

Resugaring: Lifting Evaluation Sequences through Syntactic Sugar

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Syntactic Sugar

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`x + 2` $\xrightarrow{\text{desugar}}$ `x.__add__(2)`

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`[x*x | x <- lst]` $\xrightarrow{\text{desugar}}$ `map (\x -> x*x) lst`

Syntactic Sugar

`x + 2` $\xrightarrow{\text{desugar}}$ `x.__add__(2)`

`[x*x | x <- lst]` $\xrightarrow{\text{desugar}}$ `map (\x -> x*x) lst`

`x or y` $\xrightarrow{\text{desugar}}$ `let t = x in
if t then t else y`

Surface language
(what you write)

Syntactic Sugar

`x + 2`

`desugar`
→ `x.__add__(2)`

`[x*x | x <- lst]`

`desugar`
→ `map (\x -> x*x) lst`

`x or y`

`desugar`
→ `let t = x in
if t then t else y`

Surface language
(what you write)

`x + 2`

Syntactic Sugar

Core language
(what runs)

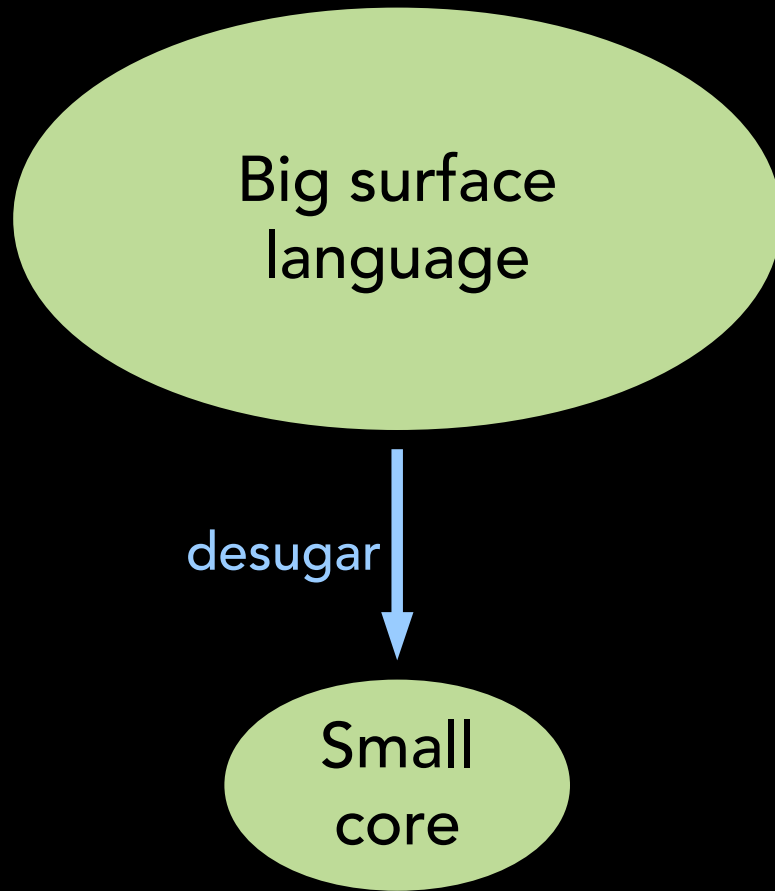
`desugar` → `x.__add__(2)`

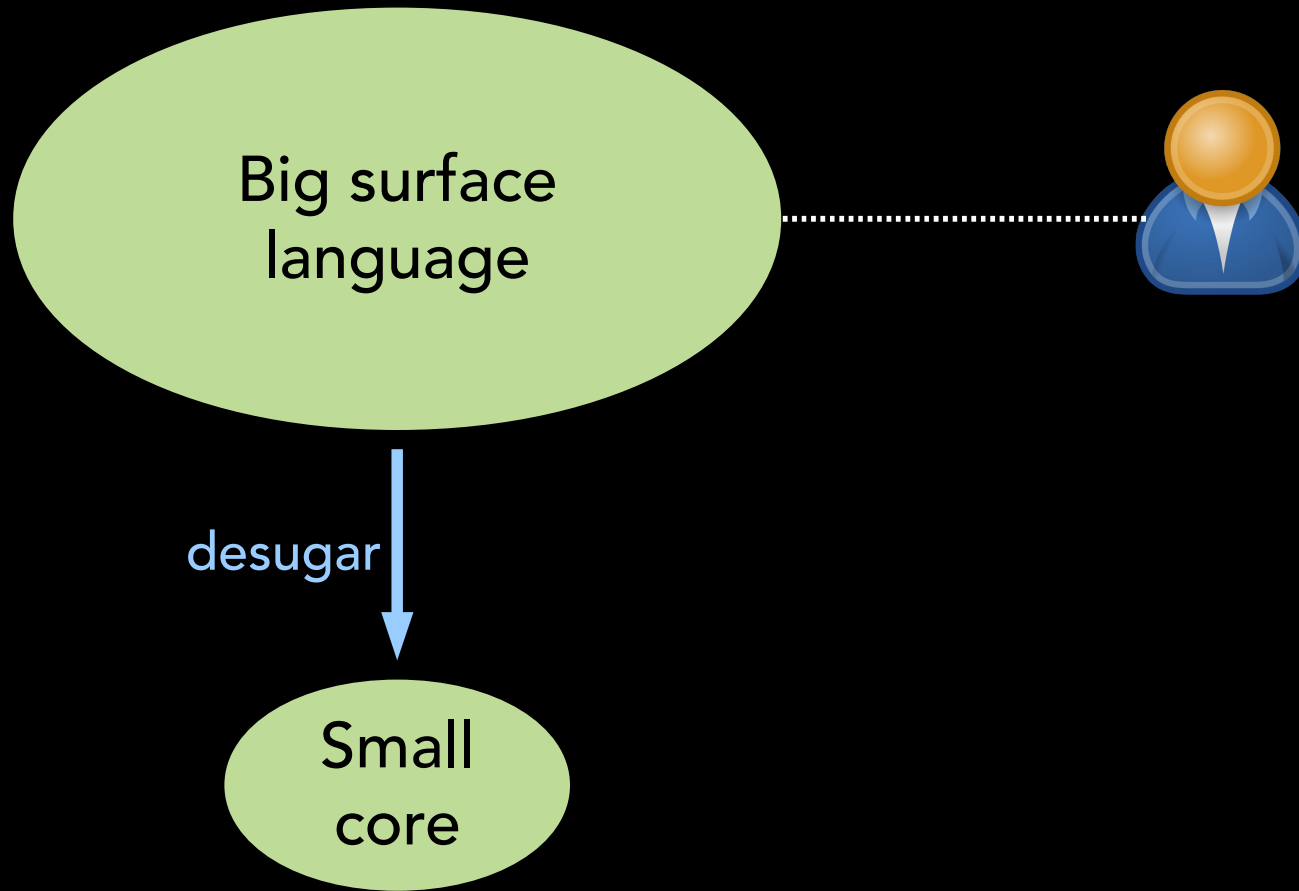
`[x*x | x <- lst]`

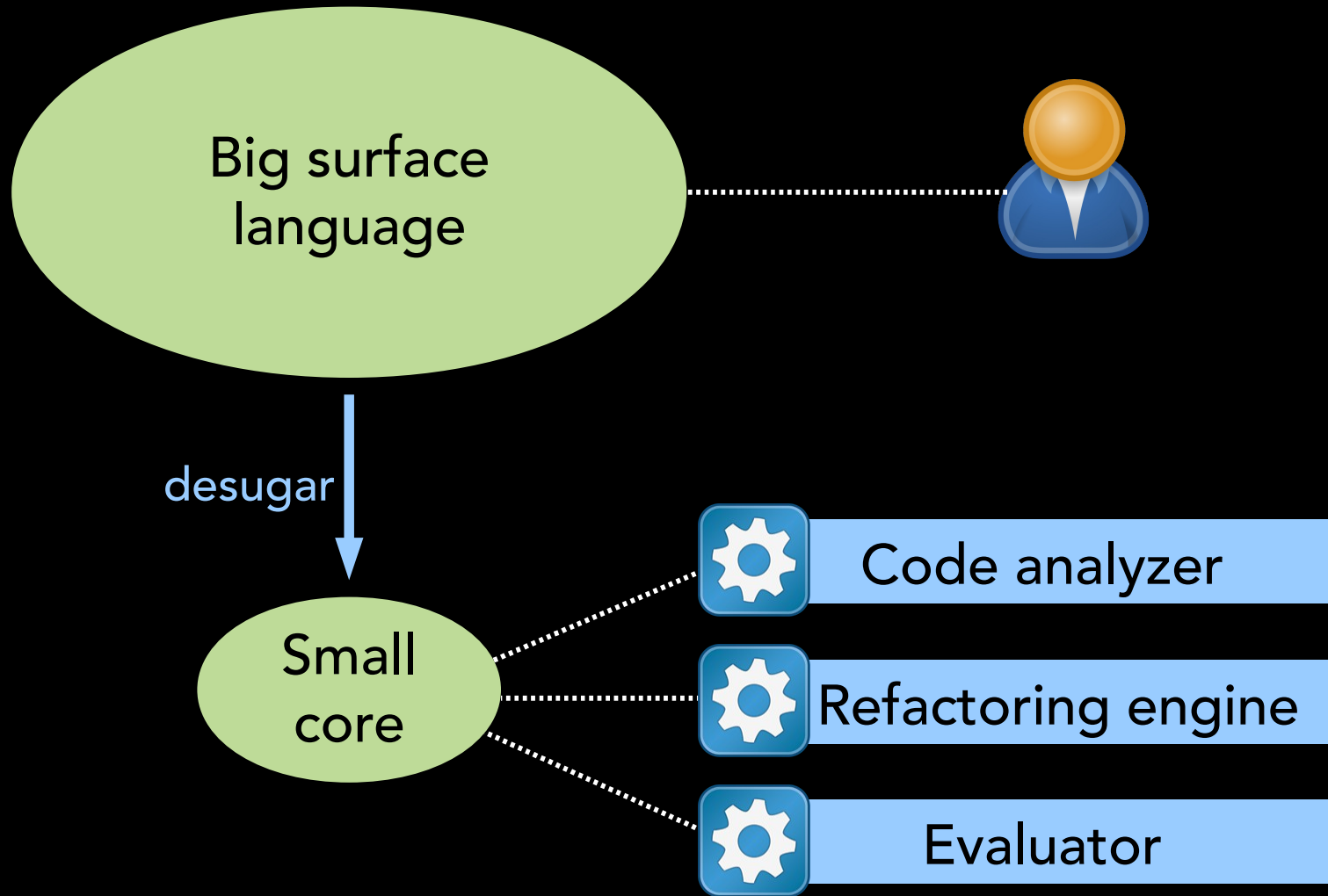
`desugar` → `map (\x -> x*x) lst`

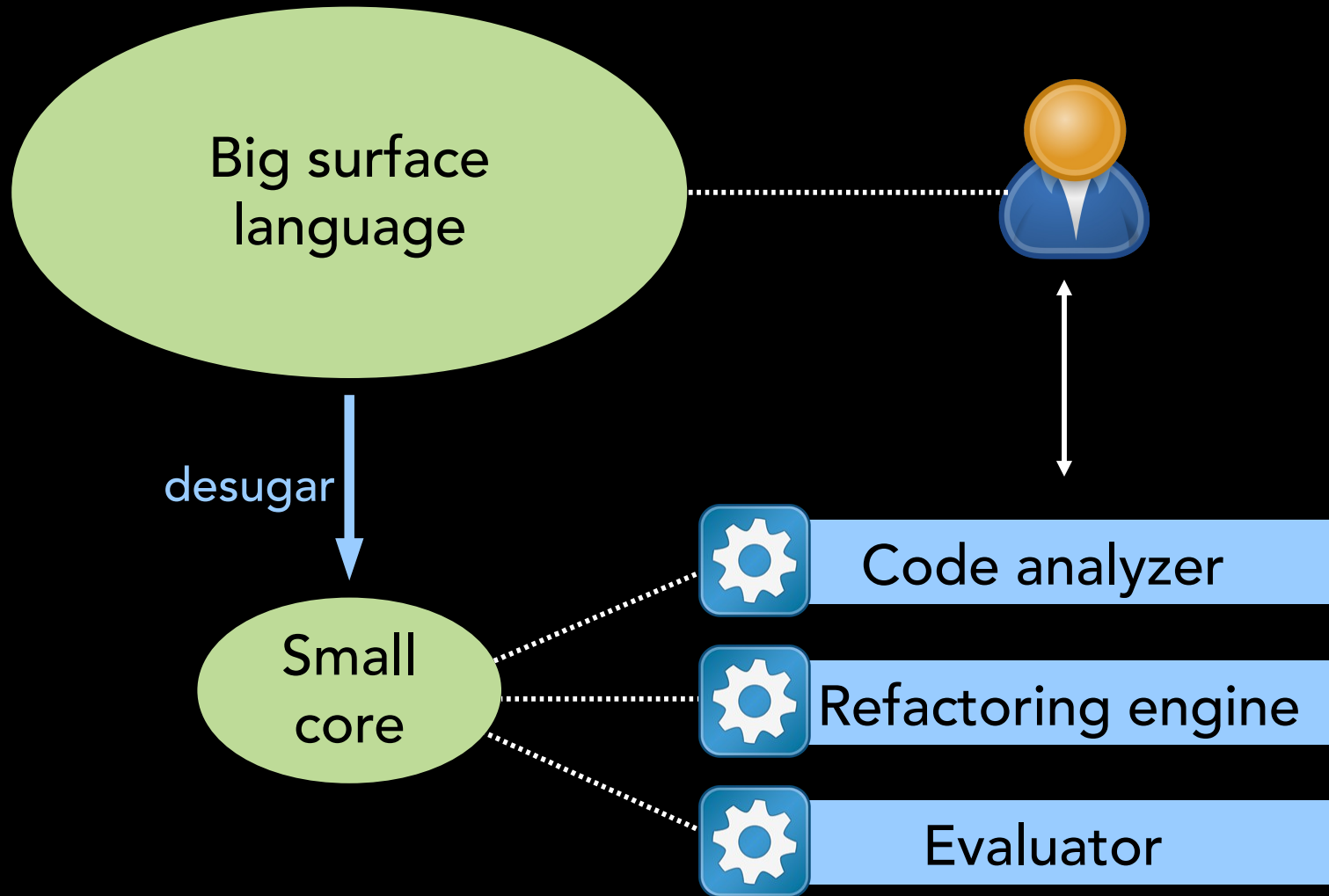
`x or y`

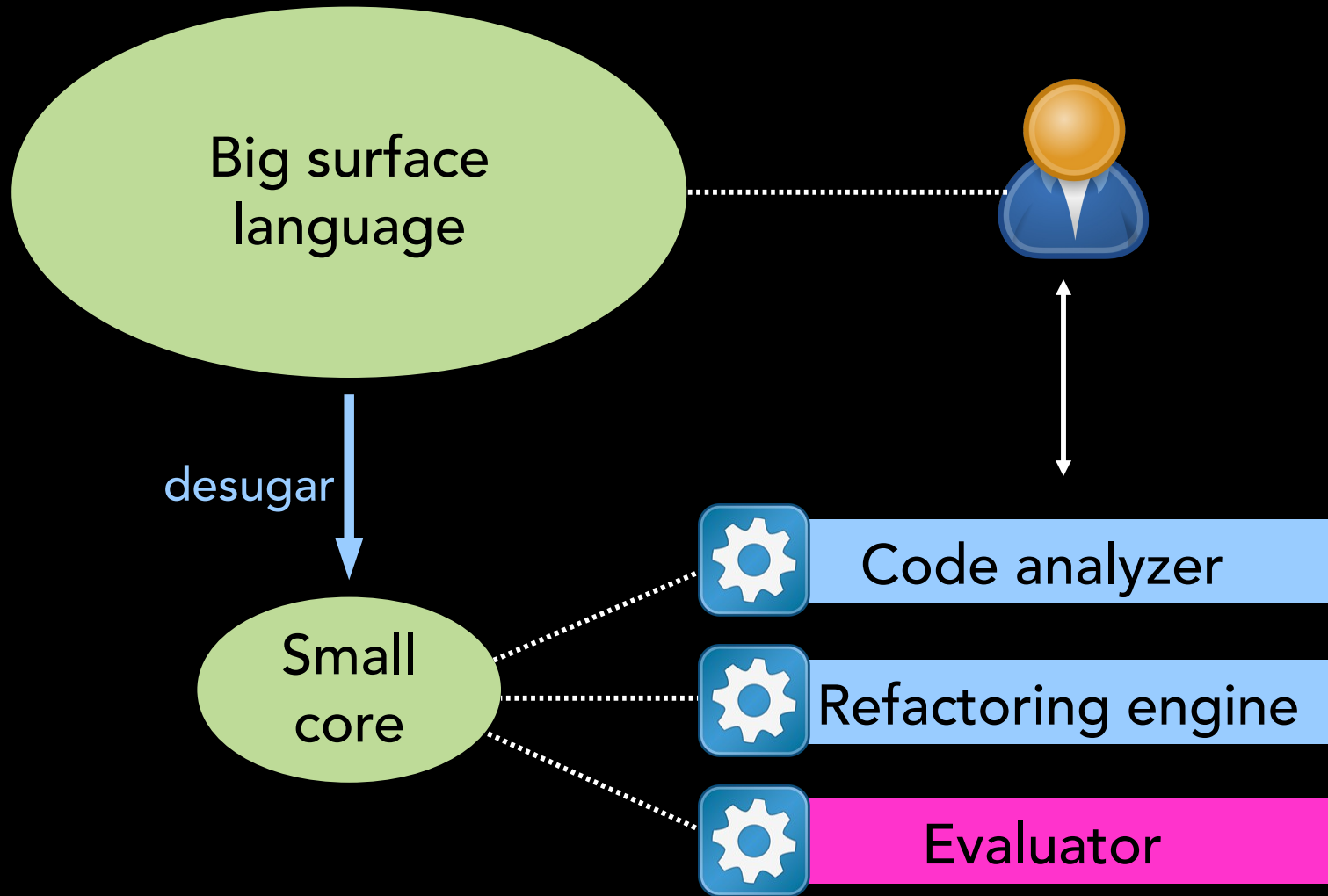
`desugar` → `let t = x in
if t then t else y`











Surface

not(true) or true

Core

Surface

not(true) or true

desugar



Core

```
let t = not(true) in
  if t then t else true
```

Surface

not(true) or true

desugar



Core

```
let t = not(true) in
  if t then t else true
```



```
let t = false in
  if t then t else true
```



```
if false then false else true
```



```
true
```

Surface

not(true) or true



false or true



true

desugar



Core

let t = not(true) in
if t then t else true



let t = false in
if t then t else true



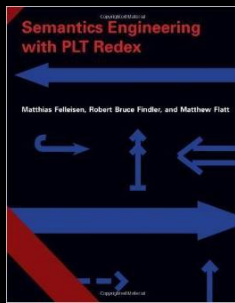
if false then false else true



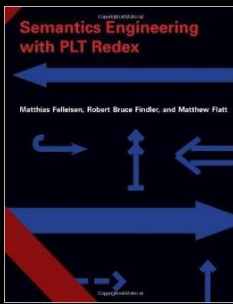
true

Confection

core eval seq → surface eval seq



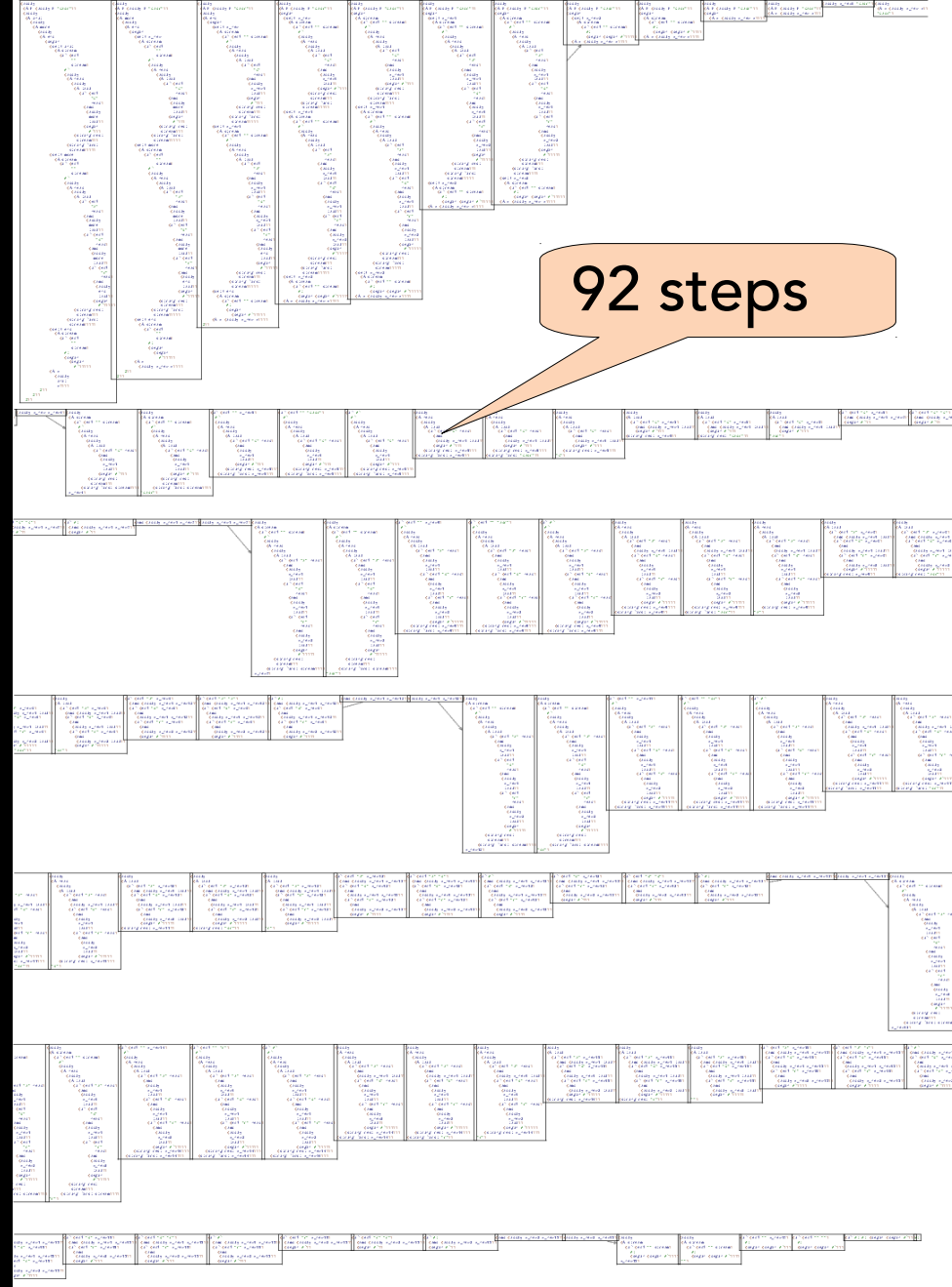
```
(Let
 M
 (Automaton
  init
  (init : ("c" -> more))
  (more
   :
   ("a" -> more)
   ("d" -> more)
   ("r" -> end))
  (end : "accept"))
 (apply M "cadr"))
```

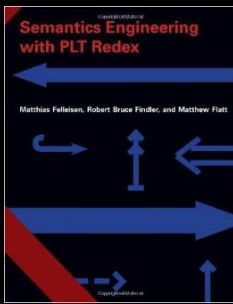


```

(Let
 M
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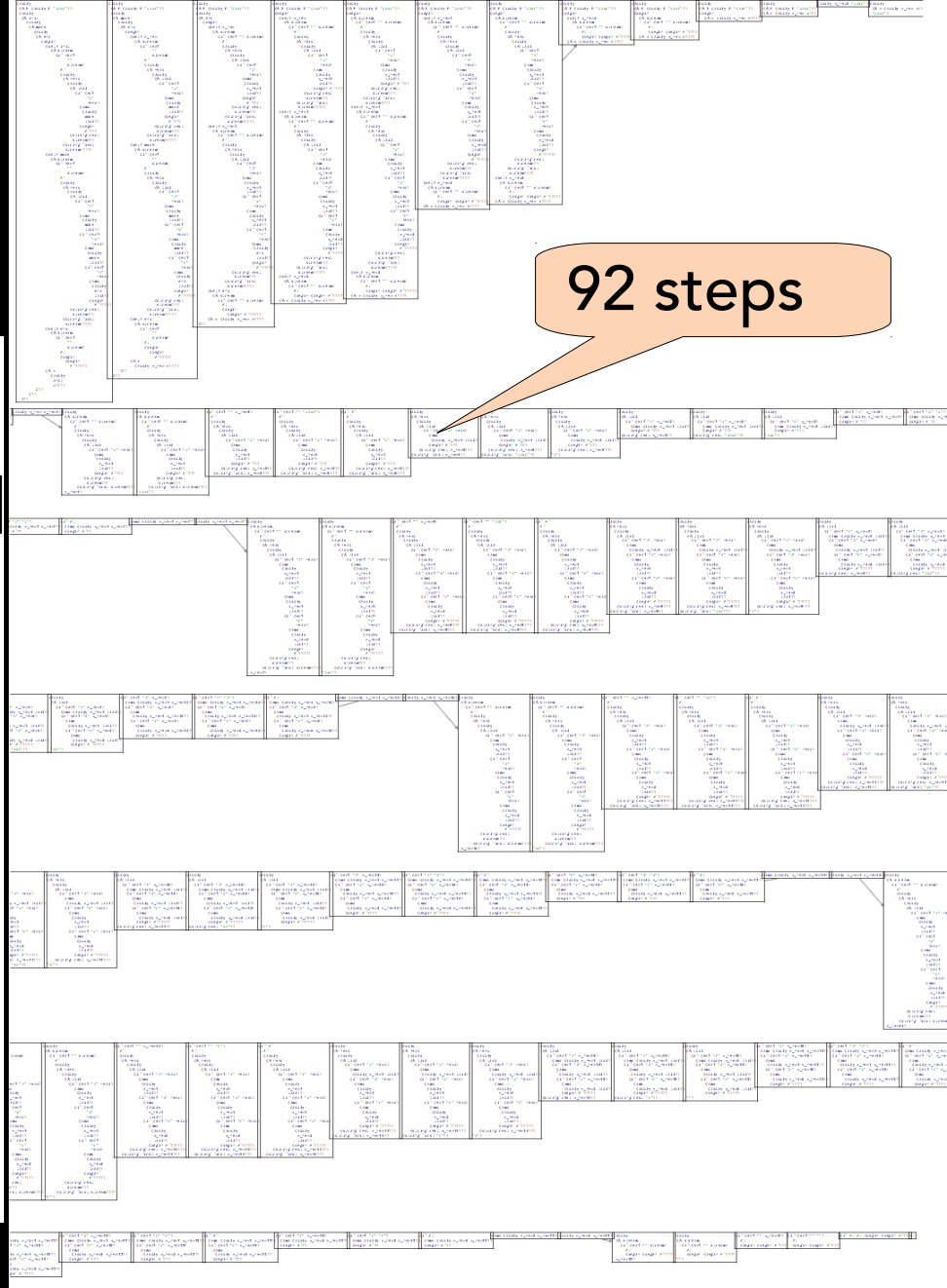
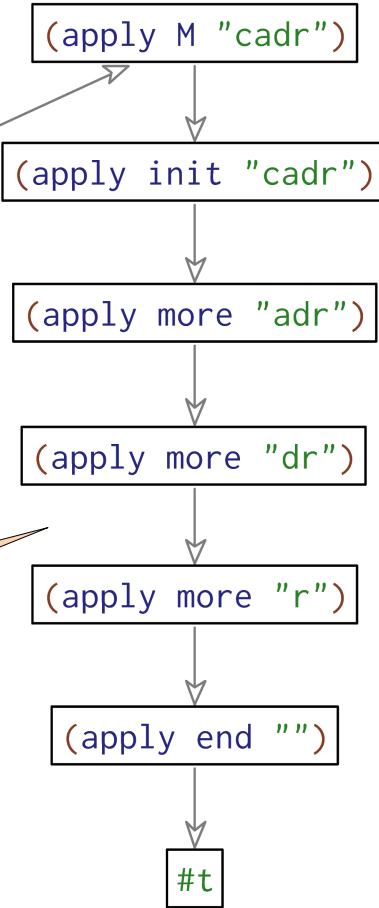
```





```
(Let
 M
 (Automaton
  init
  (init : ("c" -> more))
  (more
   :
   ("a" -> more)
   ("d" -> more)
   ("r" -> end))
  (end : "accept"))
 (apply M "cadr"))
```

7 steps



Surface

not(true) or true

Core

Surface

not(true) or true



false or true



true

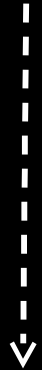
Core

Surface

not(true) or true



false or true



true

Core

desugar



```
let t = not(true) in
  if t then t else true
```

Surface

not(true) or true



false or true



true

desugar



Core

let t = not(true) in
if t then t else true



let t = false in
if t then t else true



if false then false else true



true

Surface

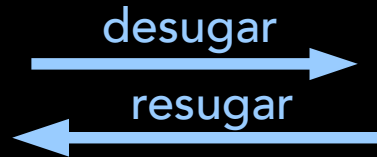
not(true) or true



false or true



true



Core

let t = not(true) in
if t then t else true



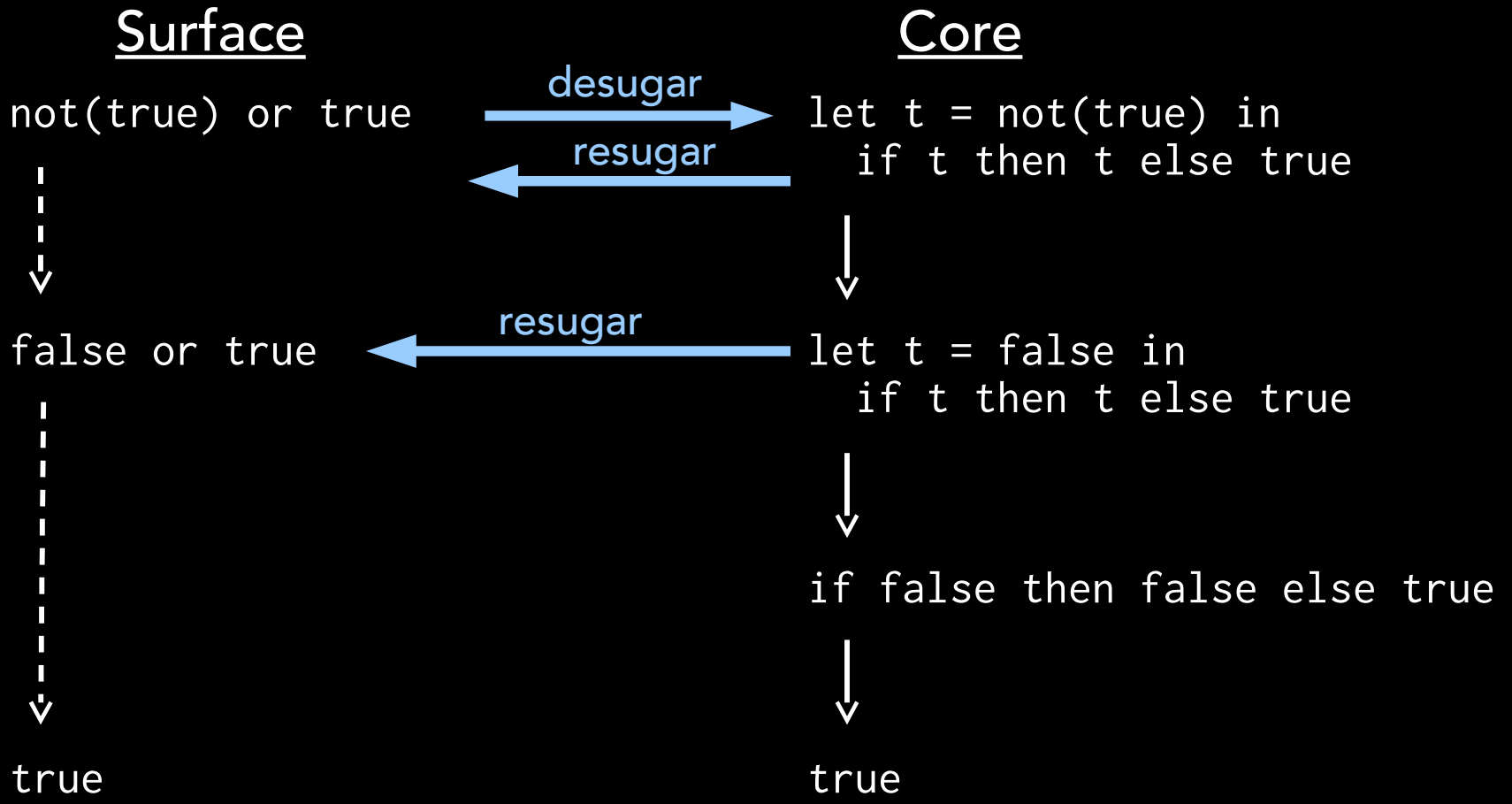
let t = false in
if t then t else true

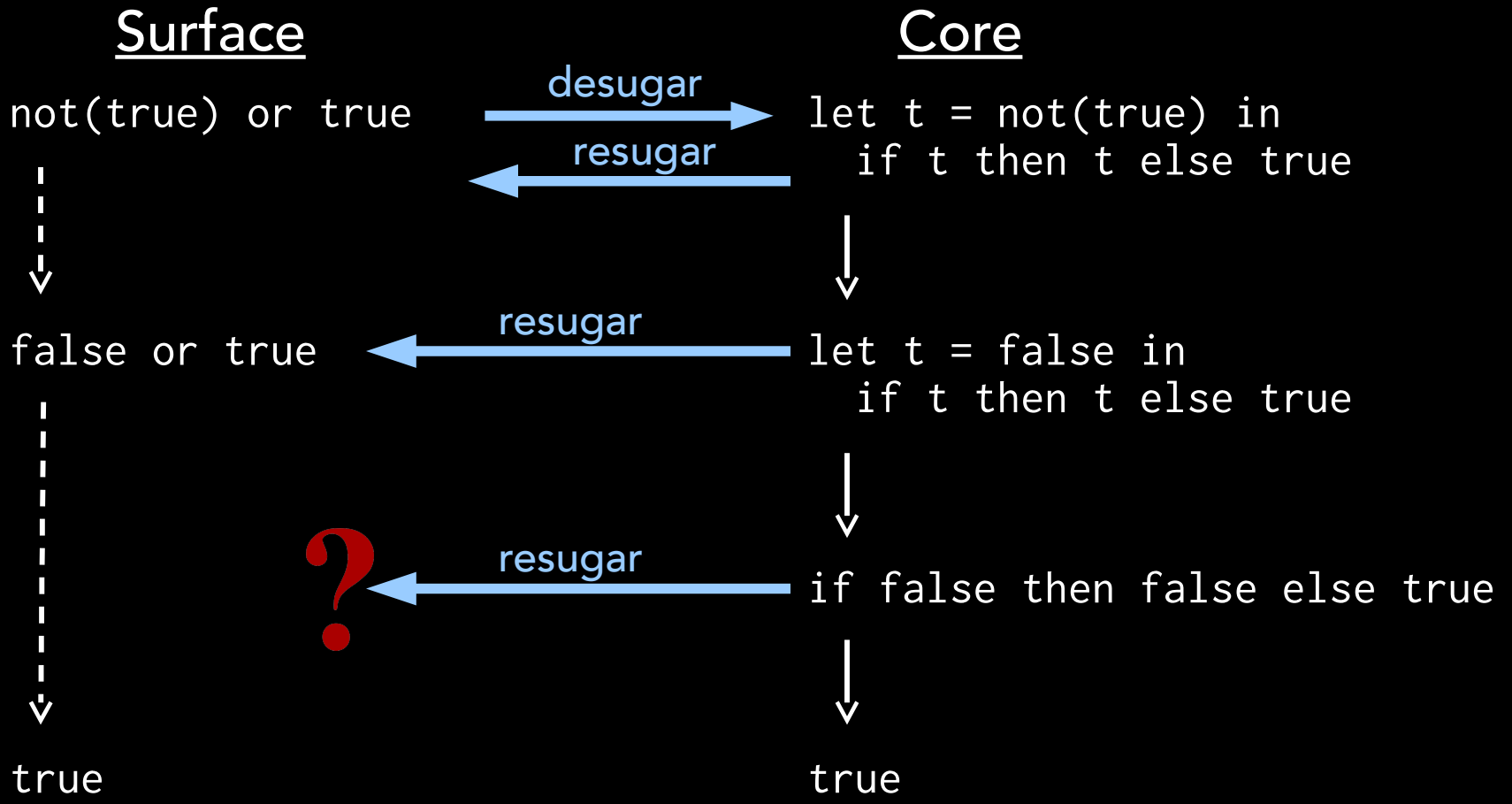


if false then false else true



true





THREE KEY PROPERTIES OF RESUGARING

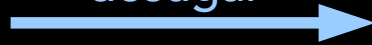
Surface

not(true) or true



?

desugar



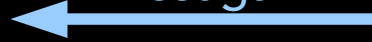
Core

```
let t = not(true) in
  if t then t else true
```



```
let t = false in
  if t then t else true
```

resugar



Surface

not(true) or true



true or true
or true

desugar



Core

```
let t = not(true) in
  if t then t else true
```



```
let t = false in
  if t then t else true
```

resugar



Surface

not(true) or true

desugar →

Core

```
let t = not(true) in
  if t then t else true
```

↓

← resugar

```
let t = false in
  if t then t else true
```

~~true or true
or true~~

Emulation

Each surface term must
desugar to the core term
it purports to represent

Surface

not(true) or true



?

desugar

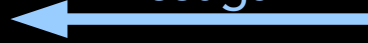


Core

```
let t = not(true) in
  if t then t else true
```



resugar



```
let t = false in
  if t then t else true
```


Surface

not(true) or true



let t = false in
if t then t else true

Core

desugar →

let t = not(true) in
if t then t else true



← resugar

let t = false in
if t then t else true

Surface

not(true) or true



~~let t = false in
if t then t else true~~

desugar



Core

let t = not(true) in
if t then t else true



let t = false in
if t then t else true

resugar

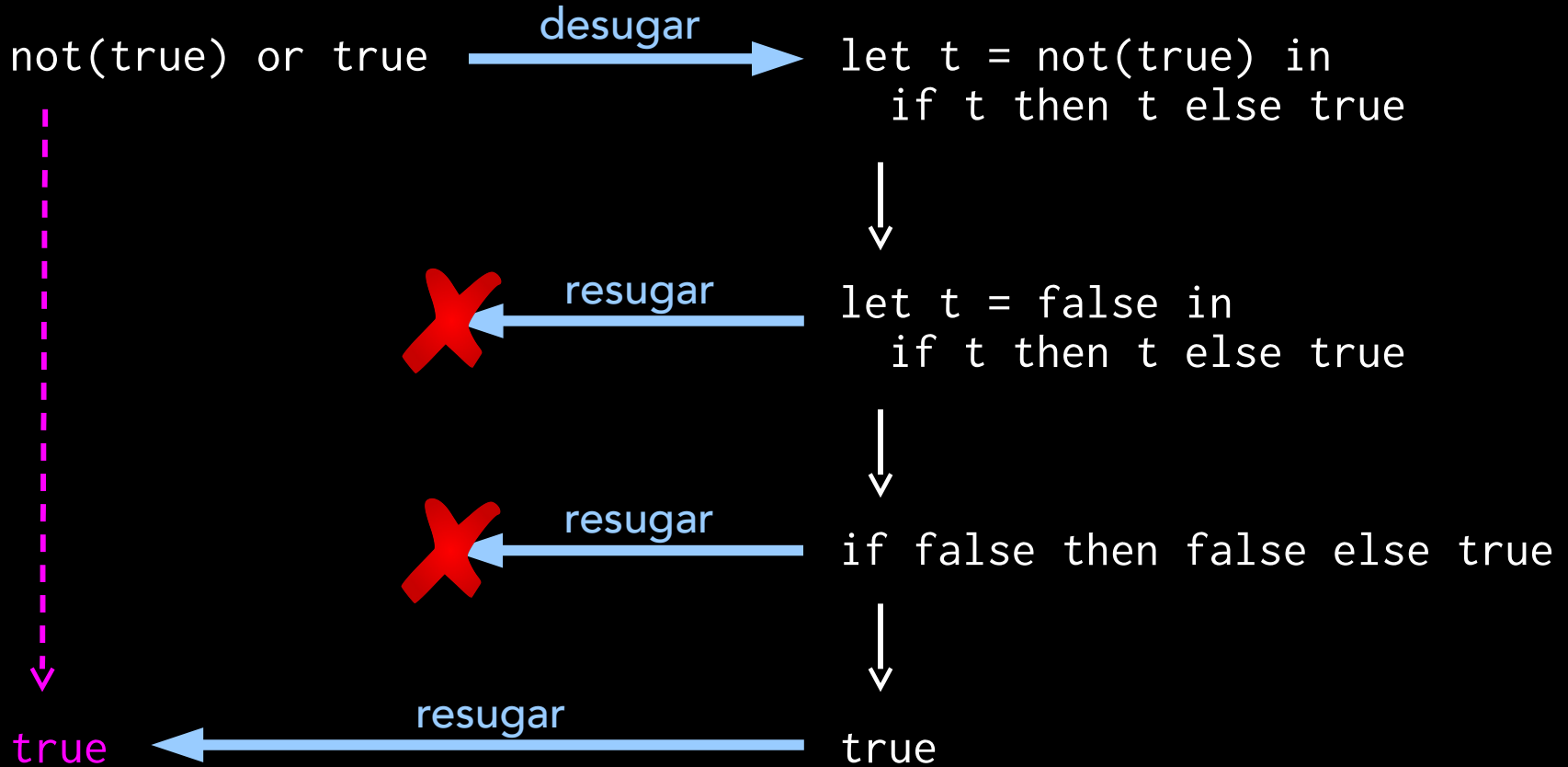


Abstraction

Show things in terms of a sugar precisely when the programmer used that sugar.

Surface

Core



Surface

not(true) or true

desugar

Core

let t = not(true) in
if t then t else true



let t = false in
if t then t else true



if false then false else true



true

Coverage

Show as
many steps
as possible



resugar



resugar

true

resugar

true

`x or y`

`->`

`let t = x in`

`if t then t else y`

expand

match

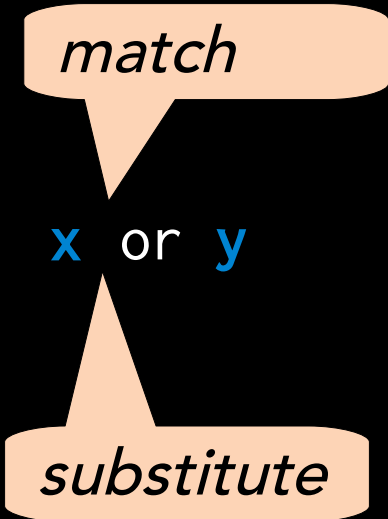
`x or y`

->

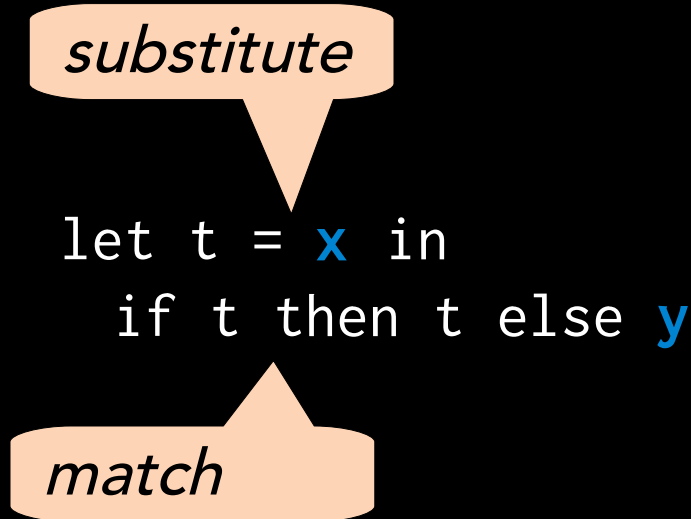
substitute

`let t = x in
if t then t else y`

expand



->



unexpand

A Little Theory

$\text{expand} : \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Core Term}$
 $\text{unexpand} : \text{Core Term} \times \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Surf Term}$

A Little Theory

$\text{expand} : \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Core Term}$

$\text{unexpand} : \text{Core Term} \times \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Surf Term}$

It's a lens!

A Little Theory

$\text{expand} : \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Core Term}$

$\text{unexpand} : \text{Core Term} \times \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Surf Term}$

It's a lens!

$\text{unexpand} (\text{expand } T) T = T$

$\text{expand} (\text{unexpand } T' T) = T'$

GetPut

PutGet

A Little Theory

$\text{expand} : \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Core Term}$

$\text{unexpand} : \text{Core Term} \times \text{Surf Term} \rightarrow \text{Surf Term}$

It's a lens!

$\text{unexpand} (\text{expand } T) T = T$

GetPut

$\text{expand} (\text{unexpand } T' T) = T'$

PutGet

Well-formedness criteria on rules
ensure these laws.

Key Properties

Emulation

Abstraction

Coverage

Key Properties

Emulation (Lens Laws)

Abstraction

Coverage

Key Properties

Emulation (Lens Laws)

Abstraction (Tagging – see paper)

Coverage

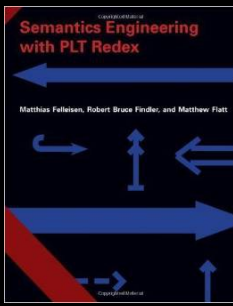
Key Properties

Emulation (Lens Laws)

Abstraction (Tagging – see paper)

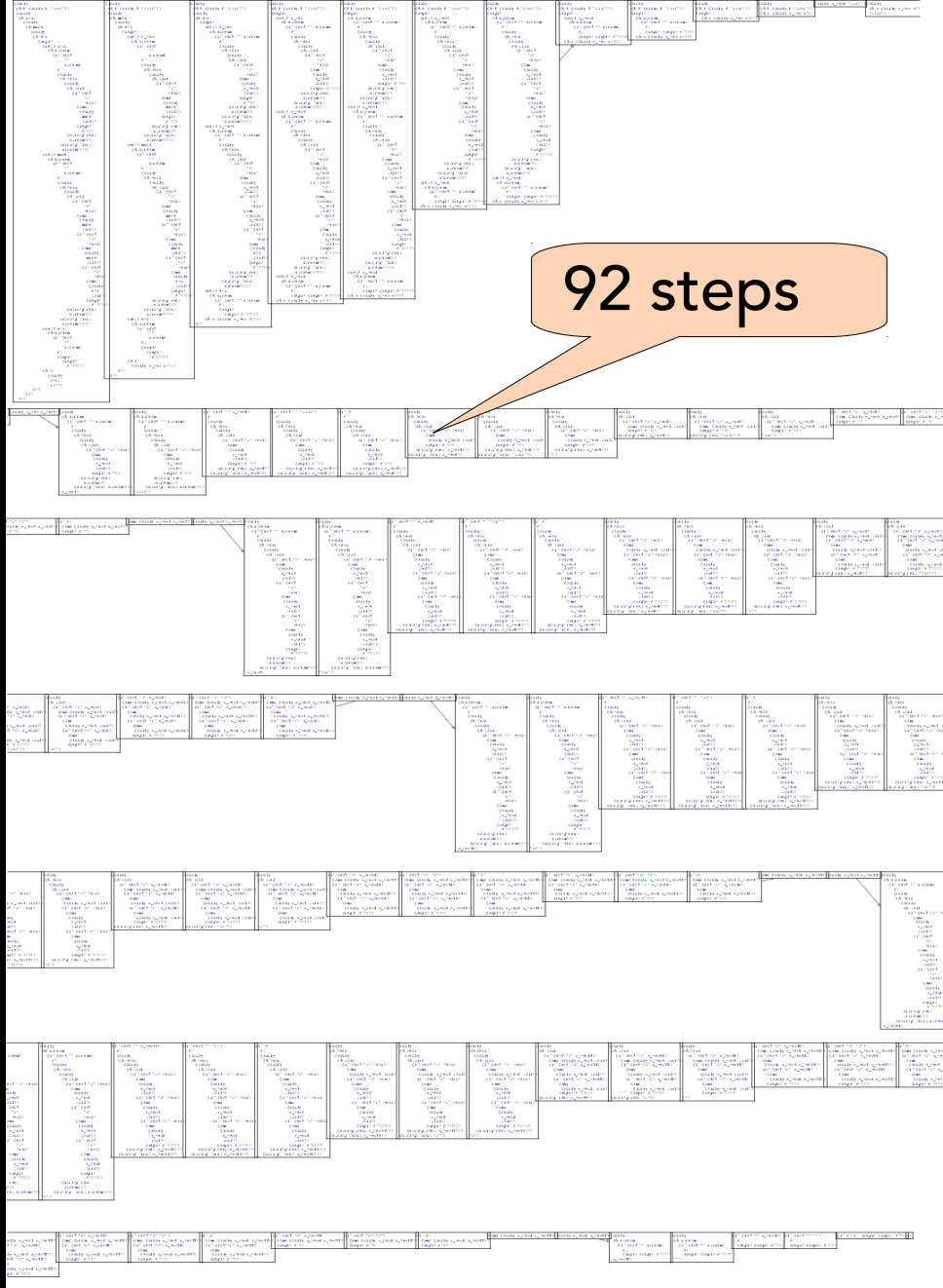
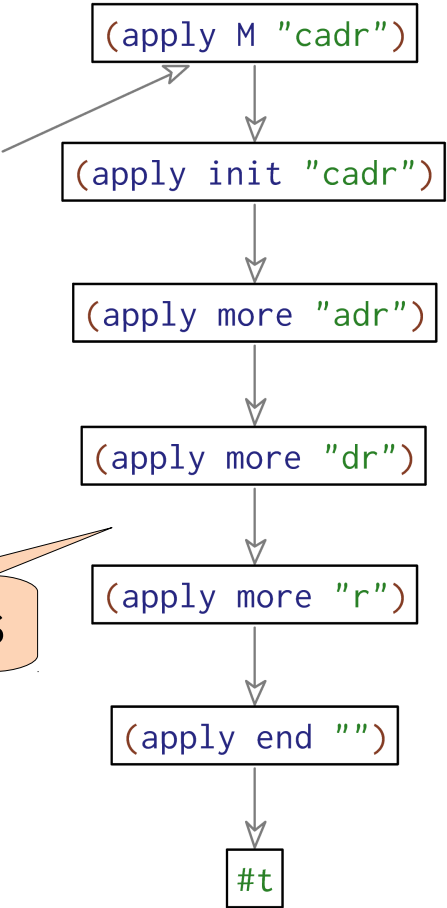
Coverage (Empirical)

A WORKING SYSTEM



```
(Let
 M
 (Automaton
  init
  (init : ("c" -> more))
  (more
   :
   ("a" -> more)
   ("d" -> more)
   ("r" -> end))
  (end : "accept"))
 (apply M "cadr"))
```

7 steps



Surface

(or (and #t #f) #f)

Core





Surface

`(or (and #t #f) #f)`

desugar



Core

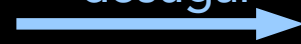
```
((lambda (t) (begin
  (if t t ((lambda () #f))))
 (if #t ((lambda () #f)) #f))
```



Surface

(or (and #t #f) #f)

desugar



Core

```
((lambda (t) (begin
  (if t t ((lambda () #f))))
 (if #t ((lambda () #f)) #f))
```



```
((lambda (t) (begin
  (if t t ((lambda () #f))))
 ((lambda () #f)))
```



```
((lambda (t) (begin
  (if t t ((lambda () #f)))) #f)
```



```
(if #f t ((lambda () #f)))
```



```
((lambda () #f))
```

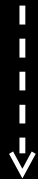


```
#f
```



Surface

(or (and #t #f) #f)



(or #f #f)



(or #f)



#f

desugar



Core

```
((lambda (t) (begin
  (if t t ((lambda () #f))))
 (if #t ((lambda () #f)) #f))
```



```
((lambda (t) (begin
  (if t t ((lambda () #f))))
 ((lambda () #f)))
```



```
((lambda (t) (begin
  (if t t ((lambda () #f)))) #f)
```



```
(if #f t ((lambda () #f)))
```



```
((lambda () #f))
```



#f

Surface

```
my-list = [2]
cases(List) my-list:
  | empty() => print("empty")
  | link(something, _) =>
    print("not empty")
end
```

Core





Surface

```
my-list = [2]
cases(List) my-list:
  | empty() => print("empty")
  | link(something, _) =>
    print("not empty")
end
```

desugar →

Core

```
my-list = list.[ "link" ](2, list.[ "empty" ])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.[ "_match" ]({
    "empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _):
      print("not empty") end
  },
  fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end
```



Surface

```

my-list = [2]
cases(List) my-list:
  | empty() => print("empty")
  | link(something, _) =>
    print("not empty")
end

```

desugar
→

Core

```

my-list = list.["link"](2, list.["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({
    "empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _):
      print("not empty") end
  },
  fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

my-list = obj.["link"](2, list.["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

my-list = obj.["link"](2, list.["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

my-list = <func>(2, list.["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

my-list = <func>(2, obj.["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

my-list = <func>(2, obj.["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

my-list = <func>(2, [])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty")
    end, "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end},
    fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

my-list = [2]
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty")
    end, "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end},
    fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end

```

```

tempMODRIOUJ :: List = [2]
tempMODRIOUJ.["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty")
  end, "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end},
  fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)

```

```

[2].["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
  "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
  raise("cases: no cases matched") end)

```

```

<func>({"empty" : fun(): end, "link" : fun(something, _):
  print("not empty") end}, fun(): raise("cases: no cases
  matched") end)

```

```

<func>({"empty" : fun(): end, "link" : fun(): end}, fun():
  raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
<func>(obj, fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
<func>(obj, fun(): end)
<func>("not empty")
"not empty"

```




Surface

Core

desugar
→

```
my-list = [2]
cases(List) my-list:
  | empty() => print("empty")
  | link(something, _) =>
    print("not empty")
end
```



```
my-list = [2]
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end
```



```
cases(List) [2]:
  | empty() => print("empty")
  | link(something, _) =>
    print("not empty")
end
```



```
<func>("not empty")
```



```
"not empty"
```

```
my-list = list["link"](2, list["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ["_match"]({
    "empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _):
      print("not empty") end
  }),
  fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end
```

```
my-list = obj["link"](2, list["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end
```

```
my-list = obj["link"](2, list["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end
```

```
my-list = <func>(2, list["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end
```

```
my-list = <func>(2, obj["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end
```

```
my-list = <func>(2, obj["empty"])
block:
  tempMODRIOUJ :: List = my-list
  tempMODRIOUJ["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
    "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
    raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
end
```

```
my-list = <func>(2, [])
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  end, "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end},
  fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
```

```
[2]["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
  "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
  raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
```

```
[2]["_match"]({"empty" : fun(): print("empty") end,
  "link" : fun(something, _): print("not empty") end}, fun():
  raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
```

```
<func>({"empty" : fun(): end, "link" : fun(something, _):
  print("not empty") end}, fun(): raise("cases: no cases
  matched") end)
```

```
<func>({"empty" : fun(): end, "link" : fun(): end}, fun():
  raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
```

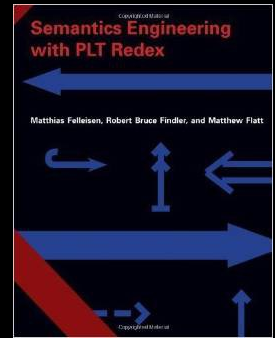
```
<func>(obj, fun(): raise("cases: no cases matched") end)
```

```
<func>(obj, fun(): end)
```

```
<func>("not empty")
```

```
"not empty"
```

1. Redex semantics engineering tool



2. Racket (racket.org)



3. Pyret (pyret.org)



Resugaring

The *Confection* tool

- Declarative sugar specification
- Language agnostic
- Guarantees Emulation and Abstraction

Current/future work

- Hygiene!
- Better error messages through resugaring

Fork us on GitHub
tinyurl.com/resugar



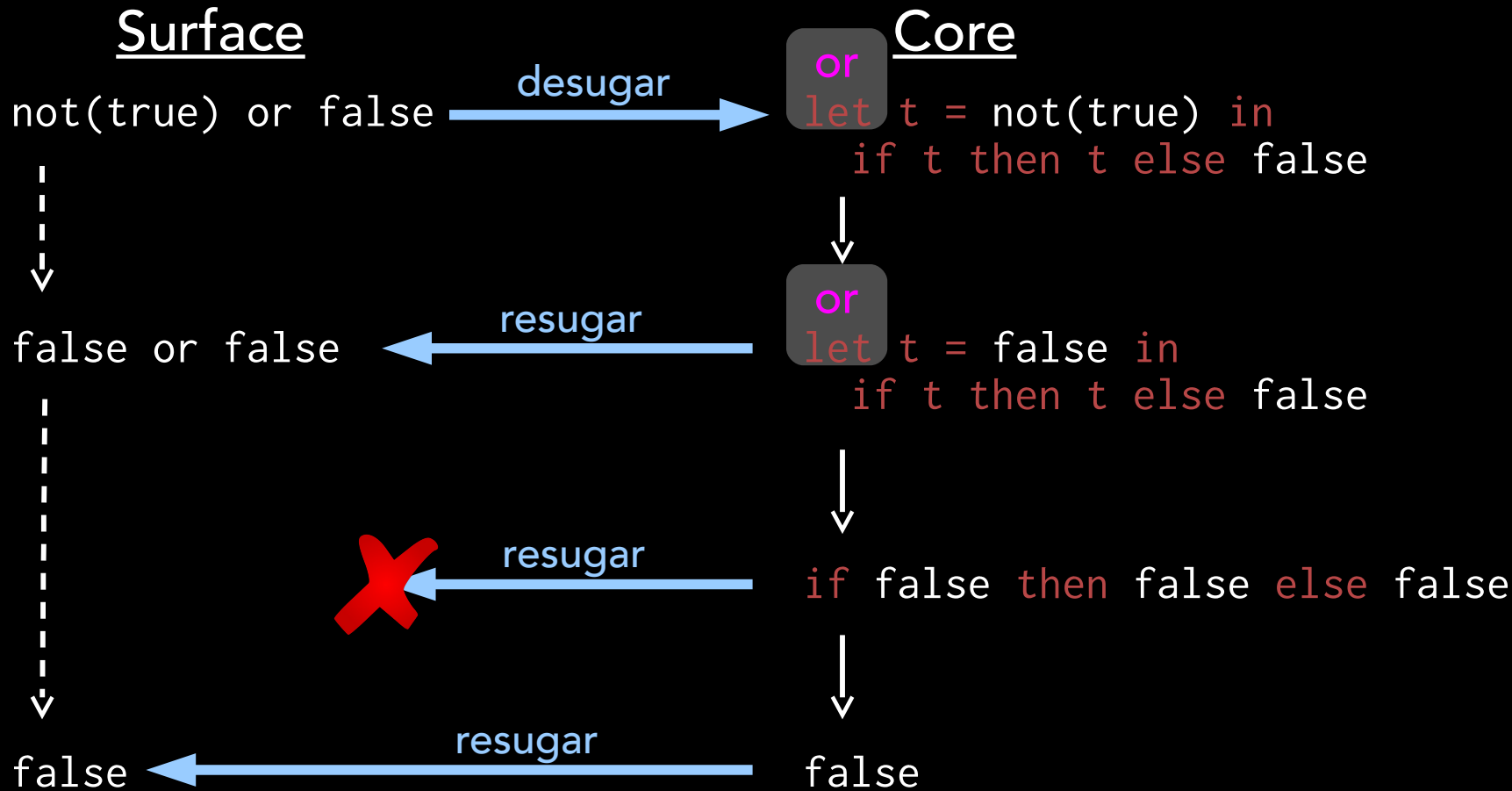
BACKUP SLIDES

How should this resugar?

```
let t = not(true) in  
  if t then t else true
```

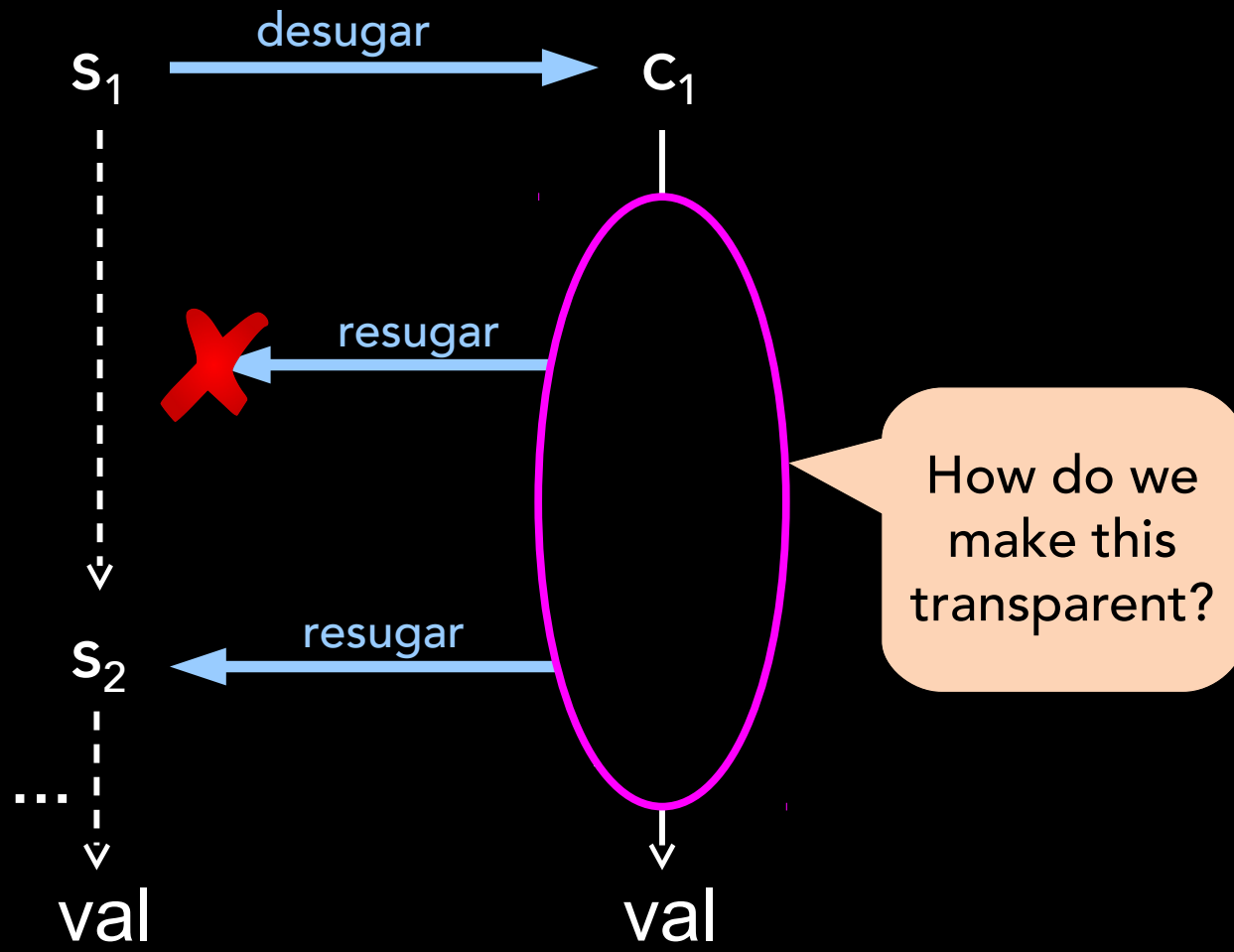
Looks like the desugaring of an 'or'.

But maybe the user wrote it?



Surface

Core



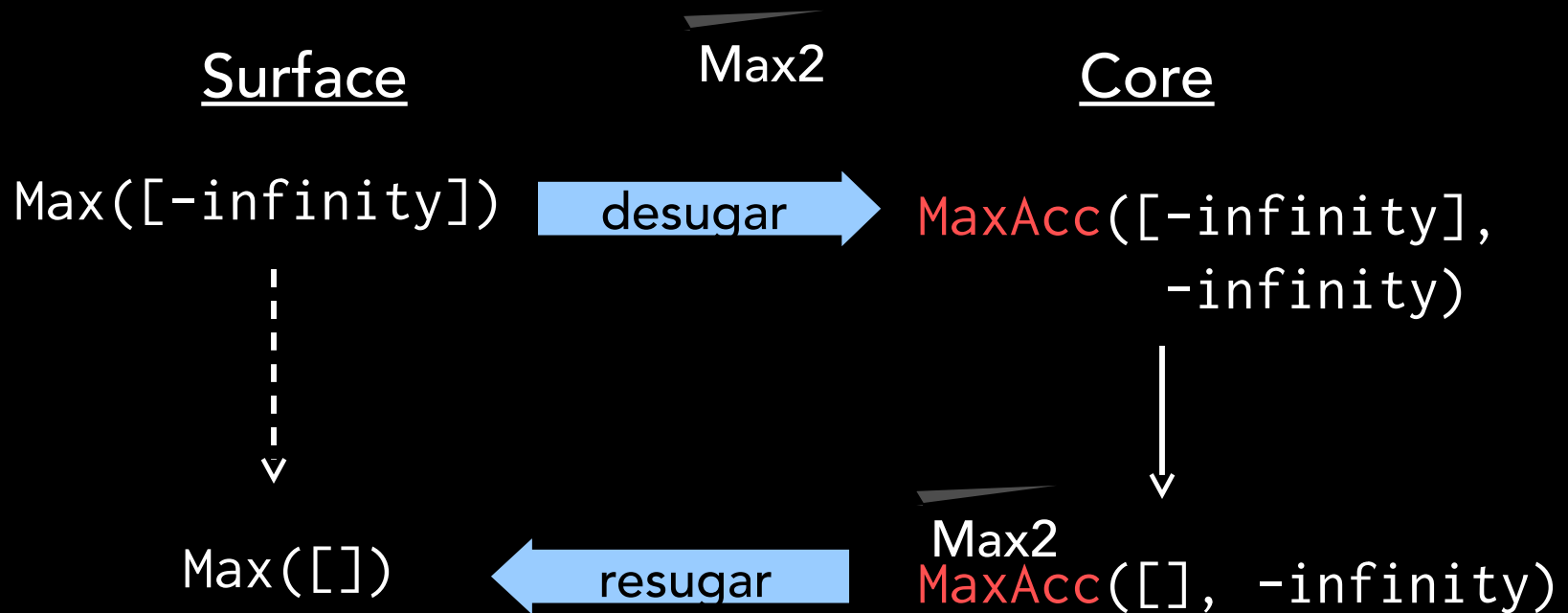
Reconstruct the (core) program as source at each evaluation step (along with its tags).

Either instrument the compiler or do a pre-compilation step

CPS/ANF makes this easier; or just statefully keep track of the stack

Max([]) -> Raise("empty list");

Max(xs) -> MaxAcc(xs, -infinity);



Related Work

- J. Hennesy. Symbolic debugging of optimized code. *Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems*, 4(3), 1982.
- J. Clements, M. Flatt, and M. Felleisen. Modeling an algebraic stepper. In *European Symposium on Programming Languages and Systems*, 2001.
- R. Perera, U. A. Acar, J. Cheney, and P. B. Levy. Functional programs that explain their work. In *International Conference on Functional Programming*, 2012
- A. V. Deursen, P. Klint, and F. Tip. Origin tracking. *Journal of Symbolic Computation*, 15(5–6), 1993.