

# Branching Preserving Specialization for Software Model Checking

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# Summary

- Software model checking...
  - Imperative programs
  - Safety Checking (reachability)
- ... by Constraint Logic Program (CLP) Specialization
  - Transformation rules and automatic strategies
  - Generalization (termination of the specialization)
  - Branching preserving generalization
- Experimental results

# Software Model Checking by CLP Specialization

*Prog* written in a language  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\varphi$  written in a logic  $\mathcal{F}$

Phase 1: CLP encoding

$$\textit{Prog} \longrightarrow \textit{prog}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \longrightarrow L \quad (\text{interpreter})$$

$$\varphi \longrightarrow \textit{prop}$$

$$\mathcal{F} \longrightarrow F \quad (\text{interpreter})$$

$$\boxed{\textit{Prog} \models \varphi \text{ iff } \textit{prop} \in M(L \cup F)}$$

Phase 2: *Spec* - Specialization of  $(L \cup F)$  wrt  $(\textit{prog}, \textit{prop}) \longrightarrow P_s$

Phase 3: *BUEval* - Bottom\_Up computation of  $M(P_s)$

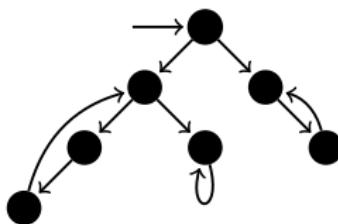
$$\boxed{\textit{prop} \in M(L \cup F) \text{ iff } \textit{prop} \in M(P_s).}$$

# CLP encoding of imperative programs

After Phase 1 we get a CLP program encoding a transition system:

- a set of Configuration     $\text{cf}(P, S)$ 
  - Program  $P$
  - State  $S$  a list of terms of the form  $\text{loc}(\text{id}, \text{val})$
- Transition Relation     $\text{tr}(\text{ cf}(P, S), \text{ cf}(P', S') )$

Operational Semantics of the language  $L$



# Example

Imperative Program:

```
int main()  {
    int x;
    int n;
    assume(x>0);
    while (x<n) {
        x = x + 1;
    }
    if (x<0)
        goto ERROR;
}
```

CLP encoding:

```
cf(
    comp(
        while(lt(var(x),var(n)),
            asgn(var(x),plus(var(x),int(1)))
        ),
        ite(lt(var(x),int(0)),
            error,
            skip)
        ),
        [loc(x,X),loc(n,N)] %state
    )
)
```

Assignment

`ID = Exp;`

...

```
tr( cf(asgn(var(ID),Exp),S), cf(skip,S1) ) :-  
    aeval(Exp,S,Val),  
    update(var(ID),Val,S,S1).
```

```
...  
if (Cond) {  
    Cmd1  
} else {  
    Cmd2  
}  
...  
If-then-else
```

```
tr( cf(ite(Cond,Cmd1,_),S) , cf(Cmd1,S) ) :-  
    beval(Cond,S).
```

```
tr( cf(ite(Cond,_,Cmd2),S) , cf(Cmd2,S) ) :-  
    beval(not(Cond),S).
```

```
...  
while (Cond) {  
    Cmd1  
}  
...  
tr( cf(while(Cond,Cmd1),S),  
  cf(ite(Cond,comp(Cmd1,while(Cond,Cmd1)),skip),S) :-  
  beval(Cond,S).
```

Composition of  
commands

Cmd1;  
Cmd2

...

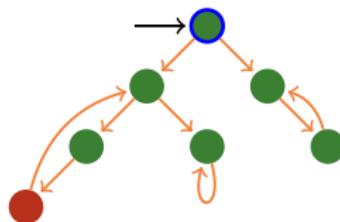
...

```
tr( cf(comp(Cmd1,Cmd2),S) , cf(Cmd2,S1) ) :-  
    tr( cf(Cmd1,S) , cf(skip,S1) ).
```

```
tr( cf(comp(Cmd1,Cmd2),S) , cf(comp(Cmd1',Cmd2),S1) ) :-  
    tr( cf(Cmd1,S) , cf(Cmd1',S1) ).
```

# Checking safety of Imperative programs

$$\mathcal{F} \longrightarrow F = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ureach}(X) :- \text{unsafe}(X). \\ \text{ureach}(X) :- \text{tr}(X, X'), \text{ureach}(X'). \\ \text{unsafe} :- \text{initial}(X), \text{ureach}(X). \\ \text{unsafe}(\text{cf(error}, S)). \\ \text{initial}(\text{cf}(Prog, S)) :- \text{init\_constraint}(S) \end{array} \right.$$
$$\varphi \longrightarrow prop = \text{safe} :- \text{not unsafe}.$$



# Rules for Specializing CLP Programs

R1 Atomic Definition  $\text{newp}(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow c \wedge A$

R2 Unfolding  $p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow c \wedge q(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  w.r.t.

$q(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow d \wedge A$

yields

$p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow c \wedge d \wedge A$

R3 Atomic Folding  $p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow c \wedge A$  w.r.t.  $A$  by using

$q(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow d \wedge A$

yields

if  $c \rightarrow d$

$p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow c \wedge q(X_1, \dots, X_n)$

R4 Clause Removal

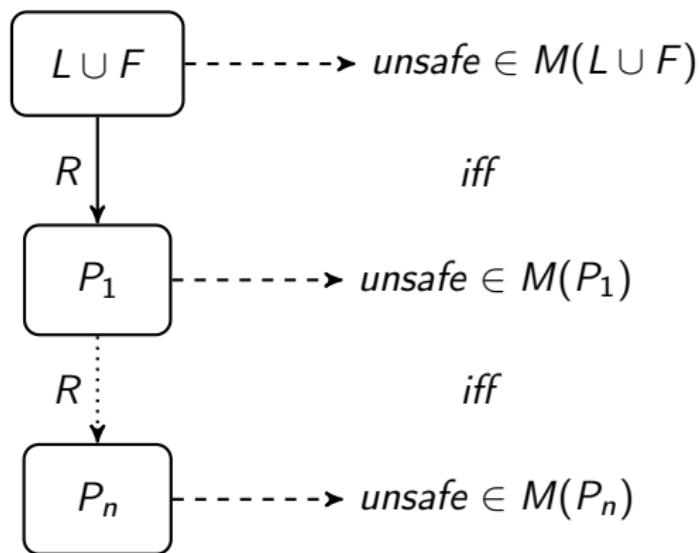
R4.1  ~~$p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow c \wedge q(X_1, \dots, X_n)$~~  if  $c$  is unsatisfiable

R4.2  ~~$p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow c \wedge q(X_1, \dots, X_n)$~~

$p(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leftarrow d$  if  $c \rightarrow d$  (subsumption)

# Rule-based CLP Program Specialization

$\text{Prog} \models \text{safe} \text{ iff } \text{unsafe} \notin M(L \cup F) \text{ iff } \text{unsafe} \notin M(P_i).$



$R \in \{\text{Atomic Definition, Unfolding, Atomic Folding, Clause Removal}\}$

# Specialization strategy

```
Specialize( $L \cup F$ ,safe) {  
     $P_s = \emptyset$ ;  
     $Def = \{ \text{unsafe} :- \text{initial}(X), \text{ureach}(X). \}$ ;  
    while ( $\exists q \in Def$ ) do  
         $Unf = \text{Clause Removal}(\text{Unfold}(q))$ ;  
         $Def = (Def - \{q\}) \cup \text{Generalize\&Define}(Unf)$ ;  
         $P_s = P_s \cup \text{Fold}(Unf, Def)$   
    od  
}
```

## Example

```
int main()           initial( cf(
    int x;
    int n;           comp(
assume(x>0);           while(lt(var(x),var(n)),
while (x<n) {           asgn(var(x),plus(var(x),int(1)))
    x = x + 1;       ),
}                           ite(lt(var(x),int(0)),
if (x<0)                 error,
    goto ERROR;       skip)
}                           ), [loc(n,N),loc(x,X)] )) :- X>0.
```

Specialize( $L \cup F$ , *safe*) = {  
  unsafe :- *X*>0, while(*X*,*N*).  
  while(*N*,*X*) :- *X*<*N*, *X' = X+1*, while(*N*,*X'*).  
  while(*N*,*X*) :- *X*<0, *X>=N*.                    }

## Initial program:

```
unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
while(N,X) :- X<N, X'= $X+1$ , while(N,X').  
while(N,X) :- X<0, X>=N.
```

## Specialization strategy:

1. define:

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, while(N,X).
```

2. fold:

```
unsafe :- X>0, new1(N,X).
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## Initial program:

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unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
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3. unfold:

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unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
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unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
while(N,X) :- X<N, X'=X+1, while(N,X').  
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new1(N,X) :- X>0, while(N,X).
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new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'=X+1, while(N,X').
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## Initial program:

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unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
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new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'= $X+1$ , while(N,X').
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new1(N,X) :- X>0, while(N,X).
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unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
while(N,X) :- X<N, X'=X+1, while(N,X').  
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## Specialization strategy:

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new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'=X+1, while(N,X').
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```
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new1(N,X) :- X>0, while(N,X).
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new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'=X+1, while(N,X').
```

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new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<0, X>=N.
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## Initial program:

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unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
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## Specialization strategy:

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new1(N,X) :- X>0, while(N,X).
```

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```
unsafe :- X>0, new1(N,X).
```

3. unfold:

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'= $X+1$ , while(N,X').
```

~~new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<0, X>=N.~~

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unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
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## Specialization strategy:

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new1(N,X) :- X>0, while(N,X).
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2. fold:

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unsafe :- X>0, new1(N,X).
```

3. unfold:

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'= $X+1$ , while(N,X').
```

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<0, X>=N.
```

4. fold:

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'= $X+1$ , new1(N,X').
```

## Initial program:

```
unsafe :- X>0, while(X,N).  
while(N,X) :- X<N, X'=X+1, while(N,X').  
while(N,X) :- X<0, X>=N.
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## Specialization strategy:

1. define:

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new1(N,X) :- X>0, while(N,X).
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2. fold:

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unsafe :- X>0, new1(N,X).
```

3. unfold:

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'=X+1, while(N,X').
```

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<0, X>=N.
```

4. fold:

```
new1(N,X) :- X>0, X<N, X'=X+1, new1(N,X').
```

## Specialized program:

```
unsafe :- X>0, new1(N,X).  
new1(N,X) :- X<N, X'=X+1, X>0, new1(N,X').  
% No facts. Prog is safe!
```

# Termination of the Specialization strategy

## Generalization operators

Specialize( $L \cup F$ ,safe) {

$P_s = \emptyset$ ;

$Def = \{unsafe : \neg initial(X), ureach(X).\}$ ;

**while** ( $\exists q \in Def$ ) **do**

$Unf = Clause\ Removal( Unfold( q ) )$ ;

$Def = (Def - \{q\}) \cup Generalize\&Define( Unf )$ ;

$P_s = P_s \cup Fold( Unf, Def )$

**od**

}

*Generalize&Define*( $\cdot$ ) may introduce infinitely many new definitions and leads to non termination of Specialize.

Generalizations in *Generalize&Define*( $\cdot$ ) ensure termination...

$\gamma : H \leftarrow c \wedge A$       $\delta$  is a generalization of  $\gamma$

$\delta : H \leftarrow g \wedge A$      iff  $c \sqsubseteq g$  iff  $\mathcal{R} \models \forall X (c(X) \rightarrow g(X))$ .

... but may prevent the proof of the property.

# Generalization

```
int main()  {
    int x=0;  int y=0;
    int n;

    while (x<n) {
        x = x + 1;
        y = y + 1;
    }
    if (y>x)
        goto ERROR;

    return 0;
}
```

```
unsafe :- X=0, Y=0, while(N,X,Y).
while(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X'=X+1, Y'=Y+1, while(N,X',Y').
while(N,X,Y) :- X>=N, Y>X.
```

# Generalization

Initial program:

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Specialization strategy:

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new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, while(N,X,Y).
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unsafe :- X=0, Y=0, new1(N,X).
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new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, X>Y, X>=N.
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```

2. fold:

```
unsafe :- X=0, Y=0, new1(N,X).
```

3. unfold:

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, X<N, X'=X+1, Y'=Y+1,  
while(N,X',Y').
```

we cannot fold

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
```

by using

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, while(N,X,Y).
```

## Generalization

we need to introduce a new definition...

we may introduce

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
```

or we may introduce a generalization

# Generalization

we need to introduce a new definition...

we may introduce

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
```

or we may introduce a generalization

4. generalize & define:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, while(N,X,Y).
```

# Generalization

we need to introduce a new definition...

we may introduce

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
```

or we may introduce a generalization

4. generalize & define:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, while(N,X,Y).
```

5. fold:

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, new2(N,X,Y).
```

# Generalization

we need to introduce a new definition...

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```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
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4. generalize & define:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, while(N,X,Y).
```

5. fold:

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, new2(N,X,Y).
```

6. unfold:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, X<N, X'=1+X, Y'=1+Y,  
while(N,X',Y').
```

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, Y>X, X>=N.
```

# Generalization

we need to introduce a new definition...

we may introduce

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
```

or we may introduce a generalization

4. generalize & define:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, while(N,X,Y).
```

5. fold:

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, new2(N,X,Y).
```

6. unfold:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, X<N, X'=1+X, Y'=1+Y,  
while(N,X',Y').
```

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, Y>X, X>=N.
```

# Generalization

we need to introduce a new definition...

we may introduce

```
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```

Specialized program:

```
unsafe :- X=0, Y=0, new1(N,X,Y).
```

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, X'=1, Y'=1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').
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new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, Y>X, X>=N.
```

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- Y>=1, X>=1, X'=X+1, Y'=Y+1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').
```

# Generalization

## Specialized program:

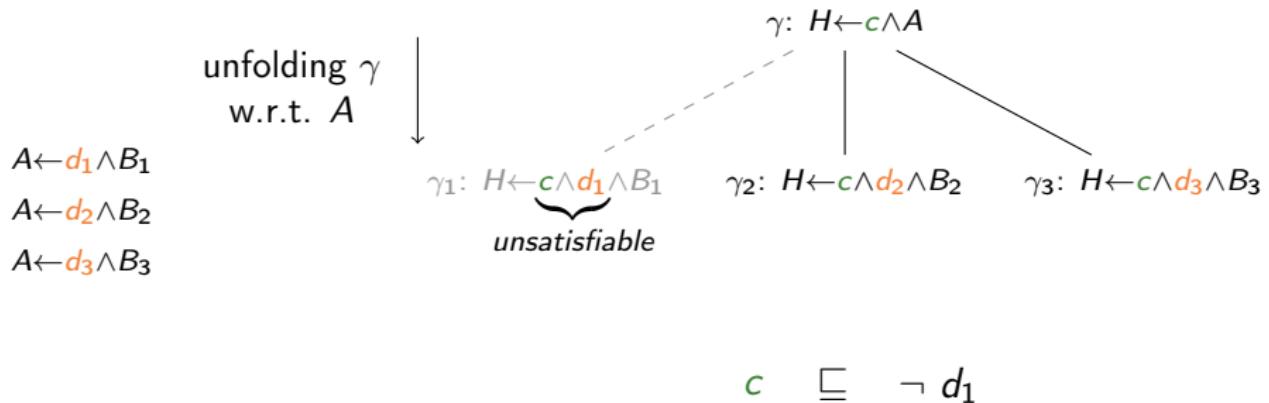
```
unsafe :- X=0, Y=0, new1(N,X,Y).  
new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, X'=1, Y'=1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').  
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, Y>X, X>=N.  
new2(N,X,Y) :- Y>=1, X>=1, X'=X+1, Y'=Y+1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').
```

We have a constrained fact.

The Bottom Up computation of  $M(P_s)$  does not terminate.

Thus, we are not able to prove, or disprove, the safety of the given imperative program!

# Branching preserving generalization

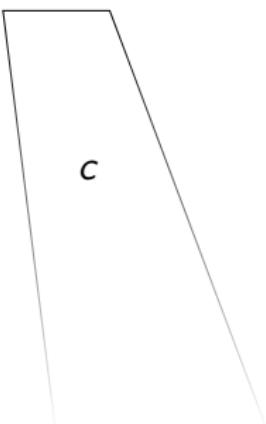


# Branching preserving generalization

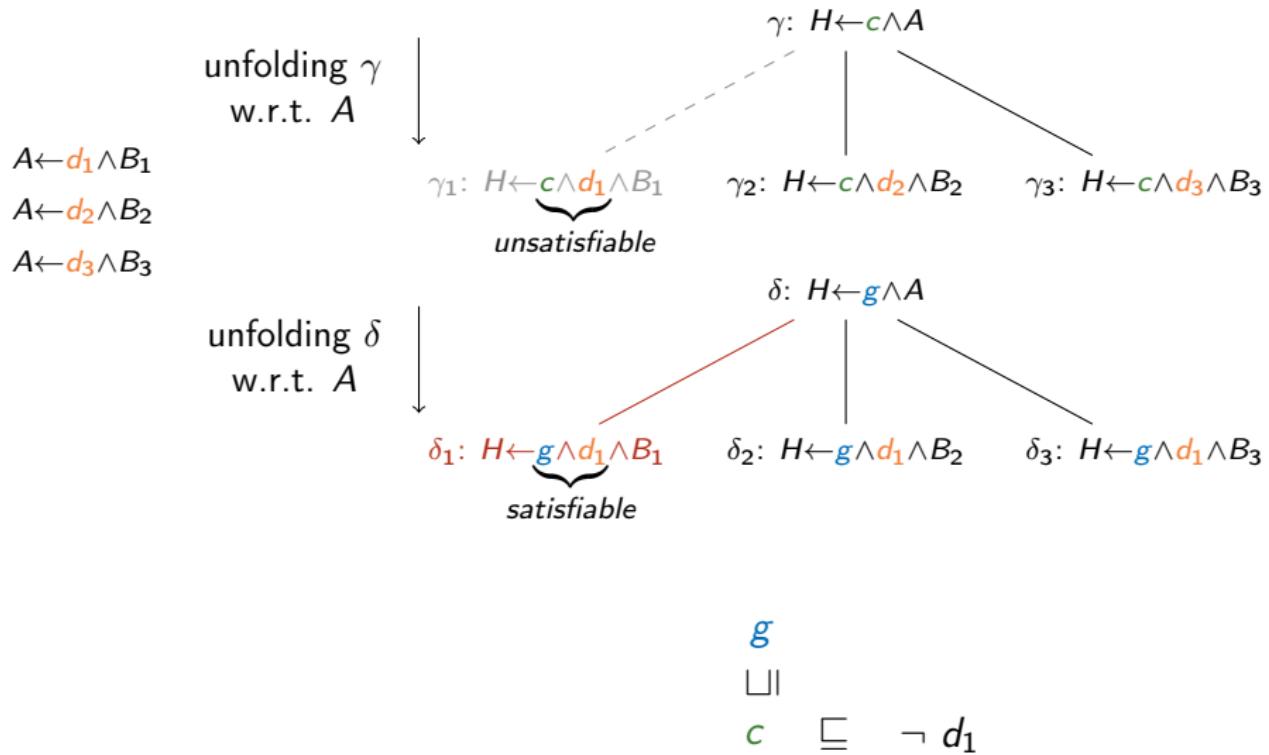
$\gamma : H \leftarrow c \wedge A$

$d_1$

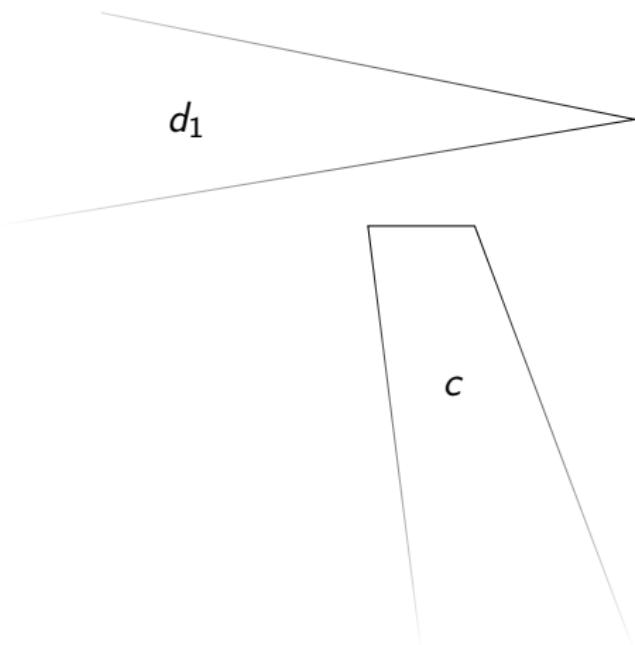
$c \wedge d_1$  is unsatisfiable



# Branching preserving generalization



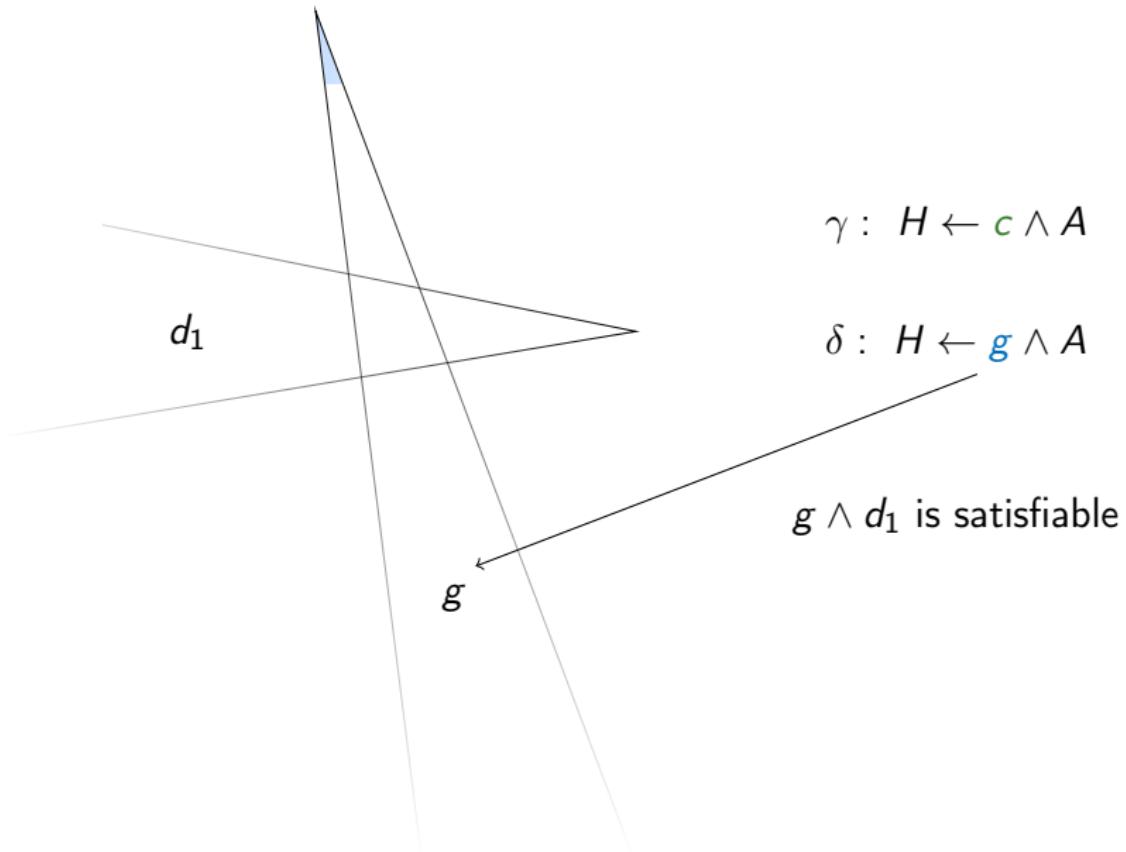
# Branching preserving generalization



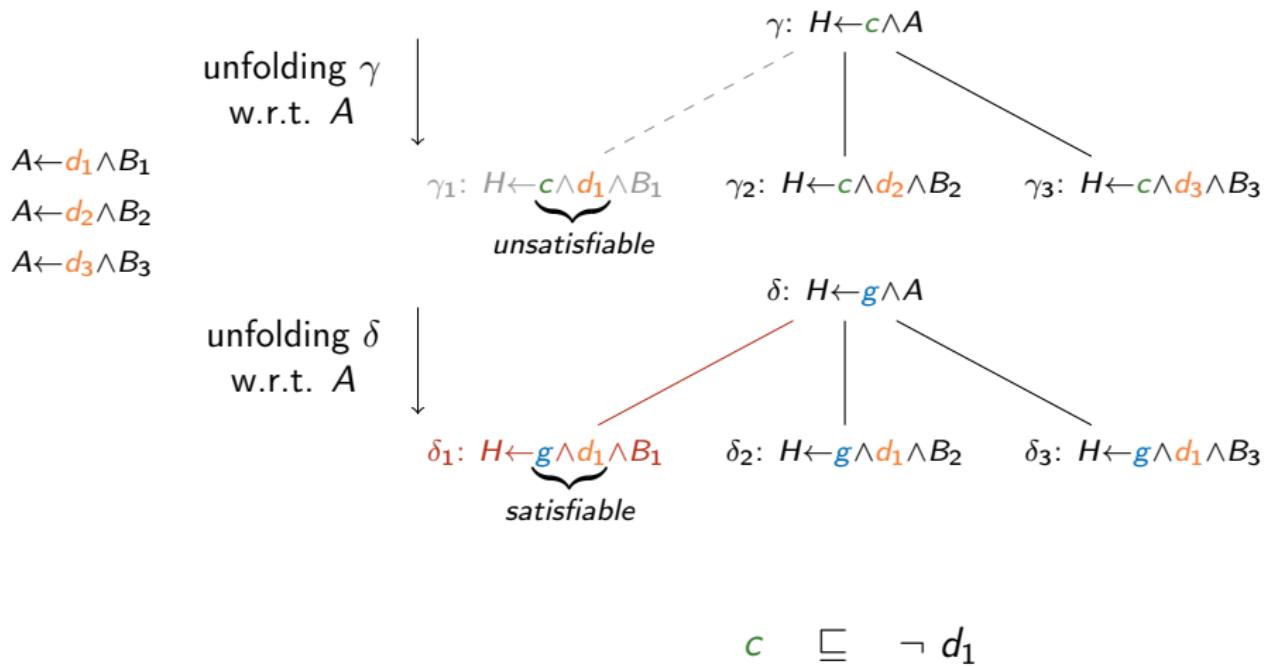
$\gamma : H \leftarrow \textcolor{green}{c} \wedge A$

$\delta : H \leftarrow \textcolor{blue}{g} \wedge A$

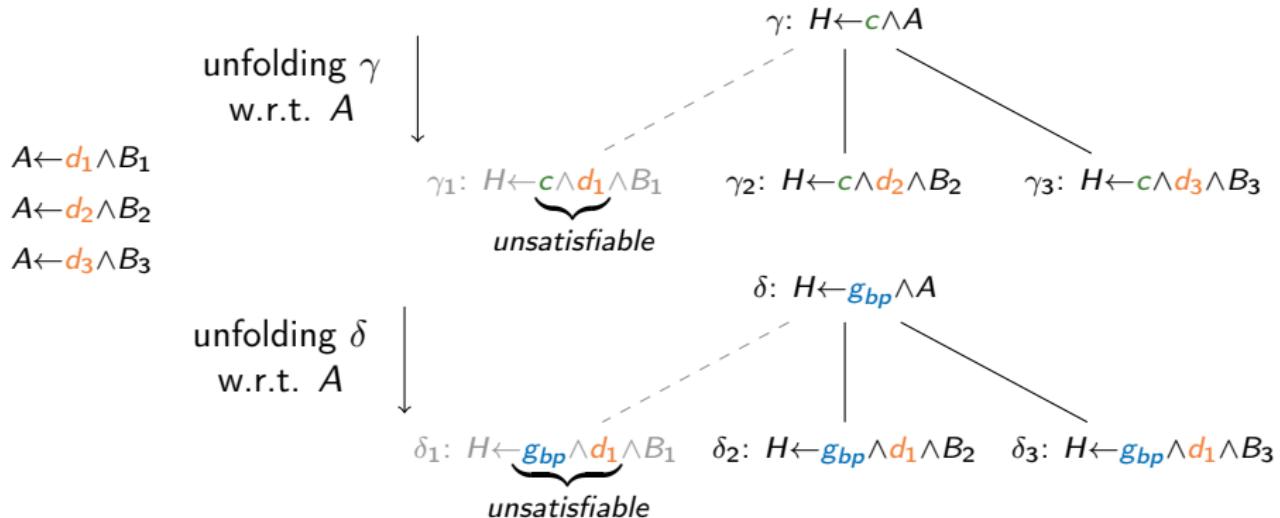
# Branching preserving generalization



# Branching preserving generalization



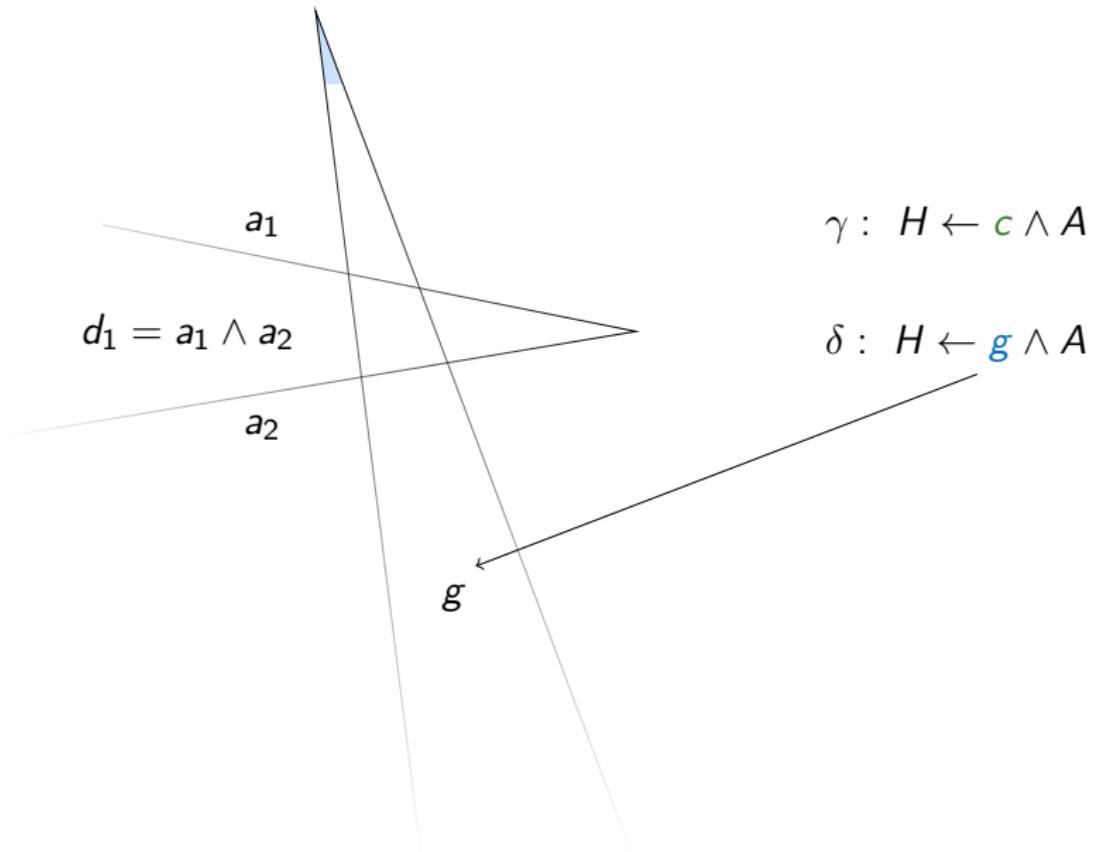
# Branching preserving generalization



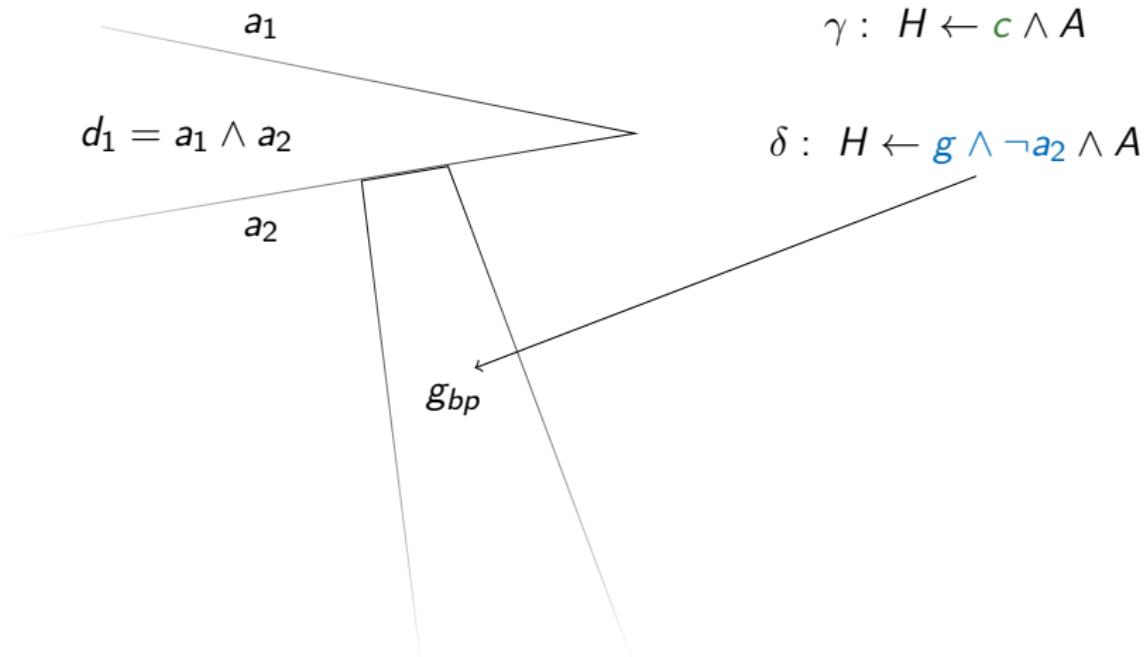
Find a  $g_{bp}$  such that

$$c \sqsubseteq g_{bp} \sqsubseteq \neg d_1$$

# Branching preserving generalization



# Branching preserving generalization



# Generalization

we need to introduce a new definition...

we may introduce

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```

Specialized program:

```
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```

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, X'=1, Y'=1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').
```

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, Y>X, X>=N.
```

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- Y>=1, X>=1, X'=X+1, Y'=Y+1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').
```

# Generalization with Branching Preserving

we need to introduce a new definition...

we may introduce

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new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
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or we may introduce a generalization

4. generalize & define:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, X>=Y, while(N,X,Y).
```

5. fold:

```
new1(N,X,Y) :- X<N, X=1, Y=1, while(N,X,Y).
```

6. unfold:

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, X<N, X'=1+X, Y'=1+Y,  
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```

```
new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, Y>X, X>=N.
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Specialized program:

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# Generalization

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~~new2(N,X,Y) :- X>=0, Y>=0, Y>X, X>=N, X>=Y.~~

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new2(N,X,Y) :- Y>=1, X>=1, X'=X+1, Y'=Y+1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').
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# Generalization with Branching Preserving

Specialized program:

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unsafe :- X=0, Y=0, new1(N,X,Y).  
new1(N,X,Y) :- X=0, Y=0, X'=1, Y'=1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').  
new2(N,X,Y) :- Y>=1, X>=1, X'=X+1, Y'=Y+1, X<N, new2(N,X',Y').
```

No facts.

Prog is safe!

# Preliminary results

Program	MAP				ARMC	HSF(C)	TRACER	
	$W$	$W_{bp}$	$CHWM$	$CHWM_{bp}$			$SPost$	$WPre$
<i>ex1</i>	1.08	1.09	1.14	1.25	0.18	0.21	$\infty$	1.29
<i>f1a</i>	$\infty$	$\infty$	0.35	0.36	$\infty$	0.20	$\perp$	1.30
<i>f2</i>	$\infty$	$\infty$	0.75	0.88	$\infty$	0.19	$\infty$	1.32
<i>interp</i>	0.29	0.29	0.32	0.44	0.13	0.18	$\infty$	1.22
<i>re1</i>	$\infty$	0.33	0.33	0.33	$\infty$	0.19	$\infty$	$\infty$
<i>selectSort</i>	4.34	4.70	4.59	5.57	0.48	0.25	$\infty$	$\infty$
<i>singleLoop</i>	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	0.26	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\perp$	1.28
<i>substring</i>	88.20	171.20	5.21	5.92	931.02	1.08	187.91	184.09
<i>tracerP</i>	0.11	0.12	0.11	0.12	$\infty$	$\infty$	1.15	1.28

**Table:** Time (in seconds) taken for performing model checking.  
 ' $\infty$ ' means 'no answer within 20 minutes', and  
 ' $\perp$ ' means 'termination with error'.

# Conclusions

Program specialization is a framework for performing an **Agile**, **Iterative** and **Evolutionary** development of verification techniques and tools:

- soundness of abstraction
- parametricity w.r.t. languages and logics
- compositionality of program transformations
- modularity separation of language features and verification techniques

From LOPSTR submission up to now  
we have extended our approach to deal with C programs.

Control Flow Analysis of C programs using Integer (int, short, unsigned long, ....),  
e.g. o.s. device drivers

Current work:

extending  $F$  to deal with different properties (e.g. liveness),  
extending  $L$  to deal with pointers.