



# DETERMINIZING FIELDS

ROSS TATE



## CEYLON: INTERSECTION TYPES

$$\frac{t_i <: t'}{t_1 \cap t_2 <: t'}$$

$$\frac{t <: t'_1 \quad t <: t'_2}{t <: t'_1 \cap t'_2}$$

$\text{instr} : [t_i^*] \rightarrow [t_o^*]$  and  $\text{instr} : [t_i^*] \rightarrow [t_o'^*]$  implies  $\text{instr} : [t_i^*] \rightarrow [(t_o \cap t_o')^*]$

Restores principal typing for instructions

# INTERSECTION TYPES AND EQUI-RECURSIVE TYPES

**Non-**Deterministic Equi-Recursive Subtyping



**Non-**Deterministic Finite Automata Simulation

PSPACE-Complete

Quadratic Time

# ITALX: CONCRETE UPPER BOUNDS

- iTalX is a typed assembly language for C#
  - Fields are accessed via numeric offsets
  - Field type of  $\text{Instance}(\alpha)$  determined by *concrete* upper bound of  $\alpha$ 
    - E.g. String or other C# class types
- If  $\alpha$  has multiple concrete upper bounds, then either
  - One dominates all others (due to single inheritance of classes)
  - $\alpha$  cannot exist and we can determine the state is unreachable ( $\perp$ )

Relies on total  
knowledge of  
class hierarchy

Ensures principal types for fields

# JVM/CLI: NOMINAL FIELDS

- Instruction specifies a “nominal” field identifier (rather than an offset)
- Field identifier specifies a receiver class and a field type
  - Generics: field type might refer to type parameters of receiver class
- Instruction checks if receiver has specified class, resulting in specified field type
  - Generics: substitutes receiver’s type arguments for that class
- Generics: Multiple upper bounds can cause receiver to have multiple sets of type arguments
  - Principle-instantiation inheritance lets one combine sets of type arguments
    - Equivalence constraints for invariant parameters, intersection types for covariant parameters, union types for contravariant parameters

Ensures principal types for fields

# SOIL PROPOSAL: REFINABLE NOMINAL FIELDS

Need to revisit  
limited use cases  
for alternative  
design solutions

- Subclasses can refine read-only field types
- Multiple upper bounds: which refinement to use?

Non-determinism returns!