

Course: Advanced Static Analysis for XML

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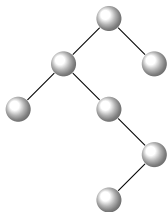
Objectives

- Understand the expressive power and complexity of XML (NoSQL) languages
- Identify interesting fragments/extensions
- Answer new programming needs due to the evolution of World Wide Web
- Contribute to the standardization effort... and to the next generation Web
- Research crossroad between DB, PL, Web...

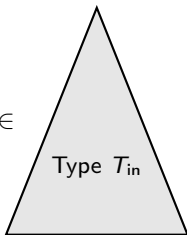
Some Challenges

- Ensure that programs safely and efficiently manipulate XML data
- type systems, static analyzers, optimizing compilers
- Introduce XML/XPath as first-class citizens in programming languages
- Ultimately: strongly typed XML processing (sound, precise, limited annotations)

Examples



∈

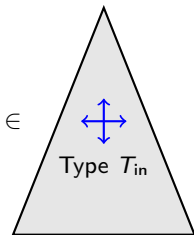
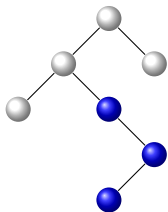


```
Transform(t, t')
...
Validate(t)
...
For x in (q) do {
...
}
let y=x;
Write(y, t')
...
Validate(t')
```

$\forall t \in T_{in}, \text{ does } P(t) \in T_{out}?$

- Detecting errors (invalid output, empty queries)
- Optimization program execution (avoiding language overuse, tree size)
- Checking programs properties (security holes, termination, proofs...)

Examples

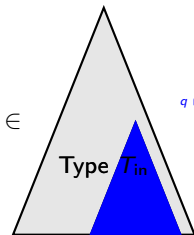
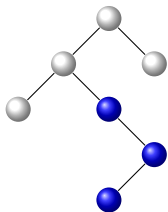


$$q \cap T_{in} \stackrel{?}{\neq} \emptyset$$

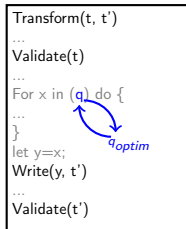
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Examples

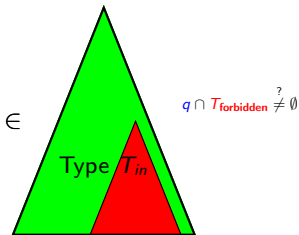
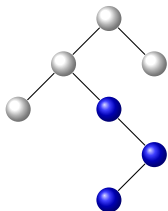


$$q \cap T_{in} \stackrel{?}{=} q_{optim}$$



- Detecting errors (invalid output, empty queries)
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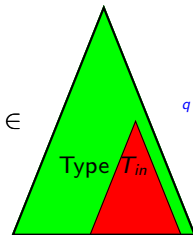
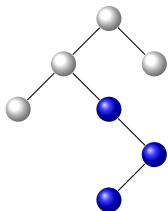
Examples



```
Transform(t, t')
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- Detecting errors (invalid output, empty queries)
- Optimization program execution (avoiding language overuse, tree size)
- Checking programs properties (security holes, termination, proofs...)

Examples



$$q \cap T_{\text{forbidden}} \stackrel{?}{\neq} \emptyset$$



Forbidden Access

```
Transform(t, t')
...
Validate(t)
...
For x in (q) do {
...
let y=x
Write(y, t')
...
Validate(t')
```

- Detecting errors (invalid output, empty queries)
- Optimization program execution (avoiding language overuse, tree size)
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Scientific Difficulties and Challenges

Key (and hard) problem

- Reasoning with XML types and (XPath) queries

Why is it computationally hard?

- $\mathcal{L}(T_1) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(T_2)$ is already in EXPTIME...
- Decidability envelope: XPath + (counting | comparisons) undecidable
- Infinite quantification: $\forall t, (t \in \mathcal{L}(T_{in}) \Rightarrow f(t) \in \mathcal{L}(T_{out}))$, algorithms?
- Prove properties for a set of XML documents (infinite quantification over trees)
- Need for appropriate (partly missing) theoretical tools...
- Foundations to be built!

Theoretical Models: Alternatives

Finite Tree Automata

- ✓ capture regular tree types
- ✗ how to capture \mathcal{L}_{XPath} ?

First-Order logic (FO) over trees

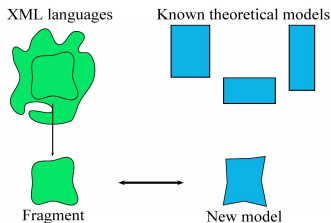
- ✓ equivalent to \mathcal{L}_{XPath}
- ✗ does not capture tree types

Monadic Second-Order logic (MSO/WS2S)

- ✓ FO with quant. over sets of nodes
- ✓ captures \mathcal{L}_{XPath} and \mathcal{L}_{type} !
- ✗ satisfiability is hyperexponential
- ✗ blow-ups observable for XPath pbms

Our requirements:

1. Expressive enough to capture \mathcal{L}_{XPath} and \mathcal{L}_{type} but succinct
2. Best complexity
3. Nice algorithmic properties (not always worst case)



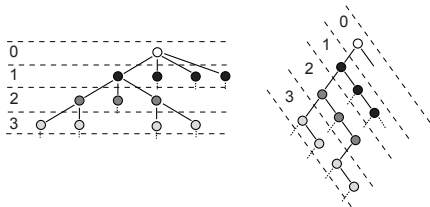
Outline

Some Results [TOCL'15]

1. An expressive yet efficient (modal) tree logic
2. An effective satisfiability-testing algorithm (using symbolic techniques)
3. Demo..

Data Model for the Logic

- XML trees are n -ary trees with one label per node
- There is a bijective encoding of unranked trees as **binary** trees

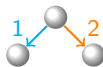


General Encoding

- Queries (binary relations on tree nodes)
- XML Types

Formulas of the \mathcal{L}_μ Logic

- Programs $\alpha \in \{1, 2, \bar{1}, \bar{2}\}$ for navigating binary trees ($\overline{\bar{\alpha}} = \alpha$)



$\mathcal{L}_\mu \ni \varphi$	$::=$	formula
	\top	true
	$\sigma \mid \neg\sigma$	atomic prop (negated)
	$\varphi \vee \varphi \mid \varphi \wedge \varphi$	disjunction (conjunction)
	$\langle \alpha \rangle \varphi \mid \neg \langle \alpha \rangle \top$	existential (negated)
	$\mu X. \varphi$	unary fixpoint (finite recursion)
	$\mu X_i. \varphi_i \text{ in } \varphi$	n -ary fixpoint

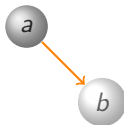
Sample Formula and Satisfying Tree

a



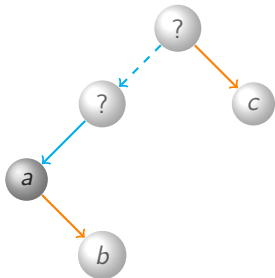
Sample Formula and Satisfying Tree

$a \wedge \langle 2 \rangle b$



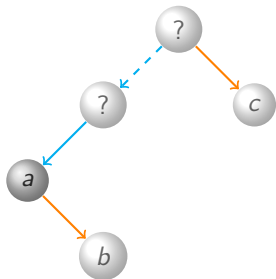
Sample Formula and Satisfying Tree

$a \wedge \langle 2 \rangle b \wedge \mu X. \langle 2 \rangle c \vee \langle \bar{1} \rangle X$



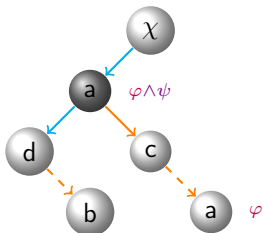
Sample Formula and Satisfying Tree

$a \wedge \langle 2 \rangle b \wedge \mu X. \langle 2 \rangle c \vee \langle \bar{1} \rangle X$



- Semantics: models of φ are finite trees for which φ holds at some node
- ✓ XPath and XML types can be translated into the logic, **linearly**

Translation of $\mathcal{L}_{\text{XPath}}$ into \mathcal{L}_{μ}



- Formula holds at **selected** nodes
- $\mu Z.\varphi$: finite recursion
- Converse programs are crucial
- $t_{\text{xpath}}(e, \chi) : \mathcal{L}_{\text{XPath}} \times \mathcal{L}_{\mu} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\mu}$
- χ is the latest navigation step
 - Initially, χ navigates to the root for absolute paths (exercise)

Translated query: $\text{child}::a$ $[\text{child}::b]$

$$\underbrace{a \wedge (\mu Z. \langle \bar{1} \rangle \chi \vee \langle \bar{2} \rangle Z)}_{\varphi} \quad \wedge \quad \underbrace{\langle 1 \rangle \mu Y. b \vee \langle 2 \rangle Y}_{\psi}$$

Translation of Schema Constraints into \mathcal{L}_μ : Example

```
<!ELEMENT article
  (meta, (text | redirect))>
<!ELEMENT meta
  (title, status?,
  interwiki*, history?)>
<!ELEMENT title (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT interwiki (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT status (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT history (edit)+>
<!ELEMENT edit
  (status?, interwiki*,
  (text | redirect)?)>
<!ELEMENT redirect EMPTY>
<!ELEMENT text (#PCDATA)>
```

```
let_mu
X2 = text      & ~(<1>T) & ~(<2>T)
    | redirect & ~(<1>T) & ~(<2>T)
    | interwiki & ~(<1>T) & (~(<2>T) | <2>X2),
X3 = text & ~(<1>T) & ~(<2>T)
    | redirect & ~(<1>T) & ~(<2>T)
    | interwiki & ~(<1>T) & (~(<2>T) | <2>X2)
    | status & ~(<1>T) & (~(<2>T) | <2>X2),
X4 = edit & (~(<1>T) | <1>X3) & ~(<2>T)
    | edit & (~(<1>T) | <1>X3) & <2>X4),
X5 = history & <1>X4 & ~(<2>T)
    | interwiki & ~(<1>T) & (~(<2>T) | <2>X5),
X6 = history & <1>X4 & ~(<2>T)
    | interwiki & ~(<1>T) & (~(<2>T) | <2>X5)
    | status & ~(<1>T) & (~(<2>T) | <2>X5)),
X7 = title & ~(<1>T) & (~(<2>T) | <2>X6),
X8 = text & ~(<1>T) & ~(<2>T)
    | redirect & ~(<1>T) & ~(<2>T),
X9 = meta & <1>X7 & <2>X8,
X10= article & <1>X9 & ~(<2>T) & ~(<-1>T) & ~(<-2>T)
in X10
```

Figure: Frag. of Wikipedia DTD

Figure: Corresponding linear-size \mathcal{L}_μ Formula

Outline

1. An expressive yet efficient (modal) tree logic
2. An effective satisfiability-testing algorithm (using symbolic techniques)
3. Demo..

Deciding Satisfiability

Is a formula ψ satisfiable?

- Given ψ , determine whether there exists a tree that satisfies ψ
- Validity: test $\neg\psi$
- Different (more complex) than model-checking

Principles: Automatic Theorem Proving

- Search for a proof tree
- Build the proof bottom up: if ψ holds then it is necessarily somewhere up

Search Space Optimization

Idea: Truth Status is Inductive

- The truth status of ψ can be expressed as a function of its subformulas
- For boolean connectives, it can be deduced (truth tables)
- Only base subformulas really matter: $\text{Lean}(\psi)$

$\text{Lean}(\psi)$:

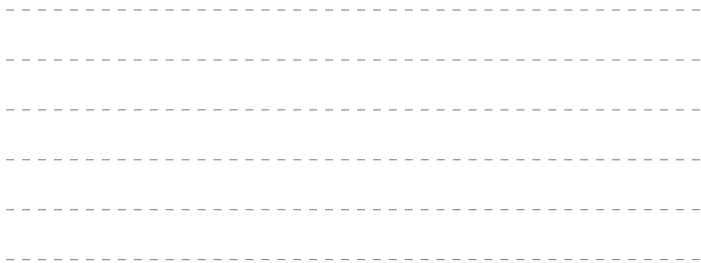
$\langle 1 \rangle \top$	$\langle 2 \rangle \top$	$\langle \bar{1} \rangle \top$	$\langle \bar{2} \rangle \top$	a	b	σ	$\langle 1 \rangle \varphi$	$\langle 2 \rangle \varphi$
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----	-----	----------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------

topological propositions atomic propositions in existential subformulas

A Tree Node: Truth Assignment of $\text{Lean}(\psi)$ Formulas

- With some additional constraints, e.g. $\neg \langle \bar{1} \rangle \top \vee \neg \langle \bar{2} \rangle \top$

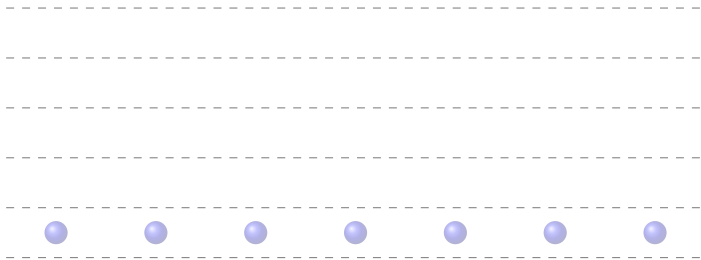
Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



Bottom-up construction of proof tree

- A set of nodes is repeatedly updated (fixpoint computation)

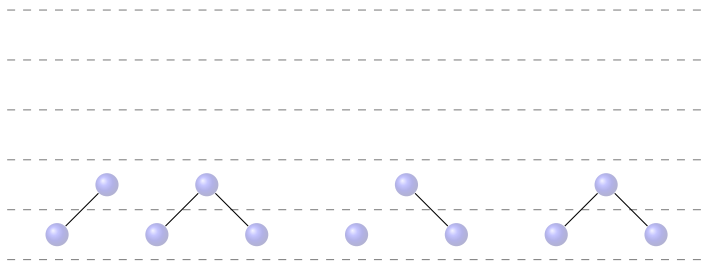
Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



Bottom-up construction of proof tree

- Step 1: all possible leaves are added

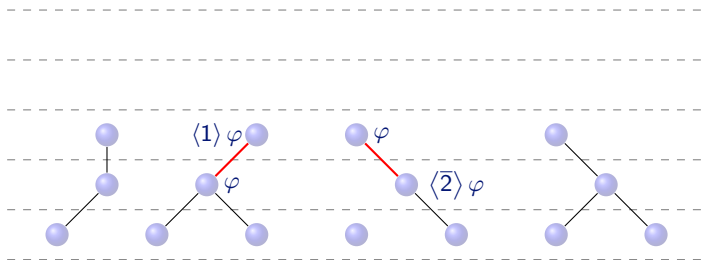
Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



Bottom-up construction of proof tree

- Step $i > 1$: all possible parents of previous nodes are added

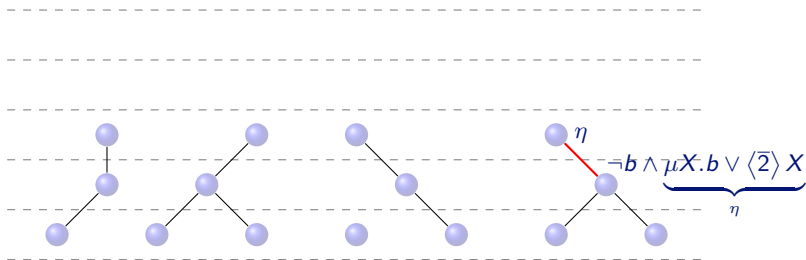
Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



Compatibility relation between nodes

- Nodes from previous step are proof support:
 $\langle \alpha \rangle \varphi$ is added if φ holds in some node added at previous step

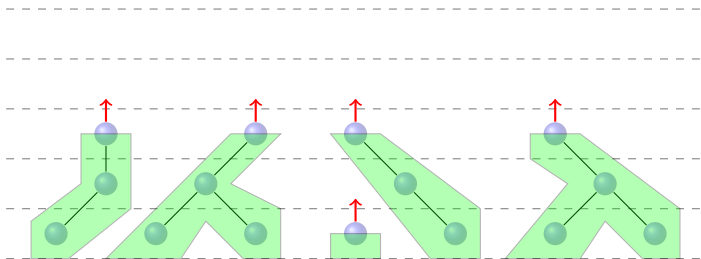
Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



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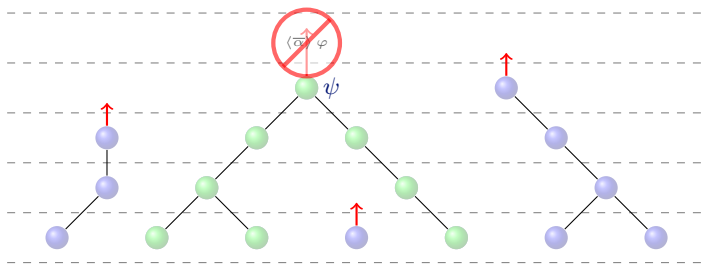
Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



Progressive bottom-up reasoning (partial satisfiability)

- $\langle \bar{\alpha} \rangle \varphi$ are left unproved until a parent is connected

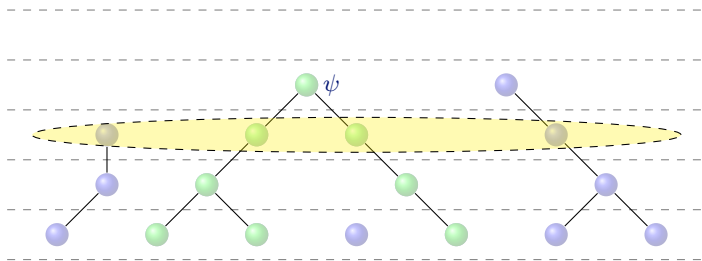
Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



Termination

- If ψ is present in some **root** node, then ψ is satisfiable
- Otherwise, the algorithm terminates when no more nodes can be added

Satisfiability-Testing Algorithm: Principles



Implementation techniques

- Crucial optimization: symbolic representation

Correctness & Complexity

Theorem

The satisfiability problem for a formula $\psi \in \mathcal{L}_\mu$ is decidable in time $2^{O(n)}$ where $n = |\text{Lean}(\psi)|$.

Theorem

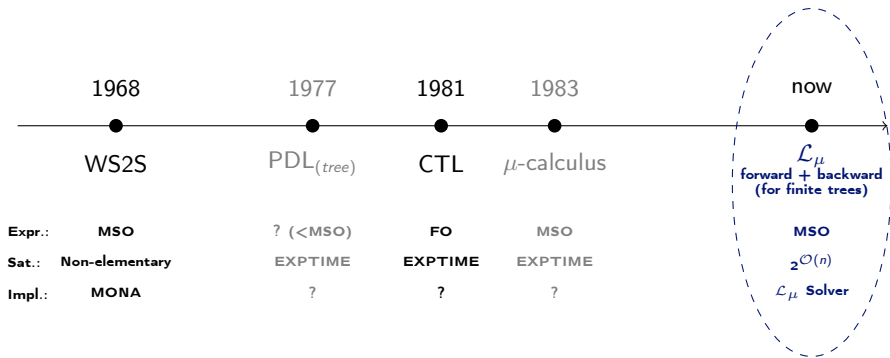
Translations of XPath and XML types into the logic are linear.

Corollary

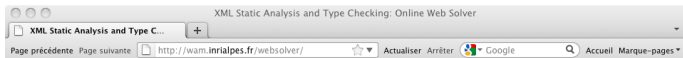
Decision problems involving XPath and types (e.g. typing, containment, emptiness, equivalence) can be decided in time $2^{O(n)}$.

Tree Logics: An Overview

- On the theoretical side: \mathcal{L}_μ offers an interesting expressivity, succinctness, optimal complexity bound



Prototype online*: <http://tyrex.inria.fr/websolver>



XML Reasoning Solver Project

[Home](#) [Demo](#) [Documentation](#) [Publications](#) [Team](#)

Enter your formula below:

```
bool() = {true|false};
list() = let $l = (_a * $l) | {nil} in $l;
odd() = let $o = (_a * _a * $o) | (_a * {nil}) in $o;
even() = let $e = (_a * _a * $e) | {nil} in $e;
subtype ( odd() -> {true} & (even() -> {false}), list() -> bool() )
```

See [user manual](#) or pick an example

- [XPath Satisfiability #1](#)
- [XPath Satisfiability #2](#)
- [XPath Containment](#)
- [XPath Equivalence](#)
- [Mu-formula with values](#)
- [Mu-formula with recursion](#)
- [XHTML Type Evolution](#)
- [MathML Query Evolution](#)
- [Polymorphism with arrow types #1](#)
- [Polymorphism with arrow types #2](#)
- [Regular expression intersection](#)
- [Regular expression equivalence](#)

► **Advanced Options**

This online demo is a 100% Java implementation of the solver that runs inside a Tomcat servlet. It is based on a thread-safe re-implementation of a BDD package (JavaBDD). However, the performance of this package is very slow compared to what can be achieved with an off-line solver implementation with native BDDs. Ask us if you are interested in the high-speed off-line version of the solver.

* or offline if performance is critical: the offline version is faster (native BDD library, further optimizations like compression of symbols) + latest advances

Overview of Experiments with Static Analyzers

Sample Problem	Lean Size	Time
Simple RE intersection & equivalence	30	15 ms
Query containment $q \subseteq q'$ (XPath)	50	50 ms
Query satisfiability with constraints (e.g. SMIL 1.0)	90	350 ms
Subtyping with rich types	60	70 ms
Schema evolution (moderate: e.g. XHTML-Basic)	170	2.5 s
Schema evolution (large: e.g. MathML)	290	8 s
Schema evolution (huge & complex, with attributes)	550	? 27 s
Analysis of style sheets (many such calls)	60	40 ms
Precise typing for XQuery (many such calls)	70	35 ms

Table: Kinds of decision problems and corresponding figures.

For some test, size of the Lean is 550. The search space is $2^{550} \approx 10^{165}$... more than the square number of atoms in the universe 10^{80}



More Applications

- University of Washington (**USA**): query **intersection** in analysing web page scripting
- University of Maryland (**USA**): analysing **access control** policies (e.g. XACML)
- University of Edinburgh (**UK**): query containment for **XML databases**
- Institute of CS-FORTH (**Greece**): access control system for documents
- University of British Columbia (**Canada**): software engineering for the cloud
- Universität Stuttgart (**Germany**): analysis of **BPEL** data flows

Foundations for programming with tree-structured data

Advances in this domain \Leftrightarrow Advances in core computer science

Applications almost everywhere:

- Processing Web data
- Next-Generation Programming Languages
- NoSQL Databases
- Modern File Systems
- Structured and Compound Documents
- Semantic Web
- Data Structure/Program Analysis and Verification
- Optimizing Compilers for Big Data Infrastructures
- ...

For those who want to learn more on the theory



Pierre Genevès, Nabil Layaïda, Alan Schmitt, Nils Gesbert.

Efficiently Deciding μ -Calculus with Converse over Finite Trees.

ACM Transactions on Computational Logic 16(2): 16:1-16:41 (2015)



Pierre Genevès and Nils Gesbert.

XQuery and Static Typing: Tackling the Problem of Backward Axes.

In ICFP'15: Proceedings of the 2015 ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Functional Programming, 2015.

More Related Applications

Whose investigation was successful using this approach:

- Query containment for XPath with constraints [PLDI'07, ICDE'10]
- Modeling counting and shuffle/interleaving operators [IJCAI'11]
- Dead code analysis for XQuery [ICSE'10, ICSE'11]
- Impact of schema evolutions on queries [ICFP'09, TOIT'11]
- Deciding subtyping for rich type algebras with functions/polymorphism [ICFP'11]
- Containment for SPARQL queries under constraints [AAAI'12, IJCAR'12]
- Query update independence analysis [DocEng'12]
- Static verification of layouts: bug detection for CSS Stylesheets [WWW'12]