

# Verification of an ML compiler

## Lecture 2:

# Data representation and garbage collection

Marktoberdorf Summer School MOD 2017

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# Last lecture

Sketched verification of an imperative toy compiler.

*Main lemma for proving a compiler phase correct:*

source intermediate language (IL)

$\text{evaluate code } s1 = (res, s2) \wedge res \neq \text{Rfail} \wedge$   
 $\text{state\_rel } s1 \ t1 \Rightarrow$

$\exists t2. \text{evaluate (compile code) } t1 = (res, t2) \wedge$   
 $\text{state\_rel } s2 \ t2$

target IL

compiler

# Last lecture (cont.)

Sketched verification of a toy imperative compiler.

*Source language:*

```
t = Dec string t
  | Exp e
  | Break
  | Seq t t
  | If e t t
  | For e e t

e = Var string
  | Num int
  | Add e e
  | Assign string e
```

*Target language:*

```
inst
  = Add reg reg reg
  | Int reg int
  | Jmp offset
  | JmpIf reg offset
```

# Last lecture (cont.)

Sketched verification of a toy imperative compiler.

We can make it less toy.

*Source language:*

*Target language:*

```
t = Dec string t
  | Exp e
  | Break
  | Seq t t
  | If e t t
  | For e e t
```

```
e = Var string
  | Num word32
  | Add e e
  | Assign string e
  | MemOp ...
```

```
inst
  = Add reg reg reg
  | Int reg word32
  | Jmp offset
  | JmpIf reg offset
  | Load reg reg
  | Store reg reg
```

We can use machine types

... and have a memory.

These changes are easy, but make the source lower level.

**a short demo**

# *Question:* How is ML different?

compared with our improved toy compiler (or a C compiler)

*Answer:* **Abstraction**

ML builds an illusion:

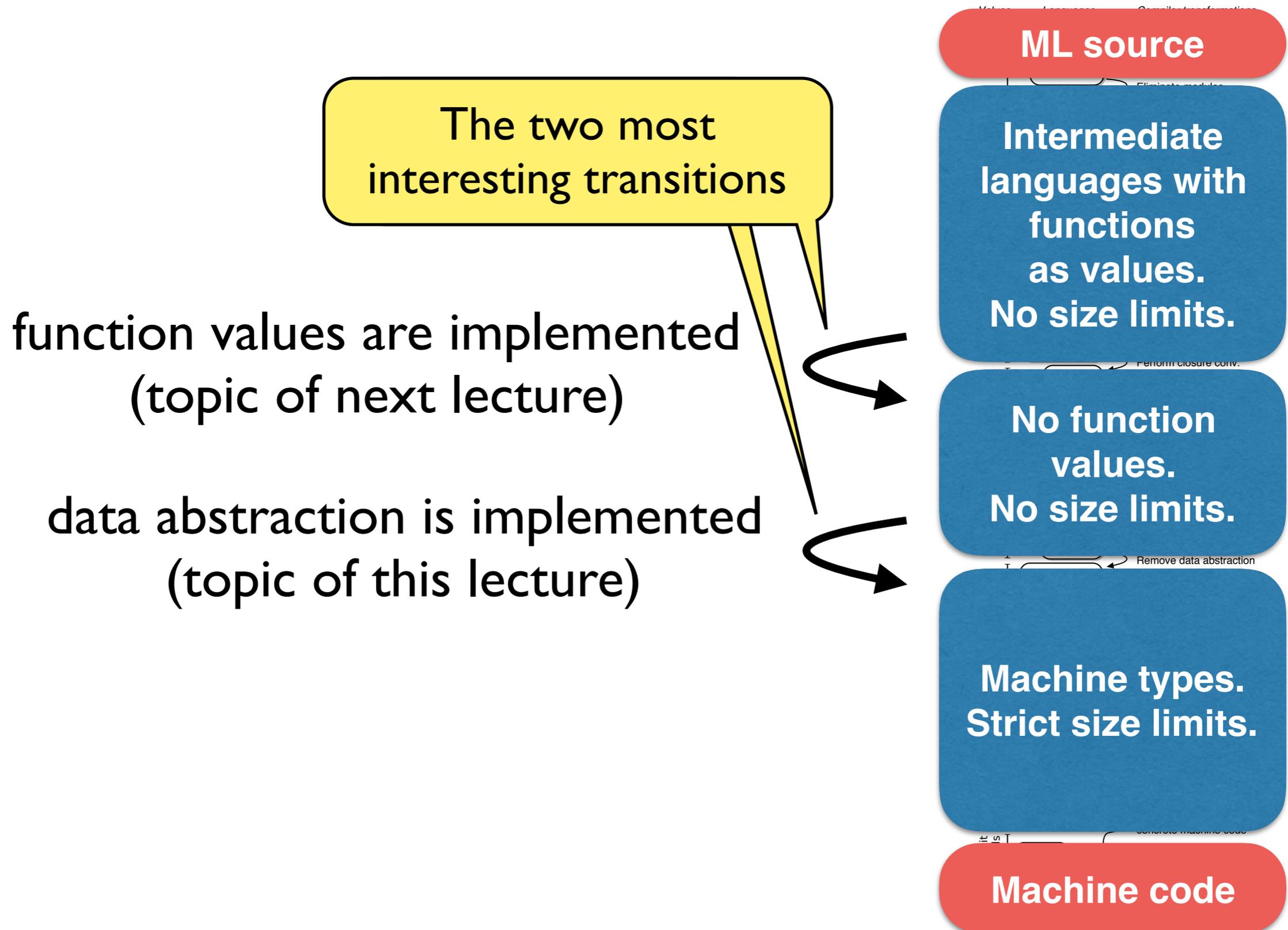
- ➔ functions are first-class values
- ➔ there are no hard size limits

type-checked

*... and also:* **Safety**

All ML programs have some well-defined semantics (contrast with C)

# Implementing the ML abstractions



# Implementing the ML abstractions

## *Value type before:*

```
v =  
  Number int  
  | Word64 word64  
  | Block num (v list)  
  | CodePtr num  
  | RefPtr num
```

mathematical integers

tuples / vectors of any length

No function  
values.  
No size limits.

Machine types.  
Strict size limits.

---

## *Value types after:*

machine words (32- or 64-bit)

state contains a memory  
modelled as finite map

# Implementing the ML abstractions

## *Value type before:*

```
v =  
  Number int  
  | Word64 word64  
  | Block num (v list)  
  | CodePtr num  
  | RefPtr num
```

mathematical integers

tuples / vectors of any length

*This refinement is complicated.*

**Question:**  
can it be realised?

---

## *Value types after:*

machine words (32- or 64-bit)

state contains a memory  
modelled as finite map

# Implementing the ML abstractions

## *Value type before:*

```
v =  
  Number int  
  | Word64 word64  
  | Block num (v list)  
  | CodePtr num  
  | RefPtr num
```

mathematical integers

tuples / vectors of any length

*This refinement is complicated.*

*It cannot be perfect because the target has fixed size limits.*

---

## *Value types after:*

machine words (32- or 64-bit)

state contains a memory modelled as finite map

# The tools from Lecture 1 adapted

In Lecture 1, we proved theorems of the form:

`evaluate code s1 = (res, s2) ∧ res ≠ Rfail ∧  
state_rel s1 t1 ⇒`

`∃t2. evaluate (compile code) t1 = (res, t2) ∧  
state_rel s2 t2`

# The tools from Lecture 1 adapted

Modified:

```
evaluate code s1 = (res, s2)  $\wedge$  res  $\neq$  Rfail  $\wedge$   
state_rel s1 t1  $\Rightarrow$   
 $\exists$ t2 res2. evaluate (compile code) t1 = (res2, t2)  $\wedge$   
(state_rel s2 t2  $\wedge$  res2 = res  $\vee$   
res2 = RHitHardLimit  $\wedge$  t2.IO isPrefix s2.IO)
```

we allow execution with an  
out-of-memory error

the target list of I/O events must be a  
prefix of the source I/O events

# The tools from Lecture 1 adapted

Modified:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{evaluate } \text{code } s1 &= (\text{res}, s2) \wedge \text{res} \neq \text{Rfail} \wedge \\ \text{state\_rel } s1 \ t1 &\Rightarrow \\ \exists t2 \ \text{res2}. \text{evaluate } (\text{compile } \text{code}) \ t1 &= (\text{res2}, t2) \wedge \\ &(\text{state\_rel } s2 \ t2 \wedge \text{res2} = \text{res} \vee \\ &\text{res2} = \text{RHitHardLimit} \wedge t2.\text{IO} \ \text{isPrefix } s2.\text{IO}) \end{aligned}$$

The top-level correctness theorem becomes weaker:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{machine\_semantics } (\text{compile } \text{prog}) \\ \in \text{extend\_with\_resource\_limit } (\text{semantics } \text{prog}) \end{aligned}$$

produce a set of all prefixes ...

... of these behaviours

# The tools from Lecture 1 adapted

can abruptly terminate

In our simple setting *without* I/O:

`extend_with_resource_limit Crash = { Crash }`

`extend_with_resource_limit Terminate = { Terminate }`

`extend_with_resource_limit Diverge = { Diverge, Terminate }`

**Question:** Is this too weak?

The top-level correctness theorem becomes weaker:

`machine_semantics (compile prog)`  
`∈ extend_with_resource_limit (semantics prog)`

produce a set of all prefixes ...

... of these behaviours

# The tools from Lecture 1 adapted

Modified:

`evaluate code s1 = (res, s2) ∧ res ≠ Rfail ∧  
state_rel s1 t1 ⇒`

`∃t2 res2. evaluate (compile code) t1 = (res2, t2) ∧`

`(state_rel s2 t2 ∧ res2 = res ∨`

`res2 = RHitHardLimit ∧ t2.IO isPrefix s2.IO)`

The top-level correctness theorem becomes weaker:

`machine_semantics (compile prog)`

`∈ extend_with_resource_limit (semantics prog)`

# State relation defines abstraction

## *CakeML's abs. complicated*

### *Value type before:*

```
v =  
  Number int  
  | Word64 word64  
  | Block num (v list)  
  | CodePtr num  
  | RefPtr num
```

configurable

### *Value types after:*

machine words (32- or 64-bit)

state contains a memory  
modelled as finite map

## *Toy abstraction for this lecture*

### *Value type before:*

```
sexp =  
  Num word30  
  | Sym word30  
  | Dot sexp sexp
```

simplified Lisp  
s-expression

fixed &  
simple

### *Value types after:*

32-bit machine words

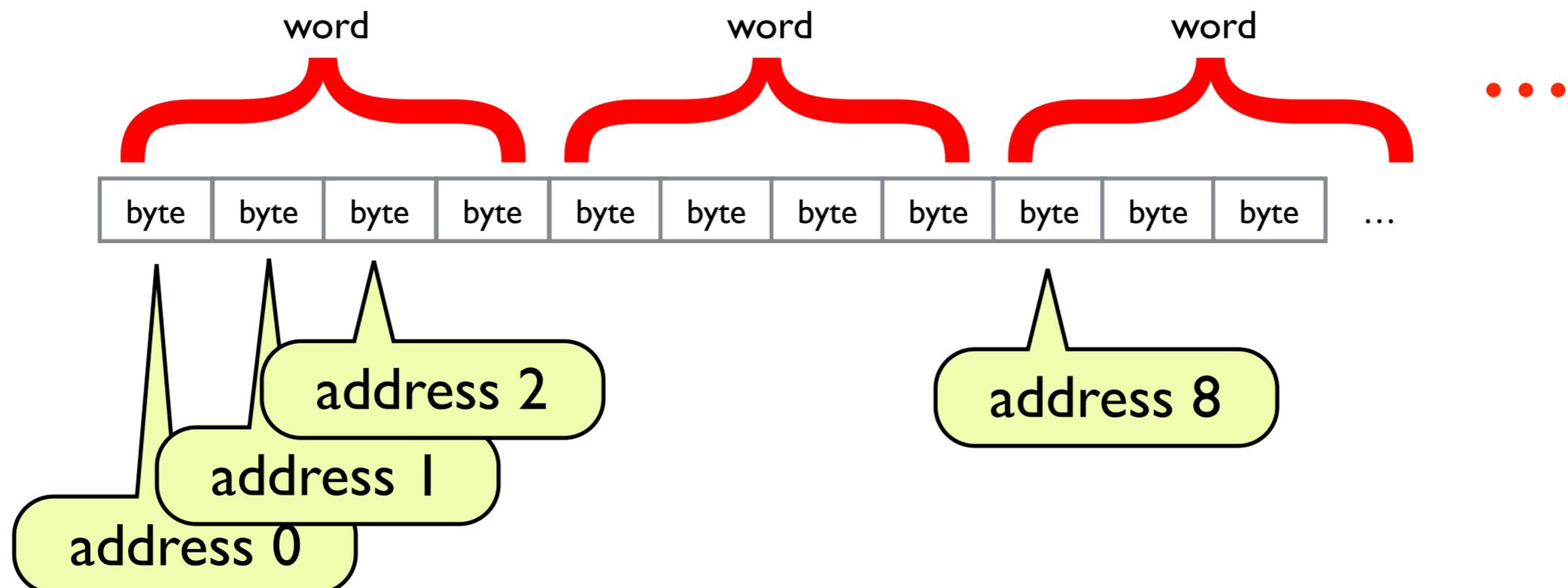
state contains a memory  
modelled as finite map

# Bits, Bytes, Words and Memory

**Trick:** lower bits used to distinguish between pointers and data.

A look at memory:

- memory is byte addressed (byte = 8 bits)
- 32-bit word = four bytes
- aligned words have address divisible by 4 (called 32-bit aligned)
- word-aligned pointers end in bits '00'



# Bits, Bytes, Words and Memory

**Trick:** lower bits used to distinguish between pointers and data.

Representation of s-expressions:

- **cons-cells** (Dot) are repr. as **pointer** to an aligned pair of words  
i.e. every cons-pointer ends in bits '00'
- **numeric** value  $v$  represented as word  $4 \times v + 1$  (ends in bits '01')
- **symbol** value  $s$  represented as word  $4 \times s + 2$  (ends in bits '10')

**Example:** (1 2) i.e. (1 . (2 . nil))

**Representation:** 200

**With memory:**



...



...

address 200

address 400

'nil' symbol number 0

# Value relation

$\text{val\_rel } (\text{Val } n) \ w \ (m, b, i) = (w = 4 \times n + 1)$

$\text{val\_rel } (\text{Sym } n) \ w \ (m, b, i) = (w = 4 \times n + 2)$

$\text{val\_rel } (\text{Dot } x1 \ x2) \ w \ (m, b, i) =$

$\text{word\_aligned } w \wedge b \leq w \wedge w+4 < i \wedge$

$w+0 \in \text{domain } m \wedge \text{val\_rel } x1 \ (m(w+0)) \ (m, b, i) \wedge$

$w+4 \in \text{domain } m \wedge \text{val\_rel } x2 \ (m(w+4)) \ (m, b, i)$

# State relation

```
state_rel s t =  
  s.clock = t.clock ∧  
  (∀k val.
```

```
    lookup k s.store = Some val ⇒  
    ∃w. lookup k t.store = Some w ∧  
        val_rel w val (t.memory, t.b, t.i)) ∧
```

```
let s1 = { a | t.b ≤ a ∧ a < t.e } in
```

```
let s2 = { a | t.b2 ≤ a ∧ a < t.e2 } in
```

```
domain m = s1 ∪ s2 ∧ s1 ∩ s2 = {} ∧
```

```
t.b ≤ t.i ≤ t.e ∧ t.b2 ≤ t.e2 ∧
```

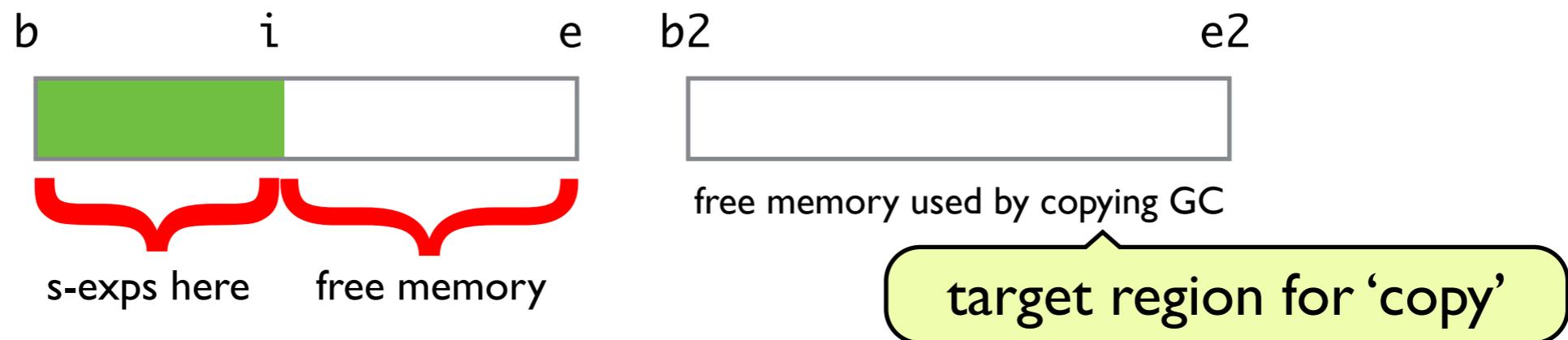
```
every word_aligned [t.b, t.i, t.e, t.b2, t.e2]
```

for each value, there is a corresponding one below

details about memory layout

# State relation

Memory is split into two heaps (only one active at a time) setup:



```
let s1 = { a | t.b ≤ a ∧ a < t.e } in
```

```
let s2 = { a | t.b2 ≤ a ∧ a < t.e2 } in
```

```
domain m = s1 ∪ s2 ∧ s1 ∩ s2 = {} ∧
```

```
t.b ≤ t.i ≤ t.e ∧ t.b2 ≤ t.e2 ∧
```

```
every word_aligned [t.b, t.i, t.e, t.b2, t.e2]
```

details about  
memory layout

# Lemmas about state relation

## *Operation in Lisp:*

**`cdr (Dot x1 x2) = Some x2`**

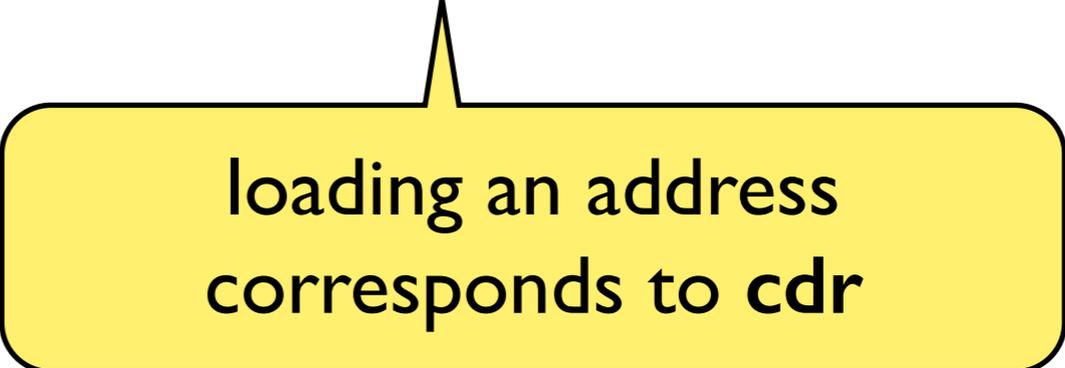
**`cdr _ = None`**

## *Lemma for compiler proof:*

**`cdr y = Some x  $\wedge$  val_rel y w (m,b,i)  $\Rightarrow$`**

**`w+4  $\in$  domain m  $\wedge$  val_rel x (m(w+4)) (m,b,i)  $\wedge$`**

**`word_aligned (w+4)`**



loading an address  
corresponds to `cdr`

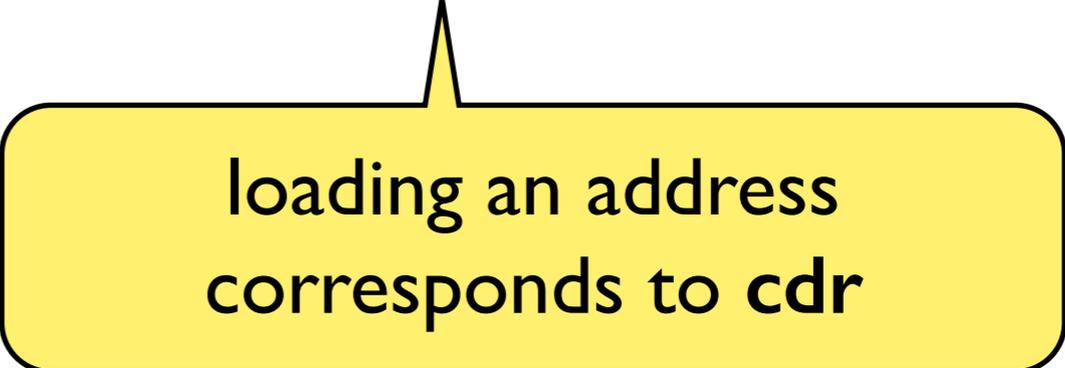
$\text{val\_rel } (\text{Dot } x1 \ x2) \ w \ (m, b, i) =$   
 $\text{word\_aligned } w \wedge b \leq w \wedge w+4 < i \wedge$   
 $w+0 \in \text{domain } m \wedge \text{val\_rel } x1 \ (m(w+0)) \ (m, b, i) \wedge$   
 $w+4 \in \text{domain } m \wedge \text{val\_rel } x2 \ (m(w+4)) \ (m, b, i)$

### *Operation in Lisp:*

$\text{cdr } (\text{Dot } x1 \ x2) = \text{Some } x2$   
 $\text{cdr } \_ = \text{None}$

### *Lemma for compiler proof:*

$\text{cdr } y = \text{Some } x \wedge \text{val\_rel } y \ w \ (m, b, i) \Rightarrow$   
 $w+4 \in \text{domain } m \wedge \text{val\_rel } x \ (m(w+4)) \ (m, b, i) \wedge$   
 $\text{word\_aligned } (w+4)$



loading an address  
corresponds to cdr

## *Implementation in compiler:*

```
compile_exp (Cdr e) =  
  MemOp Load (Add (compile_exp e) (Num 4))
```

## *Lemma for compiler proof:*

```
cdr y = Some x  $\wedge$  val_rel y w (m,b,i)  $\Rightarrow$   
w+4  $\in$  domain m  $\wedge$  val_rel x (m(w+4)) (m,b,i)  $\wedge$   
word_aligned (w+4)
```

loading an address  
corresponds to cdr

# Lemmas about state relation

## *Operation in Lisp:*

`plus (Val w1) (Val w2) = Some (Val (w1 + w2))`  
`plus _ _ = None`

## *Lemma for compiler proof:*

`plus x y = Some res  $\wedge$`

`val_rel x w1 (m, b, i)  $\wedge$`

`val_rel y w2 (m, b, i)  $\Rightarrow$`

`val_rel res (w1 + w2 - 1) (m, b, i)`

why do we subtract one?

## Reminder about the definition:

$$\text{val\_rel } (\text{Val } n) \ w \ (m, b, e) = (w = 4 \times n + 1)$$

## Operation in Lisp:

$$\text{plus } (\text{Val } w1) \ (\text{Val } w2) = \text{Some } (\text{Val } (w1 + w2))$$

$$\text{plus } \_ \_ = \text{None}$$

30-bit wrap-around semantics

## Lemma for compiler proof:

$$\text{plus } x \ y = \text{Some } \text{res} \wedge$$

$$\text{val\_rel } x \ w1 \ (m, b, i) \wedge$$

$$\text{val\_rel } y \ w2 \ (m, b, i) \Rightarrow$$

$$\text{val\_rel } \text{res} \ (w1 + w2 - 1) \ (m, b, i)$$

why do we subtract one?

# Lemmas about state relation

## Operation in Lisp:

`cons x1 x2 = Some (Dot x1 x2)`

Question: *what's wrong with this lemma statement?*

`cons x y = Some res  $\wedge$`

`val_rel x w1 (m,b,i)  $\wedge$`

`val_rel y w2 (m,b,i)  $\implies$`

`val_rel res i (m[i  $\mapsto$  w1, i+4  $\mapsto$  w2], b, i+8)`

might wrap around

memory is updated

... might not be safe

# Lemmas about state relation

## Operation in Lisp:

`cons x1 x2 = Some (Dot x1 x2)`

assume there is space

assume memory layout

## A better one:

`cons x y = Some res`  $\wedge$  `state_rel s t`  $\wedge$  `t.i + 8 <= t.e`  $\wedge$   
`val_rel x w1 (t.memory, t.b, t.i)`  $\wedge$   
`val_rel y w2 (t.memory, t.b, t.i)`  $\implies$   
`val_rel res t.i (t.memory[i  $\mapsto$  w1, i+4  $\mapsto$  w2], t.b, t.i+8)`  $\wedge$   
`t.i  $\in$  domain m`  $\wedge$  `t.i + 4  $\in$  domain m`

memory is updated

# Implementation of cons

*Pseudo code:*

if not  $(t.i + 8 \leq t.e)$  then:

call alloc subroutine

mem[t.i] = w1

mem[t.i+4] = w2

t.i := t.i + 8

fast and simple check

requires verified GC

run the copying GC

if not  $(t.i + 8 \leq t.e)$  then:

*halt execution*

return

---

*Exercise:*

Sketch memory layout and cons-code for a mark-and-sweep garbage collector.

# Question

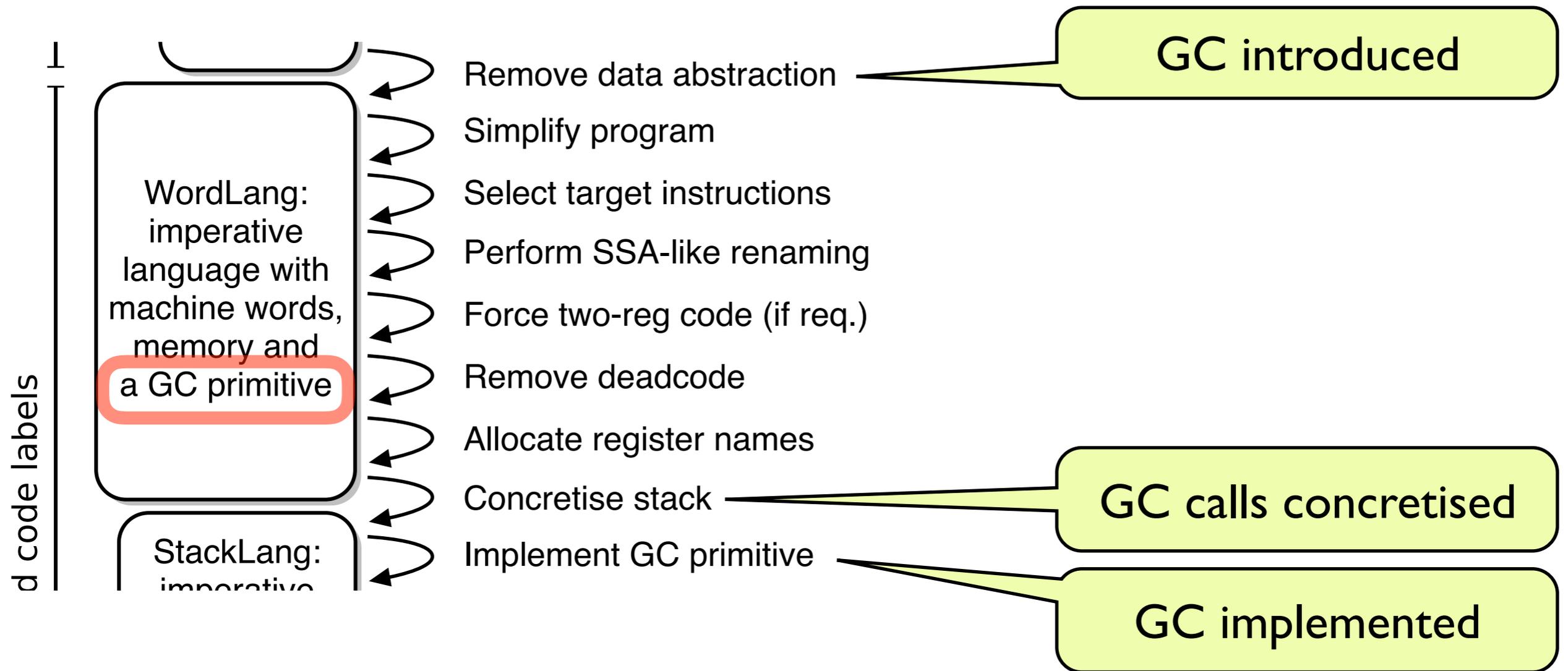
What do we need to prove about the GC?

$\forall s \ t. \text{state\_rel } s \ t \Rightarrow \text{state\_rel } s \ (\text{run\_gc } t)$

running the GC ...

... has no impact on the abstract state.

# Garbage collection in CakeML



# Copying GC illustration

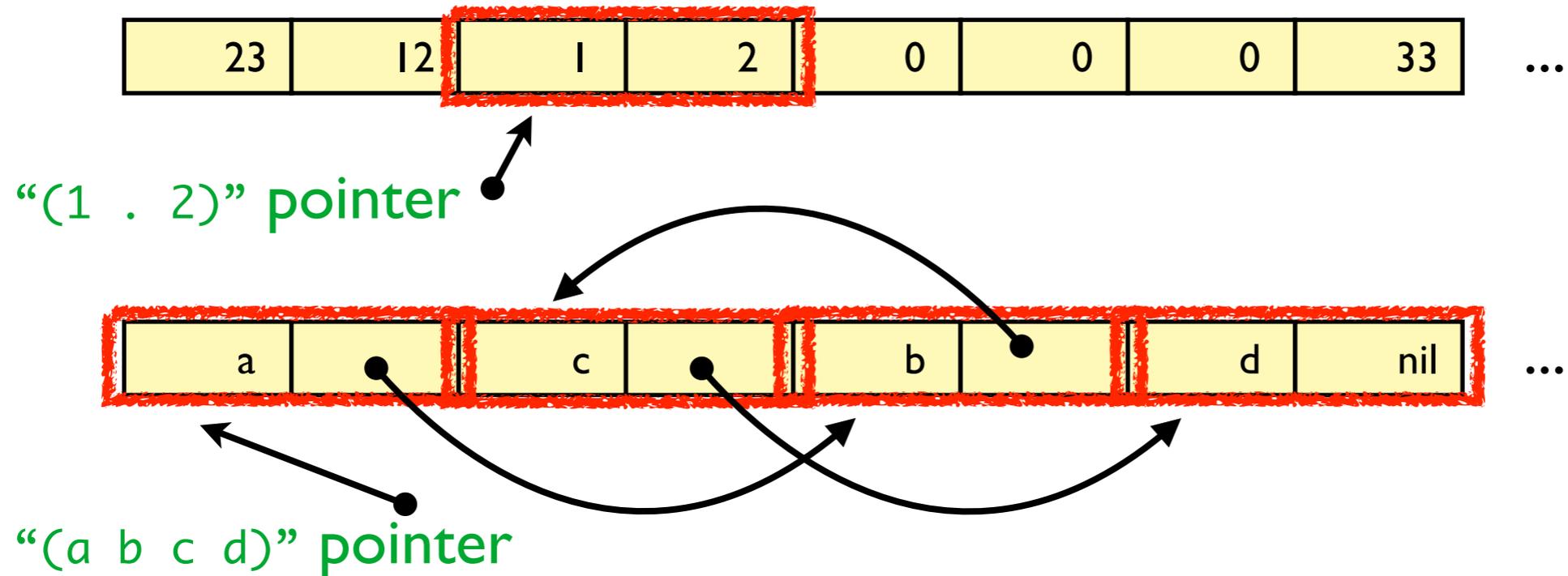
*(a sketch on the blackboard)*

## Question

How do we model and verify the GC?

# Memory as a graph

Representation *in memory*:



# Organising a verification proof

**Task:** construction of verified code for GC routine

**Plan:** stepwise refinement from high-level specification

**Step 1:** specify what GC is to achieve

**Step 2:** write abstract implementation  
(small-step relation), prove correct w.r.t spec

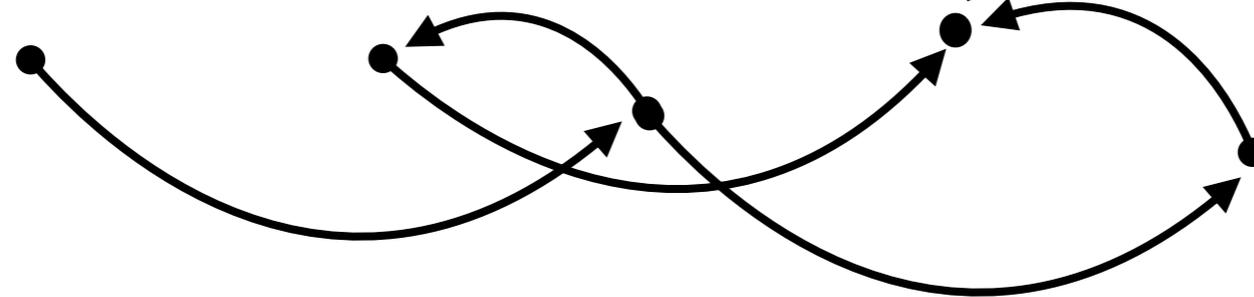
**Step 3:** introduce a more concrete notion of memory,  
prove connection with small-step relation

**Step 4:** write and verify imperative style code with  
concrete types

# Specification of copying GC

How to model the 'heap' (i.e. memory) abstractly?

In the abstract, the heap is a graph.



data stored in nodes

We model the graph as a **finite partial map** from `num` to `heap_node`.

```
heap_addr ::= LHS num | RHS 'ptr_data'
```

```
heap_node ::= (heap_addr list, 'data')
```

misaligned ptrs are data

at this level, type variable

**State** = **heap graph** + **root pointers** (active pointers in program).

# Reachability

GC must not delete **reachable nodes**. Reachable:

$$\frac{a \in \text{set } roots}{a \in \text{reach } (h, roots)}$$

$$\frac{a \in \text{set } as \wedge h(b) = (as, data) \wedge b \in \text{reach } (h, roots)}{a \in \text{reach } (h, roots)}$$

A full GC ought to only keep reachable nodes:

$$\text{filter } (h, roots) = (h \downarrow (\text{reach } (h, roots)), roots)$$

restricts domain of h function to reach set

# Moving

A moving GC is allowed to rename addresses:

We are allowed to apply a renaming function.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{domain } (\text{rename } f \ h) &= \text{image } f \ (\text{domain } h) \\ (\text{rename } f \ h)(f(x)) &= (\text{map } f \ as, d) \quad \text{whenever } h(x) = (as, d) \end{aligned}$$

Define:

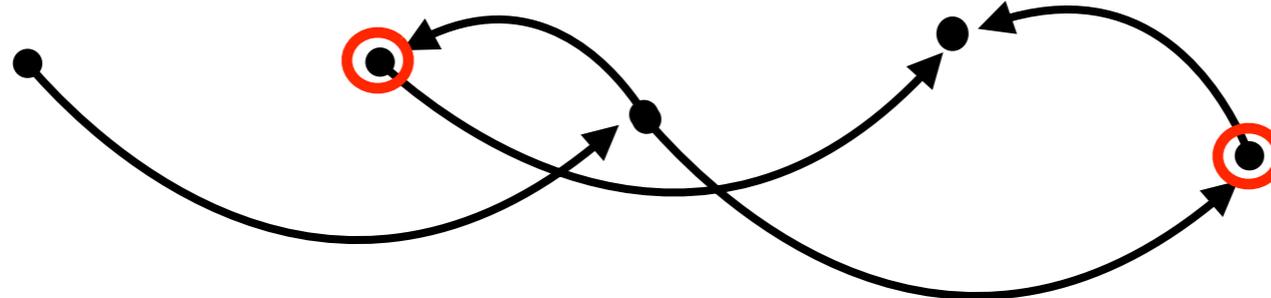
$$\frac{f \circ f = \text{id}}{(h, roots) \xrightarrow{\text{translate}} (\text{rename } f \ h, \text{map } f \ roots)}$$

The specification of a **full moving GC**:

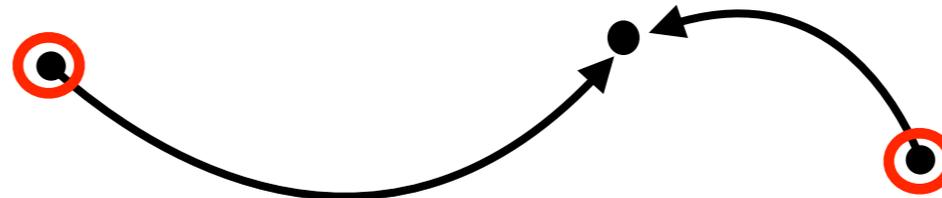
$$x \xrightarrow{\text{gc}} y = (\text{filter } x) \xrightarrow{\text{translate}} y$$

# Example

Initial heap graph (with roots marked red):



After GC:



# Abstract implementation

Next: smart pointer, multi-colour moving pointer algorithm

*a* needs to be moved

*b* is unused location

content at *a*

swap

$$a \in z \wedge b \notin \text{domain } h \wedge f(a) = a \wedge f(b) = b \wedge h(a) = (as, d)$$

$$(h, x, y, z, f) \xrightarrow{\text{step}} (h[b \mapsto (as, d)] \upharpoonright \{a\}^c, x, y \cup \{b\}, z \cup \text{set } as, f[a \mapsto b][b \mapsto a])$$

$$a \in z \wedge f(a) \neq a$$

$(h, x,$

finalise heap cell

already processed

$$b \in y \wedge h(b) = (as, d) \wedge \text{set } as \cap z = \{\}$$

$$(h, x, y, z, f) \xrightarrow{\text{step}} (h[b \mapsto (\text{map } f \text{ } as, d)], x \cup \{b\}, y - \{b\}, z, f)$$

## State consists of components:

- h* — the heap, a finite partial mapping,
- x* — address set: completely processed heap elements,
- y* — address set: moved elements with pointers to not-yet-moved elements,
- z* — address set: elements that are still to be moved,
- f* — a function which records where elements have been moved:  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

# Correctness

starts off with roots to-be moved

Correctness theorem.

terminates when nothing left to-do

$\forall h \ h_2 \ roots \ x \ f.$

$(h, \{\}, \{\}, \text{set } roots, \text{id}) \xrightarrow{\text{step}^*} (h_2, x, \{\}, \{\}, f) \wedge \text{ok\_heap}(h, roots) \implies$

$(h, roots) \xrightarrow{\text{gc}} (h_2 \setminus x, \text{map } f \ roots)$

where  $\text{ok\_heap}(h, roots) = \text{pointers } h \cup \text{set } roots \subseteq \text{domain } h$

$\text{pointers } h = \{ x \mid \exists a \ as \ d. x \in \text{set } as \wedge h(a) = (as, d) \}$

any such terminating execution is a valid GC execution

**Proof:** we prove that an **invariant** is maintained

$\forall x \ s \ t. \text{inv } x \ s \wedge s \xrightarrow{\text{step}} t \implies \text{inv } x \ t$

and sufficient. **Invariant on next slide...**

# Invariant

The lengthy invariant:

```
inv (h0, roots) (h, x, y, z, f) =  
0   let old = (domain h ∪ { a | f(a) ≠ a }) - (x ∪ y) in  
1   (x ∩ y = {}) ∧ (f ∘ f = id) ∧  
2   pointers (h|x) ⊆ x ∪ y ∧  
3   pointers (h|xc) ⊆ old ∧  
4   pointers (h|y) ∪ set roots ⊆ image f (x ∪ y) ∪ z ⊆ reach (h0, roots) ∧  
5   (∀a. a ∈ z ⇒ if f(a) = a then a ∈ old else f(a) ∈ x ∪ y) ∧  
6   (∀a. f(a) ≠ a ⇒ ¬(a ∈ x ∪ y ⇔ f(a) ∈ x ∪ y)) ∧  
7   (∀a. a ∈ x ∪ y ⇔ f(a) ≠ a ∧ a ∈ domain h) ∧  
8   domain h = image f (domain h0) ∧  
9   (∀a as d. f(a) ∈ domain h ∧ h(f(a)) = (as, d) ⇒  
      h0(a) = if f(a) ∈ x then (map f as, d) else (as, d))
```

Most effort is spent finding the invariant.

First-order prover can automate much of the proof.

# Implementation with memory

Next refinement introduces an **abstract memory**.

Memory consists of

- Block  $(as, l, d)$  — block of data, e.g. a cons-cell
- Ref  $a$  — record of where data has moved
- Emp — empty or ‘don’t care’

Relation to small-step relation’s state:

- $m(a) = \text{Block } (h(a))$  if  $a \in \text{domain } h$
- $m(a) = \text{Ref } (f(a))$  if  $a \notin \text{domain } h$  and  $f(a) \neq a$
- $m(a) = \text{Emp}$  if  $a \notin \text{domain } h$  and  $f(a) = a$

# Implementation with memory

$\text{move (RHS } n, j, m) = (\text{RHS } n, j, m)$

$\text{move (LHS } a, j, m) = \text{case } m(a) \text{ of}$

$\text{Ref } i \rightarrow (\text{LHS } i, j, m)$

$| \text{Block } (as, l, d) \rightarrow$

$\text{let } m = m[a \mapsto \text{Ref } j] \text{ in}$

$\text{let } m = m[j \mapsto \text{Block } (as, l, d)] \text{ in}$   
             $(\text{LHS } j, j + l + 1, m)$

# Implementation with memory

$\text{move (RHS } n, j, m) = (\text{RHS } n, j, m)$   
 $\text{move (LHS } a, j, m) = \text{case } m(a) \text{ of}$   
     $\text{Ref } i \rightarrow (\text{LHS } i, j, m)$   
     $| \text{Block } (as, l, d) \rightarrow$   
         $\text{let } m = m[a \mapsto \text{Ref } j] \text{ in}$   
         $\text{let } m = m[j \mapsto \text{Block } (as, l, d)] \text{ in}$   
         $(\text{LHS } j, j + l + 1, m)$

$\text{move\_list } ([], j, m) = ([], j, m)$   
 $\text{move\_list } (r::rs, j, m) =$   
     $\text{let } (r, j, m) = \text{move } (r, j, m) \text{ in}$   
     $\text{let } (rs, j, m) = \text{move\_list } (rs, j, m) \text{ in}$   
     $(r::rs, j, m)$

$\text{readBlock } (\text{Block } x) = x$   
 $\text{cut } (i, j) m = \lambda k. \text{ if } i \leq k \wedge k < j \text{ then } m k \text{ else Emp}$

$\text{loop } (i, j, m) =$   
     $\text{if } i = j \text{ then } (i, m) \text{ else}$   
         $\text{let } (as, l, d) = \text{readBlock } (m i) \text{ in}$   
         $\text{let } (as, j, m) = \text{move\_list } (as, j, m) \text{ in}$   
         $\text{let } m = m[i \mapsto \text{Block } (as, l, d)] \text{ in}$   
         $\text{loop } (i + l + 1, j, m)$

$\text{collector } (roots, b, i, e, b_2, e_2, m) =$   
     $\text{let } (b_2, e_2, b, e) = (b, e, b_2, e_2) \text{ in}$   
     $\text{let } (roots, j, m) = \text{move\_list } (roots, b, m) \text{ in}$   
     $\text{let } (i, m) = \text{loop } (b, j, m) \text{ in}$   
     $\text{let } m = \text{cut } (b, i) m \text{ in}$   
     $(roots, b, i, e, b_2, e_2, m)$

# Correctness

if abstract state is correctly represented, then ...

Correctness theorem

for any execution of implementation...

$$\forall h \text{ roots } roots_2 \ x \ y. \\ \text{ok\_mem\_heap } (h, \text{roots}) \ x \wedge \text{collector } (\text{roots}, x) = (\text{roots}_2, y) \implies \\ \exists h_2. \text{ok\_mem\_heap } (h_2, \text{roots}_2) \ y \wedge (h, \text{roots}) \xrightarrow{\text{gc}} (h_2, \text{roots}_2)$$

some new abstract heap exists such that ...

specification is met

**Proof:** again uses a lengthy invariant

$$\text{mem\_inv } (h_0, \text{roots}_0, h, f) \ (b, i, j, e, b_2, e_2, m, z) = \\ b \leq i \leq j \leq e \wedge (e < b_2 \vee e_2 < b) \wedge \\ (\forall a. a \notin b_2 \dots e_2 \cup b \dots j \implies m(a) = \text{Emp}) \wedge \\ \text{part\_heap } (b, i) \ m \ (i - b) \wedge \text{part\_heap } (i, j) \ m \\ (\exists k. \text{part\_heap } (b_2, e_2) \ m \ k \wedge k \leq e - j) \wedge \\ \text{ref\_mem } (h, f) \ m \wedge \text{ok\_heap } (h_0, \text{roots}_0) \wedge \\ (h_0, \{\}, \{\}, \text{set } \text{roots}_0, \text{id}) \xrightarrow{\text{step}}^* (h, \text{domain } h \cap (b \dots i), \text{domain } h \cap (i \dots j), z, f)$$

most is trivial book-keeping  
(where/how state is repr.)

reason for correctness inherited

# Some assembly code

## ARM

```
tst r2, #3
bne L0
ldr r4, [r2]
tst r4, #3
streq r4, [r1]
beq L0
str r3, [r1]
str r4, [r3]
str r3, [r2], #4
mov r4, r4, LSR #10
add r3, r3, #4
L1: cmp r4, #0
beq L0
ldr r5, [r2]
sub r4, r4, #1
add r2, r2, #4
str r5, [r3]
add r3, r3, #4
b L1
L0:
```

Carefully written code for other architectures (x86, PowerPC etc.) decompiles to the same function in logic. **Proof reuse!**

Decompilation produces functions, e.g.

```
mc_move_loop (r2, r3, r4, g) =
  if r4 = 0 then (r2, r3, r4, g) else
    let r5 = g(r2) in
    let r4 = r4 - 1 in
    let r2 = r2 + 4 in
    let g = g[r3 ↦ r5] in
    let r3 = r3 + 4 in
    mc_move_loop (r2, r3, r4, g)
```

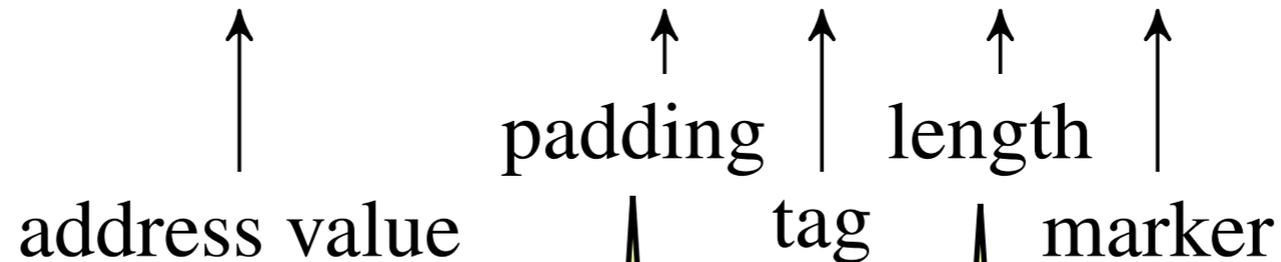
one proves this implements abstract version

# A glimpse at CakeML's pointers

## Configurable data representation:

*Example pointer value:*

0...00110011101 00 01 010 1



**v =**  
Number int  
| Word64 word64  
| Block num (v list)  
| CodePtr num  
| RefPtr num

“the tag”

These can be left out

Speeds up pattern matching, if present

# What we learnt

ML compilers cannot preserve semantics completely:

$$\text{machine\_semantics } (\text{compile } prog) \\ \in \text{ extend\_with\_resource\_limit } (\text{semantics } prog)$$

We add get-out clause to simulation theorems:

$$\text{evaluate } code \ s1 = (res, s2) \wedge res \neq \text{Rfail} \wedge \\ \text{state\_rel } s1 \ t1 \Rightarrow \\ \exists t2 \ res2. \text{evaluate } (\text{compile } code) \ t1 = (res2, t2) \wedge \\ (\text{state\_rel } s2 \ t2 \wedge res2 = res \vee \\ res2 = \text{RHitHardLimit} \wedge t2.IO \text{ isPrefix } s2.IO)$$

A verified GC is needed.

**Remember:** separate complex algorithm proofs from implementation proofs (to keep sane and enable reuse)

`machine_semantics (compile prog)`  
   $\in$  `extend_with_resource_limit (semantics prog)`

Extra: discussion about top-level theorem