

# #27: Separation Logic and Deductive Synthesis

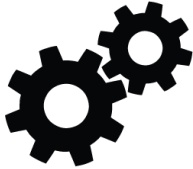
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EECS 700: Introduction to Program Synthesis



# Program synthesis with guarantees

specification



code + proof

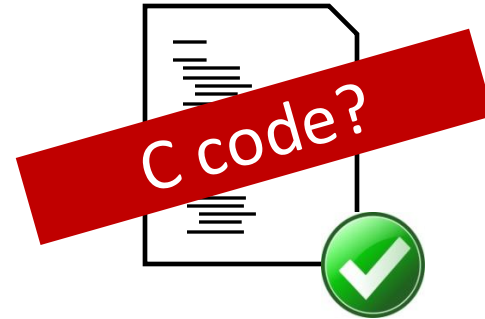


# Program synthesis with guarantees

specification



code + proof



- ☹ verbose
- ☹ unstructured
- ☹ pointers

# The trouble with pointers

- Can we naively apply Hoare logic to programs with pointers?

$$\{*x = 10 \wedge *y = 10\}$$

$\Rightarrow$

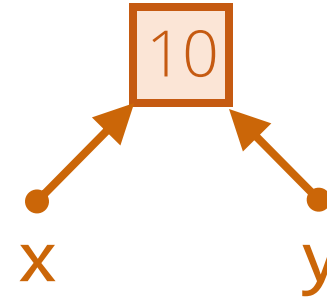
$$\{(*x) + 5 = 15 \wedge (*y) - 5 = 5\}$$

$$*x = *x + 5;$$

$$\{*x = 15 \wedge (*y) - 5 = 5\}$$

$$*y = *y - 5;$$

$$\{*x = 15 \wedge *y = 5\}$$

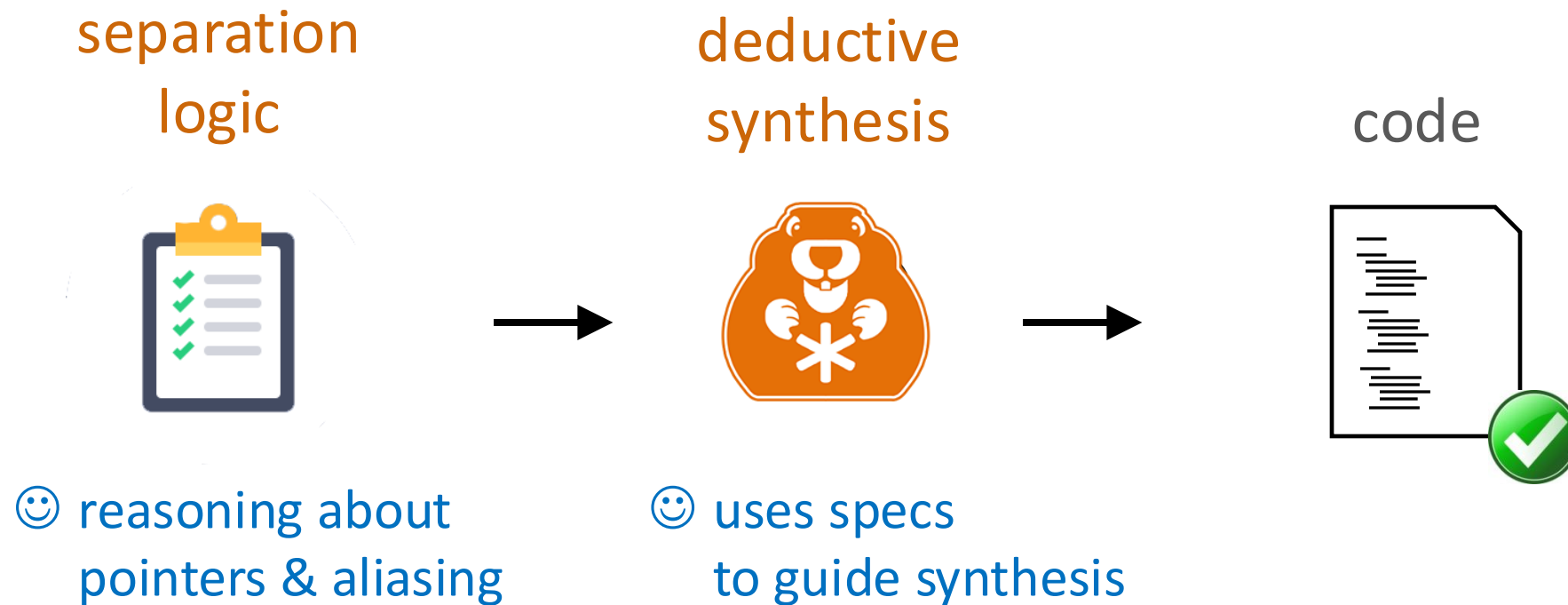


# SuSLik



Synthesis Using Separation Logik

# The SuSLik approach



# Outline

## 1. example: swap

a taste of SuSLik

## 2. separation logic

specifying pointer-manipulating programs

## 3. deductive synthesis

from SL specifications to programs

# Outline

1. example: swap
2. separation logic
3. deductive synthesis



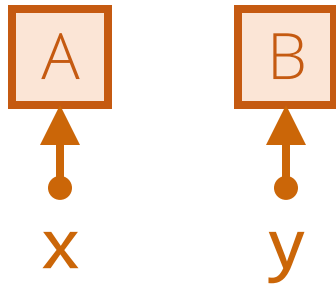
# Example: swap

Swap values of two *distinct* pointers

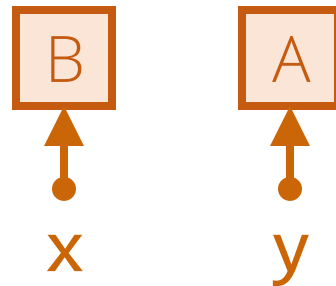
```
void swap(loc x, loc y)
```

# Example: swap

start state:



end state:



in separation logic:

precondition

$\{ x \mapsto A * \boxed{y \mapsto B} \}$

separately

**void** swap(**loc**  $x$ , **loc**  $y$ )

$\{ x \mapsto B * \boxed{y \mapsto A} \}$

postcondition

logical variables

# Demo: swap

Swap values of two *distinct* pointers

```
void swap(loc x, loc y)
```

$$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \}$$

??

$$\{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \}$$

**let** a1 = \*x;

{ x  $\mapsto$  a1 \* y  $\mapsto$  B }

??

{ x  $\mapsto$  B \* y  $\mapsto$  a1 }

**let** a1 = \*x;

**let** b1 = \*y;

{ x  $\mapsto$  a1 \* y  $\mapsto$  b1 }

??

{ x  $\mapsto$  b1 \* y  $\mapsto$  a1 }

**let** a1 = \*x;

**let** b1 = \*y;

\*x = b1;

{ x  $\mapsto$  b1 \* y  $\mapsto$  b1 }

??

{ x  $\mapsto$  b1 \* y  $\mapsto$  a1 }

**let** a1 = \*x;

**let** b1 = \*y;

\*x = b1;

\*y = a1;

{ x  $\mapsto$  b1 \* y  $\mapsto$  a1 }

??

{ x  $\mapsto$  b1 \* y  $\mapsto$  a1 }

same



The diagram consists of two identical sets of text, one above the other. Each set contains a blue text string "{ x  $\mapsto$  b1 \* y  $\mapsto$  a1 }" followed by a red text string "??". From the right side of each "??", an orange arrow points diagonally down and to the right, converging towards the word "same" which is positioned to the right of the space between the two sets of text.



```
let a1 = *x;
```

```
let b1 = *y;
```

```
*x = b1;
```

```
*y = a1;
```



```
void swap(loc x, loc y) {  
    let a1 = *x;  
    let b1 = *y;  
    *x = b1;  
    *y = a1;  
}
```

# Outline

1. example: swap

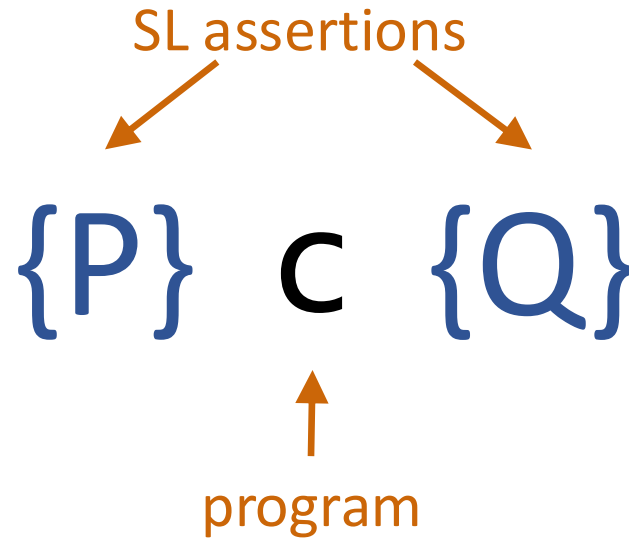
2. separation logic

3. deductive synthesis

# Separation logic (SL)

Hoare logic  
“about the heap”

# Separation logic (SL)



starting in a state that satisfies  $P$   
program  $c$  will execute **without memory errors**,  
and upon its termination the state will satisfy  $Q$

# Outline

1. example: swap

## 2. separation logic

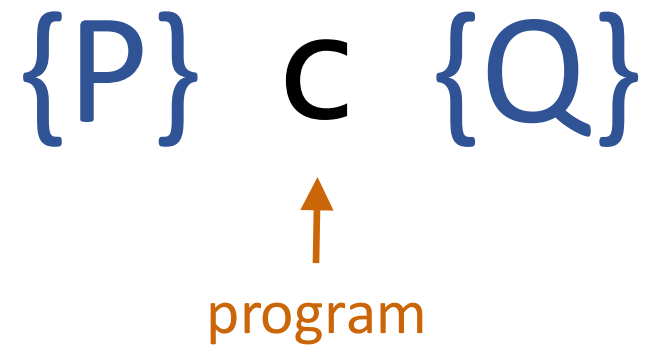
2.1. programs

2.2. assertions

2.3. specifying data transformations

3. deductive synthesis

# Separation logic (SL)



# Programs

do nothing

**skip**



# Programs

do nothing

read from heap

**skip**

**let**  $y = *(x + n)$

offset (natural number)

variables

# Programs

do nothing

read from heap

write to heap

**skip**

**let**  $y = *(x + n)$

$*(x + n) = e$

← expression  
(arithmetic, boolean)

# Programs

do nothing

read from heap

write to heap

allocate block

**skip**

**let**  $y = *(x + n)$

$*(x + n) = e$

**let**  $y = \text{malloc}(n)$

# Programs

do nothing

**skip**

read from heap

**let**  $y = *(x + n)$

write to heap

$*(x + n) = e$

allocate block

**let**  $y = \text{malloc}(n)$

free block

**free**( $x$ )

# Programs

do nothing

**skip**

read from heap

**let**  $y = *(x + n)$

write to heap

$*(x + n) = e$

allocate block

**let**  $y = \mathbf{malloc}(n)$

free block

**free**( $x$ )

procedure call

$p(e_1, \dots, e_n)$

# Programs

do nothing

read from heap

write to heap

allocate block

free block

procedure call

assignment

**skip**

**let**  $y = *(x + n)$

$*(x + n) = e$

**let**  $y = \text{malloc}(n)$

**free**( $x$ )

$p(e_1, \dots, e_n)$

only heap is mutable, not stack variables!

# Programs

do nothing

**skip**

read from heap

**let**  $y = *(x + n)$

write to heap

$*(x + n) = e$

allocate block

**let**  $y = \mathbf{malloc}(n)$

free block

**free**( $x$ )

procedure call

$p(e_1, \dots, e_n)$

sequential composition

$c_1 ; c_2$

conditional

**if** ( $e$ )  $\{c_1\}$  else  $\{c_2\}$

# Outline

1. example: swap

## 2. separation logic

2.1. programs

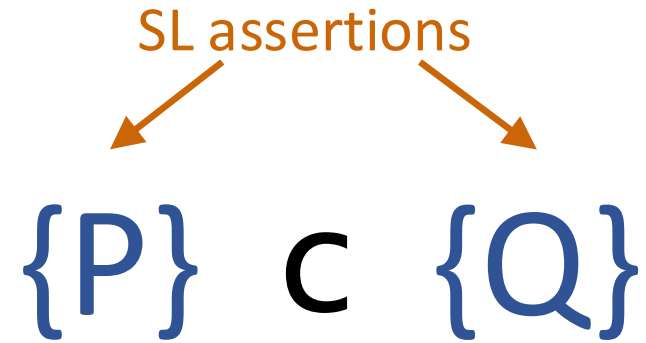
2.2. assertions

2.3. specifying data transformations

3. deductive synthesis



# Separation logic (SL)



# SL assertions

empty heap      { emp }

# SL assertions

empty heap       $\{ \text{emp} \}$

singleton heap       $\{ y \mapsto 5 \}$



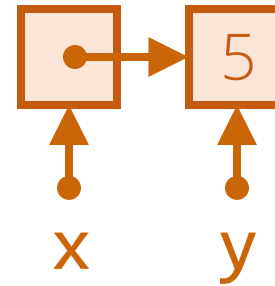
# SL assertions

empty heap       $\{ \text{emp} \}$

singleton heap       $\{ y \mapsto 5 \}$

separating  
conjunction       $\{ x \mapsto y * y \mapsto 5 \}$

↙ ↘  
heaplets



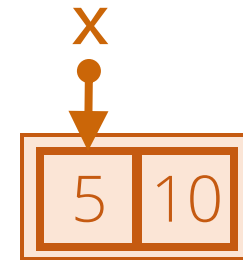
# SL assertions

empty heap                     $\{ \text{emp} \}$

singleton heap                 $\{ y \mapsto 5 \}$

separating  
conjunction                    $\{ x \mapsto y * y \mapsto 5 \}$

memory block                  $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto 5 * (x + 1) \mapsto 10 \}$



# SL assertions

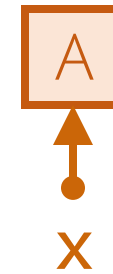
empty heap             $\{ \text{emp} \}$

singleton heap         $\{ y \mapsto 5 \}$

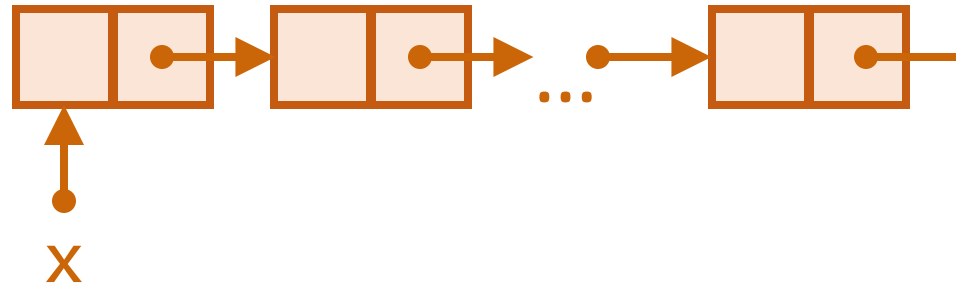
separating  
conjunction             $\{ x \mapsto y * y \mapsto 5 \}$

memory block          $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto 5 * (x + 1) \mapsto 10 \}$

+ pure formula          $\{ A > 5 ; x \mapsto A \}$



# SL assertions: linked structures



# SL assertions: linked structures

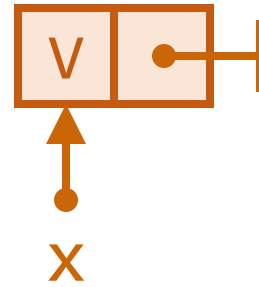
linked list      $\{ x = 0 ; \text{emp} \}$





# SL assertions: linked structures

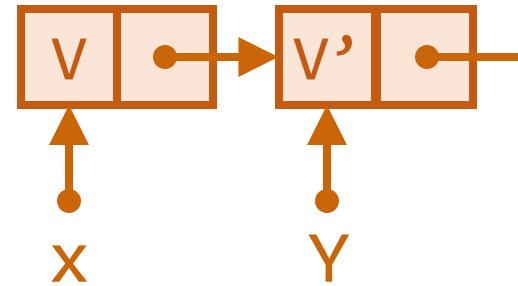
linked list     $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto 0 \}$



# SL assertions: linked structures

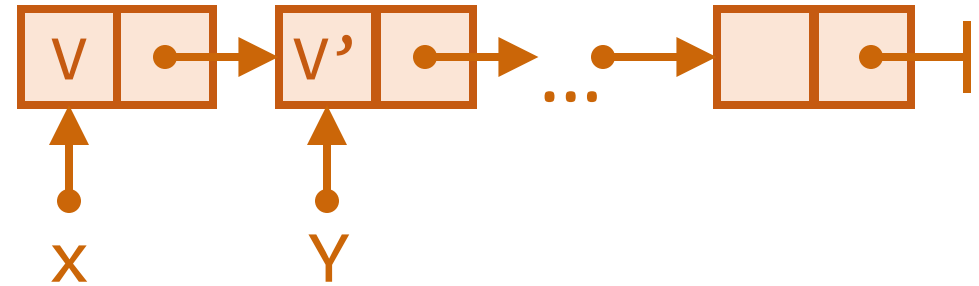
linked list     $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto Y * \\ [Y, 2] * Y \mapsto V' * (Y + 1) \mapsto 0$

}



# SL assertions: linked structures

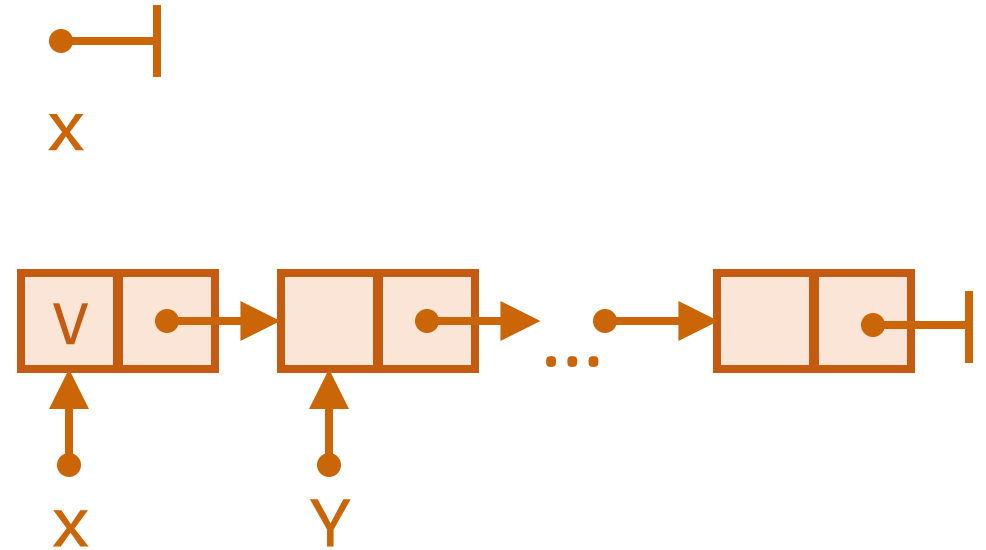
linked list     $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto Y *$   
                   $[Y, 2] * Y \mapsto V' * (Y + 1) \mapsto Y' *$   
                   $\dots$   
                   $\}$



inductive predicates to the rescue!

# The linked list predicate

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  |  $x = 0 \Rightarrow \{ \mathbf{emp} \}$   
  |  $x \neq 0 \Rightarrow \{ [x, 2]$   
    *  $x \mapsto V$   
    *  $(x + 1) \mapsto Y$   
    * list(Y)  
  }  
}
```



# Outline

1. example: swap

## 2. separation logic

2.1. programs

2.2. assertions

2.3. specifying data transformations

3. deductive synthesis

# Example: dispose a list

```
void dispose(loc x)
```

```
{ list(x) }
```

```
{ emp }
```

# Example: copy a list

```
void copy(loc x, loc ret)
```

```
{ list(x, S) * ret  $\mapsto$  _ }
```

```
{ list(x, S) * ret  $\mapsto$  Y * list(Y, S) }
```



return location

# Outline

1. example: swap

2. the logic

**3. deductive synthesis**



# Deductive synthesis

synthesis as proof search

# Outline

1. example: swap

2. the logic

**3. deductive synthesis**

3.1. proof system

3.2. proof search

# transforming entailment

$$P \rightsquigarrow Q \mid c$$

a state that satisfies  $P$   
can be transformed into a state that satisfies  $Q$   
using a program  $c$

# Synthetic separation logic (SSL)

proof system for  
transforming entailment

$\{\text{emp}\} \not\Rightarrow \{\text{emp}\} \mid ??$

(Emp)

$\{\text{emp}\} \rightsquigarrow \{\text{emp}\} \mid \mathbf{skip}$

(Frame)

$$\{ P \} \rightsquigarrow \{ Q \} \mid c$$

---

$$\{ P * R \} \rightsquigarrow \{ Q * R \} \mid c??$$

(Write)

$$\{ x \mapsto e * P \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto e * Q \} \mid c$$

---

$$\{ x \mapsto \_ * P \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto e * Q \} \mid *x \text{ ??}$$



(Read)

$$[y/A]\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow [y/A]\{Q\} \mid c$$

---

$$\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q\} \mid ]??$$

# SSL: basic rules

(Emp)

$$\{\text{emp}\} \rightsquigarrow \{\text{emp}\} \mid \mathbf{skip}$$

(Frame)

$$\frac{\{P\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q\} \mid c}{\{P * R\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q * R\} \mid c}$$

(Read)

$$\frac{[y/A]\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow [y/A]\{Q\} \mid c}{\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q\} \mid \mathbf{let } y = *x; c}$$

(Write)

$$\frac{\{x \mapsto e * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto e * Q\} \mid c}{\{x \mapsto \_ * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto e * Q\} \mid *x = e; c}$$

# Example: swap

$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid ??$$

$$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \} \mid \quad ??$$

$\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \quad ??$

---

$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \} \mid \quad \mathbf{let} \ a1 = *x; \quad ??$  (Read)

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

(Read)

---


$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \text{let } b1 = *y; ??$$

(Read)

---


$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \text{let } a1 = *x; ??$$

$$\{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

---

(Write)

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid *x = b1; ??$$

---

(Read)

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \text{let } b1 = *y; ??$$

---

(Read)

$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \text{let } a1 = *x; ??$$

$$\{y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

(Frame)

$$\{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

(Write)

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid *x = b1; ??$$

(Read)

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \text{let } b1 = *y; ??$$

(Read)

$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \text{let } a1 = *x; ??$$



$$\{ y \mapsto a1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??$$

---


$$\{ y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *y = a1; ??$$

---


$$\{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??$$

---


$$\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *x = b1; ??$$

---


$$\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \text{let } b1 = *y; ??$$

---


$$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \} \mid \text{let } a1 = *x; ??$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\{ \text{emp} \} \rightsquigarrow \{ \text{emp} \} \mid ?? \\
\hline \text{(Frame)} \\
\{ y \mapsto a1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ?? \\
\hline \text{(Write)} \\
\{ y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *y = a1; ?? \\
\hline \text{(Frame)} \\
\{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ?? \\
\hline \text{(Write)} \\
\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *x = b1; ?? \\
\hline \text{(Read)} \\
\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \text{let } b1 = *y; ?? \\
\hline \text{(Read)} \\
\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \} \mid \text{let } a1 = *x; ??
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\{ \text{emp} \} \rightsquigarrow \{ \text{emp} \} \mid \boxed{\text{skip}}} \text{(Emp)} \\
\frac{}{\{ y \mapsto a1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??} \text{(Frame)} \\
\frac{}{\{ y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \boxed{*y = a1;}} \text{(Write)} \\
\frac{}{\{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??} \text{(Frame)} \\
\frac{}{\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \boxed{*x = b1;}} \text{(Write)} \\
\frac{}{\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \boxed{\text{let } b1 = *y;}} \text{(Read)} \\
\frac{}{\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \} \mid \boxed{\text{let } a1 = *x;}} \text{(Read)}
\end{array}$$

$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \}$

**let** a1 = \*x; **let** b1 = \*y; \*x = b1; \*y = a1; **skip**

$\{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \}$