



AProVE (KoAT + LoAT)

Nils Lommen, Florian Frohn, and Jürgen Giesl

Motivation

Goal: Prove or disprove termination of C programs

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- Does this program terminate?

```
while (x1 < x2) do  
    [x1] ← [3 · x1]  
    [x2] ← [2 · x2]  
end
```

Motivation

Goal: Prove or disprove termination of C programs

- Does this program terminate?

```
while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0) do
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot x_1 \\ 2 \cdot x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
end
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$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot x_1 \\ 2 \cdot x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Goal: Prove or disprove termination of C programs

```
while (x3 > 0) do
```

```
    while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0) do
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot x_1 \\ 2 \cdot x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
    end
```

$$[x_3] \leftarrow [x_3 - 1]$$

```
end
```

- Does this program terminate?

Motivation

Goal: Prove or disprove termination of C programs

```
while (x3 > 0) do
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_4 \\ x_5^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
    while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0) do
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot x_1 \\ 2 \cdot x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
    end
```

$$[x_3] \leftarrow [x_3 - 1]$$

```
end
```

- Does this program terminate?

General Architecture

- AProVE (KoAT + LoAT) is a framework to analyze termination of C Programs

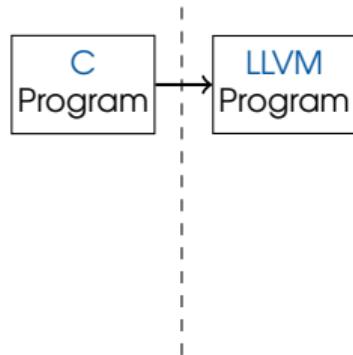
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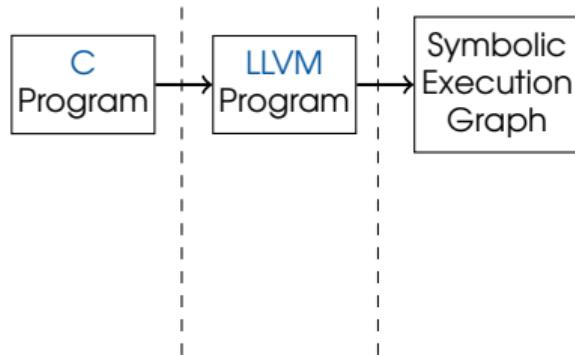
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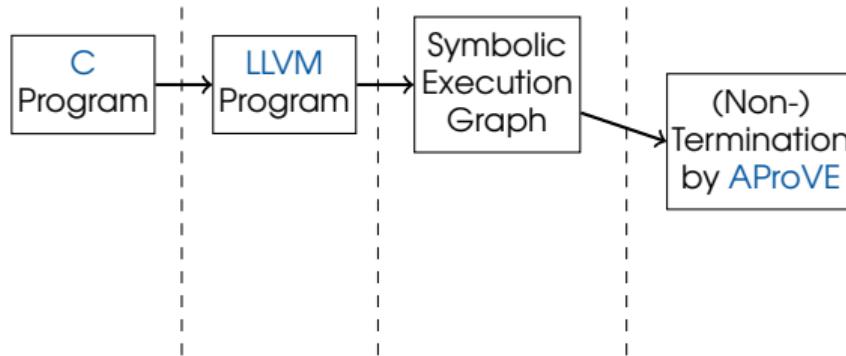
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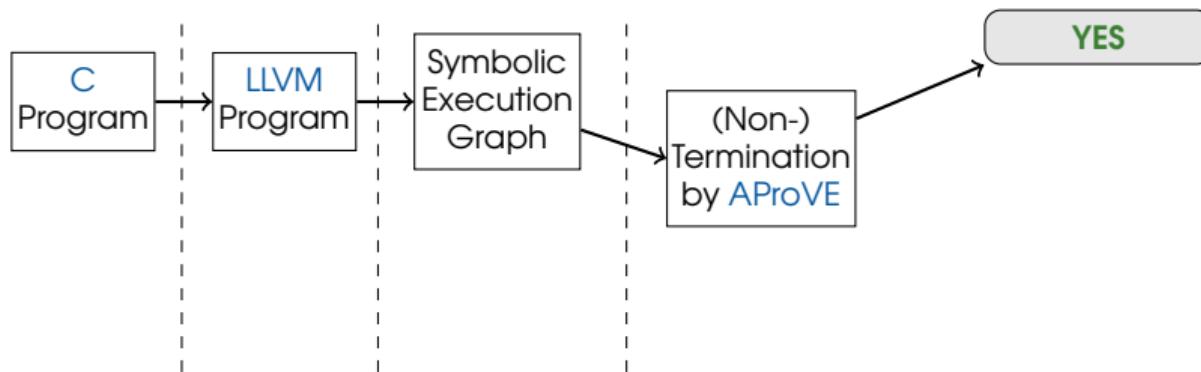
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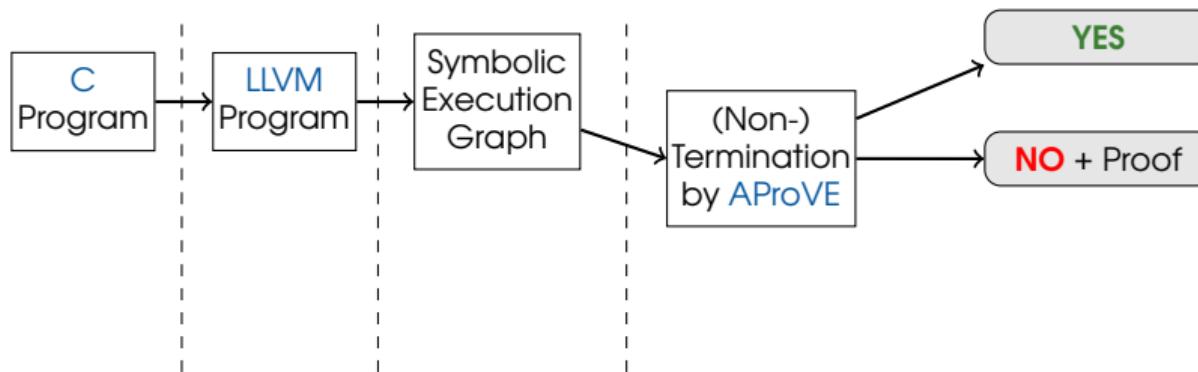
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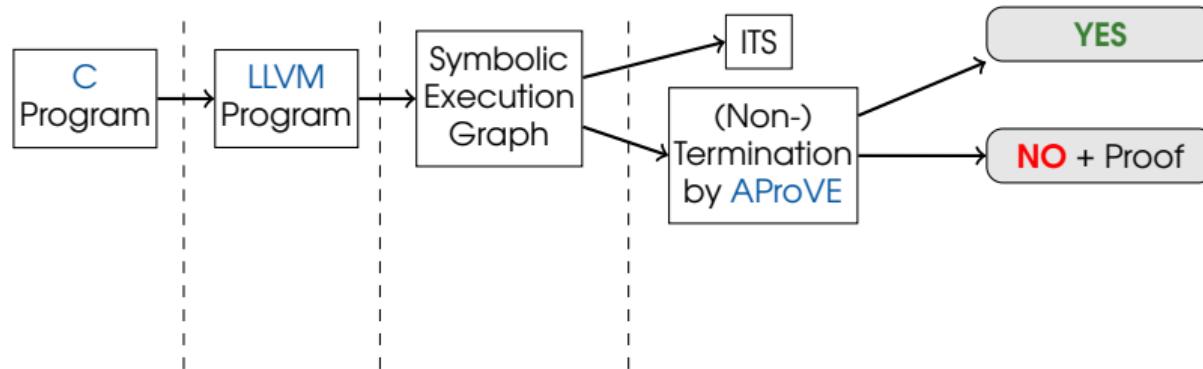
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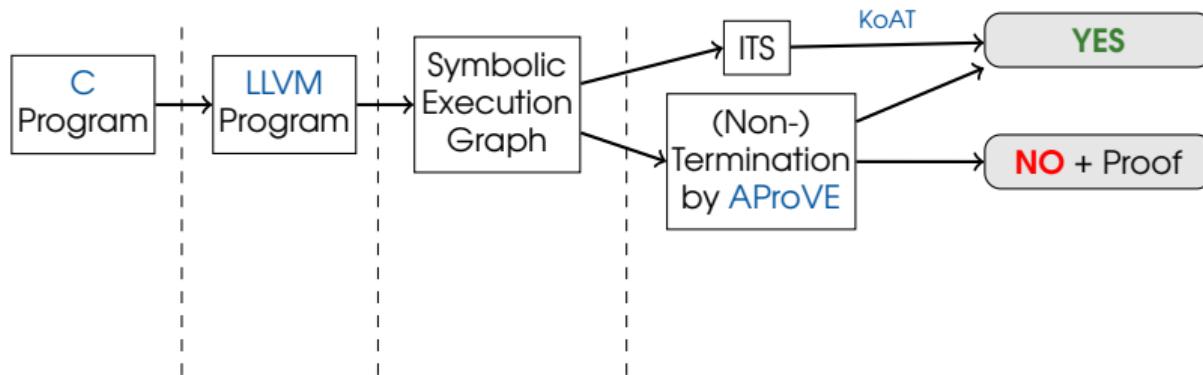
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- AProVE (KoAT + LoAT) is a framework to analyze termination of C Programs
- Programs are transformed into *Integer Transition Systems* (ITSs)



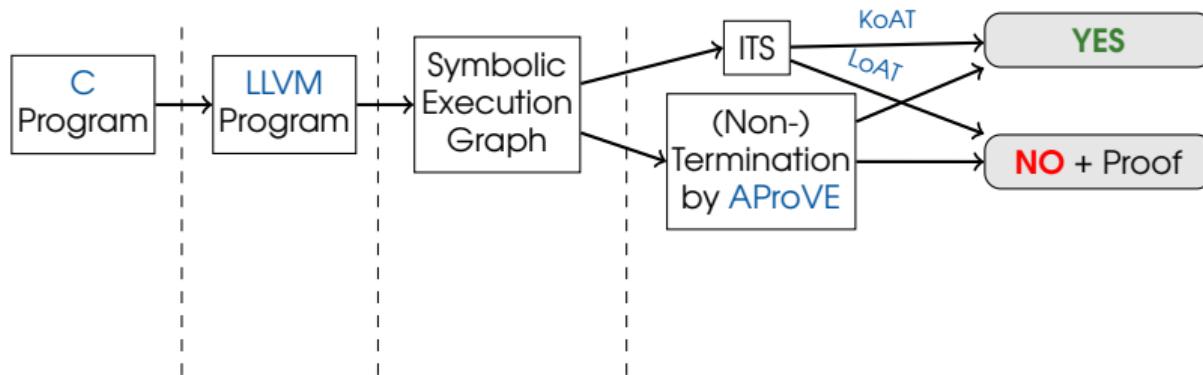
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- Programs are transformed into *Integer Transition Systems* (ITSs)
- ITSs are analyzed by our tools KoAT and LoAT



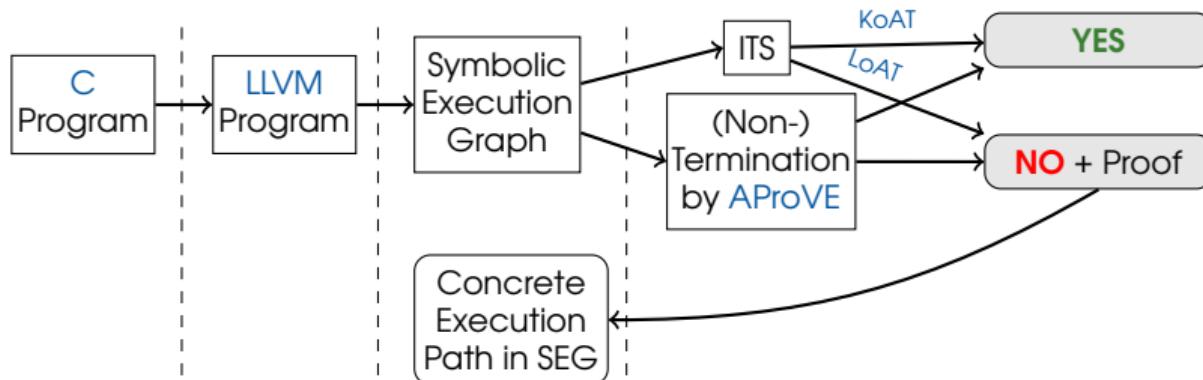
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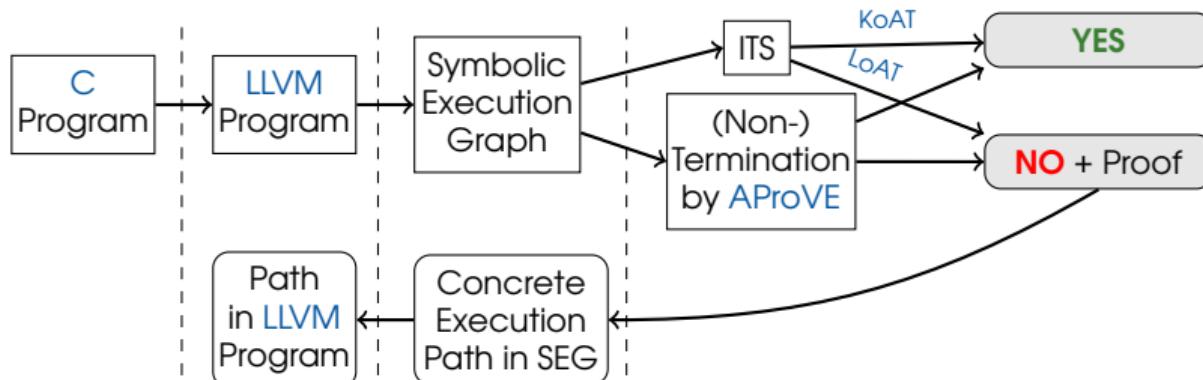
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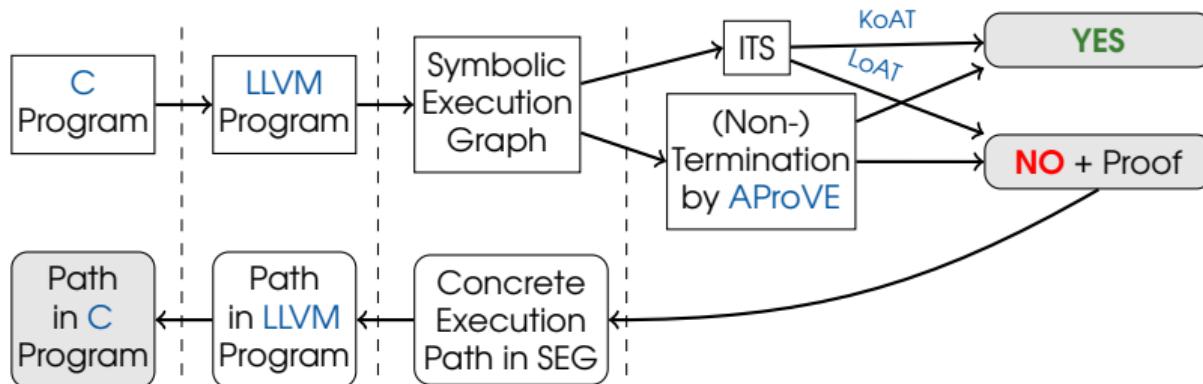
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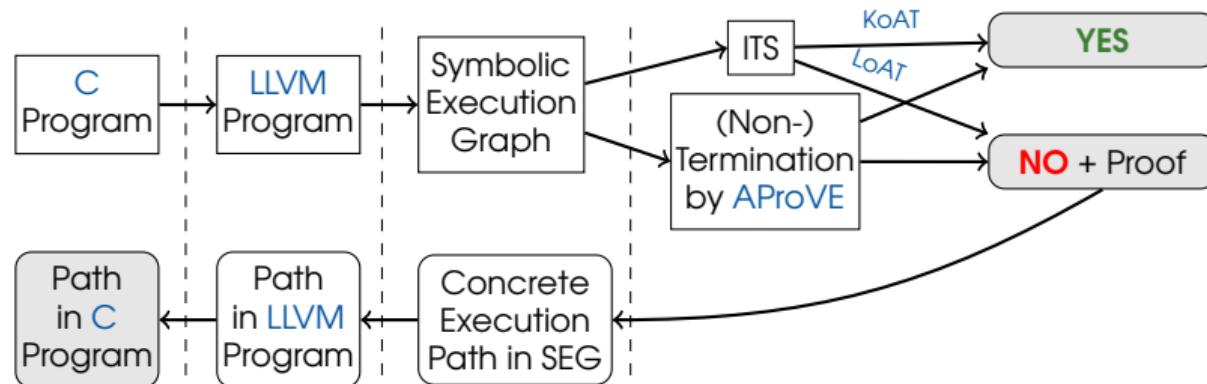
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- KoAT – Ranking Functions

- KoAT – TWN-Loops

KoAT – Proving Termination via Ranking Functions

- Loops: while (φ) do η end

```
while (x1 > 0)
  [x1] ← [x1 - 1]
end
```

KoAT – Proving Termination via Ranking Functions

- Loops: while (φ) do η end
- Linear Ranking Functions

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while (x1 > 0)
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- Loops: while (φ) do η end
- Linear Ranking Functions
 - Search $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^{d+1}$ such that $f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) = a_0 + a_1x_1 + \dots + a_dx_d$ yields well-founded order on \mathbb{N}

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- Decreasing:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^d. \varphi \rightarrow f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \geq f(\mathbf{a}, \eta(\mathbf{x})) + 1$$

```
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- Decreasing:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^d. \varphi \rightarrow f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) \geq f(\mathbf{a}, \eta(\mathbf{x})) + 1$$

- Boundedness:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^d. \varphi \rightarrow f(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}) > 0$$

```
while (x1 > 0)
    [x1] ← [x1 - 1]
end
```

KoAT – Proving Termination via Ranking Functions

- Loops: while (φ) do η end

while ($x_1 > 0$)

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ x_2 - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

end

KoAT – Proving Termination via Ranking Functions

- Loops: `while (φ) do η end`
- Multiphase-Linear Ranking Functions
(Ben-Amram, Genaim) & (RH '22)

```
while (x1 > 0)
  [x1] ← [x1 + x2]
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```

KoAT – Proving Termination via Ranking Functions

- Loops: $\text{while } (\varphi) \text{ do } \eta \text{ end}$
- Multiphase-Linear Ranking Functions
(Ben-Amram, Genaim) & (RH '22)
 - Search $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_k \in \mathbb{Z}^{d+1}$ such that $f_1(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{x}), \dots, f_k(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x})$ yields well-founded order on \mathbb{N}

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 - Decreasing:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^d.$$

$$\varphi \rightarrow f_1(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{x}) \geq f_1(\mathbf{a}_1, \eta(\mathbf{x})) + 1$$

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^d. \forall i \in \{2, \dots, k\}. \varphi \rightarrow f_i(\mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{x}) + f_{i-1}(\mathbf{a}_{i-1}, \mathbf{x}) \geq f_i(\mathbf{a}_i, \eta(\mathbf{x})) + 1$$

$\text{while } (x_1 > 0)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ x_2 - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

end

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 - Decreasing:

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- Boundedness:

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^d. \varphi \rightarrow f_k(\mathbf{a}_k, \mathbf{x}) > 0$$

while $(x_1 > 0)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 \\ x_2 - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

end

KoAT – Analyzing Loops

Termination of Linear Programs

Ashish Tiwari*

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Abstract. We show that termination of a class of linear loop programs is decidable. Linear loop programs are discrete-time linear systems with a loop condition governing termination, that is, a while loop with linear assignments. We relate the termination of such a simple loop, on all initial values, to the eigenvectors corresponding to only the positive real eigenvalues of the matrix defining the loop assignments. This characterization of termination is reminiscent of the famous stability theorems in control theory that characterize stability in terms of eigenvalues.

1 Introduction

Dynamical systems have been studied by both computer scientists and control theorists, but both the models and the properties studied have been different. However there is one class of models, called “discrete-time linear systems” in the control world, where there is a considerable overlap. In computer science, these are unconditional `while` loops with linear assignments to a set of integer or rational variables; for example,

```
while (true) { x := x - y; y := y }.
```

The two communities are interested in different questions: stability and controllability issues in control theory against reachability, invariants, and termination issues in computer science. In recent years, computer scientists have begun to ap-

KoAT – Analyzing Loops

Termination of Integer Linear Programs

Mark Braverman*

Department of Computer Science
University of Toronto

Abstract. We show that termination of a simple class of linear loops over the integers is decidable. Namely we show that termination of deterministic linear loops is decidable over the integers in the homogeneous case, and over the rationals in the general case. This is done by analyzing the powers of a matrix symbolically using its eigenvalues. Our results generalize the work of Tiwari [Tiw01], where similar results were derived for termination over the reals. We also gain some insights into termination of non-homogeneous integer programs, that are very common in building blocks of automated verification. For

undecidable in all but the most extreme cases given as piecewise functions, the loop remains undecidable on machines [Tiw04], but is undecidable in all but the most extreme cases given as piecewise functions, the loop remains undecidable on machines [Tiw04],

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Termination of Linear Programs

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Journal of Symbolic Computation

Symbolic termination analysis of solvable loops 

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Real root bounds

ABSTRACT

Termination is an essential part of program correctness of regular programs, both automatically proving and constructing witnesses of counter-termination and terminating computer science. Many traditional methods for analyzing termination of programs, such as linear programming, so-called “interval arithmetic” methods, or linear algebraic methods, are suitable for linear problems. On the contrary, methods for deciding termination in deciding termination in loops, investigate loops, and special cases.

KoAT – Analyzing Loops

On Termination of Integer Linear Loops

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mental problem in program verification concerns termination of simple linear loops of the form:
 $x \leftarrow u ; \text{ while } Bx \geq c \text{ do } x \leftarrow Ax + a,$

where x is a vector of variables, u , a , and c are vectors, and A and B are integer matrices. If the matrix A is diagonalisable, we give a procedure for the problem of whether, for all integer vectors u , such a loop terminates. The success of our algorithm relies on sophisticated tools from algebraic and analytic number theory, Diophantine approximation, and real algebraic geometry.

Suppose that the vector x has dimension d . We say that P1 terminates on a set $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ if it terminates for all initial vectors $u \in S$. Tiwari [38] gave a procedure to decide whether a given simple linear loop terminates on \mathbb{R}^d . Later Braverman [8] showed decidability of termination on \mathbb{Q}^d . However the most natural problem from the point of view of program verification is termination on \mathbb{Z}^d .

While termination on \mathbb{Z}^d reduces to termination on \mathbb{Q}^d in the homogeneous case (by a straightforward scaling argument), termination on \mathbb{Z}^d in the general case is stated as an open problem in [5, 8, 28]. The main

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The image shows the cover of a journal article titled "Symbolic termination analysis of solvable loops" by Ming Xu and Zhi-Bin Li. The journal is "Journal of Symbolic Computation". The cover includes the Elsevier logo, the journal title, the authors' names, and some abstract text. The abstract discusses the termination of regular programs, the construction of termination witnesses, and methods for analyzing termination of linear programs. It also mentions that the methods are suitable for loops in deciding termination.

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Symbolic termination analysis of solvable loops 

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ABSTRACT

Termination is an essential part of program correctness of regular programs, both automatically proving and constructing witnesses of non-termination and theoretically for computer science. Many traditional methods for analyzing termination of non-linear problems, such as linear programming, so-called constraint satisfaction problems, are not suitable for loops. In this paper, we propose a new method for analyzing termination of loops in deciding termination. The main idea is to investigate whether there exist loops that can be terminated by some specific criteria.

AProVE (KoAT + LoAT)

KoAT – Analyzing Loops

On Termination of Integer Linear Loops

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conjunction of linear constraints consists of a simultaneous linear system. The vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{c} are integer vectors, and A and B are integer matrices.

Suppose that the vector \mathbf{x} terminates on a set S for all initial vectors $\mathbf{u} \in U$. We can use a decision procedure to decide whether the loop terminates on \mathbb{Z}^d . Later we show the decidability of termination on \mathbb{Q}^d . This is a natural problem from the point of view of verification: the key idea of our algorithm relies on sophisticated tools from algebraic number theory, Diophantine approximation, and real algebraic geometry.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first significant advance on a 10-year-old open problem of

termination of simple linear loops of the form: $\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbf{u}; \text{while } B\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{c} \text{ do } \mathbf{x} \leftarrow A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a},$ where \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{a} , and \mathbf{c} are integer vectors, and A and B are integer matrices. Assuming the matrix A is diagonalisable, we give a polynomial time decision procedure for the problem of whether, for all integer vectors \mathbf{u} , such a loop terminates. The correctness of our algorithm relies on sophisticated tools from algebraic number theory, Diophantine approximation, and real algebraic geometry.

While termination on \mathbb{Z}^d reduces to termination on \mathbb{Q}^d in the homogeneous case (by a scaling argument), termination on \mathbb{Z}^d in the inhomogeneous case is stated as an open problem in [5, § 8–28].

Termination of Linear Loops over the Integers

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Abstract

We consider the problem of deciding termination of single-path while loops with integer variables, affine updates, and affine guard conditions. The question is whether such a loop terminates on all integer initial values. This problem is known to be decidable for the subclass of loops whose update matrices are diagonalisable. In this paper we show decidability of open since being conjectured update by Tiwari in 2004. In this paper we show decidability of determining termination for arbitrary update matrices, confirming Tiwari's conjecture. For the class of loops considered in this paper, the question of deciding termination on a specific initial value is a longstanding open problem for termination on a fixed initial value. The key to our decision procedure is in showing how to circumvent the difficulties in deciding termination on a fixed initial value.

Classification Computing methodologies → Algebraic algorithms; Theory of verification; Verification, Validation and verification → Verification, Loop Termination, Linear Integer Programs, Affine Verification, LP 2019.118

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Termination of Linear Loops

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Joël Ouaknine

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Depart-

tute

Termination of Triangular Integer Loops is Decidable

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Abstract. We consider the problem whether termination of affine integer loops is decidable. Since Tiwari conjectured decidability in 2004 [15], only special cases have been solved [3, 4, 14]. We complement this work by proving decidability for the case that the update matrix is triangular.

I Introduction

We consider affine integer loops of the form
 $\text{while } \varphi \text{ do } \overline{x} \leftarrow A\overline{x} + \overline{a}$

Here, $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{d \times d}$ for some dimension $d \geq 1$, \overline{x} is a column vector of different variables x_1, \dots, x_d , $\overline{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$, and φ is a condition over \overline{x} (i.e., $A[\overline{x}] = [\overline{c}^T \overline{x} + c] \mid \overline{c} \in \mathbb{Q}^d, c \in \mathbb{Q}$).

Definition 1 (Termination)

then (1) is non-terminating.
Here, (1) terminates if and only if

KoAT – Analyzing Loops

On Te

Joël Ouak
Department of Con
Oxford Univer

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mental problem in program
termination of simple linea

$\vec{x} \leftarrow \vec{u}$; while $B\vec{x} \geq \vec{c}$ do \vec{x}
 \vec{x} is a vector of variables,
vectors, and A and B are
the matrix A is diagonal;
procedure for the problem
of integer vectors \vec{u} , such a loc
ess of our algorithm relies on
algebraic and analytic number t
r, and real algebraic geom
the best of our knowledge
al advance on a 10-year-old

1 Introduction

Let \mathbb{R}_A denote the real algebraic numbers. We consider loops of the form

while φ do $\vec{x} \leftarrow \vec{a}$. (1)

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Termination of Polynomial Loops



Termination of Triangular Integer Loops is Decidable

Florian Frohn¹  and Jürgen Giesl² 
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Abstract. We consider the problem whether termination of affine integer loops is decidable. Since Tiwari conjectured this work [3,4,14], we complement this work by proving decidability for the case that the update matrix is triangular.

I Introduction

We consider affine integer loops of the form
while φ do $\vec{x} \leftarrow A\vec{x} + \vec{a}$.

Here, $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{d \times d}$ for some dimension $d \geq 1$, \vec{x} is a column vector of different variables $x_1, \dots, x_d \in \mathbb{Z}^d$, and φ is a condition over \vec{x} (i.e., $A[\vec{x}] = [\vec{c}^T \vec{x} + c] \in \mathbb{Q}^d, c \in \mathbb{Q}$). The vector \vec{a} is the vector containing k zeros, where k is the rank of A . Definition 1 formalizes the intuitive notion of termination.

Does the loop terminate?

```
while (x1 < x2 ∧ x1 > 0)
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 \cdot x_1 \\ 2 \cdot x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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end
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 - non-linear arithmetic: non-termination is semi-decidable

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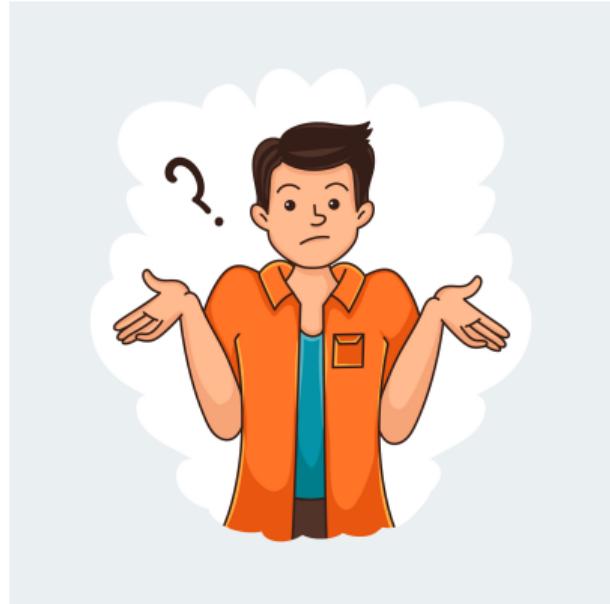
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- floating points cannot be handled by AProVE (KoAT + LoAT)
- investigate results in comparison to AProVE 2022

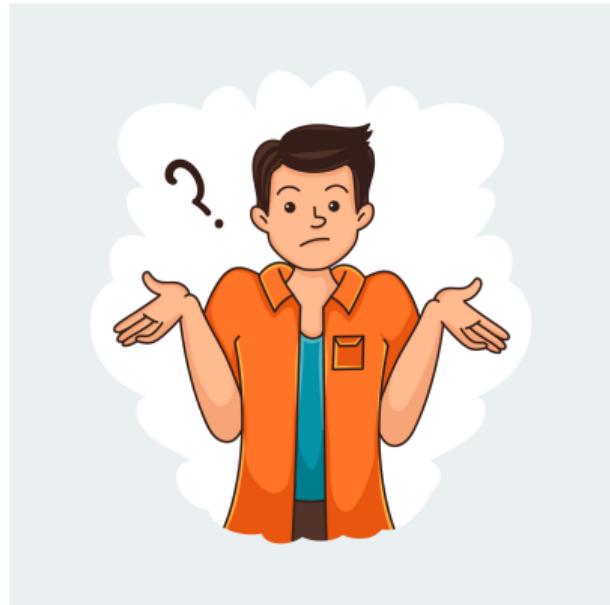
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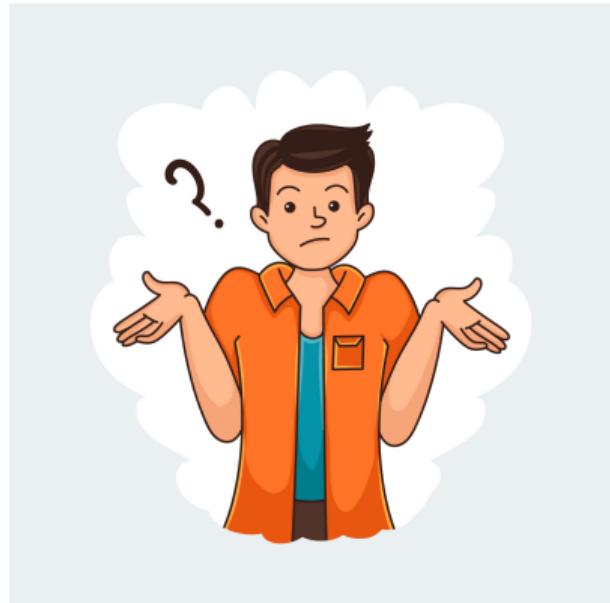
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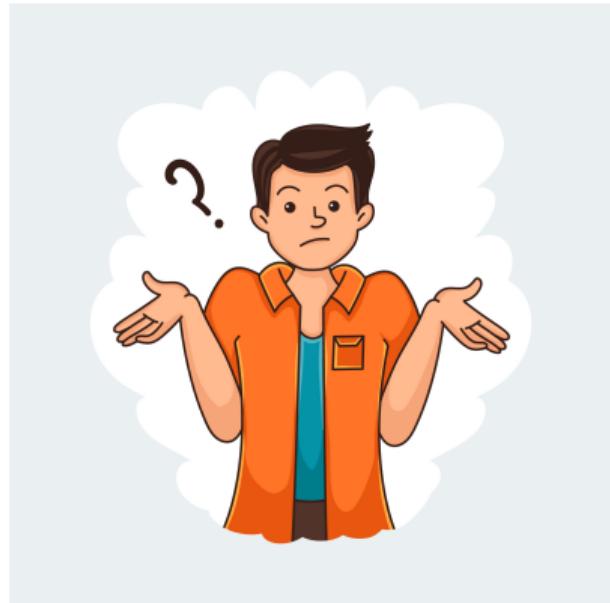
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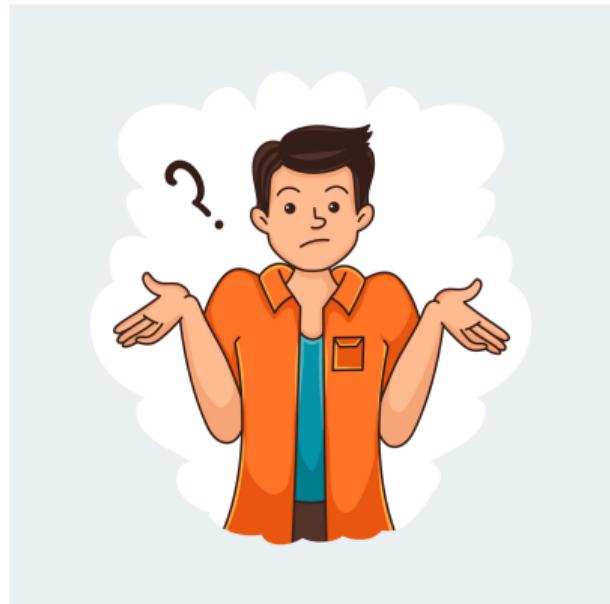
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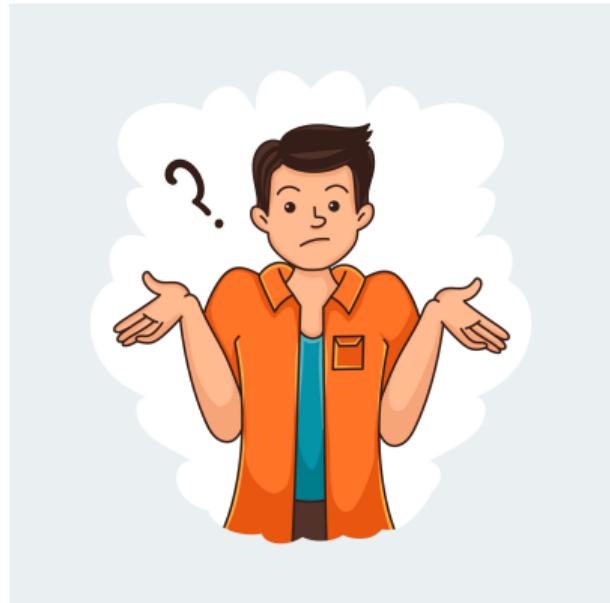
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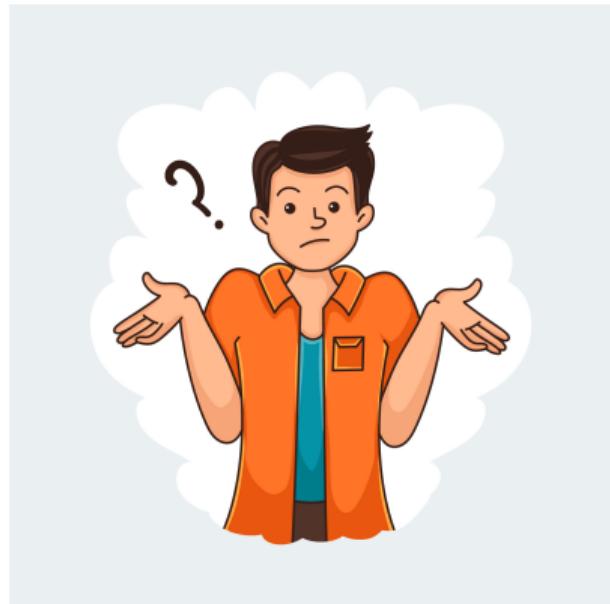
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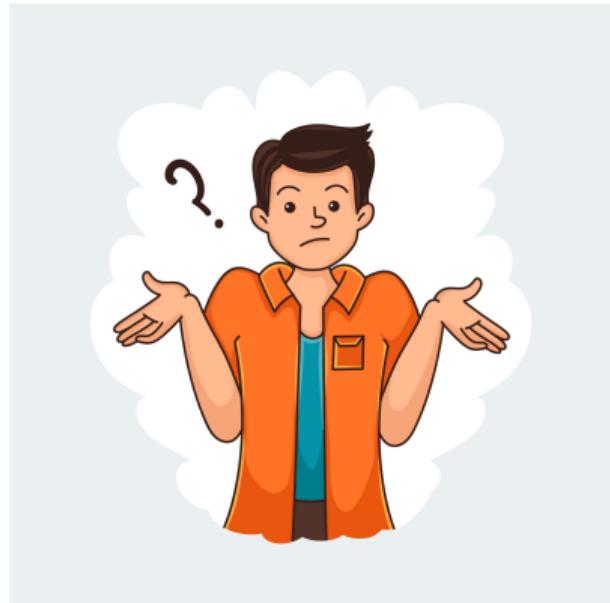
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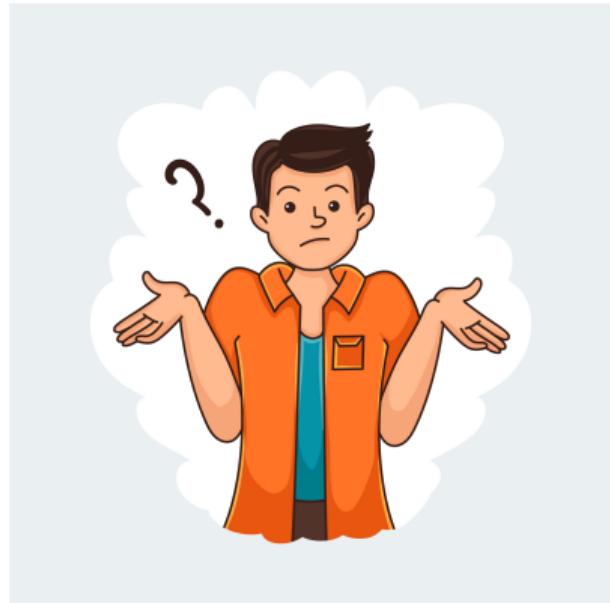
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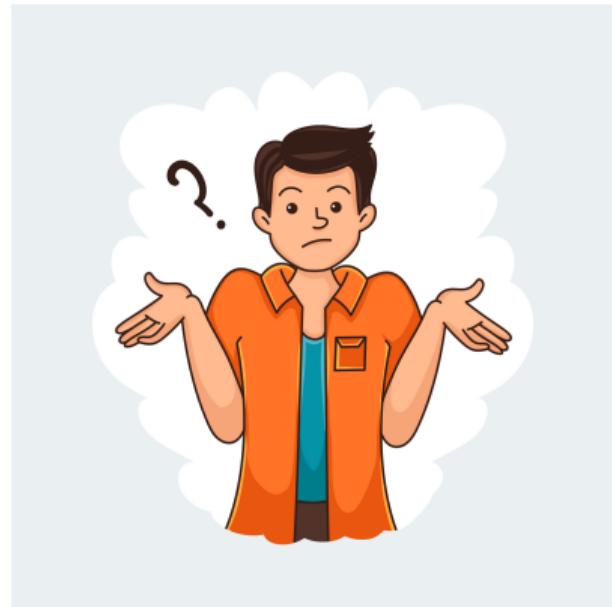
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Thank You!

