

# How Profilers Can Help Navigate Type Migration

\* Ben Greenman  
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oopsla'23



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using **off-the-shelf tools**?

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**costs** ~ gradual types  
**tools** ~ statistical profilers

Old Problem, New Idea

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**but** fast points exist!

### Is Sound Gradual Typing Dead?



Asumu Takikawa, Daniel Feltey, Ben Greenman, Max S. New, Jan Vitek, Matthias Felleisen  
Northeastern University, Boston, MA


#### Abstract

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How to find??

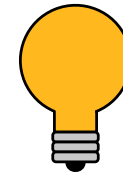
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Programmers have come to embrace dynamically-typed languages in many cases, the systems start as innocent prototypes. Soon enough, though, they grow into complex, multi-module programs, at which



**Rational Programmer**  
method (icfp'21)



How to find??



## Gradual Types + Costs

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```
def avg(g):  
    return mean(get_column(g, "score"))
```

```
def mean(nums):
```

```
    ....
```

```
def get_column(table, col_name):
```

```
    ....
```

```
avg(quiz_1_grades)
```



```
avg(recipe_book)
```



```
avg(42)
```






## Gradual Types + Costs

```
avg : Gradebook -> Num
def avg(g):
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```
def mean(nums):
  ....
```


```
def get_column(table, col_name):
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```


```
avg(quiz_1_grades) 
avg(recipe_book) 
avg(42) 
```


Add types, code still runs

## Gradual Types + Costs

```
avg : Gradebook -> Num  
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avg(quiz\_1\_grades) 

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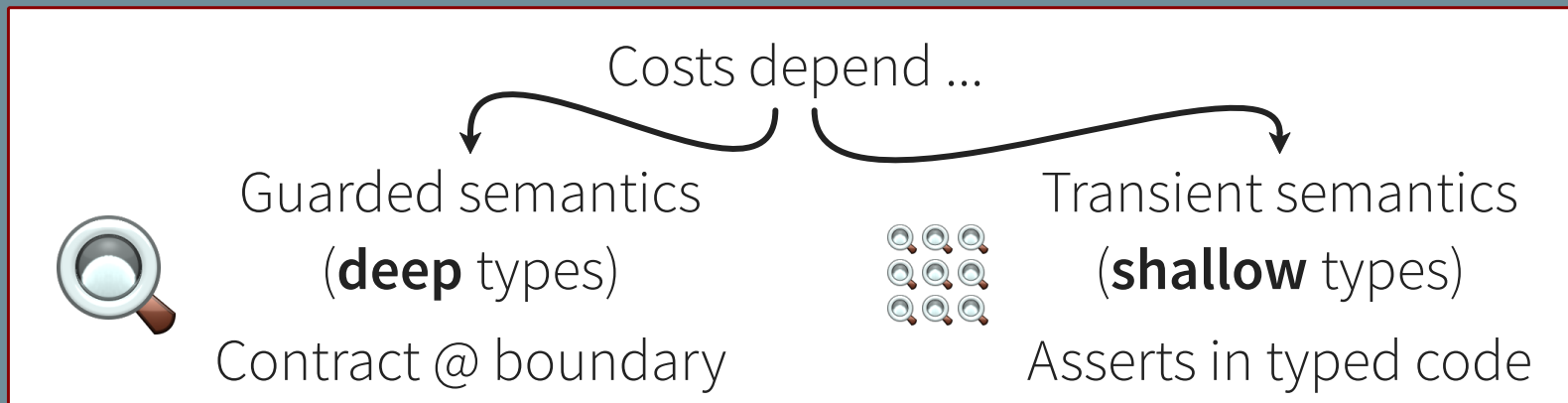
Type soundness  $\leftarrow$  Runtime checks

## Gradual Types + Costs

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Type soundness  $\leftarrow$  Runtime checks

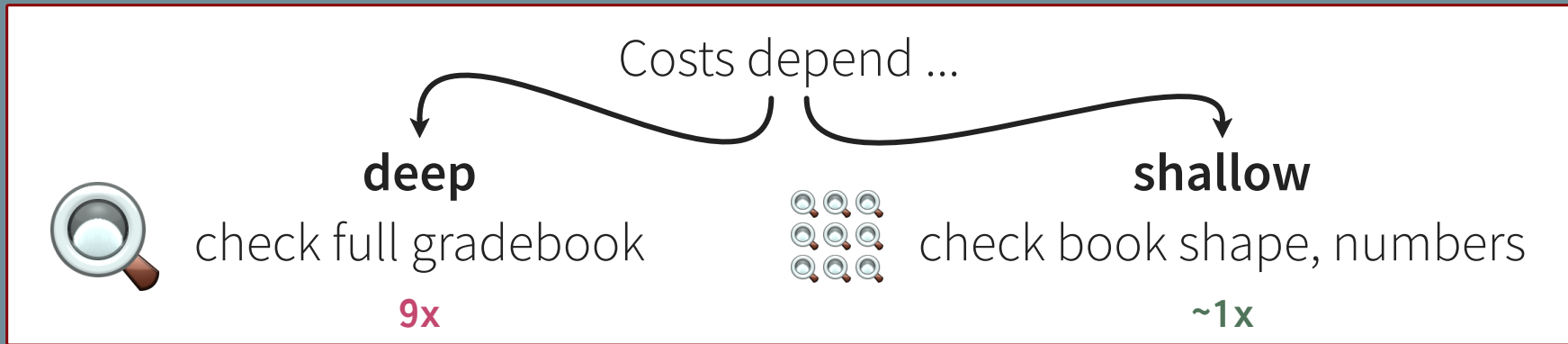


## Gradual Types + Costs




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```

```
avg(quiz_1_grades) ✓
avg(recipe_book)   ✗
avg(42)             ✗
```

Type soundness ← Runtime checks




```
avg : Gradebook -> Num
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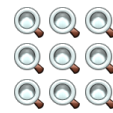
```
avg(quiz_1_grades) ✓
```



**deep**

no boundaries!

1x



**shallow**

more types, more checks

2x

2 modules ➤ deep or shallow



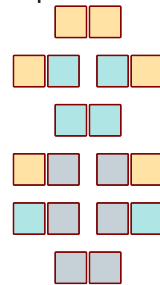
(pldi'22)

2 modules ➤ deep or shallow



(pldi'22)

9 points

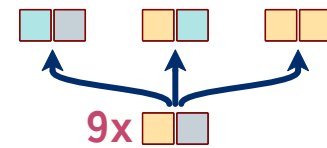
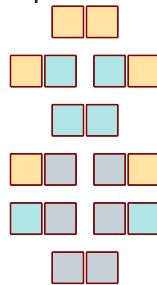


2 modules ➤ deep or shallow



(pldi'22)

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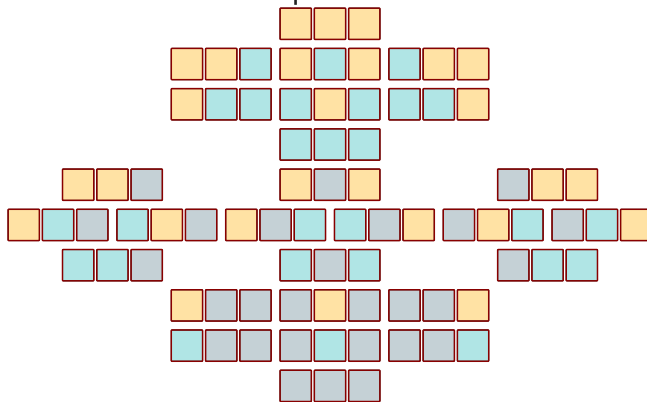


Q. where to?

3 modules ➤ deep or shallow



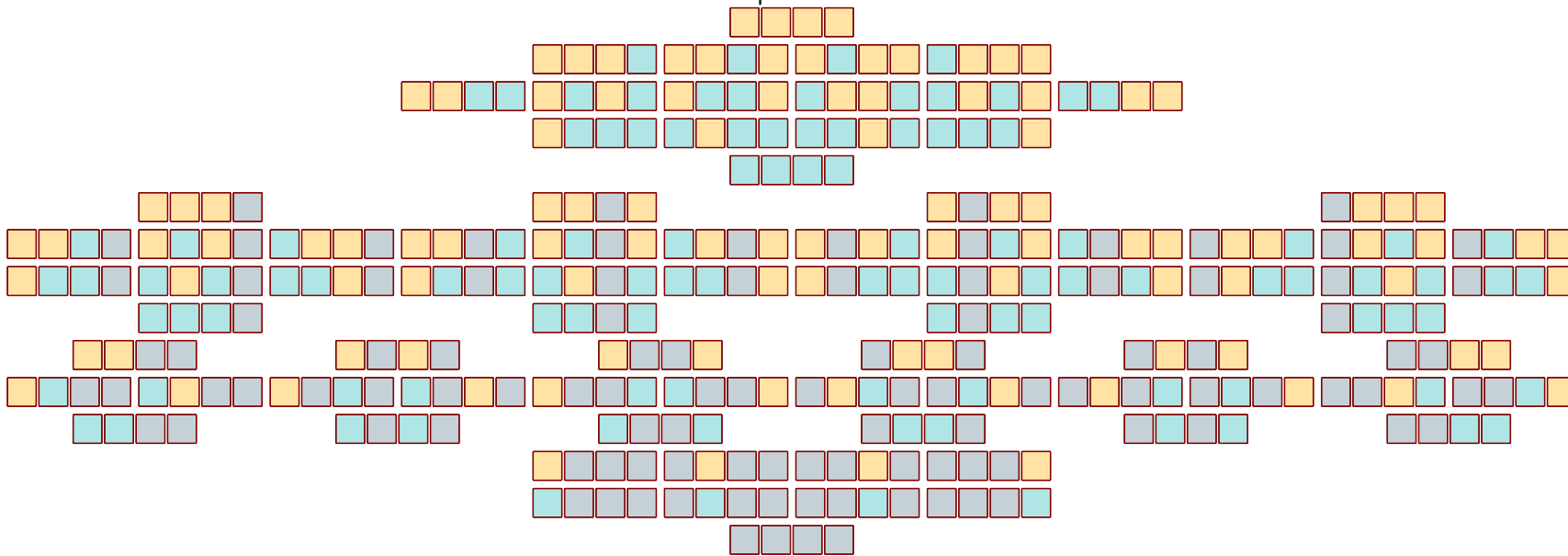
27 points



4 modules ▶ deep or shallow



81 points



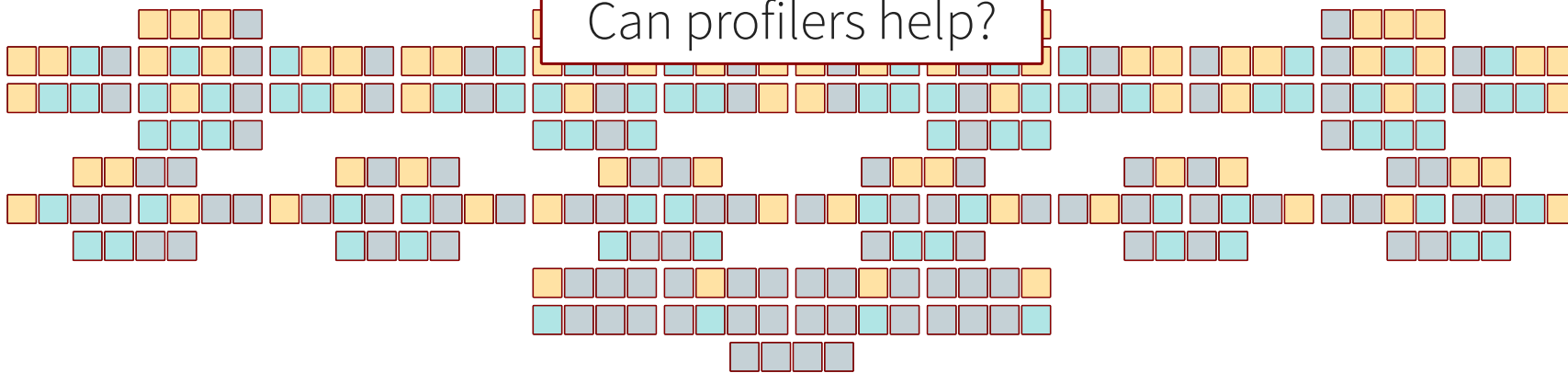
4 modules ▶ deep or shallow



9x 

Q. where to?

Can profilers help?





Profilers



Profilers



Statistical Profiler

Contract Profiler

# Profilers



## Statistical Profiler

Total cpu time observed: 1192ms (out of 1236ms)  
Number of samples taken: 23 (once every 52ms)

Idx	Total ms(pct)	Self ms(pct)	Caller Name+src Callee
[17]	818(68.6%)	0(0.0%)	??? [12] evolve [17] evolve main evolve [17] shuffle-vector [19] death-birth [18] ??? [20]
[24]	152(12.7%)	152(12.7%)	match-up* [22] shuffle-vector [19] contract-wrapper

## Contract Profiler

Profilers



Statistical Profiler

Total %

Self %

Contract Profiler

# Profilers



## Statistical Profiler

Total %

Self %

## Contract Profiler

```
cpu time: 984 real time: 984 gc time: 155  
Running time is 18.17% contracts  
253/1390 ms
```

```
(interface:death-birth pop main)  
142 ms  
(->* ((cons/c (vectorof automaton?)  
              (vectorof automaton?))  
      any/c)  
      (#:random any/c)  
      (cons/c (vectorof automaton?)  
              (vectorof automaton?))))  
(interface:match-up* pop main)  
81.5 ms  
(-> ....)  
(interface:population-payoffs pop main)  
29 ms  
(-> ....)
```

Profilers



Statistical Profiler

Total %

Self %

Contract Profiler

Contract %



## Deep types

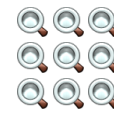
Contract @ boundary



Contract %

Total %

Self %



## Shallow types

Asserts in typed code



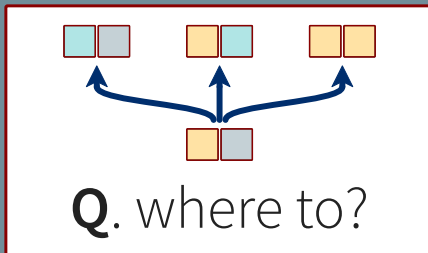
Contract %



Total %



Self %



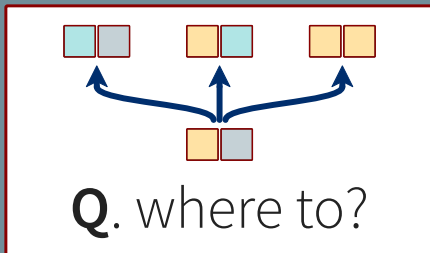
Q. how to find a boundary?

Contract %

Total %

Self %





A. Rational Programmer experiment

Q. how to find a boundary?

Contract %

Total %

Self %

# Rational Programmer

## **Rational Programmer**

Identify strategies, let them compete.

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Deep (    )



## Rational Programmer

Identify strategies, let them compete.

**Deep** (    )

**Shallow**



...



## Rational Programmer

Identify strategies, let them compete.

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**Shallow**

...



**Type-Aware Deep**

1.  

2.   /   →  

## Rational Programmer

Identify strategies, let them compete.

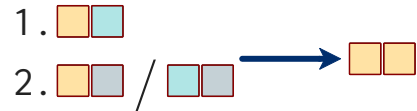
**Deep** (    )



**Shallow**



**Type-Aware Deep**



**Type-Aware Shallow**



## Rational Programmer

Identify strategies, let them compete.

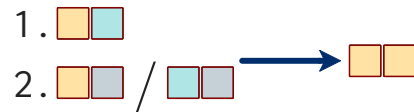
**Deep** (    )



**Shallow**



**Type-Aware Deep**



**Type-Aware Shallow**



**Lattice[S; D]** count #typed, choose Deep or Shallow



## Rational Programmer

Identify strategies, let them compete.

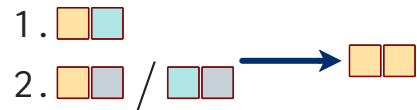
**Deep** (    )



**Shallow**



**Type-Aware Deep**



**Type-Aware Shallow**



**Lattice[S; D]** count #typed, choose Deep or Shallow

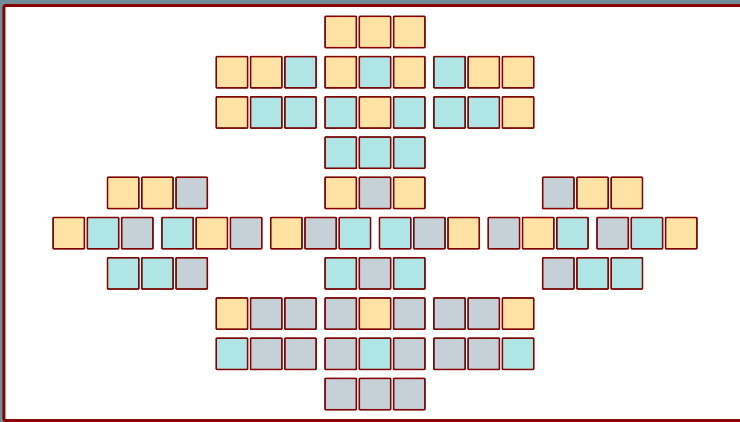
**null, pldi22** = baselines

## **Rational Programmer**

Identify strategies, let them compete.

## Rational Programmer

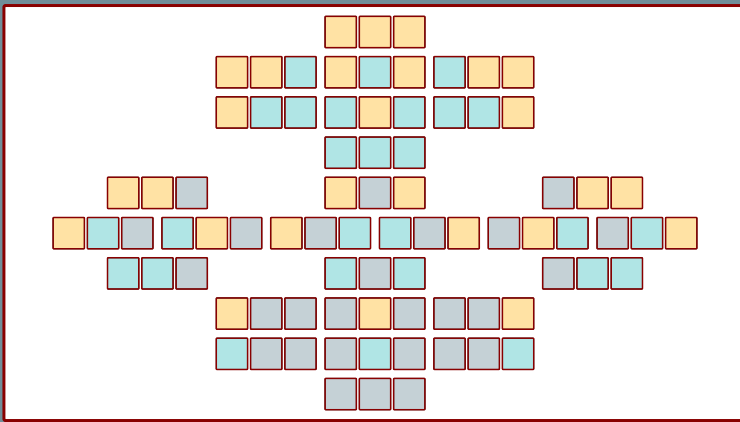
Identify strategies, let them compete.



For all starting points,  
Goal = **path** to a fast config

## Rational Programmer

Identify strategies, let them compete.



For all starting points,  
Goal = **path** to a fast config

**strict** = faster each step

k **loose** = k slower steps

99x ➤ 99x ➤ 3x ➤ 1x

3x ➤ 99x ➤ 1x

## Dataset

16 GTP Benchmarks  
116 K starting points  
**1.2 M** measurements  
**5 GB** output  
10 months on CloudLab



How often do the strategies succeed?

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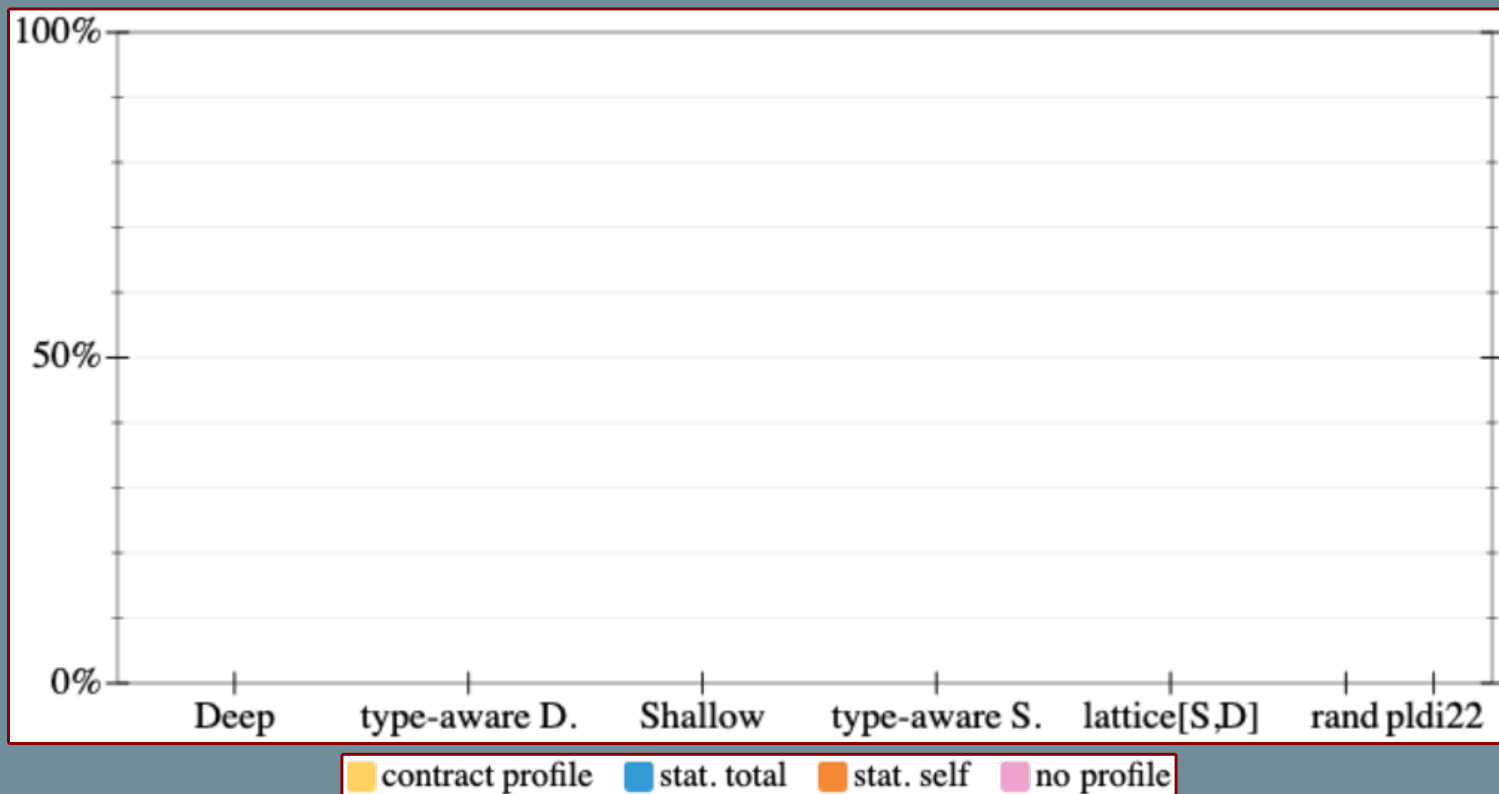
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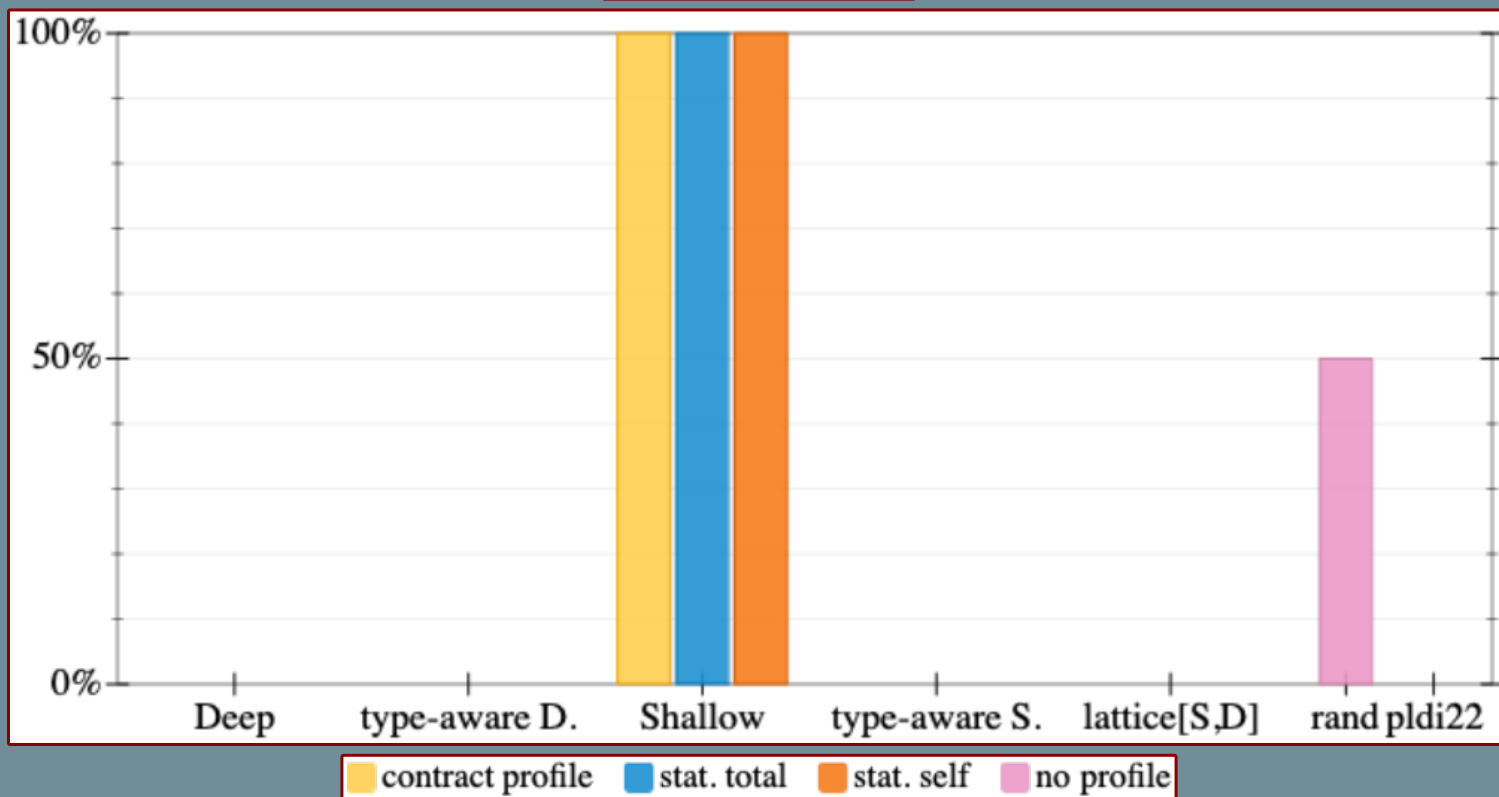
How often do the strategies succeed?

X = strategies, Y = % scenarios



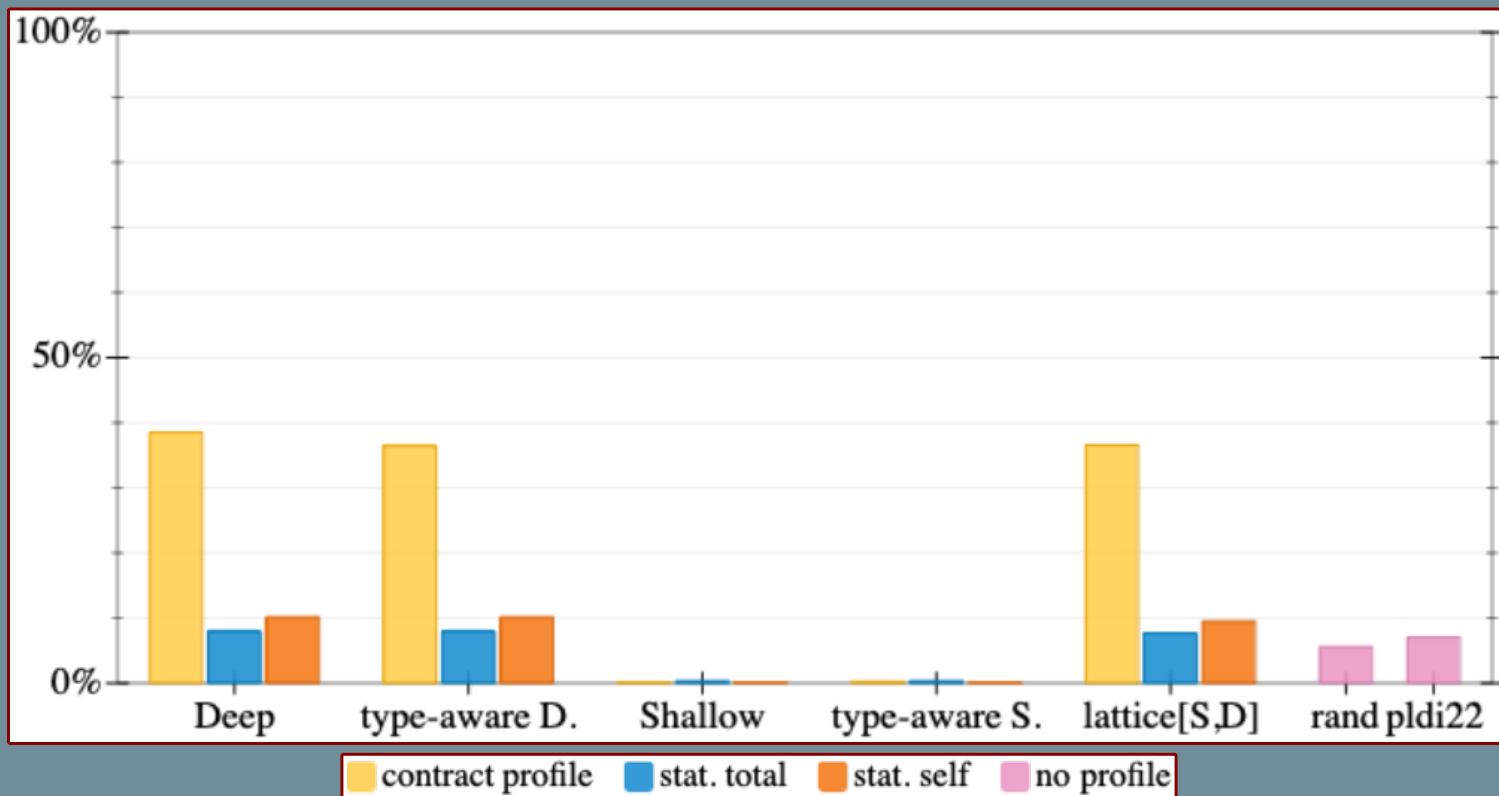
How often do the strategies succeed?

example data



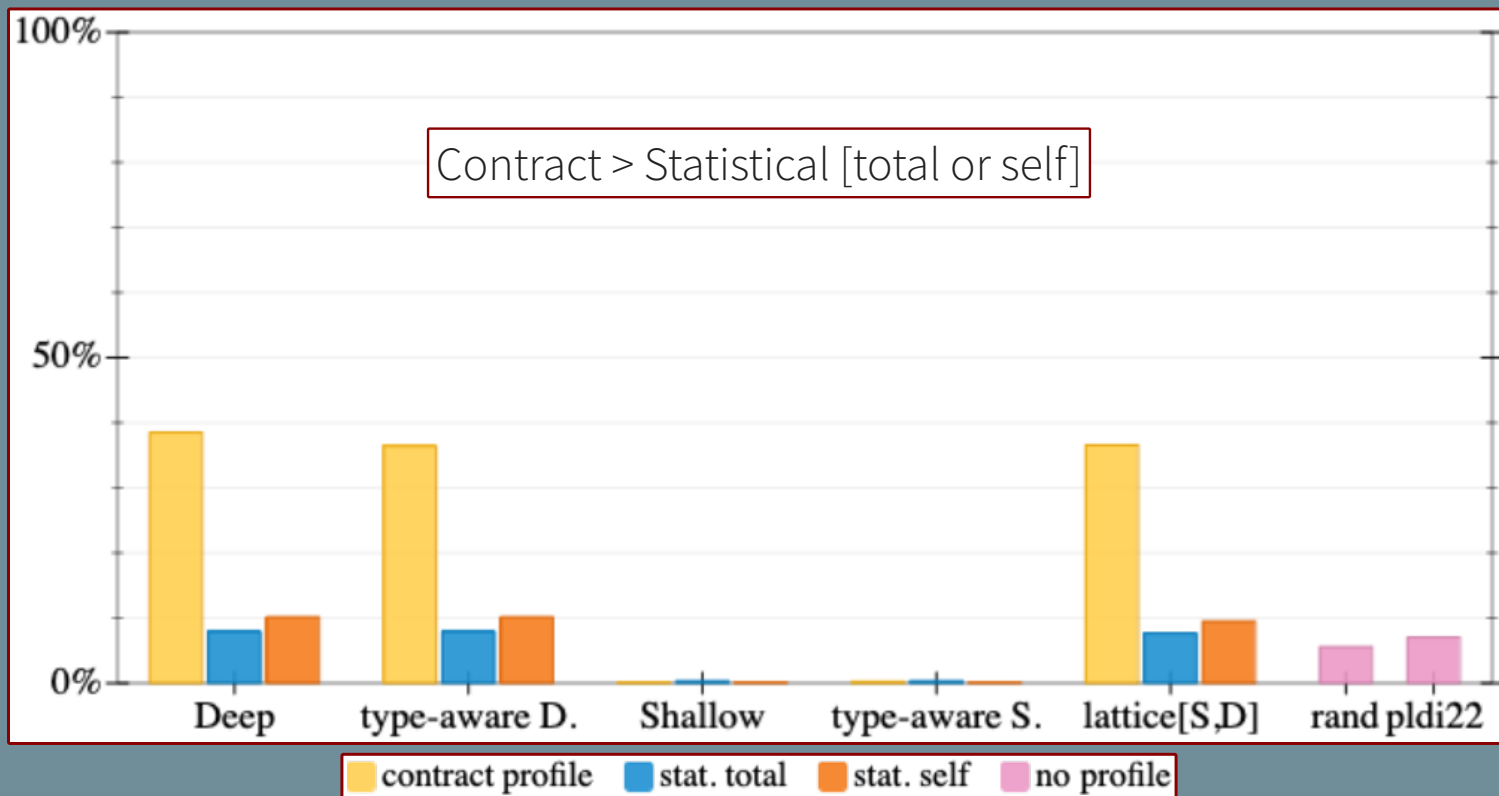
How often do the strategies succeed?

strict success



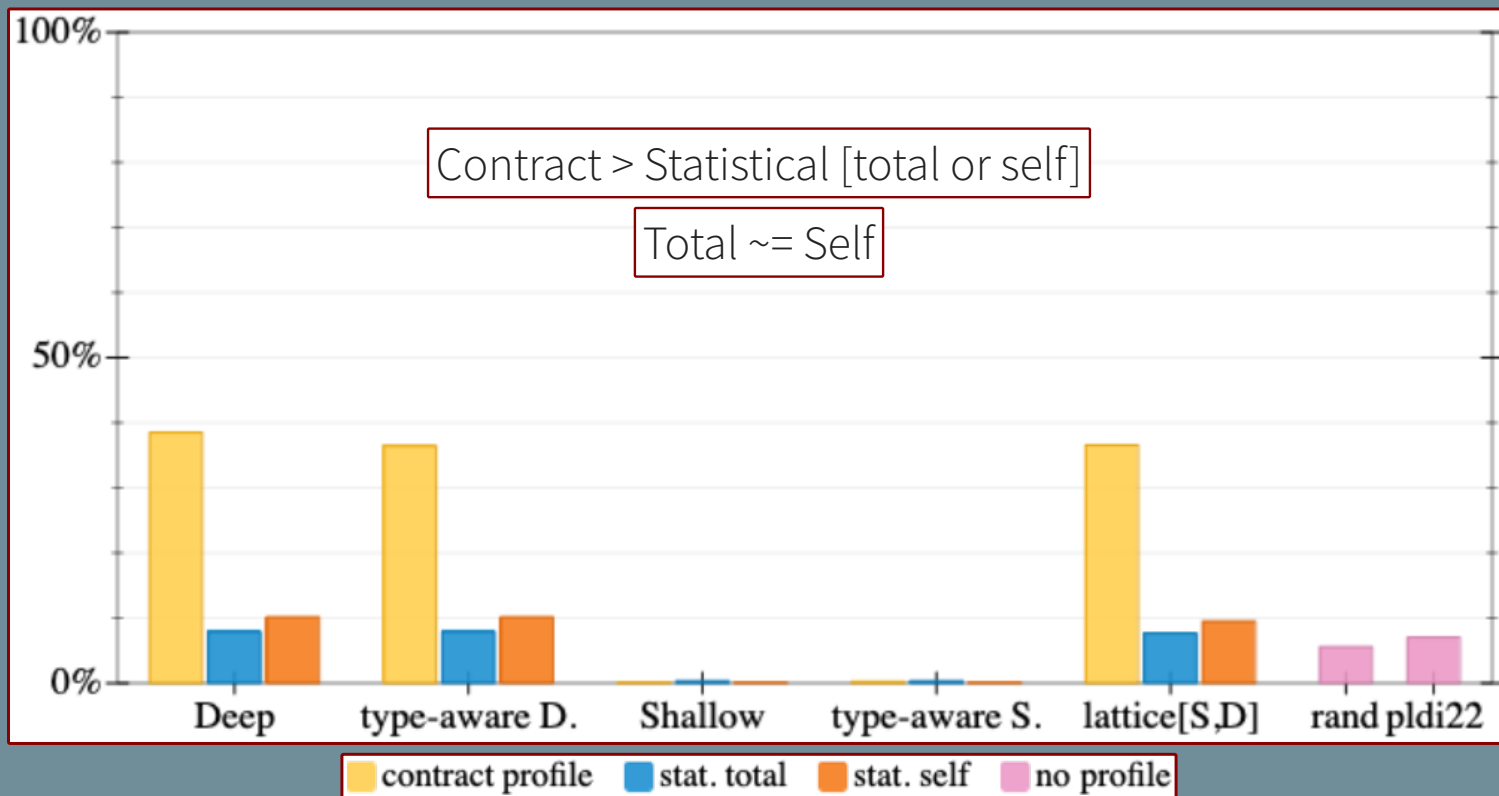
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strict success



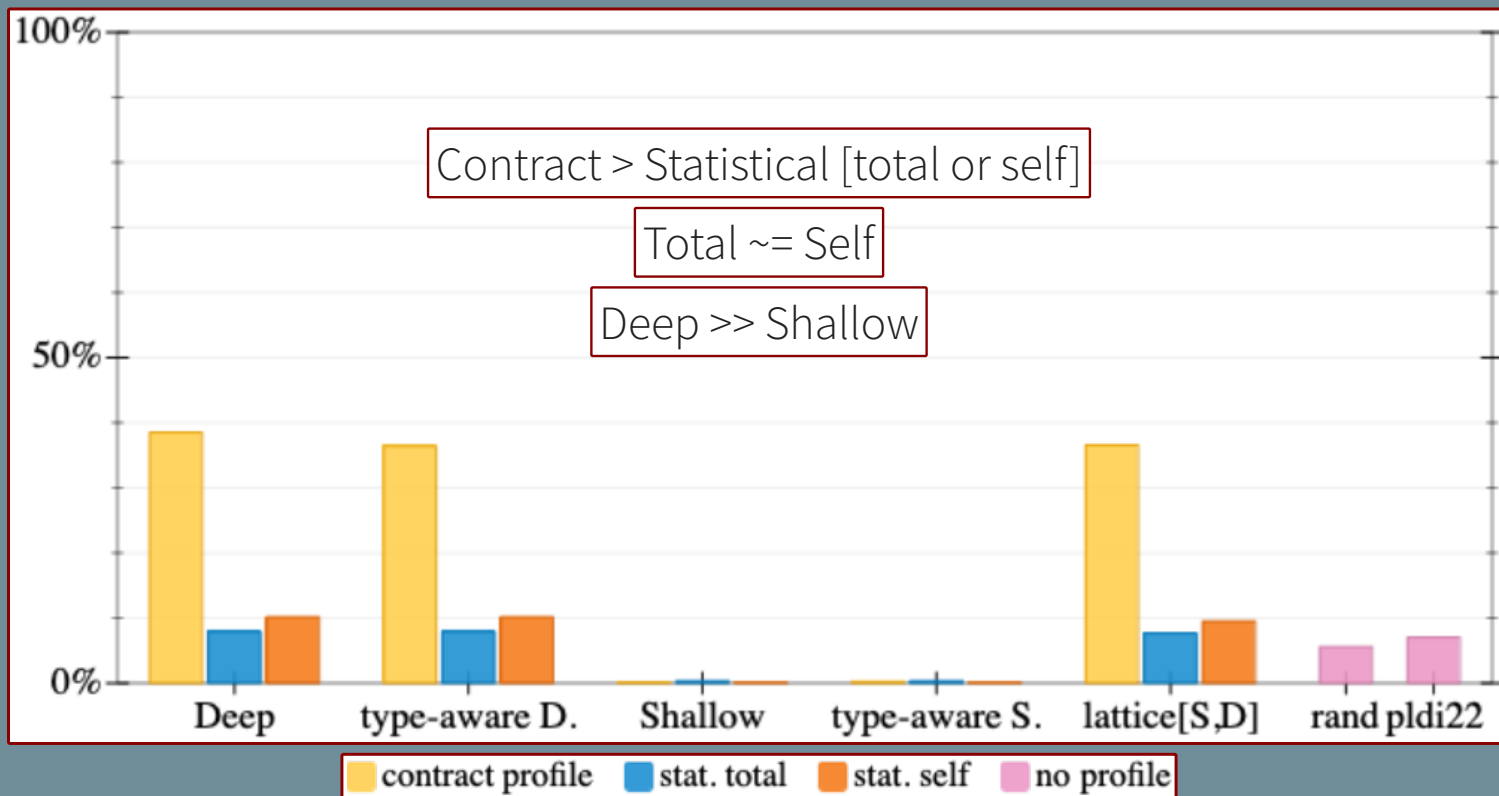
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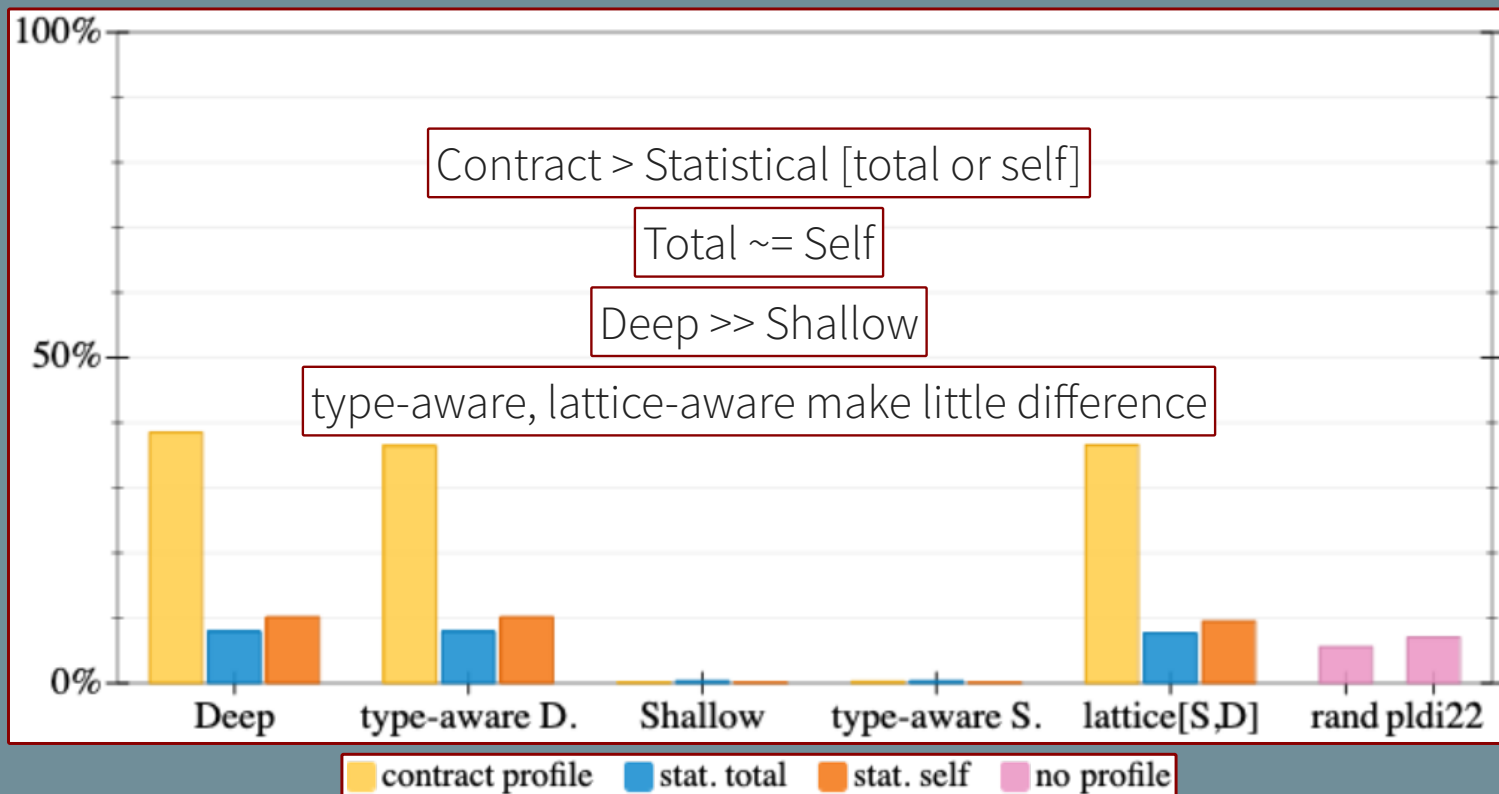
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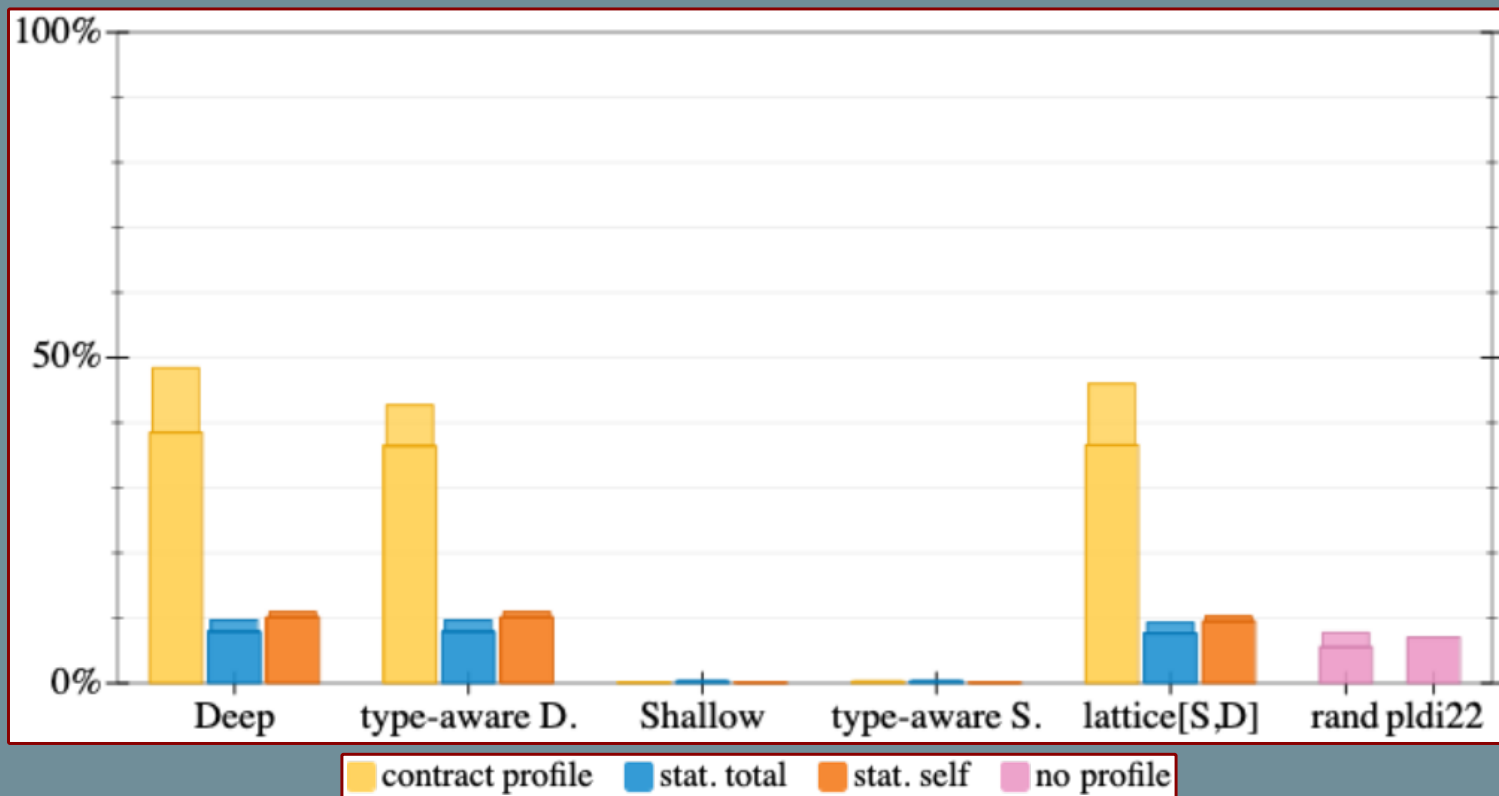
strict success



How often do the strategies succeed?

strict success

1 loose



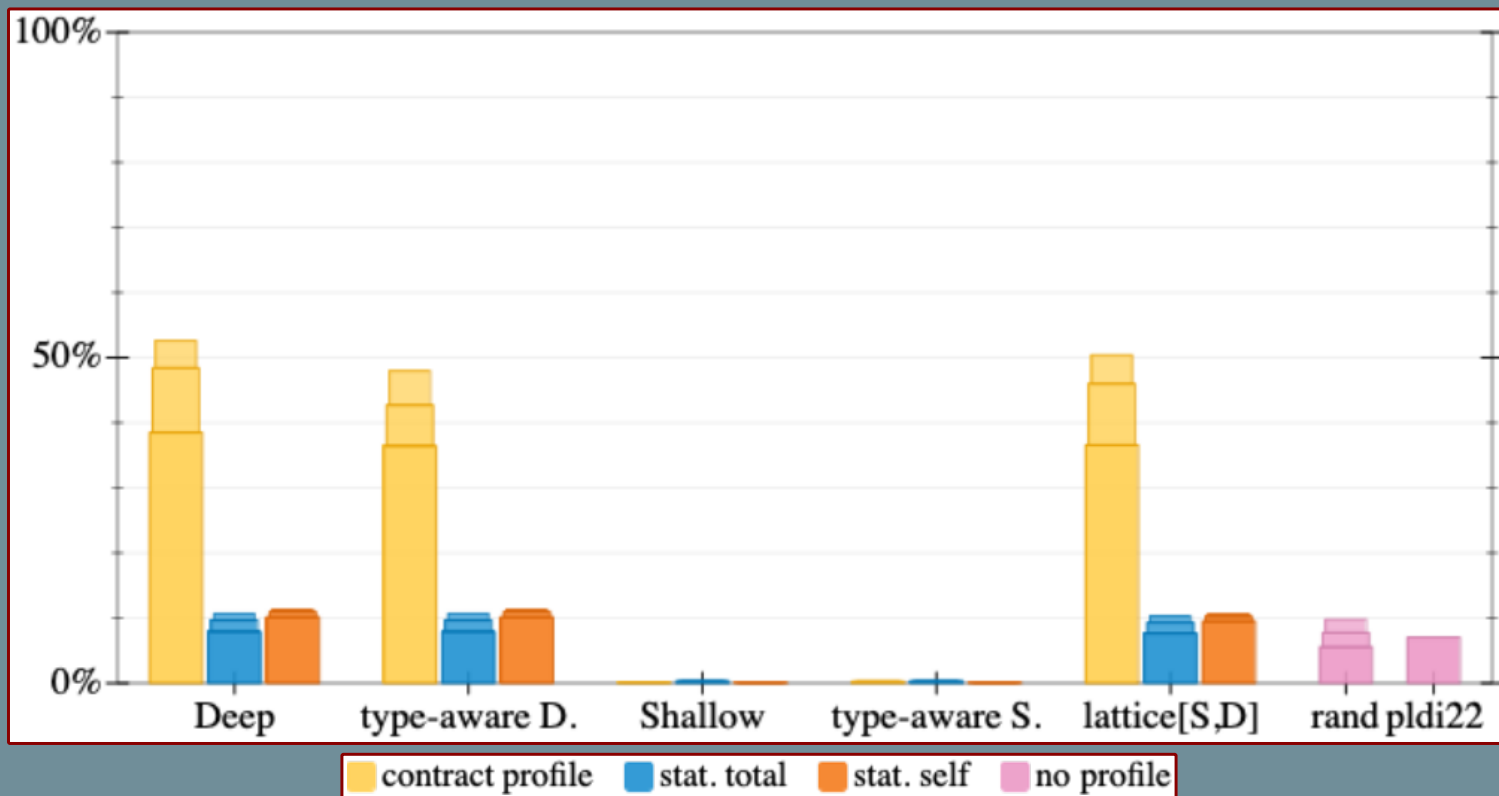


How often do the strategies succeed?

strict success

1 loose

2 loose



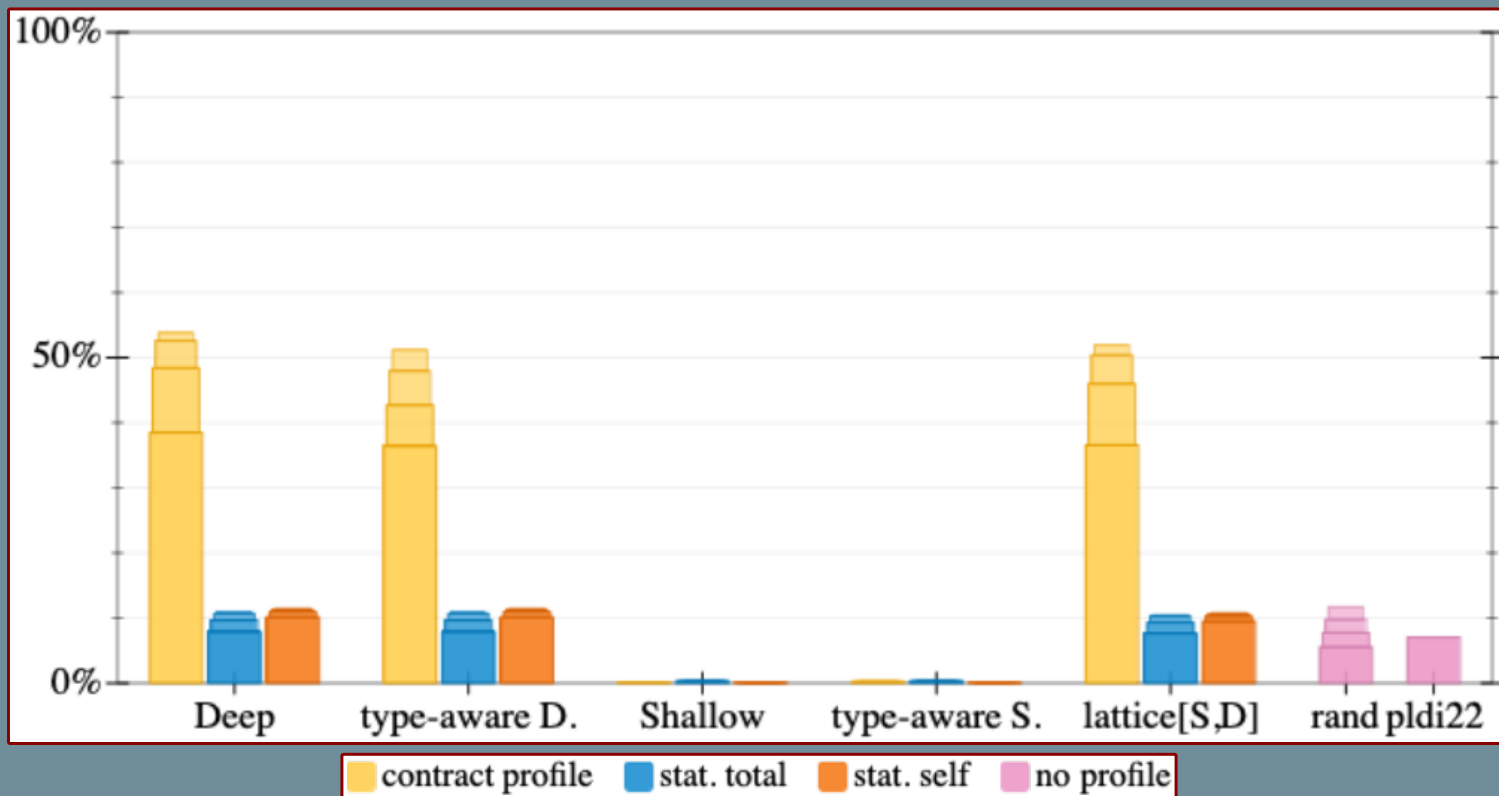
How often do the strategies succeed?

strict success

1 loose

2 loose

3 loose



How often do the strategies succeed?

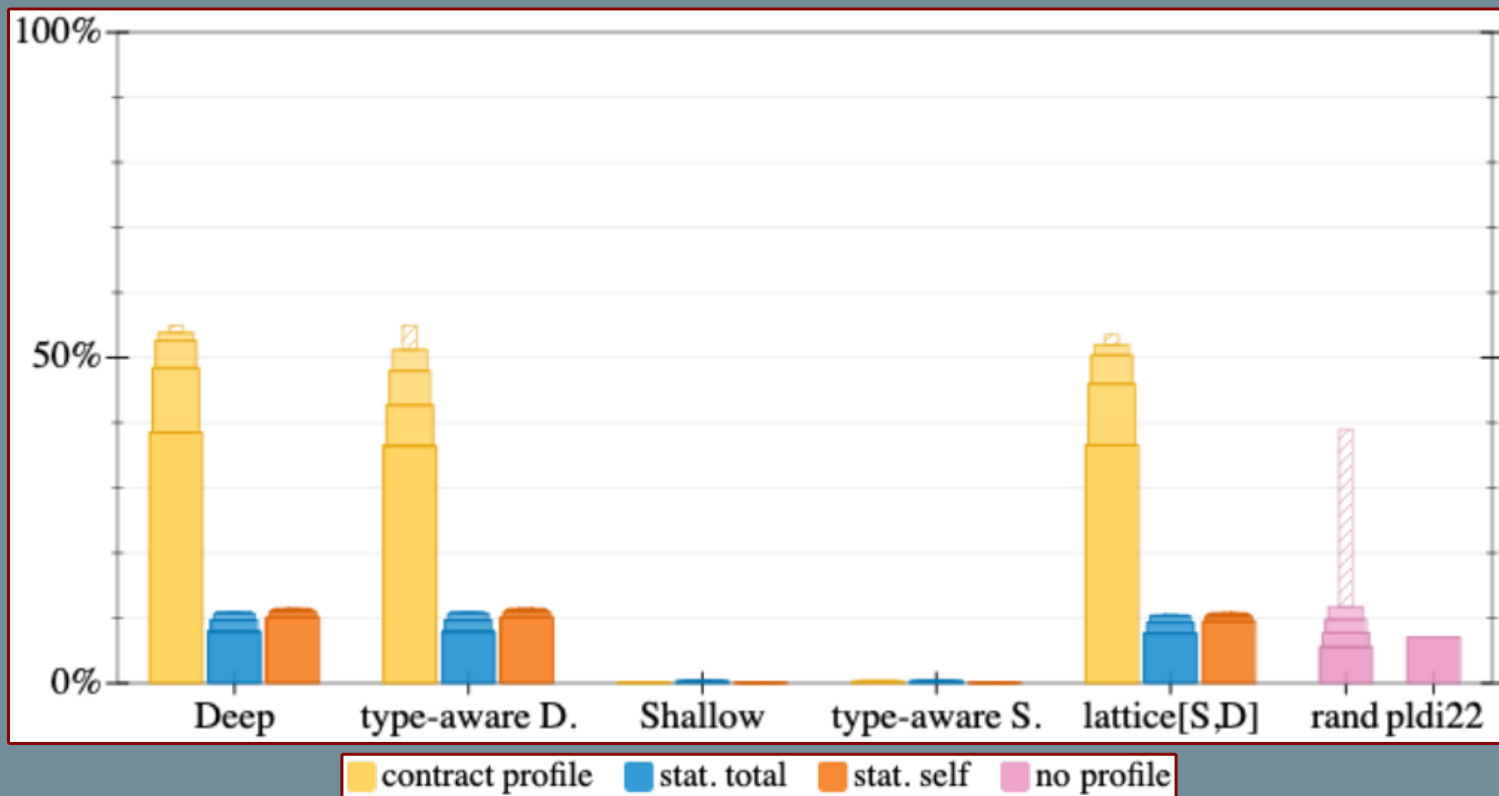
strict success

1 loose

2 loose

3 loose

N loose



How often do the strategies succeed?

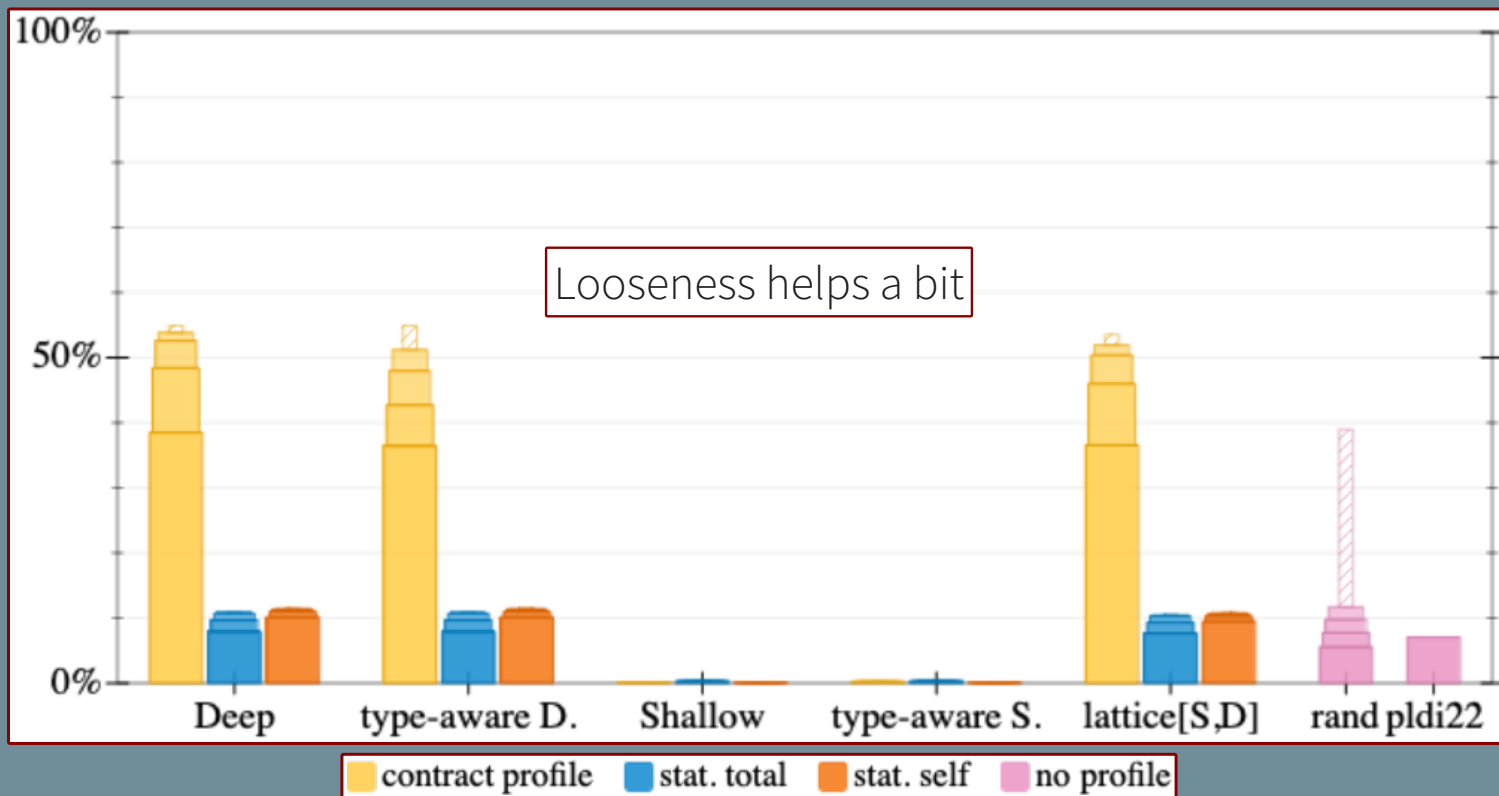
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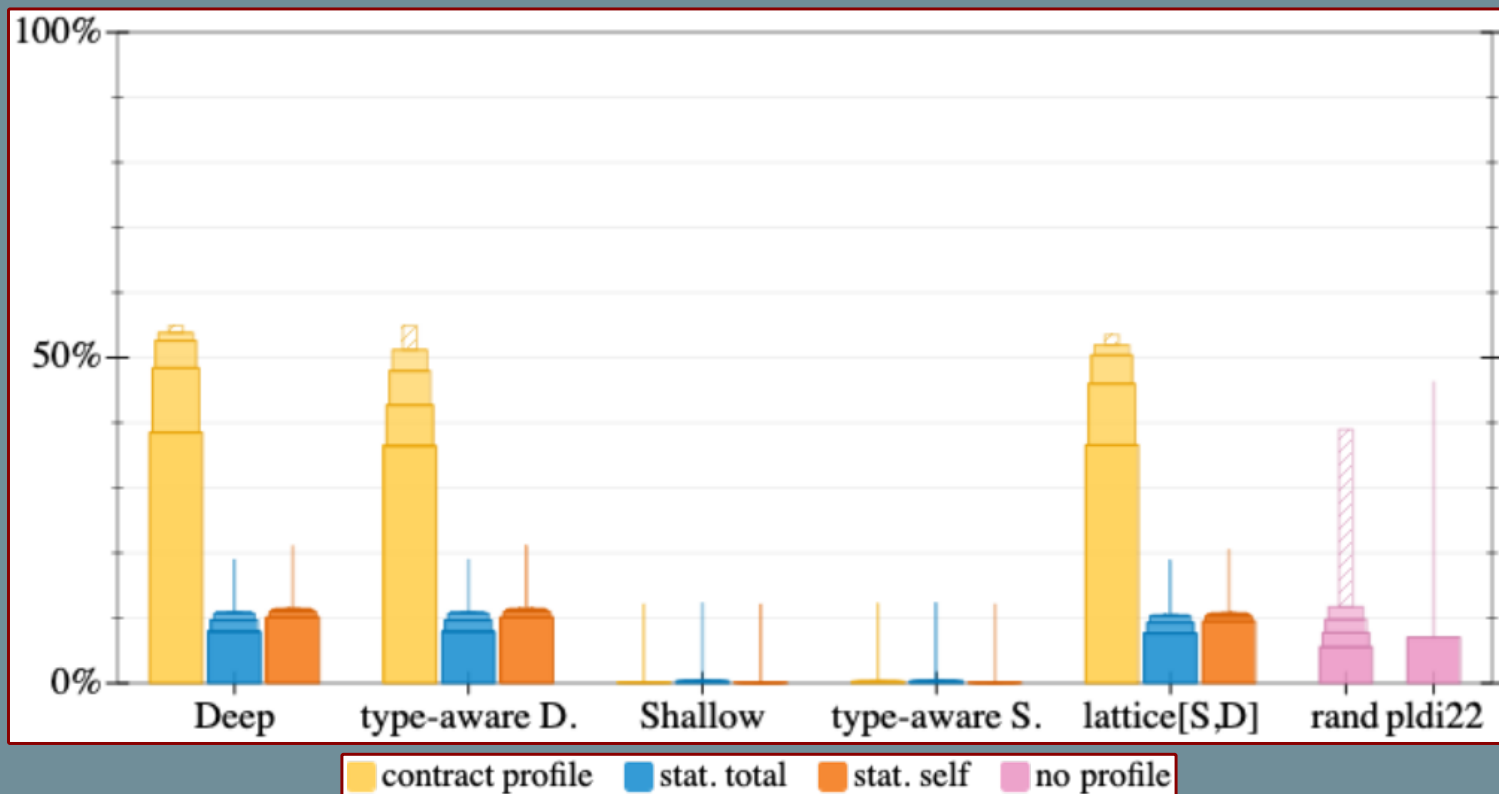
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2 loose

3 loose

N loose

strict 3x



How often do the strategies succeed?

strict success

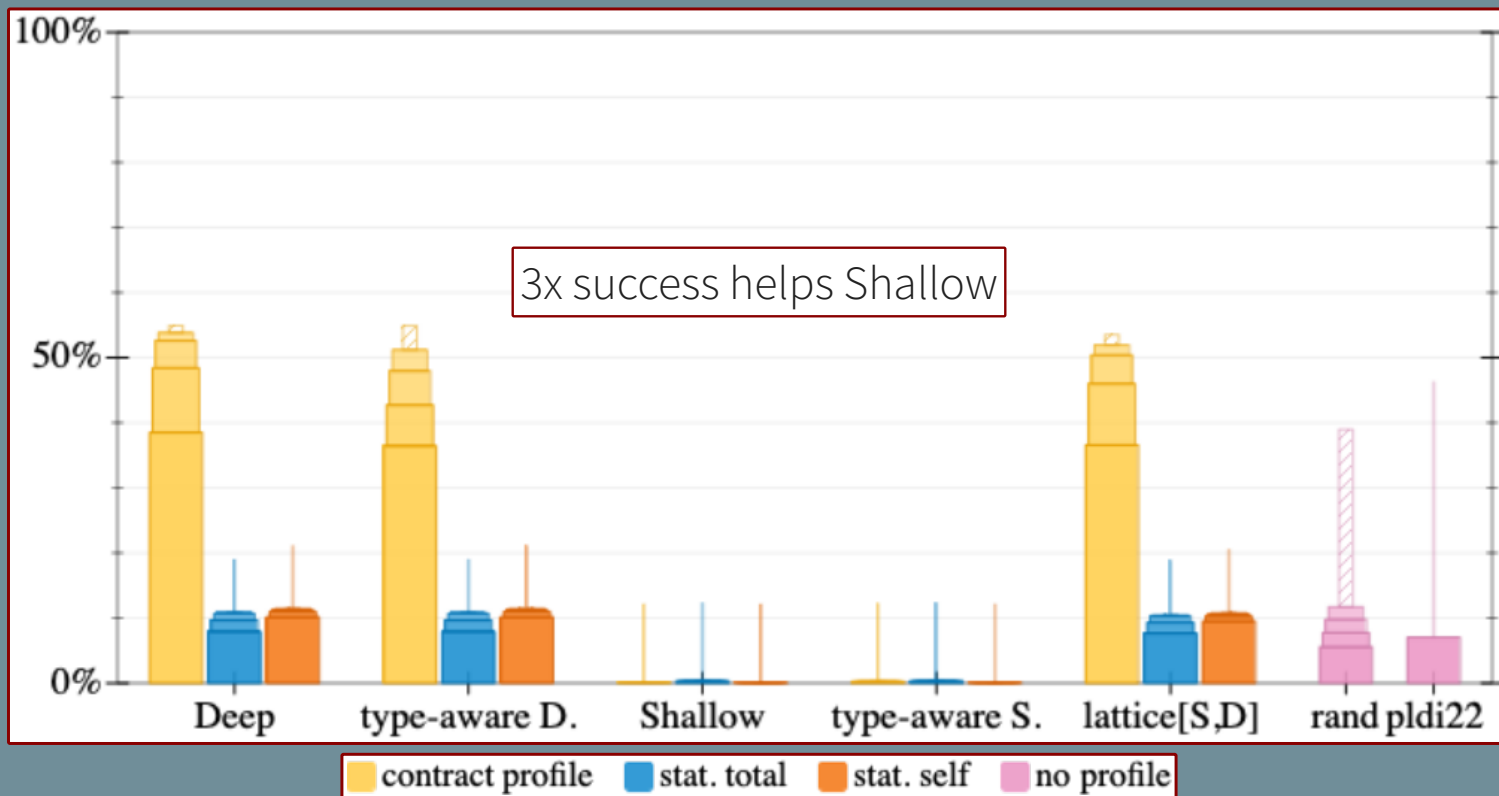
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## Takeaways

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\* **contract** profiling + **deep** types  
= **best** for type migration



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- \* **contract** profiling + **deep** types  
= **best** for type migration
- \* shallow types do not help

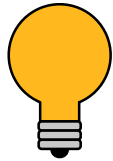
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Q. hybrid strategies, shallow profilers?

## Takeaways

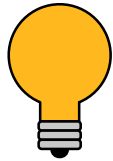


- \* the **rational programmer** method enables rigorous **experiments**



- \* **contract** profiling + **deep** types = **best** for type migration
- \* shallow types do not help

## Takeaways



- \* the **rational programmer** method enables rigorous **experiments**

errors testing?  
perf debugging?



- \* **contract** profiling + **deep** types  
= **best** for type migration
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<https://github.com/bennn/rational-deep-shallow>

# Translation: talk -> paper

strict success

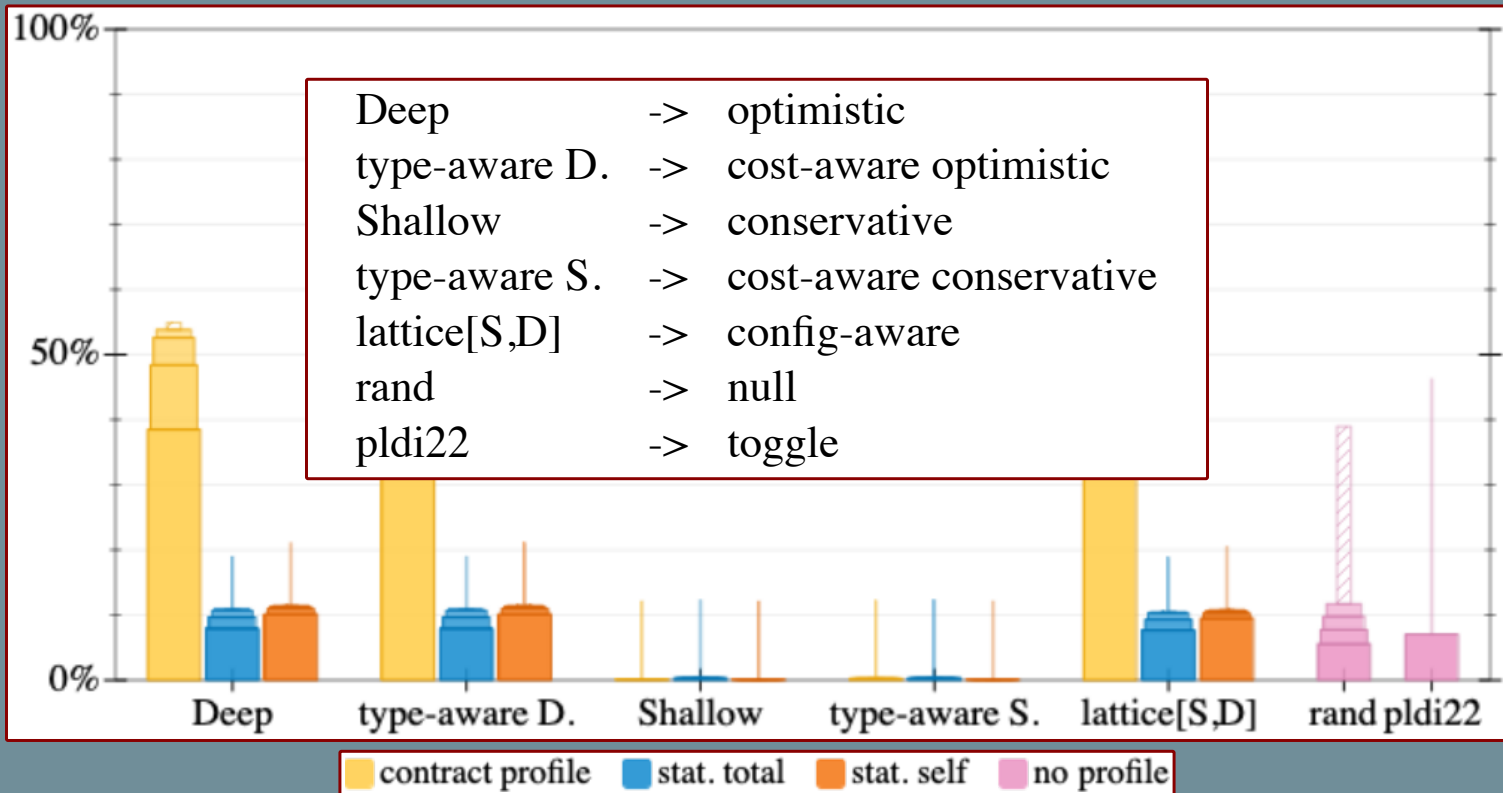
1 loose

2 loose

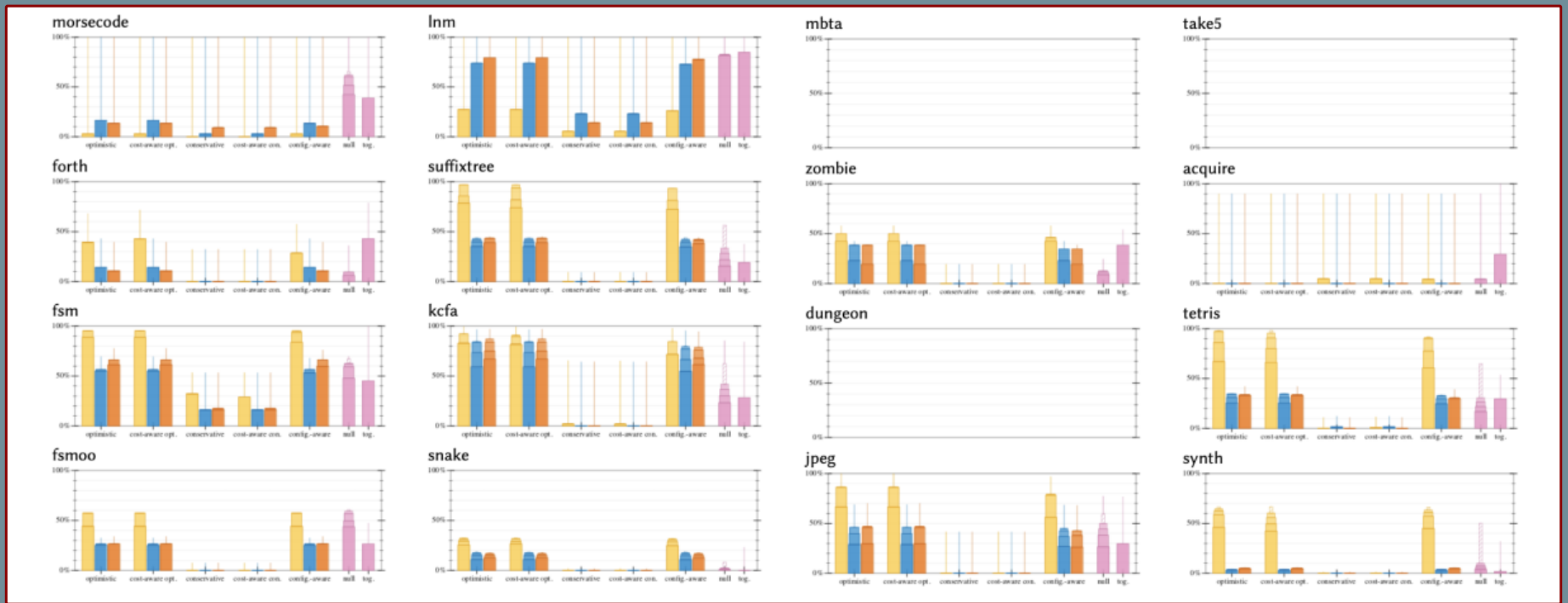
3 loose

N loose

strict 3x



# Skylines per Benchmark



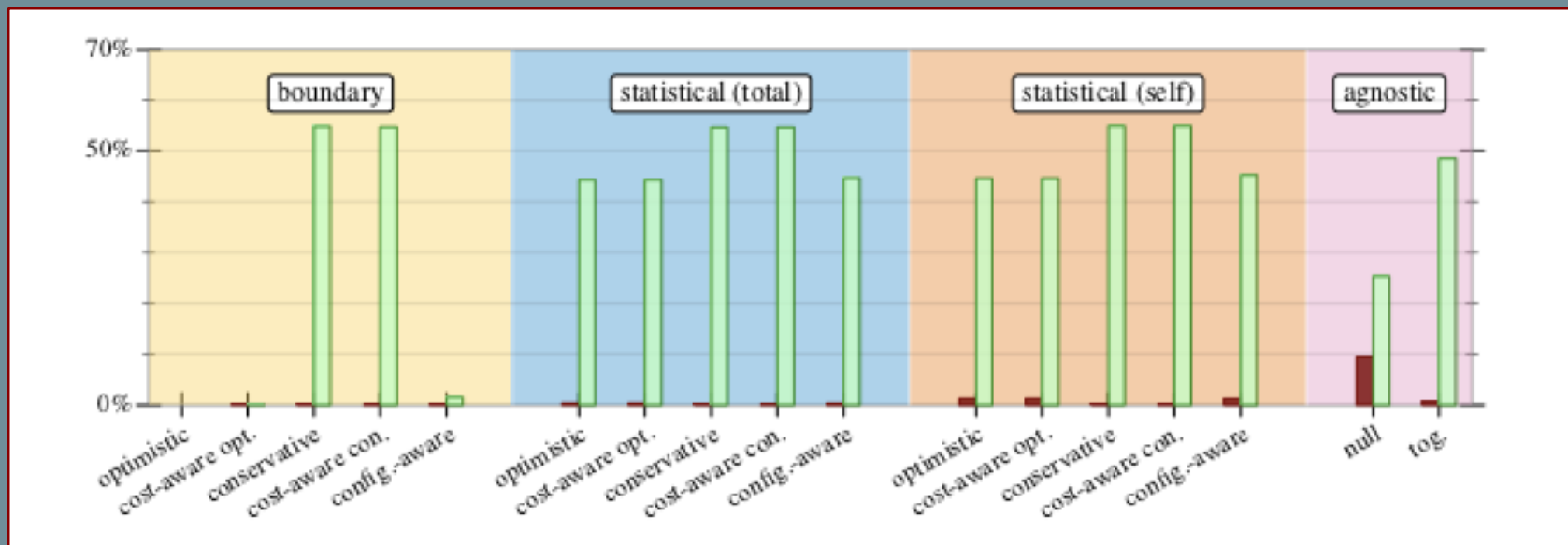
## Hopeful Scenarios

Table 3. How many scenarios can possibly reach 1x without removing types?

Benchmark	# Scenario	% Hopeful	Benchmark	# Scenario	% Hopeful
morsecode	67	100.00 %	lnm	295	100.00 %
forth	76	36.84 %	suffixtree	718	100.00 %
fsm	62	100.00 %	kcfa	2,031	100.00 %
fsmoo	68	100.00 %	snake	6,559	100.00 %
mbta	72	0.00 %	take5	6,558	0.00 %
zombie	74	35.14 %	acquire	19,532	5.45 %
dungeon	242	0.00 %	tetris	18,791	100.00 %
jpeg	230	100.00 %	synth	59,046	100.00 %



## Opt-Boundary vs. the others

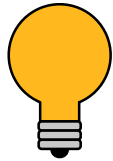


## Where are the Fast Configs?

Table 4. Which levels of the migration lattice have any acceptable configurations?

Benchmark	#acceptable					Benchmark	#acceptable by lattice level																						
morsecode	1	2	4	4	3	lnm	1	9	38	93	138	116	39																
forth	1	2	1	1	0	suffixtree	1	1	0	0	1	4	4																
fsm	1	3	4	7	4	kcfa	1	8	22	33	24	24	29	15															
fsmoo	1	2	4	2	4	snake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1														
mbta	1	4	4	0	0	take5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
zombie	1	2	3	1	0	acquire	1	8	28	51	45	16	2	0	0	0													
dungeon	1	0	0	0	0	0	tetris	1	12	56	121	169	128	118	133	112	42												
jpeg	1	2	1	1	4	4	synth	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1										

## Takeaways



- \* the **rational programmer** method enables rigorous **experiments**



- \* **contract** profiling + **deep** types = **best** for type migration
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