

Ranking Templates for Linear Loops

Jan Leike

The Australian
National University

Matthias Heizmann

University
of Freiburg

Termination

- ▶ safety reduced to reachability - liveness reduced to termination

Termination

- ▶ safety reduced to reachability - liveness reduced to termination
- ▶ neither provable nor refutable by testing

Termination

- ▶ safety reduced to reachability - liveness reduced to termination
- ▶ neither provable nor refutable by testing
- ▶ computing fixpoint on sets of states does not work

Termination

- ▶ safety reduced to reachability - liveness reduced to termination
- ▶ neither provable nor refutable by testing
- ▶ computing fixpoint on sets of states does not work
- ▶ ranking function (decreasing, bounded, contradiction!)

Research directions

1. practical tools for termination analysis

Urban, Miné **An Abstract Domain to Infer Ordinal-Valued Ranking Functions** (ESOP 2014)

Brockschmidt, Cook, Fuhs **Better Termination Proving through Cooperation** (CAV 2013)

Kroening, Sharygina, Tsitovich, Wintersteiger **Termination analysis with compositional transition invariants**
(CAV 2010)

Cook, B., Podelski, A., Rybalchenko, A. **Terminator: Beyond safety** (CAV 2006)

...

2. decidability of termination for restricted classes of programs

Ben-Amram, Genaim **Ranking functions for linear-constraint loops** (POPL 2013)

Ben-Amram, Genaim, Masud **On the Termination of Integer Loops** (VMCAI 2012)

Tiwari **Termination of Linear Programs** (CAV 2004)

...

3. constraint-based synthesis of ranking functions for loops

Cook, Kroening, Rümmer, Wintersteiger **Ranking function synthesis for bit-vector relations** (FMSD 2013)

Rybalchenko **Constraint solving for program verification theory and practice by example** (CAV 2010)

Colón, Sankaranarayanan, Sipma **Linear invariant generation using non-linear constraint solving** (CAV 2003)

...

Ranking functions for loops - applications

- ▶ termination analysis for programs
 - ▶ Terminator (Cook, Rybalchenko, et al.)
 - ▶ T2 (Brockschmidt, et al.)
 - ▶ Tan (Chen, Kroening, Wintersteiger, et al.)
 - ▶ Ultimate Büchi Automizer (H. et al.)

Ranking functions for loops - applications

- ▶ termination analysis for programs
 - ▶ Terminator (Cook, Rybalchenko, et al.)
 - ▶ T2 (Brockschmidt, et al.)
 - ▶ Tan (Chen, Kroening, Wintersteiger, et al.)
 - ▶ Ultimate Büchi Automizer (H. et al.)
- ▶ cost analysis
- ▶ stability of hybrid systems

► affine-linear ranking functions

Colón, Sipma **Synthesis of Linear Ranking Functions** (TACAS 2001)

Podelski, Rybalchenko **A complete method for the synthesis of linear ranking functions** (VMCAI 2004)

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **Termination Analysis of Integer Linear Loops** (CONCUR 2005)

Cook, Kroening, Rümmer, Wintersteiger **Ranking function synthesis for bit-vector relations** (FMSD 2013)

Ben-Amram, Genaim **Ranking functions for linear-constraint loops** (POPL 2013)

▶ affine-linear ranking functions

Colón, Sipma **Synthesis of Linear Ranking Functions** (TACAS 2001)

Podelski, Rybalchenko **A complete method for the synthesis of linear ranking functions** (VMCAI 2004)

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **Termination Analysis of Integer Linear Loops** (CONCUR 2005)

Cook, Kroening, Rümmer, Wintersteiger **Ranking function synthesis for bit-vector relations** (FMSD 2013)

Ben-Amram, Genaim **Ranking functions for linear-constraint loops** (POPL 2013)

▶ lexicographic linear ranking functions

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **Linear ranking with reachability** (CAV 2005)

Alias, Darte, Feautrier, Gonnord **Multi-dimensional Rankings, Program Termination, and Complexity Bounds of Flowchart Programs** (SAS 2010)

Cook, See, Zuleger **Ramsey vs. Lexicographic Termination Proving** (TACAS 2013)

▶ affine-linear ranking functions

Colón, Sipma **Synthesis of Linear Ranking Functions** (TACAS 2001)

Podelski, Rybalchenko **A complete method for the synthesis of linear ranking functions** (VMCAI 2004)

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **Termination Analysis of Integer Linear Loops** (CONCUR 2005)

Cook, Kroening, Rümmer, Wintersteiger **Ranking function synthesis for bit-vector relations** (FMSD 2013)

Ben-Amram, Genaim **Ranking functions for linear-constraint loops** (POPL 2013)

▶ lexicographic linear ranking functions

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **Linear ranking with reachability** (CAV 2005)

Alias, Darte, Feautrier, Gonnord **Multi-dimensional Rankings, Program Termination, and Complexity Bounds of Flowchart Programs** (SAS 2010)

Cook, See, Zuleger **Ramsey vs. Lexicographic Termination Proving** (TACAS 2013)

▶ piecewise linear ranking functions

Urban, Miné **An Abstract Domain to Infer Ordinal-Valued Ranking Functions** (ESOP 2014)

▶ affine-linear ranking functions

Colón, Sipma **Synthesis of Linear Ranking Functions** (TACAS 2001)

Podelski, Rybalchenko **A complete method for the synthesis of linear ranking functions** (VMCAI 2004)

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **Termination Analysis of Integer Linear Loops** (CONCUR 2005)

Cook, Kroening, Rümmer, Wintersteiger **Ranking function synthesis for bit-vector relations** (FMSD 2013)

Ben-Amram, Genaim **Ranking functions for linear-constraint loops** (POPL 2013)

▶ lexicographic linear ranking functions

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **Linear ranking with reachability** (CAV 2005)

Alias, Darte, Feautrier, Gonnord **Multi-dimensional Rankings, Program Termination, and Complexity Bounds of Flowchart Programs** (SAS 2010)

Cook, See, Zuleger **Ramsey vs. Lexicographic Termination Proving** (TACAS 2013)

▶ piecewise linear ranking functions

Urban, Miné **An Abstract Domain to Infer Ordinal-Valued Ranking Functions** (ESOP 2014)

▶ multiphase ranking functions

Bradley, Manna, Sipma **The polyranking principle** (ICALP 2005)

one method to synthesize them all

Ranking function

Loop(x, x')

Ranking function

$$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow f(x) > f(x') \wedge f(x) > 0$$

decreasing bounded

Synthesis of ranking function

$$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow f(x) > f(x') \wedge f(x) > 0$$

decreasing bounded

Idea:

- ▶ write definition as logical formula,
- ▶ let theorem prover find satisfying assignment for **free variables**

Synthesis of ranking function

$$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow f(x) > f(x') \wedge f(x) > 0$$

decreasing bounded

Idea:

- ▶ write definition as logical formula,
- ▶ let theorem prover find satisfying assignment for **free variables**

Problem:

- ▶ no theorem prover for domain of functions

Solution:

- ▶ use template $T(x, x')$

Synthesis of ranking function

$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow T(x, x')$

Idea:

- ▶ write definition as logical formula,
- ▶ let theorem prover find satisfying assignment for **free variables**

Problem:

- ▶ no theorem prover for domain of functions

Solution:

- ▶ use template $T(x, x')$

Synthesis of affine-linear ranking function

$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(x, x')$

where the template $\mathbb{T}(x, x')$ is

$$f(x) > f(x') \wedge f(x) > 0$$

decreasing

bounded

and $f(x)$ is a shorthand for the affine-linear term $c_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + c_n \cdot x_n + c_0$

Synthesis of affine-linear ranking function

$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow T(x, x')$

where the template $T(x, x')$ is

$$f(x) > f(x') \wedge f(x) > 0$$

decreasing

bounded

and $f(x)$ is a shorthand for the affine-linear term $c_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + c_n \cdot x_n + c_0$

- Difficult!
- ▶ universal quantification ($\forall x \dots$)
 - ▶ nonlinear arithmetic ($c_1 \cdot x_1 \dots$)

Synthesis of affine-linear ranking function

$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(x, x')$

where the template $\mathbb{T}(x, x')$ is

$$f(x) > f(x') \wedge f(x) > 0$$

decreasing

bounded

and $f(x)$ is a shorthand for the affine-linear term $c_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + c_n \cdot x_n + c_0$

- Difficult!
- ▶ universal quantification ($\forall x \dots$)
 - ▶ nonlinear arithmetic ($c_1 \cdot x_1 \dots$)

Lemma (Farkas)

$$\forall x. (\dots \rightarrow \dots) \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists \vec{\lambda} (\dots)$$

Synthesis of affine-linear ranking function

$\forall x x'. \text{Loop}(x, x') \rightarrow T(x, x')$

where the template $T(x, x')$ is

$$f(x) > f(x') \wedge f(x) > 0$$

decreasing

bounded

and $f(x)$ is a shorthand for the affine-linear term $c_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + c_n \cdot x_n + c_0$

Difficult!

- ▶ universal quantification ($\forall x \dots$)
- ▶ nonlinear arithmetic ($c_1 \cdot x_1 \dots$)

Lemma (Farkas)

$$\forall x. (\dots \rightarrow \dots) \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists \vec{\lambda} (\dots)$$

Lexicographic ranking function

Lexicographic ranking function

program state \mapsto lexicographic ordered tuple

Lexicographic order: e.g. $(2, 3, 4) \geq (2, 2, 9)$

Lexicographic ranking function

Lexicographic ranking function

program state \mapsto lexicographic ordered tuple

Lexicographic order: e.g. $(2, 3, 4) \geq (2, 2, 9)$

Linear lexicographic ranking function

each entry of the tuple defined by linear function

$$\mathbf{f}(x) = (\mathbf{f}_1(x), \dots, \mathbf{f}_k(x))$$

Lexicographic ranking function

Lexicographic ranking function

program state \mapsto lexicographic ordered tuple

Lexicographic order: e.g. $(2, 3, 4) \geq (2, 2, 9)$

Linear lexicographic ranking function

each entry of the tuple defined by linear function

$$\mathbf{f}(x) = (\mathbf{f}_1(x), \dots, \mathbf{f}_k(x))$$

Recall:

Idea:

- ▶ write definition as logical formula,
- ▶ let theorem prover find satisfying assignment for **free variables**

Linear lexicographic ranking functions

$$T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') :=$$

f_1 bounded f_2 bounded

$$f_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \wedge f_2(\mathbf{x}') \geq 0 \wedge$$
$$\left(f_1(\mathbf{x}) > f_1(\mathbf{x}') \vee f_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq f_1(\mathbf{x}') \wedge f_2(\mathbf{x}) > f_2(\mathbf{x}') \right)$$

f_1 decreasing f_1 not increasing f_2 decreasing

Linear lexicographic ranking functions

$$\tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') := \left(\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \geq 0 \wedge \\ \left(\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \vee \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \right) \end{array} \right)$$

f₁ bounded **f₂ bounded**

f₁ decreasing **f₁ not increasing** **f₂ decreasing**

each $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ is a shorthand for an affine-linear term $\mathbf{c}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{c}_n \cdot \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{c}_0$

Linear lexicographic ranking functions

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{f}_1 \text{ bounded} \quad \mathbf{f}_2 \text{ bounded} \\ \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \geq 0 \wedge \\ \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') := \left(\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \vee \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \right) \\ \mathbf{f}_1 \text{ decreasing} \quad \mathbf{f}_1 \text{ not increasing} \quad \mathbf{f}_2 \text{ decreasing} \end{array}$$

$\forall \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}' . \text{Loop}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \rightarrow \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

Linear lexicographic ranking functions

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{f}_1 \text{ bounded} \quad \mathbf{f}_2 \text{ bounded} \\ \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \geq 0 \wedge \\ \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') := \left(\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \vee \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \right) \\ \mathbf{f}_1 \text{ decreasing} \quad \mathbf{f}_1 \text{ not increasing} \quad \mathbf{f}_2 \text{ decreasing} \end{array}$$

$\forall \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}' . \text{Loop}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \rightarrow \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

Lemma (Farkas)

$\forall \mathbf{x} . (\dots \rightarrow \dots) \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists \vec{\lambda} (\dots)$

Linear lexicographic ranking functions

$$\tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') := \left(\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0 \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \geq 0 \wedge \\ \left(\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \vee \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}') \wedge \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \right) \end{array} \right)$$

Annotations:

- \mathbf{f}_1 bounded (points to $\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0$)
- \mathbf{f}_2 bounded (points to $\mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}') \geq 0$)
- \mathbf{f}_1 decreasing (points to $\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}')$)
- \mathbf{f}_1 not increasing (points to $\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x}')$)
- \mathbf{f}_2 decreasing (points to $\mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}) > \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}')$)

$\forall \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}' . \text{Loop}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \rightarrow \tau(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

Lemma (Farkas)

$$\forall \mathbf{x} . (\dots \rightarrow \dots) \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists \vec{\lambda} (\dots)$$

Theorem (Motzkin)

$$\forall \mathbf{x} . \neg (\dots \leq \dots \wedge \dots < \dots) \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists \vec{\lambda} (\dots)$$

Ranking Template

$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'$. $Loop(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \rightarrow T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

- ▶ “building blocks” linear functions $f(\mathbf{x}) = c_1 \cdot x_1 + \dots + c_n \cdot x_n + c_0$

Ranking Template

$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'$. $Loop(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \rightarrow T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

- ▶ “building blocks” linear functions $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{c}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{c}_n \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{c}_0$
- ▶ boolean combinations of linear inequalities (Motzkin applicable)

Ranking Template

$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'$. $Loop(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \rightarrow T(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

- ▶ “building blocks” linear functions $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{c}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{c}_n \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{c}_0$
- ▶ boolean combinations of linear inequalities (Motzkin applicable)
- ▶ well-founded

Ranking Template

$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' . \text{Loop}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \rightarrow \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

- ▶ “building blocks” linear functions $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{c}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{c}_n \cdot \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{c}_0$
- ▶ boolean combinations of linear inequalities (Motzkin applicable)
- ▶ well-founded

Definition (Linear ranking template)

A linear ranking template $\mathsf{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is a

- ▶ boolean combination whose atoms are of the following form

$$\sum_{\mathbf{f} \in F} \alpha_{\mathbf{f}} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \beta_{\mathbf{f}} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}') \triangleright 0 ,$$

where each $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ is an affine-linear term $\mathbf{c}_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{c}_n \cdot \mathbf{x}_n + \mathbf{c}_0$, each $\alpha_{\mathbf{f}}$, and $\beta_{\mathbf{f}}$ is a constant and $\triangleright \in \{\geq, >\}$.

- ▶ such that each instance of $\mathsf{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ defines a well-founded relation.

- ▶ affine-linear ranking function
template $T_{\text{affine}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

Lemma

the template $T_{\text{affine}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is a linear ranking template.

- ▶ linear lexicographic ranking function
 k -lexicographic template $T_{k\text{-lex}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

Lemma

the template $T_{k\text{-lex}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is a linear ranking template, for each k

- ▶ piecewise linear ranking function
 k -piece template $T_{k\text{-piece}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

Lemma

the template $T_{k\text{-piece}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is a linear ranking template, for each k

- ▶ multiphase linear ranking function
 k -phase template $T_{k\text{-phase}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$

Lemma

the template $T_{k\text{-phase}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is a linear ranking template, for each k

Why has no one used this method before?

Our explanation: recent progress in solving nonlinear arithmetic

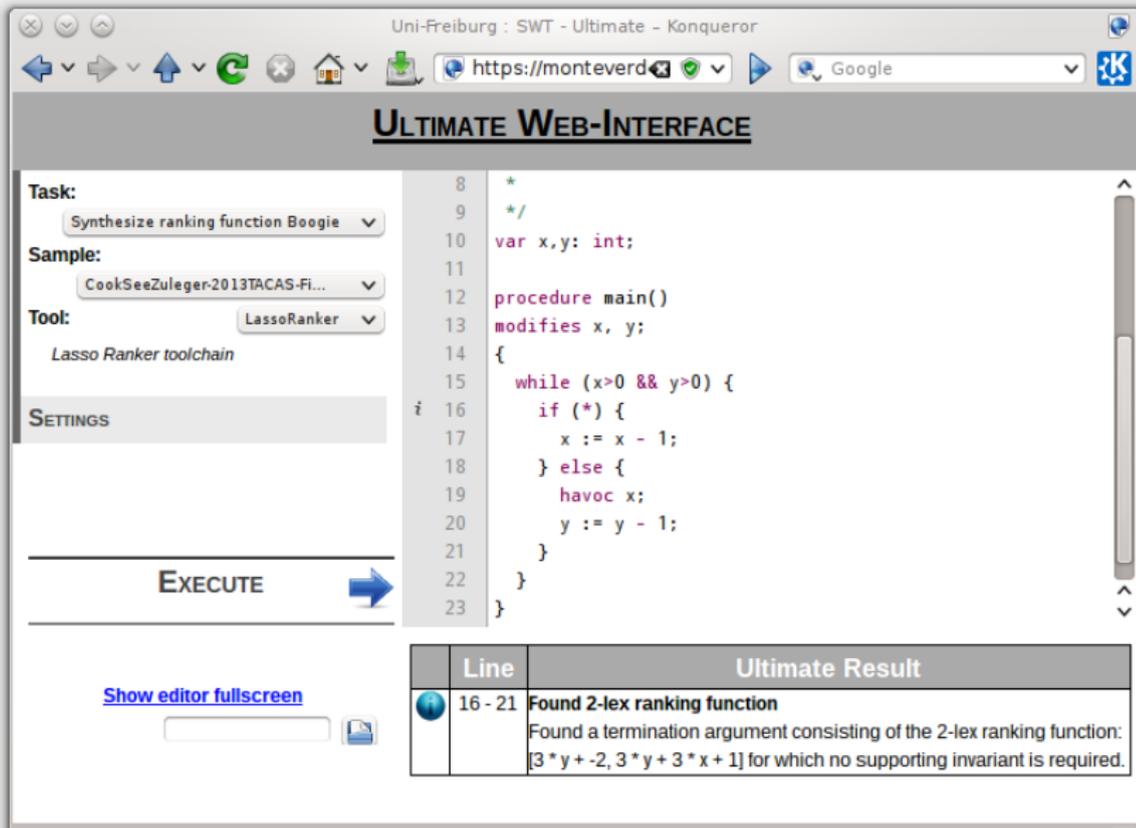
Jovanovic, Moura **Solving non-linear arithmetic** (IJCAR 2012)

SMT solver Z3

<http://z3.codeplex.com/>

Our tool: LassoRanker

<http://ultimate.informatik.uni-freiburg.de/LassoRanker/>



The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Uni-Freiburg : SWT - Ultimate - Konqueror". The address bar shows the URL "https://monteverd...". The page title is "ULTIMATE WEB-INTERFACE".

On the left side, there is a configuration panel with the following sections:

- Task:** Synthesize ranking function Boogie
- Sample:** CookSeeZuleger2013TACAS-Fi...
- Tool:** LassoRanker (Lasso Ranker toolchain)
- SETTINGS**

At the bottom of the configuration panel is an **EXECUTE** button with a blue arrow icon.

Below the configuration panel is a link: [Show editor fullscreen](#) and a small document icon.

The main area is a code editor showing the following code:

```
8  *
9  */
10 var x,y: int;
11
12 procedure main()
13 modifies x, y;
14 {
15     while (x>0 && y>0) {
16         if (*) {
17             x := x - 1;
18         } else {
19             havoc x;
20             y := y - 1;
21         }
22     }
23 }
```

At the bottom right, there is a table with the following content:

Line	Ultimate Result
16 - 21	Found 2-lex ranking function Found a termination argument consisting of the 2-lex ranking function: [$3 * y + -2, 3 * y + 3 * x + 1$] for which no supporting invariant is required.

New kind of ranking function?

You can synthesize your new ranking function automatically in three steps.

- ▶ write down a template $\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ for this ranking function
- ▶ prove that each instance of $\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is a well-founded relation
- ▶ add template $\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ to our tool LassoRanker