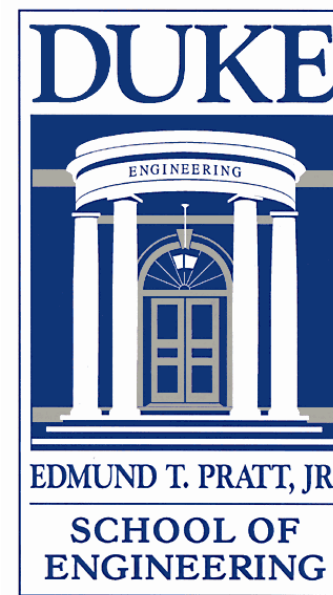


Gemini

Designing and Implementing a Functional Hardware Description Language

Thesis Defense

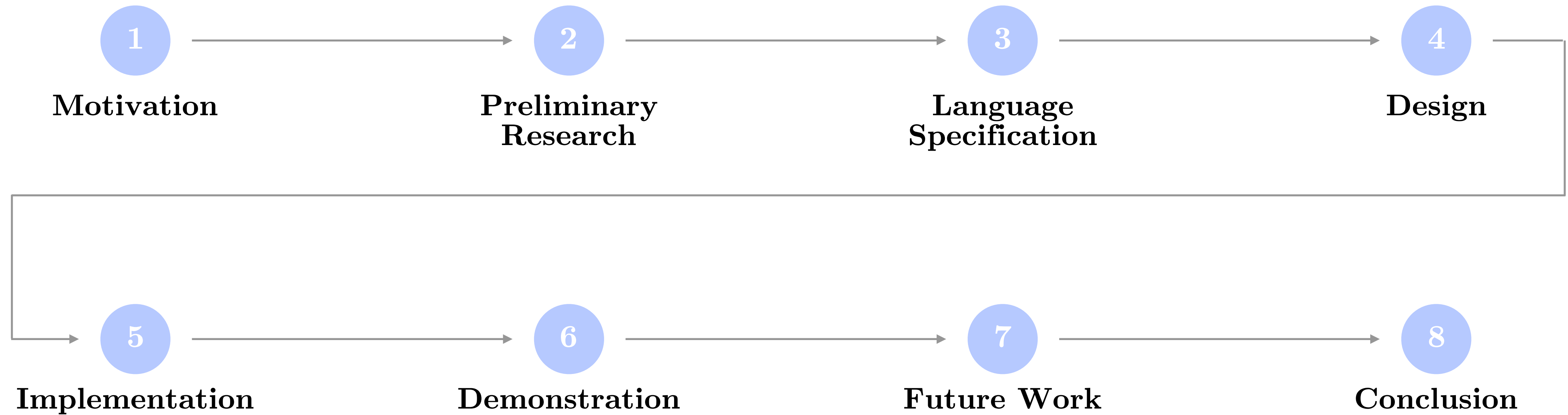


Aditya SRINIVASAN

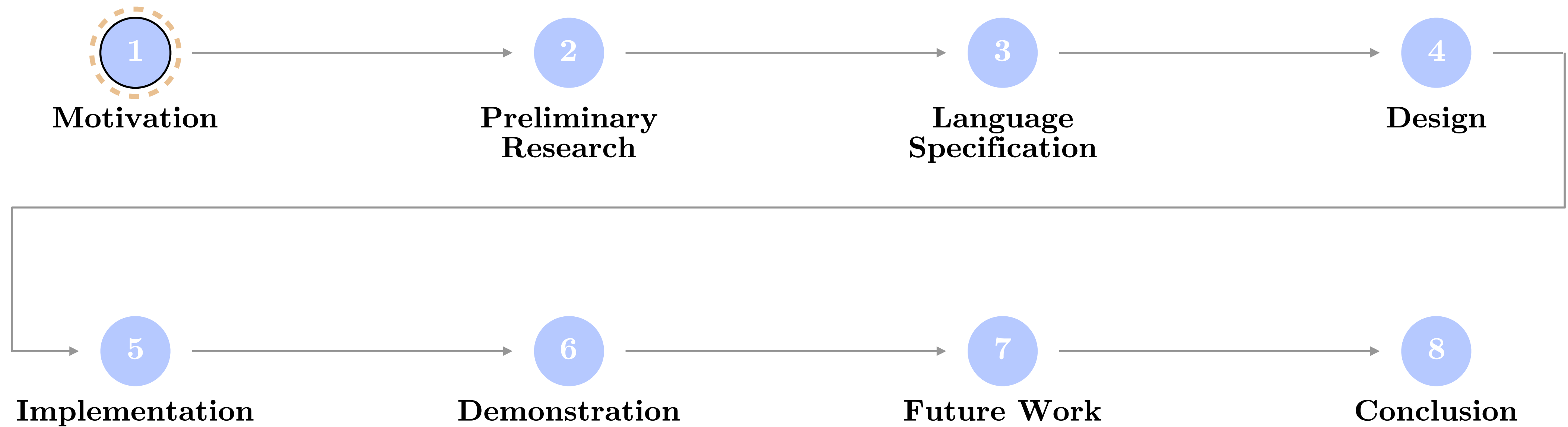
Drew HILTON

APRIL 25, 2018

ROADMAP



ROADMAP



MOTIVATION

The Problem: Verilog lacks the expressivity and modularity of software programming languages, due to a lack of features such as:

- Strong type system
- Recursion
- Pattern-matching
- ...and more

MOTIVATION

I spent the last year answering the following questions:

MOTIVATION

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Question 1

Can I design a programming language that combines the powerful features of software programming languages with the ability to describe electronic circuits?

MOTIVATION

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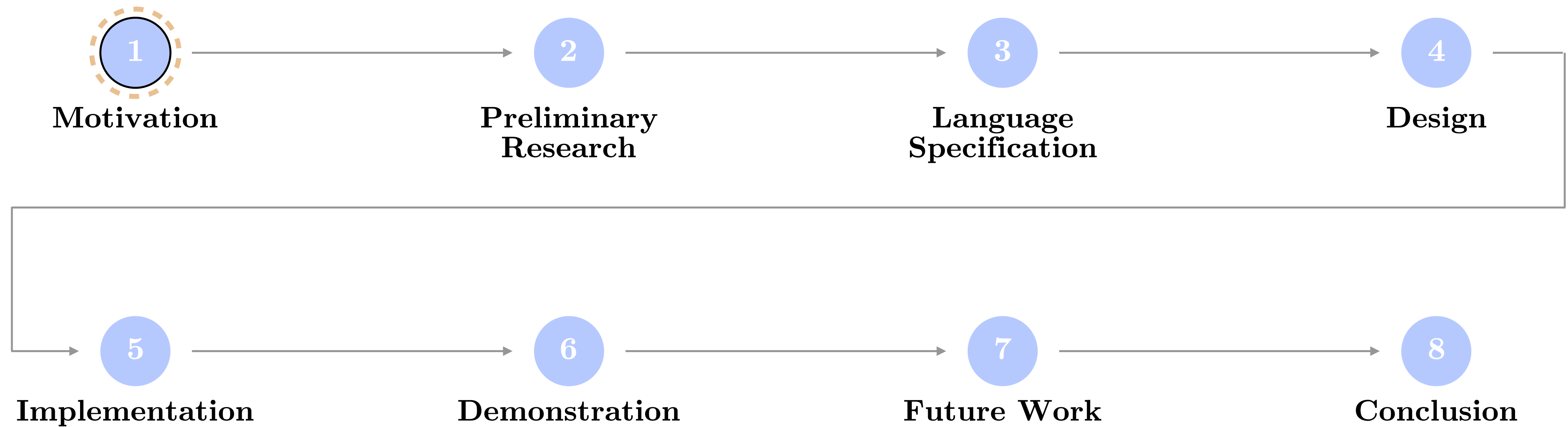
Question 1

Can I design a programming language that combines the powerful features of software programming languages with the ability to describe electronic circuits?

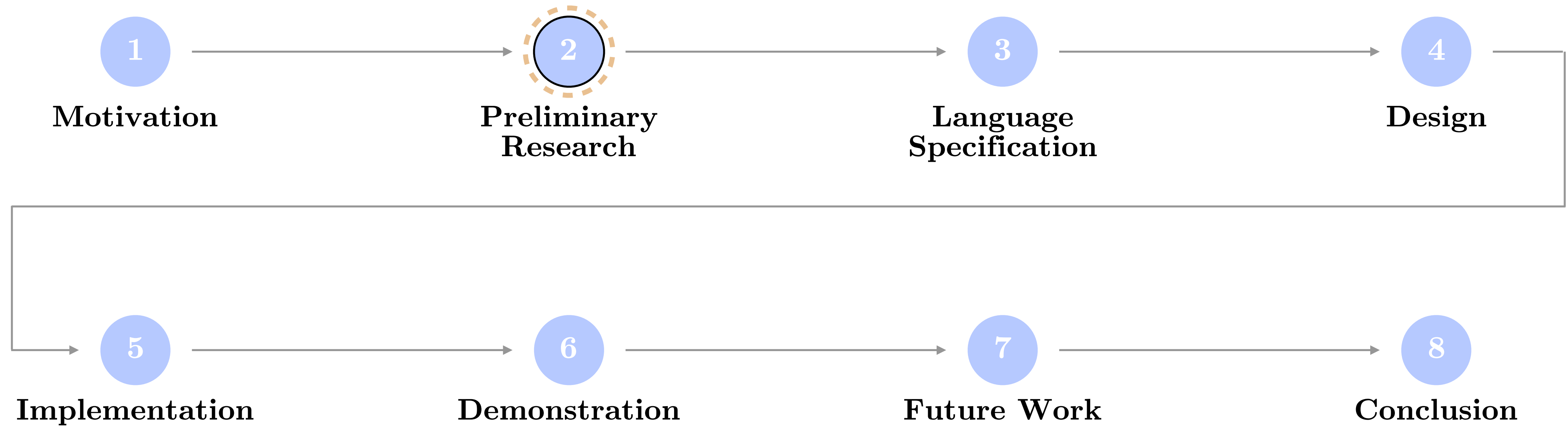
Question 2

Can I develop a compiler that accepts a program in this language and produces an optimized Verilog module?

ROADMAP



ROADMAP



PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

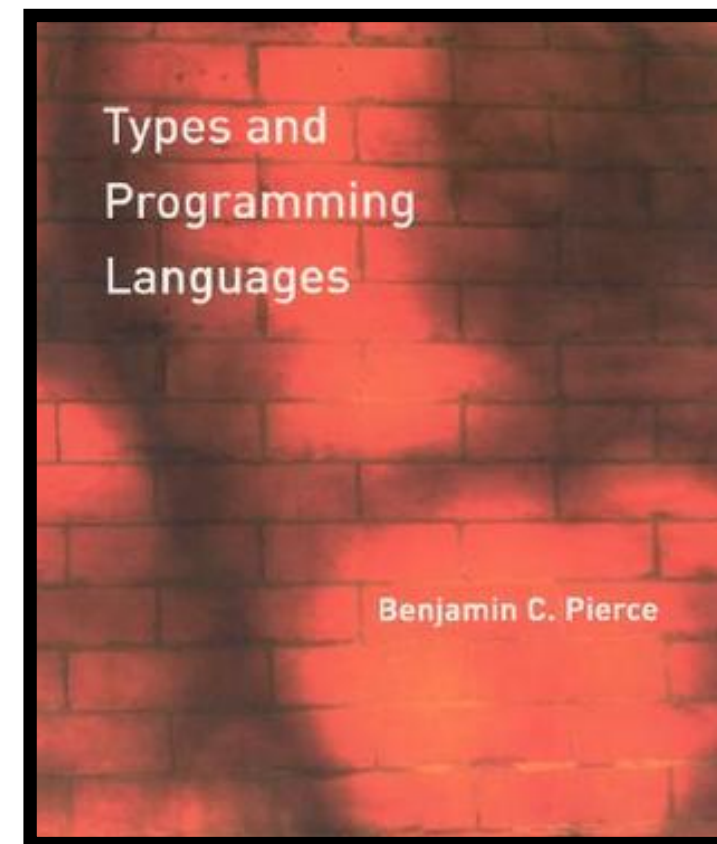
Possessed some prior knowledge through coursework

- ECE 350 (Digital Systems)
- ECE 553 (Compiler Construction)

Did not know enough about type theory to design a powerful language

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Read the entirety of ‘Types and Programming Languages’ by Benjamin Pierce, a textbook used in graduate-level type-theory seminars



Provided me with the theoretical tools I needed

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Other languages exist that attempt to do the same thing

Haskell for Hardware (only software programmers can understand)

Lava (not high-level enough)

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

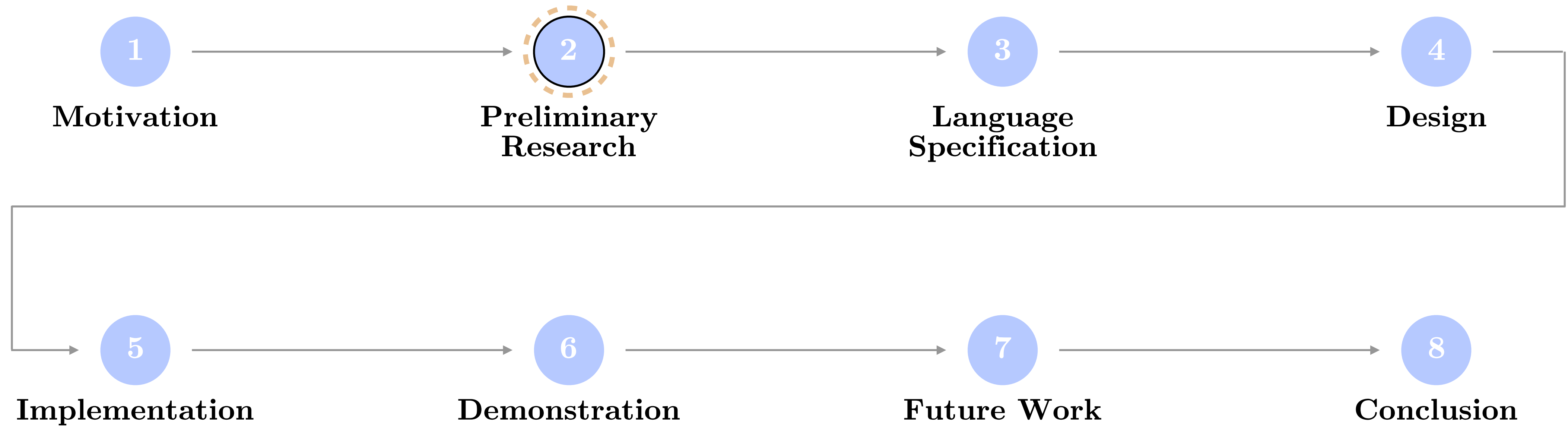
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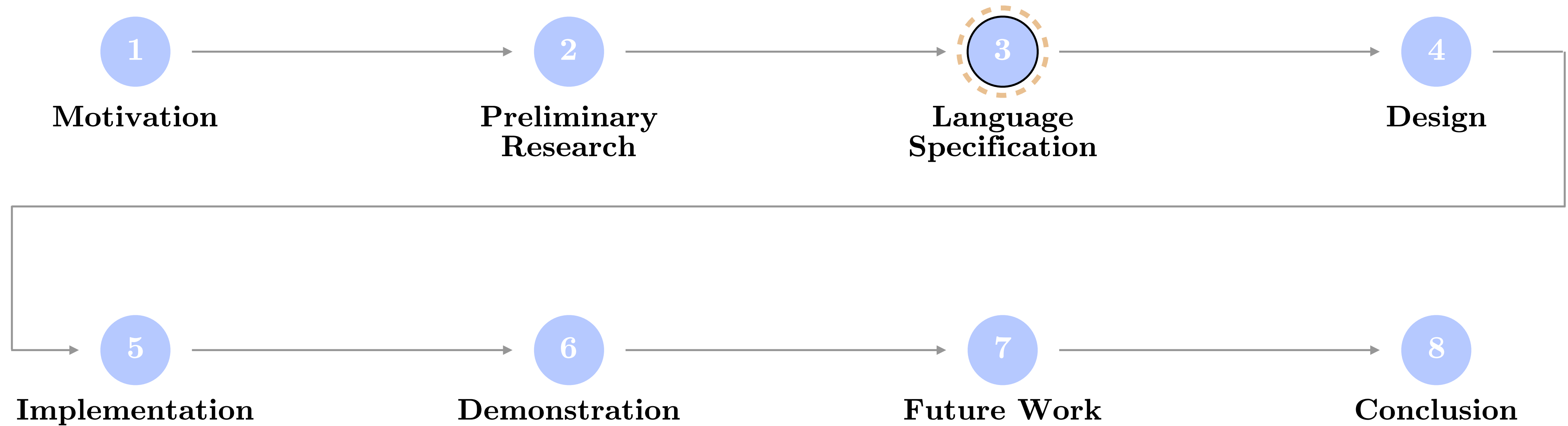
Lava (not high-level enough)

Gemini needs to be accessible to both parties

ROADMAP

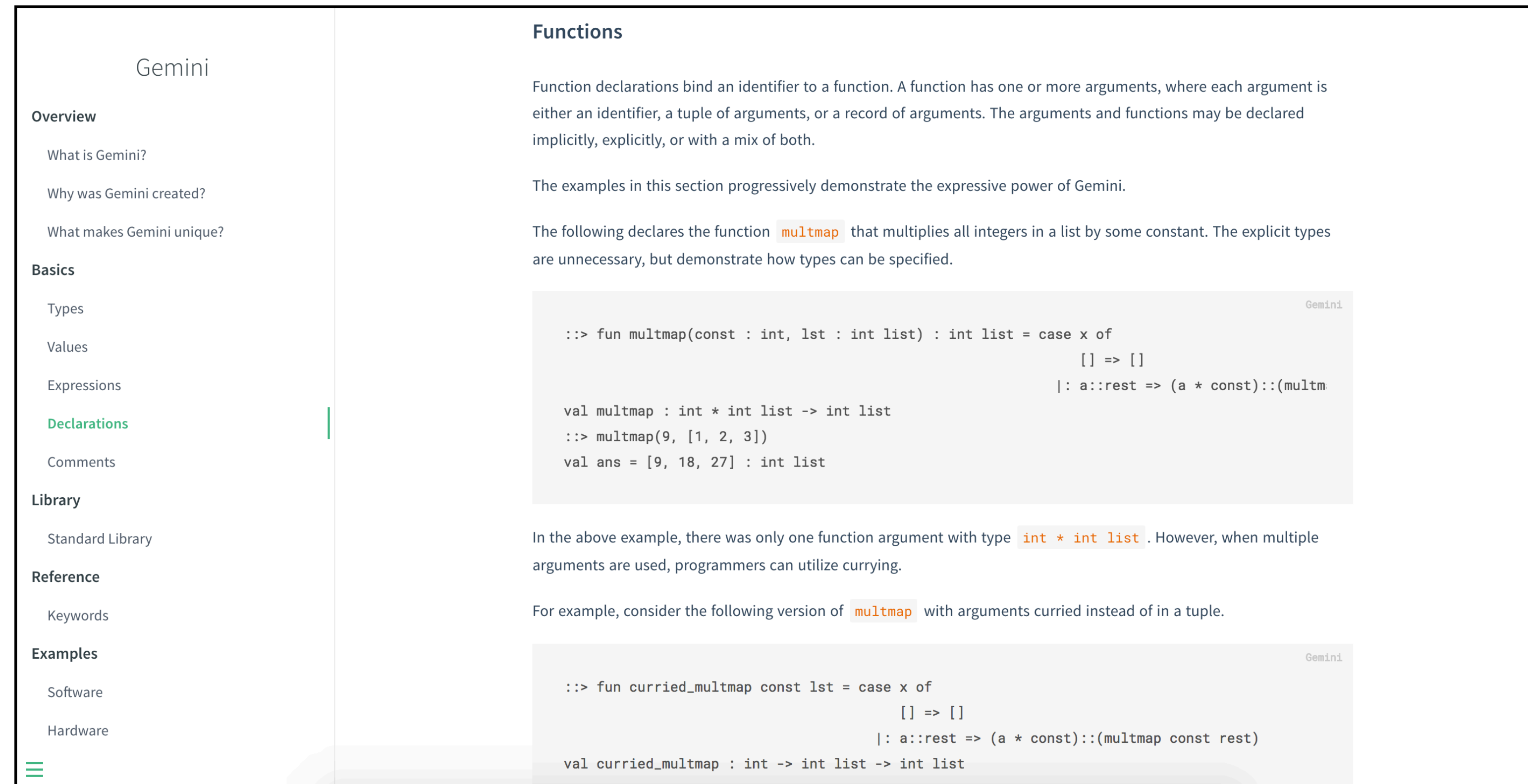


ROADMAP



LANGUAGE SPECIFICATION

Complete documentation with examples can be found at bit.ly/gemini-docs



The screenshot shows a web page for the Gemini language specification. On the left is a navigation sidebar with the following sections: Gemini (title), Overview (What is Gemini?, Why was Gemini created?, What makes Gemini unique?), Basics (Types, Values, Expressions, **Declarations**, Comments), Library (Standard Library), Reference (Keywords), and Examples (Software, Hardware). The main content area is titled "Functions" and contains the following text:

Function declarations bind an identifier to a function. A function has one or more arguments, where each argument is either an identifier, a tuple of arguments, or a record of arguments. The arguments and functions may be declared implicitly, explicitly, or with a mix of both.

The examples in this section progressively demonstrate the expressive power of Gemini.

The following declares the function `multimap` that multiplies all integers in a list by some constant. The explicit types are unnecessary, but demonstrate how types can be specified.

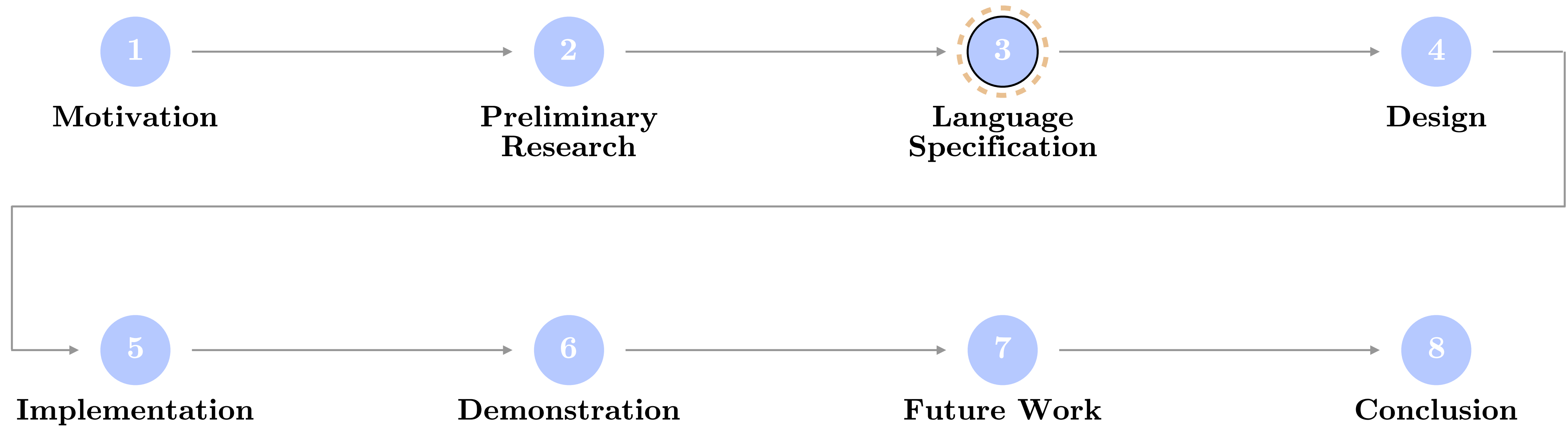
```
gemini
::> fun multimap(const : int, lst : int list) : int list = case x of
    [] => []
    |: a::rest => (a * const)::(multm
val multimap : int * int list -> int list
::> multimap(9, [1, 2, 3])
val ans = [9, 18, 27] : int list
```

In the above example, there was only one function argument with type `int * int list`. However, when multiple arguments are used, programmers can utilize currying.

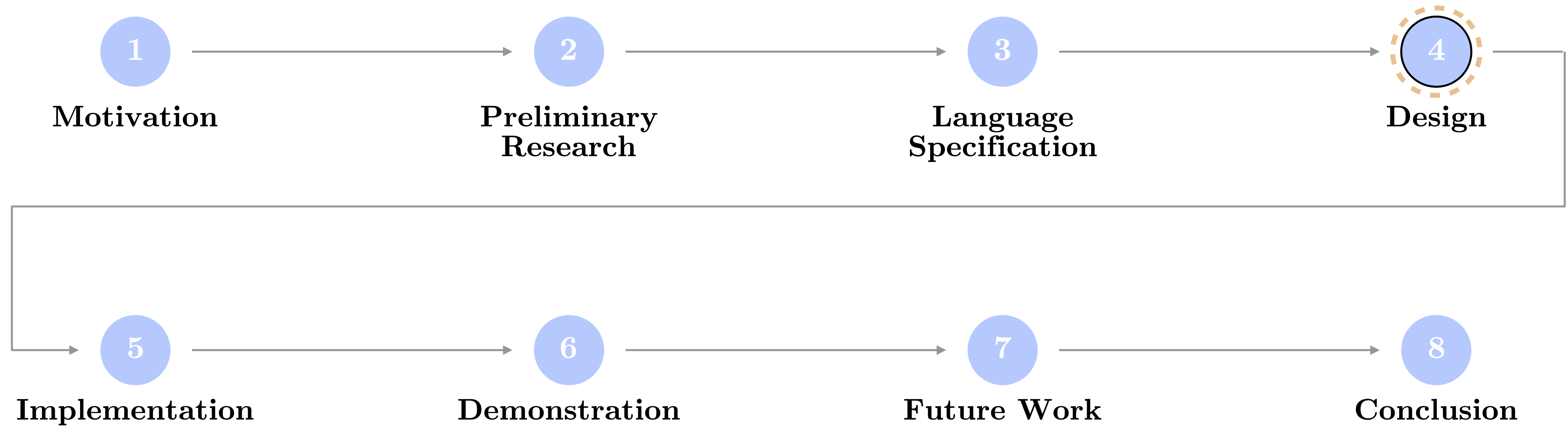
For example, consider the following version of `multimap` with arguments curried instead of in a tuple.

```
gemini
::> fun curried_multmap const lst = case x of
    [] => []
    |: a::rest => (a * const)::(multimap const rest)
val curried_multmap : int -> int list -> int list
```


ROADMAP



ROADMAP



DESIGN

1. Kinding System
2. Grammar
3. Typing Relation
4. Evaluation Rules
5. Proof of Safety

DESIGN

1. Kinding System
2. Grammar
3. Typing Relation
4. Evaluation Rules
5. Proof of Safety

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

What is a type?

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

What is a type?

A classification of a value (`int`, `string`, etc.)

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

What is a type?

A classification of a value (`int`, `string`, etc.)

What is a kind?

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

What is a type?

A classification of a value (int, string, etc.)

What is a kind?

A classification of a type; “the type of types”

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

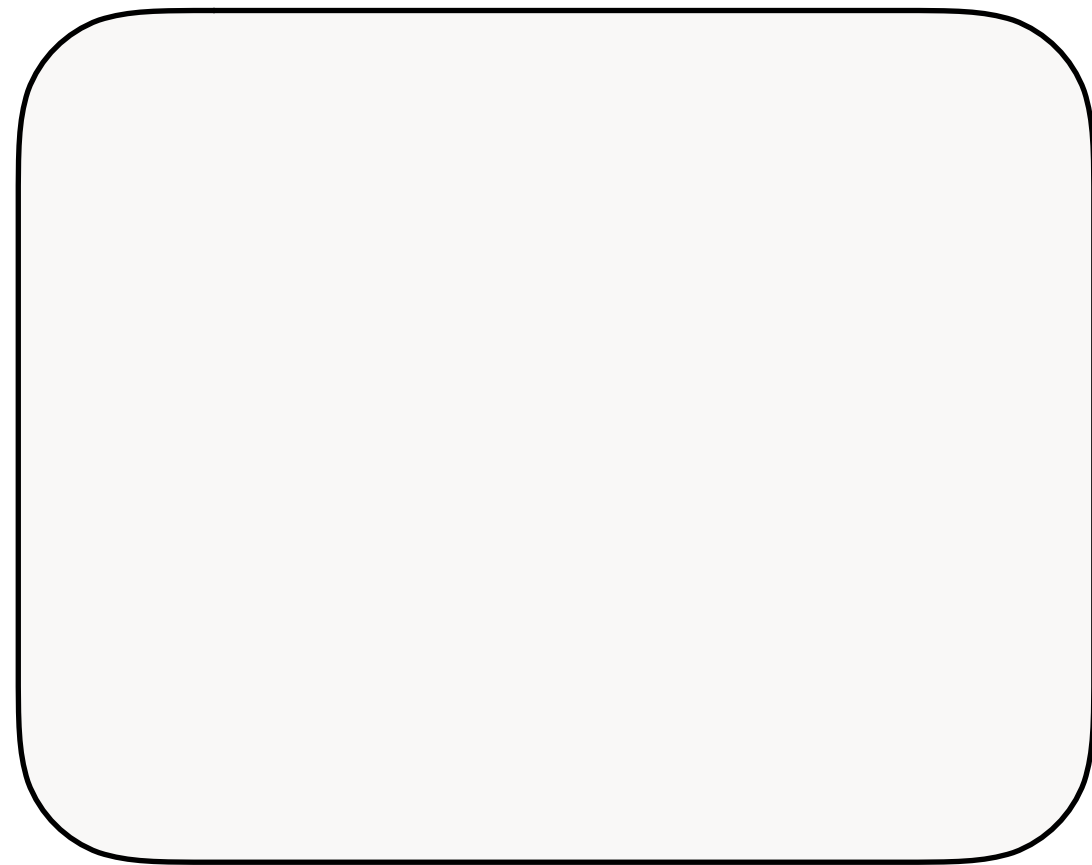
Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)

*

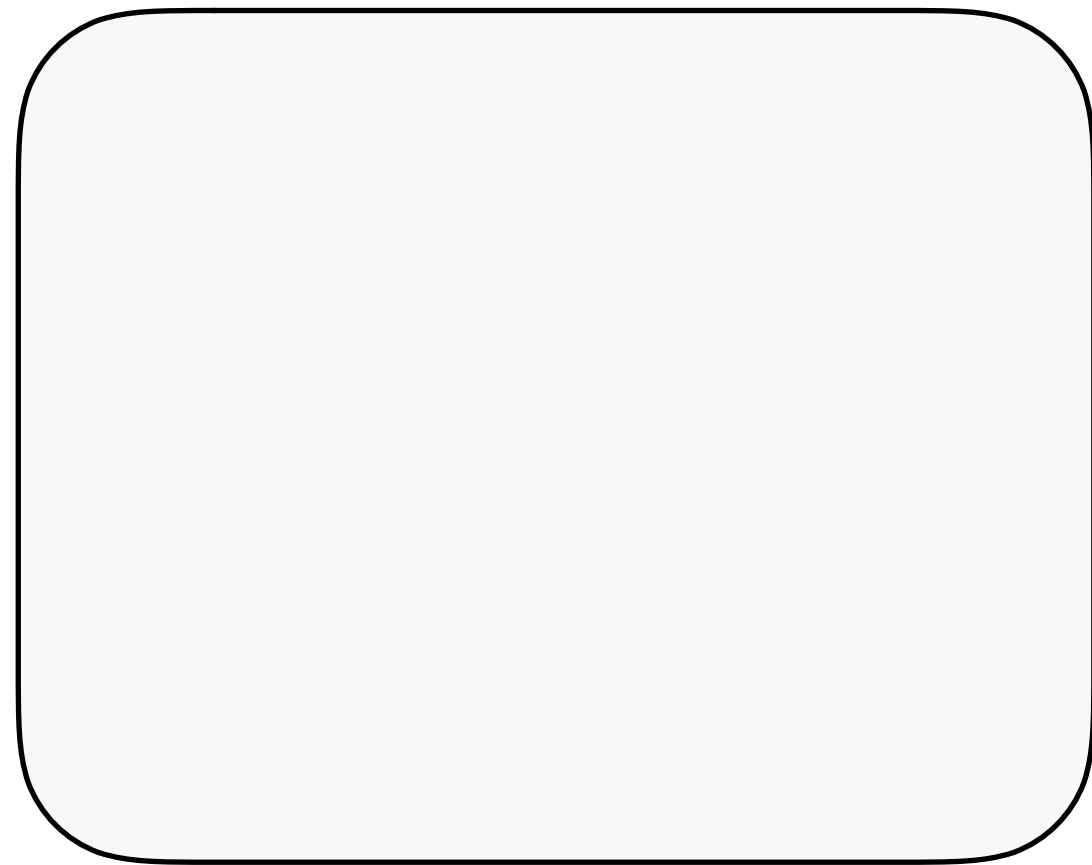


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

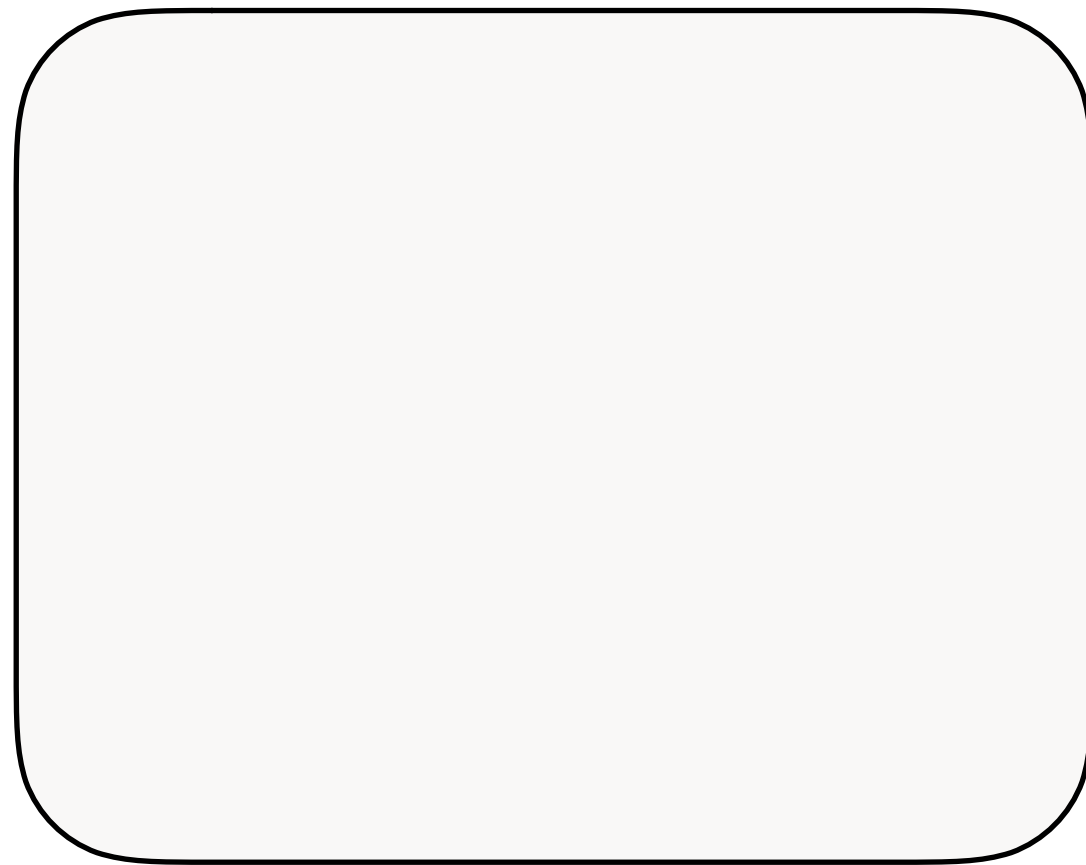
In conventional programming languages...

Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)

*



* \Rightarrow *

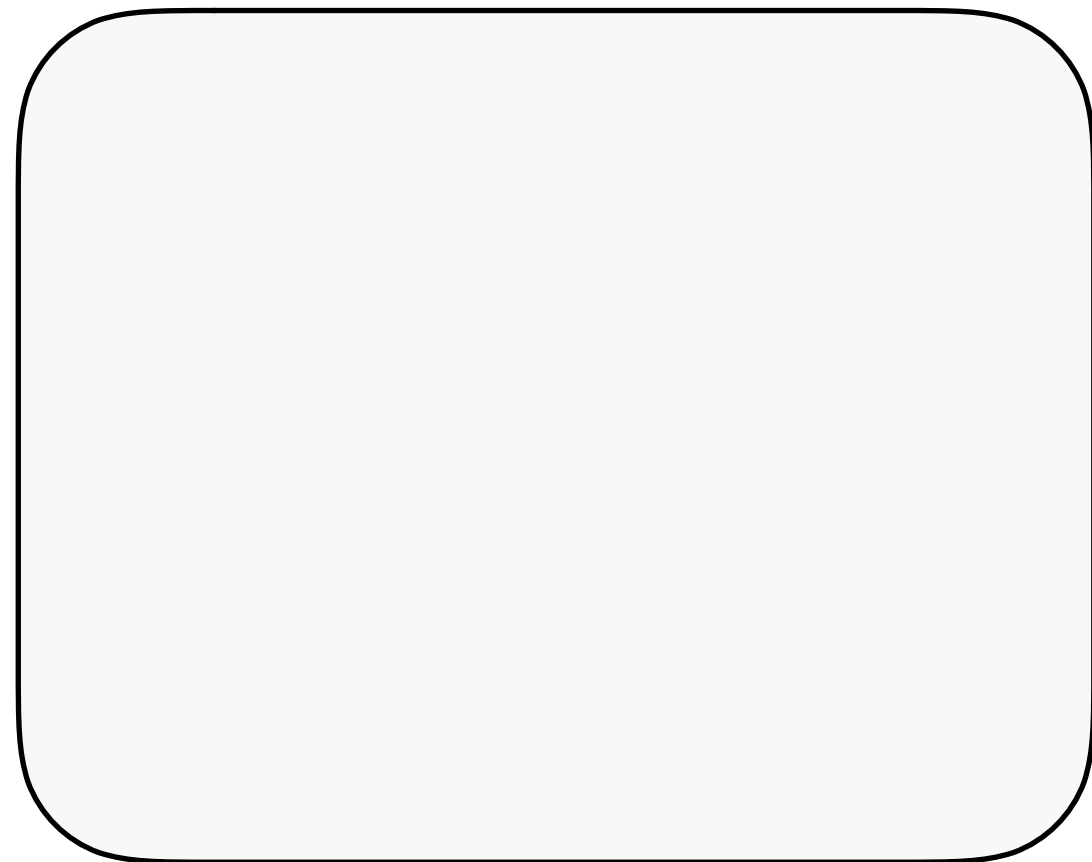


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

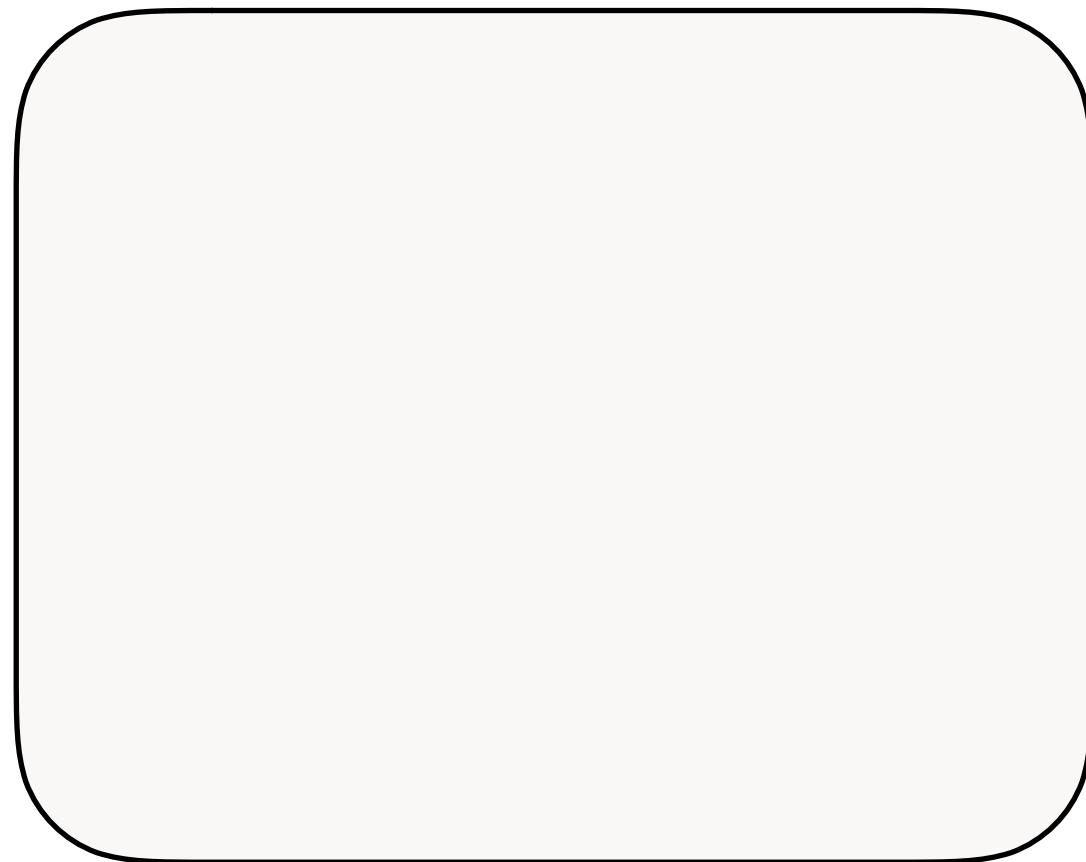
In conventional programming languages...

Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)

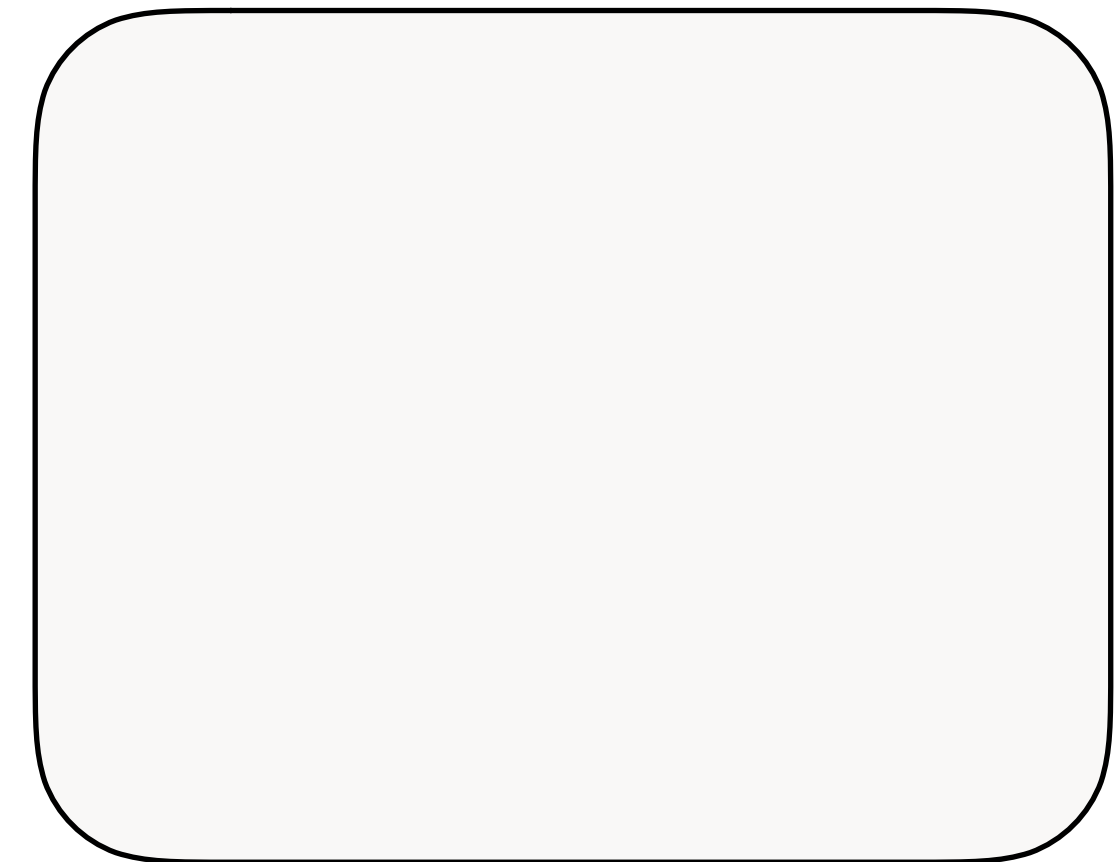
*



* \Rightarrow *



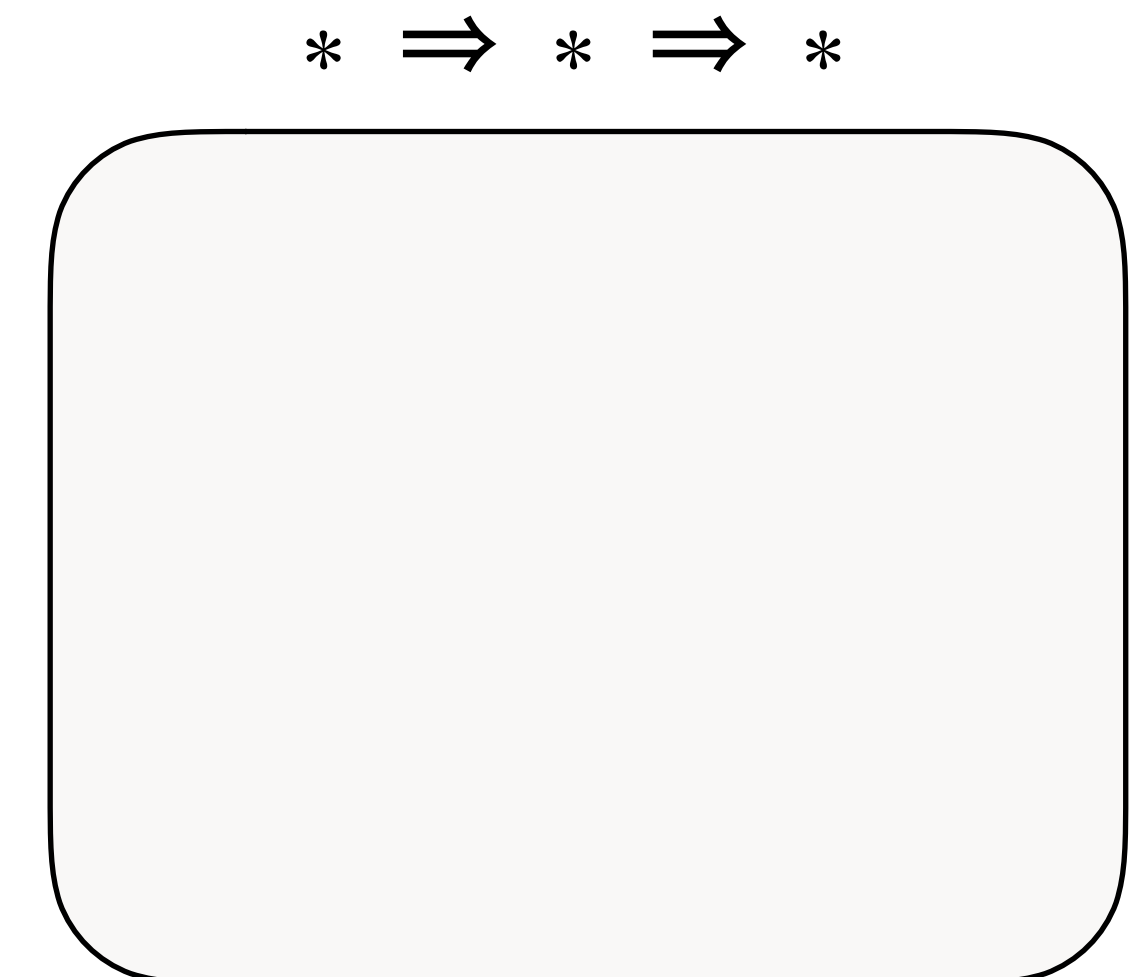
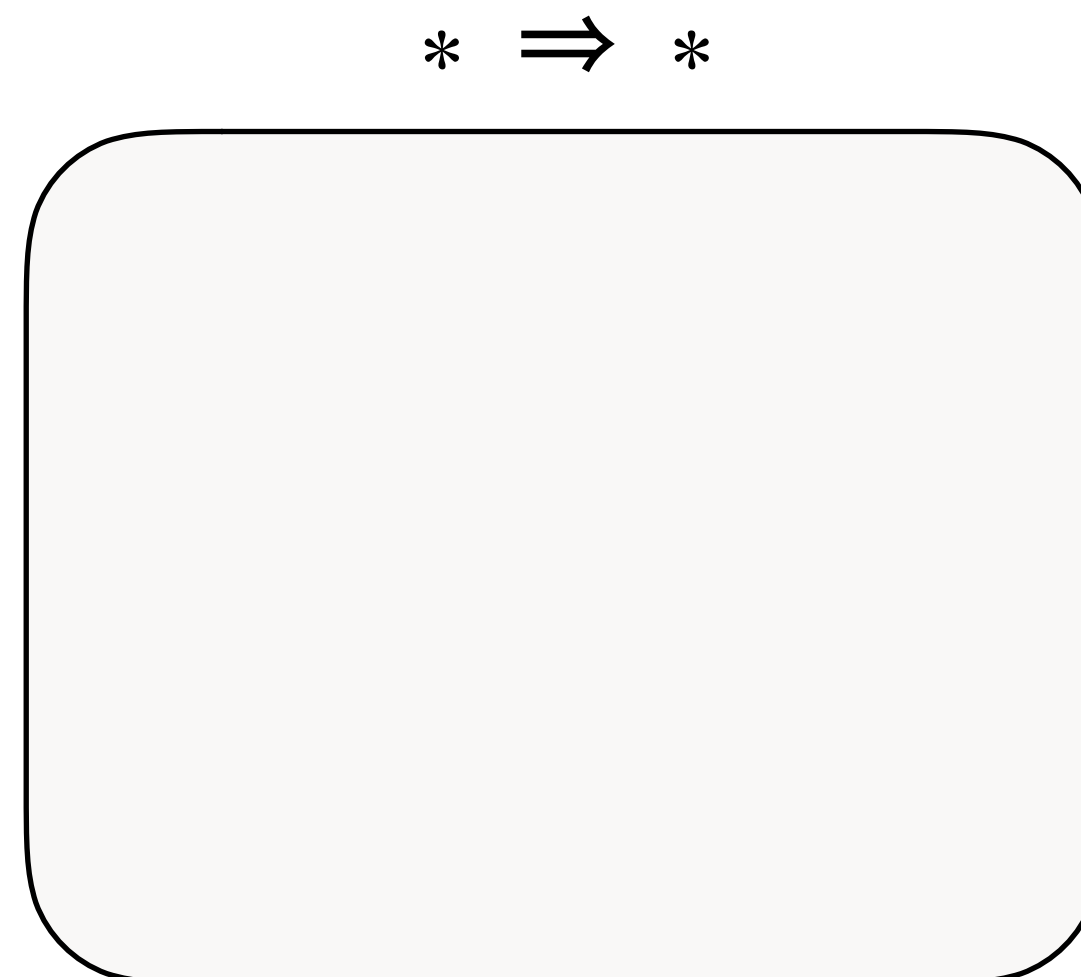
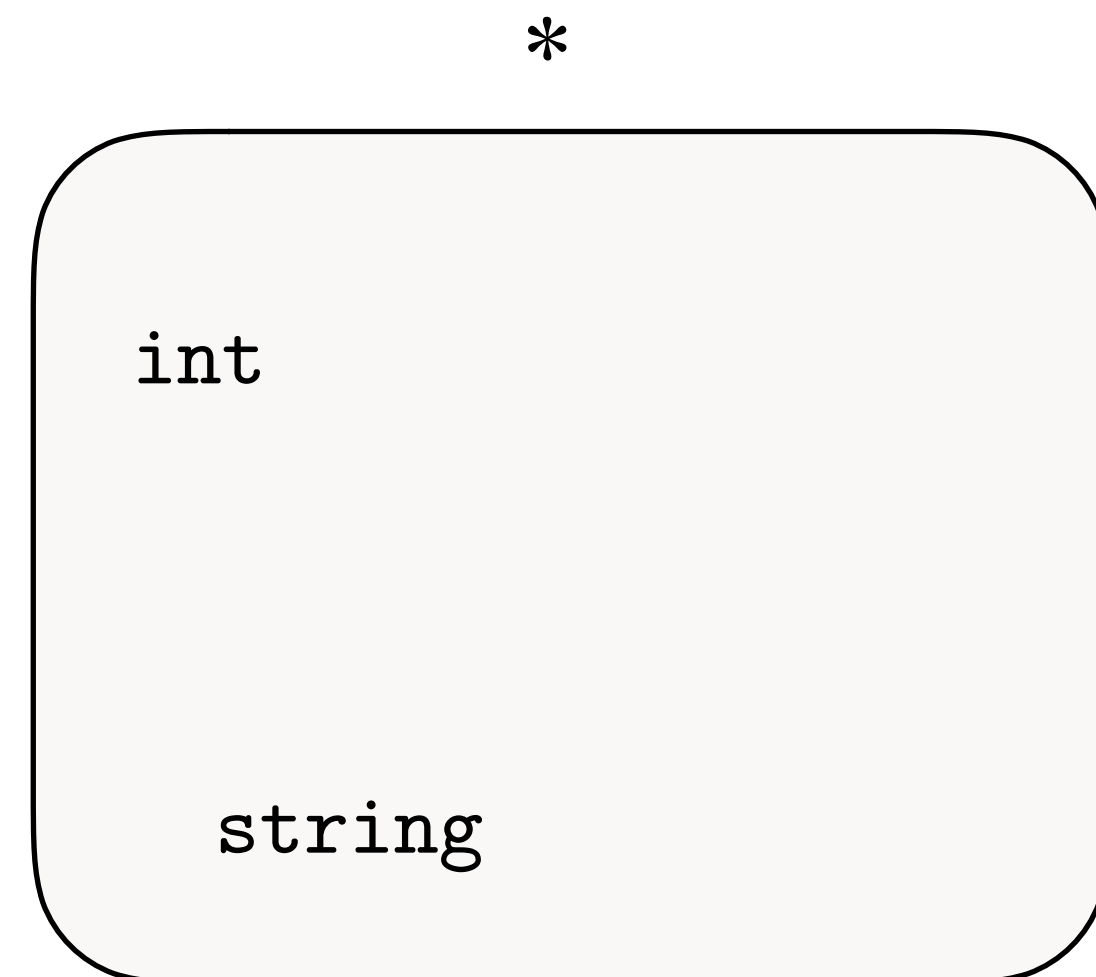
* \Rightarrow * \Rightarrow *



DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

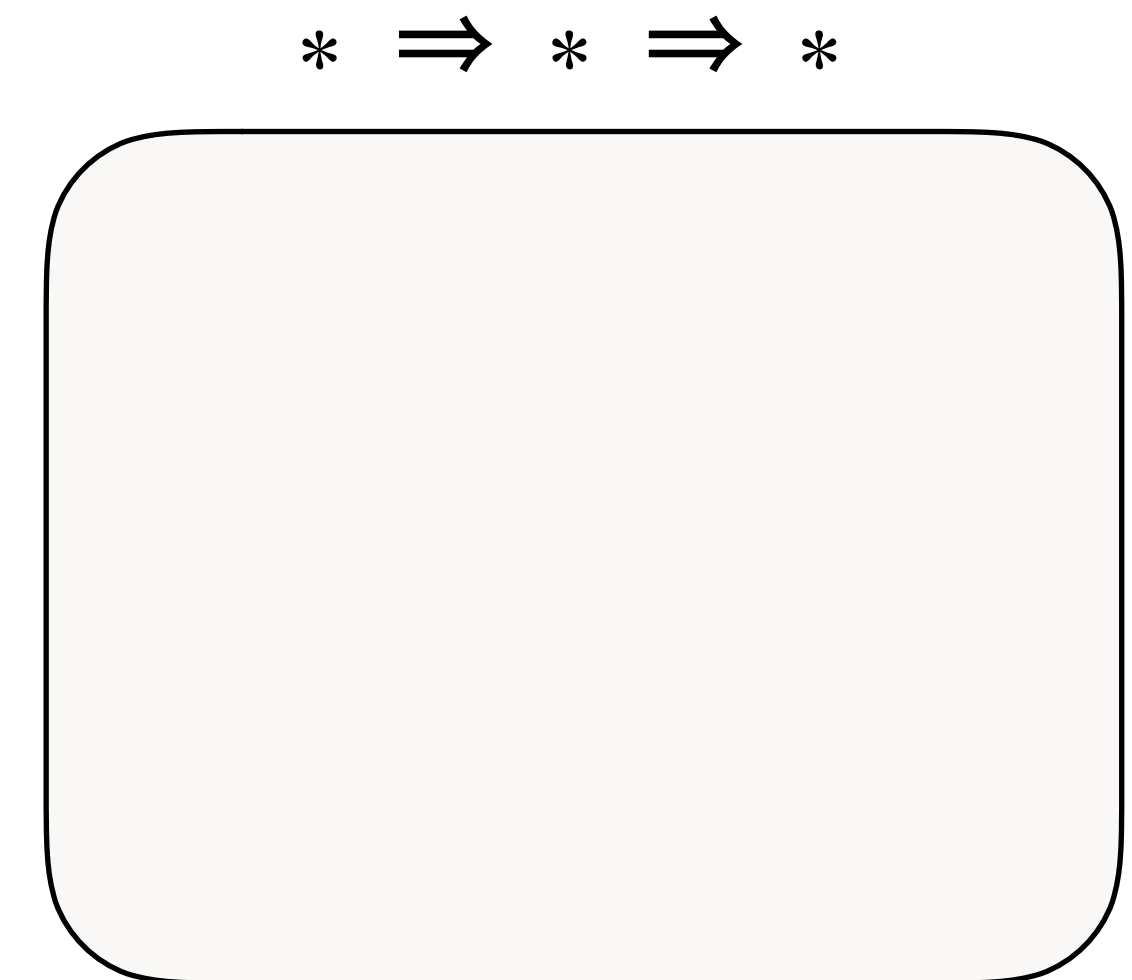
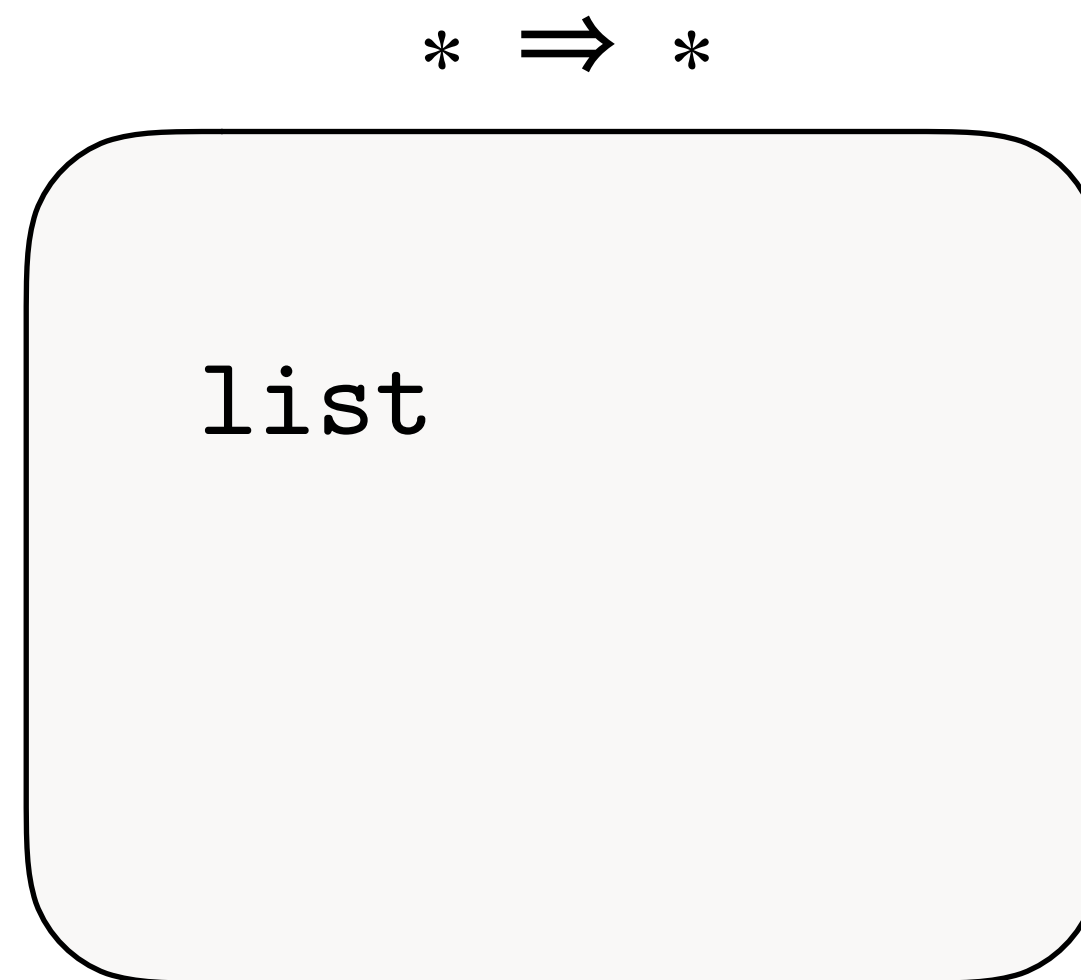
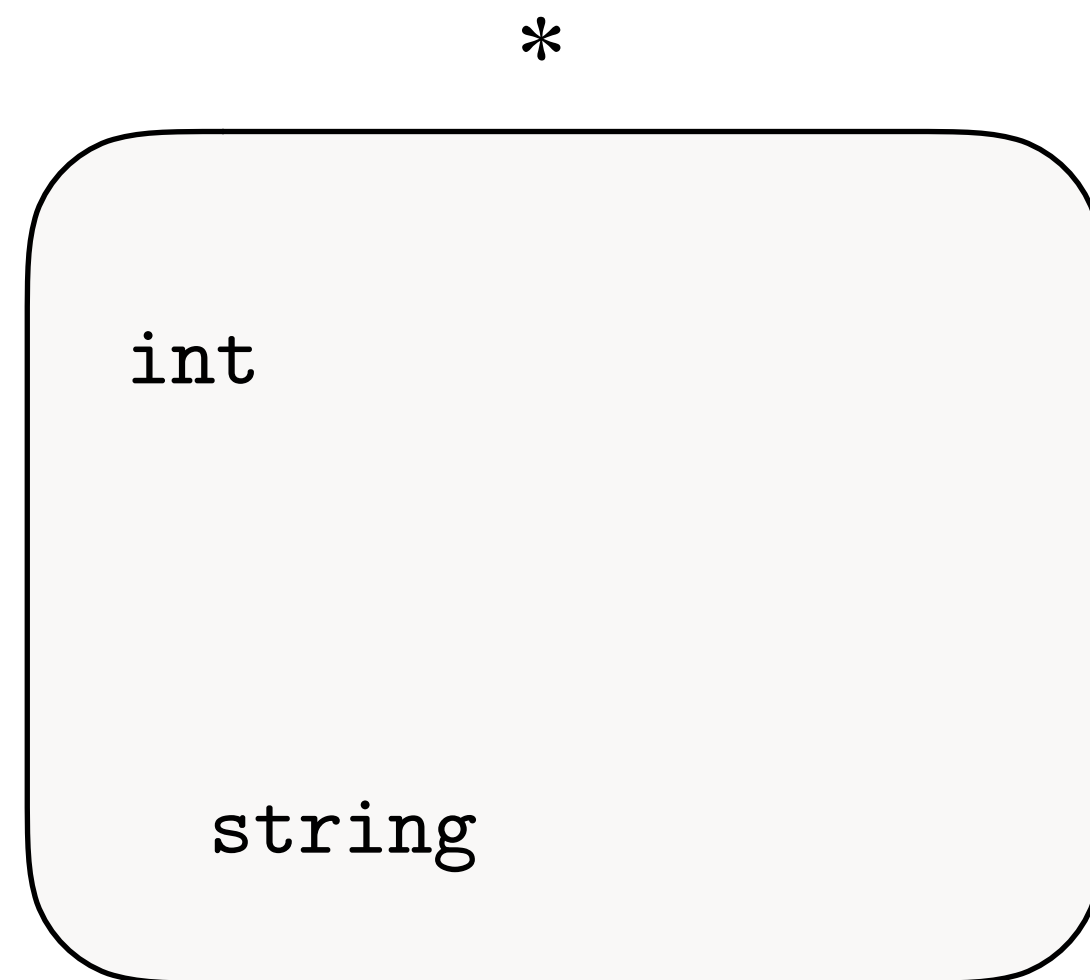
Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)



DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

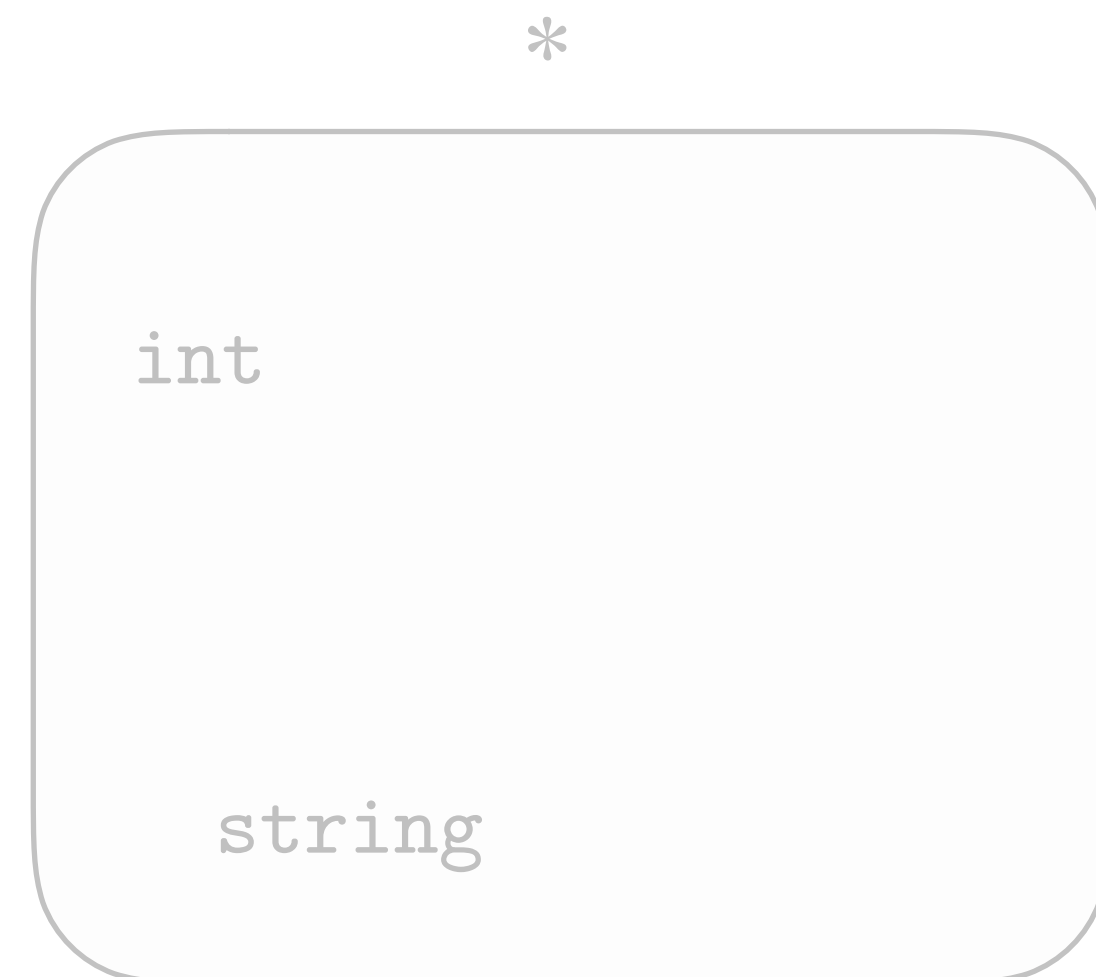
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DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

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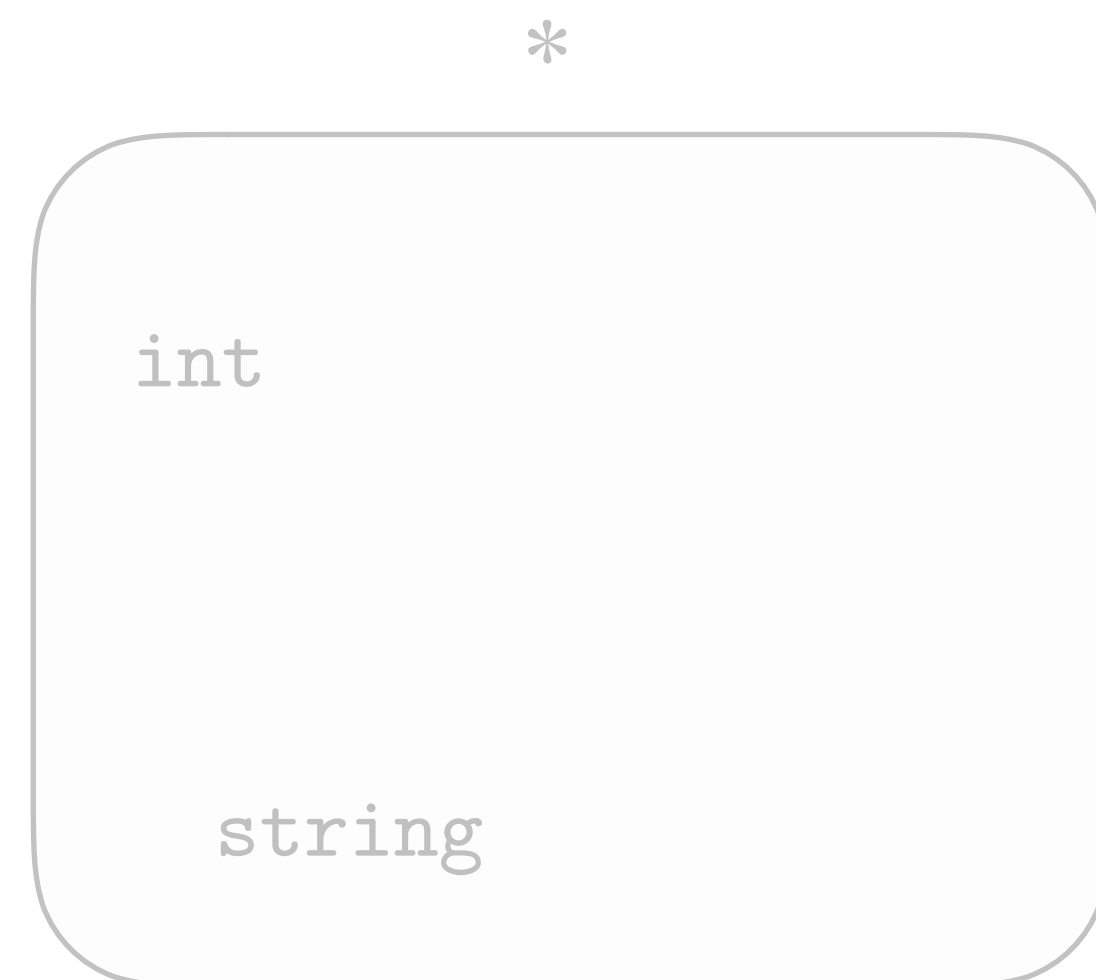
list

* \Rightarrow *

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)



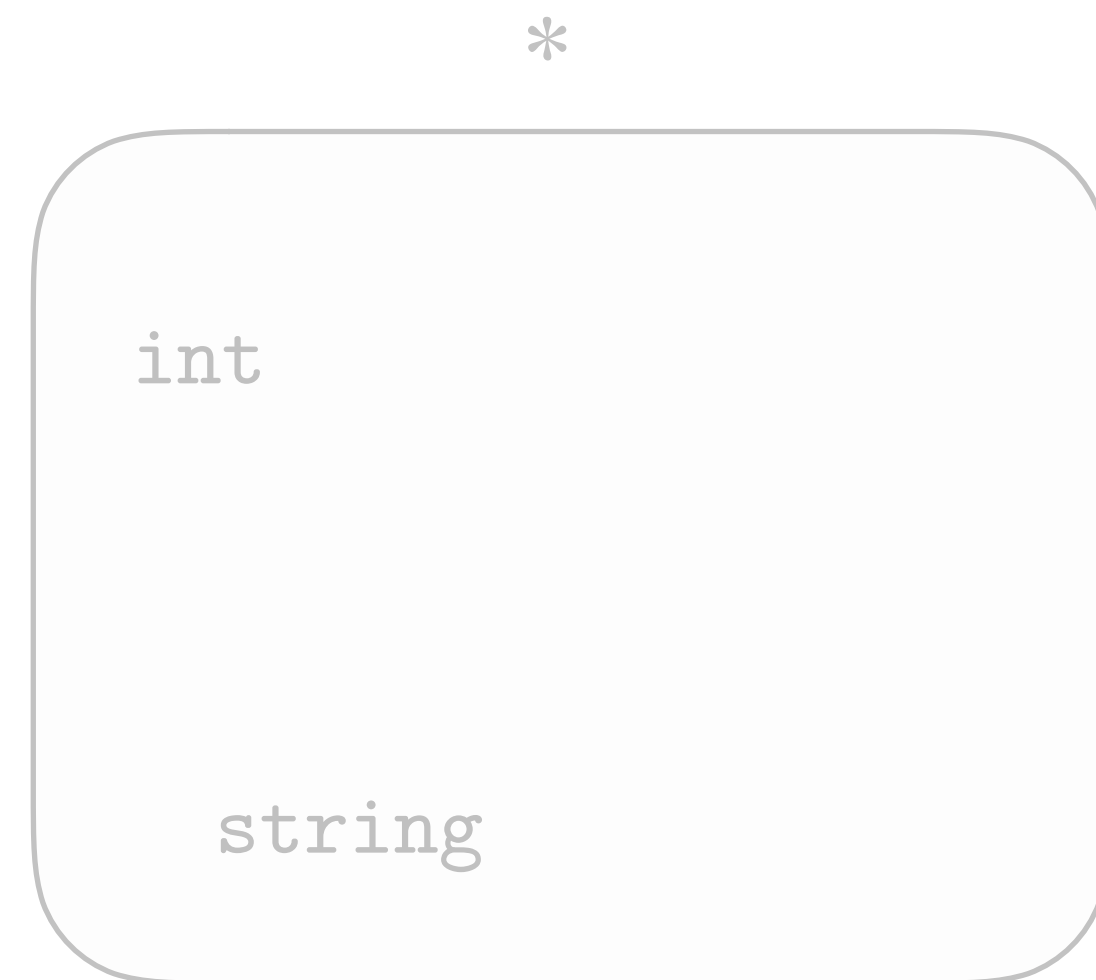
int list

* \Rightarrow *

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)

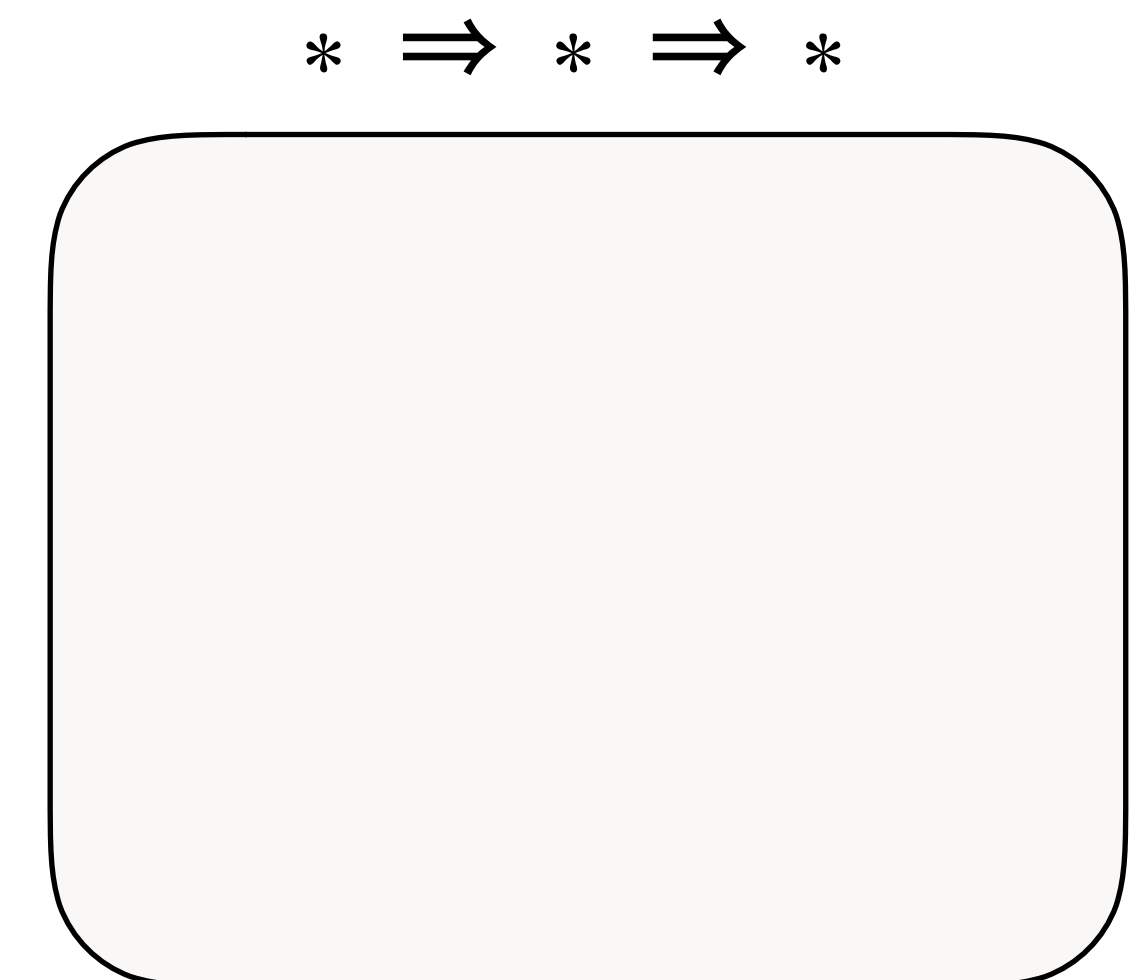
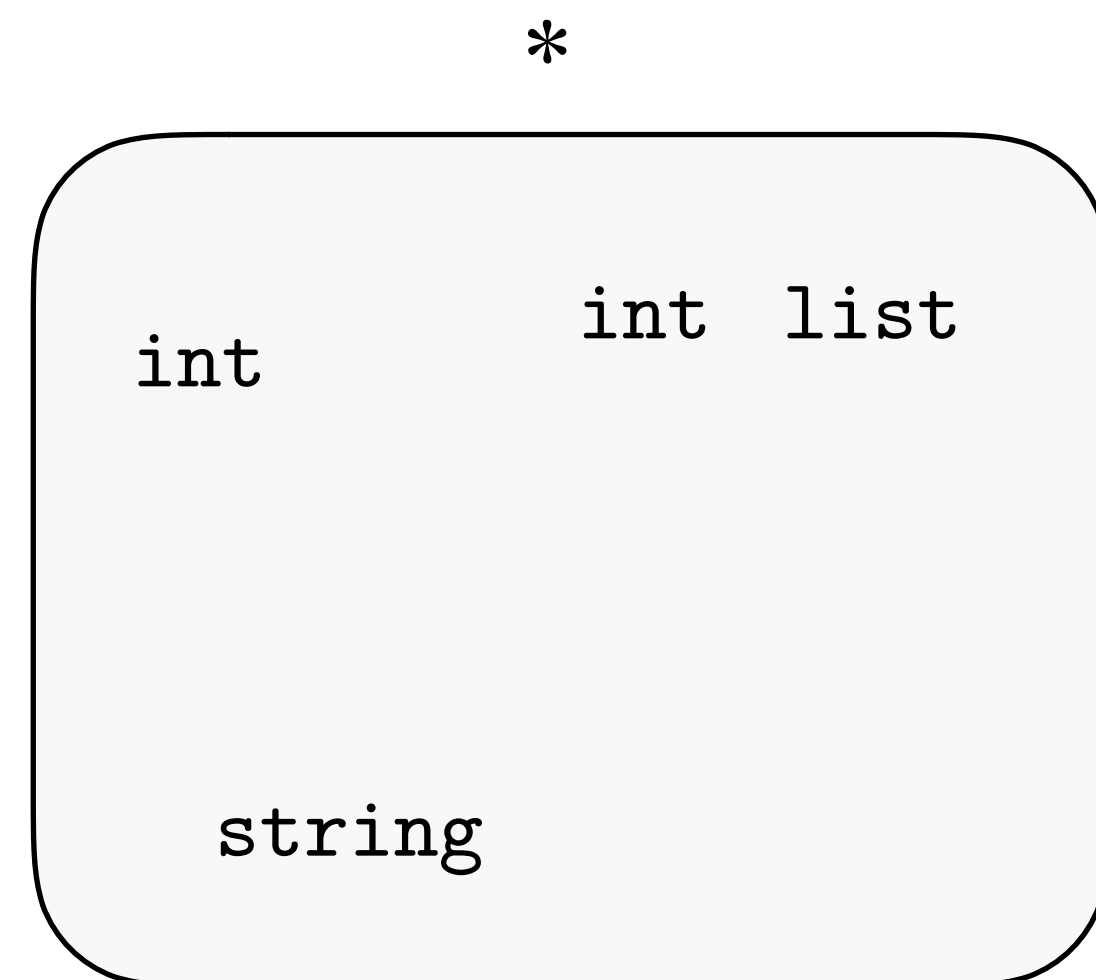


int list

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In conventional programming languages...

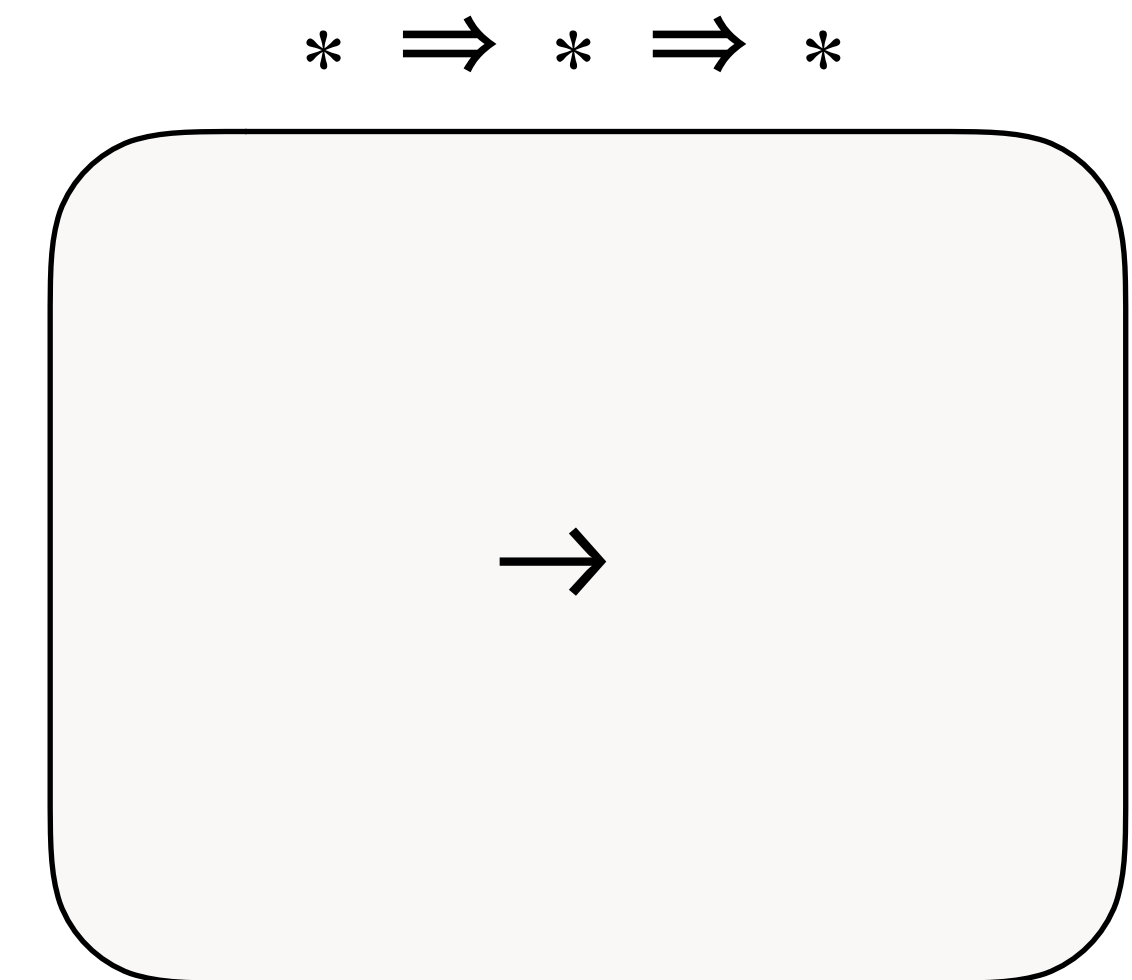
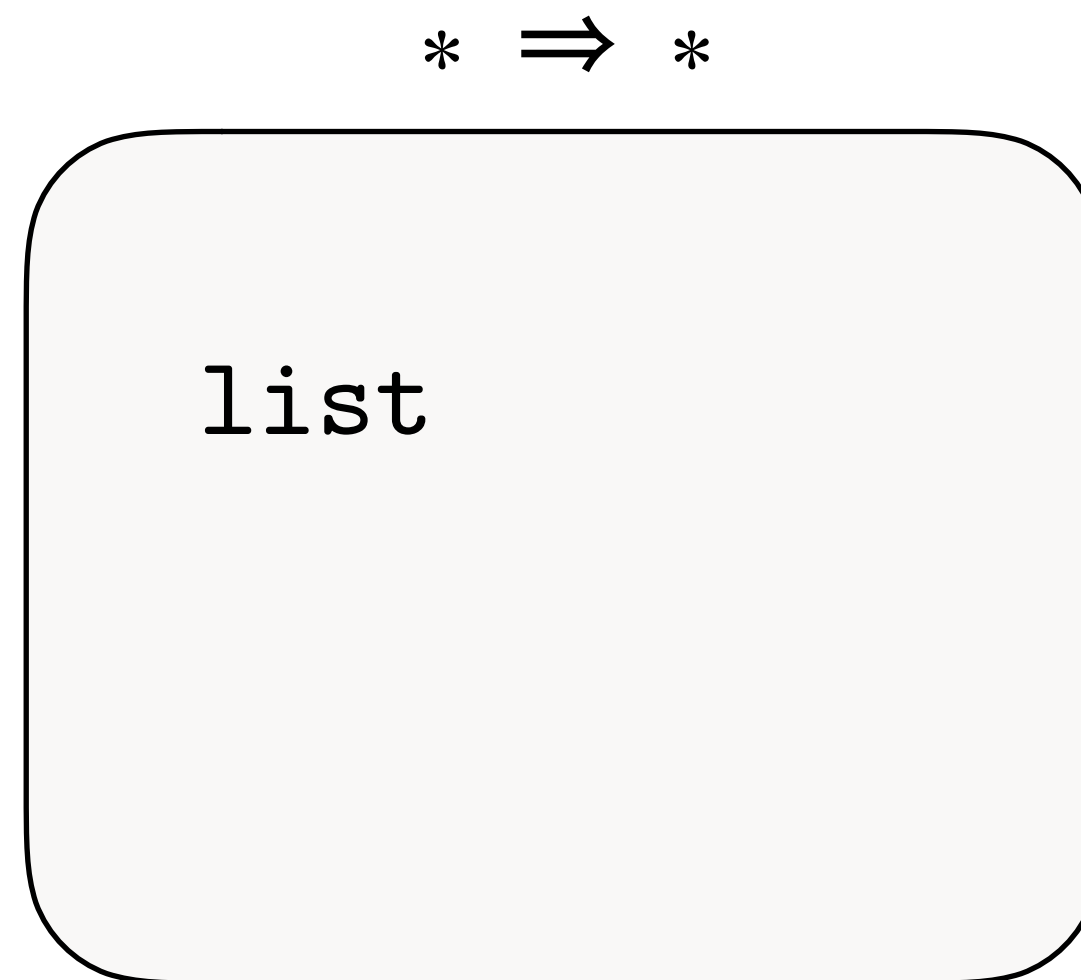
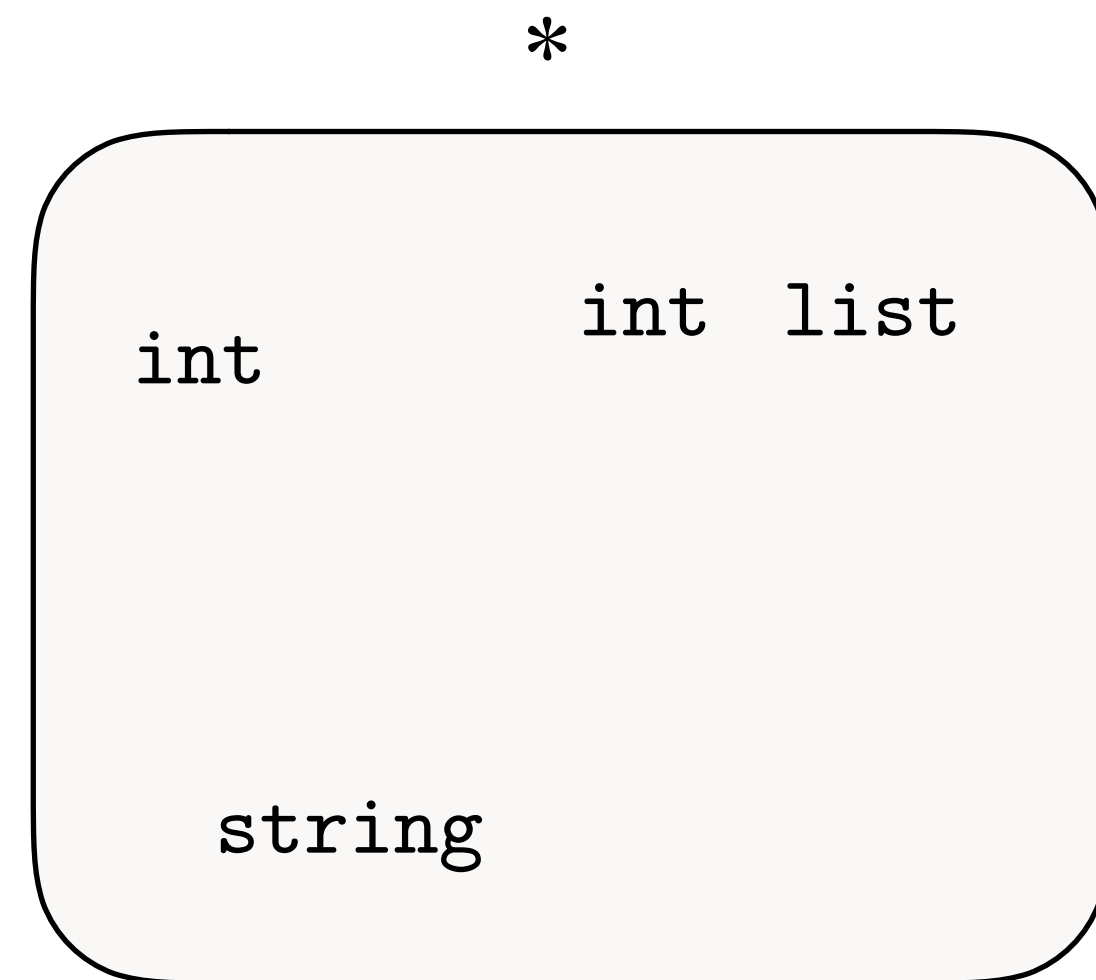
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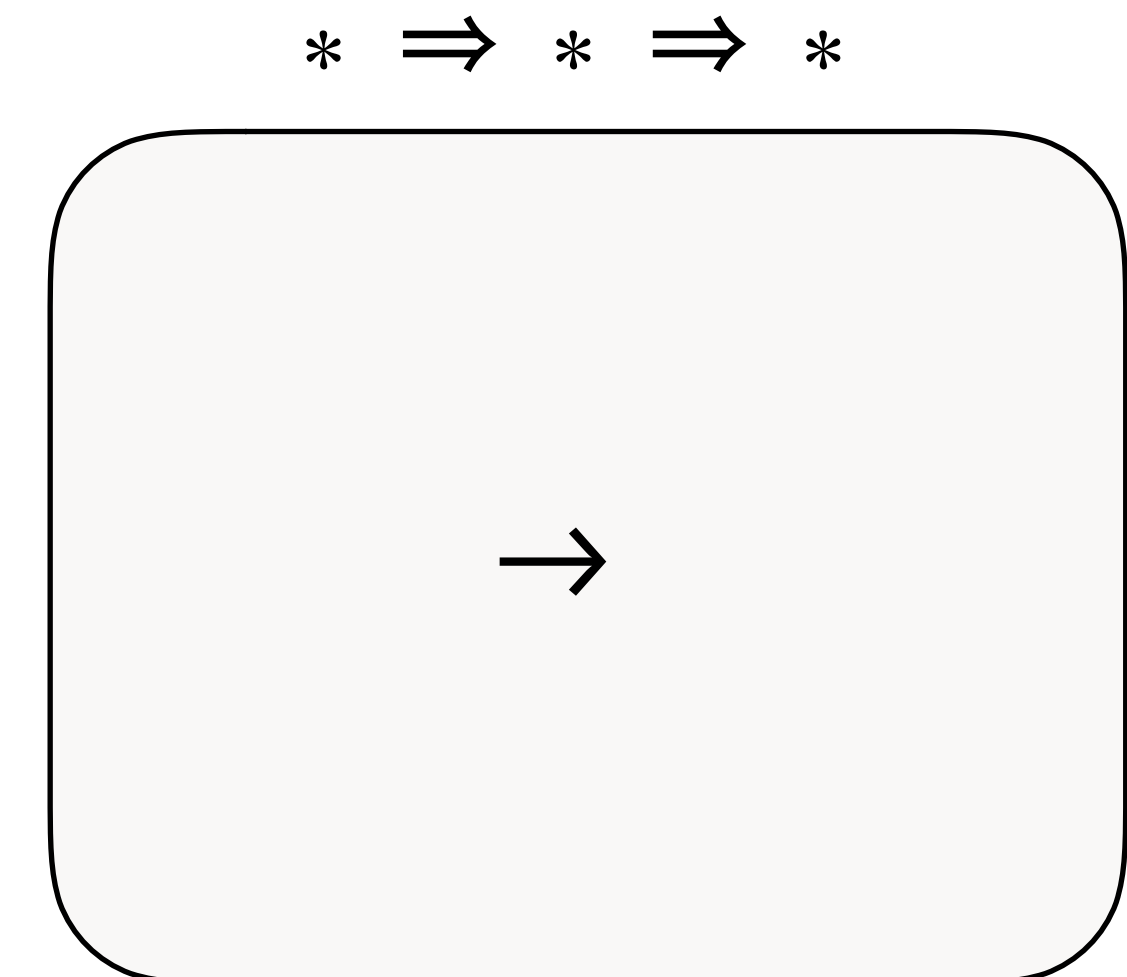
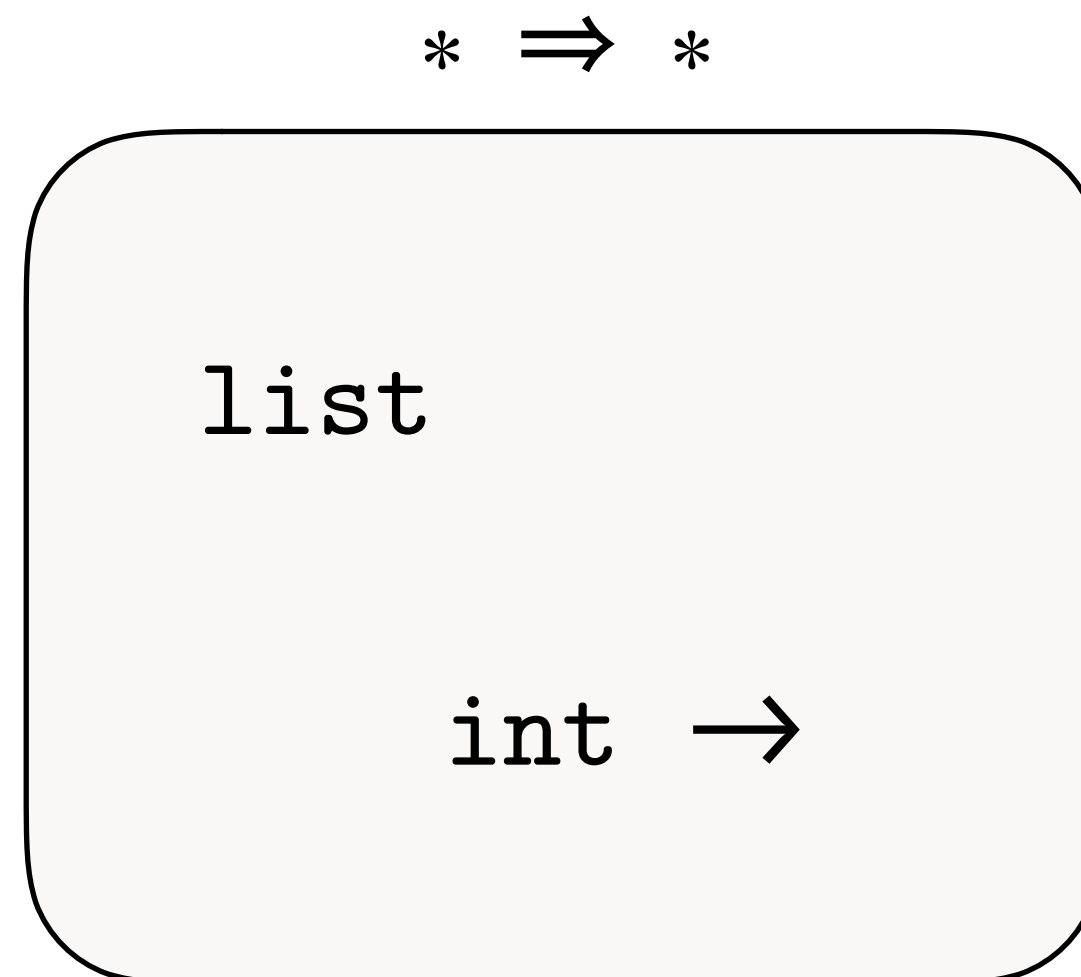
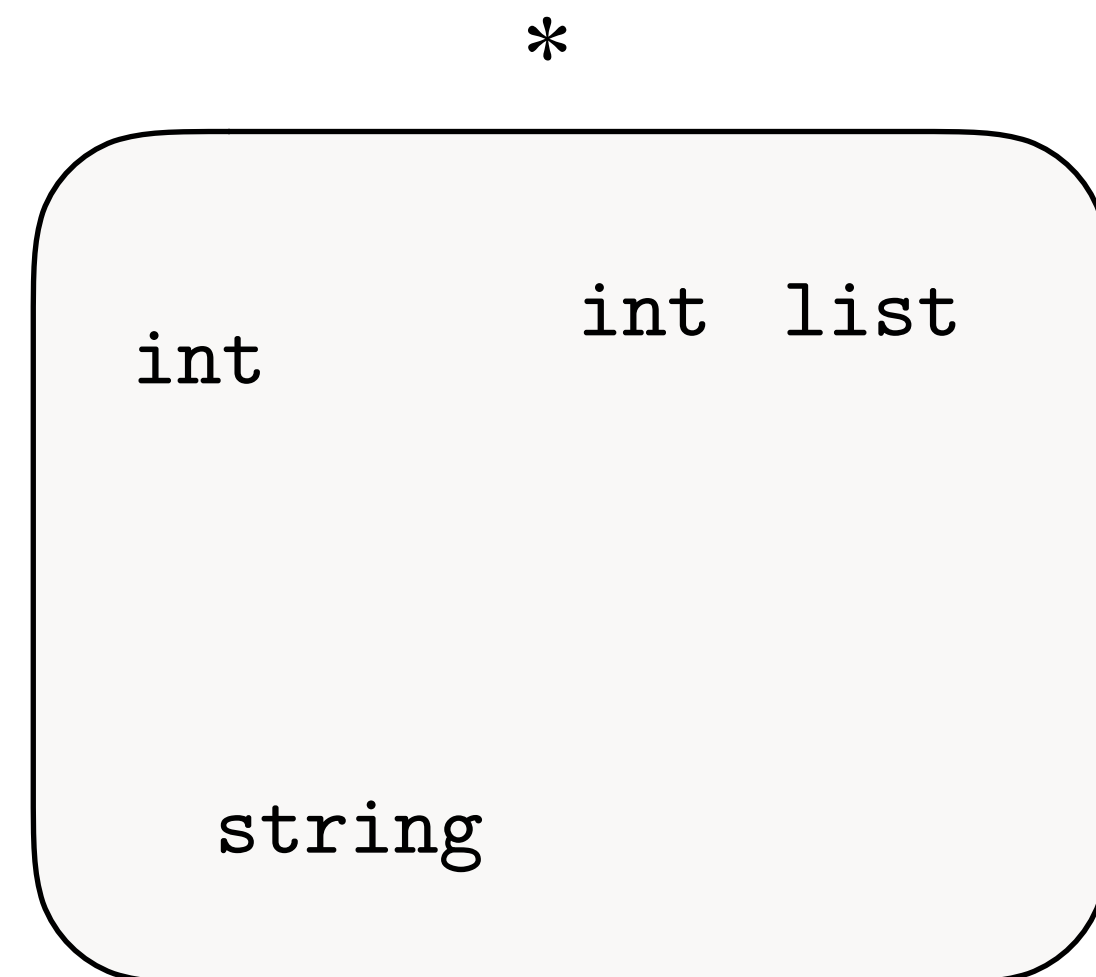
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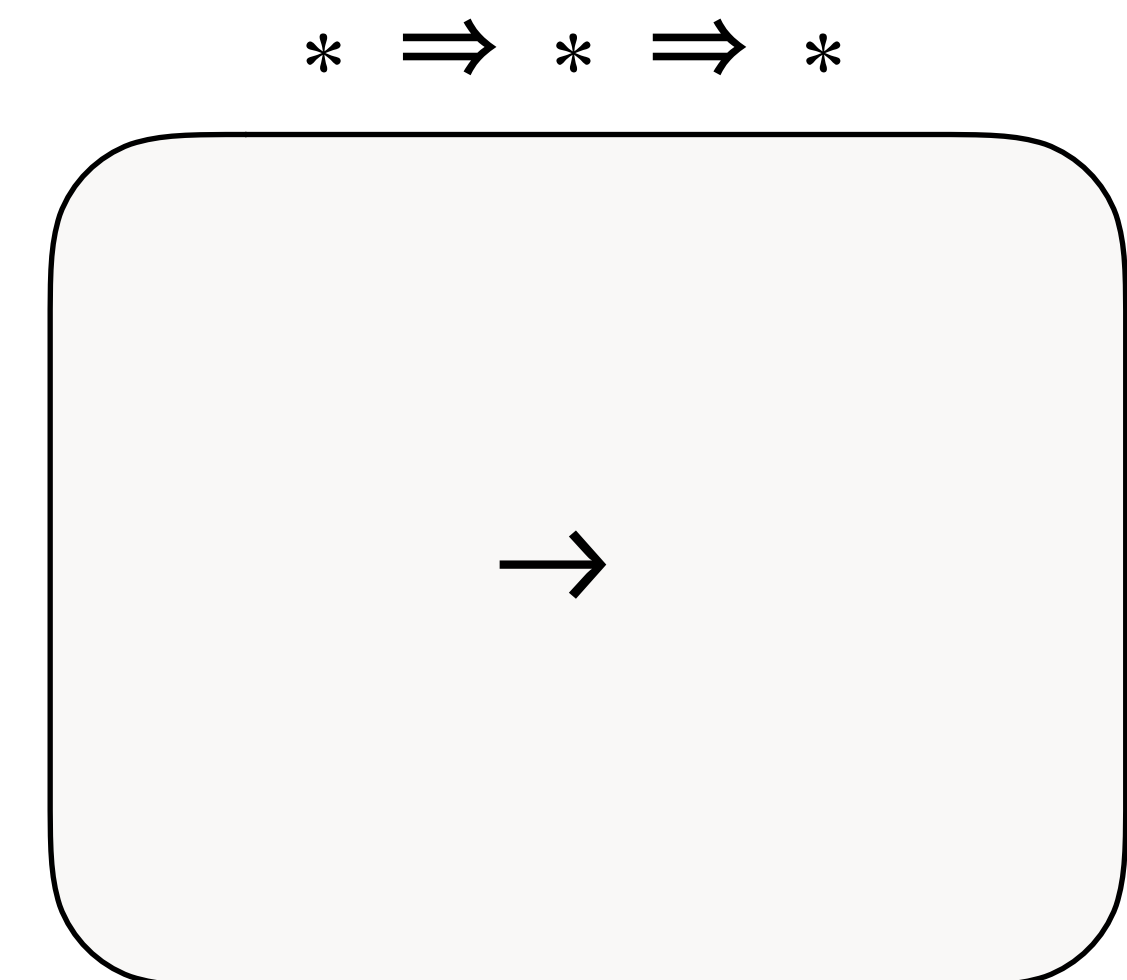
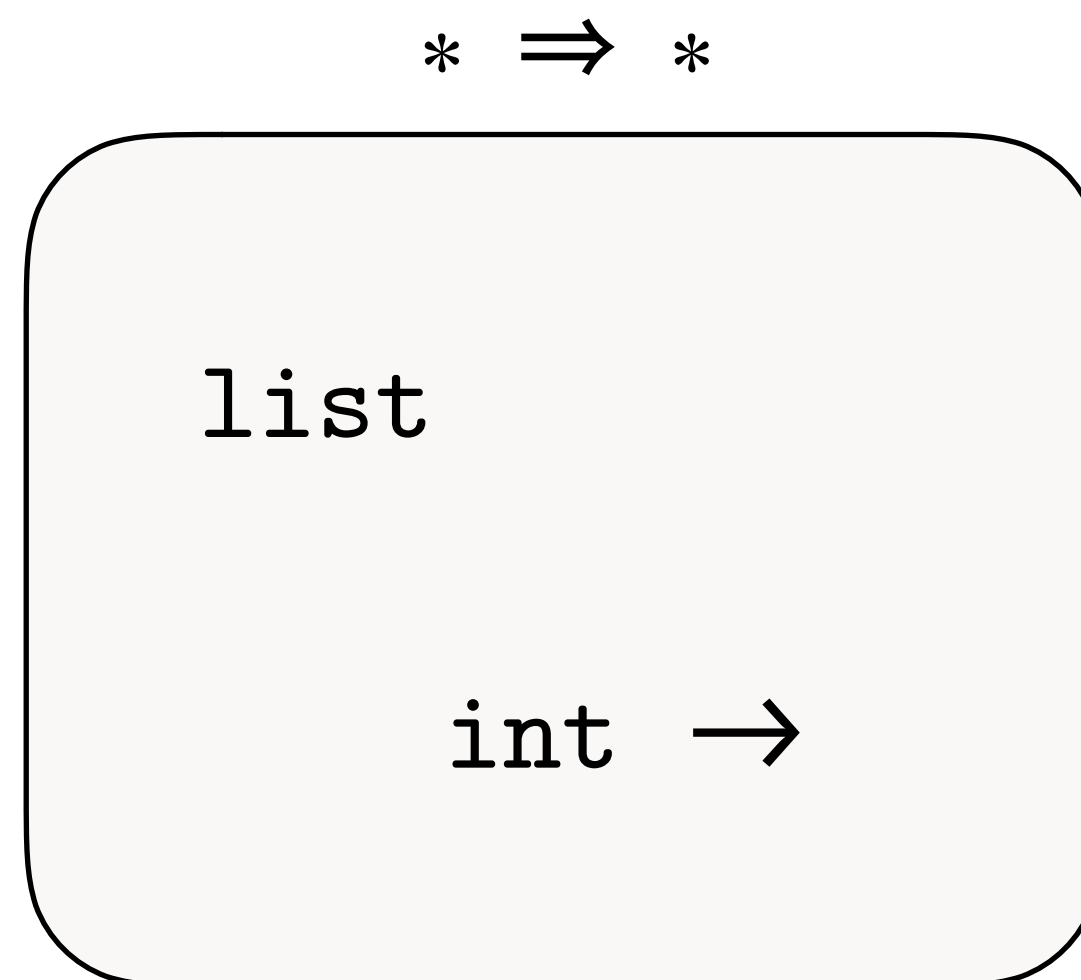
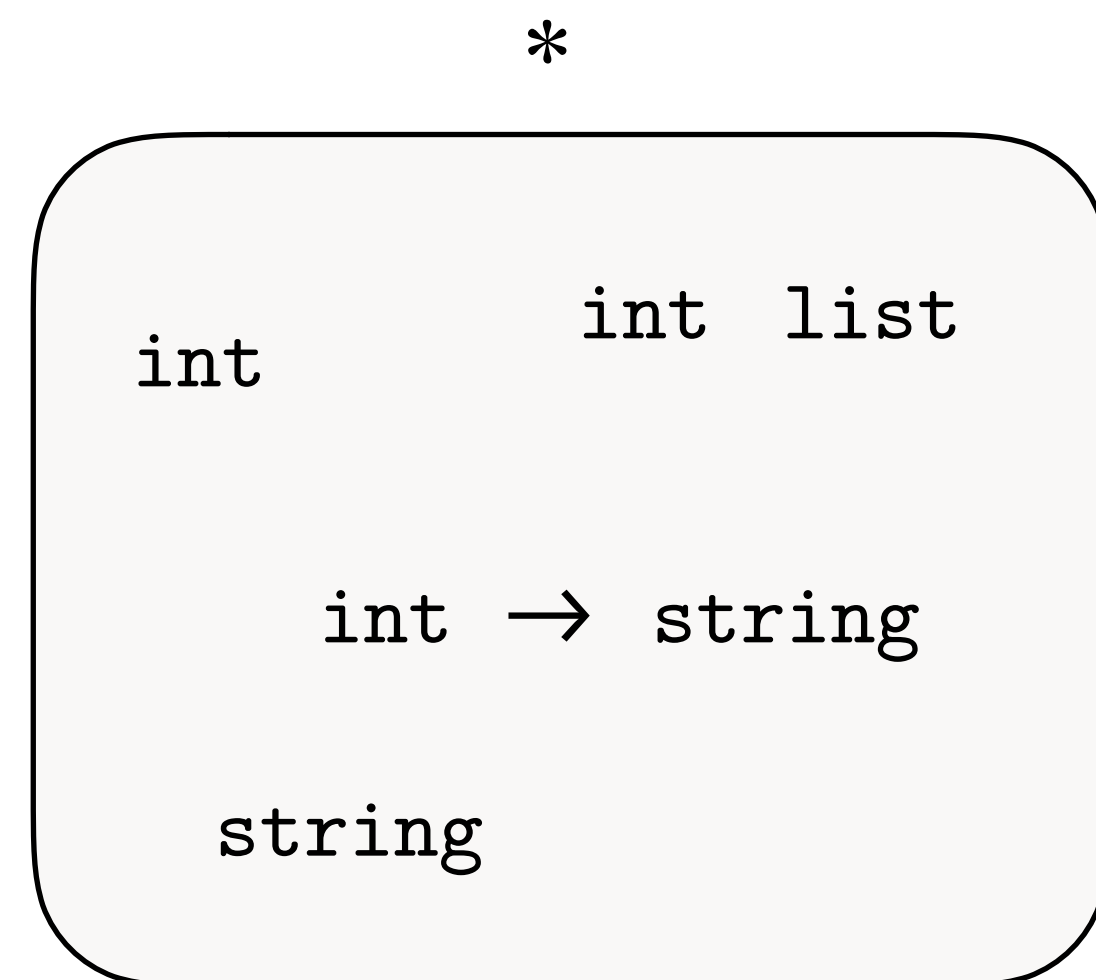
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DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

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Single atomic kind * (“type”) and the constructor \Rightarrow (“to”)



DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S , H , and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

```
 $S$  ::= int
      | real
      | string
      |  $T_S$  list
      |  $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$ 
      |  $T_S$  ref
      |  $T_H$  sw
      |  $C_i T_S$ 
      |  $T_S \rightarrow T_S$ 

 $H$  ::= bit
      |  $T_H [n]$ 
      |  $T_H \ @ \ n$ 
      |  $\#\{l_1: T_H, \dots, l_n: T_H\}$ 

 $M$  ::=  $T_H \rightarrow T_H$ 
```

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

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M	$::=$	$T_H \rightarrow T_H$

S

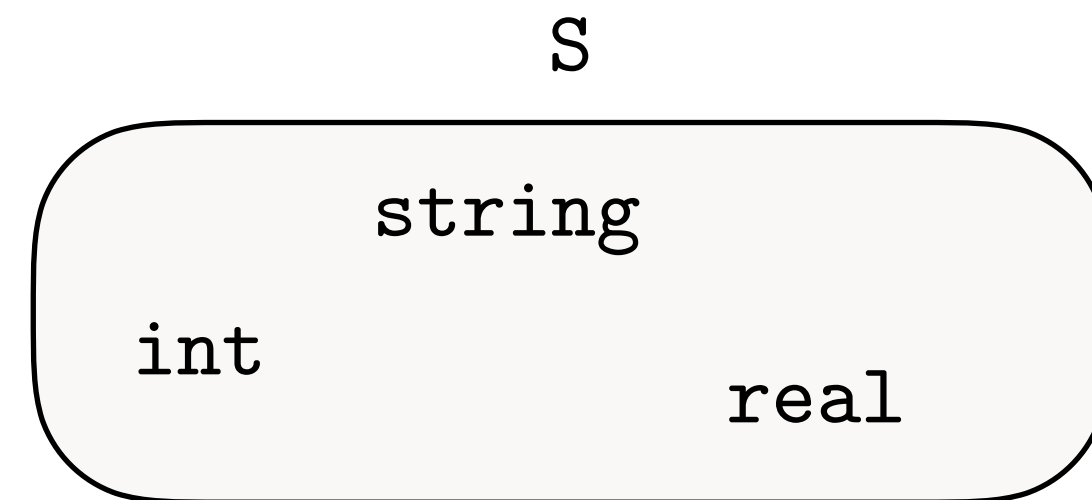


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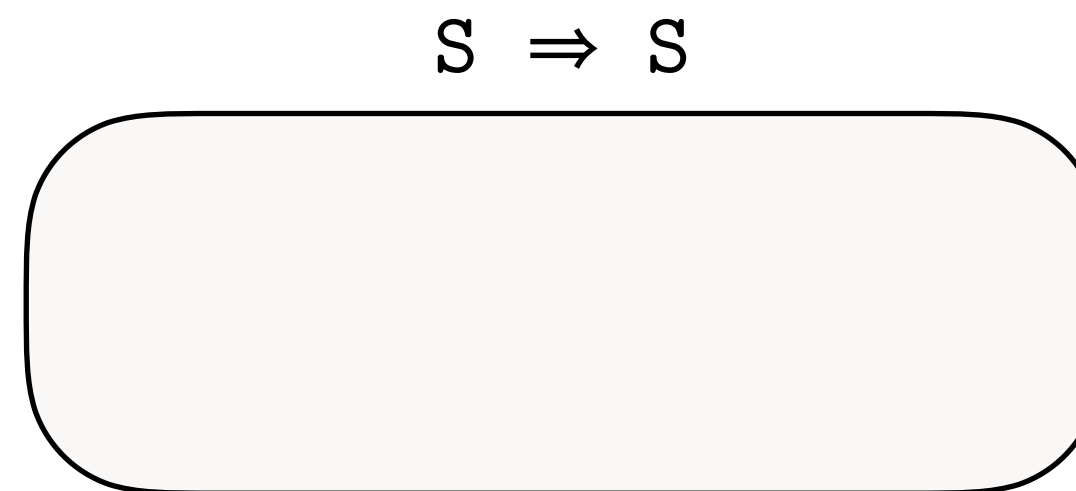
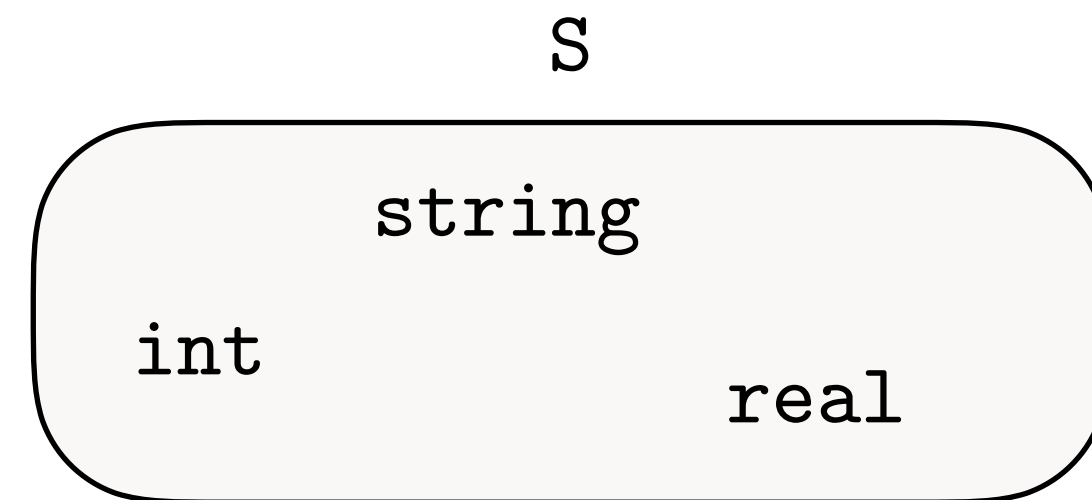


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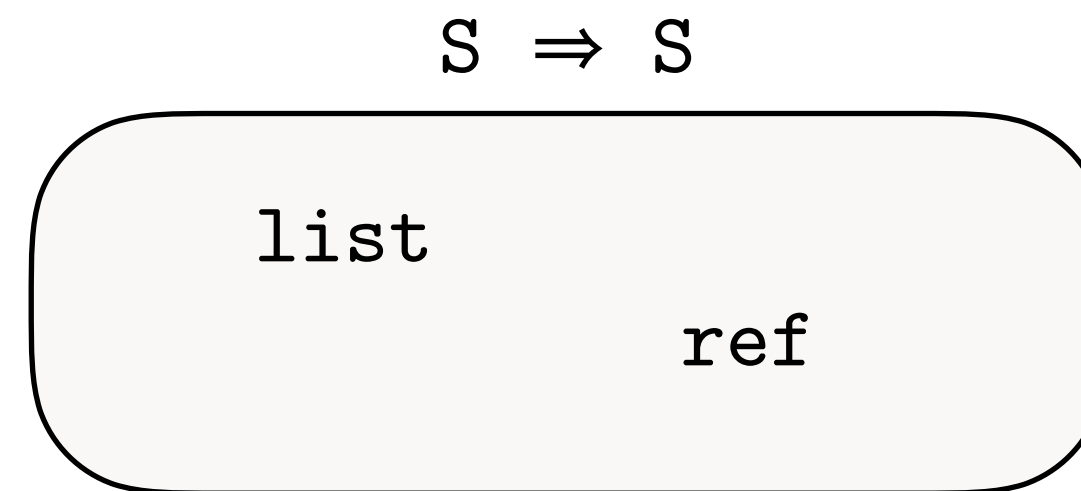
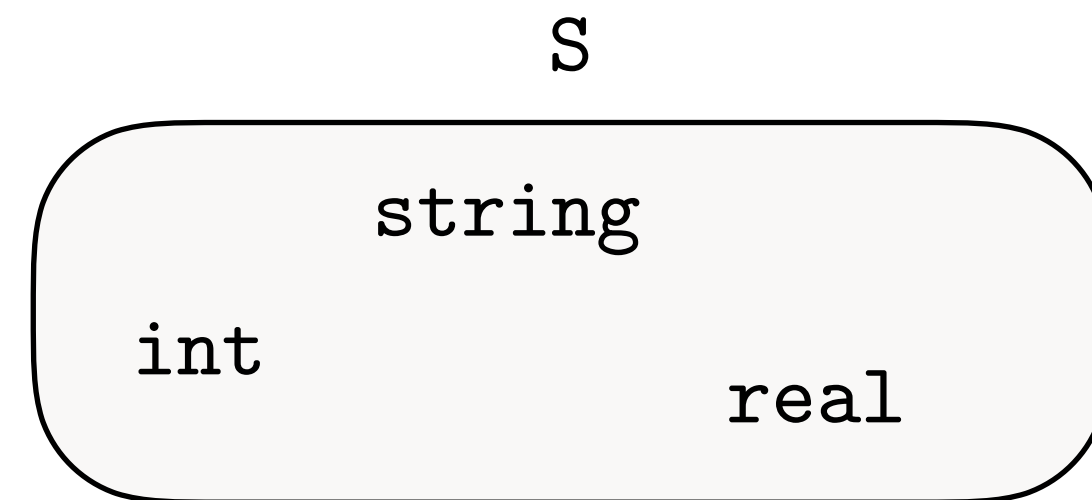


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

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Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

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		real
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		$\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$
		T_S ref
		T_H sw
		$C_i T_S$
		$T_S \rightarrow T_S$
<i>H</i>	::=	bit
		$T_H [n]$
		$T_H @ n$
		$\#\{l_1: T_H, \dots, l_n: T_H\}$
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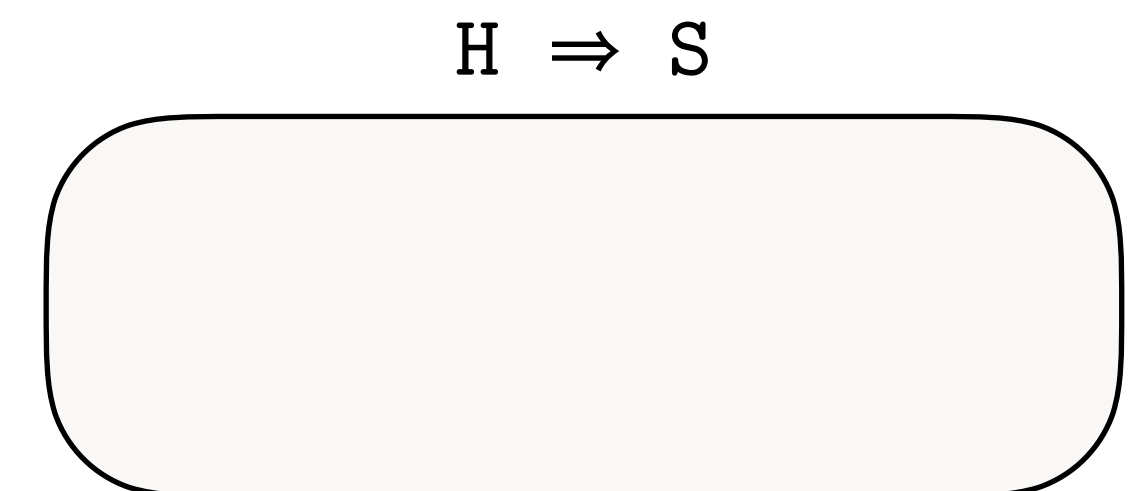
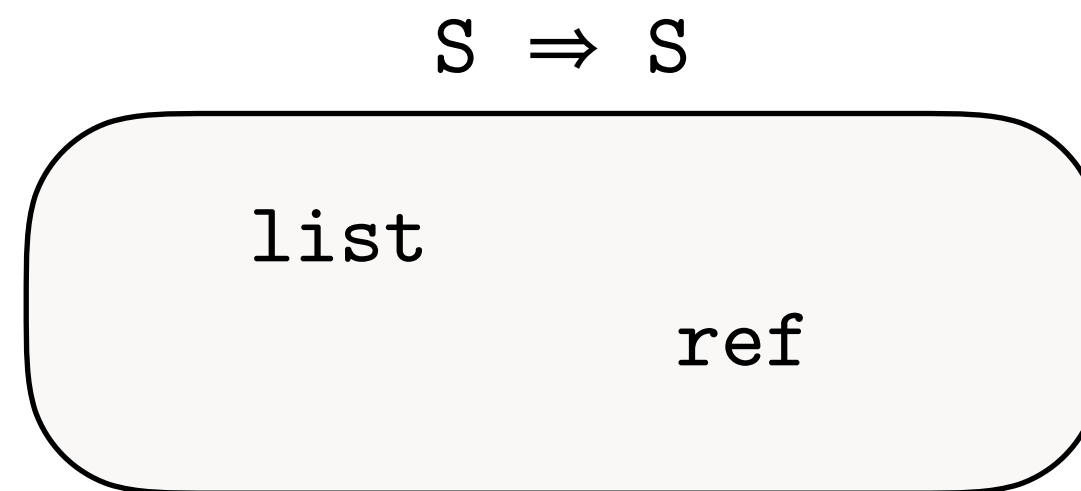
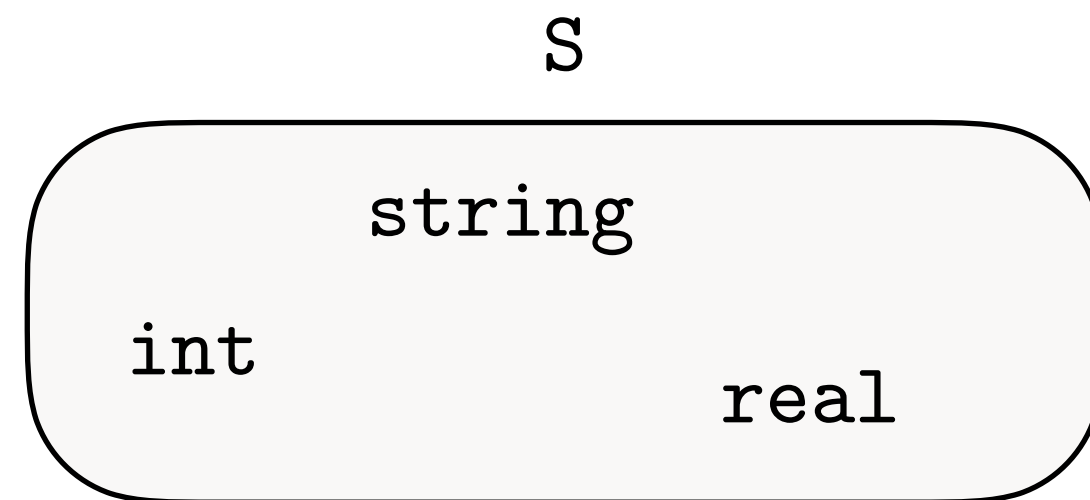


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

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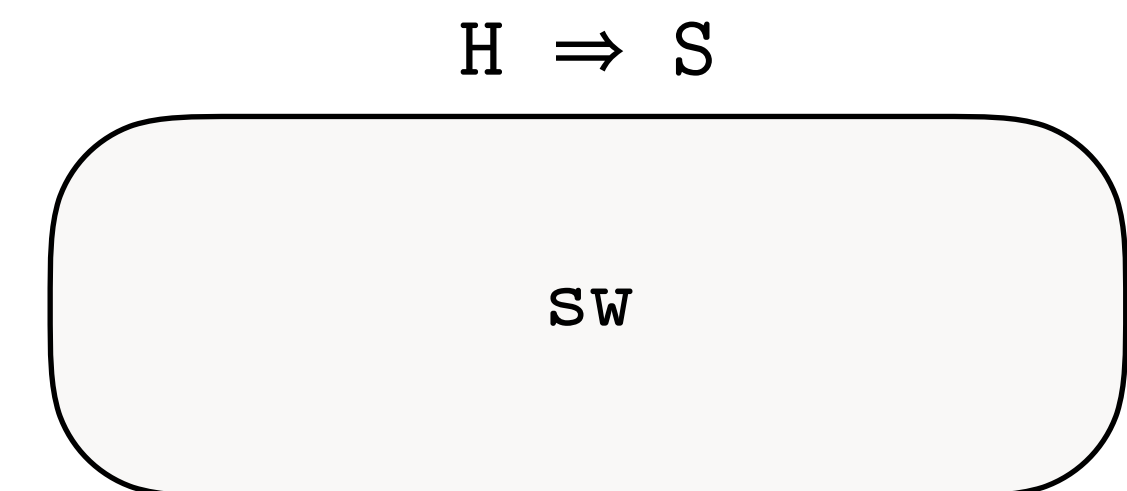
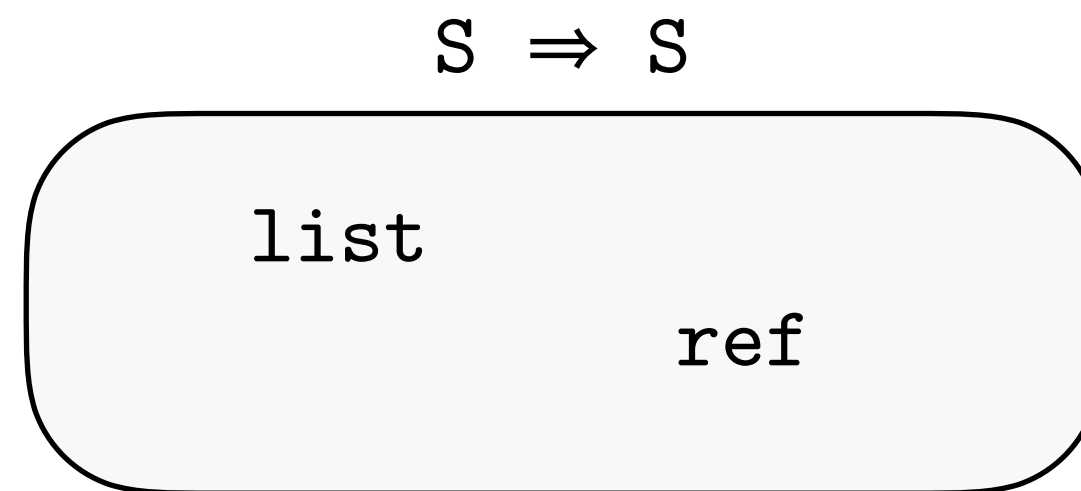
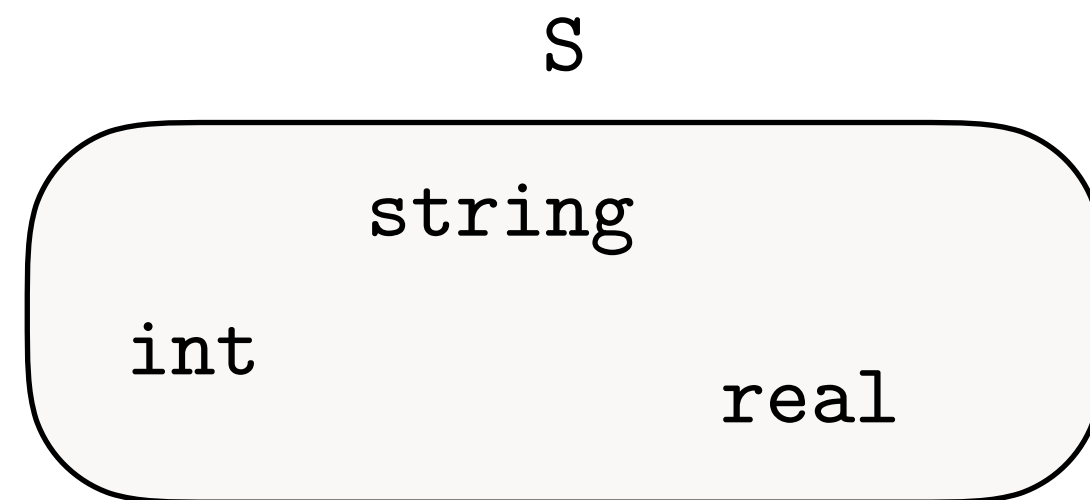


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

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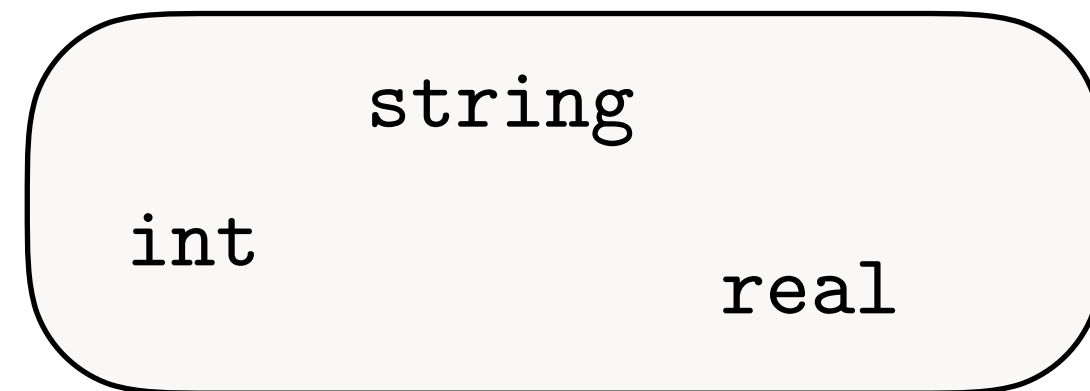
DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

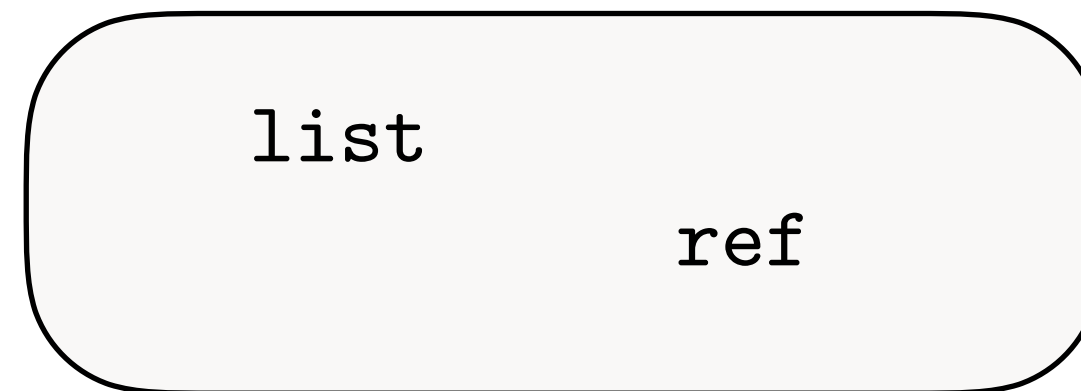
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M	$::=$	$T_H \rightarrow T_H$

S



$S \Rightarrow S$



$H \Rightarrow S$



H

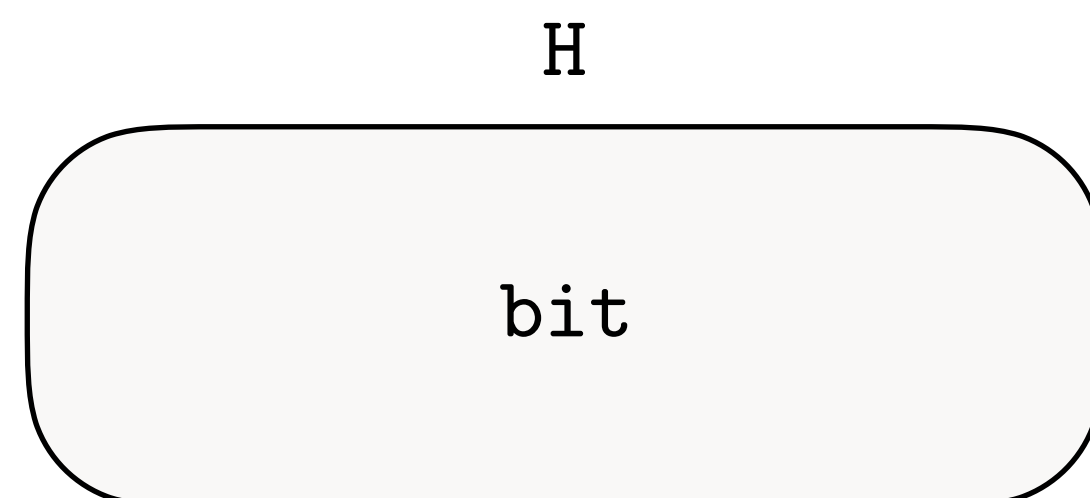
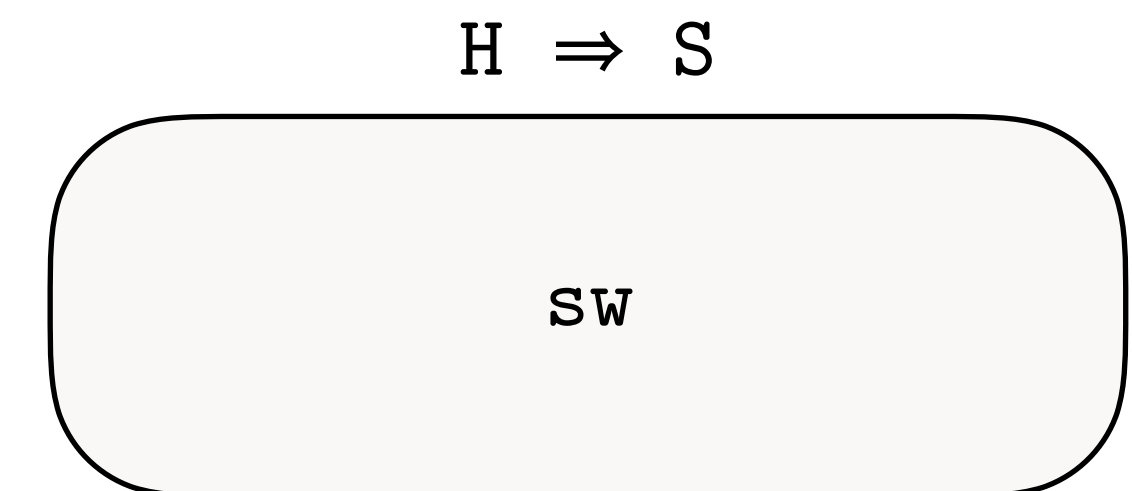
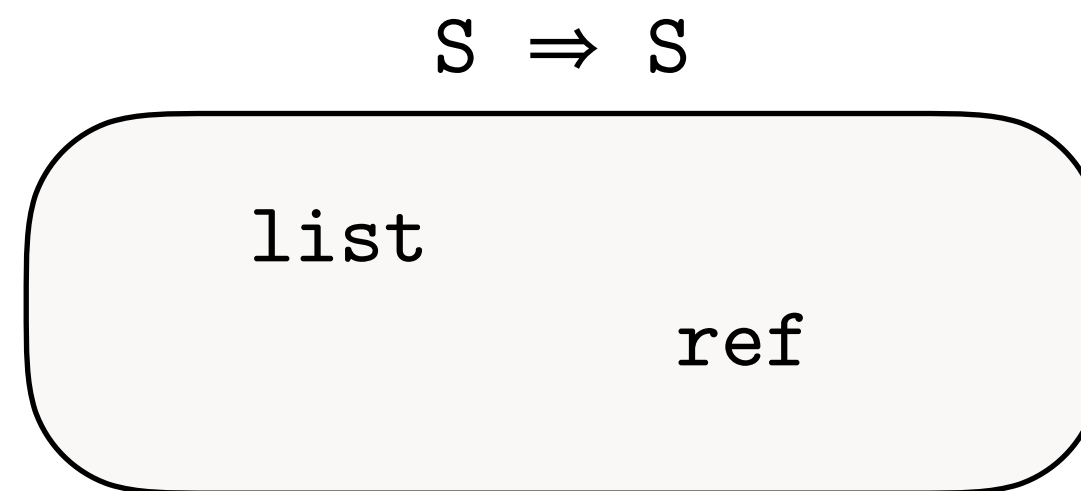
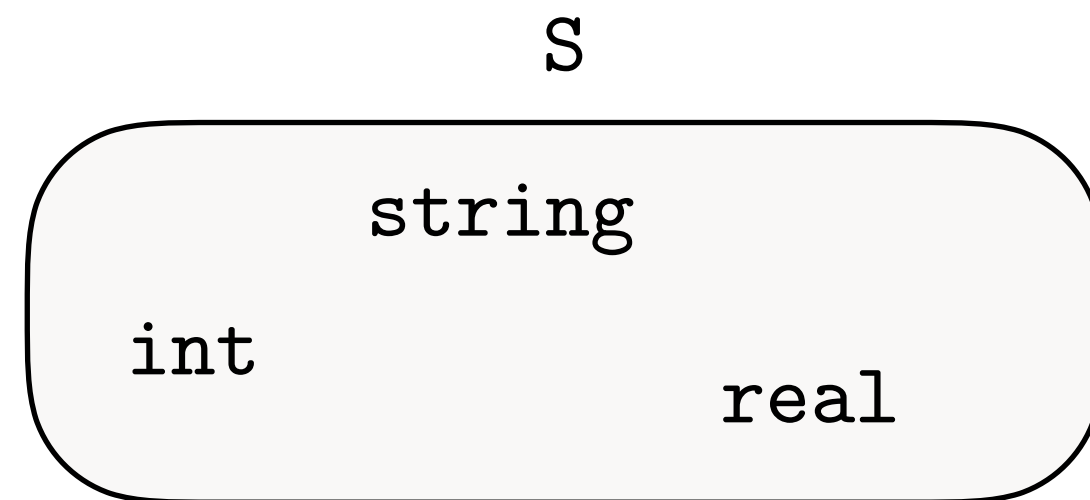


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

S	$::=$	int real string T_S list $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$ T_S ref T_H sw $C_i T_S$ $T_S \rightarrow T_S$
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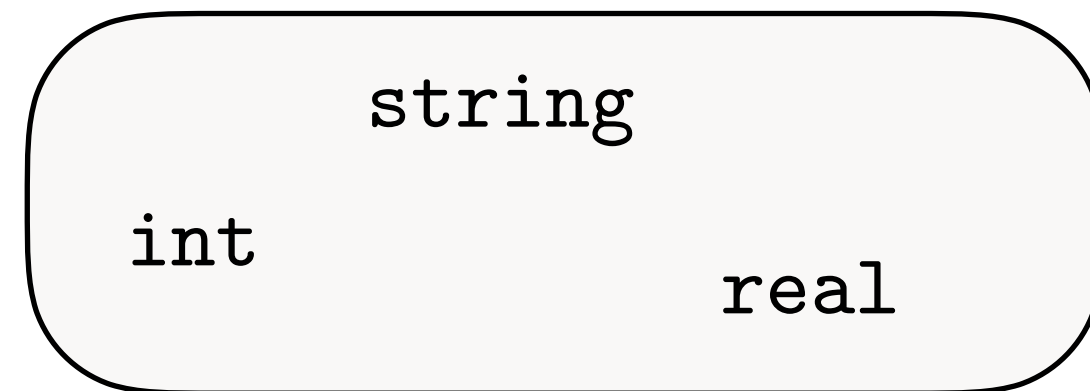
DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

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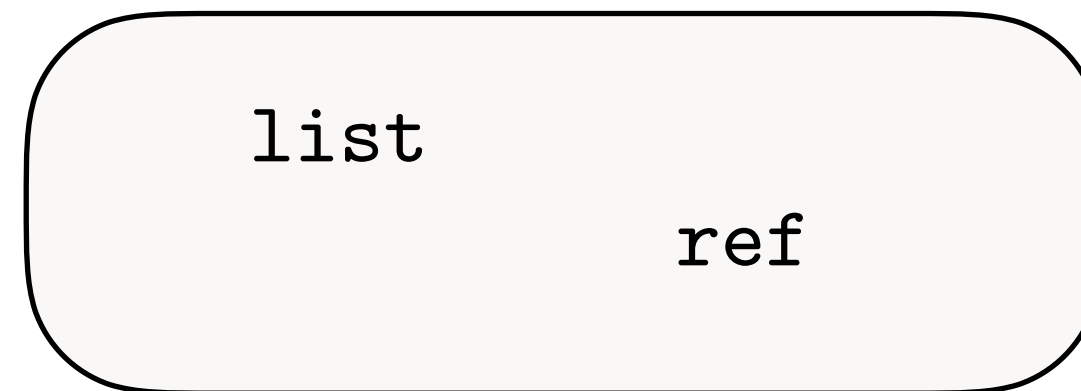
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S



$S \Rightarrow S$



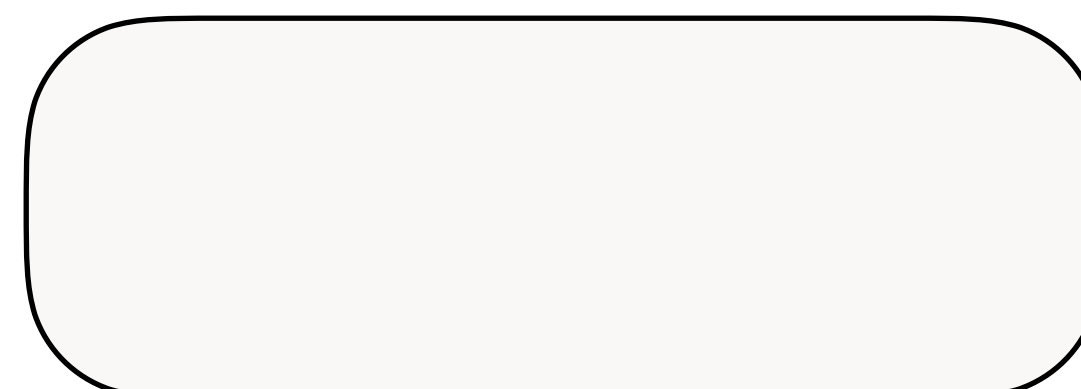
$H \Rightarrow S$



H



$H \Rightarrow H \Rightarrow M$

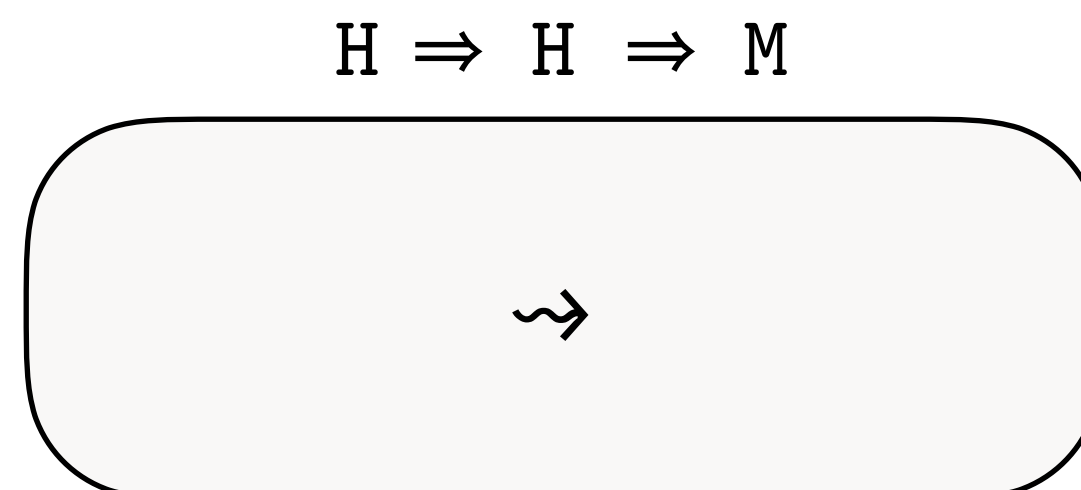
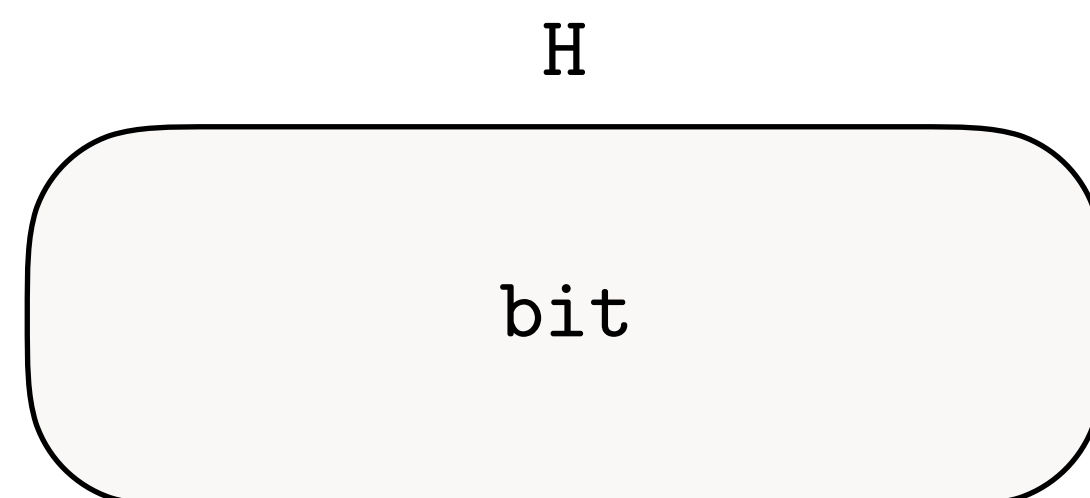
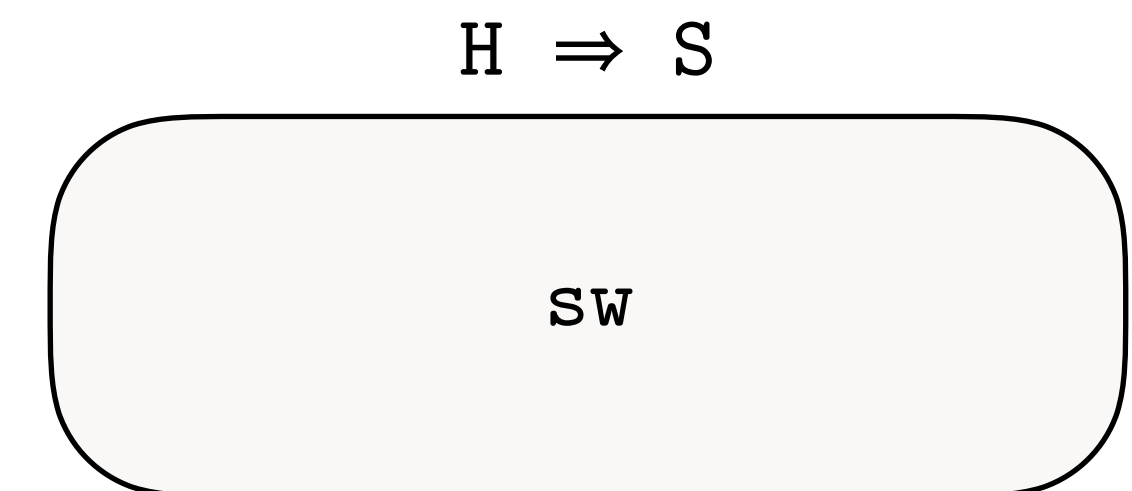
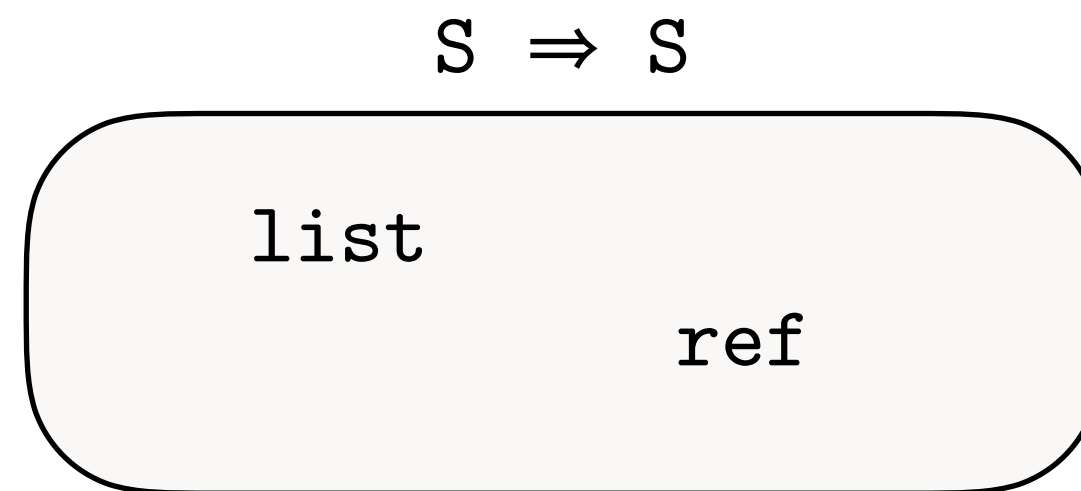
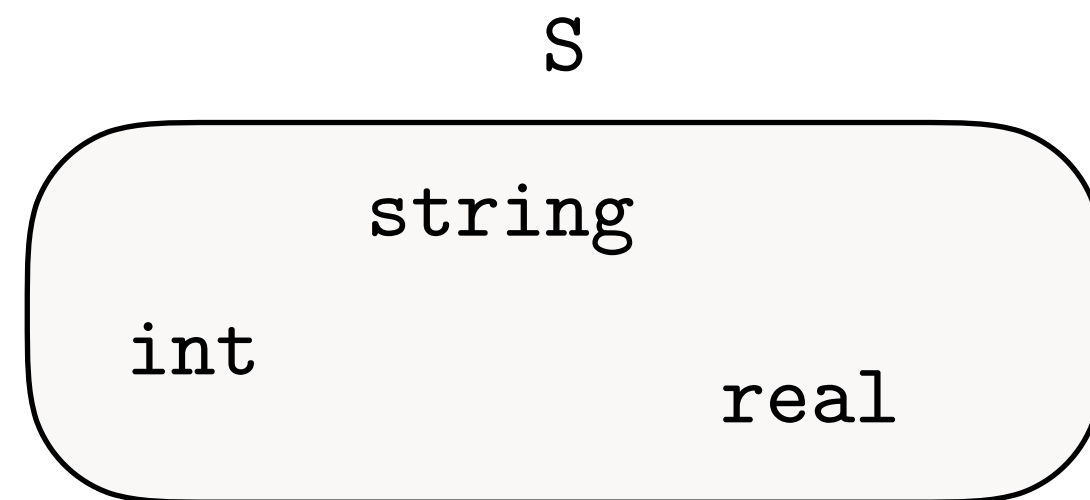


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

S	$::=$	int real string T_S list $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$ T_S ref T_H sw $C_i T_S$ $T_S \rightarrow T_S$
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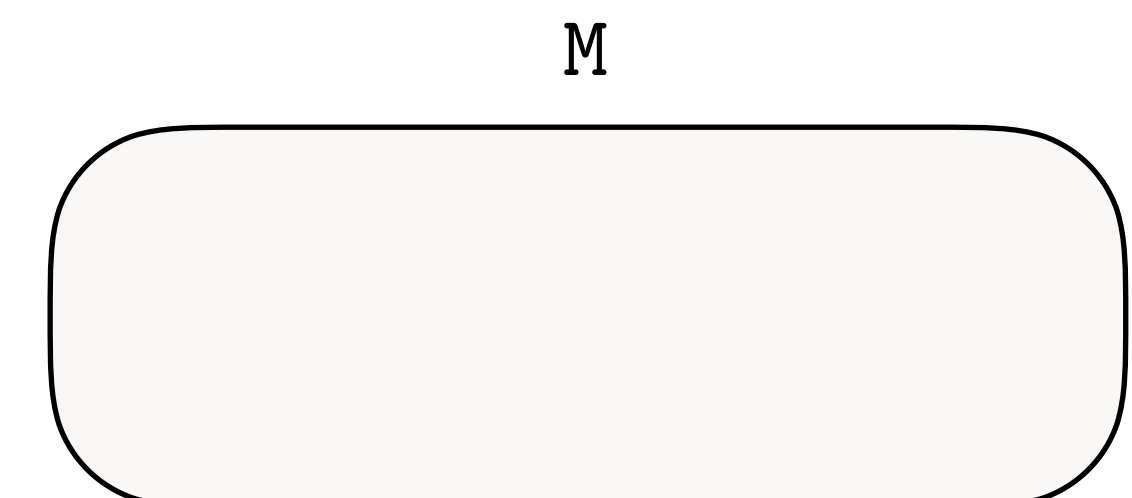
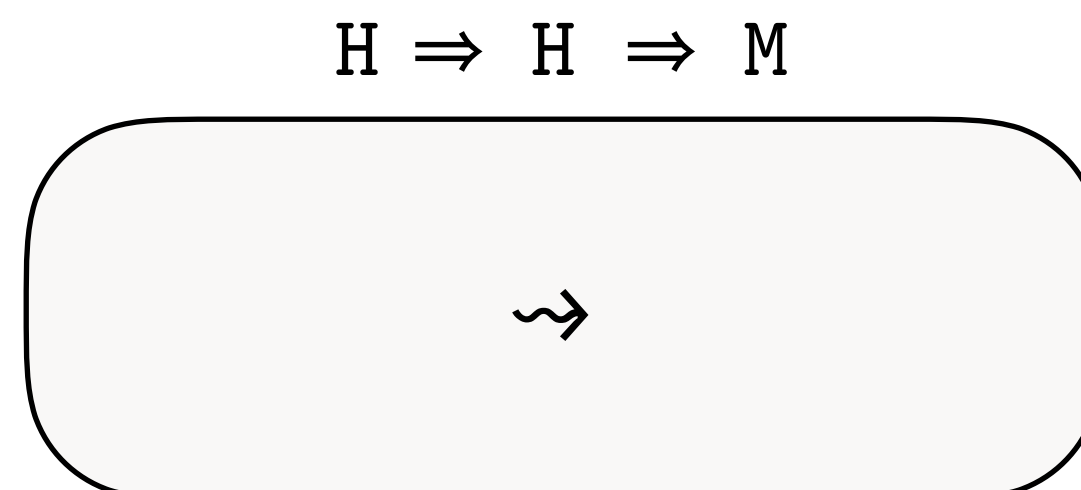
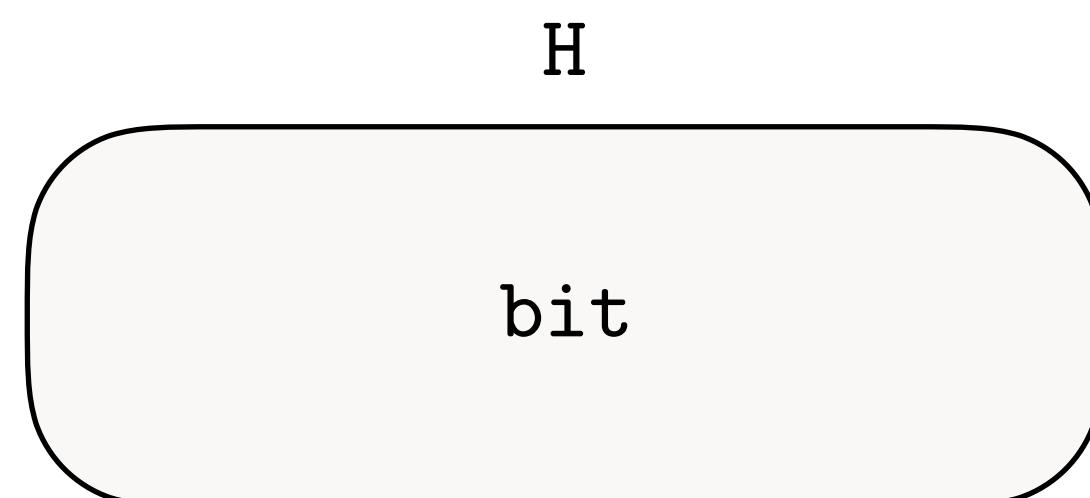
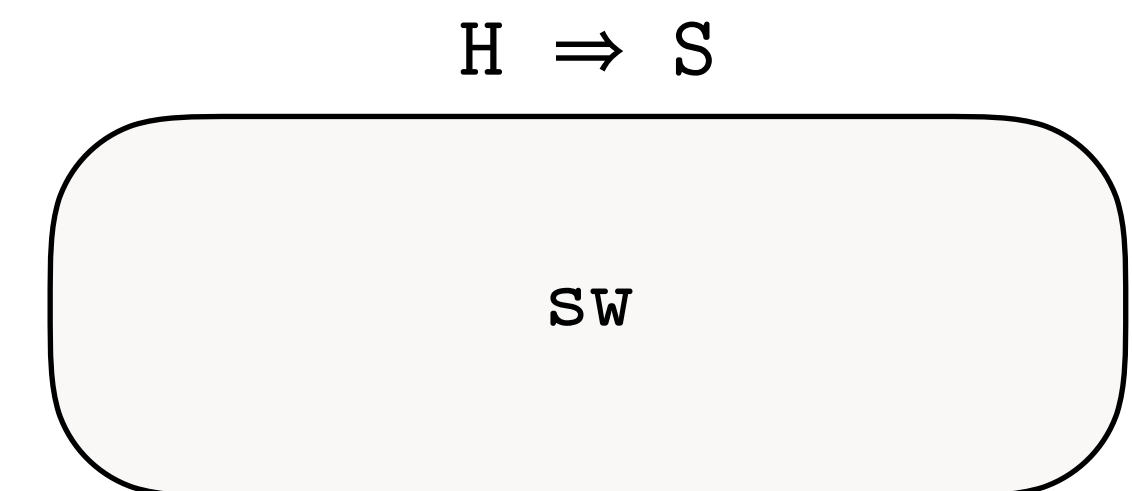
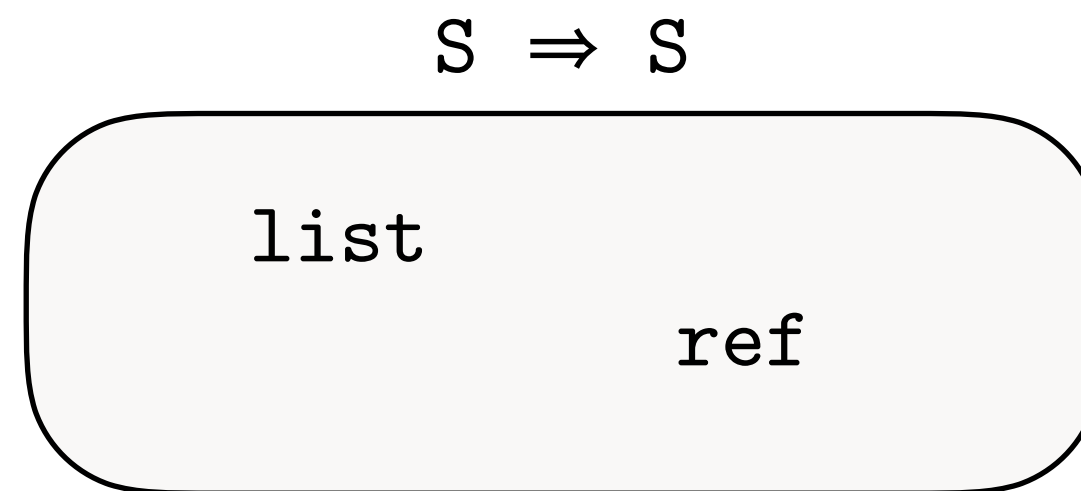
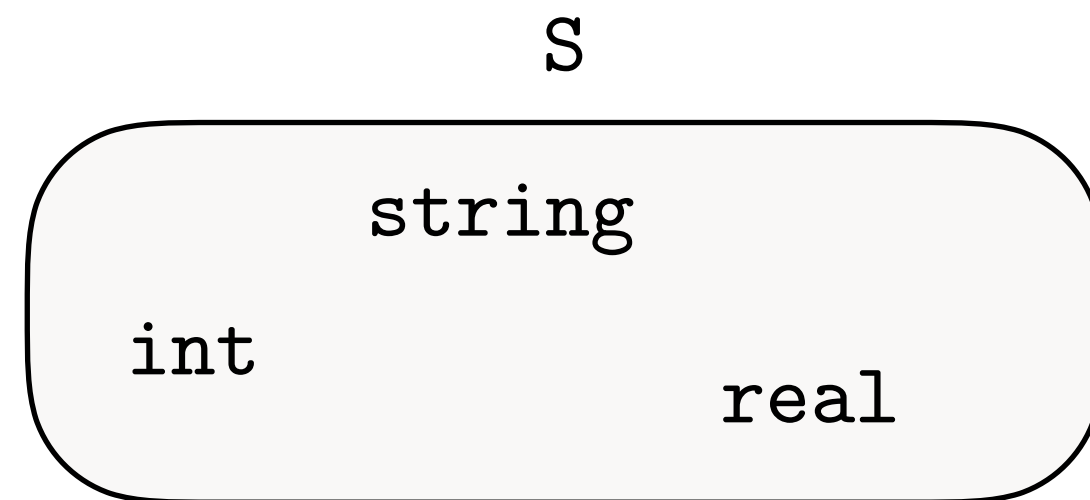


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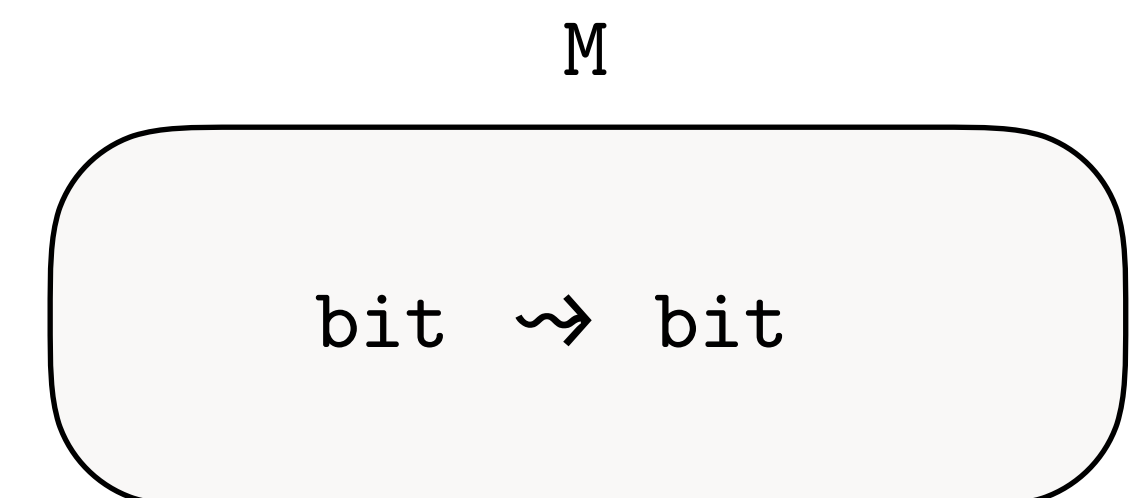
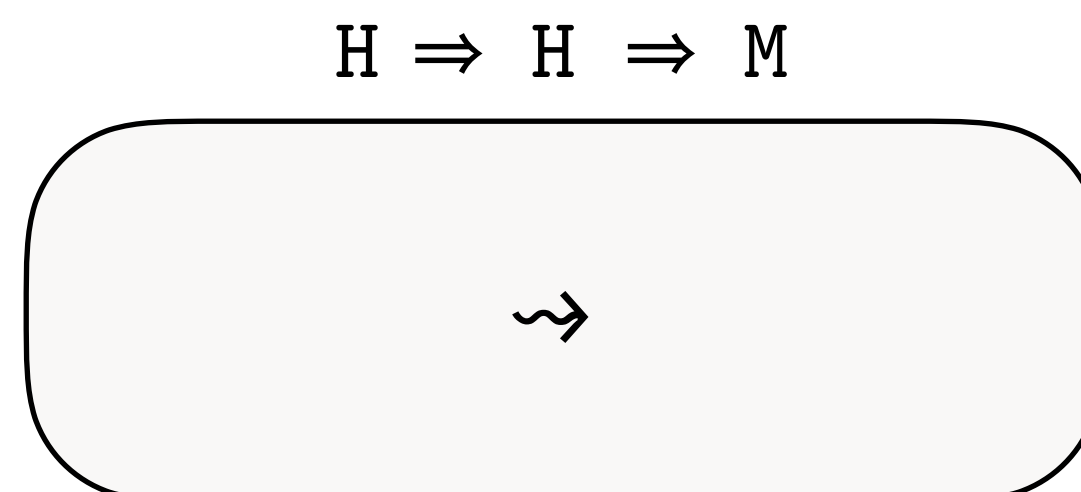
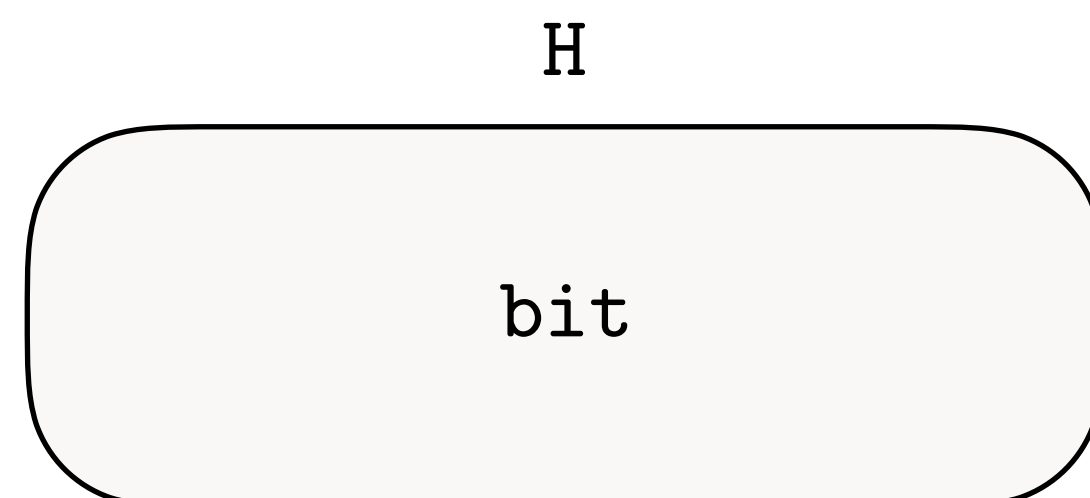
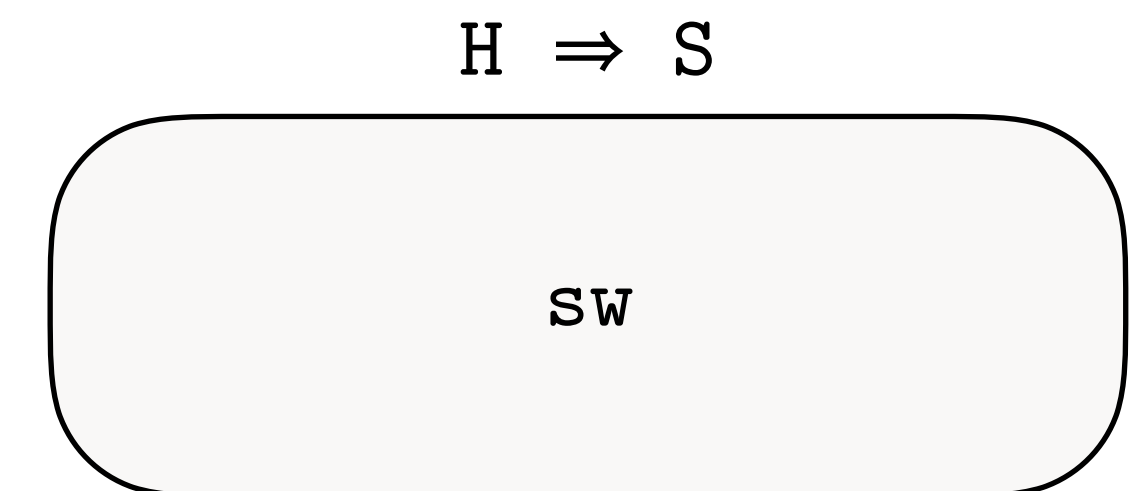
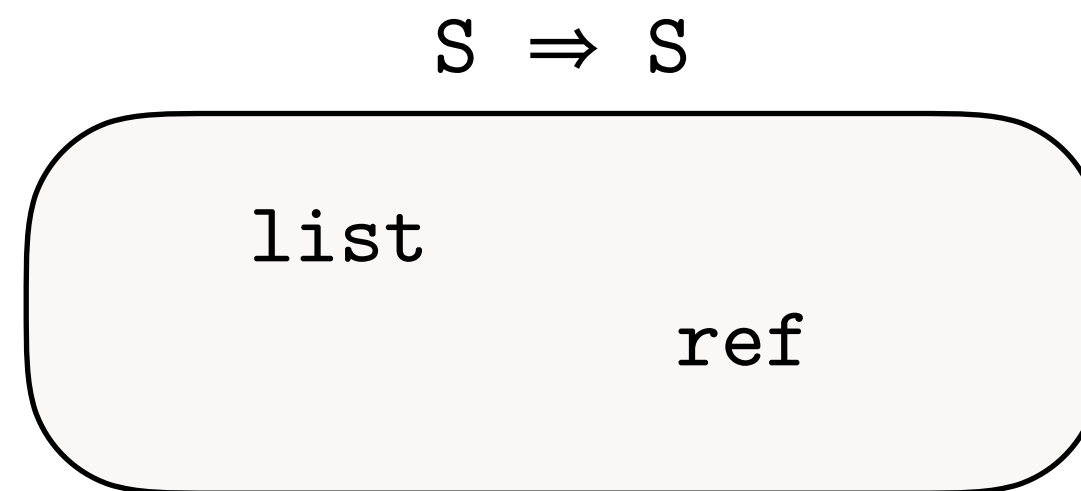
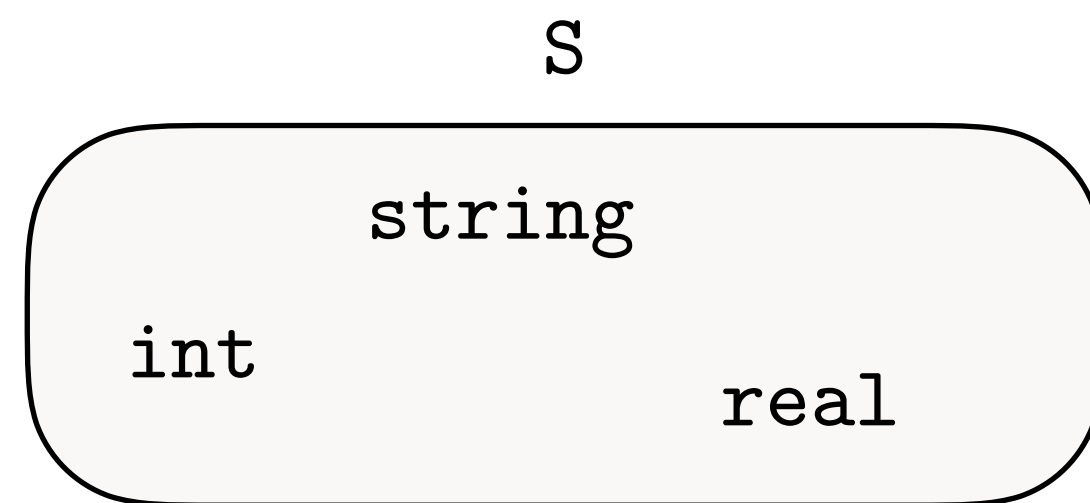


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

S	$::=$	int real string T_S list $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$ T_S ref T_H sw $C_i T_S$ $T_S \rightarrow T_S$
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M	$::=$	$T_H \rightarrow T_H$

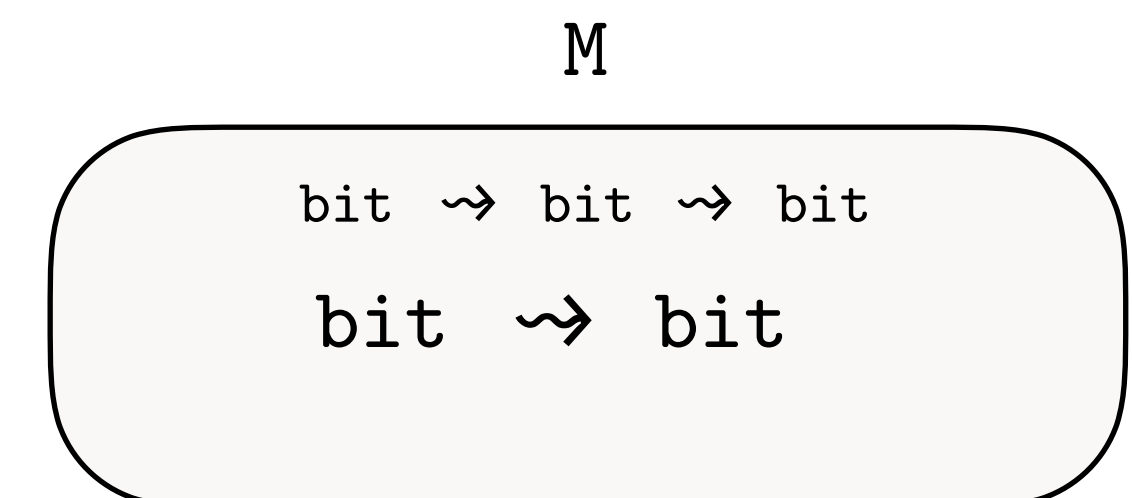
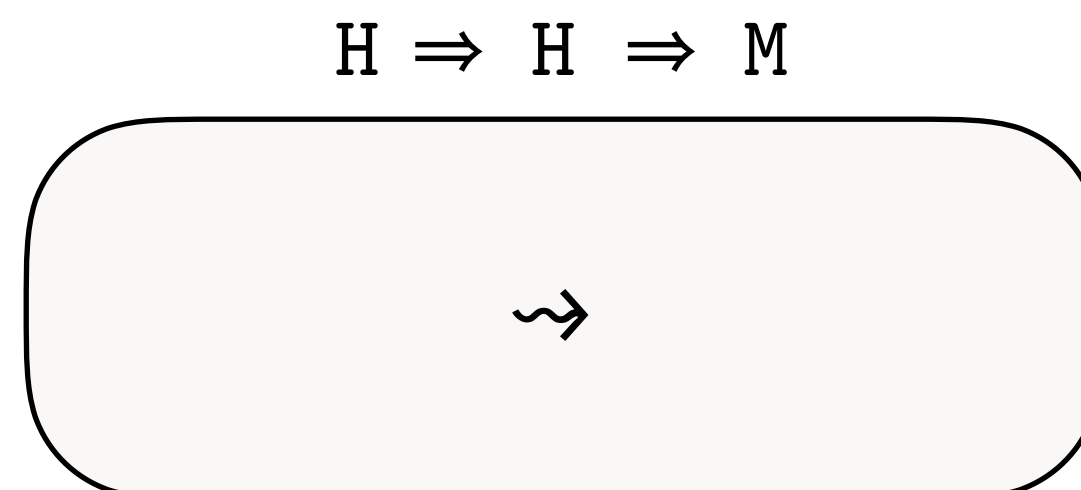
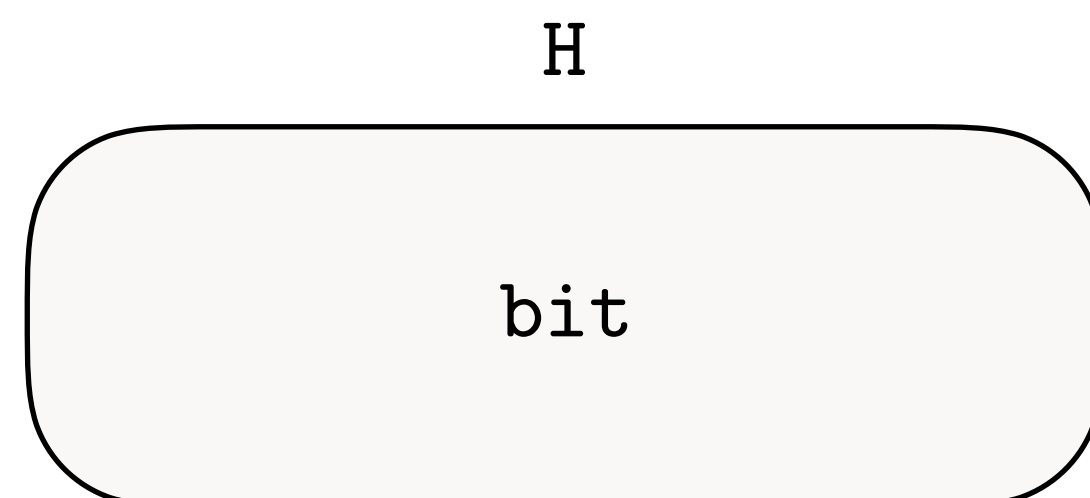
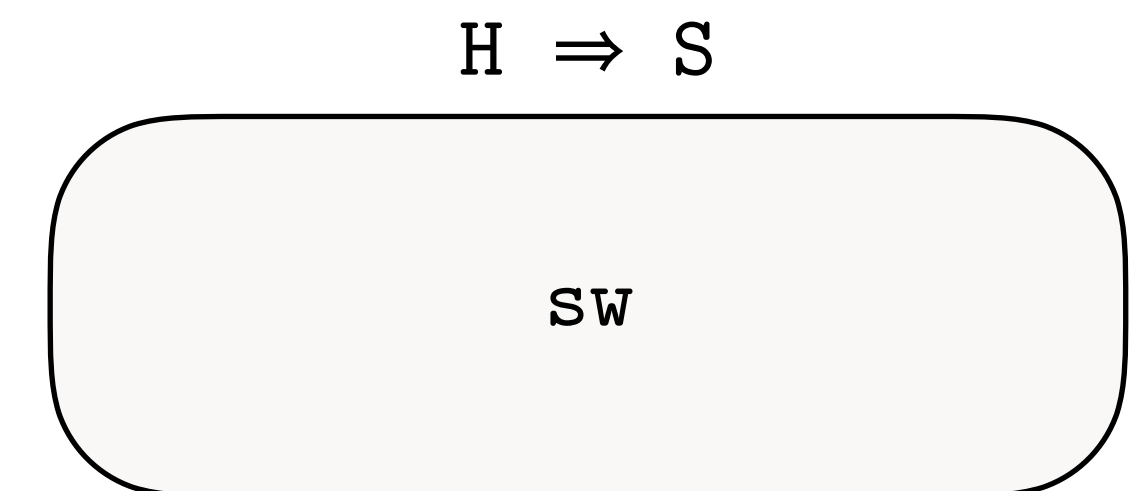
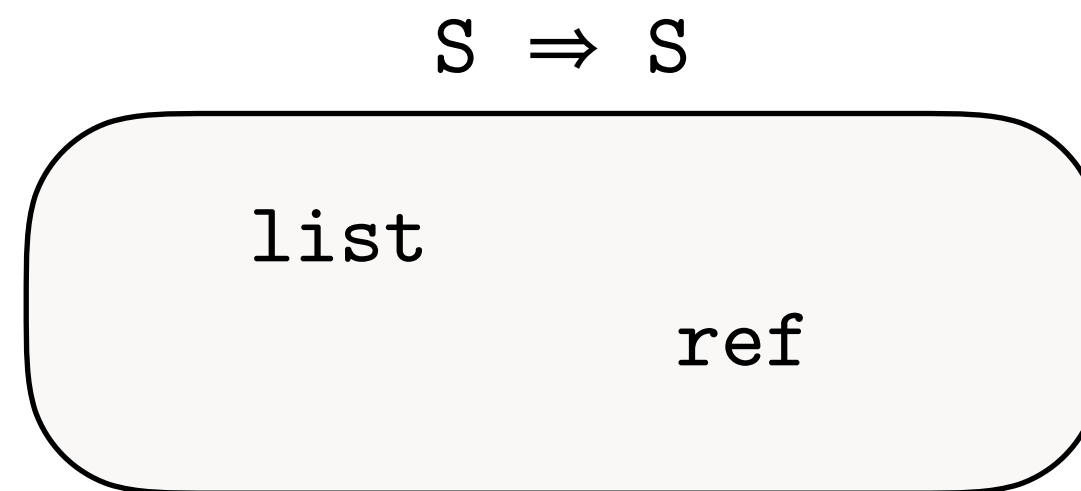
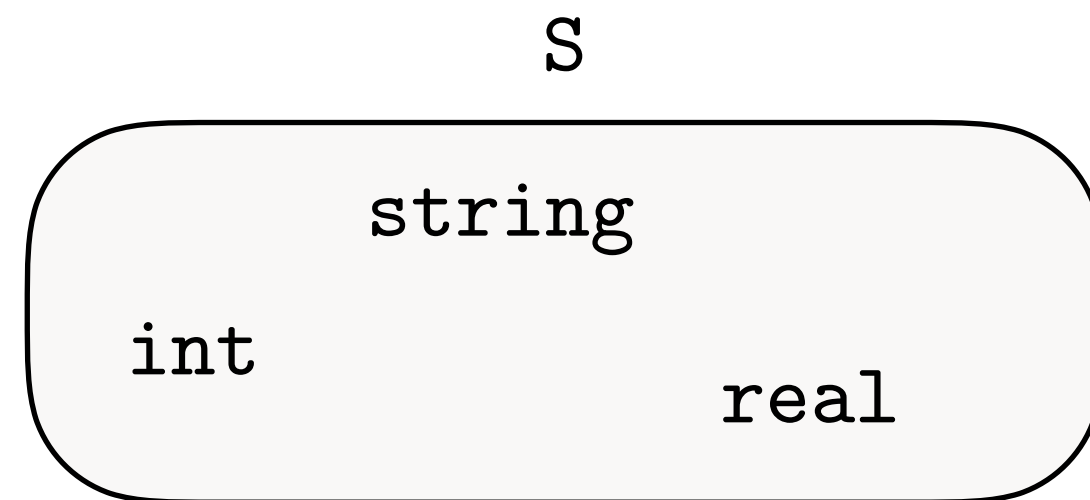


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

S	$::=$	int real string T_S list $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$ T_S ref T_H sw $C_i T_S$ $T_S \rightarrow T_S$
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M	$::=$	$T_H \rightarrow T_H$



DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

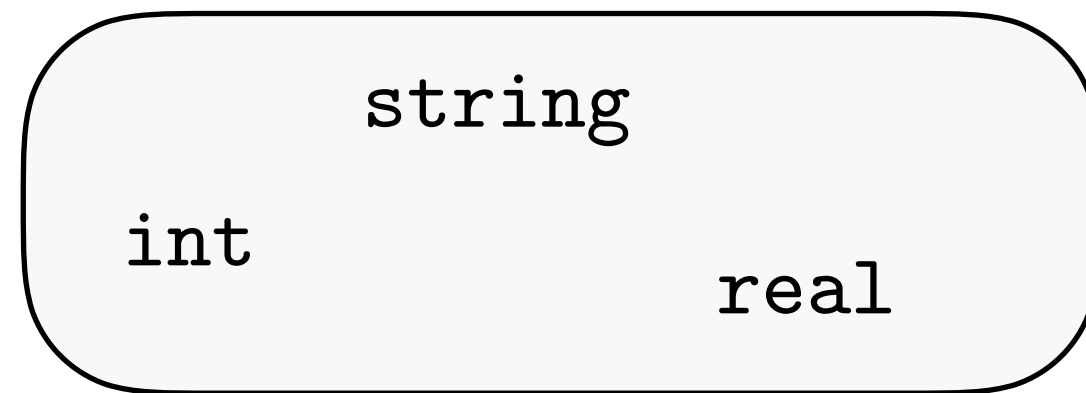
```

S ::= int
   | real
   | string
   | TS list
   | {l1: TS, ..., ln: TS}
   | TS ref
   | TH sw
   | Ci TS
   | TS → TS

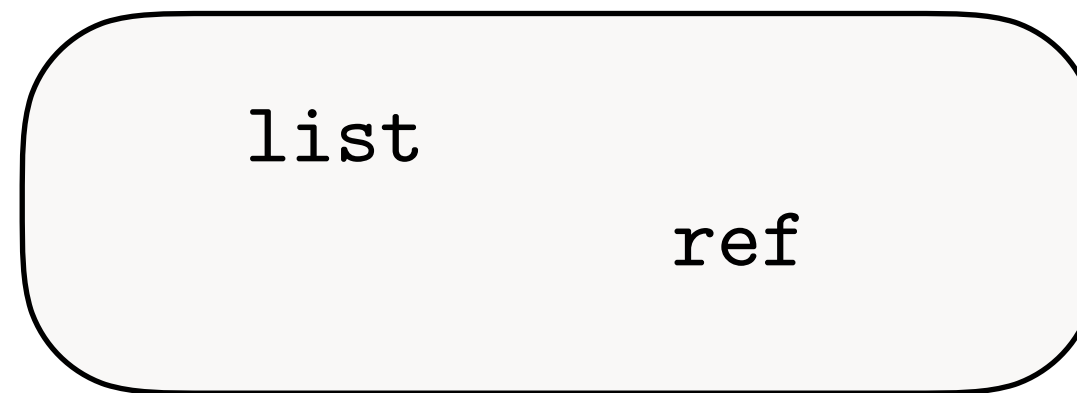
H ::= bit
   | TH [n]
   | TH @ n
   | #{l1: TH, ..., ln: TH}

M ::= TH → TH
    
```

S



S ⇒ S



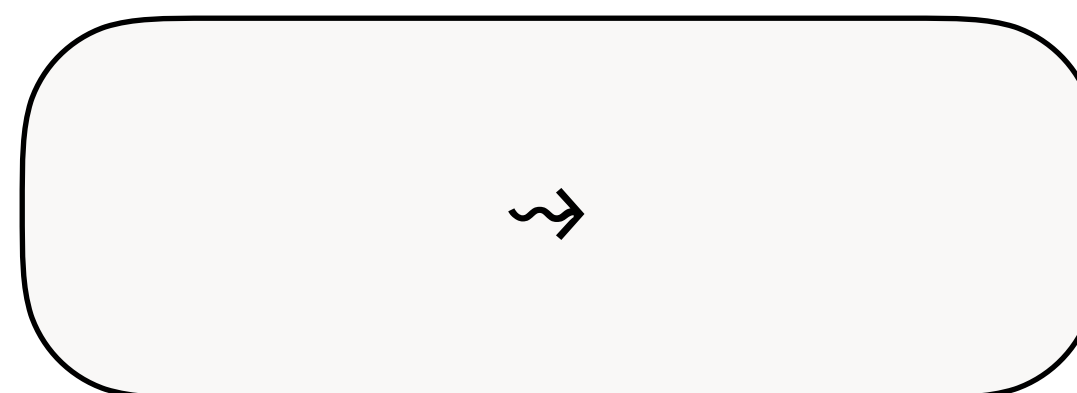
H ⇒ S



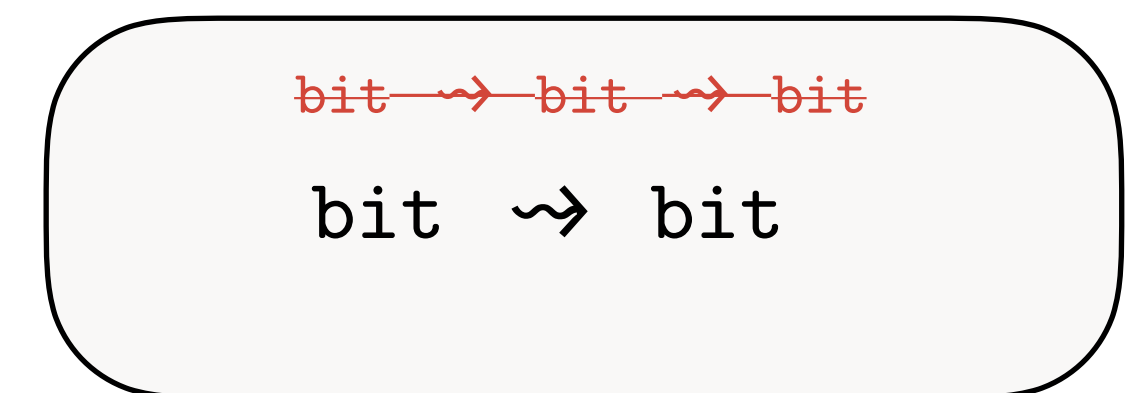
H



H ⇒ H ⇒ M



M



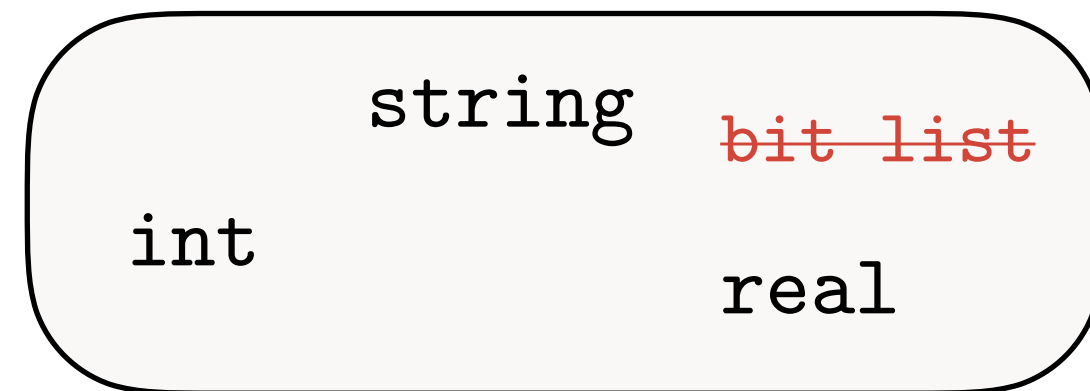
DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

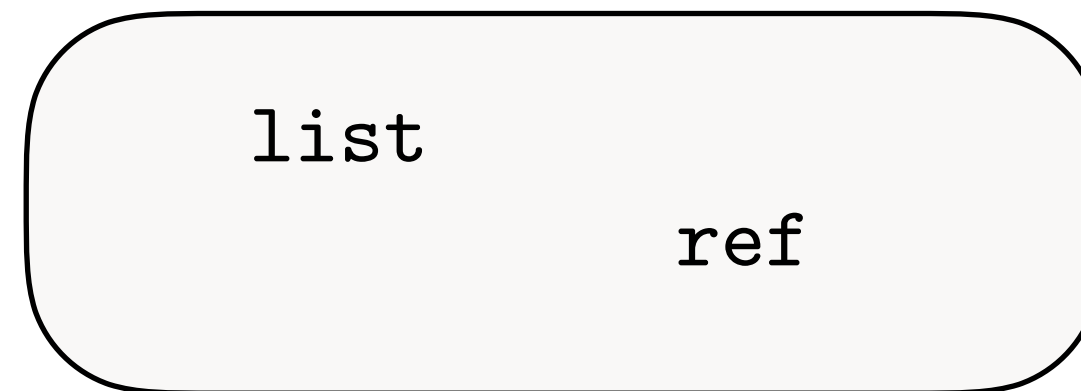
Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

S	$::=$ int real string T_S list $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$ T_S ref T_H sw $C_i T_S$ $T_S \rightarrow T_S$
H	$::=$ bit $T_H [n]$ $T_H @ n$ $\#\{l_1: T_H, \dots, l_n: T_H\}$
M	$::= T_H \rightarrow T_H$

S



$S \Rightarrow S$



$H \Rightarrow S$



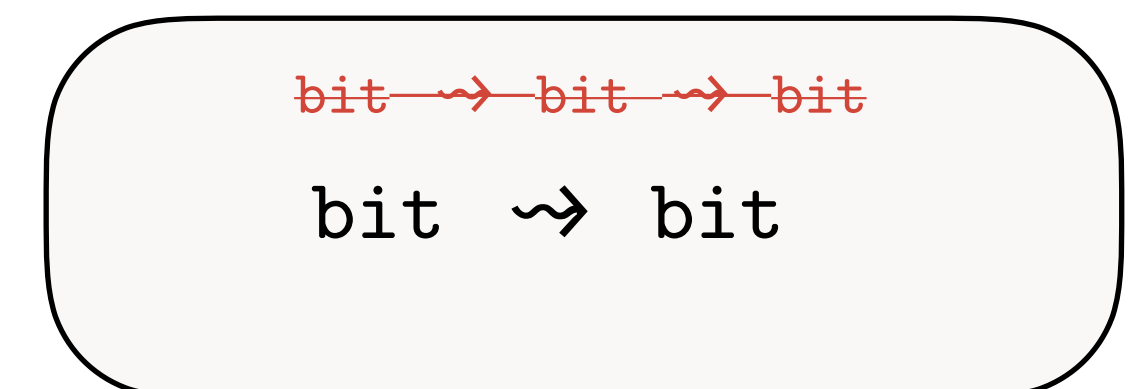
H



$H \Rightarrow H \Rightarrow M$



M



DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S, H, and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

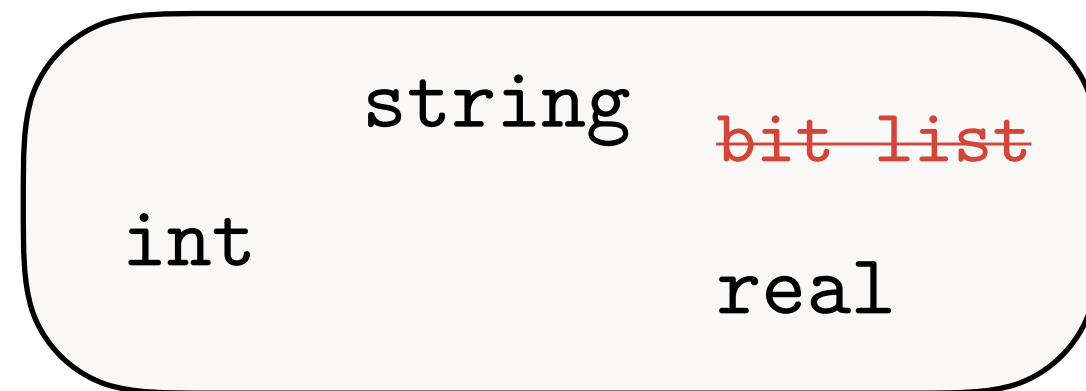
```

S ::= int
   | real
   | string
   | TS list
   | {l1: TS, ..., ln: TS}
   | TS ref
   | TH sw
   | Ci TS
   | TS → TS

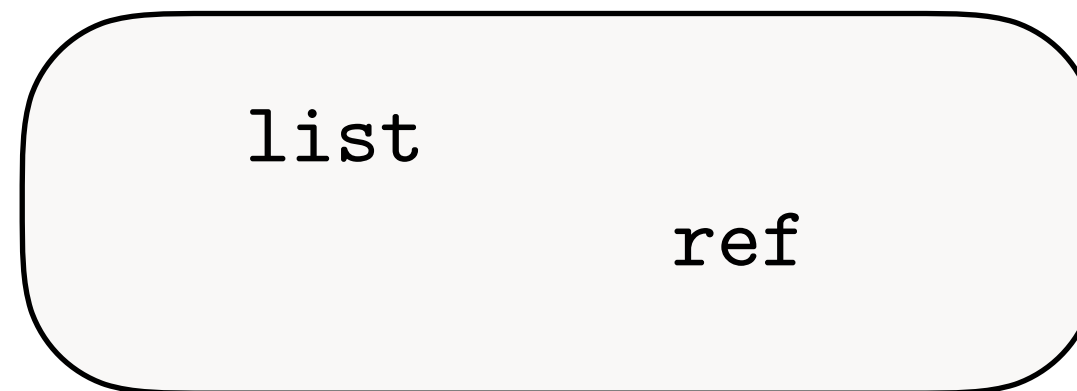
H ::= bit
   | TH [n]
   | TH @ n
   | #{l1: TH, ..., ln: TH}

M ::= TH → TH
    
```

S



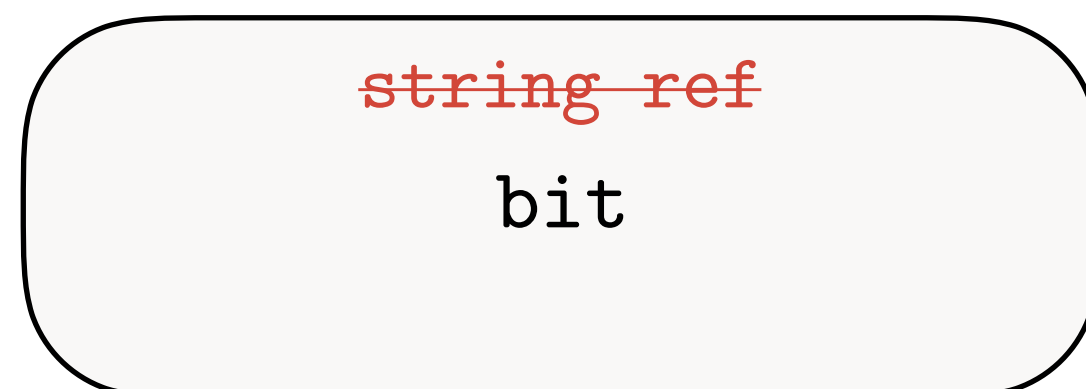
S ⇒ S



H ⇒ S



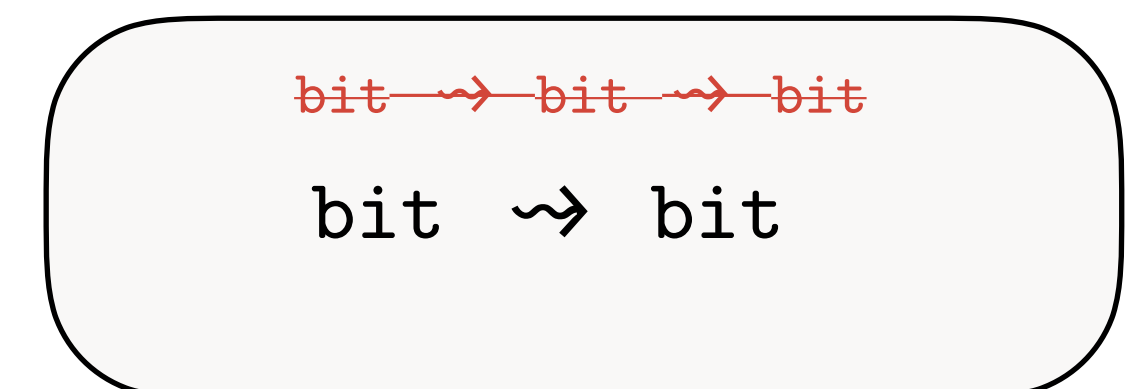
H



H ⇒ H ⇒ M



M



DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S , H , and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

```
 $S$  ::= int
      | real
      | string
      |  $T_S$  list
      |  $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$ 
      |  $T_S$  ref
      |  $T_H$  sw
      |  $C_i T_S$ 
      |  $T_S \rightarrow T_S$ 

 $H$  ::= bit
      |  $T_H [n]$ 
      |  $T_H \ @ \ n$ 
      |  $\#\{l_1: T_H, \dots, l_n: T_H\}$ 

 $M$  ::=  $T_H \rightarrow T_H$ 
```


DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S , H , and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

Modeling time as a type

```
 $S$  ::= int  
    | real  
    | string  
    |  $T_S$  list  
    |  $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$   
    |  $T_S$  ref  
    |  $T_H$  sw  
    |  $C_i T_S$   
    |  $T_S \rightarrow T_S$   
  
 $H$  ::= bit  
    |  $T_H [n]$   
    |  $T_H @ n$   
    |  $\#\{l_1: T_H, \dots, l_n: T_H\}$   
  
 $M$  ::=  $T_H \rightarrow T_H$ 
```

DESIGN // KINDING SYSTEM

In Gemini...

Three atomic kinds S , H , and M and the constructor \Rightarrow

Value-parameterized types

```
 $S$  ::= int  
    | real  
    | string  
    |  $T_S$  list  
    |  $\{l_1: T_S, \dots, l_n: T_S\}$   
    |  $T_S$  ref  
    |  $T_H$  sw  
    |  $C_i T_S$   
    |  $T_S \rightarrow T_S$   
  
 $H$  ::= bit  
    |  $T_H [n]$   
    |  $T_H \partial n$   
    |  $\#\{l_1: T_H, \dots, l_n: T_H\}$   
  
 $M$  ::=  $T_H \rightarrow T_H$ 
```

DESIGN

1. Kinding System
- 2. Grammar**
3. Typing Relation
4. Evaluation Rules
5. Proof of Safety

DESIGN // GRAMMAR

$\langle exp \rangle$::= $\langle literal \rangle$
| $\langle access \rangle$
| $\langle let\ binding \rangle$
| $\langle conditional \rangle$
| $\langle operation \rangle$
| $\langle assignment \rangle$
| $\langle pattern\ match \rangle$
| $\langle sequence \rangle$
| $\langle application \rangle$

$\langle literal \rangle$::= $\langle identifier \rangle$
| $\langle integer\ literal \rangle$
| $\langle real\ literal \rangle$
| $\langle string\ literal \rangle$
| $\langle list\ literal \rangle$
| $\langle software\ record\ literal \rangle$
| $\langle ref\ literal \rangle$
| $\langle sw\ literal \rangle$

$\langle identifier \rangle$::= $\langle id\ start \rangle \langle id\ tail \rangle$

$\langle id\ start \rangle$::= {any alphabetic character or underscore}

$\langle id\ tail \rangle$::= {any alphanumeric character or underscore} $\langle id\ tail \rangle$
| ϵ

$\langle integer\ literal \rangle$::= $\langle binary\ integer \rangle$
| $\langle octal\ integer \rangle$
| $\langle decimal\ integer \rangle$
| $\langle hex\ integer \rangle$

$\langle binary\ integer \rangle$::= #'b: $\langle binary\ digits \rangle$

$\langle octal\ integer \rangle$::= #'o: $\langle octal\ digits \rangle$

$\langle decimal\ integer \rangle$::= $\langle decimal\ digits \rangle$
| $\langle sign \rangle \langle decimal\ digits \rangle$

$\langle hex\ integer \rangle$::= #'x: $\langle hex\ digits \rangle$

DESIGN // GRAMMAR

$\langle exp \rangle$::= $\langle literal \rangle$
| $\langle access \rangle$
| $\langle let\ binding \rangle$
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| $\langle sign \rangle \langle decimal\ digits \rangle$

$\langle hex\ integer \rangle$::= #'x: $\langle hex\ digits \rangle$

Shown in full in Appendix B

DESIGN // GRAMMAR

```
<exp> ::= <literal>  
      | <access>  
      | <let binding>  
      | <operation>  
      | <parameterization>  
  
<literal> ::= <bit literal>  
           | <array literal>  
           | <hardware record literal>  
  
<bit literal> ::= 'b': <binary-digit>  
  
<array literal> ::= #[ <list-body> ]  
                | <gen-array>  
                | <bit-array>  
  
<gen-array> ::= #[ <exp> ; gen <identifier> => <exp> ]  
  
<bit-array> ::= <exp> 's': <exp>  
              | <exp> 'u': <exp>  
              | <exp> 'r': <exp>  
  
<hardware record literal> ::= #[ <record-body> ]
```

DESIGN // GRAMMAR

```
<exp> ::= <literal>  
      | <access>  
      | <let binding>  
      | <operation>  
      | <parameterization>  
  
<literal> ::= <bit literal>  
           | <array literal>  
           | <hardware record literal>  
  
<bit literal> ::= 'b': <binary-digit>  
  
<array literal> ::= #[ <list-body> ]  
                | <gen-array>  
                | <bit-array>  
  
<gen-array> ::= #[ <exp> ; gen <identifier> => <exp> ]  
  
<bit-array> ::= <exp> 's': <exp>  
              | <exp> 'u': <exp>  
              | <exp> 'r': <exp>  
  
<hardware record literal> ::= #[ <record-body> ]
```

Shown in full in Appendix B

DESIGN

1. Kinding System
2. Grammar
- 3. Typing Relation**
4. Evaluation Rules
5. Proof of Safety

DESIGN // **TYPING RELATION**

Each typing rule is a theorem

DESIGN // TYPING RELATION

Each typing rule is a theorem

$$\frac{\text{hypothesis}}{\text{conclusion}} \quad (\text{T-NAME})$$

DESIGN // TYPING RELATION

Examples of typing rules

$$\frac{t_1:\text{int} \quad t_2:\text{int}}{t_1 + t_2 : \text{int}} \text{ (T-INT-ADD)}$$

DESIGN // TYPING RELATION

Examples of typing rules

$$\frac{t_1 : T_H \quad t_2 : T_H}{t_1 \ \& \ t_2 : T_H} \quad (\text{T-AND})$$

DESIGN // TYPING RELATION

Examples of typing rules

$$\frac{t_1 : T_H \quad t_2 : T_H}{t_1 \ \& \ t_2 : T_H} \quad (\text{T-AND})$$

51 rules in total, shown in full in Appendix B

DESIGN

1. Kinding System
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5. Proof of Safety

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Defining the semantics of the language

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Defining the semantics of the language

1. Operational semantics
2. Denotational semantics
3. Axiomatic semantics

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Defining the semantics of the language

1. Operational semantics
2. ~~Denotational semantics~~
3. ~~Axiomatic semantics~~

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Operational semantics define an abstract state machine

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Operational semantics define an abstract state machine

$$f \left(\boxed{\text{exp}} \right) = \boxed{\text{exp}'}$$

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Operational semantics define an abstract state machine

$$f \left(\text{exp} \right) = \text{exp}'$$

$$f \left(\text{val} \right) = \text{terminal}$$

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Operational semantics can be further partitioned

1. Structural (small-step)
2. Natural (big-step)

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Operational semantics can be further partitioned

1. Structural (small-step)
2. ~~Natural (big-step)~~

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Each evaluation rule is a theorem

$$\frac{\text{hypothesis}}{\text{conclusion}} \quad (\text{E-NAME})$$

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Examples of evaluation rules

$$\frac{t_1 \rightarrow t_1' \quad (\text{E-IFELSE})}{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \rightarrow \text{if } t_1' \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3}$$

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Examples of evaluation rules

if 0 then t_2 else $t_3 \rightarrow t_3$ (E-IFELSE-F)

DESIGN // EVALUATION RULES

Examples of evaluation rules

(E-IFELSE-F)

if 0 then t_2 else $t_3 \rightarrow t_3$

97 rules in total, shown in full in Appendix B

DESIGN

1. Kinding System
2. Grammar
3. Typing Relation
4. Evaluation Rules
5. Proof of Safety

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

We first prove two supporting theorems

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

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Theorem of Progress

Suppose t is a closed, well-typed term ($\vdash t : T$ for some T). Then either t is a value or else there is some t' with $t \longrightarrow t'$.

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

We first prove two supporting theorems

Theorem of Progress

Suppose t is a closed, well-typed term ($\vdash t : T$ for some T). Then either t is a value or else there is some t' with $t \longrightarrow t'$.

Theorem of Preservation

If $t : R$ and $t \longrightarrow t'$, then $t' : R$.

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

Proof by structural induction

Proof: By structural induction on a derivation of $t : T$.

Case T-INT, T-REAL, T-STRING, T-BIT, T-NIL:
Immediate since t is a value.

Case T-APP:
 $t = t_1 t_2$
 $\vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}$
 $\vdash t_2 : T_{12}$

By the induction hypothesis, either t_1 is a value or else there is some other t_1' for which $t_1 \rightarrow t_1'$, and likewise for t_2 . If $t_1 \rightarrow t_1'$ then by E-APP1, $t \rightarrow t_1' t_2$. On the other hand, if t_1 is a value and $t_2 \rightarrow t_2'$, then by E-APP2, $t \rightarrow t_1 t_2'$. Finally, if both t_1 and t_2 are values, then case 5 of the canonical forms lemma tells us that t_1 has the form $\lambda x : T_{11}. t_{12}$ and so by E-APPABS, $t \rightarrow [x \mapsto t_2] t_{12}$ which is a value.

Proof: By structural induction on a derivation of $t : T$. At each step of the induction, we assume that the desired property holds for all subderivations (i.e. that if $s : S$ and $s \rightarrow s'$, then $s' : S$, whenever $s : S$ is proved by a subderivation of the present one) and proceed by case analysis on the final rule in the derivation.

Case T-VAR:
 $t = x$
 $x : T \in \Gamma$

If the last rule in the derivation is T-VAR, then we know from the form of this rule that t must be a variable of type T . Thus t is a value, so it cannot be the case that $t \rightarrow t'$ for any t' , and the requirements of the theorem are vacuously satisfied.

Case T-APP:
 $t = t_1 t_2$
 $\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}$
 $\Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_{11}$
 $T = T_{12}$

Looking at the evaluation rules with application on the left-hand side, we find that there are three rules by which $t \rightarrow t'$ can be derived: E-APP1, E-APP2, and E-APPABS. We consider each case separately.

Subcase E-APP1:
 $t_1 \rightarrow t_1'$
 $t' = t_1' t_2$

From the assumptions of the T-APP case, we have a subderivation of the original typing derivation whose conclusion is $\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}$. We can apply the induction hypothesis to this subderivation obtaining $\Gamma \vdash t_1' : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}$. Combining this with the fact that $\Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_{11}$, we can apply rule T-APP to conclude that $\Gamma \vdash t' : T$.

Subcase E-APP2:
Similar to E-APP1.

Subcase E-APPABS:
 $t_1 = \lambda x : T_{11}. t_{12}$
 $t_2 = v_2$
 $t' = [x \mapsto v_2] t_{12}$

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

Proof by structural induction

Proof. By structural induction on a derivation of $t : T$.

Case T-INT, T-REAL, T-STRING, T-BIT, T-NIL:

Immediate since t is a value.

Case T-APP:

$$\begin{aligned} t &= t_1 t_2 \\ \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \\ \vdash t_2 : T_{12} \end{aligned}$$

By the induction hypothesis, either t_1 is a value or else there is some other t_1' for which $t_1 \rightarrow t_1'$, and likewise for t_2 . If $t_1 \rightarrow t_1'$ then by E-APP1, $t \rightarrow t_1' t_2$. On the other hand, if t_1 is a value and $t_2 \rightarrow t_2'$, then by E-APP2, $t \rightarrow t_1 t_2'$. Finally, if both t_1 and t_2 are values, then case 5 of the canonical forms lemma tells us that t_1 has the form $\lambda x : T_{11}. t_{12}$ and so by E-APPABS, $t \rightarrow [x \mapsto t_2] t_{12}$ which is a value.

Proof. By structural induction on a derivation of $t : T$. At each step of the induction, we assume that the desired property holds for all subderivations (i.e. that if $s : S$ and $s \rightarrow s'$, then $s' : S$, whenever $s : S$ is proved by a subderivation of the present one) and proceed by case analysis on the final rule in the derivation.

Case T-VAR:

$$\begin{aligned} t &= x \\ x &: T \in \Gamma \end{aligned}$$

If the last rule in the derivation is T-VAR, then we know from the form of this rule that t must be a variable of type T . Thus t is a value, so it cannot be the case that $t \rightarrow t'$ for any t' , and the requirements of the theorem are vacuously satisfied.

Case T-APP:

$$\begin{aligned} t &= t_1 t_2 \\ \Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \\ \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_{11} \\ T &= T_{12} \end{aligned}$$

Looking at the evaluation rules with application on the left-hand side, we find that there are three rules by which $t \rightarrow t'$ can be derived: E-APP1, E-APP2, and E-APPABS. We consider each case separately.

Subcase E-APP1:

$$\begin{aligned} t_1 &\rightarrow t_1' \\ t' &= t_1' t_2 \end{aligned}$$

From the assumptions of the T-APP case, we have a subderivation of the original typing derivation whose conclusion is $\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}$. We can apply the induction hypothesis to this subderivation obtaining $\Gamma \vdash t_1' : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}$. Combining this with the fact that $\Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_{11}$, we can apply rule T-APP to conclude that $\Gamma \vdash t' : T$.

Subcase E-APP2:

Similar to E-APP1.

Subcase E-APPABS:

$$\begin{aligned} t_1 &= \lambda x : T_{11}. t_{12} \\ t_2 &= v_2 \\ t' &= [x \mapsto v_2] t_{12} \end{aligned}$$

Shown in full in Appendix B

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

Definition

A term is in a stuck state if no evaluation rules apply to it but it is not a value.

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

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Theorem of Safety

A well-typed term can never reach a stuck state during evaluation.

DESIGN // PROOF OF SAFETY

Definition

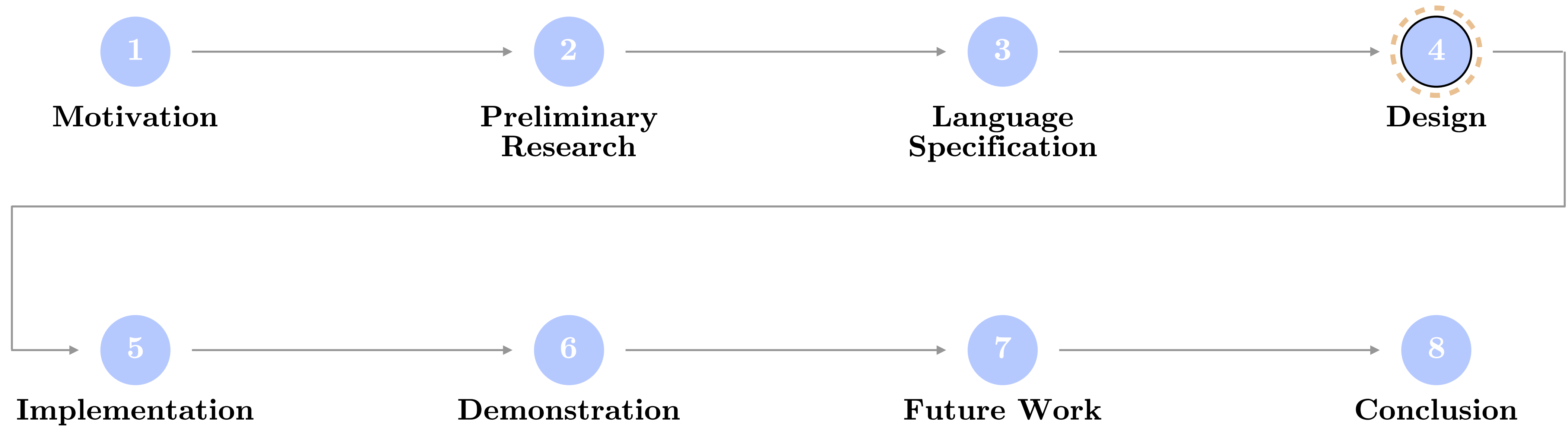
A term is in a stuck state if no evaluation rules apply to it but it is not a value.

Theorem of Safety

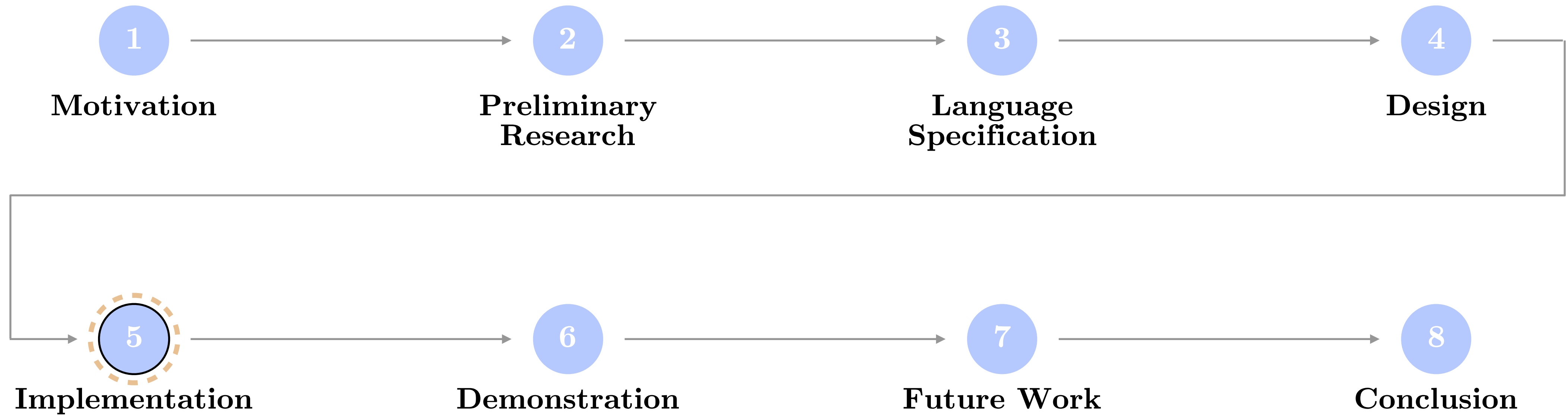
A well-typed term can never reach a stuck state during evaluation.

Proof: Progress tells us a well-typed term can either always take a step of evaluation or it is already a value. Preservation tells us if a well-typed term takes a step of evaluation, the resulting term is also well-typed. In combination and inductively, these guarantee safety. \square

ROADMAP



ROADMAP



IMPLEMENTATION

Gemini
Program

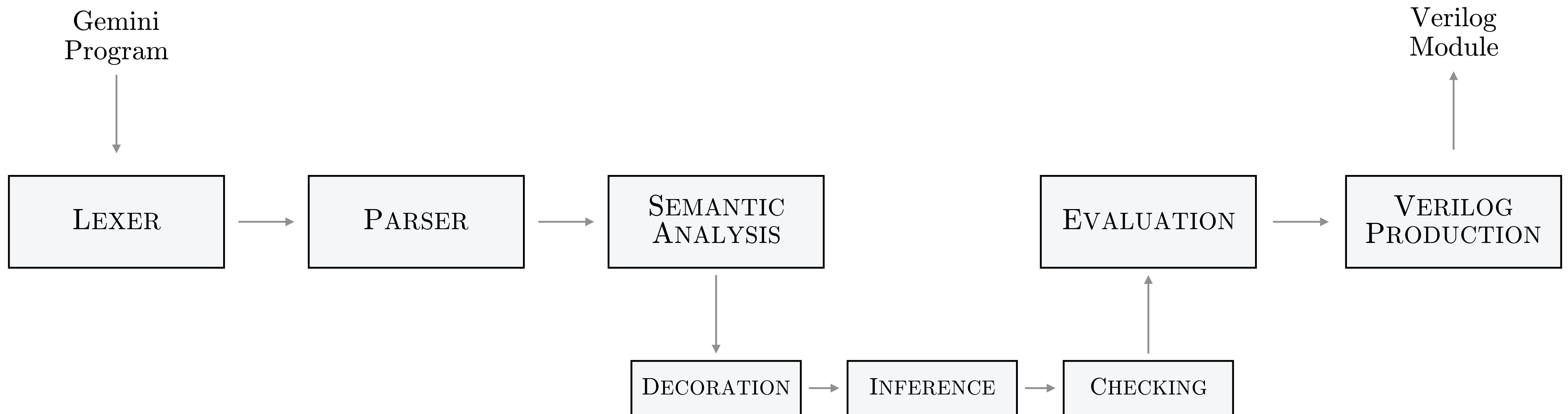


Verilog
Module

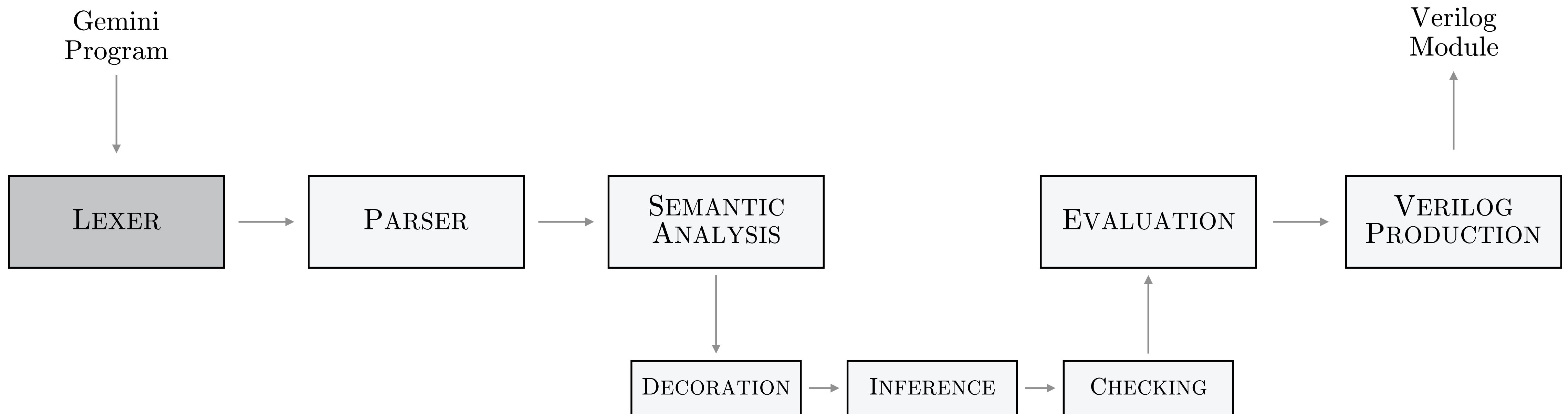


Gemini Compiler

IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION // LEXER

Scans program and produces lexemes, classified into token classes

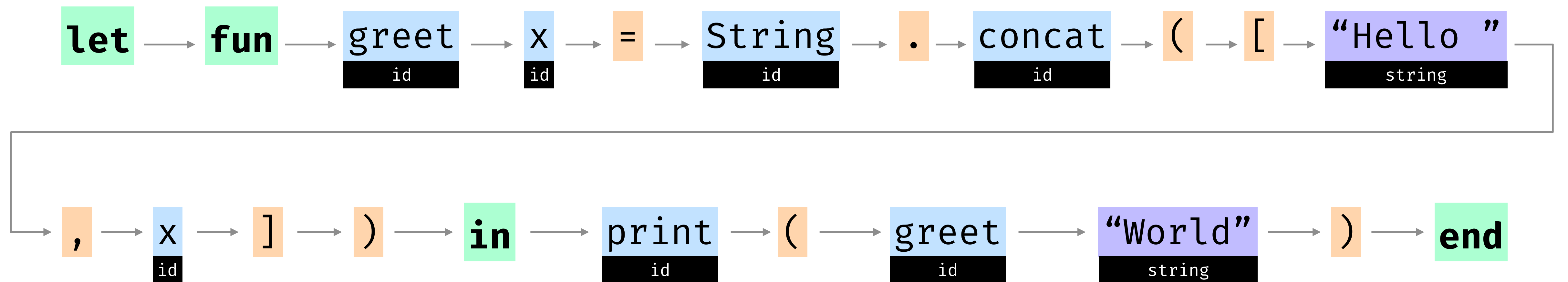
IMPLEMENTATION // LEXER

Scans program and produces lexemes, classified into token classes

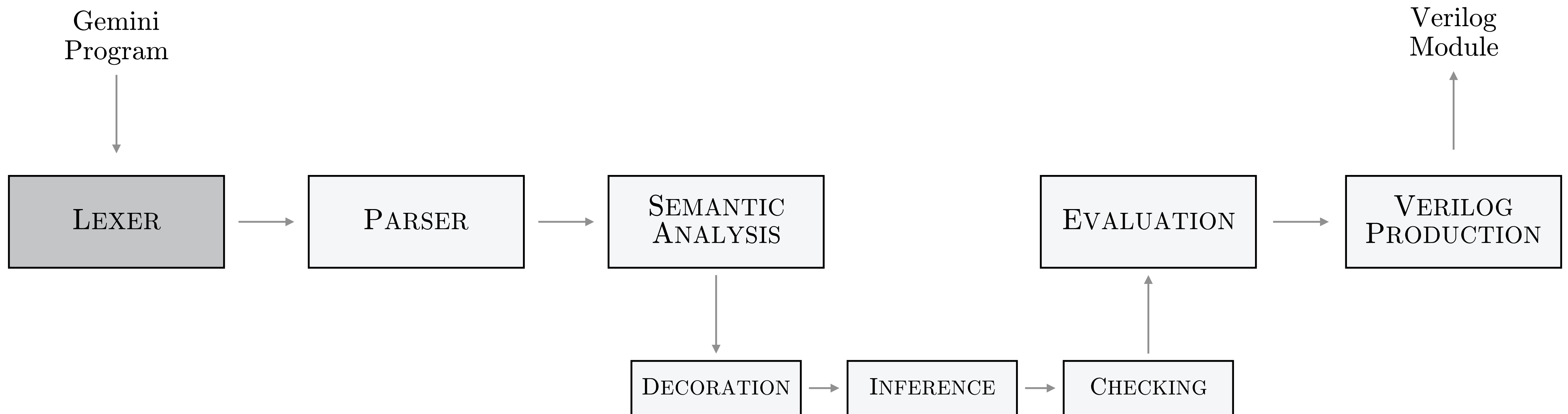
```
let  
  fun greet x = String.concat(["Hello ", x])  
in  
  print(greet "World")  
end
```

IMPLEMENTATION // LEXER

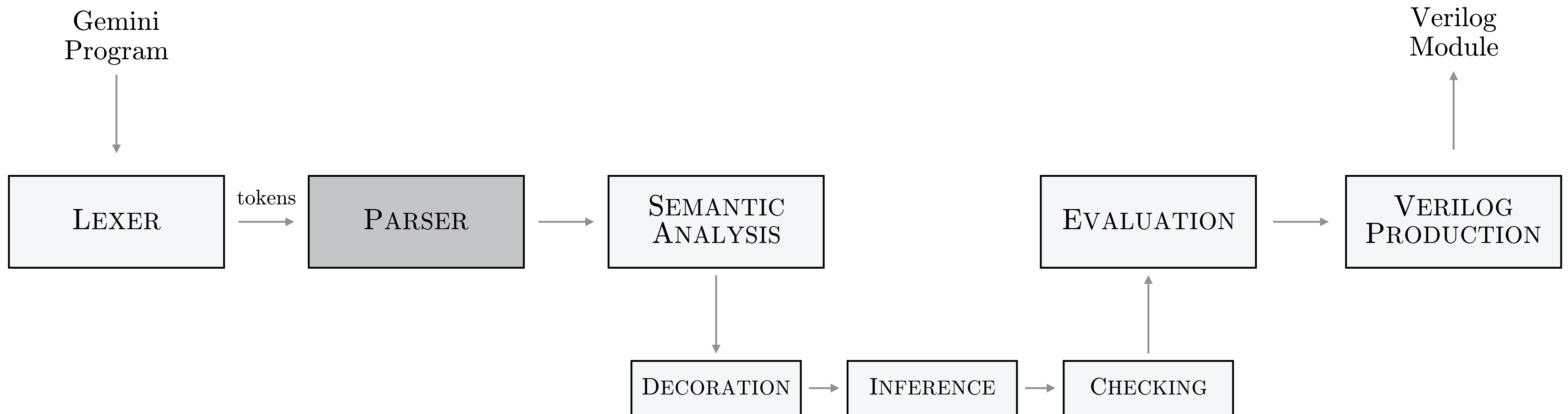
Scans program and produces lexemes, classified into token classes



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION // **P**ARSER

At this point, we know program is syntactically correct

IMPLEMENTATION // PARSER

At this point, we know program is syntactically correct

Problem

It may not be grammatically correct (Ex: 42 +)

IMPLEMENTATION // PARSER

At this point, we know program is syntactically correct

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Solution

We must verify the grammar

IMPLEMENTATION // PARSER

At this point, we know program is syntactically correct

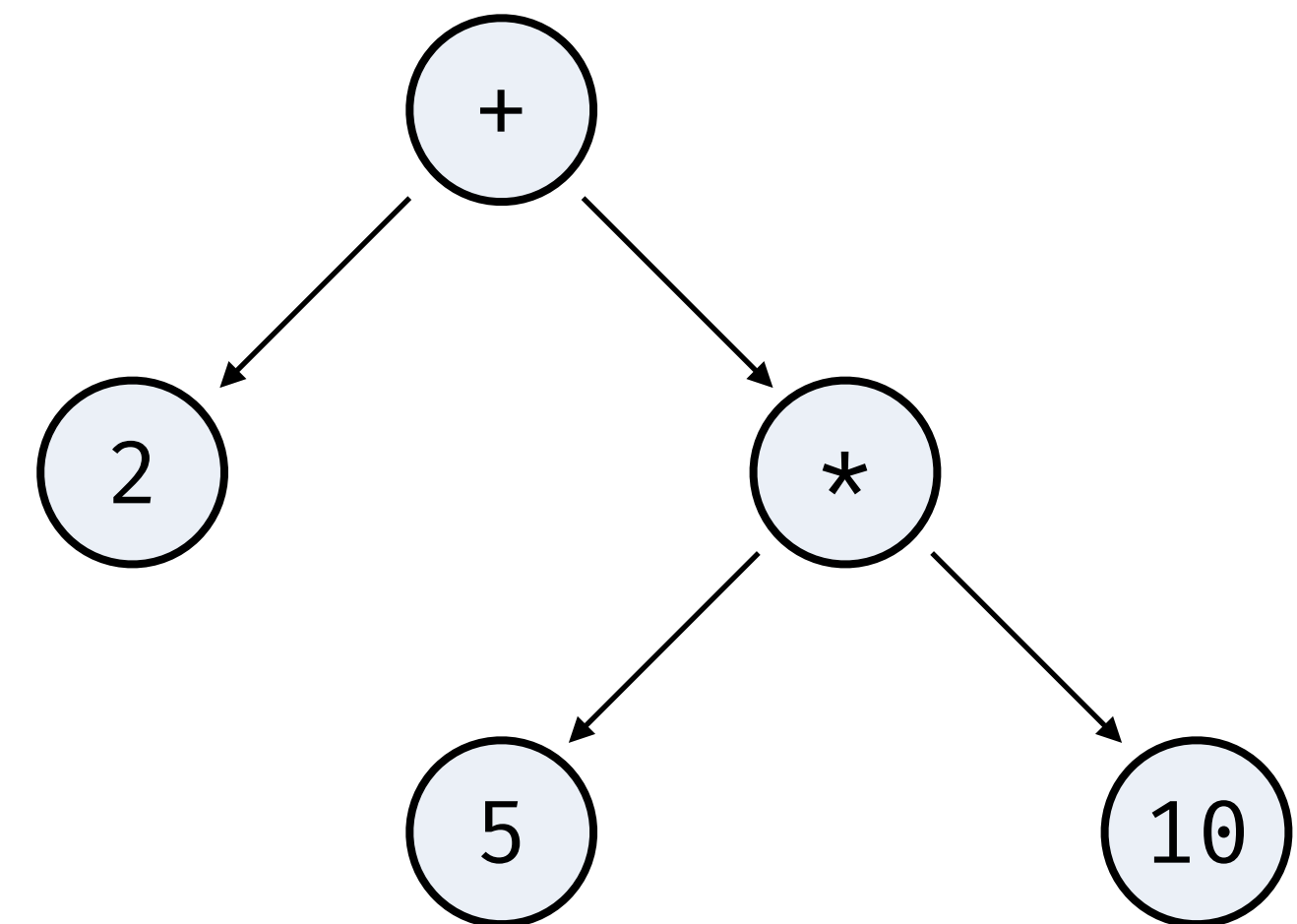
Problem

It may not be grammatically correct (Ex: 42 +)

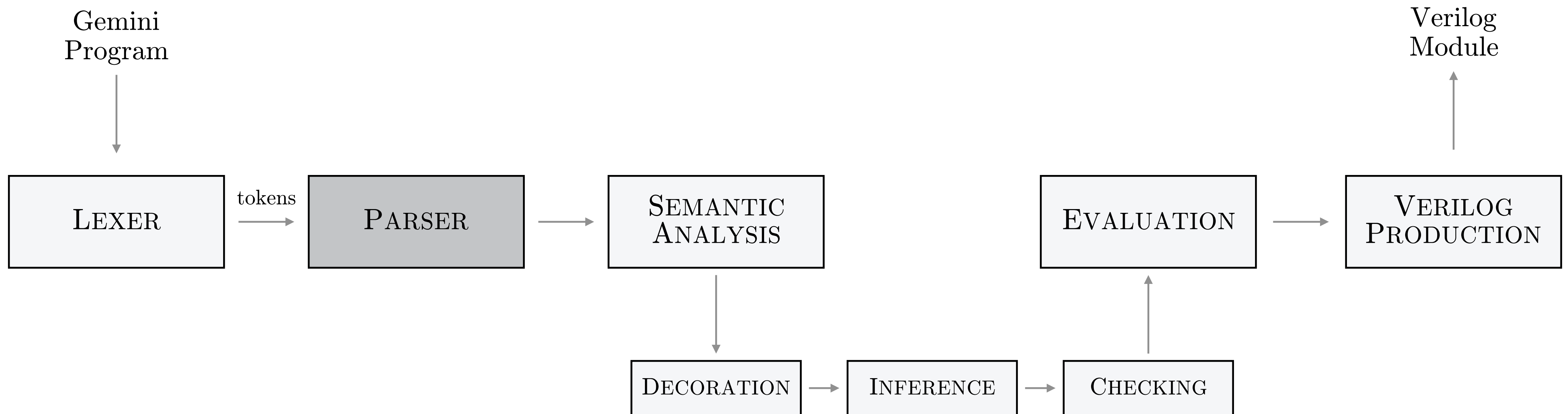
Solution

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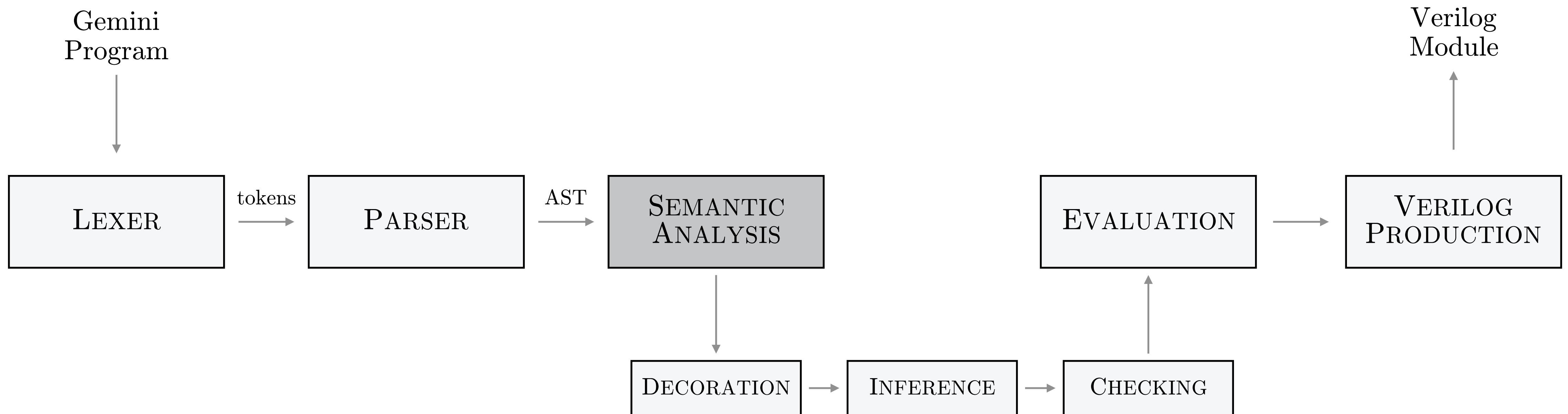
2 + 5 * 10



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

At this point, we know program is syntactically and grammatically correct

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

At this point, we know program is syntactically and grammatically correct

Problem

It may not be semantically correct (Ex: “hello” + 42)

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

At this point, we know program is syntactically and grammatically correct

Problem

It may not be semantically correct (Ex: “hello” + 42)

Solution

We must verify the type semantics

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

Preventative Issue

Not all types are currently known since variables may be written with implicit types

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

Preventative Issue

Not all types are currently known since variables may be written with implicit types

```
fun add(x, y) = x + y
```


IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

Preventative Issue

Not all types are currently known since variables may be written with implicit types

```
fun add(x, y) = x + y
```

It is the responsibility of the compiler to infer the actual types

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

1. Decoration
2. Inference
3. Checking

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

1. Decoration
2. Inference
3. Checking

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // **DECORATION**

We translate from Gemini to a fictional intermediate language called ExplicitGemini

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // DECORATION

We translate from Gemini to a fictional intermediate language called ExplicitGemini

```
fun print_and_mult(x      , y      , s : string)      = (print(s); x * y)
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // DECORATION

We translate from Gemini to a fictional intermediate language called ExplicitGemini

```
fun print_and_mult(x : 'a, y : 'b, s : string) : 'c = (print(s); x * y)
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // DECORATION

We translate from Gemini to a fictional intermediate language called ExplicitGemini

```
fun print_and_mult(x : 'a, y : 'b, s : string) : 'c = (print(s); x * y)
```

'a represents a type variable, which we try to infer based on how it is used

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

1. Decoration
2. Inference
3. Checking

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // **INFERENCE**

With all variables decorated, we infer all types as generally as possible

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // **INFERENCE**

With all variables decorated, we infer all types as generally as possible

Two underlying algorithms

1. Unification
2. Substitution

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

```
fun doubleList (mylist : 'a) : 'b = case mylist of
    [] : 'c  $\Rightarrow$  [] : 'd
  |: (x : 'e)::(rest : 'f)  $\Rightarrow$  (x * 2)::(doubleList rest) : 'g
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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fun doubleList (mylist : 'a) : 'b = case mylist of
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{'c ↦ 'h list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

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{'c ↦ 'h list}
{'d ↦ 'i list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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  |: (x : 'e)::(rest : 'f) ⇒ (x * 2)::(doubleList rest) : 'g

{'c ↦ 'h list}
{'d ↦ 'i list}
{'e ↦ int}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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{'c ↦ 'h list}
{'d ↦ 'i list}
{'e ↦ int}
{'f ↦ 'e list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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{'c ↦ 'h list}
{'d ↦ 'i list}
{'e ↦ int}
{'f ↦ int list}
```


IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

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```
{'g ↦ 'e list}
```

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```

```
{'e ↦ int}
```

```
{'f ↦ int list}
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IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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```

```
{'c ↦ 'h list}           {'g ↦ int list}
```

```
{'d ↦ 'i list}
```

```
{'e ↦ int}
```

```
{'f ↦ int list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

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```

```
{'c ↦ 'h list}           {'g ↦ int list}
```

```
{'d ↦ 'g}
```

```
{'e ↦ int}
```

```
{'f ↦ int list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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```

```
{'c ↦ 'h list}           {'g ↦ int list}
```

```
{'d ↦ int list}
```

```
{'e ↦ int}
```

```
{'f ↦ int list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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```

```
{'c ↦ int list}           {'g ↦ int list}
```

```
{'d ↦ int list}
```

```
{'e ↦ int}
```

```
{'f ↦ int list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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```

```
{'c ↦ int list}           {'g ↦ int list}
```

```
{'d ↦ int list}           {'a ↦ 'c}
```

```
{'e ↦ int}
```

```
{'f ↦ int list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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```

```
{'c ↦ int list}           {'g ↦ int list}
```

```
{'d ↦ int list}           {'a ↦ int list}
```

```
{'e ↦ int}
```

```
{'f ↦ int list}
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

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```

{'c ↦ int list}	{'g ↦ int list}
{'d ↦ int list}	{'a ↦ int list}
{'e ↦ int}	{'b ↦ 'd}
{'f ↦ int list}	

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

```
fun doubleList (mylist : 'a) : 'b = case mylist of
    [] : 'c ⇒ [] : 'd
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```

{'c ↦ int list}	{'g ↦ int list}
{'d ↦ int list}	{'a ↦ int list}
{'e ↦ int}	{'b ↦ int list}
{'f ↦ int list}	

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

Algorithm: Unification computes the smallest possible substitution mapping from type variables to types

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    [] : 'c ⇒ [] : 'd
  |: (x : 'e)::(rest : 'f) ⇒ (x * 2)::(doubleList rest) : 'g
```

{'c ↦ int list}

{'g ↦ int list}

doubleList : int list → int list

{'d ↦ int list}

{'a ↦ int list}

{'e ↦ int}

{'b ↦ int list}

{'f ↦ int list}

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // **INFERENCE**

Algorithm: Substitution applies the mappings to the variable and type environments

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // **INFERENCE**

In some cases, type variables do not get substituted

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

In some cases, type variables do not get substituted

```
fun concat e mylist = e::mylist
```

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

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fun concat e mylist = e::mylist
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The type of concat is 'a → 'a list → 'a list

IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // INFERENCE

In some cases, type variables do not get substituted

```
fun concat e mylist = e::mylist
```

The type of concat is 'a → 'a list → 'a list

In type theoretical terms, $\forall a. \lambda x : a. \lambda y : a \text{ list}. x::y$

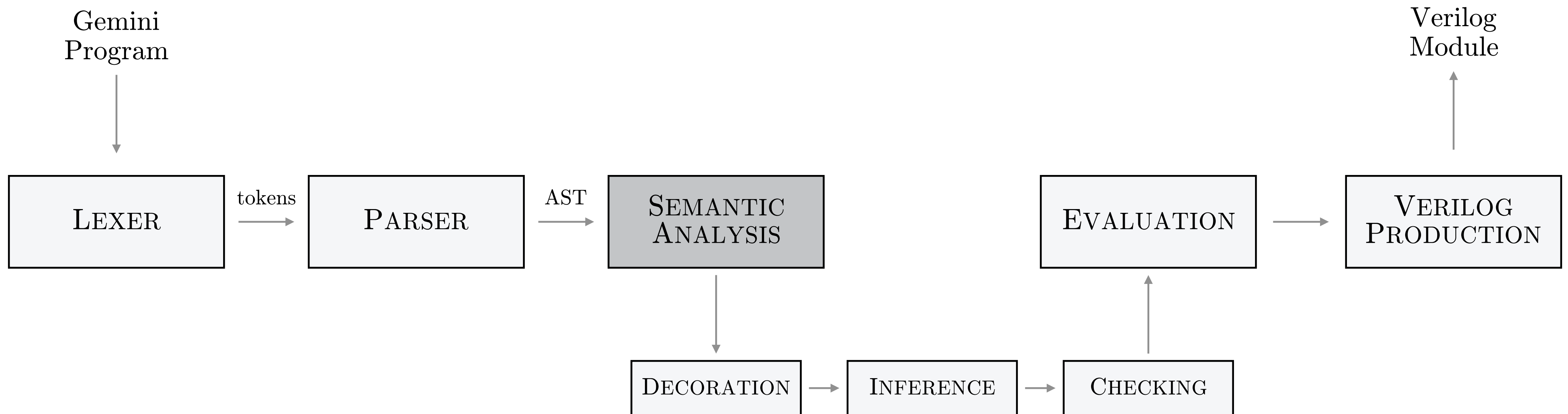
IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS

1. Decoration
2. Inference
3. Checking

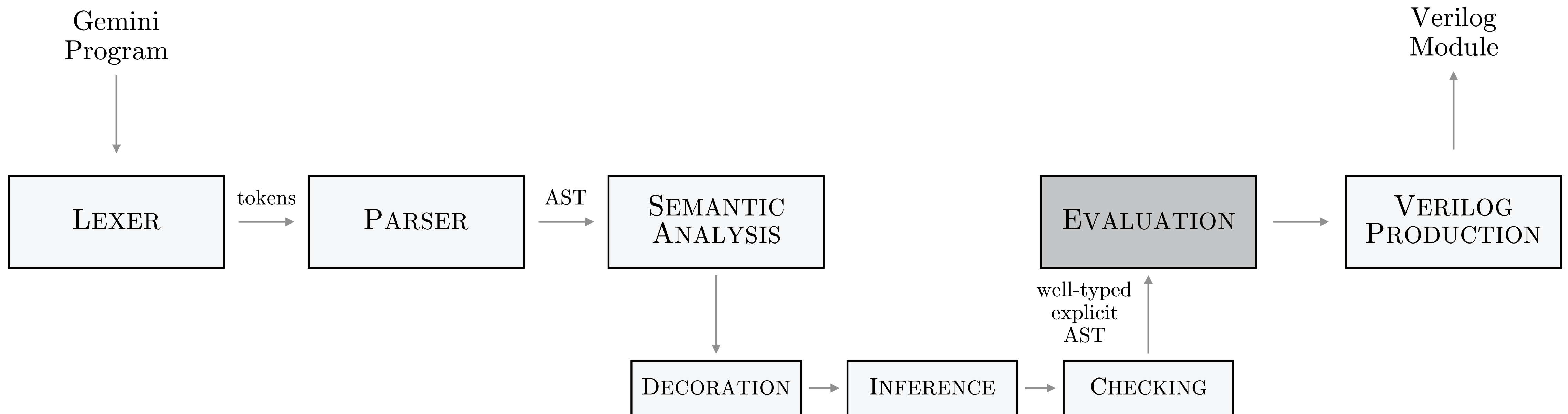
IMPLEMENTATION // SEMANTIC ANALYSIS // **CHECKING**

Now that all types are inferred, we can enforce typing rules that we formalized earlier

IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

At this point, we have a well-typed AST consisting of software and hardware expressions

IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

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Problem

Verilog only supports hardware values

IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

At this point, we have a well-typed AST consisting of software and hardware expressions

Problem

Verilog only supports hardware values

Solution

Execute all software expressions to generate a hardware-only tree

IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

Evaluation is similar to algorithms in the past

IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

Evaluation is similar to algorithms in the past

1. We recurse over the AST and evaluate each expression, which may contain subexpressions

IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

Evaluation is similar to algorithms in the past

1. We recurse over the AST and evaluate each expression, which may contain subexpressions
2. Base case of recursion is when a variable or constant is encountered

IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

Evaluation is similar to algorithms in the past

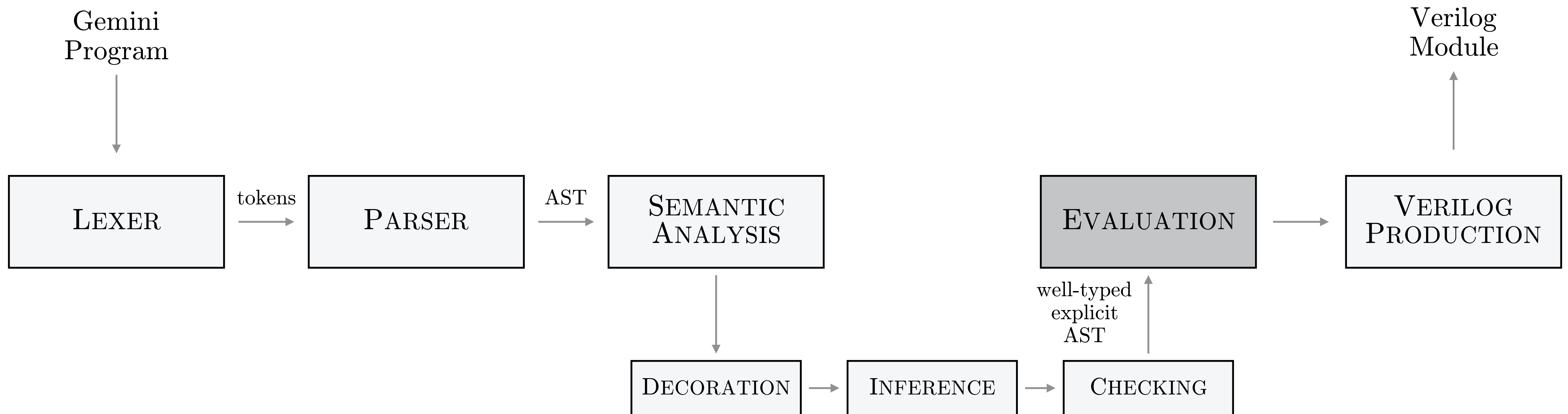
1. We recurse over the AST and evaluate each expression, which may contain subexpressions
2. Base case of recursion is when a variable or constant is encountered
3. At each node, subexpressions are evaluated and used to evaluate the node itself

IMPLEMENTATION // EVALUATION

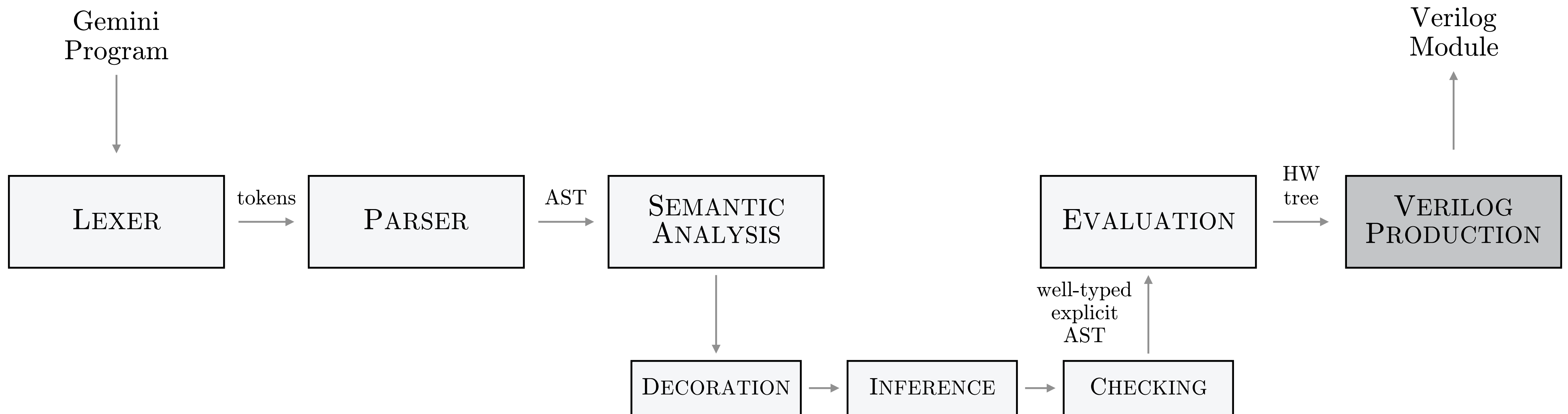
Evaluation is similar to algorithms in the past

1. We recurse over the AST and evaluate each expression, which may contain subexpressions
2. Base case of recursion is when a variable or constant is encountered
3. At each node, subexpressions are evaluated and used to evaluate the node itself
4. For each declaration, the value store is augmented to map from the variable name to its value

IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION



IMPLEMENTATION // VERILOG PRODUCTION

At this point, we have a tree of hardware values representing a circuit consisting only of bits, gates, arrays, records, and pins (variables)

IMPLEMENTATION // VERILOG PRODUCTION

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Problem

The structure represents a module but is not in an executable format

IMPLEMENTATION // VERILOG PRODUCTION

At this point, we have a tree of hardware values representing a circuit consisting only of bits, gates, arrays, records, and pins (variables)

Problem

The structure represents a module but is not in an executable format

Solution

We must output Verilog that represents the tree

IMPLEMENTATION // VERILOG PRODUCTION

Verilog production is similar to algorithms in the past

1. We recurse over the AST and produce Verilog for each expression, which may contain subexpressions

IMPLEMENTATION // VERILOG PRODUCTION

Verilog production is similar to algorithms in the past

1. We recurse over the AST and produce Verilog for each expression, which may contain subexpressions
2. Base case of recursion is when a pin or constant is encountered

IMPLEMENTATION // VERILOG PRODUCTION

Verilog production is similar to algorithms in the past

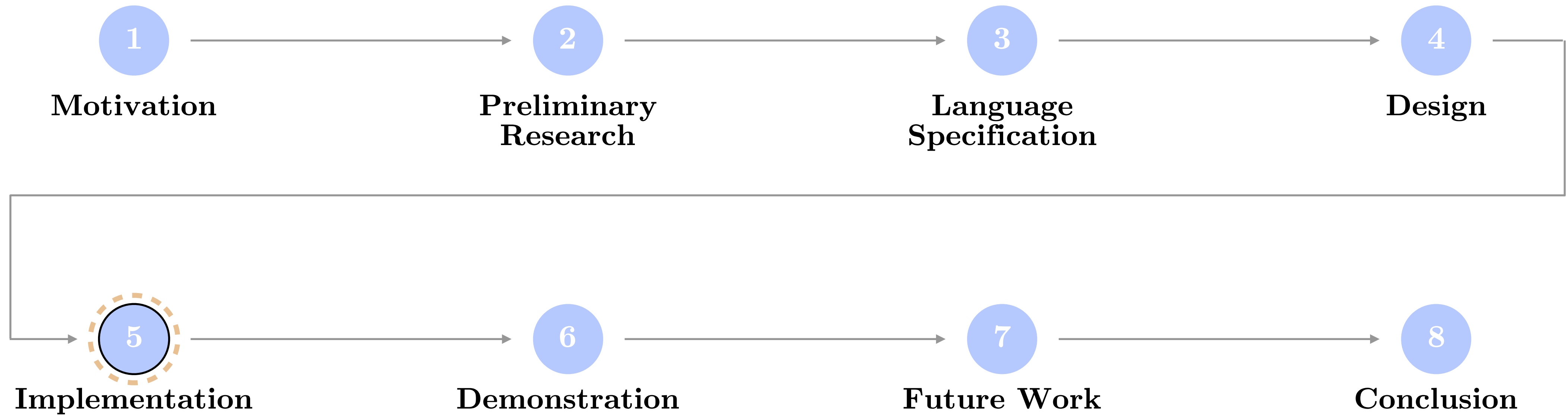
1. We recurse over the AST and produce Verilog for each expression, which may contain subexpressions
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IMPLEMENTATION // VERILOG PRODUCTION

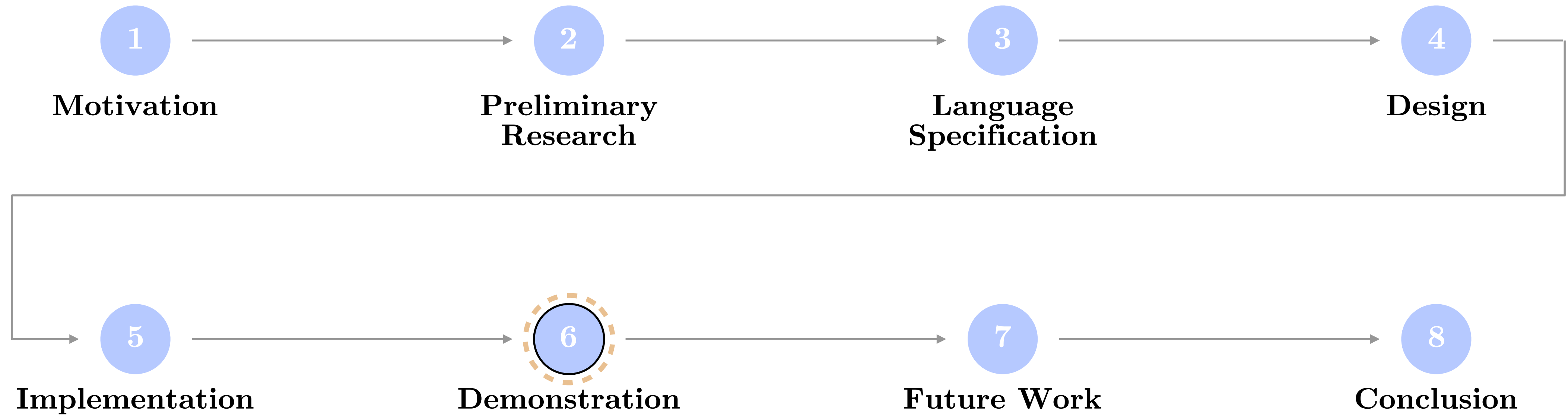
Verilog production is similar to algorithms in the past

1. We recurse over the AST and produce Verilog for each expression, which may contain subexpressions
2. Base case of recursion is when a pin or constant is encountered
3. At each node, subexpressions are evaluated and used to evaluate the node itself
4. For each node, fresh wire is generated and returned for superexpressions to use

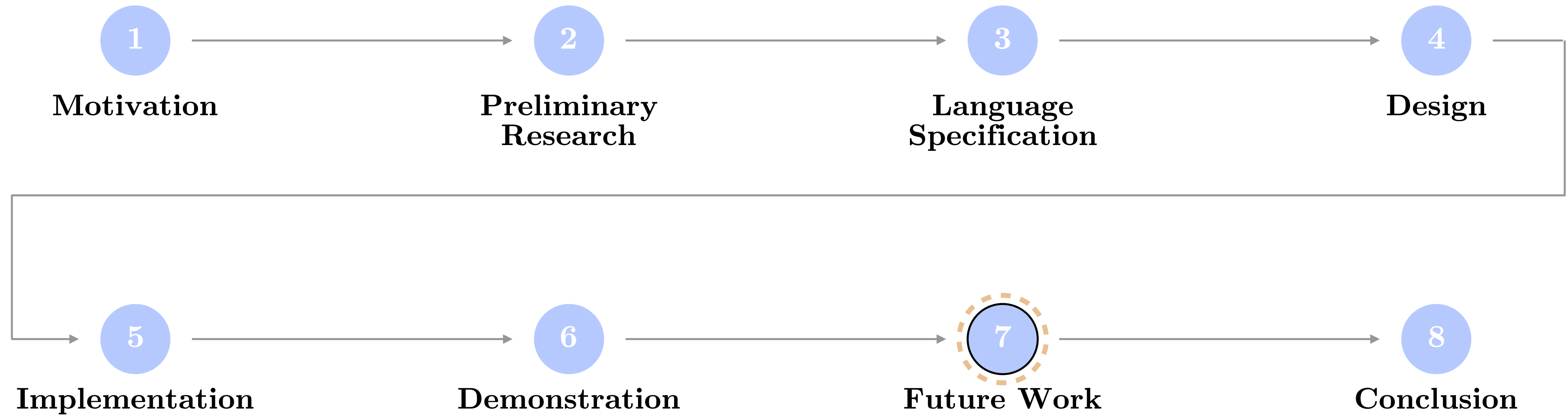
ROADMAP



ROADMAP



ROADMAP



FUTURE WORK

Extensions

Optimizations

FUTURE WORK

Extensions

- Simulation/waveform backend
- Testbench generation

Optimizations

FUTURE WORK

Extensions

- Simulation/waveform backend
- Testbench generation

Optimizations

- Dataflow analysis to reuse wires
- Constant propagation
- Constraining resources finitely

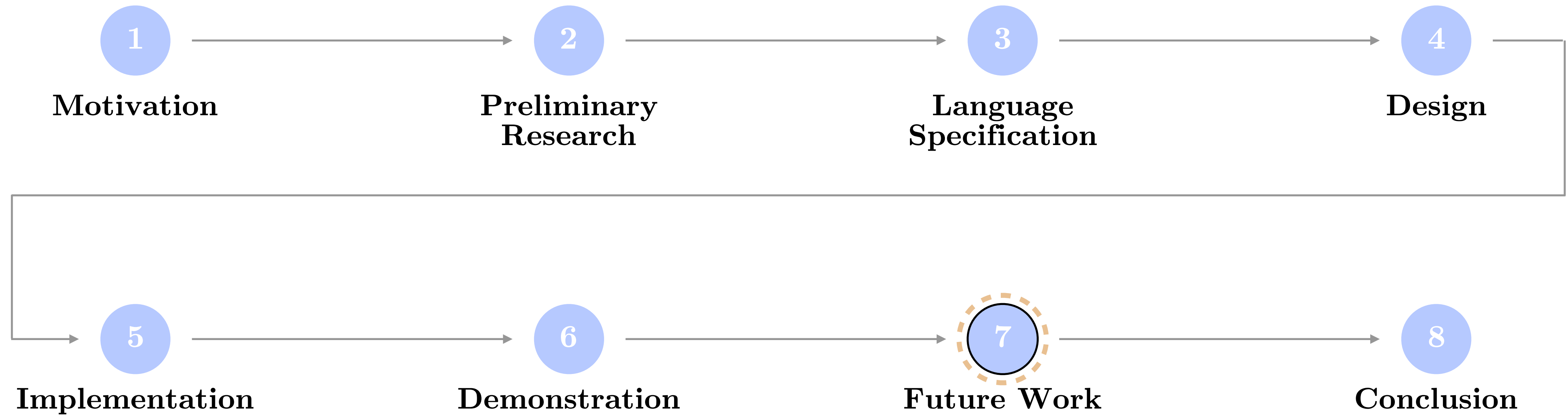
FUTURE WORK

Plan to Open-Source

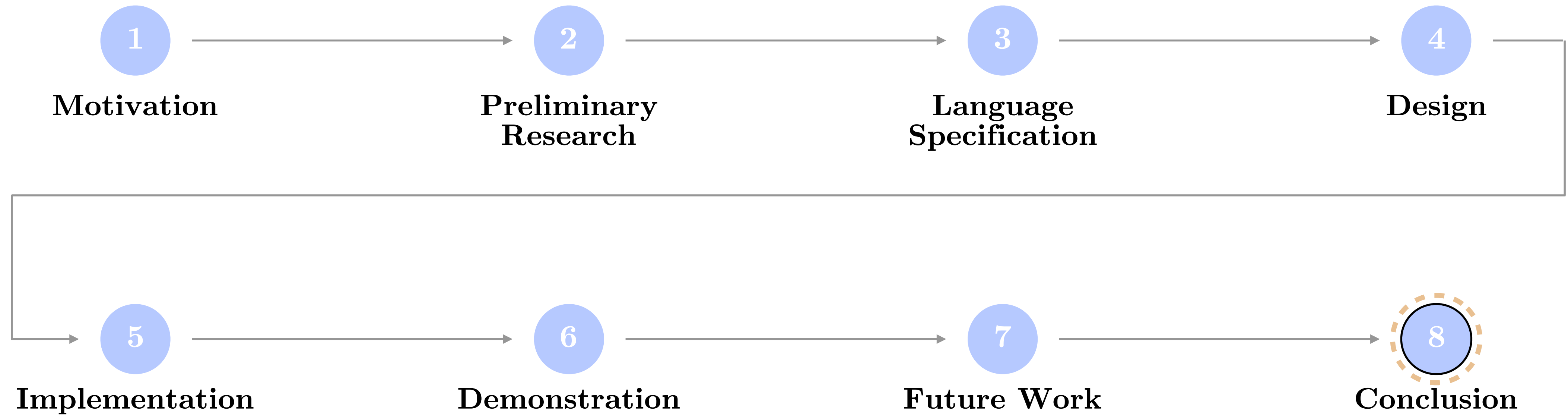
All code is hosted on GitHub

Extensive documentation at bit.ly/gemini-docs

ROADMAP



ROADMAP



CONCLUSION

I spent the last year answering the following questions:

Question 1

Can I design a programming language that combines the powerful features of software programming languages with the ability to describe electronic circuits?

Question 2

Can I develop a compiler that accepts a program in this language and produces an optimized Verilog module?

CONCLUSION

I spent the last year answering the following questions:

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Answer

Yes, and Gemini is proof that unconventional features like multiple kinds, value-parameterized types, and the manifestation of time are possible to implement.

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