

Translating Code Comments to Procedure Specifications

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Spain



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Germany

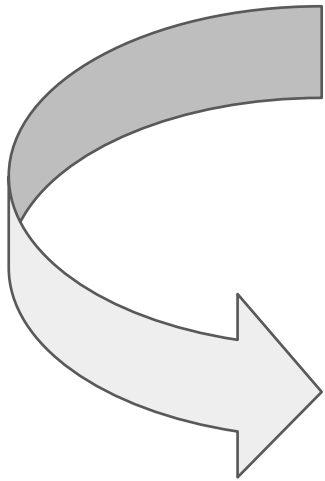


♠University of Washington Seattle,
WA, USA

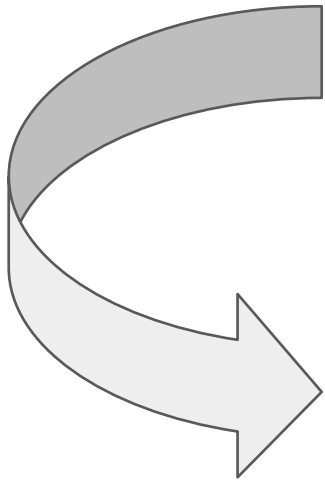


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public static boolean removeAll(List myList){...}
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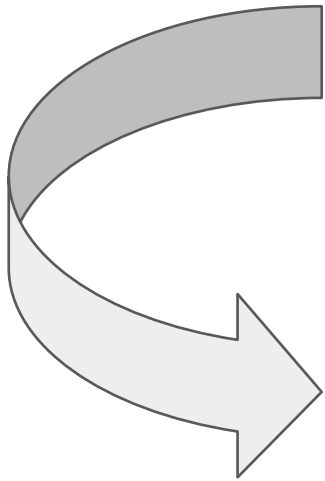



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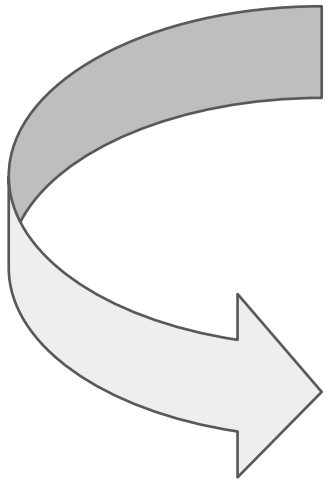
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@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    List<Integer> list = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3);  
  
}
```

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public static boolean removeAll(List myList){...}
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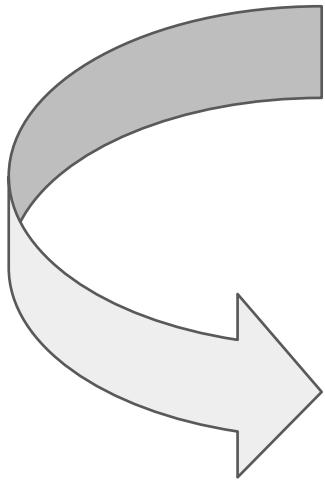
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We have no idea

EV SUITE



Randoop

Automatic unit test generation for Java

EV SUITE



Where is the oracle?

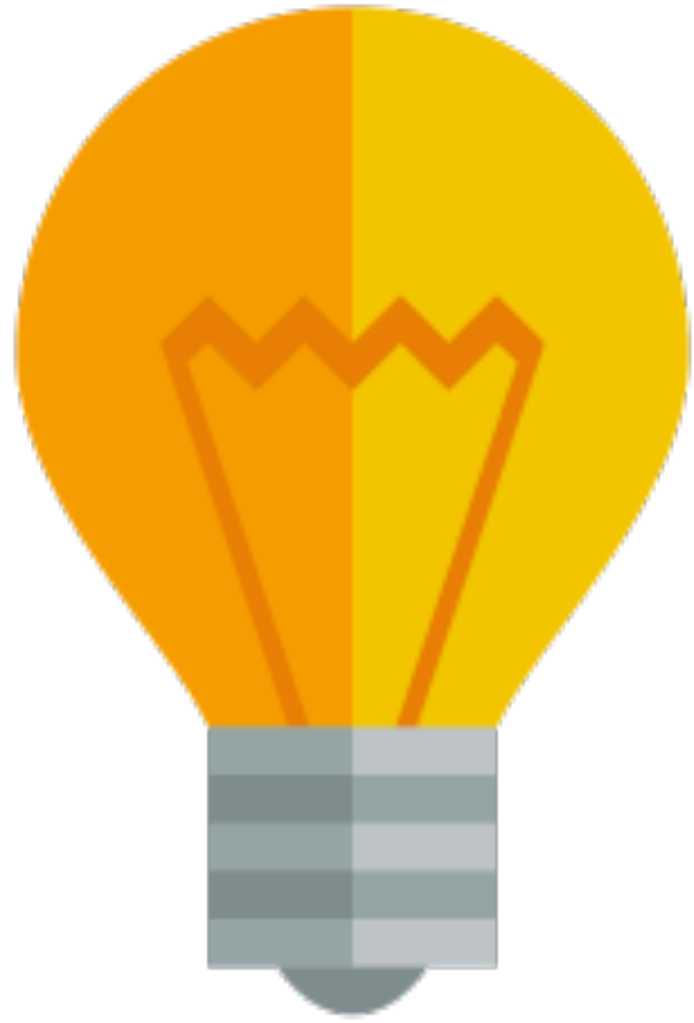
EV SUITE



Where is the oracle?

Where is the specification?





Why not generating executable specifications automatically?



Why not generating executable specifications automatically?

Let's rely on Javadoc comments!

Our solution

```
/**
 * @return true if the list is empty
 */
public static boolean removeAll(List myList)
{...}
```


Our solution

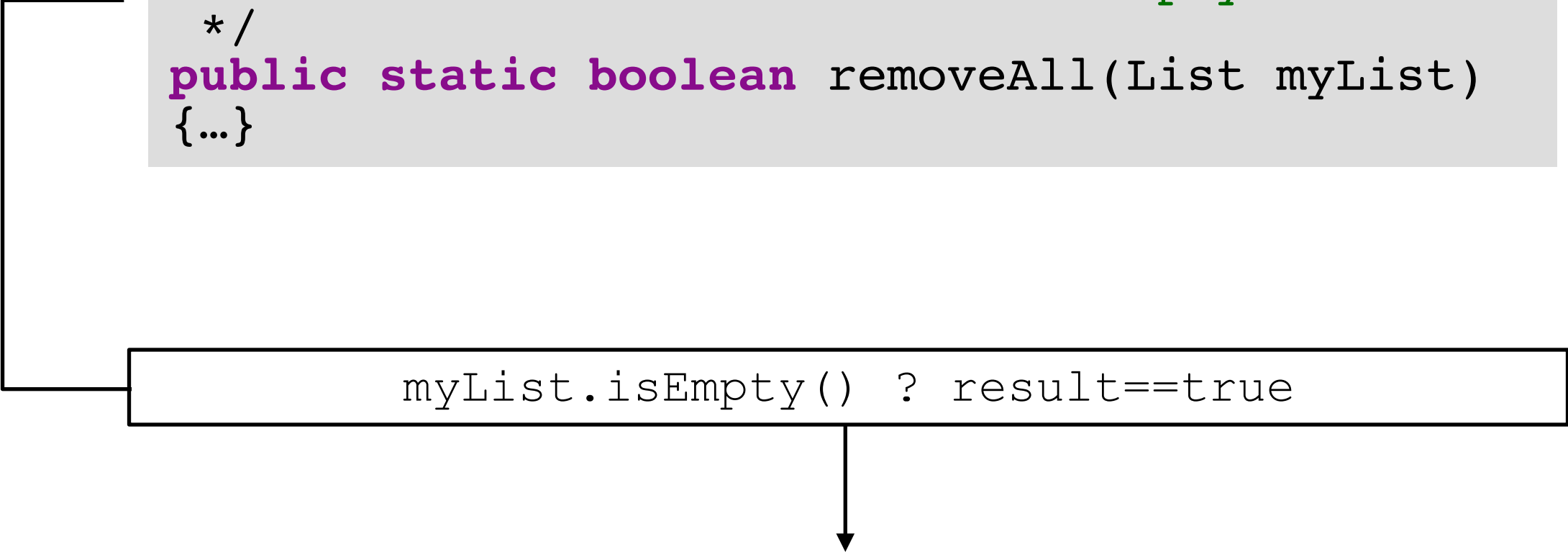
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myList.isEmpty() ? result==true

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The idea is not new...

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@tComment

Tan et al. ICST 2012

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Toradocu

Goffi et al. ISSTA 2016

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ALICS

Pandita et al. ICSE 2012

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ALICS

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Preconditions	Normal Postconditions	Exceptional Postconditions

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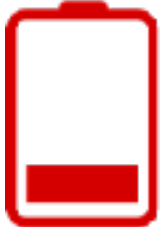

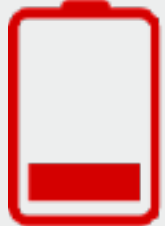
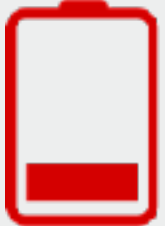




Tan et al. ICST 2012

Toradocu

Goffi et al. ISSTA 2016

ALICS

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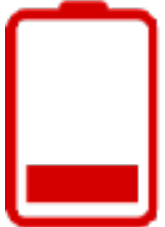

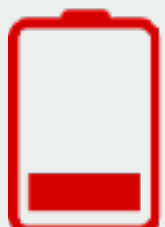
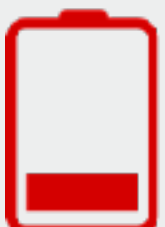





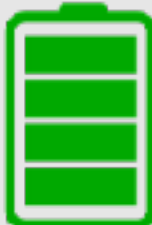

Toradocu

Goffi et al. ISSTA 2016

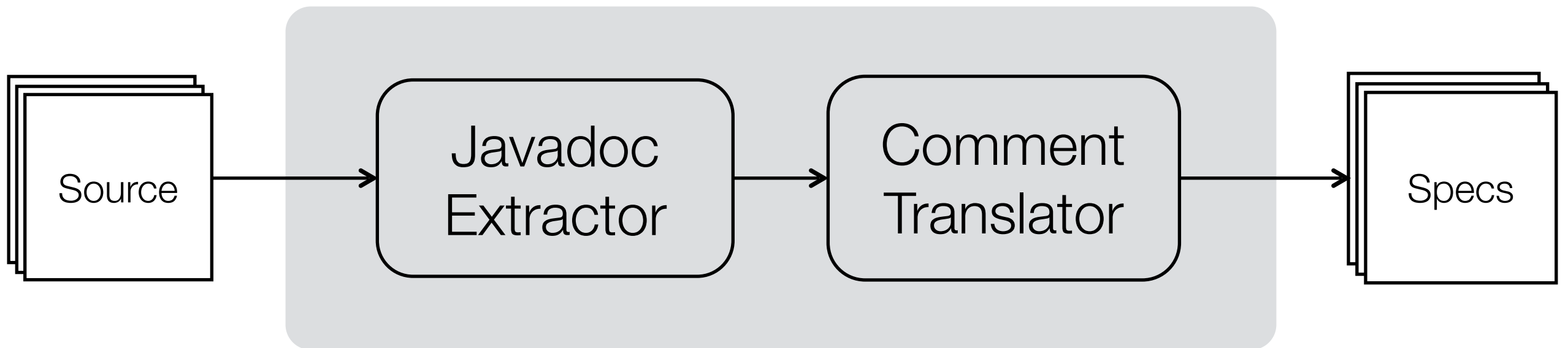
ALICS

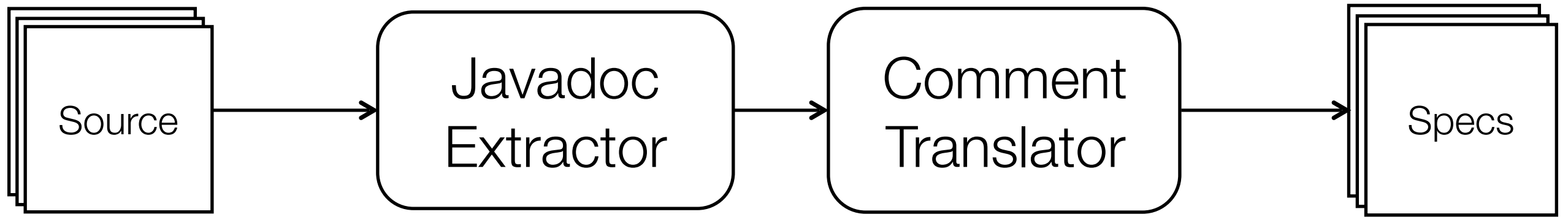
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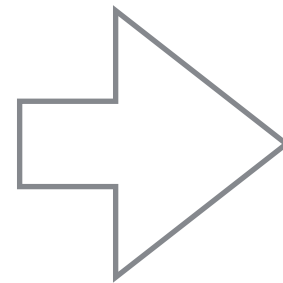
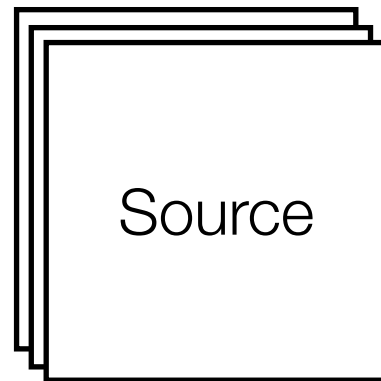
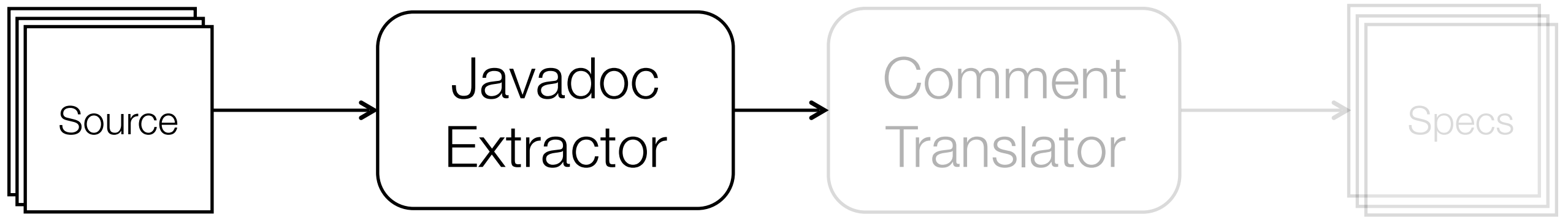
Jdoctor

Preconditions	Normal Postconditions	Exceptional Postconditions
		
		
		
		

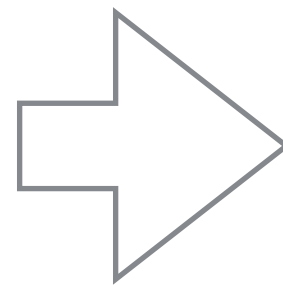
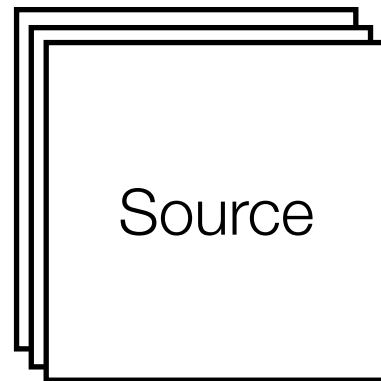
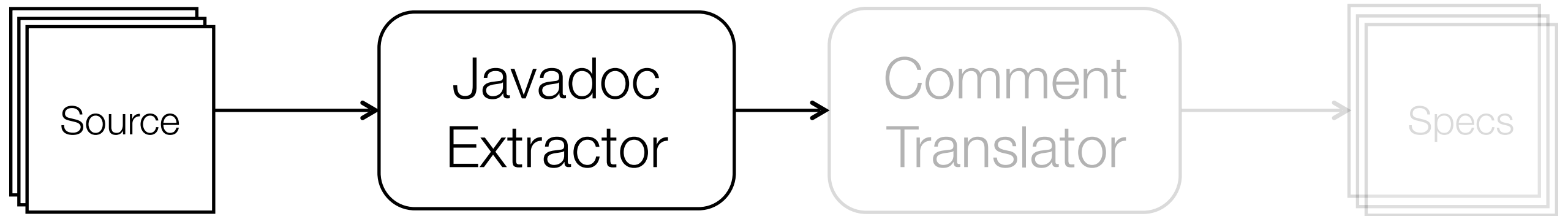
Jdoctor





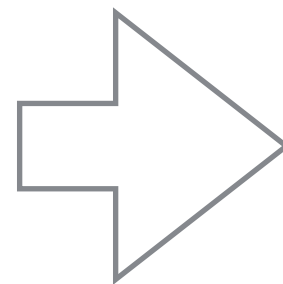


1. Expected result
2. Condition (Text)

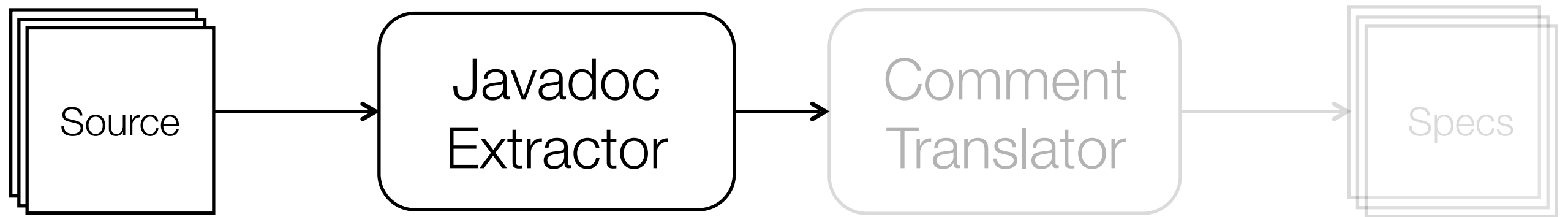


1. Expected result
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```
/**  
 * @return true  
 * if the list is empty  
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public boolean removeAll(List  
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```

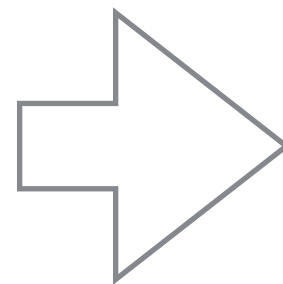


1. true
2. "if the list is empty"

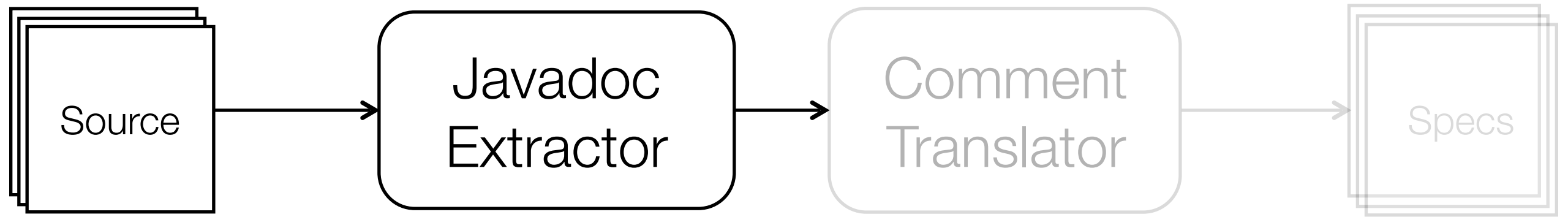


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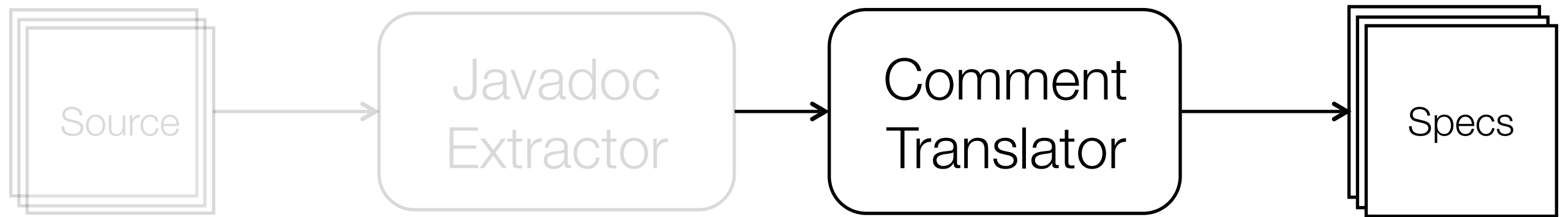
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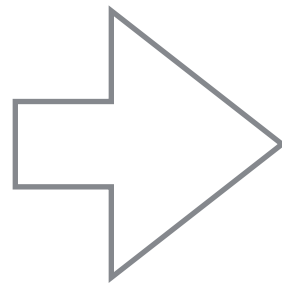
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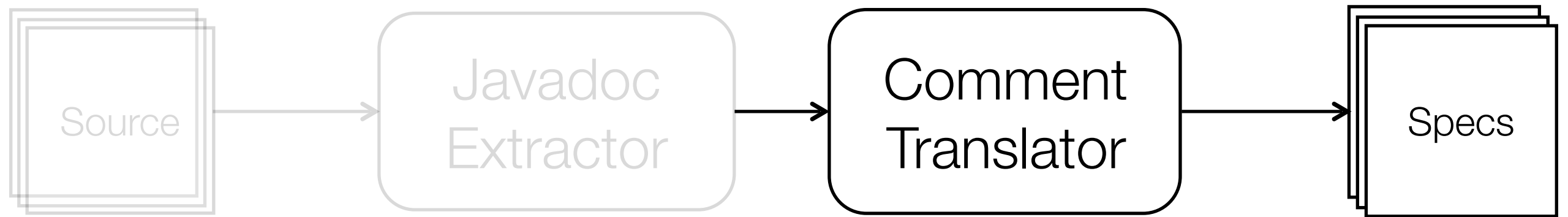
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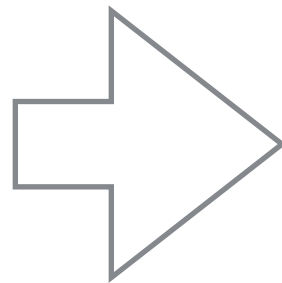
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2. **Condition (Code)**

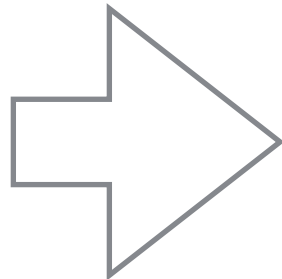


1. Expected result
2. Condition (Text)

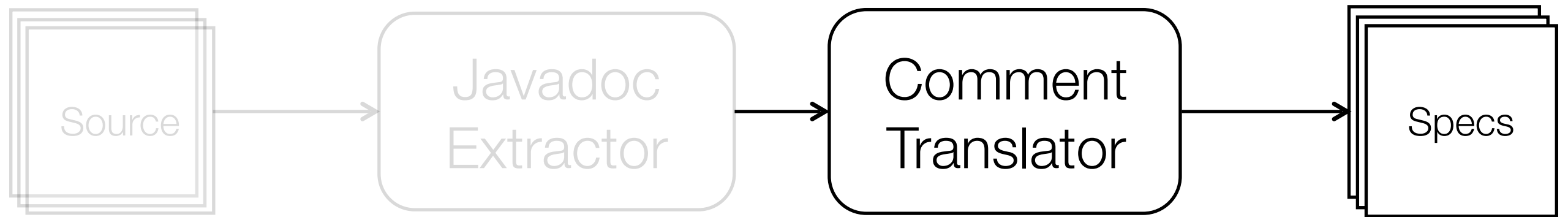


1. Expected result
2. **Condition (Code)**

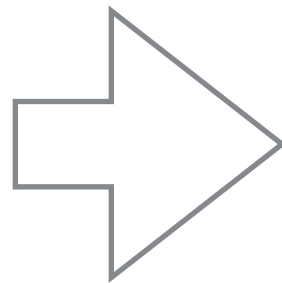
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1. true
2. `myList.isEmpty()`

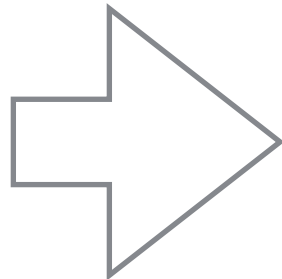


1. Expected result
2. Condition (Text)



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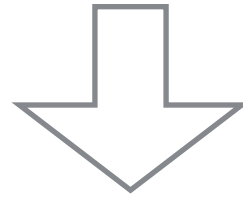
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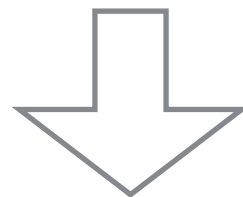
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```
myList.isEmpty() ? result==true
```

Natural Language Specification

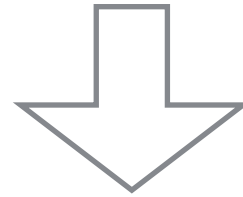


Comment
Translator

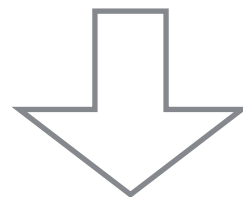
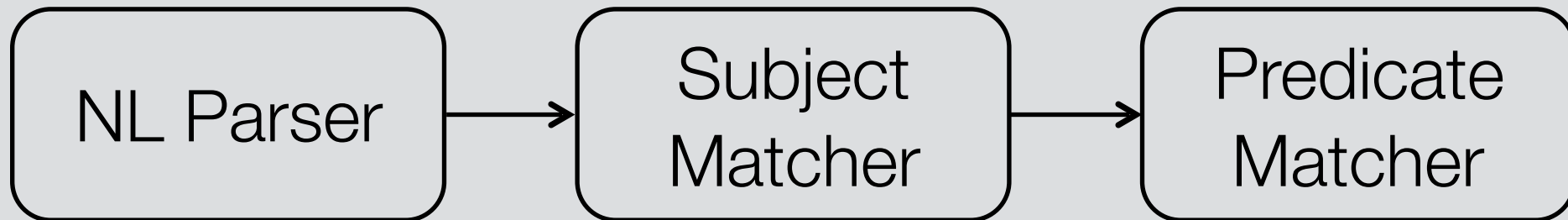


Java Specification

Natural Language Specification



Comment Translator



Java Specification



`"if the list is empty"`



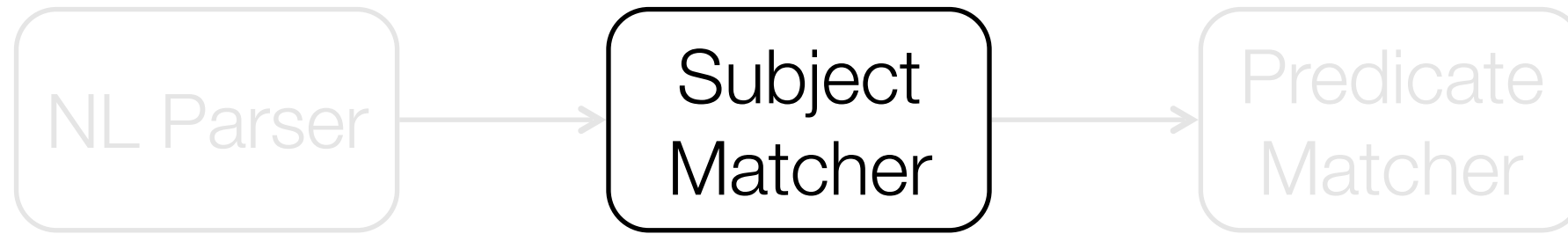
"if the list is empty"

Subject

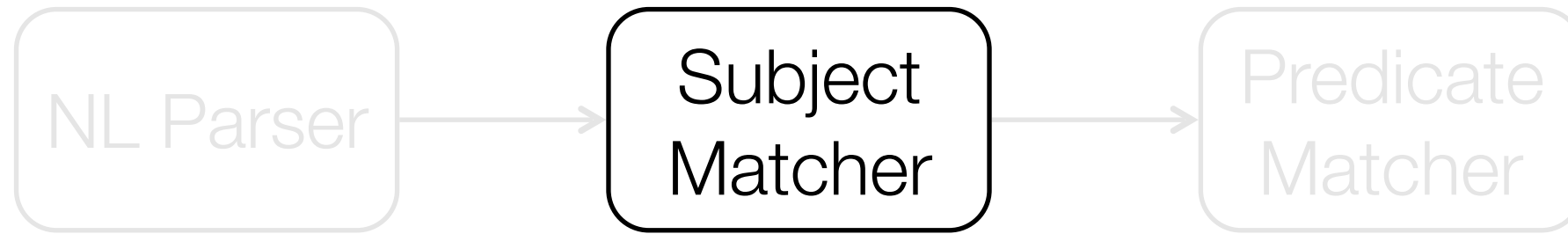
Predicate

"list"

"is empty"



Subject: "list"



Subject: "list"

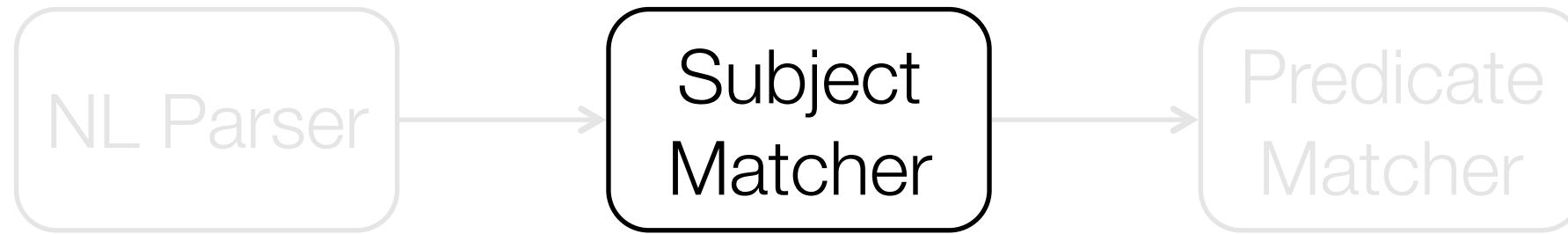
Candidates

Formal Parameters

Class Name

Methods

Fields



Subject: "list"

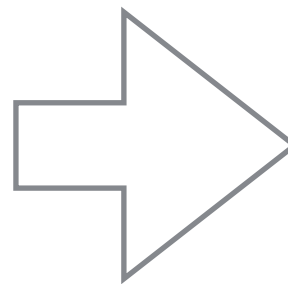
Candidates

Formal Parameters

Class Name

Methods

Fields



Candidate

Distance

`myList`

2

`isEmpty`

7

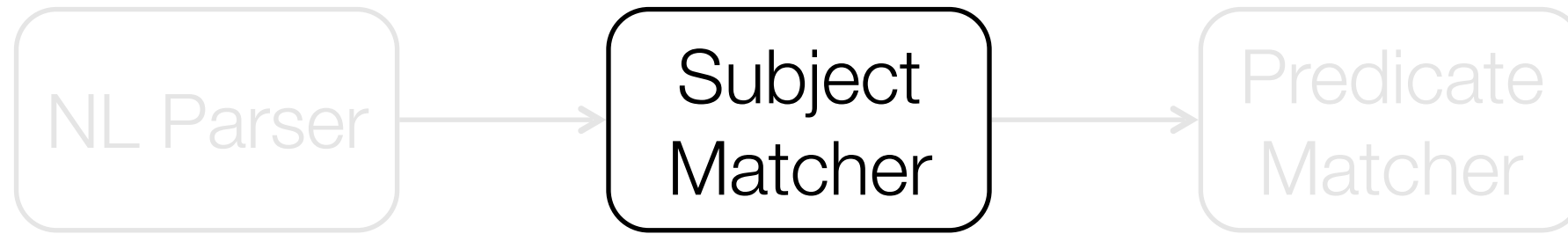
`iterator`

8

`size`

4

...



Subject: "list"

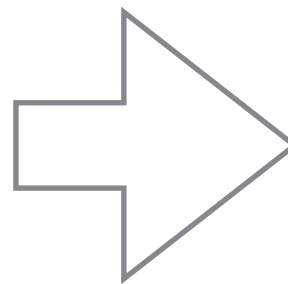
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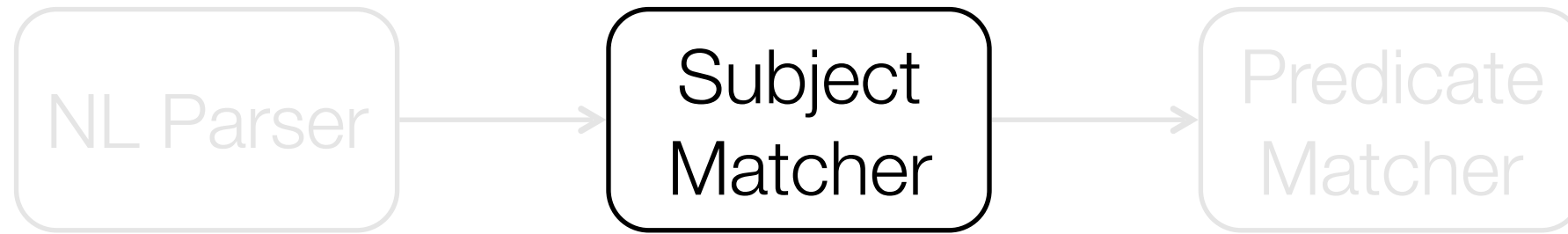
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Subject: "list" => **myList**

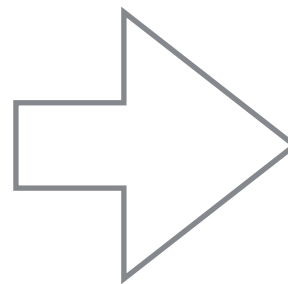
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Subject

Predicate

`"list"`

`"is empty"`

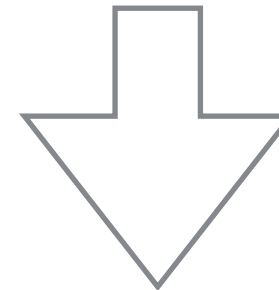


Subject

Predicate

"list"

"is empty"



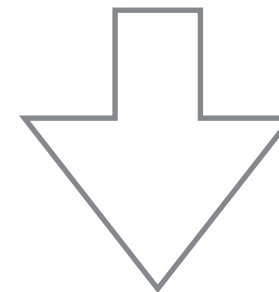


Subject

Predicate

"list"

"is empty"



1: Exact pattern match?

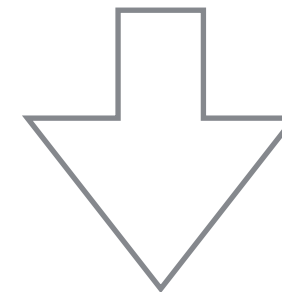


Subject

Predicate

`"list"`

`"is empty"`



`is null`



`== null`

1: Exact pattern match?

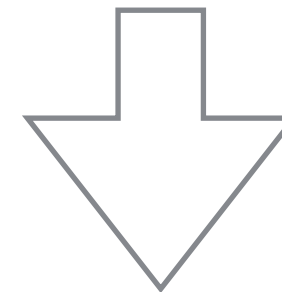


Subject

Predicate

"list"

"is empty"



is null \longrightarrow `== null`

is negative \longrightarrow `< 0`

1: Exact pattern match?

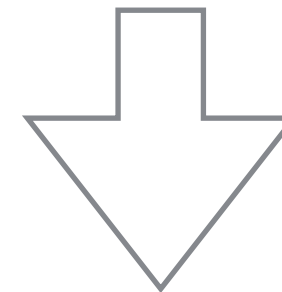


Subject

Predicate

"list"

"is empty"



is null \longrightarrow `== null`

is negative \longrightarrow `< 0`

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1: Exact pattern match?

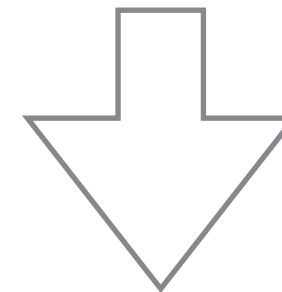


Subject

Predicate

"list"

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is null \longrightarrow `== null`

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...

1: Exact pattern match?

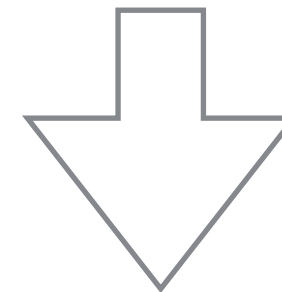


Subject

Predicate

`"list"`

`"is empty"`



is null \longrightarrow `== null`

is negative \longrightarrow `< 0`

is positive \longrightarrow `> 0`

...

1: Exact pattern match?

- @tComment
- Toradocu
- ALICS

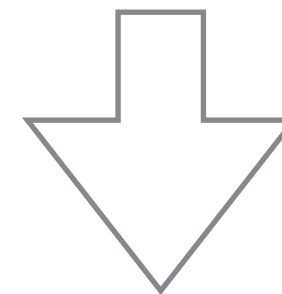


Subject

Predicate

`"list"`

`"is empty"`



"is empty" not found...

is null \longrightarrow `== null`

is negative \longrightarrow `< 0`

is positive \longrightarrow `> 0`

...

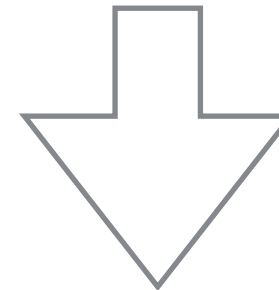


Subject

Predicate

"list"

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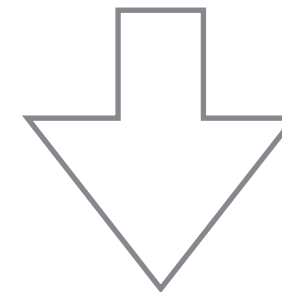


Subject

Predicate

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2: Syntax match?

Toradocu

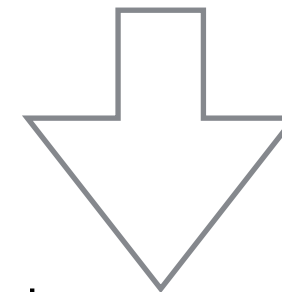


Subject

Predicate

"list"

"is empty"



2: Syntax match?

Toradocu

Candidate	Distance
<code>myList</code>	9
<code>isEmpty</code>	1
<code>iterator</code>	6
<code>size</code>	7
...	

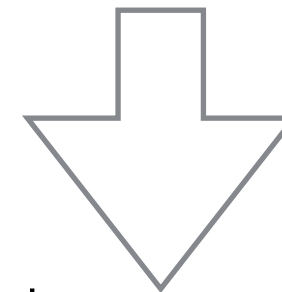


Subject

Predicate

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2: Syntax match?

Toradocu

Candidate	Distance
myList	9
isEmpty	1
iterator	6
size	7
...	

Pattern and syntax match are not enough

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Return true if the list **is empty**

Pattern and syntax match are not enough

Return true if the list **is empty**

Candidate	Distance
<code>clear</code>	7
<code>isEmpty</code>	1
<code>iterator</code>	6
<code>size</code>	7
...	

Pattern and syntax match are not enough

Return true if the list **is empty**
contains no element

Pattern and syntax match are not enough

Return true if the list **is empty**
contains no element
has no content

Pattern and syntax match are not enough

Return true if the list **is empty**
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Candidate

Distance

`myList`

`isEmpty`

`iterator`

`size`

`...`

Pattern and syntax match are not enough

Return true if the list **is empty**
contains no element
has no content

Candidate

myList

isEmpty

iterator

size

...

Distance

???

Pattern and syntax match are not enough

Return true if the list **is empty**
contains no element
has no content

Candidate

myList

isEmpty

iterator

size

...

Distance

???

~~@Comment~~
~~Toradocu~~
~~ALICS~~

Analyzing complex comments

```
/**
 * Checks if there is a credible threatening unit to
 * this unit within a range of moves.
 *
 * @param moves list of moves
 * @return True if a threat was found.
 */
public boolean isInDanger(List<Object> moves)
```

Analyzing complex comments

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 *  
 * @param moves list of moves  
 * @return True if a threat was found.  
 */  
public boolean isInDanger(List<Object> moves)
```

`searchForDanger(List<Object>)`

WordNet

A Lexical Database for English

threat was found

search for **danger**



WordNet

A Lexical Database for English

threat was **found**

??

search for danger

Verb

- S: (v) find, happen, chance, bump, encounter (come upon, as if by accident; meet with)
- S: (v) detect, observe, find, discover, notice (discover or determine the existence, presence, or fact of)
- S: (v) find, regain (come upon after searching; find the location of something that was missed or lost)
- S: (v) determine, find, find out, ascertain (establish after a calculation, investigation, experiment, survey, or study)
- S: (v) find, feel (come to believe on the basis of emotion, intuitions, or indefinite grounds)
- S: (v) witness, find, see (perceive or be contemporaneous with)
- S: (v) line up, get hold, come up, find (get something or somebody for a specific purpose)
- S: (v) discover, find (make a discovery, make a new finding)
- S: (v) discover, find (make a discovery)
- S: (v) find (obtain through effort or management)

Verb

- S: (v) find, happen, chance, bump, encounter (come upon, as if by accident; meet with)
- S: (v) detect, observe, find, discover, notice (discover or determine the existence, presence, or fact of)
- S: (v) find, regain (come upon after searching; find the location of something that was missed or lost)
- S: (v) determine, find, find out, ascertain (establish after a calculation,

“search” is **not** displayed as a result

- S: (v) witness, find, see (perceive or be contemporaneous with)
- S: (v) line up, get hold, come up, find (get something or somebody for a specific purpose)
- S: (v) discover, find (make a discovery, make a new finding)
- S: (v) discover, find (make a discovery)
- S: (v) find (obtain through effort or management)

Verb

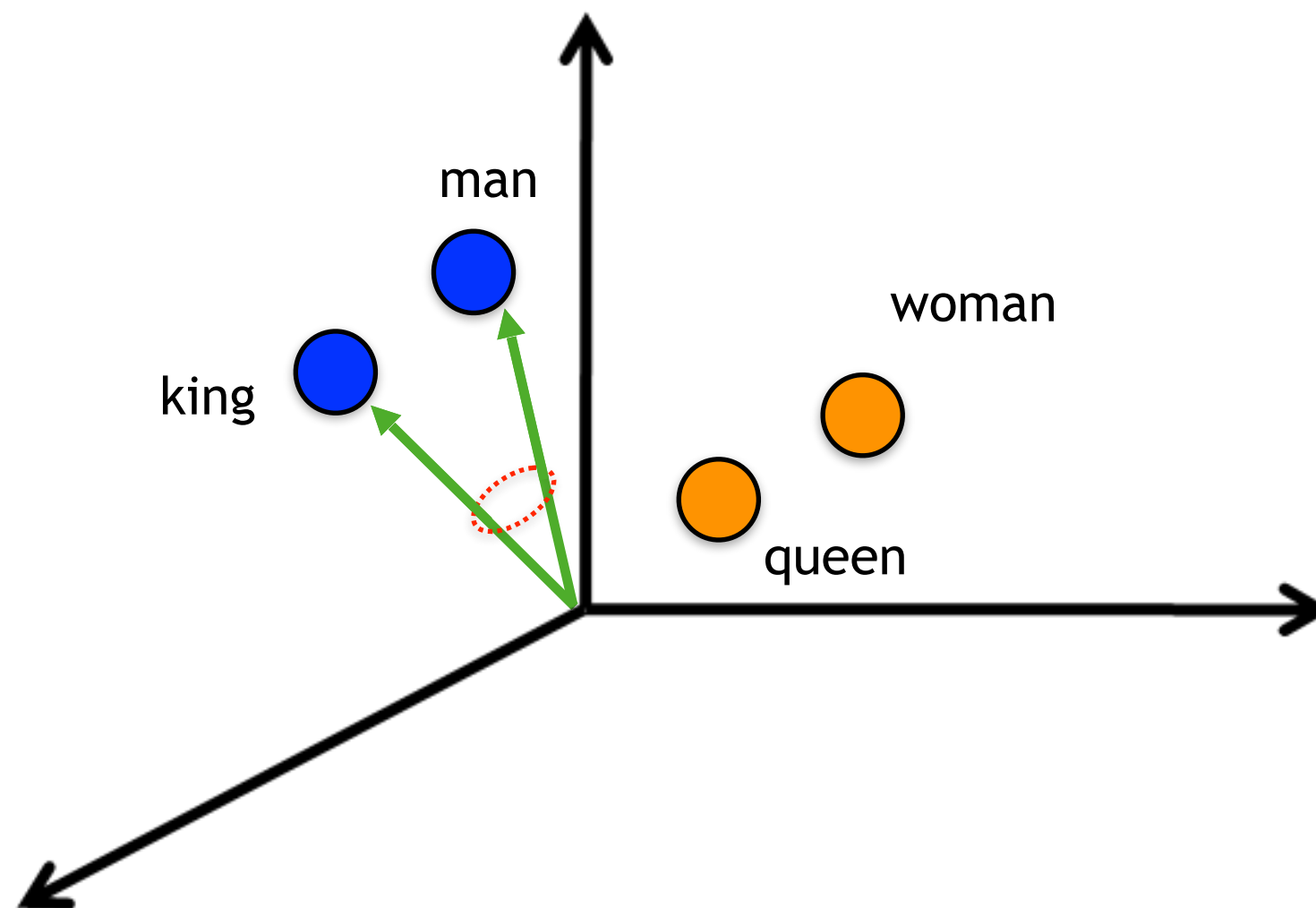
- S: (v) find, happen, chance, bump, encounter (come upon, as if by accident; meet with)
- S: (v) detect, observe, find, discover, notice (discover or determine the existence, presence, or fact of)
- S: (v) find, regain (come upon after searching; find the location of something that was missed or lost)
- S: (v) determine, find, find out, ascertain (establish after a calculation,

We need more than semantic **equivalence**

- S: (v) witness, find, see (perceive or be contemporaneous with)
- S: (v) line up, get hold, come up, find (get something or somebody for a specific purpose)
- S: (v) discover, find (make a discovery, make a new finding)
- S: (v) discover, find (make a discovery)
- S: (v) find (obtain through effort or management)

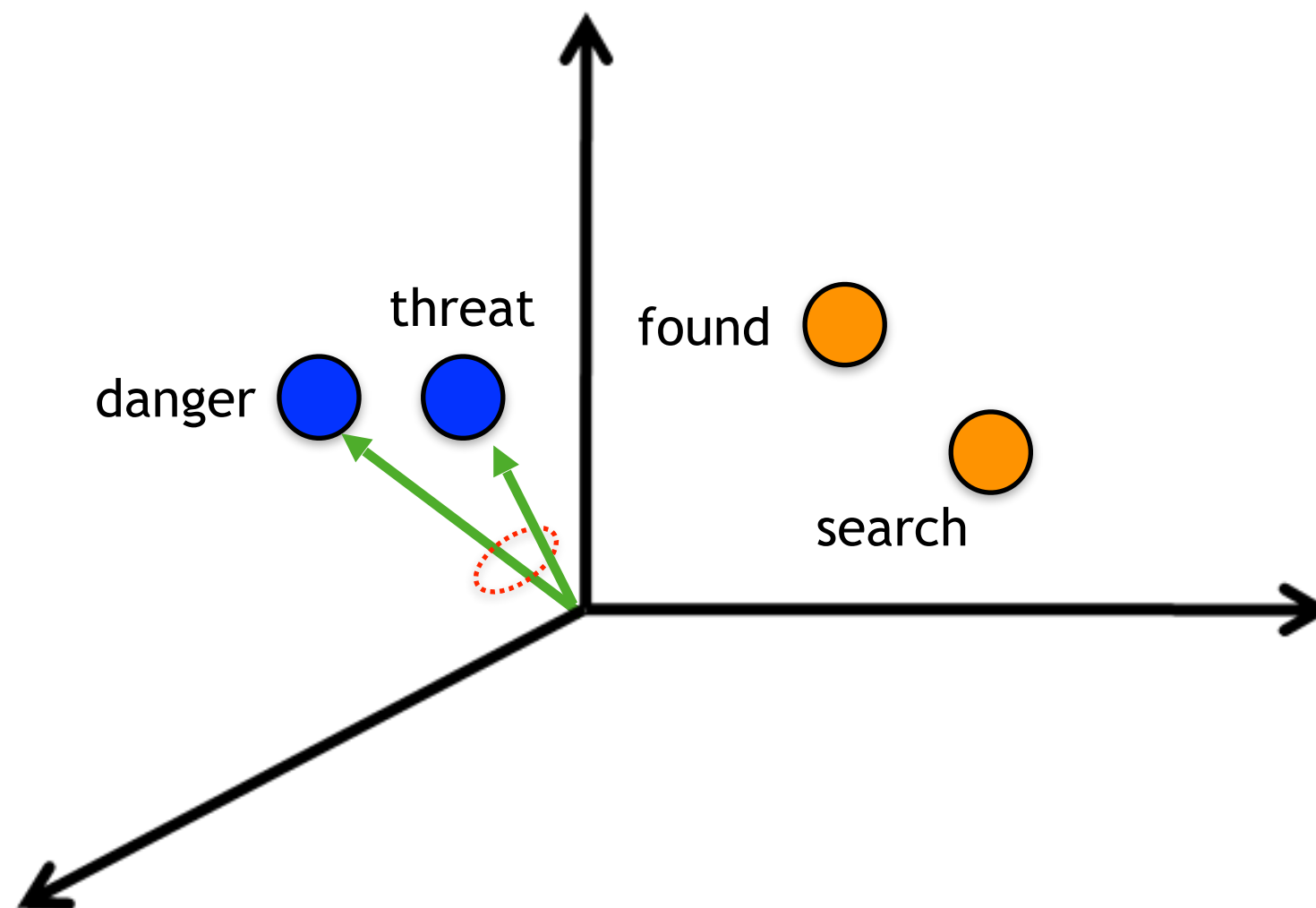
Word embedding

Word embedded in vector space: GloVe, Word2Vec



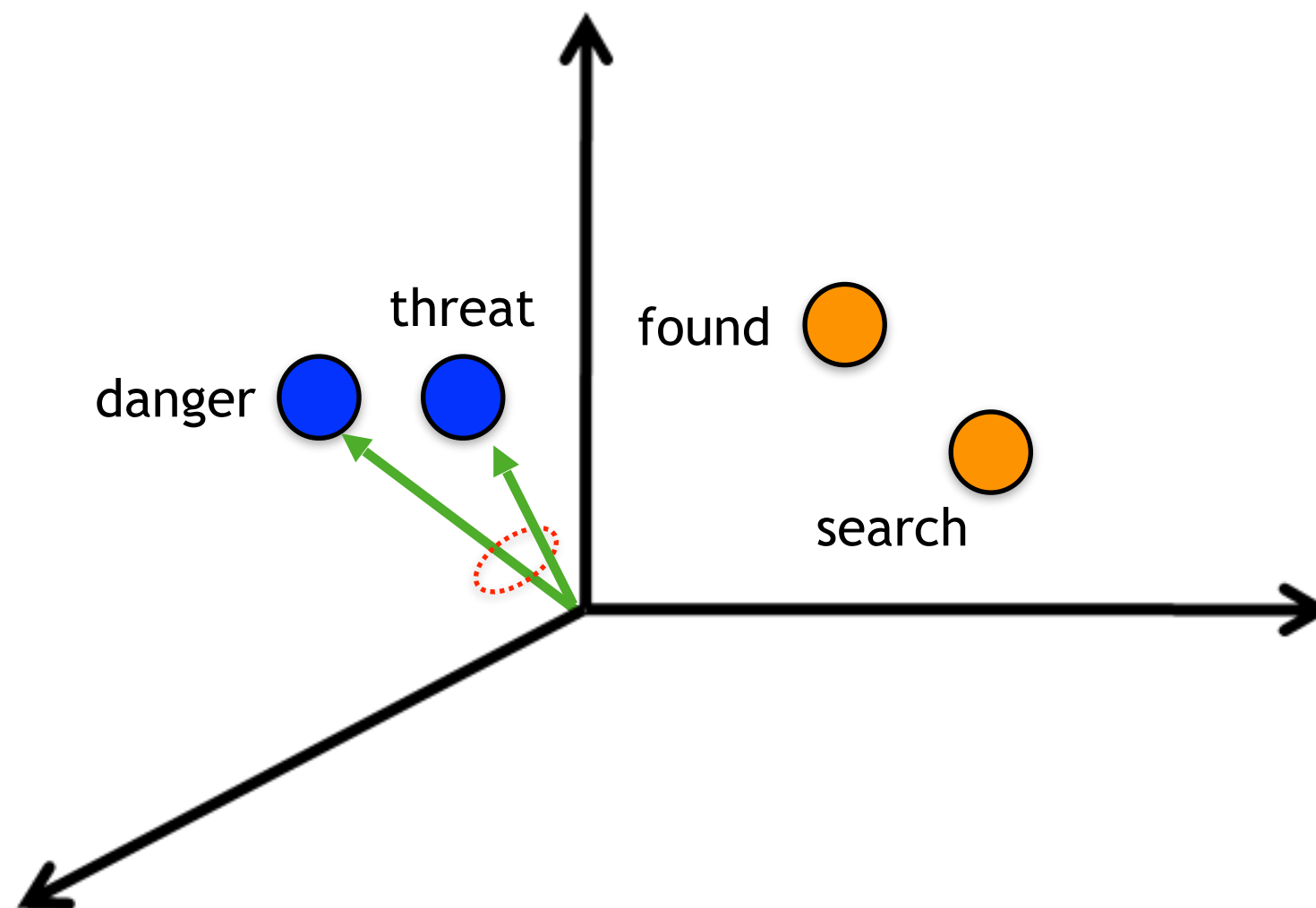
Word embedding

Word embedded in vector space: GloVe, Word2Vec



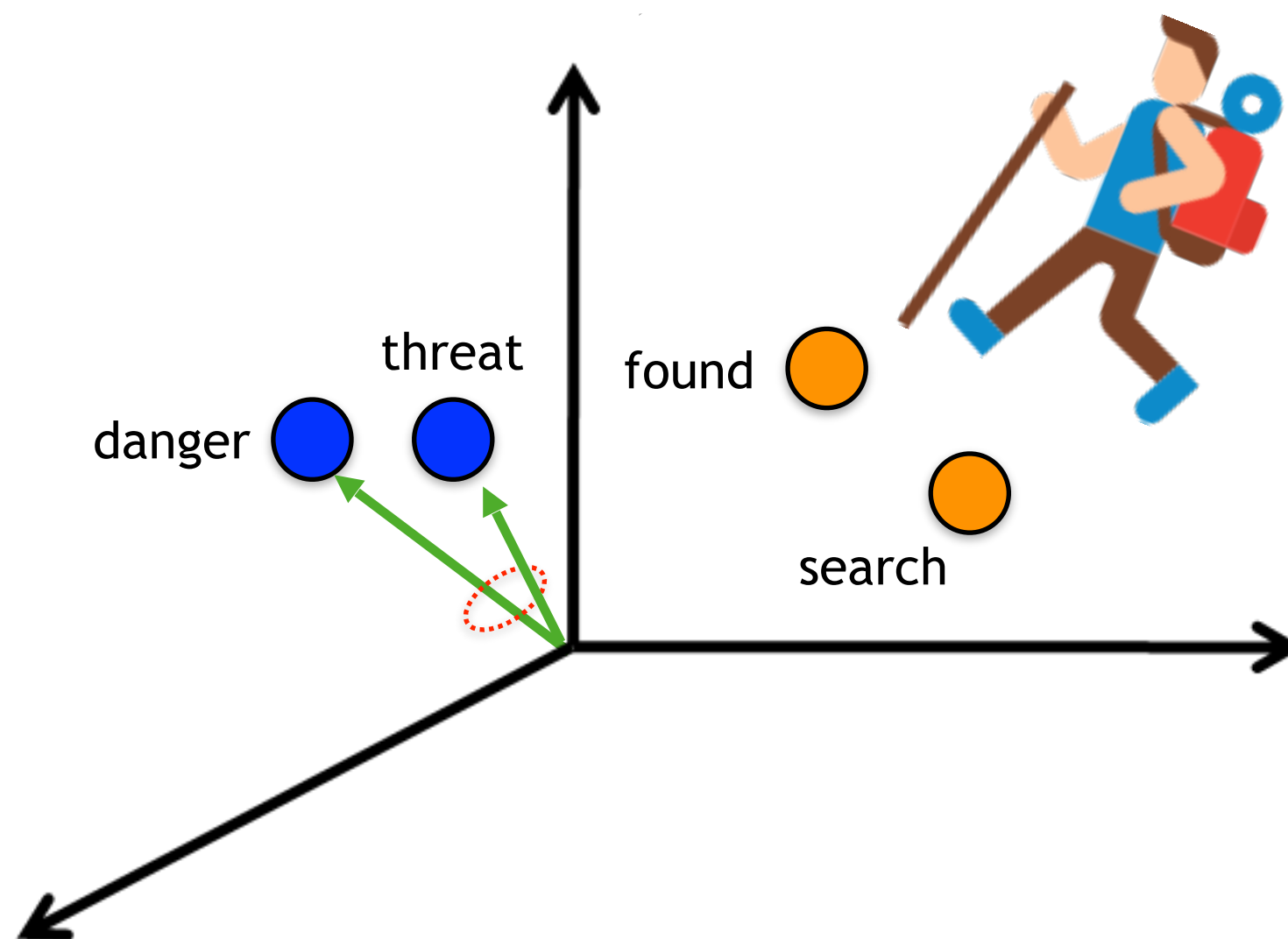
Word embedding

Word mover's distance (Matt J. Kusner et al., 2015)



Word embedding

Word mover's distance (Matt J. Kusner et al., 2015)



Word Mover's distance

Obama speaks in Illinois.

In **Chicago** the **president** **greet**s the press

Word Mover's distance

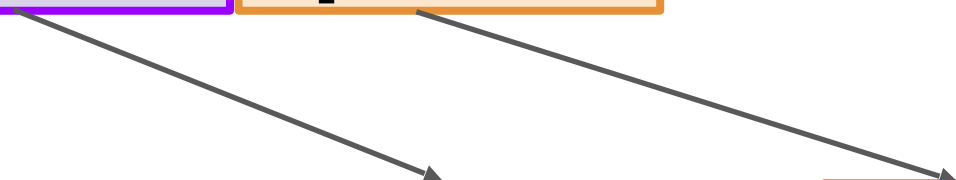
Obama speaks in Illinois.

In Chicago the **president** greets the press

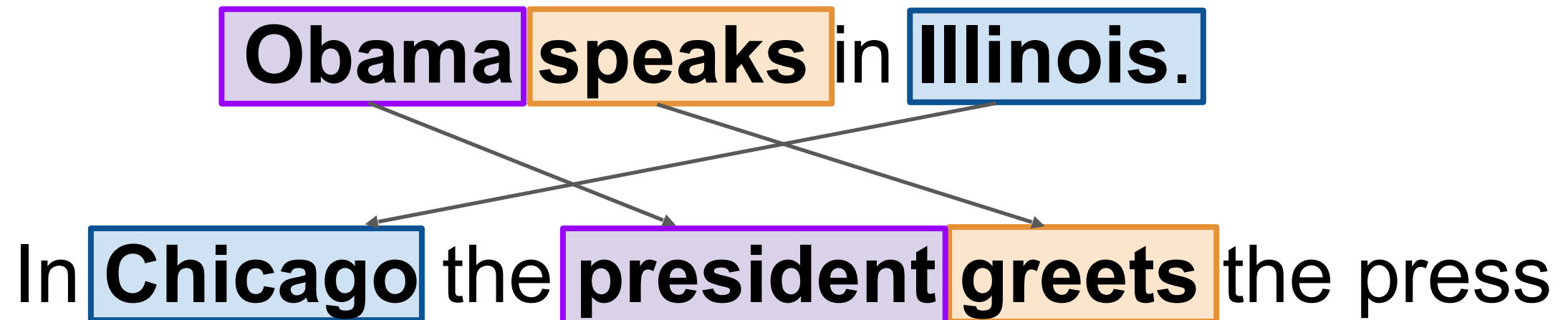
Word Mover's distance

Obama **speaks** in Illinois.

In **Chicago** the **president** **greet**s the press



Word Mover's distance



Word Mover's distance

Threat was found

Search For Danger

Word Mover's distance

Threat was found

Search For **Danger**

Word Mover's distance

Threat was **found**

Search For **Danger**

How accurate is Jdoctor?

Experimental setup

6

Popular open-source Java systems

Experimental setup

563

Analyzed Java methods

Experimental setup

829 Manually-written Java conditions

92

%

Precision

92

83

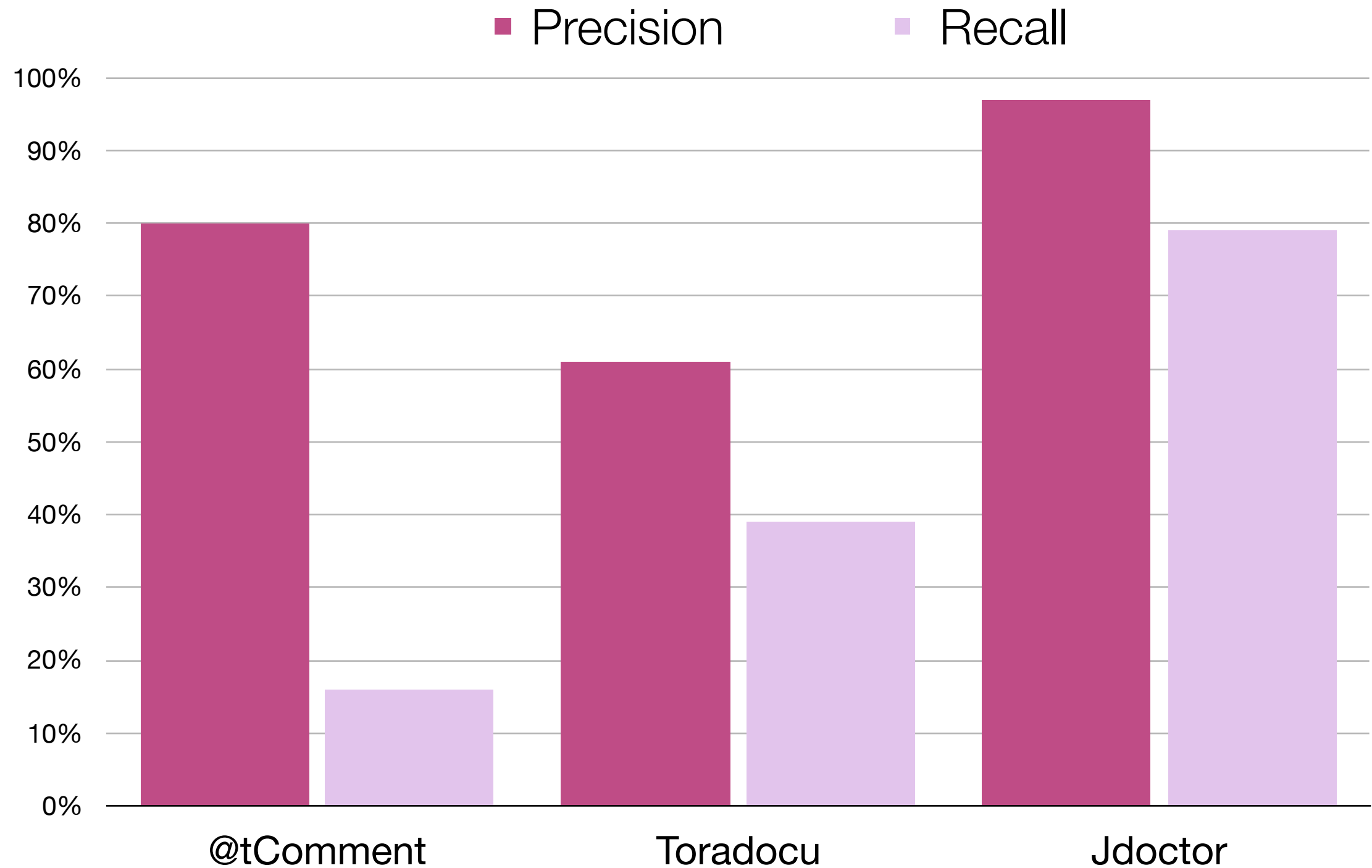
%

%

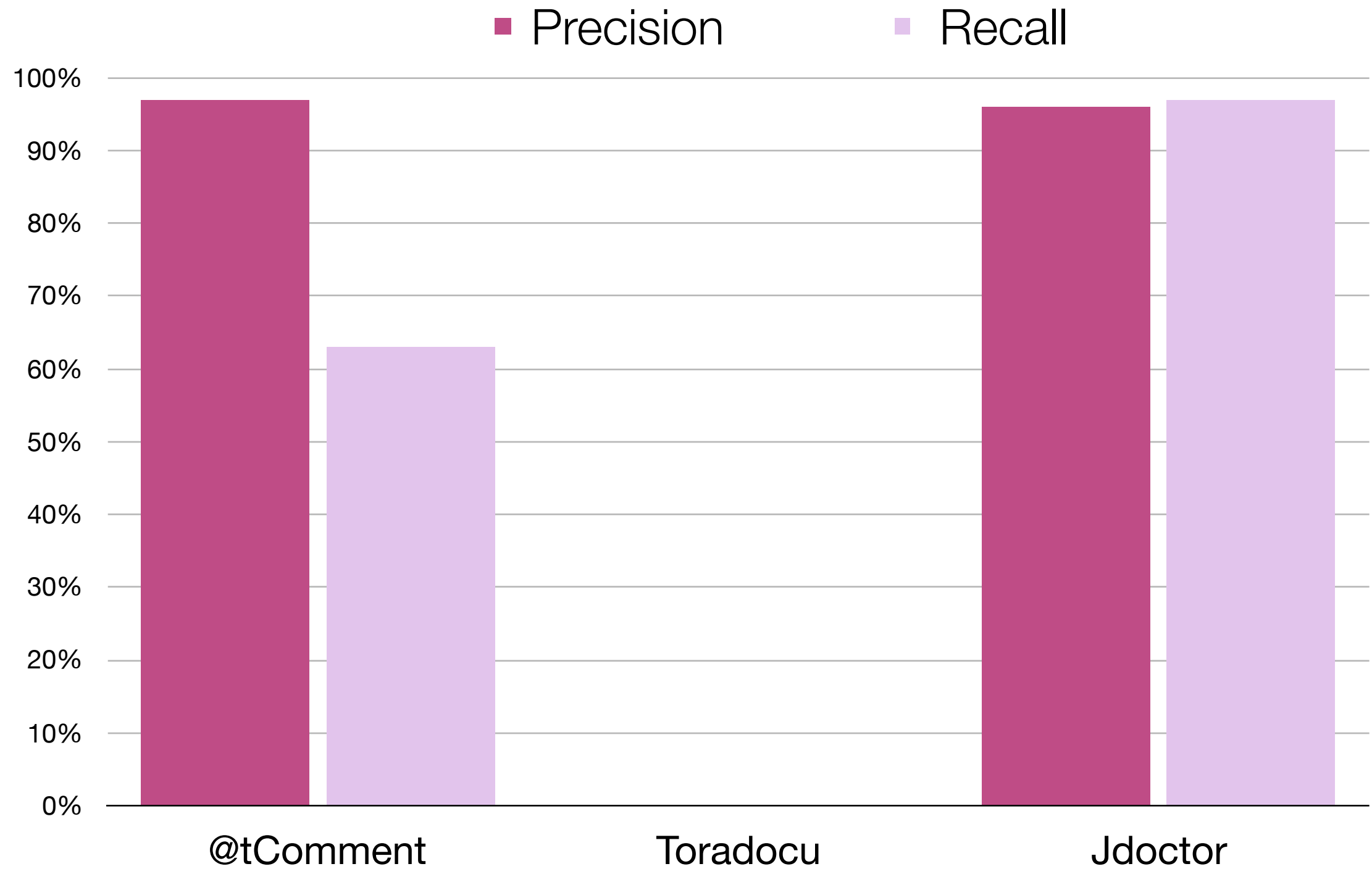
Precision

Recall

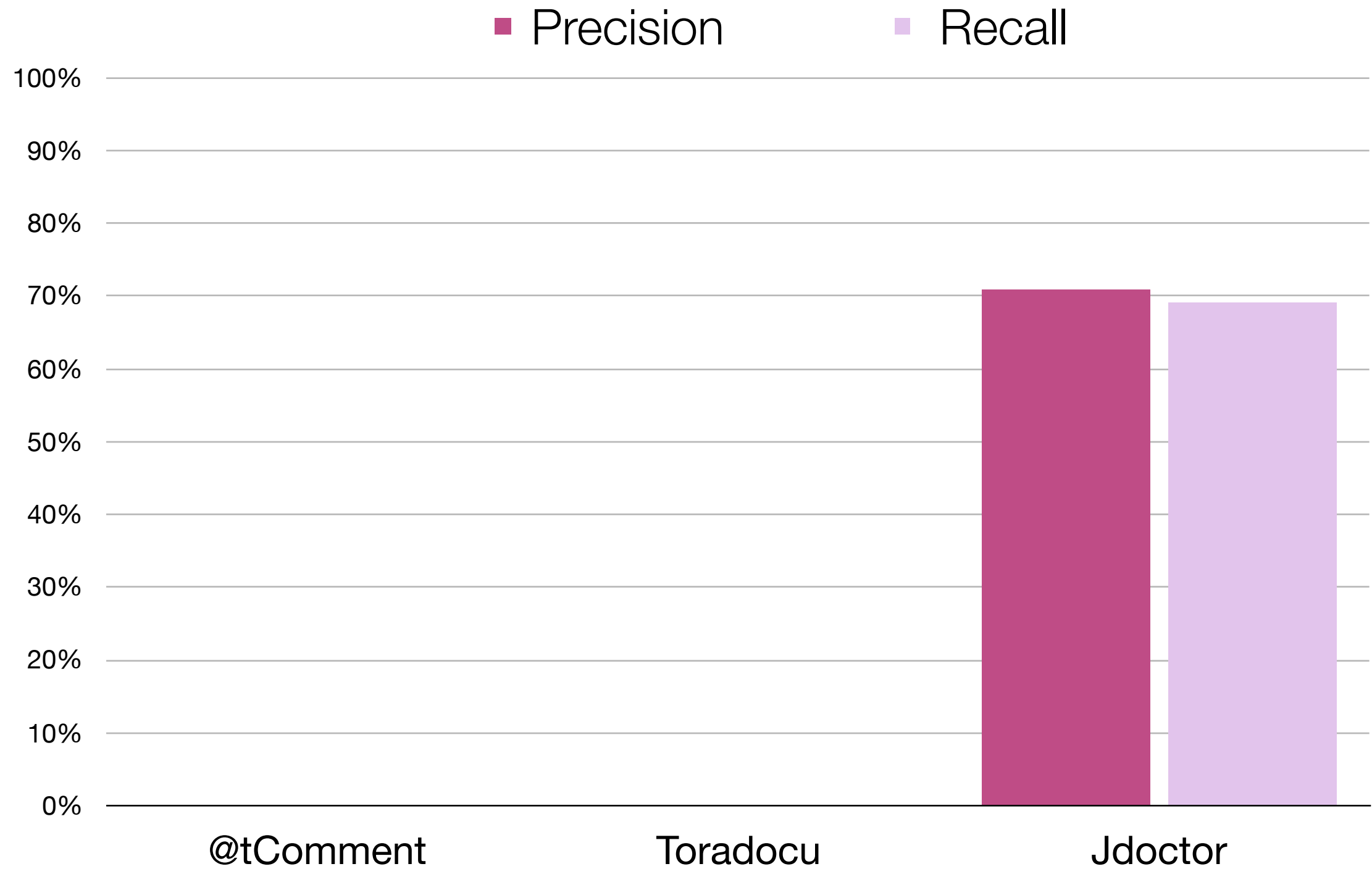
Exceptional Postconditions



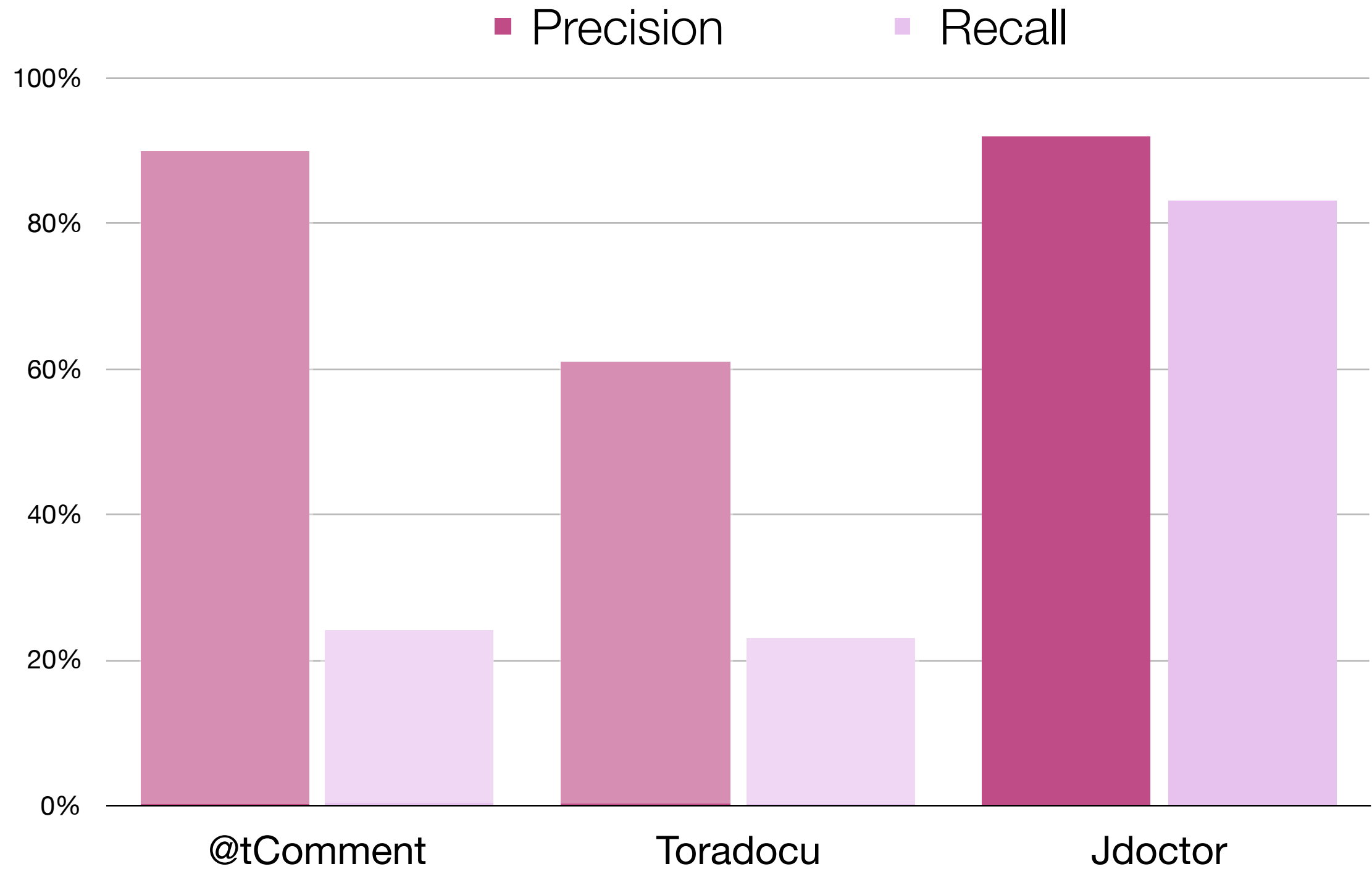
Preconditions



Normal Postconditions



Overall accuracy



How can you use Jdoctor?

Automatic Test Case Generator

+

Jdoctor



+

Jdoctor

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification

passing

passing

failing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



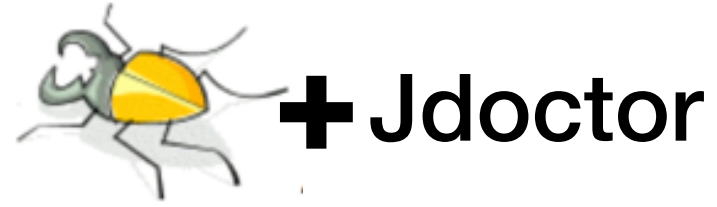
passing

passing

failing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



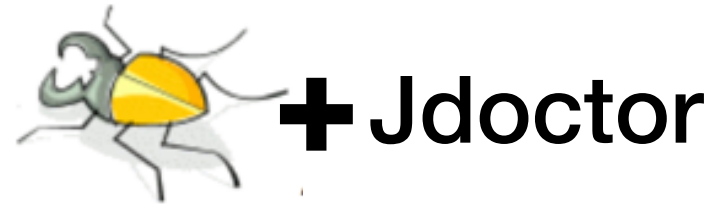
passing

passing

failing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



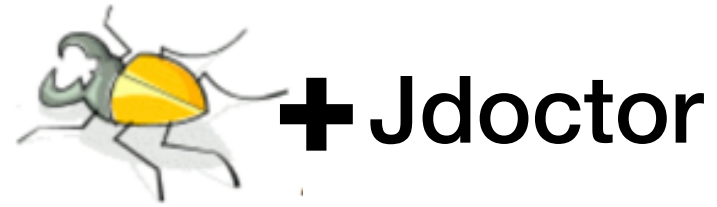
invalid

passing

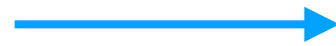
failing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



invalid

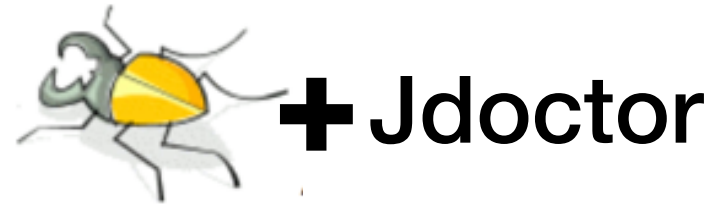
= invalid

passing

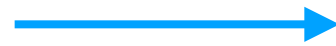
failing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



invalid

= invalid

passing

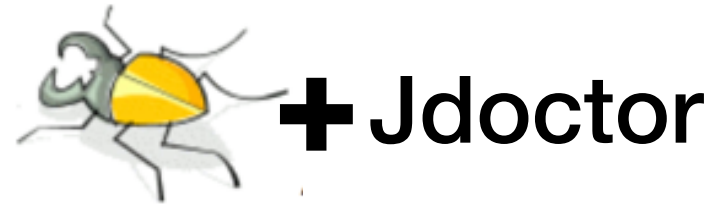


failing

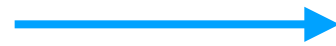
failing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



invalid

= invalid

passing



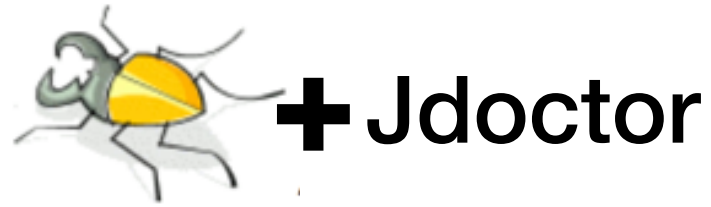
failing

= missed alarm

failing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



invalid

= invalid

passing



failing

= missed alarm

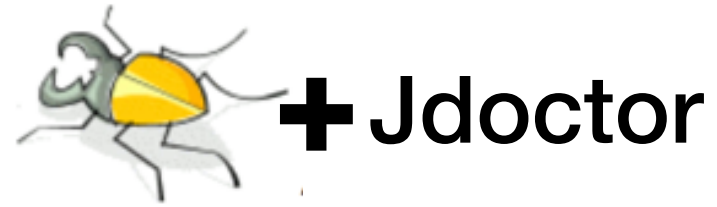
failing



passing

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



invalid

= invalid

passing



failing

= missed alarm

failing

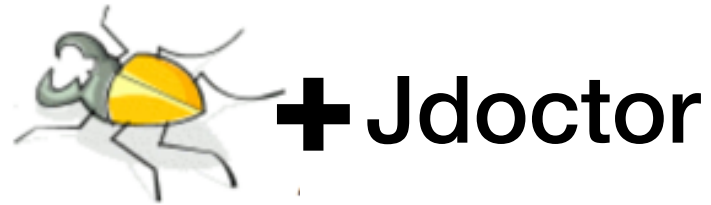


passing

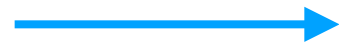
= false alarm

invalid

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



invalid

= invalid

passing



failing

= missed alarm

failing



passing

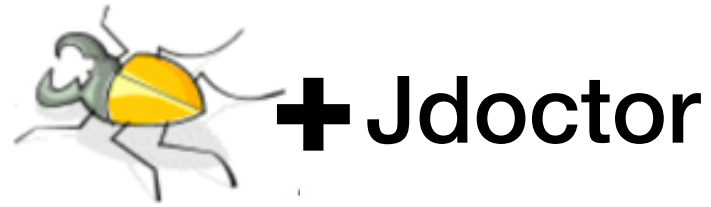
= false alarm

invalid



passing

Randoop+Jdoctor reclassification



passing



invalid

= invalid

passing



failing

= missed alarm

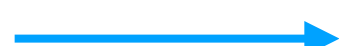
failing



passing

= false alarm

invalid



passing

= new test

Missed alarm

```
public static boolean removeAll(List myList){...}
```

Missed alarm

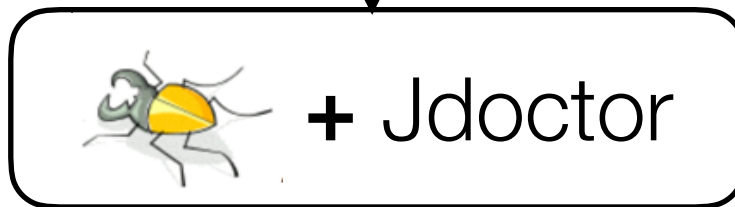
```
public static boolean removeAll(List myList){...}
```



```
@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    List<Integer> list = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3);  
    boolean result = removeAll(list);  
}
```

Missed alarm

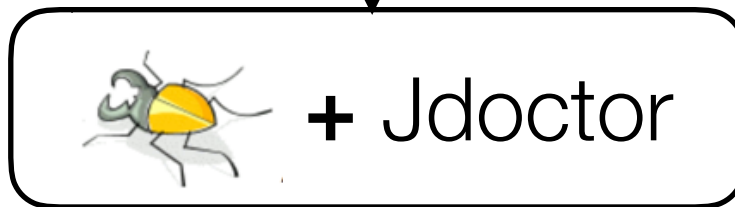
```
/**  
 * @return true if the list is empty  
 */  
public static boolean removeAll(List myList){...}
```



```
@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    List<Integer> list = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3);  
    boolean result = removeAll(list);  
}
```

Missed alarm

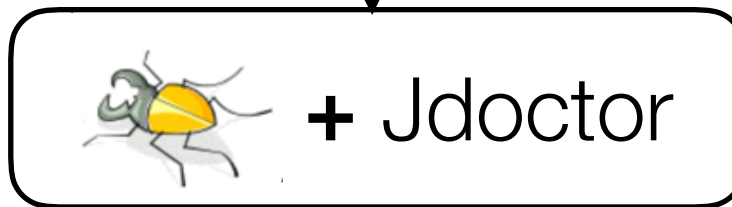
```
/**  
 * @return true if the list is empty  
 */  
public static boolean removeAll(List myList){...}
```



```
@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    List<Integer> list = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3);  
    boolean result = removeAll(list);  
    if(list.isEmpty()) assert result==true;  
}
```

Missed alarm

```
/**  
 * @return true if the list is empty  
 */  
public static boolean removeAll(List myList){...}
```



```
@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    List<Integer> list = Arrays.asList(1, 2, 3);  
    boolean result = removeAll(list);  
    if(list.isEmpty()) assert result==true;  
}
```



Invalid test

```
public static float max(float[] floatArray) {...}
```

Invalid test

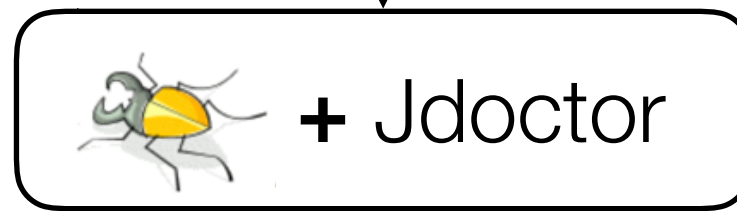
```
public static float max(float[] floatArray) {...}
```



```
@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    float[] floatArray0 = null;  
    float float1 = max(floatArray0);  
}
```


Invalid test

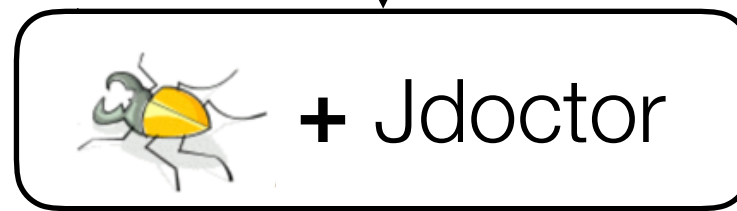
```
/**  
 * @param floatArray array of floats, not null  
 */  
public static float max(float[] floatArray){...}
```



```
@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    float[] floatArray0 = null;  
    float float1 = max(floatArray0);  
}
```

Invalid test

```
/**  
 * @param floatArray array of floats, not null  
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```

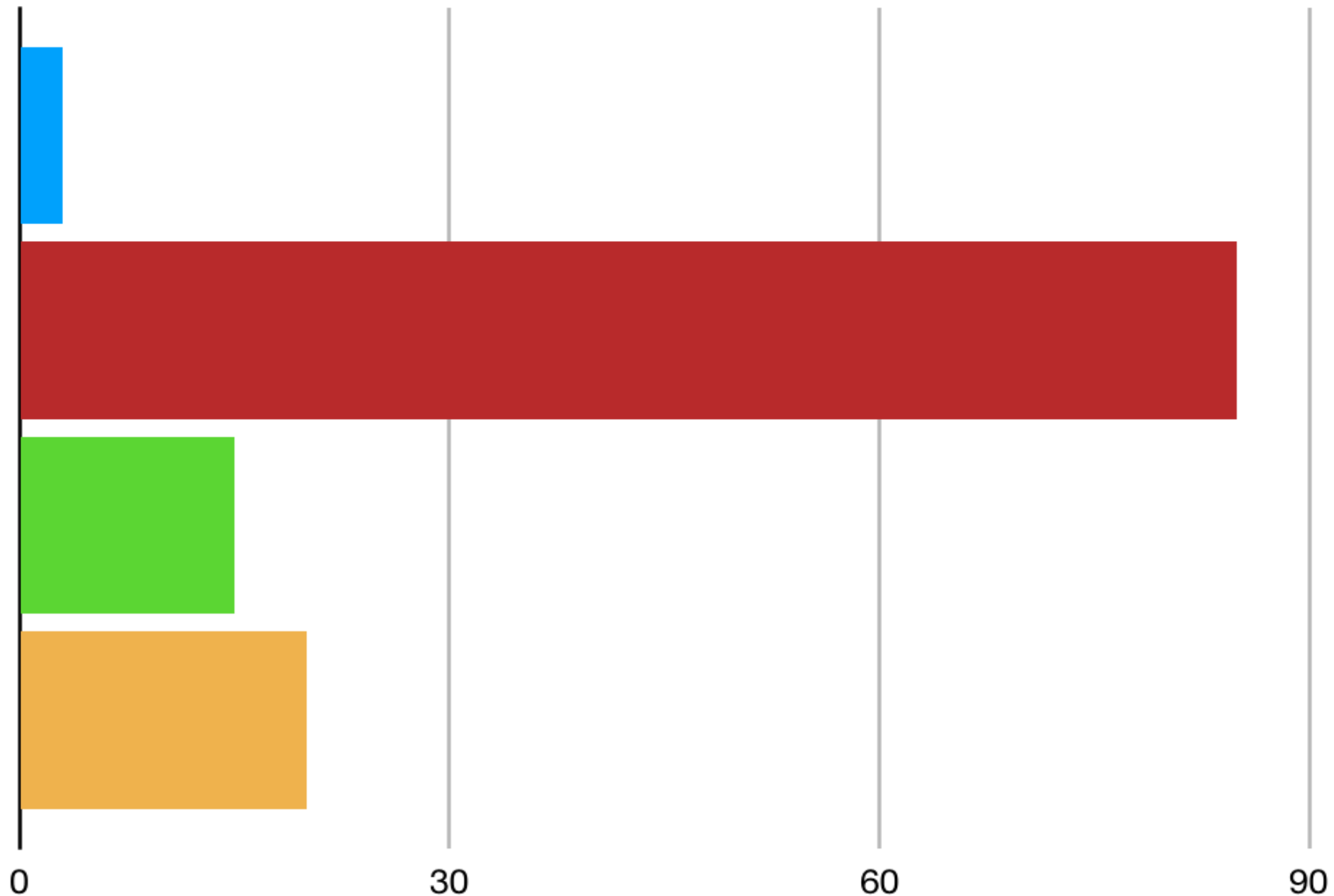


```
@Test  
public void testRemoveAll(){  
    float[] floatArray0 = null;  
    float float1 = max(floatArray0);  
}
```

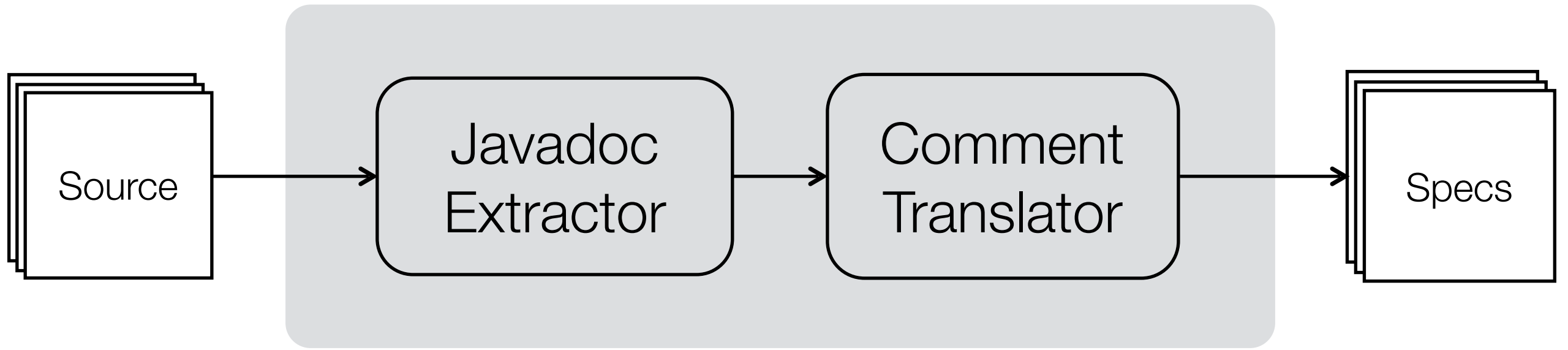
INVALID

Reclassification

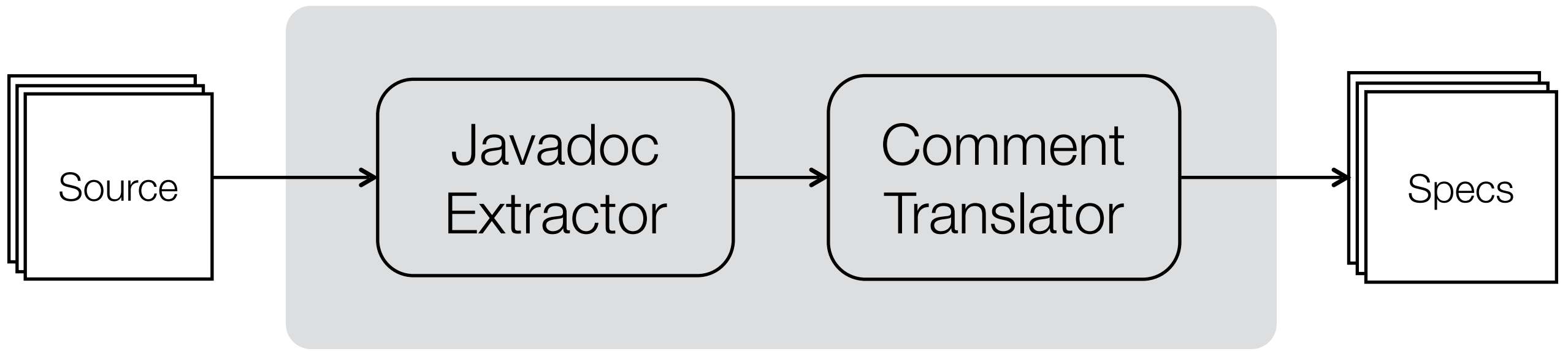
False alarm Missed alarm New test Invalid test



Jdoctor

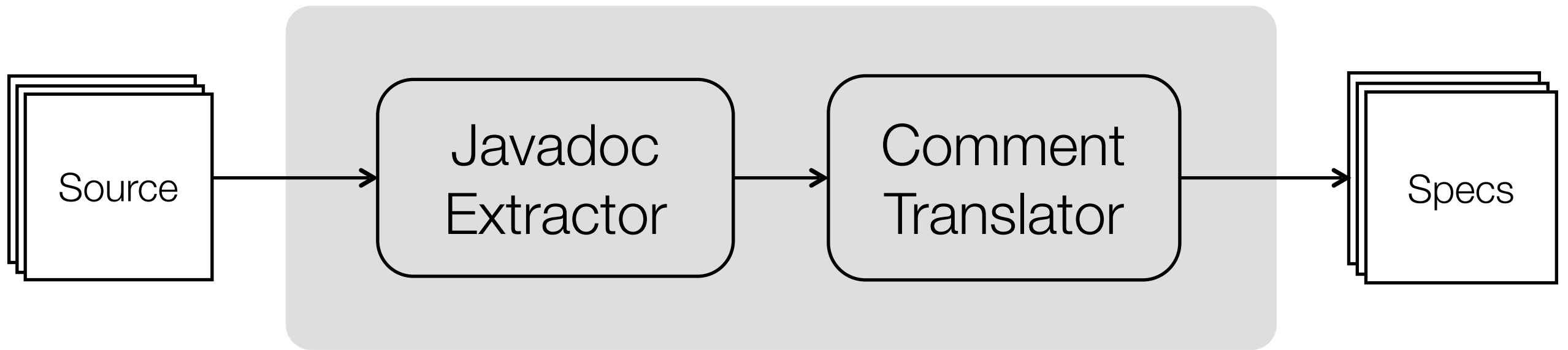


Jdoctor



✓ Preconditions

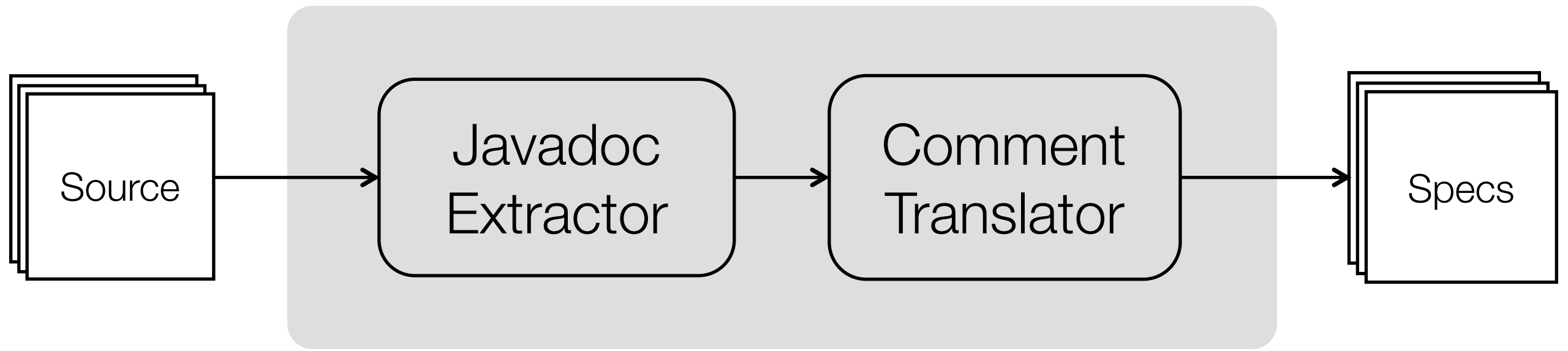
Jdoctor



✓ Preconditions

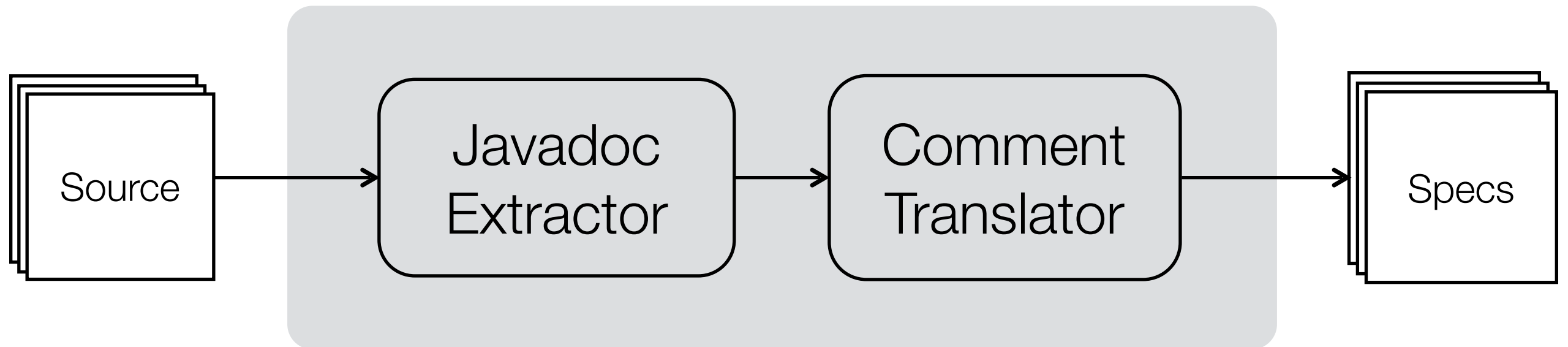
✓ Normal Postconditions

Jdoctor



- ✓ Preconditions
- ✓ Normal Postconditions
- ✓ Exceptional Postconditions

Jdoctor



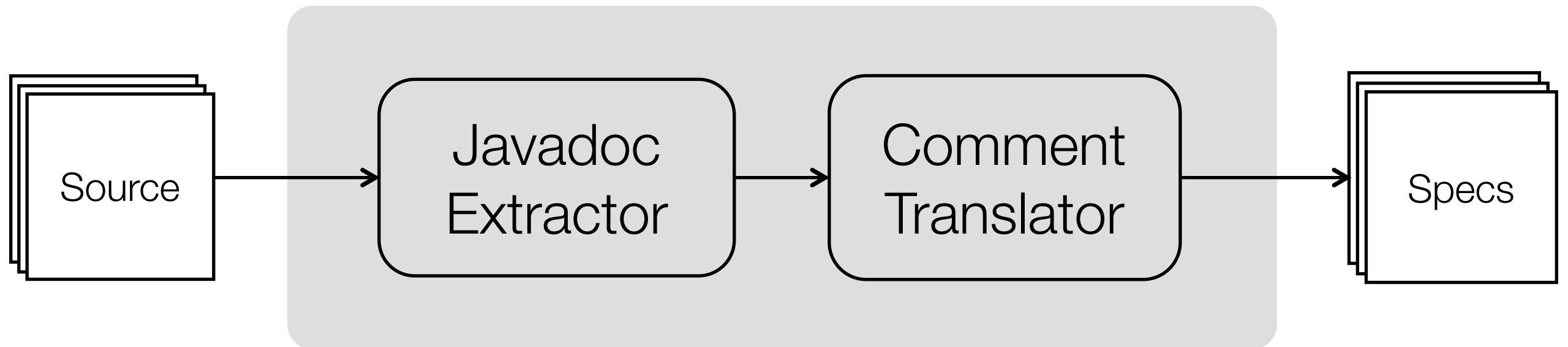
✓ Preconditions

✓ Normal Postconditions

✓ Exceptional Postconditions

✓ Pattern Match

Jdoctor



✓ Preconditions

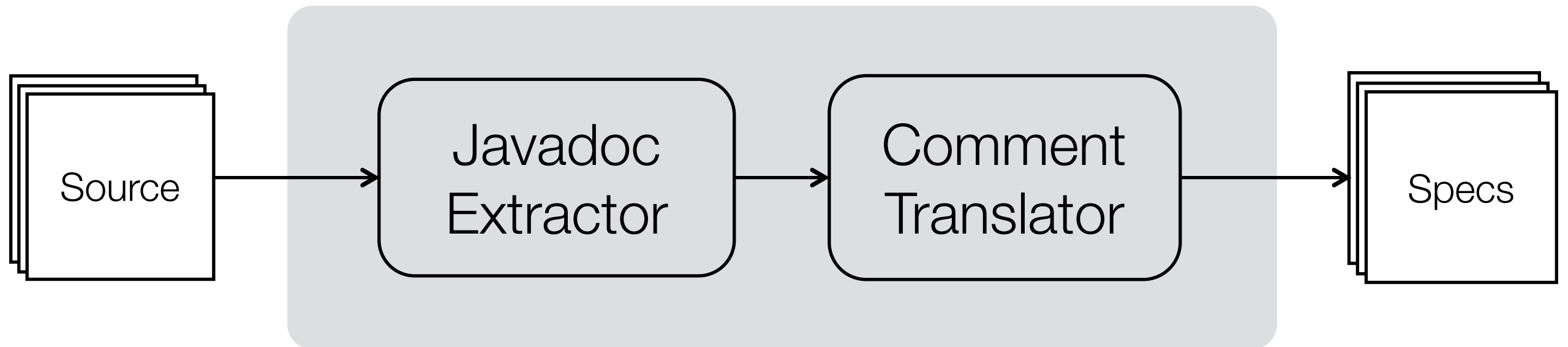
✓ Normal Postconditions

✓ Exceptional Postconditions

✓ Pattern Match

✓ Syntax Match

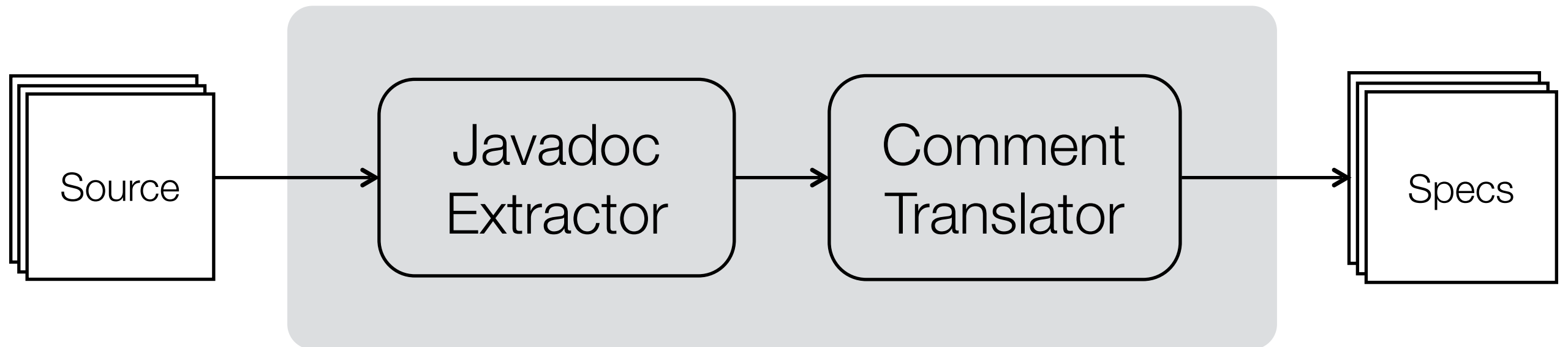
Jdoctor



- ✓ Preconditions
- ✓ Normal Postconditions
- ✓ Exceptional Postconditions

- ✓ Pattern Match
- ✓ Syntax Match
- ✓ Semantic Match

Jdoctor



✓ Preconditions

✓ Normal Postconditions

✓ Exceptional Postconditions

✓ Pattern Match

✓ Syntax Match

✓ Semantic Match

<https://github.com/albertogoffi/toradocu>