Exploiting the Sparseness of Control-flow and Call Graphs for Efficient and On-demand Algebraic Program Analysis

Giovanna K. Conrado, Amir K. Goharshady, Kerim Kochekov, Yun Chen Tsai, and <u>Ahmed K. Zaher</u>

October 26th, 2023



Agenda

Context and contribution

2 Algorithms

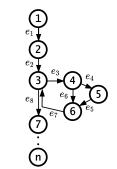
3 Experiments and conclusion

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Universe of summaries A

$$egin{align} \llbracket \cdot
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Applications: numerical invariant generation, predicate abstraction.

On-demand Algebraic program analysis

```
1 int main () {
2     int x = 50, y = 0;
3     while (x-- >= 0) {
4         if (x & 1)
5         y += 3;
6         y = y * 2;
7     }
... ...
n }

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- Preprocessing: precompute queries of special forms.
- Query: express input queries as combination of precomputed queries.
- Light preprocessing and fast query time.

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Intra-procedural case: we **exploit sparsity of control-flow graphs.**Inter-procedural case:

- We assume function summaries are computed and are given in input.
- We additionally exploit sparsity of call graphs.

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 - Doesn't suit our on-demand setting:
 - for *n* queries with different *i*'s, naive repetition $\implies \Omega(n^2)$ time.

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Algorithm #1: exploits nesting depth. See the paper.

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Algorithm #2: exploits treewidth.

Treewidth of CFGs

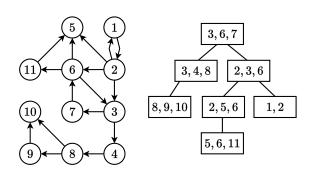
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• (Informally) a parameter that measures "tree-likeness" of a graph.

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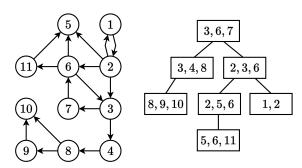
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- Small-treewidth graphs admit a tree decomposition with small bags.
- Such decomposition enable us to successively break a graph into smaller disconnected graphs separated by small cuts.



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- CFGs have constant treewidth (Thorup '98).



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Naive: n^2 possible queries, precompute all of them.

⇒ takes too much time and space.

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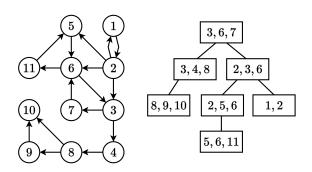
Naive: n^2 possible queries, precompute all of them.

 \implies takes too much time and space.

Better: precompute only "special queries" having a certain form s.t.,

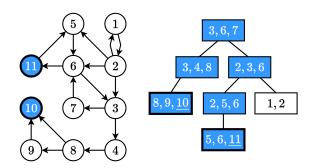
- Expressiveness: a general query can be expressed with special queries.
- **Space:** the number of special queries should be $\ll n^2$.
- Time: total runtime should be small.

We look at the tree decomposition T of the CFG G.



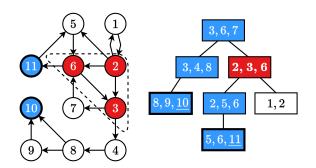
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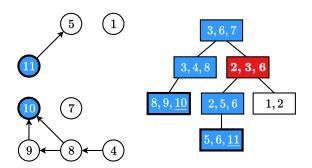
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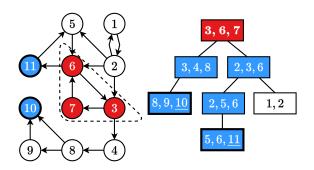
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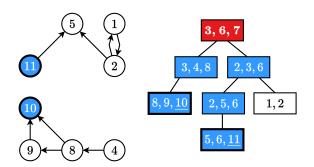
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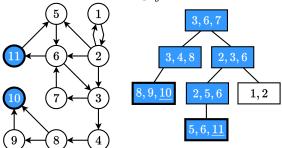
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Lemma

For any u, v in G, there there are bags b_u, b_v in T where every bag b on P_{b_u,b_v} separates u from v in G.

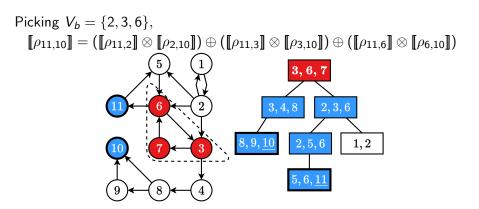
A way to break the query!

For any bag $b \in P_{b_u,b_v}$, $\llbracket \rho_{u,v} \rrbracket = \bigoplus_{w \in V_b} \llbracket \rho_{u,w} \rrbracket \otimes \llbracket \rho_{w,v} \rrbracket$



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- Define "special queries" to be all pairs (u, v) where b_u is an ancestor/descendant of a b_v .

Picking $V_b = \{2, 3, 6\},\$ $\llbracket \rho_{11,10} \rrbracket = (\llbracket \rho_{11,2} \rrbracket \otimes \llbracket \rho_{2,10} \rrbracket) \oplus (\llbracket \rho_{11,3} \rrbracket \otimes \llbracket \rho_{3,10} \rrbracket) \oplus (\llbracket \rho_{11,6} \rrbracket \otimes \llbracket \rho_{6,10} \rrbracket)$ 3, 6, 7 3, 4, 8

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Preprocessing: precompute all special queries. Query (u, v):

- Find b_{μ} and b_{ν} .
- Let $b_{LCA} := LCA(b_u, b_v)$, the least common ancestor in T.
- return

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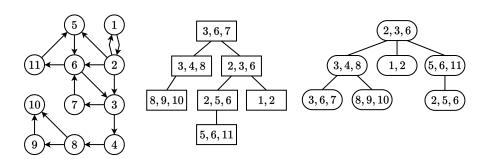
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Problem: if tree decomposition is too long $\implies O(n^2)$ special queries.

Intra-procedural algorithm #2 via tree + centroid decomp.

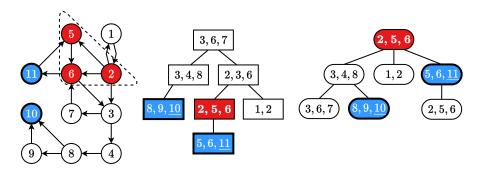
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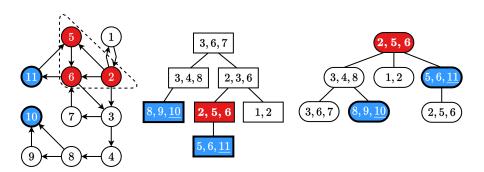
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Number of "special queries" = $O(n \cdot \log n)$.

We precompute all special queries in $O(n \cdot \log n \cdot k)$.



- We extend our algorithm by exploiting sparsity of the call graph.
- Capture the sparsity using treedepth.

See the paper for details.

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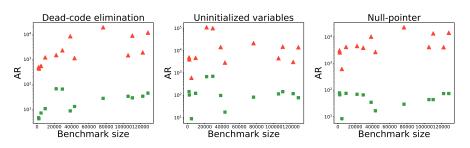
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Experiments

- 1. IFDS dataflow analyses (reachability, uninitialized variables, null-ptr):
 - Each algebra element is the graph representation of IFDS.
 - Used programs from DaCapo benchmarks.

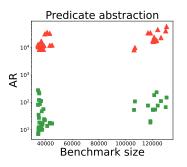
Comparison of our algorithms vs. running Tarjan's algo. at every query:



Experiments

- 2. Analysis of boolean programs:
 - Each algebra element is a state transformer represented by a BDD.
 - Used boolean programs generated from applying Predicate Abstraction on Windows drivers.

Comparison of our algorithms vs. running Tarjan's algo. at every query:



Conclusion

Fast algorithms for on-demand algebraic program analysis.

- Exploiting sparseness of CFGs (via treewidth) to handle the intra-procedural queries.
- Exploiting sparseness of CGs (via treedepth) to extend the solution to the inter-procedural case.
- Experiments showing efficiency in comparison with using Tarjan's algorithm.

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- a CFG G = (V, E) of a single function,
- an algebra $(A, \oplus, \otimes, \circledast, \overline{0}, \overline{1}),$
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Online input: a series of queries (i,j), each is a pair of program points.

Output: for each query (i,j), compute $\llbracket \rho_{i,j} \rrbracket$ where $\langle \rho_{i,j} \rangle = Paths_G(i,j)$.

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- Operates directly on the structure of CFG.
- Assumes programs have constant nesting depth.
- Preprocessing: $O(n \cdot \log \log n \cdot k)$; query O(k).

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Algorithm #2:

- Operates on the "tree decomposition" of the CFG.
- Assumes CFGs have constant treewidth: more robust assumption.
- Preprocessing: $O(n \cdot \log n \cdot k)$; query O(k).

```
P := \sigma \mid P; P \mid \mathtt{branch}_l \; P, P, \dots, P \; \mathtt{end}_l \mid \mathtt{loop}_l \; P \; \mathtt{end}_l \mid \mathtt{break}_l \mid \mathtt{continue}_l
```

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```

Preprocessing:

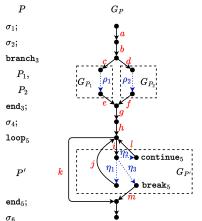
 \bullet Structurally recursive: before processing P, process its subprograms first.

```
P
\sigma_1;
\sigma_2;
pranch_3
P_1,
P_2
pranch_3;
rac{1}{2}
rac{1}
rac{1}
rac{1}{2}
rac{1}
rac{1}
rac{1}
rac{1}
rac{
```

 $\mathtt{end}_5;$ σ_6

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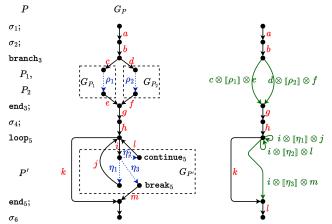
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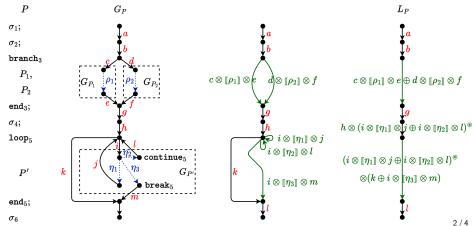
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- Build a sqrt-tree data structure to efficiently answer same-level queries.

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- ullet Answers for different paths are combined with \oplus and \otimes
- Efficiency relies on having a small nesting depth.

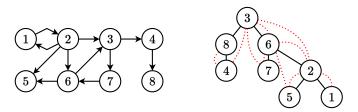
 $\mathsf{Call} \; \mathsf{graph} \; (\mathsf{CG}) \! \colon \mathit{C} = (\{\mathit{f}_1, \ldots, \mathit{f}_m\}, \mathit{E}_\mathit{C}), (\mathit{f}_i, \mathit{f}_j) \in \mathit{E}_\mathit{C} \; \iff \; \{\mathit{f}_i \; \mathsf{calls} \; \mathit{f}_j\}.$

Call graph (CG): $C = (\{f_1, \ldots, f_m\}, E_C), (f_i, f_j) \in E_C \iff \{f_i \text{ calls } f_j\}.$ Treedepth:

• (Informally) measures for a graph how similar it is to a shallow tree.

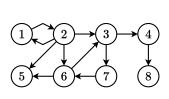
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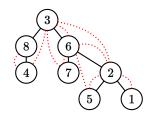
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- Similar to treewidth, such decomposition enable us to successively divide
 a graph into smaller components separated by small cuts.



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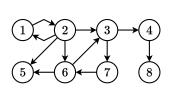
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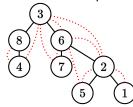




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- We exploit this assumption to efficiently solve the inter-procedural case.





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Break a query into: intra-procedural queries, and *call-graph queries*. Answering call-graph queries: find depth decomp. \rightarrow convert to tree decomp \rightarrow apply treewidth-based algorithm. Done!