



Technische
Universität
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Variational Correctness-by-Construction

VaMoS'20, Magdeburg

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05. February 2020

Correctness-by-Construction

void push(int newTop)

int[] a

$P = a \neq \text{null}$
 $Q = \text{contains}(a, \text{newTop}) \ \& \ \text{containsAll}(a, 0, a.\text{length}, a^{\text{old}})$

Refinement Rules

- Assignment
- Repetition
- Composition
- ...

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

$\{P\} S1 \{M\} \ \& \ \{M\} S2 \{Q\}$

$\{P\} \text{tmp} := \text{new int}[a.\text{length} + 1] \{M\}$

$\{M\} S21 \{M2\} \ \& \ \{M2\} S22 \{Q\}$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{do}[I, V] G \rightarrow rS \text{od} \{I\}$

$\{M2\} a := \text{tmp} \{Q\}$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{tmp}[i], i := a[i], i++ \{I\}$

Variants with Correctness-by-Construction

void push(int newTop)

int[] a

$P = a \neq \text{null}$
 $Q = \text{contains}(a, \text{newTop}) \ \& \ \text{containsAll}(a, 0, a.\text{length}, a^{\text{old}})$

Base variant

Sorted variant

CbC

High manual effort & maintenance costs

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

$\{P\} S1 \{M\} \ \& \ \{M\} S2 \{Q\}$

$\{P\} \text{tmp} := \text{new int}[a.\text{length} + 1] \{M\}$

$\{M\} S21$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{do}[I, V] G$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{tmp}[i], i := a[i], i++ \{I\}$

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

$\{P\} S1 \{M\} \ \& \ \{M\} S2 \{Q\}$

$\{P\} \text{tmp} := \text{new int}[a.\text{length} + 1] \{M\}$

$\{M\} S21 \{M2\} \ \& \ \{M2\} S22 \{Q\}$

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Variants with Correctness-by-Construction

void push(int newTop)

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$P = a \neq \text{null}$

$Q = \text{contains}(a, \text{newTop}) \ \& \ \text{containsAll}(a, 0, a.\text{length}, a^{\text{old}})$

Base variant

Sorted variant

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

$\{P\} S1 \{M\} \ \& \ \{M\} S2 \{Q\}$

$\{P\} \text{tmp} := \text{new int}[a.\text{length} + 1] \{M\}$

$\{M\} S2$

Clone and Own?

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

$\{P\} S1 \{M\} \ \& \ \{M\} S2 \{Q\}$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{do}[I, V]$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{tmp}[i],$

High maintenance effort
No guarantee for correctness
Clones in the diagrams
Specification may need to be adapted as well

$S21 \{M2\} \ \& \ \{M2\} S22 \{Q\}$

$\{M2\} a := \text{sort}(\text{tmp}) \{Q\}$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{tmp}[i], i := a[i], i++ \{I\}$

Variants with Correctness-by-Construction

void push(int newTop)

int[] a

$P = a \neq \text{null}$

$Q = \text{contains}(a, \text{newTop}) \ \& \ \text{containsAll}(a, 0, a.\text{length}, a^{\text{old}})$

Base variant

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

No duplicates

variant

$\{P\} S1 \{M\} \ \& \$

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$

No duplicates
+ Sorted

$\{P\} S1 \{M\} \ \& \ \{M\} S2 \{Q\}$

Problems increase with the amount of created variants!

$\{P\} S$

$\text{int}[a.\text{length} + 1] \{M\}$

$\{M\} S21 \{M2\} \ \& \ \{M2\} S22 \{Q\}$

$S22 \{Q\}$

$\{P\} \text{tmp} := \text{new}$
 $\text{int}[a.\text{length} + 1] \{M\}$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{do}[I, V] \ G \rightarrow rS \text{ od } \{I\}$

$\{M2\} a := \text{tmp} \{Q\}$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{do}[I, V]$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{tmp}[i], i := a[i], i++ \{I\}$

$\{M2\} a := \text{tmp} \{Q\}$

$S22 \{Q\}$

$\{I \ \& \ G\} \text{tmp}[i], i := a[i], i++ \{I\}$

$G\} \text{tmp}[i], i := a[i], i++ \{I\}$

Variational Correctness-by-Construction

1. Variation Point Refinement Rule

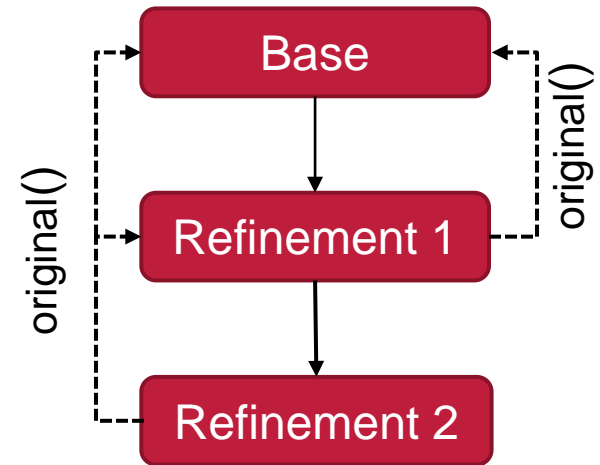
- Variability in the statements
- Has to preserve the correctness for all valid replacements

2. Contract Composition

- Variability in the pre- and postcondition
- Match the conditions to the changed behavior

Variation Points

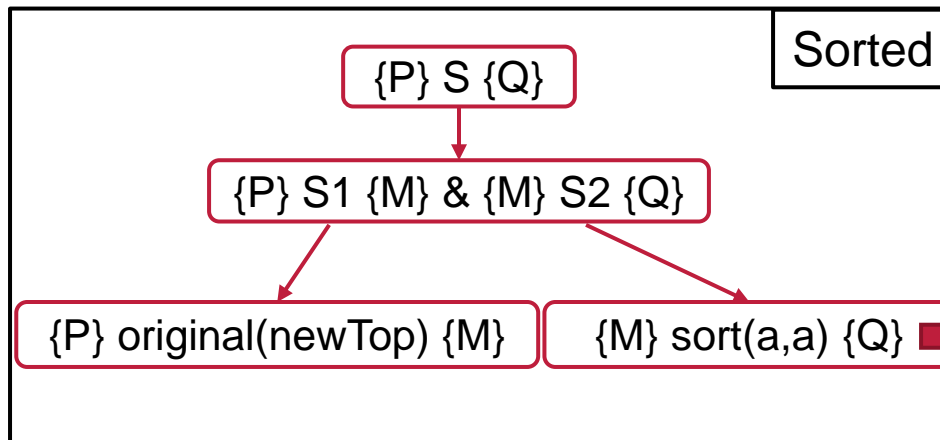
- Similar to feature-oriented programming
 - Refinement hierarchy for methods
 - Each refinement can call **original()** to refer to the implementation of the refinement above



Idea:

- Treat original-call like any method call
- Keep track of valid refinement chains for each method

Variant Sorted – Method Call



$\{P'\} \text{sort}(\text{int[]} \text{ data}, \text{return int[]} \text{ res}) \{Q'\}$
 $P' = \text{true}$
 $Q' = \text{containsAll}(\text{res}, 0, \text{res.length}, \text{data}^{old})$
 $\& \text{isSorted}(\text{res})$

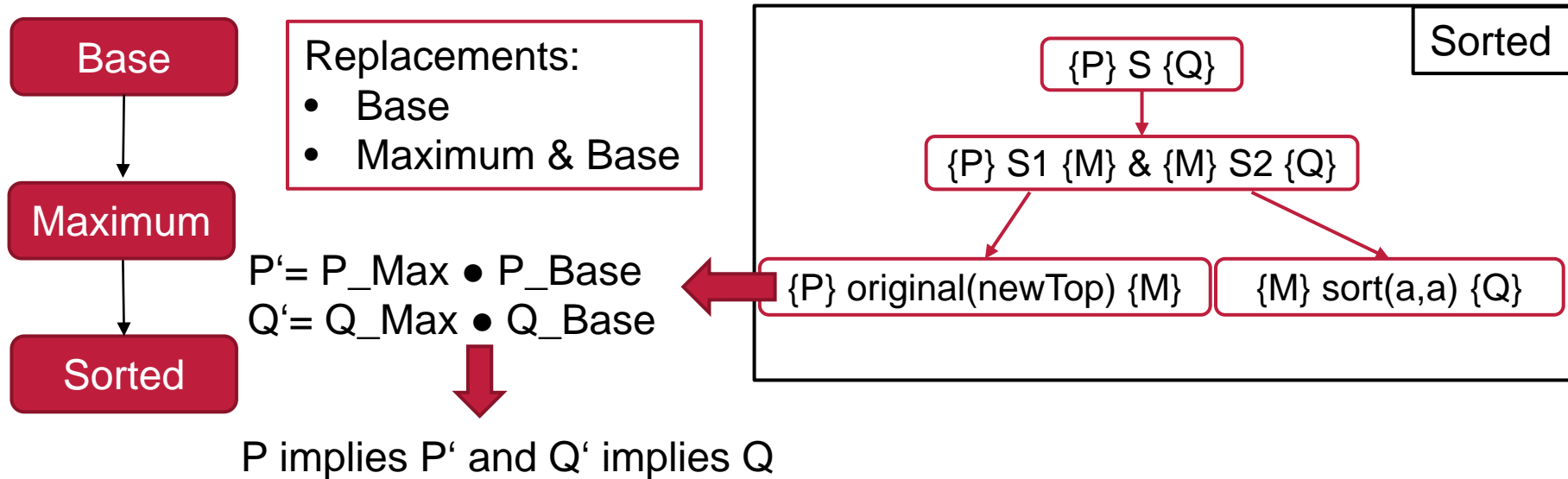
$Q'[data^{old} \setminus a^{old}, res \setminus a] \text{ implies } Q$

Method Call

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$ can be refined to $\{P\} M(a_1, \dots, a_n, b) \{Q\}$
 with method $\{P'\} M(\text{parameter } p_1, \dots, p_n, \text{return } r) \{Q'\}$
 iff $P \text{ implies } P'[p_i \setminus a_i]$ and $Q' [p_i^{old} \setminus a_i^{old}, r \setminus b] \text{ implies } Q$

- Adapted from [Kourie/Watson, 2012]

Variant Sorted – Variation Point

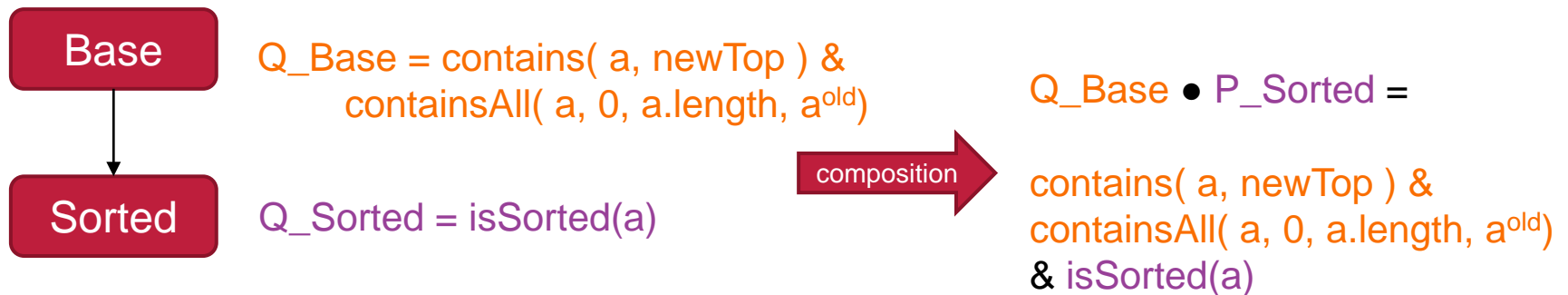


Variation Point

$\{P\} S \{Q\}$ can be refined to $\{P\} \text{original}(a_1, \dots, a_n, b) \{Q\}$
 with x composed methods $R = \{P'\} M(\text{param } p_1, \dots, p_n, \text{return } r) \{Q'\}$
 which are composed as $c_1 \bullet c_2 \bullet \dots \bullet c_l$
 with l method refinements $c_i = \{P_i\} M(\text{param } p_1, \dots, p_n, \text{return } r) \{Q_i\}$
 iff for all R : P implies $P'[p_j \setminus a_j]$ and $Q'[p_j^{old} \setminus a_j^{old}, r \setminus b]$ implies Q

Composition Techniques

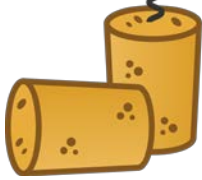
- Use contract composition techniques proposed by [Thüm et al, 2019]:
 - Contract Overriding
 - Conjunctive Contract Refinement
 - Explicit Contracting



- Applied to compose **pre- and postcondition** of diagram and for the **variation point refinement rule**

VarCorC

VarCorC



MethodRefinements
Helper.addBaseFeature
Helper.addBaseFeature,Helper.addFirstFeature

Formula ✓		
precondi...	statement	postcond...
{x>0}	statement	{x>11}

Variables
PARAM int x

Composition ✓		
precondition		postcondition
{x>0}		{x>11}
statement 1	intermediate c...	statement 2
statement1	{x>10}	statement2

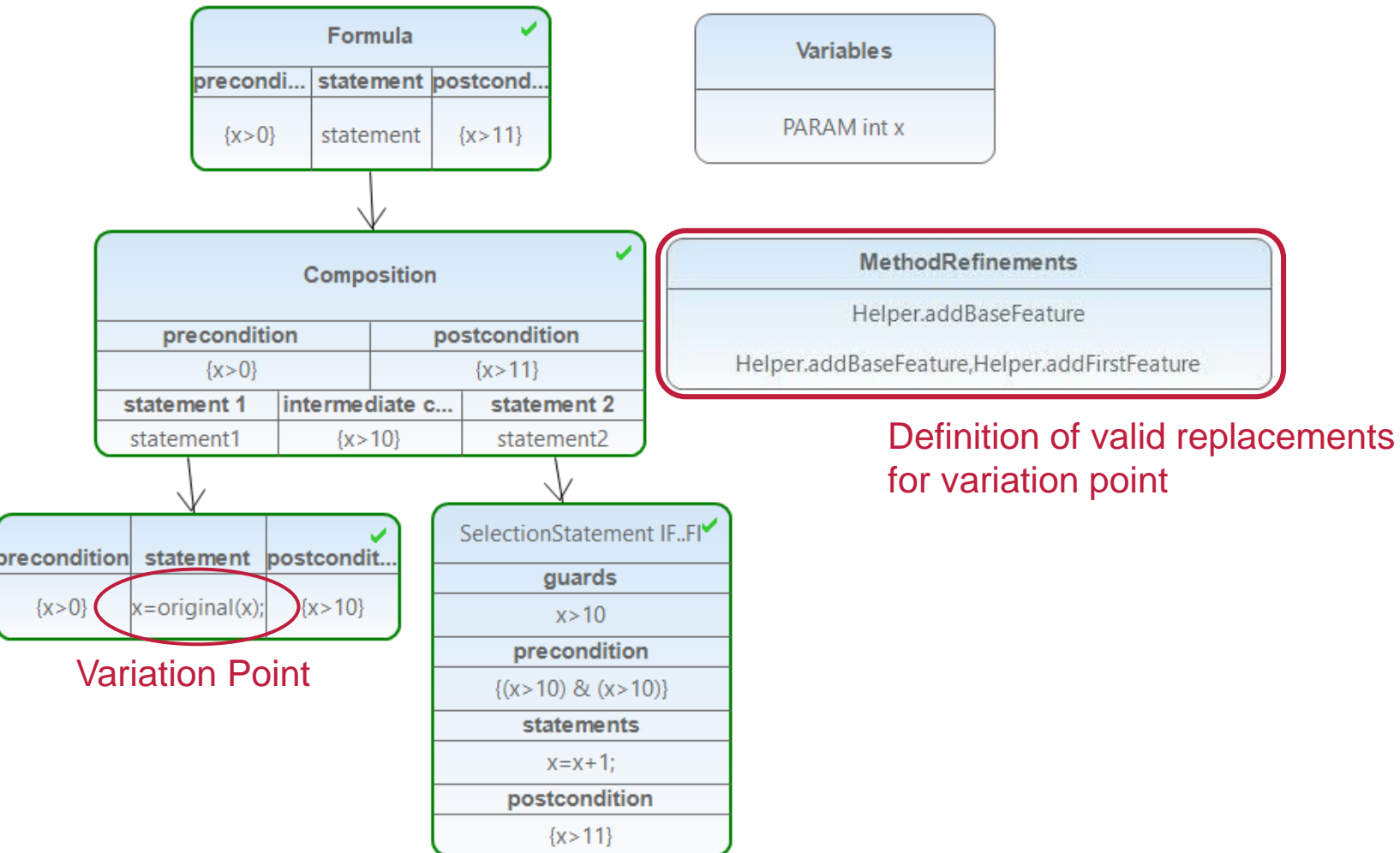
precondition	statement	postcondit... ✓
{x>0}	x=original(x);	{x>10}

SelectionStatement IF..FI ✓	
guards	
x>10	
precondition	
{(x>10) & (x>10)}	
statements	
x=x+1;	
postcondition	
{x>11}	

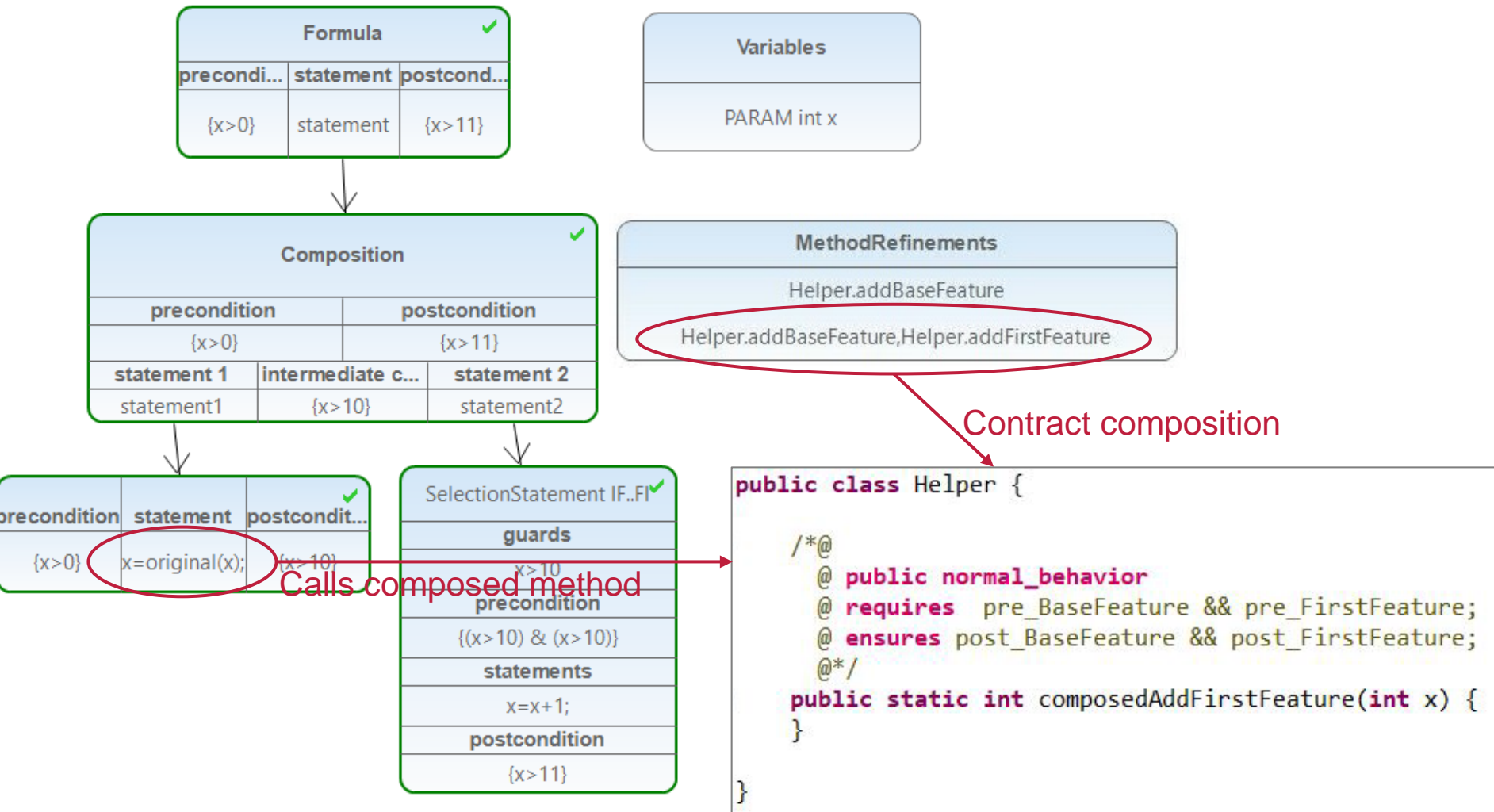


Available at <https://github.com/TUBS-ISF/CorC/tree/VarCorC>

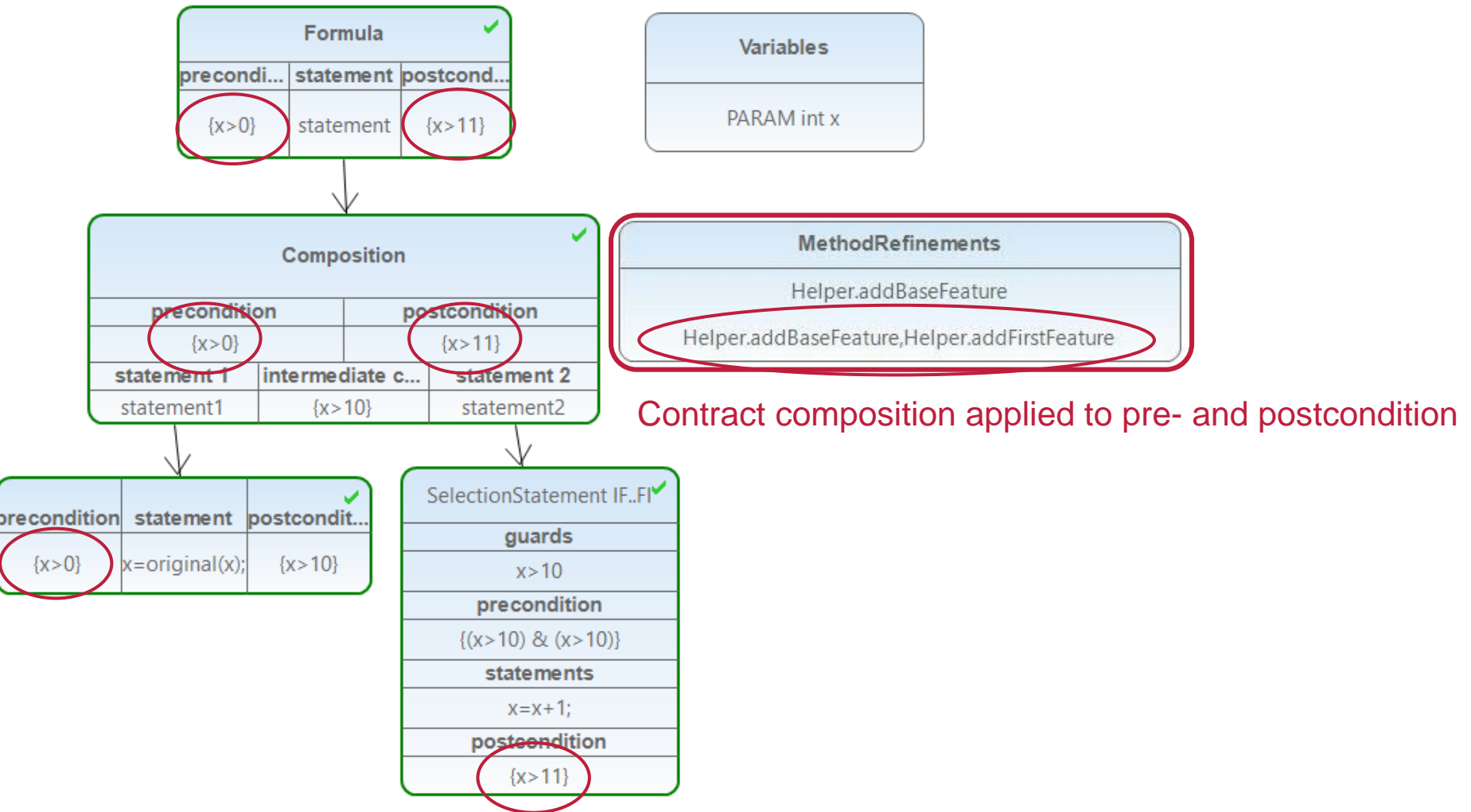
Example



Example



Example



Evaluation

RQ1: Is it possible to develop variational software using variational correctness-by-construction?

- **IntList:** 1 variational method
 - 3 refinements
- **BankAccount:** 4 variational methods
 - 2 or 3 refinements
- All possible feature configurations could be verified with the recreated CorC diagrams

Evaluation

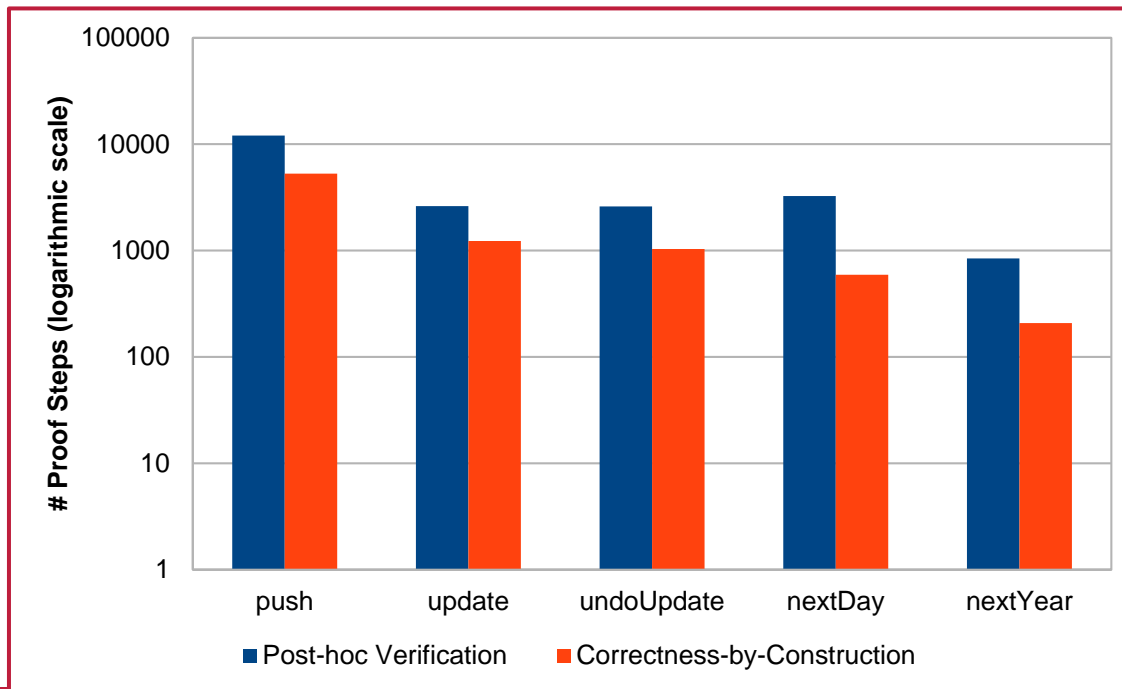
RQ2: What are the **specification costs** compared to **post-hoc verification** with feature-oriented contracts in JML?

- **IntList:** 62% more conjuncted conditions with CbC
 - **BankAccount:** 58% more conjuncted conditions with CbC
- Pre- and postconditions almost identical amount of conjuncted conditions
- 58% of the difference has been due to the intermediate conditions

Evaluation

RQ3: What are the **verification costs** compared to **post-hoc verification** with feature-oriented contracts in JML?

- 53 – 81% less proof steps with correctness-by-construction



Conclusion

