Deductive Program Verification with Why3

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CNRS

Digicosme Spring School
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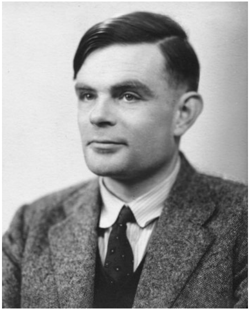
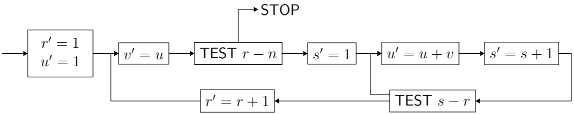
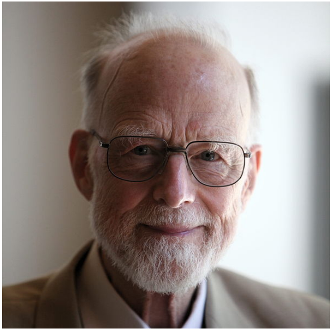
http://why3.lri.fr/digicosme-spring-school-2013/


program
+
specification
verification
conditions
proof



A. M. Turing. Checking a large routine. 1949.





Tony Hoare.
Proof of a program: FIND.
Commun. ACM, 1971.

	k	
$\leq v$	v	$\geq v$

programs

- pseudo code / mainstream languages / DSL
- small / large

specs

- safety, i.e. the program does not crash
- absence of arithmetic overflow
- complex behavioral property, e.g. “sorts an array”

- too rich: we won't be able to automate proofs
- too poor: we can't model programming languages and we can't specify programs

typically, a compromise

- e.g. first-order logic + equality + arithmetic

what about proofs?

a gift: theorem provers

- proof assistants: Coq, PVS, Isabelle, etc.
- TPTP provers: Vampire, Eprover, SPASS, etc.
- SMT solvers: CVC3, Z3, Yices, Alt-Ergo, etc.
- dedicated provers

a well-known technique: weakest preconditions
(Dijkstra 1971, Barnett/Leino 2005)

yet doing it for a realistic programming language is a lot of work

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(Dijkstra 1971, Barnett/Leino 2005)

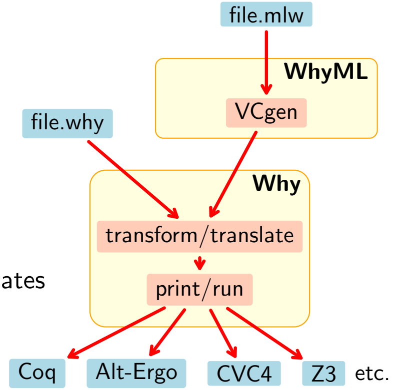
yet doing it for a realistic programming language is a lot of work

instead, we design an simpler language from which we extract VCs

two examples:

- Boogie (Microsoft Research)
- Why3 (Univ. Paris Sud / Inria)

- a programming language, WhyML
  - polymorphism
  - pattern-matching
  - exceptions
  - mutable data structures, with controlled aliasing
- a polymorphic first-order logic
  - algebraic data types
  - recursive definitions
  - inductive and coinductive predicates



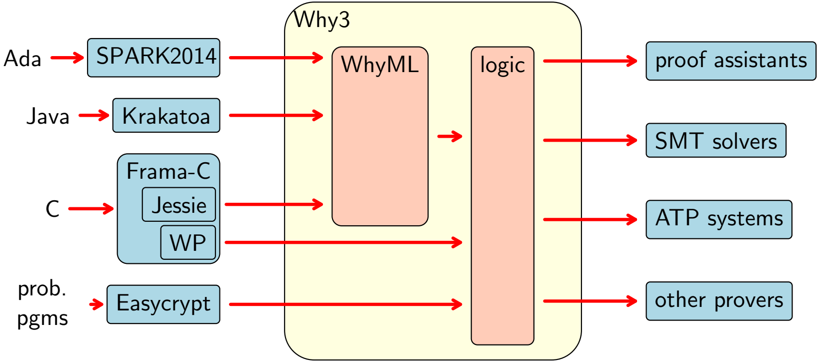
http://why3.lri.fr/

three different ways of using Why3

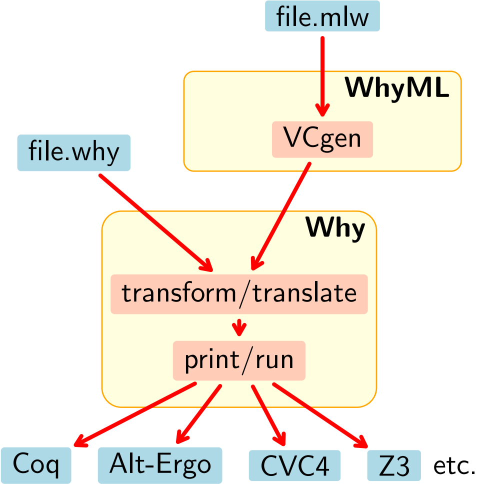
- as a logical language
  (a convenient front-end to many theorem provers)

- as a programming language to prove algorithms
  (many examples in our gallery)

- as an intermediate language,
  to verify programs written in C, Java, Ada, etc.


Why3
Ada
SPARK2014
Java
Krakatoa
C
Frama-C
Jessie
WP
prob.
pgms
Easycrypt
WhyML
logic
proof assistants
SMT solvers
ATP systems
other provers

Why3, bottom up



Part I

one logic to use them all

there are many theorem provers

- SMT solvers: Alt-Ergo, Z3, CVC3, Yices, etc.
- TPTP provers: Vampire, Eprover, SPASS, etc.
- proof assistants: Coq, PVS, Isabelle, etc.
- dedicated provers, e.g. Gappa

we want to use all of them if possible

we make a compromise

logic of Why3 = polymorphic first-order logic, with

- (mutually) recursive algebraic data types
- (mutually) recursive function/predicate symboles
- (mutually) inductive predicates
- let-in, match-with, if-then-else

formal definition in
Expressing Polymorphic Types in a Many-Sorted Language (FroCos 2011)
One Logic To Use Them All (CADE 2013)

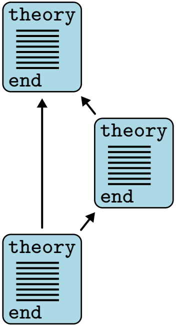
demo 1: the logic of Why3

- types
  - abstract: `type t`
  - alias: `type t = list int`
  - algebraic: `type list 'a = Nil | Cons 'a (list 'a)`
- function / predicate
  - uninterpreted: `function f int : int`
  - defined: `predicate non_empty (l: list 'a) = l <> Nil`
- inductive predicate
  - `inductive trans t t = ...`
- axiom / lemma / goal
  - `goal G: forall x: int. x >= 0 -> x*x >= 0`

logic declarations organized in theories

a theory T_1 can be

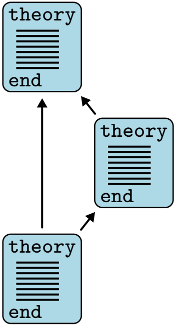
- used (`use`) in a theory T_2
- cloned (`clone`) in another theory T_2



logic declarations organized in theories

a theory T_1 can be

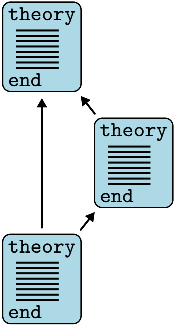
- used (`use`) in a theory T_2
    - symbols of T_1 are shared
    - axioms of T_1 remain axioms
    - lemmas of T_1 become axioms
    - goals of T_1 are ignored
- cloned (`clone`) in another theory T_2



logic declarations organized in theories

a theory T_1 can be

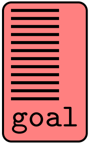
- used (`use`) in a theory T_2
- cloned (`clone`) in another theory T_2
  - declarations of T_1 are copied or substituted
  - axioms of T_1 remain axioms or become lemmas/goals
  - lemmas of T_1 become axioms
  - goals of T_1 are ignored

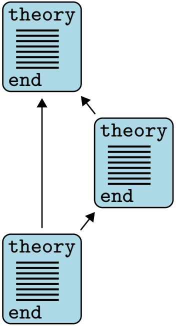


a technology to talk to provers

central concept: task

- a context (a list of declarations)
- a goal (a formula)

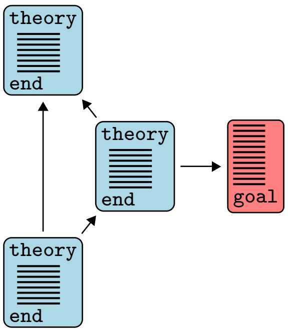




Alt-Ergo

Z3

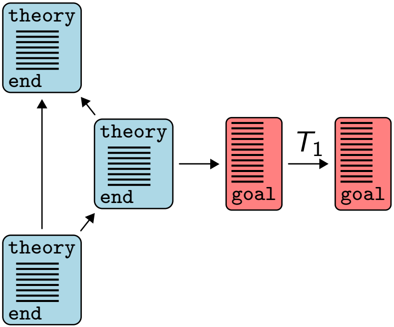
Vampire



Alt-Ergo

Z3

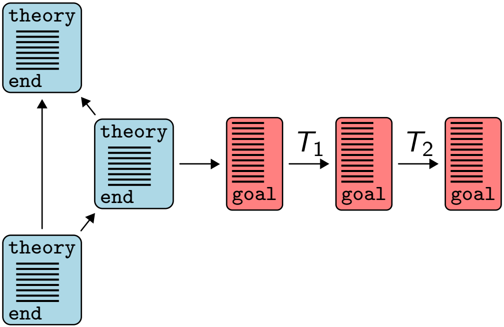
Vampire



Alt-Ergo

Z3

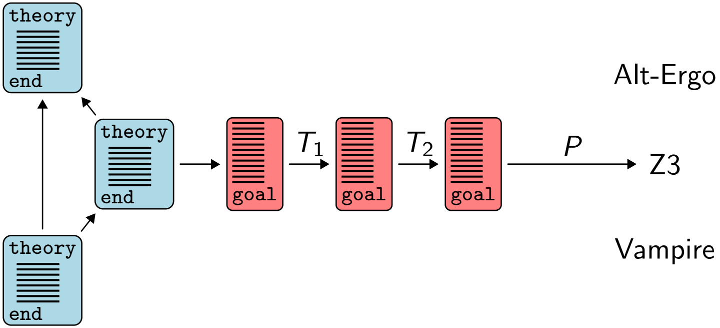
Vampire



Alt-Ergo

Z3

Vampire


theory
end
theory
end
theory
end
goal
T1
goal
T2
goal
P
Alt-Ergo
Z3
Vampire

- eliminate algebraic data types and match-with
- eliminate inductive predicates
- eliminate if-then-else, let-in
- encode polymorphism, encode types
- etc.

efficient: results of transformations are memoized a task journey is driven by a file

- transformations to apply
- prover's input format
  - syntax
  - predefined symbols / axioms
- prover's diagnostic messages

more details: *Why3: Shepherd your herd of provers* (Boogie 2011)

```
printer "smtv2"
valid "^unsat"
invalid "^sat"

transformation "inline_trivial"
transformation "eliminate_builtin"
transformation "eliminate_definition"
transformation "eliminate_inductive"
transformation "eliminate_algebraic"
transformation "simplify_formula"
transformation "discriminate"
transformation "encoding_smt"

prelude "(set-logic AUFNIRA)"

theory BuiltIn
   syntax type int "Int"
   syntax type real "Real"
   syntax predicate (=) "(= %1 %2)"

   meta "encoding : kept" type int
end
```

Why3 has an OCaml API

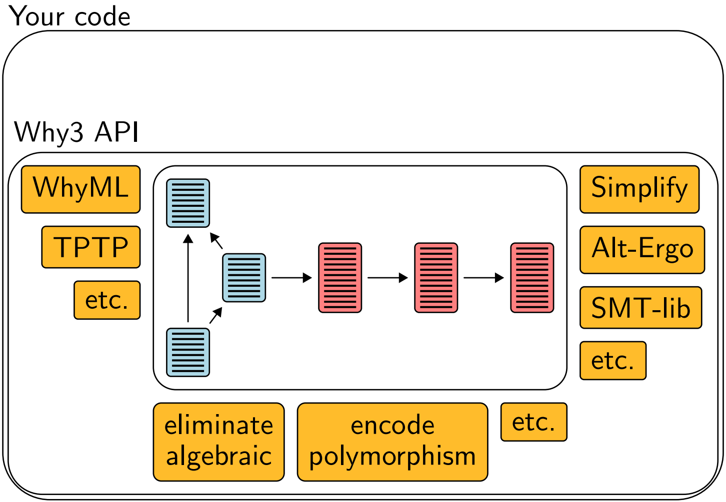
- to build terms, declarations, theories, tasks
- to call provers

defensive API

- well-typed terms
- well-formed declarations, theories, and tasks

Why3 can be extended via three kinds of plug-ins

- parsers (new input formats)
- transformations (to be used in drivers)
- printers (to add support for new provers)


Your code
Why3 API
WhyML
TPTP
etc.
Simplify
Alt-Ergo
SMT-lib
etc.
eliminate algebraic
encode polymorphism
etc.

- numerous theorem provers are supported
  - Coq, SMT, TPTP, Gappa
- user-extensible system
  - input languages
  - transformations
  - output syntax
- efficient
  - e.g. transformations are memoized

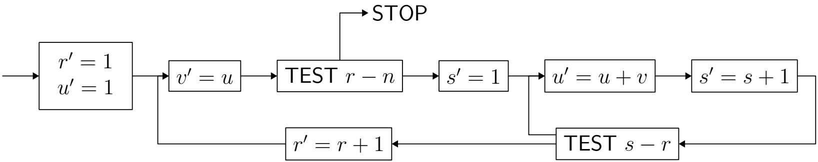
more details:

- *Why3: Shepherd your herd of provers.* (Boogie 2011)
- *Preserving User Proofs Across Specification Changes* (VSTTE 2013)

Part II

program verification

A. M. Turing. Checking a Large Routine. 1949.



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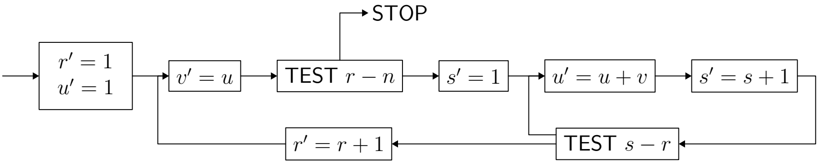


$u \leftarrow 1$
for $r = 0$ to $n - 1$ do
  $v \leftarrow u$
  for $s = 1$ to r do
    $u \leftarrow u + v$

demo (access code)

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} n - 10 & \text{si } n > 100, \\ f(f(n+11)) & \text{sinon.} \end{cases}$$

demo (access code)

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} n - 10 & \text{si } n > 100, \\ f(f(n+11)) & \text{sinon.} \end{cases}$$

demo (access code)

$e \leftarrow 1$
while $e > 0$ do
  if $n > 100$ then
    $n \leftarrow n - 10$
    $e \leftarrow e - 1$
  else
    $n \leftarrow n + 11$
    $e \leftarrow e + 1$
return n

demo (access code)

- pre/postcondition

```
let foo x y z
  requires { P } ensures { Q }
  = ...
```

- loop invariant

```
while  ...  do invariant { I } ... done

for i = ... do invariant { I(i) } ... done
```

termination of a loop (resp. a recursive function) is ensured by a variant

$$\texttt{variant}\ \{t\}\ \texttt{with}\ R$$

- R is a well-founded order relation
- t decreases for R at each step
  (resp. each recursive call)

by default, t is of type `int` and R is the relation

$$y \prec x \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} y < x \land 0 \leq x$$

remark

as show with function 91, proving termination may require to establish behavioral properties as well

another example:

- Floyd's cycle detection (Hare and Tortoise algorithm) up to now, we have only used integers

let us consider more complex data structures

- arrays
- algebraic data types

Why3 standard library provides arrays

```
use import array.Array
```

that is

- a polymorphic type

  ```
  array 'a
  ```

- an access operation, written

  ```
  a[e]
  ```

- an assignment operation, written

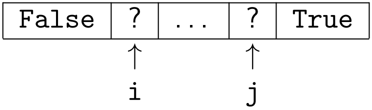
  ```
  a[e1] <- e2
  ```

- operations `create`, `append`, `sub`, `copy`, etc.

demo 4: two-way sort

sort an array of Boolean, using the following algorithm

```
let two_way_sort (a: array bool) =
  let i = ref 0 in
  let j = ref (length a - 1) in
  while !i < !j do
    if not a[!i] then
      incr i
    else if a[!j] then
      decr j
    else begin
      let tmp = a[!i] in
      a[!i] <- a[!j];
      a[!j] <- tmp;
      incr i;
      decr j
    end
  done
```



demo (access code)

an array contains elements of the following enumerated type

```
type color = Blue | White | Red
```

sort it, in such a way we have the following final situation:

... Blue ...	... White ...	... Red ...

```
let dutch_flag (a:array color) (n:int) =
  let b = ref 0 in
  let i = ref 0 in
  let r = ref n in
  while !i < !r do
     match a[!i] with
     | Blue ->
         swap a !b !i;
         incr b;
         incr i
     | White ->
         incr i
     | Red ->
         decr r;
         swap a !r !i
     end
  done
```

exercise: `exo_flag.mlw`

as for termination, proving safety (such as absence of array access our of bounds) may be arbitrarily difficult

an example:

- Knuth's algorithm for N first primes (TAOCP vol. 1) given a multiset of N votes

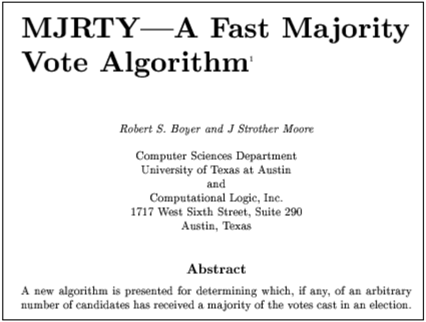
A	A	A	C	C	B	B	C	C	C	B	C	C

determine the majority, if any

due to Boyer & Moore (1980)

linear time

uses only three variables



MJRTY—A Fast Majority Vote Algorithm[1]

Robert S. Boyer and J Strother Moore

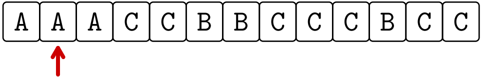
Computer Sciences Department
University of Texas at Austin
and
Computational Logic, Inc.
1717 West Sixth Street, Suite 290
Austin, Texas

Abstract

A new algorithm is presented for determining which, if any, of an arbitrary number of candidates has received a majority of the votes cast in an election.

A	A	A	C	C	B	B	C	C	C	B	C	C

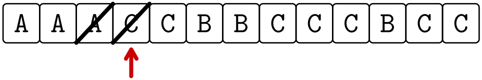
```
cand = A
k    = 1
```




```
cand = A
k    = 2
```

A	A	A	C	C	B	B	C	C	C	B	C	C

```
cand = A
k    = 3
```

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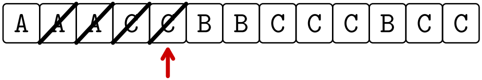


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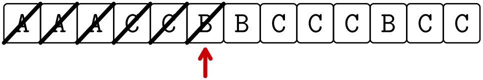
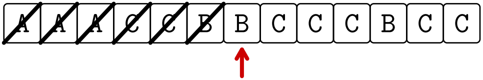
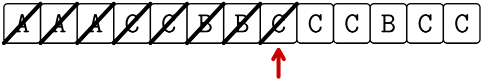


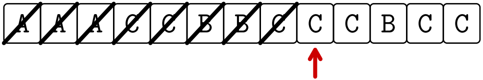

```
cand = A
k    = 0
```



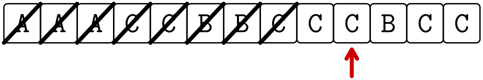

```
cand = B
k    = 1
```



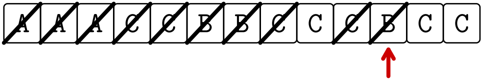

```
cand = B
k    = 0
```




```
cand = C
k    = 1
```




```
cand = C
k    = 2
```




```
cand = C
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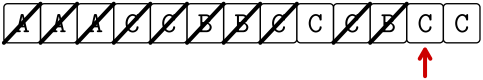


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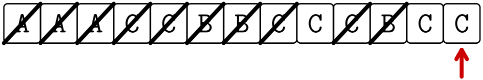


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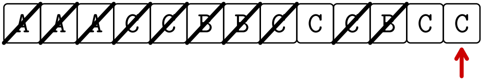



```
cand = C
k    = 3
```

then we check if `C` indeed has majority, with a second pass
(in that case, it has: $7 > 13/2$)

```
      SUBROUTINE MJRTY(A, N, BOOLE, CAND)
      INTEGER N
      INTEGER A
      LOGICAL BOOLE
      INTEGER CAND
      INTEGER I
      INTEGER K
      DIMENSION A(N)
      K = 0
C     THE FOLLOWING DO IMPLEMENTS THE PAIRING PHASE. CAND IS
C     THE CURRENTLY LEADING CANDIDATE AND K IS THE NUMBER OF
C     UNPAIRED VOTES FOR CAND.
      DO 100 I = 1, N
      IF ((K .EQ. 0)) GOTO 50
      IF ((CAND .EQ. A(I))) GOTO 75
      K = (K - 1)
      GOTO 100
50    CAND = A(I)
      K = 1
      GOTO 100
75    K = (K + 1)
100   CONTINUE
      IF ((K .EQ. 0)) GOTO 300
      BOOLE = .TRUE.
      IF ((K .GT. (N / 2))) RETURN
C     WE NOW ENTER THE COUNTING PHASE. BOOLE IS SET TO TRUE
C     IN ANTICIPATION OF FINDING CAND IN THE MAJORITY. K IS
C     USED AS THE RUNNING TALLY FOR CAND. WE EXIT AS SOON
C     AS K EXCEEDS N/2.
      K = 0
      DO 200 I = 1, N
      IF ((CAND .NE. A(I))) GOTO 200
      K = (K + 1)
      IF ((K .GT. (N / 2))) RETURN
200   CONTINUE
300   BOOLE = .FALSE.
      RETURN
      END
```

```
let mjrty (a: array candidate) =
  let n = length a in
  let cand = ref a[0] in let k = ref 0 in
  for i = 0 to n-1 do
    if !k = 0 then begin cand := a[i]; k := 1 end
    else if !cand = a[i] then incr k else decr k
  done;
  if !k = 0 then raise Not_found;
  try
    if 2 * !k > n then raise Found; k := 0;
    for i = 0 to n-1 do
      if a[i] = !cand then begin
        incr k; if 2 * !k > n then raise Found
      end
    done;
    raise Not_found
  with Found ->
    !cand
  end
```

demo (access code)

- precondition

```
let mjrty (a: array candidate)
  requires { 1 <= length a }
```

- postcondition in case of success

```
  ensures
    { 2 * numof a result 0 (length a) > length a }
```

- postcondition in case of failure

```
  raises { Not_found ->
    forall c: candidate.
         2 * numof a c 0 (length a) <= length a }
```

each loop is given a loop invariant

```
for i = 0 to n-1 do
  invariant { 0 <= !k <= i /\
    numof a !cand 0 i >= !k /\
    2 * (numof a !cand 0 i - !k) <= i - !k /\
    forall c: candidate.
      c <> !cand -> 2 * numof a c 0 i <= i - !k
  }
  ...

for i = 0 to n-1 do
  invariant { !k = numof a !cand 0 i /\ 2 * !k <= n }
  ...
```

the verification condition expresses

- safety
  - array access within bounds
  - termination

- validity of annotations
  - invariants are initialized and preserved
  - postconditions are established

automatically discharged by SMT solvers

may be inserted for the purpose of specification and/or proof

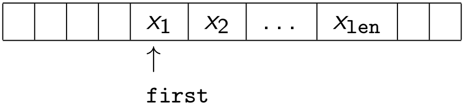
rules are:

- ghost code may read regular data (but can't modify it)
- ghost code cannot modify the control flow of regular code
- regular code does not see ghost data

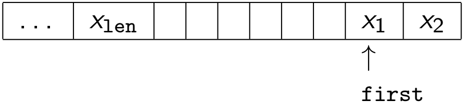
in particular, ghost code may be removed without observable modification a circular buffer is implemented within an array

```
type buffer 'a = {
  mutable first: int;
  mutable len  : int;
          data : array 'a;
}
```

`len` elements are stored, starting at index `first`



they may wrap around the array bounds



we add an extra ghost field to model the buffer contents

```
type buffer 'a = {
  mutable first: int;
  mutable len  : int;
          data : array 'a;
  ghost mutable sequence: list 'a;
}
```

ghost code is added to set this ghost field accordingly

example:

```
let push (b: buffer 'a) (x: 'a) : unit
  =
  ghost b.sequence <- b.sequence ++ Cons x Nil;
  let i = b.first + b.len in
  let n = Array.length b.data in
  b.data[if i >= n then i - n else i] <- x;
  b.len <- b.len + 1
```

we link the array contents and the ghost field with a type invariant

```
type buffer 'a =
  ...
invariant {
  let size = Array.length self.data in
  0 <= self.first < size /\
  0 <= self.len   <= size /\
  self.len = L.length self.sequence /\
  forall i: int. 0 <= i < self.len ->
    (self.first + i < size ->
       nth i self.sequence =
       Some self.data[self.first + i]) /\
    (0 <= self.first + i - size ->
       nth i self.sequence =
       Some self.data[self.first + i - size])
}
```

such a type invariant

- is assumed at function entry
- must be ensured for values returned or modified

alternatively, we could have introduced a logical function mapping the buffer to a list

```
function buffer_model (b: buffer 'a) : list 'a
(* + suitable axioms *)
```

but ghost code

- is more compact
- results in simpler proofs (it provides explicit witnesses)

a key idea of Hoare logic:

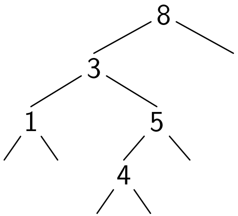
> *any types and symbols from the logic*
> *can be used in programs*

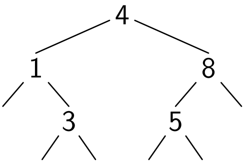
note: we already used type `int` this way we can do so with algebraic data types

in the library, we find

```
type bool = True | False                      (in bool.Bool)
type option 'a = None | Some 'a           (in option.Option)
type list 'a = Nil | Cons 'a (list 'a)      (in list.List)
```

given two binary trees,
do they contain the same elements when traversed in order?





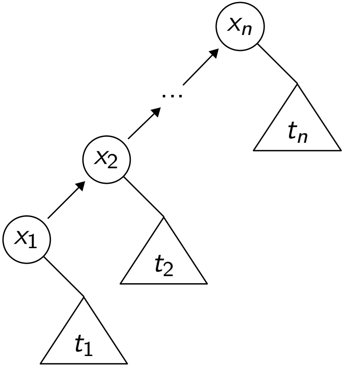
```
type elt

type tree =
  | Empty
  | Node tree elt tree

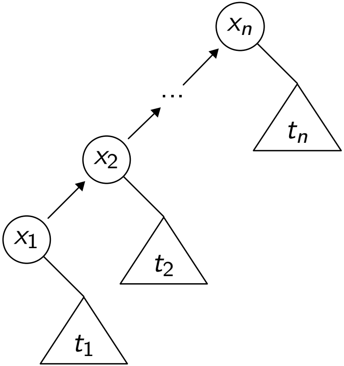
function elements (t: tree) : list elt = match t with
  | Empty -> Nil
  | Node l x r -> elements l ++ Cons x (elements r)
end

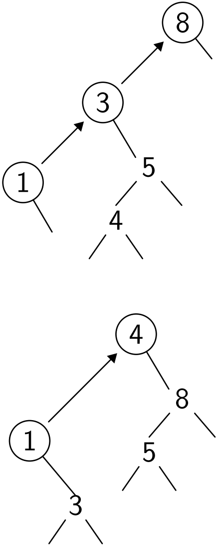
let same_fringe (t1 t2: tree) : bool
  ensures { result=True <-> elements t1 = elements t2 }
  =
  ...
```

one solution: look at the left branch as
a list, from bottom up



one solution: look at the left branch as a list, from bottom up





demo (access code)

```
type elt
type tree = Null | Node tree elt tree
```

inorder traversal of t, storing its elements in array a

```
let rec fill (t: tree) (a: array elt) (start: int) : int =
  match t with
  | Null ->
      start
  | Node l x r ->
      let res = fill l a start in
      if res <> length a then begin
        a[res] <- x;
        fill r a (res + 1)
      end else
        res
   end
```

exercise: exo_fill.mlw

Part III

controlled aliasing

only one kind of mutable data structure:
records with mutable fields

for instance, references are defined this way

```
type ref 'a = { mutable contents : 'a }
```

and `ref`, `!`, and `:=` are regular functions similarly, the library introduces arrays as follows:

```
type array 'a model { length: int; mutable elts: map int 'a }
```

keyword `model` instead of = makes a distinction

- in programs, `array 'a` is an abstract data type
- in the logic, `array 'a` is a (immutable) record type

one cannot define operations over type `array 'a`
(it is abstract) but one may declare them

examples:

```
val ([]) (a: array 'a) (i: int) : 'a
  requires { 0 <= i < length a }
  ensures  { result = a[i] }

val ([]<-) (a: array 'a) (i: int) (v: 'a) : unit
  requires { 0 <= i < length a }
  writes   { a.elts }
  ensures  { a.elts = M.set (old a.elts) i v }
```

mutable data structures can be nested

example: hash tables

```
type t 'a = {
  mutable size: int;
  mutable data: array (list (key, 'a));
}
```

field `data` is mutable to allow resizing but WhyML imposes a static control of aliasing

why? to get simpler verification conditions

how? using regions (internally)

consider hash tables again

```
type t 'a = {
  mutable size: int;
  mutable data: array (list (key, 'a));
}
```

a function `resize` (called from `add`) enlarges the bucket array

```
let resize (h: t 'a) : unit
  writes { h.data }
=
  let nsize = 2 * Array.length h.data + 1 in
  let ndata = Array.make nsize Nil in
  ... rehash all values ...
  h.data <- ndata
```

then the following code is rejected

```
let alias (h: t int) (k: key) : unit =
  let old_data = h.data in
  add h k 42;
  old_data[0] <- Nil
```

with error

```
This expression prohibits further usage
of variable old_data
```

indeed, `add` may call `resize`, and thus may invalidate `old_data`

more details:
Why3 — Where Program Meet Provers (ESOP 2013)

to use Why3 to verify programs with aliasing,
you have to come up with a memory model

```
type loc
type value = ...
type state = map loc value
...
```

this is what is done for C, Java, Ada, etc.

consider for instance C programs with pointers of type `int*`

a possible model is

```
type loc
val memory: ref (map loc int)
```

the C expression

```
*p
```

is translated into the Why3 expression

```
!memory[p]
```

there are more subtle models
such as the *component-as-array* model (Burstall / Bornat)

each structure field is modeled as a separate map

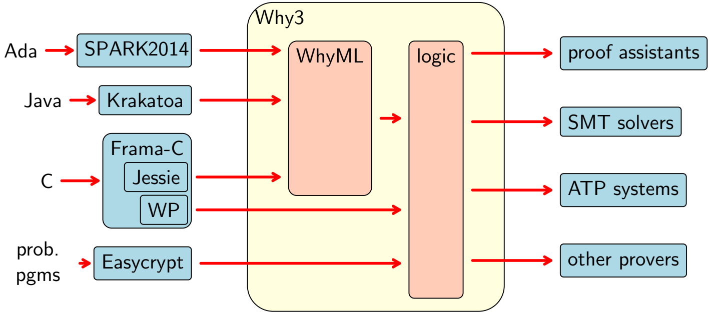
the C type

```
struct List {
  int          head;
  struct List *next;
};
```

is modeled as

```
type loc
val head: ref (map loc int)
val next: ref (map loc loc)
```

such models are used in tools for C, Java, and Ada



conclusion

we saw three different ways of using Why3

- as a logical language
  (a convenient front-end to many theorem provers)

- as a programming language to prove algorithms
  (currently 78 examples in our gallery)

- as an intermediate language
  (for the verification of C, Java, Ada, etc.)

things not covered in this lecture

- how aliases are excluded
- how verification conditions are computed
- how formulas are sent to provers
- how floating-point arithmetic is modeled
- etc.

see `http://why3.lri.fr` for more details