

Communication-Safe Web Programming in TypeScript with Routed Multiparty Session Types

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⁽¹⁾ Imperial College
London

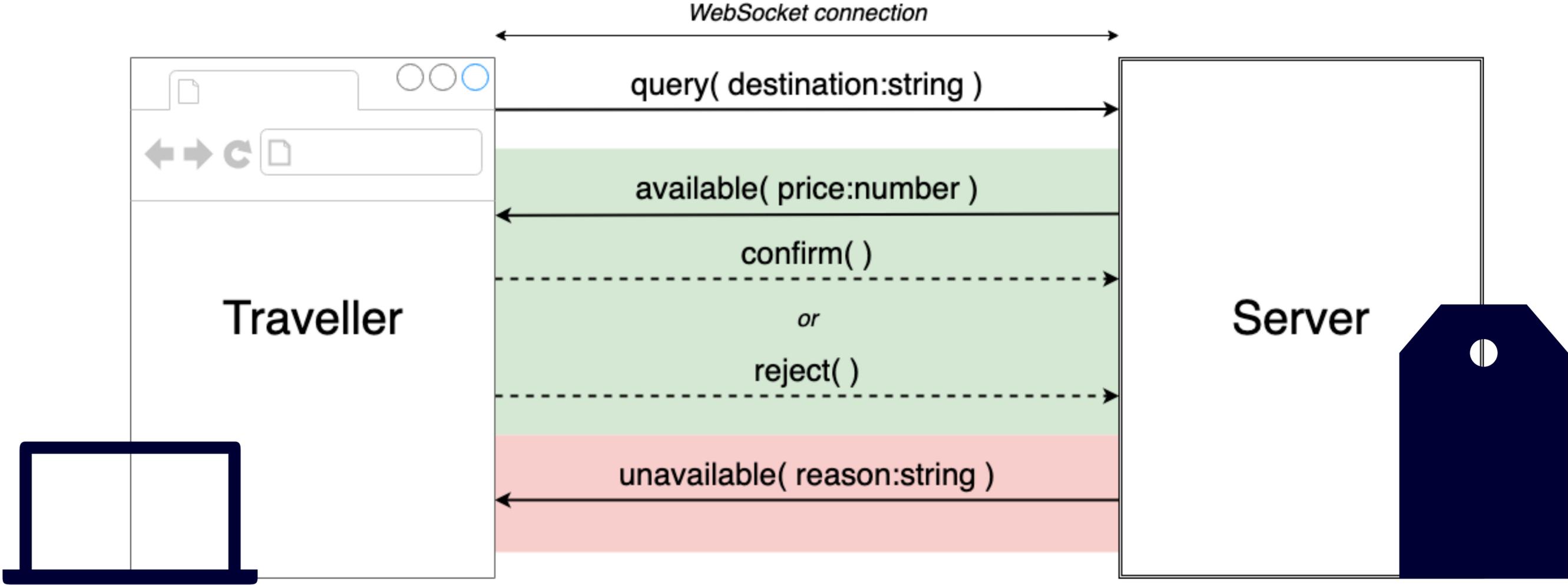
⁽²⁾ Bloomberg
Engineering

CC 2021 - March 3, 2021

Communication-Safe Web Programming in TypeScript with Routed Multiparty Session Types

Example: "Travel Agency"

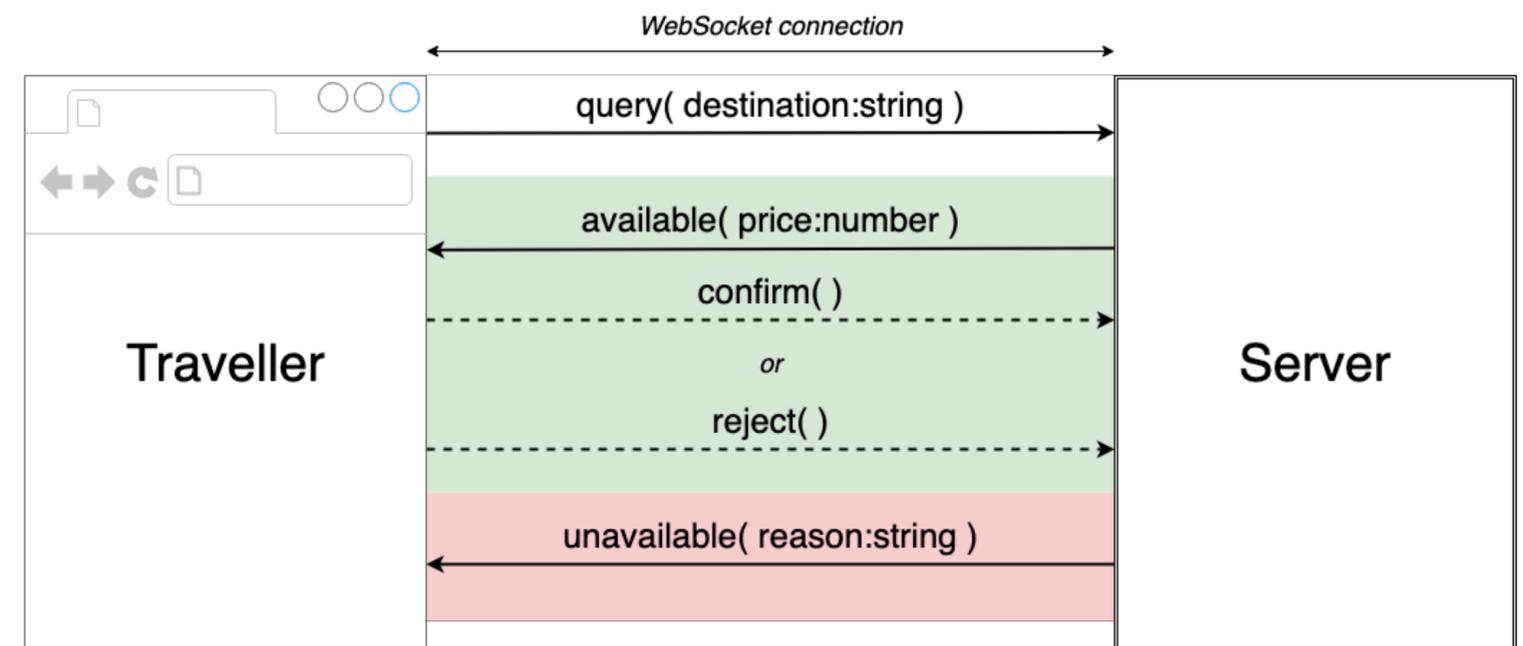
Endpoints interacting over WebSocket connections



Example: “Travel Agency”

Endpoints interacting over WebSocket connections

- Traveller asks Server about details for a particular destination
- If available:
 - Server receives seat
 - Server responds with price
 - Traveller responds with decision
 - If Traveller rejects, Server releases seat
- Otherwise, Traveller can try again



Example: “Travel Agency”

Potential Communication Errors

- Traveller asks Server about details for a particular destination
- If available:
 - Server reserves seat
 - Server responds with price
 - Traveller responds with decision
 - If Traveller rejects, Server releases seat
- Otherwise, Traveller can try again.

Communication Mismatch

What if Server sends **string**, but Traveller expects **number**?

Example: “Travel Agency”

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Channel Linearity Violation

What if Traveller sends query twice? How many seats will be reserved?

Example: “Travel Agency”

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 - Server reserves seat
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Session Cancellation

What if Traveller leaves the session prematurely before responding to the Server’s quotation?

Communication-Safe Web Programming in TypeScript with Routed Multiparty Session Types

Communication-Safe Web Programming in TypeScript with **Routed Multiparty Session Types**

Applying Multiparty Session Types

Towards Communication Safety

Global Type

Global Type

$$G = \mu t. \text{Traveller} \rightarrow \text{Server} : \text{Destination}(\text{string}).$$
$$\text{Server} \rightarrow \text{Traveller} \begin{cases} \text{Available}(\text{number}) : & G_{\text{Available}} \\ \text{Full}() : & t \end{cases}$$
$$G_{\text{Available}} = \text{Traveller} \rightarrow \text{Server} : \begin{cases} \text{Confirm}(\text{Cred}) : & \text{end} \\ \text{Reject}() : & \text{end} \end{cases}$$

Applying Multiparty Session Types

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Global Type



Projection

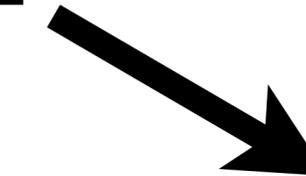
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Global Type



Server
Local Type

$$T_{\text{Server}} = \mu t. \text{Traveller} \ \& \ \text{Destination}(\text{string}).$$

$$\text{Traveller} \oplus \begin{cases} \text{Available}(\text{number}) : & T_{\text{Available}} \\ \text{Full}() : & t \end{cases}$$

Selection

$$T_{\text{Available}} = \text{Traveller} \ \& \ \begin{cases} \text{Confirm}(\text{Cred}) : & \text{end} \\ \text{Reject}() : & \text{end} \end{cases}$$

Branching

Applying Multiparty Session Types

Towards Communication Safety

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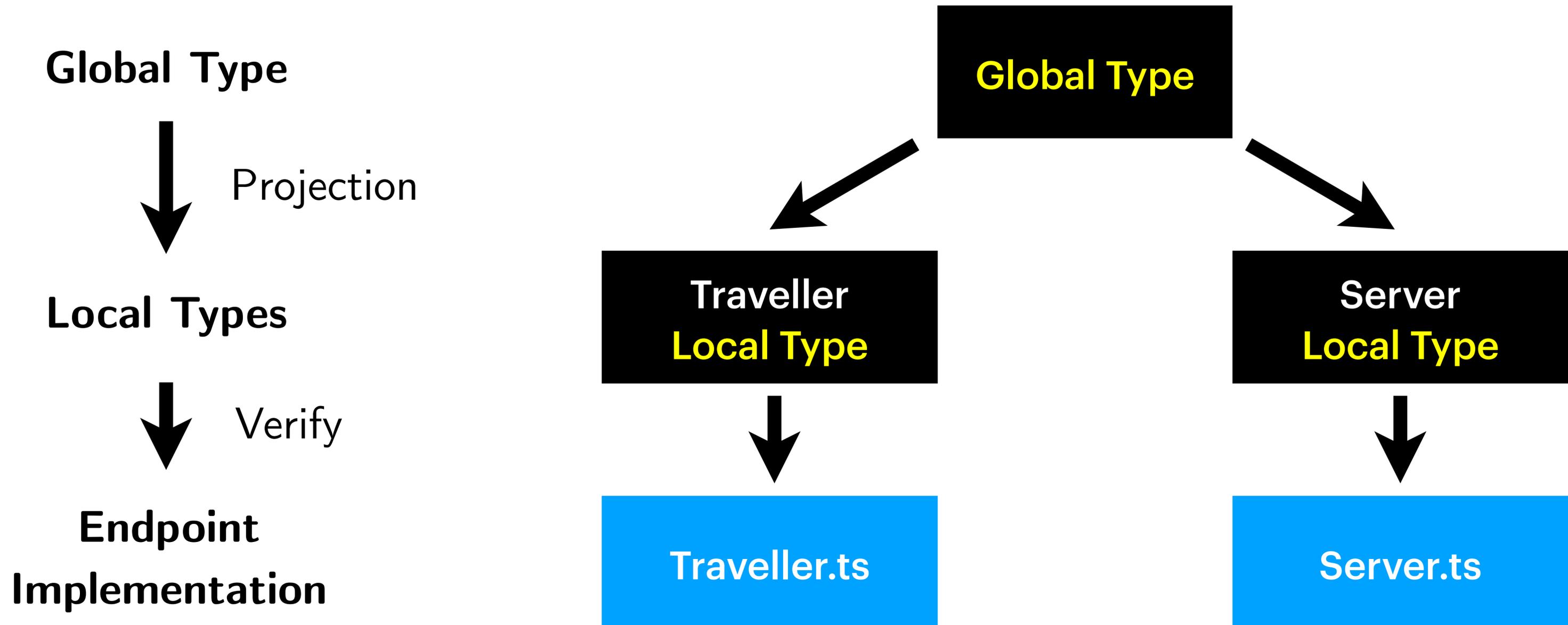
Verify

Endpoint
Implementation

Server.ts

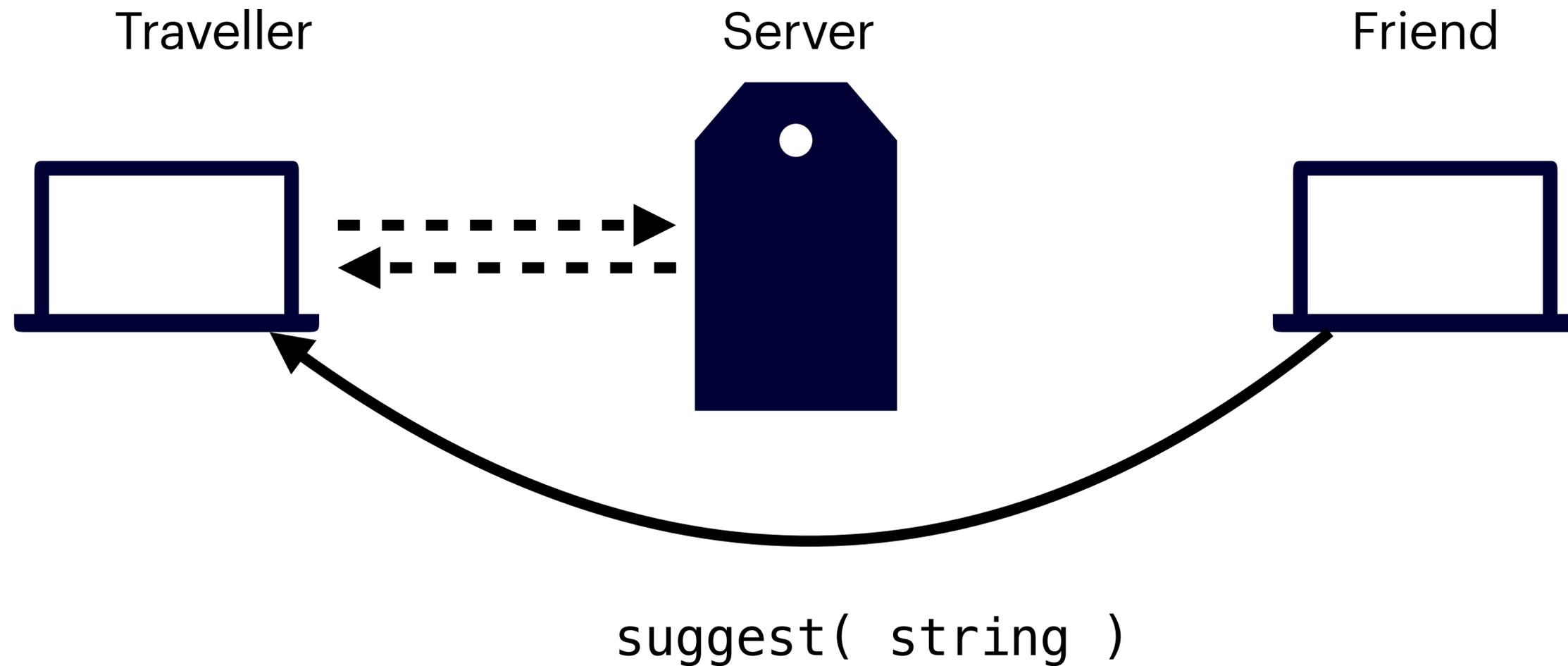
Applying Multiparty Session Types

Towards Communication Safety



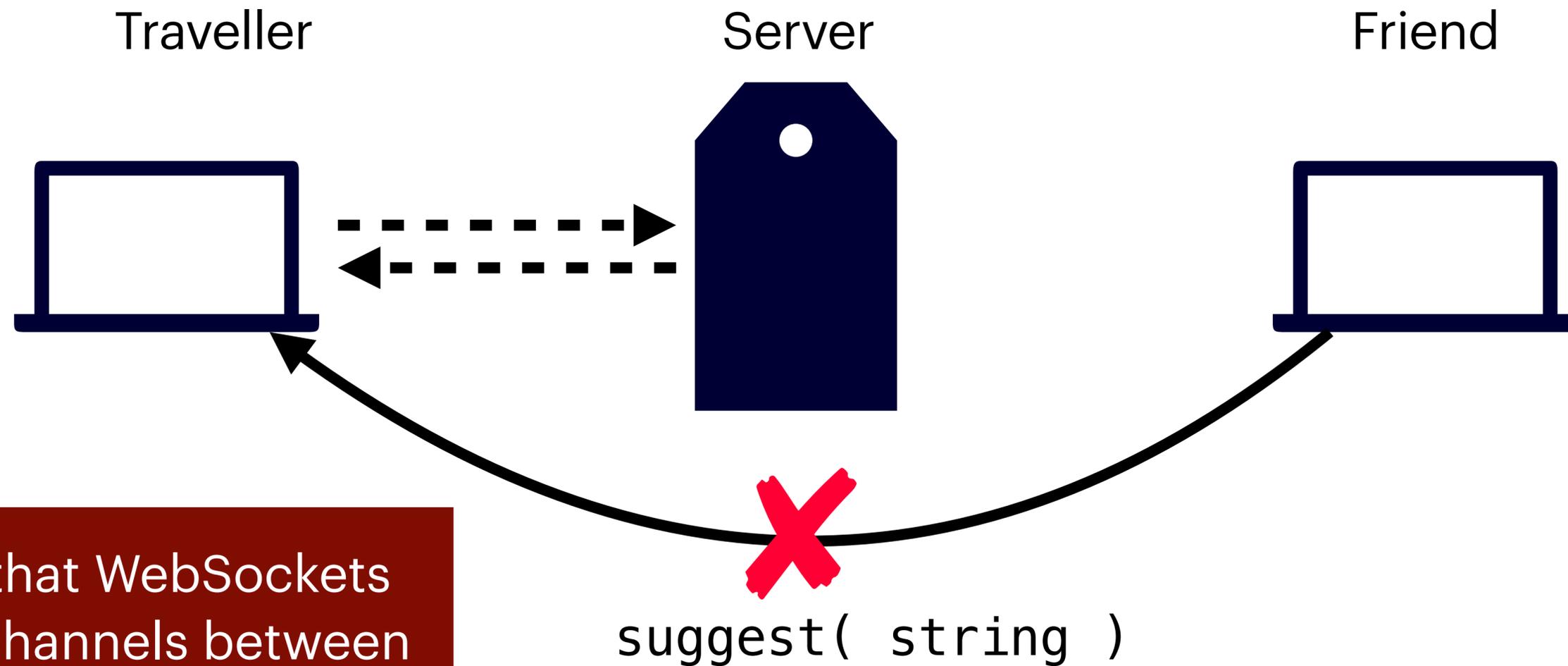
“Travel with a Friend”

Extending *Travel Agency* with Client-to-Client Interactions



“Travel with a Friend”

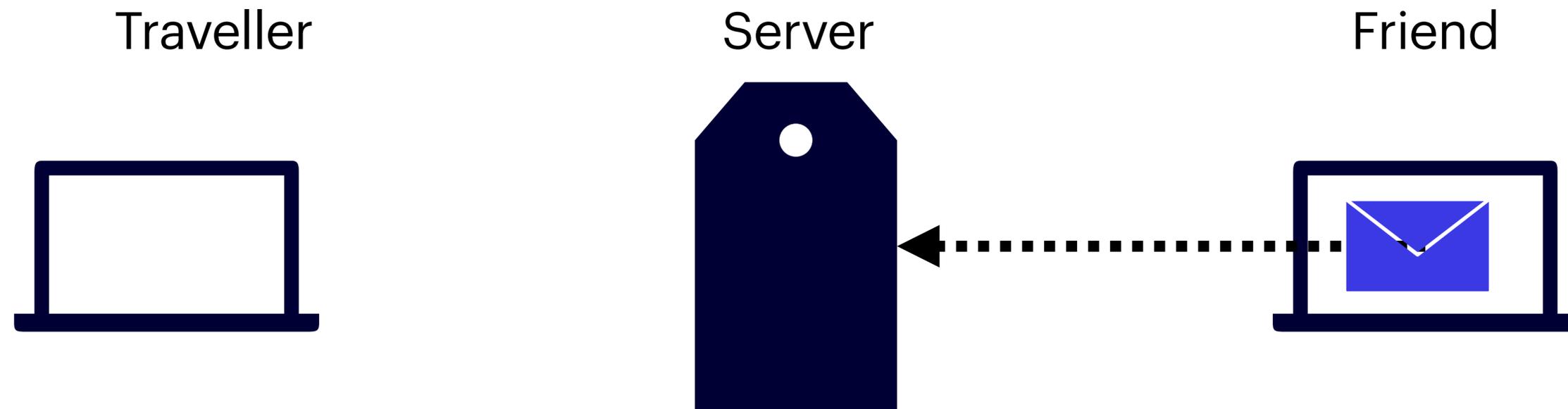
Extending *Travel Agency* with Client-to-Client Interactions



Recall that WebSockets define channels between client and server.

“Travel with a Friend”

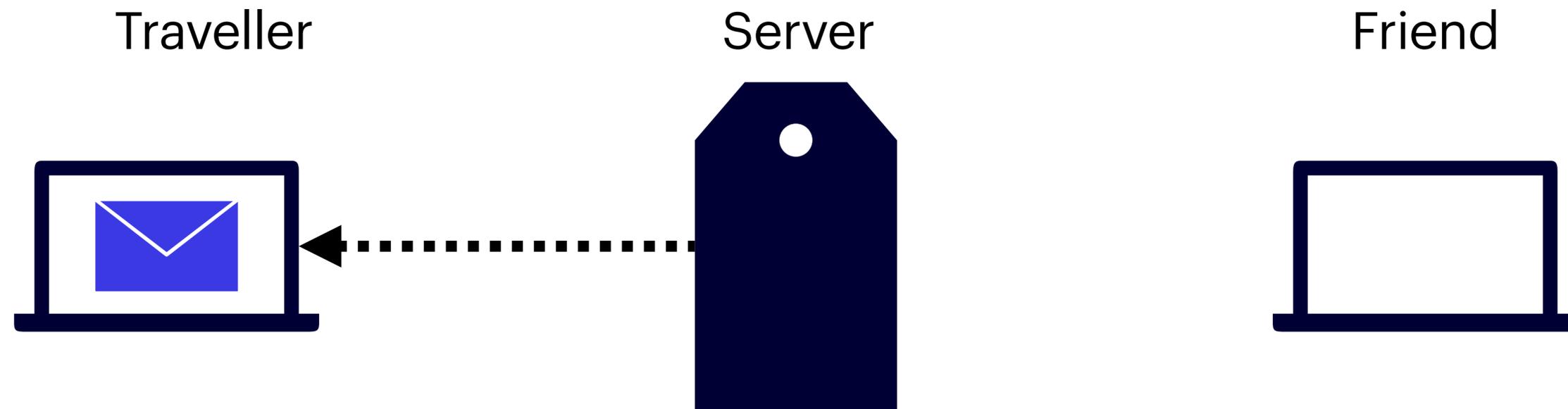
Extending *Travel Agency* with Client-to-Client Interactions



```
Traveller!suggest( string )
```

“Travel with a Friend”

Extending *Travel Agency* with Client-to-Client Interactions



```
Traveller!suggest( string )
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How to **formalise** this routing mechanism?

Contributions

- *STScript* - a toolchain that generates TypeScript APIs that statically guarantee communication-safe web development



- *RouST* - a new session type theory that supports multiparty communications with routing mechanisms

Contributions

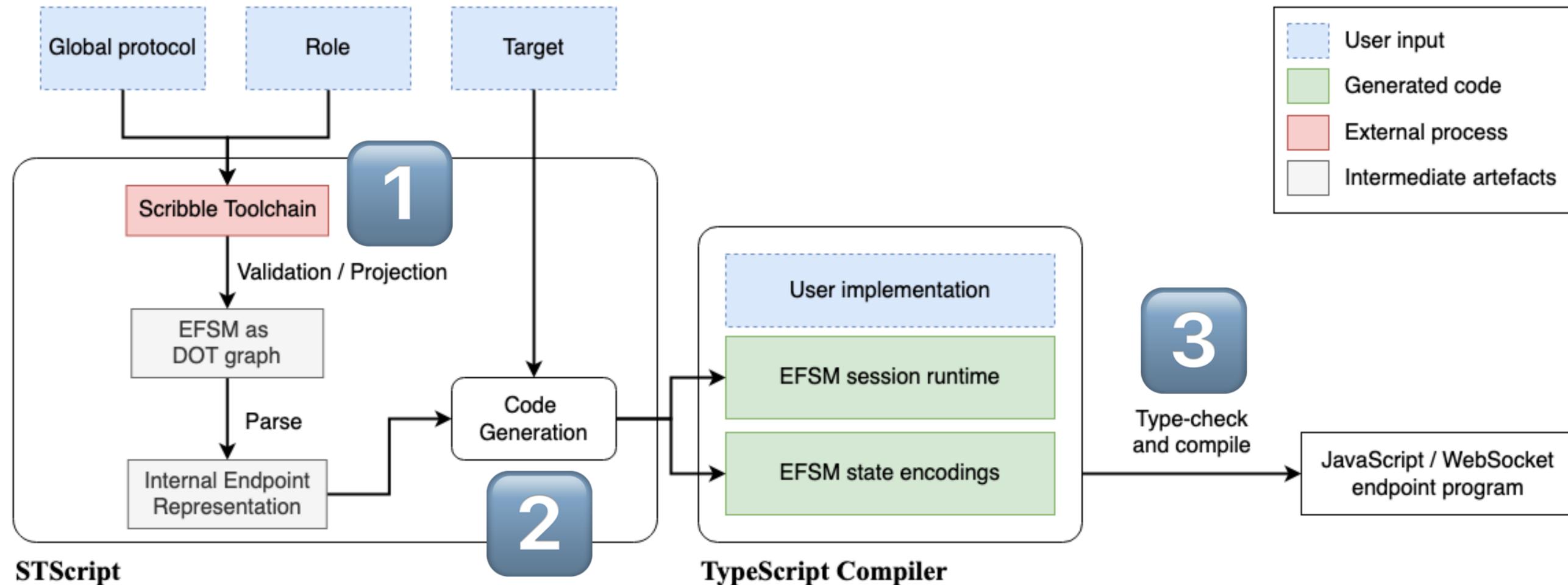
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STScript

Session Type API Generation Toolchain for TypeScript



<https://github.com/STScript-2020/cc21-artifact>

1 Specify Communications Aspect

Using the Scribble Protocol Specification Language

```
type <typescript> "Credentials" from "./Payment" as Cred;
global protocol TravelAgency(role Traveller, role Server) {
  Destination(string) from Traveller to Server;
  choice at Server {
    Available(number) from Server to Traveller;
    choice at Traveller {
      Confirm(Cred) from Traveller to Server;
    } or { Reject() from Traveller to Server; }
  } or {
    Full() from Server to Traveller;
    do FlightService(Traveller, Server);
  }
}
```

$$G = \mu t. \text{Traveller} \rightarrow \text{Server} : \text{Destination(string)}. \\ \text{Server} \rightarrow \text{Traveller} \begin{cases} \text{Available(number)} : G_{\text{Available}} \\ \text{Full()} : t \end{cases} \\ G_{\text{Available}} = \text{Traveller} \rightarrow \text{Server} : \begin{cases} \text{Confirm(Cred)} : \text{end} \\ \text{Reject()} : \text{end} \end{cases}$$

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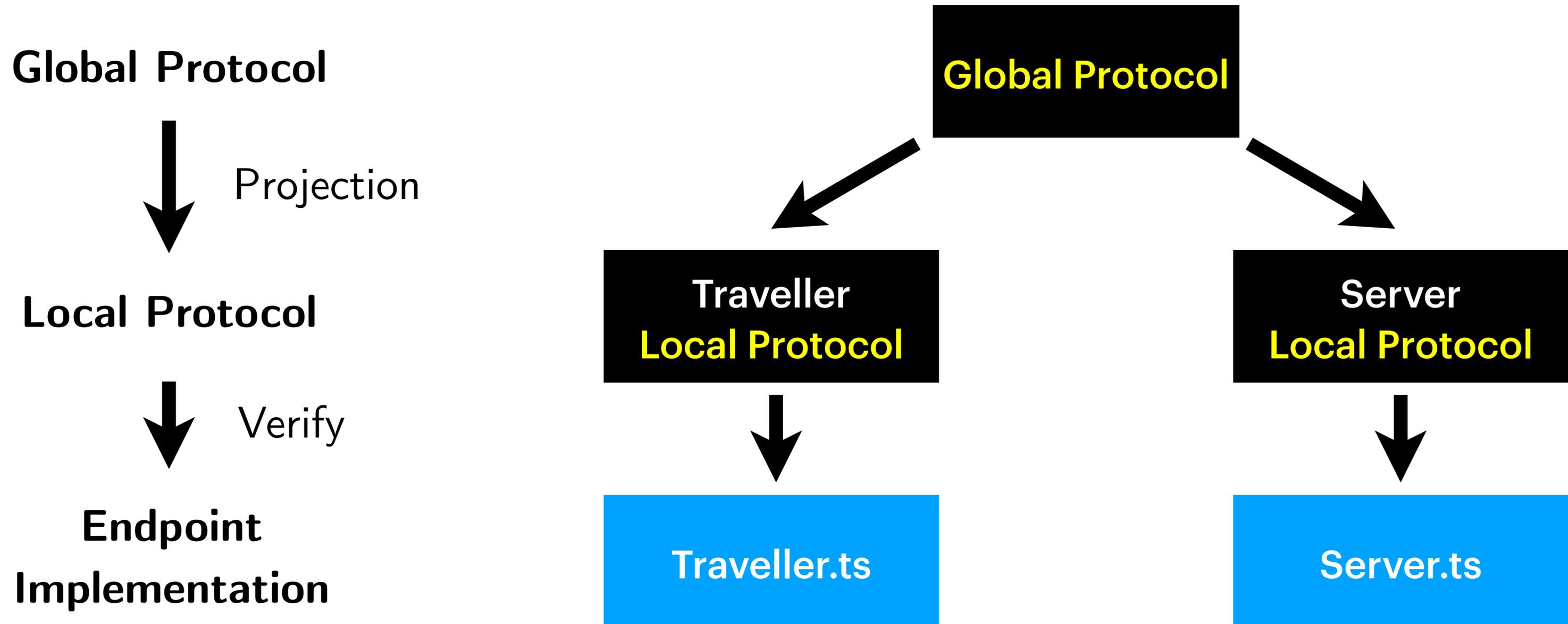
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2 Endpoint API Generation

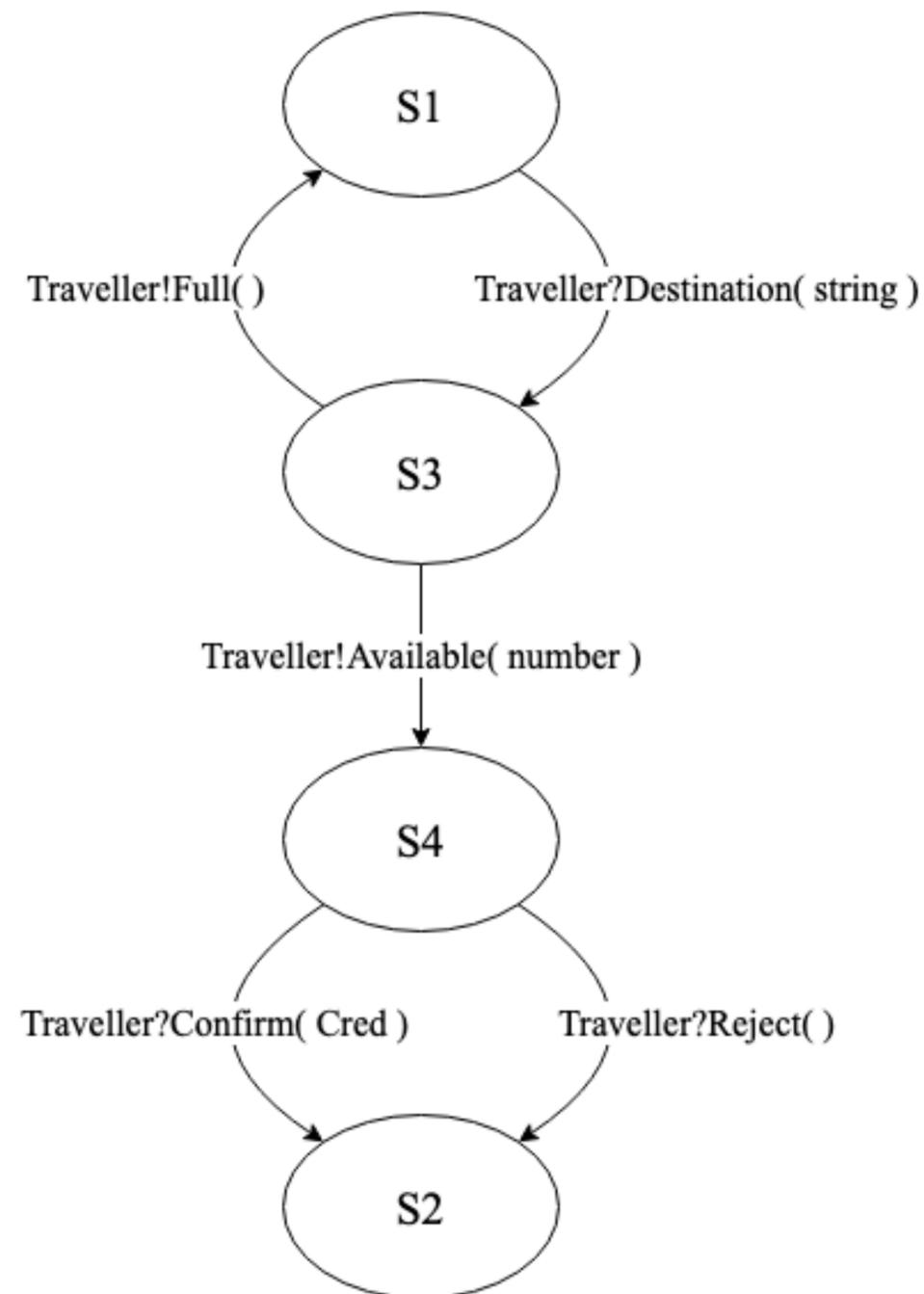
Local Protocol as Endpoint Finite State Machine (EFSM)



2 Endpoint API Generation

Local Protocol as Endpoint Finite State Machine (EFSM)

- Transitions represent IO actions, either send or receive
- Each state has its set of permitted IO actions
- Verify endpoint implementation to respect valid traces of its EFSM



Server
Local Protocol

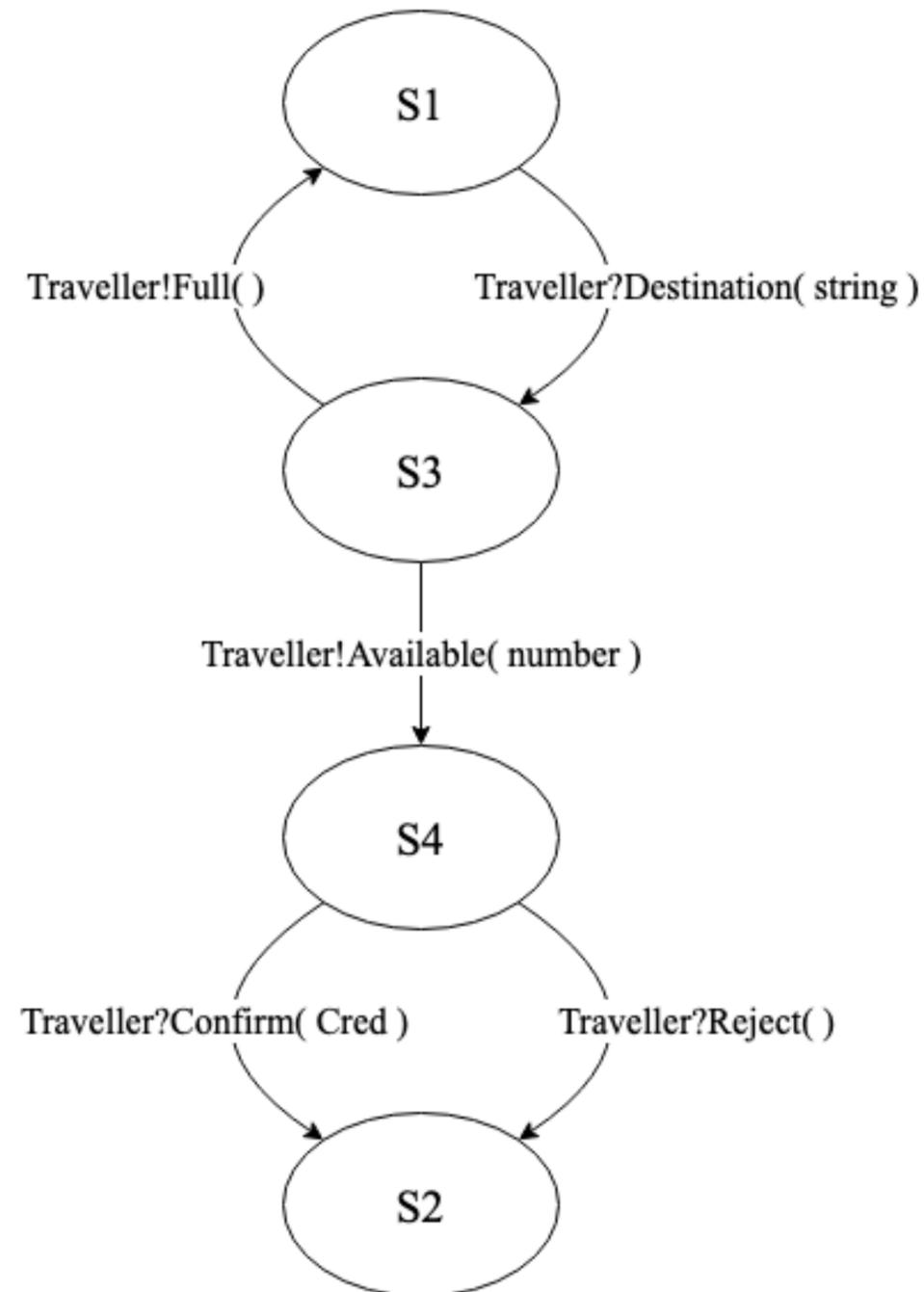


Server.ts

2 Endpoint API Generation

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Server
EFSM

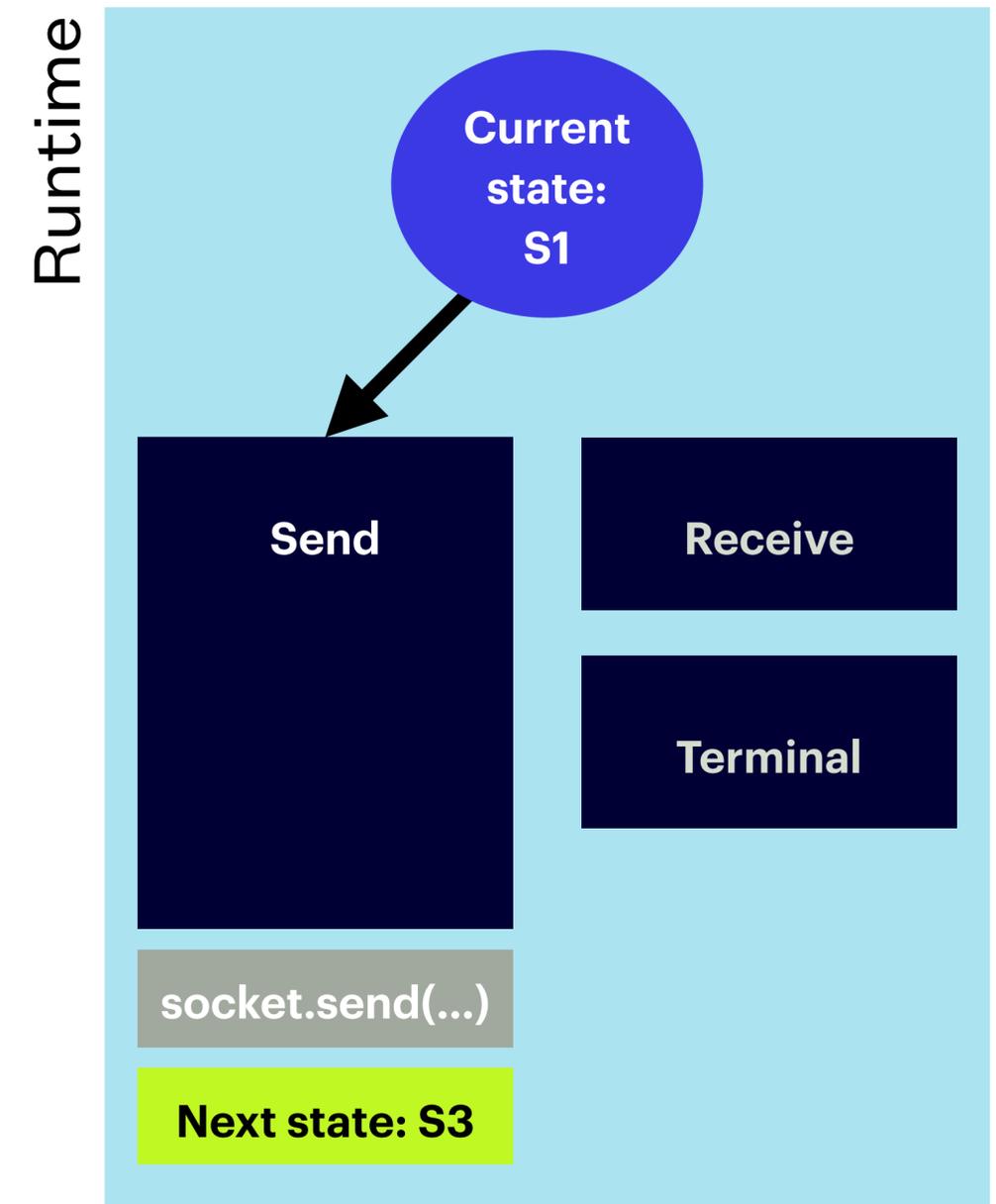


Server.ts

API Generation - Design Philosophy

Generate Correct-by-Construction APIs

- We generate a session runtime to execute EFSM
 - Performs I/O action for current state
- We construct types for injecting business logic
 - What to send? How to handle receive?
- Developer instantiates session runtime with custom implementations

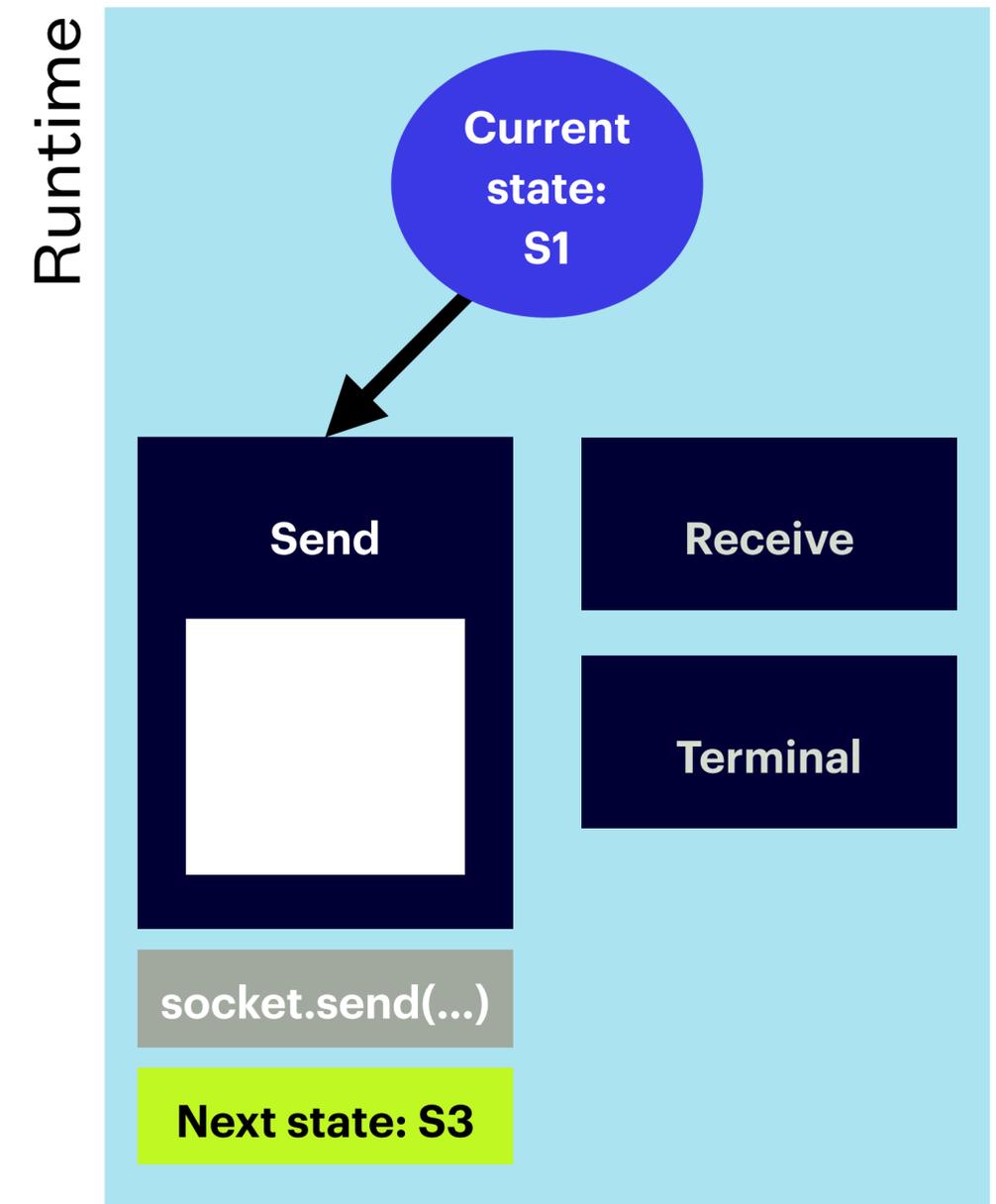


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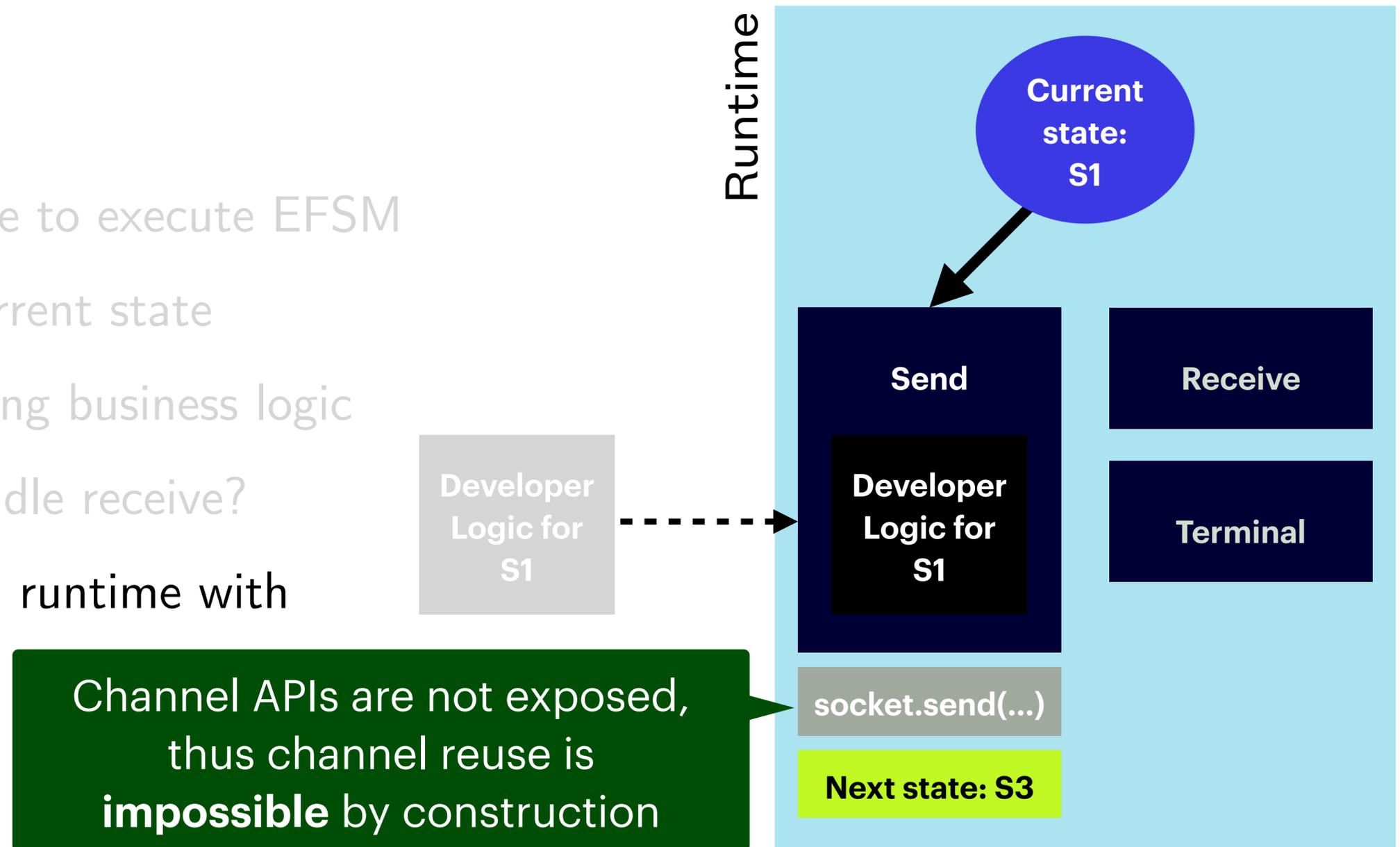
Developer
Logic for
S1



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3 Callback-Style APIs for Static Linearity

API Generation for Node.js Endpoints

- Send = union type of **selections**
 - **Selection** = tuple of label, payload, successor state
- Receive = object literal of branches
 - Branch = callback named after the label
- We generate a factory object with overloads
 - Facilitate auto-completion in IDEs

```
const handleQuery = Session.Initial({
  Query: async (Next, destination) => {
    /* snip */
    if (response.status === "available") {
      return
        Next.Available([response.quote],
          /* snip */);
    } else {
      return
        Next.Full([], handleQuery);
    }
  },
});
```

3 Callback-Style APIs for Static Linearity

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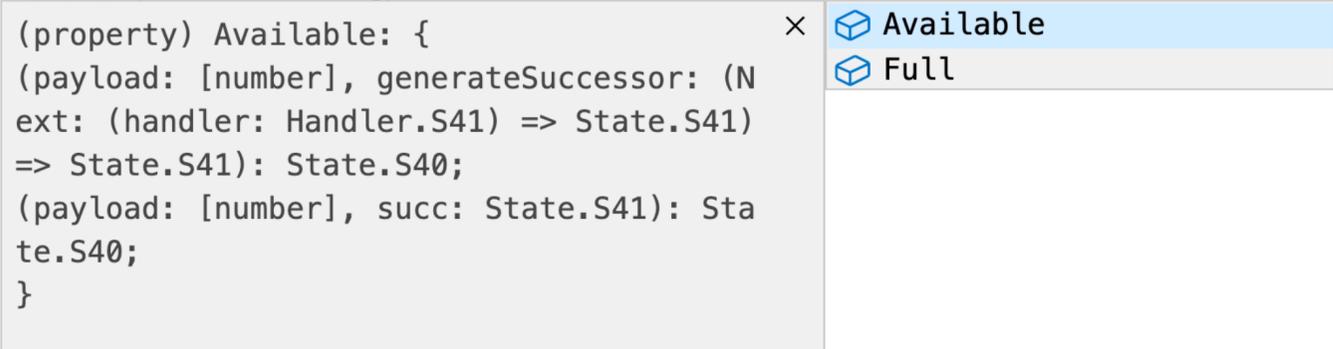
```
/* snip */
return Next.Available([response.quote], Next => (
  Next({
    Confirm: async (End, credentials) => {
      // Handle confirmation
      await confirmBooking(sessionID, credentials);
      return End();
    },
    Reject: async (End) => {
      await release(sessionID);
      return End();
    },
  })
));
/* snip */
```

3 Callback-Style APIs for Static Linearity

API Generation for Node.js Endpoints

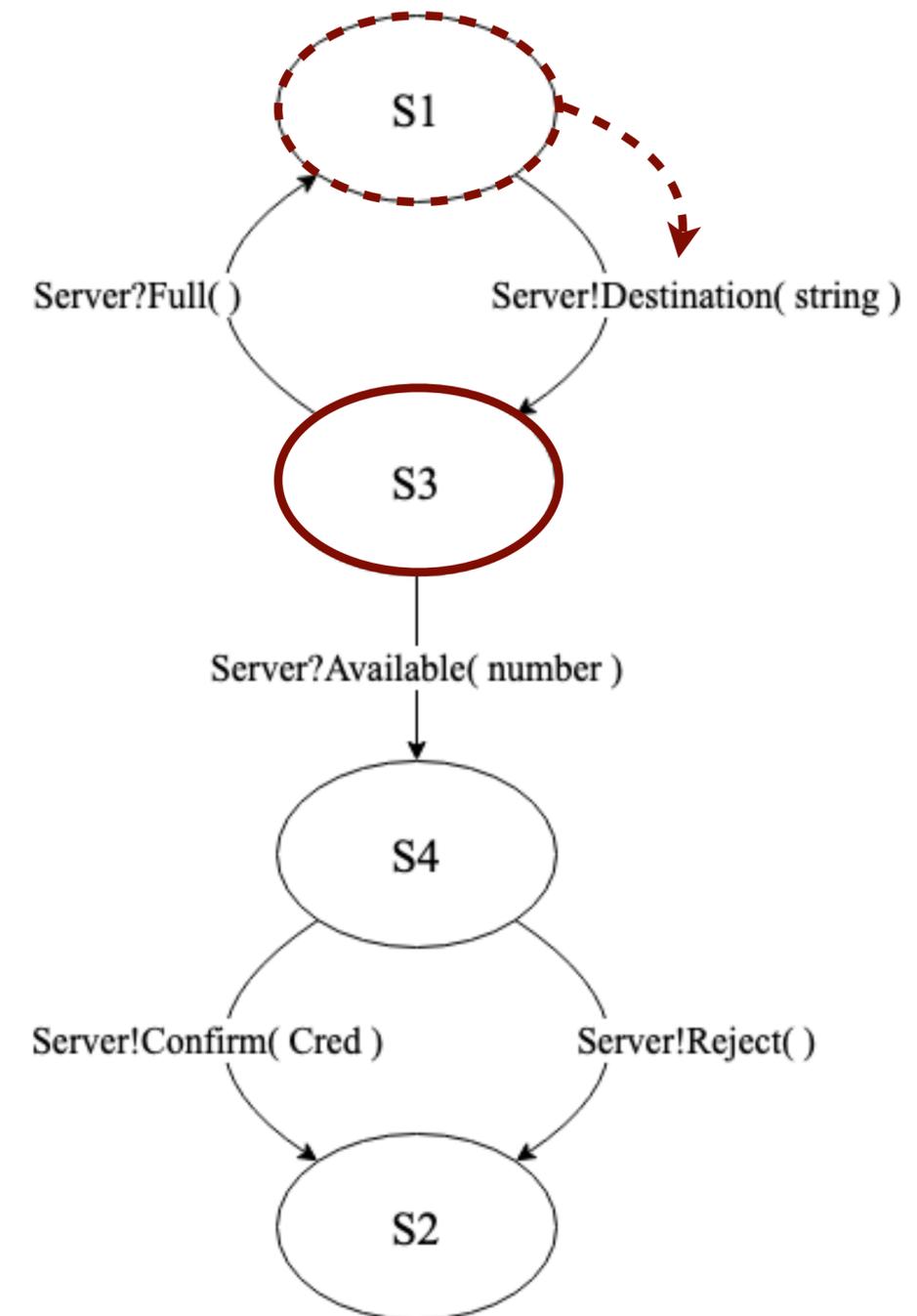
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```
15 const agencyProvider = (sessionID: string) => {
16   const handleQuery = Session.Initial({
17     Query: async (Next, destination) => {
18       const response = await checkAvailability(sessionID, destination);
19       if (response.status === "available") {
20         return Next;
21       }
22     }
23   });
24   (payload: [number], generateSuccessor: (Next: (handler: Handler.S41) => State.S41) => State.S41): State.S40;
25   (payload: [number], succ: State.S41): State.S40;
26 }
27
28
```



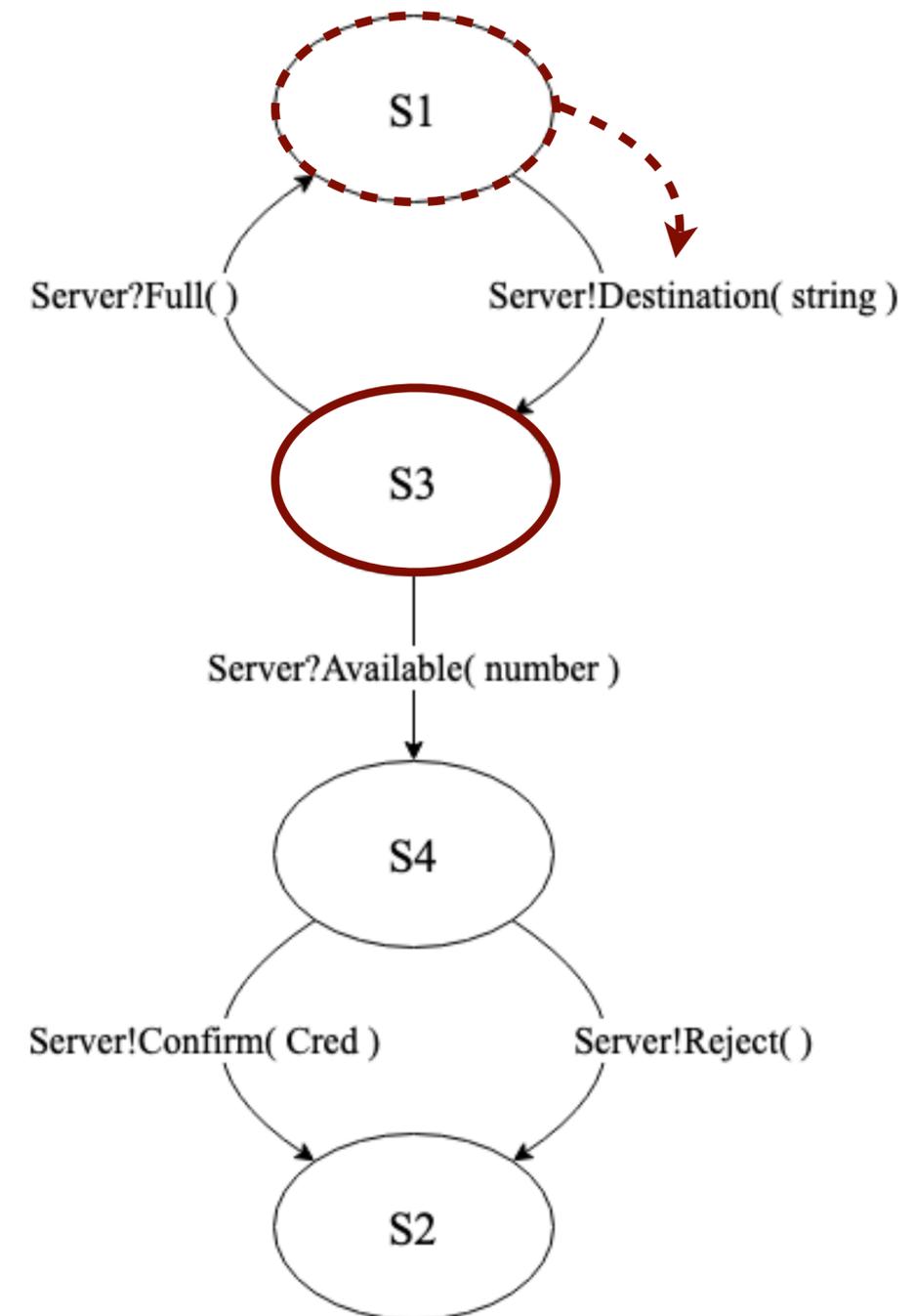
Challenge - Session Types for GUI

- Channel actions triggered by user interaction
 - User clicks button
 - User presses “Enter” on their keyboard
 - User hovers over HTML element, etc.
- How to guarantee that users respect channel linearity?



Challenge - Session Types for GUI

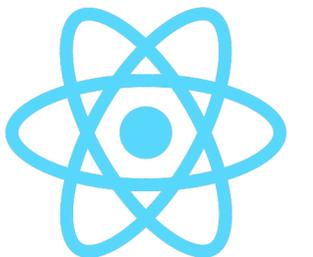
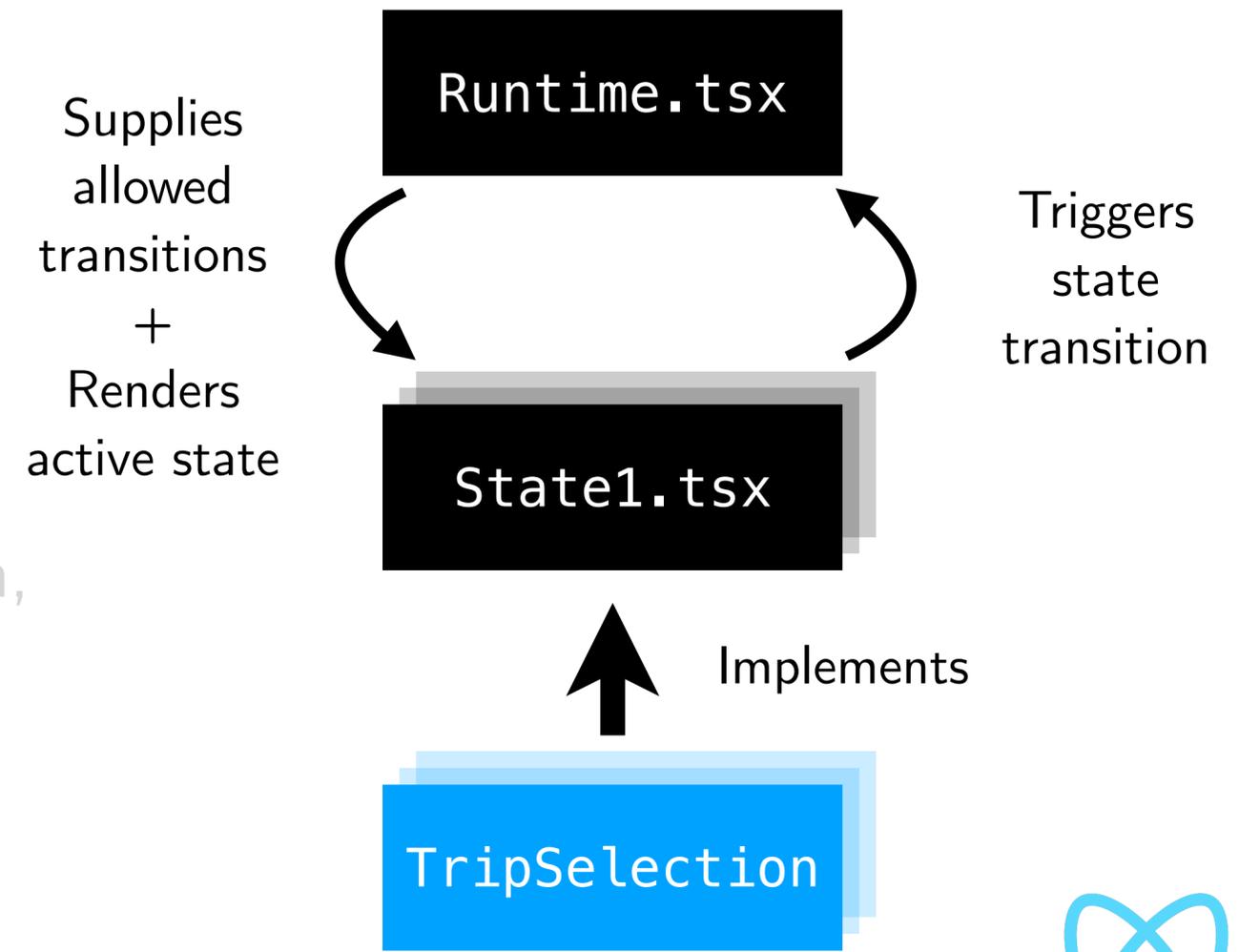
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- **How to guarantee that users respect channel linearity?**



3 Safe, Interactive Channel Actions

API Generation for Browser Endpoints

- EFSM states = abstract React components
 - Developer inherits and overrides view function
- Runtime = React component
- Send = “component factories”
 - Generates a React component that, by construction, binds the permitted I/O action to a UI event
- Receive = named callbacks
 - Override abstract methods



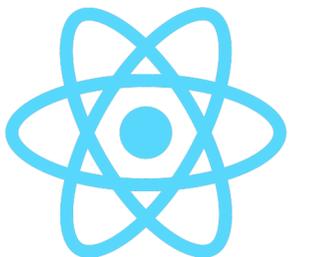
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```
const London = this.Destination('onClick',
  ev => {
    this.context.setDestination('London');
    return ['London'];
  });

return (<div>
  /* snip */
  <London>
    <Button size="small" color="primary">
      Enquire
    </Button>
  </London>
  /* snip */
</div>);
```

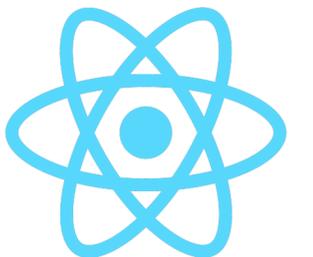


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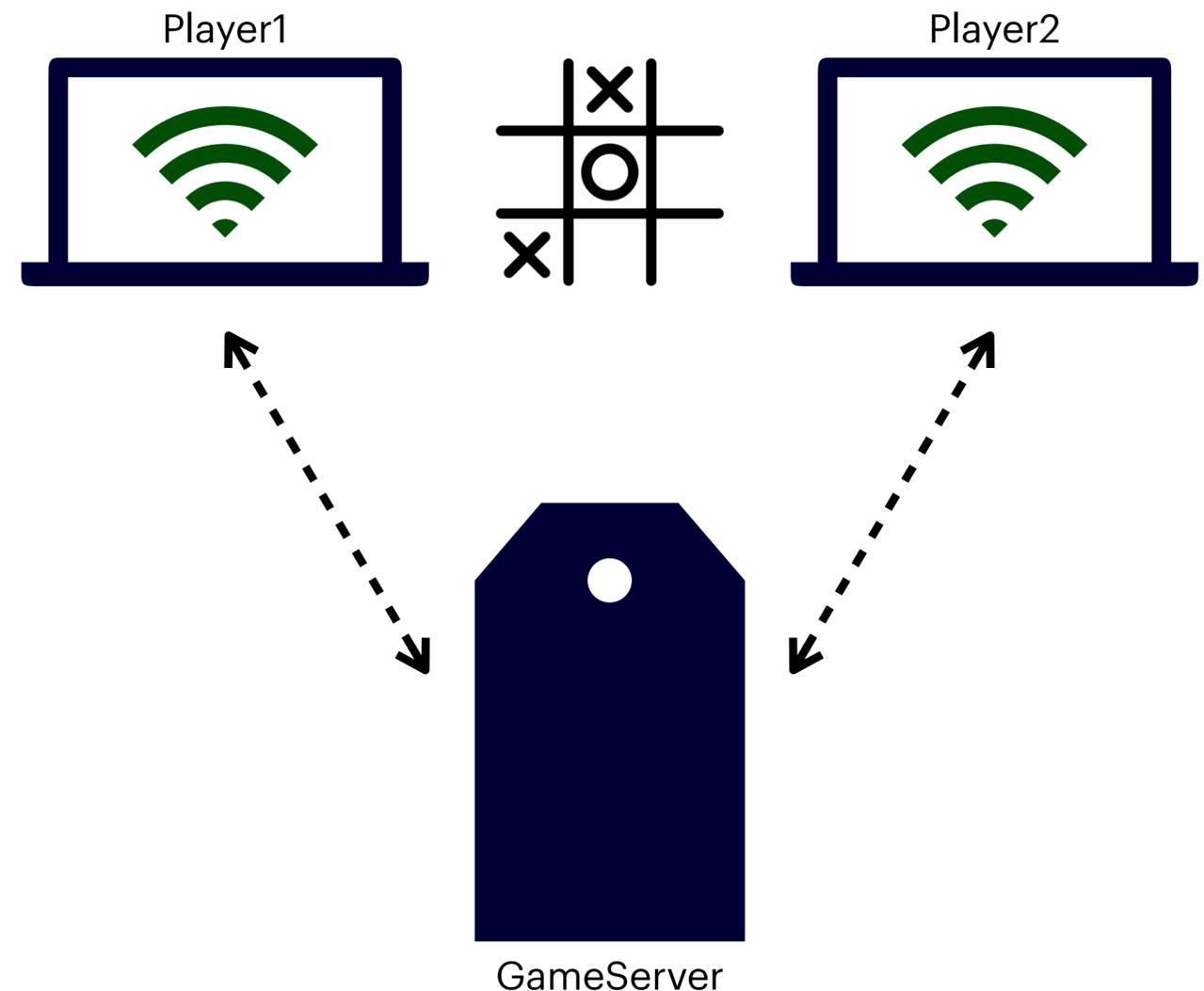
```
export default class Waiting extends S8 {  
  
  Available(price: number) {  
    console.log('OK!');  
    this.context.setPrice(price);  
  }  
  
  Full() {  
    console.log('Full!');  
    this.context.setError(/* snip */);  
    this.context.setDestination('');  
  }  
  
  // View function  
  render() { /* snip */ }  
  
}
```



3 Error Handling for Web Applications

Session Cancellation

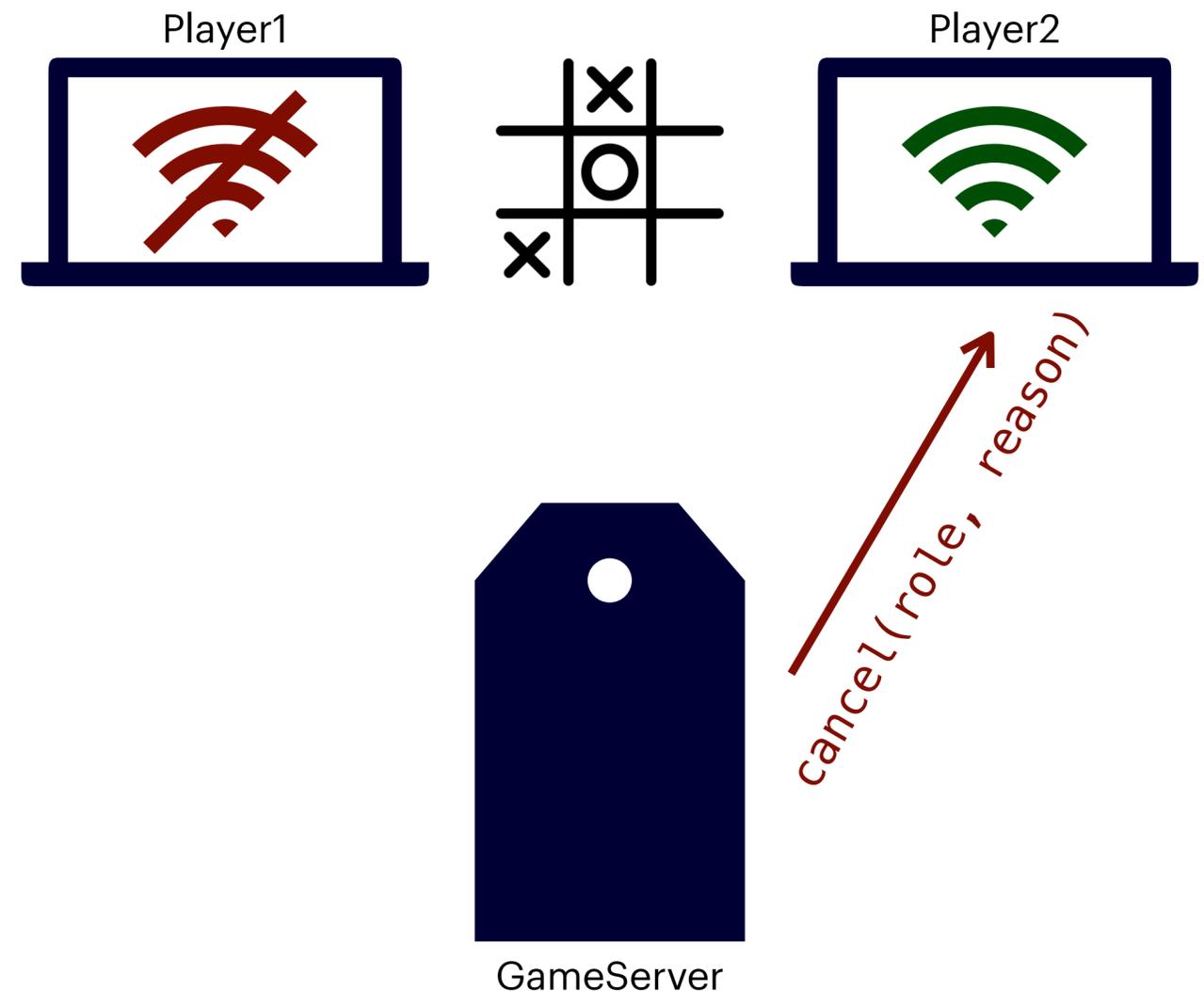
- Session cancellation is unavoidable - e.g. browser disconnects prematurely
- Server signals to other browser roles when a browser role disconnects
- We generate seams for developers to inject custom business logic
 - Server = callback function for cleanup
 - Browser = React component



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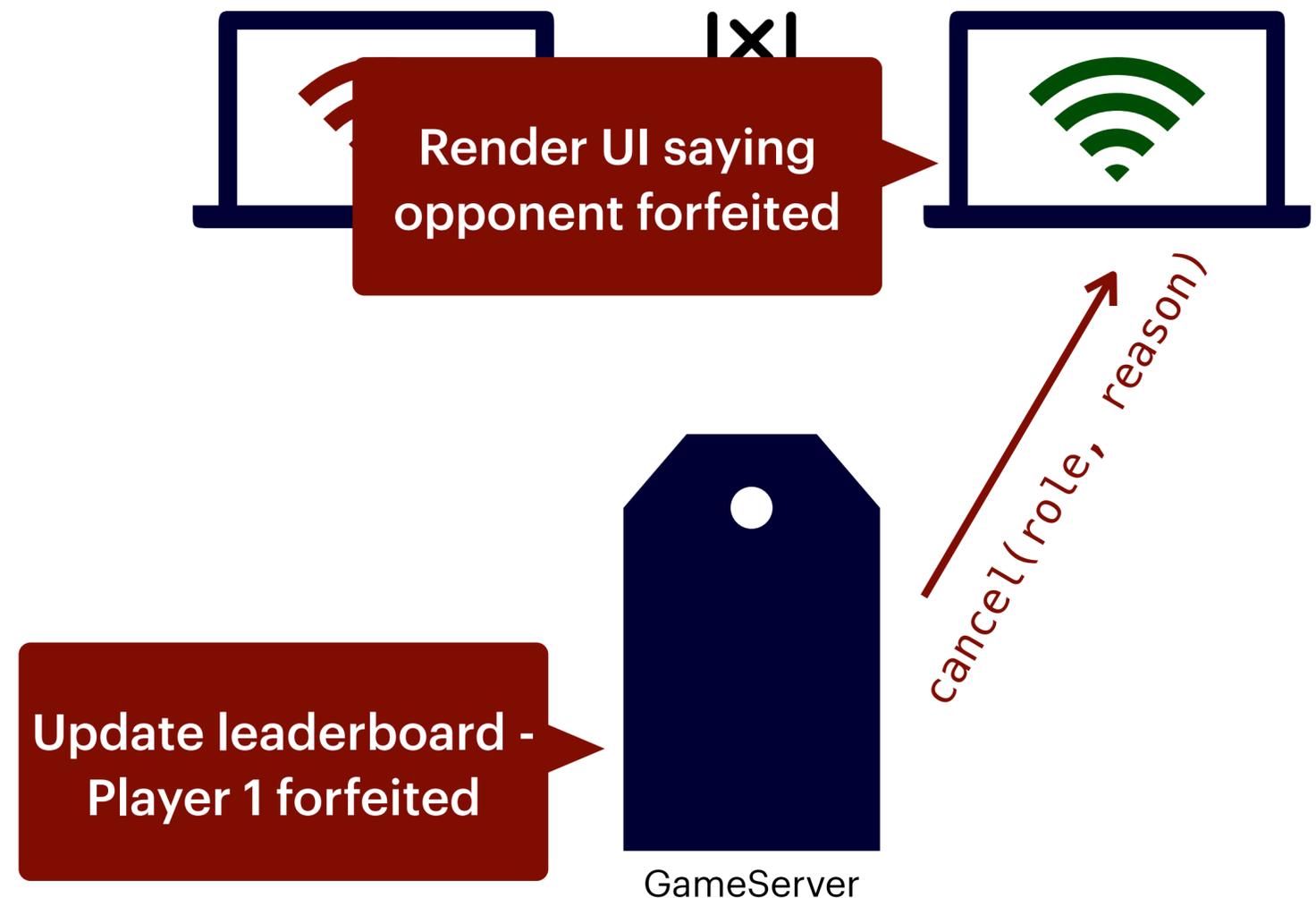
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- *RouST* - a new session type theory that supports multiparty communications with routing mechanisms

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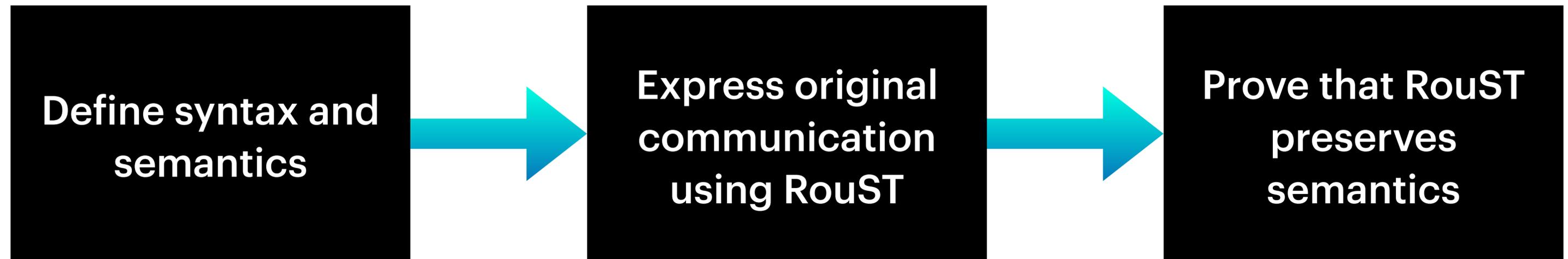
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RouST

A Theory of Routed Multiparty Session Types



RouST

A Theory of Routed Multiparty Session Types



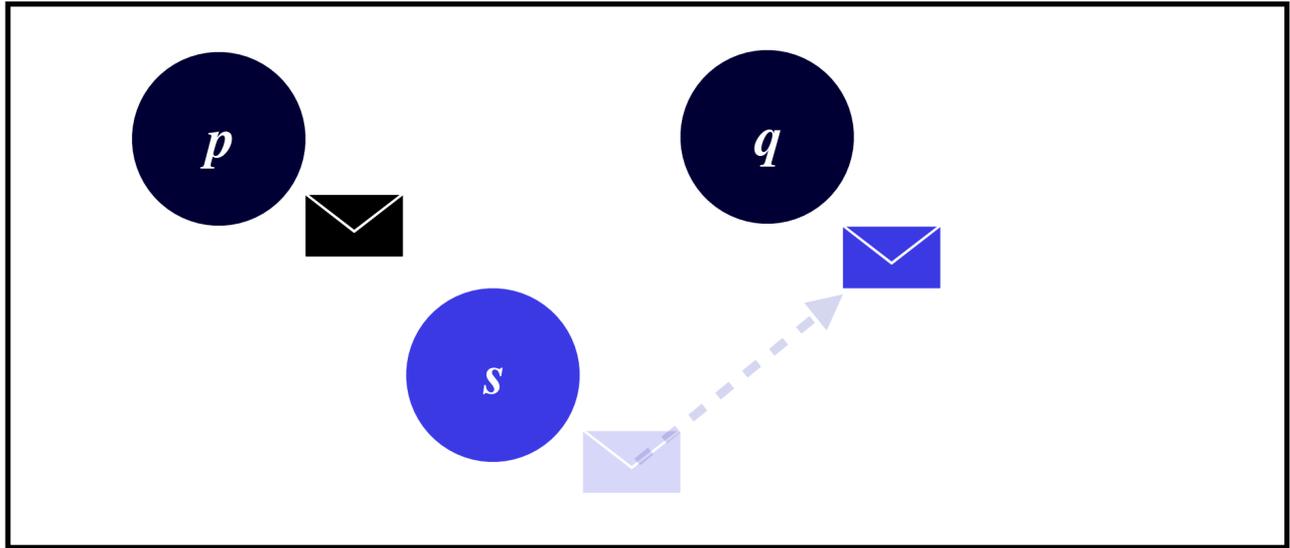
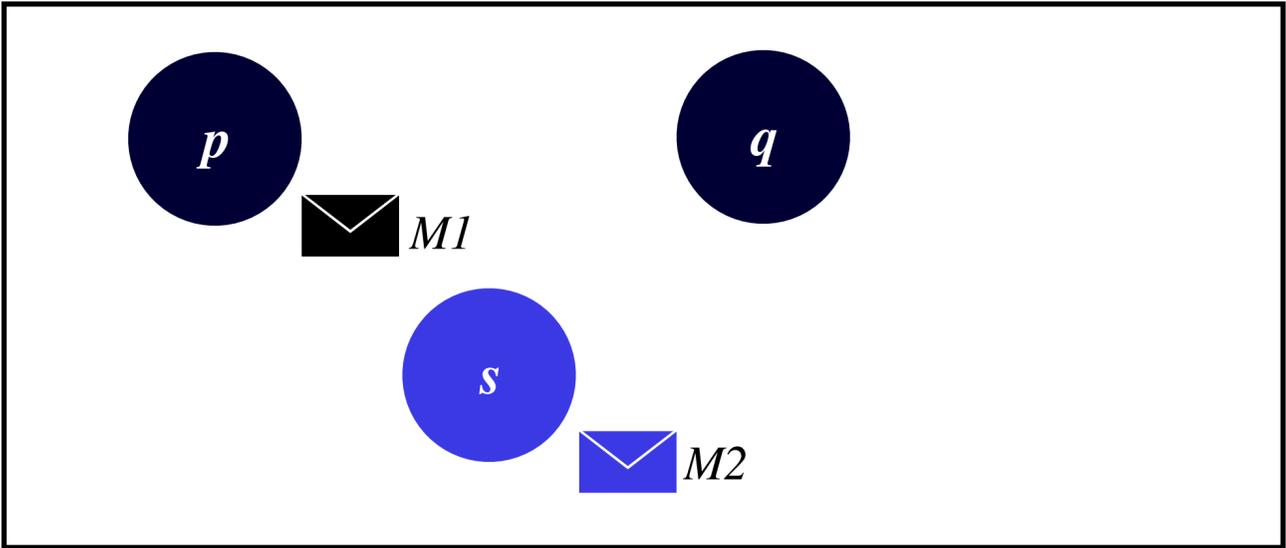
RouST - Syntax

$G ::=$	Global Types
end	Termination
\mathbf{t}	Type Variable
$\mu \mathbf{t}.G$	Recursive Type
$\mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I}$	Direct Communication
$\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I}$	Routed Communication

$T ::=$	Local Types
end	Termination
\mathbf{t}	Type Variable
$\mu \mathbf{t}.T$	Recursive Type
$\mathbf{p} \& \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I}$	Branching
$\mathbf{p} \oplus \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I}$	Selection
$\mathbf{p} \& \langle \mathbf{q} \rangle \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I}$	Routed Branching
$\mathbf{p} \oplus \langle \mathbf{q} \rangle \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I}$	Routed Selection
$\mathbf{p} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I}$	Routing Communication

RouST - Semantics

Labelled Transition System (LTS)



$l ::=$	Labels
$pq!j$	Direct Send
$pq?j$	Direct Receive
$via\langle s \rangle(pq!j)$	Routed Send
$via\langle s \rangle(pq?j)$	Routed Receive

RouST - Semantics

Labelled Transition System (LTS)

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{pq}!j} \mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[GR1]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{pq}?j} G_j} \text{[GR2]}$$

$$\frac{G[\mu\mathbf{t}.G/\mathbf{t}] \xrightarrow{l} G'}{\mu\mathbf{t}.G \xrightarrow{l} G'} \text{[GR3]}$$

$$\frac{\forall i \in I. G_i \xrightarrow{l} G'_i \quad \text{subj}(l) \notin \{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}\}}{\mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{l} \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G'_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[GR4]}$$

$$\frac{G_j \xrightarrow{l} G'_j \quad \text{subj}(l) \neq \mathbf{q} \quad \forall i \in I \setminus \{j\}. G'_i = G_i}{\mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{l} \mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : G'_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[GR5]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{p} -\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{pq}!j)} \mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow_{\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[GR6]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow_{\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{pq}?j)} G_j} \text{[GR7]}$$

$$\frac{\forall i \in I. G_i \xrightarrow{l} G'_i \quad \text{subj}(l) \notin \{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}\}}{\mathbf{p} -\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{l} \mathbf{p} -\mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G'_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[GR8]}$$

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$l ::=$

$\mathbf{pq}!j$

Labels

Direct Send

$\mathbf{pq}?j$

Direct Receive

$\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{pq}!j)$

Routed Send

$\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{pq}?j)$

Routed Receive

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{q} \oplus \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{pq}!j} T_j} \text{[LR1]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{q} \& \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{qp}?j} T_j} \text{[LR2]}$$

$$\frac{T[\mu\mathbf{t}.T/\mathbf{t}] \xrightarrow{l} T'}{\mu\mathbf{t}.T \xrightarrow{l} T'} \text{[LR3]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{q} \oplus \langle \mathbf{s} \rangle \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{pq}!j)} T_j} \text{[LR4]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{q} \& \langle \mathbf{s} \rangle \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{qp}?j)} T_j} \text{[LR5]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{p} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{pq}!j)} \mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[LR6]}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{\text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\mathbf{pq}?j)} T_j} \text{[LR7]}$$

$$\frac{\forall i \in I. T_i \xrightarrow{l} T'_i \quad \text{subj}(l) \notin \{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}\}}{\mathbf{p} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{l} \mathbf{p} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : T'_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[LR8]}$$

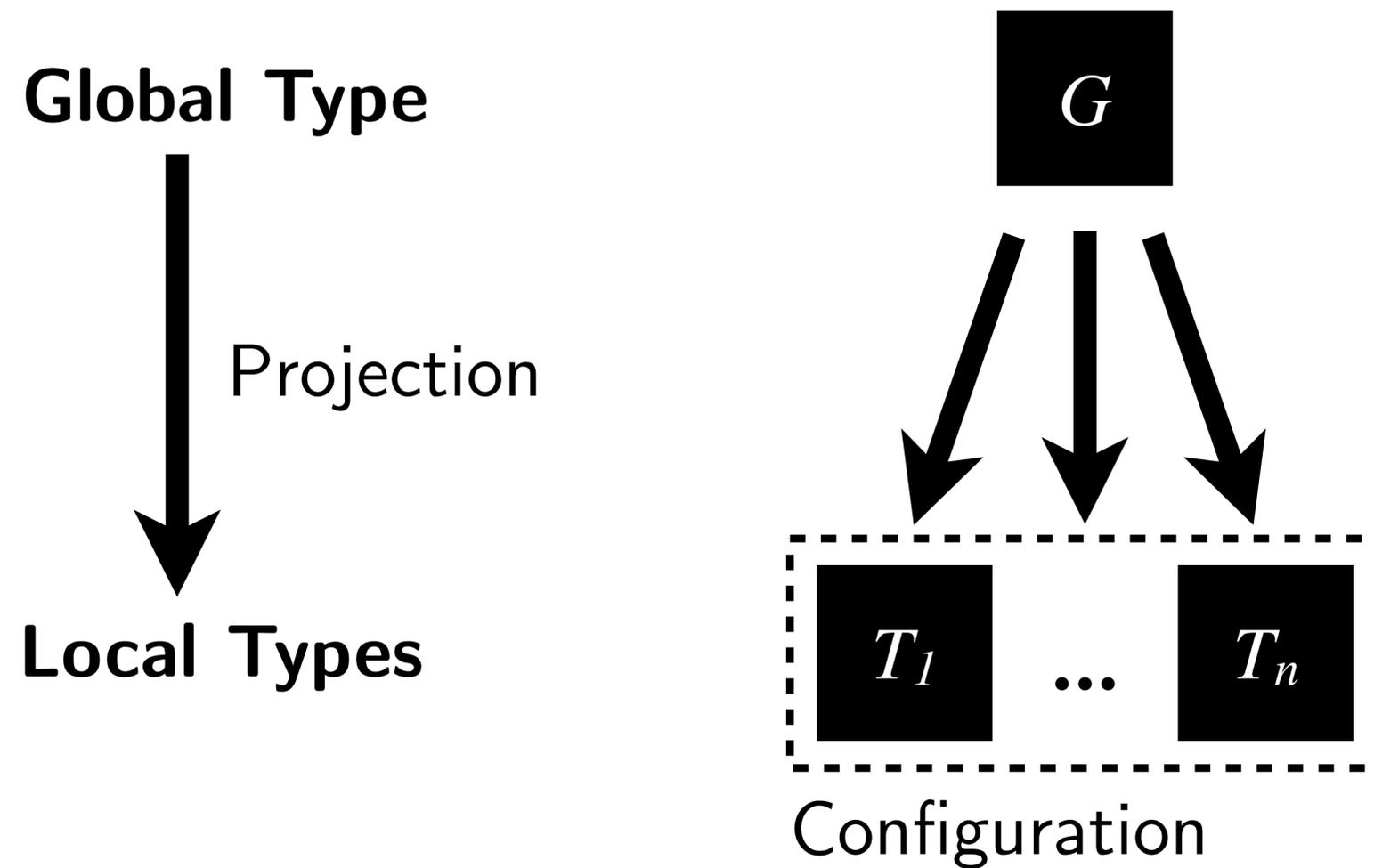
$$\frac{T_j \xrightarrow{l} T'_j \quad \text{subj}(l) \neq \mathbf{q} \quad \forall i \in I \setminus \{j\}. T'_i = T_i}{\mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{l} \mathbf{p} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{q} . j : \{l_i : T'_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[LR9]}$$

$$\frac{l = \text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\cdot) \quad \text{subj}(l) \neq \mathbf{q} \quad \forall i \in I. T_i \xrightarrow{l} T'_i}{\mathbf{q} \oplus \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{l} \mathbf{q} \oplus \{l_i : T'_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[LR10]}$$

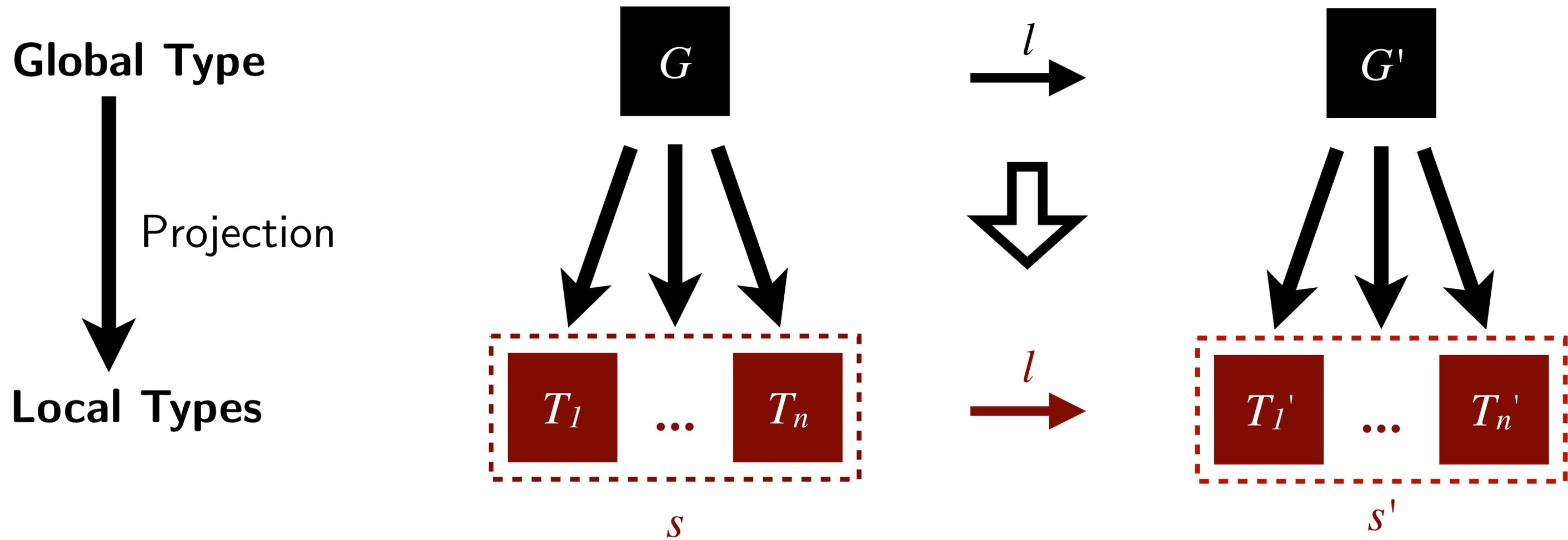
$$\frac{l = \text{via}(\mathbf{s})(\cdot) \quad \text{subj}(l) \neq \mathbf{q} \quad \forall i \in I. T_i \xrightarrow{l} T'_i}{\mathbf{q} \& \{l_i : T_i\}_{i \in I} \xrightarrow{l} \mathbf{q} \& \{l_i : T'_i\}_{i \in I}} \text{[LR11]}$$

Soundness and Completeness

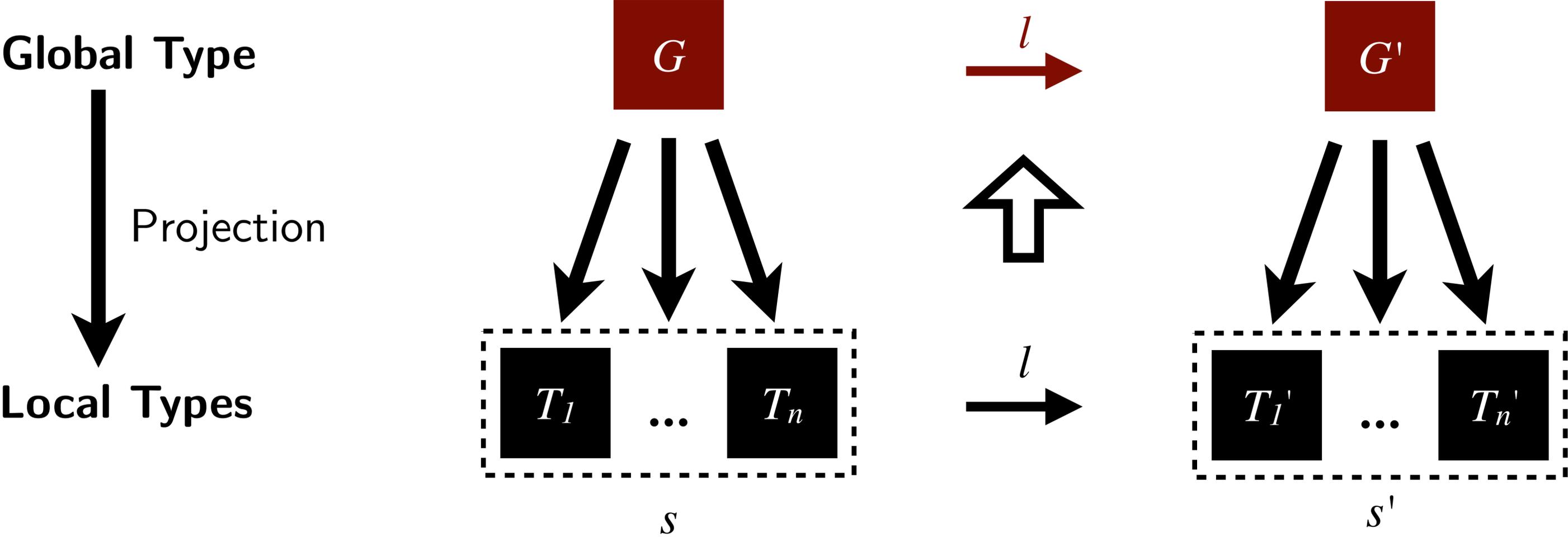
Projected Configurations of Global Types



Soundness and Completeness

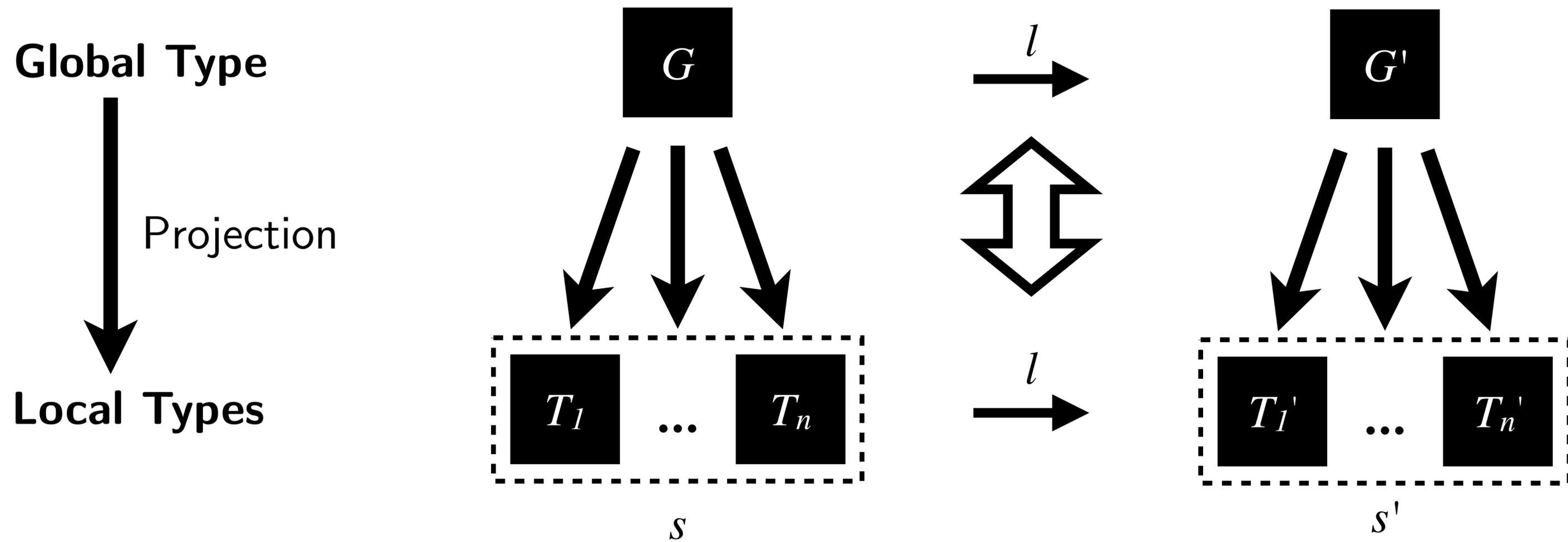


Soundness and Completeness



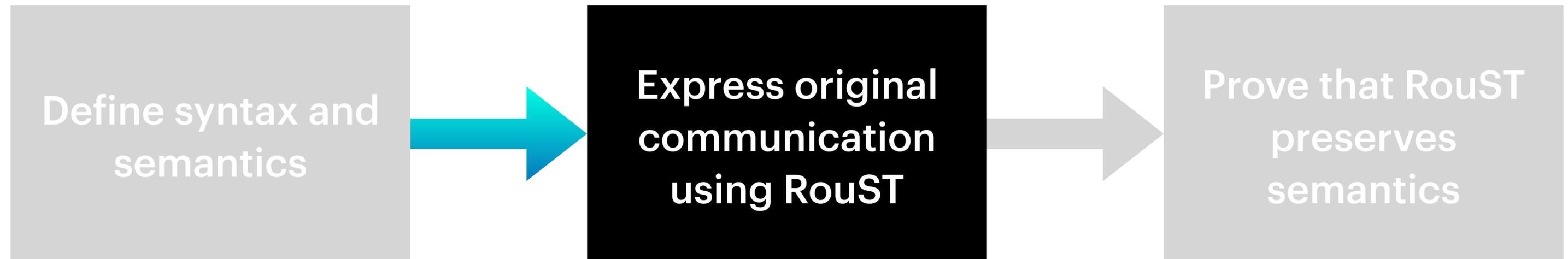
Soundness and Completeness

Theorem 4.6, see full paper for proof



RouST

A Theory of Routed Multiparty Session Types



Towards *RouST*

$$\llbracket \text{end}, \mathbf{s} \rrbracket = \text{end} \quad [\text{ENC-G-END}]$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{s} \rrbracket = \mathbf{t} \quad [\text{ENC-G-RECVAR}]$$

$$\llbracket \mu \mathbf{t}.G, \mathbf{s} \rrbracket = \mu \mathbf{t}.\llbracket G, \mathbf{s} \rrbracket \quad [\text{ENC-G-REC}]$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : G_i\}_{i \in I}, \mathbf{s} \rrbracket = \begin{cases} \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : \llbracket G_i, \mathbf{s} \rrbracket\}_{i \in I} & \text{if } \mathbf{s} \in \{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}\} \\ \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{s} \rightarrow \mathbf{q} : \{l_i : \llbracket G_i, \mathbf{s} \rrbracket\}_{i \in I} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad [\text{ENC-G-COMM}]$$

Encoding :: MPST \rightarrow Role \rightarrow RouST

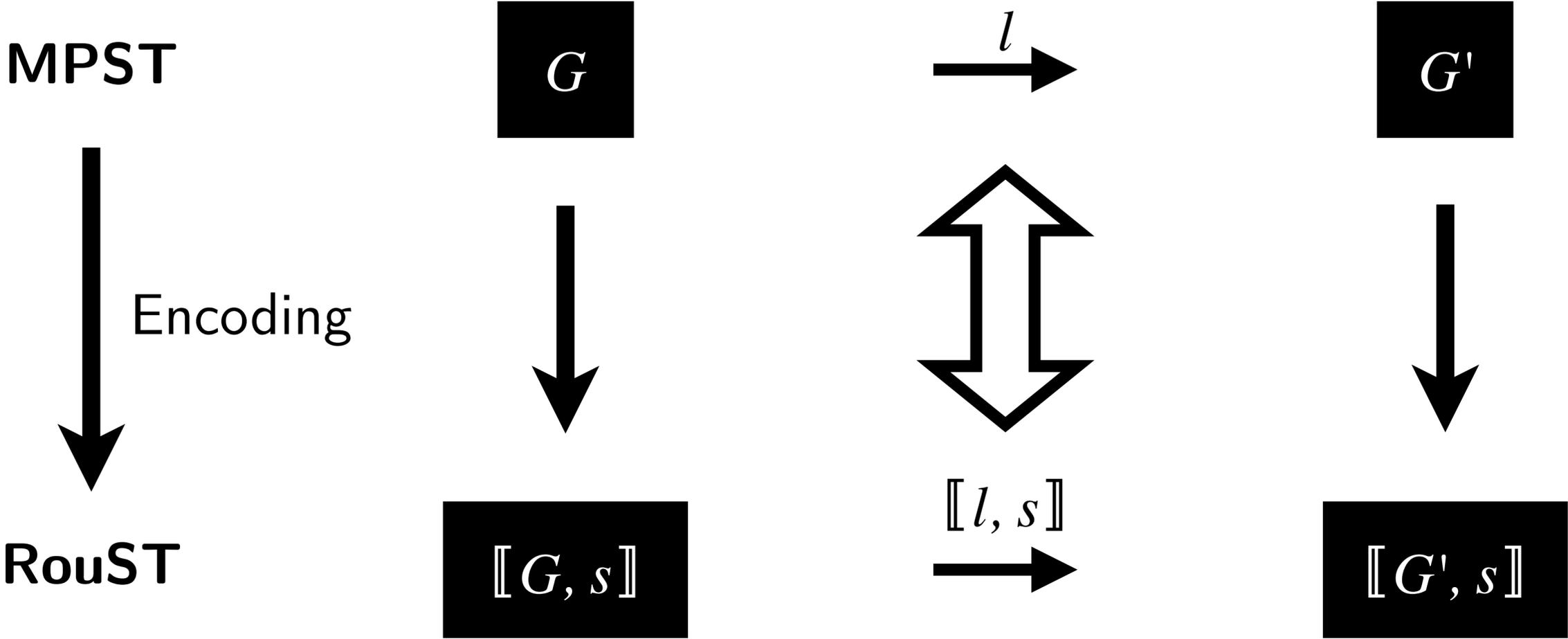
RouST

A Theory of Routed Multiparty Session Types



RouST - Preservation of Semantics

Theorem 4.12, see full paper for proof



Contributions

- *STScript* - a toolchain that generates TypeScript APIs that statically guarantee communication-safe web development



- *RouST* - a new session type theory that supports multiparty communications with routing mechanisms

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Thank you!

Full paper available at

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.04622>