Practical Static Extraction and Conformance Checking of the Runtime Architecture of Object-Oriented Systems

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Software architecture: high-level description of a system's organization

- Communication between stakeholders
- Analyzing quality attributes:
 - Maintainability,
 - Security, performance, reliability ...
- Different perspectives or views:
 - Code architecture
 - Runtime architecture
 - Distinct but complementary
 - Focus today is on structure, not behavior

Code architecture shows code structure (classes, inheritance, etc.)

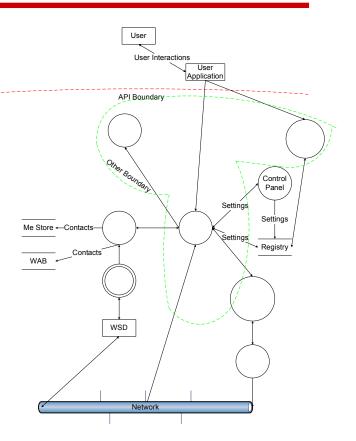
- Code architecture represents static code structure of system
 - Classes, packages, modules, layers, ...
 - Inherits from class, implements interface
 - Dependencies: imports, calls graphs.
- Impacts qualities like maintainability
- Mature tool support

Runtime architecture shows objects (instances) and relations between them

- Runtime architecture models runtime structure as runtime components and potential runtime interactions
 - Runtime component = sets of objects
 - Runtime interaction = e.g., points-to relation
- Impacts qualities such as security, performance, reliability, ...
- Immature tool support

Analyze quality attribute, assuming architecture reflects all communication

- Microsoft uses threat modeling and claims 50% reduction in vulnerabilities
- Security experts review hand-drawn diagrams (Vista has 1,400 diagrams)
- Checking conformance of implementation to architecture not addressed
- Potential security violations

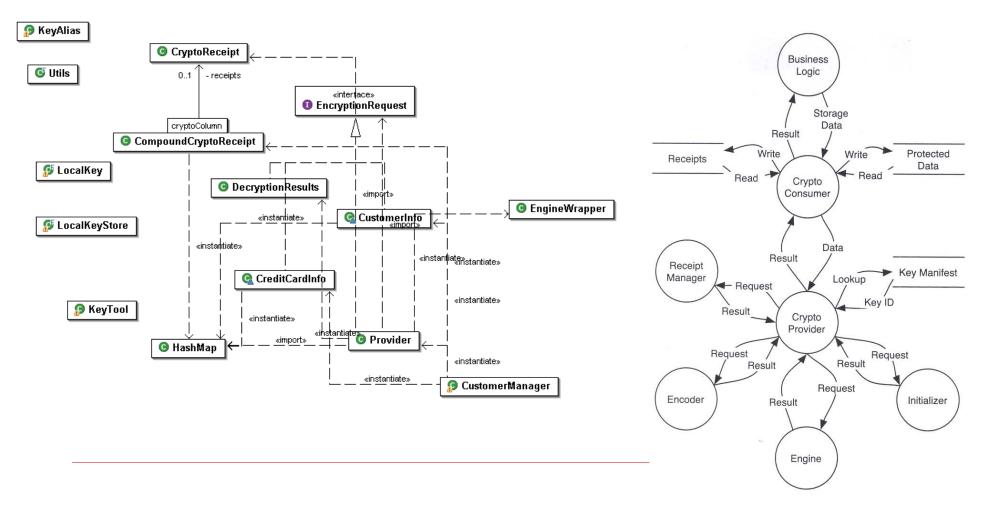


Redacted diagram for Windows Vista™ subsystem

Security analysis requires runtime architecture, not code architecture

Class diagram

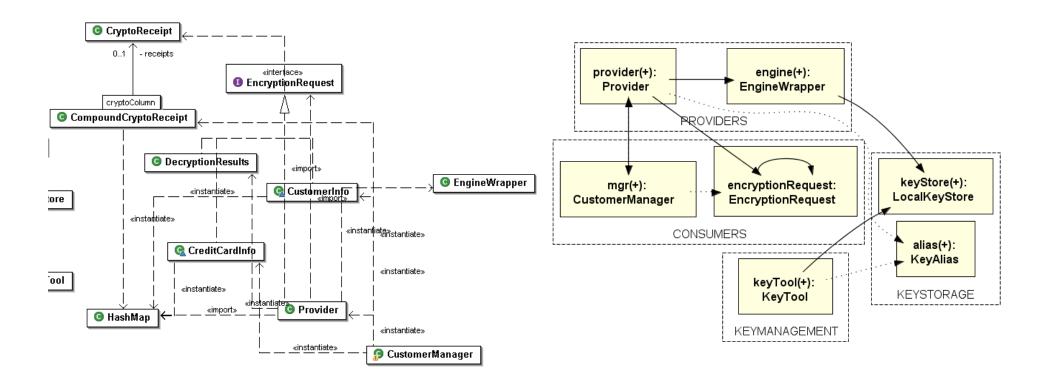
DFD



Security analysis requires runtime architecture, not code architecture

Class diagram

Object diagram



Disclaimer: security architecture

- Threat modeling uses a Data Flow Diagram (DFD) with security annotations
- This presentation uses a different architectural style: a security architecture shows points-to (not data flow) connectors, has no explicit data stores or external interactors, and uses more general boundaries that are tiers.

Example security runtime architecture

Runtime components and connections

 Hierarchical decomposition

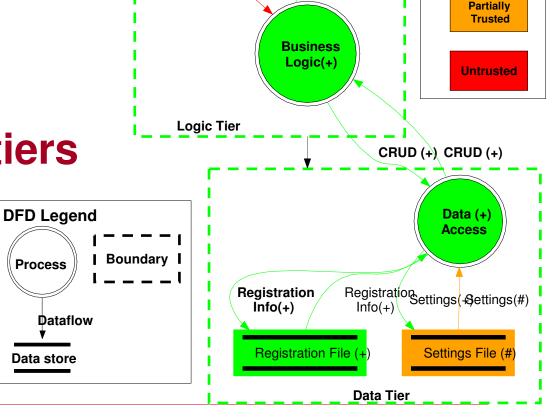
Partitioning into tiers

External

Interactor

Process

Data store



User Tier

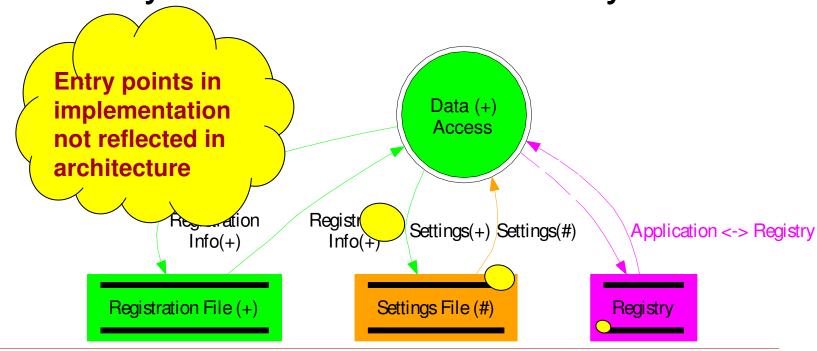
Request (-) Response (+)

TRUST LEGEND

Trusted

Some analyses must consider worst case of possible communication

- Results valid only if model is sound
- Sound: reveal all objects and relations that may exist at runtime – in any run



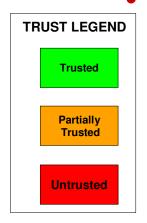
Architectural extraction's key property: soundness

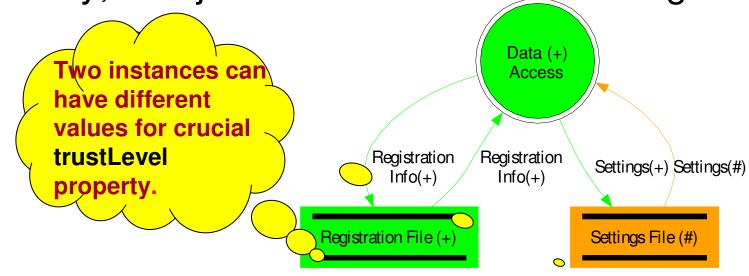
- <u>Definition</u>: a runtime architecture is sound if it represents all runtime components and all possible interactions between those components.
- Informal Visio diagram often unsound

Runtime structure distinguishes between different instances of the same class

- Different instances usually have different architectural properties
 - Here, trustLevel = Full vs. Partial

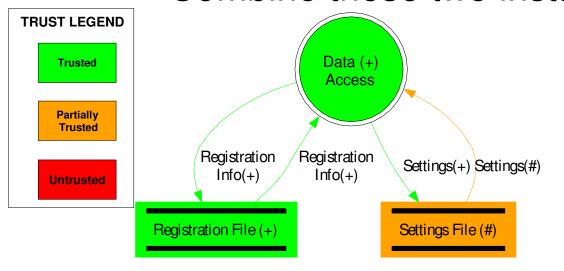
Usually, one java.io. File class in class diagram



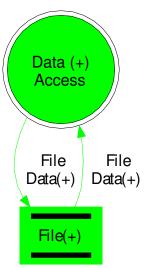


Aliasing or state sharing is a challenge in representing a runtime architecture

- Impacts architectural properties
 - Settings File (trustLevel = Partial)
 - vs. Registration File (trustLevel = Full)
 - Combine these two instances into one?



Assume 'Registration File' and 'Settings File' distinct, with different values for trustLevel.



Assume one File DataStore, with one value for trustLevel.

Other key property: aliasing soundness

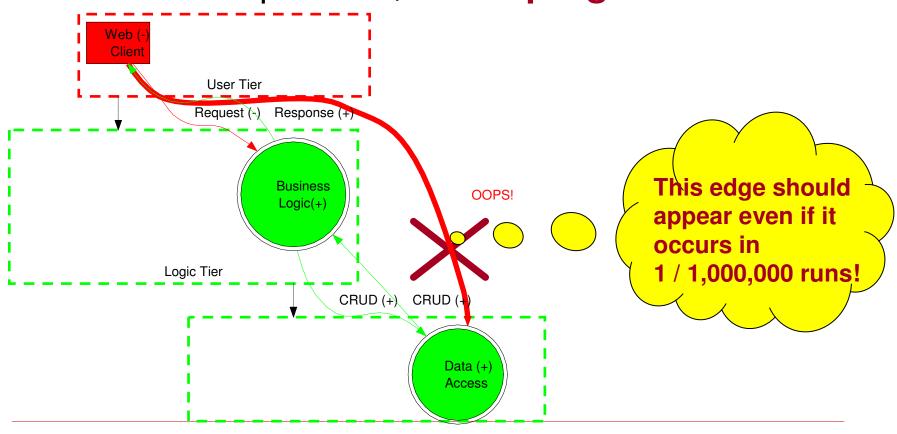
- <u>Definition</u>: an architecture is sound w.r.t. aliasing if no one runtime entity appears as two "components" in the architecture
- Otherwise, could assign two different values of trustLevel architectural property for one true runtime entity

Architectural extraction: state-of-the-art

- Using static analysis still open problem
 - Can capture all possible executions
 - Extract low-level non-architectural views
 - Analyses often unscalable
- Using dynamic analysis
 - Analyze one or more program runs
 - May miss important objects or relations that arise only in other program runs
 - E.g., security analysis must handle worst, not typical, possible runtime communication

Two components should communicate only if architecture allows them to do so

 E.g., prohibit direct comunication between certain components, for all program runs



Checking structural conformance of system to target architecture

• Key property: **communication integrity**<u>Definition</u>: each component in the implementation may only communicate directly with the components to which it is connected in the architecture.

[Morisoni et al., TSE'95] [Luckham and Vera, TSE'95]

[Moriconi et al., TSE'95] [Luckham and Vera, TSE'95]

 Informal diagrams omit communication;
 confirmed by experience at Microsoft [Murphy et al.,TSE'01] [Aldrich et al., ICSE'02]

Previous work to ensure conformance of runtime architecture has drawbacks

Runtime monitoring

- Cannot check all possible program runs
- Code generation
 - Hard to use for existing systems
 - More general to extract-abstract-check
- Language-based solutions

ArchJava [Aldrich et al., ECOOP'02]

- Restrictions on object references
- Require re-engineering existing systems
- Library-based solutions

Today, you will learn SCHOLIA

SCHOLIA: static conformance checking of object-based structural views of architecture.

Scholia are annotations inserted on the margin of an ancient manuscript. The approach supports existing, i.e., legacy systems, and uses annotations.

First entirely static end-to-end approach to guarantee communication integrity for Java

- SCHOLIA relates code in widely-used objectoriented language (Java) and a hierarchical intended runtime architecture:
 - Extract instance structure
 - Hierarchy provides abstraction
 - Achieve soundness
 - Abstract instance structure into architecture
 - Structurally compare hierarchical views
 - Check conformance
 - Enforce communication integrity

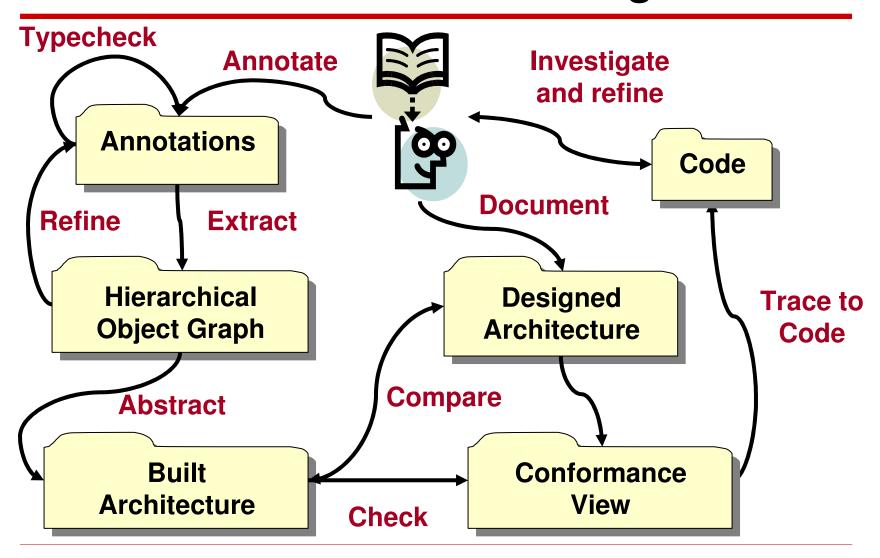
At SCHOLIA's core is the static extraction of architectural runtime structure

- Extract sound object graph that conveys architectural abstraction by hierarchy and by types
 - Uses static analysis
 - Achieves soundness
 - Relies on backward-compatible statically type-checkable annotations
 - Minimally invasive hints about architecture
 - Instead of using new language or library

Conformance checking uses general strategy of extract-abstract-check

- Extract instance structure
 - Add annotations to code
 - Run static analysis
- Abstract into built architecture
- Document designed/target architecture
- Compare built and designed views
- Check conformance

Scholia conformance checking

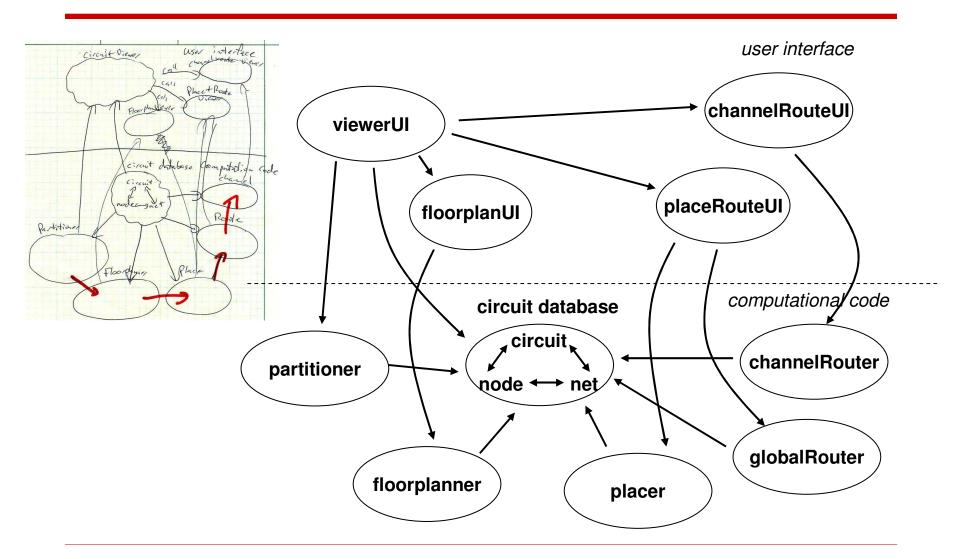


Code vs. Execution Structure
Classes Objects
Types Instances
Static Runtime

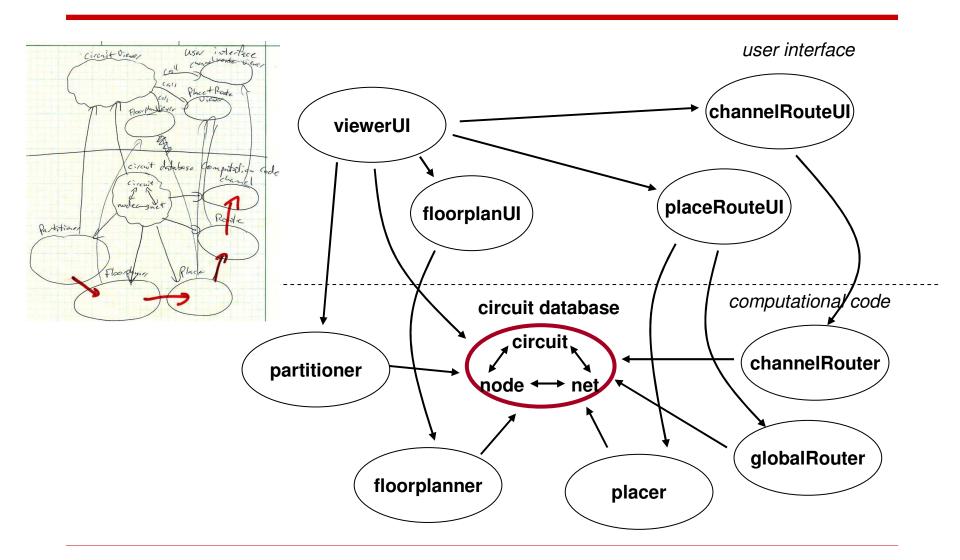
Illustrated using example

Aphyds, an 8,000-line Java system

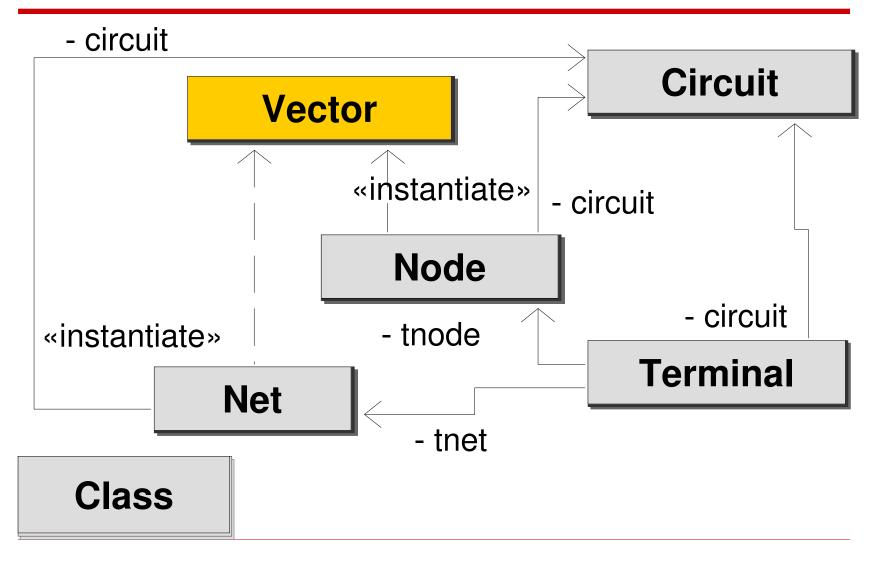
Developer posits a target hierarchical runtime architecture



Developer posits a target hierarchical runtime architecture



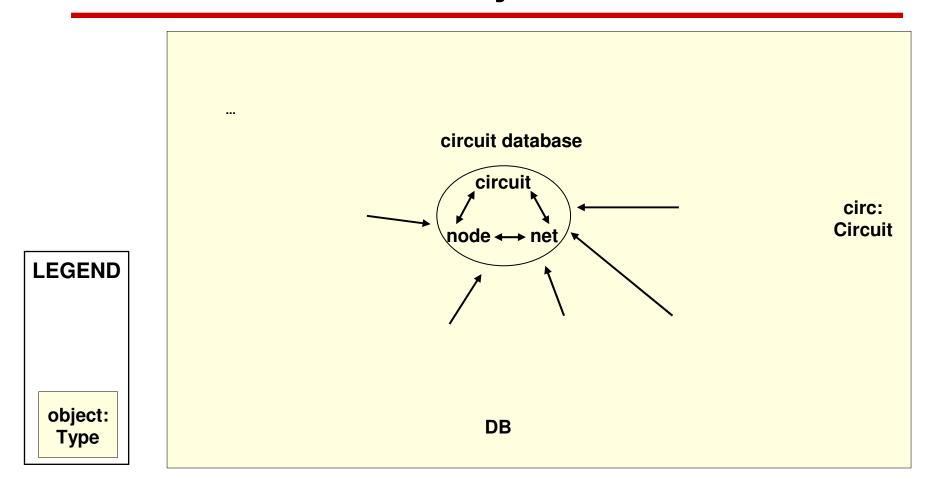
Class diagram shows code structure, e.g., classes, inheritance



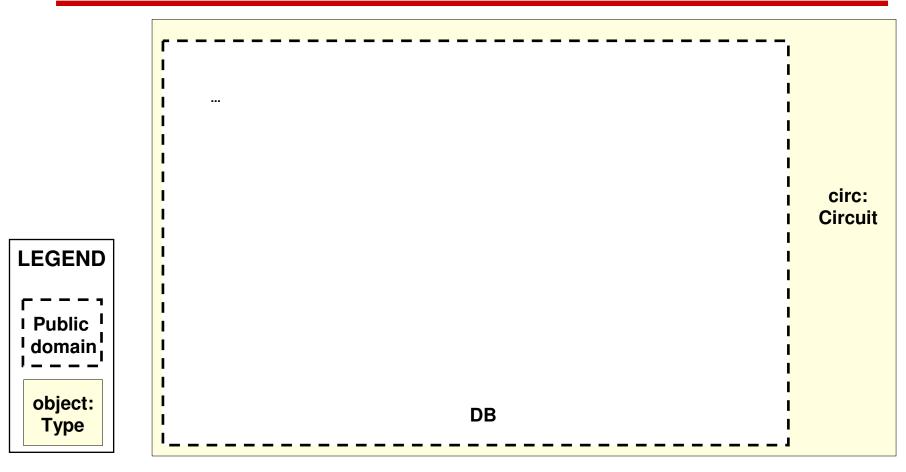
Object diagram shows instance structure, i.e., objects and relations



In hierarchical object structure, an object can contain other objects

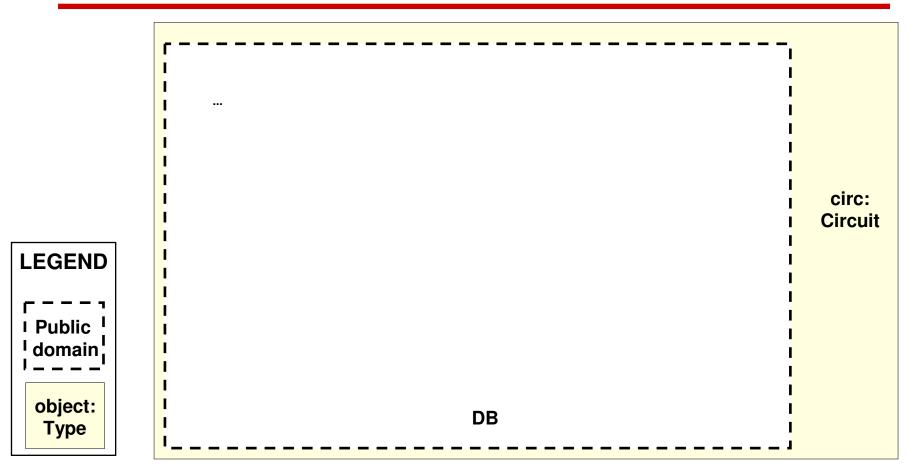


Instead of objects directly owning others, use domains to group related objects



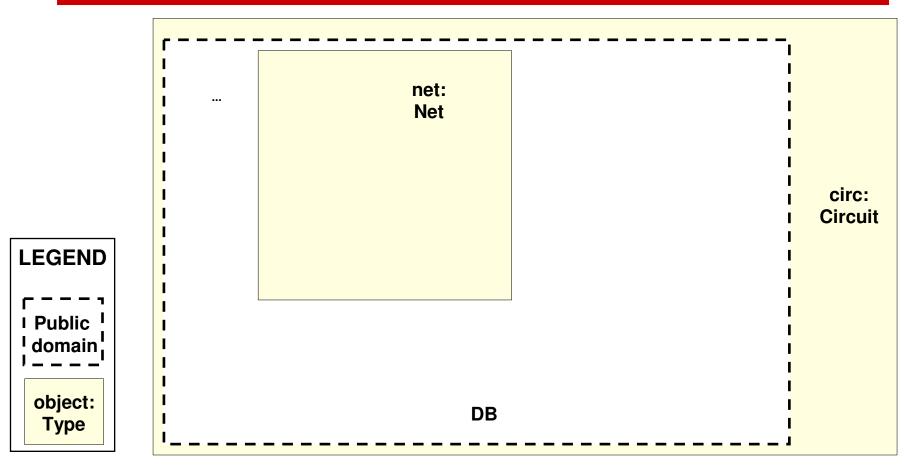
Box nesting indicates "inside"

A public domain in an object defines a conceptual group of contained objects



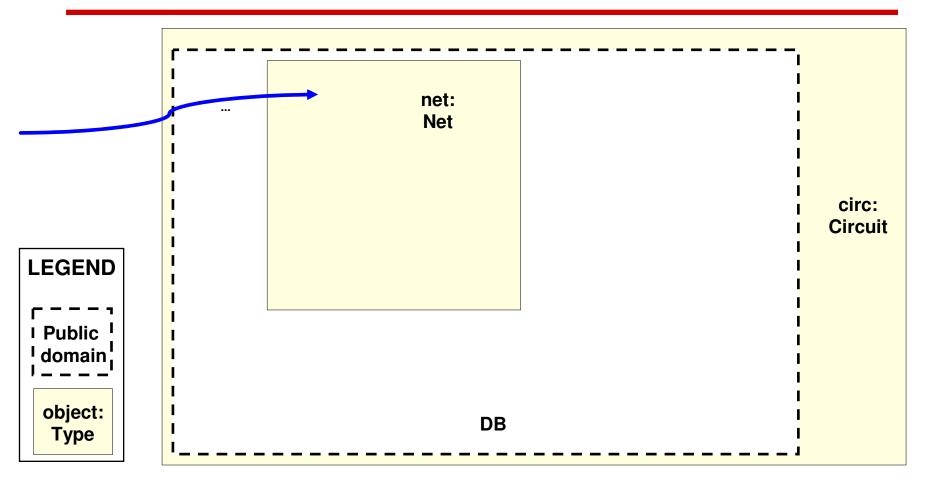
Box nesting indicates "inside"

Placing object 'net' in domain 'DB' inside 'circuit' makes 'net' part of 'circuit'



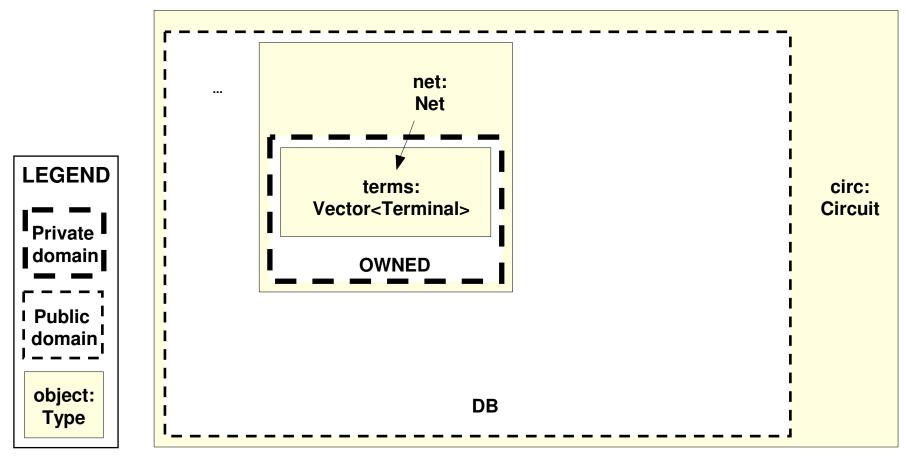
Box nesting indicates "inside"

Any object that can reference 'circuit' can also reference 'net' inside 'DB' domain



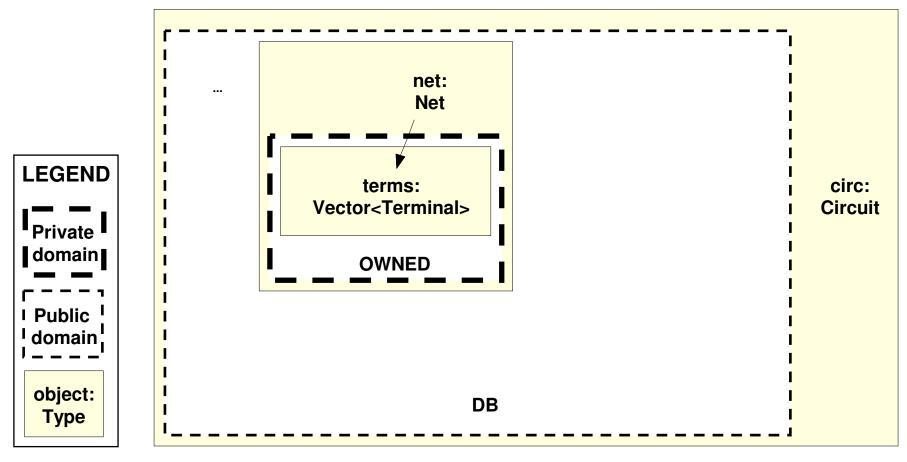
Thin border indicates logical containment

Each object can have domains, e.g., 'net' has 'OWNED' domain and 'terms' inside it



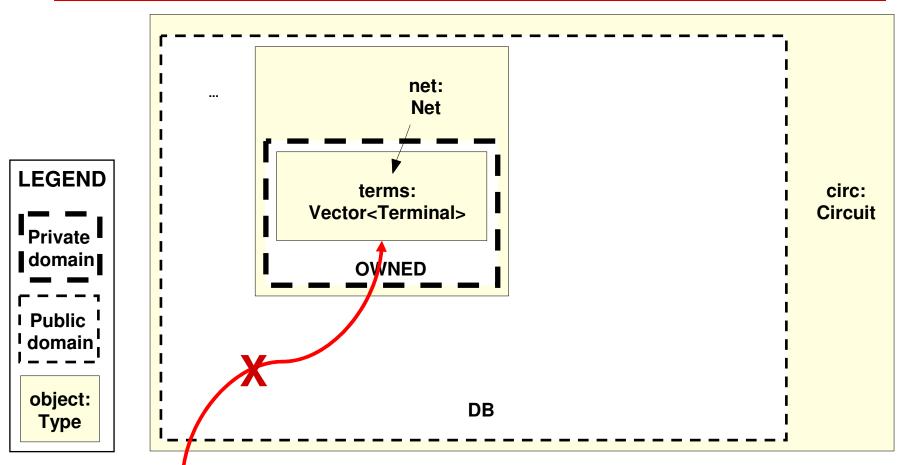
Box nesting indicates "inside"

A private domain defines a strict encapsulation or ownership model



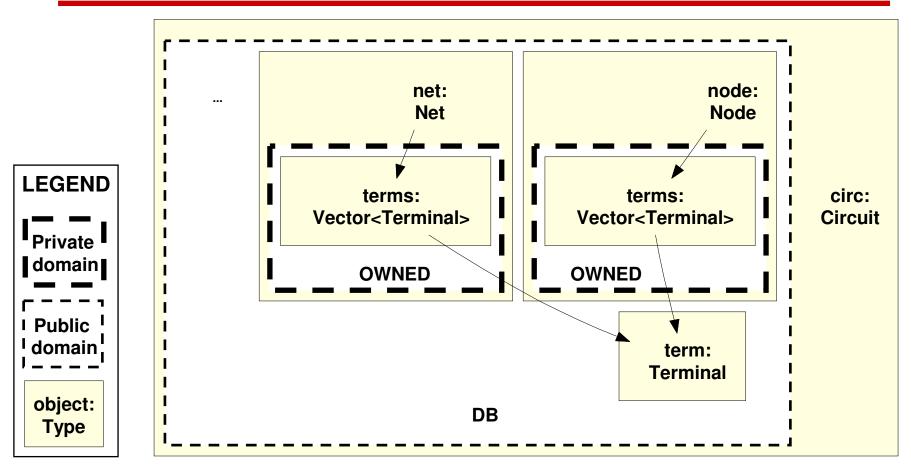
'terms' is in private domain of 'net'

'terms' is strictly encapsulated inside 'net' and cannot be leaked/aliased to outside



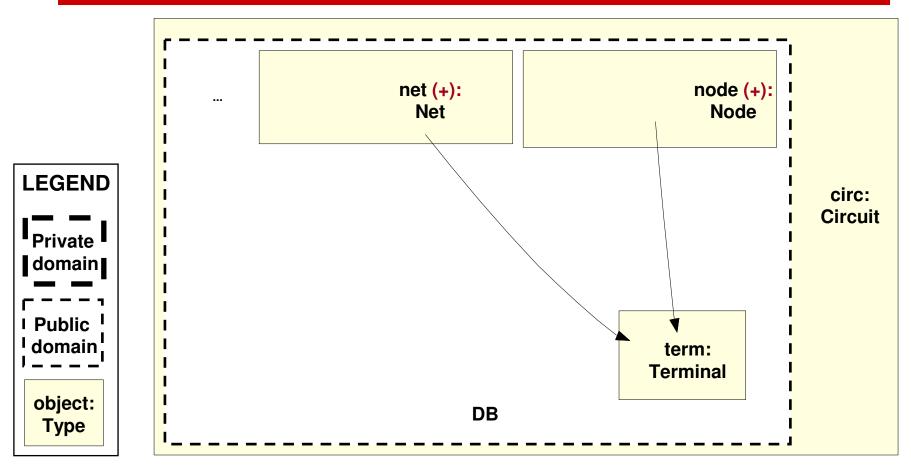
Thick border indicates strict encapsulation

Unlike class diagram, object diagram shows distinct 'Vector' instances



But 'terms' Vectors can share other objects

Hierarchy allows varying abstraction level, by collapsing or expanding objects



(+) indicates collapsed sub-structure

Central difficulty

Architectural **hierarchy** not readily observable in program written in general purpose programming language

All previous static analyses extract non-hierarchical abstractions

- Object graph analyses
 - Without using annotations
 [Jackson and Waingold, ICSE'99,TSE'01]
 [O'Callahan, Ph.D. thesis'01]
 - Using non-ownership annotations [Lam and Rinard, ECOOP'03]
 - Some unsound w.r.t. aliasing or inheritance
- Related static analyses
 - Points-to analysis [e.g., Milanova et al., TOSEM'05]
 - Shape analysis [e.g., Sagiv et al., POPL'99]

Flat object graphs do not provide architectural abstraction

- Low-level objects mixed with architecturally significant ones
 - Show plethora of objects
 - No scale-up to large programs
- Require graph summarization to get readability [Mitchell, ECOOP'06]

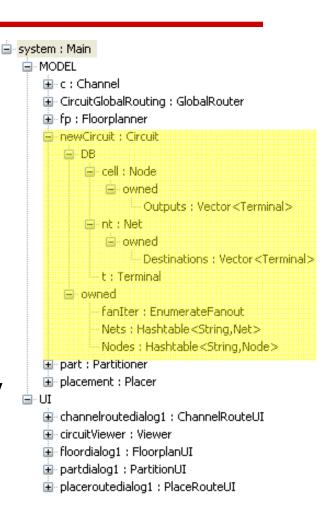
Output of WOMBLE (MIT) [Jackson and Waingold, TSE'01] on 8,000-line system.

Key insight

Add ownership annotations and leverage them using static analysis

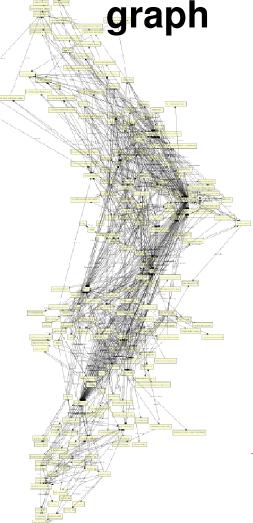
Use hierarchy to convey architectural abstraction

- Pick top-level entry point
- Use ownership to impose conceptual hierarchy
- Convey abstraction by ownership hierarchy:
 - Architecturally significant objects near top of hierarchy
 - Low-level objects demoted further down

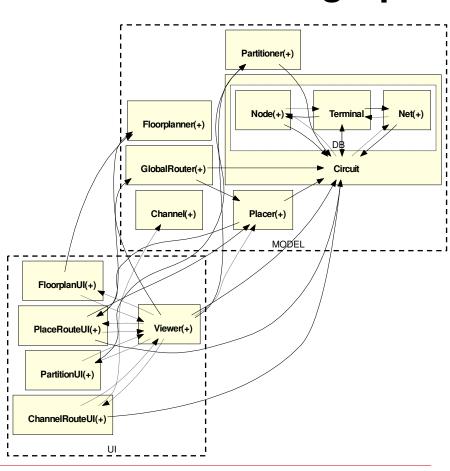


Collapse objects based on ownership (and types) to achieve abstraction

Non-hierarchical graph



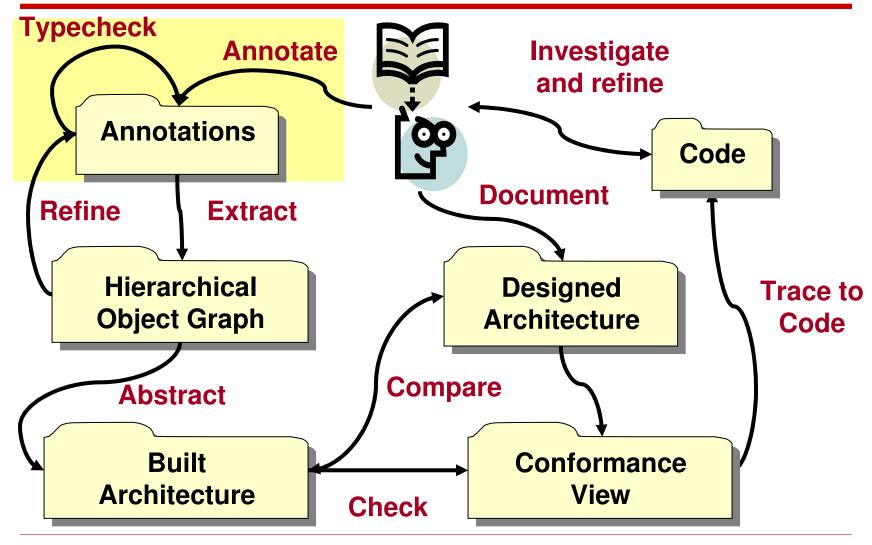
Hierarchical graph



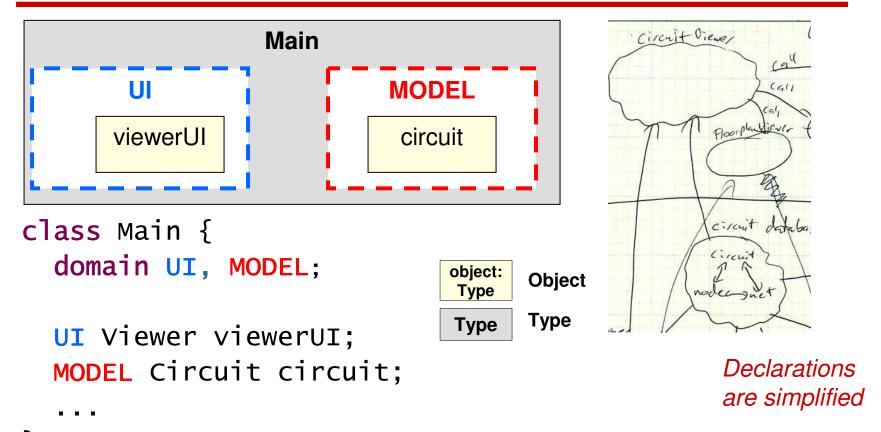
Step 1

Add and check ownership domain annotations

Scholia conformance checking



Group objects into ownership domains



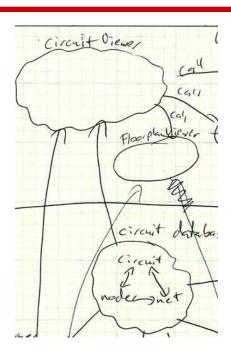
- Ownership domain = conceptual group of objects
- Each object in exactly one domain

Domains can be declared inside each class

```
Circuit Viewer
                     Circuit
                      DB
                                 net
        node
                                                               circuit databa
class Circuit {
                                                               Circuit
  domain DB;
                                       object:
                                              Object
                                        Type
                                              Type
                                        Type
  DB Node node;
                                                                 Declarations
  DB Net net;
                                                                are simplified
}
```

Aphyds: concrete annotations

```
@Domains({"UI", "MODEL"})
class Main {
    @Domain("UI") Viewer viewerUI;
    @Domain("MODEL") Circuit circuit;
    ...
}
```



- Tools use existing language support for annotations (available in Java 1.5, C#, ...)
- Annotations do not change runtime semantics

Circuit: private domain

- Each object has one or more domains
 - E.g., Circuit declares domains owned and DB
- Each object is in exactly one domain
 - E.g., nodes in domain owned

Circuit: public domain

```
@Domains({"owned", "DB"})
class Circuit {
    @Domain("owned") Vector nodes

@Domain("DB") Node node;
}

circ: Circuit

LEGEND

Object

Node:
Node

Pomain |

Object

DB

Domain |
Do
```

- Each object has one or more domains
 - E.g., Circuit declares domains owned and DB
- Each object is in exactly one domain
 - E.g., nodes in domain owned; node in domain DB

Strict encapsulation vs.

logical containment

(1) Strict encapsulation (private domain) nodes circ: **Vector** Circuit owned (2) Logical containment (public domain) node: circ: **Node** Circuit DB

Example #2: Sequence

- Sequence has private state (head)
 - Should not be accessible to outside
- Sequence has iterators that are accessible to outside
 - Can also access private state

Sequence: private domain

- Sequence has private state (head)
 - Should not be accessible to outside; in private domain
- Sequence has iterators that are accessible to outside
 - Can also access private state

Sequence: public domain

- Sequence has private state (head)
 - Not accessible to outside; in private domain OWNED
- Sequence has iterators that are accessible to outside
 - Can also access private state; in public domain ITERS

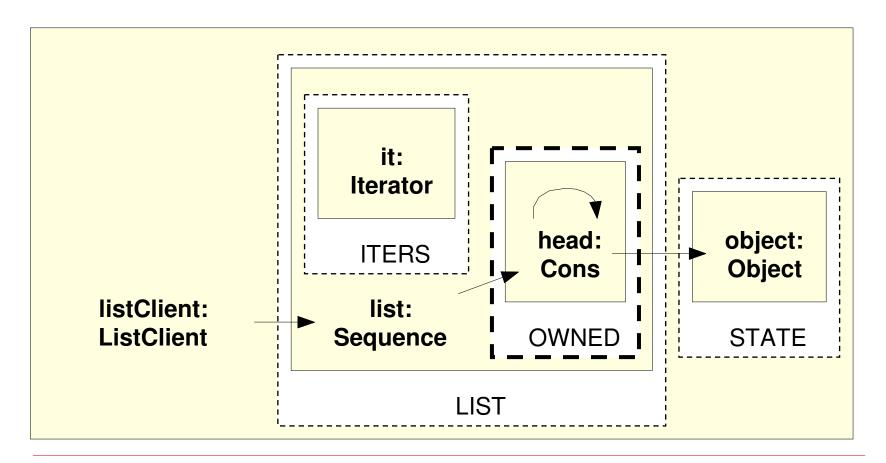
Sequence: ownership domain parameters

```
@Domains({"OWNED", "ITERS"})
@DomainParams({"ELTS"})
class Sequence {
    @Domain("OWNED<ELEMS>") Cons headbjects
...
}
@DomainParams({"ELTS"})
class Cons {
    @Domain("ELTS") Object obj;
    @Domain("OWNER<ELTS>") Cons next;
}
```

- To share objects across domains
- Add domain parameter to hold elements in list

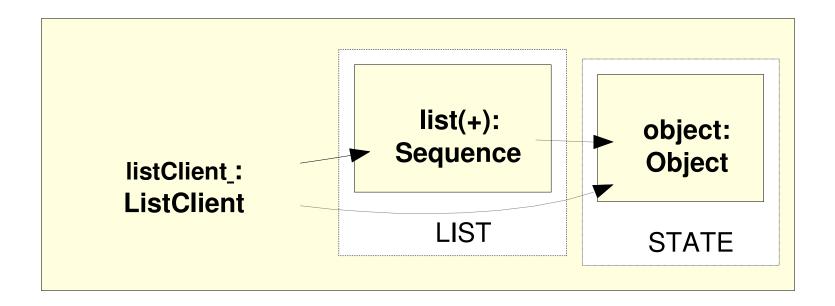
Sequence object graph

Expand the sub-structure of 'list'



Sequence object graph (continued)

Collapse the sub-structure of 'list'



Strict encapsulation vs.

logical containment

(1) Strict encapsulation (private domain) head: list: Cons Sequence **OWNED** (2) Logical containment (public domain) it: list: **Iterator** Sequence **ITERS**

Demo: checking Sequence annotations

- Cannot return head of Sequence
 - Head of list in private domain
 - Stronger than making field private
- Cannot nullify head of list
 - Stronger than Java visibility (e.g., private)
- Iterate over list
 - Iterator in public domain ITERS

Annotation tool support

- Use Java 1.5 annotations
- Typechecker uses Eclipse JDT
- Warnings in Eclipse's problem window

Annotation language summary

- @Domains: declare domains
- @DomainParams: declare formal domain parameters
- @DomainLinks: declare domain link specifications
- @DomainInherits: specify parameters for supertypes
- @DomainReceiver: specify annotation on receiver
- @Domain: specify object annotation, actual domain parameters and (optionally) array parameters
 "annotation<domParam, ...> [arrayParam, ...]"

Special annotations

- lent: temporary alias within method
- shared: shared persistently or globally
- unique: unaliased object, e.g.,
 - newly created object
 - passed linearly from one domain to another

Annotation language

 Each object defines conceptual groups (ownership domains) for its state

@Domains: declare domains

```
@Domains({"owned"}) // Private domain
class Sequence {
...
}
```

Each object is declared in a domain

@Domain: declare domain for given object

Annotation language (continued)

- @DomainParams: declare formal domain parameters on a type
- @Domain: declare domain for object
 - Optionally specify actual domains using the parameter order in @DomainParams
- Similar to Java 1.5 generics
 - Declare formal type parameter
 class ArrayList<T> { . . .
 - Bind formal type parameter to actual type
 ArrayList<String> seq;

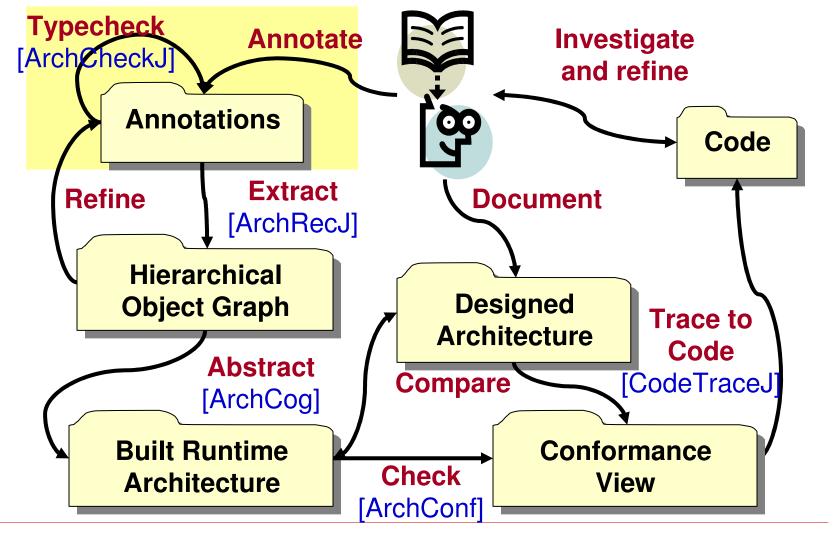
Annotation language (continued)

 @DomainInherits: bind current type's formal parameters to parameters of supertypes

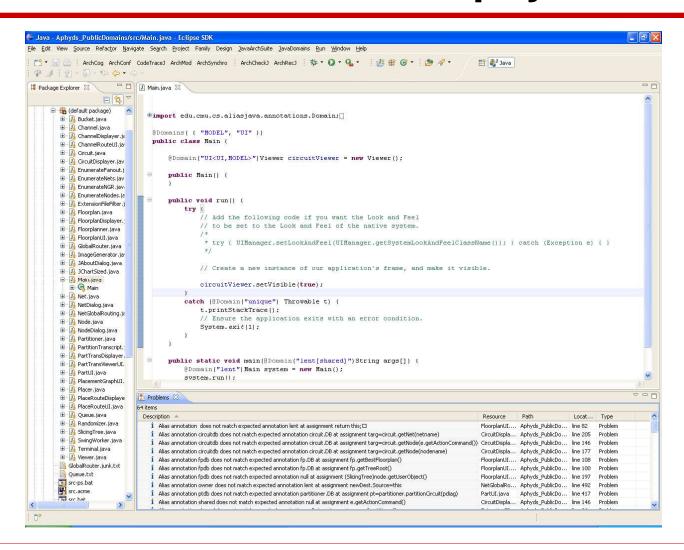
```
@DomainParams({"elems"})
@DomainInherits({"Iterator<elems>"})
class SeqIterator extends Iterator {
...
}

// Again, similar to Java Generics...
class SeqIterator<T> extends Iterator<T> {
...
}
```

SCHOLIA: use ArchCheckJ



SCHOLIA ArchCheckJ on Aphyds



Hands-on Exercises

Getting setup

- Have Java 1.5 or later installed
- Install GraphViz
 - graphviz-2.20.2.exe in zip file
- Read setup.html
- Extract zip file
 - Contains Eclipse 3.4
 - AcmeStudio 3.4.x (build 20090415N)
 - SCHOLIA Eclipse plugins
- Accept license agreement
 - CMU patent-pending technology
 - Non-commercial, research evaluation OK

Disclaimer

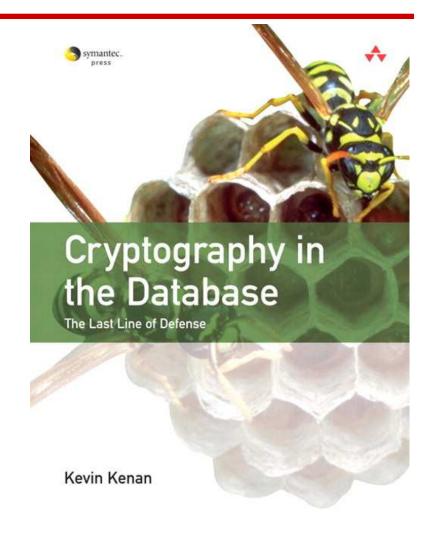
- Research-Off-The-Shelf (ROTS) tools
 - Highly specialized
 - Poorly documented
 - Mostly prototypes
- Advice on AcmeStudio
 - Save early, save often (Ctrl-S)
 - Restart often (File Restart)

Exercise #1: CryptoDB

Add annotations

CryptoDB

- 3-KLOC Java
- Crypto application

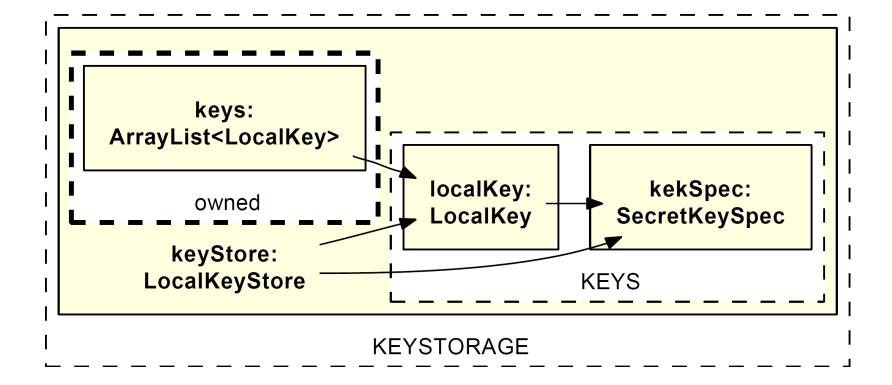


Add annotations and fix warnings

LocalKeyStore and LocalKey

LocalKeyStore and LocalKey

Hint: use this as a guide



Exercise #1: CryptoDB

Solution

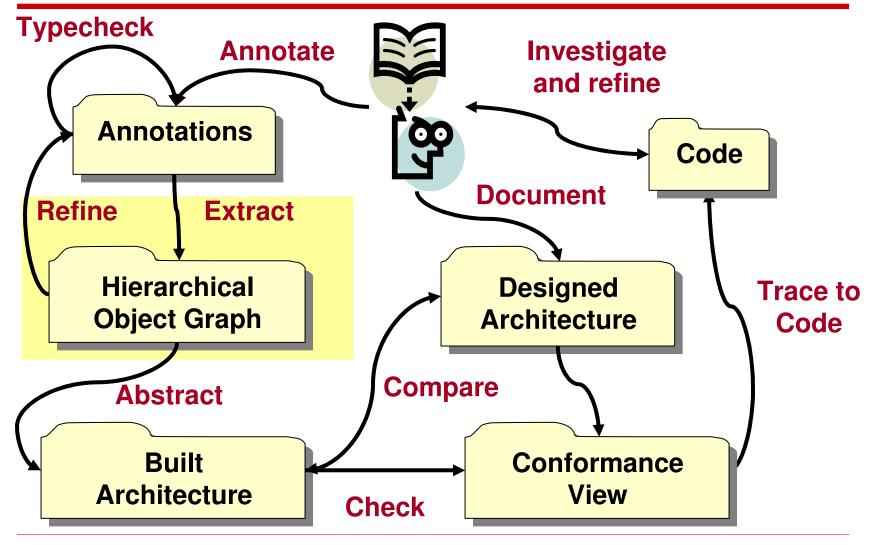
LocalKeyStore, LocalKey annotations

```
class LocalKeyStore {
 private domain OWNED;
 public domain KEYS;
 private OWNED List<KEYS LocalKey> keys;
 public unique List<KEYS LocalKey> getKeys() {
   unique List<KEYS LocalKey> copy = copy(keys);
   return copy;
class LocalKey {
 private shared String keyData; // encrypted key
 private shared String keyld; // encrypted key id
```

Step 2

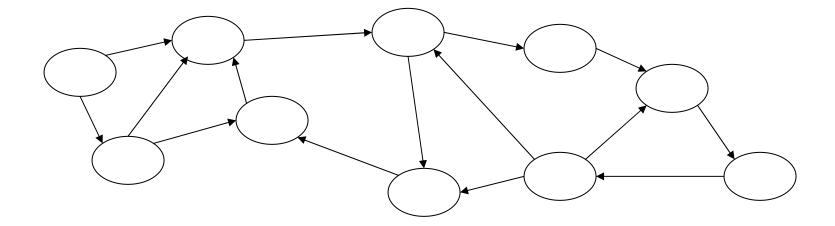
Extract hierarchical object graph using static analysis

Scholia conformance checking



Runtime Object Graph (ROG)

- Runtime Object Graph (ROG): graph where
 - A node represents a runtime object,
 - An edge represents a points-to relation



Goal of ObjectGraph static analysis

- Extract ObjectGraph that soundly approximates all possible Runtime Object Graph (ROG)s
 - Conveys architectural abstraction primarily by ownership hierarchy
 - Optionally, merges more objects within a domain based on their declared types

Two phases of the static analysis

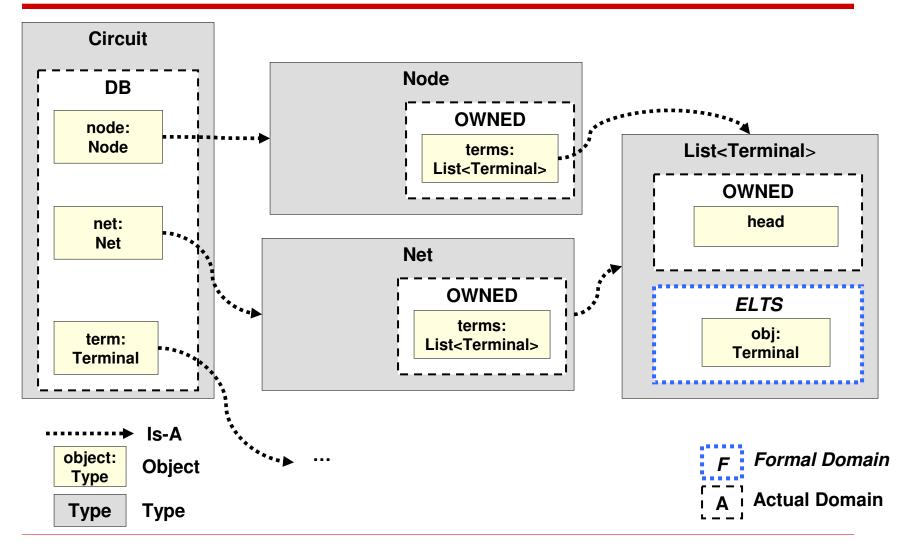
Build TypeGraph

- Visitor over program's Abstract Syntax Tree
- Represents type structure of objects in code

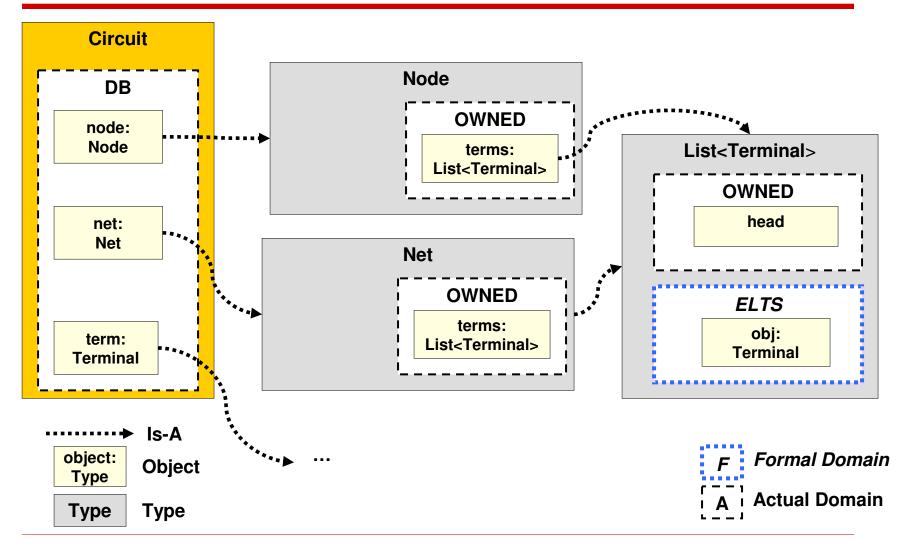
2. Convert TypeGraph to ObjectGraph

- Instantiates the types in the TypeGraph
- Shows only objects and domains

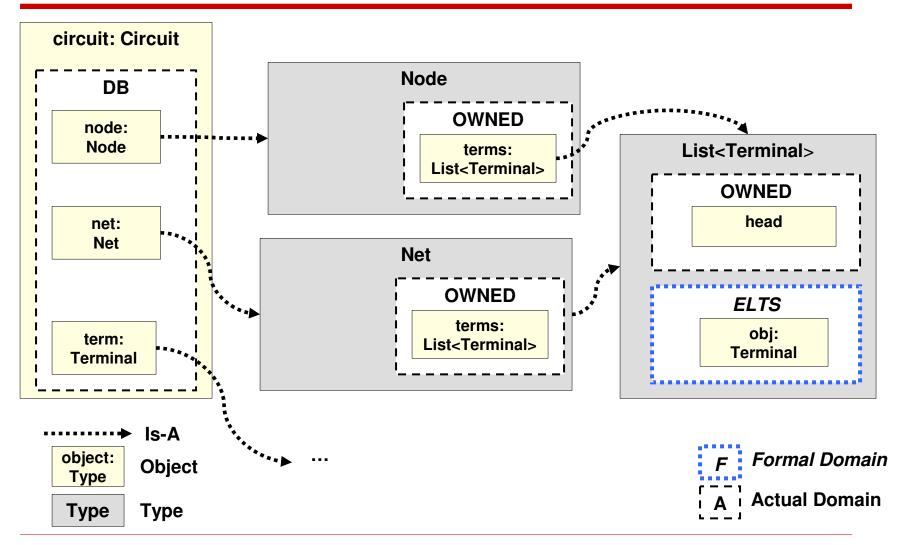
TypeGraph: show types, domains inside types, and objects in domains

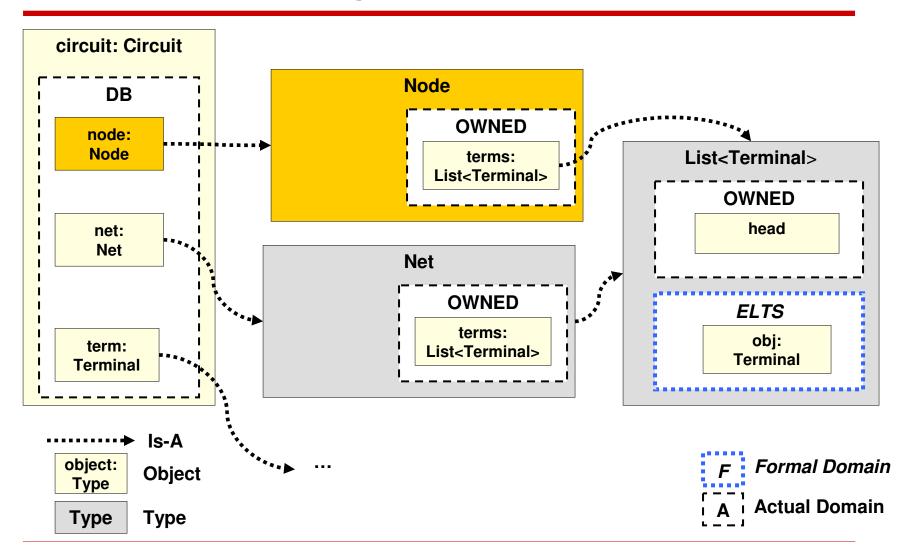


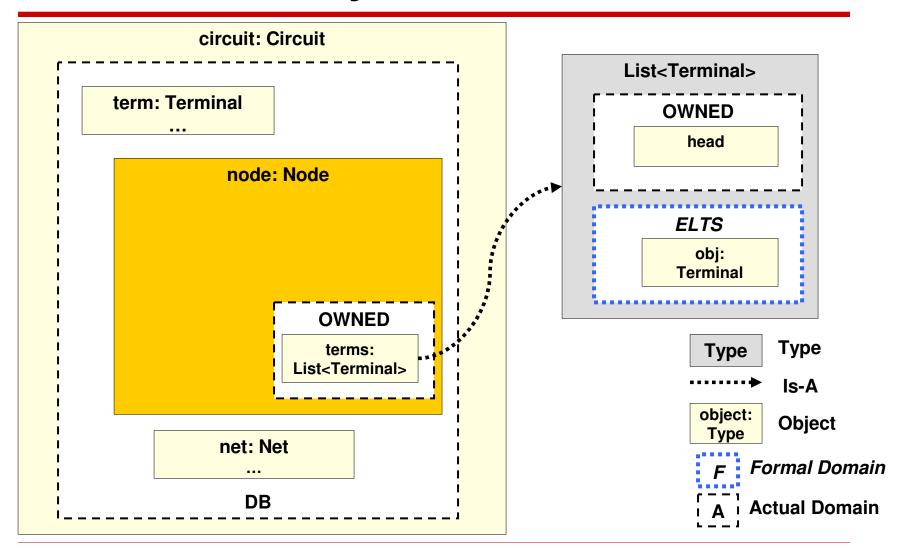
ObjectGraph: instantiate types, starting with root (user selected)

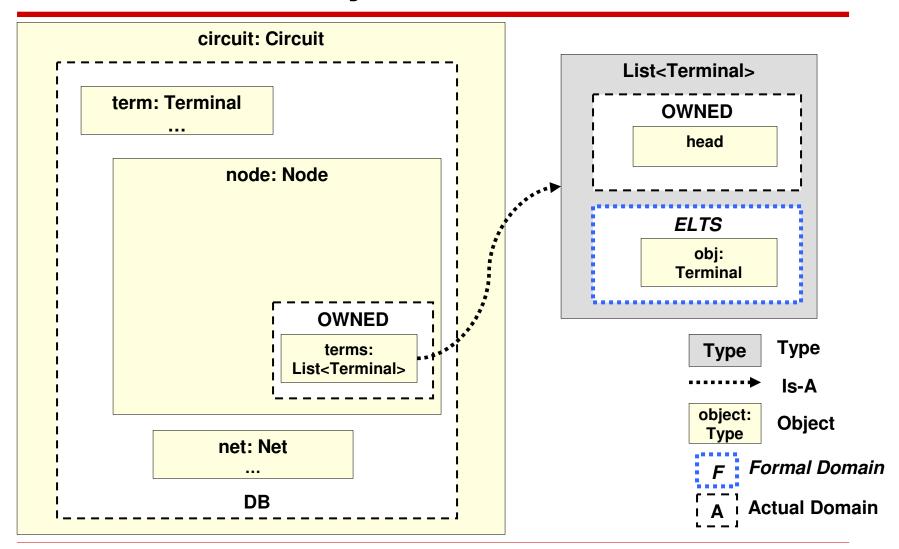


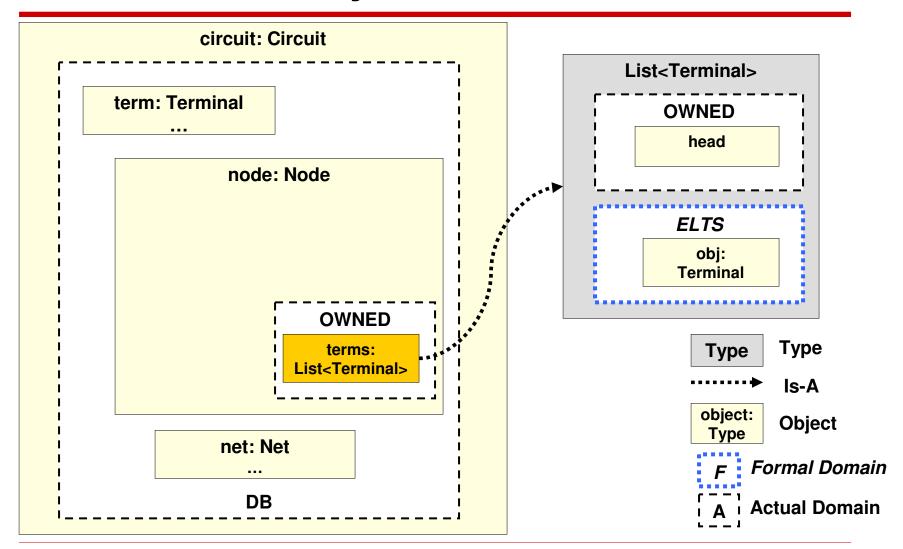
ObjectGraph: instantiate types, starting with root (user selected)

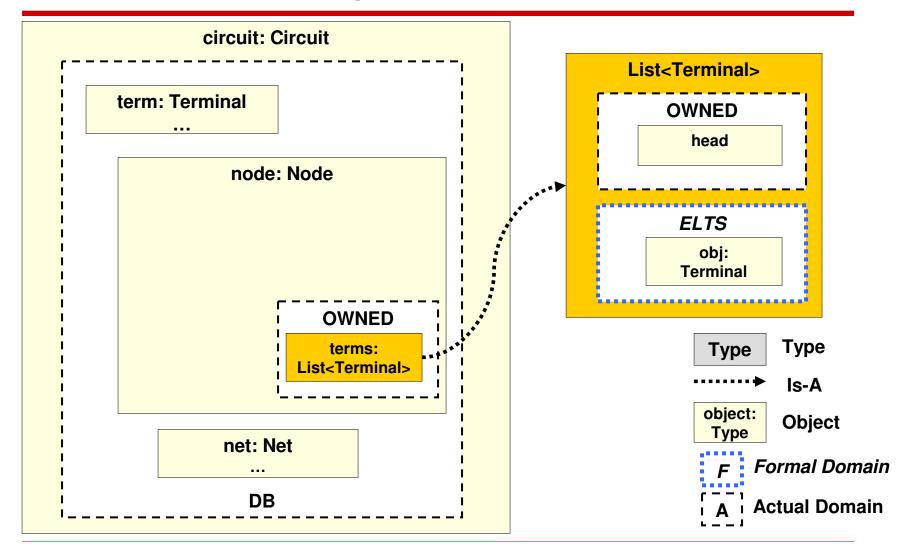


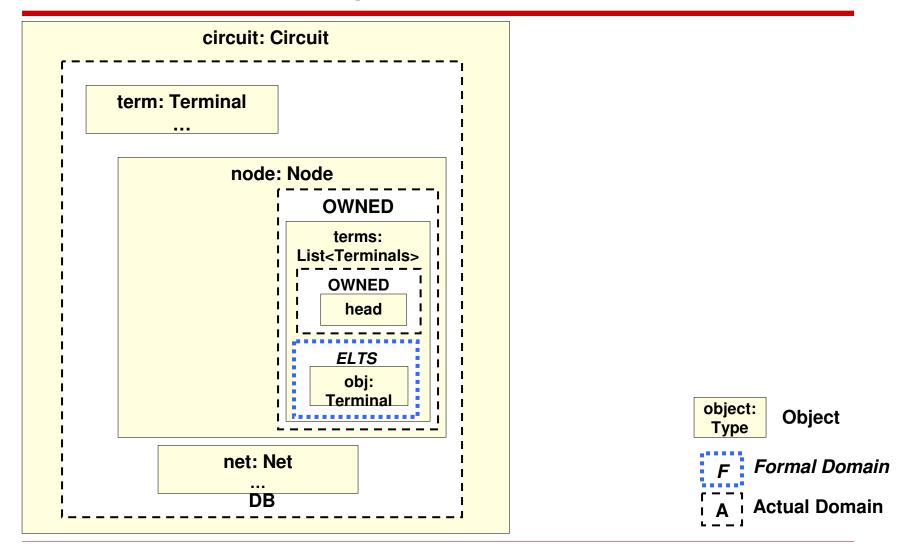










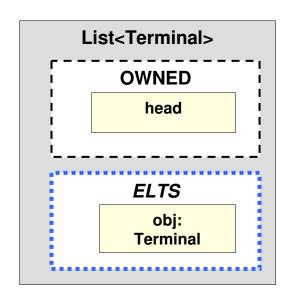


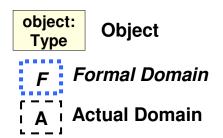
Challenge: unbounded number of objects, based on different executions

- Invariant: Summarize multiple objects in a domain with one canonical object
- Invariant: Merge two objects of the "same type" that are in the same domain
 - I.e., same declared type, or subtype thereof
 - Or of compatible types (more later)

Challenge: TypeGraph does not show all objects in each domain

- Reusable or library code often parametric with respect to ownership
 - List does not "own" its elements
 - Takes domain parameter ELTS for elements

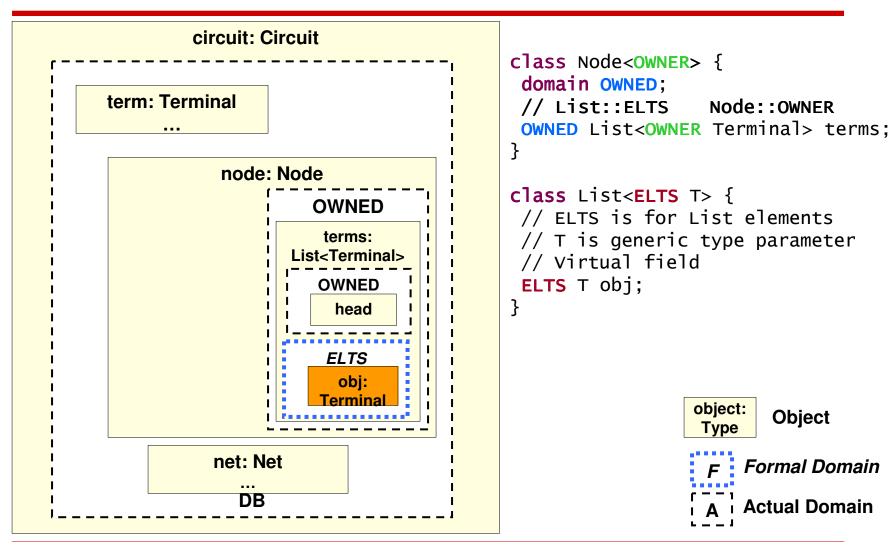




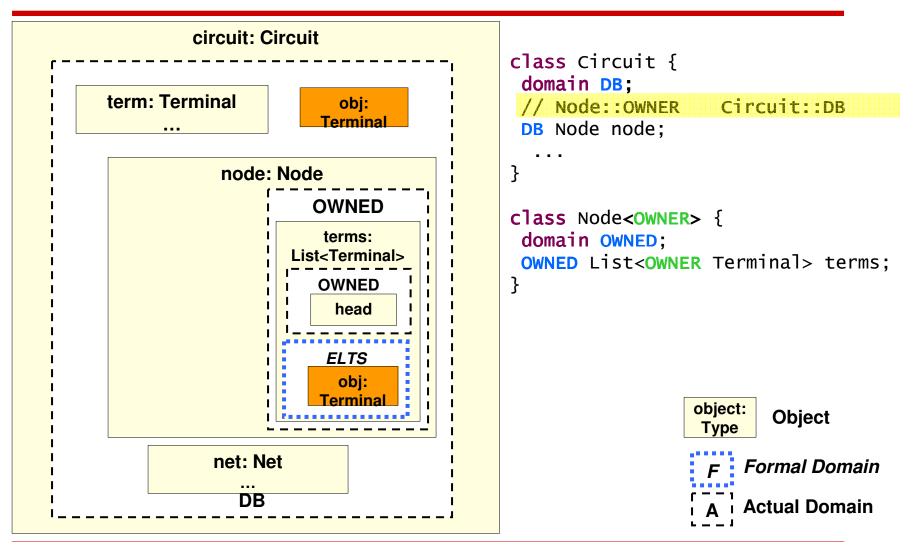
Challenge: TypeGraph does not show all objects in each domain

- At runtime domain parameter bound to other actual domain
- Invariant: In the ObjectGraph, each object that is in a given domain must appear where that domain is declared
- Pull each object declared inside formal domain parameter into each domain bound to the formal domain parameter

ObjectGraph: pull objects from formal domains to actual domains



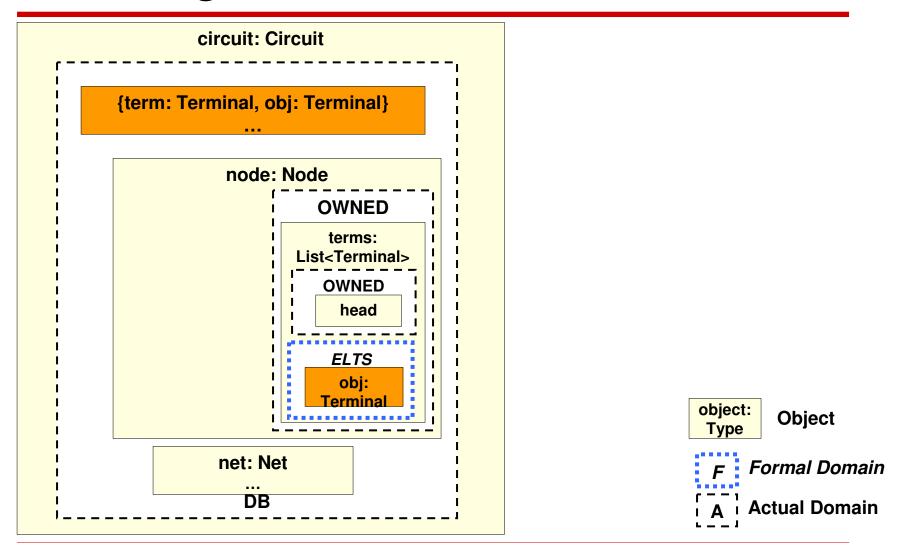
ObjectGraph: pull objects from formal domains to actual domains



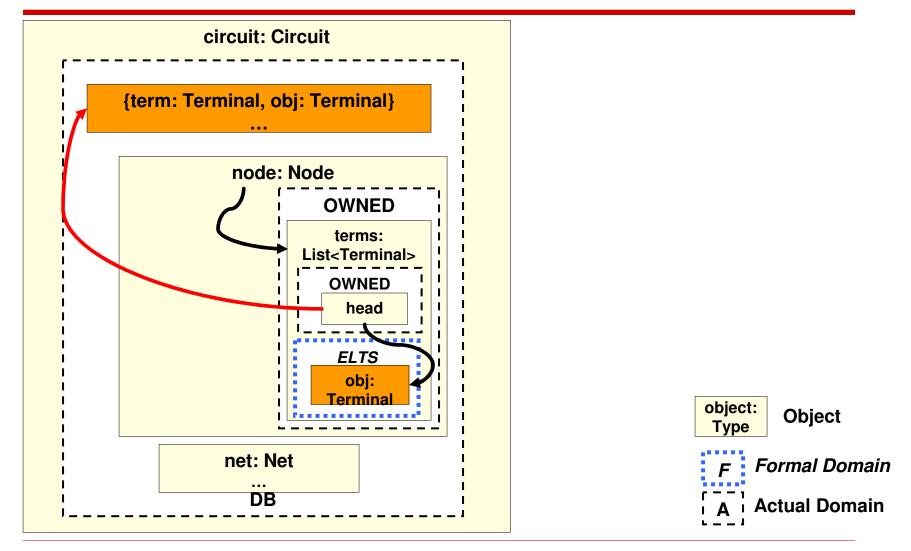
Challenge: TypeGraph does not reflect possible aliasing

- Invariant: the same object should not appear multiple times in the ObjectGraph
- Ownership domain annotations give some precision about aliasing:
 - Two objects in different domains cannot alias
 - Two objects in same domain may alias

ObjectGraph: merge equivalent objects inside a given domain

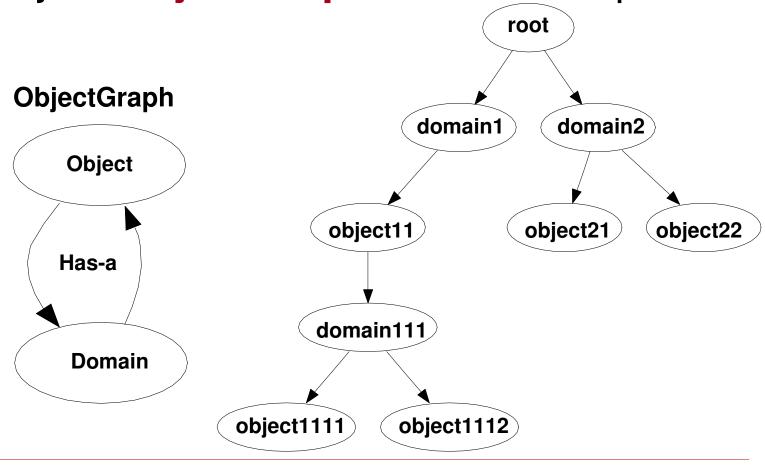


ObjectGraph: add edges to represent points-to relations, incl. to pulled objects



Challenge: ObjectGraph can have cycles

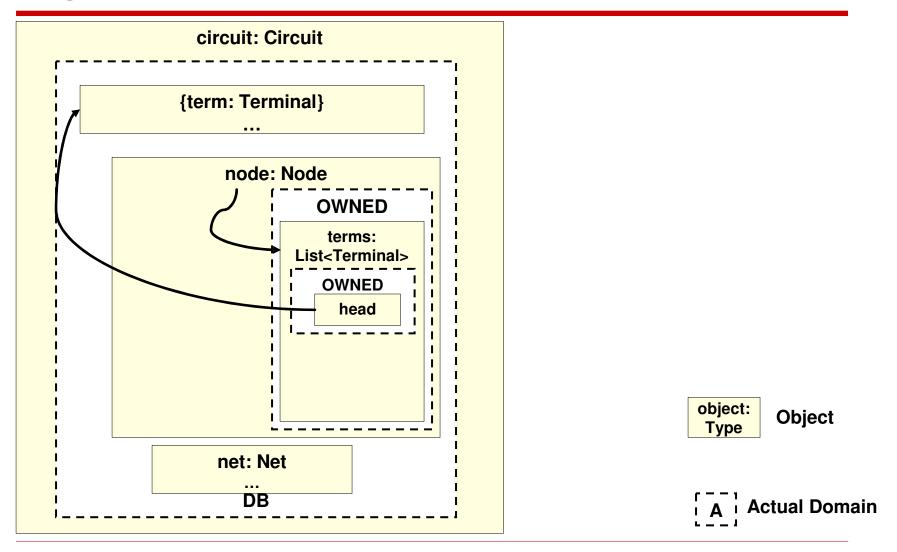
Project ObjectGraph to limited depth



Challenge: objects from elided substructures could point to other objects

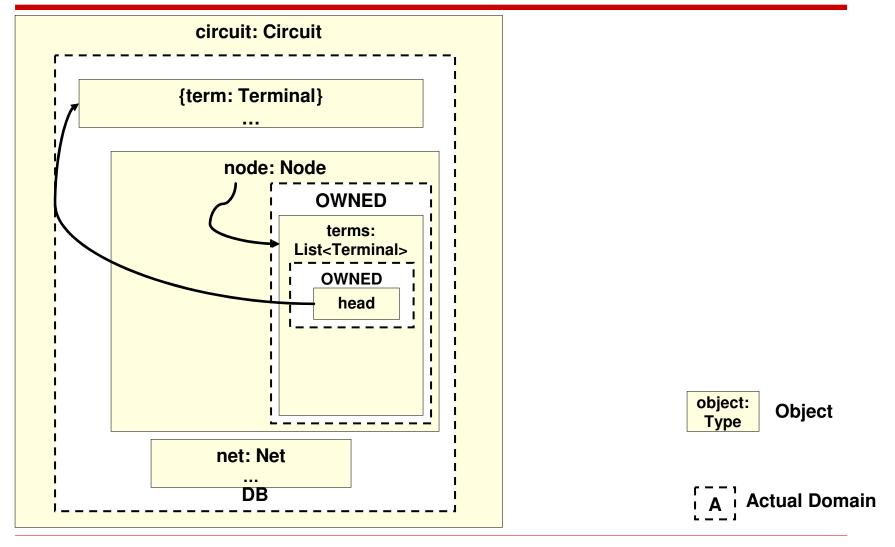
- Invariant: show all object relations, even ones due to elided sub-structures
- Lift edge to parent object when hidden sub-object points to external objects

Aphyds: no longer show formal domains, e.g., 'ELTS' inside 'terms'



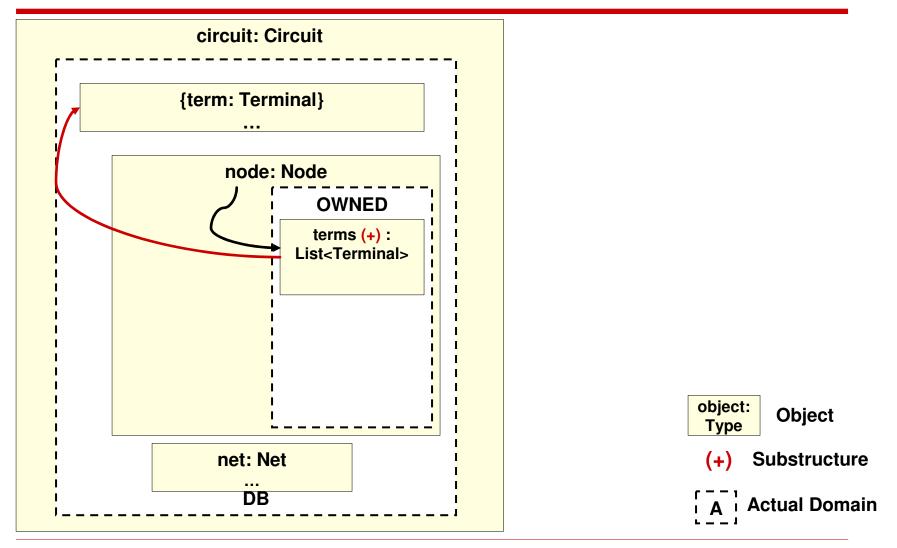
Annotate • Extract • Abstract • Document • Compare • Analyze • Investigate 102

Aphyds: 'node' substructure points to other objects, such as 'term' object

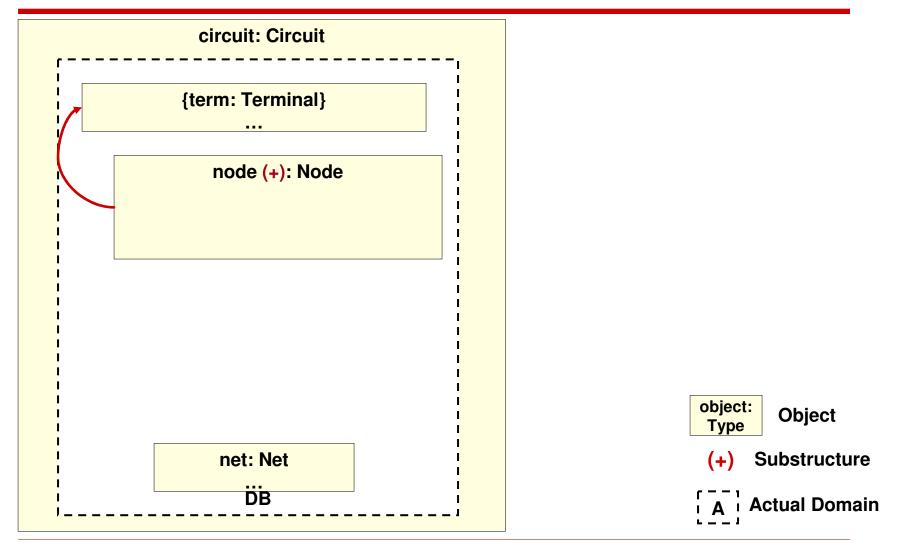


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Aphyds: collapsing substructure of 'terms' object causes edge lifting



Aphyds: collapsing substructure of 'node' object causes additional edge lifting

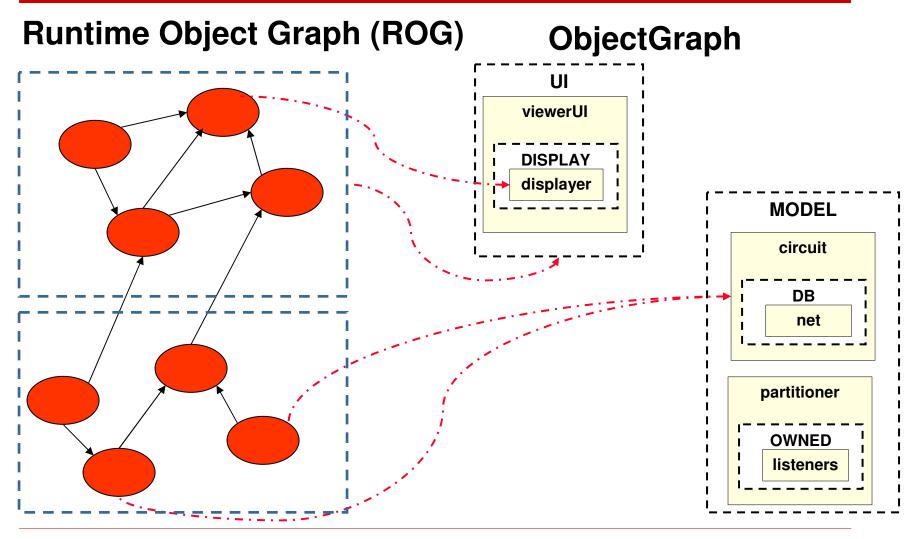


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Extraction key property: soundness

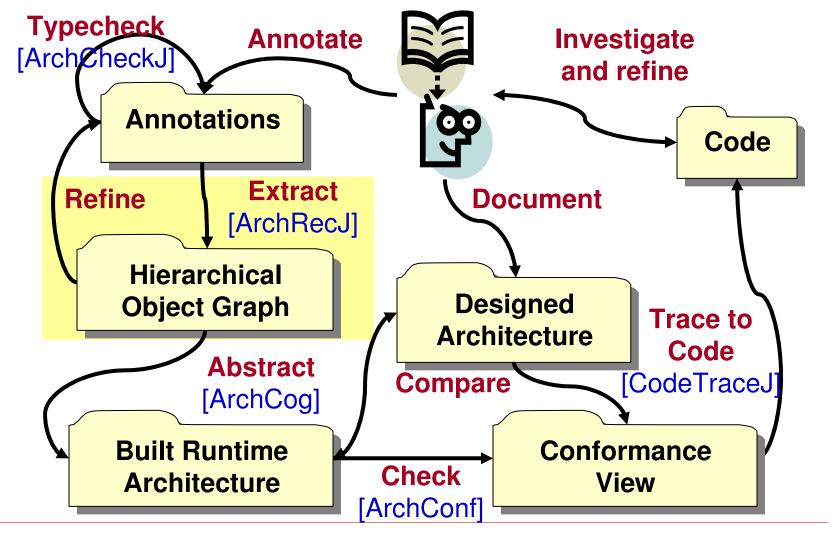
- To be sound, must show all objects and relations that may exist in any run
- Aliasing soundness: no one object appears as two "boxes" in object graph

Intuition behind soundness



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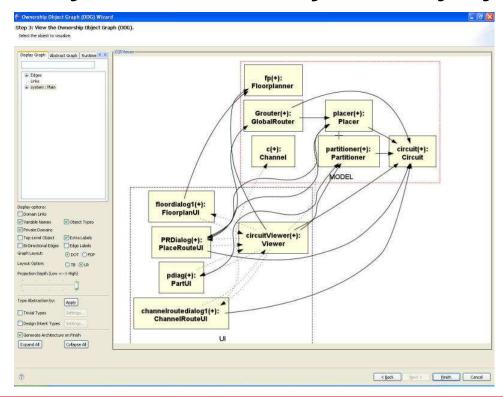
SCHOLIA: use ArchRecJ



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SCHOLIA ArchRecJ on Aphyds

- Abstract objects by ownership hierarchy
- Optionally abstract objects by types



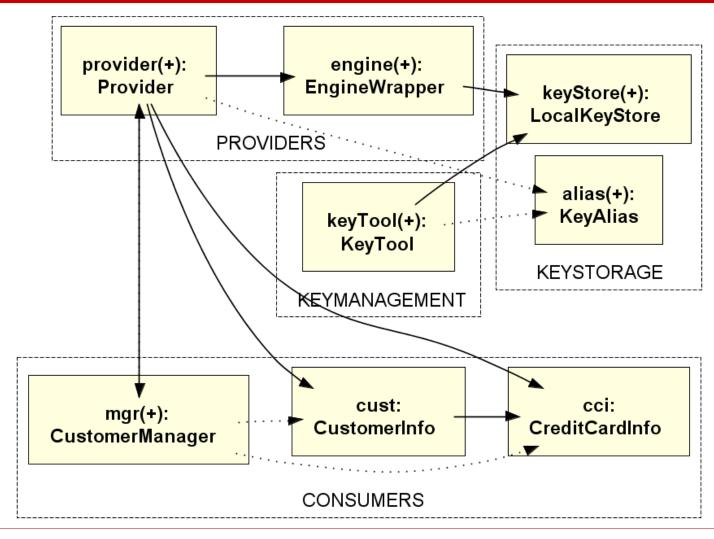
Exercise #2: CryptoDB

Extract object graphs

Exercise #2: CryptoDB

Solution

CryptoDB OOG – no abstraction by types



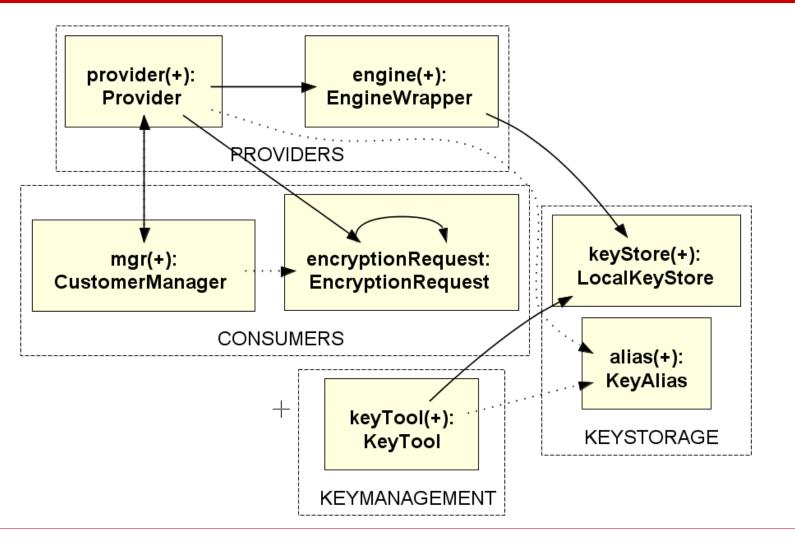
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CryptoDB abstraction by types

CreditCardInfo

- Merge objects when they share <u>non-trivial</u> least upper bound types
- User configures list of "trivial types"; by default, includes Object, Cloneable, etc.

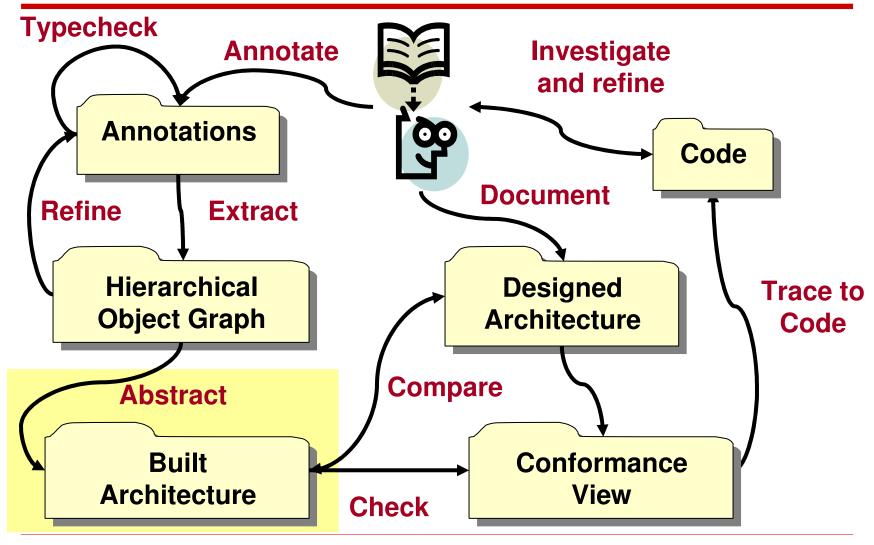
CryptoDB OOG, with abstraction by types



Step 3

Abstract object graph into built architectures

Scholia conformance checking



Annotate ● Extract ● Abstract ● Document ● Compare ● Analyze ● Investigate

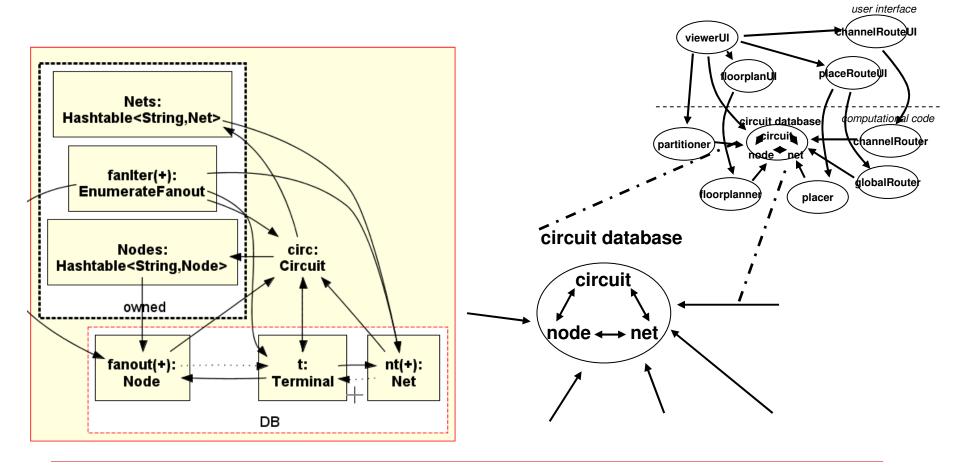
Why need to abstract an object graph?

- Extracted object graph provides architectural abstraction by ownership hierarchy and by types
- May not be isomorphic to architect's intended architecture
- May require further abstraction

Aphyds: object graph vs. target architecture

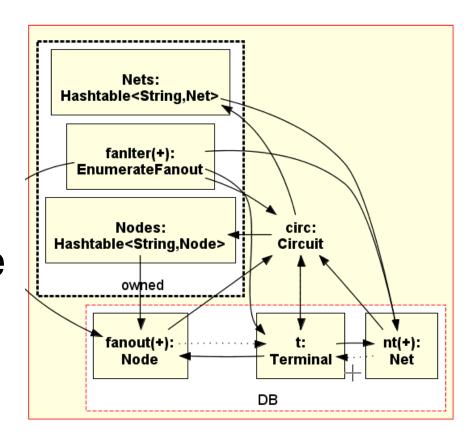
Object graph

Target architecture

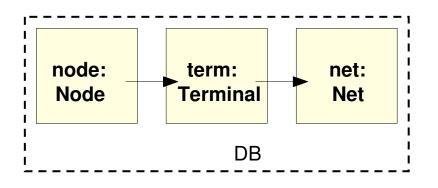


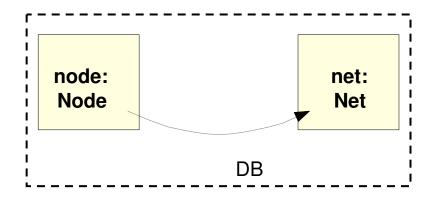
Elide and summarize domains/objects

- Private domains hold representation
- Public domains hold visible state
- Soundly summarize private domains



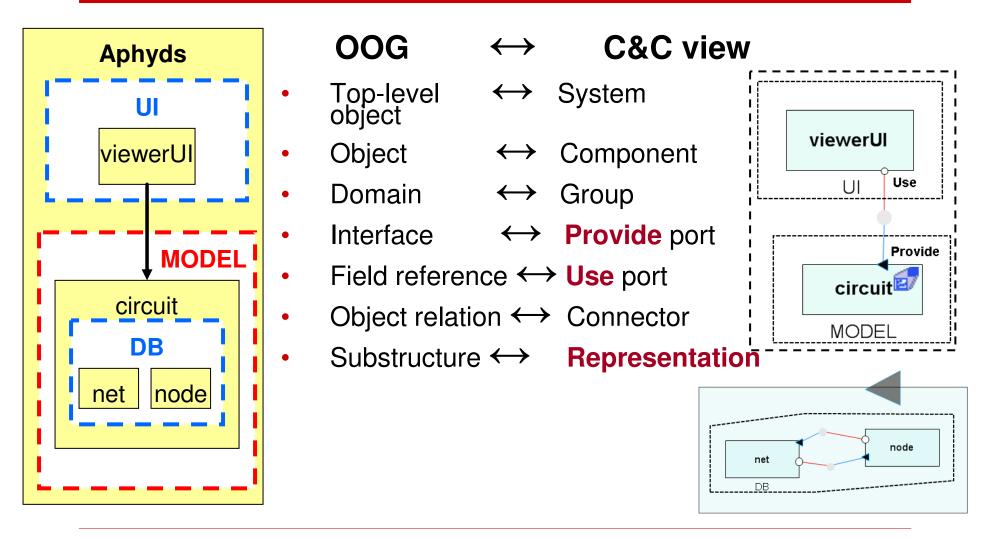
Soundly summarizing elided objects



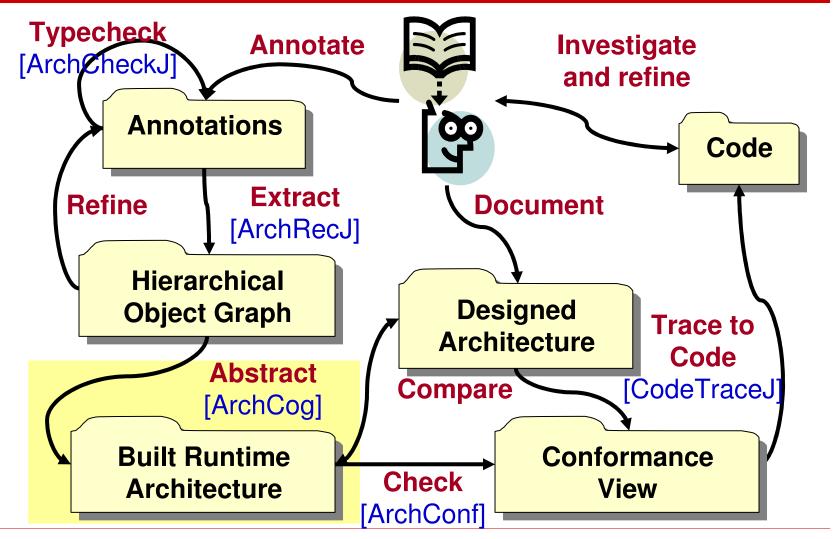


- Eliding object 'term' leads to summary edge to show transitive communication
- Effectively, abstracts object into edge

Represent abstracted object graph in architecture description language



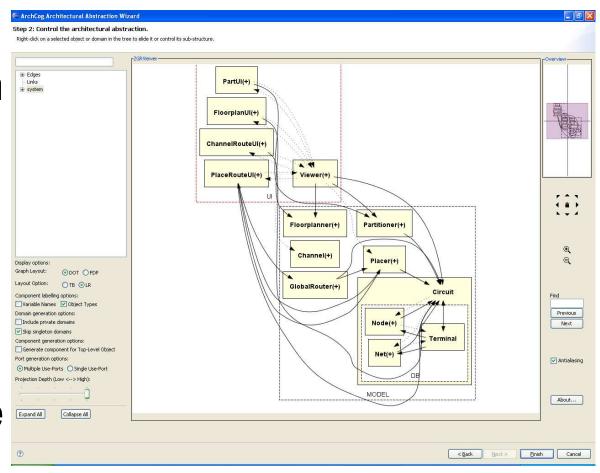
SCHOLIA: use ArchCog



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SCHOLIA ArchCog on Aphyds

- Abstract
 object graph
 into C&C
 view
- Control projection depth
- Elide private domains



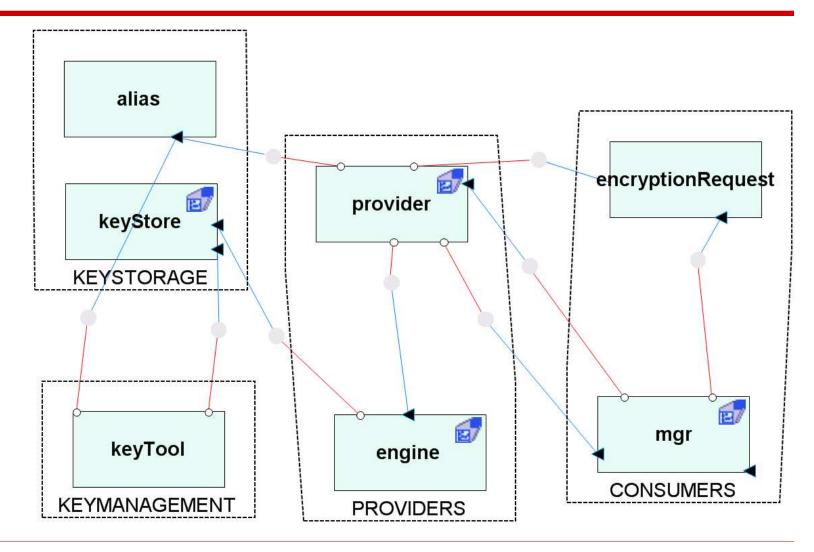
Exercise #3: CryptoDB

Abstract object graph

Exercise #3: CryptoDB

Solution

CryptoDB built architecture

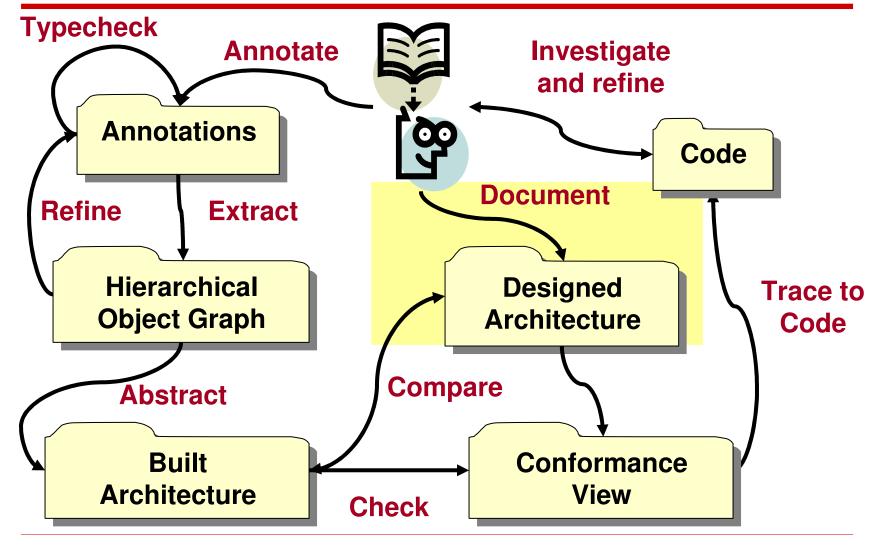


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Step 4

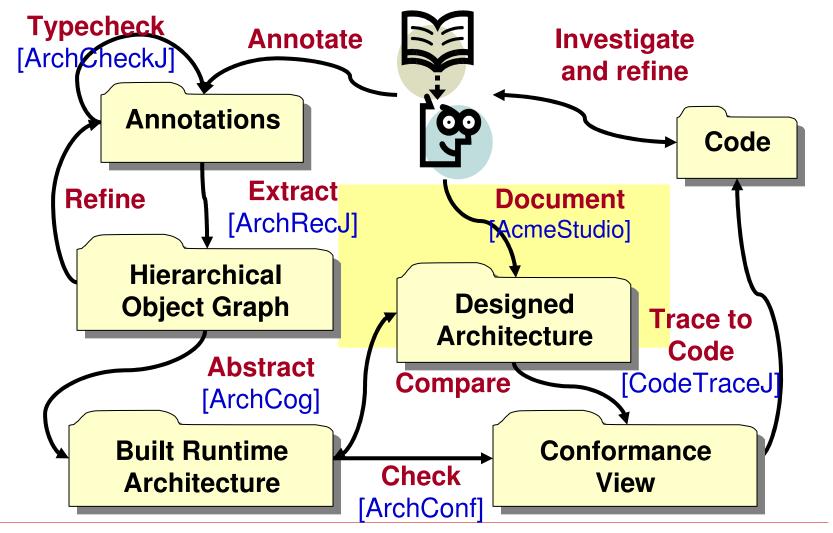
Document target architecture

Scholia conformance checking



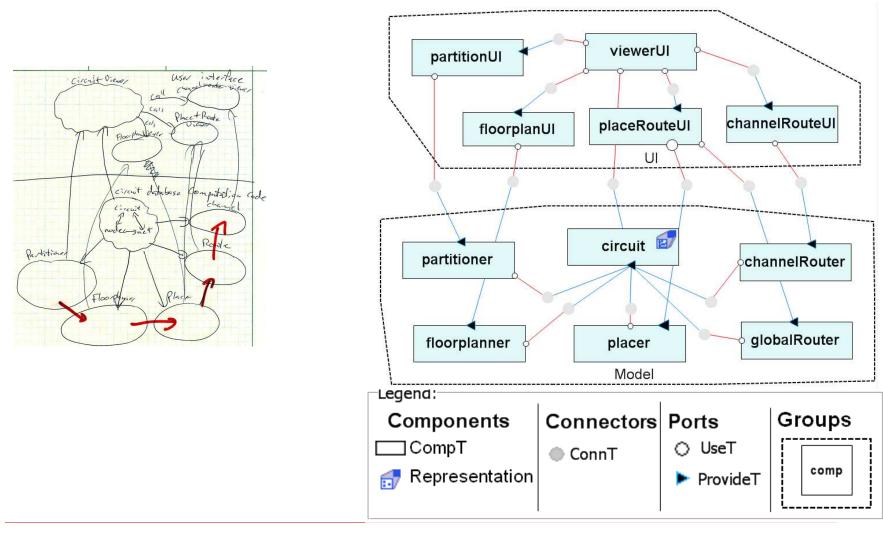
Annotate ● Extract ● Abstract ● Document ● Compare ● Analyze ● Investigate

SCHOLIA: use AcmeStudio



Annotate ● Extract ● Abstract ● Document ● Compare ● Analyze ● Investigate

Aphyds: document designed architecture in architecture description language

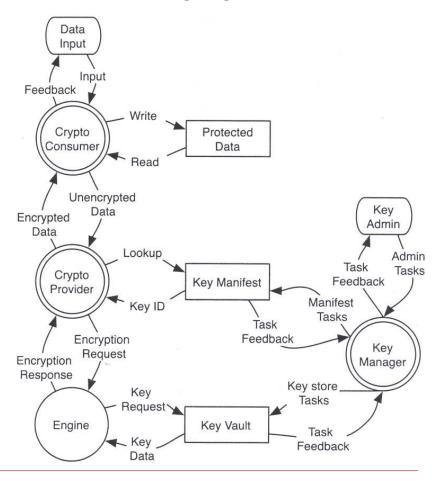


Exercise #4: CryptoDB

Document target architecture

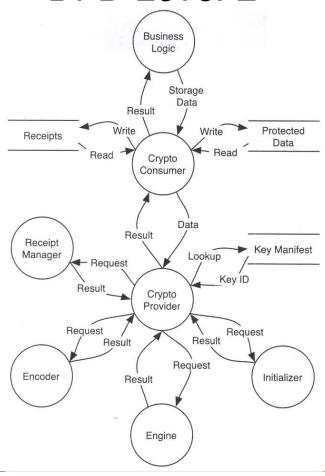
CryptoDB

DFD Level-1



CryptoDB

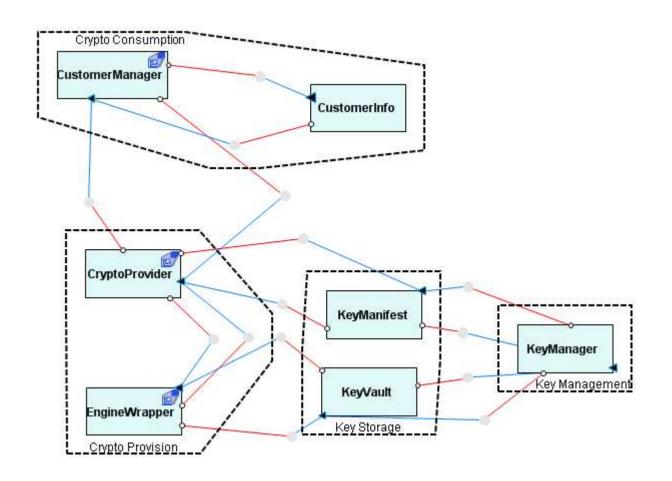
DFD Level-2



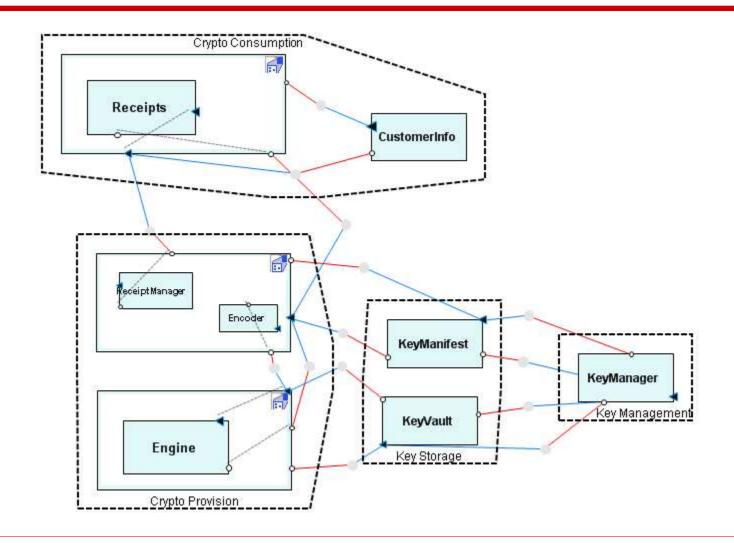
Exercise #4: CryptoDB

Solution

CryptoDB target architecture



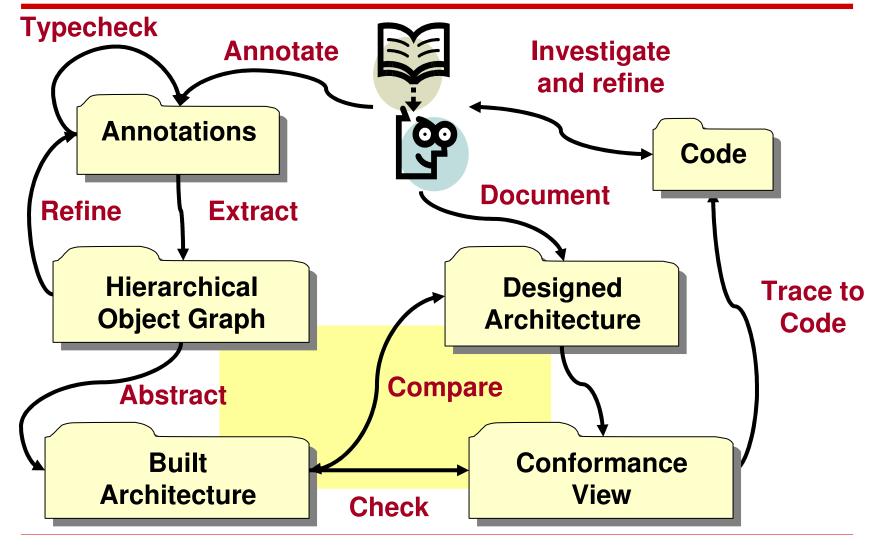
CryptoDB target architecture



Step 5

Compare built and designed architectures

Scholia conformance checking

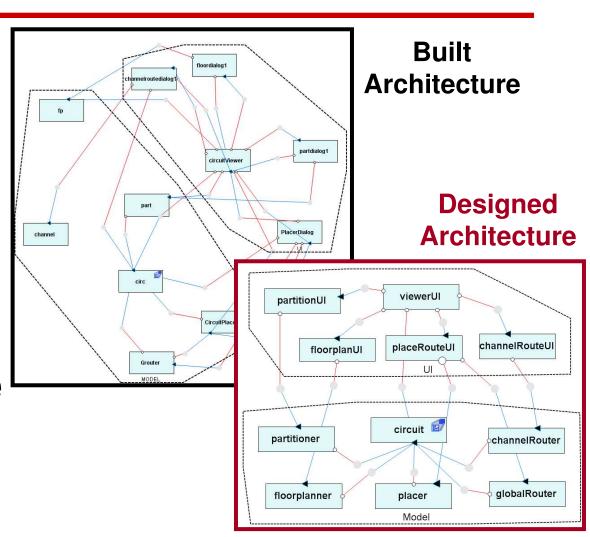


Annotate ● Extract ● Abstract ● Document ● Compare ● Analyze ● Investigate 138

Why is comparing built and designed architectures hard?

- No unique identifiers
- Renames
- Insertions
- Deletions

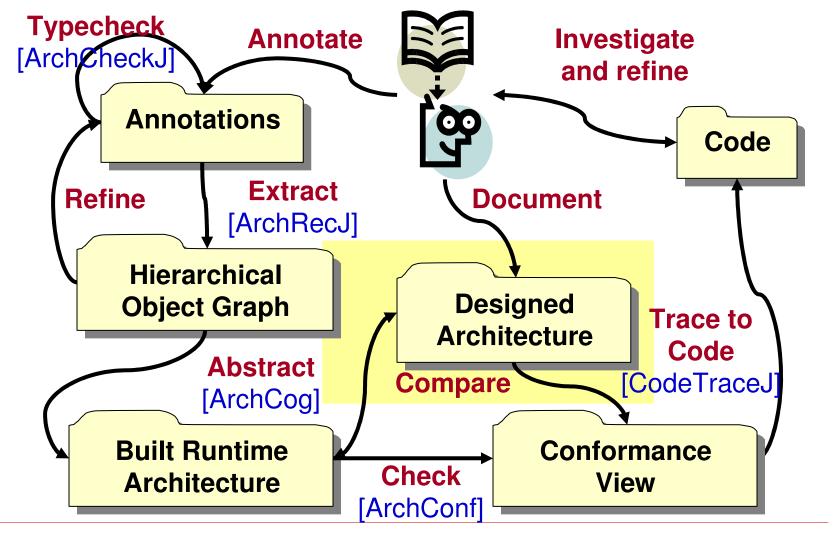
 Solution: use structural comparison



Structural comparison

- Exploit hierarchy in architectural views to match the nodes
- Detect renames, insertions, deletions and restricted moves
- Previous architectural comparison detected only insertions and deletions
- Lost node properties needed for architectural analyses

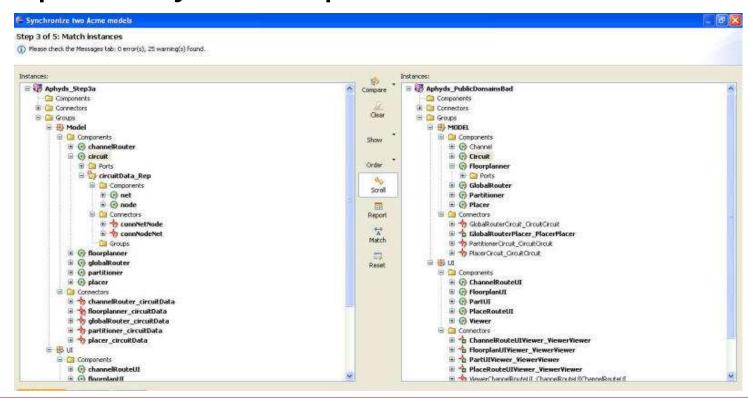
SCHOLIA: use ArchConf



Annotate ● Extract ● Abstract ● Document ● Compare ● Analyze ● Investigate 141

Aphyds: comparing built and designed architectures

- Accept results of structural comparison
- Optionally, force/prevent matches



Exercise #5: CryptoDB

Compare build and target architecture

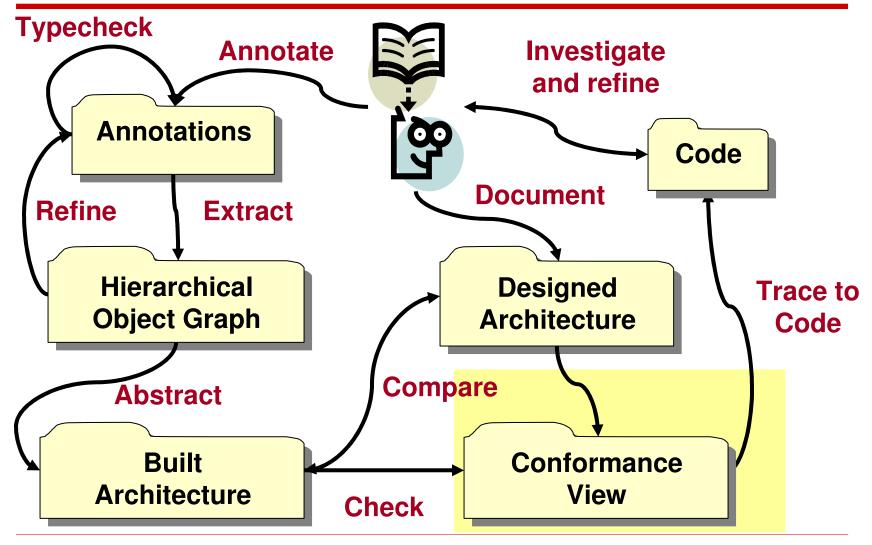
Exercise #5: CryptoDB

Solution

Step 6

Check conformance between built and designed architectures

Scholia conformance checking



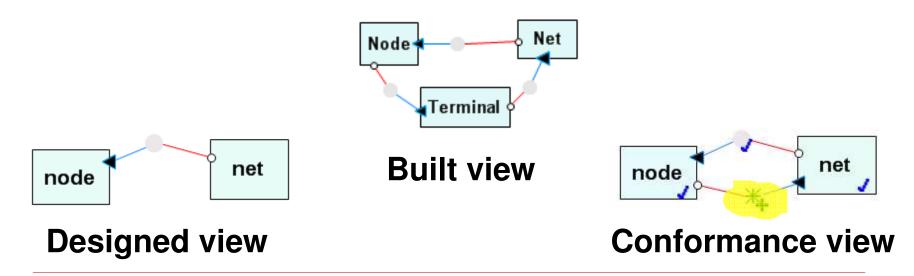
• Annotate • Extract • Abstract • Document • Compare • Analyze • Investigate :

How is conformance checking different from view differencing/merging?

- Goal is not to make the built and the designed architectures identical
- Account for communication in built **system** that is not in designed one
 - Do not propagate all implementation objects
 - Enforce communication integrity
- Measure conformance as graph edit distance between built and designed views

Conformance checking analysis

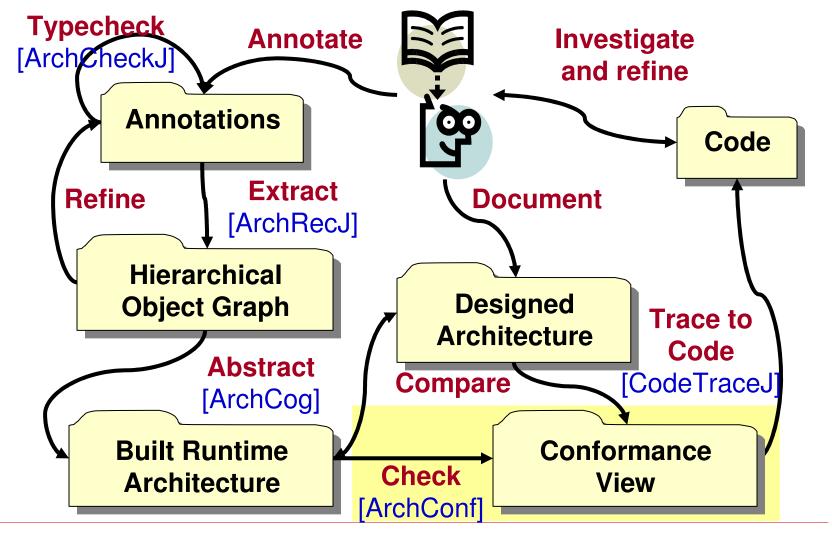
- Use built view names
- Do not directly propagate additional components
- Summarize additional components in built architecture using summary edges **



Conformance check identifies key differences

- Convergence: node or edge in both built and in designed view
- Divergence: node or edge in built, but not in designed view
- Absence: node or edge in designed view, but not in built view

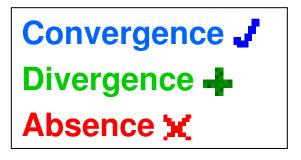
SCHOLIA: use ArchConf

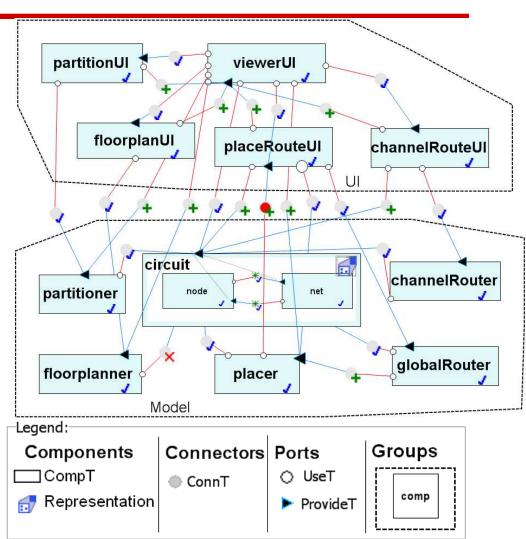


Annotate ● Extract ● Abstract ● Document ● Compare ● Analyze ● Investigate

Aphyds: developer investigates reported differences

- Study findings
- Trace to code





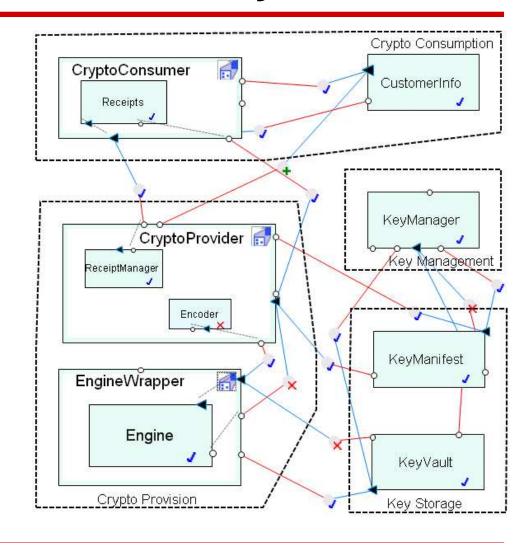
Exercise #6: CryptoDB

Check conformance between built and designed architectures

Exercise #6: CryptoDB

Solution

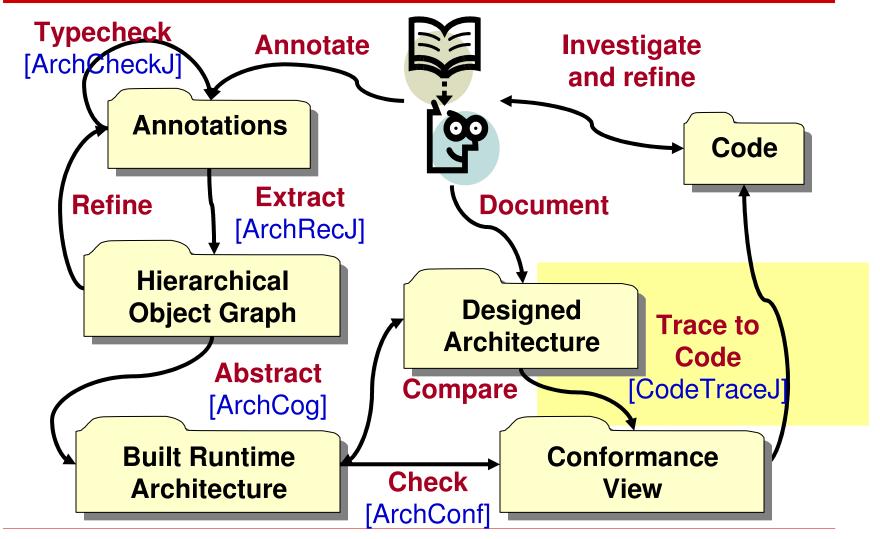
CryptoDB conformance analysis



Step 7

Investigate and trace to code

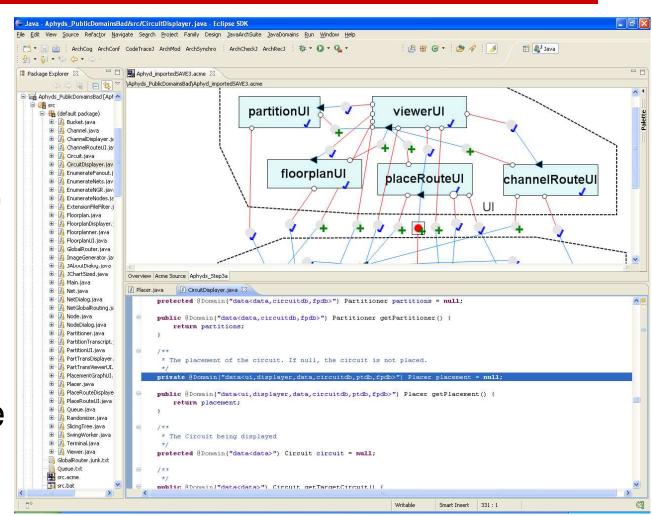
SCHOLIA: use CodeTraceJ



• Annotate • Extract • Abstract • Document • Compare • Analyze • Investigate

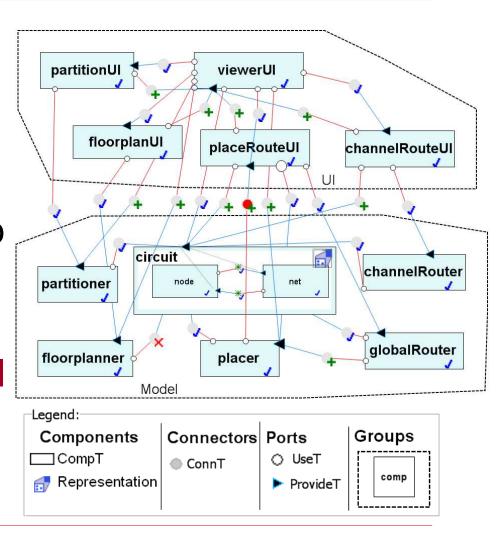
Aphyds: trace from runtime architecture, obtained statically, to lines of code

- Trace finding to code
- Previously, only UML class diagrams supported this feature

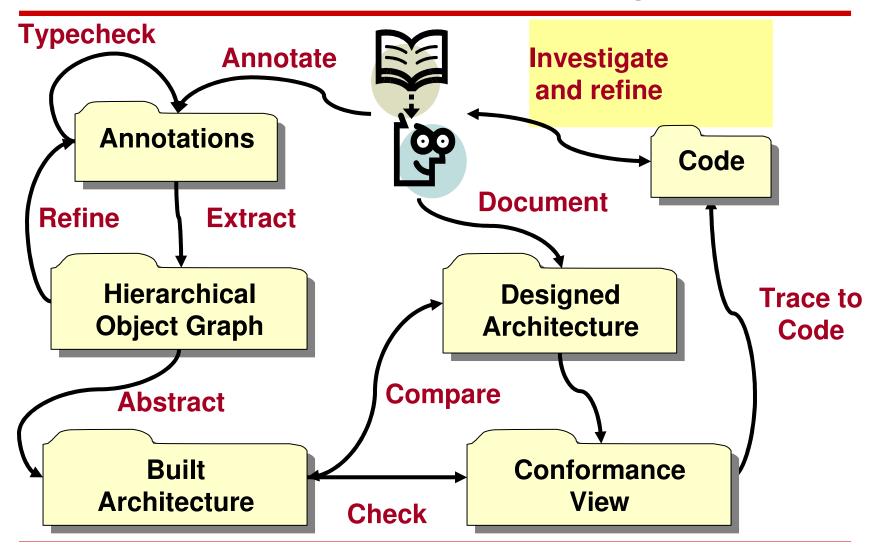


Aphyds: summary of findings

- Missing top-level component partitionUl
- Callback from placer in MODEL to placeRouteUI in UI
- Many connections really bi-directional



Scholia conformance checking



Annotate ● Extract ● Abstract ● Document ● Compare ● Analyze ● Investigate

Outcomes of investigating findings

- Iteratively refine annotations based on visualizing an extracted object graph, before abstracting it;
- Fine-tune the abstraction of an object graph into an architecture;
- Manually guide the comparison of the built and the designed architecture, if structural comparison fails to perform the proper match;
- Update code if she decides designed architecture is correct, but implementation violates architecture;
- Update designed architecture if she considers implementation highlights mission in architecture

Exercise #7: CryptoDB

Investigate and trace to code

Exercise #7: CryptoDB

Solution

CryptoDB summary

What did you learn?

Discussion

Limitations

- Manual annotation burden
 - Impractical without annotation inference
 - Active area of research
- Annotation expressiveness limitations
- Extraction does not handle
 - Distributed systems (single virtual machine)
 - Dynamic architectural reconfiguration
- Comparison can fail to match if views are too discrepant, quadratic in the view sizes
- False positives possible
 - As is the case with any sound static analysis
 - Few when developer fine-tunes annotations

Conclusion

- You learned about SCHOLIA, to extract statically a hierarchical runtime architecture from a program in a widely used object-oriented language, using typecheckable annotations
- If intended architecture exists, SCHOLIA can analyze, at compile-time, communication integrity between implementation and target architecture
- In practice, SCHOLIA can find structural differences between an existing system and its target architecture
- SCHOLIA can establish traceability between an implementation and an intended runtime architecture
- SCHOLIA complements architectural views of code structure or partial views of runtime architecture obtained using dynamic analysis