

# CS477 Formal Software Dev Methods

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## Standard Interpretation and Semantics

- Let  $Contexts = \mathcal{P}(Env)$ 
  - $Contexts$  is a complete lattice
  - A context corresponds to a formula in predicate logic over the program variables (recall how we encoded Hoare Logic)
- If for all  $e \in E$  we have  $\theta(e) \subseteq \phi(e)$ , then for all  $e' \in E$  we have  $Interp(\theta, e') \subseteq Interp(\phi, e')$
- Result:**  $(Contexts, Interp)$  is an abstract interpretation
- Recall:**  $Interp : ((E \rightarrow Contexts) \times E) \rightarrow Contexts$  so  $\overline{Interp} : (E \rightarrow Contexts) \rightarrow (E \rightarrow Contexts)$
- $\overline{Interp}(\theta)(e) = Interp(\theta, e) = \overline{Interp}^1(\theta)(e)$
- $\overline{Interp}^{n+1}(\theta)(e) = \overline{Interp}(\overline{Interp}^n(\theta))(e)$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}(e) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \overline{Interp}^n \{e' \mapsto \{\} \mid e' \in E\}(e)$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}$  tells us the best knowledge we can know about our program
- Problem:** May take an unbounded amount of computation; as informative as transition semantics

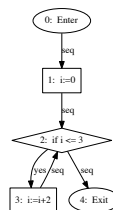
### Example: $Interp$

Let  $\theta$  map edges to sets of environments.  $Interp$  will tell us the set of environments  $next\_state$  will associate with each edge assuming  $\theta$  gives a set of (possibly) possible environments for each predecessor edge:

- Since  $Var = \{i\}$ ,  
 $Interp(\theta, (0, seq, 1)) = \{next\_state((0, seq, 1), \{i \mapsto \perp\})\} = \{\{i \mapsto 0\}\}$
- Since  $l(2) = \text{if } i \leq 3$  we have  $Interp(\theta, (1, seq, 2)) = \theta((0, seq, 1))$
- $Interp(\theta, (2, yes, 3)) = \{\rho \mid \rho(i) > 3\}$
- $Interp(\theta, (3, seq, 2)) = \theta(2, yes, 3)$
- $Interp(\theta, (2, no, 4)) = \{\rho \mid \rho \in (\theta(1, seq, 2) \cup \theta(3, seq, 2)) \wedge \rho(i) > 3\}$

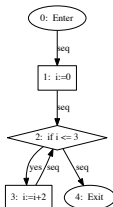
### Example: $\mu \overline{Interp}$

- $\mu \overline{Interp} : E \rightarrow Contexts = \mathcal{P}(Env)$
- Start with minimal  $\theta_0$  assigning no environments to any edge:  
 $\theta_0(e) = \{\}$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}(e) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \overline{Interp}^n(e)$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}(0, seq, 1) = \{\}$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}(1, seq, 2) = \{\}$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}(2, yes, 3) = \{\}$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}(3, seq, 2) = \{\}$
- $\mu \overline{Interp}((2, no, 4)) = \{\}$



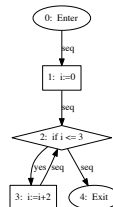
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## Soundness of Abstract Semantics

**Fact:** An abstract interpretation  $(A, \mathcal{I})$  is sound (or consistent) with respect to  $(\text{Contexts}, \text{Interp})$  if and only if there exist  $\alpha, \beta$  such that

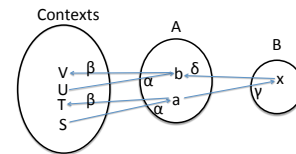
- $\alpha : \text{Contexts} \rightarrow A, \beta : A \rightarrow \text{Contexts}$
- $\alpha, \beta$  order preserving
- For all  $a \in A$  have  $\alpha(\beta(a)) = a$
- For all  $S \in \text{Contexts}$ , have  $S \subseteq \beta(\alpha(S))$ 
  - The abstract interpretation gives us more possibilities, is less precise
- For all  $e \in E, \alpha(\mu \overline{\text{Interp}}(e)) = \mu \overline{\mathcal{I}}(e)$
- The pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is called a *Galois Insertion*.
- Game: find useful  $A$  where we can compute  $\mu \overline{\mathcal{I}}$ , usually in time proportional to size of program

## Composing Abstract Interpretations

- Observe: Can abstract an abstraction:
  - Given  $\alpha : \text{Contexts} \rightarrow A, \beta : A \rightarrow \text{Contexts}$  such that for all  $a \in A$  have  $\alpha(\beta(a)) = a$  and for all  $S \in \text{Contexts}$ , have  $S \subseteq \beta(\alpha(S))$
  - Given  $\gamma : A \rightarrow B, \delta : B \rightarrow A$  such that for all  $b \in B$  have  $\gamma(\delta(b)) = b$  and for all  $a \in A$ , have  $\delta(\gamma(a)) \leq a$
  - Then  $(B, \gamma \circ \mu \overline{\mathcal{I}})$  is another abstract interpretation.
  - If  $A = \{a \mid \exists S \in \text{Contexts}. a = \alpha(S)\}$ , then

$$\beta(a) = \bigcup \{S \in \text{Contexts} \mid \alpha(S) = a\}$$

- If our abstract domain is the image of  $\text{Contexts}$ , then we only need  $\alpha$ , because we can compute  $\beta$ .



## Some Abstract Interpretations

- Replace  $\text{Contexts} = \mathcal{P}(\text{Var} \rightarrow \text{Val})$  with  $A = \text{Var} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\text{Val})$ . Let  $S \in \text{Contexts}$ . Define

$$\alpha(S)(x) = \{v \mid \exists s \in S. s(x) = v\}$$

- Chain with  $B = \text{Var} \rightarrow \{\text{int}, \text{bool}, \perp, \top\}$  and
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \text{int}$  if  $a(x)$  contains only integers (and  $\perp$ );
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \text{bool}$  if  $a(x)$  contains only booleans (and  $\perp$ );
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \perp$  if  $a(x) = \{\}$  or  $a(x) = \{\perp\}$
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \top$  otherwise
  - Can be used for type checking
- Chain with  $B = \text{Var} \rightarrow \{\perp, \top\}$  and
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \top$  if  $a(x)$  contains something other than  $\perp$ ;
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \perp$  if  $a(x) = \{\perp\}$  or  $a(x) = \{\}$
  - Can be used for checking variables are initialized before they are used.

## Abstraction: $A = \text{Var} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\text{Val})$

- Have  $\alpha(S)(x) = \{v \mid \exists s \in S. s(x) = v\}$
- Need to show
  - (onto  $A$ )  $\forall x \in \text{Var}. \forall V \subseteq \text{Val}. \exists S \subseteq \text{Env}. V = \{v \mid \exists s \in S. s(x) = v\}$
  - Pf: Fix  $x \in \text{Var}$  and  $V \subseteq \text{Val}$ . Let  $S = \{s \in \text{Env} \mid s(x) \in V\}$ . Because  $\text{Env}$  is all mappings of  $\text{Var}$  to  $\text{Val}$ , for any  $v \in V$ , there is a mapping  $s$  such that  $s(x) = v$ . Therefore,  $V = \{v \mid \exists s \in S. s(x) = v\}$
  - (order preserving)  $\forall S, T \subseteq \text{Env}. S \subseteq T \Rightarrow (\forall x \in \text{Var}. \{v \in \text{Val} \mid \exists s \in S. s(x) = v\} \subseteq \{v \in \text{Val} \mid \exists s \in T. s(x) = v\})$
  - Pf: (sketch) If  $s \in S$  then  $s \in T$ .
  - This abstraction is the root of most abstraction
  - Still too informative; takes unbounded time to compute

## Abstraction: $B = \text{Var} \rightarrow \{\text{int}, \text{bool}, \perp, \top\}$

- $\gamma : A \rightarrow B$  where
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \text{int}$  if  $a(x)$  contains only integers (and  $\perp$ );
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \text{bool}$  if  $a(x)$  contains only booleans (and  $\perp$ );
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \perp$  if  $a(x) = \{\}$  or  $a(x) = \{\perp\}$
  - $\gamma(a)(x) = \top$  otherwise
- Still need onto and order-preserving
- Tells us for each variable if it is guaranteed to be used
- $B$  has finite height this time
- Should be able to compute in bounded time
- But how?

## New transfer (transition) functions from old

- Recall that  $\text{Interp} : ((E \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\text{Env})) \times E) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\text{Env})$  tells us how, for each edge, taking one step of computation updates the possible environments after that step of computation after that edge
- $\overline{\text{Interp}}$  tells us how to update the environments at each edge after we let each edge do its endpoint computation, assuming each starting environment
- Given  $\alpha : \mathcal{P}(\text{Env}) \rightarrow A$ , order preserving and onto, construct  $\alpha \circ \overline{\text{Interp}} : ((E \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (E \rightarrow A))$
- Calculating  $\mu(\alpha \circ \overline{\text{Interp}}) : E \rightarrow A$  can be done in bounded time if calculating  $\alpha \circ \overline{\text{Interp}}(\theta, e)$  can be for each  $\theta \in (E \rightarrow A)$  and  $e \in E$ .

## Worklist Algorithm

- Given transfer function  $\mathcal{I} : ((E \rightarrow A) \times E) \rightarrow A$ , want algorithm for finding  $\mu\bar{\mathcal{I}}$
- Start with  $\mathcal{I}_0 : E \rightarrow A$  by  $\mathcal{I}_0(e) = \perp$  for all  $e \in E$
- Let  $Worklist = E$
- Assume we have computed  $\mathcal{I}_n$
- while  $not(Worklist = \{\})$  do
  - Pick  $(n, k, m) \in Worklist$ ; let  $Worklist = Worklist - \{(n, k, m)\}$
  - Let  $in = lub\{a \mid \exists p, j. (p, j, n) \in E \wedge a = \mathcal{I}_n(p, j, n)\}$
  - Let  $\mathcal{I}_{n+1}(n, k, m) = \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{I}_n, (n, k, m))$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{n+1}(e) = \mathcal{I}_n(e)$  if  $e \neq (n, k, m)$
  - If  $\mathcal{I}_{n+1}(n, k, m) = \mathcal{I}_n(n, k, m)$  then  
 $Worklist \neq Worklist \cup \{e \mid \exists j, p. e = (m, j, p)\}$
  - Repeat while
- $\mu\mathcal{I}(e) = \mathcal{I}_n(e)$  where  $n$  is the last value where a change was made