

# Static Analysis of Concurrent Programs

MPRI 2–6: Abstract Interpretation,  
application to verification and static analysis

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# Concurrent programming

## Idea:

Decompose a program into a set of (loosely) interacting processes.

## Why concurrent programs?

- exploit parallelism in current computers  
(multi-processors, multi-cores, hyper-threading)  
“Free lunch is over”  
change in Moore's law ( $\times 2$  transistors every 2 years)
- exploit several computers  
(distributed computing)
- ease of programming  
(GUI, network code, reactive programs)

# Models of concurrent programs

## Many models:

- process calculi: CSP,  $\pi$ -calculus, join calculus
- message passing
- shared memory (threads)
- transactional memory
- combination of several models

## Example implementations:

- C, C++ with a thread library (POSIX threads, Win32)
- C, C++ with a message library (MPI, OpenMP)
- Java (native threading API)
- Erlang (based on  $\pi$ -calculus)
- JoCaml (OCaml + join calculus)
- processor-level (interrupts, test-and-set instructions)

# Scope

In this course: **static thread model**

- implicit communication through **shared memory**
- explicit communication through **synchronisation** primitives
- **fixed** number of threads (no dynamic creation of threads)
- numeric programs (real-valued variables)

**Goal:** **static analysis**

- infer numeric program **invariants**
- discover possible **run-time errors** (e.g., division by 0)
- parametrized by a choice of numeric abstract domains

# Outline

- State-based analyses
  - sequential programs (reminders)
  - concurrent programs
- Toward thread-modular analyses
  - detour through proof methods  
(Floyd–Hoare, Owicki–Gries, Jones)
  - rely-guarantee in abstract interpretation form
- Interference-based abstract analyses
  - denotational-style analysis
  - weakly consistent memory models
  - synchronisation

# Simple structured numeric language

- finite set of (toplevel) **threads**:  $\text{prog}_1$  to  $\text{prog}_n$
- finite set of numeric program variables  $V \in \mathbb{V}$
- finite set of statement locations  $\ell \in \mathcal{L}$
- finite set of potential error locations  $\omega \in \Omega$

## Structured language syntax

$\text{parprog} ::= \ell \text{prog}_1^\ell \parallel \dots \parallel \ell \text{prog}_n^\ell$  *(parallel composition)*

$\ell \text{prog}^\ell ::= \ell V := \text{exp}^\ell$  *(assignment)*

|  $\ell \text{if } \text{exp} \bowtie 0 \text{ then } \ell \text{prog}^\ell \text{ fi}$  *(conditional)*

|  $\ell \text{while } \ell \text{exp} \bowtie 0 \text{ do } \ell \text{prog}^\ell \text{ done}^\ell$  *(loop)*

|  $\ell \text{prog}; \ell \text{prog}^\ell$  *(sequence)*

$\text{exp} ::= V \mid [c_1, c_2] \mid - \text{exp} \mid \text{exp} \diamond_\omega \text{exp}$

$c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty, -\infty\}, \diamond \in \{+, -, \times, /\}, \bowtie \in \{=, <, \dots\}$

# State-based analyses

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# Sequential program semantics (reminders)

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# Transition systems

## Transition system: $(\Sigma, \tau, \mathcal{I})$

- $\Sigma$ : set of program states
- $\tau \subseteq \Sigma \times \Sigma$ : transition relation  
we note  $(\sigma, \sigma') \in \tau$  as  $\sigma \rightarrow_{\tau} \sigma'$
- $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \Sigma$ : set of initial states

Traces: sequences of states  $\sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n, \dots$

- $\Sigma^*$ : finite traces
- $\Sigma^{\omega}$ : infinite countable traces
- $\Sigma^{\infty} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \Sigma^* \cup \Sigma^{\omega}$ : finite or infinite countable traces
- $u \preceq t$ :  $u$  is a prefix of  $t$

We view program semantics and properties as sets of traces.

# Traces of a transition system

**Maximal trace semantics:**  $\mathcal{M}_\infty \in \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^\infty)$

- set of total executions  $\sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n, \dots$ 
  - starting in an initial state  $\sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I}$  and either
  - **ending** in a blocking state in  $\mathcal{B} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma \mid \forall \sigma' : \sigma \not\rightarrow_\tau \sigma' \}$
  - or **infinite**

$$\mathcal{M}_\infty \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n \mid \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I} \wedge \sigma_n \in \mathcal{B} \wedge \forall i < n : \sigma_i \rightarrow_\tau \sigma_{i+1} \} \cup \{ \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n \dots \mid \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I} \wedge \forall i < \omega : \sigma_i \rightarrow_\tau \sigma_{i+1} \}$$

- able to express many properties of programs, e.g.:
  - **state safety:**  $\mathcal{M}_\infty \subseteq S^\infty$  (executions stay in  $S$ )
  - **ordering:**  $\mathcal{M}_\infty \subseteq S_1^\infty \cdot S_2^\infty$  ( $S_2$  can only occur after  $S_1$ )
  - **termination:**  $\mathcal{M}_\infty \subseteq \Sigma^*$  (executions are finite)
  - **inevitability:**  $\mathcal{M}_\infty \subseteq \Sigma^* \cdot S \cdot \Sigma^\infty$  (executions pass through  $S$ )

# Traces of a transition system

## Finite prefix trace semantics: $\mathcal{T}_p \in \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^*)$

- set of **finite prefixes** of executions:

$$\mathcal{T}_p \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n \mid n \geq 0, \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I}, \forall i < n: \sigma_i \rightarrow_{\tau} \sigma_{i+1} \}$$

- $\mathcal{T}_p$  is an abstraction of the maximal trace semantics

$$\mathcal{T}_p = \alpha_{* \preceq}(\mathcal{M}_{\infty}) \text{ where } \alpha_{* \preceq}(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ t \in \Sigma^* \mid \exists u \in X: t \preceq u \}$$

- $\mathcal{T}_p$  can prove **state safety** properties:  $\mathcal{T}_p \subseteq S^*$   
(executions stay in  $S$ )

$$\mathcal{T}_p \text{ can prove } \text{ordering} \text{ properties: } \mathcal{T}_p \subseteq S_1^* \cdot S_2^* \\ \text{(if } S_1 \text{ and } S_2 \text{ occur, } S_2 \text{ occurs after } S_1 \text{)}$$

- $\mathcal{T}_p$  **cannot** prove **termination** nor **inevitability** properties

- **fixpoint characterisation:**  $\mathcal{T}_p = \text{lfp } F_p$  where

$$F_p(X) = \mathcal{I} \cup \{ \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_{n+1} \mid \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n \in X \wedge \sigma_n \rightarrow_{\tau} \sigma_{n+1} \}$$

# State abstraction

## Reachable state semantics: $\mathcal{R} \in \mathcal{P}(\Sigma)$

- set of states **reachable** in any execution:

$$\mathcal{R} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma \mid \exists n \geq 0, \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n: \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I}, \forall i < n: \sigma_i \rightarrow_{\tau} \sigma_{i+1} \wedge \sigma = \sigma_n \}$$

- $\mathcal{R}$  is an abstraction of the finite trace semantics:  $\mathcal{R} = \alpha_p(\mathcal{T}_p)$

$$\text{where } \alpha_p(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma \mid \exists \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_n \in X: \sigma = \sigma_n \}$$

- $\mathcal{R}$  can prove **state safety** properties:  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq S$   
(executions stay in  $S$ )

$\mathcal{R}$  **cannot** prove **ordering, termination, inevitability** properties

- **fixpoint characterisation:**  $\mathcal{R} = \text{lfp } F_{\mathcal{R}}$  where

$$F_{\mathcal{R}}(X) = \mathcal{I} \cup \{ \sigma \mid \exists \sigma' \in X: \sigma' \rightarrow_{\tau} \sigma \}$$

# States of a sequential program

Simple sequential numeric programs:  $\text{parprog} ::= \ell^i \text{prog}^{\ell^x}$ .

**Program states:**  $\Sigma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E}) \cup \Omega$

- a **control** state in  $\mathcal{L}$ , and
- either a **memory** state: an environment in  $\mathcal{E} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- or an **error** state in  $\Omega$

**Initial states:**

start at the first control point  $\ell^i$  with variables set to 0:

$$\mathcal{I} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\ell^i, \lambda v.0)\}$$

Note that  $\mathcal{P}(\Sigma) \simeq (\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E})) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$ :

- a state property in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E})$  at each program point in  $\mathcal{L}$
- and a set of errors in  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega)$

# Expression semantics with errors

**Expression semantics:**  $E[\text{exp}] : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega))$

$$E[V] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \{ \rho(V) \}, \emptyset \rangle$$

$$E[[c_1, c_2]] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \{ x \in \mathbb{R} \mid c_1 \leq x \leq c_2 \}, \emptyset \rangle$$

$$E[-e] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{let } \langle V, O \rangle = E[e] \rho \text{ in} \\ \langle \{ -v \mid v \in V \}, O \rangle$$

$$E[e_1 \diamond_{\omega} e_2] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{let } \langle V_1, O_1 \rangle = E[e_1] \rho \text{ in} \\ \text{let } \langle V_2, O_2 \rangle = E[e_2] \rho \text{ in} \\ \langle \{ v_1 \diamond v_2 \mid v_i \in V_i, \diamond \neq / \vee v_2 \neq 0 \}, \\ O_1 \cup O_2 \cup \{ \omega \text{ if } \diamond = / \wedge 0 \in V_2 \} \rangle$$

- defined by structural induction on the syntax
- evaluates in an environment  $\rho$  to a **set of values**
- also returns a set of **accumulated errors**  
(here, only divisions by zero)

# Reminders: semantics in equational form

**Principle:** (without handling errors in  $\Omega$ )

- see  $\text{lfp } f$  as the least solution of an equation  $x = f(x)$
- partition states by control:  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E}) \simeq \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E})$

$\mathcal{X}_\ell \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E})$ : invariant at  $\ell \in \mathcal{L}$

$\forall \ell \in \mathcal{L}: \mathcal{X}_\ell \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{m \in \mathcal{E} \mid (\ell, m) \in \mathcal{R}\}$

$\implies$  set of (recursive) equations on  $\mathcal{X}_\ell$

Example:

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| $\ell^1$ i:=2;                   | $\mathcal{X}_1 = \mathcal{I}$   |
| $\ell^2$ n:=[-∞, +∞];            | $\mathcal{X}_2 = \mathbf{C}[\text{i} := 2] \mathcal{X}_1$                               |
| $\ell^3$ while $\ell^4$ i < n do | $\mathcal{X}_3 = \mathbf{C}[\text{n} := [-\infty, +\infty]] \mathcal{X}_2$              |
| $\ell^5$ if [0, 1] = 0 then      | $\mathcal{X}_4 = \mathcal{X}_3 \cup \mathcal{X}_7$                                      |
| $\ell^6$ i:=i+1                  | $\mathcal{X}_5 = \mathbf{C}[\text{i} < \text{n}] \mathcal{X}_4$                         |
| fi                               | $\mathcal{X}_6 = \mathcal{X}_5$   |
| $\ell^7$ done                    | $\mathcal{X}_7 = \mathcal{X}_5 \cup \mathbf{C}[\text{i} := \text{i} + 1] \mathcal{X}_6$ |
| $\ell^8$                         | $\mathcal{X}_8 = \mathbf{C}[\text{i} \geq \text{n}] \mathcal{X}_4$                      |

# Semantics in denotational form

Input-output function  $C[\text{prog}]$

$$C[\text{prog}] : (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega)) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega))$$

$$C[\mathbf{x} := e] \langle R, O \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \emptyset, O \rangle \sqcup \bigsqcup_{\rho \in R} \langle \{ \rho[\mathbf{x} \mapsto v] \mid v \in V_\rho \}, O_\rho \rangle$$

$$C[e \bowtie 0?] \langle R, O \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \emptyset, O \rangle \sqcup \bigsqcup_{\rho \in R} \langle \{ \rho \mid \exists v \in V_\rho : v \bowtie 0 \}, O_\rho \rangle$$

$$\text{where } \langle V_\rho, O_\rho \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E[e] \rho$$

$$C[\text{if } e \bowtie 0 \text{ then } s \text{ fi}] X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (C[s] \circ C[e \bowtie 0?])X \sqcup C[e \bowtie 0?] X$$

$$C[\text{while } e \bowtie 0 \text{ do } s \text{ done}] X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \\ C[e \bowtie 0?] (\text{lfp } \lambda Y. X \sqcup (C[s] \circ C[e \bowtie 0?])Y)$$

$$C[s_1; s_2] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} C[s_2] \circ C[s_1]$$

- mutate memory states in  $\mathcal{E}$ , accumulate errors in  $\Omega$   
( $\sqcup$  is the element-wise  $\cup$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$ )
- structured: nested loops yield nested fixpoints
- big-step: forget information on intermediate locations  $\ell$



# Abstract semantics in denotational form

Extend a numeric abstract domain  $\mathcal{E}^\#$  abstracting  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E})$   
to  $\mathcal{D}^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{E}^\# \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$ .

$$\underline{C^\#[\text{prog}]} : \mathcal{D}^\# \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^\#$$

$C^\#[x := e] \langle R^\#, O \rangle$  and  $C^\#[e \bowtie 0?] \langle R^\#, O \rangle$  are given

$$C^\#[\text{if } e \bowtie 0 \text{ then } s \text{ fi}] X^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (C^\#[s] \circ C^\#[e \bowtie 0?]) X^\# \sqcup^\# C^\#[e \not\bowtie 0?] X^\#$$

$$C^\#[\text{while } e \bowtie 0 \text{ do } s \text{ done}] X^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} C^\#[e \not\bowtie 0?] (\text{lim } \lambda Y^\#. Y^\# \nabla (X^\# \sqcup (C^\#[s] \circ C^\#[e \bowtie 0?]) Y^\#))$$

$$C^\#[s_1; s_2] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} C^\#[s_2] \circ C^\#[s_1]$$

- the abstract interpreter mimicks an actual interpreter
- efficient in memory (intermediate invariants are not kept)
- less flexibility in the iteration scheme (iteration order, widening points, etc.)

# Concurrent program semantics

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# Labelled transition systems

Labelled transition system:  $(\Sigma, \mathcal{A}, \tau, \mathcal{I})$

- $\Sigma$ : set of program states
- $\mathcal{A}$ : set of actions
- $\tau \subseteq \Sigma \times \mathcal{A} \times \Sigma$ : transition relation  
we note  $(\sigma, a, \sigma') \in \tau$  as  $\sigma \xrightarrow{a}_{\tau} \sigma'$
- $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \Sigma$ : set of initial states

Labelled traces: sequences of states interspersed with actions

denoted as  $\sigma_0 \xrightarrow{a_0} \sigma_1 \xrightarrow{a_1} \cdots \sigma_n \xrightarrow{a_n} \sigma_{n+1}$

# From concurrent programs to labelled transition systems

## Notations:

- concurrent program:

$$\text{parprog} ::= \ell_1^i \text{prog}_1^{\ell_1^x} \parallel \dots \parallel \ell_n^i \text{prog}_n^{\ell_n^x}$$

- threads identifiers:  $\mathbb{T} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{1, \dots, n\}$

**Program states:**  $\Sigma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ((\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}) \times \mathcal{E}) \cup \Omega$

- a **control** state  $L(t) \in \mathcal{L}$  for each thread  $t \in \mathbb{T}$  and
- a single **shared memory** state  $\rho \in \mathcal{E}$
- or an error state  $\omega \in \Omega$

## Initial states:

threads start at their first control point  $\ell_t^i$ , variables are set to 0:

$$\mathcal{I} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\lambda t. \ell_t^i, \lambda v. 0)\}$$

**Actions:** thread identifiers:  $\mathcal{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{T}$

# From concurrent programs to labelled transition systems

**Transition relation:**  $\tau \subseteq \Sigma \times \mathcal{A} \times \Sigma$

$$(L, \rho) \xrightarrow{t} \tau (L', \rho') \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} (L(t), \rho) \rightarrow_{\tau[\text{prog}_t]} (L'(t), \rho') \wedge \forall u \neq t: L(u) = L'(u)$$

$$(L, \rho) \xrightarrow{t} \tau \omega \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} (L(t), \rho) \rightarrow_{\tau[\text{prog}_t]} \omega$$

- based on the transition relation of individual threads seen as sequential processes  $\text{prog}_t$ :

$$\tau[\text{prog}] \subseteq (\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E}) \times ((\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E}) \cup \Omega)$$

- choose a thread  $t$  to run
- update  $\rho$  and  $L(t)$
- leave  $L(u)$  intact for  $u \neq t$

(See course 3 for the full definition of  $\tau[\text{prog}]$ .)

- each  $\sigma \rightarrow \sigma'$  in  $\tau[\text{prog}_t]$  leads to **many transitions** in  $\tau$ !

# Interleaved trace semantics

Maximal and finite prefix trace semantics are as before:

Blocking states:  $\mathcal{B} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma \mid \forall \sigma' : \forall t : \sigma \not\stackrel{t}{\rightarrow}_{\tau} \sigma' \}$

**Maximal traces:**  $\mathcal{M}_{\infty}$  (finite or infinite)

$\mathcal{M}_{\infty} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \dots \xrightarrow{t_{n-1}} \sigma_n \mid n \geq 0 \wedge \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I} \wedge \sigma_n \in \mathcal{B} \wedge \forall i < n : \sigma_i \xrightarrow{t_i} \sigma_{i+1} \} \cup$   
 $\{ \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \sigma_1 \dots \mid n \geq 0 \wedge \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I} \wedge \forall i < \omega : \sigma_i \xrightarrow{t_i} \sigma_{i+1} \}$

**Finite prefix traces:**  $\mathcal{T}_p$

$\mathcal{T}_p \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \dots \xrightarrow{t_{n-1}} \sigma_n \mid n \geq 0 \wedge \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I} \wedge \forall i < n : \sigma_i \xrightarrow{t_i} \sigma_{i+1} \}$

Fixpoint form:  $\mathcal{T}_p = \text{lfp } F_p$  where

$F_p(X) = \mathcal{I} \cup \{ \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \dots \xrightarrow{t_n} \sigma_{n+1} \mid n \geq 0 \wedge \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \dots \xrightarrow{t_{n-1}} \sigma_n \in X \wedge \sigma_n \xrightarrow{t_n} \sigma_{n+1} \}$

Abstraction:  $\mathcal{T}_p = \alpha_{* \preceq}(\mathcal{M}_{\infty})$

# Fairness

**Fairness conditions:** avoid threads being denied to run

Given  $enabled(\sigma, t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \exists \sigma' \in \Sigma: \sigma \xrightarrow{t}_\tau \sigma'$ ,

an infinite trace  $\sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \dots \sigma_n \xrightarrow{t_n} \dots$  is:

- **weakly fair** if  $\forall t \in \mathbb{T}$ :  
 $(\exists i: \forall j \geq i: enabled(\sigma_j, t)) \implies (\forall i: \exists j \geq i: a_j = t)$   
 (no thread can be continuously enabled without running)
- **strongly fair** if  $\forall t \in \mathbb{T}$ :  
 $(\forall i: \exists j \geq i: enabled(\sigma_j, t)) \implies (\forall i: \exists j \geq i: a_j = t)$   
 (no thread can be infinitely often enabled without running)

**Proofs under fairness conditions** given:

- the maximal traces  $\mathcal{M}_\infty$  of a program
- a property  $X$  to prove (as a set of traces)
- the set  $F$  of all (weakly or strongly) fair and of finite traces  
 $\implies$  prove  $\mathcal{M}_\infty \cap F \subseteq X$  instead of  $\mathcal{M}_\infty \subseteq X$

# Fairness (cont.)

Example: `while x ≥ 0 do x:=x+1 done || x:=-1`

- **may not** terminate **without fairness**
- **always** terminates under **weak** and **strong fairness**

## Finite prefix trace abstraction

$\mathcal{M}_\infty \cap F \subseteq X$  is abstracted into testing  $\alpha_{*\underline{\gamma}}(\mathcal{M}_\infty \cap F) \subseteq \alpha_{*\underline{\gamma}}(X)$

for all fairness conditions  $F$ ,  $\alpha_{*\underline{\gamma}}(\mathcal{M}_\infty \cap F) = \alpha_{*\underline{\gamma}}(\mathcal{M}_\infty) = \mathcal{T}_p$

$\implies$  fairness-dependent properties cannot be proved with finite prefixes only

In the following, we ignore fairness conditions.

(see [Cous85])



# Equational state semantics

**State abstraction  $\mathcal{R}$ :** as before

- $\mathcal{R} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma \mid \exists n \geq 0, \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \dots \sigma_n : \sigma_0 \in \mathcal{I} \forall i < n : \sigma_i \xrightarrow{t_i} \sigma_{i+1} \wedge \sigma = \sigma_n \}$
- $\mathcal{R} = \alpha_p(\mathcal{T}_p)$  where  $\alpha_p(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \sigma \mid \exists n \geq 0, \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{t_0} \dots \sigma_n \in X : \sigma = \sigma_n \}$
- $\mathcal{R} = \text{lf}_p F_{\mathcal{R}}$  where  $F_{\mathcal{R}}(X) = \mathcal{I} \cup \{ \sigma \mid \exists \sigma' \in X, t \in \mathbb{T} : \sigma' \xrightarrow{t} \sigma \}$

**Equational form:** (without handling errors in  $\Omega$ )

- for each  $L \in \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ , a variable  $\mathcal{X}_L$  with value in  $\mathcal{E}$
- equations are derived from thread equations  $\text{eq}(\text{prog}_t)$  as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X}_{L_1} = \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{ & F(\mathcal{X}_{L_2}, \dots, \mathcal{X}_{L_N}) \mid \\ & \exists (\mathcal{X}_{\ell_1} = F(\mathcal{X}_{\ell_2}, \dots, \mathcal{X}_{\ell_N})) \in \text{eq}(\text{prog}_t) : \\ & \forall i \leq N : L_i(t) = \ell_i, \forall u \neq t : L_i(u) = L_1(u) \} \end{aligned}$$

Join with  $\cup$  equations from  $\text{eq}(\text{prog}_t)$  updating a single thread  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ .

(See course 3 for the full definition of  $\text{eq}(\text{prog})$ .)

## Equational state semantics (example)

Example: inferring  $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 102$

| $t_1$   | $t_2$  |
|---|--|
| <pre> while <math>\ell_1</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell_2</math>   if x &lt; y then     <math>\ell_3</math>x := x + 1   fi done </pre> | <pre> while <math>\ell_4</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell_5</math>   if y &lt; 100 then     <math>\ell_6</math>y := y + [1, 3]   fi done </pre> |

## Equational state semantics (example)

Example: inferring  $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 102$

| $t_1$                            | $t_2$                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| while $\ell^1 0 = 0$ do $\ell^2$ | while $\ell^4 0 = 0$ do $\ell^5$ |
| if $x < y$ then                  | if $y < 100$ then                |
| $\ell^3 x := x + 1$              | $\ell^6 y := y + [1, 3]$         |
| fi                               | fi                               |
| done                             | done                             |

(Simplified) equation system:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{X}_{1,4} &= \mathcal{I} \cup C[x := x + 1] \mathcal{X}_{3,4} \cup C[x \geq y] \mathcal{X}_{2,4} \\
 &\quad \cup C[y := y + [1, 3]] \mathcal{X}_{1,6} \cup C[y \geq 100] \mathcal{X}_{1,5} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{2,4} &= \mathcal{X}_{1,4} \cup C[y := y + [1, 3]] \mathcal{X}_{2,6} \cup C[y \geq 100] \mathcal{X}_{2,5} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{3,4} &= C[x < y] \mathcal{X}_{2,4} \cup C[y := y + [1, 3]] \mathcal{X}_{3,6} \cup C[y \geq 100] \mathcal{X}_{3,5} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{1,5} &= C[x := x + 1] \mathcal{X}_{3,5} \cup C[x \geq y] \mathcal{X}_{2,5} \cup \mathcal{X}_{1,4} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{2,5} &= \mathcal{X}_{1,5} \cup \mathcal{X}_{2,4} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{3,5} &= C[x < y] \mathcal{X}_{2,5} \cup \mathcal{X}_{3,4} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{1,6} &= C[x := x + 1] \mathcal{X}_{3,6} \cup C[x \geq y] \mathcal{X}_{2,6} \cup C[y < 100] \mathcal{X}_{1,5} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{2,6} &= \mathcal{X}_{1,6} \cup C[y < 100] \mathcal{X}_{2,5} \\
 \mathcal{X}_{3,6} &= C[x < y] \mathcal{X}_{2,6} \cup C[y < 100] \mathcal{X}_{3,5}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Equational state semantics (example)

Example: inferring  $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 102$

| $t_1$   | $t_2$  |
|---|--|
| <pre> while <math>\ell_1</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell_2</math>   if x &lt; y then     <math>\ell_3</math>x := x + 1   fi done </pre> | <pre> while <math>\ell_4</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell_5</math>   if y &lt; 100 then     <math>\ell_6</math>y := y + [1, 3]   fi done </pre> |

## Pros:

- easy to construct
- easy to further abstract in an abstract domain  $\mathcal{E}^\#$

## Cons:

- explosion of the number of variables and equations
- explosion of the size of equations  
 $\implies$  efficiency issues
- the equation system does *not* reflect the program structure  
 (not defined by induction on the concurrent program)

# Wish-list

We would like to:

- keep information attached to syntactic program locations  
(control points in  $\mathcal{L}$ , not control point tuples in  $\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ )
- be able to abstract away control information  
(precision/cost trade-off control)
- avoid duplicating thread instructions
- have a computation structure based on the program syntax  
(denotational style)

Ideally: thread-modular denotational-style semantics

(analyze each thread independently by induction on its syntax)

## Detour through proof methods

---

# Floyd–Hoare logic

Logic to prove properties about **sequential** programs [Hoar69].

**Hoare triples:**  $\{P\} \text{prog} \{Q\}$

- annotate programs with **logic assertions**  $\{P\} \text{prog} \{Q\}$   
(if  $P$  holds before prog, then  $Q$  holds after prog)
- check that  $\{P\} \text{prog} \{Q\}$  is derivable with the following rules  
(the assertions are program invariants)

$$\frac{}{\{P[e/X]\} X := e \{P\}} \qquad \frac{\{P \wedge e \bowtie 0\} s \{Q\} \quad P \wedge e \not\bowtie 0 \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{if } e \bowtie 0 \text{ then } s \text{ fi } \{Q\}}$$

$$\frac{\{P\} s_1 \{Q\} \quad \{Q\} s_2 \{R\}}{\{P\} s_1; s_2 \{R\}} \qquad \frac{\{P \wedge e \bowtie 0\} s \{P\}}{\{P\} \text{while } e \bowtie 0 \text{ do } s \text{ done } \{P \wedge e \not\bowtie 0\}}$$

$$\frac{\{P'\} s \{Q'\} \quad P \Rightarrow P' \quad Q' \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} s \{Q\}}$$

# Floyd–Hoare logic as abstract interpretation

## Link with the equational state semantics:

Correspondence between  $\ell \text{ prog } \ell'$  and  $\{P\} \text{ prog } \{Q\}$ :

- if  $P$  (resp.  $Q$ ) models exactly the points in  $\mathcal{X}_\ell$  (resp.  $\mathcal{X}_{\ell'}$ ) then  $\{P\} \text{ prog } \{Q\}$  is a derivable Hoare triple
- if  $\{P\} \text{ prog } \{Q\}$  is derivable, then  $\mathcal{X}_\ell \models P$  and  $\mathcal{X}_{\ell'} \models Q$   
(all the points in  $\mathcal{X}_\ell$  (resp.  $\mathcal{X}_{\ell'}$ ) satisfy  $P$  (resp.  $Q$ ))

$\implies \mathcal{X}_\ell$  provide the most precise Hoare assertions  
in a **constructive form**

- $\gamma(\mathcal{X}^\#)$  provide (less precise) Hoare assertions  
in a **computable form**

## Link with the denotational semantics:

both  $C[\![\text{prog}]\!]$  and the proof tree for  $\{P\} \text{ prog } \{Q\}$   
reflect the syntactic structure of prog

(compositional methods)



# Owicki–Gries proof method

Extension of Floyd–Hoare to **concurrent** programs [Owic76].

Principle: add a new rule, for  $\parallel$

$$\frac{\{P_1\} s_1 \{Q_1\} \quad \{P_2\} s_2 \{Q_2\}}{\{P_1 \wedge P_2\} s_1 \parallel s_2 \{Q_1 \wedge Q_2\}}$$

# Owicki–Gries proof method

Extension of Floyd–Hoare to **concurrent** programs [Owic76].

Principle: add a new rule, for  $\parallel$

$$\frac{\{P_1\} s_1 \{Q_1\} \quad \{P_2\} s_2 \{Q_2\}}{\{P_1 \wedge P_2\} s_1 \parallel s_2 \{Q_1 \wedge Q_2\}}$$

This rule is **not always sound!**

e.g., we have  $\{X = 0, Y = 0\} X := 1 \{X = 1, Y = 0\}$   
 and  $\{X = 0, Y = 0\} \text{if } X = 0 \text{ then } Y := 1 \text{ fi } \{X = 0, Y = 1\}$   
 but not  $\{X = 0, Y = 0\} X := 1 \parallel \text{if } X = 0 \text{ then } Y := 1 \text{ fi } \{false\}$

$\implies$  we need a side-condition to the rule:

$\{P_1\} s_1 \{Q_1\}$  and  $\{P_2\} s_2 \{Q_2\}$  **must not interfere**

# Owicki–Gries proof method (cont.)

## interference freedom

given proofs  $\Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$  of  $\{P_1\} s_1 \{Q_1\}$  and  $\{P_2\} s_2 \{Q_2\}$

$\Delta_1$  does not interfere with  $\Delta_2$  if:

for any  $\Phi$  appearing before a statement in  $\Delta_1$

for any  $\{P'_2\} s'_2 \{Q'_2\}$  appearing in  $\Delta_2$

$\{\Phi \wedge P'_2\} s'_2 \{\Phi\}$  holds

and moreover  $\{Q_1 \wedge P'_2\} s'_2 \{Q_1\}$

i.e.: the assertions used to prove  $\{P_1\} s_1 \{Q_1\}$  are stable by  $s_2$

e.g.,  $\{X = 0, Y \in [0, 1]\} X := 1 \{X = 1, Y \in [0, 1]\}$

$\{X \in [0, 1], Y = 0\}$  if  $X = 0$  then  $Y := 1$  fi  $\{X \in [0, 1], Y \in [0, 1]\}$

$\implies \{X = 0, Y = 0\} X := 1 \parallel \text{if } X = 0 \text{ then } Y := 1 \text{ fi } \{X = 1, Y \in [0, 1]\}$

## Summary:

- pros: the invariants are local to threads

- cons: the proof is not compositional

(proving one thread requires delving into the proof of other threads)

$\implies$  not satisfactory

# Jones' rely-guarantee proof method

Idea: **explicit interferences** with (more) annotations [Jone81].

Rely-guarantee “quintuples”:  $R, G \vdash \{P\} \text{prog} \{Q\}$

- if  $P$  is true before `prog` is executed
- **and the effect of other threads is included in  $R$**  (rely)
- then  $Q$  is true after `prog`
- **and the effect of `prog` is included in  $G$**  (guarantee)

where:

- $P$  and  $Q$  are assertions on states (in  $\mathcal{P}(\Sigma)$ )
- $R$  and  $G$  are assertions on transitions (in  $\mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times \mathcal{A} \times \Sigma)$ )

The parallel composition rule becomes:

$$\frac{R \vee G_2, G_1 \vdash \{P_1\} s_1 \{Q_1\} \quad R \vee G_1, G_2 \vdash \{P_2\} s_2 \{Q_2\}}{R, G_1 \vee G_2 \vdash \{P_1 \wedge P_2\} s_1 \parallel s_2 \{Q_1 \wedge Q_2\}}$$

# Rely-guarantee example

Example: proving  $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 102$

checking  $t_1$

```

while  $\ell_1$ 0 = 0 do  $\ell_2$ 
  if x < y then
     $\ell_3$ x := x + 1
  fi
done
  
```

at  $\ell_1, \ell_2$  :  $x, y \in [0, 102], x \leq y$

at  $\ell_3$  :  $x \in [0, 101], y \in [1, 102], x < y$

checking  $t_2$

```

while  $\ell_4$ 0 = 0 do  $\ell_5$ 
  if y < 100 then
     $\ell_6$ y := y + [1, 3]
  fi
done
  
```

at  $\ell_4, \ell_5$  :  $x, y \in [0, 102], x \leq y$

at  $\ell_6$  :  $x \in [0, 99], y \in [0, 99], x \leq y$

# Rely-guarantee example

Example: proving  $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 102$

checking  $t_1$

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <pre>while <sup>ℓ1</sup>0 = 0 do <sup>ℓ2</sup>   if x &lt; y then     <sup>ℓ3</sup>x := x + 1   fi done</pre> | <pre>x unchanged y incremented 0 ≤ y ≤ 102</pre> |
|---|--|

at  $\ell 1, \ell 2$  :  $x, y \in [0, 102], x \leq y$   
 at  $\ell 3$  :  $x \in [0, 101], y \in [1, 102], x < y$

checking  $t_2$

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <pre>y unchanged 0 ≤ x ≤ y</pre> | <pre>while <sup>ℓ4</sup>0 = 0 do <sup>ℓ5</sup>   if y &lt; 100 then     <sup>ℓ6</sup>y := y + [1, 3]   fi done</pre> |
|----------------------------------|--|

at  $\ell 4, \ell 5$  :  $x, y \in [0, 102], x \leq y$   
 at  $\ell 6$  :  $x \in [0, 99], y \in [0, 99], x \leq y$

In this example:

- guarantee exactly what is relied on ( $R_1 = G_1$  and  $R_2 = G_2$ )
- rely and guarantee are global assertions

## Benefits of rely-guarantee:

- invariants are still local to threads
- checking a thread does not require looking at other threads, only at an **abstraction of their semantics**

# Auxiliary variables

## Example

| $t_1$                          | $t_2$                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| $\ell_1$ $x := x + 1$ $\ell_2$ | $\ell_3$ $x := x + 1$ $\ell_4$ |

Goal: prove  $\{x = 0\} t_1 \parallel t_2 \{x = 2\}$ .

# Auxiliary variables

## Example

| $t_1$                                  | $t_2$                                  |
|--|--|
| $\ell_1 \quad x := x + 1 \quad \ell_2$ | $\ell_3 \quad x := x + 1 \quad \ell_4$ |

Goal: prove  $\{x = 0\} t_1 \parallel t_2 \{x = 2\}$ .

we must rely on and guarantee that  
 each thread increments  $x$  exactly once!

Solution: auxiliary variables

do not change the semantics but store extra information:

- past values of variables (history of the computation)
- program counter of other threads ( $pc_t$ )

Example: for  $t_1$ :  $\{(pc_2 = \ell_3 \wedge x = 0) \vee (pc_2 = \ell_4 \wedge x = 1)\}$   
 $x := x + 1$   
 $\{(pc_2 = \ell_3 \wedge x = 1) \vee (pc_2 = \ell_4 \wedge x = 2)\}$



# Rely-guarantee as abstract interpretation

---

# Local states

State projection: on a thread  $t \in \mathbb{T}$

- add **auxiliary variables**  $\mathbb{V}_t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{V} \cup \{pc_{t'} \mid t' \in \mathbb{T}, t' \neq t\}$
- enriched environments for  $t$ :  $\mathcal{E}_t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{V}_t \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
(for simplicity,  $pc_{t'}$  are numeric variables, i.e.,  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ )
- **local states**:  $\Sigma_t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E}_t) \cup \Omega$   
recall that  $\Sigma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} ((\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}) \times \mathcal{E}) \cup \Omega$   
 $\Sigma_t$  has a simpler, sequential control state
- **projection**:  $\pi_t(L, \rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (L(t), \rho[\forall t' \neq t: pc_{t'} \mapsto L(t')])$   
from  $\Sigma$  to  $\Sigma_t$ : shift control state to auxiliary variables  
extended naturally to  $\pi_t: \mathcal{P}(\Sigma) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)$   
 $\pi_t$  is a bijection, no information is lost

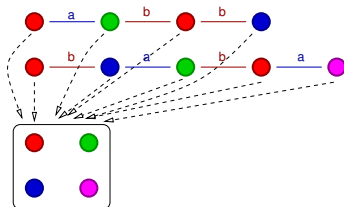
# Local invariants



## Abstraction steps to local reachable states:

- concrete (prefix) labelled trace semantics:  $\mathcal{T}_p$

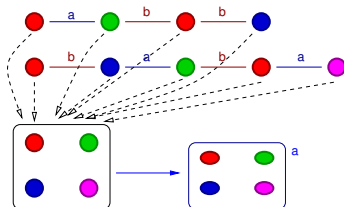
# Local invariants



## Abstraction steps to local reachable states:

- concrete (prefix) labelled trace semantics:  $\mathcal{T}_p$
- state reachability abstraction:  $\mathcal{R} = \alpha_p(\mathcal{T}_p) \in \mathcal{P}(\Sigma)$

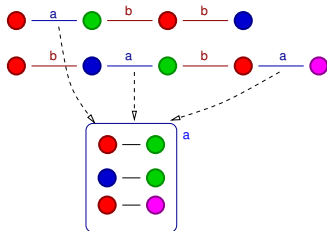
# Local invariants



## Abstraction steps to local reachable states:

- concrete (prefix) labelled trace semantics:  $\mathcal{T}_p$
- state reachability abstraction:  $\mathcal{R} = \alpha_p(\mathcal{T}_p) \in \mathcal{P}(\Sigma)$
- local state reachability:  $\mathcal{RI}(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_t(\mathcal{R}) \in \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)$   
thread's view of reachable states

# Interferences



**Interference:**  $A \in \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times \Sigma)$  caused by a thread  $t \in \mathbb{T}$

$$A(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \alpha^{\text{itf}}(\mathcal{T}_p)(t)$$

where  $\alpha^{\text{itf}}(X)(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\sigma, \sigma') \mid \exists \dots \sigma \xrightarrow{t} \sigma' \dots \in X\}$

Subset of the transition system  $\tau$ :

- spawned by  $t$
- and actually observed in some execution trace (in  $\mathcal{T}_p$ )

# Fixpoint form

## Local state fixpoint:

- we express  $\mathcal{R}l(t)$  as a function of  $A$  and thread  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ :

$\mathcal{R}l(t) = \text{lfp } R_t(A)$  where

$R_t : (\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times \Sigma)) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)$

$R_t(Y)(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_t(\mathcal{I}) \cup$

$\{ \pi_t(\sigma') \mid \exists \pi_t(\sigma) \in X : \sigma \xrightarrow{t}_\tau \sigma' \vee \exists u \neq t : (\sigma, \sigma') \in Y(u) \}$

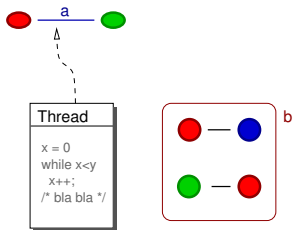
A state is reachable if it is initial,  
or reachable by transitions from  $t$  or from the environment  $A$ .

$R_t$  only looks into the syntax of thread  $t$ .

$R_t$  is parameterized by the interferences from other threads  $Y$ .

# Fixpoint form

## Local state fixpoint: illustration



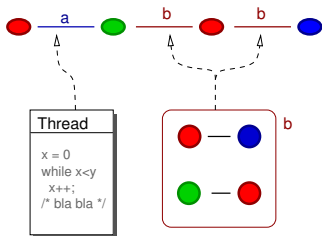
Ifp  $R_t(A)$  interleaves:

- transitions in  $\pi_t$  from thread  $t$



# Fixpoint form

## Local state fixpoint: illustration

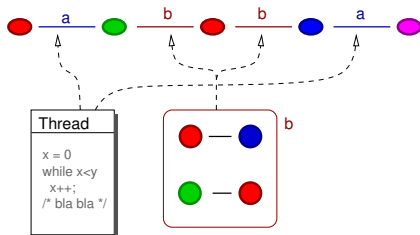


Ifp  $R_t(A)$  interleaves:

- transitions in  $\pi_t$  from thread  $t$
- transitions in  $A$  from interferences

# Fixpoint form

## Local state fixpoint: illustration

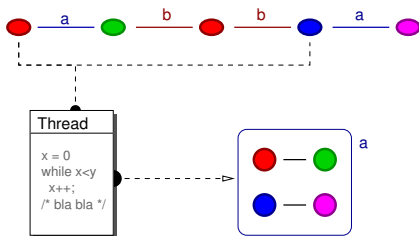


Ifp  $R_t(A)$  interleaves:

- transitions in  $\pi_t$  from thread  $t$
- transitions in  $A$  from interferences

# Fixpoint form (cont.)

## Interferences:



- we express  $A(t)$  as a function of  $\mathcal{R}I$  and thread  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ :

$A(t) = B(\mathcal{R}I)(t)$  where

$B : (\prod_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{t\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)) \rightarrow \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times \Sigma)$

$B(Z)(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\sigma, \sigma') \mid \pi_t(\sigma) \in Z(t) \wedge \sigma \xrightarrow{t} \sigma'\}$

Collect transitions starting from reachable states.

No fixpoint needed.

# Fixpoint form (cont.)

## Nested fixpoint characterization:

- 1  $\mathcal{R}I(t) = \text{lfp } R_t(A)$
- 2  $A(t) = B(\mathcal{R}I)(t)$
- 3 mutual dependency between  $\mathcal{R}I$  and  $A$

# Fixpoint form (cont.)

## Nested fixpoint characterization:

- ①  $\mathcal{R}I(t) = \text{lfp } R_t(A)$
- ②  $A(t) = B(\mathcal{R}I)(t)$
- ③ mutual dependency between  $\mathcal{R}I$  and  $A$   
 $\implies$  solved using a **fixpoint**:

$\mathcal{R}I = \text{lfp } H$  where

$$H : (\prod_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{t\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)) \rightarrow (\prod_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{t\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t))$$

$$H(Z)(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{lfp } R_t(B(Z))$$

# Fixpoint form (cont.)

## Nested fixpoint characterization:

- ①  $\mathcal{R}I(t) = \text{lfp } R_t(A)$
- ②  $A(t) = B(\mathcal{R}I)(t)$
- ③ mutual dependency between  $\mathcal{R}I$  and  $A$   
 $\implies$  solved using a **fixpoint**:

$\mathcal{R}I = \text{lfp } H$  where

$$H : (\prod_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{t\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)) \rightarrow (\prod_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{t\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t))$$

$$H(Z)(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{lfp } R_t(B(Z))$$

Completeness:  $\forall t: \mathcal{R}I(t) \simeq \mathcal{R}$  ( $\pi_t$  is bijective thanks to auxiliary variables)

# Fixpoint form (cont.)

## Constructive fixpoint form:

Use Kleene's iteration to construct fixpoints:

- $\mathcal{R}I = \text{lfp } H = \bigsqcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} H^n(\lambda t. \emptyset)$   
in the pointwise powerset lattice  $\prod_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \{t\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)$
- $H(Z)(t) = \text{lfp } R_t(B(Z)) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (R_t(B(Z)))^n(\emptyset)$   
in the powerset lattice  $\mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t)$   
(similar to the sequential semantics of thread  $t$  in isolation)

$\implies$  nested iterations

# Abstract rely-guarantee

Suggested algorithm: nested iterations with acceleration

once abstract domains for states and interferences are chosen

- start from  $\mathcal{R}I_0^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A_0^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda t. \perp^\#$
- while  $A_n^\#$  is not stable
  - compute  $\forall t \in \mathbb{T}: \mathcal{R}I_{n+1}^\#(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{lfp } R_t^\#(A_n^\#)$   
by iteration with widening  $\nabla$   
( $\simeq$  separate analysis of each thread)
  - compute  $A_{n+1}^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} A_n^\# \nabla B^\#(\mathcal{R}I_{n+1}^\#)$
- when  $A_n^\# = A_{n+1}^\#$ , return  $\mathcal{R}I_n^\#$

$\implies$  thread-modular analysis  
parameterized by abstract domains  
able to easily reuse existing sequential analyses



# Flow-insensitive abstraction

## Idea:

- reduce as much control information as possible
- but keep flow-sensitivity on each thread's control location

Local state abstraction: remove **auxiliary** variables

$$\alpha_{\mathcal{R}}^{nf} : \mathcal{P}(\Sigma_t) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}((\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E}) \cup \Omega)$$

$$\alpha_{\mathcal{R}}^{nf}(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ (l, \rho|_{\mathcal{V}}) \mid (l, \rho) \in X \} \cup (X \cap \Omega)$$

Interference abstraction: remove **all** control state

$$\alpha_A^{nf} : \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times \Sigma) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E})$$

$$\alpha_A^{nf}(Y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ (\rho, \rho') \mid \exists L, L' \in \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{L} : ((L, \rho), (L', \rho')) \in Y \}$$

# Flow-insensitive abstraction (cont.)

## Flow-insensitive fixpoint semantics: (omitting errors $\Omega$ )

We apply  $\alpha_{\mathcal{R}}^{nf}$  and  $\alpha_A^{nf}$  to the nested fixpoint semantics.

$\mathcal{R}^{nf} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{lfp } \lambda Z. \lambda t. \text{lfp } R_t^{nf}(B^{nf}(Z))$ , where

$B^{nf}(Z)(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\rho, \rho') \mid \exists \ell, \ell' \in \mathcal{L}: (\ell, \rho) \in Z(t) \wedge (\ell, \rho) \rightarrow_t (\ell', \rho')\}$   
(extract interferences from reachable states)

$R_t^{nf}(Y)(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} R_t^{loc}(X) \cup A_t^{nf}(Y)(X)$  (interleave steps)

$R_t^{loc}(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\ell_t^i, \lambda v. 0)\} \cup \{(\ell', \rho') \mid \exists (\ell, \rho) \in X: (\ell, \rho) \rightarrow_t (\ell', \rho')\}$  (thread step)

$A_t^{nf}(Y)(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(\ell, \rho') \mid \exists \rho, u \neq t: (\ell, \rho) \in X \wedge (\rho, \rho') \in Y(u)\}$  (interference step)

where  $\rightarrow_t$  is the transition relation for thread  $t$  alone:  $\tau[\text{prog}_t]$

## Cost/precision trade-off:

- less variables  
 $\implies$  subsequent numeric abstractions are more efficient
- sufficient to analyze our first example (slide 26)
- insufficient to analyze  $x := x + 1 \parallel x := x + 1$  (slide 35)

# Non-relational interference abstraction

**Idea:** simplify further flow-insensitive interferences

- numeric relations are more costly than numeric sets  
 $\implies$  remove input sensitivity
- relational domains are more costly than non-relational  
 $\implies$  abstract the interference on each variable separately

Non-relational interference abstraction:

$$\alpha_A^{nr} : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}))$$

$$\alpha_A^{nr}(Y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda \mathbb{V}. \{ x \in \mathbb{V} \mid \exists (\rho, \rho') \in Y : \rho(\mathbb{V}) \neq x \wedge \rho'(\mathbb{V}) = x \}$$

(remember which variables are modified and their new values)

To apply interferences, we get, in the nested fixpoint form:

$$A_t^{nr}(Y)(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ (\ell, \rho[\mathbb{V} \mapsto v]) \mid (\ell, \rho) \in X, v \in \mathbb{V}, \exists u \neq t : v \in Y(u)(\mathbb{V}) \}$$

# A note on unbounded threads

**Extension:** relax the finiteness constraint on  $\mathbb{T}$

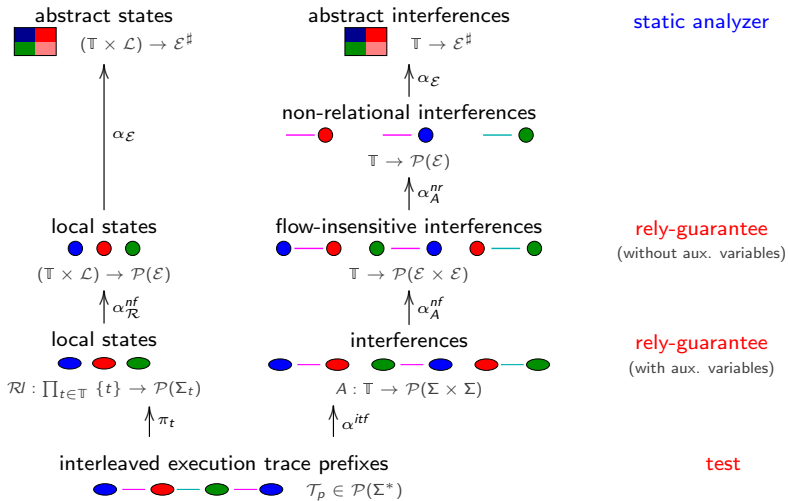
- there is still a **finite syntactic set** of threads  $\mathbb{T}_s$
- some threads  $\mathbb{T}_\infty \subseteq \mathbb{T}_s$  can have several instances  
(possibly an unbounded number)

Flow-insensitive analysis:

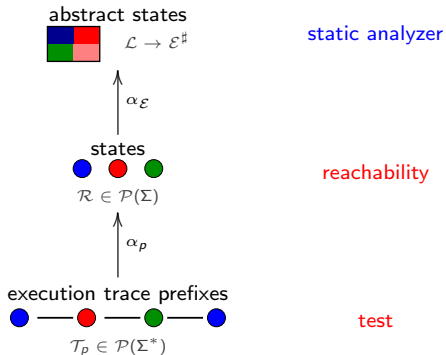
- local state and interference domains have finite dimensions  
( $\mathcal{E}_t$  and  $(\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E}) \times (\mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{E})$ , as opposed to  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E}$ )
- all instances of a thread  $t \in \mathbb{T}_s$  are isomorphic  
 $\implies$  iterate the analysis on the finite set  $\mathbb{T}_s$  (instead of  $\mathbb{T}$ )
- we must handle **self-interferences** for threads in  $\mathbb{T}_\infty$ :

$$A_t^{nf}(Y)(X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ (\ell, \rho') \mid \exists \rho, u: (u \neq t \vee t \in \mathbb{T}_\infty) \wedge (\ell, \rho) \in X \wedge (\rho, \rho') \in Y(u) \}$$

## From traces to thread-modular analyses



# Compare with sequential analyses



# Construction of an interference-based analysis

---

## Reminder: sequential analysis in denotational form

Expression semantics:  $E[\text{exp}] : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega))$

$$E[\mathbf{X}] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \{\rho(\mathbf{X})\}, \emptyset \rangle$$

$$E[[c_1, c_2]] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid c_1 \leq x \leq c_2\}, \emptyset \rangle$$

$$E[-e] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{let } \langle V, O \rangle = E[e] \rho \text{ in } \langle \{-v \mid v \in V\}, O \rangle$$

$$E[e_1 \diamond_{\omega} e_2] \rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{let } \langle V_1, O_1 \rangle = E[e_1] \rho \text{ in}$$

$$\text{let } \langle V_2, O_2 \rangle = E[e_2] \rho \text{ in}$$

$$\langle \{v_1 \diamond v_2 \mid v_i \in V_i, \diamond \neq / \vee v_2 \neq 0\}, O_1 \cup O_2 \cup \{\omega \text{ if } \diamond = / \wedge 0 \in V_2\} \rangle$$

Statement semantics:  $C[\text{prog}] : (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega)) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega))$

$$C[\mathbf{X} := e] \langle R, O \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \emptyset, O \rangle \sqcup \bigsqcup_{\rho \in R} \langle \{\rho[\mathbf{X} \mapsto v] \mid v \in V_{\rho}\}, O_{\rho} \rangle$$

$$C[e \bowtie 0?] \langle R, O \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \emptyset, O \rangle \sqcup \bigsqcup_{\rho \in R} \langle \{\rho \mid \exists v \in V_{\rho}: v \bowtie 0\}, O_{\rho} \rangle$$

$$C[\text{if } e \bowtie 0 \text{ then } s \text{ fi}] X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (C[s] \circ C[e \bowtie 0?]) X \sqcup C[e \not\bowtie 0?] X$$

$$C[\text{while } e \bowtie 0 \text{ do } s \text{ done}] X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=}$$

$$C[e \not\bowtie 0?] (\text{Ifp } \lambda Y. X \sqcup (C[s] \circ C[e \bowtie 0?]) Y)$$

$$C[s_1; s_2] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} C[s_2] \circ C[s_1]$$

$$\text{where } \langle V_{\rho}, O_{\rho} \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E[e] \rho$$



# Denotational semantics with interferences

Interferences in  $\mathbb{I} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{V} \times \mathbb{R}$

$\langle t, X, v \rangle$  means:  $t$  can store the value  $v$  into the variable  $X$

We define the analysis of a thread  $t$   
with respect to a set of interferences  $I \subseteq \mathbb{I}$ .

Expressions with interference: for thread  $t$

$E_t[\text{exp}] : (\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{I})) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega))$

- Apply interferences to read variables:

$$E_t[\mathbb{X}] \langle \rho, I \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \{ \rho(\mathbb{X}) \} \cup \{ v \mid \exists u \neq t: \langle u, \mathbb{X}, v \rangle \in I \}, \emptyset \rangle$$

- Pass recursively  $I$  down to sub-expressions:

$$E_t[-e] \langle \rho, I \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{let } \langle V, O \rangle = E_t[e] \langle \rho, I \rangle \text{ in } \langle \{ -v \mid v \in V \}, O \rangle$$

...

## Denotational semantics with interferences (cont.)

Statements with interference: for thread  $t$

$$C_t[\llbracket \text{prog} \rrbracket] : (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{I})) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{I}))$$

- pass interferences to expressions
- collect new interferences due to assignments
- accumulate interferences from inner statements

$$C_t[\llbracket x := e \rrbracket] \langle R, O, I \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \emptyset, O, I \rangle \sqcup \bigsqcup_{\rho \in R} \langle \{ \rho[x \mapsto v] \mid v \in V_\rho \}, O_\rho, \{ \langle t, x, v \rangle \mid v \in V_\rho \} \rangle$$

$$C_t[\llbracket s_1; s_2 \rrbracket] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} C_t[\llbracket s_2 \rrbracket] \circ C_t[\llbracket s_1 \rrbracket]$$

...

noting  $\langle V_\rho, O_\rho \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E_t[\llbracket e \rrbracket] \langle \rho, I \rangle$   
 $\sqcup$  is now the element-wise  $\cup$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{I})$

## Denotational semantics with interferences (cont.)

Program semantics:  $P[\text{parprog}] \subseteq \Omega$

Given  $\text{parprog} ::= \text{prog}_1 \parallel \dots \parallel \text{prog}_n$ , we compute:

$$P[\text{parprog}] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left[ \text{Ifp } \lambda \langle O, I \rangle. \sqcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} [C_t[\text{prog}_t] \langle \mathcal{E}_0, \emptyset, I \rangle]_{\Omega, \emptyset} \right]_{\Omega}$$

- each thread analysis starts in an initial environment set  $\mathcal{E}_0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \lambda V.0 \}$
- $[X]_{\Omega, \emptyset}$  projects  $X \in \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{I})$  on  $\mathcal{P}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{I})$  and interferences and errors from all threads are joined (the output environments are ignored)
- $P[\text{parprog}]$  only outputs the set of **possible run-time errors**

# Example

| Example   |  |
|---|--|
| $t_1$   | $t_2$  |
| <pre> while <math>\ell_1</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell_2</math>   if x &lt; y then     <math>\ell_3</math>x := x + 1   fi done </pre> | <pre> while <math>\ell_4</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell_5</math>   if y &lt; 100 then     <math>\ell_6</math>y := y + [1, 3]   fi done </pre> |

## Concrete interference semantics:

iteration 1

$I = \emptyset$

$\ell_1$  :  $x = 0, y = 0$

$\ell_4$  :  $x = 0, y \in [0, 102]$

new  $I = \{ \langle t_2, y, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_2, y, 102 \rangle \}$

# Example

| Example   |  |
|---|--|
| $t_1$   | $t_2$  |
| <pre> while <math>\ell^1</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell^2</math>   if x &lt; y then     <math>\ell^3</math>x := x + 1   fi done </pre> | <pre> while <math>\ell^4</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell^5</math>   if y &lt; 100 then     <math>\ell^6</math>y := y + [1, 3]   fi done </pre> |

## Concrete interference semantics:

iteration 2

$$I = \{ \langle t_2, y, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_2, y, 102 \rangle \}$$

$$\ell^1 : x \in [0, 102], y = 0$$

$$\ell^4 : x = 0, y \in [0, 102]$$

$$\text{new } I = \{ \langle t_1, x, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_1, x, 102 \rangle, \langle t_2, y, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_2, y, 102 \rangle \}$$

# Example

| Example   |  |
|---|--|
| $t_1$   | $t_2$  |
| <pre>while <math>\ell^1</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell^2</math>   if x &lt; y then     <math>\ell^3</math>x := x + 1   fi done</pre> | <pre>while <math>\ell^4</math>0 = 0 do <math>\ell^5</math>   if y &lt; 100 then     <math>\ell^6</math>y := y + [1, 3]   fi done</pre> |

## Concrete interference semantics:

iteration 3

$$I = \{ \langle t_1, x, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_1, x, 102 \rangle, \langle t_2, y, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_2, y, 102 \rangle \}$$

$$\ell^1 : x \in [0, 102], y = 0$$

$$\ell^4 : x = 0, y \in [0, 102]$$

$$\text{new } I = \{ \langle t_1, x, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_1, x, 102 \rangle, \langle t_2, y, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_2, y, 102 \rangle \}$$

# Example

| Example  |   |
|--|---|
| $t_1$  | $t_2$   |
| <pre> while <math>\ell^1 0 = 0</math> do <math>\ell^2</math>   if <math>x &lt; y</math> then     <math>\ell^3 x := x + 1</math>   fi done </pre> | <pre> while <math>\ell^4 0 = 0</math> do <math>\ell^5</math>   if <math>y &lt; 100</math> then     <math>\ell^6 y := y + [1, 3]</math>   fi done </pre> |

## Concrete interference semantics:

iteration 3

$$I = \{ \langle t_1, x, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_1, x, 102 \rangle, \langle t_2, y, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_2, y, 102 \rangle \}$$

$$\ell^1 : x \in [0, 102], y = 0$$

$$\ell^4 : x = 0, y \in [0, 102]$$

$$\text{new } I = \{ \langle t_1, x, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_1, x, 102 \rangle, \langle t_2, y, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle t_2, y, 102 \rangle \}$$

Note: we don't get that  $x \leq y$  at  $\ell^1$ , only that  $x, y \in [0, 102]$

# Interference abstraction

## Abstract interferences $\mathbb{I}^\sharp$

$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{I}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{V} \times \mathbb{R})$  is abstracted as  $\mathbb{I}^\sharp \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{V}) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^\sharp$   
 where  $\mathcal{R}^\sharp$  abstracts  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  (e.g. intervals)

## Abstract semantics with interferences $C_t^\sharp \llbracket s \rrbracket$

derived from  $C^\sharp \llbracket s \rrbracket$  in a generic way:

Example:  $C_t^\sharp \llbracket X := e \rrbracket \langle R^\sharp, \Omega, I^\sharp \rangle$

- for each  $Y$  in  $e$ , get its interference  $Y_{\mathcal{R}}^\sharp = \sqcup_{\mathcal{R}}^\sharp \{ I^\sharp \langle u, Y \rangle \mid u \neq t \}$
- if  $Y_{\mathcal{R}}^\sharp \neq \perp_{\mathcal{R}}^\sharp$ , replace  $Y$  in  $e$  with  $\text{get} \langle Y, R^\sharp \rangle \sqcup_{\mathcal{R}}^\sharp Y_{\mathcal{R}}^\sharp$   
 (where  $\text{get} \langle Y, R^\sharp \rangle$  extracts the abstract values in  $\mathcal{R}^\sharp$  of a variable  $Y$  from  $R^\sharp \in \mathcal{E}^\sharp$ )
- compute  $\langle R^{\sharp'}, O' \rangle = C^\sharp \llbracket e \rrbracket \langle R^\sharp, O \rangle$
- enrich  $I^\sharp \langle t, X \rangle$  with  $\text{get} \langle X, R^{\sharp'} \rangle$



# Static analysis with interferences

## Abstract analysis

$$P^\# \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left[ \text{lim } \lambda \langle O, I^\# \rangle. \langle O, I^\# \rangle \nabla \sqcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} \left[ C_t^\# \llbracket \text{prog}_t \rrbracket \langle \mathcal{E}_0^\#, \emptyset, I^\# \rangle \right]_{\Omega, \mathbb{I}^\#} \right]_{\Omega}$$

- **effective** analysis by **structural induction**
- termination ensured by a **widening**
- parametrized by a choice of abstract domains  $\mathcal{R}^\#, \mathcal{E}^\#$
- **interferences** are **flow-insensitive** and **non-relational** in  $\mathcal{R}^\#$
- **thread analysis** remains **flow-sensitive** and **relational** in  $\mathcal{E}^\#$

(reminder:  $[X]_{\Omega}$ ,  $[Y]_{\Omega, \mathbb{I}^\#}$  keep only  $X$ 's component in  $\Omega$ ,  $Y$ 's components in  $\Omega$  and  $\mathbb{I}^\#$ )

# Path-based semantics

---

# Control paths

*atomic* ::=  $X := \text{exp} \mid \text{exp} \bowtie 0?$

## Control paths

$\pi : \text{prog} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\text{atomic}^*)$

$\pi(X := e) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{X := e\}$

$\pi(\text{if } e \bowtie 0 \text{ then } s \text{ fi}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\{e \bowtie 0?\} \cdot \pi(s)) \cup \{e \not\bowtie 0?\}$

$\pi(\text{while } e \bowtie 0 \text{ do } s \text{ done}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left( \bigcup_{i \geq 0} (\{e \bowtie 0?\} \cdot \pi(s))^i \right) \cdot \{e \not\bowtie 0?\}$

$\pi(s_1; s_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi(s_1) \cdot \pi(s_2)$

$\pi(\text{prog})$  is a (generally infinite) set of finite control paths

# Path-based concrete semantics of sequential programs

## Join-over-all-path semantics

$$\sqcap \llbracket P \rrbracket : (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega)) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E}) \times \mathcal{P}(\Omega)) \quad P \subseteq \text{atomic}^*$$

$$\sqcap \llbracket P \rrbracket \langle R, O \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigsqcup_{s_1 \dots s_n \in P} (C \llbracket s_n \rrbracket \circ \dots \circ C \llbracket s_1 \rrbracket) \langle R, O \rangle$$

## Semantic equivalence

$$C \llbracket \text{prog} \rrbracket = \sqcap \llbracket \pi(\text{prog}) \rrbracket$$

(not true in the abstract)

### Advantages:

- easily extended to concurrent programs (path interleavings)
- able to model program transformations (weak memory models)

# Path-based concrete semantics of concurrent programs

## Concurrent control paths

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_* &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \text{interleavings of } \pi(\text{prog}_t), t \in \mathbb{T} \} \\ &= \{ p \in \text{atomic}^* \mid \forall t \in \mathbb{T}, \text{proj}_t(p) \in \pi(\text{prog}_t) \} \end{aligned}$$

## Interleaving program semantics

$$P_* \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [ \sqcap \llbracket \pi_* \rrbracket \langle \mathcal{E}_0, \emptyset \rangle ]_{\Omega}$$

( $\text{proj}_t(p)$  keeps only the atomic statement in  $p$  coming from thread  $t$ )

# Soundness of the interference semantics

## Soundness theorem

$$P_*[\text{parprog}] \subseteq P[\text{parprog}]$$

Proof sketch:

- define  $\sqcap_t[P]X \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigsqcup \{C_t[s_1; \dots; s_n]X \mid s_1 \dots s_n \in P\}$ ,  
then  $\sqcap_t[\pi(s)] = C_t[s]$ ;
- given the interference fixpoint  $I \subseteq \mathbb{I}$  from  $P[\text{parprog}]$ ,  
prove by recurrence on the length of  $p \in \pi_*$  that:
  - $\forall t \in \mathbb{T}, \forall \rho \in [\sqcap_t[p]\langle \mathcal{E}_0, \emptyset \rangle]_{\mathcal{E}}$ ,  
 $\exists \rho' \in [\sqcap_t[\text{proj}_t(p)]\langle \mathcal{E}_0, \emptyset, I \rangle]_{\mathcal{E}}$  such that  
 $\forall X \in \mathbb{V}, \rho(X) = \rho'(X)$  or  $\langle u, X, \rho(X) \rangle \in I$  for some  $u \neq t$ .
  - $[\sqcap_t[p]\langle \mathcal{E}_0, \emptyset \rangle]_{\Omega} \subseteq \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{T}} [\sqcap_t[\text{proj}_t(p)]\langle \mathcal{E}_0, \emptyset, I \rangle]_{\Omega}$

Note: sound but not complete

# Weakly consistent memories

---

# Issues with weak consistency

## program written

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $F_1:=1;$         | $F_2:=1;$         |
| if $F_2 = 0$ then | if $F_1 = 0$ then |
| $S_1$             | $S_2$             |
| fi                | fi                |

(simplified Dekker mutual exclusion algorithm)

$S_1$  and  $S_2$  **cannot** execute simultaneously.



# Issues with weak consistency

## program written

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| $F_1:=1;$         | $F_2:=1;$         |
| if $F_2 = 0$ then | if $F_1 = 0$ then |
| $S_1$             | $S_2$             |
| fi                | fi                |



## program executed

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| if $F_2 = 0$ then | if $F_1 = 0$ then |
| $F_1:=1;$         | $F_2:=1;$         |
| $S_1$             | $S_2$             |
| fi                | fi                |

(simplified Dekker mutual exclusion algorithm)

$S_1$  and  $S_2$  can execute simultaneously.

Not a sequentially consistent behavior!

Caused by:

- write FIFOs, caches, distributed memory
- hardware or compiler optimizations, transformations
- ...

behavior accepted by Java [Mans05]

# Out of thin air principle

## original program

```
 $R_1 := X;$  |  $R_2 := Y;$   
 $Y := R_1$  |  $X := R_2$ 
```

(example from causality test case #4 for Java by Pugh et al.)

We should not have  $R_1 = 42$ .

# Out of thin air principle



(example from causality test case #4 for Java by Pugh et al.)

We should not have  $R_1 = 42$ .

Possible if we allow speculative writes!

⇒ we **disallow** this kind of program transformations.

(also forbidden in Java)

# Atomicity and granularity

## original program

```
X := X + 1 | X := X + 1
```

We assumed that assignments are atomic. . .

# Atomicity and granularity

original program

$X := X + 1 \mid X := X + 1$

→

executed program

$r_1 := X + 1 \mid r_2 := X + 1$   
 $X := r_1 \mid X := r_2$

We assumed that assignments are atomic...  
but that may not be the case

The second program admits more behaviors  
e.g.:  $X = 1$  at the end of the program

[Reyn04]

# Path-based definition of weak consistency

Acceptable control path transformations:  $p \rightsquigarrow q$

only reduce interferences and errors

- **Reordering:**  $X_1 := e_1 \cdot X_2 := e_2 \rightsquigarrow X_2 := e_2 \cdot X_1 := e_1$   
(if  $X_1 \notin \text{var}(e_2)$ ,  $X_2 \notin \text{var}(e_1)$ , and  $e_1$  does not stop the program)
- **Propagation:**  $X := e \cdot s \rightsquigarrow X := e \cdot s[e/X]$   
(if  $X \notin \text{var}(e)$ ,  $\text{var}(e)$  are thread-local, and  $e$  is deterministic)
- **Factorization:**  $s_1 \cdot \dots \cdot s_n \rightsquigarrow X := e \cdot s_1[X/e] \cdot \dots \cdot s_n[X/e]$   
(if  $X$  is fresh,  $\forall i, \text{var}(e) \cap \text{lval}(s_i) = \emptyset$ , and  $e$  has no error)
- **Decomposition:**  $X := e_1 + e_2 \rightsquigarrow T := e_1 \cdot X := T + e_2$   
(change of granularity)
- ...

but **NOT:**

- “out-of-thin-air” writes:  $X := e \rightsquigarrow X := 42 \cdot X := e$

# Soundness of the interference semantics

## Interleaving semantics of transformed programs $P'_* \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket$

- $\pi'(s) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ p \mid \exists p' \in \pi(s) : p' \rightsquigarrow^* p \}$
- $\pi'_* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \text{interleavings of } \pi'(\text{prog}_t), t \in \mathbb{T} \}$
- $P'_* \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\sqcap \llbracket \pi'_* \rrbracket \langle \mathcal{E}_0, \emptyset \rangle]_{\Omega}$

### Soundness theorem

$$P'_* \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket \subseteq P \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket$$

$\implies$  the interference semantics is sound  
wrt. weakly consistent memories and changes of granularity

# Synchronisation

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# Scheduling

## Synchronization primitives

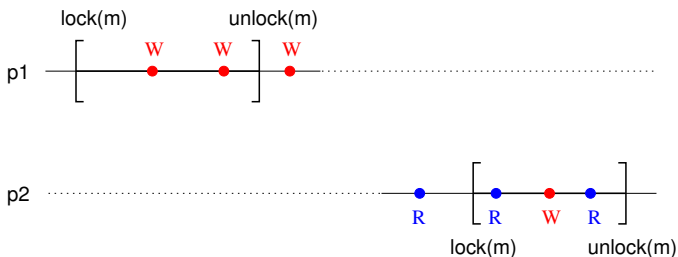
```
prog ::= lock(m)
      | unlock(m)
```

$m \in \mathbb{M}$  : finite set of non-recursive mutexes

## Scheduling

- mutexes ensure **mutual exclusion**  
at each time, each mutex can be locked by a single thread
- mutexes enforce **memory consistency** and atomicity  
no optimization across `lock` and `unlock` instructions  
memory caches and buffer are flushed

# Mutual exclusion



Interleaving semantics  $P_* \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket$  :

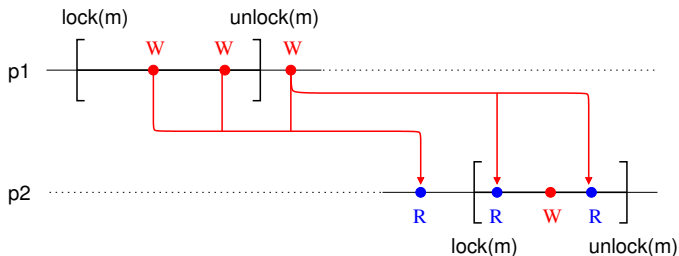
restrict interleavings of control paths

Interference semantics  $P \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket$ ,  $P^\# \llbracket \text{parprog} \rrbracket$  :

partition wrt. an abstract local view of the scheduler  $\mathbb{C}$

- $\mathcal{E} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{E} \times \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}^\# \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^\#$
- $\mathbb{I} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{V} \times \mathbb{R} \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{I} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{V} \times \mathbb{R}$ ,
- $\mathbb{I}^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{V}) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^\# \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{I}^\# \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{V}) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^\#$

# Mutual exclusion

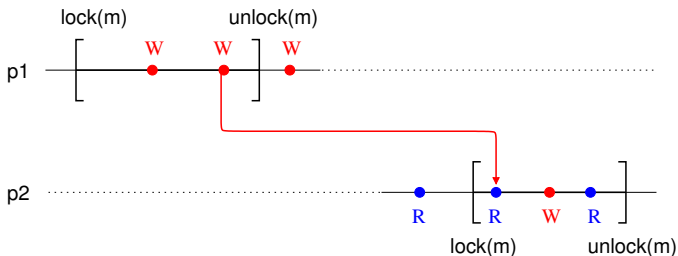


## Data-race effects

Partition wrt. **mutexes**  $M \subseteq \mathbb{M}$  held by the current thread  $t$

- $C_t[X := e] \langle \rho, M, I \rangle$  adds  $\{ \langle t, M, X, v \rangle \mid v \in E_t[X] \langle \rho, M, I \rangle \}$  to  $I$
- $E_t[X] \langle \rho, M, I \rangle = \{ \rho(X) \} \cup \{ v \mid \langle t', M', X, v \rangle \in I, t \neq t', M \cap M' = \emptyset \}$
- flow-insensitive, subject to weak memory consistency

# Mutual exclusion



## Well-synchronized effects

- last write before unlock affects first read after lock
- partition interferences wrt. a protecting mutex  $m$  (and  $M$ )
- $C_t[\text{unlock}(m)] \langle \rho, M, I \rangle$  stores  $\rho(X)$  into  $I$
- $C_t[\text{lock}(m)] \langle \rho, M, I \rangle$  imports values from  $I$  into  $\rho$
- **imprecision**: non-relational, largely flow-insensitive

# Example analysis

## abstract consumer/producer

| $t_1$   | $t_2$   |
|---|---|
| <pre> while 0=0 do   lock(m); <math>\ell^1</math>   if X&gt;0 then <math>\ell^2</math>X:=X-1 fi;   unlock(m);   <math>\ell^3</math>Y:=X done </pre> | <pre> while 0=0 do   lock(m);   X:=X+1;   if X&gt;10 then X:=10 fi;   unlock(m) done </pre> |

- at  $\ell^1$ , the unlock-lock effect from  $t_2$  imports  $\{X\} \times [1, 10]$
- at  $\ell^2$ ,  $X \in [1, 10]$ , no effect from  $t_2$ :  $X:=X-1$  is safe
- at  $\ell^3$ ,  $X \in [0, 9]$ , and  $t_2$  has the effects  $\{X\} \times [1, 10]$  so,  $X \in [0, 10]$

# Limitations of the interference abstraction

---

# Lack of relational lock invariants

## a difficult example

$$\mathcal{E}_0 : X = Y = 5$$

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <pre> while 0=0 do   lock(m);   if X&gt;0 then     X:=X-1;     Y:=Y-1;   fi;   unlock(m) done </pre> | <pre> while 0=0 do   lock(m);   if X&lt;10 then     X:=X+1;     Y:=Y+1;   fi;   unlock(m) done </pre> |
|--|---|

Our analysis finds  $X \in [0, 10]$ , but **no bound** on  $Y$ .

Actually  $Y \in [0, 10]$ .

To prove this, we would need to infer the **relational invariant**  $X = Y$  at lock boundaries.

# Lack of inter-process flow-sensitivity

## a more difficult example

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <pre>while 0=0 do   lock(m);   X:=X+1;   unlock(m);   lock(m);   X:=X-1;   unlock(m) done</pre> | <pre>while 0=0 do   lock(m);   X:= X+1;   unlock(m);   lock(m);   X:=X-1;   unlock(m) done</pre> |
|---|--|

Our analysis finds **no bound** on  $X$ .

Actually  $X \in [-2, 2]$  at all program points.

To prove this we need to infer an **invariant on the history of interleaved executions**:

*no more than two incrementation (resp. decrementation) can occur without a decrementation (resp. incrementation).*



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