

# Refinement Types for TypeScript

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# Extensible static analyses for modern scripting languages

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# TypeScript



## Wide scale

Looks like

Compiles to



Extensible static analyses for modern scripting languages

# TypeScript



## Wide scale

Looks like  
Compiles to



## PL Interest

Higher Order Functions  
Object Oriented  
Optionally Typed  
Generics

# Extensible **static analyses** for modern scripting languages



Verification

```
class Greeter<T> {  
  greeting: T;  
  construct(property) Greeter<T>.greeting: T  
    this.greeting = message;  
}  
greet() {  
  return this.greeting;  
}  
}
```

Documentation



No runtime  
overhead

# Extensible static analyses for modern scripting languages



Fixed type tests

```
typeof x === 'string'
```

```
x === null
```

# Extensible static analyses for modern scripting languages



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User specified invariants

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User specified invariants

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assert (shape.tag & Circle)
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assert (shape.tag & Circle)
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```
assert (user.auth())
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# Extensible static analyses for modern scripting languages



## Fixed type tests

```
typeof x === 'string'
```

```
x === null
```

+

## User specified invariants

```
assert (shape.tag & Circle)
```

```
assert (user.auth())
```

```
assert (i < a.length)
```

## **Example**

Compute the index of the minimum element of an array

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  return res;  
}
```

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function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
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  return res;  
}
```

**reduce** folds over the elements of an array

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
    var res = x;  
    for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
        res = f(res, a[i], i);  
    return res;  
}
```

```
function minIndex(a) {  
    if (a.length <= 0) return -1;  
    function step(min, cur, i) {  
        return cur < a [ min ] ? i : min;  
    }  
    return reduce(a, step, 0);  
}
```

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function reduce(a, f, x) {  
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    return cur < a [ min ] ? i : min;  
  }  
  return reduce(a, step, 0);  
}
```

Calls `reduce` with an appropriate `step` function and initialization

## **Example**

Compute the index of the minimum element of an array

## **Verification goal**

Prove that all array accesses are within bounds



```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
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}
```

Array bounds analysis:  
 $0 \leq \text{min} < \text{len } a$

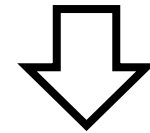
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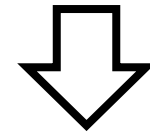
Constraint between  
**two values**

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function reduce(a, f, x) {
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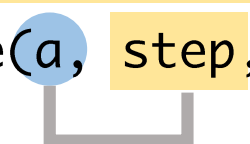
$$0 \leq \text{min} < \text{len } a$$



Constraint between  
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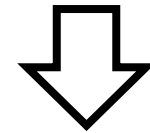
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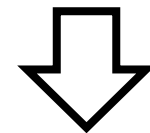


Array bounds analysis:

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Constraint between  
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Constraint between  
**value** and **closure**

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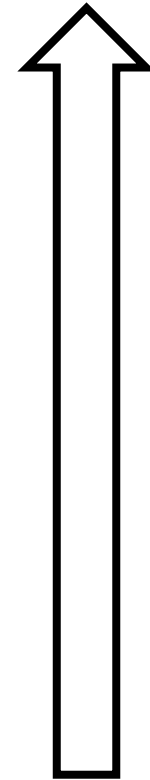
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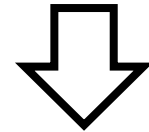
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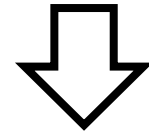
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Constraint **checked**  
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Constraint **checked**  
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## Problem

To check array access we must track  
**relations** between **closures** and **values**



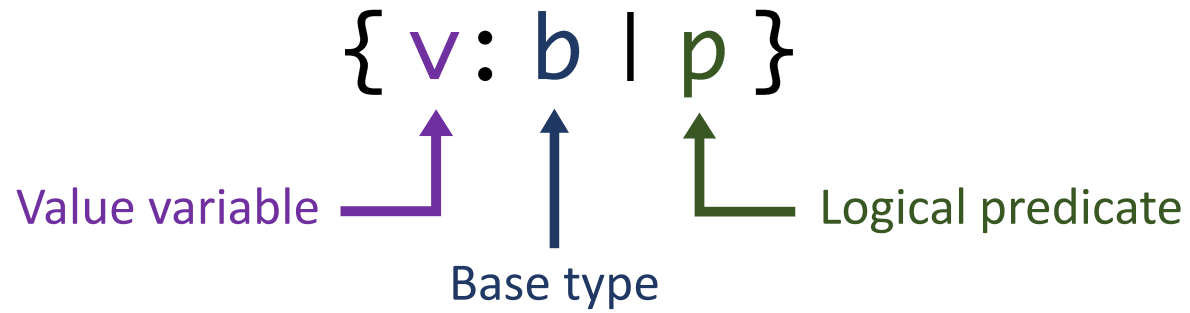
# Problem

To check array access we must track **relations** between **closures** and **values**

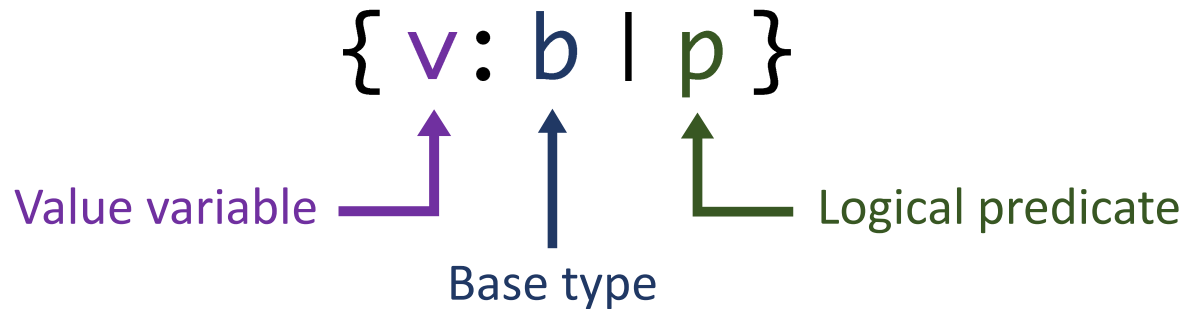
# Solution

Refinement types

# Refinement Types

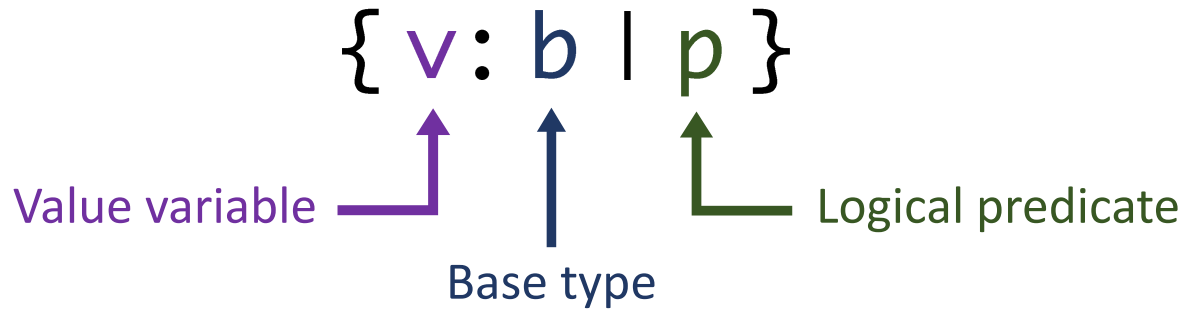


# Refinement Types



“Set of values  $v$  of type  $b$  such that formula  $p$  is true”

# Refinement Types



“Set of values  $v$  of type  $b$  such that formula  $p$  is true”

E.g.:  $\{ v : \text{number} \mid 0 \leq v \wedge v < \text{len } a \}$

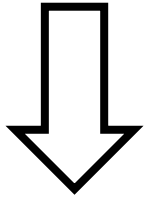
“Set of valid indexes for an array  $a$ ”

# How can we type reduce?

```
function reduce(a, f, x) { ... }
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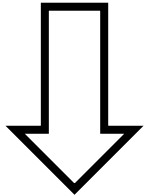


TypeScript type

```
function reduce<A,B>(a: A[], f: (B, A, number) => B, x: B): B { ... }
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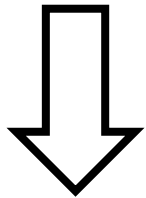
TypeScript type

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Basic typing offers **some** guarantees

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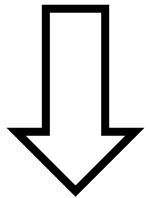
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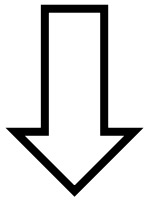
Accepts Acc      Returns Acc

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Basic typing offers **some** guarantees

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function reduce(a, f, x) { ... }
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TypeScript type

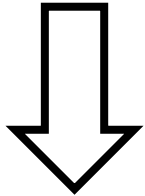
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function reduce<A,B>(a: A[], f: (B, A, number) => B, x: B): B { ... }
```

Does not capture:  
“valid index of a”

Basic typing offers **some** guarantees  
but **not value** related ones

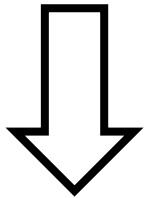
# How can we type `reduce` to account for valid indexes?

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function reduce(a, f, x) { ... }
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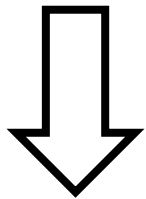


Refinement type

```
function reduce<A,B>(a: A[], f: (B, A, idx<a>) => B, x: B): B { ... }
```

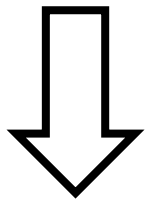
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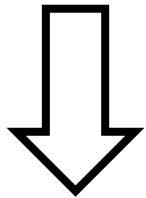
```
function reduce<A,B>(a: A[], f: (B, A, idx<a>) => B, x: B): B { ... }
```



```
type idx<a> = {v: number | 0 ≤ v ∧ v < len a }
```

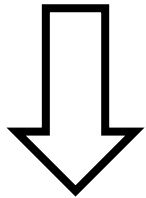
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Refinement type

```
function reduce<A,B>(a: A[], f: (B, A, idx<a>) => B, x: B): B { ... }
```

Captures the relation between **closure** and **value**

# **Our contribution**

Design a refinement type system for TypeScript

## Challenges

### Assignments

```
while (i < n) { i++; }
```

### Mutability

```
var x = { f: 1 };  
x.f = 2;
```

### Overloading

```
foo(x: number): number  
foo(x: boolean): boolean
```

### Annotation Overhead

<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Solutions we used</b>
<b>Assignments</b> <code>while (i &lt; n) { i++; }</code>	SSA Transformation
<b>Mutability</b> <code>var x = { f: 1 }; x.f = 2;</code>	Extend type system with immutability guarantees
<b>Overloading</b> <code>foo(x: number): number foo(x: boolean): boolean</code>	Two-phased typing
<b>Annotation Overhead</b>	Liquid Types



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# Assignments

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while (i < n) { i++; }
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function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
    r = f(r, a[i], i);  
  return r;  
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function reduce(a, f, x) {  
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function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  + var i = 0;  
  + while (i < a.length) {  
  +   r = f(r, a[i], i);  
  +   i = i + 1;  
  + }  
  return r;  
}
```

# What is the type of `i`?

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function reduce(a, f, x) {  
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## Types for `i`

`{ number | v = 0 }`

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## Types for $i$

{ number |  $v = 0$  }

{ number |  $0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a$  }

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# No single type for $i$

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Joining types of  $i$  causes **loss of precision**

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{ number |  $0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a$  }

{ number |  $v = i + 1$  }

{ number |  $v = \text{len } a$  }

# Use different versions of $i$

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  var  $i_1$  = 0;  
  while ( $i_2$  < a.length) {  
    r = f(r, a[ $i_2$ ],  $i_2$ );  
     $i_3$  =  $i_2$  + 1;  
  } //  $i_4$   
  return r;  
}
```

## Types for $i_1$ - $i_4$

$i_1$ : { number |  $v = 0$  }

$i_2$ : { number |  $0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a$  }

$i_3$ : { number |  $v = i_2 + 1$  }

$i_4$ : { number |  $v = \text{len } a$  }

Each version of  $i$  has a single precise type & gets assigned once

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  
  var i1 = 0;  
  
  while (i2 < a.length) {  
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);  
  
    i3 = i2 + 1;  
  
  } // i4  
  
  return r;  
  
}
```

## Types for $i_1$ - $i_4$

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$i_4$ : { number |  $v = \text{len } a$  }



# Static Single Assignment (SSA)

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  
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    i3 = i2 + 1;  
  
  } // i4  
  
  return r;  
  
}
```

Types for  $i_1$ - $i_4$

$i_1: \{ \text{number} \mid v = 0 \}$

$i_2: \{ \text{number} \mid 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \}$

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$i_4: \{ \text{number} \mid v = \text{len } a \}$

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$i_2: \{ \text{number} \mid 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \}$

$i_3: \{ \text{number} \mid v = i_2 + 1 \}$

$i_4: \{ \text{number} \mid v = \text{len } a \}$

How do we check these types?



# Reminder

Assignment

$$x = e$$

generates subtyping constraint

$$\text{Type}(e) <: \text{Type}(x)$$

# Subtyping Constraints

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  var i1 = 0;  
  while (i2 < a.length) {  
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);  
    i3 = i2 + 1;  
  } // i4  
  return r;  
}
```

## Generated constraints

```
Type(0) <: Type(i1)
```

# Subtyping Constraints

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  
  var i1 = 0;  
  
  while (i2 < a.length) {  
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);  
    i3 = i2 + 1;  
  } // i4  
  
  return r;  
}
```

**i: loop induction variable**

$$i_2 = \phi(i_1, i_3)$$

## Generated constraints

Type(0) <: Type(i<sub>1</sub>)

# Subtyping Constraints

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  
  var i1 = 0;  
  
  while (i2 < a.length) {  
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);  
  
    i3 = i2 + 1;  
  } // i4  
  
  return r;  
}
```

**i**: loop induction variable

$$i_2 = \phi(i_1, i_3)$$

## Generated constraints

Type(0) <: Type(i<sub>1</sub>)

Type(i<sub>1</sub>) <: Type(i<sub>2</sub>)

# Subtyping Constraints

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  
  var i1 = 0;  
  
  while (i2 < a.length) {  
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);  
  
    i3 = i2 + 1;  
  } // i4  
  
  return r;  
  
}
```

**i**: loop induction variable

$$i_2 = \phi(i_1, i_3)$$

## Generated constraints

Type(0) <: Type(i<sub>1</sub>)

Type(i<sub>1</sub>) <: Type(i<sub>2</sub>)

loop\_cond ⊢ Type(i<sub>3</sub>) <: Type(i<sub>2</sub>)

# Subtyping Constraints

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var r = x;  
  
  var i1 = 0;  
  
  while (i2 < a.length) {  
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);  
  
    i3 = i2 + 1;  
  
  } // i4  
  
  return r;  
  
}
```

**i**: loop induction variable

$$i_2 = \phi(i_1, i_3)$$

**Loop condition**

$$i_2 < \text{len } a$$

**Generated constraints**

$$\text{Type}(0) <: \text{Type}(i_1)$$

$$\text{Type}(i_1) <: \text{Type}(i_2)$$

$$\text{loop\_cond} \vdash \text{Type}(i_3) <: \text{Type}(i_2)$$



**Path Sensitivity**



# Subtyping Constraints

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {
```

```
  var r = x;
```

```
  var i1 = 0;
```

```
  while (i2 < a.length) {
```

```
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);
```

```
    i3 = i2 + 1;
```

```
  } // i4
```

```
  return r;
```

```
}
```

**Loop condition**

i<sub>2</sub> < len a

**Generated constraints**

Type(0) <: Type(i<sub>1</sub>)

Type(i<sub>1</sub>) <: Type(i<sub>2</sub>)

loop\_cond ⊢ Type(i<sub>3</sub>) <: Type(i<sub>2</sub>)

loop\_cond ⊢ Type(i<sub>2</sub> + 1) <: Type(i<sub>3</sub>)

# Subtyping Constraints

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {
```

```
  var r = x;
```

```
  var i1 = 0;
```

```
  while (i2 < a.length) {
```

```
    r = f(r, a[i2], i2);
```

```
    i3 = i2 + 1;
```

```
  } // i4
```

```
  return r;
```

```
}
```

Safe Array Access

**Loop condition**

i<sub>2</sub> < len a

**Generated constraints**

Type(0) <: Type(i<sub>1</sub>)

Type(i<sub>1</sub>) <: Type(i<sub>2</sub>)

loop\_cond ⊢ Type(i<sub>3</sub>) <: Type(i<sub>2</sub>)

loop\_cond ⊢ Type(i<sub>2</sub> + 1) <: Type(i<sub>3</sub>)

loop\_cond ⊢ Type(i<sub>2</sub>) <: idx<a>

# Subtyping Constraints

$i_1: \{ \text{number} \mid v = 0 \}$   
 $i_2: \{ \text{number} \mid 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \}$   
 $i_3: \{ \text{number} \mid v = i_2 + 1 \}$   
 $i_4: \{ \text{number} \mid v = \text{len } a \}$

**Loop condition**

$i_2 < \text{len } a$

Substitute

**Generated constraints**

$\text{Type}(0) \quad <: \quad \text{Type}(i_1)$   
 $\text{Type}(i_1) \quad <: \quad \text{Type}(i_2)$   
 $\text{loop\_cond} \vdash \text{Type}(i_3) \quad <: \quad \text{Type}(i_2)$   
 $\text{loop\_cond} \vdash \text{Type}(i_2 + 1) \quad <: \quad \text{Type}(i_3)$   
 $\text{loop\_cond} \vdash \text{Type}(i_2) \quad <: \quad \text{idx}\langle a \rangle$

# Subtyping Constraints

## After substitution

$$\{ \text{num} \mid v = 0 \} <: \{ \text{num} \mid v = 0 \}$$

$$\{ \text{num} \mid v = 0 \} <: \{ \text{num} \mid 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \}$$

$$i_2 < \text{len } a \vdash \{ \text{num} \mid v = i_2 + 1 \} <: \{ \text{num} \mid 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \}$$

$$i_2 < \text{len } a \vdash \{ \text{num} \mid v = i_2 + 1 \} <: \{ \text{num} \mid v = i_2 + 1 \}$$

$$i_2 < \text{len } a \vdash \{ \text{num} \mid 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \} <: \{ \text{num} \mid 0 \leq v < \text{len } a \}$$

# Subtyping Constraints

## Convert to logical implications

$$\begin{array}{lcl} & v = 0 \Rightarrow & v = 0 \\ & v = 0 \Rightarrow & 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \\ i_2 < \text{len } a \Rightarrow & v = i_2 + 1 \Rightarrow & 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \\ i_2 < \text{len } a \Rightarrow & v = i_2 + 1 \Rightarrow & v = i_2 + 1 \\ i_2 < \text{len } a \Rightarrow & 0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \Rightarrow & 0 \leq v < \text{len } a \end{array}$$

# Subtyping Constraints

Convert to logical implications

Solved via SMT



	$v = 0 \Rightarrow$	$v = 0$
	$v = 0 \Rightarrow$	$0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a$
$i_2 < \text{len } a \Rightarrow$	$v = i_2 + 1 \Rightarrow$	$0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a$
$i_2 < \text{len } a \Rightarrow$	$v = i_2 + 1 \Rightarrow$	$v = i_2 + 1$
$i_2 < \text{len } a \Rightarrow$	$0 \leq v \leq \text{len } a \Rightarrow$	$0 \leq v < \text{len } a$

<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Solutions we used</b>
<b>Assignments</b> <code>while (i &lt; n) { i++; }</code>	SSA Transformation
<b>Mutability</b> <code>var x = { f: 1 }; x.f = 2;</code>	Extend type system with immutability guarantees
<b>Overloading</b> <code>foo(x: number): number foo(x: boolean): boolean</code>	Two-phased typing
<b>Annotation Overhead</b>	Liquid Types

# Mutability

```
var x = { f: 1 };  
x.f = 2;
```



# Why is the access `a[i]` safe?

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  return res;  
}
```

# Why is the access `a[i]` safe?

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x; ①  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  return res;  
}
```

1. `i` is initialized to `0`

# Why is the access `a[i]` safe?

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x; ①  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++) ②  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  return res;  
}
```

1. `i` is initialized to `0`
2. `i` is bounded by `a`'s length

# Why is the access `a[i]` safe?

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x; ①  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++) ② ③  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  return res;  
}
```

1. `i` is initialized to `0`
2. `i` is bounded by `a`'s length
3. `i` increases only

# Why is the access `a[i]` safe?

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x; 1 2 3  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++) 4  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  return res;  
}
```

1. `i` is initialized to `0`
2. `i` is bounded by `a`'s length
3. `i` increases only
4. **Length of `a` does not mutate** in loop

# What if array's length mutates in loop?

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {  
    a.pop();  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  }  
  return res;  
}
```

```
interface Array<T> {  
  /**  
   * Removes the last element from an array and returns it.  
   */  
  pop(): T;  
}
```

lib.d.ts

# What if array's length mutates in loop?

Silently  
updates  
a.length ←

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {  
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interface Array<T> {  
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```

Check becomes stale

```
interface Array<T> {  
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lib.d.ts



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  }  
  return res;  
}
```

Silently updates `a.length` ← `a.pop()`

Check becomes stale

Unsafe access!

```
interface Array<T> {  
  /**  
   * Removes the last element from an array and returns it.  
   */  
  pop(): T;  
}
```

lib.d.ts

# Problem: stale checks break value reasoning

Silently updates `a.length` ← `a.pop()`

```
function reduce(a, f, x) {  
  var res = x;  
  for (var i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {  
    res = f(res, a[i], i);  
  }  
  return res;  
}
```

Check becomes stale

Unsafe access!

```
interface Array<T> {  
  /**  
   * Removes the last element from an array and returns it.  
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  pop(): T;  
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lib.d.ts



Extend type system to enforce immutability constraints

# Literature in Object & Reference Immutability

M. Tschantz and M. D. Ernst. Javari: Adding reference immutability to Java. OOPSLA, 2005.

Y. Zibin, A. Potanin, M. Ali, S. Artzi, A. Kiezun, and M. D. Ernst. Object and Reference Immutability using Java Generics. ESEC/FSE, 2007.

Y. Zibin, A. Potanin, P. Li, M. Ali, and M. D. Ernst. Ownership and Immutability in Generic Java. OOPSLA, 2010.

C. S. Gordon, M. J. Parkinson, J. Parsons, A. Bromfield, and J. Duffy. Uniqueness & Reference Immutability for Safe Parallelism. OOPSLA, 2012.

C. S. Gordon, M. D. Ernst, and D. Grossman. Rely-Guarantee References for Refinement Types over Aliased Mutable Data. PLDI, 2013.

F. Militão, J. Aldrich, and L. Caires. Rely-Guarantee Protocols. ECOOP, 2014.

# Literature in Object & Reference Immutability

Y. Zibin, A. Potanin, M. Ali, S. Artzi, A. Kiezun, and M. D. Ernst. Object and Reference Immutability using Java Generics. ESEC/FSE, 2007.

- ✓ Simple extension to type system
- ✓ Encoded in base types – refinements leverage immutability guarantees

# Immutability Generic Java [Zibin'07]

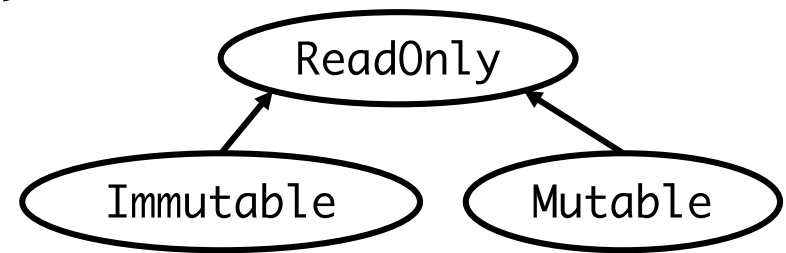
```
function reduce<A,B>(a: Array<Immutable,A>,
                    f: (B,A,idx<a>) => B,
                    x: B): B {
    var res = x;
    for (let i = 0; i < a.length; i++)
        res = f(res, a[i], i);
    return res;
}
```

Mutability as  
type parameter

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function reduce<A,B>(a: Array<Immutable,A>,
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Mutability as  
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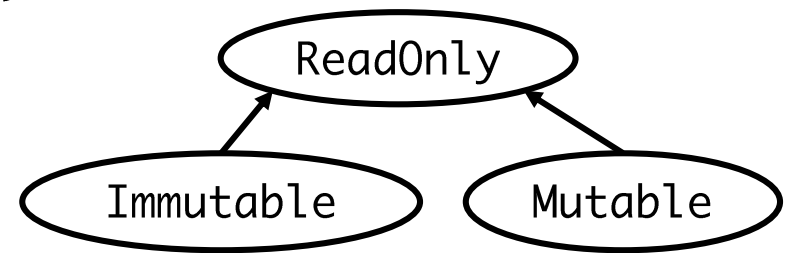
	This can mutate?	Others can mutate?
ReadOnly	✗	✓
Mutable	✓	✓
Immutable	✗	✗

# Immutability Generic Java [Zibin'07]

```
function reduce<A,B>(a: Array<Immutable,A>,
                    f: (B,A,idx<a>) => B,
                    x: B): B {
    var res = x;
    for (let i = 0; i < a.length; i++)
        res = f(res, a[i], i);
    return res;
}
```

Mutability as  
type parameter

Only immutable  
portions in refinement



	This can mutate?	Others can mutate?
ReadOnly	✗	✓
Mutable	✓	✓
Immutable	✗	✗



# Immutability Generic Java [Zibin'07]

```
function reduce<A,B>(a: Array<Immutable,A>,
                    f: (B,A,idx<a>) => B,
                    x: B): B {
    var res = x;
    for (let i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {
        a.pop();
        res = f(res, a[i], i);
    }
    return res;
}
```

```
interface Array<M extends ReadOnly, T> {
    /**
     * Removes the last element from an array and returns it.
     */
    /*@ Mutable */ pop(): T;
}
```

lib-IGJ.d.ts

# Immutability Generic Java [Zibin'07]

```
function reduce<A,B>(a: Array<Immutable,A>,
                    f: (B,A,idx<a>) => B,
                    x: B): B {
    var res = x;
    for (let i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {
        a.pop();
        res = f(res, a[i], i);
    }
    return res;
}
```

Call to pop is flagged as an error,  
because pop may only be  
applied to Mutable receivers

```
interface Array<M extends ReadOnly, T> {
    /**
     * Removes the last element from an array and returns it.
     */
    /*@ Mutable */ pop(): T;
}
```

lib-IGJ.d.ts

<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Solutions we used</b>
<b>Assignments</b> <code>while (i &lt; n) { i++; }</code>	SSA Transformation
<b>Mutability</b> <code>var x = { f: 1 }; x.f = 2;</code>	Extend type system with immutability guarantees
<b>Overloading</b> <code>foo(x: number): number foo(x: boolean): boolean</code>	Two-phased typing
<b>Annotation Overhead</b>	Liquid Types

# Value Based

## Overloading

```
foo(x: number): number
```

```
foo(x: boolean): boolean
```

# Value Based Overloading

*Function reflects upon and behaves according to types of its arguments*

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*Function reflects upon and behaves according to types of its arguments*

```
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

#args	Signature
2	
3	

# Value Based Overloading

*Function reflects upon and behaves according to types of its arguments*

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function $reduce(a, f, x?) {  
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}
```

1<sup>st</sup> behavior – 3 args:  
x is of type B

#args	Signature
2	
3	$\langle A, B \rangle (a: A[], f: (B, A, \text{idx} \langle a \rangle) \Rightarrow B, x: B): B$

# Value Based Overloading

*Function reflects upon and behaves according to types of its arguments*

```
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

2<sup>nd</sup> behavior – 2 args:  
X is of type  
undefined

#args	Signature
2	$\langle A \rangle (a: A[]^+, f: (A, A, \text{idx}\langle a \rangle) \Rightarrow A) : A$
3	$\langle A, B \rangle (a: A[] , f: (B, A, \text{idx}\langle a \rangle) \Rightarrow B, x: B) : B$



# Value Based Overloading

*Function reflects upon and behaves according to types of its arguments*

Q1: What makes it challenging?

Q2: How pervasive is it?

# Q1: What makes it challenging?

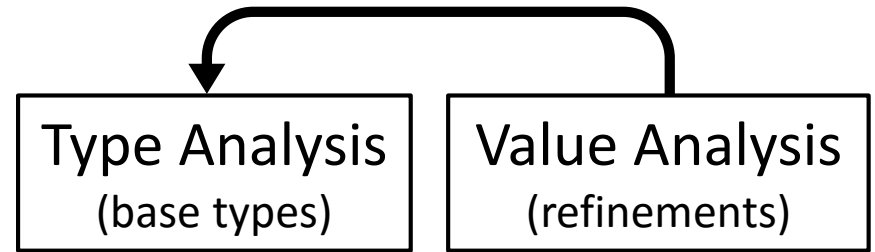
```
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}
```

Type Analysis  
(base types)

Value Analysis  
(refinements)

# Q1: What makes it challenging?

```
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {  
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```

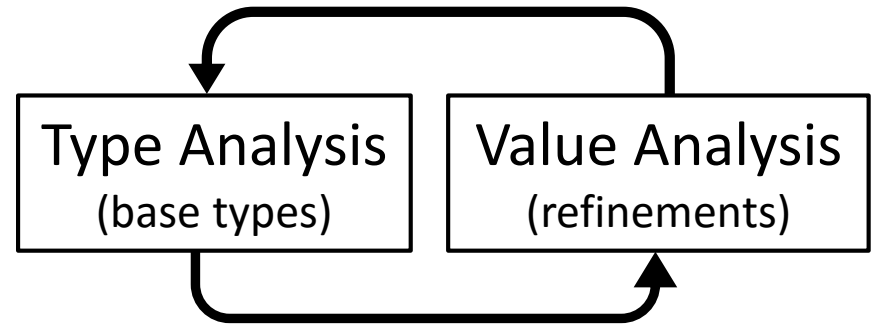


Refinements use invariants established by base types

E.g. tracking the `.length` access requires `arguments` to be array

# Q1: What makes it challenging?

```
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {  
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```



**Refinements use invariants established by base types**

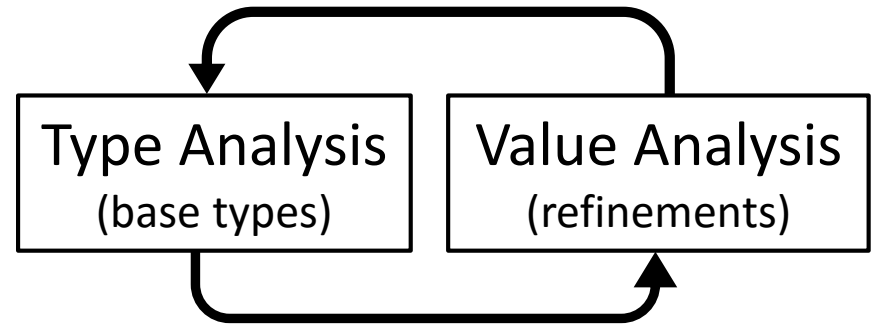
E.g. tracking the `.length` access requires `arguments` to be array

**Type reasoning requires tracking logical relationships**

E.g. base type of `X` depends on the value of `arguments.length`

# Q1: What makes it challenging?

```
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
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}
```



Refinements use invariants established by base types

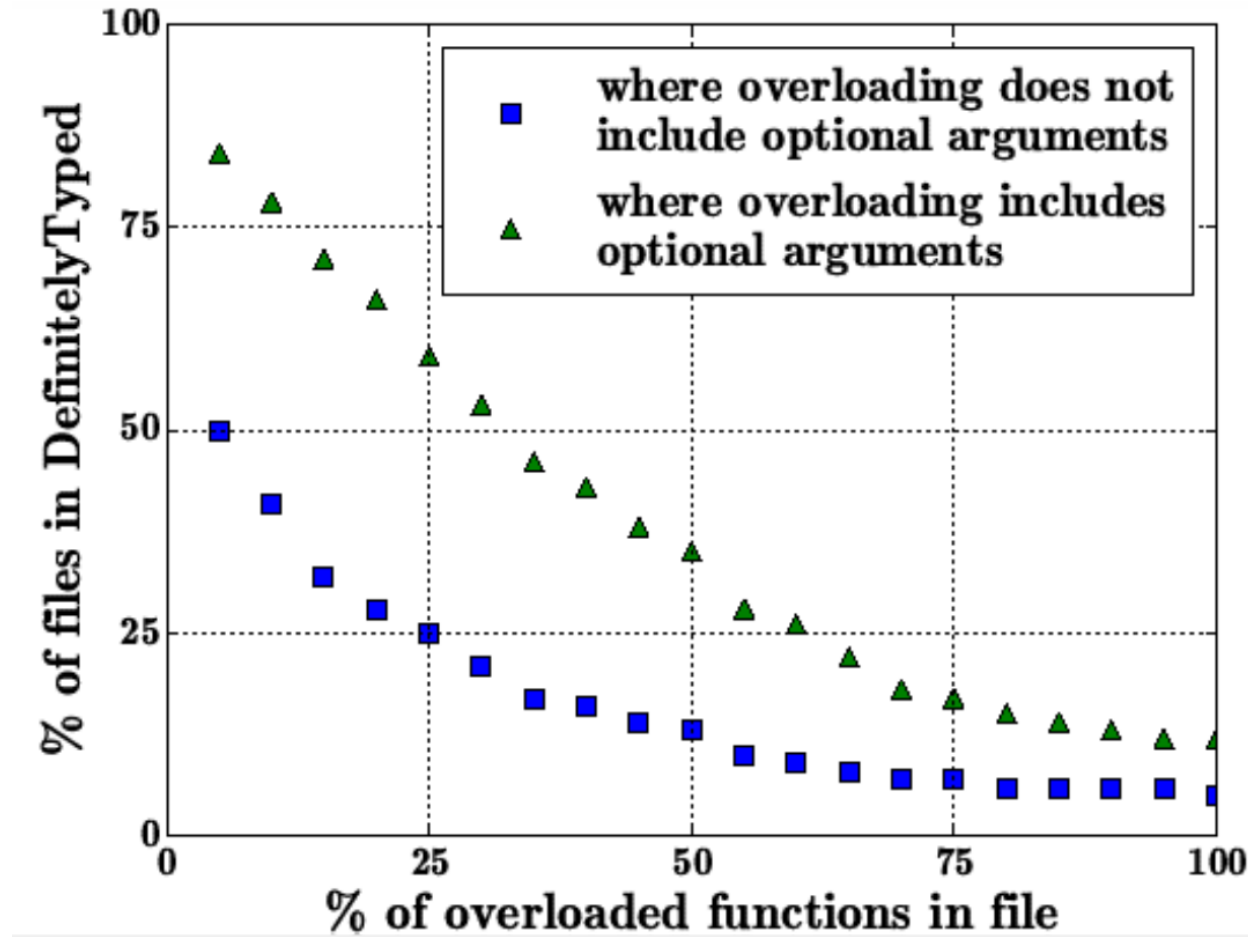
E.g. tracking the `.length` access requires `arguments` to be array

Type reasoning requires tracking logical relationships

E.g. base type of `X` depends on the value of `arguments.length`

Circular dependency complicates **formal reasoning & implementation**

## Q2: How pervasive is it?

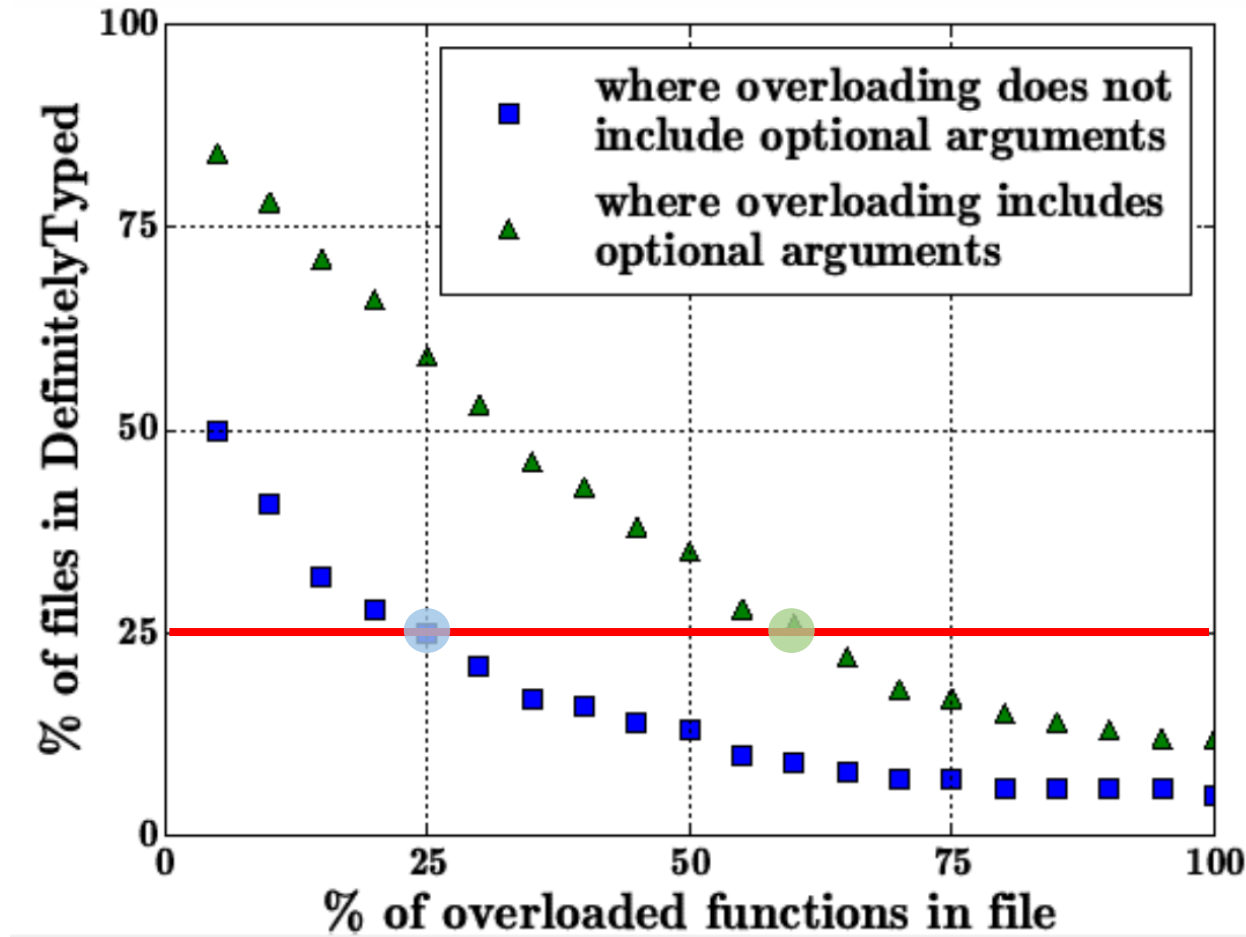


Study set:

**DefinitelyTyped:** The repository for high quality TypeScript type definitions

<http://definitelytyped.org/>

## Q2: How pervasive is it?



Study set:

**DefinitelyTyped:** The repository for high quality TypeScript type definitions

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# How do we check overloaded functions?

Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]



# How do we check overloaded functions?

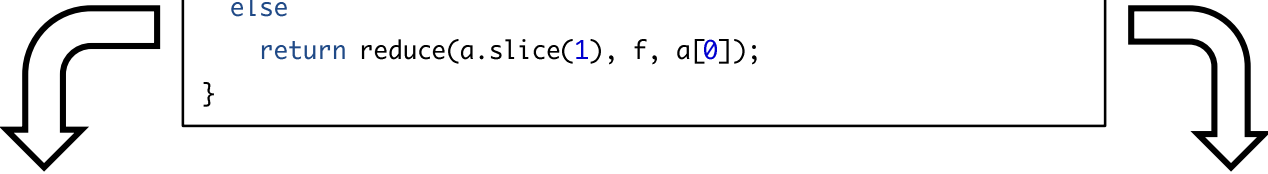
## Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

```
function $reduce<A> (a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a> => A ): A
function $reduce<A,B>(a: A[] , f: (B,A,idx<a> => B, x: B): B
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {
  if (arguments.length === 3)
    return reduce(a, f, x);
  else
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);
}
```

# How do we check overloaded functions?

## Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

```
function $reduce<A> (a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a> => A ): A  
function $reduce<A,B>(a: A[] , f: (B,A,idx<a> => B, x: B): B  
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```



```
function $reduce<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a> => A): A {  
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    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

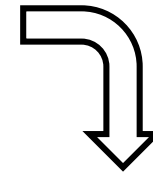
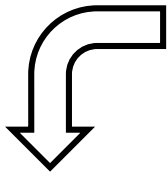
```
function $reduce<A,B>(a: A[] , f: (B,A,idx<a> => B, x: B): B {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

Phase 1a. Make clones of body for each overload

# How do we check overloaded functions?

## Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

```
function $reduce<A> (a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a> => A ): A
function $reduce<A,B>(a: A[] , f: (B,A,idx<a> => B, x: B): B
function $reduce(a, f, x?) {
  if (arguments.length === 3)
    return reduce(a, f, x);
  else
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);
}
```



```
function $reduce<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a> => A): A {
  if (arguments.length === 3)
    return reduce(a, f, x);
  else
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);
}
```

```
function $reduce<A,B>(a: A[] , f: (B,A,idx<a> => B, x: B): B {
  if (arguments.length === 3)
    return reduce(a, f, x);
  else
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);
}
```

Phase 1a. Make clones of body for each overload

# How do we check overloaded functions?

## Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

```
function $reduce#1<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a>) => A): A {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

Phase 1b. Check body under clone signature

# How do we check overloaded functions?

## Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

```
function $reduce#1<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a>) => A): A {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return reduce(a, f, x);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

**Error:** expecting type A,  
passed x of type undefined

Value- and path-insensitive type-checking

Phase 1b. Check body under clone signature

# How do we check overloaded functions?

Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

```
function $reduce#1<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a>) => A): A {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return assert(false);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

Replace errors with `assert(false)`, trusting they are indeed dead-code

Phase 1b. Check body under clone signature

# How do we check overloaded functions?

Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

```
function $reduce#1<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a>) => A): A {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return assert(false);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

Prove dead-code with flow- and path-sensitive analysis

## Phase 2. Refinement Type Checking

# How do we check overloaded functions?

## Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

Signature implies: `arguments.length = 2`

```
function $reduce#1<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a>) => A): A {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return assert(false);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

Condition makes branch's environment inconsistent

Prove dead-code with flow- and path-sensitive analysis

## Phase 2. Refinement Type Checking



# How do we check overloaded functions?

## Two-Phased Typing [ECOOP'15]

Signature implies: `arguments.length = 2`

```
function $reduce#1<A>(a: A[]+, f: (A,A,idx<a>) => A): A {  
  if (arguments.length === 3)  
    return assert(false);  
  else  
    return reduce(a.slice(1), f, a[0]);  
}
```

Condition makes branch's environment inconsistent

Prove dead-code with flow- and path-sensitive analysis

## Phase 2. Refinement Type Checking

# Also in the paper...

## Scaling to TypeScript

- Type features
  - Object literal types*
  - Interface types*
  - Primitive types*
  - Unsound features*
  - Undefined & null types*
  - Co- & Contra-variant subtyping*
  - Unchecked overloads*
  - any type*
- Array support
- Flexible object initialization
  - Internal: Constructors*
  - External: Unique references*

# Also in the paper...

## Scaling to TypeScript

- Type features
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  - Co- & Contra-variant subtyping*
  - Unchecked overloads*
  - any type*
- Array support
- Flexible object initialization
  - Internal: Constructors*
  - External: Unique references*

## Formal Results

Refinement type safety for core language

# Experimental Evaluation



# Benchmark suite

<b>File</b>	<b>LOC</b>
navier-stokes	366
splay	206
richards	304
raytrace	576
transducers	588
d3-arrays	189
tsc-checker	293
<b>Total</b>	<b>2522</b>

# Benchmark suite

File	LOC
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<b>Total</b>	<b>2522</b>

## Octane

- NavierStokes: 2D fluid motion simulator
- Splay: splay tree implementation
- Richards: OS kernel simulator
- Raytrace: ray trace renderer

# Benchmark suite

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## Octane

- NavierStokes: 2D fluid motion simulator
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## Transducers

Composable algorithmic transformations

# Benchmark suite

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## Octane

- NavierStokes: 2D fluid motion simulator
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Composable algorithmic transformations

## D3: A JavaScript visualization library

- Array operations



# Benchmark suite

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<b>Total</b>	<b>2522</b>

## Octane

- NavierStokes: 2D fluid motion simulator
- Splay: splay tree implementation
- Richards: OS kernel simulator
- Raytrace: ray trace renderer

## Transducers

Composable algorithmic transformations

## D3: A JavaScript visualization library

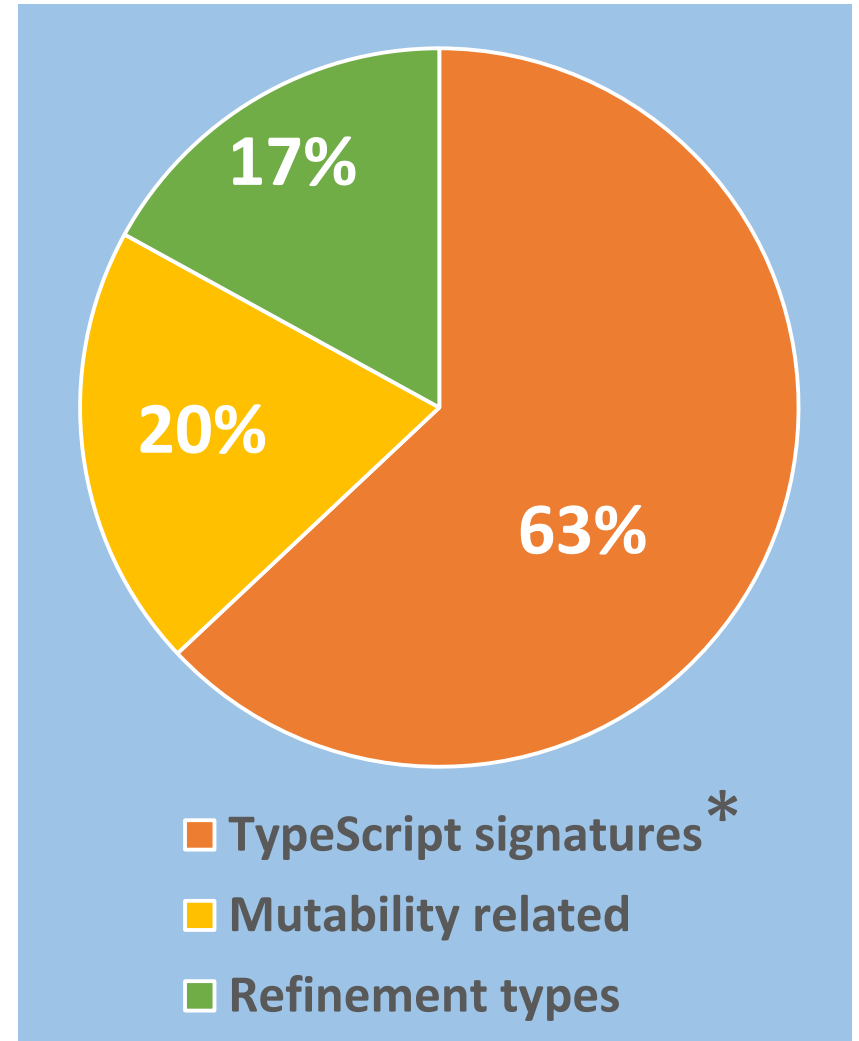
- Array operations

## Microsoft's TypeScript compiler

- Parts of `core.ts` and `checker.ts`

# Annotation Overhead

File	LOC	Annots (% LOC)
navier-stokes	366	24.6
splay	206	9.7
richards	304	27.3
raytrace	576	14.6
transducers	588	27.6
d3-arrays	189	26.5
tsc-checker	293	23.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2522</b>	<b>21.4</b>



\* Programs need to be fully typed  
– no any type in signatures

# Performance

<b>File</b>	<b>LOC</b>	<b>Annots (% LOC)</b>	<b>Time (sec)</b>
navier-stokes	366	24.6	473
splay	206	9.7	6
richards	304	27.3	7
raytrace	576	14.6	15
transducers	588	27.6	12
d3-arrays	189	26.5	37
tsc-checker	293	23.4	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>2522</b>	<b>21.4</b>	

# Performance

File	LOC	Annots (% LOC)	Time (sec)
navier-stokes	366	24.6	473
splay	206	9.7	6
richards	304	27.3	7
raytrace	576	14.6	15
transducers	588	27.6	12
d3-arrays	189	26.5	37
tsc-checker	293	23.4	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>2522</b>	<b>21.4</b>	

More than 100 static  
array access sites  
with dynamically  
computed indexes

# Properties Tested



- Property accesses
- Array bounds checks
- Overloads
- Safe Downcasts
  - Class based
  - Ad hoc type hierarchies
- User specified value properties. E.g. a function:
  - returns a positive number
  - accepts non-empty arrays

# Properties Tested



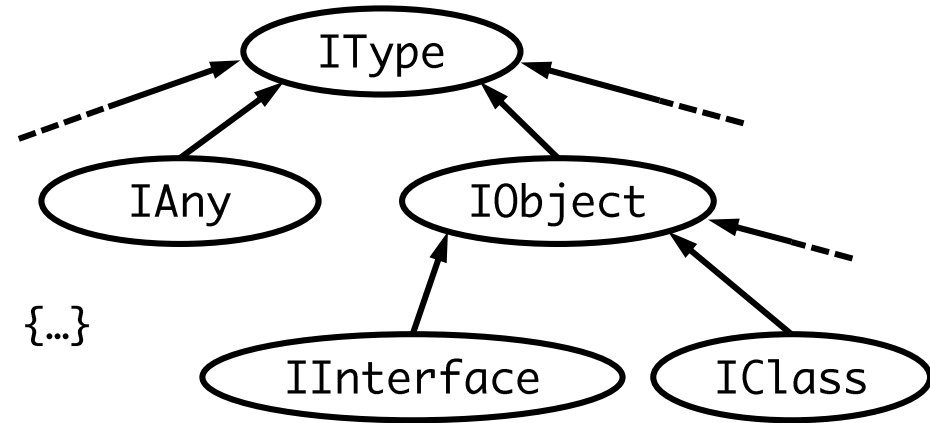
## Safe Downcasts

Ad hoc type hierarchies

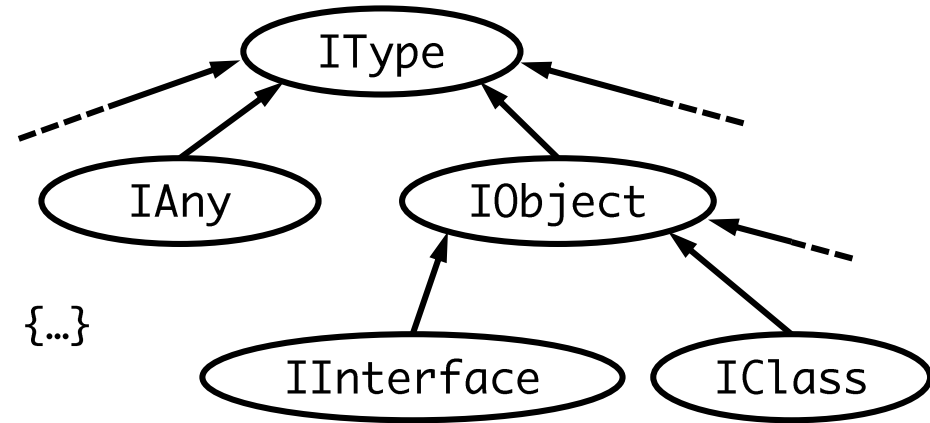
Example taken from:

TypeScript compiler - v1.0.1.0 - src/compiler/types.ts

```
interface IType {...}
interface IClass extends IType {...}
interface IAny extends IType {...}
interface IObject extends IType {...}
interface IInterface extends IObject {...}
```



```
interface IType {...}
interface IClass extends IType {...}
interface IAny extends IType {...}
interface IObject extends IType {...}
interface IInterface extends IObject {...}
```



TypeScript interfaces are plain JavaScript objects  
no type information at runtime



```

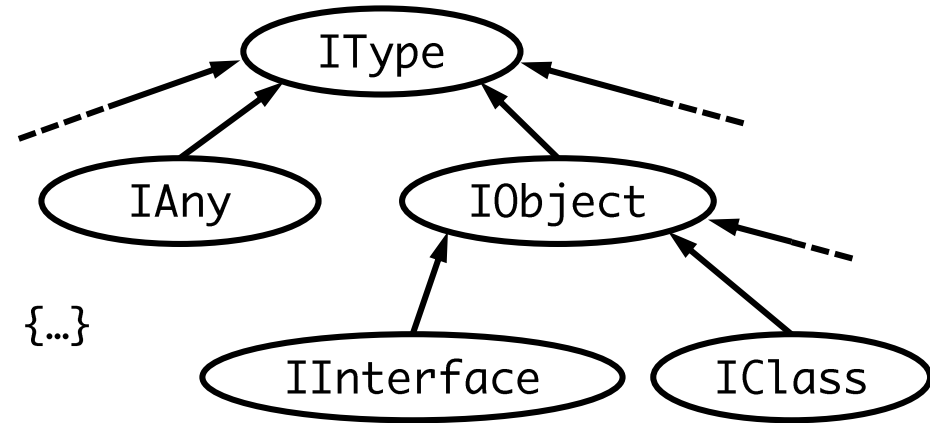
interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }
interface IClass extends IType {...}
interface IAny extends IType {...}
interface IObject extends IType {...}
interface IInterface extends IObject {...}

```

```

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class   = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType = Class
            | Interface
            | ...
}

```



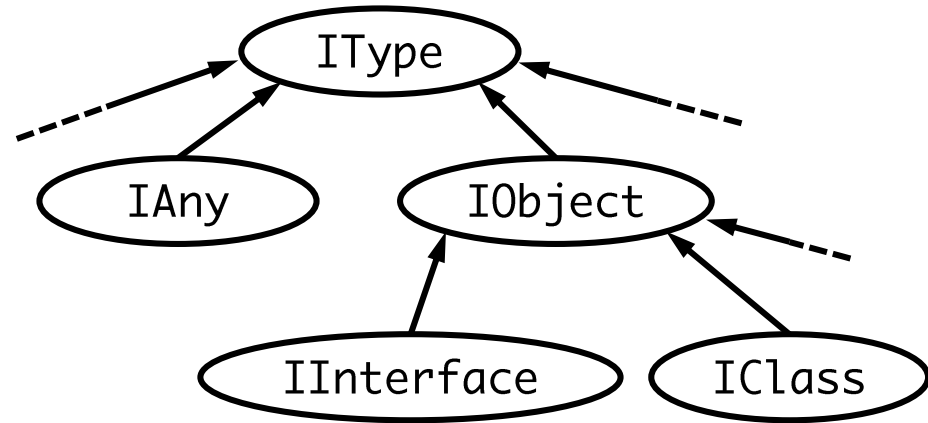
TypeScript interfaces are plain JavaScript objects  
no type information at runtime

Explicit field (**flags**) to encode type info  
needed for dynamic tests

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }
```

```
...
```

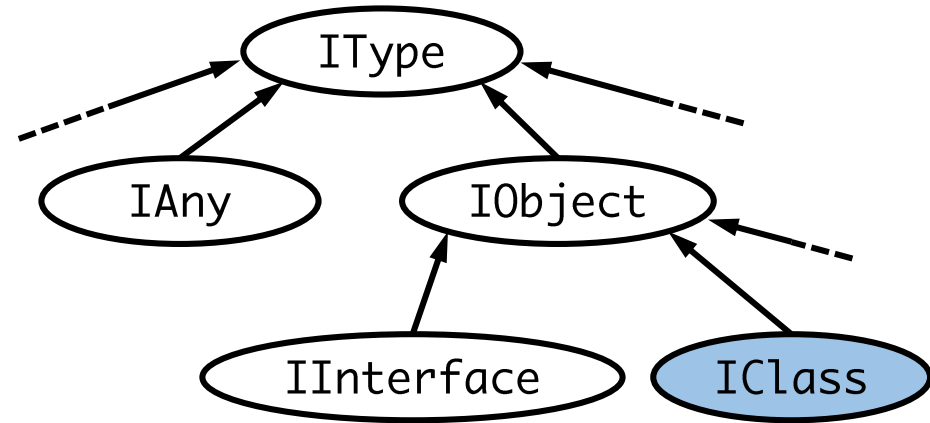
```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```



## Invariants

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }  
...
```

```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```



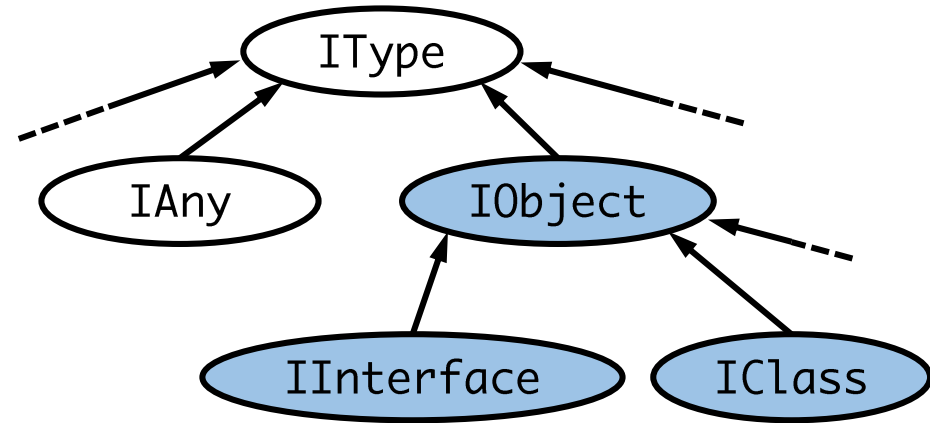
## Invariants

`t.flags & 0x0400`

`≠ 0 ⇒ t: IClass`

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }  
...
```

```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```



## Invariants

$t.\text{flags} \ \& \ 0x0400 \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IClass}$

$t.\text{flags} \ \& \ (0x0400 | 0x0800 | \dots) \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IObject}$

...

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }  
...
```

```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```

## Problem

### Unchecked invariants

$t.flags \ \& \ 0x0400 \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IClass}$

$t.flags \ \& \ (0x0400 | 0x0800 | \dots) \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IObject}$

...

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }
...
const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class    = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType  = Class
            | Interface
            | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

## Problem

### Unchecked invariants

$t.\text{flags} \ \& \ 0x0400 \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IClass}$

$t.\text{flags} \ \& \ (0x0400 | 0x0800 | \dots) \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IObject}$

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```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }
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const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
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  Interface = 0x0800,
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            | Interface
            | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

## Problem

### Unchecked invariants

$t.flags \& 0x0400 \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: IClass$

$t.flags \& (0x0400 | 0x0800 | \dots) \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: IObject$

...

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }
...

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any          = 0x0001,
  Class       = 0x0400,
  Interface   = 0x0800,
  ObjType     = Class
              | Interface
              | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IAny> t;
}

```

**No static or  
dynamic error**

## Problem

### Unchecked invariants

$t.flags \ \& \ 0x0400 \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IClass}$

$t.flags \ \& \ (0x0400 | 0x0800 | \dots) \neq 0 \Rightarrow t: \text{IObject}$

...



```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlags; }  
...  
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```

```
var t: IType = ...  
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {  
  var o = <IAny> t;  
}
```

**No static or  
dynamic error**

## Problem

Unchecked invariants

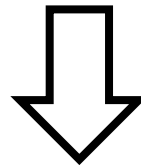
## Solution

Encode invariants in refinement types



Encode type information in logic

```
interface S {...}
```

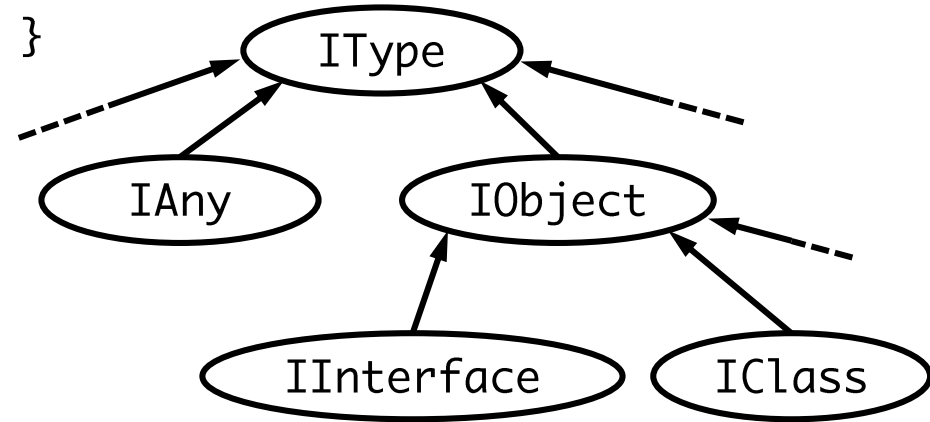


```
x: S  $\Leftrightarrow$  implements(x, 'S')
```

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
```

```
...
```

```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```



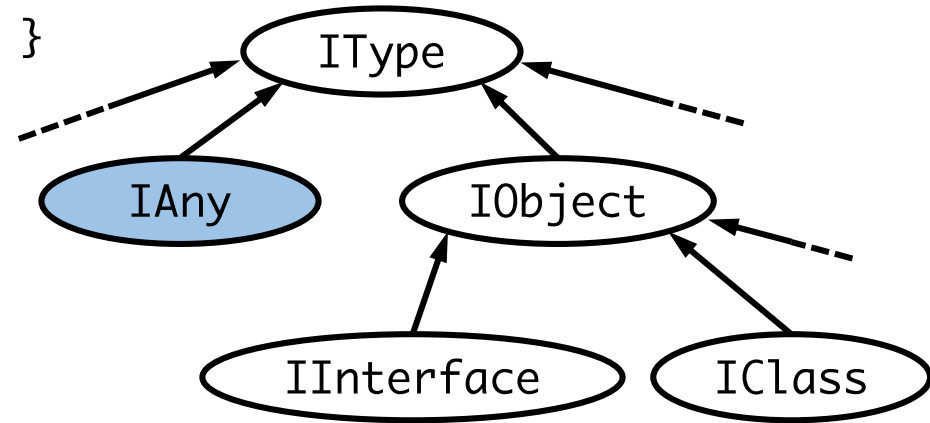
Type for `flags` accounts for possible sub-interfaces

```
type TypeFlagInv = TypeFlags
```

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
```

```
...
```

```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```



## Type for flags accounts for possible sub-interfaces

```
type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |  
  mask(v, 0x0001) => implements(this, 'IAny')
```

Bitwise AND

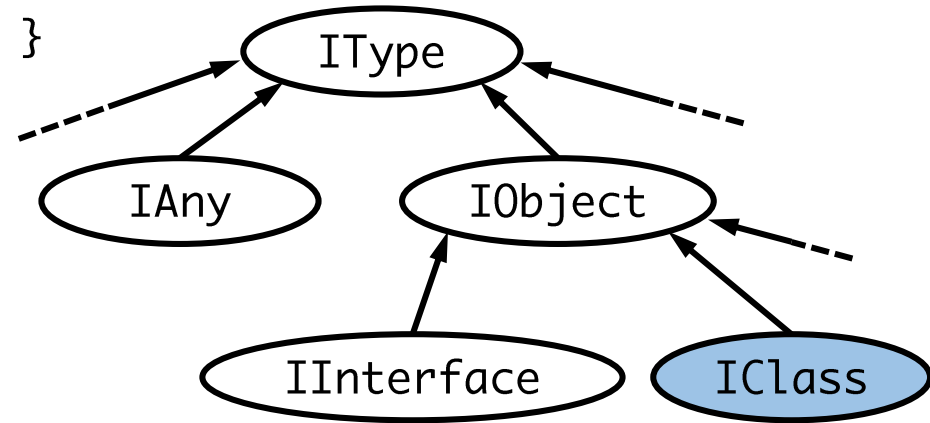
The containing  
object

```
}
```

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
```

```
...
```

```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```



## Type for flags accounts for possible sub-interfaces

```
type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |  
  mask(v, 0x0001) => implements(this, 'IAny')  
  & mask(v, 0x0400) => implements(this, 'IClass')  
}
```

```
interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }  
...
```

```
const enum TypeFlags {  
  Any      = 0x0001,  
  Class    = 0x0400,  
  Interface = 0x0800,  
  ObjType  = Class  
            | Interface  
            | ...  
}
```

```
type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |  
  mask(v, 0x0001) ⇒ implements(this, 'IAny')  
  ∧ mask(v, 0x0400) ⇒ implements(this, 'IClass')  
  ∧ mask(v, 0x0800) ⇒ implements(this, 'IInterface')  
  ∧ ... }
```

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
...

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class    = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType  = Class
            | Interface
            | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

```

type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |
  mask(v, 0x0001) => implements(this, 'IAny')
  ^ mask(v, 0x0400) => implements(this, 'IClass')
  ^ mask(v, 0x0800) => implements(this, 'IInterface')
  ^ ... }

```

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
...

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class    = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType  = Class
            | Interface
            | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

## Check downcast

```

type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |
  mask(v, 0x0001) => implements(this, 'IAny')
  ^ mask(v, 0x0400) => implements(this, 'IClass')
  ^ mask(v, 0x0800) => implements(this, 'IInterface')
  ^ ... }

```



```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
...

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class    = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType  = Class
            | Interface
            | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

## Check downcast

Invariant for  
IType

```

type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |
  mask(v, 0x0001) => implements(this, 'IAny')
  ^ mask(v, 0x0400) => implements(this, 'IClass')
  ^ mask(v, 0x0800) => implements(this, 'IInterface')
  ^ ... }

```

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
...

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class   = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType = Class
           | Interface
           | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

## Check downcast

Invariant for  
IType

$\wedge$

Path condition:  
 $t.\text{flags} \& 0x0400 \neq 0$

```

type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |
  mask(v, 0x0001)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IAny')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0400)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IClass')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0800)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IInterface')
   $\wedge$  ... }

```

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
...

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class    = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType  = Class
            | Interface
            | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

## Check downcast

Invariant for  
IType

$\wedge$

Path condition:  
 $t.\text{flags} \ \& \ 0x0400 \neq 0$

$\Rightarrow$

$\text{implements}(t, \text{'IClass'})$

```

type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |
  mask(v, 0x0001)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IAny')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0400)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IClass')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0800)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IInterface')
   $\wedge$  ... }

```

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
...

const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class   = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType = Class
           | Interface
           | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```

Encode type information in logic

## Check downcast



Invariant for  
IType

$\wedge$

Path condition:  
 $t.\text{flags} \ \& \ 0x0400 \neq 0$

$\Rightarrow$

$t: \text{IClass}$

```

type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |
  mask(v, 0x0001)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IAny')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0400)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IClass')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0800)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IInterface')
   $\wedge$  ... }

```

```

interface IType { flags:TypeFlagInv; }
...


const enum TypeFlags {
  Any      = 0x0001,
  Class   = 0x0400,
  Interface = 0x0800,
  ObjType = Class
           | Interface
           | ...
}

```

```

var t: IType = ...
if (t.flags & TypeFlags.Class) {
  var o = <IClass> t;
}

```



Encode type information in logic

## Check downcast



Invariant for  
IType

$\wedge$

Path condition:  
 $t.\text{flags} \ \& \ 0x0400 \neq 0$

$\Rightarrow$

$t: \text{IClass}$

```

type TypeFlagInv = { TypeFlags |
  mask(v, 0x0001)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IAny')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0400)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IClass')
   $\wedge$  mask(v, 0x0800)  $\Rightarrow$  implements(this, 'IInterface')
   $\wedge$  ... }

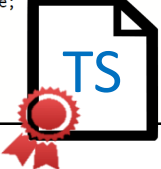
```

# Refinement Types for TypeScript

Extensible static analysis for a modern scripting language

- ✓ Fixed type tests
- ✓ User specified invariants

```
class Greeter<T> {  
  greeting: T;  
  construct(property) Greeter<T>.greeting: T  
    this.greeting = message;  
}  
greet() {  
  return this.greeting;  
}
```



Challenges	Solutions
Assignments	SSA Transformation
Mutability	Extend type system with immutability guarantees
Overloading	Two-phased typing
Annotation Overhead	Liquid Types

**Source:** [github.com/UCSD-PL/refscript](https://github.com/UCSD-PL/refscript)

**Demo:** [goto.ucsd.edu/~pvekris/refscript](http://goto.ucsd.edu/~pvekris/refscript)

# Thanks!