Constraint-Based Analysis

CS 6340

Motivation

Designing an efficient program analysis is challenging

Program Analysis = Specification + Implementation

"What"

No null pointer is dereferenced along any path in the program.



Many design choices:

- forward vs. backward traversal
- symbolic vs. explicit representation
- . . .

Motivation

Designing an efficient program analysis is challenging

Program Analysis = Specification + Implementation

Nontrivial!

Consider null pointer dereference analysis:

- No null pointer assignments (v = null): forward is best
- No pointer dereferences (v->next): backward is best

"How"

Many design choices:

- _ forward vs. backward traversal
- symbolic vs. explicit representation
- . . .

What Is Constraint-Based Analysis?

Designing an efficient program analysis is challenging

Program Analysis = Specification + Implementation

"What"

Defined by the user in the constraint language.

"How"

Automated by the constraint solver.

Benefits of Constraint-Based Analysis

- Separates analysis specification from implementation
 - Analysis writer can focus on "what" rather than "how"
- Yields natural program specifications
 - Constraints are usually local, whose conjunctions capture global properties
- Enables sophisticated analysis implementations
 - Leverage powerful, off-the-shelf solvers

QUIZ: Specification & Implementation

Consider a dataflow analysis such as live variables analysis. If one expresses it as a constraint-based analysis, one must still decide:

- The order in which statements should be processed.
- What the gen and kill sets for each kind of statement are.
- In what language to implement the chaotic iteration algorithm.
- Whether to take intersection or union at merge points.

QUIZ: Specification & Implementation

Consider a dataflow analysis such as live variables analysis. If one expresses it as a constraint-based analysis, one must still decide:

- The order in which statements should be processed.
- √ What the gen and kill sets for each kind of statement are.
- In what language to implement the chaotic iteration algorithm.
- ✓ Whether to take intersection or union at merge points.

Outline of this Lesson



A constraint language: Datalog

Two static analyses in Datalog:

- Intra-procedural analysis: computing reaching definitions
- Inter-procedural analysis: computing points-to information

A Constraint Language: Datalog

- A declarative logic programming language
- Not Turing-complete: subset of Prolog, or SQL with recursion
 => Efficient algorithms to evaluate Datalog programs
- Originated as query language for deductive databases
- Later applied in many other domains: software analysis, data mining, networking, security, knowledge representation, cloud-computing, ...
- Many implementations: Logicblox, bddbddb, IRIS, Paddle, ...

Input Relations: edge(n:N, m:N) Output Relations: path(n:N, m:N) Rules: path(x, x). path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)

A relation is similar to a table in a database. A tuple in a relation is similar to a row in a table.

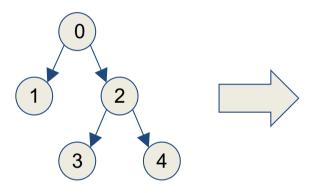
```
path(x, x).
path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).
```

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)



Rules:

path(x, x). path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).

edge	
n	m
0	1
0	2
2	3
2	4

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)

Deductive rules that hold universally (i.e., variables like x, y, z can be replaced by any constant). Specify "if ... then ... " logic.

```
path(x, x).
path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).
```

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

(If TRUE,) there is a path from each node to itself.

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)

If there is path from node x to y, and there is an edge from y to z, then there is path from x to z.

Rules:

path(x, x).

path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)

```
path := { (x, x) | x ∈ N }
do

path := path ∪ { (x, z) | ∃ y ∈ N:
    (x, y) ∈ path and (y, z) ∈ edge }
until path relation stops changing
```

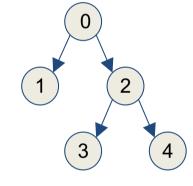
```
path(x, x).
path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).
```

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)



Rules:

path(x, x).

path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).

Input Tuples:

edge(0, 1), edge(0, 2), edge(2, 3), edge(2, 4)

Output Tuples:

```
path(0, 0), path(1, 1), path(2, 2),
path(3, 3), path(4, 4), path(0, 1),
path(0, 2), path(2, 3), path(2, 4),
path(0, 3), path(0, 4)
```

Input Relations: edge(n:N, m:N) Output Relations: path(n:N, m:N) 1 2 4

```
Input Tuples:
edge(0, 1), edge(0, 2), edge(2, 3),
edge(2, 4)

Output Tuples:
path(0, 0), path(1, 1), path(2, 2),
path(3, 3), path(4, 4), path(0, 1),
path(0, 2), path(2, 3), path(2, 4),
path(0, 3), path(0, 4)
```

```
Rules:
```

```
path(x, x).

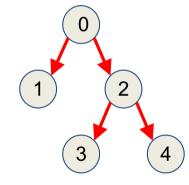
path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).
```

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)



Rules:

path(x, x).

```
path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).
```

Input Tuples:

```
edge(0, 1), edge(0, 2), edge(2, 3), edge(2, 4)
```

Output Tuples:

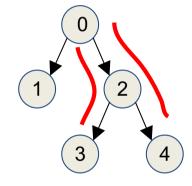
```
path(0, 0), path(1, 1), path(2, 2),
path(3, 3), path(4, 4), path(0, 1),
path(0, 2), path(2, 3), path(2, 4),
path(0, 3), path(0, 4)
```

Input Relations:

edge(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

path(n:N, m:N)



Rules:

path(x, x).

```
path(x, z) :- path(x, y), edge(y, z).
```

Input Tuples:

```
edge(0, 1), edge(0, 2), edge(2, 3), edge(2, 4)
```

Output Tuples:

```
path(0, 0), path(1, 1), path(2, 2),
path(3, 3), path(4, 4), path(0, 1),
path(0, 2), path(2, 3), path(2, 4),
path(0, 3), path(0, 4)
```

QUIZ: Computation Using Datalog

Check each of the below Datalog programs that computes in relation **scc** exactly those pairs of nodes (n1, n2) such that n2 is reachable from n1 AND n1 is reachable from n2.

```
scc(n1, n2) :- edge(n1, n2), edge(n2, n1).

scc(n1, n2) :- path(n1, n2), path(n2, n1).

scc(n1, n2) :- path(n1, n3), path(n3, n2), path(n2, n4), path(n4, n1).

scc(n1, n2) :- path(n1, n3), path(n2, n3).
```

QUIZ: Computation Using Datalog

Check each of the below Datalog programs that computes in relation **scc** exactly those pairs of nodes (n1, n2) such that n2 is reachable from n1 AND n1 is reachable from n2.

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scc(n1, n2) :- edge(n1, n2), edge(n2, n1).

scc(n1, n2) :- path(n1, n2), path(n2, n1).

scc(n1, n2) :- path(n1, n3), path(n3, n2), path(n2, n4), path(n4, n1).

scc(n1, n2) :- path(n1, n3), path(n2, n3).
```

Outline of this Lesson

A constraint language: Datalog

Two static analyses in Datalog:



- Intra-procedural analysis: computing reaching definitions
- Inter-procedural analysis: computing points-to information

Dataflow Analysis in Datalog

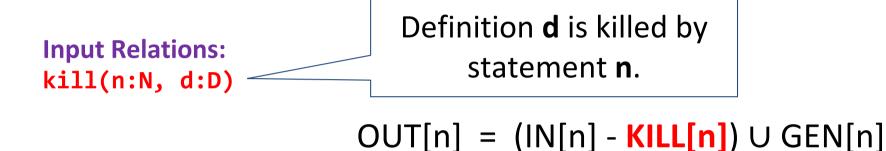
Recall the specification of reaching definitions analysis:

OUT[n] = (IN[n] - KILL[n]) U GEN[n]

IN[n] =
$$\bigcup$$
 OUT[n']

 $n' \in$

predecessors(n)



Output Relations:

Input Relations:

kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)

Definition **d** is generated by statement **n**.

 $OUT[n] = (IN[n] - KILL[n]) \cup GEN[n]$

Output Relations:

Input Relations:

kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)
next(n:N, m:N)

Statement **m** is an immediate successor of statement **n**.

 $OUT[n] = (IN[n] - KILL[n]) \cup GEN[n]$

Output Relations:

Input Relations:

```
kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)
next(n:N, m:N)
```

Output Relations:

$$OUT[n] = (IN[n] - KILL[n]) \cup GEN[n]$$

Input Relations:

```
kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)
next(n:N, m:N)
```

Output Relations:

Rules:

$$OUT[n] = (IN[n] - KILL[n]) \cup GEN[n]$$

Definition **d** may reach the program point just before statement **n**.

Input Relations:

```
kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)
next(n:N, m:N)
```

Output Relations:

```
in (n:N, d:D)
out(n:N, d:D)
```

Rules:

$$OUT[n] = (IN[n] - KILL[n]) \cup GEN[n]$$

$$IN[n] = \bigcup_{n' \in Predecessors(n)} OUT[n']$$

Definition **d** may reach the program point just after statement **n**.

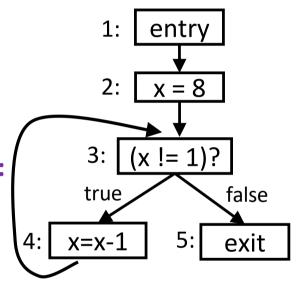
Reaching Definitions Analysis: Example

Input Relations:

kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)
next(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

in (n:N, d:D)
out(n:N, d:D)



```
out(n, d) :- gen(n, d).
out(n, d) :- in(n, d), !kill(n, d).
in (m, d) :- out(n, d), next(n, m).
```

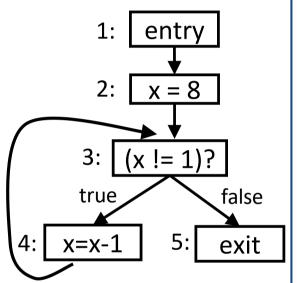
Reaching Definitions Analysis: Example

Input Relations:

kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)
next(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

in (n:N, d:D)
out(n:N, d:D)



Input Tuples:

```
kill(4, 2),
gen (2, 2), gen (4, 4),
next(1, 2), next(2, 3),
next(3, 4), next(3, 5),
next(4, 3)
```

```
out(n, d) :- gen(n, d).
out(n, d) :- in(n, d), !kill(n, d).
in (m, d) :- out(n, d), next(n, m).
```

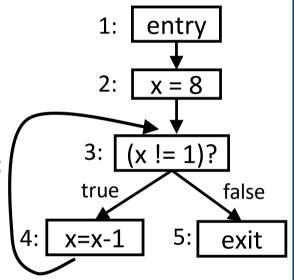
Reaching Definitions Analysis: Example

Input Relations:

kill(n:N, d:D)
gen (n:N, d:D)
next(n:N, m:N)

Output Relations:

in (n:N, d:D)
out(n:N, d:D)



Rules:

```
out(n, d) :- gen(n, d).
out(n, d) :- in(n, d), !kill(n, d).
in (m, d) :- out(n, d), next(n, m).
```

Input Tuples:

```
kill(4, 2),
gen (2, 2), gen (4, 4),
next(1, 2), next(2, 3),
next(3, 4), next(3, 5),
next(4, 3)
```

Output Tuples:

```
in (3, 2), in (3, 4), in (4, 2), in (4, 4), in (5, 2), in (5, 4), out(2, 2), out(3, 2), out(3, 4), out(4, 2), out(4, 4), out(5, 2), out(5, 4)
```

QUIZ: Live Variables Analysis

Complete the Datalog program below by filling in the rules for live variables analysis.

Input Relations: kill(n:N, v:V) gen (n:N, v:V) next(n:N, m:N) Rules: :, !

QUIZ: Live Variables Analysis

Complete the Datalog program below by filling in the rules for live variables analysis.

Input Relations: kill(n:N, v:V) gen (n:N, v:V) next(n:N, m:N) Output Relations: in (n:N, v:V) out(n:N, v:V)

Outline of this Lesson

A constraint language: Datalog

Two static analyses in Datalog:

Intra-procedural analysis: computing reaching definitions



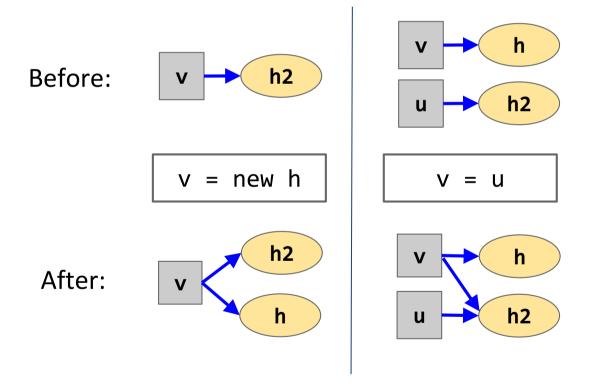
Inter-procedural analysis: computing points-to information

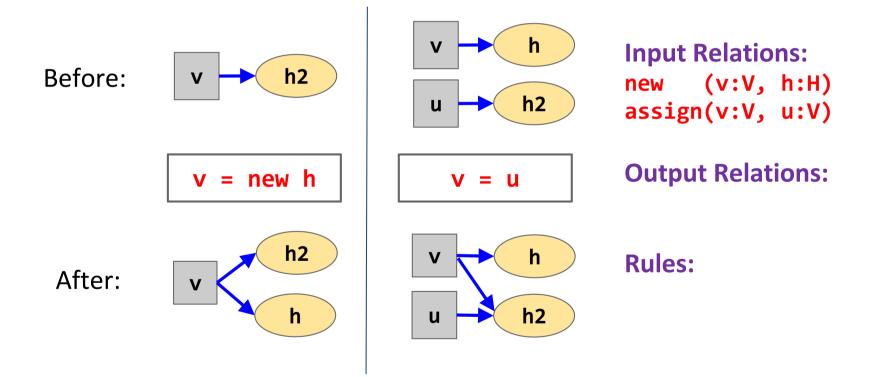
Pointer Analysis in Datalog

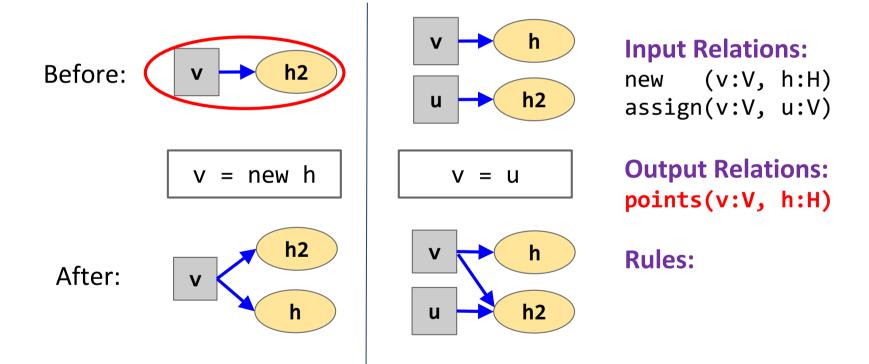
Consider a flow-insensitive may-alias analysis for a simple language:

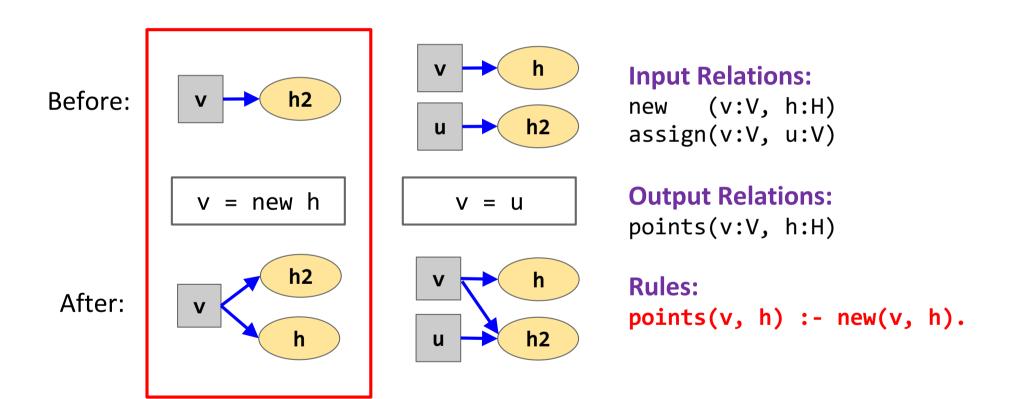
Consider a flow-insensitive may-alias analysis for a simple language:

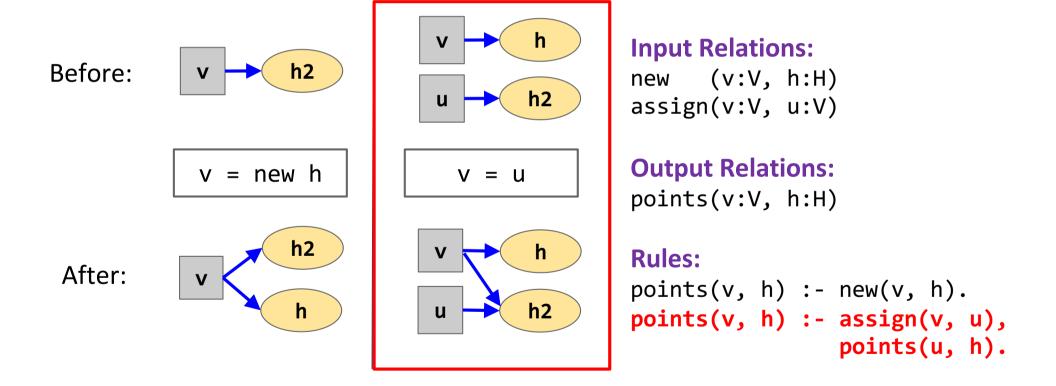
Recall the specification:





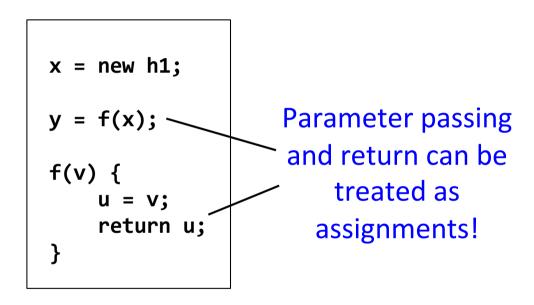






Consider a flow-insensitive may-alias analysis for a simple language:

```
x = new h1;
y = f(x);
f(v) {
    u = v;
    return u;
}
```

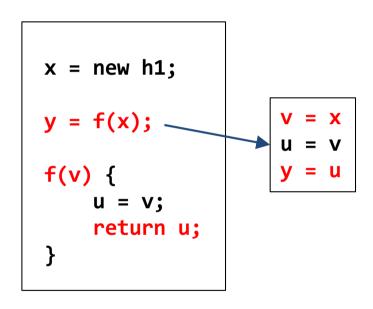


Input Relations:

```
new (v:V, h:H)
assign(v:V, u:V)
```

Output Relations:

```
points(v:V, h:H)
```



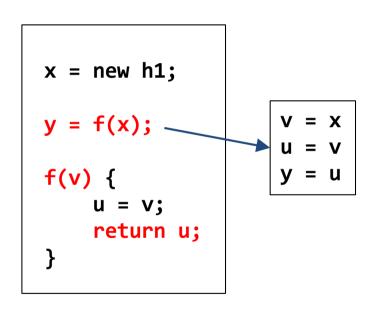
Input Relations:

```
new(v:V, h:H)
assign(v:V, u:V)
```

Output Relations:

```
points(v:V, h:H)
```

```
points(v, h) :- new(v, h).
points(v, h) :- assign(v, u), points(u, h).
```



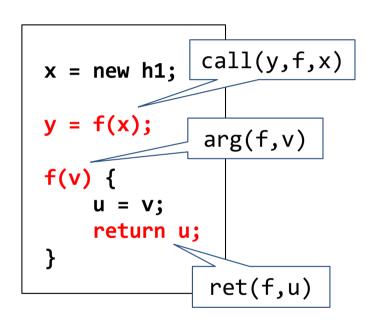
Input Relations:

```
new(v:V, h:H) arg(f:F, v:V) ret(f:F, u:V)
assign(v:V, u:V) call(y:V, f:F, x:V)
```

Output Relations:

```
points(v:V, h:H)
```

```
points(v, h) :- new(v, h).
points(v, h) :- assign(v, u), points(u, h).
```



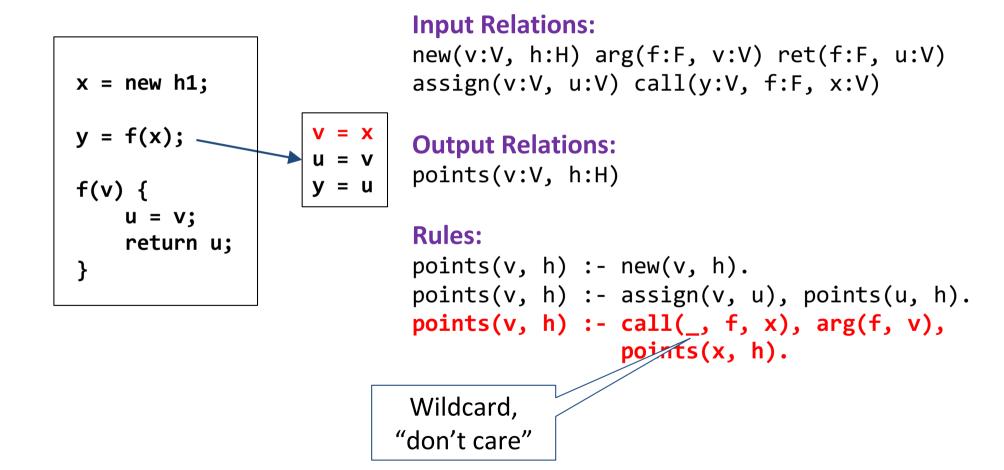
Input Relations:

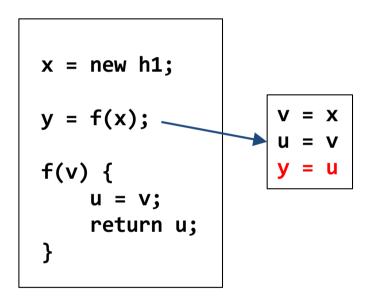
```
new(v:V, h:H) arg(f:F, v:V) ret(f:F, u:V)
assign(v:V, u:V) call(y:V, f:F, x:V)
```

Output Relations:

```
points(v:V, h:H)
```

```
points(v, h) :- new(v, h).
points(v, h) :- assign(v, u), points(u, h).
```





Input Relations:

```
new(v:V, h:H) arg(f:F, v:V) ret(f:F, u:V)
assign(v:V, u:V) call(y:V, f:F, x:V)
```

Output Relations:

```
points(v:V, h:H)
```

QUIZ: Querying Pointer Analysis in Datalog

Check each of the below Datalog programs that computes in relation mustNotAlias each pair of variables (u, v) such that u and v do not alias in any run of the program.

```
mustNotAlias(u, v) :- points(u, h1), points(v, h2), h1 != h2.

mayAlias(u, v) :- points(u, h), points(v, h).
mustNotAlias(u, v) :- !mayAlias(u, v).

mayAlias(u, v) :- points(u, _), points(v, _).
mustNotAlias(u, v) :- !mayAlias(u, v).

common(u, v, h) :- points(u, h), points(v, h).
mayAlias(u, v) :- common(u, v, _).
mustNotAlias(u, v) :- !mayAlias(u, v).
```

QUIZ: Querying Pointer Analysis in Datalog

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mayAlias(u, v) :- points(u, _), points(v, _).
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common(u, v, h) :- points(u, h), points(v, h).
mayAlias(u, v) :- common(u, v, _).
mustNotAlias(u, v) :- !mayAlias(u, v).
```

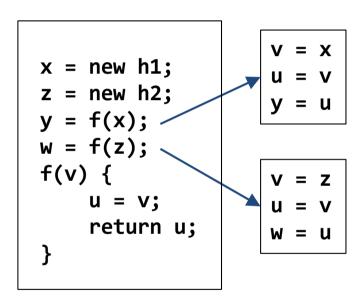
```
x = new h1;
z = new h2;
y = f(x);
w = f(z);
f(v) {
    u = v;
    return u;
}
```

Input Relations:

```
new(v:V, h:H) arg(f:F, v:V) ret(f:F, u:V)
assign(v:V, u:V) call(y:V, f:F, x:V)
```

Output Relations:

```
points(v:V, h:H)
```

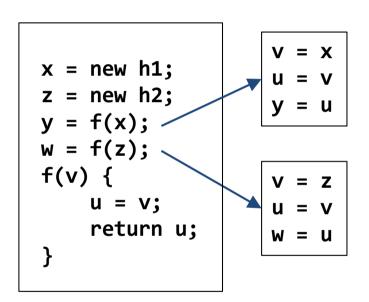


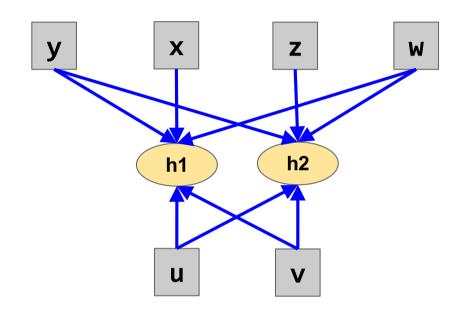
Input Relations:

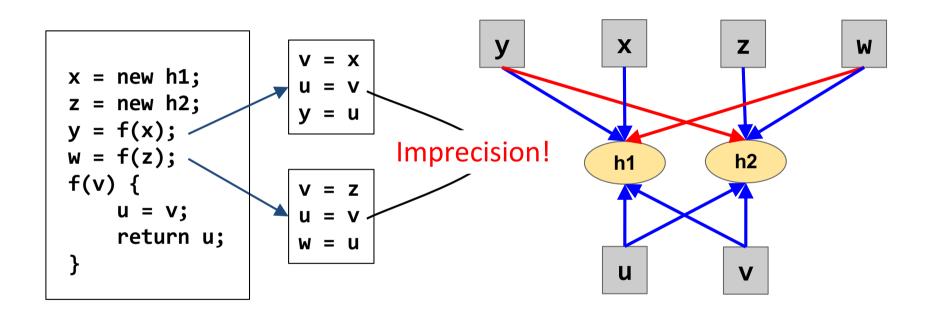
```
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assign(v:V, u:V) call(y:V, f:F, x:V)
```

Output Relations:

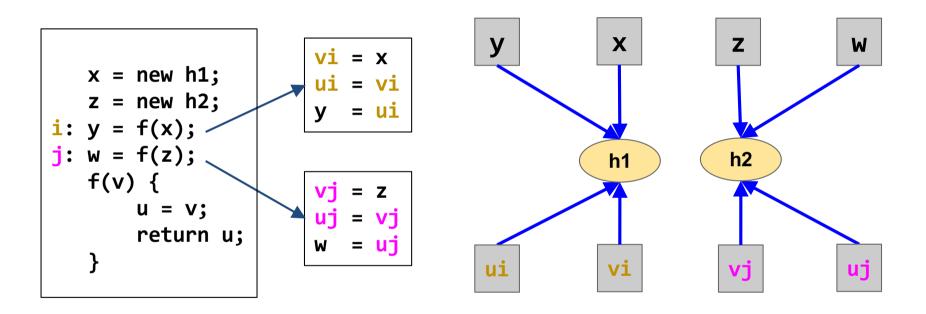
```
points(v:V, h:H)
```







Cloning-Based Inter-procedural Analysis



Achieves context sensitivity by inlining procedure calls

Cloning depth : precision vs. scalability

What about Recursion?

```
x = new h1;
z = new h2;
y = f(x);
w = f(z);

f(v) {
    if (*)
       v = f(v);
    return v;
}
```

Need **infinite** cloning depth to differentiate the points-to sets of x, y and w, z!

Summary-Based Inter-procedural Analysis

- Use the incoming program states to differentiate calls to the same procedure
 - Same incoming program states yield same outgoing program states for a given procedure
- As precise as cloning-based analysis with infinite cloning depth

Other Constraint Languages

Constraint Language	Problem Expressed	Example Solvers
Datalog	Least solution of deductive inference rules	LogixBlox, bddbddb
SAT	Boolean satisfiability problem	MiniSat, Glucose
MaxSAT	Boolean satisfiability problem extended with optimization	open-wbo, SAT4j
SMT	Satisfiability modulo theories problem	Z3, Yices
MaxSMT	Satisfiability modulo theories problem extended with optimization	Z3

What Have We Learned?

- Constraint-based analysis and its benefits
- The Datalog constraint language
- How to express static analyses in Datalog
 - Analysis logic == constraints in Datalog
 - Analysis inputs and outputs == relations of tuples
- Context-insensitive and context-sensitive interprocedural analysis