

Bogor/Kiasan: A Contract-based Verification and Test-Case Generation Framework

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IBM Eclipse

Implementation Level Specification

Implementation level specification & checking plays an important role in developing high-assurance systems



Simple pre-condition...

```
function FindSought
  (A: Table; Sought: Integer) return Index;
--# pre for some M in Index => ( A(M) = Sought );
--# return Z => (( A(Z) = Sought) and
--#   (for all M in Index range 1 .. (Z - 1) =>
--#     (A(M) /= Sought)));
```

Post-condition constraining return value to inputs...

Implementation Level Specification

Implementation level specification & checking plays an important role in developing high-assurance systems



```
procedure Operate;  
--# global out KeyStore.RotorValue, Encrypted;  
--# in out KeyStore.SymmetricKey;  
--# in Clear;  
--# derives  
--#   KeyStore.SymmetricKey, KeyStore.RotorValue  
--# from  
--#   KeyStore.SymmetricKey  
--# &  
--#   Encrypted  
--# from  
--#   Clear, KeyStore.SymmetricKey  
--# ;
```

Spark information flow annotations...

Information flows from Clear, KeyStore.SymmetricKey to Encrypted

Our Interests

- Implementation level specification and checking for languages with rich object-oriented features
 - focusing on properties of heap-allocated data
 - specification and checking of both
 - safety properties
 - information flow/partitioning (not covered in this talk)
 - deep integration with other quality assurance methods such as testing

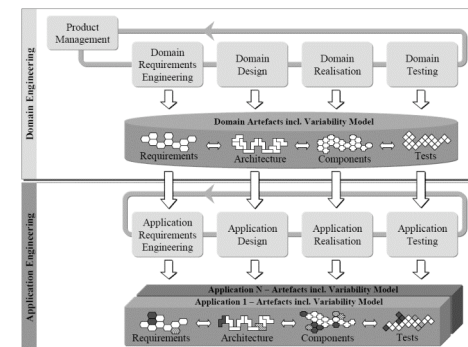
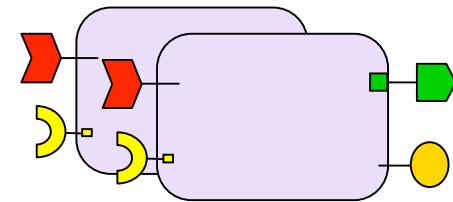
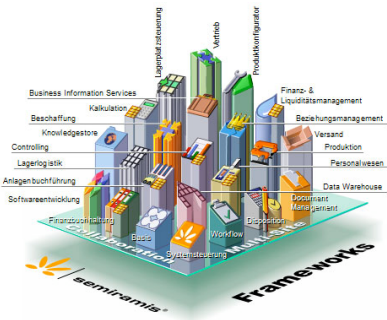
Due to the complexities of languages like Java, we don't aim to provide all the soundness guarantees of Spark/Praxis tools, but we do provide a rigorously justified formal foundation and soundness on a bounded portion of a program's state space.

...let's now look at some of the issues that we aim to address

Trends In Software Development

Building Software from Reusable Units

- Frameworks
 - collection of units targeted to a particular application domain
 - Apache Struts, JavaServerFaces, CLSA
- Component Middleware
 - dictates a structure notion of reuseable component
 - provides extensive infrastructure and services
 - CCM, EJB, nesC, Bonobo
- Software Product Lines
 - Drive down development time and costs through systematic reuse of a managed set of assets across families of similar platforms



Benefits of Contracts

Contracts enable compositional checking

Pre-condition

```
M(...,...) {  
  ....
```

```
  N(.....)
```

```
}
```

No need to check body of N when called from M – just check that N's precondition is satisfied and assume N's post-condition after call

Pre-condition

```
N(.....)
```

```
}
```

Post-condition

Check that method conforms to its contract

Post-condition

Compositional Checking

- Compositional checking is the key to scalability
 - Allows each method to be checked in isolation
 - If a method is changed, only need to recheck that one method (not the entire code base)
 - Enables checking to be carried out in parallel

Software Contracts

Lightweight Contracts

Simple pre-condition...

Post-condition requires that object bound to `last` not exist in the pre-state

```
/*@ requires x != null;  
   @ ensures last.value == x && \fresh(last);  
   @*/  
protected void insert(Object x) {  
    synchronized (putLock) {  
        LinkedNode p = new LinkedNode(x);  
        synchronized (last) refactoredInsert(p);  
        if (waitingForTake > 0) putLock.notify();  
        return;  
    }  
}
```

linked list from java.util.concurrent

Software Contracts

Strong Properties of Heap-allocated Data

...moving beyond ESC/Java

Frame conditions -- only these cells can be modified.

```
/*@ behavior
  @ assignable head, head.next.value;
  @ ensures \result == null || (\exists LinkedNode n;
  @ \old(\reach(head).has(n));
  @ n is reachable from head of the list in pre-state
  @ n.value == \result
  @ && !(\reach(head).has(n));
  @*/
protected Object extract() {
  Object x = null;
  LinkedNode first = head.next;
  if (first != null) {
    x = first.value;
    first.value = null;
    head = first;
  }
  return x;
}
```

n's value is returned as the result

n is NOT reachable from head of the list in the post-state

linked list from java.util.concurrent

A Skeptic's Questions



- It takes a lot of effort to write these contracts -- what's the payoff?
 - please give me more than one way to leverage a contract!
- How does your approach integrate with other QA techniques my team is already trained for?
- How can your tool and methodology be incrementally introduced into my development workflow?
- Does this stuff scale?

Progress

Tools like ESC/Java have made good progress toward answering the skeptic's questions...

- Practical contract checking technology for Java
- Supports automated checking of lightweight method contracts
- Effective for statically eliminating many common run-time errors such as null-pointer exceptions, array bounds checking

But a number of limitations remain...

- Don't handle heap-allocated data very well
- Error messages are hard to decipher
- No direct connection to other quality assurance techniques

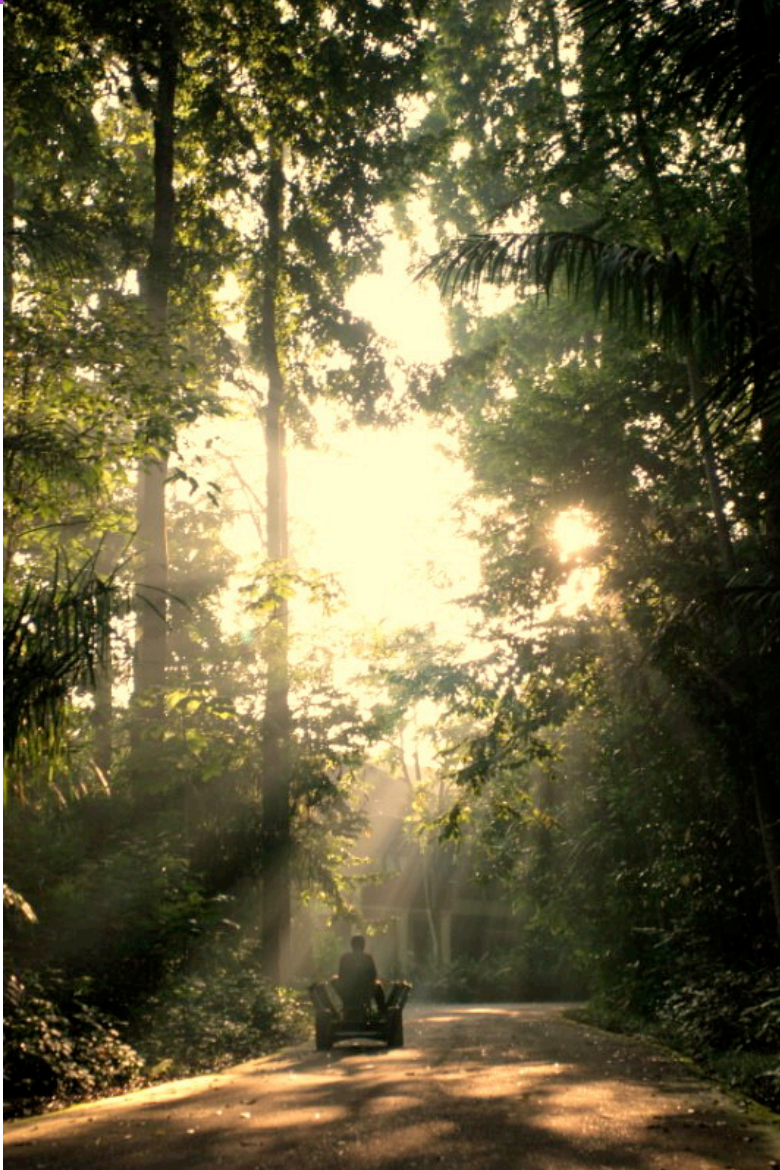
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Bogor, West Java, Indonesia



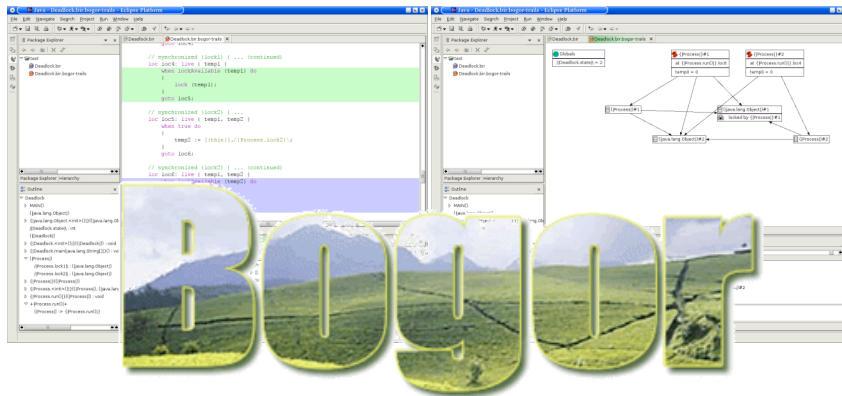
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Bogor Model Checking Framework



Threads,
Objects,
Methods,
Exceptions, etc.

Domain-Specific
+ Abstractions

State-space
Exploration

Scheduling
Strategy

State
Representation

...existing
modules...

Domain-Specific
Scheduler

Domain-
Specific
Search

Domain-Specific
State Rep.

Core Checker Modules

Customized Checker Modules

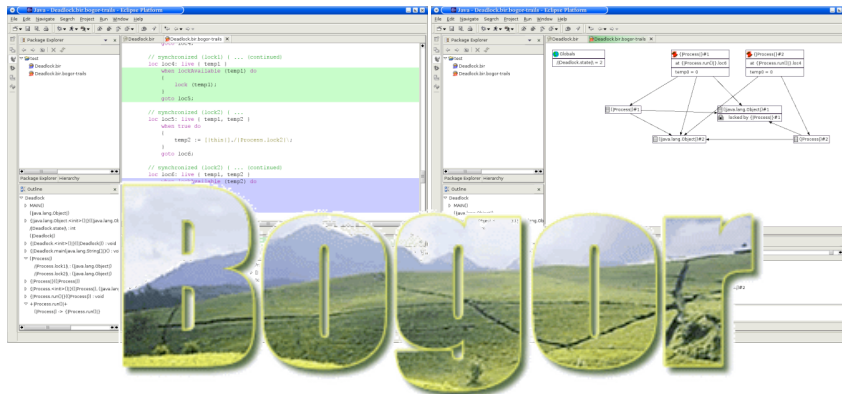
Direct support for...

- *unbounded* dynamic creation of threads and objects
- automatic memory management (garbage collection)
- virtual methods, ...
- ..., exceptions, etc.
- *supports virtually all of Java*

Extensible Framework...

- new commands and expressions can be added to the modeling language to create *domain specific modeling languages*
- modular architecture allows core algorithms to easily be plugged and unplugged
- ... becoming a generic *state-space exploration framework*

Bogor Model Checking Framework



...thank you for Eclipse support!

Educational Material...

- wide collection of pedagogical material...
 - lecture slides
 - streaming video lectures
 - projects, exams, labs, quizzes
- used by at least five universities at both the undergraduate & graduate level during the past year

University Research...

- a number of external research projects
 - MPI, BPEL (ICSE 2007), UML State Charts, .NET
- over external 1300 downloads

Industrial Use...



- Funded in 2006-2007 by Lockheed Martin Software Technology Initiative
- Bogor is the core of LM's Thimble framework for verification / visualization of threading properties of .NET systems
- Primary testbed is LM's Horizon satellite mission control system software product line

Bogor / Kiasan

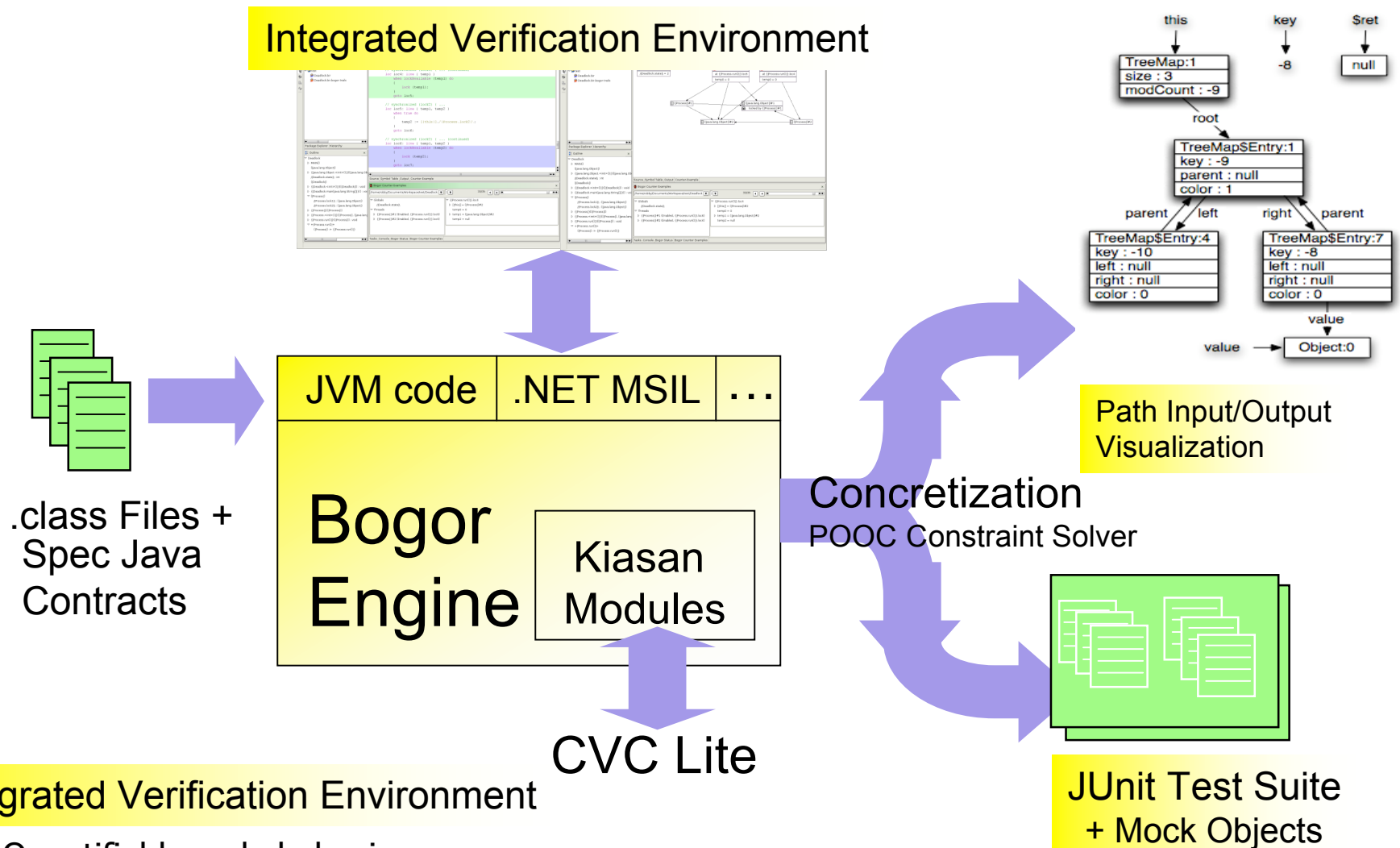
Kiasan – A Bogor Extension for Symbolic Execution



"kiasan"
=
"symbolic"

- Combines symbolic execution with...
 - model checking
 - theorem proving
 - constraint solving
- Formal operational semantics
 - Relative soundness and completeness proofs
- Quantifiable code behavior coverage
- Adjustable analysis cost/coverage
- Static (compositional/non-compositional) checking of
 - unspecified code
 - light-weight specifications
 - strong statements about heap properties
 - e.g., exceeding capabilities of ESC/Java
- Provides helpful analysis feedback
 - counter examples, visualization using object graphs
- Automates some of developers' tasks
 - JUnit test case generation

Bogor / Kiasan Architecture



Integrated Verification Environment

- Quantifiable code behavior coverage
- Adjustable analysis cost/coverage

Outline



Bogor / Kiasan

Foundations

- Basic concepts
- Dealing with the heap
- Correctness results and distinguishing features

Tool Capabilities

- Lightweight property checking
- Input/Output Visualizations
- Strong contract checking
- Test case generation for open systems

Symbolic Execution [King:ACM76]

```
void foo(int x,  
         int y,int z) {  
    z = x + y;  
    if (z > 0) {  
        z++;  
    }  
}
```

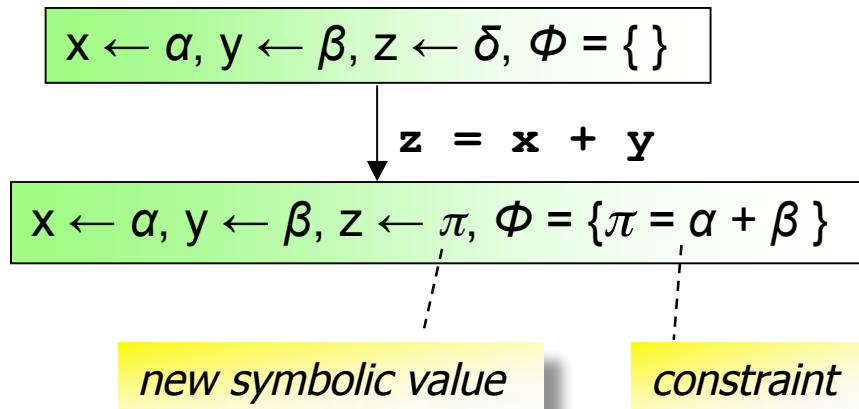
symbolic values

constraints

$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \delta, \Phi = \{\}$

Symbolic Execution [King:ACM76]

```
void foo(int x,  
         int y,int z) {  
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$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \delta, \Phi = \{\}$

$z = x + y$

$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \pi, \Phi = \{\pi = \alpha + \beta\}$

$z > 0$

$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \pi, \Phi = \{\pi = \alpha + \beta, \pi > 0\}$

*new constraint for
conditional*

Symbolic Execution [King:ACM76]

```
void foo(int x,  
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    z = x + y;  
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$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \delta, \Phi = \{\}$

$z = x + y$

$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \pi, \Phi = \{\pi = \alpha + \beta\}$

$z > 0$

$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \pi, \Phi = \{\pi = \alpha + \beta, \pi > 0\}$

$z++$

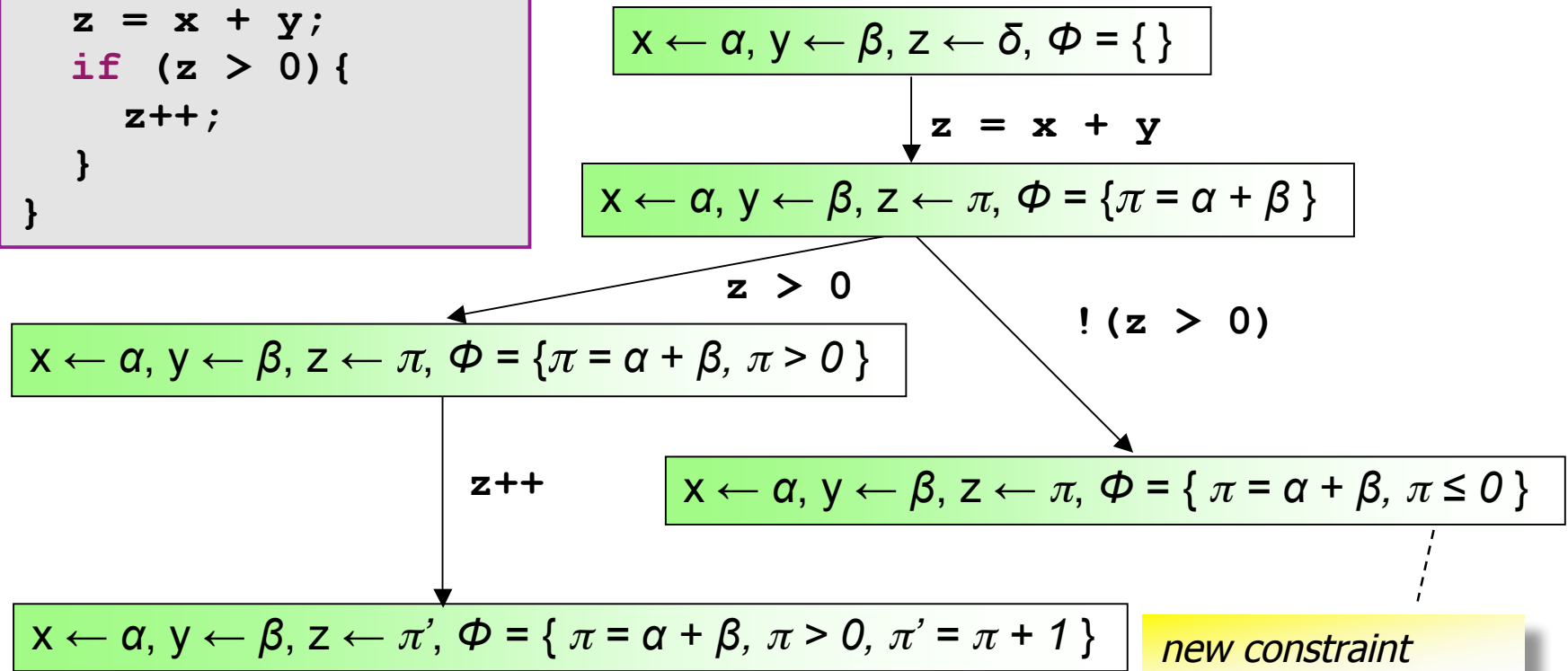
$x \leftarrow \alpha, y \leftarrow \beta, z \leftarrow \pi', \Phi = \{\pi = \alpha + \beta, \pi > 0, \pi' = \pi + 1\}$

new symbolic value

new constraint

Symbolic Execution [King:ACM76]

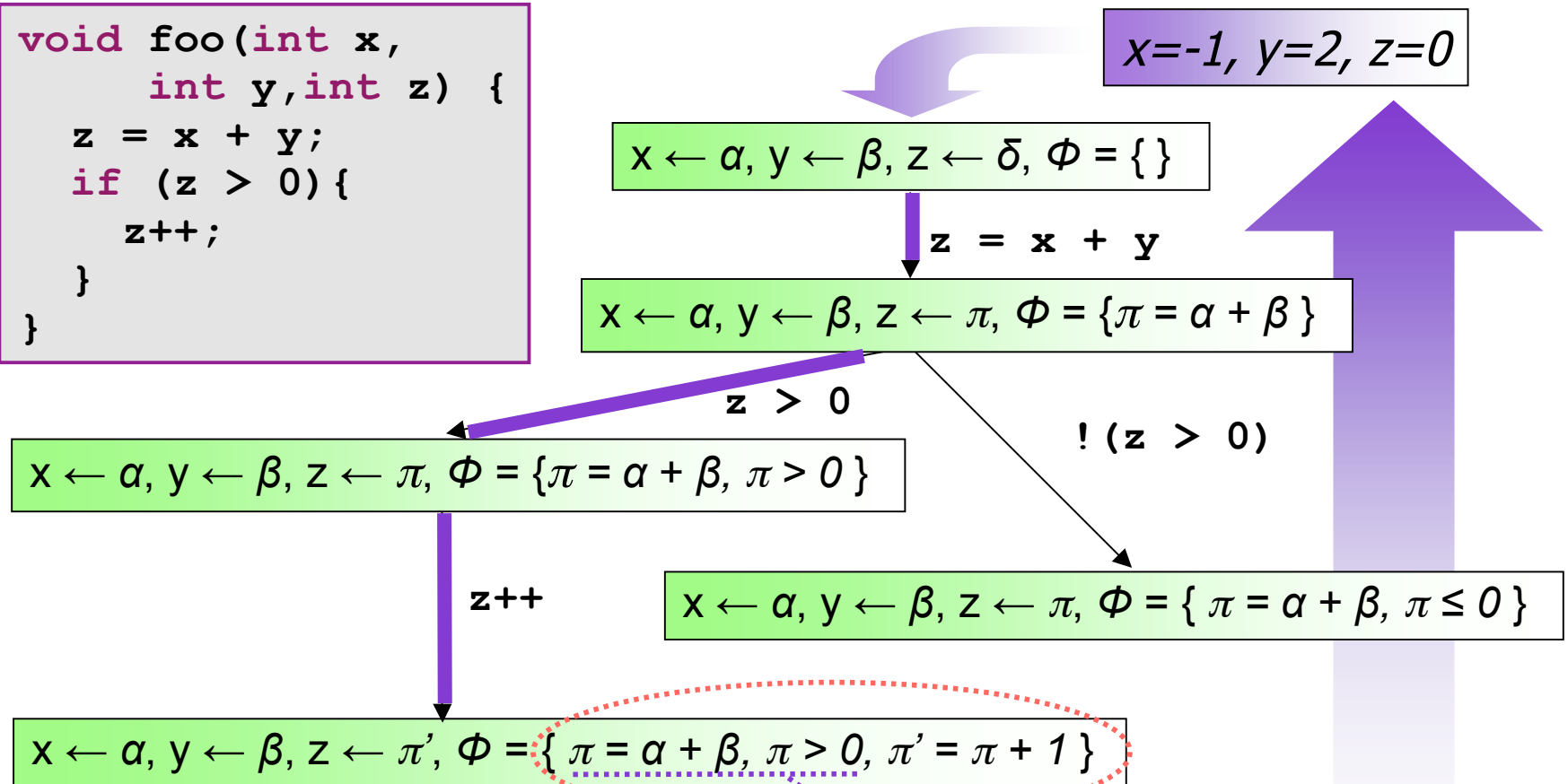
```
void foo(int x,  
         int y,int z) {  
    z = x + y;  
    if (z > 0) {  
        z++;  
    }  
}
```



...symbolic execution characterizes (theoretically) infinite number of real executions!

Solving Constraints

```
void foo(int x,  
         int y,int z) {  
    z = x + y;  
    if (z > 0) {  
        z++;  
    }  
}
```



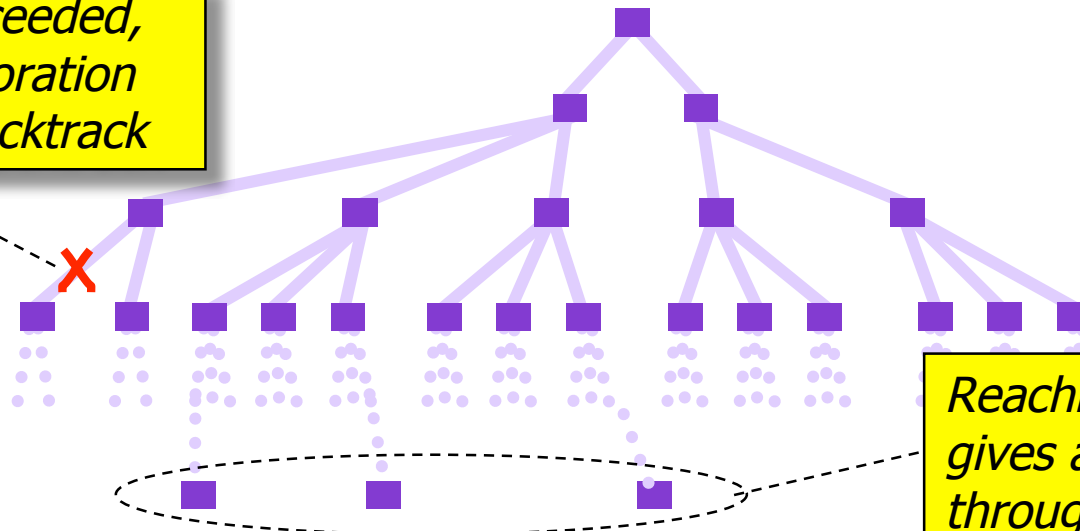
The path condition characterizes the set of program states that flow to this point in the path.

Solving constraints on input variables yields input values (a test case) that drives execution down the current path.

Issue: Handling Loops

- How do we know when to quit going around a loop?
 - Could leverage loop invariants, but that is difficult to obtain for several reasons
 - Common strategy is to use different forms of bounds
 - bound total number of steps, or
 - bound number of loop iterations

*If bound is exceeded,
then stop exploration
of path and backtrack*



*Reaching a method exit
gives a complete path
through the method*

Representing Heap Data

[Khurshid-al:TACAS03]

How should dynamically allocated heap data be represented in symbolic execution?

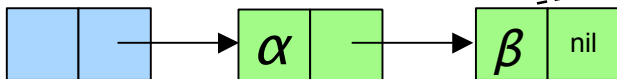


...model checker maintains a representation of the heap ...*take advantage of that*

Combined Concrete & Symbolic Representation



...abstract heap location;
represents an arbitrary
heap structure



...use conventional symbolic
constraints on scalars in heap

$$\alpha > \beta$$

...lazily expand symbolic representation as
program interacts with the heap

Representing Heap Data — Kiasan's k -bounding

How should dynamically allocated heap data be represented in symbolic execution?

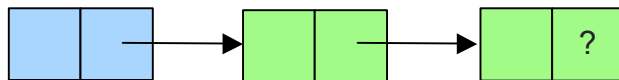


...model checker maintains a representation of the heap ...*take advantage of that*

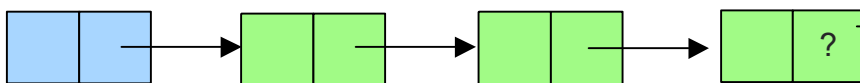
Note: Kiasan uses an improved algorithm -- lazier# initialization

Bound search by bounding length of reference chains

length limit $k = 3$



...# references is 2; keep expanding

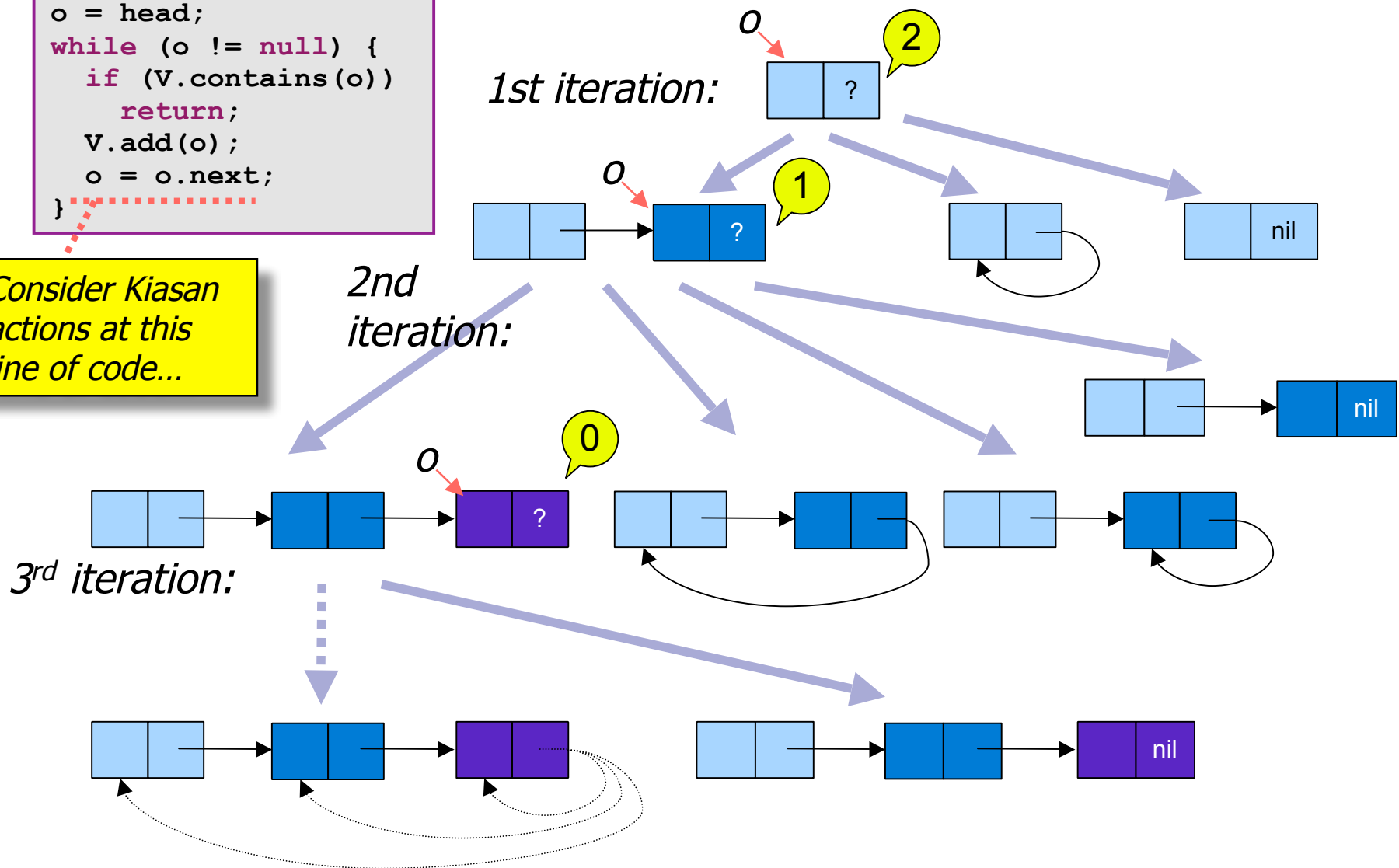


...backtrack when execution generates a chain longer than k

Handling Objects using Lazy Initialization ($k = 2$): LinkedList

```
o = head;  
while (o != null) {  
    if (V.contains(o))  
        return;  
    V.add(o);  
    o = o.next;  
}
```

Consider Kiasan
actions at this
line of code...



Correctness Results and Distinguishing Features

- Formal semantics of Kiasan's static analysis
 - proofs: relatively sound and complete
 - found an unsoundness (bug) in NASA's JPF symbolic execution implementation
- Significantly more efficient algorithms
 - orders of magnitude reduction in analysis cost
- A method to quantify the behavior coverage analyzed by Kiasan
- Fully supports Design-by-Contract paradigm
 - the most powerful compositional static analyzer for strong heap-oriented properties
- Formalized generation of analysis feedback
 - test cases, input/output object graphs

Experiment Data

*Kiasan's algorithm (Lazier#)
dramatically improves over competitors.*

Class	Method	k	States			Cases			Total Time			Theorem Prover Time		
			Lazy	Lazier	Lazier#	Lazy	Lazier	Lazier#	Lazy	Lazier	Lazier#	Lazy	Lazier	Lazier#
AvlTree	find	1	3271	2420	1864	5	4	4	1.2s	1.5s	0.8s	0.4s	0.5s	0.1s
		2	48244	23807	18800	29	21	21	8.9s	7.2s	6.9s	2.8s	3.9s	2.5s
		3	10944306	459718	351798	275	190	190	1.7h	2.4m	3.7m	1.1h	1.9m	3.2m
	insert	1	4719	3841	3053	5	4	4	2.1s	2.6s	1.5s	0.3s	1.6s	0.7s
		2	56832	31905	25702	29	21	21	10.3s	7.0s	7.5s	4.5s	3.1s	4.0s
		3	11036507	542929	422049	275	190	190	2.1h	2.8m	3.9m	1.4h	2.2m	3.5m
BinarySearchTree	insert	1	6097	5521	1621	13	12	4	3.5s	2.1s	1.1s	0.9s	0.5s	0.1s
		2	91691	63931	12551	112	94	21	22.7s	17.1s	5.0s	9.5s	7.9s	1.7s
		3	3349343	1855571	234595	2161	1668	236	50.1m	16.4m	1.5m	39.1m	12.6m	1.1m
	remove	1	4146	3693	1001	13	12	4	2.4s	2.5s	1.3s	1.2s	0.7s	0.5s
		2	74896	49422	9254	112	94	21	22.4s	14.5s	5.1s	12.8s	5.6s	1.9s
		3	3031511	1599087	197738	2161	1668	236	43.0m	13.8m	1.3m	35.1m	10.9m	1.0m
	find	1	4890	4301	1162	13	12	4	2.1s	2.9s	0.8s	0.3s	1.0s	0.2s
		2	89819	57292	10443	126	98	21	23.1s	16.3s	4.9s	10.9s	8.4s	1.8s
		3	3822839	1808683	212296	2873	1788	236	55.5m	15.7m	1.4m	42.5m	12.4m	1.1m
StackList	push	1	758	758	374	4	4	2	0.7s	0.7s	0.6s	0.0s	0.0s	0.0s
		2	1466	1390	687	6	6	3	0.9s	0.8s	0.5s	0.0s	0.1s	0.1s
		3	2450	2260	1119	8	8	4	2.1s	1.7s	0.7s	0.4s	0.1s	0.0s
	pop	1	196	196	189	2	2	2	0.2s	0.2s	0.2s	0.0s	0.0s	0.1s
		2	425	387	377	3	3	3	0.4s	0.3s	0.5s	0.0s	0.0s	0.1s
		3	770	675	662	4	4	4	0.4s	0.6s	0.5s	0.0s	0.2s	0.0s
java.util.TreeMap	get	1	4309	2009	1199	8	6	4	4.2s	2.1s	1.6s	3.0s	1.2s	1.0s
		2	85601	27489	17440	62	40	28	16.0s	10.3s	7.7s	8.5s	4.3s	4.4s
		3	20707094	774545	470913	782	482	331	7.0h	3.1m	2.0m	5.0h	2.3m	1.4m
	remove	1	2247	1721	1110	7	5	4	1.4s	1.4s	1.4s	0.1s	0.4s	0.9s
		2	74892	37832	17081	73	43	28	16.0s	12.2s	5.8s	7.9s	6.2s	2.3s
		3	17631620	1166311	472985	1075	579	331	5.1h	7.6m	1.9m	3.7h	6.4m	1.4m
	lastKey	1	1219	664	657	2	2	2	0.7s	0.4s	0.6s	0.1s	0.0s	0.3s
		2	15680	7658	7614	6	6	6	7.7s	2.5s	3.6s	3.5s	0.5s	1.2s
		3	3524450	205430	204738	31	31	31	27.0m	27.9s	30.3s	21.5m	17.3s	19.3s
java.util.Vector	add	1	986	818	354	6	6	3	2.0s	1.4s	0.7s	1.0s	0.8s	0.5s
		2	2932	1514	472	20	14	5	6.5s	2.8s	1.2s	4.2s	1.4s	0.7s
		3	10990	2906	590	74	30	7	21.0s	5.6s	0.9s	15.8s	3.3s	0.4s
	indexOf	1	644	588	438	7	6	6	0.9s	1.6s	0.9s	0.2s	0.3s	0.4s
		2	1195	1135	486	17	16	7	2.1s	2.0s	1.1s	0.5s	1.0s	0.7s
		3	2686	2339	486	44	38	7	4.5s	4.1s	0.5s	2.5s	1.7s	0.1s
	removeElementAt	1	202	200	197	3	3	3	0.8s	0.3s	0.3s	0.6s	0.1s	0.1s
		2	382	320	257	6	5	4	1.0s	0.7s	0.6s	0.2s	0.1s	0.4s
		3	999	566	318	16	9	5	2.0s	0.9s	0.6s	0.7s	0.5s	0.2s

Table 1. Experiment Data (excerpts); s – seconds; m – minutes; h – hours

Experiment Data

Class	Method		States			Cases			Total Time			Theorem Prover		Kiasan	
		k	Lazy	Lazier	Lazier#	Lazy	Lazier	Lazier#	Lazy	Lazier	Lazier#	Lazy	Lazier		
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		3	10944306	459718	351798	275	190	190							
	insert	1	4719	3841	3053	5	4	4	3.5s			2.1s		1.1s	
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	remove	1	4146	3693	1001	13	12	4	43.0m			13.8m		1.3m	
		2	74896	49422	9254	112	94	21							
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		3	2450	2260	1119	8	8	4	55.5m			15.7m		1.4m	
	pop	1	196	196	189	2	2	2							
		2	425	387	377	3	3	3							
		3	770	675	662	4	4	4							
java.util.TreeMap	get	1	4309	2009	1199	8	6	4	4.2s			2.1s		1.6s	
		2	85601	27489	17440	62	40	28	16.0s			10.3s		7.7s	
		3	20707094	774545	470913	782	482	331	7.0h			3.1m		2.0m	
	remove	1	2247	1721	1110	7	5	4							
		2	74892	37832	17081	73	43	28							
		3	17631620	1166311	472985	1075	579	331							
	lastKey	1	1219	664	657	2	2	2	1.4s			1.4s		1.4s	
		2	15680	7658	7614	6	6	6	16.0s			12.2s		5.8s	
		3	3524450	205430	204738	31	31	31	5.1h			7.6m		1.9m	
java.util.Vector	add	1	986	818	354	6	6	3							
		2	2932	1514	472	20	14	5							
		3	10990	2906	590	74	30	7							
	indexOf	1	644	588	438	7	6	6	0.7s			0.4s		0.6s	
		2	1195	1135	486	17	16	7	7.7s			2.5s		3.6s	
		3	2686	2339	486	44	38	7	27.0m			27.9s		30.3s	
	removeElementAt	1	202	200	197	3	3	3							
		2	382	320	257	6	5	4							
		3	999	566	318	16	9	5							

Table 1. Experiment Data (excerpts); s – seconds; m – minutes; h – hours

Outline



Bogor / Kiasan

Foundations

- Basic concepts
- Dealing with the heap
- Correctness results and distinguishing features

Tool Capabilities

- Lightweight property checking
- Input/Output Visualizations
- Strong contract checking
- Test case generation for open systems

Kiasan without Contracts



What's all this "contract" rubbish – they're just a big waste of time. **The code is the only thing that matters anyway.**

So what can Kiasan do for me?

Example

```
void sort(int[] data) {
    boolean isSorted;
    int numberOfTimesLooped = 0;

    do {
        isSorted = true;

        for (int i = 1; i <= data.length - numberOfTimesLooped; i++) {
            if (data[i] < data[i - 1]) {
                int tempVariable = data[i];
                data[i] = data[i - 1];
                data[i - 1] = tempVariable;

                isSorted = false;
            }
        }

        numberOfTimesLooped++;
    } while (!isSorted);
}
```


Example

```
void sort(int[] data) {
    boolean isSorted;
    int numberOfTimesLooped = 0;

    do {
        isSorted = true;

        for (int i = 1; i <= data.length - numberOfTimesLooped; i++) {
            if (data[i] < data[i - 1]) {
                int tempVariable = data[i];
                data[i] = data[i - 1];
                data[i - 1] = tempVariable;

                isSorted = false;
            }

            numberOfTimesLooped++;
        } while (!isSorted);
    }
}
```

Kiasan detects
possible null-
dereference

Example

```
void sort(int[] data) {
    boolean isSorted;
    int numberOfTimesLooped = 0;

    do {
        isSorted = true;

        for (int i = 1; i <= data.length - numberOfTimesLooped; i++) {
            if (data[i] < data[i - 1]) {
                int tempVariable = data[i];
                data[i] = data[i - 1];
                data[i - 1] = tempVariable;

                isSorted = false;
            }

            numberOfTimesLooped++;
        } while (!isSorted);
    }
}
```

Kiasan detects array
index out of bounds
(i.e., i can be equal to
data.length)

Reasoning about Heap Data

```
void foo3(Node n1, Node n2) {  
    if (n1 != null && n2 != null) {  
        n1.x = 2;  
        n2.x = 3;  
        assert (n1.x == 2 && n2.x == 3);  
    }  
}
```

This assertion is
obviously true!!!
There is no way it can
fail!

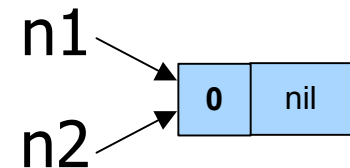


*Yes, it can! Aliasing issues
often cause faults in even
very simple code.*

Providing Diagnostic Information

```
void foo3(Node n1, Node n2) {  
    if (n1 != null && n2 != null) {  
        n1.x = 2;  
        n2.x = 3;  
        assert (n1.x == 2 && n2.x == 3);  
    }  
}
```

Error Case



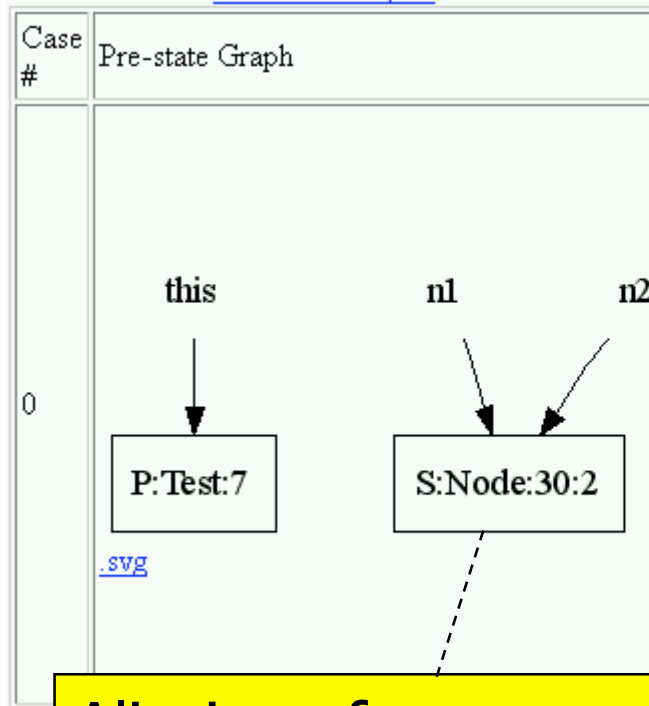
I'm sure that the ***tool***
is wrong! There is
nothing that can
cause the violation!!!



*Not only does Kiasan tell you
that there is an error, it gives
you an example execution
traces that leads to the error.*

Providing Diagnostic Information

Pre-state Graph



Aliasing of
n1, n2 in the inputs

Post-state Graph

Post-state Graph

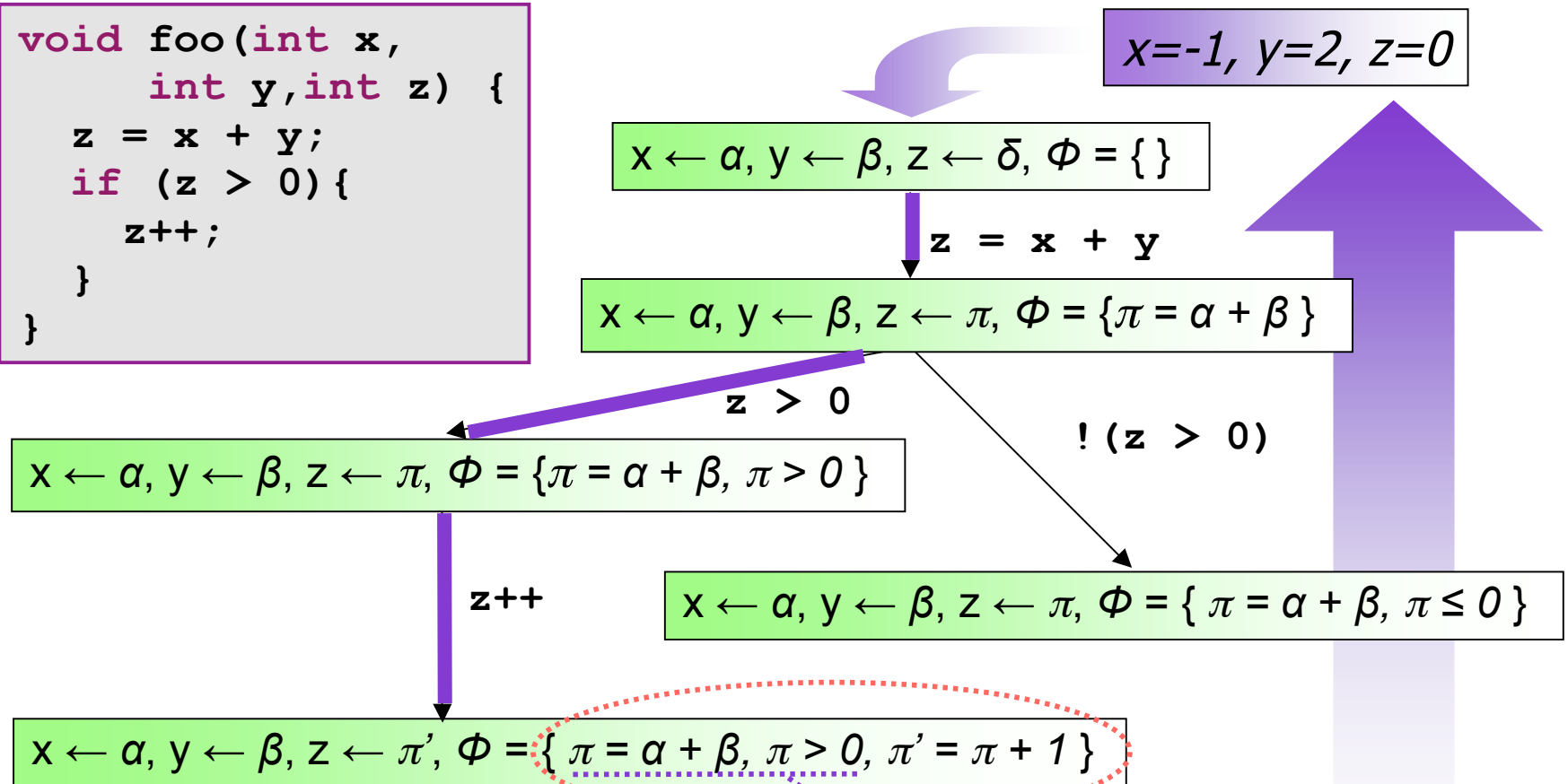
*auto-generated
by Kiasan*

Output state showing
condition giving rise to
assertion violation

Kiasan provides pairs of states (pre,post) associated with a path leading to the error state

Solving Constraints

```
void foo(int x,  
         int y,int z) {  
    z = x + y;  
    if (z > 0) {  
        z++;  
    }  
}
```



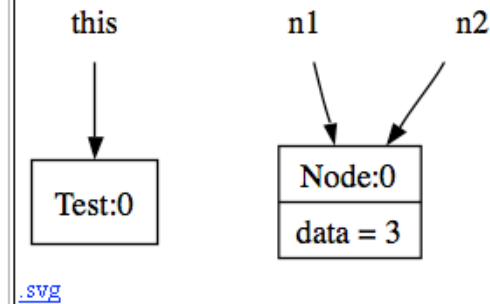
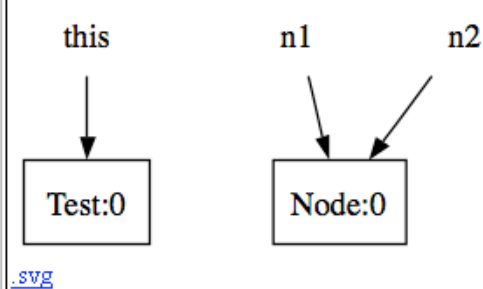
The path condition characterizes the set of program states that flow to this point in the path.

Solving constraints on input variables yields input values (a test case) that drives execution down the current path.

All Paths for Foo3 Example

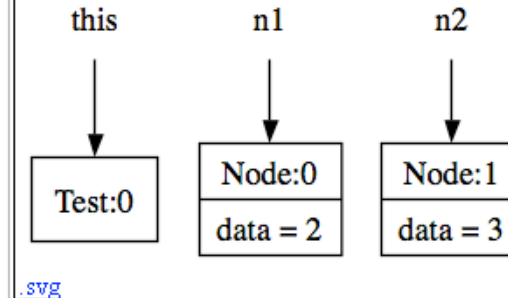
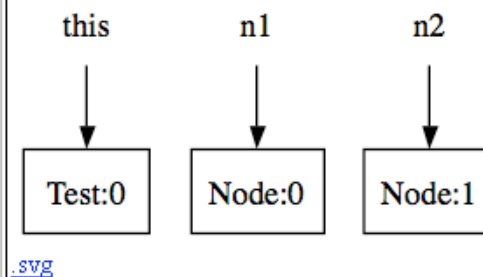
```
void foo3(Node n1, Node n2) {  
    if (n1 != null && n2 != null) {  
        n1.x = 2;  
        n2.x = 3;  
        assert (n1.x == 2 && n2.x == 3);  
    }  
}
```

1.



Error

2.



OK

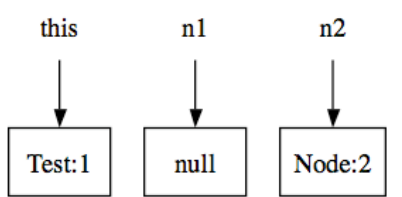
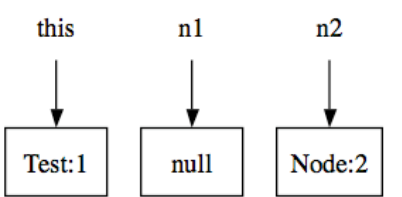
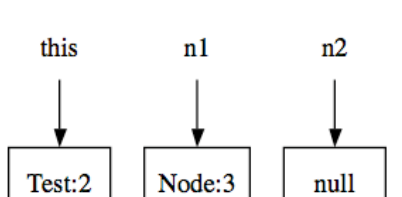
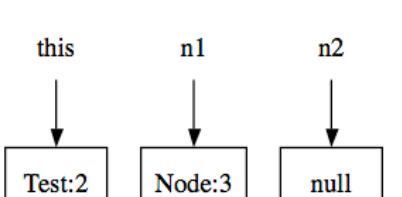
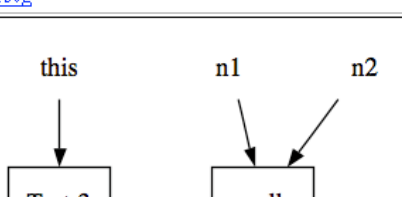
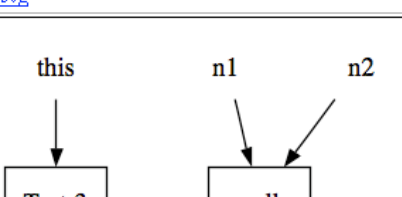
[Foo3Test1.java](#)

All Paths for Foo3 Example

```
void foo3(Node n1, Node n2) {  
    if (n1 != null && n2 != null) {  
        n1.x = 2;  
        n2.x = 3;  
        assert (n1.x == 2 && n2.x == 3);  
    }  
}
```

*JUnit test cases
auto-generated
by Kiasan for
each case*

3.

 .svg	 .svg	OK	Foo3Test2.java
 .svg	 .svg	OK	Foo3Test3.java
 .svg	 .svg	OK	Foo3Test4.java

Kiasan with Contracts



**"Without specifications,
the *code* is trivially *correct* !**

I don't use anyone's service
unless they provide a contract"

Strong Property Checking

Kiasan has the technology to check strong properties in specification languages like JML

```
public class LinkedList<E> {
    //@ inv: isAcyclic();

    /*@ pre:  isSorted(c) && other.isSorted(c);
       @ post: isSorted(c)
       @      && size() = \old(size()) + other.size()
       @      && (\forall E e;
       @          elements.contains(e);
       @          \old(this.contains(e))
       @          || other.contains(e))
       @*/
    void merge(@NonNull LinkedList<E> other,
               @NonNull Comparator<E> c) {
        ...
    }
}
```

Strong Property Checking

Kiasan has the technology to check strong properties in specification languages like JML

every linked-list is acyclic

this list is sorted and
the other list is sorted
based on the Comparator

this list is sorted

```
public class LinkedList<E> {  
    //@ inv: isAcyclic();  
  
    //@ \old: isSorted(c) && other.isSorted(c);  
    //@ \old: isSorted(c)  
    @ \old: size() = \old(size()) + other.size()  
    @ \old: (\forall E e;  
    @ elements.contains(e);  
    @ \old(this.contains(e))  
    @ || other.contains(e))  
}
```

the size is equal
to the other size
plus this list's old
size

```
Nonnull LinkedList<E> other;  
Nonnull Comparator<E> c) {
```

all the elements
are from the
previous two list

Heavyweight & Lightweight

Actually, there are number of reasons why you might be willing to write specs like that, but for now I'll simply point out that one can also have useful **lightweight specifications**.



Geez, that's a **huge contract**! Who is going to write all that contract rubbish?



Samples of Design Intentions

Specifying common patterns

■ Null-ness

```
class LinkedList { @NonNull ListNode head; }
```

```
class LinkedList { @Nullable ListNode head; }
```

■ Null-ness of a container's element

```
class TreeNode {  
    @NonNull @NotNullElements Set<TreeNode> children;  
}
```

Samples of Design Intentions

Specifying common patterns

- Cyclic/Acyclic

```
class LinkedList { @Acyclic ListNode head; }
```

OR

```
@Acyclic("head") class LinkedList { ... }
```

- Tree/Graph

```
@Tree("children") class TreeNode {  
    Set<TreeNode> children;  
}
```


Samples of Design Intentions

Specifying specific patterns

- Units

```
class Rod { @Meter double length;  
            @Celcius double temperature; }
```

- One can define domain-specific annotations that can be checked by Kiasan

Benefits of Strong Specs?

Why don't we actually step through the **methodology/workflow** for constructing and leveraging stronger specifications....



OK, I can see how codified design intentions could be useful, but what about **heavyweight** specs?



Executable Specifications

I. Write invariants, pre/post-conditions

- Kiasan will eventually support checking of specifications written in JML.
- Currently specifications must be written as executable (pure) boolean-valued Java methods.

Executable Specifications

Invariant of a binary search tree

```
boolean repOK(BinaryNode t) {  
    return repOK(t, new Range());  
}  
  
boolean repOK(BinaryNode t, Range range) {  
    if (t == null) return true;  
  
    if (!range.inRange(t.element)) return false;  
  
    return repOK(t.left, range.setUpper(t.element));  
        && repOK(t.right, range.setLower(t.element));  
}
```

Dealing with Heap Data

II. Specify that invariant should be checked on input & output

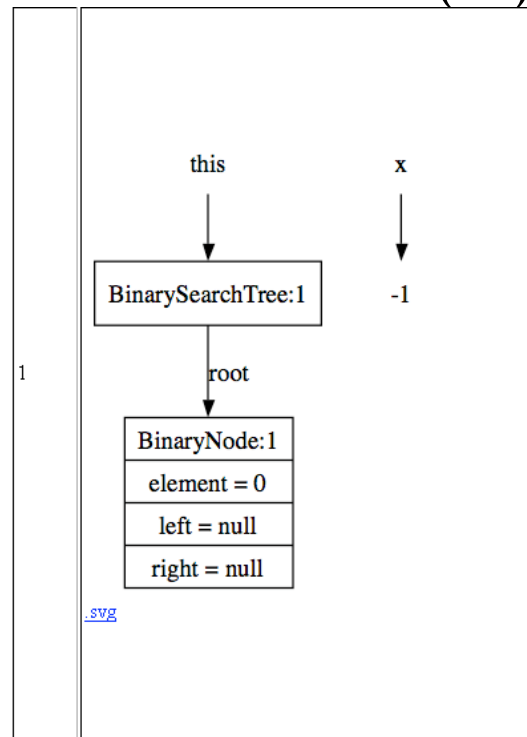
```
@Assertion(@Case(  
    pre = "repOK(root)",  
    post = "repOK(root)")  
public void insert( int x ) {root = myins( x, root ); }  
  
@Helper  
private BinaryNode myins( int x, BinaryNode t ) {  
    if ( t == null )  
        t = new BinaryNode( x, null, null );  
    else if( x < t.element)  
        t.left = myins( x, t.left );  
    else if( x > t.element )  
        t.right = myins( x, t.right );  
    else  
        ; // Duplicate; do nothing  
    return t;  
}
```

Dealing with Heap Data: Results

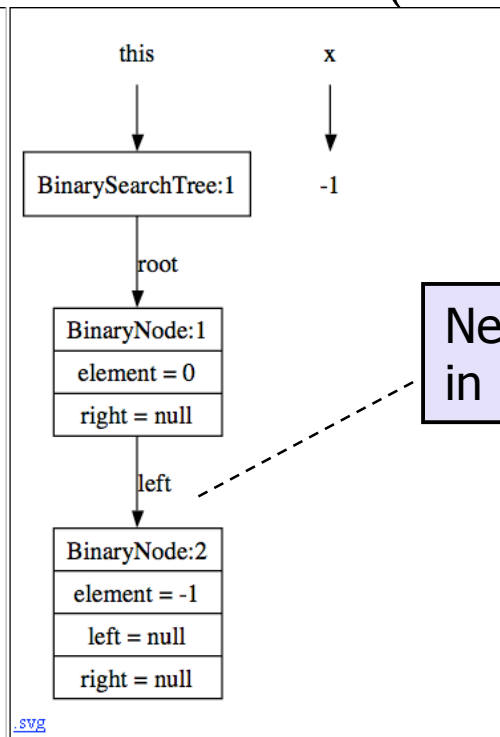
III. Invoke Kiasan to check method and/or generate tests

20 cases
for k=3

Pre-State: `this.insert(-1)`



Post: `isOK(this.root)`



New element goes
in left child

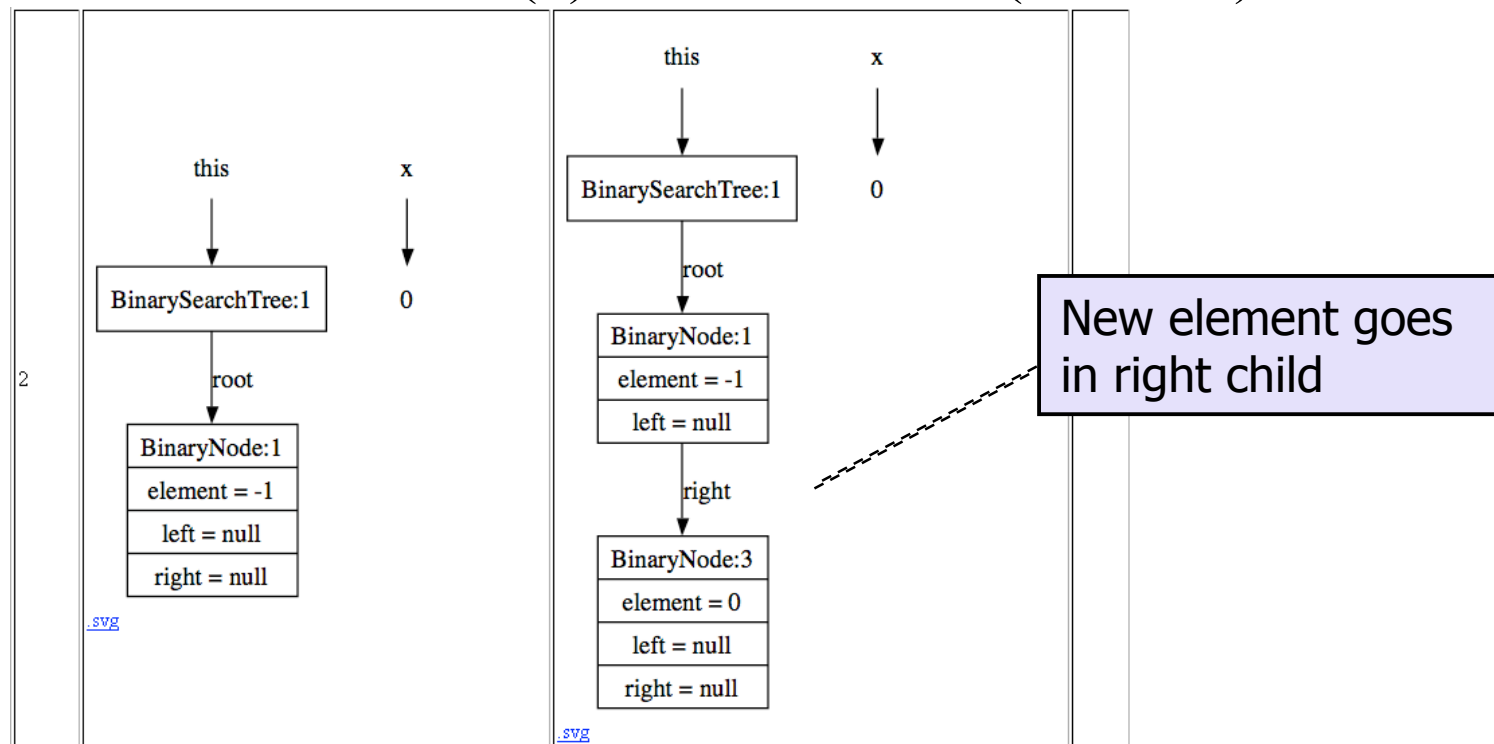
Tool verifies that pre/post conditions are satisfied and gives pre/post-state pairs for each path through the method

Dealing with Heap Data: Results

III. Invoke Kiasan to check method and/or generate tests

Pre-State: `this.insert(0)`

Post: `isOK(this.root)`



Think about the effort if one has to do this manually!

Need External Evidence and Automated Evidence Checker



That's great, but why should I **trust** your tool? Are you telling me that **my** developers should check the scenarios manually?

What is the **external evidence** that they are correct, and how to check them **automatically**?

Automatic Test Case Generators and Assisting Code Inspection

- Extends the generation of error scenarios to generate test cases
 - generate cases for “good” behaviors
 - while test generations should not be based on code alone, this is valuable for regression testing
- This can be used for code inspection
 - the generated input/output (side-effects) of a method give some clue about the method’s behavior
 - generalize to any statement block

Connecting With SE QA Tech

- During analysis, Kiasan computes coverage metrics (statement, branch)
 - this includes coverage on specifications
 - Its analysis can even be driven by the coverage metrics
 - i.e., stop the analysis as soon as the desirable coverage is achieved
- ... reasonable cost/coverage trade-off

Kiasan Methodology



- Checking in IDE
 - start with small bounds
 - incrementally check
 - scenario and test case generation for violations
- More exhaustive checking
 - higher bounds with overnight/parallel checking
 - Kiasan tells you if coverage criteria has been met
- Code understanding
 - select any block of code,
Kiasan generates flow scenarios giving path coverage
- Test case generation for regression testing
 - automatically generate tests from code
 - incrementally add tests as changes are made
- Specifications are leveraged for static checking, code understanding/inspection, test case generation, and doc.

Brief Summary of Capabilities



- Static checker for common runtime errors
 - run in background for low bounds
 - run parallelizing checks at night with high bounds
 - similar Java checking tools such as ESC/Java, with focus on
 - supports heap data
 - provides error trace & input/output pairs
- Test-case generation with complete path coverage up to bounds – more powerful than commercial tools
 - Run in background in Eclipse, and update test suite with changes
- Gentle introduction to the inclusion of specifications (from light-weight to heavy-weight)
 - Support checking directly with controllable coverage
 - Generate tests as *evidence* for either bugs found or to illustrate coverage via a test suite
 - Argue that writing specs is easier than writing a high-coverage unit test suite – plus, specs can be leveraged in multiple ways

Kiasan Future Work

- Significant engineering effort to create easy-to-use tool that can be dropped to developers
 - specification language and methodology
 - next generation (extensible) JML
 - expressing properties/design intentions (e.g., regions)
 - usability in configuring the analysis
 - integration with various theorem provers (SMT-LIB)
 - IDE integration
- Library models/abstractions
- Parallel/distributed solutions
- Integrating abstract interpretation and algebraic specification
- Concurrency, secure information flow, etc.

For More Information...



SAnToS Laboratory,
Kansas State University
<http://www.cis.ksu.edu/santos>



Bogor/Kiasan Project
<http://bogor.projects.cis.ksu.edu>



Indus Project
<http://indus.projects.cis.ksu.edu>