Program Analysis in Relay

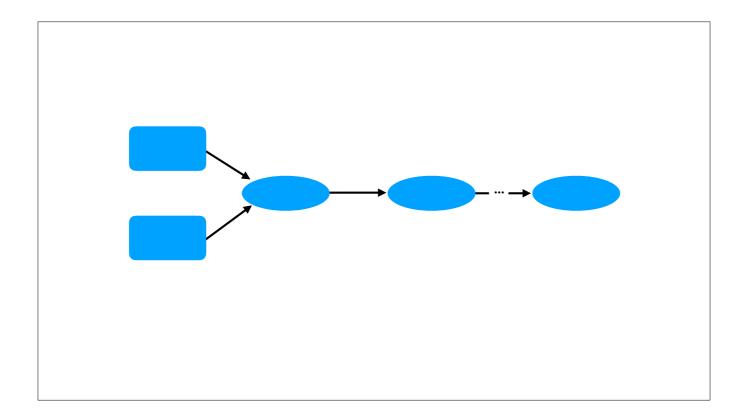
Gus Smith
December 5th, 2019





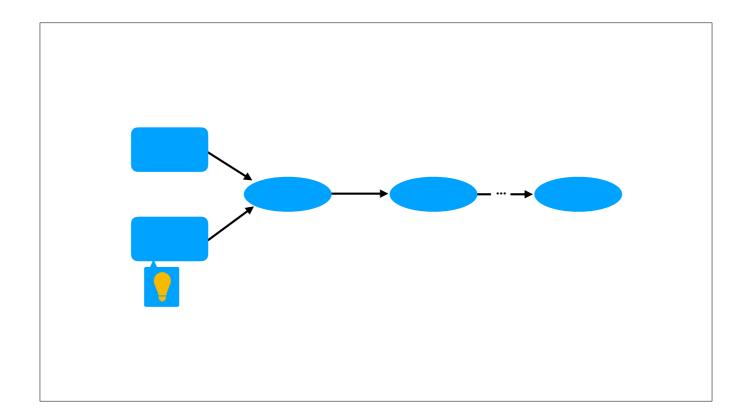


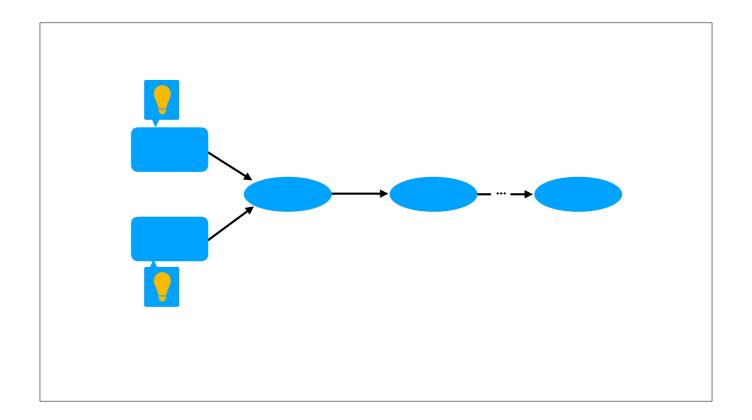
Hi everyone, my name's Gus Smith, from University of Washington's SAMPL lab.

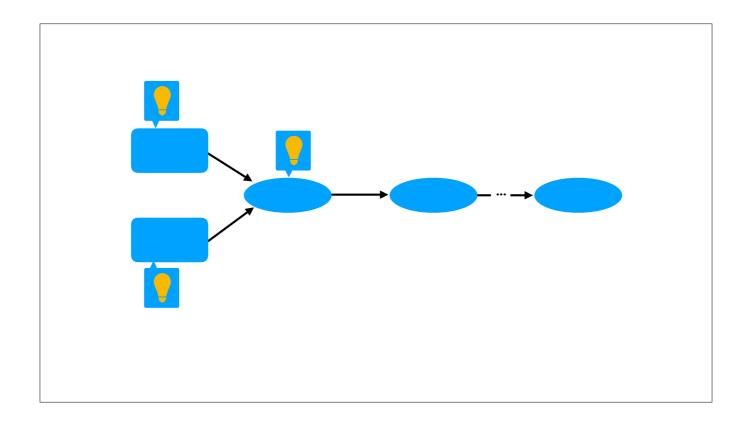


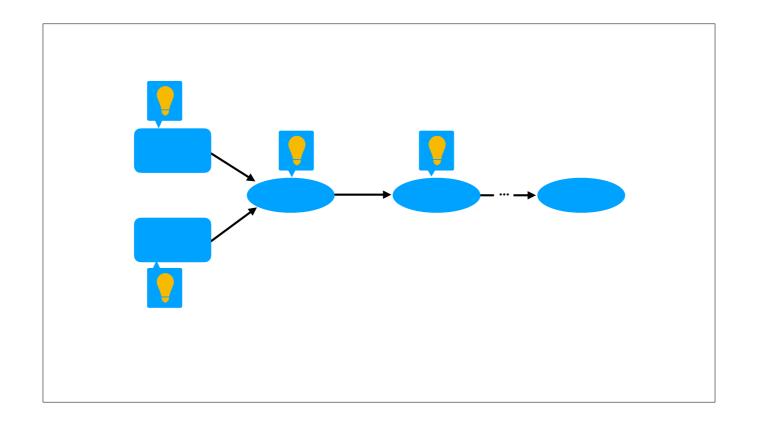
This past summer at Microsoft, I built a program analysis framework in Relay, useful for [build lightbulbs] building simple static dataflow analyses and [build summary square] putting their results into human-readable formats.

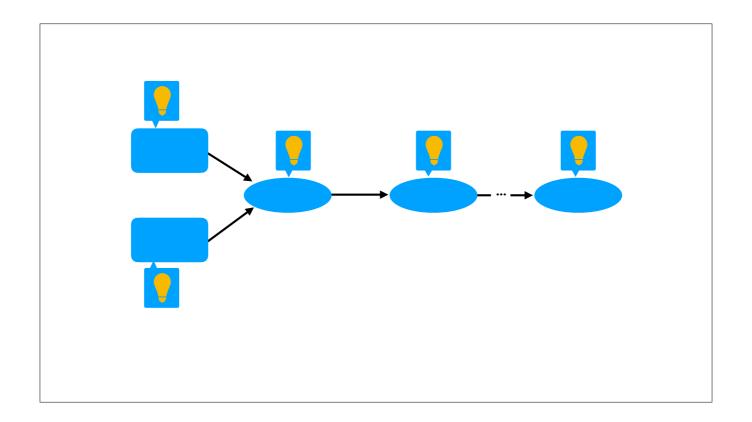
However, when I went to merge the framework back into Relay, I didn't find any appropriate place for it!

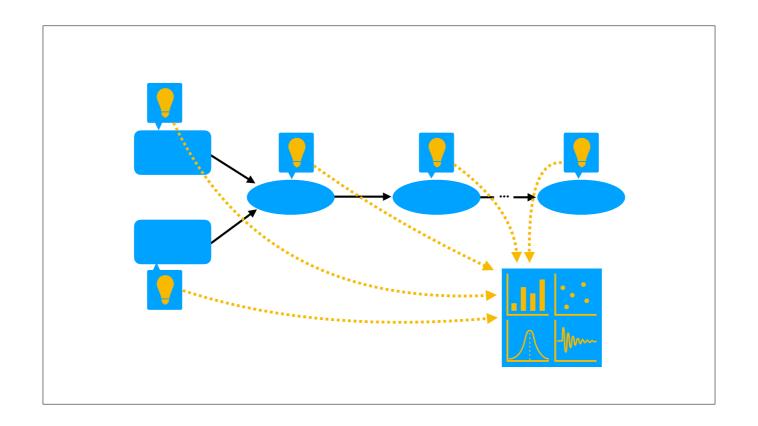


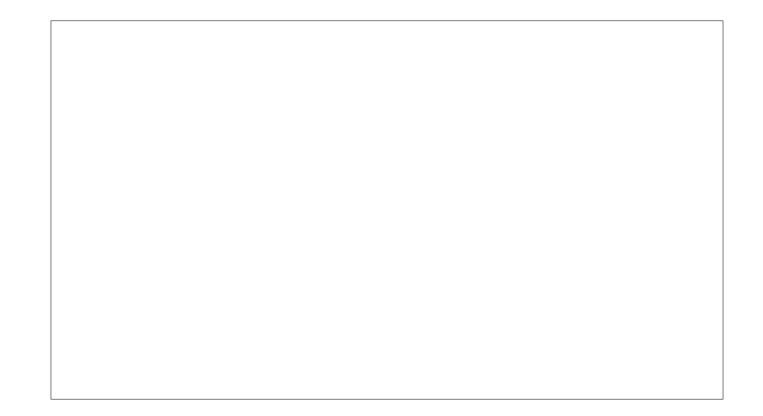












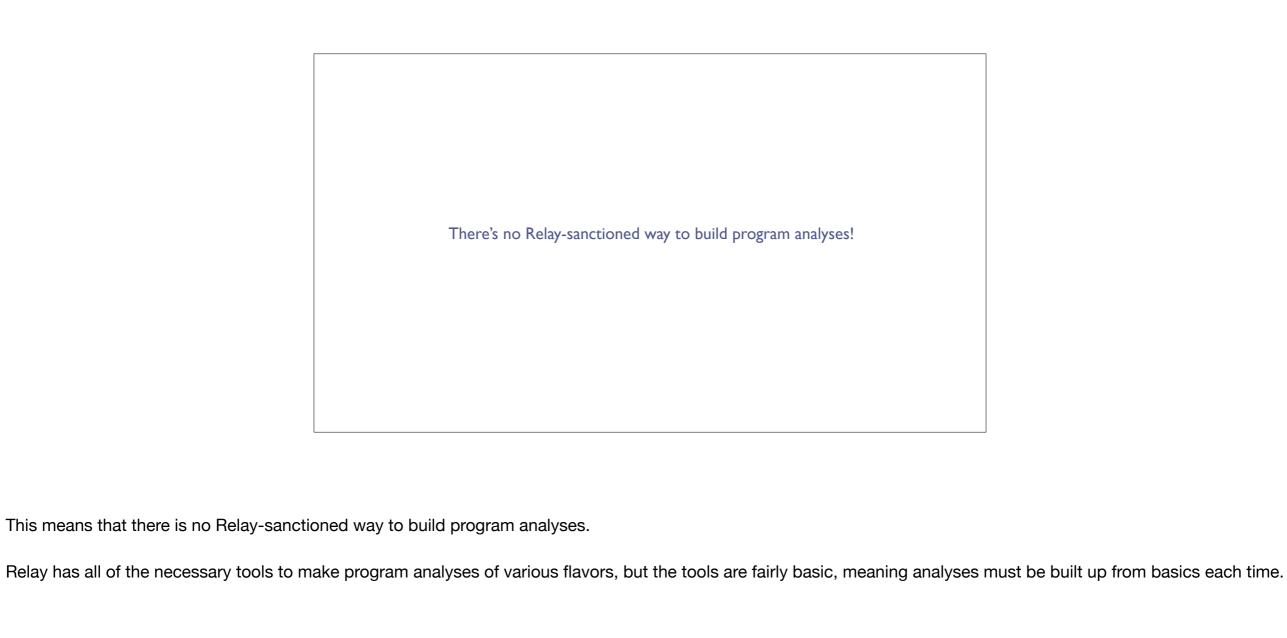
I was surprised by this—digging around in Relay, I saw program analyses of many different [build] shapes and [build] sizes, from simple static analyses like these, to complex dynamic analyses, such as those needed for quantization.

I discovered that there was no obvious place for my analysis framework because there is little to no analysis tooling in Relay at the moment.

These analyses are all built in an ad-hoc fashion, from the ground up—there's no underlying analysis framework which they rely on.

```
1 class MacCounter : private ExprVisitor {
 2 public:
 3 MacCounter() {
     count_ = 0;
 5 }
 6 static int64_t GetTotalMacNumber(const Expr& expr) {
      LOG(INFO) << "This pass only counts MACs in direct CONV 2D, "
                << "CONV 2D Transpose and Dense ops";
 8
 9
       MacCounter counter;
10
      counter(expr);
     return counter.count_;
11
12 }
13
14 private:
void VisitExpr_(const CallNode* call_node) final {
static const auto& fprep =
          Op::GetAttr<FMacCount>("FMacCount");
17
18
      auto f = fprep.get(call_node->op, nullptr);
19
      if (f != nullptr) count_ += f(GetRef<Call>(call_node));
20
      ExprVisitor::VisitExpr_(call_node);
21 }
22
23 int64_t count_;
24 };
```

```
1 class MacCounter : private ExprVisitor {
 2 public:
 3 MacCounter() {
    count_ = 0;
 6 static int64_t 1 class FindDef : private ExprVisitor {
     LOG(INFO) << 2 private:
 8
                    VarMap<Expr> expr_map_;
      MacCounter c
9
    counter(expr 4
                     void VisitExpr_(const LetNode* l) final {
11 return count 5
12 }
                       CHECK_EQ(expr_map_.count(l->var), 0);
13
                       expr_map_[l->var] = l->value;
14 private:
15 void VisitExpr 8
                      VisitExpr(l->value);
static const
17 Op::GetA 9
                       VisitExpr(l->body);
18 auto f = fpr 10 }
if (f != nul 11 };
ExprVisitor: ...;
21 }
22
23 int64_t count_;
24 };
```





This lack of an idiomatic way to build analyses can lead to problems.

[build] There can be duplication of effort, if basic analysis tools must be rewritten for each analysis.

[build] There's a high barrier to entry for new developers, who are expected to build their analyses using low-level APIs.

[build] And lastly, complex analyses, which may be written by just one or two people, are much less readable and maintainable by the broader community if they're built entirely from scratch.

This leads to problems:

• Duplication of effort

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High barrier to entry for new developers

This leads to problems:

- Duplication of effort
- High barrier to entry for new developers
- Less readability and maintainability



In addition to there being a *need* for better analysis tooling, there's also a community desire for better analysis tooling. Recently, Marisa opened an RFC regarding analysis infrastructure in Relay. [build] In addition, just yesterday, there was an RFC posted about dataflow analyses over TVM IR. So clearly there's a desire to have one (or a few) "approved ways" to do analysis.



```
1 class FindDef : private ExprVisitor {
   private:
 3
    VarMap<Expr> expr_map_;
 4
 5
    void VisitExpr_(const LetNode* l) final {
      CHECK_EQ(expr_map_.count(l->var), 0);
 6
      expr_map_[l->var] = l->value;
 7
      VisitExpr(l->value);
 8
      VisitExpr(l->body);
 9
10 }
11 };
```

Let's look at an example analysis which could be improved by an analysis framework.

This analysis finds the values of variables in Relay programs. It is used in the dead code elimination pass, but you could imagine this analysis being useful elsewhere. However, before it can be useful elsewhere, it has some problems—problems that could be fixed with an analysis framework.

[build] First, the analysis needs documentation. In addition to code comments and better naming, one of the best ways an analysis could document itself is by leaning on the well-documented features of an analysis framework.

[build] Second, the analysis needs a standard data interchange format so that it can compose with other analyses. This format could be standardized by the analysis framework.

[build] Lastly, the analysis needs to be discoverable and accessible to all developers. This could be achieved by having all analyses register themselves with the analysis framework.

Needs documentation!

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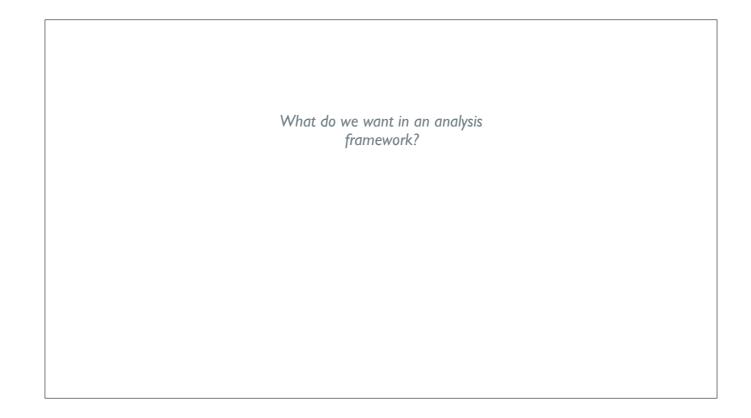
Needs documentation!

```
1 class FindDef): private ExprVisitor {
    private:
                             Needs a standard data
 3
     VarMap<Expr> (expr_map_;) interchange format!
 4
 5
     void VisitExpr_(const LetNode* l) final {
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```

...and needs to be discoverable/accessible!



So, in the end, what we want is an analysis framework with the following features:

[build] The framework should support many types of static and dynamic analyses, and doesn't limit us on the analyses we can build.

[build] The framework should make it quick and easy to write new analyses, especially for new developers.

[build] And the framework should promote composing analyses together, so that larger analyses can be built off of simpler analyses.

What do we want in an analysis framework?

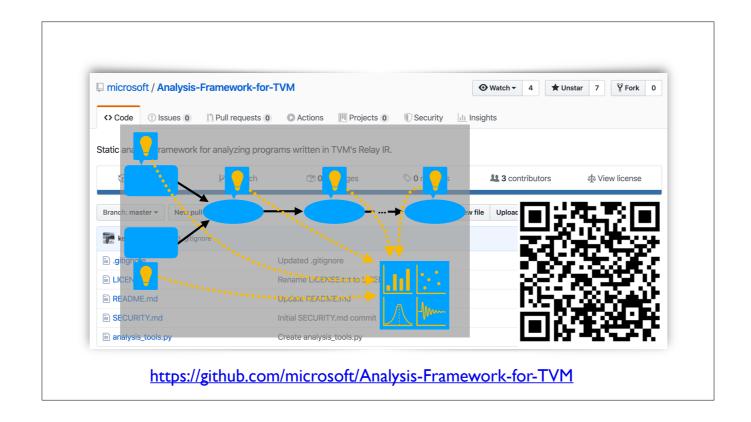
• Supports many types of program analyses

What do we want in an analysis framework?

- Supports many types of program analyses
- Quick to write new analyses

What do we want in an analysis framework?

- Supports many types of program analyses
- Quick to write new analyses
- Promotes composing analyses together



The small program analysis framework I built this past summer at Microsoft achieves some of these goals, at least for simple static analyses. Its code is available on Microsoft's GitHub page, if you want to check it out.



In addition, I have a demo using the analysis framework on my fork of TVM.



The whole point of this lightning talk is to show that there is need and desire for analysis tooling in Relay.

If you have any opinions on a potential program analysis framework, please contribute to the RFC I opened on the TVM GitHub.

This is not my primary research, and I do not plan on building the analysis framework myself, but I'm happy to help organize and encourage the discussion!

Thanks everybody!