



PROVE & RUN

**Formal Proof of a Secure OS Full
Trusted Computing Base**
Dominique Bolignano

77, avenue Niel, 75017 Paris, France

contact@provenrun.com

Context and Objectives



Context

- **Context :**
 - **Use of formal methods for security during a few decades, in particular in the context of Trusted Logic.**
 - **First Common Criteria EAL7 certification achieved for a smartcard OS, a Java Card environment and hardware. Formal verification of a bytecode verifier and its linking phase, etc. Deployed in billions.**
 - **First TEE (secure OS). Also deployed in billions.**
- **ProvenCore project started in 2009.**
 - **Development of a formally proven secure OS (proved down to the code),**
 - **Certifiable at the highest levels of security,**



Prove & Run's answer to the challenge

- **Two critical off-the-shelf software components:**
 - ***ProvenCore*** : microkernel proven and certified for security (ARM Cortex A, Risc V, ARM Cortex M).
 - ***ProvenVisor*** : secure hypervisor

Designed to have a TCB (Trusted Computing Base) that is as close as possible to zero-bug.

Highest Level of Security ever reached
(CC EAL7 augmented) for Cortex A
World premiere



Prove & Run Value Proposition



We provide **cost effective off-the-shelf software solutions** that **dramatically improve the level of security** of your Connected Systems/Devices so as to protect them **against remote cyber-attacks**



Security certification Schemes

- Many security certification schemes exist, and many more are to come,
- The Common Criteria, which is an ISO standard is based on seven levels from EAL1 to EAL7,
- Security schemes generally have a correctness part and a robustness one.
- Correctness addresses the complete process (not only development).
- EAL7 requires in its correctness part the use formal methods down to the low level design.
- We have used formal methods down to the code.



Need for security certification

- **Exhaustive validation by trusted third party,**
 - You cannot usually check everything by yourselves,
 - You cannot take what the developer tells you for granted,
 - You need to compare the levels of security of different products,
- **Along an extensive certification scheme, i.e. The Common Criteria at its highest level :**
 - Important to not only cover the OS, but also its maintenance, its initialization, its installation, its provisioning, the associated organizational policies, etc.
 - Highest level needed because of the value at stake and the connectivity, i.e. highly profitable business models for hackers,



This is about Trust!

- **What would an organized attacker do with a given budget (automotive, avionics, ..) :**
 - The objectives is to be able to resist to remote attacks that can be performed with a budget typically over 10 M€. (1 to 100)
 - Identification phase of the attack
 - Exploitation phase of the attack,
- **The general architecture should be well balanced.**
- **Some of us spent most of their time, analyzing and improving security architectures in various areas (IoT, cloud, chip security architecture and firmware, etc.)**
- **ProvenCore is the main tool we used to secure such architectures.**



Our Strategy

- **Maximize security level and more importantly the level of trust that can be achieved (for a given effort/budget),**
- **Use a very large base of use cases for defining functional and security requirements, and improving and assessing their adequacy.**
- **Stepwise approach.**

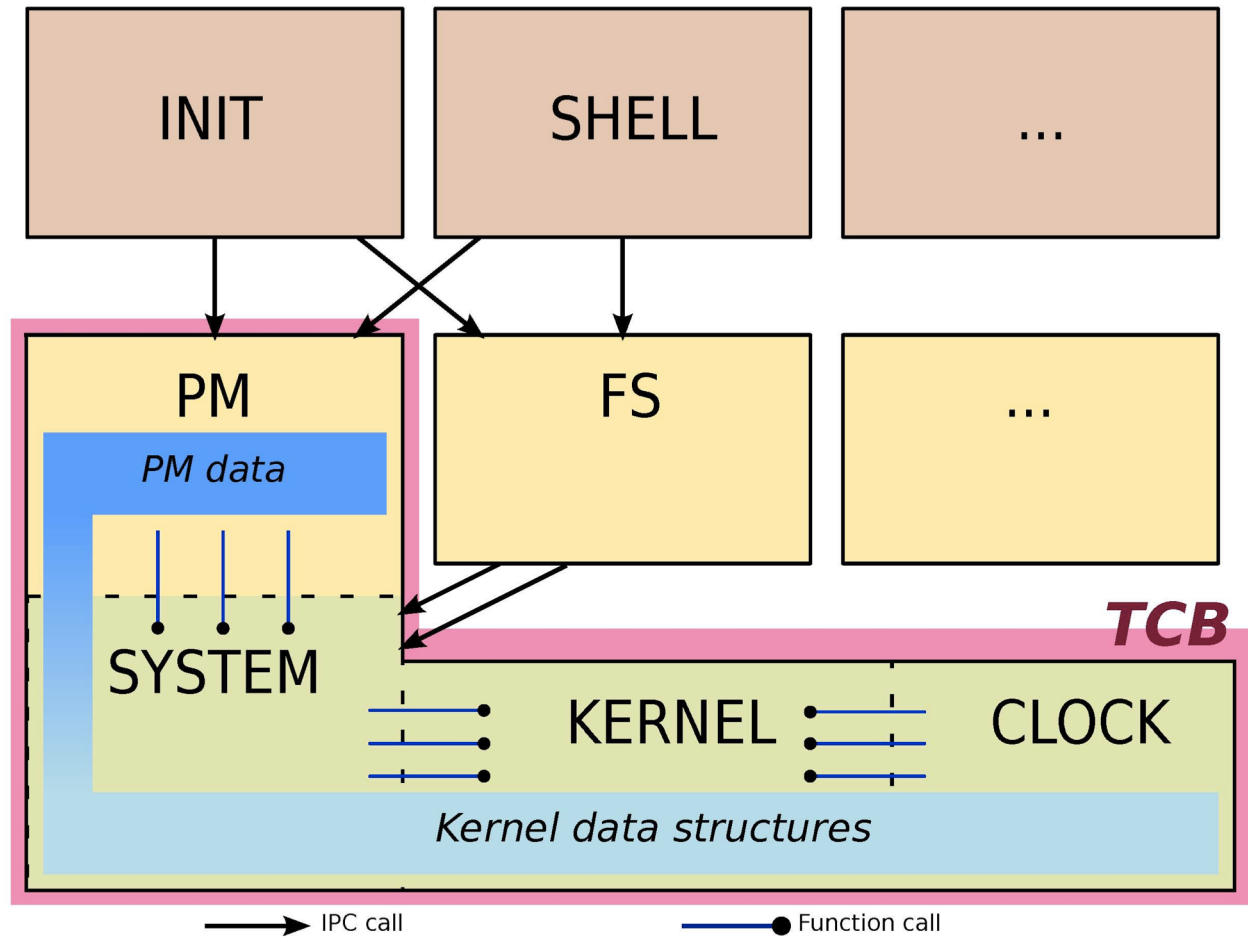


Need for specific functionalities

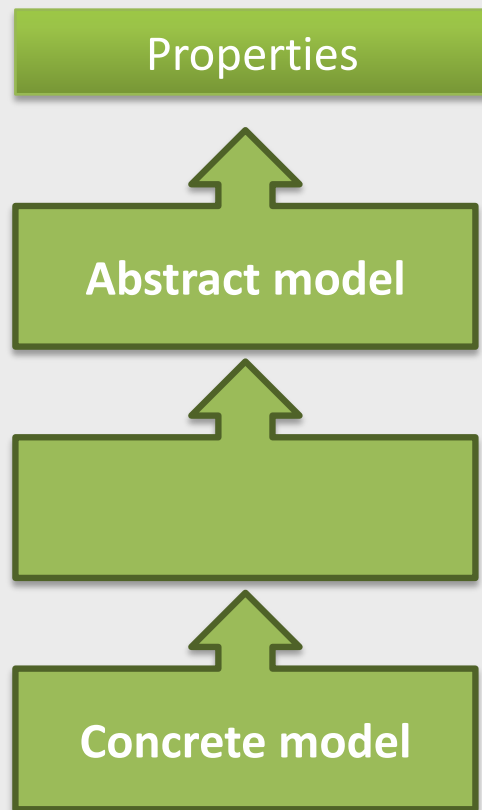
- **Access Control mechanisms between various applications (i.e. processes, so called Trusted Applications) themselves, between applications and peripherals,**
 - So as to enforce constraints on the flow of information to the applications themselves,
 - Static and enforced by ProvenCore based on simple access control matrix,
 - *Transferable tokens.*
- **High level APIs for applications,**
- **High level security services as applications (secure storage, cryptographic libraries, etc.).**



Trusted Computing Base

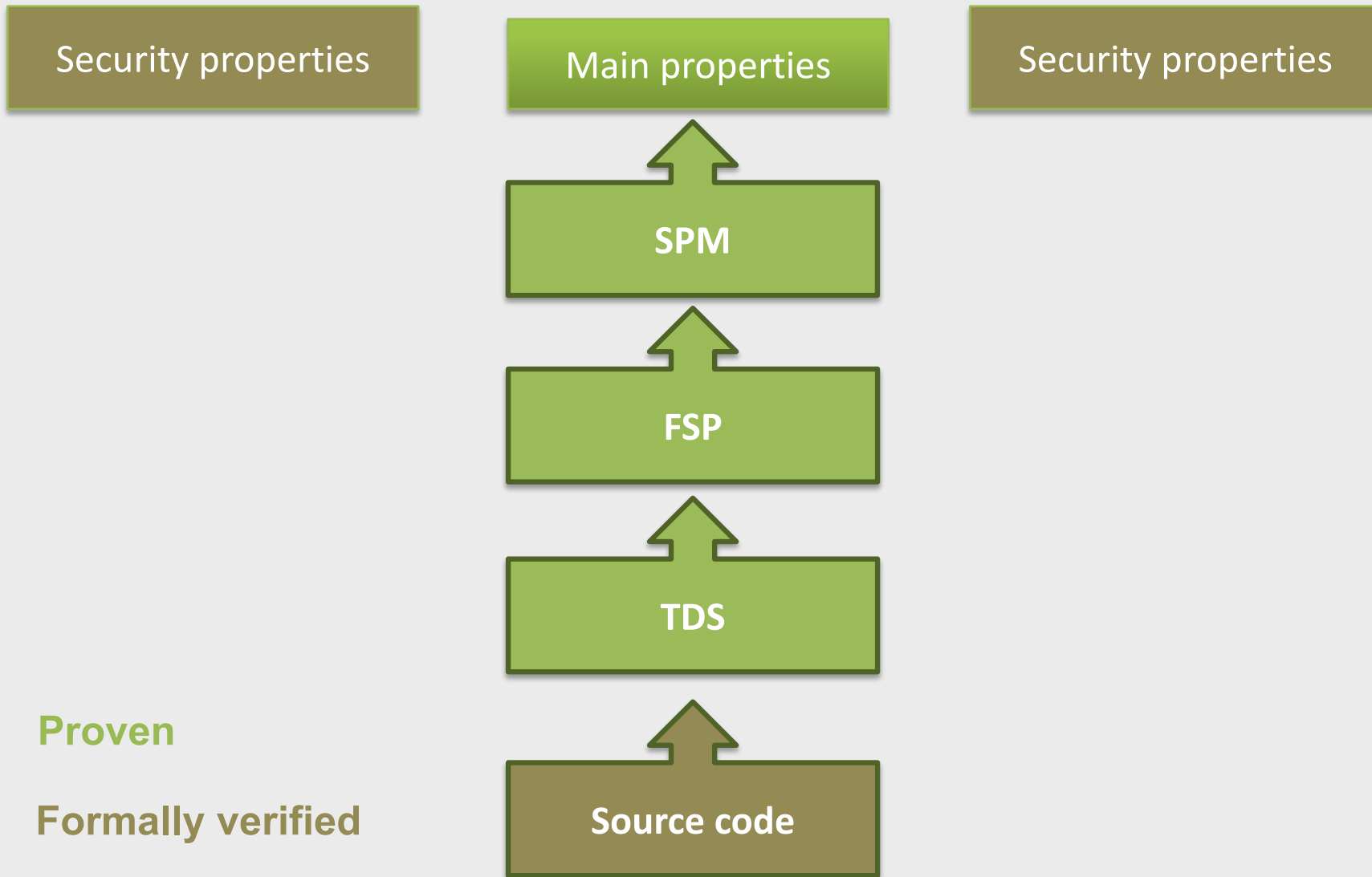


Refinement Proofs

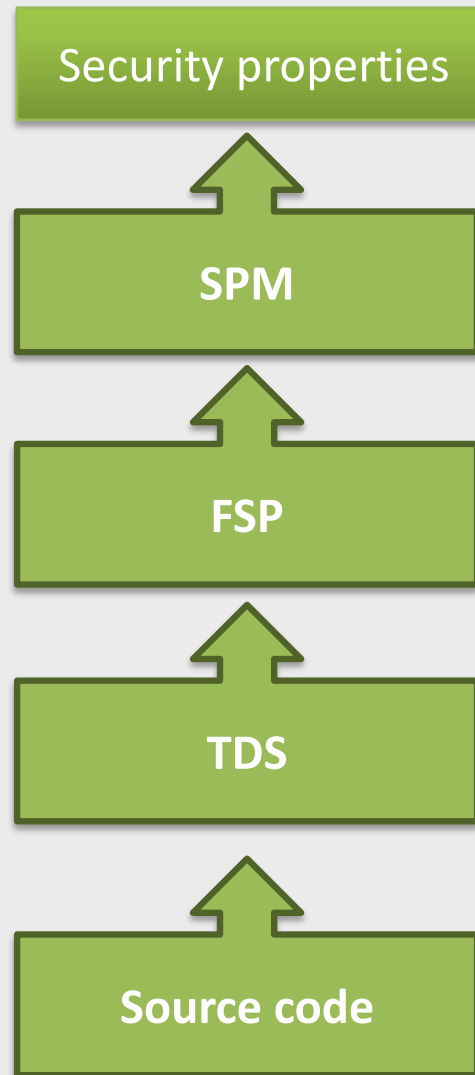


- One (or a few) abstract models
- Formal properties expressed at the highest level
- Properties should be as simple as possible to understand (see [“ProvenCore: Towards a Verified Isolation Micro-Kernel”](#), Stéphane Lescuyer, 10th HiPEAC Conference, 2015)

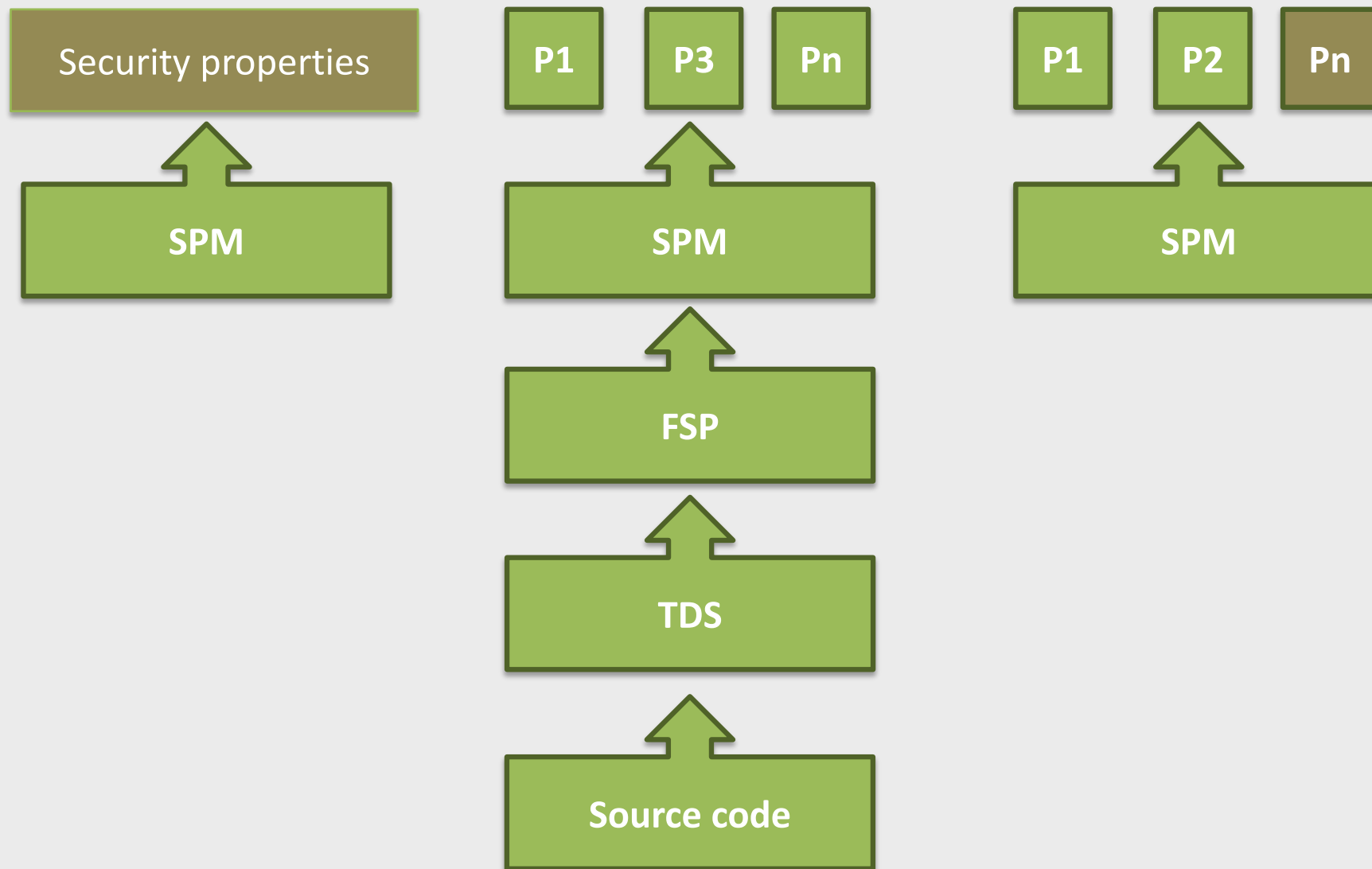
Refinement Proofs and Security Schemes



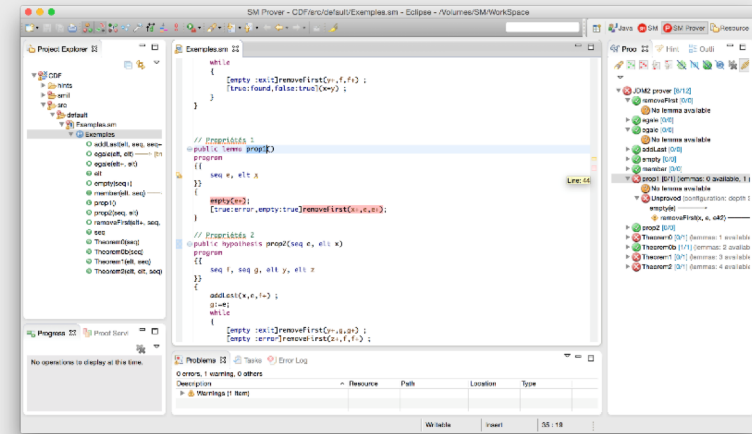
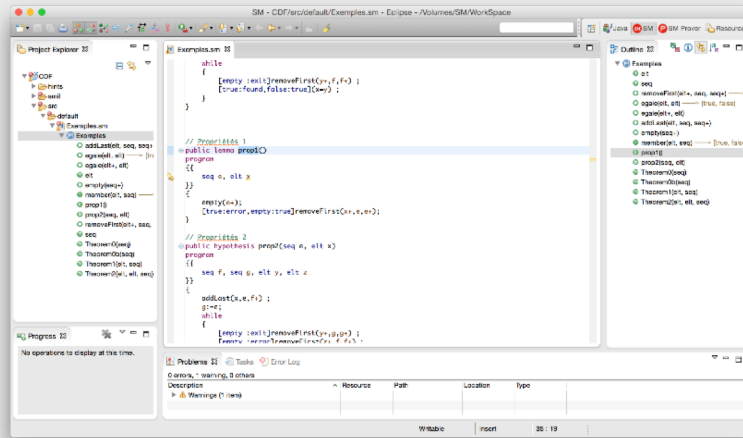
ProvenCore Case



Modelling a microkernel: Properties



SMART development toolchain



Development environment

Prover: Eclipse plugin

**P&R
Intermediate
Language: SMIL**

Generator (source code and documentation):
Eclipse plugin

Automated

Source Code

- Compilable
- C, Java, etc.

**Certification
Documentation
Tests**

- CC
- DO-178
- etc.



SMART language specificities

- **Built to meet the identified requirements of applying formal methods at a large scale:**
 - Usable by developers at high abstraction level but also and more importantly on the lowest levels
 - Allow developers to find (and rely on) paradigms that they usually use for either development, debugging or testing
 - Force developers to answer the right questions while coding and allow them to easily formalize those questions
- **Language with a small and simple subset with the addition of clearly identified syntactic sugaring**

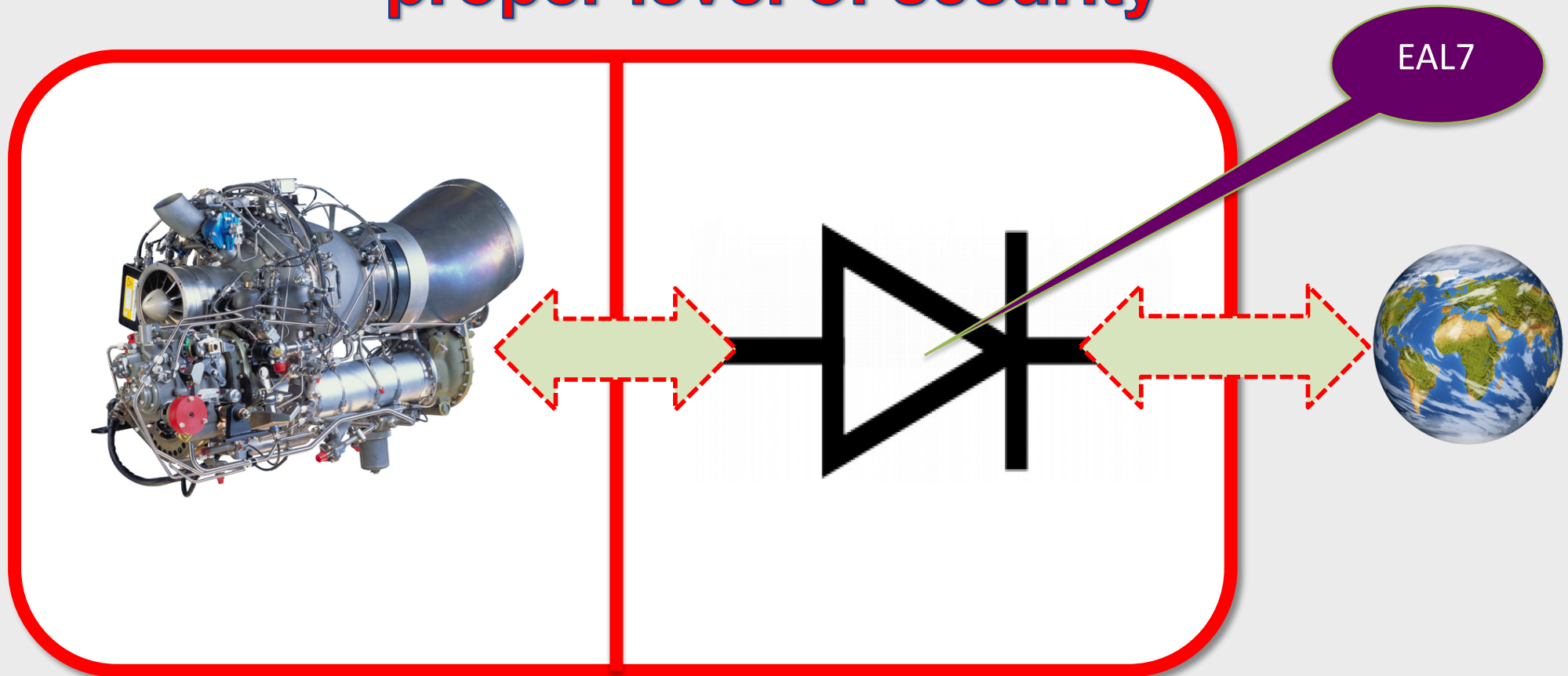


Typical Use Case for ProvenCore



Filters / Applicative Firewalls

Only hardware based filter can reach proper level of security

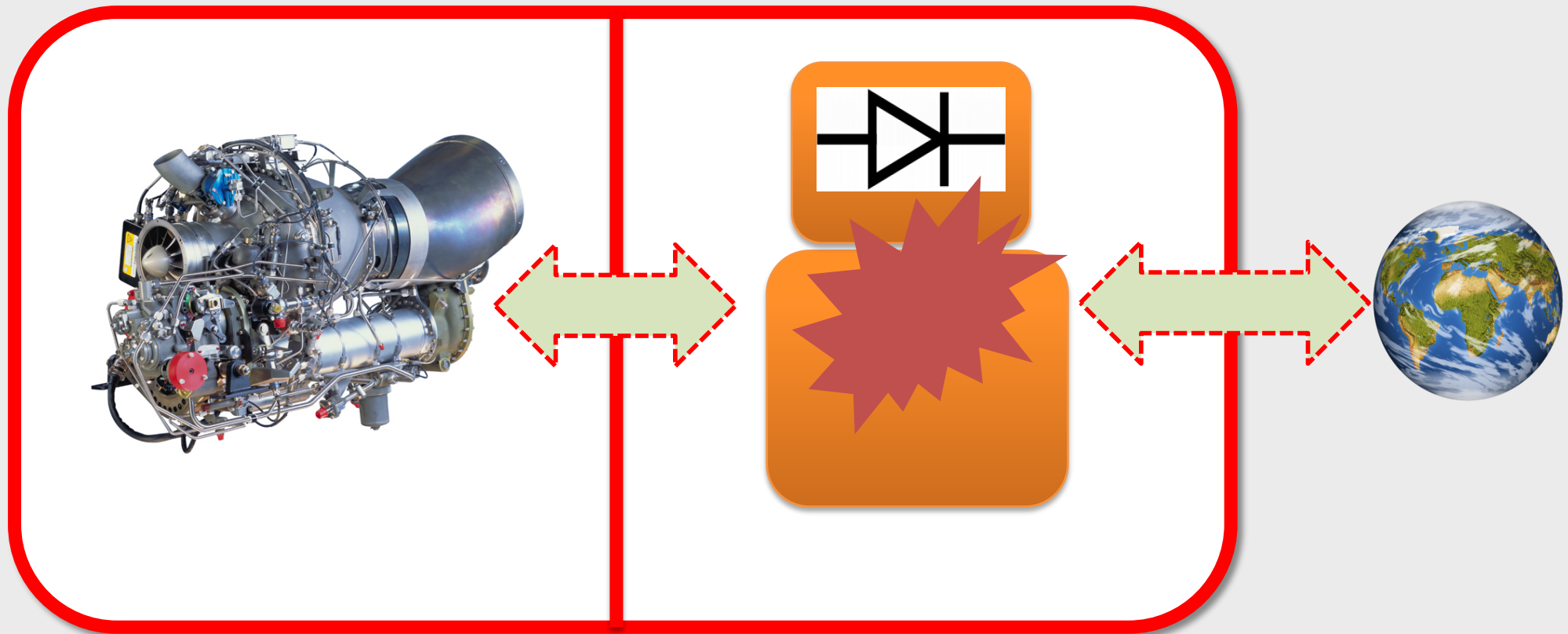


Proven and Certified Secure Isolation



Filters / Applicative Firewalls

Only software can allow to achieve proper functionality ...

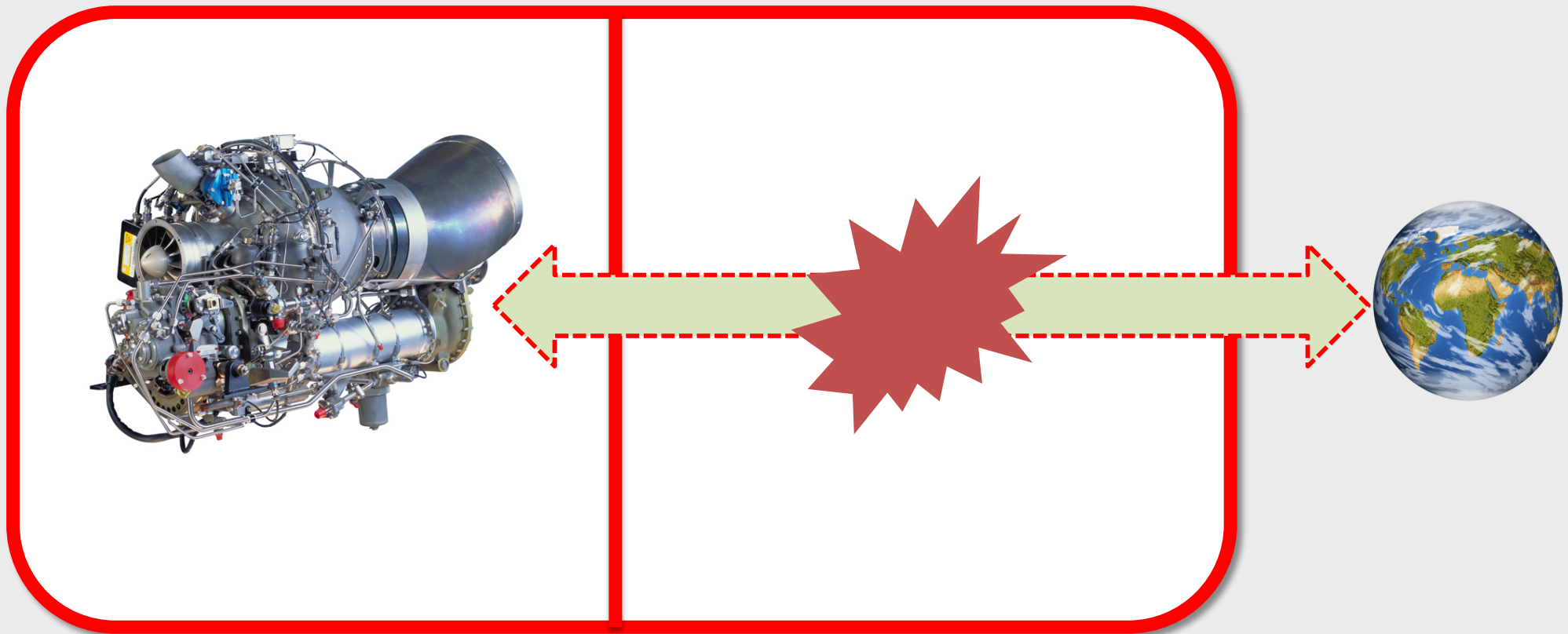


Proven and Certified Secure Isolation



Filters / Applicative Firewalls

But not proper level of security

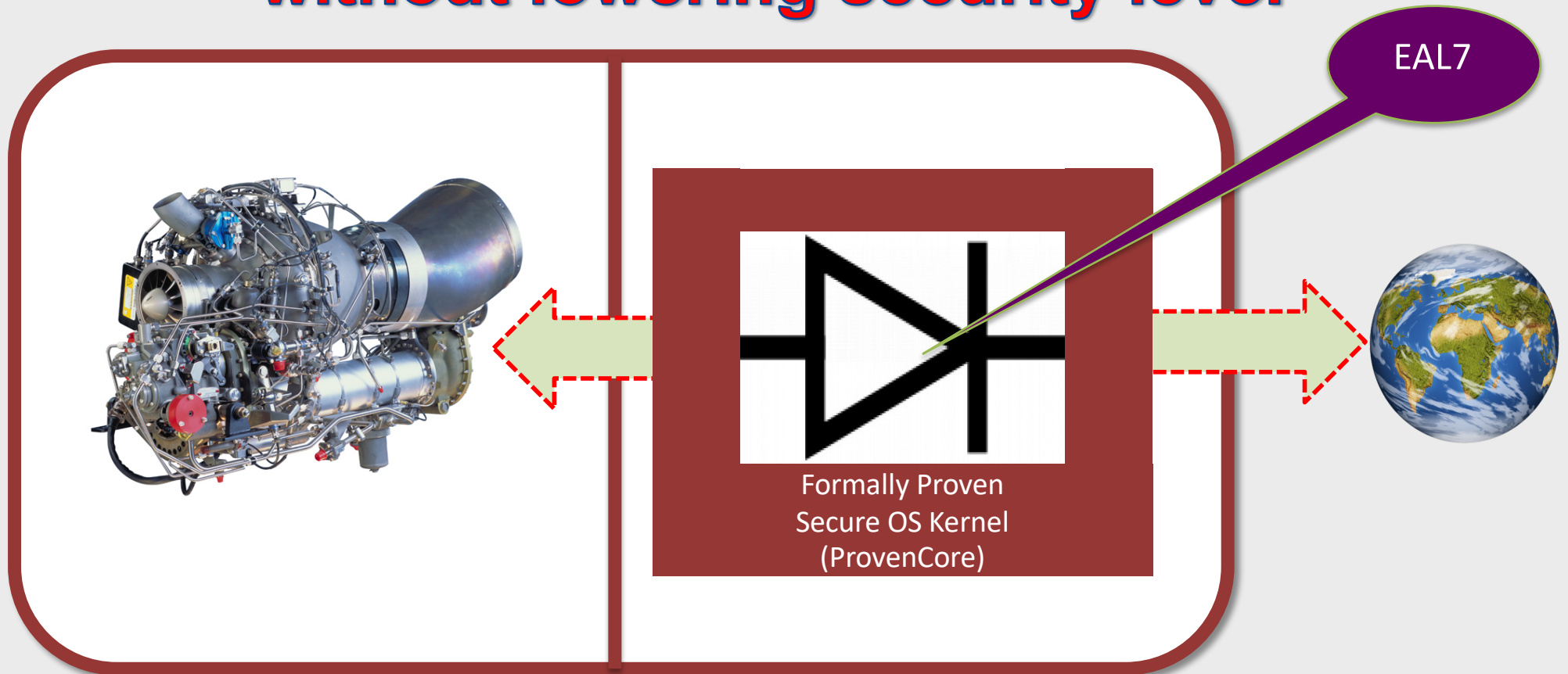


Proven and Certified Secure Isolation



Filters / Applicative Firewalls

**First step : from hardware to software
without lowering security level**

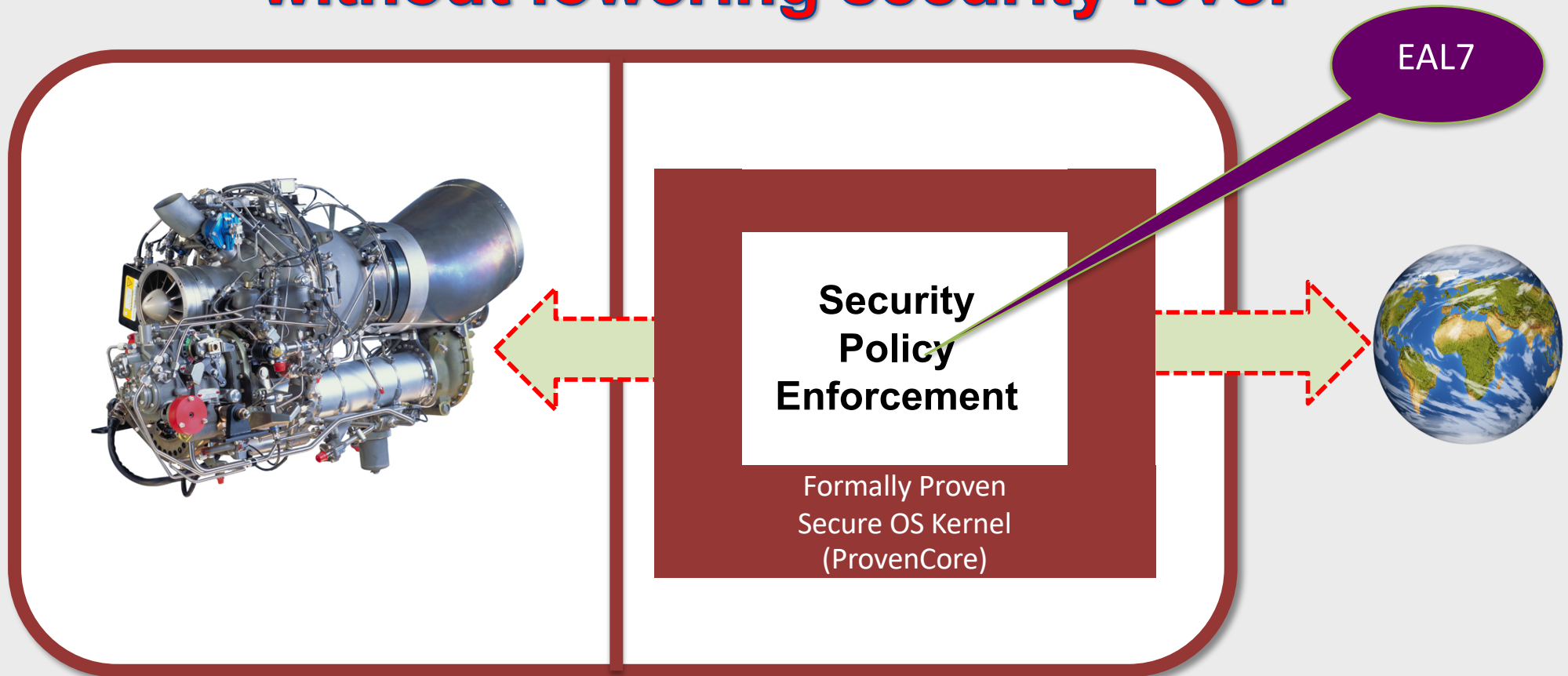


Proven and Certified Secure Isolation



Filters / Applicative Firewalls

**Second step : tuning functionality
without lowering security level**



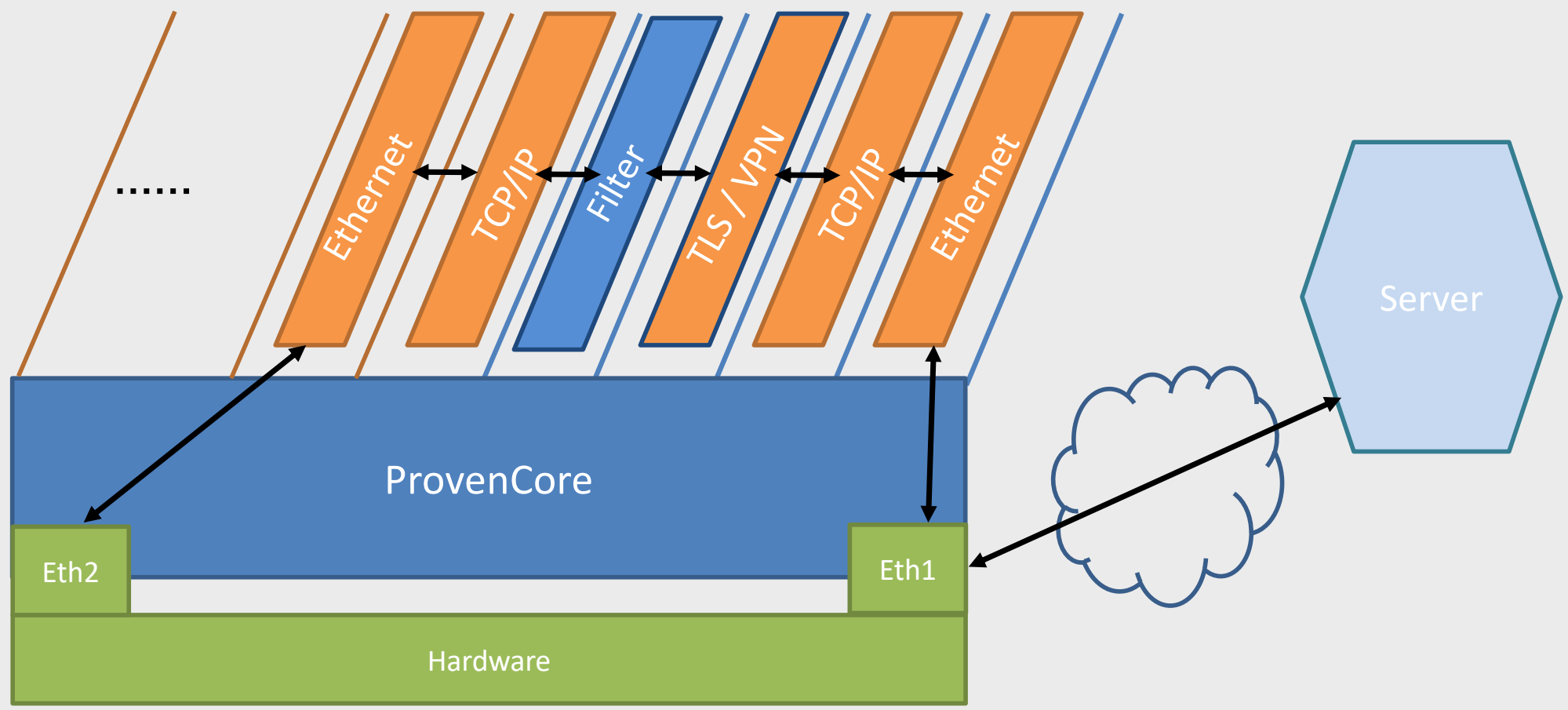
Proven and Certified Secure Isolation



Gateway with secured Filtering

Formally Proven / Extremely high security

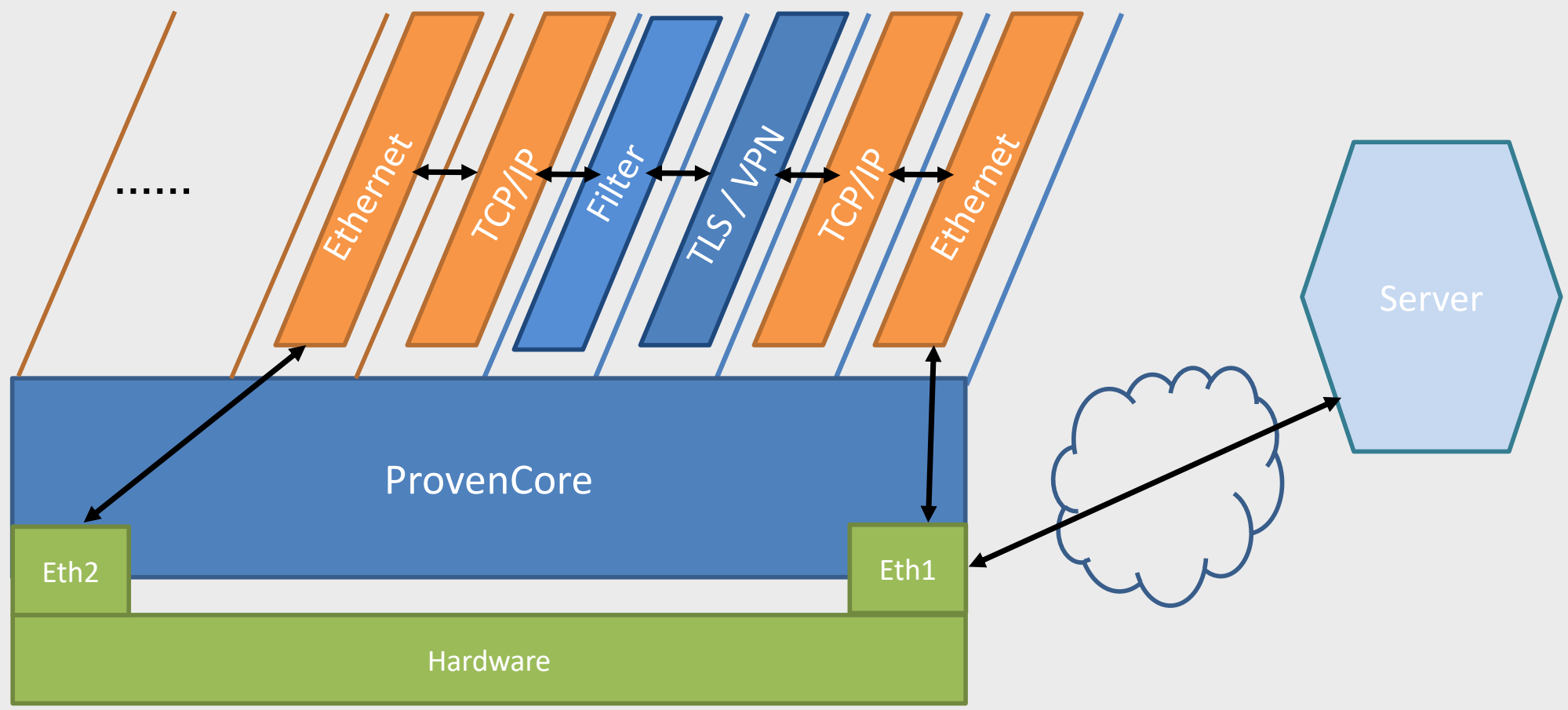
High level of security or trust



Gateway with secured Filtering

Formally Proven / Extremely high security

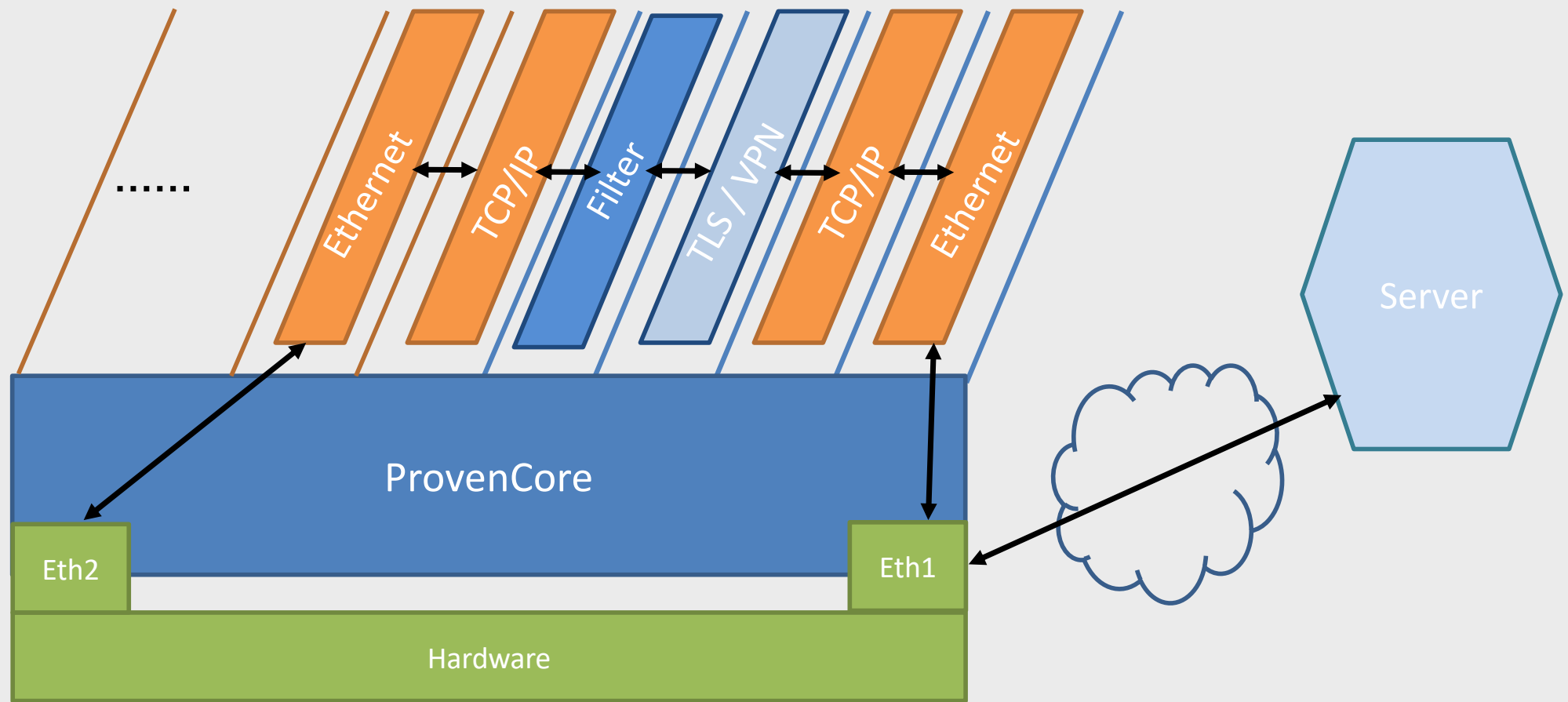
High level of security or trust



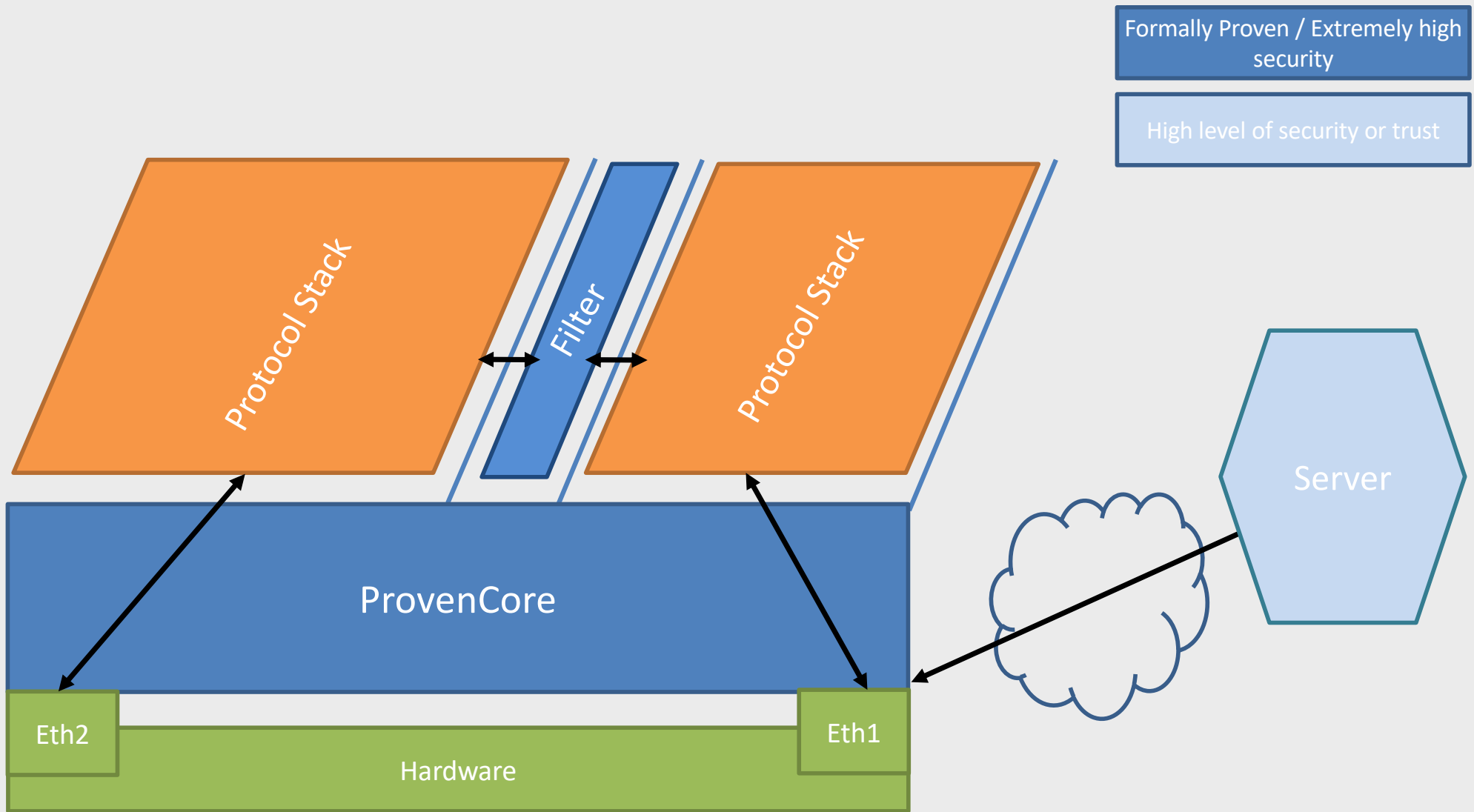
Gateway with secured Filtering

Formally Proven / Extremely high security

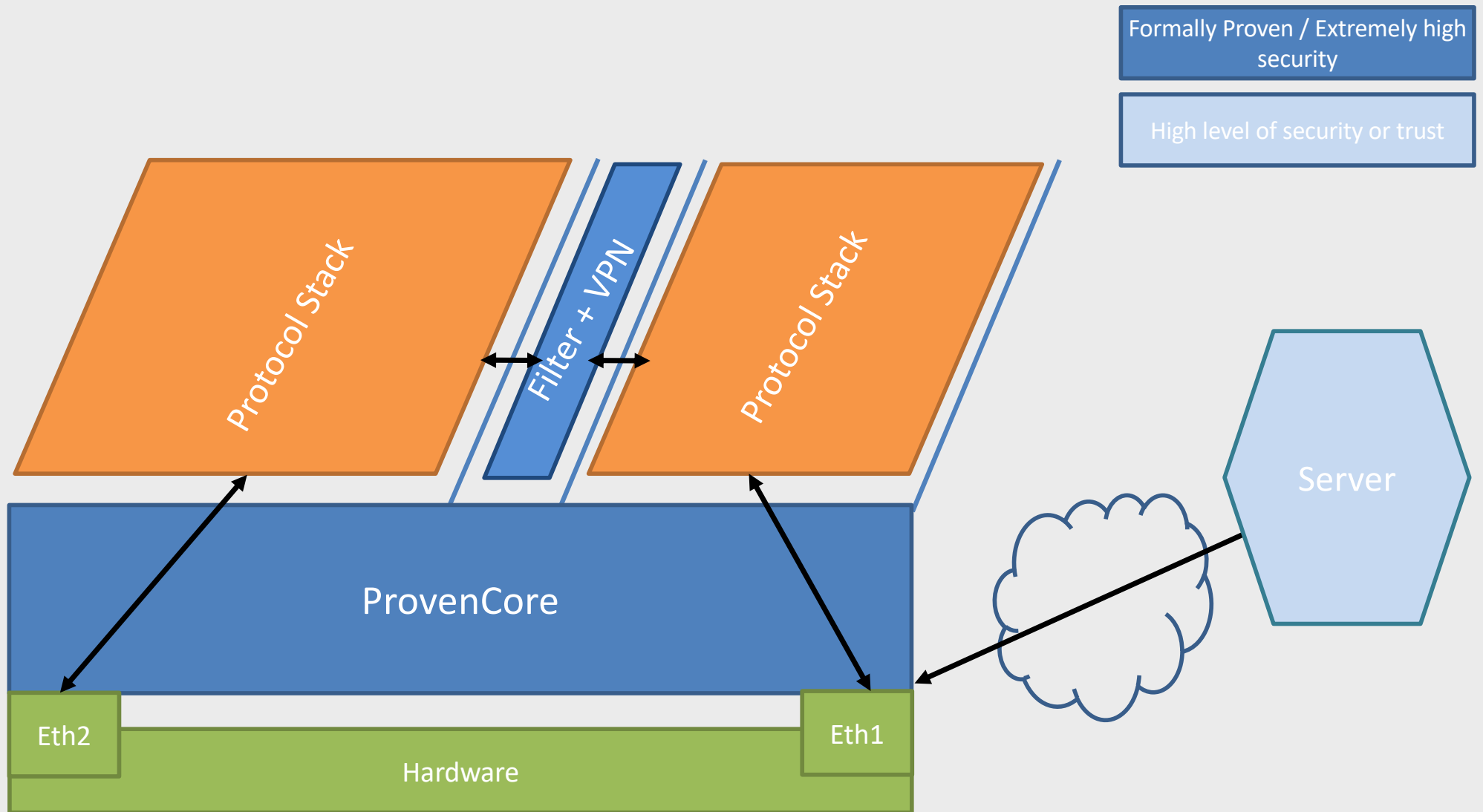
High level of security or trust



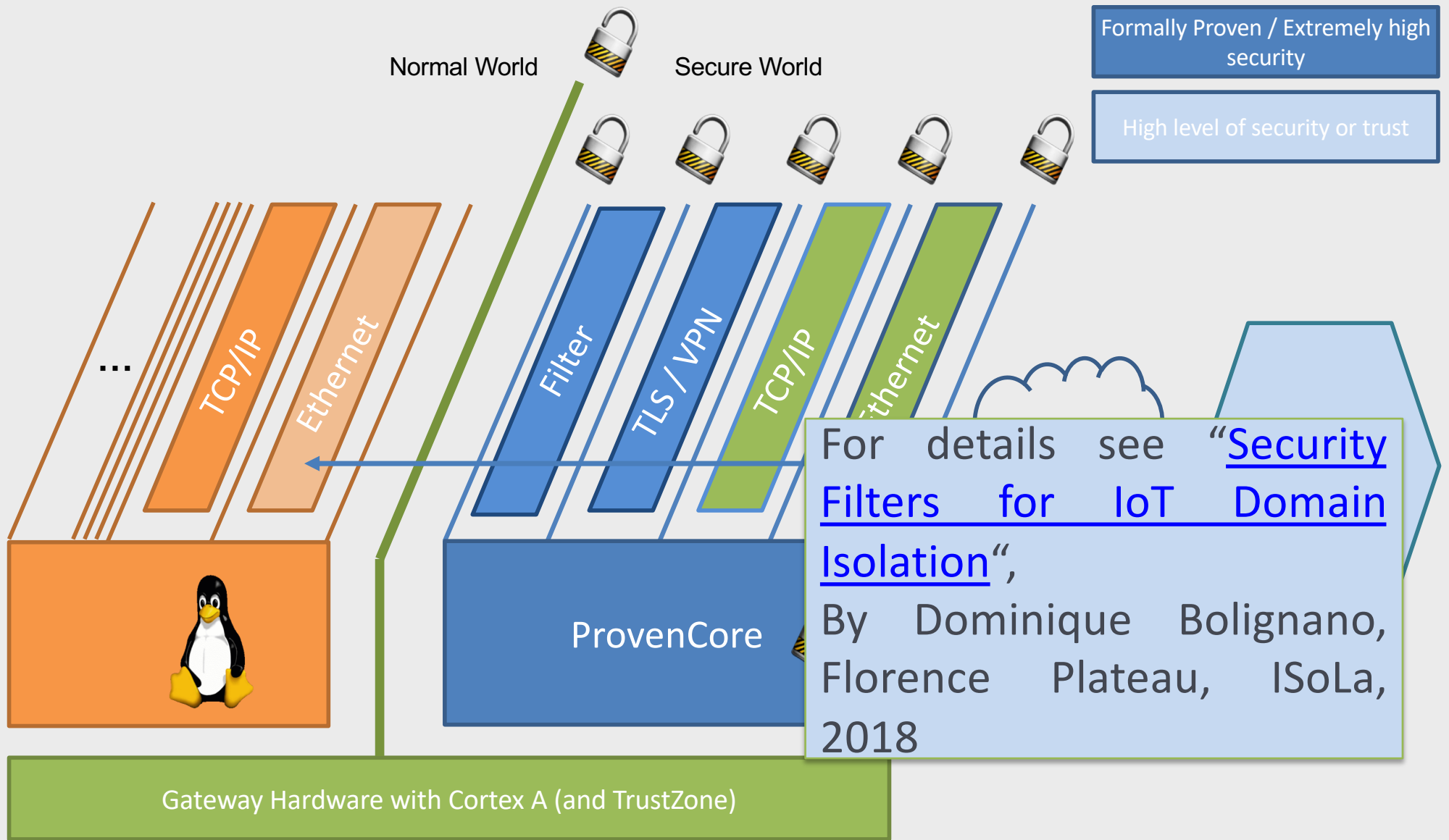
Gateway with secured Filtering



Gateway with secured Filtering



Gateway with secured Filtering



Smart Language



SMART language specificities

- **Functional (values manipulation) but with an imperative style**
- **Can be used at different abstraction levels**
- **Functions are partial**
- **Possible to associate proof obligations with logical paths in the execution graph**
 - **Proofs displayed as symbolic debugging**
 - **Makes certification easier and brings trust**
- **Properties can be expressed as tests**
 - **Invariants can also be expressed as programs or tests**
- **Possibility to use models/programs for proving**



SMART language specificities

- **Functional (values manipulation) but with an imperative style**
- Can be used at different abstraction levels
- Functions are partial
- Possible to associate proof obligations with logical paths in the execution graph
 - Proofs displayed as symbolic debugging
 - Makes certification easier and brings trust
- Properties can be expressed as tests
 - Invariants can also be expressed as programs or tests
- Possibility to use models/programs for proving



Predicates

```
public member(elt x, seq e) -> [true, false]
program {{ seq f, elt y }}
{
    f := e;
    while
    {
        ?removeFirst(y+, f, f+);
        if x = y; then return true;
    }
}
```



Implicit predicates

public equals(elt x+, elt y)

implicit program

public removeFirst(elt x+, seq e, seq f+) -> [true, empty]

implicit program

public equals(elt x, elt y) -> [true, false]

implicit program



Handling by case / control structure

```
public member(elt x, seq e) -> [true, false]
program {{ seq f, elt y }}
{
    f := e;
    while
    {
        ?removeFirst(y+, f, f+);
        if x = y; then return true;
    }
}
```



Handling by case / control structure

```
public member(elt x, seq e) -> [true,false]
program {{ seq f, elt y }}
[found:true]
{
    f :=e ;
    while
    {
        [empty :false]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;
        [true:found,false:true](x=y) ;
    }
}
```



Handling by case / control structure

```
public member(elt x, seq e) -> [true,false]
program {{ seq f, elt y }}
[found:true]
{
    f :=e ;
    while
    {
        [empty :false]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;
        [true:found,false:true](x=y) ;
    }
}
```



Data / Control separation

```
public member(elt x, seq e) -> [true, false]
program {{ seq f, elt y }}
{
  f := e;
  while
  {
    ?removeFirst(y+, f, f+);
    if x = y; then return true;
  }
}
```



Impossible cases / Associated local properties

// program

```
public lemma propx(elt x,seq e)
program
{
  empty(e) => !member(x,e);
}
```

// equivalent code:

```
public lemma propxa(elt x,seq e)
program
[OK:true]
{
  [false:OK]empty(e);
  [true:error,false:true]member(x,e);
}
```



Impossible cases / Associated local properties

// code chunks

// Property (1):

```
{  
  empty(e+) => !?removeFirst(_, e, _);  
}
```

// equivalent code:

```
{  
  empty(e+);  
  [true:error, empty:true]removeFirst(_x+, e, e+);  
}
```



SMART language specificities

- Functional (values manipulation) but with an imperative style
- **Can be used at different abstraction levels**
- Functions are partial
- Possible to associate proof obligations with logical paths in the execution graph
 - Proofs displayed as symbolic debugging
 - Makes certification easier and brings trust
- Properties can be expressed as tests
 - Invariants can also be expressed as programs or tests
- Possibility to use models/programs for proving



SMART language specificities

- Functional (values manipulation) but with an imperative style
- Can be used at different abstraction levels
- **Functions are partial**
- Possible to associate proof obligations with logical paths in the execution graph
 - Proofs displayed as symbolic debugging
 - Makes certification easier and brings trust
- Properties can be expressed as tests
 - Invariants can also be expressed as programs or tests
- Possibility to use models/programs for proving



SMART language specificities

- Functional (values manipulation) but with an imperative style
- Can be used at different abstraction levels
- Functions are partial
- **Possible to associate proof obligations with logical paths in the execution graph**
 - Proofs displayed as symbolic debugging
 - Makes certification easier and brings trust
- Properties can be expressed as tests
 - Invariants can also be expressed as programs or tests
- Possibility to use models/programs for proving



A more concrete example

```
public theorem Theorem0b(seq e)
program {{ elt x }}
[empty :true]
{
  removeFirst(x+,e,-);
  member(x,e) ;
}
```

- ▶ ✓ memberb [0/0]
- ▶ ✗ Theorem0b [0/1] (lemmas: 0 available, 1 provided)
- ▶ ✓ Theorem0 [1/1] (lemmas: 1 available, 1 provided)
- ▶ ✓ prop1 [0/0]
- ▶ ✓ prop1a [1/1] (lemmas: 3 available, 1 provided)
- ▶ ✓ propx [0/0]
- ▶ ✓ propxa [1/1] (lemmas: 5 available, 1 provided)



A more concrete example

```
public theorem Theorem0b(seq e)
program {{ elt x }}
[empty :true]
{
  removeFirst(x+,e,_);
  member(x,e) ;
}
```

- ▶ ✓ memberb [0/0]
- ▼ ✗ Theorem0b [0/1] (lemmas: 0 available, 1 provided)
 - ⚠ No lemma available
 - ▼ ✗ Unproved (configuration: depth 3, width 2)
 - removeFirst(x, e, _) →
 - ⚠ member(x, e) → [false] →
- ▶ ✓ Theorem0 [1/1] (lemmas: 1 available, 1 provided)



A more concrete example

```
public member(elt x, seq e) -> [true, false]
program {{ seq f, elt y }}
{
  f := e;
  while
  {
    ?removeFirst(y+, f, f+);
    if x = y; then return true;
  }
}

public theorem Theorem0b(seq e)
program {{ elt x }}
[empty :true]
{
  removeFirst(x+,e,-);
  member(x,e) ;
}
```

```
egare [0/0]
addLast [0/0]
empty [0/0]
empty [0/0]
memberb [0/0]
member [0/0]
Theorem0b [0/1] (lemmas: 0 available, 1 provided)
  ? No lemma available
  Unfold of member(x, e) —[false]—>
    Unproved (configuration: depth 3, width 2)
      removeFirst(x, e, _) —>
        removeFirst(y, f, f#2) —[empty]—> [Unfold of member(x, e)]
  Theorem0 [1/1] (lemmas: 1 available, 1 provided)
  prop1 [0/0]
  prop1a [1/1] (lemmas: 3 available, 1 provided)
  propx [0/0]
```



SMART language specificities

- Functional (values manipulation) but with a imperative style
- Can be used at different abstraction levels
- Functions are partial
- Possible to associate proof obligations with logical paths in the execution graph
 - Proofs pictured and guided as symbolic debugging
 - Makes certification easier
- **Properties can be expressed as tests**
 - **Invariants can also be expressed as programs or tests**
- **Possibility to use models/programs for proving**



A more concrete example

// code chunks // Property (2)

```
{
  addLast(x,e,f+) ;
  g:=e;
  while
  {
    [empty :exit]removeFirst(y+,g,g+) ;
    [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
    [false:error](y=z) ;
  }
  [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
  [false:error](x=z) ;
  [true:error, empty:true]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
}
```



A more concrete example

```
// Propriétés 2
public lemma prop2(seq e, elt x)
program {{ seq f, seq g, elt y, elt z }}
{
  addLast(x,e,f+) ;
  g:=e;
  while
  {
    [empty :exit]removeFirst(y+,g,g+) ;
    [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
    [false:error](y=z) ;
  }
  [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
  [false:error](x=z) ;
  [true:error, empty:true]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
}
```



A more concrete example

```
public hypothesis prop1()
program {{ seq e }}
{
  empty(e+) => !?removeFirst(_, e, -);
}

public hypothesis prop2(seq e, elt x)
program {{ seq f, seq g, elt y, elt z }}
{
  addLast(x, e, f+) ;
  g:=e;
  while
  {
    [empty :exit]removeFirst(y+,g,g+) ;
    [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
    [false:error](y=z) ;
  }
  [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
  [false:error](x=z) ;
  [true:error, empty:true]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
}
```



Example of properties to be proven

- Theorem0: $\text{removeFirst}(x+,e,f+) \Rightarrow \text{member}(x,e)$;
- Theorem1: $\text{addLast}(x,e,f+) \Rightarrow \text{member}(x,f)$;
- Theorem2: $\text{member}(x,e) \Rightarrow \text{addLast}(y,e,f+) \Rightarrow \text{member}(x,f)$;

```
//Théorème 0:
public theorem Theorem0(seq e)
program {{ elt x }}
{
  [empty : false]removeFirst(x+,e,-) => member(x,e) ;
}

//Théorème 1:
public theorem Theorem1(elt x,seq e)
program {{ seq f }}
{
  addLast(x,e,f+) => member(x,f) ;
}

// Théorème 2:
public theorem Theorem2(elt x, elt y, seq e)
program {{ seq f }}
{
  member(x,e) => addLast(y,e,f+) => member(x,f) ;
}
```



Intermediate language: SMIL

```
//Théorème 0:
public theorem Theorem0(seq e)
program {{ elt x }}
{
    [empty :false]removeFirst(x+,e,-) => member(x,e) ;
}

public theorem Theorem0b(seq e)
program {{ elt x }}
[empty :true]
{
    removeFirst(x+,e,-);
    member(x,e) ;
}
```



Indexed variables. Logical traces. Proof structures. Congruence

```
// Theorem0 : Unfold
[empty:true]
{
    removeFirst(x+,e,_);
    {
        f :=e ;
        while
        {
            [empty :error]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;
            [true:empty,false :true](x=y) ;
        }
    }
}
```



Indexed variables. Logical traces. Proof structures. Congruence

```
// Theorem0 : Unfold
[empty:true]
{
    removeFirst(x+,e,_);
    {
        f :=e ;
        while
        {
            [empty :error]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;
            [true:empty,false :true](x=y) ;
        }
    }
}

// b* -> [b] b*
```



Indexed variables. Logical traces. Proof structures. Congruence

// Theorem0 : Unfold + Unrolled

[empty:true]

{

 removeFirst(x+,e,_);

 {

 f :=e ;

 [empty:error]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;

 [true:empty, false:true](x=y) ;

 while

 {

 [empty :error]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;

 [true:OK, false:true](x=y) ;

 }

 }



Indexed variables. Logical traces. Proof structures. Congruence

Logical trace:

- `[true]removeFirst(x1+,e1,g1+) ;`
- `[true>equals(f1+,e1);`
- `[empty:error]removeFirst(y1+,f,f+) ;`

Transitive closing of congruence:

- `[true]removeFirst(x1+,e1,g1+) ;`
- `[true>equals(e1+,e1);`
- `[empty:error]removeFirst(x1+,e1,g1+) ;`



Indexed variables. Logical traces. Proof structures. Congruence

Logical trace:

- `[true]removeFirst(x1+,e1,g1+) ;`
- `[true>equals(f1+,e1);`
- `[true]removeFirst(y1+,f,f+) ;`
- `[false :true](x1=y1) ;`

Transitive closing of congruence:

- `[true]removeFirst(x1+,e1,g1+) ;`
- `[true>equals(e1+,e1);`
- `[true]removeFirst(x1+,e1,g1+) ;`
- `[false :error](x1=x1) ;`



Indexed variables. Logical traces. Proof structures. Congruence

// Theorem0 : Unfold + Unrolled

[empty:true]

{

removeFirst(x+,e,_);

{

f :=e ;

[empty:error]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;

[true:empty, false:error](x=y) ;

~~while~~

~~=====~~ {

~~=====~~ [empty :error]removeFirst(y+,f,f+) ;

~~=====~~ [true:OK, false:true](x=y) ;

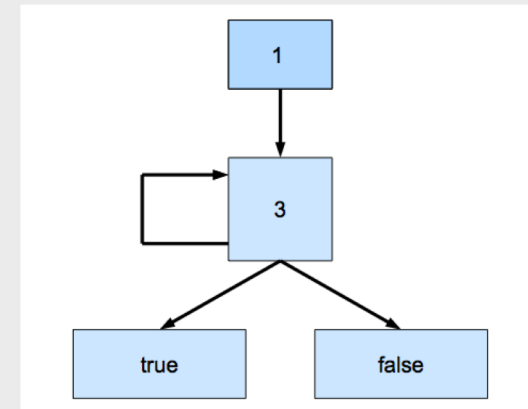
~~=====~~ }

}



Composition with Synchronization

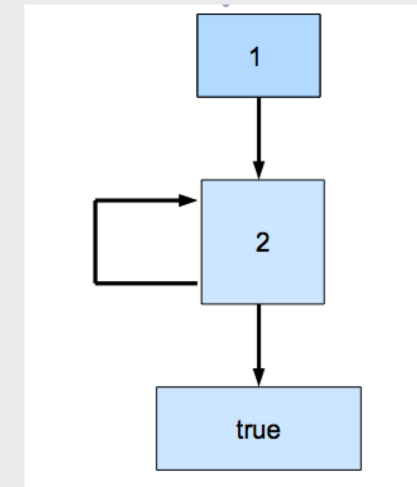
```
// Theorem1 Unfold
[OK:true]
{
1:      [empty :OK]addLast(x,e,f+);
      {
2:          g:=f ;
          while
          {
3:              [empty:false]removeFirst(y+,g,g+);
4:              [true:OK, false:true](x=y);
          }
      }
}
```



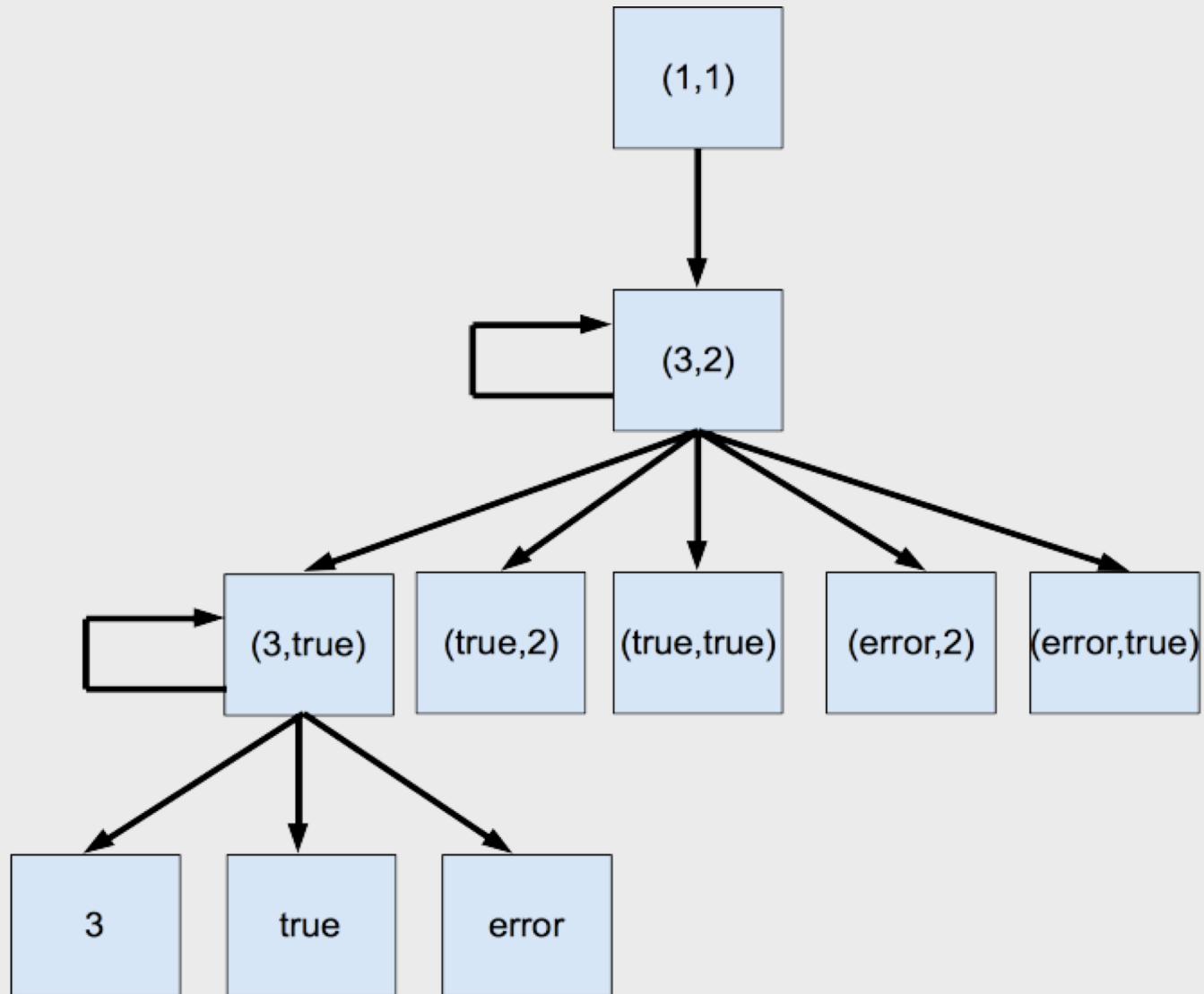
Rappel Theorem1: $\text{addLast}(x,e,f+) ; \Rightarrow \text{member}(x,f) ;$

Composition with Synchronization

```
// code chunks // Property (2)
{
1:    addLast(x,e,f+) ;
      while
      {
2:    [empty :exit]removeFirst(y+,e,e+) ;
3:    [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
4:    [false:error](y=z) ;
      }
5:    [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
6:    [false:error](x=z) ;
7:    [true:error,empty :true]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;
}
```

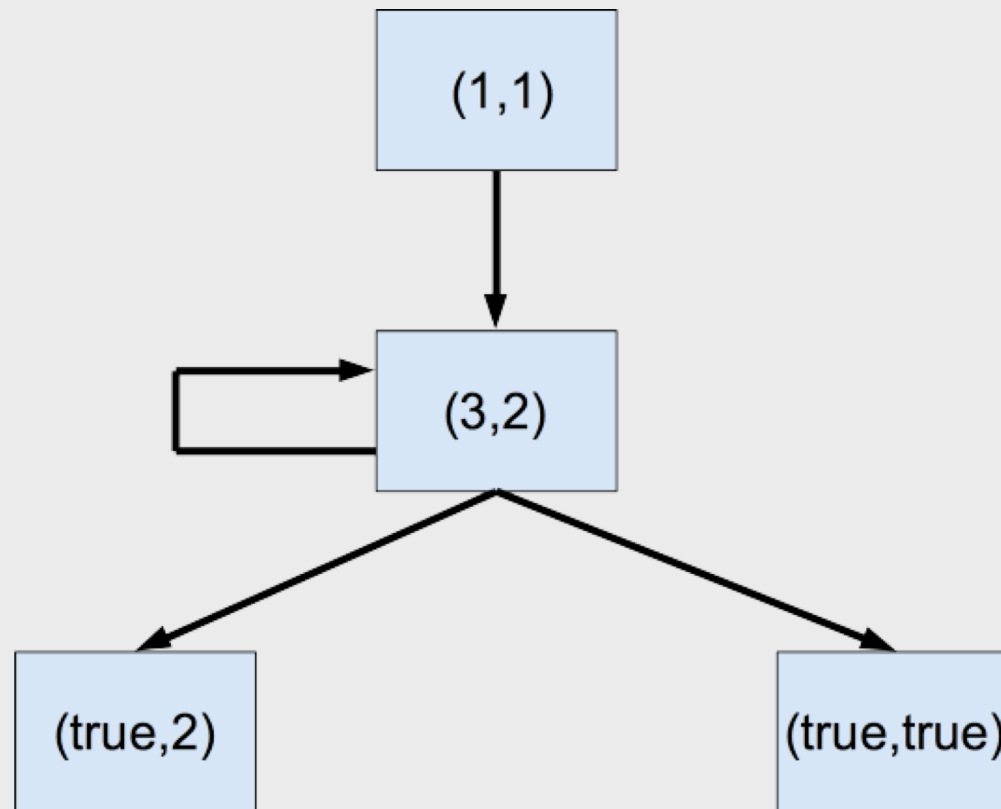


Composition Theorem1 Unfold Axiom2



Simplification Composition Theorem1Unfold

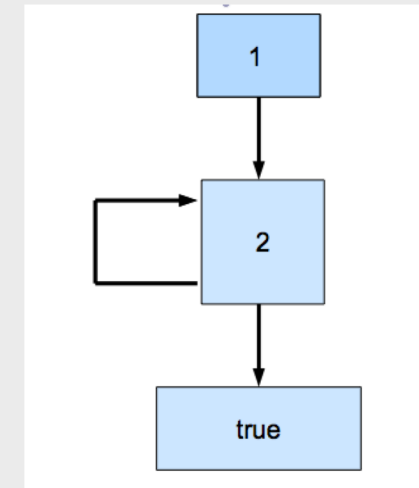
Axiom2 (propagation congruence)



Composition with Synchronization

```
// code chunks // Property (2)
```

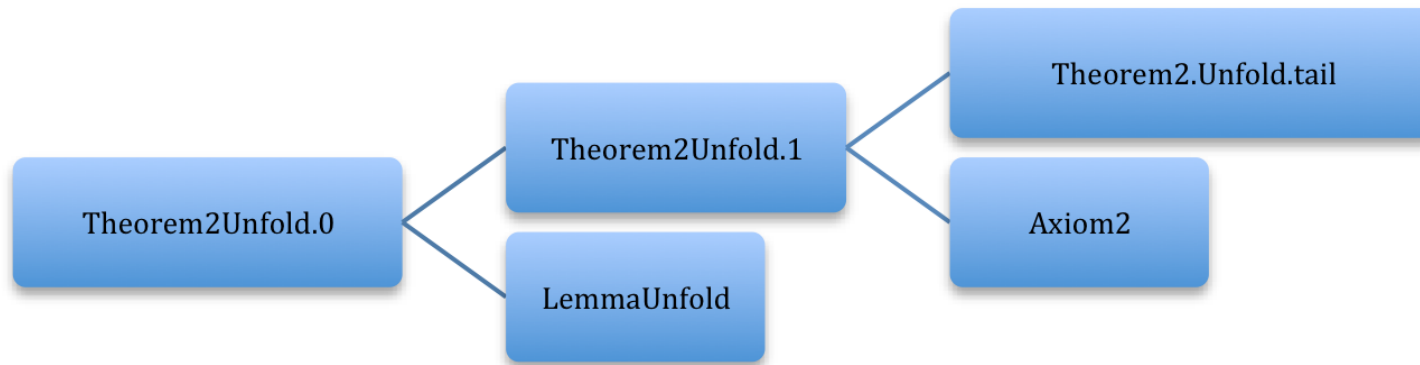
```
{  
1:      addLast(x,e,f+) ;  
      while  
      {  
2:          [empty :exit]removeFirst(y+,e,e+) ;  
3:          [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;  
          [false:error](y=z) ;  
      }  
4:      [empty :error]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;  
5:      [false:error](x=z) ;  
6:      [true:error,empty :true]removeFirst(z+,f,f+) ;  
}
```



Theorem2: $member(x,e); addLast(y,e,f+); \Rightarrow member(x,f) ;$

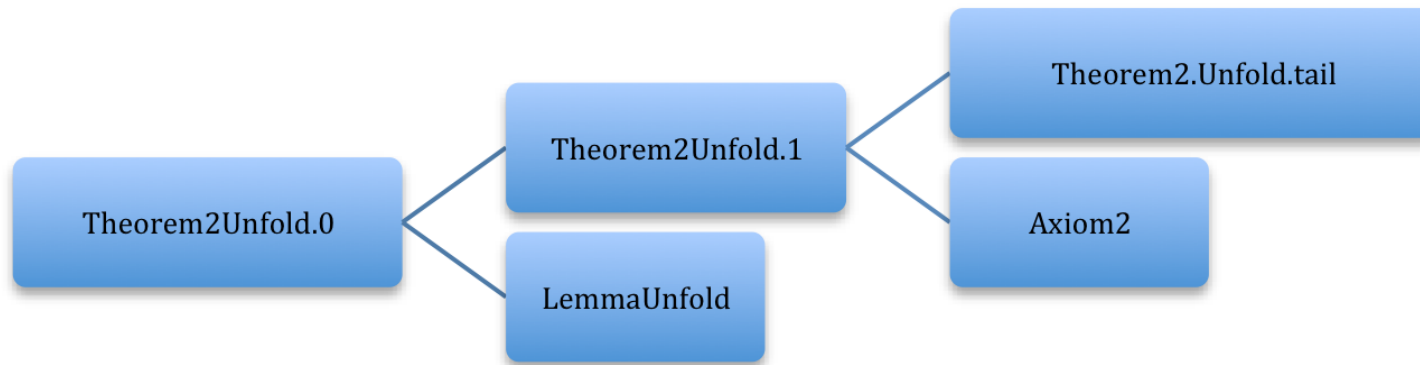


New example of (double) composition for theorem 2 proof



LemmaUnfold : member(x,e) => member(x,e) ;

New example of (double) composition for theorem 2 proof



LemmaUnfold : [false:true]member(x,e) ;



Further Documentation

- “[Inferring Frame Conditions with Static Correlation Analysis](#)“, Oana Andreescu, Thomas Jensen, Stéphane Lescuyer, Benoît Montagu, POPL, 2019
- “[Security Filters for IoT Domain Isolation](#)“, Dominique Bolignano, Florence Plateau, ISoLa, 2018
- “[Formally Proven and Certified Off-The-Shelf Software Components](#)“, Dominique Bolignano, C&SAR, 2016
- “[Proven Security for the Internet of Things](#)“, Dominique Bolignano, Embedded Conference 2016
- “[ProvenCore: Towards a Verified Isolation Micro-Kernel](#)“, Stéphane Lescuyer, 10th HiPEAC Conference, 2015



Conclusions / Future Work

- **Applicable to a very large range of market segments and situations**
- **Everything doesn't need to be modelled nor proven (hypotheses, resistance to physical attacks, properties appropriateness, unsuitable architectures, human chain, etc.)**
- **More features to be added,**
- **Enlarging the scope of evaluation to hardware is planned,**
- **Some optimizations to be done if required,**
- **Other kernels to be handled,**

