



Learning to Verify the Heap

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Verifying heap-manipulating programs

```
procedure insert(lst: Node, elt: Node)
  returns (res: Node)
  requires  $elt \mapsto null * lseg(lst, null)$ 
  ensures  $lseg(res, null)$ 
{
  if (lst != null)
  {
    var curr := lst;
    while (nondet() && curr.next != null)
      invariant  $curr \neq null : elt \mapsto null * lseg(lst, curr) * lseg(curr, null)$ 
    {
      curr := curr.next;
    }
    elt.next := curr.next;
    curr.next := elt;
    return lst;
  }
  else return elt;
}
```

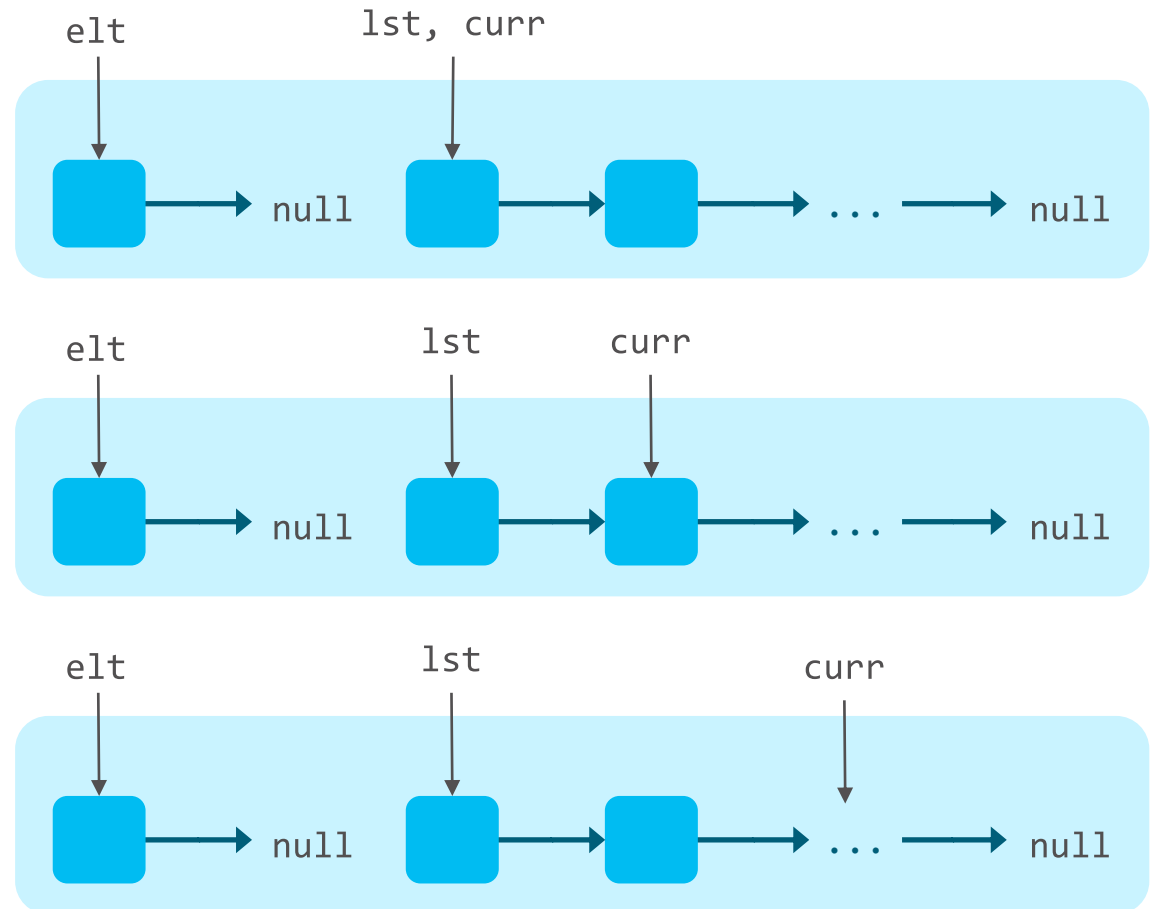
Verifying heap-manipulating programs

```
procedure insertion_sort(lst: Node)
  requires lseg(lst, null) * lst ≠ null
  ensures slseg(lst, null)
{
  var prv := null, srt := lst;
  while (srt != null)
    invariant (prv = null * srt = lst * lseg(lst, null))
      || (lseg(lst, prv) * pr ↦ srt * lseg(srt, null))
    {
      var curr := srt.next;
      var min := srt;
      while (curr != null)
        invariant (prv = null * lseg(lst, srt) * lseg(srt, min) * lseg(min, curr) * lseg(curr, null))
          || (lseg(lst, prv) * lseg(prv, srt) * lseg(srt, min) * lseg(min, curr) * lseg(curr, null))
        invariant min ≠ null
      {
        if (curr.data < min.data) {
          min := curr;
        }
        curr := curr.next;
      }
      var tmp := min.data;
      min.data := srt.data;
      srt.data := tmp;
      prv := srt;
      srt := srt.next;
    }
}
```

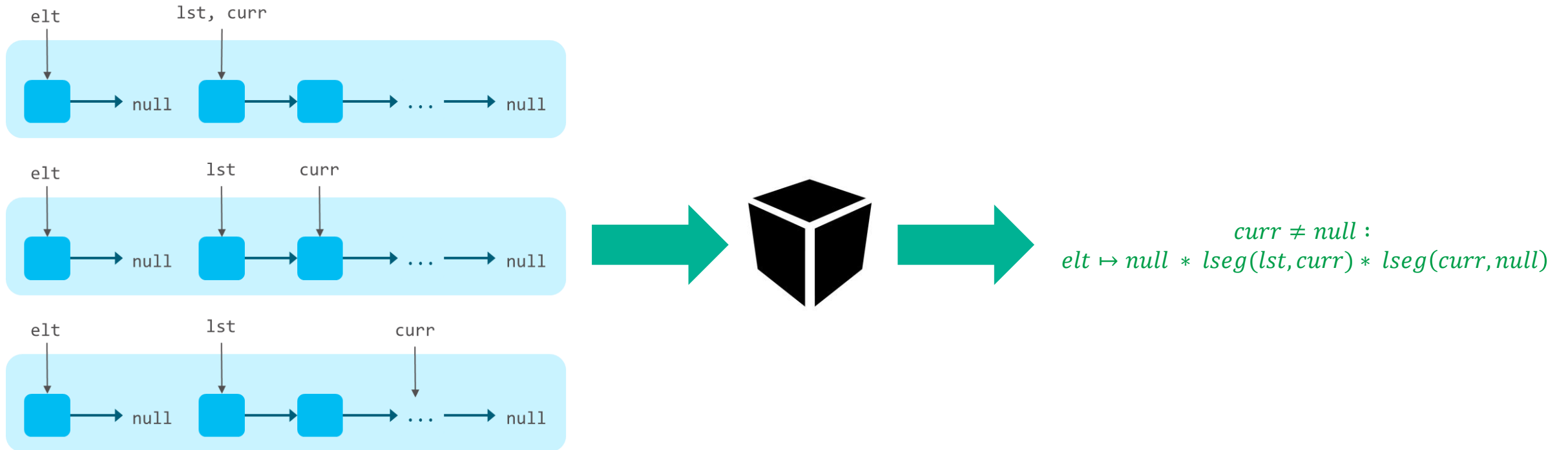
But how do we find
these annotations?

Data

```
procedure insert(lst: Node, elt: Node)
  returns (res: Node)
  requires  $elt \mapsto \text{null} * \text{lseg}(lst, \text{null})$ 
  ensures  $\text{lseg}(\text{res}, \text{null})$ 
{
  if (lst != null)
  {
    var curr := lst;
    while (nondet() && curr.next != null)
    {
      invariant  $curr \neq \text{null} : elt \mapsto \text{null} * \text{lseg}(lst, curr) * \text{lseg}(curr, \text{null})$ 
      curr := curr.next;
    }
    elt.next := curr.next;
    curr.next := elt;
    return lst;
  }
  else return elt;
}
```



Machine Learning



In this talk

- ML based formula prediction
 - Arbitrary (pre-defined) inductive predicates
 - Nested predicates
 - Disjunctions
 - Predictions are not training \Rightarrow fast
- Refinement loop with program verifier
- Data invariants
 - Functional correctness
- Fully automatically verify programs
 - merge & quick sort

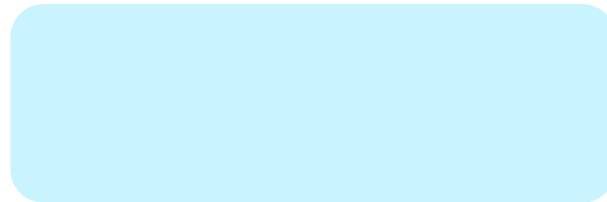
Separation Logic



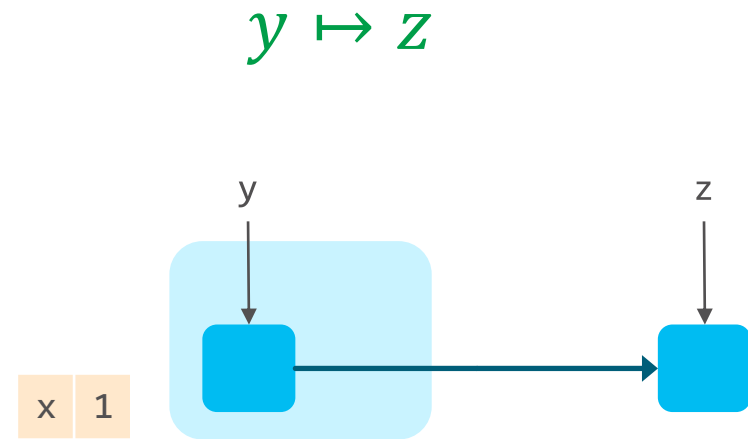
Separation Logic

emp

x	1
---	---

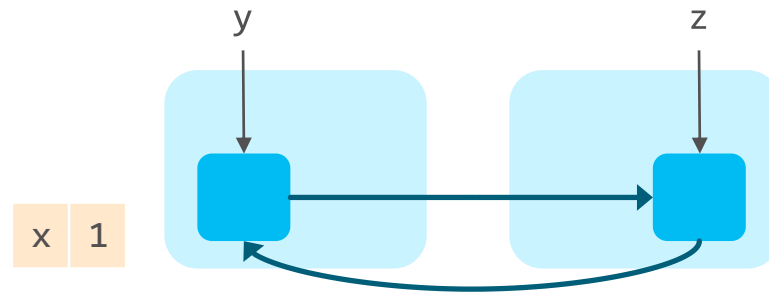


Separation Logic



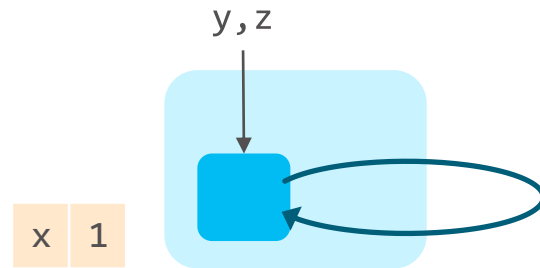
Separation Logic

$$y \mapsto z * z \mapsto y$$



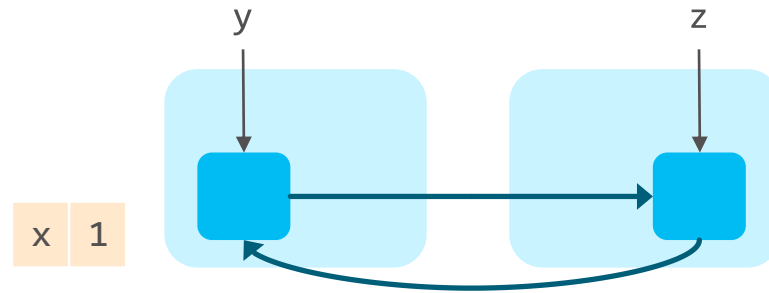
Separation Logic

$$y \mapsto z \wedge z \mapsto y$$



Separation Logic

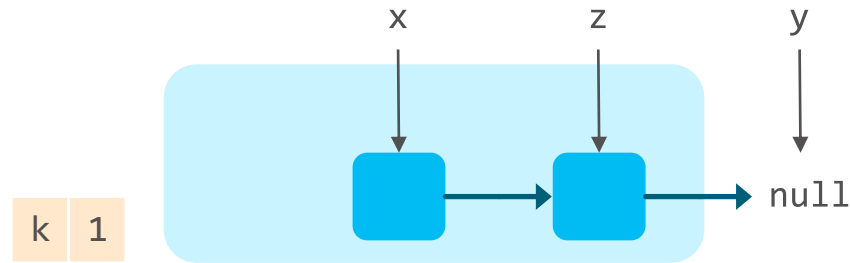
$$x = 1 : y \mapsto z * z \mapsto y$$



SL of list segments

$$lseg(x, y) := \exists z. (x = y : emp) \vee (x \neq y : x \mapsto z * lseg(z, y))$$

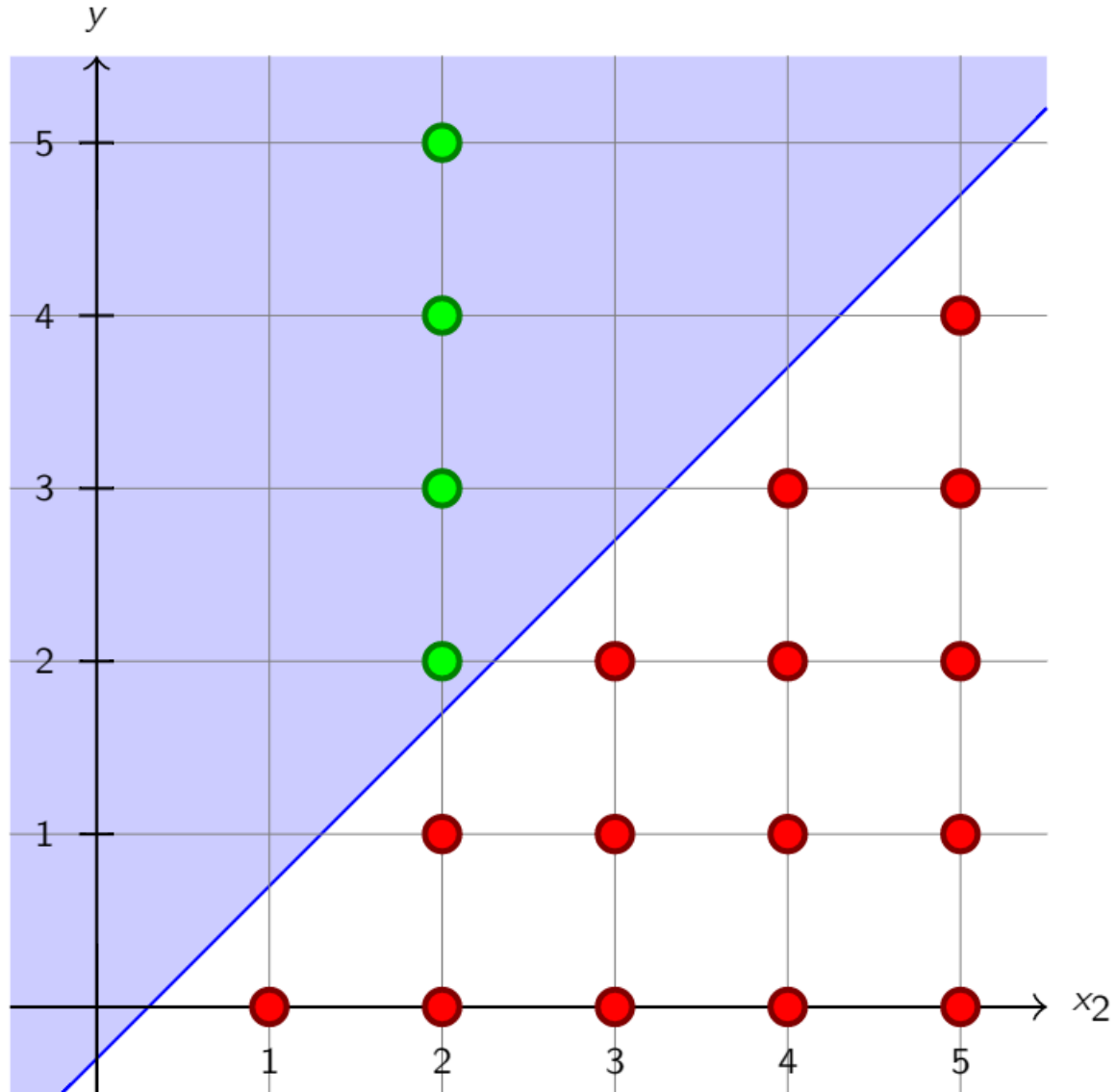
$$\begin{aligned} lseg(x, null) \\ &\equiv \exists z. x \neq null : x \mapsto z * lseg(z, null) \\ &\equiv \dots \\ &\equiv x \mapsto z * z \mapsto null * emp \end{aligned}$$



Learning

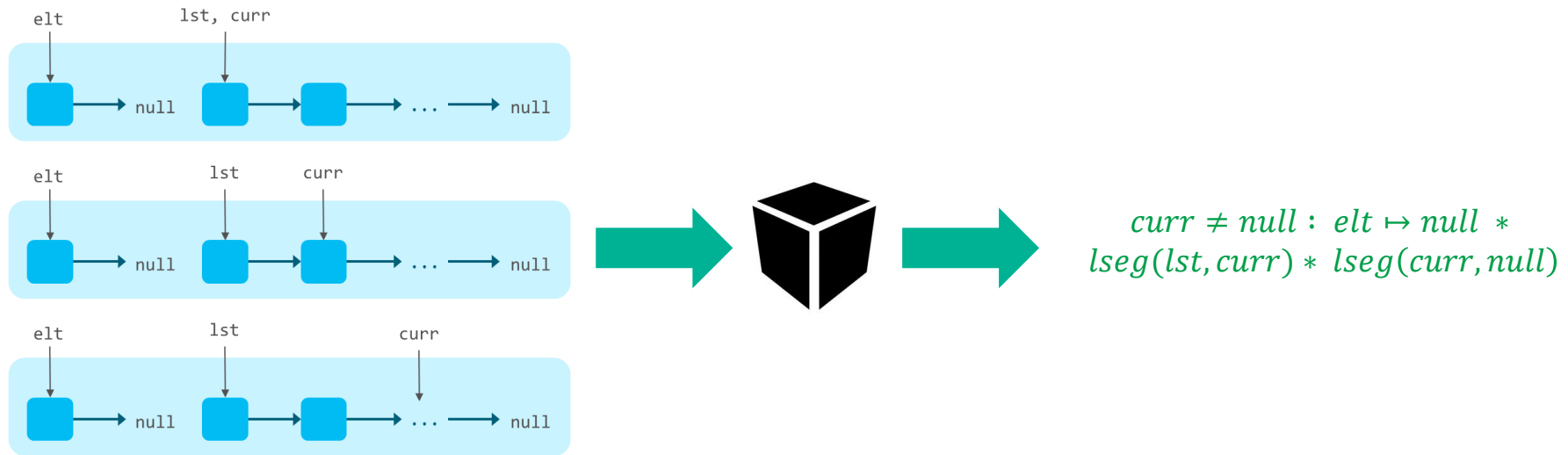


Previous ML: numeric



$$(y \geq x)$$

The problem



Graphs



Formulas

Solution

- Formulas as parse trees from grammar:

Formula $\rightarrow \exists \textit{Var} . \textit{Formula} \mid \textit{Heaplets}$

Heaplets $\rightarrow \textit{Heaplet} * \textit{Heaplets} \mid \textit{emp}$

Heaplet $\rightarrow \textit{ls}(\textit{Expr}, \textit{Expr}, \lambda \textit{Var}, \textit{Var}, \textit{Var}, \textit{Var} \rightarrow \textit{Formula})$
 $\mid \textit{tree}(\textit{Expr}, \lambda \textit{Var}, \textit{Var}, \textit{Var}, \textit{Var} \rightarrow \textit{Formula})$

Expr $\rightarrow 0 \mid \textit{Var}$

Solution

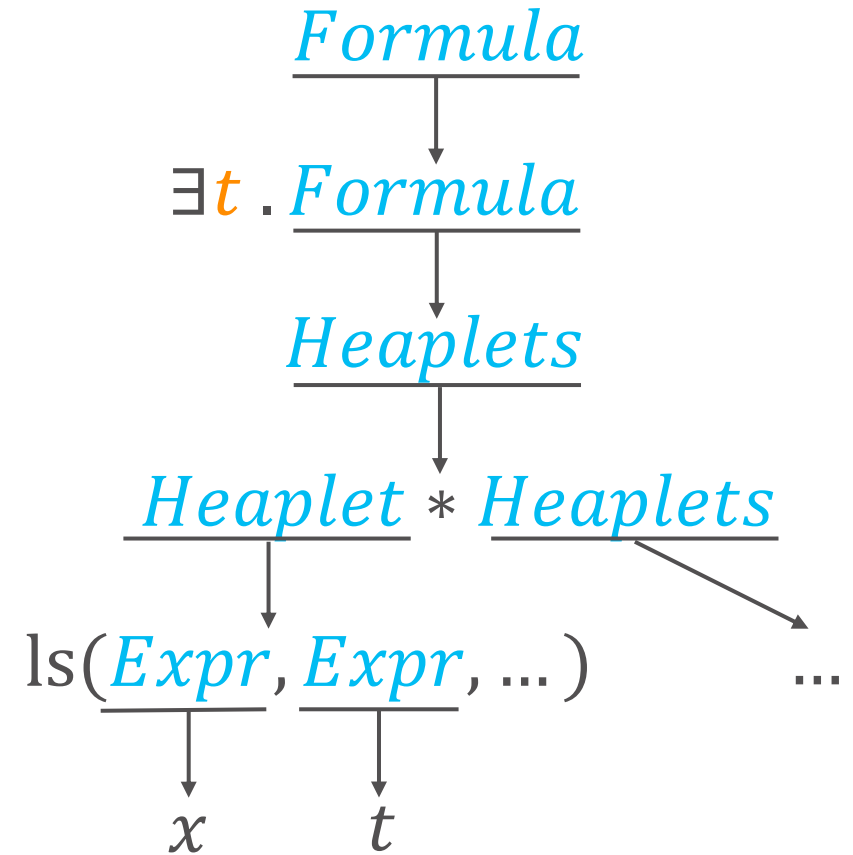
$Formula \rightarrow \exists Var . Formula \mid Heaplets$

$Heaplets \rightarrow Heaplet * Heaplets \mid emp$

$Heaplet \rightarrow ls(Expr, Expr, \lambda Var, Var, Var, Var \rightarrow Formula)$
 $\mid tree(Expr, \lambda Var, Var, Var, Var \rightarrow Formula)$

$Exp \rightarrow 0 \mid Var$

$ls(x, t, _)*ls(t, t, _)$



Key idea

- Each production step is a classification task

Heaplet \rightarrow ls(*Expr*, *Expr*, λ *Var*, *Var*, *Var*, *Var* \rightarrow *Formula*)
| tree(*Expr*, λ *Var*, *Var*, *Var*, *Var* \rightarrow *Formula*)

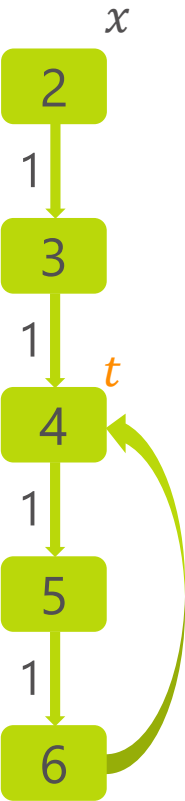
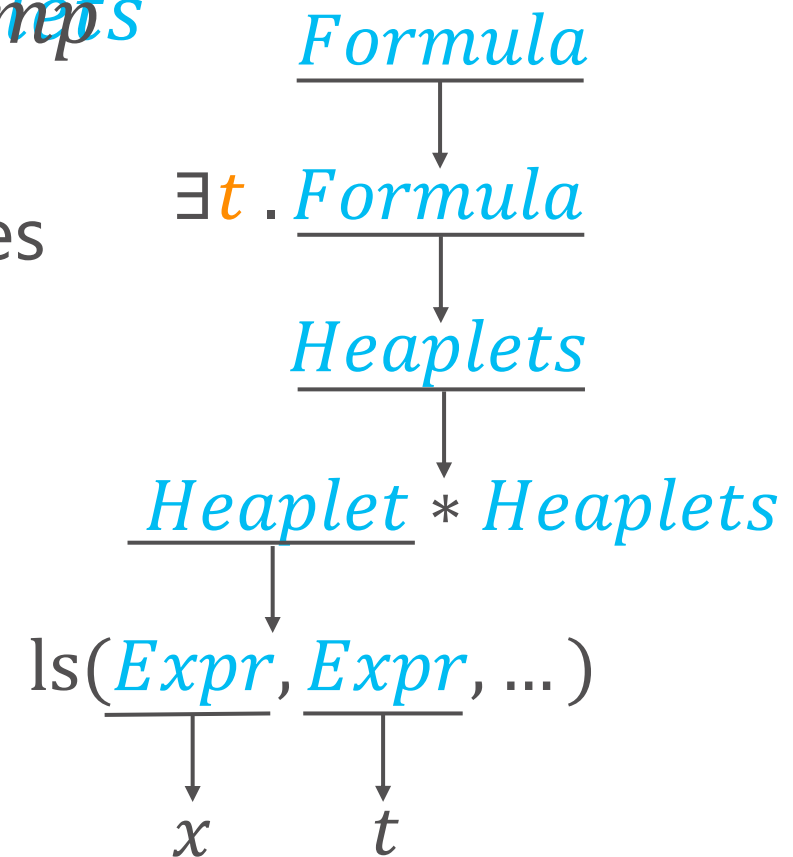
- Input graphs $\rightarrow \phi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ feature vector
- Example:
 - Feature: $\phi = \text{max degree}$
 - Classifier: $ITE(\phi < 3, ls, tree)$

Prediction

Sequence of production choices

$\text{Heaplets} \rightarrow 0 \mid \text{ls}(\text{Heaplet}, \text{Expr}, \dots) \mid \text{tree}(\text{Expr}, \dots)$

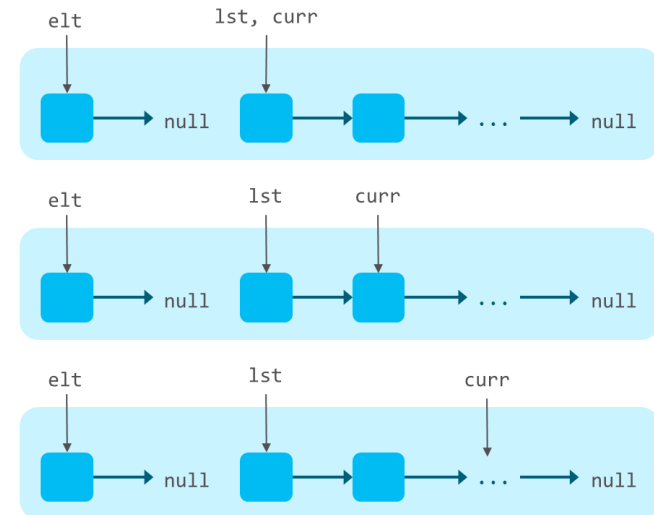
1. Existentials: Name "special" graph nodes
2. Number of heap parts
3. Type of data structure
4. Argument names
5. Repeat for nested structures



Training data

- Enumerate formulas & satisfying states
 - Fast and plenty!

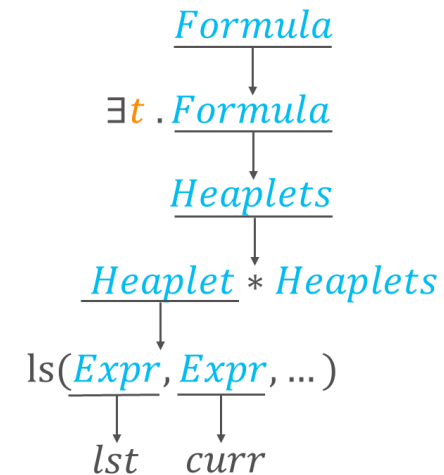
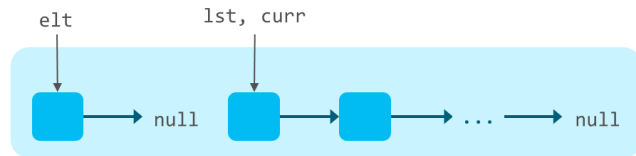
$$\begin{aligned} & lseg(lst, curr) \\ & lseg(curr, lst) \\ & lseg(lst, curr) * lseg(curr, null) \\ & \dots \\ curr \neq null : elt \mapsto null & * lseg(lst, curr) * lseg(curr, null) \\ & \dots \end{aligned}$$



Training data

- For each (formula, state) pair:
 - Walk through parse tree and generate labelled training data for each predictor

$curr \neq null : elt \mapsto null * lseg(lst, curr) * lseg(curr, null)$



$Heaplet \rightarrow ls(Expr, Expr, _) \mid tree(Expr, _)$



$\phi = (0, 1, 2, 5, 1, 1, 0, \dots, 1), P = ls$

Features used

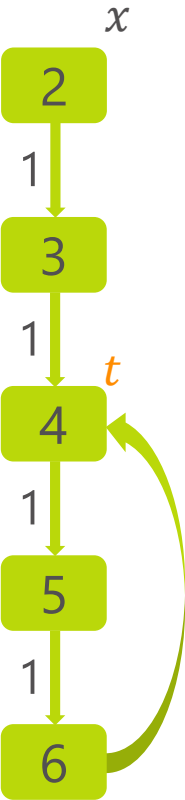
Formula $\rightarrow \exists \textit{Var} . \textit{Formula} \mid \textit{Heaplets}$

For every node:

- Part of / can reach an SCC
- In- and out-degrees
- Above/below average in/out degrees

ML Predictor: NN with maximum likelihood

$\frac{\textit{Formula}}{\exists t . \textit{Formula}}$



Features used

Heaplets \rightarrow *Heaplet* * *Heaplets* | *emp*

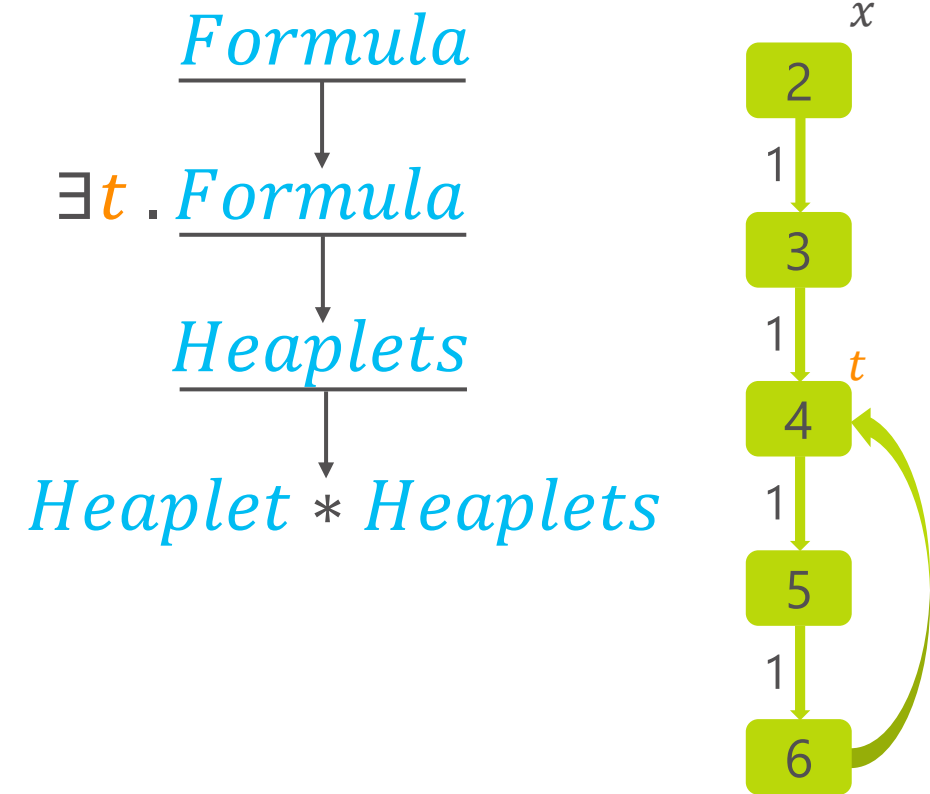
For every node:

- 1-gram = (in-degree, out-degree)
- 1-gram depth

For the graph:

- Frequencies of 1-grams and 2-grams

ML predictor: logistic regression



Features used

Heaplet \rightarrow ls(*Expr*, *Expr*, ...)
 | tree(*Expr*, ...)

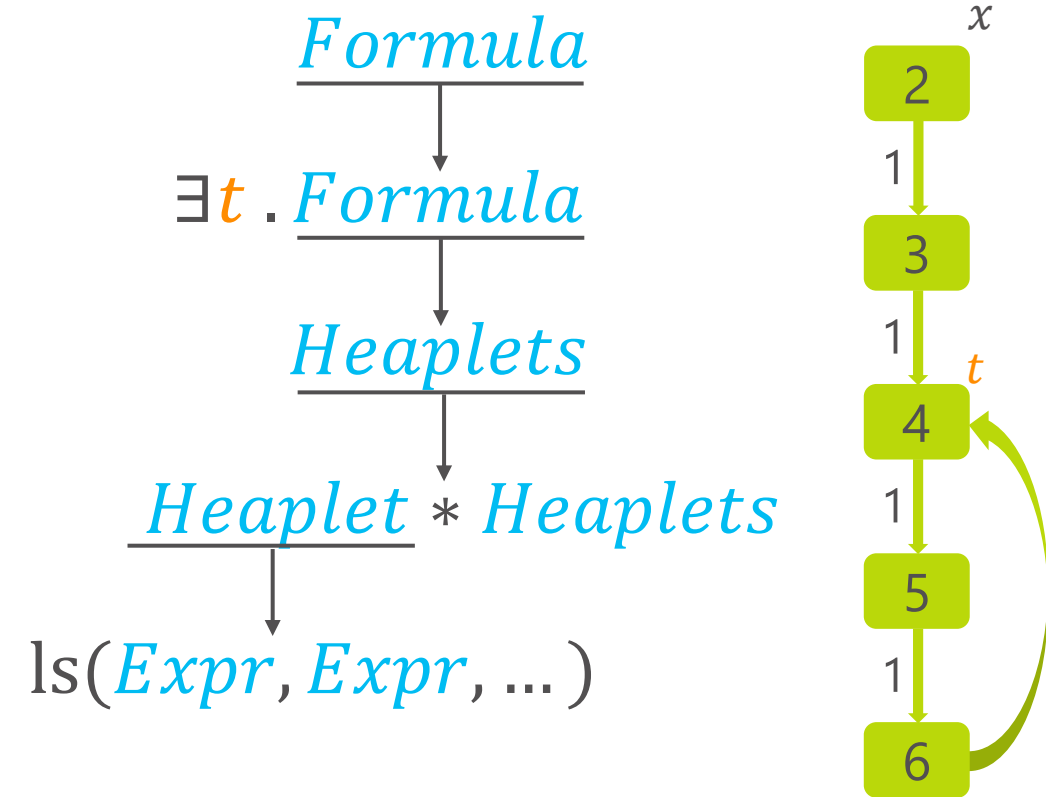
For every node not defined so far:

- In- and out-degree features from before

For the set of such nodes:

- Num of nodes of in/out degree $\leq k$

ML predictor: logistic regression



Features used

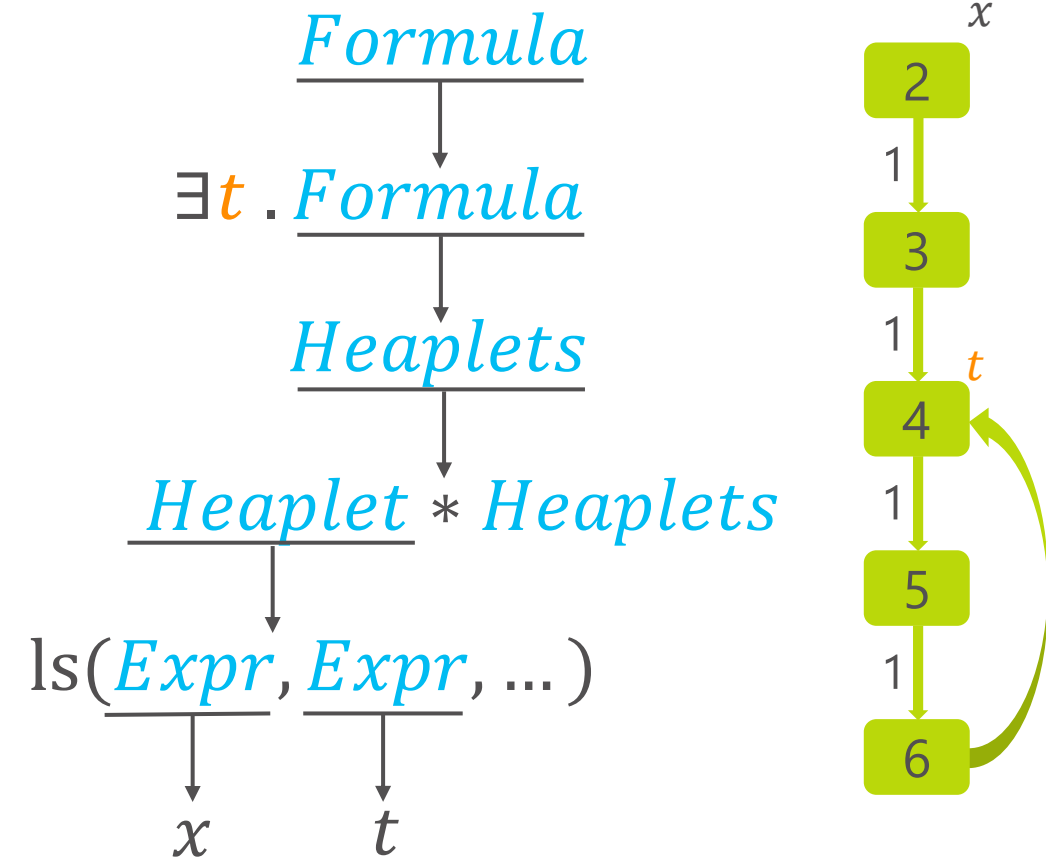
$Expr \rightarrow 0 \mid Var$

Consider *enclosed defining identifiers*.

For every identifier x and enclosed defining identifier e :

- x reaches/reached by e
- x directly reaches/reached by e
- x simply reaches/reached by e
- x is part of/reaches an SCC
- Frequency of 1 and 2-grams reachable by x

ML predictor: NN with maximum likelihood



Comparison to previous ML

Numeric Invariants:

- Training at verification time
- Training data: Observations
- Desired Invariant
~ Model

Our Heap Invariants:

- Training beforehand
- Training data: Independent
- Desired Invariant
~ Predicted Label

Platypus

Algorithm 1 Pseudocode for PlatypusCore

Input: Grammar G , input objects $\hat{\mathcal{H}}$, (partial) parse tree $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{A}, g, ch)$, nonterminal node a to expand

- 1: $N \leftarrow g(a)$ {nonterminal symbol of a in \mathcal{T} }
 - 2: $\phi \leftarrow \phi^N(\hat{\mathcal{H}}, \mathcal{T})$ {compute features}
 - 3: $P \leftarrow$ most likely production $N \rightarrow \mathcal{S}^+$ from G considering ϕ
 - 4: $\mathcal{T} \leftarrow$ insert new nodes into \mathcal{T} according to P
 - 5: **for all** children $a' \in ch(a)$ labeled by nonterminal **do**
 - 6: $\mathcal{T} \leftarrow \text{PlatypusCore}(G, \hat{\mathcal{H}}, \mathcal{T}, a')$
 - 7: **return** \mathcal{T}
-

Aside: nested data structures

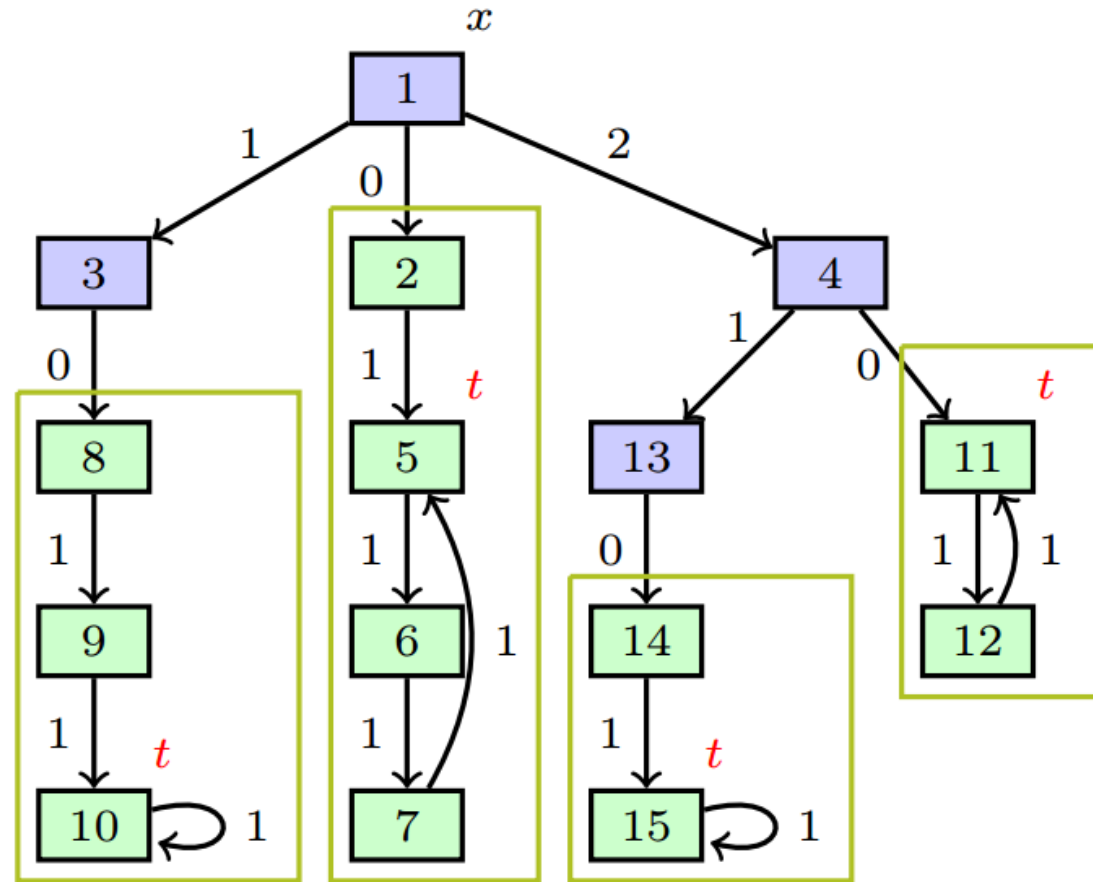


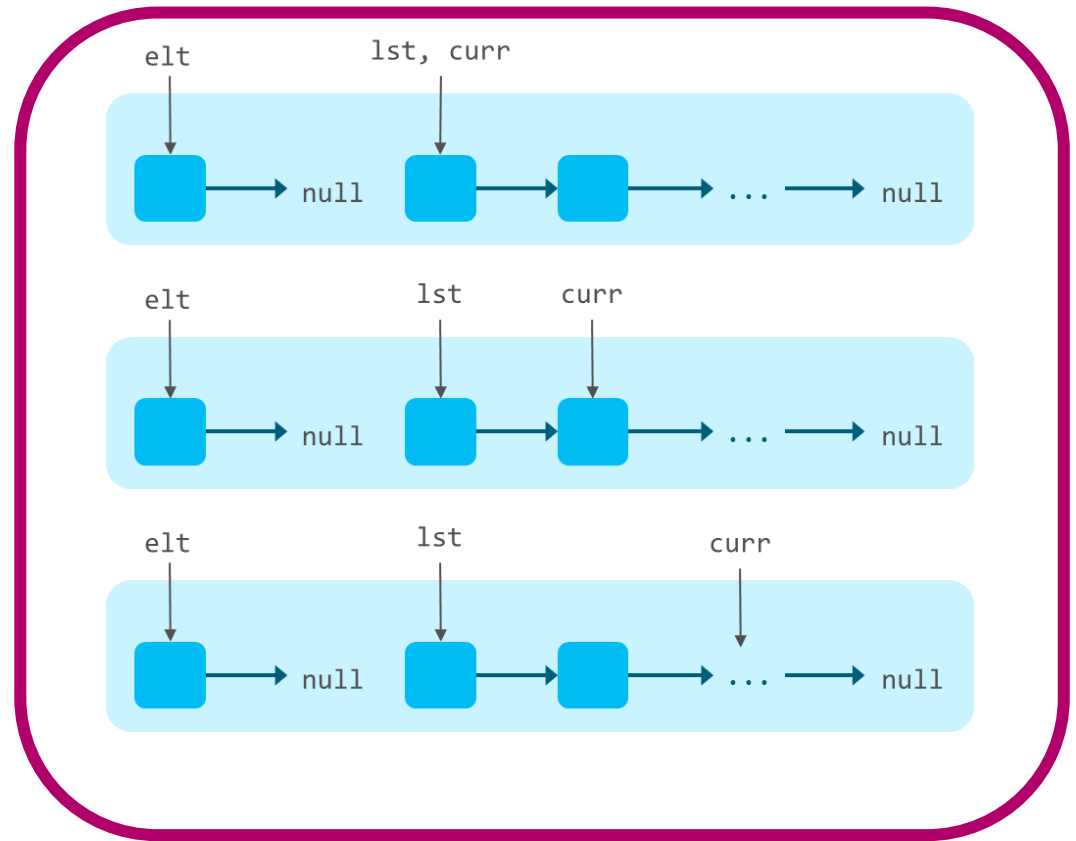
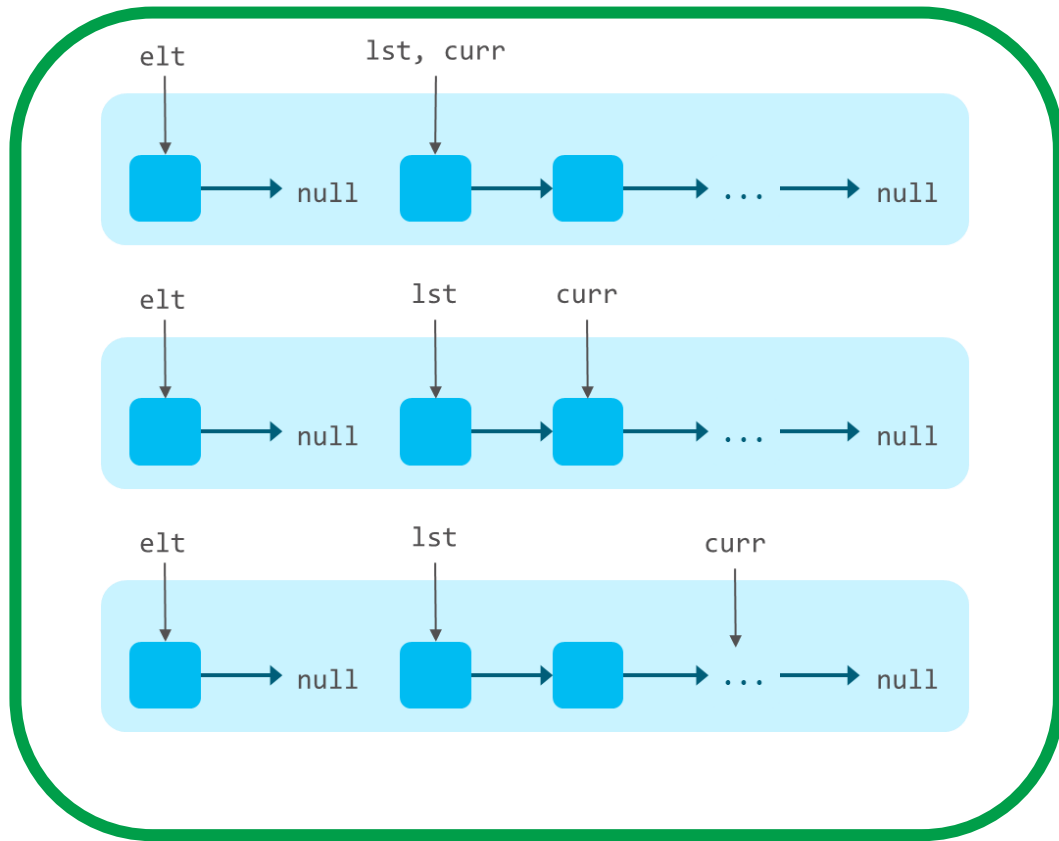
Fig. 4: Binary tree of panhandle lists described by the formula $\text{tree}(x, \lambda i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4 \rightarrow \exists t. \text{ls}(i_2, t, \top) * \text{ls}(t, t, \top))$

Disjunctions



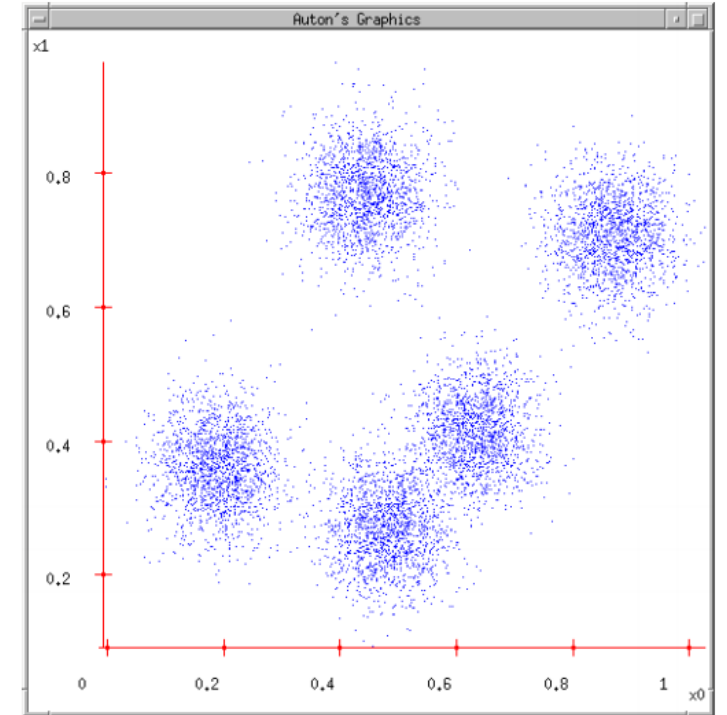
Disjunctions

- Clustering!



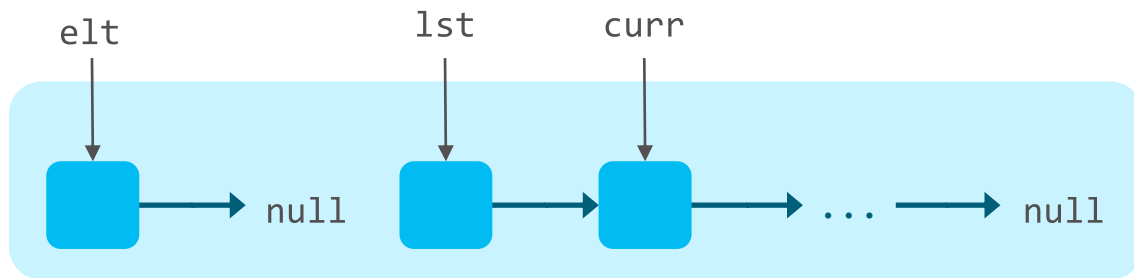
Clustering

- Group together similar points
 - Similar: distance measure
 - We use Euclidean distance
- Input:
 - $\hat{H} \rightarrow \phi^{\hat{H}}$ as points in \mathbb{R}^n
- Output:
 - Disjunction of prediction for each cluster



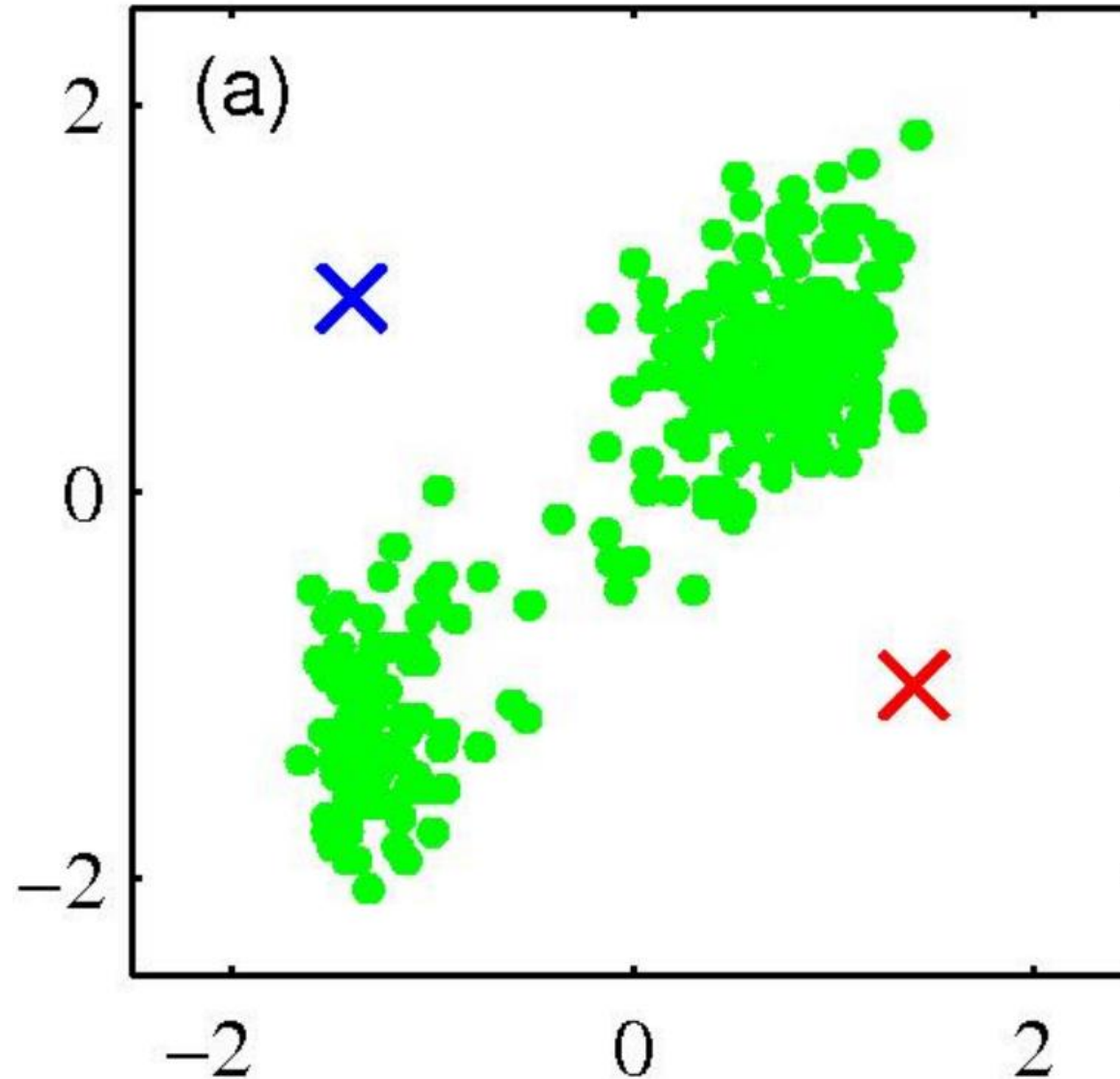
Features

- Reachability
 - Between every two variables
 - Reflexive, without passing through other variables



$(0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0)$

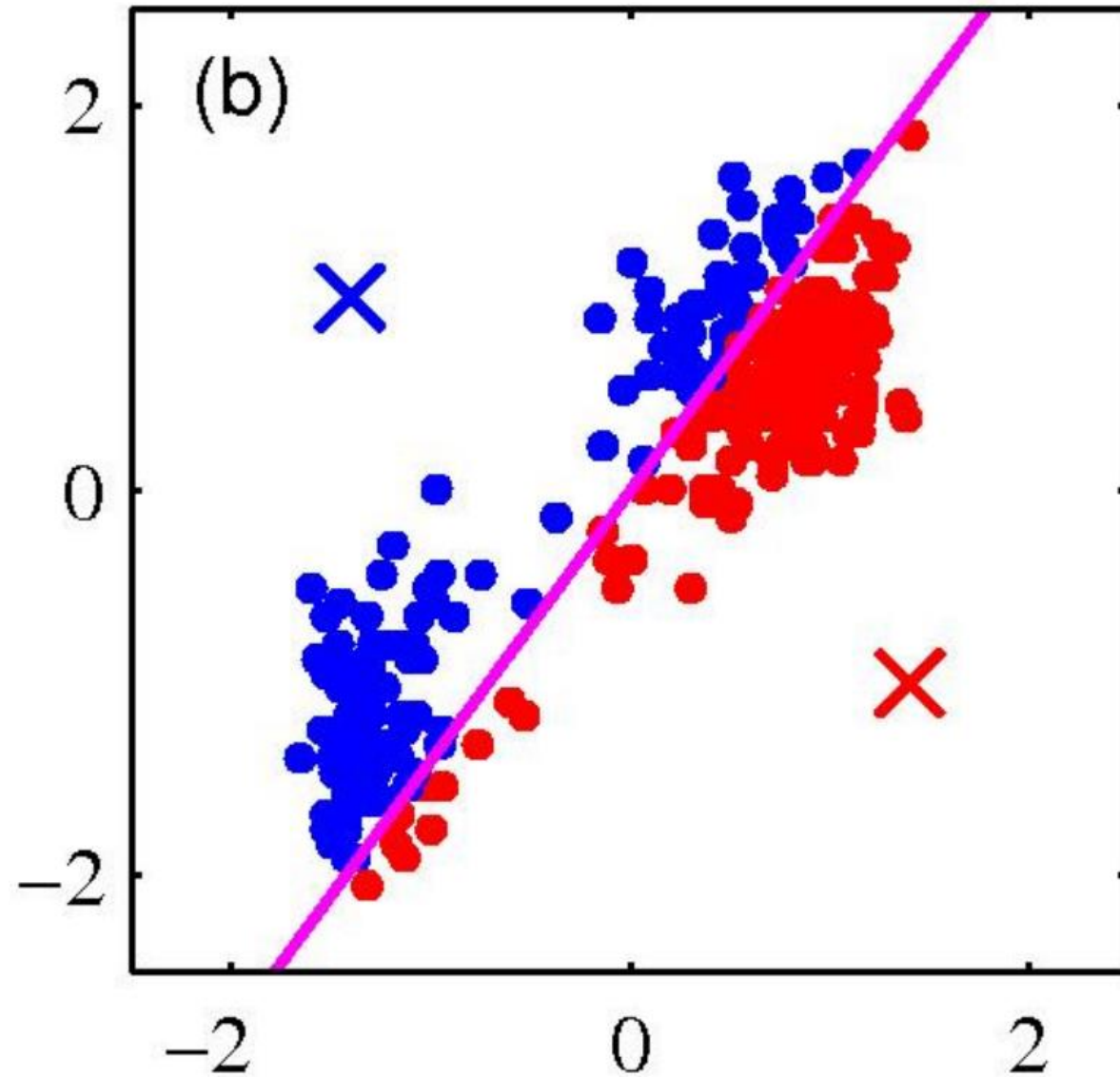
K-means



- Pick K random points as cluster centers (means)

Shown here for $K=2$

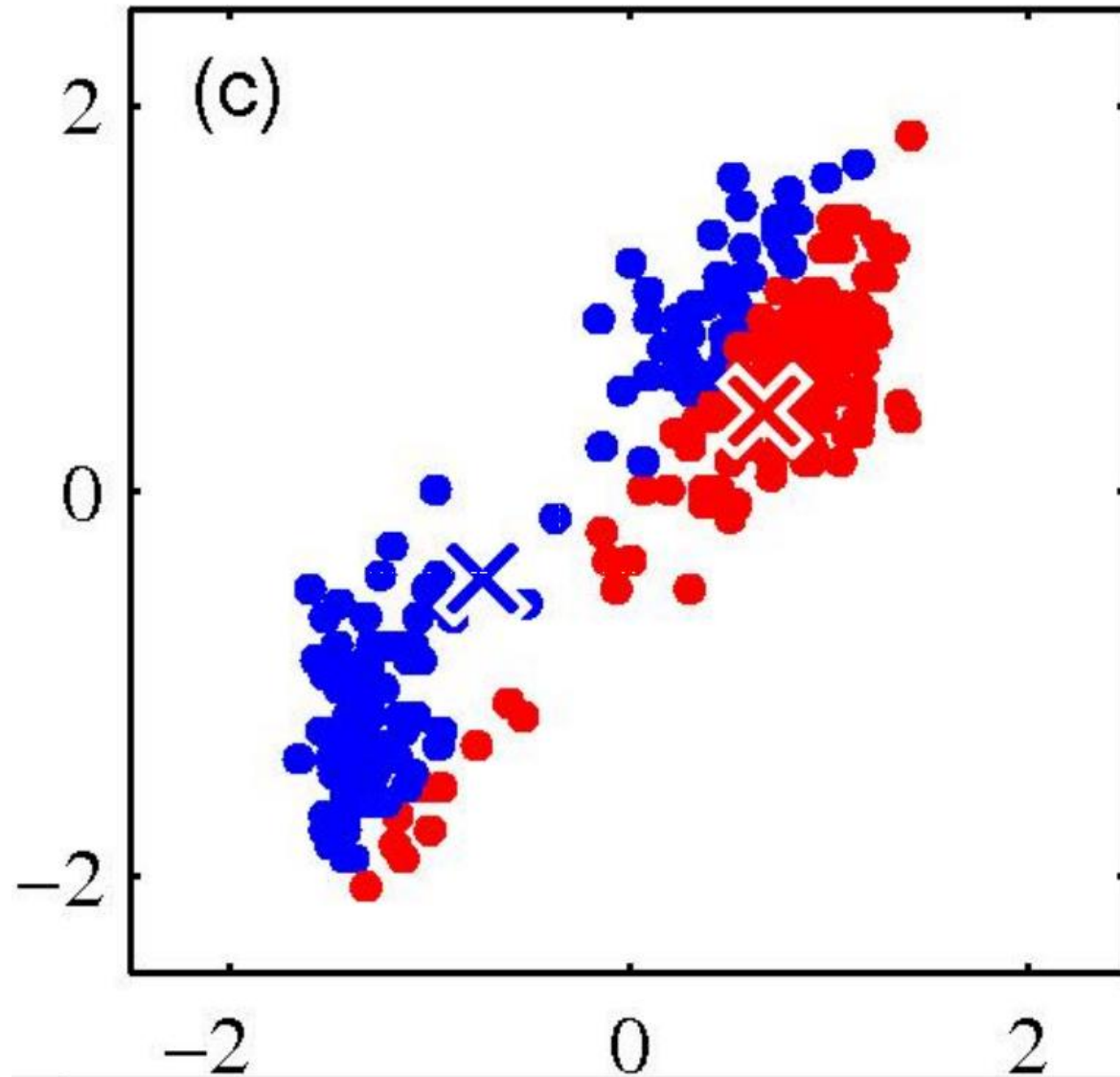
K-means



Iterative Step 1

- Assign data points to closest cluster center

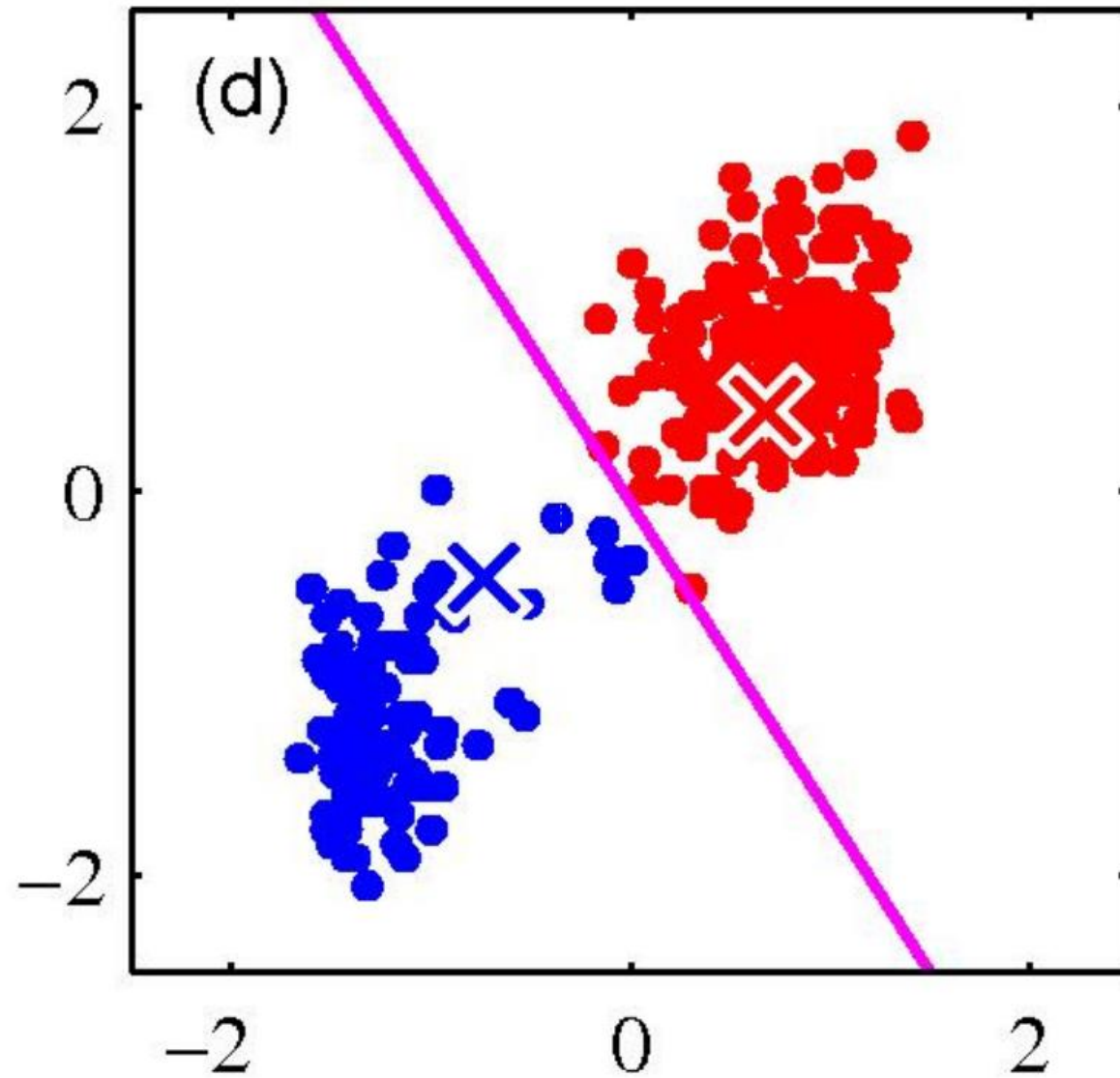
K-means



Iterative Step 2

- Change the cluster center to the average of the assigned points

K-means



- Repeat until convergence

Refinement

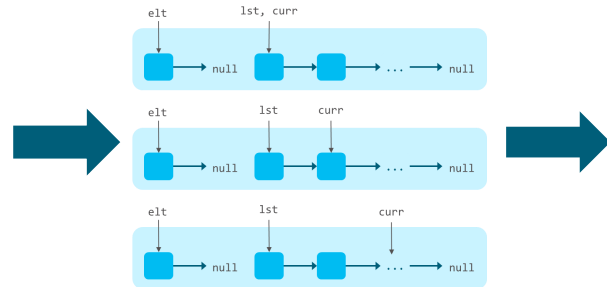


Ante de alog.e? Locust

```

procedure insert(lst: Node, elt: Node)
returns (res: Node)
requires  $elt \mapsto \text{null} * \text{lseg}(lst, \text{null})$ 
ensures  $\text{lseg}(\text{res}, \text{null})$ 
{
  if (lst != null)
  {
    var curr := lst;
    while ( ? && curr.next != null)
    {
      curr := curr.next;
    }
    elt.next := curr.next;
    curr.next := elt;
    return lst;
  }
}

```

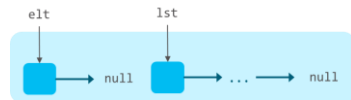


$\text{curr} \neq \text{null} : \text{elt} \mapsto \text{null} * \text{lseg}(lst, \text{curr}) * \text{lseg}(\text{curr}, \text{null})$

```

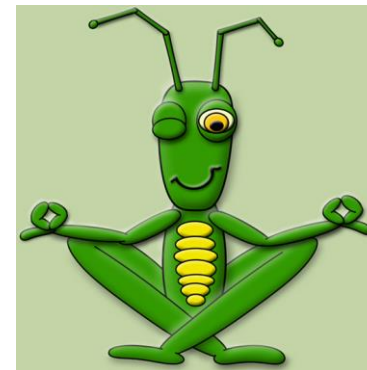
procedure insert(lst: Node, elt: Node)
returns (res: Node)
requires  $elt \mapsto \text{null} * \text{lseg}(lst, \text{null})$ 
ensures  $\text{lseg}(\text{res}, \text{null})$ 
{
  if (lst != null)
  {
    var curr := lst;
    while ( ? && curr.next != null)
    {
      invariant  $\text{curr} \neq \text{null} : \text{elt} \mapsto \text{null} * \text{lseg}(lst, \text{curr}) * \text{lseg}(\text{curr}, \text{null})$ 
      curr := curr.next;
    }
    elt.next := curr.next;
    curr.next := elt;
    return lst;
  }
}

```



no

yes

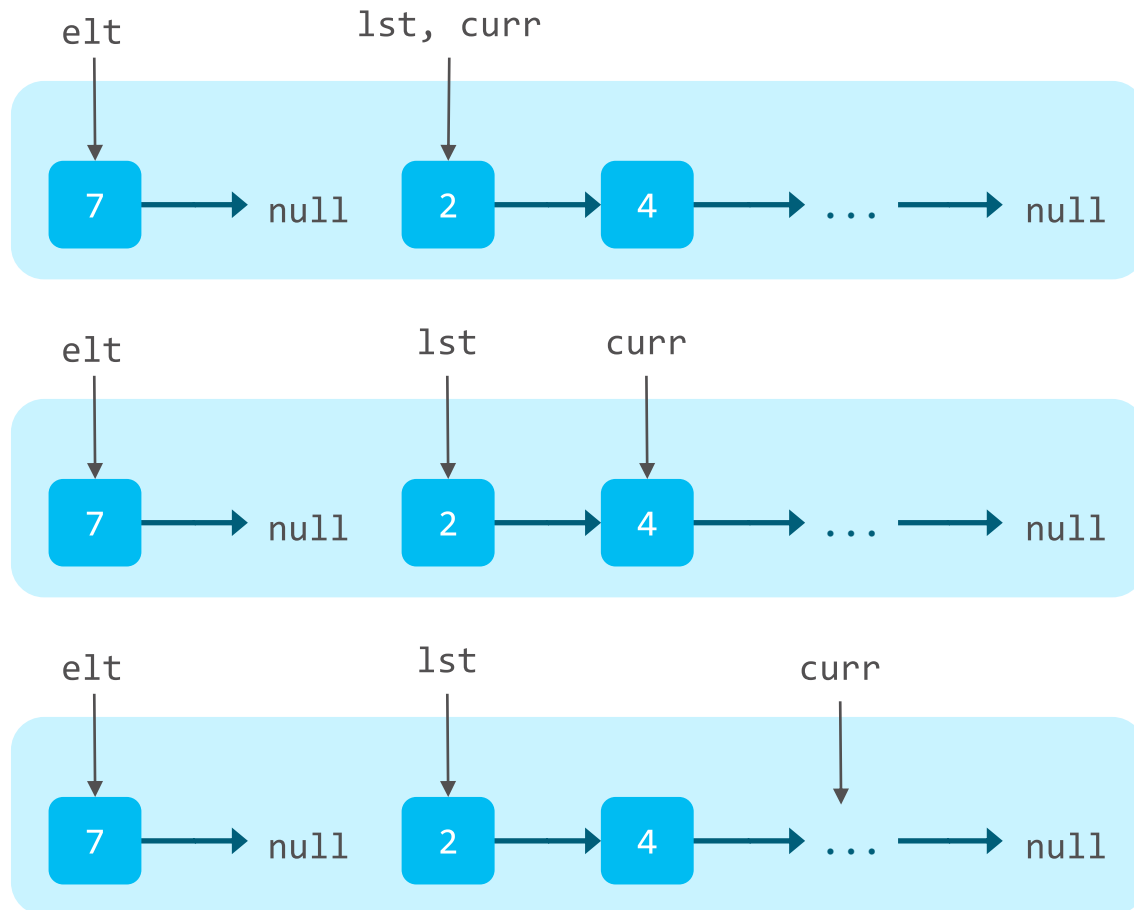


GRASShopper

Data invariants



Beetle



lseg(lst, curr)	[]	[2]	[2, 4]
lseg(curr, null)	[2, 4, 6, 9]	[4, 6, 9]	[6, 9]
lseg(elt, null)	[7]	[7]	[7]
lst.data	2	2	2
curr.data	2	4	6
elt.data	7	7	7



$\forall u. u \in FP(lseg(lst, curr)) \Rightarrow u.data < curr.data$
 $\forall u, v. FP(lseg(lst, curr)): u \rightarrow^+ v \Rightarrow u.data \leq v.data$
 $\forall u, v. FP(lseg(curr, null)): u \rightarrow^+ v \Rightarrow u.data \leq v.data$
 $curr.data \leq elt.data$

Beetle

- Abstract domain:
 - Quantified Octagons ($x \leq y$) + Reachability ($u \rightarrow^+ v$)

$$\Omega_{\text{shape}}(\varphi_\ell) = \{u \in \text{FP}(d), \text{FP}(d) : u \rightarrow^+ v, \text{FP}(d) : u \searrow v \mid d \in \text{Mem}(\varphi_\ell)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_{\text{fld}}(\ell) = & \{u.\text{fld} \leq x, x \leq u.\text{fld}, u.\text{fld} \leq x.\text{fld}, x.\text{fld} \leq u.\text{fld} \mid x \in \text{Vars}(\ell)\} \\ & \cup \{u.\text{fld} \leq v.\text{fld}, v.\text{fld} \leq u.\text{fld}\} \end{aligned}$$

- Look for invariants of the form: $\forall u, v. \omega_{\text{shape}} \Rightarrow \psi_{\text{fld}}$

Analog to functional version from:

He Zhu, Gustavo Petri, Suresh Jagannathan, *Automatically Learning Shape Specifications*, PLDI 2016

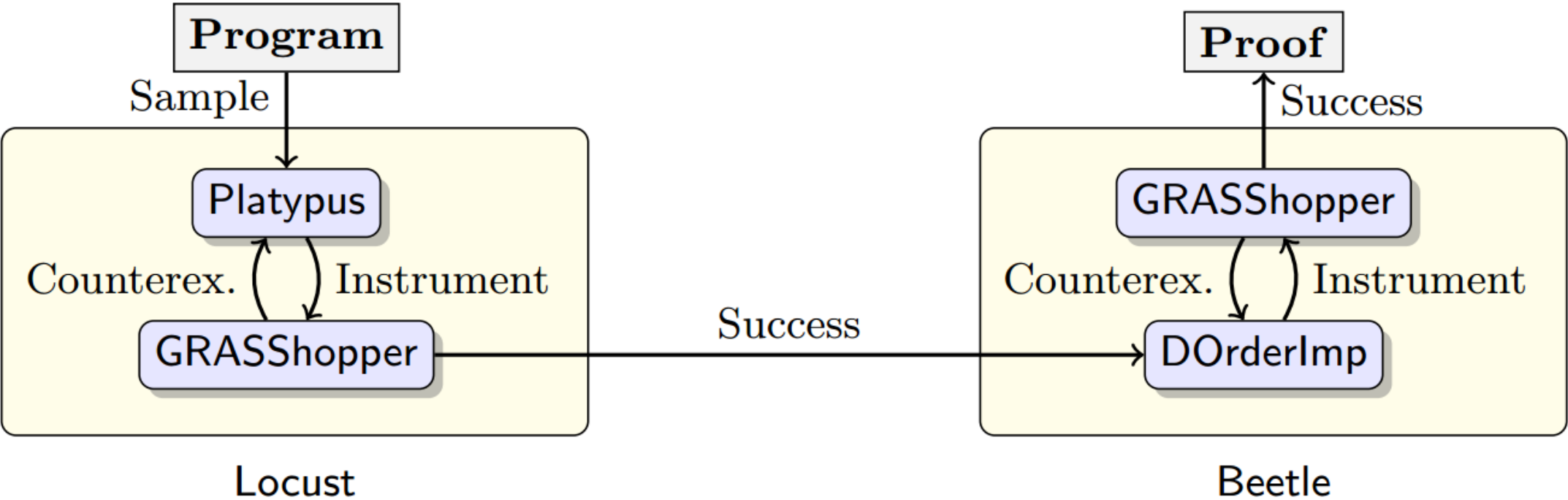
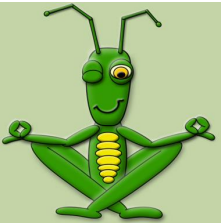
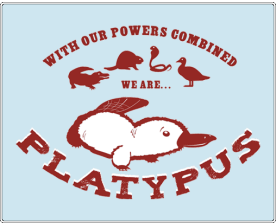
CEGAR loop

Algorithm 3 Pseudocode for Beetle

Input: Program P and entry procedure p with precondition φ_p , locations L requiring program annotations, shape annotations φ_ℓ for $\ell \in L$

- 1: $I \leftarrow$ sample initial states satisfying φ_p {see Sect. 4.1}
 - 2: $S^+ \leftarrow$ execute p on I to map location $\ell \in L$ to set of observed states
 - 3: **while** *true* **do**
 - 4: **for all** $\ell \in L$ **do**
 - 5: $\varphi_\ell^{sd} \leftarrow \text{DOrderImp}(\varphi_\ell, S^+(\ell), S^-(\ell))$
 - 6: $P' \leftarrow$ annotate P with inferred φ_ℓ^{sd}
 - 7: **if** $\text{GRASShopper}(P')$ returns counterexample s **then**
 - 8: **if** s is new counterexample **then**
 - 9: update S^+, S^- to contain s for correct location {see Sect. 4.2}
 - 10: **else return** FAIL
 - 11: **else return** SUCCESS
-

Cricket



Results:

Memory safety + functional correctness for linked list programs:

Example	Platypus	Locust	DOrderImp	Beetle	Cricket
concat	2s	✓ 68s (1 it.)	32s	✓ 34s (4 it.)	102s
copy	2s	✓ 30s (1 it.)	8s	✓ 18s (2 it.)	52s
dispose	1s	✓ 4s (1 it.)	0s	✓ 1s (2 it.)	4s
double_all	2s	✓ 29s (1 it.)	—	✗	—
filter	2s	✓ 6s (1 it.)	1s	✓ 5s (2 it.)	12s
insert	2s	✓ 8s (1 it.)	1s	✓ 3s (1 it.)	11s
insertion_sort	5s	✓ 23s (1 it.)	41s	✓ 207s (30 it.)	249s
merge_sort	15s	✓ 83s (4 it.)	21s	✓ 159s (41 it.)	273s
pairwise_sum	2s	✓ 254s (1 it.)	—	✗	—
quicksort	5s	✓ 21s (1 it.)	24s	✓ 41s (11 it.)	67s
remove	2s	✓ 7s (1 it.)	19s	✓ 24s (5 it.)	31s
reverse	2s	✓ 8s (1 it.)	1s	✓ 4s (1 it.)	12s
strand_sort	17s	✓ 85s (5 it.)	—	✗	—
traverse	2s	✓ 6s (1 it.)	1s	✓ 1s (1 it.)	7s

Going beyond:

- Platypus: features picked manually
- Automate?
- Gated Graph Sequence Neural Networks
 - Heap graphs as input
 - Can learn reachability properties
 - Accuracy: 89.11% -> 89.96%

In this talk

- ML based formula prediction
 - Arbitrary (pre-defined) inductive predicates
 - Nested predicates
 - Disjunctions
 - Predictions are not training \Rightarrow fast
- Refinement loop with program verifier
- Data invariants
 - Functional correctness
- Fully automatically verify programs
 - merge & quick sort