

## Unifying proof theoretic/logical and algebraic abstractions for inference and verification

Patrick Cousot  
NYU

[pcousot@cs.nyu.edu](mailto:pcousot@cs.nyu.edu) [cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot](http://cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot)



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

|

© P. Cousot



## Objective

### Algebraic abstractions

- Used in [abstract interpretation](#), [model-checking](#),...
- System properties and specifications are abstracted as an [algebraic lattice](#) (abstraction-specific encoding of properties)
- [Fully automatic](#): system properties are computed as fixpoints of [algebraic transformers](#)
- Several separate abstractions can be combined with the [reduced product](#)



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

|



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

3

© P. Cousot



### Proof theoretic/logical abstractions

- Used in [deductive methods](#)
- System properties and specifications are expressed with formulæ of [first-order theories](#) (universal encoding of properties)
- [Partly automatic](#): system properties are provided manually by end-users and automatically checked to satisfy [verification conditions](#) (with implication defined by the theories)
- Various theories can be combined by [Nelson-Oppen procedure](#)



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

2

© P. Cousot



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

4

© P. Cousot



## Objective

- Show that proof-theoretic/logical abstractions are a particular case of algebraic abstractions
- Show that Nelson-Oppen procedure is a particular case of reduced product
- Use this unifying point of view to propose a new combination of logical and algebraic abstractions

➡ Convergence of proof theoretic/  
logical and algebraic property-  
inference and verification methods



## Concrete semantics



## Programs (syntax)

- Expressions (on a signature  $\langle f, p \rangle$ )

$x, y, z, \dots \in \mathbb{x}$	variables
$a, b, c, \dots \in \mathbb{f}^0$	constants
$f, g, h, \dots \in \mathbb{f}^n, \quad f \triangleq \bigcup_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{f}^n$	function symbols of arity $n \geq 1$
$t \in \mathbb{T}(\mathbb{x}, f)$	terms
$p, q, r, \dots \in \mathbb{p}^n, \quad p^0 \triangleq \{\text{ff, tt}\}, \quad p \triangleq \bigcup_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{p}^n$	predicate symbols of arity $n \geq 0$ , atomic formulae
$a \in \mathbb{A}(\mathbb{x}, f, p)$	program expressions
$e \in \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{x}, f, p) \triangleq \mathbb{T}(\mathbb{x}, f) \cup \mathbb{A}(\mathbb{x}, f, p)$	clauses in simple conjunctive normal form
$\varphi \in \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{x}, f, p)$	
$\varphi ::= a \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi$	

- Programs (including assignment, guards, loops, ...)

$P, \dots \in \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{x}, f, p)$	$P ::= x := e \mid \varphi \mid \dots$	programs
---	--	----------



## Programs (interpretation)

- Interpretation  $I \in \mathfrak{I}$  for a signature  $\langle f, p \rangle$  is  $\langle I_V, I_\gamma \rangle$  such that

— $I_V$ is a non-empty set of values,
— $\forall c \in \mathbb{f}^0 : I_\gamma(c) \in I_V, \quad \forall n \geq 1 : \forall f \in \mathbb{f}^n : I_\gamma(f) \in I_V^n \rightarrow I_V,$
— $\forall n \geq 0 : \forall p \in \mathbb{p}^n : I_\gamma(p) \in I_V^n \rightarrow \mathcal{B}, \quad \mathcal{B} \triangleq \{\text{false, true}\}$

- Environments

$\eta \in \mathcal{R}_I \triangleq \mathbb{x} \rightarrow I_V$  environments

- Expression evaluation

$\llbracket a \rrbracket, \eta \in \mathcal{B}$  of an atomic formula  $a \in \mathbb{A}(\mathbb{x}, f, p)$   
 $\llbracket t \rrbracket, \eta \in I_V$  of the term  $t \in \mathbb{T}(\mathbb{x}, f)$



## Programs (concrete semantics)

- The program semantics is usually specified relative to a standard interpretation  $\mathfrak{I} \in \mathfrak{S}$ .
- The concrete semantics is given in post-fixpoint form (in case the least fixpoint which is also the least post-fixpoint does not exist, e.g. *inexpressibility* in Hoare logic)

$\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}}$	concrete observables <sup>5</sup>
$\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{I}} \triangleq \wp(\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}})$	concrete properties <sup>6</sup>
$F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}] \in \mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{I}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{I}}$	concrete transformer of program P
$C_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}] \triangleq \text{postfp}^{\subseteq} F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}] \in \wp(\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{I}})$	concrete semantics of program P

where  $\text{postfp}^{\leq} f \triangleq \{x \mid f(x) \leq x\}$

<sup>5</sup>Examples of observables are set of states, set of partial or complete execution traces, infinite/transfinite execution trees, etc.

<sup>6</sup>A property is understood as the set of elements satisfying this property.



## Example of program concrete semantics

- Program  $P \triangleq x=1; \text{while true } \{x=\text{incr}(x)\}$
- Arithmetic interpretation  $\mathfrak{I}$  on integers  $\mathfrak{I}_{\mathcal{V}} = \mathbb{Z}$
- Loop invariant  $\text{lfp}^{\subseteq} F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}] = \{\eta \in \mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}} \mid 0 < \eta(x)\}$

where  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}} \triangleq x \rightarrow \mathfrak{I}_{\mathcal{V}}$  concrete environments

$$F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}](X) \triangleq \{\eta \in \mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}} \mid \eta(x) = 1\} \cup \{\eta[x \leftarrow \eta(x) + 1] \mid \eta \in X\}$$

- The strongest invariant is  $\text{lfp}^{\subseteq} F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}] = \cap \text{postfp}^{\subseteq} F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}]$
- Expressivity: the lfp may not be expressible in the abstract in which case we use the set of possible invariants  $C_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}] \triangleq \text{postfp}^{\subseteq} F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}]$



## Concrete domains

- The standard semantics describes computations of a system formalized by elements of a domain of observables  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}}$  (e.g., set of traces, states, etc)
- The properties  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{I}} \triangleq \wp(\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}})$  (a property is the set of elements with that property) form a complete lattice  $\langle \mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{I}}, \subseteq, \emptyset, \mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{I}}, \cup, \cap \rangle$
- The concrete semantics  $C_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}] \triangleq \text{postfp}^{\subseteq} F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}]$  defines the system properties of interest for the verification
- The transformer  $F_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{P}]$  is defined in terms of primitives, e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mathfrak{I}}[\mathbb{x} := e][\mathbb{P}] &\triangleq \{\eta[\mathbb{x} \leftarrow [e]_{\mathfrak{I}} \eta] \mid \eta \in P\} && \text{Floyd's assignment post-condition} \\ p_{\mathfrak{I}}[\varphi][\mathbb{P}] &\triangleq \{\eta \in P \mid [\varphi]_{\mathfrak{I}} \eta = \text{true}\} && \text{test} \end{aligned}$$



## Extension to multi-interpretations

- Programs have many interpretations  $\mathcal{I} \in \wp(\mathfrak{I})$ .
- Multi-interpreted semantics

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{I}} &= I \in \mathcal{I} \nrightarrow \wp(\mathcal{R}_I) \\ \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{I}} &\triangleq I \in \mathcal{I} \nrightarrow \wp(\mathcal{R}_I) \\ &\simeq \wp(\{\langle I, \eta \rangle \mid I \in \mathcal{I} \wedge \eta \in \mathcal{R}_I\})^8 \end{aligned}$$

program observables for interpretation  $I \in \mathcal{I}$   
interpreted properties for the set of interpretations  $\mathcal{I}$

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\mathcal{I}}[\mathbb{P}] &\in \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{I}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{I}} \\ &\triangleq \lambda P \in \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{I}} \bullet \lambda I \in \mathcal{I} \bullet F_I[\mathbb{P}](P(I)) \\ C_{\mathcal{I}}[\mathbb{P}] &\in \wp(\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{I}}) \\ &\triangleq \text{postfp}^{\subseteq} F_{\mathcal{I}}[\mathbb{P}] \end{aligned}$$

multi-interpreted concrete transformer of program P

multi-interpreted concrete semantics

where  $\subseteq$  is the pointwise subset ordering.

<sup>8</sup>A partial function  $f \in A \rightarrow B$  with domain  $\text{dom}(f) \in \wp(A)$  is understood as the relation  $\{(x, f(x)) \in A \times B \mid x \in \text{dom}(f)\}$  and maps  $x \in A$  to  $f(x) \in B$ , written  $x \in A \nrightarrow f(x) \in B$  or  $x \in A \nrightarrow B_x$  when  $\forall x \in A : f(x) \in B_x \subseteq B$ .



# Algebraic Abstractions



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

13

© P. Cousot



## Abstract domains

$$\langle A, \sqsubseteq, \perp, \top, \sqcup, \sqcap, \nabla, \Delta, \bar{f}, \bar{b}, \bar{p}, \dots \rangle$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{P}, \bar{Q}, \dots &\in A \\ \sqsubseteq &\in A \times A \rightarrow \mathcal{B} \\ \perp, \top &\in A \\ \sqcup, \sqcap, \nabla, \Delta &\in A \times A \rightarrow A \\ \dots \\ \bar{f} &\in (\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{X}, f, p)) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A \\ \bar{b} &\in (\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{X}, f, p)) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A \\ \bar{p} &\in \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A \end{aligned}$$

abstract properties  
abstract partial order<sup>9</sup>  
infimum, supremum  
abstract join, meet, widening, narrowing  
  
abstract forward assignment transformer  
abstract backward assignment transformer  
abstract condition transformer.



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

14

© P. Cousot



## Abstract semantics

- $A$  abstract domain
- $\sqsubseteq$  abstract logical implication
- $\bar{F}[\bar{P}] \in A \rightarrow A$  abstract transformer defined in term of abstract primitives
  - $\bar{f} \in (\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{X}, f, p)) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$  abstract forward assignment transformer
  - $\bar{b} \in (\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{X}, f, p)) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$  abstract backward assignment transformer
  - $\bar{p} \in \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$  abstract condition transformer.
- $\bar{C}[\bar{P}] \triangleq \{\text{lfp}^{\sqsubseteq} \bar{F}[\bar{P}]\}$  least fixpoint semantics, if any
- $\bar{C}[\bar{P}] \triangleq \{\bar{P} \mid \bar{F}[\bar{P}](\bar{P}) \sqsubseteq \bar{P}\}$  or else, post-fixpoint abstract semantics



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

15

© P. Cousot



## Soundness of the abstract semantics

### Concretization

$$\gamma \in A \xrightarrow{\cdot} \mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{J}}$$

### Soundness of the abstract semantics

$$\forall \bar{P} \in A : (\exists \bar{C} \in \bar{C}[\bar{P}] : \bar{C} \sqsubseteq \bar{P}) \Rightarrow (\exists C \in C[\bar{P}] : C \subseteq \gamma(\bar{P}))$$

### Sufficient local soundness conditions:

$(\bar{P} \sqsubseteq \bar{Q}) \Rightarrow (\gamma(\bar{P}) \subseteq \gamma(\bar{Q}))$	order	$\gamma(\perp) = \emptyset$	infimum
$\gamma(\bar{P} \sqcup \bar{Q}) \supseteq (\gamma(\bar{P}) \cup \gamma(\bar{Q}))$	join	$\gamma(\top) = \top_{\mathfrak{J}}$	supremum
...			
$\gamma(\bar{f}[\mathbf{x} := e]\bar{P}) \supseteq f_{\mathfrak{J}}[\mathbf{x} := e]\gamma(\bar{P})$	assignment post-condition		
$\gamma(\bar{b}[\mathbf{x} := e]\bar{P}) \supseteq b_{\mathfrak{J}}[\mathbf{x} := e]\gamma(\bar{P})$	assignment pre-condition		
$\gamma(\bar{p}[\varphi]\bar{P}) \supseteq p_{\mathfrak{J}}[\varphi]\gamma(\bar{P})$	test		

$$\text{implying } \forall \bar{P} \in A : F[\bar{P}] \circ \gamma(\bar{P}) \subseteq \gamma \circ \bar{F}[\bar{P}](\bar{P})$$



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

16

© P. Cousot



## Beyond bounded verification: Widening

- Definition of **widening**:

Let  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq \rangle$  be a poset. Then an over-approximating widening  $\nabla \in A \times A \mapsto A$  is such that

$$(a) \forall x, y \in A : x \sqsubseteq x \nabla y \wedge y \leq x \nabla y^{14}.$$

A terminating widening  $\nabla \in A \times A \mapsto A$  is such that

(b) Given any sequence  $\langle x^n, n \geq 0 \rangle$ , the sequence  $y^0 = x^0, \dots, y^{n+1} = y^n \nabla x^n, \dots$  converges (i.e.  $\exists \ell \in \mathbb{N} : \forall n \geq \ell : y^n = y^\ell$  in which case  $y^\ell$  is called the limit of the widened sequence  $\langle y^n, n \geq 0 \rangle$ ).

Traditionally a widening is considered to be both over-approximating and terminating.  $\square$



## Beyond bounded verification: Widening

- Iterations with widening

The iterates of a transformer  $\bar{F}[P] \in A \mapsto A$  from the infimum  $\perp \in A$  with widening  $\nabla \in A \times A \mapsto A$  in a poset  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq \rangle$  are defined by recurrence as  $\bar{F}^0 = \perp$ ,  $\bar{F}^{n+1} = \bar{F}^n$  when  $\bar{F}[P](\bar{F}^n) \sqsubseteq \bar{F}^n$  and  $\bar{F}^{n+1} = \bar{F}^n \nabla \bar{F}[P](\bar{F}^n)$  otherwise.  $\square$

- Soundness of iterations with widening

The iterates in a poset  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq, \perp \rangle$  of a transformer  $\bar{F}[P]$  from the infimum  $\perp$  with widening  $\nabla$  converge and their limit is a post-fixpoint of the transformer.  $\square$



## Implementation notes

- Each abstract domain  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq, \perp, \top, \sqcup, \sqcap, \nabla, \Delta, \bar{f}, \bar{b}, \bar{p}, \dots \rangle$  is implemented separately by hand, by providing a specific computer representation of properties in  $A$ , and algorithms for the logical operations  $\sqsubseteq, \perp, \top, \sqcup, \sqcap$ , and transformers  $\bar{f}, \bar{b}, \bar{p}, \dots$
- Different abstract domains are combined into a reduced product
- Very efficient but implemented manually (requires skilled specialists)



## First-order logic



# First-order logical formulæ & satisfaction

- Syntax

$$\Psi \in \mathbb{F}(x, f, p) \quad \Psi ::= a \mid \neg\Psi \mid \Psi \wedge \Psi \mid \exists x : \Psi \quad \text{quantified first-order formulæ}$$

a distinguished predicate  $= (t_1, t_2)$  which we write  $t_1 = t_2$ .

- Free variables  $\vec{x}_\Psi$

- Satisfaction

$$I \models_\eta \Psi,$$

interpretation  $I$  and an environment  $\eta$  satisfy a formula  $\Psi$

- Equality

$$I \models_\eta t_1 = t_2 \triangleq \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket, \eta =_I \llbracket t_2 \rrbracket, \eta$$

where  $=_I$  is the unique reflexive, symmetric, antisymmetric, and transitive relation on  $I_V$ .



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

21

© P. Cousot



## Extension to multi-interpretations

- Property described by a formula for multiple interpretations

$$\mathcal{I} \in \wp(\mathfrak{J})$$

- Semantics of first-order formulæ

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_I^a &\in \mathbb{F}(x, f, p) \xrightarrow{\wedge} \mathcal{P}_I \\ \gamma_I^a(\Psi) &\triangleq \{\langle I, \eta \rangle \mid I \in \mathcal{I} \wedge I \models_\eta \Psi\} \end{aligned}$$

- But how are we going to describe sets of interpretations  $\mathcal{I} \in \wp(\mathfrak{J})$  ?

## Defining multiple interpretations as models of theories

- Theory: set  $\mathcal{T}$  of theorems (closed sentences without any free variable)
- Models of a theory (interpretations making true all theorems of the theory)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{T}) &\triangleq \{I \in \mathfrak{J} \mid \forall \Psi \in \mathcal{T} : \exists \eta : I \models_\eta \Psi\} \\ &= \{I \in \mathfrak{J} \mid \forall \Psi \in \mathcal{T} : \forall \eta : I \models_\eta \Psi\} \end{aligned}$$



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

22

© P. Cousot



23

© P. Cousot



## Classical properties of theories

- Decidable theories:  $\forall \Psi \in \mathbb{F}(x, f, p) : \text{decide}_{\mathcal{T}}(\Psi) \triangleq (\Psi \in \mathcal{T})$  is computable
- Deductive theories: closed by deduction  
 $\forall \Psi \in \mathcal{T} : \forall \Psi' \in \mathbb{F}(x, f, p)$ , if  $\Psi \Rightarrow \Psi'$  implies  $\Psi' \in \mathcal{T}$
- Satisfiable theory:  
 $\mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{T}) \neq \emptyset$
- Complete theory:  
for all sentences  $\Psi$  in the language of the theory, either  $\Psi$  is in the theory or  $\neg\Psi$  is in the theory.



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

24

© P. Cousot



24

© P. Cousot



## Checking satisfiability modulo theory

- Validity modulo theory

$$\text{valid}_{\mathcal{T}}(\Psi) \triangleq \forall I \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{T}) : \forall \eta : I \models_{\eta} \Psi$$

- Satisfiability modulo theory (SMT)

$$\text{satisfiable}_{\mathcal{T}}(\Psi) \triangleq \exists I \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{T}) : \exists \eta : I \models_{\eta} \Psi$$

- Checking satisfiability for decidable theories

$$\text{satisfiable}_{\mathcal{T}}(\Psi) \Leftrightarrow \neg (\text{decide}_{\mathcal{T}}(\forall \vec{x}_{\Psi} : \neg \Psi)) \quad (\text{when } \mathcal{T} \text{ is decidable and deductive})$$

$$\text{satisfiable}_{\mathcal{T}}(\Psi) \Leftrightarrow (\text{decide}_{\mathcal{T}}(\exists \vec{x}_{\Psi} : \Psi)) \quad (\text{when } \mathcal{T} \text{ is decidable and complete})$$

- Most SMT solvers support only quantifier-free formulæ



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

25

© P. Cousot



## Logical Abstractions

## Logical abstract domains

- $\langle A, \mathcal{T} \rangle : A \in \wp(\mathbb{F}(x, f, p))$  abstract properties

$\mathcal{T}$

theory of  $\mathbb{F}(x, f, p)$

- Abstract domain  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq, \text{ff}, \text{tt}, \vee, \wedge, \nabla, \Delta, \bar{f}_a, \bar{b}_a, \bar{p}_a, \dots \rangle$

- Logical implication  $(\Psi \sqsubseteq \Psi') \triangleq ((\forall \vec{x}_{\Psi} \cup \vec{x}_{\Psi'} : \Psi \Rightarrow \Psi') \in \mathcal{T})$

- A lattice but in general not complete

- The concretization is

$$\gamma_{\mathcal{T}}^a(\Psi) \triangleq \left\{ \langle I, \eta \rangle \mid I \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{T}) \wedge I \models_{\eta} \Psi \right\}$$



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

27

© P. Cousot



## Logical abstract semantics

- Logical abstract semantics

$$\bar{C}^a[\mathbb{P}] \triangleq \left\{ \Psi \mid \bar{F}_a[\mathbb{P}](\Psi) \sqsubseteq \Psi \right\}$$

- The logical abstract transformer  $\bar{F}_a[\mathbb{P}] \in A \rightarrow A$  is defined in terms of primitives

$$\bar{f}_a \in (x \times T(x, f)) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$$

abstract forward assignment transformer

$$\bar{b}_a \in (x \times T(x, f)) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$$

abstract backward assignment transformer

$$\bar{p}_a \in \mathbb{L} \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$$

condition abstract transformer



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

26

© P. Cousot



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

28

© P. Cousot



## Implementation notes ...

- Universal representation of abstract properties by logical formulæ
- Trivial implementations of logical operations  $\text{ff}$ ,  $\text{tt}$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\wedge$ ,
- Provers or SMT solvers can be used for the abstract implication  $\sqsubseteq$ ,
- Concrete transformers are purely syntactic

$$\begin{aligned} f_a &\in (\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{T}(\mathbb{X}, f)) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \\ f_a[x := t]\Psi &\triangleq \exists x' : \Psi[x \leftarrow x'] \wedge x = t[x \leftarrow x'] \\ b_a &\in (\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{T}(\mathbb{X}, f)) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \\ b_a[x := t]\Psi &\triangleq \Psi[x \leftarrow t] \\ p_a &\in \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \\ p_a[\varphi]\Psi &\triangleq \Psi \wedge \varphi \end{aligned}$$

axiomatic forward assignment transformer  
axiomatic backward assignment transformer  
axiomatic transformer for program test of condition  $\varphi$ .

.../...



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28-29/2011

29

© P. Cousot



## but ...

.../... so the abstract transformers follows by abstraction

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}_a[x := t]\Psi &\triangleq \alpha_A^T(f_a[x := t]\Psi) \\ \bar{b}_a[x := t]\Psi &\triangleq \alpha_A^T(b_a[x := t]\Psi) \\ \bar{p}_a[\varphi]\Psi &\triangleq \alpha_A^T(p_a[\varphi]\Psi) \end{aligned}$$

abstract forward assignment transformer  
abstract backward assignment transformer  
abstract transformer for program test of condition

- The abstraction algorithm  $\alpha_A^I \in \mathbb{F}(\mathbb{X}, f, p) \rightarrow A$  to abstract properties in  $A$  may be non-trivial (e.g. quantifiers elimination)
- A widening  $\nabla$  is needed to ensure convergence of the fixpoint iterates (or else ask the end-user)



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28-29/2011

30

© P. Cousot



## Example I of widening: thresholds

- Choose a subset  $W$  of  $A$  satisfying the ascending chain condition for  $\sqsubseteq$ ,
- Define  $X \nabla Y$  to be (one of) the strongest  $\Psi \in W$  such that  $Y \Rightarrow \Psi$

## Example II of bounded widening: Craig interpolation

- Use Craig interpolation (knowing a bound e.g. the specification)
- Move to thresholds to enforced convergence after  $k$  widenings with Craig interpolation



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28-29/2011

31

© P. Cousot



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28-29/2011

31

© P. Cousot

## Reduced Product



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28-29/2011

30

© P. Cousot



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28-29/2011

32

© P. Cousot



## Cartesian product

- Definition of the Cartesian product:

Let  $\langle A_i, \sqsubseteq_i \rangle$ ,  $i \in \Delta$ ,  $\Delta$  finite, be abstract domains with increasing concretization  $\gamma_i : A_i \rightarrow \mathfrak{P}_I^{\Sigma_O}$ . Their Cartesian product is  $\langle \vec{A}, \vec{\sqsubseteq} \rangle$  where  $\vec{A} \triangleq \bigtimes_{i \in \Delta} A_i$ ,  $(\vec{P} \vec{\sqsubseteq} \vec{Q}) \triangleq \bigwedge_{i \in \Delta} (\vec{P}_i \sqsubseteq_i \vec{Q}_i)$  and  $\vec{\gamma} \in \vec{A} \rightarrow \mathfrak{P}_I^{\Sigma_O}$  is  $\vec{\gamma}(\vec{P}) \triangleq \bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \gamma_i(\vec{P}_i)$ .



## Reduced product

- Definition of the Reduced product:

Let  $\langle A_i, \sqsubseteq_i \rangle$ ,  $i \in \Delta$ ,  $\Delta$  finite, be abstract domains with increasing concretization  $\gamma_i : A_i \rightarrow \mathfrak{P}_I^{\Sigma_O}$  where  $\vec{A} \triangleq \bigtimes_{i \in \Delta} A_i$  is their Cartesian product. Their reduced product is  $\langle \vec{A}/\equiv, \vec{\sqsubseteq} \rangle$  where  $(\vec{P} \equiv \vec{Q}) \triangleq (\vec{\gamma}(\vec{P}) = \vec{\gamma}(\vec{Q}))$  and  $\vec{\gamma}$  as well as  $\vec{\sqsubseteq}$  are naturally extended to the equivalence classes  $[\vec{P}]_{\equiv}$ ,  $\vec{P} \in \vec{A}$ , of  $\equiv$  by  $\vec{\gamma}([\vec{P}]_{\equiv}) = \vec{\gamma}(\vec{P})$  and  $[\vec{P}]_{\equiv} \vec{\sqsubseteq} [\vec{Q}]_{\equiv} \triangleq \exists \vec{P}' \in [\vec{P}]_{\equiv} : \exists \vec{Q}' \in [\vec{Q}]_{\equiv} : \vec{P}' \vec{\sqsubseteq} \vec{Q}'$ .  $\square$

- In practice, the reduced product may be complex to compute but we can use approximations such as the iterated pairwise reduction of the Cartesian product



## Reduction

- Example: intervals  $\times$  congruences

$$\rho(x \in [-1,5] \wedge x = 2 \bmod 4) \equiv x \in [2,2] \wedge x = 2 \bmod 0$$

are equivalent

- Meaning-preserving reduction:

Let  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq \rangle$  be a poset which is an abstract domain with concretization  $\gamma : A \rightarrow C$  where  $\langle C, \leqslant \rangle$  is the concrete domain. A meaning-preserving map is  $\rho : A \rightarrow A$  such that  $\forall \vec{P} \in A : \gamma(\rho(\vec{P})) = \gamma(\vec{P})$ . The map is a reduction if and only if it is reductive that is  $\forall \vec{P} \in A : \rho(\vec{P}) \sqsubseteq \vec{P}$ .  $\square$



## Iterated reduction

- Definition of iterated reduction:

Let  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq \rangle$  be a poset which is an abstract domain with concretization  $\gamma : A \rightarrow C$  where  $\langle C, \leqslant \rangle$  is the concrete domain and  $\rho : A \rightarrow A$  be a meaning-preserving reduction.

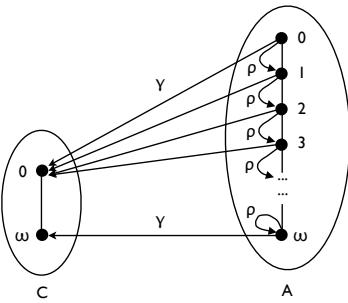
The iterates of the reduction are  $\rho^0 \triangleq \lambda \vec{P}. \bullet \vec{P}$ ,  $\rho^{\lambda+1} = \rho(\rho^\lambda)$  for successor ordinals and  $\rho^\lambda = \bigcap_{\beta < \lambda} \rho^\beta$  for limit ordinals.

The iterates are well-defined when the greatest lower bounds  $\sqcap$  (glb) do exist in the poset  $\langle A, \sqsubseteq \rangle$ .  $\square$



## Finite versus infinite iterated reduction

- Finite iterations of a meaning preserving reduction are meaning preserving (and more precise)
- Infinite iterations, limits of meaning-preserving reduction, may not be meaning-preserving (although more precise). It is when  $\gamma$  preserves glbs.



## Pairwise reduction

- Definition of pairwise reduction

Let  $\langle A_i, \sqsubseteq_i \rangle$  be abstract domains with increasing concretization  $\gamma_i : A_i \rightarrow L$  into the concrete domain  $\langle L, \leqslant \rangle$ .

For  $i, j \in \Delta$ ,  $i \neq j$ , let  $\rho_{ij} : \langle A_i \times A_j, \sqsubseteq_{ij} \rangle \mapsto \langle A_i \times A_j, \sqsubseteq_{ij} \rangle$  be pairwise meaning-preserving reductions (so that  $\forall (x, y) \in A_i \times A_j : \rho_{ij}(\langle x, y \rangle) \sqsubseteq_{ij} \langle x, y \rangle$  and  $(\gamma_i \times \gamma_j) \circ \rho_{ij} = (\gamma_i \times \gamma_j)$ <sup>24</sup>).

Define the pairwise reductions  $\vec{\rho}_{ij} : \langle \vec{A}, \vec{\sqsubseteq} \rangle \mapsto \langle \vec{A}, \vec{\sqsubseteq} \rangle$  of the Cartesian product as

$$\vec{\rho}_{ij}(\vec{P}) \triangleq \text{let } \langle \vec{P}'_i, \vec{P}'_j \rangle \triangleq \rho_{ij}(\langle \vec{P}_i, \vec{P}_j \rangle) \text{ in } \vec{P}[i \leftarrow \vec{P}'_i][j \leftarrow \vec{P}'_j]$$

where  $\vec{P}[i \leftarrow x]_i = x$  and  $\vec{P}[i \leftarrow x]_j = \vec{P}_j$  when  $i \neq j$ .

<sup>24</sup> We define  $(f \times g)(\langle x, y \rangle) \triangleq \langle f(x), g(y) \rangle$ .



## Pairwise reduction (cont'd)

Define the iterated pairwise reductions  $\vec{\rho}^n, \vec{\rho}^\lambda, \vec{\rho}^* \in \langle \vec{A}, \vec{\sqsubseteq} \rangle \mapsto \langle \vec{A}, \vec{\sqsubseteq} \rangle$ ,  $n \geq 0$  of the Cartesian product for

$$\vec{\rho} \triangleq \bigcirc_{\substack{i,j \in \Delta, \\ i \neq j}} \vec{\rho}_{ij}$$

where  $\bigcirc_{i=1}^n f_i \triangleq f_{\pi_1} \circ \dots \circ f_{\pi_n}$  is the function composition for some arbitrary permutation  $\pi$  of  $[1, n]$ .  $\square$



## Iterated pairwise reduction

- The iterated pairwise reduction of the Cartesian product is meaning preserving

If the limit  $\vec{\rho}^*$  of the iterated reductions is well defined then the reductions are such that  $\forall \vec{P} \in \vec{A} : \forall n \in \mathbb{N}_+ : \vec{\rho}^*(\vec{P}) \vec{\sqsubseteq} \vec{\rho}^n(\vec{P}) \vec{\sqsubseteq} \vec{\rho}_{ij}(\vec{P}) \vec{\sqsubseteq} \vec{P}$ ,  $i, j \in \Delta$ ,  $i \neq j$  and meaning-preserving since  $\vec{\rho}^\lambda(\vec{P}), \vec{\rho}_{ij}(\vec{P}), \vec{P} \in [\vec{P}]_{\vec{\sqsubseteq}}$ .

If, moreover,  $\gamma$  preserves greatest lower bounds then  $\vec{\rho}^*(\vec{P}) \in [\vec{P}]_{\vec{\sqsubseteq}}$ .  $\square$



## Iterated pairwise reduction

- In general, the iterated pairwise reduction of the Cartesian product is **not as precise as the reduced product**
- **Sufficient conditions** do exist for their equivalence

## Nelson–Oppen combination procedure



## Counter-example

- $L = \wp(\{a, b, c\})$
- $A_1 = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \top\}$  where  $\top = \{a, b, c\}$
- $A_2 = \{\emptyset, \{a, b\}, \top\}$
- $A_3 = \{\emptyset, \{a, c\}, \top\}$
- $\langle \top, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\} \rangle / \equiv = \langle \{a\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\} \rangle$
- $\vec{\rho}_{ij}^*(\langle \top, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\} \rangle) = \langle \top, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\} \rangle$  for  $\Delta = \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $i, j \in \Delta, i \neq j$
- $\vec{\rho}^*(\langle \top, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\} \rangle) = \langle \top, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\} \rangle$  is **not** a minimal element of  $[\langle \top, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\} \rangle] / \equiv$



## The Nelson–Oppen combination procedure

- Prove **satisfiability** in a combination of theories by exchanging equalities and disequalities
- **Example:**  $\varphi \triangleq (x = a \vee x = b) \wedge f(x) \neq f(a) \wedge f(x) \neq f(b)$ <sup>22</sup>.
  - **Purify:** introduce auxiliary variables to separate alien terms and put in conjunctive form

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi &\triangleq \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \text{ where} \\ \varphi_1 &\triangleq (x = a \vee x = b) \wedge y = a \wedge z = b \\ \varphi_2 &\triangleq f(x) \neq f(y) \wedge f(x) \neq f(z)\end{aligned}$$

.../...

<sup>22</sup>where **a**, **b** and **f** are in different theories



## The Nelson-Oppen combination procedure

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi &\triangleq \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \text{ where} \\ \varphi_1 &\triangleq (x = a \vee x = b) \wedge y = a \wedge z = b \\ \varphi_2 &\triangleq f(x) \neq f(y) \wedge f(x) \neq f(z)\end{aligned}$$

- Reduce  $\vec{\rho}(\varphi)$ : each theory  $\mathcal{T}_i$  determines  $E_{ij}$ , a (disjunction) of conjunctions of variable (dis)equalities implied by  $\varphi_j$  and propagate it in all other components  $\varphi_i$

$$\begin{aligned}E_{12} &\triangleq (x = y) \vee (x = z) \\ E_{21} &\triangleq (x \neq y) \wedge (x \neq z)\end{aligned}$$

- Iterate  $\vec{\rho}^*(\varphi)$  : until satisfiability is proved in each theory or stabilization of the iterates



## The Nelson-Oppen combination procedure

Under appropriate hypotheses (disjointness of the theory signatures, stably-infiniteness/shininess, convexity to avoid disjunctions, etc), the Nelson-Oppen procedure:

- Terminates (finitely many possible (dis)equalities)
- Is sound (meaning-preserving)
- Is complete (always succeeds if formula is satisfiable)
- Similar techniques are used in theorem provers

Program static analysis/verification is undecidable so requiring completeness is useless. Therefore the hypotheses can be lifted, the procedure is then sound and incomplete. No change to SMT solvers is needed.



# The Nelson-Oppen procedure is an iterated pairwise reduced product



## Observables in Abstract Interpretation

- (Relational) abstractions of values  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  of program variables  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is often too imprecise.  
Example : when analyzing quaternions  $(a, b, c, d)$  we need to observe the evolution of  $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2}$  during execution to get a precise analysis of the normalization
- An observable is specified as the value of a function  $f$  of the values  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  of the program variables  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  assigned to a fresh auxiliary variable  $x_0$

$$x_0 == f(v_1, \dots, v_n)$$

(with a precise abstraction of  $f$ )



## Purification = Observables in A.I.

- The **purification** phase consists in introducing new **observables**
- The program can be **purified** by introducing auxiliary assignments of pure sub-expressions so that forward/backward transformers of purified formulæ always yield purified formulæ
- Example ( $f$  and  $a,b$  are in different theories):  
 $y = f(x) == f(a+1) \& f(x) == f(2*b)$   
becomes  
 $z=a+1; t=2*b; y = f(x) == f(z) \& f(x) = f(t)$



## Static analysis combining logical and algebraic abstractions

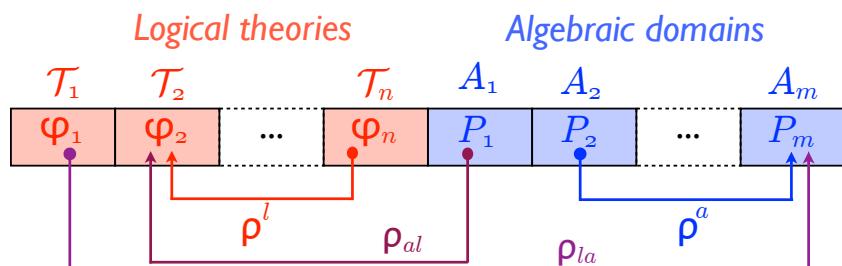


## Reduction

- The transfer of a (disjunction of) conjunctions of variable (dis-)equalities is a **pairwise iterated reduction**
- This can be **incomplete** when the signatures are not disjoint



## Reduced product of logical and algebraic domains



- When checking satisfiability of  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_n$ , the Nelson-Oppen procedure generates (dis)-equalities that can be propagated by  $\rho_{la}$  to reduce the  $P_i, i=1, \dots, m$ , or
- $\alpha_i(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_n)$  can be propagated by  $\rho_{la}$  to reduce the  $P_i, i=1, \dots, m$
- The purification to theory  $T_i$  of  $\gamma_i(P_i)$  can be propagated to  $\varphi_i$  by  $\rho_{al}$  in order to reduce it to  $\varphi_i \wedge \gamma_i(P_i)$  (in  $T_i$ )



## Advantages

- No need for completeness hypotheses on theories
- Bidirectional reduction between logical and algebraic abstraction
- No need for end-users to provide inductive invariants (discovered by static analysis)<sup>(\*)</sup>
- Easy interaction with end-user (through logical formulæ)
- Easy introduction of new abstractions on either side  
⇒ Extensible expressive static analyzers / verifiers

(\*) may need occasionally to be strengthened by the end-user



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

53

© P. Cousot



## Future work

- Still at a conceptual stage
- More experimental work on a prototype is needed to validate the concept

## References

1. Patrick Cousot, Radhia Cousot, Laurent Mauborgne: Logical Abstract Domains and Interpretation. In *The Future of Software Engineering*, S. Nanz (Ed.). © Springer 2010, Pages 48–71.
2. Patrick Cousot, Radhia Cousot, Laurent Mauborgne: The Reduced Product of Abstract Domains and the Combination of Decision Procedures. FOSSACS 2011: 456-472



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

54

© P. Cousot



## Conclusion

- Convergence between logic-based proof-theoretic deductive methods using SMT solvers/theorem provers and algebraic methods using model-checking/abstract interpretation for infinite-state systems



Garrett Birkhoff (1911–1996)  
abstracted logic/set theory  
into lattice theory



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

55

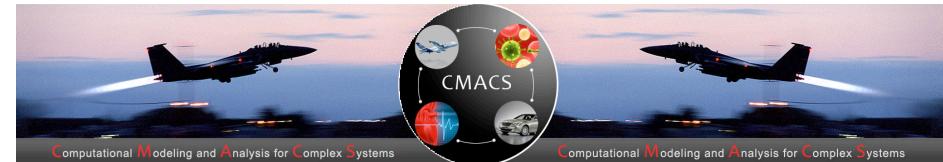
© P. Cousot



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

55

© P. Cousot



## The End,

## Thank You



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

56

© P. Cousot



NSF CMACS expedition, PI meeting, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 04/28–29/2011

56

© P. Cousot

