Growing Software

From Scripts to Programs

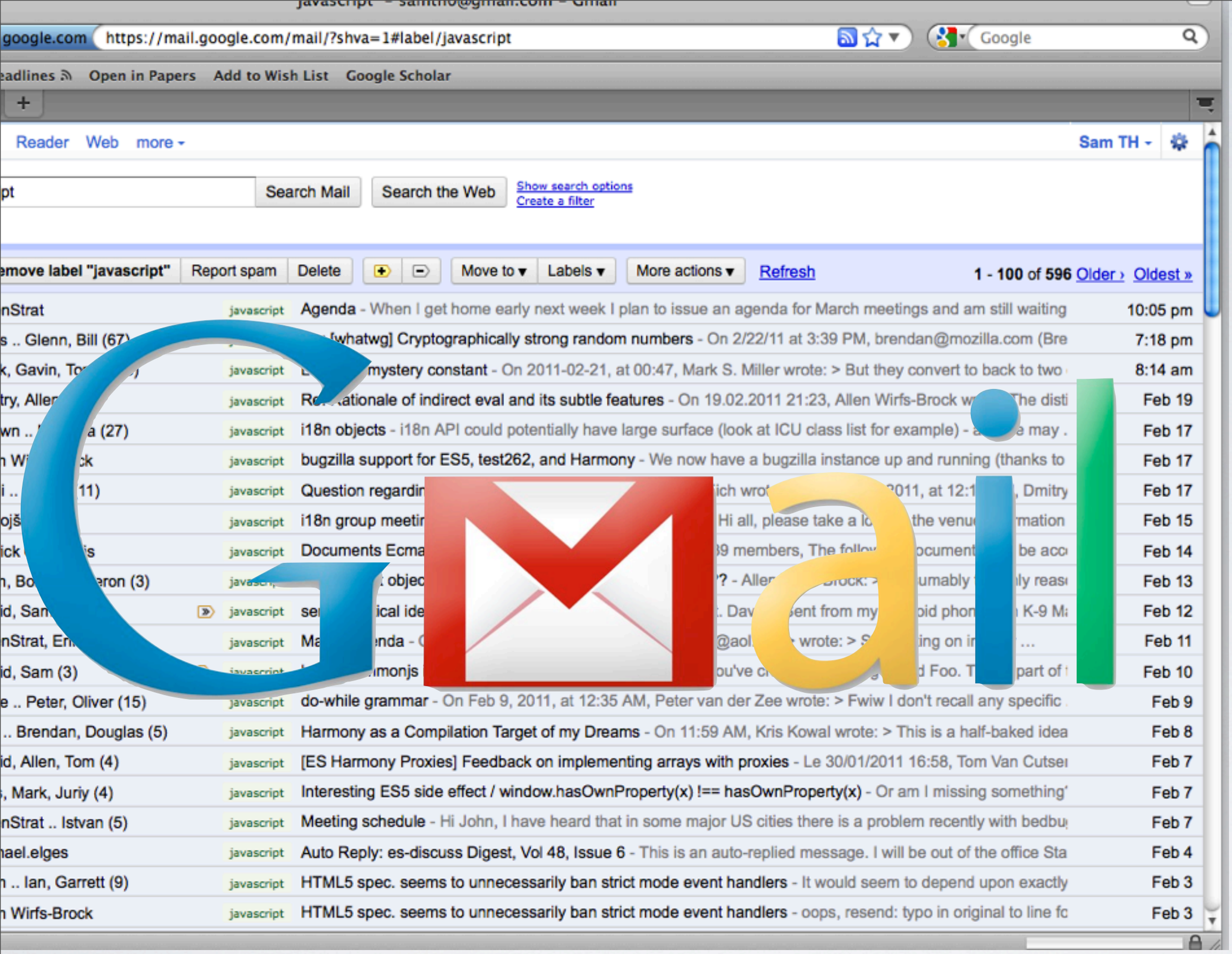
Sam Tobin-Hochstadt

March 2, 2011

Oregon State University

The Rise Of Scripting

A brief tour


google.com
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Google
Open in Papers
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Reader
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more
Sam TH
Search Mail
Search the Web
Show search options
Create a filter
Report spam
Delete
Move to
Labels
More actions
Refresh
1 - 100 of 596 Older › Oldest »
javascript
Agenda - When I get home early next week I plan to issue an agenda for March meetings and am still waiting 10:05 pm
[whatwg] Cryptographically strong random numbers - On 2/22/11 at 3:39 PM, brendan@mozilla.com (Bre 7:18 pm
mystery constant - On 2011-02-21, at 00:47, Mark S. Miller wrote: > But they convert to back to two 8:14 am
Rationale of indirect eval and its subtle features - On 19.02.2011 21:23, Allen Wirfs-Brock w Feb 19
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bugzilla support for ES5, test262, and Harmony - We now have a bugzilla instance up and running (thanks to Feb 17
Question regardin Feb 17
i18n group meetin Hi all, please take a lo Feb 15
Documents Ecma 9 members, The follow Feb 14
Feb 13
Feb 12
Feb 11
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Harmony as a Compilation Target of my Dreams - On 11:59 AM, Kris Kowal wrote: > This is a half-baked idea Feb 8
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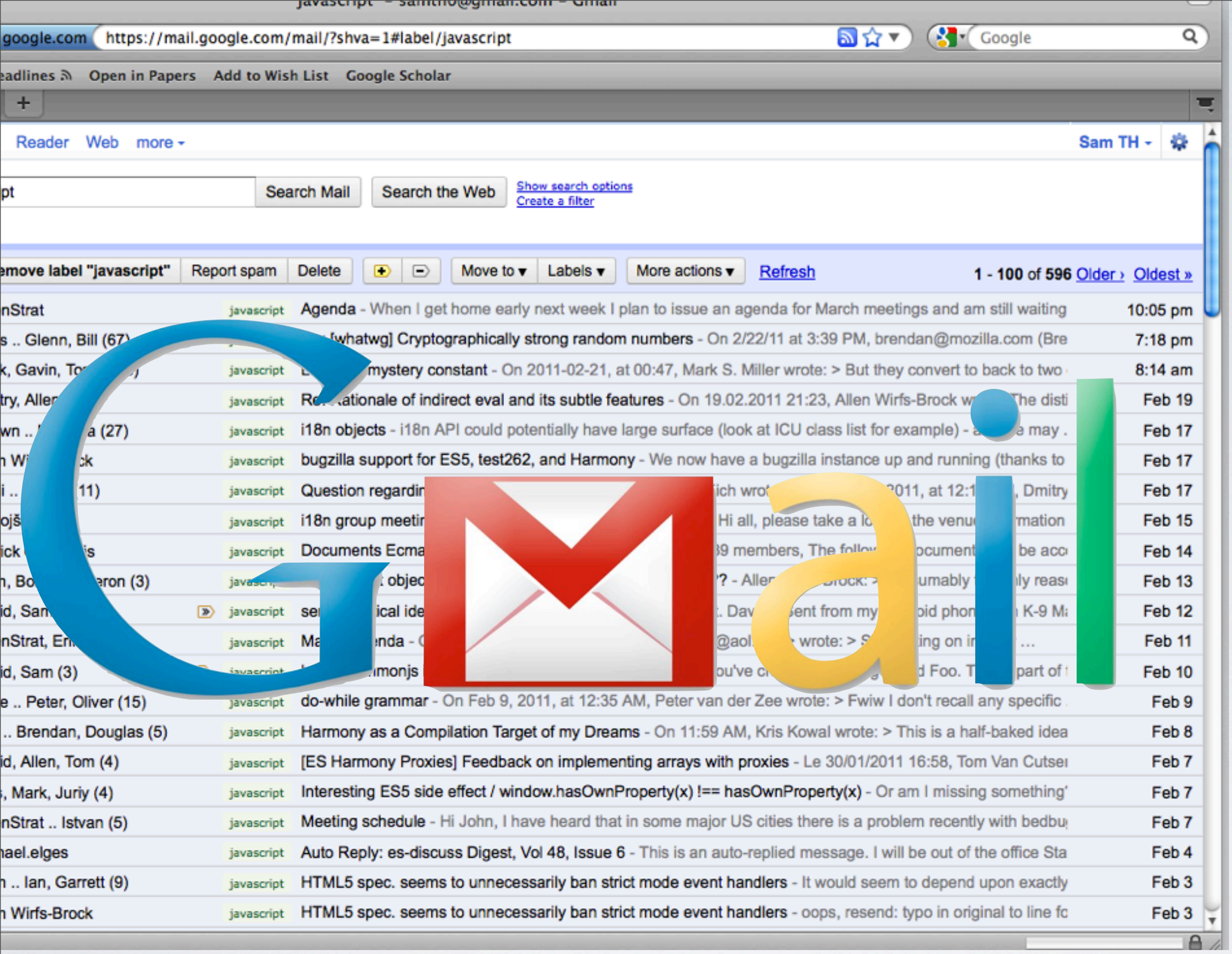
HTML5 spec. seems to unnecessarily ban strict mode event handlers - oops, resend: typo in original to line fc Feb 3


google.com
https://mail.google.com/mail/?shva=1#label/javascript
Google
Open in Papers
Add to Wish List
Google Scholar
Reader
Web
more
Sam TH
Search Mail
Search the Web
Show search options
Create a filter
Report spam
Delete
Move to
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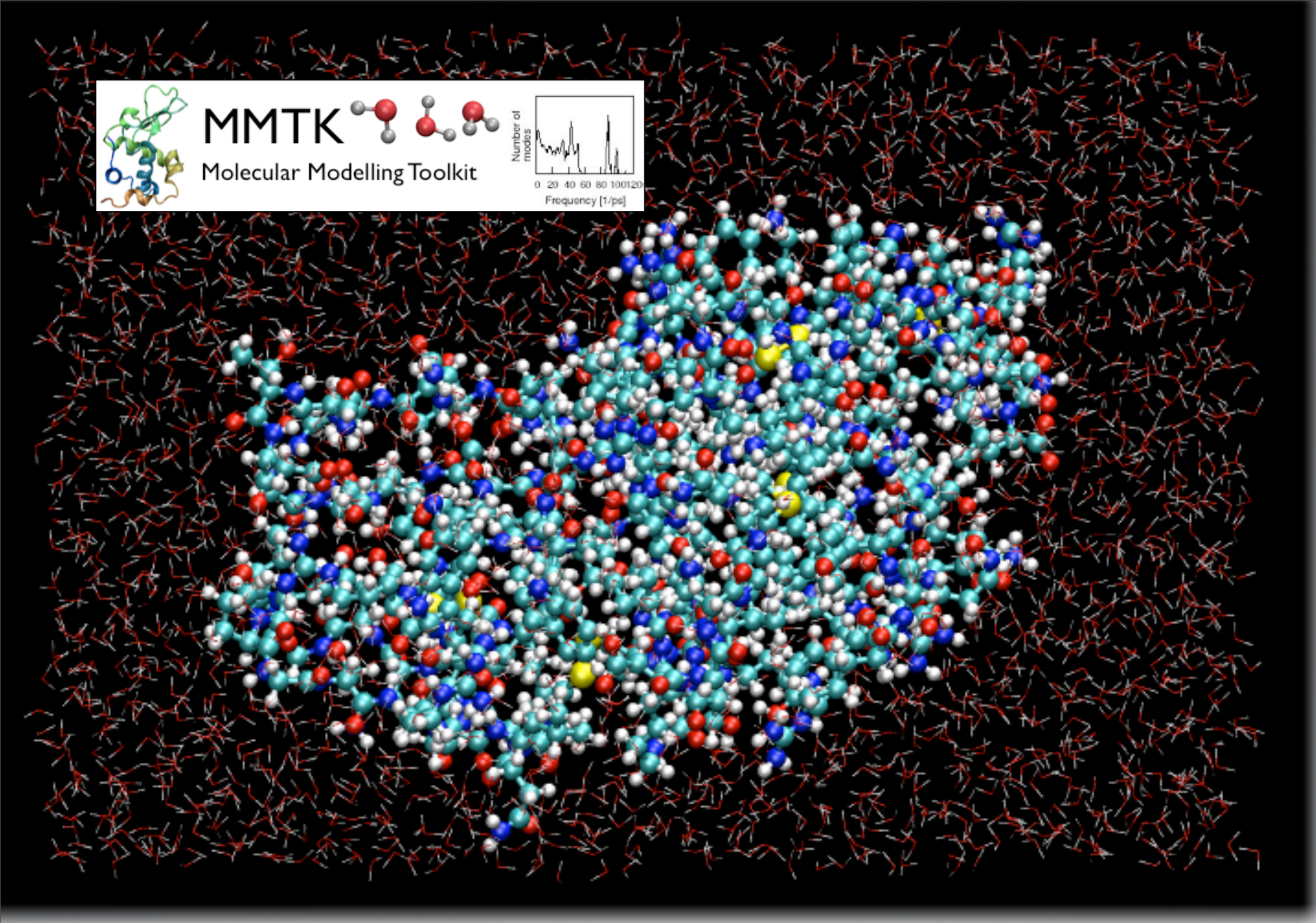
Peter, Oliver (15)
Brendan, Douglas (5)
Allen, Tom (4)
Mark, Juriy (4)
Istvan (5)
Ian, Garrett (9)
Wirfs-Brock

JavaScript

Lua


MMTK
Molecular Modelling Toolkit
Number of modes
0 20 40 60 80 100120
Frequency [1/ps]

Python

Perl

FÖRSTA AP-FONDEN

Sitemap | Prenumerera | Ordlista | English

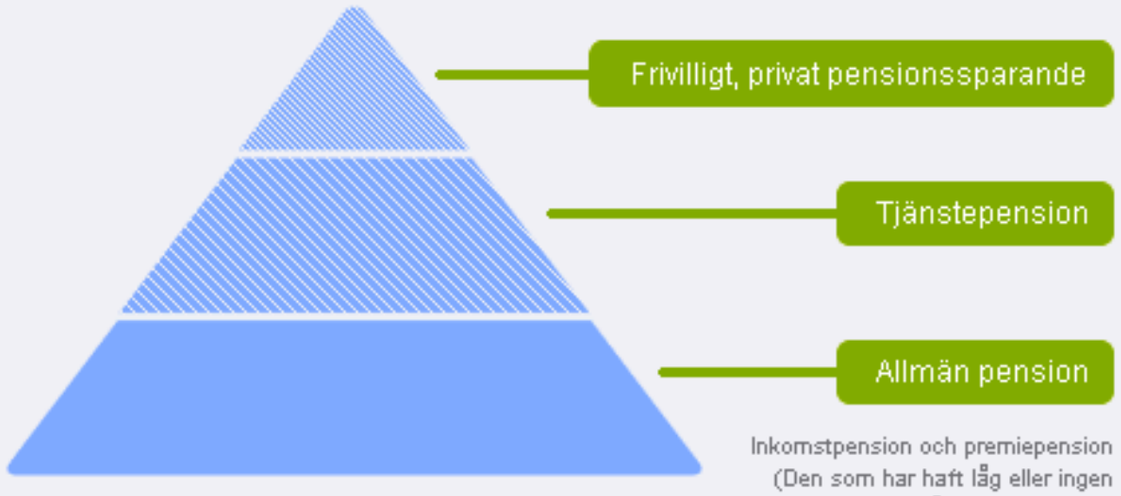
Sök

Om AP1 | Vårt uppdrag | Förvaltningen | Ägarstyrning | Upphandlingar | Finansiell information och press | Kontakt | Dela

Vårt uppdrag > Pensionssystemet

Pensionssystemet

Det svenska pensionssystemet består av tre huvuddelar, den statliga allmänna pensionen, tjänstepensionen och den frivilliga pensionen. AP-fondernas förvaltning är den del av den allmänna pensionen.



Pensionssystemet kan liknas vid en pyramid där den allmänna pensionen utgör basen, därefter tjänstepensionen och överst det frivilliga privata pensionssparandet.

Allmän pension

Kontakt
Ossian Ekdahl
Chef för kommunikation och ägarstyrning
Tel: 08-566 20 209
Mob: 0709-681 209
e-post

Relaterade länkar

- Så här fungerar inkomstpensionssystemet

Relaterade länkar

- Vårt uppdrag
- Inkomstpensionssystemet
- Vad påverkar inkomstpensionens storlek?
- AP-fondernas historia

PPM Swedish Pensions

Quick hack to critical system:
The paradigmatic scripting story

Started as a backup system
Ended managing billions in assets

“whipitupitude” — Larry Wall

viaweb

Common Lisp → C++

Ruby → Scala → Java

Addressing the Challenge

Non-Solutions

- Waterfall development of spec and code
- Replace all scripting languages
- Omniscient program analysis

Non-Solutions

Waterfall development of spec and code

Replace all scripting languages

Omniscient program analysis

The all-too-common result: rewrite in C++/Java

What is a solution?

What we want: a robust, maintainable program

Where we are: a quick but overgrown script

What is a solution?

What we want: a robust, maintainable program

Existing PL technology:

Types as lightweight specifications

- Robustness via static enforcement
- Maintainability via checked specs
- Evolution via refactoring support

W

quick but overgrown script

What is a solution?

What we want: a robust, maintainable program in a **typed sister language**

Where we are: a quick but overgrown script

What is a solution?

What we want: a robust, maintainable program in a **typed sister language**

Add type annotations

Choose a component

Where we are: a quick but overgrown script

What is a solution?

What we want: a robust, maintainable program in a **typed sister language**

Check types statically

Add type annotations

Choose a component

Where we are: a quick but overgrown script

What is a solution?

What we want: a robust, maintainable program in a **typed sister language**

Safely Interoperate

Check types statically

Add type annotations

Choose a component

Where we are: a quick but overgrown script

What is a solution?

What we want: a robust, maintainable program in a **typed sister language**

Safely Interoperate

Check types statically

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Choose a component

Where we are: a quick but overgrown script

My Research Methodology

Discover a challenge in the real world

Study the challenge in a controlled but realistic environment

Formally analyze the problem

Implement the solution in a production system

Validate the solution in theory & practice

Bring the solution to the broader community

Racket

A descendant of Lisp & Scheme

15 years of development

20+ current developers

Used in dozens of companies,
120 universities, 200 schools

500,000 line code base

Ideal environment for investigating script to program evolution

Typed Racket

A typed dialect of Racket

Publicly distributed for 4+ years

Used in key Racket systems

Used in multiple companies and several college courses

Supports dozens of existing libraries

A testbed for scripts-to-programs research

```
(define (main stx trace-flag super-expr
              deser-id-expr name-id
              ifc-exprs defn-and-exprs)
```

```
(let-values ([(this-id) #'this-id]
             [(the-obj) (datum->syntax (quote-syntax here) (gensym 'self))]
             [(the-finder) (datum->syntax (quote-syntax here) (gensym 'find-self))])
  (let* ([def-ctx (syntax-local-make-definition-context)]
         [localized-map (make-bound-identifier-mapping)]
         [any-localized? #f]
         [localize/set-flag (lambda (id)
                              (let ([id2 (localize id)])
                                (unless (eq? id id2)
                                  (set! any-localized? #t))
                                id2))]
         [bind-local-id (lambda (id)
                          (let ([l (loc
                            (syntax-loc
                            (bound-iden
                             localized-
                             id
                             l)))]
         [lookup-localize (lambda (id)
                            (bound-identifier-mapping-get
                             localized-map
                             id
                             (lambda ()
                               ; If internal & external names are distinguished,
                               ; we need to fall back to localize:
                               (localize id))))])
    ; ----- Expand definitions -----
    (let ([defn-and-exprs (expand-all-forms stx defn-and-exprs def-ctx bind-local-id)]
          [bad (lambda (msg expr)
                 (raise-syntax-error #f msg stx expr))]
          [class-name (if name-id
                          (syntax-e name-id)
                          (let ([s (syntax-local-infer-name stx)])
                            (if (syntax? s)
                                (syntax-e s)
                                s)))])
      ; ------ Basic syntax checks -----
      (for-each (lambda (stx)
                  (syntax-case stx (-init init-rest -field -init-field inherit-field
                                    private public override augride
                                    public-final override-final augment-final
                                    pubment overment augment
                                    rename-super inherit inherit/super inherit/inner rename-inner
                                    inspect)
                    [(form orig idp ...)
                     (and (identifier? #'form)
                          (or (free-identifier=? #'form (quote-syntax -init))
                              (free-identifier=? #'form (quote-syntax -init-field))))])))))))
```

+ 900 more lines

```
)
```

```
;; Start Here
(define (main stx trace-flag super-expr
              deser-id-expr name-id
              ifc-exprs defn-and-exprs)
```

```
(let-values ([(this-id) #'this-id]
             [(the-obj) (datum->syntax (quote-syntax here) (gensym 'self))]
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         [localize/set-flag (lambda (id)
                              (let ([id2 (localize id)])
                                (unless (eq? id id2)
                                  (set! any-localized? #t))
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         [bind-local-id (lambda (id)
                          (let ([l (loc
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                             id
                             l))))]
         [lookup-localize (lambda (id)
                            (bound-identifier-mapping-get
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                          (let ([s (syntax-local-infer-name stx)])
                            (if (syntax? s)
                                (syntax-e s)
                                s)))])
      ; ------ Basic syntax checks -----
      (for-each (lambda (stx)
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                    [(form orig idp ...)
                     (and (identifier? #'form)
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                              (free-identifier=? #'form (quote-syntax -init-field))))])))))
```

+ 900 more lines

)

```
(: main : Stx Bool Expr (or #f Id) ... -> Expr)
(define (main stx trace-flag super-expr
              deser-id-expr name-id
              ifc-exprs defn-and-exprs)
```

```
(let-values ([(this-id) #'this-id]
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```

+ 900 more lines

)

Safe Interoperation

Modular Programs, Modular Checking

```
require(["some/module",
         "text!some/module.html",
         "text!some/module.css"],
    function(module, html, css) {
        return style_with(html, css);
    }
);
```

Modular Programs, Modular Checking

```
require(["some/module",
         "text!some/module.html",

    fun
    }
);
```

```
import os.system
system.output(“hello world”)
```

Modular Programs, Modular Checking

```
require(["some/module",
         "text!some/module.html",

    fun   import os.system
          system.output(“hello world”)
    }
);
```

```
.

module DogsRelated
  NBR_OF_DOGS_NEEDED = 5
  class Dog
    def bark
      puts "Woof..."
    end
  end
end
```

Modular Programs,
Modular Checking

```
require(["some/module",
         "text!some/module.html",

    fun
    }
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```
  import os.system
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```

```
module DogsRelated
  NBR_OF_DOGS_NEEDED = 5
  class Dog
    def bark
      puts "Woof..
    end
  end
end
```

```
render :: Data -> Graphic

function render(d) {
    let d1 = process(d);
    return transform(d1);
}
```

Making Interoperation Safe

Typed Module

?

Untyped Module

Untyped Module

Untyped Module

Making Interoperation Safe

Typed Module

Dynamic
Type-Enforcing
Boundary

Untyped Module

Untyped Module

Untyped Module

Making Interoperation Safe

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Typed Module

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Typed Module

Typed Module

Dynamically Enforcing Types

Static Type	Synthesized Dynamic Check
`Number`	`is_numeric`
`Listof[String]`	`s.all(is_string)`

Dynamically Enforcing Types

Static Type	Synthesized Dynamic Check
`Number`	`is_numeric`
`Listof[String]`	`s.all(is_string)`
`InFile -> OutFile`	preconditions/postconditions

server

```
#lang          racket

(define (add5 x) (+ x 5))
```

client

```
#lang          racket

(require server)
(add5 7)
```

server

```
#lang racket

(define (add5 x) (+ x 5))
```

client

```
#lang racket

(require server)
(add5 "seven")
```

```
+: expected number, but got “seven”
```

server

```
#lang typed/racket

(: add5 : Number -> Number)
(define (add5 x) (+ x 5))
```

client

```
#lang          racket

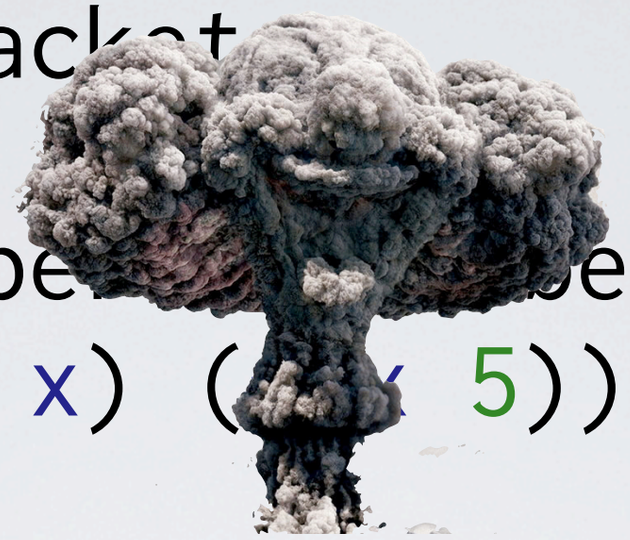
(require server)
(add5 "seven")
```

```
+: expected number, but got “seven”
```

server

```
#lang typed/racket

(: add5 : Number Number)
(define (add5 x) (+ x 5))
```



client

```
#lang racket

(require server)
(add5 "seven")
```

```
+: expected number, but got “seven”
```

server

```
#lang typed/racket

(: add5 : Number -> Number)
(define (add5 x) (+ x 5))
```

client

```
#lang          racket

(require server)
(add5 "seven")
```

client broke the specification on add5

server

```
#lang          racket

(define (add5 x) "x plus 5")
```

client

```
#lang typed/racket

(require server
         [add5 (Number -> Number)])
(add5 7)
```

server interface broke the specification on add5

Dynamically Enforcing Types

Static Type	Synthesized Dynamic Check
`Number`	`is_numeric`
`Listof[String]`	`s.all(is_string)`
`InFile -> OutFile`	preconditions/postconditions
`(ℝ -> ℝ) -> (ℝ -> ℝ)`	

Dynamically Enforcing Types

Static Type	Synthesized Dynamic Check
`Number`	`is_numeric`
`Listof[String]`	`s.all(is_string)`
`InFile -> OutFile`	preconditions/postconditions
`(ℝ -> ℝ) -> (ℝ -> ℝ)`	higher-order contracts

[Findler & Felleisen ICFP 02]

server

```
#lang typed/racket

(: deriv : (ℝ -> ℝ) -> (ℝ -> ℝ))
(define (deriv f) (lambda (x) ...))
```

client

```
#lang          racket

(require server)
(define cos (deriv sin))
(cos "bad")
```

server

```
#lang typed/racket

(: deriv : (ℝ -> ℝ) -> (ℝ -> ℝ))
(define (deriv f) (lambda (x) ...))
```

client

```
#lang        racket

(require server)
(define cos (deriv sin))
(cos "bad")
```

client broke the specification on deriv

server

```
#lang typed/racket

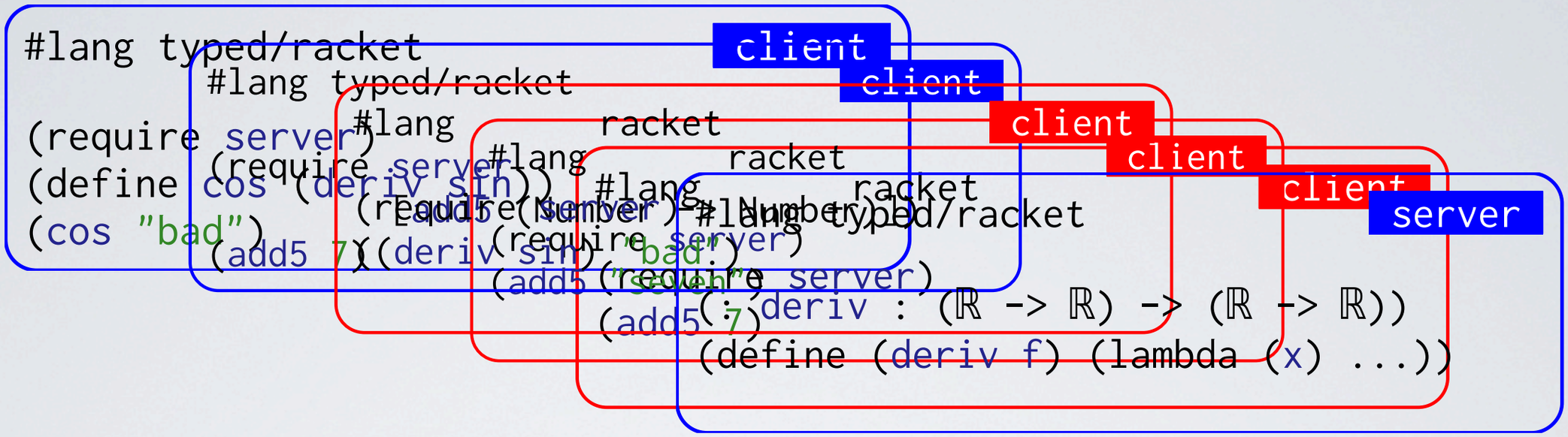
(: deriv : (ℝ -> ℝ) -> (ℝ -> ℝ))
(define (deriv f) (lambda (x) ...))
```

client

```
#lang typed/racket

(require server)
(define cos (deriv sin))
(cos "bad")
```

```
typechecker: incorrect argument to deriv
```



Key Elements

Automatically Synthesizing Dynamic Checks from Types [DLS 06]

Multi-language Infrastructure [PLDI 11]

More Efficient, More Expressive Contracts [Work in progress]

Static Guarantees from Blame

```
server interface broke the specification on add5

client broke the specification on add5

client broke the specification on deriv
```

Static Guarantees from Blame

```
server interface broke the specification on add5

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client broke the specification on deriv
```

Contracts and blame give us a soundness theorem:

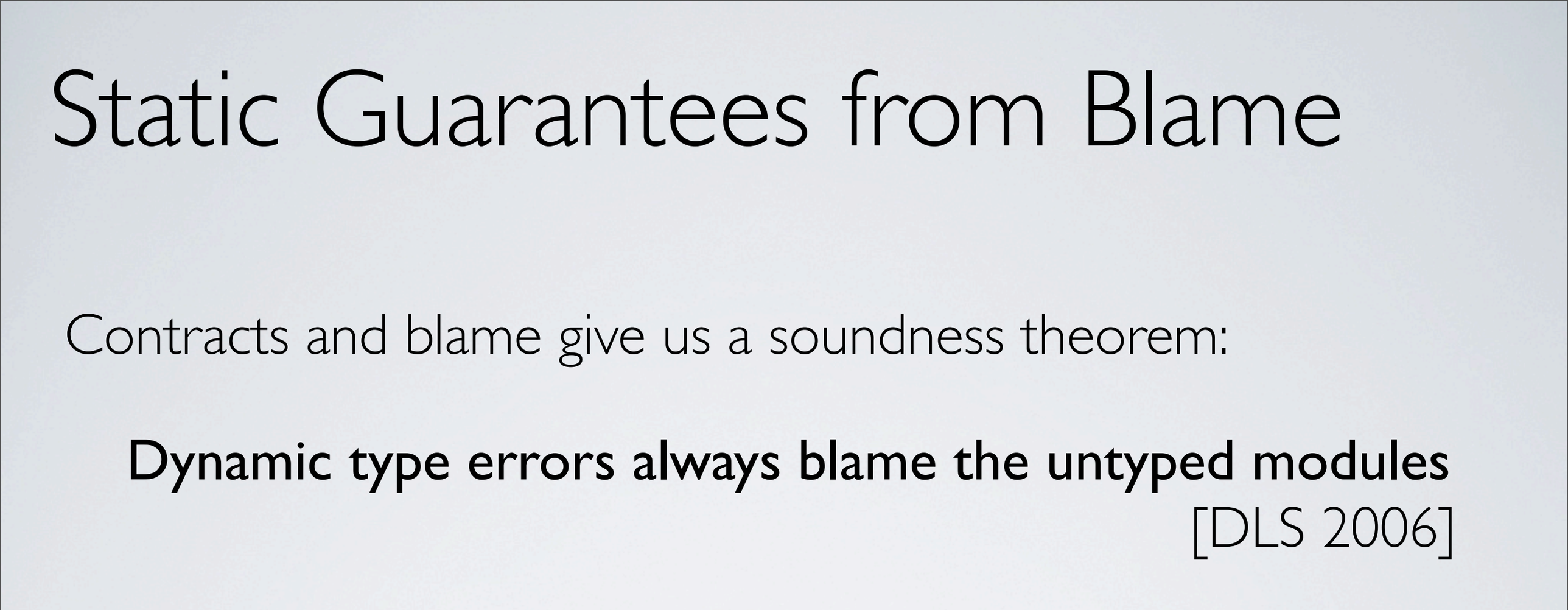
Dynamic type errors always blame the untyped modules
[DLS 2006]

Static Guarantees from Blame

Contracts and blame give us a soundness theorem:

Dynamic type errors always blame the untyped modules

[DLS 2006]



Why Multilanguage Soundness?

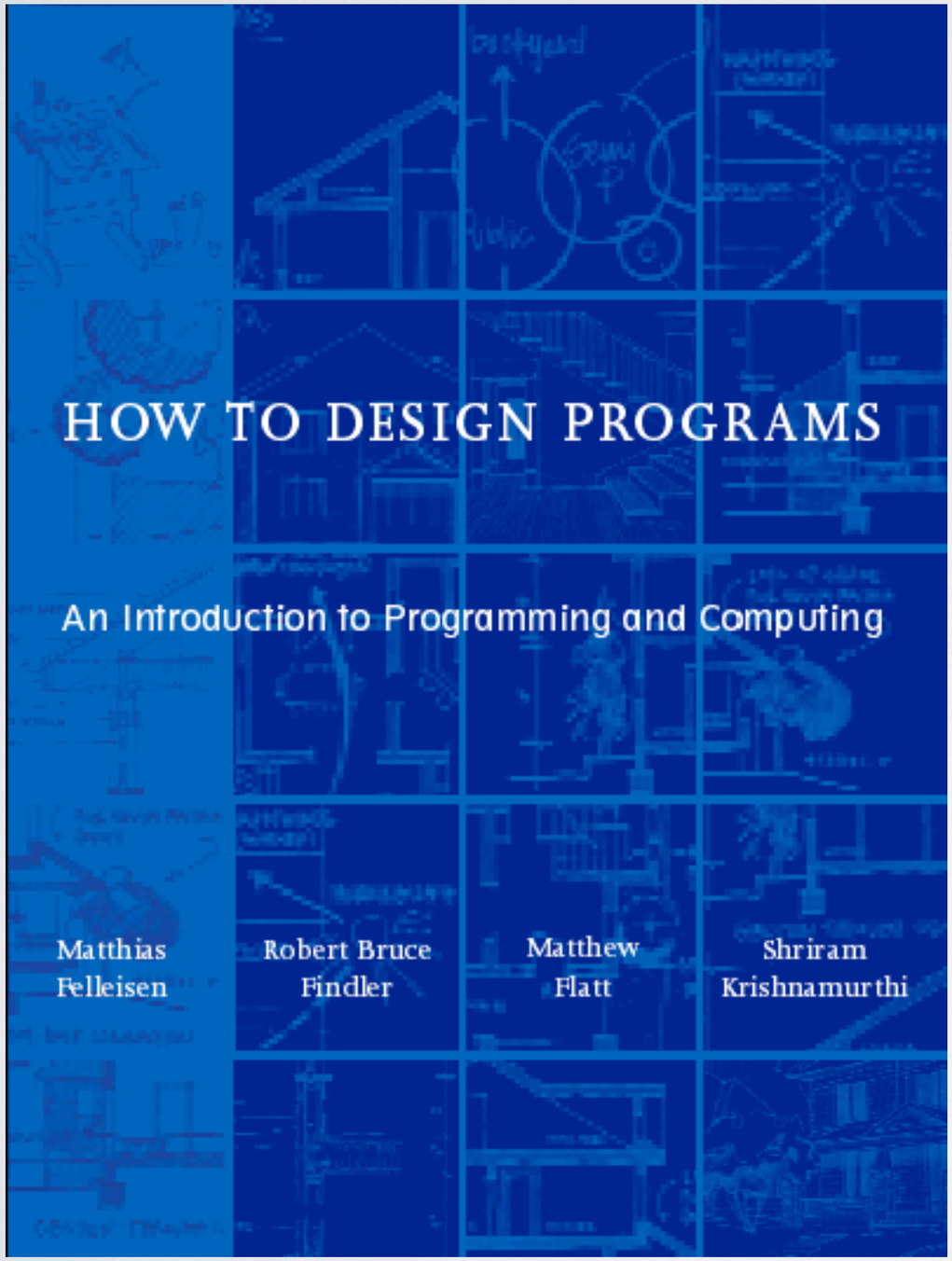
Support local reasoning

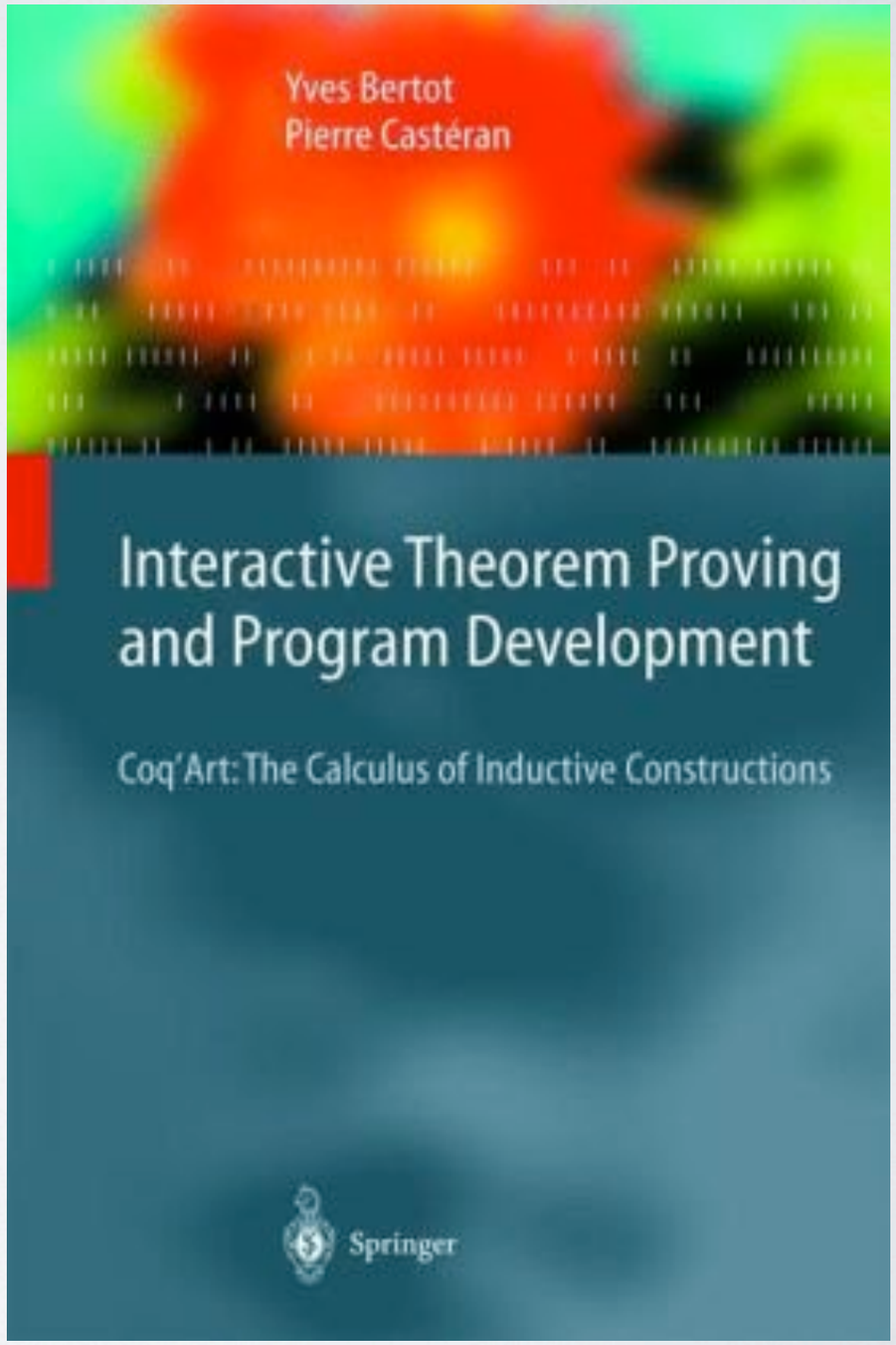
Static guarantee only depends on typed modules

Tunable levels of checking

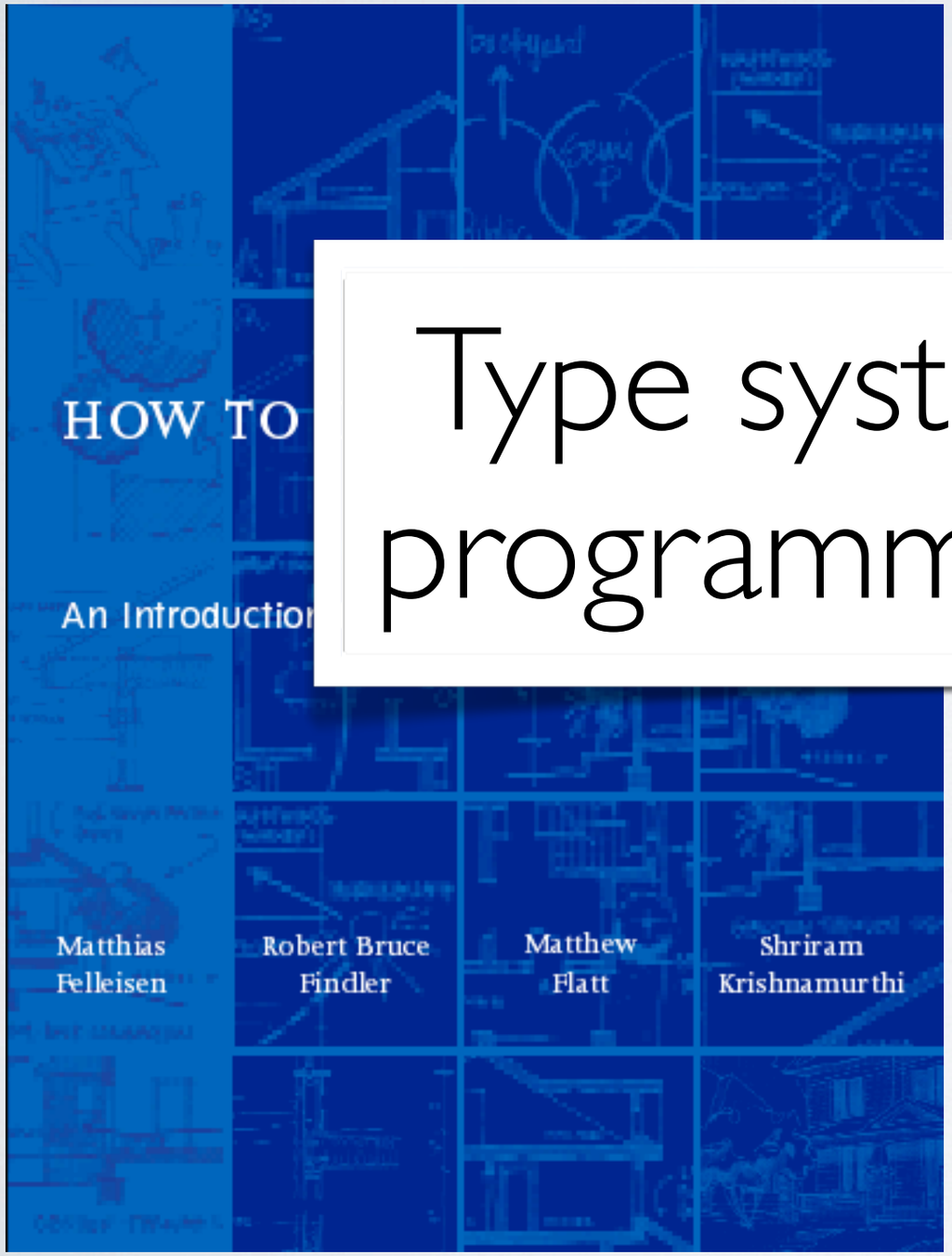
Types for Untyped Languages

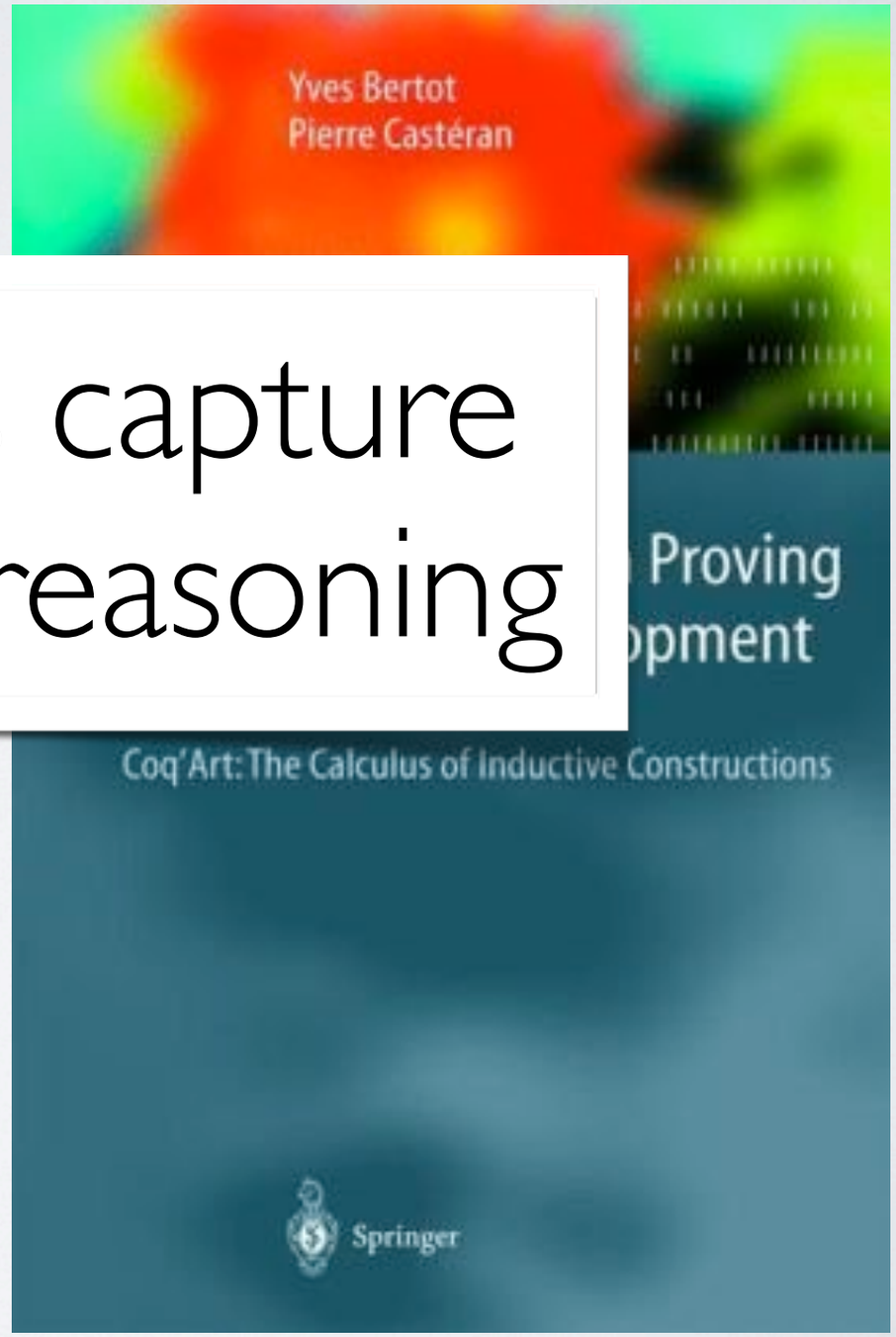
All programmers reason about their programs





All programmers reason about their programs





Type systems capture programmer reasoning

Programs in Lua don't use the Java type system

Perl
Python
Ruby

ML
Haskell
Scala

Programs in Lua don't use the Java type system

Clojure
Javascript
PHP

C#
C++
Pascal

Perl

ML

Solution: design a type system based on the existing idioms of the language

PHP

Pascal

Types for Existing Programs

Unions, Structures, Polymorphism	Standard
Occurrence Typing	[POPL 08] [ICFP 10]
Refinement Types	[HOSC 11]
Variable-Arity	[ESOP 09]
Numerics	in preparation

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Dynamic Type Tests

```
if (typeof x === “number”) {
  return x + 1;
}
else if (typeof x === “function”) {
  return x();
}
else if (typeof x === “object”) {
  return x.length;
}
else
  return 0;
```

Dynamic Type Tests

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  return 0;
```

```
if isinstance(x,Numeric):
  print x + 1
elif isinstance(x,String):
  print x
else:
  print “Nothing”
```

Dynamic Type Tests

```
if (typeof x === “number”) {
  return x + 1;
}
else if (typeof x === “function”) {
  return x();
}
else if (typeof x === “string”) {
  return x.length;
}
else
  return 0;
```

```
if isinstance(x,Numeric):
  print x + 1
elif isinstance(x,str):
  print x
else:
  print “Neither”
```

```
if (x instanceof String) {
    return ((String)x).length;
} else if (x instanceof Integer) {
    return ((Integer)x).intValue;
} else {
    return 0;
}
```

```
;; sum : BT -> Number
(define (sum bt)
  (cond [(number? bt) bt]
        [else (+
               (sum (left bt))
               (sum (right bt)))]))
```

```
(define-type BT (U Number (Pair BT BT)))


(: sum : BT -> Number)
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bt : BT

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number? : Any $\xrightarrow{\text{Number}}$ Bool

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```
(map rectangle-area
     (filter rectangle? list-of-shapes))
```

filter :

$$\forall \alpha \beta . (\alpha \xrightarrow{\beta} \texttt{Bool})\ (\texttt{Listof}\ \alpha) \rightarrow (\texttt{Listof}\ \beta)$$

```
(map rectangle-area
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```

filter :

$$(\texttt{Shape} \xrightarrow{\texttt{Rect}} \texttt{Bool})\ (\texttt{Listof Shape}) \rightarrow (\texttt{Listof Rect})$$

$$\forall\alpha\beta.(\alpha \xrightarrow{\beta} \texttt{Bool})\ (\texttt{Listof}\ \alpha) \rightarrow (\texttt{Listof}\ \beta)$$

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filter :

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Key Idea 1:
A logic to prove facts
about variables and types

$$\textbf{L-SUB}\quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \tau_x \qquad \vdash \tau <: \sigma}{\Gamma \vdash \sigma_x}$$

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Key Idea 2:
An environment of general propositions

$$\textsc{T-Var}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash \tau_x}{\Gamma \vdash x : \tau \,;\, \mathbf{\#f}_x \,|\, \mathbf{\#f}_x \,;\, x}$$

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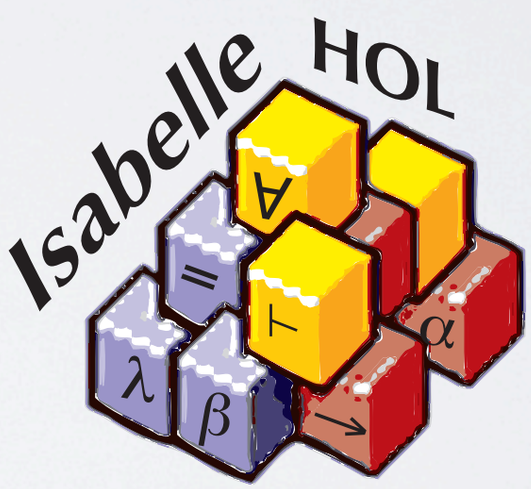
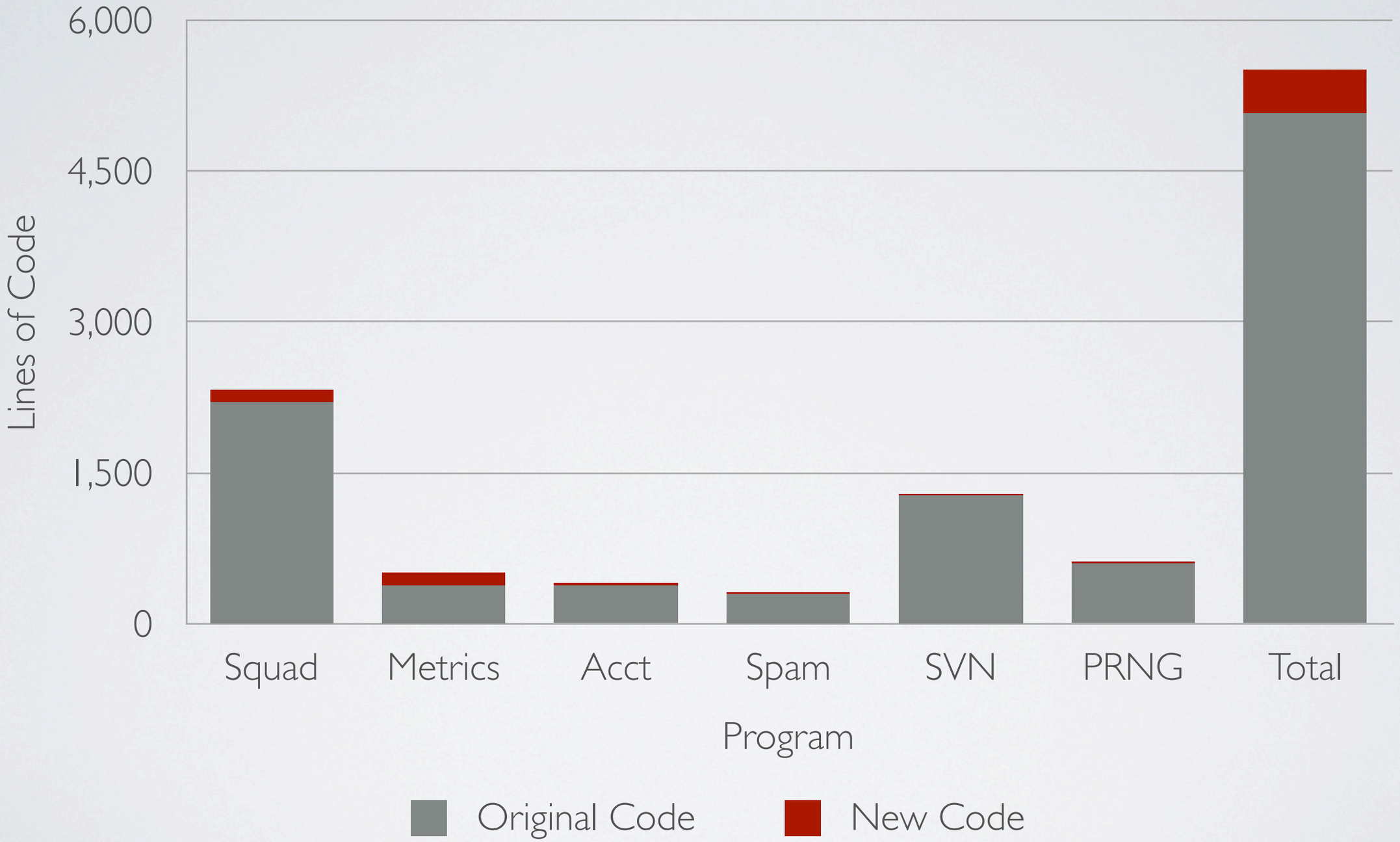
Result:
Rich type system that can follow sophisticated reasoning

Soundness: if $\mathsf{e} : \tau$ and $\mathsf{e} \rightarrow \mathsf{v}$, then $\mathsf{v} : \tau$

In other words, we can trust our types.



Validation: Existing Code



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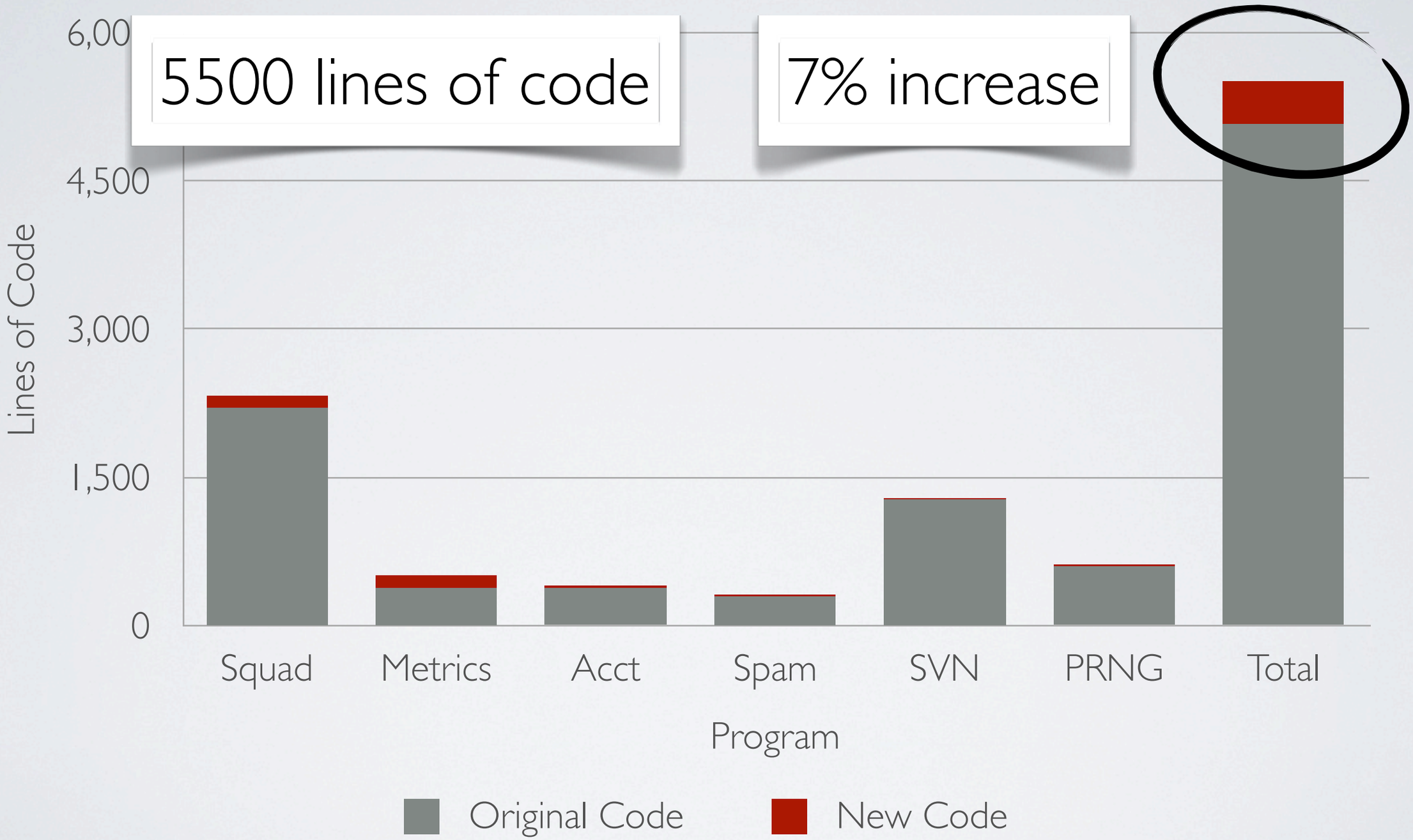

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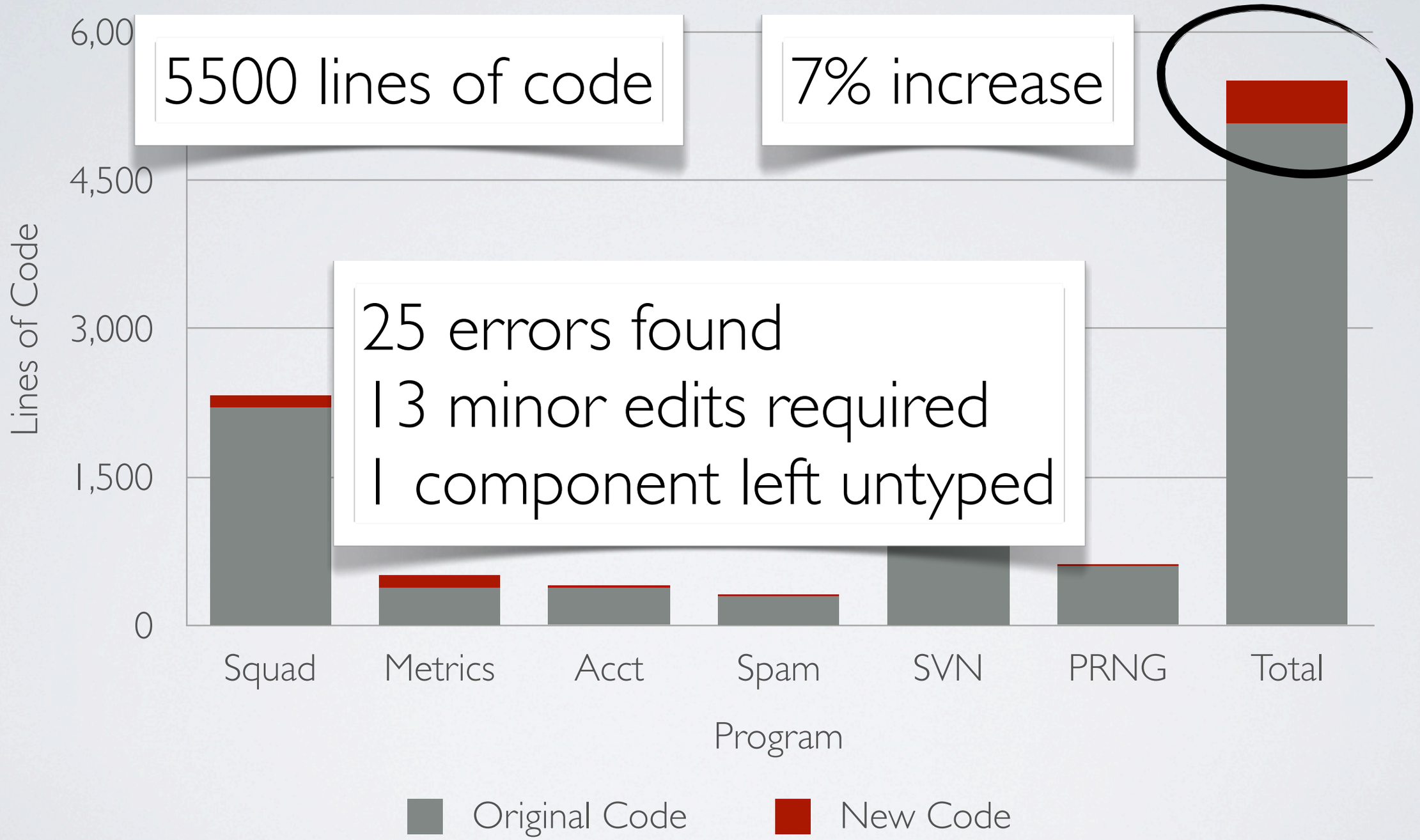

Validation: Comparative

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\mathit{fun}\ \mathit{balance}\ T\ (\mathbf{B}, T(\mathbf{R}, T(\mathbf{R}, a, x, b), y, c), z, d) = T(\mathbf{R}, T(\mathbf{B}, a, x, b), y, T(\mathbf{B}, c, z, d))\\
&\quad \mid \mathit{balance}\ T\ (\mathbf{B}, T(\mathbf{R}, a, x, T(\mathbf{R}, b, y, c)), z, d) = T(\mathbf{R}, T(\mathbf{B}, a, x, b), y, T(\mathbf{B}, c, z, d))\\
&\quad \mid \mathit{balance}\ T\ (\mathbf{B}, a, x, T(\mathbf{R}, T(\mathbf{R}, b, y, c), z, d)) = T(\mathbf{R}, T(\mathbf{B}, a, x, b), y, T(\mathbf{B}, c, z, d))\\
&\quad \mid \mathit{balance}\ T\ (\mathbf{B}, a, x, T(\mathbf{R}, b, y, T(\mathbf{R}, c, z, d))) = T(\mathbf{R}, T(\mathbf{B}, a, x, b), y, T(\mathbf{B}, c, z, d))\\
&\quad \mid \mathit{balance}\ T\ \mathit{body} = T\ \mathit{body}
\end{aligned}
$$

```
(define (balance tree)
  (match tree
    [(T B (T R (T R a x b) y c) z d)   (T R (T B a x b) y (T B c z d))]
    [(T B (T R a x (T R b y c)) z d)   (T R (T B a x b) y (T B c z d))]
    [(T B a x (T R (T R b y c) z d))   (T R (T B a x b) y (T B c z d))]
    [(T B a x (T R b y (T R c z d)))   (T R (T B a x b) y (T B c z d))]
    [else tree]))
```

[Prashanth Thesis 2011]

Contracts to Dynamically Enforce Types

Blame for Soundness

DLS 2006, STOP 2009

Contracts to Dynamically Enforce Types

Blame for Soundness

Type System for Language Idioms

Validation on Existing Programs

POPL 2008, ESOP 2009, ICFP 2010, HOSC 2011, Prashanth Thesis

Contracts to Dynamically Enforce Types

Blame for Soundness

Type System for Language Idioms

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Multilanguage Development Infrastructure

Scheme 2007, PLDI 2011

Developing a solution

Locate an existing problem

Typed

Untyped

Developing a solution

Locate an existing problem

Develop a rigorous design

Typed

Untyped

ST-Abs

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : t \vdash^{ST} e : s; e'}{\Gamma \vdash^{ST} (\lambda x : t.e) : (t \to s); (\lambda x : t.e')}$$

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Validate by implementation & experiment

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De… rigorous design

Transfer Lessons to Other Languages

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash^{ST} e : s; e'}{\Gamma \vdash^{ST} (\lambda x : t.e) : (t \to s); (\lambda x : t.e')}$$

Validate by implementation & experiment

The Way Forward

Bringing the solution to the broader community

Next Stop: JavaScript

Language Infrastructure

Contracts

Modules

In collaboration with

Next Stop: JavaScript

Language Infrastructure

Contracts

Modules

In collaboration with

Modules on the Web

```
module $ = “http://jquery.com/jquery.js”;

$(document).ready(function() {
    alert(“hello world”);
})
```

Naming Scoping Pre-fetching, parsing, compiling

Sandboxing Cross-Origin Security

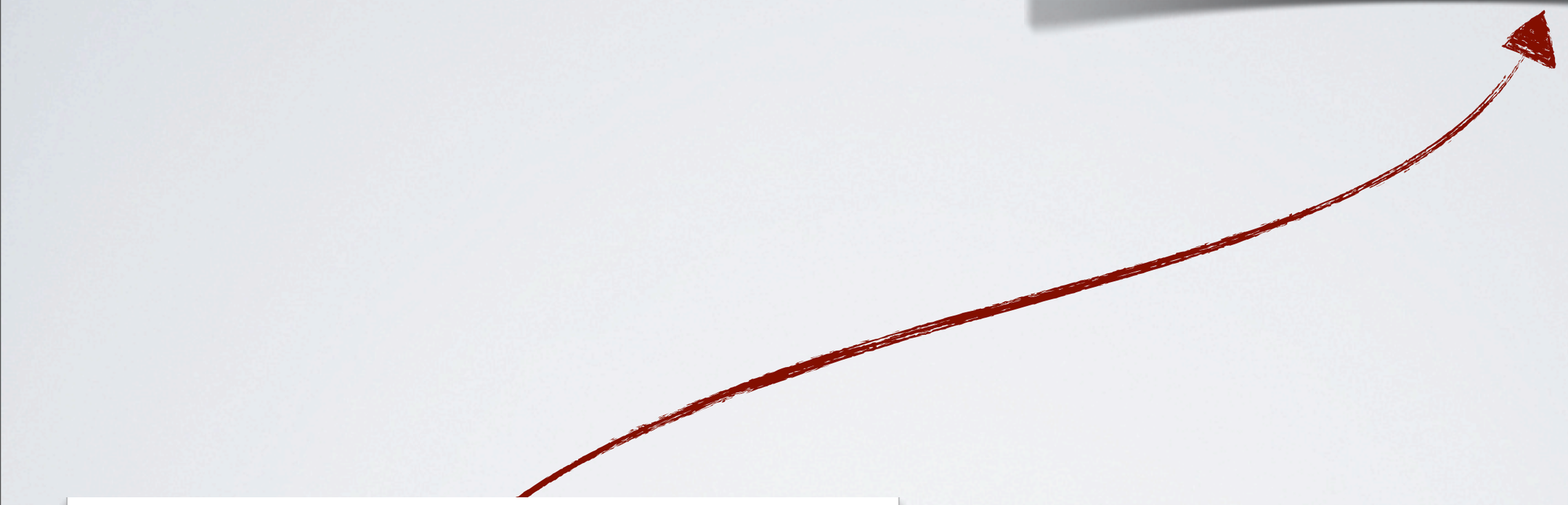
Beyond Types ...

What we want: a robust maintainable program

Where we are: a quick but overgrown script

Beyond Types ...

What we want: reliable, effective software



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The Big Picture

Scripts *can* become robust programs

.... modularly, soundly, and effectively

New challenges and new opportunities

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Thank you