

Testing Noninterference, Quickly Cătălin Hrițcu

joint work with John Hughes, Benjamin C. Pierce, Antal Spector-Zabusky, Dimitrios Vytiniotis, Arthur Azevedo de Amorim, Leonidas Lampropoulos

CRASH/SAFE project

- Academic partners (16):
 - University of Pennsylvania (11)
 - Harvard University (4)
 - Northeastern University (1)
 - Industrial partners (24):
 - BAE systems (21) + Clozure (3)
- Funded by DARPA
 - Clean-Slate Design of Resilient, Adaptive, Secure Hosts

40!

Primary goal: design and implement a significantly more secure architecture, without backwards compatibility concerns



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New stack:

- language
- system
- hardware



Primary goal: design and implement a significantly more secure architecture, without backwards compatibility concerns

Secondary goal: verify that it's secure (whatever that means)

New stack:

- language
- 🔸 system 🗸
- hardware



Design targeting security

language

system

hardware

Design targeting security



hardware

Design targeting security









This talk

show how

property-based random testing can aid design and serve as a first step towards verification



COUNTEREXAMPLE-GUIDED INFORMATION FLOW MACHINE DESIGN

A simple stack-and-memory machine

- values = integers
- stack = list of values

• memory = list of values

instruction	stack before	stack after	memory
Push n	stk	n : stk	
Рор	n : stk	stk	
Add	n : m : stk	(n+m) : stk	
Load	a : stk	mem[a] : stk	
Store	a : n : stk	stk	mem[a] := n
Halt	stk		

A simple information-flow machine

- values = labeled integers labels = L and H
- stack = list of values
 memory = list of values

instruction	stack before	stack after	memory
Push n <mark>@X</mark>	stk	n <mark>@X</mark> : stk	
Рор	n <mark>@X</mark> : stk	stk	
Add	n@X : m@Y :stk	(n+m) <mark>@?</mark> : stk	
Load	a <mark>@X</mark> : stk	mem[a] : stk	
Store	a <mark>@X</mark> : n@Y : stk	stk	mem[a] := n@?
Halt	stk		

A simple information-flow machine

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Рор	n <mark>@X</mark> : stk	stk	
Add	n@X : m@Y :stk	(n+m) <mark>@L</mark> : stk	
Load	a <mark>@X</mark> : stk	mem[a] : stk	
Store	a <mark>@X</mark> : n@Y : stk	stk	mem[a] := n <mark>@L</mark>
Halt	stk		

Noninterference (EENI)

- "secret inputs don't affect public outputs"
 - secret inputs = numbers labeled H in initial state
 - initial state = empty stack, memory all 0@L, instructions can contain secrets (Push 0@H)
 - public outputs = memory labeled L in halted state

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- more precisely:

- forall $i_1 i_2$, if $i_1 \approx i_2$ and $i_1 \rightarrow h_1$ and $i_2 \rightarrow h_2$ then mem $(h_1) \approx mem(h_2)$

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- more precisely:

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 $-n_1@L \approx n_2@L \text{ iff } n_1=n_2$ $n_1@H \approx n_2@H \text{ always}$

READY TO SQUASH SOME BUGS?

(let's assume we have a property-based random testing framework in place)

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L]	[]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L]	[{0/1}@H]	Push 0@L
[0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@H]	Store
[{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L]	[]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L]	[{0/1}@H]	Push 0@L
[0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@H]	Store
[{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L]	[]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L]	[{0/1}@H]	Push 0@L
[0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@H]	Store
[{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

Fixing bug in Store

instruction	stack before	stack after	memory
Store	a@X : n@Y : stk	stk	mem[a] := n@ <mark>Y</mark>

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L
[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@H,1@L]	Store
[{1/0}@L,{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L
[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@H,1@L]	Store
[{1/0}@L,{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L
[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@H,1@L]	Store
[{1/0}@L,{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

Fixing 2nd bug in Store

instruction	stack before	stack after	memory
Store	a@X : n@Y : stk	stk	mem[a] := n@ <mark>XU</mark> Y

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1 @L
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@H, 1 @L]	Store
[{ 1 @H/0@L},{0@L/ 1 @H}]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1 @L
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@H, 1 @L]	Store
[{ 1 @H/0@L},{0@L/ 1 @H}]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1 @L
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@H, 1 @L]	Store
[{ 1 @H/0@L},{0@L/ 1 @H}]	[]	Halt

Fixing 3nd bug in Store

stack before	side condition	stack after	memory
a@X : n@Y : stk	$Y \leq labOf(mem[a])$	stk	mem[a] := n@X∐Y

No sensitive upgrade [Steve Zdancewic's PhD, 2002]

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1 @L
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@H, 1 @L]	Store
[{ 1 @H/0@L},{0@L/ 1 @H}]	[]	Halt

Fixing 3nd bug in Store

stack before	side condition	stack after	memory
a@X : n@Y : stk	Y ≤ labOf(mem[a])	stk	mem[a] := n@X∐Y

No sensitive upgrade [Steve Zdancewic's PhD, 2002]

*the real counterexample had Push 0@L as the first instruction

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L]	[]	Push 0@L
[0@L]	[0@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L]	[{0/1}@H,0@L]	Add
[0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L
[0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store
[{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction	
[0@L]	[]	Push 0@L	
[0@L]	[0@L]	Push {0/1}@H	
[0@L]	[{0/1}@H,0@L]	Add	
[0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L	
[0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store	
[{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt	

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L]	[]	Push 0@L
[0@L]	[0@L]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L]	[{0/1}@H,0@L]	Add
[0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L
[0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store
[{0/1}@L]	[]	Halt

Fixing bug in Add

instruction	stack before	stack after	memory
Add	n@X : m@Y :stk	(n+m)@ <mark>(X∐Y)</mark> : stk	

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L
[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push 0@L
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L,1@L]	Store
[1@L,0@L]	[]	Push {1/0}@H
[1@L,0@L]	[{1/0}@H]	Load
[1@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L
[1@L,0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store
[{0/1}@L,0@L]	[]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction	
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L	
[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push 0@L	
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L,1@L]	Store	
[1@L,0@L]	[]	Push {1/0}@H	
[1@L,0@L]	[{1/0}@H]	Load	_
[1@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L	
[1@L,0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store	
[{0/1}@L,0@L]	[]	Halt	
Counterexample #5

memory	stack	next instruction	
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L	
[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push 0@L	
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L,1@L]	Store	
[1@L,0@L]	[]	Push {1/0}@H	
[1@L,0@L]	[{1/0}@H]	Load	_
[1@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L	
[1@L,0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store	
[{0/1}@L,0@L]	[]	Halt	
Fixing bug in Load			

instruction	stack before	stack after	memory
Load	a <mark>@X</mark> : stk	mem[a] <mark>@X</mark> : stk	

HOW DID WE DO THIS?

Main ingredients

- QuickCheck
- Rephrasing preconditions
- Clever program generation strategies
- Shrinking counterexamples
- Later one more: stronger properties



QuickCheck [Claessen & Hughes, ICFP 2000]

- Property-based random testing tool for Haskell
- Property ~= Boolean Haskell expression
 - QC generates random instances for variables
 - implications treated a bit specially
 - failing precondition counted as "discard"
- Default random generators using type-classes

 uniformly at random

QuickCheck [Claessen & Hughes, ICFP 2000]

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 uniformly at random
- Out of the box it doesn't work for us! ^(S)
 couldn't find any bug; astronomic discard rate

(Re)phrasing noninterference

Original 🛞

for random i_1 , for random i_2 , if $i_1 \approx i_2 \leftarrow Rare$ and $i_1 \rightarrow h_1$ and $i_2 \rightarrow h_2$ then

 $mem(h_1) \approx mem(h_2)$

(Re)phrasing noninterference

Original 🛞

for random i₁, for random i₂,

if $i_1 \approx i_2 \leftarrow Rare$ and $i_1 \rightarrow h_1$ and $i_2 \rightarrow h_2$ then mem $(h_1) \approx mem(h_2)$

Much better 🙂 for random i_1 , for random \approx variation i₂ of i₁, if $i_1 \rightarrow h_1$ and $i_2 \rightarrow h_2^*$ then $mem(h_1) \approx mem(h_2)$

- How can we evaluate how good our testing is?
 - add bugs one at a time and see how fast they're found
 - Mean Time to Find (MTTF)

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	Bug	MTTF
	1 nd for Store	8s
	2 st for Store	∞*
trom	3 rd for Store	47s
belore	Add	83s
	Load	∞*
new	Push	4s

*not found in 300s

Naive generation

- Bad
 How can we evaluate how good our testing is?
 - add bugs one at a time and see how fast they're found
 - Mean Time to Find (MTTF)

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Some statistics

- new discard rate: 79%
- average number of execution steps: 0.47
- reasons for termination



Weighted distribution on instructions

• increased chance of getting Push or Halt

Weighted distribution on instructions

- increased chance of getting Push or Halt
- average number of execution steps: 2.69
- reasons for termination



Instruction sequences

• generating useful instruction sequences more often (e.g. Push a; Store, where a is valid addr)

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- generating useful instruction sequences more often (e.g. Push a; Store, where a is valid addr)
- average number of execution steps: 3.86
- reasons for termination



Smart integers

generating valid code and data addr. more often
 varying valid addr with high probability to other addr

Smart integers

- generating valid code and data addr. more often
 varying valid addr with high probability to other addr
- average number of execution steps: 4.22
- reasons for termination



They don't just run longer ...

- Smarter generation finds bugs much faster
- Mean Time to Find (MTTF)

Bug	Naive	Smarter
1 st for Store	7660.07ms	0.31ms
2 nd for Store	∞	32227.10ms
3 rd for Store	47365.97ms	0.12ms
Add	83247.01ms	30.05ms
Load	∞	2258.93ms
Push	3552.54ms	0.07ms

Generation by execution

- try to generate instruction seq that doesn't crash
- maintain a current state
 - generate instr(s) that make sense in current state
 - run instr(s) to obtain new current state
 - fully precise for straight-line code
- jumps forward easy, jumps backward harder
 - look ahead 2 steps before committing to jump
 - current state still not always accurate
- give Halt more weight as execution gets longer

Statistics for generation by execution

- average number of execution steps:
 - 11.6 for original program, 11.26 for variation
- reasons for termination (original + variation)



Generation by execution finds bugs faster

Bug	Naive	Smarter	By Exec	
1 st for Store	7660.07ms	0.31ms	0.02ms	
2 nd for Store	∞	32227.10ms	1233.51ms	
3 rd for Store	47365.97ms	0.12ms	0.25ms	
Add	83247.01ms	30.05ms	0.87ms	
Load	∞	2258.93ms	4.03ms	
Push	3552.54ms	0.07ms	0.01ms	
Arith. mean	∞	5752.76ms	206.45ms	28×
Geom. mean	∞	13.33ms	0.77ms	17>
tests / second	24129	7915	3284	
discard rate	79%	59%	4%	-

Adding control flow

• jumps & procedures

machine more interesting from IFC pov

- stack also serves as call stack
- 14 bugs = 6 old bugs + 8 new bugs
- GenByExec
 - finds 13 of them in 0.22ms to 69s
 - misses one completely: not protecting call stack is unsound

Counterexample to Load bug

takes 155ms to find now; 433 tests (average)

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L
[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push 0@L
[0@L,0@L]	[0@L,1@L]	Store
[1@L,0@L]	[]	Push {1/0}@H
[1@L,0@L]	[{1/0}@H]	Load
[1@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L
[1@L,0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store
[{0/1}@L,0@L]	[]	Halt

Counterexample to Load bug

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	memory	stack	next instruction	
Г	[0@L,0@L]	[]	Push 1@L	
	[0@L,0@L]	[1@L]	Push 0@L	
setting up	[0@L,0@L]	[0@L,1@L]	Store	
L	[1@L,0@L]	[]	Push {1/0}@H	_
	[1@L,0@L]	[{1/0}@H]	Load	bug
observing 5	[1@L,0@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Push 0@L	
	[1@L,0@L]	[0@L,{0/1}@L]	Store	
	[{0/1}@L,0@L]	[]	Halt	

Stronger noninterference

Current 🛞 for random i₁, for random \approx variation i₂ of i₁, if $i_1 \rightarrow h_1$ and $i_2 \rightarrow h_2^*$ then $mem(h_1) \approx mem(h_2)$

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Better 😳 for random q_1 , for random \approx variation q_2 of q_1 , if $q_1 \rightarrow h_1$ and $q_2 \rightarrow h_2^*$ then $h_1 \approx h_2$

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Better 😳 for random q_1 , for random \approx variation q_2 of q_1 , if $q_1 \rightarrow h_1$ and $q_2 \rightarrow h_2^*$ then $h_1 \approx h_2$

q - quasi initial = arbitrary, but labOf(pc)≠H (control not affected by secrets)

≈ equates all H states

Counterexamples to Load bug

used to take 155ms to find; 433 tests now it takes 6ms to find; 12 tests (average)

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,1@L]	[]	Push {0/1}@H
[0@L,1@L]	[{0/1}@H]	Load
[0@L,1@L]	[{0/1}@L]	Halt

memory	stack	next instruction
[0@L,1@L]	[{1/0}@H]	Load
[0@L,1@L]	[{1/0}@L]	Halt

This finds all bugs, including ...

it takes 16s to find this one (average)

memory	stack	next instruction
[]	[ARet (3,False)@L,0@L,ARet (4,True)@L]	Push {3/2}@H
[]	[{3/2}@H,ARet (3,False)@L,0@L,ARet (4,True)@L]	Jump
execution 1 c	ontinues	
[]	[ARet (3,False)@L,0@L,ARet (4,True)@L]	Return False
[]	[0@L,ARet (4,True)@L]	Return False
[]	[0@L]	Halt
execution 2 c	ontinues	
[]	[ARet (3,False)@L,0@L,ARet (4,True)@L]	Рор
[]	[0@L,ARet (4,True)@L]	Return False
[]	[0@H]	Halt









Single-step noninterference (SSNI)

easiest to test and suitable for proof ("unwinding conditions")



SSNI finds each bug in under 17ms

	EENI (with all improvements)	SSNI
Arith. mean MTTF	1526.75ms	2.01ms
Geom. mean MTTF	46.48ms	0.47ms
tests/s	2391	18407
discard rate	69%	9%

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Tradeoff:

SSNI requires discovering stronger invariants invariants of real SAFE machine are very complicated
Why shrink counterexamples?

memory	stack	nextinstruction
[0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,	0	Push {0/15}@H
[0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,	[{0/15}@H]	Load
[0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,	[0@L]	Рор
[0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,	0	Push -5@L
[0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,	[-5@L]	Push 17@L
[0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,	[17@L,-5@L]	Push 0@L
[0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,	[0@L,17@L,-5@L]	Store
[17@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[-5@L]	Push 1@L
[17@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[1@L,-5@L]	Store
[17@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	0	Push {21/3}@H
[17@L-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[{21/3}@Н]	Push 2@L
[17@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[2@L,{21/3}@H]	Load
[17@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[0@L,{21/3}@H]	Рор
[17@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[{21/3}@Н]	Push 1{/0}@H
[17@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[1{/0}@H,{21/3}@H]	Push 8@L
[17@L-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[8@L,1{/0}@H,{21/3}@H]	Store
[17@L-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,1{/0}@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[{21/3}@H]	Push {9/17}@H
[17@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,1{/0}@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[{9/17}@H,{21/3}@H]	Push {3/0}@H
[17@L-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,1{/0}@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[{3/0}@H,{9/17}@H,{21/3}@H]	Load
[17@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,1{/0}@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[{0/17}@L,{9/17}@H,{21/3}@H]	Store
[{9/17}@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[{21/3}@H]	Push 3@L
[{9/17}@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[3@L,{21/3}@H]	Push 1@H
[{9/17}@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[1@H,3@L,{21/3}@H]	Load
{{9/17}@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[-5@L,3@L,{21/3}@H]	Рор
[{9/17}@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[3@L,{21/3}@H]	Push 1@L
{{9/17}@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[1@L,3@L,{21/3}@H]	Push 19@L
[{9/17}@L,-5@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,1{/0}@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0@L,0	[19@L,1@L,3@L,{21/3}@H]	Halt

Shrinking

- greedy search for smaller counterexample
- lots of different tricks/heuristics/black magic:
 - shrinking variations together
 - smart shrinking (optimizes order to gain speed)
 - double shrinking (take two steps in one)
- domain-specific knowledge crucial
- future: experimentally assess our shrinking

Potential extensions

- estimate expected error in our experiments
- evaluate against other testing techniques
 - we blow symbolic execution out of the water
 - still need to try exhaustive and narrowing based testing (SmallCheck, Lazy SmallCheck, EasyCheck)
- test other IFC mechanisms
 - high-level languages: Breeze and LIO
 - static type systems

Beyond noninterference

- testing other properties:
 - general relational ones (program logics)
 - some results on testing refinement / simulation
 - semantics preserving translations (exception handling mechanisms)
 - All Your IFCException Are Belong To Us talk on Monday at 8:45am at Oakland 2013

More potential future work on testing

- how to make random testing as repeatable as unit testing?
 - how to save all bugs without turning code into spaghetti?
 - or how to add bugs automatically?
 - missing checks + taints are rather easy
- generic random testing framework for Coq
 - testing Coq very much behind wrt Isabelle
 - we don't need much beyond extraction to get started
- random testing: from art to science

Beyond testing

I showed you how to test (a simplified version of) this



Beyond testing

I showed you how to test (a simplified version of) this



We actually also tested this part

Beyond testing

Testing is a great prelude to formal verification



We proved all this in Coq (for this 10 instr. machine; real machine 10x more complex though)

Conclusion

- property-based random testing
 - is a lot of fun
 - can inform and greatly speed up design process
 - can serve as 1st step towards formal verification
 - concentrate more energy on proving things that are correct or nearly correct; finding the right invariants
 - is not push-button
 - but some general tricks help a lot
 - incorporating domain knowledge crucial: about the system and the property