Cegarmc

Integrating Software Model Checking into Frama-C

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N. Kosmatov, A. Plaunov, S. Shankar, and J. Signoles, “Combining Analyses Within Frama-C,” in Guide to Software Verification with Frama-C, Springer, 2024.

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Model Checking

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2000 - Present: Software Model Checking

Model Checking

Pros

- Turnkey Verification: Automatic
- Good with Finite + Control + Concurrent Structures
- Counterexample Generation (BMC, Bug Finding)

Cons

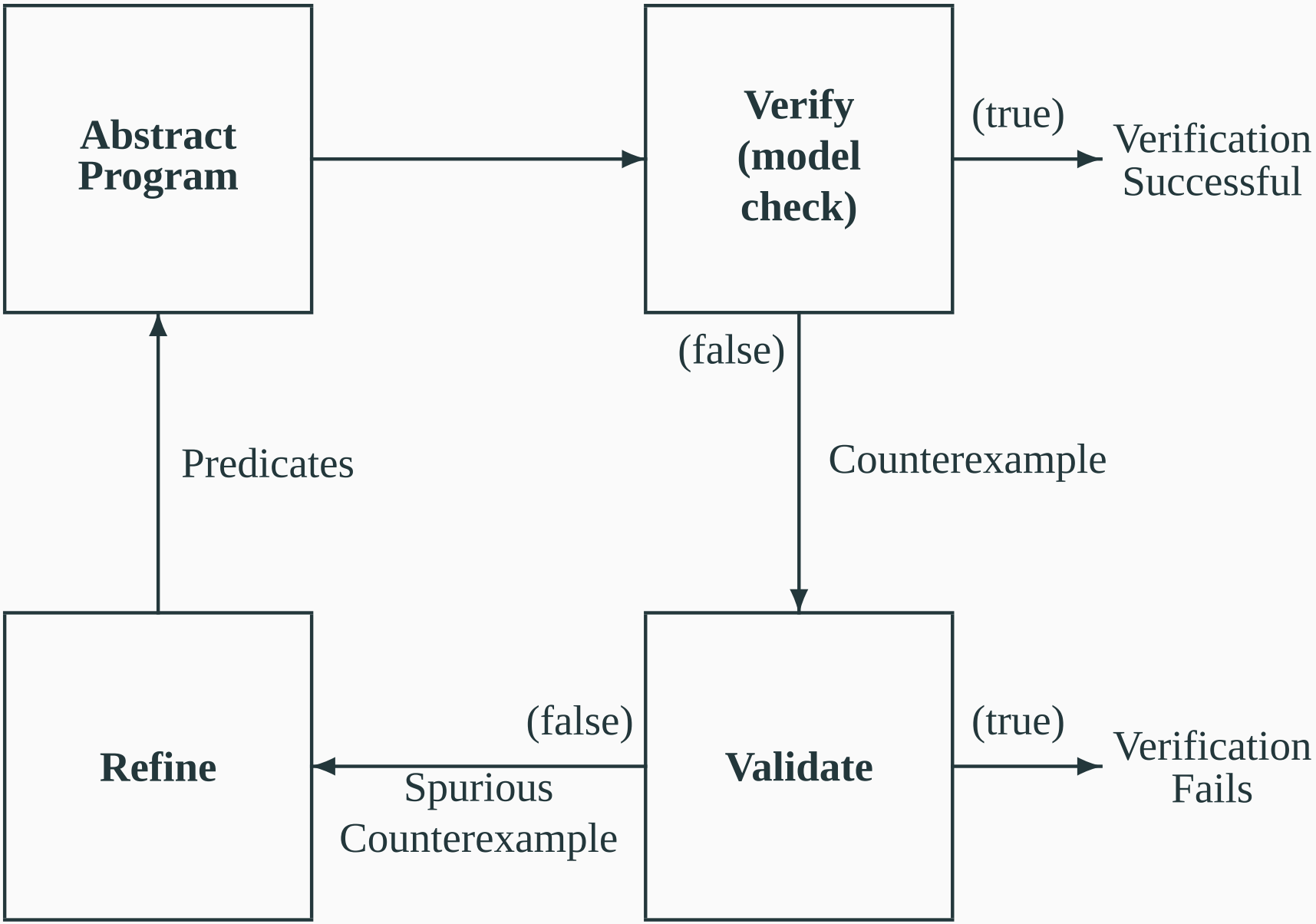
- Doesn’t Scale (State Space Explosion)
- Limited Verification Complexity (e.g., no tricky loop invariants)
- Limited Expression of Properties (Assert Statements).

Software Model Checking + CEGAR

Software Model Checking

```
1          ...
2          // unlock phase
3          if (p1 != 0) {
4              __VERIFIER_assert(lk1 == 1);
5              lk1 = 0;
6          }
7
8          if (p2 != 0) {
9              __VERIFIER_assert(lk2 == 1);
10             lk2 = 0;
11         }
12         ...
13
```

CEGAR


Abstract Program
Verify (model check)
(true)
Verification Successful
(false)
Predicates
Counterexample
Refine
(false)
Spurious Counterexample
Validate
(true)
Verification Fails

Example: CPAchecker

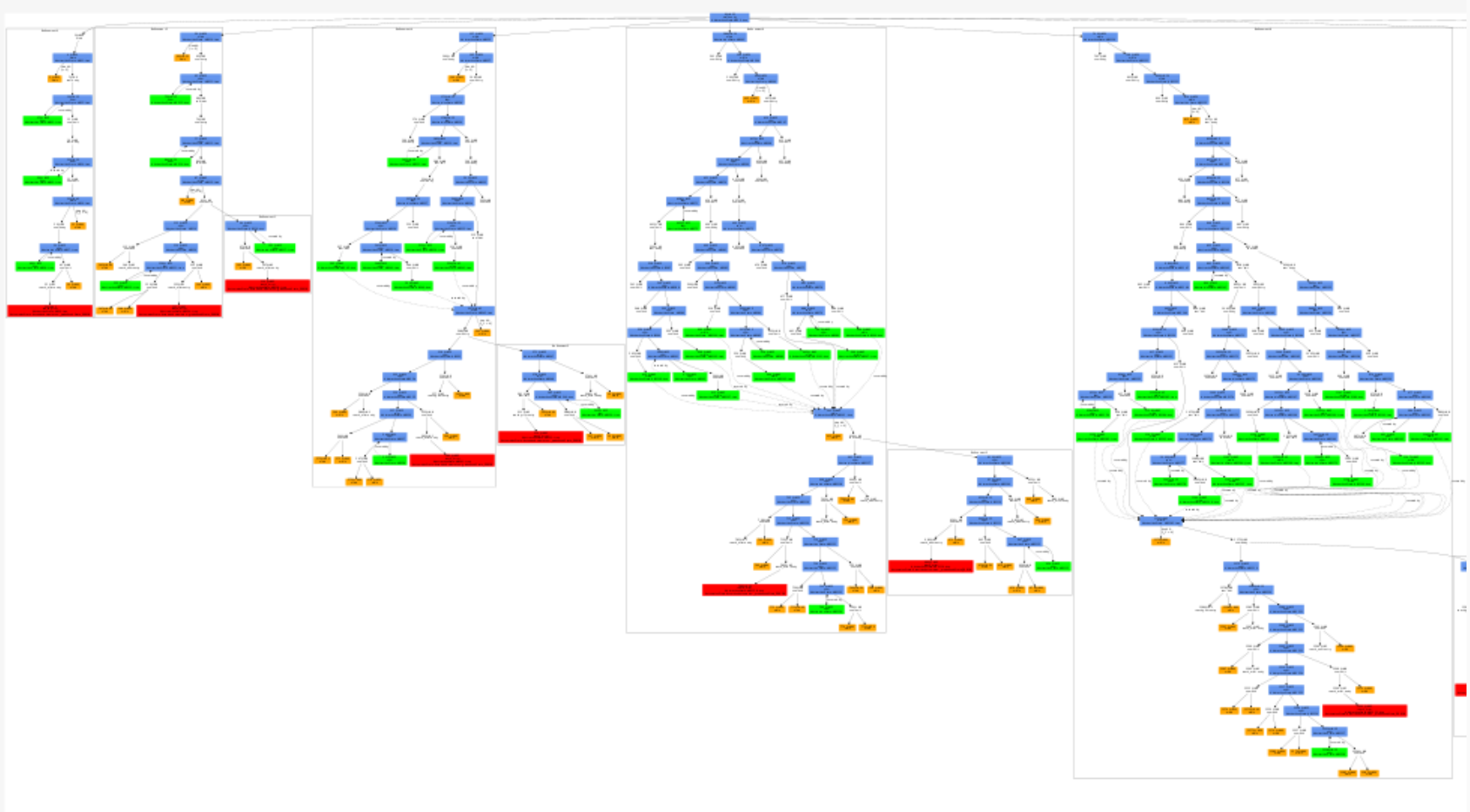


Figure 2: CPAchecker Abstraction Refinements

Cegarmc

CegarMC: Current Implementation

Verification Interface:

```
1   /*@
2       requires R1;
3       ensures E1;
4   */                          // Proved by WP
5   int foo() {
6       /*@
7           requires R1;
8           ensures E1;
9       */                      // Proved by Cegarmc
10      S1;
11      /*@
12          requires E1;
13          ensures E2;
14      */                      // Proved by WP
15      S2;
16  }
```

CegarMC: Current Implementation

Translate ACSL Statement Contracts into Reachability Problems:

```
1    Declarations;
2    __VERIFIER_assume(R1);
3    <S1 Translation>
4    __VERIFIER_assert(E1);
```

CegarMC Options

Context Flag: Use EVA analysis to provide context for statement contract.

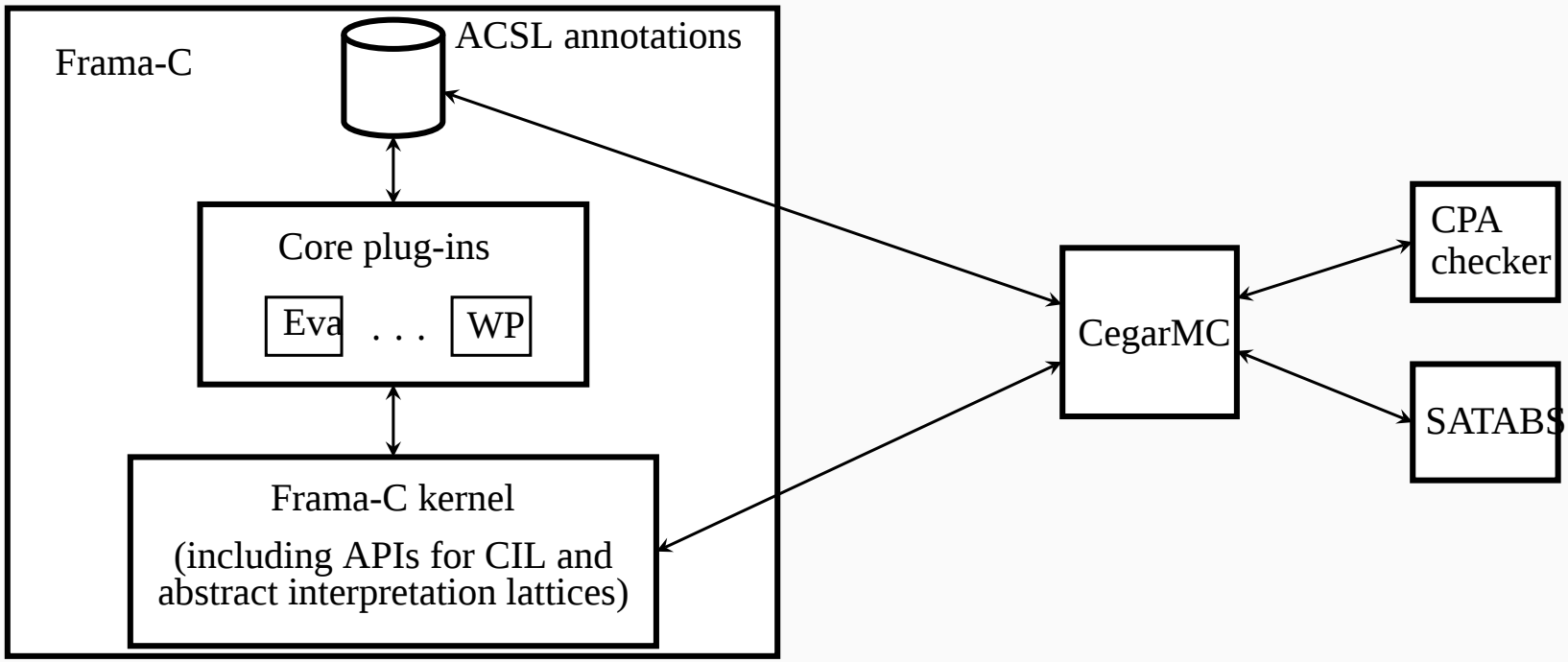
```
1    Declarations;
2    __VERIFIER_assume(EVA ANALYSIS);
3    __VERIFIER_assume(R1);
4    <S1 Translation>
5    __VERIFIER_assert(E1);
```

CegarMC Options

- **Abstract Calls Flag:** Use already verified function contracts to reduce model checking state space.

```
1
2   /*@ ensures \result == 1; */
3   int foo () {
4       ...
5   }
6
7   int main() {
8       int x;
9       /*@ ensures E1; */
10      {
11          // Original code:
12          x = foo();
13          // Translation (Simplified):
14          //__VERIFIER_assume(x == 1);
15          //...
16          //__VERIFIER_assert(E1);
17      }
18  }
```

Architecture + Demo



Aside: Model Checking vs. Abstract Interpretation

Why use model checking when we have Abstract Interpretation?

- Abstract Interpretation is much more scalable.
- Model Checking is not scalable.
- Model Checking has CEGAR, non-monadic properties, and can be more path-sensitive.
- **Caveat** Distinction is blurring: 1) CPAchecker, 2) CEGAR for Abstract Interpretation.

(Bruni Roberto, Giacobazzi Roberto, Gori Roberta, and Ranzato Francesco. 2022. Abstract interpretation repair.)

Current/Future Work

- Port CegarMC to most recent Frama-C version
- Bug Finding: Bounded Model Checking
- Extend pointer support
- Use EVA to improve model checking
- Feedback - what would you like to see in this tool?