

# Extending ACL2 with SMT solvers

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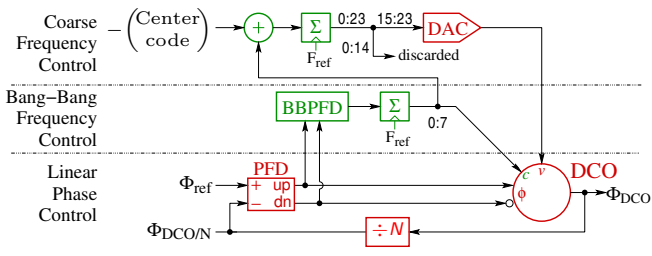
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*Smtlink handles tedious details of proofs so you can focus on the interesting parts.*

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# The digital Phase-Locked Loop example[CNA10]



- A PLL is a feedback control system that, given an input reference clock  $f_{ref}$ , it outputs a clock at a frequency  $f_{DCO}$  that's  $N$  times of the input clock frequency and aligned with the reference in phase.
- Analog/Mixed-Signal design are composed of both **analog** and **digital** circuits.

# Modelling the digital PLL

- The digital PLL is naturally modelled using non-linear recurrences that update the state variables on each rising edge of  $\phi_{ref}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}c(i+1) &= next_c(c(i), v(i), \phi(i)) \\v(i+1) &= next_v(c(i), v(i), \phi(i)) \\\phi(i+1) &= next_\phi(c(i), v(i), \phi(i))\end{aligned}^1$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Three state variables: capacitance setting  $c$  (digital), supply voltage  $v$  (linear), phase correction  $\phi$  (time-difference of digital transitions).

# Modelling the digital PLL

- In more details,

$$c(i+1) = \text{saturate}(c(i) + g_c \text{sgn}(\phi(i)), C_{\min}, C_{\max})$$

$$v(i+1) = \text{saturate}(v(i) + g_v(C_{\text{center}} - c(i)), V_{\min}, V_{\max})$$

$$\phi(i+1) = \text{wrap}(\phi(i) + (f_{dco}(c(i), v(i)) - f_{\text{ref}}) - g_\phi \phi(i))$$

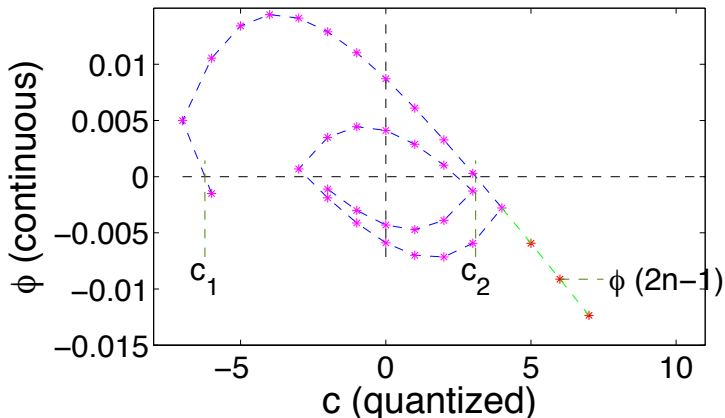
$$f_{dco}(c, v) = \frac{1 + \alpha v}{1 + \beta c} f_0$$

$$\text{saturate}(x, lo, hi) = \min(\max(x, lo), hi)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{wrap}(\phi) &= \text{wrap}(\phi + 1), & \text{if } \phi \leq -1 \\ &= \phi, & \text{if } -1 < \phi < 1 \\ &= \text{wrap}(\phi - 1), & \text{if } 1 \leq \phi \end{aligned}$$

- Turns out to be a relatively large system of non-linear arithmetic formulas.

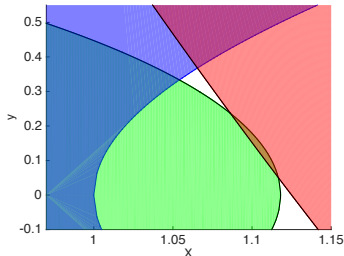
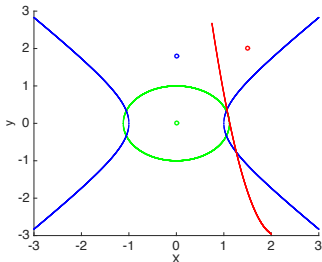
# Convergence



- Requires reasoning about sequences of states.
- We want to show that each crossing of  $\phi = 0$  is closer to the origin than the previous one.

## Example: polynomial inequalities

Do you sometimes find it frustrating to prove a theorem like this?



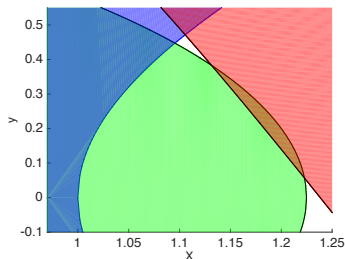
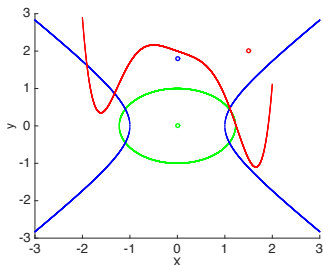
```

1 (defthm poly-ineq-example-a
2   (implies (and (rationalp x) (rationalp y)
3              (<= (+ (* 4/5 x x) (* y y)) 1)
4              (<= (- (* x x) (* y y)) 1))
5              (<= y (- (* 3 (- x 17/8) (- x 17/8)) 3))))

```

# Example: higher order polynomial inequalities

Maybe this? With a higher order term?



```

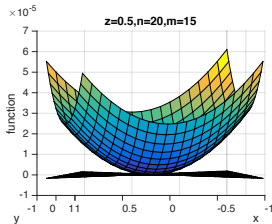
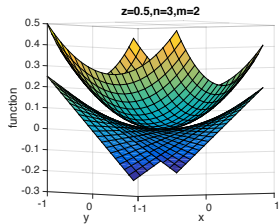
1 (defthm poly-ineq-example-b
2   (implies (and (rationalp x) (rationalp y)
3               (<= (+ (* 2/3 x x) (* y y)) 1)
4               (<= (- (* x x) (* y y)) 1))
5             (<= y (+ 2 (- (* 4/9 x)) (- (* x x x x)) (*
1/4 x x x x x x))))

```



## Example: exponential functions

Or even this one with exponential functions?



```

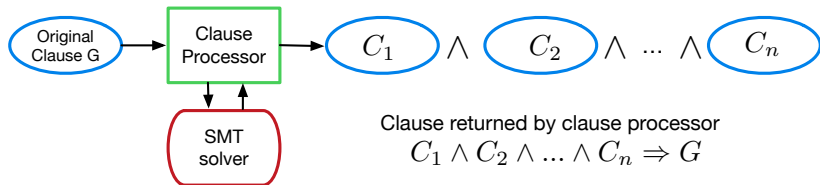
1 (defun ||x^2+y^2||^2 (x y) (+ (* x x) (* y y)))
2 (defthm poly-of-expt-example
3   (implies (and (rationalp x) (rationalp y) (rationalp z)
4                 (integerp m) (integerp n)
5                 (< 0 z) (< z 1) (< 0 m) (< m n))
6             (<= (* 2 (expt z n) x y)
7                 (* (expt z m) (||x^2+y^2||^2 x y) )))

```

# Motivation

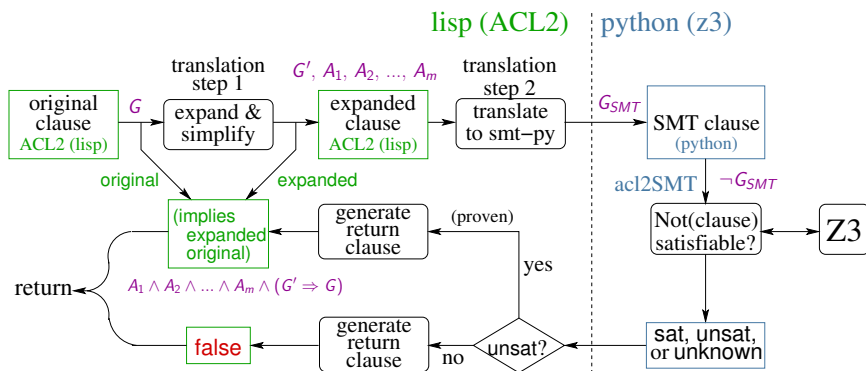
- ① Motivation: provide better proof capabilities for AMS and other physical systems.
- ② ACL2 provides extensive support for induction proofs and for structuring large, complicated proofs.
- ③ Z3 has automatic procedures for solving arithmetic formulas.
  - No direct support for induction.
  - Need to avoid “too much information” – important to give Z3 the **relevant** facts to keep the problems tractable.

## Starting with a clause processor



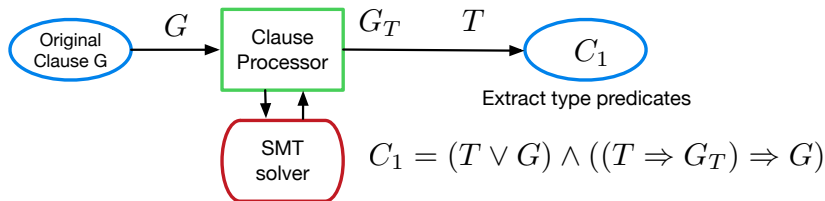
- Verified clause processor & trusted clause processor. We use a trusted clause processor for the integration.
- We utilize clauses  $C_1, C_2 \dots C_n$  to get ACL2 to check many of the steps of our translation.

# Two-step translation architecture



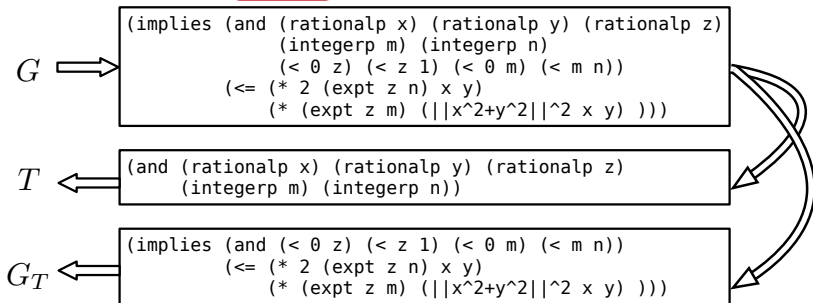
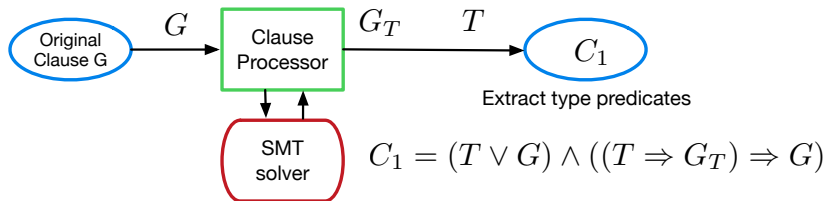
- First translation step: clause transformation
- Second translation step: transliteration

## Extract type predicates

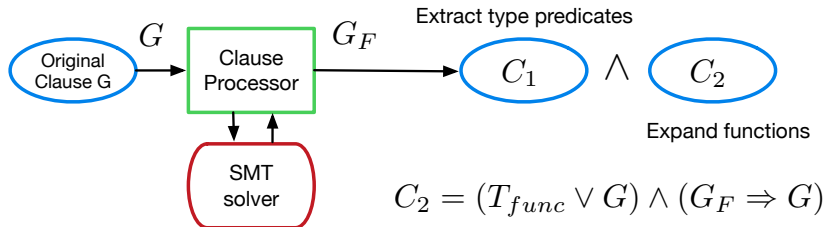


- ACL2 is not typed while Z3 is typed.
- It is common for the users to include type-recognizers in the hypotheses.
- We are currently translating `rationalp` in ACL2 into `reals` in Z3.

## Extract type predicates

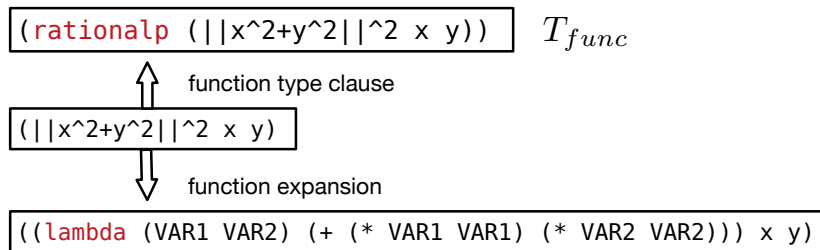
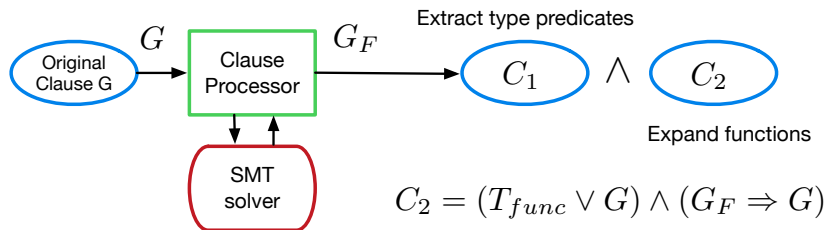


## Expand functions



- Functions are expanded into primitive functions.
- Recursive functions are expanded to a user specified level then replaced with a variable of appropriate type.
- Uninterpreted functions stay the same.

# Expand functions





## Revisit the expt proof

Let's take a look at the expt theorem again:

```

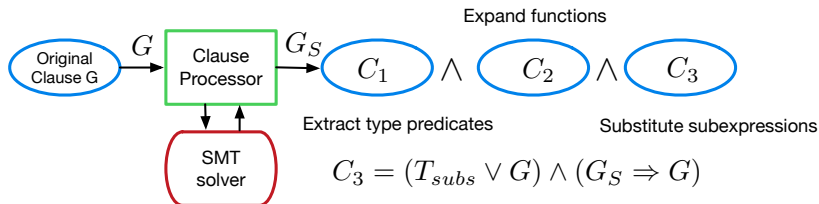
1 (defun ||x^2+y^2||^2 (x y) (+ (* x x) (* y y)))
2 (defthm poly-of-expt-example
3   (implies (and (rationalp x) (rationalp y) (rationalp z)
4               (integerp m) (integerp n)
5               (< 0 z) (< z 1) (< 0 m) (< m n))
6             (<= (* 2 (expt z n) x y)
7                (* (expt z m) (||x^2+y^2||^2 x y) )))

```

The reason that this is a theorem is because:

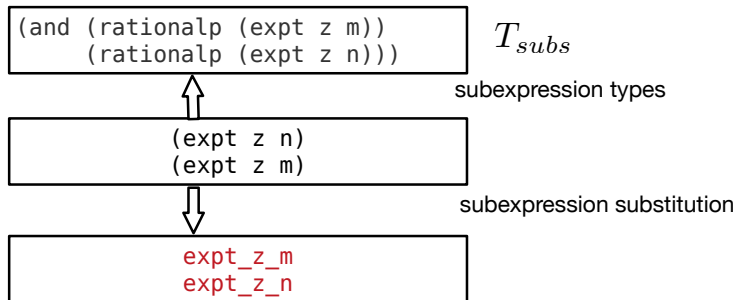
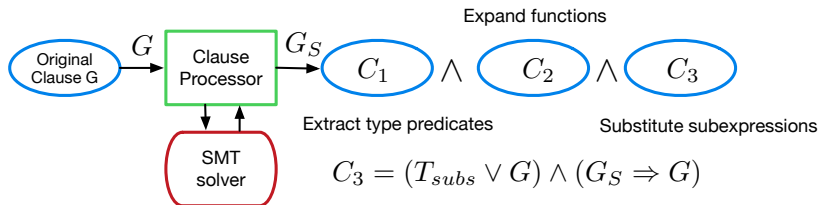
- $0 < z < 1$  and  $0 < m < n \Rightarrow 0 < z^n < z^m$
- $2xy \leq x^2 + y^2$

## Substitute subexpressions

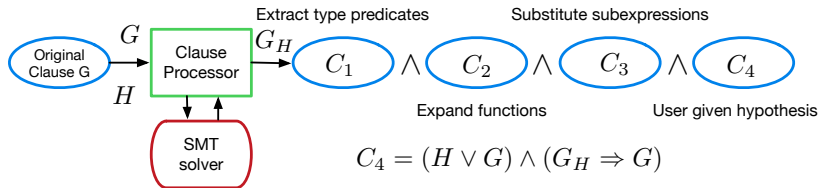


- The user can substitute subexpressions with variables.

# Substitute subexpressions

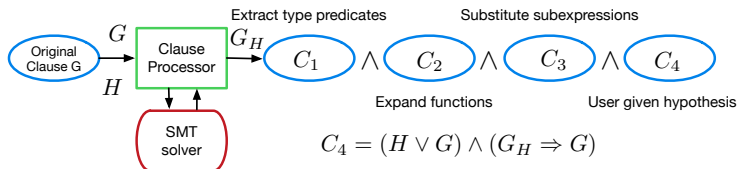


## User given hypotheses



- The user can provide hypotheses about this theorem.
- The hypothesis feature conveys facts from the ACL2 world about these variables to the SMT solver.

## User given hypotheses



```
;; given hypotheses in the theorem
((lambda (expt_z_n expt_z_m)
  (and (< expt_z_n expt_z_m) (< 0 expt_z_m) (< 0 expt_z_n)))
  (expt z n) (expt z m))
```

 $H$ 

hypothesis clause

```
expt_z_m
expt_z_n
```

added hypotheses

```
(and (< expt_z_n expt_z_m) (< 0 expt_z_m) (< 0 expt_z_n))
```

## The expt proof

The transformed result clause  $G'$  becomes:

```
(lambda (expt_z_m expt_z_n)
  ;; bind substitution variables to their original expressions
  (implies (and (and (< 0 z) (< z 1) (< 0 m) (< m n))
               (and (< expt_z_n expt_z_m)
                    (< 0 expt_z_m) (< 0 expt_z_n)))
    (<= (* 2 expt_z_m x y)
         (* expt_z_n
            ((lambda (VAR1 VAR2)
              (+ (* VAR1 VAR1) (* VAR2 VAR2))) x y )))
    (expt z m) (expt z n)))
```

The returned clauses are respectively:  $T \vee G$ ,  $T_{func} \vee G$ ,  $T_{subs} \vee G$  and  $H \vee G$ .

# The expt proof

The clause processor hint:

```
1 :hints (("Goal" :clause-processor
2   (Smtlink clause
3     '(:expand ((:functions ((||x^2+y^2||^2 rationalp)))
4       (:expansion-levels 1)))
5     (:let ((expt_z_m (expt z m) rationalp)
6       (expt_z_n (expt z n) rationalp)))
7     (:hypothesize ((< expt_z_n expt_z_m)
8       (< 0 expt_z_m)
9       (< 0 expt_z_n))))))
```

## Trust a little, but not too much

Let  $G$  be the original clause,  $A$  be all auxiliary clauses generated during the first translation step and  $G'$  be the main clause after this step. Let  $G_{SMT}$  be the transliteration result after the second translation step.  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are the two sets of clauses returned to ACL2.

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1 &= (G' \wedge A) \Rightarrow G \\ Q_2 &= A \vee G \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Since we assume that the second translation step is sound, meaning  $G_{SMT} \Rightarrow G'$ , and the SMT solver proves  $G_{SMT}$ , We conclude that  $G$  is a theorem.



## Customization interface

```
1 (local
2   (progn
3     (defun my-smtlink-expt-config ()
4       (declare (xargs :guard t))
5       (change-smtlink-config *default-smtlink-config*
6         :dir-interface      ;; SMT file directory
7         "../z3_interface"
8         :SMT-module        ;; SMT module name
9         "RewriteExpt"
10        :SMT-class         ;; SMT class name
11        "to_smt_w_expt"
12      ))
13   (defattach smt-cnf my-smtlink-expt-config)))
```

- The default Smtlink and the customizable Smtlink uses different trust tags.

## Customizing Smtlink

- As an example, we created a customized Smtlink that adds a partial theory of `expt` to `Z3`.

---

`(expt x 0) → 1`  
`(expt 0 n) → 0, if  $n > 0$`   
`(expt x (+ n1 n2)) → (* (expt x n1) (expt x n2))`  
`(expt x (* c n)) → (* (expt x n) (expt x n) ...)`  
`(< (expt x m) (expt x n)), if  $1 < x$  and  $m < n$`   
...

---

- This simplified the use of Smtlink to produce a simpler proof. The new proof is about half the length of the original.

# An example from the digital Phase-Locked Loop proof

Definitions:

$$\text{B-term}(h) = (1 - K_t)^{-h} \left( \mu \frac{1 + \alpha(d_0 + d_v)}{1 + \beta(g_1 h + (equ_c v_0))} - 1 \right)$$

$$\text{B-sum}(n) = \sum_{h=1}^n (\text{B-term}(h) + \text{B-term}(-h))$$

## An example from the digital Phase-Locked Loop proof

Proof of B-term-neg and B-sum-neg using Smtlink:

```
1 (defthm B-term-neg
2   (implies (a-bunch-of-hypothesis)
3     (< (+ (B-term h v0 dv g1 Kt)
4         (B-term (- h) v0 dv g1 Kt)) 0))
5   :hints (("Goal"
6     :clause-processor
7     (smtlink-custom-config clause
8       (smt-std-hint "B-term-neg") )))
9   :rule-classes :linear)
10
11 (defthm B-sum-neg
12   (implies (a-bunch-of-hypothesis)
13     (< (B-sum 1 n-minus-2 v0 dv g1 Kt) 0))
14   :hints (("Goal" :in-theory (e/d (B-sum) (B-term))))))
```

## Future work

- Support better counter-example report
  - Fetch counter-example result from the SMT solver and interpret it into ACL2 constants.
  - The clause processor can execute the counter-example to make sure they are indeed counter-examples.
- Add bounded model checking ability
  - We can use the SMT solver to build a bounded model checker that can be called through the customizable Smtlink interface.
- Typing with less typing
  - Type information can be extracted from `define`.
  - `type-alist` may contain lemmas/facts that Smtlink can send to the SMT solver to help with proofs.
- Explore other interesting applications

# Summary

Smtlink handles tedious details of proofs so you can focus on the interesting parts.

- We have demonstrated Smtlink for AMS design verification. Other cyberphysical problems should benefit as well.
- Smtlink is designed to be extensible to support, for example: other domains, and using more of the SMT solver's capabilities.


## Summary

Smtlink handles tedious details of proofs so you can focus on the interesting parts.

- It provides an architecture and examples for further research on combining the complementary strengths of ACL2 and SMT solvers.

Thank you!  
Questions or thoughts?

## Bibliography

-  J. Crossley, E. Naviasky, and E. Alon, *An energy-efficient ring-oscillator digital pll*, Custom Integrated Circuits Conference (CICC), 2010 IEEE, Sept 2010, pp. 1–4.



Primitive functions are:

binary-+, unary--, binary-\*, unary-/, equal, <, if, not, and lambda along with the constants t, nil, and arbitrary integer constants.

# An example from the digital Phase-Locked Loop proof

Definition of B-term (I've removed guards and returns to save space):

```
1 (define B-term-expt (Kt nco)
2   (expt (gamma Kt) (- nco)))
3
4 (define B-term-rest (nco v0 dv g1)
5   (1- (* (mu) (/ (1+ (* *alpha* (+ v0 dv)))
6                 (1+ (* *beta* (+ (* g1 nco) (equ-c
7                               v0))))))))))
8 (define B-term (nco v0 dv g1 Kt)
9   (* (B-term-expt Kt nco) (B-term-rest nco v0 dv g1)))
```

# An example from the digital Phase-Locked Loop proof

Definition of B-sum (I've removed guards and returns to save space):

```
1 (define B-sum (nco_lo nco_hi v0 dv g1 Kt)
2   :measure (if (and (integerp nco_hi) (integerp nco_lo)
3                   (>= nco_hi nco_lo))
4               (1+ (- nco_hi nco_lo)) 0)
5   (if (and (integerp nco_hi) (integerp nco_lo) (>= nco_hi
6           nco_lo))
7       (+ (B-term nco_hi v0 dv g1 Kt )
8          (B-term (- nco_hi) v0 dv g1 Kt)
9          (B-sum nco_lo (- nco_hi 1) v0 dv g1 Kt))
10      0))
```

# An example from the digital Phase-Locked Loop proof

std-smt-hint:

```
1 (define smt-std-hint (clause-name)
2   :guard (stringp clause-name)
3   '( (:expand ((:functions ( (B-term rationalp)
4                             (B-term-expt rationalp)
5                             (B-term-rest rationalp)
6                             (dv0 rationalp)
7                             ...
8                             (fdco rationalp)
9                             (gamma rationalp)
10                            (m rationalp)
11                            (mu rationalp))))
12         (:expansion-level 1)))
13   (:uninterpreted-functions ((expt rationalp rationalp
14                               rationalp)))
14   (:python-file ,clause-name)))
```

# An example from the digital Phase-Locked Loop proof

Proof of B-term-neg using Smtlink:

```
1 (defthm B-term-neg
2   (implies (and (integerp h) (<= 1 h) (< h (/ (* 2 g1))))
3             (hyp-macro g1 Kt v0 dv))
4             (< (+ (B-term h v0 dv g1 Kt) (B-term (- h) v0
5               dv g1 Kt)) 0))
5 :hints (
6         ("Goal"
7          :in-theory (enable B-term B-term-expt
8            B-term-rest mu equ-c gamma dv0)
9          :clause-processor
10         (smtlink-custom-config clause (smt-std-hint
11           "B-term-neg")) )))
:rule-classes :linear)
```

# An example from the digital Phase-Locked Loop proof

Proof of B-sum-neg:

```
1 (defthm B-sum-neg
2   (implies (and (integerp n-minus-2)
3                 (<= 1 n-minus-2)
4                 (< n-minus-2 (/ (* 2 g1))))
5             (hyp-fn (list :v0 v0 :dv dv :g1 g1 :Kt
6                       Kt)))
7   (< (B-sum 1 n-minus-2 v0 dv g1 Kt) 0))
:hints (("Goal" :in-theory (e/d (B-sum) (B-term))))))
```