

# Static Analysis: Symbolic Execution and Inductive Verification Methods

TDDC90: Software Security

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Overview

Symbolic Execution

Hoare Triples and Deductive Reasoning

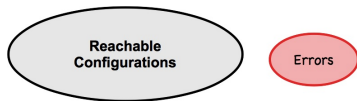
Overview

Symbolic Execution

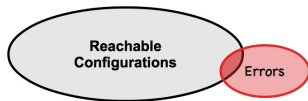
Hoare Triples and Deductive Reasoning

# Static Program Analysis and Approximations

We want to answer whether the program is **safe** or not (i.e., has some erroneous reachable configurations or not):



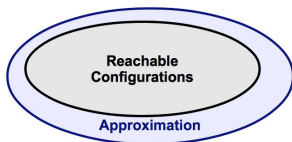
Safe Program



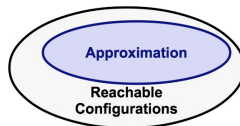
Unsafe Program

# Static Program Analysis and Approximations

- ▶ The idea is then to come up with efficient approximations and algorithms to give correct answers in as many cases as possible.



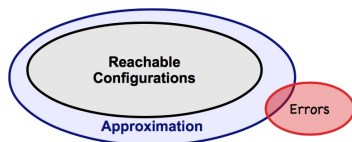
Over-approximation



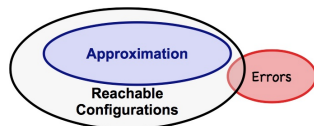
Under-approximation

# Static Program Analysis and Approximations

- ▶ A sound analysis cannot give **false negatives**
- ▶ A complete analysis cannot give **false positives**



False Positive



False Negative

# Two Lectures on Static Analysis

These two lectures on static program analysis briefly introduce different types of analysis:

- ▶ Previous lecture:
  - ▶ syntactic analysis: scalable but neither sound nor complete
  - ▶ abstract interpretation sound but not complete
- ▶ This lecture:
  - ▶ symbolic executions: complete but not sound
  - ▶ inductive methods: may require heavy human interaction in proving the program correct

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  - ▶ More concepts and ideas are discussed in TDDE34 under VT2



# First, What are SMT Solvers?

- ▶ Stands for *Satisfiability Modulo Theory*
- ▶ Intuitively, these are constraint solvers that extend *SAT solvers* to richer theories
- ▶ Many solvers exist (Yices, CVC, STP, OpenSMT, Princess, Z3, etc),
- ▶ You will be using Z3 <https://github.com/Z3Prover/z3> in the lab z3
- ▶ SAT solvers find a satisfying assignment to a formula where all variables are booleans or establishes its unsatisfiability
- ▶ SMT solvers find satisfying assignments to first order formulas where some variables may range over other values than just booleans

# Introduction

Originates from automating proof-search for first order logic.

- ▶ Variables:  $x, y, z, \dots$
- ▶ Constants:  $a, b, c, \dots$
- ▶ N-ary functions:  $f, g, h, \dots$
- ▶ N-ary predicates:  $p, q, r, \dots$
- ▶ Atoms:  $\perp, \top, p(t_1, \dots, t_n)$
- ▶ Literals: atoms or their negation
- ▶ A FOL formula is a literal, boolean combinations of formulas, or quantified ( $\exists, \forall$ ) formulas.

Evaluation of formula  $\varphi$ , with respect to interpretation  $I$  over non-empty (possibly infinite) domains for variables and constants gives true or false (resp.  $I \models \varphi$  or  $I \not\models \varphi$ )

# Satisfiability and Validity

A formula  $\varphi$  is:

- ▶ satisfiable if  $I \models \varphi$  for **some** interpretation  $I$
- ▶ valid if  $I \models \varphi$  for **all** interpretations  $I$

Satisfiability of FOL is undecidable. Instead, target decidable or domain-specific fragments.

# Introduction

Given a quantifier free FOL formula and a combination of theories, is there an interpretation to the free variables that makes the formula true?

$$\varphi \triangleq g(a) = c \wedge (f(g(a)) \neq f(c) \vee g(a) = d) \wedge c \neq d$$

- ▶ EUF: Equality over Uninterpreted functions
- ▶ Satisfiable?

# Introduction

Given a quantifier free FOL formula and a combination of theories, is there an interpretation to the free variables that makes the formula true?

$$\varphi \triangleq (x_1 \geq 0) \wedge (x_1 < 1) \\ \wedge ((f(x_1) = f(0)) \Rightarrow (rd(wr(P, x_2, x_3), x_2 + x_1) = x_3 + 1))$$

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- ▶ Linear Integer Arithmetic (LIA)
- ▶ Equality over Uninterpreted functions (EUF)
- ▶ Arrays (A)

# Introduction

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- ▶ LIA:  $x_1 = 0$
- ▶ EUF:  $f(x_1) = f(0)$
- ▶ A:  $rd(wr(P, x_2, x_3), x_2) = x_3$
- ▶ Bool:  $rd(wr(P, x_2, x_3), x_2) = x_3 + 1$
- ▶ LIA:  $\perp$



# Introduction

- ▶ Sometimes more natural to express in logics other than propositional logic
- ▶ SMT decide satisfiability of ground FO formulas wrt. background theories
- ▶ Many applications: Model checking, predicate abstraction, symbolic execution, scheduling, test generation, ...

# Outline

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# Testing

- ▶ Most common form of software validation
- ▶ Explores only one possible execution at a time
- ▶ For each new value, run a new test.
- ▶ On a 32 bit machine, `if(i==2021) bug()` would require  $2^{32}$  different values to make sure there is no bug.
- ▶ The idea in symbolic testing is to associate **symbolic values** to the variables

# Symbolic Testing

- ▶ Use symbolic values instead of concrete ones
- ▶ Along the path, maintain a *Path Constraint* ( $PC$ ) and a symbolic state ( $\sigma$ )
- ▶  $PC$  collects constraints on variables' values along a path,
- ▶  $\sigma$  associates variables to symbolic expressions,
- ▶ We get concrete values if  $PC$  is satisfiable
- ▶ The program can be run on these values
- ▶ Negate a condition in the path constraint to get another path

# Symbolic Execution: a simple example

- ▶ Can we get to the ERROR? explore using SSA forms.
- ▶ Useful to check array out of bounds, assertion violations, etc.

```
1  foo(int x,y,z){  
2      x = y - z;  
3      if(x==z){  
4          z = z - 3;  
5          if(4*z < x + y){  
6              if(25 > x + y) {  
7                  ...  
8              }  
9              else{  
10                 ERROR;  
11             }  
12         }  
13     }  
14     ...
```

$$PC_1 = true$$

$$PC_2 = PC_1$$

$$PC_3 = PC_2 \wedge x_1 = y_0 - z_0$$

$$PC_4 = PC_3 \wedge x_1 = z_0$$

$$PC_5 = PC_4 \wedge z_1 = z_0 - 3$$

$$PC_6 = PC_5 \wedge 4 * z_1 < x_1 + y_0$$

$$PC_{10} = PC_6 \wedge \neg(25 > x_1 + y_0)$$

$$PC = (x_1 = y_0 - z_0 \wedge x_1 = z_0 \wedge z_1 = z_0 - 3 \wedge 4 * z_1 < x_1 + y_0 \wedge \neg(25 > x_1 + y_0))$$

Check satisfiability with a solver (e.g., Alt-Ergo, Boolector, CVC4, MathSAT5, OpenSMT2, STP, Yices2, Z3)

# Symbolic execution today

- ▶ Leverages on the impressive advancements of SMT solvers
- ▶ Modern symbolic execution frameworks are not purely symbolic, and not necessarily purely static:
  - ▶ They can follow a concrete execution while collecting constraints along the way, or
  - ▶ They can treat some of the variables concretely, and some other symbolically
- ▶ This allows them to scale, to handle closed code or complex queries

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# Function Specifications and Correctness

- ▶ Contract between the caller and the implementation. **Total Correctness** requires that:
  - ▶ if the pre-condition ( $-100 \leq x \ \&\& \ x \leq 100$ ) holds
  - ▶ then the implementation terminates,
  - ▶ after termination, the following post-condition holds  
( $x \geq 0 \ \&\& \ \text{result} == x \ || \ x < 0 \ \&\& \ \text{result} == -x$ )
- ▶ **Partial Correctness** does not require termination

```
1  /*@ requires -100 <= x && x <= 100;
2  @ ensures x>=0 && \result == x || x<0 && \result == -x;
3  */
4  int abs(int x){
5      if(x < 0){
6          return -x;
7      }
8      return x;
9  }
```

# Hoare Triples and Partial Correctness

- ▶ a Hoare triple  $\{P\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$  consists in:
  - ▶ a predicate pre-condition  $P$
  - ▶ an instruction  $\text{stmt}$ ,
  - ▶ a predicate post-condition  $R$
- ▶ intuitively,  $\{P\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$  holds if whenever  $P$  holds and  $\text{stmt}$  is executed and terminates (**partial correctness**), then  $R$  holds after  $\text{stmt}$  terminates.
- ▶ For example:
  - ▶  $\{true\} x := y \{(x = y)\}$
  - ▶  $\{(x = 1) \wedge (y = 2)\} x := y \{(x = 2)\}$
  - ▶  $\{(x \geq 1)\} y := 2 \{(x = 0) \vee (y \leq 10)\}$
  - ▶  $\{(x \geq 1)\} (\text{if}(y == 2) \text{ then } x := 0) \{(x \geq 0)\}$
  - ▶  $\{false\} x := 1 \{(x = 2)\}$

# Weakest Precondition

- ▶ if  $\{P\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$  and  $P' \Rightarrow P$  for any  $P'$  s.t.  $\{P'\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$ , then  $P$  is the **weakest precondition** of  $R$  wrt.  $\text{stmt}$ , written  $wp(\text{stmt}, R)$
- ▶  $wp(x := x + 1, x \geq 1) = (x \geq 0)$ .  
 $(x \geq 5)$ ,  $(x = 6)$ ,  $(x \geq 0 \wedge y = 8)$  are all valid preconditions, but they are not weaker than  $x \geq 0$ .
- ▶ Intuitively  $wp(\text{stmt}, R)$  is the weakest predicate  $P$  for which  $\{P\} \text{ stmt } \{R\}$  holds

# Weakest Precondition of assignments

- ▶  $wp(x = E, R) = R[x/E]$ , i.e., replace each occurrence of  $x$  in  $R$  by  $E$ .
- ▶ For instance:
  - ▶  $wp(x := 3, x == 5) = (x == 5)[x/3] = (3 == 5) = \text{false}$
  - ▶  $wp(x := 3, x \geq 0) = (x \geq 0)[x/3] = (3 \geq 0) = \text{true}$
  - ▶  $wp(x := y + 5, x \geq 0) = (x \geq 0)[x/y + 5] = (y + 5 \geq 0)$
  - ▶  $wp(x := 5 * y + 2 * z, x + y \geq 0) = (x + y \geq 0)[x/5 * y + 2 * z] = (6 * y + 2 * z \geq 0)$

# Weakest Precondition of sequences

- ▶ Assume a sequence of two instructions  $stmt; stmt'$ , for example  $x := 2 * y; y := x + 3 * y$ ;

- ▶ the the weakest precondition is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} wp(stmt; stmt', R) &= wp(stmt, wp(stmt', R)), \\ &= wp(x := 2 * y; y := x + 3 * y, y > 10) \\ &= wp(x := 2 * y, wp(y := x + 3 * y, y > 10)) \\ &= wp(x := 2 * y, (y > 10)[y/x + 3 * y]) \\ &= wp(x := 2 * y, x + 3 * y > 10) \\ &= (x + 3 * y > 10)[x/2 * y] \\ &= (2 * y + 3 * y > 10) \\ &= y > 2 \end{aligned}$$

# Weakest Precondition of conditionals

- ▶ Assume a conditional (if( $B$ ) then  $stmt$  else  $stmt'$ ), for example (if( $x > y$ ) then  $z := x$  else  $z := y$ )

- ▶ The weakest precondition is given by:

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} wp((\text{if}(B) \text{ then } stmt \text{ else } stmt'), R) \\ = (B \Rightarrow wp(stmt, R)) \&\& (!B \Rightarrow wp(stmt', R)) \end{array} \right)$$

- ▶ For example,

$$\begin{aligned} & wp((\text{if}(x > y) \text{ then } z := x \text{ else } z := y), z \leq 10) \\ = & (x > y \Rightarrow wp(z := x, z \leq 10)) \\ & \&\& (x \leq y \Rightarrow wp(z := y, z \leq 10)) \\ = & (x > y \Rightarrow x \leq 10) \&\& (x \leq y \Rightarrow y \leq 10) \end{aligned}$$

# Hoare Triples for Loops, Partial Correctness

- ▶ In order to establish  $\{P\} (\text{while}(B)\text{do}\{stmt\}) \{R\}$ , you will need to find an invariant  $Inv$  such that:
  - ▶  $P \Rightarrow Inv$
  - ▶  $\{Inv \wedge B\} stmt \{Inv\}$
  - ▶  $(Inv \wedge \neg B) \Rightarrow R$
- ▶ For example  $\{i == j == 0\} (\text{while}(i < 10)\text{do}\{i := i + 1; j := j + 1\}) \{j == 10\}$ , we need to find  $Inv$  such that:
  - ▶  $(i == j == 0) \Rightarrow Inv$
  - ▶  $\{Inv \wedge (i < 10)\} i = i + 1; j = j + 1 \{Inv\}$
  - ▶  $(Inv \wedge i \geq 10) \Rightarrow j == 10$



# Hoare Triples for Loops, Total Correctness

- ▶  $\{P\} (\text{while}(B)\text{do}\{stmt\}) \{R\}$
- ▶ Partial correctness: if we start from  $P$  and  $(\text{while}(B)\text{do}\{stmt\})$  terminates, then  $R$  terminates.
  - ▶  $P \Rightarrow Inv$
  - ▶  $\{Inv \& \& B\} stmt \{Inv\}$
  - ▶  $(Inv \& \& !B) \Rightarrow R$
- ▶ Total correctness: the loop does terminate: find a **variant function**  $v$  such that:
  - ▶  $(Inv \& \& B) \Rightarrow (v > 0)$
  - ▶  $\{Inv \& \& B \& \& v = v_0\} stmt \{v < v_0\}$
- ▶ For example  $(\text{while}(i < 10)\text{do}\{i := i + 1; j := j + 1\})$  can be shown to terminate with  $v = (10 - i)$  and  $Inv = (i \leq 10)$