

# EXERCISE #8

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## LATTICES REVIEW

**Write your name and answer the following on a piece of paper**

- Recall that the set of English words, ranked by substring inclusion, forms a poset but NOT a lattice. Explain why and give an example

Reflexive: every word includes the substring of itself

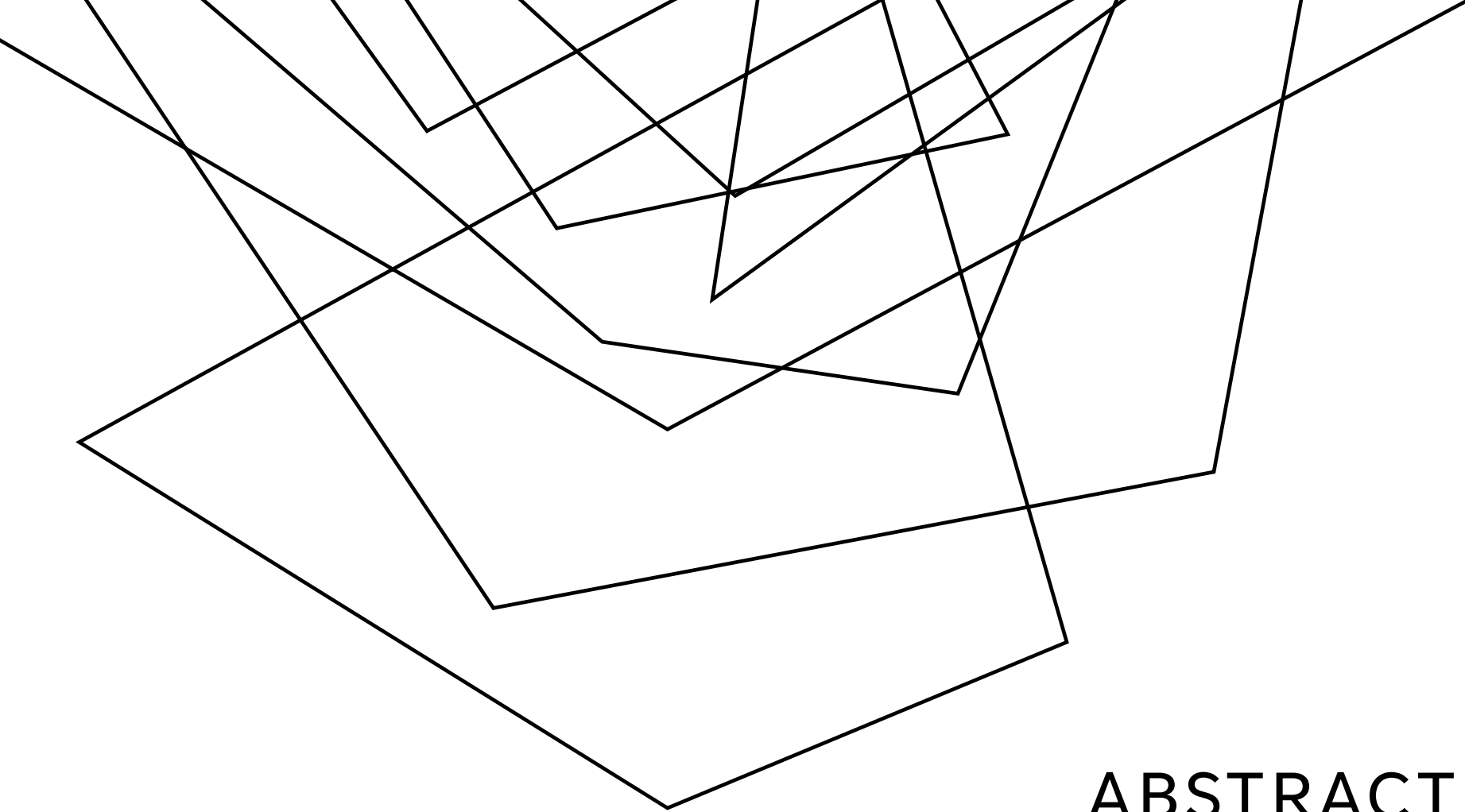
Anti-symmetric: if two words include substrings of each other, they must be the same word

Transitive: if  $a$  is a substring  $b$ , and  $b$  is a substring of  $c$ , then  $a$  is a substring of  $c$

Not a lattice: consider the English words  $a$  and  $he$ . They have no greatest lower bound



**ADMINISTRIVIA  
AND  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**



# ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION

EECS 677: Software Security Evaluation

Drew Davidson

# LAST TIME: LATTICES

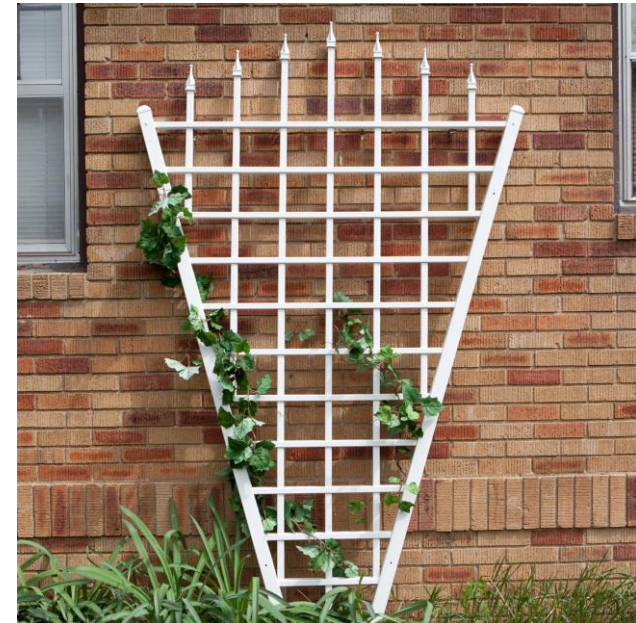
## REVIEW: STATIC ANALYSIS

### DESCRIBED FORMAL CONDITIONS TO GUARANTEE TERMINATION

- Dataflow facts can be ordered into a complete lattice
- Iterative application of a monotonic function can achieve a fixpoint

### SOME PRACTICAL LIMITATIONS

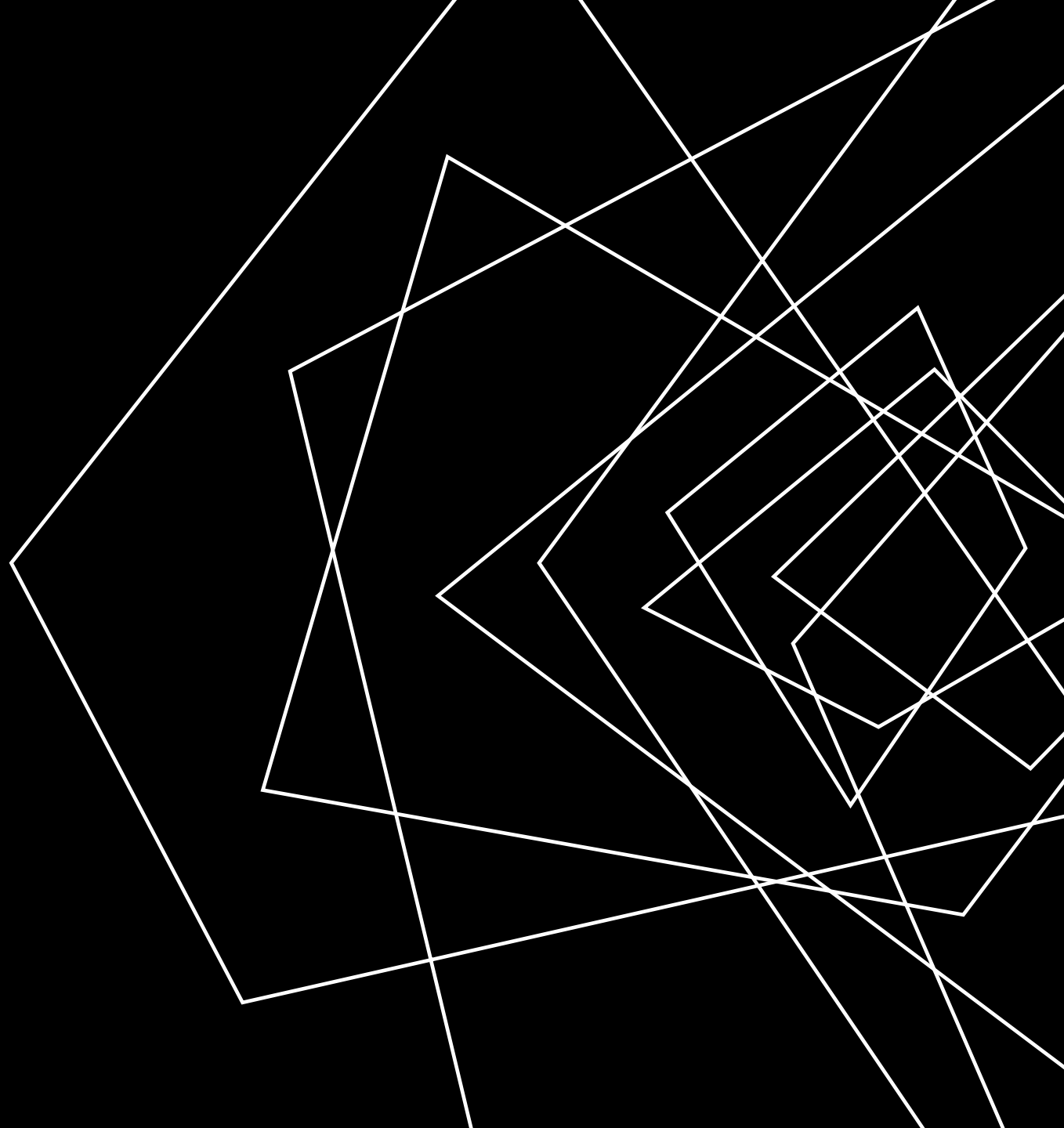
- No guarantee about how long the algorithm will run
- Sadly out of luck if we don't have a complete lattice



***It's a lattice!***

## LECTURE OUTLINE

- Abstract Interpretation
- LLVM (time permitting)



# ANALYSIS PRECISION

## ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION

### PRECISION / EFFICIENCY TRADEOFF

With a complete lattice we can, in theory, eventually terminate

*That's not a very strong guarantee!*

The shallower the lattice, the faster the fixpoint

*Choose to approximate the lattice*



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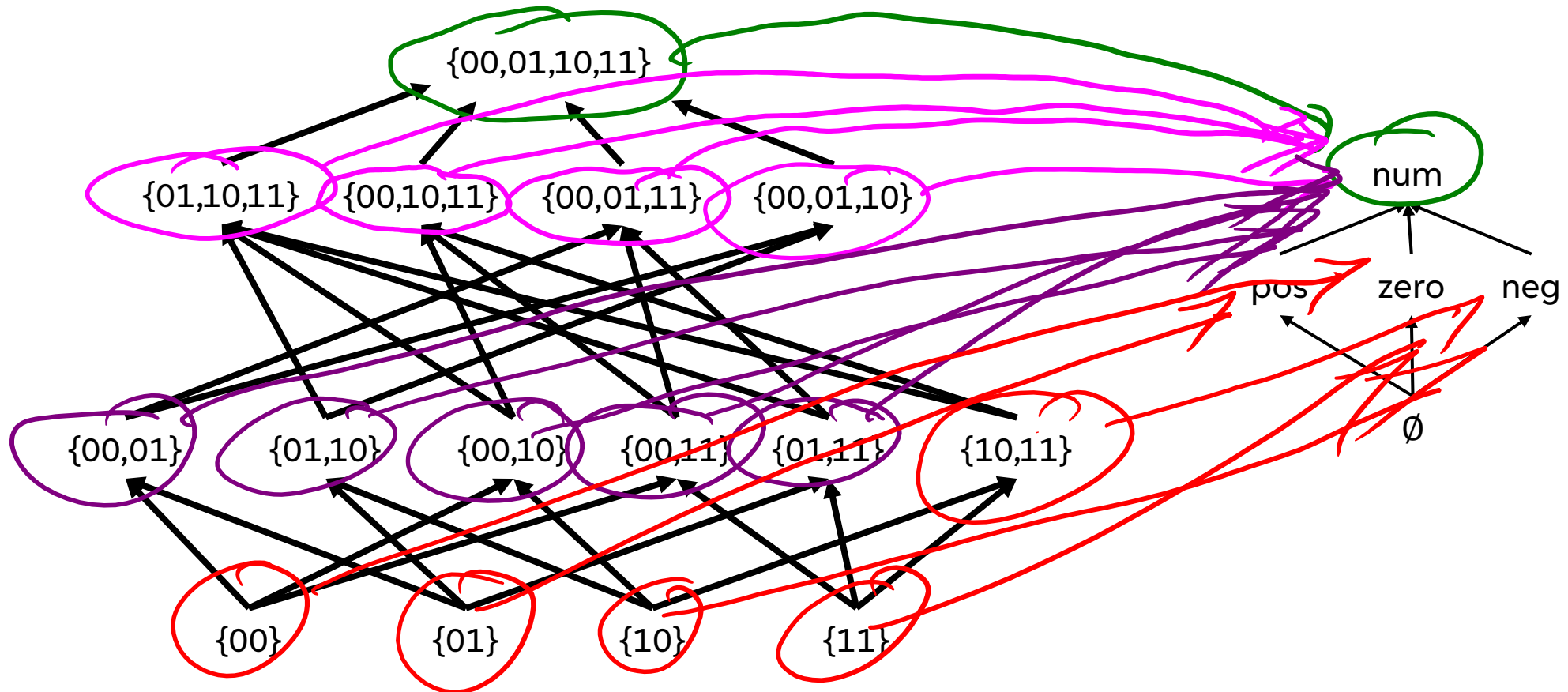
One size  
does **NOT**  
fit all.



# LET'S CONSIDER A VERY APPROXIMATE LATTICE

## ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION

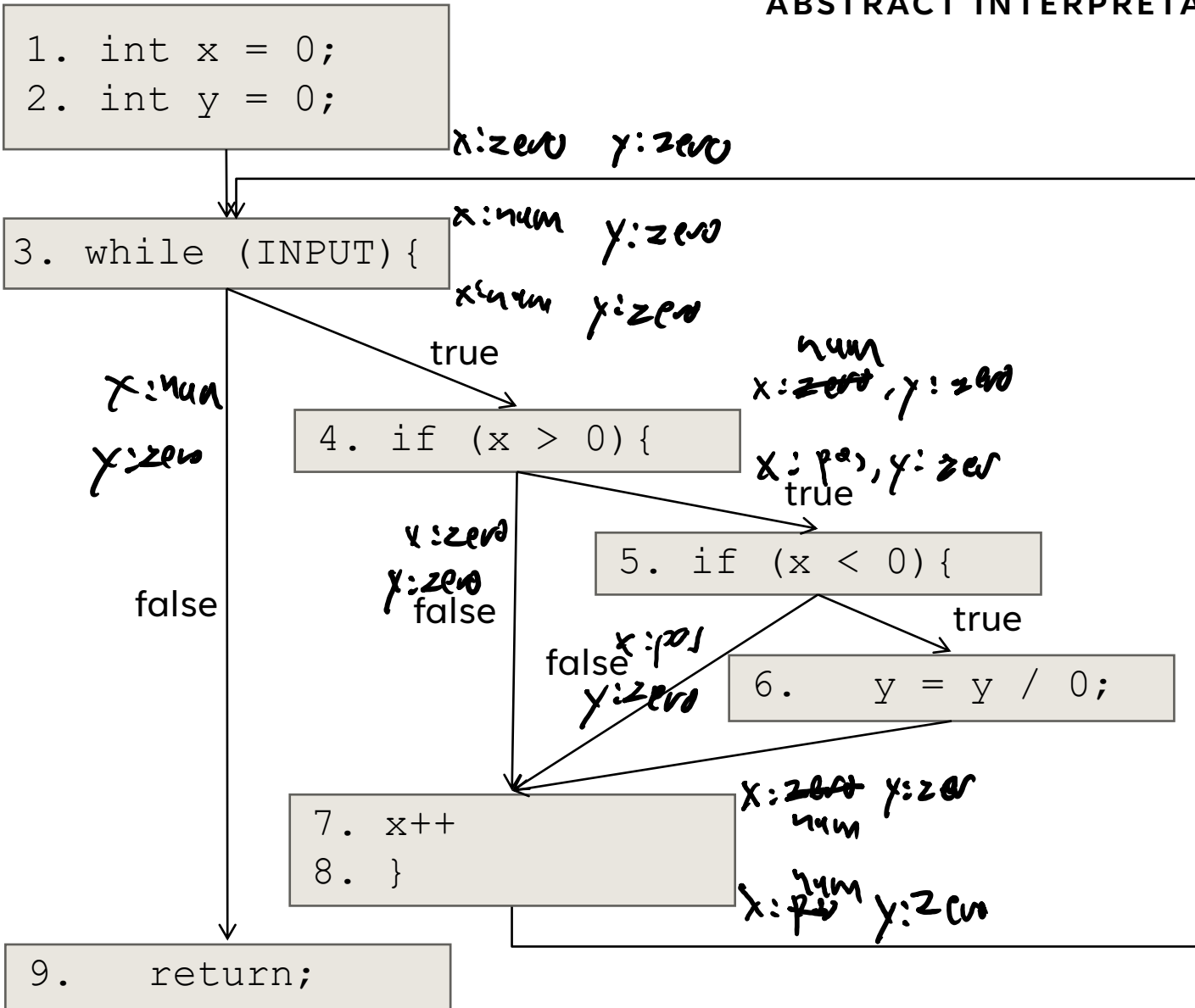
### ABSTRACT DOMAIN OF SIGNS





# ANALYSIS PRECISION

## ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION



```

1. int x = 0;
2. int y = 0;
3. while (INPUT) {
4.     if (x > 0)
5.         if (x < 0)
6.             y = y / 0;
7.     x++;
8. }
9. return;
  
```

# THE ABSTRACTION FUNCTION

## ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION

FROM THE CONCRETE DOMAIN TO THE ABSTRACT

$\alpha(\{0\}) =$  zero

$\alpha(S) =$  if all values in  $S$  are greater than 0 then pos  
else if all values in  $S$  are less than 0 then neg  
else unk



# THE CONCRETIZATION FUNCTION

## ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION

FROM THE ABSTRACT DOMAIN TO THE CONCRETE

$$\gamma(\text{zero}) = \{0\}$$

$$\gamma(\text{pos}) = \{\text{all positive ints}\}$$

$$\gamma(\text{neg}) = \{\text{all negative ints}\}$$

$$\gamma(\text{num}) = \text{Int (i.e., all ints)}$$

$$\gamma(\infty(\{\infty\})) =$$

pos

{0, 11}

$$\gamma(a:A)$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$c:C$$

# A DETOUR INTO FORMALIZATION

## ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION



# GALOIS CONNECTION

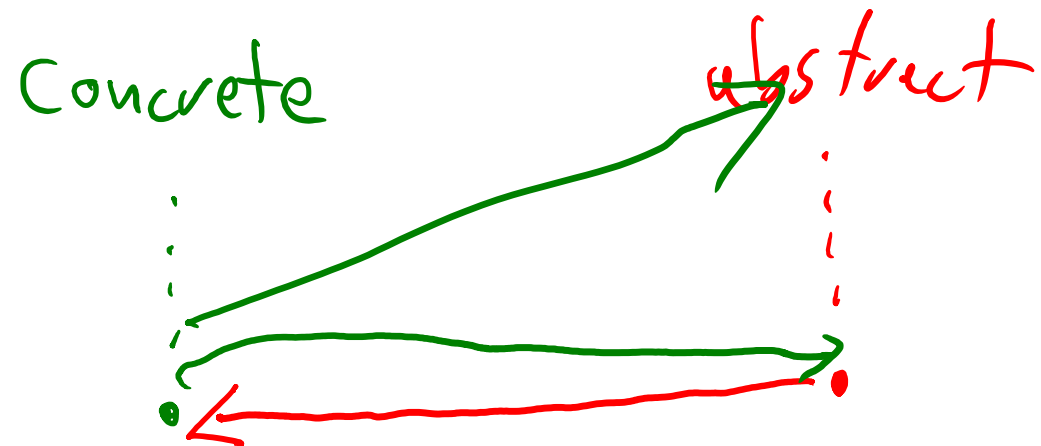
## ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION



A *Galois connection* is a pair of functions,  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  between two partially ordered sets  $(C, \sqsubseteq)$  and  $(A, \leq)$ , such that both of the following hold.

$$1. \forall a \in A, c \in C: \alpha(c) \leq a \text{ iff } c \sqsubseteq \gamma(a)$$

$$2. \forall a \in A: \alpha(\gamma(a)) \leq a$$



# END FORMALIZATION DETOUR

ABSTRACT INTERPRETATION

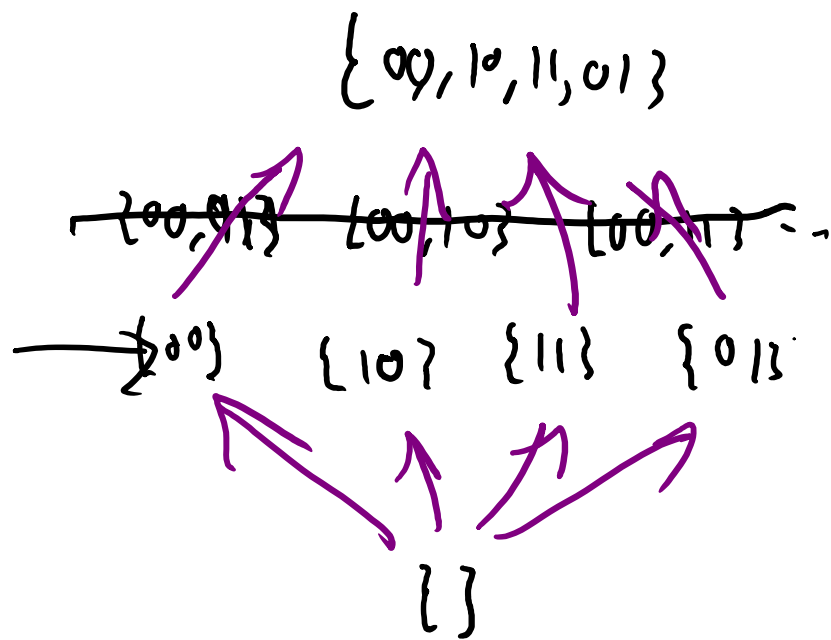


# ABSTRACT DOMAINS IN PRACTICE

## STATIC ANALYSIS

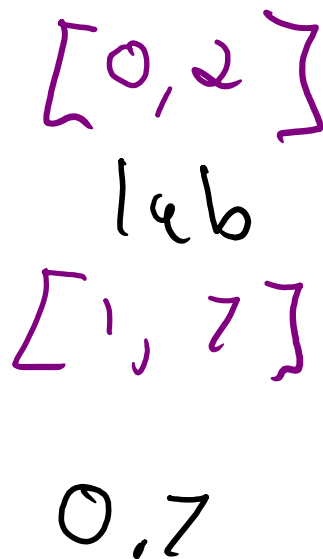
### “SINGLETON INTEGER SETS”

- You know the number, or you don't



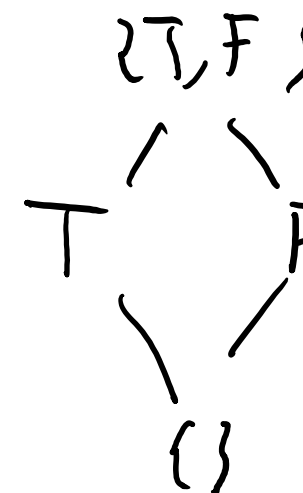
### INTERVALS

- You know a concrete range



### PROPERTY EXISTENCE

- A property does or does not hold



# SECTION SUMMARY

## STATIC ANALYSIS

### STATIC ANALYSIS GIVES US AN IMPORTANT GUARANTEE

- Completeness of bug finding /  
Soundness of verification
- Thus far we've been using source code

Anything that isn't crystal clear to a static analysis tool probably isn't clear to your fellow programmers, either. The classic hacker disdain for "bondage and discipline languages" is short-sighted – the needs of large, long-lived, multi-programmer projects are just different than the quick work you do for yourself.

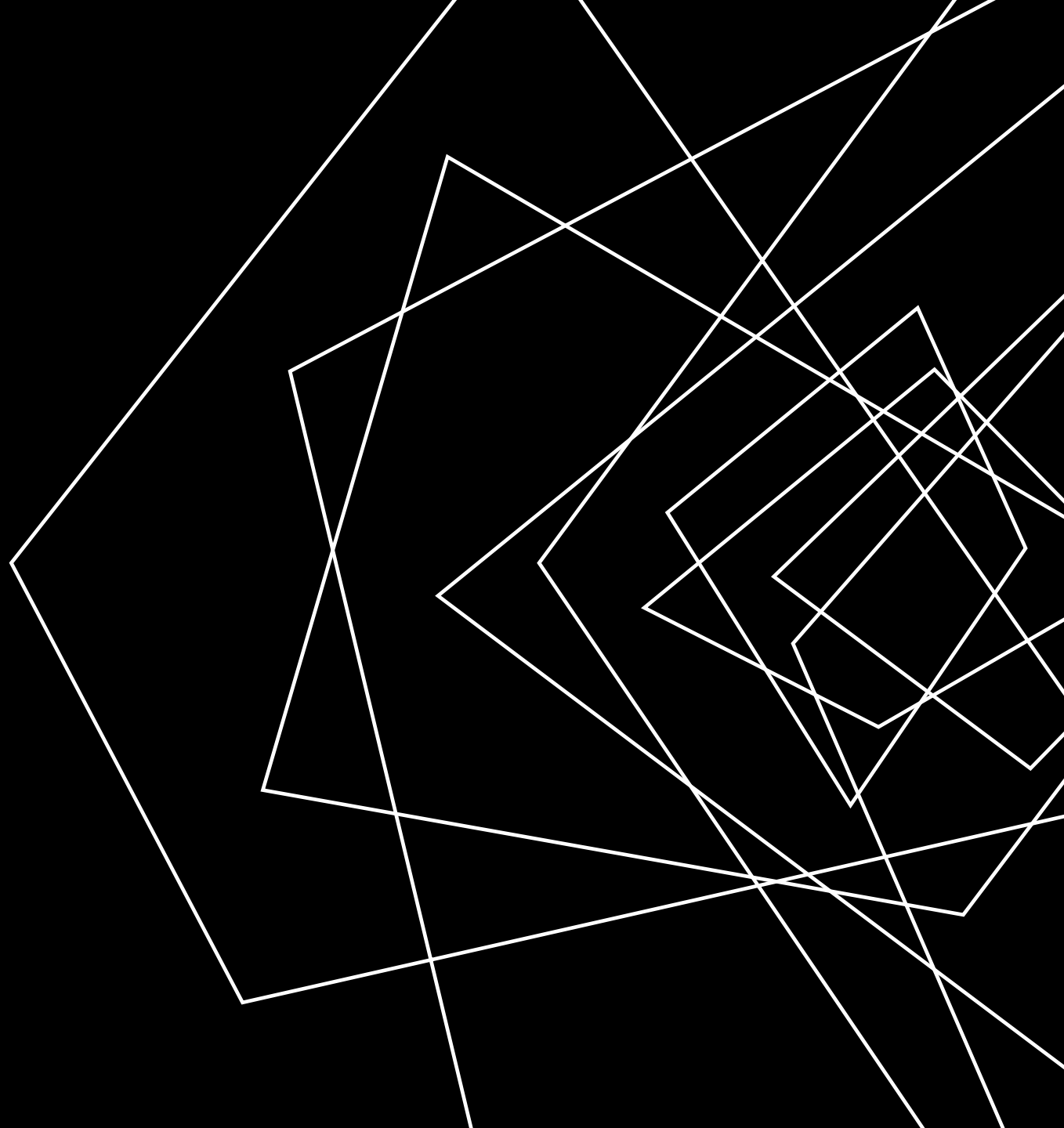
[- John Carmack's Static Code Analysis post](#)



# LECTURE OUTLINE

- Abstract Interpretation
- LLVM

*Bonus stage  
unlocked!*



# APPLYING STATIC ANALYSIS

## STATIC ANALYSIS

### WE KNOW THE THEORY OF STATIC ANALYSIS

- But how do we apply that theory in practice?
- Thus far we've been using source code as a target (that's limited!)



# LLVM

## LLVM: OVERVIEW

The LLVM Project is a collection of modular and reusable compiler and toolchain technologies. Despite its name, LLVM has little to do with traditional virtual machines. The name "LLVM" itself is not an acronym; it is the full name of the project.



*Is this the LLVM logo?*

# LLVM

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**No, it's a Yu-gi-oh card!**

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**This is the actual LLVM logo**

# LLVM: WHY WE USE IT

## LLVM: OVERVIEW

Let's consider two goals of software security evaluation

- Discover vulnerabilities in “trusted” code
- Discover attacks in “untrusted” code

*Most useful for  
this one*



# LLVM: WHY WE USE IT

## LLVM: OVERVIEW

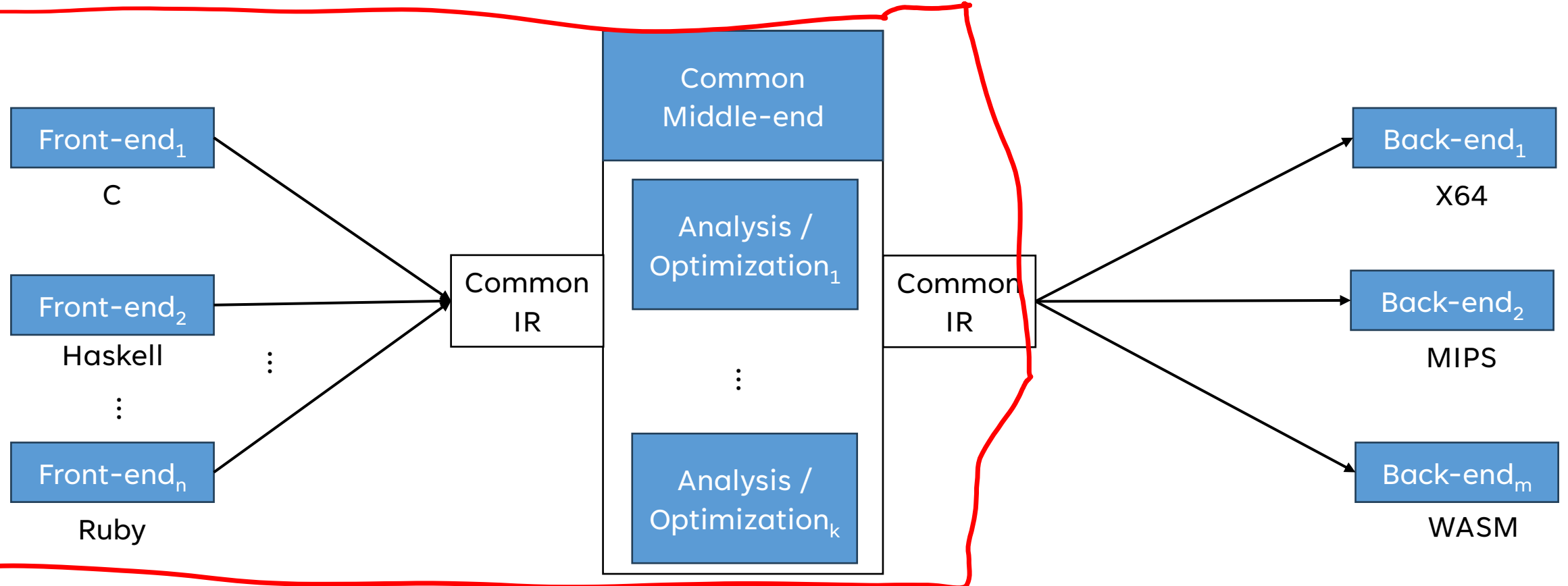
**Genericity**

# LLVM: WHY WE USE IT

## LLVM: OVERVIEW

### Genericity

### LLVM High-Level Architecture





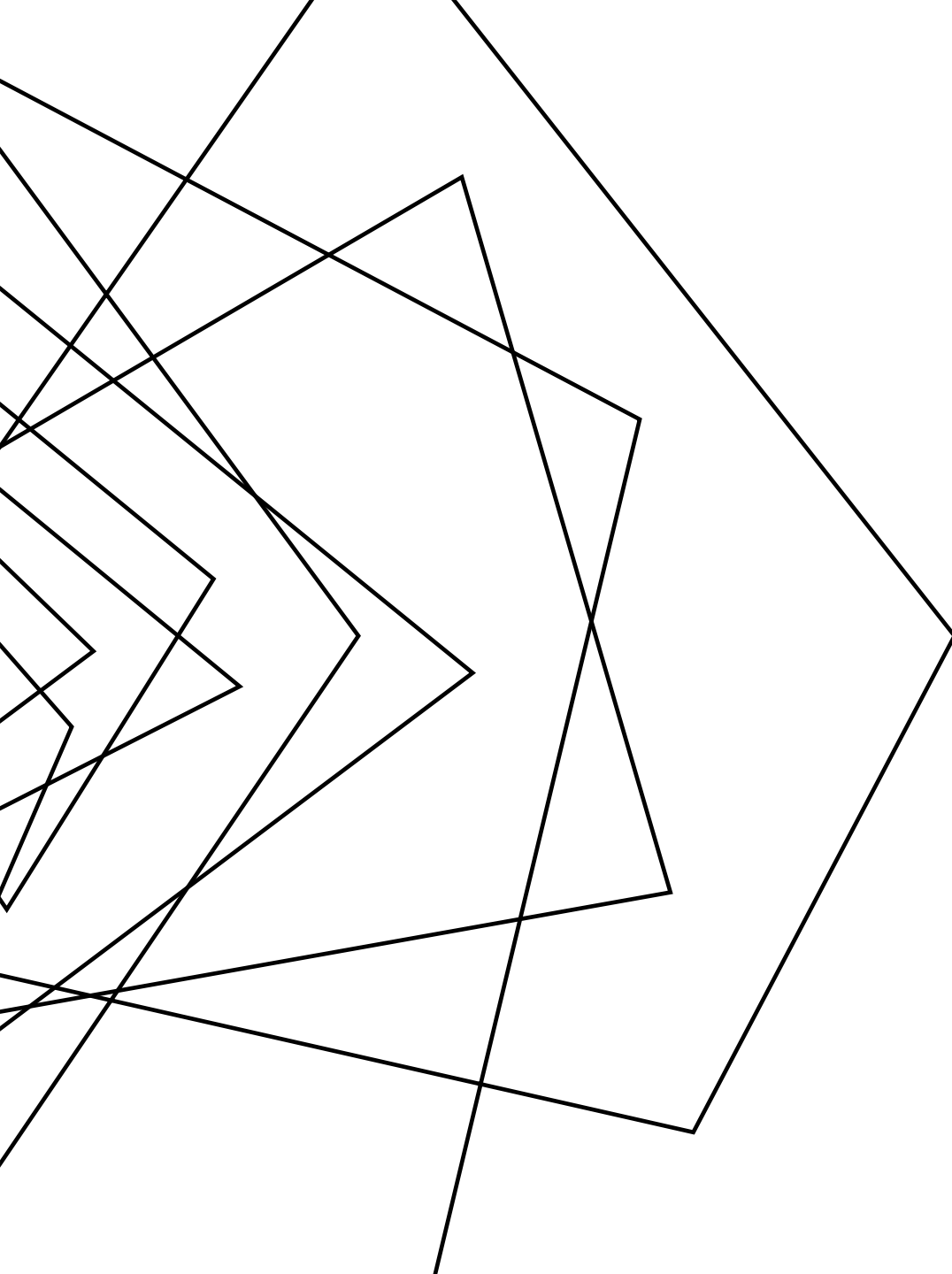
# SECTION SUMMARY

## LLVM

### LLVM PROVIDES A GOOD BASIS FOR ANALYSIS

Allows us to avoid a lot of the parsing /  
language specific details that we view as  
boilerplate

Gives us a good analysis target in llvm  
bitcode



## **NEXT TIME**

BEGIN LOOKING AT A PROGRAM  
REPRESENTATION WE CAN USE FOR TO  
BUILD OUR OWN ANALYSES