

synthesis of safe pointer-manipulating programs

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UCSD CSE
Computer Science and Engineering

pointer-manipulating programs



operating systems



network / security
protocols



browsers

☺ efficient

☹ hard to write

☹ memory safety bugs

program synthesis to the rescue

specification



😊 easy to write



code



😊 efficient

😊 backwards compatible

😊 provably memory-safe

😞 verbose

😞 unstructured

😞 pointers & aliasing

our solution

separation
logic



☺ reasoning about
pointers & aliasing



deductive
synthesis



☺ uses specs
to guide synthesis



code



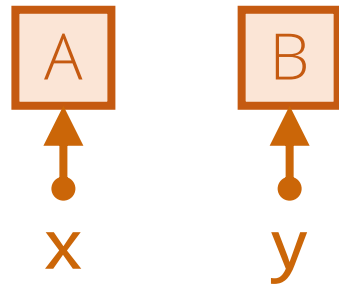
example: swap

Swap values of two *distinct* pointers

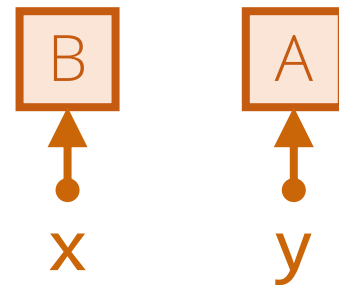
```
void swap(loc x, loc y)
```

example: swap

start state:



end state:



in separation logic:

$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \}$ precondition

separately

void swap(loc x, loc y)

$\{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \}$ postcondition

ghost variables

demo

example: swap

specification

$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \}$

`void swap(loc x, loc y)`

$\{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \}$



code

```
void swap(loc x, loc y) {  
  let a1 = *x;  
  let b1 = *y;  
  *x = b1;  
  *y = a1;  
}
```

insight: the spec tells us what to do!

$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\}$

??

$\{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\}$

let a1 = *x;

{ x ↦ a1 * y ↦ B }

??

{ x ↦ B * y ↦ a1 }

```
let a1 = *x;
```

```
let b1 = *y;
```

```
{ x ↦ a1 * y ↦ b1 }
```

??

```
{ x ↦ b1 * y ↦ a1 }
```

```
let a1 = *x;
```

```
let b1 = *y;
```

```
*x = b1;
```

```
{ x ↦ b1 * y ↦ b1 }
```

??

```
{ x ↦ b1 * y ↦ a1 }
```

```
let a1 = *x;
```

```
let b1 = *y;
```

```
*x = b1;
```

```
*y = a1;
```

```
{ x ↦ b1 * y ↦ a1 }
```

??

```
{ x ↦ b1 * y ↦ a1 }
```

same



```
let a1 = *x;
```

```
let b1 = *y;
```

```
*x = b1;
```

```
*y = a1;
```



```
void swap(loc x, loc y) {  
    let a1 = *x;  
    let b1 = *y;  
    *x = b1;  
    *y = a1;  
}
```

this talk

I. separation logic

reasoning about pointer-manipulating programs (prior work)

II. deductive synthesis

from SL specifications to programs

III. the SuSLik synthesizer

results and future work

this talk

I. separation logic

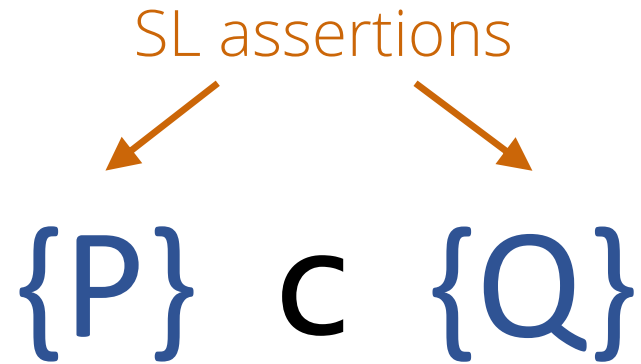
II. deductive synthesis

III. the SuSLik synthesizer

separation logic (SL)

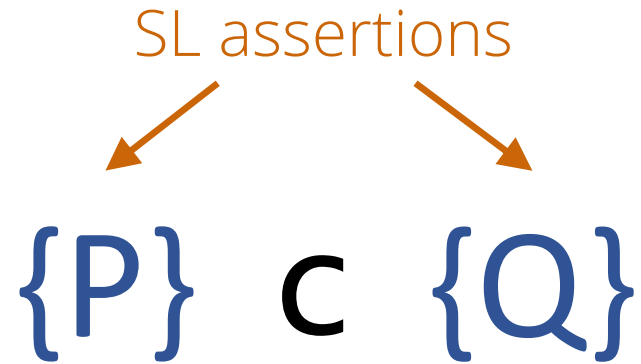
Hoare logic
“about the heap”

separation logic (SL)



starting in a state that satisfies P
program c will execute **without memory errors**,
and upon its termination the state will satisfy Q

separation logic (SL)



$\{x \mapsto A\} * x = 5 \quad \{x \mapsto 5\}$



$\{x \mapsto A\} * (x + 1) = 5 \quad \{(x + 1) \mapsto 5\}$



SL assertions

empty heap

{ emp }

SL assertions

empty heap { emp }

singleton heap { $y \mapsto 5$ }



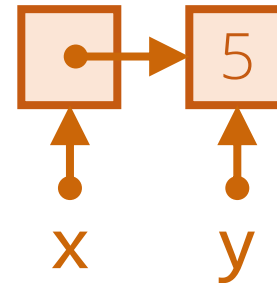
SL assertions

empty heap $\{ \text{emp} \}$

singleton heap $\{ y \mapsto 5 \}$

separating
conjunction $\{ x \mapsto y * y \mapsto 5 \}$





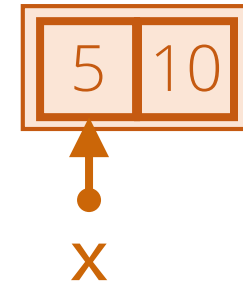
SL assertions

empty heap $\{ \text{emp} \}$

singleton heap $\{ y \mapsto 5 \}$

separating
conjunction $\{ x \mapsto y * y \mapsto 5 \}$

memory block $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto 5 * (x + 1) \mapsto 10 \}$



SL assertions

empty heap $\{ \text{emp} \}$

singleton heap $\{ y \mapsto 5 \}$

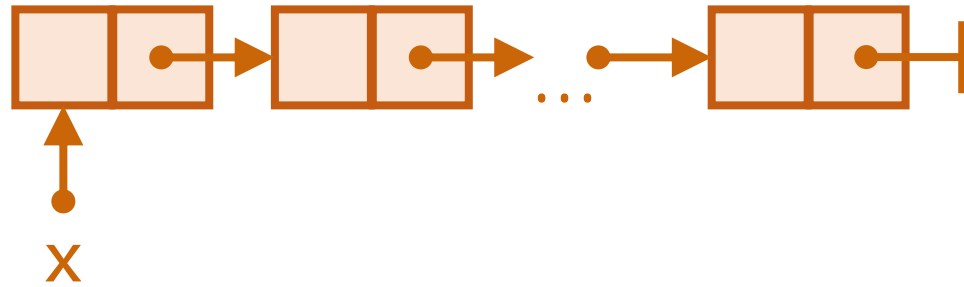
separating
conjunction $\{ x \mapsto y * y \mapsto 5 \}$

memory block $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto 5 * (x + 1) \mapsto 10 \}$

+ pure formula $\{ A > 5 ; x \mapsto A \}$



SL assertions: linked structures



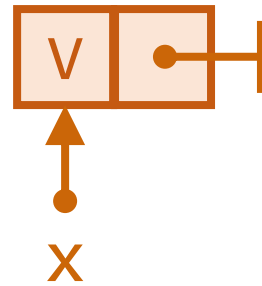
SL assertions: linked structures

linked list { x = 0 ; emp }



SL assertions: linked structures

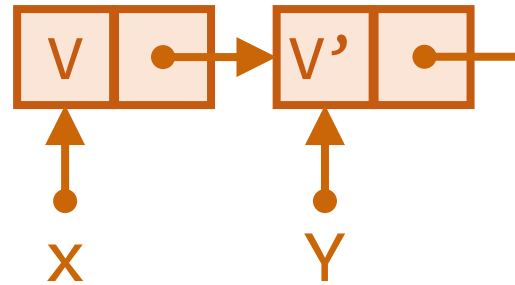
linked list $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto 0 \}$



SL assertions: linked structures

linked list $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto Y *$
 $[Y, 2] * Y \mapsto V' * (Y + 1) \mapsto 0$

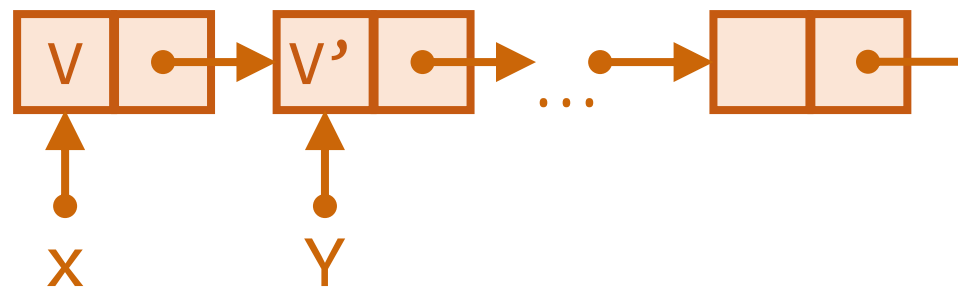
}



SL assertions: linked structures

linked list $\{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto Y *$
 $[Y, 2] * Y \mapsto V' * (Y + 1) \mapsto Y' *$

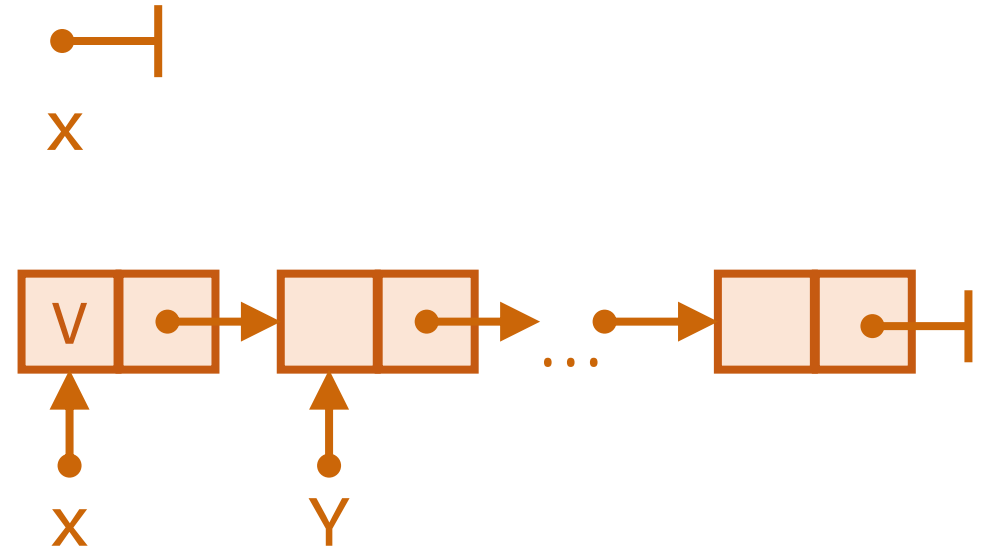
...
}



inductive predicates to the rescue!

the linked list predicate

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2]  
              * x ↦ V  
              * (x + 1) ↦ Y  
              * list(Y)  
            }  
}
```



example: dispose a list

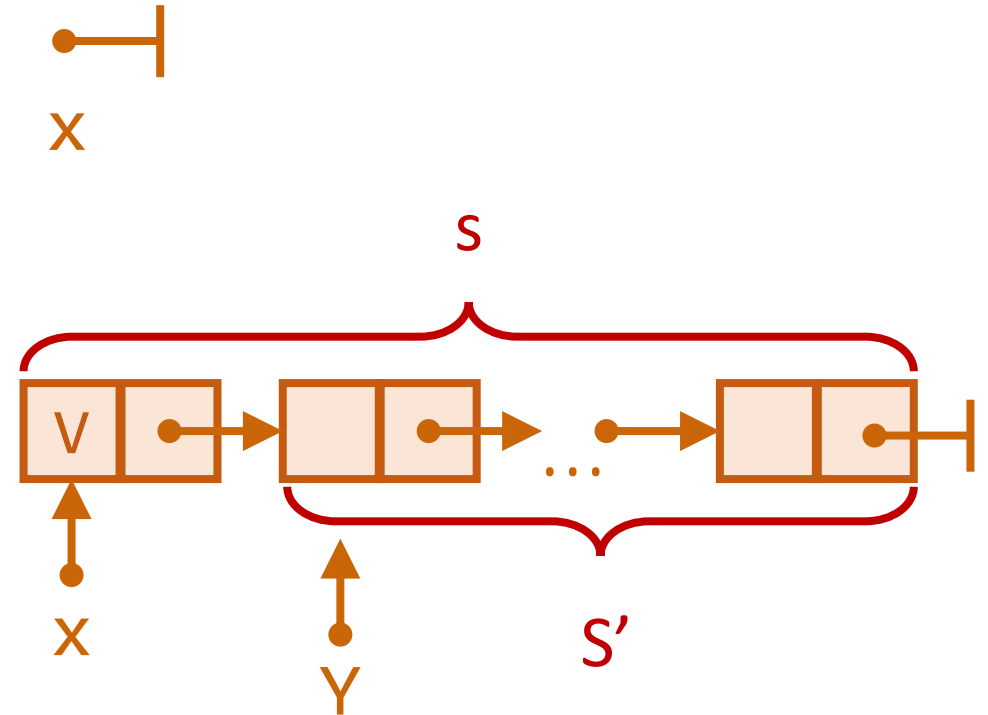
```
{ list(x) }
```

```
void dispose(loc x)
```

```
{ emp }
```


linked list with elements

```
predicate list (loc x, set s) {  
  | x = 0 => { s =  $\emptyset$ ; emp }  
  | x  $\neq$  0 => { s = {V} + S' ;  
                [x, 2]  
                * x  $\mapsto$  V * (x + 1)  $\mapsto$  Y  
                * list(Y, S') }  
}
```



example: copy a list

{ list(x, S) * r \mapsto _ }

void copy(**loc** x, **loc** r)

{ list(x, S) * r \mapsto Y * list(Y, S) }

example: single to double

{ list(x, S) * r \mapsto _ }

void to_dll(**loc** x, **loc** r)

{ r \mapsto Y * dlist(Y, P, S) }

doubly-linked list



{ list_reserved(x, S) }

void to_dll_in_place(**loc** x)

{ dlist(x, P, S) }

list with reserved
space in each node



this talk

I. separation logic

II. deductive synthesis

III. the SuSLik synthesizer

deductive synthesis

synthesis as proof search

proof of what?

transforming entailment

$P \rightsquigarrow Q \mid c$

a state that satisfies P
can be transformed into a state that satisfies Q
using a program c

synthetic separation logic (SSL)

proof system for
transforming entailment

$\{\text{emp}\} \xrightarrow{\text{nw}} \{\text{emp}\} \mid ??$

(Emp)

$\{emp\} \rightsquigarrow \{emp\} \mid \mathbf{skip}$

(Frame)

$$\{ P \} \rightsquigarrow \{ Q \} \mid c$$

$$\{ P * R \} \rightsquigarrow \{ Q * R \} \mid ??$$

(Write)

$$\{ x \mapsto e * P \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto e * Q \} \mid c$$

$$\{ x \mapsto _ * P \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto e * Q \} \mid ??$$

(Read)

$$[y/A]\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow [y/A]\{Q\} \quad | \quad c$$

$$\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q\} \quad | \quad ??$$

SSL: basic rules

(Emp)

$$\{\text{emp}\} \rightsquigarrow \{\text{emp}\} \mid \text{skip}$$

(Frame)

$$\frac{\{P\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q\} \mid c}{\{P * R\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q * R\} \mid c}$$

(Read)

$$\frac{[y/A]\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow [y/A]\{Q\} \mid c}{\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q\} \mid \text{let } y = *x; c}$$

(Write)

$$\frac{\{x \mapsto e * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto e * Q\} \mid c}{\{x \mapsto _ * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto e * Q\} \mid *x = e; c}$$

example: swap

$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid ??$$

$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid ??$$

$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \quad ??$

$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \quad \mathbf{let\ a1 = *x; ??}$

(Read)

$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$

(Read)

$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } b1 = *y; ??$

(Read)

$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } a1 = *x; ??$

$\{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$

(Write)

$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid *x = b1; ??$

(Read)

$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } b1 = *y; ??$

(Read)

$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } a1 = *x; ??$

$$\{y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

(Frame)

$$\{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

(Write)

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid *x = b1; ??$$

(Read)

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } b1 = *y; ??$$

(Read)

$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } a1 = *x; ??$$

$$\{y \mapsto a1\} \rightsquigarrow \{y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

$$\{y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{y \mapsto a1\} \mid *y = a1; ??$$

$$\{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid ??$$

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1\} \mid *x = b1; ??$$

$$\{x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } b1 = *y; ??$$

$$\{x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A\} \mid \mathbf{let\ } a1 = *x; ??$$

$$\{ \text{emp} \} \rightsquigarrow \{ \text{emp} \} \mid ??$$

(Frame)

$$\{ y \mapsto a1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??$$

(Write)

$$\{ y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *y = a1; ??$$

(Frame)

$$\{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??$$

(Write)

$$\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *x = b1; ??$$

(Read)

$$\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \mathbf{let\ } b1 = *y; ??$$

(Read)

$$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \} \mid \mathbf{let\ } a1 = *x; ??$$

$$\{ \text{emp} \} \rightsquigarrow \{ \text{emp} \} \mid \text{skip}$$

(Emp)

$$\{ y \mapsto a1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??$$

(Frame)

$$\{ y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *y = a1; ??$$

(Write)

$$\{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid ??$$

(Frame)

$$\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto b1 \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto b1 * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid *x = b1; ??$$

(Write)

$$\{ x \mapsto a1 * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto a1 \} \mid \text{let } b1 = *y; ??$$

(Read)

$$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \} \rightsquigarrow \{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \} \mid \text{let } a1 = *x; ??$$

(Read)

$\{ x \mapsto A * y \mapsto B \}$

let a1 = *x; **let** b1 = *y; *x = b1; *y = a1; **skip**

$\{ x \mapsto B * y \mapsto A \}$

synthetic separation logic (SSL)

- basic rules
 - (Emp), (Read), (Write), (Frame)
 - (Alloc), (Free)
- pure reasoning and unification
- inductive predicates and recursion

synthetic separation logic (SSL)

- basic rules
 - (Emp), (Read), (Write), (Frame)
 - (Alloc), (Free)
- pure reasoning and unification
- inductive predicates and recursion

example: dispose a list

```
{ list(x) }
```

```
void dispose(loc x)
```

```
{ emp }
```

$\{ \text{list}^1(x) \}$ **void** dispose(**loc** x) { emp }

$\{ \text{list}^0(x) \}$

??

(Induction)

{ emp }

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  |  $x = 0$  => { emp }  
  |  $x \neq 0$  => {  $[x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto Y * \text{list}(Y)$  }  
}
```

```
{ list1 (x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

{ list⁰(x) }

??

(Open)

{ emp }

```
predicate list (loc x) {
```

```
| x = 0 => { emp }
```

```
| x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }
```

```
}
```

```
  if (x == 0) {
```

```
    { x = 0 ; emp }
```

```
      ??
```

```
    { emp }
```

```
  } else {
```

```
    { x ≠ 0 ; [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list1(Y) }
```

```
      ??
```

```
    { emp }
```

```
  }
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

```
predicate list (loc x) {
```

```
| x = 0 => { emp }
```

```
| x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }
```

```
}
```

```
if (x == 0) {
```

```
{ x = 0 ; emp }
```

```
??
```

```
(Emp)
```

```
{ emp }
```

```
} else {
```

```
{ x ≠ 0 ; [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list1(Y) }
```

```
??
```

```
{ emp }
```

```
}
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  |  $x = 0 \Rightarrow \{ \text{emp} \}$   
  |  $x \neq 0 \Rightarrow \{ [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto Y * \text{list}(Y) \}$   
}
```

```
  if (x == 0) {
```

```
    { x = 0 ; emp }
```

```
      skip
```

```
    { emp }
```

```
  } else {
```

```
    {  $x \neq 0 ; [x, 2] * x \mapsto V * (x + 1) \mapsto Y * \text{list}^1(Y) \}$ 
```

```
      ??
```

```
    { emp }
```

```
  }
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  { x ≠ 0 ; [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list1(Y) }
```

??

```
{ emp }  
}
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```



```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  { x ≠ 0 ; [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list1(Y) }
```

??

```
{ emp }  
}
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

(Read)

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  let y1 = *(x + 1);
```

```
{ x ≠ 0 ; [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ y1 * list1(y1) }
```

```
??
```

```
{ emp }  
}
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  let y1 = *(x + 1);
```

```
{ x ≠ 0 ; [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ y1 * list1(y1) }
```

```
??
```

```
{ emp }  
}
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

(Free)

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  let y1 = *(x + 1);  
  free x;  
  { x ≠ 0 ; list1(y1) }  
  ??  
  { emp }  
}
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  let y1 = *(x + 1);  
  free x;
```

```
{ x ≠ 0 ; list1(y1) }
```

```
??
```

```
{ emp }
```

```
}
```

```
{ list1(x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

(Call)

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  let y1 = *(x + 1);  
  free x;  
  dispose(y1);  
  { x ≠ 0 ; emp }  
  ??  
  { emp }  
}
```

```
{ list1 (x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
  let y1 = *(x + 1);  
  free x;  
  dispose(y1);  
  { x ≠ 0 ; emp }  
  ??  
  { emp }  
}
```

```
{ list1 (x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```

(Emp)

```
predicate list (loc x) {  
  | x = 0 => { emp }  
  | x ≠ 0 => { [x, 2] * x ↦ V * (x + 1) ↦ Y * list(Y) }  
}
```

```
  if (x == 0) { skip } else {  
    let y1 = *(x + 1);  
    free x;  
    dispose(y1);  
    skip  
  
  }
```

```
{ list1 (x) } void dispose(loc x) { emp }
```



```
void dispose(loc x) {  
    if (x == 0) { } else {  
        let y1 = *(x + 1);  
        free x;  
        dispose(y1)  
    }  
}
```

synthetic separation logic (SSL)

- basic rules
(Emp), (Read), (Write), (Frame), (Alloc), (Free)
- pure reasoning and unification
- inductive predicates and recursion
(Open), (Close), (Induction), (Call)

guarantees

$P \rightsquigarrow Q \mid c$

implies

$\{P\} c \{Q\}$

and c terminates

this talk

I. separation logic

II. deductive synthesis

III. the SuSLik synthesizer

SuSLik



(Synthesis using **S**eparation **L**ogik)

SuSLik

backtracking search in SSL
+ optimizations

<i>Group</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>Code/Spec</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>T-phase</i>	<i>T-inv</i>	<i>T-fail</i>	<i>T-com</i>	<i>T-all</i>	<i>T-IS</i>
Integers	swap two	12	0.9x	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	
	min of two ²	10	0.7x	0.1	0.1	0.1	< 0.1	0.1	0.2	
Linked List	length ^{1,2}	21	1.2x	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.6	1.4	29x
	max ¹	27	1.7x	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.8	20x
	min ¹	27	1.7x	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	1.2	49x
	singleton ²	11	0.8x	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	
	dispose	11	2.8x	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	
	initialize	13	1.4x	< 0.1	0.1	0.1	< 0.1	0.1	< 0.1	
	copy ³	35	2.5x	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	-	
	append ³	19	1.1x	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.7	
Sorted list	delete ³	44	2.6x	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.7	
	prepend ¹	11	0.3x	0.2	1.4	83.5	0.1	0.1	-	48x
	insert ¹	58	1.2x	4.8	-	-	-	5.0	-	6x
Tree	insertion sort ¹	28	1.3x	1.1	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	74.2	82x
	size	38	2.7x	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	
	dispose	16	4.0x	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	
	copy	55	3.9x	0.4	49.8	-	0.8	1.4	-	
	flatten w/append	48	4.0x	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	
BST	flatten w/acc	35	1.9x	0.6	1.7	0.7	0.5	0.6	-	
	insert ¹	58	1.2x	31.9	-	-	-	-	-	11x
	rotate left ¹	15	0.1x	37.7	-	-	-	-	-	0.5x
	rotate right ¹	15	0.1x	17.2	-	-	-	-	-	0.8x

¹ From (Qiu and Solar-Lezama 2017) ² From (Leino and Milicevic 2012) ³ From (Qiu et al. 2013)

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BST	insert ¹	58	1.2x	31.9	-	-	-	-	-	11x
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limitations & future work

- pure synthesis $\{r \mapsto _ \} \rightsquigarrow \{r \geq x \wedge r \geq y; r \mapsto M \} \mid c$
 - use an off-the-shelf pure synthesizer
- reasoning about inductive predicates $\{P \} \rightsquigarrow \{Q \} \mid \text{skip}$
 - identify decidable fragment
- goal must be inductive
 - cyclic proofs to the rescue!

```
{ tree(t, S) * r ↦ _ }  
void flatten(loc t, loc r)  
{ r ↦ X * list(X, S) }
```

deductive synthesis with SuSLik

separation
logic



☺ reasoning about
pointers & aliasing



deductive
synthesis



☺ uses specs
to guide synthesis



code



☺ provably memory-safe

backup slides

optimizations

- invertible rules
- early failure
- multi-phase search
- symmetry reduction

optimization: invertible rules

- invertible rules do not restrict the set of derivable programs
- **idea:** invertible rules need not be backtracked

(Read)

$$\frac{[y/A]\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow [y/A]\{Q\} \mid c}{\{x \mapsto A * P\} \rightsquigarrow \{Q\} \mid \mathbf{let} \ y = *x; \ c}$$

optimization: early failure

- **idea:** sometimes you know that a goal is unsatisfiable

(Post-Inconsistent)

$$\frac{\psi \neq \perp \quad \vdash \phi \wedge \psi \Rightarrow \perp \quad \{ \text{emp} \} \rightsquigarrow \{ \perp ; \text{emp} \} \mid c}{\{ \phi ; P \} \rightsquigarrow \{ \psi ; Q \} \mid c}$$

optimization: multi-phase search

- unfolding phase: deals with inductive predicates
(Open), (Close), (Call), (Frame)
- flat phase: deals with points-to and blocks
(Write), (Call), (Alloc), (Free), (Frame)
- **idea**: if unfolding phase cannot eliminate all predicates, give up

optimization: symmetry reduction

- sometimes rule applications commute

$$\frac{\{a \mapsto 0\} \rightsquigarrow \{b \mapsto 0\} \mid ??}{\{y \mapsto b * a \mapsto 0\} \rightsquigarrow \{y \mapsto b * b \mapsto 0\} \mid ??} \text{ (Frame)}$$
$$\frac{\{y \mapsto b * a \mapsto 0\} \rightsquigarrow \{y \mapsto b * b \mapsto 0\} \mid ??}{\{x \mapsto a * y \mapsto b * a \mapsto 0\} \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto a * y \mapsto b * b \mapsto 0\} \mid ??} \text{ (Frame)}$$

- **idea:** only allow one order of commuting applications

example: flatten a tree

```
void flatten(loc t, loc r) {  
    if (t == 0) { } else {  
        let v = *(t + 1);  
        let t1 = *(t + 1);  
        let t2 = *(t + 2);  
        flatten(t1, r);  
        let y = *r;  
        flatten(t2, r);  
        let z = *r;  
        aux(y, z, r);  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

```
void aux(loc y, loc z, loc r) {  
    if (y == 0) { } else {  
        let y1 = *(y + 1);  
        aux(y1, z, r);  
        let z1 = *r;  
        *(x + 1) = z1;  
        *r = y;  
    }  
}
```