# Constraint-based reachability: test input generation for C code

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## Outline

Introduction

**Constraint-based program exploration** 

**Euclide: An implementation for C code** 

**Conclusions & Perspectives** 

## Constraint-based reachability (CBR)

For a given program P and location *loc* in P, constraint-based reachability (CBR) is the process of determining : 1) if *loc* is reachable and 2) inputs values for P, in order to reach *loc* by using constraint solving techniques (CSP, LP, SAT, SMT, ...)

Reachability problems in infinite-state systems are undecidable in general!

Introduced 20 years ago by Offut and DeMillo in (Constraint-based automatic test data generation IEEE TSE 1991)

Developed in the context of **software testing** (e.g., symbolic evaluation, mutation testing)

Lots of Research works and tools!

#### Solving CBR problems involves constraint solving

Even when adding bounds,  
hard combinatorial problem
$$f(int \ x_1, int \ x_2, int \ x_3) \{$$

$$if(x_1 == x_2 \&\& x_2 == x_3)$$

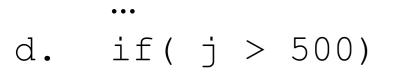
$$if(x_3 == x_1 * x_2) \dots \}$$
Using Random Testing,  
Prob{ reack k} = 2 over 2^{32} \times 2^{32} \times 2^{32} = 2^{-95} = 0.00000...1.

Constraint solving techniques are required!

- ✓ Loops (i.e., infinite-state systems) and infeasible paths
- ✓ Pointers, dynamic structures, higher-order computations (virtual calls)
- ✓ Floating-point computations, modular computations

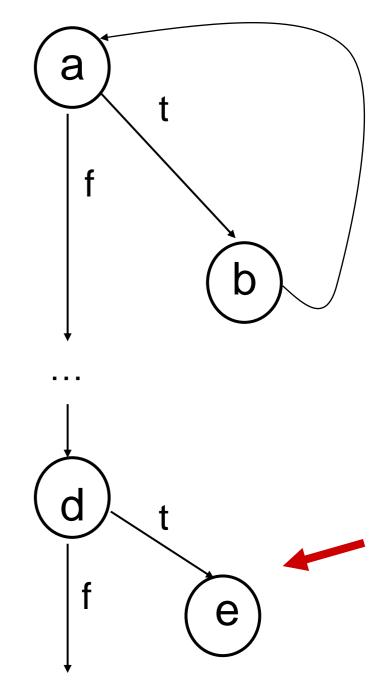
Our contribution: Constraint-based program exploration

## A CBR problem



е.

value of i to reach e ?



### Path-oriented exploration

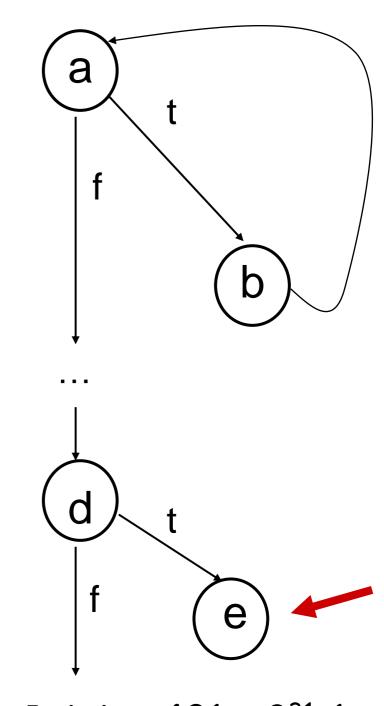
f( int i, ... )  
{  
a. 
$$j = 100;$$
  
while( $i > 1$ )  
b.  $\{j++; i--;\}$   
...  
d.  $if(j > 500)$   
e. ...  
1. Path selection  
e.g.,  $(a-b)^{14}$ -...-d-e  
2. Path condition generation (via symbolic exec.)  
 $j_1=100, i_1>1, j_2=j_1+1, i_2=i_1-1, i_2>1,..., j_{15}>500$   
3. Path condition solving  
unsatisfiable  $\rightarrow$  FAIL  
Backtrack!

#### **Constraint-based program exploration**

...

е.

- 1. Constraint model generation
- 2. Control dependencies generation;  $j_1=100, i_3 \le 1, j_3 > 500$
- 3. Constraint model solving  $j_1 \neq j_3$  entailed  $\rightarrow$  unroll the loop 400 times  $\rightarrow i_1$  in 401..  $2^{31}-1$



No backtrack !

#### **Constraint-based program exploration**

- Based on a constraint model of the whole program (Constraint Programming)
- Constraint reasoning over control structures  $\rightarrow$  meta-constraints
- Requires to build **dedicated constraint solvers**:
  - \* filtering techniques, propagation queue management with priorities

\* specific meta-constraints for handling pointers and memory updates, floatingpoint computations, function calls, ...

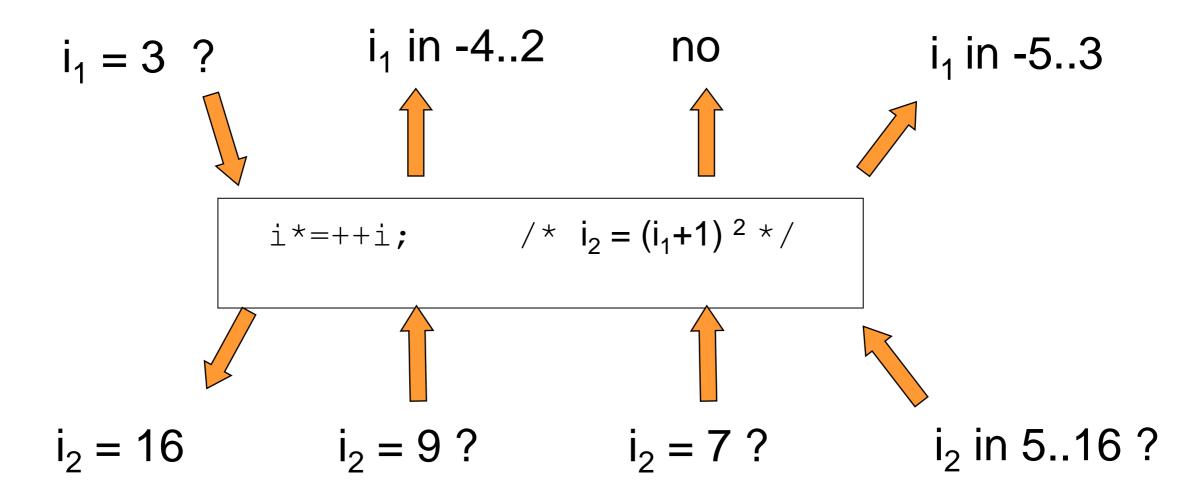
\* structure-aware labelling heuristics

#### Assignment as Constraint

Viewing an assignment as a relation requires to normalize expressions and rename variables (through single assignment languages, e.g. SSA)

 $i^*=++i$ ;  $i_2 = (i_1+1)^2$ 

Using classical filtering techniques over finite domains:



#### Statements as constraints

- ✓ Type declaration: signed long x; → x in  $-2^{31}..2^{31}-1$
- ✓ Assignments:  $i^*=++i$ ; →  $i_2 = (i_1+1)^2$
- ✓ Memory and array accesses and updates:

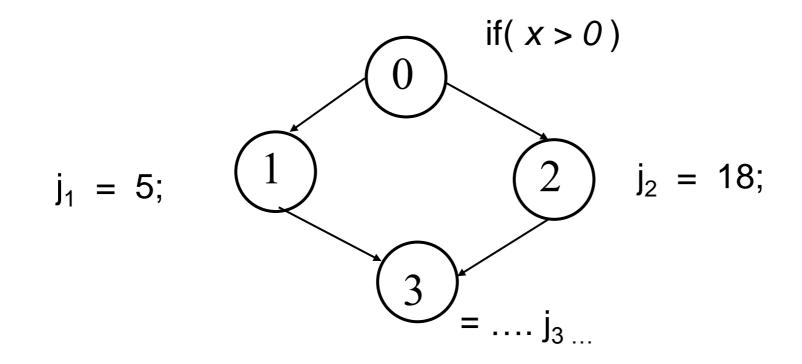
$$v=A[i]$$
 (or  $p=Mem[\&p]$ )  $\rightarrow$  variations of element/3

 Control structures: dedicated meta-constraints (interface, awakening conditions and filtering algorithms)

Conditionnals (SSA) if D then  $C_1$ ; else  $C_2 \rightarrow ite/6$ 

Loops (SSA) while D do C  $\rightarrow$  w/5

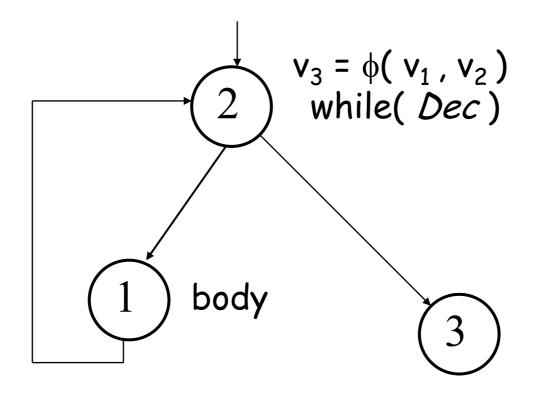
#### Conditional as meta-constraint: ite/6



$$\begin{array}{rll} \text{ite}(x > 0, j_1, j_2, j_3, \quad j_1 = 5, \quad j_2 = 18) & \text{iff} \\ \bullet x > 0 & \rightarrow & j_1 = 5 & \land & j_3 = j_1 \\ \bullet \neg (x > 0) & \rightarrow & j_2 = 18 & \land j_3 = j_2 \\ \bullet \neg (x > 0 & \land & j_1 = 5 & \land & j_3 = j_1 ) & \rightarrow & \neg (x > 0) \wedge & j_2 = 18 & \land & j_3 = j_2 \\ \bullet \neg (\neg (x > 0) \wedge & j_3 = j_2 ) & \rightarrow & x > 0 \wedge & j_1 = 5 & \land & j_3 = j_1 \\ \bullet & \text{Join}(x > 0 \wedge & j_1 = 5 \wedge & j_3 = j_1 , \quad \neg (x > 0) \wedge & j_1 = 18 \wedge & j_3 = j_2 ) \end{array}$$

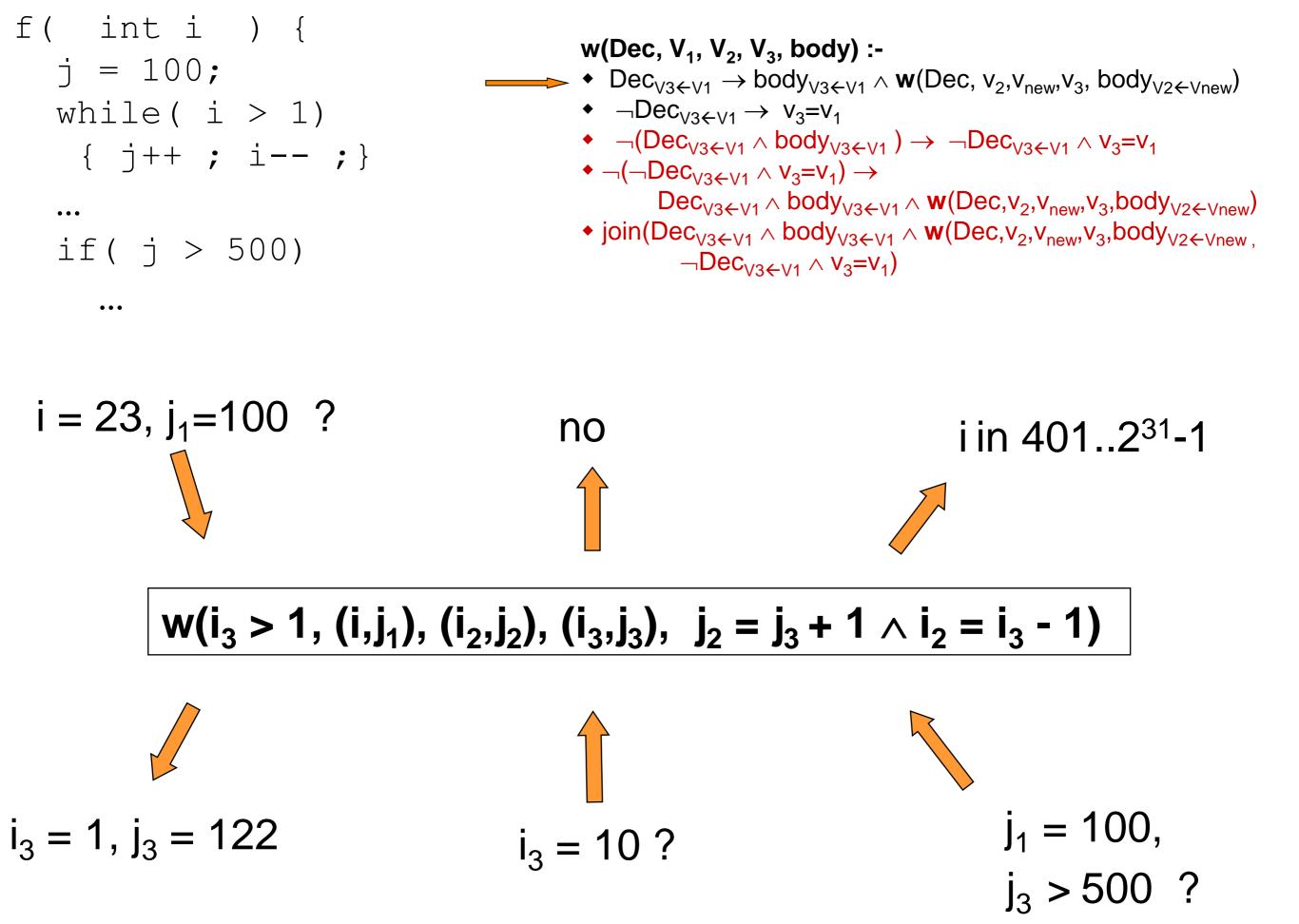
Implemented as a regular constraint (interface, awakening conditions, filtering algo.)

#### Loop as meta-constraint: w/5



w(Dec,  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ ,  $V_3$ , body) iff

- $\text{Dec}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \rightarrow \text{body}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land w(\text{Dec}, v_2, v_{new}, v_3, \text{body}_{V2 \leftarrow Vnew})$
- $\neg \text{Dec}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \rightarrow V_3 = V_1$
- $\neg (\text{Dec}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land \text{body}_{V3 \leftarrow V1}) \rightarrow \neg \text{Dec}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land v_3 = v_1$
- $\neg(\neg \text{Dec}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land v_3 = v_1) \rightarrow \text{Dec}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land \text{body}_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land w(\text{Dec}, v_2, v_{new}, v_3, \text{body}_{V2 \leftarrow Vnew})$
- $join(Dec_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land body_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land w(Dec, v_2, v_{new}, v_3, body_{V2 \leftarrow Vnew}), \neg Dec_{V3 \leftarrow V1} \land v_3 = v_1)$



#### Features of constraint-based exploration

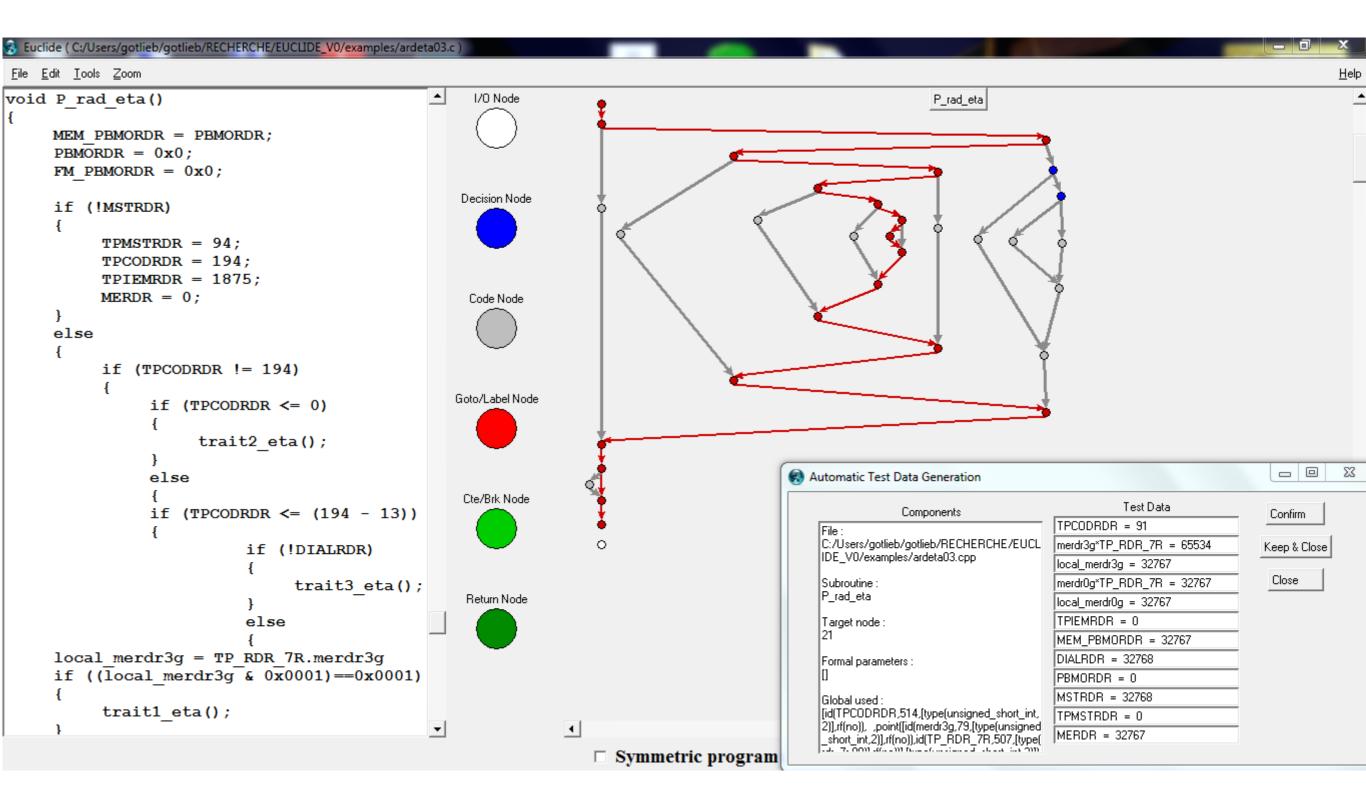
✓ Special meta-constraints implementation for ite and w

By construction, w is unfolded only when necessary but w may NOT terminate ! → only a semi-correct test input generation procedure

- ✓ Join is implemented using *Abstract Interpretation* operators (e.g., Interval and Polyhedral union, widening in Euclide, Difference constraints in Gatel, Congruences in JSolver)
- Special propagators based on linear-based relaxations
   Using Linear Programming over rationals (i.e., Q\_polyhedra)

### EUCLIDE: An implementation for C code

#### EUCLIDE



#### **Conclusions & Perspectives**

## Conclusions

- Constraint Programming is a convenient and efficient tool for reasoning over imperative programs, as it enables:
  - constraint design and constraint-based program exploration;
  - relational modelling for reacheability problems;
  - implementations are available! (e.g., EUCLIDE, PathCrawler)
- But unsatisfiability (UNSAT) detection has to be improved (e.g., by combining techniques from SMT-solving)
- But constraint solvers are so tuned and optimized, that they cannot be easily showed bug-free, and blindly trusted!

#### Perspectives

 Constraint solving over floating-point computations (Bagnara Carlier Gori Gotlieb, ICST'2013)

**Collaboration with U.of Parma, Italy – PhD Thesis** 

• Formal certification of a consistency filtering constraint solver (Carlier Dubois Gotlieb, FM'12)

Collaboration with INRIA, France – AURORA CertiSkatt Project

Thank you!