

Formal Methods:  
Model Checking and Other Applications

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# Outline

- Model checking of finite-state systems
- **Assisting in program development**
  - Program repair
  - **Program differencing**

# Modular Demand-Driven Analysis of Semantic Difference for Program Versions

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(SAS 2017)

# Program versions

Programs often change and evolve, raising the following interesting questions:

- Did the new version **introduced new bugs** or security vulnerabilities?
- Did the new version **remove bugs** or security vulnerabilities?
- More generally, how does the **behavior** of the program **change**?

Differences between program versions can be exploited for:

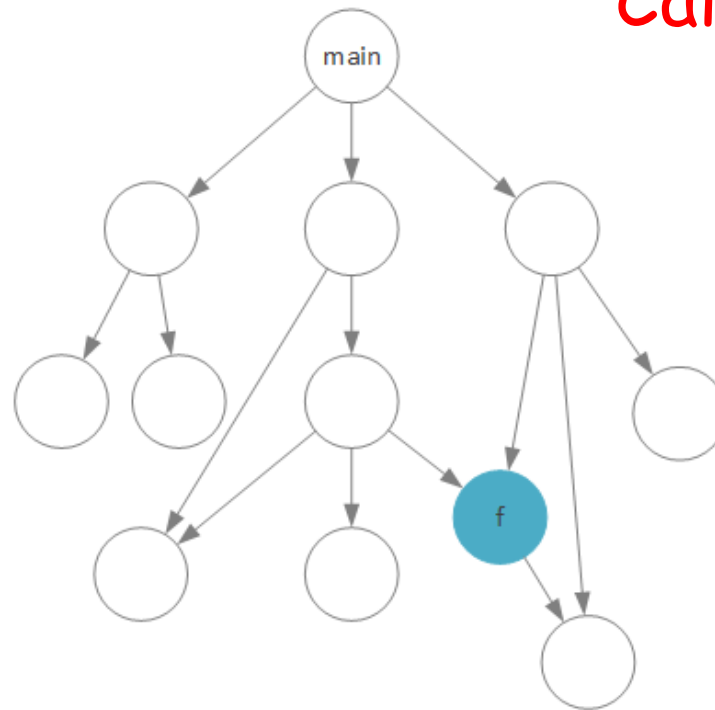
- Regression testing of new version w.r.t. old version, used as "golden model"
- Producing zero-day attacks on old version
- characterizing changes in the program's functionality

# How Programs Change

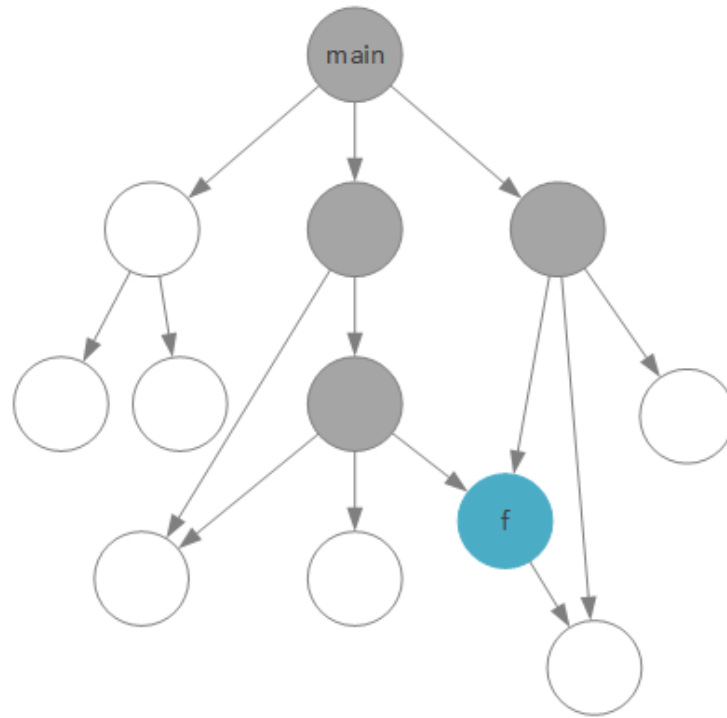
Changes are small,  
programs are large

Can our work be  
**O(change)** instead of  
**O(program)**?

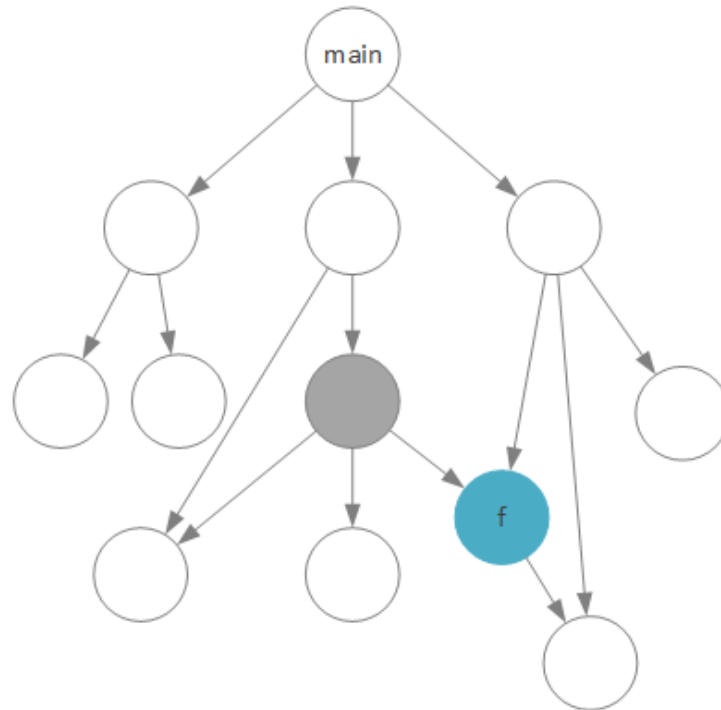
Call graph



# Which procedures could be affected



# Which procedures are affected





# Main ideas (1)

- **Modular analysis** applied to one pair of procedures at a time
  - No inlining
- Only affected procedures are analyzed
- **Over-** and **under-**approximation of difference between procedures are computed

# Main ideas (2)

- Procedures need not be fully analyzed:
  - Unanalyzed parts are **abstraction** using uninterpreted functions
  - **Refinement** is applied upon demand
- **Anytime** analysis:
  - Not necessarily terminates
  - Its partial results are meaningful
  - The longer it runs, the more precise its results are

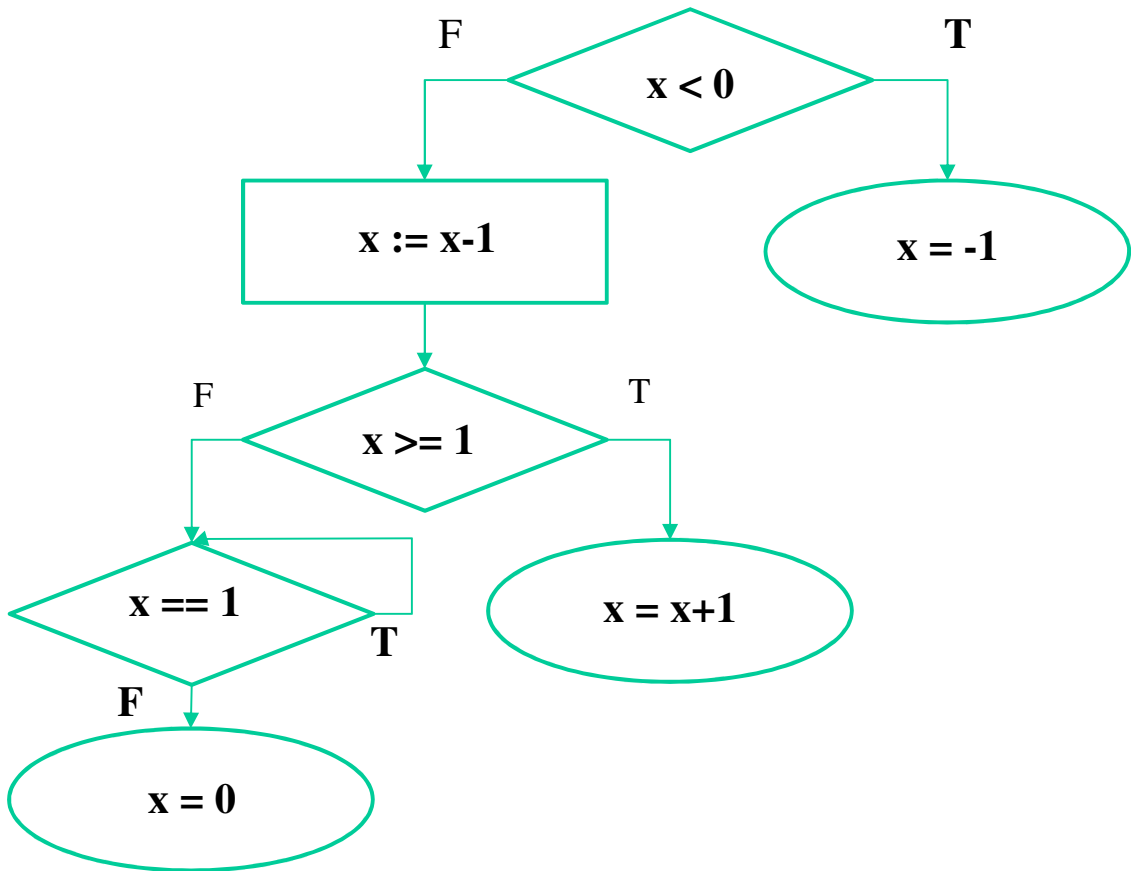
# Program representation

- Program is represented by a **call graph**
- Every procedure is represented by a **Control Flow Graph (CFG)**
- We are also given a **matching function** between procedures in the old and new versions

- A **call graph** is a directed graph:
  - Nodes represent procedures
  - It contains edge  $p \rightarrow q$  if procedure  $p$  includes a call for procedure  $q$
- A **control flow graph (CFG)** is a directed graph:
  - Nodes represent program instructions (assignments, conditions and procedure calls)
  - Edges represent possible flow of control

# Example

```
void p(int& x) {  
    if (x < 0) {  
        x = -1;  
        return;  
    }  
    x--;  
    if (x >= 1) {  
        x = x+1;  
        return;  
    } else  
        while ( x == 1);  
    x=0;  
}
```



# Path characterization

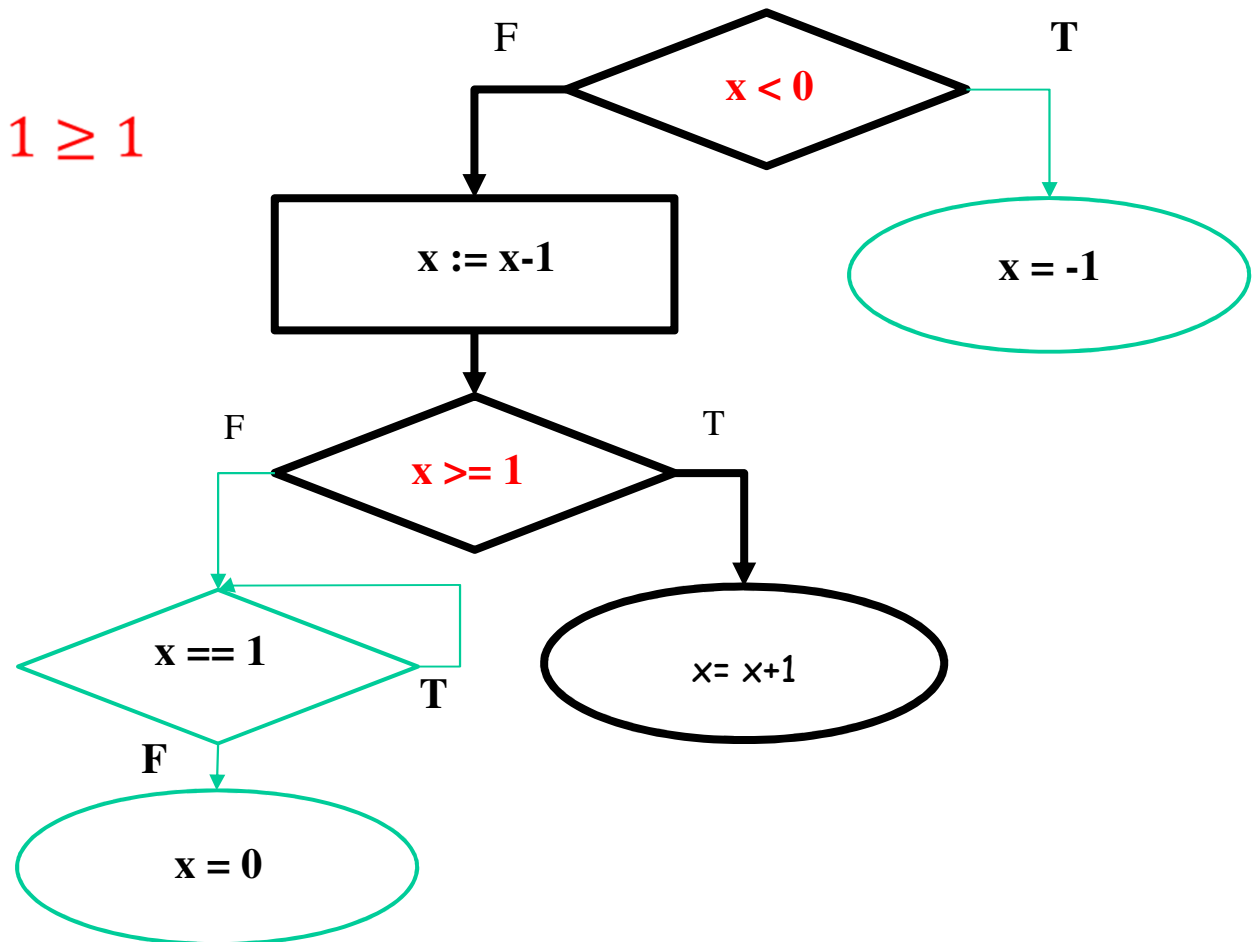
- For a finite path  $\pi$  in CFG from entry node to exit node:
  - The **reachability condition**  $R_\pi$  is a First Order Logic Formula, which guarantees that control traverses  $\pi$
  - The **state transformation**  $T_\pi$  is an n-tuple of expressions over program variables, describing the transformation on the variables' values along  $\pi$

Both given in terms of variables at the entry node of  $\pi$

- End of lecture 3

# Example

$$R_{\pi}(x) = x \geq 0 \wedge x - 1 \geq 1$$
$$\equiv x \geq 2$$

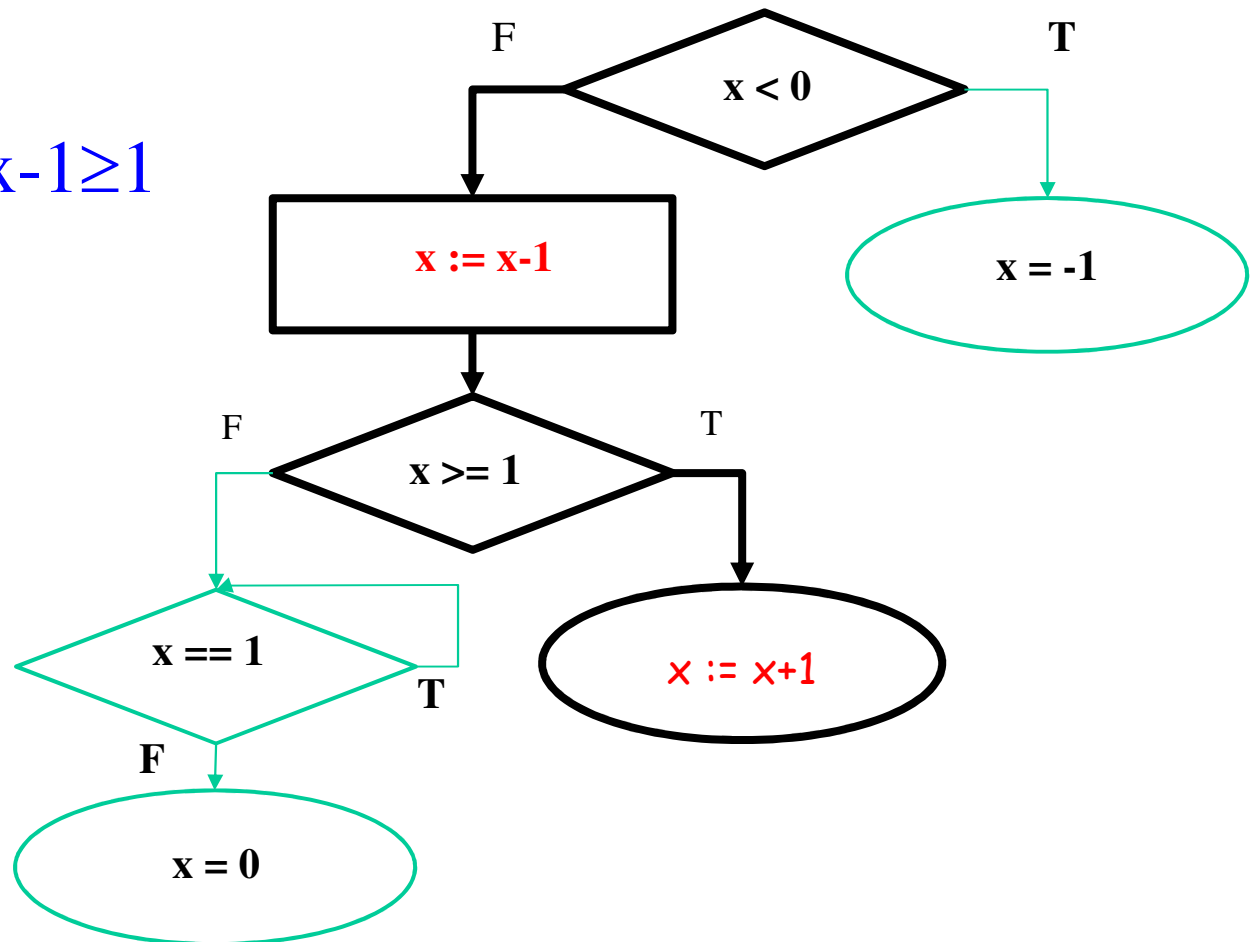




# Example

$$R_{\pi}(x) = x \geq 0 \wedge x-1 \geq 1$$

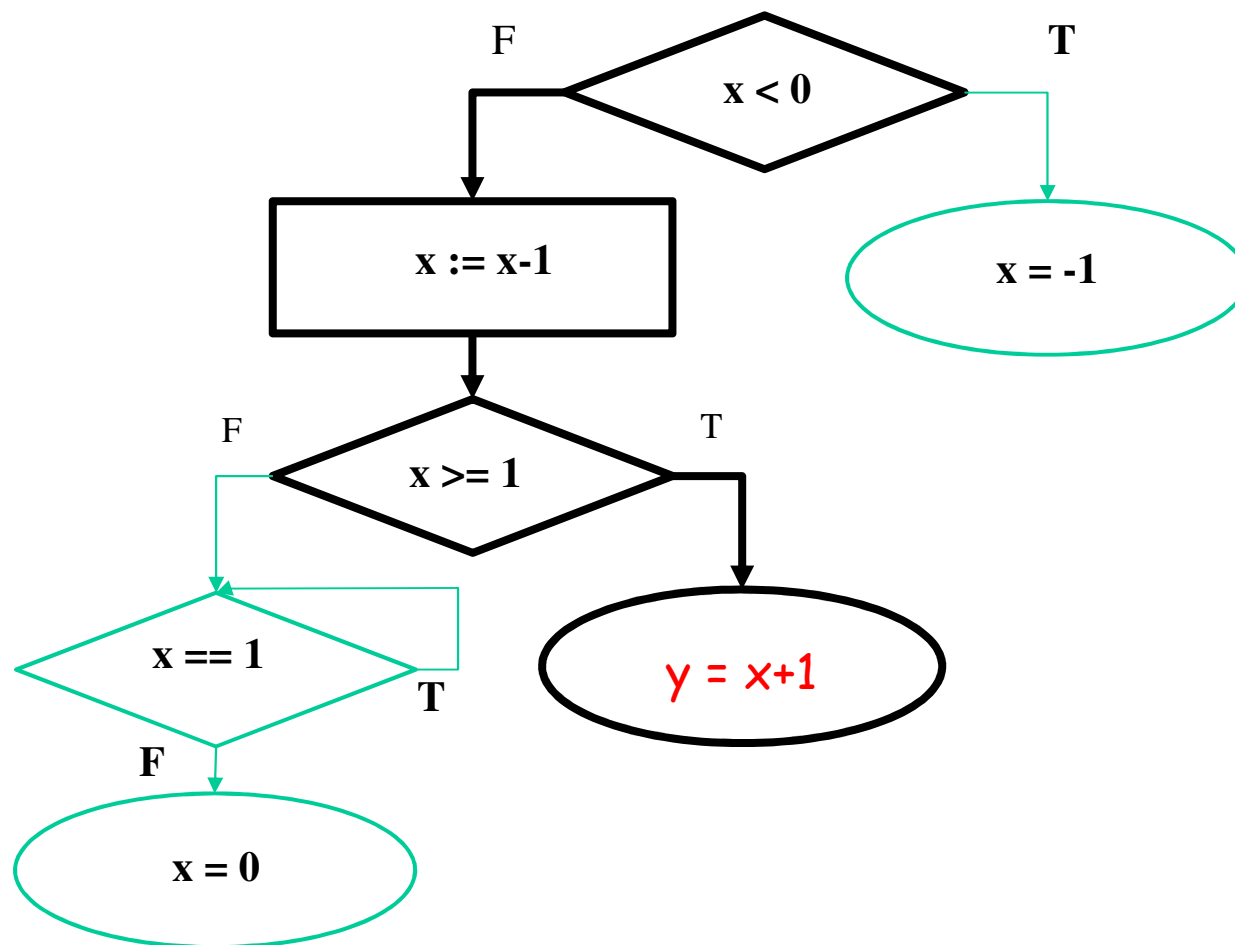
$$T_{\pi}(x) = (x)$$



# Example

$$R_{\pi}(x,y) = x \geq 0 \wedge x-1 \geq 1$$

$$T_{\pi}(x,y) = (x-1,x)$$



# Symbolic execution

- Input variables are given symbolic values
- Every execution path is explored individually (in some heuristic order)
- On every branch, a feasibility check is performed with a constraint solver

# Symbolic execution

The symbolic execution we use consists of:

For path  $\pi$  in procedure  $p$

- $R_{\pi}(V_p)$
- $T_{\pi}(V_p)$

where  $V_p$  denotes the input variables (the parameters) for procedure  $p$

# Computing symbolic execution

Given a finite path  $\pi = l_1, \dots, l_n$ ,

$R_{\pi}^i$  and  $T_{\pi}^i$  are the path condition and state transformation for path  $l_1, \dots, l_{i-1}$ , respectively.

$$R_{\pi} = R_{\pi}^{n+1}$$

$$T_{\pi} = T_{\pi}^{n+1}$$

# Computing symbolic execution

Iterative computation:

- Initialization:
  - For every  $x \in V_p$ ,  $T_\pi^1[x] = x$
  - $R_\pi^1 = \text{true}$
- Assume  $R_\pi^i, T_\pi^i$  are already defined.  
 $R_\pi^{i+1}, T_\pi^{i+1}$  are defined according to the instruction at node  $i$ :

# Computing symbolic execution

Instruction	R	T
Assignment $x := e$	$R_{\pi}^{i+1} = R_{\pi}^i$	$\forall y \neq x \ T_{\pi}^{i+1}[y] := T_{\pi}^i[y]$ $T_{\pi}^{i+1}[x] := e[V_p \leftarrow T_{\pi}^i]$
Test $B$	$R_{\pi}^{i+1} = R_{\pi}^i \wedge \tilde{B}$	$\forall x \ T_{\pi}^{i+1}[x] := T_{\pi}^i[x]$
Procedure call $g(Y)$		Inlined

Our goal:

- Compute **procedure summary** for individual procedures
  - using path summaries  $(R_{\pi}, T_{\pi})$
- Compute **difference summary** for matching pairs of procedures



# Procedure summary

- Procedure summary of procedure  $p$  is

$$\text{Sum}_p \subseteq \{ (R_\pi, T_\pi) \mid \pi \text{ is a finite path in } p \}$$

- The full set of path summaries often cannot be computed
  - And might not be needed

# Example

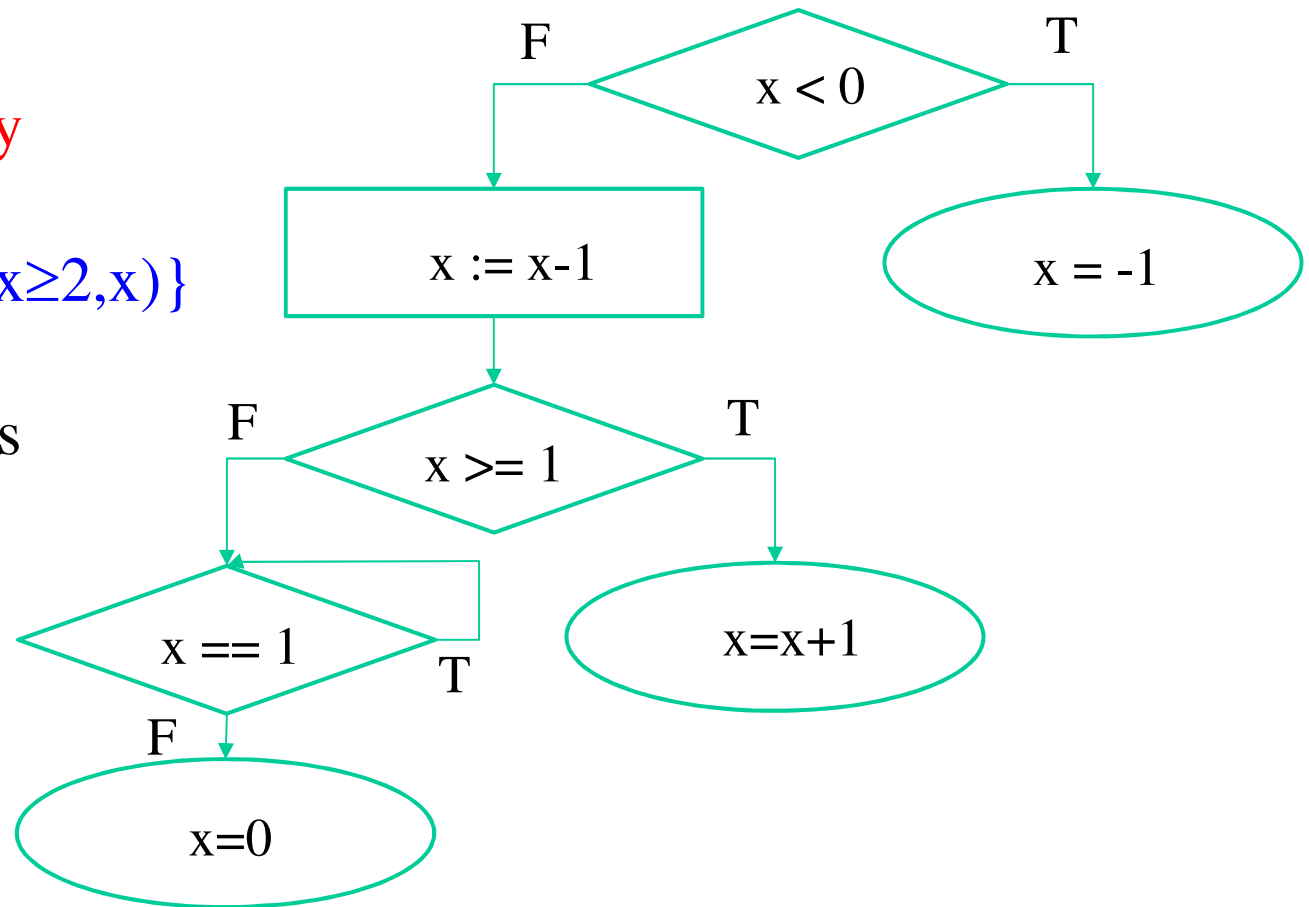
A possible **summary**

for procedure p:

$\text{sum}_p = \{(x < 0, -1), (x \geq 2, x)\}$

Its **uncovered part** is

$x \geq 0 \wedge x < 2$



Another goal:

- To compute path summaries without in-lining called procedures
- We suggest modular symbolic execution

# Modular symbolic execution

- Path  $\pi$  of procedure  $p$  includes call  $g(Y)$  at location  $l_i$
- $\text{sum}_g = \{ (r_1, t_1), \dots, (r_1, t_1) \}$  previously computed
- Instead of in-lining  $g$  we compute:

# Modular symbolic execution

- $R_{\pi}^{i+1} = R_{\pi}^i \wedge \bigvee_{j=1, \dots, n} r_j$
- $T_{\pi}^{i+1} = \text{ITE}(r_1, t_1, \dots, \text{ITE}(r_n, t_n, \text{error})..)$

# Modular Symbolic Execution

$$R_{\pi}^{i+1} = R_{\pi}^i \wedge \bigvee_{j=1}^n r_j [V_g^v \leftarrow T_{\pi}^i(Y)]$$

$$T_{\pi}^{i+1} = \mathbf{ITE}(r_1 [V_g^v \leftarrow T_{\pi}^i(Y)], t_1 [V_g^v \leftarrow T_{\pi}^i(Y)], \dots, \\ \mathbf{ITE}(r_n [V_g^v \leftarrow T_{\pi}^i(Y)], t_n [V_g^v \leftarrow T_{\pi}^i(Y)], \mathbf{error}))$$

# Can we do better?

- Use **abstraction** for the un-analyzed (uncovered) parts
- Later check if these parts are needed at all for the analysis of the full program (procedure main)
  - If needed - **refine**

# Abstraction

- Unanalyzed parts of a procedure is replaced by **uninterpreted functions**
- For matched procedures  $g_1, g_2$  we have
  - A common uninterpreted function  $UF_{g_1, g_2}$
  - Individual uninterpreted functions  $UF_{g_1}$  and  $UF_{g_2}$



# Abstract modular symbolic execution

For call  $g_1(Y)$  with

$\text{sum}_{g_1} = \{ (r_1, t_1), \dots, (r_n, t_n) \}$ :

$$R_{\pi}^{i+1} = R_{\pi}^i$$

$$T_{\pi}^{i+1} = \text{ITE}(r_1, t_1, \dots, \text{ITE}(r_n, t_n, \\ \text{ITE}(\text{computed\_unchanged}, UF_{g_1, g_2}, UF_{g_1})))$$

- For  $g_2(Y)$  we use  $\text{sum}_{g_2}$  and  $UF_{g_2}$

# Full Difference Summary

**Difference** for a pair of procedures  $p_1, p_2$  is a triplet:

- **changed**: is the set of initial states for which both procedures terminate with different final states.
- **termination\_changed**: is the set of initial states for which exactly one procedure terminates.
- **unchanged**: is the set of initial states for which both procedures either terminate with the same final states, or both do not terminate.

$$\begin{aligned} & \textit{changed} \cup \textit{termination\_changed} \cup \textit{unchanged} \\ & = \textit{input space} \end{aligned}$$

# Example

```
void p1(int& x) {  
  
    if (x < 0)  
        x = -1;  
    x--;  
    if (x >= 1)  
        x=x+1;  
        return;  
    else  
        while ( x ==1);  
    x=0;  
}
```



```
void p2(int& x) {  
  
    if (x < 0)  
        x = -1;  
    x--;  
    if (x > 2)  
        x=x+1;  
        return;  
    else  
        while ( x == 1);  
    x=0;  
}
```

# Example

The full difference summary is:

*changed* := {3}

*terminate\_changed* := {2}

*unchanged* := {c | (c < 2) ∨ (c > 3)}

# Difference Summary - computation

Full difference summary is incomputable!

Compute under-approximations of  
changed and unchanged, ignoring  
terminate\_change:

- *computed\_changed*  $\subseteq$  *changed*
- *computed\_unchanged*  $\subseteq$  *unchanged*

# Difference Summary - computation

Difference Summary gives us:

- An under-approximation of the difference:

*computed\_changed*

- An over-approximation of the difference:

*may\_change* =  $\neg$ *computed\_unchanged*

# Computing difference summary

For each  $(r_1, t_1)$  in  $p_1$ ,  $(r_2, t_2)$  in  $p_2$

- $\text{diffCond} := r_1 \wedge r_2 \wedge t_1 \neq t_2$
- If  $\text{diffCond}$  is SAT, add it to  $\text{computed\_changed}$
  
- $\text{eqCond} := r_1 \wedge r_2 \wedge t_1 = t_2$
- If  $\text{eqCond}$  is SAT, add it to  $\text{computed\_unchanged}$

# Refinement

- Since we are using uninterpreted functions, the discovered difference may not be feasible:

```
void p1(int& x) {  
  if (x == 5) {  
    abs1(x);  
    if (x==0)  
      x = 1;  
  }  
}
```

**abs1=abs2=abs**

```
void p2(int& x) {  
  if (x == 5) {  
    abs2(x);  
    if (x==0)  
      x = -1;  
  }  
}
```



- The following formula will be added to  $\text{computed\_changed}_{p1,p2}$  (if SAT)

$$x=5 \wedge x' = UF_{\text{abs1,abs2}}(x) \wedge x'=0 \wedge 1 \neq -1$$

- In order to check satisfiability, symbolic execution is applied to abs
  - Not necessarily on all paths

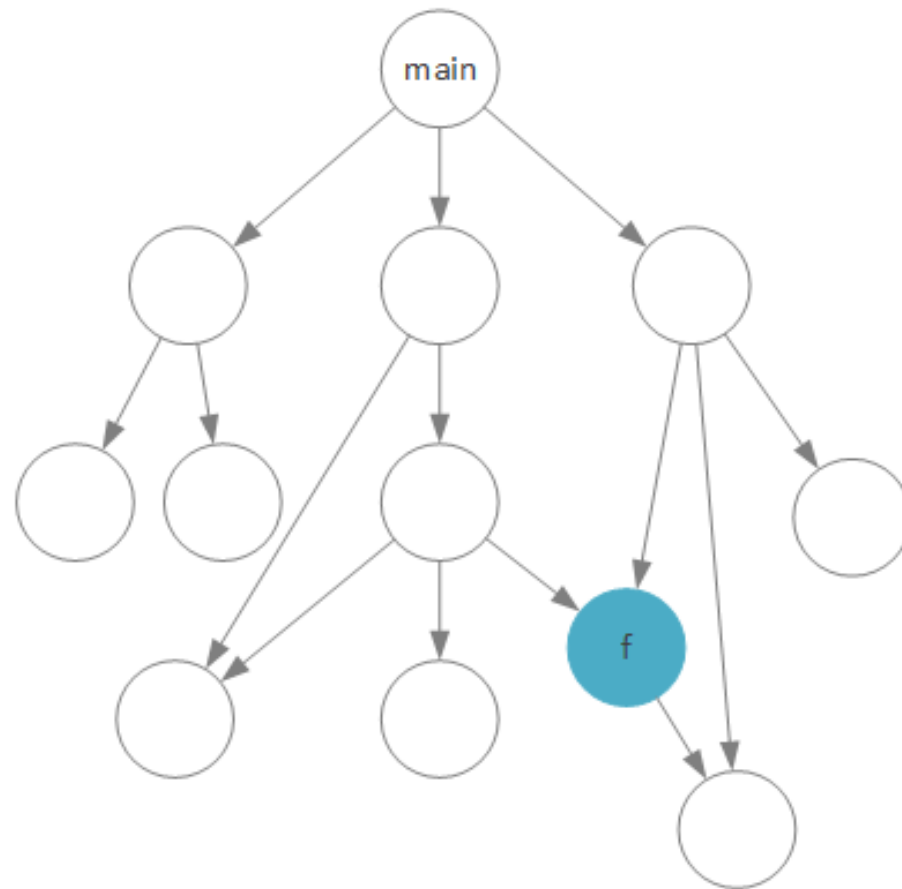
# Refinement

- We run symbolic execution on *abs* on the path traversed by input 5.
- Now the difference summary is refined and we can check satisfiability again of

$$x = 5 \wedge x' = \left( x > 0? x: UF_{abs_1, abs_2}(x) \right) \wedge x' = 0,$$

which is now unsatisfiable meaning there is no difference

# Overall Algorithm



# Experimental Results - Equivalent Benchmarks

Benchmark	MDDiff	MDDiffRef	RVT	SymDiff
Const	0.545s	0.541s	4.06s	14.562s
Add	0.213s	0.2s	3.85s	14.549s
Sub	0.258s	0.308s	5.01s	F
Comp	0.841s	0.539s	5.19s	F
LoopSub	0.847s	1.179s	F	F
UnchLoop	F	2.838s	F	F
LoopMult2	1.666s	1.689s	F	F
LoopMult5	F	3.88s	F	F
LoopMult10	F	9.543s	F	F
LoopMult15	F	21.55s	F	F
LoopMult20	F	49.031s	F	F
LoopUnrch2	0.9s	0.941s	F	F
LoopUnrch5	1.131s	1.126s	F	F
LoopUnrch10	1.147s	1.168s	F	F
LoopUnrch15	1.132s	1.191s	F	F
LoopUnrch20	1.157s	1.215s	F	F

# LoopMult Benchmark

```
void foo1(int a, int b) {  
    int c=0;  
    for (int i=1; i <= b;  
i++)  
        c+=a;  
  
    return c;  
}
```

```
void foo2(int a, int b) {  
    int c=0;  
    for (int i=1; i <= a;  
i++)  
        c+=b;  
  
    return c;  
}
```

# LoopMult Benchmark

LoopMult2

```
int main(int x) {  
    return  
    foo(2,2);  
}
```

LoopMult5

```
int main(int x) {  
    if (x >= 5 &&  
        x < 7) {  
        return  
        foo(x,5);  
    }  
}
```

# LoopUnrch Benchmark

```
void foo1(int a, int b)
{
    int c=0;
    if (a<0) {
        for (int i=1; i <=
b; i++)
            c+=a;
    }
    return c;
}
```

```
void foo1(int a, int b)
{
    int c=0;
    if (a<0) {
        for (int i=1; i <=
a; i++)
            c+=b;
    }
    return c;
}
```

# Experimental Results - Non Equivalent Benchmarks

Benchmark	MDDiff	MDDiffRef
LoopSub	1.187s	2.426s
UnchLoop	F	8.053s
LoopMult2	3.01s	3.451s
LoopMult5	F	5.914s
LoopMult10	F	10.614s
LoopMult15	F	14.024s
LoopMult20	F	25.795s
LoopUnrch2	2.157s	2.338s
LoopUnrch5	2.609s	3.216s
LoopUnrch10	2.658s	3.481s
LoopUnrch15	2.835s	3.446s
LoopUnrch20	3.185s	3.342s



# Summary

We present a differential analysis method that is:

- **Modular** (analyzes each procedure independently of its current use)
- **Incremental**
- Computes **over-** and **under-**approximation of inputs that produce different behavior
- Introduces **abstraction** in the form of uninterpreted functions, and allows **refinement upon demand**

Thank you