

SONNXWG

Towards an ONNX profile for critical systems

Eric JENN⁽¹⁾, Jean SOUYRIS⁽²⁾, Mohammed BELCAID⁽³⁾, Henri BELFY⁽⁴⁾, Sebastian BOBLEST⁽⁵⁾, Jean-Loup FARGES⁽⁶⁾, Cong LIU⁽⁷⁾, Eduardo MANINO⁽⁸⁾, Salomé MARTY-LAURENT⁽²⁾, Dumitru POTOP-BUTUCARU⁽⁹⁾, Jean-Baptiste ROUFFET⁽¹⁰⁾, Mariem TURKI⁽¹⁾, Nicolas VALOT⁽¹¹⁾, Franck VEDRINF⁽¹²⁾

(1) IRT Saint Exupery, (2) Airbus, (3) CS Sopra-Steria, (4) Thales AVS, (5) BOSCH, (6) ONERA, (7) Collins Aerospace, (8) U of Manchester, (9) INRIA, (10) Airbus Protect, (11) Airbus Helicopter, (12) CEA LIST



Agenda

- Objectives of the SONNX working group
- The working group
- Some results
- Next...



Objectives of the SONNX WG Towards a safe profile...

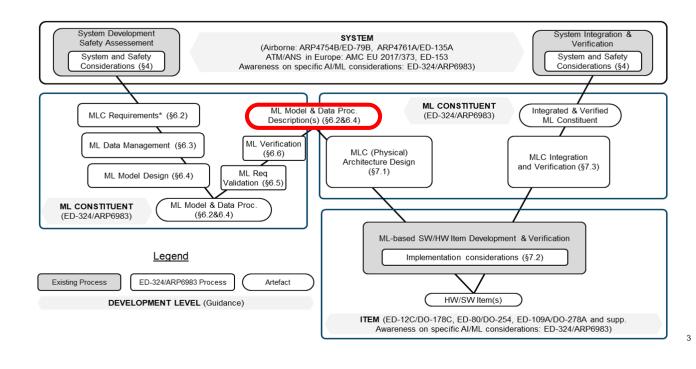


General objective

Provide a language to describe
 ML models

SONNX objectives

- Complete ONNX standard
 - Clarify semantics of operators and graph...
 - Remove ambiguities...
- Restrict the ONNX standard
 - To simplify compliance demonstration with respect to standards (esp. aero standards)
- Provide a simple reference implementation compliant with the standard



2025/07/11



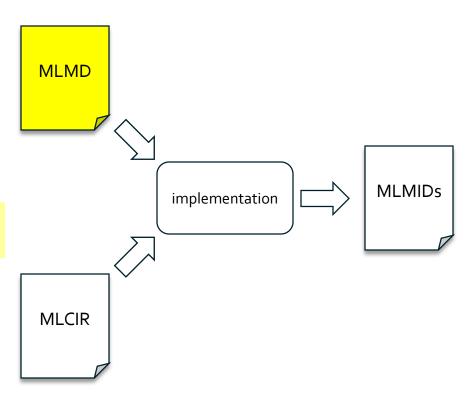
Expectations The ARP 6983 MLMD

Table D3 - ML Model Design process

	Objective	Activity	Applicability by Assurance Level					Output	Control Category by Assurance Level						
	Description	Ref	Ref	A AL1 SWAL1	B AL2 N/A	C AL3 SWAL2	N/A AL4 SWAL3	D AL5 SWAL4	Data Item	Ref	A AL1 SWAL1	B AL2 N/A	C AL3 SWAL2	N/A AL4 SWAL3	D AL5 SWAL4
5	The ML Model description is developed.	5.4.1.g	5.4.3.6				0	0	MLMD	7.4.7			1	1	1

In §5.4.3.6 "ML Model Description"

- a. The ML model logical architecture is described
- b. The ML model hyperparameters are described
- c. The ML model parameters are described
- d. The analytical/algorithmic syntax and semantics of the ML Model [...] are described in an unambiguous manner in the ML Model description to facilitate [allow?] their implementation.
- e. The replication criterion (either exact or approximated) is defined from the MLC requirements and if applicable from the ML Model requirements:
- f. The execution environment of the ML Model is described.
- g. Any necessary dependence on the learning environment (e.g., library, format) is explicitly mentioned.
- h. Any information that should not be part of the implemented ML Model is removed or explicitly identified as "not part of the ML Model description".





- Are there other candidate "standards"?
 - Vendor-neutral standards
 - Neural Network Exchange Format (NNEF) from Khronos Group (https://www.khronos.org/nnef)
 - Pretty good, but not really supported by tool vendors...
 - PMML
 - Not for deep neural networks
 - Non vendor-neutral standard
 - TensorFlow saved model
 - Torchscript
 - Core ML
 - Etc.

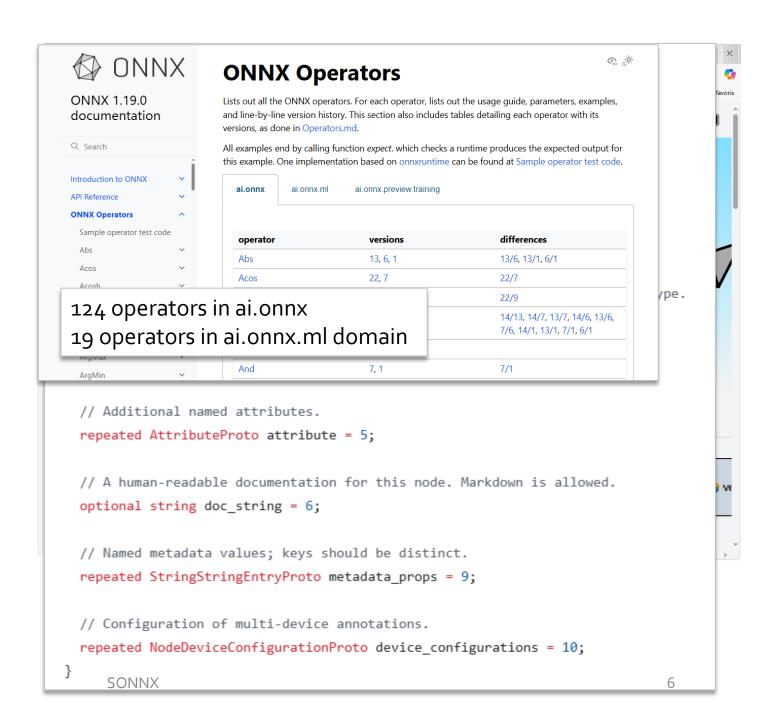
By definition: not cross-platform...

- ONNX is supported by a large set of tools (see https://onnx.ai/supported-tools.html)
 - First meeting with ONNX in 2023/07/13



What is ONNX?

- A set of operators
- An API
- An Intermediate Representation (IR) described using Protobuf
- A runtime (ONNXruntime)
 [managed as a separate project in ONNX Runtime | Home





Who is ONNX?

 Supported by major companies in ML, SW, and HW



2025/07/11 SONNX



SONNX Meetings and attendance

- ☐ 15 bi-weekly meetings (see minutes at https://github.com/ericjenn/working-groups/blob/ericjenn-srpwg-wg1/safety-related-profile/meetings/minutes.md)
- ☐ 1 workshop on formal methods
- Actual participation
 - Between 6-15 people per meeting

CEA, INRIA, IRT
Saint-Exupery, ISAE
SupAero, ONERA,
TUM

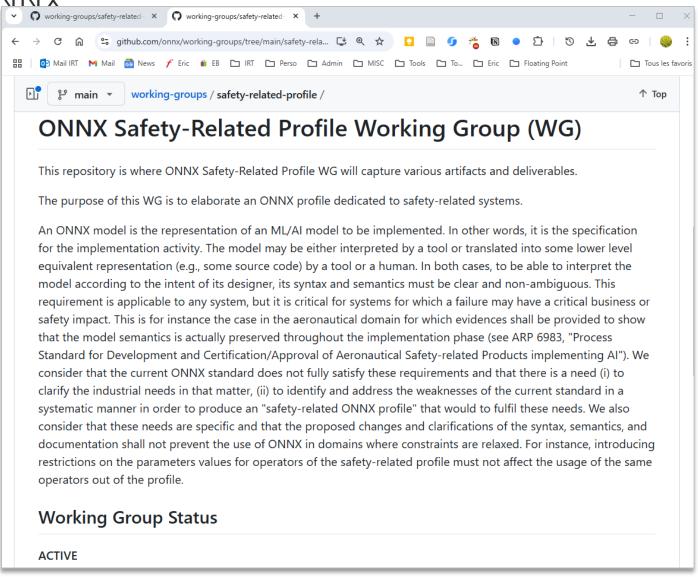


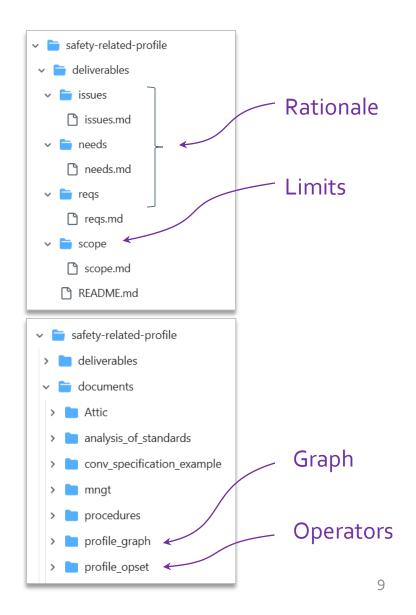


- Space : Airbus Defence and Space
- Automotive : Bosch, Ampere
- Naval: Naval Group
- Industry: Trumpf, Crosscontrol
- Energy: ARCYS
- Other: SopraSteria, Mathworks, Infineon, ANSYS (discussion)



https://github.com/onnx/working-groups/tree/main/safety-related-profile (latest) https://github.com/ericjenn/working-groups/tree/ericjenn-srpwg-wg1/safety-related-profile







So our objective is to extend/improve ONNX... but is there anything to improve?

2025/07/11 SONNX



ONNX "issues" ONNX failed conversion survey

- Are there empirical evidences of incompleteness, inconsistencies, etc.?
- Converters fail...
 - See Wenxin Jiang, Arav Tewari, et al, <u>Interoperability in Deep Learning: A User Survey and Failure Analysis of ONNX Model Converters</u>, Proceedings of the 33rd ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis, pp. 1466–1478, Vien 2024
- ... often with the bad mode...
- ... but no root cause leading to the spec...

Finding 4. Location: Most failures are in Node Conversion (74%).

Finding 5. Symptom: The most common symptoms in DL model converters are *Crash* (56%) and *Wrong Model* (33%).

Finding 6. Causes: Crashes are largely due to Incompatibilities and Type Problems. Wrong models are largely due to Type Problems and Algorithmic Errors.



ONNX "issues" ONNX github issues

- See discussion https://github.com/onnx/onnx/issues/3651
- See ssues labelled topic: spec clarification

Describe the bug When noop with empty axes == 1 & axes is empty, in ONNX spec, it will return input tensor directly. But in reference in onnx, it is mismatch. it returned np.square of the input tensor Xavier Dupré, 13个月前 | 2 authors (Xavier Dupré and others) class ReduceSumSquare 18(OpRunReduceNumpy): def run(self, data, axes=None, keepdims=1, noop with empty axes=0): # type: ignore if self.is axes empty(axes) and noop with empty axes != 0: # type: ignore return (np.square(data),) axes = self.handle axes(axes) This is complicated. Agree that there is a mismatch, but is the bug in the specification or implementation? My personal interpretation is that this is a bug in the specification, not implementation, for the following reason: the attributes serve to define the set of axes being reduced: specifically, it is a flag to allow the empty list to indicate that all axes must be reduced (or that no axes must be reduced). Now, even if zero axes are reduced, it makes sense to compute the square. ReduceSumSquare is not actually a reduction-op: it is a reduction-op Sum applied to the square of the input.



Rounding and numerical precision

- Cast operator rounding (#3876, #5004)
 - No mention to truncation or rounding...
- DequantizeLinear (#6132)
 - $y = (x x_zero_point) * x_scale$, with x and x_zero_point with the same dtype. What happens if x x_zero_point is outside the rage of dtype?

Differences between the (Python) reference implementation and onnxrutime

Shape and broadcasting semantics

- LayerNormalization broadcasting (#5666 [closed])
 - LayerNormalization operator spec did not define how the optional bias `B` and scale `Scale` inputs should be broadcast when their shapes differ from the input.
- Shape operator axis clamping (#6862)
 - The spec says "axes will be clamped to [o, r-1]" where r is rank, implying an exclusive upper bound for slicing. But because 'Shape' returns [start:end) with exclusive end, the correct clamping range for 'end' should be '[o, r]' (inclusive of r). The issue also observes the spec omits what happens if 'start > end'



- Shape and broadcasting semantics (continued)
 - Slice (#2433)[closed]
 - The spec's recommendation to use `INT_MAX` for an open-ended slice did not cover reverse slicing cases.
 - \blacksquare r]` (inclusive of r). The issue also observes the spec omits what happens if `start > end`

Operator semantics

- RandomNormal, RandomUniform (# 6408)
 - The operator mentions a see attribute, but doesn't said anything about its behavior. If the operator is stateless, the same value will be generated each time it is called. If it is statefull, it'll generate different values, but according to the same sequence. The onnxruntime and reference implementation behave differently.

Input and output typing

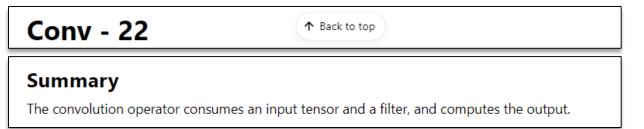
- Integer attribute range (#<u>5281</u>)
 - Constraint about values (negative or not) shall be specified...

2025/07/11 SONNX 14



ONNX "issues" Laconic and lacunar documentation

Problem: what is a convolution?



(Excerpt of ONNX doc.)

In general, the up-scaled space has dimensions (B,C,X_1,X_2,\dots) , the down-scaled space has shape (B,c,x_1,x_2,\dots) , and the filter has dimensions (c,C,f_1,f_2,\dots) . The following equations will suppose two *spatial* dimensions, but generalization to more dimensions is straightforward.

In case of the convolution, for each batch index $b \in [0..B)$ and for each $k_2 \in [0..c)$, the output is calculated as:

$$\text{output}[b][k_2][i_1][i_2] = \sum_{k_1=0}^{C-1} \sum_{j_1=0}^{f_1-1} \sum_{j_2=0}^{f_2-1} \tilde{\text{input}}[b][k_1][i_1 \cdot s_1 + j_1 \cdot d_1 - p_1][i_2 \cdot s_2 + j_2 \cdot d_2 - p_2] \cdot \text{filter}[k_2][k_1][j_1][j_2]$$

Problem

(Excerpt of NNEF doc.)

- What is the value used for of padding in a convolution?
 - 0?





ONNX "issues" Opset resolution, naming ambiguity

Problem

- An ONNX Function is a design artefact used to:
 - 1. define a composition of operators (ex: Relu Function is defined through Max Operator)
 - 2. define a composition of Nodes in the Graph as a reusable sub-graph (local function)
- Opsets are referenced in the Model element, and in each Function definition.
- Ex: Model import Opset v14, Model local function Relu import Opset v15.



The Opset resolution is not specified:

// The (domain, name, overload) tuple must be unique across the function protos in this list.

// In case of any conflicts the behavior (whether the model local functions are given higher priority,

// or standard operator sets are given higher priotity or this is treated as error) is defined by

// the runtimes.

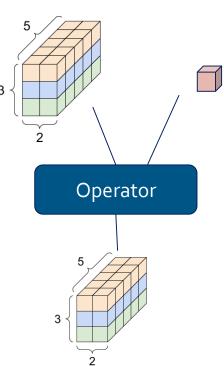


Problem 1: data types in function parameters

- Function tensor input and output data type and shape are not specified
- To avoid type inference in the implementation, do we need to particularize the semantics for any concrete data type?

Problem 2: shape broadcasting

- Operator Tensor input shall be of the same element type and shape.
- unless tensor shape broadcasting is enabled.
- Broadcasting logic shall be non ambiguous if supported by safety profile.





Problem:

- IR version 10 introduces the overloading capability, i.e. to have several definitions for the same function, and select them using a new 'overloading' field.
- → Proposal: The overloading logic shall be reviewed (non ambiguous?).



ONNX "issues"

Dynamic (Node input) vs static (Node attribute)

Problem:

The semantics is not clear that Node input is dynamic and Node attribute is static.

As attributes can take Tensor values, these values might come from other Nodes (constant or not)

The ONNX trend follows pytorch: more dynamic capabilities.

E.g.: https://onnx.ai/onnx/operators/onnx_Dropout.html, the ratio attribute in opset 10 was moved to input in recent opsets.

→ Proposal: Do we follow the trend or do we restrict? Consequence: compatibility.

2025/07/11 SONNX 19



Challenges for ONNX

Provide an accurate and precise description of the ML model leaving no room to interpretation and approximations...

- Complete the definition and documentation of
 - The operator semantics
 - The graph semantics

for all datatypes

 The ONNX abstract (metamodel) and concrete (format) syntax In what order are the operators of a graph executed?

Compliance with dataflow constraints.
Sufficient?

ONNX runtime

- o Default execution order uses Graph::ReverseDFS() to generated topological sort
- Priority-based execution order uses Graph::KahnsTopologicalSort with per-node priority

2025/07/11 SONNX



Challenges for ONNX

Provide an accurate and precise description of the ML model leaving no room to interpretation and approximations...

- Complete the definition and documentation of
 - ☐ The operator semantics
 - ☐ The graph semantics
 - The ONNX abstract (metamodel) and concrete (format) syntax
- ☐ Also consider other features to...
 - ☐ Facilitate traceability
 - ☐ Improve understandability
 - ☐ Etc.

For instance...

Use doc string to

- enforce the documentation of the meaning of each dimensions of tensors...
- add traceability data



Problem:

The semantics is not clear that Node input is dynamic and Node attribute is static.

As attributes can take Tensor values, these values might come from other Nodes (constant or not)

The ONNX trend follows pytorch: more dynamic capabilities.

E.g.: https://onnx.ai/onnx/operators/onnx Dropout.html, the ratio attribute in opset 10 was moved to input in recent opsets.

→ Proposal: Do we follow the trend or do we restrict? Consequence: compatibility.



Deliverables Status

(D1.a) Safety-related Profile **Scope** Definition (2024/11/01)

(D1.b.x) End users **needs** for domain \times (2024/12/01)

(D1.c) Consolidated needs for all industrial domains (2025/01/01)

(D2.a) ONNX safety-related Profile requirements (2025/02/01)

(D3.a) ONNX Safety-related profile - proof of concept (2024/12/01)

(D3.b) ONNX Safety-related profile – graph (2025/05/01)

(D3.c) ONNX Safety-related profile – operators (2025/12/31)

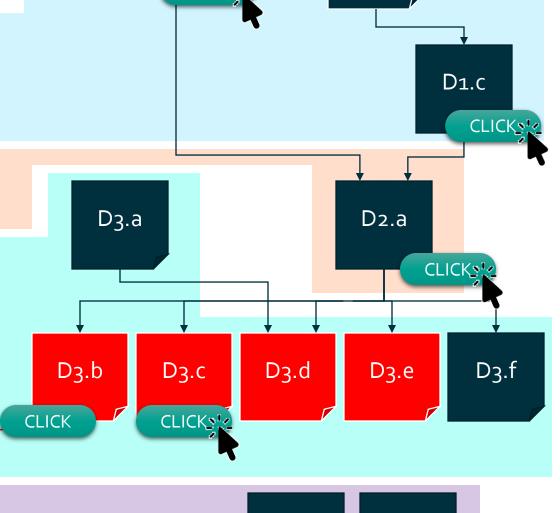
(D3.d) ONNX Safety-related profile – format (2025/12/31)

(D3.e) ONNX Safety-related profile reference implementation (2025/12/3

(D3.f) ONNX Safety-related profile rules (2025/01/31)

(D4.a) ONNX Safety-related profile **verification** report

(D4.b) ONNX Safety-related profile validation report



D₄.a

D4.b

D1.a

CLICK

D1.b.1

(detailed WP is available at https://github.com/ericjenn/working-groups/blob/main/safety-related-profile/documents/sow.md)

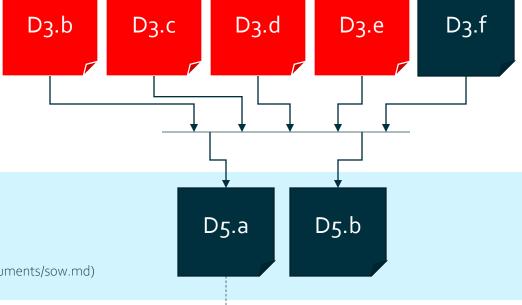


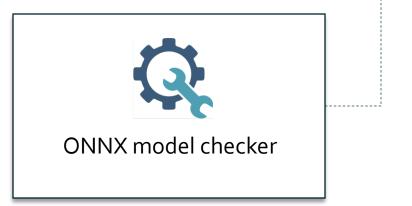
Deliverables Status

(D₅.a) Expression of the **needs** / tool list (2025/01/31)

(D₅.b) **Requirements** of tool <tool>(2025/12/31)

(detailed WP is available at https://github.com/ericjenn/working-groups/blob/main/safety-related-profile/documents/sow.md)

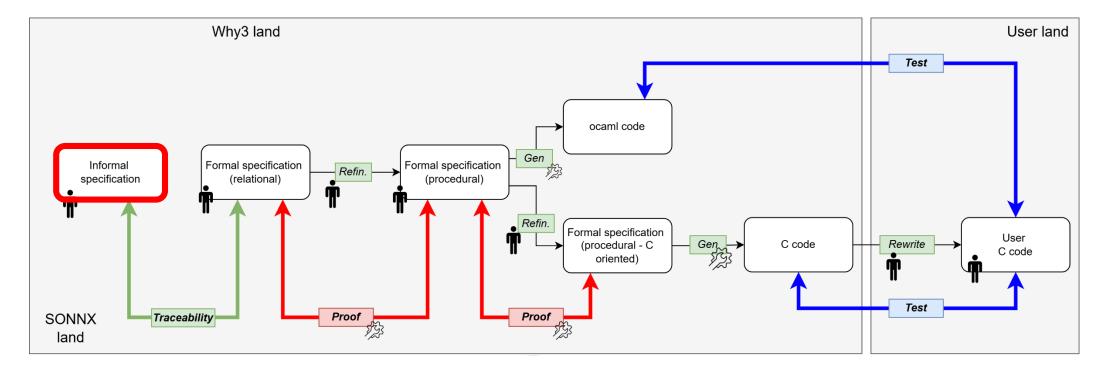








Deliverables Overview

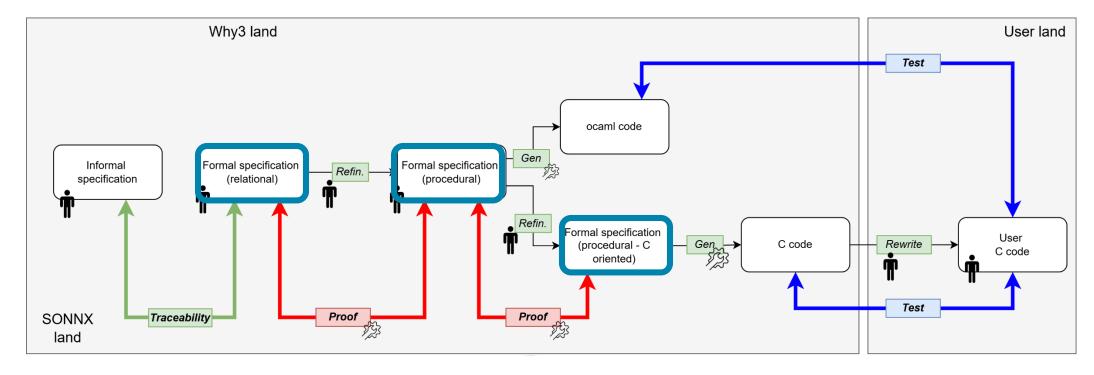


Informal specification:



Deliverables Overview

traceable

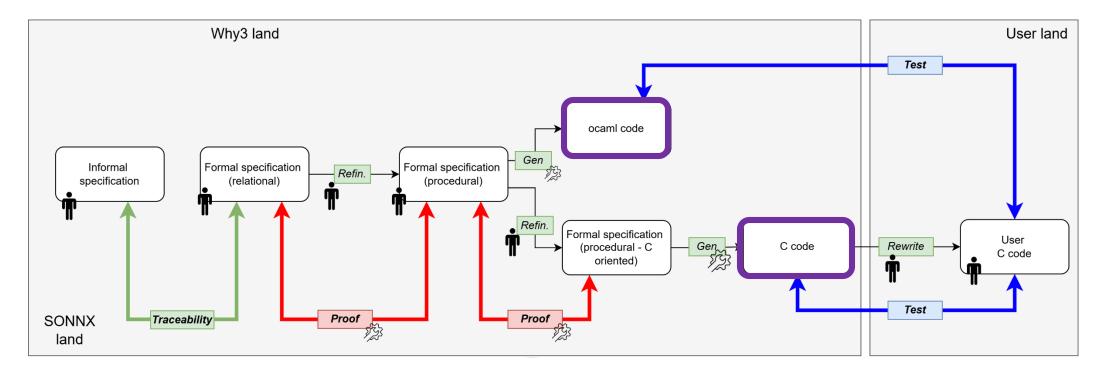


Formal specification

- Relational
- Operational
 - Generic
 - C-bounded



Deliverables Overview

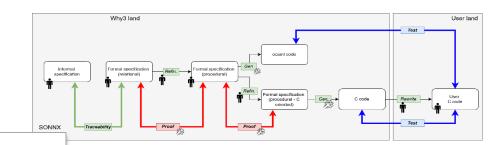


Reference implementation

- Interim caml code
- Final C code



For informal to formal specification: the **conv** operator



Attributes

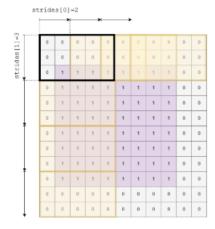
strides: list of int

Attribute strides determines how the kernel is applied on tensor X during the convolution.

For instance, with stride[0] = 2 and stride[1] = 3, the kernel is applied to data 2 units on right in the first spatial axis and to data 3 units down in the second spatial axis at each step of the convolution.

The previous sentence is not clear...

The effect of the strides attribute is illustrated on the following figure. In this example, strides =(2,3).



strides=(2,3)

Constraints

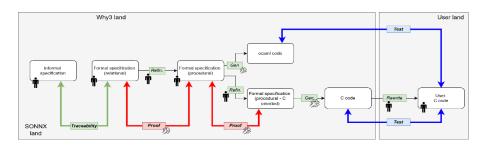
- (C1) Value domain
 - Statement: strides is a list of strictly positive integers.
 - o Rationale: Stride values are used in the denominator of expression in constraint (C3) of X
- (C2) Consistency between the shape of tensors X, W, Y and attributes pads, dilations and strides.
 - o Statement: See constraint (C3) of X

Informal specification

DATA_CHANNEL ,

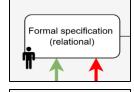


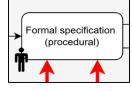
For informal to formal specification: the **conv** operator



```
type shape = { dims : seq int }
module Tensor
                                                   invariant { forall i. 0 <= i < length dims -> 0 < dims[i] }
 use int.Int
 use map.Map
                                                   meta coercion function dims
 use utils.Product
 use sequence.Seq
 type shape = { dims : seq int }
  invariant { forall i. 0 <= i < length dims -> 0 < dims[i] }
  meta coercion function dims
                                                                                                                                                      XXXXX
 function sizeof (s : shape) : int = product 0 (length s) (fun i -> s[i])
 val sizeof (s : shape) : int
   ensures { result = sizeof s }
 type index = seq int
 predicate valid (idx : index) (s : shape) =
  length idx = length s /\
   forall i. 0 <= i < length s -> 0 <= idx[i] < s[i]
  type tensor 'a = {
                                              predicate valid (idx : index) (s : shape) =
   shape : shape ;
   value : map index 'a ;
                                                 length idx = length s /\
                                                 forall i. 0 \le i \le length s \rightarrow 0 \le length \le j \le i
  meta coercion function value
  function dim (t : tensor 'a) : int = length t.shape
```



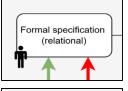


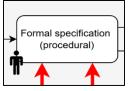




For informal to formal specification: the **conv** operator

```
let function conv2d_int (x: tensor int) (w: tensor int) (b: option (tensor int))
                      (strides pads dilations: seq int)
                      (group val: int)
                                                                    (* --- Core Tensor Dimension Requirements --- *)
                      (auto_pad_is_not_set: bool)
                                                                    requires { \dim x = 4 / \dim w = 4 }
                      : tensor int
                                                                    requires { Ops4D.c dim x = Ops4D.c dim w }
  (* --- Core Tensor Dimension Requirements --- *)
                                                                    requires { Ops4D.c dim x > 0 }
 requires { \dim x = 4 / \dim w = 4 }
 requires { Ops4D.c dim x = Ops4D.c dim w }
                                                                    requires { Ops4D.h dim w > 0 /\ Ops4D.w dim w > 0 }
 requires { Ops4D.c dim x > 0 }
                                                                    requires { Ops4D.n_dim w > 0 }
 requires { Ops4D.h dim w > 0 /\ Ops4D.w dim w > 0 }
                                                                    requires { Ops4D.n dim x > 0 }
 requires { Ops4D.n_dim w > 0 }
 requires { Ops4D.n dim x > 0 }
  (* --- Attribute Sequence Length Requirements --- *)
                                                                    (* --- Attribute Sequence Length Requirements --- *)
 requires { Seq.length strides = 2 }
                                                                    requires { Seq.length strides = 2 }
 requires { Seq.length pads = 4 }
                                                                    requires { Seq.length pads = 4 }
 requires { Seq.length dilations = 2 }
                                                                    requires { Seq.length dilations = 2 }
  (* --- Attribute Value Domain Requirements --- *)
 requires { Ops4D.stride_h strides > 0 /\ Ops4D.stride_w strides > 0 }
 requires { Ops4D.pad h begin pads >= 0 /\ Ops4D.pad w begin pads >= 0 /\
           Ops4D.pad_h_end pads >= 0 /\ Ops4D.pad_w_end pads >= 0 }
 requires { Ops4D.dilation_h dilations > 0 /\ Ops4D.dilation_w dilations > 0 }
                                                                 (* --- ONNX Profile Restrictions --- *)
  (* --- ONNX Profile Restrictions --- *)
                                                                 requires { group val = 1 }
 requires { group_val = 1 }
 requires { auto pad is not set }
                                                                 requires { auto pad is not set }
       2025/07/11
```



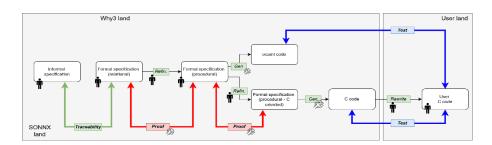




2025/07/11

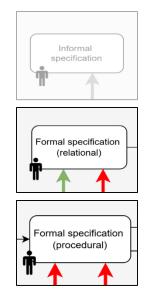
Deliverables

For informal to formal specification: the **conv** operator



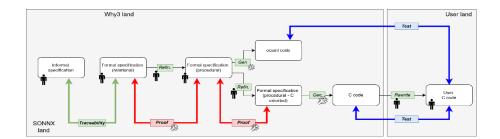
```
requires {
           let h out calc = calculate H out (Ops4D.h dim x) (Ops4D.h dim w)
                                           (Ops4D.pad h begin pads) (Ops4D.pad h end pads)
                                            (Ops4D.dilation h dilations) (Ops4D.stride h strides) in
           let w out calc = calculate W out (Ops4D.w dim x) (Ops4D.w dim w)
                                            (Ops4D.pad w begin pads) (Ops4D.pad w end pads)
                                            (Ops4D.dilation w dilations) (Ops4D.stride w strides) in
           h_out_calc > 0 /\ w_out_calc > 0
                                                                                     The shape
let res_shape = conv2d_output_shape x w strides pads dilations in
let res_value_func = conv2d_output_value x w b strides pads dilations res_shape in v
{ shape = res shape; value = res value func }
                                                                                                The value
```

SONNX





For informal to formal specification: the **concat** operator



Let a be the concatenation axis and $d_{k,a}$ (T2) the dimension of the X_k input tensor k along the axis a.

Let s_k be the cumulative offset along axis before input X_k as:

T2:
$$s_k = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} d_{j,a}$$

Let i_a be the global index along dimension a, and let i'_a be the corresponding local within a local tensor X_k . This relationship can be defined as follows:

T3:
$$i'_a = i_a - s_k$$

If the global index i_a satisfies the condition:

T4:
$$s_k \le i_a < s_k + d_{k,a}$$

then the relationship holds:

T5:
$$\forall i_0, \dots, i_{r-1}$$
. $Y[i_0, \dots, i_{r-1}] = X_k[i_0, \dots, i'_a, \dots, i_{r-1}]$

With i_0 and i_{r-1} are the indices which access respectively the first and last dimensi **r-dimensional** tensor. $i_0, ..., i_{r-1}$ represent a set of indices that uniquely identify a element within an **r-dimensional** tensor.

The concat operator

(** T3: defining the local index i' for a i (global index) given **) seq D axis: seq D axis is the sequence of all the d k,axis for each k tensor i axis: value on the axis along which the concatenation is performed k: Current index in sequence seq D axis. Must be 0 at the first call of the function s k: Current sum of the previous dimensions in seq D axis. Must be 0 at the first call of the function let rec rec find k and i prime (seq D axis: seq int) (i axis: int) (k: int) (s_k: int) : (int, int) variant { length seq_D_axis - k } (* Termination measure *) if i axis < s k + seq D axis[k] then (* Inequality (T5) to define to in which k tensor the local index i' is defined *) (k, (i_axis - s_k)) (* Definition (T5) by keeping the upper part of the inequality: i' = i - s k *) else (* The global index i is superior to s k + seq D axis[k] so the k tensor to define the local index i' is not the current one but next one k+1. Update the offset (s_k) by adding the length of the tensor we just checked

rec_find_k_and_i_prime seq_D_axis i_axis (k + 1) (s_k + seq_D_axis[k])

(current tensor). *)

considered **)



Deliverables Test oracle: the where operator

```
module Where
    use int.Int
    use map.Map
    use utils.Same
    use tensor.Shape
    use tensor.Tensor

let function where (cond : tensor bool) (a b : tensor 'a) : tensor 'a =
    {
        shape = same cond.shape (same a.shape b.shape) ;
        value = fun i -> if cond.value[i] then a.value[i] else b.value[i] ;
    }

end
```

```
Why3 land

User land

Test

Informal specification
(reinformal specification (procedural C code (procedural
```

```
Informal
                        specification
                     Formal specification
                          (relational)
                    Formal specification
                         (procedural)
GENERATION
                         ocaml code
```

where.mlw (specification)



Graph

- [T01a] A graph contains a set of nodes
- [T01b] A graph contains a set of tensors that are inputs and outputs of the nodes
 - Some of those tensors are inputs (resp. outputs) of the graph, i.e, their values are set (resp. returned) before (resp. after) executing the graph

Nodes

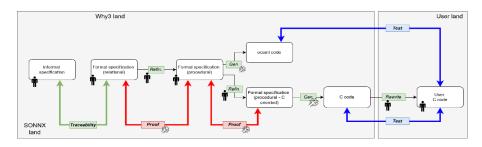
- [T03a] A node refers to an operator
 - An operator may be referred to by multiple nodes
- [T03b] There is a 1-to-1 mapping between the set of inputs and outputs of a node and the set of inputs and outputs of its associated operator [R1].
 - Note that is is a restriction with respect to the ONNX standard that allows fewer inputs or outputs when the omitted input or output is optional.

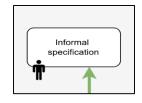
Tensors

- [T02b] A tensor is an object that can hold a value or be uninitialized
- [T02a] A tensor is identified by a unique identifier within a graph

Operators

- [T04a] An operator specifies a relation (a function) between a set of input parameters and a set of outputs parameters.
 - Input and output parameters (resp. output) are free variables that can be bound to tensors using nodes
 - o An operator has at least one output





Execution Semantics

- [T05a] A node is executable if all its input tensors are initialized
- [T05b] Executing a node means assigning values to output tensors such that the inputsoutputs relation specified by the operator holds
- [T05c] All executable nodes are executed
- [T05d] An executable node is executed only once
- [T05e] A tensor is assigned at most once (Single Assignment)

2025/07/11 SONNX



Graph

- [T01a] A graph contains a set of nodes
- [T01b] A graph contains a set of tensors that are inputs and outputs of the nodes
 - Some of those tensors are inputs (resp. outputs) of the graph, i.e, their values are set (resp. returned) before (resp. after) executing the graph

Nodes

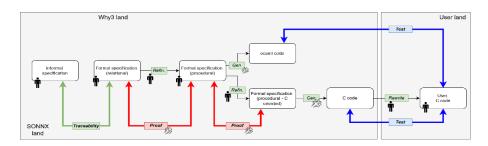
- [T03a] A node refers to an operator
 - An operator may be referred to by multiple nodes
- [T03b] There is a 1-to-1 mapping between the set of inputs and outputs of a node and the set of inputs and outputs of its associated operator [R1].
 - Note that is is a restriction with respect to the ONNX standard that allows fewer inputs or outputs when the omitted input or output is optional.

Tensors

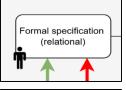
- [T02b] A tensor is an object that can hold a value or be uninitialized
- [T02a] A tensor is identified by a unique identifier within a graph

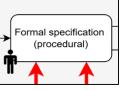
Operators

- [T04a] An operator specifies a relation (a function) between a set of input parameters and a set of outputs parameters.
 - Input and output parameters (resp. output) are free variables that can be bound to tensors using nodes
 - o An operator has at least one output







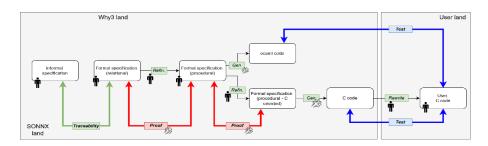




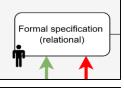
```
let exec graph (s: graph state) (g: graph) : graph state
     (* [TXX] The graph can only be executed if its inputs are initialized *)
     requires { forall t. Mem.mem t g.gi -> tensor is initialized s t }
     (* [TXX] After execution, all output tensors are initialized *)
     ensures { forall t. Mem.mem t q.qo -> tensor is initialized result t }
         exec nodes until completion s q.qn
let rec exec nodes until completion (s: graph state) (ns: list node) : graph state =
   (* All outputs of the nodes are initialized *)
   ensures { forall n: node. Mem.mem n ns ->
                                                        let rec exec nodes (s: graph state) (ns: list node) : graph state =
               forall t: tensor id. Mem.mem t n.ou ->
                                                            (* All nodes in the list are ready to be executed *)
                  tensor is initialized result t }
                                                            requires { forall n. Mem.mem n ns -> node is ready s n }
                                                            (* All outputs of the nodes are initialized *)
                                                            ensures { forall n : node. Mem.mem n ns ->
                                                                       forall t: tensor id. Mem.mem t n.ou ->
                                                                          tensor is initialized result t }
```

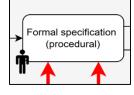
```
let exec_operator (op: operator) (inputs: list (option value)) : list (option value)
    (* The node provides as any iputs as needed by the operator *)
    requires { length inputs = length op.opi }
    (* All inputs are initialized before execution *)
    requires { forall i. Mem.mem i inputs -> i <> None }
    (* All outputs are initialized after execution*)
    ensures { forall i. Mem.mem i result -> i <> None }
    (* There is one value per output tensor *)
    ensures { length result = length op.opo }

=
    (* This is a dummy implementation that returns the appropriate number of values *)
    make_list (Some (any value)) (length op.opo)
```









```
requires { node_is_ready s n }

(* [T05a] The number of inputs matches the number of operator's inputs *)

requires { length n.oi = length n.ope.opi }

(* [T03b] The number of outputs must match the number of operator's outputs *)

requires { length n.ou = length n.ope.opo }

(* After execution, all output tensors are set *)

ensures { forall t: tensor_id. Mem.mem t n.ou -> tensor_is_initialized result t }

=

(* the values of tensors that are inputs to a node *)

let inputs = apply (fun t -> my_map_get s t) n.oi in

assert { forall v. Mem.mem v inputs -> v <> None };

(* the values of all outputs after evaluation *)

let outputs = exec_operator n.ope inputs in

assert { forall v. Mem.mem v outputs -> v <> None };

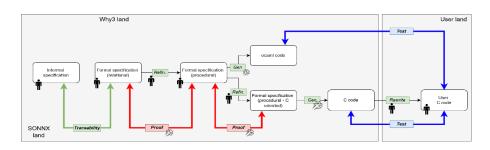
(* the updated state *)

assign_list s (zip n.ou outputs)
```

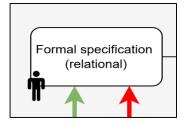
let exec node (s: graph state) (n: node) : graph state

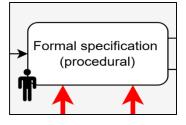
(* [T05a] The node is ready to be executed *)





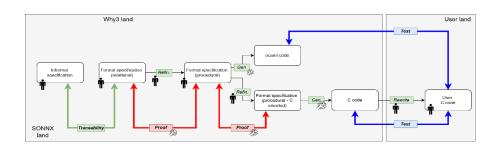


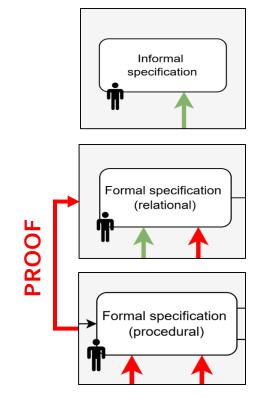




The graph









Numerical errors Approach

- Handling of numerical errors
 - No specification of errors (depend on method and computation error)
 - We shall not overspecify
 - We propose to specify
 - the means to evaluate errors



- Provision of error estimation methods :
 - Empirical (incomplete)
 - Formal via abstract interpretation (e.g., fluctuat)
 - Formal via axiomatic proof



Numerical errors Approach

- A1: We propose a lower bound on the error (the smallest error) for any value in the input domain, for any implementation complying with IEEE 754
 - This is not necessarily the smallest error (this is actually an upper bound)so that
 - The effort to express the formula remain acceptable
 - The complexity of the formula remain tractable
 - The verification of the property remains achievable
- A2: For a restriction of the input domain, the error may be smaller
- A3: The SONNX reference implementation will (?) comply with this constraint
- A4: Actual, more efficient implementations may violate this constraint. In that case, the implementer has to provide its own express their own precision requirement, following the structure of the provided formula.
- A tool will be used to demonstrate that the accuracy constraint is satisfied

2025/07/11 SONNX 40



Numerical errors

Example: the **add** operator

Numerical Accuracy

If tensor $A_{\rm err}$ is the numerical error of A , tensor $B_{\rm err}$ is the numerical error of B , let us consider $C_{\rm err}^{\rm propag}$ the propagated error of Add and $C_{\rm err}^{\rm intro}$ the introduced error of Add . Hence the numerical error of C , $C_{\rm err} = C_{\rm err}^{\rm propag} + C_{\rm err}^{\rm intro}$.

Error propagation

For every indexes $I = (i_0, i_1, \dots, i_n)$ over the axes,

• $C_{\text{err}}^{\text{propag}}[I] = A_{\text{err}}[I] + B_{\text{err}}[I]$

Error introduction - floating-point IEEE-754 implementation

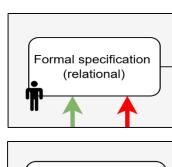
The error introduced by the Add operator shall be bound by the semi-ulp of the addition result for every tensor component for a normalized result. For a hardware providing m bits for floating-point mantissa, the semi-ulp of 1.0 is $2^{-(m+1)}$. Hence, for every indexes $I=(i_0,i_1,\ldots,i_n)$ over the axes,

•
$$\left| C_{\text{err}}^{\text{intro}}[I] \right| \leq \max \left(\left| A[I] + B[I] + A_{\text{err}}[I] + B_{\text{err}}[I] \right| \times 2^{-(m+1)}, \frac{\text{denorm-min}}{2} \right)$$

•
$$\left| C_{\text{err}}^{\text{intro}}[I] \right| \le \max \left(\left| A_{\text{float}}[I] + B_{\text{float}}[I] \right| \times 2^{-(m+1)}, \frac{\text{denorm-min}}{2} \right)$$

$$\left|C_{\text{err}}^{\text{intro}}[I]\right| \leq \max\left(\left|A[I] + B[I]\right| \times \frac{2^{-(m+1)}}{1 - 2^{-(m+1)}}, \frac{\text{denorm-min}}{2}\right)$$

Static unit checker







assertion



Conclusion Where are we? What's next?

- Where are we:
 - First drafts to be consolidate / completed...

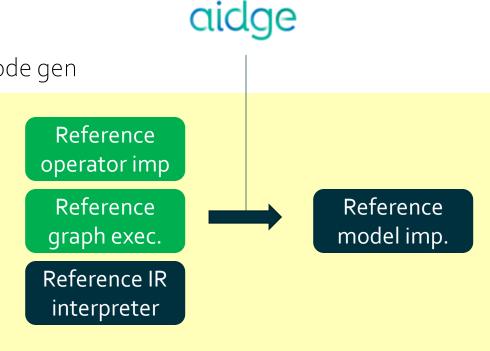




What's next:

- Completion of operator informal and formal spec + proof + code gen
- Completion graph spec + proof + code gen
- IR
- Generation of C implementations
- Integration to the Aldge platform

Actual integration in the ONNX ecosystem...





Contacts

- Eric JENN (<u>eric.jenn@irt-saintexupery.com</u>)
- Jean SOUYRIS (jean.souyris@airbus.com)
- To join the mailing list, send a message to: onnx-sonnx-workgroup+subscribe@lists.lfaidata.foundation



