

Synthesis of Ranking Functions  
and  
Synthesis of Inductive Invariants  
and  
Synthesis of Recurrence Sets  
via  
Constraint Solving

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# Program Verification and Constraints

- Reasoning about program computations
- Computation is a sequence of program states
- Sequences generated by transition relation
- Transition relation defined by assume & update statements
- Assume & update statements = transition constraints

# Program Properties

- Non-reachability: given state is not reachable
- Termination: no infinite computation exists
- Linear-time properties (LTL):  
reduced to reachability and termination  
(in automata-theoretic approach)

# Verification = finding auxiliary assertions

- Proving reachability = finding inductive invariant
- Proving termination = finding ranking relation

(ranking relation defined by ranking function, i.e., an expression over program variables which bounds number of steps)

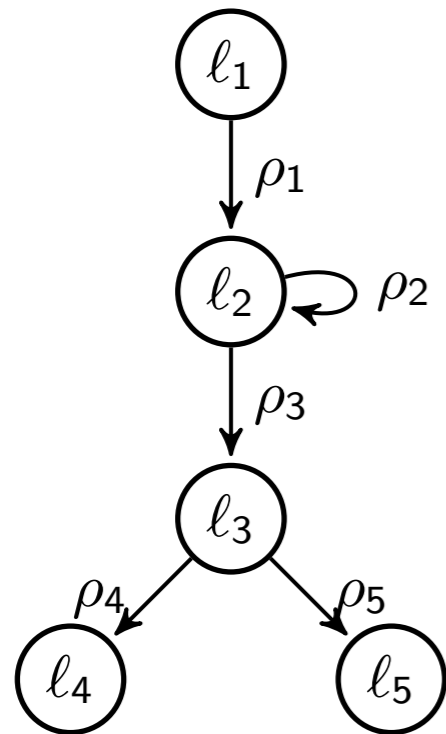
# Running Example

```
main(int x, int y, int z) {  
    assume(y >= z);  
    while (x < y) {  
        x++;  
    }  
    assert(x >= z);  
}
```

- for constraint solving, treat **x**, **y**, and **z** as rationals

# CFG and Transition Relations

```
main(int x, int y, int z) {  
  assume(y >= z);  
  while (x < y) {  
    x++;  
  }  
  assert(x >= z);  
}
```



$$\rho_1 = (y \geq z \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

$$\rho_2 = (x + 1 \leq y \wedge x' = x + 1 \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

$$\rho_3 = (x \geq y \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

$$\rho_4 = (x \geq z \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

$$\rho_5 = (x + 1 \leq z \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

# Transition Constraint $\Rightarrow$ Matrix

$$\rho_2 = (x + 1 \leq y \wedge x' = x + 1 \wedge y' = y)$$

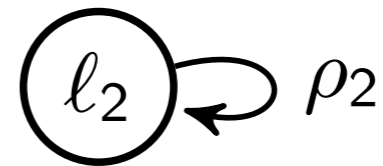
$$= (x - y \leq -1 \wedge -x + x' \leq 1 \wedge x - x' \leq -1 \wedge -y + y' \leq 0 \wedge y - y' \leq 0)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Ranking Functions

- Ranking function, say  $f$ , maps states to distance until terminating state

```
while (x < y) {  
    x++;  
}
```



- $f(x, y) = (y-x)$
- decrease at each step
- bounded from below



# Ranking Function Constraint $\exists \forall$

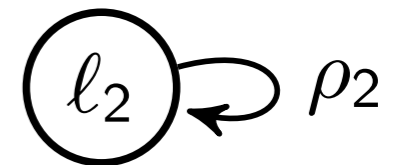
- ranking function  $f(x, y) = f_x x + f_y y$
- lower bound  $\delta_0$
- decrease amount  $\delta$

$$\delta \geq 1 \wedge$$

$$\forall x \forall y \forall x' \forall y' :$$

$$\rho_2 \rightarrow (f_x x + f_y y \geq \delta_0 \wedge$$

$$f_x x' + f_y y' \leq f_x x + f_y y - \delta)$$



# Quantifier Alternation $\exists \forall$

$$\exists f_x \exists f_y \exists \delta_0 \exists \delta$$

$$\forall x \forall y \forall x' \forall y' :$$

$$\delta \geq 1 \wedge$$

$$\rho_2 \rightarrow (f_x x + f_y y \geq \delta_0 \wedge$$

$$f_x x' + f_y y' \leq f_x x + f_y y - \delta)$$

# Farkas' Lemma

- implied inequalities are derivable as weighted<sub>≥0</sub> sums

$$(\exists x : Ax \leq b) \wedge (\forall x : Ax \leq b \rightarrow cx \leq \delta)$$

iff

$$\exists \lambda : \lambda \geq 0 \wedge \lambda A = c \wedge \lambda b \leq \delta$$

# Transition Constraint $\Rightarrow$ Matrix

$$\rho_2 = (x + 1 \leq y \wedge x' = x + 1 \wedge y' = y)$$

$$= (x - y \leq -1 \wedge -x + x' \leq 1 \wedge x - x' \leq -1 \wedge -y + y' \leq 0 \wedge y - y' \leq 0)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Eliminating $\forall$ -Quantifier (I)

$$\rho_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

implies

$$f_x x + f_y y \geq \delta_0 = (-f_x \ -f_y \ 0 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} \leq -\delta_0$$

# Eliminating $\forall$ -Quantifier (2)

$$\forall x \forall y \forall x' \forall y' : \rho_2 \rightarrow f_x x + f_y y \geq \delta_0$$

iff (by Farkas' lemma)

$$\exists \lambda : \lambda \geq 0 \wedge \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = (-f_x \ -f_y \ 0 \ 0) \wedge \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leq -\delta_0$$

# Ranking Function Constraint $\exists$

- Find solution for  $f_x$ ,  $f_y$ ,  $\delta_0$ , and  $\delta$

$$\delta \geq 1 \wedge$$

$$\exists \lambda \exists \mu :$$

$$\lambda \geq 0 \wedge \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = (-f_x \ -f_y \ 0 \ 0) \wedge \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leq -\delta_0 \wedge$$

$$\mu \geq 0 \wedge \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = (-f_x \ -f_y \ f_x \ f_y) \wedge \mu \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leq -\delta$$

ranking function  $f(x, y) = f_x x + f_y y$  with bound  $\delta_0$ , and gap  $\delta$

# Ranking Function Constraint Solved

- solution for  $f_x$ ,  $f_y$ ,  $\delta_0$ , and  $\delta$

$$\lambda = (1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$$

$$\mu = (0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0)$$

$$f_x = -1$$

$$f_y = 1$$

$$\delta_0 = 1$$

$$\delta = 1$$

```
while (x < y) {  
    x++;  
}
```

- Ranking function  $f(x, y) = (-|x| + |y|) = y - x$



# Ranking Function Algorithm

- Input  $\rho(v, v') = R \begin{pmatrix} v \\ v' \end{pmatrix} \leq r$

- Defining constraint

$$\exists f \exists \delta_0 \exists \delta \forall v \forall v' : \delta \geq 1 \wedge \rho(v, v') \rightarrow (fv \geq \delta_0 \wedge fv' \leq fv - \delta)$$

- Linear constraint to solve

$$\exists f \exists \delta_0 \exists \delta \exists \lambda \exists \mu : \delta \geq 1 \wedge$$

$$\lambda \geq 0 \wedge \lambda R = (-f \ 0) \wedge \lambda r \leq -\delta_0 \wedge$$

$$\mu \geq 0 \wedge \mu R = (-f \ f) \wedge \mu r \leq -\delta$$

# Invariants

- Invariant for each control location:

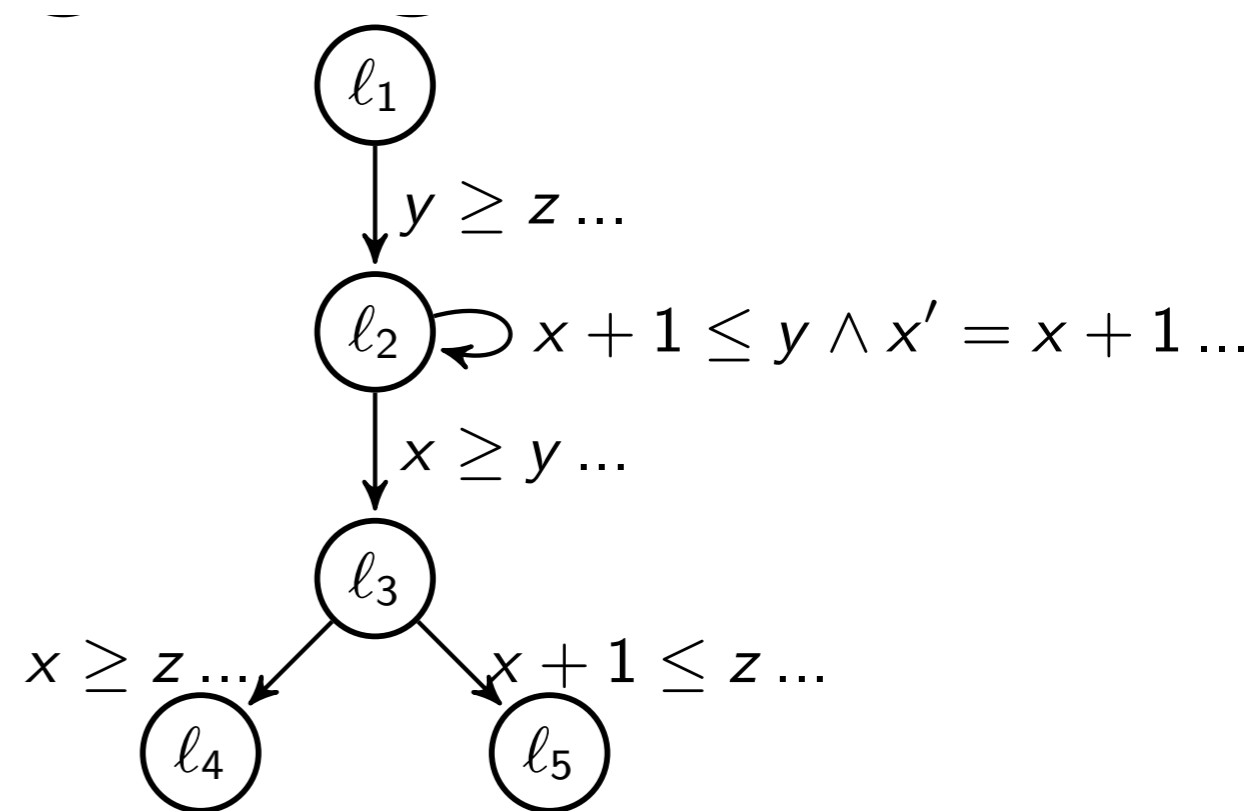
$$l_1 : (0 \leq 0)$$

$$l_2 : (z \leq y)$$

$$l_3 : (z \leq x)$$

$$l_4 : (0 \leq 0)$$

$$l_5 : (1 \leq 0)$$

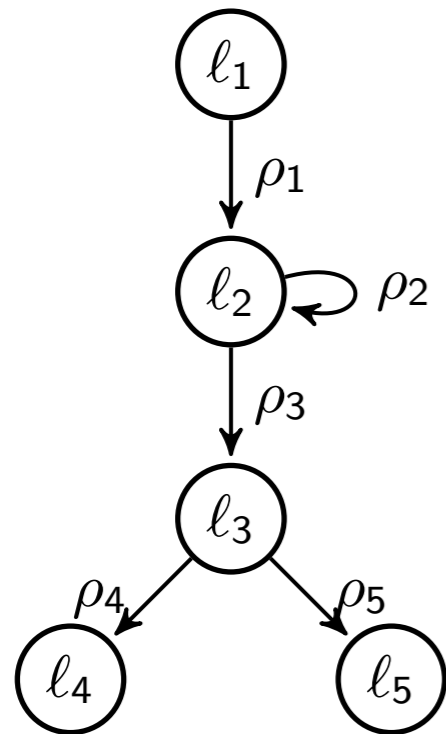


- Inductiveness

$$l_2 : (z \leq y) \wedge (x + 1 \leq y \wedge x' = x + 1 \wedge y' = y) \Rightarrow (z' \leq y')$$

# Example Program

```
main(int x, int y, int z) {  
  assume(y >= z);  
  while (x < y) {  
    x++;  
  }  
  assert(x >= z);  
}
```



$$\rho_1 = (y \geq z \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

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$$\rho_3 = (x \geq y \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

$$\rho_4 = (x \geq z \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

$$\rho_5 = (x + 1 \leq z \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z)$$

# Invariant Constraint $\exists \forall$

- Find invariant at  $l_2$  of the form  $p_x x + p_y y + p_z z \leq p_0$  and invariant at  $l_3$  of the form  $q_x x + q_y y + q_z z \leq q_0$
- inductiveness of invariant at  $l_3$  entails non-reachability of  $l_5$

$\forall x \forall y \forall z \forall x' \forall y' \forall z' :$

$$(\rho_1 \rightarrow p_x x' + p_y y' + p_z z' \leq p_0) \wedge$$

$$((p_x x + p_y y + p_z z \leq p_0 \wedge \rho_2) \rightarrow p_x x' + p_y y' + p_z z' \leq p_0) \wedge$$

$$((p_x x + p_y y + p_z z \leq p_0 \wedge \rho_3) \rightarrow q_x x' + q_y y' + q_z z' \leq q_0) \wedge$$

$$((q_x x + q_y y + q_z z \leq p_0 \wedge \rho_4) \rightarrow 0 \leq 0) \wedge$$

$$((q_x x + q_y y + q_z z \leq p_0 \wedge \rho_5) \rightarrow 0 \leq -1)$$

# Quantifier Alternation $\exists \forall$

- use matrix form

$$v = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rho_1 = R_1 \begin{pmatrix} v \\ v' \end{pmatrix} \leq r_1$$

...

$$\rho_5 = R_5 \begin{pmatrix} v \\ v' \end{pmatrix} \leq r_5$$

- eliminate  $\forall$  by applying Farkas' lemma

# Invariant Constraint $\exists$

- Find invariant at  $l_2$  of the form  $p_x x + p_y y + p_z z \leq p_0$  and invariant at  $l_3$  of the form  $q_x x + q_y y + q_z z \leq q_0$

$\exists \lambda_1 \exists \lambda_2 \exists \lambda_3 \exists \lambda_4 \exists \lambda_5 :$

$$\lambda_1 \geq 0 \wedge \lambda_1 R_1 = (0 \ p_x \ p_y \ p_z) \wedge \lambda_1 r_1 \leq p_0 \wedge$$

$$\lambda_2 \geq 0 \wedge \lambda_2 \begin{pmatrix} p_x & p_y & p_z & 0 \\ R_2 \end{pmatrix} = (0 \ p_x \ p_y \ p_z) \wedge \lambda_2 \begin{pmatrix} p_0 \\ r_2 \end{pmatrix} \leq p_0 \wedge$$

$$\lambda_3 \geq 0 \wedge \lambda_3 \begin{pmatrix} p_x & p_y & p_z & 0 \\ R_3 \end{pmatrix} = (0 \ q_x \ q_y \ q_z) \wedge \lambda_3 \begin{pmatrix} p_0 \\ r_3 \end{pmatrix} \leq q_0 \wedge$$

$$\lambda_4 \geq 0 \wedge \lambda_4 \begin{pmatrix} q_x & q_y & q_z & 0 \\ R_4 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \wedge \lambda_4 \begin{pmatrix} q_0 \\ r_4 \end{pmatrix} \leq 0 \wedge$$

$$\lambda_5 \geq 0 \wedge \lambda_5 \begin{pmatrix} q_x & q_y & q_z & 0 \\ R_5 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \wedge \lambda_5 \begin{pmatrix} q_0 \\ r_5 \end{pmatrix} \leq -1$$

# Invariant Constraint Solved

- Find  $l_2 : p_x x + p_y y + p_z z \leq p_0$  and  $l_3 : q_x x + q_y y + q_z z \leq q_0$

$$\lambda_1 = (1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1)$$

$$\lambda_2 = (1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1)$$

$$\lambda_3 = (1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1)$$

$$\lambda_4 = (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$$

$$\lambda_5 = (1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$$

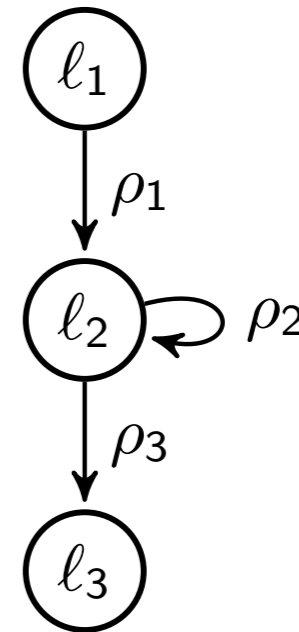
$$p_x = 0 \quad p_y = -1 \quad p_z = 1 \quad p_0 = 0$$

$$q_x = -1 \quad q_y = 0 \quad q_z = 1 \quad q_0 = 0$$

- Invariant at  $l_2 : 0x + (-1)y + 1z \leq 0$  and  $l_3 : (-1)x + 0y + 1z \leq 0$   
 $l_2 : z \leq y$  and  $l_3 : z \leq x$

# Proving Non-Termination

```
main(int x, int y, int z) {  
    assume(y >= z);  
    while (x < y) {  
        x=x+1+z;  
    }  
}
```

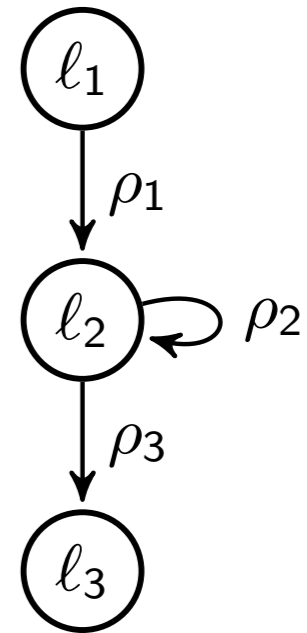


- Non-terminating execution  
 $(-1, 0, -1), (-1, 0, -1), \dots$
- Recurrence set  $S$  is reachable and can always reach itself
- Example recurrence set  $S = (x+1 \leq y \wedge z \leq -1)$



# Recurrence Set Constraint $\exists \forall \exists$

- Recurrence set  $Sv \leq s$  is reachable and can always reach itself
- Let  $v = (x \ y \ z)$
- Find  $(Sv \leq s) = (p_x x + p_y y + p_z z \leq p_0 \wedge q_x x + q_y y + q_z z \leq q_0)$



$\exists S \exists s :$

$$(\exists v \exists v' : \rho_1(v, v') \wedge Sv' \leq s) \wedge$$

$$(\forall v \exists v' : Sv \leq s \rightarrow (\rho_2(v, v') \wedge Sv' \leq s))$$

# Quantifier Alternation $\exists \forall \exists$

- $\rho_1(v, v')$  and  $\rho_2(v, v')$  define functional dependency between  $v'$  and  $v$   
 $\dots \wedge x' = x \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z$   
 $\dots \wedge x' = x+1+z \wedge y' = y \wedge z' = z$
- Useful for elimination of  $\exists v'$

$\exists S \exists s :$

$$(\exists x \exists y \exists z : y \geq z \wedge S \left( \begin{array}{c} x \\ y \\ z \end{array} \right) \leq s) \wedge$$

$$(\forall x \forall y \forall z : S \left( \begin{array}{c} x \\ y \\ z \end{array} \right) \leq s \rightarrow (x+1 \leq y \wedge S \left( \begin{array}{c} x+1+z \\ y \\ z \end{array} \right) \leq s))$$

# Quantifier Alternation $\exists \forall$

- Elimination of  $\forall v$  produces:

$\exists S \exists s :$

$$(\exists x \exists y \exists z : y \geq z \wedge S \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \leq s) \wedge$$

$$(\exists \lambda : \lambda \geq 0 \wedge \lambda S = (1 \ -1 \ 0) \wedge \lambda s \leq -1) \wedge$$

$$(\exists \Lambda : \Lambda \geq 0 \wedge \Lambda S = (S_x \ S_y \ S_z + S_x) \wedge \Lambda s \leq (s - S_x))$$

# Constraint on Recurrence Set, Solved

- Find  $(p_x x + p_y y + p_z z \leq p_0 \wedge q_x x + q_y y + q_z z \leq q_0)$

$$p = (1 \ -1 \ 0) \quad x = -2 \quad \lambda = (1 \ 0)$$

$$p_0 = -1 \quad y = -1 \quad \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$q = (0 \ 0 \ 1) \quad z = -1$$

$$q_0 = -1$$

- Non-terminating computation from  $(-2, -1, -1)$   
not leaving  $(x+1 \leq y) \wedge (z \leq -1)$