

# Deadlock Checking by Data Race Detection

Ka I Violet Pun, Martin Steffen, Volker Stolz

PMA Group, University of Oslo, Norway

Bad Honnef

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## Goal

Find *potential* deadlocks in programs  
... by detecting *data races*  
... through *static analysis*

- Data race:
  - Simultaneous access to shared data with at least one write access
  - Shared data: mutable, unprotected
- Deadlock:
  - Multiple processes wait for shared resources in a cycle
  - Here: *Locks*

General approach:

- Reduce the problem of deadlock checking to race checking
- Instrument programs with **accesses** to additional global variables (**race variables**) at appropriate *program points*
- Programs with deadlocks  
     $\implies$  data race in the transformed one
- Also: no data race  $\implies$  deadlock freedom

(Assume the original programs are **race free**)

- Concurrent language
- Higher-order
- Dynamic lock creation
- Reentrant locks
- Non-lexically scoped locks

$t ::= \text{stop} \mid v \mid \text{let } x:T = e \text{ in } t$

$e ::= t \mid v \ v \mid \text{if } e \text{ then } e \text{ else } e \mid$   
 $\text{spawn } t \mid \text{new } L \mid v. \text{lock} \mid v. \text{unlock}$

$v ::= x \mid l \mid \text{fn } x:T. t \mid \text{fun } f:T. x:T. t$

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- Static analysis framed as a type and effect system
- **Type:**  
Captures *results* of the computations of a program
- **Effect:**  
Captures *behaviour* during the computations of a program

- Uses *program points*  $\pi$ , to characterize locks according to their origin
- Tracks *relative change* to the lock count
- Captures *static program points* where deadlocks may manifest themselves
- Uses *constraints* to derive the *smallest* possible types and effects
- Context-sensitive analysis
  - Polymorphic types
  - Increase precision

- *Second lock point* (*slp*)
  - A *static* over-approximation of program points where deadlocks may manifest themselves
  - $p$  holds  $\pi_1$  and tries to take  $\pi_2$
- The type and effect system works thread-locally
- Derives *slp* **per thread**



- A cycle of **locks**
- A sequence of pairs  $p_1 : \pi_1; \dots; p_n : \pi_n$ 
  - $p_i$ : process identifiers
  - $\pi_i$ : program points where locks are created
- Interpreted as: process  $p_1$  has  $\pi_1$  and wants  $\pi_2$

Second lock point relative to  $\Delta_C$

Given  $\Delta_C$  and  $\bullet \vdash_p t_0 : \Delta$ ,  $t$  is a *static second lock point* if:

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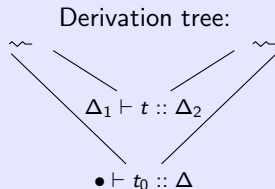
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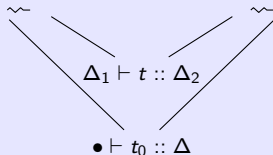
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Derivation tree:



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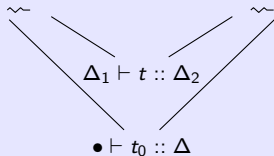
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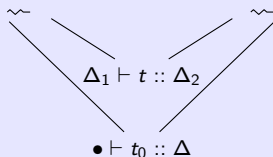
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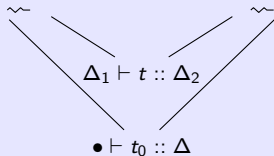
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# Type and Effect System

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$\Delta ::= \bullet \mid \Delta, r:n \mid X$	lock env./abstract state
$C ::= \emptyset \mid \varrho \exists r, C \mid X \geq \Delta, C$	constraints

see: "Type and Effect Systems", Amtoft/Nielson/Nielson, 1999

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# Transformation

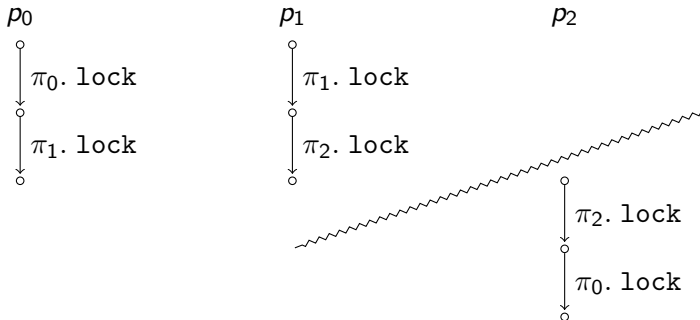
An example of cycle length **three**

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$p_0 : \pi_0$

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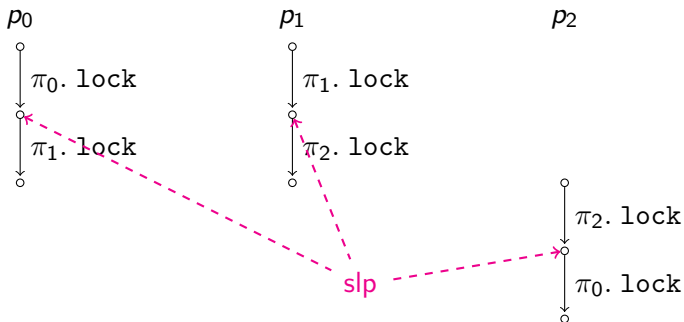
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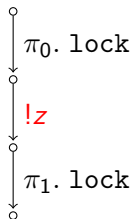
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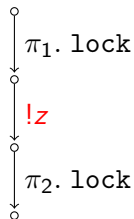
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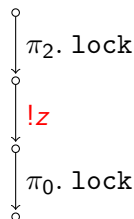
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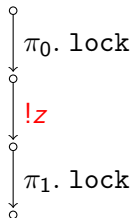


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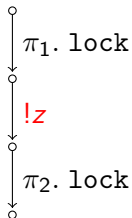


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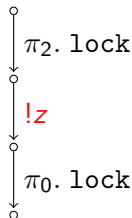
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- Races are *binary*
- Deadlocks are *n-ary*
- To compensate, add *locks* appropriately

- Gate locks
  - *Short-lived*
    - No **locking**-step before a short-lived lock is released
    - Does not lead to more deadlocks
  - Variable access between locking and unlocking steps
  - One variable is guarded by one gate lock



# Gate locks

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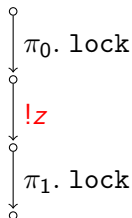
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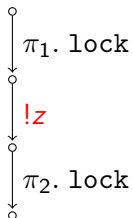
$p_2 : \pi_2$

- Add gate locks in  $n - 1$  processes
- Analyze  $n$  combinations

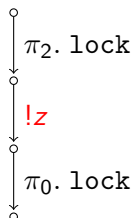
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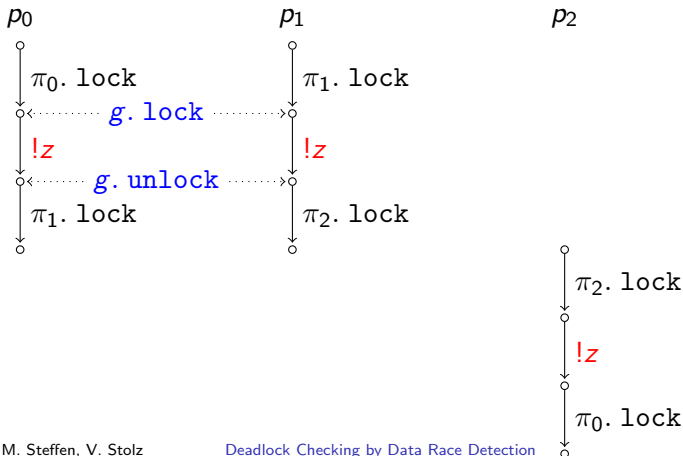
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- **Goblint**
  - Race checker for C programs (... and more)
  - Does not check deadlocks
- **JPF** (Java Path Finder)
  - Model checker for Java bytecode
- **Chord** (Checker of races and deadlocks)
  - Checks deadlock of length 2
  - Recognizes locks held using synchronized

	C	Java			
		synchronized		explicit locks	
	Goblint	JPF	Chord	JPF	Chord
<i>Datarace</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Deadlock 2</i>	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
<i>Deadlock 3+</i>	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗

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- Transformation guarantees each *slp* is protected by the **same variable**
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