



# Complexity-Guided Container Replacement Synthesis

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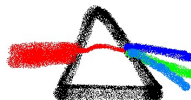
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# Container

- General-purpose abstract data type
  - Inserting, retrieving, removing and iterating over elements
  - E.g., ArrayList, HashMap, HashSet, etc
- A variety of implementations

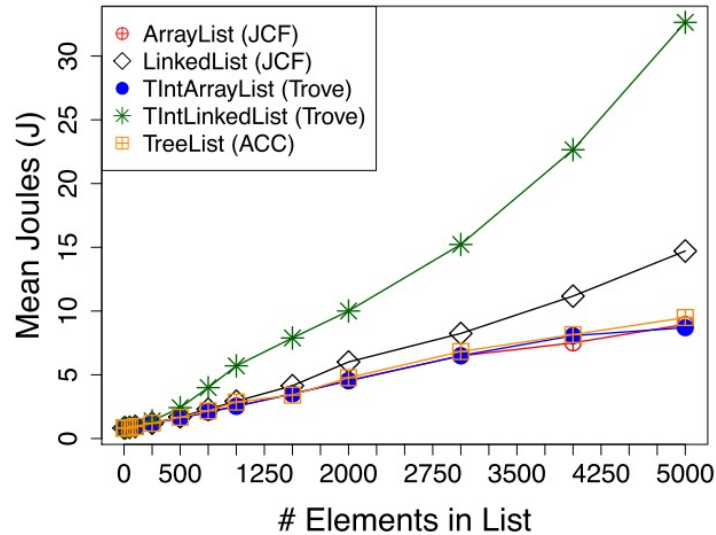


**GNU Trove**  
*High performance collections for Java*



# Performance Profile

- Resource consumption differs [Hasan, ICSE 16]



Random access:  
LinkedList > ArrayList

# Container Selection

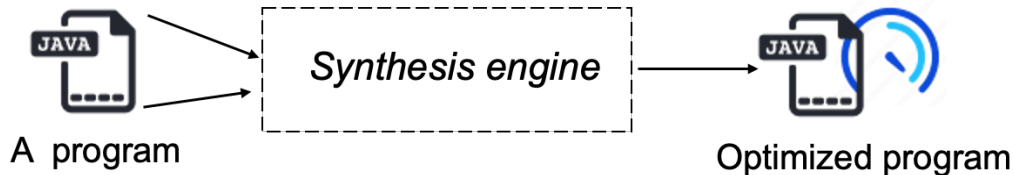
- Programmers are often
  - Unaware of how container objects are manipulated
    - Focus on specific modules of applications
  - Unaware of performance difference of container method calls
    - Unfamiliar with new implementations provided by libraries



Assist programmers in finding proper container types

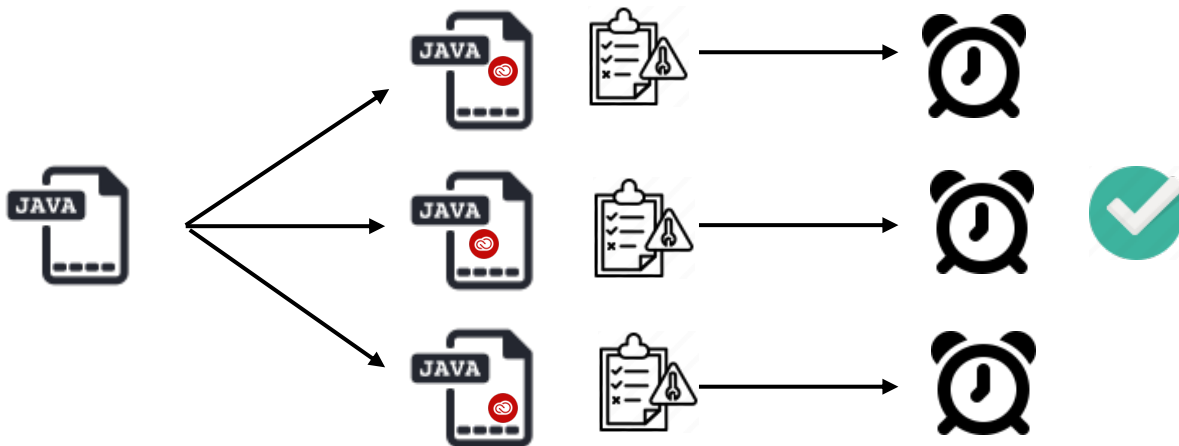
# Our Aim

- Synthesize **container replacements** automatically to reduce the resource consumption
  - Container replacement
    - Container types in allocation statements
    - Container method calls
  - Resource consumption
    - Time, memory, CPU usage, energy
    - Focus on time cost but can be generalized



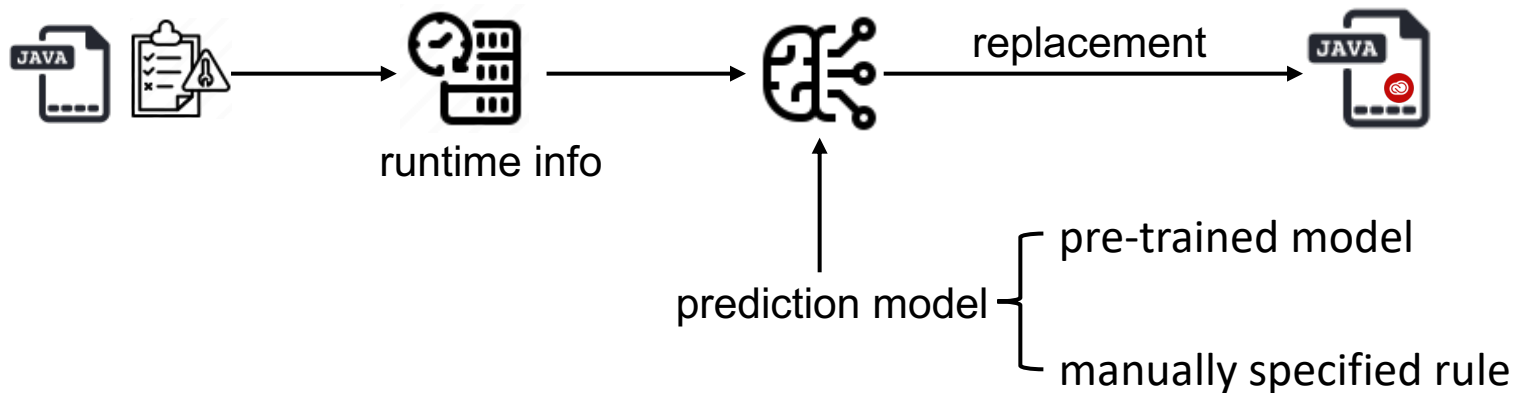
# Existing Studies

- Solving an optimization problem [Basios, FSE 18] [Manotas, ICSE 14]
  - Enumerate container types
  - Monitor resource consumption when executing test cases
  - Find the optimal replacement to minimize the resource consumption



# Existing Studies

- Solving a prediction problem [Jung, PLDI 11] [Vechev, PLDI 09]
  - Profile the program to obtain runtime info
  - Apply pre-trained model or pre-defined rules
  - Infer the container replacement



# Limitations of Existing Approaches

- Huge overhead
  - Execute programs with test suites to profile dynamically
- Overfitting
  - Optimal replacements for specific inputs rather than general inputs
- Unsoundness
  - Unable to preserve behavioral equivalence, e.g., replace TreeSet with HashSet



# Problem Formulation

- Replace container types and container methods in the program  $P$  and obtain a new program  $P'$ , such that
  - (Behavioral equivalence)  $P$  and  $P'$  are **behavioral equivalent**
  - (Complexity superiority)  $P'$  consumes less time than  $P$  for **a sufficiently large input**

*Behavioral Equivalence:*

*For any given input,  $P$  and  $P'$  always return the same value*

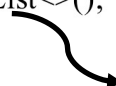
# Two Critical Goals

- Which container types are exchangeable to ensure behavioral equivalence?
- How to measure the performance of a container-manipulating program to check complexity superiority?

# Goal I: Behavioral Equivalence

- Which container types are exchangeable to ensure behavioral equivalence?

```
public boolean foo1(String area) {  
    ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();  
    l.add("PL"); l.add("SE");  
    boolean b1 = l.contains(area);  
    return b1;  
}
```

 {LinkedList, HashSet, TreeSet, ...}

whether a value is in the list

- Exchangeable container types achieve the original container usage intention.

# Two Classes of Container Usage Intention

- Container-property queries
- Container-property modifiers

# Class I: Container Property Queries

- Value ownership
  - `ArrayList.contains(O)`, `HashSet.contains(O)`
- Index ownership
  - `HashMap.containsKey(O)`
- Index-value correlation
  - `ArrayList.get(I)`, `HashMap.get(O)`
- Size
  - `ArrayList.size()`, `HashSet.size()`
- Insertion order
  - `LinkedHashMap.iterator()`
- Key order
  - `TreeMap.firstKey()`, `TreeMap.lastKey()`

# Class II: Container Property Modifiers

- A container method can update container properties
  - Support querying container properties in other program locations

```
public boolean foo1(String area) {  
    ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();  
    l.add("PL"); l.add("SE");  
    boolean b1 = l.contains(area);  
    return b1;  
}
```

ArrayList.add(O):	increase the size by 1 add a new value add a new value at the end	<b>Modify</b> →	size value ownership index-value correlation
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# Method Semantic Specification

- Decompose method semantics into container-property queries and container-property modifiers

	queries	modifiers
ArrayList.contains(O)	{ isVal }	{ }
HashSet.contains(O)	{ isVal }	{ }
ArrayList.get(I)	{ isCor }	{ }

isVal: query **value ownership**

isCor: query **index-value correlation**

# Method Semantic Specification

- Decompose method semantics into container-property queries and container-property modifiers

	queries	modifiers
ArrayList.add(O)	{ }	{ t-size <sub>+</sub> <sup>=1</sup> t-val <sub>+</sub> t-cor <sub>+</sub> <sup>e</sup> }
HashSet.add(O)	{ }	{ t-size <sub>+</sub> <sup>≤1</sup> t-val <sub>+</sub> }

t-size<sub>+</sub><sup>=1</sup> : increase the size by 1

t-size<sub>+</sub><sup>≤1</sup> : increase the size by at most 1

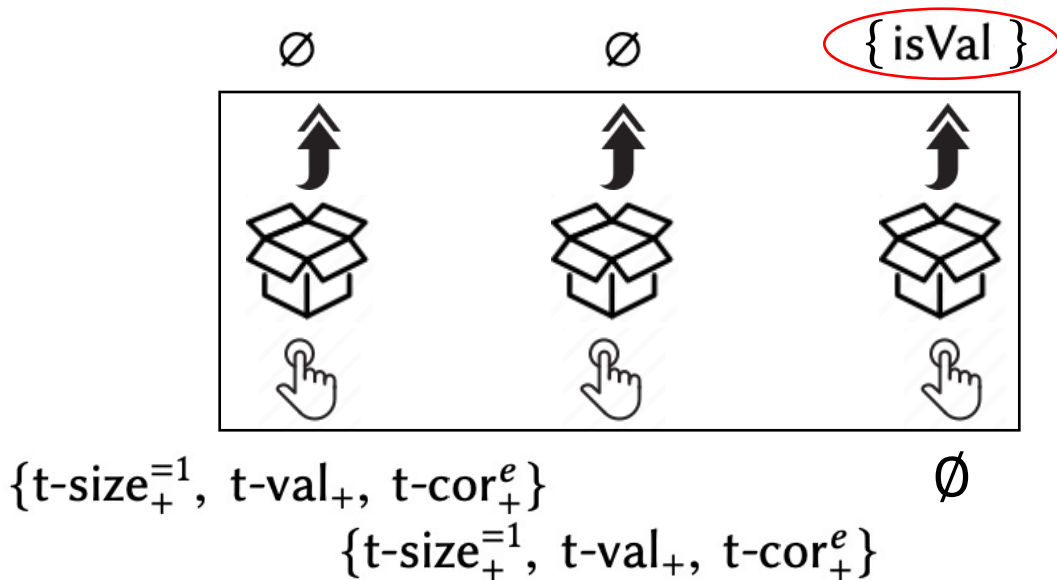
t-val<sub>+</sub> : add a new value

t-cor<sub>+</sub><sup>e</sup> : add a new value at the end



# Key Idea: Achieve Original Usage Intention

- Support the original container-property queries
- Modify the queried container properties as the original ones

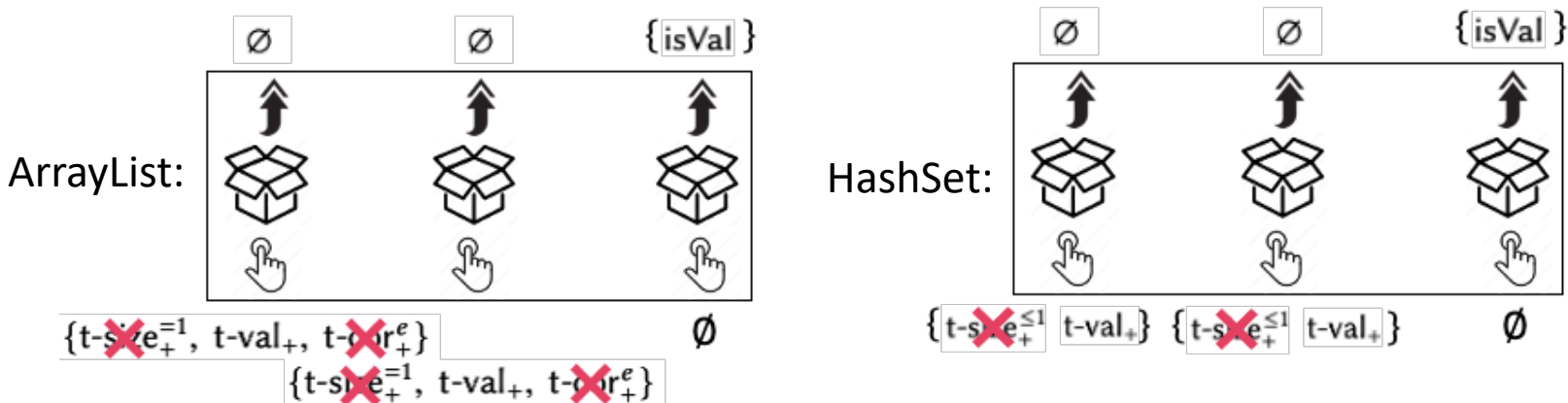


```
public boolean foo1(String area) {  
    ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();  
    l.add("PL"); l.add("SE");  
    boolean b1 = l.contains(area);  
    return b1;  
}
```

original program

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```
public boolean foo1(String area) {  
    ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();  
    l.add("PL"); l.add("SE");  
    boolean b1 = l.contains(area);  
    return b1;  
}
```

original program

```
public boolean foo2(String area) {  
    HashSet<String> s = new HashSet<>();  
    s.add("PL"); s.add("SE");  
    boolean b2 = s.contains(area);  
    return b2;  
}
```

new program

**Guarantee behavioral equivalence**

# Ensuring Behavioral Equivalence

- Achieve the original usage intention with exchangeable container types
  - Support the original container-property queries
  - Modify the queried container properties as the original ones

# Goal II: Complexity Superiority

- How to measure the performance of a container-manipulating program to check complexity superiority?

```
public boolean foo1(String area) {  
    ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();  
    l.add("PL"); l.add("SE");  
    boolean b1 = l.contains(area);  
    return b1;  
}
```

```
public boolean foo2(String area) {  
    HashSet<String> s = new HashSet<>();  
    s.add("PL"); s.add("SE");  
    boolean b2 = s.contains(area);  
    return b2;  
}
```

- Only measure the time costs of container method calls.

# Method Complexity Specification

- Cost model CS
  - Complexity classes
    - Constant
    - Amortized constant
    - Logarithmic
    - Amortized logarithmic
    - Linear
    - Amortized linear
    - Super linear
  - Complexity functions

} time complexity of  
container methods

constant	amortized constant	logarithmic	amortized logarithmic	linear	amortized linear	super linear
$tc_1(n) = 1$	$tc_2(n)$	$tc_3(n) = \log n$	$tc_4(n)$	$tc_5(n) = n$	$tc_6(n)$	$tc_7(n)$

# Method Complexity Specification

- Cost model CS
  - Constant factor

Container	Method	Complexity Function	$\theta$
ArrayList	add(O)	$tc_2(n)$	1
ArrayList	add(I, O)	$tc_2(n)$	2
ArrayList	contains(O)	$tc_5(n)$	1
ArrayList	get(I)	$tc_1(n)$	1
ArrayList	iterator()	$tc_1(n)$	1
ArrayList	remove(I)	$tc_1(n)$	2
ArrayList	size()	$tc_1(n)$	1

$tc_1(n)$ : constant

$tc_2(n)$ : amortized constant

$tc_5(n)$ : linear

Container	Method	Complexity Function	$\theta$
HashSet	add(O)	$tc_2(n)$	2
HashSet	contains(O)	$tc_1(n)$	1
HashSet	iterator()	$tc_1(n)$	1
HashSet	remove(O)	$tc_2(n)$	2
HashSet	size()	$tc_1(n)$	1

$$CS(\text{ArrayList.add}(O)) = 1 \cdot tc_2(n)$$

$$CS(\text{HashSet.add}(O)) = 2 \cdot tc_2(n)$$

# Checking Complexity Superiority

- How to measure the performance of a container-manipulating program to check complexity superiority?
- Introduce *container complexity superiority*
  - For each container object  $o$ ,  $S$  and  $S'$  are the sets of methods manipulating  $o$  in  $P$  and  $P'$ , we need to ensure that

$$\sum_{f' \in S'} CS(f') \leq \sum_{f \in S} CS(f)$$



# Key Idea: Container Complexity Superiority

- For each container object  $o$ ,  $S$  and  $S'$  are the sets of methods manipulating  $o$  in  $P$  and  $P'$ , we need to ensure that

$$\sum_{f' \in S'} CS(f') \leq \sum_{f \in S} CS(f)$$

```
public boolean foo1(String area) {
```

```
    ArrayList<String> l = new ArrayList<>();
```

```
    l.add("PL"); l.add("SE");
```

```
    boolean b1 = l.contains(area);
```

```
    return b1;
```

```
}
```

$2 \cdot tn_2(n) + tn_5(n)$

```
public boolean foo2(String area) {
```

```
    HashSet<String> s = new HashSet<>();
```

```
    s.add("PL"); s.add("SE");
```

```
    boolean b2 = s.contains(area);
```

```
    return b2;
```

```
}
```

$4 \cdot tn_2(n) + tn_1(n)$



$tc_1(n)$ : constant

$tc_2(n)$ : amortized constant

$tc_5(n)$ : linear

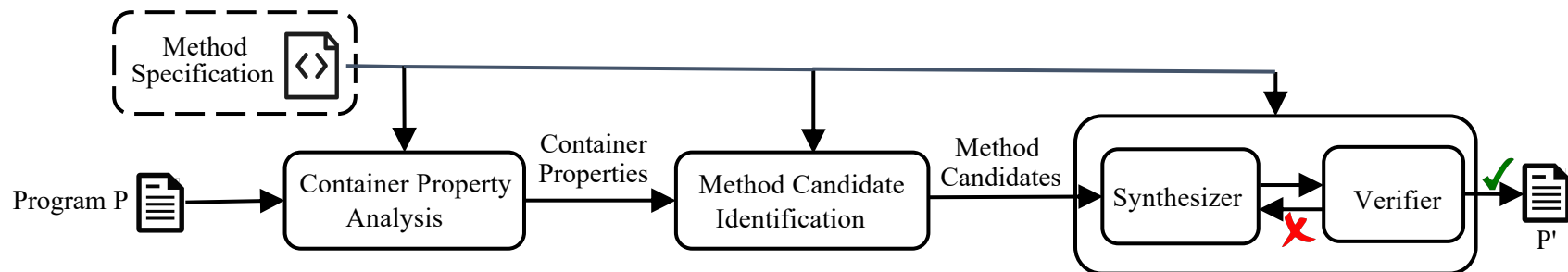
# Cres: Synthesizing Container Replacement

- Achieve the original intention of container usage to ensure behavioral equivalence
  - Support the original container-property queries
  - Modify the queried container properties as the original ones
- Achieve container complexity superiority to improve program efficiency
  - For each container object  $o$ ,  $S$  and  $S'$  are the sets of methods manipulating  $o$  in  $P$  and  $P'$ , we need to ensure that

$$\sum_{f' \in S'} CS(f') \leq \sum_{f \in S} CS(f)$$

# Workflow of Cres

- Method semantic specification (queries, modifiers)
- Method complexity specification (complexity function, constant factor)



# Stage I: Container Property Analysis

- Collect queried container properties for each container object via a sound points-to analysis

```
ArrayList object o2
{isVal}

1 public List getUniqueResource(String curdir) {
2   List uniqueResources = new ArrayList<IResource>();
3   for (int i = 0; i < RESOURCE_NUM; i++) {
4     IResource s = getResourceInCurrentDir(curdir, i);
5     if (!uniqueResources.contains(s))
6       uniqueResources.add(s);
7   }
8   return uniqueResources;
9 }

ArrayList object o11
{size, isVal, isCor}

10 public List computeAllDirs() {
11   List dirs = new ArrayList<Dir>();
12   for (int i = 0; i < DIR_NUM; i++)
13     dirs.add(getSubDirInWorkingDir(i));
14   return dirs;
15 }
16 public void main() {
17   List resources = getUniqueResource("/home/OOPSLA");
18   List dirs = computeAllDirs();
19   for (Dir dir : dirs) {
20     if (resources.contains(dir))
21       System.out.println("Accessible Resource");
22   }
23 }
```

# Stage II: Method Candidate Identification

- A method  $f'$  is a candidate for the method call  $v=c.f(u)$  iff
  - $f$  and  $f'$  support the same container-property queries
  - $f$  and  $f'$  have the same modifiers on the queried container properties

```
ArrayList object o2
{isVal}

{LinkedList.contains,
ArrayList.contains,
HashSet.contains,
...}

{LinkedList.add,
ArrayList.add,
HashSet.add,
...}

1 public List getUniqueResource(String curdir) {
2   List uniqueResources = new ArrayList<IResource>();
3   for (int i = 0; i < RESOURCE_NUM; i++) {
4     IResource s = getResourceInCurrentDir(curdir, i);
5     if (!uniqueResources.contains(s))
6       uniqueResources.add(s);
7   }
8   return uniqueResources;
9 }
10 public List computeAllDirs() {
11   List dirs = new ArrayList<Dir>();
12   for (int i = 0; i < DIR_NUM; i++)
13     dirs.add(getSubDirInWorkingDir(i));
14   return dirs;
15 }
16 public void main() {
17   List resources = getUniqueResource("/home/OOPSLA");
18   List dirs = computeAllDirs();
19   for (Dir dir : dirs) {
20     if (resources.contains(dir))
21       System.out.println("Accessible Resource");
22   }
23 }
```

Annotations in the code:

- Red underlines under `new ArrayList<IResource>()`, `if (!uniqueResources.contains(s))`, and `uniqueResources.add(s);` in the `getUniqueResource` method.
- Red underlines under `if (resources.contains(dir))` in the `main` method.
- Arrows point from the underlined `contains` calls to their respective container-property query sets: `uniqueResources.contains(s)` points to `{LinkedList.contains, ArrayList.contains, HashSet.contains, ...}` and `resources.contains(dir)` points to `{LinkedList.contains, ArrayList.contains, HashSet.contains, ...}`.

# Stage III: Container Replacement Synthesis

- For each container object  $o$ ,  $S$  and  $S'$  are the sets of methods manipulating  $o$  in  $P$  and  $P'$ , we need to ensure that

$$\sum_{f' \in S'} CS(f') \leq \sum_{f \in S} CS(f)$$

**HashSet**

**ArrayList object o2**  
{isVal}

{LinkedList.contains, ArrayList.contains, **HashSet.contains**, ...}

{LinkedList.add, ArrayList.add, **HashSet.add**, ...}

```

1 public List getUniqueResource(String curdir) {
2     uniqueResources = new ArrayList<IResource>();
3     for (int i = 0; i < RESOURCE_NUM; i++) {
4         IResource s = getResourceInCurrentDir(curdir, i);
5         if (!uniqueResources.contains(s))
6             uniqueResources.add(s);
7     }
8     return uniqueResources;
9 }
10 public List computeAllDirs() {
11     List dirs = new ArrayList<Dir>();
12     for (int i = 0; i < DIR_NUM; i++)
13         dirs.add(getSubDirInWorkingDir(i));
14     return dirs;
15 }
16 public void main() {
17     List resources = getUniqueResource("/home/OOPSLA");
18     List dirs = computeAllDirs();
19     for (Dir dir : dirs) {
20         if (resources.contains(dir))
21             System.out.println("Accessible Resource");
22     }
23 }
                
```

**2 \* CS(HashSet.contains) + CS(HashSet.add) is minimal**

# Theoretical Results

- Theorem 1: The new program  $P'$  is the behavioral equivalent to the original program  $P$ .
- Theorem 2: The new program  $P'$  has container complexity superiority over the original program  $P$ .
- Theorem 3: The time complexity of the algorithm is  $O(|S_a| \cdot |S_c|)$  for given container types.
  - $S_a$  and  $S_c$  contain container allocation statements and container method calls, respectively.

# Implementation of Cres

- Implement *Cres* based on *Pinpoint* [Shi, PLDI 18]
  - Flow-sensitive points-to analysis for container property analysis
- Analyze containers in Java Collection Framework
  - List: ArrayList, LinkedList
  - Set: HashSet, LinkedHashSet, TreeSet
  - Map: HashMap, LinkedHashMap, TreeMap



# Research Questions

- **RQ1: Effectiveness**

- Performance improvement brought by *Cres*

- **RQ2: Replacement patterns**

- Kinds and numbers of replacements *Cres* synthesize

- **RQ3: Overhead**

- The time and space costs of *Cres*

# Evaluation: Effectiveness

- What is the improvement *Cres* achieves for real-world programs?

Project	Description	Size (KLoC)	Medium (%)	95% CI (%)
bootique	Microservice platform	18.6	4.5	[4.4, 4.6]
mapper	Server application	22.4	7.3	[7.0, 7.6]
incubator-eventmesh	Eventing infrastructure	24.9	4.1	[3.9, 4.3]
google-http-java-client	Web client	25.2	27.1	[25.9, 28.3]
light-4j	Microservice platform	44.3	5.2	[5.0, 5.4]
roller	Server application	54.4	9.5	[9.2, 9.8]
IginX	Data management system	68.1	3.5	[3.4, 3.6]
sofa-rpc	RPC framework	76.4	3.7	[3.4, 4.0]
Glowstone	Server application	85.6	13.1	[12.9, 13.3]
dolphinscheduler	Eventing infrastructure	89.5	5.3	[5.1, 5.5]
dubbo	RPC framework	196.5	7.5	[7.2, 7.8]
iotdb	Data management system	384.2	6.3	[6.2, 6.4]
			8.1	[7.8, 8.4]

Speedup: On average **8.1%**, up to **27.1%**

# Evaluation: Replacement Pattern

- Which kinds of container replacements does *Cres* synthesize?

Project	#Conf/#Total	#R1	#R2	#R3	#R4	#R5	#R6
bootique	0/4			4			
mapper	0/6		5		1		
incubator-eventmesh	19/19	1	16	2			
google-http-java-client	0/4		4				
light-4j	0/5		2	3			
roller	0/6			5	1		
IginX	11/11		9		1		1
sofa-rpc	12/12		5			2	5
Glowstone	0/11		6	3	1		1
dolphinscheduler	7/7		6	1			
dubbo	12/12	1	3	1		2	5
iotdb	10/10	2	1	6			1
	71/107	4	57	25	4	4	13

71 confirmed  
replacements

R1: LinkedList⇒ArrayList

R3: ArrayList⇒HashSet

R5: LinkedHashMap⇒HashMap

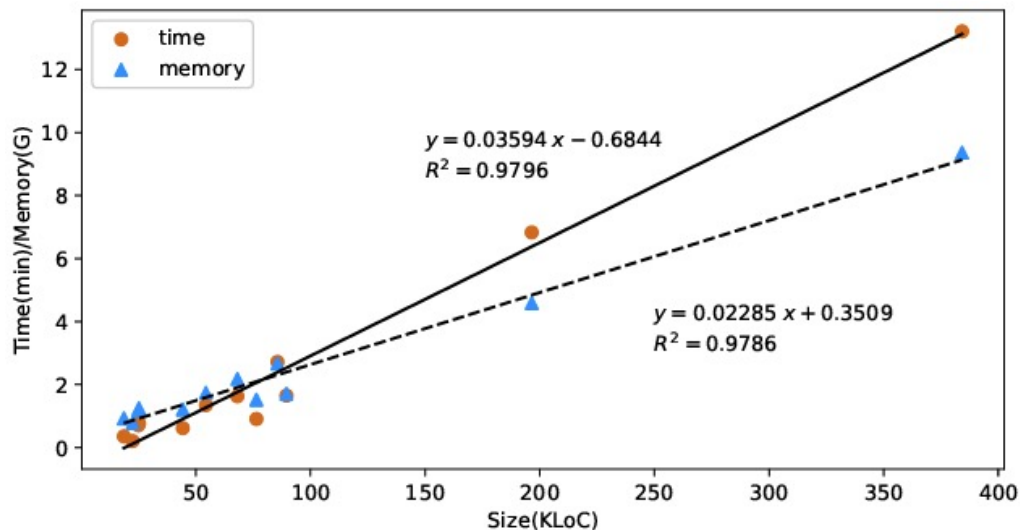
R2: ArrayList⇒LinkedList

R4: TreeMap⇒HashMap

R6: LinkedHashSet⇒HashSet

# Evaluation: Time and Memory Costs

- What are the time and memory costs of *Cres*?



linear scalability

~ 14 minutes analyzing 384.2 KLoC

# Interesting Findings

- Equipped with flow-insensitive pointer analysis, Cres synthesizes 74 container replacements out of 107 replacements.
  - Miss several optimization opportunities due to the imprecision of container property analysis

# Interesting Findings

- Using randomly generated constant factors in the method complexity specification does not affect the result as long as they conform to a specific order.

Container	Method	Complexity Function	$\theta$
HashSet	add(O)	$tc_2(n)$	2
HashSet	contains(O)	$tc_1(n)$	1
HashSet	iterator()	$tc_1(n)$	1
HashSet	remove(O)	$tc_2(n)$	2
HashSet	size()	$tc_1(n)$	1

$\theta_1$   
 $\theta_3$

Container	Method	Complexity Function	$\theta$
LinkedHashSet	add(O)	$tc_2(n)$	3
LinkedHashSet	contains(O)	$tc_1(n)$	1
LinkedHashSet	iterator()	$tc_1(n)$	1
LinkedHashSet	remove(O)	$tc_2(n)$	3
LinkedHashSet	size()	$tc_1(n)$	1

$\theta_2$   
 $\theta_4$

HashSet.add(O) < LinkedHashSet.add(O)

$$\theta_1 < \theta_2$$

HashSet.remove(O) < LinkedHashSet.remove(O)

$$\theta_3 < \theta_4$$

# Drawbacks

- Container complexity superiority does not imply complexity superiority.

$$\sum_{f' \in S'} CS(f') \leq \sum_{f \in S} CS(f) \quad \not\Rightarrow \quad \text{Time complexity of } P' \leq \text{Time complexity of } P$$

- Complexity analysis/WCET analysis are impractical for real-world programs.
- Need a precise and computable complexity guidance

# Drawbacks

- Unaware of usage intention of loops
  - Example from IoTDB: *pageReader* is a `LinkedList` object

```
public Point retrieveValidLastPoint(int n) {
    List<IChunkMetadata> seqDataList = new LinkedList<>();
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
        seqDataList.add(getDataFromDevice());
    for (int i = seqDataList.size() - 1; i >= 0; i--) {
        Point lastPoint = getChunkLastPoint(seqDataList.get(i));
        if (lastPoint.getValue() != null)
            return lastPoint;
    }
    return null;
}
```

Cres: `LinkedList => ArrayList`

Optimal solution: use iterators



# Conclusions

- A new program abstraction with
  - Container property & Method semantic specification
  - Cost model & Method complexity specification
- An efficient and sound synthesis algorithm *Cres*
  - Ensuring behavioral equivalence with container property analysis
  - Improving program efficiency with complexity-guided synthesis



Thank you for your listening!