



From Shape Analysis to Heap Indexing

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Outline

- Shape analysis
- Problem
- Application
- Possible solution

Shape Analysis

- How memory locations are connected?
- Different logics
 - Three value logic
 - Separation logic

```
Node* curr = a;  
while (curr->next != NULL) {  
    curr = curr->next;  
}  
curr->next = b;
```

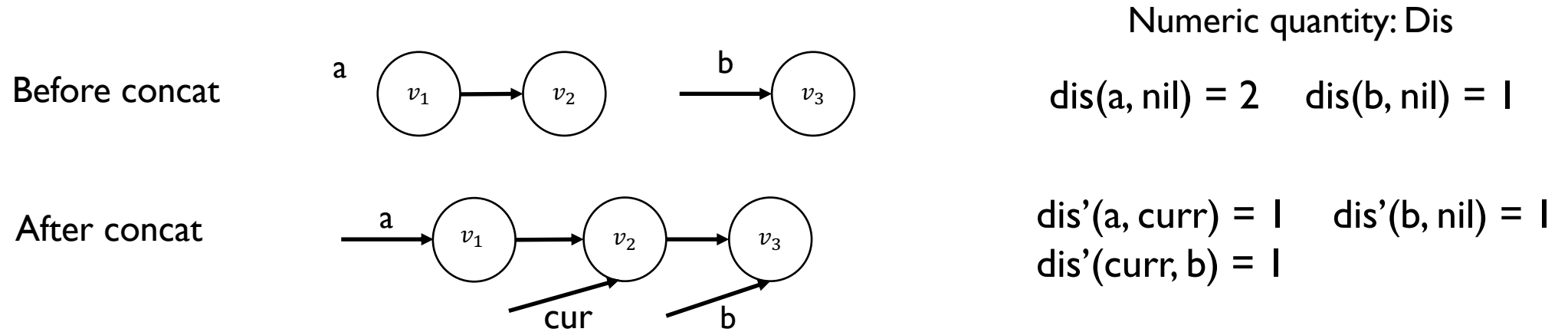
$sll(a, nil) * sll(b, nil)$



$sll(a, curr) * sll(curr, b) * sll(b, NULL)$

Multi-domain Shape Analysis

- How the size of memory evolves?
- Add numeric domain to abstract numeric quantities



$$\text{dis}(a, \text{nil}) + \text{dis}(b, \text{nil}) = \text{dis}'(a, \text{curr}) + \text{dis}'(b, \text{nil}) + \text{dis}'(\text{curr}, b)$$

Limitation

- Combination of size and shape domain can not model semantics precisely
- Example: *func* is reverse or traversal
 - Shape domain: $\{sll(x, nil)\} \text{ func}(x) \{sll(x, nil)\}$
 - Numeric domain: $dis(x, nil) = dis'(x, nil)$

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Problem

- Given **recursive data structures** and **a program**, we concern the evolution of **locations of nodes** in the data structures

Program Syntax

- Recursive data structure

ONLY contain pointers pointing the instances with the same type

```
Node {  
    int data;  
    Node* n;  
}
```

- Program

Pointer expression $L ::= x \mid L \rightarrow f \mid \text{nil}$

Condition. $E ::= x \text{ cmp } y \ (x, y \in L, \text{cmp} \in \{=, \neq\})$

Statement. $S ::= L=L \mid L = \text{new} \mid \text{free}(L) \mid \text{assert } E$

Program. $P ::= S; P \mid \text{while}(E)P$

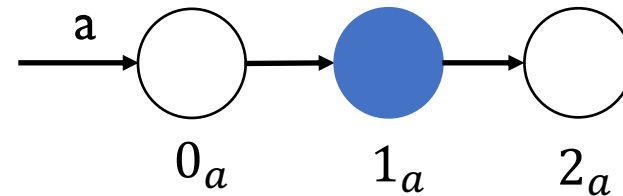
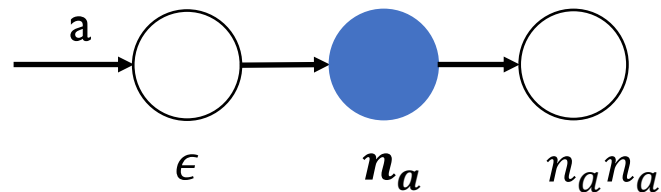
Location of Node

- The set of access paths is subset of a regular language

Single linked list: $\{n\}^* = \{\epsilon, n, nn, \dots\}$

Binary tree: $\{l, r\}^* = \{\epsilon, l, r, lr, rl, rr, ll \dots\}$

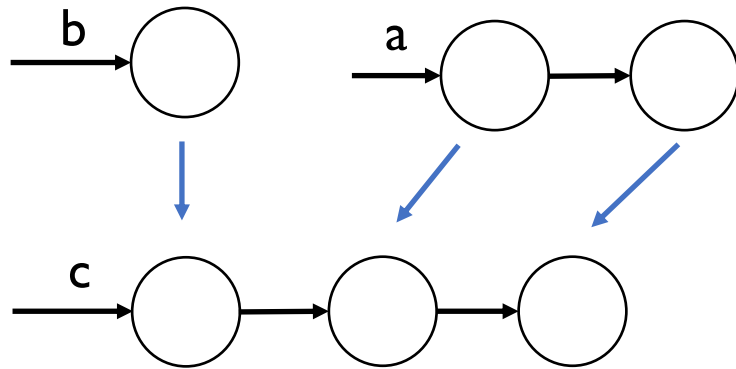
- Location of Node is a member of a regular language



Example

- Insert_head

Node* Insert_head(Node* a, Node* b)



Node* c = insert_head(a, b);

$$I_a = \{0_a, 1_a\}$$

$$I_b = \{0_b\}$$

$$I_c = \{0_c, 1_c, 2_c\}$$

Find a transformer to abstract the evolvment of locations of nodes

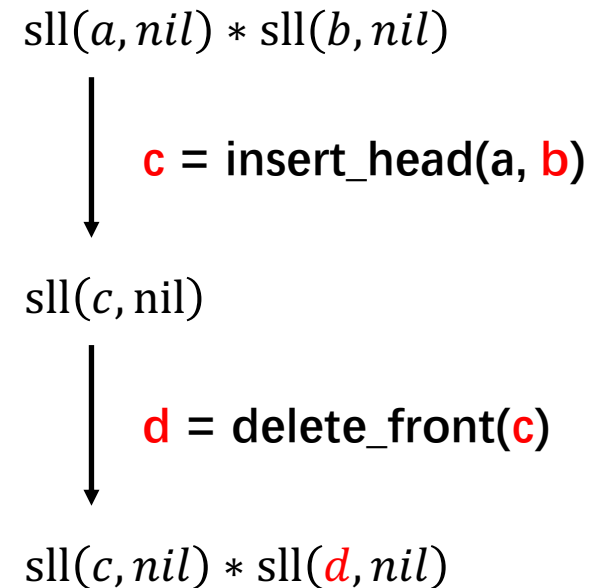
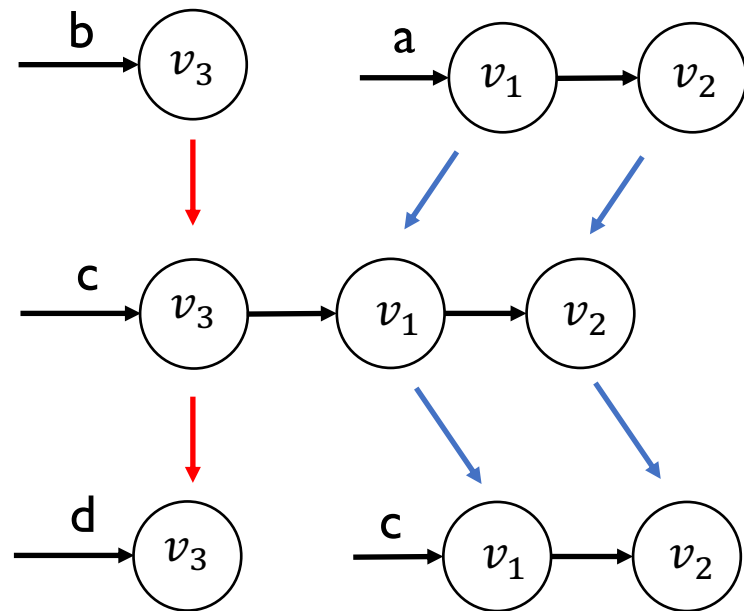
$$\begin{aligned} f_{a \rightarrow c}(i_a) &= i_c + 1 \\ f_{b \rightarrow c}(0_b) &= 0_c \end{aligned}$$

Outline

- Shape analysis
- Problem
- Application
 - Functional correctness verification
 - Termination analysis
 - Worst-Case-Execution-Time analysis
- Possible solution

Application: Functional Correctness

- Check the consistency of implementation and functional specification
 Functional specification in documentation, assertion
 A particular form of taint specification



Application: Termination Analysis

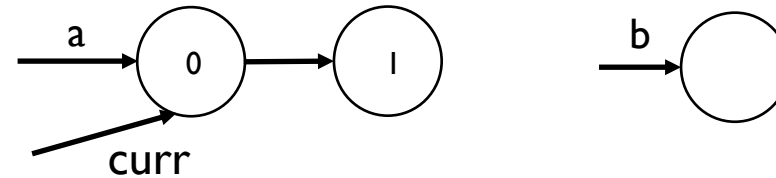
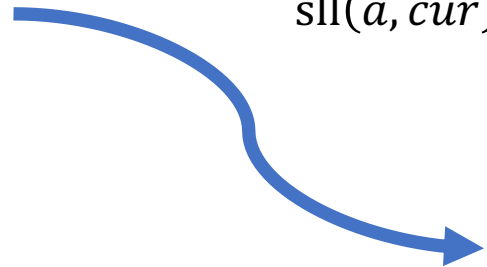
- Prove a program halts for arbitrary valid inputs

```
Node* insert_tail(Node* a, Node* b) {  
  Node* curr = a;  
  while (curr->next != NULL) {  
    curr = curr->next;  
  }  
  curr->next = b;  
  return a;  
}
```

$sll(a, nil) * sll(b, nil)$



$sll(a, cur) * sll(cur, nil) * sll(b, nil)$



Node accessed by curr: 0_a

Application: Termination Analysis

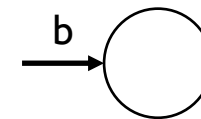
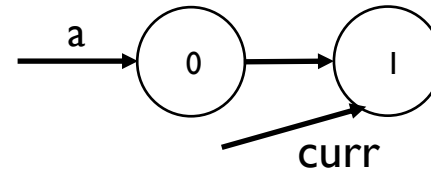
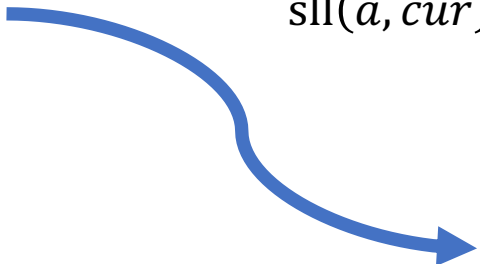
- Prove a program halts for arbitrary valid inputs

```
Node* insert_tail(Node* a, Node* b) {  
  Node* curr = a;  
  while (curr->next != NULL) {  
    curr = curr->next;  
  }  
  curr->next = b;  
  return a;  
}
```

$sll(a, nil) * sll(b, nil)$



$sll(a, cur) * sll(cur, nil) * sll(b, nil)$



Monotone + Finite

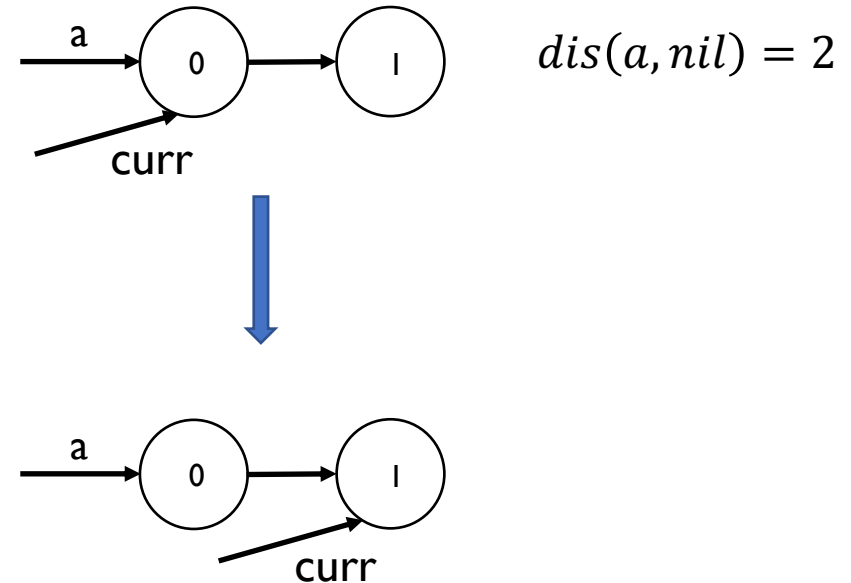
Node accessed by curr: 1_a **Must terminate**

Application: Worst-Case-Execution-Time analysis

- Determine the worst-case time complexity

```
Node* insert_tail(Node* a, Node* b) {  
    Node* curr = a;  
    while (curr->next != NULL) {  
        curr = curr->next;  
    }  
    curr->next = b;  
    return a;  
}
```

$O(\text{dis}(a, \text{nil}))$



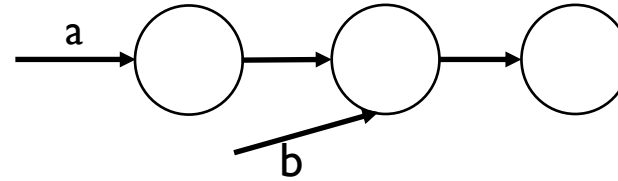
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Insight

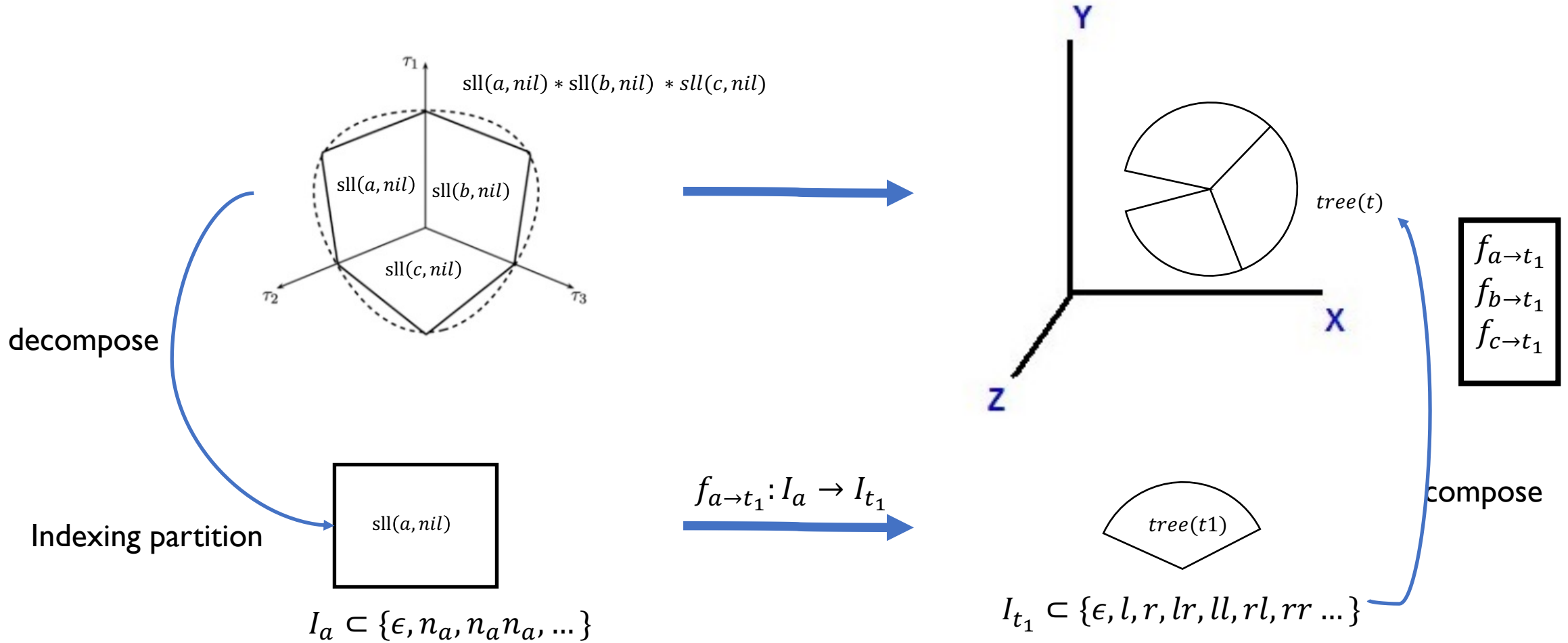
- Separation logic bridges shape domain to numeric domain
Memory abstracted by a separating conjunction is well structured

$sll(a, b) * sll(b, nil)$



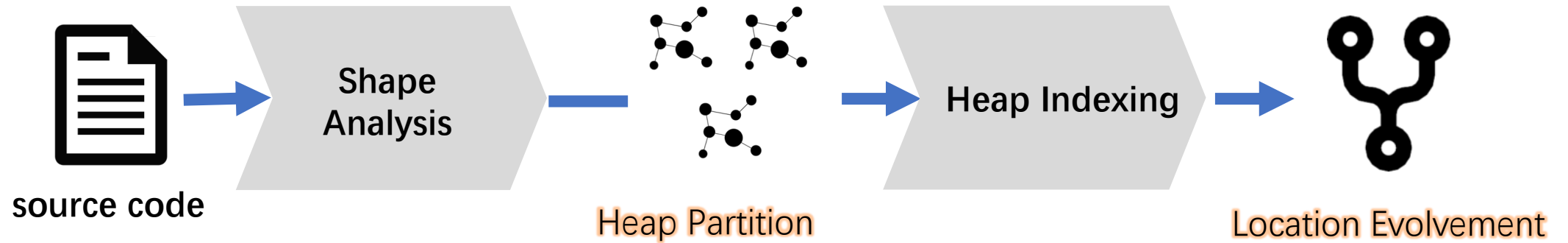
Natural to embed a numeric domain for a conjunction to index heap

Heap Indexing



Find a transformer to abstract the evolvment of locations of nodes

Workflow



Example

- *Insert_head*

```
Node* Insert_head(Node* a, Node* b) {  
    assert(b->next == nullptr);  
    b->next = a;  
    a = b;  
    return a;  
}
```

Phase I: Shape Analysis

- Shape invariants at all program locations

```
Node* Insert_head(Node* a, Node* b) {  
    assert(b->next == nullptr);  
    b->next = a;  
    a = b;  
    return a;  
}
```

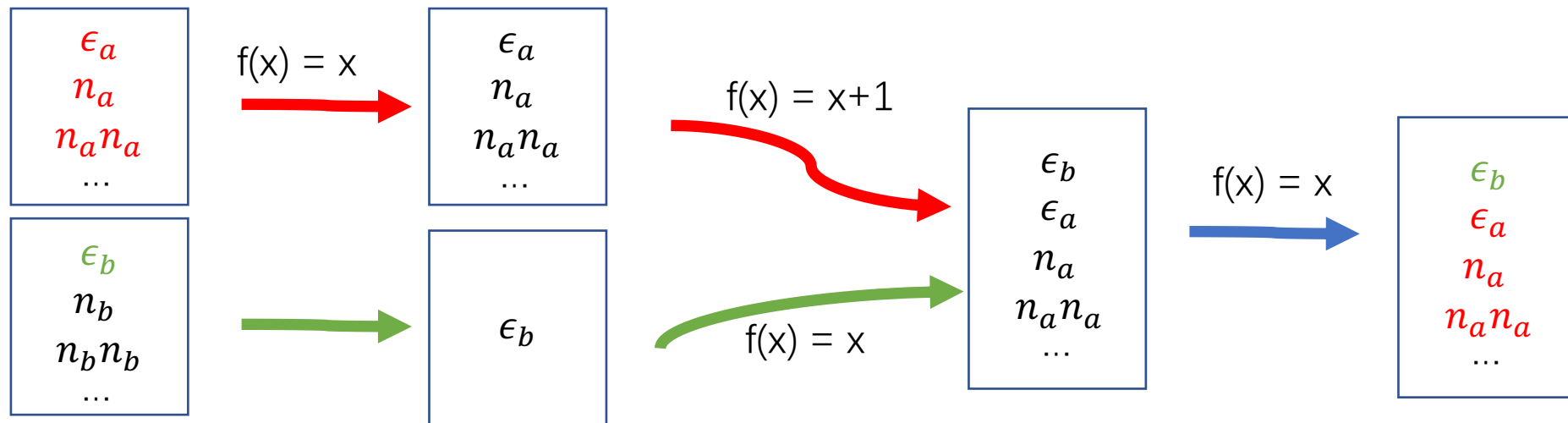
Line	Shape invariant
0	$sll(a, nil) * sll(b, nil)$
1	$sll(a, nil) * sll(b, nil)$
2	$sll(b, nil)$
3	$sll(b, nil) \wedge a = b$
4	$sll(ret, nil) \wedge ret = a \wedge a = b$

Phase 2: Heap Indexing

- Construct index and relational index domain

```
Node* Insert_head(Node* a, Node* b) {
  assert(b->next == nullptr);
  b->next = a;
  a = b;
  return a;
}
```

Line	Partition
0	$H0a: \text{sll}(a, \text{nil}). \quad H0b: \text{sll}(b, \text{nil})$
1	$H1a: \text{sll}(a, \text{nil}). \quad H1b: \text{sll}(b, \text{nil})$
2	$H2b: \text{sll}(b, \text{nil})$



Reference

- Thomas Reps, A relational approach to interprocedural shape analysis, TOPLAS 2004
- Sumit Gulwani, A combination framework for tracking partition sizes, POPL 2009
- Stephen Magill, Automatic numeric abstractions for heap-manipulating programs, POPL 2010
- Noam Rinetzky, From shape analysis to termination analysis in linear time, CAV 2016
- Xavier Rival, A relational shape abstract domain, NFM 2017
- ThanhVu Nguyen, SLinG: Using dynamic analysis to infer program invariants in separation logic, PLDI 2019



Thank you for your listening!

Heap vs Numeric

```
assert(sll(a, b) * sll(b, nil));  
Node* curr = a;  
while (b->next != NULL) {  
    curr = curr->next;  
    b = b->next;  
}
```

```
assert(m >= n && n >= 0)  
int i = m;  
while (n >= 0) {  
    i--;  
    n--;  
}
```

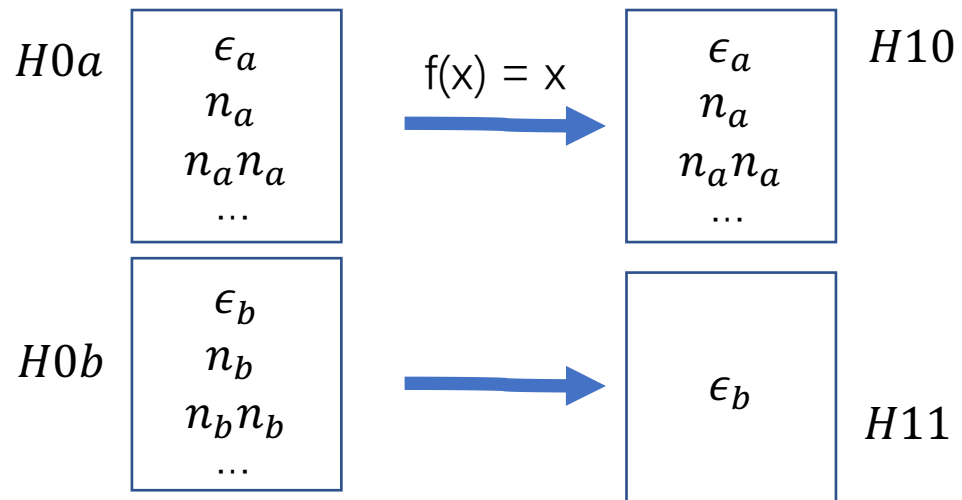
Phase 2: Heap Indexing

- Construct index and relational index domain

```

Node* Insert_head(Node* a, Node* b) {
    assert(b->next == nullptr);
    b->next = a;
    a = b;
    return a;
}
    
```

Line	Partition
0	$H0a: sll(a, nil). \quad H0b: sll(b, nil)$
1	$H1a: sll(a, nil). \quad H1b: sll(b, nil)$



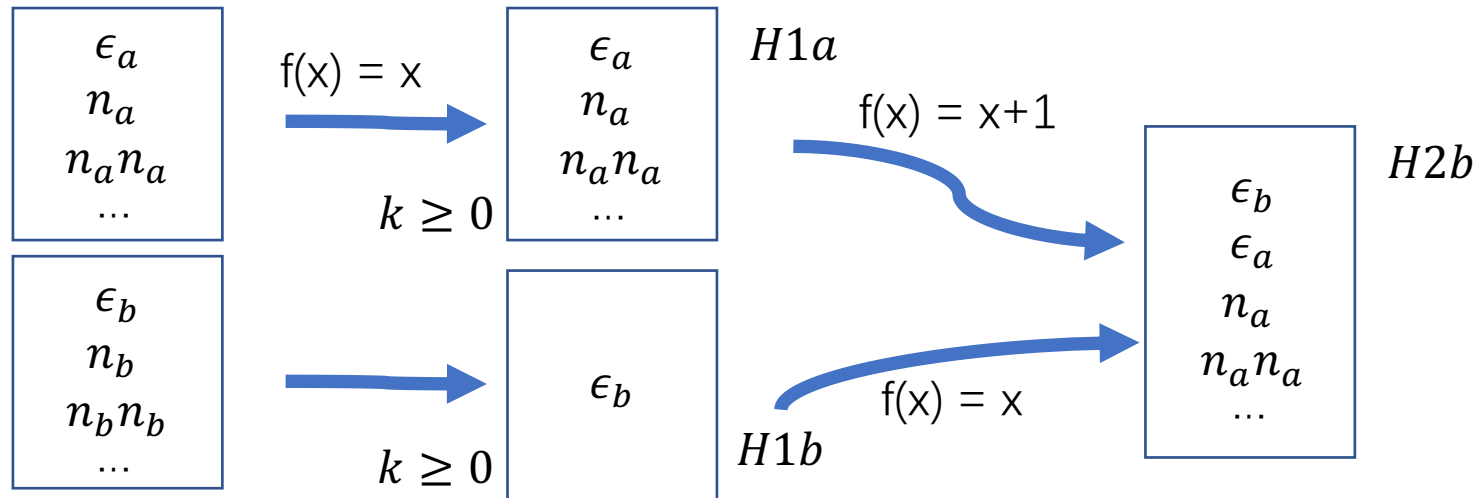
Phase 2: Heap Indexing

- Construct index and relational index domain

```

Node* Insert_head(Node* a, Node* b) {
    assert(b->next == nullptr);
    b->next = a;
    a = b;
    return a;
}
    
```

Line	Partition
0	$H0a: \text{sll}(a, \text{nil}). \quad H0b: \text{sll}(b, \text{nil})$
1	$H1a: \text{sll}(a, \text{nil}). \quad H1b: \text{sll}(b, \text{nil})$
2	$H2b: \text{sll}(b, \text{nil})$



predicate

$$sll(x, nil) * sll(y, nil) \quad [Equation]$$

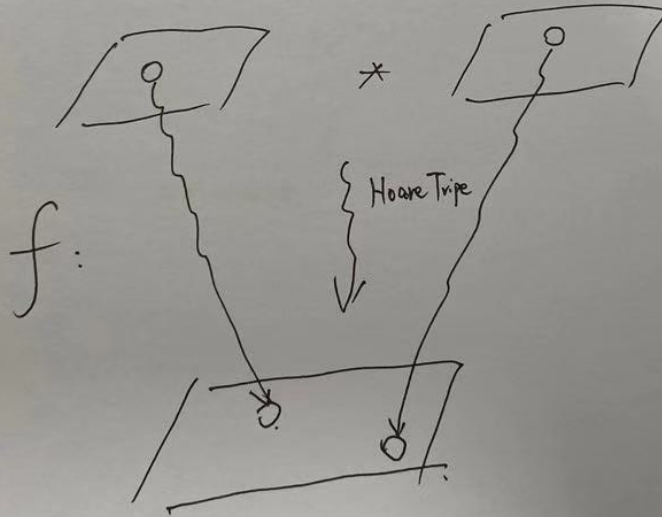
$\circ \rightarrow \circ$ $\circ \rightarrow \circ \rightarrow \circ$ ← [point]



predicate.

$$sll(z, nil)$$

function f :



finer abstraction.

Memo

- Technical detail II
 - Encode location as string
 - Model transformer by Uninterpreted function
 - Solve out transformer by Z3