The Spark2014 verifying compiler Deductive verification A wide and shallow introduction October 27, 2015 Florian Schanda A short overview



So who is Altran...

- Altran has around 25000 consultants
- In the UK we focus on the development of high-integrity software:
 - iFACTS (part of the UK air traffic control)
 - an engine monitoring unit for a family of commercial aircraft engines
 - etc.
- ... and we also develop Spark!



Content

- Motivation for static analysis
- 2 Ada and Spark: quick history and overview
- 3 Architecture + Internals
- 4 Conclusion



Motivation

No bugs, please!



Motivation

Otherwise...





Reason about source code without executing it:

```
int divide_and_fail(int a, int b) {
  return a / b;
}
```

How many bugs can you find?



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int divide_and_fail(int a, int b) {
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Test 1

```
result = divide_and_fail(500, 0);
```

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int divide_and_fail(int a, int b) {
  return a / b;
}
```

How many bugs can you find?

Test 1

```
result = divide_and_fail(500, 0);
```

Test 2

```
result = divide_and_fail(-2147483648, -1);
```



- Testing can only find bugs, not prove their absence
- Static analysis can be sound (no missed bugs)
- Static analysis can be complete (all alarms are bugs)
- Static analysis can be automatic (no human intervention)



- Testing can only find bugs, not prove their absence
- Static analysis can be sound (no missed bugs)

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "your program is wrong"
```

- Static analysis can be complete (all alarms are bugs)
- Static analysis can be automatic (no human intervention)



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```
#!/bin/bash
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Static analysis can be complete (all alarms are bugs)

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "your program is perfect"
```

Static analysis can be automatic (no human intervention)



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- Static analysis can be sound (no missed bugs)

```
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echo "your program is wrong"
```

Static analysis can be complete (all alarms are bugs)

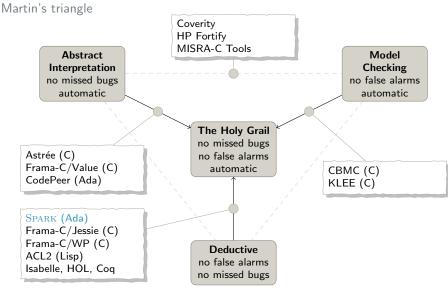
```
#!/bin/bash
echo "your program is perfect"
```

Static analysis can be automatic (no human intervention)

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "potato"
```



Approaches to static analysis





What is Ada?

- Around since 1980
- Influenced by ALGOL, Pascal
- Emphasis readable code
- General purpose, but main users is aerospace and defence industry



Ada Example

```
type U32 is mod 2 ** 32;
procedure Swap (A, B : in out U32)
is
    Tmp : U32;
begin
    Tmp := A;
    A := B;
    B := Tmp;
end Swap;
```



It is a language and a toolset.

- The language is a variant of Ada:
 - unsafe and difficult constructs excluded
 - contracts
 - reference manual publicly available (GFDL)
- The toolset is a static analysis tool
 - sound, but with a low false alarm rate
 - deductive
 - publicly available (GPL3)



It is a language and a toolset.

- The language is a variant of Ada:
 - unsafe and difficult constructs excluded
 - contracts
 - reference manual publicly available (GFDL)
- The toolset is a static analysis tool
 - sound, but with a low false alarm rate
 - deductive
 - publicly available (GPL3)
- ...and it's actually used in real life



A brief history

```
1985 University of Southampton - SPADE
1987 PVL, Praxis, Altran - SPARK 83, 95, 2005
2011 Altran + AdaCore - GPLv3 release of SPARK
2013 Altran + AdaCore - SPARK2014
```



An example



Another example

```
type Int_Array is array (1 .. 10) of Integer;
procedure Find_Element (A : in Int_Array;
                       Elem : in Integer;
                       Idx : out Natural;
                       Found: out Boolean)
with
   Post => (if Found then A (Idx) = Elem)
is
begin
   for I in A'Range loop
     Idx := I;
     Found := A (I) = Elem;
      exit when Found;
   end loop;
end Find Element:
```

Headline features

Strong typing

```
type Grams is new Float range 0.0 .. 100.0; type Pounds is new Float range 0.0 .. 100.0;
```

- Many contracts...
 - Parameter modes (in, in out, out)
 - Globals, Depends, Abstract_State
 - Pre, Post, Contract_Cases
 - No_Return, Volatile, Atomic
 - Asserts, Invariants, Variants

...most of which are executable

- Ghost code
- No pointers (or aliasing), instead:
 - Pass by reference
 - Container library
- No side-effects



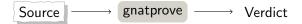
The tools

- Developed jointly at Altran (Bath) and AdaCore (Paris, and more)
 - 4 in Bath
 - 5 in Paris
 - plus more (language design, gcc, etc.)
- Based on free software (gcc, Why3, CVC4, etc.)
- Based on published results, and ongoing collaborations with universities
- Very fun!



Tool architecture

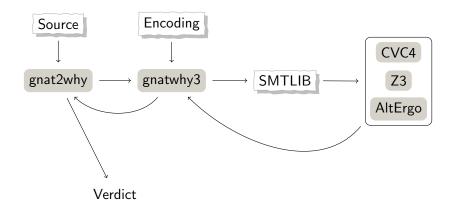
User view





Tool architecture

More detailed view...





Tool architecture gnat2why

This is what we develop ourselves.

- Contains Spark/Ada parser
- Does some preliminary analysis
- Compilation to intermediate language

Other tools are also free software that are used by us and others.



GNAT Frontend

Overview

- Ada 2012 and SPARK2014 lexer,
- parser,
- semantic analyser,
- expander,
- code generator (with gcc via intermediate language)



GNAT Frontend

Lexer and Parser

- Hand-written lexer
- Hand-written parser, recursive descent, with arbitrary look-ahead
 - better error messages, especially for serious structural errors
 - closely aligned with published Ada RM grammar
- Produces AST
 - Nodes (structure of program)
 - Entities (identifiers, operator symbols, etc.)
- There is no classical symbol table
- Entities are the symbol table



GNAT Frontend The AST

- Table indexed by integers (so no pointers as such)
- No OO, instead records with generic fields (field1, field2, field3, etc.) and access subprograms that give them meaning based on node type:

■ 12,000+ line comment that is tool-enforced for documentation



GNAT Frontend

AST example

Partial tree for return a / b;

```
Node #1 N Simple Return Statement (Node Id=2346) (source.analyzed)
Sloc = 8249 foo.adb:4:4
Return Statement Entity = Node #5 N Defining Identifier "R1b" (Entity Id=2350)
Expression = Node #2 N Op Divide "Odivide" (Node Id=2347)
 Node #2 N_Op_Divide "Odivide" (Node_Id=2347) (source,analyzed)
  Parent = Node #1 N Simple Return Statement (Node Id=2346)
  Sloc = 8258 foo.adb:4:13
  Chars = "Odivide" (Name_Id=300000413)
  Left Opnd = Node #3 N Identifier "a" (Node Id=2345)
  Right_Opnd = Node #4 N_Identifier "b" (Node_Id=2348)
  Entity = N_Defining_Identifier "Odivide" (Entity_Id=1919s)
  Do Overflow Check = True
  Etype = N Defining Identifier "integer" (Entity Id=1035s)
  Do_Division_Check = True
   Node #3 N Identifier "a" (Node Id=2345) (source.analyzed)
    Parent = Node #2 N_Op_Divide "Odivide" (Node_Id=2347)
    Sloc = 8256 foo.adb:4:11
    Chars = "a" (Name Id=300000099)
    Etype = N_Defining_Identifier "integer" (Entity_Id=37s)
    Entity = N_Defining_Identifier "a" (Entity_Id=2324)
    Associated_Node = N_Defining_Identifier "a" (Entity_Id=2324)
```

. . .

GNAT Frontend

The expander and code generation

- Generics are expanded here
- Also deals with tasks, protected objects and object orientation
- AST is transformed to something the GCC code generator expects



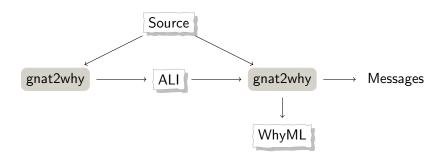
gnat2why Overview

- Just another GNAT back-end
- An elaborate semantic analysis pass over the AST:
 - filter Note which areas of the program are "in Spark"
 - globals Generate frame conditions (global contracts if they have not been specified) at varying levels of details
 - flow Check initialization, non-aliasing, global contracts, and information flow contracts
 - translation Transform SPARK subprograms into WhyML subprograms



gnat2why

Overview





gnat2why Filter

- Useful for analysing programs partly in SPARK, partly in Ada
- Essentially assigns Boolean flag to all entities
- Produces error messages if things have to be in SPARK
- Fairly obvious top-down tree-walk

Example

```
package P1 is
   type T1 is range 1 .. 10; — T in SPARK
   type T2 is access Float; — T2 not in SPARK
end P1;

package P2 with SPARK_Mode is
   type T3 is access Integer; — ERROR
end P2;
```

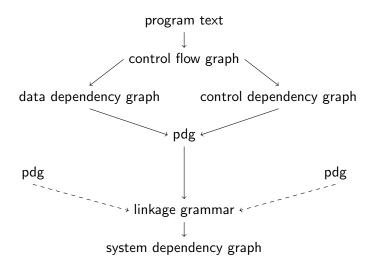


gnat2why

- Over-approximation, automatic
- More or less implements "system dependence graphs"
- Checks initialization of all variables
 - an important assumption for proof
 - an important check for information leaks
- Checks non-aliasing, an important assumption for proof
- Determines or checks frame conditions
- Checks flow contracts
- Checks for data races (for tasking)
- Warns of some suspicious constructs (ineffective code, etc.)



gnat2why Flow

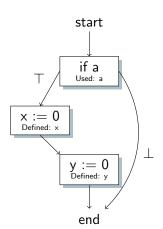




gnat2why

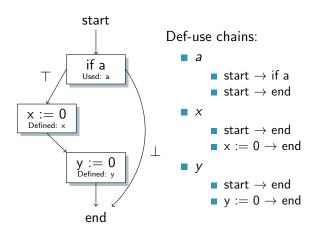
Flow - Control flow graph

```
if a then
    x := 0;
else
    return;
end if;
y := 0;
```





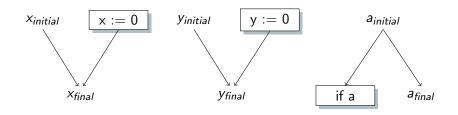
Flow - Data dependence graph





Flow - Data dependence graph

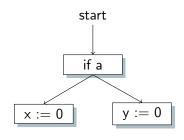
We can now draw the DDG:





Flow - Control dependence graph

```
if a then
    x := 0;
else
    return;
end if;
y := 0;
```

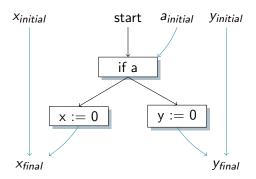


Algorithm: produce dominance frontier of the reversed control flow graph ("post dominance frontier").



Flow - Program dependence graph

To construct the program dependence graph (PDG) we simply overlay the CDG and DDG.





gnat2why Flow

- There is much more detail in flow:
 - Inter-procedural analysis and recursion
 - Non-terminating subprograms
 - Tasking
 - Component-level analysis of records
 - Volatile variables
 - etc.
- Debug output is done through graphviz and has been a primary design concern



- SPARK is still an extremely complicated language
- Key properties need to be proven for a program to be correct ("verification conditions", or "VCs")
- Translation to a smaller, intermediate language WhyML
 - Simpler control flow
 - Simpler types
- Verification condition generation based on this IL



Translation to WhyML

```
function Example
   (A, B : Natural)
   return Natural
is
   R : Natural;
begin
   if A < B then
      R := A + 1;
else
      R := B - 1;
end if;
return R;
end Example;</pre>
```



Translation to WhyML

```
function Example
   (A, B : Natural)
                           let example (a: int) (b: int)
   return Natural
                               requires { a \ge 0 / a \le 2147483647 }
                               requires { b \ge 0 / b \le 2147483647 }
is
                               returns { r \rightarrow r >= 0 /\
   R : Natural;
begin
                                              r <= 2147483647 }
   if A < B then
                             = let r = ref 0 in
      R := A + 1:
                               if a < b then
   else
                                  r := a + 1
      R := B - 1:
                               else
   end if;
                                r := b - 1;
                               (!r)
   return R;
end Example;
```



- Another traversal over AST (for SPARK), building another AST (for Why3)
- Tree is "pretty" printed, but not meant to be human readable
- One or more Why3 modules per SPARK entity
 - Types
 - Entity definitions, axioms
 - Subprogram definitions, axioms, bodies

All of which are dumped into a single file for gnatwhy3.

- Not as nice as the previous example, a lot of extra information embedded:
 - Original source locations of all VCs
 - Checks $(x \neq 0, \text{ or } x < 2^{32}, \text{ etc.})$



Yep, not very readable... VC fragment for r = a/b:

```
( ( "GP_Sloc:overflow.adb:7:7" ( #"overflow.adb" 7 0 0#
overflow_example_result.int_content <- ( (
#"overflow.adb" 7 0 0# "GP_Sloc:overflow.adb:7:16"
"GP_Shape:return_div" "keep_on_simp" "model_vc"
"GP_Reason:VC_OVERFLOW_CHECK" "GP_Id:1"
(Standard_integer.range_check_(( #"overflow.adb" 7 0 0#
"GP_Reason:VC_DIVISION_CHECK" "GP_Id:0"
"GP_Sloc:overflow.adb:7:16" "GP_Shape:return_div"
"keep_on_simp" "model_vc" (Int_Division.div_
(Overflow_example_a.a) (Overflow_example_b.b))
))) ); #"overflow.adb" 7 0 0# raise Return_exc ));
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))) ); #"overflow.adb" 7 0 0# raise Return_exc ));
#"overflow.adb" 3 0 0# raise Return_exc )</pre>
```

But we eventually get nice output...

```
overflow.adb:7:16: medium: divide by zero might fail (e.g. when \mathsf{B}=0) overflow.adb:7:16: medium: overflow check might fail
```



Features of the IL:

- Based on first order logic + theories
- In vague ML syntax with programming constructs:
 - (mutable) variables
 - sequences
 - loops, if, etc.
 - assertions
 - exceptions
- Built-in types are Boolean, Int, Real, Arrays, Records, Lists,
 Sets, etc. but more can be defined



All checks come from a specification:

- Some checks are user defined (user asserts, postconditions)
- Ada RM defines basic checks (overflow, range, index, division by zero, discriminants, etc.)
- SPARK RM defines more (LSP checks, loop variants and invariants, etc.)

... we just follow that spec, and err on side of redundant checks.



Recap: we now have the SPARK program in a different language (WhyML), but have not verified much...

- It's still difficult to prove anything, so we need to start talking to (automatic) theorem provers
- Language of choice is SMTLIB, but others exist
- So, next step is another language transformation
- But, to appreciate this step, let's first talk about SMT...



Recap of SAT

Let's start with SAT:

■ Is there an assignment for $(a \lor \neg c) \land (\neg b \lor c) \land (d)$ that makes everything true?



¹conflict-driven clause learning

Recap of SAT

Let's start with SAT:

- Is there an assignment for $(a \lor \neg c) \land (\neg b \lor c) \land (d)$ that makes everything true?
- Yes, at least one: $\neg a, \neg b, \neg c, d$
- Significant advances in the last 15 years
- Modern CDCL¹ solvers can solve huge problems with millions of variables



¹conflict-driven clause learning

Overview of SMT

SAT modulo theories: SMT

Is some first-order logic formula SAT (given some background theory)?



Overview of SMT

- Is some first-order logic formula SAT (given some background theory)?
- $(0 \nabla x) \wedge (0 \nabla y) \wedge (x \wedge y \nabla x)$



Overview of SMT

- Is some first-order logic formula SAT (given some background theory)?
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- We need an interpretation for ♥ and ♠ to decide!



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- Is some first-order logic formula SAT (given some background theory)?
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- Ψ =< and \spadesuit = $+_{mod256}$ and $D = uint8_t$: (0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + $_{mod256}$ y < x)



Overview of SMT

- Is some first-order logic formula SAT (given some background theory)?
- $(0 \nabla x) \wedge (0 \nabla y) \wedge (x \wedge y \nabla x)$
- We need an interpretation for ♥ and ♠ to decide!
- \forall =< and \spadesuit = $+_{mod256}$ and $D = uint8_t$: (0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + $_{mod256}$ y < x) - SAT (x = 255, y = 1)

$$(0 < x) \wedge (0 < y) \wedge (x + y < x)$$



- $(0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + y < x)$
- Is this SAT? $A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge A_3$



- $(0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + y < x)$
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- YES (A_1, A_2, A_3)

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- Hand over to theory solver:

$$x + y < x$$

- $(0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + y < x)$
- Is this SAT? $A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge A_3$
- \blacksquare YES (A_1, A_2, A_3)
- Hand over to theory solver:

$$x + y < x$$
 (substract by x)

- $(0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + y < x)$
- Is this SAT? $A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge A_3$
- YES (A_1, A_2, A_3)
- Hand over to theory solver:
 - 0 < x
 - 0 < y
 - y < 0

SMT Example

- $(0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + y < x)$
- Is this SAT? $A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge A_3$
- YES (A_1, A_2, A_3)
- Hand over to theory solver:

y < 0 (contradiction between A_2 and A_3 !)



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■ Add $\neg (A_2 \land A_3)$ to the SAT problem



SMT Example

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SMT Example

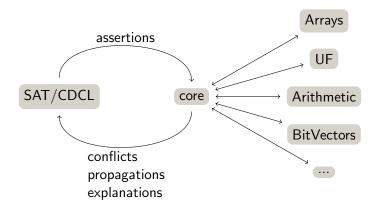
- $(0 < x) \land (0 < y) \land (x + y < x)$
- Is this SAT? $A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge A_3$
- YES (A_1, A_2, A_3)
- Hand over to theory solver:

y < 0 (contradiction between A_2 and A_3 !)

- Add $\neg (A_2 \land A_3)$ to the SAT problem
- Is this SAT? $A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge A_3 \wedge (\neg A_2 \vee \neg A_3)$
- UNSAT



Architecture of modern SMT solver (thanks to Liana for the picture)





Theories

Many theories have been implemented:

- Boolean
- Integer
- Reals
- Quantifiers
- Arrays
- Uninterpreted functions
- Bitvectors
- IEEE-754 Floating Point
- Strings
- Sets
- Algebraic Datatypes



Overview of SMTLIB

- In the beginning all SMT solvers used their own input language
- This made it hard to compare solvers
- SMTLIB is both a standard language and a huge library of benchmarks
- SMTLIB only describes a search problem
- No control flow (if statements, loops, etc.) so very far away from "programming language"



SMTLIB is just s-expressions – I hope you remember your LISP?

```
; quantifier-free linear integer arithmetic (set-logic QF_LIA); declarations (declare-const x Int) (declare-const y Int) ; hypothesis - things we know are true (assert (<= 1 x 10)) ; 1 \le x \le 10 (assert (<= 1 y 10)) ; 1 \le y \le 10 ; goal - what we want to prove (define-const goal Bool (< (+ x y) 15)) ; x+y < 15 ; search for a model where the goal is not true (assert (not goal)) (check-sat)
```

SMTLIB is just s-expressions – I hope you remember your LISP?

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```

CVC4 output

```
sat
((x 10) (y 5))
```



SMTLIB language overview

Functions

```
(define-fun double (Int) Int)
(declare-fun triple ((x Int)) Int (+ x x x))
```

Assertions and function calls

```
(assert (forall ((x Int)) (= (double x) (+ x x))))
```

Predefined functions for theories

```
Core =, =>, and, or, xor, not, ite, ...

Ints +, -, *, /, >, >=, ...

Arrays select, store

BV bvadd, bvudiv, bvsdiv, bvlte, ...

FP fp.add, fp.mul, fp.eq, fp.isInfinite, ...
```



You can encode difficult problems with this...

```
(declare-fun fib (Int) Int)
(assert (= (fib 0) 0))
(assert (= (fib 1) 1))
; read this as: \forall x \in Int \bullet x \ge 2 \implies fib(x) = fib(x-2) + fib(x-1)
(assert (forall ((x Int))
           (=> (>= x 2)
                (= (fib x) (+ (fib (- x 2))
                                 (fib (- x 1))))))
; let's try to prove fib(10) < 10
(assert (not (< (fib 10) 10)))
(check-sat)
```

You can encode difficult problems with this...

CVC4 output

```
unknown
(((fib 10) 55))
```

Solvers

Many solvers exist - (partial) table from Wikipedia:



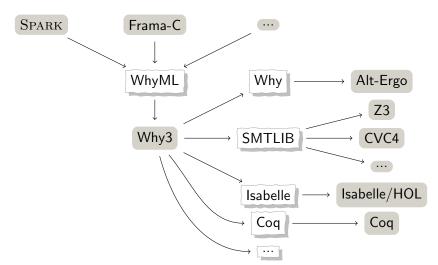
... different strengths and logic support.



- So Spark/WhyML and SMTLIB are quite different
- Last step is to go from the intermediate language to verification conditions expressed in SMTLIB



Why3 is a general purpose intermediate language:



Consider Hoare triplets:

■ {precondition} statement {postcondition}



- {precondition} statement {postcondition}
- {\(\) x := 42 {\(\)}

- {precondition} statement {postcondition}
- {\tau} x := 42 {\tau}

- {precondition} statement {postcondition}
- $\{\top\}$ x := 42 $\{\top\}$
- $\blacksquare \ \{\top\} \ x := 42 \ \{x > 0\}$
- \blacksquare { \top } x := 42 {x = 42}

- {precondition} statement {postcondition}
- $\{\top\}$ x := 42 $\{\top\}$
- \blacksquare $\{\top\}$ x := 42 $\{x = 42\}$
- $\{\bot\}$ x := 42 $\{x = 5\}$

- {precondition} statement {postcondition}
- {T} x := 42 {T}
- \blacksquare $\{\top\}$ x := 42 $\{x = 42\}$
- \blacksquare { \bot } x := 42 {x = 5}
- $\{x > 0\}$ z := x + y $\{z > y\}$

Consider this example:

```
--- precondition: 1 \le a \le 10
v1 := a + 5;
v2 := v1 / 2;
--- postcondition 1 \le v2 \le 10
```

```
{} v1 := a + 5; {} v2 := v1 / 2; {1 \le a \le 10 \implies 1 \le v_2 \le 10}
```

Consider this example:

```
--- precondition: 1 \le a \le 10
v1 := a + 5;
v2 := v1 / 2;
--- postcondition 1 \le v2 \le 10
```

```
{}
v1 := a + 5;
\{1 \le a \le 10 \implies 2 \le v_1 \le 20\}
v2 := v1 / 2;
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Consider this example:

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```

```
\begin{cases}
1 \le a \le 10 \implies -3 \le a \le 15 \\
v1 := a + 5; \\
\{1 \le a \le 10 \implies 2 \le v_1 \le 20 \} \\
v2 := v1 / 2; \\
\{1 \le a \le 10 \implies 1 \le v_2 \le 10 \}
\end{cases}
```

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```
\begin{cases}
1 \le a \le 10 \implies 1 \le (a+5)/2 \le 10 \\
v1 := a + 5; \\
\{1 \le a \le 10 \implies 1 \le v_1/2 \le 10 \} \\
v2 := v1 / 2; \\
\{1 \le a \le 10 \implies 1 \le v_2 \le 10 \}
\end{cases}
```

We've had this: $1 \le a \le 10 \implies 1 \le (a+5)/2 \le 10$



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example.smt2

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(set-logic QF_LIA)
(declare-const a Int)
(assert (<= 1 a 10))
(assert (not (<= 1 (/ (+ a 5) 2) 10)))
(check-sat)</pre>
```

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```

Running CVC4...

\$ cvc4 example.smt2

... postcondition proven!



But programs are a bit more complicated...

• $\{?\}$ if a then x := y; $\{x > 0\}$



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But programs are a bit more complicated...

- $\{?\}$ if a then x := y; $\{x > 0\}$
- $\{(\neg a \implies x > 0) \land (a \implies y > 0)\}$ if a then x := y; $\{x > 0\}$
- ...or split in graph, producing 2 VCs
- (but this means exponential explosion)

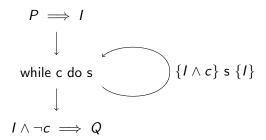
Loops are the main issue:

■ {*P*} while c do s {*Q*}



Loops are the main issue:

- P while c do s $\{Q\}$
- Requires a loop invariant I, which is difficult to find
- Split into three VCs:



Loop invariant example

```
procedure Find_Element (A : in Int_Array;
                        Elem : in Integer;
                        Idx : out Natural;
                        Found: out Boolean)
with
   Global => null,
  Post => (if Found
              then A (Idx) = Elem
              else (for all J in A'Range => A (J) /= Elem))
i s
begin
   for I in A'Range loop
      Idx := I;
      Found := A (I) = Elem;
      exit when Found:
      pragma Loop_Invariant
        ((for all J in A'First .. I \Rightarrow A (J) /= Elem)
         and not Found):
   end loop;
end Find Element:
```

Conclusion

Today we've seen:

- Architecture of modern static analysis systems: Source → Intermediate Language → SMTLIB
- Overview of SPARK tool-set architecture
- Brief introduction to SMT
- Brief introduction to WP
- How this all comes together in SPARK2014



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Thank you for your time and attention.

Also, we're hiring!

Any questions?

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