

Experiments. We evaluated eVolCheck on a set of industrial benchmarks. Four of them (VTT_n) were provided by our industrial partner, the VTT company. The rest is derived from a library of Windows device drivers (floppy_n, kbfiltr_n, diskperf_n). We invented all changes artificially.

Safety of all benchmarks was verified against assertions, either existing in the code or inserted by us into code without assertions. Table I contains results of the experiments. Each row corresponds to a different benchmark, groups of columns represent statistics about the bootstrapping verification and verification of two upgrades, respectively. NoI estimates the size of the original source code as a number of instructions in the goto-binary (NoI is an accurate representation of code without definitions, and often represents much higher number of lines of code). IC represents the number of changed instructions between current and the previous version. The overhead introduced by upgrade checking, i.e. the syntactic difference check (Diff) and the interpolants generation (Itp), is also included in the total running time (Total). To show advantages of our upgrade checking approach, for each change we calculated the speedup (Speedup) of the upgrade check versus verification of the changed code from scratch, performed only for the sake of comparison reasons and hidden from the table.

In order to demonstrate different performance of our technique, we chose two different classes of changes for each benchmark. The first class (1st change) represents changes with small impact. As expected, those can be verified with a few local checks. The second one (2nd change) presents upgrades that affect large portion of the code, potentially causing traversal of the complete call tree of the program.

Our experiments demonstrate that for the class of problem with small impact, the upgrade checking approach outperforms the standalone verification (order(s) of magnitude speedup). For the second class of changes, the performance of the upgrade check varies. For some cases, analysis could be done locally and the speedup is still substantial. For cases where the algorithms needed to analyze large portion of the call tree, the performance, as expected, degrades. Note that the

bad performance occurs when the change introduces a bug (indicated by ‘—’ in the Itp column; the PBMC formula is satisfiable and interpolants are not generated). In this case, the upgrade check traverses to the root of the call tree, in order to reconstruct a complete error trace. Of course, this can be an easy task when the change is close to the root of the call tree (e.g., in the floppy_D benchmark). The results support our initial intuition that upgrade checking works well for incremental changes, which is the most common class in the evolution of systems.

Table I: Experimental evaluation

benchmark		bootstrap		1st change					2nd change				
name	NoI	Total [s]	Itp [s]	IC	Total [s]	Diff [s]	Itp [s]	Speedup	IC	Total [s]	Diff [s]	Itp [s]	Speedup
VTT_A	329	4.889	0.133	2	0.318	0.006	<0.001	15.6x	10	15.102	0.006	—	0.3x
VTT_B	332	23.178	0.003	6	7.793	0.007	0.007	3.0x	6	7.805	0.007	0.014	3.0x
VTT_C	129	0.144	0.001	2	0.017	0.002	<0.001	8.4x	1	0.187	0.002	—	0.8x
VTT_D	247	24.735	0.001	0	0.008	0.008	<0.001	3098.0x	2	46.910	0.006	—	0.8x
floppy_A	292	1.025	0.015	2	0.039	0.009	0.002	26.1x	6	0.201	0.009	0.013	5.0x
floppy_B	294	0.763	0.003	2	0.038	0.009	<0.001	19.8x	7	0.046	0.009	0.001	16.4x
floppy_C	2082	1.280	0.004	2	0.383	0.182	<0.001	3.4x	7	0.394	0.183	0.001	3.2x
floppy_D	2099	60.469	0.257	6	0.374	0.182	<0.001	161.7x	23	3.614	0.189	—	16.8x
kbfiltr_A	529	1.307	0.014	2	0.030	0.011	<0.001	43.1x	6	0.111	0.012	0.006	10.6x
kbfiltr_B	529	1.040	0.001	1	0.052	0.011	0.001	19.6x	2	1.835	0.011	—	0.6x
kbfiltr_C	1010	2.522	0.014	2	0.063	0.021	0.002	40.2x	23	0.124	0.021	0.002	20.3x
kbfiltr_D	1011	3.060	0.009	2	0.061	0.022	<0.001	50.5x	7	0.231	0.022	0.003	7.0x
diskperf_A	486	1.028	0.001	1	0.033	0.008	<0.001	31.3x	2	1.751	0.008	—	0.6x
diskperf_B	492	2.580	0.049	2	0.091	0.009	0.006	28.3x	12	2.468	0.009	0.029	1.1x
diskperf_C	1664	1.126	0.001	1	0.072	0.034	<0.001	15.6x	4	0.097	0.034	0.001	11.5x
diskperf_D	1685	38.609	1.179	1	0.295	0.035	0.016	130.4x	2	0.508	0.035	0.020	75.7x