

A Relational Framework for Higher-Order Shape Analysis

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Introduction

- Inductively defined algebraic datatypes are a key feature in modern functional languages
 - ★ Enable the expression of rich data structures - lists, trees, graphs, etc.
- But, they also pose challenges for verification
 - ★ Recursive types
 - ◆ Quantification
 - ★ Important attributes are often not manifest in a constructor's signature
 - ◆ E.g., length, sorted-ness, height, balance, membership, dominance, etc.
 - ★ Polymorphism and higher-order functions
- Tension
 - ★ desire expressive specifications over the *shape* of data
 - ★ require specifications to be efficiently checkable using existing (first-order) tools

Goals

- Validating structural transforms within a compiler
 - ★ MLton's SSA intermediate representation expressed as a graph datatype whose nodes represent instruction blocks.
 - ★ Statically type-check that SSA structure is preserved across different optimization passes
- Establishing equivalence of heap-sensitive program transformations
 - ★ Example: Deterministic parallelism in the presence of interference

$$\forall H'' \text{ s.t. } \{H\} e_1; e_2 \{H'\} \text{ and } \{H\} e'_1 \parallel e'_2 \{H''\}, H' \stackrel{?}{\equiv} H''$$

Example

```
fun len l = case l of [] => 0 | x :: xs => 1 + len xs

insert: { x : int } -> { l : int } -> { l' : int | len l' = 1 + len l }

fun sort: { l : int list } -> { ν : int list | len(ν) = len(l) } =
  case l of
    [] => []
  | x :: xs => let val l' = sort xs
               in insert x l'
               end
```

Simple inductive argument sufficient to show specification holds:

$$\frac{\text{len}(l) = 1 + \text{len}(xs), \quad l' : \{ \nu : \text{int list} \mid \text{len}(\nu) = \text{len}(xs) \}}{\{ \nu : \text{int list} \mid \text{len}(\nu) = 1 + \text{len}(l') \} <: \{ \nu : \text{int list} \mid \text{len}(\nu) = \text{len}(l) \}}$$

Example

```
fun rev : { l : int list } -> { ν : int list | ν = rev(l) } =
  case l of
    [] => []
  | x::xs => let val xs' = rev(xs)
              val x' = [x]
              in concat(xs', x')
            end
```

Consider the self-referential specification:

```
rev : { l : int list } -> { ν : int list | ν = rev(l) }
```

Reasoning about “rev” in the specification requires about reasoning about concat

Inject a full functional definition of concat into a theory of lists as a first-order definition

Directly using such a methodology complicates automatic verification

Issues

- The specification of rev describes a catamorphism in terms of another catamorphism
 - ★ For rev, abstract domain is as complex as concrete one
- What we need:
 - ★ Simple abstract domains (e.g., sets) that can help us reason about shape properties of algebraic datatypes
 - ◆ Not defined in terms of complex catamorphisms
- For reverse:
 - ★ Want to reason *structurally* about the order of elements in the list
 - ★ Without appealing to an *operational* definition of how that ordering is realized

Idea

- Reason *relationally* about the correspondence between the input and output lists of rev
- Key property: list order
 - ★ An ordering relation on lists relates every element with every other element based on relative position
 - ★ Transitive closure is a faithful characterization of a list representation
- Example:

$$l = [x_1, x_2, x_3]$$

$$R_{ob}^*(l) = \{\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle, \langle x_1, x_3 \rangle, \langle x_2, x_3 \rangle\}$$

$$R_{oa}^*(l) = \{\langle x_2, x_1 \rangle, \langle x_3, x_1 \rangle, \langle x_3, x_2 \rangle\}$$

$$\text{rev} : \{l : \text{'a list}\} \longrightarrow \{\nu : \text{'a list} \mid R_{ob}^*(l) = R_{oa}^*(\nu)\}$$

Abstract Relations and Higher-Order Functions

```
datatype 'a ordpair = Pair of 'a*'a  
fun toList p f = case p of Pair(x1,x2) => f(x2,f(x1,Nil))
```

Consider a specification that asserts that the last application of f is on the second element of p

Slightly weaker variant of an ordering specification of f to p

Assume a hypothetical (abstract) relation that relates f 's second (list) argument with its first (element from p)

$\text{toList} : \{p : 'a ordpair\} \rightarrow \{f : \{x : 'a\}\} \rightarrow \{\text{acc} : 'a list\} \rightarrow \{z : 'a list \mid \hat{R}(z) = \{(x)\}\} \rightarrow \{\nu : 'a list \mid \hat{R}(\nu) = R_{\text{snd}}(p)\}$

At a call-site instantiate \hat{R} with a concrete relation

Example: if f were “`Cons`” then concrete relation could be R_{hd}

Structural Relations

- Describe structural properties of a data structure
- Suitable as abstract domains used by specifications
 - ★ Natural translation to decidable theories (e.g., sets) supported by existing first-order solvers
 - ◆ Common relational abstractions can be built using cross-product, union, etc.
- Framework
 - ★ Specification language
 - ◆ Dependent types equipped with expressive relational algebra to specify shape invariants
 - ◆ Superimpose relational definitions on the datatype definition
 - ★ Type checking verifies specifications
 - ◆ Interpret constructor applications as set operations within an abstract relational domain
 - ◆ Natural encoding of relations into (decidable) set theory

Structural Relations

Given a constructor list pattern, relate the head of the list with the tail

$$R_{hd} = \{(x :: xs, x) \mid x : 'a \wedge xs : 'a \text{ list}\}$$

Using list projection π_n and selection σ_θ

$$R_{hd}(l) = \pi_{\#2}(\sigma_{\#1=l} R_{hd})$$

Equivalently

$$R_{hd}(x :: xs) = \{\langle x \rangle\} \text{ or relation } R_{hd}(x :: xs) = \{(x)\}$$

For any list pattern constructed using “::”

- $(x :: xs, x) \in R_{hd}$
- $\exists x' \text{ s.t. } x' \neq x, \text{ but } (x :: xs, x') \in R_{hd}$

Composition

- Can build complex relations from simple structural ones
- Example:
 - ★ datatype expr = ... | ITE of expr * expr * expr option | ...
 - ★ Specify a control dependence that relates the Boolean guard with the true and (optional) false branches

```
relation Rcnt(Some(a)) = {(a)}
```

```
relation Rcd(ITE(e1,e2,e3op)) = {(e1,e2)} ∪ {{(e1)}} × Rcnt(e3op)
```

Composition

- Consider a relation that defines list membership

$$R_{mem}(x :: xs) = \{(x)\} \cup R_{mem}(xs)$$

- Note that this is a simple inductive extension of the head relation

★ If R is a relation that relates elements of a list of type ‘a list to elements of ‘a then its inductive extension (written R^*) is the least relation that satisfies:

- ♦ $R(l, v) \Rightarrow R^*(l, v)$
- ♦ if $l = x :: xs$, then $R(xs, v) \Rightarrow R^*(l, v)$

- $R^*(x :: xs) = R(x :: xs) \cup R^*(xs)$
- relation $R_{mem} = Rhd^*$

★ Can automatically generate inductive definitions from simple structural relations

Composition

relation $R_{\text{cnt}}(\text{Some}(a)) = \{(a)\}$

relation $R_{\text{root}}(\text{Node}(l, k, v, r)) = \{(k, v)\}$

relation $R_{\text{ch}}(\text{Node}(l, k, v, r)) = \{(l, r)\} \cup \{(r, l)\}$

relation $R_{\text{mem}} = R_{\text{hd}}^*$

relation $R_{\text{ob}}(x :: xs) = \{(x)\} \times R_{\text{mem}}(xs)$

relation $R_{\text{sib}} = R_{\text{ch}}^*$

relation $R_{\text{dict}} = R_{\text{root}}^*$

Dependent Types

- Specifications expressed within a dependent type system

$$\{\nu : T \mid \hat{e}\}$$

- Two kinds of type refinements

★ Base predicates : equality predicates over linear arithmetic

$$\{\nu : \text{int} \mid \nu = x + 1\}$$

★ Relational predicates : equality or subset-inclusion predicates over relational abstractions

$$\{\nu : \text{'a list} \mid R_{mem}(\nu) = \{\}\}$$

Datatypes

- Expressed using a sum-of-products formulation

$$\mu t. \text{Nil} + \text{Cons} \langle x :' a, xs : t \rangle$$

- Generic form:

$$\mu t. \sum_i C_i \langle x_i : T_i, y_i : t \rangle$$

Types and Well-formedness

$$\frac{R \notin \text{Domain}(\Gamma) \quad \forall i, \Gamma; \langle x_i : T_i \rangle; \langle y_i : \sum_i C_i \langle \bar{T}_i \rangle \rangle \vdash \rho_i : \{\bar{T}\}}{\Gamma \vdash_{wf} (R, \{\sum_i C_i \langle \bar{T}_i \rangle * \bar{T}\}, \langle C_i \langle x_i, y_i \rangle \Rightarrow \rho_i \rangle)}$$

relation name *relation type* *relation definition*

$r \in \text{Relational Expressions} ::= \{\langle x \rangle\} \mid R(x) \mid r \times r \mid r \cup r$

$\rho \in \text{Relational Terms} \quad ::= r \mid R^*(x)$

Type Checking

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \hat{T}_1 <: \hat{T}_2 \quad \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \wedge \llbracket \hat{e}_1 \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \hat{e}_2 \rrbracket}{\Gamma \vdash \{\nu : \hat{T}_1 \mid \hat{e}_1\} <: \{\nu : \hat{T}_1 \mid \hat{e}_1\}}$$

Subtype rule propagates dependent type constraints

Reduces to checking the validity of

$$\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \wedge \llbracket \hat{e}_1 \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \hat{e}_2 \rrbracket$$

Encoding within the decidable theories of underlying SMT engine

Example

```
let x = (l=l') in case (x) of true => l' | false => l
```

Want to typecheck the true branch against the type

$$\{\nu : \text{int list} \mid R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(l)\}$$

$$\llbracket (l, l' : \text{int list}, x : \text{bool}) \wedge (l = l' \Leftrightarrow x = \text{true}) \wedge x = \text{true} \rrbracket \Rightarrow \\ \llbracket R_{mem}(l') = R_{mem}(l) \rrbracket$$

Abstract lists into uninterpreted sorts, relations as sets

$$(l, l' : T, x : \text{bool}, S, S' : \text{int set}) \wedge \\ (l = l' \Leftrightarrow x = \text{true}) \wedge (l = l' \Rightarrow S = S') \wedge (x = \text{true}) \\ \Rightarrow (S' = S)$$

*derived from equality
 $x = y \Rightarrow R(x) = R(y)$*

Static Semantics

Static Semantics

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash R : \{\sum_i c_i \langle \overline{T_i} \rangle * \overline{T}\} \quad \Gamma \vdash x : \sum_i c_i \langle x_i : T_i, y_i : t \rangle}{R^*(x) \hookrightarrow R(x) \cup \bigcup_{y_i} R^*(y_i)}$$

[R-Induct]: rewrite rule that unfolds inductive definition of the relation

Static Semantics

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash R : \{\sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle \overline{T_i} \rangle * \overline{T}\} \quad \Gamma \vdash x : \sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle x_i : T_i, y_i : t \rangle}{R^*(x) \hookrightarrow R(x) \cup \bigcup_{y_i} R^*(y_i)}$$

[R-Induct]: rewrite rule that unfolds inductive definition of the relation

[T-Cons]: instantiate relation for each constructor application

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \langle x_i : T_i \rangle \quad \Gamma \vdash \langle y_i : \sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle \overline{T_i} \rangle \rangle \quad \Gamma \vdash_w (R, \{\sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle \overline{T_i} \rangle * \overline{T}\}, \langle \mathbf{C}_i \langle x_i, y_i \rangle \Rightarrow \rho_i \rangle)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{C}_i \langle x_i, y_i \rangle : \{\nu : \sum_i \mathbf{C}_i(\overline{T_i}) \mid R(\nu) = \rho_i(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle)\}}$$

Static Semantics

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash R : \{\sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle \overline{T_i} \rangle * \overline{T}\} \quad \Gamma \vdash x : \sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle x_i : T_i, y_i : t \rangle}{R^*(x) \hookrightarrow R(x) \cup \bigcup_{y_i} R^*(y_i)}$$

[R-Induct]: rewrite rule that unfolds inductive definition of the relation

[T-Cons]: instantiate relation for each constructor application

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \langle x_i : T_i \rangle \quad \Gamma \vdash \langle y_i : \sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle \overline{T_i} \rangle \rangle \quad \Gamma \vdash_w (R, \{\sum_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle \overline{T_i} \rangle * \overline{T}\}, \langle \mathbf{C}_i \langle x_i, y_i \rangle \Rightarrow \rho_i \rangle)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{C}_i \langle x_i, y_i \rangle : \{\nu : \sum_i \mathbf{C}_i(\overline{T_i}) \mid R(\nu) = \rho_i(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle)\}}$$

$$\frac{\forall i, \Gamma; \langle x_i : T_i \rangle; \langle y_i : \sum_i \mathbf{C}_i(\overline{T_i}) \rangle; R(x) = \rho_i(\langle x_i, y_i \rangle) \vdash e_i : \hat{T}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{case } x \text{ of } |_i \mathbf{C}_i \langle x_i, y_i \rangle \Rightarrow e_i : \hat{T}}$$

[T-Case]: case-match

Example - rev

```
fun rev l = case l of
    [] => []
  | x :: xs => let val xs' = rev(xs)
                val x' = [x]
                in concat(xs',x')
               end
```

$\text{rev} : \{l : 'a\text{ list}\} \longrightarrow \{\nu : 'a\text{ list} \mid R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(l) \wedge R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{ob}^*(l)\}$

$\text{concat} : \{l1 : 'a\text{ list}\} \longrightarrow \{l2 : 'a\text{ list}\} \longrightarrow \{\nu : 'a\text{ list} \mid (R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(l1) \cup R_{mem}(l2)) \wedge (R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{oa}^*(l1) \cup R_{oa}^*(l2) \cup R_{mem}(l2) \times R_{mem}(l1))\}$

Example - rev

```
fun rev l = case l of
    [] => []
  | x :: xs => let val xs' = rev(xs)
                val x' = [x]
                in concat(xs',x')
               end
```

Use T-Case rule and given relations R_{hd} , R_{mem} , R_{ob} , typecheck body in environment:

By [R-Induct] on R_{hd}^*

$$\Gamma' = \Gamma; x: 'a; xs: 'a list; R_{mem}(l) = \{(x)\} \cup R_{mem}(xs) \wedge$$

$$R_{ob}^*(l) = \{\{(x)\} \times R_{mem}(xs)\} \cup R_{ob}^*(xs)$$

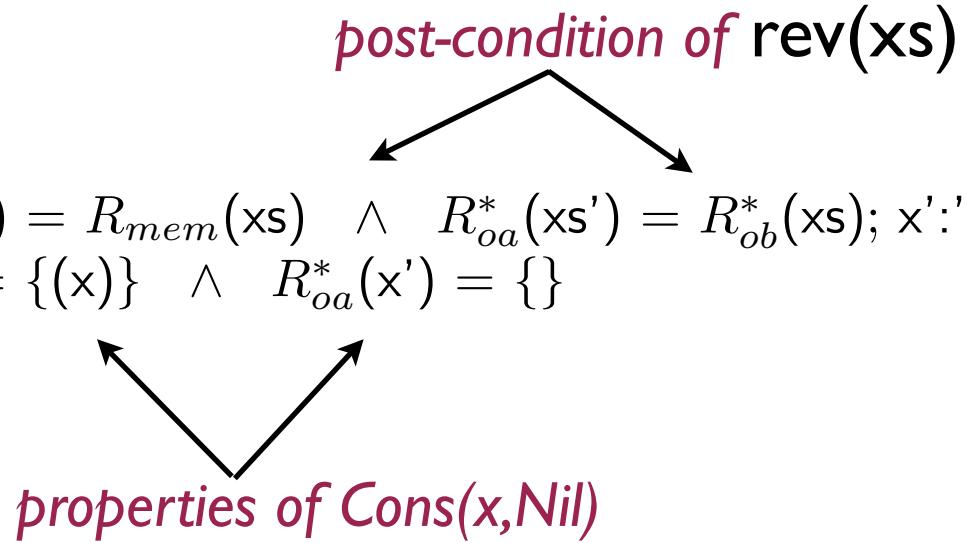
By [R-Induct] on R_{ob}^*

Example - rev

```
fun rev l = case l of
    [] => []
  | x :: xs => let val xs' = rev(xs)
                val x' = [x]
                in concat(xs', x')
            end
```

Typecheck in environment:

$$\Gamma'' = \Gamma'; \text{xs}' : \text{'a list}; R_{mem}(\text{xs}') = R_{mem}(\text{xs}) \wedge R_{oa}^*(\text{xs}') = R_{ob}^*(\text{xs}); \text{x}' : \text{'a list}; R_{mem}(\text{x}') = \{(x)\} \wedge R_{oa}^*(\text{x}') = \{\}$$



Example - rev

$\Gamma'' = \Gamma'; \text{xs}' : \text{'a list}; R_{mem}(\text{xs}') = R_{mem}(\text{xs}) \wedge R_{oa}^*(\text{xs}') = R_{ob}^*(\text{xs}); \text{x}' : \text{'a list}; R_{mem}(\text{x}') = \{(\text{x})\} \wedge R_{oa}^*(\text{x}') = \{\}$

$\text{concat} : \{\text{l1} : \text{'a list}\} \longrightarrow \{\text{l2} : \text{'a list}\} \longrightarrow \{\nu : \text{'a list} \mid (R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(\text{l1}) \cup R_{mem}(\text{l2})) \wedge (R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{oa}^*(\text{l1}) \cup R_{oa}^*(\text{l2}) \cup R_{mem}(\text{l2}) \times R_{mem}(\text{l1}))\}$

Instantiating formals with actuels in concat's type gives:

$\{\nu : \text{'a list} \mid (R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(\text{xs}') \cup R_{mem}(\text{x}')) \wedge (R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{oa}^*(\text{xs}') \cup R_{oa}^*(\text{x}') \cup \{R_{mem}(\text{x}') \times R_{mem}(\text{xs}')\})\}$

Example - rev

$\Gamma'' = \Gamma'; \text{xs}' : \text{'a list}; R_{mem}(\text{xs}') = R_{mem}(\text{xs}) \wedge R_{oa}^*(\text{xs}') = R_{ob}^*(\text{xs}); \text{x}' : \text{'a list}; R_{mem}(\text{x}') = \{\text{(x)}\} \wedge R_{oa}^*(\text{x}') = \{\}$

$\text{concat} : \{\text{l1} : \text{'a list}\} \longrightarrow \{\text{l2} : \text{'a list}\} \longrightarrow \{\nu : \text{'a list} \mid (R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(\text{l1}) \cup R_{mem}(\text{l2})) \wedge (R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{oa}^*(\text{l1}) \cup R_{oa}^*(\text{l2}) \cup R_{mem}(\text{l2}) \times R_{mem}(\text{l1}))\}$

Instantiating formals with actuals in concat's type gives:

$$\{\nu : \text{'a list} \mid (R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(\text{xs}') \cup R_{mem}(\text{x}')) \wedge (R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{oa}^*(\text{xs}') \cup R_{oa}^*(\text{x}') \cup \{R_{mem}(\text{x}') \times R_{mem}(\text{xs}')\})\}$$

Typechecking against Γ'' :

$$R_{mem}(\text{xs}') = R_{mem}(\text{xs}), R_{mem}(\text{x}') = (\{\text{x}\}) \\ \implies R_{mem}(\text{xs}') \cup R_{mem}(\text{x}') = R_{mem}(\text{l})$$

matches desired specification for rev

$$R_{oa}^*(\text{xs}') \cup R_{oa}^*(\text{x}') = R_{ob} * (\text{xs}) \\ \{R_{mem}(\text{x}') \times R_{mem}(\text{xs}')\} = R_{ob}(\text{x} :: \text{xs})$$

$$R_{ob}^*(\text{l} = \text{x} :: \text{xs}) = R_{ob}(\text{l}) \cup R_{ob}^*(\text{xs})$$

Abstract relations

- Relations whose domain is defined over an uninterpreted (polymorphic) type
 - ★ Lack an operational manifestation
 - ★ Can be instantiated to a concrete structural relation
 - ★ Consequently, useful to specify higher-order catamorphisms.

$$e \in Expressions ::= \dots \\ | \quad [\Lambda\alpha\langle R : S \rangle] e \quad | \quad [T\langle R \rangle] e$$

$$R \in Relation ::= \dots \\ Types \quad | \quad \{\alpha * \bar{T}\}$$

T-Gen

$$\frac{\Gamma; \langle R : \{\alpha * \bar{T}\} \rangle \vdash e : \hat{T}}{\Gamma \vdash [\Lambda\alpha\langle R : \{\alpha * \bar{T}\} \rangle] e : \forall\alpha\langle R : \{\alpha * \bar{T}\} \rangle, \hat{T}}$$

T-Inst

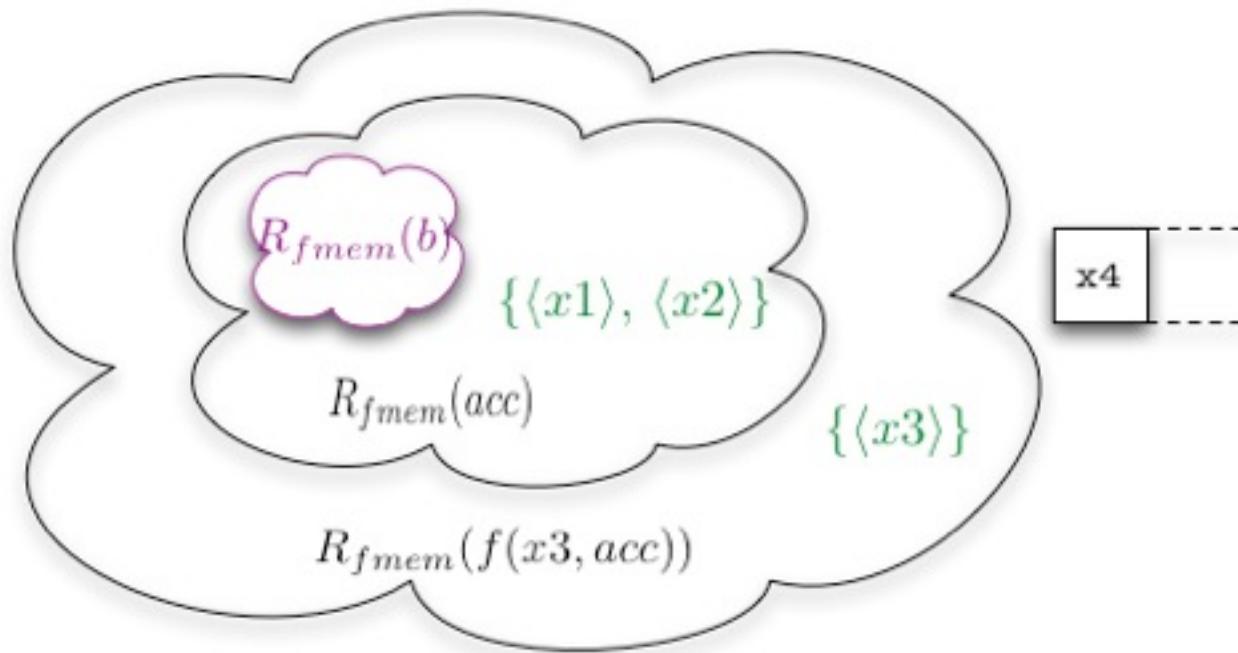
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \forall\alpha\langle R : \{\alpha * \bar{T}_R\} \rangle, \hat{T} \quad \Gamma \vdash \langle R' : \{T' * \bar{T}_R\} \rangle}{\Gamma \vdash [T'\langle R' \rangle] e : \langle [R'/R] \rangle [T'/\alpha] \hat{T}}$$

Example: foldl

```
fun foldl l f acc =
  case l of
    [] => acc
  | [x::xs] => foldl(xs,f, f(x,acc))
```

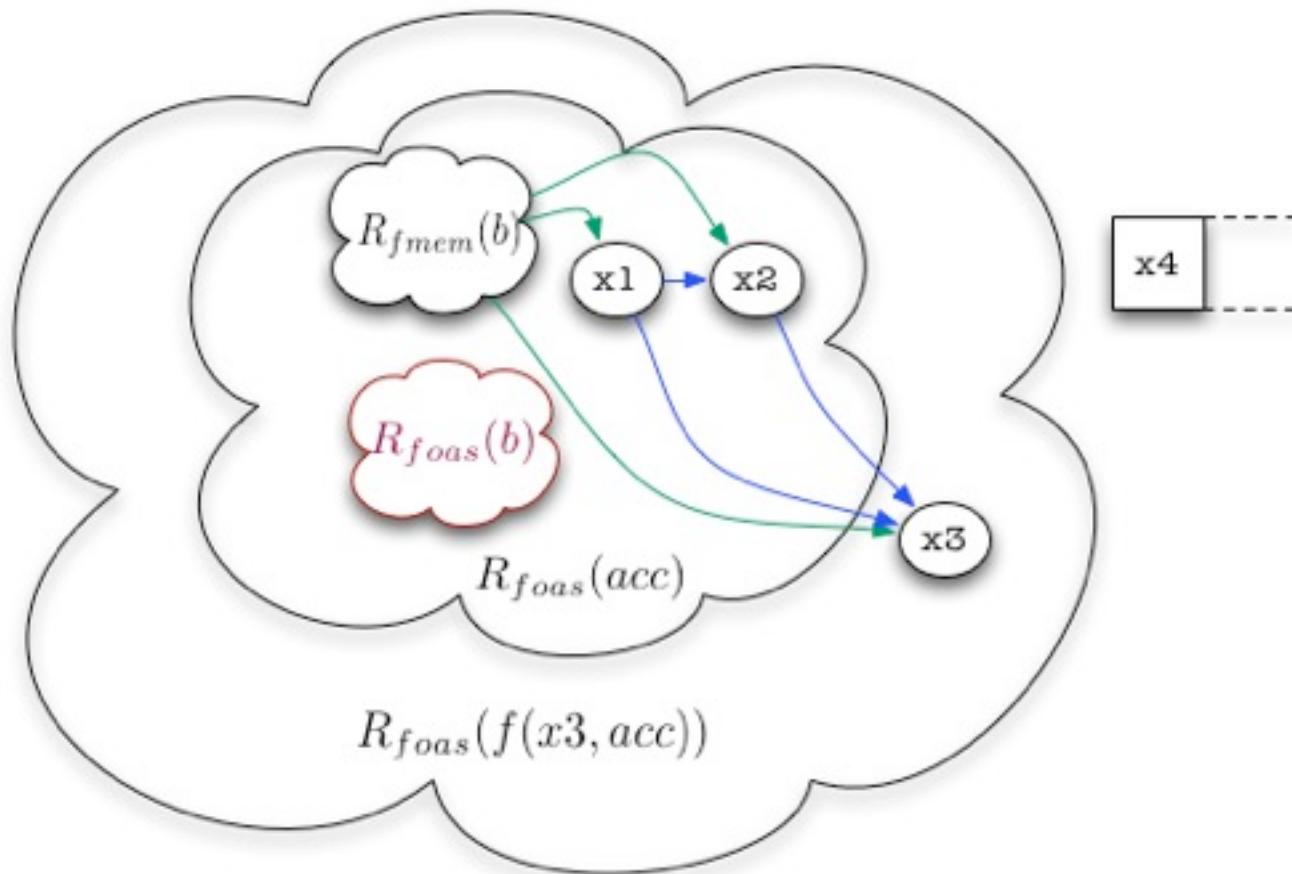
- A useful specification of foldl might require the following:
 - ★ The membership relation of the output defined in terms of membership on the input list and the accumulator
 - ★ The ordering relation of the output preserves ordering properties of the input list and the accumulator
 - ◆ Moreover, every element contained in the accumulator ordered with respect to every element in the input list

Example - foldl



$$v = f(xn, .. f(x3, f(x2, f(x1, b)))) \Rightarrow$$
$$R_{fmem}(v) = R_{mem}(l) \cup R_{fmem}(b)$$

Example - foldl



$$v = f(x_n, \dots, f(x_3, f(x_2, f(x_1, b)))) \Rightarrow \\ R_{foas}(v) = R_{ob}^*(l) \cup R_{foas}(b) \cup \{R_{fmem}(b) \times R_{mem}(l)\}$$

Example - foldl

Abstract relations R_{fmem} and R_{foas} can be instantiated with appropriate concrete relations at call-site

Example: Instantiating $'b \langle R_{fmem} : \{ 'b *' a \}, R_{foas} : \{ 'b *' a *' a \} \rangle$ with $'a \text{ list } \langle R_{mem}, R_{oa}^* \rangle$ at the following call-site:

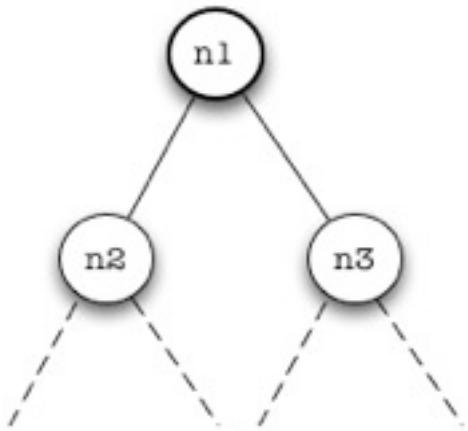
```
foldl 1 Cons Nil
```

assigns following type to the call:

$$\{\nu : 'a \text{ list} \mid R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(l) \wedge R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{ob}^*(l)\}$$

asserting that the result list is a reversal of the original list

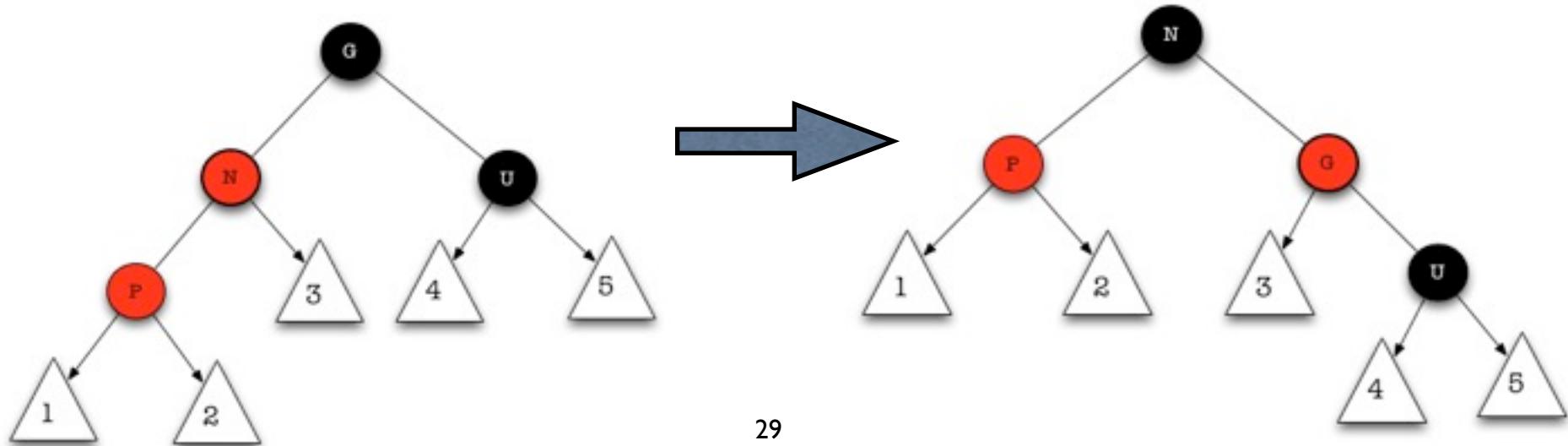
Case study - Red-black tree



BST order = $\{\langle n_2, n_1 \rangle, \langle n_1, n_3 \rangle, \langle n_2, n_3 \rangle, \dots\}$

Any tree rearrangement should be order-preserving

Red-black tree rotations should preserve BST order



Case study - Red-black tree

Okasaki's Red-black tree balance function

```
datatype Color = R | B
datatype Tree = E | T of Color * Tree * Elem * Tree
fun balance (B,T (R,T (R,a,x,b),y,c),z,d) = T (R,T (B,a,x,b),y,T (B,c,z,d))
| balance (B,T (R,a,x,T (R,b,y,c)),z,d) = T (R,T (B,a,x,b),y,T (B,c,z,d))
| balance (B,a,x,T (R,T (R,b,y,c),z,d)) = T (R,T (B,a,x,b),y,T (B,c,z,d))
| balance (B,a,x,T (R,b,y,T (R,c,z,d))) = T (R,T (B,a,x,b),y,T (B,c,z,d))
| balance body = T body
```

Structural relations over Tree type

```
relation  $R_{root}(T(c,l,n,r)) = \{(n)\}$ 
relation  $R_{elem} = R_{root}^*$ 
relation  $R_{to}(T(c,l,n,r)) = \{R_{elem}(l) \times \{(n)\}\} \cup$ 
 $\{\{(n)\} \times R_{elem}(r)\} \cup \{R_{elem}(l) \times R_{elem}(r)\}$ 
```

Specification for balance function using tree-order relation

```
balance : {t:Tree} → {t':Tree |  $R_{to}^*(t') = R_{to}^*(t)$ }
```

Case study - SSA

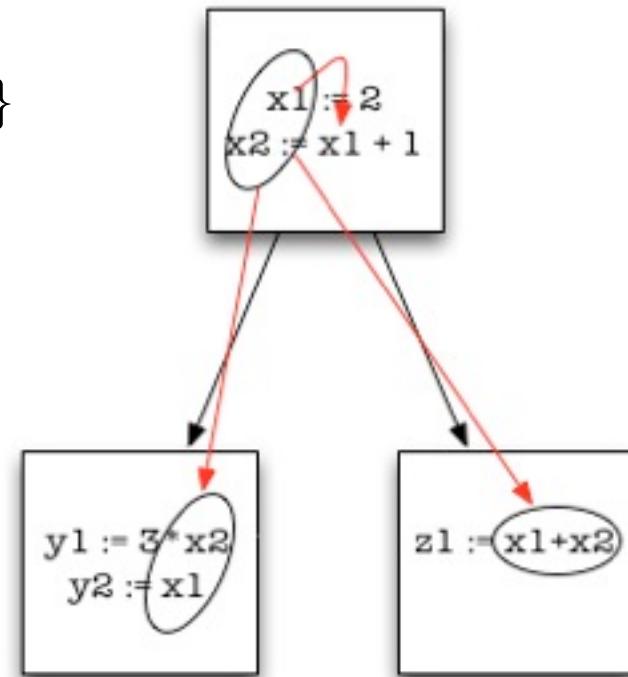
- Def-use domination can be modeled as a structural relation over dominator tree (R_{du}).
- Checking that every use has a corresponding dominating def is equivalent to proving that reflexive closure of a use relation is a subset of the def-use dominator relation.

$$R_{du} = \{\langle x1, x1 \rangle, \langle x1, x2 \rangle, \langle x2, x2 \rangle, \langle x2, x1 \rangle\}$$

$$R_{use} = \{\langle x1 \rangle, \langle x2 \rangle\}$$

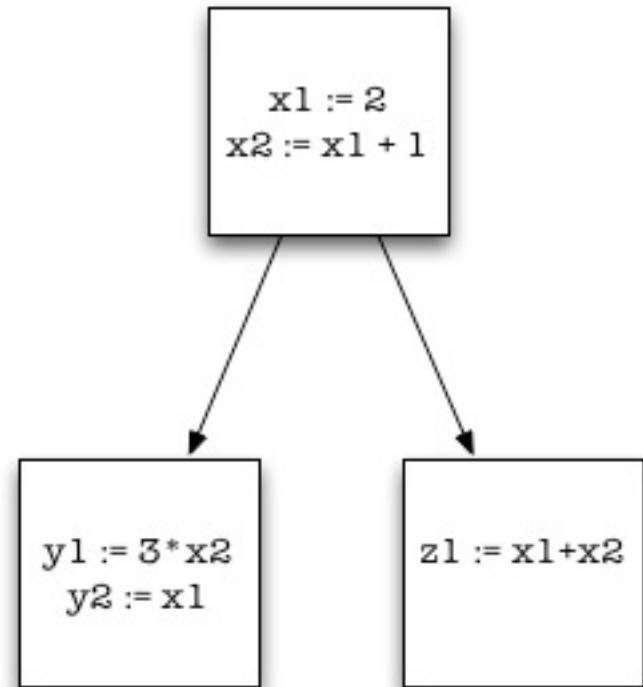
$$R_{use-refl} = \{\langle x1, x1 \rangle, \langle x2, x2 \rangle\}$$

$$\hat{r} \Leftrightarrow R_{use-refl} \subseteq R_{du}$$



Case study - SSA

- MLton uses SSA as an intermediate language
- Represented internally using dominator tree
- SSASimplify performs multiple optimizations on SSA tree.
 - ★ Example: *remove-unused* pass removes definitions of unused variables from dominator tree.
- SSA is typechecked before and after optimization passes to ensure soundness of optimizations. Typechecking also checks if variable definitions dominate variable uses.
 - Impact on compilation times
 - Verifying specification on SSA shape preservation would remove this overhead



Case study - SSA

- Verifying def-use domination property for MLton SSA requires new relational abstractions and corresponding encodings

```
datatype Stmt.t = Stmt.T of {var: Var.t option,
                               ty: Type.t,
                               exp: Exp.t}
datatype Exp.t = Const of Const.t
               | Var of Var.t
               ...
datatype Block.t =
    Block.T of { statements: Stmt.t list,
                 ... }
datatype Func.t = Func.T of { dominatorTree:Block.t Tree.t
                             ... }

fun removeUnused (t as Func.T{dominatorTree, ...}) =
  let
    ...
    val s = visitVars t
    val f = simplifyBlock s
    val t' = Tree.map dominatorTree f
  in
    t'
  end
```

Case study - SSA

$R_{exp-use} : \{Exp.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{stmt-use} : \{Stmt.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{stmt-du} : \{Stmt.t * Var.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{block-use} : \{Block.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{block-def} : \{Block.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{block-du} : \{Block.t * Var.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{use} : \{Func.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{use-refl} : \{Func.t * Var.t * Var.t\}$

$R_{du} : \{Func.t * Var.t * Var.t\}$

- Multiple structural relations defined to compose def-use domination invariant for SSA graph.
- use relation for $Exp.t$ relates expressions to variables used in the expression. def-use (du) relation for $Stmt.t$ is a cross-product of variable defined (LHS) and use relation for RHS expression.
- In similar way, composition is extended to the level of dominator tree

Case study - SSA

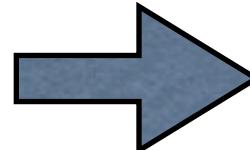
$\text{visitVars} : \{\text{t} : \text{Func.t}\} \rightarrow \{\text{s} : \text{Set.t} \mid R_{\text{set-mem}}(\text{s}) = R_{\text{use}}(\text{t})\}$

$\text{simplifyBlock} : \{\text{s} : \text{Set.t}\} \rightarrow \{\text{b} : \text{Block.t}\} \rightarrow \{\text{b}' : \text{Block.t} \mid$
 $R_{\text{block-def}}(\text{b}') = R_{\text{block-def}}(\text{b}) \cap R_{\text{set-mem}}(\text{s}) \wedge$
 $R_{\text{block-use}}(\text{b}') = R_{\text{block-use}}(\text{b})\}$

$\text{removeUnused} : \{\text{t} : \text{Func.t} \mid R_{\text{use-refl}}(\text{t}) \subseteq R_{\text{du}}(\text{t})\} \rightarrow$
 $\{\text{t}' : \text{Func.t} \mid R_{\text{use-refl}}(\text{t}') \subseteq R_{\text{du}}(\text{t}')\}$

$\text{t}' : \{\nu : \text{Block.t Tree.t} \mid$
 $R_{\text{du}}(\nu) = [R_{\text{block-def}}(\text{b}) \cap R_{\text{set-mem}}(\text{s})] / R_{\text{block-def}}(\text{b}) \wedge R_{\text{du}}(\text{t}) \wedge$
 $R_{\text{use}}(\nu) = R_{\text{use}}(\text{t})\}$

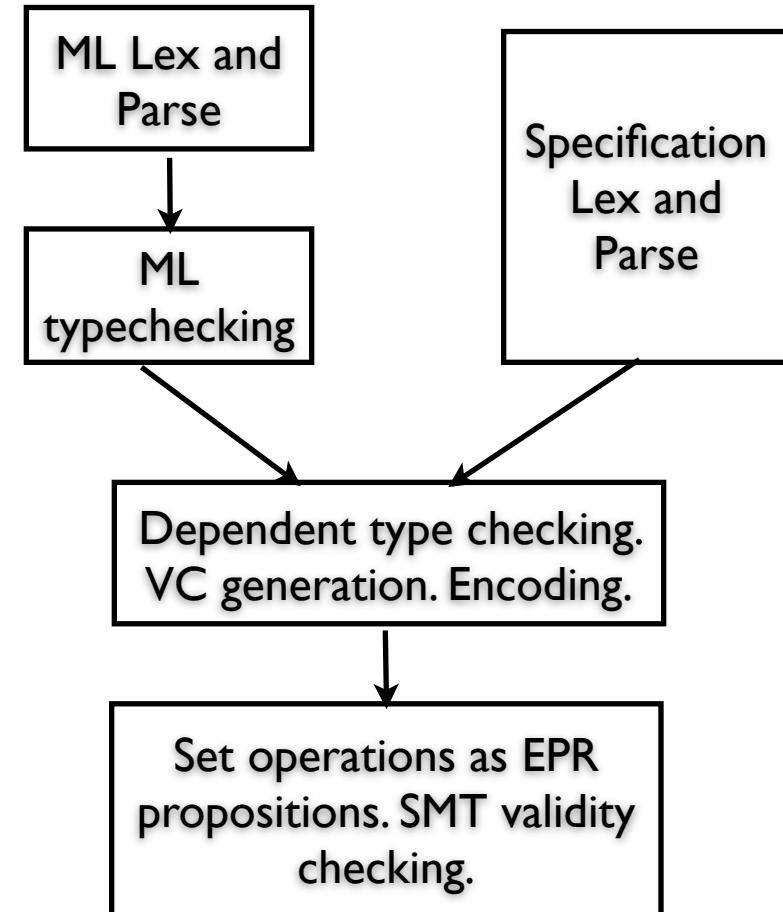
$$\frac{R_{\text{use-refl}}(\text{t}) \subseteq R_{\text{du}}(\text{t}) \quad R_{\text{set-mem}}(\text{s}) = R_{\text{use}}(\text{t}) \quad R_{\text{use}}(\text{t}') = R_{\text{use}}(\text{t})}{R_{\text{use-refl}}(\text{t}') \subseteq R_{\text{du}}(\text{t}')}$$



$$\frac{S1.S1 \subseteq S2 \times S1 \quad S3 = S1 \quad S4 = S1}{S4.S4 \subseteq \{S2 \cap S1\} \times S4}$$

Implementation

- Separate lexing and parsing phases for structural relations and relational specifications.
- Verification condition generation (dependent typechecking) is a compiler pass following typechecking phase in the MLton compiler.
- Subtype checking for relational refinements is implication validity checking for formulas in relational algebra.
- Relations translated to sets by encoding each instance of a relation as a unique set.
- Sets and set operations encoded in EPR logic in SMT (Z3).



Extensions

- Reduce annotation burden by deriving lemmas from stated assertions. Eg:

$$\text{rev} : \{l : \text{'a list}\} \rightarrow \{\nu : \text{'a list} \mid R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(l) \wedge R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{ob}^*(l)\}$$

$$R_{oa}^*(\nu) = R_{ob}^*(l) \Rightarrow R_{mem}(\nu) = R_{mem}(l)$$

← Should be deducible

- Exploit inductive properties on sets to improve equational reasoning:

$$R_{ob}(x :: xs) = \{(x)\} \times R_{mem}(xs) \qquad \qquad R_{mem}(x :: xs) = \{(x)\} \cup R_{mem}(xs)$$

$$S_1 \times S_2 = S'_1 \times S'_2 \Rightarrow S_1 \cup S_2 = S'_1 \cup S'_2$$

↓

$$(S_1 \times S_2)^* = (S'_1 \times S'_2)^* \Rightarrow (S_1 \cup S_2)^* = (S'_1 \cup S'_2)^*$$

Extensions

- Augment solver with direct support for structural relations.
 - ★ Verification procedure can elide translation to sets, and concentrate on typechecking
 - ★ Common substrate of verification strategies that make use of sets as abstract domain can be implemented efficiently once and for all.
- Assertions over inductively defined relations over same datatype can be handled directly by the solver if structural induction scheme can be successfully encoded.
 - ◆ For two well-formed structural relations R_1 and R_2 defined over the same datatype \mathcal{S} ,

$$R_1 \subseteq R_2^* \Rightarrow R_1 \subseteq (R_2 \cap R_1)^*$$

can be discharged using structural induction over \mathcal{S}

Related Work

- Dependent type checking :
 - ★ Refinement types for ML (PLDI'91),
 - ★ DML (POPL'99),
 - ★ Liquid Types (PLDI'08),
 - ★ *Lightweight Dependent Type Inference for ML* (VMCAI'13).
- Invariant checking over recursive datatypes:
 - ★ *Type-based data structure verification* (PLDI'09),
 - ★ Decision procedures for algebraic data types with abstractions (POPL'10)
 - ★ Abstract refinements (ESOP'13).
- Imperative shape analysis