

Proving Termination of Heap-Manipulating Java Programs

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Automated Termination Analysis

Imperative Programs:

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- Synthesis of Linear Ranking Functions

(Colon & Sipma, '01), (Podelski & Rybalchenko, '04), ...

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Terminator – *(Cook, Podelski, Rybalchenko et al., since '05)*
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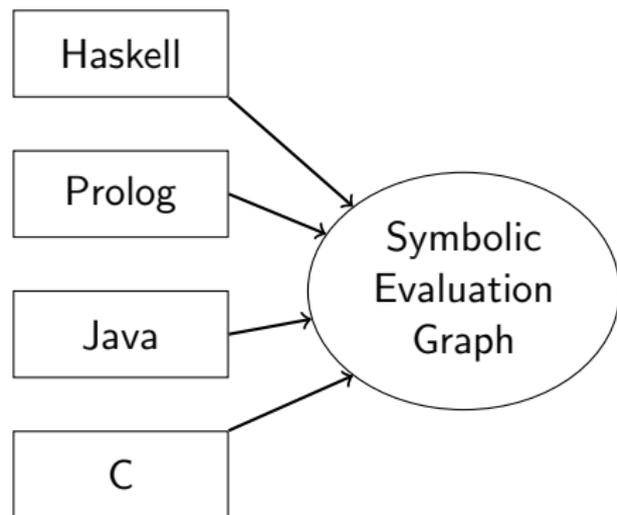
- Termination Analysis for C (via Polynomial Orders)
KITTeL – *(Falke, Kapur, Sinz, since '11)*
- Termination Analysis for Java (via Path Length, CLP backend)
Julia – *(Spoto, Mesnard, Payet, since '08)*
COSTA – *(Albert, Arenas, Codish, Genaim, Puebla, Zanardini, since '08)*

Rewriting-backed approach: Idea

- Programming languages *hard* \curvearrowright Simpler representation needed

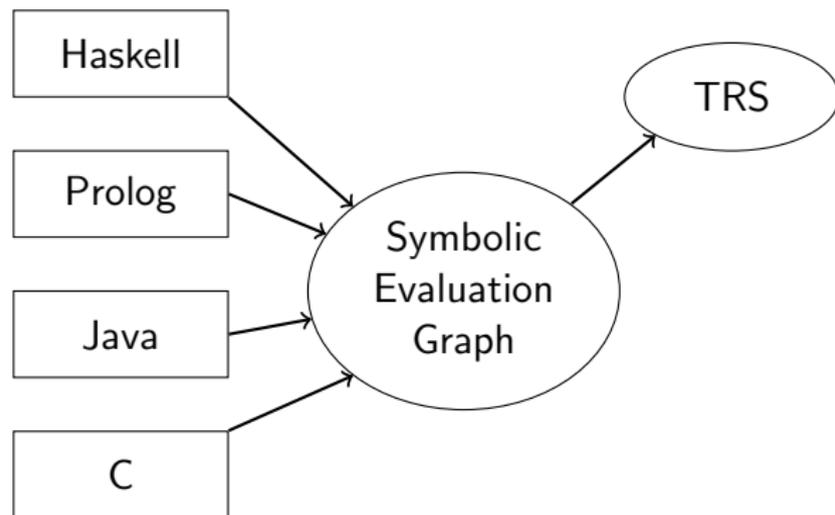
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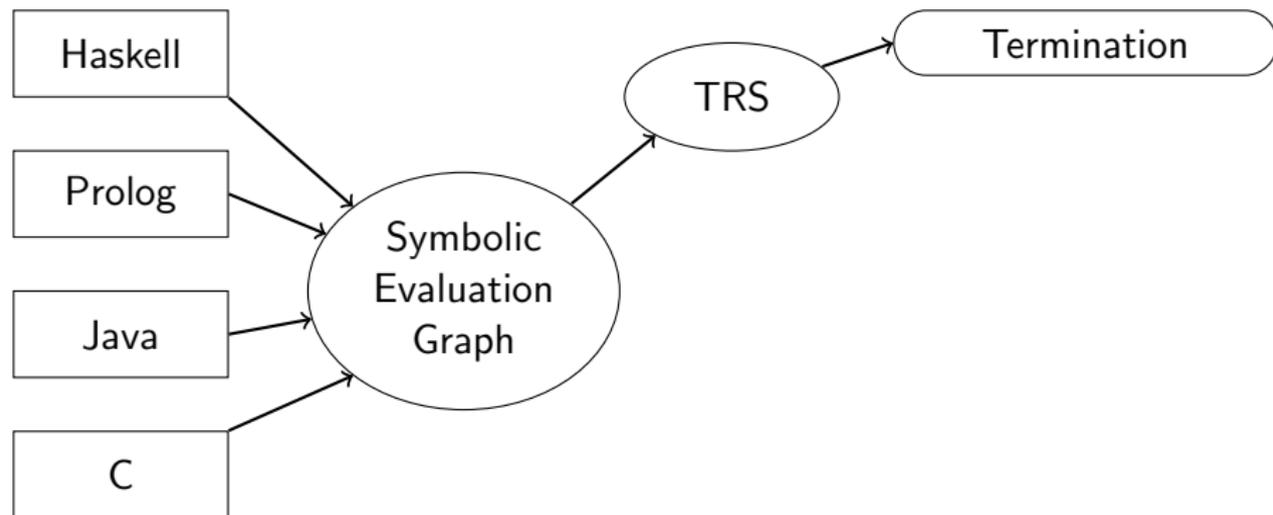
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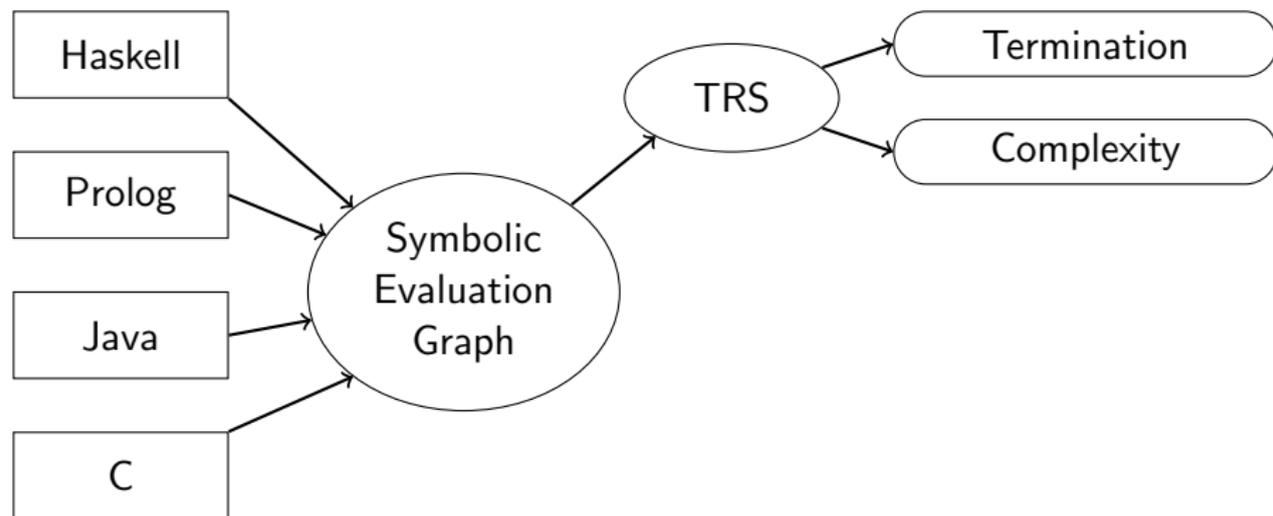
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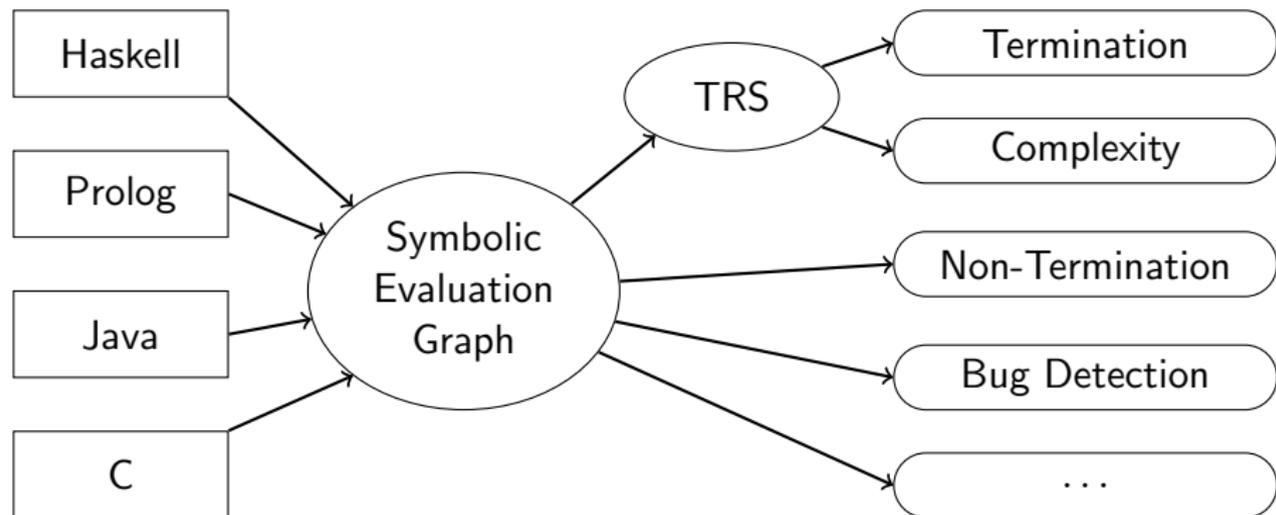
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Rewriting-backed approach: Advantages

Natural handling of user-defined data structures:

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public class List {  
    int value;  
    List next;  
}
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Natural handling of user-defined data structures:

- **Other techniques:**
 - **Fixed** abstraction to **number**
- List [2, 4, 6] abstracted to **length 3**

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Abstraction to **terms**

- List [2, 4, 6] becomes
`List(2, List(4, List(6, null)))`

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- **TRS techniques** search for suitable orders automatically

⇒ Complex orders for user-defined data structures possible

Rewriting-backed approach: Challenges

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Terms cannot fully represent the heap:

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- ② No measure of *distances*
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Solutions:

- 1 Overapproximate
- 2 Handle in symbolic evaluation
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Overview

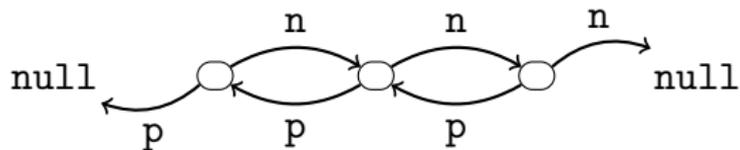
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Building Symbolic Evaluation Graphs
- 3 Generating TRSs from Symbolic Evaluation Graphs
- 4 Post-processing Symbolic Evaluation Graphs
- 5 Conclusion

length: the example

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class L {  
  L p, n;  
  static int length(L x) {  
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    while (x != null) {  
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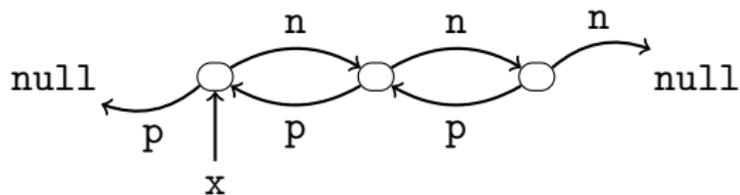
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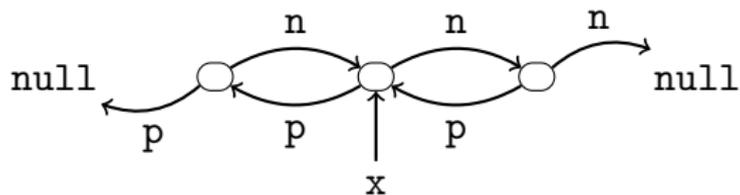
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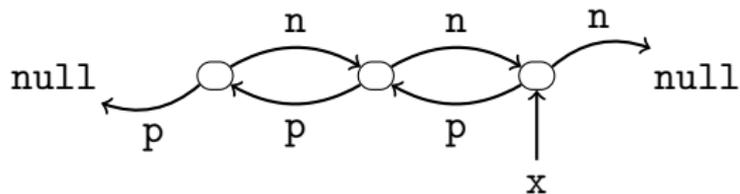
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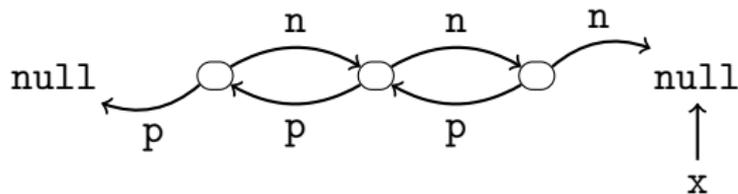
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- Two references may share: $o_1 \searrow \swarrow o_2$
- Reference might have cycles containing all fields F : $o_1 \circlearrowleft_F$

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 A

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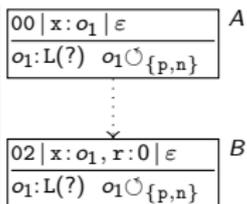
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State A:

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State B:

- Initialized variable r to 0

```

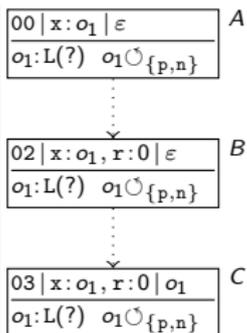
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10: astore_0
11: iinc 1, 1
14: goto 2
17: iload_1
18: ireturn

```



State A:

- x some list, might contain cycles using p and n

State B:

- Initialized variable r to 0

State C:

- x (o₁) null? We do not know!

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int length(L x) {
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}

```

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```

00 x: o ₁ ε	A
o ₁ : L(?) o ₁ ∘ {p,n}	

02 x: o ₁ , r: 0 ε	B
o ₁ : L(?) o ₁ ∘ {p,n}	

03 x: o ₁ , r: 0 o ₁	C
o ₁ : L(?) o ₁ ∘ {p,n}	

03 x: null, r: 0 null	D
---------------------------	---

03 x: o ₂ , r: 0 o ₂	E
o ₂ : L(p = o ₃ , n = o ₄)	
o ₃ : L(?) o ₄ : L(?)	
o ₂ ↘ o ₃ o ₂ ↘ o ₄ o ₃ ↘ o ₄	
o ₂ , o ₃ , o ₄ ∘ {p,n}	

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⇒ Refinement

- In D: o₁ is null (↪ program ends)
- In E: o₁ replaced by o₂, which exists and has fields:
 - Field values can share (↪ add ↘)
 - Field values can be cyclic again (↪ add ∘)

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11	x: o ₄ , r: 0 ε	F
o ₄ : L(?) o ₄ ∘ {p,n}		

State F:

- Stored x.n to x (allowing for GC)

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State G:

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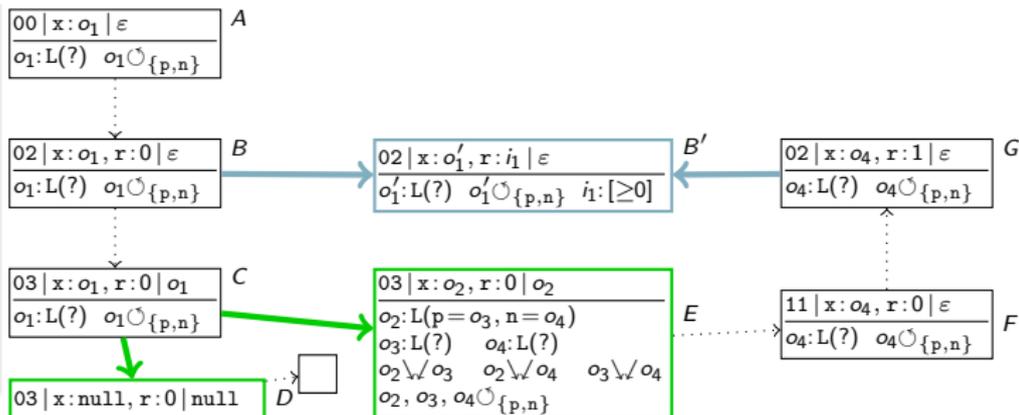
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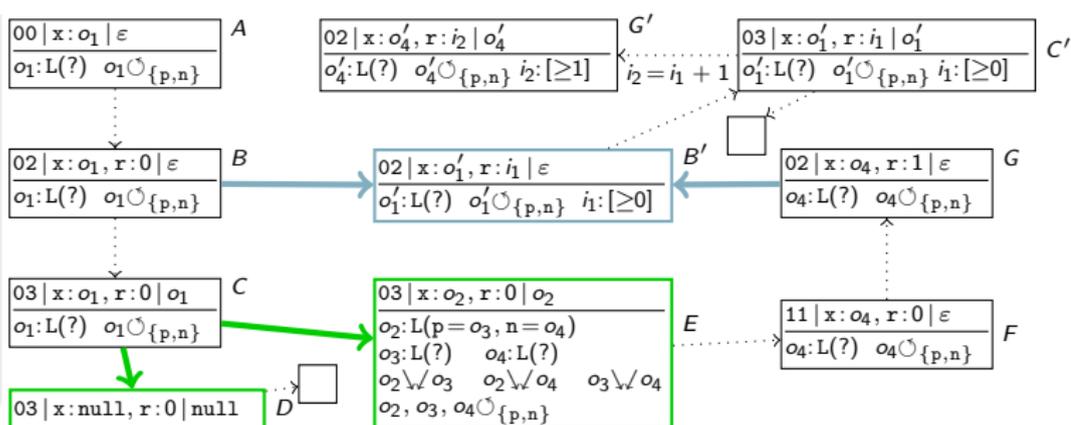
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- Repetition of C, G

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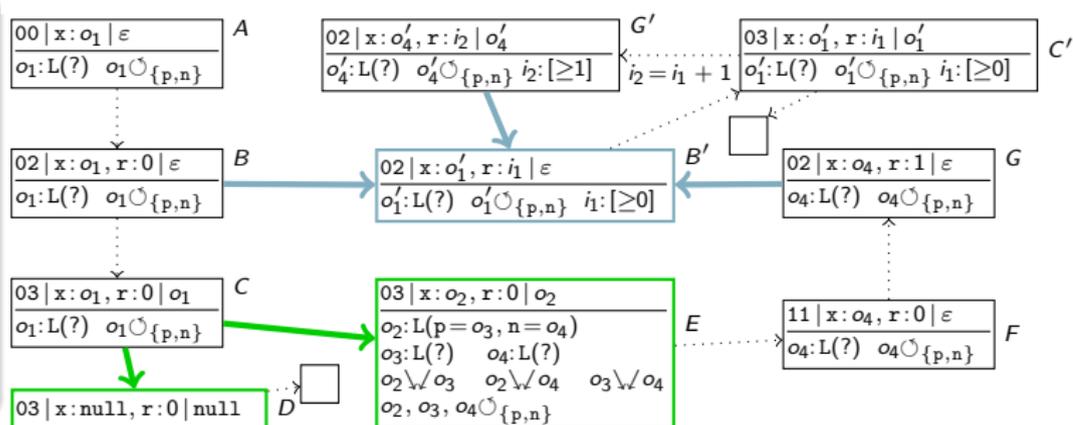
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Orientation: Term Rewriting

- Generalized Functional Programming

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- Rules \mathcal{R} define rewrite relation:

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$$\text{app}(\text{Nil}, ys) \rightarrow ys \quad (2)$$

- Rewriting of term t with rule $l \rightarrow r$:
 - 1 Find subterm s of t
 - 2 Find variable instantiation σ with $\sigma(l) = s$
 - 3 Result t' is t with s replaced by $\sigma(r)$

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- 2 Find variable instantiation σ with $\sigma(l) = s$
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$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{\text{app}(\text{Cons}(1, \text{Nil}), \text{Cons}(2, \text{Nil}))} && \text{with (1), } x = 1, xs = \text{Nil}, \\ & && ys = \text{Cons}(2, \text{Nil}) \\ \rightarrow & \text{Cons}(1, \underline{\text{app}(\text{Nil}, \text{Cons}(2, \text{Nil}))} && \text{with (2), } ys = \text{Cons}(2, \text{Nil}) \\ \rightarrow & \text{Cons}(1, \text{Cons}(2, \text{Nil})) \end{aligned}$$

Transforming values to terms

$$o_3 \mid x : o_2, r : 0 \mid o_2$$
$$o_2 : L(p = o_3, n = o_4)$$
$$o_3 : L(?) \quad o_4 : L(?)$$
$$o_2 \swarrow o_3 \quad o_2 \swarrow o_4 \quad o_3 \swarrow o_4$$
$$o_2, o_3, o_4 \circlearrowleft \{p, n\}$$
 E

Transforming values to terms

$$\frac{03 \mid x : o_2, r : 0 \mid o_2}{\begin{array}{l} o_2 : L(p = o_3, n = o_4) \\ o_3 : L(?) \quad o_4 : L(?) \\ o_2 \searrow o_3 \quad o_2 \searrow o_4 \quad o_3 \searrow o_4 \\ o_2, o_3, o_4 \circlearrowleft_{\{p, n\}} \end{array}} E$$

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Transforming values to terms

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$o_3, o_4 \quad 0$

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Class C1 with n fields \curvearrowright symbol C1 of arity n

$$\overbrace{L(o_3, o_4)}^{o_2} 0$$

Transforming values to terms

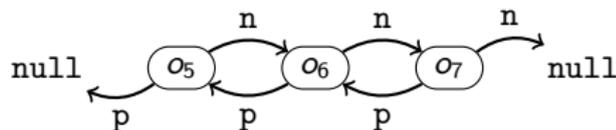
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Class $C1$ with n fields \curvearrowright symbol $C1$ of arity n
- Encoding cycles: Special symbol \circlearrowleft for repetition

$$o_5 : L(p = \text{null}, n = o_6)$$

$$o_6 : L(p = o_5, n = o_7)$$

$$o_7 : L(p = o_6, n = \text{null})$$



Encoding of o_5 : $L(\text{null}, L(\circlearrowleft, L(\circlearrowleft, \text{null})))$

Encoding of o_6 : $L(L(\text{null}, \circlearrowleft), L(\circlearrowleft, \text{null}))$

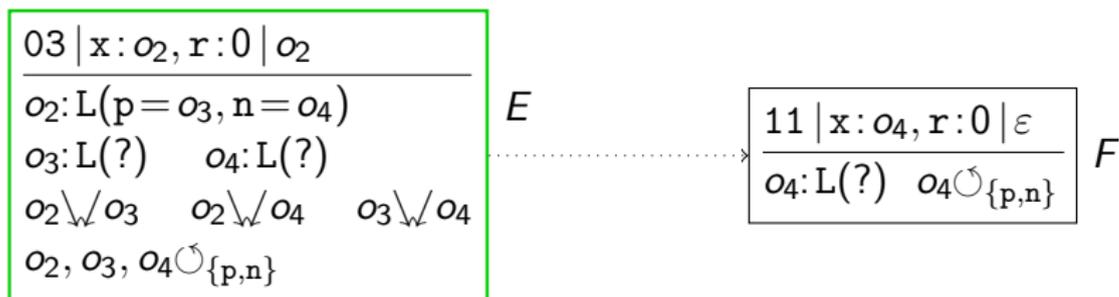
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$$\frac{03 \mid x: o_2, r: 0 \mid o_2}{\begin{array}{l} o_2: L(p = o_3, n = o_4) \\ o_3: L(?) \quad o_4: L(?) \\ o_2 \swarrow \searrow o_3 \quad o_2 \swarrow \searrow o_4 \quad o_3 \swarrow \searrow o_4 \\ o_2, o_3, o_4 \circlearrowleft \{p, n\} \end{array}} E$$

- State s term encoding:
 - Root symbol (\equiv program position) f_s
 - All local variables, stack entries as arguments

$$f_E(\overbrace{L(o_3, o_4)}^{o_2}, 0, \overbrace{L(o_3, o_4)}^{o_2})$$

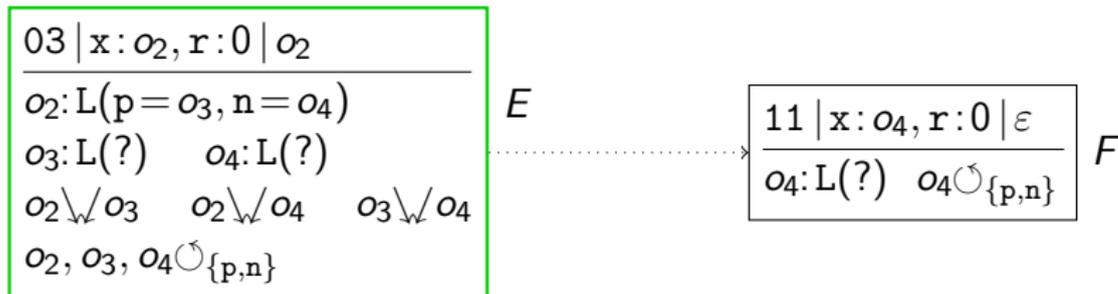
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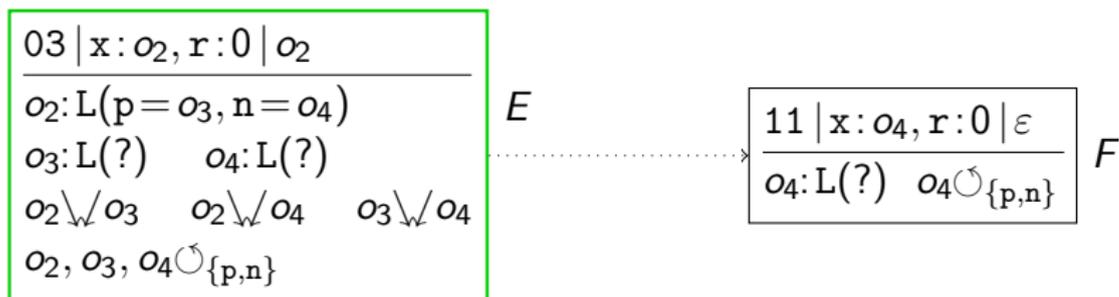
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$$f_E(\overbrace{L(o_3, o_4)}^{o_2}, 0, \overbrace{L(o_3, o_4)}^{o_2}) \rightarrow f_F(o_4, 0)$$

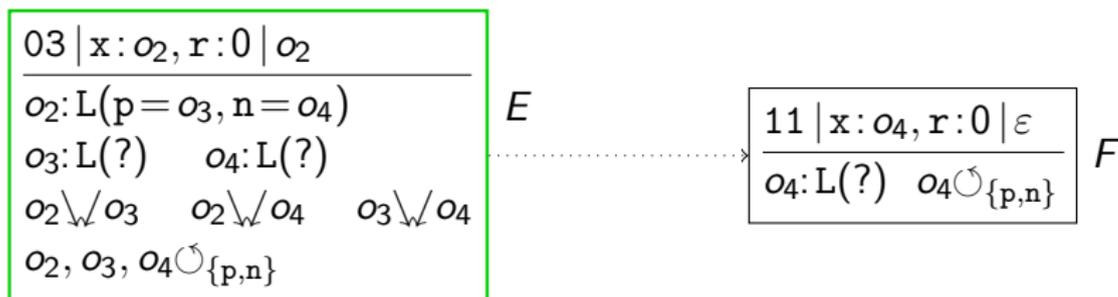
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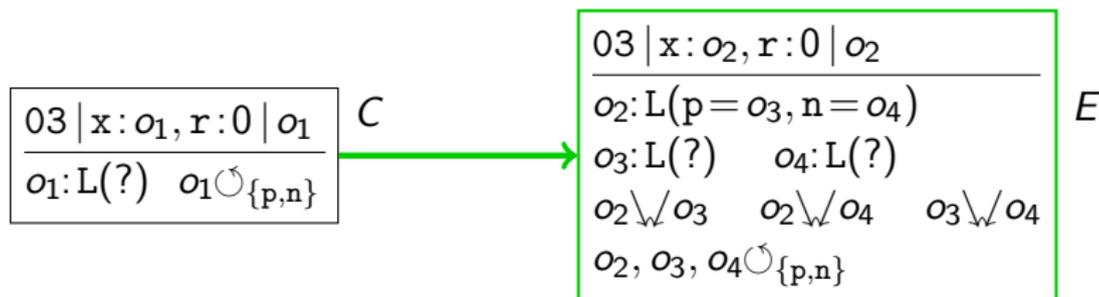
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$$f_E(\overbrace{L(o_4)}^{o_2}, 0, \overbrace{L(o_4)}^{o_2}) \rightarrow f_F(o_4, 0)$$

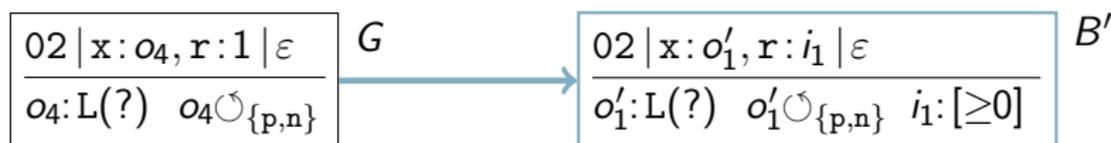
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$$f_C(L(o_4), 0, L(o_4)) \rightarrow f_E(L(o_4), 0, L(o_4))$$

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$$f_G(o_4, 2) \rightarrow f_{B'}(o_4, 2)$$

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- Function symbols interpreted as polynomials over $\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{N}^n, \dots$

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Rule: $\text{app}(\text{Cons}(x, xs), ys) \rightarrow \text{Cons}(x, \text{app}(xs, ys))$

Choose $\llbracket \text{app} \rrbracket = (x, y) \mapsto 1 + 2 \cdot x$, $\llbracket \text{Cons} \rrbracket = (x, y) \mapsto 1 + y$,

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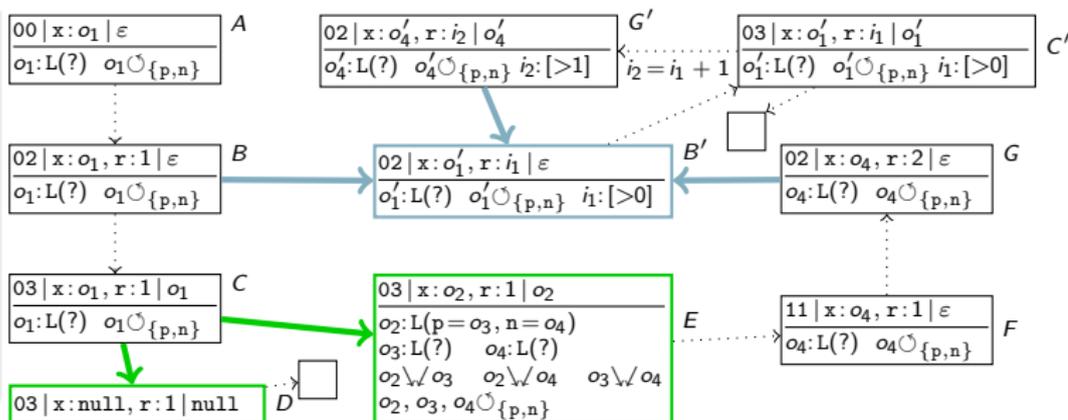
Interpretation: $1 + 2 + 2 \cdot xs > 1 + 1 + 2 \cdot xs$

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The example TRS

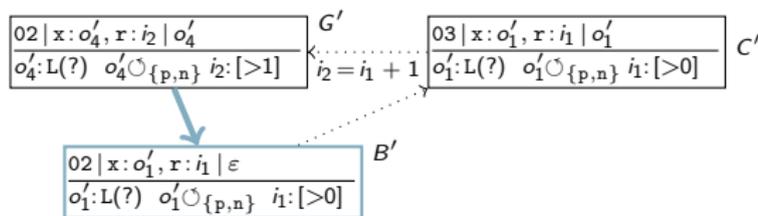
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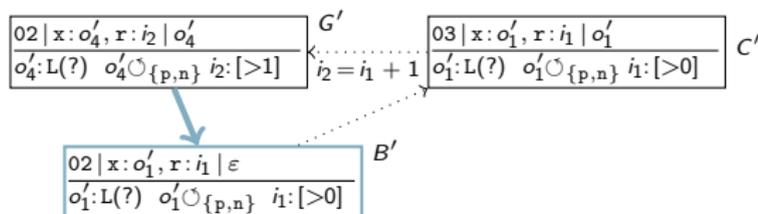
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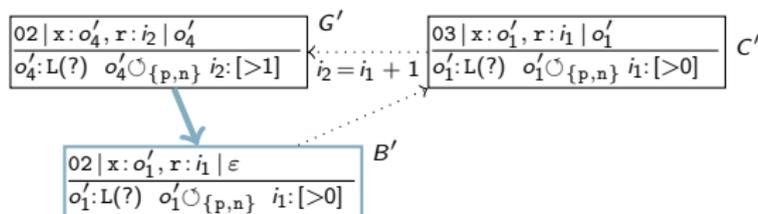


- 1 Only consider SCCs!
- 2 Transform all edges as before, simplify:

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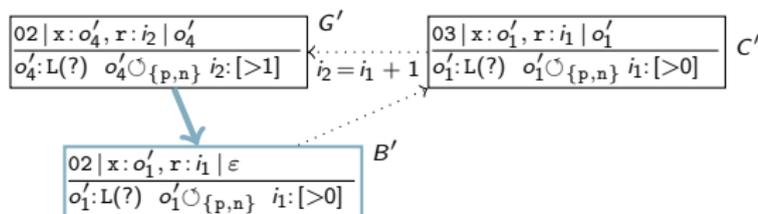
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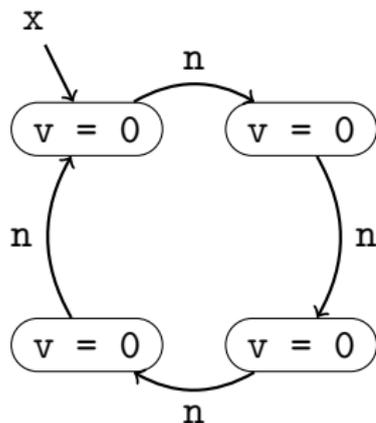
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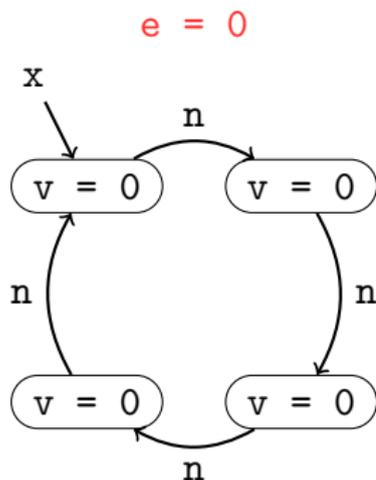
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class L {  
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        while (x.v == e) {  
            x.v = e + 1;  
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- 2 Continue if object unvisited
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visit: the example

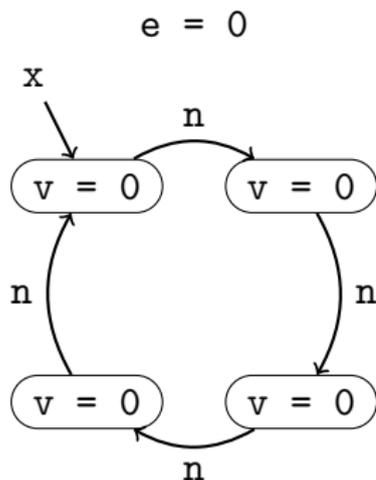
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- 4 Go to next element

visit: the example

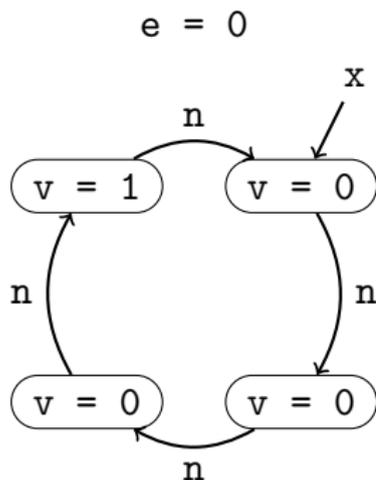
```
class L {  
  int v;    L n;  
  static void visit(L x) {  
    int e = x.v;  
    while (x.v == e) {  
      x.v = e + 1;  
      x = x.n; }  
  }
```



- 1 Store first v
- 2 **Continue** if object unvisited
- 3 **Change** v
- 4 **Go to next element**

visit: the example

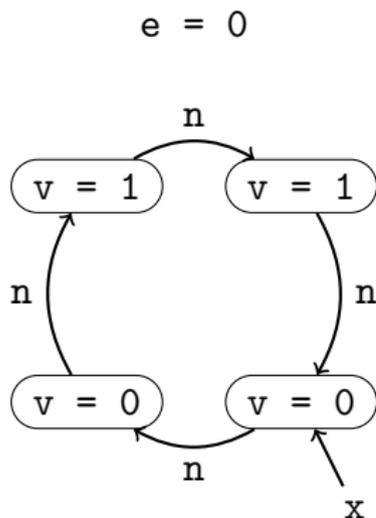
```
class L {  
    int v;    L n;  
    static void visit(L x) {  
        int e = x.v;  
        while (x.v == e) {  
            x.v = e + 1;  
            x = x.n; }  
    }
```



- 1 Store first v
- 2 **Continue** if object unvisited
- 3 **Change v**
- 4 **Go to next element**

visit: the example

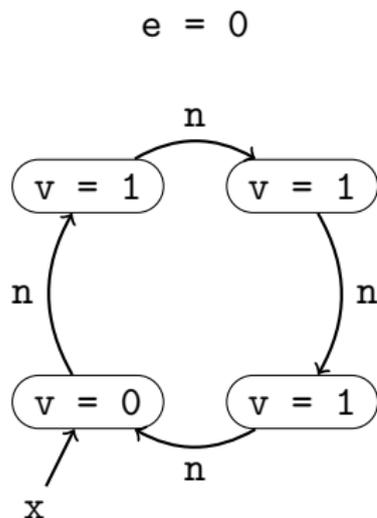
```
class L {  
    int v;    L n;  
    static void visit(L x) {  
        int e = x.v;  
        while (x.v == e) {  
            x.v = e + 1;  
            x = x.n; }  
    }
```



- 1 Store first v
- 2 **Continue** if object unvisited
- 3 **Change v**
- 4 **Go to next element**

visit: the example

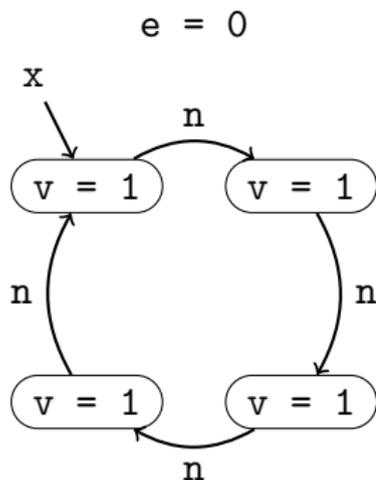
```
class L {  
    int v;    L n;  
    static void visit(L x) {  
        int e = x.v;  
        while (x.v == e) {  
            x.v = e + 1;  
            x = x.n; }  
    }
```



- 1 Store first v
- 2 **Continue** if object unvisited
- 3 **Change v**
- 4 **Go to next element**

visit: the example

```
class L {  
    int v;    L n;  
    static void visit(L x) {  
        int e = x.v;  
        while (x.v == e) {  
            x.v = e + 1;  
            x = x.n; }  
    }
```

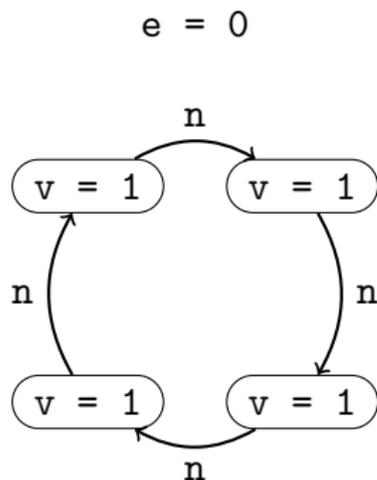


- 1 Store first v
- 2 Continue if object unvisited
- 3 Change v
- 4 Go to next element

visit: the example

```
class L {  
    int v;    L n;  
    static void visit(L x) {  
        int e = x.v;  
        while (x.v == e) {  
            x.v = e + 1;  
            x = x.n; } } }
```

```
00: aload_0      #load x  
01: getfield v   #get v from x  
04: istore_1     #store to e  
05: aload_0      #load x  
06: getfield v   #get v from x  
09: iload_1      #load e  
10: if_icmpne 28 #jump if x.v != e  
13: aload_0      #load x  
14: iload_1      #load e  
15: iconst_1     #load 1  
16: iadd         #add e and 1  
17: putfield v   #store to x.v  
20: aload_0      #load x  
21: getfield n   #get n from x  
24: astore_0     #store to x  
25: goto 5  
28: return
```

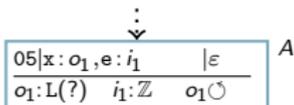


- 1 Store first v
- 2 Continue if object unvisited
- 3 Change v
- 4 Go to next element

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



State A:

- x some (possibly cyclic) list
- e some integer

```

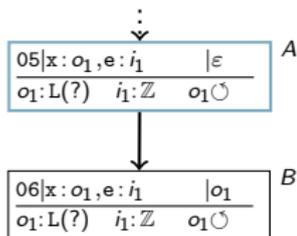
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



State B:

- Evaluation between A and B
- Need field of σ_1

```

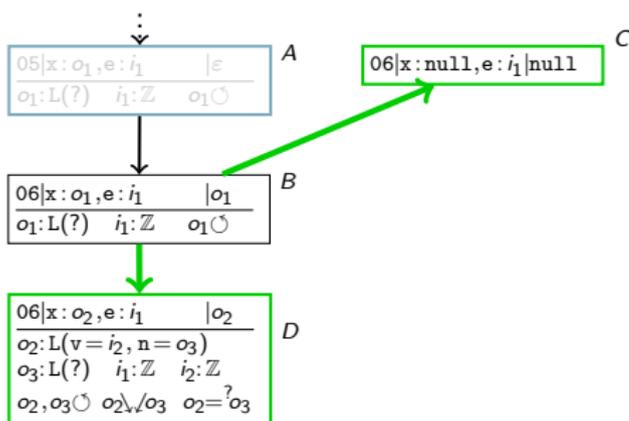
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



States *B*, *C*, *D*:

- Evaluation between *A* and *B*
- Need field of $o_1 \Rightarrow$ Refinement:
 - In *C*: o_1 is null
 - In *D*: o_1 renamed to o_2 , pointing to L-object with successor o_3 :
 - o_3 possibly cyclic
 - o_3 possibly equal to o_2 and may share with o_2

```

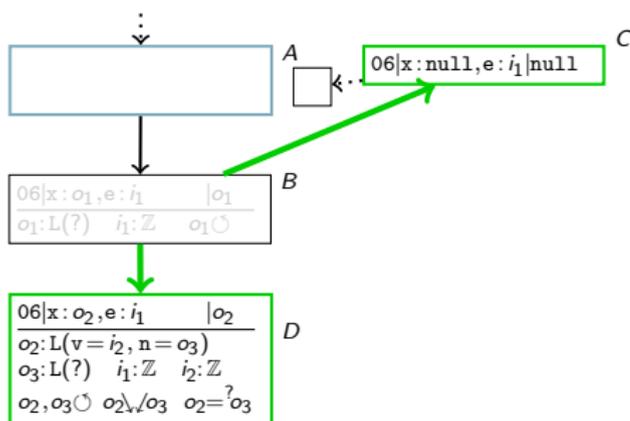
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



States *B*, *C*, *D*:

- Evaluation between *A* and *B*
- Need field of $\sigma_1 \Rightarrow$ **Refinement**:
 - In *C*: σ_1 is null (program crashes)
 - In *D*: σ_1 renamed to σ_2 , pointing to L-object with successor σ_3 :
 - σ_3 possibly cyclic
 - σ_3 possibly equal to σ_2 and may share with σ_2

```

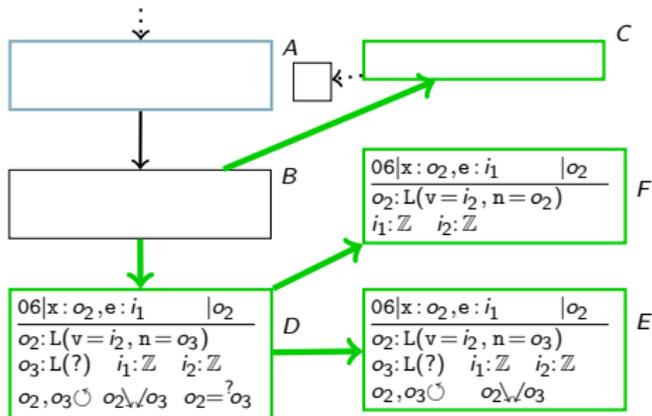
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



States E, F :

- Need to read field of $\sigma_2 \Rightarrow$ Refinement
 - In E : $\sigma_2 \neq \sigma_3$
 - In F : $\sigma_2 = \sigma_3$

```

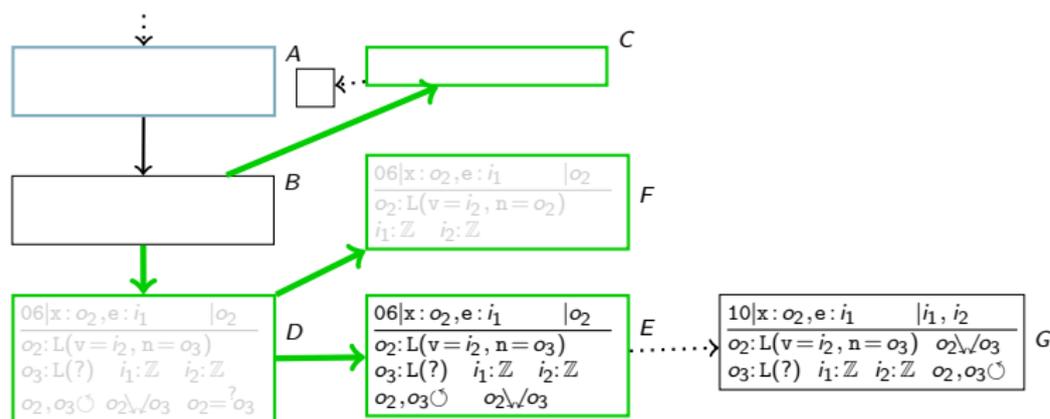
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



State G:

- Evaluation: Read v, loaded e
- Need to decide $i_1 \neq i_2$

```

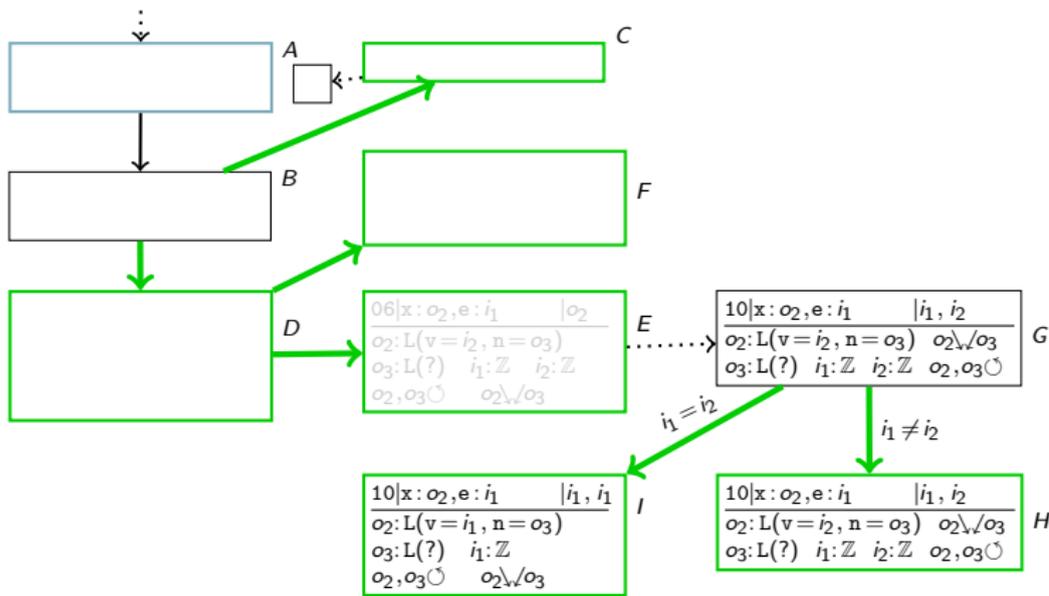
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



States G, I, H :

- Evaluation: Read v , loaded e
- Need to decide $i_1 \neq i_2 \Rightarrow$ Refinement:
 - In I : $i_1 = i_2$
 - In H : $i_1 \neq i_2$

```

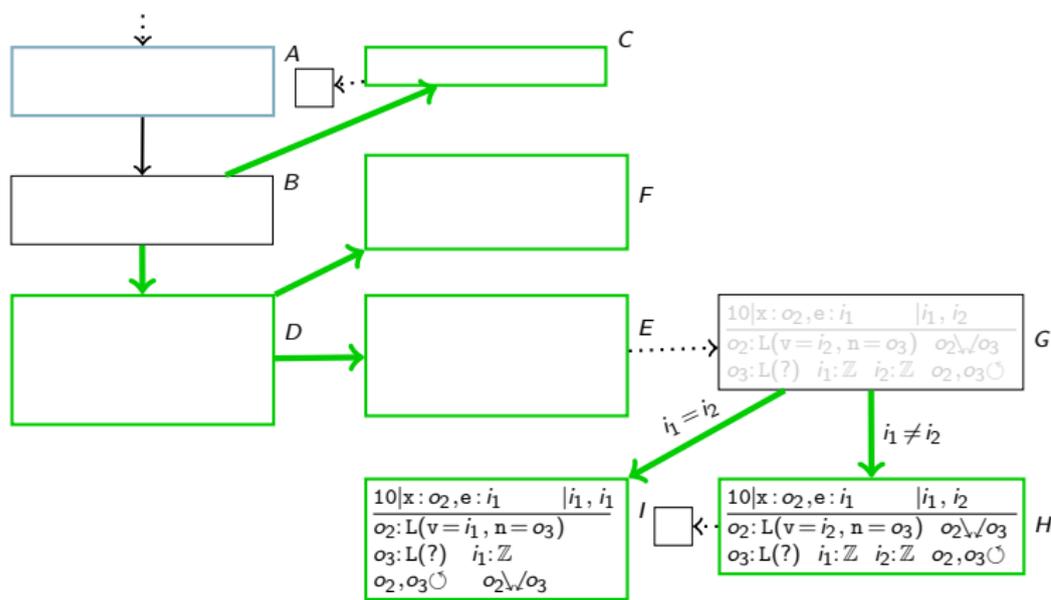
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



States G, I, H :

- Evaluation: Read v , loaded e
- Need to decide $i_1 \neq i_2 \Rightarrow$ Refinement:
 - In I : $i_1 = i_2$ (program ends)
 - In H : $i_1 \neq i_2$

```

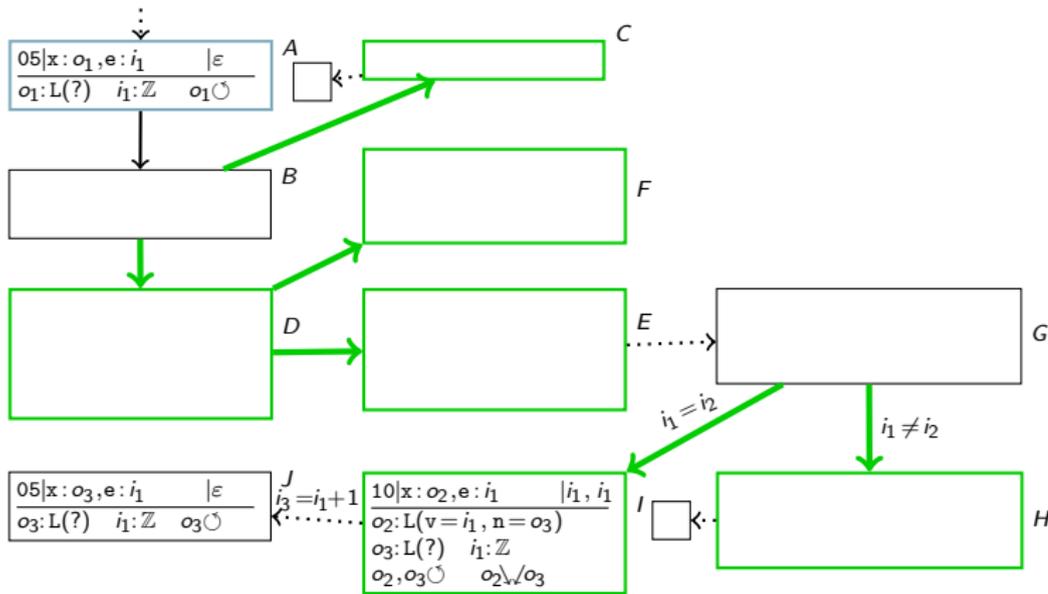
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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06: getfield v
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13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



States G , I , H :

- Evaluation: Read v , loaded e
- Need to decide $i_1 \neq i_2 \Rightarrow$ **Refinement**:
 - In I : $i_1 = i_2$ (program ends)
 - In H : $i_1 \neq i_2$
- **State J** reached by evaluation

```

static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

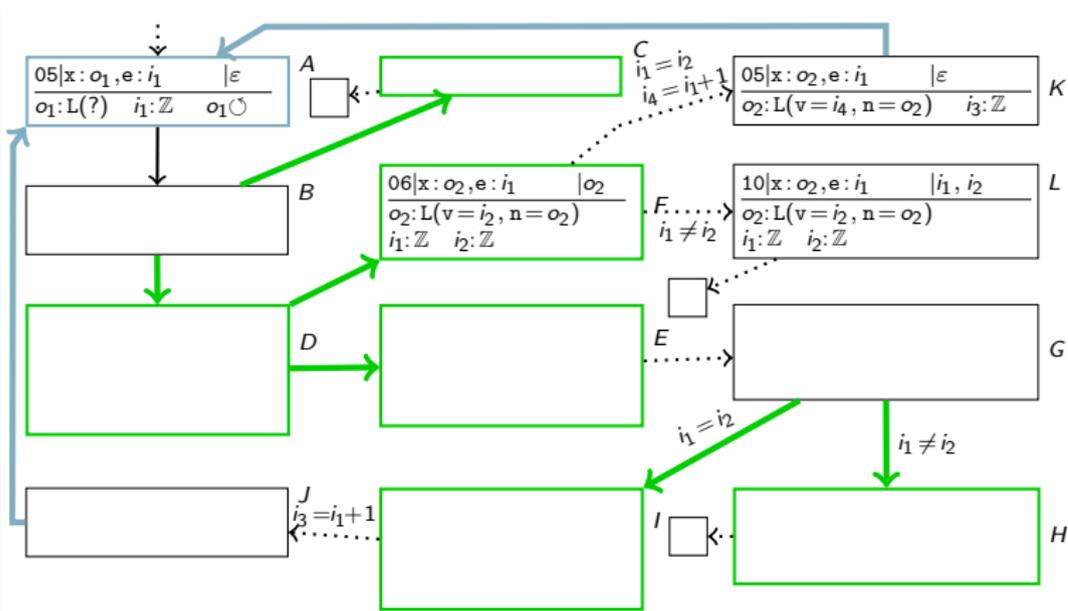
```



```

00: aload_0
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05: aload_0
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15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



States K, L : Analogous for one-element list

```

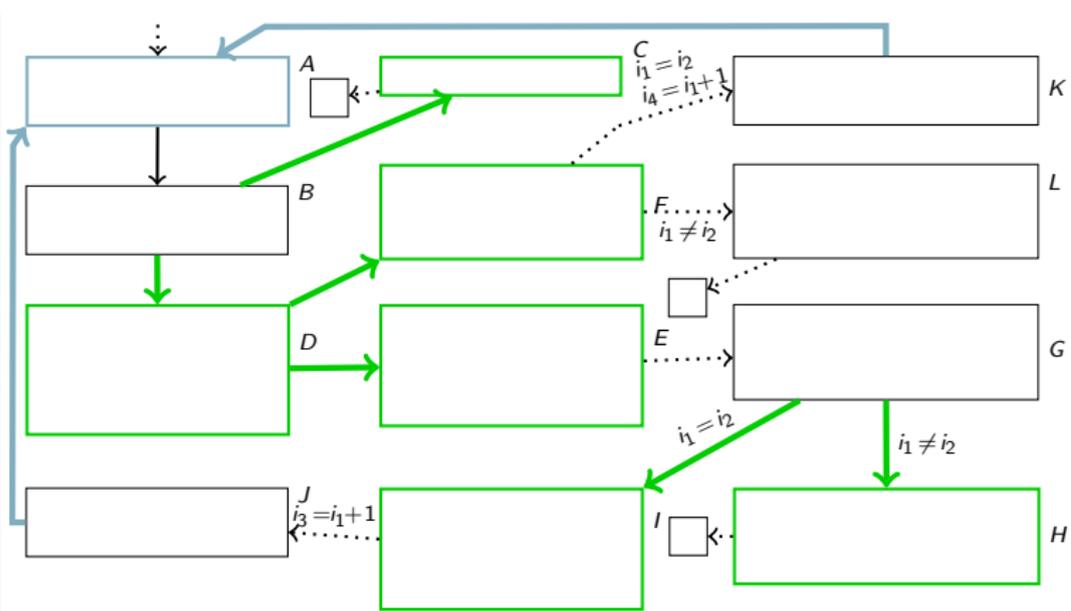
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
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20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



- All leaves program ends \Rightarrow Graph finished
- How can we prove termination?

```

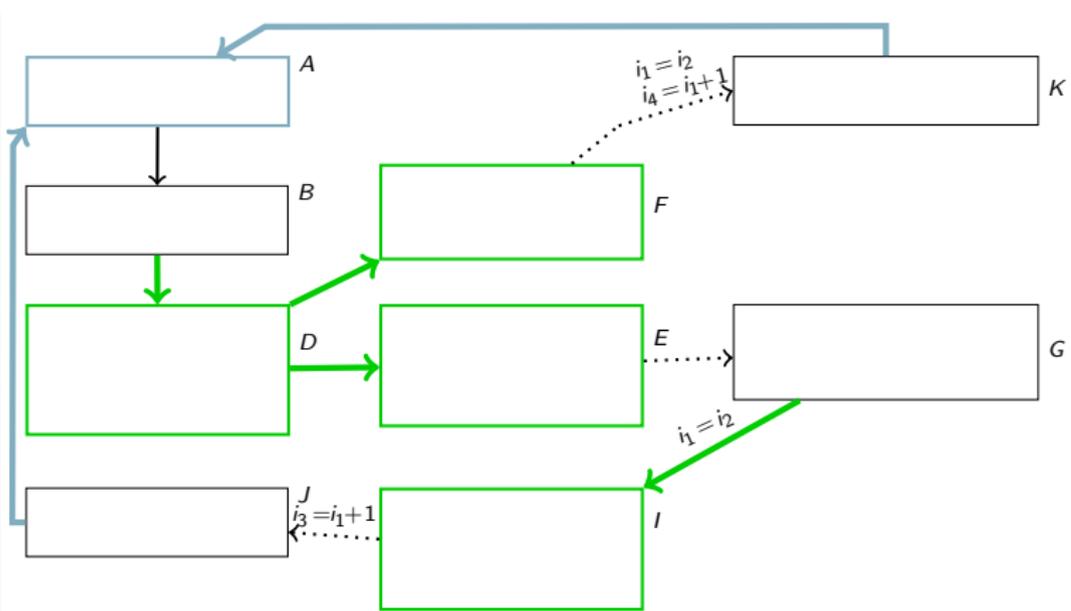
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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```



- All leaves program ends \Rightarrow Graph finished
- How can we prove termination?
- Only consider SCCs

```

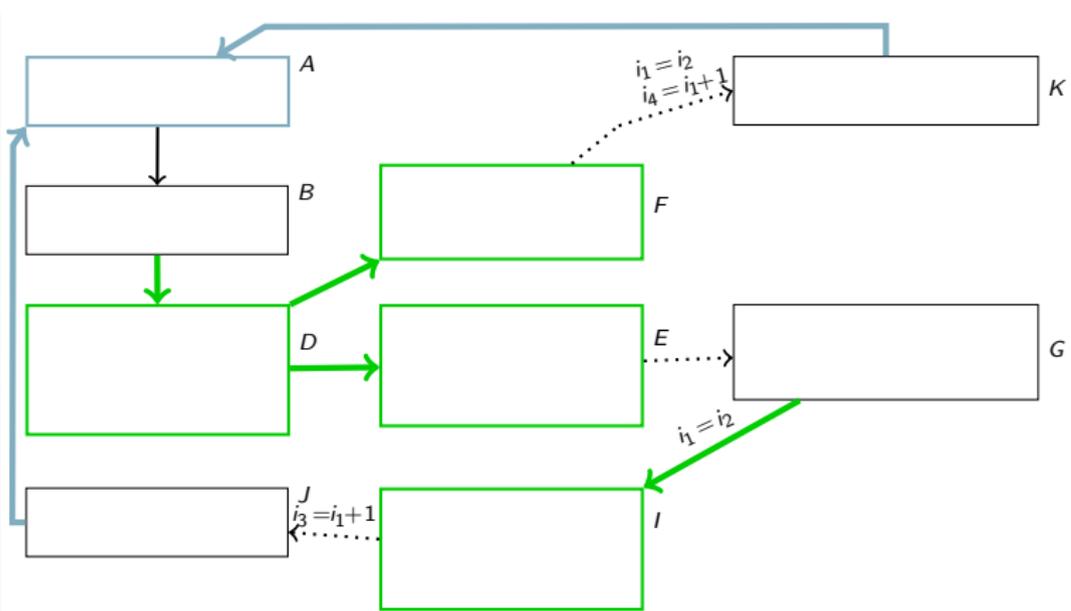
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    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
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```

```

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14: iload_1
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16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



- All leaves program ends \Rightarrow Graph finished
- How can we prove termination?
- Only consider SCCs

High-level argument: Number of unvisited elements strictly decreasing

```

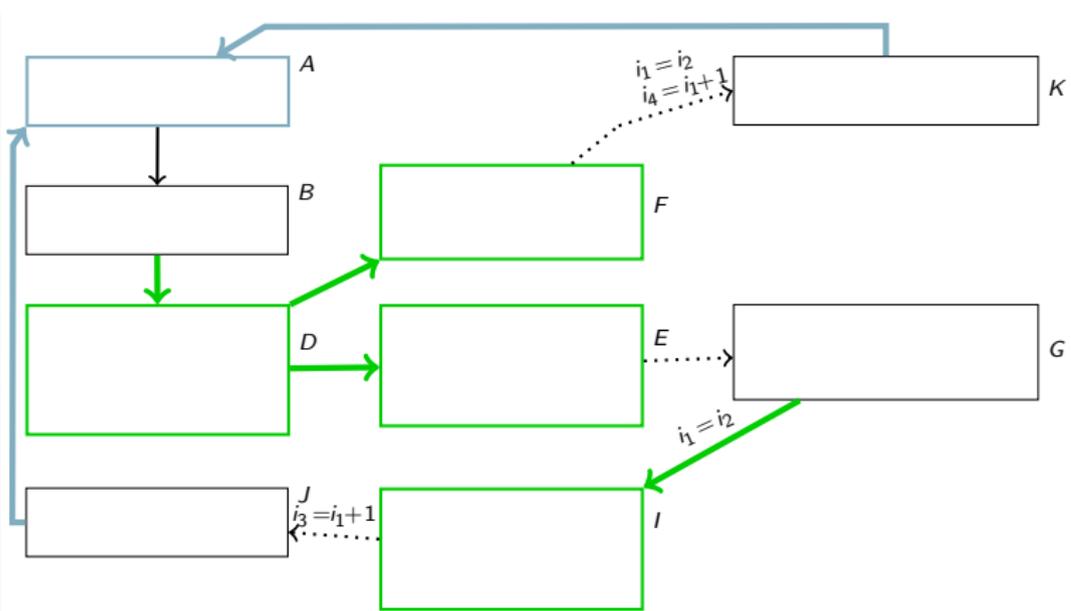
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

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```



Q: What is an “unvisited element”, formally?

```

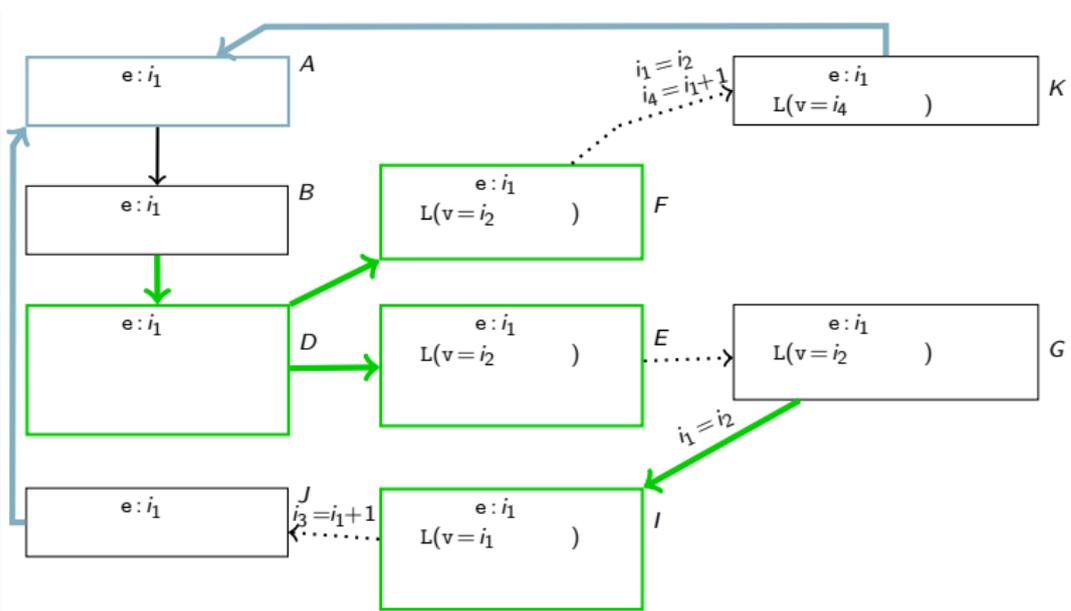
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
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21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
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```



Q: What is an “unvisited element”, formally?

A: One with $L.v = i_1 = e$

```

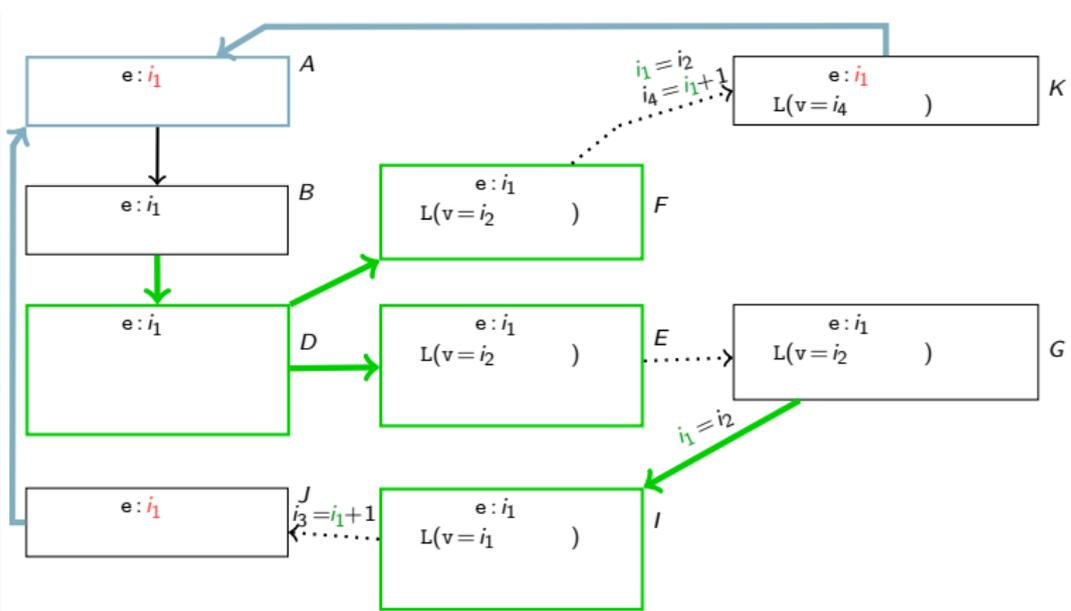
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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05: aload_0
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10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
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21: getfield n
24: astore_0
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```



Q: What is an “unvisited element”, formally?

A: One with $L.v = i_1 = e$

- Automatically finding this relation:
 - Identify constant c in SCC

```

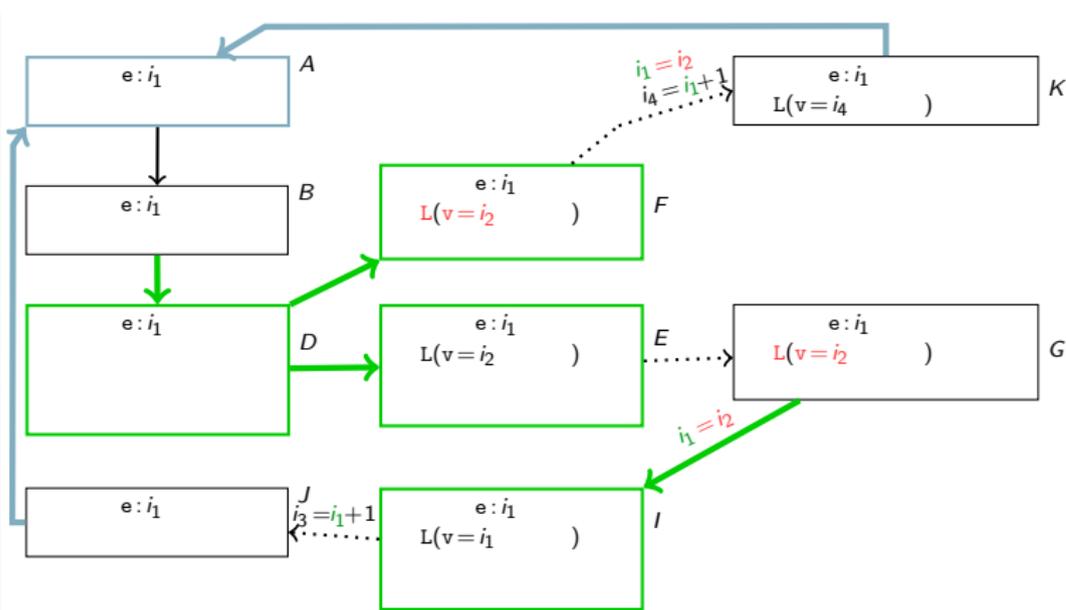
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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05: aload_0
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10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



Q: What is an “unvisited element”, formally?

A: One with $L.v = i_1 = e$

- Automatically finding this relation:

- 1 Identify constant c in SCC

- 2 Search property $M = C.f \bowtie c$ checked on all cycles

```

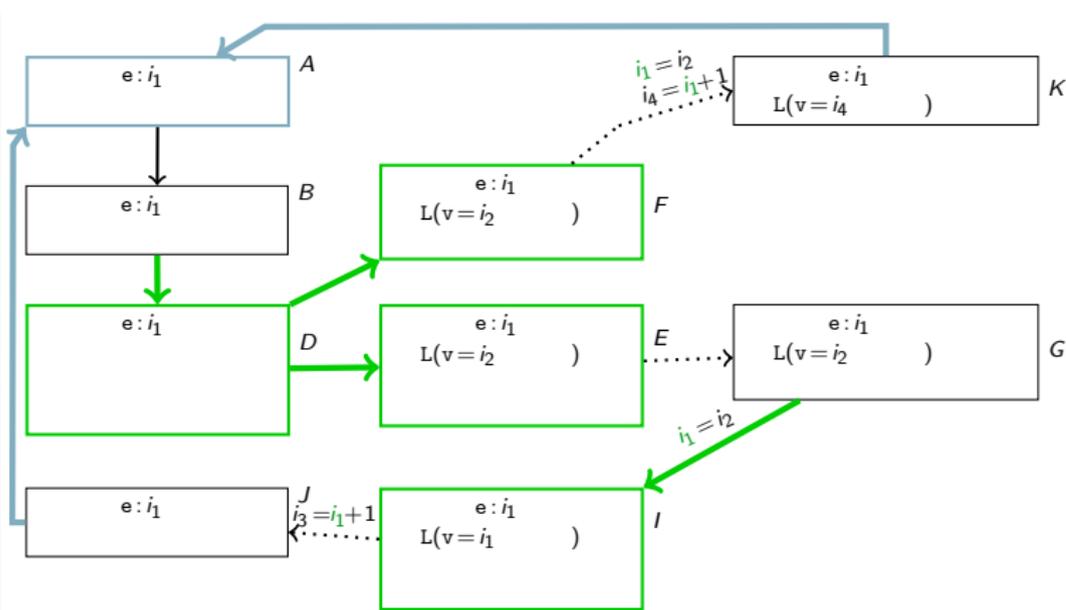
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
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15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



Q: What is an “unvisited element”, formally?

A: One with $L.v = i_1 = e$

- Automatically finding this relation:

- 1 Identify constant c in SCC

- 2 Search property $M = C.f \bowtie c$ checked on all cycles

- Track number of objects where $C.f \bowtie c$ holds ($\#M$)

```

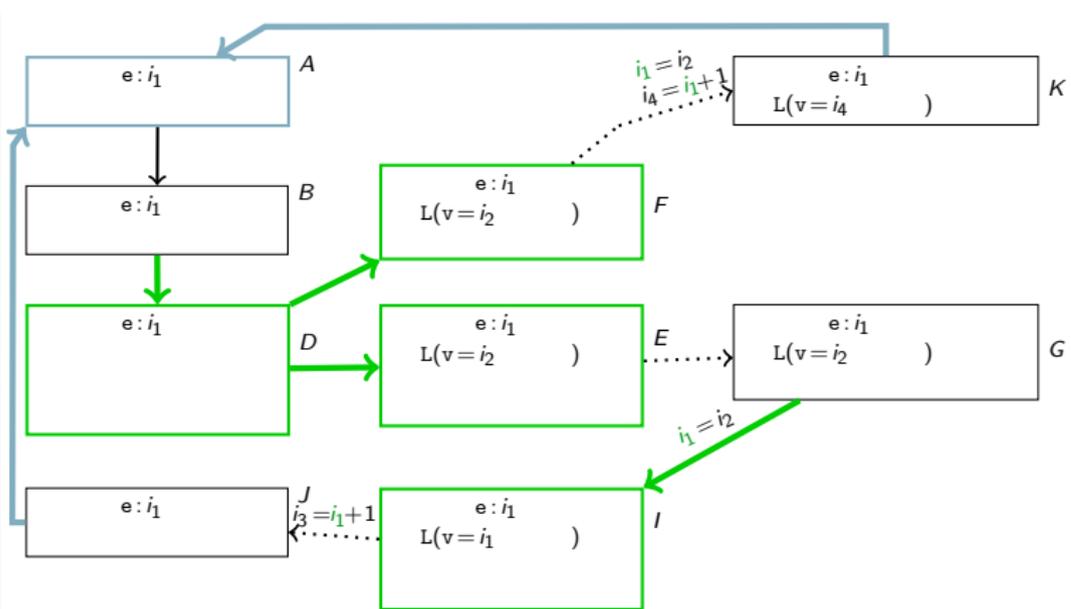
static void visit(L x) {
    int e = x.v;
    while (x.v == e) {
        x.v = e + 1;
        x = x.n; } }

```

```

00: aload_0
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04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```

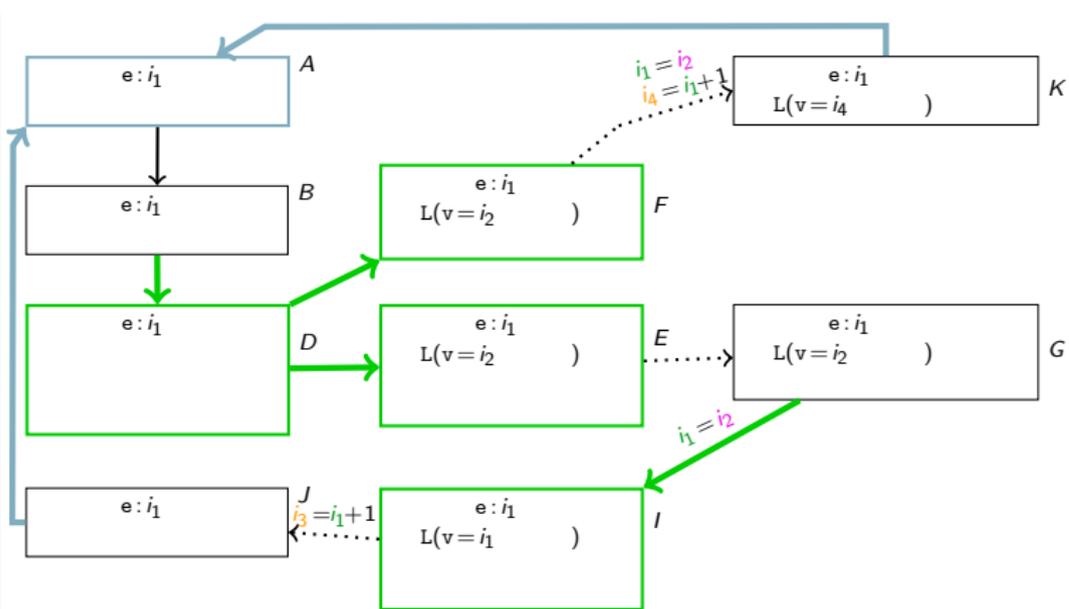


Property $M = C.f \bowtie c$ (here: $L.v = i_1$). When does $\#_M$ change?

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
13: aload_0
14: iload_1
15: iconst_1
16: iadd
17: putfield v
20: aload_0
21: getfield n
24: astore_0
25: goto 5
28: return

```



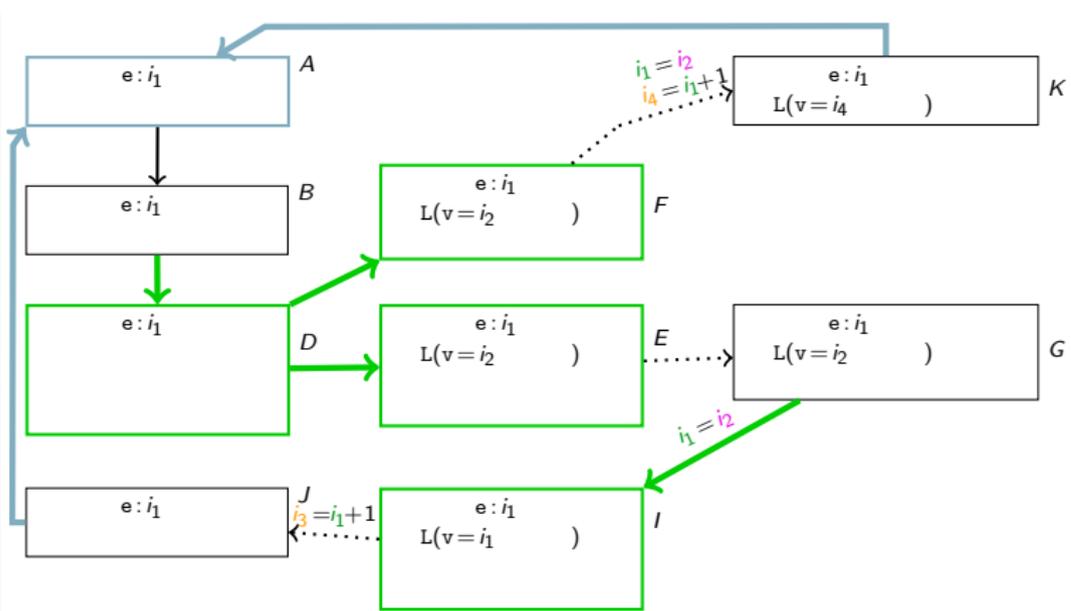
Property $M = C.f \boxtimes c$ (here: $L.v = i_1$). When does $\#_M$ change?

- $C.f$ written (old value u , new value w):

```

00: aload_0
01: getfield v
04: istore_1
05: aload_0
06: getfield v
09: iload_1
10: if_icmpne 28
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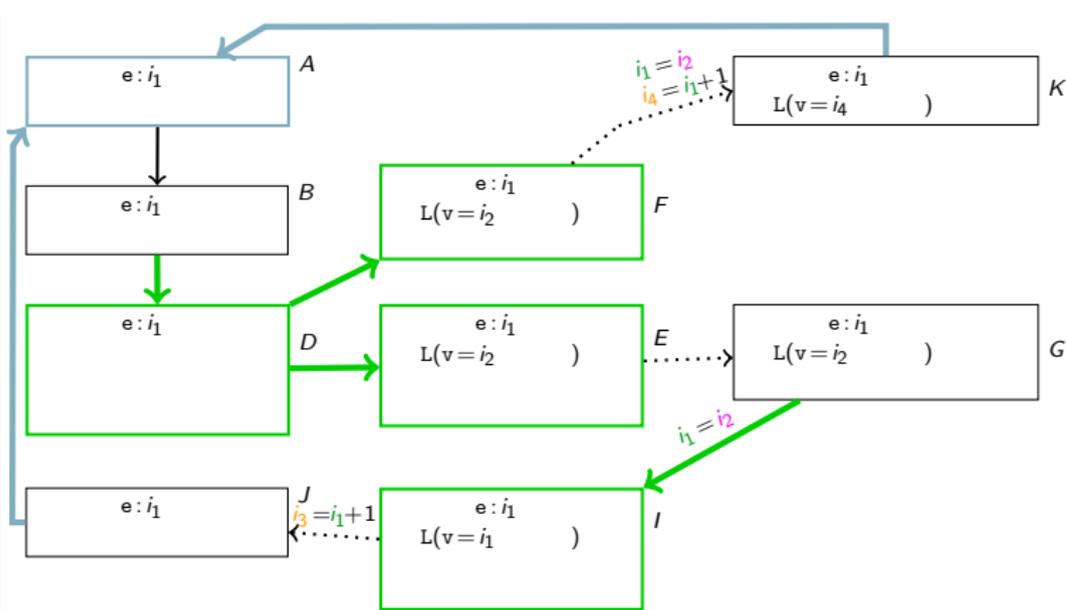
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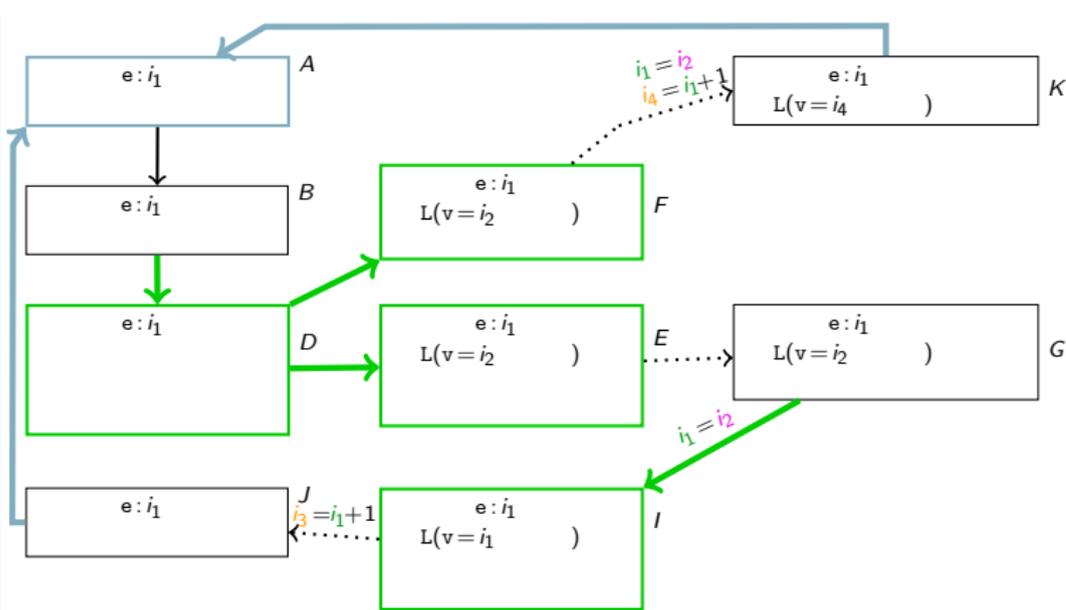
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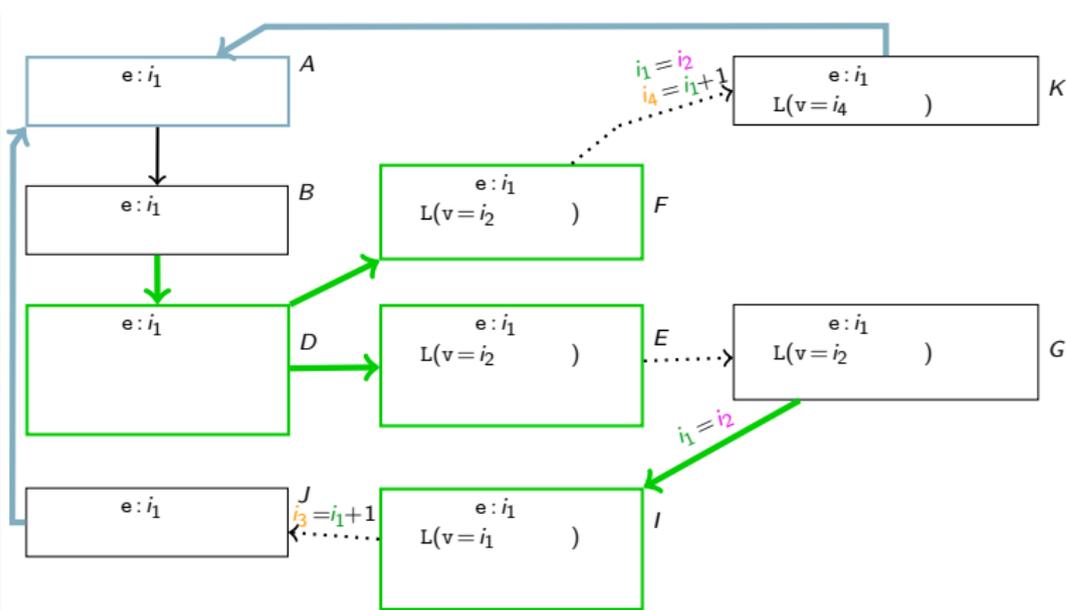
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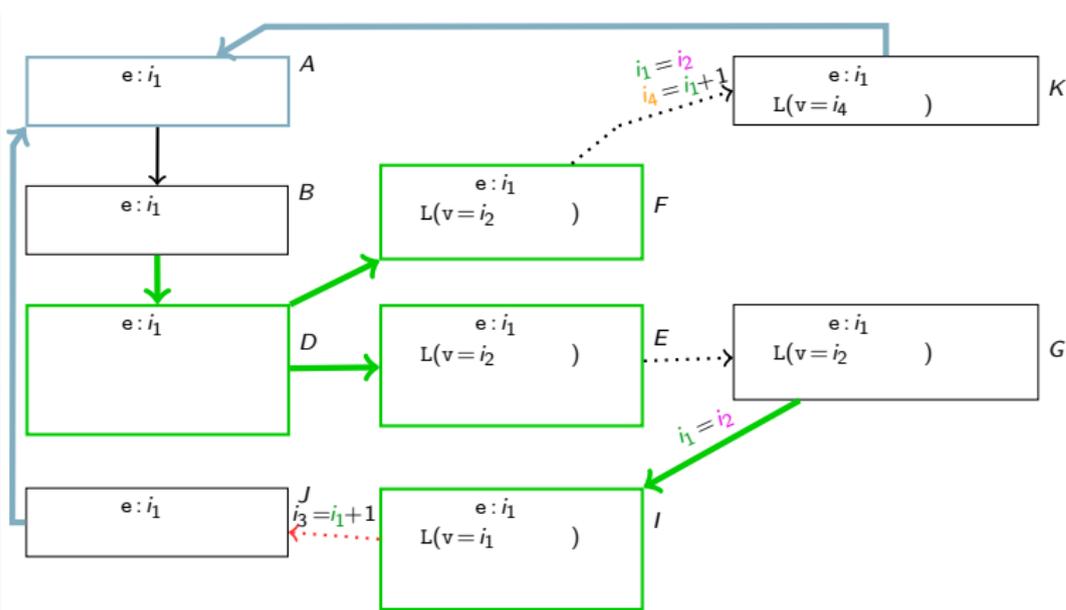
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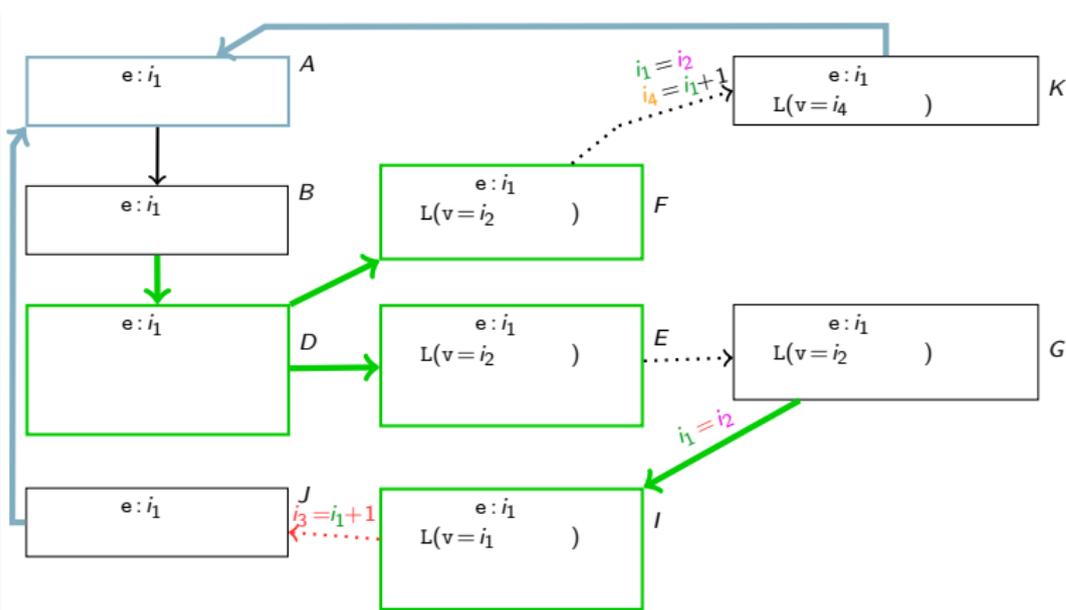
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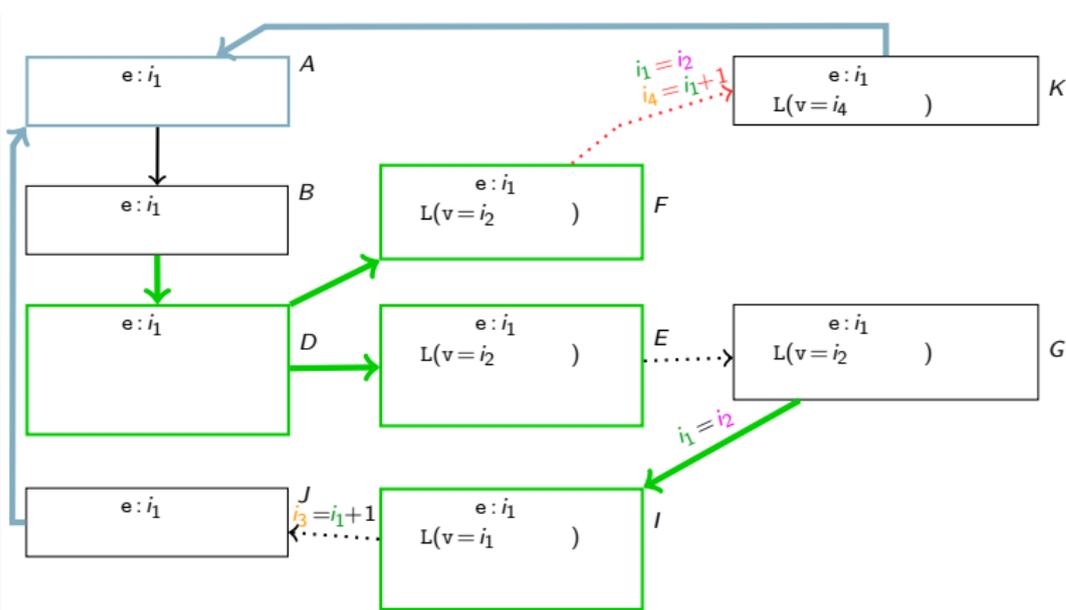
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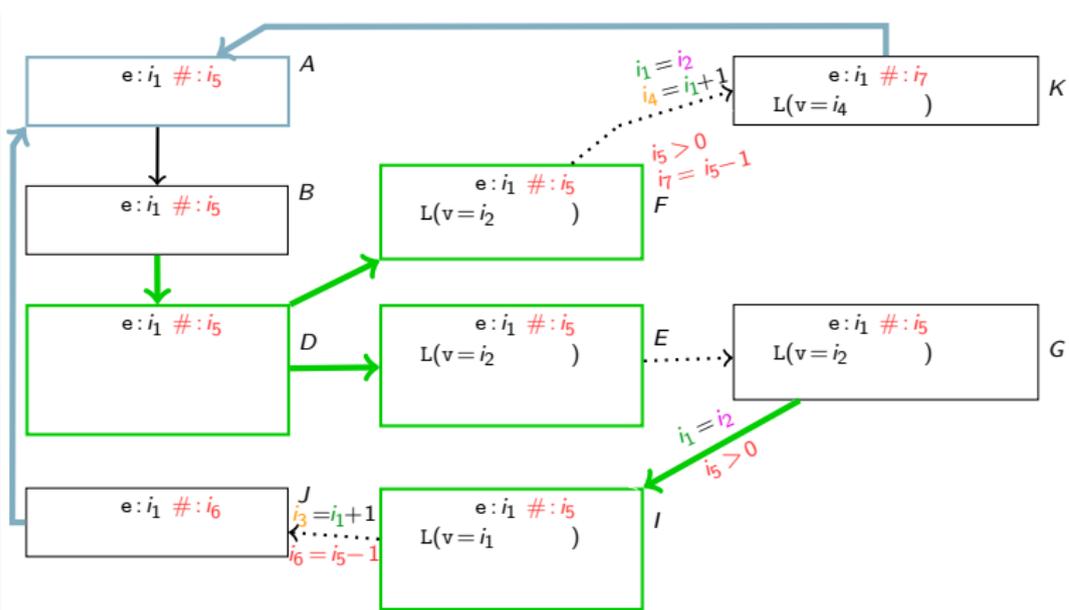
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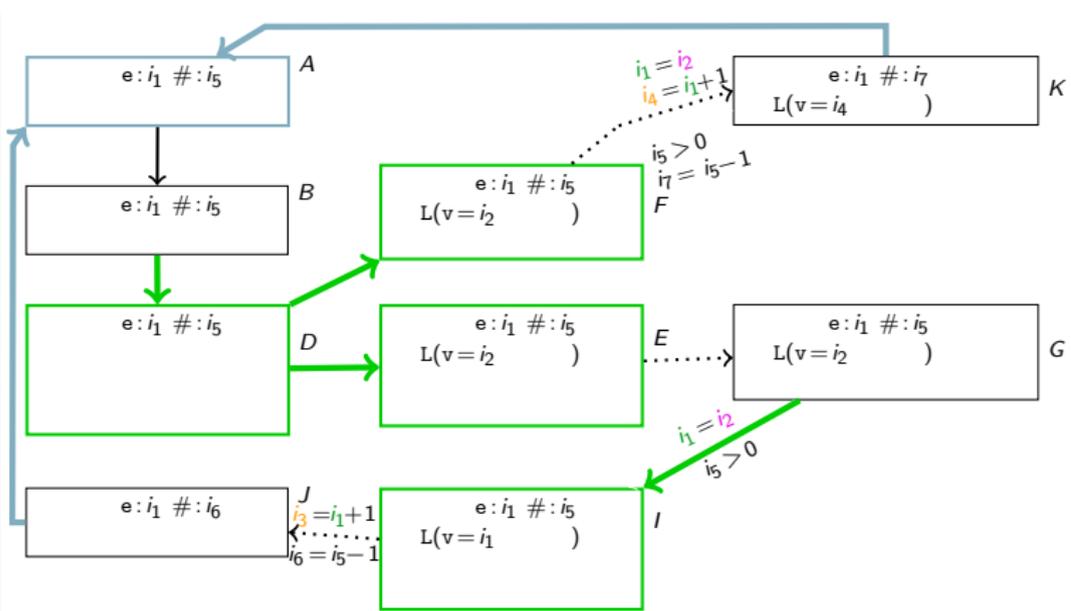


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$$\begin{aligned}
 f_A(\dots, i_6) &\rightarrow f_A(\dots, i_6 - 1) && | \quad i_6 > 0 \\
 f_A(\dots, i_7) &\rightarrow f_A(\dots, i_7 - 1) && | \quad i_7 > 0
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Specialized abstract domains:

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- **very effective**