

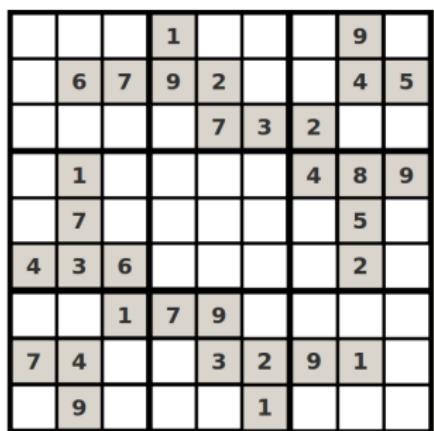
Unifying Execution of Imperative and Declarative Code

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Cambridge, MA

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May 03, 2011

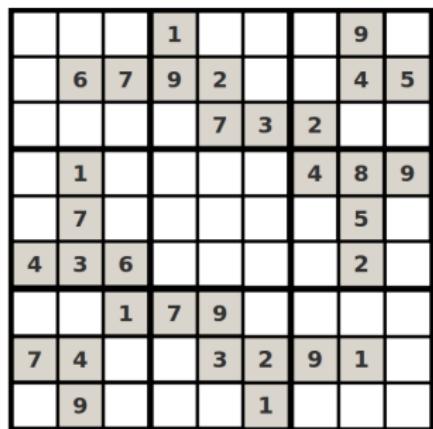
Solving Sudoku



Sudoku puzzle: fill in the empty cells s.t.:

1. cell values are in $\{1, 2, \dots, 9\}$
2. all rows have distinct values
3. all columns have distinct values
4. all sub-grids have distinct values

Solving Sudoku



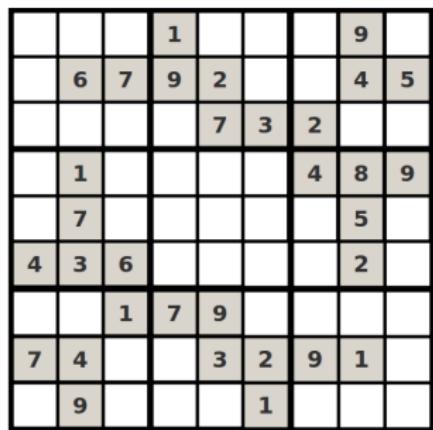
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- write a custom (heuristic-based) algorithm [imperative]
- write a set of constraints and use a constraint solver [declarative]

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Solving Sudoku with Squander

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	6	7	9	2			4	5
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		1					4	8 9
	7							5
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Solving Sudoku with Squander

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public class Sudoku {  
    private final int n = 9;  
    private final int [][] regions = new int [] {  
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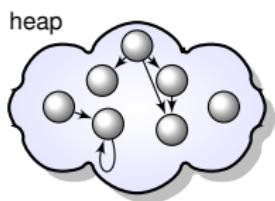
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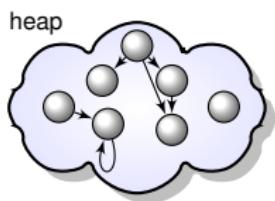
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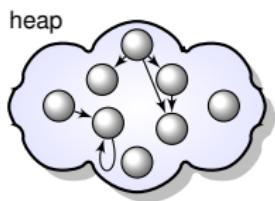
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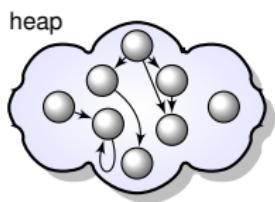
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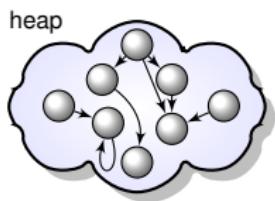
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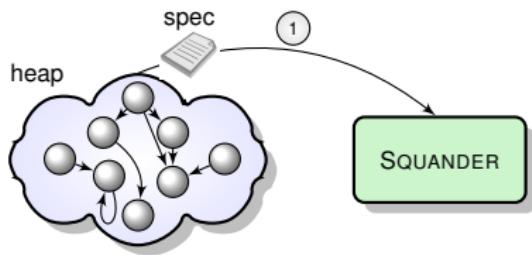
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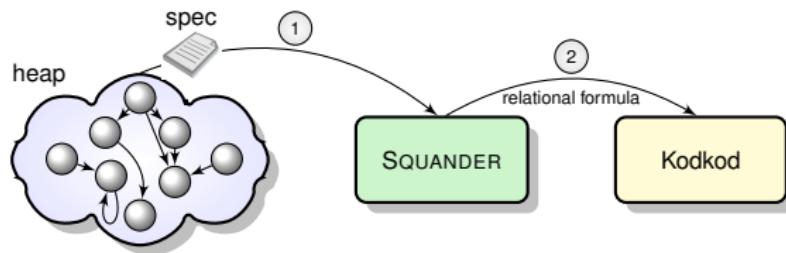
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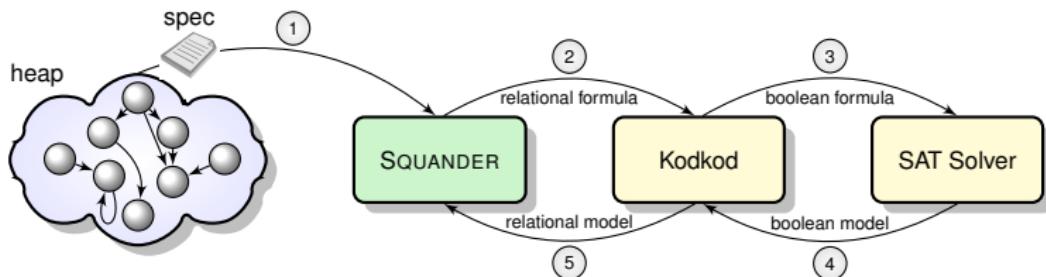
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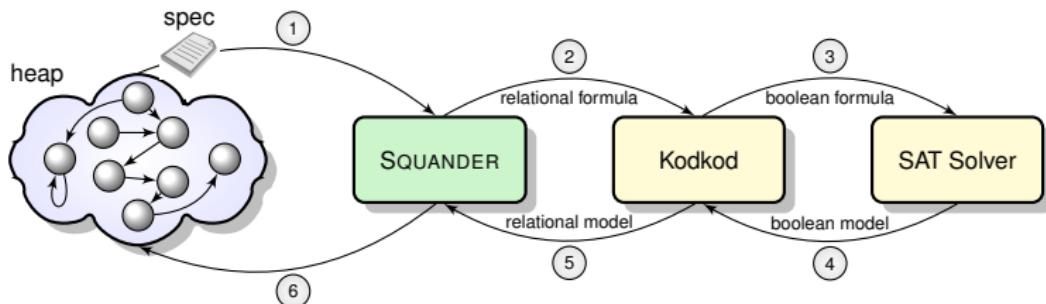
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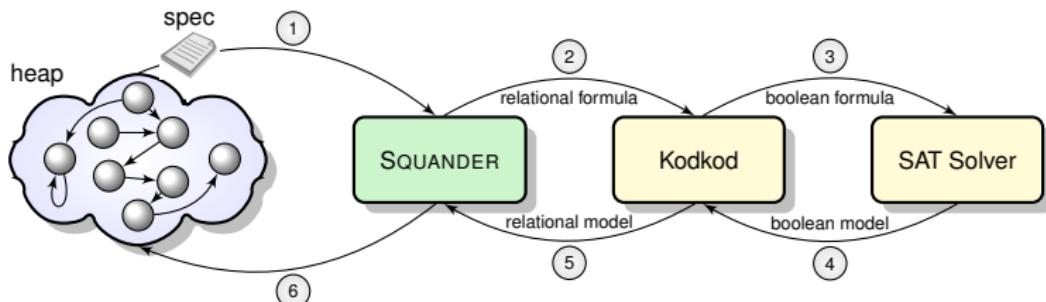
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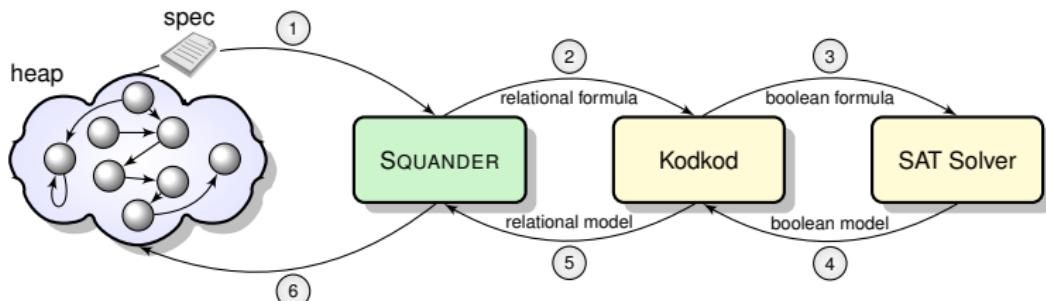
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```

Immediate Benefits

- executable Alloy-style specifications for Java
- specify and solve constraint problems “in place”
- no manual translation to/from an external solver

Solving Sudoku with Alloy Analyzer

```

abstract sig Number {}
one sig N1,N2,N3,N4,N5,N6,N7,N8,N9 extends Number {}

one sig Global {
    data: Number -> Number -> one Number
}

pred complete [rows:set Number, cols:set Number]{
    Number = Global.data[rows][cols]
}

pred rules {
    all row: Number { complete[row,Number] }
    all col: Number { complete[Number,col] }
    let r1=N1+N2+N3, r2=N4+N5+N6, r3=N7+N8+N9 | 
        complete[r1,r1] and complete[r1,r2] and complete[r1,r3] and
        complete[r2,r1] and complete[r2,r2] and complete[r2,r3] and
        complete[r3,r1] and complete[r3,r2] and complete[r3,r3]
}

pred puzzle {
    N1->N4->N1 + N1->N8->N9 +
    ...
    N9->N2->N2 + N9->N6->N1 in Global.data
}

run { rules and puzzle }

```



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		1	7	9					
7	4			3	2	9	1		
9					1				

Solving Sudoku with Kodkod

```

public class Sudoku {
    private Relation Number = Relation.unary("Number");
    private Relation data = Relation.ternary("data");
    private Relation[] regions = new Relation[] {
        Relation.unary("Region1"),
        Relation.unary("Region2"),
        Relation.unary("Region3") };

    public Formula complete(Expression rows, Expression cols) {
        // Number = data[rows][cols]
        return Number.eq(cols.join(rows.join(data)));
    }

    public Formula rules() {
        // all x,y: Number | lone data[x][y]
        Variable x = Variable.unary("x");
        Variable y = Variable.unary("y");
        Formula f1 = y.join(x.join(data)).lone();
        forAll(x.oneOf(Number).and(y.oneOf(Number)));
        // all row: Number | complete[row, Number]
        Variable row = Variable.unary("row");
        Formula f2 = complete(row, Number);
        forAll(row.oneOf(Number));
        // all col: Number | complete[Number, col]
        Variable col = Variable.unary("col");
        Formula f3 = complete(Number, col);
        forAll(col.oneOf(Number));
        // complete[r1,r1] and complete[r1,r2] and complete[r1,r3] and
        // complete[r2,r1] and complete[r2,r2] and complete[r2,r3] and
        // complete[r3,r1] and complete[r3,r2] and complete[r3,r3]
        Formula rules = f1.and(f2).and(f3);
        for(Relation rx: regions)
            for(Relation ry: regions)
                rules = rules.and(complete(rx, ry));
        return rules;
    }

    public Bounds puzzle() {
        Set<Integer> atoms = new LinkedHashSet<Integer>(9);
        for(int i = 1; i <= 9; i++) { atoms.add(i); }
        Universe u = new Universe(atoms);
        Bounds b = new Bounds(u);
    }
}

```



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4	3	6					2	
			1	7	9			
7	4			3	2	9	1	
	9				1			

```

TupleFactory f = u.factory();
b.boundExactly(Number, f.allOf(1));
b.boundExactly(regions[0], f.setOf(1, 2, 3));
b.boundExactly(regions[1], f.setOf(4, 5, 6));
b.boundExactly(regions[2], f.setOf(7, 8, 9));

TupleSet givens = f.noneOf(3);
givens.add(f.tuple(1, 4, 1));
givens.add(f.tuple(1, 8, 9));
...
givens.add(f.tuple(9, 6, 1));
b.bound(data, givens, f.allOf(3));
return b;
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
    Solver solver = new Solver();
    solver.options().setSolver(SATFactory.MiniSat);
    Sudoku sudoku = new Sudoku();
    Solution sol = solver.solve(sudoku.rules(), sudoku.puzzle());
    System.out.println(sol);
}

```

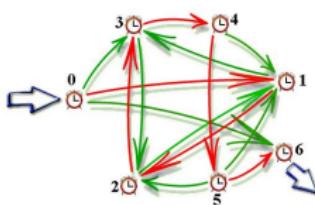
SQUANDER– Summary

- freely mix imperative code and declarative specifications
- execute specifications as part of a Java program

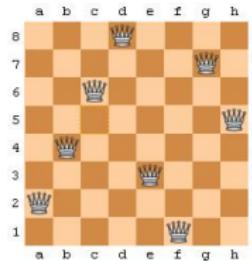
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public Sudoku() {}

@Ensures({
    "all row in {0 ... (this.n - 1)} | this.data[row][int] = {1 ... this.n}",
    "all col in {0 ... (this.n - 1)} | this.data[int][col] = {1 ... this.n}",
    "all r1, r2 in this.regions.vals | this.data[r1.vals][r2.vals] = {1 ... this.n}")
@Modifies("this.data[int].elems | _>= 0")
public void solve() { Squander.exe(this); }
```

- conveniently express and solve constraint problems in place
 - even gain performance for certain problems



Hamiltonian Path

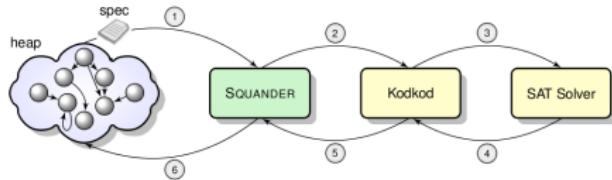


n-Queens

Outline

Framework Overview

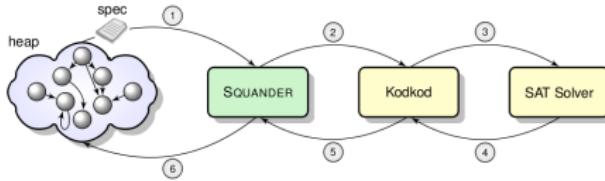
- specification language
- SQUANDER architecture



Outline

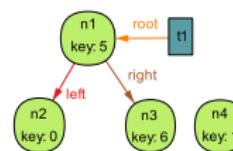
Framework Overview

- specification language
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Translation

- from Java heap + specs to Kodkod
- minimizing the universe size



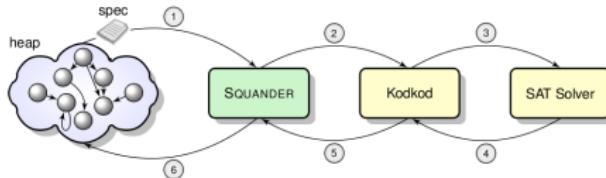
BST1:	$\{t_1\}$	N3:	$\{n_3\}$	BST.this:	$\{t_1\}$
N1:	$\{n_1\}$	N4:	$\{n_4\}$	z:	$\{n_4\}$
N2:	$\{n_2\}$	null:	$\{\text{null}\}$	ints:	$\{0, 1, 5, 6\}$

key.pre: $\{(n_1 \rightarrow 5), (n_2 \rightarrow 0), (n_3 \rightarrow 6), (n_4 \rightarrow 1)\}$
 root.pre: $\{(t_1 \rightarrow n_1)\}$
 root: $\{\}\times\{t_1\}$
 left.pre: $\{(n_1 \rightarrow n_2), (n_2 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_3 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_4 \rightarrow \text{null})\}$
 right.pre: $\{(n_1 \rightarrow n_3), (n_2 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_3 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_4 \rightarrow \text{null})\}$
 root: $\{\}\times\{t_1\}$
 left: $\{\}\times\{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\}$
 right: $\{\}\times\{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\}$

Outline

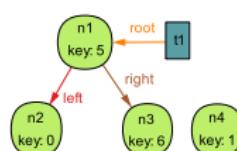
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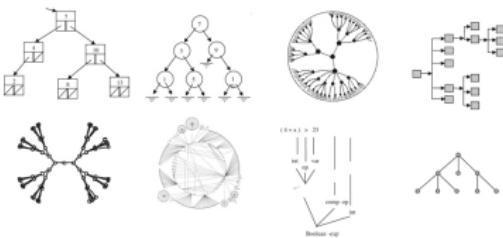
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right.pre:	$\{(n_1 \rightarrow n_3), (n_2 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_3 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_4 \rightarrow \text{null})\}$				
root:	$\{\}$	$\{t_1\}$	$\{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\}$		
left:	$\{\}$	$\{t_1\}$	$\{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\} \times \{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\}$		
right:	$\{\}$	$\{t_1\}$	$\{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\} \times \{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\}$		

Treatment of Data Abstractions

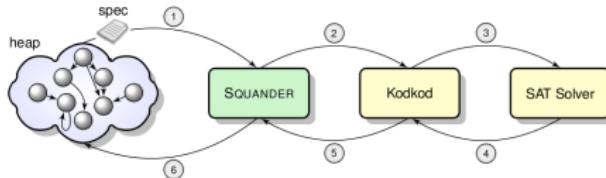
- support for third party library classes
(e.g. Java collections)



Outline

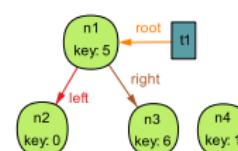
Framework Overview

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Translation

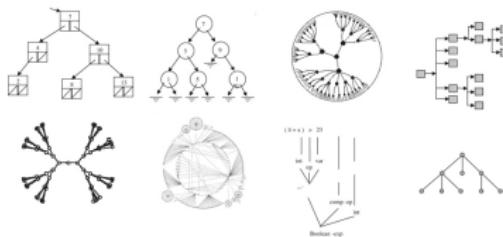
- from Java heap + specs to Kodkod
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BST1:	$\{t_1\}$	N3:	$\{n_3\}$	BST.this:	$\{t_1\}$
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root:	$\{\}$				
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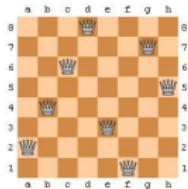
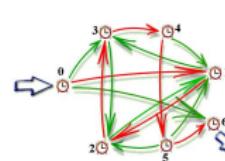
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Evaluation/Case Study

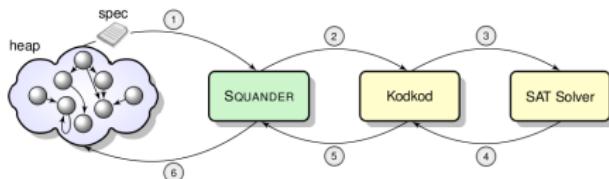
- performance advantages for some puzzles and graph algorithms
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Framework Overview

Framework Overview

- specification language
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- from Java heap + specs to Kodkod
- minimizing the universe size



BST1:	t_1	N1:	(n_1)	N2:	(n_2)	N3:	(n_3)	BST.this:	(t_1)
key.pre:									$(t_1 \rightarrow 5), (n_2 \rightarrow 0), (n_3 \rightarrow 6), (n_4 \rightarrow 1)$
root:									n_1
root.pre:									$((t_1 \rightarrow n_1))$
left.pre:									$((n_1 \rightarrow n_2), (n_2 \rightarrow null), (n_3 \rightarrow null), (n_4 \rightarrow null))$
right.pre:									$((n_1 \rightarrow n_3), (n_3 \rightarrow null), (n_2 \rightarrow null), (n_4 \rightarrow null))$
root:									$((n_1 \times n_2, n_3, n_4))$
left:									$((n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4) \times (n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4))$
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Specification Language

Example - Binary Search Tree

```
public class BST {  
    private BSTNode root;  
}
```

```
public class BSTNode {  
    private BSTNode left, right;  
    private int key;  
}
```

Specification Language

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Annotations

class specification field `@SpecField ("<fld_decl> | <abs_func>")`

Specification Language

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}
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Annotations

```
class specification field      @SpecField ("<fld_decl> | <abs_func>")  
    @SpecField("this.nodes: set BSTNode | this.nodes = this.root.*((left+right) - null")  
    public class BST {
```

Specification Language

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public class BST {  
  
class invariant              @Invariant ("<expr>")
```

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    public class BST {
```

```
class invariant              @Invariant ("<expr>")  
    @Invariant({  
        /* left sorted */ "all x: this.left.*((left+right) - null | x.key < this.key",  
        /* right sorted */ "all x: this.right.*((left+right) - null | x.key > this.key"})  
    public class BSTNode {
```

Specification Language

Example - Binary Search Tree

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public class BST {
    private BSTNode root;
}
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```
public class BSTNode {
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}
```

Annotations

class specification field **@SpecField** ("<fld_decl> | <abs_func>")
@SpecField("this.nodes: set BSTNode | this.nodes = this.root.*(left+right) - null")
public class BST {

class invariant **@Invariant** ("<expr>")
@Invariant({
/ left sorted */ "all x: this.left.*(left+right) - null | x.key < this.key",*
/ right sorted */ "all x: this.right.*(left+right) - null | x.key > this.key"})*
public class BSTNode {

method pre-condition **@Requires** ("<expr>")
method post-condition **@Ensures** ("<expr>")
method frame condition **@Modifies** ("<fld> | <filter>")

Specification Language

Example - Binary Search Tree

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Annotations

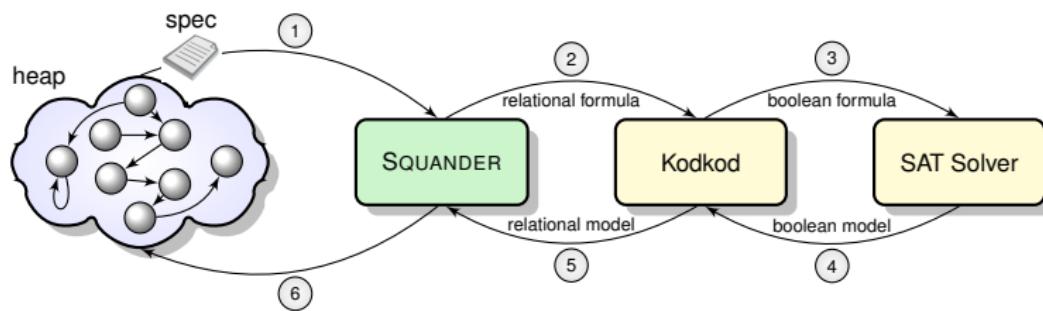
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method pre-condition	@Requires ("<expr>")
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```
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@Modifies("this.root, this.nodes.left | _<1> = null, this.nodes.right | _<1> = null")
public BST insertNode(BSTNode z) { Squander.exe(this, z); }
```

Framework Overview



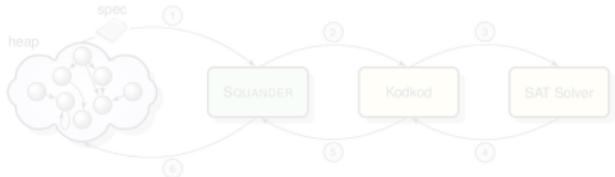
Execution steps

- traverse the heap and assemble the relevant constraints
- translate to Kodkod
 - translate the heap to relations and bounds
 - collect all the specs and assemble a single relational formula
- if a solution is found, update the heap to reflect the solution

Translation

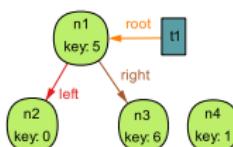
Framework Overview

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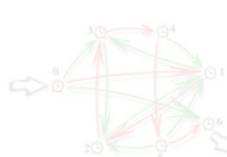
Treatment of Data Abstractions

- support for third party library classes
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Evaluation/Case Study

- performance advantages for some puzzles and graph algorithms
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From Objects to Relations

The back-end solver — Kodkod

- constraint solver for **first-order logic with relations**
- SAT-based **finite** relational model finder
 - finite **bounds** must be provided for all relations
- designed to be efficient for **partial models**
 - partial instances are encoded using bounds



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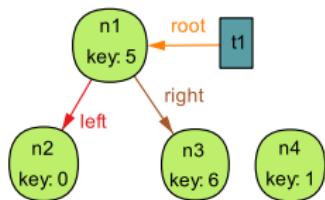
Everything is a relation

		relation name	relation type
classes	\rightsquigarrow unary relations	class C {}	$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{R}_C$: C
objects	\rightsquigarrow unary relations	new C();	$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{R}_{C_1}$: C
fields	\rightsquigarrow binary relations	class C { A fld; }	$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{R}_{fld}$: $C \rightarrow A \cup \{\text{null}\}$
arrays	\rightsquigarrow ternary relations	T[]	$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{R}_{T[]} \text{-} \text{elems}$: $T[] \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow T \cup \{\text{null}\}$

From Objects to Relations

Translation of the BST.insert method

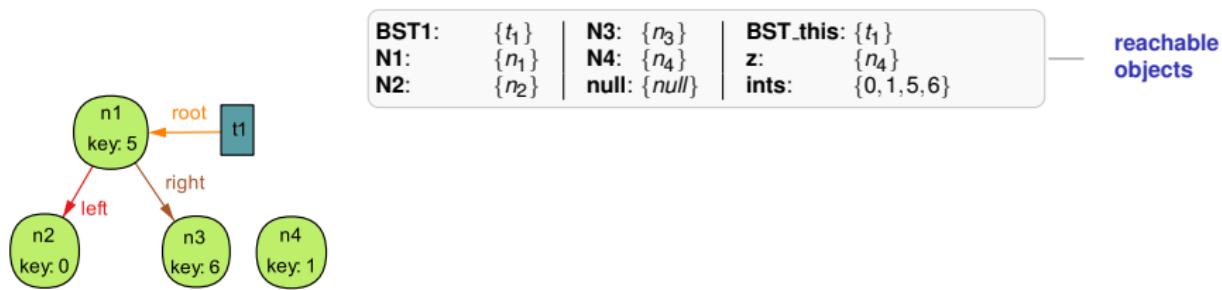
```
@Requires("z.key !in this.nodes.key")
@Ensures ("this.nodes = @old(this.nodes) + z")
@Modifies("this.root, this.nodes.left | _<1> = null, this.nodes.right | _<1> = null")
public BST insertNode(BSTNode z) { Squander.exe(this, z); }
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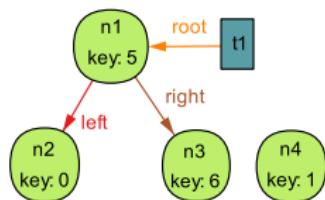


From Objects to Relations

Translation of the BST.insert method

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@Requires("z.key !in this.nodes.key")
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```

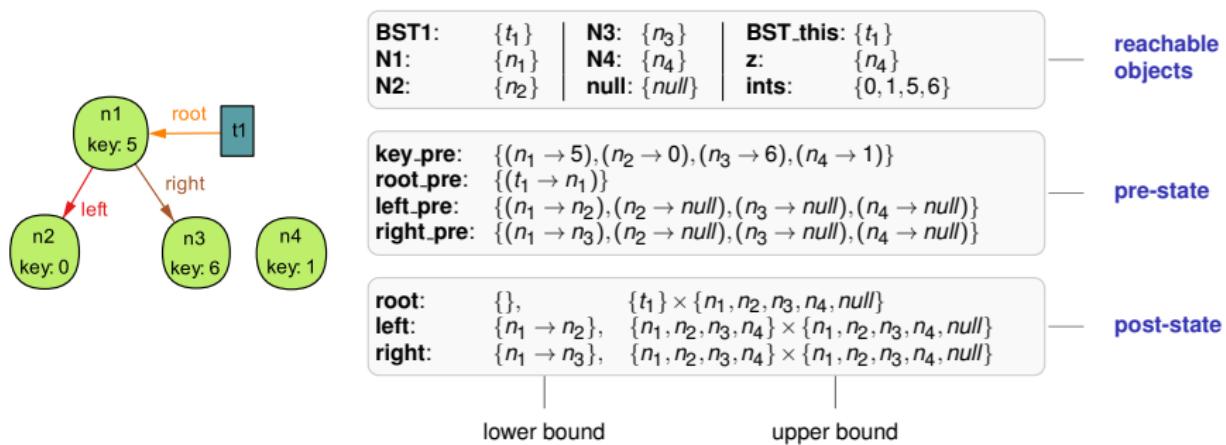


<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr><td>BST1:</td><td>{t₁}</td><td>N3:</td><td>{n₃}</td><td>BST.this:</td><td>{t₁}</td></tr> <tr><td>N1:</td><td>{n₁}</td><td>N4:</td><td>{n₄}</td><td>z:</td><td>{n₄}</td></tr> <tr><td>N2:</td><td>{n₂}</td><td>null:</td><td>{null}</td><td>ints:</td><td>{0, 1, 5, 6}</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	BST1:	{t ₁ }	N3:	{n ₃ }	BST.this:	{t ₁ }	N1:	{n ₁ }	N4:	{n ₄ }	z:	{n ₄ }	N2:	{n ₂ }	null:	{null}	ints:	{0, 1, 5, 6}	reachable objects
BST1:	{t ₁ }	N3:	{n ₃ }	BST.this:	{t ₁ }														
N1:	{n ₁ }	N4:	{n ₄ }	z:	{n ₄ }														
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From Objects to Relations

Translation of the BST.insert method

```
@Requires("z.key != in this.nodes.keySet")
@Ensures ("this.nodes = @old(this.nodes) + z")
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public BST insertNode(BSTNode z) { Squander.exe(this, z); }
```



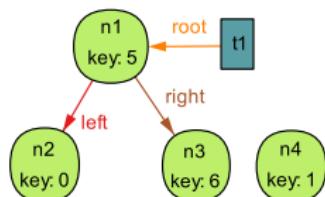
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```

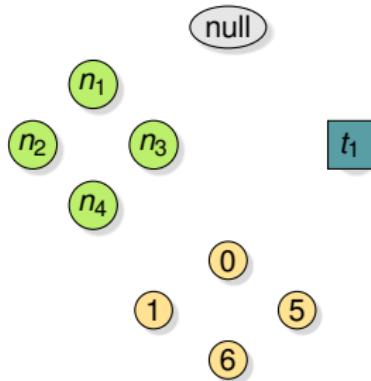


BST1:	$\{t_1\}$	N3:	$\{n_3\}$	BST.this:	$\{t_1\}$	reachable objects
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N2:	$\{n_2\}$	null:	$\{\text{null}\}$	ints:	$\{0, 1, 5, 6\}$	
key.pre:	$\{(n_1 \rightarrow 5), (n_2 \rightarrow 0), (n_3 \rightarrow 6), (n_4 \rightarrow 1)\}$	root.pre:	$\{(t_1 \rightarrow n_1)\}$	left.pre:	$\{(n_1 \rightarrow n_2), (n_2 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_3 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_4 \rightarrow \text{null})\}$	
right.pre:	$\{(n_1 \rightarrow n_3), (n_2 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_3 \rightarrow \text{null}), (n_4 \rightarrow \text{null})\}$	root:	$\{\}, \{t_1\} \times \{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4, \text{null}\}$	left:	$\{n_1 \rightarrow n_2\}, \{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\} \times \{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4, \text{null}\}$	pre-state
right:	$\{n_1 \rightarrow n_3\}, \{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4\} \times \{n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4, \text{null}\}$	lower bound		upper bound		

- **lower bound**: tuples that **must** be included
- **upper bound**: tuples that **may** be included
- shrinking the bounds (instead of adding more constraints) leads to more efficient solving

Minimizing the Universe

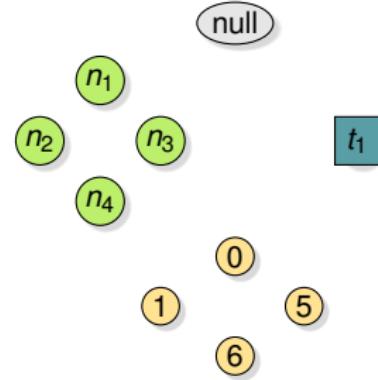
goal: use fewer Kodkod atoms than heap objects



Minimizing the Universe

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- multiple objects must map to same atoms
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Minimizing the Universe

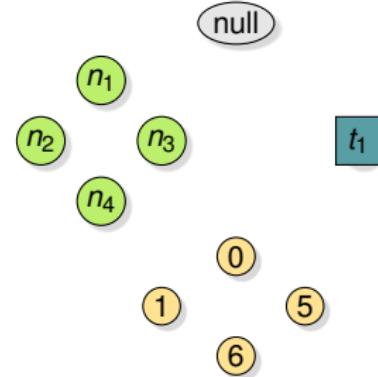
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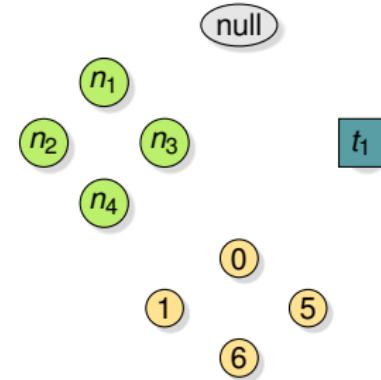
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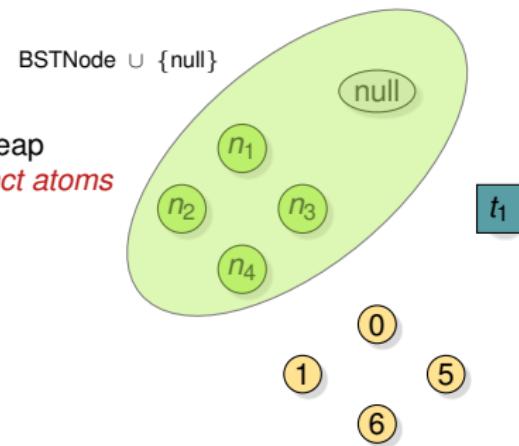
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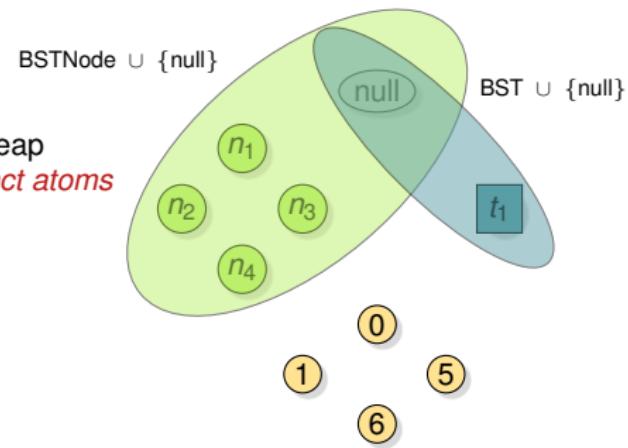
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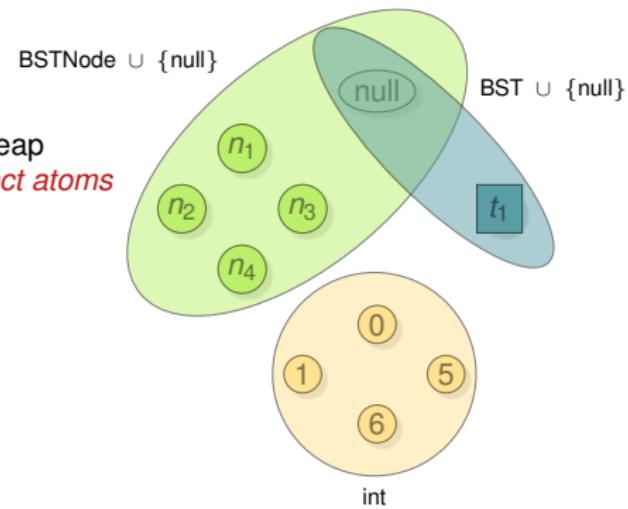
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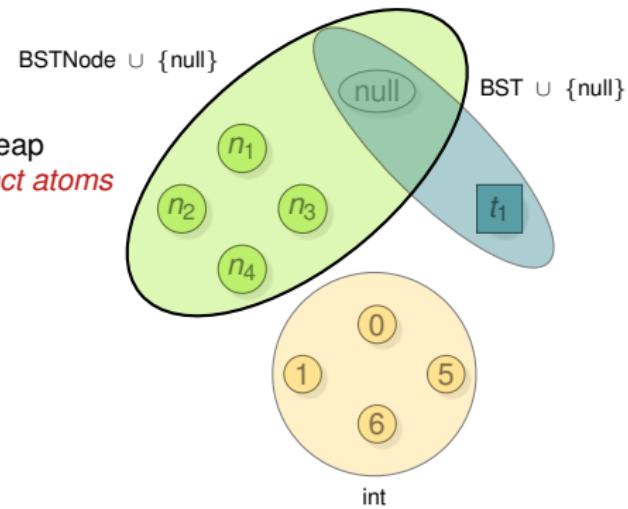
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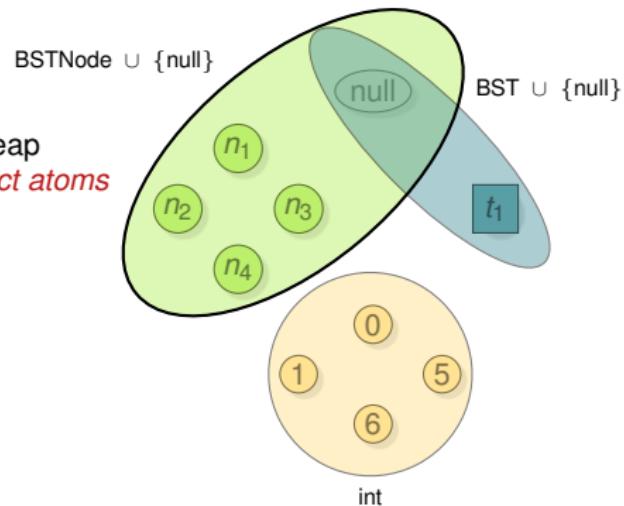
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$a_0 \quad a_1 \quad a_2 \quad a_3 \quad a_4$

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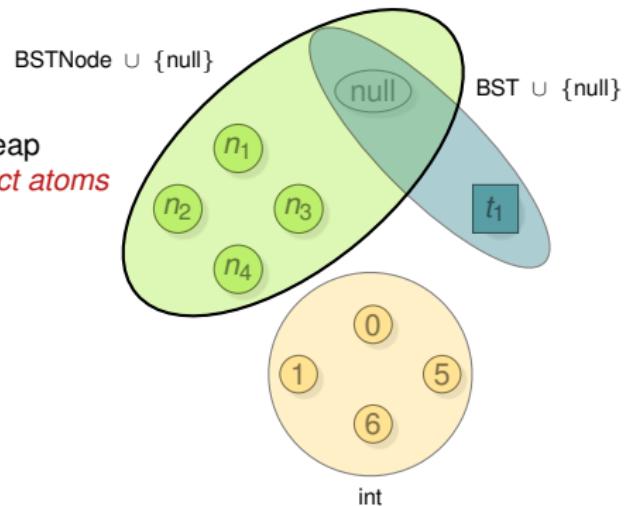
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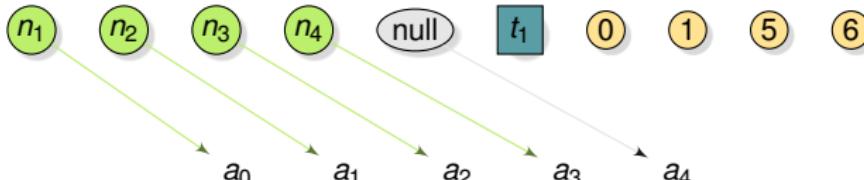
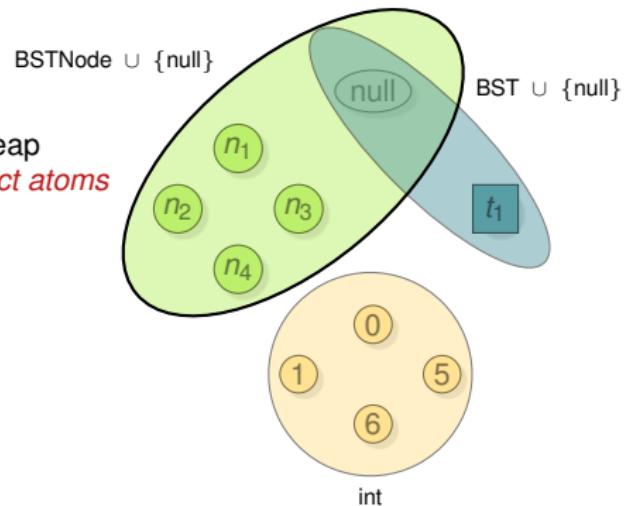
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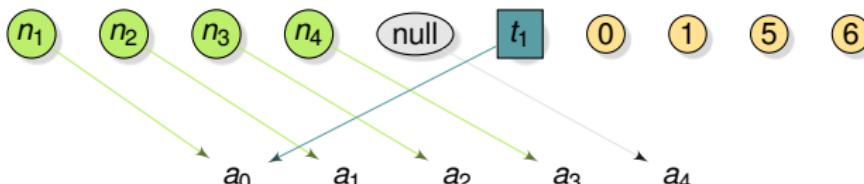
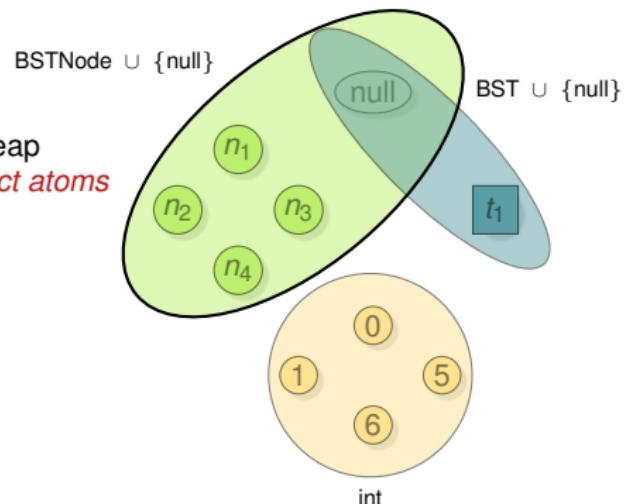
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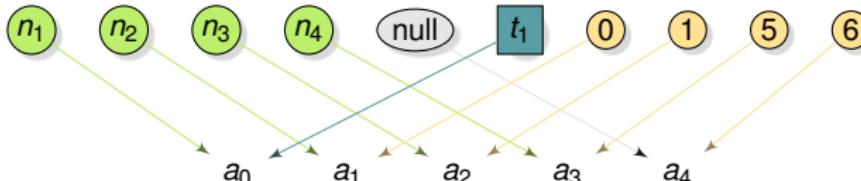
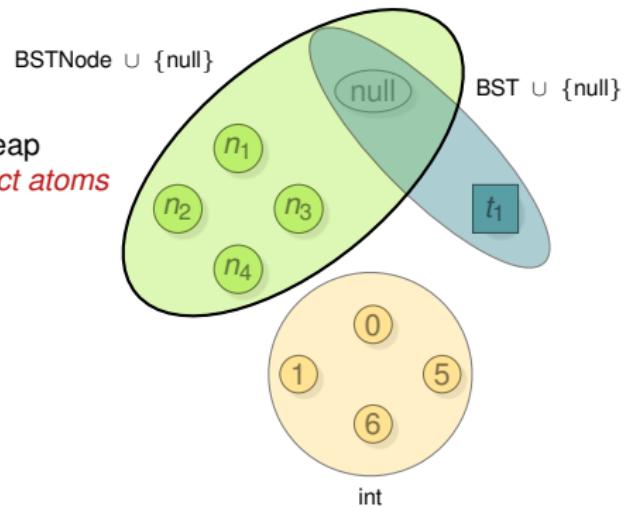
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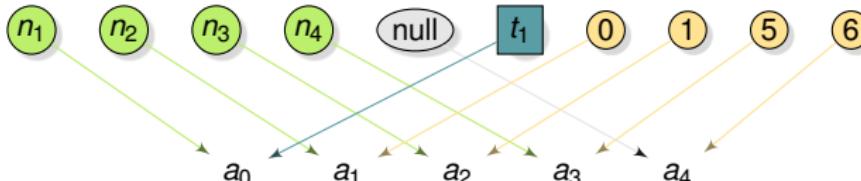
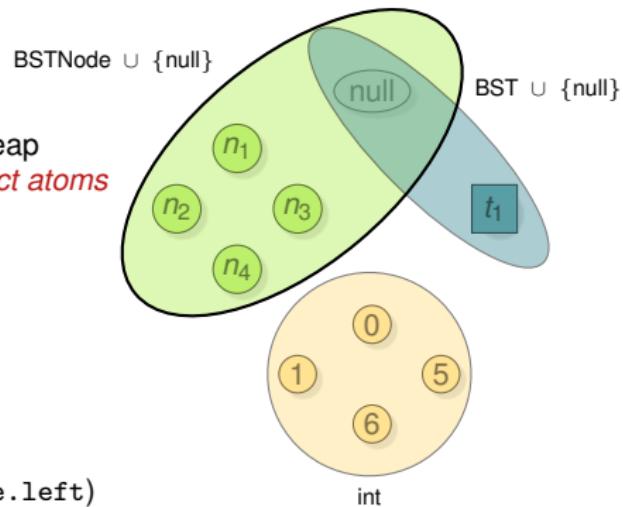
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restoring field values (e.g. a_0 for the field `BSTNode.left`)

1. based on the field's type, select its cluster
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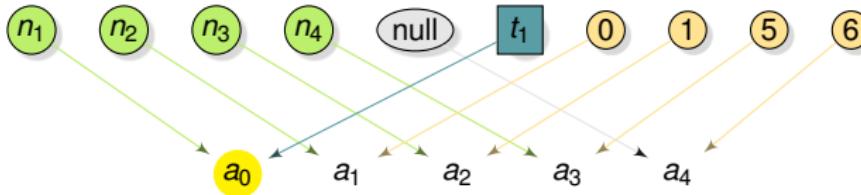
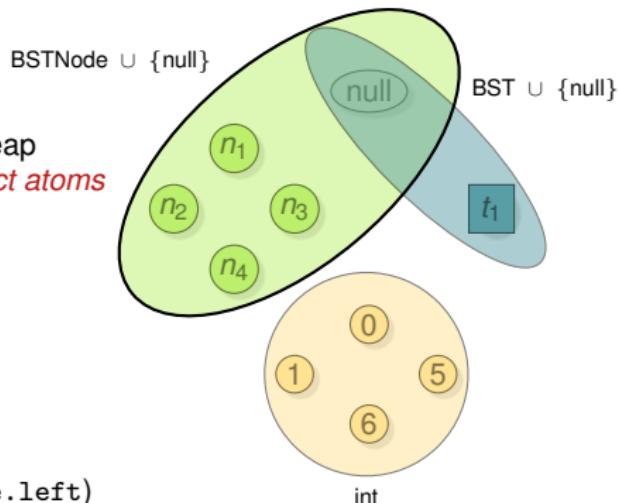
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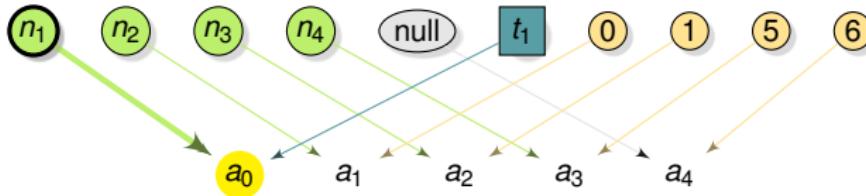
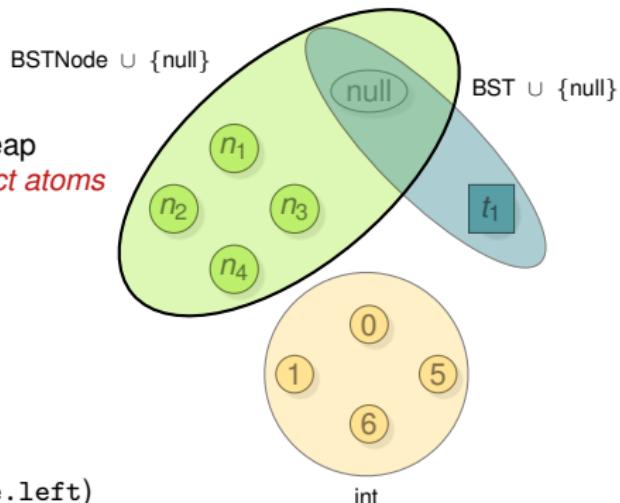
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Treatment of Data Abstractions

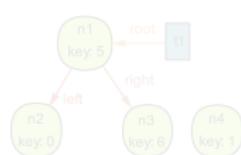
Framework Overview

- specification language
- SQUANDER architecture



Translation

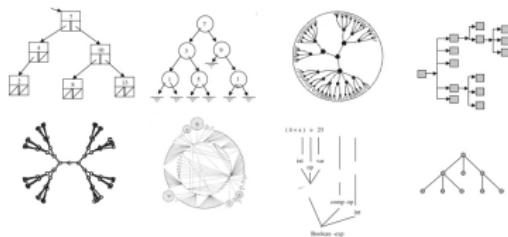
- from Java heap + specs to Kodkod
- minimizing the universe size



BST1:	t1	N3:	t2	BST.this:	t3
N1:	{n1}	N4:	{n4}	z:	{n4}
N2:	{n2}	null:	{null}	int:	{n4}
					{0, 1, 5, 6}
key.pre:	{(n1 → 5), (n2 → 0), (n3 → 6), (n4 → 1)}				
root.pre:	{(n1 → n1)}				
left.pre:	{(n1 → n2), (n2 → null), {n3 → null}, {n4 → null}}				
right.pre:	{(n1 → n3), (n3 → null), {n4 → null}, {n2 → null}}				
root:	{n1}				{n1}
left:	{n1, n2, n3, n4} × {n1, n2, n3, n4}				
right:	{n1, n2, n3, n4} × {n1, n2, n3, n4}				

Treatment of Data Abstractions

- support for third party **library classes** (e.g. Java collections)



Evaluation/Case Study

- performance advantages for some puzzles and graph algorithms
- case study: *MIT course scheduler*



User-Defined Abstractions for Library Types

Why is it important to be able to specify library types?

- library classes are ubiquitous
- specs need to refer to the *content* of library types
(e.g. iterate through set elements, get all keys of a map, etc.)
- we don't want to have to change existing code in order to be able to specify a method

```
class Graph {  
    class Node { public int key; }  
    class Edge { public Node src, dest; }  
  
    private Set<Node> nodes = new LinkedHashSet<Node>();  
    private Set<Edge> edges = new LinkedHashSet<Edge>();  
  
    // how to write a spec for the k-Coloring problem for a graph like this?  
    public Map<Node, Integer> k_color(int k) { return Squander.exe(this, k); }  
}
```

- we certainly don't want to use concrete fields of `LinkedHashSet` in the spec

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- we certainly don't want to use concrete fields of `LinkedHashSet` in the spec
- solution:
 - use `@SpecField` to specify **abstract data types**

User-Defined Abstractions for Library Types

How to support a third party class?

- write a spec file

```
interface Map<K,V> {  
    @SpecField("elts: K -> V")  
  
    @SpecField("size: one int | this.size = #this.elts")  
    @SpecField("keys: set K | this.keys = this.elts.(V)")  
    @SpecField("vals: set V | this.vals = this.elts[K]")  
  
    @Invariant({"all k: K | k in this.elts.V => one this.elts[k]"})  
}
```

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}
```

- write an **abstraction** and a **concretization** function

```
public class MapSer implements IObjSer {
    public static final String ELTS = "elts";

    public List<FieldValue> absFunc(JavaScene javaScene, Object obj) {
        Map<Object, Object> map = (Map<Object, Object>) obj;
        // return values for the field "elts": Map -> K -> V
    }

    public Object concrFunc(Object obj, FieldValue fieldValue) {
        // update and return the given object "obj" from
        // the given values of the given abstract field
    }
}
```

User-Defined Abstractions for Library Types

Now we can specify the k-Coloring problem

```

class Graph {
    class Node { public int key; }
    class Edge { public Node src, dest; }

    private Set<Node> nodes = new LinkedHashSet<Node>();
    private Set<Edge> edges = new LinkedHashSet<Edge>();

    @Ensures({
        "return.keys = this.nodes.elts",
        "return.vals in {1 ... k}",
        "all e : this.edges.elts | return.elts[e.src] != return.elts[e.dst]")
    @Modifies("return.elts")
    @FreshObjects(cls = Map.class, typeParams={Node.class, Integer.class}, num = 1)
    public Map<Node, Integer> color(int k) { return Squander.exe(this, k); }
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```

```

interface Set<K> {
    @SpecField("elts: set K")
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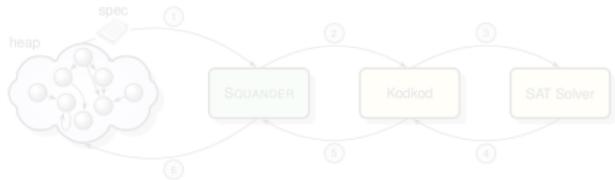
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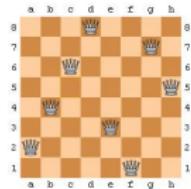
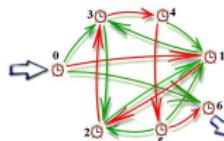
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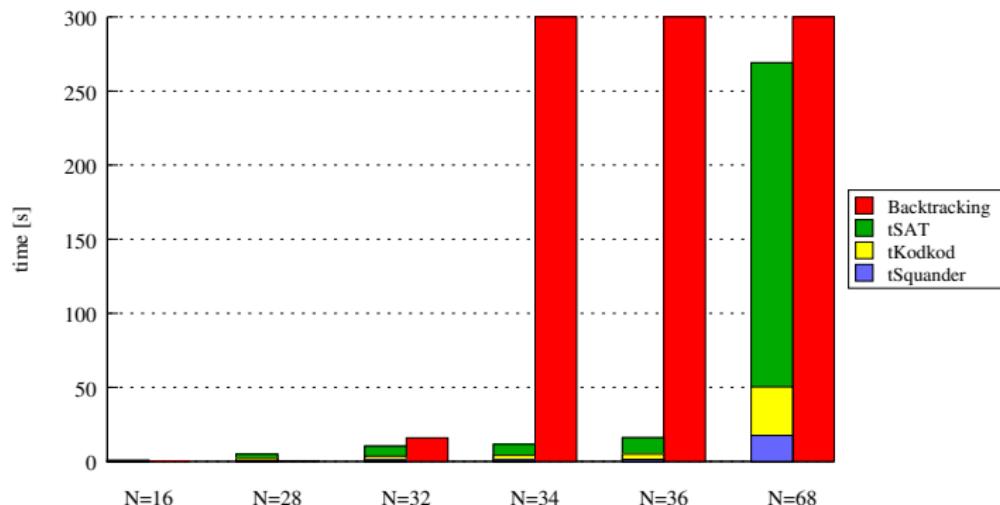
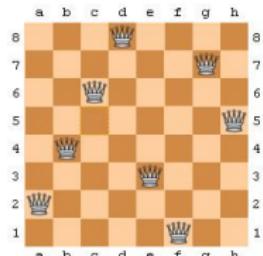
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SQUANDER vs Manual Search

N-Queens

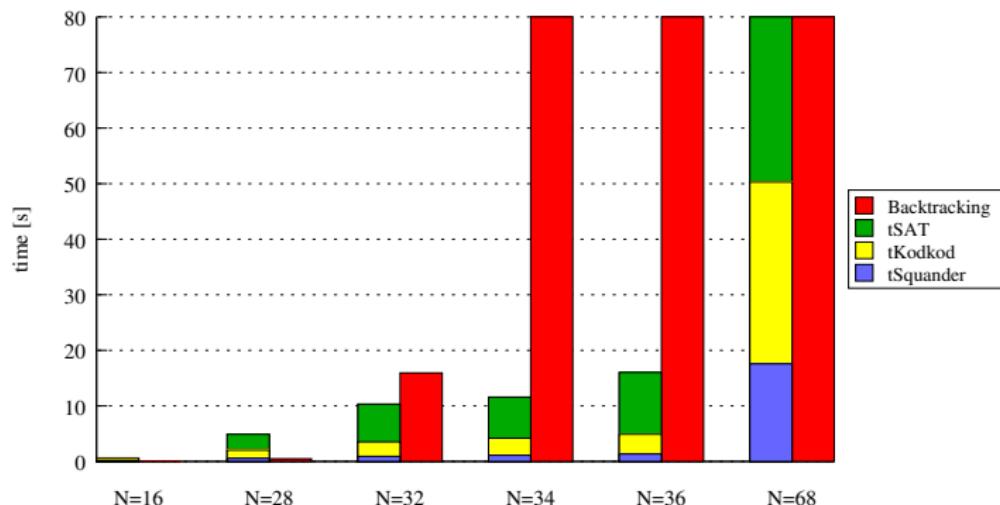
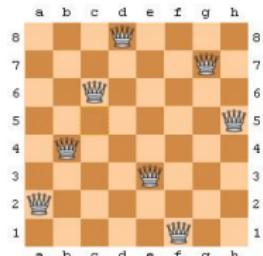
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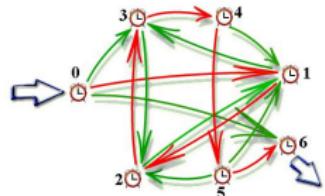
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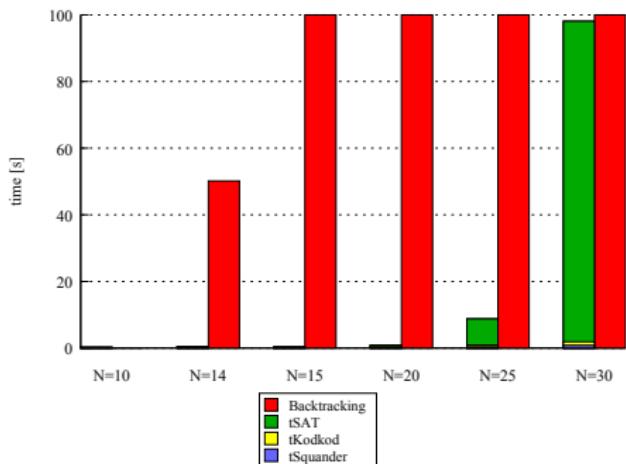
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Hamiltonian Path

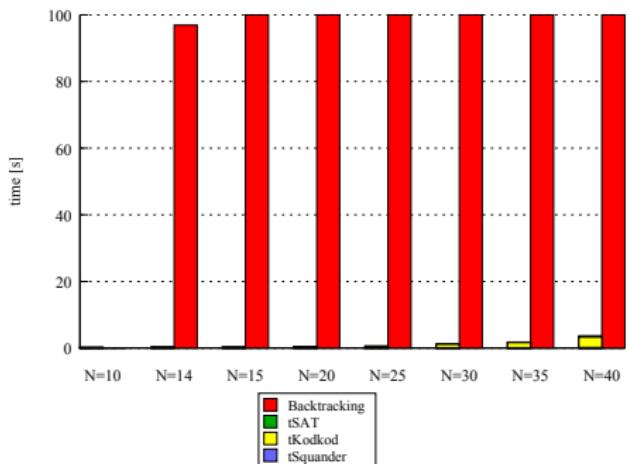
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Graphs with Hamiltonian path



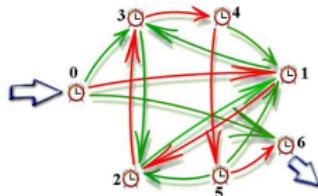
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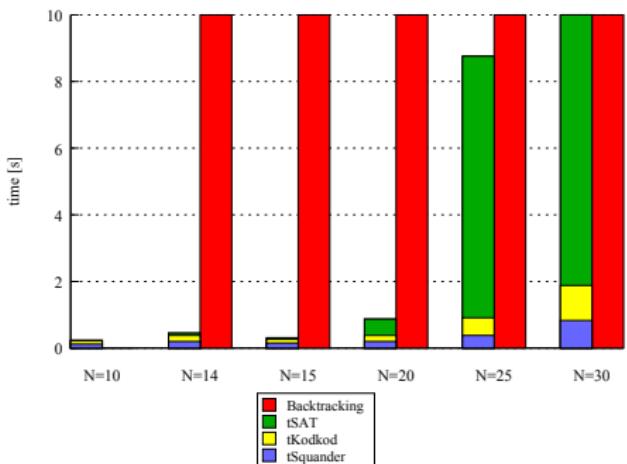
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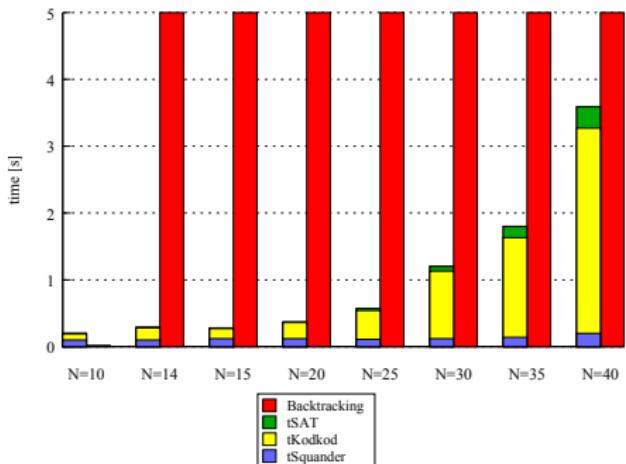
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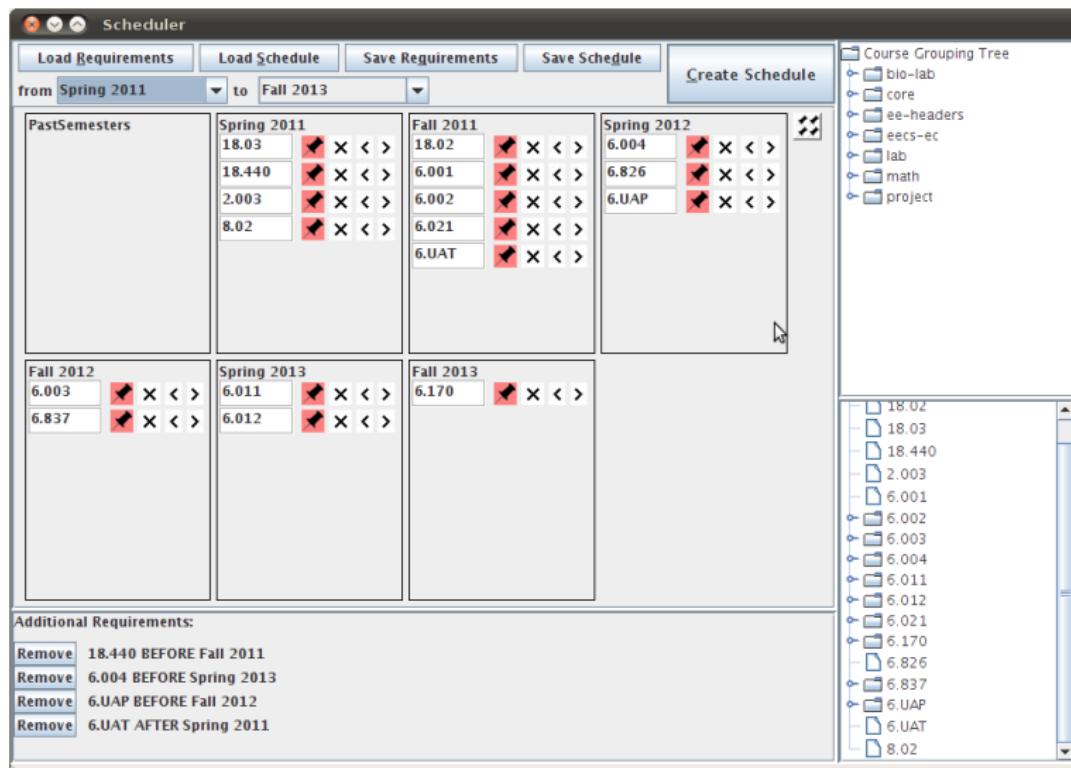


Case Study – Course Scheduler

Course Scheduler

- assign courses to semester to complete graduation requirements
- the program offers around 300 courses, more than 150 of them have prerequisites
- additional requirements:
 - mandatory courses
 - choices from course groups
 - no overlapping between course groups
 - time requirements
 - student specified requirements, etc.

Course Scheduler GUI



Case Study – Course Scheduler

Evaluation questions

Case Study – Course Scheduler

Evaluation questions

- **usability of SQUANDER on a real-world constraint problem**
 - an existing implementation retrofitted with SQUANDER
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- **ability to handle large program heaps**
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- **efficiency**
 - about 5s as opposed to 1s of the original implementation

Limitations

- **boundedness** – SQUANDER can't generate an arbitrary number of new objects; instead the maximum number of new objects must be explicitly specified by the user
- **integers** – integers must also be bounded to a small bitwidth
- **equality** – only referential equality can be used (except for strings)
- **no higher-order expressions** – e.g. can't specify *find the longest path in the graph*; instead must specify the minimum length k , i.e. *find a path in the graph of length at least k nodes*
- **unsat core** – if a solution cannot be found, the user is not given any additional information as to why the specification wasn't satisfiable

Acknowledgements



Derek Rayside



Kuat Yessenov



Daniel Jackson

Related Work

Executable Specifications:

- **An Overview of Some Formal Methods for Program Design**, C.A.R. Hoare (*IEEE Computer* 1987)
- **Specifications are not (necessarily) executable**, I. Hayes et al. (*SEJ* 1989)
- **Specifications are (preferably) executable**, N.E. Fuchs (*SEJ* 1992)
- **Programming from Specification**, C. Morgan, PrenticeHall, 1998
- **Agile Specifications**, D. Rayside et al. (*Onward! 2009*)
- **Falling Back on Executable Specifications**, H. Samimi et al. (*ECOOP 2010*)
- **Unified Execution of Imperative and Declarative Code**, A. Milicevic et al. (*ICSE 2011*)

Specification Languages

- **JFSL: JForge Specification Language**, K. Yessenov, MIT 2009
- **Software Abstractions: Logic, Language, and Analysis**, D. Jackson, MIT Press 2006

Programming Languages with Constraint Programming:

- **Jeeves: Programming with Delegation**, J. Yang, MIT, 2010
- **Programming with Quantifiers**, J.P. Near, MIT, 2010

Summary

SQUANDER framework

- unified execution of imperative and declarative code
- executable first-order, relational specifications for Java programs
- support for library classes and data abstractions
- ease of writing and solving constraint problems

<http://people.csail.mit.edu/aleks/squander>

Next steps

- provide better support for debugging
 - when no solution can be found, explain why (with the help of unsat core)
- synthesize code from specifications
 - especially for methods that only traverse the heap
- combine different solvers in the back end
 - an SMT solver would be better at handling large integers



Mixing Imperative and Declarative with SQUANDER

				1				9
6	7	9	2				4	5
			7	3	2			
1						4	8	9
7							5	
4	3	6						2
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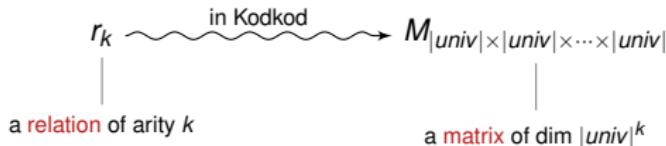
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Write more imperative code
to make constraints simpler

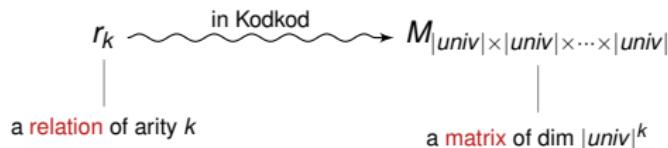
Minimizing the Universe Size

Relations in Kodkod



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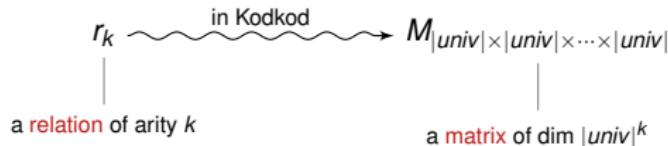


so

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Minimizing the Universe Size

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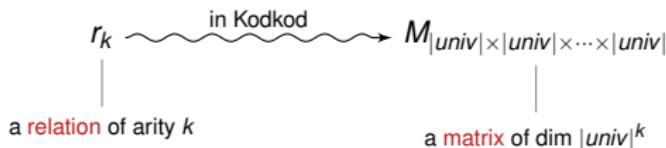


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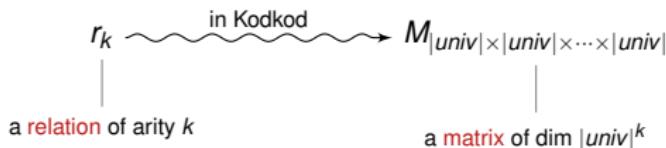


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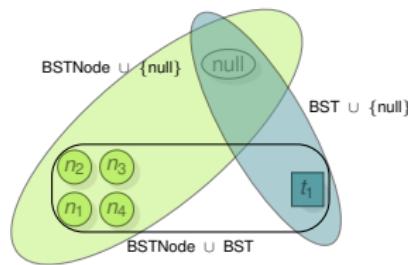
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- ternary relations are not uncommon in SQUANDER (e.g. arrays)
- *MIT course scheduler* case study: almost 2000 objects
- **solution:**
 - **partitioning algorithm** that allows atoms to be shared

Partitioning Algorithm – Discussion

Why is this algorithm sufficient?

- what if we had partitions like this:

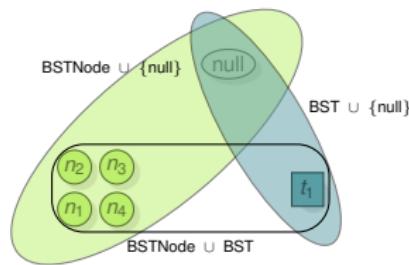


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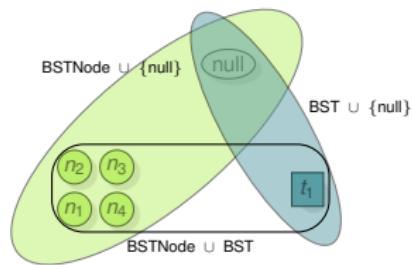
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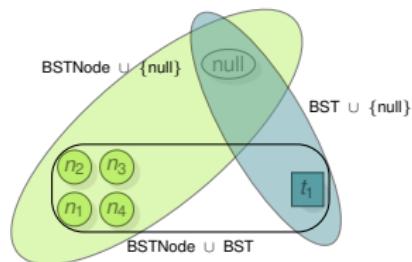
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Limitations

- no performance gain
- if a field of type Object is used, this algorithm has no effect
 - everything is a subtype of Object so everything has to go to the same partition