

# 1 I Introduction

## 2 I.1 mwp-Bounds Analysis

3 The mwp-flow analysis [1] is a static analysis technique for evaluating resource usage of  
4 imperative programs. It analyzes input variables' value growth, and aims to discover a  
5 polynomially bounded data-flow relation between variables *initial* values and *final* values.  
6 When all variables are bounded by polynomials in inputs, the analysis succeeds, i.e., a  
7 program is derivable in the underlying calculus. If one or more variables is not bounded,  
8 such bound cannot be established. The soundness theorem of the analysis guarantees  
9 that if a derivation exists, the program's value growth is polynomially bounded in inputs.  
10 Furthermore, as a sound technique, it offers a computational method to certify programs  
11 data size growth properties at runtime.

To develop intuition of what mwp-flow analysis computes, consider the following example.  
Let  $C' \equiv X1 := X2 + X3; X1 := X1 + X1$  and  $C'' \equiv X1 := 1; \text{loop } X2 \{X1 := X1 + X1\}$  be imperative  
programs with standard operational semantics. For each variable  $X_i$ , let  $x_i$  denote its initial  
value and  $x'_i$  its final value.

- Program  $C'$ . Observe by inspection that variable  $X1$ 's final value is  $x'_1 \leq 2x_2 + 2x_3$ .  
Variables  $X2$  and  $X3$  do not change and therefore are bounded by their initial values  
 $x'_2 \leq x_2$  and  $x'_3 \leq x_3$ . We conclude all variables have a polynomial growth bound,  
and the program has the property of interest.
- Program  $C''$ . Since variable  $X2$  does not change, its growth bound is  $x'_2 \leq x_2$ . However,  
 $X1$  grows exponentially with bound  $x'_1 \leq 2^{x_2}$ . We conclude program does not have a  
polynomial growth bound.

12 Instead of manual inspection, the mwp-flow analysis provides an *automatable* technique  
13 to distinguish programs that have polynomial growth bounds. Internally it works by  
14 applying inference rules to program commands and tracking variable dependencies by  
15 coefficients (or *flows*). A detailed description of the system is provided in the original  
16 work by Jones and Kristiansen [1] and refined by Aubert et. al [2]. The remainder of this  
17 section elaborates on the central notions and terminology to understand the mechanics of  
18 the analysis, as it relates to the publications in ??.

## 19 II References

- 20 [1] Neil D. Jones and Lars Kristiansen. “A flow calculus of *mwp*-bounds for complexity  
21 analysis”. In: *ACM Transactions on Computational Logic* 10.4 (Aug. 2009), 28:1–28:41.  
22 DOI: 10.1145/1555746.1555752.
- 23 [2] Clément Aubert, Thomas Rubiano, Neea Rusch, and Thomas Seiller. “mwp-Analysis  
24 Improvement and Implementation: Realizing Implicit Computational Complexity”. In:  
25 *FSCD 2022*. Vol. 228. LIPIcs. Schloss Dagstuhl - Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, 2022,  
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$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\mathbf{x}i : \{\mathbf{i}^m\}} \text{ E1} \qquad \frac{}{\mathbf{e} : \{\mathbf{i}^w \mid \mathbf{x}i \in \text{var}(\mathbf{e})\}} \text{ E2} \qquad \star \in \{+, -\} \frac{\mathbf{x}i : V_1 \quad \mathbf{x}j : V_2}{\mathbf{x}i \star \mathbf{x}j : pV_1 \oplus V_2} \text{ E3} \\
\\
\star \in \{+, -\} \frac{\mathbf{x}i : V_1 \quad \mathbf{x}j : V_2}{\mathbf{x}i \star \mathbf{x}j : V_1 \oplus pV_2} \text{ E4} \qquad \frac{\mathbf{e} : V}{\mathbf{x}j = \mathbf{e} : \mathbf{1} \stackrel{j}{\leftarrow} V} \text{ A} \qquad \frac{\mathbf{C}1 : M_1 \quad \mathbf{C}2 : M_2}{\mathbf{C}1; \mathbf{C}2 : M_1 \otimes M_2} \text{ C} \\
\\
\frac{\mathbf{C}1 : M_1 \quad \mathbf{C}2 : M_2}{\mathbf{if } \mathbf{b} \text{ then } \mathbf{C}1 \text{ else } \mathbf{C}2 : M_1 \oplus M_2} \text{ I} \\
\\
\forall i, M_{ii}^* = m \frac{\mathbf{C} : M}{\mathbf{loop } \mathbf{x}_\ell \{\mathbf{C}\} : M^* \oplus \{\ell^p \rightarrow j \mid \exists i, M_{ij}^* = p\}} \text{ L} \\
\\
\forall i, M_{ii}^* = m \text{ and } \forall i, j, M_{ij}^* \neq p \frac{\mathbf{C} : M}{\mathbf{while } \mathbf{b} \text{ do } \{\mathbf{C}\} : M^*} \text{ W}
\end{array}$$

Figure 1: mwp-bounds flow analysis inference rules

### 27 III Appendices