Computer-Aided Reasoning for Software

Solver-Aided Programming II

Emina Torlak

emina@cs.washington.edu

Topics

Last lecture

• Getting started with solver-aided programming.

Today

• Going pro with solver-aided programming.

Announcements

• HWI is out.

A programming model that integrates solvers into the language, providing constructs for program verification, synthesis, and more.

R**i**SETTE

Solver-aided programming in two parts: (1) getting started and (2) going pro

How to use a solver-aided language: the workflow, constructs, and gotchas. How to build your own solver-aided tool via direct symbolic evaluation or language embedding.

How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



The classic (hard) way to build a tool

What is hard about building a solver-aided tool?

An easier way: tools as languages How to build tools by stacking layers of languages.

Behind the scenes: symbolic virtual machine How Rosette works so you don't have to.

A last look: a few recent applications

Cool tools built with Rosette!

How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



The classic (hard) way to build a tool

What is hard about building a solver-aided tool?

An easier way: tools as languages How to build tools by stacking layers of languages.

Behind the scenes: symbolic virtual machine How Rosette works so you don't have to.

A last look: a few recent applications Cool tools built with Rosette!

The classic (hard) way to build a tool





The classic (hard) way to build a tool





Recall the solver-aided programming tool chain: the tool reduces a query about program behavior to an SMT problem.

What all queries have in common: they need to translate programs to constraints!



The classic (hard) way to build a tool



Wanted: an easier way to build tools



Wanted: an easier way to build tools



Wanted: an easier way to build tools



How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



The classic (hard) way to build a tool

What is hard about building a solver-aided tool?

An easier way: tools as languages

How to build tools by stacking layers of languages.

Behind the scenes: symbolic virtual machine How Rosette works so you don't have to.

A last look: a few recent applications Cool tools built with Rosette!

Layers of classic languages: DSLs and hosts



A formal language that is specialized to a particular application domain and often limited in capability.

A high-level language for implementing DSLs, usually with meta-programming features.

Layers of classic languages: DSLs and hosts



Layers of classic languages: many DSLs and hosts



artificial intelligence Church, BLOG

databases SQL, Datalog

hardware design Bluespec, Chisel, Verilog, VHDL

math and statistics Eigen, Matlab, R

layout and visualization LaTex, dot, dygraphs, D3

Racket, Scala, JavaScript, ...

Layers of classic languages: why DSLs?



Layers of classic languages: why DSLs?



Layers of classic languages: why DSLs?



Layers of solver-aided languages



Layers of solver-aided languages: tools as SDSLs



education and games

Enlearn, RuleSy (VMCAI'18), Nonograms (FDG'17), UCB feedback generator (ITiCSE'17)

synthesis-aided compilation

LinkiTools, Chlorophyll (PLDI'14), GreenThumb (ASPLOS'16)

type system soundness Bonsai (POPI'I 8)

Bonsai (POPL'18)

computer architecture

MemSynth (PLDI'17)

databases Cosette (CIDR'17)

radiation therapy control Neutrons (CAV'16)

... and more

Layers of solver-aided languages: tools as SDSLs



education and games

Enlearn, RuleSy (VMCAI'18), Nonograms (FDG'17), UCB feedback generator (ITiCSE'17)

synthesis-aided compilation LinkiTools, Chlorophyll (PLDI'14), GreenThumb (ASPLOS'16)

type system soundness Bonsai (POPL'18)

computer architecture MemSynth (PLDI'17)

databases Cosette (CIDR'17)

radiation therapy control Neutrons (CAV'16)

... and more

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

BV: A tiny assembly-like language for writing fast, lowlevel library functions.

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

We want to **test**, **verify**, **debug**, and **synthesize** programs in the BV SDSL.

BV: A tiny assembly-like language for writing fast, low-level library functions.

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

We want to **test**, **verify**, **debug**, and **synthesize** programs in the BV SDSL.

BV: A tiny assembly-like language for writing fast, low-level library functions.

Ι.	interpreter	[10 LOC]
2.	verifier	[free]
3.	debugger	[free]
4.	synthesizer	[free]

R i SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

```
> bvmax(-2, -1)
```

R

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

> bvmax(-2, -1)



R¢SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

> bvmax(-2, -1)



(out opcode in ...)













<pre>def bvmax(r0, r1) : r2 = bvsge(r0, r1) r3 = bvneg(r2) r4 = bvxor(r0, r2) r5 = bvand(r3, r4) r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)</pre>	<pre>(define bvmax 0 -2 `((2 bvsge 0 1) 1 -1 (3 bvneg 2) 3 0 (4 bvxor 0 2) 4 -2 (5 bvand 3 4) 5 0 (6 bvxor 1 5))) 6 -1</pre>	
return r6		
<pre>> bvmax(-2, -1)</pre>	<pre>interpret (define (interpret prog inputs) (make-registers prog inputs) (for ([stmt prog]) (match stmt [(list out opcode in) (define op (eval opcode)) (define args (map load in)) (store out (apply op args))])) (load (last)))</pre>	



R

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

```
> bvmax(-2, -1)
-1
```

(**define** bvmax

- `((2 bvsge 0 1)
 - (3 bvneg 2)
 - (4 bvxor 0 2)
 - (5 bvand 3 4)
 - (6 bvxor 1 5)))

pattern matching

- dynamic evaluation
- first-class & higherorder procedures
- side effects

```
(define (interpret prog inputs)
 (make-registers prog inputs)
 (for ([stmt prog])
  (match stmt
     [(list out opcode in ...)
     (define op (eval opcode))
     (define args (map load in))
     (store out (apply op args))]))
 (load (last)))
```
R**i**SETTE

R¢SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

> verify(bvmax, max)

Creates two fresh symbolic values of type 32-bit integer and binds them to the variables x and y.

query

(define-symbolic x y int32?)

R¢SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

> verify(bvmax, max)

values of type 32-bit integer and binds them to the variables x and y.

query

Creates two fresh symbolic

```
(define-symbolic x y int32?)
(define in (list x y))
(verify
  (assert (equal? (interpret bvmax in)
                     (interpret max in))))
```

Symbolic values can be used just like concrete values of the same type.

R¢SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

> verify(bvmax, max)

Creates two fresh symbolic values of type 32-bit integer and binds them to the variables x and y.

(verify expr) searches for a concrete interpretation of symbolic values that causes expr to fail.

query

Symbolic values can be used just like concrete values of the same type.

R**i**SETTE

R**i**SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
  r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
  r3 = bvneg(r2)
  r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
  r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
  r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
  return r6
                                        (define-symbolic x y int32?)
                                        (define in (list x y))
> verify(bvmax, max)
                              query
                                        (verify
[0, -2]
                                          (assert (equal? (interpret bvmax in)
                                                           (interpret max in))))
> bvmax(0, -2)
-1
```

R**i**SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(r0, r2)
    r5 = bvand(r3, r4)
    r6 = bvxor(r1, r5)
    return r6
```

> debug(bvmax, max, [0, -2])

query

```
(define in (list (int32 0) (int32 -2)))
(debug [register?]
  (assert (equal? (interpret bvmax in)
                          (interpret max in))))
```

RiSETTE



R**i**SETTE

```
def bvmax(r0, r1) :
    r2 = bvsge(r0, r1)
    r3 = bvneg(r2)
    r4 = bvxor(??, ??)
    r5 = bvand(r3, ??)
    r6 = bvxor(??, ??)
    return r6
```

> synthesize(bvmax, max)

query

R**i**SETTE



> synthesize(bvmax, max)



How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



The classic (hard) way to build a tool

What is hard about building a solver-aided tool?

An easier way: tools as languages How to build tools by stacking layers of languages.

Behind the scenes: symbolic virtual machine How Rosette works so you don't have to.

A last look: a few recent applications Cool tools built with Rosette!

How it all works: a big picture view



How it all works: a big picture view



How it all works: a big picture view









constraints













solve: ps = ()for v in vs: if v > 0: ps = insert(v, ps) assert len(ps) == len(vs) – symbolic execution – $vs \mapsto (a, b)$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $a \le 0 \qquad a \ge 0$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (b)$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $ps \mapsto (b, a)$ $\begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b > 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ true \end{cases}$



solve: ps = ()for v in vs: if v > 0: ps = insert(v, ps) assert len(ps) == len(vs) – symbolic execution $vs \mapsto (a, b)$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $a \le 0 \qquad a \ge 0$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (b)$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $ps \mapsto (b, a)$ $\begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b > 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \ge 0 \\ true \end{cases}$



solve: ps = ()for v in vs: if v > 0: ps = insert(v, ps)assert len(ps) == len(vs) symbolic execution $vs \mapsto (a, b)$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $a \le 0 \qquad a \ge 0$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (b)$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $ps \mapsto (b, a)$ $\begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b > 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \ge 0 \\ true \end{cases}$



solve: ps = ()for v in vs: if v > 0: ps = insert(v, ps) assert len(ps) == len(vs) symbolic execution $vs \mapsto (a, b)$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $a \le 0$ a > 0 $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $b \le 0 \checkmark b > 0$ $ps \mapsto ()$ $ps \mapsto (b)$ $ps \mapsto (a)$ $ps \mapsto (b, a)$ $\begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a \le 0 \\ b > 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \le 0 \\ false \end{cases} \lor \begin{cases} a > 0 \\ b \ge 0 \\ true \end{cases}$



```
solve:
    ps = ()
    for v in vs:
        if v > 0:
            ps = insert(v, ps)
        assert len(ps) == len(vs)
```











```
solve:
    ps = ()
    for v in vs:
        if v > 0:
            ps = insert(v, ps)
        assert len(ps) == len(vs)
```



solve:
 ps = ()
 for v in vs:
 if v > 0:
 ps = insert(v, ps)
 assert len(ps) == len(vs)







solve:
 ps = ()
 for v in vs:
 if v > 0:
 ps = insert(v, ps)
 assert len(ps) == len(vs)



 $g_1 = b > 0$

 $g_2 = g_0 \wedge g_1$

 $g_3 = \neg(g_0 \Leftrightarrow g_1)$

 $g_4 = \neg g_0 \land \neg g_1$

 $c = ite(g_1, b, a)$

assert g₂




A new design: type-driven state merging



How to build your own solver-aided tool or language



The classic (hard) way to build a tool

What is hard about building a solver-aided tool?

An easier way: tools as languages How to build tools by stacking layers of languages.

Behind the scenes: symbolic virtual machine How Rosette works so you don't have to.

A last look: a few recent applications

Cool tools built with Rosette!

Clinical Neutron Therapy System (CNTS) at UW



- 30 years of incident-free service.
- Controlled by custom software, built by CNTS engineering staff.
- Third generation of Therapy Control software built recently.

Clinical Neutron Therapy System (CNTS) at UW





Clinical Neutron Therapy System (CNTS) at UW



Experimental Physics and Industrial Control System (EPICS) Dataflow Language

Therapy Control Software

Clinical Neutron Therapy System (CNTS) at UW







Prototyped in a few days and found bugs.



Calvin Loncaric





Found safety-critical defects in a pre-release version of the therapy control software.

Used by CNTS staff to verify changes to the controller.

Memory consistency models define memory reordering behaviors on multiprocessors.



Memory consistency models define memory reordering behaviors on multiprocessors.



Forbidden by sequential consistency.

Allowed by x86 and other hardware memory models.

Memory consistency models define memory reordering behaviors on multiprocessors.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} x = y = 0 \\ \hline a = x & b = y \\ y = 1 & x = 1 \\ \hline a \equiv b \equiv 1 \end{array}$$

Forbidden by sequential consistency.

Allowed by x86 and other hardware memory models.

Formalizing memory models is hard: e.g., PowerPC formalized over 7 publications in 2009-2015.

Memory consistency models define memory reordering behaviors on multiprocessors.



Forbidden by sequential consistency.

Allowed by x86 and other hardware memory models.





Prototyped in a few weeks and synthesized real memory models.



James Bornholt

Memory model specification





[Bornholt and Torlak, PLDI'17]

Synthesized PowerPC in 12 seconds from 768 previously published tests.

Synthesized x86 in 2 seconds from Intel's litmus tests. Discovered 4 tests are missing from the Intel manual.

		1	2	1	
	1	1	1	1	1
0					
3					
1 1 1					
1 1					
1					



Nonograms game mechanics:

The numbered hints describe how many contiguous blocks of cells are filled with *true*. Cells filled with *true* are marked as a black square and cells filled with *false* as a red X.





Nonograms game mechanics:

The numbered hints describe how many contiguous blocks of cells are filled with *true*. Cells filled with *true* are marked as a black square and cells filled with *false* as a red X.

A computer solves puzzles by reducing the game mechanics to backtracking search, but human players solve puzzles by using multiple **strategies** to make progress without guessing.

Finding these strategies is a key challenge in game design, and is usually done through human testing.

		1	2	1	
	1	1	1	1	1
0					
3					
1 1 1					
1 1					
1					

The 'big hint" strategy.



				1	2	1	
			1	1	1	1	1
		0	×	×	×	×	×
		3	×				×
1	1	1		×		×	
	1	1	×		×		×
		1	×	×		×	×

A computer solves puzzles by reducing the game mechanics to backtracking search, but human players solve puzzles by using multiple **strategies** to make progress without guessing.

Finding these strategies is a key challenge in game design, and is usually done through human testing.



 7
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0
 0

				1	2	1	
			1	1	1	1	1
		0	×	×	×	×	×
		3	×				×
1	1	1		×		×	
	1	1	×		×		×
		1	×	×		×	×

A computer solves puzzles by reducing the game mechanics to backtracking search, but human players solve puzzles by using multiple **strategies** to make progress without guessing.

Finding these strategies is a key challenge in game design, and is usually done through human testing.









Prototyped in a few weeks and synthesized real strategies.



Eric Butler

An optimal set of most concise, general, and sound strategies





[Butler et al., FDG'17, VMCAI'18]

Synthesized strategies that outperform documented strategies for Nonograms, both in terms of coverage and quality.

Also used to synthesize strategies for solving K-12 algebra and proofs for propositional logic, recovering and outperforming textbook strategies for these domains.

Summary

Today

• Going pro with solver-aided programming.

Next lecture

• Getting started with SAT solving!