

SmaLLVM Analyzer

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1 Objective

This article describes the design of a static analyzer to detect potential division-by-zero errors for the SmaLLVM language.

2 Syntax

A program is a control-flow graph $G = \langle \mathbb{C}, \rightarrow \rangle$ where \mathbb{C} is a set of control-flow nodes and $\rightarrow \subseteq \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$ is the control-flow relation of the program. Each node is associated with a command $c \in C$. We use node $n \in \mathbb{C}$ interchangeably with the command c of n . Commands and expressions are defined as follows:

E	$::=$	n	integer
		x	variable
		$E \oplus E$	arithmetic operation
		$E \odot E$	comparison operation
\oplus	$::=$	$+$ $-$ \times $/$	
\odot	$::=$	$<$ \leq $>$ \geq $==$ $!=$	
C	$::=$	$Atomic$	atomic statement
		$Cond$	conditional branch
		Phi	phi nodes
$Atomic$	$::=$	$x := E$	assignment
		$x := \text{source}()$	input
		$\text{print}(x)$	print
		goto	unconditional jump
$Cond$	$::=$	$\text{tbr } E$	true branch
		$\text{fbr } E$	false branch
Phi	$::=$	$\{x_i := \phi [E_{i1}, \dots, E_{ik}]\}_{i=0}^n$	list of phi nodes

Notice that the syntax definition elides labels in LLVM commands such as `L in goto L`. In our setting, labels are translated to control-flow edges.

3 Abstract Domains

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
& \mathbb{D}^\# & = \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^\# \\
m^\# & \in \mathbb{M}^\# & = \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^\# \\
n^\# & \in \mathbb{Z}^\# & = \{\perp, \text{Neg}, \text{Zero}, \text{Pos}, \top\} \\
x & \in \mathbb{X} & \text{variable}
\end{array}$$

4 Abstract Semantics

The abstract semantics of a program is characterized by the least fixed point of the following function $F \in (\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^\#) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^\#)$:

$$F(X) = \lambda c \in \mathbb{C}. f_c \left(\bigsqcup_{c' \rightarrow c} (X(c')) \right)$$

where $f_c \in \mathbb{M}^\# \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^\#$ is defined as follows:

$$f_c(m^\#) = \begin{cases} m^\# \{x \mapsto eval_E^\#(m^\#)\} & c = "x := E" \\ m^\# \{x \mapsto \top\} & c = "x := \text{input}()" \\ m^\# & c = "\text{print}(x)" \\ m^\# & c = "\text{goto}" \\ filter_E^\#(m^\#) & c = "\text{tbr } E" \\ filter_{\neg E}^\#(m^\#) & c = "\text{fbr } E" \\ \bigsqcup_i \{m^\# \{x_i \mapsto \bigsqcup_j \{eval_{E_{ij}}^\#(m^\#)\}\} & c = "\{x_i := \phi [E_{i1}, \dots, E_{ik}]\}_{i=0}^n" \end{cases}$$

Notice that the semantics of phi nodes is defined with the input memory $m^\#$ and the updated memory by one phi node does not affect to the semantics of the other phi nodes. For more detailed explanation, see the phi node semantics of LLVM¹.

The abstract semantic function of expression $eval_E^\# : \mathbb{M}^\# \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^\#$ is defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
eval_n^\#(m^\#) &= \text{sign of } n \\
eval_x^\#(m^\#) &= m^\#(x) \\
eval_{E_1 \oplus E_2}^\#(m^\#) &= eval_{E_1}^\#(m^\#) \oplus^\# eval_{E_2}^\#(m^\#) \\
eval_{E_1 \odot E_2}^\#(m^\#) &= eval_{E_1}^\#(m^\#) \odot^\# eval_{E_2}^\#(m^\#)
\end{aligned}$$

The abstract semantic functions for $\oplus^\#$ and $\odot^\#$ are the best (sound yet most precise) abstractions of the concrete counterparts in the sign domains.

The abstract filter function $filter_E^\#(m^\#) : \mathbb{M}^\# \rightarrow \mathbb{M}^\#$ is also the best abstraction of the concrete counterpart.

¹<https://llvm.org/docs/LangRef.html#id312>