

Tackling Real-Life Relaxed Concurrency with FSL++

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Weak memory

- memory models weaker than sequential consistency (SC)
- gives us better performance

Logics for weak memory

- iCAP-TSO, OGRA, GPS, RSL, FSL

Current state of verification

- simplified algorithms & toy examples

In this talk

- **first verification of a non-simplified real-world algorithm**

Atomic Reference Counter (ARC)



- part of the Rust standard library
- allows concurrent reads of a shared resource
- uses advanced weak memory primitives

How is ARC used?

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`new(v)`

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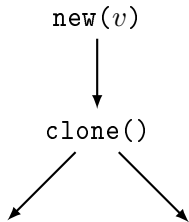
`new(v)`



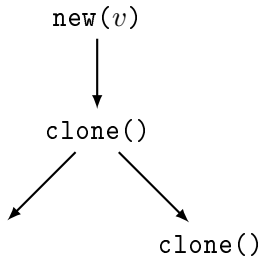
How is ARC used?

`new(v)`
↓
`clone()`

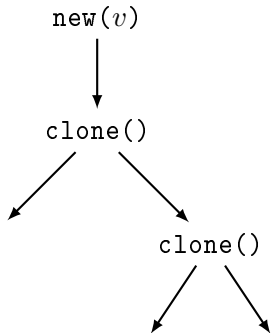
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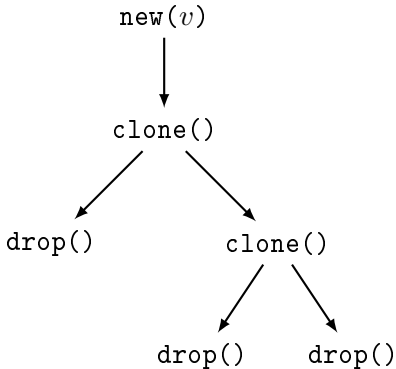
How is ARC used?



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How is ARC used?



$\{\text{emp}\}$	$a = \text{new}(v)$	$\{\text{ARC}(a, v)\}$
$\{\text{ARC}(a, v)\}$	$y = \text{read}(a)$	$\{y = v \wedge \text{ARC}(a, v)\}$
$\{\text{ARC}(a, v)\}$	$\text{clone}(a)$	$\{\text{ARC}(a, v) * \text{ARC}(a, v)\}$
$\{\text{ARC}(a, v)\}$	$\text{drop}(a)$	$\{\text{emp}\}$

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<code>new(v){</code>	<code>clone(a){</code>
<code>a = alloc();</code>	<code>FADD(a.count, +1);</code>
<code>a.data = v;</code>	<code>}</code>
<code>a.count = 1;</code>	<code>drop(a){</code>
<code>return a;</code>	<code>t = FADD(a.count, -1);</code>
<code>}</code>	<code>if(t == 1){</code>
<code>read(a){</code>	<code>free(a);</code>
<code>return a.data;</code>	<code>}</code>
<code>}</code>	<code>}</code>

FADD = fetch_and_add

$\{\text{emp}\}$	$a = \text{new}(v)$	$\{\text{ARC}(a, v)\}$
$\{\text{ARC}(a, v)\}$	$y = \text{read}(a)$	$\{y = v \wedge \text{ARC}(a, v)\}$
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$\{\text{ARC}(a, v)\}$	$\text{drop}(a)$	$\{\text{emp}\}$

```

new(v){
    a = alloc();
    a.data = v;
    a.countrlx = 1;
    return a;
}

read(a){
    return a.data;
}

clone(a){
    FADDrlx(a.count, +1);
}

drop(a){
    t = FADDrel(a.count, -1);
    if(t == 1){
        fenceacq;
        free(a);
    }
}

```

FADD = fetch_and_add

FSL (Fenced Separation Logic) [VMCAI '16]

- ✓ supports **rel**, **acq**, and **rlx** accesses
- ✓ supports memory fences

Too weak to verify ARC

- ✗ concurrent plain (non-atomic) reads
SOLUTION: partial permissions
- ✗ `fetch_and_add` instructions
SOLUTION: new rules
- ✗ not expressive enough
SOLUTION: ghost state

{ } FADD_{acq_rel}(x, t) { }

$$\{U(x, Q) * P\} \text{ FADD}_{\text{acq_rel}}(x, t) \{ \quad \}$$

$$\{U(x, Q) * P\} \text{ FADD}_{\text{acq_rel}}(x, t) \{ \quad \}$$

$Q: Val \rightarrow Assn$ is invariant for x :
 x has value $c \Rightarrow$ the invariant owns $Q(c)$

$$\begin{array}{l} \forall c. Q(c) \Rightarrow R \\ \forall c. P \Rightarrow Q(c+t) \end{array}$$

$$\{U(x, Q) * P\} \text{ FADD}_{\text{acq_rel}}(x, t) \{U(x, Q) * R\}$$

Q : $Val \rightarrow Assn$ is invariant for x :
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Updating the value of x from c to $c+t$:
(1) get $Q(c)$ out of the invariant
(2) put $Q(c+t)$ back into the invariant

$$\begin{aligned} \forall c. Q(c) &\Rightarrow R * T \\ \forall c. T * P &\Rightarrow Q(c + t) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\frac{\forall c. Q(c) \Rightarrow R * T}{\forall c. T * P \Rightarrow Q(c + t)}$$

$$\frac{\left\{ \begin{array}{l} U(x, Q) * P \\ \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{FADD}_{\text{acq_rel}}(x, t) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} U(x, Q) * R \\ \end{array} \right\}}{\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{FADD}_{\text{rel}}(x, t) \\ \end{array} \right\}}$$

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$$\frac{\forall c. Q(c) \Rightarrow R * T}{\forall c. T * P \Rightarrow Q(c + t)}$$

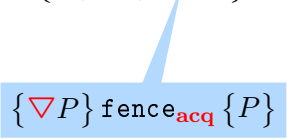
$$\frac{\{U(x, Q) * P\} \quad \text{FADD}_{\text{acq_rel}}(x, t) \quad \{U(x, Q) * R\}}{\{U(x, Q) * P\} \quad \text{FADD}_{\text{rel}}(x, t) \quad \{U(x, Q) * \nabla R\}}$$

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drop(a){
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$$\forall c. Q(c) \Rightarrow R * T$$
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$$\{\nabla P\} \text{fence}_{\text{acq}} \{P\}$$

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$\{$	FADD _{rlx} (x, t)	$\}$

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clone(a){
  FADDrlx(a.count, +1);
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What is $\text{ARC}(a, v)$?

Which invariant to choose for the counter `a.count`?

```

{ARC(a, v)}
drop(a){
  t = FADDrel(a.count, -1);
  if(t == 1){
    fenceacq;
    free(a);
  }
  {emp}

```

```

{ARC(a, v)}
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{ARC(a, v) * ARC(a, v)}

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What is $\text{ARC}(a, v)$?

$$\text{ARC}(a, v) = U(a.\text{count}, Q) * \exists q \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle. a.\text{data} \xrightarrow{q} v$$

Which invariant to choose for the counter $a.\text{count}$?

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Modalities (\triangle and ∇) prevent data races.

Ghost state is not accessed \Rightarrow no races on ghosts!



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Which invariant to choose for the counter $a.\text{count}$?

$$Q(c) \iff Q(c + 1) * \text{👾}$$

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What is $\text{ARC}(a, v)$?

$$\text{ARC}(a, v) = U(a.\text{count}, Q) * \exists q \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle. a.\text{data} \xrightarrow{q} v * (1 - q) \text{👾}$$

Which invariant to choose for the counter $a.\text{count}$?

$$Q(c) \iff Q(c + 1) * \text{👾}$$

```

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$$\text{ARC}(a, v) * \text{👾} \Rightarrow \text{ARC}(a, v) * \text{ARC}(a, v)$$

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```



Summary:

- ARC: simple (but interesting) algorithm with advanced weak memory constructs
- FSL++ = FSL + partial permissions
 - + rules for atomic updates (CAS, fetch & add)
 - + ghost state
- ARC verification using FSL++ formalized in Coq
<http://plv.mpi-sws.org/fsl/>



Future work:

- verify more examples
- adapt FSL++ for new memory models (e.g. promising semantics [Kang et al. POPL '17])


```
clone(a){  
    FADDrbx(a.count, +1);  
}
```

ARC(a, v)

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clone(a){  
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ARC(a, v)

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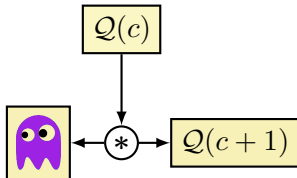
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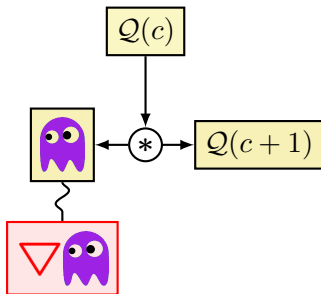


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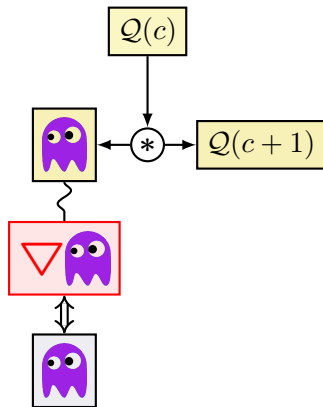


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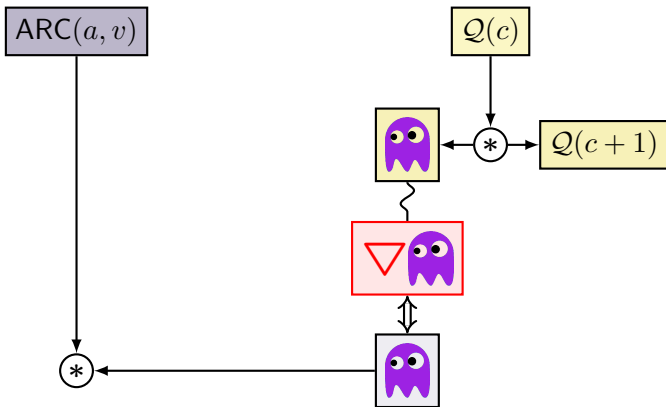
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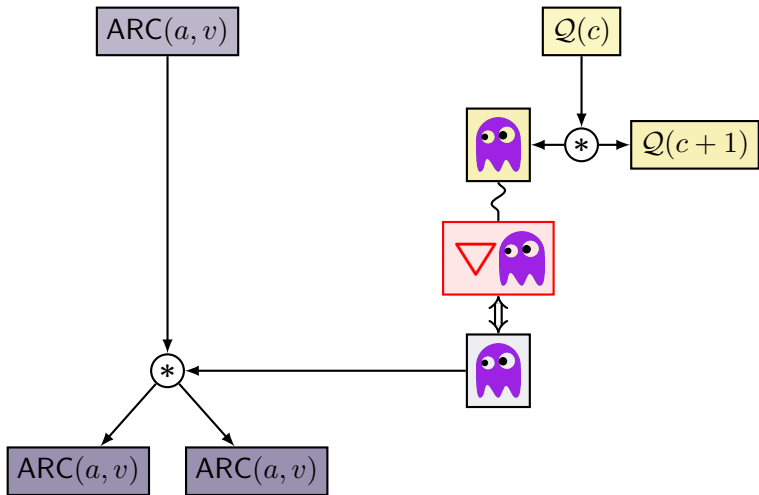
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ARC(a, v)

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Decrementing the counter from $c > 1$:

ARC(a, v)

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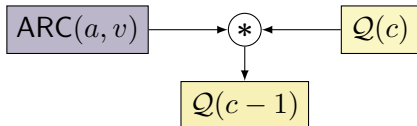

Decrementing the counter from $c > 1$:

ARC(a, v)

$Q(c)$

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Decrementing the counter from $c > 1$:



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Decrementing the counter from $c = 1$:

ARC(a, v)

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drop(a){
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  if(t == 1){
    fenceacq;
    free(a);
  }
}
```

Decrementing the counter from $c = 1$:

ARC(a, v)

Q(1)

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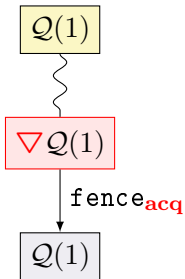
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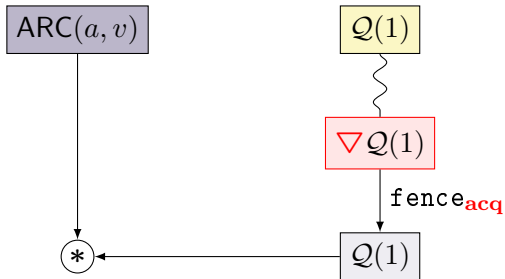
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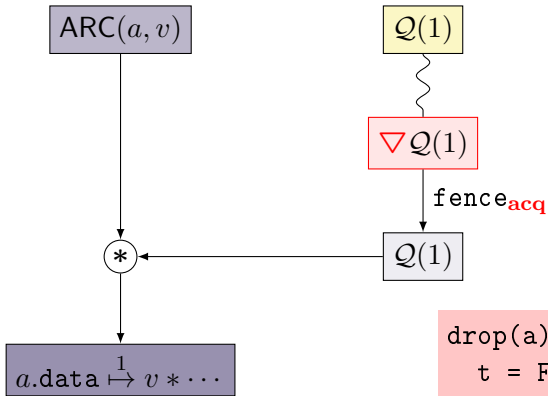
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}
```

Decrementing the counter from $c = 1$:



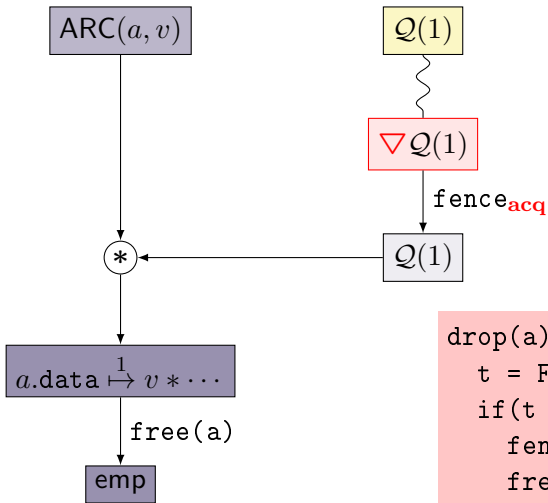
```
drop(a){
  t = FADDrel(a.count, -1);
  if(t == 1){
    fenceacq;
    free(a);
  }
}
```

Decrementing the counter from $c = 1$:



```
drop(a){
  t = FADDrel(a.count, -1);
  if(t == 1){
    fenceacq;
    free(a);
  }
}
```


Decrementing the counter from $c = 1$:



```
drop(a){
  t = FADDrel(a.count, -1);
  if(t == 1){
    fenceacq;
    free(a);
  }
}
```

$$Q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda c. \text{if } c = 0 \text{ then } \text{📄}:0 * \text{📄}:0 \\ \text{else } \exists f \in [0, 1]. a.\text{data} \xrightarrow{f} v * \text{📄}:(c - 1 + f) * \text{📄}:(1 - f)$$

$$\text{ARC}(a, v) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} U(a.\text{count}, Q(a.\text{data})) * \\ \exists q \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle. a.\text{data} \xrightarrow{q} v * (1 - q) \cdot \text{👾} * q \cdot \text{👾}$$

$$p \cdot \text{👾} * q \cdot \text{👾}^+ \iff (p + q) \cdot \text{👾}$$

$$\text{📄}:p * \text{📄}:q \iff \text{false}$$

$$p \cdot \text{👾} * \text{📄}:q \iff \text{📄}:q * p \cdot \text{👾} \iff \begin{cases} \text{📄}:(q - p) & \text{if } q - p \geq 0 \\ \text{false} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$