

# Context Sensitive Points-to Analysis

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# Context-Sensitive Formulation

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- A language  $L_C$  that filters unrealizable paths.
- It only needs to model program semantics related to method calls and returns.
- A field-sensitive and context-sensitive points-to analysis can be formulated as reachability over the intersection of  $L_F$  and  $L_C$ .
- Formulation here both filters unrealizable paths and yields a context- sensitive heap abstraction.

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- Formulation here both filters unrealizable paths and yields a context-sensitive heap abstraction.
- **Specifying  $L_C$**

$callEntry[i] \rightarrow param[i] \mid \overline{return}[i]$

$callExit[i] \rightarrow return[i] \mid \overline{param}[i]$

# Context Sensitive Formulation

## Context-free grammar for $L_c$

$csStart \rightarrow unbalExits\ unbalEntries$

$unbalExits \rightarrow balanced\ unbalExits \mid callExit[i]\ unbalExits \mid \epsilon$

$unbalEntries \rightarrow balanced\ unbalEntries \mid callEntry[i]\ unbalEntries \mid \epsilon$

$balanced \rightarrow callEntry[i]\ balanced\ callExit[i]$   
 $\mid balanced\ balanced \mid nonCallTerm \mid \epsilon$

$callEntry[i] \rightarrow param[i] \mid \overline{return}[i]$

$callExit[i] \rightarrow return[i] \mid \overline{param}[i]$

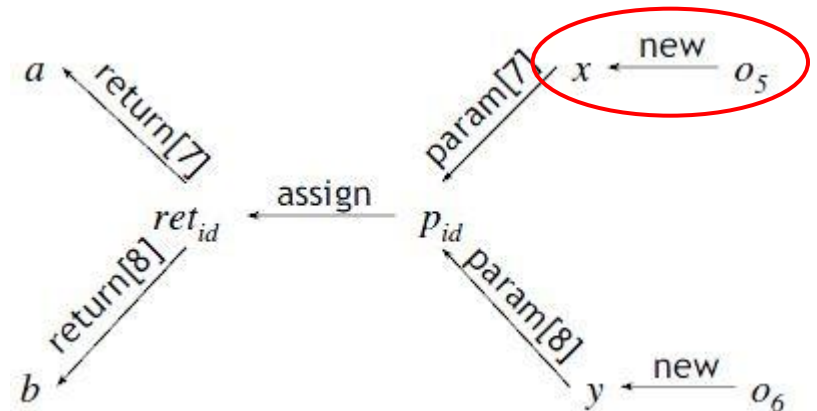
$nonCallTerm \rightarrow new \mid \overline{new} \mid assign \mid \overline{assign} \mid assignglobal \mid \overline{assignglobal}$   
 $\mid getField[f] \mid \overline{getField}[f] \mid putfield[f] \mid \overline{putfield}[f]$

# Context Sensitive Formulation

## Code Example

```
1. static Object id(Object o) {  
2.   return o;  
3. }  
4. main() {  
5.   x = new object();  
6.   y = new object();  
7.   a = id(x);  
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```

## Graph Representation

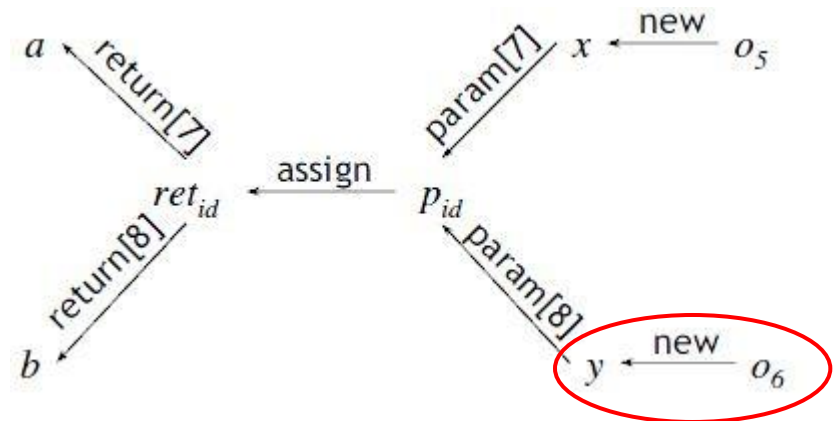


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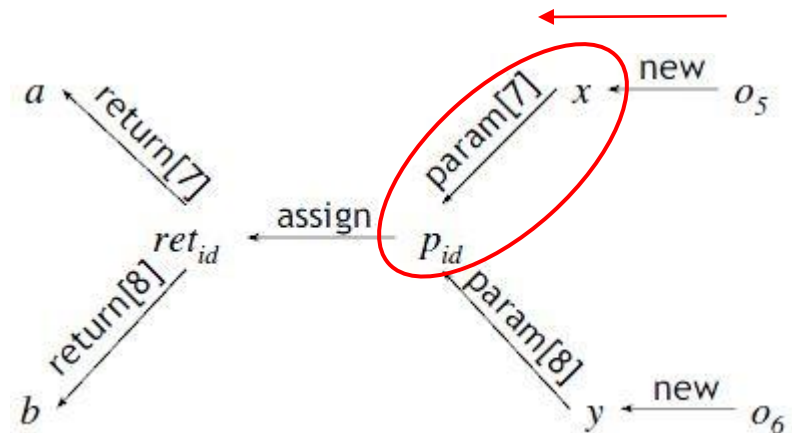


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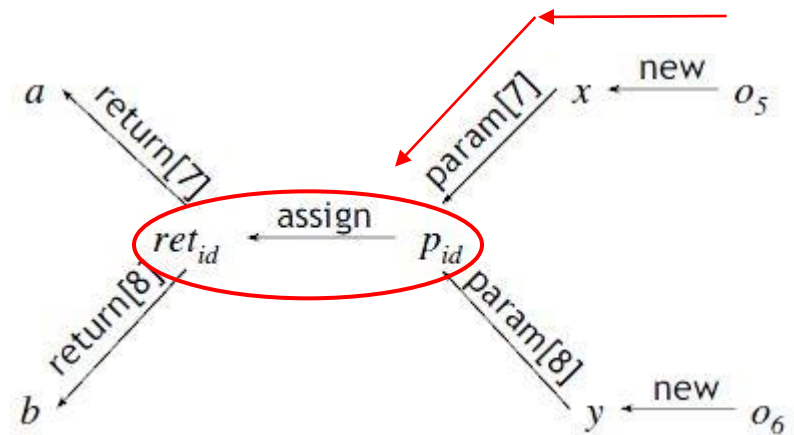


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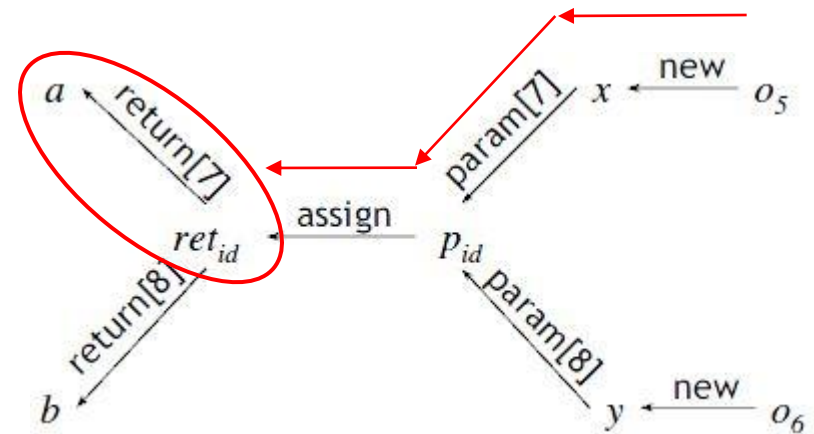


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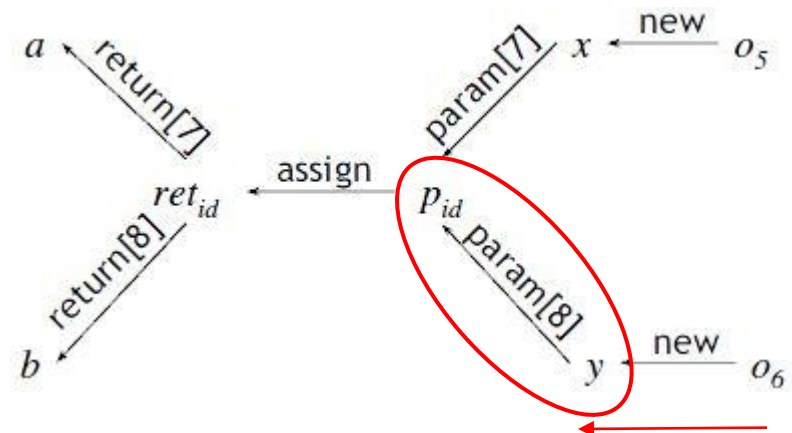


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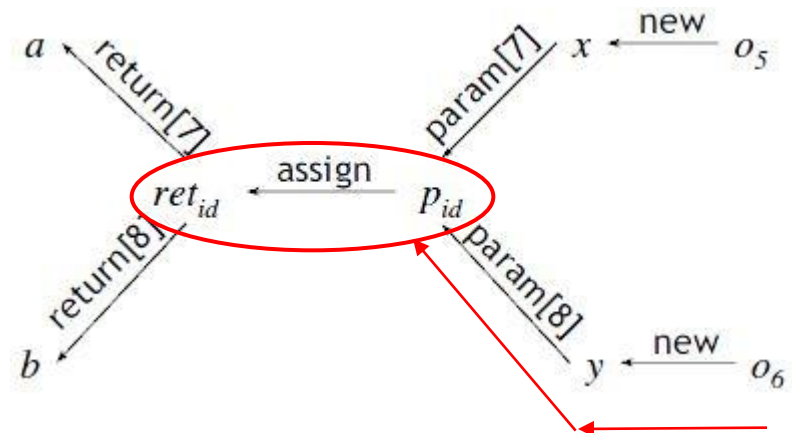


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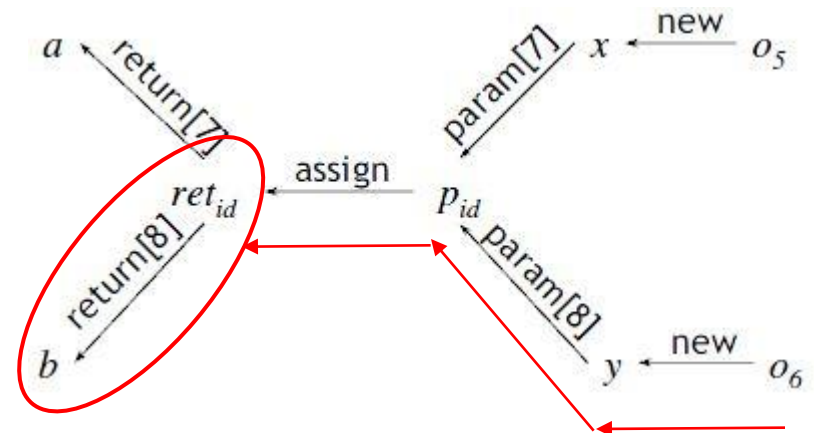


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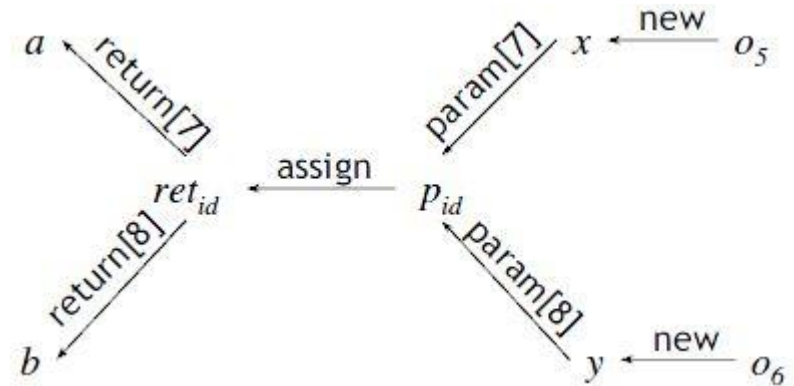


# Context Sensitive Formulation

## $L_c$ Path from $o_5$ to $a$

$o_5$  new  $x$  param[7]  $p_{id}$  assign  $ret_{id}$  return[7]  $a$

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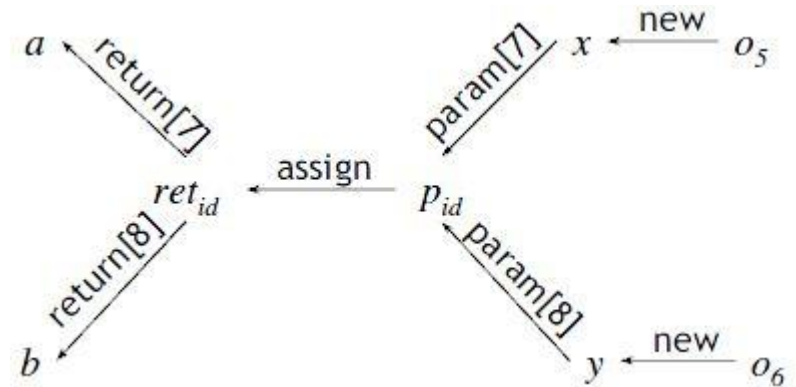


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 $o_5$  nonCallTerm  $x$  callEntry[7]  $p_{id}$  nonCallTerm  
 $ret_{id}$  callExit[7]  $a$

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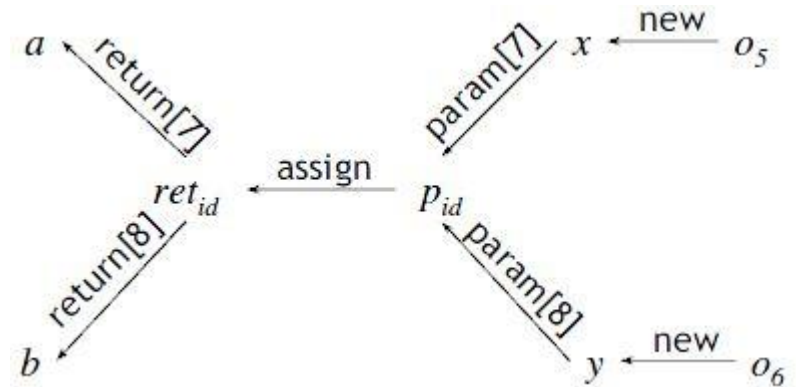
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 $ret_{id}$  **callExit**[7]  $a$

$o_5$  **balanced**  $x$  **balanced**  $a$

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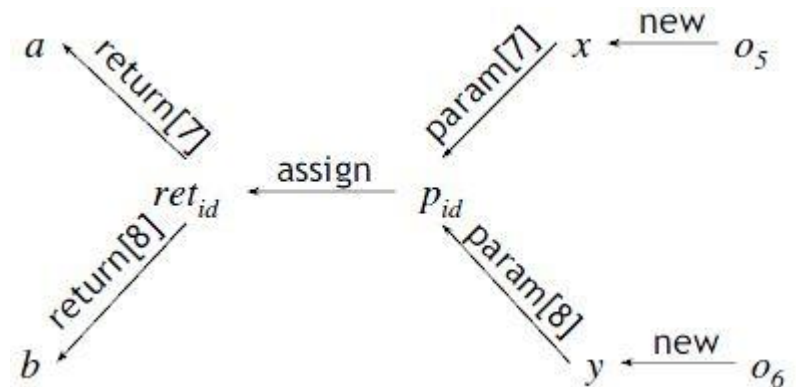


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 $ret_{id}$  **callExit**[7]  $a$   
→  $o_5$  **balanced**  $x$  **balanced**  $a$   
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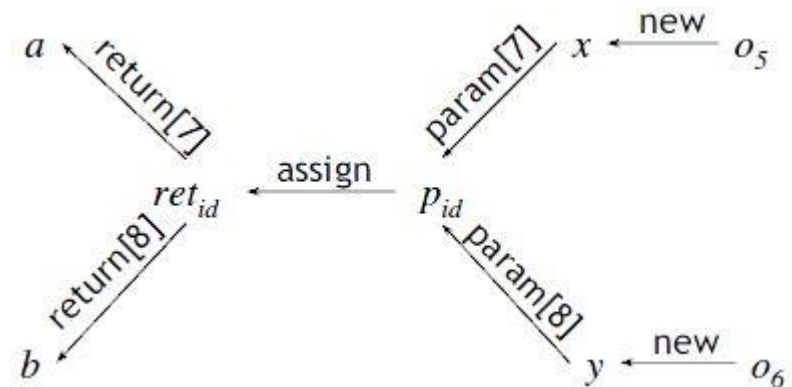
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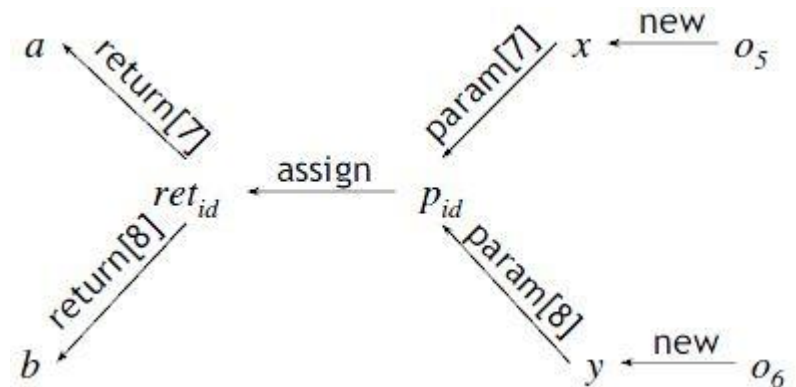
$o_5$  *balanced*  $x$  *balanced*  $a$

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No  $L_c$ -Path from  $o_5$  to  $b$ .

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$o_5$  *balanced*  $x$  *balanced*  $a$

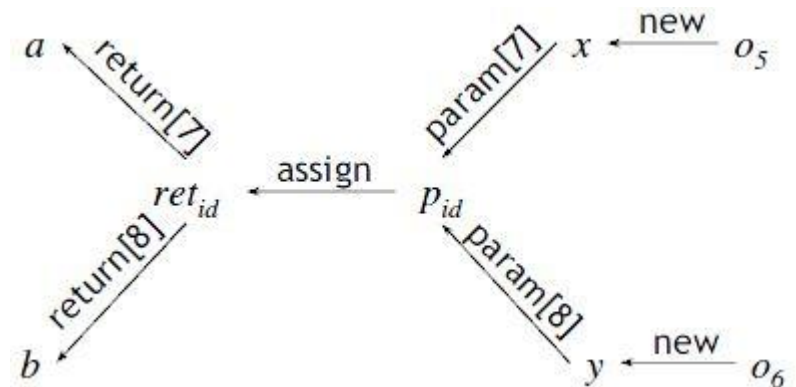
$o_5$  *balanced*  $a$

$a$  is  $L_{cF}$ -reachable from  $o_5$

No  $L_c$ -Path from  $o_5$  to  $b$ .

$L_{cF}$ -reachability keeps two calls separate by **filtering out unrealizable paths.**

## Graph Representation



## Handling Globals

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  - ◆ It can occur when a call entry edge precedes assignglobal edges on a path, but those assignglobal edges lead to a local in a distinct method.
- **SOLUTION:** Add self-edges on all global variable nodes with all possible callExit[i] edges.

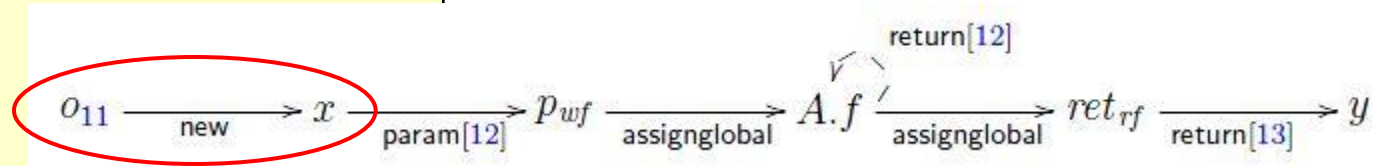


# Context Sensitive Formulation

## Code Example (Handling of Globals)

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2.     static obj f;  
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5.     return A.f;  
6. }  
7. void wf(obj p) {  
8.     A.f = p;  
9. }  
10. main () {  
11.     obj x = new obj();  
12.     wf(x);  
13.     obj y = rf();  
14. }
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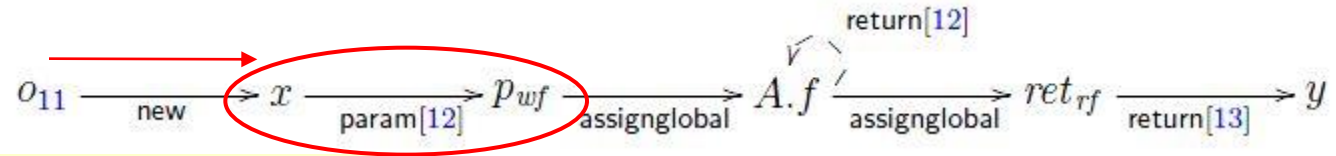


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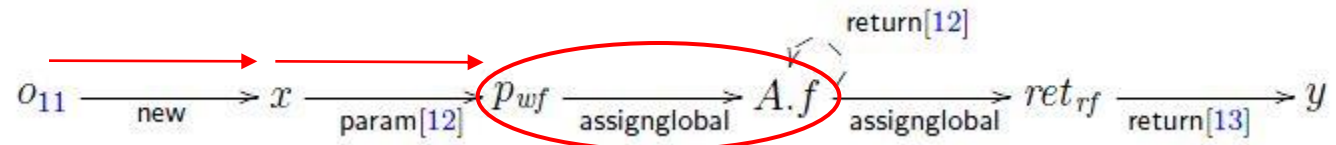


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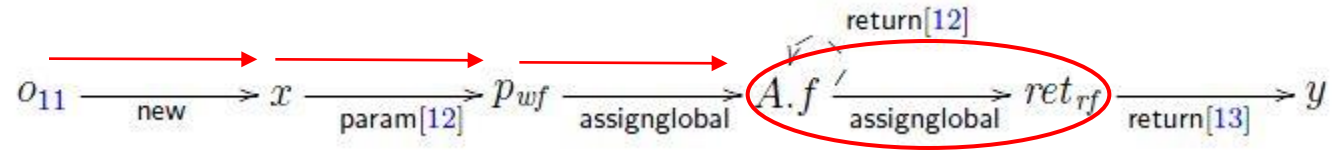


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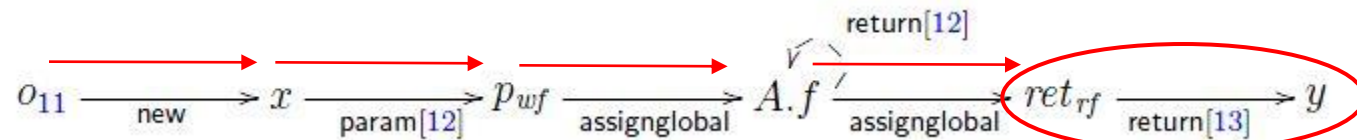


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- $L_c$ -reachability tracks the unmatched callEntry[i] edges on paths through abstract location nodes.
- It is equivalent to creating a copy of the abstract location particular to that sequence of call entries, yielding a context-sensitive heap abstraction.

# Refinement-based Context Sensitive point-to Analysis

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## Types of Context-sensitivity

- Filtering-out of unrealizable paths



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- A context-sensitive heap abstraction
  - ◆ Objects allocated by same statements in different calling contexts are distinguished
- A context sensitive call graph
  - ◆ Targets of virtual calls are computed separately for each calling context.

# Refinement-based Context Sensitive point-to Analysis

## Algorithm Overview

- Fully Context and field-sensitive points-to Analysis is undecidable.
- Checking for both balanced field and method call parentheses requires reachability over the intersection of a context-free and a regular language.
- Assume presence of ahead-of-time call graph.

$$\Sigma_P = \{[f, ]_f \mid f \text{ is a field}\} \cup \{(i, )_i \mid i \text{ is a call site}\}$$

- Analysis require CFL-reachability with language  $L_{scf} = L_{sf} \cap R_{sc}$  over  $\Sigma_P$ .

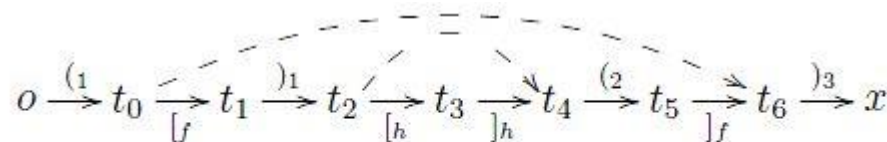
*callEntry*[*i*] → param[*i*] |  $\overline{\text{return}}$ [*i*]

*callExit*[*i*] → return[*i*] |  $\overline{\text{param}}$ [*i*]

# Refinement-based Context Sensitive point-to Analysis

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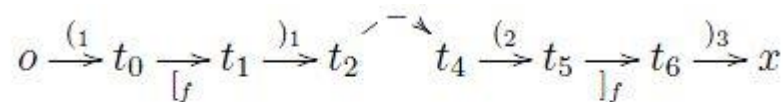
- Paths to illustrate the behaviour of context-sensitive refinement algorithm.



(a) Initial path with match edges.



(b) Path examined by first pass of algorithm.



(c) Path examined by second pass of algorithm.

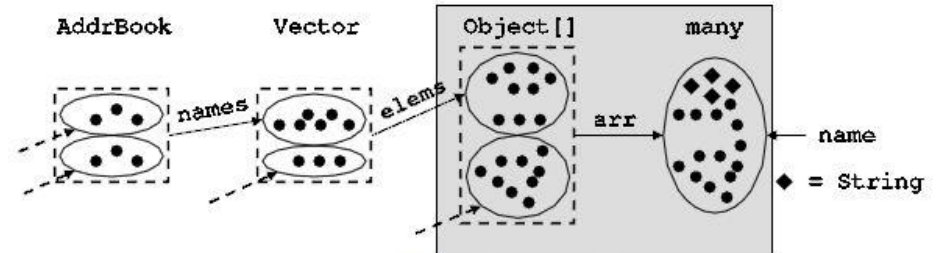
# Context Sensitive Analysis

## Code Example (Points to Analysis Algorithm)

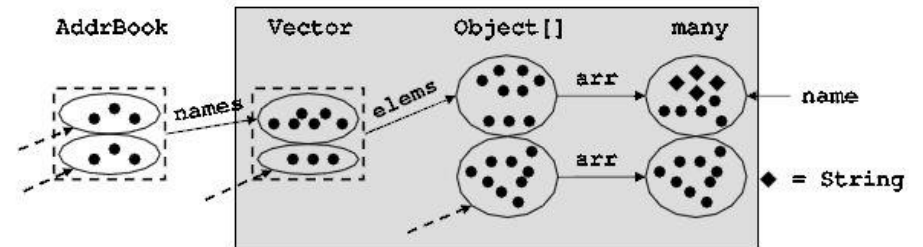
```
1 class Vector {
2   Object[] elems; int count;
3   Vector() { t = new Object[10];
4     this.elems = t; }
5   void add(Object p) {
6     t = this.elems;
7     t[count++] = p; // writes t.arr
8   }
9   Object get(int ind) {
10    t = this.elems;
11    return t[ind]; // reads t.arr
12  } ...
13 }
14 class AddrBook {
15   private Vector names;
16   AddrBook() { t = new Vector();
17     this.names = t; }
18   void addEntry(String n, ...) {
19     t = this.names; ...;
20     t.add(n);
21   }
```

```
22 void update() {
23   t = this.names;
24   for (int i = 0; i < t.size(); i++) {
25     Object name = t.get(i);
26     // is this cast safe?
27     String nameStr = (String)name;
28     ...
29   }
30 }
32 void useVec() {
33   Vector v = new Vector();
34   Integer i1 = new Integer();
35   v.add(i1);
36   Integer i2 = (Integer)v.get(0);
37 }
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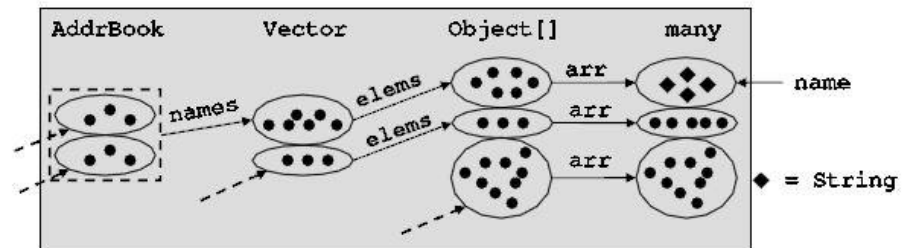
## Graph Representation



(a) Initial analysis result.



(b) Result after distinguishing Object[] contents.



(c) Result after also distinguishing Vector contents.

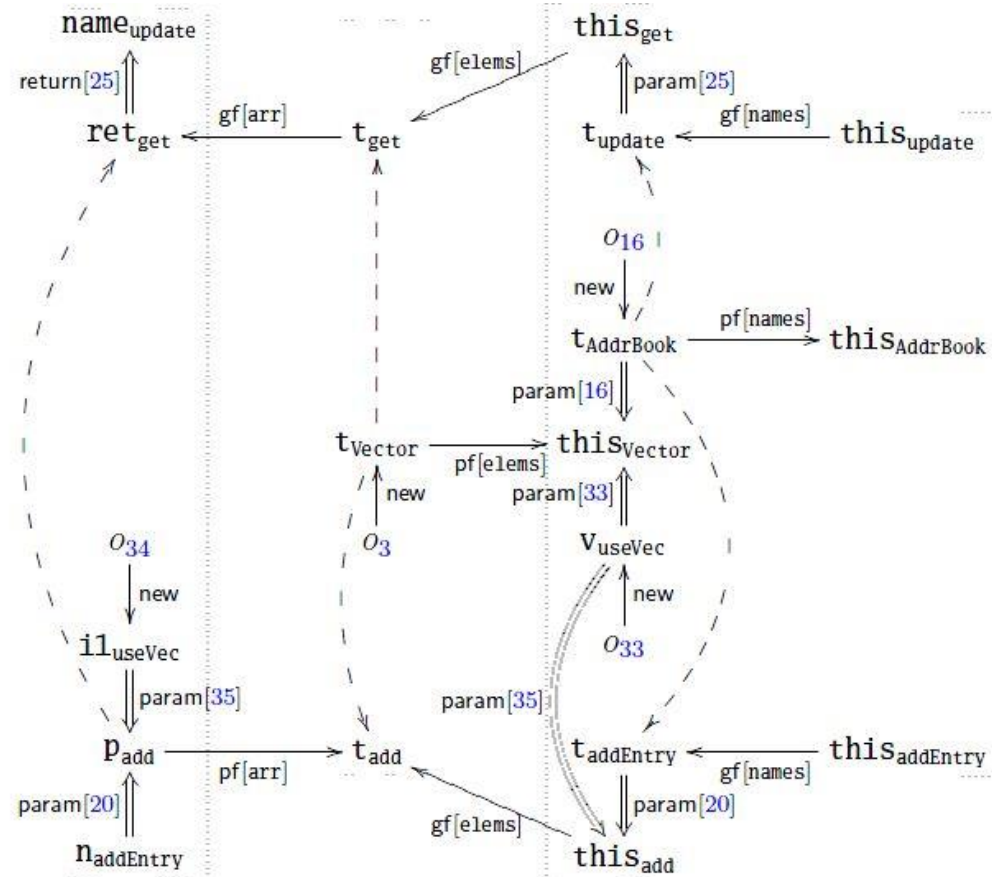


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## Graph Representation



# Conclusion

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- Following it with On-The-Fly Call graph

# References

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