

Analysis of Software Artifacts

Dataflow Analysis: Examples and Correctness

Jonathan Aldrich

Outline

- Dataflow Analysis Frameworks
 - Lattices
 - Abstraction functions
 - Control flow graphs
 - Flow functions
 - **Worklist algorithm**
- Example Dataflow Analyses
 - Constant Propagation
 - Reaching Definitions
 - Live Variable Analysis
- Dataflow Analysis Correctness
 - Termination
 - Soundness

Worklist Dataflow Analysis Algorithm


```
worklist = new Set();
for all node indexes i do
    input[i] =  $\perp_A$ ;
input[entry] =  $\iota_A$ ;
worklist.add(all nodes);

while (!worklist.isEmpty()) do
    i = worklist.pop();
    after =  $f_A$ (input[i], node(i));
    for all  $k \in \text{succ}(i)$  do
        newinput = input[k]  $\sqcup$  after
        if (!(newinput  $\sqsubseteq$  input[k]))
            input[k] = newinput;
            worklist.add(k);
```

Worklist Dataflow Analysis Algorithm

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for all node indexes i do  
    input[i] =  $\perp_A$ ;  
    input[entry] =  $\iota_A$ ;  
    worklist.add(all nodes);
```

Ok to just add entry node
if flow functions cannot
return \perp_A (examples will
assume this)



```
while (!worklist.isEmpty()) do  
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            worklist.add(k);
```

Ok to just add entry node
if flow functions cannot
return \perp_A (examples will
assume this)

Pop removes the most
recently added element
from the set (performance
optimization)

Example of Worklist

$[a := 0]_1$	Position	Worklist	a	b
$[b := 0]_2$	0	1	MZ	MZ

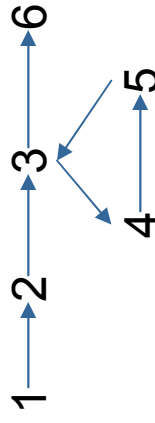
while $[a < 2]_3$ do

$[b := a]_4;$

$[a := a + 1]_5;$

$[a := 0]_6$

Control Flow Graph



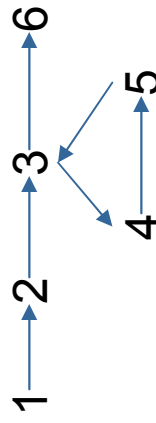
Example of Worklist

```

[a := 0]1
[b := 0]2
while [a < 2]3 do
  [b := a]4;
  [a := a + 1]5;
[a := 0]6

```

Control Flow Graph



	Position	Worklist	a	b
	0		MZ	MZ
	1	1	Z	MZ
	2	2	Z	Z
	3	3	Z	Z
	4	4,6	Z	Z
	5	5,6	MZ	Z
	3	3,6	MZ	Z
	4	4,6	MZ	Z
	5	5,6	MZ	MZ
	3	3,6	MZ	MZ
	4	4,6	MZ	MZ
	6	6	Z	MZ

Quick Quiz

Show how the worklist algorithm given in class operates on the program given, by filling in the table below.

- 1: $x := 0$
- 2: $y := 1$
- 3: if ($z == 0$)
- 4: $x := x + y$
- 5: else $y := y - 1$
- 6: $w := y$

Position	Worklist	x	y	w
0				

Worklist Algorithm Performance

```
worklist = new Set();
for all node indexes i do
    input[i] =  $\perp_A$ ;
input[entry] =  $\iota_A$ ;
worklist.add(all nodes);

while (!worklist.isEmpty()) do
    i = worklist.pop();
    after =  $f_A$ (input[i], node(i));
    for all  $k \in \text{succ}(i)$  do
        newinput = input[k]  $\sqcup$  after
        if (!(newinput  $\sqsubseteq$  input[k]))
            input[k] = newinput;
            worklist.add(k);
```

- How many times might a node get added to the worklist?
 - The node's input must increase each time
 - The number of increases is bound by the height h of the lattice
- How many times do statements execute?
 - $h \cdot n$ in total: we may run it h times for each node n but we must propagate along all successor edges; these statements execute $h \cdot e$ times
 - Assume statement cost is c
 - Then performance is $O(h \cdot e \cdot c)$
 - Often h , e , and c are bounded by n . So we get $O(n^3)$
 - Good enough to run on a function, but not on the whole program

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Constant Propagation

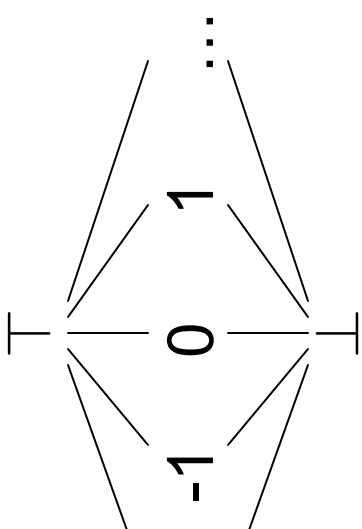
- Goal: determine which variables hold a constant value:

```
x := 3;  
y := x+7;  
if b  
  then z := x+2  
  else z := y-5;  
w := z-2
```

- What is w?
- Useful for optimization, error checking
- Zero analysis is a special case

Constant Propagation Definition

- Constant lattice $(L_C, \sqsubseteq_C, \sqcup_C, \perp, \top)$
 - $L_C = \mathbf{Integer} \uparrow \{ \perp, \top \}$
 - $\forall n \in \mathbf{Integer} : \perp \sqsubseteq_C n \ \&\& \ n \sqsubseteq_C \top \ \dots \ -1 \ \ 0 \ \ 1 \ \ \dots$
- Constant propagation lattice
- Tuple lattice formed from above lattice
- See notes on zero analysis for details



- Abstraction function:
 - $\alpha_C(n) = n$
 - $\alpha_{CP}(\eta) = \{ x \mapsto \alpha_C(\eta(x)) \mid x \in \mathbf{Var} \}$
- Initial data:
 - $\iota_{CP} = \{ x \mapsto \top \mid x \in \mathbf{Var} \}$

Constant Propagation Definition

- $f_{\text{CP}}(\sigma, [x := y]) = [x \mapsto \sigma(y)] \sigma$
- $f_{\text{CP}}(\sigma, [x := n]) = [x \mapsto n] \sigma$
- $f_{\text{CP}}(\sigma, [x := y \text{ op } z]) = [x \mapsto (\sigma(y) \text{ op }_{\perp} \sigma(z))] \sigma$
 - $n \text{ op }_{\perp} m = n \text{ op } m$
 - $n \text{ op }_{\perp} \top = \top$
 - $\top \text{ op }_{\perp} m = \top$
- *Note: we could define for \perp too, but we won't actually ever see \perp during analysis*
- $f_{\text{CP}}(\sigma, /* \text{ any other } */) = \sigma$

Constant Propagation Example

	x	y	z	w
$[x := 3]_1;$				
$[y := x+7]_2;$				
if $[b]_3$				
then $[z := x+2]_4$				
else $[z := y-5]_5;$				
$[w := z-2]_6$				

Constant Propagation Example

```
[x := 3]1;  
[y := x+7]2;  
if [b]3  
  then [z := x+2]4  
  else [z := y-5]5;  
[w := z-2]6
```

Position	Worklist	x	y	z	w
0	1	T	T	T	T
1	2	3	T	T	T
2	3	3	10	T	T
3	4,5	3	10	T	T
4	6,5	3	10	5	T
6	5	3	10	5	3
5	6	3	10	5	T
6		3	10	5	3

Constant Propagation Example

```
[x := 3]1;  
[y := x+7]2;  
if [b]3  
  then [z := x+1]4  
  else [z := y-5]5;  
[w := z-2]6
```

Position	Worklist	x	y	z	w
0	1	T	T	T	T
1	2	3	T	T	T
2	3	3	10	T	T
3	4,5	3	10	T	T

Constant Propagation Example

```
[x := 3]1;  
[y := x+7]2;  
if [b]3  
  then [z := x+1]4  
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[w := z-2]6
```

Position	Worklist	x	y	z	w
0	1	T	T	T	T
1	2	3	T	T	T
2	3	3	10	T	T
3	4,5	3	10	T	T
4	6,5	3	10	4	T
6	5	3	10	4	2
5	6	3	10	5	T
6		3	10	T	T

Loss of Precision

```
if [x = 0]1
  then [y := 1]2;
  else [y := x]3;
[z := 10/y]4
```

	Position	Worklist	x	y	z
	0	1	MZ	MZ	MZ
	1	2,3	MZ	MZ	MZ
	2	4,3	MZ	NZ	MZ
	4	3	MZ	NZ	NZ
	3	4	MZ	MZ	MZ
	4		MZ	MZ	NZ

Branch Sensitivity for Zero Analysis

- Existing flow functions
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y]) = [x \mapsto \sigma(y)] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := n]) = \text{if } n == 0$
 then $[x \mapsto Z] \sigma$
 else $[x \mapsto NZ] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y \text{ op } z]) = [x \mapsto MZ] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, /* \text{ any other } */) = \sigma$

Branch Sensitivity for Zero Analysis

- Existing flow functions
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y]) = [x \mapsto \sigma(y)] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := n]) = \text{if } n == 0$
 then $[x \mapsto Z] \sigma$
 else $[x \mapsto NZ] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y \text{ op } z]) = [x \mapsto MZ] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, /* \text{ any other } */) = \sigma$
- Propagate different info on branches
 - $f_{ZA}^T(\sigma, [x = 0]) = [x \mapsto Z] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}^F(\sigma, [x = 0]) = [x \mapsto NZ] \sigma$
 - Slightly more general:
 - $f_{ZA}^T(\sigma, [x = y]) = [x \mapsto \sigma(y)] \sigma$
 - $f_{ZA}^F(\sigma, [x = y]) = [x \mapsto \neg \sigma(y)] \sigma$
 - Assume $\neg Z = NZ; \neg NZ = Z; \neg MZ = MZ$

Precision Regained

Worklist simplified to the statement level

```
if [x = 0]1
  then [y := 1]2;
  else [y := x]3;
[z := 10/y]4
```

	Position	Worklist	x	y	z
0	0	1	MZ	MZ	MZ
1 ^T	1 ^T	2,3	Z	MZ	MZ
1 ^F	1 ^F	2,3	NZ	MZ	MZ
2 (use 1 ^T)	2 (use 1 ^T)	4,3	Z	NZ	MZ
4	4	3	Z	NZ	NZ
3 (use 1 ^F)	3 (use 1 ^F)	4	NZ	NZ	MZ
4	4		MZ	NZ	NZ

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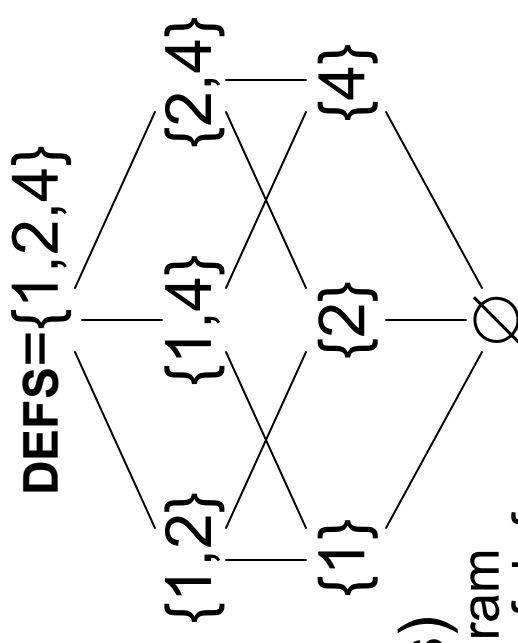
Reaching Definitions Analysis

- Goal: determine which is the most recent assignment to a variable that precedes its use:

```
[y := x]1;  
[z := 1]2;  
while [y > 1]3 do  
  [z := z * y]4;  
  [y := y - 1]5;  
[y := 0]6;
```

- Example: definitions 1 and 5 reach the use of y at 4
- Applications
 - Simpler version of constant propagation, zero analysis, etc.
 - Just look at the reaching definitions for constants
 - If definitions reaching use include “undefined” sentinel, then we may be using an undefined variable

Reaching Definitions



- Set Lattice (\mathbb{P}^{DEFS} , \sqsubseteq_{RD} , \sqcup_{RD} , \emptyset , **DEFS**)
 - **DEFS** is the set of definitions in the program
 - Each element of the lattice is a subset of defs
 - \mathbb{P}^{DEFS} is the powerset of **DEFS**, i.e. the set of all subsets of **DEFS**
- Approximation
 - A definition d may reach program point P if d is in the lattice at P
 - We call this a *may analysis*
- $\sqsubseteq_{\text{RD}} y$ iff $x \subseteq y$
- $x \sqcup_{\text{RD}} y = x \cup y$
 - This is a direct consequence of the definition of \sqsubseteq_{RD} (no reaching definitions)
- Most precise element $\perp = \emptyset$ (no reaching definitions)
- Least precise element $\top = \text{DEFS}$ (all definitions reach)

Reaching Definitions

- Initially assume dummy assignments
- Represents passed values for parameters
- Represents uninitialized for non-parameters
- $\iota_{RD} = \{ x_0 \mid x \in \mathbf{Var} \}$
- Flow functions
 - $f_{RD}(\sigma, [x := \dots]_k)$
 - $= \sigma - \{ x_m \mid x_m \in \mathbf{DEFS}(x) \} \cup \{ x_k \}$
 - Kills (removes from set) all other definitions of x
 - Generates (adds to set) the current definition x_k
 - Kill/Gen pattern true in many analyses with set lattices
 - $f_{RD}(\sigma, / * \text{any other } *) = \sigma$

Reaching Definitions Example

	Position	Worklist	Lattice Element
$[y := x]_1$;			
$[z := 1]_2$;			
while $[y > 1]_3$ do			
$[z := z * y]_4$;			
$[y := y - 1]_5$;			
$[y := 0]_6$;			

Reaching Definitions Example

```
[y := x]1;  
[z := 1]2;  
while [y > 1]3 do  
  [z := z * y]4;  
  [y := y - 1]5;  
[y := 0]6;
```

Position	Worklist	Lattice Element
0	1	{x ₀ , y ₀ , z ₀ }
1	2	{x ₀ , y ₁ , z ₀ }
2	3	{x ₀ , y ₁ , z ₂ }
3	4,6	{x ₀ , y ₁ , z ₂ }
4	5,6	{x ₀ , y ₁ , z ₄ }
5	3,6	{x ₀ , y ₅ , z ₄ }
3	4,6	{x ₀ , y ₁ , y ₅ , z ₂ , z ₄ }
4	5,6	{x ₀ , y ₁ , y ₅ , z ₄ }
5	6	{x ₀ , y ₅ , z ₄ }
6		{x ₀ , y ₆ , z ₂ , z ₄ }

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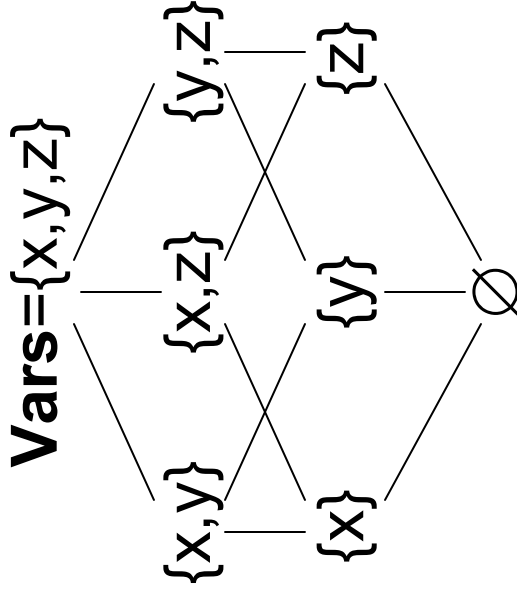
Live Variables Analysis

- Goal: determine which variables may be used again before they are redefined (i.e. are live) at the current program point:

```
[y := x]1;  
[z := 1]2;  
while [y > 1]3 do  
  [z := z * y]4;  
  [y := y - 1]5;  
[y := 0]6;
```

- Example: after statement 1, y is live, but x and z are not
- Optimization applications
 - If a variable is not live after it is defined, can remove the definition statement (e.g. 6 in the example)

Live Variables Definition



- Set Lattice ($\mathbb{P}\mathbf{Vars}$, \sqsubseteq_{LV} , \sqcup_{LV} , \perp , \top , \mathbf{Vars})
- **Vars** is the set of variables in the program
- Each element of the lattice is a subset of **Vars**
 - $\mathbb{P}\mathbf{Vars}$ is the powerset of **Vars**, i.e. the set of all subsets of **Vars**
 - $x \sqsubseteq_{LV} y$ iff $x \subseteq y$
 - $x \sqcup_{LV} y = x \cup y$
 - Most precise element $\perp = \emptyset$ (no live variables)
 - Least precise element $\top = \mathbf{DEFS}$ (all variables live)

Live Variables Definition

- Live Variables is a *backwards* analysis
 - To figure out if a variable is live, you have to look at the future execution of the program
- Will x be used before it is redefined?
 - When x is defined, assume it is not live
 - When x is used, assume it is live
 - Propagate lattice elements as usual, except backwards
- Initially assume return value is live
 - $\iota_{LV} = \{x\}$ where x is the variable returned from the function

Flow Function Practice

- Write flow functions for Live Variable analysis:

- $f_{LV}(\sigma, [x := e]_k) =$

- $f_{LV}(\sigma, /* \text{any other } */) =$

Flow Function Practice

- Write flow functions for Live Variable analysis:
 - $f_{LV}(\sigma, [x := e]_k) = (\sigma - \{x\}) \cup \text{vars}(e)$
 - Kills (removes from set) the variable x
 - Generates (adds to set) the variables in e
 - Note: must kill first then generate (what if $e = x$?)
 - $f_{LV}(\sigma, [e]_k) = \sigma \cup \text{vars}(e)$
 - $f_{LV}(\sigma, /* \text{ any other } */) = \sigma$

Worklist Practice

Show how the worklist algorithm given in class operates on the program given, by filling in the table below.

```
[y := x]1;  
[z := 1]2;  
while [y > 1]3 do  
    [z := z * y]4;  
    [y := y - 1]5;  
[y := 0]6;  
return z;
```

Position	Worklist	Lattice Value

Live Variables Example

```
[y := x]1;  
[z := 1]2;  
while [y > 1]3 do  
  [z := z * y]4;  
  [y := y - 1]5;  
[y := 0]6;  
return z;
```

Position	Worklist	Lattice Element
exit	6	{z}
6	3	{z}
3	5,2	{y,z}
5	4,2	{y,z}
4	3,2	{y,z}
3	2	{y,z}
2	1	{y}
1		{x}

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What does Correctness Mean?

- Intuition
 - Analysis will eventually terminate at a fixed point
 - At a fixed point, analysis results are a *sound abstraction of program execution*
 - *program execution* must be formally defined
 - *abstraction function* relates program execution to data flow lattice elements
 - *sound* means truth \sqsubseteq analysis results
 - also called *conservative* or *safe*

Termination

- Intuition
- Dataflow information for a statement gets less precise every time we visit the statement
- Information can only get less precise as many times as the lattice is high
- When information stops changing, we stop
- **Key property: Monotonic flow functions**
- *f* is *monotone* iff $\sigma \sqsubseteq \sigma'$ implies $f(\sigma) \sqsubseteq f(\sigma')$

Nonterminating Analysis

(bad) idea: Track set of values for each variable

```
[x := 0]1
while [x < y]2 do
  [x := x + 1]3;
[x := 0]4;
```

Iter	Position	x	y
1	0	Z	Z
2	1	{0}	Z
3	2	{0}	Z
4	3	{1}	Z
5	2	{0,1}	Z
6	3	{1,2}	Z
7	2	{0,1,2}	Z
8	3	{1,2,3}	Z
9	2	{0,1,2,3}	Z
10	3	{1,2,3,4}	Z
...			

Moral: make your lattices finite height!

Dataflow Analysis Termination

- Theorem: If the flow function of a dataflow analysis is monotone, and the height of the lattice is finite, then the analysis will terminate

Dataflow Analysis Termination

- Theorem: If the flow function of a dataflow analysis is monotone, and the height of the lattice is finite, then the analysis will terminate
- Lemma: Each time a node is added to the worklist, a dataflow value has increased (and no dataflow value has decreased)
 - Proof outline: by induction
 - Base case: The dataflow value for every statement is \perp . This is the lowest point in the lattice. Thus the first time the value changes, it will increase.
 - Inductive case: Assume the last application of the dataflow function mapped σ to $f(\sigma)$. By assumption $\sigma \sqsubseteq \sigma'$. By monotonicity $f(\sigma) \sqsubseteq f(\sigma')$. Thus the output value increased.
 - Will not affect others because only the flow value for the current statement is set.

Dataflow Analysis Termination

- Theorem: If the flow function of a dataflow analysis is monotone, and the height of the lattice is finite, then the analysis will terminate
- Lemma: Each time a node is added to the worklist, a dataflow value has increased (and no dataflow value has decreased)
 - Proof outline: by induction
 - Base case: The dataflow value for every statement is \perp . This is the lowest point in the lattice. Thus the first time the value changes, it will increase.
 - Inductive case: Assume the last application of the dataflow function mapped σ to $f(\sigma)$. By assumption $\sigma \sqsubseteq \sigma'$. By monotonicity $f(\sigma) \sqsubseteq f(\sigma')$. Thus the output value increased.
 - Will not affect others because only the flow value for the current statement is set.
- Proof outline for theorem:
 - Each time a node is added to the worklist, the dataflow value was raised in the lattice for one statement.
 - If there are n statements in the program and the height of the lattice is h , this can happen at most $n \cdot h$ times.
 - An inspection of the worklist algorithm shows that a finite number of steps occurs between applications of flow functions, and that when the values stop changing the algorithm terminates.

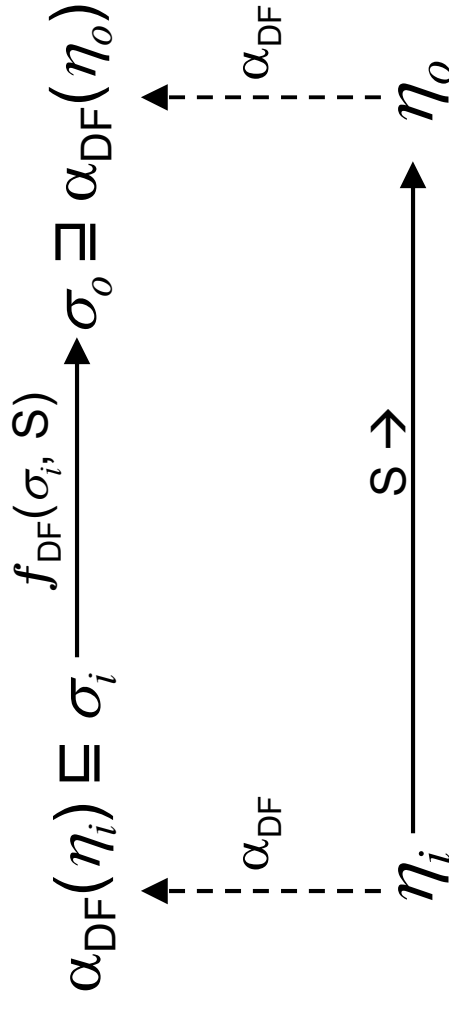
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Dataflow Analysis Soundness

- Intuition
 - The result of dataflow analysis is a conservative approximation of all possible run time states
- Definition
 - A dataflow analysis is sound if, for all programs P , for all inputs I , for all times T in P 's execution on input I ,
 - If P is at statement S at time T , with memory η , and the analysis returned abstract state σ for S ,
 - then $\alpha(\eta) \sqsubseteq \sigma$

Local Soundness



- Local correctness condition for dataflow analysis
- If applying a transfer function to statement S and input information σ_i yields output information σ_o ,
- Then for all program states η_i such that $\alpha(\eta_i) \sqsubseteq \sigma_i$ and executing S in state η_i yields state η_o ,
- We must have $\alpha(\eta_o) \sqsubseteq \sigma_o$

Intuitively, translating from concrete to abstract and applying the flow function will safely approximate (\sqsubseteq) taking a step in the trace and translating from concrete to abstract

Finding Errors with Local Soundness

- Consider the **incorrect** flow function:
 $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y \text{ op } z]) =$
 if $\sigma[y]=Z$ || $\sigma[z]=Z$
 then $[x \mapsto Z]\sigma$
 else $[x \mapsto MZ]\sigma$
-

- Challenge: find an example where local soundness fails

Finding Errors with Local Soundness

- Consider the **incorrect** flow function:

$$f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y \text{ op } z]) = \begin{cases} \text{if } \sigma[y]=Z \parallel \sigma[z]=Z \\ \text{then } [x \mapsto Z]\sigma \\ \text{else } [x \mapsto MZ]\sigma \end{cases}$$

$\alpha_{DF}(\eta_i) \sqsubseteq \sigma_i$

$\xrightarrow{f_{DF}(\sigma_i, S)} \sigma_o \sqsupseteq \alpha_{DF}(\eta_o)$

α_{DF}

$\eta_i \xrightarrow{S \rightarrow} \eta_o$

- Local Soundness failure:

- Let $\sigma_i = []$, $S = "x := 3+0"$
- Consider $\eta_i = []$. As required, $\alpha_{DF}(\eta_i) = [] \sqsubseteq \sigma_i$
- Now $\sigma_o = f_{DF}(\sigma_i, S) = [x \mapsto Z]$
- And $\eta_o = S(\eta_i) = [x \mapsto 3]$
- So $\alpha_{DF}(\eta_o) = \alpha_{DF}([x \mapsto 3]) = [x \mapsto NZ]$
- BUT** $\alpha_{DF}(\eta_o) \not\sqsubseteq \sigma_o$ because $Z \not\sqsubseteq NZ$, so local soundness is violated

Proving Correctness

- Consider a Zero Analysis flow function
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y]) = [x \mapsto \sigma(y)] \sigma$
- Monotonicity
 - Assume $\sigma' \sqsubseteq \sigma$.
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y])$ changes only the value for x
 - Therefore for all variables $z \neq x$ we have $f_{ZA}(\sigma', [x := y])(z) \sqsubseteq f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y])(z)$
 - Since $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y])(x) = \sigma(y)$ and $\sigma'(y) \sqsubseteq \sigma(y)$ we have $f_{ZA}(\sigma', [x := y])(x) \sqsubseteq f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y])(x)$
 - Thus $f_{ZA}(\sigma', [x := y]) \sqsubseteq f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y])$

Proving Correctness

- Consider a Zero Analysis flow function
 - $f_{ZA}(\sigma, [x := y]) = [x \mapsto \sigma(y)] \sigma$
- Local Soundness
 - Assume $\alpha(\eta_i) \sqsubseteq \sigma_i$.
 - By Java's semantics $\eta_o = [x \mapsto \eta_i(y)] \eta_i$
 - By the flow function, $\sigma_o = [x \mapsto \sigma_i(y)] \sigma_i$
 - Since both maps changed only in their x value, for all variables $z \neq x$ we have $\alpha_{DF}(\eta_o)(z) \sqsubseteq \sigma_o(z)$
 - Since $\alpha(\eta_i)(y) \sqsubseteq \sigma_i(y)$, $\alpha(\eta_o)(x) = \alpha(\eta_i)(y)$, and $\sigma_o(y) = \sigma_i(y)$, we also know that $\alpha(\eta_o)(x) \sqsubseteq \sigma_o(x)$
 - Thus $\alpha(\eta_o) \sqsubseteq \sigma_o$

Global Soundness

- Intuition
 - We begin with initial dataflow facts ι that safely approximate (\sqsupseteq) all initial stores η_0
 - By local soundness, each transfer function when given safe input information yields safe output information
 - By induction, any fixed point of the analysis is sound

Why care about Soundness?

- Analysis Producers
 - Writing analyses is hard
 - People make mistakes all the time
 - Need to know how to **think** about correctness
 - When the analysis gets tricky, it's useful to prove it correct formally
- Analysis Consumers
 - Sound analysis provides guarantees
 - Optimizations won't break the program
 - Finds all defects of a certain sort
 - Decision making
 - Knowledge of soundness techniques lets you ask the right questions about a tool you are considering
 - Soundness affects where you invest QA resources
 - Focus testing efforts on areas where you don't have a sound analysis!