
The Jinja Virtual Machine (JVM)

Overview

1. Architecture, instructions, execution
2. Type system
3. Bytecode verifier: a dataflow analyzer
4. Compiler

Architecture

A picture

A stack machine

jvm-state = *addr option* × *heap* × *frame list*

frame = *opstack* × *registers* × *cname* × *mname* × *pc*

opstack = *val list*

registers = *val list*

pc = *nat*

Terminology: “register” = “local variable”

Instructions (1)

datatype *instr* =

Load <i>nat</i>	load from register
Store <i>nat</i>	store into register
Push <i>val</i>	push a constant
Pop	remove top element
New <i>cname</i>	create object on heap
Getfield <i>vname cname</i>	fetch field from object
Putfield <i>vname cname</i>	set field in object
Checkcast <i>cname</i>	check if object is of class <i>C</i>
Invoke <i>mname nat</i>	call method with <i>n</i> parameters
Return	return from method

Instructions (2)

	IAdd	integer addition
	CmpEq	equality comparison
	IfFalse <i>int</i>	branch if top of stack false
	Goto <i>int</i>	goto relative address
	Throw	throw exception

Generic programs

JVM programs are just like Jinja programs, but with different method bodies.

Use *parameterized* type of programs do define both:

$$\alpha \textit{ prog} = \alpha \textit{ cdecl list}$$

$$\alpha \textit{ cdecl} = \textit{ cname} \times \alpha \textit{ class}$$

$$\alpha \textit{ class} = \textit{ cname} \times \textit{ fdecl list} \times \alpha \textit{ mdecl list}$$

$$\alpha \textit{ mdecl} = \textit{ mname} \times \textit{ ty list} \times \textit{ ty} \times \alpha$$

$$\textit{ J-prog} = (\textit{ vname list} \times \textit{ expr}) \textit{ prog}$$

Important:

$P \vdash C$ sees $F:T$ in D etc are defined on $\alpha \textit{ prog}$,
not just on $\textit{ J-prog}$.

JVM programs

$jvm\text{-}prog = (nat \times nat \times instr\ list \times ex\text{-}table) prog$

Interpretation of method body (mxs, mxl_0, is, xt) :

- mxs : maximal operand stack size
- mxl_0 : number of local variables, excluding *this* and parameters.
- is : “bytecode”
- xt : *exception table* (later)

Execution

An example

Functional single-step execution (1)

exec :: *jvm-prog* \Rightarrow *jvm-state* \Rightarrow *jvm-state option*

If the stack is empty, stop:

exec P (*xp*, *h*, []) = *None*

If there is an unhandled exception, stop:

exec P ([*a*], *h*, *frs*) = *None*

Functional single-step execution (2)

Otherwise, execute an instruction:

$exec\ P\ (None,\ h,\ (stk,\ loc,\ C,\ M,\ pc) \cdot frs) =$

$\lfloor let\ i = (instrs\ of\ P\ C\ M)_{[pc]};$

$(xp',\ h',\ frs') = exec\ instr\ i\ P\ h\ stk\ loc\ C\ M\ pc\ frs$

$in\ case\ xp'\ of\ None \Rightarrow (None,\ h',\ frs')$

$\mid \lfloor a \rfloor \Rightarrow find\ handler\ P\ a\ h\ ((stk,\ loc,\ C,\ M,\ pc) \cdot frs) \rfloor$

Note: if an exception is raised, h' and stk' are discarded.

Relational notation

$$P \vdash \sigma \xrightarrow{\text{jvm}}_1 \sigma' = (\text{exec } P \sigma = \lfloor \sigma' \rfloor)$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{jvm}}$ is the reflexive transitive closure of $\xrightarrow{\text{jvm}}_1$

Functional method lookup

method ::

$\alpha \text{ prog} \Rightarrow \text{cname} \Rightarrow \text{mname} \Rightarrow \text{cname} \times \text{ty list} \times \text{ty} \times \alpha$

$P \vdash C \text{ sees } M: Ts \rightarrow T = m \text{ in } D \implies$

method $P \ C \ M = (D, Ts, T, m)$

Fetching instructions:

instrs-of $P \ C \ M \equiv$

$(\text{let } (D, Ts, T, (mxs, mxl_0, is, xt)) = \text{method } P \ C \ M \text{ in } is)$

Functional fields lookup

fields :: α prog \Rightarrow cname \Rightarrow ((vname \times cname) \times ty) list

$P \vdash C$ has-fields FDTs \implies fields P C = FDTs

Instruction execution

exec-instr ::

instr \Rightarrow *jvm-prog* \Rightarrow *heap* \Rightarrow *opstack* \Rightarrow *registers*
 \Rightarrow *cname* \Rightarrow *mname* \Rightarrow *pc* \Rightarrow *frame list* \Rightarrow *jvm-state*

exec-instr (Load *n*) *P h stk loc C M pc frs* =

(None, *h*, (*loc*_[*n*] · *stk*, *loc*, *C*, *M*, *pc* + 1) · *frs*)

exec-instr (Store *n*) *P h (v · stk) loc C M pc frs* =

(None, *h*, (*stk*, *loc*[*n* := *v*], *C*, *M*, *pc* + 1) · *frs*)

Push, Pop

$exec_instr \text{ (Push } v) P h stk loc C M pc frs =$
 $(None, h, (v \cdot stk, loc, C, M, pc + 1) \cdot frs)$

$exec_instr \text{ Pop } P h (v \cdot stk) loc C M pc frs =$
 $(None, h, (stk, loc, C, M, pc + 1) \cdot frs)$

New

exec-instr (New *C*) *P h stk loc C₀ M pc frs* =

(*case new-Addr h of*

None ⇒

([*addr-of-sys-xcpt OutOfMemory*], *h*,

(*stk, loc, C₀, M, pc*) · *frs*)

| [*a*] ⇒

(*None, h(a ↦ (C, init-fields (fields P C)))*),

(*Addr a · stk, loc, C₀, M, pc + 1*) · *frs*))

Getfield

exec-instr (Getfield $F C$) $P h (v \cdot stk) loc C_0 M pc frs =$
(let $xp' =$
 if $v = Null$ then $\lfloor addr-of-sys-xcpt NullPointer \rfloor$ else $None$;
 Addr $a = v$; $\lfloor (D, fs) \rfloor = h a$
in $(xp', h, (the (fs (F, C)) \cdot stk, loc, C_0, M, pc + 1) \cdot frs)$)

Putfield

$exec-instr$ (Putfield $F C$) $P h (v \cdot r \cdot stk) loc C_0 M pc frs =$
(let $xp' =$
 if $r = Null$ then $\lfloor addr-of-sys-xcpt NullPointer \rfloor$
 else $None$;
 Addr $a = r$; $\lfloor (D, fs) \rfloor = h a$;
 $h' = h(a \mapsto (D, fs((F, C) \mapsto v)))$)
in $(xp', h', (stk, loc, C_0, M, pc + 1) \cdot frs)$)

Checkcast

$exec-instr$ (Checkcast C) P h ($v \cdot stk$) loc C_0 M pc frs =
(let xp' =
 if $\neg cast-ok$ P C h v
 then $\lfloor addr-of-sys-xcpt$ $ClassCast$ \rfloor else $None$
in (xp' , h , ($v \cdot stk$, loc , C_0 , M , $pc + 1$) $\cdot frs$))

Invoke

exec-instr (Invoke $M\ n$) $P\ h\ stk\ loc\ C_0\ M_0\ pc\ frs =$
(let $ps = take\ n\ stk$; $r = stk_{[n]}$;
 $xp' =$
 if $r = Null$ then $\lfloor addr-of-sys-xcpt\ NullPointerException \rfloor$ else $None$;
 Addr $a = r$; $\lfloor (C, -) \rfloor = h\ a$;
 $(D, M', Ts, mxs, mxl_0, ins, xt) = method\ P\ C\ M$;
 $f' = ([], [r] @ rev\ ps @ replicate\ mxl_0\ arbitrary, D, M, 0)$
in $(xp', h, f' \cdot (stk, loc, C_0, M_0, pc) \cdot frs)$)

Return

exec-instr Return $P\ h\ (v \cdot stk_0)\ loc_0\ C_0\ M_0\ pc\ frs =$
(if $frs = []$ *then* $(None, h, [])$
else let $(stk, loc, C, M, pc) \cdot _ = frs;$
 $(D, Ts, T, m) = method\ P\ C_0\ M_0; n = |Ts|$
in $(None, h,$
 $(v \cdot drop\ (n + 1)\ stk, loc, C, M, pc + 1) \cdot tl\ frs))$

IAdd, CmpEq

$exec-instr \text{ IAdd } P h (Intg\ i_2 \cdot Intg\ i_1 \cdot stk) loc\ C\ M\ pc\ frs =$
 $(None, h, (Intg\ (i_1 + i_2)) \cdot stk, loc, C, M, pc + 1) \cdot frs)$

$exec-instr \text{ CmpEq } P h (v_2 \cdot v_1 \cdot stk) loc\ C\ M\ pc\ frs =$
 $(None, h, (Bool\ (v_1 = v_2)) \cdot stk, loc, C, M, pc + 1) \cdot frs)$

Goto, IfFalse

$exec-instr \text{ (Goto } i) P h stk loc C M pc frs =$
 $(None, h, (stk, loc, C, M, nat (int pc + i))) \cdot frs)$

$exec-instr \text{ (IfFalse } i) P h (v \cdot stk) loc C M pc frs =$
 $(let pc' = if v = Bool False then nat (int pc + i) else pc + 1$
 $in (None, h, (stk, loc, C, M, pc') \cdot frs))$

Throw

exec-instr Throw P h (v · stk) loc C M pc frs =
(let xp' =
 if v = Null then [addr-of-sys-xcpt NullPointer]
 else [the-Addr v]
in (xp', h, (v · stk, loc, C, M, pc) · frs))

Exceptions

Exception table

ex-table = *ex-entry list*

ex-entry = *pc* × *pc* × *cname* × *pc* × *nat*

Interpretation of entry (f, t, C, h, d) :

- Entry catches exceptions of class $\preceq^* C$ throw in code range f to t .
- Handler code starts at instruction h and needs operand stack of height $d+1$.

Expected invariant: operand stack must have height $\geq d+1$ when the exception is caught.

Exception handling

$exec\ P\ (None, h, (stk, loc, C, M, pc) \cdot frs) =$
 $\lfloor let\ i = (instrs-of\ P\ C\ M)_{[pc]};$
 $\quad (xp', h', frs') = exec-instr\ i\ P\ h\ stk\ loc\ C\ M\ pc\ frs$
 $in\ case\ xp'\ of\ None \Rightarrow (None, h', frs')$
 $\quad | \lfloor a \rfloor \Rightarrow find-handler\ P\ a\ h\ ((stk, loc, C, M, pc) \cdot frs) \rfloor$

find-handler ::

jvm-prog \Rightarrow *addr* \Rightarrow *heap* \Rightarrow *frame list* \Rightarrow *jvm-state*

Find handler

Exception: $h a = \lfloor (C, _)\rfloor$

- Search frames from left to right, popping them.
- In each frame (stk, loc, C_0, M, pc) search exception table of M from left to right.
- An entry (f, t, D, h, d) catches the exception iff $f \leq pc \wedge pc < t \wedge P \vdash C \preceq^* D$.

In that case replace the frame by $(Addr a \cdot drop (|stk| - d) stk, loc, C, M, h)$.

- If no catching entry is found in any frame: stop in state $(\lfloor a \rfloor, h, \lfloor \rfloor)$.

A defensive JVM

Aggressive versus defensive

- *exec-instr* models *aggressive* execution:

Computation cannot get stuck
because all functions are total.

But new state sometimes underdefined:
what does `POP` do if $stk = []$?

- *check-instr* :: *instr* \Rightarrow ... \Rightarrow *bool* (to come)

models *defensive* execution:

checks if instruction is “safe” to execute in current state.

Why defensive execution

- Aggressive execution models the real implementation: no runtime checks, eg if *stk* is [].
- Defensive execution models potential problems, eg buffer underflow!

We shall show:

For well-typed bytecode, *check-instr* is always true when *exec-instr* is called.

The *raison d'être* for the defensive model:

To define precisely which conditions we do *not* need to check at runtime.

check-instr

check-instr ::

instr ⇒ *jvm-prog* ⇒ *heap* ⇒ *opstack* ⇒ *registers*

⇒ *cname* ⇒ *mname* ⇒ *pc* ⇒ *frame list* ⇒ *bool*

Same arguments as *exec-instr*

Some easy checks (1)

$check_instr$ (Load n) P hp stk loc C M_0 pc frs = $(n < |loc|)$

$check_instr$ (Store n) P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs =

$(0 < |stk| \wedge n < |loc|)$

$check_instr$ (Push v) P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs = $(\neg is_Addr\ v)$

$check_instr$ Pop P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs = $(0 < |stk|)$

$check_instr$ (New C) P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs = $is_class\ P\ C$

Some easy checks (2)

check-instr IAdd P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs =

$(1 < |stk| \wedge is-Intg (hd\ stk) \wedge is-Intg (hd (tl\ stk)))$

check-instr CmpEq P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs = $(1 < |stk|)$

check-instr $(\text{GoTo } b)$ P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs =

$(0 \leq int\ pc + b)$

check-instr $(\text{IfFalse } b)$ P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs =

$(0 < |stk| \wedge is-Bool (hd\ stk) \wedge 0 \leq int\ pc + b)$

check-instr Throw P hp stk loc C_0 M_0 pc frs =

$(0 < |stk| \wedge is-Ref (hd\ stk))$