

Static bounds on program running time

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Static bounds
on running
time

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Introduction

SPEED: Goals

SPEED:
Technique

SPEED: Im-
plementation

Future
research

Partial and total correctness

$$\{P\} C \{Q\}$$

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Partial Correctness

$$(P \wedge h) \rightarrow Q$$

Partial and total correctness

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Total Correctness

$$P \rightarrow (h \wedge Q)$$

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$$P \rightarrow (h \wedge Q)$$

✓ semantic bugs

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✓ nontermination

Partial Correctness

$$(P \wedge h) \rightarrow Q$$

✓ semantic bugs

✗ nontermination

$$\{X = n\}$$

```
Total := 0
```

```
I := 1
```

```
while I <= X :
```

```
    Total := Total + I
```

$$\{\text{Total} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}\}$$

Partial and total correctness

$$\{P\} C \{Q\}$$

Total Correctness

$$P \rightarrow (h \wedge Q)$$

- ✓ semantic bugs
- ✓ nontermination
- ✗ performance bugs

Partial Correctness

$$(P \wedge h) \rightarrow Q$$

- ✓ semantic bugs
- ✗ nontermination
- ✗ performance bugs

$$\{X = n\}$$

```
Total := 0
I := 1
while I <= 2000000000 :
  if (I <= X) :
    Total := Total + I
  I := I + 1
```

$$\{\text{Total} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}\}$$

Partial and total correctness

$$\{P\} C \{Q\}$$

Total Correctness > **Partial Correctness**

$$P \rightarrow (h \wedge Q)$$

✓ semantic bugs

✓ nontermination

✗ performance bugs

$$(P \wedge h) \rightarrow Q$$

✓ semantic bugs

✗ nontermination

✗ performance bugs

Partial Correctness + Time > Total Correctness [1]

Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 SPEED: Goals
- 3 SPEED: Technique
- 4 SPEED: Implementation
- 5 Future research

SPEED: Precise and Efficient Static Estimation of Program Computational Complexity

[2]: Sumit Gulwani, Krishna K Mehra, and Trishul Chilimbi,
Microsoft Research, 2009

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Goal: Automatically generate upper bounds on the running
time of simple programs

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Goal: Automatically generate upper bounds on the ~~running time~~ of **number of loop iterations of** simple programs

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Requirements:

- Able to contain $+$, \cdot , \min , \max

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Goal: Automatically generate upper bounds on the ~~running time~~ of **number of loop iterations of** simple programs

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- Precise (tight)
- Correct

SPEED bound generation

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Also:

- ★ Built from linear constraints

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Also:

- ★ Built from linear constraints (allows use of linear invariant generation tool)

SPEED bound generation

Requirements:

- Able to contain $+$, \cdot , \min , \max
- Precise (tight)
- Correct

Also:

- ★ Built from linear constraints (allows use of linear invariant generation tool)
- ★ Small enough search space

```
def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :  
    x := x0; y := y0  
    while (x < m) :  
        if (y < n) :  
            y++  
        else :  
            x++
```

```
def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :  
    x := x0; y := y0  
    while (x < m) :  
        if (y < n) :  
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```

Loop iterations: $(m - x_0) + (n - y_0)$

```
def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :  
    x := x0; y := y0  
    while (x < m) :  
        if (y < n) :  
            y++  
        else :  
            x++
```

Loop iterations: 0 if $x_0 \geq m$; otherwise, $m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

Upper bound: $\max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

```
def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :  
    x := x0; y := y0; T := 0  
    while (x < m) :  
        if (y < n) :  
            y++  
        else :  
            x++  
            T++
```

Loop iterations: 0 if $x_0 \geq m$; otherwise, $m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

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def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :  
    x := x0; y := y0; T := 0  
    while (x < m) :  
        if (y < n) :  
            y++  
        else :  
            x++  
    T++ {T + x0 + y0 = x + y}
```

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def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :
    x := x0; y := y0; T := 0
    while (x < m) :
        if (y < n) :
            y++
        else :
            x++
    T++ {  $T + x_0 + y_0 = x + y \wedge x \leq n \wedge y \leq \max(n, y_0)$  }
         $\implies \{ T \leq \max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0) \}$ 
```

Loop iterations: 0 if $x_0 \geq m$; otherwise, $m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

Upper bound: $\max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)$.


```
def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :  
    x := x0; y := y0; c1 := 0; c2 := 0  
    while (x < m) :  
        if (y < n) :  
            y++; c2++  
        else :  
            x++; c1++
```

Loop iterations: 0 if $x_0 \geq m$; otherwise, $m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

Upper bound: $\max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

```
def f1(x0, y0, m, n) :
    x := x0; y := y0; c1 := 0; c2 := 0
    while (x < m) :
        if (y < n) :
            y++; c2++ {y0 + c2 = y ∧ y ≤ n}
                    ⇒ {c2 ≤ n - y0}
        else :
            x++; c1++ {x0 + c1 = x ∧ x ≤ m}
                    ⇒ {c1 ≤ m - x0}
```

$$\{T = c_1 + c_2 \leq \max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)\}$$

Loop iterations: 0 if $x_0 \geq m$; otherwise, $m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

Upper bound: $\max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

```
def f2(x0, y0, n) :  
  x := x0; y := y0  
  while (x < n) :  
    if (x < y) :  
      x++  
    else :  
      y++
```

```
def f2(x0, y0, n) :  
  x := x0; y := y0  
  while (x < n) :  
    if (x < y) :  
      x++  
    else :  
      y++
```

Loop iterations:

- 0 if $x_0 \geq n$
- $n - x_0$ if $x_0 < n \leq y_0$
- $(n - x_0) + (n - y_0)$ if $x_0, y_0 < n$

Upper bound: $\max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

```

def f2(x0, y0, n) :
  x := x0; y := y0; c1 := 0; c2 := 0
  while (x < n) :
    if (x < y) :
      x++; c1++ {x0 + c1 = x ∧ x ≤ n}
                ⇒ {c1 ≤ n - x0}
    else :
      y++; c2++ {y0 + c2 = y ∧ y ≤ n}
                ⇒ {c2 ≤ n - y0}
  
```

$$\{T = c_1 + c_2 \leq \max(0, n - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)\}$$

Loop iterations:

- 0 if $x_0 \geq n$
- $n - x_0$ if $x_0 < n \leq y_0$
- $(n - x_0) + (n - y_0)$ if $x_0, y_0 < n$

Upper bound: $\max(0, n - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0)$.

Strategy

- Assign a loop counter for every back-edge in the program

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$$c_3 \leq B_1$$

$$c_1 \leq B_2$$

$$c_2 \leq B_3$$

$$c_3 \leq B_4$$

$$c_1 \leq B_5$$

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$$c_3 \leq B_4$$

$$c_1 \leq B_5$$

$$\begin{aligned} T &= c_1 + c_2 + c_3 \\ &\leq \max(0, B_2, B_5) + \max(0, B_3) + \max(0, B_1, B_4) \end{aligned}$$

```
def f3(m, n) :  
  x := 0; y := 0  
  while (x < m) :  
    if (y < n) :  
      y++  
    else :  
      y = 0  
      x++
```

```
def f3(m, n) :  
  x := 0; y := 0  
  while (x < m) :  
    if (y < n) :  
      y++  
    else :  
      y = 0  
      x++
```

Loop iterations:

- 0 if $m \leq 0$
- m if $n \leq 0 < m$
- $m(n + 1)$ if $0 < m, n$

Upper bound: $\max(m, 0) + (\max(m, 0) + 1) \cdot \max(n, 0)$.

```
def f3(m, n) :  
  x := 0; y := 0; c1 := 0; c2 := 0  
  while (x < m) :  
    if (y < n) :  
      y++; c2++  
    else :  
      y = 0  
      x++; c1++; c2 = 0
```

Loop iterations:

- 0 if $m \leq 0$
- m if $n \leq 0 < m$
- $m(n + 1)$ if $0 < m, n$

Upper bound: $\max(m, 0) + (\max(m, 0) + 1) \cdot \max(n, 0)$.

```
def f3(m, n) :
  x := 0; y := 0; c1 := 0; c2 := 0
  while (x < m) :
    if (y < n) :
      y++; c2++ {y = c2 ∧ y ≤ n}
                ⇒ {c2 ≤ n}
    else :
      y = 0
      x++; c1++; c2 = 0 {x = c1 ∧ x ≤ m}
                       ⇒ {c1 ≤ m}
```

Loop iterations:

- 0 if $m \leq 0$
- m if $n \leq 0 < m$
- $m(n + 1)$ if $0 < m, n$

Upper bound: $\max(m, 0) + (\max(m, 0) + 1) \cdot \max(n, 0)$.

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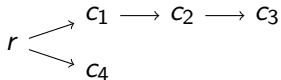
$$c_3 \leq B_1$$

$$c_1 \leq B_2$$

$$c_2 \leq B_3$$

$$c_4 \leq B_4$$

$$c_1 \leq B_5$$



Strategy

- Assign a loop counter for every back-edge in the program
- **Assign DAG of loop counter dependencies**
- Compute a **linear** bound on the value of the loop counter at each back-edge

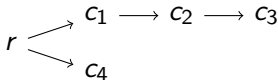
$$c_3 \leq B_1$$

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$$c_2 \leq B_3$$

$$c_4 \leq B_4$$

$$c_1 \leq B_5$$



$$T_1 \leq \max(0, B_2, B_5)$$

$$T_2 \leq (1 + T_1) \max(0, B_3)$$

$$T_3 \leq (1 + T_2) \max(0, B_1)$$

$$T_4 \leq \max(0, B_4)$$

$$T = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4$$

SPEED bound generation

Requirements:

- ✓ Able to contain $+$, \cdot , \min , \max
- ★ Precise (tight)
- ✓ Correct
- ✓ Built from linear constraints (allows use of linear invariant generation tool)
- ✓/★ Small enough search space

Search Space

- Pick a number of variables

Search Space

- Pick a number of variables
- Assign a variable to each back-edge ($>$ exponential)

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Optimal bound in search space

Search Space

- Pick a number of variables
- Assign a variable to each back-edge ($>$ exponential)
- Assign DAG of variable dependencies ($>$ exponential)

~~Optimal bound in search space~~

“Counter-optimal” bound

Strategy

- Assign a loop counter for every back-edge in the program
- Assign DAG of loop counter dependencies
- Compute a **linear** bound on the value of the loop counter at each back-edge

And:

- **Minimize number of counters**

Strategy

- Assign a loop counter for every back-edge in the program
- Assign DAG of loop counter dependencies
- Compute a **linear** bound on the value of the loop counter at each back-edge

And:

- Minimize number of counters
- Minimize number of dependencies

- Minimize number of counters

```
def f4(n) :  
    x = 0  
    while (x < n) :  
        if (*) :  
            x++  
        else  
            x++
```

- Minimize number of counters

```
def f5(n) :  
    x = 0  
    while (x < n and rand({0,1}) == 0) :  
        x++  
    while (x < n) :  
        x++
```

Algorithm

Repeat:

- Pick an unassigned back-edge and assign it a counter.

Algorithm

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- Pick an unassigned back-edge and assign it a counter.
 - If an existing counter works, use that.

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 - Try to define a new counter.

Algorithm

Repeat:

- Pick an unassigned back-edge and assign it a counter.
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 - Try to define a new counter.
 - Otherwise, fail.

Algorithm

Repeat:

- Pick an unassigned back-edge and assign it a counter.
 - If an existing counter works, use that.
 - Try to define a new counter.
 - Otherwise, fail.

Whenever a new counter is added:

- Add all dependencies from previous counters.

Algorithm

Repeat:

- Pick an unassigned back-edge and assign it a counter.
 - If an existing counter works, use that.
 - Try to define a new counter.
 - Otherwise, fail.

Whenever a new counter is added:

- Add all dependencies from previous counters.
- Remove one at a time until the invariant generation fails.

Implementation

- Quantitative functions on data structures

$\text{len } A$, size T , location of x in L

Implementation

- Quantitative functions on data structures

$\text{len } A, \text{ size } T, \text{ location of } x \text{ in } L$

- C/C++

Implementation

- Quantitative functions on data structures

$\text{len } A, \text{ size } T, \text{ location of } x \text{ in } L$

- C/C++
- Precise bounds on over 50% of loops in Microsoft product code

Possible research directions

- Nested max

$$\begin{aligned} & \max(0, m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)) \\ & \leq \max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0) \end{aligned}$$

Possible research directions

- Nested max

$$\begin{aligned} & \max(0, m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)) \\ & \leq \max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0) \end{aligned}$$

- Optimal bound (rather than minimizing counters and dependencies)

Possible research directions

- Nested max

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- Optimal bound (rather than minimizing counters and dependencies)
- Scenarios where the invariant generation fails:

Possible research directions

- Nested max

$$\begin{aligned} & \max(0, m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)) \\ & \leq \max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0) \end{aligned}$$

- Optimal bound (rather than minimizing counters and dependencies)
- Scenarios where the invariant generation fails:
 - Invariant generation tool required a global fact

Possible research directions

- Nested max

$$\begin{aligned} & \max(0, m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)) \\ & \leq \max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0) \end{aligned}$$

- Optimal bound (rather than minimizing counters and dependencies)
- Scenarios where the invariant generation fails:
 - Invariant generation tool required a global fact
 - Linear bounds require path-sensitive invariant generation

Possible research directions

- Nested max

$$\begin{aligned} & \max(0, m - x_0 + \max(0, n - y_0)) \\ & \leq \max(0, m - x_0) + \max(0, n - y_0) \end{aligned}$$

- Optimal bound (rather than minimizing counters and dependencies)
- Scenarios where the invariant generation fails:
 - Invariant generation tool required a global fact
 - Linear bounds require path-sensitive invariant generation
- Other types of counters, placement, and dependency

References I



Eric CR Hehner.

Specifications, programs, and total correctness.

Science of Computer Programming, 34(3):191–205, 1999.



Sumit Gulwani, Krishna K Mehra, and Trishul Chilimbi.

Speed: precise and efficient static estimation of program computational complexity.

In *ACM SIGPLAN Notices*, volume 44, pages 127–139. ACM, 2009.