

Cell morphing: from array programs to array-free Horn clauses

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Plan

Motivation and big picture

Intuition

Inductive array invariants

Array Abstraction and abstract store/select operations

Experimental results

Conclusion



Goal: Array Bound check

```
int main () {  
    int v[10] ;  
    v[0]=0; ✓  
    return v[20] ✗  
}
```

- ▶ Index-based verification.

Goal: More, array initialization

```
int a[N]
for(i=0; i<N; i++) {
    a[i] = 42;
}
#forall i, a[i]==42 ;
```



- ▶ Relationships between **indices and content**.

Goal: Even more, sortedness

```
int a[N] ;
int i, j, iMin ;

for (j=0; i<n-1; j++) {
    iMin=j ;
    for(i=j+1; i<N; i++) {
        if (a[i] < a[iMin])
            iMin=i ;
    }
    swap(a[j], a[iMin]) ;
}
assertSorted(a) ; ✓
```

► Sortedness: $\forall i, a[i] \leq a[i + 1]$ ► + Permutation

Contrib. I: array invariants with tunable precision

A new abstraction for C-like programs with arrays:

- ▶ with **tunable** precision, the number of “distinguished cells”:
 - ▶ $N = 0$: for properties on indices
 - ▶ $N = 1$: 1 index + content (init)
 - ▶ $N = 2$: 2 indices + content (sort)
- ▶ into Horn clauses (a special type of formula) without arrays.
- ▶ extensible to other data structures (maps, ...).

Contrib. II: Implementation

This abstraction is implemented as a standalone tool:

VAPHOR

- ▶ Translates a mini language into Horn clauses (SMTLIB FORMAT) ▶ **use your favorite solver as back-end!**
- ▶ Capable of proving standard properties such as initialisation, . . .
- ▶ and . . . sortedness.

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Inductive invariants

```
int i=0, j=1;
while(i<1000) {
    i=i+1; j=j+2;
}
assert(j == 2001);
```

Prove the postcondition by **induction** on the iteration count.
What property?

$$j = 2i + 1 \wedge 0 \leq i \leq 1000$$

- ▶ holds initially
- ▶ if it holds, holds at next iteration
- ▶ (conjoined with exit condition) implies the postcondition



As Horn clauses

Find predicate $\mathcal{I}(i, j)$ over \mathbb{Z}^2 such that

1. $\mathcal{I}(0, 1)$ holds
2. $\forall i, j \in \mathbb{Z} \mathcal{I}(i, j) \wedge i < 1000 \implies \mathcal{I}(i + 1, j + 2)$
3. $\forall i, j \in \mathbb{Z} \mathcal{I}(i, j) \wedge i \geq 1000 \implies j = 2001$

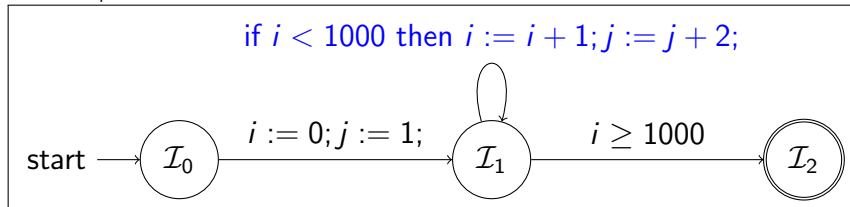
Three **Horn clauses**:

$$\forall \text{variables, } \mathcal{I}_{i_1}(\text{arguments}) \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathcal{I}_{i_n}(\text{arguments}) \\ \wedge \text{arithmetic condition} \implies \mathcal{I}_j(\text{arguments})$$

(from now we omit \forall .)

Program analysis as solving Horn clauses

Encode the inductiveness condition (+ goal) using Horn clauses, and check sat!



$$true \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_0(i, j) \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{I}_0(i, j) \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_1(0, 1) \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{I}_1(i, j) \wedge i < 1000 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_1(i + 1, j + 2) \quad (3)$$

$$\mathcal{I}_1(i, j) \wedge i \geq 1000 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_2(i, j) \quad (4)$$

$$\mathcal{I}_2(i, j) \wedge j \neq 2001 \rightarrow false \quad (5)$$

dip

Conclusion : decoupling

Our approach:

1. Generate a system of Horn clauses from the program.
2. Solve Horn clauses by whatever method.

Analyzing the Horn clauses

Horn clauses = inductiveness constraints (+ query = “this state is unreachable”)

- ▶ **Without query:**
 - ▶ Model-checking
 - ▶ Abstract interpretation
- ▶ **With query:**
 - ▶ Backward / forward abstract interpretation
 - ▶ **C**ounter**E**xample-**G**uided **A**bstract**R**efinement
 - ▶ IC3 / PDR
- ▶ Tools: Z3 (PDR), Spacer (PDR Variant), Eldarica (CEGAR)

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Array filling

```
int t[1000]
for(i=0; i<1000; i++) {
    t[i] = 42;
}
```

How to prove this program correct?

$$\forall 0 \leq k < 1000 \ t[k] = 42$$

By induction over the loop counter.

$$0 \leq i \leq 1000 \wedge \forall 0 \leq k < i \ t[k] = 42$$

Two parts in inductive invariant

$$0 \leq i \leq 1000 \wedge \forall 0 \leq k < i \ t[k] = 42$$

Numerics $0 \leq i \leq 1000$

Can be obtained by many methods!

Array $\forall 0 \leq k < i \ t[k] = 42$

How to get this part? Current version of the solvers (we tried) are unable to synthesise such an invariant. ► **abstract arrays with numeric variables**

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One-cell abstraction

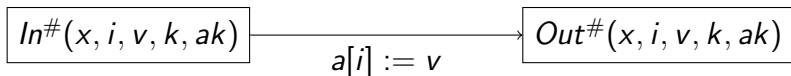
Main idea

Abstract a of *array* type into a couple $(k, ak = a[k])$

Algorithm

- ▶ To each program point attach, instead of a set \mathcal{I} of concrete states (x_1, \dots, x_m, a) , a set $\mathcal{I}^\#$ of abstract states $(x_1, \dots, x_m, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{ak})$
- ▶ Scalar instructions give rules as usual. Leave new variables untouched.
- ▶ Array store and array select are specially encoded.
- ▶ Proof goals are encoded accordingly.

Cell Abstraction, Store ($a[i] := v$) 1/2



“The value at array index i is now v , the rest is unchanged”

$$In^\#(x, i, v, k, ak) \wedge i \neq k \implies Out^\#(x, i, v, k, ak)$$

$$In^\#(x, \mathbf{i}, v, \mathbf{i}, ak) \implies Out^\#(x, i, v, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{v})$$

Cell Abstraction, Store ($a[i] := v$) 2/2

$$In^\#(x, i, v, k, ak) \wedge i \neq k \implies Out^\#(x, i, v, k, ak)$$

$$In^\#(x, \mathbf{i}, v, \mathbf{i}, ak) \implies Out^\#(x, i, v, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{v})$$

Example

$a[i]$



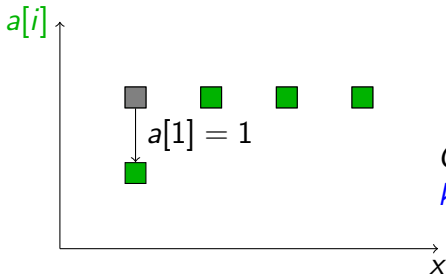
$$In^\#: 1 \leq k \leq 4 \implies ak = 2$$

Cell Abstraction, Store $(a[i] := v)$ 2/2

$$In^\#(x, i, v, k, ak) \wedge i \neq k \implies Out^\#(x, i, v, k, ak)$$

$$In^\#(x, \mathbf{i}, v, \mathbf{i}, ak) \implies Out^\#(x, i, v, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{v})$$

Example

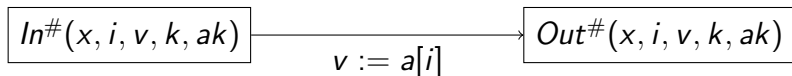


$$In^\#: 1 \leq k \leq 4 \implies ak = 2$$

$$Out^\#: 2 \leq k \leq 4 \implies ak = 2$$

$$k = 1 \implies ak = 1$$

Cell Abstraction, Select ($v := a[i]$) 1/2



“v has a new value and do not forget the previous invariants”

$$(k = i) \wedge In^\#(x, i, v, i, ai) \implies Out^\#(x, i, \mathbf{ai}, i, ai)$$

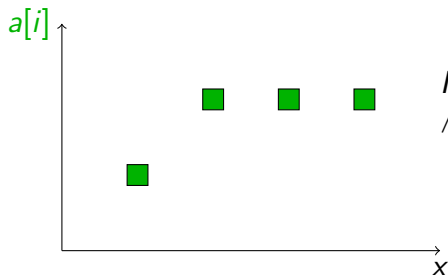
$$k \neq i \wedge In^\#(x, i, v, k, ak) \wedge In^\#(x, i, v, i, ai) \implies Out^\#(x, i, \mathbf{ai}, k, ak)$$

► **Non linear rules:** refers to two abstract states in the antecedent.

Cell Abstraction, Select ($v := a[i]$) 2/2

$$(k = i) \wedge \text{In}^\#(x, i, v, i, ai) \implies \text{Out}^\#(x, i, \mathbf{ai}, i, ai)$$

$$k \neq i \wedge \text{In}^\#(x, i, v, k, ak) \wedge \text{In}^\#(x, i, v, i, ai) \implies \text{Out}^\#(x, i, \mathbf{ai}, k, ak)$$



$$\text{In}^\#: 2 \leq k \leq 4 \implies ak = 2$$

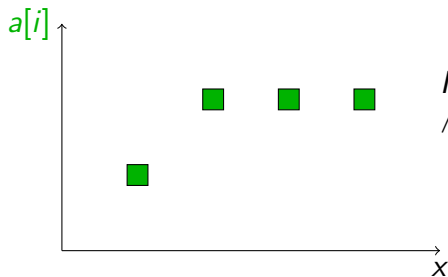
$$\wedge k = 1 \implies ak = 1$$

$$v := a[1]$$

Cell Abstraction, Select ($v := a[i]$) 2/2

$$(k = i) \wedge \text{In}^\#(x, i, v, i, a_i) \implies \text{Out}^\#(x, i, \mathbf{a_i}, i, a_i)$$

$$k \neq i \wedge \text{In}^\#(x, i, v, k, a_k) \wedge \text{In}^\#(x, i, v, i, a_i) \implies \text{Out}^\#(x, i, \mathbf{a_i}, k, a_k)$$



$$\text{In}^\#: 2 \leq k \leq 4 \implies a_k = 2$$

$$\wedge k = 1 \implies a_k = 1$$

$$v := a[1]$$

► $\text{Out}^\# : (k = 1 \implies a_k = 1 \wedge v = 1) \wedge (k \neq 1 \implies \dots \wedge v = 1)$ *lip*

Extensions

- ▶ N-cell abstraction (proves **sortedness**): (x, k, ak, k', ak) .
- ▶ Multisets (prove **permutation**): use ghost variables:
 - ▶ Attach a **ghost variable** \hat{a} s.t. $\hat{a}[i] = \text{card}\{k, a[k] = i\}$
 - ▶ Rewrite each store $a[i] := e$; into:

$$\hat{a}[a[i]] := \hat{a}[a[i]] - 1; a[i] := e; \hat{a}[a[i]] := \hat{a}[a[i]] + 1;$$

- ▶ Use the former abstraction for a and \hat{a} .

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A note about implementation

Our tool, VAPHOR:

- ▶ 2k lines of OCAML.
- ▶ Input: mini-java.
- ▶ Output: Horn Clauses as a SMTLIB file.
- ▶ Demo page:
<http://laure.gonnord.org/pro/demopage/vaphor/>.

Experimental Setup

- ▶ Intel 32 i3-3110M cores, 64 GiB RAM, Ubuntu 14.04 LTS.
- ▶ But solvers are not parallel!
- ▶ Classical benchmarks of the literature.
- ▶ Wikipedia version of some sorting algorithms.

Experimental results

Benchmark	N	Z3/PDR		Z3/Spacer		Eldarica	
		Res	Time	Res	Time	Res	Time
bin_search_check	1	sat	0.71	sat	0.34	Crash	
find_mini_check	1	sat	4.22	sat	0.82	sat	110.58
revrefill1D_check_buggy	1	unsat	0.03	unsat	0.07	unsat	9.21
array_init_2D	1	sat	0.46	sat	0.22	sat	12.76
array_sort_2D	1	sat	0.78	sat	0.30	sat	26.68
selection_sort (sortedness)	2	sat*	99.04	timeout(300s)		timeout(300s)	
selection_sort (sortedness/simpl.)	2	unsat	83	sat	48	timeout(300s)	
selection_sort (permutation)	1	timeout(300s)		sat	9.24	timeout(300s)	
bubble_sort_simplified	2	sat	5.98	sat	2.77	sat	158.70
insertion_sort	2	sat*	53.83	timeout(300s)		timeout(300s)	

- ▶ Sensitivity to random seed.
- ▶ **Bugs**
 - ▶ crashes
 - ▶ different versions of Z3 answer sat / unsat / unknown

Do not pay too much attention to speeds!



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Summary

- ▶ A method to synthesize abstractions of C programs with arrays into array-free Horn Clauses
- ▶ Agnostic about the backend solver
- ▶ Capable of proving challenging properties in a reasonable amount of time.

A note on related work

- ▶ smashing
 - ▶ exploding
 - ▶ use slices
- ▶ All these approaches are combinations of our two Galois connections.
- ▶ Other related work in the paper.

Work in Progress

(Joint work with D. Monniaux and J. Braine)

- ▶ Consolidate the prototype: our translation is now from Horn clauses to Horn clauses.
- ▶ Implement some simplifications during code generation, and the extensions to other data structures.
- ▶ Lists and other container classes.