

Quantifiers in SMT: A View from Inside the Solver

Andrew Reynolds

SRI seminar

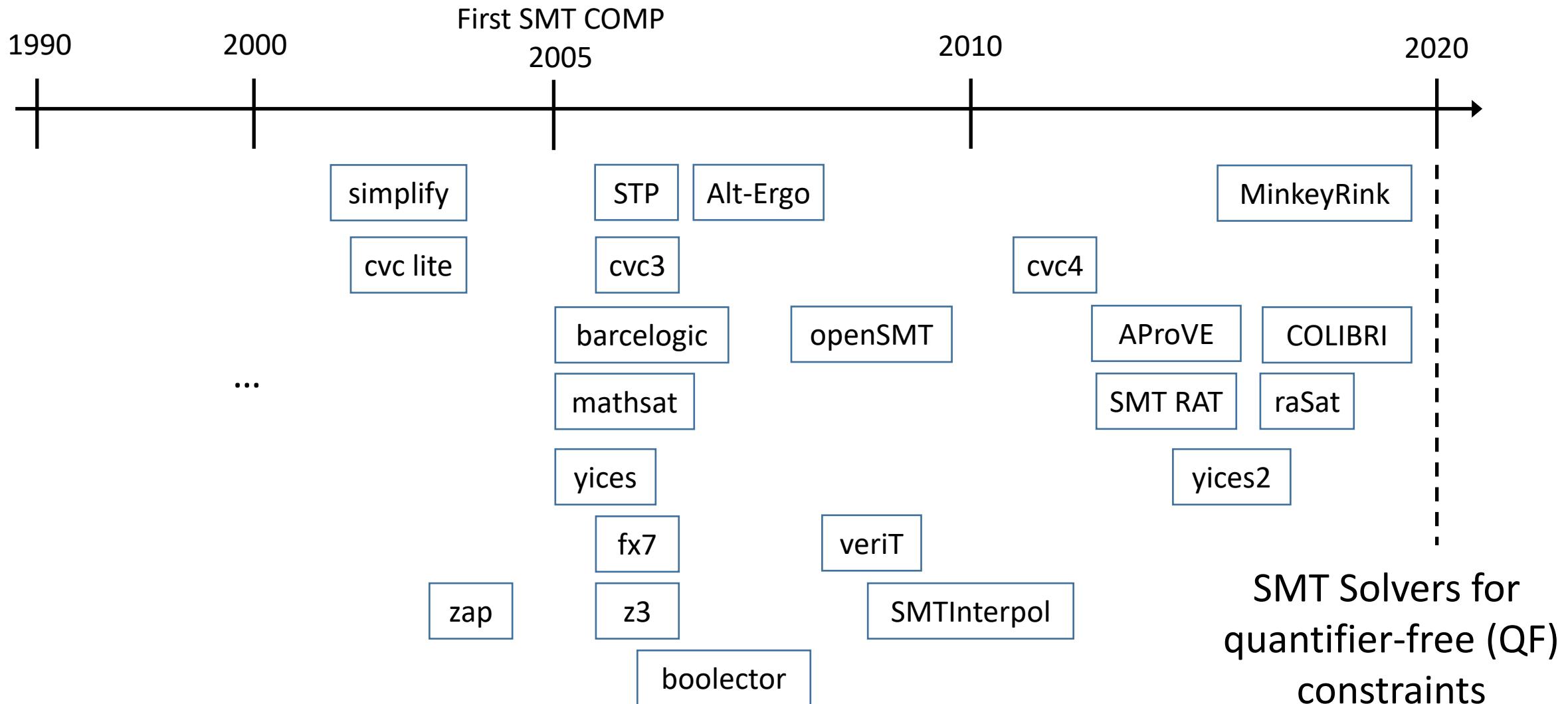
July 9, 2020



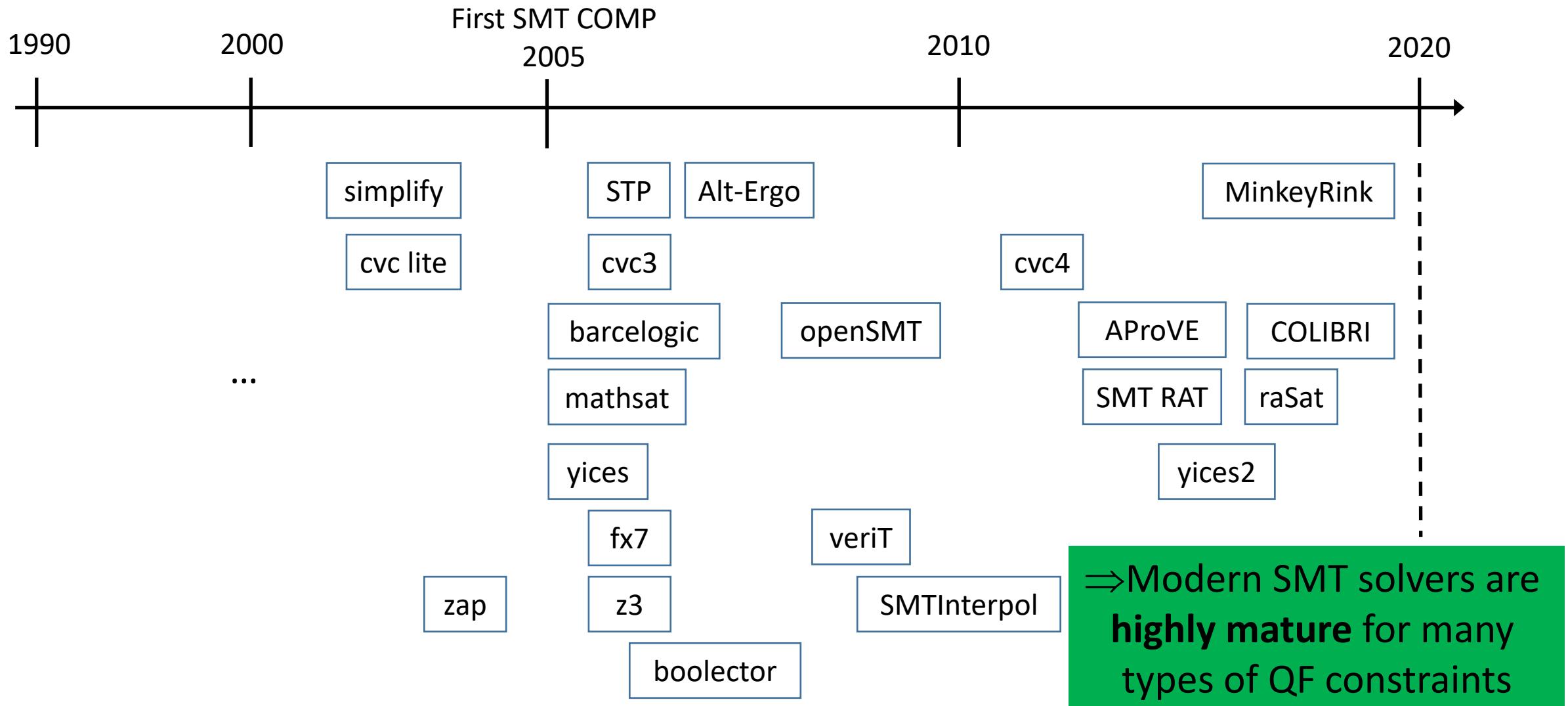
Overview

- Landscape of tools and approaches for handling quantifiers
 - ATP vs SMT, UF vs theories
- ⇒ ***Quantifier Instantiation in SMT***
 - E-matching, Model-based, Conflict-based, Enumerative
- Advanced Topics
 - Counterexample-guided instantiation for \forall +theories

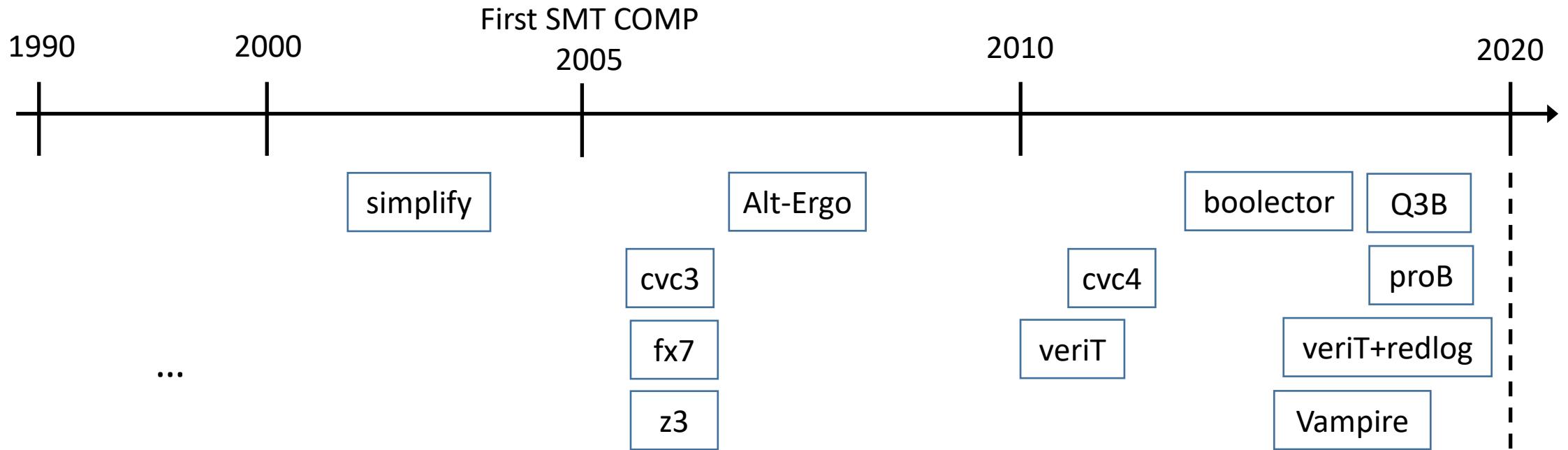
Timeline of Modern SMT Solvers for QF (Approximate)



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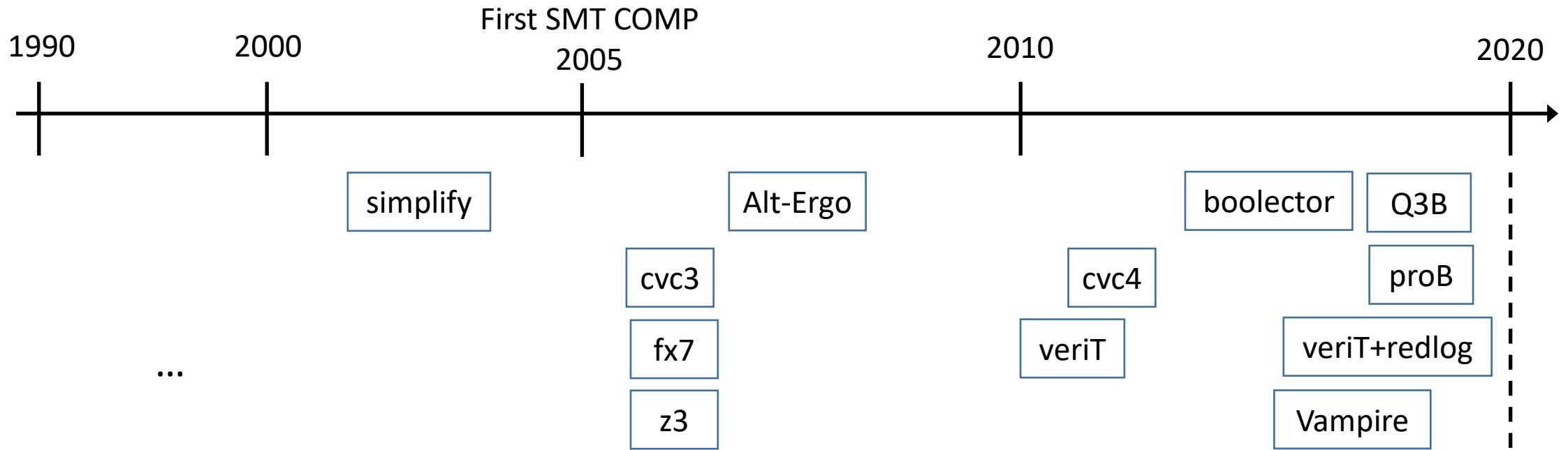


Timeline of Modern SMT Solvers for \forall (Approximate)



⇒ **Subset** of these solvers support $\forall + T$ -constraints

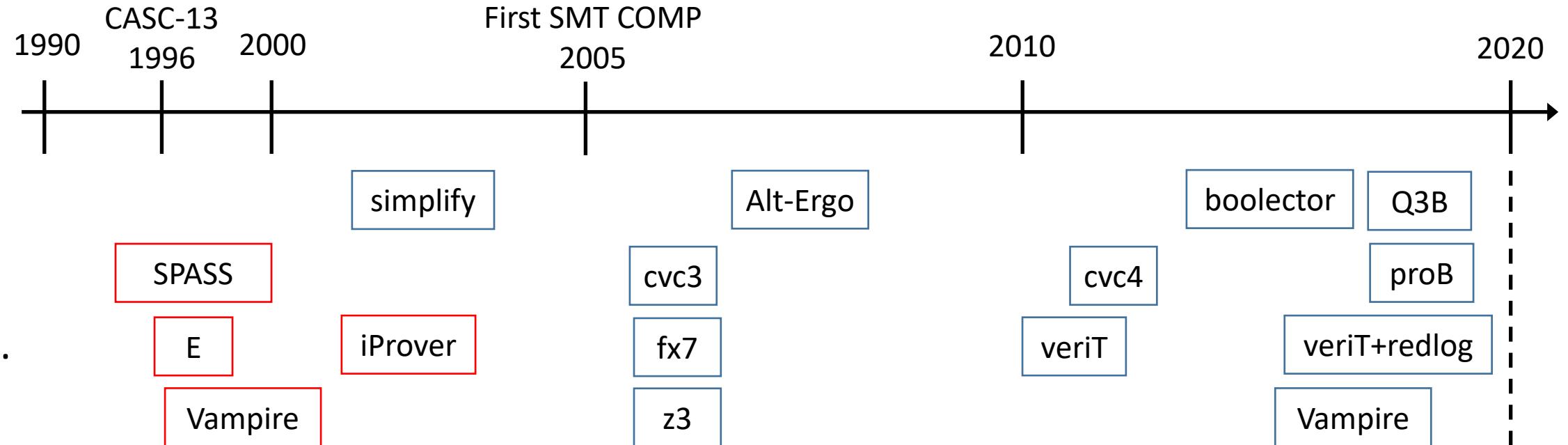
Timeline of Modern SMT Solvers for \forall (Approximate)



⇒ **Subset** of these solvers support $\forall + T$ -constraints

⇒ SMT Solvers are
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for $\forall + T$ -constraints

Timeline of Modern SMT Solvers for \forall (Approximate)



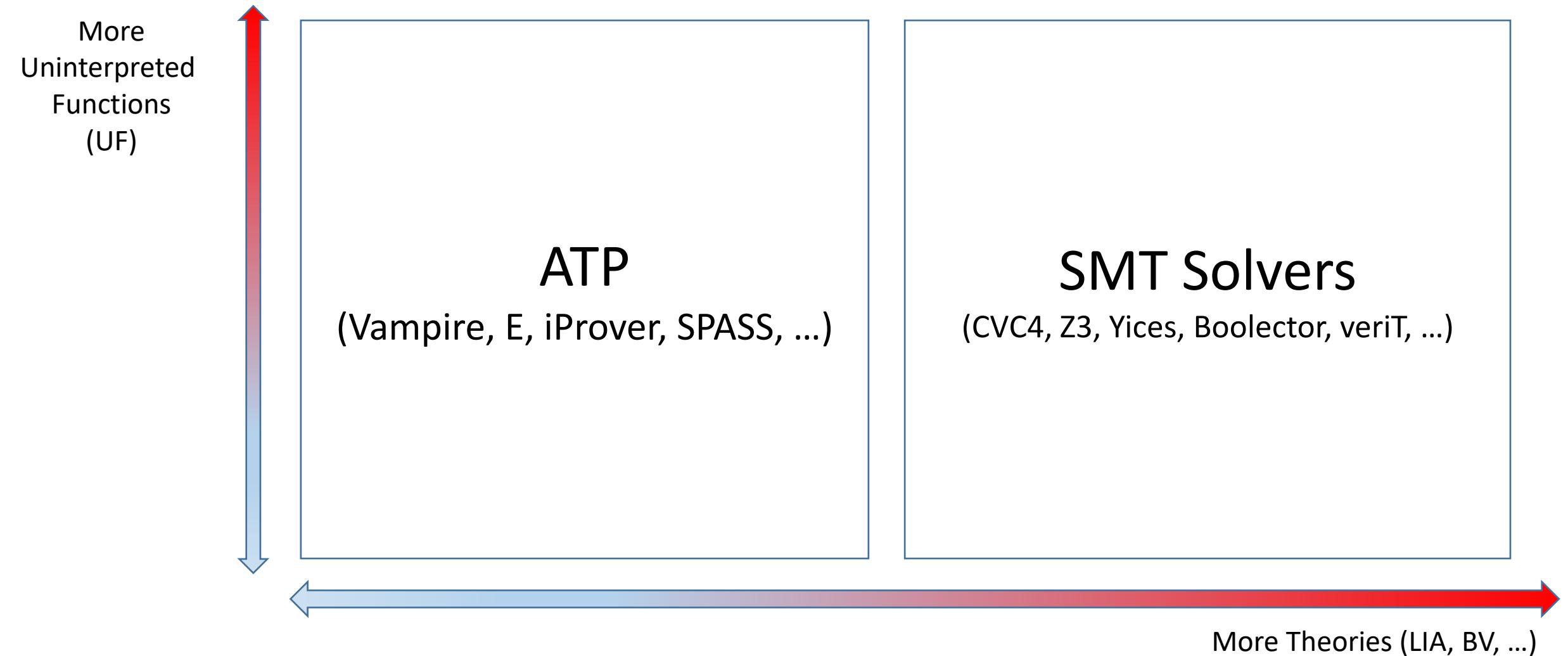
⇒ Build on earlier work from ATP community for \forall -constraints

⇒ SMT Solvers are
a **developing technology**
for $\forall + T$ -constraints

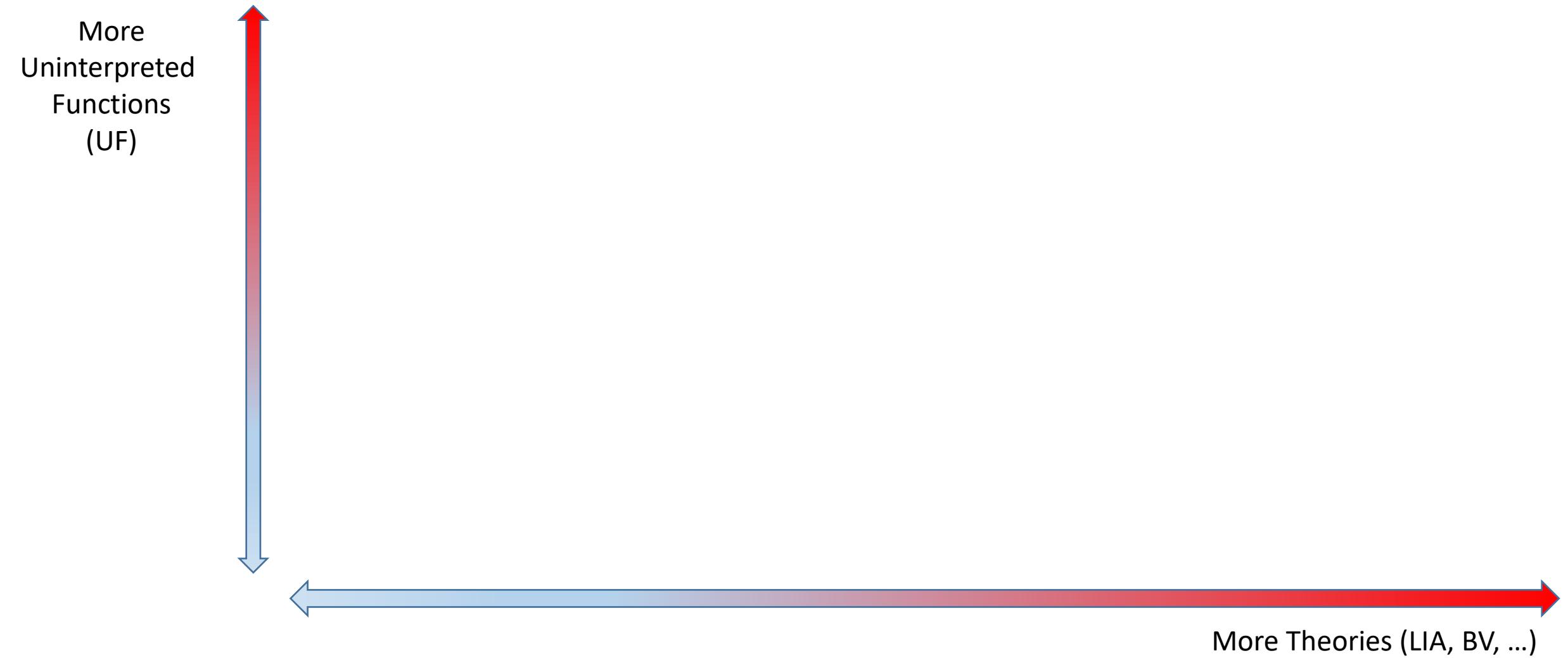
Applications of \forall in SMT

- Are used for:
 - **Automated theorem proving:**
 - Background axioms $\{\forall x. g(e, x) = g(x, e) = x, \forall x. g(x, g(y, z)) = g(g(x, y), z), \forall x. g(x, i(x)) = e\}$
 - **Software verification:**
 - Unfolding $\forall x. \text{foo}(x) = \text{bar}(x+1)$, code contracts $\forall x. \text{pre}(x) \Rightarrow \text{post}(f(x))$
 - Frame axioms $\forall x. x \neq t \Rightarrow A'(x) = A(x)$
 - **Function Synthesis:**
 - Synthesis conjectures $\forall i: \text{input}. \exists o: \text{output}. R[o, i]$
 - **Planning:**
 - Specifications $\exists p: \text{plan}. \forall t: \text{time}. F[P, t]$

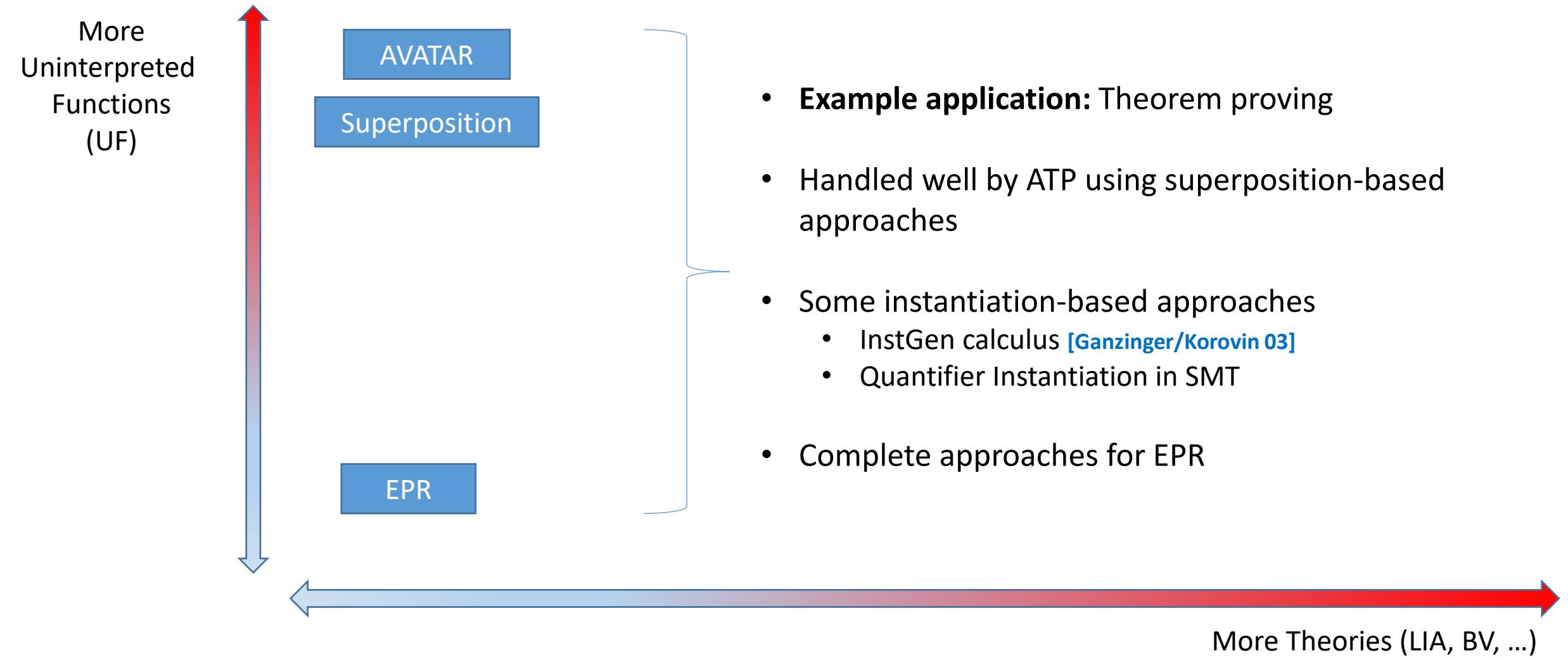
Landscape of Quantified Constraints in SMT



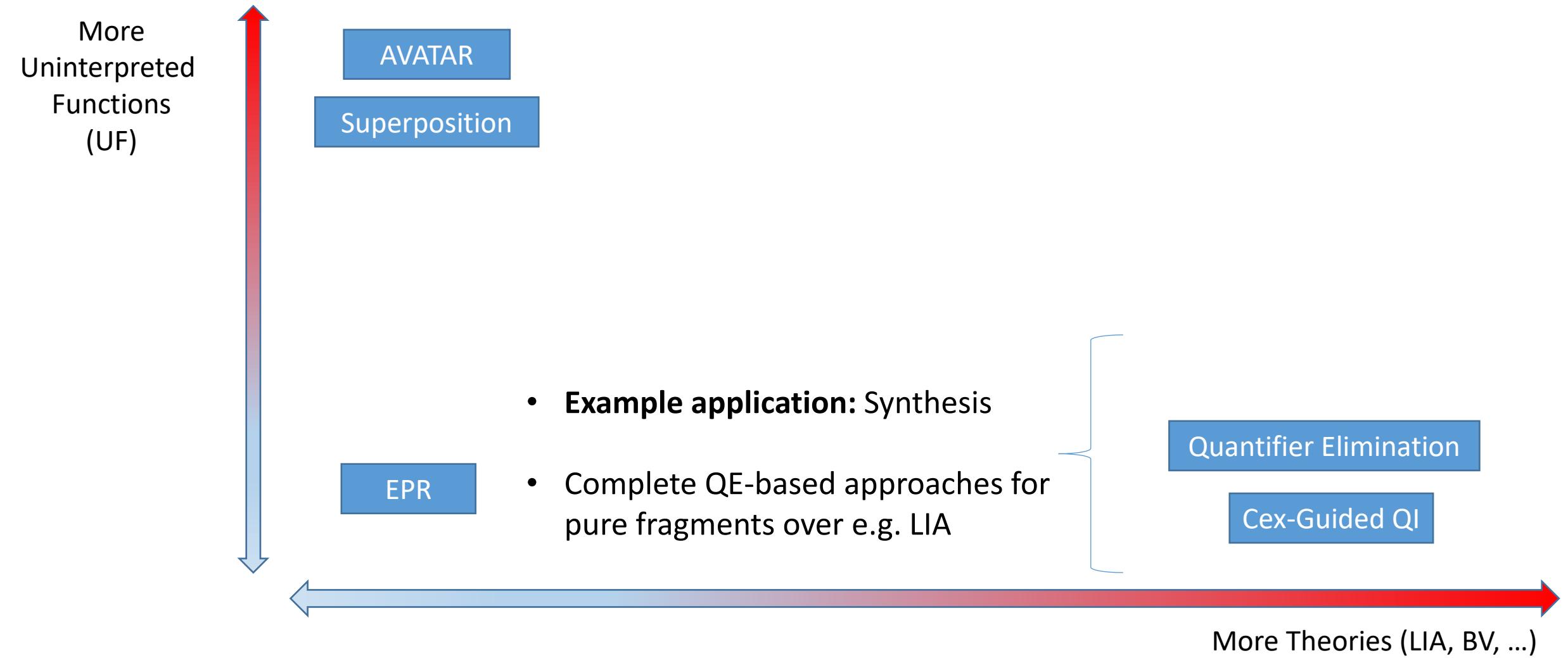
Landscape of Quantified Constraints in SMT



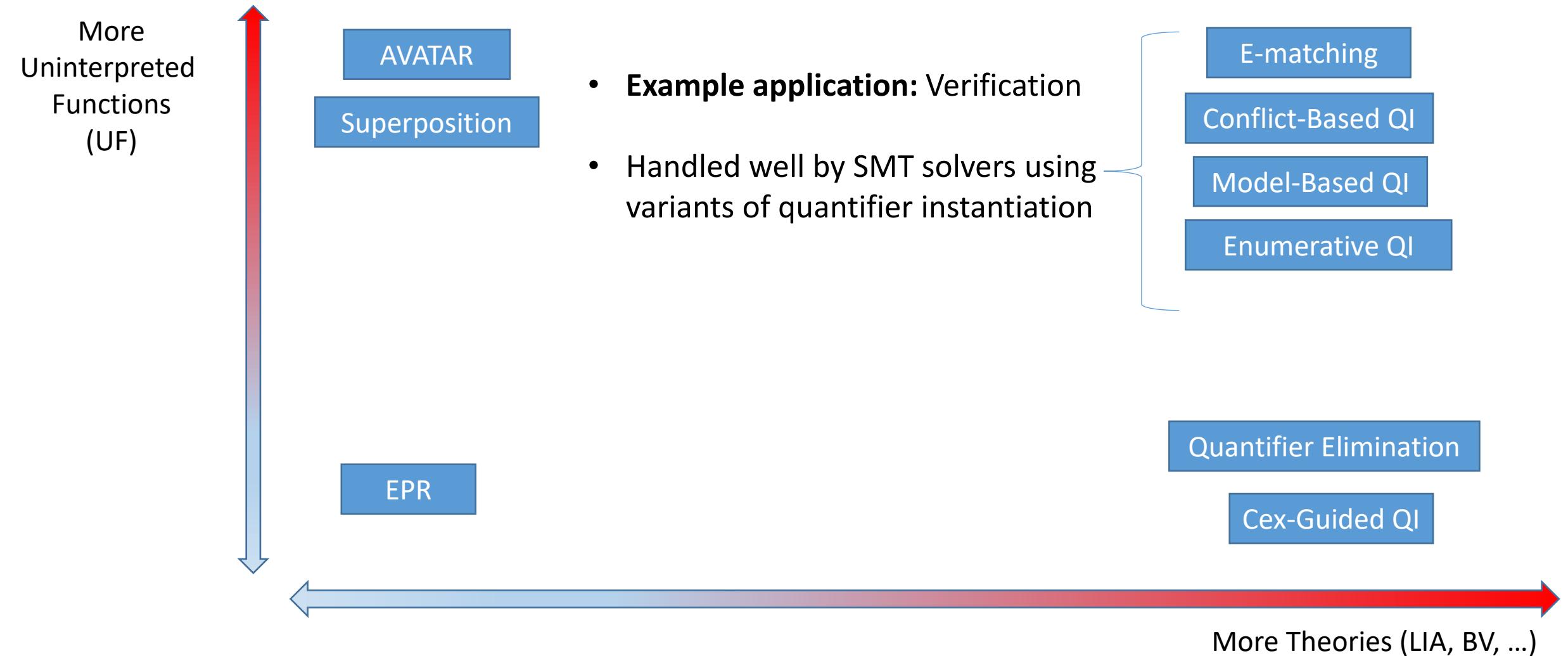
Landscape of Quantified Constraints in SMT



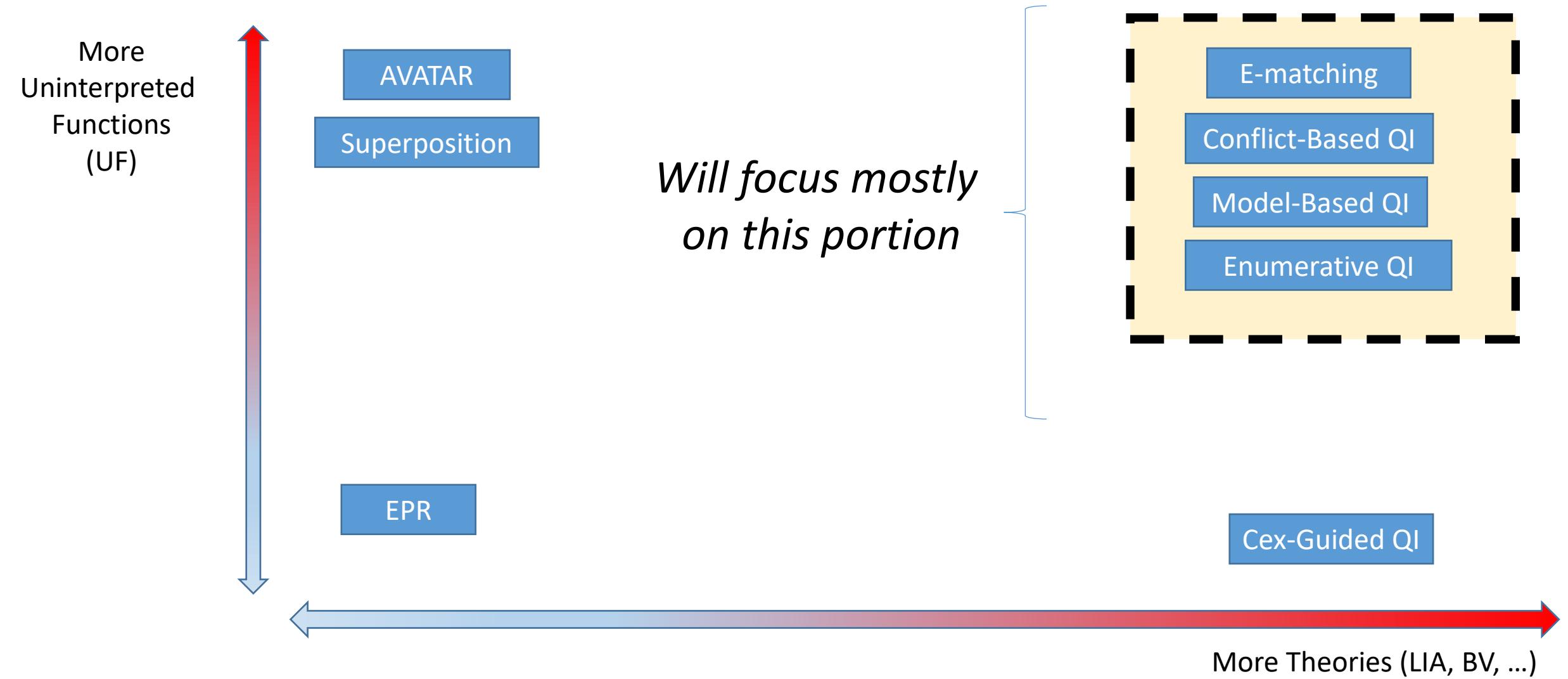
Landscape of Quantified Constraints in SMT



Landscape of Quantified Constraints in SMT



Landscape of Quantified Constraints in SMT



SMT Solvers for \forall using Quantifier Instantiation

- Traditionally:
 - E-matching [Detlefs et al 2005, Bjorner et al 2007, Ge et al 2007]

Implemented in

simplify, cvc3, z3, FX7,
Alt-Ergo, Princess,
cvc4, veriT, SMTInterpol

SMT Solvers for \forall using Quantifier Instantiation

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- E-matching [Detlefs et al 2005, Bjorner et al 2007, Ge et al 2007]

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- More recently:

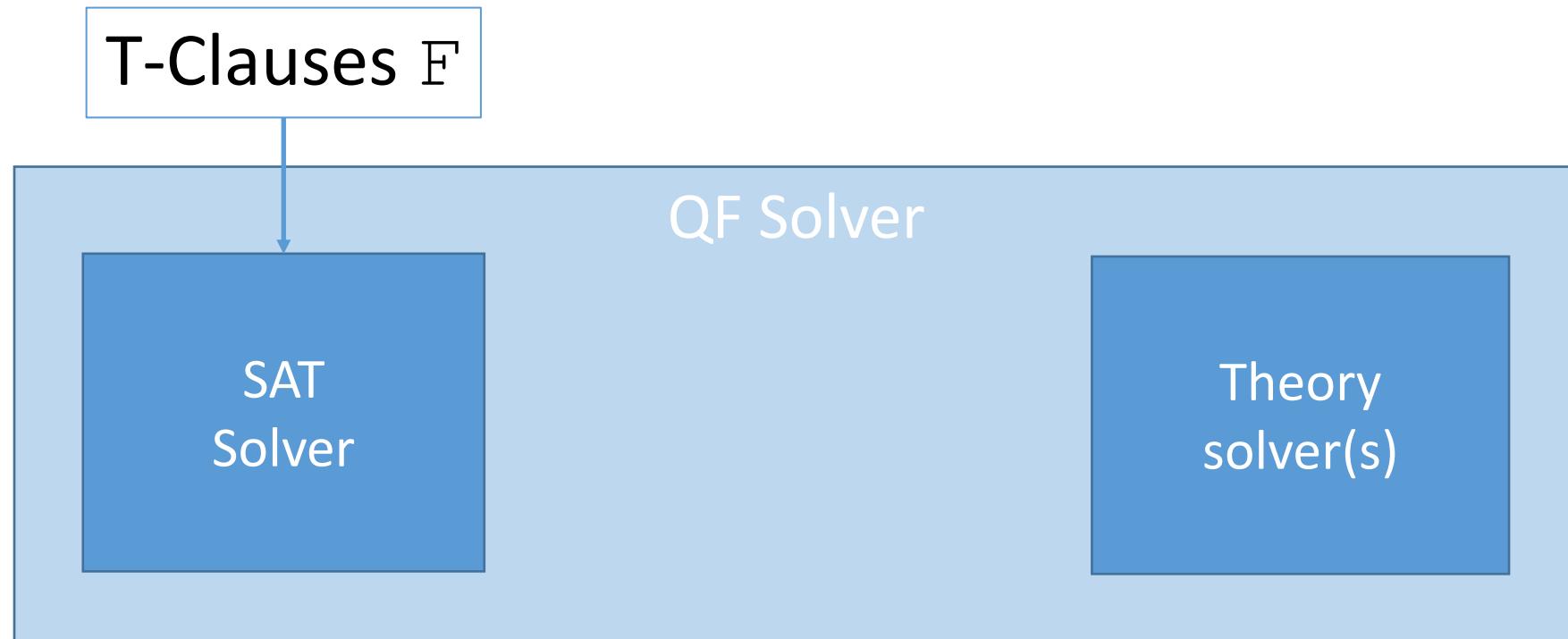
- Model-Based Instantiation [Ge et al 2009, Reynolds et al 2013]
 - Conflict-Based Instantiation [Reynolds et al 2014, Barbosa et al 2017]
 - Enumerative Instantiation [Reynolds et al 2018]

z3, cvc4

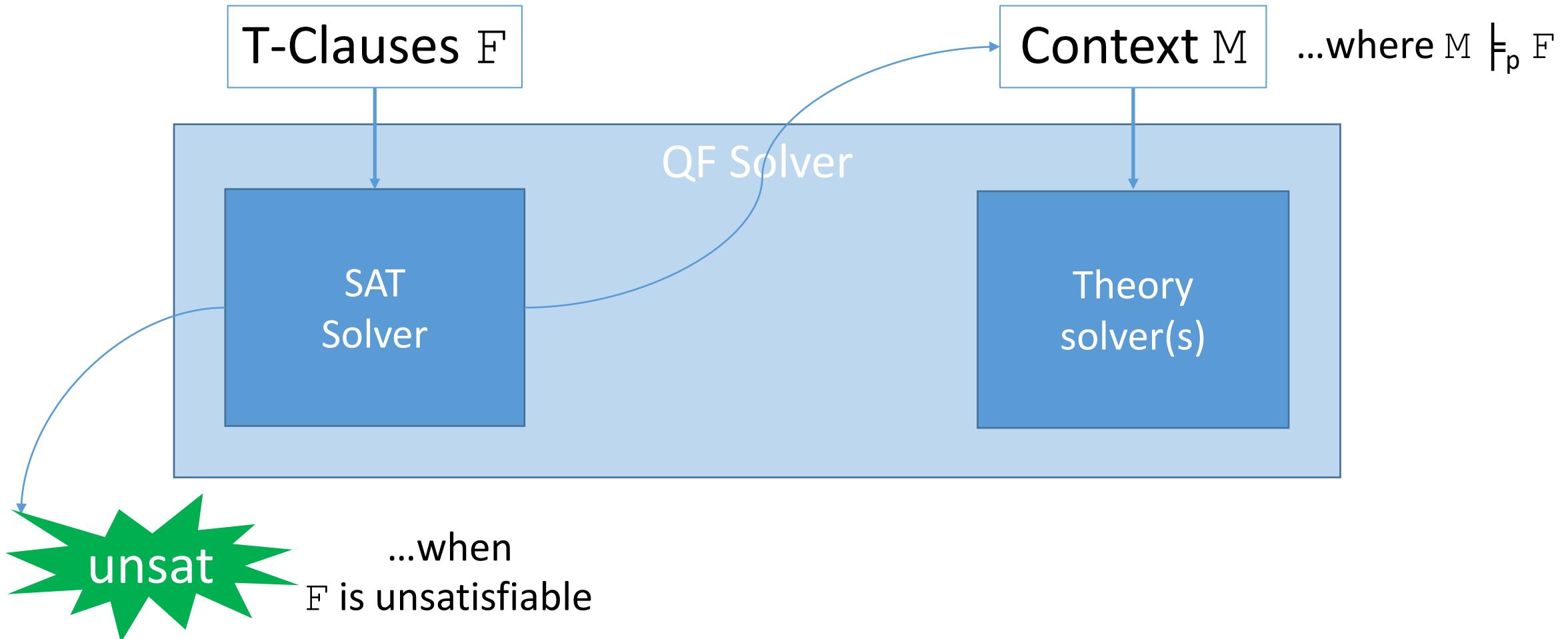
cvc4, veriT, SMTInterpol

cvc4, veriT

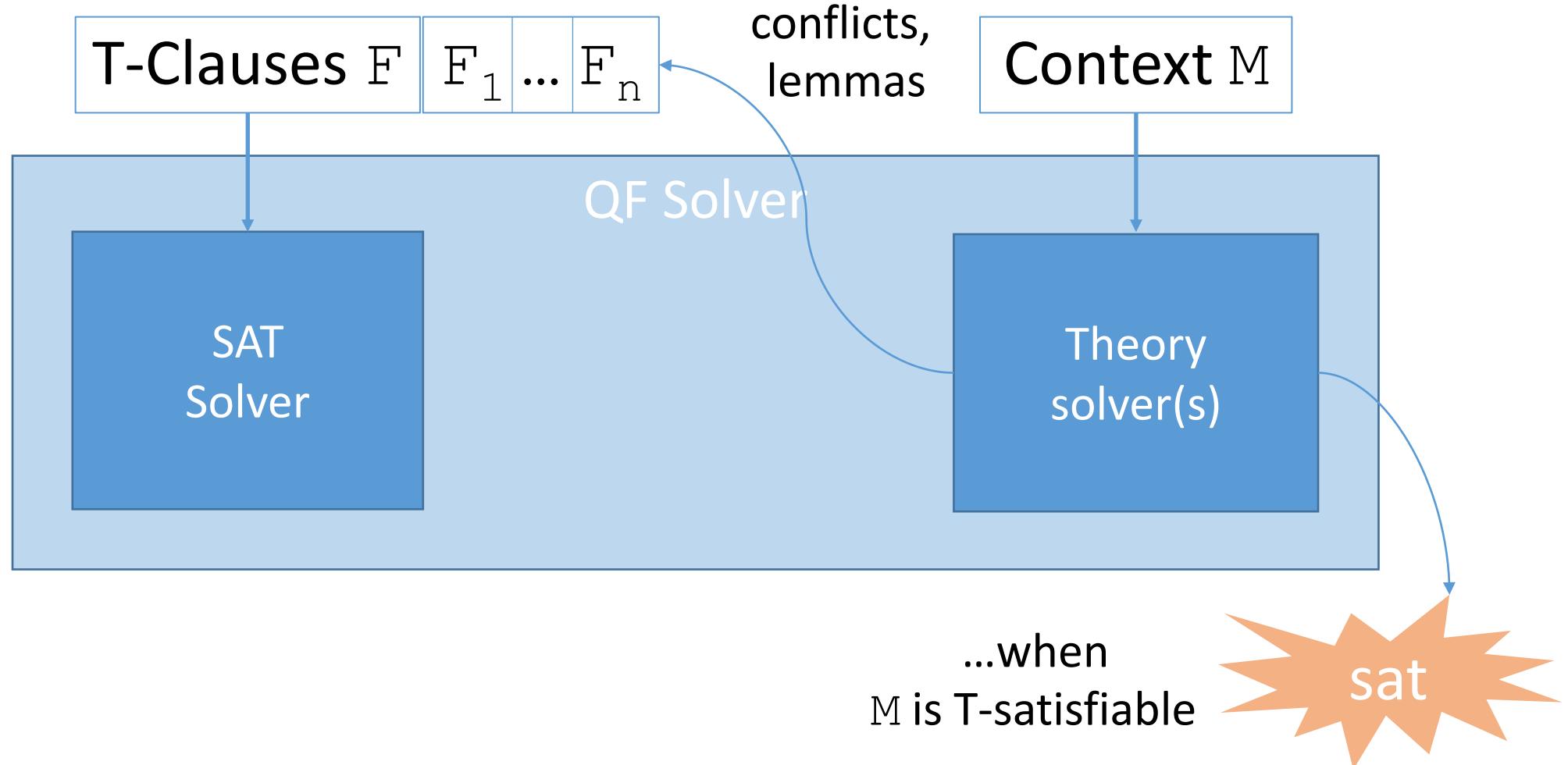
DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers (quantifier-free)



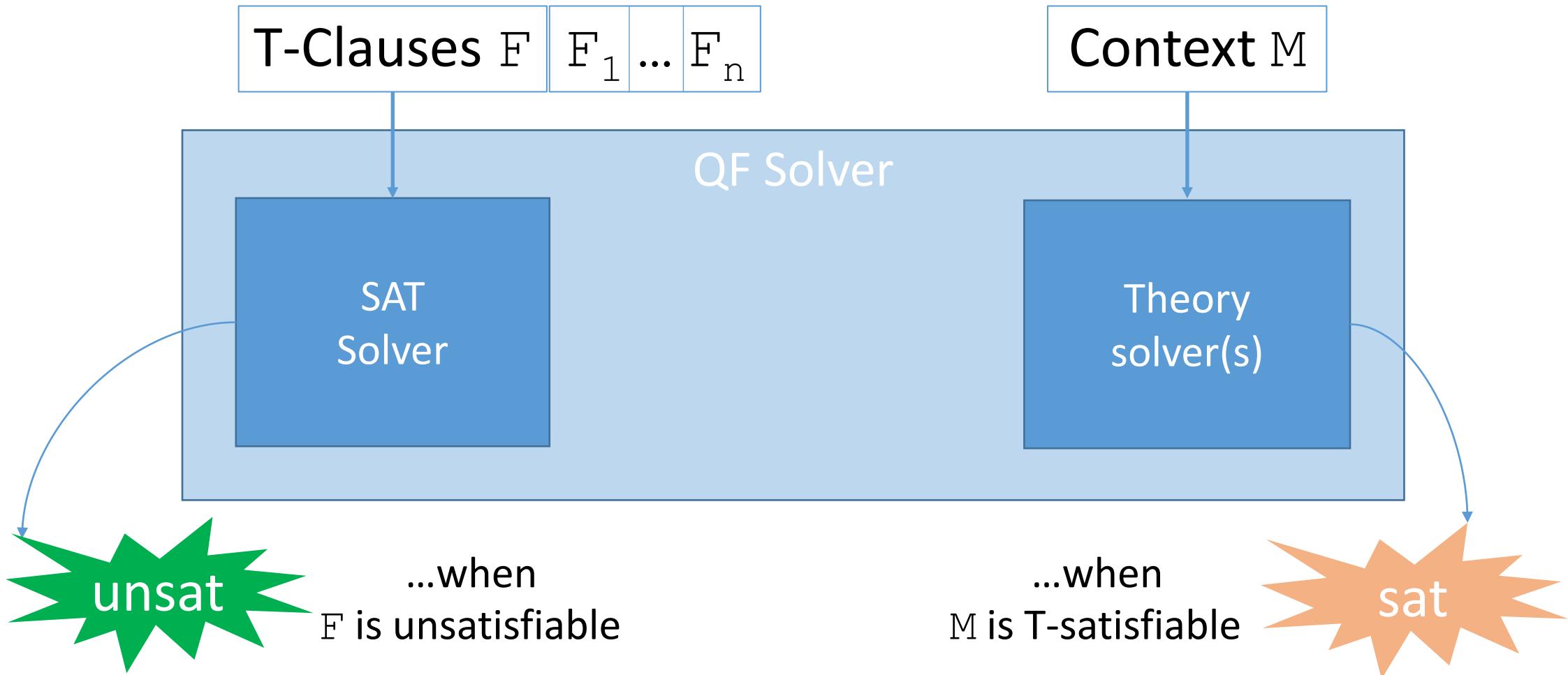
DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers



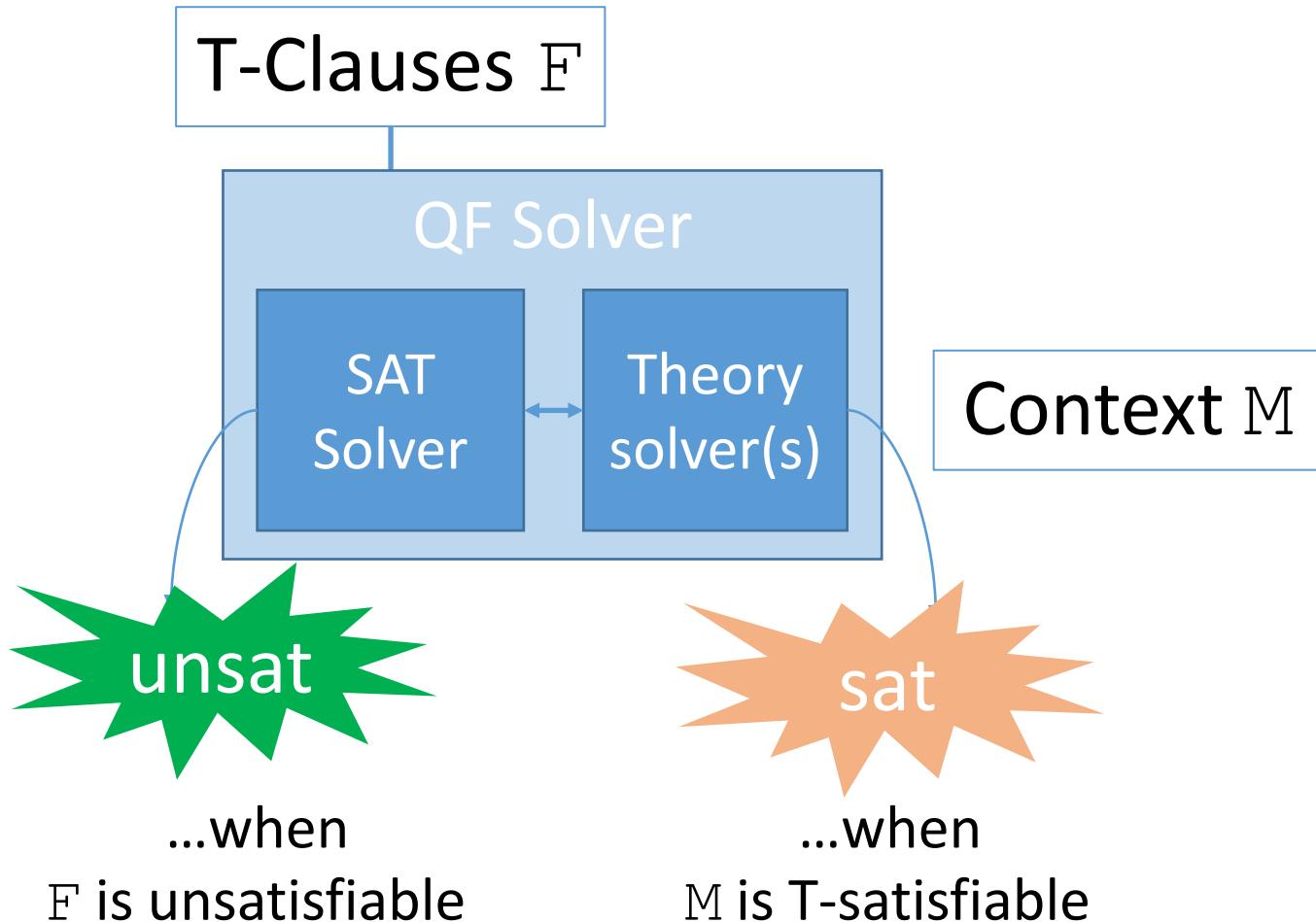
DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers



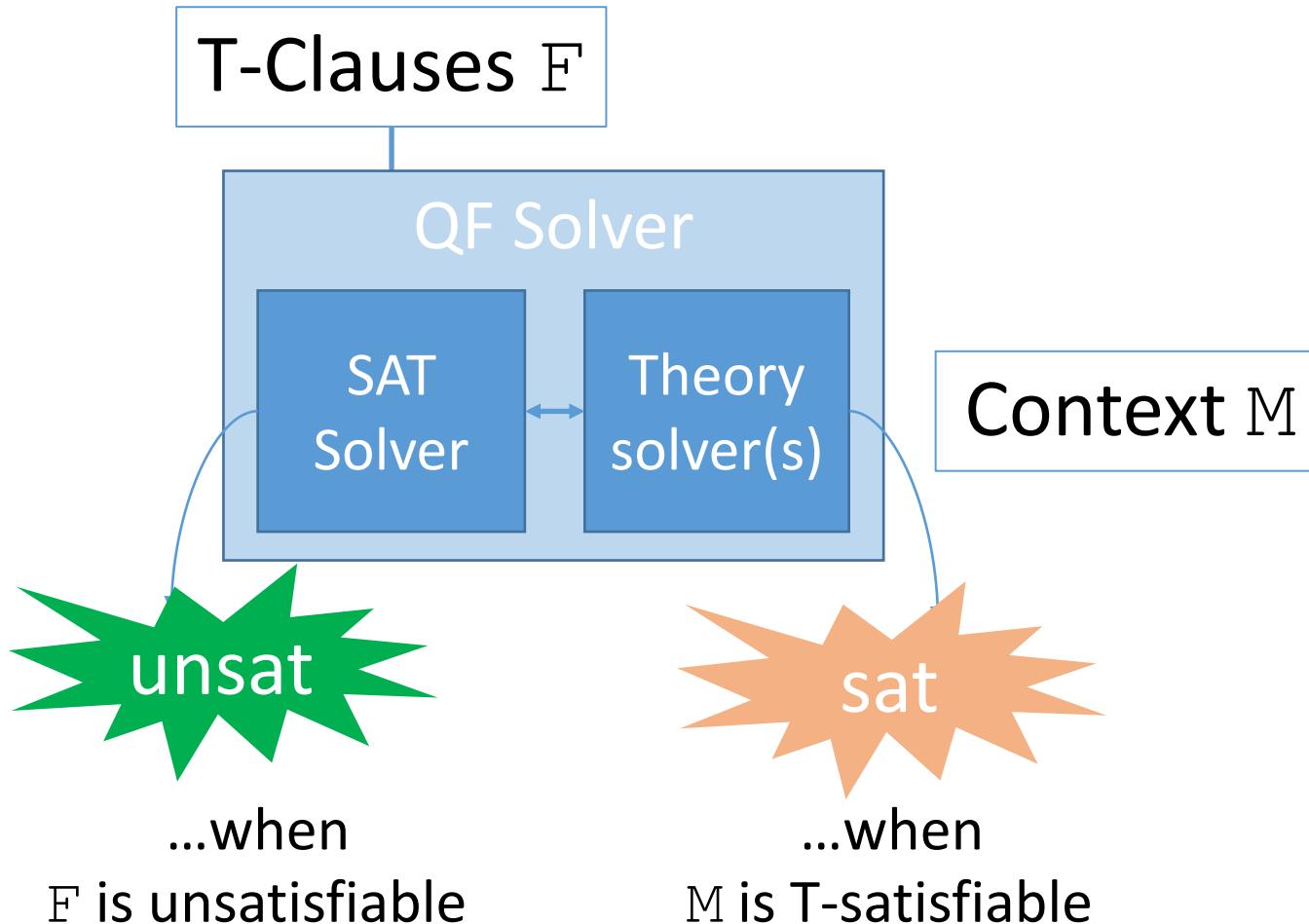
DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers



DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers + \forall Instantiation

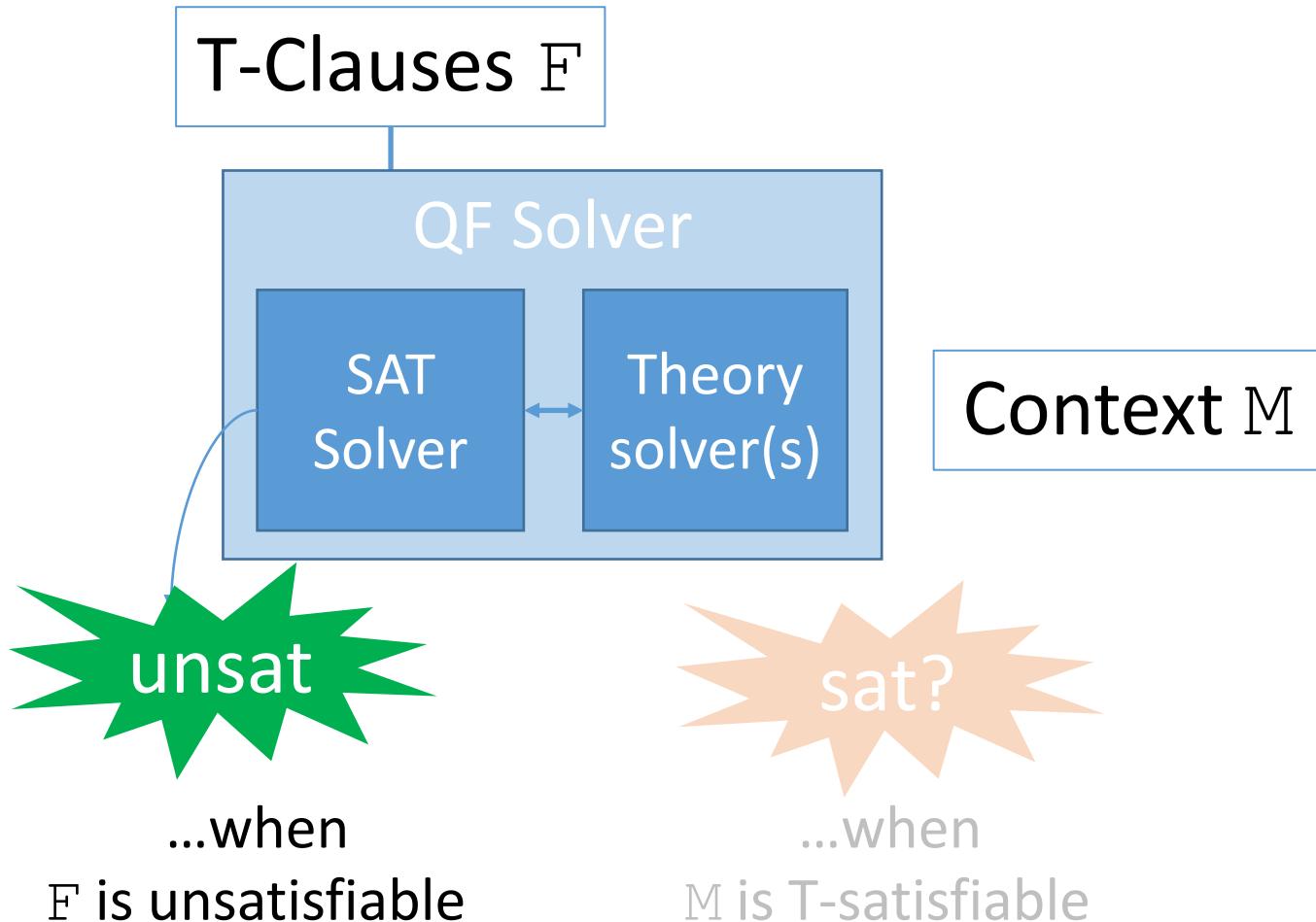


DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers + \forall Instantiation



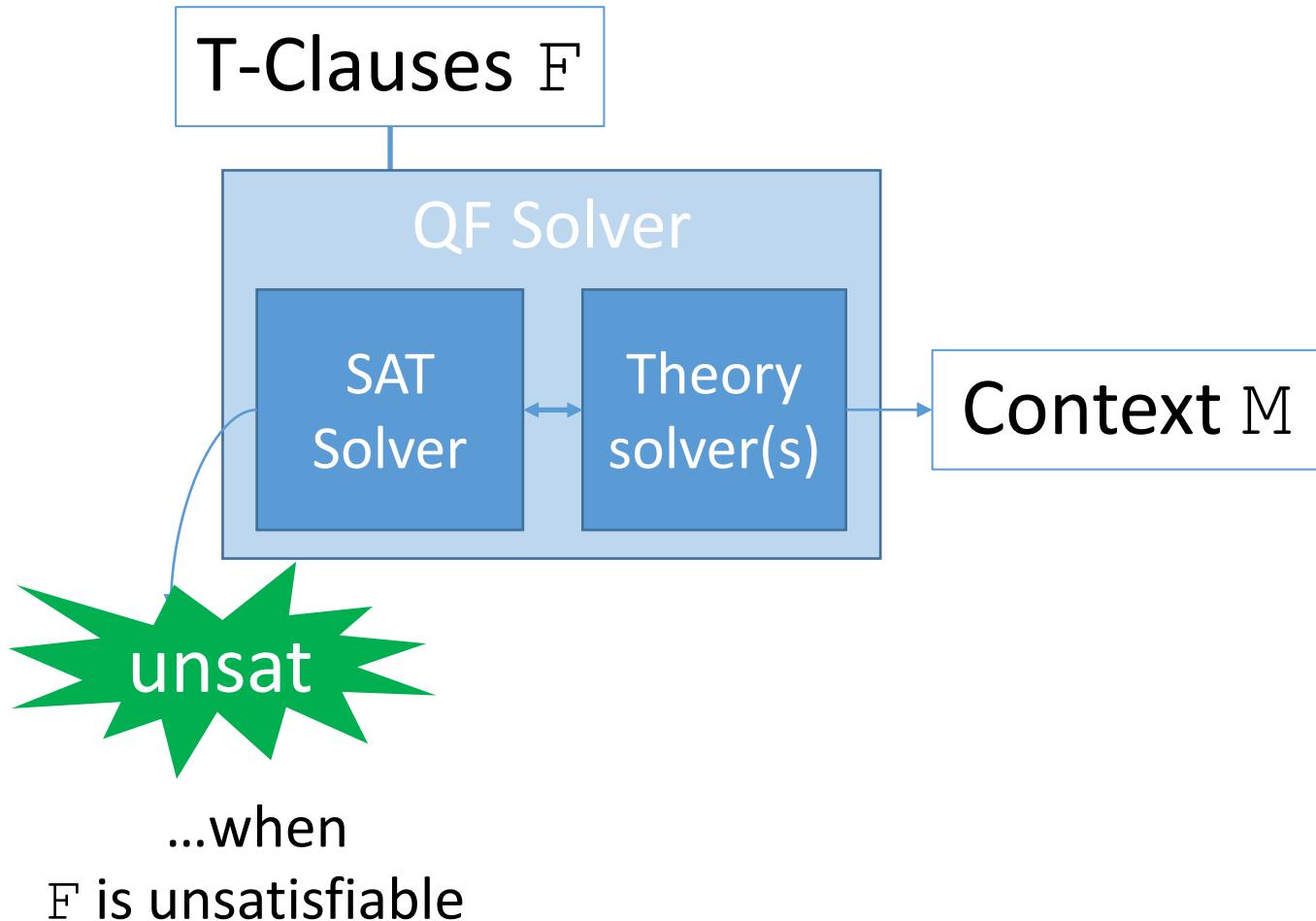
When M contains
quantified formulas...

DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers + \forall Instantiation

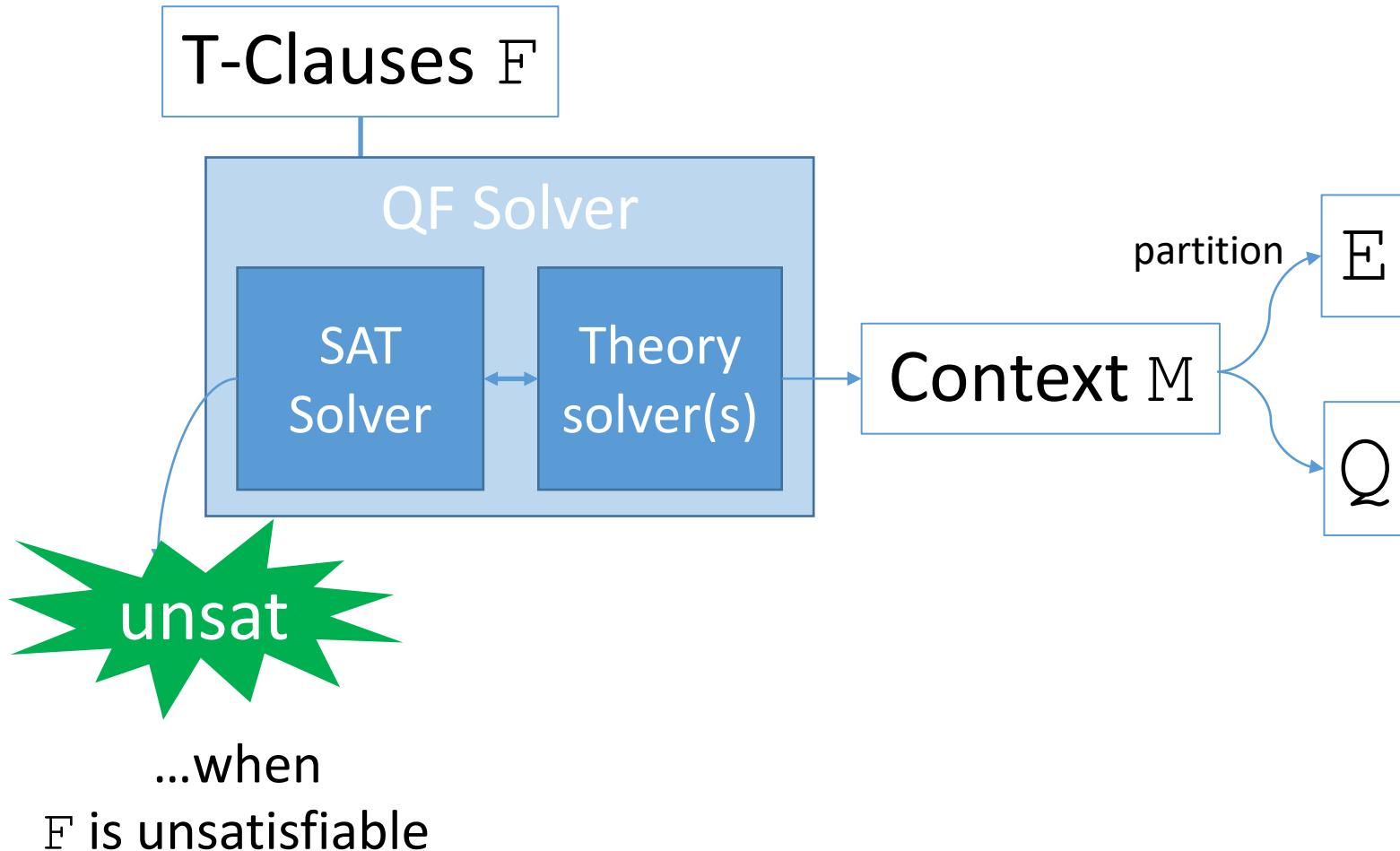


...cannot use QF procedure
for establishing M is sat

DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers + \forall Instantiation



DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers + \forall Instantiation



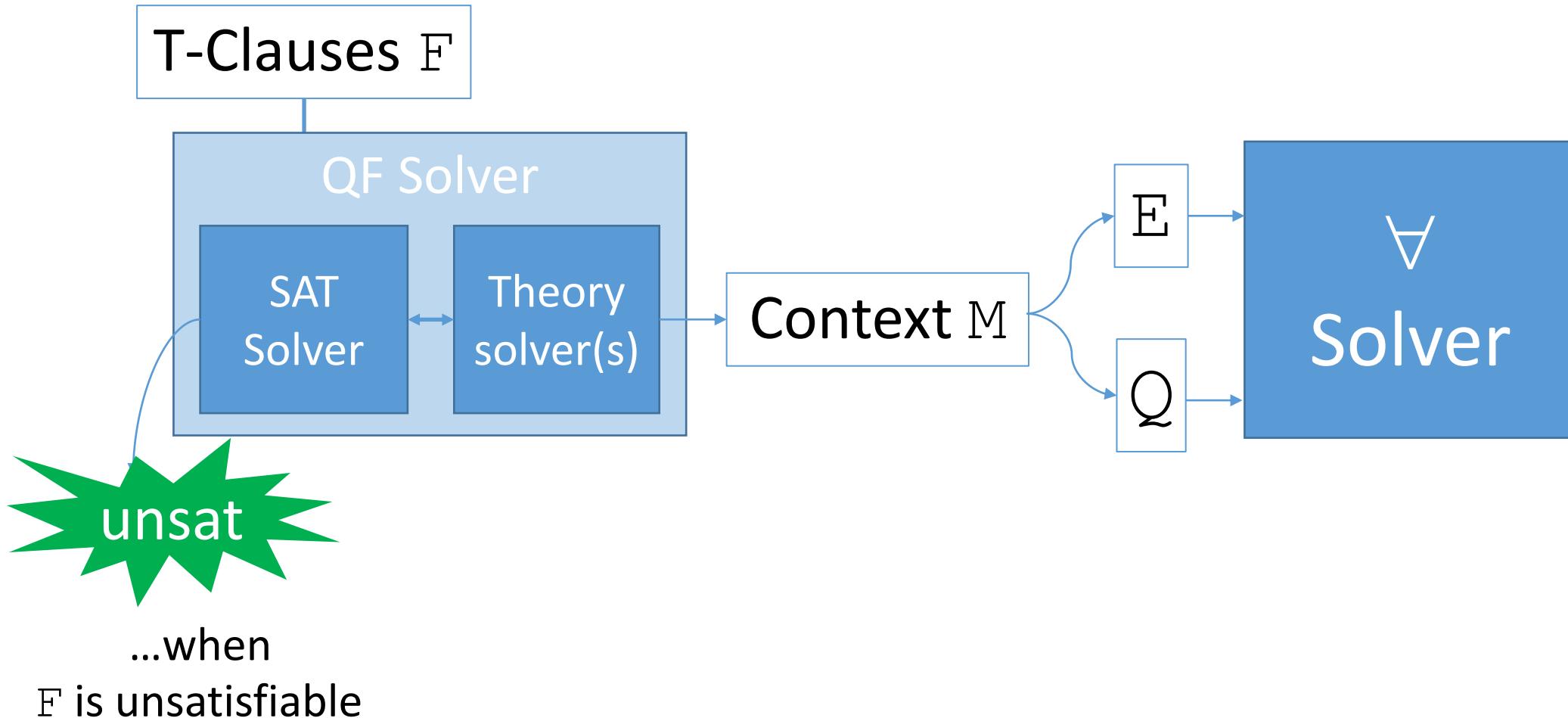
Set of ground equalities
and disequalities

- $\{ f(a) = b, P(a) = \perp, \dots \}$

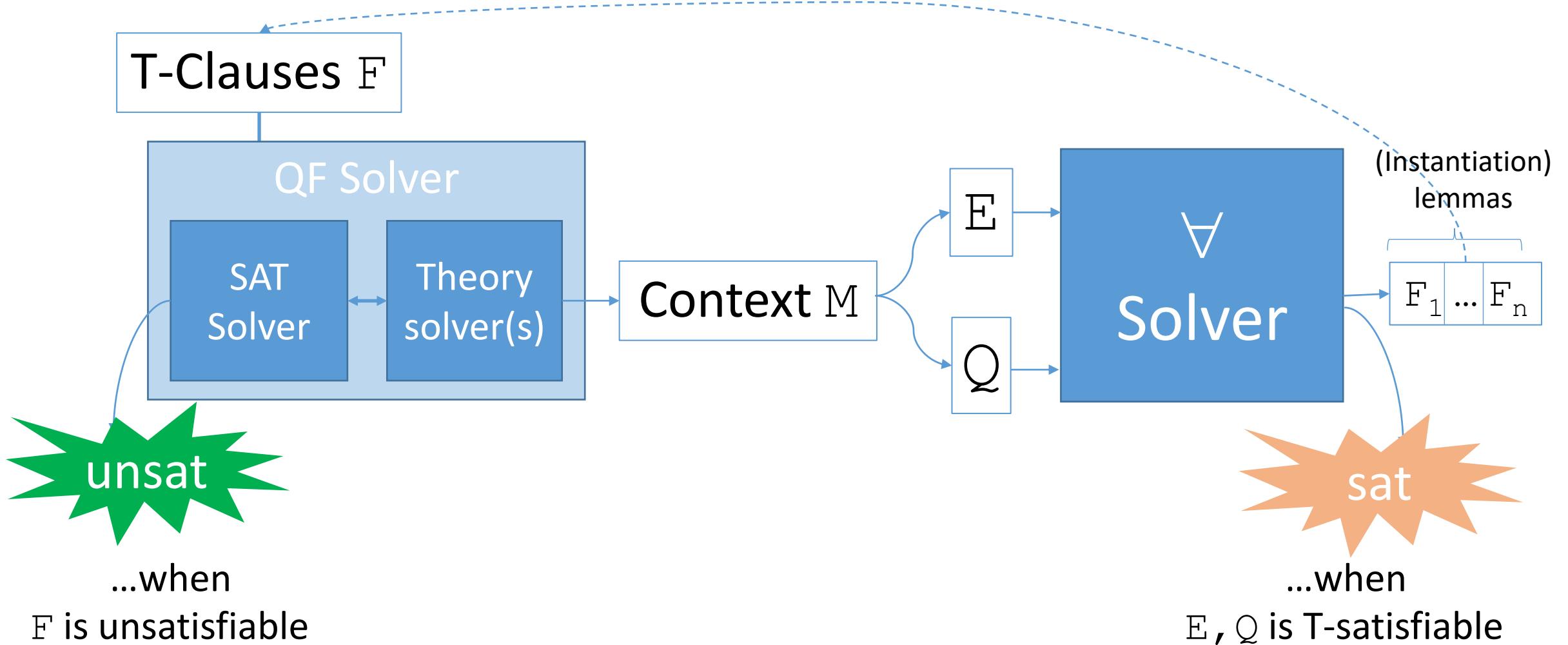
Set of quantified formulas

- $\{ \forall x. P(x), \dots \}$

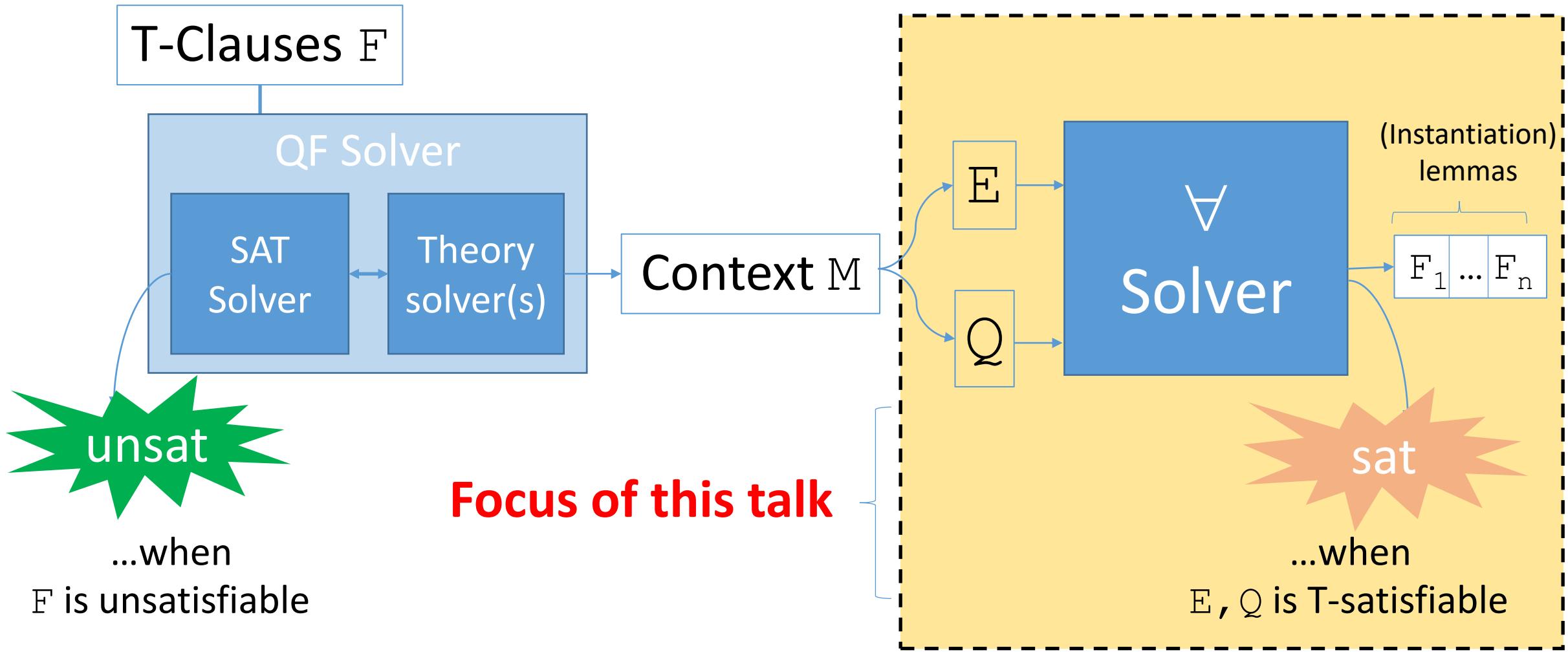
DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers + \forall Instantiation



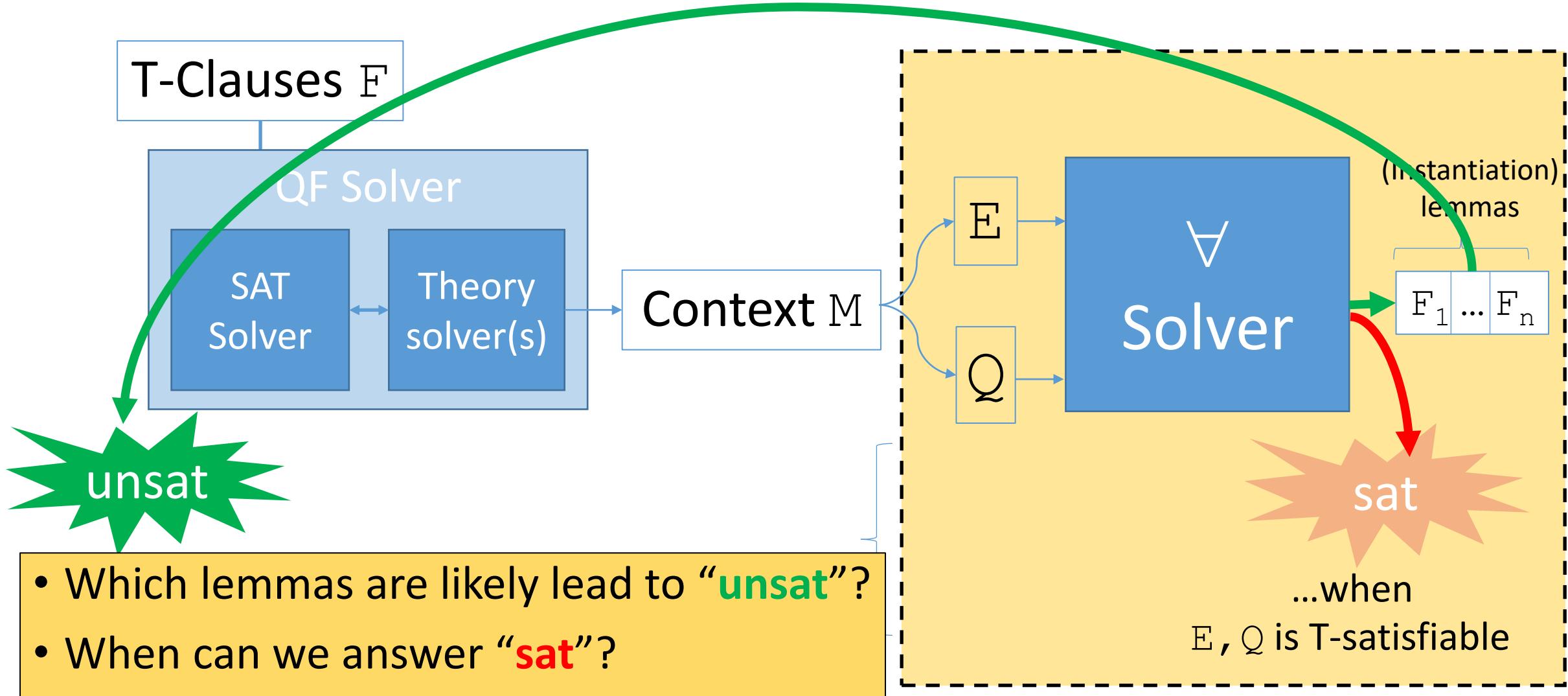
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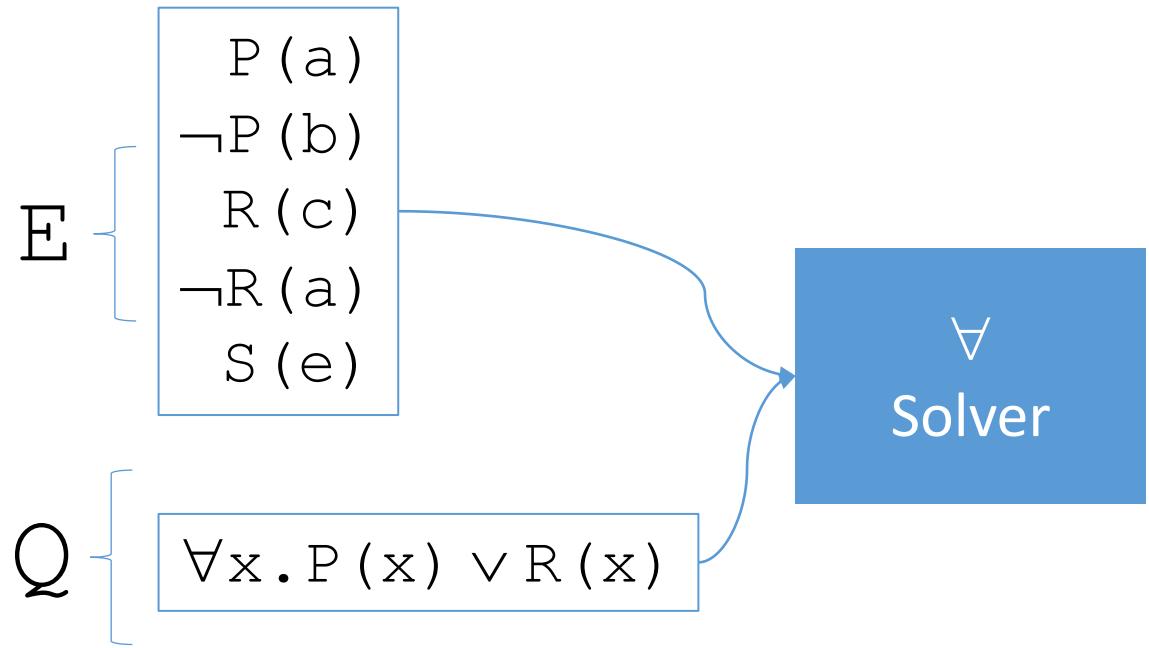
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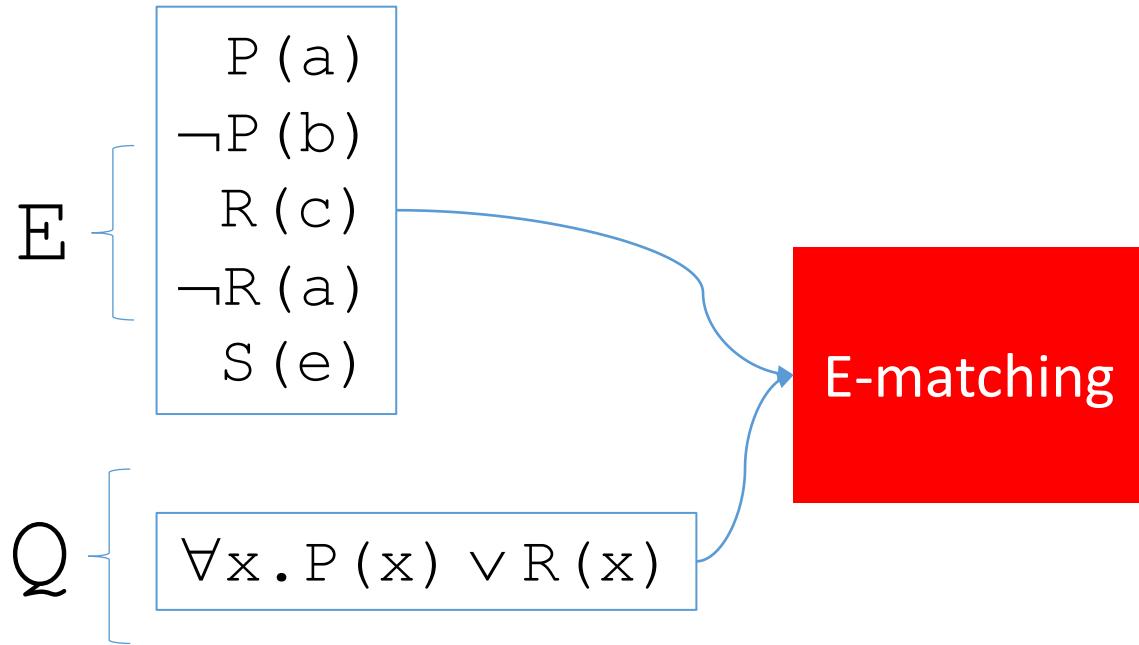
DPLL(T)-Based SMT Solvers + \forall Instantiation



E-matching

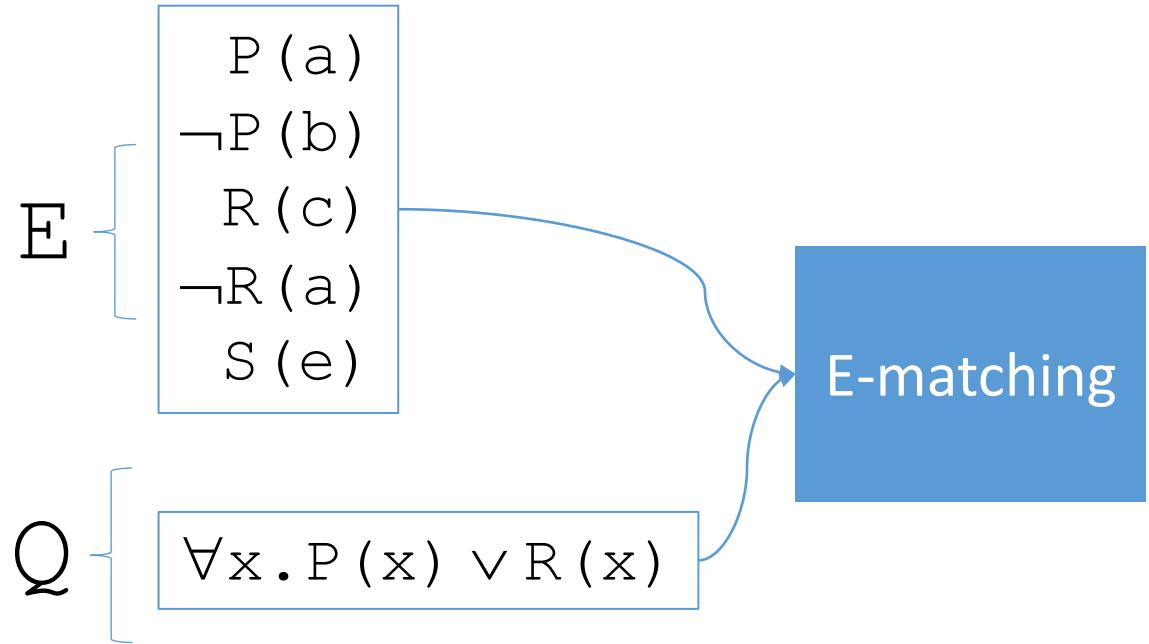


E-matching

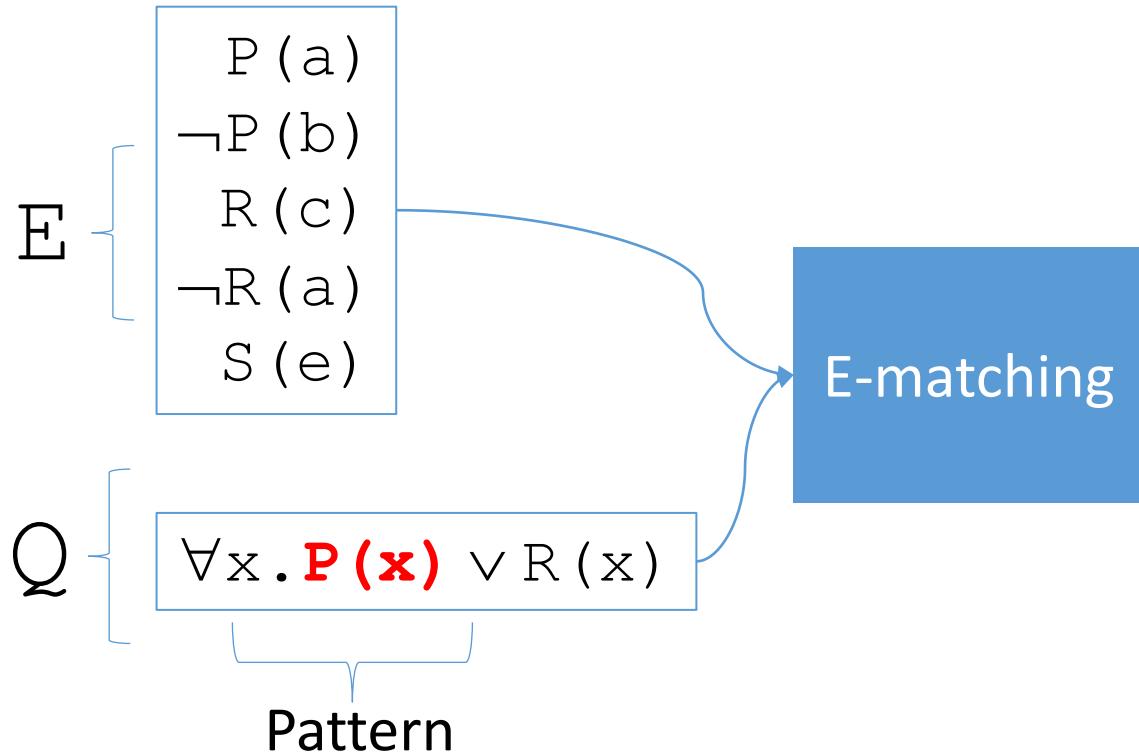


- Introduced in Nelson's Phd Thesis [\[Nelson 80\]](#)

E-matching

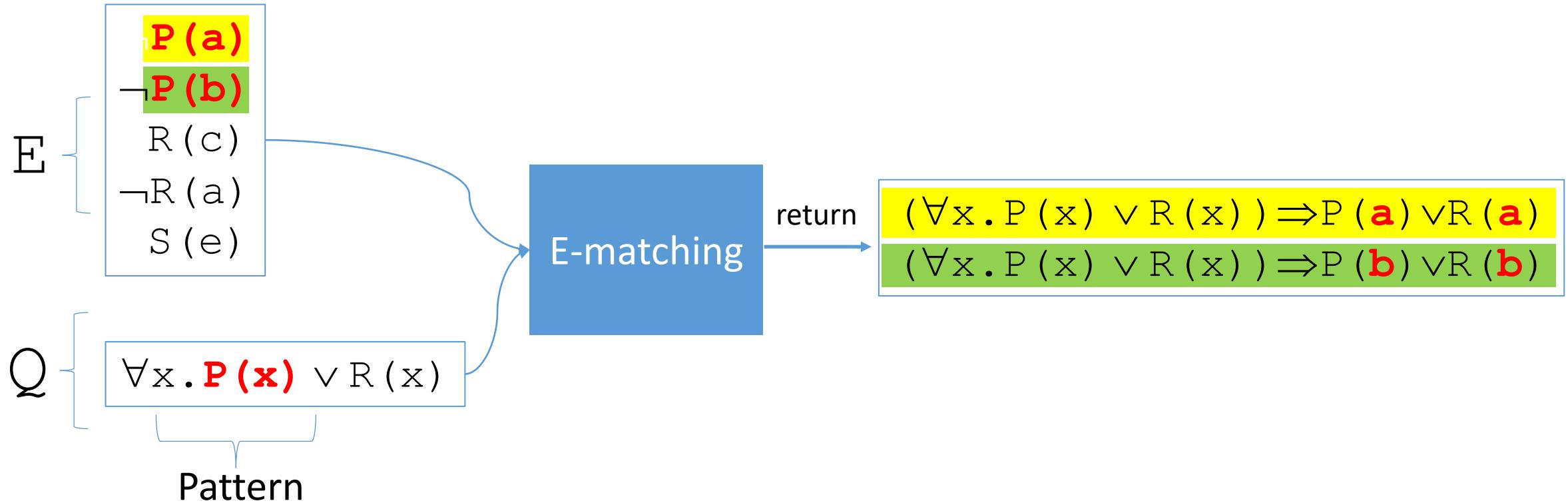


E-matching

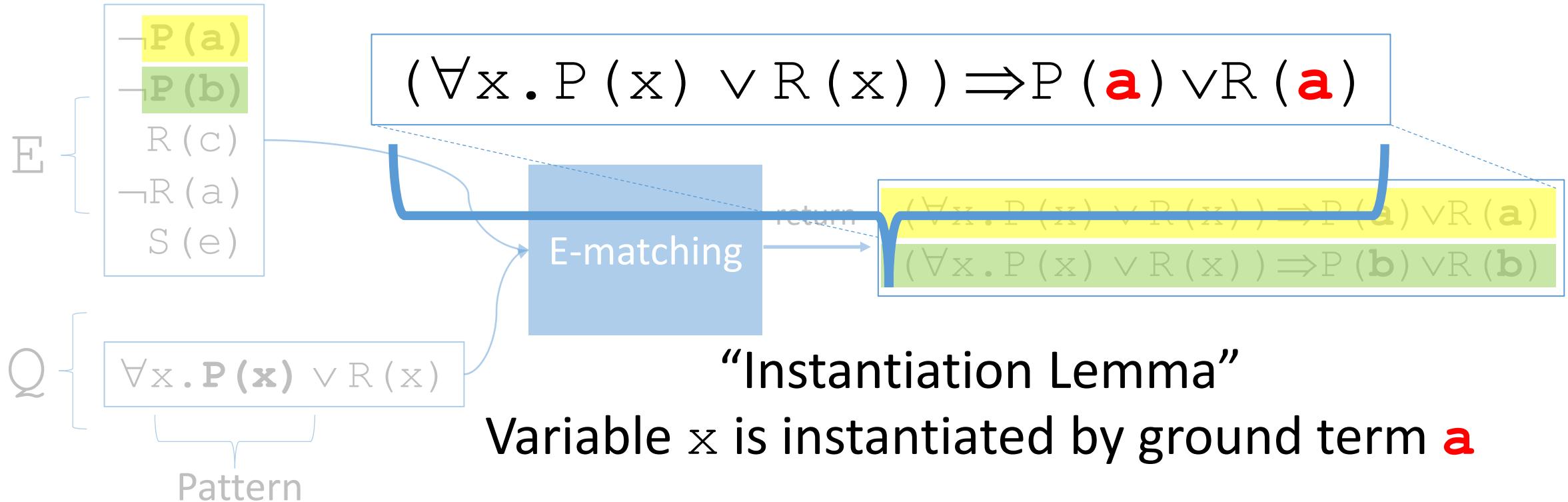


⇒ Idea: choose instances based on pattern matching

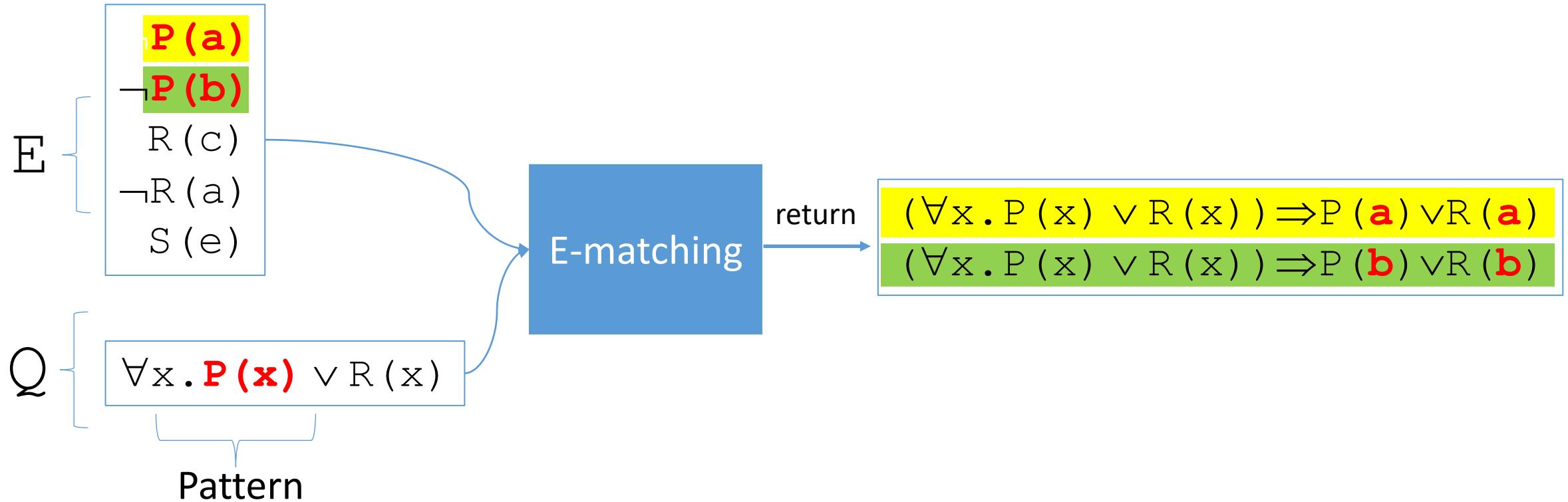
E-matching



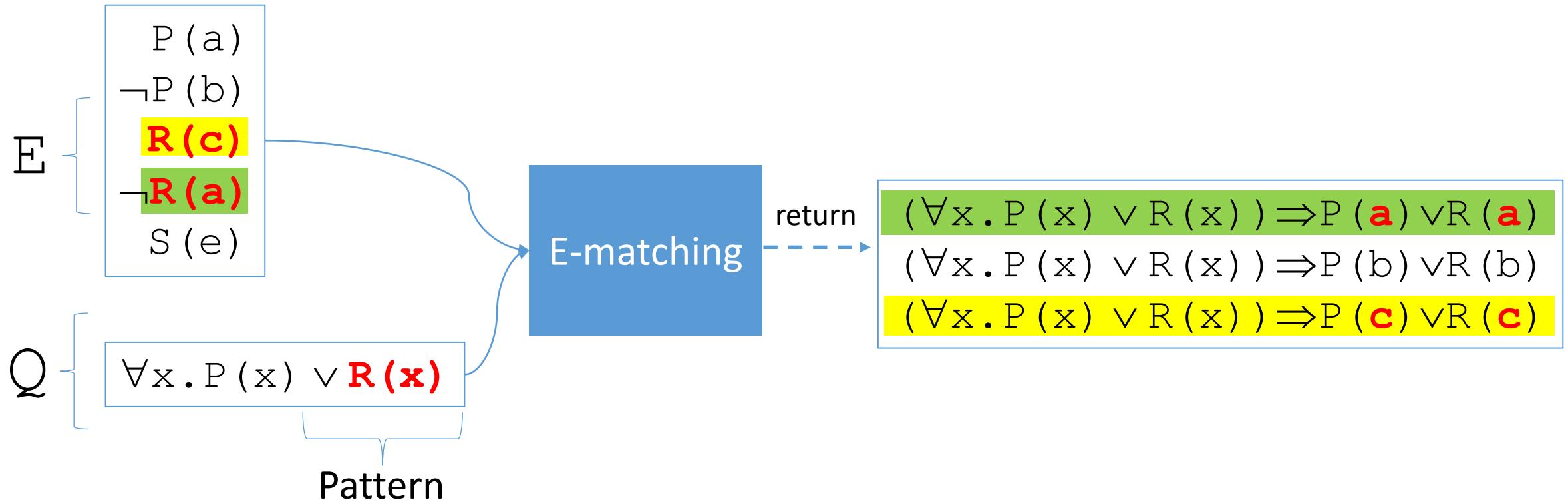
E-matching



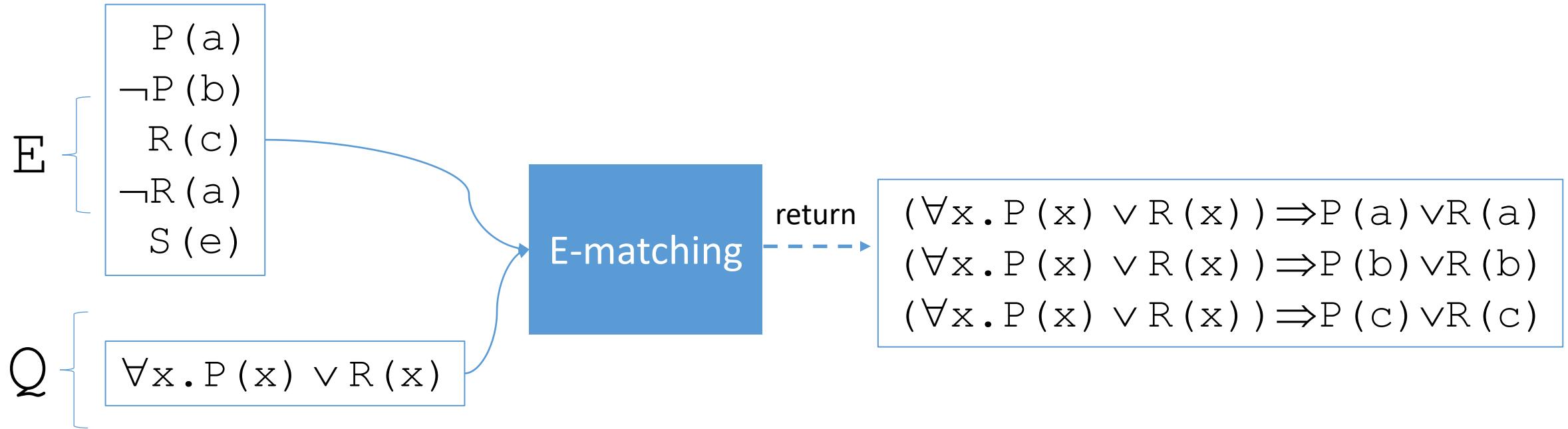
E-matching



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E-matching



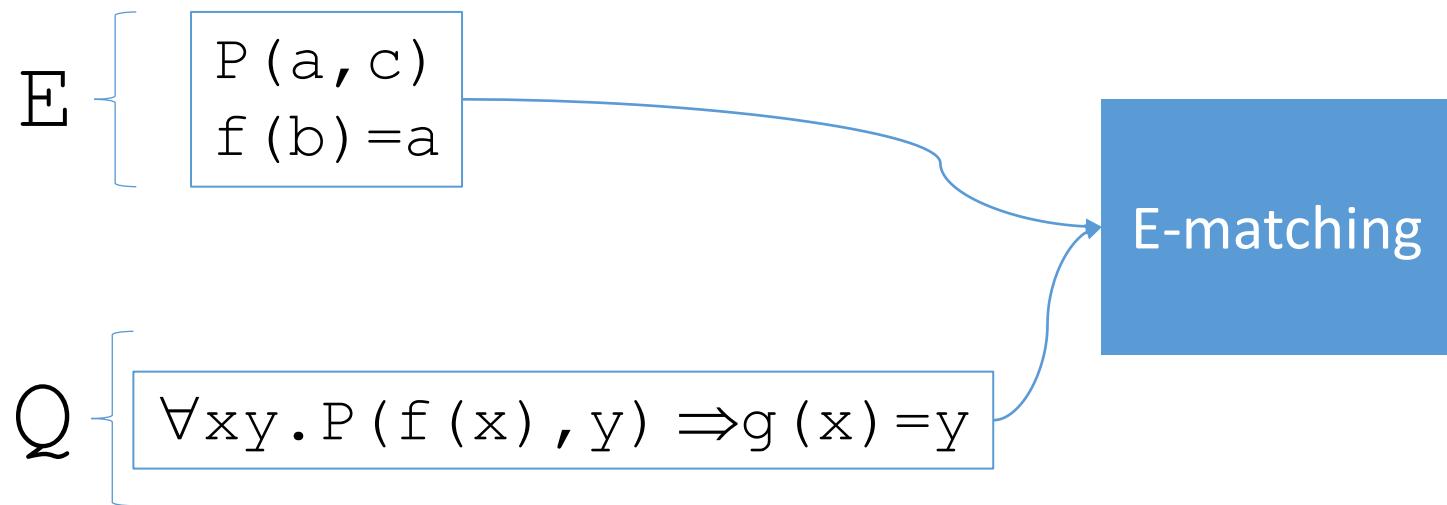
(we hope)



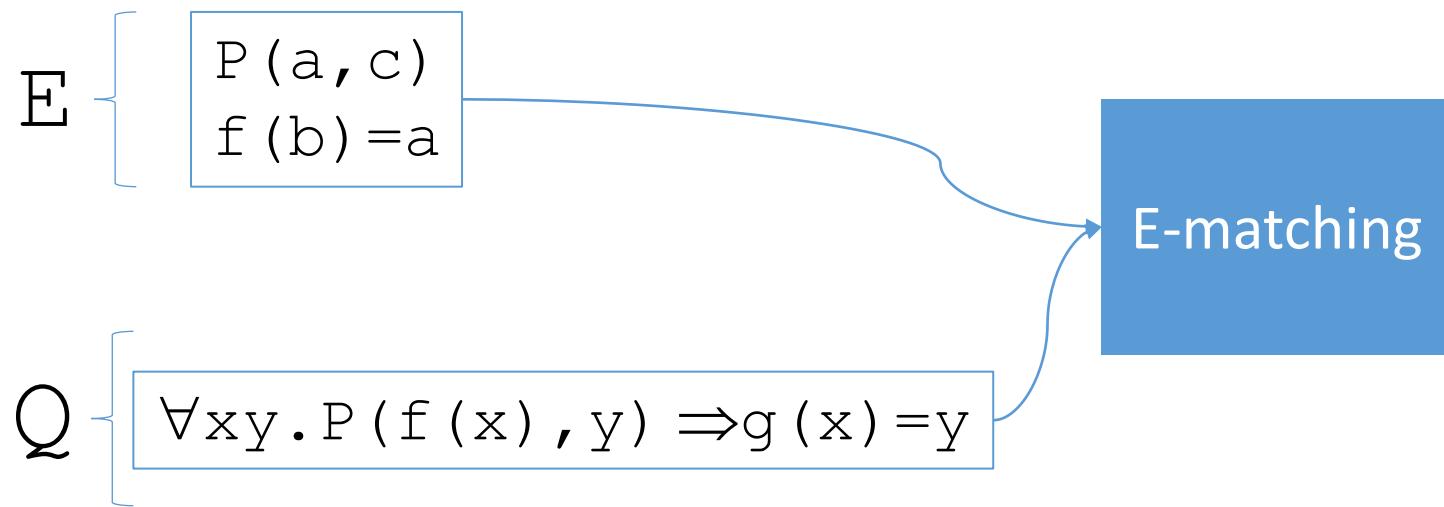
return

$(\forall x. P(x) \vee R(x)) \Rightarrow P(a) \vee R(a)$
 $(\forall x. P(x) \vee R(x)) \Rightarrow P(b) \vee R(b)$
 $(\forall x. P(x) \vee R(x)) \Rightarrow P(c) \vee R(c)$

E-matching: Functions, Equality

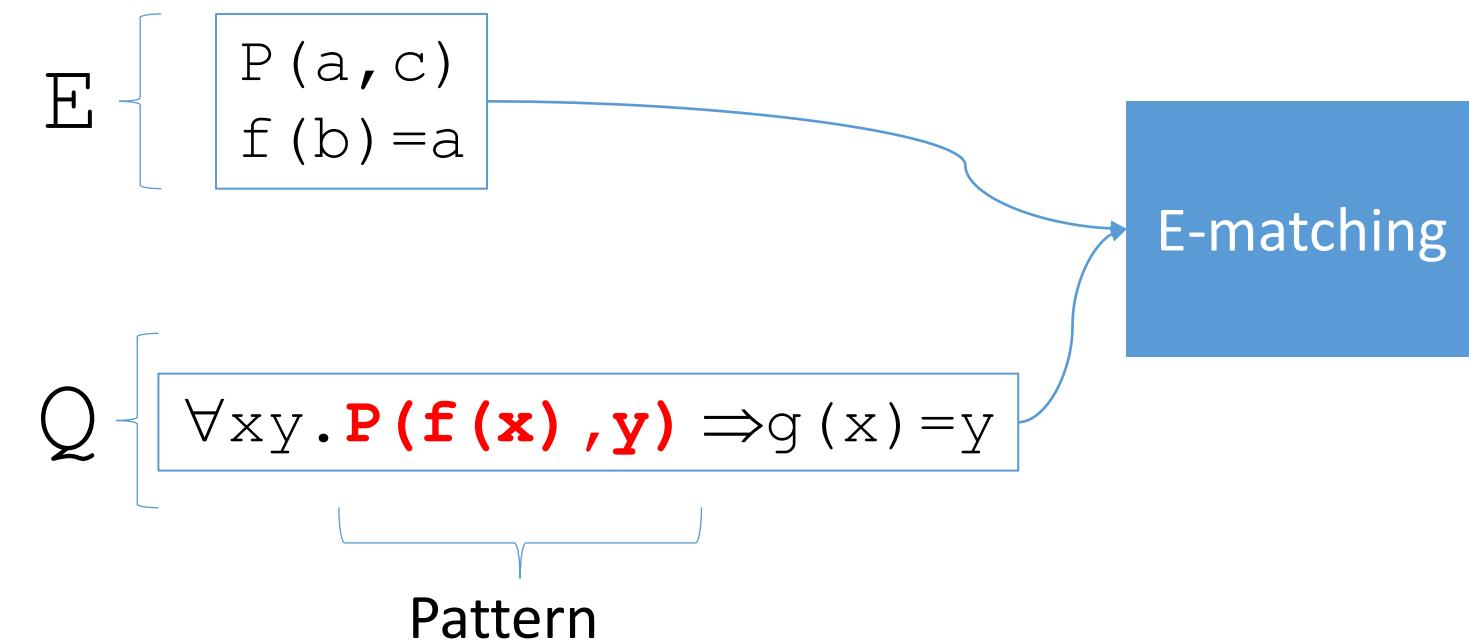


E-matching: Functions, Equality

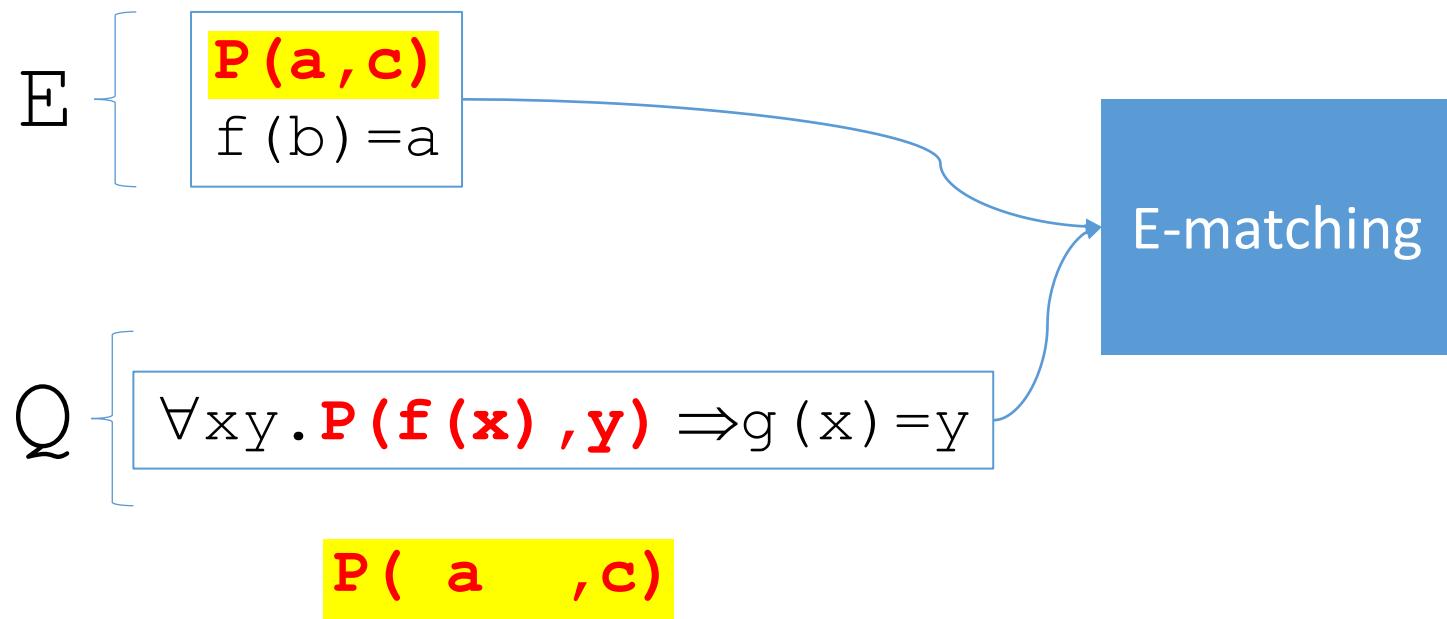


\Rightarrow In **E-matching**, Pattern **matching** takes into account equalities in **E**

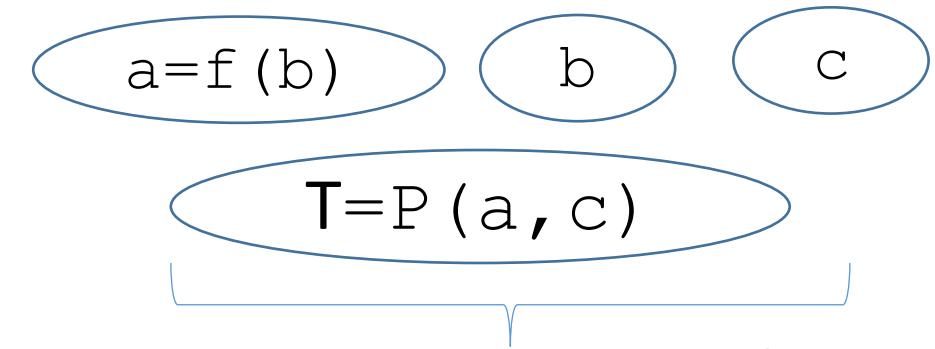
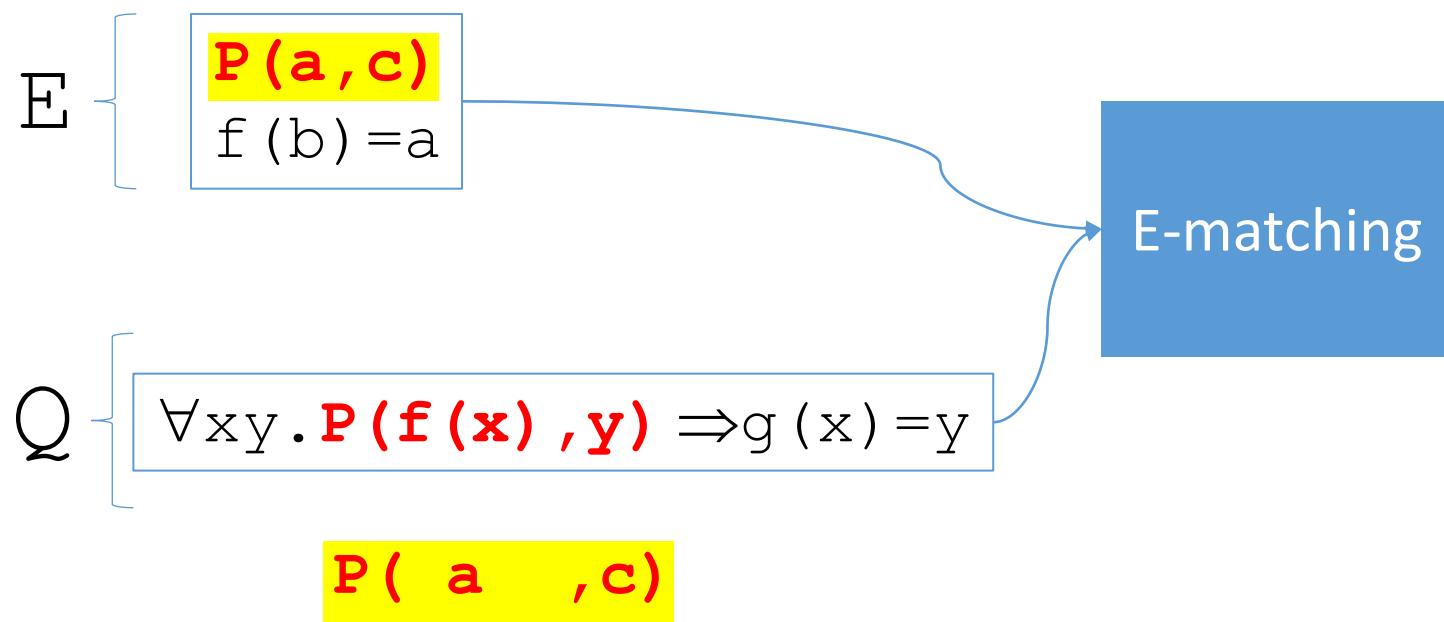
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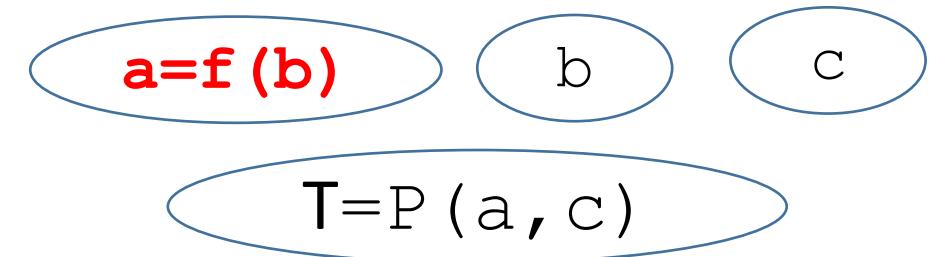
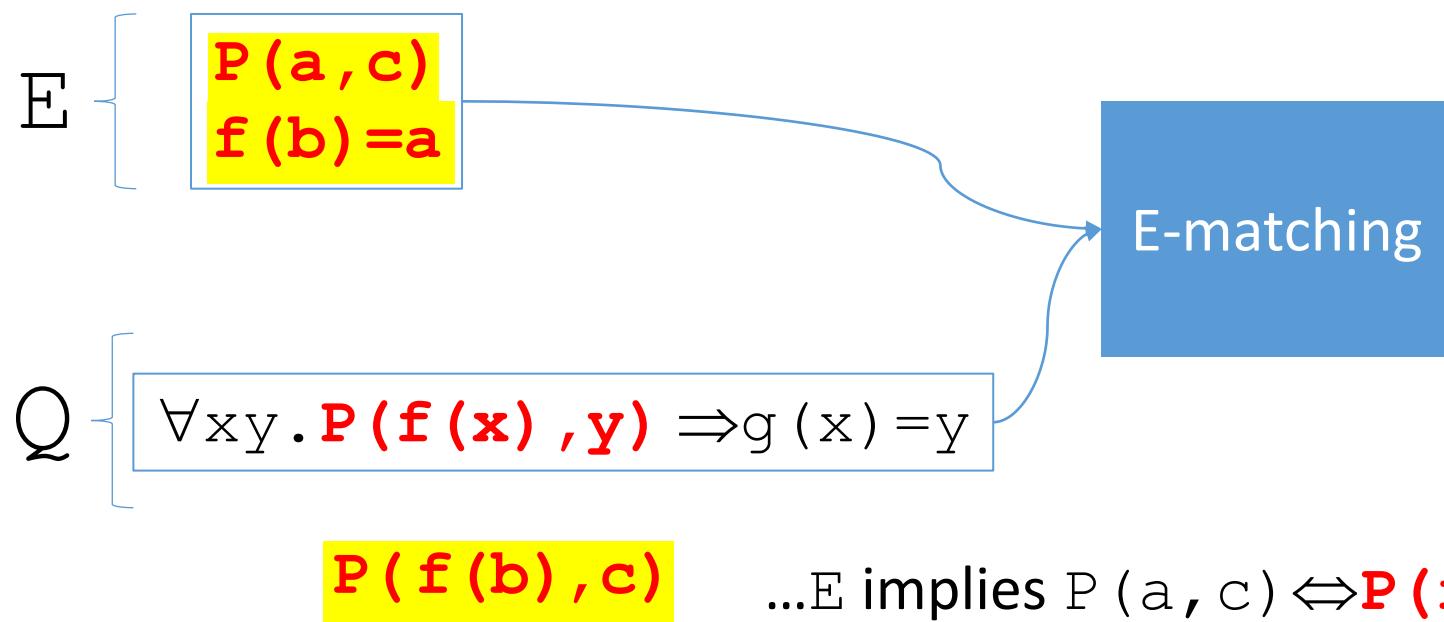
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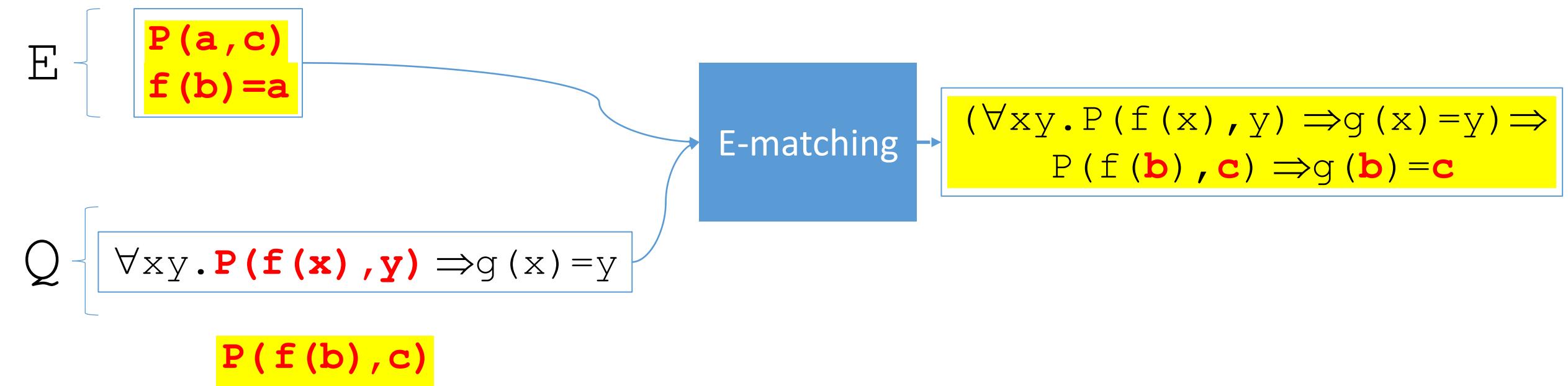
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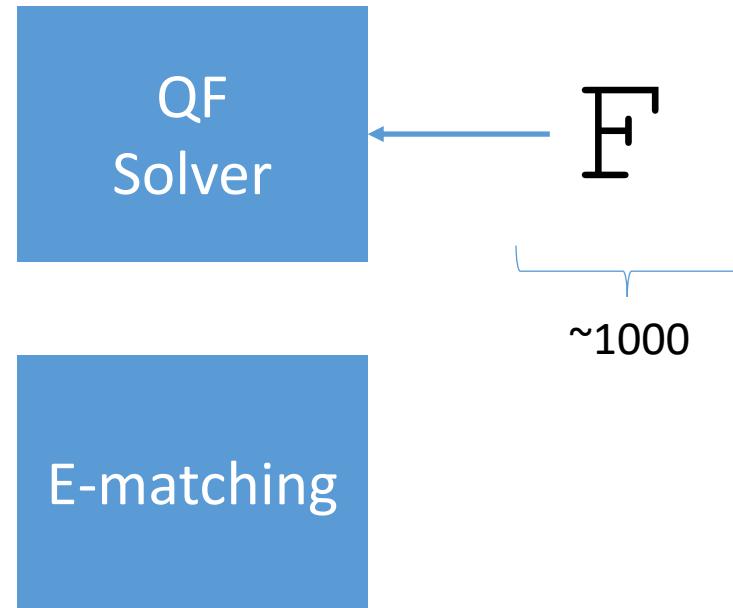
E-matching: Functions, Equality



E-matching

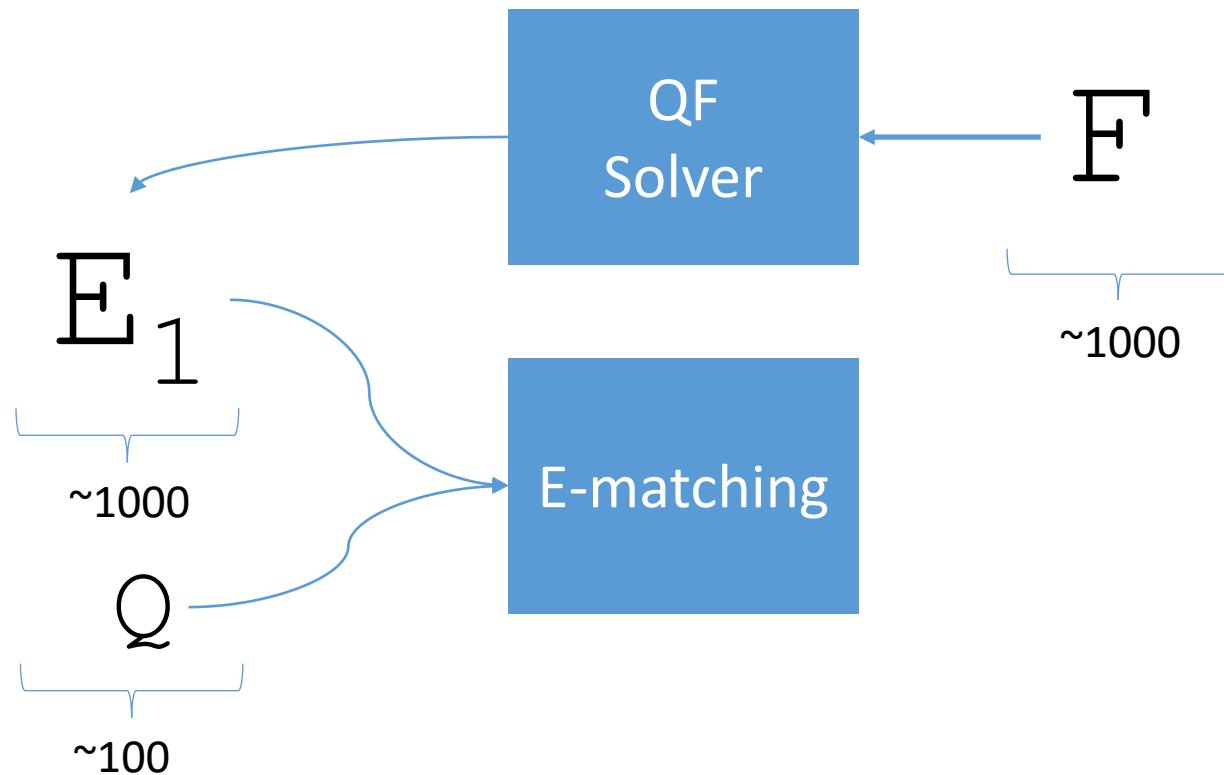
- Most **widely used technique** for unsatisfiable \forall problems in SMT
 - Variants implemented in:
 - Z3 [[deMoura et al 07](#)], CVC3 [[Ge et al 07](#)], CVC4, Princess [[Ruemmer 12](#)], VeriT, Alt-Ergo
 - Used in:
 - Software verification
 - Boogie, Dafny, Leon, SPARK, Why3
 - Automated Theorem Proving
 - Sledgehammer

Challenge #1 : Too Many Instances



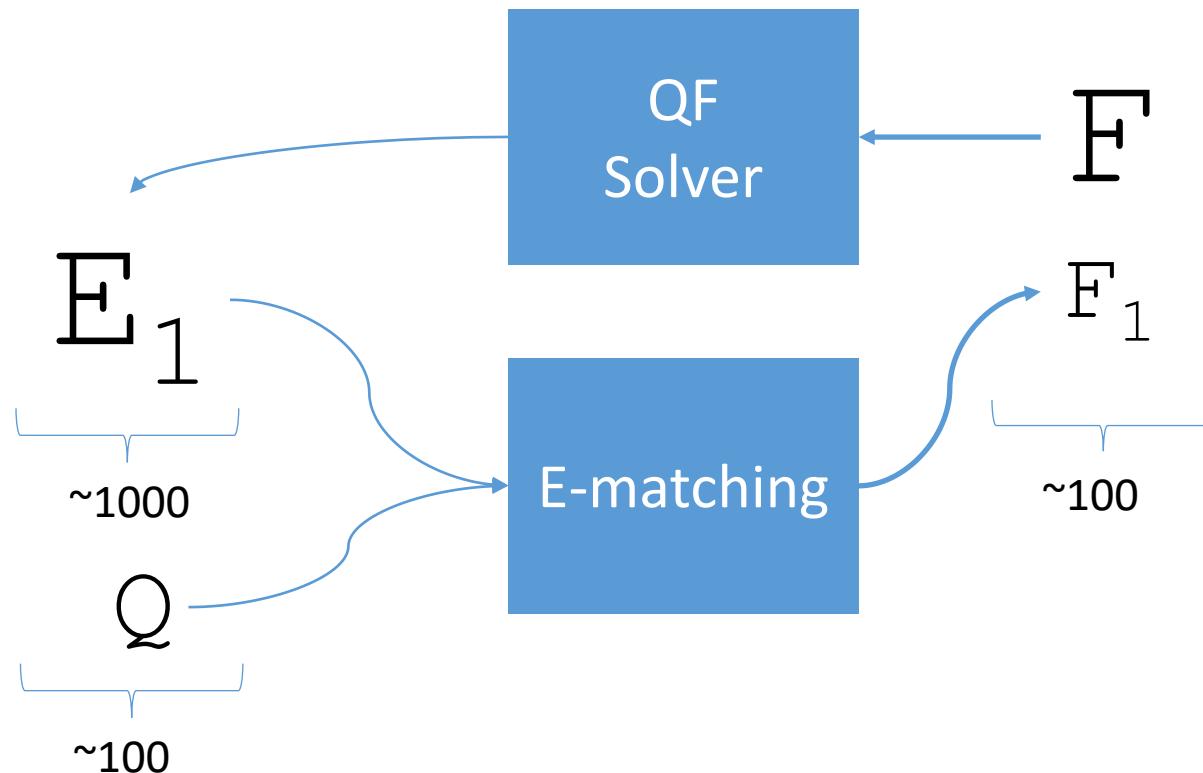
- Typical problems in applications:
 - F contains 1000s of clauses

Challenge #1 : Too Many Instances



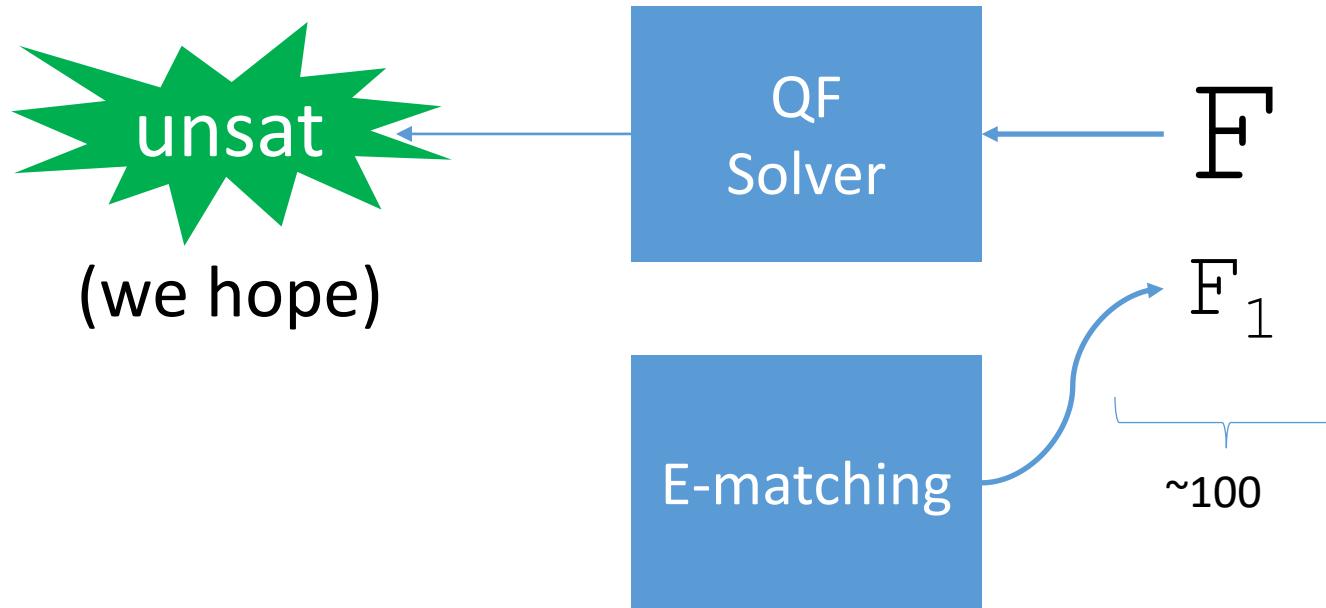
- Typical problems in applications:
 - F contains 1000s of clauses
 - Contexts contain 1000s of terms in E , 100s of \forall in Q

Challenge #1 : Too Many Instances



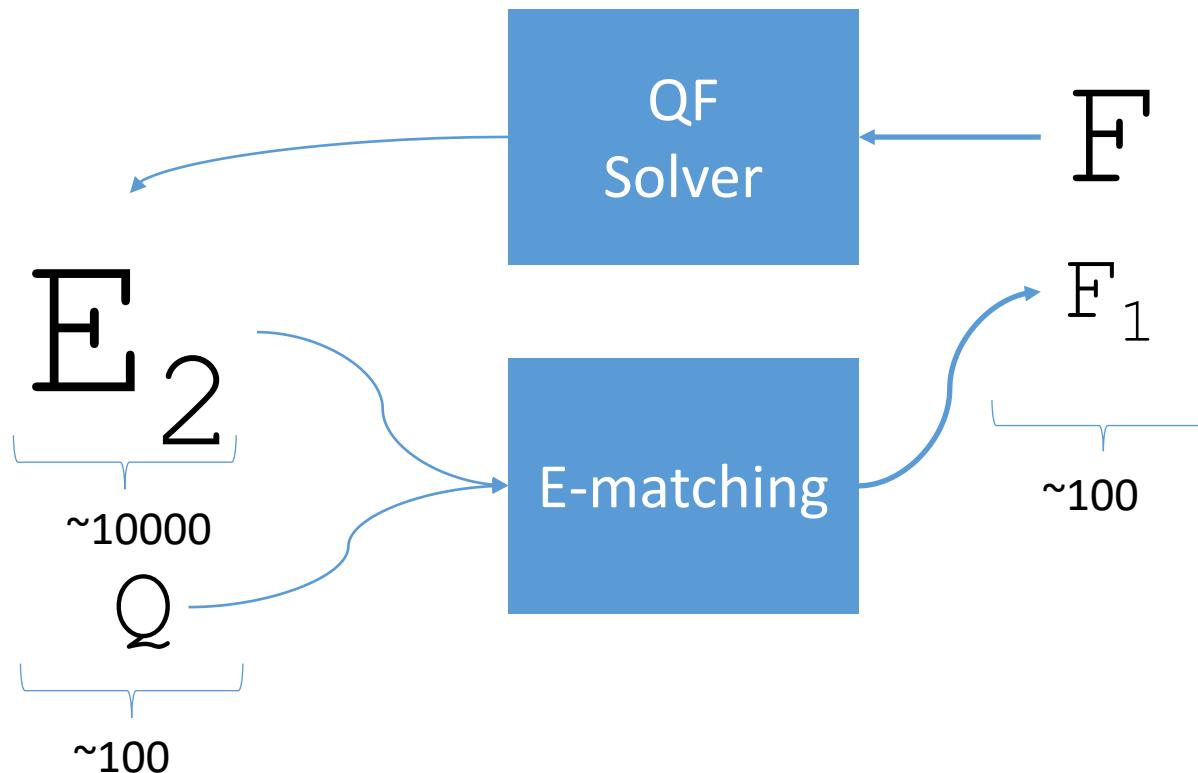
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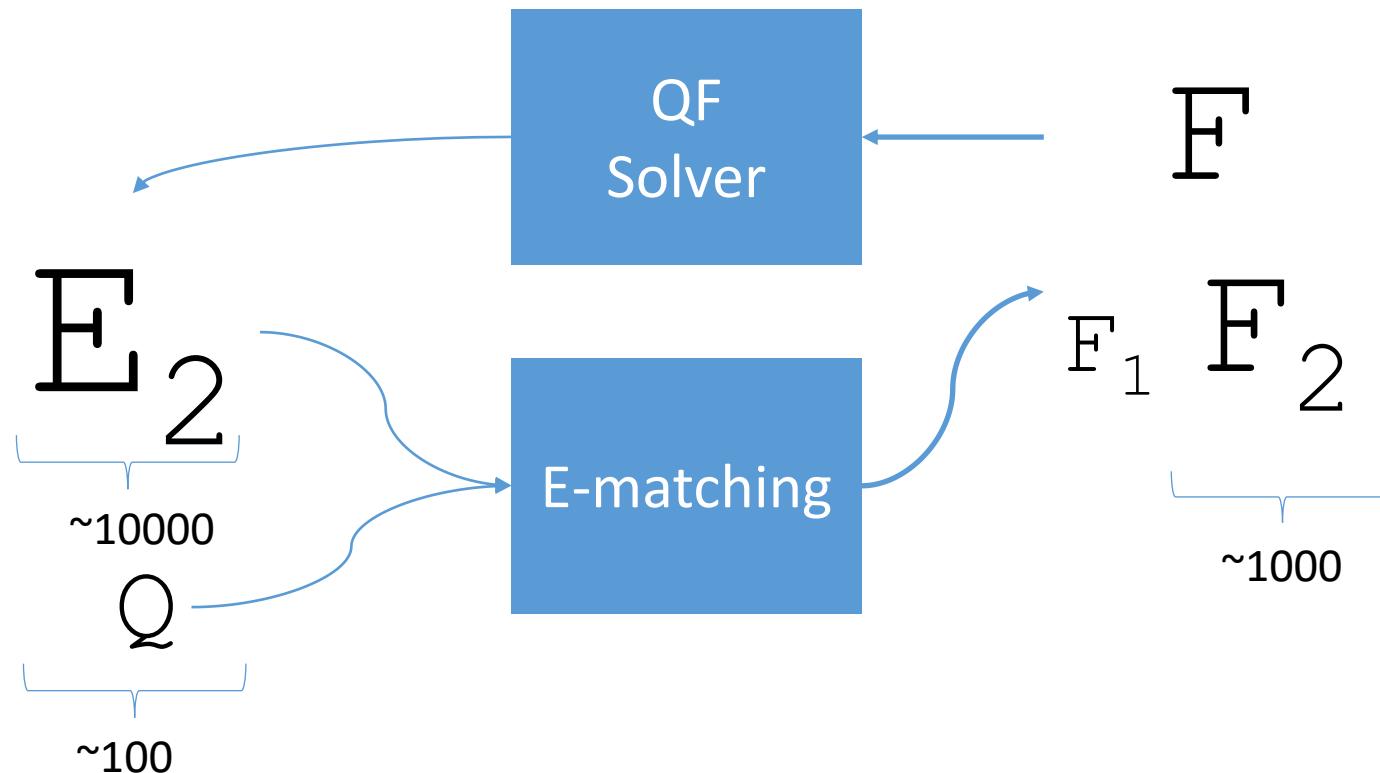
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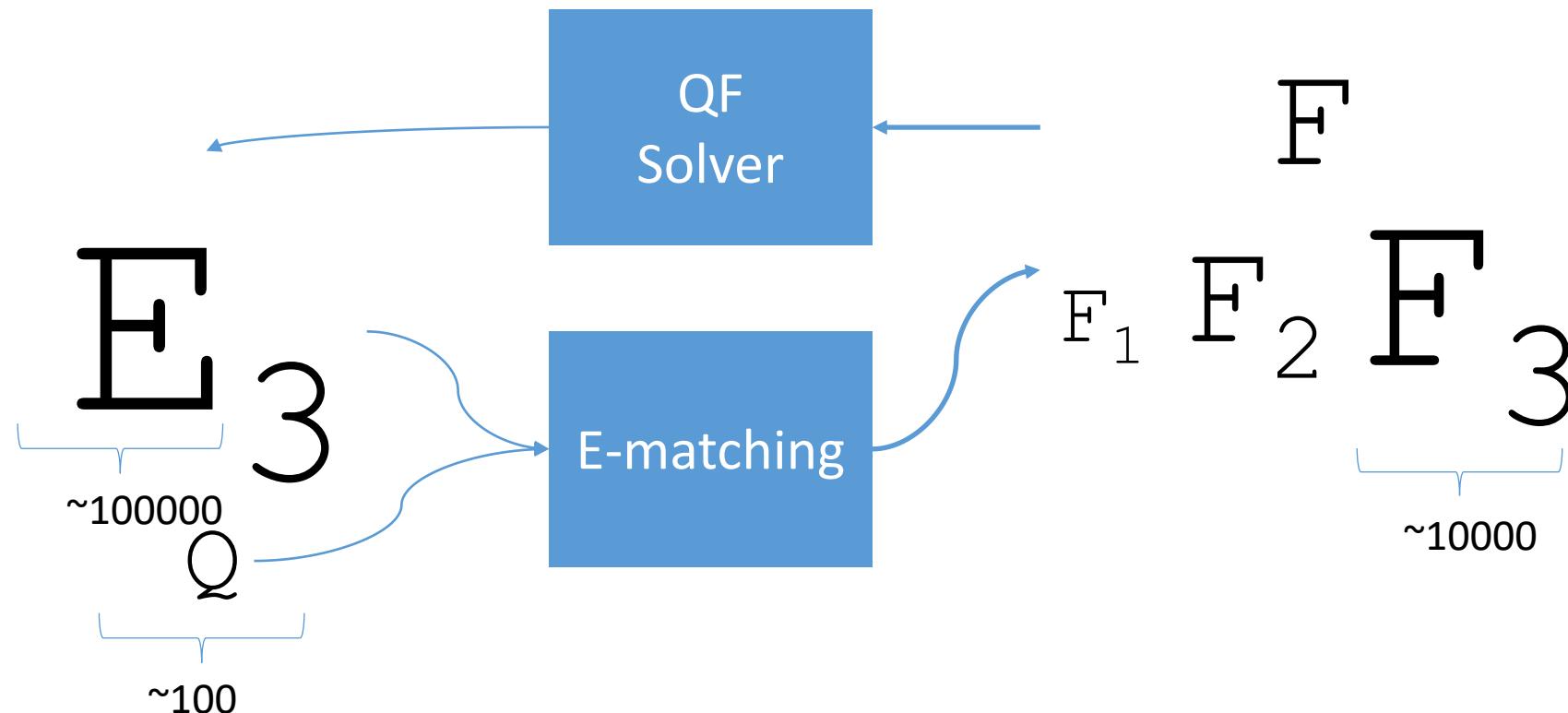
- Typical problems in applications:
 - F contains 1000s of clauses
 - Contexts contain 1000s of terms in E , 100s of \forall in Q
 - Leads to 100s

Challenge #1 : Too Many Instances



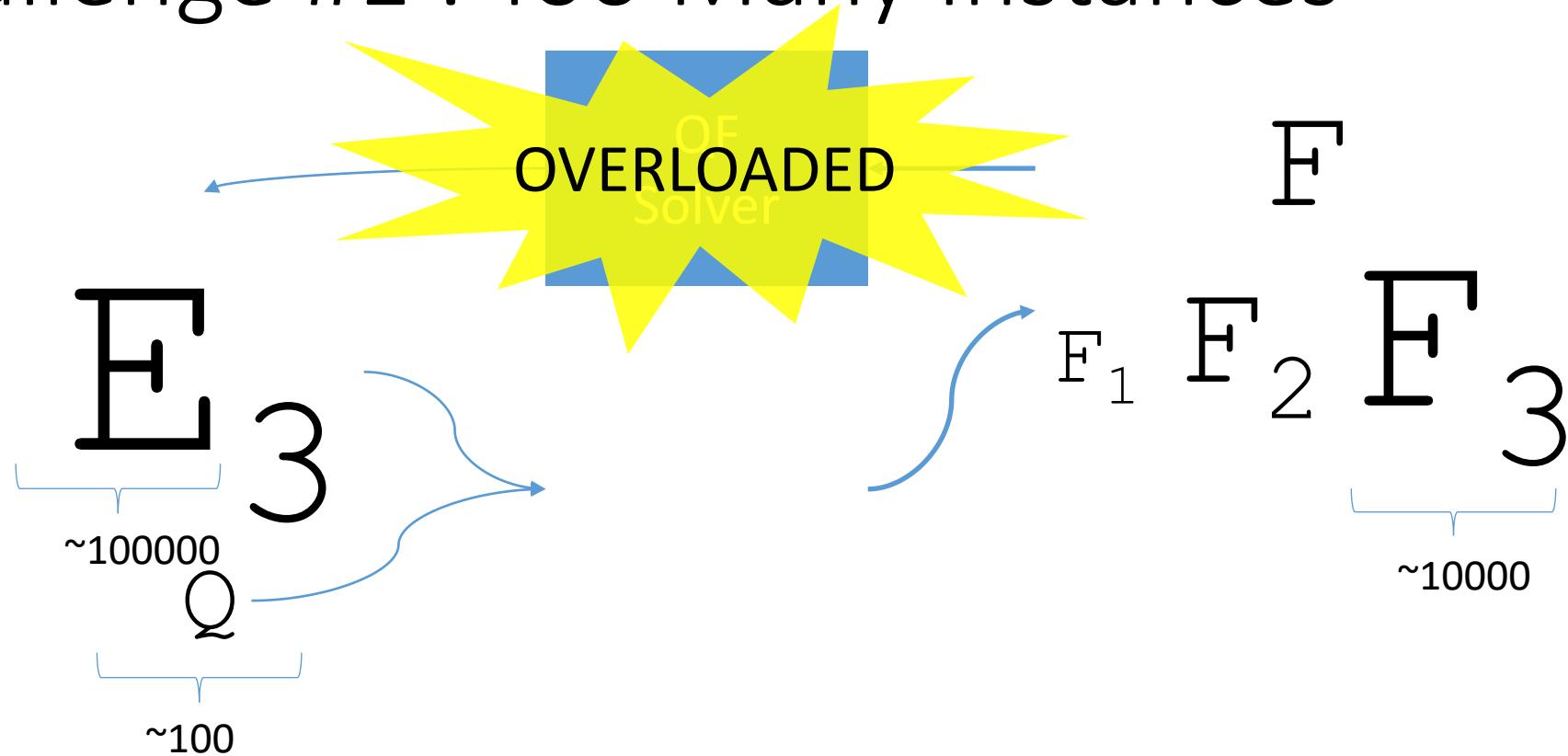
- Typical problems in applications:
 - F contains 1000s of clauses
 - Contexts contain 1000s of terms in E , 100s of \forall in Q
 - Leads to 100s, 1000s

Challenge #1 : Too Many Instances



- Typical problems in applications:
 - F contains 1000s of clauses
 - Contexts contain 1000s of terms in E , 100s of \forall in Q
 - Leads to 100s, 1000s, 10000s of instances

Challenge #1 : Too Many Instances



⇒ QF solver is overloaded ...solver times out

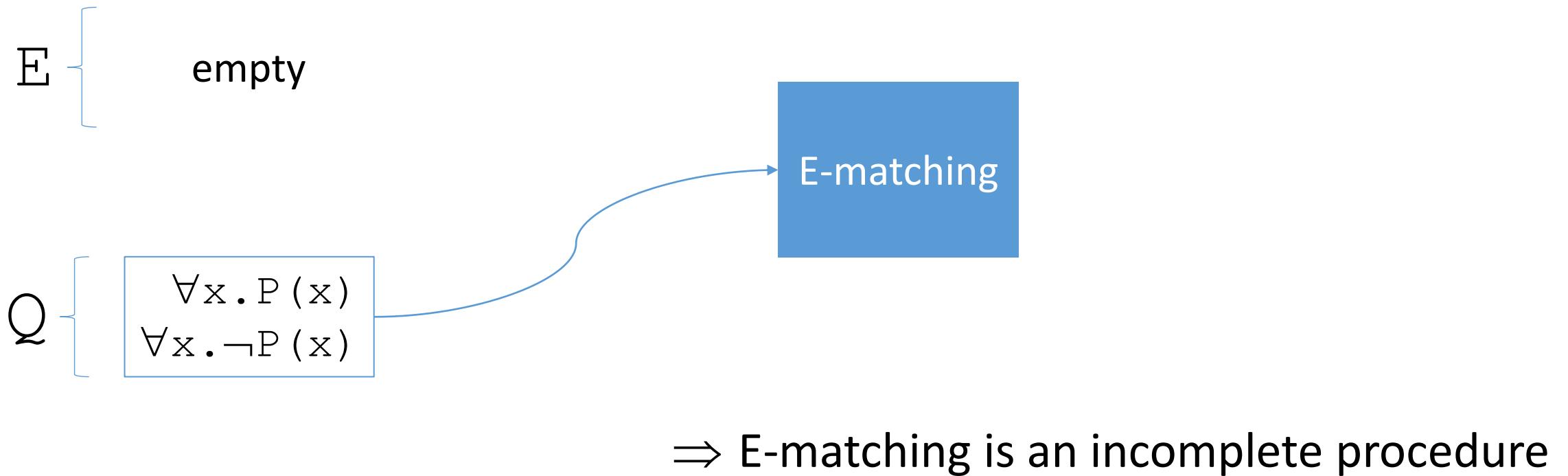
Challenge #1 : Too Many Instances

# Instances	cvc3		cvc4		z3	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
1-10	1464	13.49%	1007	8.87%	1321	11.43%
10-100	1755	16.17%	1853	16.31%	2554	22.11%
100-1000	3816	35.16%	3680	32.40%	4553	39.41%
1000-10k	1893	17.44%	2468	21.73%	1779	15.40%
10k-100k	1162	10.71%	1414	12.45%	823	7.12%
100k-1M	560	5.16%	607	5.34%	376	3.25%
1M-10M	193	1.78%	330	2.91%	139	1.20%
>10M	10	0.09%	0	0.00%	8	0.07%

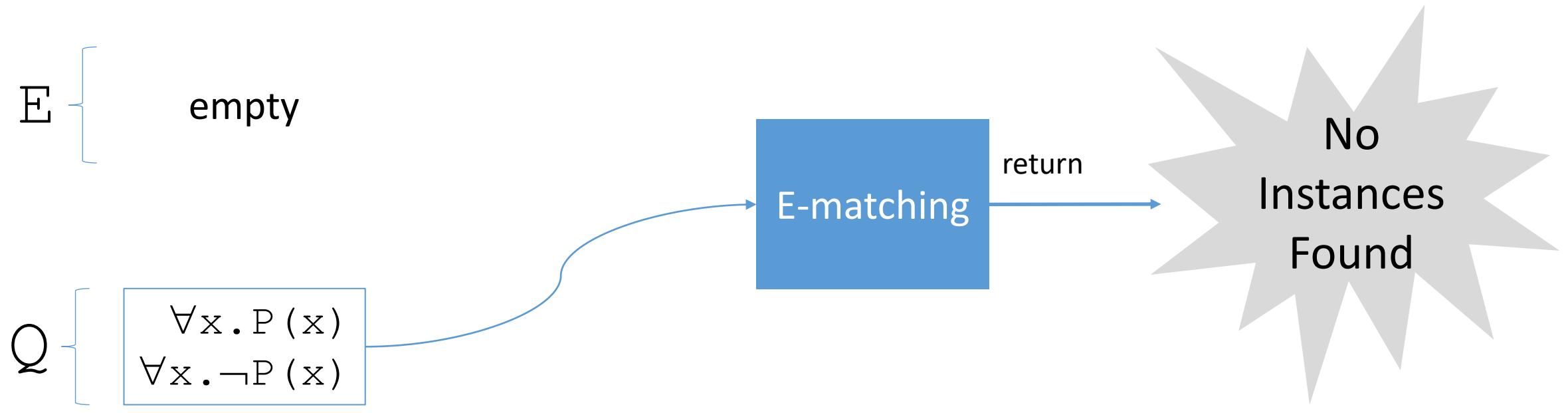
(for 8 of benchmarks z3 solves,
its E-matching procedure adds
more than 10M instances)

- Evaluation on 33032 SMTLIB, TPTP, Isabelle benchmarks
 - E-matching often requires **many instances**
(Above, 16.6% required >10k, max 19.5M by z3 on a software verification benchmark from TPTP)

Challenge #2 : Incompleteness



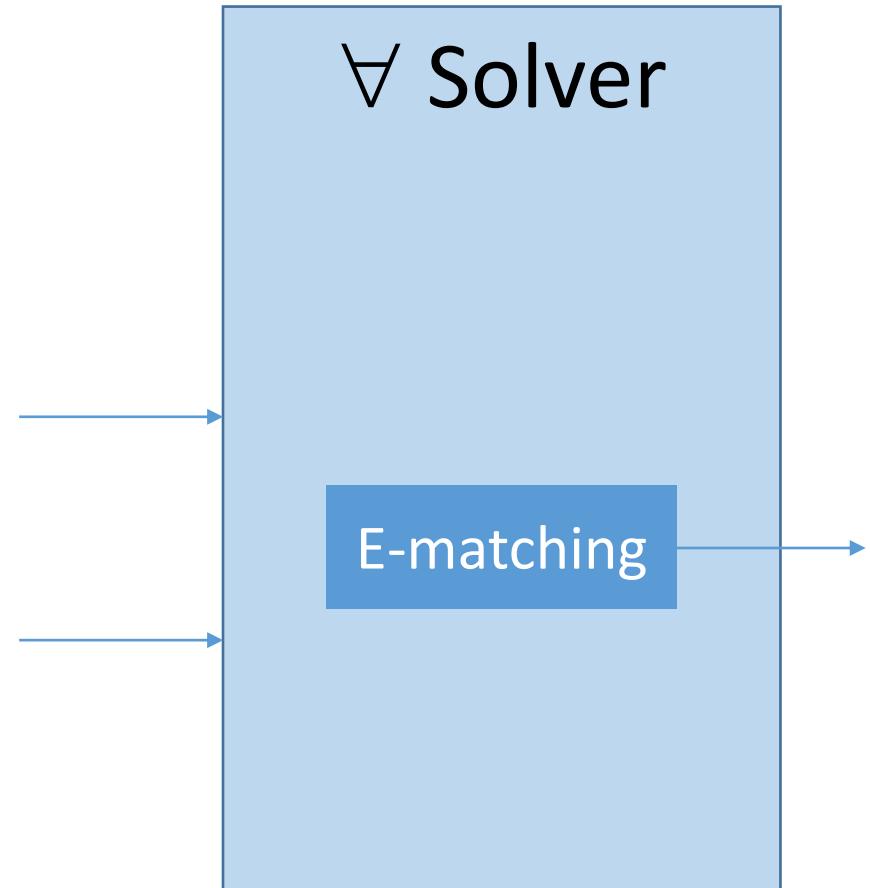
Challenge #2 : Incompleteness



⇒ If E-matching produces no instances,
this *does not guarantee $E \cup Q$ is T-satisfiable*

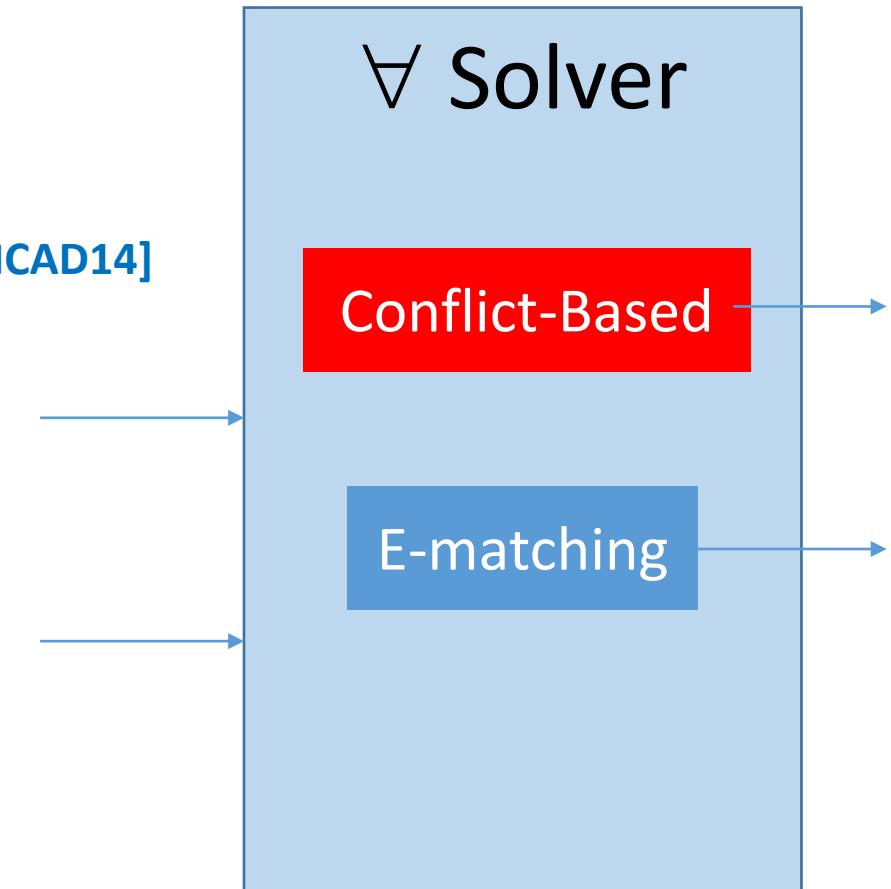
E-matching : Challenges Addressed

- What if there are **too many instances**?
- What if there are **no instances**, and problem maybe “**sat**”?



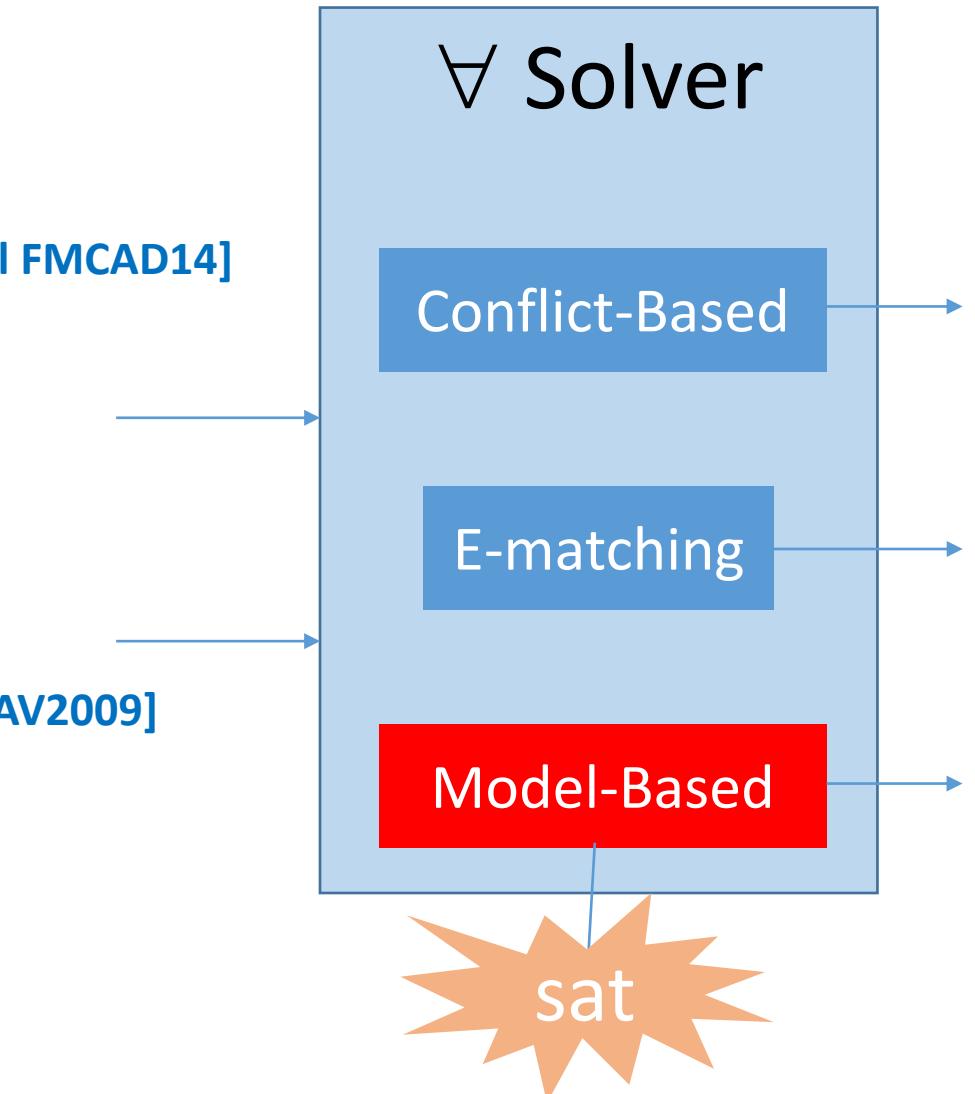
E-matching : Challenges Addressed

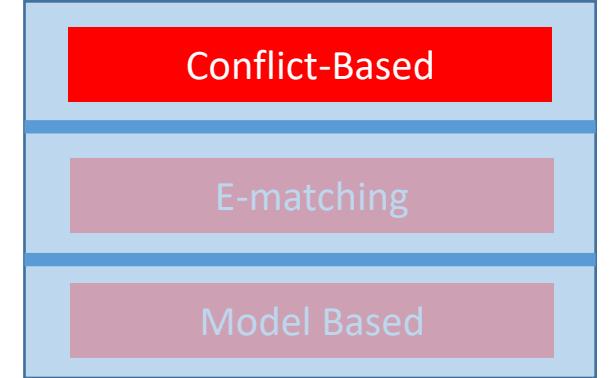
- What if there are **too many instances?**
⇒ Use *conflict-based instantiation* [Reynolds et al FMCAD14]
- What if there are no instances, and
problem maybe “sat”?



E-matching : Challenges Addressed

- What if there are too many instances?
⇒ Use conflict-based instantiation [Reynolds et al FMCAD14]
- What if there are **no instances**, and
problem maybe “**sat**”?
⇒ Use *model-based instantiation* [Ge/deMoura CAV2009]





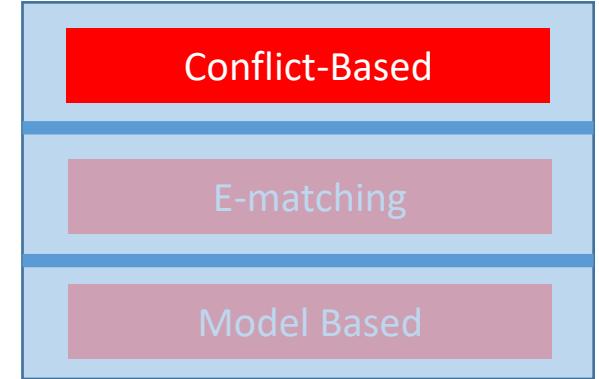
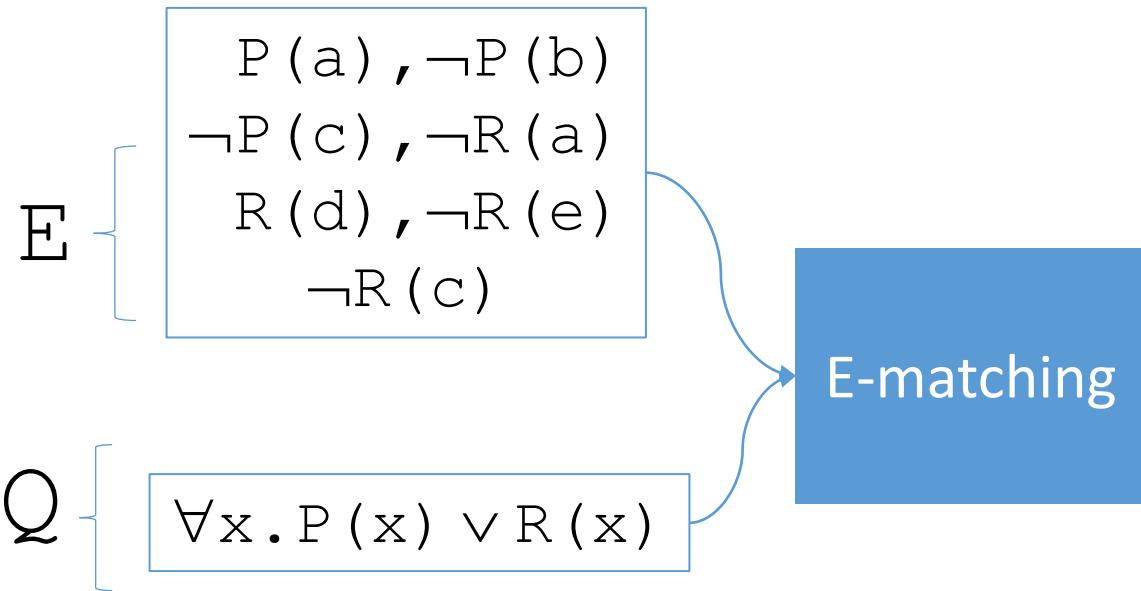
Conflict-Based Instantiation

- Basic idea:
 - Since we are interested in whether e.g. $E, \forall x . P(x)$ is satisfiable,
 - Try to find one “**conflict instance**” such that $E, P(a) \models \perp$
 - If this is possible, don’t run E-matching

\Rightarrow Leads to fewer instances, improved ability to answer



Conflict-Based Instantiation

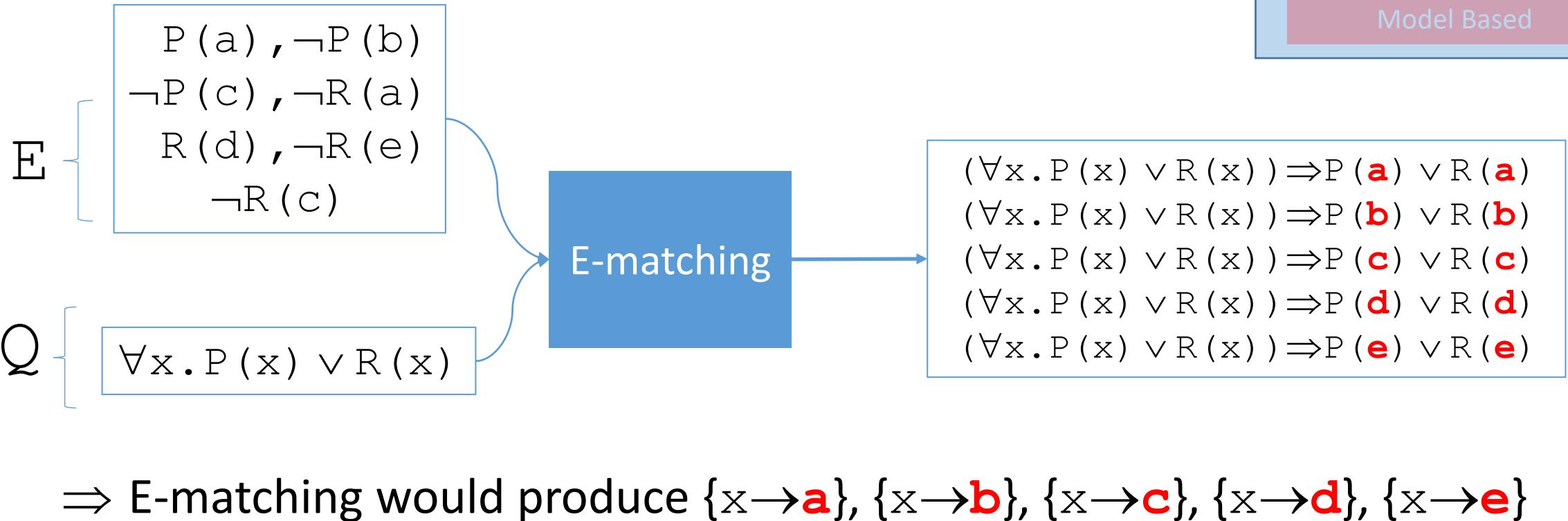


Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation

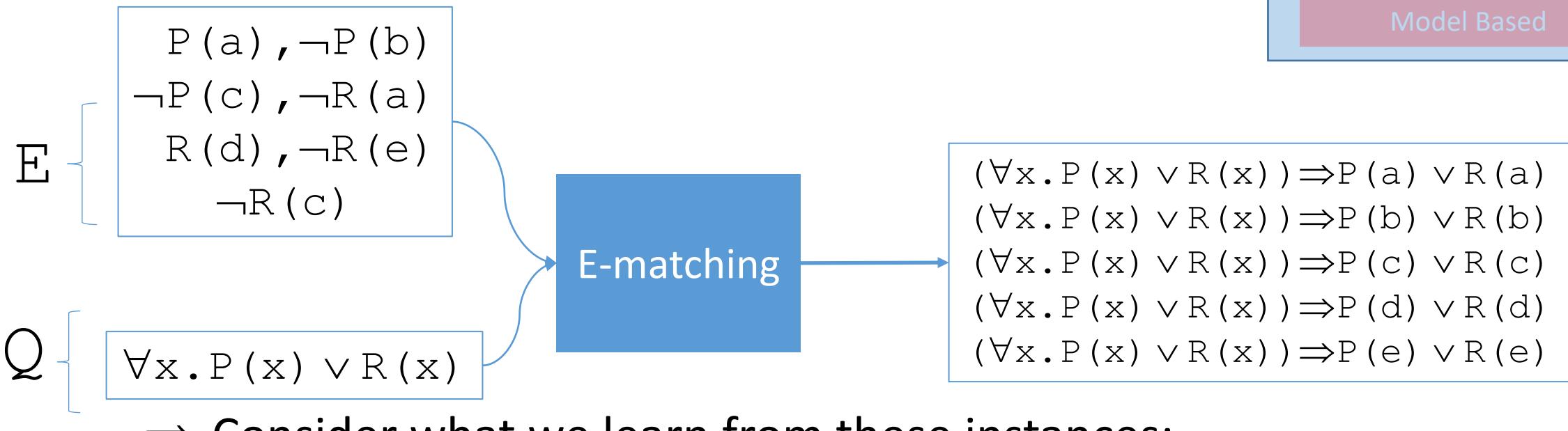


Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

$$E, P(a) \vee R(a) \models P(a) \vee R(a)$$

$$E, P(b) \vee R(b) \models P(b) \vee R(b)$$

$$E, P(c) \vee R(c) \models P(c) \vee R(c)$$

$$E, P(d) \vee R(d) \models P(d) \vee R(d)$$

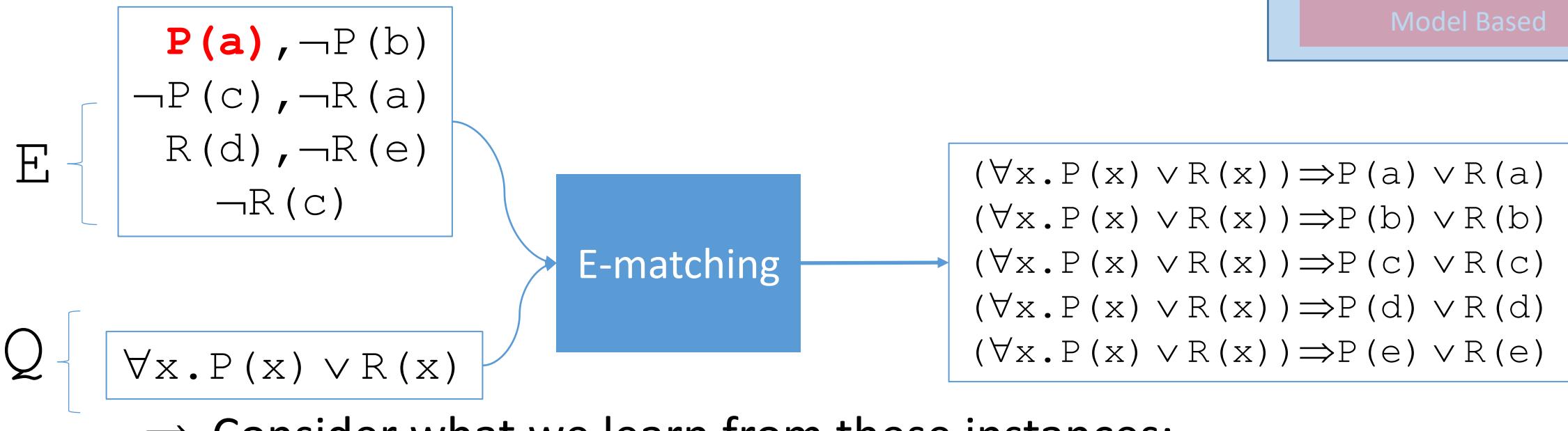
$$E, P(e) \vee R(e) \models P(e) \vee R(e)$$

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

$$E, P(a) \vee R(a) \models T \vee R(a)$$

$$E, P(b) \vee R(b) \models P(b) \vee R(b)$$

$$E, P(c) \vee R(c) \models P(c) \vee R(c)$$

$$E, P(d) \vee R(d) \models P(d) \vee R(d)$$

$$E, P(e) \vee R(e) \models P(e) \vee R(e)$$

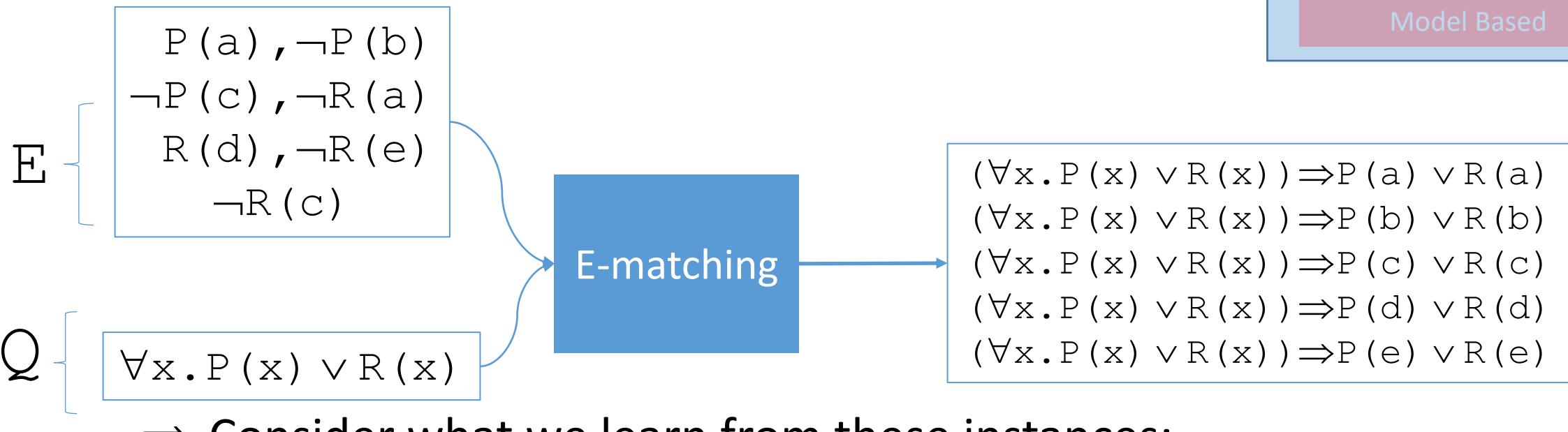
By E, we know $P(a) \Leftrightarrow T$

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

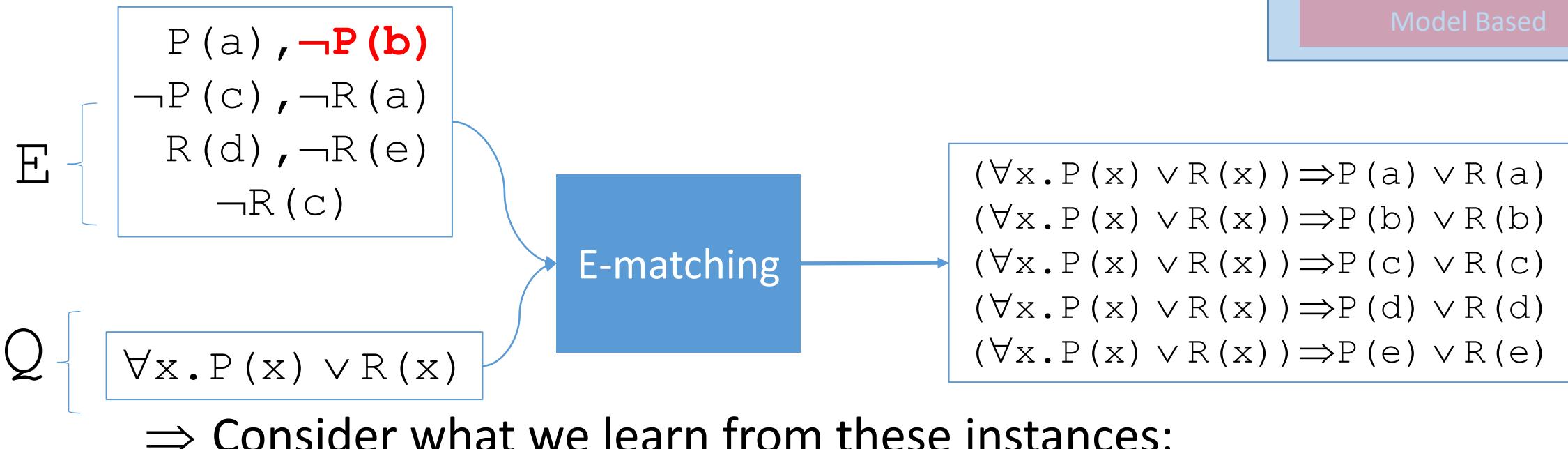
$$\begin{array}{ll} E, P(a) \vee R(a) & \models T \\ E, P(b) \vee R(b) & \models P(b) \vee R(b) \\ E, P(c) \vee R(c) & \models P(c) \vee R(c) \\ E, P(d) \vee R(d) & \models P(d) \vee R(d) \\ E, P(e) \vee R(e) & \models P(e) \vee R(e) \end{array}$$

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



$$E, P(a) \vee R(a) \models T$$

$$E, P(b) \vee R(b) \models \perp \vee R(b)$$

$$E, P(c) \vee R(c) \models P(c) \vee R(c)$$

$$E, P(d) \vee R(d) \models P(d) \vee R(d)$$

$$E, P(e) \vee R(e) \models P(e) \vee R(e)$$

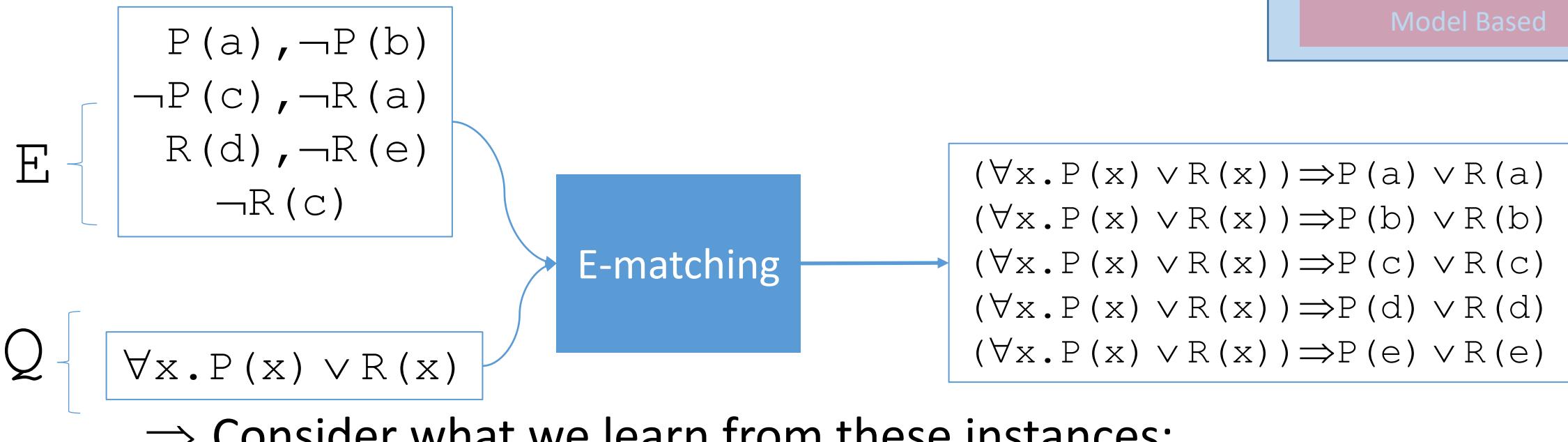
We know $P(b) \Leftrightarrow \perp$

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

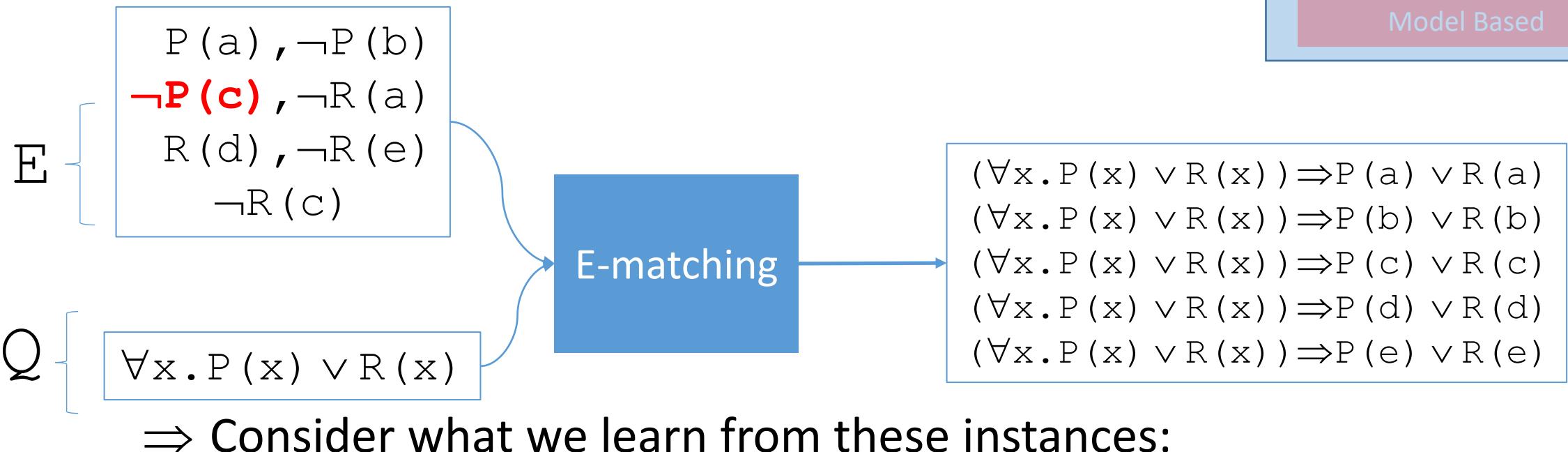
- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|------------------|
| $E, P(a) \vee R(a)$ | \models | T |
| $E, P(b) \vee R(b)$ | \models | R(b) |
| $E, P(c) \vee R(c)$ | \models | P(c) \vee R(c) |
| $E, P(d) \vee R(d)$ | \models | P(d) \vee R(d) |
| $E, P(e) \vee R(e)$ | \models | P(e) \vee R(e) |

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



$E, P(a) \vee R(a)$	\models	T
$E, P(b) \vee R(b)$	\models	R(b)
$E, P(c) \vee R(c)$	\models	R(c)
$E, P(d) \vee R(d)$	\models	$P(d) \vee R(d)$
$E, P(e) \vee R(e)$	\models	$P(e) \vee R(e)$

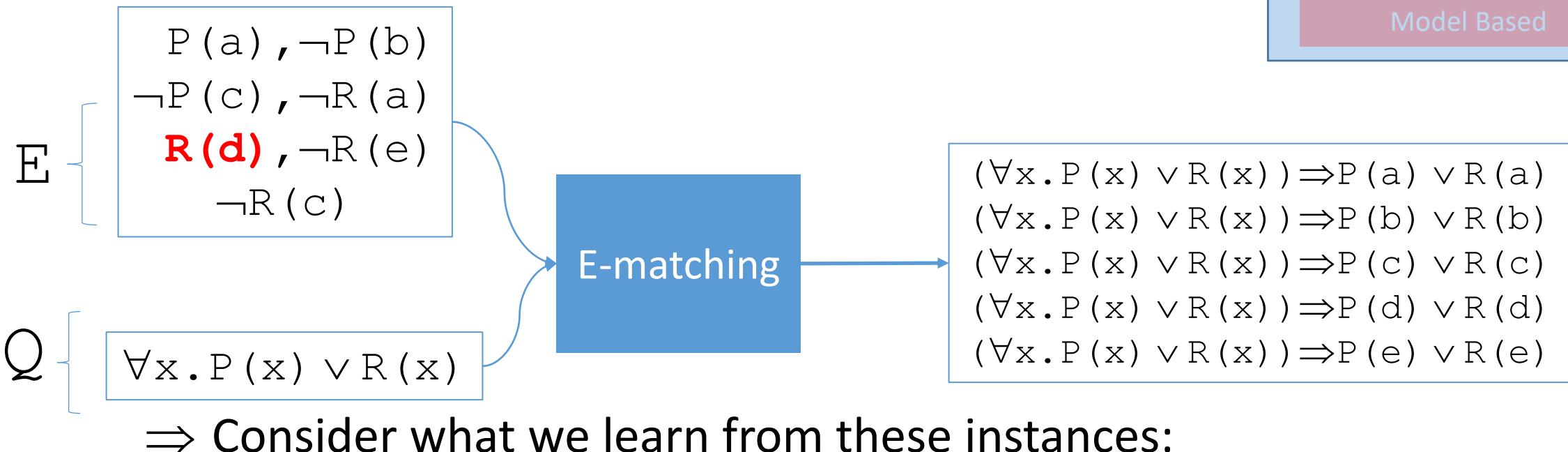
We know $P(c) \Leftrightarrow \perp$

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

$$\begin{array}{ll} E, P(a) \vee R(a) & \models T \\ E, P(b) \vee R(b) & \models R(b) \\ E, P(c) \vee R(c) & \models R(c) \\ E, P(d) \vee R(d) & \models T \\ E, P(e) \vee R(e) & \models P(e) \vee R(e) \end{array}$$

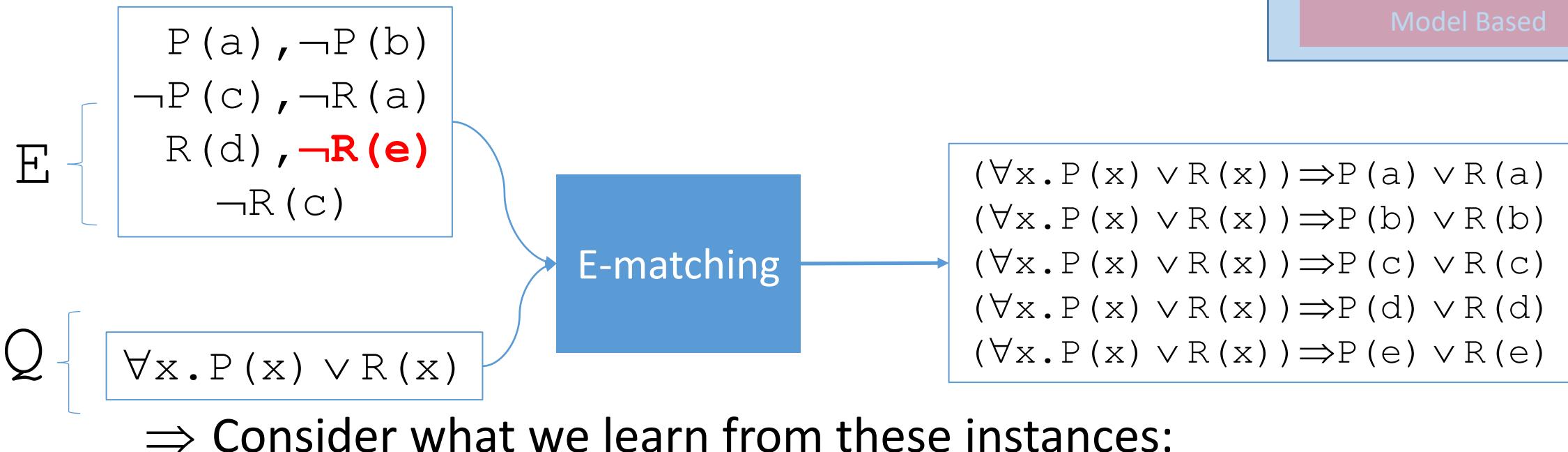
We know **$R(d) \Leftrightarrow T$**

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

$$\begin{array}{ll} E, P(a) \vee R(a) & \models T \\ E, P(b) \vee R(b) & \models R(b) \\ E, P(c) \vee R(c) & \models R(c) \\ E, P(d) \vee R(d) & \models T \\ E, P(e) \vee R(e) & \models P(e) \end{array}$$

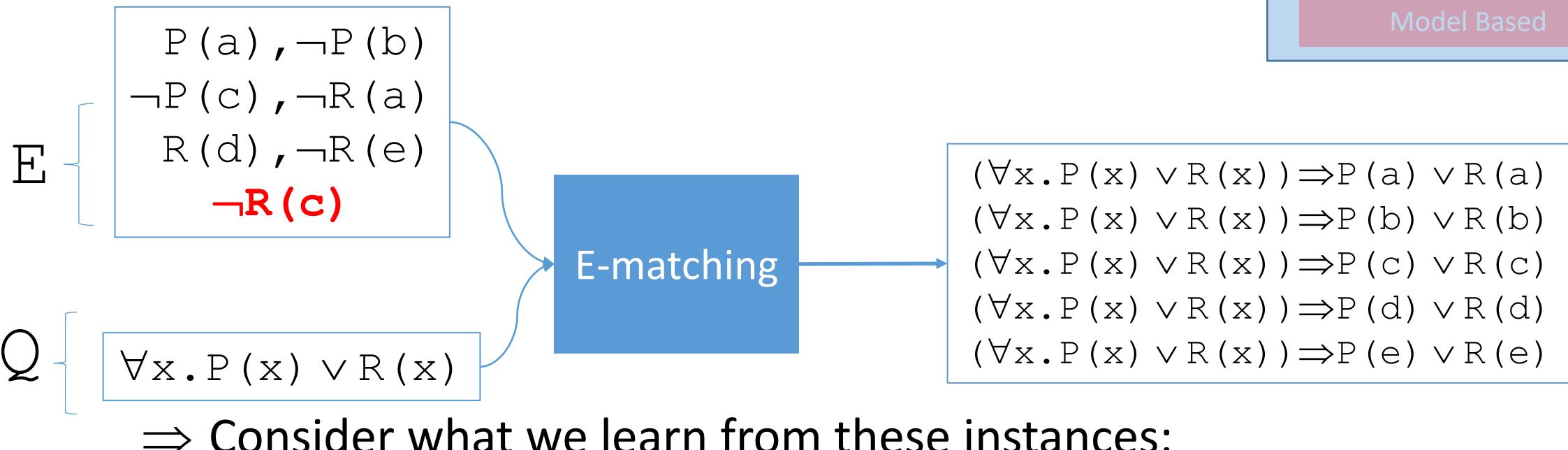
We know $R(e) \Leftrightarrow \perp$

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

$$E, P(a) \vee R(a) \models T$$

$$E, P(b) \vee R(b) \models R(b)$$

$$E, P(c) \vee R(c) \models \perp$$

$$E, P(d) \vee R(d) \models T$$

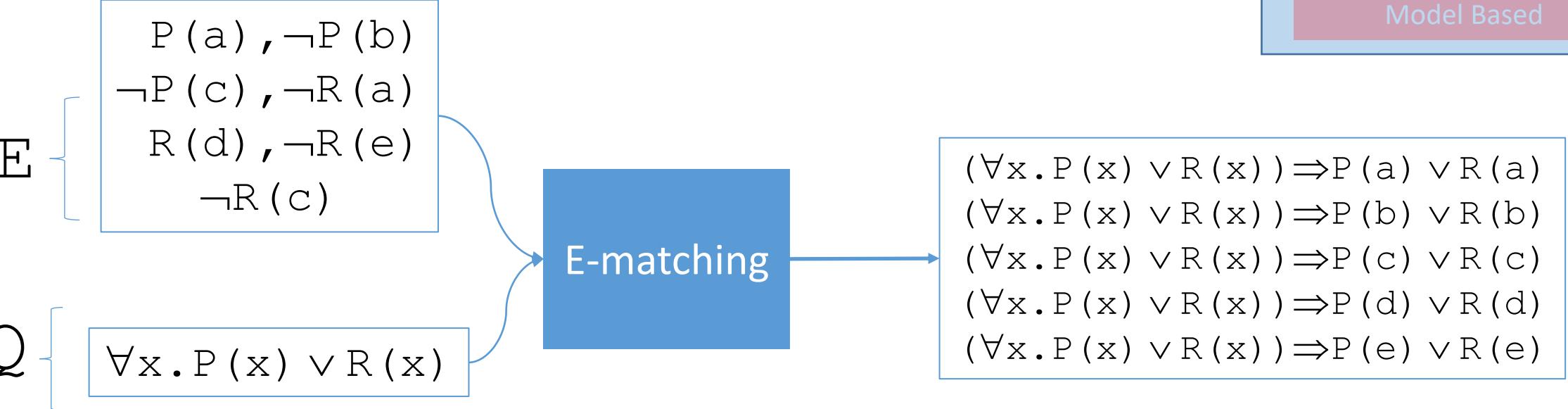
$$E, P(e) \vee R(e) \models P(e)$$

We know **$R(c) \Leftrightarrow \perp$**

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based



⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

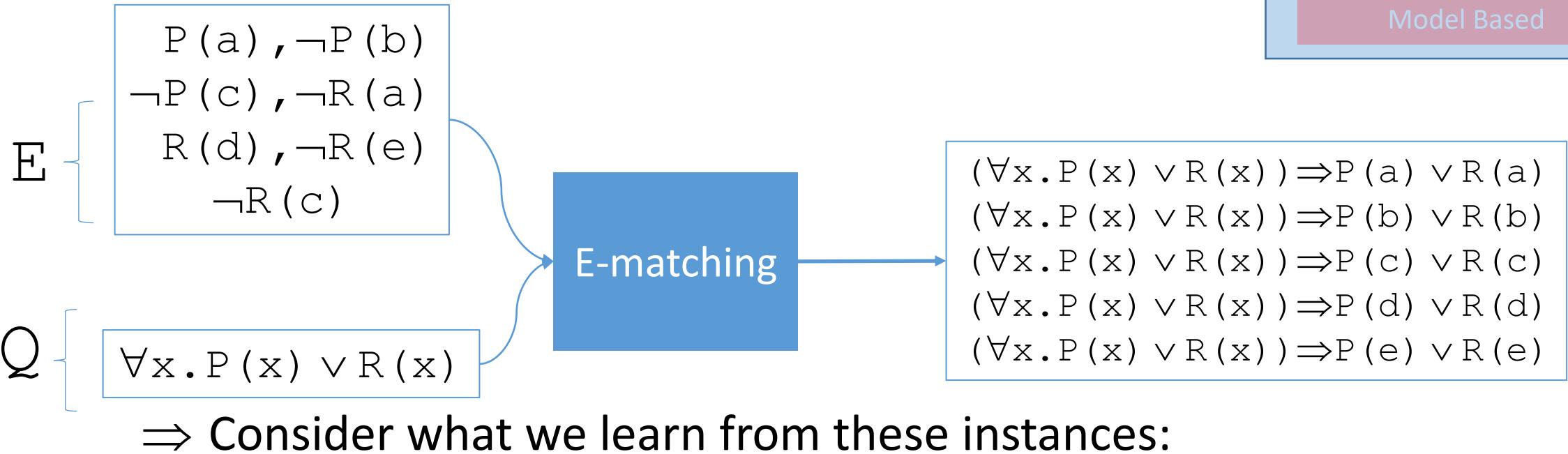
$$\begin{array}{ll} E, P(a) \vee R(a) & \models T \\ E, P(b) \vee R(b) & \models R(b) \\ E, P(c) \vee R(c) & \models \perp \\ E, P(d) \vee R(d) & \models T \\ E, P(e) \vee R(e) & \models P(e) \end{array}$$

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation



$E, P(a) \vee R(a)$	\models	T
$E, P(b) \vee R(b)$	\models	R(b)
$E, P(c) \vee R(c)$	\models	⊥
$E, P(d) \vee R(d)$	\models	T
$E, P(e) \vee R(e)$	\models	P(e)

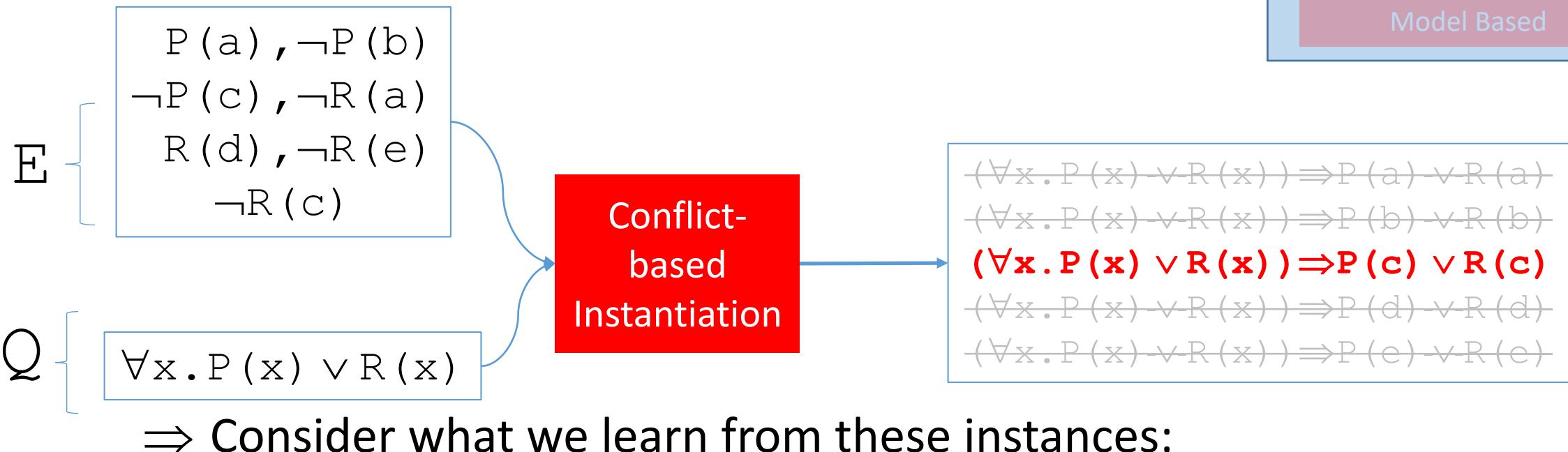
$P(c) \vee R(c)$ is a **conflicting instance** for (E, Q) !

Conflict-Based

E-matching

Model Based

Conflict-Based Instantiation

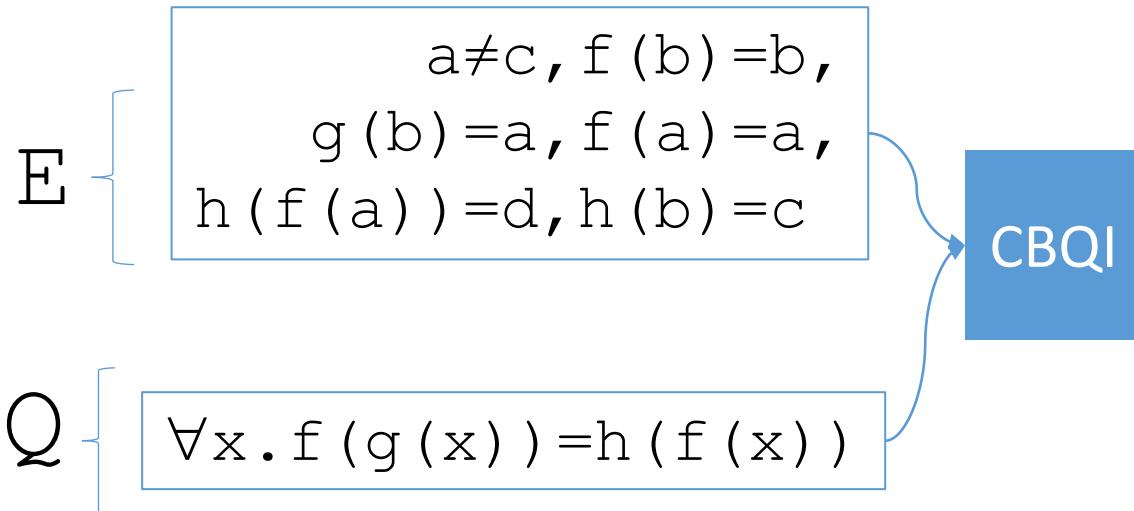
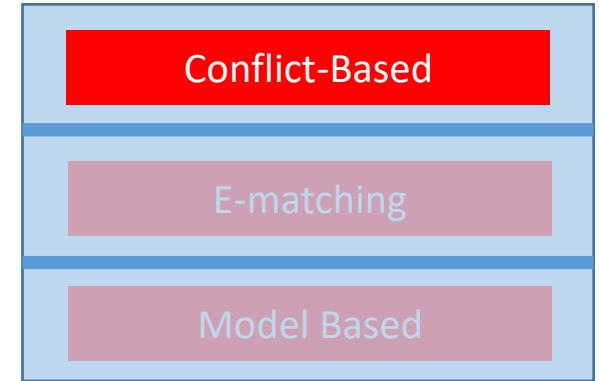


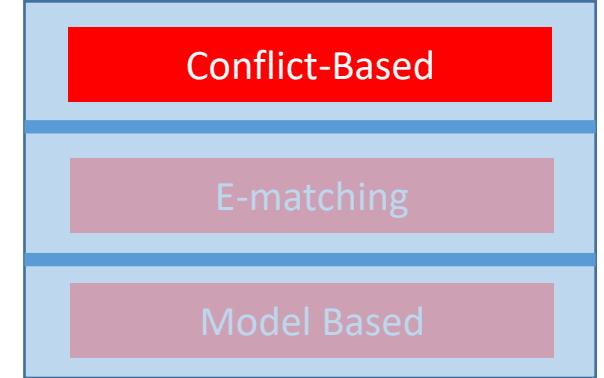
⇒ Consider what we learn from these instances:

$$\begin{array}{ll} E, P(a) \vee R(a) & \models T \\ E, P(b) \vee R(b) & \models R(b) \\ E, P(c) \vee R(c) & \models \perp \\ E, P(d) \vee R(d) & \models T \\ E, P(e) \vee R(e) & \models P(e) \end{array}$$

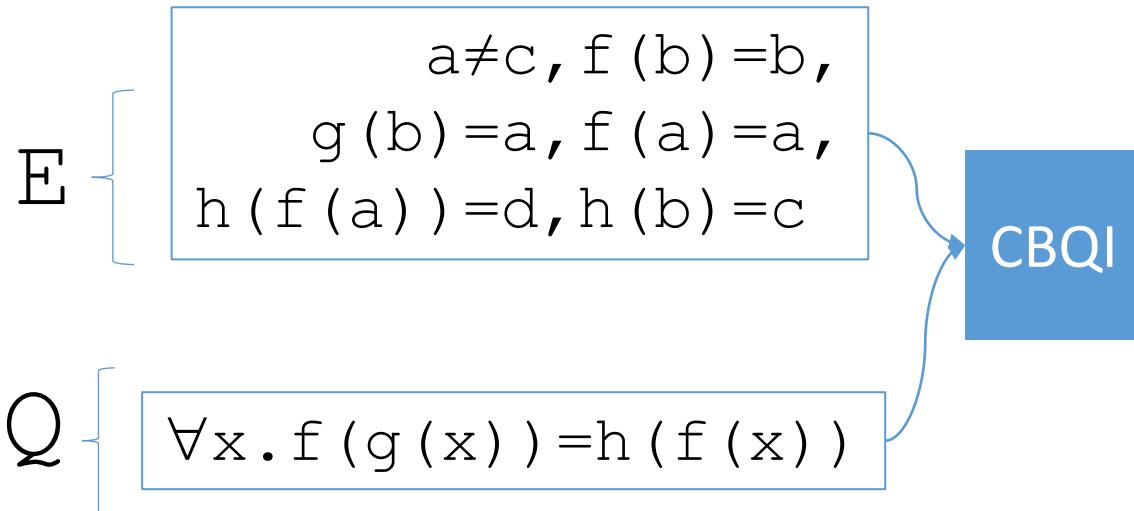
Since $P(c) \vee R(c)$ suffices to derive \perp , return **only** this instance

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF





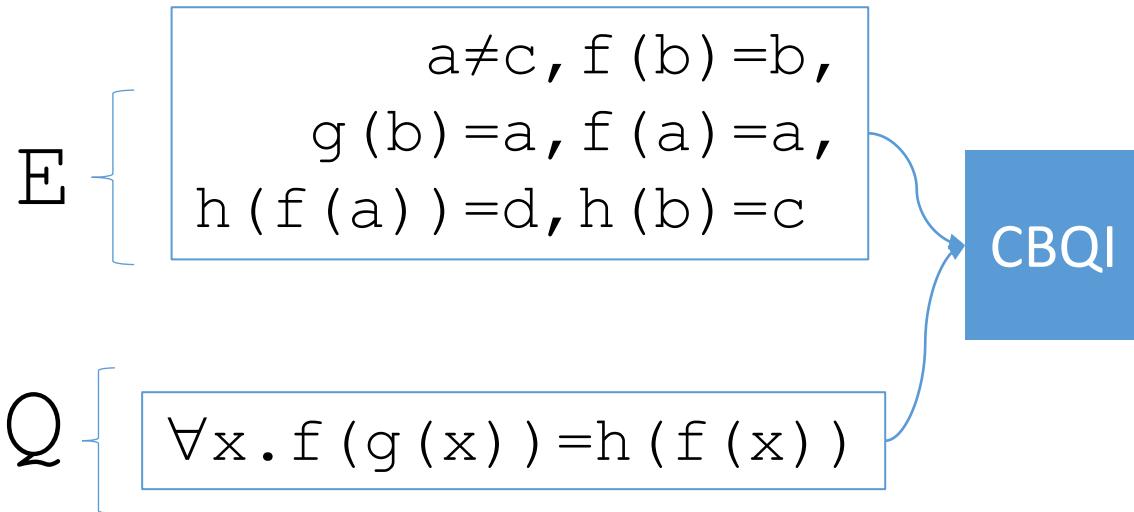
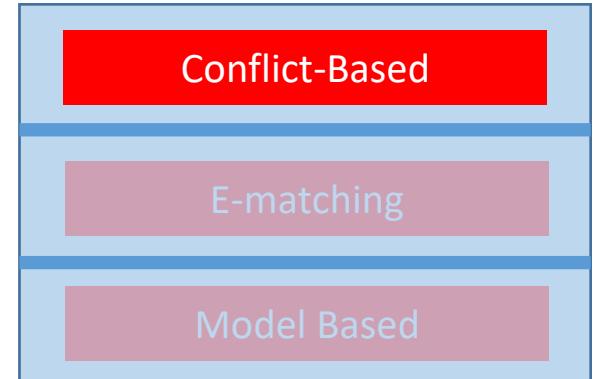
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



\Rightarrow Consider the instance $\forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x)) \Rightarrow f(g(\mathbf{b})) = h(f(\mathbf{b}))$

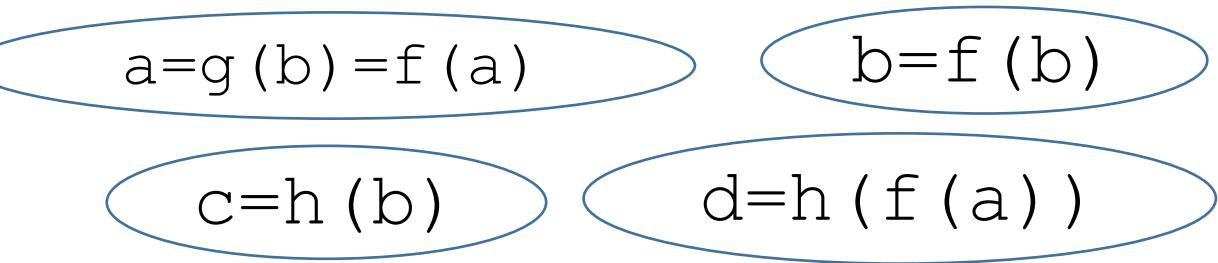
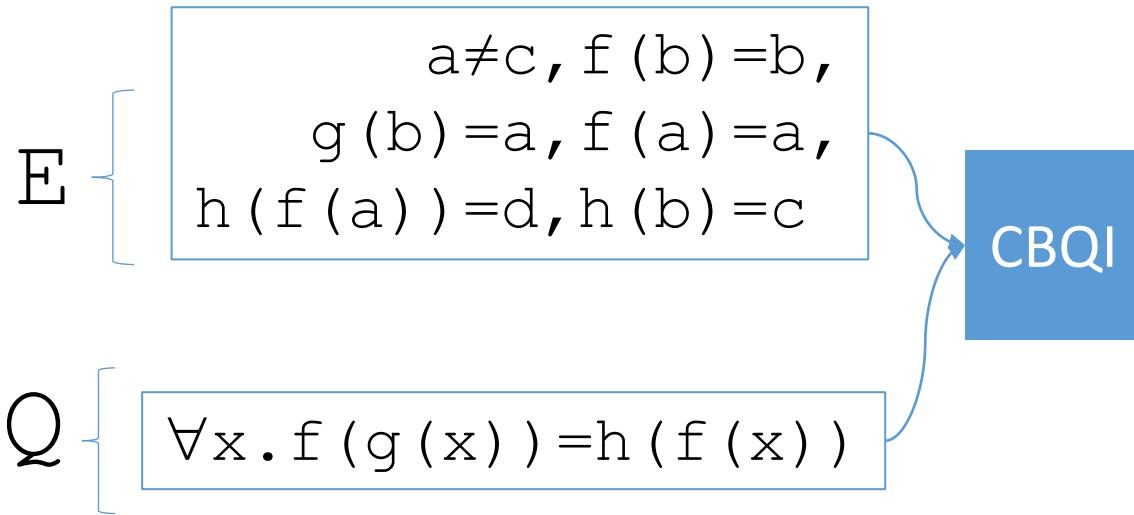
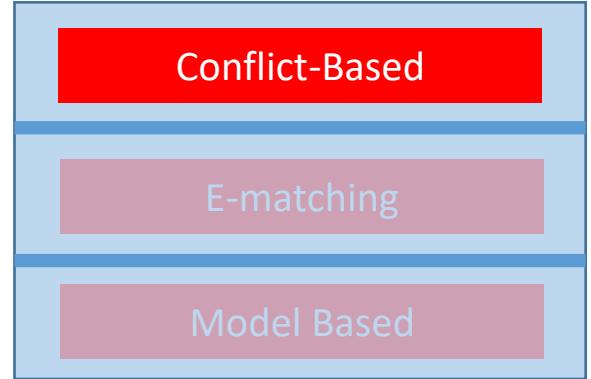
- Is this conflicting for (E, Q) ?

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$$

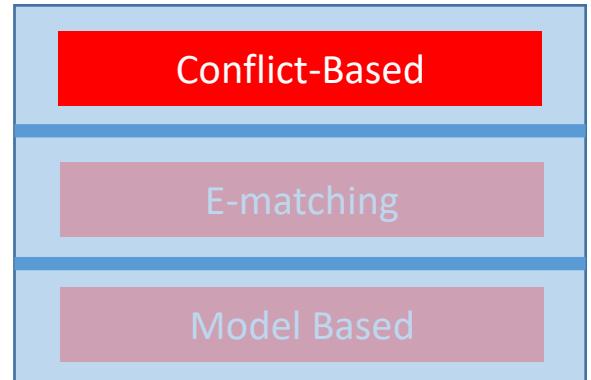
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



Consider the *equivalence classes* of E

$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$$

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



E {
 $a \neq c, f(b) = b,$
 $g(b) = a, f(a) = a,$
 $h(f(a)) = d, h(b) = c$

CBQI

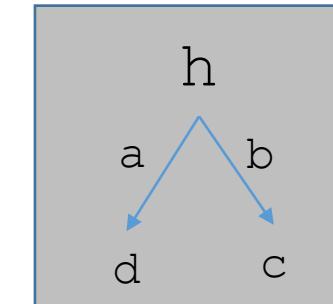
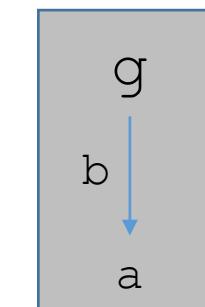
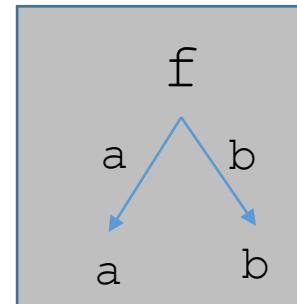
Q {
 $\forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x))$

a= $g(b)=f(a)$

c= $h(b)$

b= $f(b)$

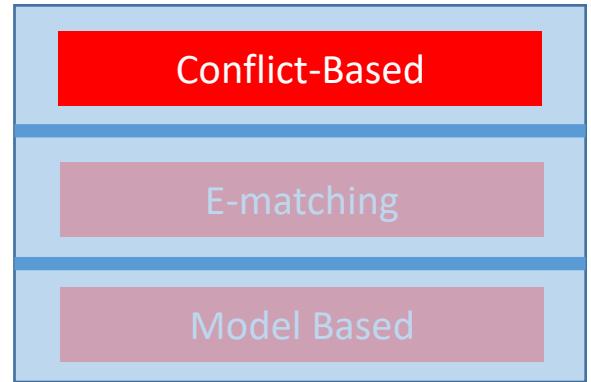
d= $h(f(a))$



Build partial definitions for functions in terms of *representatives*

$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$$

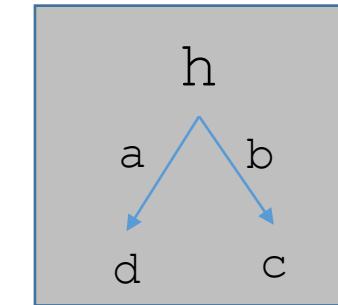
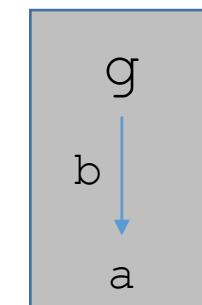
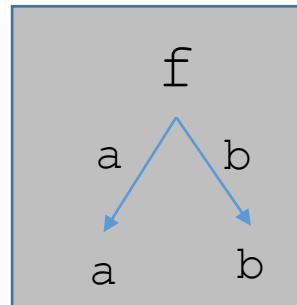
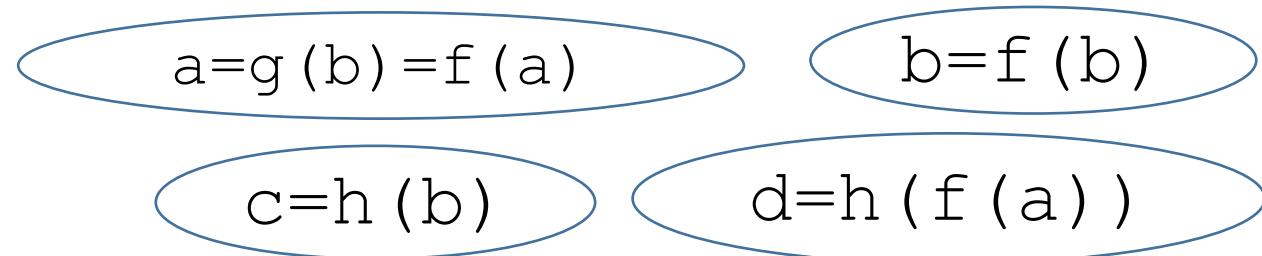
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



E {
 $a \neq c, f(b) = b,$
 $g(b) = a, f(a) = a,$
 $h(f(a)) = d, h(b) = c$

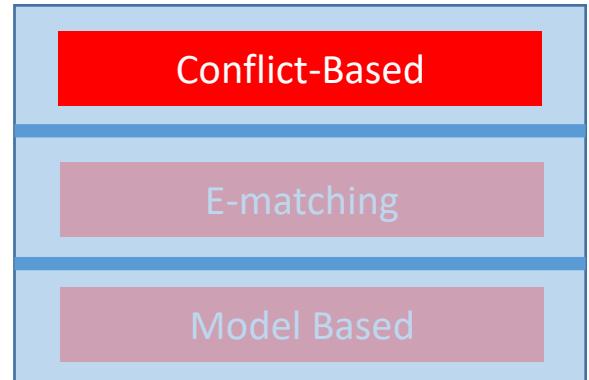
CBQI

Q {
 $\forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x))$



$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$$

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



E {

$$a \neq c, f(b) = b,$$

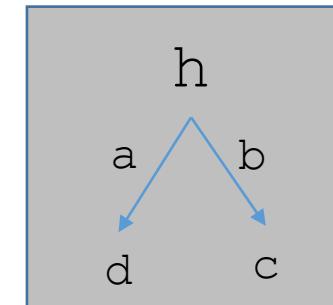
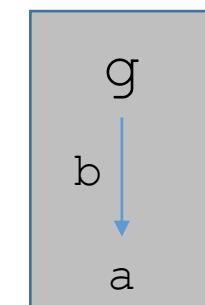
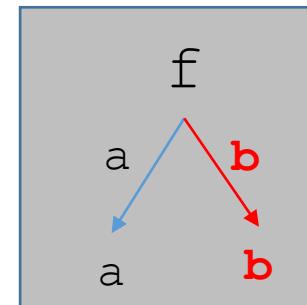
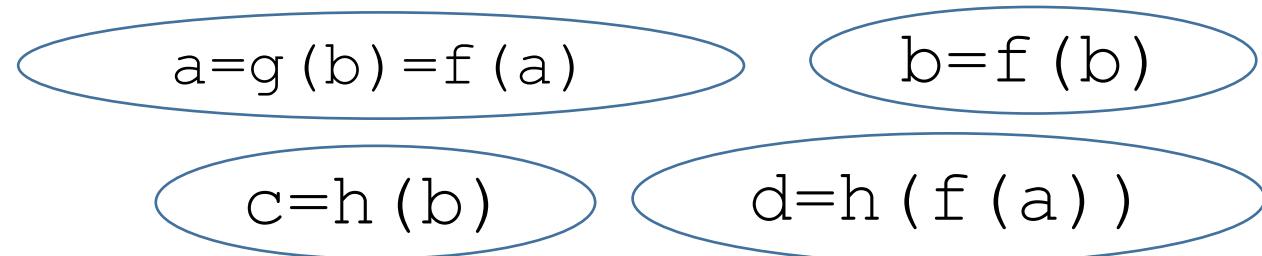
$$g(b) = a, f(a) = a,$$

$$h(f(a)) = d, h(b) = c$$

CBQI

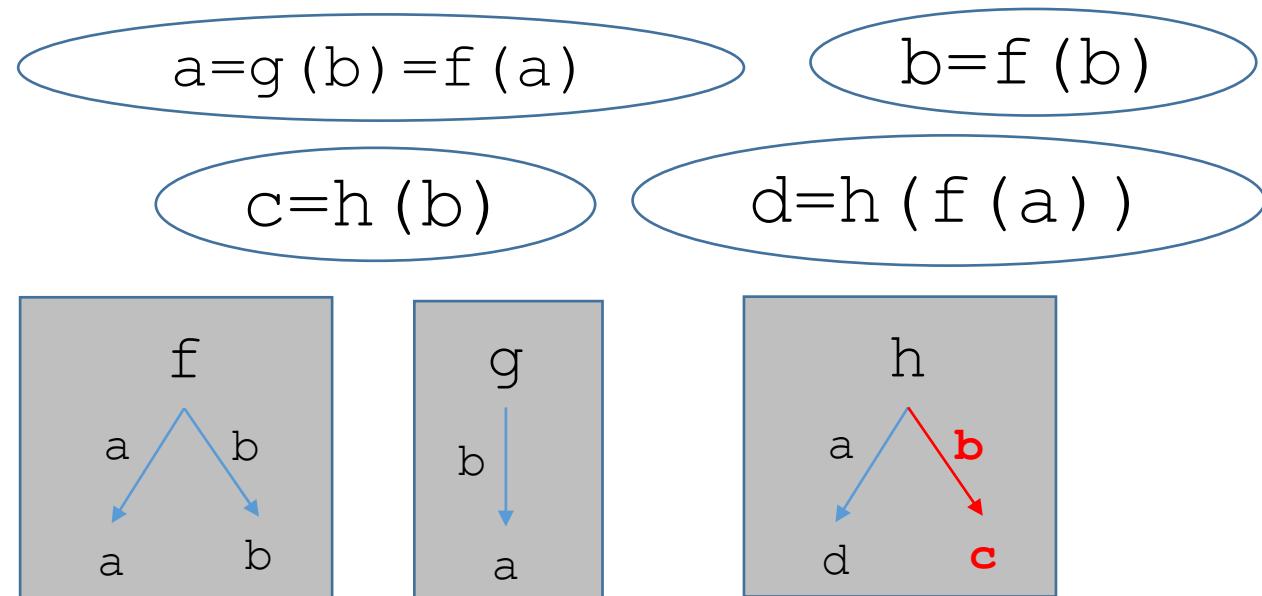
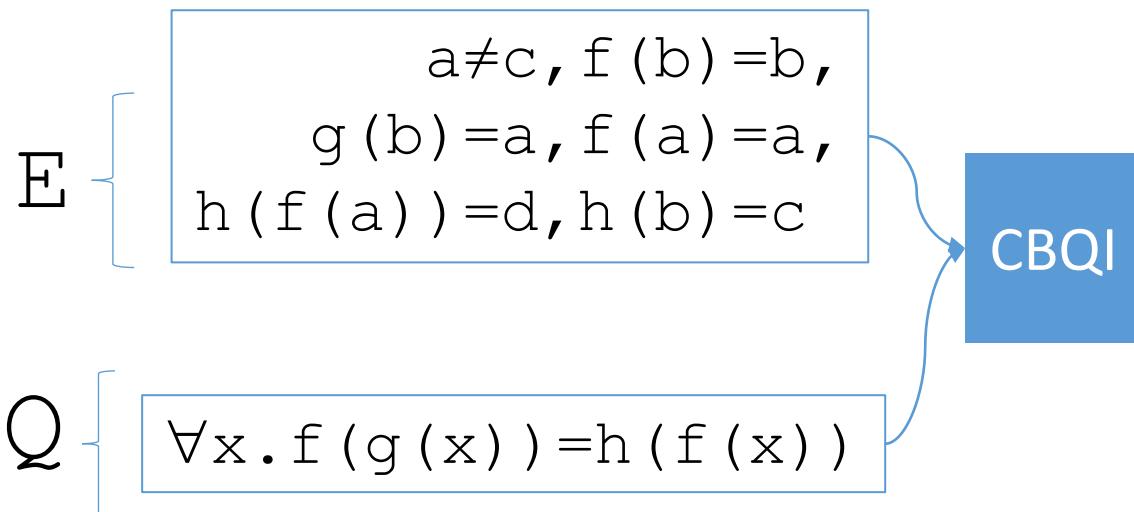
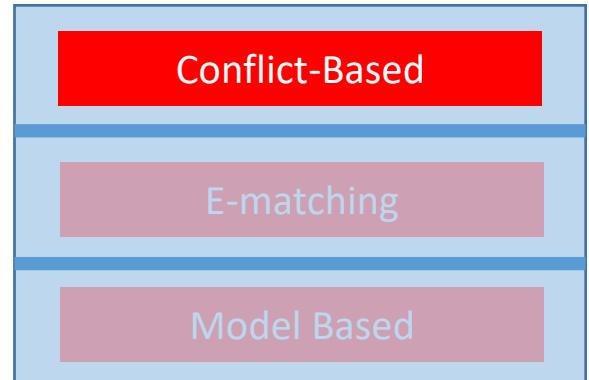
Q {

$$\forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x))$$



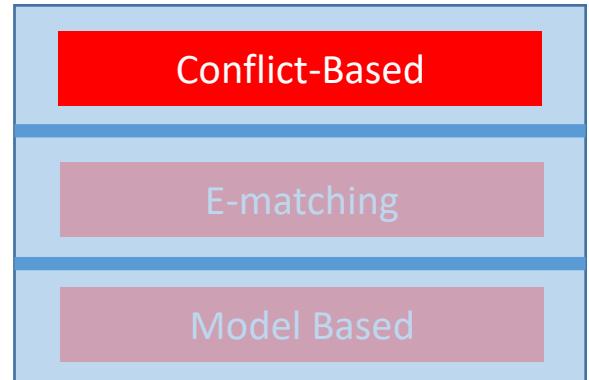
$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(g(b)) = h(\ b\)$$

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(g(b)) = \mathbf{c}$

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



E {

$$a \neq c, f(b) = b,$$

$$g(b) = a, f(a) = a,$$

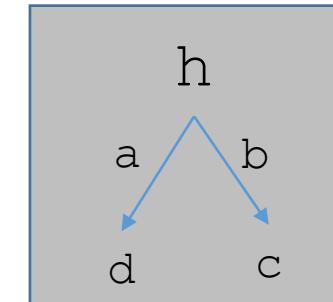
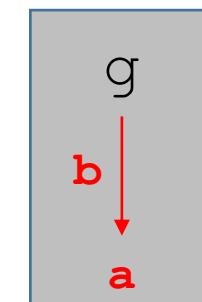
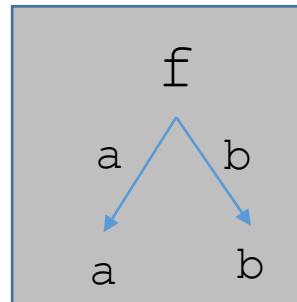
$$h(f(a)) = d, h(b) = c$$

CBQI

Q {

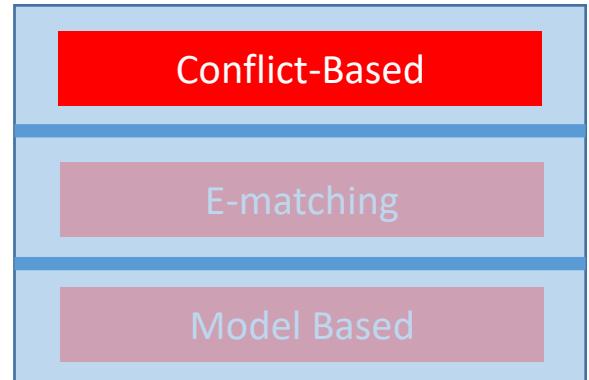
$$\forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x))$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 a = g(b) = f(a) & & b = f(b) \\
 c = h(b) & & d = h(f(a)) \\
 \end{array}$$



$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(\textcolor{red}{a}) = \textcolor{blue}{c}$$

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



E {

$$a \neq c, f(b) = b,$$

$$g(b) = a, f(a) = a,$$

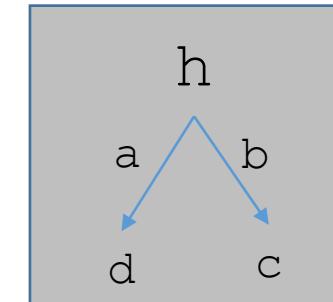
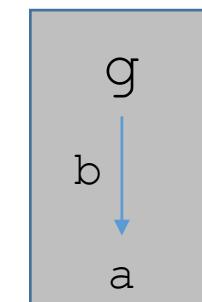
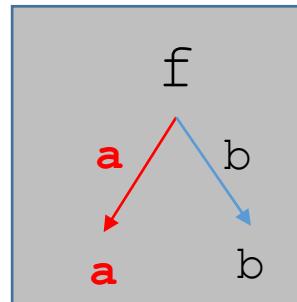
$$h(f(a)) = d, h(b) = c$$

CBQI

Q {

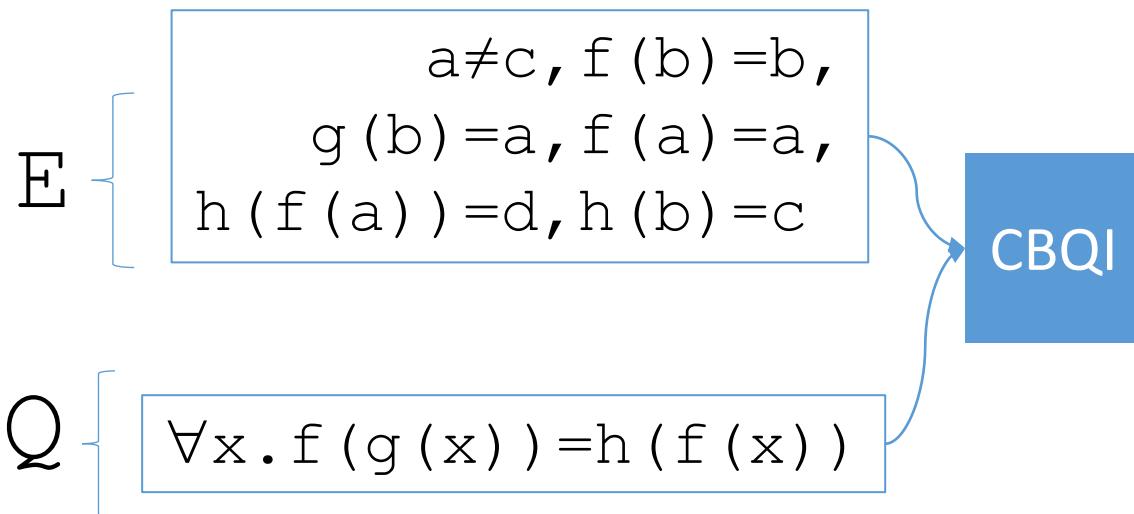
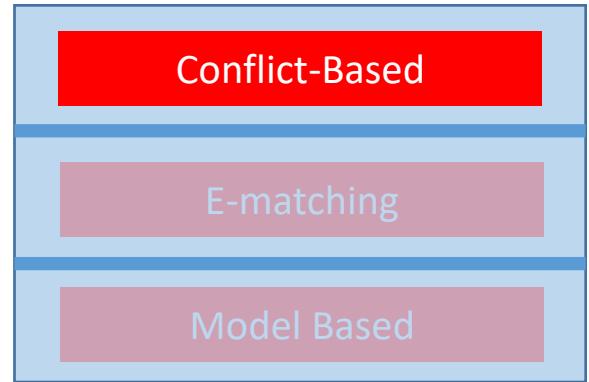
$$\forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x))$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 a = g(b) = f(a) & & b = f(b) \\
 c = h(b) & & d = h(f(a)) \\
 \end{array}$$



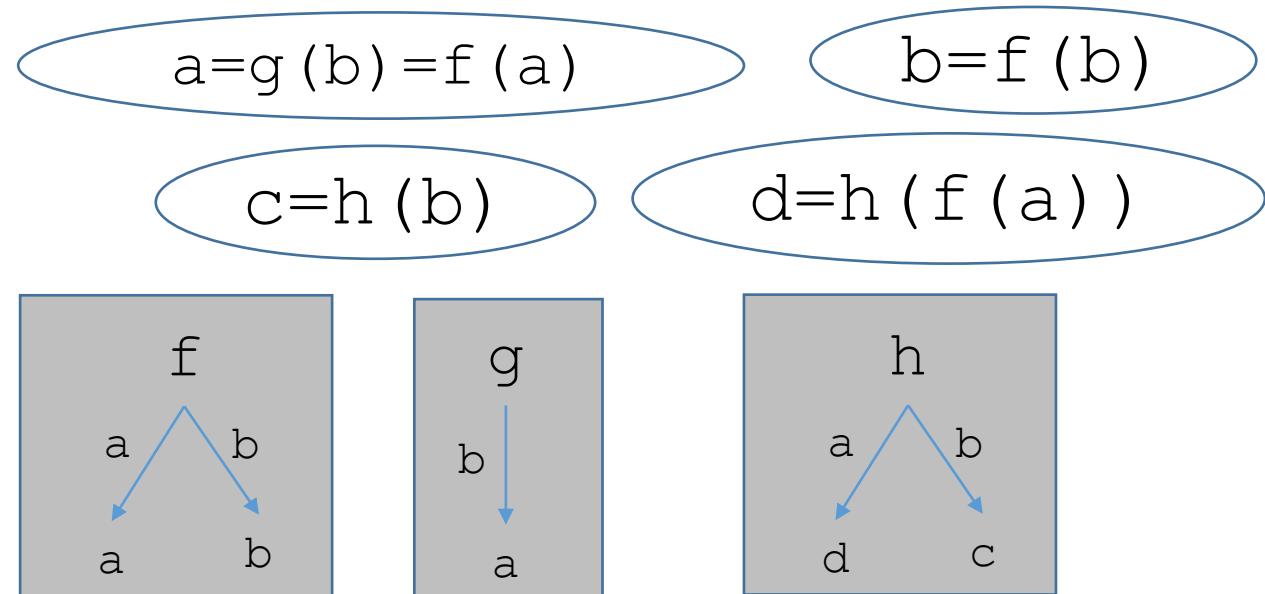
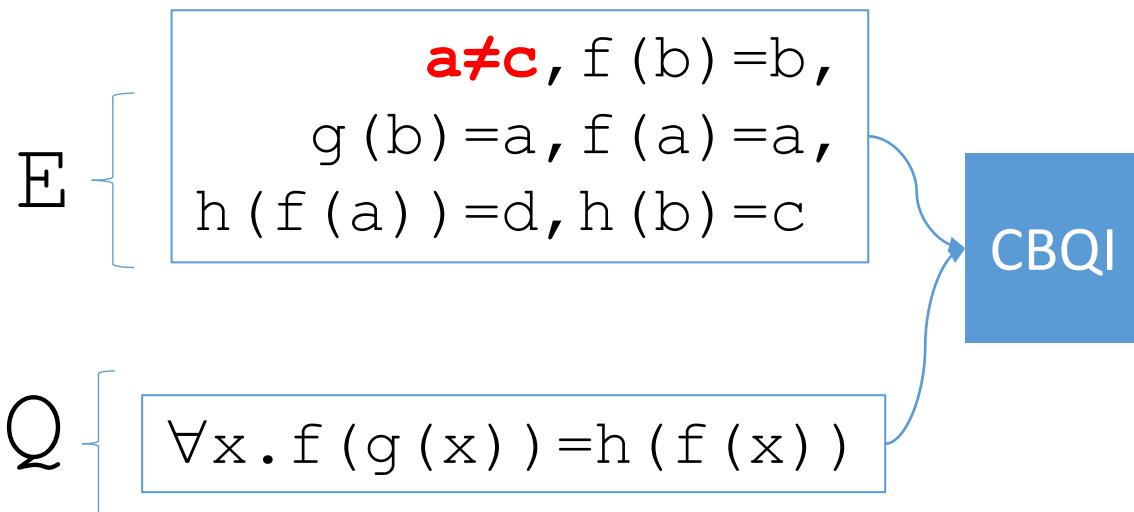
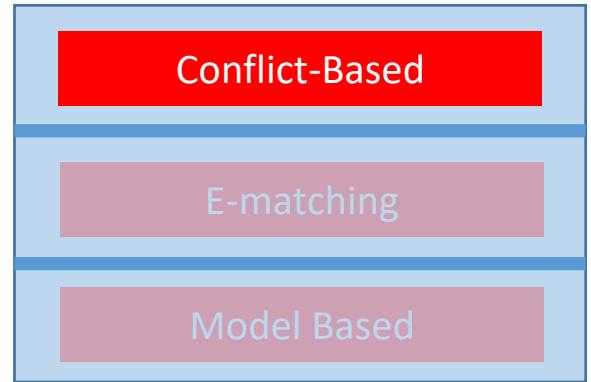
$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E \quad a = c$$

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E a = c$$

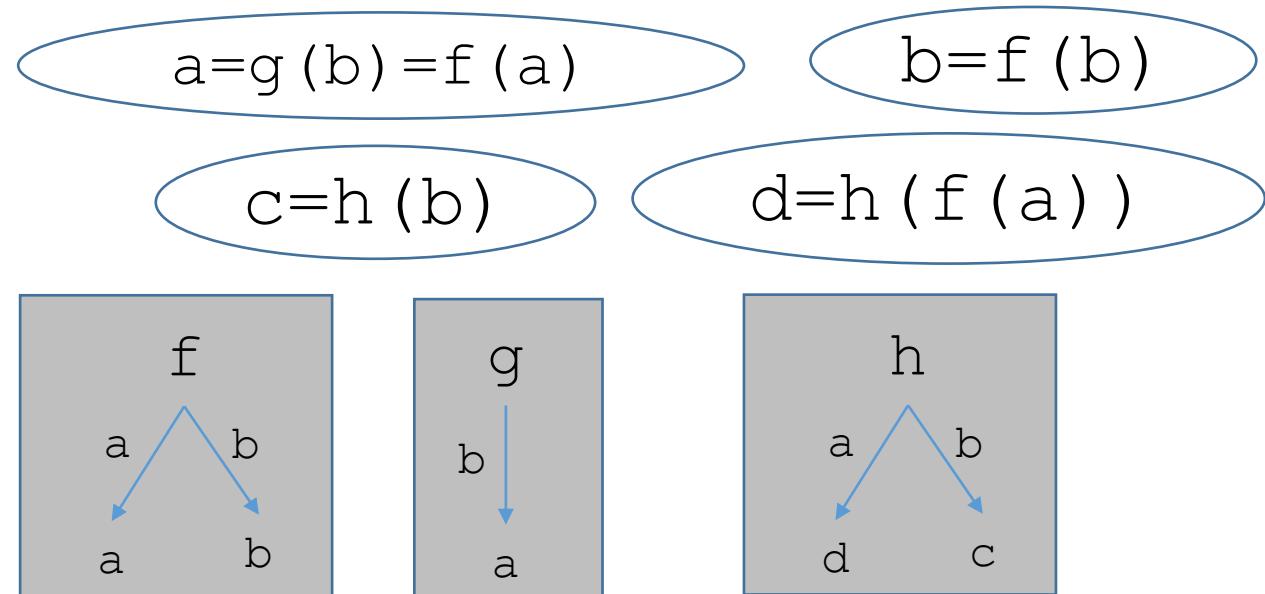
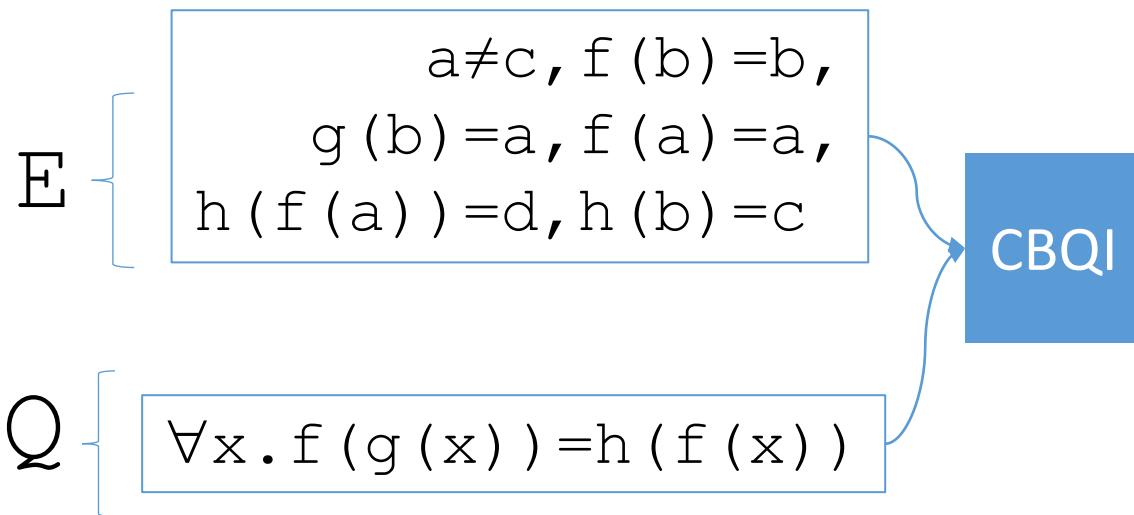
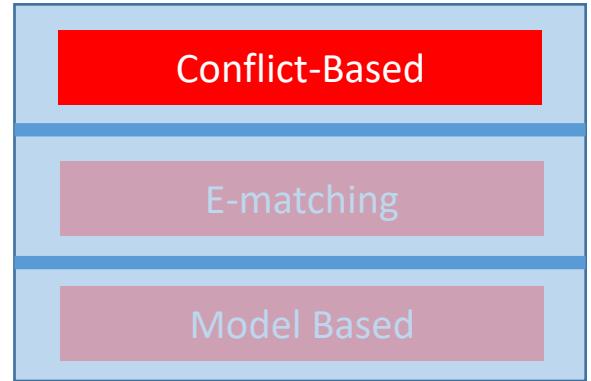
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E \perp$

From E, we know $a \neq c$

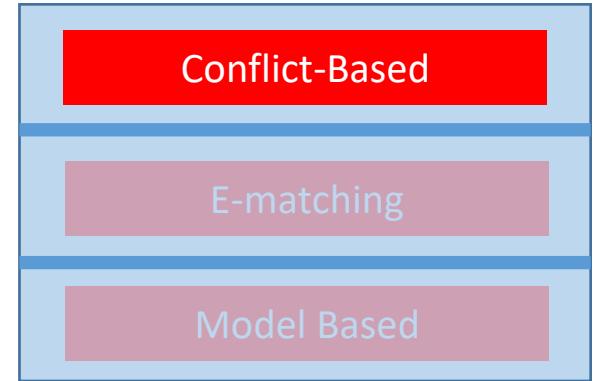
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



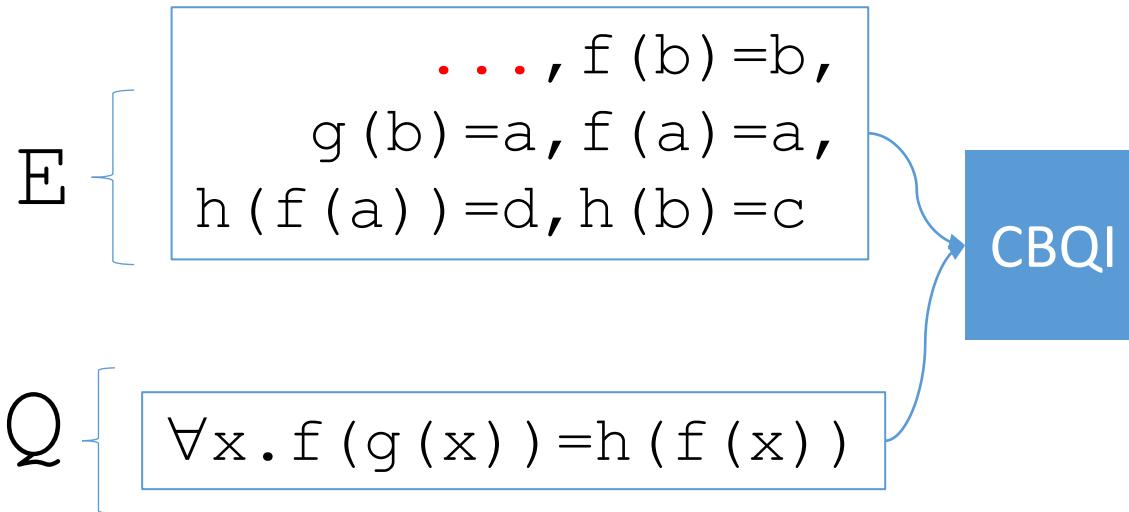
$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E$

\perp

$f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$ is a **conflicting instance** for (E, Q) !



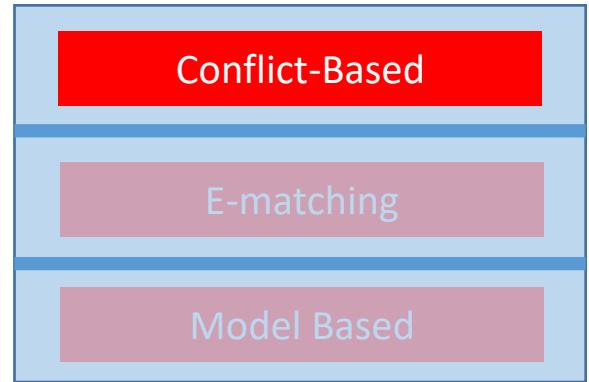
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



⇒ Consider the same example, but where **we don't know $a \neq c$**

- Is the instance $f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$ **still useful?**

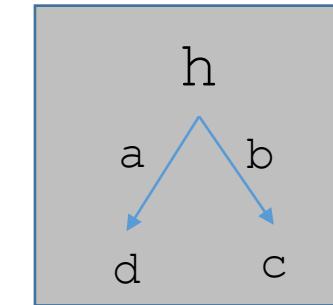
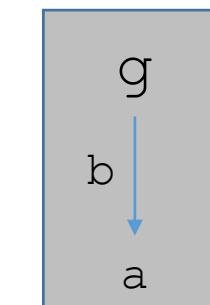
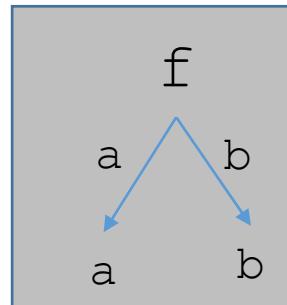
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



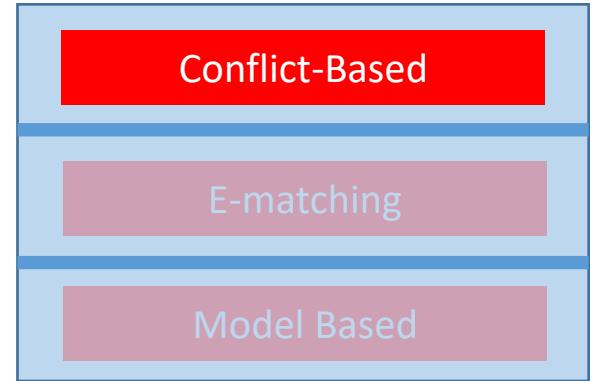
E {
 $\dots, f(b) = b,$
 $g(b) = a, f(a) = a,$
 $h(f(a)) = d, h(b) = c$
}
CBQI

Q {
 $\forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x))$
}

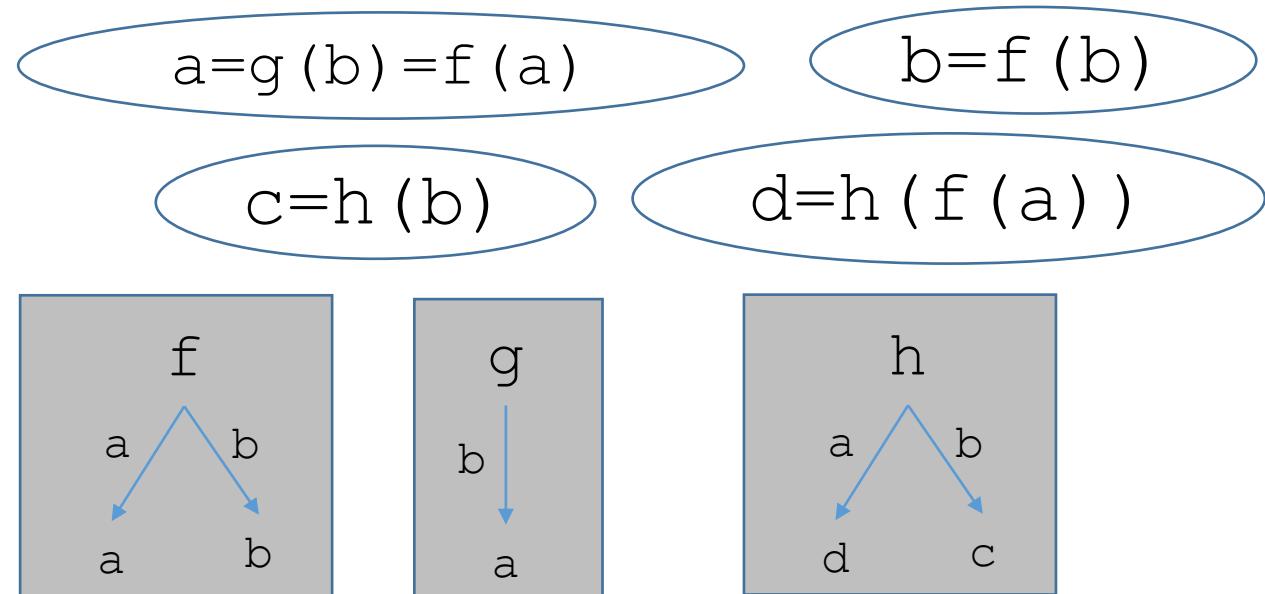
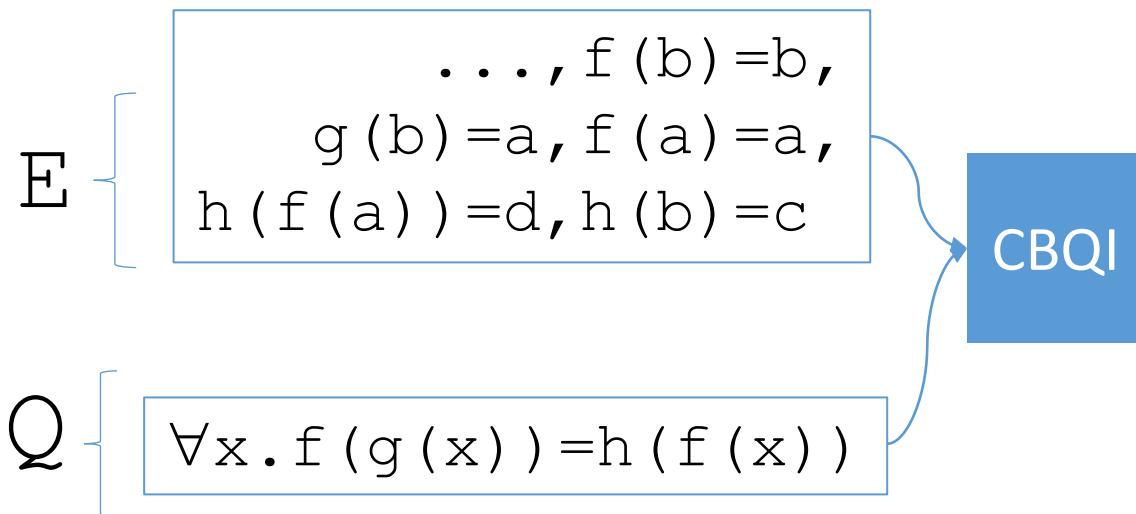
$a = g(b) = f(a)$
 $c = h(b)$
 $d = h(f(a))$



Build partial definitions

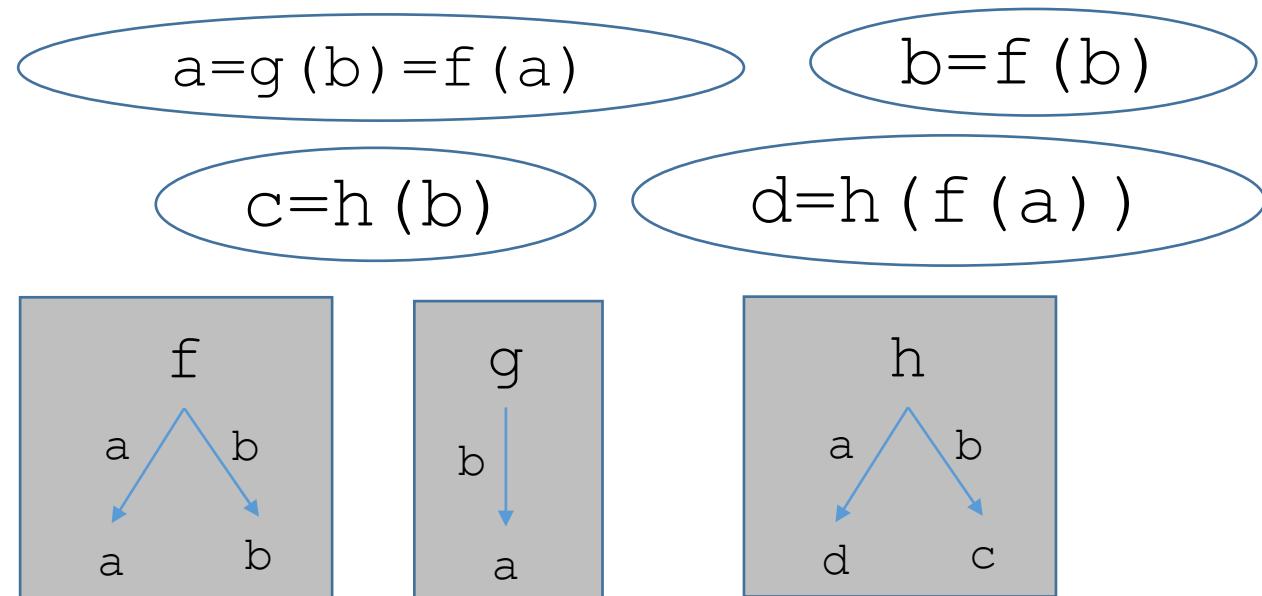
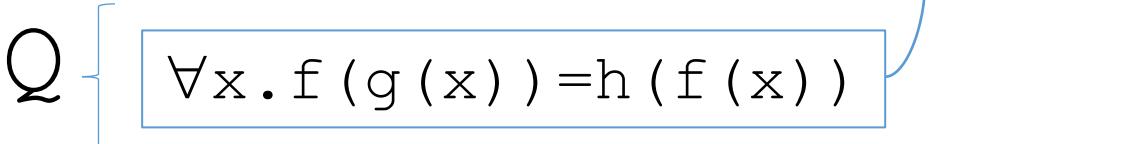
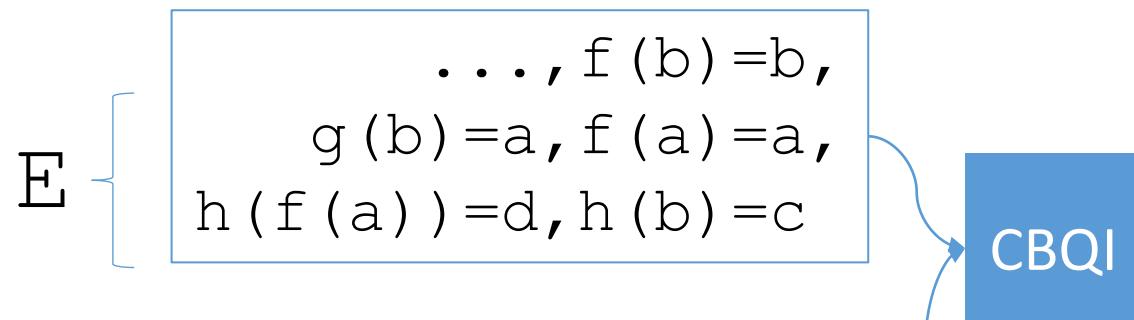
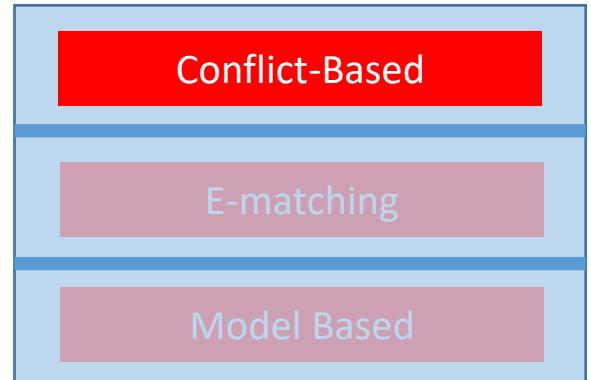


Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



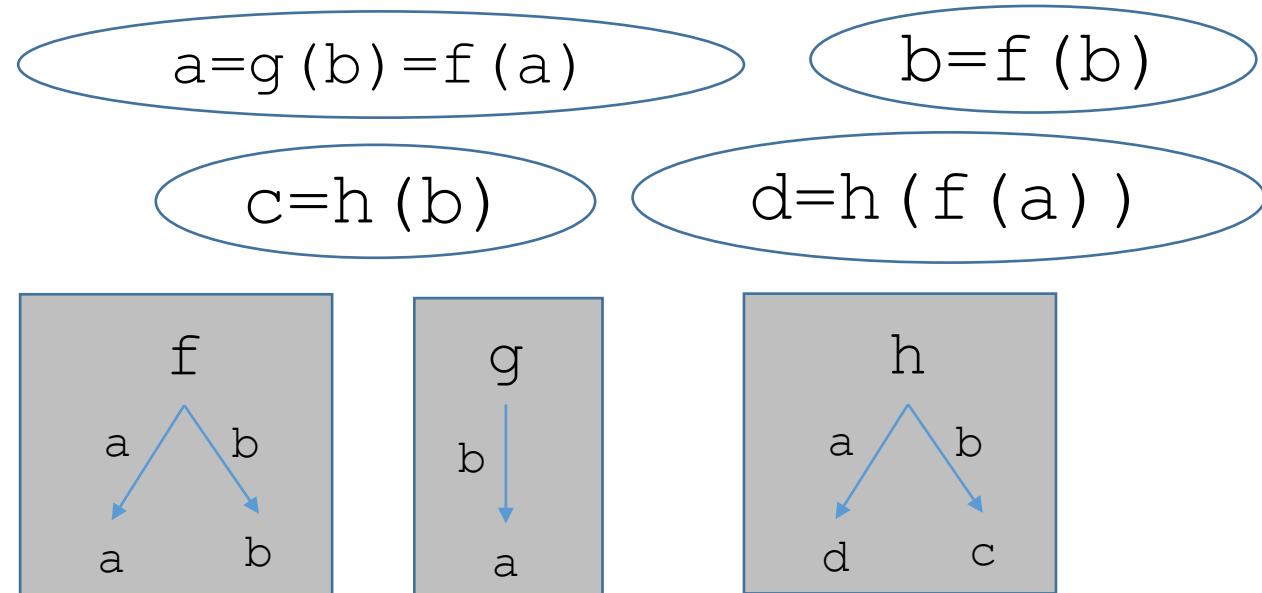
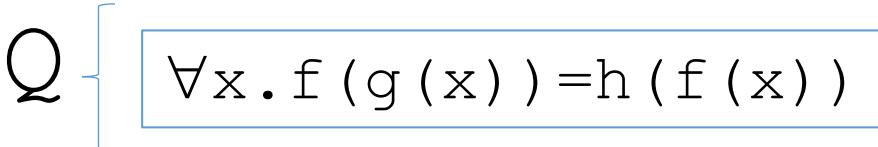
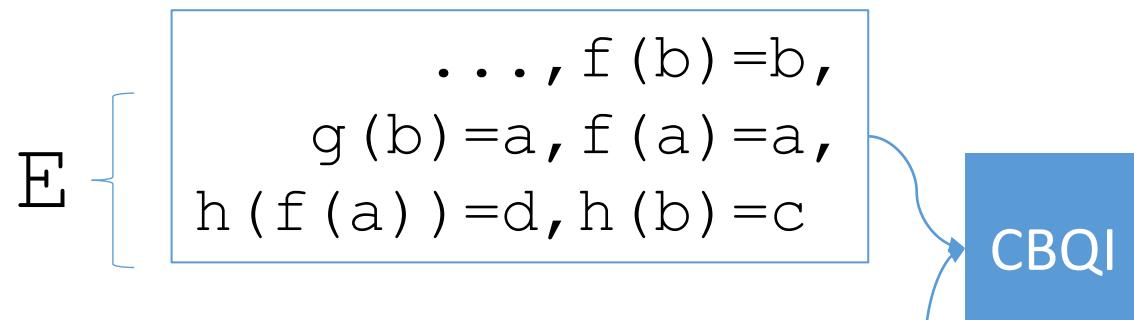
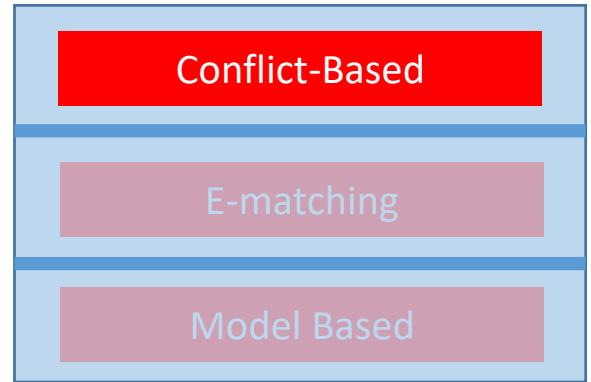
$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$ } Check entailment

Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



$$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E a=c$$

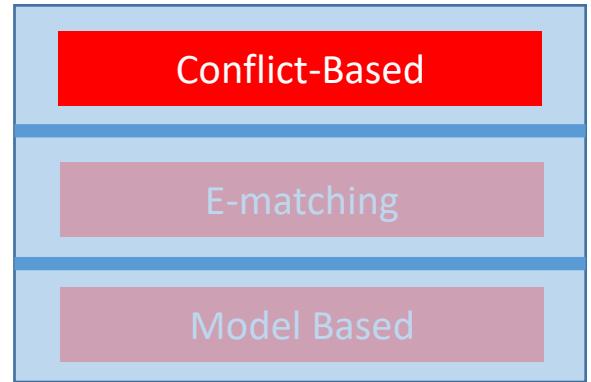
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E a=c \}$

Instance is *not conflicting*,
but *propagates* an equality
between two existing terms in E

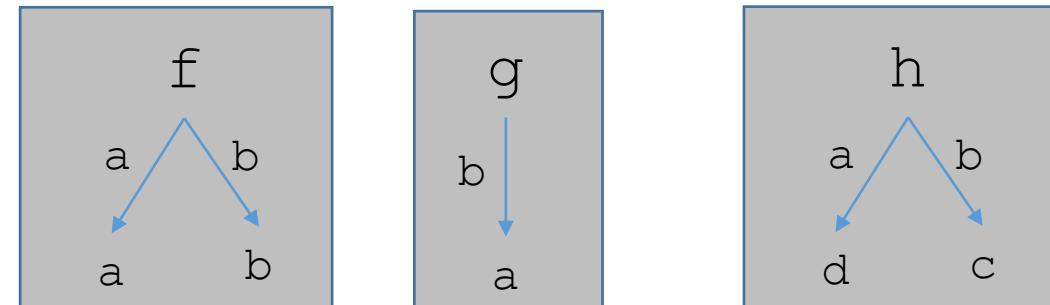
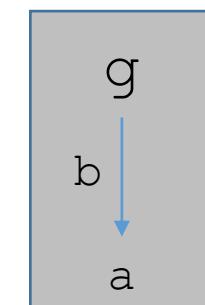
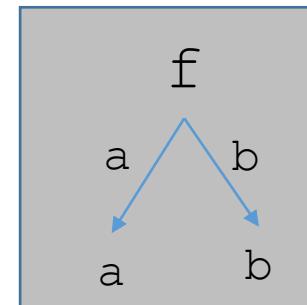
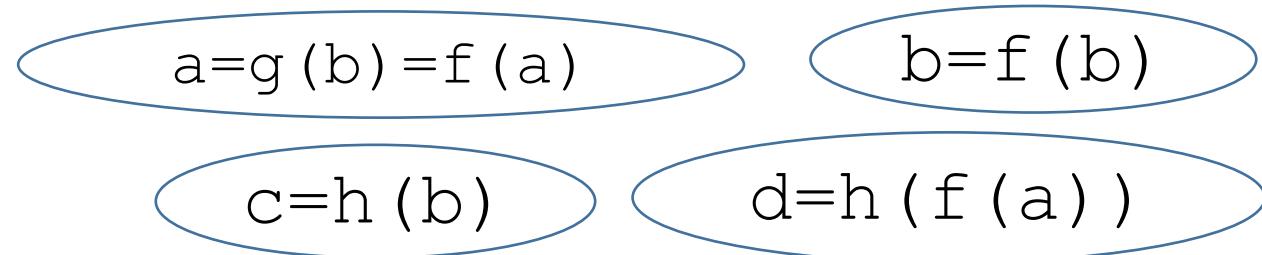
Conflict-Based Instantiation: EUF



$E \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dots, f(b) = b, \\ g(b) = a, f(a) = a, \\ h(f(a)) = d, h(b) = c \end{array} \right.$

CBQI

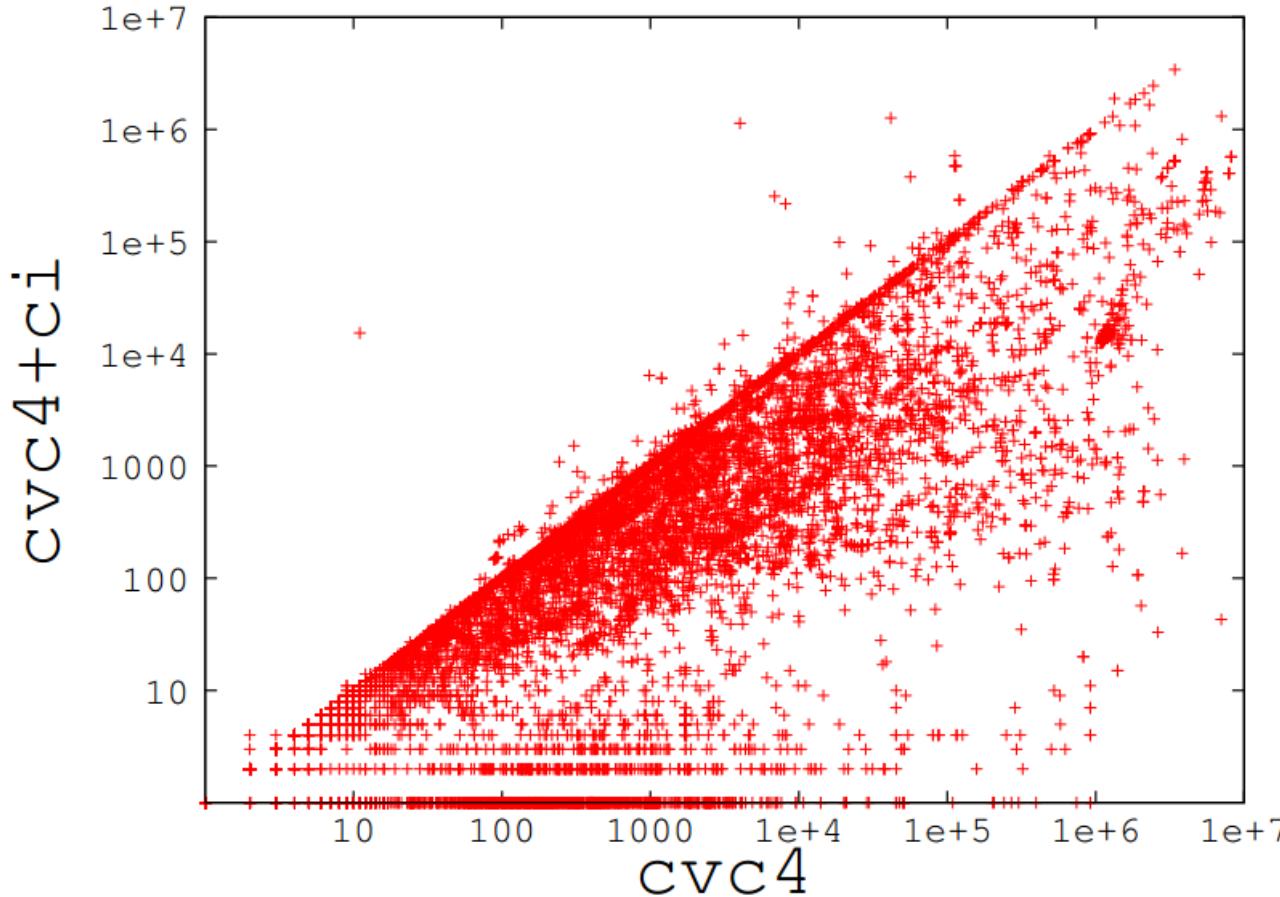
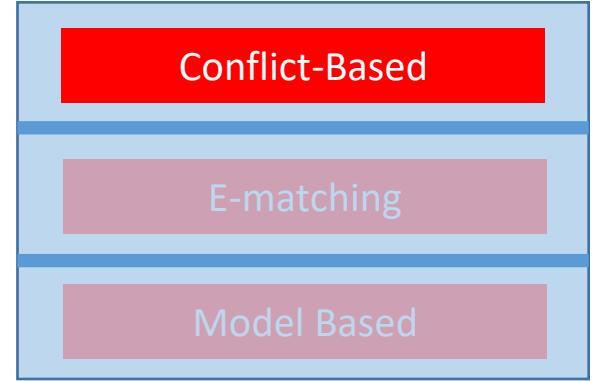
$Q \left\{ \forall x. f(g(x)) = h(f(x)) \right.$



$E, f(g(b)) = h(f(b)) \models_E a = c$

$f(g(b)) = h(f(b))$ is a
propagating instance for (E, Q)
 \Rightarrow These are also useful

Conflict-Based Instantiation: Impact

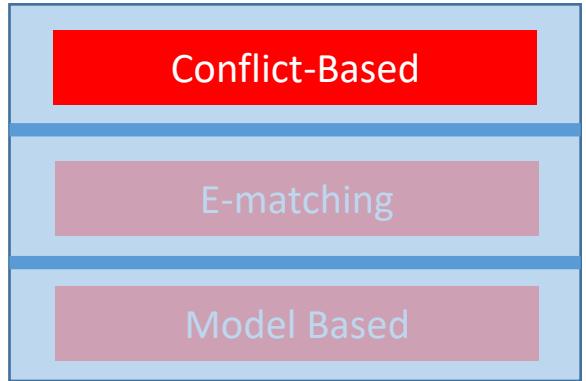


Reported number of instances.

- Using conflict-based instantiation (**cvc4+ci**), require an order of magnitude fewer instances for showing “UNSAT” wrt E-matching alone

(taken from [\[Reynolds et al FMCAD14\]](#), evaluation
On SMTLIB, TPTP, Isabelle benchmarks)

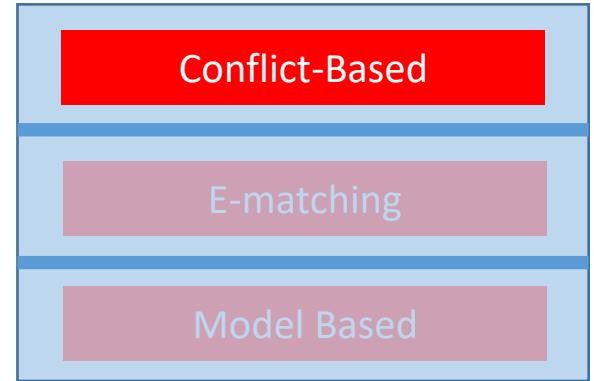
Conflict-Based Instantiation: Impact



- **Conflicting instances** found on ~75% of rounds (IR)
- Configuration **cvc4+ci**:
 - Calls E-matching **1.5x** fewer times overall
 - As a result, returns **5x** fewer instantiations

		IR	E-matching		Conflict Inst.		Propagating Inst.	
			% IR	# Inst	% IR	# Inst	% IR	# Inst
TPTP	cvc4	71,634	100.0	878,957,688	76.4	159,696	3.3	415,772
	cvc4+ci	208,970	20.3	150,351,384				
Isabelle	cvc4	6,969	100.0	119,008,834	64.0	13,932	13.6	130,864
	cvc4+ci	21,756	22.4	28,196,846				
SMT-LIB	cvc4	14,032	100.0	60,650,746	71.6	41,531	8.4	51,454
	cvc4+ci	58,003	20.0	32,305,788				

Conflict-Based Instantiation: Impact

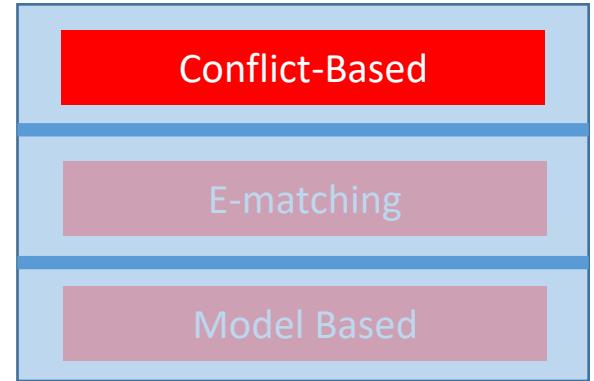


- CVC4 with conflicting instances **cvc4+ci**
 - Solves the **most benchmarks** for TPTP and Isabelle
 - Requires almost an order of magnitude **fewer instantiations**

	TPTP		Isabelle		SMT-LIB	
	Solved	Inst	Solved	Inst	Solved	Inst
cvc3	5,245	627.0M	3,827	186.9M	3,407	42.3M
z3	6,269	613.5M	3,506	67.0M	3,983	6.4M
cvc4	6,100	879.0M	3,858	119.0M	3,680	60.7M
cvc4+ci	6,616	150.9M	4,082	28.2M	3,747	32.4M

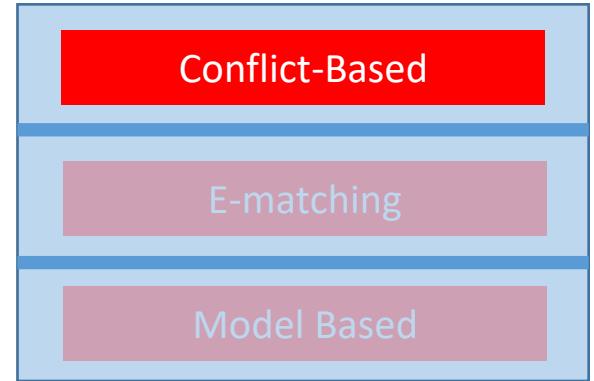
⇒ A number of hard benchmarks can be solved without resorting to E-matching at all

Challenge : Finding Conflicting Instances



- How do we *find* conflicting instances?
 - Idea: construct instances via a **stronger version of matching**
 - Intuition: for $\forall x . P(x) \vee Q(x)$, will only match $P(x)$ where $P(t) \Leftrightarrow \perp$
(see [Reynolds et al FMCAD2014])
 - Formalized as calculus based on E-ground (dis)unification [Barbosa et al 2017]

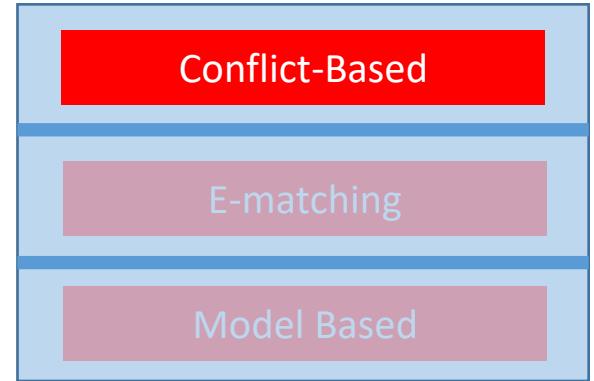
Challenge : Theory Symbols



- Difficult for quantified formulas that contain *theory symbols*:

$$\begin{array}{l} E \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} f(1) = 5 \\ \forall xy. f(x+y) > x + 2 * y \end{array} \right. \end{array}$$

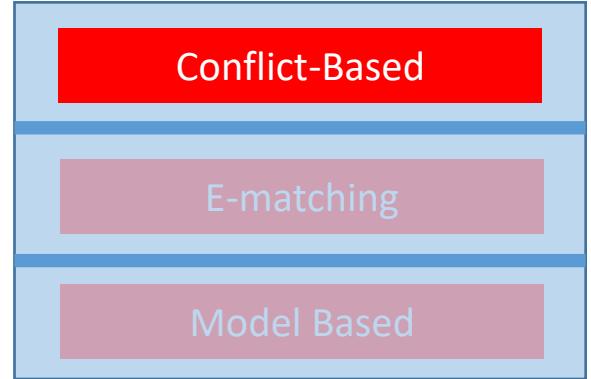
Challenge : Theory Symbols



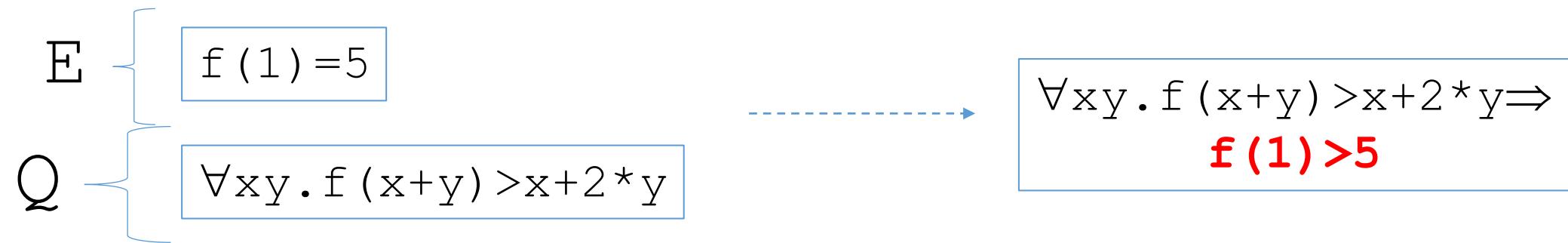
- Difficult for quantified formulas that contain *theory symbols*:

$$\begin{array}{l} E \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} f(1) = 5 \\ \forall xy. f(x+y) > x + 2 * y \end{array} \right. \end{array} \xrightarrow{\quad} \forall xy. f(x+y) > x + 2 * y \Rightarrow f(-3+4) > -3 + 2 * 4$$

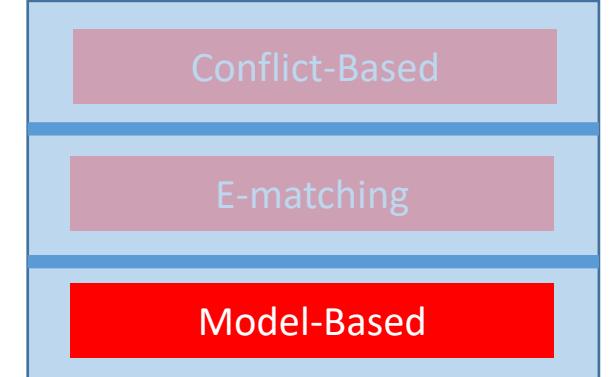
Challenge : Theory Symbols



- Difficult for quantified formulas that contain *theory symbols*:



⇒ Generally, use **fast and incomplete** procedure for \forall +theories

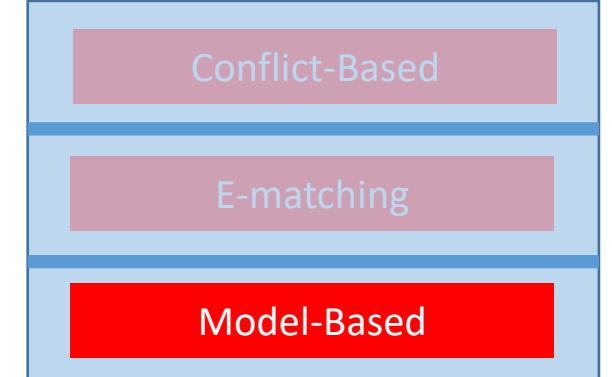


Model-based Instantiation

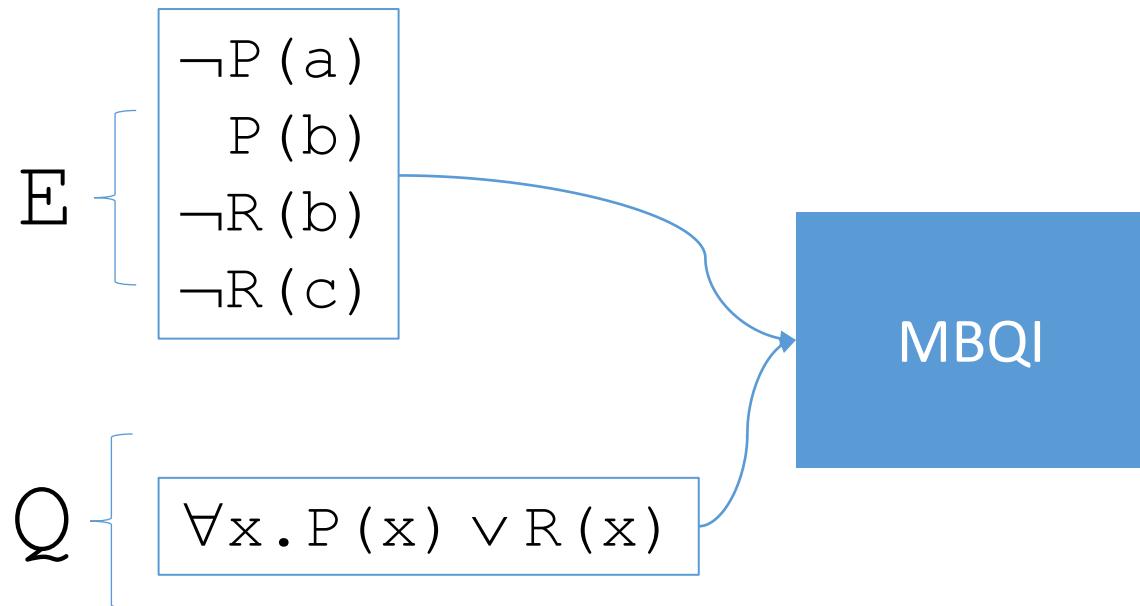
- Basic idea:
 - If E-matching saturates, build “candidate model” M satisfying E
 - Check if M also satisfies Q
(using a quantifier-free satisfiability query)

\Rightarrow Ability *to answer*

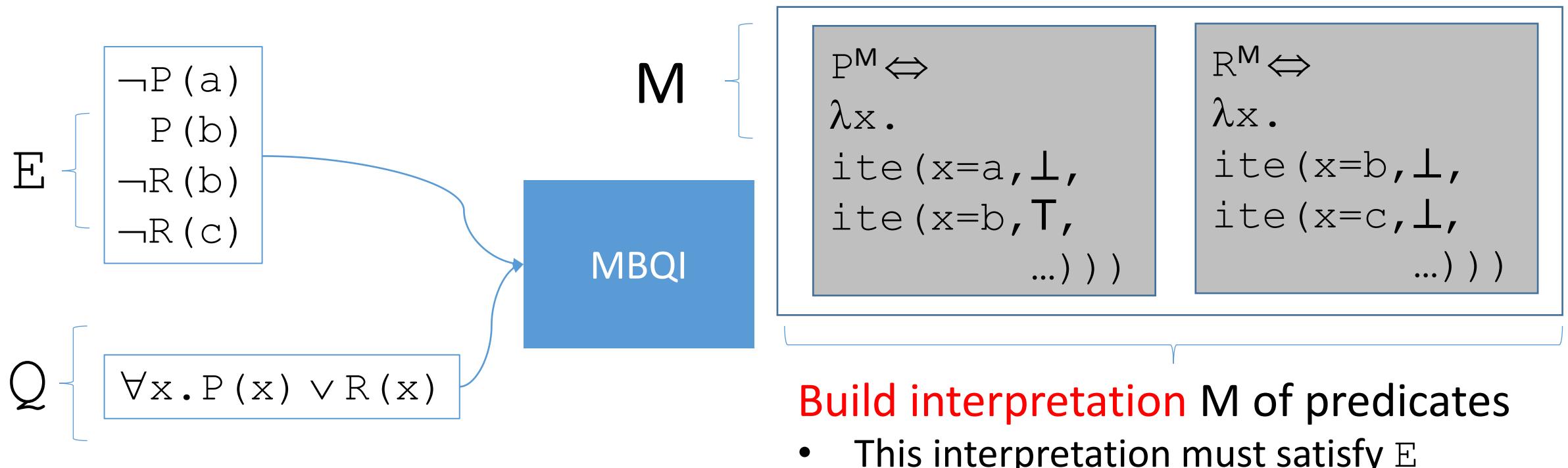
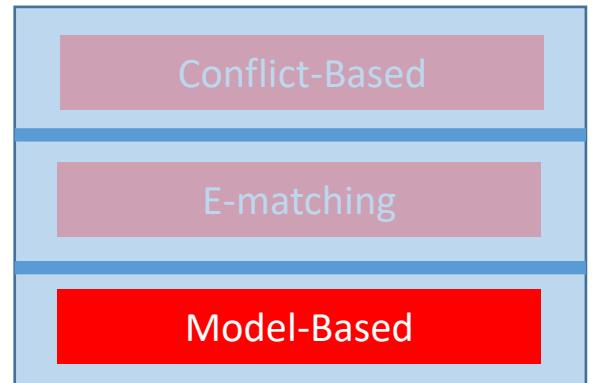




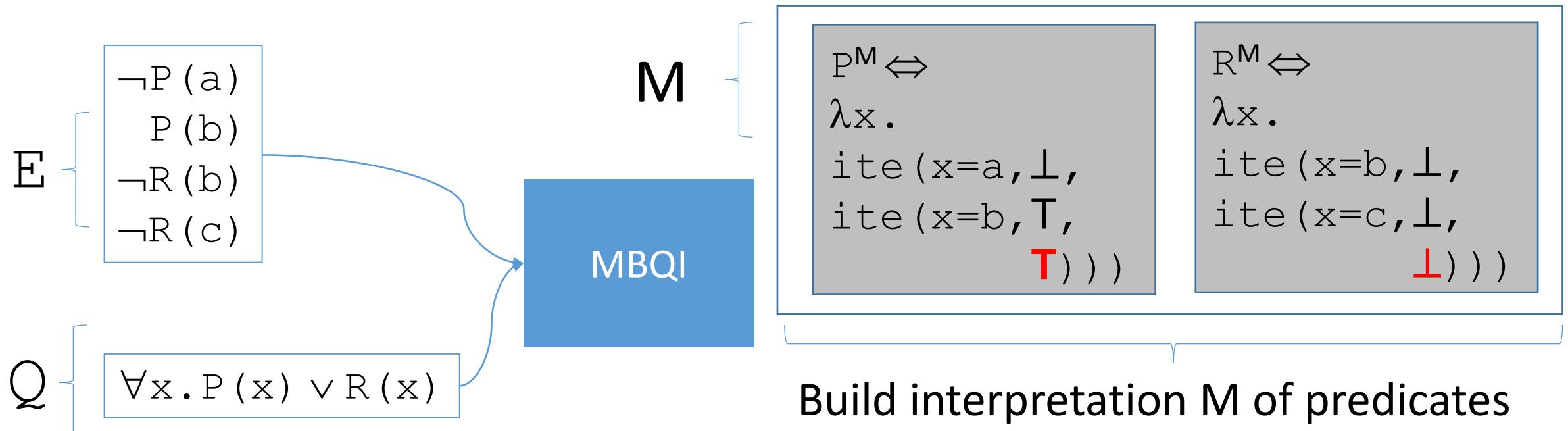
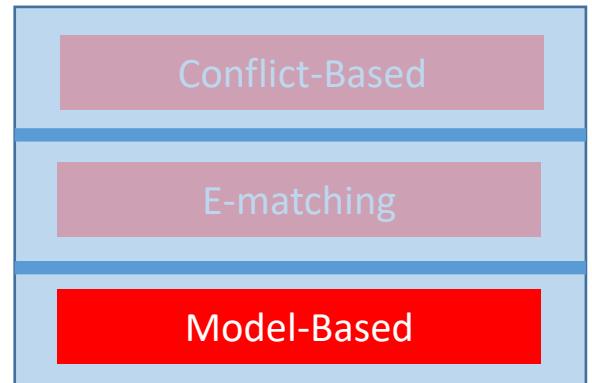
Model-based Instantiation



Model-based Instantiation



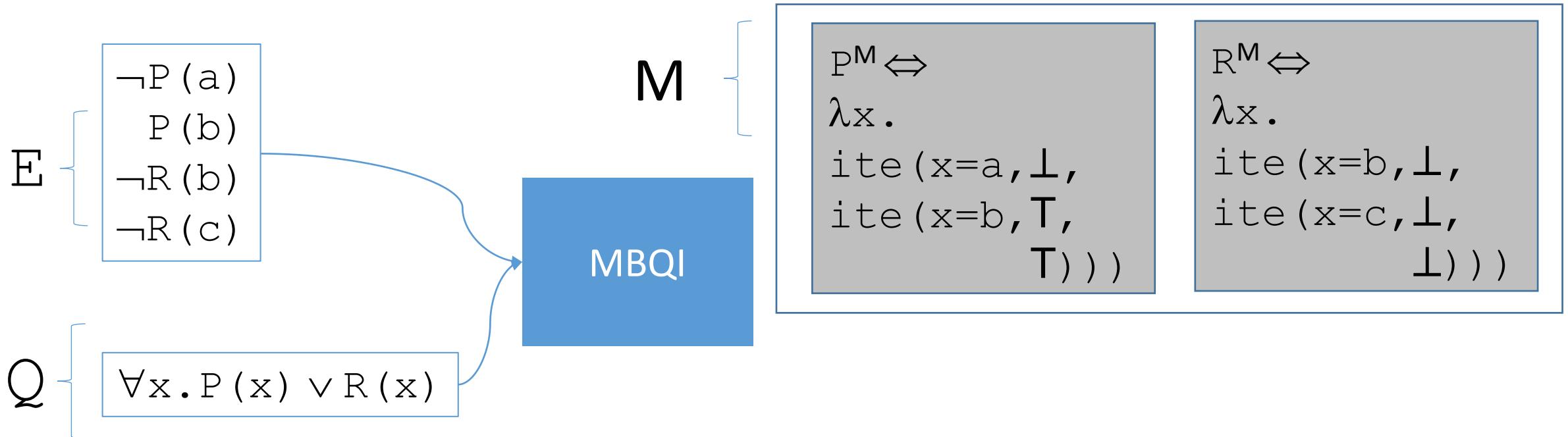
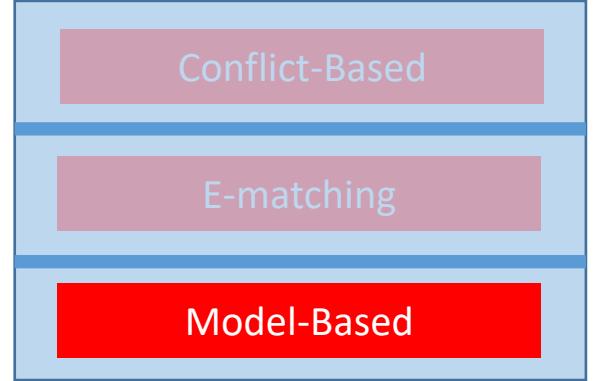
Model-based Instantiation



Build interpretation M of predicates

- This interpretation must satisfy E
- **Missing values** may be filled in arbitrarily

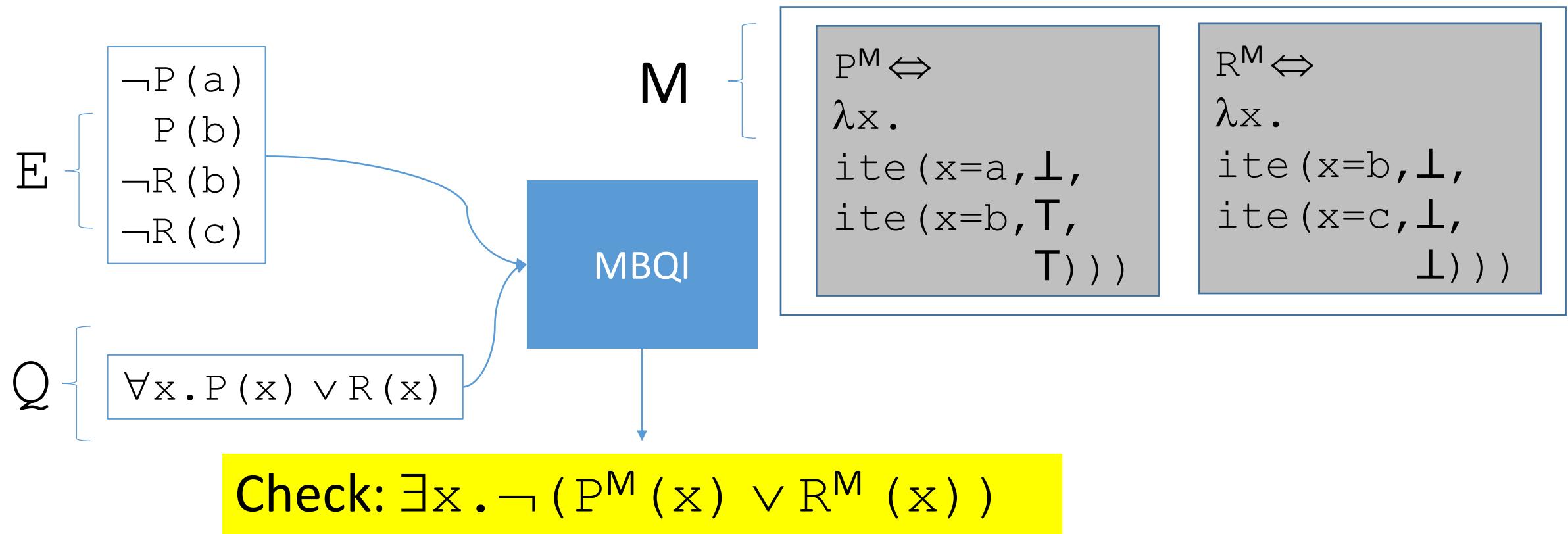
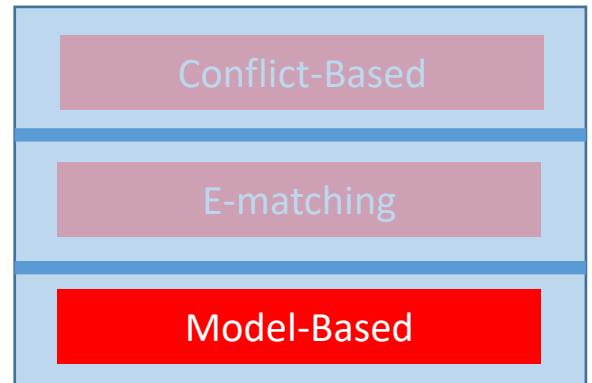
Model-based Instantiation



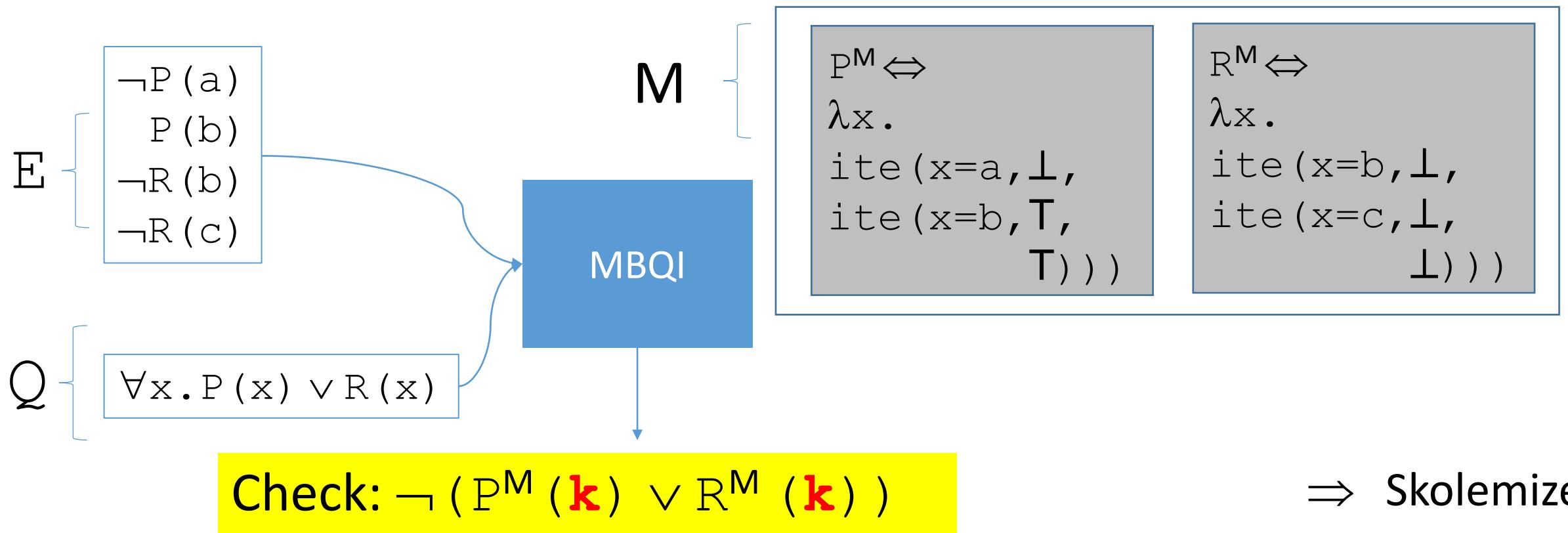
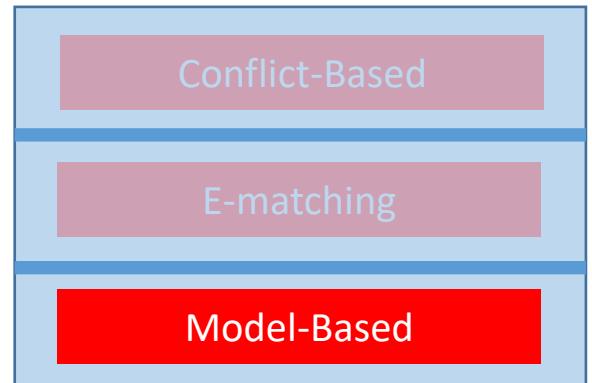
⇒ Does M satisfy Q?

- Check (un)satisfiability of: $\exists x. \neg (P^M(x) \vee R^M(x))$

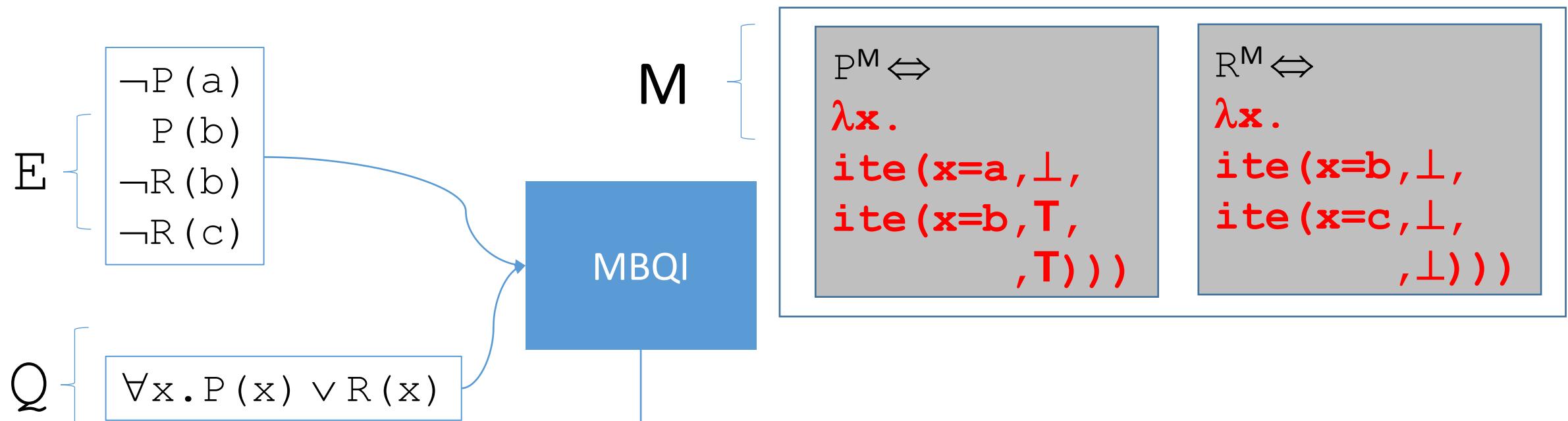
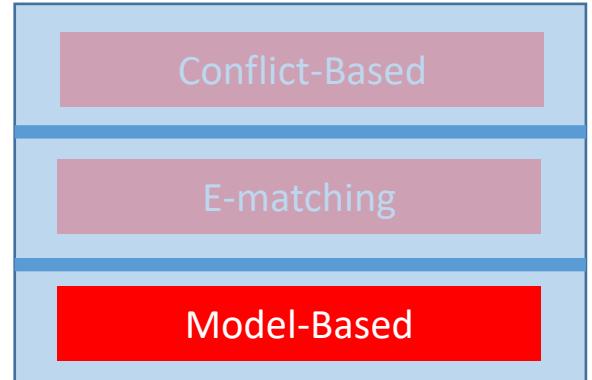
Model-based Instantiation



Model-based Instantiation



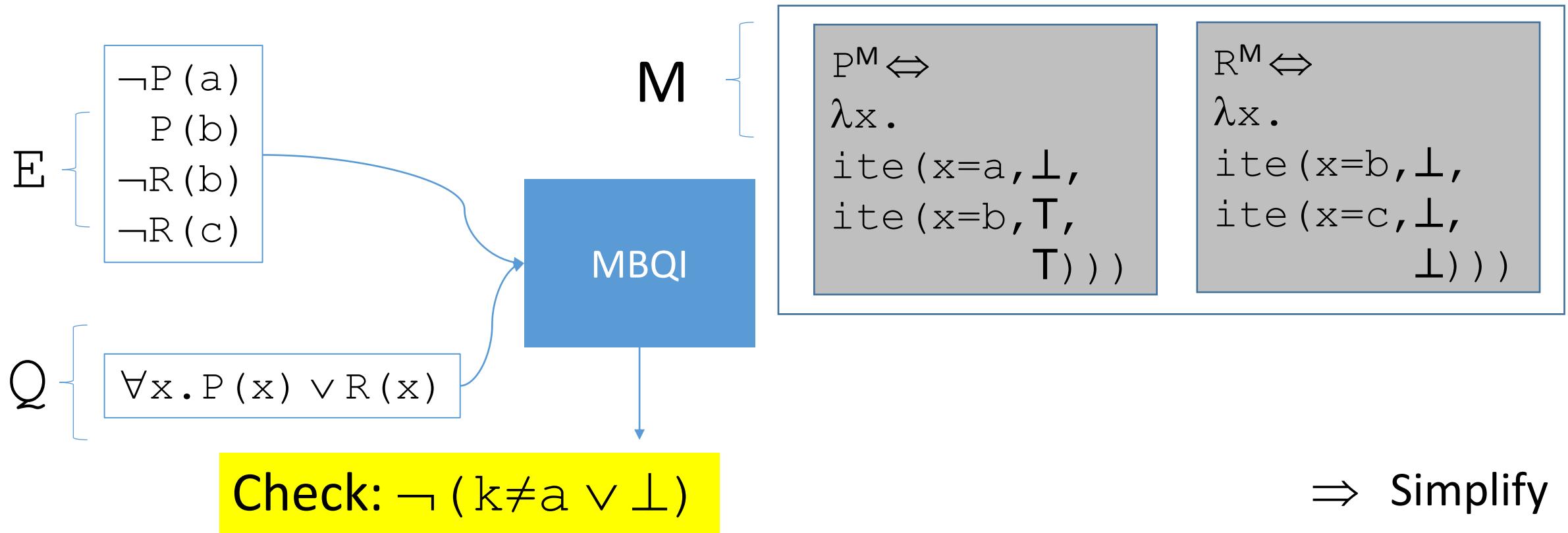
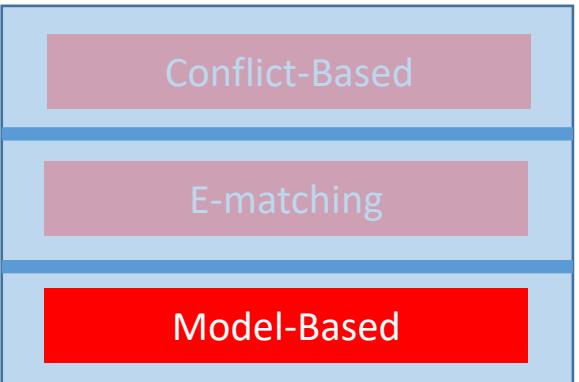
Model-based Instantiation



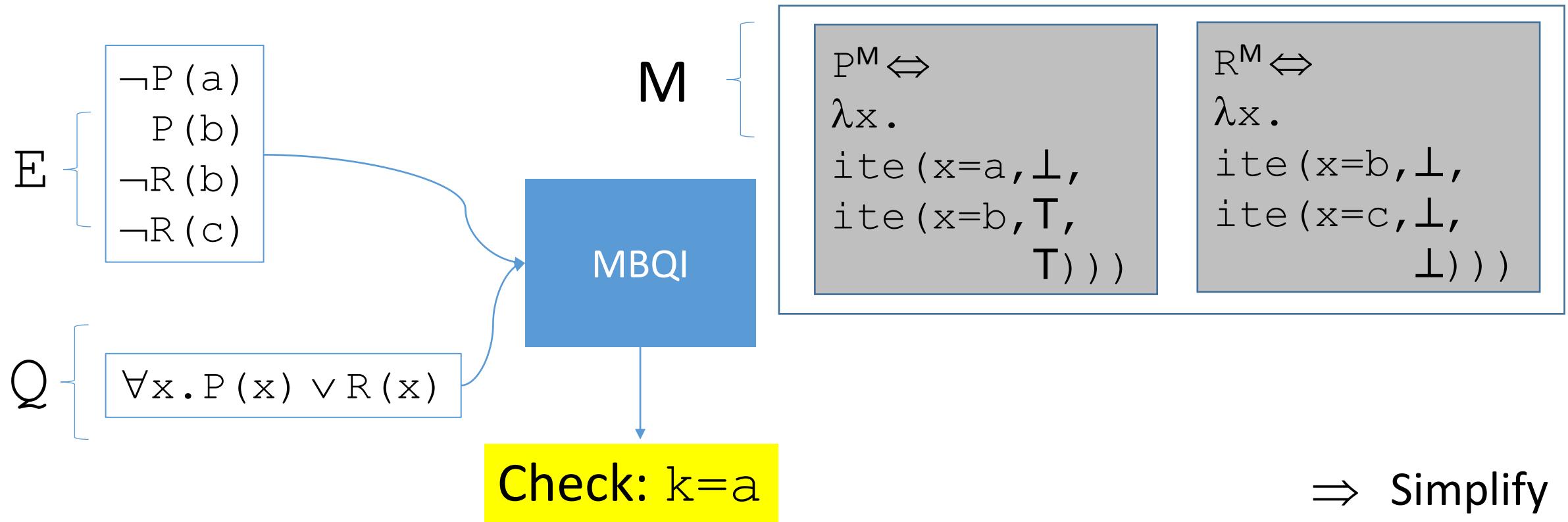
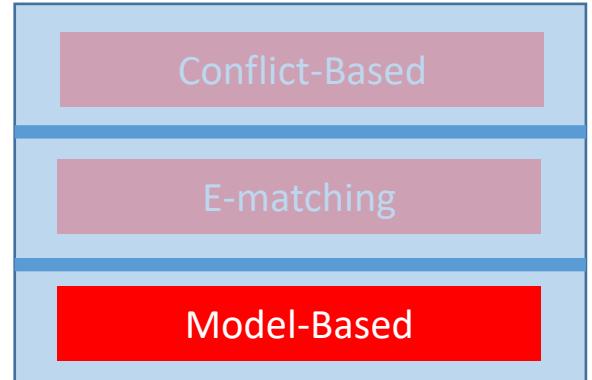
Check: $\neg (\text{ite}(k=a, \perp, \text{ite}(k=b, T, T))) \vee$
 $\quad \quad \quad \text{ite}(k=b, \perp, \text{ite}(k=c, \perp, \perp)))$

⇒ Substitute

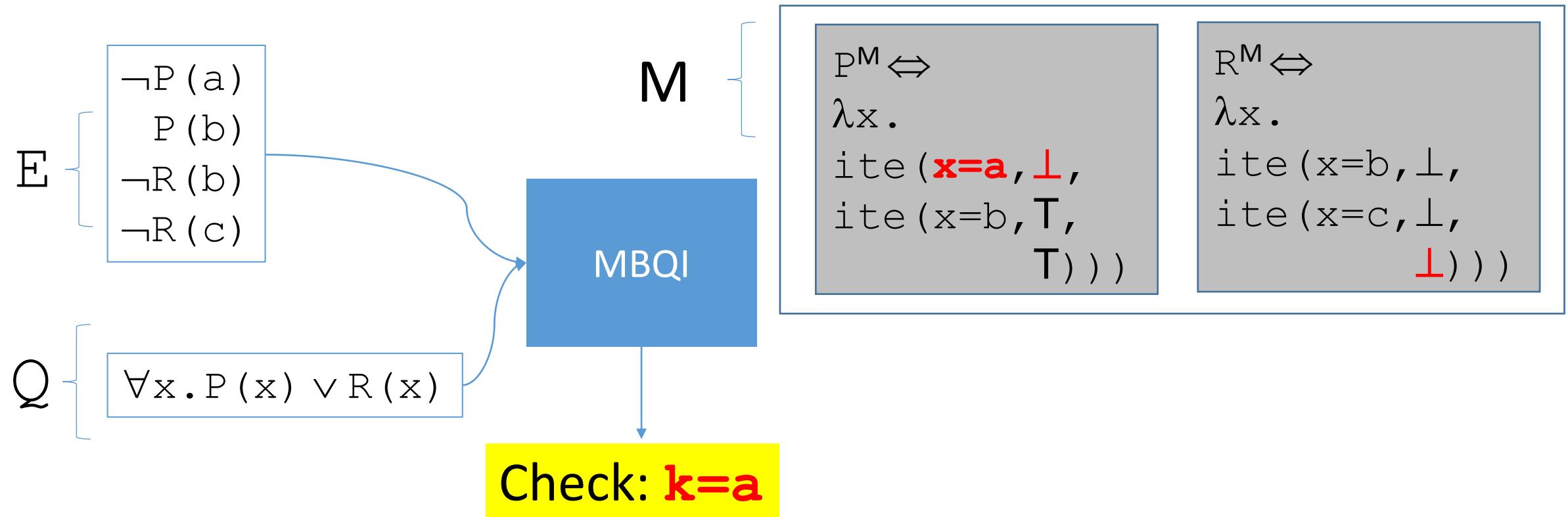
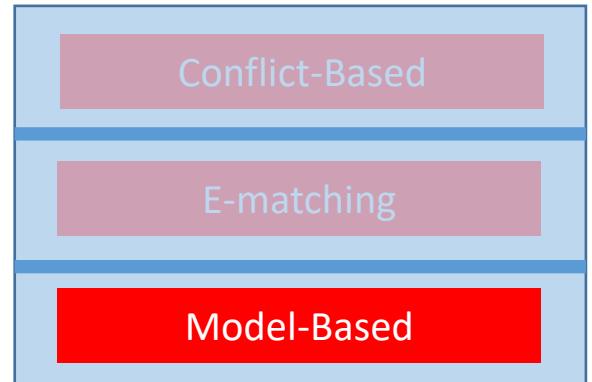
Model-based Instantiation



Model-based Instantiation

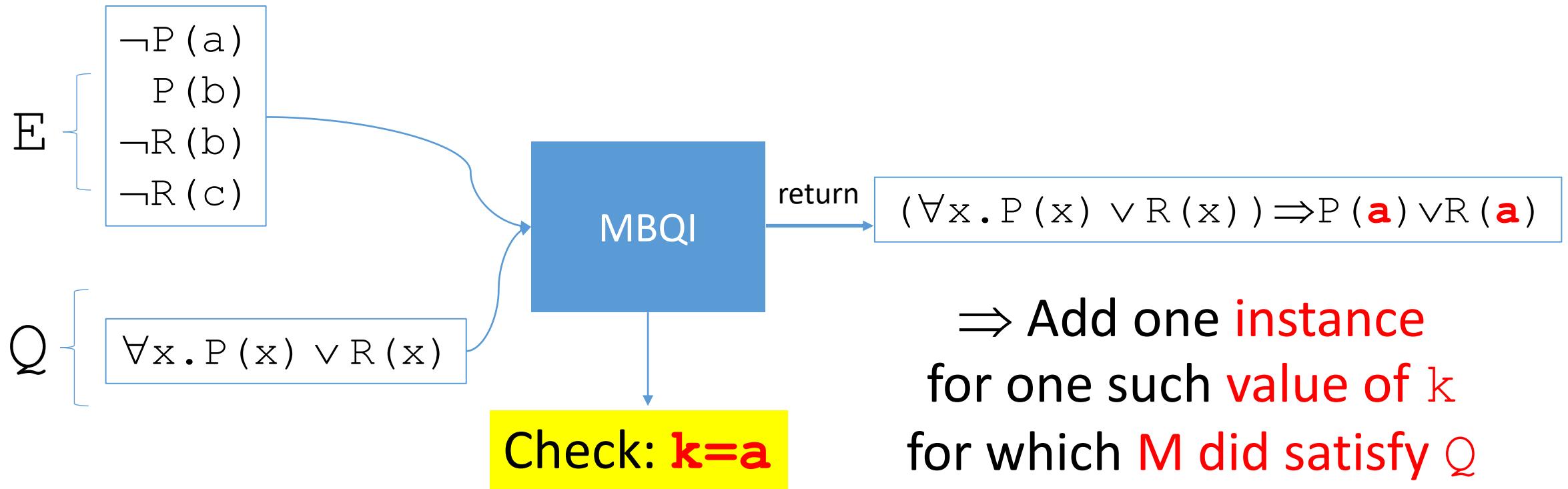
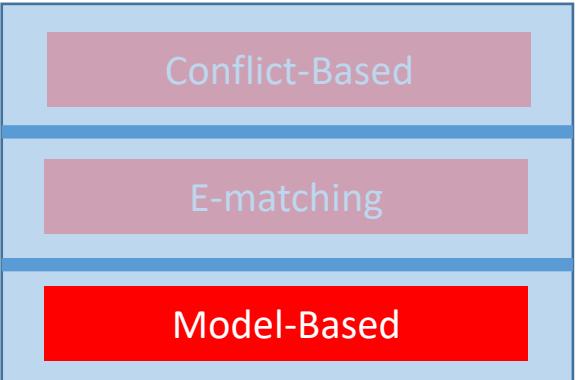


Model-based Instantiation

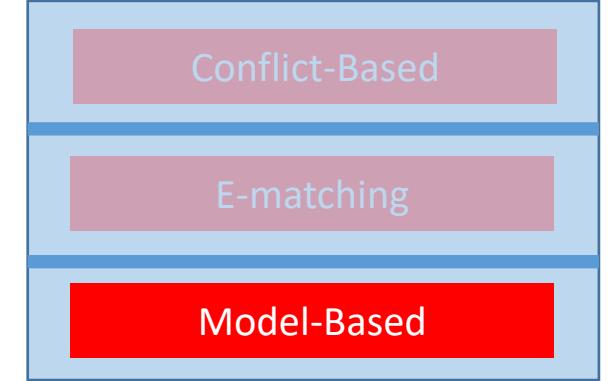


⇒ Satisfiable! There are **values k** for which M does **not** satisfy Q

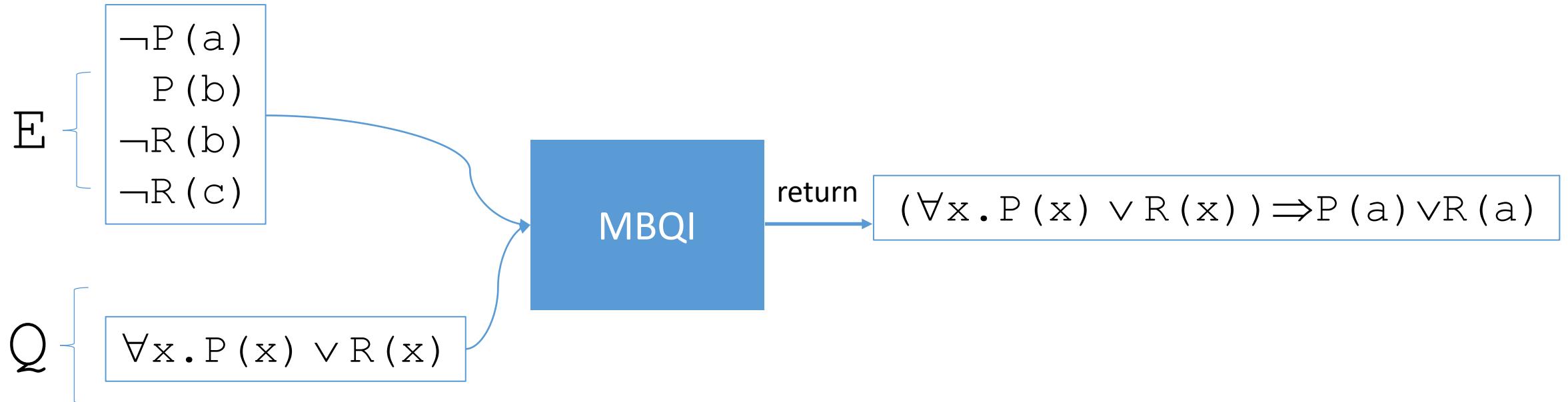
Model-based Instantiation



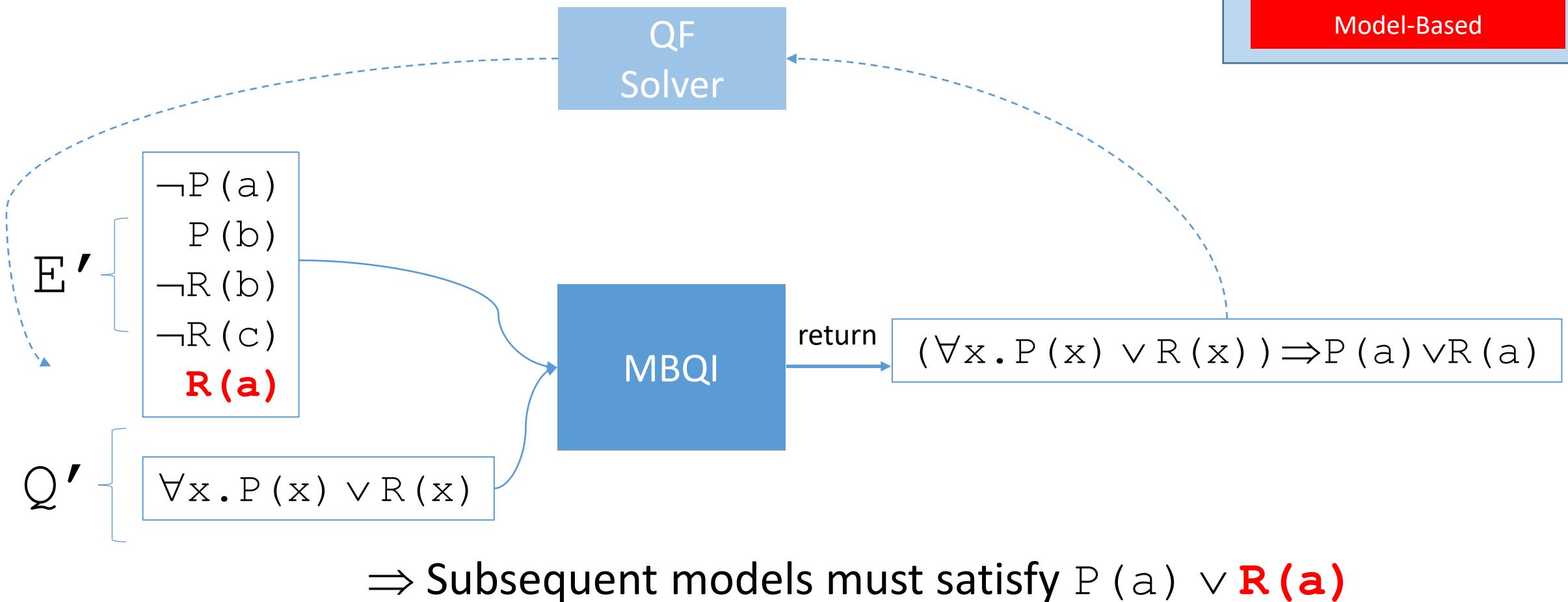
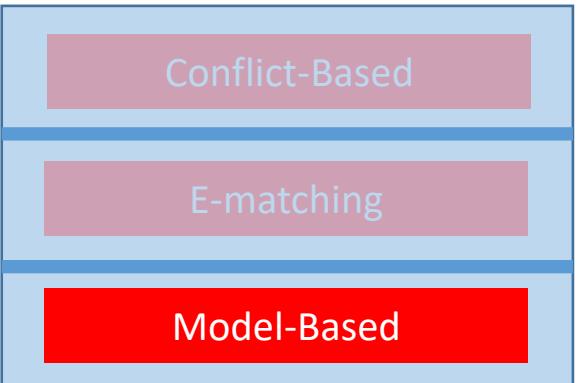
⇒ Add one **instance**
for one such **value of k**
for which **M did satisfy Q**



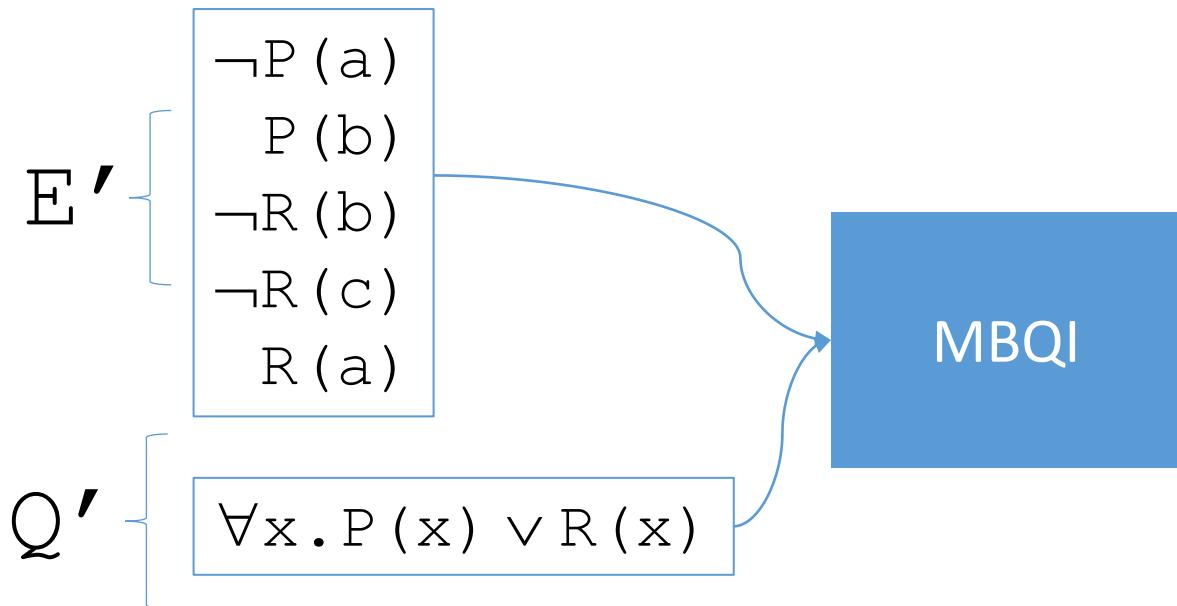
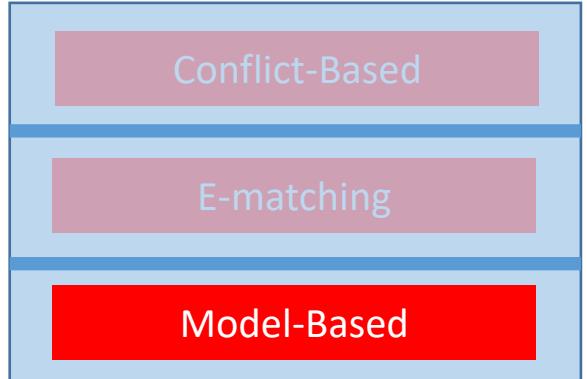
Model-based Instantiation



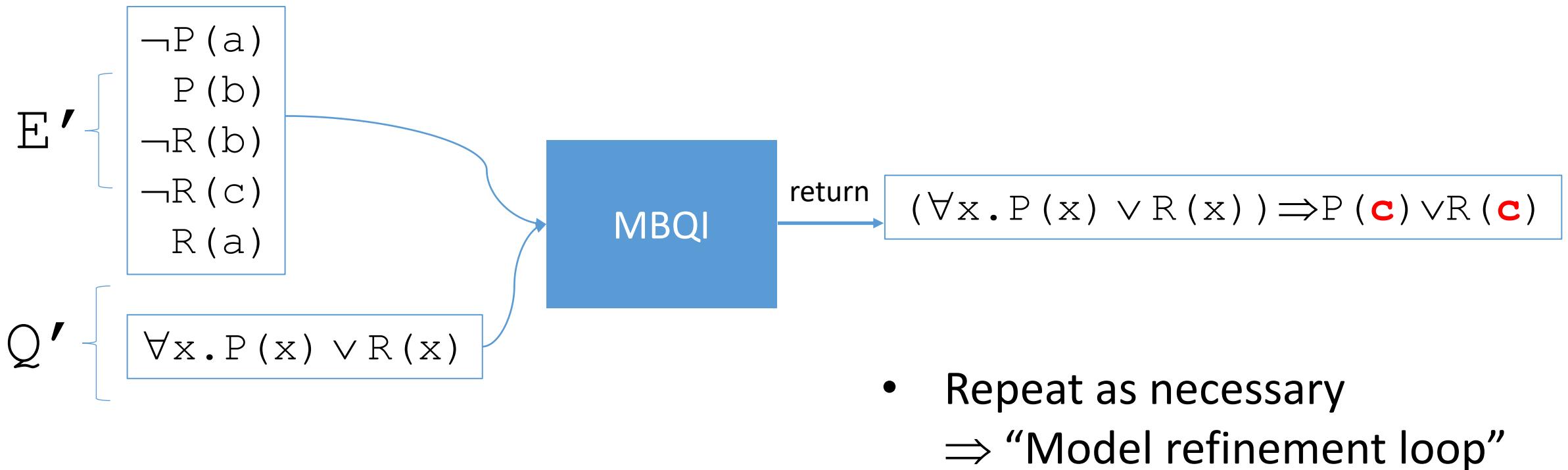
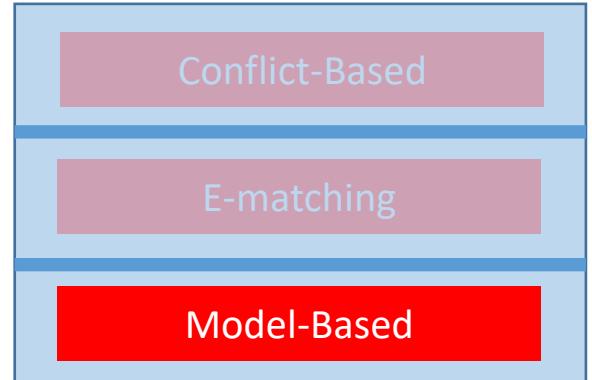
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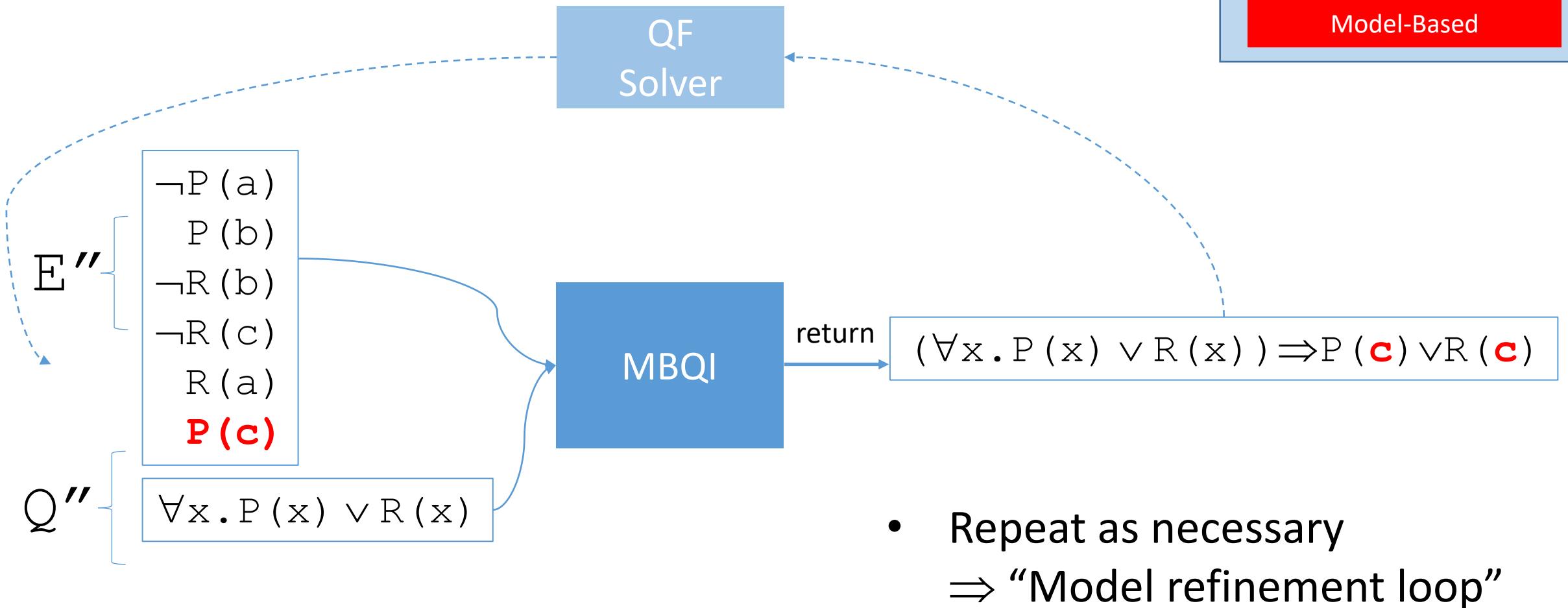
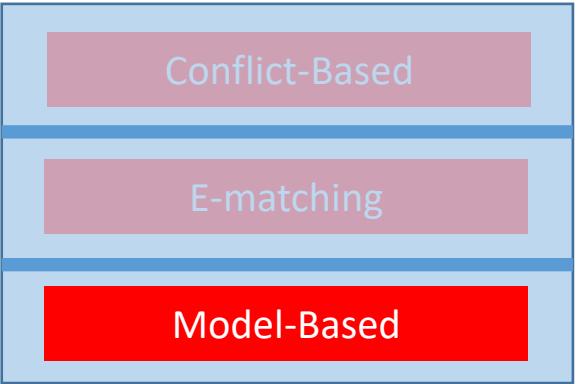
Model-based Instantiation



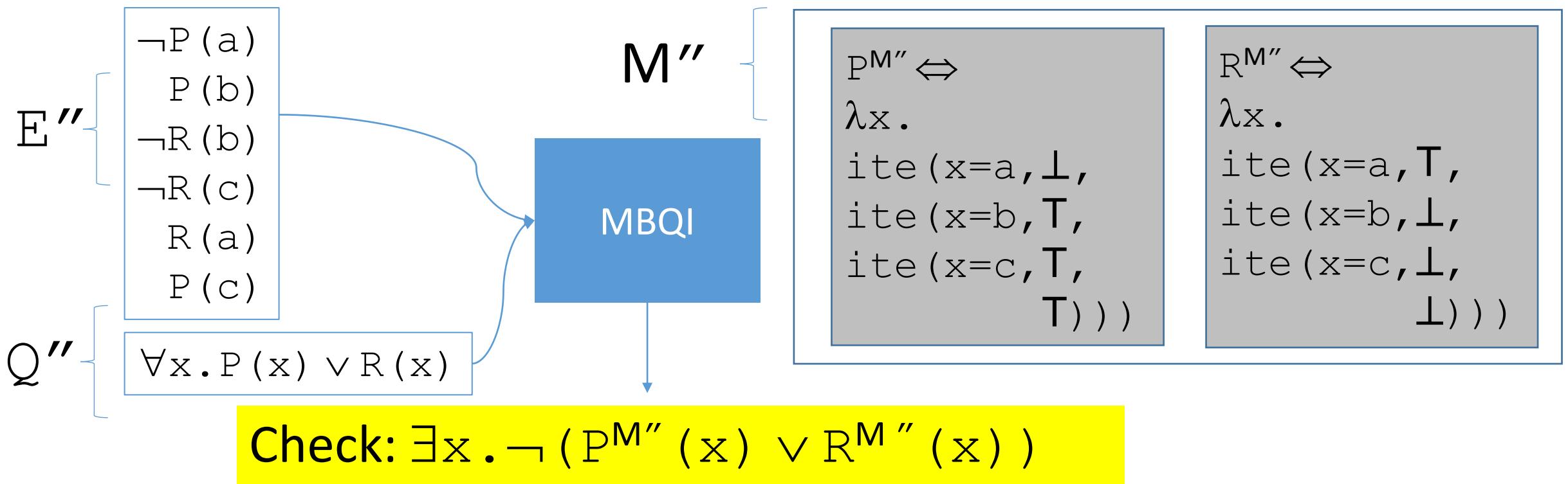
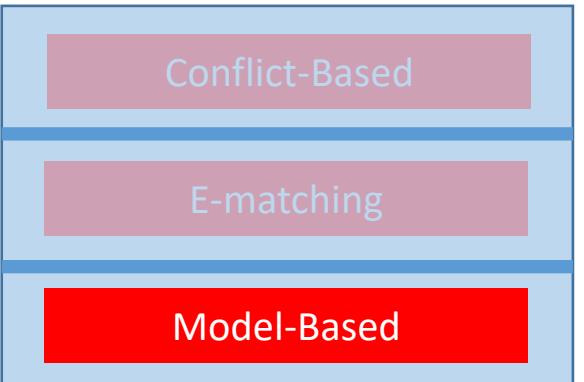
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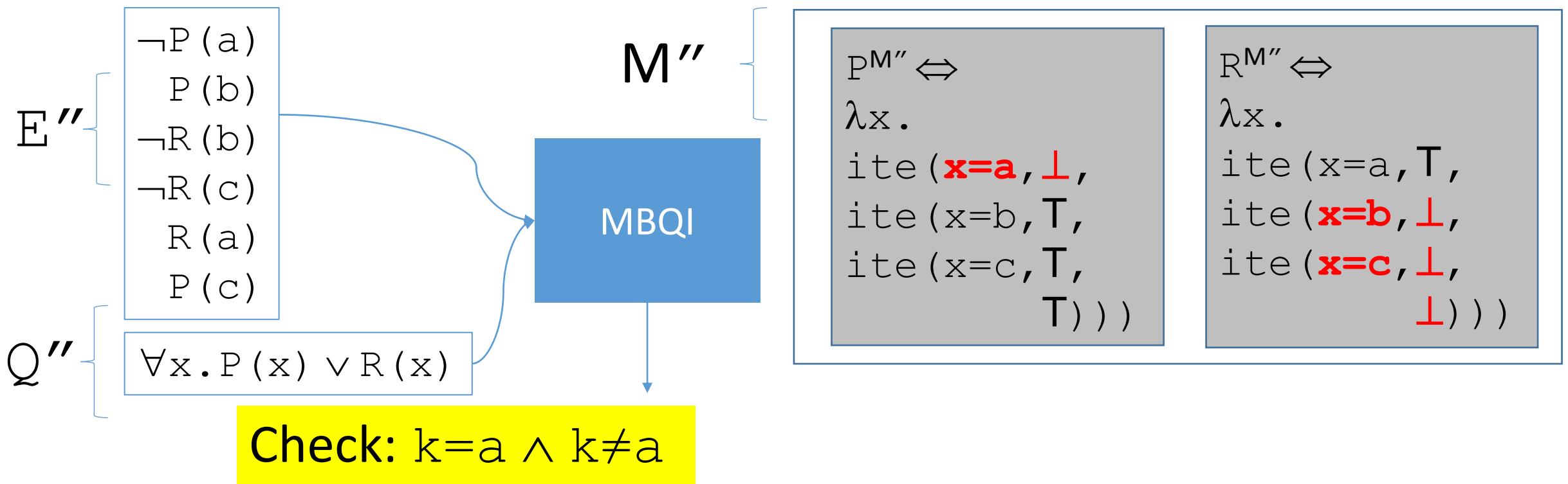
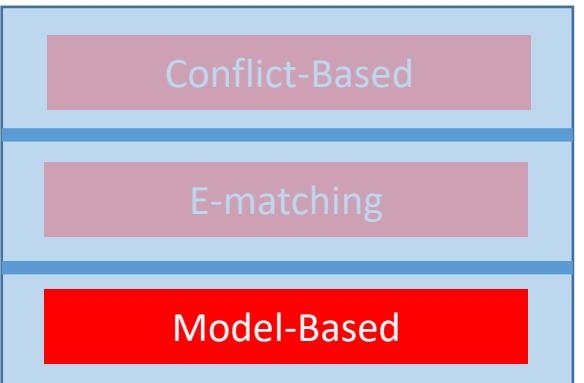
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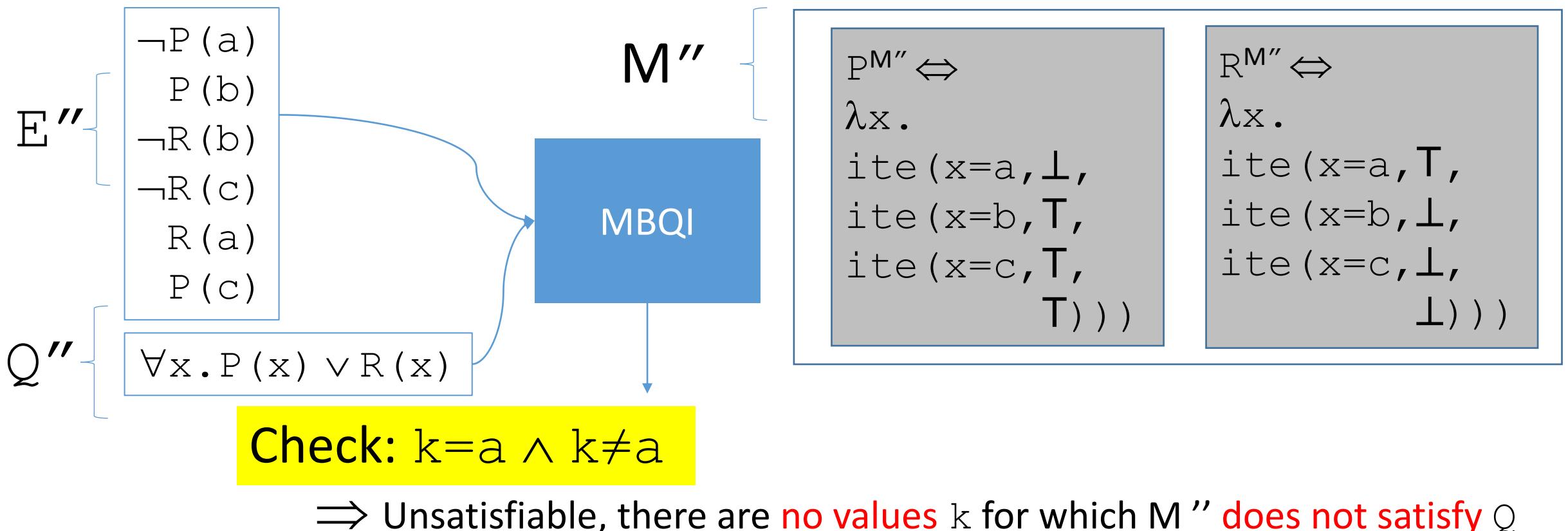
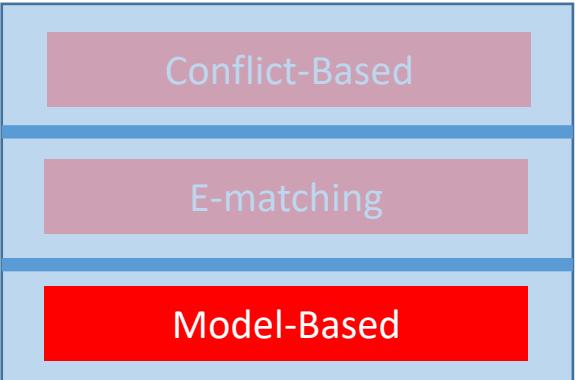
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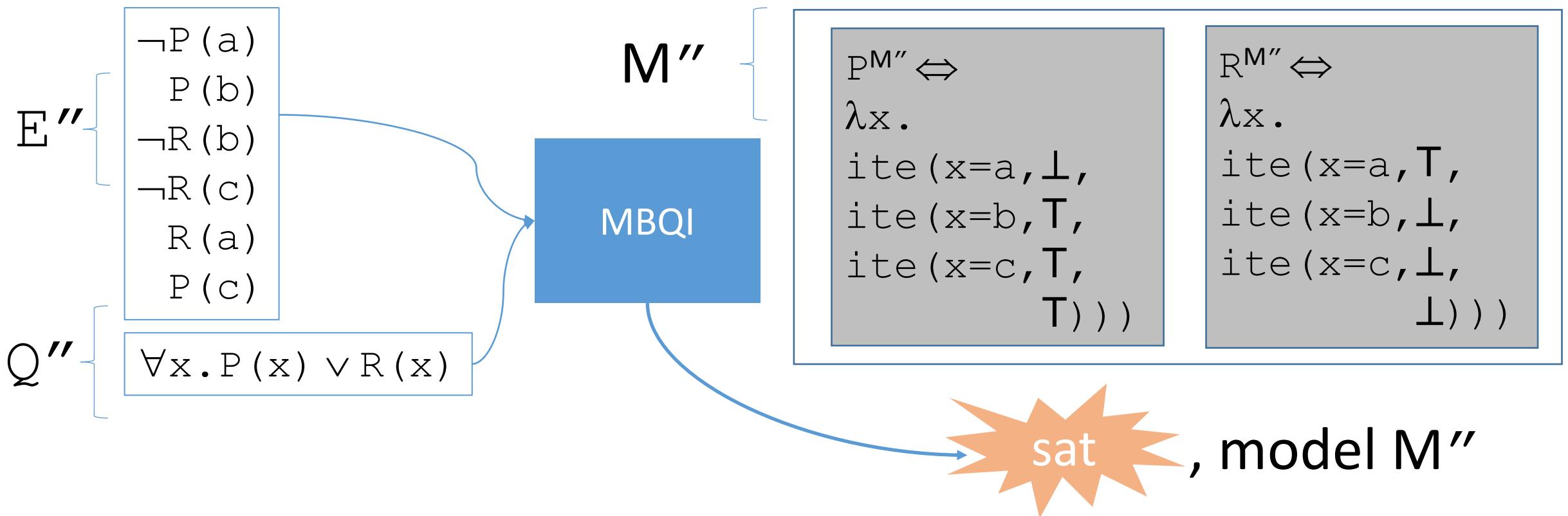
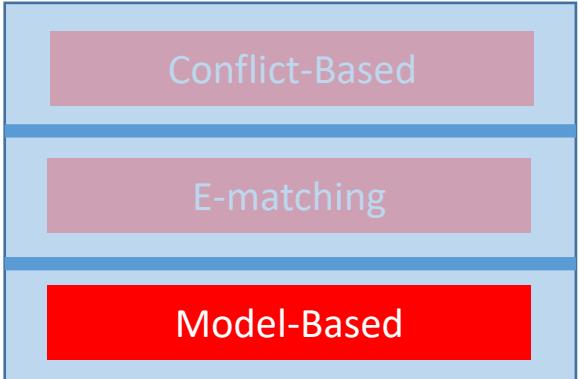
Model-based Instantiation



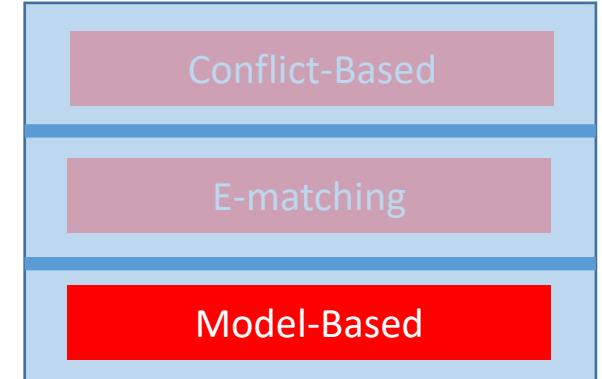
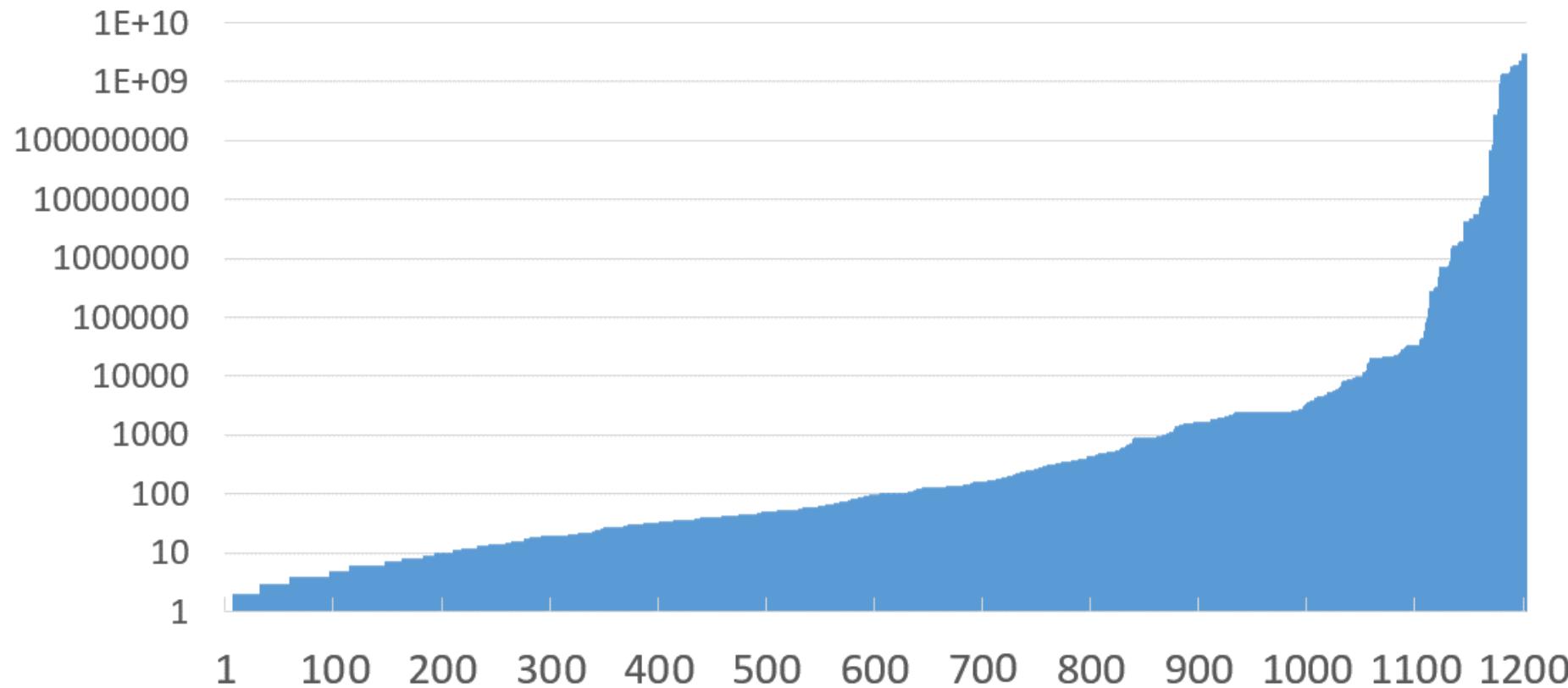
Model-based Instantiation



Model-based Instantiation

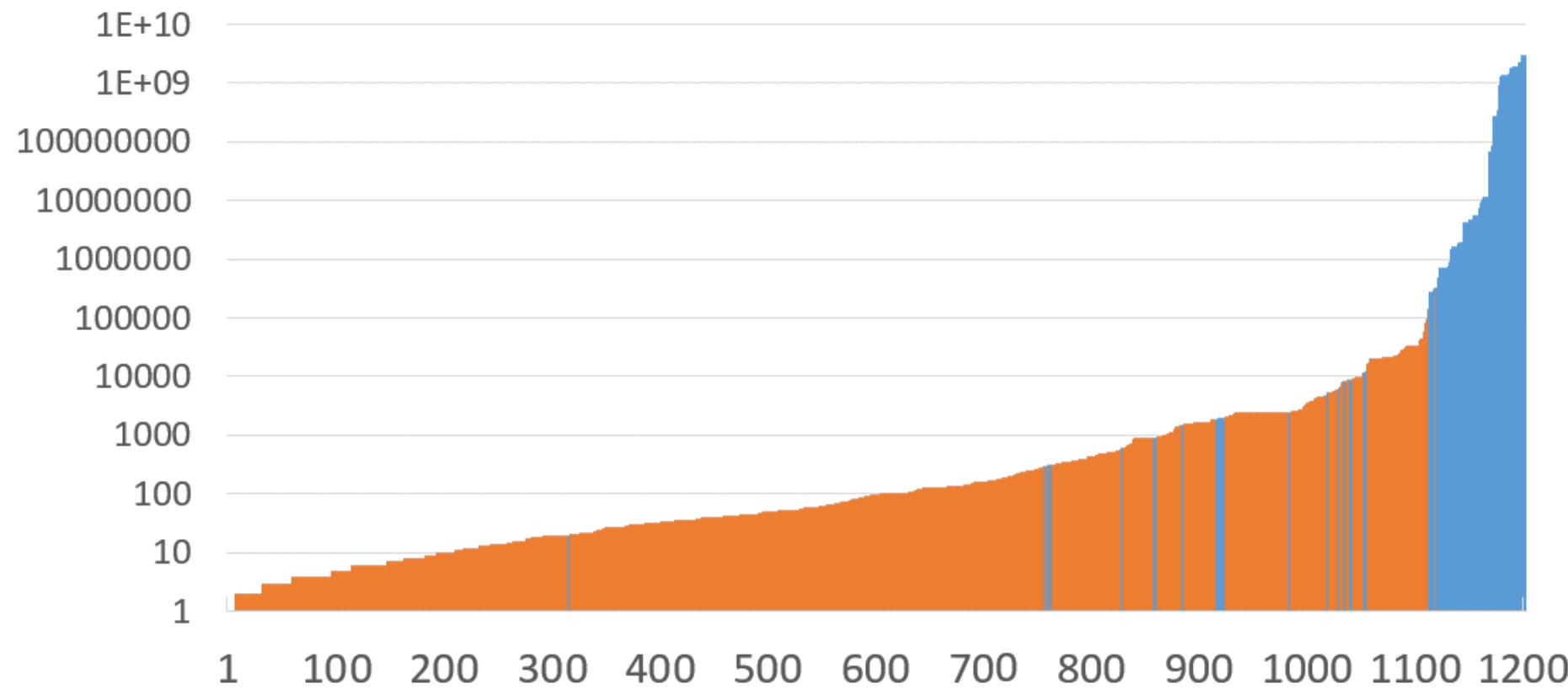


Model-based Instantiation: Impact



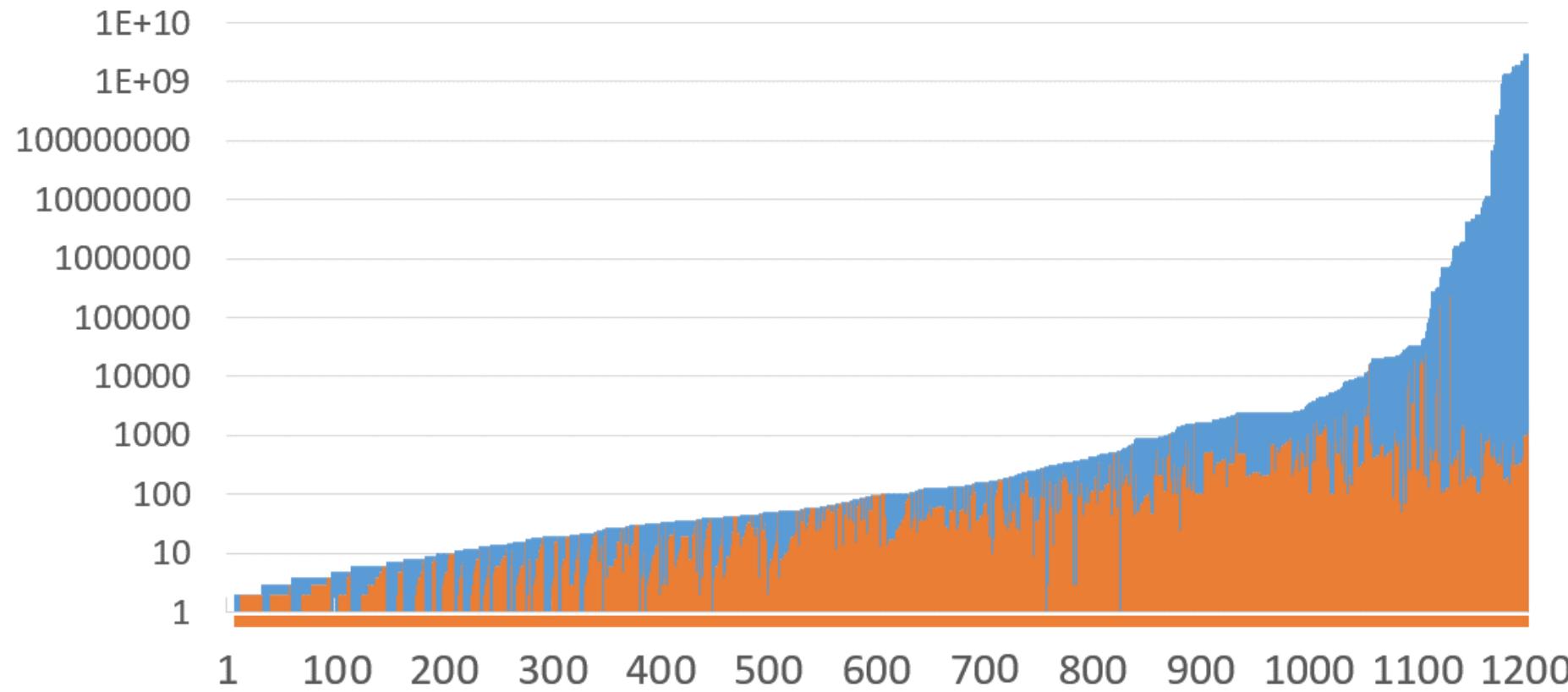
- 1203 satisfiable benchmarks from the TPTP library
 - Graph shows # instances required by exhaustive instantiation
 - E.g. $\forall xyz : U . P(x, y, z)$, if $|U| = 4$, requires $4^3 = 64$ instances

Model-based Instantiation: Impact



- CVC4 Finite Model Finding + Exhaustive instantiation
 - Scales only up to ~150k instances with a 30 sec timeout

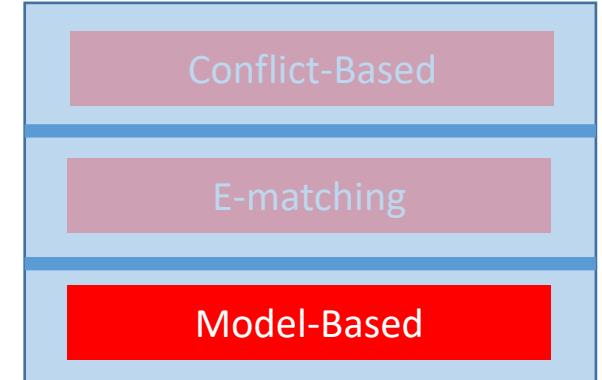
Model-based Instantiation: Impact



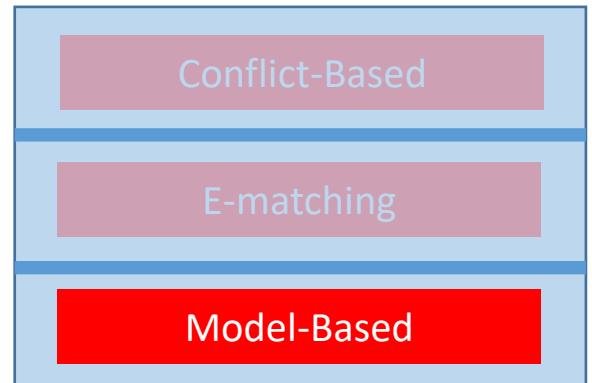
- CVC4 Finite Model Finding + Model-Based instantiation [\[Reynolds et al CADE13\]](#)
 - Scales to >2 billion instances with a 30 sec timeout, only adds fraction of possible instances

Model-based Instantiation: Challenges

- How do we build interpretations M ?
 - Typically, build interpretations f^M that are almost constant:
 - e.g. $f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=t_1, v_1, \text{ite}(x=t_2, v_2, \dots, \text{ite}(x=t_n, v_n, v_{\text{def}}) \dots))$



Model-based Instantiation: Challenges



- How do we build interpretations M ?
 - Typically, build interpretations f^M that are almost constant:
 - e.g. $f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=t_1, v_1, \text{ite}(x=t_2, v_2, \dots, \text{ite}(x=t_n, v_n, v_{\text{def}}) \dots))$

...but models may need to be more complex when *theories are present*:

$$\forall xy: \text{Int}. (f(x, y) \geq x \wedge f(x, y) \geq y)$$



$$f^M := \lambda xy. \text{ite}(x \geq y, x, y)$$

$$\forall x: \text{Int}. 3*g(x) + 5*h(x) = x$$



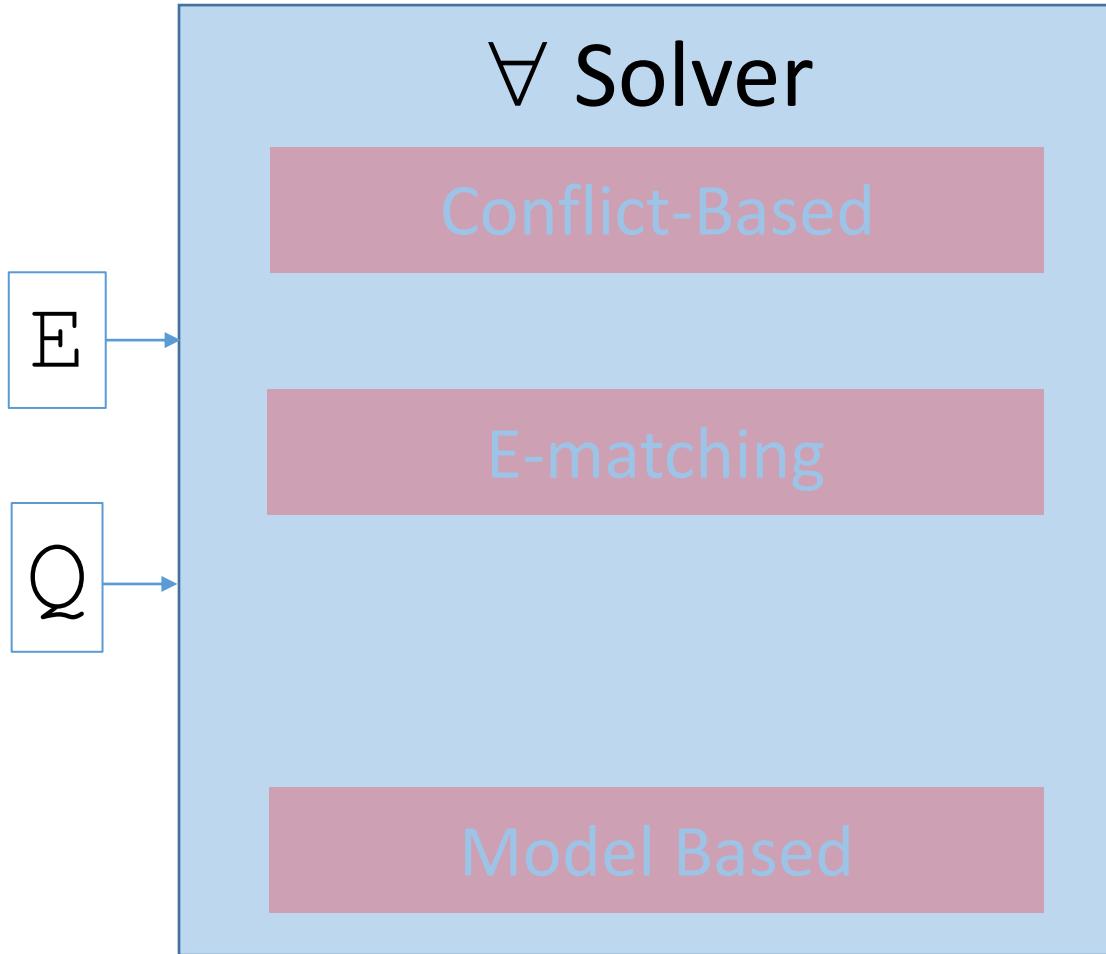
$$g^M := \lambda x. -3*x$$
$$h^M := \lambda x. 2*x$$

$$\forall xy: \text{Int}. u(x+y) + 11*v(w(x)) = x+y$$



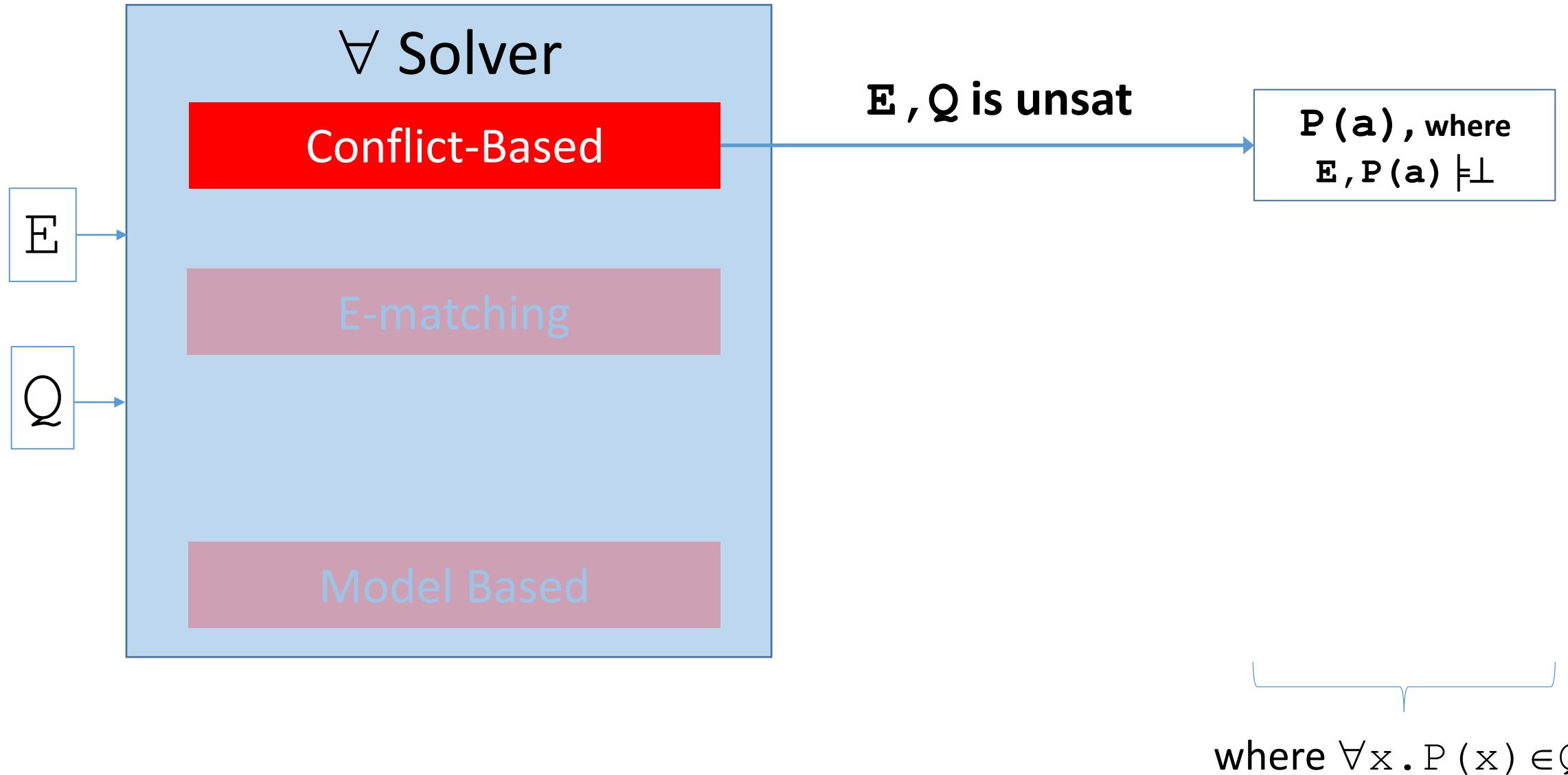
???

Putting it Together

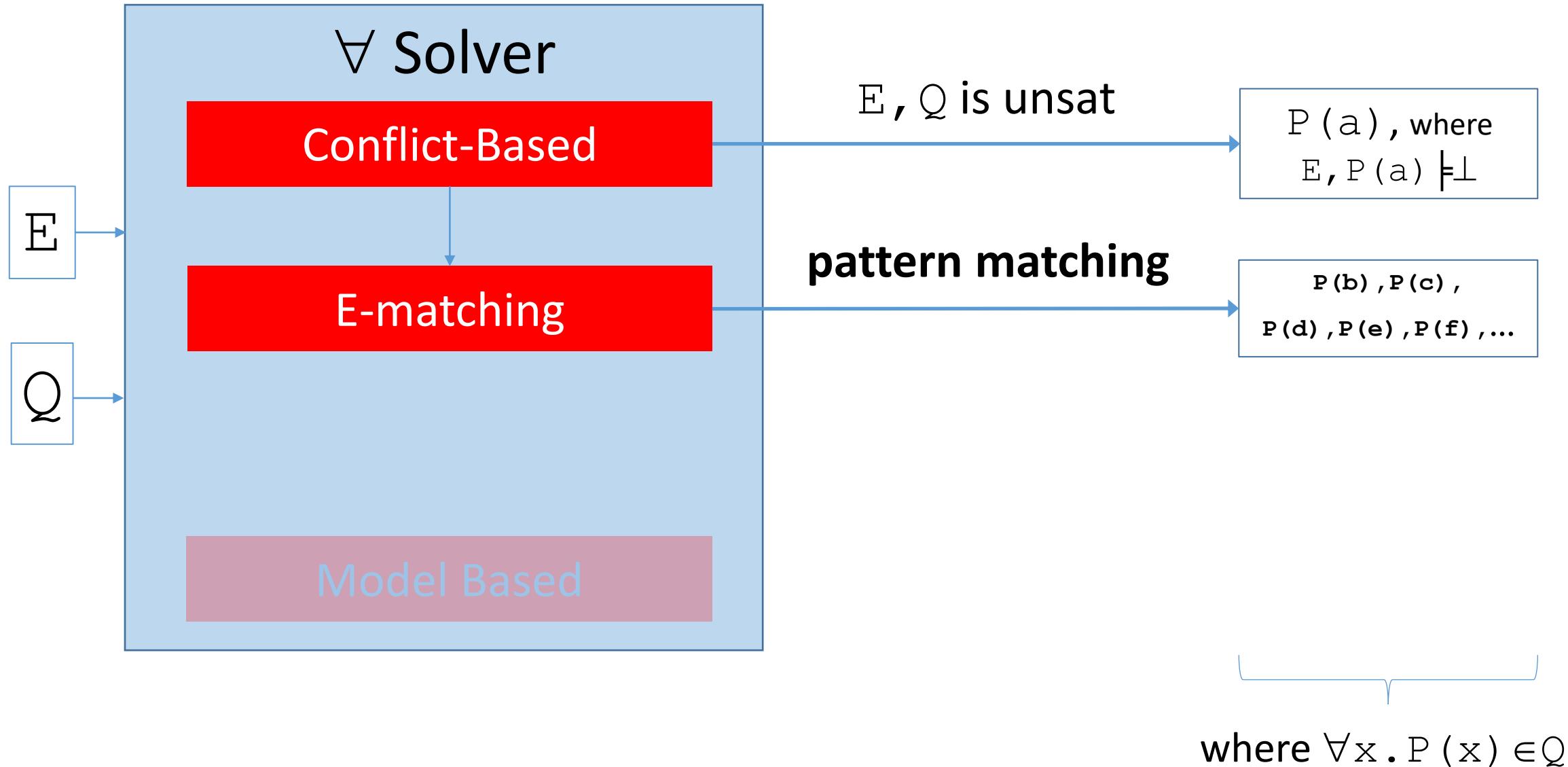


- **Input:**
 - Ground literals E
 - Quantified formulas Q

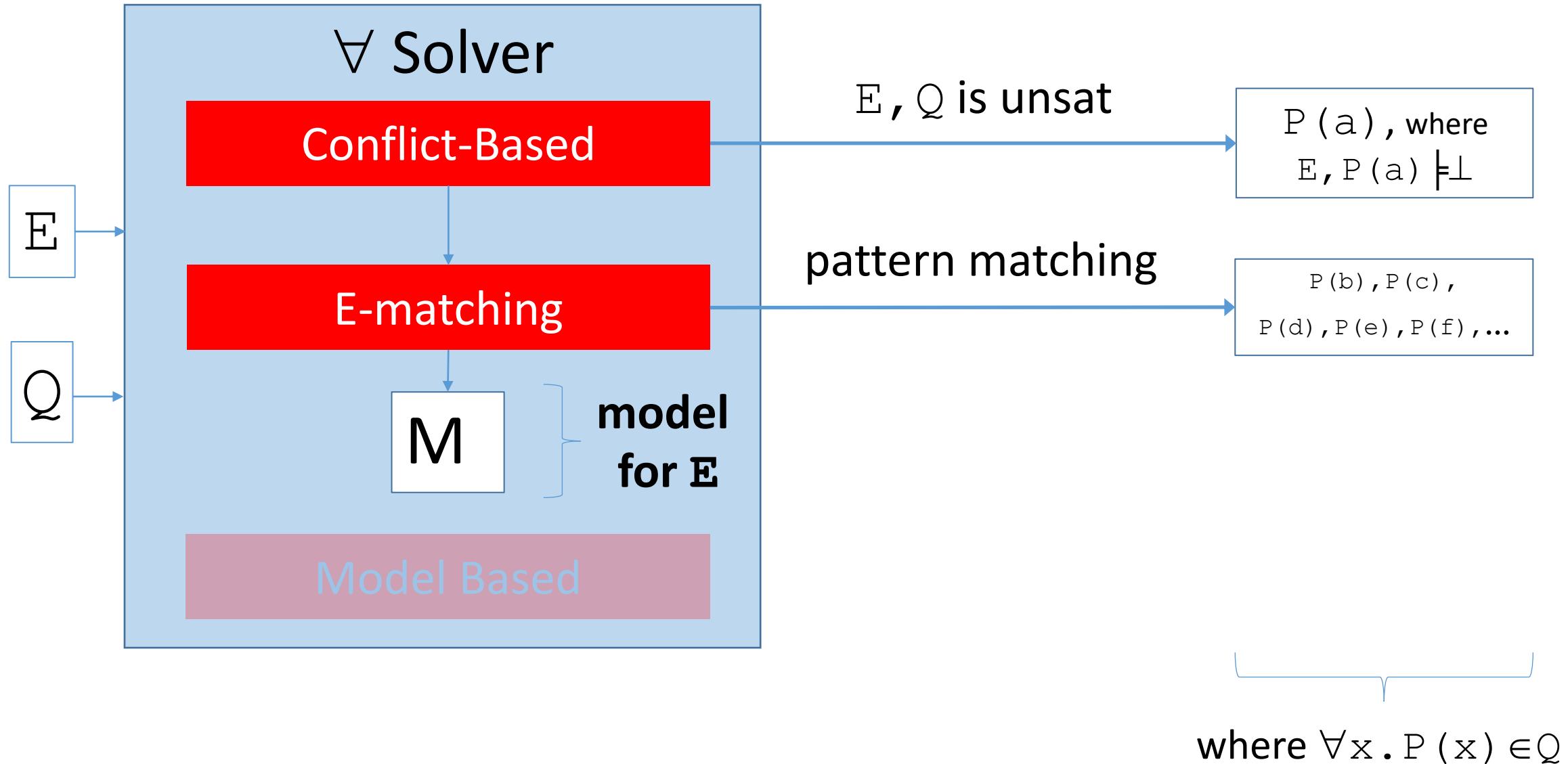
Putting it Together



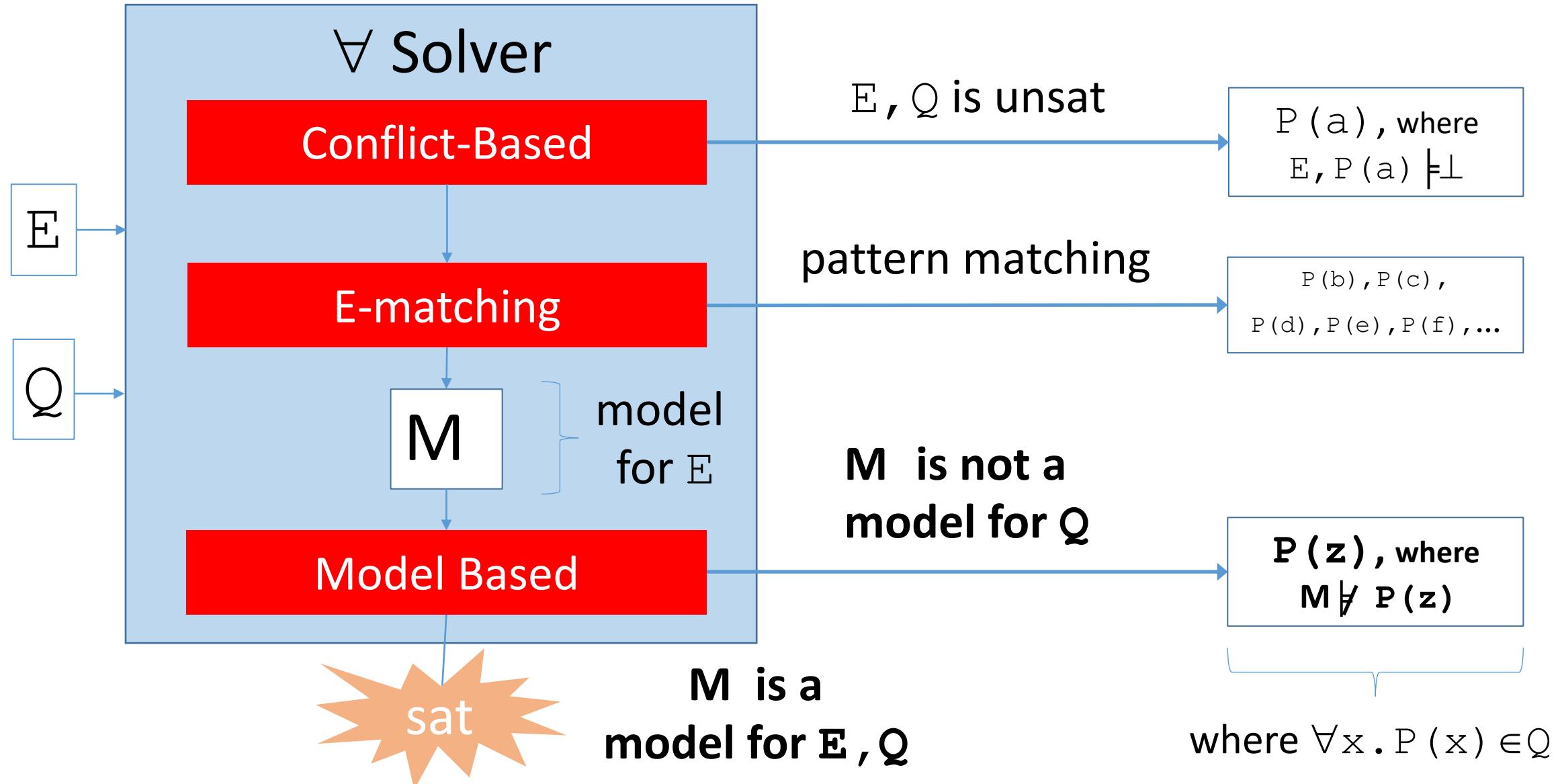
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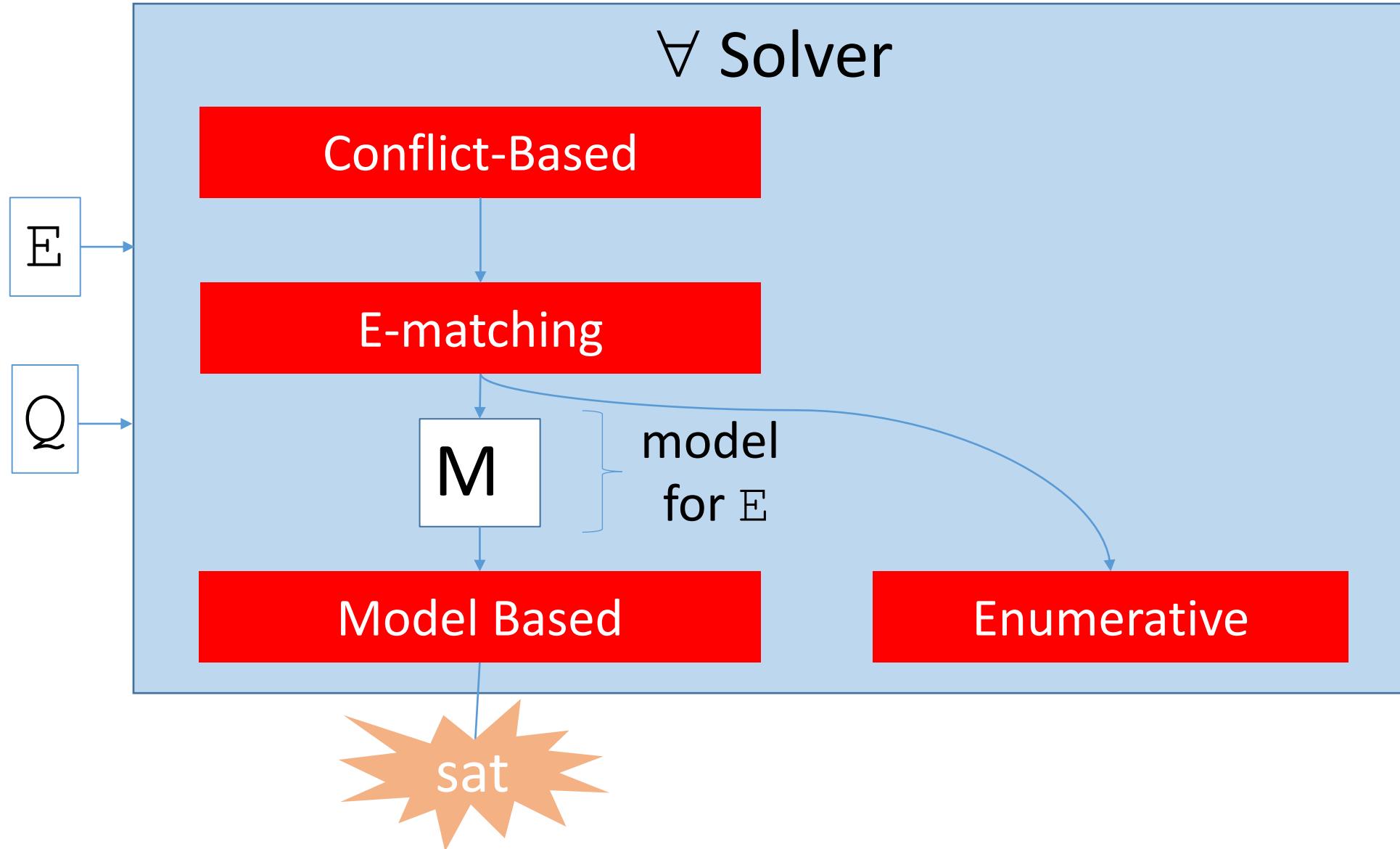
Putting it Together



Putting it Together



Putting it Together



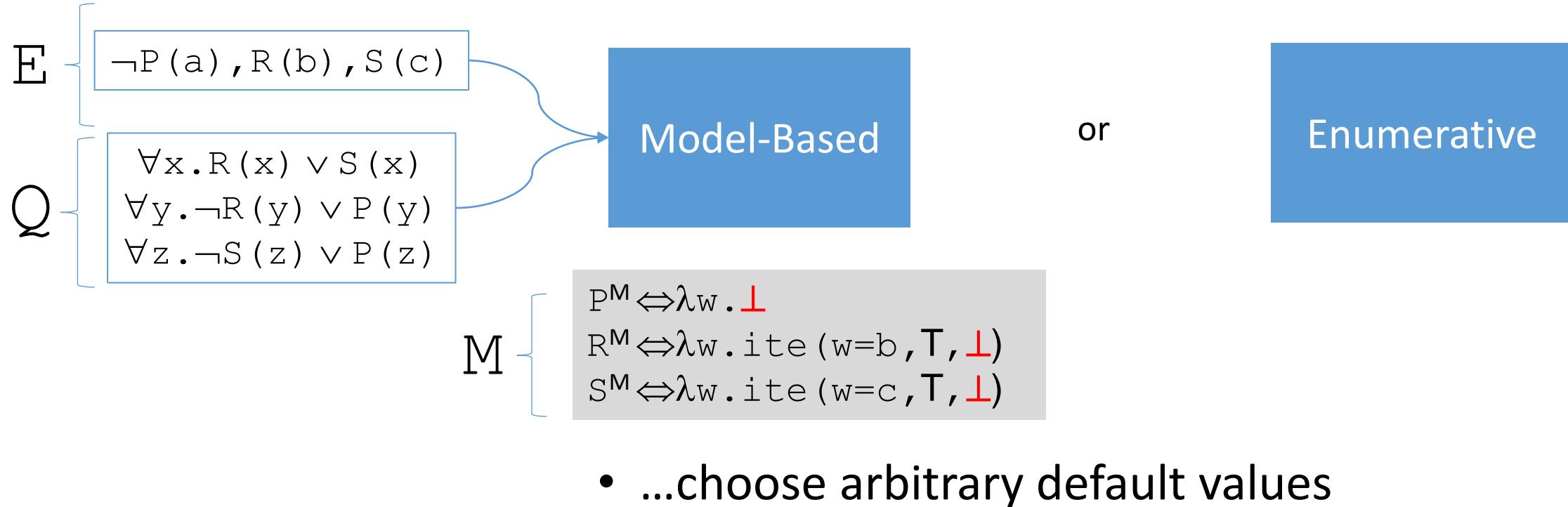
Enumerative Instantiation

- Alternative to model-based quantifier instantiation
- **Idea:** when E-matching saturates, generate further instances based on an arbitrary term ordering:
 - $(x, y) \rightarrow (a, a) < (a, b) < (b, a) < (b, b) < (a, c) < (b, c) < \dots$
- Has advantages wrt model-based instantiation:
 - Better performance for unsat
 - Introduce fewer terms \Leftrightarrow more likely to generate conflicts
 - Simpler to implement

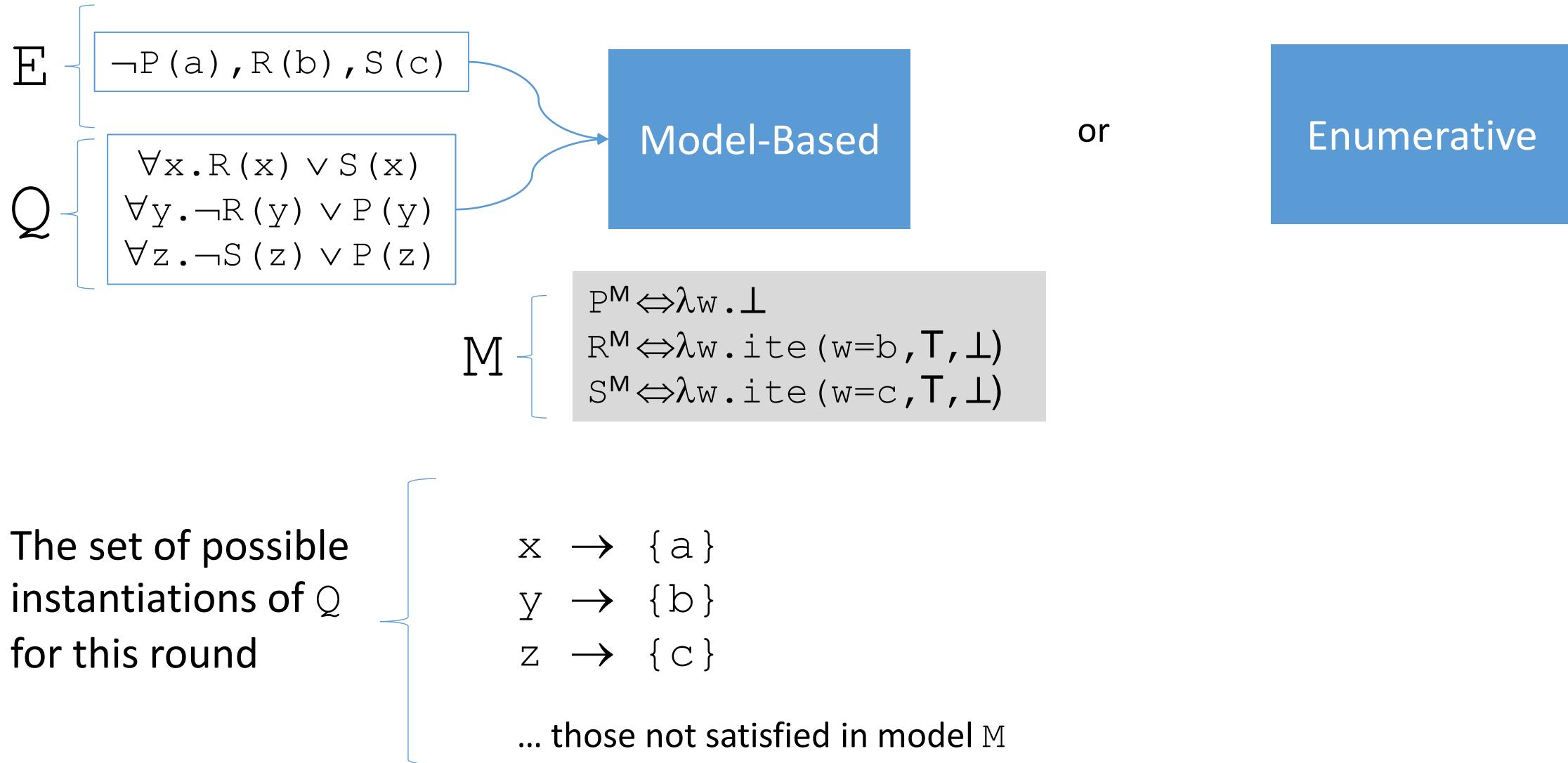
Enumerative vs Model-Based



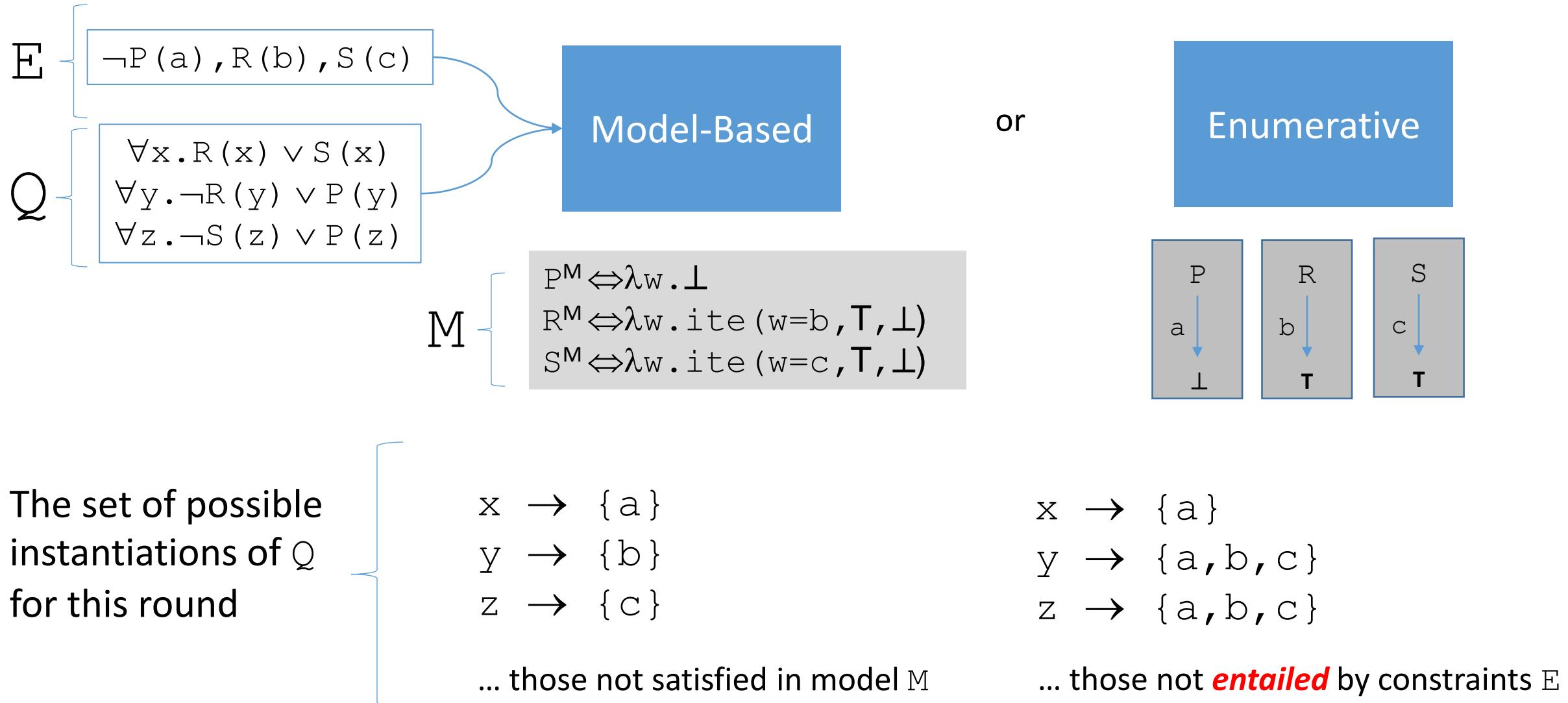
Enumerative vs Model-Based



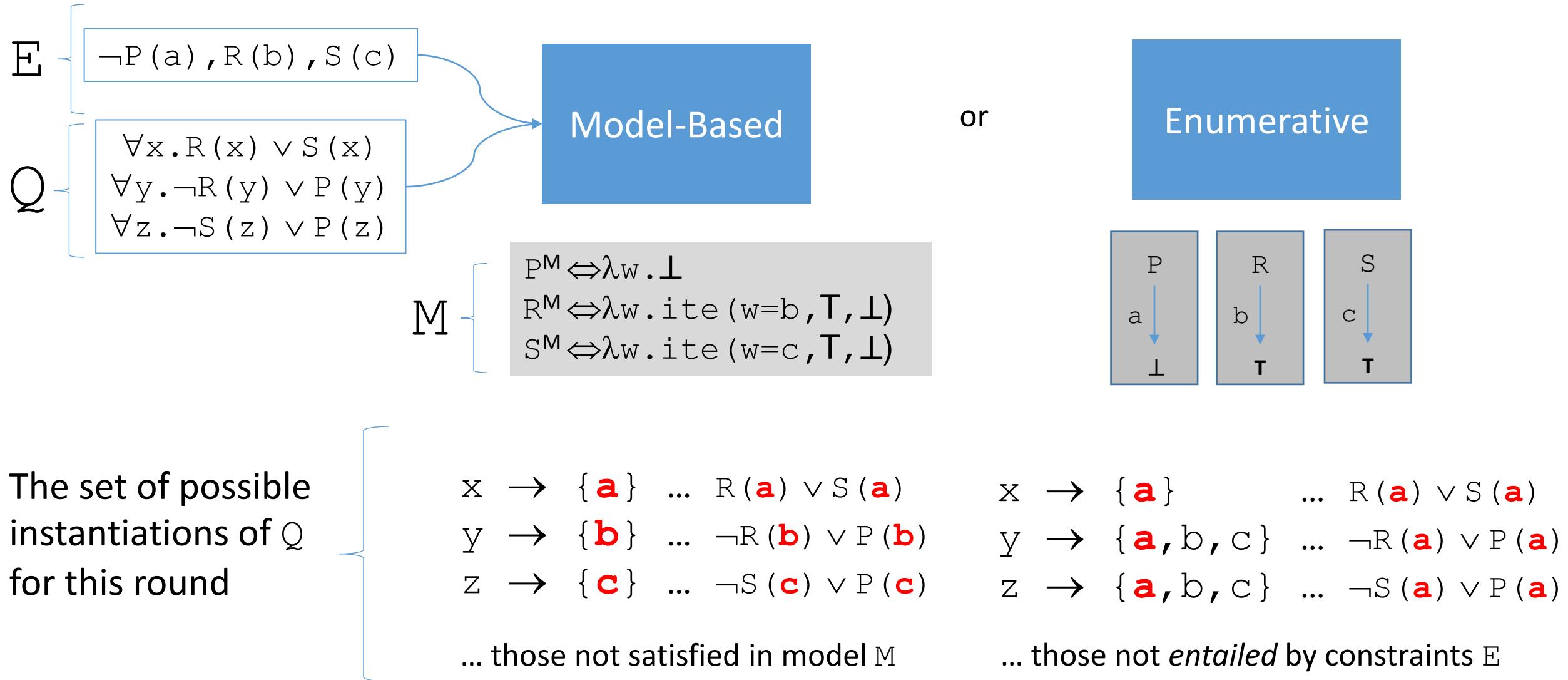
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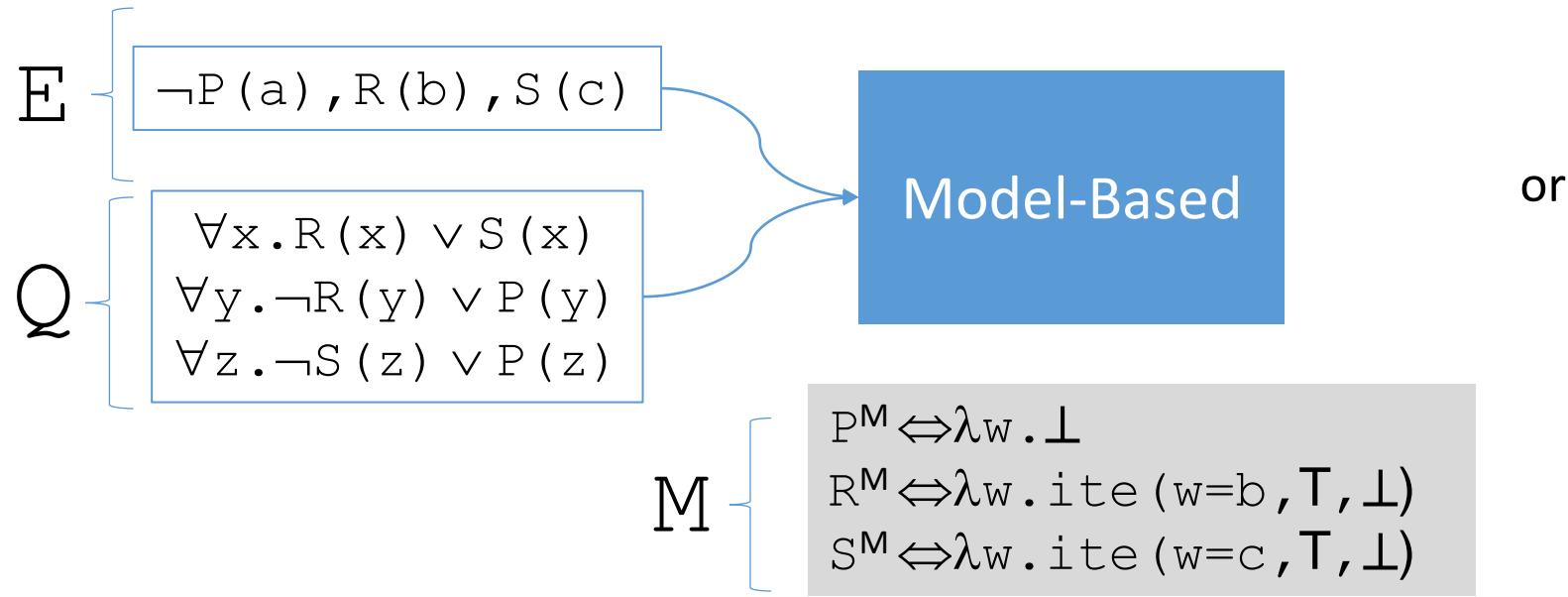
Enumerative vs Model-Based



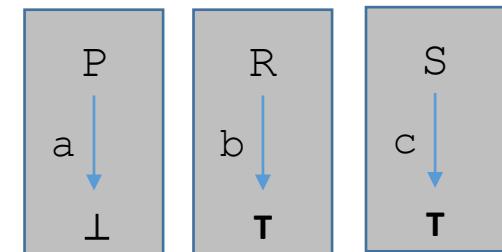
Enumerative vs Model-Based



Enumerative vs Model-Based



Enumerative



$$\begin{array}{ll} x \rightarrow \{a\} & \dots R(a) \vee S(a) \\ y \rightarrow \{b\} & \dots \neg R(b) \vee P(b) \\ z \rightarrow \{c\} & \dots \neg S(c) \vee P(c) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} x \rightarrow \{a\} & \dots R(a) \vee S(a) \\ y \rightarrow \{a, b\} & \dots \neg(a) \vee P(a) \\ z \rightarrow \{a, b, c\} & \dots \neg S(a) \vee P(a) \end{array}$$

unsat

Enumerative vs Model-Based

- m(E, $\forall \bar{x}. \varphi$):**
1. Construct a model \mathcal{M} for E.
 2. Return $\{\{\bar{x} \mapsto \bar{t}\}\}$ where $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}(E)$ and $\mathcal{M} \not\models \varphi\{\bar{x} \mapsto \bar{t}\}$, or \emptyset if none exists.
- u(E, $\forall \bar{x}. \varphi$):**
1. Choose an ordering \preceq on tuples of quantifier-free terms.
 2. Return $\{\{\bar{x} \mapsto \bar{t}\}\}$ where \bar{t} is a minimal tuple of terms w.r.t \preceq such that $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}(E)$ and $E \not\models \varphi\{\bar{x} \mapsto \bar{t}\}$, or \emptyset if none exist.

[Reynolds et al, “Revisiting Enumerative Instantiation”, TACAS 2018]

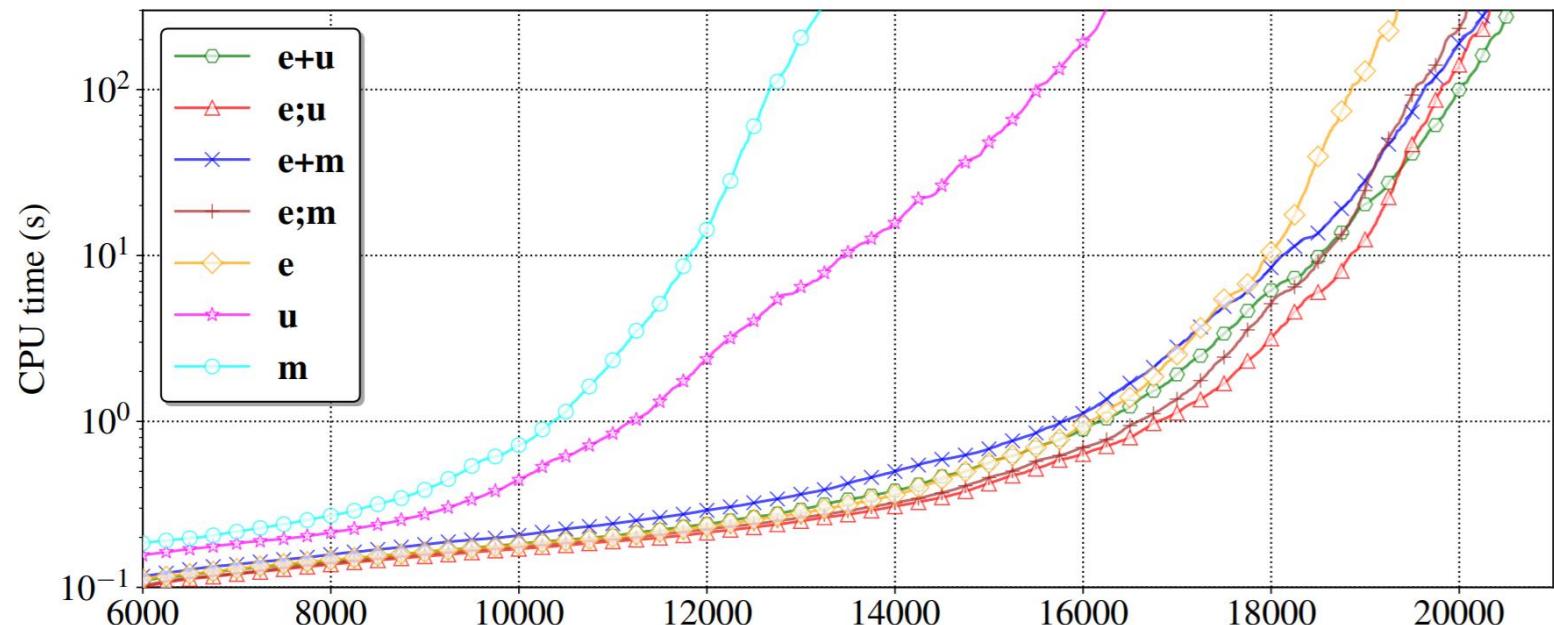
- Enumerative is better for unsat:
 - Model guesses may obscure useful instantiations
 - Term ordering simulates “breadth-first” search
- Model-based is better for sat:
 - Although enumerative instantiation may answer sat for some logics

Results

[Reynolds et al, TACAS 2018]

- e = E-matching
- m = model-based
- u = enumerative
- $e;u$ vs $e+u$
 - Priority vs interleaved
- Unsat benchmarks
 - SMT-LIB, TPTP

(Note: Conflict-based used as first priority in each configuration)



Library	#	u	e;u	e+u	e	m	e;m	e+m	uport	mport	port
TPTP	14731	4426	6125	6273	5396	4369	6066	6151	6674	6566	6859
UF	7293	2607	2906	2961	2862	2418	2898	2972	3119	3045	3159
UFDT	4384	1783	1977	1998	1958	1642	1954	1993	2091	2070	2113
UFLIA	7745	3622	5022	5037	4867	2638	4966	4989	5253	5132	5279
UFNIA	3213	1788	1947	1978	1937	1169	1860	1865	2107	2064	2138
Others	4699	2019	2348	2288	2320	966	2338	2312	2400	2363	2404
Total	42065	16245	20325	20535	19340	13202	20082	20282	21644	21240	21952

Quantifier Instantiation

- **Common thread:** satisfiability of $\forall + \text{UF} + \text{theories}$ is hard!
 - E-matching:
 - Pattern selection, matching modulo theories
 - Conflict-based:
 - Matching is incomplete, entailment tests are expensive
 - Model-based:
 - Models are complex, interpreted domains (e.g. Int) may be infinite

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⇒ But reasoning about $\forall + \text{theories}$ without UF isn't as bad:

- Classic \forall -elimination algorithms are decision procedures for \forall in:
 - LRA [[Ferrante+Rackoff 79](#), [Loos+Wiespfenning 93](#)], LIA [[Cooper 72](#)], datatypes, ...

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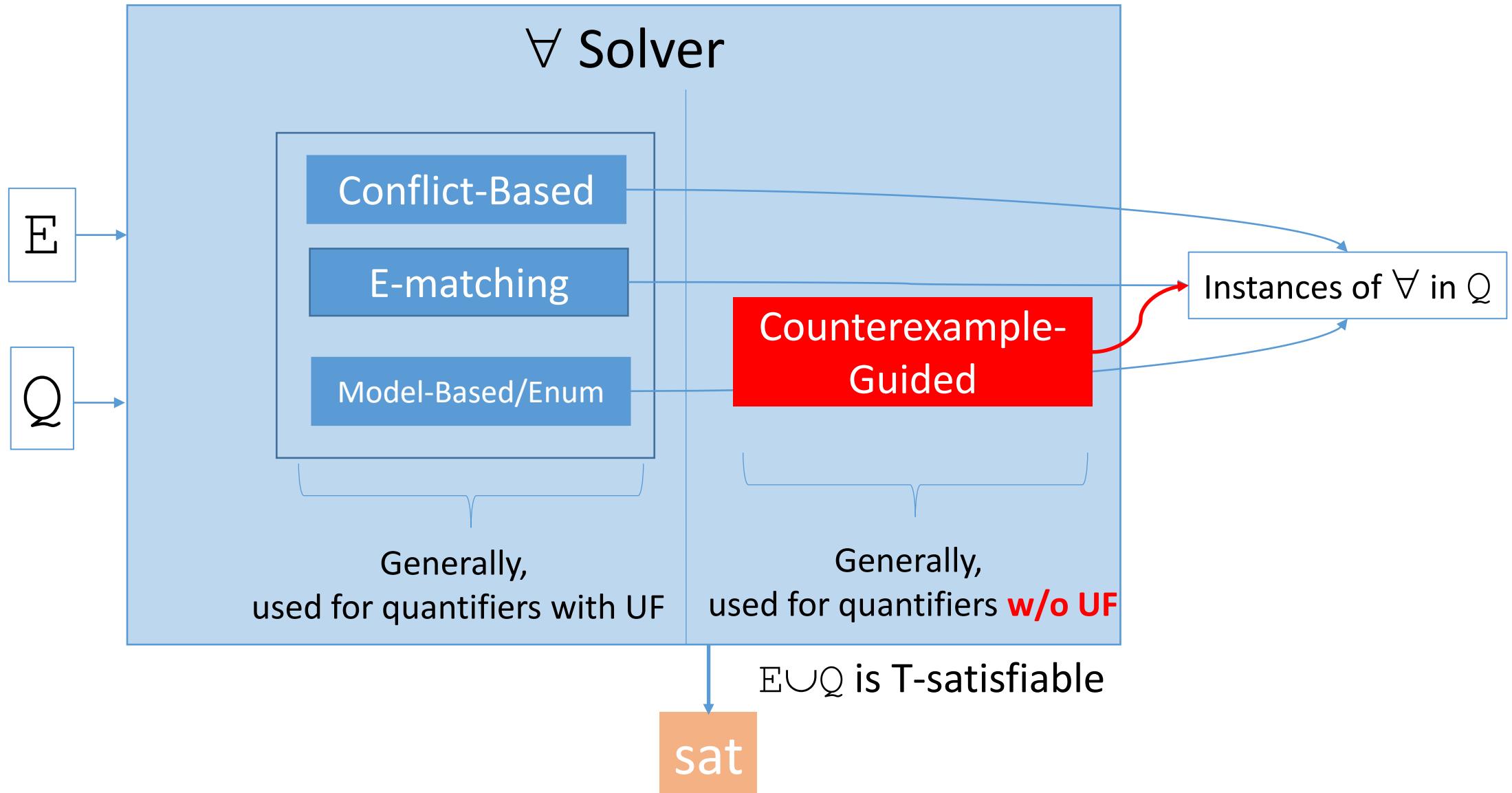
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⇒ But reasoning about $\forall + \text{theories}$ without UF isn't as bad:

- Classic \forall -elimination algorithms are decision procedures for \forall in:
 - LRA [[Ferrante+Rackoff 79](#), [Loos+Wiespfennig 93](#)], LIA [[Cooper 72](#)], datatypes, ...
- Can classic \forall -elimination algorithms be leveraged in an DPLL(T) context?
 - Yes: [[Monniaux 2010](#), [Bjorner 2012](#), [Reynolds et al 2015](#), [Bjorner/Janota 2016](#)]

Techniques for Quantifier Instantiation



Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



- Variants implemented in number of tools:
 - Z3 [[Bjorner 2012, Bjorner/Janota 2016](#)]
 - Tools using Z3 as backend: **SPACER** [[Komuravelli et al 2014](#)] **UFO** [[Fedyukovich et al 2016](#)]
 - **Yices** [[Dutertre 2015](#)]
 - **CVC4** [[Reynolds et al 2015](#)]
 - **Boolector** [[Preiner et al 2017](#)]

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



- High-level idea:
 - Quantifier elimination (e.g. for LIA) says:

$$\exists x . \psi[x] \Leftrightarrow \psi[t_1] \vee \dots \vee \psi[t_n] \text{ for finite } n$$

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



- High-level idea:
 - Quantifier elimination (e.g. for LIA) says:

$$\forall x. \neg\psi[x] \Leftrightarrow \neg\psi[t_1] \wedge \dots \wedge \neg\psi[t_n] \text{ for finite } n$$

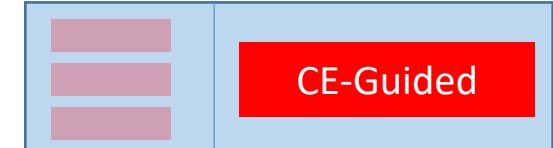
(consider the dual)

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



- High-level idea:
 - Quantifier elimination (e.g. for LIA) says:
$$\forall x. \neg\psi[x] \Leftrightarrow \neg\psi[t_1] \wedge \dots \wedge \neg\psi[t_n]$$
for finite n
 - Enumerate these instances via a counterexample-guided loop, that is:
 - **Terminating**: enumerate at most n instances
 - **Efficient in practice**: typically terminates after $\ll n$ instances

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

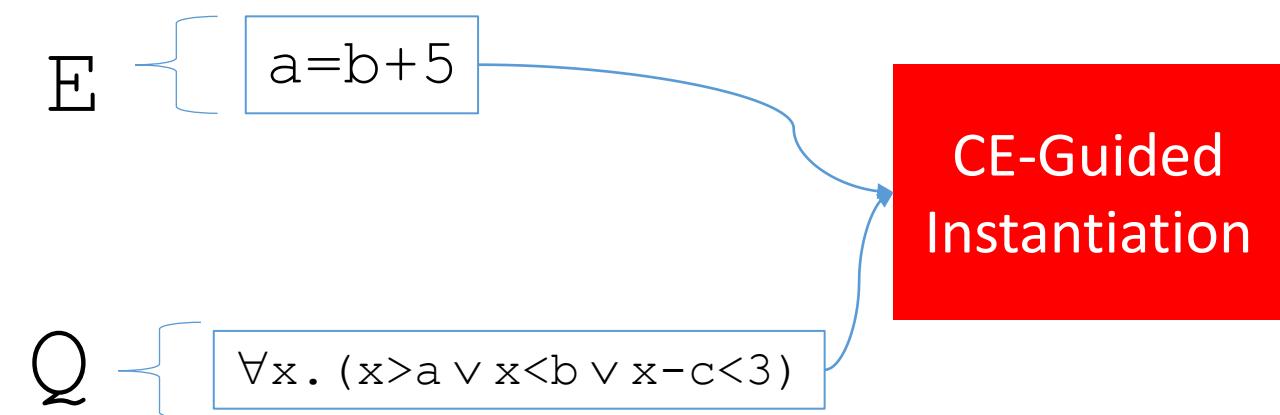


E { a=b+5 }

Q { $\forall x. (x > a \vee x < b \vee x - c < 3)$ }

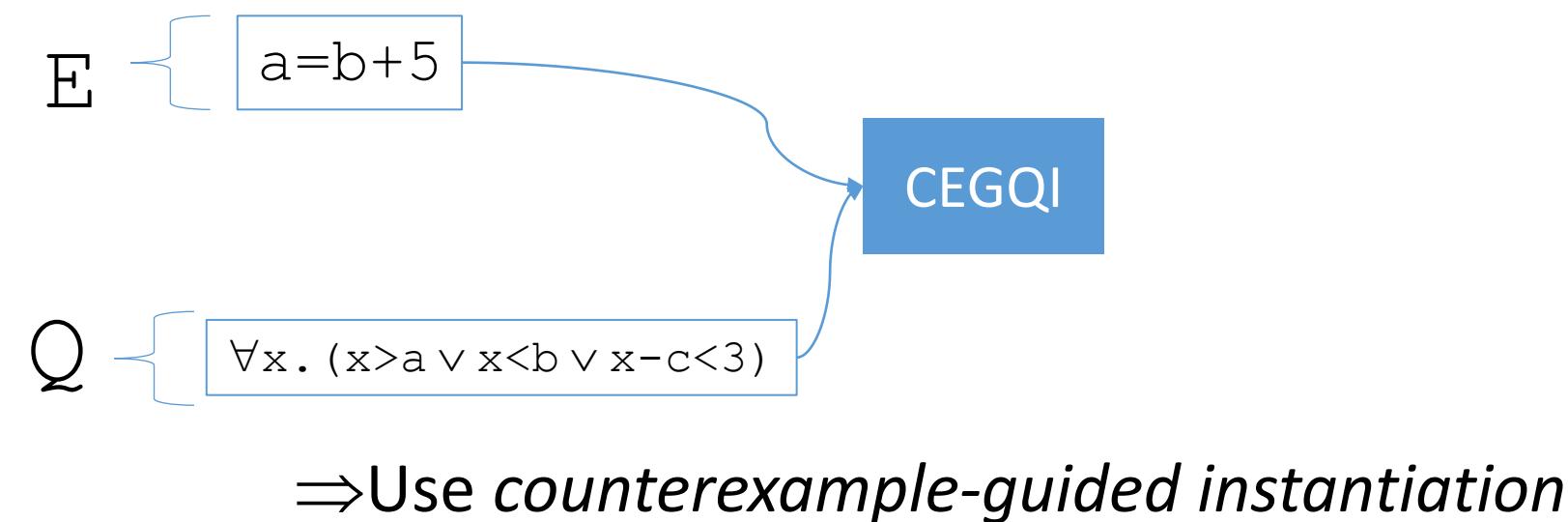
E, Q contain no uninterpreted functions, only linear arithmetic symbols

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

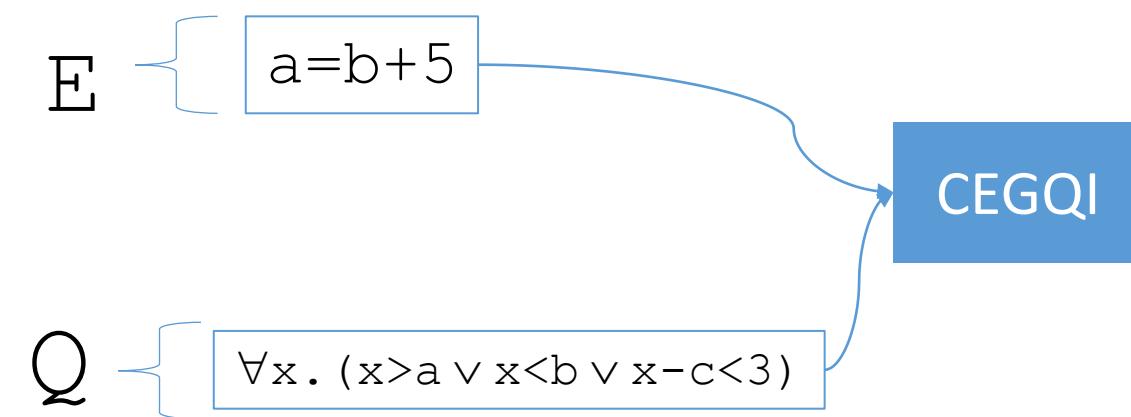


\Rightarrow Use *counterexample-guided instantiation*

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



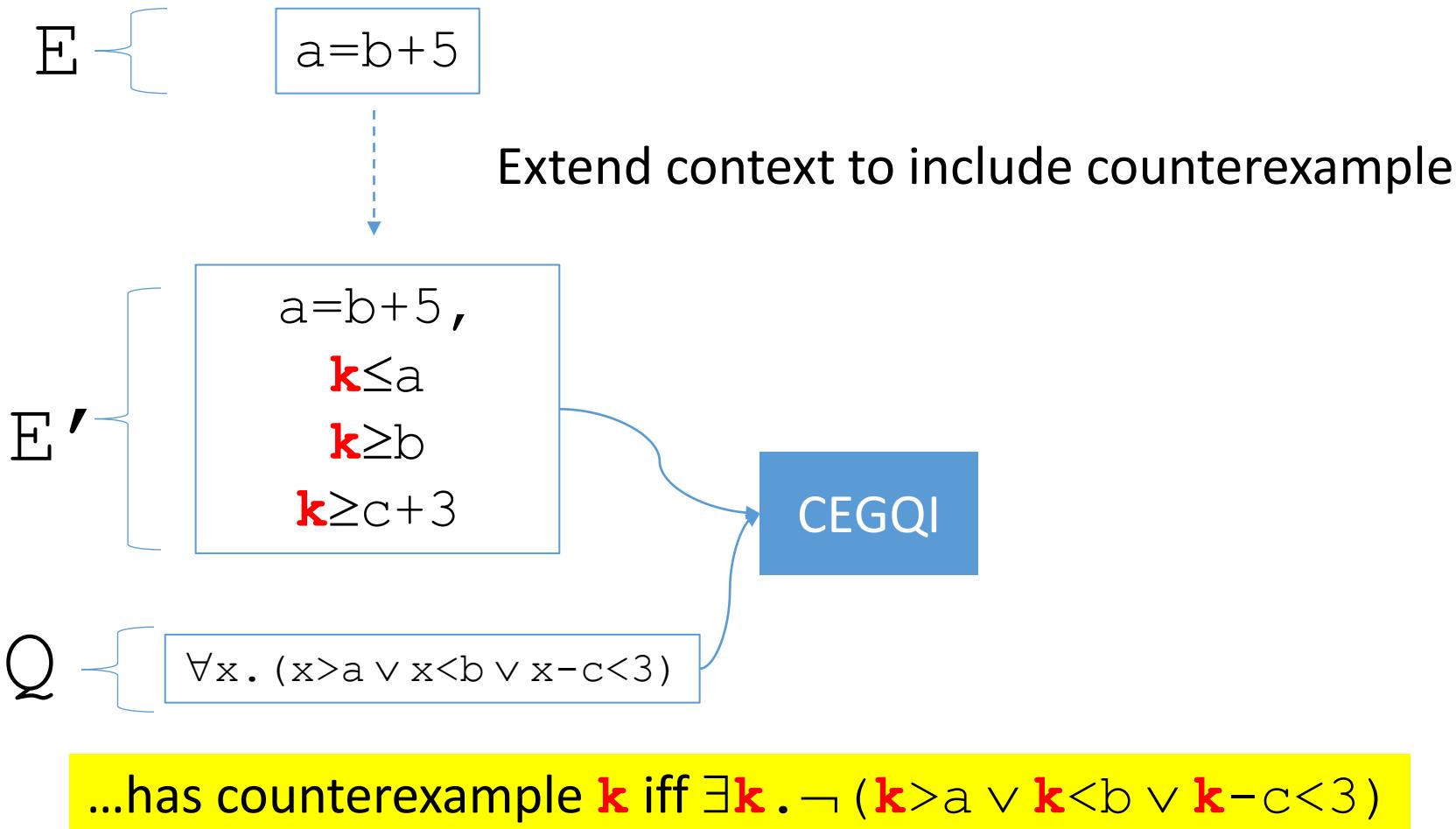
Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



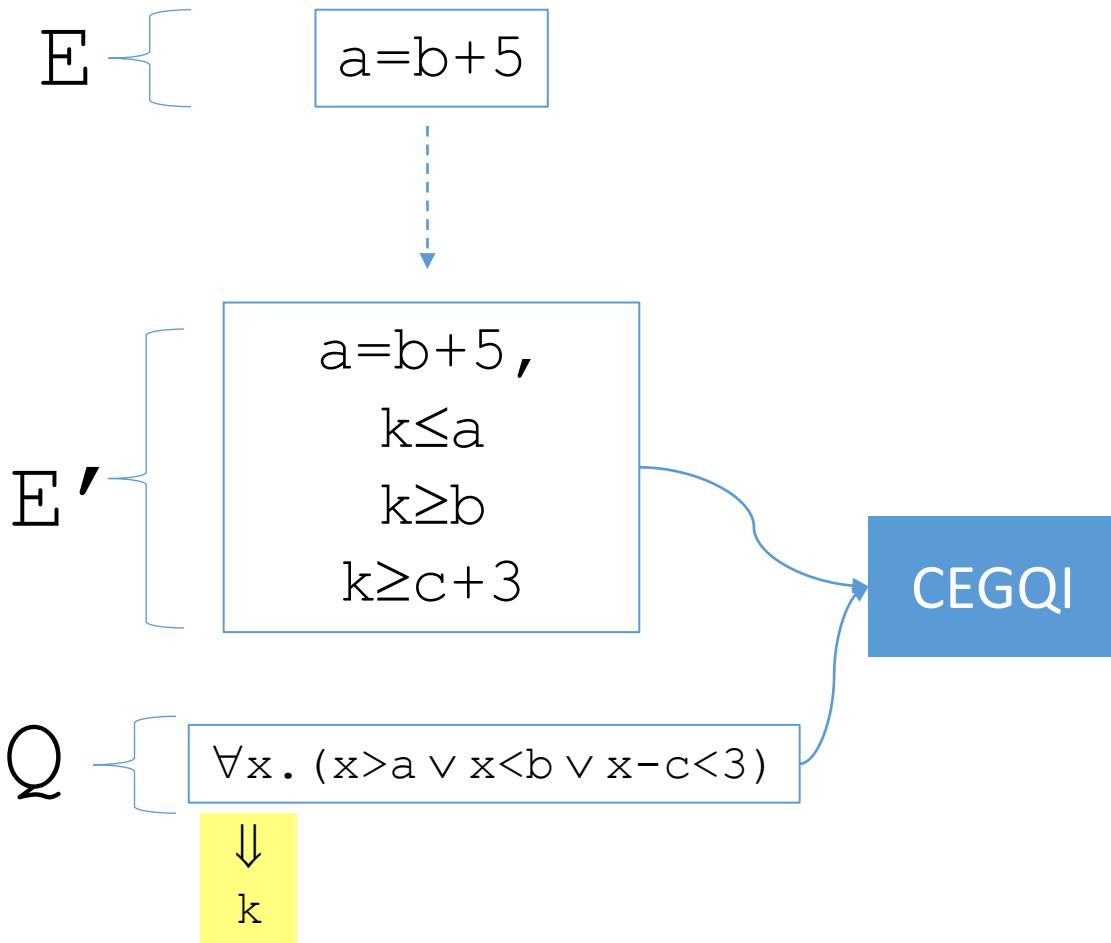
⇒ With respect to *model-based instantiation*:

- Similar: based on finding models for Q 's negation

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

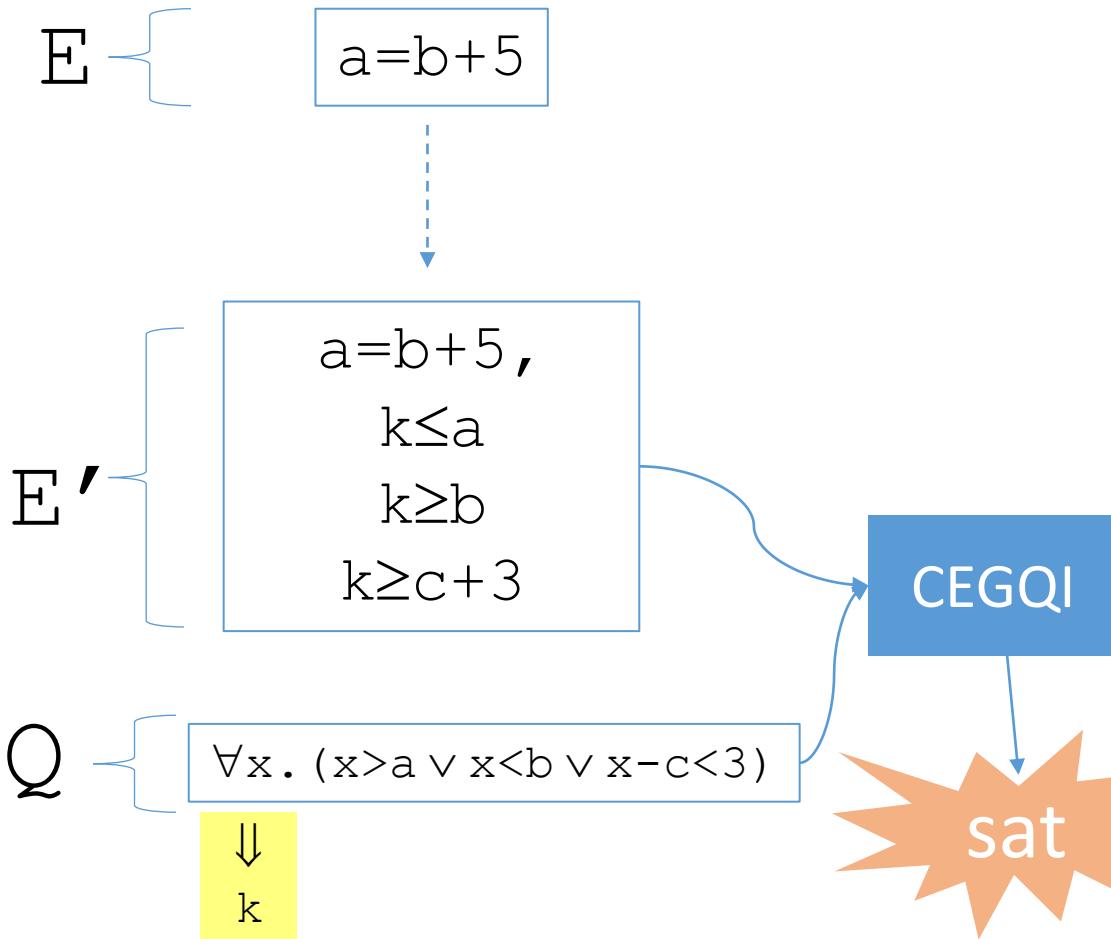
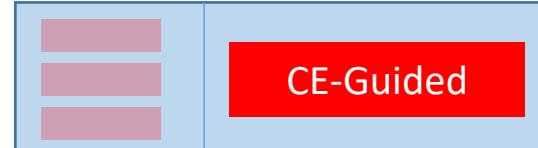


Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



One of two cases...

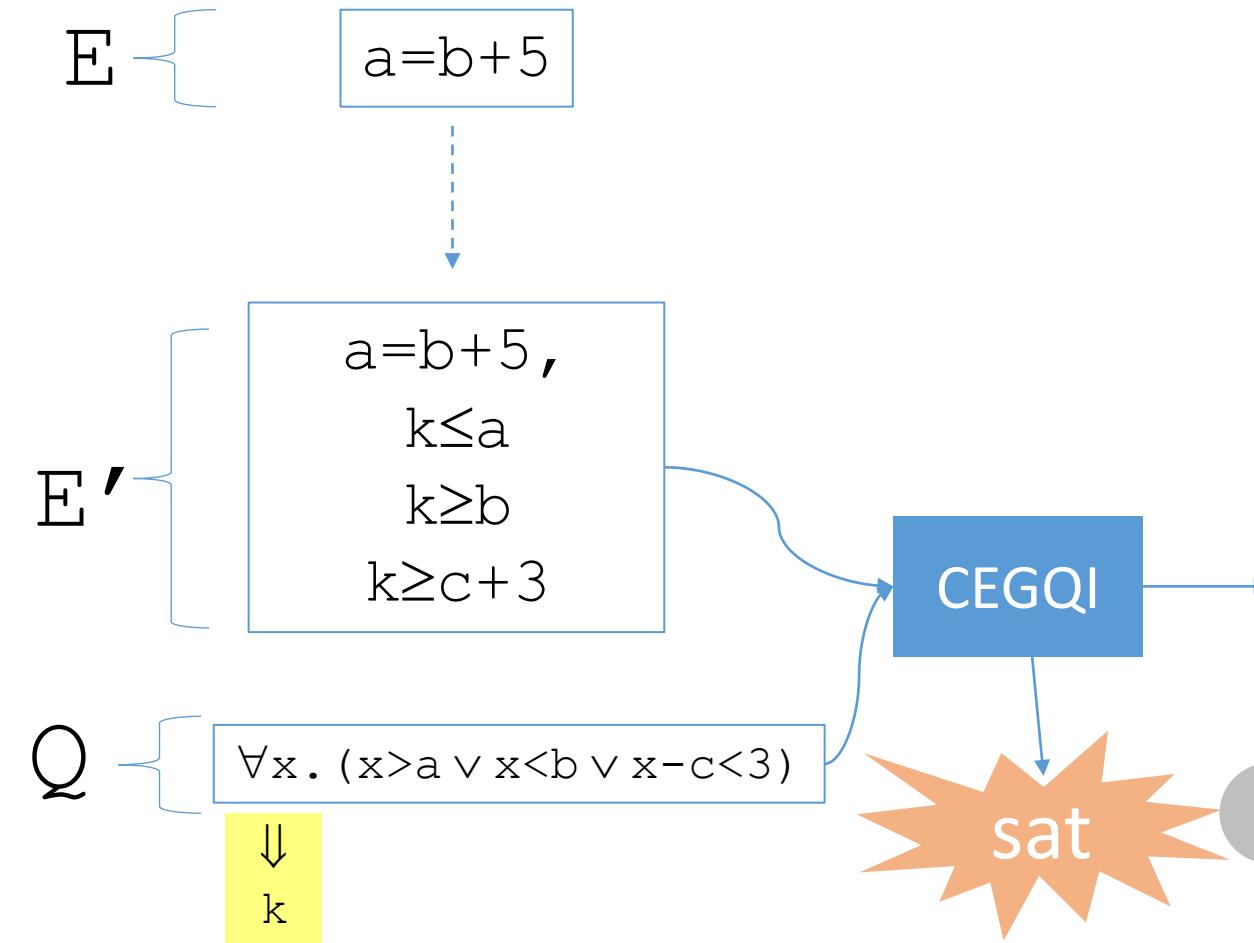
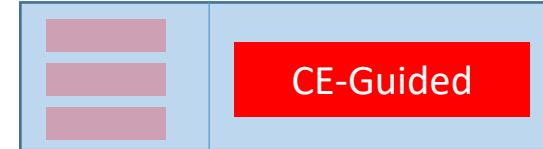
Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



1 If E' is T-unsatisfiable,
all models of E also satisfy Q

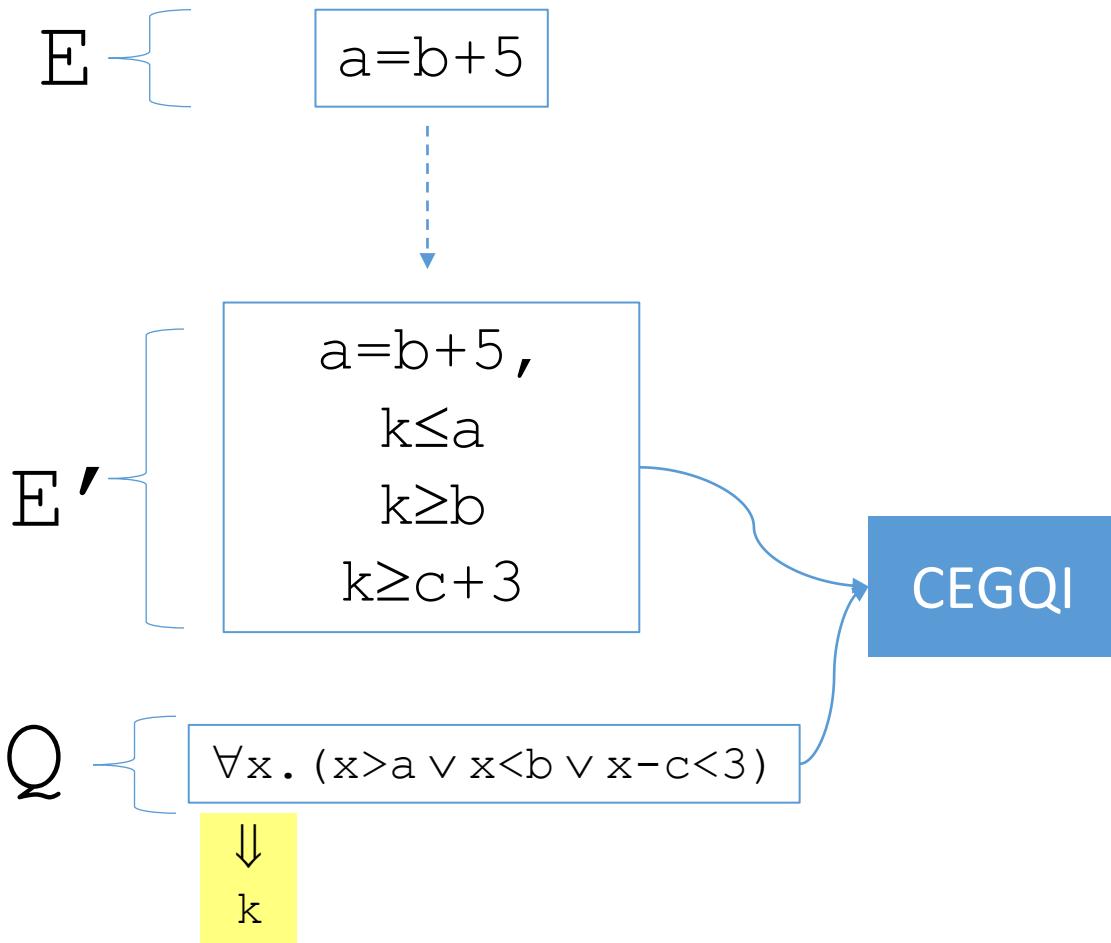
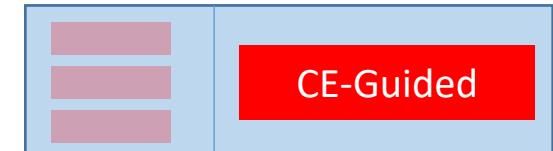
(since $E' \equiv E \cup \neg Q \models_T \perp$ implies $E \models_T Q$)

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

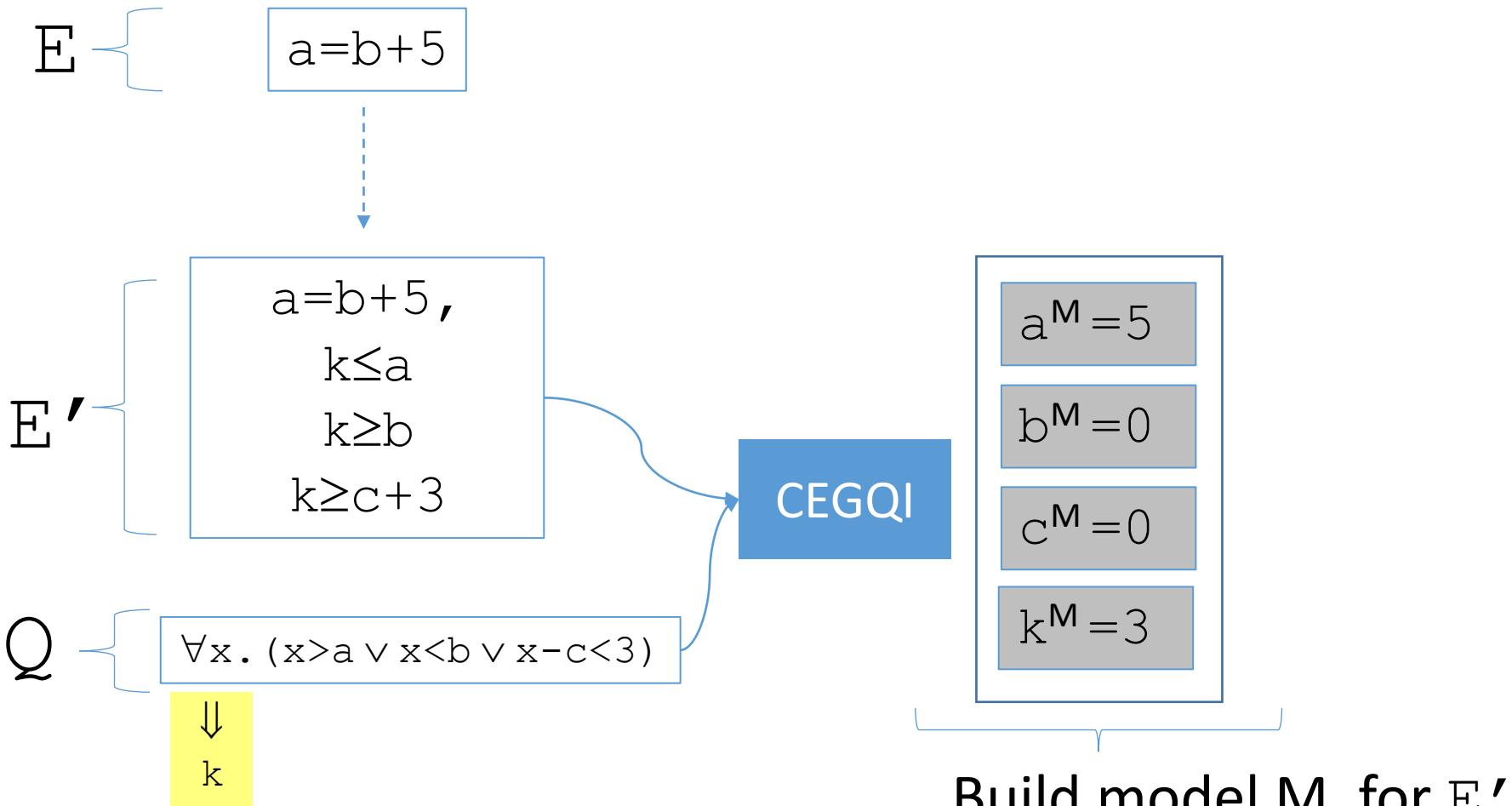


- 1 If E' is T-unsatisfiable,
all models of E also satisfy Q
(since $E' \equiv E \cup \neg Q \models_T \perp$ implies $E \models_T Q$)
- 2 Return an instance based on
model for E'

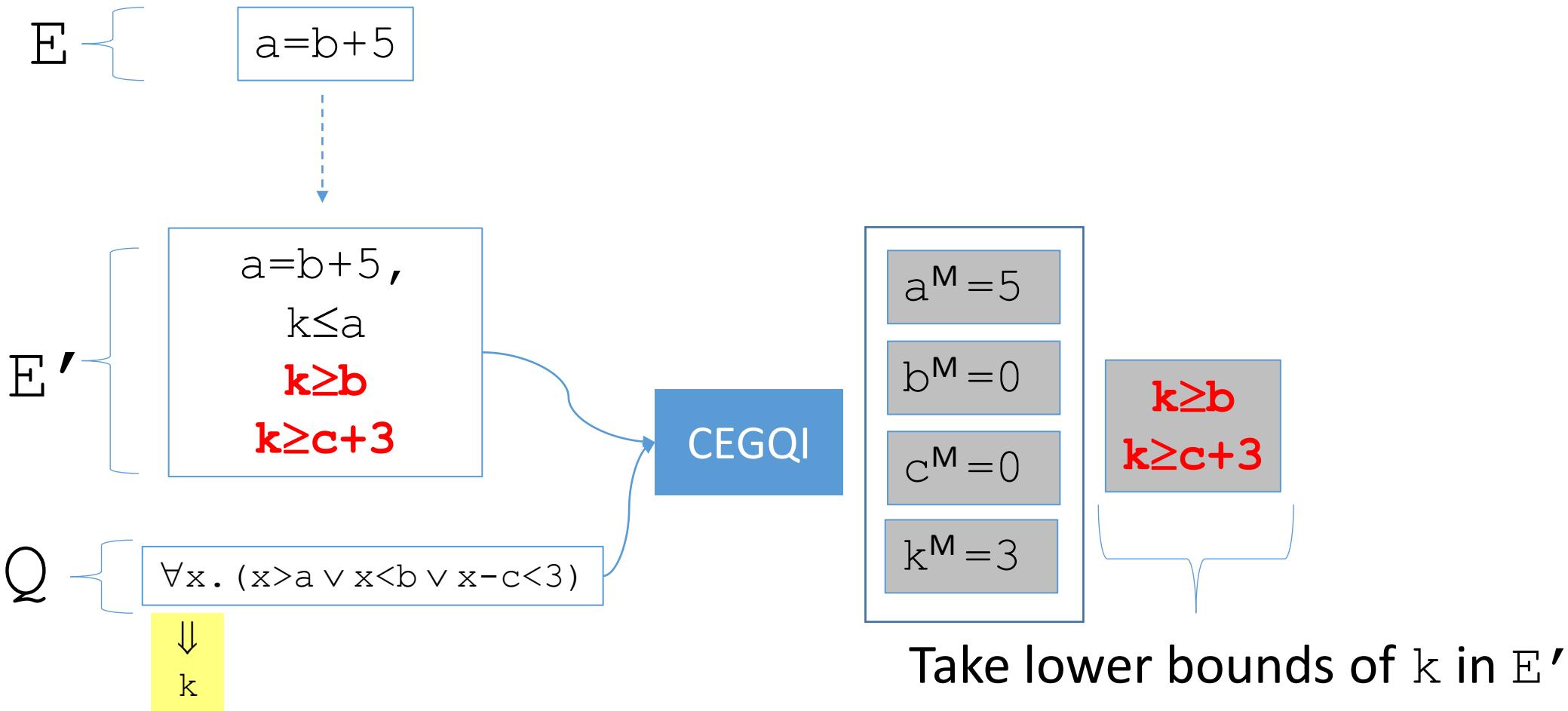
Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



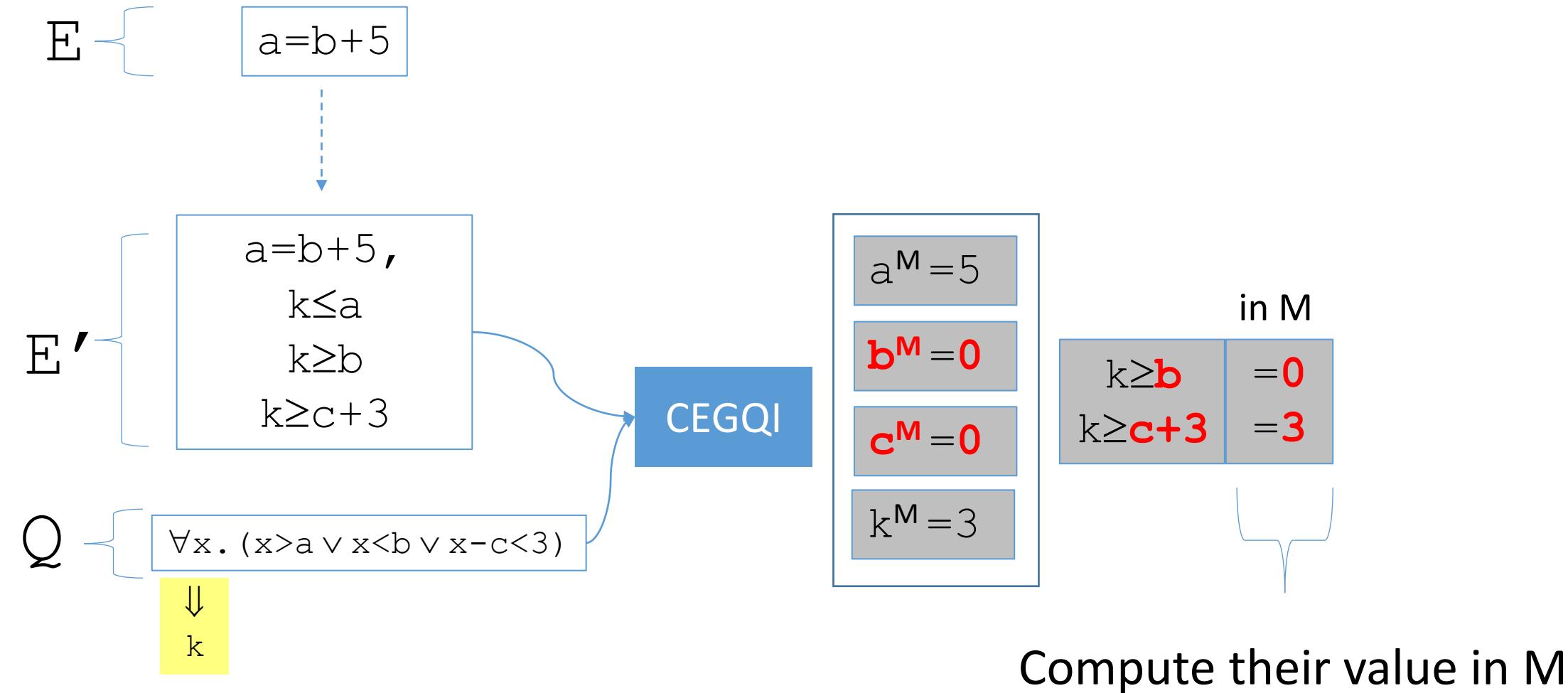
Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



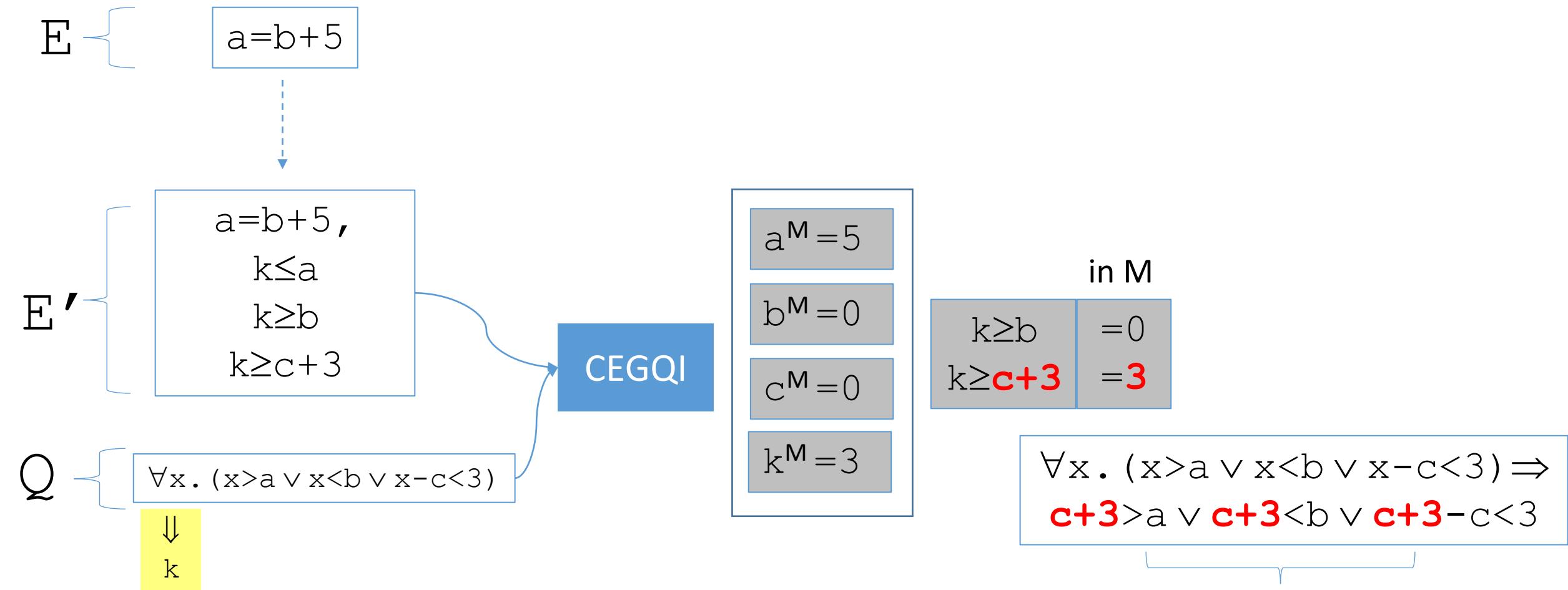
Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

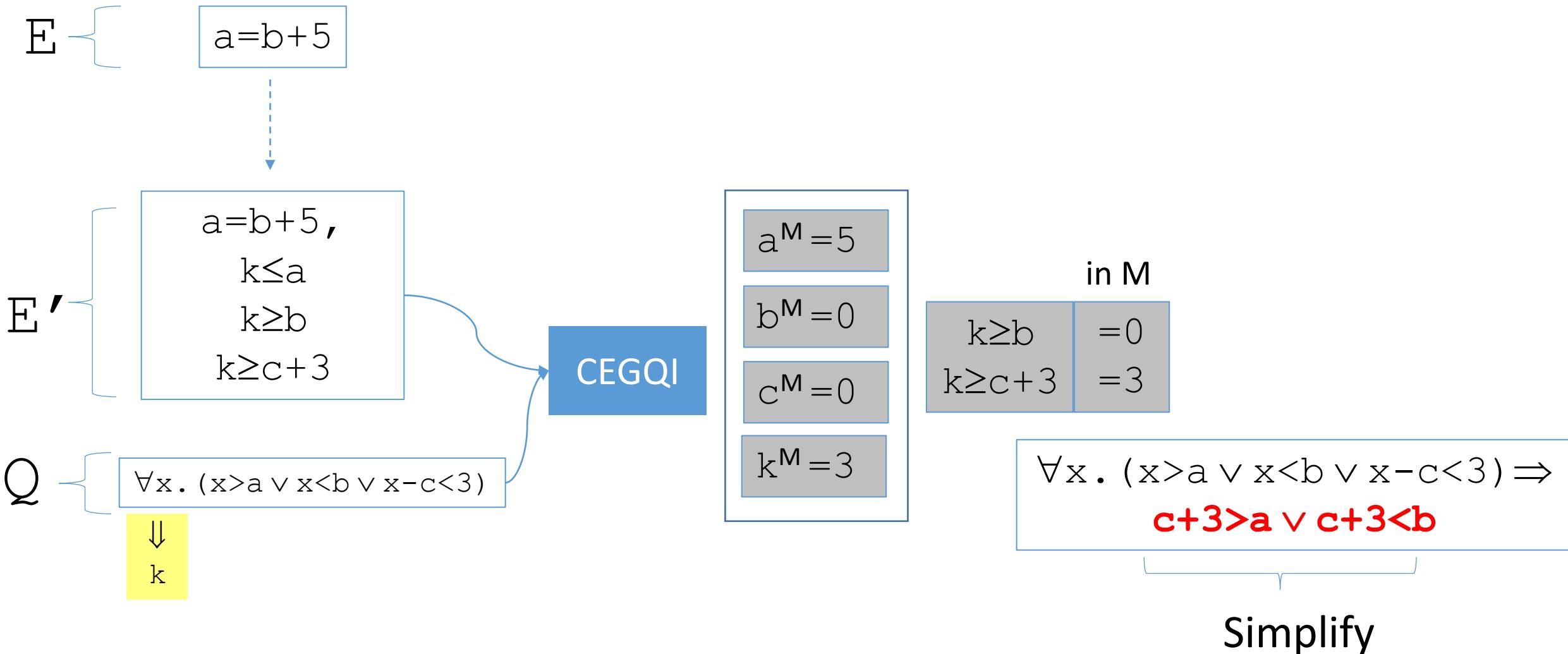
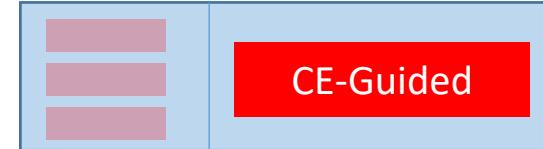


Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

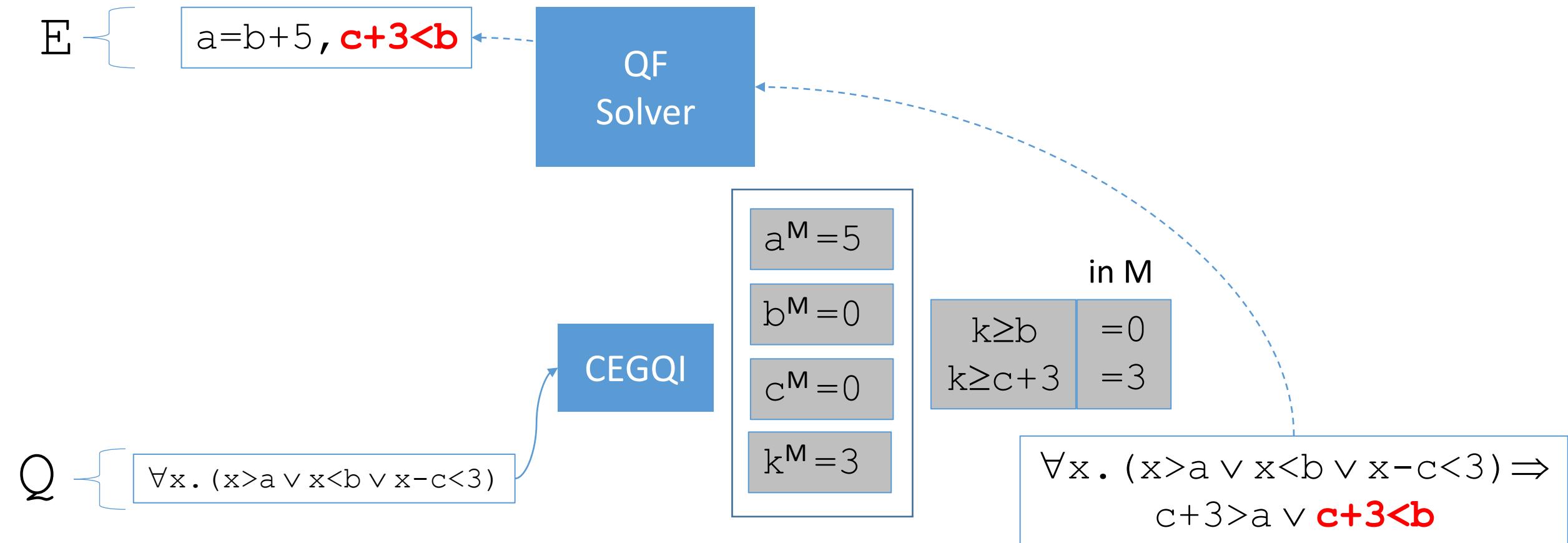
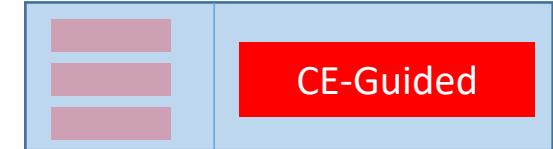


Add instance for lower bound that is maximal in M

Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

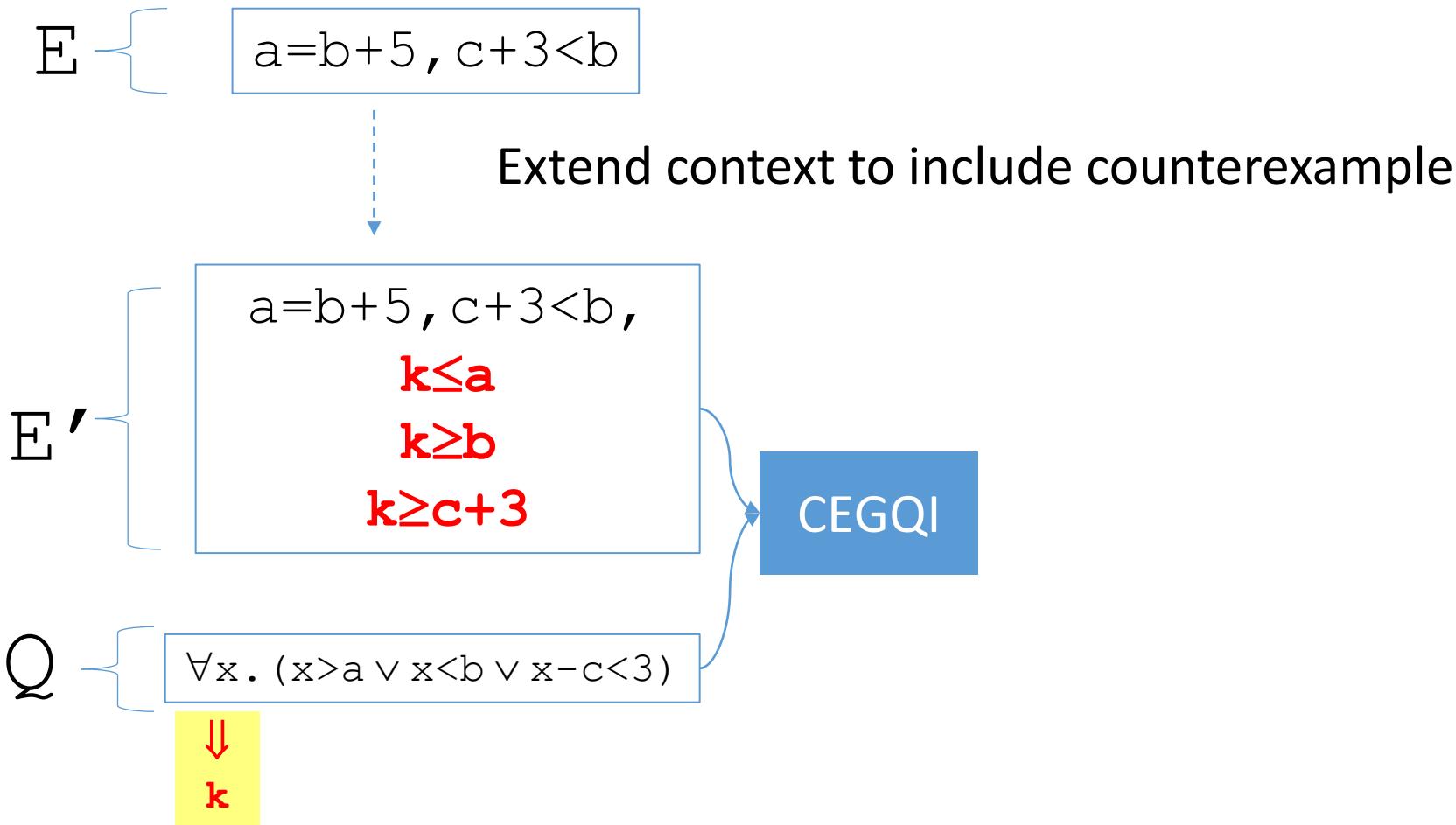


$$E \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a=b+5, c+3 < b \end{array} \right.$$

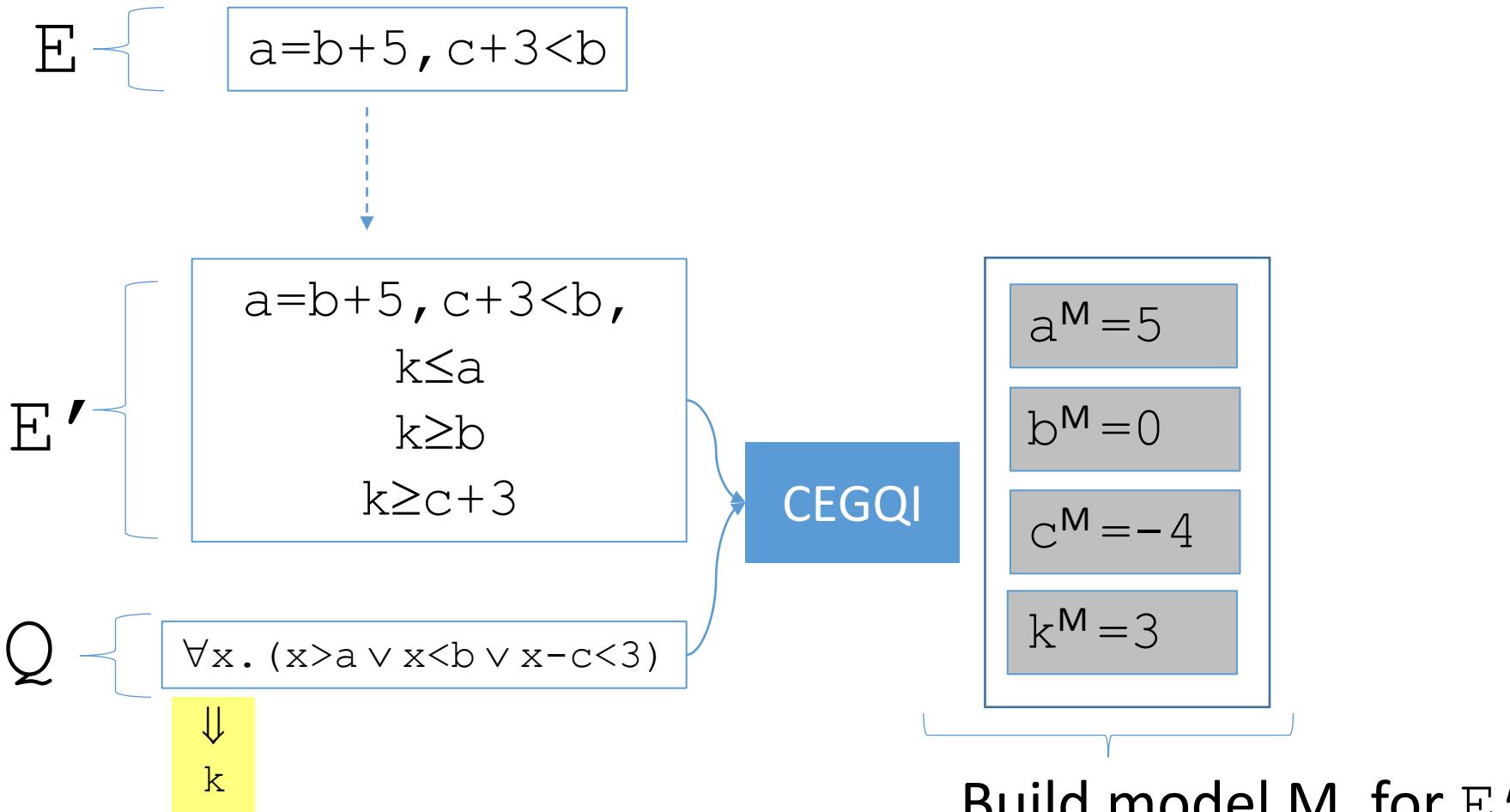
CEGQI

$$Q \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x. (x > a \vee x < b \vee x - c < 3) \end{array} \right.$$

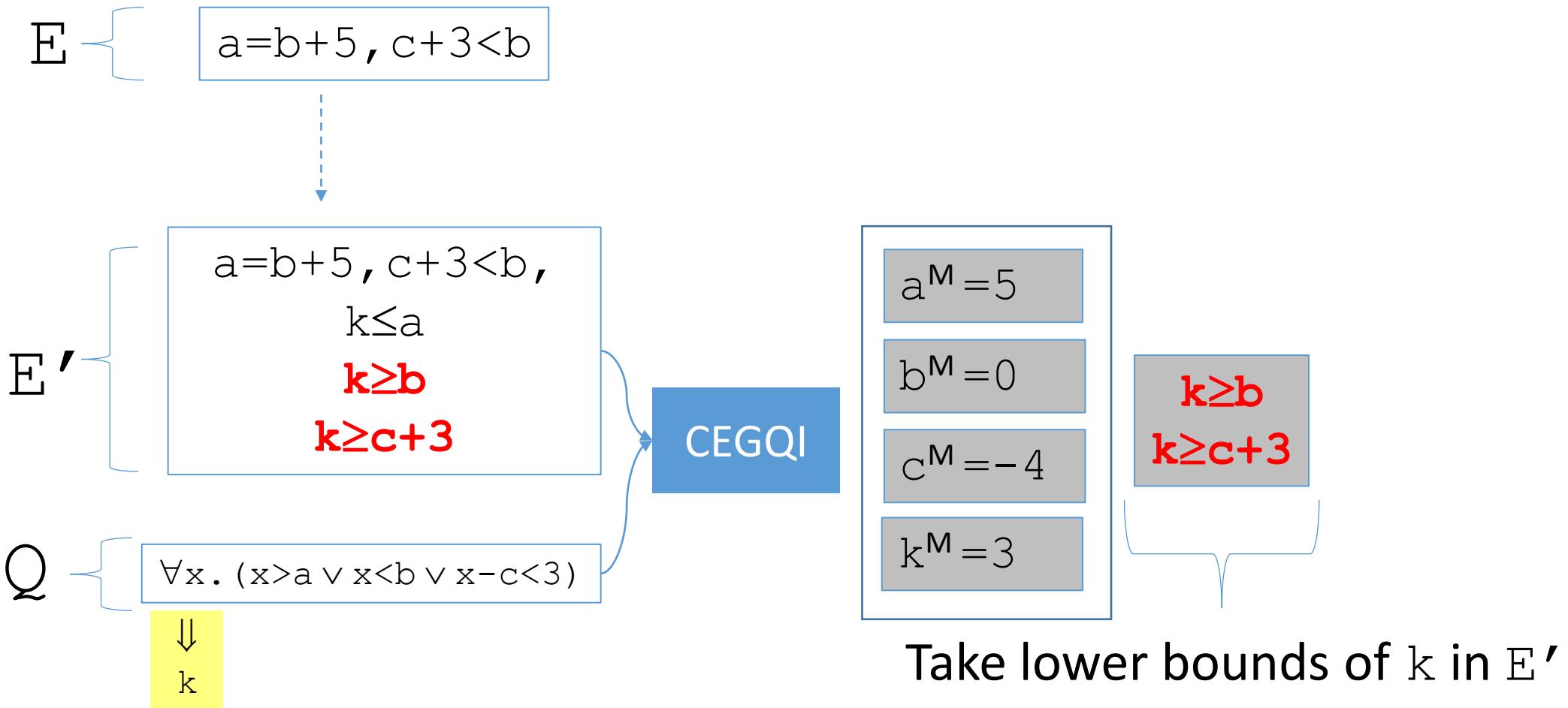
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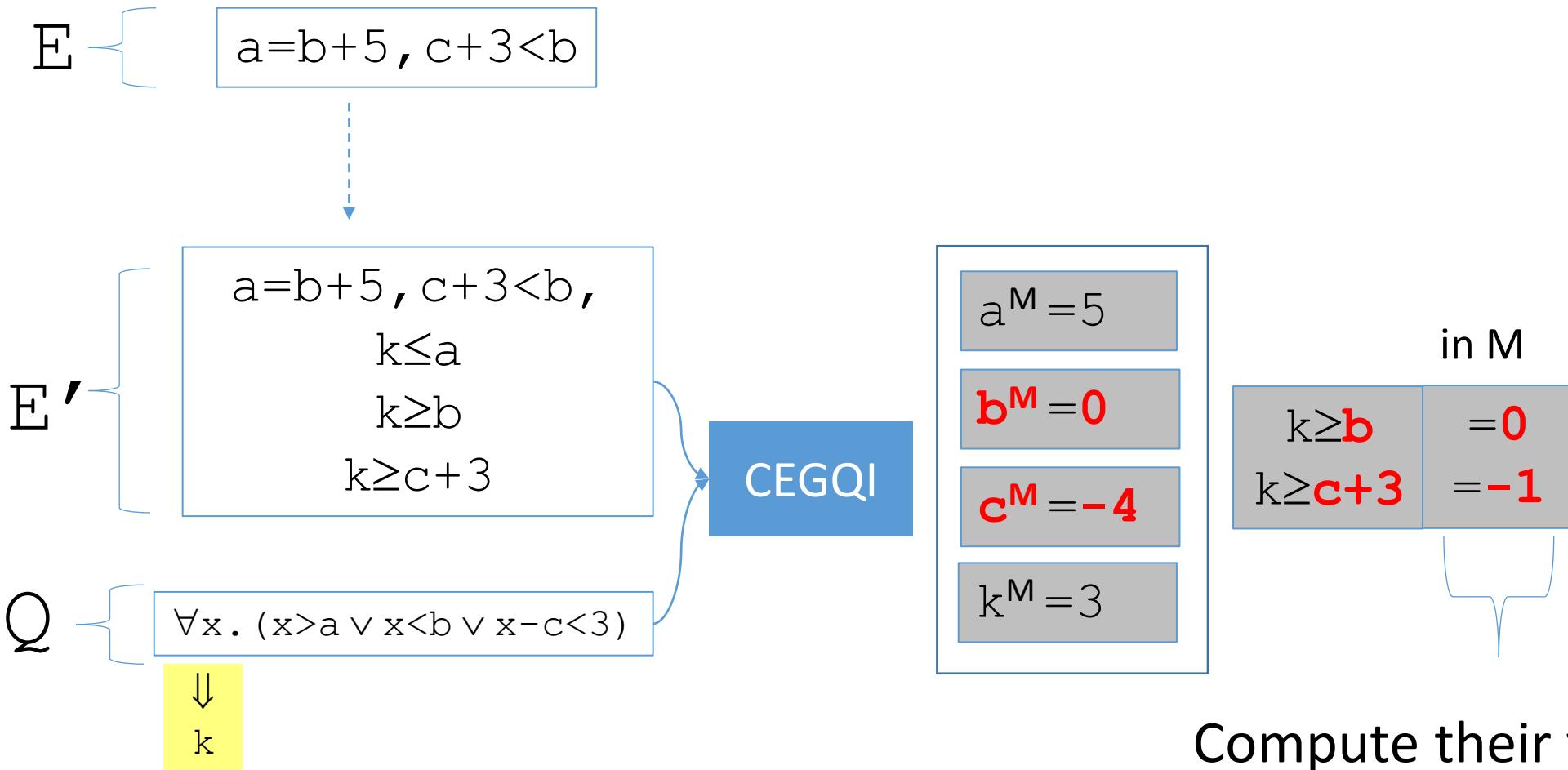
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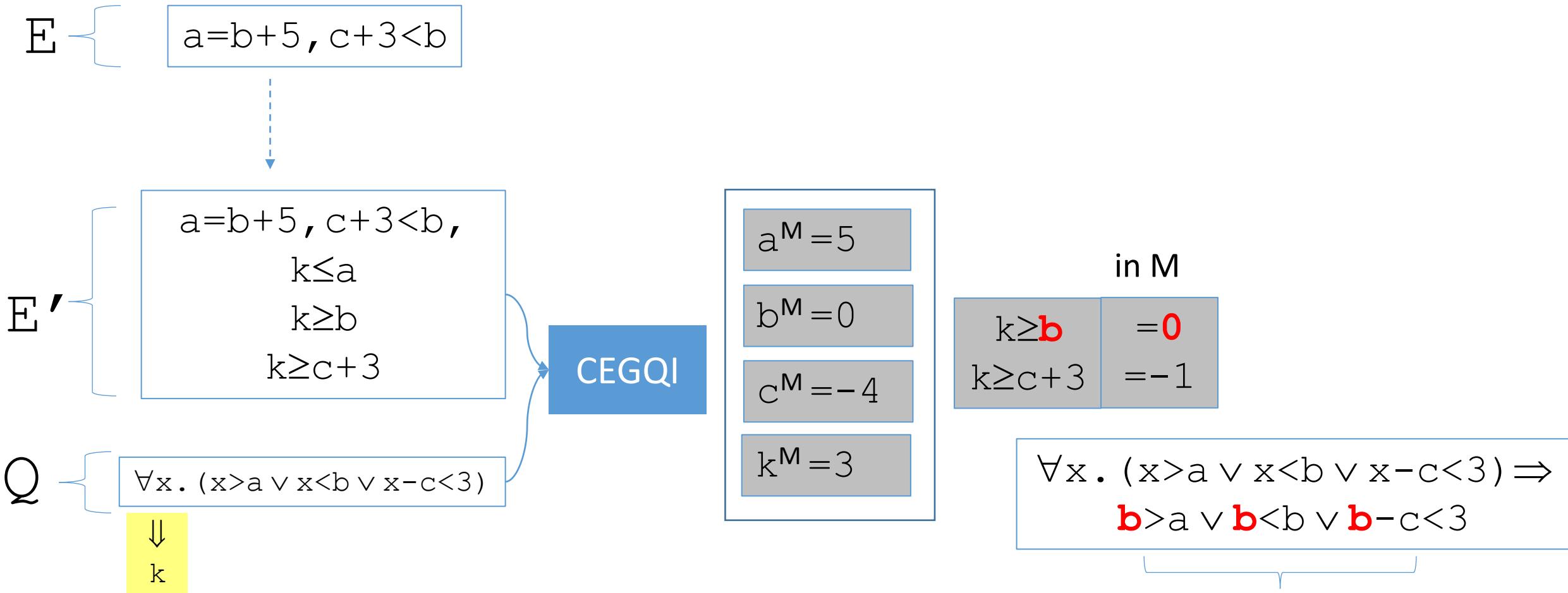
Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



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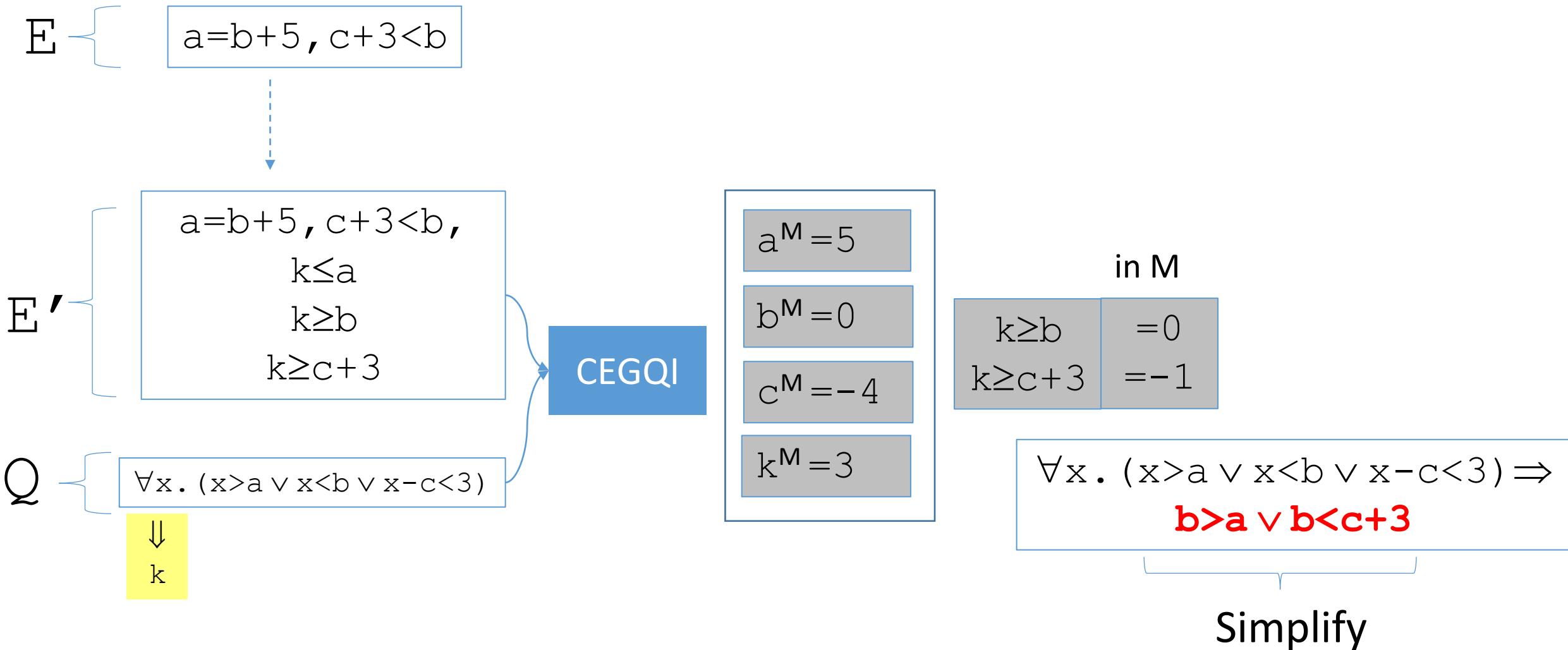


Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

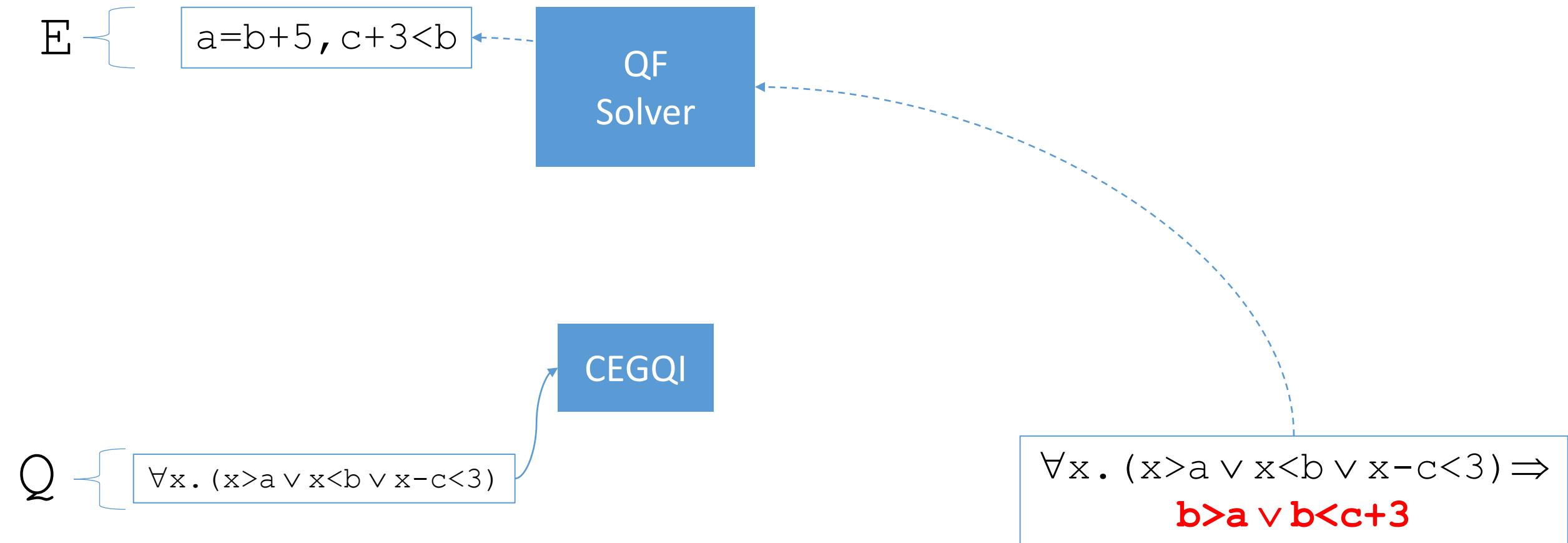


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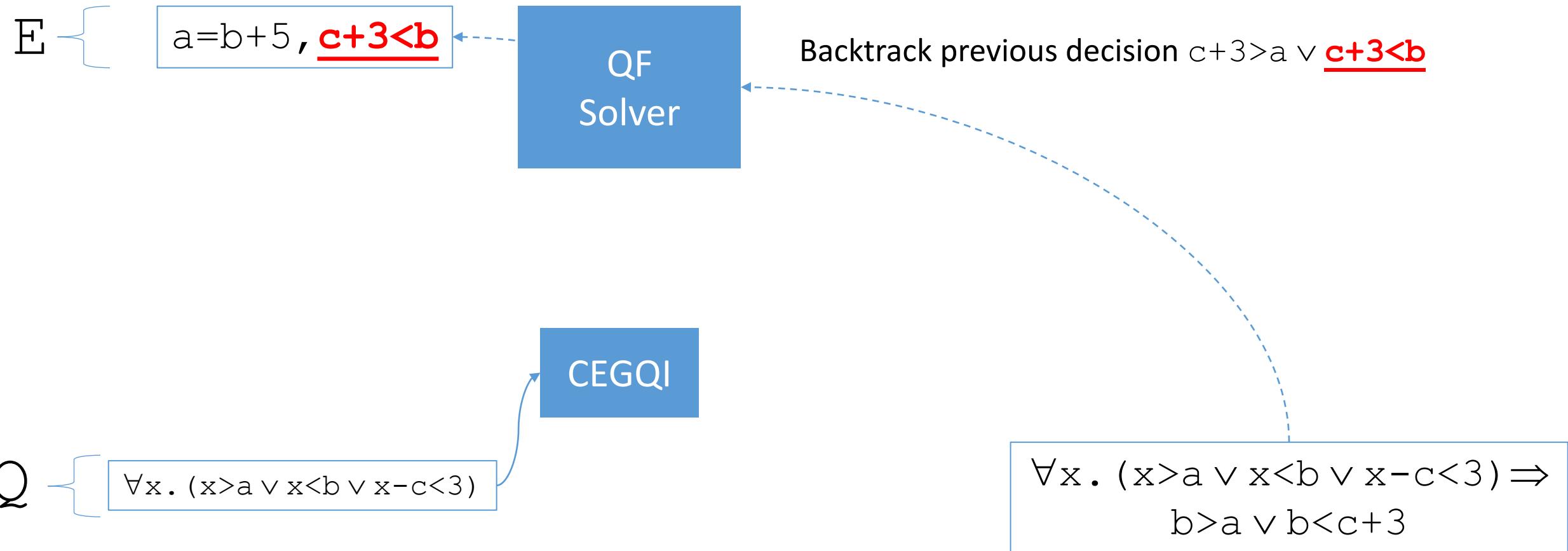
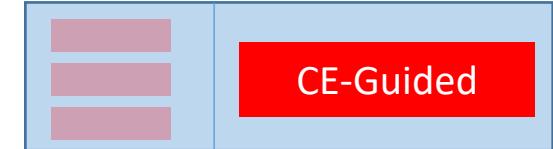
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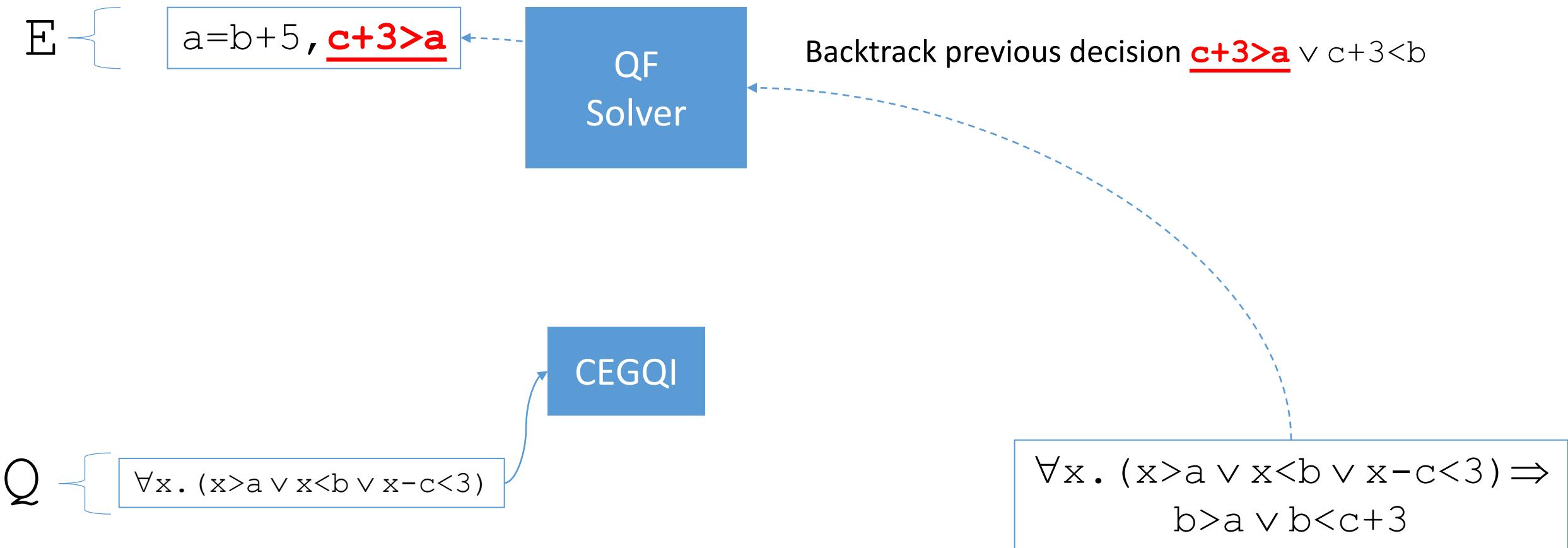
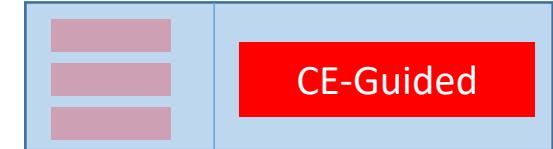
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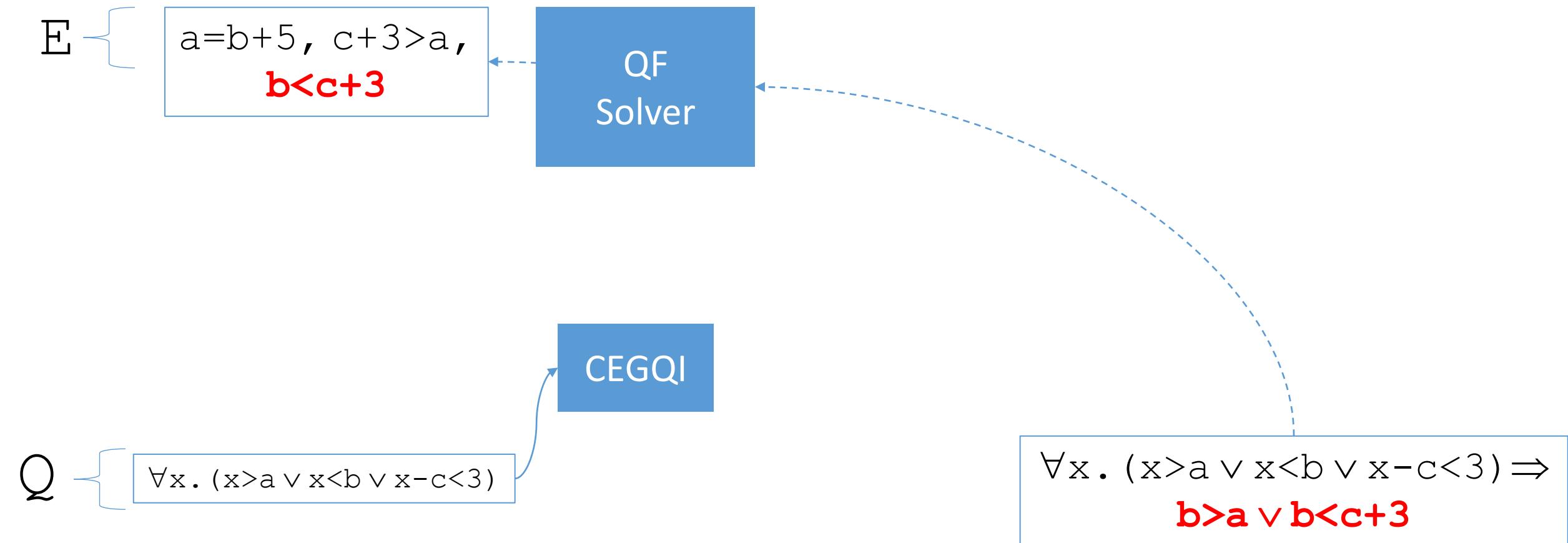
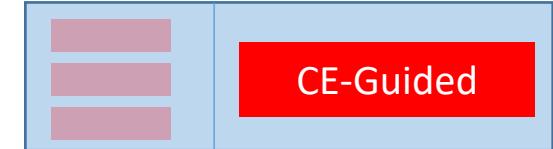
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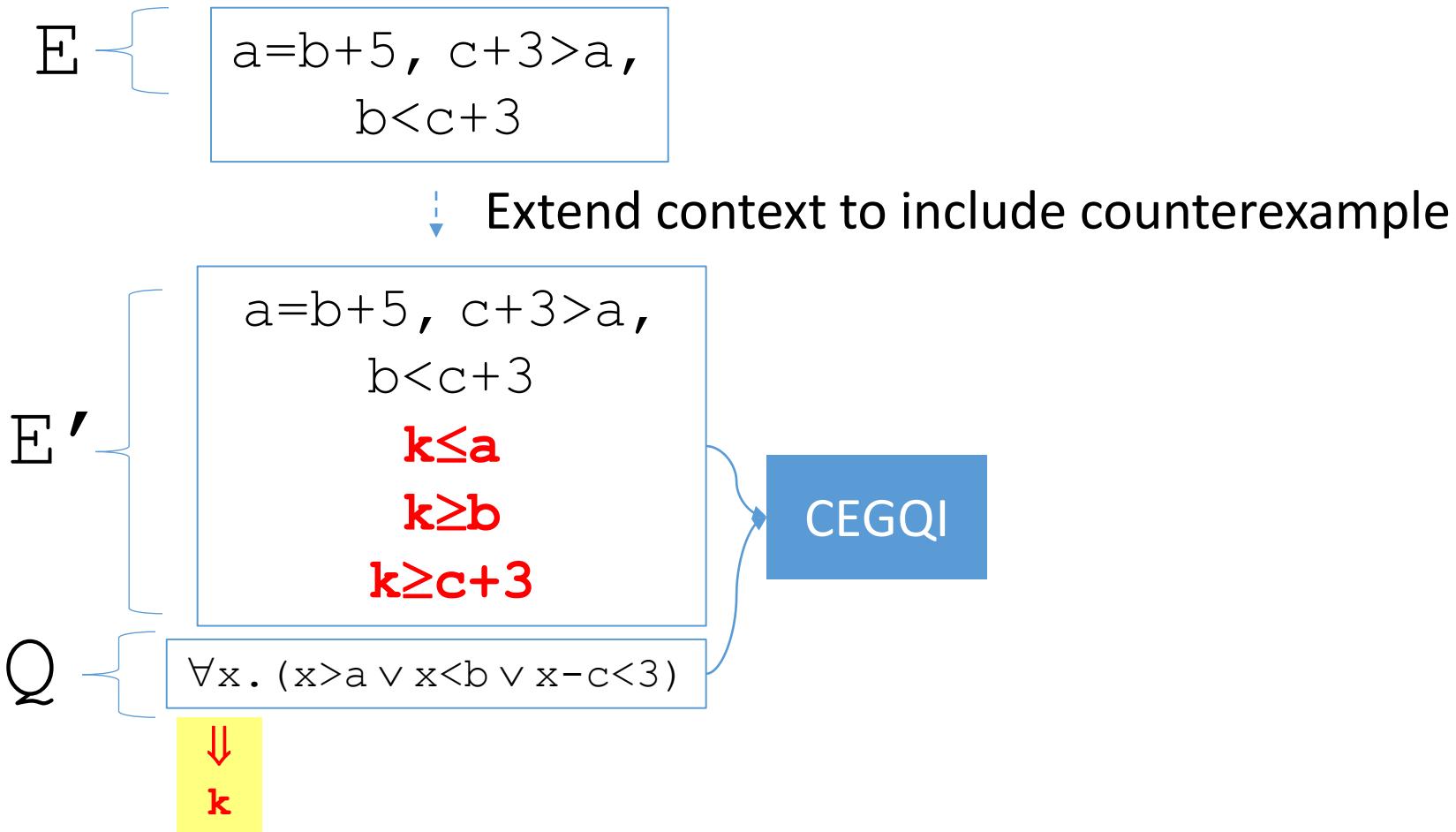


$$E \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a=b+5, c+3>a, \\ b < c+3 \end{array} \right.$$

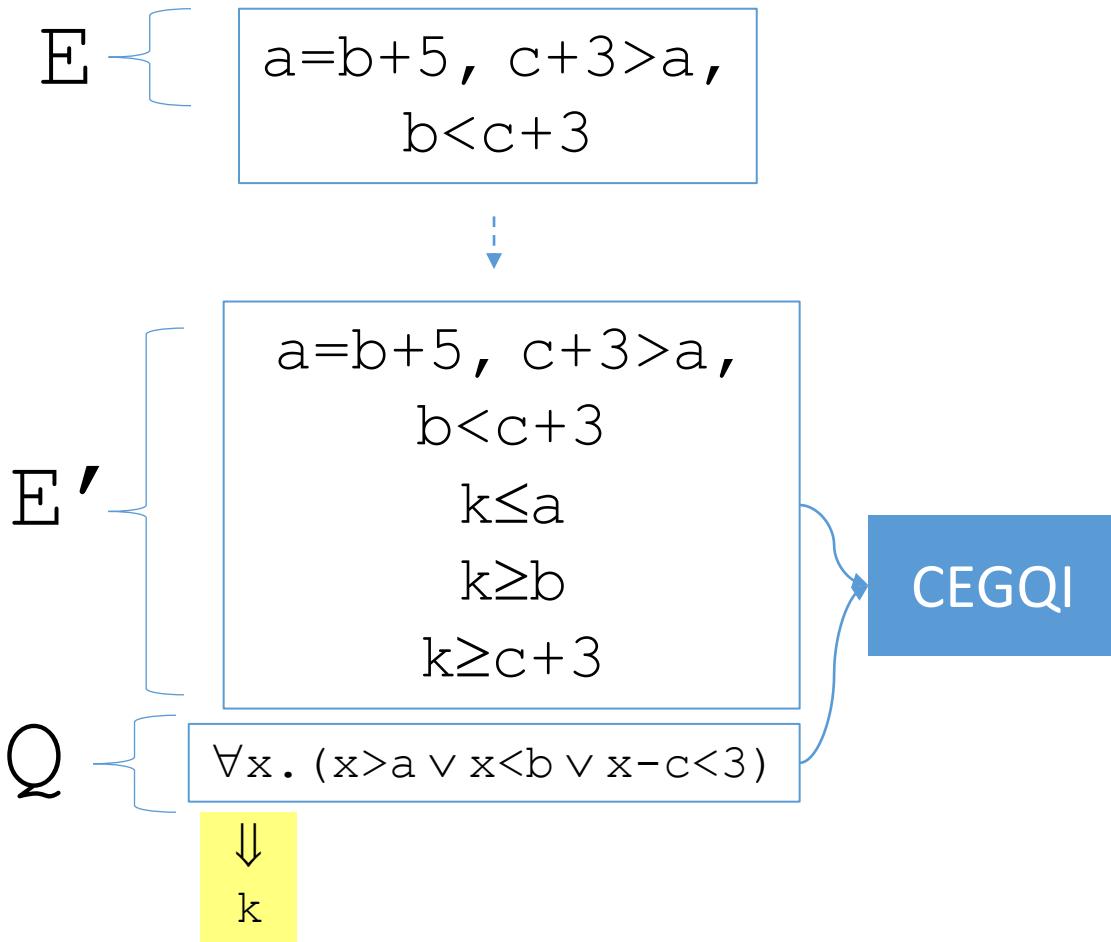
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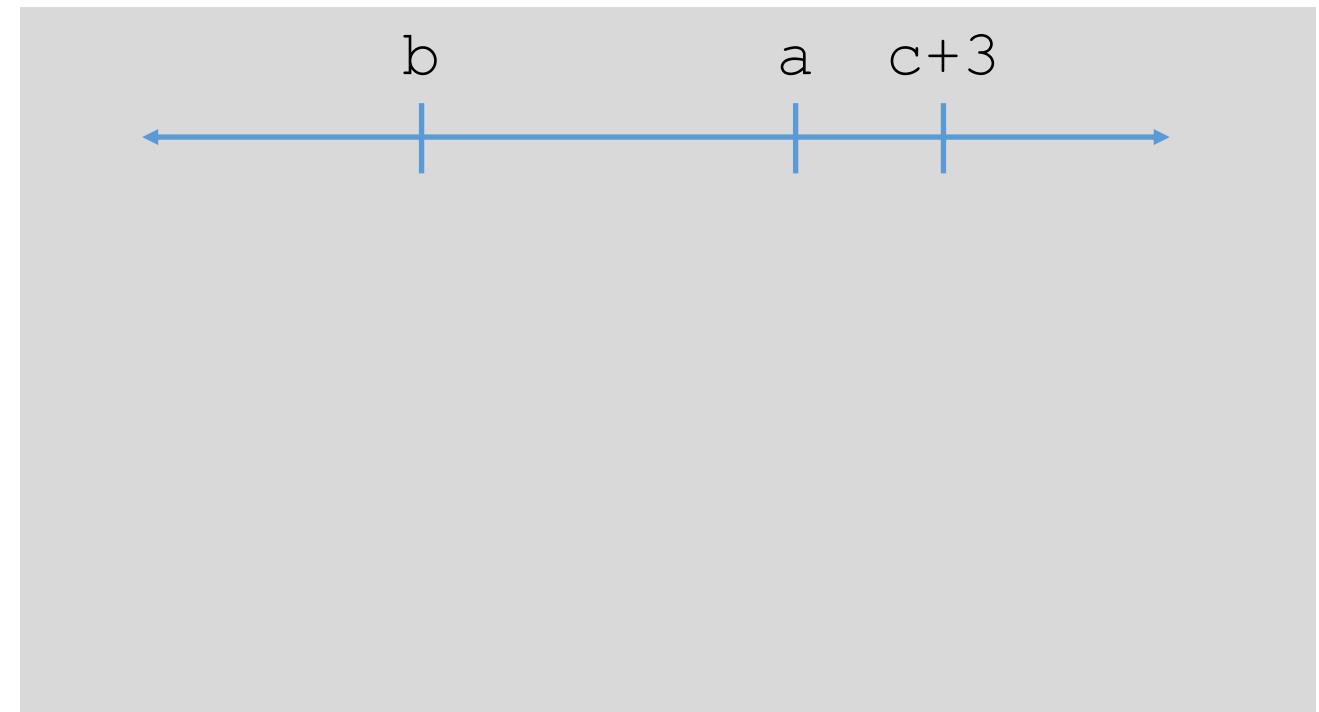
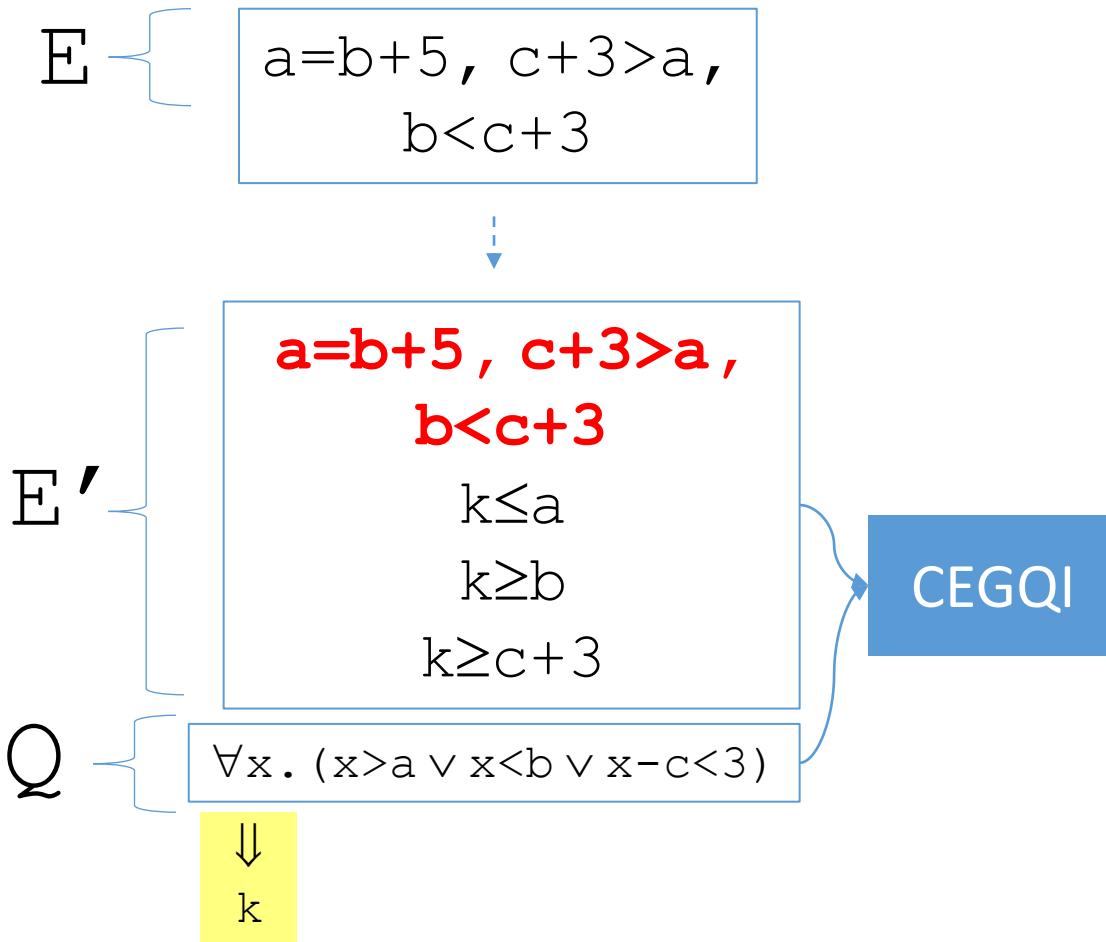
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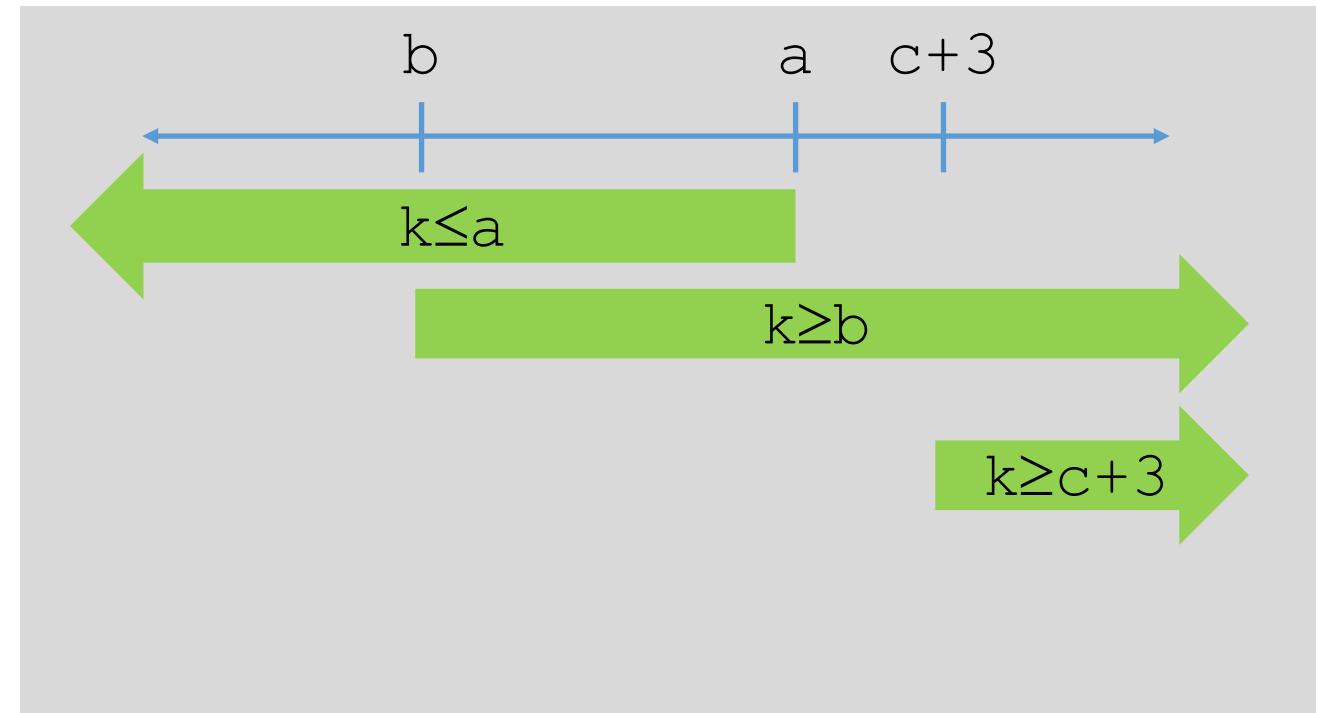
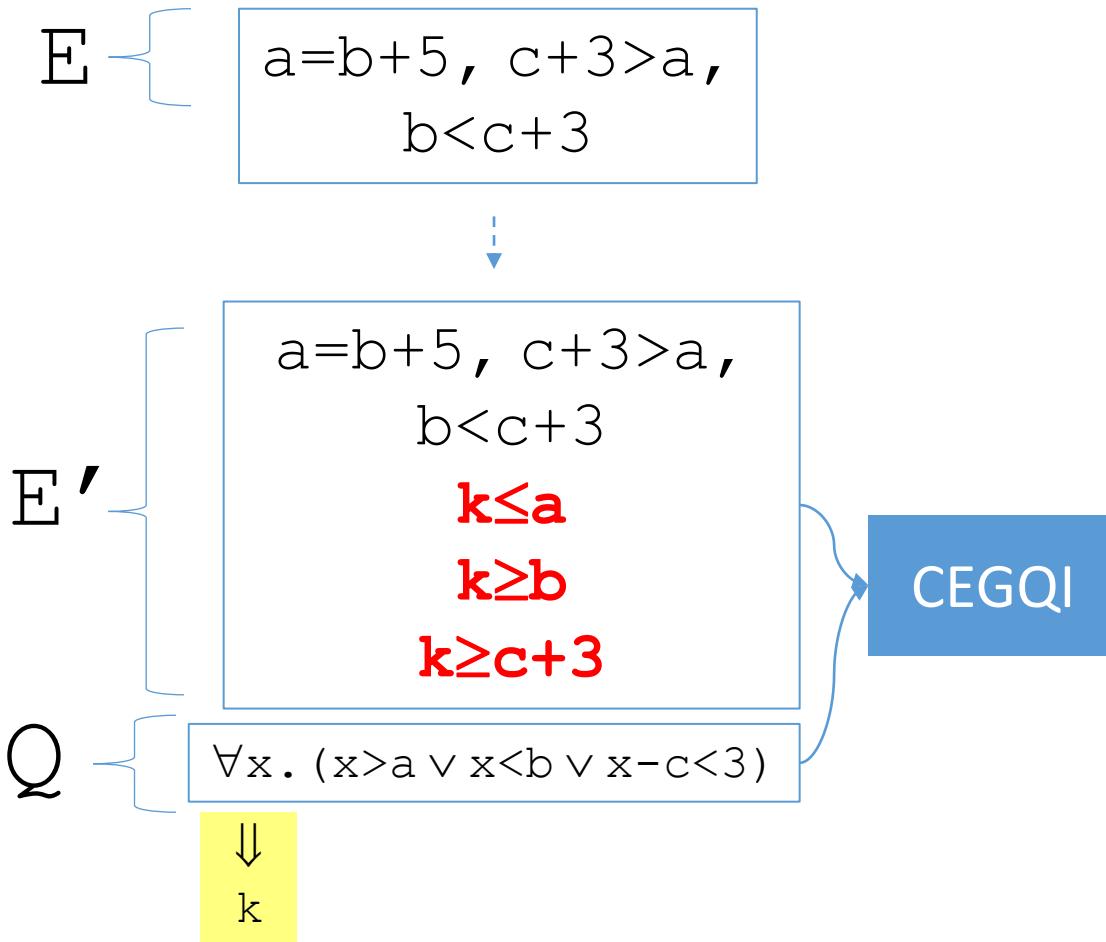
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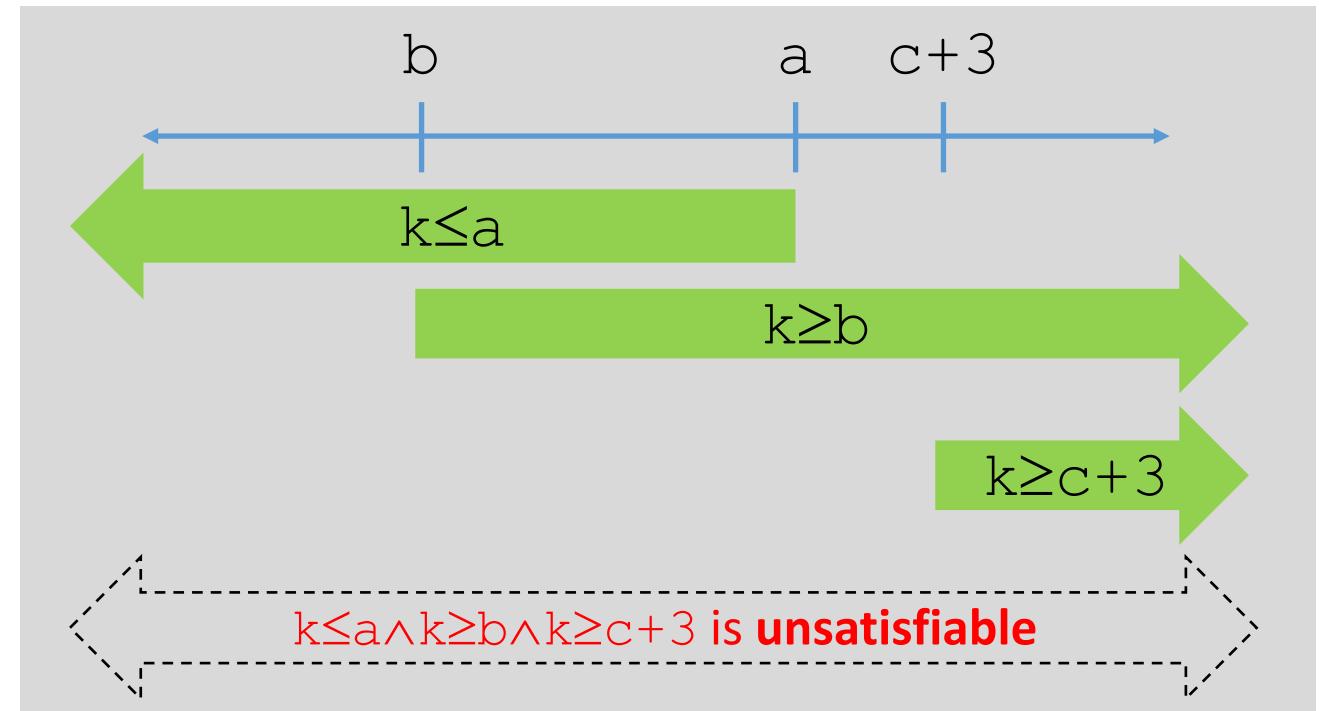
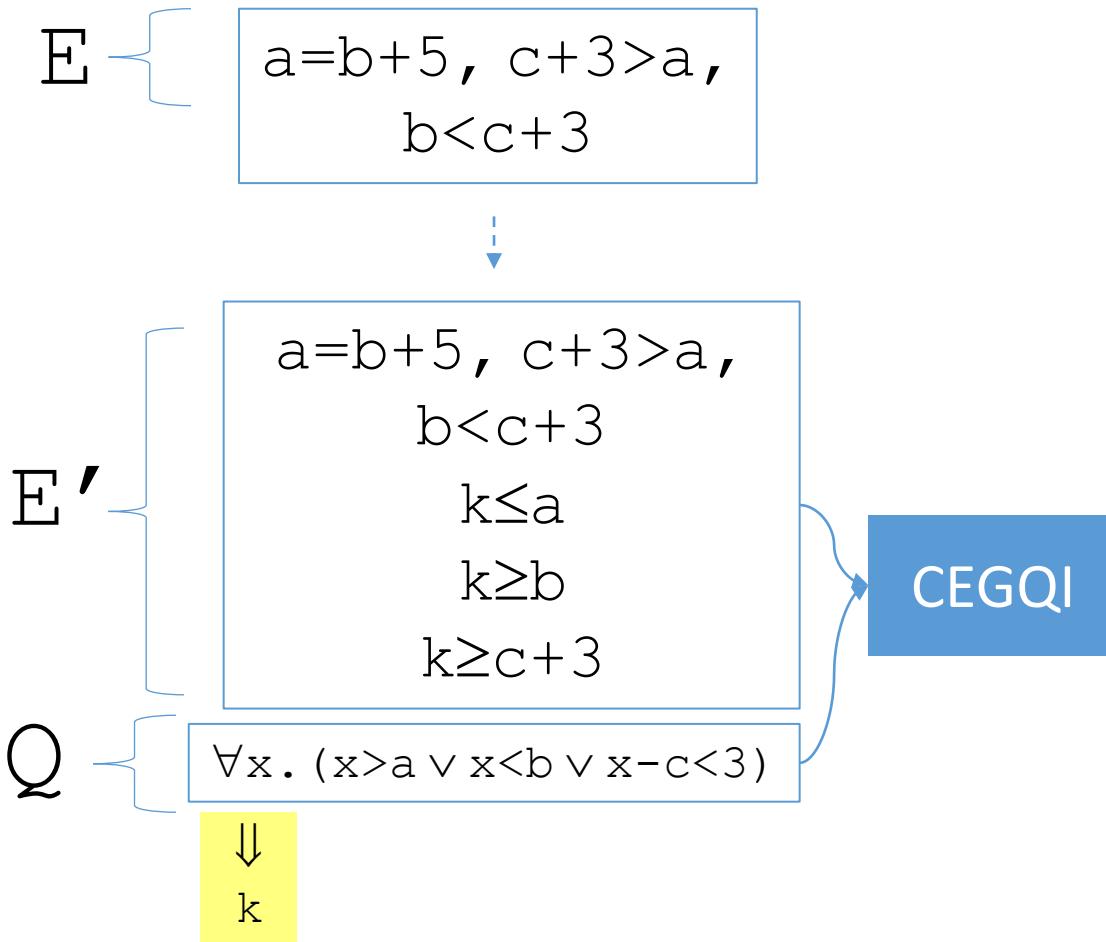
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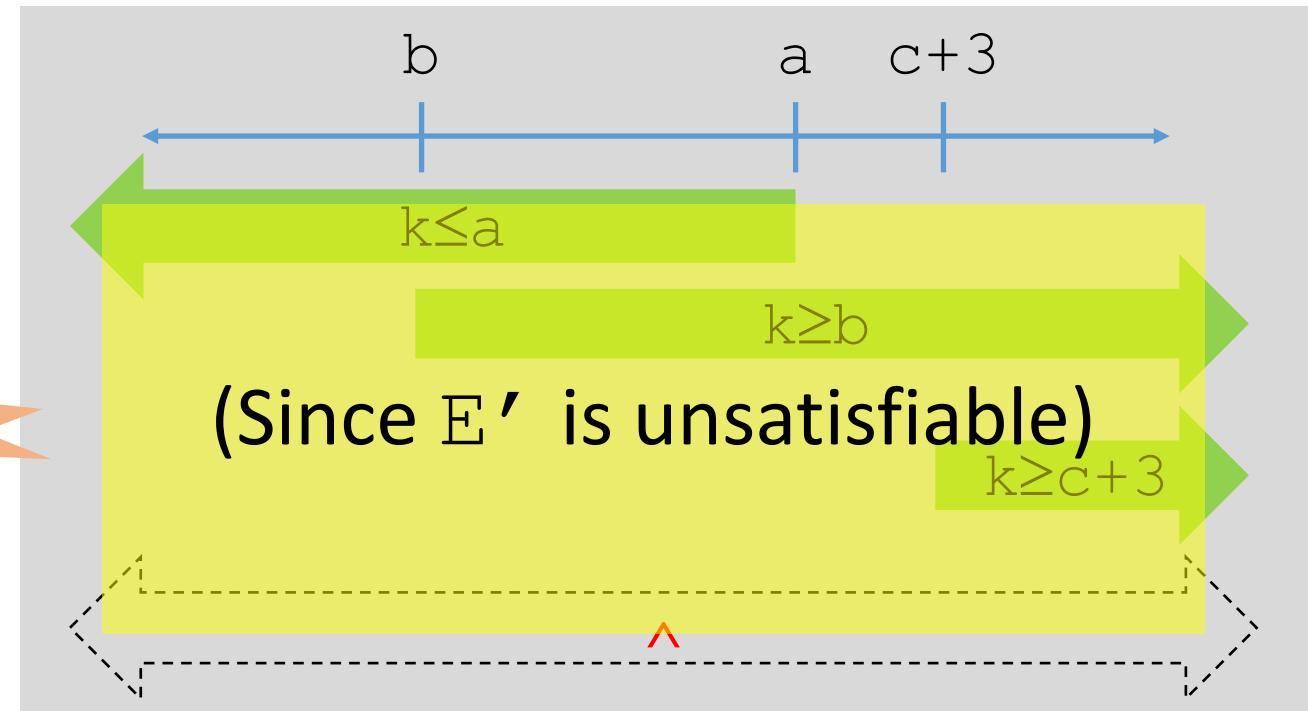
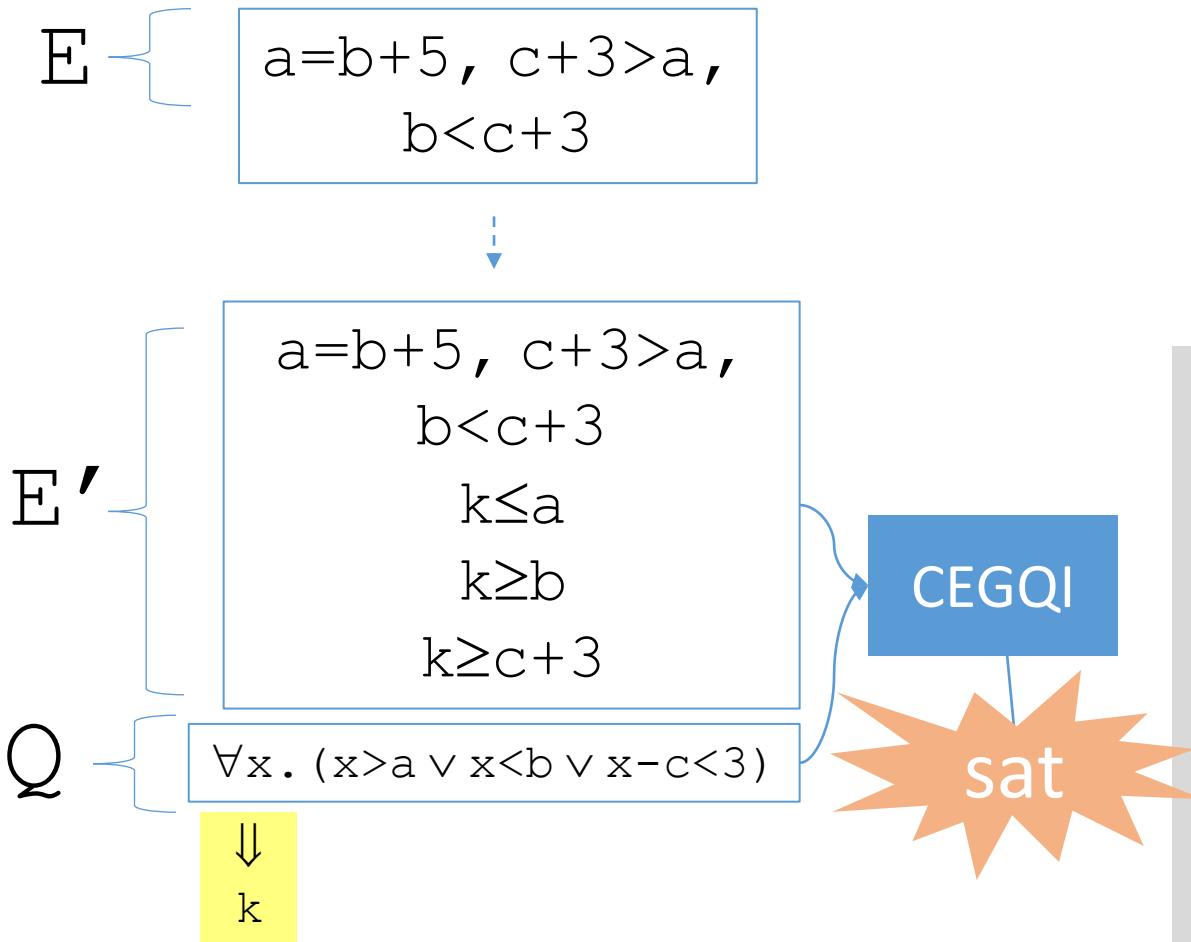
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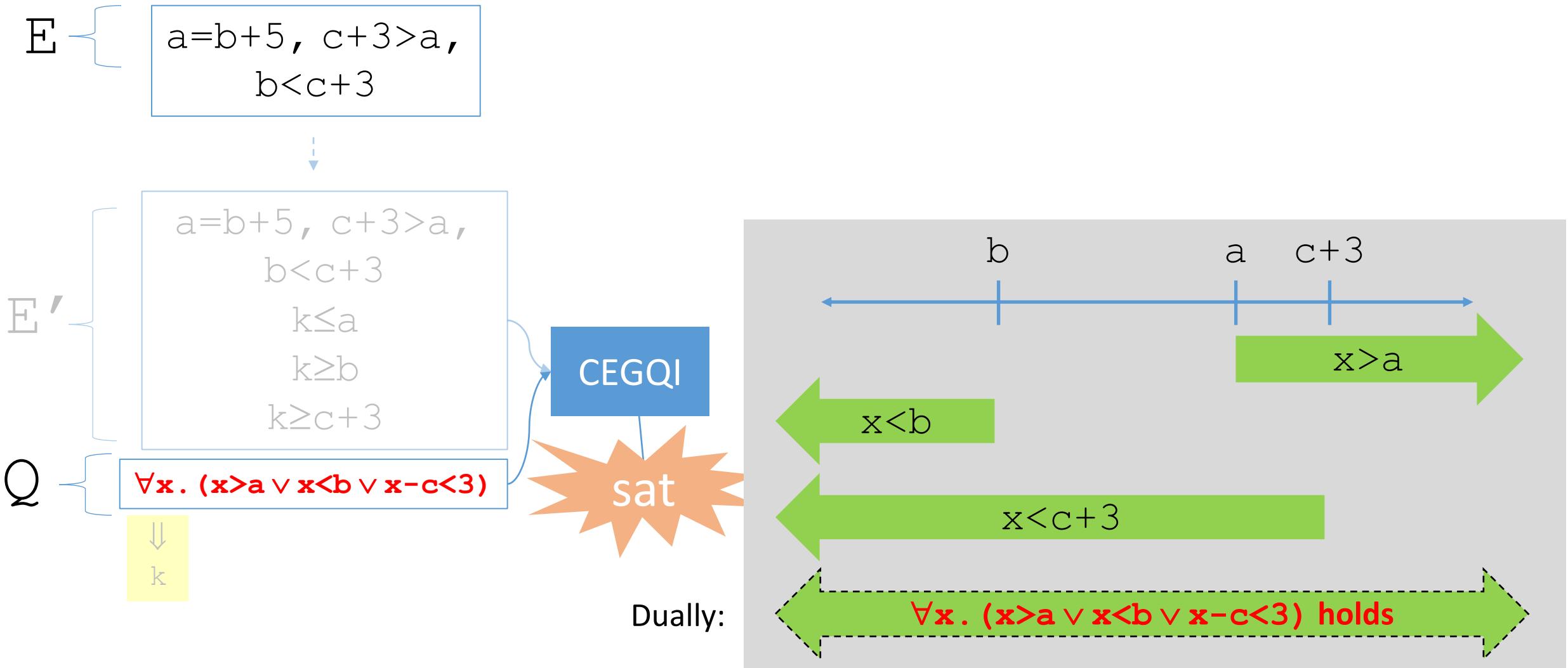
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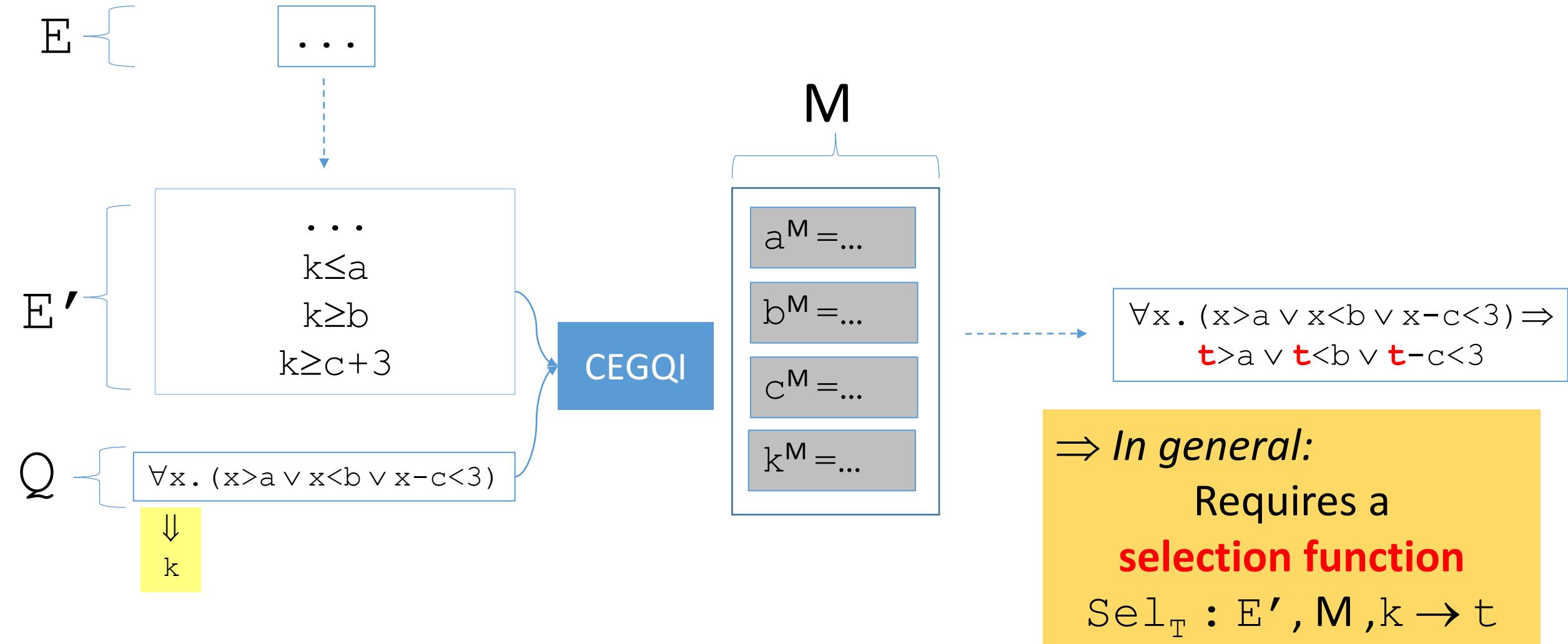
Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



Summary



Selection Functions



- Selection function gives decision procedure for \forall in various theories:

- Linear real arithmetic (LRA)

- Maximal lower (minimal upper) bounds
[Loos+Wiespfenning 93]

- Interior point method:
[Ferrante+Rackoff 79]

- Linear integer arithmetic (LIA)

- Maximal lower (minimal upper) bounds (+c)
[Cooper 72]

- Bitvectors/finite domains

- Value instantiations
 - Invertibility conditions **[Niemetz et al 2018]**

- Datatypes, ...

$$l_1 < k, \dots, l_n < k \rightarrow \{x \rightarrow l_{\max} + \delta\}$$

...may involve virtual terms δ, ∞

$$l_{\max} < k < u_{\min} \rightarrow \{x \rightarrow (l_{\max} + u_{\min}) / 2\}$$

$$l_1 < k, \dots, l_n < k \rightarrow \{x \rightarrow l_{\max} + c\}$$

⇒ **Termination argument for each: enumerate at most a finite number of instances**

Summary

- Quantifier Instantiation Beyond E-matching, via:

- **Conflict-based, Model-Based Instantiation**

- Effective in practice for \forall that highly involve UF
 - Conflict-Based is useful for “unsat”
 - Model-Based is useful for “sat”
 - Alternatively, enumerative instantiation, which is more tailored for “unsat”

- **Counterexample-guided Instantiation**

- Decision procedure for $\forall + \text{LRA}$, $\forall + \text{LIA}$, $\forall + \text{BV}$, ...



Future Work

- How do we develop instantiations procedures for **\forall +new theories?**
 - Ongoing work on \forall +bit-vectors
 - Also interested in \forall +strings, \forall +floating-points, \forall +finite sets, etc.
- How can we combine instantiation-based techniques with **superposition**?
- Other techniques for finding instantiations?
 - E.g. those based on syntax-guided synthesis

- Techniques in this talk implemented in CVC4
 - Open source
 - Available at : <https://cvc4.github.io/>
- ...Thanks for listening!

