

# Internal calculi for Separation Logic

---

Stéphane Demri<sup>1</sup> Étienne Lozes<sup>2</sup> **Alessio Mansutti<sup>1</sup>**

January 14, 2020

<sup>1</sup>LSV, CNRS, ENS Paris-Saclay

<sup>2</sup>I3S, Université Côte d'Azur

# Separation Logic

'99 Logic of Bunched Implication (BI) [P. O'Hearn, D. Pym]

'02 **Separation Logic** [P. O'Hearn, D. Pym, J. Reynolds]





- Logic for **modular** verification of pointer programs.
- Used in state-of-the-art, industrial tools:
  - Infer (Facebook)
  - Slayer (Microsoft)
- “Why Separation Logic Works” [‘18 - D. Pym et al.]



# Separation Logic, with apples



'99 Logic of Bunched Implication (BI) [P. O'Hearn, D. Pym]



'02 Separation Logic [P. O'Hearn, D. Pym, J. Reynolds]

**Multiplicative connectives (from BI):**

  $\models \varphi * \psi$  iff  can be split into  and  s.t.

  $\models \varphi$  and   $\models \psi$ .

  $\models \varphi \multimap \psi$  iff for every  mergeable with ,

if   $\models \varphi$  then   $\models \psi$

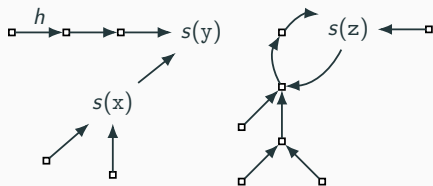
**Problem:** How to deal with  $*$  and  $\multimap$ , on concrete models and in the context of Hilbert-style axiomatisations.

# Modelling the memory

Separation Logic is interpreted over **memory states**  $(s, h)$  where:

- **store**,  $s : \text{VAR} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$
- **heap**,  $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow_{\text{fin}} \mathbb{N}$

where  $\text{VAR} = \{x, y, z, \dots\}$  set of variables,  
 $\mathbb{N}$  represents the set of addresses.



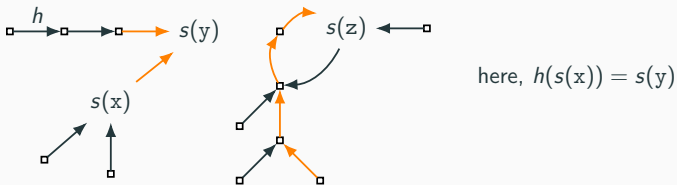
- Disjoint heaps ( $h_1 \perp h_2$ ):  $\text{dom}(h_1) \cap \text{dom}(h_2) = \emptyset$
- Union of disjoint heaps ( $h_1 + h_2$ ): union of partial functions.

# Modelling the memory

Separation Logic is interpreted over **memory states**  $(s, h)$  where:

- **store**,  $s : \text{VAR} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$
- **heap**,  $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow_{\text{fin}} \mathbb{N}$

where  $\text{VAR} = \{x, y, z, \dots\}$  set of variables,  
 $\mathbb{N}$  represents the set of addresses.

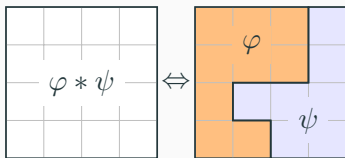


- Disjoint heaps ( $h_1 \perp h_2$ ):  $\text{dom}(h_1) \cap \text{dom}(h_2) = \emptyset$
- Union of disjoint heaps ( $h_1 + h_2$ ): union of partial functions.

# The separating conjunction (\*)

$$(s, h) \models \varphi * \psi$$

---



## Semantics:

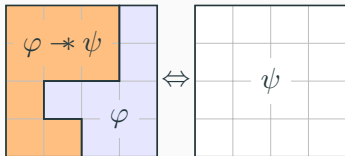
There are two heaps  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  s.t.

- $h_1 \perp h_2$  and  $h = h_1 + h_2$ ,
- $(s, h_1) \models \varphi$ ,
- $(s, h_2) \models \psi$ .

# The separating implication ( $\multimap$ )

$$(s, h) \models \varphi \multimap \psi$$

---



## Semantics:

For every heap  $h'$ ,

**if**  $h' \perp h$  and  $(s, h') \models \varphi$ ,  
**then**  $(s, h + h') \models \psi$ .

**Note:**  $*$  and  $\multimap$  are adjoint operators:

$$\varphi * \psi \models \gamma \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \varphi \models \psi \multimap \gamma.$$

# First-order Separation Logic

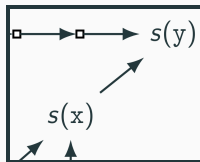
$\varphi :=$	$\top$		$\neg\varphi$		$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$
	$\text{emp}$		$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$		$\mathbf{x} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{y}$
	$\exists \mathbf{x} \varphi$		$\varphi_1 * \varphi_2$		$\varphi_1 \multimap \varphi_2$

$(s, h) \models \text{emp}$       *iff*     $\text{dom}(h) = \emptyset,$

$(s, h) \models \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y}$       *iff*     $s(\mathbf{x}) = s(\mathbf{y}),$

$(s, h) \models \mathbf{x} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{y}$       *iff*     $s(\mathbf{x}) \in \text{dom}(h)$  and  $h(s(\mathbf{x})) = s(\mathbf{y}),$

$(s, h) \models \exists \mathbf{x} \varphi$       *iff*    there is  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $(s[\mathbf{x} \leftarrow n], h) \models \varphi.$





## Satisfiability problem: some complexity results.

**Fsttcs'01** Quantifier-free SL (0SL) is PSPACE-complete.

[C. Calcagno, P.W. O'Hearn, H. Yang]

**Tocl'15** SL with two quantified variables (2SL) is undecidable.

[S. Demri, M. Deters]

**Fossacs'18** 0SL + reachability predicates is undecidable.

Without  $\rightarrow^*$  it is PSPACE-complete.

[S. Demri, E. Lozes, A. Mansutti]

**Fsttcs'18** 1SL + restricted reachability predicate is PSPACE-c.

Weakening restrictions makes it TOWER-hard.

# Satisfiability $\approx$ Validity $\approx$ Entailment $\approx$ Model checking

Let  $\varphi \oplus \psi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg(\varphi * \neg\psi)$ .

$(s, h) \models \varphi \oplus \psi$  iff  $\exists h'$  s.t.  $h' \perp h$ ,  $(s, h') \models \varphi$  and  $(s, h+h') \models \psi$

## Satisfiability to validity

$\models \text{emp} \Rightarrow \exists x_1 \dots \exists x_n (\varphi \oplus \top)$  iff  $\exists s \exists h$  s.t.  $(s, h) \models \varphi$

where  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} = \text{fv}(\varphi)$ .

- Reduction can be done also without quantification, but requires exponentially many queries of validity (w.r.t.  $\text{fv}(\varphi)$ ).
- Satisfiability to validity works also for OSL.

# Undecidability implies non-axiomatisability

Validity R.E.  $\rightarrow$  Satisfiability R.E.  $\rightarrow$  Unvalidity R.E.  
 $\rightarrow$  Validity decidable.

**Tocl'15:** ~~SL with two quantified variables (2SL) is undecidable.~~

**Fossacs'18:** ~~OSL + reachability predicates is undecidable.~~

**This Talk:** Hilbert-style axiomatisation for SLs (on memory states)

- Quantifier-free Separation Logic (0SL);
- SL without  $\rightarrow^*$  and with a (novel) guarded form of quantification that can express reachability predicates.

**Fsttcs'06** Hilbert-style axiomatisation of Boolean BI  
[D. Galmiche, D. Larchey-Wending]

**Popl'14** Axiomatisation of an hybrid version of Boolean BI  
and axiomatisation of abstract separation logics  
[J. Brotherston, J. Villard]

**Tocl'18** Sequent calculi for abstract separation logics  
[Z. Hou, R. Clouston, R. Goré, A. Tiu.]

**Fossacs'18** Modular tableaux calculi for Boolean BI  
[S. Docherty, D. Pym.]

## On axiomatising OSL, internally

$\varphi := \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \text{emp} \mid x=y \mid x \hookrightarrow y \mid \varphi_1 * \varphi_2 \mid \varphi_1 \multimap \varphi_2$

### Methodology:

1A. Model theoretical analysis of OSL (Lozes'04);



(EF-games / simulation arguments)

1B. Definition of a “normal form” for formulae of OSL;

(Gaifman-like locality theorem for OSL)

2. Axiomatisation specific to the formulae in this normal form;

3. Add axioms & rules to put every formula in normal form.

(similar to *reduction axioms* in dynamic epistemic logic)

## What can OSL express?

- The heap has size at least  $\beta$ :

$$\text{size} \geq \beta \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \underbrace{\neg \text{emp} * \dots * \neg \text{emp}}_{\beta \text{ times}}$$

- $x$  corresponds to a location in the domain of the heap:

$$\text{alloc}(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \neg(x \hookrightarrow x \oplus \top)$$

Let  $X \subseteq_{\text{fin}} \text{VAR}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}$ . We define the set of **core formulae**:

$$\text{Core}(X, \alpha) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x = y, x \hookrightarrow y, \text{alloc}(x), \text{size} \geq \beta \mid x, y \in X, \beta \in [0, \alpha]\}.$$

## An indistinguishability relation for OSL

$$(s, h) \approx_{\alpha}^X (s', h') \text{ iff } \forall \varphi \in \text{Core}(X, \alpha), (s, h) \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow (s', h') \models \varphi.$$

## An indistinguishability relation for OSL

$(s, h) \approx_{\alpha}^X (s', h')$  iff  $\forall \varphi \in \text{Core}(X, \alpha), (s, h) \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow (s', h') \models \varphi$ .

### A simulation Lemma for the operator $*$

Let  $(s, h) \approx_{\alpha}^X (s', h')$ .

$\forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2$  satisfying  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = \alpha$ ,  $\forall h_1, h_2$  satisfying  $h_1 + h_2 = h$ ,  
 $\exists h'_1, h'_2$  s.t.  $h'_1 + h'_2 = h'$ ,  $(s, h_1) \approx_{\alpha_1}^X (s', h'_1)$  and  $(s, h_2) \approx_{\alpha_2}^X (s', h'_2)$ .

Similar lemma for  $\rightarrow^*$ .



## An indistinguishability relation for OSL

$(s, h) \approx_{\alpha}^X (s', h')$  iff  $\forall \varphi \in \text{Core}(X, \alpha), (s, h) \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow (s', h') \models \varphi$ .

### A simulation Lemma for the operator \*

Let  $(s, h) \approx_{\alpha}^X (s', h')$ .

$\forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2$  satisfying  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = \alpha, \forall h_1, h_2$  satisfying  $h_1 + h_2 = h,$   
 $\exists h'_1, h'_2$  s.t.  $h'_1 + h'_2 = h', (s, h_1) \approx_{\alpha_1}^X (s', h'_1)$  and  $(s, h_2) \approx_{\alpha_2}^X (s', h'_2)$ .

This lemma hides a Spoiler/Duplicator EF-games for OSL,  
and shows the existence of a winning strategy for Duplicator.

For every move of Spoiler, the Duplicator has a winning answer.

# An indistinguishability relation for OSL

$(s, h) \approx_{\alpha}^X (s', h')$  iff  $\forall \varphi \in \text{Core}(X, \alpha), (s, h) \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow (s', h') \models \varphi$ .

## A simulation Lemma for the operator $*$

Let  $(s, h) \approx_{\alpha}^X (s', h')$ .

$\forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2$  satisfying  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = \alpha$ ,  $\forall h_1, h_2$  satisfying  $h_1 + h_2 = h$ ,  
 $\exists h'_1, h'_2$  s.t.  $h'_1 + h'_2 = h'$ ,  $(s, h_1) \approx_{\alpha_1}^X (s', h'_1)$  and  $(s, h_2) \approx_{\alpha_2}^X (s', h'_2)$ .

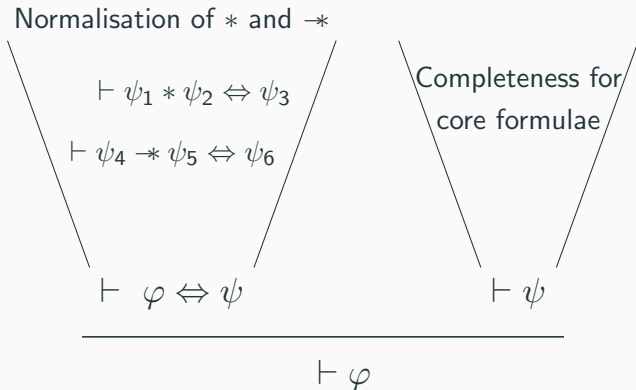
Similar lemma for  $\rightarrow*$ .

## A “Gaifman locality theorem” for OSL

Every formula  $\varphi$  in OSL is logically equivalent to a Boolean combination of core formulae from  $\text{Core}(\text{vars}(\varphi), \text{size}(\varphi))$ .

$\text{Core}(X, \alpha) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{x=y, x \hookrightarrow y, \text{alloc}(x), \text{size} \geq \beta \mid x, y \in X, \beta \in [0, \alpha]\}$ .

# Normalising connectives & reasoning on core formulae



where  $\varphi$  in SL, and  $\psi_i, \psi$  are in  $\bigcup_{X, \alpha} \mathbf{Bool}(\text{Core}(X, \alpha))$ .

## From a simple calculus for Core formulae...

(PC) propositional calculus;

(R)  $x = x$

(S)  $\varphi \wedge x = y \Rightarrow \varphi[y \leftarrow x]$

(H2)  $\bigwedge_{x \in X} (\text{alloc}(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{y \in X \setminus \{x\}} x \neq y) \Rightarrow \text{size} \geq \text{card}(X)$ , where  $X \subseteq_{\text{fin}} \text{VAR}$ .

(A)  $x \hookrightarrow y \Rightarrow \text{alloc}(x)$

(F)  $x \hookrightarrow y \wedge x \hookrightarrow z \Rightarrow y = z$

(H1)  $\text{size} \geq \beta + 1 \Rightarrow \text{size} \geq \beta$

$\text{CoreTypes}(X, \alpha)$ : set of *complete*<sup>1</sup> conjunctions  
of formulae in  $\text{Core}(X, \text{card}(X) + \alpha)$ .

### Lemma

Let  $\varphi \in \text{CoreTypes}(X, \alpha)$ . We have,  $\models \neg\varphi$  iff  $\vdash \neg\varphi$ .

---

<sup>1</sup>Every  $\varphi \in \text{Core}(X, \text{card}(X) + \alpha)$  appears in a literal of the conjunction.

## From a simple calculus for Core formulae...

(PC) propositional calculus;

(R)  $x = x$

(S)  $\varphi \wedge x = y \Rightarrow \varphi[y \leftarrow x]$

(H2)  $\bigwedge_{x \in X} (\text{alloc}(x) \wedge \bigwedge_{y \in X \setminus \{x\}} x \neq y) \Rightarrow \text{size} \geq \text{card}(X)$ , where  $X \subseteq_{\text{fin}} \text{VAR}$ .

(A)  $x \hookrightarrow y \Rightarrow \text{alloc}(x)$

(F)  $x \hookrightarrow y \wedge x \hookrightarrow z \Rightarrow y = z$

(H1)  $\text{size} \geq \beta + 1 \Rightarrow \text{size} \geq \beta$

$\text{CoreTypes}(X, \alpha)$ : set of *complete*<sup>1</sup> conjunctions  
of formulae in  $\text{Core}(X, \text{card}(X) + \alpha)$ .

### Lemma

A Boolean combination of core formulae,  $\models \varphi$  iff  $\vdash \varphi$ .

<sup>1</sup>Every  $\varphi \in \text{Core}(X, \text{card}(X) + \alpha)$  appears in a literal of the conjunction.

## ...to a sound and complete proof system for OSL

(M)  $\text{alloc}(x) * \top \Rightarrow \text{alloc}(x)$

(N)  $\neg \text{alloc}(x) * \neg \text{alloc}(x) \Rightarrow \neg \text{alloc}(x)$

(I)  $\text{alloc}(x) \Rightarrow (\text{alloc}(x) \wedge \text{size} = 1) * \top$

$$\frac{\varphi \Rightarrow \gamma}{\varphi * \psi \Rightarrow \gamma * \psi}$$

### Lemma

$\forall \varphi, \psi \in \text{Bool}(\text{Core}(X, \alpha)) \exists \gamma \in \text{Bool}(\text{Core}(X, 2\alpha))$  s.t.  $\vdash \varphi * \psi \Leftrightarrow \gamma$ .

(P)  $\neg \text{alloc}(x) \Rightarrow ((x \hookrightarrow y \wedge \text{size} = 1) \oplus \top)$

$$\frac{\varphi * \psi \Rightarrow \gamma}{\varphi \Rightarrow (\psi * \gamma)}$$

### Lemma

$\forall \varphi, \psi \in \text{Bool}(\text{Core}(X, \alpha)) \exists \gamma \in \text{Bool}(\text{Core}(X, \alpha))$  s.t.  $\vdash (\varphi \oplus \psi) \Leftrightarrow \gamma$ .

## A separation logic with path quantifiers

- We want to test our methodology on other SLs,
- First-order quantification? Reachability predicates?
- Both extensions are undecidable, hence validity is not R.E.

We consider OSL + path quantifiers, w/o  $*$  (for decidability).

$$\varphi := \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \text{emp} \mid \mathbf{x}=\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}\hookrightarrow\mathbf{y} \mid \varphi_1 * \varphi_2 \mid \exists \mathbf{z}:\langle \mathbf{x} \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{y} \rangle \varphi$$





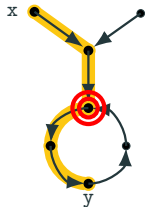
## A separation logic with path quantifiers

$$(s, h) \models \exists z: \langle x \rightsquigarrow y \rangle \varphi$$

*iff*

$$\exists \ell \in \blacksquare \text{ s.t. } (s[z \leftarrow \ell], h) \models \varphi.$$

(the path must be of length at least 1 and minimal)

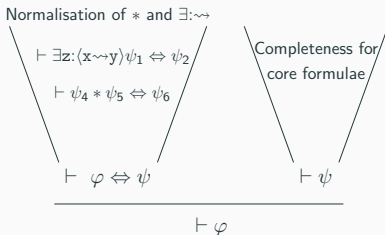


- $\exists z: \langle x \rightsquigarrow y \rangle \top$  is the predicate  $\text{reach}^+(x, y)$ ,
- it can express the (standard) list-segment predicate ( $1s$ ),
- also cyclic structures, path of exponential length...

$$\exists z: \langle x \rightsquigarrow y \rangle ((\text{reach}^+(x, z) * \text{reach}^+(z, z)) \wedge \varphi)$$

## We axiomatise $SL(*, \exists: \rightsquigarrow)$ as done for OSL

- I. With the help of simulations Lemmata for  $*$  and  $\exists: \rightsquigarrow$ , we find the right set of core formulae  $\text{Core}(X, \alpha)$ .
- II. We axiomatise the Boolean combination of core formulae.
- III. We add axioms to treat  $*$  and  $\exists: \rightsquigarrow$ , completing the system.



From the normalisation, we also conclude that validity and satisfiability for  $SL(*, \exists: \rightsquigarrow)$  are PSPACE-complete.

# Recap

1. First axiomatisations of separation logics (on memory states),
  - quantifier-free SL,
  - $SL(*, \exists: \rightsquigarrow)$  (here introduced).
2. For program verification,  $\exists: \rightsquigarrow$  is a natural form of quantification.
3. Satisfiability/validity of  $SL(*, \exists: \rightsquigarrow)$  found to be PSPACE-complete.
4. The proof technique is quite reusable
  - Already used successfully on two Modal Separation Logics [Jelia'19 - S. Demri, R. Fervari, A. Mansutti]