Higher-Order Model Checking: Principles and Applications to Program Verification and Security

Part I: Types and Recursion Schemes for Higher-Order Program Verification Part II: Higher-Order Program Verification and Language-Based Security

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Why (Automated) Program Verification?

- Increasing Use of Software in Critical Systems
 - ATM, online banking, online shopping
 - Airplanes, automobiles
 - Nuclear power plant
 - \Rightarrow Reliability is becoming the primary concern
- Increase of Size/Complexity of Software
 - \Rightarrow Manual debugging is infeasible

Program Verification Techniques

- Model checking (c.f. 2007 Turing award)
 - Applicable to first-order procedures (pushdown model checking), but not to higher-order programs
- Type-based program analysis
 - Applicable to higher-order programs
 - Sound but imprecise
- Dependent types/theorem proving
 - Requires human intervention

Sound and precise verification techniques for higher-order programs (e.g. ML/Java programs)?

This Talk

New program verification technique for higher-order languages (e.g. ML)

- Sound, complete, and automatic for
 - A large class of higher-order programs
 - $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ A large class of verification problems
- Built on recent/new advances in
 - \cdot Type theories
 - Automata/formal language theories (esp. higher-order recursion schemes)
 - Model checking

Applications to language-based security (part II)

Relevance to Security? (for ASIAN audience)

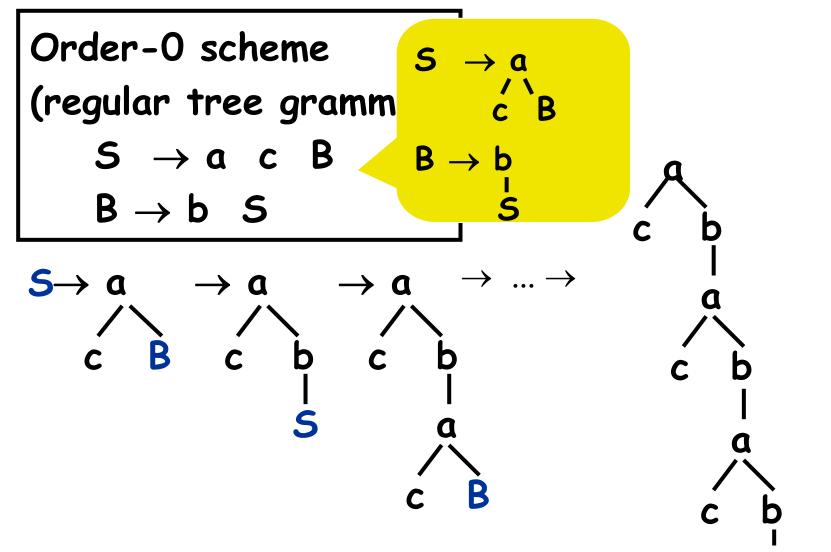
- Program verification is relevant to software security
 - Prevent security holes
 - Verification techniques have been used for:
 - information flow analysis
 - access control
 - \cdot protocol verification
- Higher-order program verification brings new advantages
 - precise for higher-order programs
 - applicable to infinite-state systems

Outline

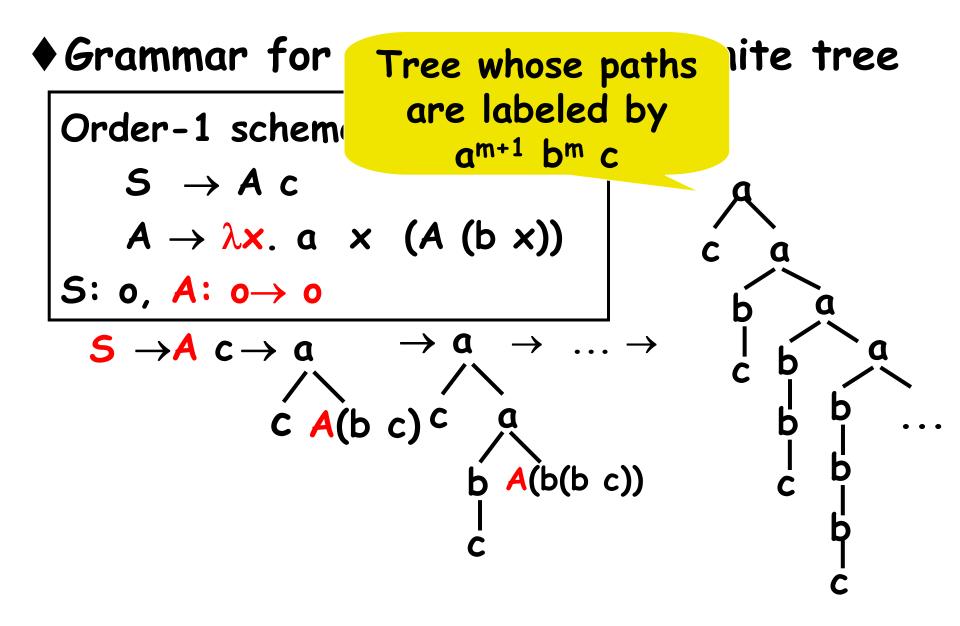
- Part I: Types and Recursion Schemes for Higher-Order Program Verification
 - Higher-order recursion schemes
 - From program verification to model checking recursion schemes [K. POPL09][K., Tabuchi&Unno POPL10]
 - From model checking to type checking [K. POPL09][K.&Ong LICS09]
 - Type checking (=model checking) algorithm [K.PPDP09]
 - TRecS: Type-based RECursion Scheme model checker
 - Future perspectives
- Part II: Higher-order program verification for language-based security

Higher-Order Recursion Scheme

Grammar for generating an infinite tree



Higher-Order Recursion Scheme



Model Checking Recursion Schemes

Given

- G: higher-order recursion scheme
- A: alternating parity tree automaton (APT) (a formula of modal μ-calculus or MSO), does A accept Tree(G)?

e.g.

- Does every finite path end with "c"?
- Does "a" occur eventually whenever "b" occurs?

n-EXPTIME-complete [Ong, LICS06] (for order-n recursion scheme)

Why Recursion Schemes?

Expressive:

- Subsumes many other MSO-decidable tree classes (regular, algebraic, Caucal hierarchy, HPDS, ...)

High-level (c.f. higher-order PDS):

- Recursion schemes

 \approx Simply-typed λ -calculus

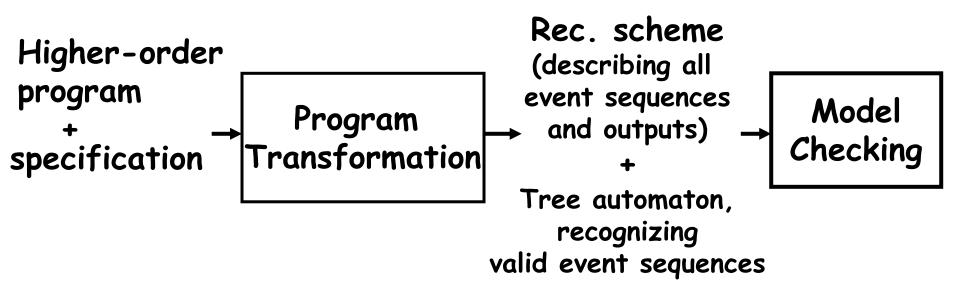
- + recursion
- + tree constructors (but not destructors)
- (+ finite data domains such as booleans)

Suitable models for higher-order programs

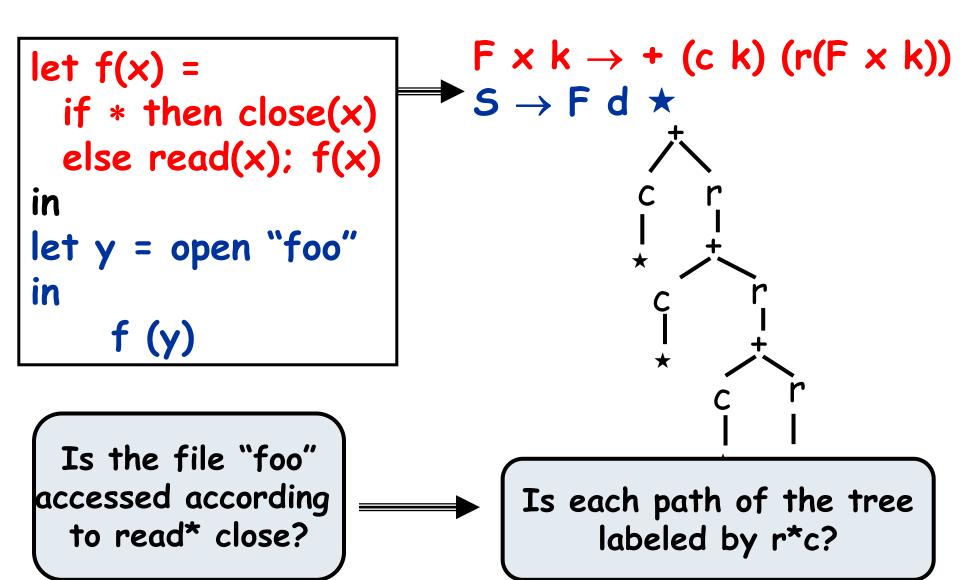
Outline

- Higher-order recursion schemes
- From program verification to model checking recursion schemes
- From model checking to type checking
- Type checking (=model checking) algorithm for recursion schemes
- **TRECS:** Type-based RECursion Scheme model checker
- Ongoing and future work

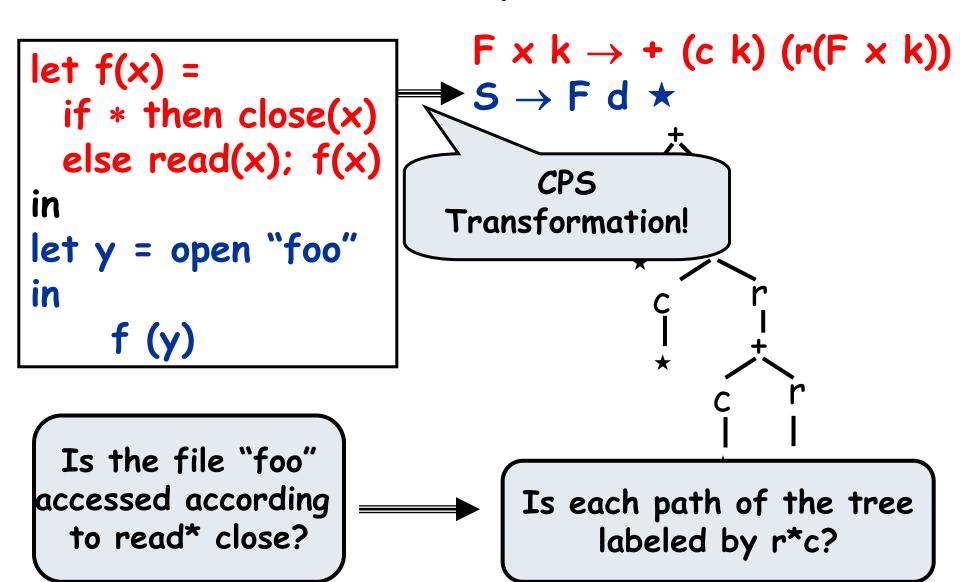
From Program Verification to Model Checking Recursion Schemes [K. POPL 2009]



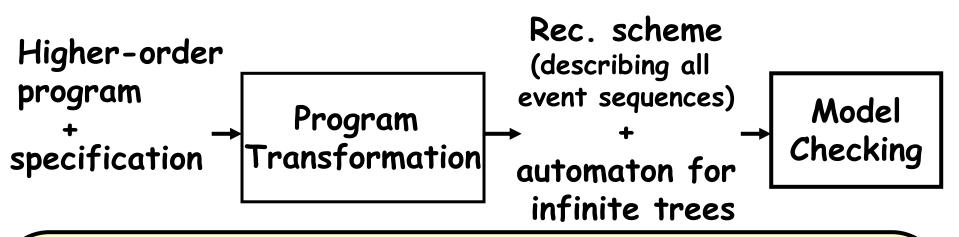
From Program Verification to Model Checking: Example



From Program Verification to Model Checking: Example



From Program Verification to Model Checking Recursion Schemes [K. POPL 2009]

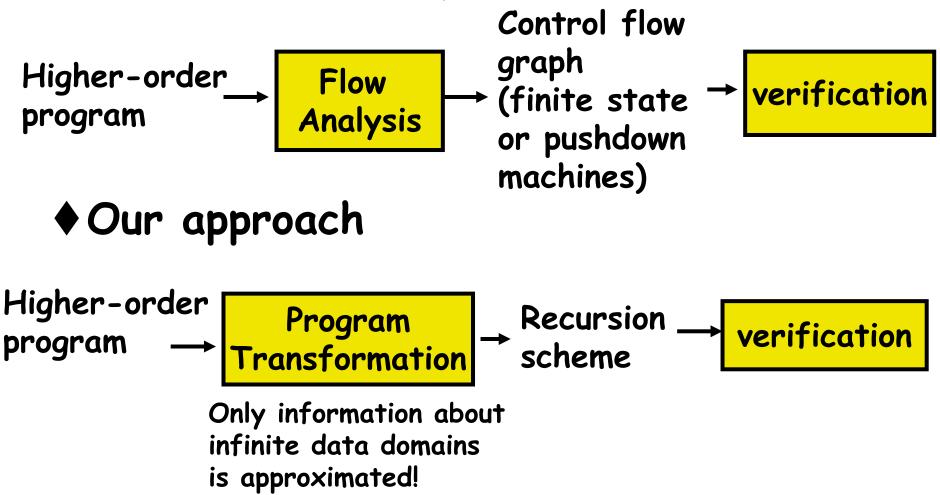


Sound, complete, and automatic for:

- A large class of higher-order programs: simply-typed λ-calculus + recursion
 + finite base types
- A large class of verification problems: resource usage verification [Igarashi&K. POPL2002], reachability, flow analysis, ...

Comparison with Traditional Approach (Control Flow Analysis)

Control flow analysis



Comparison with Traditional Approach (Software Model Checking)

Program Classes	Verification Methods	infinite state model checking
Programs with while-loops	Finite state model checking	
Programs with 1 st -order recursion	Pushdown model checking	
Higher-order functional programs	Recursion scheme model checking	

Outline

- Higher-order recursion schemes
- From program verification to model checking recursion schemes
- From model checking to type checking
 - Goal and motivation
 - Type system equivalent to model checking
- Type checking (=model checking) algorithm
- **TRecs:** Type-based RECursion Scheme model checker
- ♦ Future perspectives

Goal

Construct a type system TS(A) s.t. Tree(G) is accepted by APT A if and only if

G is typable in TS(A)

Model Checking as Type Checking (c.f. [Naik & Palsberg, ESOP2005])

Why Type-Theoretic Characterization?

- Simpler decidability proof of model checking recursion schemes
 - Previous proofs [Ong, 2006][Hague et. al, 2008] made heavy use of game semantics
- More efficient model checking algorithm
 - Known algorithms [Ong, 2006][Hague et. al, 2008] always require n-EXPTIME

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- ♦ TRecS: Type-based RECursion Scheme model checker
- ♦ Future perspectives

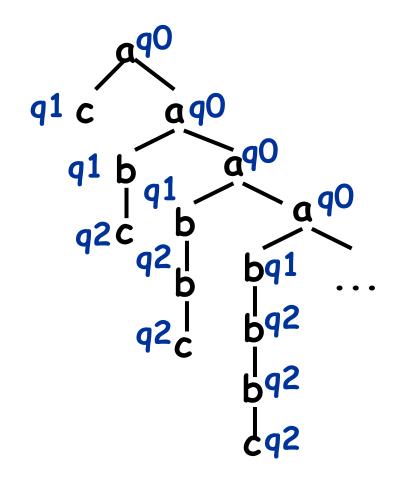
Model Checking Problem (Simple Case, for safety properties)

Given

- G: higher-order recursion scheme
- A: trivial automaton (Büchi tree automaton where all the states are accepting states) does A accept Tree(G)?

See [K.&Ong, LICS09] for the general case

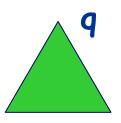
(Trivial) tree automaton for infinite trees



δ(q0, a) = q1 q0 δ(q1, b) = q2 δ(q2, b) = q2 δ(q1, c) = ε δ(q2, c) = ε

Automaton state as the type of trees

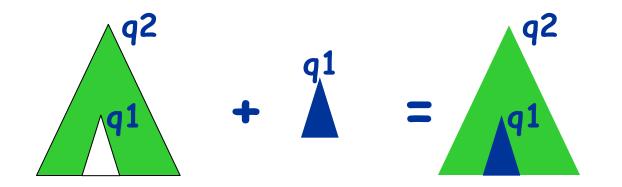
- q: trees accepted from state q



- q1 \land q2: trees accepted from both q1 and q2

Automaton state as the type of trees

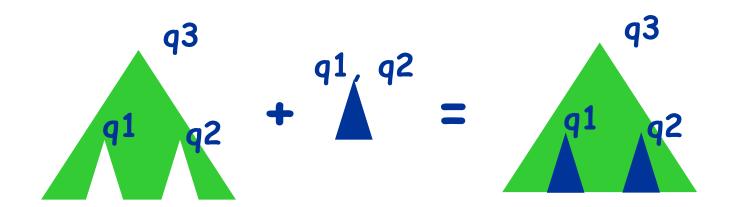
- $q1 \rightarrow q2$: functions that take a tree of type q1 and return a tree of q2



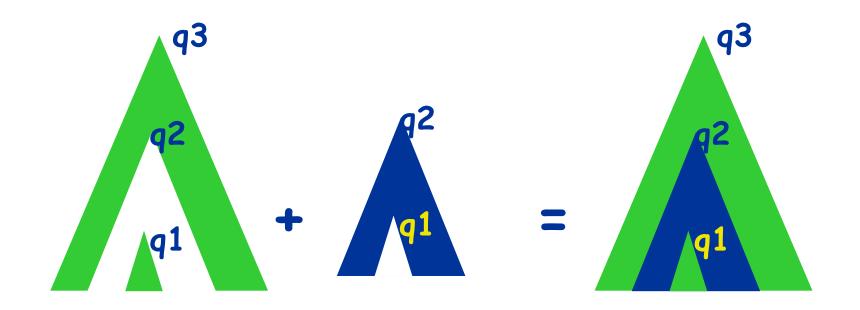
Automaton state as the type of trees

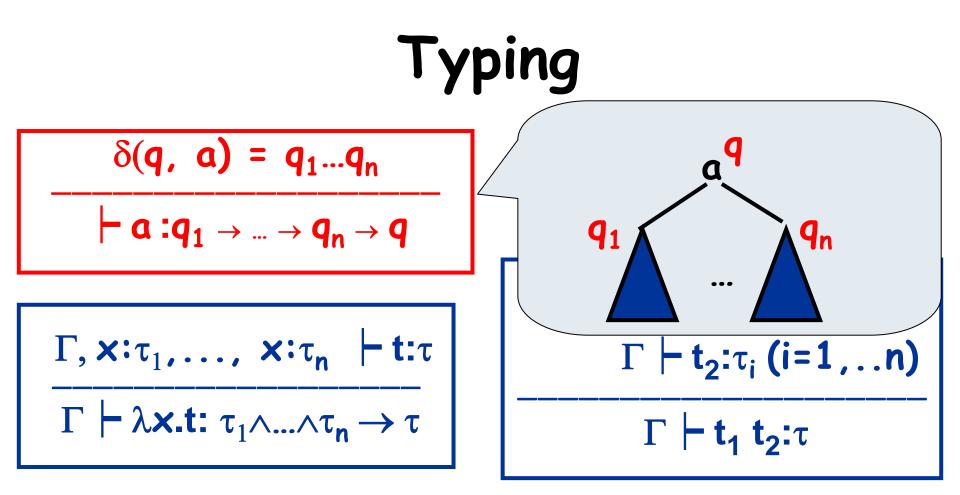
- $q1 \land q2 \rightarrow q3$:

functions that take a tree of type $q1 \wedge q2$ and return a tree of type q3



♦ Automaton state as the type of trees
 (q1 → q2) → q3:
 functions that take a function of type q1 → q2
 and return a tree of type q3





$$\begin{array}{c|c} \Gamma \models \textbf{t}_{k} : \tau \text{ (for every } \textbf{F}_{k} : \tau \in \Gamma \text{)} \\ \hline \qquad & \vdash \{\textbf{F}_{1} \rightarrow \textbf{t}_{1}, \dots, \textbf{F}_{n} \rightarrow \textbf{t}_{n}\} : \Gamma \end{array}$$

Soundness and Completeness [K., POPL2009]

Let

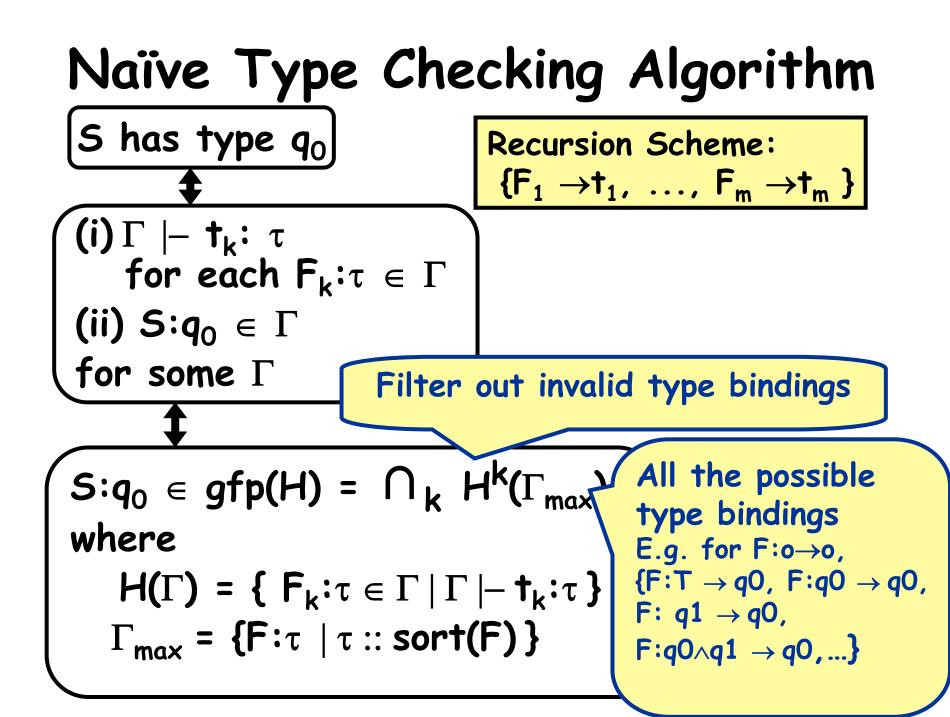
G: Rec. scheme with initial non-terminal S A: Trivial automaton with initial state q₀ TS(A): Intersection type system derived from A

Then,

Tree(G) is accepted by A if and only if S has type q₀ in TS(A)

Outline

- Higher-order recursion schemes
- From program verification to model checking recursion schemes
- From model checking to type checking
- Type checking (=model checking) algorithm
 - Naive algorithm
 - Practical algorithm
- **TRECS:** Type-based RECursion Scheme model checker
- ♦ Future perspectives



Naïve Algorithm Does NOT Work
S has type
$$q_0$$

 \ddagger
S: $q_0 \in gfp(H) = \bigcap_k H^k(\Gamma_{max})$
where $H(\Gamma) = \{ F: \tau \in \Gamma | \Gamma | - G(F): \tau \}$
 $\Gamma_{max} = \{F: \tau | \tau :: sort(F) \}$ This is huge!

sort	# of types (Q= $\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$)
0	4 (q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3)
$\circ \rightarrow \circ$	$2^4 \times 4 = 64$ ($\wedge S \rightarrow q$, with $S \in 2^Q$, $q \in Q$)
(o→o) → o	$2^{64} \times 4 = 2^{66}$
$((o \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$	2^{66} 1000000000000000000000000000000000000

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More Efficeint Algorithm?

S has type q_0

 $\leftarrow \Gamma_{0} \\ S:q_{0} \in \bigcap_{k} H^{k}(\underline{\Gamma_{max}}) \\ where \\ H(\Gamma) = \{ F: \tau \in \Gamma \mid \Gamma \mid - G(F): \tau \}$

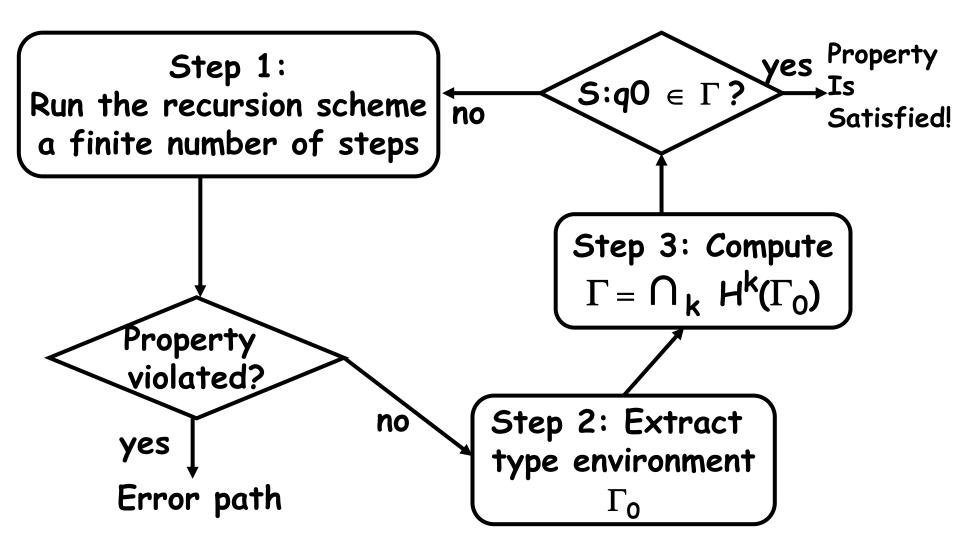
Challenges:

(i) How can we find an appropriate Γ_0 ?

"Run" the recursion scheme (finitely many steps), and extract type information

(ii) How can we guarantee completeness? **Iteratively repeat (i) and type checking**

Hybrid Type Checking Algorithm



Soundness and Completeness of the Hybrid Algorithm

Given:

- Recursion scheme G
- Deterministic trivial automaton A,

the algorithm eventually terminates, and:
(i) outputs an error path
if Tree(G) is not accepted by A
(ii) outputs a type environment
if Tree(G) is accepted by A

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TRecS

http://www.kb.ecei.tohoku.ac.jp/~koba/trecs/

😻 Type-Based Model Checker for Higher-Order Recursion Scheme - Mozilla Firefox	
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📄 FrontPage - Kobalab Wiki 💿 📄 Type-Based Model Checker for 🔯 🖬 キャプチャー画像を保存する(スクリーン)	2. III -
TRecS (Types for RECursion Schemes): Type-Base Higher-Order Recursion Schemes Enter a recursion scheme and a specification in the box below, and press the "submit" button. Examples are given belo automata with a trivial acceptance condition.	
 The first model checker for schemes (or, for higher-ord Based on the hybrid model with certain additional optim 	der functions) checking algorithm
qu a -> qu qu. / """ The first state is interpreted as the initial state. ""/	

Experiments

	order	rules	states	result	Time (msec)		
Twofiles	4	Taker	n from the	e compiler	of		
FileWrong	4	Objective Caml, consisting of about 60 lines of O'Caml code					
TwofilesE	4						
FileOcamlC	4	23	4	Yes	5		
Lock	4	11	3	Yes	5		
Order5	5	9	4	Yes	2		

(Environment: Intel(R) Xeon(R) 3Ghz with 2GB memory)

(A simplified version of) FileOcamlC

```
let readloop fp =
 if * then () else readloop fp; read fp
let read_sect() =
 let fp = open "foo" in
 {readc=fun x -> readloop fp;
  closec = fun \times -> close fp
let loop s =
 if * then s.closec() else s.readc();loop s
let main() =
 let s = read_sect() in loop s
```

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- Higher-order recursion schemes
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- Type checking (=model checking) algorithm for recursion schemes
- **TRECS:** Type-based RECursion Scheme model checker
- Discussion
 - Advantages of our approach
 - Remaining challenges

- (1) Sound, complete and automatic for a large class of higher-order programs
 - no false alarms!
 - no annotations

- (1) Sound, complete and automatic for a large class of higher-order programs
 - no false alarms!
 - no annotations
- (2) Subsumes finite-state/pushdown model checking
 - Order-0 rec. schemes \approx finite state systems
 - Order-1 rec. schemes \approx pushdown systems

(3) Take the best of model checking and types

- Types as certificates of successful verification
 applications to PCC (proof-carrying code)
- Counter-example when verification fails
 - ⇒ error diagnosis, CEGAR (counter-example-guided abstraction refinement)

(4) Encourages structured programming Previous techniques:

V.S.

- Imprecise for higher-order functions and recursions, hence discourage using them

Main: fp1 := open "r" "foo"; fp2 := open "w" "bar"; Loop: c1 := read fp1; if c1=eof then goto E; write(c1, fp2); goto Loop; E: close fp1; close fp2;

```
let copyfile fp1 fp2 =
  try write(read fp2, fp1);
    copyfile fp1 fp2
  with
    Eof -> close(fp1);close(fp2)
let main =
  let fp1 = open "r" file in
  let fp2 = open "w" file in
    copyfile fp1 fp2
```

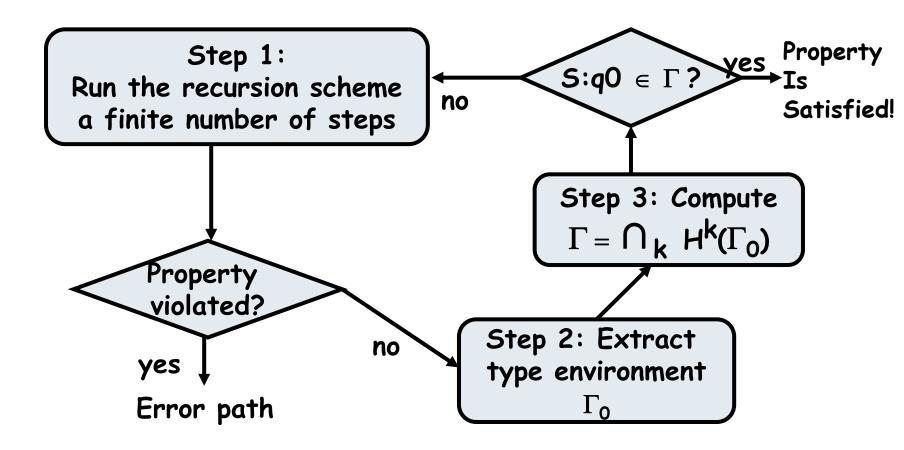
(4) Encourages structured programming

Our technique:

- No loss of precision for higher-order functions and recursions
- Performance penalty? -- Not necessarily!
 - n-EXPTIME in the specification size, but polynomial time in the program size
 - Compact representation of large state space
 e.g. recursion schemes generating a^m(c)
 S→F₁ c, F₁ x→F₂(F₂ x),..., F_n x→a(a x)
 vs

$$S \rightarrow a \ G_1, \ G_1 \rightarrow a \ G_2, \ldots, \ G_m \rightarrow c \quad (m=2^n)$$

Advantages of our approach (5) A good combination with testing: Verification through testing



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Challenges

- (1) More efficient recursion scheme model checker
 - More results on language-theoretic properties of recursion schemes (e.g. pumping lemmas)
 - BDD-like representation for higher-order functions

Challenges

- (2) A software model checker(on top of a recursion scheme model checker)
 - predicate abstraction and CEGAR for infinite base types (e.g. integers)
 - automaton abstraction for algebraic
 data types [K. et al. POPL2010]
 - imperative features and concurrency

Challenges

- (3) Extend the model checking problem: Tree(G) $\models \phi$
 - Beyond "simply-typed" recursion schemes [Tsukada&K., FOSSACS 2010]
 - polymorphism
 - recursive types
 - Beyond regular properties (MSO) Is there a more expressive, decidable logic?

Conclusion (for Part I)

- New program verification technique based on model checking recursion schemes
 - Many attractive features
 - Sound and complete for higher-order programs
 - Take the best of model-checking and type-based techniques
 - Many interesting and challenging topics

References

- K., Types and higher-order recursion schemes for verification of higher-order programs, POPL09 From program verification to model-checking, and from model-checking to typing
- K.&Ong, Complexity of model checking recursion schemes for fragments of the modal mu-calculus, ICALP09 Complexity of model checking
- K.&Ong, A type system equivalent to modal mu-calculus model-checking of recursion schemes, LICS09 From model-checking to type checking
- ♦ K., Model-checking higher-order functions, PPDP09

Type checking (= model-checking) algorithm

K., Tabuchi & Unno, Higher-order multi-parameter tree transducers and recursion schemes for program verification, POPL10 Extension to transducers and its applications

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Part I: Types and Recursion Schemes for Higher-Order Program Verification Part II: Higher-Order Program Verification and Language-Based Security

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Language-Based Security

Enforcing software security

- at a programming language level
- by using programming language techniques (types, program analysis, compilation, run-time monitoring, ...)

Applications

- information flow/integrity
 - Can I run this program without leaking secret information?
 - Can I trust the output of this program?
- access control
- protocol verification

Advantages (c.f. operating system-based approach)

- static guarantees
- high-level assurance

Program Verification Techniques for Security

- Played a key role in language-based security
 - Information flow
 - types [Volpano&Smith] [Myer 99] ...
 - model checking (self-composition)[Barth et al. 04] ...
 - combination [Terauchi 05][Unno&K. 06]
 - Access control (e.g. JVM)
 - types [Pottier et al. 01][Higuichi&Ohori, 03]
 - model checking [Nitta et al. 01]
 - Protocol verification
 - types [Gordon&Jefferey] [Kikuchi&K. 09]
 - model checking

This Talk

- Higher-order model checking for language-based security
 - Applications
 - $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ information flow
 - access control (stack inspection)
 - Advantages
 - more precise than previous type-based approach (more programs can be statically checked to be safe)
 - more faithful modeling of software than previous model-checking (higher-order functions and recursion)
 - Limitations

Outline

- Model checking higher-order boolean programs
- Information flow
 - Problem definition
 - Reduction to higher-order model checking
- Stack-based access control
 - Problem definition
 - Reduction to higher-order model checking

Model-checking Higher-Order Boolean Programs (HBP)

Language: simply-typed λ + recursion + booleans M (terms) ::= x | true | false | fix(f,x,M) | M₁M₂ | if M₁ then M₂ else M₃

$$\tau$$
 (types) ::= bool | $\tau \rightarrow \tau$

♦ Model checking problem:
 Given M:bool and b∈{true,false},
 decide whether MUb

Decidable, by a straightforward encoding into recursion scheme model checking (true = λx.λy.x, false=λx.λy.y)

Outline

- Model checking higher-order boolean programs
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Information Flow Analysis

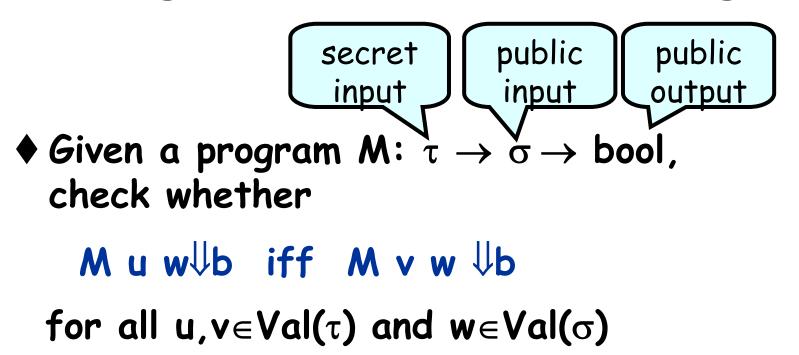
Static program analysis to check flow of information

Insecure

tmp := if s < passwd then 0 else 2; pub := tmp mod 2

Secure

Information Flow Analysis (IFA) for Higher-Order Boolean Programs



and be{true,false}

IFA via Higher-Order Model Checking

```
IFA Problem:
Given a program M: \tau \rightarrow \sigma \rightarrow bool,
check whether
```

Muw^Ub iff Mvw^Ub

for all $u, v \in Val(\tau)$, $w \in Val(\sigma)$ and $b \in \{true, false\}$

"Procedure" based on higher-order model-checking 1. Enumerate all u, v, w (up to \approx_{τ} and \approx_{σ}) 2. Check M u w \Downarrow b and M v w \Downarrow b for each u,v,w,b

Theorem: IFA is decidable if $\tau = \sigma = bool$

IFA via Higher-Order Model Checking: Limitations

IFA for HBP is undecidable in general, due to undecidability of finitary PCF [Loader01]

"Procedure" based on higher-order model-checking

- 1. Enumerate all u, v, w (up to $\approx_{\tau} and \approx_{\sigma}$) No such algorithm!
- 2. Check M u w \Downarrow b and M v w \Downarrow b for each u,v,w,b

Solution: Over-approximate definable functions, to get a sound but incomplete IFA algorithm

Only finite base types are allowed

Solution: Use self-composition [Barthe et al. 04] and predicate abstraction

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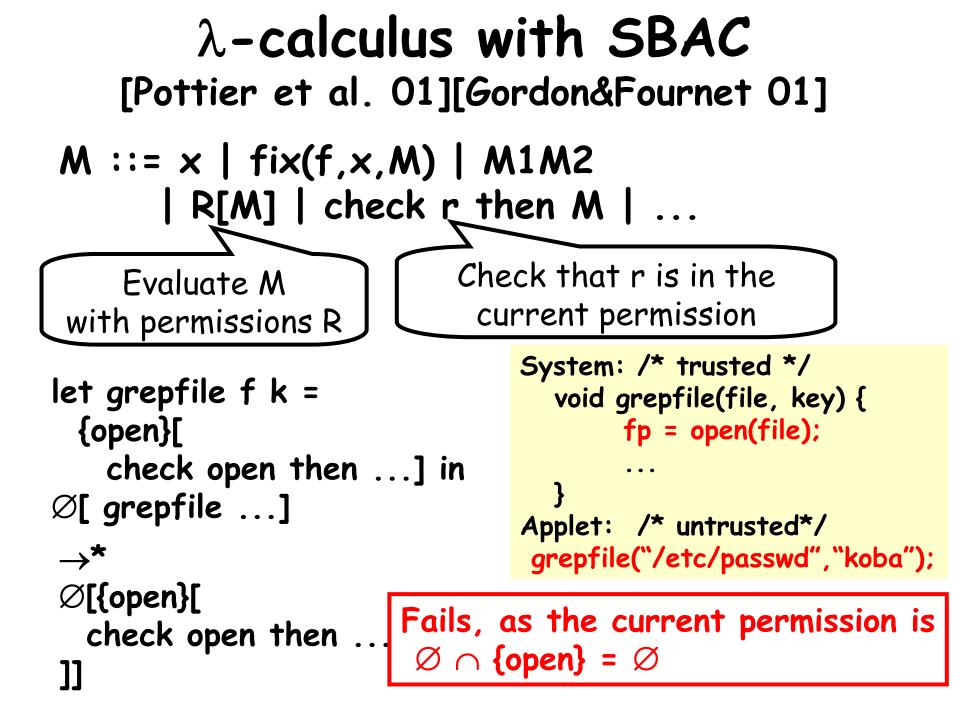
Java's Stack-Based Access Control (SBAC)

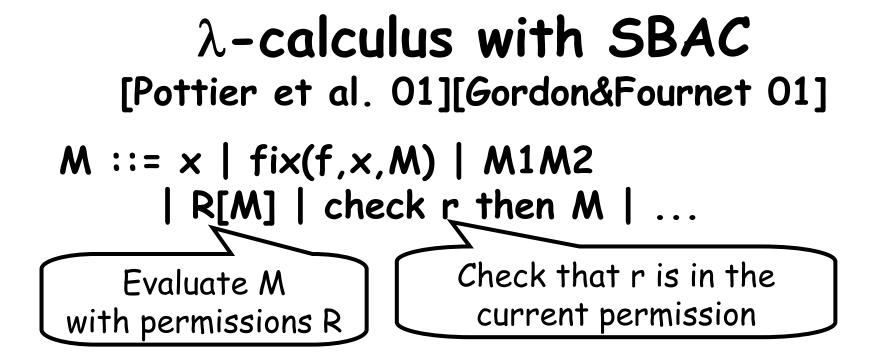
Prevent untrusted code's indirect access to resources

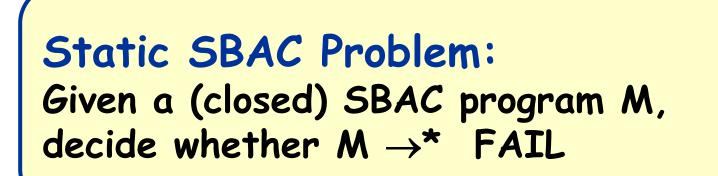
System: /* trusted, allowed to access files */ void grepfile(file, key) { Security Violation! fp = open(file); ... /* print a line that contains key */ }

Applet: /* untrusted, not allowed to access files */
grepfile("/etc/passwd", "kobayashi");

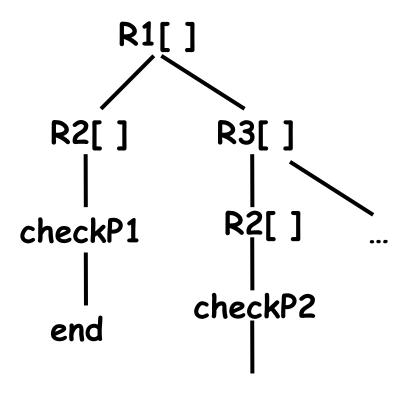
A callee is given the least privilege in the call sequence



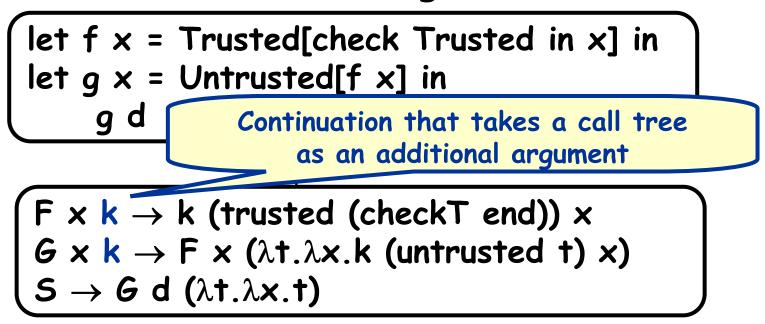




Transform a SBAC program into a recursion scheme that generates "call tree"



Transform a SBAC program into a recursion scheme that generates "call tree"



Transform a SBAC program into a recursion scheme that generates "call trees"

 $\begin{bmatrix} \text{let } f \ x \ = \ \text{Trusted}[\text{check } \text{Trusted } \text{in } x] \text{ in } \\ \text{let } g \ x \ = \ \text{Untrusted}[f \ x] \text{ in } \\ g \ d \\ \hline \begin{array}{c} \text{Continuation that takes a call tree} \\ \text{as an additional argument} \\ \hline \begin{array}{c} F \ x \ k \ \rightarrow \ k \ (\text{trusted } (\text{checkT end})) \ x \\ G \ x \ k \ \rightarrow \ F \ x \ (\lambda t . \lambda x . k \ (\text{untrusted } t) \ x) \\ S \ \rightarrow \ G \ d \ (\lambda t . \lambda x . t) \\ \hline \end{array} \end{bmatrix}$

$$S \rightarrow G d (\lambda t.\lambda x.t)$$

 $\rightarrow F x (\lambda t.\lambda x. (\lambda t.\lambda x.t) (trusted t) x)$
 $\rightarrow F x (\lambda t.\lambda x. (untrusted t))$
 $\rightarrow (\lambda t.\lambda x. (untrusted t)) (trusted (checkT end)) x$
 $\rightarrow untrustd (trusted (checkT end))$

Transform a SBAC program into a recursion scheme that generates "call trees"

let f x = Trusted[check Trusted in x] in
let g x = Untrusted[f x] in
g d
F x k
$$\rightarrow$$
 k (trusted (checkT end)) x
G x k \rightarrow F x (λ t. λ x.k (untrusted t) x)
S \rightarrow G d (λ t. λ x.t)

S →* untrusted (trusted (checkT end)) = untrusted trusted checkT end

Transform a SBAC program into a recursion scheme that generates "call trees"

let f x = Trusted[check Trusted in x] in
let g x = Untrusted[f x] in
g d
F x k
$$\rightarrow$$
 k (frameT (checkT end)) x
G x k \rightarrow F x (λ t. λ x.k (frameU t) x)
S \rightarrow G d (λ t. λ x.t)

Static SBAC problem is decidable for simply-typed programs with finite base types if the set of permissions is finite

Limitations of higher-order model checking for SBAC

Applicable only to simply-typed programs with recursion and finite base types

For infinite base types (e.g. integers), use predicate abstractions to get a sound but incomplete algorithm

Summary (for Part II)

Higher-order model checking provides:

- sound, complete, and certifying verification methods
- for various security-related problems,
- with some intrinsic restrictions on target programs
 - simply-typed
 - only finite base types
 - closed programs of low order types (c.f. undecidability of λ -definability)

For practical programming languages,

 predicate abstraction may be applicable to get a sound but incomplete method

- more studies are required to evaluate effectiveness

Lessons Learned

♦ As a researcher on program verification

- Keep an eye on new theoretical results (esp. on decision problems)
- Do not worry too much about the worst-case complexity (e.g. SAT, recursion schemes), or undecidability (e.g. termination analysis)

♦ As a researcher on language-based security

 Keep an eye on new verification techniques (e.g. program analysis based on linear programming [Terauchi&Aiken], SAT solvers, recursion schemes)