

# Using Interface Specifications for Verifying Cryptoprotocol Implementations

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# Crypto-Protocol Analysis

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State of the affairs:

A *lot* of very successful work in formally verifying abstract models of crypto-protocol design.

- virtually every formal method has been applied
- seemingly more people working on verification than on designing protocols
- efficient tool-support usable by academics or specialists
- sometimes used at industrial size protocols (usually by tool developers themselves)

(Almost) solves the problem whether design is secure.



# Problem

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How do I know a crypto-protocol implementation is secure ?

Possible solution:

Verify design model, write code generator, verify code generator.

Problems:

- very challenging to verify code generator
- generated code satisfactory for given requirements (maintainability, performance, size, ...) ?
- not applicable to existing implementations



# Alternative Solution

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Verify implementation against verified design or directly against security requirements.

So far applied to self-written or restricted code.

Surprisingly few approaches so far:

- J. Jürjens, M. Yampolski (ASE'05): methodology + initial results for restricted C code
- J. Goubault-Larrecq, F. Parrennes (VMCAI'05): self-coded client-side of Needham-Schroeder in C
- K. Bhargavan, C. Fournet, A. Gordon (CSFW'06): self-coded implementations in F-sharp

May reduce first problem. How about other two ?



# Towards Verifying Legacy Implementations

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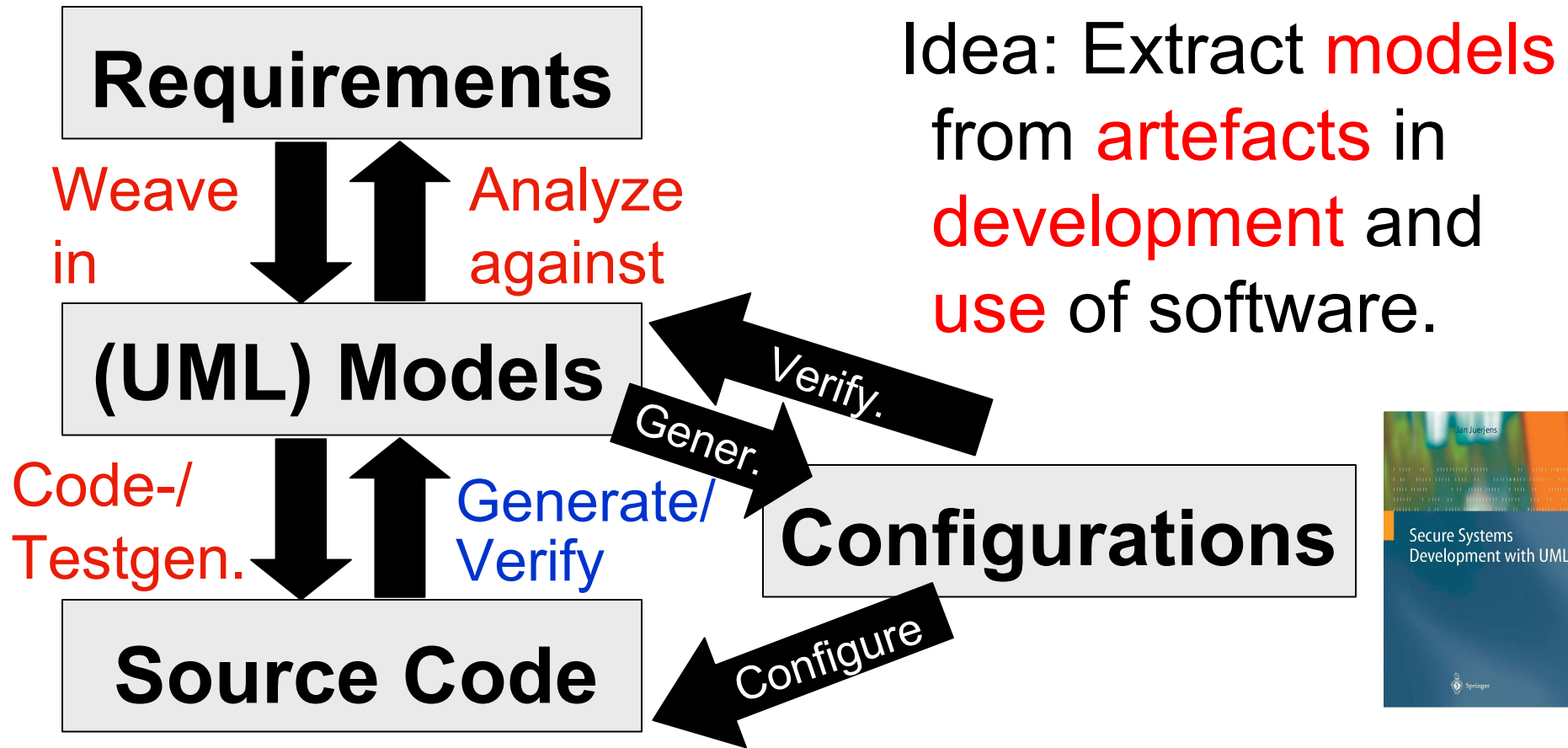
Goal: Verify implementation created independently.

Options:

- 3) Generate **models from code** and verify these.
  - Advantages: Seems more automatic. Users in practice can work on familiar artifact (code), don't need to otherwise change development process (!).
  - Challenges: Currently possible for restricted code or using significant annotations. Need to verify model generator.
- 2) Create models and code manually and **verify code against models**.
  - Advantages: Split heavy verification burden. Get some verification result already in design phase (for non-legacy implementations).



# Background: Model-based Security Engineering



→ Long-term goal: Tool-supported, theoretically sound, efficient automated security design & analysis.

# Why Behavioural Interfaces ?

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Goal: verify implementations of significant complexity automatically and exhaustively against non-trivial requirements.

Have software model-checkers, but so far not used for very complex implementations and very sophisticated requirements (e.g. involving Dolev-Yao type attacker models).

Do have powerful type checkers.

Idea: push the envelope by introducing behaviour into types → behavioural interfaces

Long line of foundational work (rely/guarantee etc.), some tools (SLAM, Blast)



# Interface based Security Analysis in FOL

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Based on usual Dolev-Yao model.

**Approximate** adversary **knowledge** set from above:

Predicate *knows*( $E$ ) meaning that adversary may get to know  $E$  during the execution of the system.

E.g. **secrecy** requirement:

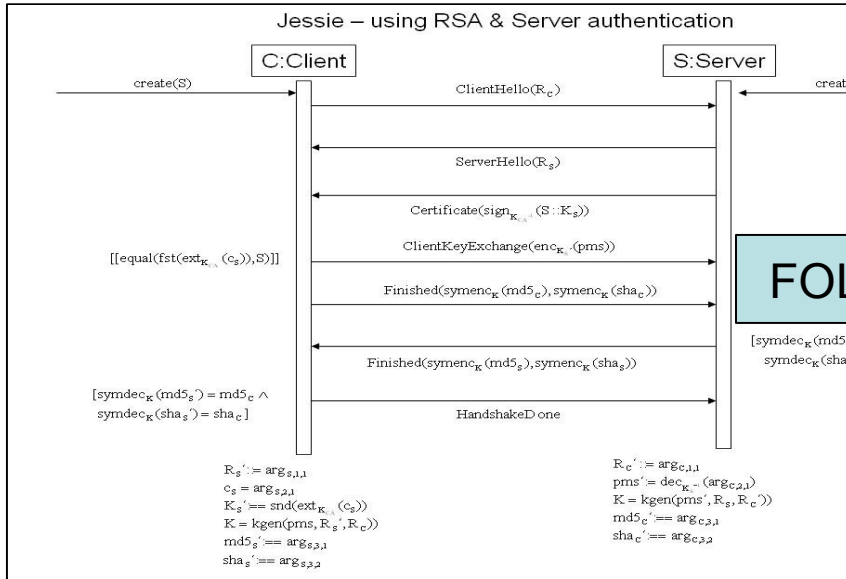
For any secret  $s$ , check whether can **derive** *knows*( $s$ ) from **model-generated** formulas using automatic theorem prover. [ICSE05]







# Interface Model Verification



```

...
((
  knows(ArgC_3)
  & (equal(fst(ArgC_3), type_serverkeyexchange))
  & (equal(snd(ext(snd(snd(ArgC_3))), k_ca), skey))
  & (equal(snd(ext(snd(ArgC_2), k_ca), fst(snd(ArgC_3))))))
))
=> (
  ((knows(ArgC_4_1)
    & equal(ArgC_4_1, type_serverhellodone))
    => (
      ( ( true & equal(ClientKeyExchange, enc(premasterkey, skey)
        )
      )
    )
  )
)
...
%----- Conjecture -----
input_formula(attack, conjecture, (
  knows(mastersecret) )).
  
```

FOL

ATP

Check whether can derive *knows(s)*.

If yes, generate attack scenario.

If no, *s* secret (wrt our attacker).

```

analyzing results ...
model found/total failure
time limit information: 19 total / 18 strategy
(leaving wrapper).
task myUML_PID1491 on atbroy1 has status SUCCESS
(model found by strategy 300) consuming 1 seconds
deleting temporary files.
e-SETHEO done. exiting
  
```



# Just an Exercise in Code Verification ?

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State of the art in practical code verification: execution exploration by testing (possibly generated from models). Limitations:

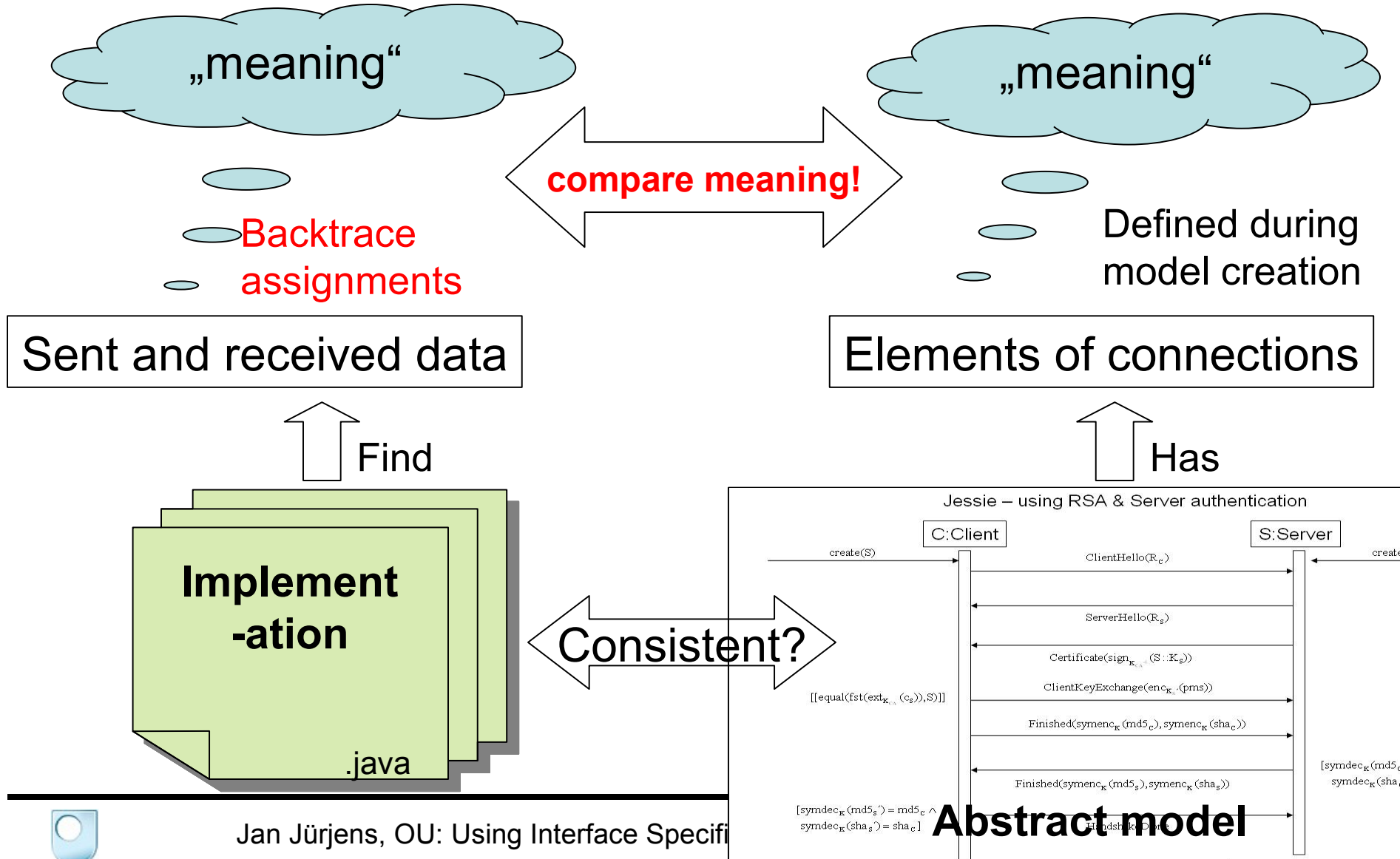
- For highly interactive systems usually only partial test coverage due to test-space explosion.
- Cryptography inherently un-testable since resilient to brute-force attack.

General approaches to formal software verification exist (Isabelle et al), but limited use by (civilian) software engineers, and usually not for sophisticated properties like Dolev-Yao security.

➔ Develop specialized verification approach.



# Interface: Model vs. Implementation



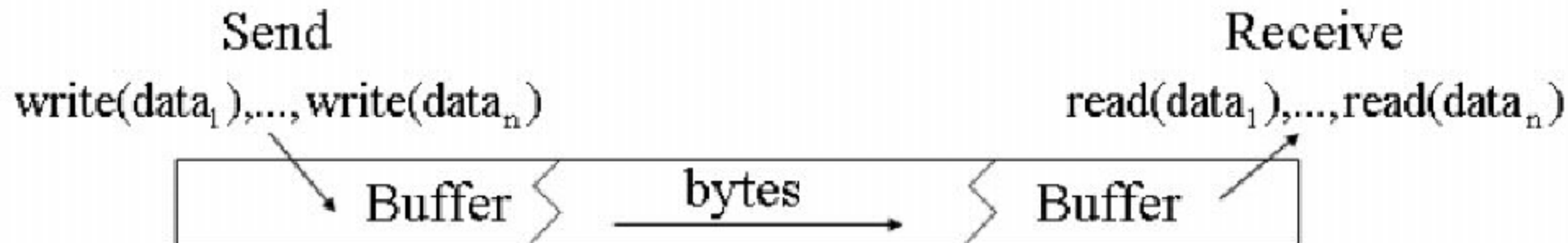
# Input / Output

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To extract input/output labels for state machine transitions, analyze input / output mechanism used in the implementation.

Many implementations (e.g. Jessie and JSSE) use buffered communication where the message objects implement read and write methods.

Translate these method calls to input / output labels (need to track successive subcalls).



# Example

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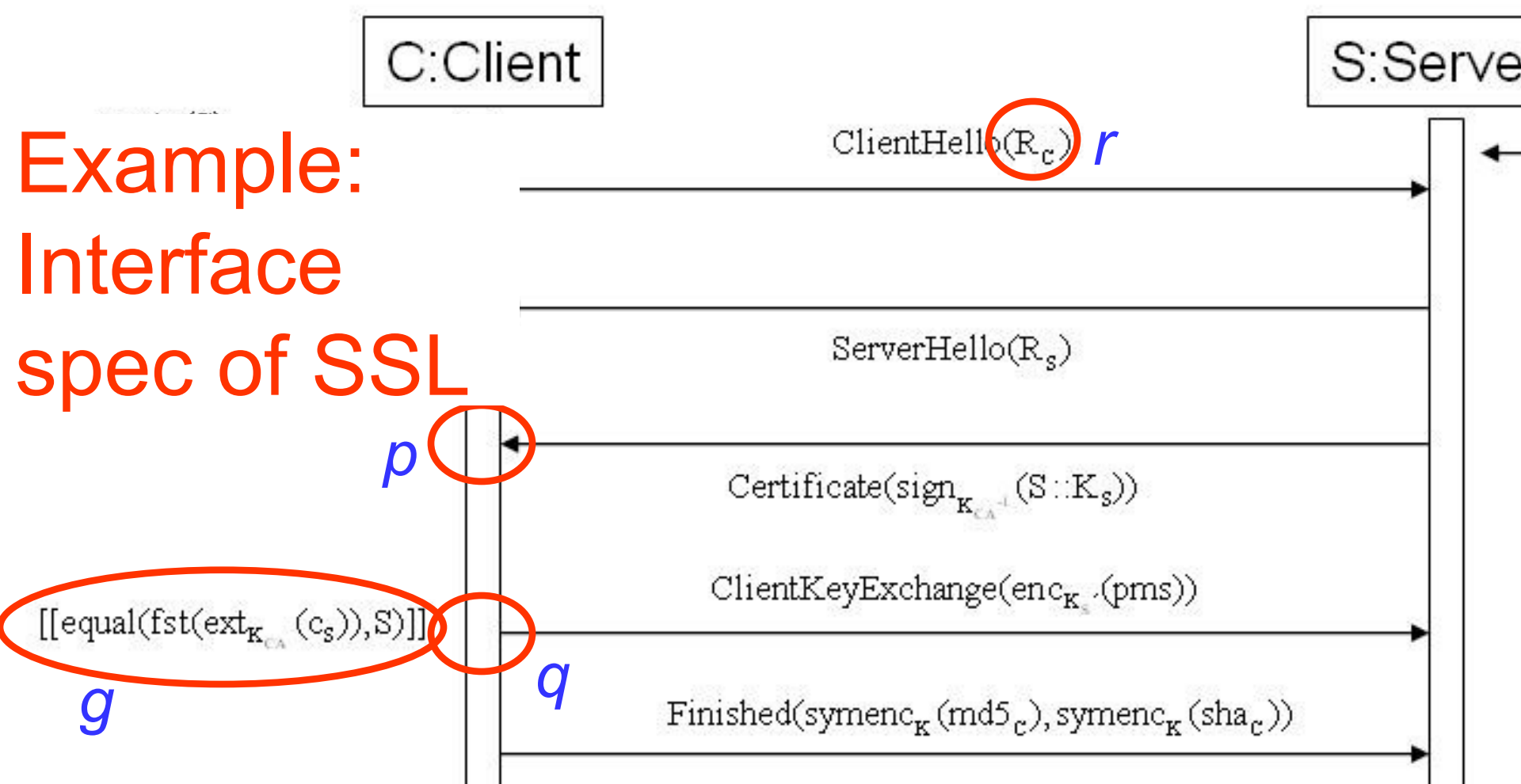
Sending a protocol message (e.g. ClientHello):

- create the clientHello object with appropriate message parameters
- create the message object `msg` by giving the clientHello object as an argument
- call the write method at the msg object

```
ClientHello clientHello = new ClientHello(session.protocol, clientRandom, sessionId,  
                                           session.enabledSuites, comp, extensions);  
Handshake msg = new Handshake(Handshake.Type.CLIENT_HELLO, clientHello);  
msg.write (dout, version);
```



# Example: Interface spec of SSL



I) Identify program points:

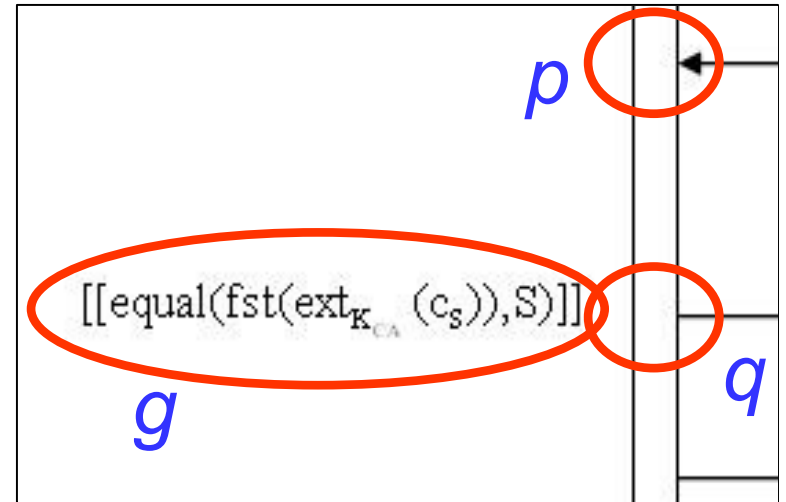
value ( $r$ ), receive ( $p$ ), guard ( $g$ ), send ( $q$ )

II) Check guards enforced

# Checking Guards

Guard  $g$  enforced by code?

b) Generate runtime check for  $g$  at  $q$  from diagram: simple + effective, but performance penalty.



c) Testing against checks (symbolic abstractions for crypto).

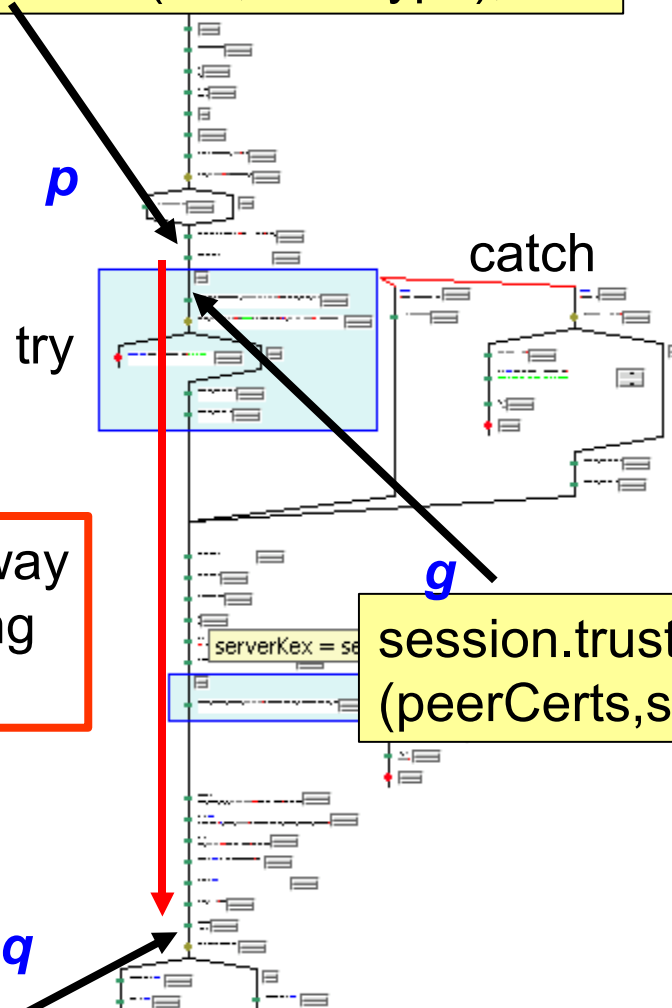
[ICFEM02]

d) Automated formal local verification: conditionals between  $p$  and  $q$  logically imply  $g$  (uses Prolog).

[ASE06]



```
msg = Handshake.read(din, certType);
```



only possible way  
without throwing  
exception

```
session.trustManager.checkServerTrusted  
(peerCerts,suite.getAuthType());
```

```
msg = new Handshake(Handshake.Type.CLIENT_KEY_EXCHANGE, ckex);  
msg.write (dout, version);
```

# Modular Verification with Interfaces

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For program fragment  $p$  implementing a given interface, generate set of statements  $\text{derive}(L, C, E)$  such that adversary knowledge is contained in every set  $K$  that:

- for every list  $I$  of values for the variables in  $L$  that satisfy the conditions in  $C$  contains the value constructed by instantiating the variables in the expression  $E$  with the values from  $I$

When considering single protocol run, can construct finite set of such statements similar to FOL formulas from security analysis.



# Modular Verification: Formalisation

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**send**: represents send command

**$g$** : FOL formula with symbols  **$msg_n$**  representing  $n^{\text{th}}$  argument of message received before program fragment  **$p$**  is executed

**$[d] p \models g$**  :  **$g$**  checked in any execution of  **$p$**  initially satisfying  **$d$**  before any **send**

write  **$p \models g$**  for  **$[true] p \models g$** .

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**$[d]$**  if  $c$  then  $p$  else  $q \models g$  ( $c \wedge d \Rightarrow g$ , no send in  $q$ )



# Modular Verification: Some Rules

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$$\frac{}{[d] \text{ if } c \text{ then } p \text{ else } q \models g} (c \wedge d \Rightarrow g, \text{ no send in } q)$$

$$\frac{}{[d] \text{ if } c \text{ then } p \text{ else } q \models g} (\neg c \wedge d \Rightarrow g, \text{ no send in } p)$$

$$\frac{[d]p \models g}{[d] \text{ if } c \text{ then } p \text{ else } q \models g} (d \Rightarrow c) \qquad \frac{[d]p \models g}{[d]p; q \models g}$$

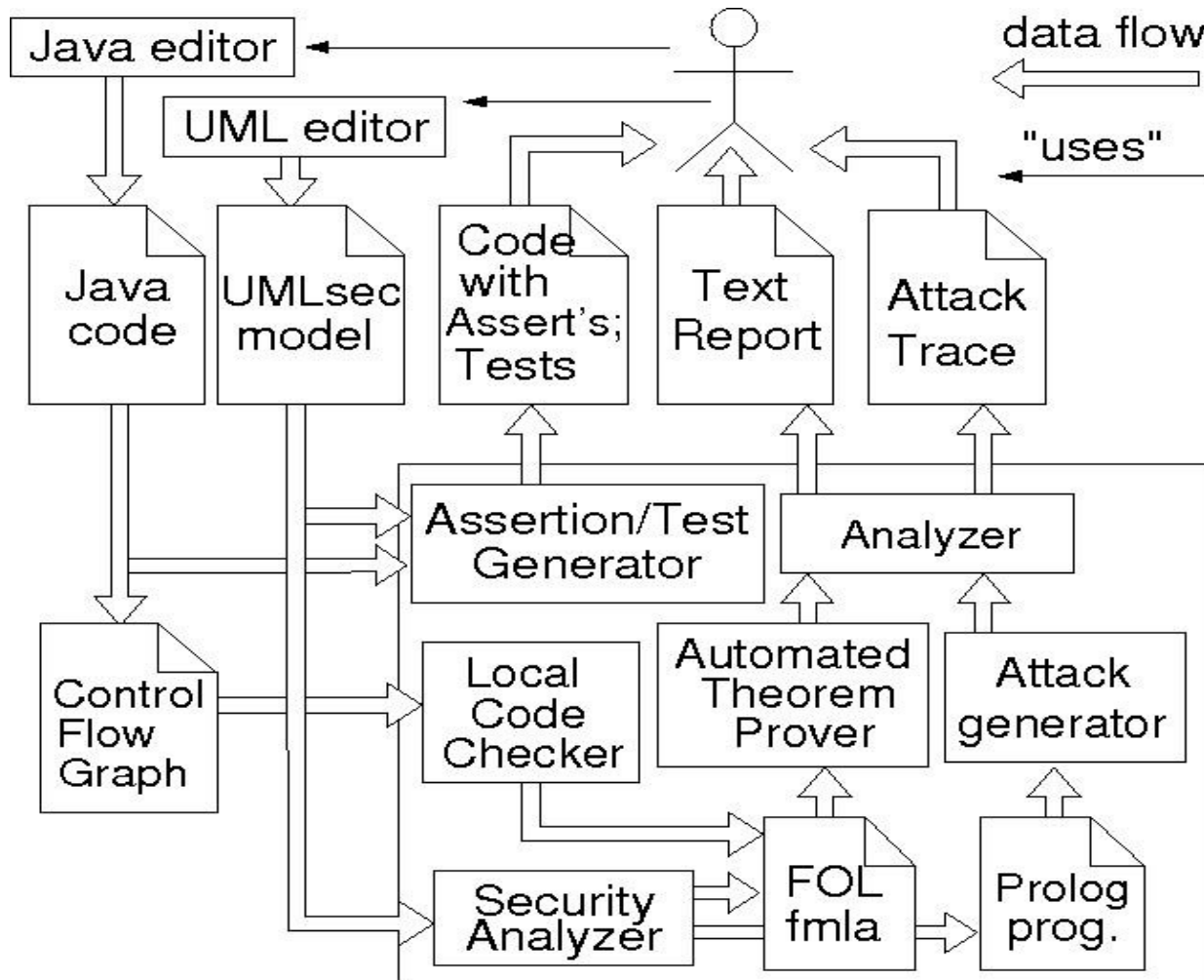
$$\frac{[d]q \models g}{[d] \text{ if } c \text{ then } p \text{ else } q \models g} (d \Rightarrow \neg c) \qquad \frac{[d]p \models g}{[d']p \models g} d' \Rightarrow d$$

$$\frac{[d]p \models g}{x := e; p \models g} d \Rightarrow x = e$$



# Tool Support

[FASE05, ICSE06, ASE07, STTT07, ICSE08]



- Also:
- configuration analysis: (user [FASE08] permissions, firewall rules/policies)
  - code traceability (with Yijun Yu)

Open-source



# Some Applications

T-Systems

Analyzed designs / implementations / configurations e.g. for

- Biometry- or smart-card-based identification
- authentication (crypto protocols)
- authorization (user permissions, e.g. SAP systems)

Analyzed security policies, e.g. for privacy regulations.

Allianz 

Deutsche Bank 

HypoVereinsbank 

CEPS™

BMW Group



# Conclusion

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Seemingly first attempt at formally based security verification for crypto-based Java **legacy implementations**.

Use interface specification to make verification of large-scale implementations feasible.

Goals: Emphasis on automation, reach efficiency using abstraction tailored to verification problem.

Experiences so far encouraging.

Still many challenges to address – collaboration always welcome !





# Questions ?

More information  
(papers, slides, tool  
etc.):

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