

# Dynamic abstract interpretation

Patrick Cousot

NYU, New York

[pcousot@cs.nyu.edu](mailto:pcousot@cs.nyu.edu)    [cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot](http://cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot)

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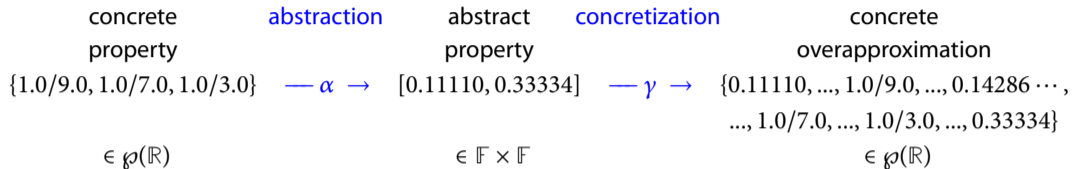
## Interval arithmetics

- In scientific computing a **real number** is represented by a **float** (floating point number) [IEEE, 1985].
- Because of **rounding errors**, the floating point computation represents an uncertain real computation.
- Ramon E. Moore [Moore, 1966; Moore, Kearfott, and Cloud, 2009] invented “**interval arithmetic**” to put bounds on rounding errors in floating point computations.
- This guarantees that the uncertain **real computation is between floating point bounds**
- We show that “interval arithmetic” is a **sound abstract interpretation** of the program semantics (on reals).
- Maybe the first dynamic analysis of programs.

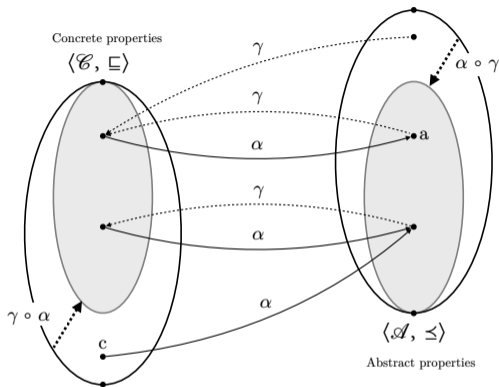
[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interval\\_arithmetic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interval_arithmetic)

# Abstract interpretation

## Interval abstraction



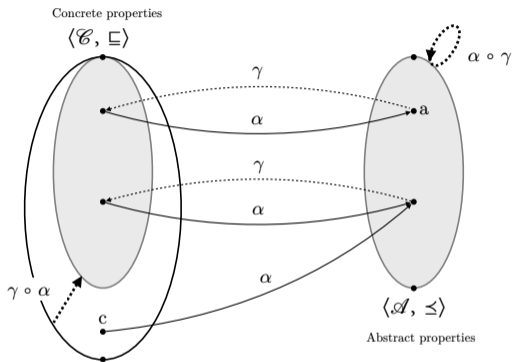
# Galois connection



$$\langle \mathcal{C}, \sqsubseteq \rangle \xleftrightarrow[\alpha]{\gamma} \langle \mathcal{A}, \preceq \rangle$$

$$\alpha(c) \preceq a \Leftrightarrow c \sqsubseteq \gamma(a)$$

# Galois retraction/insertion



$$\langle \mathcal{C}, \sqsubseteq \rangle \begin{matrix} \xleftarrow{\gamma} \\ \xrightarrow{\alpha} \end{matrix} \langle \mathcal{A}, \leq \rangle$$

$$\alpha(c) \leq a \Leftrightarrow c \sqsubseteq \gamma(a) \wedge \alpha \text{ surjective}$$

# Interval abstraction

## Values

- Programs compute on values  $\mathbb{V}$ .
- Values  $\mathbb{V}$  can be the set of
  - $\mathbb{R}$  of reals.
  - $\mathbb{F}$  of floats<sup>1</sup>
  - $\mathbb{P}^i$  of float intervals

For simplicity, we assume that execution stops in case of error (e.g. when dividing by zero or returning NaN).

## Properties

- **Properties are sets of values** e.g.  $\{x \in \mathbb{V} \mid x > 0\}$  is “to be positive”
- A **semantics** is the strongest property of executions

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<sup>1</sup>We include  $\pm$ infinity but exclude NaN,  $-0$ ,  $+0$  for simplicity of the presentation, not hard to handle.



## Interval abstraction

- The interval abstraction abstracts a set of numerical values, possibly unbounded, by their minimum and maximal values.
- The interval abstraction is

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_i(S) &\triangleq [\min S, \max S] \\ \gamma_i([\underline{x}, \bar{x}]) &\triangleq \{z \in \mathbb{R} \mid \underline{x} \leq z \leq \bar{x}\}\end{aligned}$$

**Example 1** In interval arithmetics, a real is abstracted by the pair of enclosing floats. This is also the abstraction of the set of reals between these two floats □

## Abstract domain of numerical intervals

- We let the abstract domain of float intervals be

$$\mathbb{P}^i \triangleq \bigcup \left\{ \emptyset \right\} \cup \{ [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \mid \underline{x}, \bar{x} \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{-\infty, \infty\} \wedge \underline{x} \leq \bar{x} \} \\ \cup \{ [-\infty, \bar{x}] \mid \bar{x} \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{-\infty\} \} \cup \{ [\underline{x}, \infty] \mid \underline{x} \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{\infty\} \}$$

where the empty interval  $\perp^i = \emptyset$  can be encoded by any  $[\underline{x}, \bar{x}]$  with  $\bar{x} < \underline{x}$  (e.g. normalized to  $[\infty, -\infty]$ ).

- The intervals  $[-\infty, -\infty] \notin \mathbb{P}^i$  and  $[\infty, \infty] \notin \mathbb{P}^i$  are excluded.

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- The partial order  $\sqsubseteq^i$  on  $\mathbb{P}^i$  is interval inclusion  $\perp^i \sqsubseteq^i \perp^i \sqsubseteq^i [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \sqsubseteq^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}]$  if and only if  $\underline{y} \leq \underline{x} \leq \bar{x} \leq \bar{y}$ .
- This is a complete lattice  $\langle \mathbb{P}^i, \sqsubseteq^i, \emptyset, [-\infty, +\infty], \prod^i, \sqcup^i \rangle$

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- This is a complete lattice  $\langle \mathbb{P}^i, \sqsubseteq^i, \emptyset, [-\infty, +\infty], \prod^i, \sqcup^i \rangle$
- We have the Galois retraction

$$\langle \wp(\mathbb{R}), \subseteq \rangle \xleftarrow{\gamma_i} \langle \mathbb{P}^i, \sqsubseteq^i \rangle \xrightarrow{\alpha_i} \quad (2)$$

## Soundness

- Given parameters  $x \in [\underline{x}, \bar{x}]$ ,  $y \in [\underline{y}, \bar{y}]$ , ... the interval computation of a function  $f \in \mathbb{I}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{I}$  must return a sound interval  $[\underline{f}, \bar{f}]$  which contains all possible results for all possible values of the parameters.

$$\{f(x, y, \dots) \mid x \in [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \wedge y \in [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] \wedge \dots\} \subseteq [\underline{f}, \bar{f}]$$

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- Formally, the soundness condition is

$$\alpha_i(\{f(x, y, \dots) \mid x \in \gamma_i([\underline{x}, \bar{x}]) \wedge y \in \gamma_i([\underline{y}, \bar{y}]) \wedge \dots\}) \sqsubseteq^i [\underline{f}, \bar{f}]$$

# Syntax and trace semantics of programs



# Syntax

$x, y, \dots \in \mathcal{V}$	variable ( $\mathcal{V}$ not empty)
$A \in \mathcal{A} ::= 0.1 \mid x \mid A_1 - A_2$	arithmetic expression
$B \in \mathcal{B} ::= A_1 < A_2 \mid B_1 \text{ nand } B_2$	boolean expression
$S \in \mathcal{S} ::=$	statement
$x = A ;$	assignment
$;$	skip
$\text{if } (B) S \mid \text{if } (B) S \text{ else } S$	conditionals
$\text{while } (B) S \mid \text{break ;}$	iteration and break
$\{ S \}$	compound statement
$SL \in \mathcal{S}^l ::= SL S \mid \epsilon$	statement list
$P \in \mathcal{P} ::= SL$	program
$S \in \mathcal{Pc} \triangleq \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{S}^l \cup \mathcal{P}$	program component

The float constant 0.1 is  $0.000(1100)^\infty$  in binary so has no exact finite binary representation. It is approximated as 0.10000000149011611938476562500....

## Program labelling

Unique labelling to designate (sets of) program points  $\ell \in \mathbb{L}$ :

- $\text{at}[[S]]$  the program point at which execution of  $S$  starts;
- $\text{after}[[S]]$  the program exit point after  $S$ , at which execution of  $S$  is supposed to normally terminate, if ever;
- $\text{escape}[[S]]$  a boolean indicating whether or not the program component  $S$  contains a **break** ; statement escaping out of that component  $S$ ;
- $\text{break-to}[[S]]$  the program point at which execution of the program component  $S$  goes to when a **break** ; statement escapes out of that component  $S$ ;
- $\text{breaks-of}[[S]]$  the set of labels of all **break** ; statements that can escape out of  $S$

## Example of program labelling

$$\overbrace{\text{while } \ell_0 ( \dots ) \{ \ell_1 \overbrace{\dots \ell_2 \text{ break ; } \dots \ell_3 \text{ break ; } \dots}^{S_b} \dots \ell_5 \overbrace{\dots}^{S_5} \}}^S$$

$$\ell_0 = \text{at}[[S]] = \text{after}[[S_4]]$$

$$\ell_1 = \text{at}[[S_1]] = \text{at}[[S_b]]$$

$$\ell_2 = \text{at}[[S_2]] = \text{after}[[S_1]]$$

$$\ell_3 = \text{at}[[S_3]]$$

$$\ell_5 = \text{at}[[S_5]] = \text{break-to}[[S_b]] = \text{after}[[S]]$$

$$\text{escape}[[S_b]] = \text{tt breaks-of}[[S_b]] = \{\ell_2, \ell_3\},$$

$$\text{escape}[[S]] = \text{ff},$$

$$\text{in}[[S_b]] = \{\ell_1, \dots, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_3, \dots\}$$

$$\text{in}[[S]] = \text{labx}[[S_b]] = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \dots, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_3, \dots\},$$

$$\text{labx}[[S]] = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \dots, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_3, \dots, \ell_5\}$$

## Prefix traces

- Program label:  $\ell \in \mathcal{L}$  (locates next step to be executed in the program)
- Environment:  $\rho \in \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{V}} \triangleq \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  assigns values  $\rho(x) \in \mathcal{V}$  to variables  $x \in \mathcal{V}$ .
- State:  $\langle \ell, \rho \rangle \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{V}} \triangleq (\mathcal{L} \times \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{V}})$
- Trace: finite or infinite sequence  $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{V}}^{+\infty}$  of states
- Example:  $\langle \ell_1, \{x \rightarrow 1\} \rangle \langle \ell_2, \{x \rightarrow 2\} \rangle \langle \ell_4, \{x \rightarrow 2\} \rangle$
- Trace concatenation:  $\frown$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \pi_1 \sigma_1 \frown \sigma_2 \pi_2 & \text{undefined if } \sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2 \\ \pi_1 \frown \sigma_2 \pi_2 \triangleq \pi_1 & \text{if } \pi_1 \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{V}}^+ \text{ is infinite} \\ \pi_1 \sigma_1 \frown \sigma_1 \pi_2 \triangleq \pi_1 \sigma_1 \pi_2 & \text{if } \pi_1 \in \mathbb{T}^+ \text{ is finite} \end{array}$$

- In pattern matching, we sometimes need the empty trace  $\exists$ . For example if  $\sigma \pi \sigma' = \sigma$  then  $\pi = \exists$  and  $\sigma = \sigma'$ .

## Evaluation of expressions

- Evaluation of an arithmetic expression (parameterized by  $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{F}$ , later intervals)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[[0.1]]\rho &\triangleq 0.1_{\mathbb{V}} \\ \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[[x]]\rho &\triangleq \rho(x) \\ \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[[A_1 - A_2]]\rho &\triangleq \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[[A_1]]\rho -_{\mathbb{V}} \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[[A_2]]\rho\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

- For example  $-_{\mathbb{F}}$  is the difference found on IEEE-754 machines and must take rounding mode (and the machine specificities [Monniaux, 2008]) into account.

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- For example  $-_{\mathbb{F}}$  is the difference found on IEEE-754 machines and must take rounding mode (and the machine specificities [Monniaux, 2008]) into account.
- Evaluation of a Boolean expression ( $\mathbb{B} \triangleq \{\mathbf{tt}, \mathbf{ff}\}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{V}}[[A_1 < A_2]]\rho &\triangleq \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[[A_1]]\rho < \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[[A_2]]\rho \\ \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{V}}[[B_1 \text{ nand } B_2]]\rho &\triangleq \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{V}}[[B_1]]\rho \uparrow \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{V}}[[B_2]]\rho\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

where  $<$  is strictly less than on reals and floats while  $\uparrow$  is the “not and” boolean operator.

## Prefix trace semantics

- A **prefix trace** describes the beginning of a computation
- Assignment  $S ::= \ell \ x = A \ ;$  (where  $\text{at}[[S]] = \ell$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_V^*[[S]] = & \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_V \} \cup \\ & \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S], \rho[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_V[[A]]\rho] \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_V \} \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

## Prefix trace semantics (cont'd)

- Break statement  $S ::= \ell \text{ break } ;$  (where  $\text{at}[[S]] = \ell$ )

$$\mathcal{S}_v^*[[S]] \triangleq \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_v \} \cup \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \langle \text{break-to}[[S]], \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_v \} \quad (3)$$



## Prefix trace semantics (cont'd)

- Conditional statement  $S ::= \mathbf{if}^{\ell} (B) S_t$  (where  $\text{at}[[S]] = \ell$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_v^*[[S]] \triangleq & \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_v \} \\ & \cup \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \rho \rangle \mid \mathcal{B}_v[[B]]\rho = \text{ff} \} \\ & \cup \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \langle \text{at}[[S_t]], \rho \rangle \pi \mid \mathcal{B}_v[[B]]\rho = \text{tt} \wedge \langle \text{at}[[S_t]], \rho \rangle \pi \in \mathcal{S}_v^*[[S_t]] \} \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

- If the conditional statement  $S$  is inside an iteration statement, and  $S_t$  has a break, the execution goes on at the  $\text{break-to}[[S]]$  after the iteration.

## Prefix trace semantics (cont'd)

- Statement list  $Sl ::= Sl' S$  (where  $\text{at}[[S]] = \text{after}[[Sl']]$ )

$$\mathcal{S}_V^*[[Sl]] \triangleq \mathcal{S}_V^*[[Sl']] \cup \tag{7}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_V^*[[Sl']] \frown \mathcal{S}_V^*[[S]] \tag{3}$$

$$\mathcal{S} \frown \mathcal{S}' \triangleq \{\pi \frown \pi' \mid \pi \in \mathcal{S} \wedge \pi' \in \mathcal{S}' \wedge \pi \frown \pi' \text{ is well-defined}\}$$

- $\pi' \in \mathcal{S}_V^*[[S]]$  starts at  $[[S]] = \text{after}[[Sl']]$  so, by def.  $\frown$ , the trace  $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_V^*[[Sl']]$  must terminate to be able to go on with  $S$ .

## Prefix trace semantics (cont'd)

- Empty statement list  $S\ell ::= \epsilon$  (where  $\text{at}[\![S\ell]\!] \triangleq \text{after}[\![S\ell]\!]$ )

$$\mathcal{S}_V^*[\![S\ell]\!] \triangleq \{\langle \text{at}[\![S\ell]\!], \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_V\}$$

## Prefix trace semantics (cont'd)

- Iteration statement  $S ::= \mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b$  (where  $\text{at}[[S]] = \ell$ )

$$\mathcal{S}_V^*[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] = \text{lfp}^{\subseteq} \mathcal{F}_V^*[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] \quad (8)$$

$$\mathcal{F}_V^*[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] X \triangleq \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_V \} \quad (a)$$

$$\cup \{ \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \rho \rangle \mid \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \in X \wedge \mathcal{B}_V[[B]] \rho = \mathbf{ff} \wedge \ell' = \ell \} \quad (b)$$

$$\cup \{ \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \langle \text{at}[[S_b]], \rho \rangle \cdot \pi_3 \mid \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \in X \wedge \mathcal{B}_V[[B]] \rho = \mathbf{tt} \wedge \langle \text{at}[[S_b]], \rho \rangle \cdot \pi_3 \in \mathcal{S}_V^*[[S_b]] \wedge \ell' = \ell \} \quad (c)$$

- (a) either the execution observation stop at  $[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] = \ell$ , or
- (b) after a number of iterations, control is back to  $\ell$ , the test is false, and the loop is exited, or
- (c) after a number of iterations, control is back to  $\ell$ , the test is true, and the loop body is executed  
(This includes the termination of the loop body after  $[[S_b]] = \text{at}[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] = \ell$ )

# Maximal trace semantics

- Maximal trace semantics

$$\mathcal{S}_{\vee}^+[[S]] \triangleq \{\pi \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \in \mathcal{S}_{\vee}^*[[S]] \mid (\ell = \text{after}[[S]]) \vee (\text{escape}[[S]] \wedge \ell = \text{break-to}[[S]])\}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_{\vee}^{\infty}[[S]] \triangleq \text{lim}(\mathcal{S}_{\vee}^*[[S]])$$

- Limit

$$\text{lim } \mathcal{T} \triangleq \{\pi \in \mathbb{T}^{\infty} \mid \forall n \in \mathbb{N} . \pi[0..n] \in \mathcal{T}\}.$$

# Objective

## Objective

- We have defined the **value semantics**  $\mathcal{S}_\downarrow^*$  of the language (its executions on reals are not implementable/too costly to implement<sup>2</sup>)

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- We have defined the **value semantics**  $\mathcal{S}_V^*$  of the language (its executions on reals are not implementable/too costly to implement<sup>2</sup>)
- Next, we define the **interval abstraction**  $\alpha^{\mathbb{P}^i}$  of a value semantics (replacing reals by float intervals)

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- The **best float interval semantics** of the value semantics is  $\hat{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\mathcal{S}_V^*)$  (its executions on interval float abstractions of reals are not implementable)

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- Next, we calculate the **interval semantics**  $\mathcal{S}_{P^i}^*$  of the language (executions on float intervals)
- By construction  $\overset{\circ}{\alpha}^{P^i}(\mathcal{S}_V^*) \overset{\circ}{\sqsubseteq}^i \mathcal{S}_{P^i}^*$ , so the interval semantics is a **sound abstraction** of the value semantics

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- This is an abstraction of a trace semantics on reals
- Handling tests:
  - real computation: only one branch taken
  - float computation: only one branch taken, but could be the wrong one
  - interval computation: one or both alternatives taken (hence one real trace can be abstracted into interval several traces).



## Constants

- If the program contains a constant  $c$ , its interval is  $[c, c]$ .
- However, the compilation may introduce an error i.e. rounding error for a float that must be taken into account.
- For example, the decimal  $0.1$  is  $0.000(1100)^\infty$  in binary so has no exact binary representation on finitely many bits.

## Addition and subtraction

$$\begin{aligned}[\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \oplus^i \emptyset &= \emptyset \oplus^i [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] = [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \ominus^i \emptyset = \emptyset \ominus^i [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] = \emptyset \\[\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \oplus^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] &= [\underline{x} + \underline{y}, \bar{x} + \bar{y}] \\[\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \ominus^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] &= [\underline{x} - \bar{y}, \bar{x} - \underline{y}] \\ \ominus^i [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] &= [-\bar{x}, -\underline{x}]\end{aligned}$$

- We assume that  $-\infty + -\infty = -\infty$ ,  $-\infty + z = -\infty$ ,  $\infty + z = \infty$ , and  $\infty + \infty = \infty$  for any  $z \in \mathbb{I}$ .
- For example,  $[10, \infty] \ominus^i [-\infty, 5] = [10 - 5, \infty - (-\infty)] = [5, \infty]$ .
- For floating point numbers, the lower bound is rounded towards  $-\infty$  and the upper bound towards  $\infty$ .
- This implies that the computed value is always included in the concretization of the interval value.
- Interval arithmetic is imprecise does not identify different occurrences of the same variable.

## Multiplication

$$\begin{aligned} [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \otimes^i \emptyset &= \emptyset \otimes^i [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] = \emptyset \\ [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \otimes^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] &= [\min(\underline{x}\underline{y}, \underline{x}\bar{y}, \bar{x}\underline{y}, \bar{x}\bar{y}), \max(\underline{x}\underline{y}, \underline{x}\bar{y}, \bar{x}\underline{y}, \bar{x}\bar{y})] \end{aligned}$$

which reduces to  $[\underline{x}\underline{y}, \bar{x}\bar{y}]$  when the lower bounds  $\underline{x}$  and  $\underline{y}$  are greater than zero.

## Algebraic properties

- The interval operations have some of the usual algebraic properties of arithmetic operations

$$(x \oplus^i y) \oplus^i z = x \oplus^i (y \oplus^i kz) \quad \text{associativity}$$

$$(x \ominus^i y) \ominus^i z = x \ominus^i (y \ominus^i z)$$

$$x \oplus^i y = y \oplus^i x \quad \text{commutativity}$$

$$x \otimes y = y \otimes^i x$$

$$x \oplus^i [0, 0] = x \quad \text{neutral element}$$

$$x \otimes^i [1, 1] = x$$

- However distributivity does not hold. We have

$$x \otimes^i (y \oplus^i z) \sqsubseteq^i (x \otimes^i y) \oplus^i (x \otimes^i z) \quad \text{subdistributivity}$$

## Conditions

- Although when computing with  $\mathbb{I}$  only one branch of a conditional will be taken, interval computation with  $\mathbb{P}^i$  may have to take both.
- This gives, in the worst-case, an exponential number of cases to consider.

## Conditions

- Although when computing with  $\mathbb{I}$  only one branch of a conditional will be taken, interval computation with  $\mathbb{P}^i$  may have to take both.
- This gives, in the worst-case, an exponential number of cases to consider.
- In most interval arithmetic libraries, this case raises an exception that stops execution, which is a further coarse abstraction of the abstract semantics presented here.
- See e.g. [www.boost.org/doc/libs/1\\_74\\_0/libs/numeric/interval/doc/interval.htm](http://www.boost.org/doc/libs/1_74_0/libs/numeric/interval/doc/interval.htm) and [www.boost.org/doc/libs/1\\_74\\_0/libs/numeric/interval/doc/comparisons.htm](http://www.boost.org/doc/libs/1_74_0/libs/numeric/interval/doc/comparisons.htm).

## Conditions (cont'd)

- The boolean comparison operators  $x \odot y$  take two intervals for  $x$  and  $y$  and return two intervals for  $x$  and  $y$  such that the comparison may hold (and cannot hold outside these intervals).

$$\begin{aligned} [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \ominus^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] &\triangleq \langle \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle && \text{if } \bar{x} < \underline{y} \text{ or } \bar{y} < \underline{x} \\ &\triangleq \langle [\max(\underline{x}, \underline{y}), \min(\bar{x}, \bar{y})], [\max(\underline{x}, \underline{y}), \min(\bar{x}, \bar{y})] \rangle && \text{otherwise} \\ [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \ominus^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] &\triangleq \langle \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle && \text{if } \underline{x} \geq \bar{y} \\ &\triangleq \langle [\underline{x}, \min(\bar{x}, \bar{y})], [\max(\underline{x}, \underline{y}), \bar{y}] \rangle && \text{otherwise, } \mathbb{I} \neq \mathbb{Z} \\ &\triangleq \langle [\underline{x}, \min(\bar{x}, \bar{y} - 1)], [\max(\underline{x} + 1, \underline{y}), \bar{y}] \rangle && \text{otherwise, } \mathbb{I} = \mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

# Float interval abstraction



## Float notations

- $\lfloor x$  (which can be  $-\infty$ ) is the largest float smaller than or equal to  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\lfloor x = x$  for  $x \in \mathbb{F}$ )
- $\lceil x$  (which can be  $\infty$ ) is the smallest float greater than or equal to  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\lceil x = x$  for  $x \in \mathbb{F}$ ).
- $\lfloor x$  is the largest floating-point number strictly less than  $x \in \mathbb{F}$  (which can be  $-\infty$ )
- $\lceil x$  is the smallest floating-point number strictly larger than  $x \in \mathbb{F}$  (which can be  $\infty$ ).
- We assume

$$\lfloor x -_{\mathbb{F}} y \rceil \leq \lfloor (x -_{\mathbb{V}} y) \rceil \quad (\mathbb{V} \text{ is } \mathbb{R} \text{ or } \mathbb{F}) \quad (12)$$

$$\lceil x \rceil -_{\mathbb{F}} \lfloor y \rfloor \geq (x -_{\mathbb{V}} y) \lceil \rceil$$

$$(x \in [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \wedge y \in [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] \wedge x < y) \Rightarrow (x \in [\underline{x}, \min(\bar{x}, \bar{y})] \wedge y \in [\max(\underline{x}, \underline{y}), \bar{y}]) \quad (13)$$

## Incorrect machine implementations

- Some machine implementations of IEEE-754 floating point arithmetics [IEEE, 1985] are incorrect [Goldberg, 1991; Monniaux, 2008].
- For example [Monniaux, 2008, Sect. 6.1.2], we could have

$$(x \in [\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \wedge y \in [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] \wedge x < y) \Rightarrow (x \in [\underline{x}, \min(\bar{x}, \bar{y})] \wedge y \in [\max(\underline{x}, \underline{y}), \bar{y}]) \quad (13.bis)$$

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentium\\_FDIV\\_bug](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentium_FDIV_bug)

## Float interval abstraction

$\alpha^{\mathbb{P}^i}(x) \triangleq \lceil \lfloor x, x \rfloor \rceil$	real abstraction by float interval	(14)
$\gamma^{\mathbb{P}^i}([\underline{x}, \bar{x}]) \triangleq \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid \underline{x} \leq x \leq \bar{x}\}$		
$\dot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\rho) \triangleq x \in \mathcal{V} \mapsto \alpha^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\rho(x))$	environment abstraction	
$\dot{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\bar{\rho}) \triangleq \{\rho \in \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \forall x \in \mathcal{V}. \rho(x) \in \gamma^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\bar{\rho}(x))\}$		
$\ddot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\langle \ell, \rho \rangle) \triangleq \langle \ell, \dot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\rho) \rangle$	state abstraction	
$\ddot{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle) \triangleq \{\langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \dot{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\bar{\rho})\}$		
$\vec{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\pi_1 \dots \pi_n \dots) \triangleq \ddot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\pi_1) \dots \ddot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\pi_n) \dots$	[in]finite trace abstraction	
$\vec{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\bar{\pi}_1 \dots \bar{\pi}_n \dots) \triangleq \{\pi_1 \dots \pi_n \dots \mid  \pi  =  \bar{\pi}  \wedge \forall i = 1, \dots, n, \dots. \pi_i \in \ddot{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\bar{\pi}_i)\}$		
$\dot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\Pi) \triangleq \{\ddot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\pi) \mid \pi \in \Pi\}$	set of traces abstraction	
$\dot{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\bar{\Pi}) \triangleq \{\pi \mid \ddot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\pi) \in \bar{\Pi}\} = \bigcup \{\ddot{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\bar{\pi}) \mid \bar{\pi} \in \bar{\Pi}\}$		

Because the floats are a subset of the reals, we can use  $\alpha^{\mathbb{P}^i}$  to abstract both real and float traces (i.e.  $\mathcal{V}$  be  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{F}$ ).

$$\langle \rho(S_{\mathcal{V}}^{+\infty}), \subseteq \rangle \xrightarrow{\gamma^{\mathbb{P}^i}} \langle \rho(S_{\mathbb{P}^i}^{+\infty}), \subseteq \rangle$$

## $\sqsubseteq$ is correct by inadequate for approximation in the abstract

- Program:  $\ell_1 \ x = x - x ; \ell_2$
- Concrete semantics:

$$\Pi = \{\langle \ell_1, x = 0.1_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = 0.0_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle, \langle \ell_1, x = -0.1_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = 0.0_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle\}$$

- Sound abstract semantics on floats:

$$\overline{\Pi}_1 = \{\langle \ell_1, x = [0.09, 0.11] \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = [0.00, 0.00] \rangle, \langle \ell_1, x = [-0.11, -0.09] \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = [0.00, 0.00] \rangle\} \quad \Pi \subseteq \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\Pi}_1)$$

$$\overline{\Pi}_2 = \{\langle \ell_1, x = \underbrace{[-0.11, 0.11]}_{\text{input interval}} \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = \underbrace{[-0.02, 0.20]}_{\text{interval arithmetic}} \rangle\} \quad \Pi \subseteq \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\Pi}_2)$$

- $\overline{\Pi}_1$  and  $\overline{\Pi}_2$  are not comparable as abstract elements of  $\langle \wp(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{P}^i}^{+\infty}), \sqsubseteq \rangle$
- So  $\sqsubseteq$  does not allow over approximating  $\overline{\Pi}_1$  by  $\overline{\Pi}_2$ !

## Sound over-approximation in the concrete

- Concrete semantics:

$$\Pi = \{\langle \ell_1, x = 0.1_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = 0.0_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle, \quad \langle \ell_1, x = -0.1_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = 0.0_{\mathbb{R}} \rangle\}$$

- Sound abstract semantics on floats:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\Pi}_1 = \{ & \langle \ell_1, x = [0.09, 0.11] \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = [0.00, 0.00] \rangle, & \Pi \subseteq \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\Pi}_1) \\ & \langle \ell_1, x = [-0.11, -0.09] \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = [0.00, 0.00] \rangle \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\Pi}_2 = \{ & \langle \ell_1, x = \underbrace{[-0.11, 0.11]}_{\text{input interval}} \rangle \langle \ell_2, x = \underbrace{[-0.02, 0.20]}_{\text{interval arithmetic}} \rangle \} & \Pi \subseteq \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\Pi}_2) \end{aligned}$$

- By comparison in the concrete,  $\overline{\Pi}_1$  is more precise than  $\overline{\Pi}_2$ , written  $\overline{\Pi}_1 \stackrel{\circ}{\subseteq}^i \overline{\Pi}_2$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\Pi}_1 \stackrel{\circ}{\subseteq}^i \overline{\Pi}_2 & \triangleq \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\Pi}_1) \subseteq \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\Pi}_2) & (16) \\ & = \forall \overline{\pi}_1 \in \overline{\Pi}_1 . \forall \pi \in \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\pi}_1) . \exists \overline{\pi}_2 \in \overline{\Pi}_2 . \pi \in \mathring{\gamma}^{\mathbb{F}^i}(\overline{\pi}_2) \end{aligned}$$

## Sound over-approximation in the abstract

- We express  $\underline{\underline{c}}^i$  in the abstract, without referring to the concretization  $\bar{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}$
- We define  $\bar{\Pi} \underline{\underline{c}}^i \bar{\Pi}'$  so that the traces of  $\bar{\Pi}'$  have the same control as the traces of  $\bar{\Pi}$  but intervals are larger (and  $\bar{\Pi}'$  may contain extra traces due to the imprecision of interval tests).
- $\underline{\underline{c}}^i$  is Hoare preorder [Winskel, 1983] on sets of traces.

$$[\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \underline{\underline{c}}^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] \triangleq \underline{y} \leq \underline{x} \leq \bar{x} \leq \bar{y} \quad (18)$$

$$\rho \underline{\underline{c}}^i \rho' \triangleq \forall x \in \mathcal{V} . \rho(x) \underline{\underline{c}}^i \rho'(x)$$

$$\langle \ell, \rho \rangle \underline{\underline{c}}^i \langle \ell', \rho' \rangle \triangleq (\ell = \ell') \wedge (\rho \underline{\underline{c}}^i \rho')$$

$$\bar{\pi} \underline{\underline{c}}^i \bar{\pi}' \triangleq (|\bar{\pi}| = |\bar{\pi}'|) \wedge (\forall i \in [0, |\bar{\pi}|[ . \bar{\pi}_i \underline{\underline{c}}^i \bar{\pi}'_i)$$

$$\bar{\Pi} \underline{\underline{c}}^i \bar{\Pi}' \triangleq \forall \bar{\pi} \in \bar{\Pi} . \exists \bar{\pi}' \in \bar{\Pi}' . \bar{\pi} \underline{\underline{c}}^i \bar{\pi}'$$

## Sound over-approximation in the abstract

- We express  $\underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i$  in the abstract, without referring to the concretization  $\bar{\gamma}^{\mathbb{P}^i}$
- We define  $\bar{\Pi} \overset{\circ}{c}^i \bar{\Pi}'$  so that the traces of  $\bar{\Pi}'$  have the same control as the traces of  $\bar{\Pi}$  but intervals are larger (and  $\bar{\Pi}'$  may contain extra traces due to the imprecision of interval tests).
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$$[\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] \triangleq \underline{y} \leq \underline{x} \leq \bar{x} \leq \bar{y} \quad (18)$$

$$\rho \underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i \rho' \triangleq \forall x \in \mathcal{V} . \rho(x) \underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i \rho'(x)$$

$$\langle \ell, \rho \rangle \underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i \langle \ell', \rho' \rangle \triangleq (\ell = \ell') \wedge (\rho \underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i \rho')$$

$$\bar{\pi} \overset{\circ}{c}^i \bar{\pi}' \triangleq (|\bar{\pi}| = |\bar{\pi}'|) \wedge (\forall i \in [0, |\bar{\pi}|[ . \bar{\pi}_i \underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i \bar{\pi}'_i)$$

$$\bar{\Pi} \overset{\circ}{c}^i \bar{\Pi}' \triangleq \forall \bar{\pi} \in \bar{\Pi} . \exists \bar{\pi}' \in \bar{\Pi}' . \bar{\pi} \overset{\circ}{c}^i \bar{\pi}'$$

**Lemma 6**  $(\bar{\Pi} \overset{\circ}{c}^i \bar{\Pi}') \Rightarrow (\bar{\Pi} \underline{\overset{\circ}{c}}^i \bar{\Pi}')$ .

□

## Sound over-approximation in the abstract (cont'd)

- Strictly weaker
- Example:

$$\overline{\Pi}_1 = \{ \langle \ell_1, x = [0.0, 1.0] \rangle, \\ \langle \ell_1, x = [1.0, 2.0] \rangle \}$$

$$\overline{\Pi}_2 = \{ \langle \ell_1, x = [0.0, 0.5] \rangle, \\ \langle \ell_1, x = [0.5, 2.0] \rangle \}$$

- $\overline{\Pi}_1 \stackrel{i}{\subseteq} \overline{\Pi}_2$  (same concrete traces)
- $\overline{\Pi}_1 \not\stackrel{i}{\subseteq} \overline{\Pi}_2$  (no inclusion of abstract traces)
- $\overline{\Pi}_2 \not\stackrel{i}{\subseteq} \overline{\Pi}_1$



## Soundness and calculational design

- Value (real/float) concrete semantics:  $\mathcal{S}_V^* [S]$
- Interval abstract semantics:  $\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^* [S]$
- **Soundness**: all value (real/float) traces are included in the interval traces:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \hat{\alpha}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_V^*[S]) \stackrel{\circ}{\subseteq}^i \mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S] \\
 \Rightarrow & \hat{\alpha}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_V^*[S]) \stackrel{\circ}{\subseteq}^i \mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S] && \text{\{lemma 6\}} \\
 \Rightarrow & \hat{\gamma}^{Pi}(\hat{\alpha}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_V^*[S])) \subseteq \hat{\gamma}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S]) && \text{\{def. } \stackrel{\circ}{\subseteq}^i \text{\}} \\
 \Rightarrow & \mathcal{S}_V^*[S] \subseteq \hat{\gamma}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S]) && \text{\{Galois connection } \langle \wp(\mathcal{S}_V^{+\infty}), \subseteq \rangle \xrightleftharpoons[\hat{\alpha}^{Pi}]{\hat{\gamma}^{Pi}} \langle \wp(\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^{+\infty}), \subseteq \rangle, (15)\text{\}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Soundness and calculational design

- Value (real/float) concrete semantics:  $\mathcal{S}_V^* [S]$
- Interval abstract semantics:  $\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^* [S]$
- **Soundness**: all value (real/float) traces are included in the interval traces:

$$\hat{\alpha}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_V^*[S]) \stackrel{\circ i}{\subseteq} \mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S]$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\alpha}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_V^*[S]) \stackrel{\circ i}{\subseteq} \mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S] \quad \{\text{lemma 6}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\gamma}^{Pi}(\hat{\alpha}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_V^*[S])) \subseteq \hat{\gamma}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S]) \quad \{\text{def. } \stackrel{\circ i}{\subseteq}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}_V^*[S] \subseteq \hat{\gamma}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^*[S]) \quad \{\text{Galois connection } \langle \wp(\mathcal{S}_V^{+\infty}), \subseteq \rangle \xrightleftharpoons[\hat{\alpha}^{Pi}]{\hat{\gamma}^{Pi}} \langle \wp(\mathcal{S}_{Pi}^{+\infty}), \subseteq \rangle, \quad (15)\}$$

- **Calculational design**:
  - Calculate  $\hat{\alpha}^{Pi}(\mathcal{S}_V^*[S])$
  - Over approximate by  $\stackrel{\circ i}{\subseteq}$  to eliminate all concrete operations

# Computational design of the float interval trace semantics

## Float interval abstraction of an arithmetic expression semantics

- Let  $\mathbb{V}$  be  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{F}$ .

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket 1 \rrbracket \rho \triangleq 1_{\mathbb{P}^i}$$

where  $1_{\mathbb{P}^i} = [1.0, 1.0]$  and  $1.0 \in \mathbb{F}$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket 0.1 \rrbracket \rho \triangleq 0.1_{\mathbb{P}^i}$$

where  $0.1_{\mathbb{P}^i} \triangleq [\lceil 0.1_{\mathbb{V}}, 0.1_{\mathbb{V}} \rceil]$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket x \rrbracket \rho \triangleq \rho(x)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket A_1 - A_2 \rrbracket \rho \triangleq \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \rho \ominus_{\mathbb{P}^i} \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \rho$$

where  $[\underline{x}, \bar{x}] \ominus_{\mathbb{P}^i} [\underline{y}, \bar{y}] \triangleq [\underline{x} -_{\mathbb{F}} \bar{y}, \bar{x} -_{\mathbb{F}} \underline{y}]$

(with rounding towards  $-\infty/\infty$ ) is such that

$$\alpha^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}} \llbracket A \rrbracket \rho) \sqsubseteq^i \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket A \rrbracket \alpha^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\rho). \quad (21)$$

- $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket A \rrbracket$  is  $\sqsubseteq^i$ -increasing (but does not preserve least upper bounds).

# Proof

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \alpha^{\downarrow}(\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket 0.1 \rrbracket \rho) \\
 & = \alpha^{\downarrow}(0.1_{\vee}) && \{ \text{def. } \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \text{ in (1)} \} \\
 & = \lceil \llbracket 0.1_{\vee}, 0.1_{\vee} \rrbracket \rceil && \{ \text{real abstraction by float interval in (14)} \} \\
 & \triangleq \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket 0.1 \rrbracket (\alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho)) && \{ \text{by defining } \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket 0.1 \rrbracket \bar{\rho} \triangleq \lceil \llbracket 0.1_{\vee}, 0.1_{\vee} \rrbracket \rceil \} \\
 \\
 & - \alpha^{\downarrow}(\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket x \rrbracket \rho) \\
 & = \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho(x)) && \{ \text{def. } \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \text{ in (1)} \} \\
 & = \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho)(x) && \{ \text{def. environment abstraction in (14)} \} \\
 & \triangleq \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket x \rrbracket (\alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho)) && \{ \text{by defining } \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket x \rrbracket \bar{\rho} \triangleq \bar{\rho}(x) \} \\
 \\
 & - \alpha^{\downarrow}(\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_1 - A_2 \rrbracket \rho) \\
 & = \alpha^{\downarrow}(\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \rho -_{\vee} \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \rho) && \{ \text{def. } \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \text{ in (1)} \} \\
 & = \lceil \llbracket (\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \rho -_{\vee} \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \rho), (\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \rho -_{\vee} \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \rho) \rrbracket \rceil && \{ \text{value abstraction by float interval in (14)} \} \\
 & \sqsubseteq^i \lceil \llbracket (\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \rho) -_{\mathbb{F}} (\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \rho) \rrbracket \rceil, (\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \rho) \rrbracket -_{\mathbb{F}} \lceil \llbracket (\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \rho) \rrbracket \rceil && \{ (18) \text{ and hyp. (12)} \} \\
 & \sqsubseteq^i \text{let } \llbracket \underline{x}, \bar{x} \rrbracket = \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \text{ and } \llbracket \underline{y}, \bar{y} \rrbracket = \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \text{ in } \llbracket \underline{x} -_{\mathbb{F}} \bar{y}, \bar{x} -_{\mathbb{F}} \underline{y} \rrbracket && \\
 & && \{ \text{By ind. hyp. } \lceil \llbracket \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_i \rrbracket \rho, \mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_i \rrbracket \rho \rrbracket \rceil = \alpha^{\downarrow}(\mathcal{A}_{\vee} \llbracket A_i \rrbracket \rho) \sqsubseteq^i \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_i \rrbracket \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho), i = 1, 2. \} \\
 & = \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) -_{\downarrow} \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) && \{ \text{by defining } \llbracket \underline{x}, \bar{x} \rrbracket -_{\downarrow} \llbracket \underline{y}, \bar{y} \rrbracket \triangleq \llbracket \underline{x} -_{\mathbb{F}} \bar{y}, \bar{x} -_{\mathbb{F}} \underline{y} \rrbracket \} \\
 & \triangleq \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_1 - A_2 \rrbracket \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) && \{ \text{by defining } \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_1 - A_2 \rrbracket \bar{\rho} \triangleq \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket \bar{\rho} -_{\downarrow} \mathcal{A}_{\downarrow} \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket \bar{\rho} \}
 \end{aligned}$$

Approximation:

$$\alpha^{\downarrow}(\{\rho(x) - \rho(y) \mid \rho \in \gamma^{\downarrow}(\bar{\rho})\}) \sqsubseteq^i \bar{\rho}(x) -_{\downarrow} \bar{\rho}(y)$$

## Float interval abstraction of an assignment semantics

- $S ::= \ell \ x = A ;$
- Concrete semantics on reals ( $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{R}$ ) or float ( $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{F}$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{V}}^* [S] = & \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{V}} \} \cup \\ & \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \langle \text{after}[S], \rho[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{V}}[A]\rho] \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{V}} \} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

- Abstract semantics on intervals ( $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{P}^i$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}^i}^* [S] \triangleq & \{ \langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \mid \bar{\rho} \in \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \} \cup \\ & \{ \langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \langle \text{after}[S], \bar{\rho}[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{P}^i}[A]\bar{\rho}] \rangle \mid \bar{\rho} \in \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \} \end{aligned}$$

- Same traces except for computing on intervals rather than values

# Proof

We can now abstract the semantics of real ( $v=\mathbb{R}$ ) or float ( $v=\mathbb{F}$ ) assignments by float intervals.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \alpha^{\downarrow}([\ell \ x = A \ ;]) \\
 = & \{\alpha^{\downarrow}(\pi) \mid \pi \in [\ell \ x = A \ ;]\} && \text{\{set of traces abstraction (14)\}} \\
 = & \{\alpha^{\downarrow}(\pi) \mid \pi \in \{\langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} \cup \{\langle \ell, \rho \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \rho[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_V[A]\rho] \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\}\} && \text{\{def. } [\ell \ x = A \ ;] \text{ in (2)\}} \\
 = & \{\langle \ell, \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} \cup \{\langle \ell, \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_V[A]\rho]) \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} && \text{\{def. (14) of trace abstraction\}} \\
 = & \{\langle \ell, \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} \cup \{\langle \ell, \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho[x \leftarrow \alpha^{\downarrow}(\mathcal{A}_V[A]\rho)]) \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} && \text{\{def. (14) of environment abstraction\}} \\
 \stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{C}}^i & \{\langle \ell, \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} \cup \{\langle \ell, \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_I[A]\alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho)]) \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} && \text{\{def. (18) of } \stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{C}}^i \text{ and (21)\}} \\
 \stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{C}}^i & \{\langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \mid \bar{\rho} \in \mathbb{E}_{v_I}\} \cup \{\langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \bar{\rho}[x \leftarrow \mathcal{A}_I[A]\bar{\rho}] \rangle \mid \bar{\rho} \in \mathbb{E}_{v_I}\} && \text{\{ } \{\alpha^{\downarrow}(\rho) \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{v_V}\} \subseteq \mathbb{E}_{v_I} \text{ by (14) for environment abstraction\}} \\
 \triangleq & \mathcal{S}_I^*[[\ell \ x = A \ ;]] && \text{\{by defining } \mathcal{S}_I^*[[\ell \ x = A \ ;]] \text{ as in (2) for } v=I\}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Approximation  $\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbb{C}}^i$ :

- value  $\mathcal{A}_V$  to interval arithmetic  $\mathcal{A}_I$
- value to interval environments

## Float interval abstraction of an arithmetic expression semantics

- A test is true or false for  $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{F}$
- For intervals a test is imprecise (e.g.  $<$  is handled as  $\leq$ ), may yield a split, and overlap.
- The abstract interpretation  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket B \rrbracket$  of a boolean expression  $B$  is defined such that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{let } \langle \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle &= \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket B \rrbracket \dot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\rho) \text{ in} & (22) \\ \dot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\rho) &\dot{\subseteq}^i \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}} & \text{if } \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{V}} \llbracket B \rrbracket \rho = \text{tt} \\ \dot{\alpha}^{\mathbb{P}^i}(\rho) &\dot{\subseteq}^i \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} & \text{if } \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{V}} \llbracket B \rrbracket \rho = \text{ff} \\ \text{and } \langle \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle &= \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{P}^i} \llbracket B \rrbracket \bar{\rho} \Rightarrow (\bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}} \dot{\subseteq}^i \bar{\rho} \wedge \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \dot{\subseteq}^i \bar{\rho}) \end{aligned}$$

- No concrete state passing the test is omitted in the abstract, and
- The postcondition  $\bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}$  or  $\bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}}$  is stronger than the precondition  $\bar{\rho}$  (no side effects)



## Float interval abstraction of a conditional

- Conditional statement  $S ::= \mathbf{if} \ell (B) S_t$  (where  $\text{at}[[S]] = \ell$ )<sup>3</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_{\text{Pi}}^*[[S]] &\triangleq \{ \langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \mid \bar{\rho} \in \mathbb{E}_{\text{Pi}} \} && \text{(5bis)} \\ &\cup \{ \langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle \mid \exists \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}} . \mathcal{B}_{\text{Pi}}[[B]]\bar{\rho} = \langle \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle \wedge \rho_{\text{ff}} \neq \dot{\emptyset} \} \\ &\cup \{ \langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \langle \text{at}[[S_t]], \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}} \rangle \pi \mid \exists \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} . \mathcal{B}_{\text{Pi}}[[B]]\bar{\rho} = \langle \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle \wedge \rho_{\text{tt}} \neq \dot{\emptyset} \wedge \\ &\quad \langle \text{at}[[S_t]], \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}} \rangle \pi \in \mathcal{S}_{\text{Pi}}^*[[S_t]] \} \end{aligned}$$

- Most libraries raise an error exception in case of split (or chose only one branch).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_{\text{Pi}}^*[[S]] &\triangleq \dots \\ &\cup \{ \langle \ell, \bar{\rho} \rangle \pi \mid \exists \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} . \mathcal{B}_{\text{Pi}}[[B]]\bar{\rho} = \langle \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle \wedge \rho_{\text{tt}} \dot{\Pi}^i \rho_{\text{ff}} \neq \dot{\emptyset} \wedge \pi \in \mathcal{S}_{\text{Pi}}^{+\infty} \} \end{aligned}$$

---

<sup>3</sup>We assume that  $\dot{\gamma}^{\downarrow}(\dot{\emptyset}) = \emptyset$ .

## Float interval abstraction of an iteration

- Iteration statement  $S ::= \mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b$  (where  $\text{at}[[S]] = \ell$ )

$$\mathcal{S}_{P^i}^*[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] = \text{lfp}^{\subseteq} \mathcal{F}_{P^i}^*[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] \quad (8\text{bis})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_{P^i}^*[[\mathbf{while} \ell (B) S_b]] X &\triangleq \{ \langle \ell, \rho \rangle \mid \rho \in \mathbb{E}_{V_{P^i}} \} \\ &\cup \{ \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \langle \text{after}[[S]], \rho_{\text{ff}} \rangle \mid \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \in X \wedge \\ &\quad \exists \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}} . \mathcal{B}_{P^i}[[B]]\bar{\rho} = \langle \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle \wedge \rho_{\text{ff}} \neq \emptyset \wedge \ell' = \ell \} \\ &\cup \{ \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \langle \text{at}[[S_b]], \rho_{\text{tt}} \rangle \pi_3 \mid \pi_2 \langle \ell', \rho \rangle \in X \wedge \\ &\quad \exists \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} . \mathcal{B}_{P^i}[[B]]\bar{\rho} = \langle \bar{\rho}_{\text{tt}}, \bar{\rho}_{\text{ff}} \rangle \wedge \rho_{\text{tt}} \neq \emptyset \wedge \\ &\quad \langle \text{at}[[S_b]], \rho_{\text{tt}} \rangle \pi_3 \in \mathcal{S}_{P^i}^*[[S_b]] \wedge \ell' = \ell \} \end{aligned}$$

# Abstraction to a transition system

## Abstraction to a transition system

- Abstraction to a transition system

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_t(\pi) &\triangleq \{\langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle \mid \exists \pi_1, \pi_2 . \pi = \pi_1 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \pi_2\} \\ \alpha_T(\Pi) &\triangleq \bigcup_{\pi \in \Pi} \alpha_t(\pi)\end{aligned}$$

- Provides a **small-step operational semantics** of the program (specifying an implementation)
- We used **trace abstractions** so there is no need for [bi-]simulations, etc. in the proof of correctness of the implementation

# Improving precision

## Affine arithmetic

- Interval arithmetic is imprecise.
- For example, if  $x \in [1, 4]$  then  $x - x \in [1 - 4, 4 - 1] = [-3, 3]$  instead of  $[0, 0]$ .
- The problem is that the arguments of functions cannot be correlated by a cartesian abstraction.
- So we have to independently take into consideration all possible values of variables within their interval of variation.
- And the problem cumulates over time along traces.

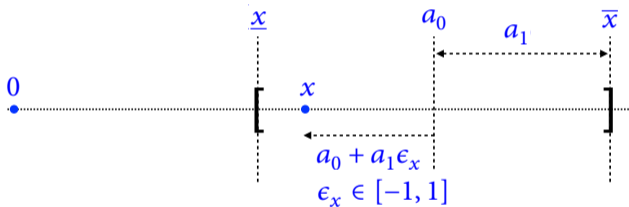
## Affine arithmetic

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- So we have to independently take into consideration all possible values of variables within their interval of variation.
- And the problem cumulates over time along traces.
- Several solutions have been proposed to solve this imprecision problem [Nedialkov, Kreinovich, and Starks, 2004].

## Affine arithmetic (cont'd)

- One of them, *affine arithmetics* [Comba and Stolfi, 1993; Stolfi and Figueiredo, 2003], represents an interval  $x \in [\underline{x}, \bar{x}]$  by

$x = a_0 + a_1 \epsilon_x$  where  $a_0 = \frac{\bar{x} + \underline{x}}{2}$ ,  $a_1 = \frac{\bar{x} - \underline{x}}{2}$ , and  $\epsilon_x \in [-1, 1]$  is a fresh auxiliary variable.

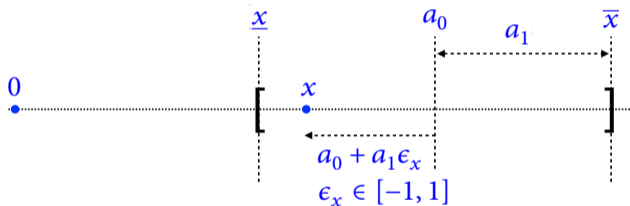




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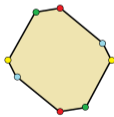
- Then  $x - x = (a_0 + a_1\epsilon_x) - (a_0 + a_1\epsilon_x) = 0 + 0\epsilon_x$ , as required.

## Affine arithmetic (cont'd)

- In general a program involves several variables so we have an affine form
$$x = a_0 + a_1\epsilon_1 + a_2\epsilon_2 + \cdots + a_n\epsilon_n.$$
- This implies  $x \in [a_0 - d, a_0 + d]$  where  $d = \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i|$  is the total deviation of  $x$ .
- This is, by interval arithmetic, the smallest interval that contains all possible values of  $x$ , assuming that each  $\epsilon_i$  ranges independently over the interval  $[-1, +1]$ .

## Affine arithmetic (cont'd)

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- This is, by interval arithmetic, the smallest interval that contains all possible values of  $x$ , assuming that each  $\epsilon_i$  ranges independently over the interval  $[-1, +1]$ .
- For  $m$  variables, the affine constraints determine a *zonotope* [McMullen, 1971], a center-symmetric convex polytope in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , whose faces are themselves center-symmetric [Beck and Robins, 2015, Ch. 9].



*Example of zonotope: octagonal zonogon*

- As was the case for interval arithmetic, zonotope arithmetic is an abstract interpretation of the real/float semantics (used in [Fluctuat](#)).

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zonohedron#Zonotopes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zonohedron#Zonotopes)

# Conclusion

## Conclusion

- **Interval arithmetics** in scientific computing put bounds on rounding errors in floating point arithmetic [Moore, 1966].
- It is an **abstract interpretation** of the trace semantics and can be computed at runtime for one trace at a time.
- **Tests** may have to consider many executions, which can be quite inefficient (and often considered an error in practice).
- A further abstract yields the **static interval** analysis (by joining states on paths at each program point to get invariants).
- More generally, this provides a **framework for dynamic analysis** (their static over approximation, and the combination of the two).
- **Soundness** guarantee!

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# The End, Thank you

The slides are available at:

<http://cs.nyu.edu/~pcousot/publications.www/slidesPCousot-SOAP-2021.pdf>