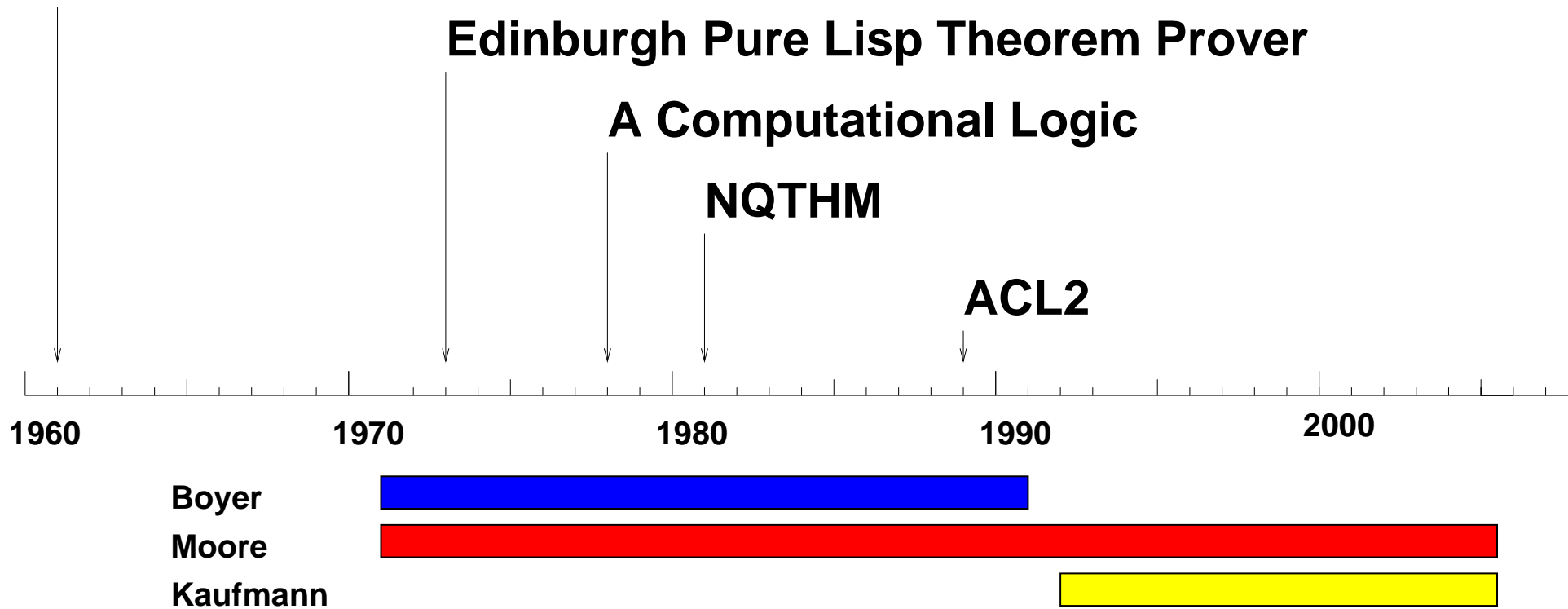
McCarthy's "Theory of Computation"

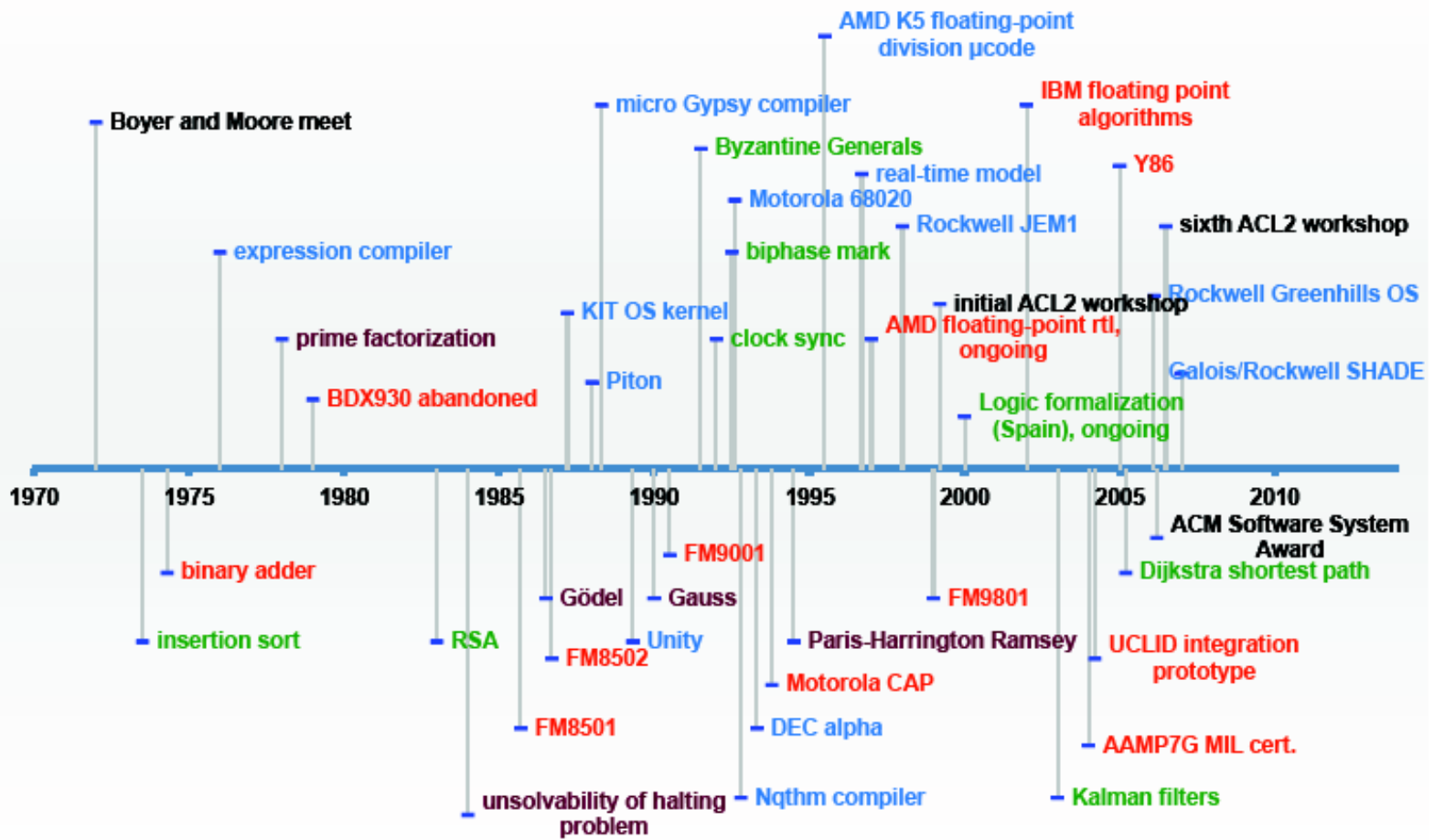
Edinburgh Pure Lisp Theorem Prover

A Computational Logic

NQTHM

ACL2





IEEE 754 Floating Point Standard

Elementary operations are to be performed as though the infinitely precise (standard mathematical) operation were performed and then the result rounded to the indicated precision.

AMD K5 Algorithm FDIV($p, d, mode$)

- | | | | | | |
|-----|---------|--|---------|----|-----|
| 1. | sd_0 | $= \text{lookup}(d)$ | [exact | 17 | 8] |
| 2. | d_r | $= d$ | [away | 17 | 32] |
| 3. | sdd_0 | $= sd_0 \times d_r$ | [away | 17 | 32] |
| 4. | sd_1 | $= sd_0 \times \text{comp}(sdd_0, 32)$ | [trunc | 17 | 32] |
| 5. | sdd_1 | $= sd_1 \times d_r$ | [away | 17 | 32] |
| 6. | sd_2 | $= sd_1 \times \text{comp}(sdd_1, 32)$ | [trunc | 17 | 32] |
| ... | ... | $= \dots$ | ... | | |
| 29. | q_3 | $= sd_2 \times ph_3$ | [trunc | 17 | 24] |
| 30. | qq_2 | $= q_2 + q_3$ | [sticky | 17 | 64] |
| 31. | qq_1 | $= qq_2 + q_1$ | [sticky | 17 | 64] |
| 32. | $fdiv$ | $= qq_1 + q_0$ | $mode$ | | |

Using the Reciprocal

$$\begin{array}{r}
 36. \\
 + \quad -.17 \\
 + \quad .0034 \\
 + \quad \underline{-.000066} \\
 \hline
 35.833334 \\
 12 \overline{) 430.000000} \\
 \underline{432.} \\
 -2. \\
 \underline{-2.04} \\
 .04 \\
 \underline{.0408} \\
 - .0008 \\
 \underline{- .000792} \\
 - .000008
 \end{array}$$

Reciprocal Calculation:

$$1/12 = 0.08\overline{33} \approx 0.083 = sd_2$$

Quotient Digit Calculation:

$$0.083 \times 430.0000 = 35.690000 \approx 36.000000 = q_0$$

$$0.083 \times -2.0000 = -.166000 \approx -.170000 = q_1$$

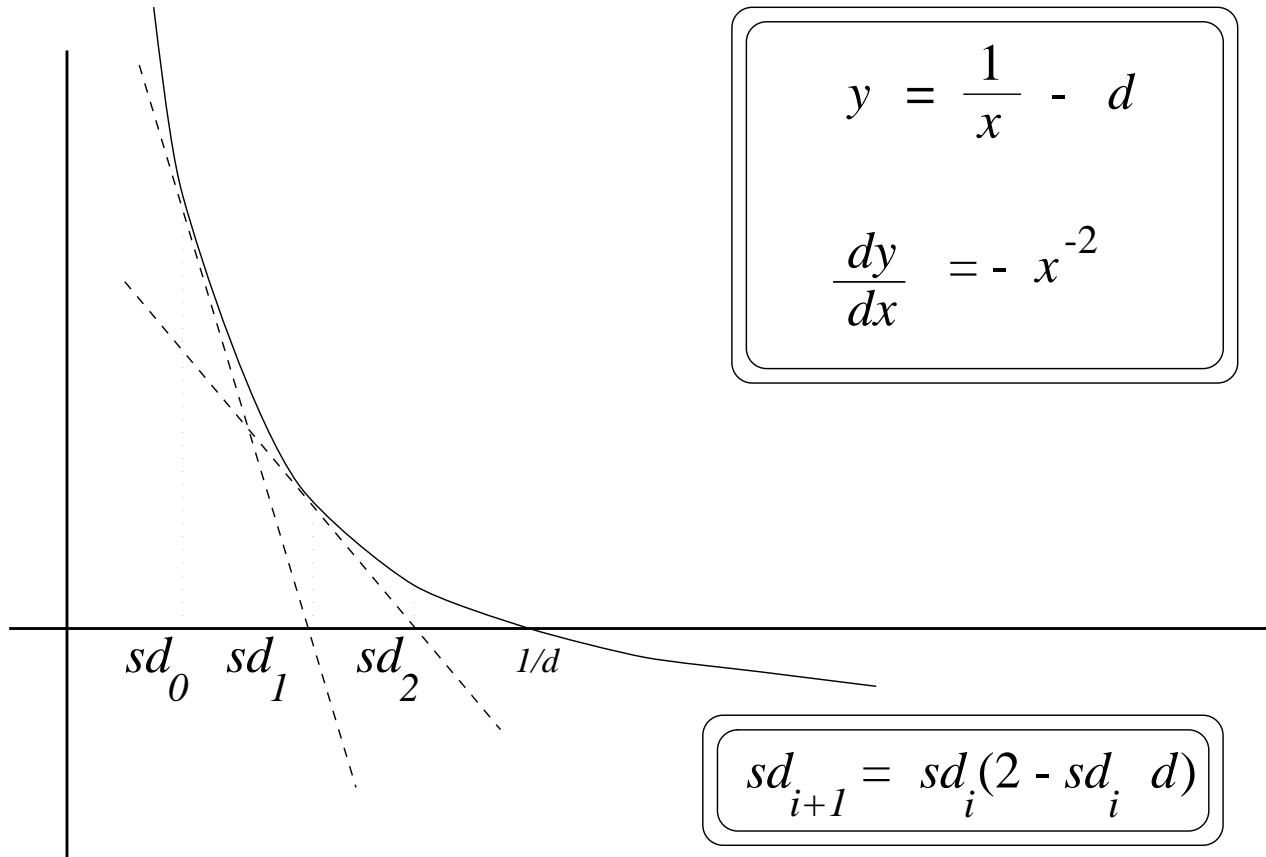
$$0.083 \times .0400 = .0033200 \approx .003400 = q_2$$

$$0.083 \times -.0008 = -.0000664 \approx -.000067 = q_3$$

Summation of Quotient Digits:

$$q_0 + q_1 + q_2 + q_3 = 35.833333$$

Computing the Reciprocal



top 8 bits of d	approx inverse	top 8 bits of d	approx inverse	top 8 bits of d	approx inverse	top 8 bits of d	approx inverse
1.000000 ₂	0.1111111 ₂	1.010000 ₂	0.1100110 ₂	1.100000 ₂	0.1010101 ₂	1.110000 ₂	0.1001001 ₂
1.000001 ₂	0.1111101 ₂	1.010001 ₂	0.1100101 ₂	1.100001 ₂	0.1010100 ₂	1.110001 ₂	0.1001000 ₂
1.000010 ₂	0.1111101 ₂	1.010010 ₂	0.1100101 ₂	1.100010 ₂	0.1010100 ₂	1.110010 ₂	0.1001000 ₂
1.000011 ₂	0.1111100 ₂	1.010011 ₂	0.1100100 ₂	1.100011 ₂	0.1010100 ₂	1.110011 ₂	0.1001000 ₂
1.000100 ₂	0.1111011 ₂	1.010010 ₂	0.1100011 ₂	1.100100 ₂	0.1010011 ₂	1.110010 ₂	0.1000111 ₂
1.000101 ₂	0.1111010 ₂	1.010010 ₂	0.1100011 ₂	1.100101 ₂	0.1010011 ₂	1.110010 ₂	0.1000111 ₂
1.000110 ₂	0.1111010 ₂	1.010011 ₂	0.1100010 ₂	1.100110 ₂	0.1010010 ₂	1.110011 ₂	0.1000110 ₂
1.000111 ₂	0.1111001 ₂	1.010011 ₂	0.1100010 ₂	1.100111 ₂	0.1010010 ₂	1.110011 ₂	0.1000110 ₂
1.000100 ₂	0.1111000 ₂	1.010100 ₂	0.1100001 ₂	1.100100 ₂	0.1010001 ₂	1.110100 ₂	0.1000101 ₂
1.000101 ₂	0.1110111 ₂	1.010100 ₂	0.1100001 ₂	1.100101 ₂	0.1010001 ₂	1.110100 ₂	0.1000100 ₂
1.000101 ₂	0.1110110 ₂	1.010101 ₂	0.1100000 ₂	1.100101 ₂	0.1010001 ₂	1.110101 ₂	0.1000100 ₂
...
1.001011 ₂	0.1101101 ₂	1.011011 ₂	0.1011010 ₂	1.101011 ₂	0.1001100 ₂	1.111011 ₂	0.1000010 ₂
1.001011 ₂	0.1101100 ₂	1.011011 ₂	0.1011001 ₂	1.101011 ₂	0.1001100 ₂	1.111011 ₂	0.1000010 ₂
1.001100 ₂	0.1101011 ₂	1.011100 ₂	0.1011001 ₂	1.101100 ₂	0.1001011 ₂	1.111100 ₂	0.1000010 ₂
1.001100 ₂	0.1101011 ₂	1.011100 ₂	0.1011001 ₂	1.101100 ₂	0.1001011 ₂	1.111100 ₂	0.1000001 ₂
1.001101 ₂	0.1101010 ₂	1.011101 ₂	0.1011000 ₂	1.101101 ₂	0.1001010 ₂	1.111101 ₂	0.1000001 ₂
1.001101 ₂	0.1101010 ₂	1.011101 ₂	0.1011000 ₂	1.101101 ₂	0.1001010 ₂	1.111101 ₂	0.1000001 ₂
1.001101 ₂	0.1101001 ₂	1.011101 ₂	0.1010111 ₂	1.101101 ₂	0.1001010 ₂	1.111101 ₂	0.1000001 ₂
1.001110 ₂	0.1101000 ₂	1.011110 ₂	0.1010110 ₂	1.101110 ₂	0.1001010 ₂	1.111110 ₂	0.1000001 ₂
1.001110 ₂	0.1101000 ₂	1.011110 ₂	0.1010110 ₂	1.101110 ₂	0.1001010 ₂	1.111110 ₂	0.1000001 ₂
1.001110 ₂	0.1100111 ₂	1.011111 ₂	0.1010110 ₂	1.101111 ₂	0.1001001 ₂	1.111111 ₂	0.1000001 ₂
1.001111 ₂	0.1100111 ₂	1.011111 ₂	0.1010101 ₂	1.101111 ₂	0.1001001 ₂	1.111111 ₂	0.1000000 ₂

The Formal Model of the Code

```
(defun FDIV (p d mode)
  (let*
    ((sd0 (eround (lookup d)                '(exact 17 8)))
     (dr  (eround d                          '(away 17 32)))
     (sdd0 (eround (* sd0 dr)                '(away 17 32)))
     (sd1  (eround (* sd0 (comp sdd0 32))    '(trunc 17 32)))
     (sdd1 (eround (* sd1 dr)                '(away 17 32)))
     (sd2  (eround (* sd1 (comp sdd1 32))    '(trunc 17 32)))
     ...
     (qq2 (eround (+ q2 q3)                  '(sticky 17 64)))
     (qq1 (eround (+ qq2 q1)                 '(sticky 17 64)))
     (fdiv (round (+ qq1 q0)                  mode)))
    (or (first-error sd0 dr sdd0 sd1 sdd1 ... fdiv)
        fdiv)))
```

The K5 FDIV Theorem (1200 lemmas)

```
(defthm FDIV-divides
  (implies (and (floating-point-numberp p 15 64)
                (floating-point-numberp d 15 64)
                (not (equal d 0))
                (rounding-modep mode))
            (equal (FDIV p d mode)
                   (round (/ p d) mode))))
```

(by Moore, Lynch and Kaufmann, in 1995,
before the K5 was fabricated)

ACL2 =

A Computational **L**ogic

for

Applicative **C**ommon **L**isp

“ACL2” is the name of

- a functional programming language,
- a mathematical logic, and
- an automatic interactive theorem prover.

Demo 0

ACL2 is *untyped*.

ACL2 is *strict* (not lazy).

ACL2 is *first order* (no functional args).

ACL2 is *applicative* (functional).

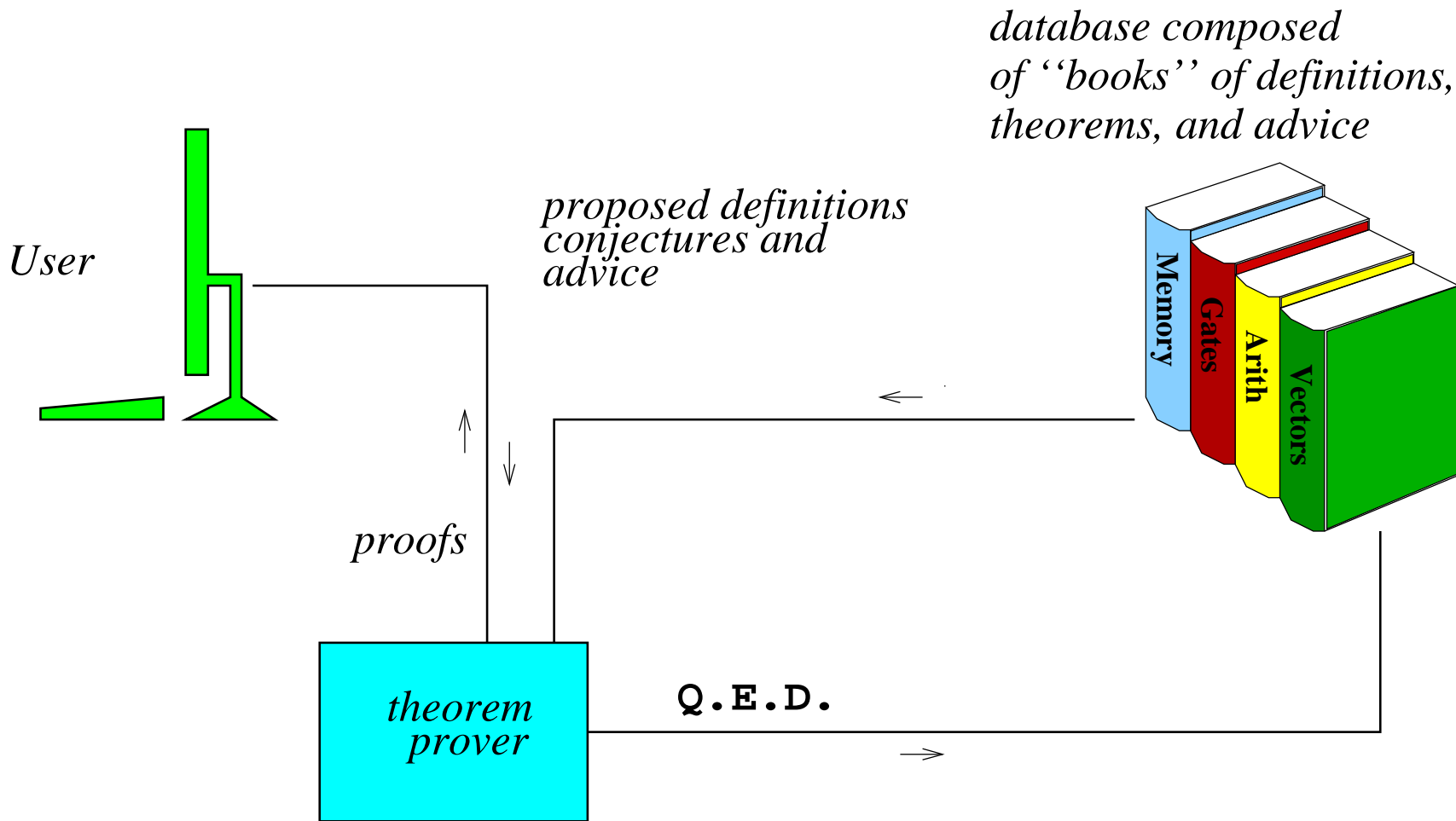
All ACL2 functions are *total* (always terminate on all arguments).

ACL2 is *executable* – almost all functions applied to constants can be reduced to equivalent constants.

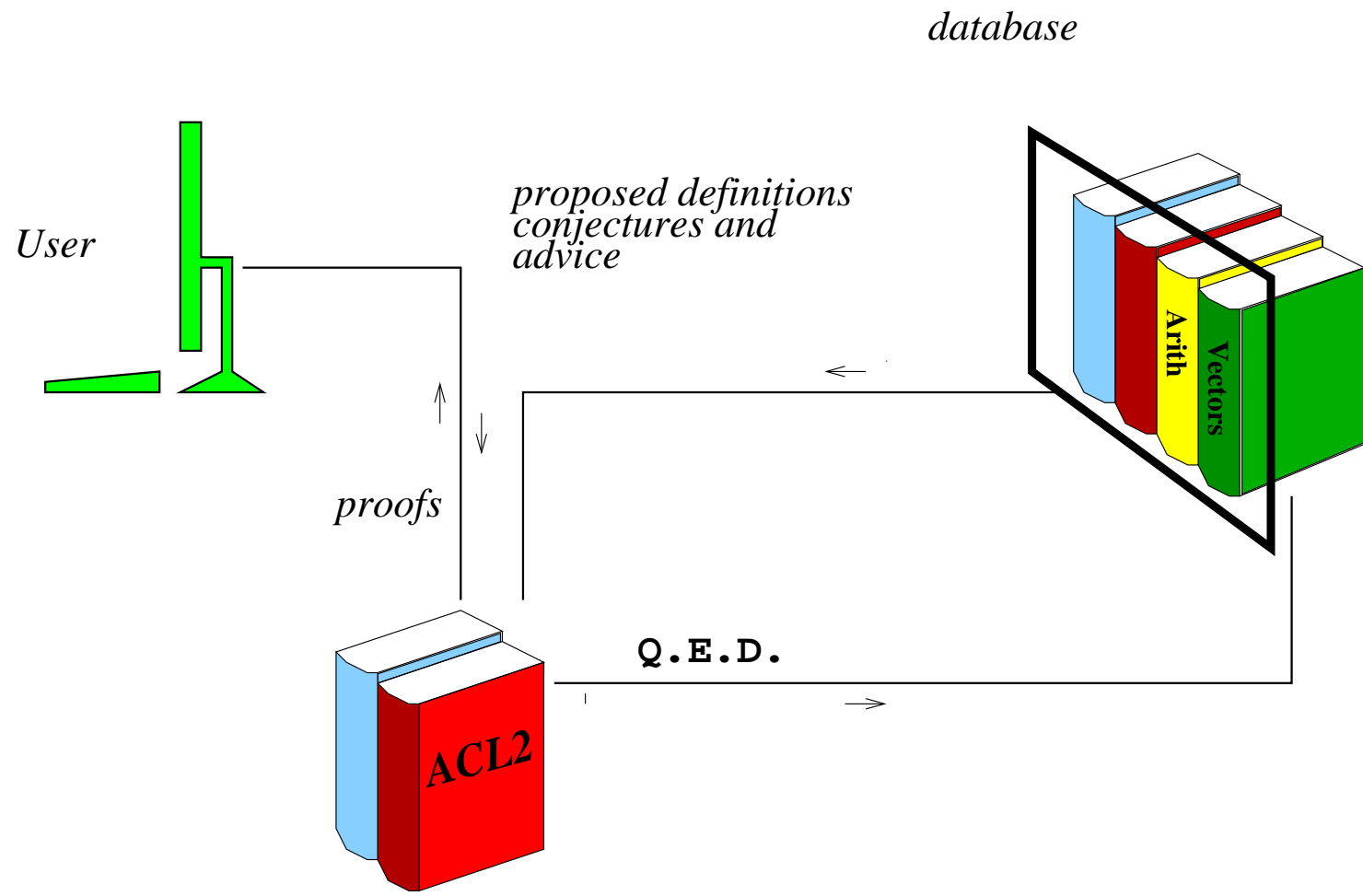
ACL2 is *quantifier-free* – but has the expressive power of full first-order logic thanks to Skolemization.

ACL2 is *automatic* – once the theorem prover starts, the user cannot guide it.

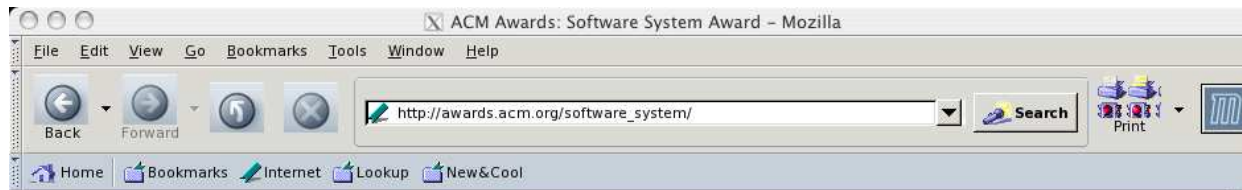
ACL2 is *interactive* – the theorem prover's behavior is influenced by the data base of previously proved lemmas and user-provided advice.



ACL2 is coded in ACL2.



ACL2 is the first theorem prover to win the ACM Software System Award.



 **Association for Computing Machinery**
Advancing Computing as a Science & Profession
Software System Award

Software System Award

Awarded to an institution or individual(s) recognized for developing a software system that has had a lasting influence, reflected in contributions to concepts, in commercial acceptance, or both. The Software System Award carries a prize of \$10,000. Financial support for the Software System Award is provided by IBM.

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Year of Award:

Chronological Listing

The Boyer-Moore Theorem Prover

[Boyer, Robert S](#)
[Kaufmann, Matt](#)
[Moore, J Strother](#)

Secure Network Programming

[Bindignavle, Raghuram](#)
[Lam, Simon S.](#)
[Su, Shaowen](#)
[Woo, Thomas Y. C.](#)

MAKE

[Feldman, Stuart](#)

Java

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World-Wide Web

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Remote Procedure Call

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[Nelson, Bruce](#)

Sketchpad

[Sutherland, Ivan](#)

Interlisp

[Bobrow, Daniel G.](#)
[Burton, Richard R.](#)
[Deutsch, L. Peter](#)
[Kaplan, Ronald M.](#)

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[Wong, Eugene](#)

System R

[Chamberlin, Donald](#)
[Gray, James](#)
[Lorie, Raymond](#)
[Putzolu, Gianfranco](#)
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[Goldberg, Adele](#)
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ACL2 is (probably) the first winner that is written in a functional programming language.

ACM Awards: Software System Award – Mozilla

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Lisp Syntax

$$\begin{aligned} \langle term \rangle := & \langle var \rangle \mid \\ & ' \langle const \rangle \mid \\ & (\langle fn \rangle \langle term \rangle_1 \\ & \quad \dots \\ & \quad \langle term \rangle_n) \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \langle const \rangle := & \langle number \rangle \mid \langle char \rangle \mid \\ & \langle string \rangle \mid \langle symbol \rangle \mid \\ & \langle pair \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Example Constants

123, 22/7

\#Newline, #\A, #\a

"Hello world!"

x, world, pt, PT, Pt

((Mon . 1) (Tue . 2) (Wed . 3))

Example Terms

`(cons (car x) rest)`

e.g., `cons(car(x), $rest$)`

`(if (zp n) 1 (* n (fact (- n 1))))`

e.g., **if** $n = 0$ **then** 1 **else** $n * \text{fact}(n - 1)$ **fi**

About T and NIL

T and NIL are *symbols*.

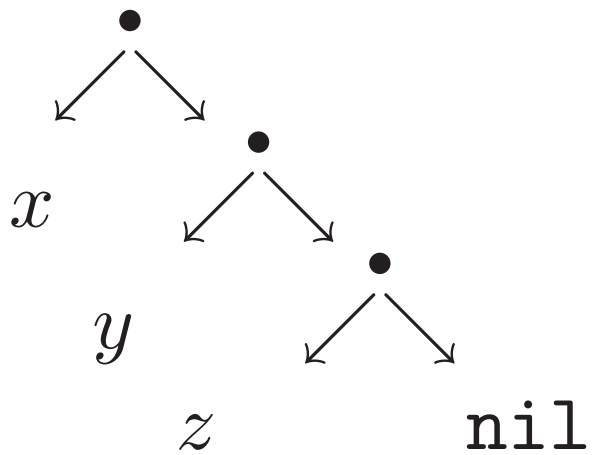
T and t are the same, as are NIL and nil.

T and NIL are used as the “truth values” true and false.

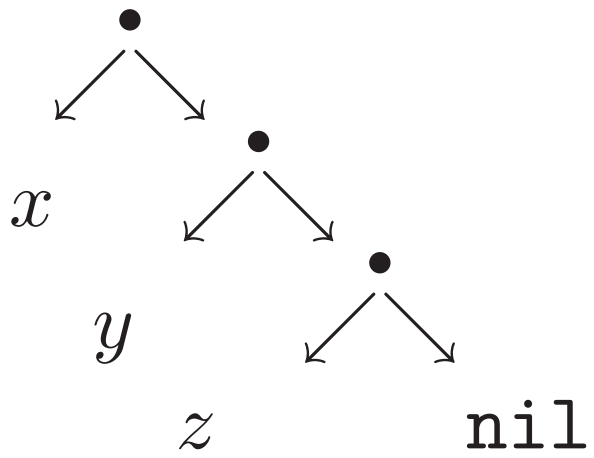
NIL is also used as the “terminal marker” on nested pairs representing lists.

About Pairs

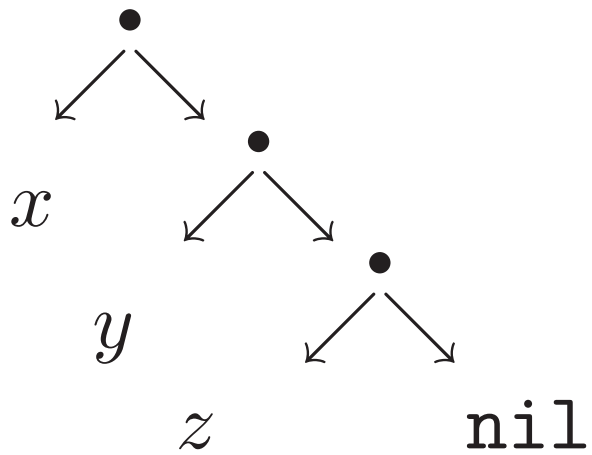
$\langle x, \langle y, \langle z, \text{nil} \rangle \rangle \rangle$



$(x . (y . (z . \text{nil})))$

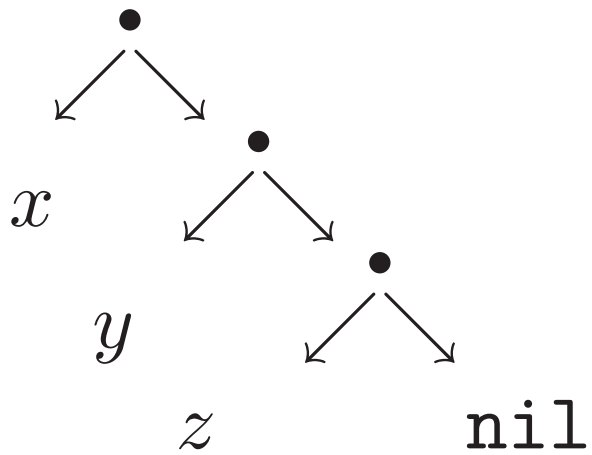


$(x . (y . (z . nil)))$



$(x \ . \ (y \ . \ (z \ . \ nil)))$

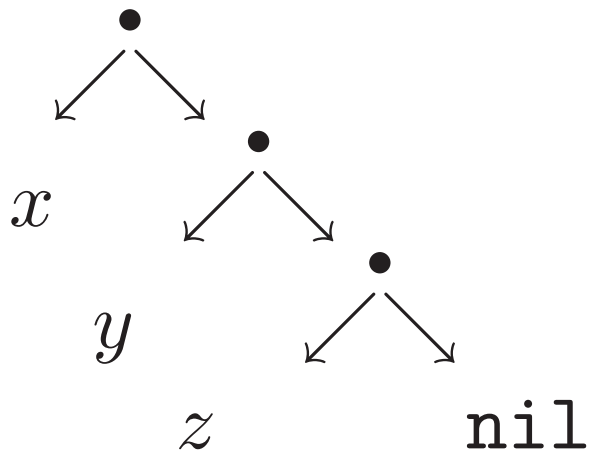
$(x \ . \ (y \ . \ (z \ \ \ \)))$; *may erase* ‘‘. nil’’



$(x . (y . (z . nil)))$

$(x . (y . (z)))$; *may erase* ‘‘. nil’’

$(x . (y z))$; *may erase* ‘‘. (...)’’



$(x . (y . (z . nil)))$

$(x . (y . (z)))$; may erase ‘‘. nil’’

$(x . (y z))$; may erase ‘‘. (...)’’

$(x y z)$; may erase ‘‘. (...)’’

Is it strange that Lisp provides so many ways to write $(x\ y\ z)$?

$(x\ .\ (y\ .\ (z\ .\ nil)))$

$(x\ .\ (y\ .\ (z\ \)))$

$(x\ .\ (y\ \ z\ \))$

$(x\ \ y\ \ z\ \)$

Is it strange that you know so many ways
to write 123?

123

0123

+123

01111011₂

0x7B

Data Types

ACL2 supports five disjoint data types:

- numbers (integers, non-integer rationals, complex rationals)
- characters
- strings
- symbols
- pairs

There are primitive functions for

- creating each type of object from its constituents, e.g., `cons` creates pairs;
- accessing the constituents, e.g., `car` and `cdr`, aka `head` and `tail`;
- recognizing instances of each type, e.g., `consp`;

- other expected operations (e.g., addition of numbers).

Semantics

`(cons 1 (cons 2 (cons 3 nil)))`

\Rightarrow ; *“evaluates to”*

`(1 2 3)`

`(cons 1 '(2 3))`

\Rightarrow

`(1 2 3)`

' (1 2 3) \Rightarrow (1 2 3)

(car ' (1 2 3)) \Rightarrow 1

(cdr ' (1 2 3)) \Rightarrow (2 3)

`(consp '(1 2 3)) ⇒ t`

`(consp 1) ⇒ nil`

`(consp nil) ⇒ nil`

A Few Axioms

$t \neq \text{nil}$

$x = \text{nil} \rightarrow (\text{if } x \ y \ z) = z$

$x \neq \text{nil} \rightarrow (\text{if } x \ y \ z) = y$

$(\text{car } (\text{cons } x \ y)) = x$

$(\text{cdr } (\text{cons } x \ y)) = y$

`(consp (cons x y)) = t`

`(consp nil) = nil`

`(endp x) = (not (consp x))`

Definitions

```
(defun not (x) (if x nil t))
```

is a way to add a

New Axiom

$$(\text{not } x) = (\text{if } x \text{ nil } t)$$

Propositional Calculus

```
(defun not (x) (if x nil t))
```

```
(defun and (x y) (if x y nil))
```

```
(defun or (x y) (if x x y))
```

```
(defun implies (x y)
  (if x (if y t nil) t))
```

Inconsistent “Definition”

```
(defun f (x) (not (f x)))
```

Theorem: $t = \text{nil}$.

Proof.

```
(f x) = (not (f x))  
      = (if (f x) nil t).
```

So $(f x)$ is either nil or t .

Case 1: $\text{nil} = (f\ x)$

$= (\text{not } (f\ x)) = (\text{not } \text{nil}) = t.$

Case 2: $t = (f\ x)$

$= (\text{not } (f\ x)) = (\text{not } t) = \text{nil}.$

Q.E.D.

The Definitional Principle

$(\text{defun } f (x_1 \dots x_n) \textit{body})$

is *admissible* if and only if:

- f is not already axiomatized;
- the x_i are distinct;
- the only variables in *body* are the x_i ;

- there is a measure of the x_i and a *well-founded* ordering such that for every recursive call of f in *body* it can be proved that the measure decreases according to the ordering.

The last condition means that ACL2 can admit only provably *terminating* recursive definitions.

Recursive Definition

```
(defun app (x y)
  (if (endp x)
      y
      (cons (car x)
            (app (cdr x) y))))
```

```
(append '(1 2 3) (append '(4 5 6) '(7 8 9)))
= '(1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9)
```

```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

(equal (append (append a b) c)
 (append a (append b c)))

Proof: by induction on a.

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Base Case: (endp a).

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 (append b c))

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(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
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Proof: by induction on a.

Base Case: (endp a).

T

```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

Proof: by induction on a.

```
Induction Step: (not (endp a)).
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

Proof: by induction on a.

Induction Step: (not (endp a)).

```
(equal (append (cons (car a)
                   (append (cdr a) b)) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
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Proof: by induction on a.

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            (append (append (cdr a) b) c))
       (cons (car a)
         (append (cdr a) (append b c))))
```



```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

Proof: by induction on a.

Induction Step: (not (endp a)).

```
(equal (cons (car a)
       (append (append (cdr a) b) c))
       (cons (car a)
       (append (cdr a) (append b c))))
```

```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

Proof: by induction on a.

Induction Step: (not (endp a)).

```
(equal
  (append (append (cdr a) b) c)
  (append (cdr a) (append b c)))
```

```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

Proof: by induction on a.

Induction Step: (not (endp a)).

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(equal (append (append (cdr a) b) c)
       (append (cdr a) (append b c)))
```

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(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

Proof: by induction on a.

Induction Step: (not (endp a)).

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(equal (append (append (cdr a) b) c)
       (append (cdr a) (append b c)))
```

```
(equal (append (append a b) c)
       (append a (append b c)))
```

Proof: by induction on a.

Induction Step: (not (endp a)).

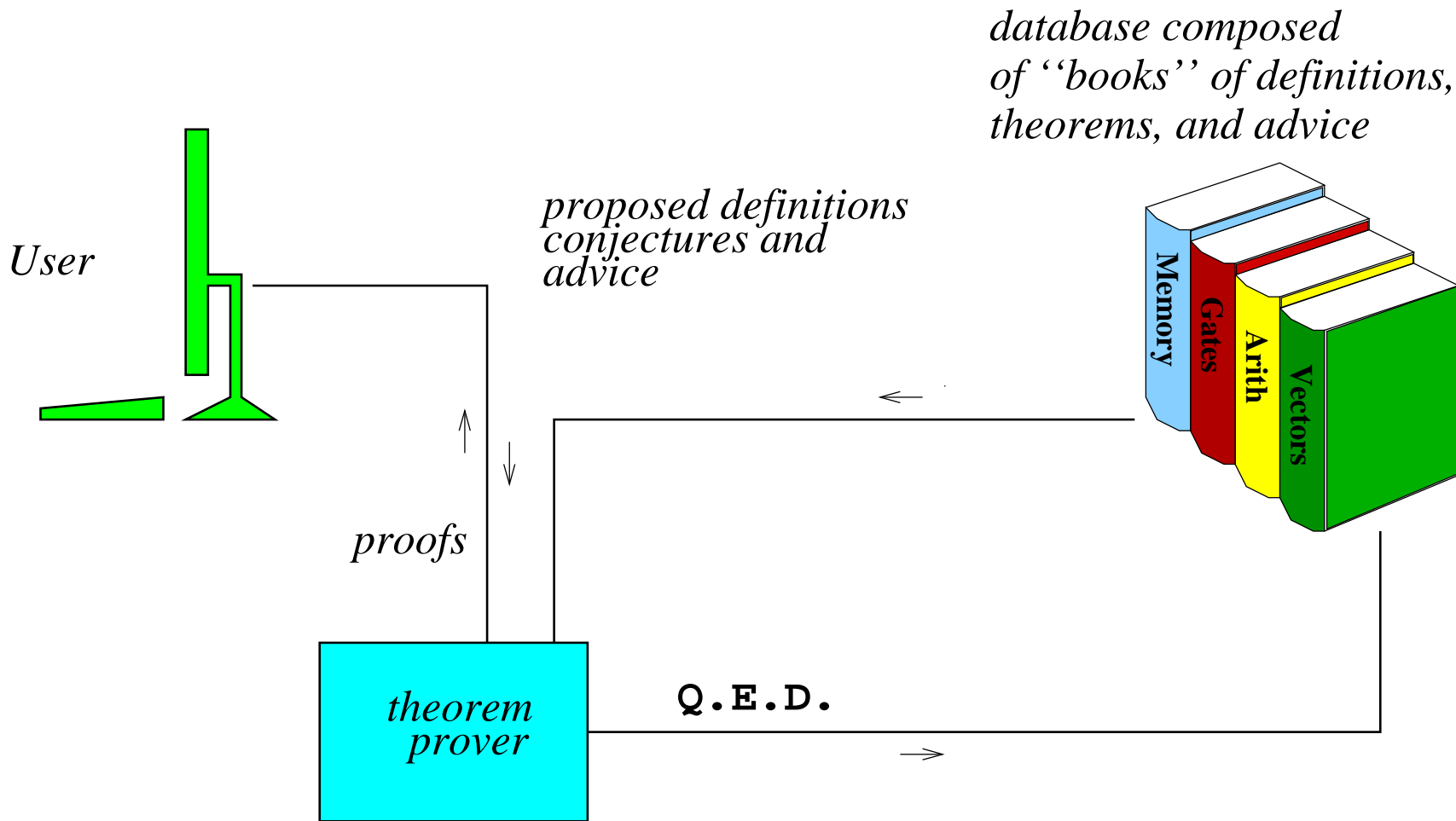
T

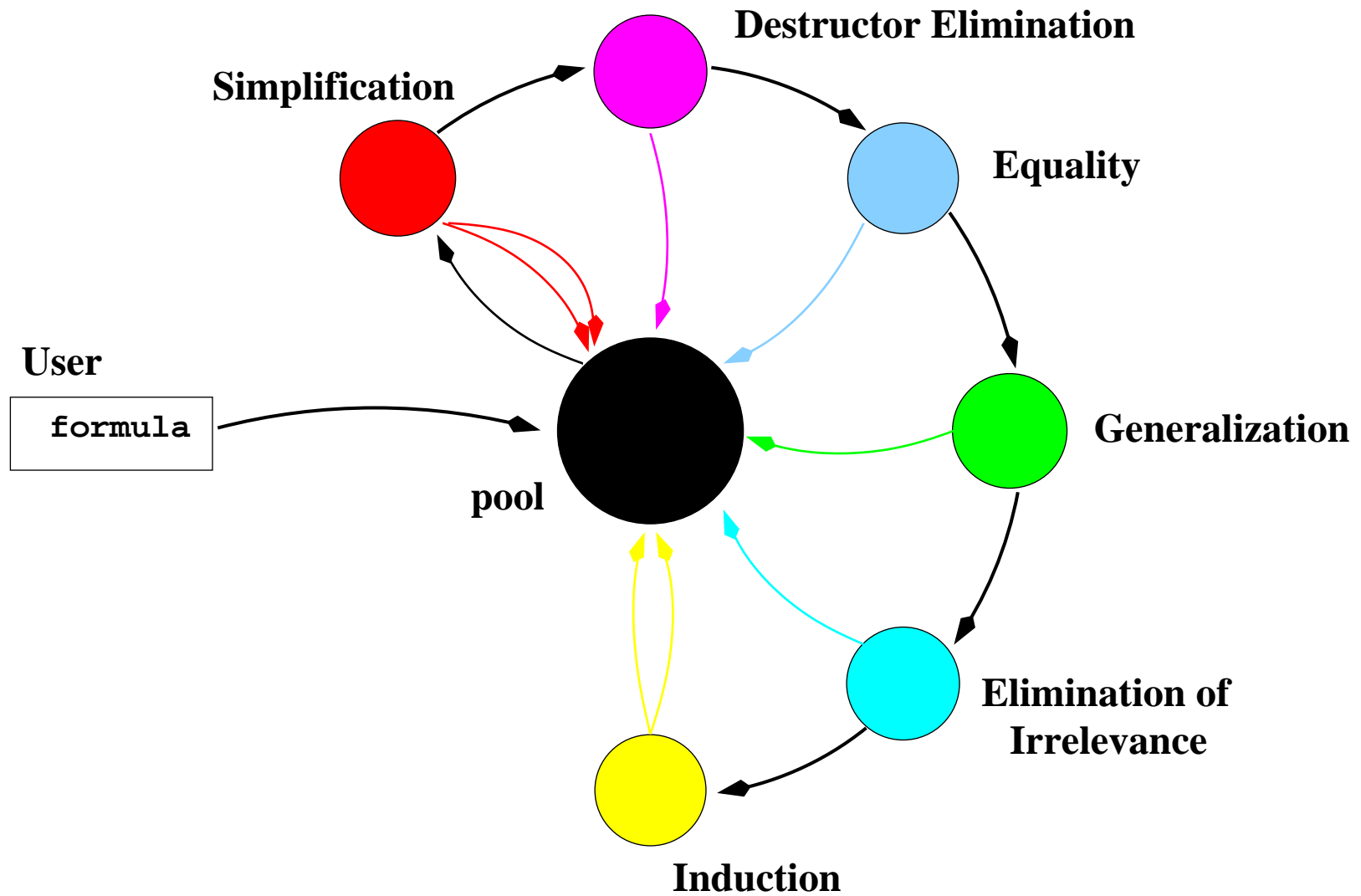
(equal (append (append a b) c)
 (append a (append b c)))

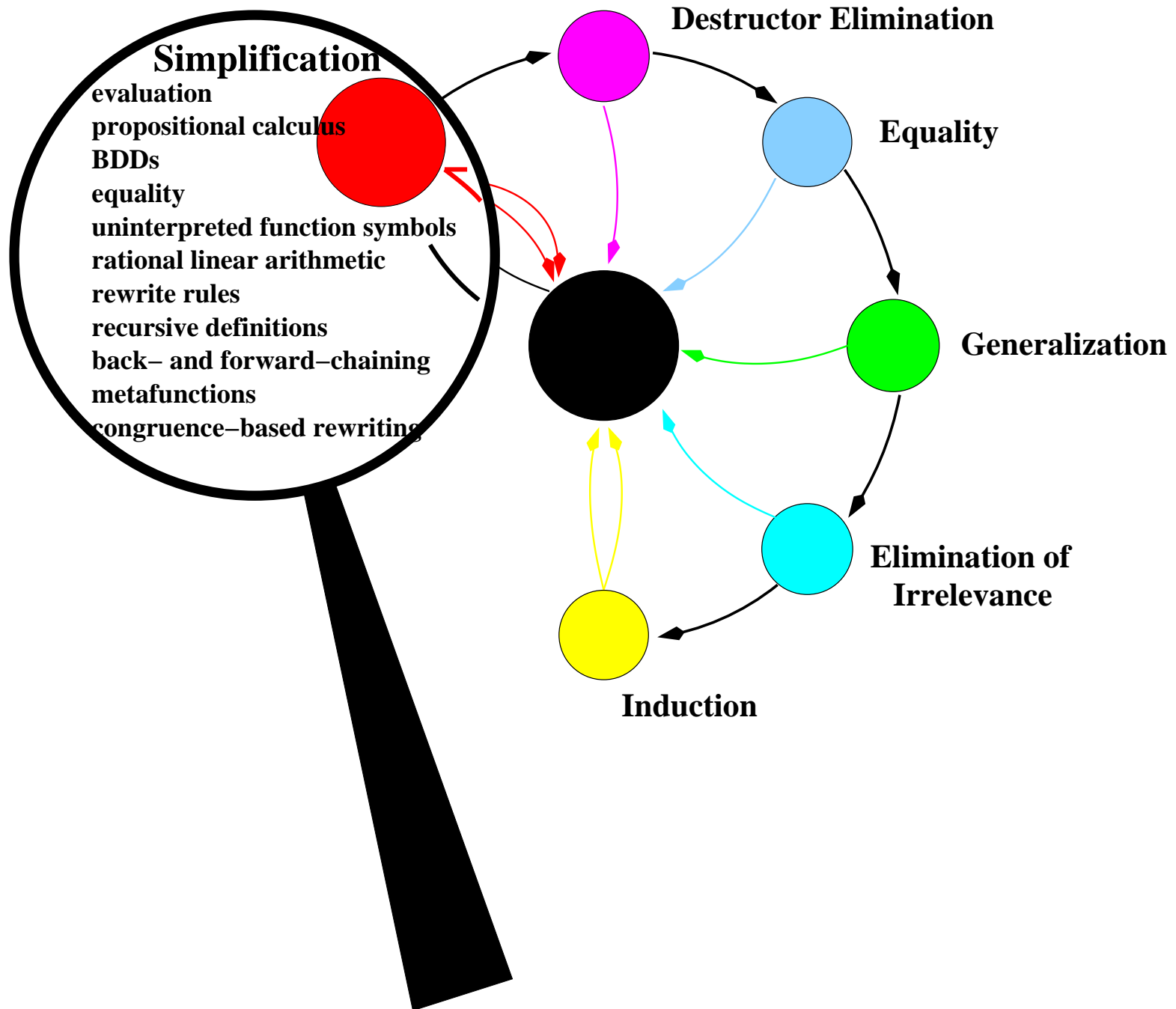
Proof: by induction on a.

Q.E.D.

Demo 1







Demo 2

Some More Realistic Examples

- a simple stack machine model
- a simple expression language model
- a simple compiler
- proof that the compiler is correct

The Stack Machine

We will formalize a machine:

$m : \textit{programs} \times \textit{environments} \times \textit{stacks}$

\rightarrow

\textit{stacks}

Sample program:

```
( (LOAD A)
```

```
  (PUSH 3)
```

```
  (MUL) )
```

Instruction set:

(LOAD *var*

(PUSH *const*)

(ADD)

(MUL)

(DUP)

No instruction will change the environment
(no STORE instruction).

Sample environment:

((A . 20)

(B . 30)

(X . -5)

(TEMP . 18))

Sample stack:

```
(push 1 (push 2 (push 3 nil)))
```

⇒

```
(1 2 3)
```

Expressions

We will compile simple expressions into this language and prove that we did it correctly.

The expression language is

```
<expr> := <variable> |  
         <constant> |  
         <unary-application> |  
         <binary-application>
```

`<unary-application>`

`:= (- <expr>) |`
`(sq <expr>)`

`<binary-application>`

`:= (<expr> + <expr>) |`
`(<expr> - <expr>) |`
`(<expr> * <expr>)`

Obvious Criticisms

Everything is trivial!

No `STORE` instruction.

No program counter.

No branch or conditionals.

No iteration or loops.

No object creation.

No method invocation.

No exceptions or errors.

Response to the Criticism

I will show you a completely realistic model when we're done with this one.

But for now I want you to really *understand* what is involved in modeling two computational paradigms and proving their correspondence formally.

I'll follow "The Method" to do my proofs and show you everything (except some trivial "abstract data type" work at the bottom).

Demo 3

JVM Operational Semantics

Our “M6” model is based on an implementation of the J2ME KVM. It executes most J2ME Java programs (except those with significant I/O or floating-point).

M6 supports all CLDC data types, multi-threading, dynamic class loading,

class initialization and synchronization via monitors.

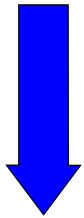
We have translated the entire Sun CLDC API library implementation into our representation with 672 methods in 87 classes. We provide implementations for 21 out of 41 native APIs that appear in Sun's CLDC API library.

We prove theorems about bytecoded methods with the ACL2 theorem prover.

The executable model is 160 pages of ACL2. This doesn't count over 500 pages of data (the CLDC API) built into the model.

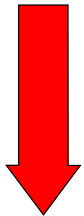
This work is supported by a gift from Sun Microsystems.

.java



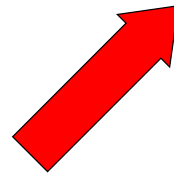
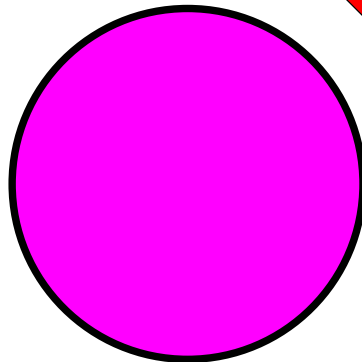
javac

.class



jvm2acl2

.lisp



Theorems

“pi(246)=123”



“pi(n)=n/2”

Demo 4

Key Research Problems

1. Automatic Invention of Lemmas and New Concepts
2. How to use Examples and Counterexamples
3. How to use Analogy, Learning, and Data Mining

4. How to Architect an Open Verification Environment
5. Parallel, Distributed and Collaborative Theorem Proving
6. User Interface and Interactive Steering
7. Education of the User Community – and Their Managers

8. How to Build a Verified Theorem Prover

Our Hypothesis

The “high cost” of formal methods

– to the extent the cost is high –

is a *historical anomaly* due to the fact that virtually every project formally recapitulates the past.

The use of mechanized formal methods will ultimately

- *decrease* time-to-market, and
- *increase* reliability.

Conclusion

Mechanical reasoning systems are changing the way complex digital artifacts are built.

Complexity not an argument *against* formal methods.

It is an argument *for* formal methods.

References

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Kaufmann, Manolios, Moore, Kluwer Academic
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Academic Publishers, 2000.

<http://www.cs.utexas.edu/users/moore/acl2>