



# Refinement Types and Higher-Order Constrained Horn Clauses

Some work in progress with Toby Cathcart Burn, Martin Lester and Luke Ong.

**Motivation:**

**Constrained Horn clauses in  
program verification.**

# Safety verification as constrained horn clause solving.

```
let rec sum n =  
  if n <= 0 then 0 else n + sum (n-1)  
in fun n -> assert (n <= sum n)
```

$$\forall n. n \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{P} \, n \, 0$$

$$\forall nm. n > 0 \wedge \mathbf{P} \, (n - 1) \, m \Rightarrow \mathbf{P} \, n \, (n + m)$$

$$\forall nm. \mathbf{P} \, n \, m \Rightarrow n \leq m$$

$$\forall n. n \leq 0 \Rightarrow P n 0$$

$$\forall nm. n > 0 \wedge P (n - 1) m \Rightarrow P n (n + m)$$

$$\forall nm. P n m \Rightarrow n \leq m$$

**Fix a constraint logic**  
(quantifier free integer  
linear arithmetic).

**Constrained horn clause:**  
At most one uninterpreted  
positive literal.

One possible model is the assignment  $\mathbf{P} \mapsto \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid x \leq y \}$

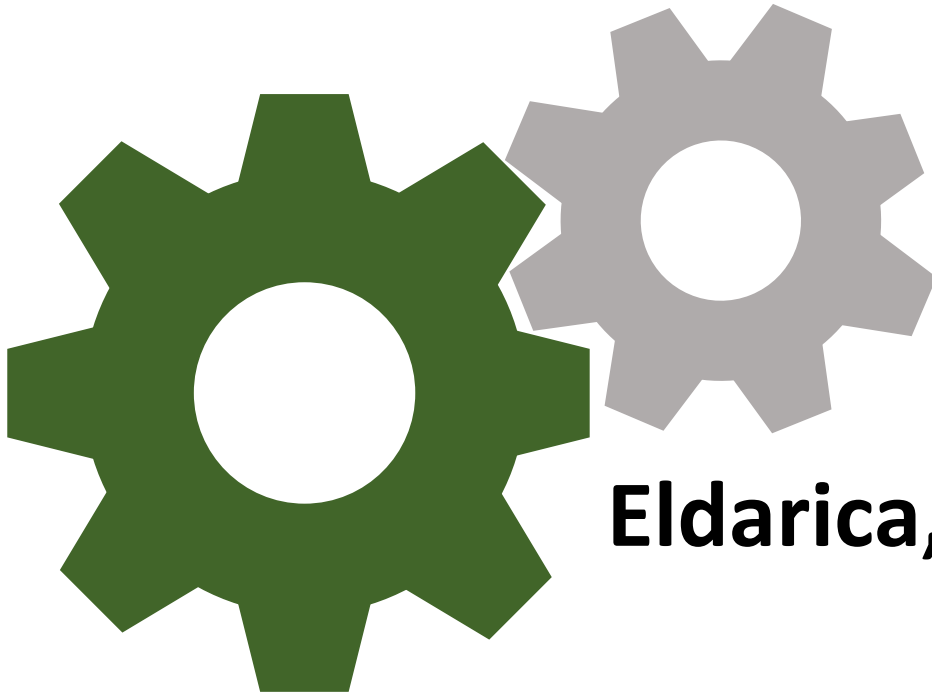
$$P \mapsto \lambda n m. n \leq m$$

$$\forall n. n \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{P} n 0$$

$$\forall n m. n > 0 \wedge \mathbf{P} (n - 1) m \Rightarrow \mathbf{P} n (n + m)$$

$$\forall n m. \mathbf{P} n m \Rightarrow n \leq m$$

**Symbolic models** are expressible within the constraint language.



**Eldarica, SeaHorn, HSF,  $\mu$ Z ...**

```
let add x y = x + y
let rec iter f m n =
  if n <= 0 then m else f n (iter f m (n-1))
in fun n -> assert (n <= iter add 0 n)
```

$\forall xyz. z = x + y \Rightarrow \mathbf{Add\ } x\ y\ z$

$\forall fmn. n \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{Iter\ } f\ m\ n\ m$

$\forall fmnpr. n > 0 \wedge \mathbf{Iter\ } f\ m\ (n - 1)\ p \wedge f\ n\ p\ r \Rightarrow \mathbf{Iter\ } f\ m\ n\ r$

$\forall nr. \mathbf{Iter\ Add\ } 0\ n\ r \Rightarrow n \leq r$

**Higher-order constrained horn clauses:**  
**Constrained horn clauses in higher-order logic.**



## Higher-order “unknown” relations:

$Iter : (\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}$

(We assume everything

$\forall xyz. z = x + y \Rightarrow \mathbf{Add} \ x \ y \ z$

$\forall fmn. n \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{Iter} \ f \ m \ n \ m$

$\forall fmnpr. n > 0 \wedge \mathbf{Iter} \ f \ m \ (n - 1) \ p \wedge f \ n \ p \ r \Rightarrow \mathbf{Iter} \ f \ m \ n \ r$

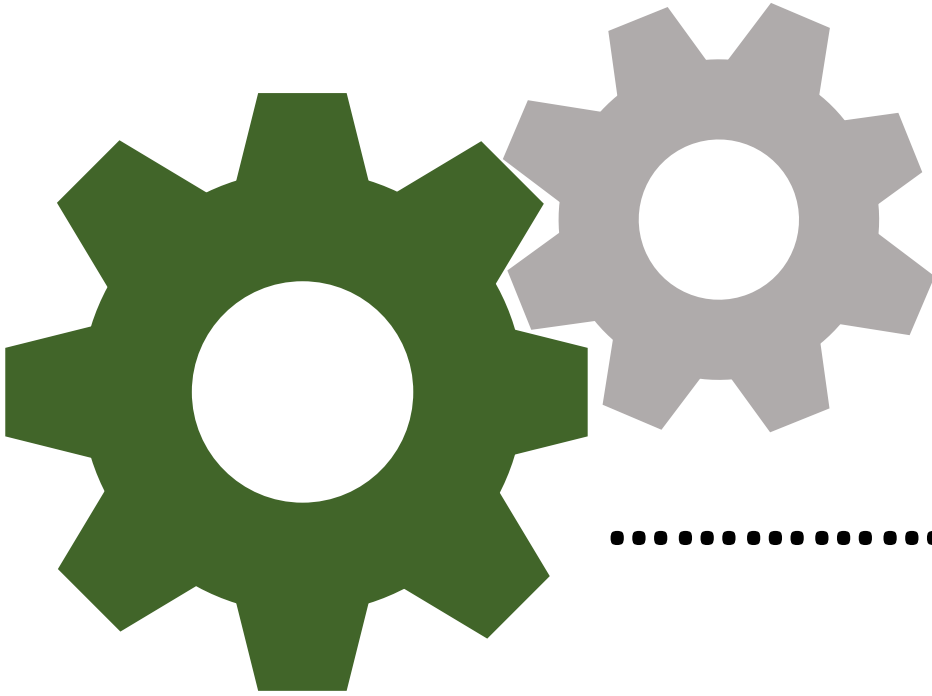
$\forall nr. \mathbf{Iter} \ \mathbf{Add} \ 0 \ n \ r \Rightarrow n \leq r$

## Quantification at higher-sorts:

$\forall : ((\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}$

## Literals headed by (bound) variables:

$\forall x. x \ (y \ z) : \text{bool}$



.....?

Higher-order  
horn clause  
problem



# Typing Problem

First-order  
horn clause  
problem

**Symbolic models at higher orders:**

**Refinement types as higher-order invariants.**

$Add \mapsto \lambda xyz. z = x + y$

$Iter \mapsto \lambda f m n r. (\forall xyz. f\ x\ y\ z \Rightarrow 0 < x \Rightarrow z > y) \Rightarrow m \geq 0 \Rightarrow n \leq r$

$\forall xyz. z = x + y \Rightarrow \mathbf{Add}\ x\ y\ z$

$\forall f m n. n \leq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{Iter}\ f\ m\ n\ m$

$\forall f m n p r. n > 0 \wedge \mathbf{Iter}\ f\ m\ (n - 1)\ p \wedge f\ n\ p\ r \Rightarrow \mathbf{Iter}\ f\ m\ n\ r$

$\forall n r. \mathbf{Iter}\ \mathbf{Add}\ 0\ n\ r \Rightarrow n \leq r$

**Higher-type symbolic models:**

expressible in the constraint language?

$R : ((\text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}$

**Symbolic model:**

$R \mapsto \lambda f. (\forall g. f\ g \Rightarrow (\forall x. g\ x \Rightarrow \phi) \Rightarrow \psi) \Rightarrow \chi$

**Dependent refinement type:**

$R : f : (g : (x : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle\phi\rangle) \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle\psi\rangle) \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle\chi\rangle$

## Dependent refinement types:

$$T ::= \text{int} \mid \text{bool}\langle\phi\rangle \mid x: T_1 \rightarrow T_2$$

**Refinement at bool:**  
 $\phi$  is a FO formula of  
the constraint language

**Dependence at int:**  
 $x$  can occur freely in  
 $T_2$  only if  $T_1 = \text{int}$

$$\llbracket \text{int} \rrbracket(\alpha) = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\llbracket \text{bool}\langle\phi\rangle \rrbracket(\alpha) = \{\text{false}, \llbracket \phi \rrbracket(\alpha)\}$$

$$\llbracket x: T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \rrbracket(\alpha) = \prod d \in \llbracket T_1 \rrbracket(\alpha). \llbracket T_2 \rrbracket(\alpha[x \mapsto d])$$

### Example refinement:

$$\llbracket \text{bool}\langle x \leq y \rangle \rrbracket (x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2) \\ = \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$$

### Consequence of defn:

$$b \in \llbracket \text{bool}\langle \phi \rangle \rrbracket (\alpha)$$

$$\textit{iff} \quad \alpha \models b \Rightarrow \phi$$

### Refinements of relational sorts:

$$\llbracket x: \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle \phi \rangle \rrbracket$$

$$= \prod n \in \mathbb{Z}. \llbracket \text{bool}\langle \phi[n/x] \rangle \rrbracket$$

$$= \{ f \mid \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}. f \ n \in \llbracket \text{bool}\langle \phi[n/x] \rangle \rrbracket \}$$

$$= \{ f \mid \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}. f \ n \Rightarrow \phi[n/x] \}$$

$$= \{ f \mid \forall x. f \ x \Rightarrow \phi \}$$



## Type schemes:

$$S ::= T \mid \forall X. S$$

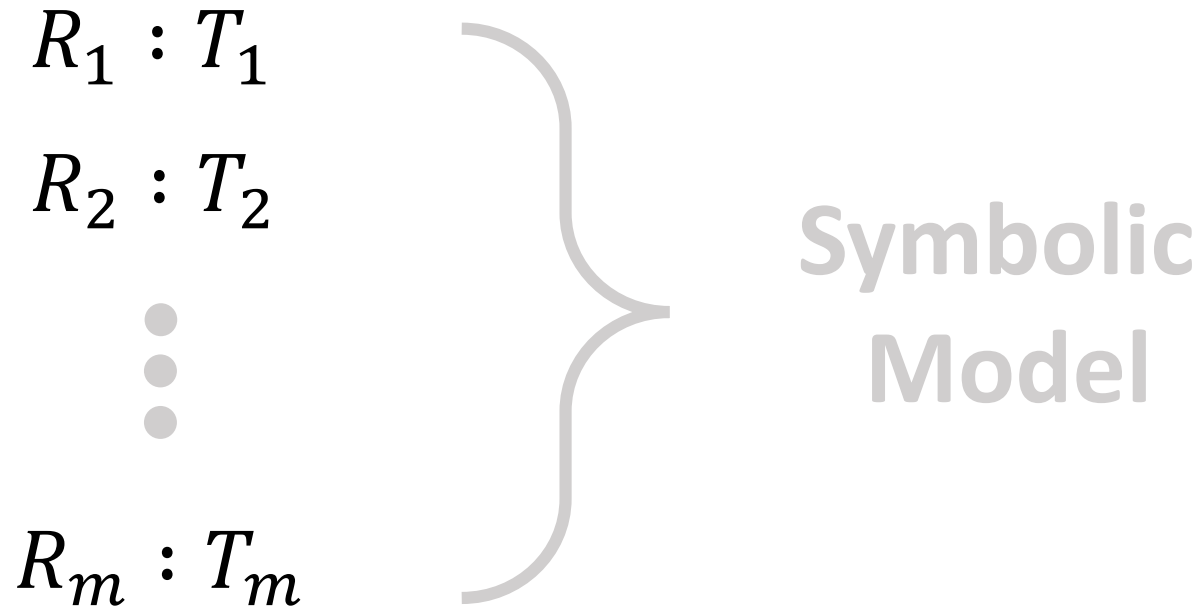
### Rank-1, second-order universal quantification:

$X$  is a second order relational variable

(i.e. its sort has shape  $\text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}$ )

## Type environment:

Finite map from variables to monotypes (not schemes).



**Type system:**

**Working with given symbolic models.**

Decidable judgement

$$\Gamma \vdash \phi : T$$

**Refinement type:**  
Monotype  
(i.e. not a scheme)

**Type env:**  
Finite map from  
variables to  
monotypes

**Term:**  
A subterm of the  
body of a horn clause

$$\Gamma \vdash \phi : \text{bool} \langle \psi \rangle$$

In **symbolic model**  $\Gamma$ , **higher-order** formula  $\phi$  implies **first-order** constraint formula  $\psi$

$n : \text{int}$

$+ : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}$

$\leq : x : \text{int} \rightarrow y : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle x \leq y \rangle$

$\wedge : \forall XY. \text{bool}\langle X \rangle \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Y \rangle \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle X \wedge Y \rangle$

$\exists : \forall X. (x : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle X x \rangle) \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle \exists x. X x \rangle$

**Abbreviation:**  $\exists x. \phi \equiv \exists (\lambda x. \phi)$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma_1, x: T, \Gamma_2 \vdash x: T} \quad \text{(Var)}$$

$$\frac{c : \forall X_1 \dots X_k. T}{\Gamma \vdash c : T[\phi_1 \dots \phi_k / X_1 \dots X_k]} \quad \text{(Const)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s : (x: T_1 \rightarrow T_2) \quad \Gamma \vdash t : T_1}{\Gamma \vdash s t : T_2[t/x]} \quad \text{(App)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x: T_1 \vdash s: T_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. s : (x: T_1 \rightarrow T_2)} \quad \text{(Abs)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s : T_1 \quad T_1 \sqsubseteq T_2}{\Gamma \vdash s : T_2} \text{ (Sub)}$$

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}LA \models \phi \Rightarrow \psi}{\text{bool}\langle\phi\rangle \sqsubseteq \text{bool}\langle\psi\rangle} \text{ (SubB)}$$

$$\frac{T'_1 \sqsubseteq T_1 \quad T_2 \sqsubseteq T'_2}{x : T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \sqsubseteq x : T'_1 \rightarrow T'_2} \text{ (SubArr)}$$



## For example...

$r : \text{int}$

$n : \text{int}$

$\text{Add} : (x : \text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle z = x + y \rangle)$

$\text{Iter} : (x : \text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle 0 < x \Rightarrow y < z \rangle) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle 0 \leq m \Rightarrow n \leq r \rangle$



$\Gamma$

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 $\Gamma \vdash > : (x:\text{int} \rightarrow y:\text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle x > y \rangle)$ 

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 $\Gamma \vdash n : \text{int}$ 

---

 $\Gamma \vdash > n : (y:\text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle n > y \rangle)$ 

---

 $\Gamma \vdash r : \text{int}$ 

---

 $\Gamma \vdash n > r : \text{bool}\langle n > r \rangle$

$$T_1 = (x:\text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle 0 < x \Rightarrow y < z \rangle) \rightarrow m:\text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle 0 \leq m \Rightarrow n \leq r \rangle$$

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$$\Gamma \vdash \textit{Add} : (x:\text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle z = x + y \rangle)$$

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$$\Gamma \vdash \textit{Iter} : T_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash \textit{Add} : (x:\text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle 0 < x \Rightarrow y < z \rangle)$$

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$$\Gamma \vdash \textit{Iter Add} : x:\text{int} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle 0 \leq x \Rightarrow y \leq z \rangle$$

•  
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•

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$$\Gamma \vdash \textit{Iter Add 0 n r} : \text{bool}\langle n \leq r \rangle$$

$$\wedge : \forall XY. \text{bool}\langle X \rangle \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Y \rangle \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle X \wedge Y \rangle$$

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$$\Gamma \vdash \wedge : \text{bool}\langle n \leq r \rangle \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle n > r \rangle \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle n \leq r \wedge n > r \rangle$$

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$$\Gamma \vdash (\text{Iter Add } 0 \ n \ r) \wedge (n > r) : \text{bool}\langle n \leq r \wedge n > r \rangle$$

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$$\Gamma \vdash (\text{Iter Add } 0 \ n \ r) \wedge (n > r) : \text{bool}\langle \text{false} \rangle$$

Given HO horn clauses  $H$  and type environment  $\Gamma$  :

$$B_1 \Rightarrow R_1 x_1 \cdots x_{k_1} \qquad R_1 : T_1$$

$$B_2 \Rightarrow R_2 x_1 \cdots x_{k_2} \qquad R_2 : T_2$$

⋮

⋮

$$B_m \Rightarrow R_m x_1 \cdots x_{k_m} \qquad R_m : T_m$$

$$B \Rightarrow \phi$$

**If, for all  $i$ ,  $\Gamma \vdash \lambda x_1 \dots x_{k_i}. B_i : T_i$  and  $\Gamma \vdash B \wedge \neg \phi : \text{bool}\langle \text{false} \rangle$   
then  $\Gamma$  represents a solution to the HO horn clauses  $H$**

**Type inference:**

**How to find symbolic models.**

## From higher-order relational variables:

$$R : (\text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}$$
$$S : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

## Create refinement templates:

$$R : (x:\text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Z_1 x \rangle) \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Z_2 \rangle$$
$$S : (y:\text{int} \rightarrow x:\text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Z_3 x y \rangle)$$

**Check that this type environment is a model...**

$$R : (x: \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Z_1 x \rangle) \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Z_2 \rangle$$

$$S : (y: \text{int} \rightarrow x: \text{int} \rightarrow \text{bool}\langle Z_3 x y \rangle)$$

**...except, whenever you would be forced to check the validity of an implication:**

$$\frac{\models Z_3 n z \Rightarrow Z_1 z}{\text{bool}\langle Z_3 n z \rangle \sqsubseteq \text{bool}\langle Z_1 z \rangle} \quad (\text{Sub-Bool})$$

**Instead record it as a (first-order Horn) constraint.**



Higher-order  
horn clause  
problem



# Typing Problem

First-order  
horn clause  
problem

## In progress...

Completeness for the type system:

If HO  $\phi$  implies FO constraint  $\psi$  then  $\vdash \phi : \text{bool}\langle\psi\rangle$

Lots more implementation work.

Richer sort systems to allow easier encoding of programs.