

# CSE P 504

Advanced topics in Software Systems

Fall 2022

**Formal methods**

December 05, 2022

# Today

- Recap Abstract interpretation
- Formal methods
  - Primer on solver-aided reasoning
  - SMTLIB and Z3
  - Examples

# **Logistics of HW2**

# HW2

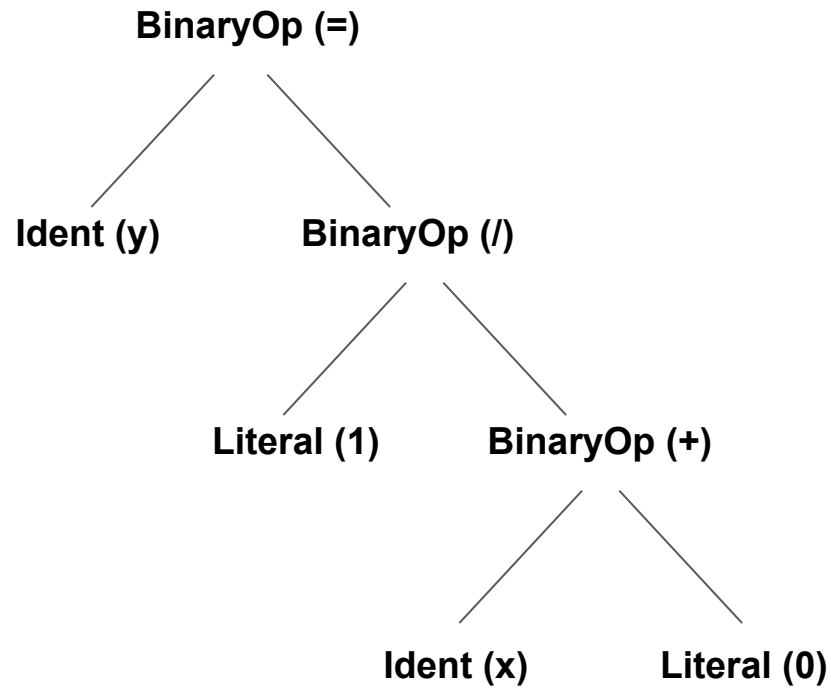
- Timing/structure

- Multiple constraints and considerations to balance
  - No homework/in-class during Thanksgiving week
  - No final exam but end-of-quarter grading pressure
  - Two parts and partial overlap with in-class 7

- Part 2

- ***Simplified*** execution model:
  - CF builds AST and CFG from source code
  - CF traverses the AST and adds type annotations (abstract values)
  - CF calls your implementation when it needs additional information (it calls the transfer functions and the abstraction function)
  - CF traverses the fully annotated AST and calls your implementation for error reporting

AST for:  $y = 1 / (x + 0)$



# **Abstract interpretation: recap and Q&A**

# Abstract interpretation Q&A

- What remains unclear after consulting the readings, examples, and exercises?
- Any specific roadblocks?
- Any additional thoughts beyond lecture content and hw2?

# **A primer on solver-aided reasoning and verification**

**Z3**



What is a SAT solver?

# What is a SAT solver?

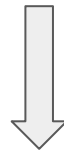
- Takes a **formula** (propositional logic) as input.

$$(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3)$$

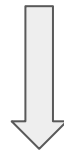
# What is a SAT solver?

- Takes a **formula** (propositional logic) as input.
- Returns a **model** (an assignment that satisfies the formula).

$$(x_1 \vee x_2) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3)$$



**SAT solver**



$$\mathbf{X} = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} = \{\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{F}, \mathbf{T}\}$$

# What is Z3?

- An SMT (Satisfiability Modulo Theories) solver.
- Uses a standard language (SMT-LIB).
  - Print to the screen.
  - **Declare variables** and functions.

```
(echo "Running Z3...")  
(declare-const a Int)
```

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  - **Define constraints**.

```
(echo "Running Z3...")  
(declare-const a Int)  
(assert (> a 0))
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  - **Declare variables** and functions.
  - **Define constraints**.
  - **Check satisfiability** and **obtain a model**.
  - ...

```
(echo "Running Z3...")  
(declare-const a Int)  
(assert (> a 0))  
(check-sat)  
(get-model)
```

Which question does this code answer?

# What is Z3?

- An SMT (Satisfiability Modulo Theories) solver.
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  - ...

```
(echo "Running Z3...")  
(declare-const a Int)  
(assert (> a 0))  
(check-sat)  
(get-model)
```

This code is asking the question:  
Does an integer greater than 0 exist?

# A first example

```
1 int simpleMath(int a, int b) {  
2     assert(b>0);  
3     if(a + b == a * b) {  
4         return 1;  
5     }  
6     return 0;  
7 }
```

Does this method ever return 1?



# A first example

```
1 int simpleMath(int a, int b) {  
2   assert(b>0);  
3   if(a + b == a * b) {  
4     return 1;  
5   }  
6   return 0;  
7 }
```

```
(declare-const a Int)  
(declare-const b Int)  
  
(assert (> b 0))  
(assert (= (+ a b) (* a b)))  
  
(check-sat)  
(get-model)
```

Does this method ever return 1? Let's ask Z3...

# A more complex example

```
1 int getNumber(int a, int b, int c) {  
2     if (c==0) return 0;  
3     if (c==4) return 0;  
4     if (a + b < c) return 1;  
5     if (a + b > c) return 2;  
6     if (a * b == c) return 3;  
7     return 4;  
8 }
```



**Does this method ever return 3?  
What constraints must be satisfied?**

# A more complex example

```
1 int getNumber(int a, int b, int c) {  
2     if (c==0) return 0;  
3     if (c==4) return 0;  
4     if (a + b < c) return 1;  
5     if (a + b > c) return 2;  
6     if (a * b == c) return 3;  
7     return 4;  
8 }
```

All of the following must be true:

- $!(c == 0)$
- $!(c == 4)$
- $!(a + b < c)$
- $!(a + b > c)$
- $a * b == c$

Does this method ever return 3?

# A more complex example

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All of the following must be true:

- $!(c == 0)$
- $!(c == 4)$
- $!(a + b < c)$
- $!(a + b > c)$
- $a * b == c$

$$(a + b == c) \wedge (a * b == c) \wedge (c \neq 0) \wedge (c \neq 4)$$

# A more complex example

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```

All of the following must be true:

- $!(c == 0)$
- $!(c == 4)$
- $!(a + b < c)$
- $!(a + b > c)$
- $a * b == c$

```
(declare-const a Int)  
(declare-const b Int)  
(declare-const c Int)  
  
(assert (not (= c 0)))  
(assert (not (= c 4)))  
(assert (not (< (+ a b) c)))  
(assert (not (> (+ a b) c)))  
(assert (= (* a b) c))  
  
(check-sat)
```

# A more complex example

```
1 int getNumber(int a, int b, int c) {  
2     if (c==0) return 0;  
3     if (c==4) return 0;  
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All of the following must be true:

- $!(c == 0)$
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- $!(a + b < c)$
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All of the following must be true:

- $!(c == 0)$
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- $!(a + b < c)$
- $!(a + b > c)$
- $a * b == c$

Z3 supports Bitvectors of arbitrary size.

Let's model Java ints (32 bits) and ask the same question...

# A more complex example

```
1 int getNumber(int a, int b, int c) {  
2   if (c==0) return 0;  
3   if (c==4) return 0;  
4   if (a + b < c) return 1;  
5   if (a + b > c) return 2;  
6   if (a * b == c) return 3;  
7   return 4;  
8 }
```

All of the following must be true:

- $!(c == 0)$
- $!(c == 4)$
- $!(a + b < c)$
- $!(a + b > c)$
- $a * b == c$

```
(define-sort JInt () (_ BitVec 32))  
  
(declare-const a JInt)  
(declare-const b JInt)  
(declare-const c JInt)  
  
(assert (not (= c #x00000000)))  
(assert (not (= c #x00000004)))  
(assert (not (bvslt (bvadd a b) c)))  
(assert (not (bvsgt (bvadd a b) c)))  
(assert (= (bvmul a b) c))  
  
(check-sat)  
(get-model)
```



# Reasoning about program equivalence

```
1 int add1(int a, int b) {  
2     return a + b;  
3 }  
4  
5 int add2(int a, int b) {  
6     return a * b;  
7 }
```

Are these two methods semantically equivalent?

# Reasoning about program equivalence

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1 int add1(int a, int b) {  
2   return a + b;  
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5 int add2(int a, int b) {  
6   return a * b;  
7 }
```

```
(declare-const a Int)  
(declare-const b Int)  
  
(declare-const add1 Int)  
(declare-const add2 Int)  
  
(assert (= add1 (+ a b)))  
(assert (= add2 (* a b)))  
(assert (= add1 add2))  
  
(check-sat)  
(get-model)
```

Are these two methods semantically equivalent?

# Reasoning about program equivalence

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1 int add1(int a, int b) {  
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```

```
(declare-const a Int)  
(declare-const b Int)  
  
(declare-const add1 Int)  
(declare-const add2 Int)  
  
(assert (= add1 (+ a b)))  
(assert (= add2 (* a b)))  
(assert (= add1 add2))  
  
(check-sat)  
(get-model)
```

Yes, for  $a=2$  and  $b=2$ .  
What have we actually proven here?

# Reasoning about program equivalence

```
1 int add1(int a, int b) {  
2   return a + b;  
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```

```
(declare-const a Int)  
(declare-const b Int)  
  
(declare-const add1 Int)  
(declare-const add2 Int)  
  
(assert (= add1 (+ a b)))  
(assert (= add2 (* a b)))  
(assert (not (= add1 add2)))  
  
(check-sat)  
(get-model)
```

For **universal claims**, our goal is to **prove** the absence of counter examples (i.e., the defined constraints are **unsat**)!

# Summary

- Solver-aided reasoning is used for testing and verification.
- SMT solvers:
  - Provide one solution, if one exists.
  - Are commonly used to find counter-examples (or prove unsat).
  - Support many theories that can model program semantics.
  - Usually support a standard language (SMT-lib).
- The challenge is to model a problem as a constraint system.  
A few examples:
  - Statistical test selection
  - Data-structure synthesis
  - Program synthesis
- Many higher-level DSLs and language bindings exist.

# **In-class 7: formal methods**