

Modular



Mojo Debugging

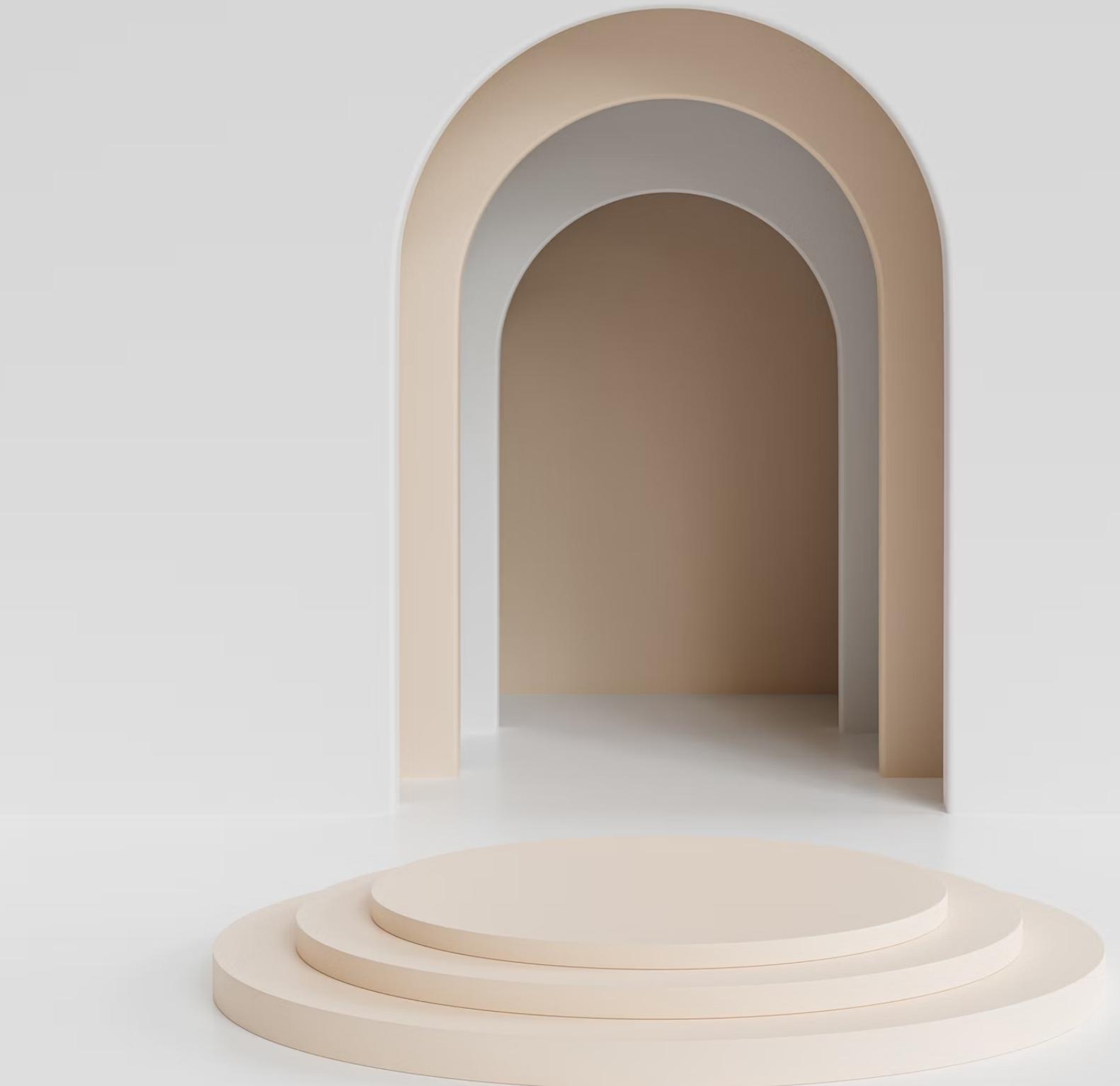
Extending MLIR & LLDB for new languages

Agenda

01 Mojo 🔥

02 Extending LLDB

03 DebugInfo in MLIR



M

01

Mojo 🔥

Mojo at a glance

Pythonic system programming language

- Driving SoTA in compiler and language design
- Forget everything you know about Python! :-)

One year old and still in development

- Freely available on Linux, Mac and Windows
- Full LLVM-based toolchain + VSCode LSP support
- Powers CPU and GPU AI programs written in the same language

Available now

- modular.com

```
fn mandelbrot_kernel[  
    SIMD_WIDTH: Int  
](c: ComplexSIMD[float_type, SIMD_WIDTH]) ->  
SIMD[float_type, SIMD_WIDTH]:  
    """  
        A vectorized implementation of the  
        inner mandelbrot computation.  
    """  
    let cx = c.re  
    let cy = c.im  
    var x = SIMD[float_type, SIMD_WIDTH](0)  
    var y = SIMD[float_type, SIMD_WIDTH](0)  
    var y2 = SIMD[float_type, SIMD_WIDTH](0)  
    var iters = SIMD[float_type, SIMD_WIDTH](0)  
  
    var t: SIMD[DType.bool, SIMD_WIDTH] = True  
    for i in range(MAX_ITERS):  
        if not t.reduce_or():  
            break  
        y2 = y * y  
        y = x.fma(y + y, cy)  
        t = x.fma(x, y2) <= 4  
        x = x.fma(x, cx - y2)  
        iters = t.select(iters + 1, iters)  
    return iters
```

M

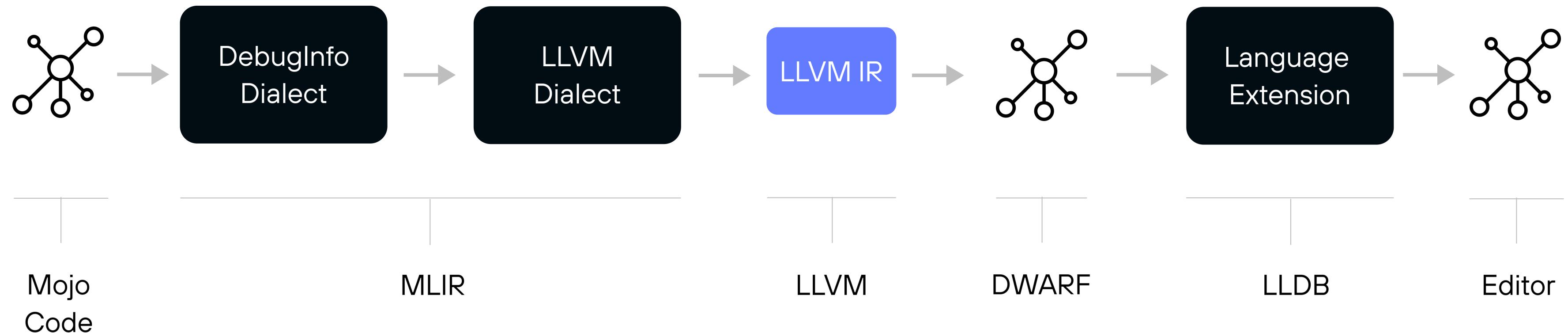
And now it has a debugger!



The screenshot shows a debugger interface with the following details:

- Run and Debug toolbar:** Includes icons for play, pause, step, and breakpoints.
- VARIABLES panel:**
 - Locals:** Shows two variables:
 - > p1: {x:1, y:-1}
 - > p2: {x:2, y:-2}
 - Globals:** None listed.
 - Registers:** None listed.
- Code Editor:** File: point.mojo
 - Line 1: struct Point:
 - Line 2: var x: Int
 - Line 3: var y: Int
 - Line 4:
 - Line 5: fn __init__(inout self, x: Int, y: Int):
 - Line 6: self.x = x
 - Line 7: self.y = y
 - Line 8:
 - Line 9:
 - Line 10: fn main():
 - Line 11: var p1 = Point(1, -1) p1 = {x:1, y:-1}
 - Line 12: var p2 = Point(2, -2) p2 = {x:2, y:-2}
 - Line 13: print(p1.x, p2.y) p1 = {x:1, y:-1}, p2 = {x:2, y:-2}
 - Line 14:
- Breakpoint:** A red circle with a dot is placed at the start of line 13.
- Bottom status bar:** Shows point.main() and point.mojo 13:13.

Mojo Debugging



02

Extending LLDB



Supporting Mojo in LLDB

- LLDB doesn't have first class support for non-clang based languages.

Supporting Mojo in LLDB

- Some previous experiences:
 - Fork LLDB (e.g. swift)
 - Maintenance pain
 - Compiler integration
 - Expr eval
 - Conditional breakpoints
 - IR-based features



Supporting Mojo in LLDB

- Some previous experiences:
 - Pretend to be C++ (e.g. go-lldb)
 - Very buggy experience...

Supporting Mojo in LLDB

- Some previous experiences:
 - Limit to pretty printing (e.g. rust-lldb)
 - No compiler integration
 - Very limited expr eval
 - No cool features

Full compiler integration via a runtime plugin

Vanilla LLDB

- > plugin load libMojoLLDB.so



Full compiler integration via a runtime plugin

Problems:

- LLDB didn't export all internal symbols
 - Needed by our DWARF parser
- Core LLDB assumed all languages are clang-based



Full compiler integration via a runtime plugin

Major upstream changes

- Namespaced internal plugin symbols
 - E.g. lldb_plugin::dwarf
- Selective export of private symbols via CMake (PR [68013](#))
- Removed assumptions on clang
 - Arbitrary typesystems



Current status of the debugger

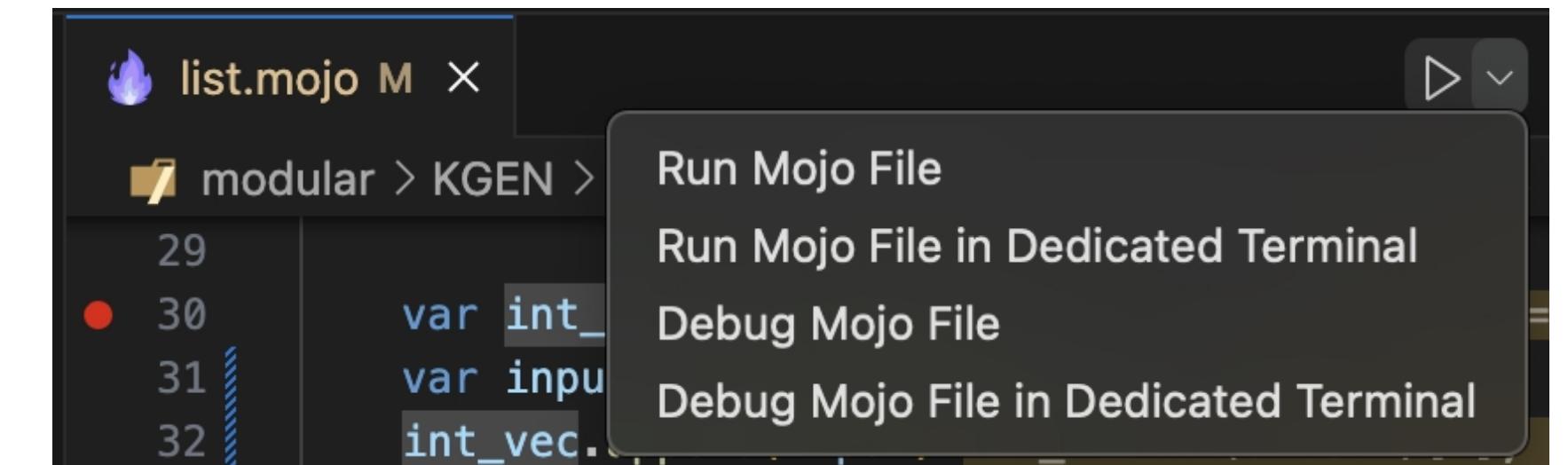
Linux + MacOS
JIT + AOT debugging
Variable printing
Stepping
Breakpoints
REPL / Jupyter Notebooks

Coming soon:
Expression evaluation
REPL debugging
Windows support
Smart formatters
Better inline support

Debug adapter protocol

Modern interface for IDE integration

- VS Code, Visual Studio, Eclipse, Vim, Emacs, etc.
- lldb-dap



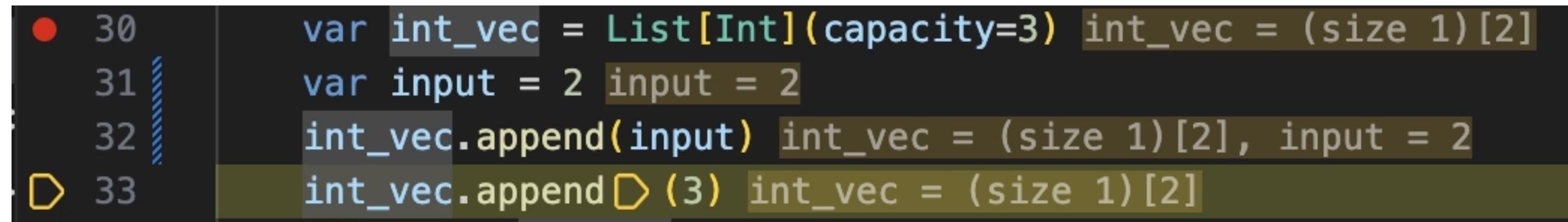
Two-click JIT debugging

lldb-dap / VS Code-first

- UX focused
- Lower learning curve

Extending the debug adapter protocol

Richer variable metadata for nicer features



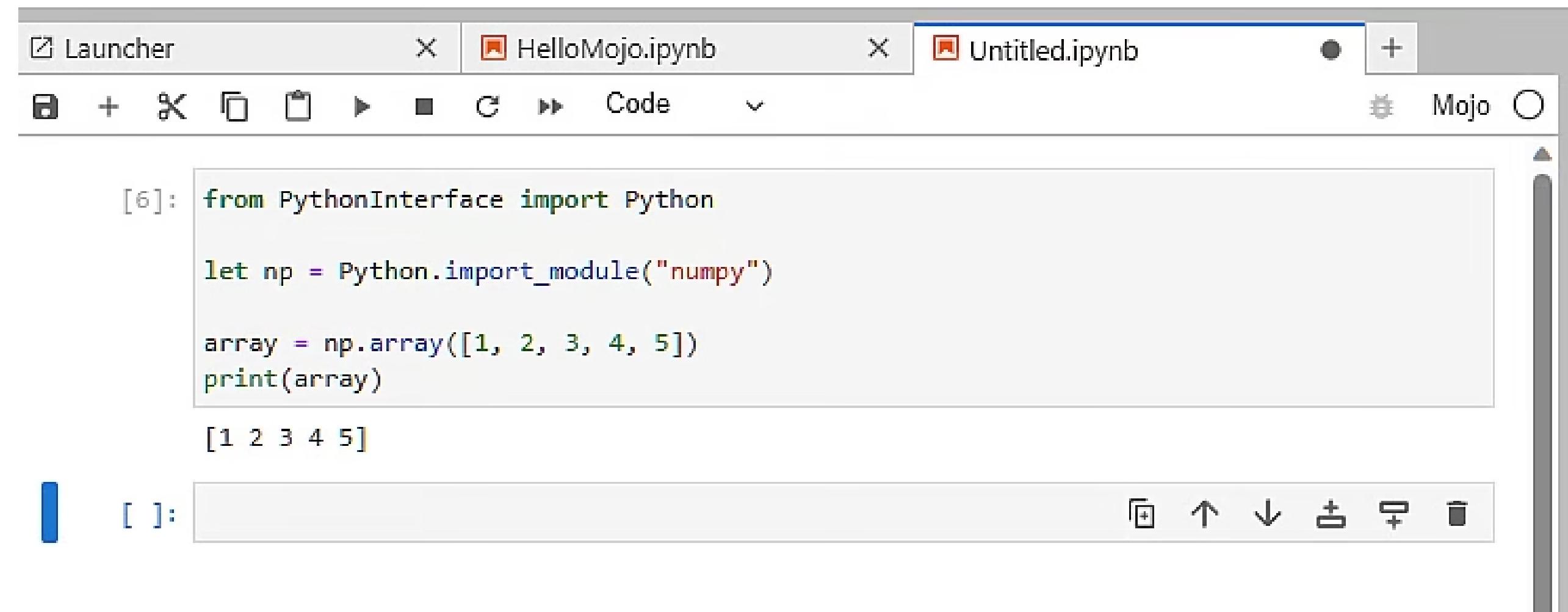
A screenshot of a debugger interface showing a stack trace or variable list. The list includes:

- Line 30: var int_vec = List[Int](capacity=3) int_vec = (size 1)[2]
- Line 31: var input = 2 input = 2
- Line 32: int_vec.append(input) int_vec = (size 1)[2], input = 2
- Line 33: int_vec.append(3) int_vec = (size 1)[2]

The line "int_vec.append(3)" is highlighted with a yellow background, indicating it is the current focus or being expanded.

Inline variables: talking to the LSP

Future work - notebook debugging



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with two open notebooks: "HelloMojo.ipynb" and "Untitled.ipynb". The "Untitled.ipynb" tab is active. In the code cell [6], the following Python code is run:

```
[6]: from PythonInterface import Python  
  
let np = Python.import_module("numpy")  
  
array = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])  
print(array)
```

The output of the code is:

```
[1 2 3 4 5]
```

In the bottom cell [], there is an empty input field and a toolbar with icons for cell operations.

- Used very much!
- New debugging interface
 - Need to enable REPL debugging within an editor
- Python-interop in Mojo
 - debugging and variable printing

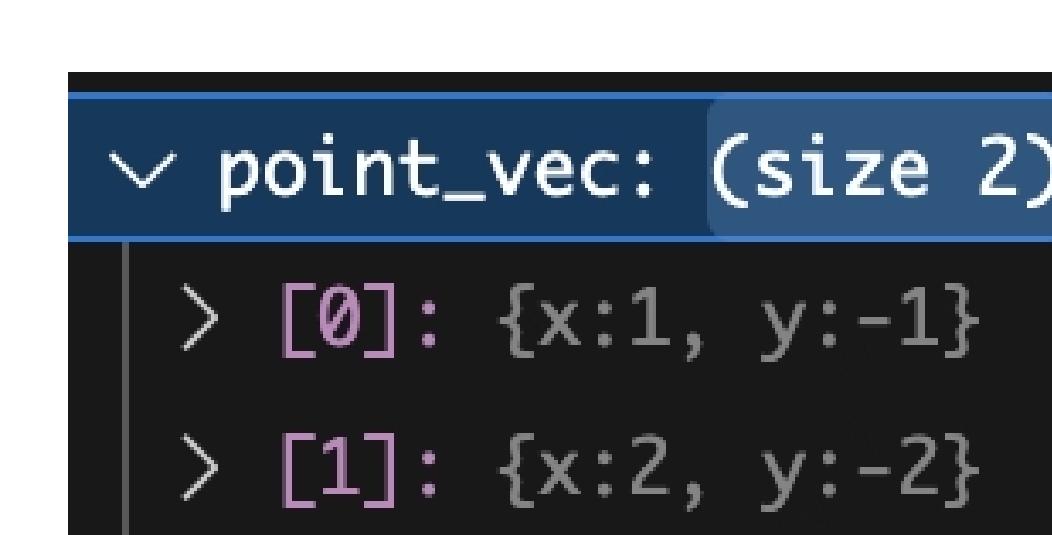
Future work

Mojo-based formatters

Decorator-based formatters

- Based on common archetypes

```
@lldb_formatter_list
struct List[T]:
    var data: AnyPointer[T]
    var size: Int
    var capacity: Int
```



Future work

Mojo-based formatters

Function-based summary providers

- Matches python experience
- Requires interpretation

```
struct URL:  
    fn __repr__(self) -> String:  
        ...
```

```
> url: http://localhost/Index.html
```

03

DebugInfo in MLIR

Debug Info

Infrastructure for keeping track of
source level concepts in the IR
across **transformations**.



Debug Info in LLVM

Source Level Debugging with LLVM

Debug metadata on instructions

- E.g. DILocation
- Source location & scope

Debug intrinsics

- E.g. dbg.declare, dbg.value
- Keep track of the location / value of source variables

```
%i.addr = alloca i32, align 4, !dbg !3
call void @llvm.dbg.declare(
    metadata ptr %i.addr,
    metadata !1,
    metadata !DIExpression())
!1 = !DILocalVariable(name: "i", ...)
!2 = !DISubprogram(name: "main", ...)
!3 = !DILocation(scope: !2, line: 2, ...)
```

Debug Info in the LLVM Dialect

Lowering target for **custom debug info constructs** in MLIR for **codegen via LLVM**.



Direct LLVM Mappings

Scoped location tracking with
DIScopeAttrs

Variable value tracking with
DbgValueOp & DbgDeclareOp

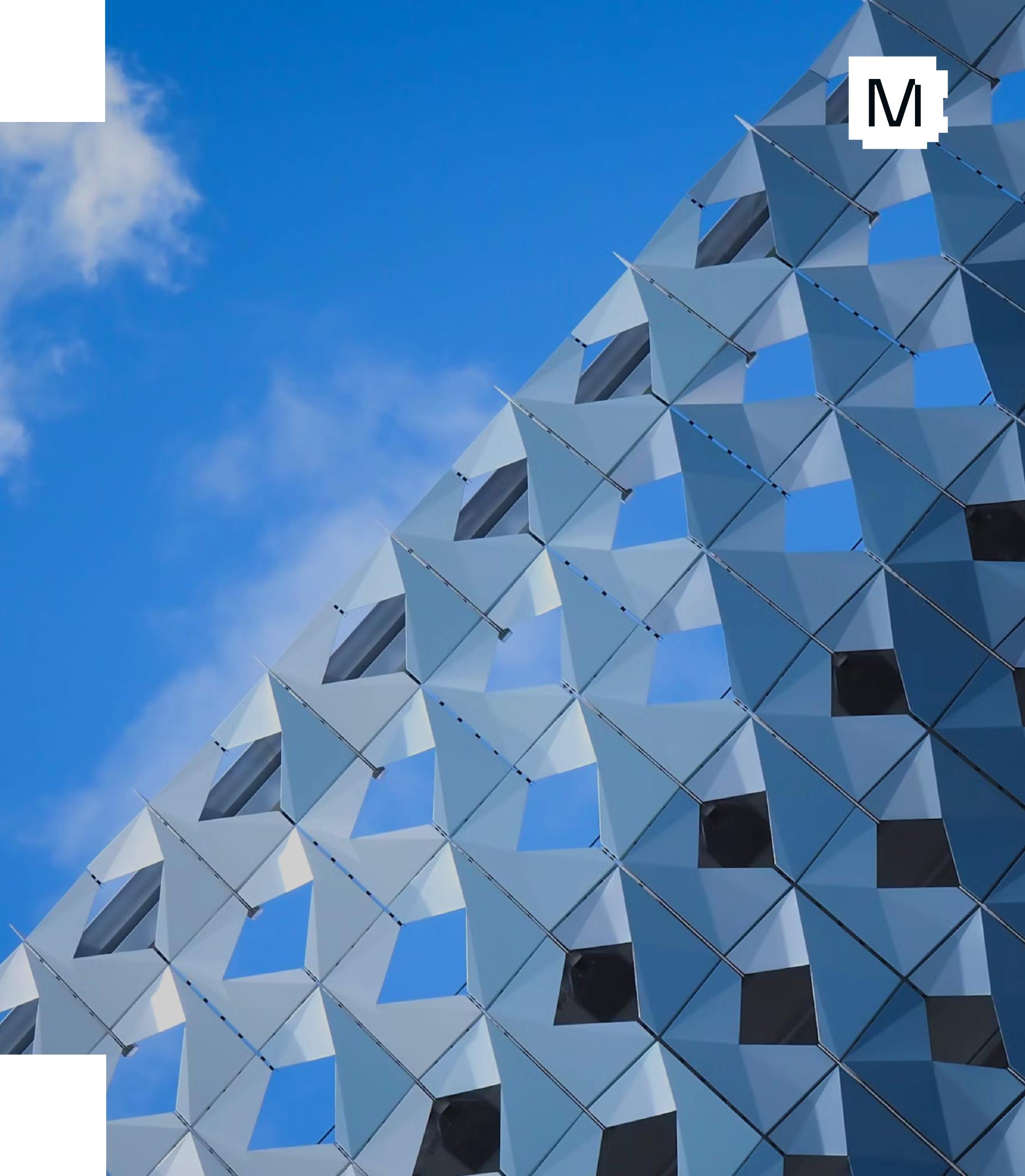
Two-way translation to/from LLVM IR

```
%0 = llvm.mlir.constant(1 : i32) : i32
%1 = llvm.alloca %0 x i32
      : (i32) -> !llvm.ptr
llvm.intr.dbg.declare #var = %1
      : !llvm.ptr loc(#loc1)
```

```
#loc  = loc("test.mlir":2:4)
#loc1 = loc(fused<#di_subprogram>[#loc])
#main = #llvm.di_subprogram<
        name = "main", ...>
#var  = #llvm.di_local_variable<
        scope = #main, name = "i", ...>
```

DebugInfo Dialect

Exploration of a generic MLIR solution
for keeping track of source level
information.





DebugInfo Dialect

01

Scope-Based Locations

Augments MLIR's native Location tracking with source scopes.

02

Source Variable Tracking

Tracks value / location of source variables, and their lifetimes.

03

Transformation Hooks

Utilities to incentivize maintaining debuginfo across transformations.

Conversions into LLVM dialect.

Scoped Locations

MLIR has operation locations

- Missing source scope information

DebugInfo provides attributes for describing scopes

- DICompileUnit
- DIFile
- DISubprogram

Scope is fused onto operation locations

```
#subprogram = #debuginfo.subprogram<
compileUnit = #compile_unit,
scope = #file,
name = #main_name,
linkageName = "main()",  
file = #file,
line = 1,  
scopeLine = 1,  
subprogramFlags = Definition  
> : !subroutine  
#loc0 = loc("test.mojo":2:5)  
#loc1 = loc(fused<#subprogram>[#loc0])
```

Variable Tracking

Tracks the value / location of a source variable starting from a program point.

In-line operation `debuginfo.value`

- Relates an IR Value with a variable in the source program
- Similar to the LLVM intrinsic `dbg.value` (with subtle semantic differences)

```
%0 = ...
debuginfo.value #var = %0 : index
%1 = ...
debuginfo.value #var = %1 : index

#var = #debuginfo.local_variable<
      scope = #subprogram,
      name = "x",
      file = #file,
      line = 2
> : !debuginfo.unresolved<index>
```

DI Expressions

A high-level counterpart to DWARF expressions.

Models the transformations needed to map the IR value to a source variable.

```
// Mojo  
var x: Int = 42
```

```
// MLIR  
%index42 = kgen.param.constant = <42>  
debuginfo.value #var = %index42 : index  
  
#var = #debuginfo.local_variable<  
    scope = #foo,  
    name = "x",  
    file = #file,  
    line = 2  
> : !debuginfo.unresolved<index>
```

DI Expression Representation

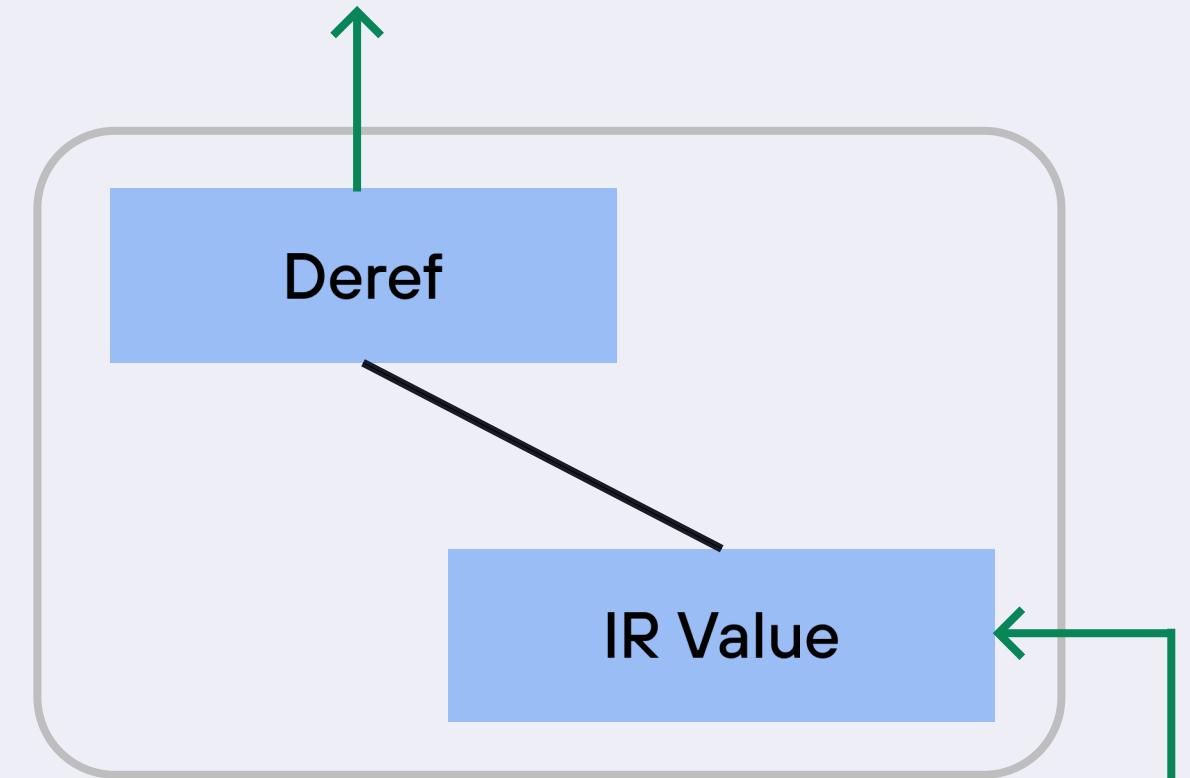
DWARF & LLVM DI Expressions are modeled with a stack machine

DebugInfo uses a typed attribute tree

- An "inner" operator is parameterized on other DIExpressions
- A "leaf" operator models constants or inputs (e.g. `debuinfo.expr.irvalue`)

```
#var = #debuginfo.local_variable<...>
      : !debuginfo.unresolved<index>
```

```
#deref =
```



```
%0 = stack_allocation 1 x index
debuginfo.value #var #deref = %0
```

```
: pointer<index>
```

Example: DeRef

Value may become stack allocated

- Source type is still `index`
- IR type is now a pointer type

DI Expression helps reconcile this difference

- Encodes the "inverse" operation to get back the source representation

```
#var  = #debuginfo.local_variable<...>
      : !debuginfo.unresolved<index>
```

```
#deref  = #debuginfo.expr.deref<#irValue>
       : !debuginfo.unresolved<index>
```

```
#irValue  = #debuginfo.expr.irvalue
        : !debuginfo.ti.ptr<
          !debuginfo.unresolved<index>>
```

```
%0  = stack_allocation 1 x index
debuginfo.value #var #deref = %0
      : pointer<index>
```

Incentivizing DebugInfo Update

Handle representational changes.

Type-checked `debuginfo.value`

- Operand matches `expr.irvalue` type

Leaf-replacer utility

- Register the "opposite" logic of the pass using DI Expression operators
- Cached & type-checked

```
DebugInfo::DIExprAttr  
stackAllocLeafConversion(  
    DebugInfo::DIType irType) {  
    // newIRTyoe is a pointer to `irType`.  
    // New leaf (expr.irvalue) has newIRTyoe.  
    // Wrap with operator opposite of stack  
    // allocation (expr.deref) & return.  
}
```

```
DebugInfo::DIExprLeafReplacer  
leafReplacer(stackAllocLeafConversion);
```

```
leafReplacer.apply(  
    debugValueOp.getConversionExpr())
```

Lifetime Tracking

Mojo eager destruction

- Value is destroyed after last use
- Can no longer rely on scopes for local variable lifetime

In-line operation `debuginfo.kill`

- A special kind of `debuginfo.value` denoting a dead value
- Lowers into "killed" DbgValueOp in LLVM

```
fn main():
    var text = "Hello World"
    print(text)
    # `text` destroyed here.
    # `debuginfo.kill` inserted.
    foo()
```

Inheriting Locations

Beware of assigning locations for derived ops
(esp. merged or deduplicated ops)

- Heavily influences stepping behavior
- E.g. changes to MLIR canonicalizer

What We Learned

- Not all debug info are preserved equally through the llvm backend
 - Stack-allocated values & DbgDeclare work best
- IR & debug info co-design for efficient transformations
 - Don't forget tests
- DebugInfo representation can still be iterated upon
 - Ongoing LLVM work too



Mojo Debugging

