

An Abstraction Technique for Describing Concurrent Program Behaviour

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Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Model-based abstraction
- 3 Verification example
- 4 The VerCors Toolset
- 5 Conclusion

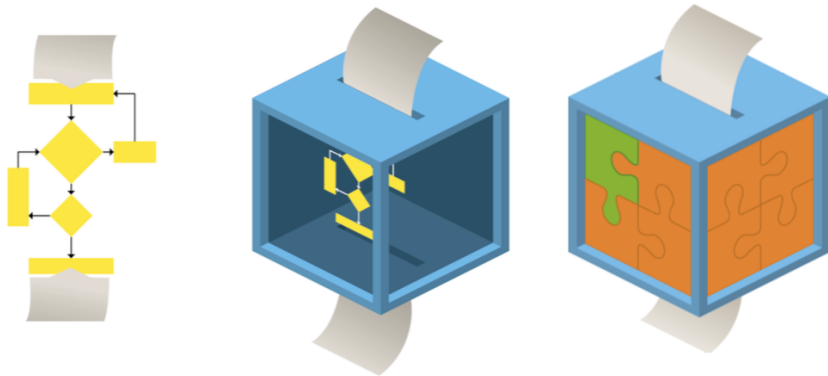
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Therac-25 radiation therapy machine



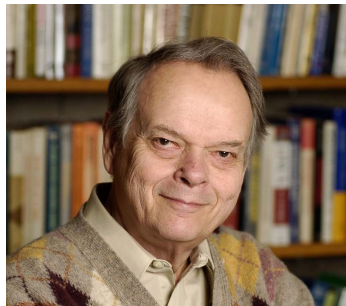
Automated program verification



Deductive verification: underlying theory



Tony Hoare



John Reynolds

Hoare Triples (*Tony Hoare*)

$$\{P\} S \{Q\}$$

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Formal meaning:

$$\forall h, \sigma . h, \sigma \models P$$

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$$\forall h, \sigma . h, \sigma \models P \rightarrow (S, h, \sigma) \rightsquigarrow^* (\text{skip}, h', \sigma')$$

Hoare Triples (*Tony Hoare*)

$$\{P\} S \{Q\}$$

Formal meaning:

$$\forall h, \sigma . h, \sigma \models P \rightarrow (S, h, \sigma) \rightsquigarrow^* (\text{skip}, h', \sigma') \rightarrow h', \sigma' \models Q$$

Separation Logic: ownership predicates (*Boyland*)

$$h, \sigma \models E \overset{\pi}{\hookrightarrow} E'$$

Separation Logic: ownership predicates (*Boyland*)

$$h, \sigma \models E \overset{\pi}{\rightsquigarrow} E'$$

if and only if

$$h(\llbracket E \rrbracket \sigma) = (\llbracket E' \rrbracket \sigma, \pi') \text{ and } \pi \leq \pi'$$

**heaps are associated with permissions $\pi \in (0, \dots, 1]$*

Separation Logic: separating conjunction

$$h, \sigma \models \mathcal{P}_1 * \mathcal{P}_2$$

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Separation Logic: separating conjunction

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Separation Logic: the “small axioms”

Reading from shared memory:

$$\frac{x \notin \text{fv}(E, E')}{\vdash \{ \mathcal{P}[x/E'] \wedge E \overset{\pi}{\hookrightarrow} E' \} x := [E] \{ \mathcal{P} \wedge E \overset{\pi}{\hookrightarrow} E' \}}$$

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Writing to shared memory:

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{ E \overset{1}{\hookrightarrow} - \} [E] := E' \{ E \overset{1}{\hookrightarrow} E' \}}$$

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Writing to shared memory:

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{ E \overset{1}{\hookrightarrow} - \} [E] := E' \{ E \overset{1}{\hookrightarrow} E' \}}$$

Splitting and merging ownership predicates:

$$E \overset{\pi_1 + \pi_2}{\hookrightarrow} E' \Leftrightarrow E \overset{\pi_1}{\hookrightarrow} E' * E \overset{\pi_2}{\hookrightarrow} E'$$

CSL: Concurrent Separation Logic (*Peter O'Hearn*)

$$\frac{\{P_1\} S_1 \{Q_1\} \quad \{P_2\} S_2 \{Q_2\}}{\{P_1 * P_2\} S_1 \parallel S_2 \{Q_1 * Q_2\}}$$

**plus some extra conditions, which are omitted*

CSL: Counting example

$$x := x + 2 \parallel y := y + 3$$

CSL: Counting example

$$\begin{array}{l} \{x \mapsto X * y \mapsto Y\} \\ x := x + 2 \parallel y := y + 3 \\ \{x \mapsto X+2 * y \mapsto Y+3\} \end{array}$$

CSL: Counting example

$$\frac{
 \begin{array}{l}
 \{x \mapsto X\} x := x + 2 \{x \mapsto X+2\} \\
 \{y \mapsto Y\} y := y + 3 \{y \mapsto Y+3\}
 \end{array}
 }{
 \begin{array}{l}
 \{x \mapsto X * y \mapsto Y\} \\
 x := x + 2 \parallel y := y + 3 \\
 \{x \mapsto X+2 * y \mapsto Y+3\}
 \end{array}
 }$$

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Owicki-Gries: by auxiliary state

How to verify this program?

$$x := x + 1; \parallel x := x + 1;$$

Owicki-Gries: by auxiliary state

How to verify this program?

$$x := x + 1; \parallel x := x + 1;$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \{x = 0\} \\
 \{x = A + B \wedge A = 0 \wedge B = 0\} \\
 \{x = A + B \wedge A = 0\} \quad \parallel \quad \{x = A + B \wedge B = 0\} \\
 x := x + 1; \quad \parallel \quad x := x + 1; \\
 \text{ghost } \{ A := 1; \} \quad \parallel \quad \text{ghost } \{ B := 1; \} \\
 \{x = A + B \wedge A = 1\} \quad \parallel \quad \{x = A + B \wedge B = 1\} \\
 \{x = A + B \wedge A = 1 \wedge B = 1\} \\
 \{x = 2\}
 \end{array}$$

Model-based Abstraction

Process algebras (*based on mCRL2*)

$$P ::= \varepsilon \mid a(\bar{E}) \mid P \cdot P \mid P + P \mid P \parallel P \mid B \rightarrow P \diamond P \mid p(\bar{E})$$

Model-based Abstraction

Process algebras (*based on mCRL2*)

$$P ::= \varepsilon \mid a(\bar{E}) \mid P \cdot P \mid P + P \mid P \parallel P \mid B \rightarrow P \diamond P \mid p(\bar{E})$$

Extending separation logic

- Process ownership predicates:

$$\text{Proc}_\pi(m, p, P)$$

Model-based Abstraction

Process algebras (*based on mCRL2*)

$$P ::= \varepsilon \mid a(\bar{E}) \mid P \cdot P \mid P + P \mid P \parallel P \mid B \rightarrow P \diamond P \mid p(\bar{E})$$

Extending separation logic

- Process ownership predicates:

$$\text{Proc}_\pi(m, p, P)$$

- Splitting & merging:

$$\text{Proc}_{\pi_1 + \pi_2}(m, p, P_1 \parallel P_2) \Leftrightarrow \text{Proc}_{\pi_1}(m, p, P_1) * \text{Proc}_{\pi_2}(m, p, P_2)$$

Owicki-Gries: by model-based abstraction

Program abstractions

- Process algebra with data (*based on mCRL2*)
- Capturing shared program state
- Built from *actions* with contracts (*guards and effects*)

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Action definition

```
action incr;
```


Owicki-Gries: by model-based abstraction

Program abstractions

- Process algebra with data (*based on mCRL2*)
- Capturing shared program state
- Built from *actions* with contracts (*guards and effects*)

Action definition

action incr;

Process definition

process parincr := incr || incr;

Owicki-Gries: by model-based abstraction

Program abstractions

- Process algebra with data (*based on mCRL2*)
- Capturing shared program state
- Built from *actions* with contracts (*guards and effects*)

Action definition

```
guard true;  
effect x = old(x) + 1;  
action incr;
```

Process definition

```
process parincr := incr || incr;
```

Owicki-Gries: by model-based abstraction

Program abstractions

- Process algebra with data (*based on mCRL2*)
- Capturing shared program state
- Built from *actions* with contracts (*guards and effects*)

Action definition

```
guard true;  
effect x = old(x) + 1;  
action incr;
```

Process definition

```
requires true;  
ensures x = old(x) + 2;  
process parincr := incr || incr;
```

Owicki-Gries: by model-based abstraction

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \{x \stackrel{1}{\hookrightarrow} 0\} \\
 m := \mathbf{init} \text{ parincr } \mathbf{over} \ x; \\
 \{\text{Proc}_1(m, \text{parincr})\} \\
 \{\text{Proc}_1(m, \text{incr} \parallel \text{incr})\} \\
 \{\text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \text{incr}) * \text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \text{incr})\} \\
 \{\text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \text{incr})\} \quad \parallel \quad \{\text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \text{incr})\} \\
 \mathbf{action} \ m.\text{incr} \ \{ \ x := x + 1; \} \quad \parallel \quad \mathbf{action} \ m.\text{incr} \ \{ \ x := x + 1; \} \\
 \{\text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \varepsilon)\} \quad \parallel \quad \{\text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \varepsilon)\} \\
 \{\text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \varepsilon) * \text{Proc}_{1/2}(m, \varepsilon)\} \\
 \{\text{Proc}_1(m, \varepsilon \parallel \varepsilon)\} \\
 \{\text{Proc}_1(m, \varepsilon)\} \\
 \mathbf{destroy} \ m; \\
 \{x \stackrel{1}{\hookrightarrow} 2\}
 \end{array}$$

Model-based verification

Program

Annotated with CSL +
permission accounting

Model-based verification

Program

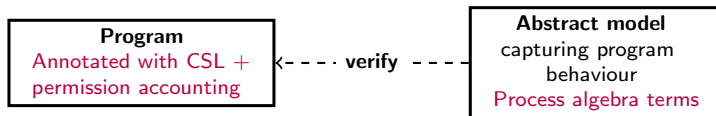
Annotated with CSL +
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Abstract model

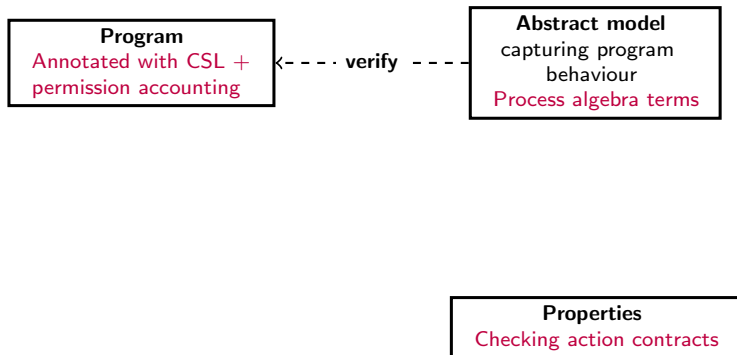
capturing program
behaviour

Process algebra terms

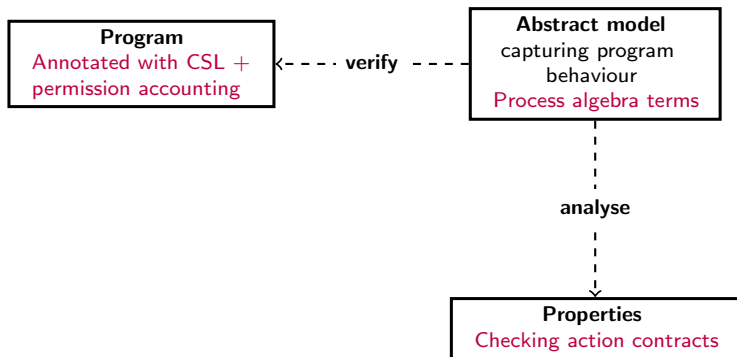
Model-based verification



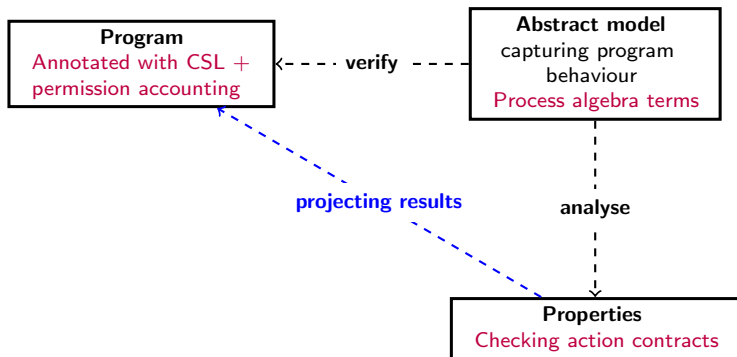
Model-based verification



Model-based verification



Model-based verification



CSL with model abstractions

Points-to predicates

- *Standard* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\hookrightarrow}_n E$
- *Process* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\hookrightarrow}_p E$
- *Action* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\hookrightarrow}_a E$

CSL with model abstractions

Points-to predicates

- *Standard* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_n E$ (*reading*)
- *Process* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_p E$ (*reading*)
- *Action* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_a E$ (*reading*)

$$\frac{x \notin \text{fv}(E, E')}{\vdash \{ \mathcal{P}[x/E'] \wedge E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_t E' \} \ x := [E] \{ \mathcal{P} \wedge E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_t E' \}}$$

CSL with model abstractions

Points-to predicates

- *Standard* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_n E$ (reading + writing)
- *Process* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_p E$ (read-only!)
- *Action* points-to predicates: $E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_a E$ (reading + writing)

$$\frac{x \notin \text{fv}(E, E')}{\vdash \{ \mathcal{P}[x/E'] \wedge E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_t E' \} x := [E] \{ \mathcal{P} \wedge E \overset{\pi}{\mapsto}_t E' \}}$$

$$\frac{t \neq p}{\vdash \{ E \overset{1}{\mapsto}_t - \} [E] := E' \{ E \overset{1}{\mapsto}_t E' \}}$$

CSL extensions: INIT rule (*simplified*)

$$\frac{B = \text{precondition}(p)}{\begin{array}{l} \vdash \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1} E'_i * B \} \\ m := \mathbf{init} \ p() \ \mathbf{over} \ E_0, \dots, E_n \\ \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_p E'_i * \text{Proc}_1(m, p, \text{body}(p)) \} \end{array}}$$

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$$m := \mathbf{init} \ p() \ \mathbf{over} \ E_0, \dots, E_n$$

$$\{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_p E'_i * \text{Proc}_1(m, p, \text{body}(p)) \}$$

Rule details

- 1 Standard points-to predicates are converted

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Rule details

- 1 Standard points-to predicates are converted
- 2 Precondition of the process must hold

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Rule details

- 1 Standard points-to predicates are converted
- 2 Precondition of the process must hold
- 3 Process ownership predicate is constructed

CSL extensions: FINISH rule (*simplified*)

$$\frac{\text{accessible}(p) = E_0, \dots, E_n \quad B = \text{postcondition}(p)}{\vdash \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_p E'_i * \text{Proc}_1(m, p, \varepsilon) \} \mathbf{finish} \ m \ { *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_n E'_i * B \}}$$

CSL extensions: FINISH rule (*simplified*)

$$\frac{\text{accessible}(p) = E_0, \dots, E_n \quad B = \text{postcondition}(p)}{\vdash \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_p E'_i * \text{Proc}_1(m, p, \varepsilon) \} \text{ finish } m \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_n E'_i * B \}}$$

Rule details

- 1 Process points-to predicates are converted back;

CSL extensions: FINISH rule (*simplified*)

$$\frac{\text{accessible}(p) = E_0, \dots, E_n \quad B = \text{postcondition}(p)}{\vdash \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_p E'_i * \text{Proc}_1(m, p, \varepsilon) \} \text{ finish } m \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_n E'_i * B \}}$$

Rule details

- 1 Process points-to predicates are converted back;
- 2 Full process predicate is handed in; and

CSL extensions: FINISH rule (*simplified*)

$$\frac{\text{accessible}(p) = E_0, \dots, E_n \quad B = \text{postcondition}(p)}{\vdash \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_p E'_i * \text{Proc}_1(m, p, \varepsilon) \} \text{ finish } m \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{1}_n E'_i * B \}}$$

Rule details

- 1 Process points-to predicates are converted back;
- 2 Full process predicate is handed in; and
- 3 The process postcondition is ensured!

CSL extensions: ACTION rule (*simplified*)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{modifies}(S) = E_0, \dots, E_n \quad B_1 = \text{guard}(a) \quad B_2 = \text{effect}(a) \\
 \vdash \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{\pi_i}_a E'_i * B_1 \} S \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{\pi_i}_a E''_i * B_2 \} \\
 \hline
 \vdash \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{\pi_i}_p E'_i * \text{Proc}_\pi(m, p, a(\overline{E}) \cdot P) * B_1 \} \\
 \quad \mathbf{action} \ m.a(\overline{E}) \{ S \} \\
 \quad \{ *_{i=0..n} E_i \xrightarrow{\pi_i}_p E''_i * \text{Proc}_\pi(m, p, P) * B_2 \}
 \end{array}$$

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Rule details

- 1 Process points-to predicates are converted;

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Rule details

- 1 Process points-to predicates are converted;
- 2 The action guard and effect must hold; and

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 \end{array}$$

Rule details

- 1 Process points-to predicates are converted;
- 2 The action guard and effect must hold; and
- 3 The process predicate is updated.

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Verification example: greatest common divisor

Standard Euclidean algorithm

Given two positive integers x and y :

$$\text{gcd}(x, x) = x$$

$$\text{gcd}(x, y) = \text{gcd}(x - y, y) \text{ if } x > y$$

$$\text{gcd}(x, y) = \text{gcd}(x, y - x) \text{ if } y > x$$

Parallel GCD (from *VerifyThis 2015*)

```

1  shared int x, y;
2
3  void threadx() {
4      bool stop := false;
5      while ¬stop do {
6          acquire lock;
7          if (x > y) { x := x - y; }
8          stop := x = y;
9          release lock;
10     }
11 }
12
13 void thready() {
14     bool stop := false;
15     while ¬stop do {
16         acquire lock;
17         if (y > x) { y := y - x; }
18         stop := x = y;
19         release lock;
20     }
21 }
22
23 int startgcd(int a, int b) {
24     x := a; y := b;
25     init lock;
26     handle t1 := fork threadx();
27     handle t2 := fork thready();
28     join t1;
29     join t2;
30     destroy lock;
31     return x;
32 }

```

Parallel GCD: process algebraic description

```

1  shared int x, y;
2
3  guard  $x > 0 \wedge y > x$ 
4  effect  $x = \mathbf{old}(x) \wedge y = \mathbf{old}(y) - \mathbf{old}(x)$ 
5  action decrx;
6
7  guard  $y > 0 \wedge x > y$ 
8  effect  $x = \mathbf{old}(x) - \mathbf{old}(y) \wedge y = \mathbf{old}(y)$ 
9  action decry;
10
11 guard  $x = y$ 
12 action done;
13
14 process tx() := decrx · tx() + done;
15 process ty() := decry · ty() + done;
16
17 requires  $x > 0 \wedge y > 0$ 
18 ensures  $x = y$ 
19 ensures  $x = \mathbf{gcd}(\mathbf{old}(x), \mathbf{old}(y))$ 
20 process pargcd() := tx() || ty();

```

Parallel GCD: entry point

```

1  resource lock :=  $\exists v_1, v_2 : v_1 > 0 * v_2 > 0 * x \xrightarrow{1}_p v_1 * y \xrightarrow{1}_p v_2$ ;
2
3
4  requires  $a > 0 \wedge b > 0$ 
5  ensures  $x = y \wedge x = \text{gcd}(a, b)$ 
6  void startgcd(int a, int b) {
7    x := a; y := b;
8    m := init pargcd over x, y;
9
10   init lock;
11   handle t1 := fork threadx(m);
12   handle t2 := fork thready(m);
13   join t1;
14   join t2;
15   destroy lock;
16   finish m;

```

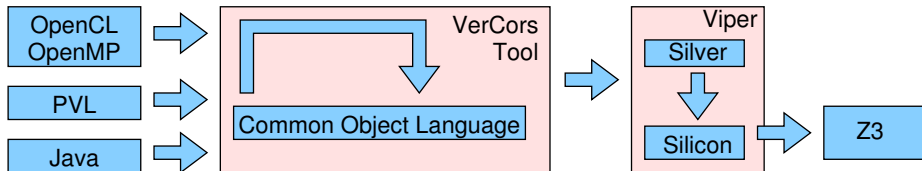
Parallel GCD: thread annotations

<pre> 1 requires Lock$_{\pi}$(lock) 2 requires Proc$_{1/2}$(m, tx()) 3 ensures Lock$_{\pi}$(lock) 4 ensures Proc$_{1/2}$(m, ε) 5 void threadx(model m) { 6 bool stop := false; 7 loop-inv Lock$_{\pi}$(lock); 8 loop-inv \negstop \Rightarrow Proc$_{1/2}$(m, tx()); 9 loop-inv stop \Rightarrow Proc$_{1/2}$(m, ε); 10 while \negstop do { 11 acquire lock; 12 if (x > y) { 13 action m.decrx() { x := x - y; } 14 } 15 if (x = y) { 16 action m.done() { stop := true; } 17 } 18 release lock; 19 } 20 }</pre>	<pre> 1 requires Lock$_{\pi}$(lock) 2 requires Proc$_{1/2}$(m, ty()) 3 ensures Lock$_{\pi}$(lock) 4 ensures Proc$_{1/2}$(m, ε) 5 void theady(model m) { 6 bool stop := false; 7 loop-inv Lock$_{\pi}$(lock); 8 loop-inv \negstop \Rightarrow Proc$_{1/2}$(m, ty()); 9 loop-inv stop \Rightarrow Proc$_{1/2}$(m, ε); 10 while \negstop do { 11 acquire lock; 12 if (y > x) { 13 action m.decry() { y := y - x; } 14 } 15 if (x = y) { 16 action m.done() { stop := true; } 17 } 18 release lock; 19 } 20 }</pre>
--	---

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The VerCors Toolset: Overview



The VerCors Toolset: Achievements

Current support

- Reasoning about compiler directives (*OpenMP for C*)
- Reasoning about GPU kernels (*OpenCL*)
- Reasoning with program abstractions

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Current support

- Reasoning about compiler directives (*OpenMP for C*)
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Ongoing work

- Inferring permissions/ownership predicates
- Building support for distributed software (*e.g. MPI*)
- Runtime verification

The VerCors Toolset: Future directions

```
requires ...  
requires Process(P(k) · Q)  
ensures ...  
ensures Process(Q)  
void main(int k):  
  int v ← MPI_Recv(*)  
  MPI_Send(0, v + k)
```

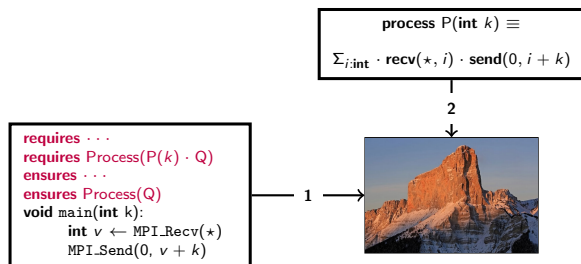
The VerCors Toolset: Future directions

```
requires ...  
requires Process(P(k) · Q)  
ensures ...  
ensures Process(Q)  
void main(int k):  
  int v ← MPI_Recv(*)  
  MPI_Send(0, v + k)
```

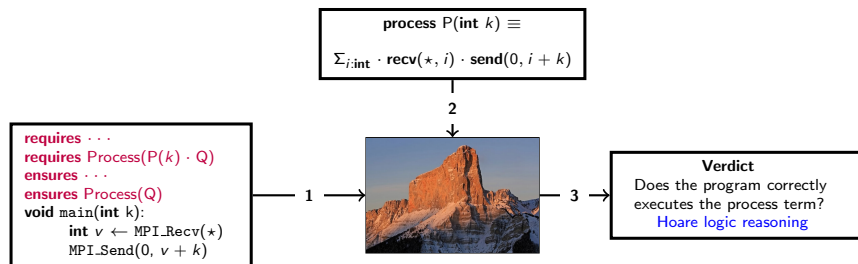
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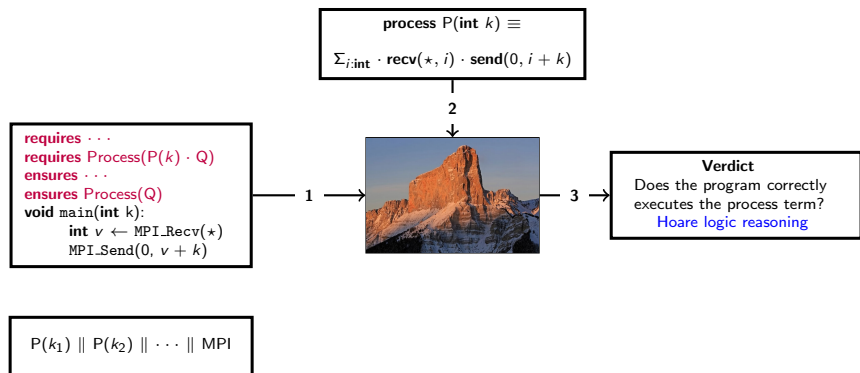
The VerCors Toolset: Future directions



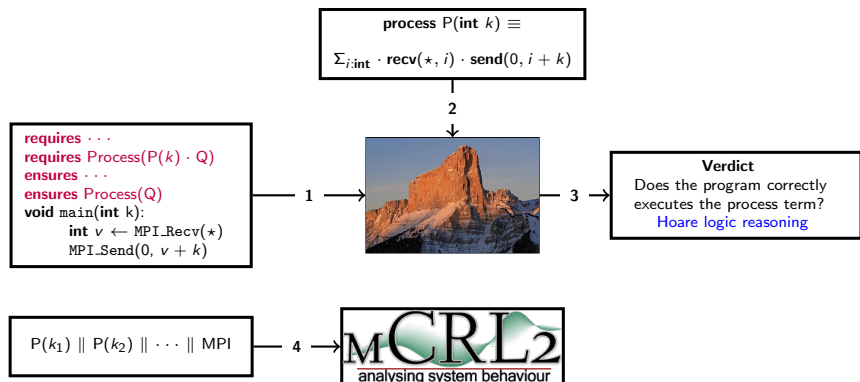
The VerCors Toolset: Future directions



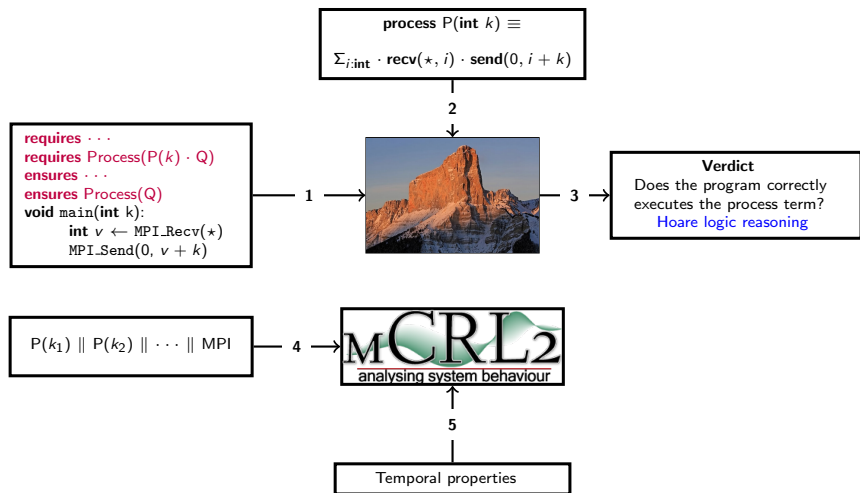
The VerCors Toolset: Future directions



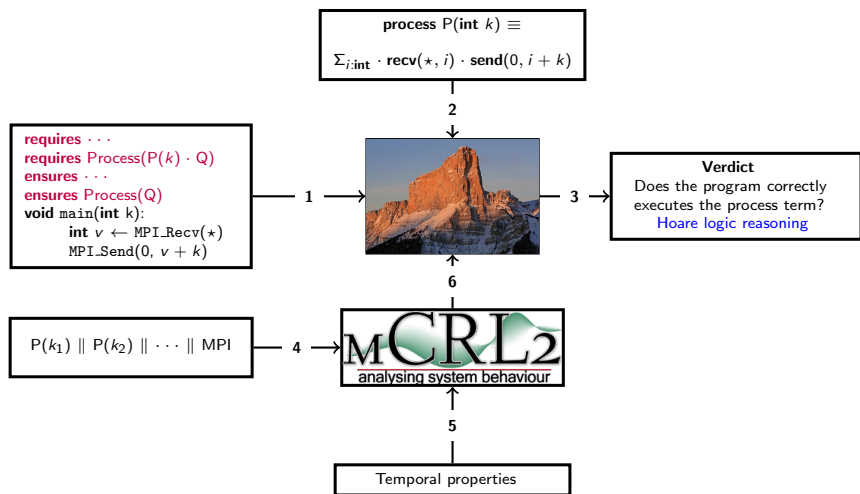
The VerCors Toolset: Future directions



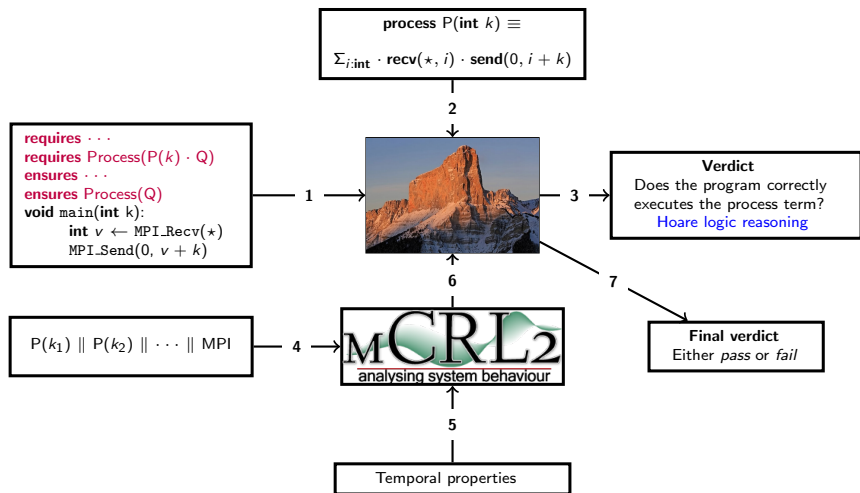
The VerCors Toolset: Future directions



The VerCors Toolset: Future directions



The VerCors Toolset: Future directions



Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Model-based abstraction
- 3 Verification example
- 4 The VerCors Toolset
- 5 Conclusion**

Conclusion

Describing Concurrent Program Behaviour

- Using process algebras to describe changes to shared state.
- Combining deductive verification and algorithmic reasoning.

VerCors Verification Toolset

- Automated verification of parallel and concurrent software
- More information: <http://utwente.nl/vercors>
- Download: <https://github.com/utwente-fmt/vercors>