Introduction to Permission-Based Program Logics

Part II – Concurrent Programs

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Example: Lock-Coupling List



- There is one lock per node; threads acquire locks in a hand over hand fashion.
- If a node is locked, we can insert a node just after it.
- If two adjacent nodes are locked, we can remove the second.



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Extensions of Separation Logic for Concurrent Programs

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Fig. 1. CSL Family Tree (courtesy of Ilya Sergey)



RGSep Primer

[courtesy of Viktor Vafeiadis]

Program and Environment

- **Program:** the current thread being verified.
- Environment: all other threads of the system that execute in parallel with the thread being verified.
- Interference: The program interferes with the environment by modifying the shared state.

Conversely, the environment interferes with the program by modifying the shared state.

Local & Shared State

- The total state is logically divided into two components:
 - Shared: accessible by all threads via synchronization
 - Local: accessible only by one thread, its owner



State of the lock-coupling list just before inserting a new node.

The node to be added is local because other threads cannot yet access it.

Program Specifications

- The specification of a program consists of two assertions (precondition & postcondition), and two sets of actions:
- **Rely:** Describes the interference that the program can tolerate from the environment; i.e. specifies how the environment can change the shared state.
- Guarantee: Describes the interference that the program imposes on its environment; i.e. specifies how the program can change the shared state.

Rely/Guarantee Actions

Actions describe minimal atomic changes to the shared state.



An action allows any part of the *shared state* that satisfies the LHS to be changed to a part satisfying the RHS, but the rest of the shared state must not be changed.

Rely/Guarantee Actions

Actions can adjust the boundary between local state and stared state.

This is also known as *transfer of ownership*.



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local





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Assertion Syntax

• Separation Logic

 $P, Q ::= e = e \mid e \neq e \mid e \mapsto (\mathbf{f} : \mathbf{e}) \mid P * Q \mid \dots$

• Extended Logic



Assertion Semantics

- $I, s \models P \quad \Leftrightarrow I \models_{SL} P$
- I, $s \models P$ \Leftrightarrow $s \models_{SL} P$ and $I = \{\}$
- $I, s \vDash p * q \Leftrightarrow exists I_1, I_2 :$ $I = I_1 \bullet I_2 and I_1, s \vDash p and I_2, s \vDash q$

Assertion Semantics

• $I, s \models P \quad \Leftrightarrow I \models_{SL} P$ • $I, s \models P \quad \Leftrightarrow s \models_{SL} P \text{ and } I = \{\}$ • $I, s \models p * q \Leftrightarrow \text{ exists } I_1, I_2 :$ $I = I_1 \bullet I_2 \text{ and } I_1, s \models p \text{ and } I_2, s \models q$ split local state

Assertion Semantics

• I, $s \models P \quad \Leftrightarrow I \models_{SL} P$ • I, $s \models P$ \Leftrightarrow $s \models_{SI} P$ and $I = \{\}$ • $I, s \models p \ast q \Leftrightarrow exists I_1, I_2$: $I = I_1 \bullet I_2$ and I_1 , s \models p and I_2 , s \models q share global state

Assertions: Lock Coupling List

Unlocked node x holding value v and pointing to y



Node x holding value v and pointing to y, locked by thread T



List segment from x to y of possibly locked nodes

$$\rightarrow y \qquad \mathbf{lseg}(x, y)$$


Programs: Syntax

- Basic commands c:
 - noop: skip
 - guard: assume(b)
 - heap write: [x] := y
 - heap read: x := [y]
 - allocation: x := new()
 - deallocation: free(x)

- Commands $C \in Com$:
 - basic commands: c
 - seq. composition: C_1 ; C_2
 - nondet. choice: $C_1 + C_2$
 - looping: C*
 - atomic com.: **atomic** C
 - par. composition: $C_1 \mid C_2$

Rely/Guarantee Judgements

⊢ C sat (p, R, G, q)



Parallel Composition Rule \vdash C₁ sat (p₁, R \cup G₂, G₁, q₁) \vdash C₂ sat (p₂, R \cup G₁, G₂, q₂) \vdash (C₁ \mid C₂) sat (p₁ * p₂, R, G₁ \cup G₂, q₁ * q₂)

- An assertion is *stable* iff it is preserved under interference by other threads.
- Example:



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Stability (Formally)



Atomic Commands

 $\vdash \{ P \} C \{ Q \}$ $\vdash (atomic C) sat (P, \emptyset, \emptyset, Q)$

Atomic Commands reduction to sequential SL \vdash { P } C { Q } \vdash (atomic C) sat (P, \emptyset , \emptyset , Q) only local state

Atomic Commands

 $\vdash \{P\} C \{Q\}$ $\vdash (atomic C) sat (P, \emptyset, \emptyset, Q)$

p, q stable under R ⊢ (atomic C) sat (p, Ø, G, q) ⊢ (atomic C) sat (p, R, G, q)

Atomic Commands

 $P_{2}, Q_{2} \text{ precise} \qquad P_{2} \rightarrow Q_{2} \in G$ $\vdash (\texttt{atomic C}) \texttt{sat} (P_{1} * P_{2}, \emptyset, \emptyset, Q_{1} * Q_{2})$ $\vdash (\texttt{atomic C}) \texttt{sat} (P_{1} * P_{2} * F, \emptyset, G, Q_{1} * Q_{2} * F)$











































Flow Interfaces

joint work with Siddharth Krishna and Dennis Shasha
Goal

- Data structure abstractions that
 - can handle unbounded sharing and overlays
 - treat structural and data constraints uniformly
 - do not encode specific traversal strategies
 - provide data-structure-agnostic composition and decomposition rules
 - remain within general theory of separation logic
- \Rightarrow Flow Interfaces

High-Level Idea

- Express all data structure invariants in terms of a local condition, satisfied by each node.
 - Local condition may depend on a quantity of the graph that is calculated inductively over the entire graph (the flow).
- Introduce a notion of graph composition that preserves local invariants of global flows.
- Introduce a generic *good graph* predicate that abstracts a heap region satisfying the local flow condition (the flow interface).

Local Data Structure Invariants with Flows



Can we express the property that **root** points to a tree as a local condition of each node in the graph?

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Local Data Structure Invariants with Flows



 $\forall n \in N. pc(root, n) \leq 1$

"G contains a tree rooted at root"

Can we express the property that **root** points to a tree as a local condition of each node in the graph?





Requirements of flow domain:

- (D, +, ·, 0, 1) is a semiring
- (D, \sqsubseteq) is ω -cpo with smallest element 0
- + and · are continuous

Path counting flow domain: $(\mathbb{N}\cup\{\infty\},\leq,+,\cdot,0,1)$



Flow graph G = (N, e)

- N finite set of nodes
- e: $N \times N \rightarrow D$



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Flows Step 2: Define the Inflow



$$n_{root}(n) = \begin{cases} 1, n = root \\ 0, n \neq root \end{cases}$$

Label each node using an *inflow in*: $N \rightarrow D$

Flows Step 3: Calculate the flow



Flow graph G = (N, e)



Flows Step 3: Calculate the flow



Flow graph
$$G = (N, e)$$

 $flow(in, G) : N \to D$ $flow(in, G) = lfp\left(\lambda C.\lambda n \in N.in(n) + \sum_{n' \in N} C(n') \cdot e(n', n)\right)$

Flows Step 3: Calculate the flow



Flow graph G = (N, e)

 $\forall n \in N. flow(in_{root}, G)(n) \leq 1$

"G contains a tree rooted at root"

 $flow(in, G) : N \to D$ $flow(in, G) = lfp\left(\lambda C. \lambda n \in N. in(n) + \sum_{n' \in N} C(n') \cdot e(n', n)\right)$

Data Constraints

predicate tree(t: Node, C: Set<Int>) { t == null \land emp \land C = \emptyset \lor ∃ v, x, y, Cx, Cy :: $t \mapsto (d:v,r:x,l:y) * tree(x,Cx) * tree(y,Cy) \land$ $C = \{v\} \cup Cx \cup Cy \land v > Cx \land v < Cy$

tree(y,Cy)

tree(x,Cx)

Data Invariants



Data Invariants





KS: the set of all search keys e.g. KS = \mathbb{Z}

Inset flow domain: $(2^{KS}, \subseteq, \cup, \cap, \emptyset, KS)$

Label each edge with the set of keys that follow that edge in a search (edgeset).



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Inset flow domain: $(2^{KS}, \subseteq, \cup, \cap, \emptyset, KS)$

Set inflow *in* of **root** to KS and to \emptyset for all other nodes.



$$I_{1} = \{k \mid 3 < k\}$$
$$I_{2} = \{k \mid 3 < k < 6\}$$
$$I_{3} = \{k \mid 8 < k\}$$

flow(in, G)(n) is the *inset* of node n, i.e., the set of keys k such that a search for k will traverse node n.

From Insets to Keysets



keyset(in, G)(n) is the set of keys that could be in n

Verifying Concurrent Search Data Structures

- Local data structure invariants
 - edgesets are disjoint for each n: {e(n,n')}_{n'∈N} are disjoint
 - keyset of each n covers n's contents: $C(G)(n) \subseteq keyset(in, G)(n)$
- Observation: disjoint inflows imply disjoint keysets
 - If $\{in(n)\}_{n \in N}$ are disjoint (e.g. G has a single root)
 - then {keyset(in,G)(n)} $_{n\,\in\,N}$ are disjoint
 - ⇒ Can be used to prove linearizability of concurrent search data structures in a data-structure-agnostic fashion [Shasha and Goodman, 1988]

Compositional Reasoning

Can we reason compositionally about flows and flow graphs à la SL?

Flow Graph Composition

• Standard SL Composition (disjoint union) is too weak:



Flow Interface Graph

(*in*, *G*) is a *flow interface graph* iff

- $G = (N, N_o, \lambda, e)$ is a partial graph with
 - N the set of internal nodes of the graph
 - N_o the set of external nodes of the graph
 - $\lambda: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{A}$ a node labeling function
 - $e: N \ge (N \cup N_o) \rightarrow D$ is an edge function
- *in*: $N \rightarrow D$ is an inflow

Inflow *in* specifies rely of *G* on its context.

(in, G)



 $(in, G) = (in_1, G_1) \bullet (in_2, G_2)$

 $in_1 = ?, in_2 = ?$



 $(in, G) = (in_1, G_1) \bullet (in_2, G_2)$



 $(in, G) = (in_1, G_1) \bullet (in_2, G_2)$



 $(in, G) = (in_1, G_1) \bullet (in_2, G_2)$



- $H_1 \bullet H_2$ is
 - commutative: $H_1 \bullet H_2 = H_2 \bullet H_1$
 - associative : $(H_1 \bullet H_2) \bullet H_3 = H_1 \bullet (H_2 \bullet H_3)$
 - cancelative: $H \bullet H_1 = H \bullet H_2 \Rightarrow H_1 = H_2$
 - \Rightarrow Flow interface graphs form a *separation algebra*.
 - \Rightarrow We can use them to give semantics to SL assertions.
- How do we abstract flow interface graphs?



fm(G)(n, n_o) = $\sum \{ pathproduct(p) \mid p \text{ path from } n \text{ to } n_o \text{ in } G \}$



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Flow Map: Example


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Flow Interfaces

- I = (*in*, *f*) is a *flow interface* if - *in*: N \rightarrow D is an inflow - *f*: N \times N₀ \rightarrow D is a flow map
- [[(in, f)]]_{good} denotes all flow interface graphs (in, G) s.t.
 fm(G) = f
 - for all $n \in N$ good(in(n), $G|_n$) holds
- where *good* is some *good node* condition
 - e.g. *good*(i, _) = i \leq 1

Flow Interfaces with Node Abstraction

- $I = (in, \alpha, f)$ is a *flow interface* if
 - *in*: $N \rightarrow D$ is an inflow
 - $-f: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}_{o} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$ is a flow map
 - $\alpha \in \mathsf{A}$ is a node label
- [[(*in*, α, f)]]_{good} denotes all flow interface graphs (*in*, G) s.t.
 fm(G) = f
 - $\alpha = \sqcup \{ \lambda_{\mathsf{G}}(\mathsf{n}) \mid \mathsf{n} \in \mathsf{N} \}$
 - for all $n \in N$ good(in(n), $G|_n$) holds
- where *good* is some *good node* condition
 - e.g. $good(i, _) = i \le 1$

Flow Interface Composition

Composition of flow interface graphs can be lifted to flow interfaces:

• $I \in I_1 \oplus I_2$ iff $\exists H, H_1, H_2$ such that $- H \in \llbracket I \rrbracket, H_1 \in \llbracket I_1 \rrbracket$, and $H_2 \in \llbracket I_2 \rrbracket$ $- H = H_1 \bullet H_2$

Some nice properties of \oplus

- \oplus is associative and commutative
- $\bullet \quad \llbracket \mathsf{I}_1 \rrbracket \bullet \llbracket \mathsf{I}_2 \rrbracket \subseteq \llbracket \mathsf{I}_1 \oplus \mathsf{I}_2 \rrbracket$
- if $I \in I_1 \oplus I_2$, then for all $H_1 \in \llbracket I_1 \rrbracket$, $H_2 \in \llbracket I_2 \rrbracket$, $H_1 \bullet H_2$ defined

Separation Logic with Flow Interfaces

- Good graph predicate $Gr_{\gamma}(I)$
 - γ : SL predicate that defines good node condition and abstraction of heap onto nodes of flow graph
 - I: flow interface term
- Good node predicate $N_{\gamma}(x, I)$
 - like Gr but denotes a single node
 - definable in terms of Gr
- Dirty region predicate $[P]_{\gamma,I}$
 - P: SL predicate
 - denotes heap region that is expected to satisfy interface I but may currently not

Graph Predicate: Linked List

root
$$\dots \longrightarrow 3$$
 next y next $next$ $next$ $k', k' > 3$ $\{k', k' > 3\}$ $\{k', k' > 6\}$ $\{k', k' > 6\}$ $\{k', k' > 8\}$ \dots

Abstraction of linked list node

$$\begin{array}{l} \gamma(x, \textit{in, C, f}) = \exists k, y. \ x \mapsto (\textit{data: } k, \textit{next: } y) \land \\ C = \{k\} \land k \in \textit{in } \land \\ f = \textit{ITE}(y = \textit{null}, \epsilon, \{ (x, y) \mapsto \{k'. \ k' > k\} \}) \end{array}$$

Invariant

 $\exists \mathtt{I} :: \mathsf{Gr}_{\gamma}(\mathtt{I}) \land \mathtt{I}^{in} = \{ \mathsf{root} \mapsto \mathsf{KS} \} . \mathbf{0} \land \mathtt{I}^{f} = \epsilon$

Graph Predicate: Binary Search Tree



Abstraction of BST node

$$\gamma$$
(x, in, C, f) = $\exists k, y, z. x \mapsto$ (data: k, left: y, right: z) \land
 $C = \{k\} \land k \in in \land$
 $f = ITE(y = null, \epsilon, \{ (x,y) \mapsto \{k'. k' < k\} \}$.
ITE(z = null, ϵ , $\{ (x,z) \mapsto \{k'. k' > k\} \}$

Invariant

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Graph Predicate: Binary Search Tree

Need tree invariant?



Abstraction of BST node

$$\gamma(x, in, C, f) = \exists k, y, z. x \mapsto (data: k, left: y, right: z) \land$$

 $C = \{k\} \land k \in in \land$
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Invariant

$$\exists \mathtt{I} :: \mathsf{Gr}_{\gamma}(\mathtt{I}) \land \mathtt{I}^{in} = \{ \mathsf{root} \mapsto \mathsf{KS} \}. \mathbf{0} \land \mathtt{I}^{f} = \epsilon$$

Graph Predicate: Binary Search Tree

Need tree invariant? No problem!



Abstraction of BST node

$$\begin{split} \gamma(x, (in, pc), C, f) &= \exists k, y, z. \ x \mapsto (\text{data: } k, \text{left: } y, \text{right: } z) \land \\ C &= \{k\} \land k \in in \land pc = 1 \land \\ f &= \text{ITE}(y = \text{null}, \epsilon, \{ (x, y) \mapsto (\{k'. \ k' < k\}, 1) \}. \\ \text{ITE}(z = \text{null}, \epsilon, \{ (x, z) \mapsto (\{k'. \ k' > k\}, 1) \} \end{split}$$

Invariant

 $\exists \mathtt{I} :: \mathsf{Gr}_{\gamma}(\mathtt{I}) \land \mathtt{I}^{in} = \{ \mathsf{root} \mapsto (\mathsf{KS}, \mathtt{1}) \} . \mathtt{0} \land \mathtt{I}^{f} = \epsilon$

Data-Structure-Agnostic Proof Rules

$$\label{eq:composition} \begin{split} & \mathsf{Decomposition} \\ & \mathsf{Gr}(\mathtt{I}) \land \mathtt{x} \in \mathtt{I}^{\mathsf{in}} \\ \hline \mathsf{N}(\mathtt{x}, \mathtt{I}_1) \ast \mathsf{Gr}(\mathtt{I}_2) \land \mathtt{I} \in \mathtt{I}_1 \oplus \mathtt{I}_2 \end{split}$$

Abstraction $Gr(I_1) * Gr(I_2) \land I \in I_1 \oplus I_2$ $Gr(I) \land I \in I_1 \oplus I_2$

 $\begin{aligned} & \mathsf{Replacement} \\ & \underline{\mathsf{I} \in \mathsf{I}_1 \oplus \mathsf{I}_2 \land \mathsf{I}_1 \precsim \mathsf{J}_1} \\ & \overline{\mathsf{J} \in \mathsf{J}_1 \oplus \mathsf{I}_2 \land \mathsf{I} \precsim \mathsf{J}} \end{aligned}$

Generic R/G Actions

- Lock node $N(x, (in, 0, f)) \rightarrow N(x, (in, T, f))$
- Unlock node $N(x, (in, T, f)) \rightarrow N(x, (in, 0, f))$
- Dirty $[true]_{I} \wedge I^{\alpha} = t \rightarrow [true]_{I}$
- Sync $[true]_{I} \wedge I^{\alpha} = t \rightarrow Gr(I') \wedge I \preceq I'$

Conclusion

- Radically new approach for building compositional abstractions of data structures.
- Fits in existing (concurrent) separation logics.
- Enables simple correctness proofs of concurrent data structure algorithms
- Proofs abstract from the details of the specific data structure implementation.