

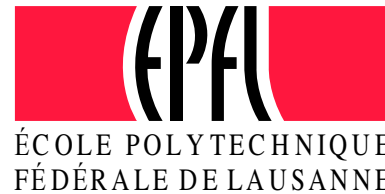
# A Taste of CVC4

## Part 2: Quantified Formulas

Cesare Tinelli



Andrew Reynolds



Clark Barrett



# Quantified Formulas in SMT

$$\underbrace{\forall x . P(x)}$$

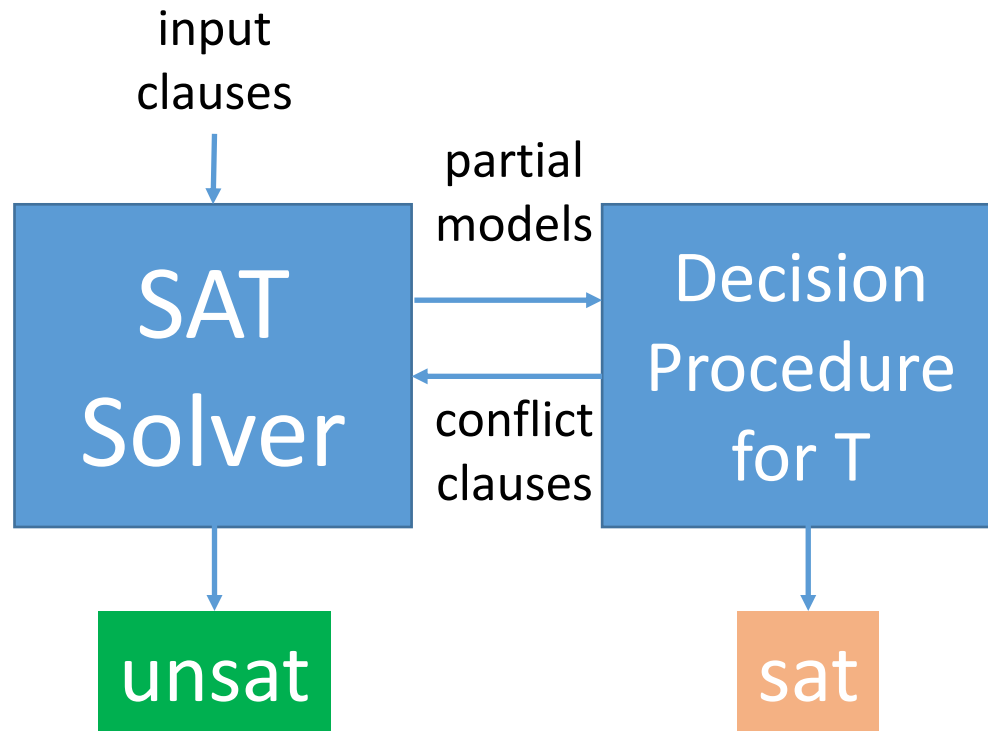
$P$  is true for all  $x$ , where  $P$  is a formula involving some background theory

- Satisfiability problem is undecidable in general
- $\forall$  are critical for applications:
  - Automated Theorem Proving
  - Software/Hardware verification
  - Synthesis, planning, ...
- $\forall$  are handled in SMT solvers by a variety of techniques:
  - **Complete** techniques for certain fragments
  - **Heuristic** techniques for the general case

# Overview

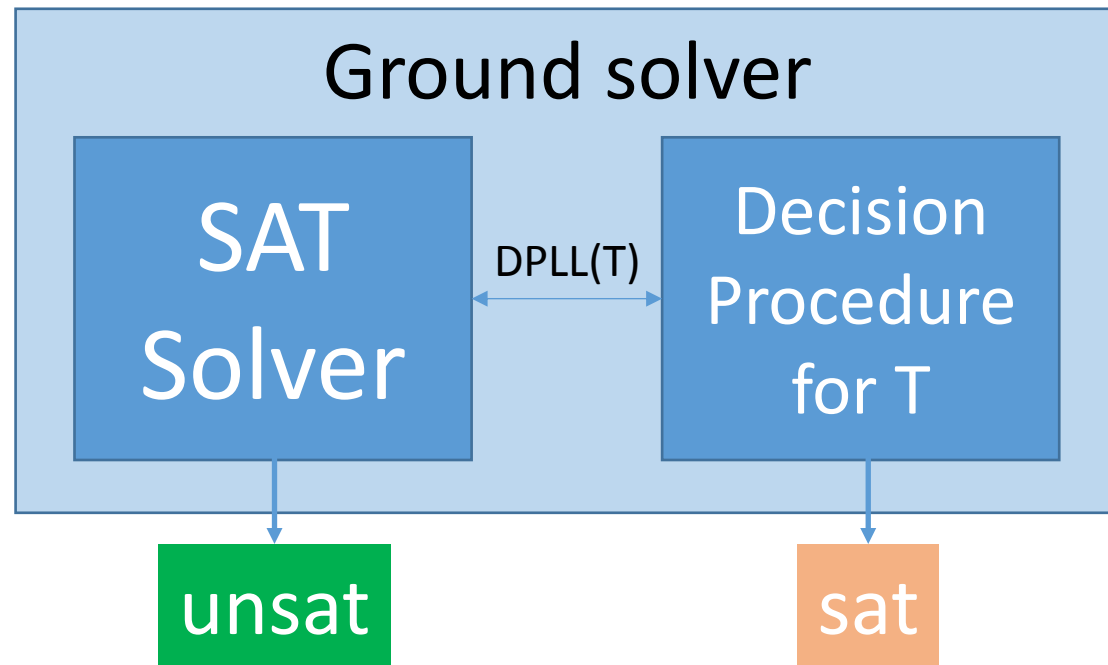
- How do we extend SMT solvers for quantified formulas?
- **Quantifier Instantiation** in CVC4:
  - Heuristic (E-matching)
  - Model-based
  - Conflict-based
- More **advanced techniques** in CVC4:
  - Finite Model Finding
  - Function synthesis

# DPLL(T)-based SMT Solver



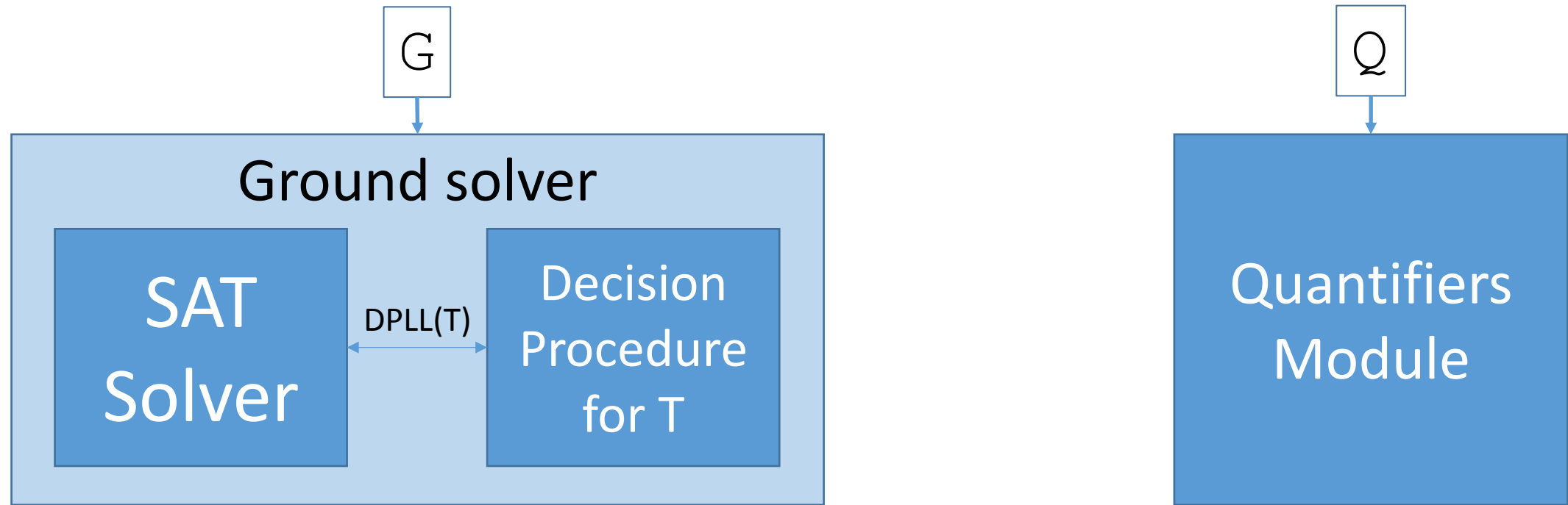
- DPLL(T)-based SMT solver
  - **SAT solver** maintains a set of propositional clauses
  - **Decision Procedure for T** determines satisfiability of conjunctions of T-literals

# DPLL(T)-based SMT Solver



- Ground solver = SAT solver + Decision Procedure for T

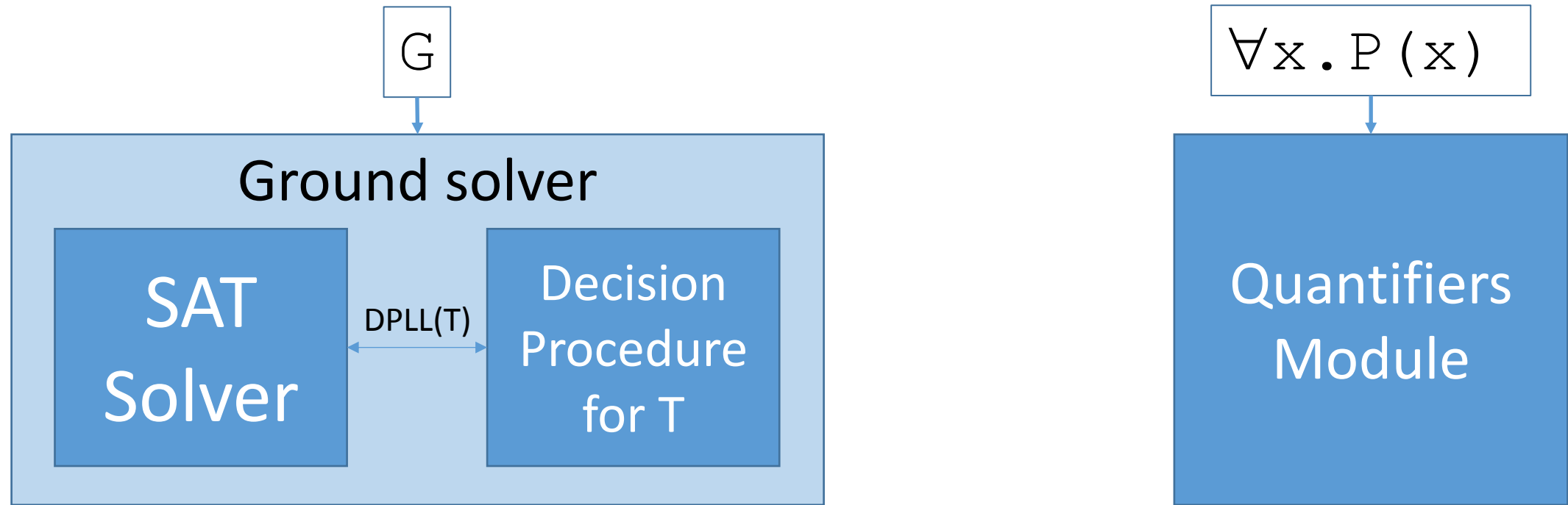
# DPLL(T) + Quantifiers



- SMT solver consists of:

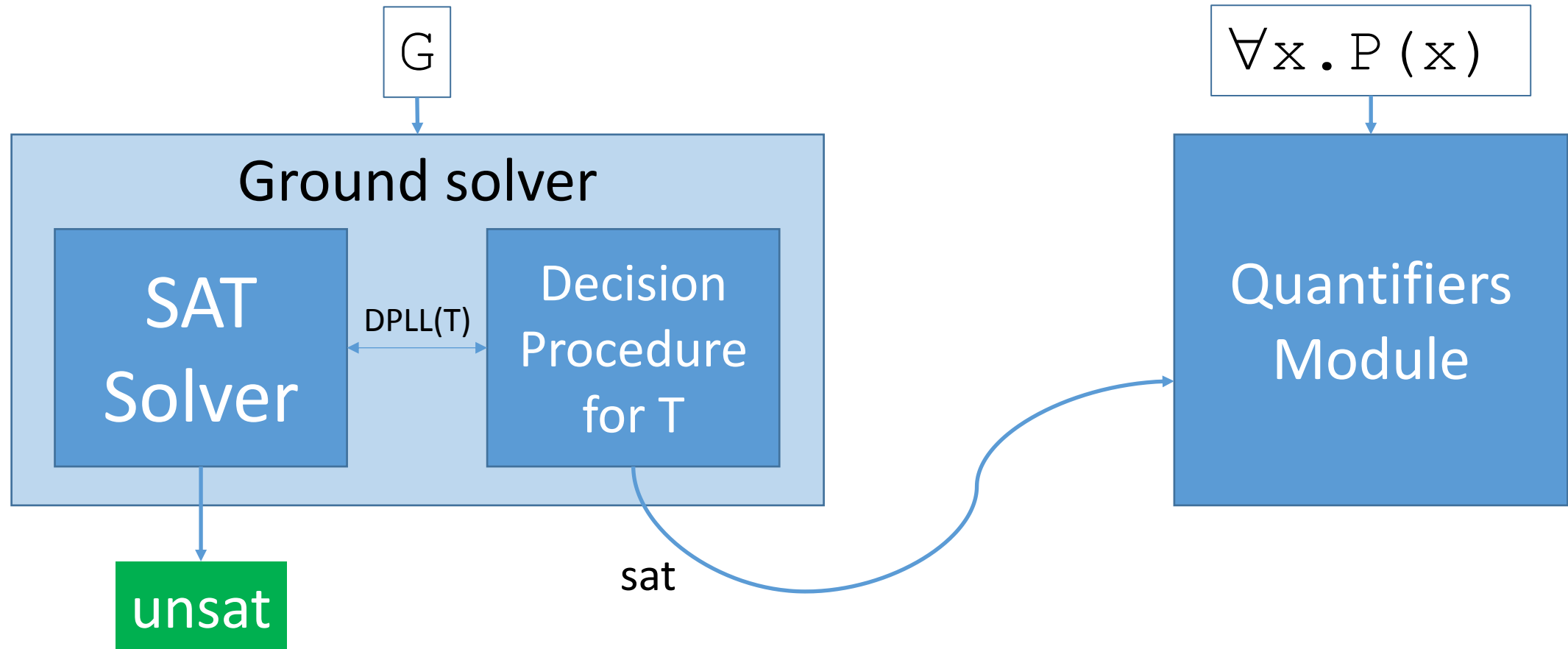
- **Ground solver** maintains a set of ground (quantifier-free) constraints  $G$
- **Quantifiers Module** maintains a set of quantified formulas  $Q$

# DPLL(T) + Quantifier Instantiation



- Primary technique for quantifiers in this talk: **Quantifier Instantiation**

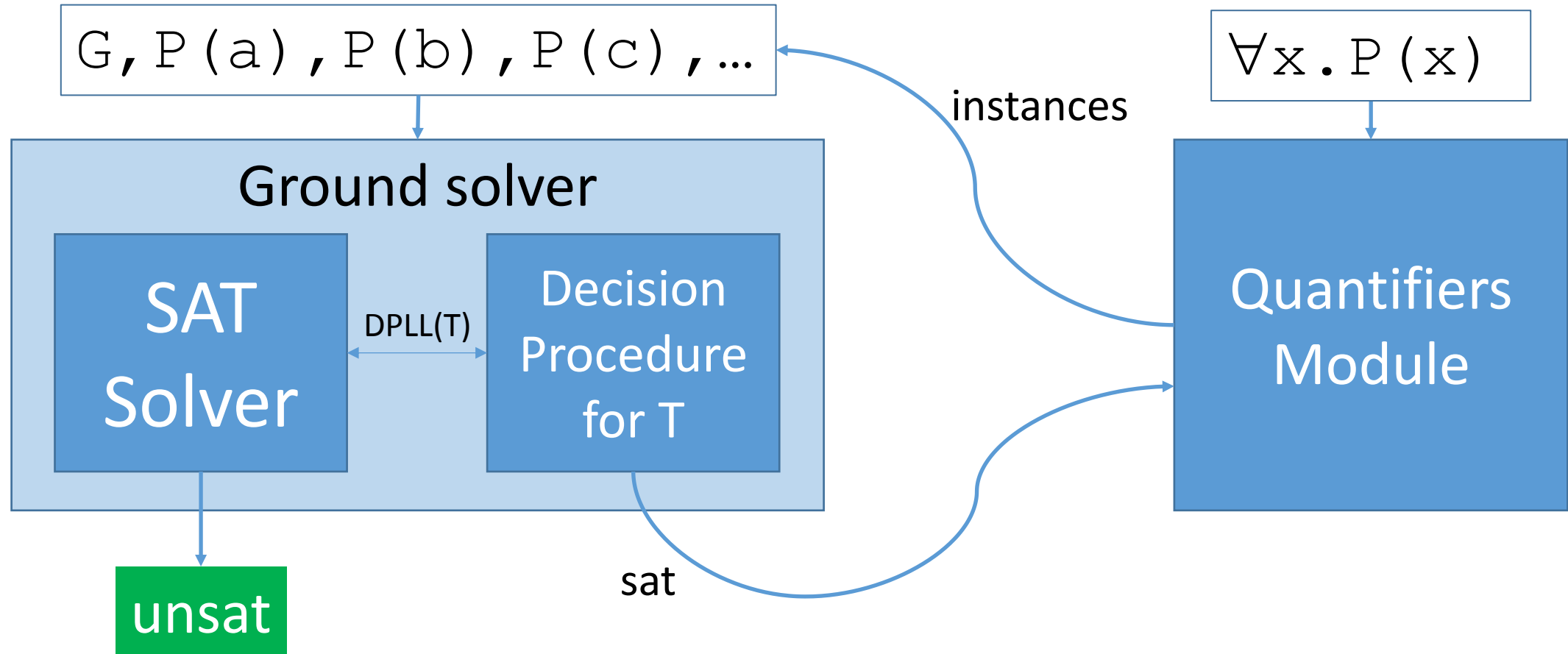
# DPLL(T) + Quantifier Instantiation



- If  $G$  is T-satisfiable, invoke quantifiers module

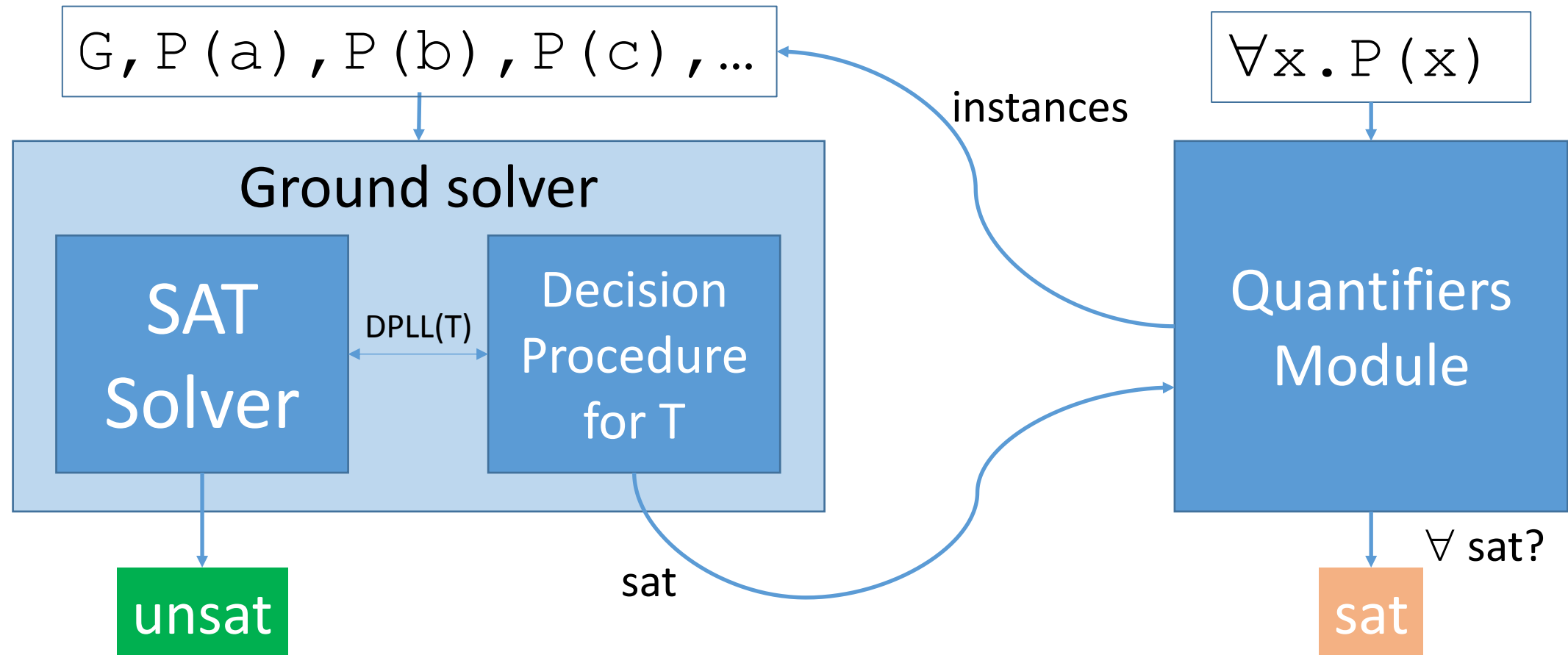


# DPLL(T) + Quantifier Instantiation



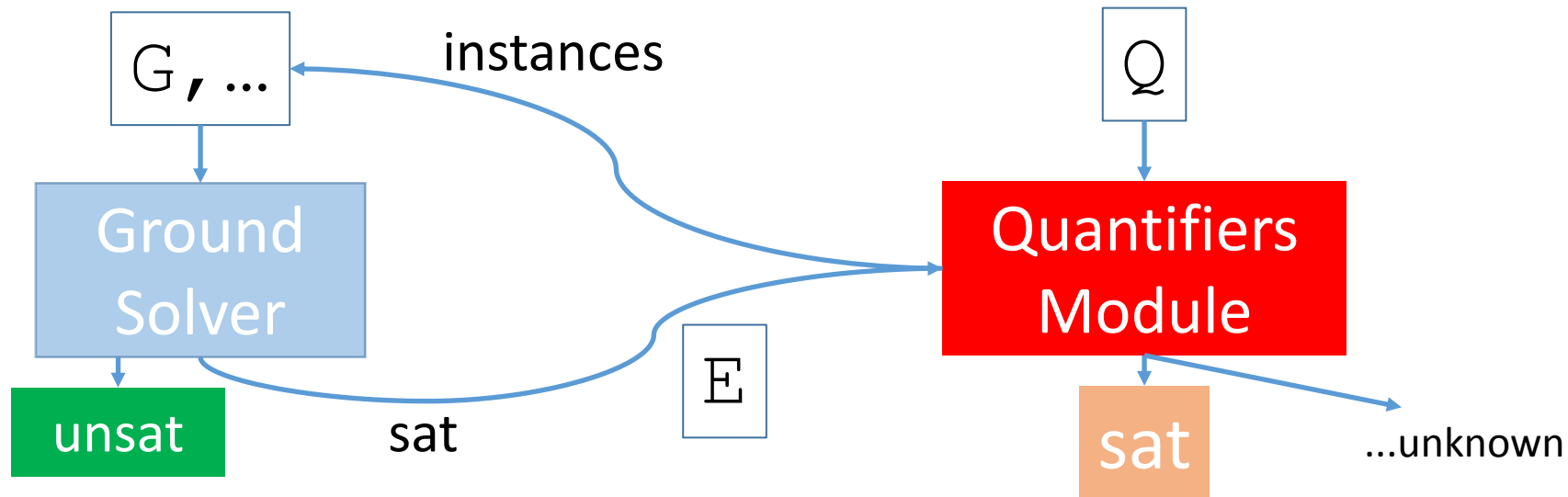
- Add **instances** of axioms to G

# DPLL(T) + Quantifier Instantiation



- ...and repeat, generally a **sound but incomplete** procedure
  - Difficult to answer sat (when have we added enough instances of  $\forall x. P(x)$ ?)

# Quantifiers Module: Overview



- **Inputs:**

- Set of ground formulas  $G$

- **Outputs:**

- "G is T-unsat", or
- "G is T-sat", set of literals  $E \models_p G$

- **Inputs:**

- Set of ground T-literals  $E$
- Set of quantified T-formulas  $Q$

- **Outputs:**

- " $E \wedge Q$  is T-sat"
- Set of instances of  $Q$  to add to  $G$
- ... "unknown" (give up)

# Quantifier Instantiation : Design Decisions

- When do we invoke it?
  - Eagerly, during the DPLL(T) search [[deMoura/Bjorner CAV07](#)], or
  - Lazily, only after ground solver answers “sat”

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- Can we terminate?
  - i.e. can we ever answer “sat”?

# Quantifier Instantiation : in CVC4

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# Quantifier Instantiation : in CVC4

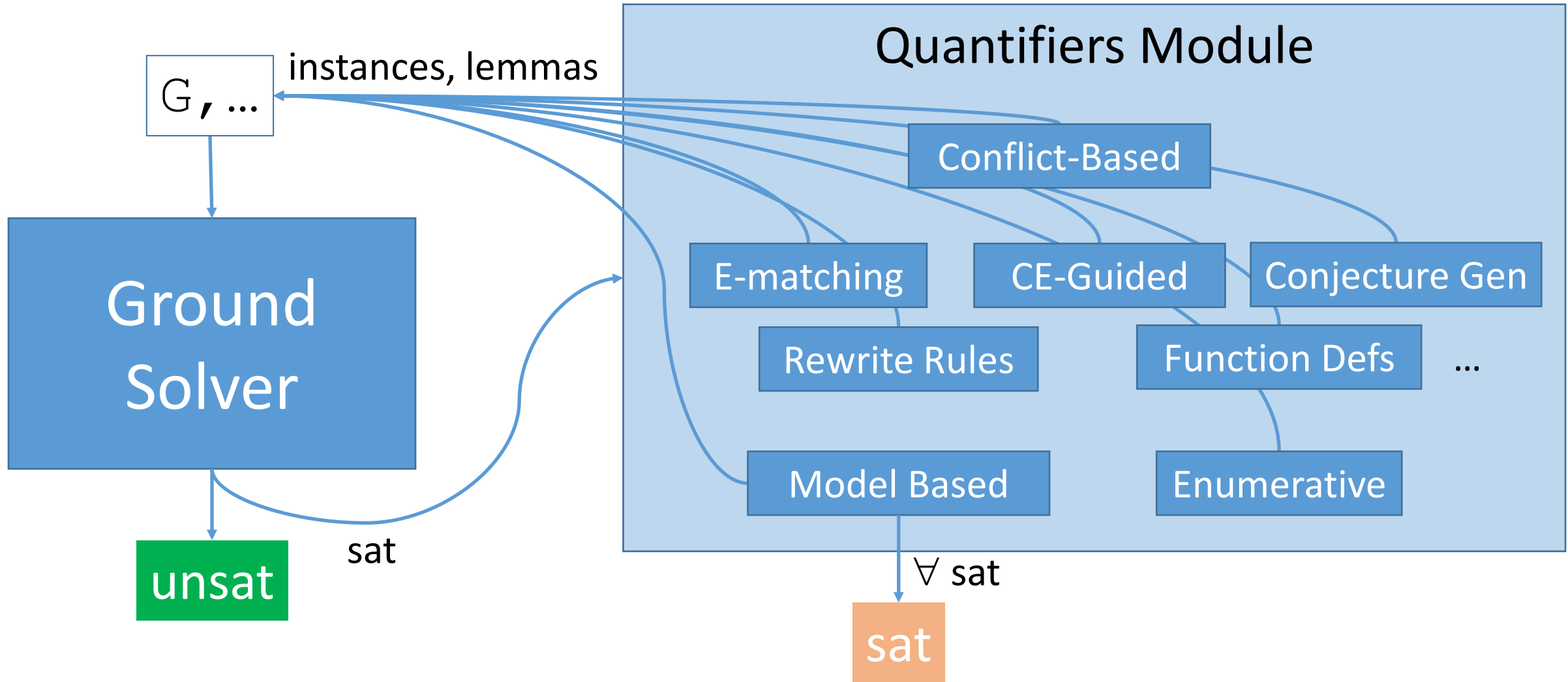
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- Which instances do we add?
  - E-matching [Detslefs et al 03]
  - Model-based quantifier instantiation [Ge/de Moura CAV09]
  - Conflict-based quantifier instantiation [Reynolds et al FMCAD14]
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# Quantifier Instantiation : in CVC4

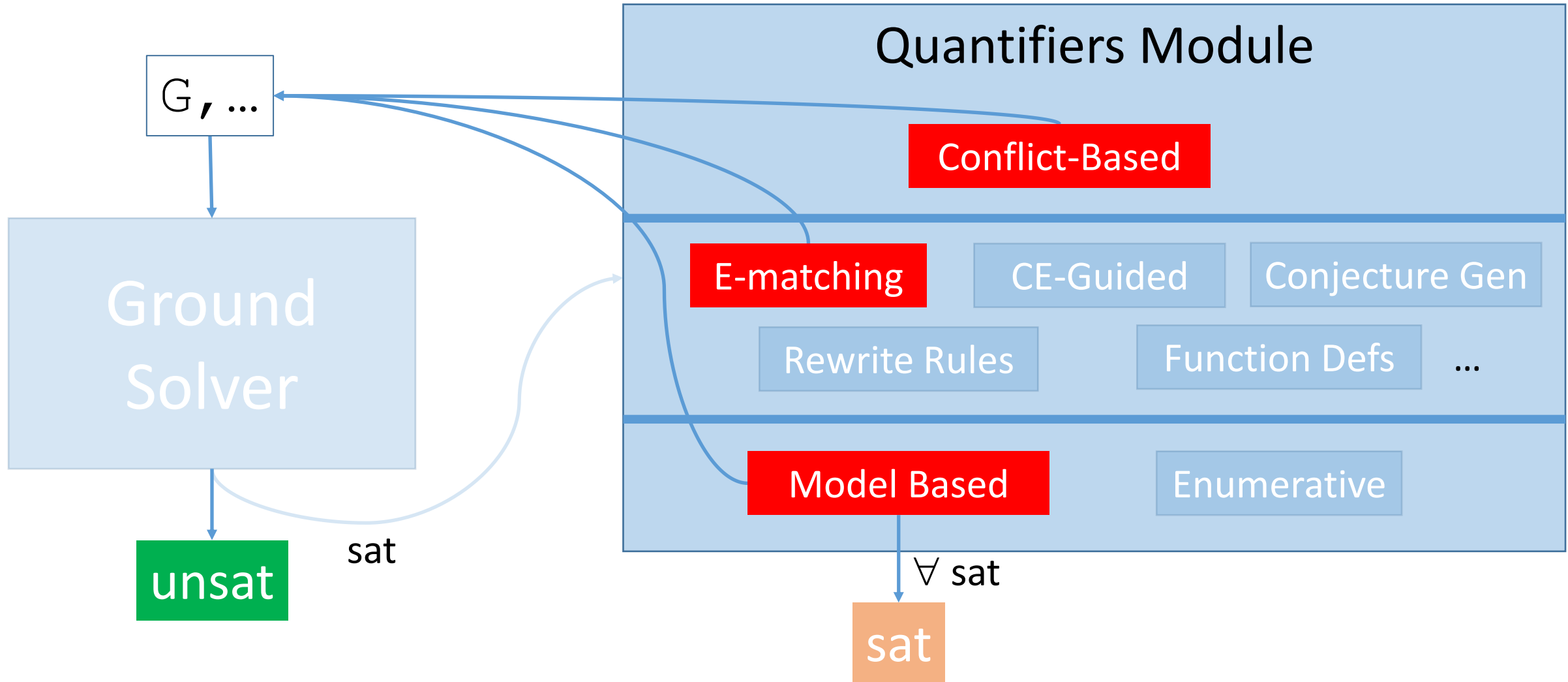
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- Can we terminate?
  - i.e. can we ever answer “sat”?
  - Finite Model Finding [Reynolds et al CADE13]
  - Instantiation for linear arithmetic

# Quantifiers Module of CVC4



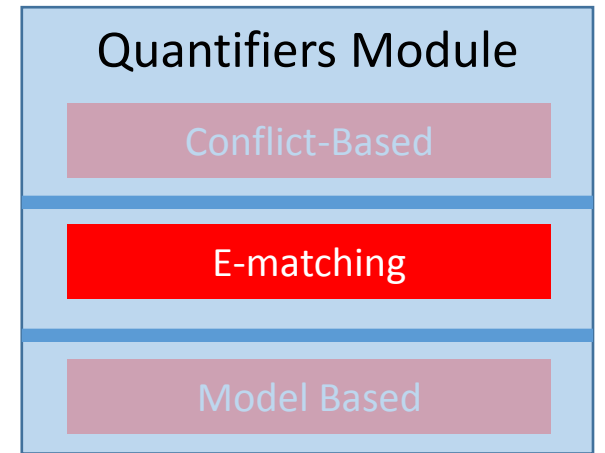
- CVC4's quantifiers module contains numerous strategies and techniques

# Quantifiers Module of CVC4



- Core techniques: **Conflict-based**, **Heuristic** (e.g. E-matching), **Model-based**

# E-matching



- E-matching:
  - Most widely used and successful technique for quantifiers in SMT
  - Implemented in numerous solvers:
    - Z3, CVC3, CVC4, VeriT, Alt-Ergo, ...

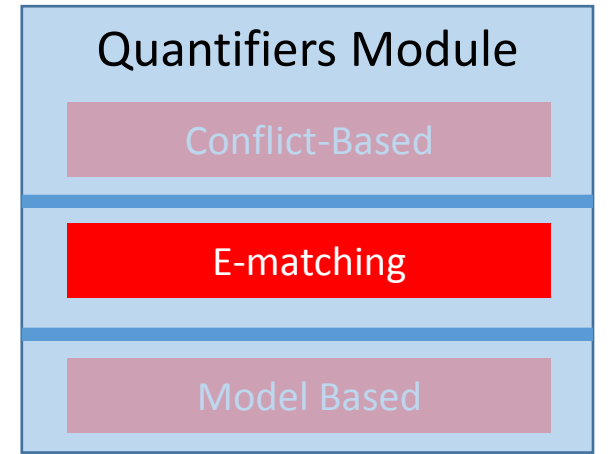
# E-matching: Example

$a, b, c : S$

$f, g : S \rightarrow S$

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

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



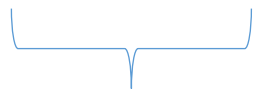
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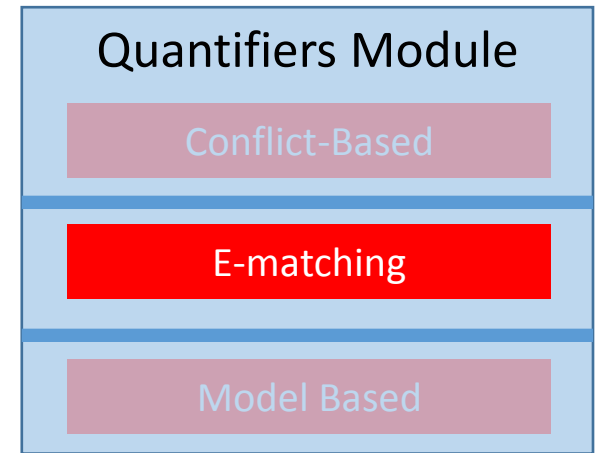
$f, g : S \rightarrow S$

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

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



Pattern



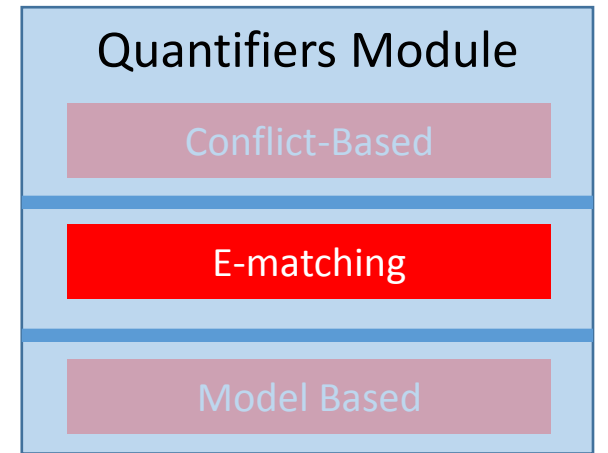
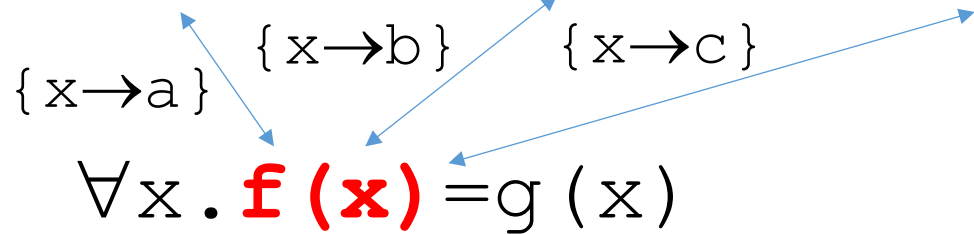
- **Idea:** choose instances based on pattern matching

# E-matching: Example

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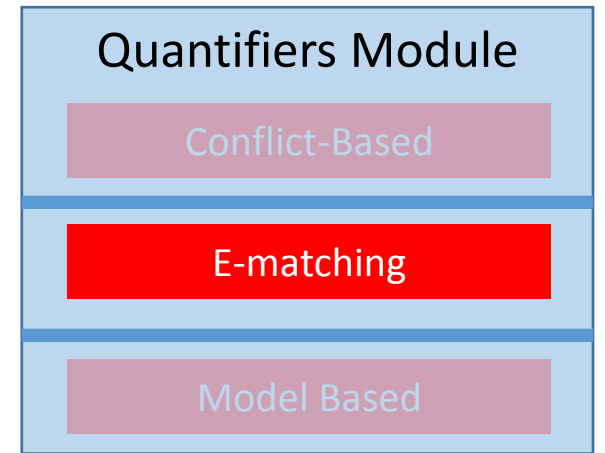
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**$f(a) = g(a), f(b) = g(b), f(c) = g(c)$**

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





# E-matching: Example

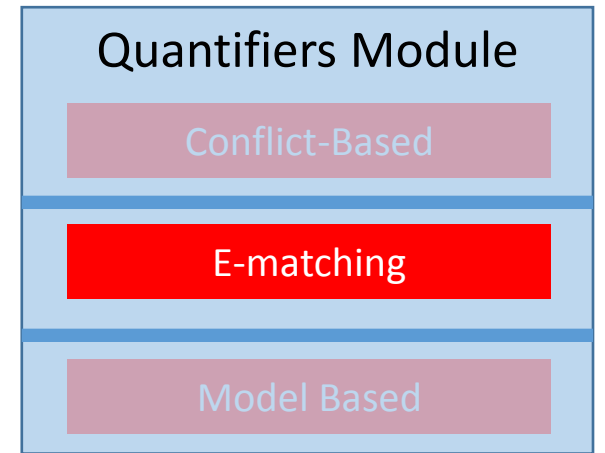
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$f(a) = g(a), f(b) = g(b), f(c) = g(c)$

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



unsat

EXAMPLE...

# E-matching: Challenges

- What happens when there **too many instances** to add?
  - E-matching adds many instances, degrades performance for solver to continue
- What happens when there are **no instances** to add?
  - E-matching is an incomplete procedure, cannot answer SAT even when saturated

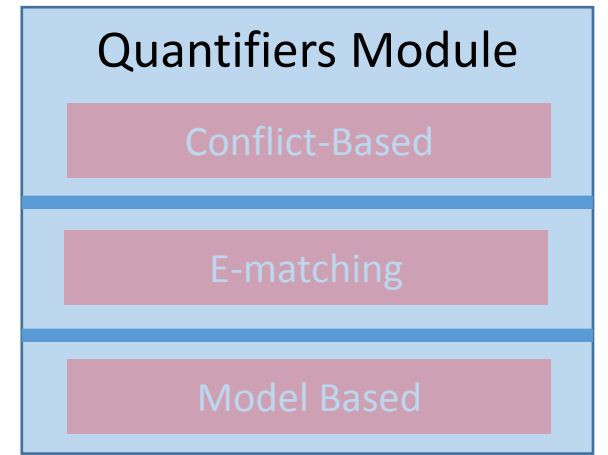
# E-matching: Challenges

- What happens when there too many instances to add?
  - E-matching adds many instances, degrades performance for solver to continue  
⇒ Use *conflict-based instantiation* [Reynolds/Tinelli/deMoura FMCAD14]
- What happens when there are no instances to add?
  - E-matching is an incomplete procedure, cannot answer SAT even when saturated  
⇒ Use *model-based instantiation* [Ge/deMoura CAV09]

# Model-based Instantiation: Example

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

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



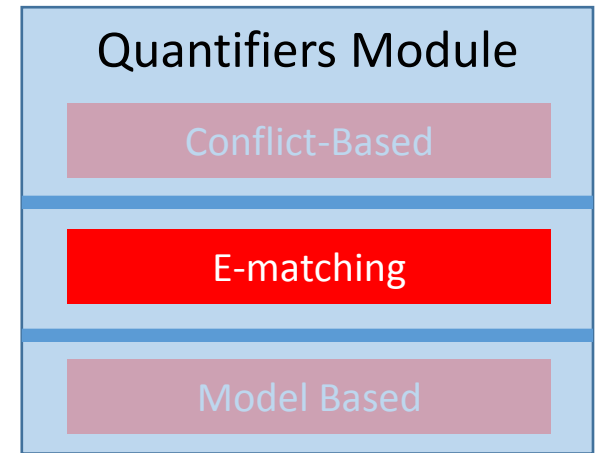
# Model-based Instantiation: Example

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

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

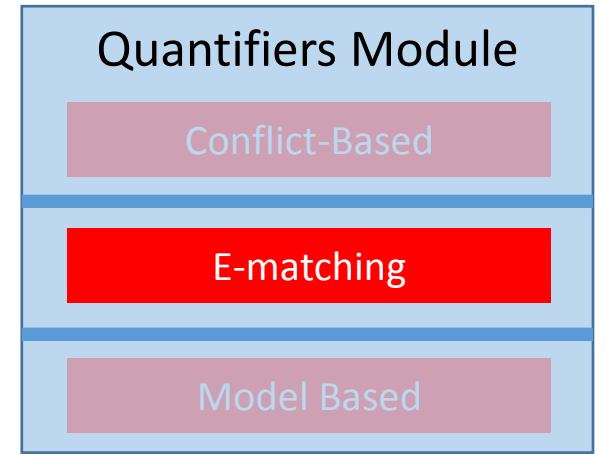
$\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$

- Add instances by E-matching, as before



# Model-based Instantiation: Example

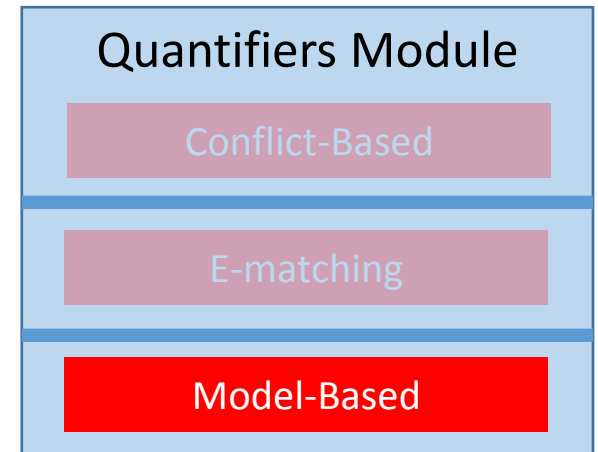
$f(a) = a, f(b) = b, f(c) = c, g(a) = a$   
 $f(a) = g(a), f(b) = g(b), f(c) = g(c)$   
 $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$



- E-matching saturates, but ground constraints are satisfiable
  - Can we check that  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  is also satisfiable?

# Model-based Instantiation: Example

$f(a) = a, f(b) = b, f(c) = c, g(a) = a$   
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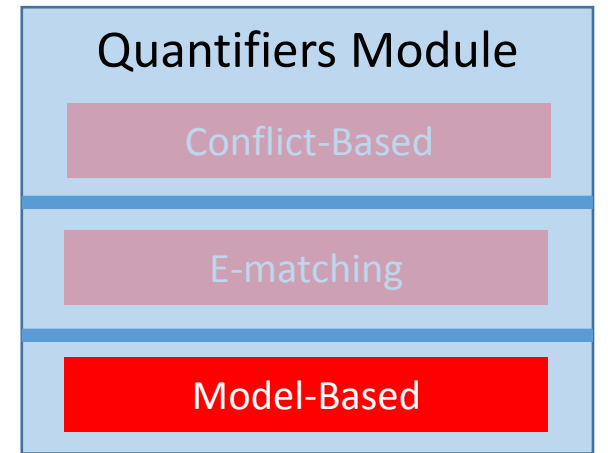
- **Idea:** construct candidate **model**  $M$  for functions  $f$  and  $g$ 
  - Check if  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  satisfied by  $M$

# Model-based Instantiation: Example

$f(a)=a, f(b)=b, f(c)=c, g(a)=a$   
 $f(a)=g(a), f(b)=g(b), f(c)=g(c)$   
 $\forall x. f(x)=g(x)$

$f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$

M





# Model-based Instantiation: Example

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

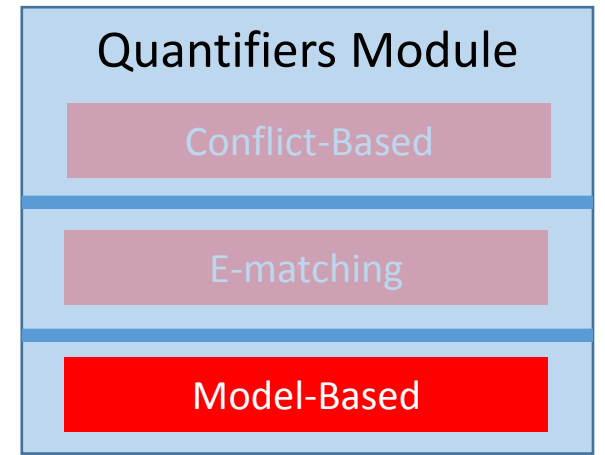
**$f(a)=g(a), f(b)=g(b), f(c)=g(c)$**

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

$f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$

**$g^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$**

M



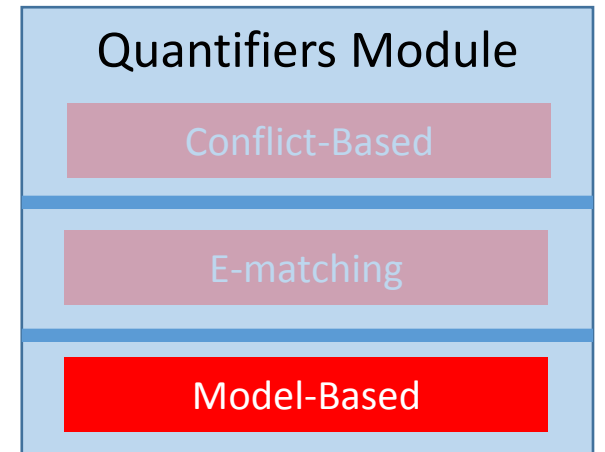
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 $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$

$f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$   
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} M

- Does M satisfy  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  ?



# Model-based Instantiation: Example

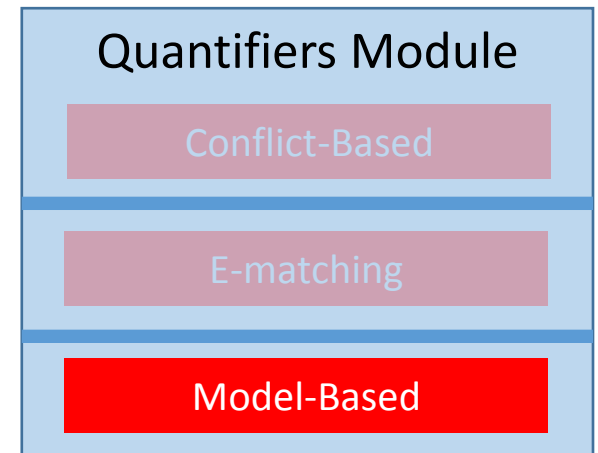
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} M

• Does M satisfy  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  ?

$\Rightarrow$  If  $\exists x. f^M(x) \neq g^M(x)$  is unsat, then yes



# Model-based Instantiation: Example

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 $f(a) = g(a), f(b) = g(b), f(c) = g(c)$   
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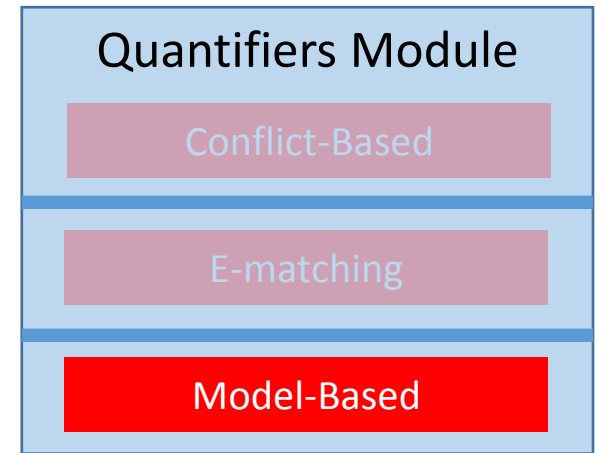
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} M

• Does M satisfy  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  ?

$\text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c)) \neq \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$

} unsat



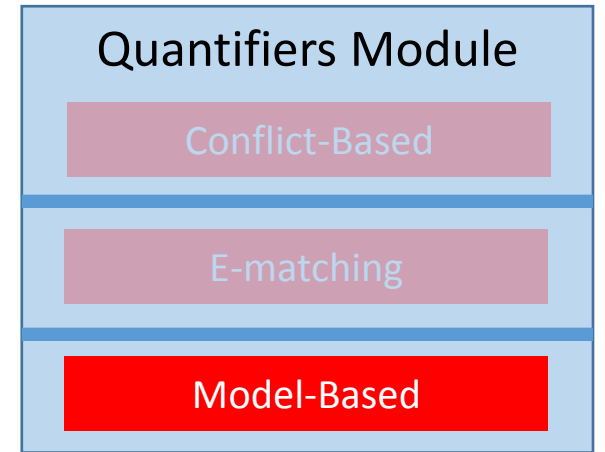
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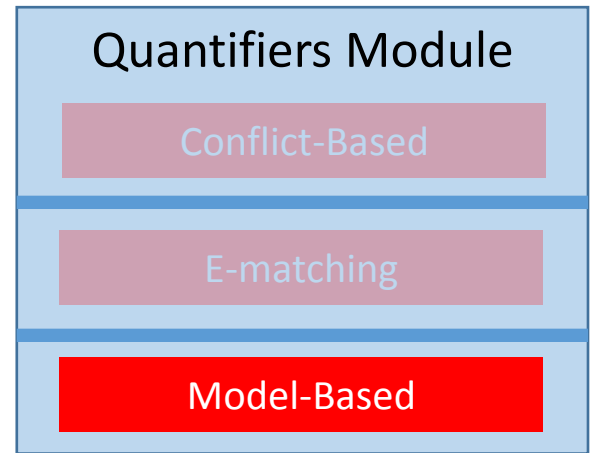
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 $g^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$

M

- Does M satisfy  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  ?  
⇒ Yes, return **sat** with model M



# Model-based Instantiation: Example



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

$f(a)=g(a), f(b)=g(b), f(c)=g(c), d \notin \{a, b, c\}$

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

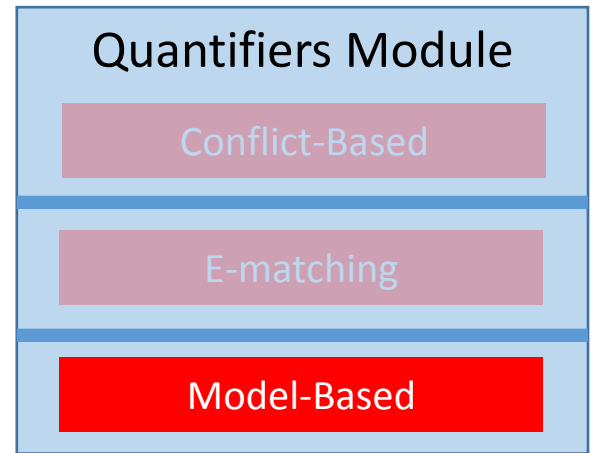
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$g^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=c, c, b))$

} M

- If M **does not satisfy**  $\forall x. f(x)=g(x)$ ,

# Model-based Instantiation: Example



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

$f(a)=g(a), f(b)=g(b), f(c)=g(c), d \notin \{a, b, c\}$

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

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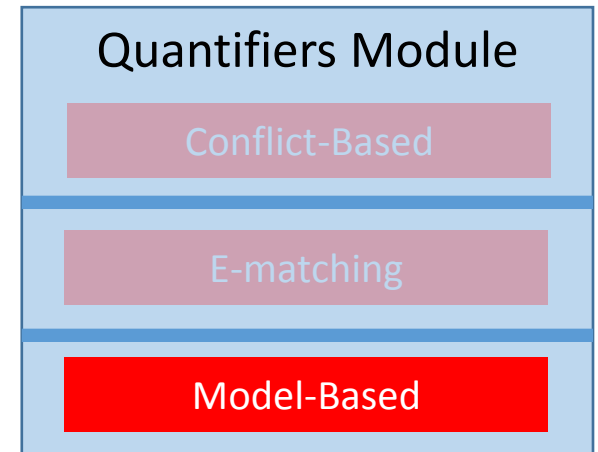
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} M

• If M does not satisfy  $\forall x. f(x)=g(x)$ ,

$\text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c)) \neq \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=c, c, b))$  is unsat?

# Model-based Instantiation: Example



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

$f(a)=g(a), f(b)=g(b), f(c)=g(c), d \notin \{a, b, c\}$

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

$f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$

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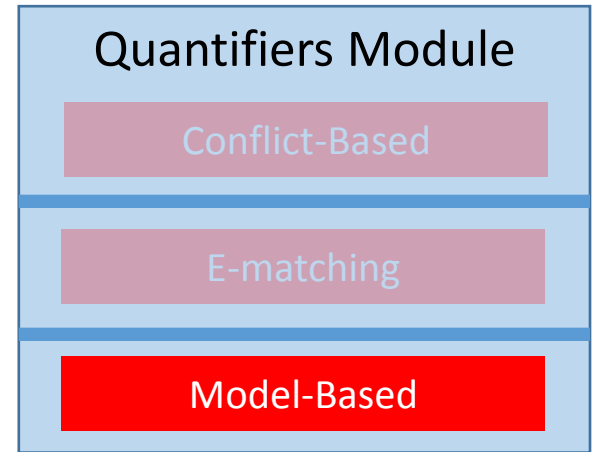
} M

• If M does not satisfy  $\forall x. f(x)=g(x)$ ,

$\text{ite}(d=a, a, \text{ite}(d=b, b, c)) \neq \text{ite}(d=a, a, \text{ite}(d=c, c, b))$  Take  $x=d$



# Model-based Instantiation: Example



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

$f(a)=g(a), f(b)=g(b), f(c)=g(c), d \notin \{a, b, c\}$

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

$f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$

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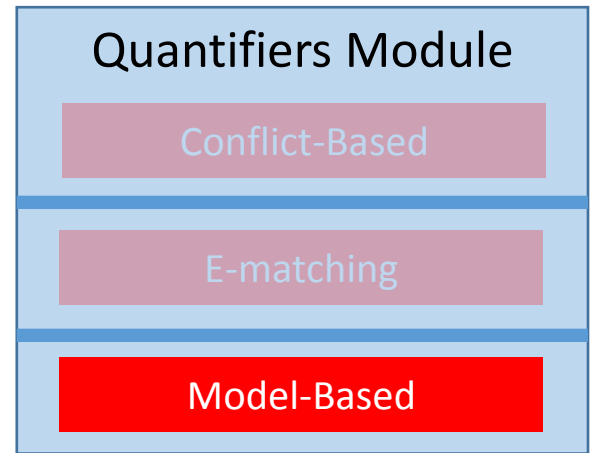
} M

• If M does not satisfy  $\forall x. f(x)=g(x)$ ,

**c≠b**

} sat,  
where **x=d**

# Model-based Instantiation: Example



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

$f(a)=g(a), f(b)=g(b), f(c)=g(c), d \notin \{a, b, c\},$

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

**$f(d)=g(d)$**

$f^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=b, b, c))$

$g^M := \lambda x. \text{ite}(x=a, a, \text{ite}(x=c, c, b))$

} M

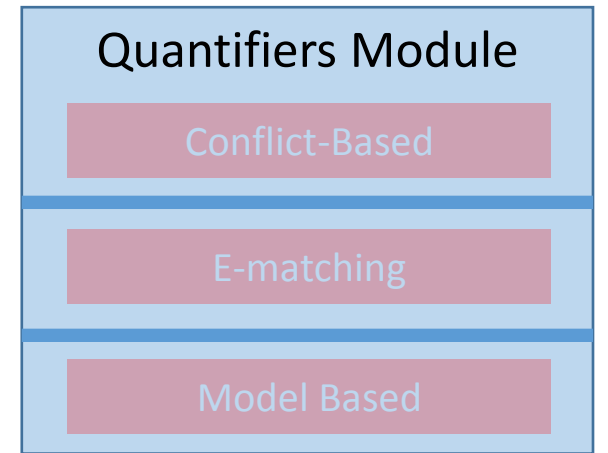
- If M does not satisfy  $\forall x. f(x)=g(x)$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow$  Add instance  **$f(d)=g(d)$** , will refine model

EXAMPLE...

# Conflict-Based Instantiation: Example

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

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



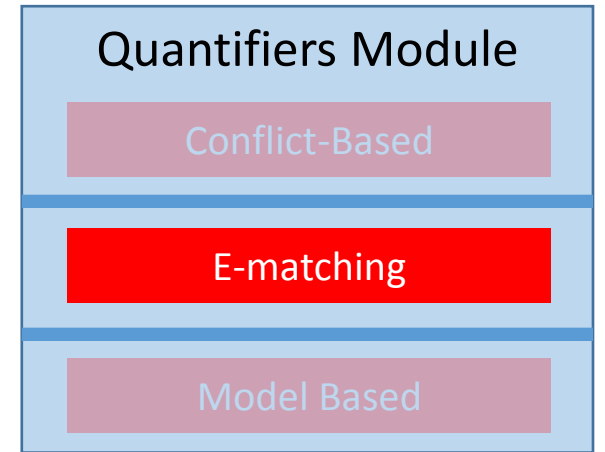
# Conflict-Based Instantiation: Example

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

**$f(a) = g(a), f(b) = g(b), f(c) = g(c), \dots$**

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

- E-matching may return with many ground instances
  - In practice, 1000+ instances per invocation
    - $\Rightarrow$  Degrades solver performance

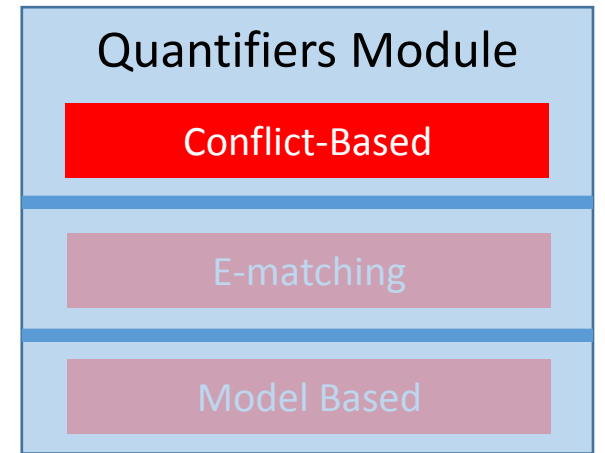


# Conflict-Based Instantiation: Example

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

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

- **Idea:** find an instance of  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  that is **conflicting** with ground constraints
  - If so, add *only* that instance



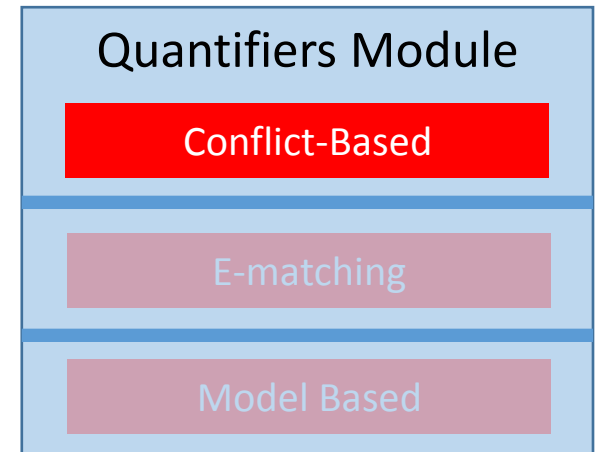
# Conflict-Based Instantiation: Example

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

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

- **Idea:** find an instance of  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  that is conflicting with ground constraints

$$\Rightarrow f(a) = a, \quad g(a) \neq a \quad \vdash \quad f(x) \neq g(x) \{x \rightarrow a\}$$

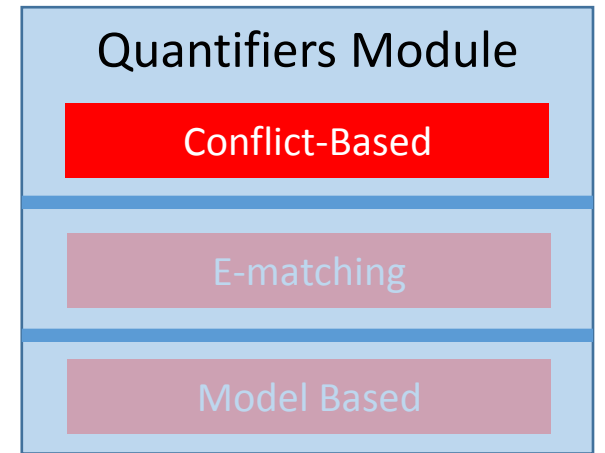


# Conflict-Based Instantiation: Example

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

**$f(a) = g(a)$**

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



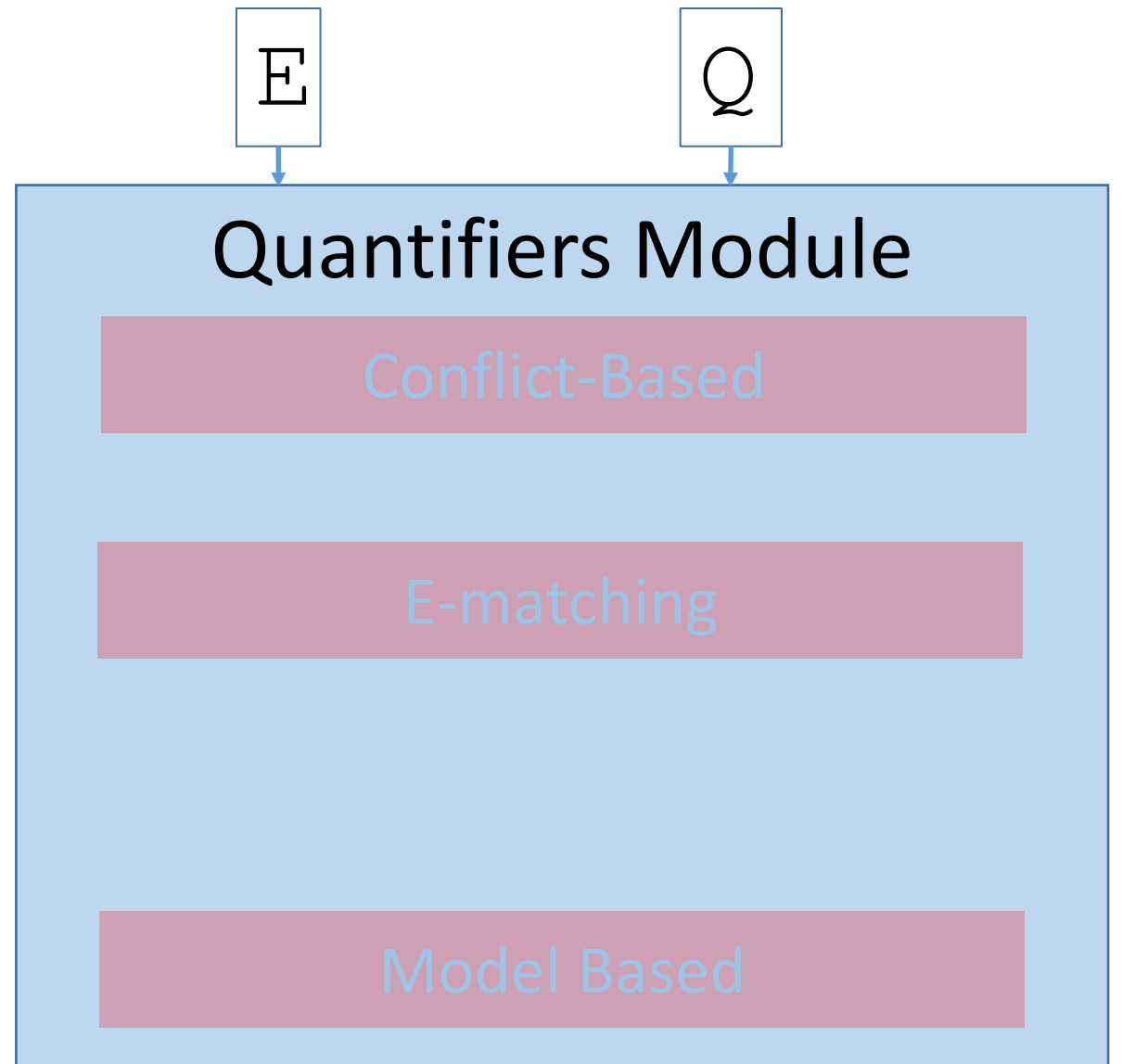
unsat

- **Idea:** find an instance of  $\forall x. f(x) = g(x)$  that is conflicting with ground constraints

$\Rightarrow f(a) = a, g(a) \neq a \quad \models f(x) \neq g(x) \{x \rightarrow \mathbf{a}\}$

EXAMPLE...

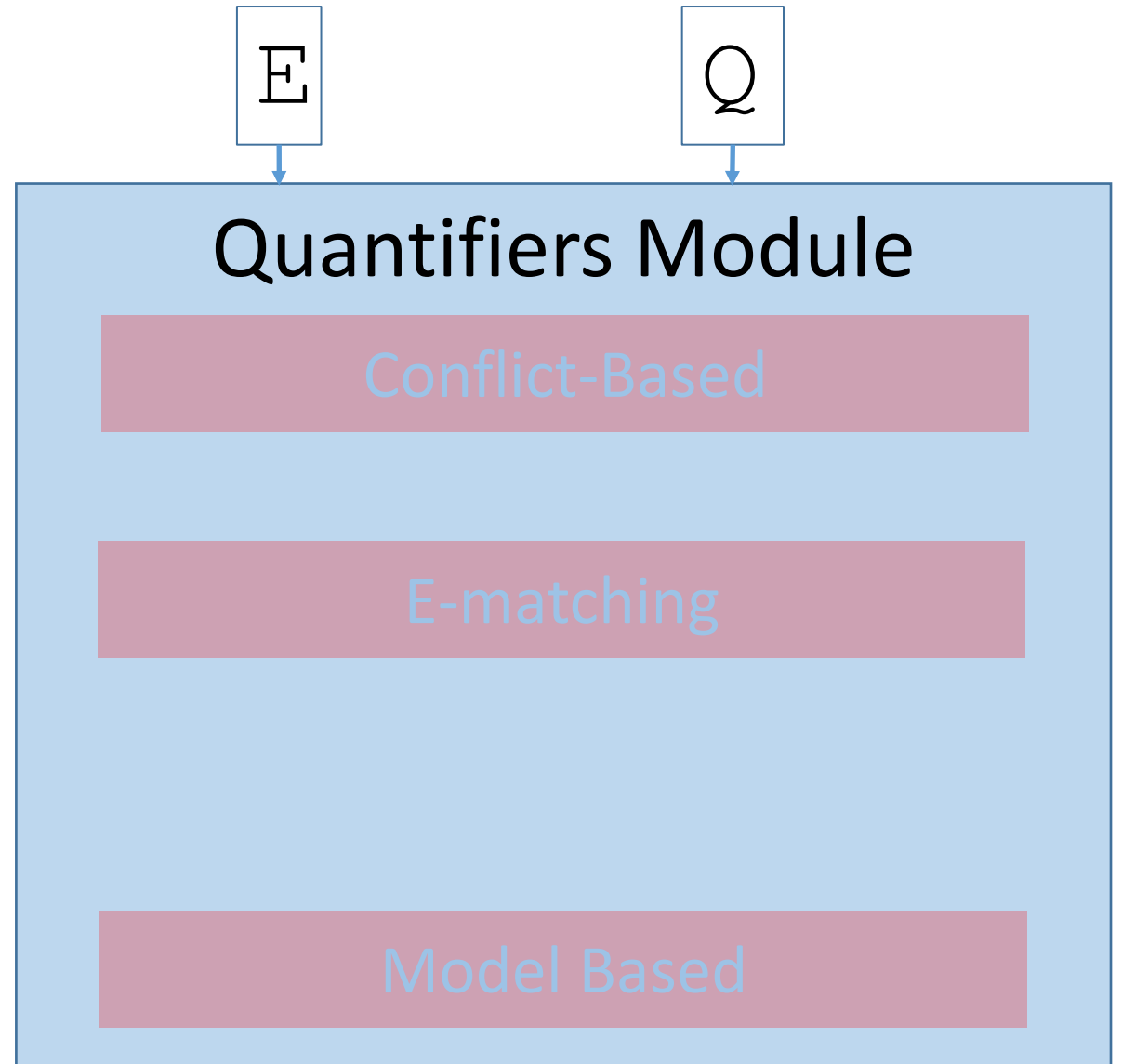
# Putting it Together





# Putting it Together

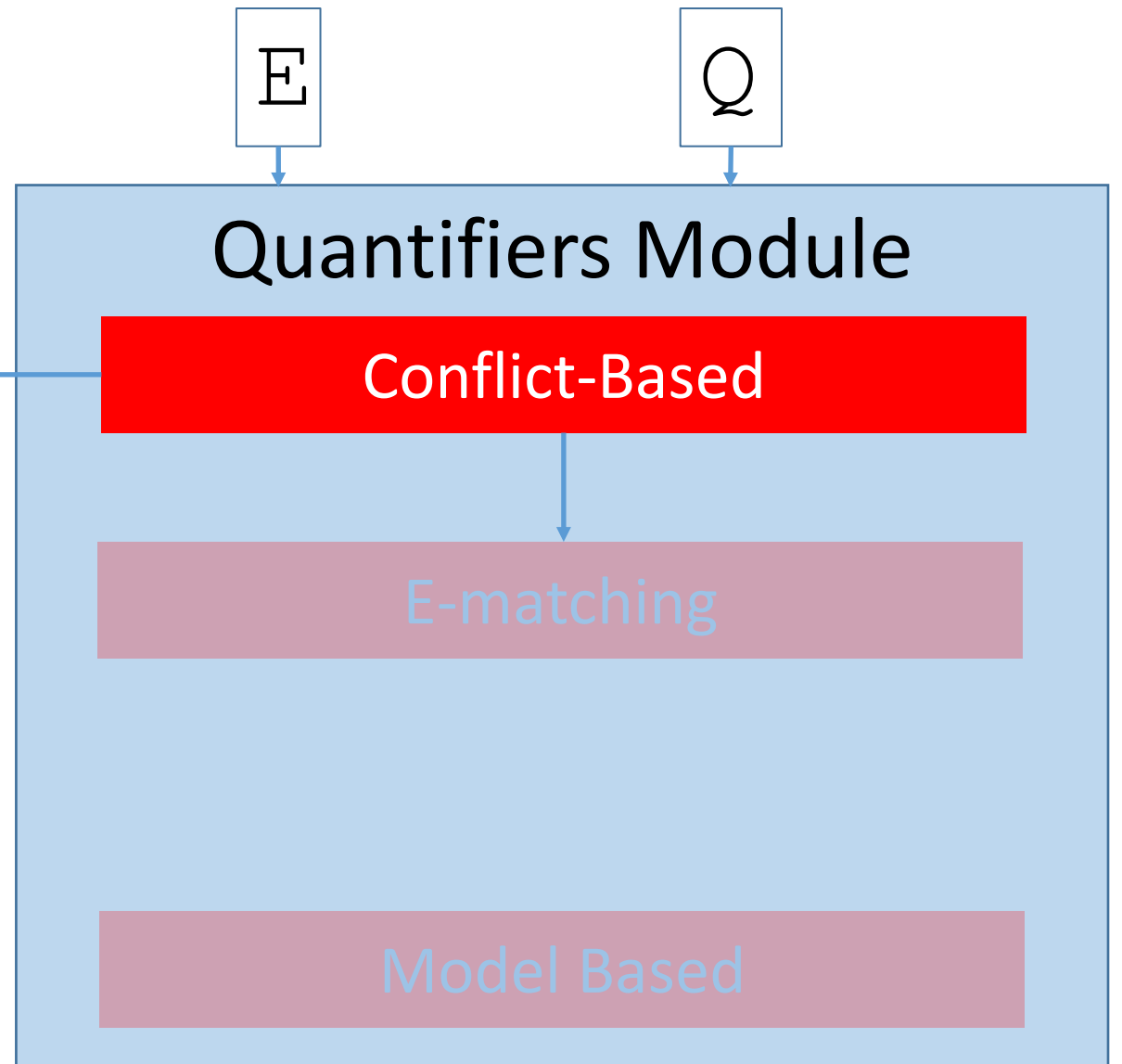
- Input:
  - Ground literals  $\mathbb{E}$
  - Quantified formulas  $\mathbb{Q}$



# Putting it Together

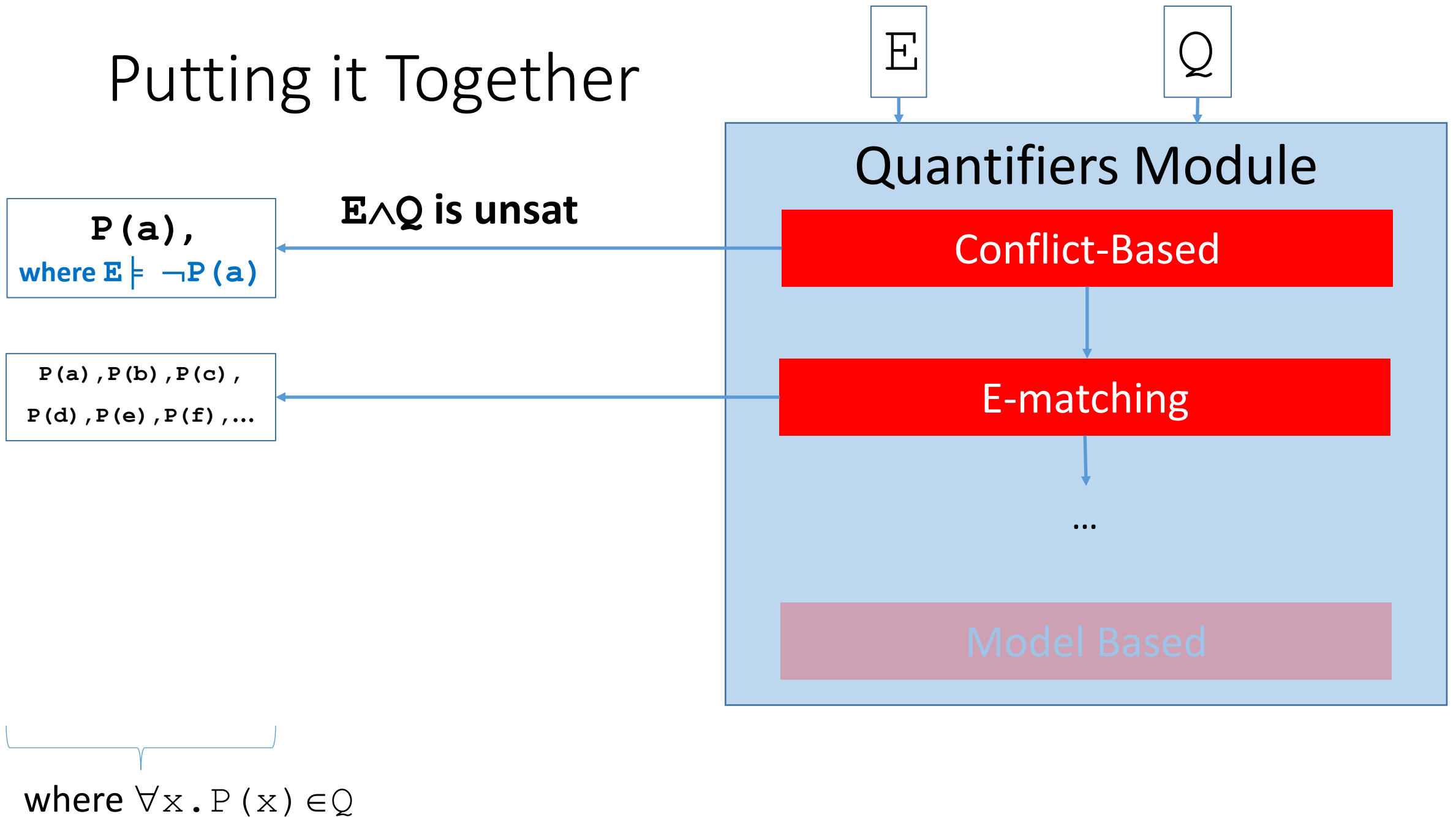
$P(a),$   
where  $E \models \neg P(a)$

$E \wedge Q$  is unsat

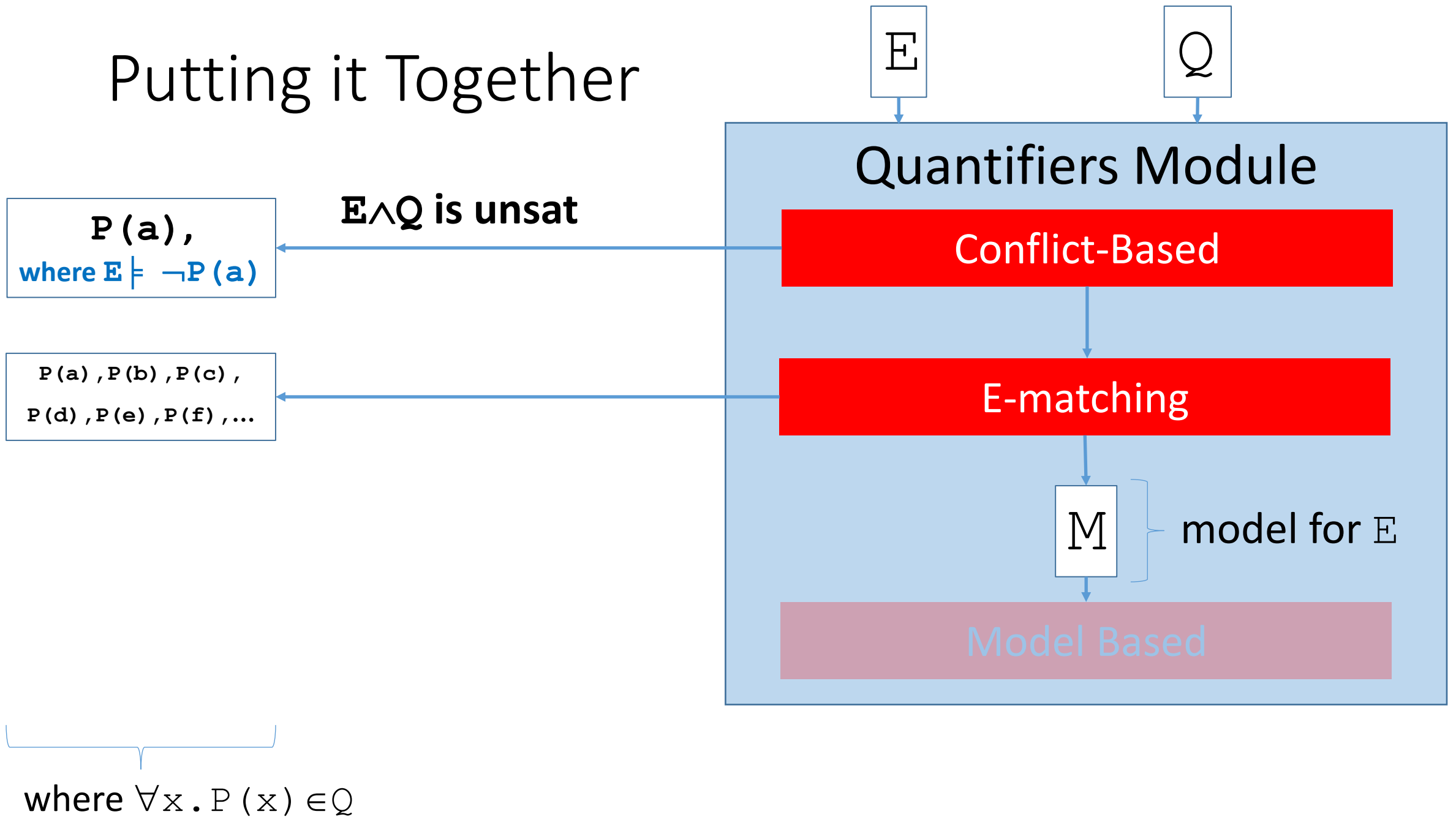


where  $\forall x. P(x) \in Q$

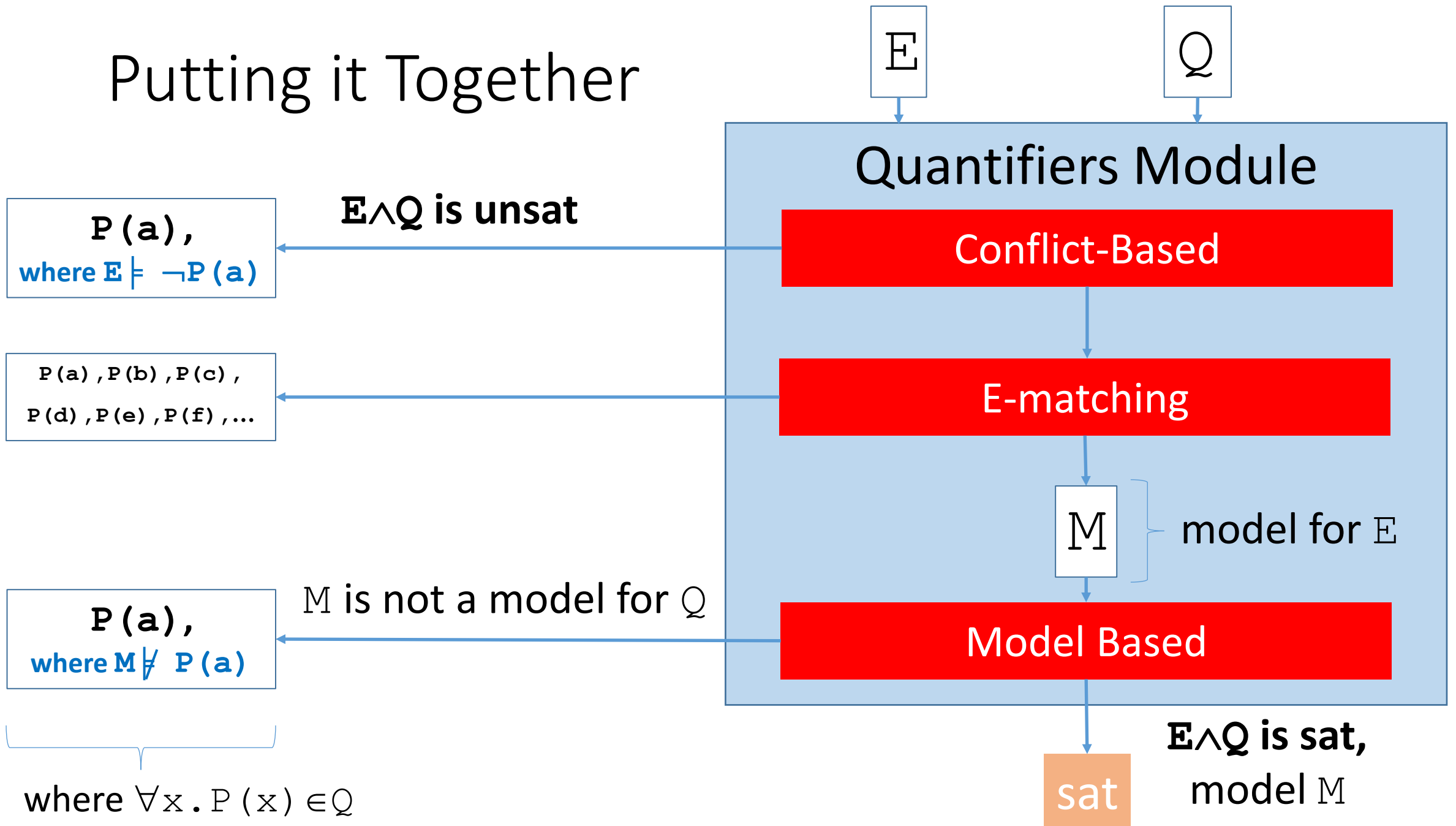
# Putting it Together



# Putting it Together



# Putting it Together



# Other techniques for Quantified Formulas

- Advanced techniques in CVC4:
    - Rewrite Rules
    - Automated Induction [[Reynolds/Kuncak VMCAI15](#)]
    - Finite Model Finding [[Reynolds et al CADE13](#)]
    - Synthesis [[Reynolds et al CAV15](#)]
- ⇒ Each target a particular type of quantified formulas

# Other techniques for Quantified Formulas

- Advanced techniques in CVC4:

- Rewrite Rules

- Automated Induction [Reynolds/Kuncak VMCAI15]

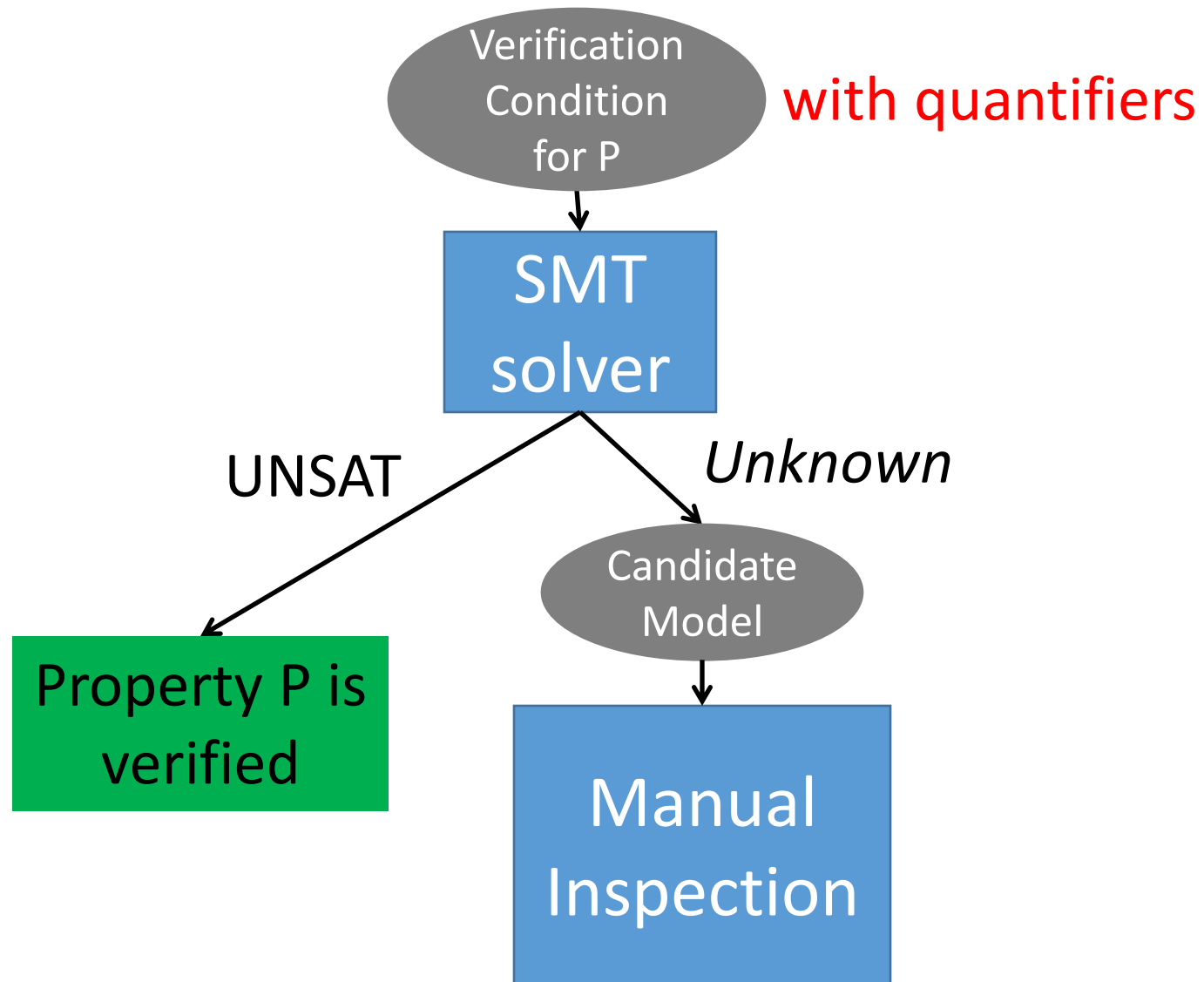
- **Finite Model Finding** [Reynolds et al CADE13]

- **Synthesis** [Reynolds et al CAV15]

} Focus of the remainder

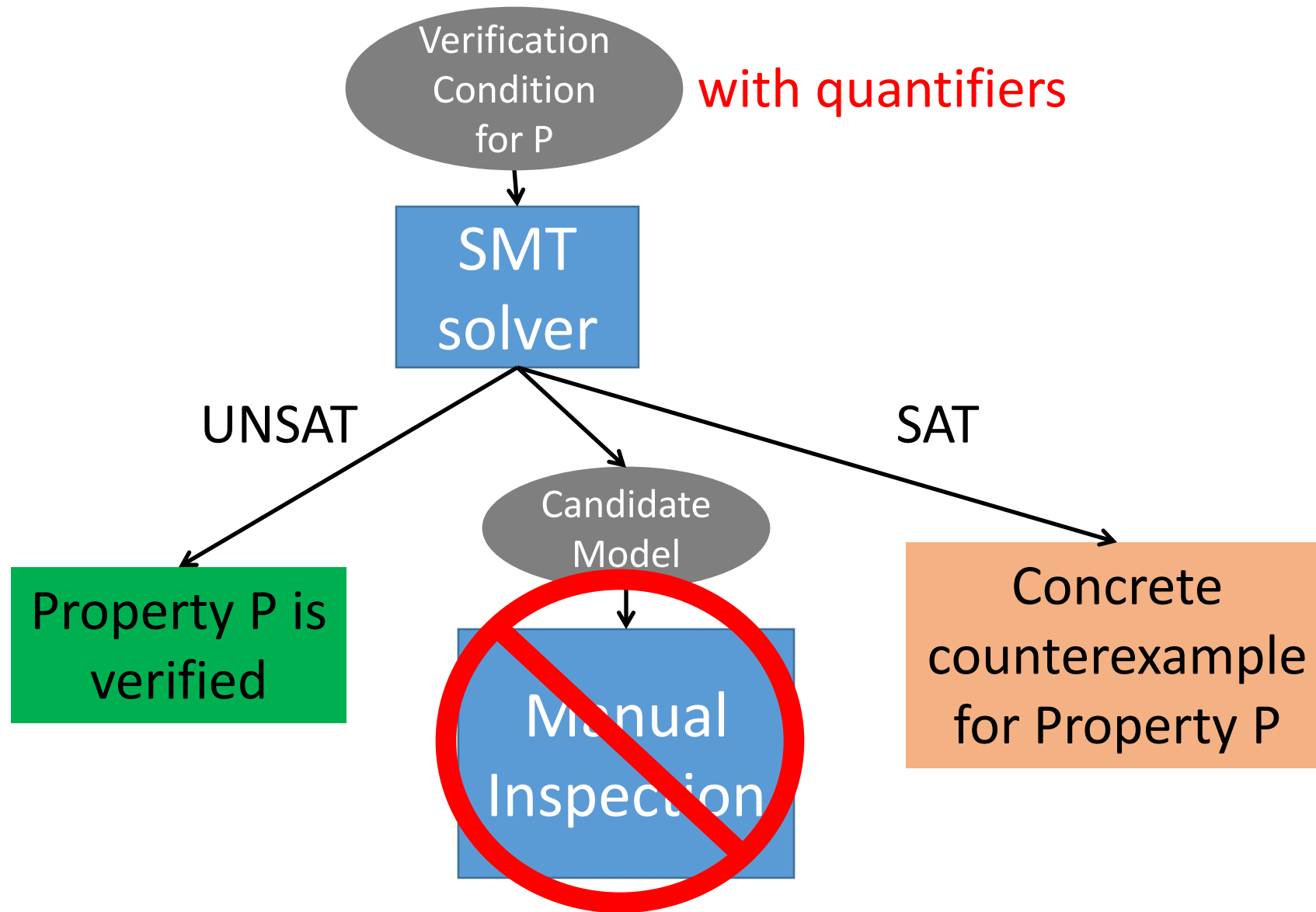
⇒ Each target a particular type of quantified formulas

# Finite Model Finding : Motivation





# Finite Model Finding : Motivation



# Finite Model Finding in SMT

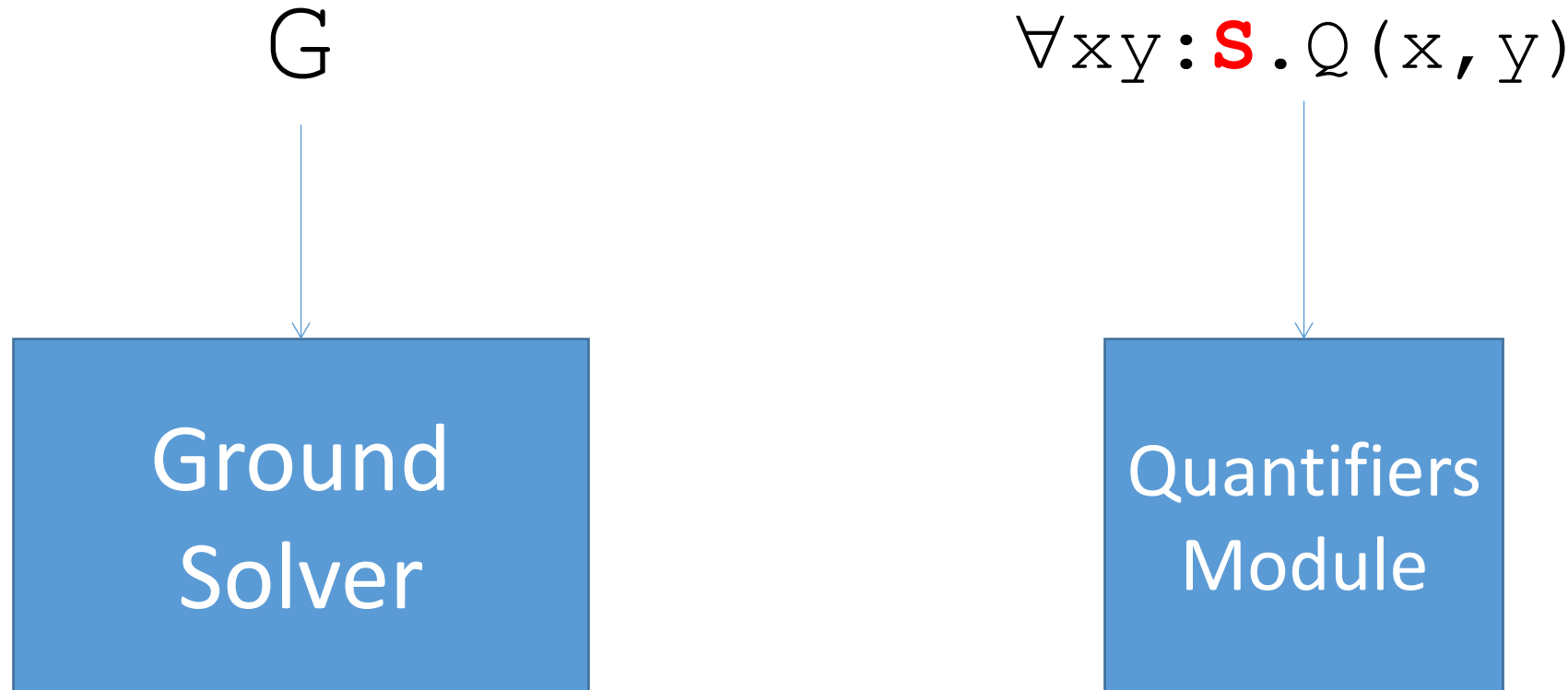
$G$



$\forall x y : S . Q(x, y)$



# Finite Model Finding in SMT



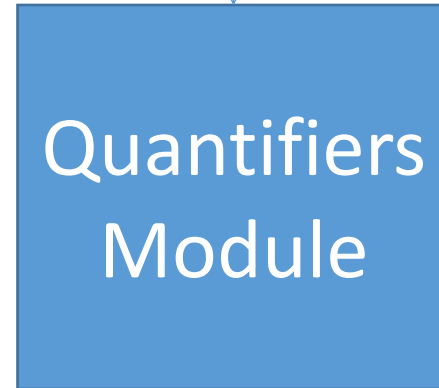
$\Rightarrow$  If  $\mathbf{S}$  has finite interpretation,  
• use finite model finding

# Finite Model Finding in SMT

$G$

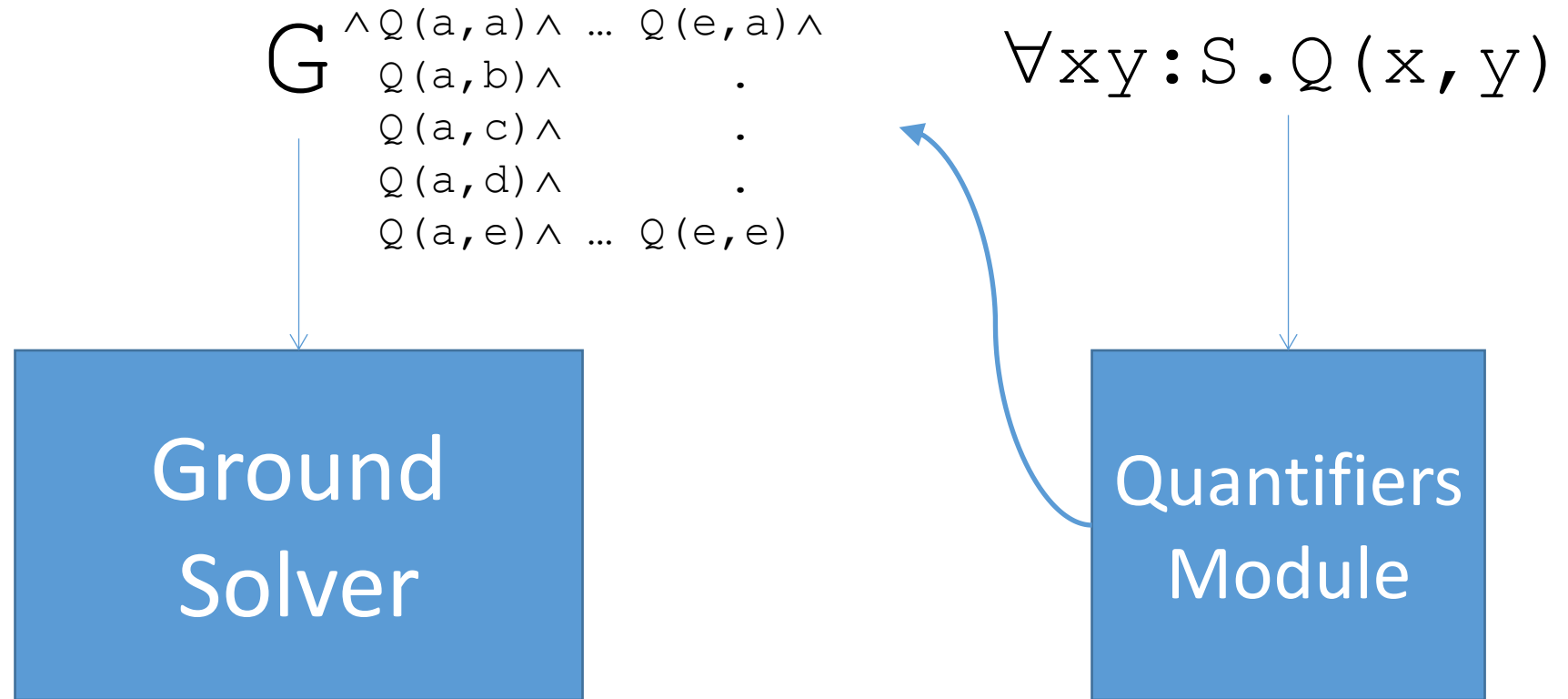


$\forall x y : S . Q(x, y)$



$S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$

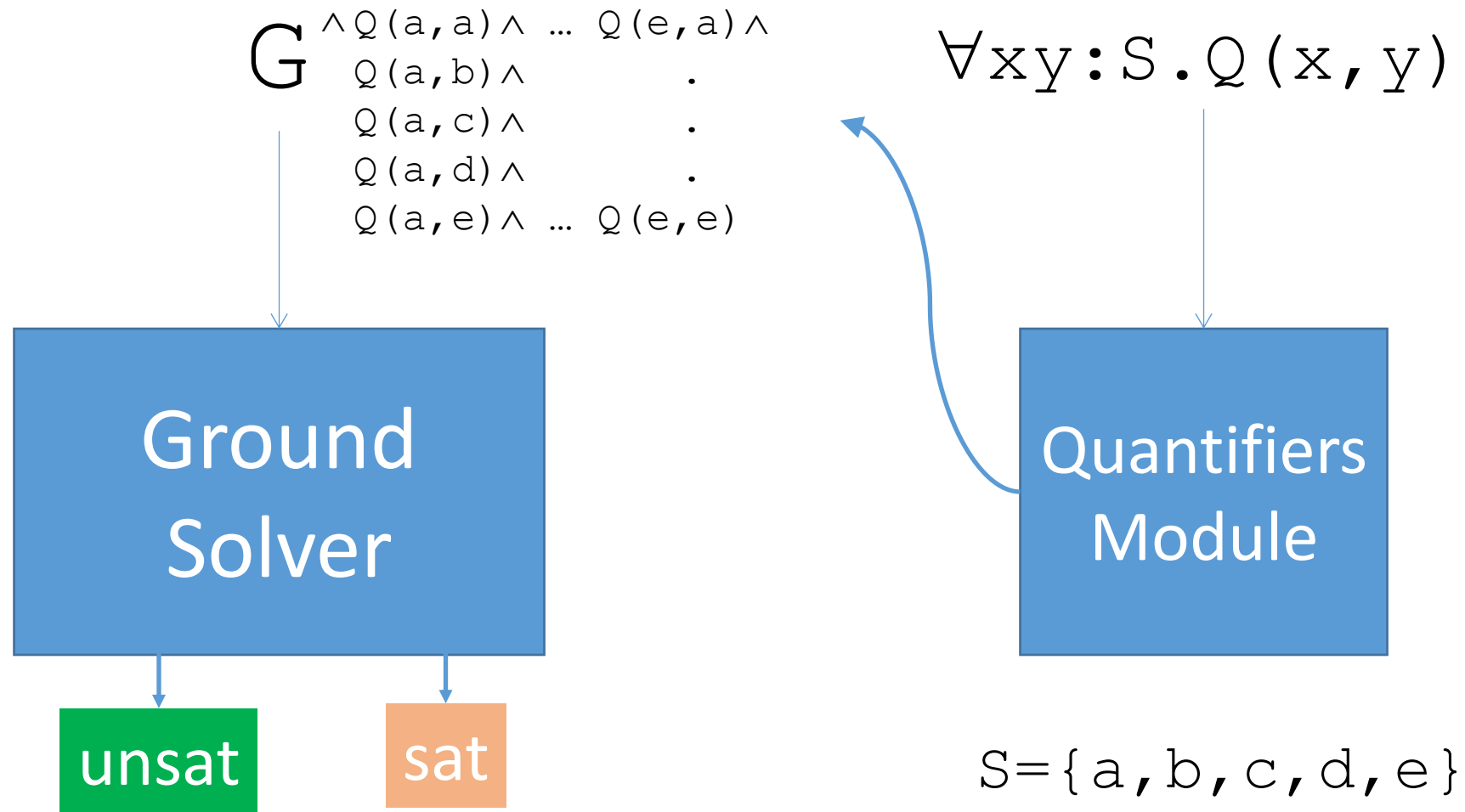
# Finite Model Finding in SMT



$S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$

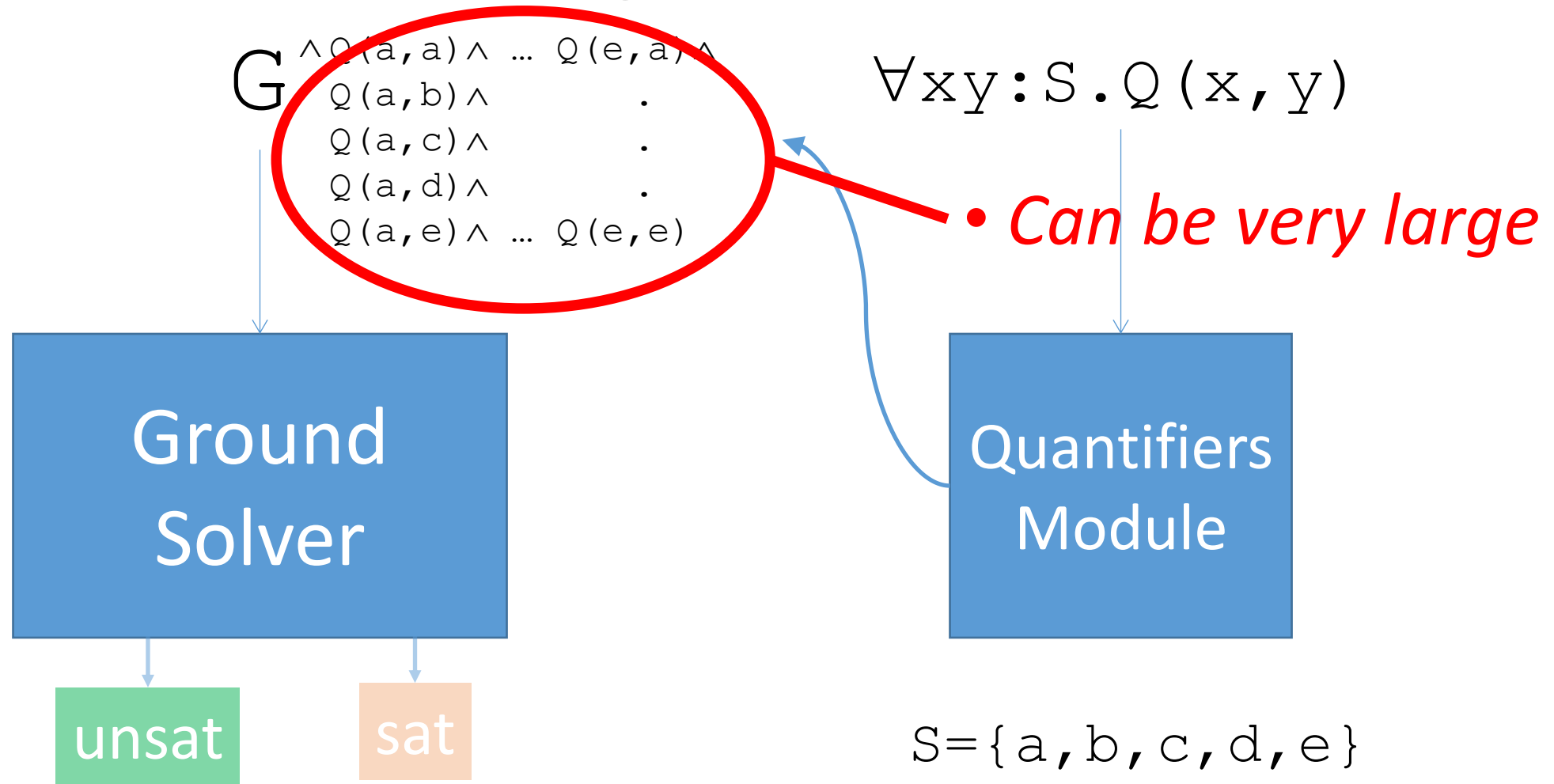
- Reduction of quantified formulas to ground formulas

# Finite Model Finding in SMT



$\Rightarrow$  **Ability to answer SAT**, assuming decision procedure for  $G \wedge Q(a, a) \wedge \dots \wedge Q(e, e)$

# Finite Model Finding in SMT



# Finite Model Finding: Example

$a, b, c, d, e : S$

$P, R : (S, S) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

$a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq d, d \neq e, e \neq a$

$\neg P(a, b), \neg R(a, c)$

$\forall x y. P(x, y) \vee R(x, y)$

EXAMPLE...

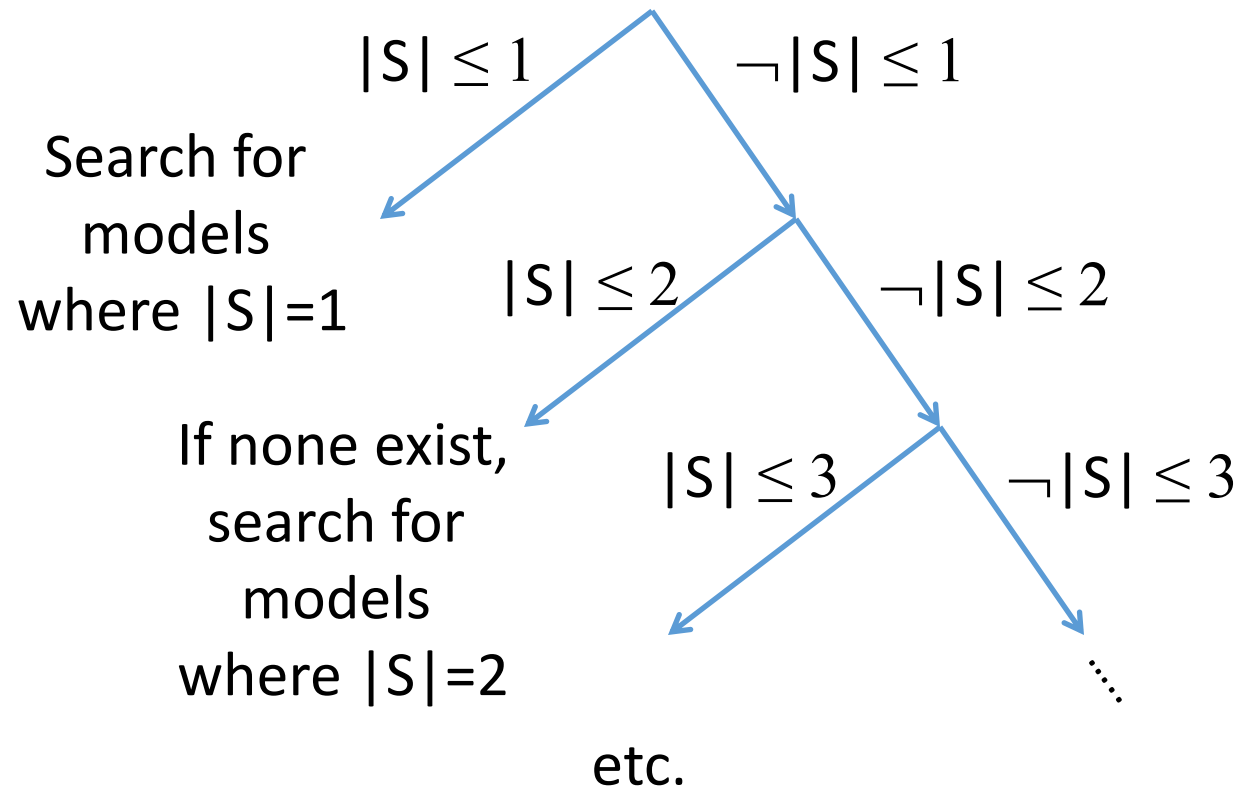


# Finite Model Finding in SMT

- Address large # instantiations by:
  1. Minimizing model sizes [\[Reynolds et al CAV13\]](#)
    - Find interpretation that minimizes the #elements in S
  2. Only add instantiations that refine model [\[Reynolds et al CADE13\]](#)
    - Model-based quantifier instantiation [Ge/deMoura CAV 2009]

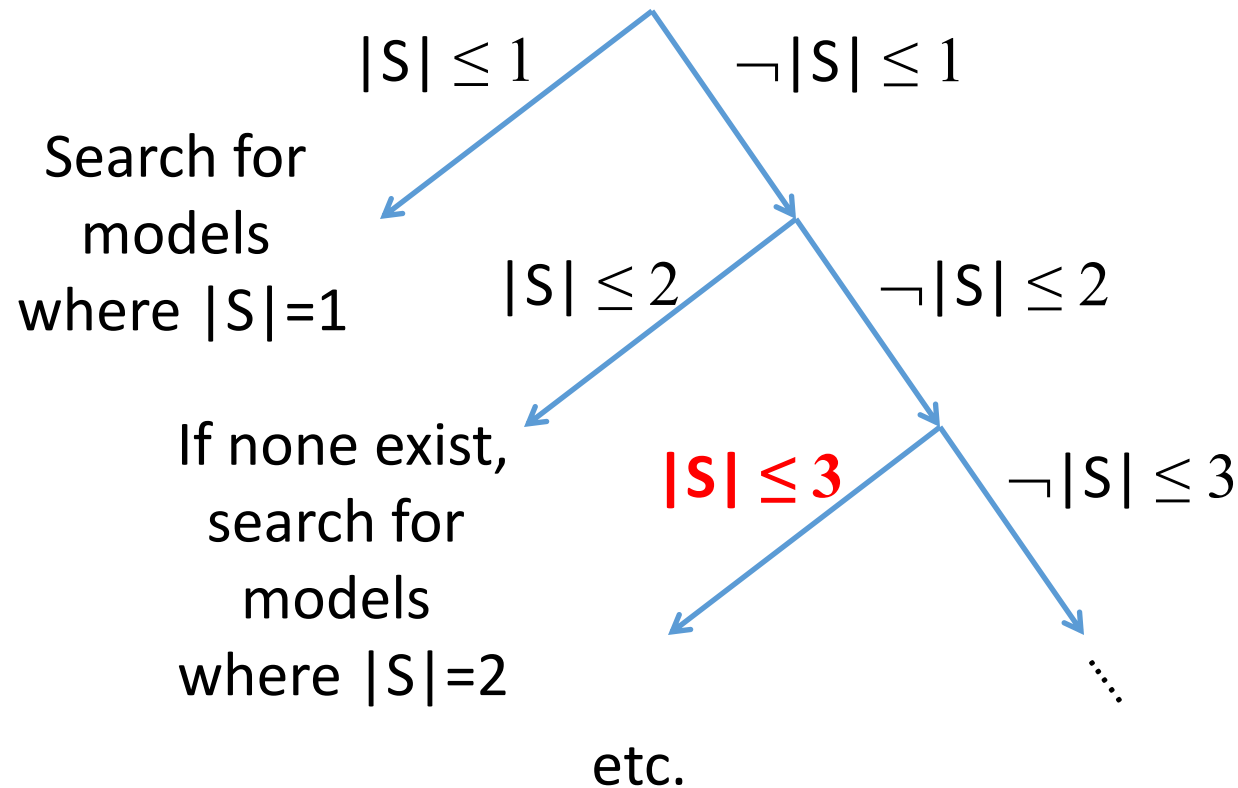
# Finite Model Finding : Minimizing Model Sizes

- Minimize model sizes using a **theory solver for cardinality constraints**



# Finite Model Finding : Minimizing Model Sizes

- Minimize model sizes using a theory solver for cardinality constraints



$\Rightarrow$  If model exists where  **$|S| \leq 3$** , only need  $3*3=9$  instances instead of  $5*5=25$  instances

# FMF: Example

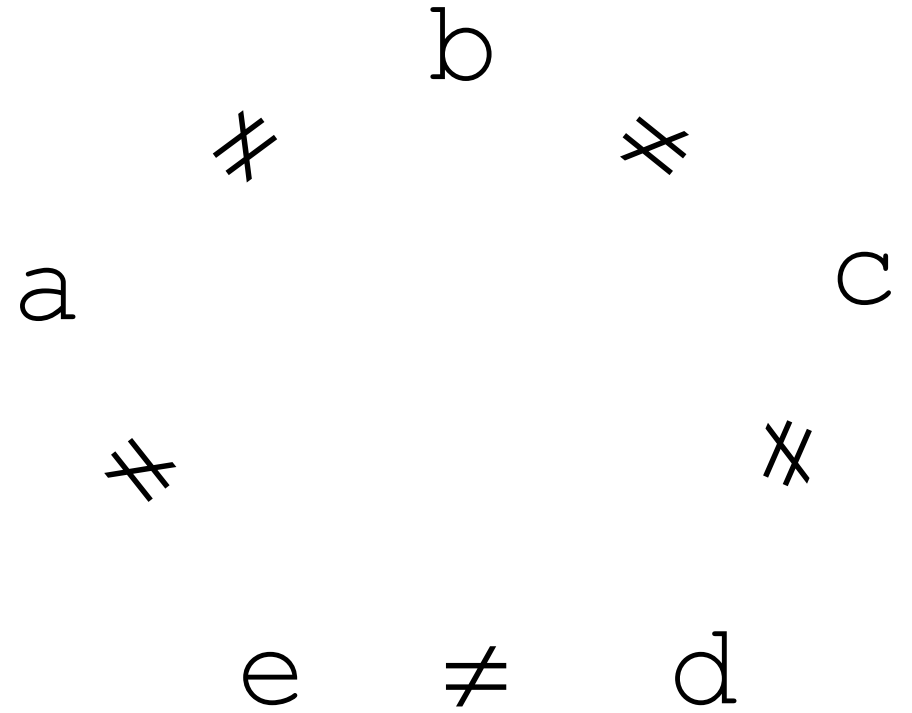
$a, b, c, d, e : S$

$P, R : (S, S) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

$a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq d, d \neq e, e \neq a$

$\neg P(a, b), \neg R(a, c)$

$\forall x y. P(x, y) \vee R(x, y)$



# FMF: Example

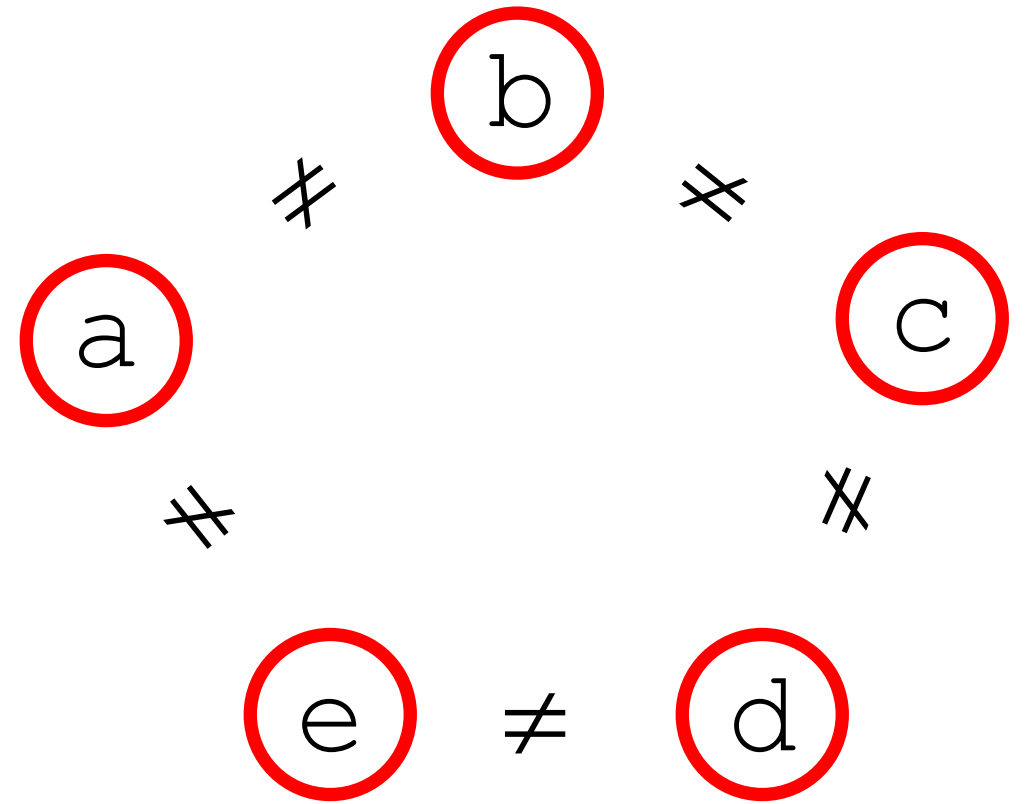
$a, b, c, d, e : S$

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$\neg P(a, b), \neg R(a, c)$

$\forall x y. P(x, y) \vee R(x, y)$



$S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$

# FMF: Example

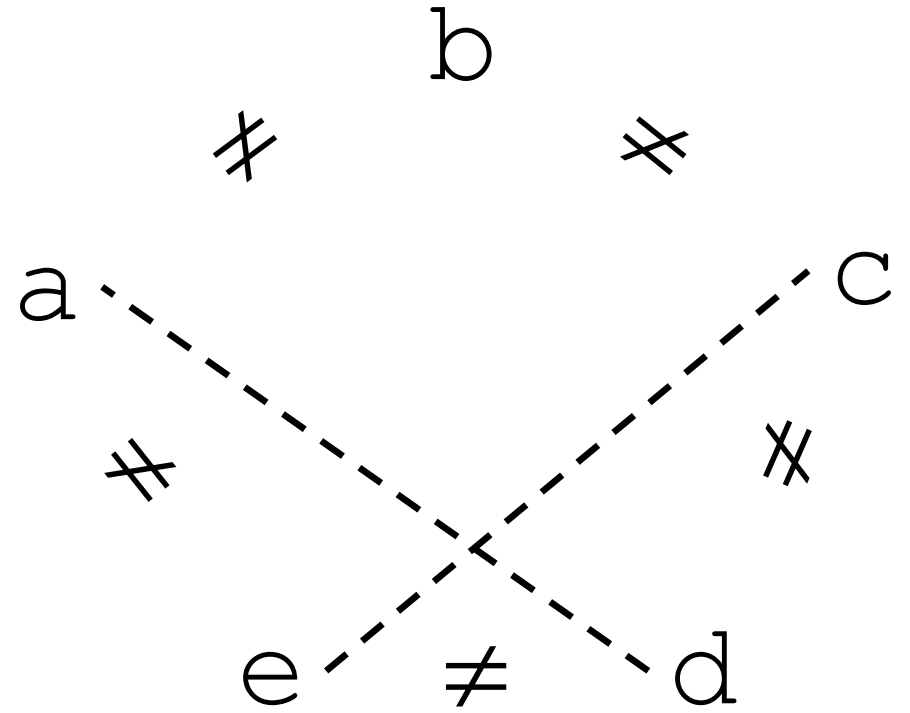
$a, b, c, d, e : S$

$P, R : (S, S) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

$a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq d, d \neq e, e \neq a$

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# FMF: Example

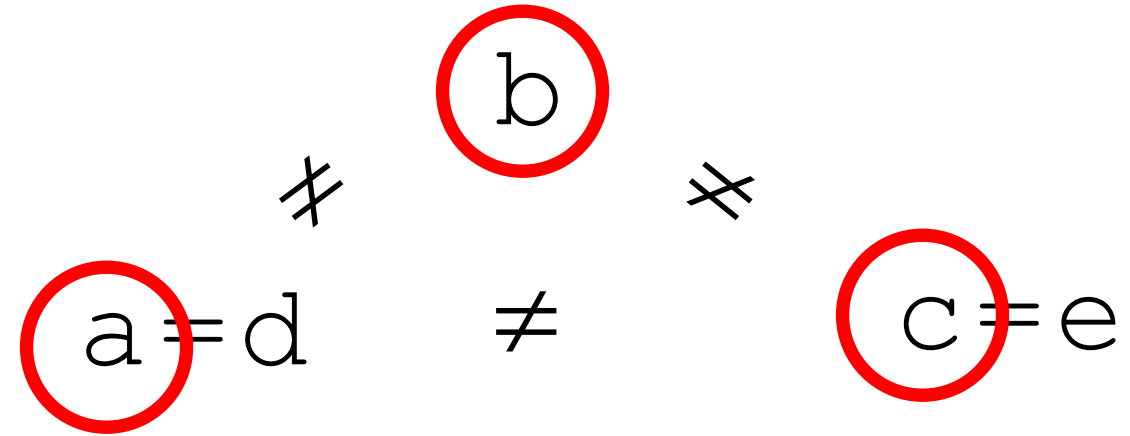
$a, b, c, d, e : S$

$P, R : (S, S) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

$a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq d, d \neq e, e \neq a$

$\neg P(a, b), \neg R(a, c), \mathbf{a=d}, \mathbf{c=e}$

$\forall x y. P(x, y) \vee R(x, y)$



$S = \{a, b, c\}$

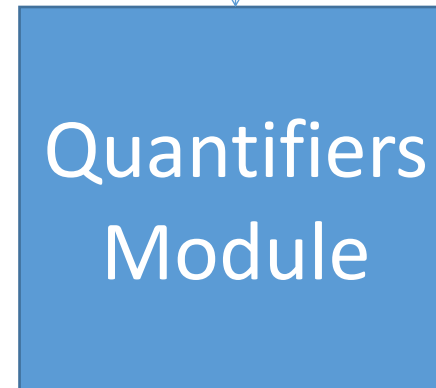
EXAMPLE...

# Finite Model Finding : Model-Based Instantiation

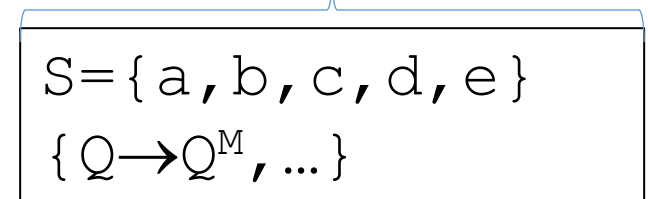
G



$\forall x y : S . Q (x, y)$



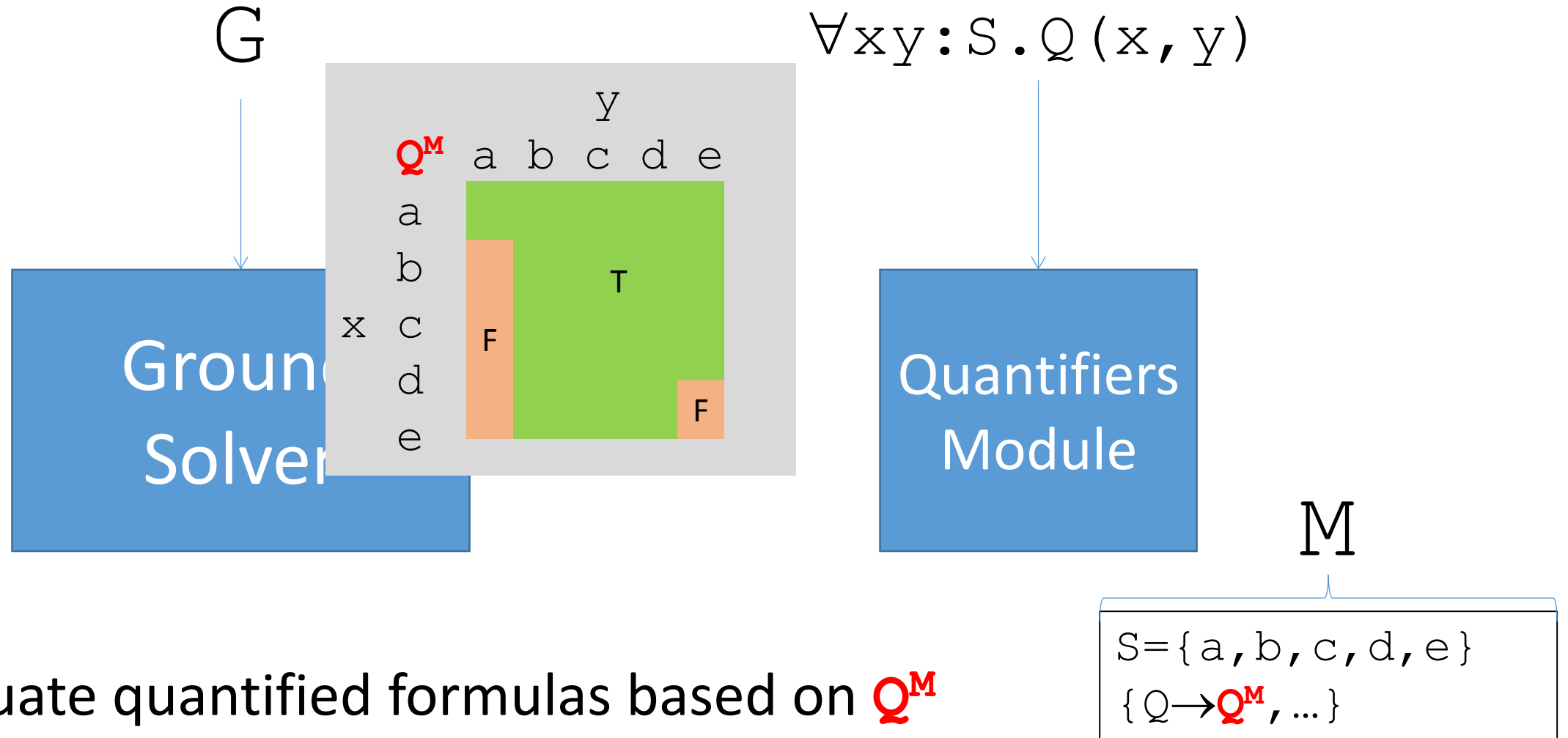
**M**



- Construct candidate model **M**

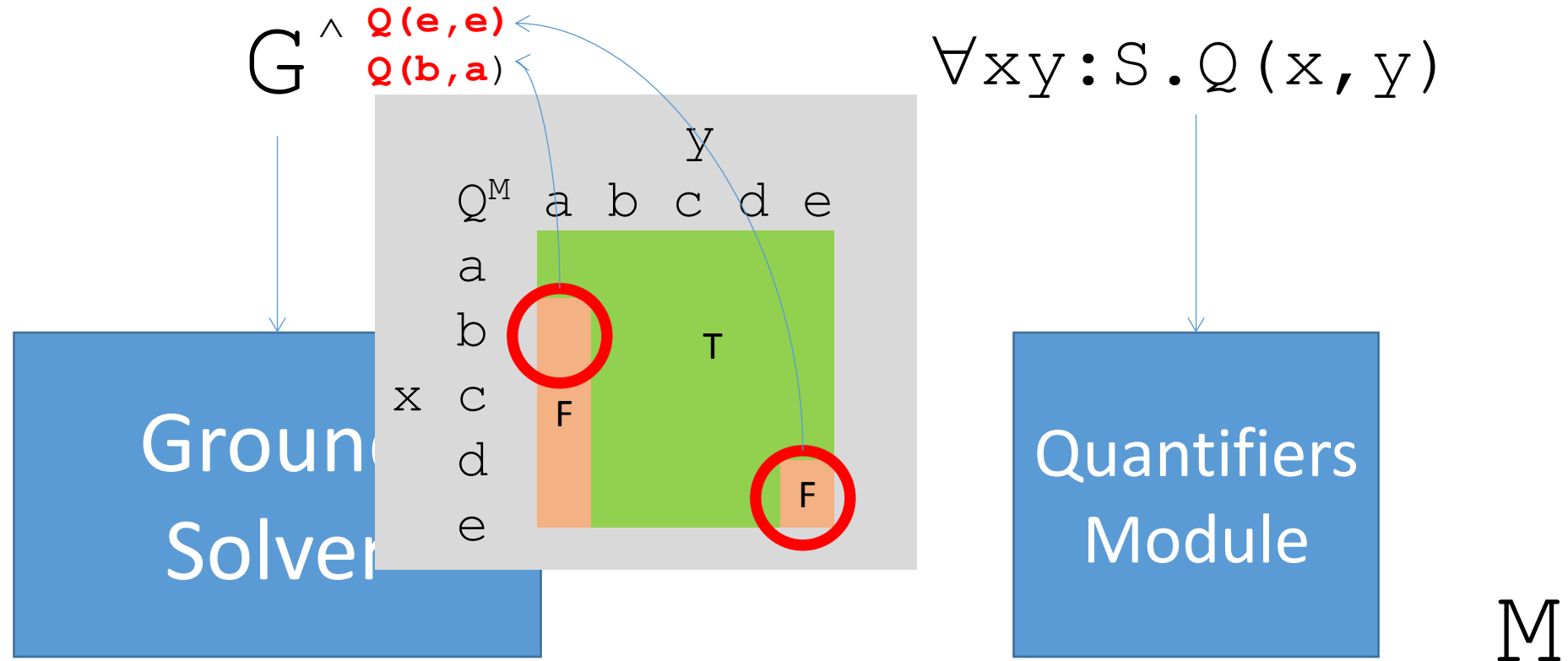


# Finite Model Finding : Model-Based Instantiation



- Evaluate quantified formulas based on  $Q^M$

# Finite Model Finding : Model-Based Instantiation



- Only add instances that **evaluate to F** in  $Q^M$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Significantly increased scalability

$S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$   
 $\{Q \rightarrow Q^M, \dots\}$

# FMF: Example

$a, b, c, d, e : S$

$P, R : (S, S) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

$a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq d, d \neq e, e \neq a$

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# FMF: Example

$a, b, c, d, e : S$

$P, R : (S, S) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

$a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq d, d \neq e, e \neq a$

$\neg P(a, b), \neg R(a, c)$

$\forall x y. P(x, y) \vee R(x, y)$

**$P := \lambda x y. (x \neq a \vee y \neq b)$**

**$R := \lambda x y. (x \neq a \vee y \neq c)$**

		y				
		a	b	c	d	e
x	$P^M$					
	a		F			
	b					
	c			T		
	d					
	e					

		y				
		a	b	c	d	e
x	$R^M$					
	a			F		
	b					
	c			T		
	d					
	e					

# FMF: Example

$a, b, c, d, e : S$

$P, R : (S, S) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

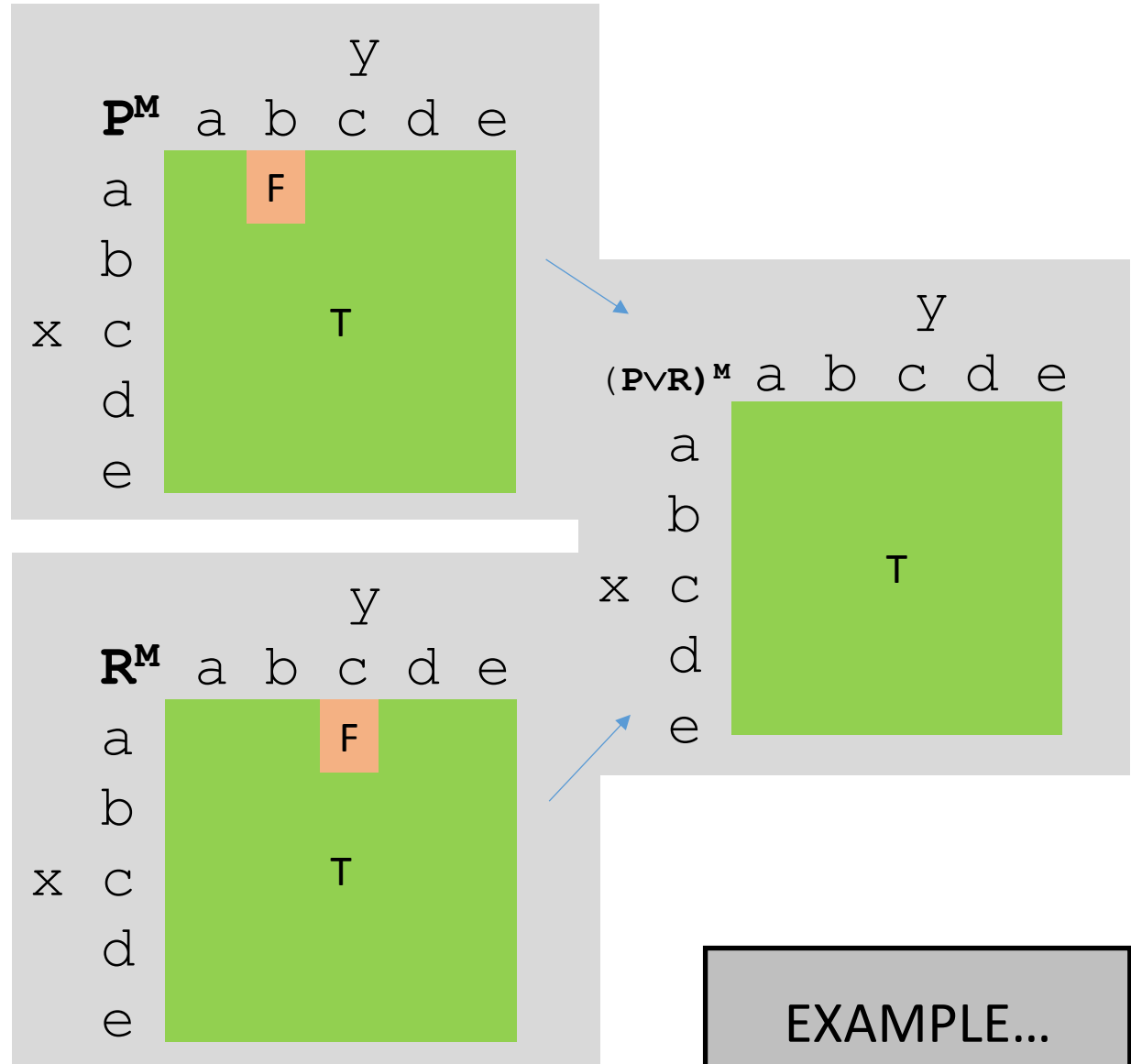
$a \neq b, b \neq c, c \neq d, d \neq e, e \neq a$

$\neg P(a, b), \neg R(a, c)$

$\forall xy. P(x, y) \vee R(x, y)$

$P := \lambda xy. (x \neq a \vee y \neq b)$

$R := \lambda xy. (x \neq a \vee y \neq c)$



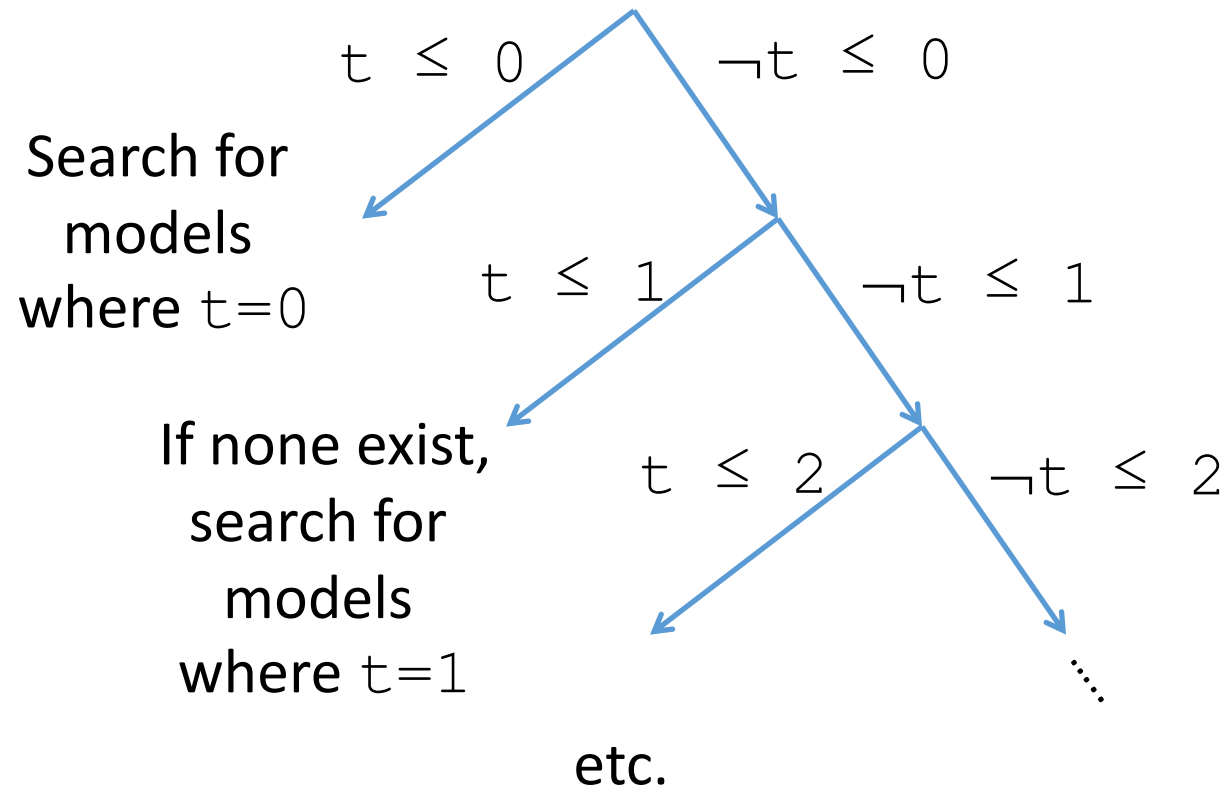
EXAMPLE...

# Finite Model Finding in CVC4

- **Sound** for both “sat” and “unsat”
- **Finite-model complete**
  - If there is a finite model, CVC4 will eventually find it  
(when all quantification is over sorts that are interpreted as finite)
- Refutationally **incomplete** in general
  - But regardless, is often able to answer “unsat”

# Extension: Bounded Integer Quantification

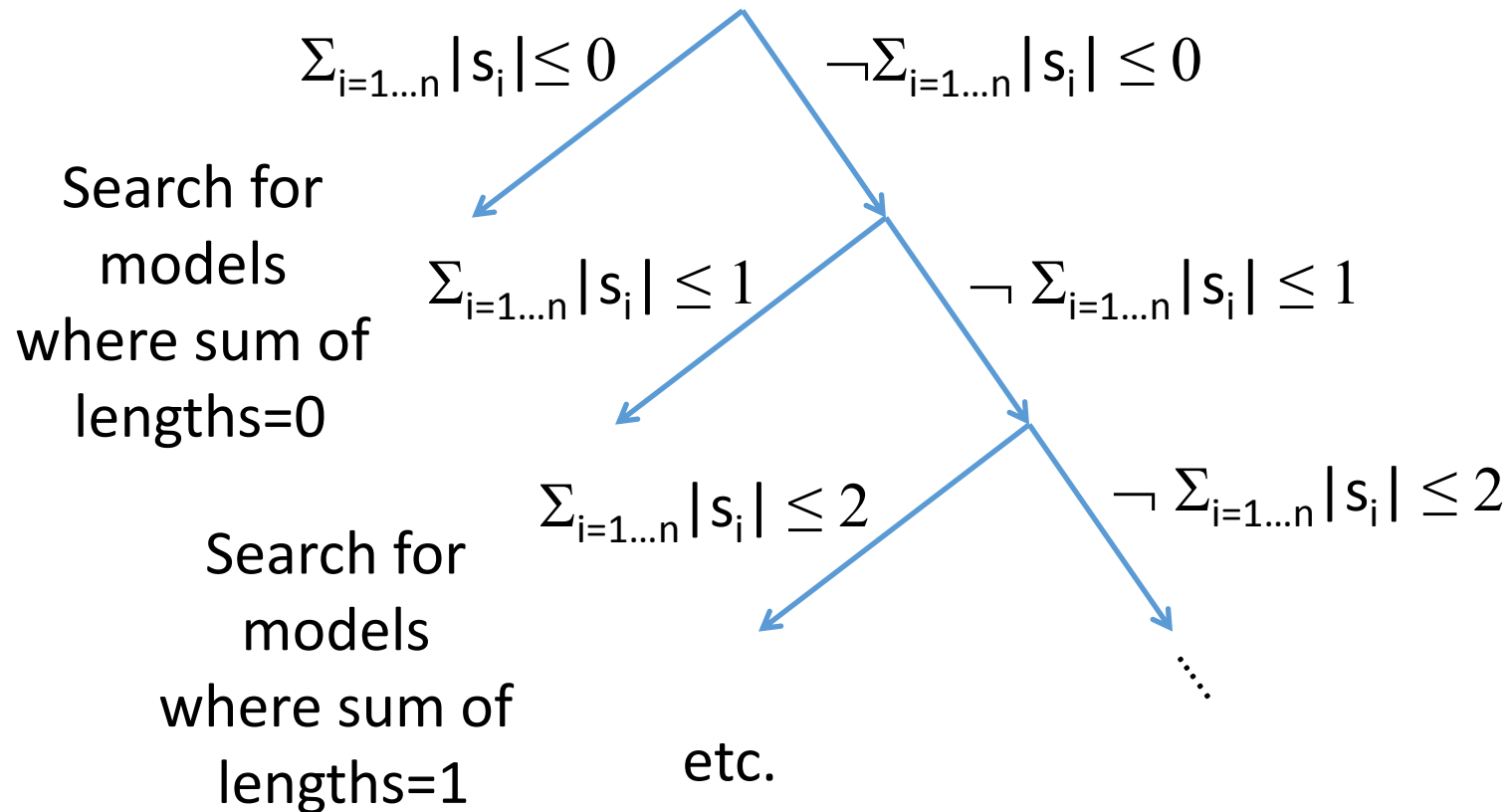
- $\forall x:\text{Int}. 0 \leq x < t \Rightarrow P(x)$



EXAMPLE...

# Extension: Bounded Length Strings

- Given input  $F[s_1, \dots, s_n]$  for strings  $s_1 \dots s_n$ :

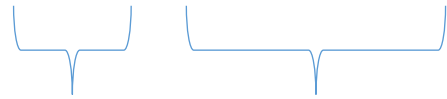


EXAMPLE...



# Synthesis: Motivation

- Synthesis Problem :  $\exists f . \forall x . P ( f , x )$



There exists a function  $f$  such that for all  $x$ ,  $P ( f , x )$

- Most existing approaches for synthesis
  - Rely on specialized solver that makes **subcalls** to an SMT Solver
- *CVC4 has approach for synthesis, which is entirely **inside** SMT solver*

# Example : Max of Two Integers

$$\exists f . \forall x y . ( f ( x , y ) \geq x \wedge f ( x , y ) \geq y \wedge ( f ( x , y ) = x \vee f ( x , y ) = y ) )$$

- Specifies that  $f$  computes the maximum of integers  $x$  and  $y$
- Solution:

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

# How does an SMT solver handle Max example?

$$\exists \mathbf{f} . \forall x y . ( f ( x , y ) \geq x \wedge f ( x , y ) \geq y \wedge ( f ( x , y ) = x \vee f ( x , y ) = y ) )$$

- Challenge: quantification over **function  $\mathbf{f}$** 
  - No SMT solvers directly support second-order quantification

# How does an SMT solver handle Max example?

$f : \text{Int} \times \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}$

$$\forall x y. ( f(x, y) \geq x \wedge f(x, y) \geq y \wedge ( f(x, y) = x \vee f(x, y) = y ) )$$

- Direct approach:
  - Treat  $f$  as an *uninterpreted function*
  - Succeed if SMT solver can find correct interpretation of  $f$ 
    - $\Rightarrow$  This is *challenging*
      - How does the solver know the right interpretation for  $f$  to pick?

How does an SMT solver handle Max example?

$$\exists f. \forall x y. (f(x, y) \geq x \wedge f(x, y) \geq y \wedge (f(x, y) = x \vee f(x, y) = y))$$

# How does an CVC4 handle Max example?

$$\exists f . \forall x y . ( \mathbf{f} ( \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{y} ) \geq_x \wedge \mathbf{f} ( \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{y} ) \geq_y \wedge ( \mathbf{f} ( \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{y} ) =_x \vee \mathbf{f} ( \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{y} ) =_y ) )$$

- Alternative:
    - This property is **single invocation**
      - All occurrences of **f** are of the form **f (x, y)**
- ... and thus, can be converted to a first-order quantification
- Introduce first-order variable **g**
  - Push quantification downwards “anti-skolemization”

# How does an CVC4 handle Max example?

$$\exists f . \forall x y . ( \mathbf{f}(x, y) \geq x \wedge \mathbf{f}(x, y) \geq y \wedge ( \mathbf{f}(x, y) = x \vee \mathbf{f}(x, y) = y ) )$$



Convert to first-order

$$\forall x y . \exists g . ( \mathbf{g} \geq x \wedge \mathbf{g} \geq y \wedge ( \mathbf{g} = x \vee \mathbf{g} = y ) )$$

# How does an CVC4 handle Max example?

$$\exists f . \forall x y . ( f ( x , y ) \geq x \wedge f ( x , y ) \geq y \wedge ( f ( x , y ) = x \vee f ( x , y ) = y ) )$$



Convert to first-order

$$\forall x y . \exists g . ( g \geq x \wedge g \geq y \wedge ( g = x \vee g = y ) )$$

• Problem is now:

• First-order, linear (integer) arithmetic, with one quantifier alternation

⇒ CVC4 has **specialized instantiation procedure**



# Max Example

$$\forall x y . \exists g . ( g \geq x \wedge g \geq y \wedge ( g = x \vee g = y ) )$$

Ground  
Solver

Quantifiers  
Module

# Max Example

$$\forall xy. \exists g. \text{isMax}(g, x, y)$$

Ground  
Solver

Quantifiers  
Module

# Max Example

$$\forall xy. \exists g. \text{isMax}(g, x, y)$$

Ground  
Solver

Quantifiers  
Module

- Goal: show the above formula is **sat**

# Max Example

$$\exists x y. \forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, x, y)$$

Ground  
Solver

Quantifiers  
Module

- Since  $F$  is LIA-sat if and only if  $\neg F$  is LIA-unsat,  
 $\Rightarrow$  Suffices to show that **negation** is **unsat**

# Max Example

$$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$$

Ground  
Solver

Quantifiers  
Module

- Skolemize, for fresh constants **a** and **b**

# Max Example

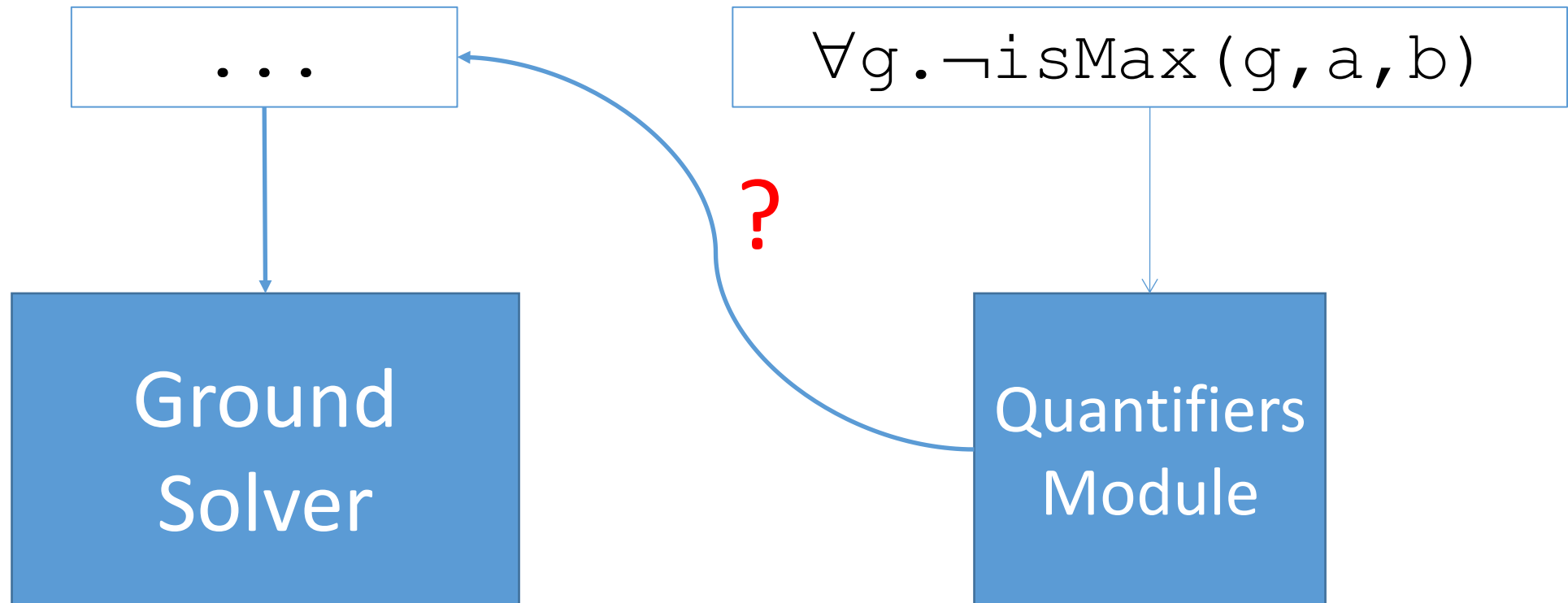
Ground  
Solver

$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$

Quantifiers  
Module



# Max Example



- Which instances of  $\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$  do we consider?

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

`isMax(c, a, b)`  
...

Ground  
Solver

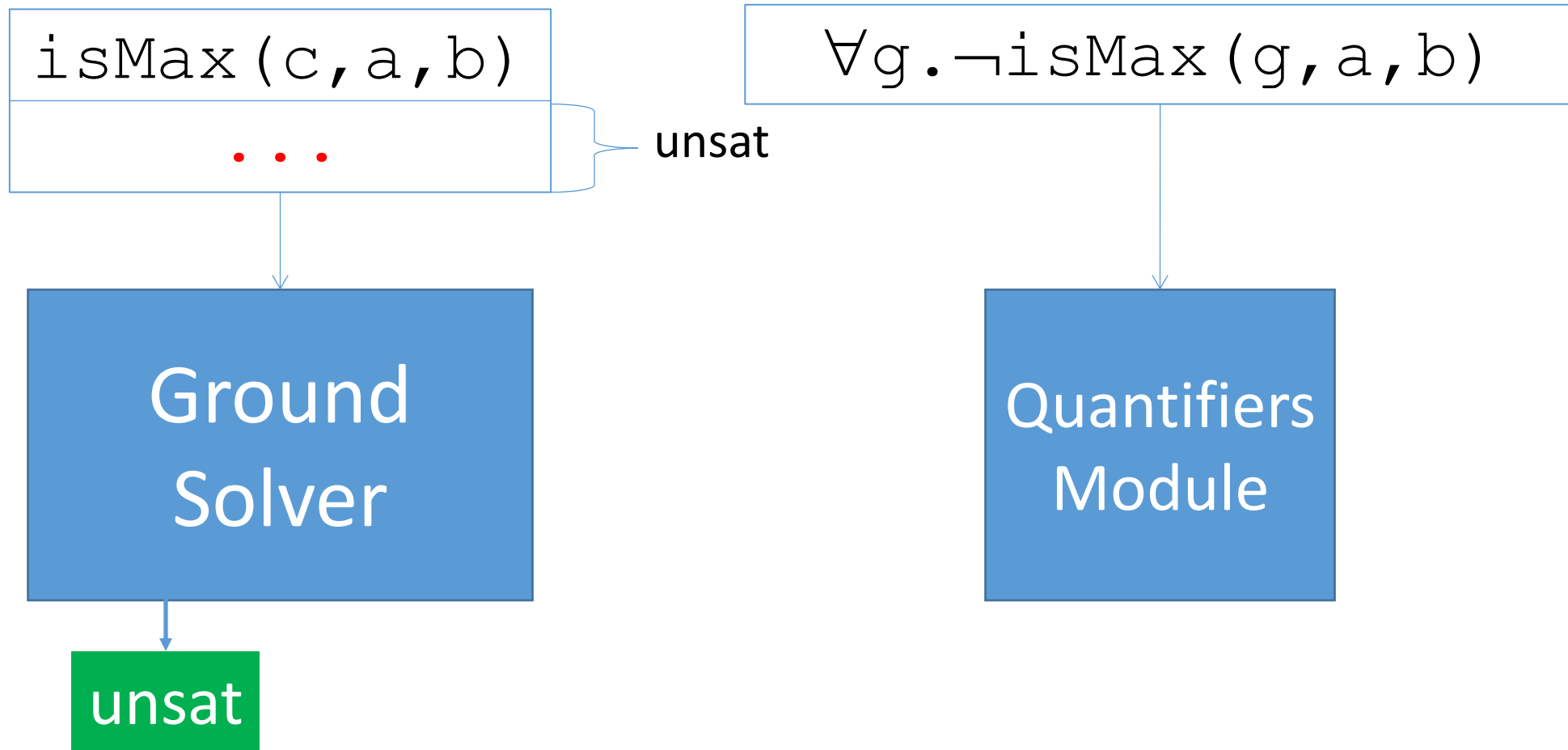
$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$

Quantifiers  
Module

- **Idea:** choose instances of  $\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$  based on models for “counterexample” fresh constant **c**

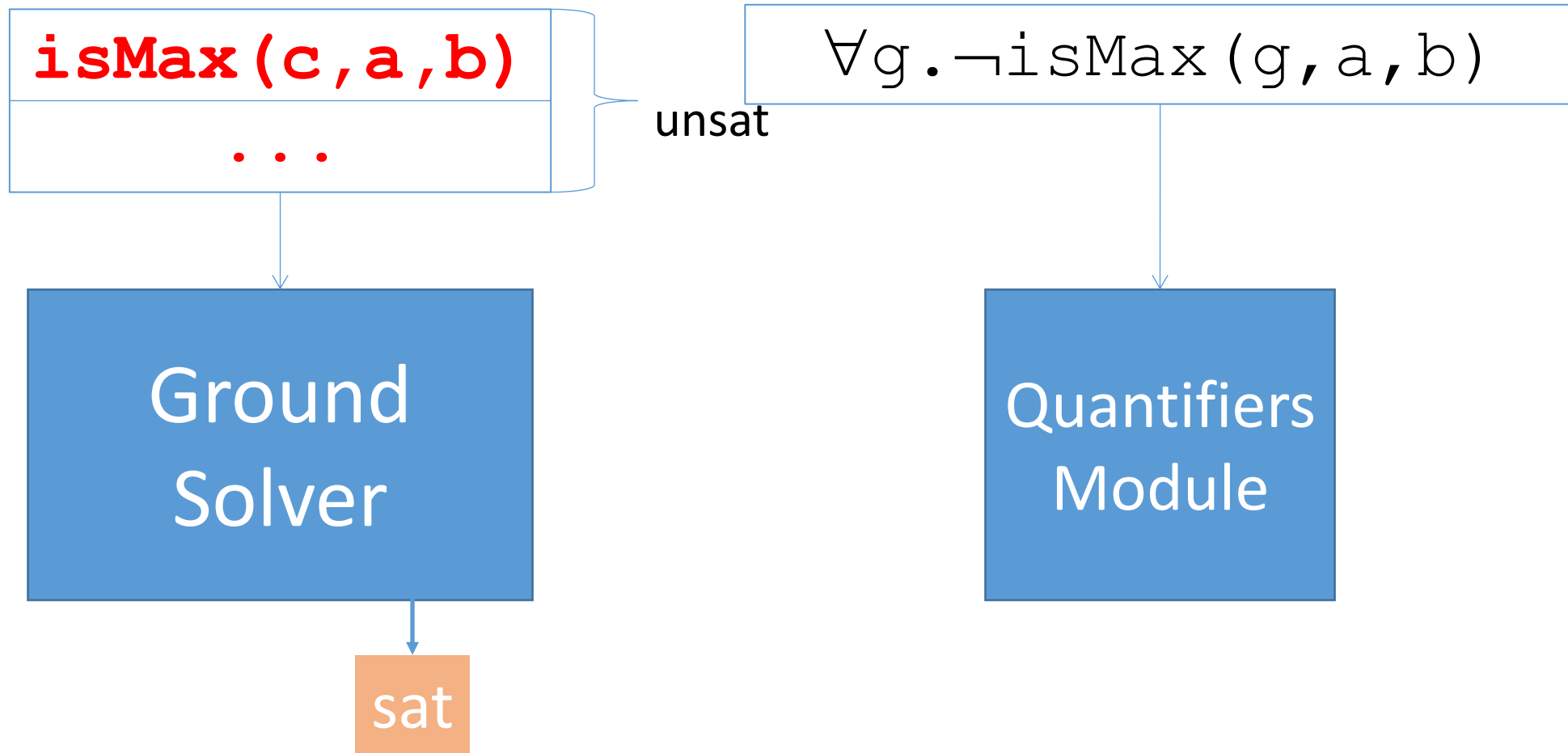


# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



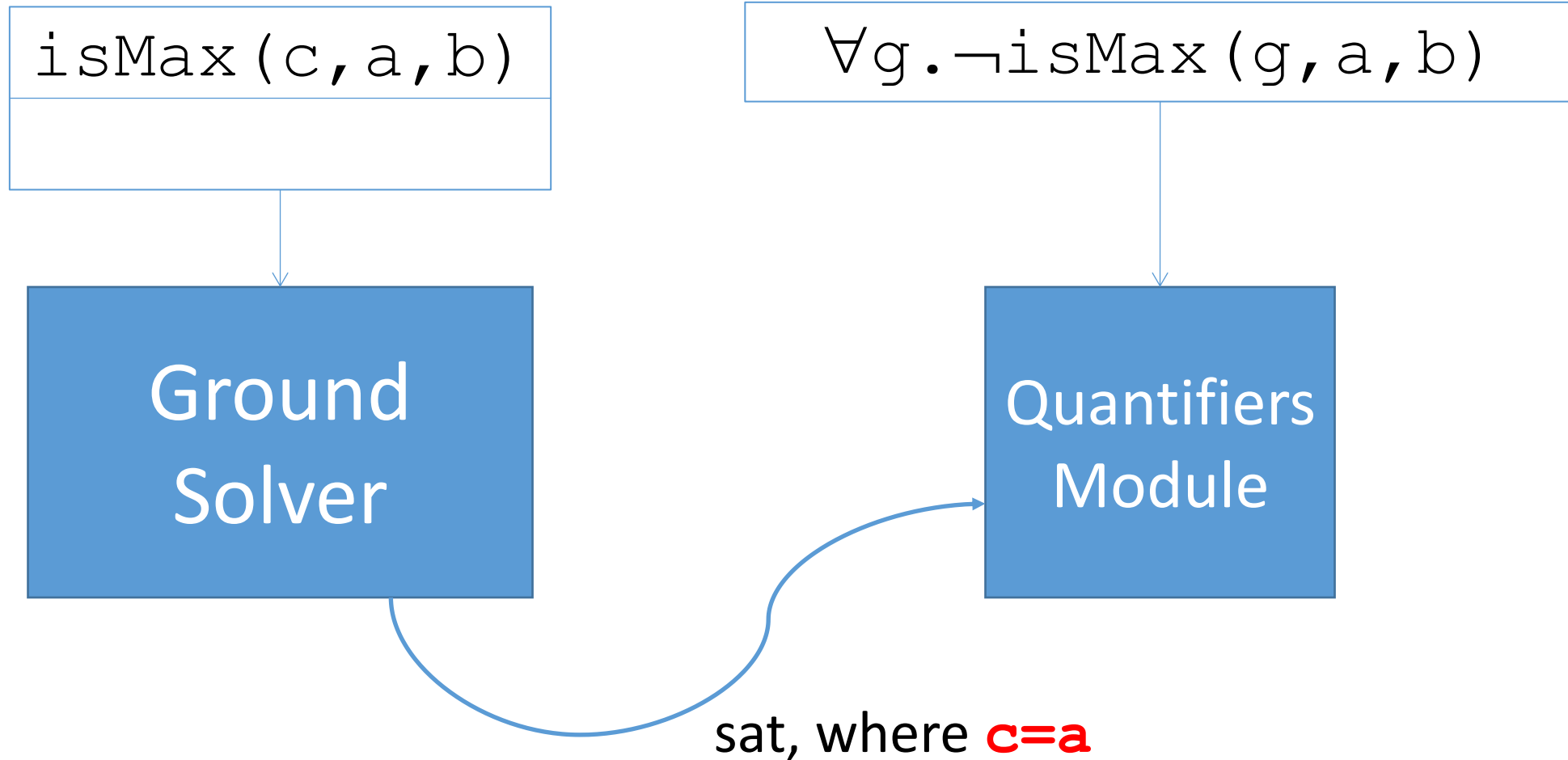
- If ground constraints **without** CE is unsat, answer “unsat”

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

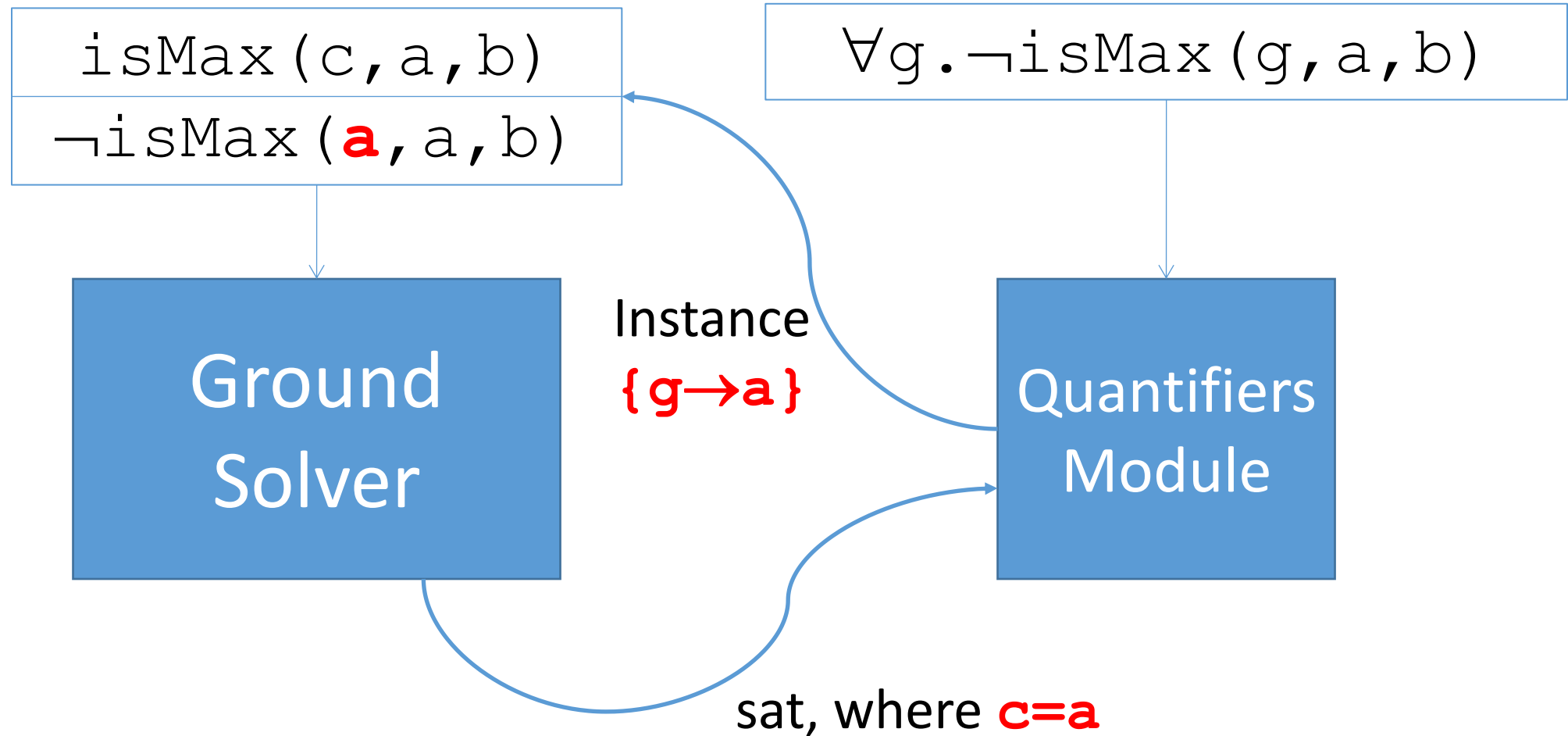


- Else, if ground constraints **with** CE is unsat, answer “sat”

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

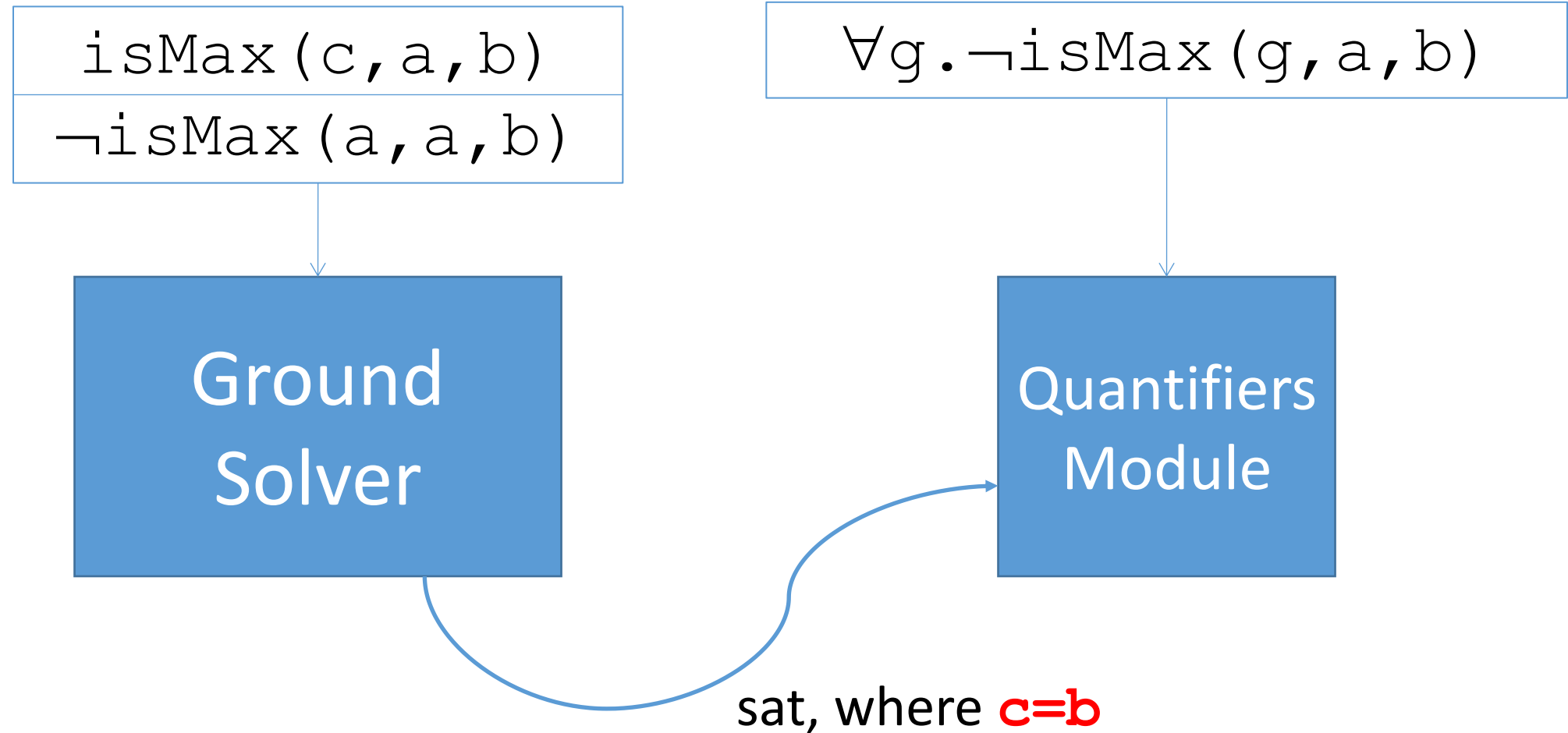
$\text{isMax}(c, a, b)$
$\neg \text{isMax}(a, a, b)$

Ground  
Solver

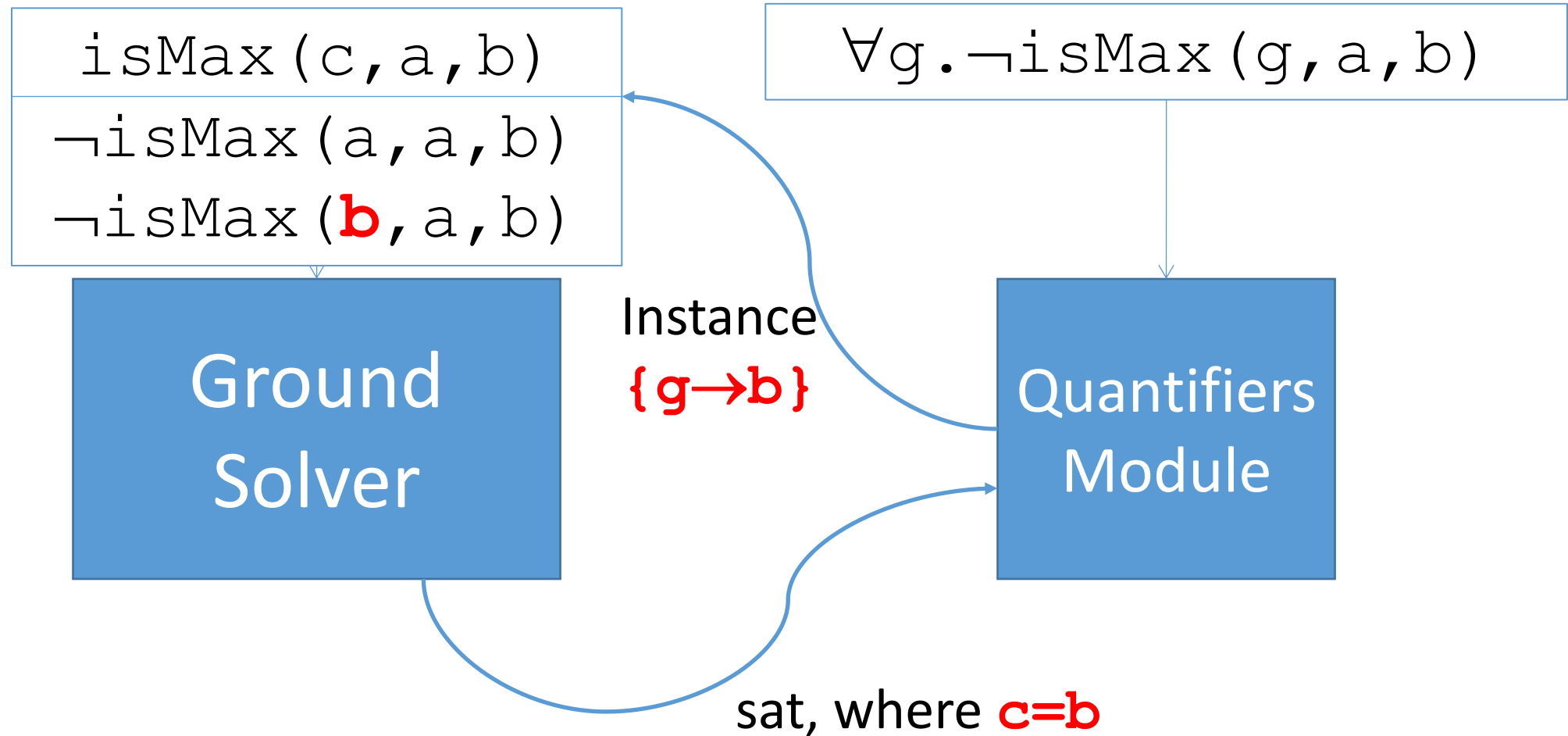
$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$
---

Quantifiers  
Module

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$\text{isMax}(c, a, b)$   
 $\neg \text{isMax}(a, a, b)$   
 $\neg \text{isMax}(b, a, b)$

Ground  
Solver

unsat

$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$

Quantifiers  
Module

EXAMPLE...



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$\text{isMax}(c, a, b)$
...

Ground  
Solver

$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$
---

Quantifiers  
Module

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$

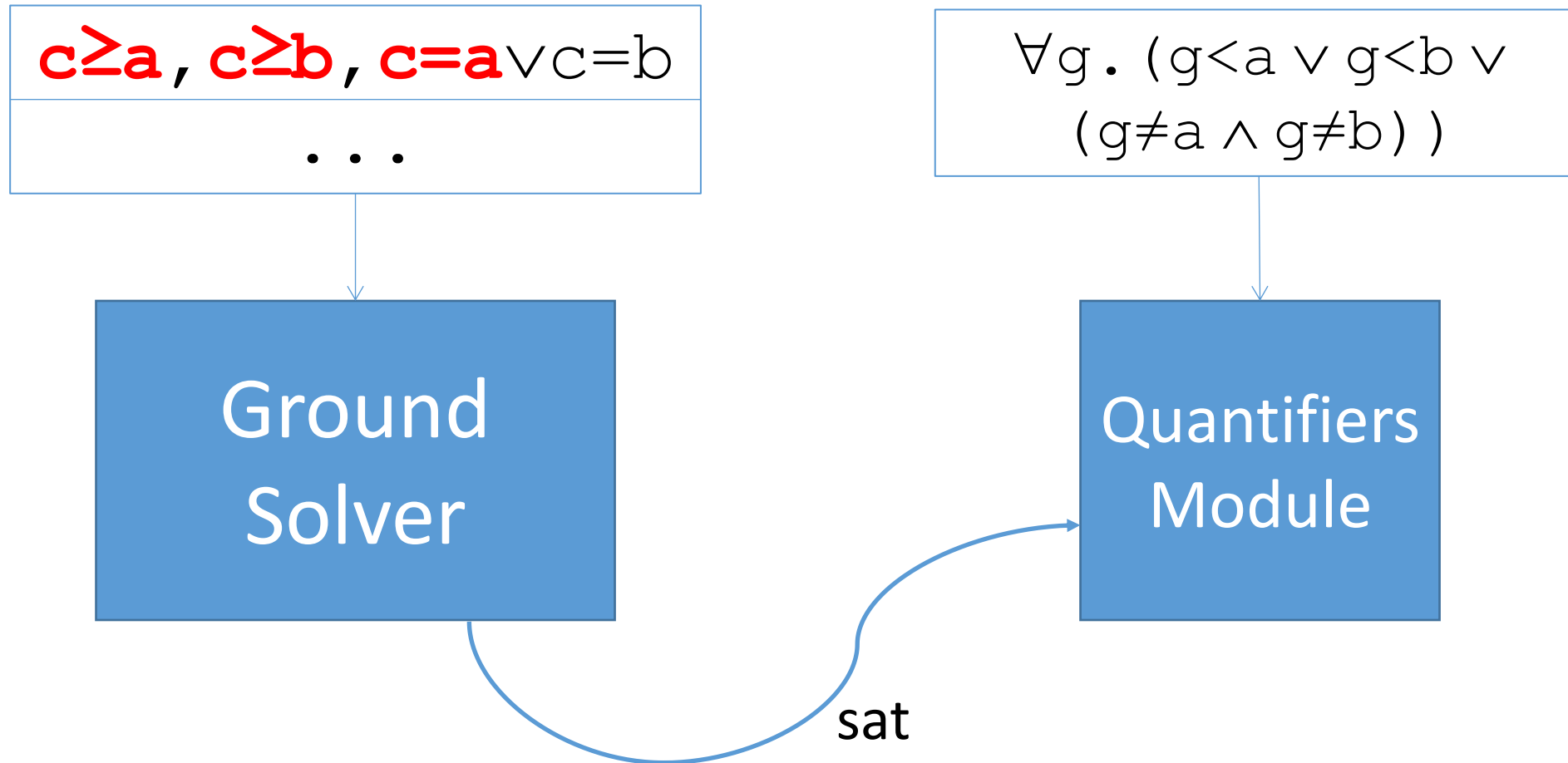
...

Ground  
Solver

$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee$   
 $(g \neq a \wedge g \neq b) )$

Quantifiers  
Module

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$   
...

Ground  
Solver

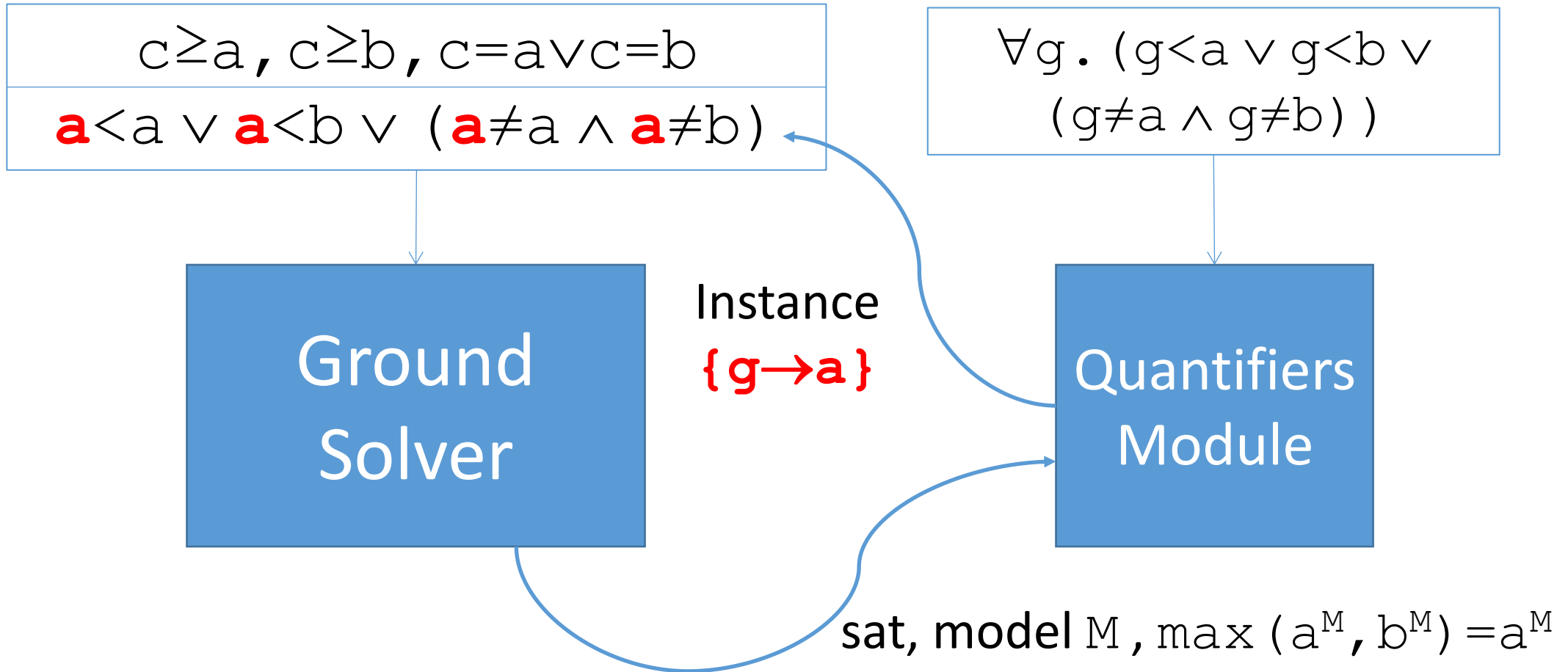
$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee$   
 $(g \neq a \wedge g \neq b))$

Quantifiers  
Module

sat, model  $M$ ,  $\max(a^M, b^M) = a^M$

- Take **maximal lower bound** for  $c$  in model  $M$

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$
$a < a \vee a < b \vee (a \neq a \wedge a \neq b)$

Ground  
Solver

$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee (g \neq a \wedge g \neq b))$
---

Quantifiers  
Module

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

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$$~~a < a \vee a < b \vee (a \neq a \wedge a \neq b)~~$$

Ground  
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$$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee (g \neq a \wedge g \neq b))$$

Quantifiers  
Module

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$

$a < b$

Ground  
Solver

$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee$   
 $(g \neq a \wedge g \neq b) )$

Quantifiers  
Module



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$

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Ground  
Solver

$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee (g \neq a \wedge g \neq b))$

Quantifiers  
Module

sat



```
graph TD; A["c ≥ a, c ≥ b, c = a ∨ c = b  
a < b"] --> B["Ground Solver"]; B -- sat --> C["Quantifiers Module"]; D["∀ g. (g < a ∨ g < b ∨ (g ≠ a ∧ g ≠ b))"] --> C;
```

The diagram illustrates the Counterexample-Guided Instantiation (CGI) process. It starts with a set of constraints:  $c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$  and  $a < b$ . These constraints are fed into a Ground Solver. The Ground Solver returns a 'sat' (satisfiable) result to the Quantifiers Module. The Quantifiers Module then processes a quantified formula:  $\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee (g \neq a \wedge g \neq b))$ .

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$
$a < b$

$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee (g \neq a \wedge g \neq b))$
---

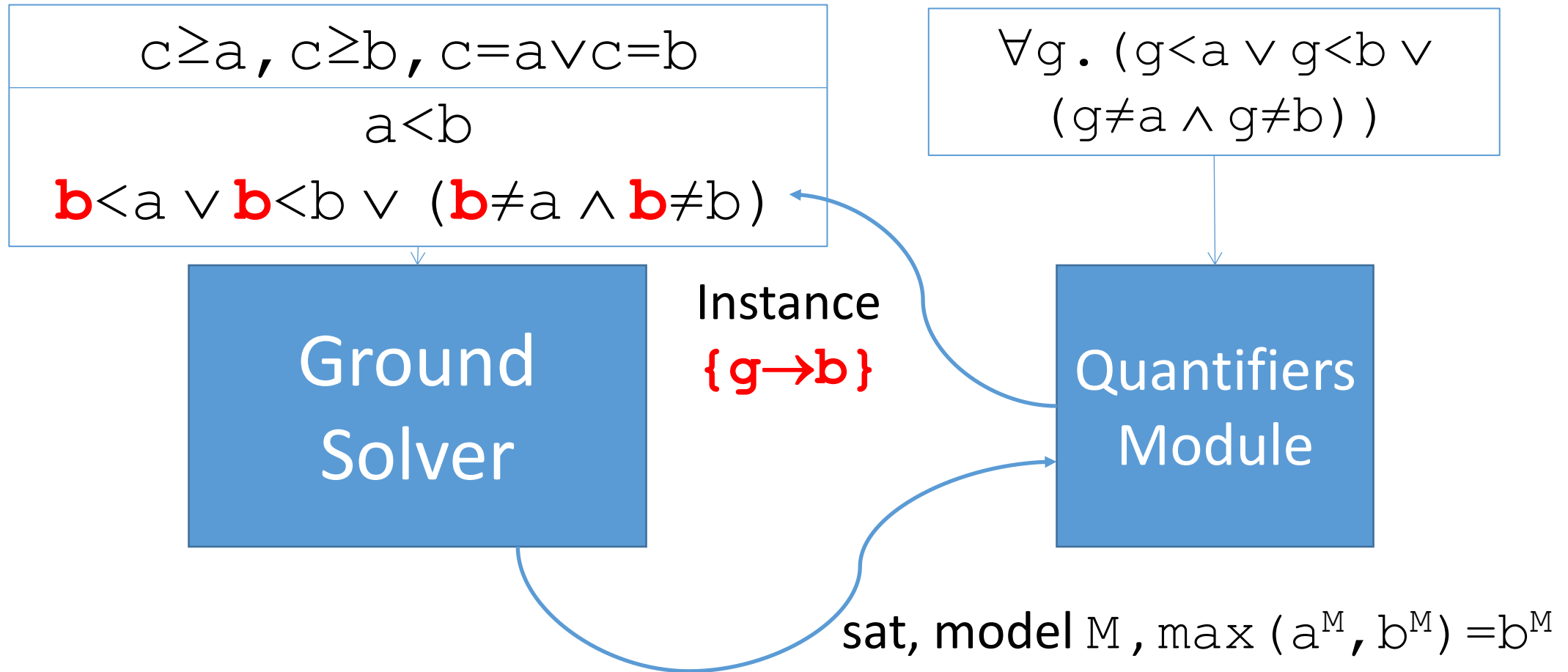
Ground Solver

Quantifiers Module

sat, model  $M$ ,  $\max(a^M, b^M) = b^M$

- Take maximal lower bound for  $c$  in model  $M$

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \geq a, c \geq b, c = a \vee c = b$

**$a < b$**

**$b < a$**

Ground  
Solver

unsat

$\forall g. (g < a \vee g < b \vee$   
 $(g \neq a \wedge g \neq b) )$

Quantifiers  
Module

# Synthesis: Solutions

$\exists f. \forall xy. \text{isMax}(f(x,y), x, y)$

Ground  
Solver

Quantifiers  
Module

# Synthesis: Solutions

$\exists f. \forall xy. \text{isMax}(f(x, y), x, y)$

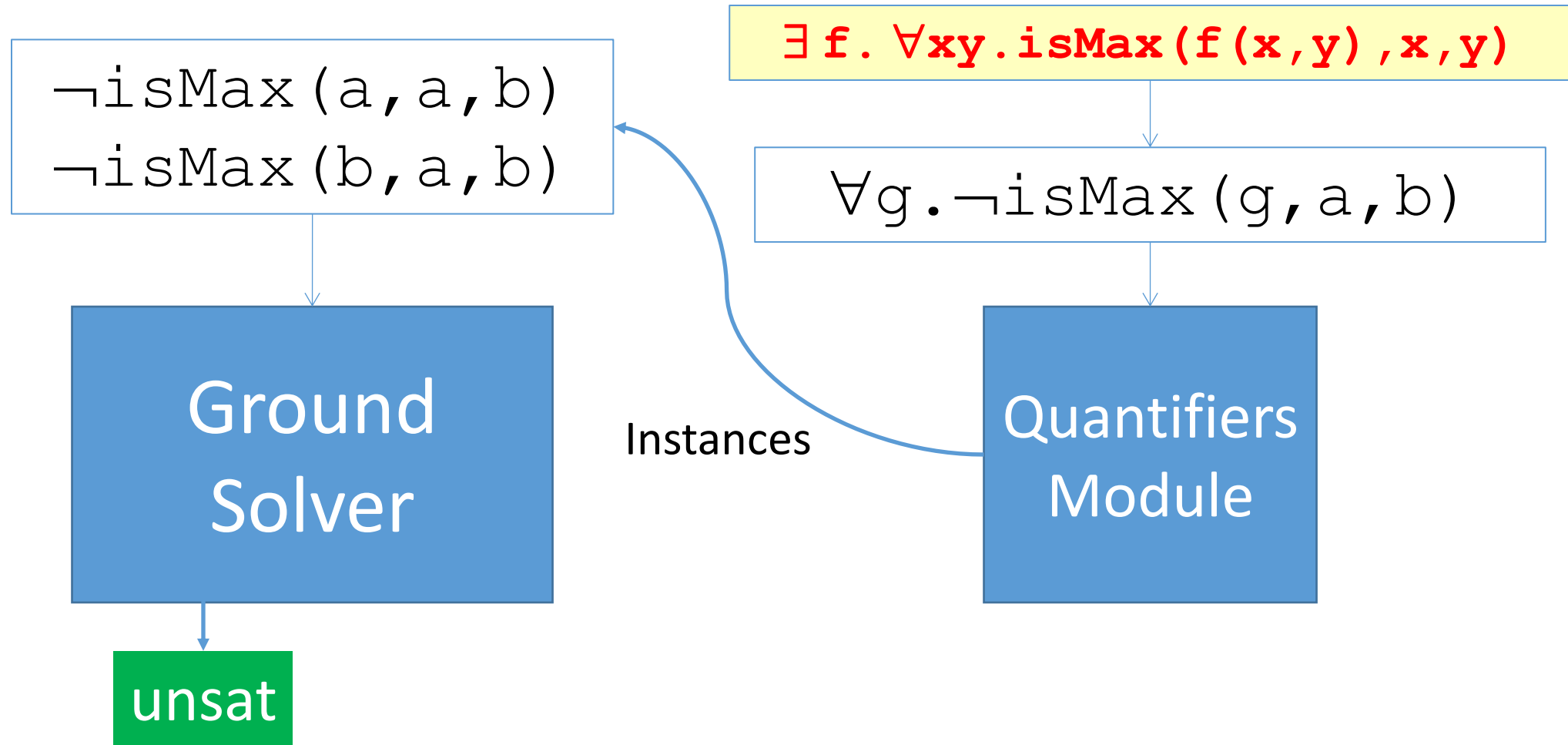
Negate, convert to FO

$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$

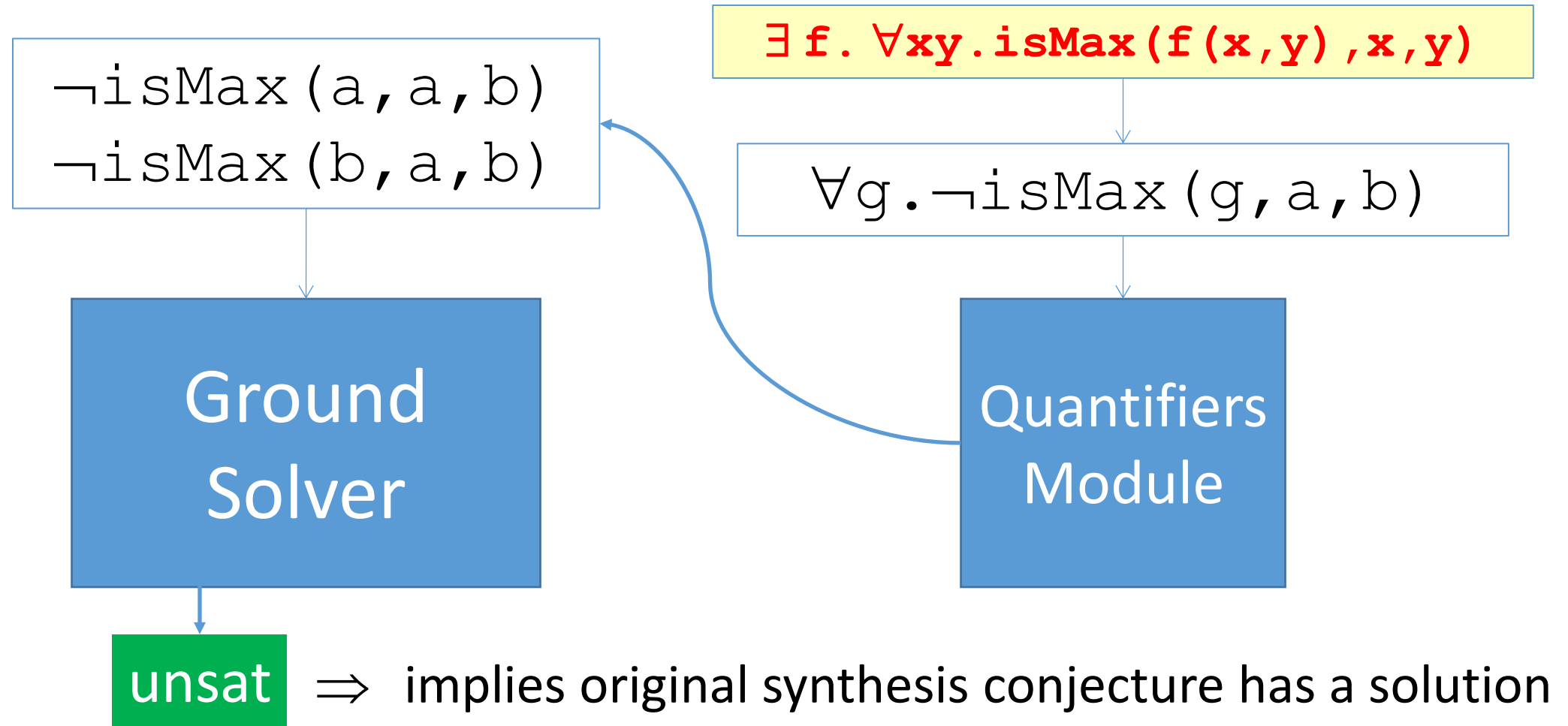
Ground  
Solver

Quantifiers  
Module

# Synthesis: Solutions



# Synthesis: Solutions





# Synthesis: Solutions

$\neg \text{isMax}(\mathbf{a}, a, b)$   
 $\neg \text{isMax}(\mathbf{b}, a, b)$

Ground  
Solver

unsat

$\exists f. \forall xy. \text{isMax}(f(x, y), x, y)$

$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$

Quantifiers  
Module

$f := \lambda xy. \text{ite}(\text{isMax}(\mathbf{a}, a, b), \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) [x/a] [y/b]$

$\Rightarrow$  Solution can be extracted from **unsatisfiable core of instantiations  $a/g, b/g$**

# Synthesis: Solutions

$\neg \text{isMax}(a, a, b)$   
 $\neg \text{isMax}(b, a, b)$

Ground  
Solver

unsat

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

⇒ Desired function, after simplification

$\exists f. \forall xy. \text{isMax}(f(x, y), x, y)$

$\forall g. \neg \text{isMax}(g, a, b)$

Quantifiers  
Module

EXAMPLE...

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$$c \leq a, c \geq b$$

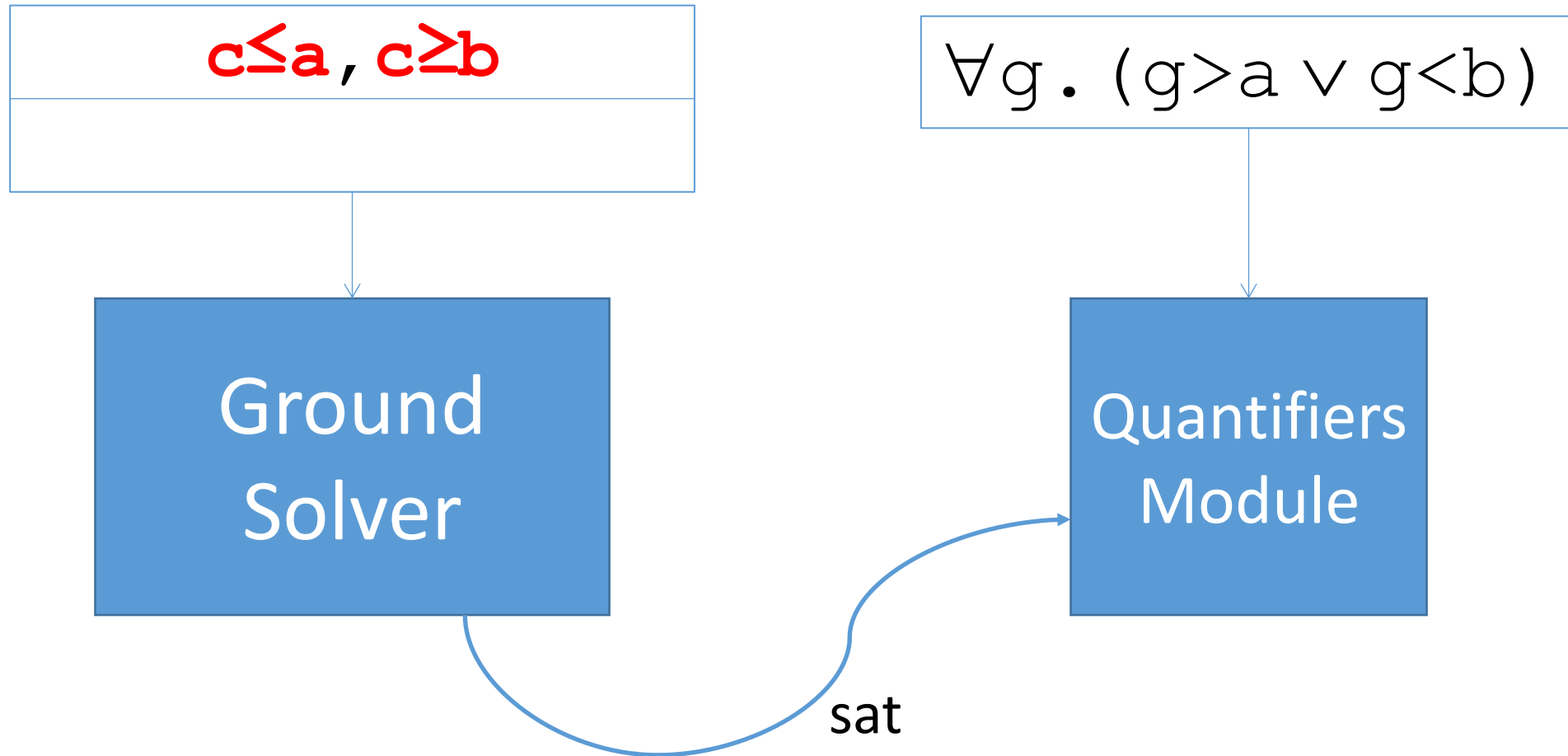
Ground  
Solver

$$\forall g. (g > a \vee g < b)$$

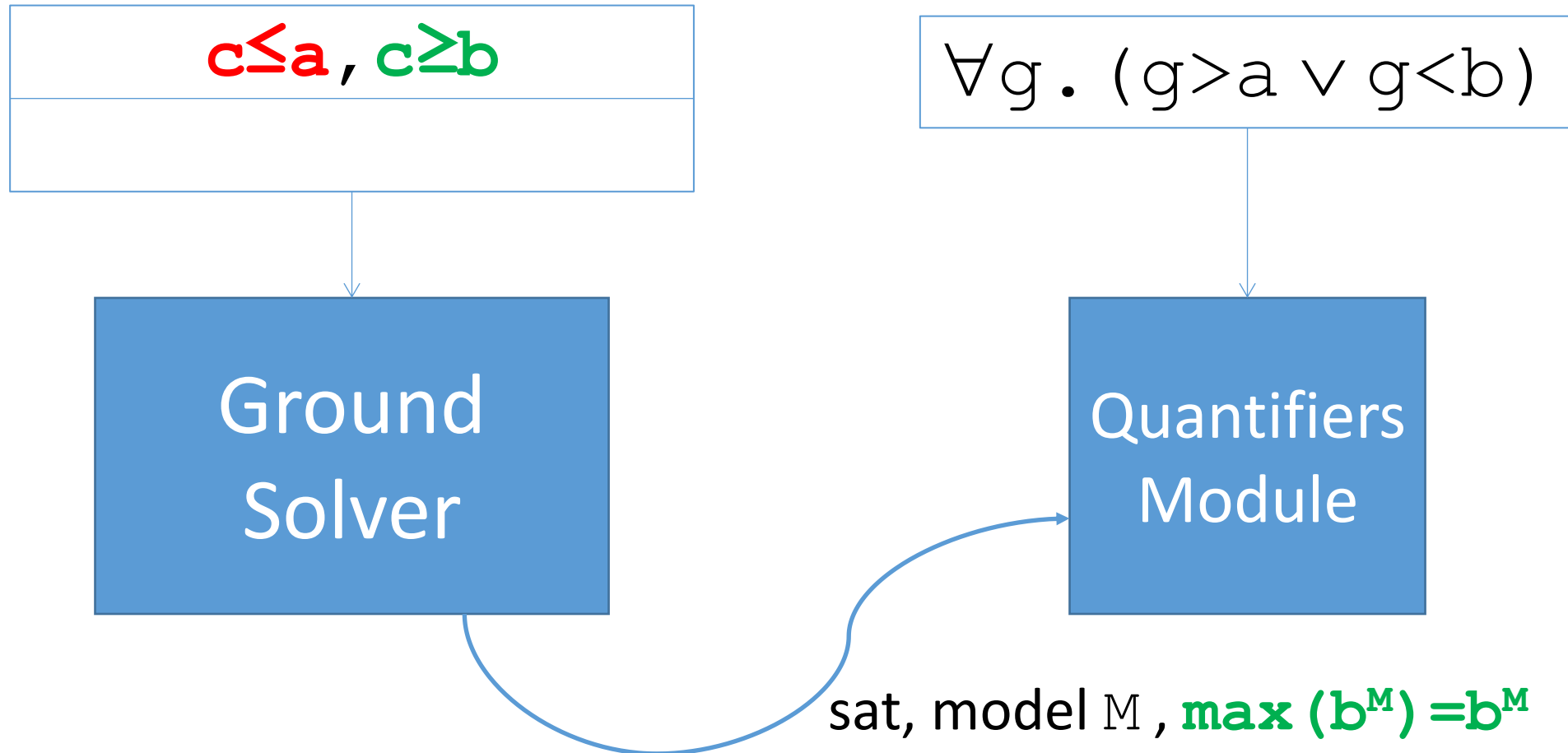
Quantifiers  
Module

- Consider example:  $\forall g. (g > a \vee g < b)$

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

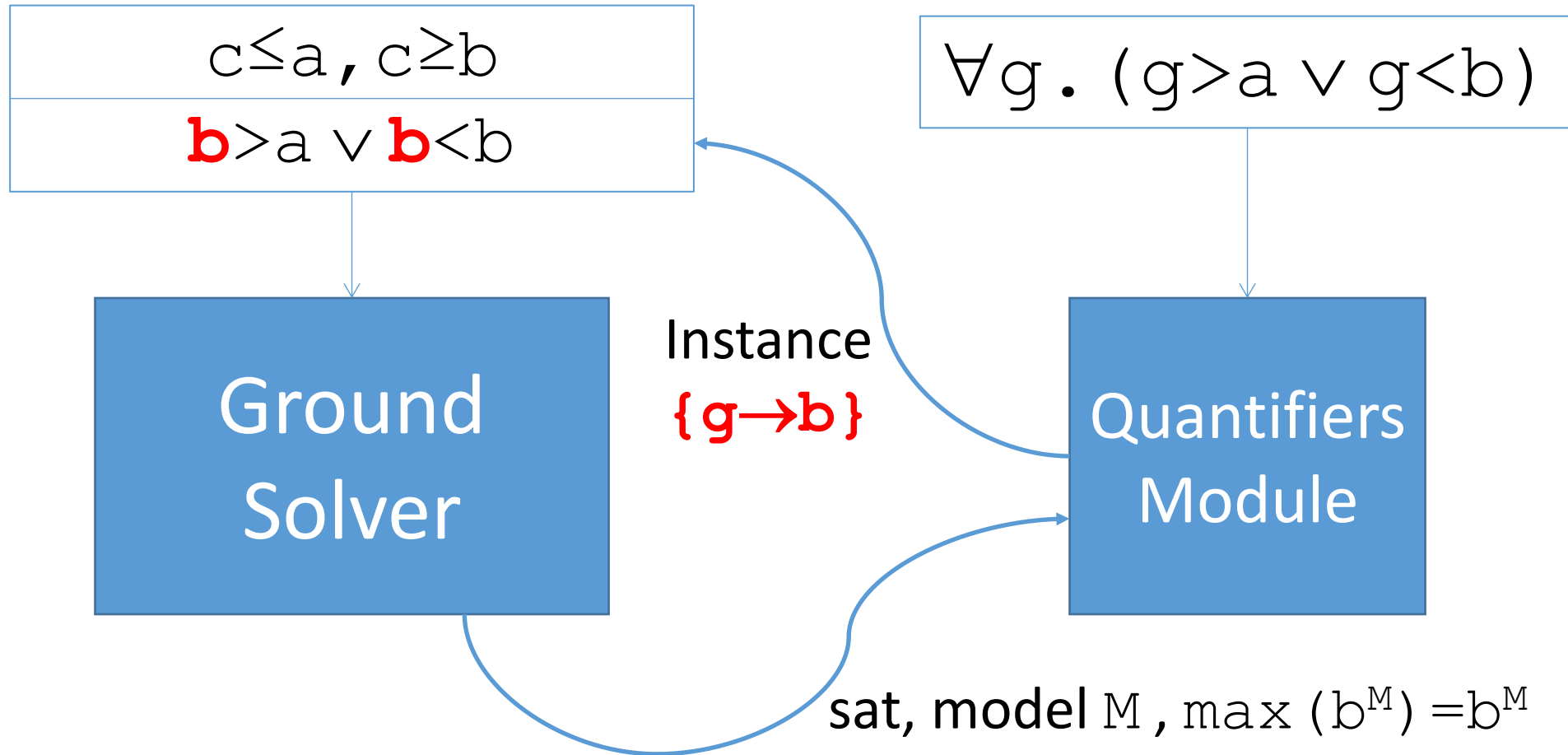


# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



- Take maximal lower bound for  $c$  in model  $M$

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \leq a, c \geq b$
$b > a \vee b < b$

Ground  
Solver

$$\forall g. (g > a \vee g < b)$$

Quantifiers  
Module

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \leq a, c \geq b$
<b><math>b &gt; a</math></b>

Ground  
Solver

$$\forall g. (g > a \vee g < b)$$

Quantifiers  
Module

- $\{b > a\}$  is sat



# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \leq a, c \geq b$
$b > a$

Ground Solver

$$\forall g. (g > a \vee g < b)$$

Quantifiers Module

- $\{b > a\}$  is sat
- ...but  $\{c \leq a, c \geq b, b > a\}$  is unsat  
 $\Rightarrow$  In other words, there is no model for counterexample  $c$

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

$c \leq a, c \geq b$
$b > a$

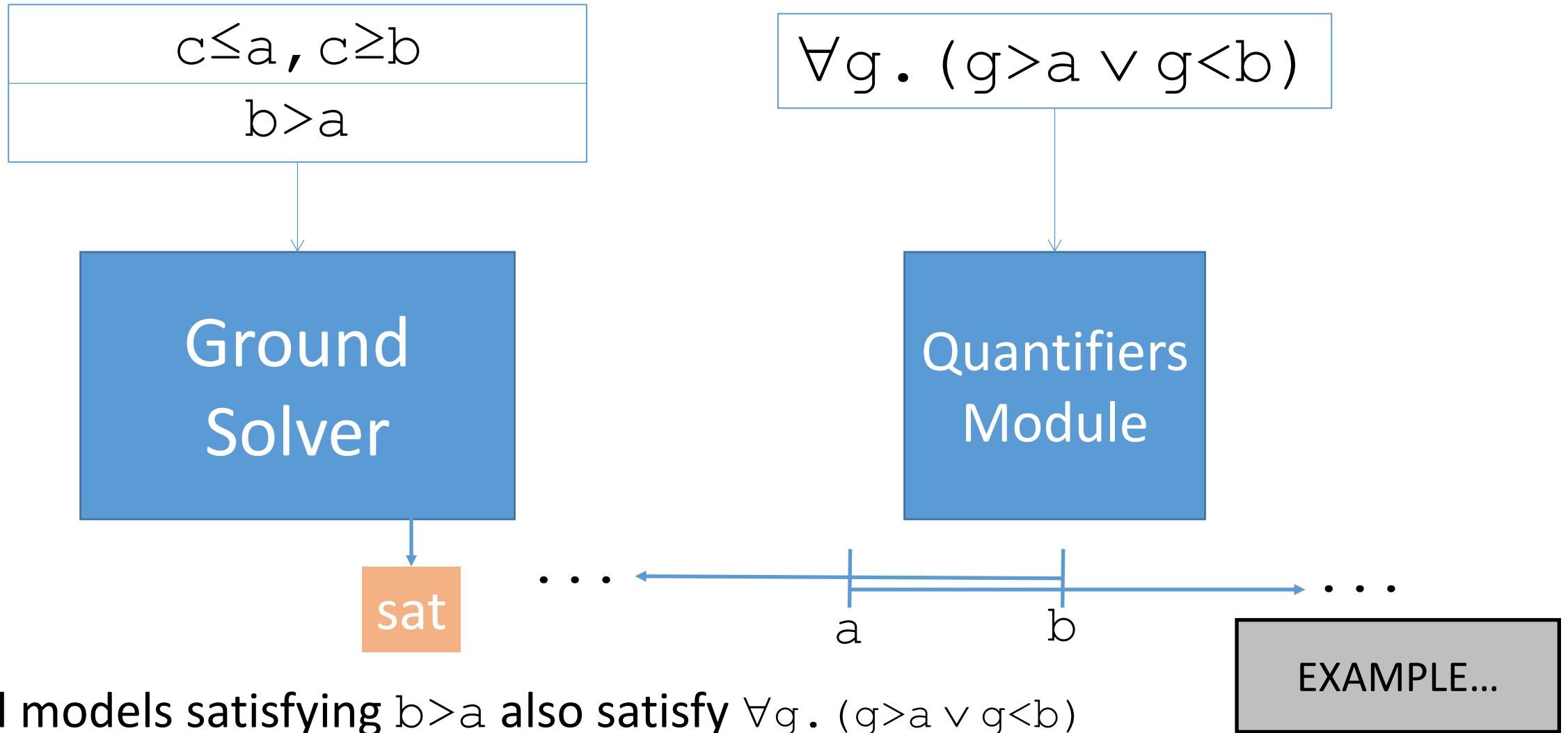
Ground Solver

sat

$$\forall g. (g > a \vee g < b)$$

Quantifiers Module

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation



$\Rightarrow$  All models satisfying  $b > a$  also satisfy  $\forall g. (g > a \vee g < b)$

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation

- For linear real and integer arithmetic:
  - With one quantifier alternation:
    - **Sound** and **complete** (terminating) [Reynolds/King/Kuncak, draft 2015]
  - With arbitrary quantifier alternations:
    - Effective in practice, for both “sat” and “unsat”

# Counterexample-Guided Instantiation in CVC4

- Highly competitive for synthesis applications
  - **Won**, GENERAL/LIA divisions of SygusComp 2015
- Applicable to arbitrary quantified formulas as well
  - **Won**, LIA/LRA divisions of SMT COMP 2015
  - **Won**, first-order theorems division of CASC J7
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, first-order theorems division of CASC 25
  - **Won**, first-order non-theorems division of CASC 25

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# Conclusion

- **CVC4 + quantified formulas** can be used for:
  - Theorem proving and verification
  - Finite model finding (`--finite-model-find`)
  - Function synthesis (`--cegqi, on *.sl`)
  - ...and more:
    - Inductive Theorem Proving (`--quant-ind`)
    - Model finding for recursive functions (`--fmf-fun`)
    - ...

*⇒ All techniques work in combination with the wide array of ground theories CVC4 supports*

Thanks!

- CVC4 is publicly available at:

<http://cvc4.cs.nyu.edu/web/>

