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NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY

TEDDINGTON, MIDDLESEX, ENGLAND

PAPER 2-3



FORmula TRANslation

by J. W. BACKUS

To be presented at a Symposium on The Mechanization of Thought Processes,

which will be held at the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex, from 24th-27th November 1958. The papers and the discussions are to be published by H.M.S.O. in the Proceedings of the Symposium. This paper should not be reproduced without the permission of the author and of the Secretary. National Physical Laboratory.

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How far can "automatic programming" go beyond "formula translation" towards expressing the wishes even more productively?



Example: Sorting



Example: Sorting

Fahrzeuge (3496) Autos (3176) Nutzfahrzeug (210) Alle Artikel 4882 Auktionen 520 Sonstige Fahrzeuge (92) Ersatzteilträger (10) 2 weitere anzeigen FIAT Punto 1.8 16V Abarth HGT ab Platz, ohne Aufereitung und MFK Versand FIAT Punto 1.4 Dynamic . FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 🗬 Versand FIAT Punto 1.9 JTD ELX Sehr sparsames Dieselfahrzeug 🐗 Versand

Sortierung (Standard) 👻 12 Sofort kaufen 1130 Bald endende Angebote zuerst Neu eingestellte Artikel zuerst Sort a list of cars -Niedrigster Preis zuerst Höchster Preis zuerst starting from lowest Meiste Gebote zuerst CHF 6,000.00 🔖 CHF 6,000.00 🔖 Das perfekte Auto für angenehmen Fahrspass Neu: (Gemäss Beschreibung) 🖷 Versand CHF 8,900.00 \$ CHF 2,900.00 \$ FIAT Punto 1.9 JTD ELX CHF 2,900.00 % Sehr sparsames Dieselfahrzeug Versand FIAT 500L 1.4 16V Pop Star CHF 24,140.00 % Versand

Sorting as a Wish



- specification can be reasonably clear, with few alternatives
- many algorithms implement the sorting specification (insertion sort, quick sort, merge sort, external sorts)

Sorting Specification as a Program



content(input)==content(output) && isSorted(output)

Specification here is a program that checks, for a **given input**, whether the **given output** is acceptable

Specification vs Implementation







Runtime Assertion Checking

a) Check assertion while program p runs: C(i,p(i))

def p(i : List) : List = {

sort i using a sorting algorithm and return the result
} ensuring (o ⇒ content(i)==content(o) && isSorted(o))

```
def content(lst : List) = lst match {
  case Nil() ⇒ Set.empty
  case Cons(x, xs) ⇒ Set(x) ++ content(xs)
```

Already works in Scala! Key design decision: constraints are programs

def isSorted(lst : List) = lst match { case Nil() \Rightarrow true case Cons(_, Nil()) \Rightarrow true case Cons(x, Cons(y, ys)) \Rightarrow

x < y && isSorted(Cons(y, ys))

Must come up with example i-values (So, this is a way to do testing.)
Can we give stronger guarantees?
→ prove postcondition always true

Verification: http://lara.epfl.ch/w/leon

b) Verify that program always meets spec: $\forall i. C(i,p(i))$

def p(i : List) : List = {

sort i using a sorting algorithm and return the result } ensuring ($o \Rightarrow content(i)==content(o) \&\& isSorted(o)$)

```
def content(lst : List) = lst match {
                                                   Type in a Scala program
 case Nil() \Rightarrow Set.empty
                                                   and watch it verified
 case Cons(x, xs) \Rightarrow Set(x) ++ content(xs)
def isSorted(lst : List) = lst match {
                                                         timeout
 case Nil()
            ⇒ true
 case Cons(, Nil()) \Rightarrow true
                                              proof of
                                                              input i such that
 case Cons(x, Cons(y, ys)) \Rightarrow
                                            ∀i. C(i,p(i))
                                                                 not C (i,p(i))
   x < y && isSorted(Cons(y, ys))
```

Insertion Sort Verified as You Type It

Leon 🗈 Save 🖱 Undo C Redo % Link 📼 Menu 🖓 Console 🖋 Params

```
def sortedIns(e: Int, l: List): List = {
31 -
         require(isSorted(1))
32
         1 match {
33 -
           case Nil() => Cons(e,Nil())
34
35
           case Cons(x,xs) =>
             if (x <= e) Cons(x,sortedIns(e, xs)) else Cons(e, 1)</pre>
36
37
       } ensuring(res => contents(res) == contents(1) ++ Set(e)
38
                         && isSorted(res)
39
                         && size(res) == size(1) + 1
40
41
       /* Insertion sort yields a sorted list of
42 -
           same size and content as the input list */
43
       def sort(1: List): List = (1 match {
44 -
45
         case Nil() => Nil()
         case Cons(x,xs) => sortedIns(x, sort(xs))
46
       }) ensuring(res => contents(res) == contents(1)
47
                          && isSorted(res)
48
                          && size(res) == size(1))
49
```

```
Load a Program:
-- Select a Program --
```

Q Analysis Results	~
Function	Verif.
size	0
contents	0
isSorted	0
sortedIns	0
sort	0



Web interface: http://lara.epfl.ch/leon

Reported Counterexample in Case of a Bug

Leon 🗈 Save 🤈 Undo C Redo 🗞 Link 📼 Menu 🖓 Console 🗡 Params



Verification of Functional and Imperative Scala Code

Benchmark	LoC	V/I	#VCs	Time (s)
Imperative				
ListOperations	146	6/1	16	0.62
AssociativeList	98	3/1	9	0.80
AmortizedQueue	128	10/1	21	2.57
SumAndMax	36	2/0	2	0.21
Arithmetic	84	4/1	8	0.58
Functional				
ListOperations	107	12/0	11	0.43
AssociativeList	50	4/0	5	0.43
AmortizedQueue	114	13/0	18	1.56
SumAndMax	45	4/0	7	0.23
RedBlackTree	117	7/1	10	1.87
PropositionalLogic	81	6/1	9	0.72
SearchLinkedList	38	3/0	2	0.21
Sorting	175	13/0	17	0.48
Total	1219	87/6	135	10.71



Regis Blanc



Etienne Kneuss



Philippe Suter

Automated Verification: How

1) Induction: assume and prove specification:



Eliminates recursive function being verified.

- 2) Algebraic reasoning for formulas over theories:
 - arithmetic, sets, lists, trees
- Technology: Satisfiability Modulo Theories (SMT) SAT solver + decision procedures for theories
 - Leonardo de Moura (Z3)
 - Andrew Reynolds (CVC4), 18 September 14:15 (Wednesday)

Recursive functions inside specifications



Theorem provers for recursive functions?

Reasoning about abstraction functions Adding all recursive functions f : Tree → Tree – undecidable ⊗ Turing-complete formalism

Consider abstraction functions: \mathbf{m} : Tree \rightarrow N

- m defined by simple structural recursion on trees
 m == fold(leaf_const, combination_function)
 size == fold(0, _ + _ + _)
 content == fold({}, _ U { _ } U]

- sufficiently surjective, implies $card(\mathbf{m}^{-1}(n)) \rightarrow \infty$

Fair function unfolding acts as a decision procedure for such **m** ☺ Intuition: after unfolding, innermost calls can be left un-interpreted Basis of the Leon verifier (along with induction and Z3 encoding) → Philippe Suter (PhD 2012, now IBM Research US): POPL'10, SAS'11

Constraint Solvers on top of NASA's Model Checker for Java (JPF)

Generating not only one, but many values, using delayed non-determinism and heap symmetry detection **Application:** generate tests to exercise program behavior

Test generation through programming in UDITA. ICSE 2010

- Found correctness bugs in existing refactoring implementations of IDE tools Eclipse and Netbeans
- Differences in accepted programs in Eclipse compilers vs javac

Milos Gligoric Tihomir Gvero Vilas Jagannath Sarfraz Khurshid Darko Marinov











Reasoning about New Theories

Our sorting spec using **sets** allows mapping List(1,3,2,3,2) \rightarrow List(1,1,1,2,3)

Precise specification needs to use multisets (bags)

 $\{| 1, 1, 2, 3 |\} \cup \{| 2 |\} = \{| 1, 1, 2, 2, 3 |\}$ Algorithm for: given an expression with operations on multisets, are there values for which expression is true? Previously: algorithms in NEXPTIME or worse Our result: algorithm running in NP (NP-hardness is easy) - enables verification of a larger class of programs Method: encode problem in integer linear arithmetic, use semilinear set bounds and integer Caratheodory theorem Ruzica Piskac (PhD 2011) : CAV'08, CSL'08, VMCAI'08

Can we sort planets by distance?

Gap between **floating points** and **reality**

- input measurement error
- floating-point round-off error
- numerical method error
- all other sources of bugs

x<y need not mean x*<y*

Automated verification tools to compute upper error bound Applied to code fragments for

- embedded systems (car, train)
- physics simulations OOPSLA'11, RV'12, EMSOFT'13



Eva Darulova



Example: Where is the Moon?



- rewritten from Python to Java (great performance)
- different result computed in some cases!
- Which digits can we trust, if any?
- Results for date 2012-2-10:
- Java: -2h 36m 26.7796612**50**681812 Python: -2d 36m 26.7796612**50**74235



Example: Where is the Moon?

Geneva observatory's software to compute position of the Moon

- rewritten from Python to Java (great performance)
- different result computed in some cases!
- Which digits can we trust, if any?
- Results for date 2012-2-10:





Beyond Functional: Verifying Imperative C and Concurrent Systems

- Key idea: encode program and properties into recursive logical constraints (Horn clauses)
- Decouple two non-trivial tasks:
 - generation of constraints (language semantics, modeling approach)
 - solving of constraints (new verification algorithms)
- Community standards for representation of programs and properties EU COST Action IC0901, <u>http://RichModels.epfl.ch</u>

ATVA'12, CAV'13

Hossein Hojjat, PhD 2013

w/ Radu Iosif, Filip Konečny, Philipp Ruemmer









Distributed Software – Hardest of All

Perform execution steering of software while it runs, using a continuously running model checker (CrystalBall)



Maysam Yabandeh Qatar CRI



Dejan Kostić IMDEA Networks

NSDI'09, TOCS'10

Prove correctness of distributed algorithms in a modular way using interactive theorem provers and model checkers.



Giuliano Losa



Rachid Guerraoui

Speculative Linearizability, PLDI 2012

Approaches and Their Guarantees

Was your wish your command?

a) Check assertion while program p runs: C(i,p(i)) b) Verify that program always meets spec:
∀i. C(i,p(i))

Your wish is my command!

c) Constraint programming: once i is known, find o to satisfy a given constraint: find o such that C(i, c) run-time d) Synthesis: solve C symbolically to obtain program p that is correct by construction, for all inputs: find p such that $\forall i.C(i,p(i))$ i.e. $p \subseteq C$ compile-time

Approaches and Their Guarantees

both specification **C** and program **p** are given:

a) Check assertion while program p runs: C(i,p(i)) b) Verify that program always meets spec:
∀i. C(i,p(i))

only specification **C** is given:

c) Constraint programming: once i is known, find o to satisfy a given constraint: find o such that C(i, o) run-time d) Synthesis: solve C symbolically to obtain program p that is correct by construction, for all inputs: find p such that $\forall i.C(i,p(i))$ i.e. $p \subseteq C$ compile-time

Programming without Programs

c) Constraint programming: find a value that satisfies a given constraint: find o such that C(i,o)
Method: use verification technology, try to prove that no such o exists, report counter-examples!

size	list add	list remove	RBT add	RBT remove
0	0.07	0.02	0.03	0.02
1	0.08	0.02	0.10	0.05
2	0.12	0.05	0.14	0.09
3	0.16	0.10	0.55	0.41
4	0.24	0.18	0.66	0.76
5	0.39	0.38	1.07	0.91
6	0.55	0.45	1.51	1.56
7	0.97	0.67	9.32	13.09
8	1.48	1.09	11.13	18.80
9	2.27	1.80	24.49	25.79
10	3.32	2.22	11.51	20.55





Philippe Suter

Ali Sinan Köksal

Constraints as Control, POPL 2012 Extension of Scala with constraint programming

13 Red-Black Trees

Chapter 12 showed that a binary search tree of height h can support any of the basic dynamic-set operations—such as SEARCH, PREDECESSOR, SUCCESSOR, MINI-MUM, MAXIMUM, INSERT, and DELETE—in O(h) time. Thus, the set operations are fast if the height of the search tree is small. If its height is large, however, the set operations may run no faster than with a linked list. Red-black trees are one of many search-tree schemes that are "balanced" in order to guarantee that basic dynamic-set operations take $O(\lg n)$ time in the worst case.

13.1 Properties of red-black trees

A *red-black tree* is a binary search tree with one extra bit of storage per node: its *color*, which can be either RED or BLACK. By constraining the node colors on any simple path from the root to a leaf, red-black trees ensure that no such path is more than twice as long as any other, so that the tree is approximately *balanced*.

Each node of the tree now contains the attributes *color*, *key*, *left*, *right*, and *p*. If a child or the parent of a node does not exist, the corresponding pointer attribute of the node contains the value NIL. We shall regard these NILs as being pointers to leaves (external nodes) of the binary search tree and the normal, key-bearing nodes as being internal nodes of the tree.

A red-black tree is a binary tree that satisfies the following *red-black properties*:

- 1. Every node is either red or black.
- 2. The root is black.
- 3. Every leaf (NIL) is black.
- 4. If a node is red, then both its children are black.
- 5. For each node, all simple paths from the node to descendant leaves contain the same number of black nodes.

THOMAS H. CORMEN CHARLES E. LEISERSON RONALD L. RIVEST CLIFFORD STEIN JCTION TO ALGORITHMS

Implementation: next 30 pages

invariants - specification

Sorting a List Using Specifications

```
def content(lst : List) = lst match {
 case Nil() \Rightarrow Set.empty
 case Cons(x, xs) \Rightarrow Set(x) ++ content(xs)
}
def isSorted(lst : List) = lst match {
 case Nil()
                      ⇒ true
 case Cons(_, Nil()) \Rightarrow true
 case Cons(x, Cons(y, ys)) \Rightarrow x < y && isSorted(Cons(y, ys))
}
((I : List) \Rightarrow isSorted(Ist) \&\& content(Ist) == Set(0, 1, -3))
.solve
```

```
> Cons(-3, Cons(0, Cons(1, Nil())))
```

Implicit Programming (ERC project)



Approaches and Their Guarantees

both specification **C** and program **p** are given:

a) Check assertion while program p runs: C(i,p(i)) b) Verify that program always meets spec:
∀i. C(i,p(i))

only specification **C** is given:

c) Constraint programming: once i is known, find o to satisfy a given constraint: find o such that C(i, c) run-time d) Synthesis: solve C symbolically to obtain program p that is correct by construction, for all inputs: find p such that $\forall i.C(i,p(i))$ i.e. $p \subseteq C$ compile-time

Synthesis for Theories

3i + 2o = 13 \longrightarrow o = (13 - 3i)/2

- Wanted: "Gaussian elimination" for programs
 - for linear integer equations: extended Euclid's algorithm
 - need to handle disjunctions, negations, more data types
- For every formula in Presburger arithmetic
 - synthesis algorithm terminates
 - produces the most general precondition (assertion characterizing when the result exists)
 - generated code always terminates and gives correct result
- If there are multiple or no solutions for some input parameters, the algorithm identifies those inputs
- Works not only for arithmetic but also for e.g. sets with sizes and for trees
- Goal: lift everything done for SMT solvers to synthesizers

Synthesis for Linear Arithmetic



Synthesis for sets (BAPA)











Automata-Based Synthesis for Arithmetic

Given a constraint, generate finite-state automaton that reads input bits and directly emits result bits.





Jad Hamza ENS Cachan Barbara Jobstmann EPFL, Jasper DA

Andrej Spielmann

- Result does not depend on the syntax of input formula but only on the relation that the formula defines
- Data complexity for synthesized code: *always linear in input*
- Modular arithmetic and bitwise operators: can synthesize bit manipulations for unbounded number of bits, uniformly
- Supports quantified constraints
 - including optimization constraints: find best value

FMCAD 2010, IJCAR 2012

Foreword to the Research Highlights Article in the Communications of the ACM

I predict that as we identify more such restricted languages and integrate them into general-purpose (Turing-complete) languages, we will make programming more productive and programs more reliable.



Rastislav Bodik Professor, UC Berkeley

Upcoming talk on 27 September 2013

Partial Specs + Interaction to Synthesize Expressions

import java.io._

```
object Main {
    def main(args:Array[String]) = {
```

```
var body = "email.txt"
var sig = "signature.txt"
```

var inStream:SequenceInputStream =

```
var eof:Boolean = false;
var byteCount:Int = 0;
while (!eof) {
  var c:Int = inStream.read()
  if (c == -1)
    eof = true;
  else {
    System.out.print(c.toChar);
    byteCount+=1;
  }
```

http://lara.epfl.ch/w/insynth

Extend type inhabitation with

- enumeration of all inhabitants
- quantitative **ranking** of inhabitants
- learning ranking from corpus of code

new SequenceInputStream(new FileInputStream(sig), new FileInputStream(sig)) new SequenceInputStream(new FileInputStream(sig), new FileInputStream(body)) new SequenceInputStream(new FileInputStream(body), new FileInputStream(sig)) new SequenceInputStream(new FileInputStream(body), new FileInputStream(body)) new SequenceInputStream(new FileInputStream(sig), System.in)

Press 'Ctrl+Space' to show Default Prop

```
System.out.println(byteCount + " bytes were read");
inStream.close();
```

PLDI 2013







Tihomir Gvero Ivan Kuraj Ruzica Piskac

Iulian Dragoș

Collaboration with LAMP





Martin Odersky



Miguel Garcia



<u>Lukas Rytz</u>



Hubert Plociniczak



Jovanovic Vojin

Combining Approaches: Synthesis in Leon





def insertSorted(lst: List, v: Int): List = { require(isSorted(lst)) lst match { case Nil \Rightarrow Cons(v, Nil) case Cons(h, tail) \Rightarrow val r = insertSorted(t, v) if (v > h) Cons(h, r) else if (h == v) r else Cons(v, Cons(h, t)) }

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{def sort(lst : List): List = lst match } \{ \\ \mbox{case Nil } \Rightarrow \mbox{Nil} \\ \mbox{case Cons(h, t) } \Rightarrow \mbox{insertSorted(sort(t), h) } \} \end{array}$

http://lara.epfl.ch/w/leon

OOPSLA 2013: Synthesis Modulo Recursive Functions

Etienne Kneuss





Philippe Suter

Results for Synthesis in Leon

Operation	Size (Calls	s Proof	sec.
List.Insert	3	0	\checkmark	0.6
List.Delete	19	1		1.8
List.Union	12	1	\checkmark	2.1
List.Diff	12	2	\checkmark	7.6
List.Split	27	1	\checkmark	9.3
SortedList.Insert	34	1		9.9
SortedList.InsertAlways	36	1	\checkmark	7.2
SortedList.Delete	23	1	\checkmark	4.1
SortedList.Union	19	2	\checkmark	4.5
SortedList.Diff	13	2		4.0
SortedList.InsertionSort	10	2	\checkmark	4.2
SortedList.MergeSort	17	4	\checkmark	14.3
StrictSortedList.Insert	34	1		14.1
StrictSortedList.Delete	21	1		15.1
StrictSortedList.Union	19	2	\checkmark	3
UnaryNumerals.Add	11	1		1.3
UnaryNumerals.Distinct	12	0	\checkmark	1.1
UnaryNumerals.Mult	12	1	\checkmark	2.7
BatchedQueue.Checkf	14	4	\checkmark	7.4
BatchedQueue.Snoc	7	2	\checkmark	3.7
AddressBook.Make	50	14		8.8
AddressBook.MakeHelpers	21	5		4.9
AddressBook.Merge	11	3		8.9

Techniques used:

- Leon's verification capabilities
- synthesis for theory of trees
- recursion schemas
- case splitting
- symbolic exploration of the space of programs
- synthesis based on type inhabitation
- fast falsification using previous counterexamples
- learning conditional expressions
- cost-based search over possible synthesis steps

From In-Memory to External Sorting

Transform **functional specification** of data base operations into **algorithms** that work when not all data fits into memory (sort -> external sort) SIGMOD'13 Approach:

- transformation rules for list algebra
- exploration of equivalent algorithms through performance estimation w/ non-linear constraint solving

Ioannis Klonatos Christoph Koch Andres Nötzli Andrej Spielmann









Programming by Demonstration

Describe functionality by demonstrating and modifying behaviors while the program runs

- demonstrate desired actions by moving back in time and referring to past events
- system generalizes demonstrations into rules

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bErU--8GRsQ

Try "Pong Designer" in Android Play Store

Mikael Mayer and Lomig Mégard

SPLASH Onward'13





Entry Discussion Citations

Wiktionary ['wIkʃənrI] n., a wiki-based Open Content dictionary

your wish is my command

or some such gibberish. To go a step further he would like to write $\sum a_{ij} \cdot b_{jk}$ instead of the fairly involved set of instructions corresponding to this expression. In fact a programmer might not be considered too

111

1954

IBM 701 SPEEDCODING SYSTEM

unreasonable if he were willing only to produce the formulas for the numerical solution of his problem and perhaps a plan showing how the data was to be moved from one storage hierarchy to another and then demand that the machine produce the results for his problem. No doubt if he were too insistent next week about this sort of thing he would be subject to psychiatric observation. However, next year he might be taken more seriously.

