Activity Report 2015

Project-Team TOCCATA

Formally Verified Programs, Certified Tools, Numerical Computations

IN COLLABORATION WITH: Laboratoire de recherche en informatique (LRI)
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Project-Team TOCCATA

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**Computer Science and Digital Science:**
- 2.1.3. - Functional programming
- 2.1.6. - Concurrent programming
- 2.4.2. - Verification
- 2.4.3. - Proofs
- 7.12. - Computer arithmetic
- 7.4. - Logic in Computer Science

**Other Research Topics and Application Domains:**
- 5.2.2. - Railway
- 5.2.3. - Aviation
- 5.2.4. - Aerospace

The Toccata team (http://toccata.lri.fr/) is a research team common to Inria Saclay–Île-de-France, CNRS, and Université Paris-Sud. Team members are also members of the larger VALS research group (Verification of Algorithms, Languages and systems; http://vals.lri.fr/) of the LRI (Laboratoire de Recherche en Informatique, UMR 8623).

1. Members

**Research Scientists**
- Claude Marché [Team leader, Inria, Senior Researcher, HdR]
- Sylvie Boldo [Inria, Researcher, HdR]
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2. Overall Objectives

2.1. Overall Objectives

The general objective of the Toccata project is to promote formal specification and computer-assisted proof in the development of software that requires high assurance in terms of safety and correctness with respect to the intended behavior of the software.

2.1.1. Context

The importance of software in critical systems increased a lot in the last decade. Critical software appears in various application domains like transportation (e.g., aviation, railway), communication (e.g., smartphones), banking, etc. The number of tasks performed by software is quickly increasing, together with the number of lines of code involved. Given the need of high assurance of safety in the functional behavior of such applications, the need for automated (i.e., computer-assisted) methods and techniques to bring guarantee of safety became a major challenge. In the past and at present, the most widely used approach to check safety of software is to apply heavy test campaigns. These campaigns take a large part of the costs of software development, yet they cannot ensure that all the bugs are caught.

Generally speaking, software verification approaches pursue three goals: (1) verification should be sound, in the sense that no bugs should be missed, (2) verification should not produce false alarms, or as few as possible (3) it should be as automated as possible. Reaching all three goals at the same time is a challenge. A large class of approaches emphasizes goals (2) and (3): testing, run-time verification, symbolic execution, model checking, etc. Static analysis, such as abstract interpretation, emphasizes goals (1) and (3). Deductive verification emphasizes (1) and (2). The Toccata project is mainly interested in exploring the deductive verification approach, although we also consider the others in some cases.

In the past decade, there has been significant progress made in the domain of deductive program verification. They are emphasized by some success stories of application of these techniques on industrial-scale software. For example, the Atelier B system was used to develop part of the embedded software of the Paris metro line 14 [41] and other railroad-related systems; a formally proved C compiler was developed using the Coq proof assistant [96]; Microsoft’s hypervisor for highly secure virtualization was verified using VCC [75] and the Z3 prover [114]; the L4-verified project developed a formally verified micro-kernel with high security guarantees, using analysis tools on top of the Isabelle/HOL proof assistant [92]. Another sign of recent progress is the emergence of deductive verification competitions (e.g., VerifyThis [12], VScomp [86]).

Finally, recent trends in the industrial practice for development of critical software is to require more and more guarantees of safety, e.g., the upcoming DO-178C standard for developing avionics software adds to the former DO-178B the use of formal models and formal methods. It also emphasizes the need for certification of the analysis tools involved in the process.
2.1.2. Deductive verification

There are two main families of approaches for deductive verification. Methods in the first family build on top of mathematical proof assistants (e.g., Coq, Isabelle) in which both the model and the program are encoded; the proof that the program meets its specification is typically conducted in an interactive way using the underlying proof construction engine. Methods from the second family proceed by the design of standalone tools taking as input a program in a particular programming language (e.g., C, Java) specified with a dedicated annotation language (e.g., ACSL [40], JML [59]) and automatically producing a set of mathematical formulas (the verification conditions) which are typically proved using automatic provers (e.g., Z3, Alt-Ergo [42], CVC3 [39], CVC4).

The first family of approaches usually offers a higher level of assurance than the second, but also demands more work to perform the proofs (because of their interactive nature) and makes them less easy to adopt by industry. Moreover, they do not allow to directly analyze a program written in a mainstream programming language like Java or C. The second kind of approaches has benefited in the past years from the tremendous progress made in SAT and SMT solving techniques, allowing more impact on industrial practices, but suffers from a lower level of trust: in all parts of the proof chain (the model of the input programming language, the VC generator, the back-end automatic prover), potential errors may appear, compromising the guarantee offered. Moreover, while these approaches are applied to mainstream languages, they usually support only a subset of their features.

3. Research Program

3.1. Introduction

In the former ProVal project, we have been working on the design of methods and tools for deductive verification of programs. One of our original skills was the ability to conduct proofs by using automatic provers and proof assistants at the same time, depending on the difficulty of the program, and specifically the difficulty of each particular verification condition. We thus believe that we are in a good position to propose a bridge between the two families of approaches of deductive verification presented above. Establishing this bridge is one of the goals of the Toccata project: we want to provide methods and tools for deductive program verification that can offer both a high amount of proof automation and a high guarantee of validity. Toward this objective, a new axis of research was proposed: the development of certified analysis tools that are themselves formally proved correct.

The reader should be aware that the word “certified” in this scientific programme means “verified by a formal specification and a formal proof that the program meets this specification”. This differs from the standard meaning of “certified” in an industrial context where it means a conformance to some rigorous process and/or norm. We believe this is the right term to use, as it was used for the Certified Compiler project [96], the new conference series Certified Programs and Proofs, and more generally the important topics of proof certificates.

In industrial applications, numerical calculations are very common (e.g. control software in transportation). Typically they involve floating-point numbers. Some of the members of Toccata have an internationally recognized expertise on deductive program verification involving floating-point computations. Our past work includes a new approach for proving behavioral properties of numerical C programs using Frama-C/Jessie [37], various examples of applications of that approach [56], the use of the Gappa solver for proving numerical algorithms [113], an approach to take architectures and compilers into account when dealing with floating-point programs [57], [107]. We also contributed to the Handbook of Floating-Point Arithmetic [105]. A representative case study is the analysis and the proof of both the method error and the rounding error of a numerical analysis program solving the one-dimension acoustic wave equation [5] [50]. Our experience led us to a conclusion that verification of numerical programs can benefit a lot from combining automatic and interactive theorem proving [52], [56]. Certification of numerical programs is the other main axis of Toccata.
Our scientific programme in structured into four objectives:

1. deductive program verification;
2. automated reasoning;
3. formalization and certification of languages, tools and systems;
4. proof of numerical programs.

We detail these objectives below.

3.2. Deductive Program Verification

Permanent researchers: A. Charguéraud, S. Conchon, J.-C. Filliâtre, C. Marché, G. Melquiond, A. Paskevich
• The initial design of Why3 was presented in 2012 [45], [85]. In the past years, the main improvements concern the specification language (such as support for higher-order logic functions [63]) and the support for provers. Several new interactive provers are now supported: PVS 6 (used at NASA), Isabelle2014 (planned to be used in the context of Ada program via Spark), and Mathematica. We also added support for new automated provers: CVC4, Metitarski, Metis, Beagle, Princess, and Yices2. More technical improvements are the design of a Coq tactic to call provers via Why3 from Coq, and the design of a proof session mechanism [44]. Why3 was presented during several invited talks [84], [83], [80], [81].

• J.-C. Filliâtre, L. Gondelman, and A. Paskevich have designed a general approach to the concept of ghost code [9] which is a subset of program code that serves the purposes of specification and verification: it can be erased from the program without affecting its result. This work forms the basis of the support for ghost code in Why3.

• At the level of the C front-end of Why3 (via Frama-C), we have proposed an approach to add a notion of refinement on C programs [112], and an approach to reason about pointer programs with a standard logic, via separation predicates [43].

• The Ada front-end of Why3 has mainly been developed during the past three years, leading to the release of SPARK2014 [91] (http://www.spark-2014.org/)

• In collaboration with J. Almeida, M. Barbosa, J. Pinto, and B. Vieira (University do Minho, Braga, Portugal), J.-C. Filliâtre has developed a method for certifying programs involving cryptographic methods. It uses Why as an intermediate language [36].

• With M. Pereira and S. Melo de Sousa (Universidade da Beira Interior, Covilhã, Portugal), J.-C. Filliâtre has developed an environment for proving ARM assembly code. It uses Why3 as an intermediate VC generator. It was presented at the Inforum conference [110] (best student paper).

3.2.2. Analysis of Complexity

• A. Charguéraud has recently extended his tool CFML [61] to support, in addition to the verification of the full functional correctness of a piece of code, the verification of the asymptotic complexity of the code [24]. Even though it had been previously established that, in theory, amortized analysis can be explained as the manipulation of time credits, and that time credits can be encoded as resources in Separation Logic, CFML is the first practical tool to support the formal verification of amortized analyses for arbitrarily complex pieces of code.

3.2.3. Concurrent Programming

• S. Conchon and A. Mebsout, in collaboration with F. Zaïdi (VALS team, LRI), A. Goel and S. Krstić (Strategic Cad Labs, INTEL) have proposed a new model-checking approach for verifying safety properties of array-based systems. This is a syntactically restricted class of parametrized transition systems with states represented as arrays indexed by an arbitrary number of processes. Cache coherence protocols and mutual exclusion algorithms are typical examples of such systems. It was first presented at CAV 2012 [8] and detailed further [72]. It was applied to the verification of programs with fences [68]. The core algorithm has been extended with a mechanism for inferring invariants. This new algorithm, called BRAB, is able to automatically infer invariants strong enough to prove industrial cache coherence protocols. BRAB computes over-approximations of backward reachable states that are checked to be unreachable in a finite instance of the system. These approximations (candidate invariants) are then model-checked together with the original safety properties. Completeness of the approach is ensured by a mechanism for backtracking on spurious traces introduced by too coarse approximations [69], [101].

• In the context of the ERC DeepSea project 1, A. Charguéraud and his co-authors have developed a load balancing algorithm that implements the work stealing scheme using private deques [34].

1Arthur Charguéraud is involved 40% of his time in the ERC DeepSea project, which is hosted at Inria Paris Rocquencourt (team Gallium).
They have shown this algorithm to be implementable even without atomic operations on x86-TSO architectures, and established (on paper) the correctness of the algorithm using a novel proof technique [33]. They have also developed a chunked sequence data structure [35] that supports logarithmic concatenation and splitting, motivated by application to parallelism. In particular, A. Charguéraud and his co-authors have built, on top of the aforementioned work, fast and robust parallel graph traversal algorithms for parallel BFS and parallel DFS [20], [29].

3.2.4. Case Studies

- To provide an easy access to the case studies that we develop using Why3 and its front-ends, we have published a gallery of verified programs on our web page http://toccata.lri.fr/gallery/. Part of these examples are the solutions to the competitions VerifyThis 2011 [58], VerifyThis 2012 [12], and the competition V$\$comp 2011 [86].
- Other case studies that led to publications are the design of a library of data-structures based on AVLs [62], and the verification a two-lines C program (solving the N-queens puzzle) using Why3 [82].
- A. Charguéraud put the new time credit extension of CFML to practice to verify the correctness and asymptotic complexity of a chunked sequence data structure [35], particularly challenging due to its use of Tarjan’s data structural bootstrapping technique. Furthermore, A. Charguéraud and F. Pottier applied they same approach to formalize an efficient implementation of the classic Union Find data structure, which features the bound expressed in terms of the inverse Ackermann function [24].

For other case studies, see also sections of numerical programs and formalization of languages and tools.

3.2.5. Project-team Positioning

Several research groups in the world develop their own approaches, techniques, and tools for deductive verification. With respect to all these related approaches and tools, our originality is our will to use more sophisticated specification languages (with inductive definitions, higher-order features and such) and the ability to use a large set of various theorem provers, including the use of interactive theorem proving to deal with complex functional properties.

- The RiSE team 2 at Microsoft Research Redmond, USA, partly in collaboration with team “programming methodology” team 3 at ETH Zurich develop tools that are closely related to ours: Boogie and Dafny are direct competitors of Why3, VCC is a direct competitor of Frama-C/Jessie.
- The KeY project 4 (several teams, mainly at Karlsruhe and Darmstadt, Germany, and Göteborg, Sweden) develops the KeY tool for Java program verification [32], based on dynamic logic, and has several industrial users. They use a specific modal logic (dynamic logic) for modeling programs, whereas we use standard logic, so as to be able to use off-the-shelf automated provers.
- The “software engineering” group at Augsburg, Germany, develops the KIV system 5, which was created more than 20 years ago (1992) and is still well maintained and efficient. It provides a semi-interactive proof environment based on algebraic-style specifications, and is able to deal with several kinds of imperative style programs. They have a significant industrial impact.
- The VeriFast system 6 aims at verifying C programs specified in Separation Logic. It is developed at the Katholic University at Leuven, Belgium. We do not usually use separation logic (so as to use off-the-shelf provers) but alternative approaches (e.g. static memory separation analysis).
- The Mobius Program Verification Environment 7 is a joint effort for the verification of Java source annotated with JML, combining static analysis and runtime checking. The tool ESC/Java2 8 is a VC

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2http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/groups/rise/default.aspx
3http://www.pm.inf.ethz.ch/
4http://www.key-project.org/
5http://www.isse.uni-augsburg.de/en/software/kiv/
6http://people.cs.kuleuven.be/~bart.jacobs/verifast/
7http://kindsoftware.com/products/opensource/Mobius/
8http://kindsoftware.com/products/opensource/ESCJava2/
generator similar to Krakatoa, that builds on top of Boogie. It is developed by a community leded by University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Again, our specificity with respect to them is the consideration of more complex specification languages and interactive theorem proving.

- The Lab for Automated Reasoning and Analysis at EPFL, develop methods and tools for verification of Java (Jahob) and Scala (Leon) programs. They share with us the will and the ability to use several provers at the same time.
- The TLA environment, developed by Microsoft Research and the Inria team Veridis, aims at the verification of concurrent programs using mathematical specifications, model checking, and interactive or automated theorem proving.
- The F* project, developed by Microsoft Research and the Inria Prosecco team, aims at providing a rich environment for developing programs and proving them.

The KeY and KIV environments mentioned above are partly based on interactive theorem provers. There are other approaches on top of general-purpose proof assistants for proving programs that are not purely functional:

- The Ynot project is a Coq library for writing imperative programs specified in separation logic. It was developed at Harvard University, until the end of the project in 2010. Ynot had similar goals as CFML, although Ynot requires programs to be written in monadic style inside Coq, whereas CFML applies directly on programs written in OCaml syntax, translating them into logical formulae.
- Front-ends to Isabelle were developed to deal with simple sequential imperative programs or C programs. The L4-verified project is built on top of Isabelle.

### 3.3. Automated Reasoning

Permanent researchers: S. Conchon, É. Contejean, G. Melquiond, A. Paskevich

#### 3.3.1. Generalities on Automated Reasoning

- J. C. Blanchette and A. Paskevich have designed an extension to the TPTP TFF (Typed First-order Form) format of theorem proving problems to support rank-1 polymorphic types (also known as ML-style parametric polymorphism) [2]. This extension, named TFF1, has been incorporated in the TPTP standard.
- S. Conchon defended his habilitation à diriger des recherches in December 2012. The memoir provides a useful survey of the scientific work of the past 10 years, around the SMT solving techniques, that led to the tools Alt-Ergo and Cubicle as they are nowadays.
- É. Contejean defended her habilitation à diriger des recherches in June 2014, where she examined the field of deduction from multiple points of view: theoretical and practical, automated, as well as interactive.

#### 3.3.2. Quantifiers and Triggers

- C. Dross, J. Kanig, S. Conchon, and A. Paskevich have proposed a generic framework for adding a decision procedure for a theory or a combination of theories to an SMT prover. This mechanism is based on the notion of instantiation patterns, or triggers, which restrict instantiation of universal premises and can effectively prevent a combinatorial explosion. A user provides an axiomatization with triggers, along with a proof of completeness and termination in the proposed framework, and obtains in return a sound, complete and terminating solver for his theory. A prototype implementation was realized on top of Alt-Ergo. As a case study, a feature-rich axiomatization of doubly-linked lists was proved complete and terminating [78]. C. Dross defended her PhD thesis in April 2014 [79]. The main results of the thesis are: (1) a formal semantics of the notion of triggers typically used

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9[http://lara.epfl.ch/w/](http://lara.epfl.ch/w/)
to control quantifier instantiation in SMT solvers, (2) a general setting to show how a first-order axiomatization with triggers can be proved correct, complete, and terminating, and (3) an extended DPLL(T) algorithm to integrate a first-order axiomatization with triggers as a decision procedure for the theory it defines. Significant case studies were conducted on examples coming from SPARK programs, and on the benchmarks on B set theory constructed within the BWare project.

### 3.3.3. Reasoning Modulo Theories

- S. Conchon, É. Contejean and M. Iguernelala have presented a modular extension of ground AC-completion for deciding formulas in the combination of the theory of equality with user-defined AC symbols, uninterpreted symbols and an arbitrary signature-disjoint Shostak theory $X$ [67]. This work extends the results presented in [66] by showing that a simple preprocessing step allows to get rid of a full AC-compatible reduction ordering, and to simply use a partial multiset extension of a non-necessarily AC-compatible ordering.
- S. Conchon, M. Iguernelala, and A. Mebsout have designed a collaborative framework for reasoning modulo simple properties of non-linear arithmetic [71]. This framework has been implemented in the Alt-Ergo SMT solver.
- S. Conchon, G. Melquiond and C. Roux have described a dedicated procedure for a theory of floating-point numbers which allows reasoning on approximation errors. This procedure is based on the approach of the Gappa tool: it performs saturation of consequences of the axioms, in order to refine bounds on expressions. In addition to the original approach, bounds are further refined by a constraint solver for linear arithmetic [73]. This procedure has been implemented in Alt-Ergo.
- In collaboration with A. Mahboubi (Inria project-team Typical), and G. Melquiond, the group involved in the development of Alt-Ergo have implemented and proved the correctness of a novel decision procedure for quantifier-free linear integer arithmetic [3]. This algorithm tries to bridge the gap between projection and branching/cutting methods: it interleaves an exhaustive search for a model with bounds inference. These bounds are computed provided an oracle capable of finding constant positive linear combinations of affine forms. An efficient oracle based on the Simplex procedure has been designed. This algorithm is proved sound, complete, and terminating and is implemented in Alt-Ergo.
- Most of the results above are detailed in M. Iguernelala’s PhD thesis [89].

### 3.3.4. Applications

- We have been quite successful in the application of Alt-Ergo to industrial development: qualification by Airbus France, integration of Alt-Ergo into the Spark Pro toolset.
- In the context of the BWare project, aiming at using Why3 and Alt-Ergo for discharging proof obligations generated by Atelier B, we made progress into several directions. The method of translation of B proof obligations into Why3 goals was first presented at ABZ’2012 [104]. Then, new drivers have been designed for Why3, in order to use new back-end provers Zenon modulo and iProver modulo. A notion of rewrite rule was introduced into Why3, and a transformation for simplifying goals before sending them to back-end provers was designed. Intermediate results obtained so far in the project were presented both at the French conference AFADL [77] and at ABZ’2014 [76].

On the side of Alt-Ergo, recent developments have been made to efficiently discharge proof obligations generated by Atelier B. This includes a new plugin architecture to facilitate experiments with different SAT engines, new heuristics to handle quantified formulas, and important modifications in its internal data structures to boost performances of core decision procedures. Benchmarks realized on more than 10,000 proof obligations generated from industrial B projects show significant improvements [70].
- Hybrid automaton interleaves continuous behaviors (described by differential equations) with discrete transitions. D. Ishii and G. Melquiond have worked on an automated procedure for verifying safety properties (that is, global invariants) of such systems [90].
3.3.5. Project-team Positioning

Automated Theorem Proving is a large community, but several sub-groups can be identified:

- The SMT-LIB community gathers people interested in reasoning modulo theories. In this community, only a minority of participants are interested in supporting first-order quantifiers at the same time as theories. SMT solvers that support quantifiers are Z3 (Microsoft Research Redmond, USA), CVC3 and its successor CVC4 13.

- The TPTP community gathers people interested in first-order theorem proving.

- Other Inria teams develop provers: veriT by team Veridis, and Psyche by team Parsifal.

- Other groups develop provers dedicated to very specific cases, such as Metitarski 14 at Cambridge, UK, which aims at proving formulas on real numbers, in particular involving special functions such as log or exp. The goal is somewhat similar to our CoqInterval library, cf objective 4.

It should be noticed that a large number of provers mentioned above are connected to Why3 as back-ends.

3.4. Formalization and Certification of Languages, Tools and Systems

Permanent researchers: S. Boldo, A. Charguéraud, É. Contejean, C. Marché, G. Melquiond, C. Paulin

3.4.1. Real Numbers, Real Analysis, Probabilities

- S. Boldo, C. Lelay, and G. Melquiond have worked on the Coquelicot library, designed to be a user-friendly Coq library about real analysis 54][14]. An easier way of writing formulas and theorem statements is achieved by relying on total functions in place of dependent types for limits, derivatives, integrals, power series, and so on. To help with the proof process, the library comes with a comprehensive set of theorems and some automation. We have exercised the library on several use cases: on an exam at university entry level [94], for the definitions and properties of Bessel functions [93], and for the solution of the one-dimensional wave equation [95]. We have also conducted a survey on the formalization of real arithmetic and real analysis in various proof systems [55].

- Watermarking techniques are used to help identify copies of publicly released information. They consist in applying a slight and secret modification to the data before its release, in a way that should remain recognizable even in (reasonably) modified copies of the data. Using the Coq ALEA library, which formalizes probability theory and probabilistic programs, D. Baelde together with P. Courtieu, D. Gross-Amblard from Rennes and C. Paulin have established new results about the robustness of watermarking schemes against arbitrary attackers [38]. The technique for proving robustness is adapted from methods commonly used for cryptographic protocols and our work illustrates the strengths and particularities of the ALEA style of reasoning about probabilistic programs.

3.4.2. Formalization of Languages, Semantics

- P. Herms, together with C. Marché and B. Monate (CEA List), has developed a certified VC generator, using Coq. The program for VC calculus and its specifications are both written in Coq, but the code is crafted so that it can be extracted automatically into a stand-alone executable. It is also designed in a way that allows the use of arbitrary first-order theorem provers to discharge the generated obligations [88]. On top of this generic VC generator, P. Herms developed a certified VC generator for C source code annotated using ACSL. This work is the main result of his PhD thesis [87].

- A. Tafat and C. Marché have developed a certified VC generator using Why3 [97], [98]. The challenge was to formalize the operational semantics of an imperative language, and a corresponding weakest precondition calculus, without the possibility to use Coq advanced features such as dependent types or higher-order functions. The classical issues with local bindings, names and substitutions were solved by identifying appropriate lemmas. It was shown that Why3 can offer a significantly higher amount of proof automation compared to Coq.
• The full formalization of the JavaScript language specification, following the prose from the *ECMAScript Language Specification, version 5*, has been completed by the *JsCert* team [46], which includes A. Charguéraud from Toccata and 7 collaborators from Imperial College and Inria Rennes. For describing the 600+ evaluation rules, we have relied on a novel technique: the *pretty-big-step* semantics, which was developed by A. Charguéraud [7]. The formalization led to the discovery of bugs in the official standard, in the official test suites, and in all major browsers. It has raised the interest of several members of the ECMAScript standardization committee, and that of the developers of secure subsets for JavaScript.

• M. Clochard, C. Marché, and A. Paskevich have developed a general setting for developing programs involving binders, using Why3. This approach was successfully validated on two case studies: a verified implementation of untyped lambda-calculus and a verified tableaux-based theorem prover [64].

• M. Clochard, J.-C. Filliâtre, C. Marché, and A. Paskevich have developed a case study on the formalization of semantics of programming languages using Why3 [63]. This case study aims at illustrating recent improvements of Why3 regarding the support for higher-order logic features in the input logic of Why3, and how these are encoded into first-order logic, so that goals can be discharged by automated provers. This case study also illustrates how reasoning by induction can be done without need for interactive proofs, via the use of *lemma functions*.

• M. Clochard and L. Gondelman have developed a formalization of a simple compiler in Why3 [25]. It compiles a simple imperative language into assembler instructions for a stack machine. This case study was inspired by a similar example developed using Coq and interactive theorem proving. The aim is to improve significantly the degree of automation in the proofs. This is achieved by the formalization of a Hoare logic and a Weakest Precondition Calculus on assembly programs, so that the correctness of compilation is seen as a formal specification of the assembly instructions generated.

• S. Dumbrava and É. Contejean, with V. Benzaken (VALS team, at LRI) have proposed a *Coq* formalization of the relational data model which underlies relational database systems. More precisely, we have presented and formalized the data definition part of the model including integrity constraints. We have also modeled two different query language formalisms: relational algebra and conjunctive queries. Finally, we have presented logical query optimization and proved the main “database theorems”: algebraic equivalences, the homomorphism theorem and conjunctive query minimization [1].

### 3.4.3. Project-team Positioning

The objective of formalizing languages and algorithms is very general, and it is pursued by several Inria teams. One common trait is the use of the Coq proof assistant for this purpose: Pi.r2 (development of Coq itself and its meta-theory), Gallium (semantics and compilers of programming languages), Marelle (formalization of mathematics), SpecFun (real arithmetic), Celtique (formalization of static analyzers).

Other environments for the formalization of languages include

• ACL2 system [15]: an environment for writing programs with formal specifications in first-order logic based on a Lisp engine. The proofs are conducted using a prover based on the Boyer-Moore approach. It is a rather old system but still actively maintained and powerful, developed at University of Texas at Austin. It has a strong industrial impact.

• Isabelle environment [16]; both a proof assistant and an environment for developing pure applicative programs. It is developed jointly at University of Cambridge, UK, Technische Universität München, Germany, and to some extent by the VALS team at LRI, Université Paris-Sud. It features highly automated tactics based on ATP systems (the Sledgehammer tool).


16 [http://isabelle.in.tum.de/](http://isabelle.in.tum.de/)
The team “Trustworthy Systems” at NICTA in Australia aims at developing highly trustable software applications. They developed a formally verified micro-kernel called seL4 [92], using a home-made layer to deal with C programs on top of the Isabelle prover.

The PVS system is an environment for both programming and proving (purely applicative) programs. It is developed at the Computer Science Laboratory of SRI international, California, USA. A major user of PVS is the team LFM at NASA Langley, USA, for the certification of programs related to air traffic control.

In the Toccata team, we do not see these alternative environments as competitors, even though, for historical reasons, we are mainly using Coq. Indeed both Isabelle and PVS are available as back-ends of Why3.

3.5. Proof of Numerical Programs

Permanent researchers: S. Boldo, C. Marché, G. Melquiond

• Linked with objective 1 (Deductive Program Verification), the methodology for proving numerical C programs has been presented by S. Boldo in her habilitation [48] and as invited speaker [49]. An application is the formal verification of a numerical analysis program. S. Boldo, J.-C. Filliâtre, and G. Melquiond, with F. Clément and P. Weis (POMDAPI team, Inria Paris - Rocquencourt), and M. Mayero (LIPN), completed the formal proof of the second-order centered finite-difference scheme for the one-dimensional acoustic wave [51].

• Several challenging floating-point algorithms have been studied and proved. This includes an algorithm by Kahan for computing the area of a triangle: S. Boldo proved an improvement of its error bound and new investigations in case of underflow [47]. This includes investigations about quaternions. They should be of norm 1, but due to the round-off errors, a drift of this norm is observed over time. C. Marché determined a bound on this drift and formally proved it correct [99]. P. Roux formally verified an algorithm for checking that a matrix is semi-definite positive [19]. The challenge here is that testing semi-definiteness involves algebraic number computations, yet it needs to be implemented using only approximate floating-point operations.

• Because of compiler optimizations (or bugs), the floating-point semantics of a program might change once compiled, thus invalidating any property proved on the source code. We have investigated two ways to circumvent this issue, depending on whether the compiler is a black box. When it is, T. Nguyen has proposed to analyze the assembly code it generates and to verify it is correct [108]. On the contrary, S. Boldo and G. Melquiond (in collaboration with J.-H. Jourdan and X. Leroy) have added support for floating-point arithmetic to the CompCert compiler and formally proved that none of the transformations the compiler applies modify the floating-point semantics of the program [13] [53].

• Linked with objectives 2 (Automated Reasoning) and 3 (Formalization and Certification of Languages, Tools and Systems), G. Melquiond has implemented an efficient Coq library for floating-point arithmetic and proved its correctness in terms of operations on real numbers [102]. It serves as a basis for an interval arithmetic on which Taylor models have been formalized. É. Martin-Dorel and G. Melquiond have integrated these models into CoqInterval [18]. This Coq library is dedicated to automatically proving the approximation properties that occur when formally verifying the implementation of mathematical libraries (libm).

• Double rounding occurs when the target precision of a floating-point computation is narrower than the working precision. In some situations, this phenomenon incurs a loss of accuracy. P. Roux has formally studied when it is innocuous for basic arithmetic operations [19]. É. Martin-Dorel and G. Melquiond (in collaboration with J.-M. Muller) have formally studied how it impacts algorithms used for error-free transformations [100]. These works were based on the Flocq formalization of floating-point arithmetic for Coq.

18 http://pvs.csl.sri.com/
19 http://shemesh.larc.nasa.gov/fmi/fmi-main-team.html
• By combining multi-precision arithmetic, interval arithmetic, and massively-parallel computations, G. Melquiond (in collaboration with G. Nowak and P. Zimmermann) has computed enough digits of the Masser-Gramain constant to invalidate a 30-year old conjecture about its closed form [103].

3.5.1. Project-team Positioning

This objective deals both with formal verification and floating-point arithmetic, which is quite uncommon. Therefore our competitors/peers are few. We may only cite the works by J. Duracz and M. Konečný, Aston University in Birmingham, UK.

The Inria team AriC (Grenoble - Rhône-Alpes) is closer to our research interests, but they are lacking manpower on the formal proof side; we have numerous collaborations with them. The Inria team Caramel (Nancy - Grand Est) also shares some research interests with us, though fewer; again, they do not work on the formal aspect of the verification; we have some occasional collaborations with them.

There are many formalization efforts from chip manufacturers, such as AMD (using the ACL2 proof assistant) and Intel (using the Forte proof assistants) but the algorithms they consider are quite different from the ones we study. The works on the topic of floating-point arithmetic from J. Harrison at Intel using HOL Light are really close to our research interests, but they seem to be discontinued.

A few deductive program verification teams are willing to extend their tools toward floating-point programs. This includes the KeY project and SPARK. We have an ongoing collaboration with the latter, in the context of the ProofInUsE project.

Deductive verification is not the only way to prove programs. Abstract interpretation is widely used, and several teams are interested in floating-point arithmetic. This includes the Inria team Antique (Paris - Rocquencourt) and a CEA List team, who have respectively developed the Astrée and Fluctuat tools. This approach targets a different class of numerical algorithms than the ones we are interested in.

Other people, especially from the SMT community (cf objective 2), are also interested in automatically proving formulas about floating-point numbers, notably at Oxford University. They are mainly focusing on pure floating-point arithmetic though and do not consider them as approximation of real numbers.

Finally, it can be noted that numerous teams are working on the verification of numerical programs, but assuming the computations are real rather than floating-point ones. This is out of the scope of this objective.

4. Application Domains

4.1. Safety-Critical Software

The application domains we target involve safety-critical software, that is where a high-level guarantee of soundness of functional execution of the software is wanted. Currently our industrial collaborations mainly belong to the domain of transportation, including aeronautics, railroad, space flight, automotive.

Verification of C programs, Alt-Ergo at Airbus. Transportation is the domain considered in the context of the ANR U3CAT project, led by CEA, in partnership with Airbus France, Dassault Aviation, Sagem Défense et Sécurité. It included proof of C programs via Framac/C/Jessie/Why, proof of floating-point programs [99], the use of the Alt-Ergo prover via CAVEAT tool (CEA) or Framac-C/WP. Within this context, we contributed to a qualification process of Alt-Ergo with Airbus industry: the technical documents (functional specifications and benchmark suite) have been accepted by Airbus, and these documents were submitted by Airbus to the certification authorities (DO-178B standard) in 2012. This action is continued in the new project Soprano.

Certified compilation, certified static analyzers. Aeronautics is the main target of the Verasco project, led by Verimag, on the development of certified static analyzers, in partnership with Airbus. This is a follow-up of the transfer of the CompCert certified compiler (Inria team Gallium) to which we contributed to the support of floating-point computations [13].
Transfer to the community of Ada development The former FUI project Hi-Lite, led by Adacore company, introduced the use of Why3 and Alt-Ergo as back-end to SPARK2014, an environment for verification for Ada programs. This is applied to the domain of aerospace (Thales, EADS Astrium). At the very beginning of that project, Alt-Ergo was added in the Spark Pro toolset (predecessor of SPARK2014), developed by Altran-Praxis: Alt-Ergo can be used by customers as an alternate prover for automatically proving verification conditions. Its usage is described in the new edition of the Spark book 20 (Chapter “Advanced proof tools”). This action is continued in the new joint laboratory ProofInUse. A recent paper [60] provides an extensive list of applications of SPARK, a major one being the British air control management iFacts.

Transfer to the community of Atelier B In the current ANR project BWare, we investigate the use of Why3 and Alt-Ergo as an alternative back-end for checking proof obligations generated by Atelier B, whose main applications are railroad-related software 21, a collaboration with Mitsubishi Electric R&D Centre Europe (Rennes) (joint publication [104]) and ClearSy (Aix-en-Provence).

SMT-based Model-Checking: Cubicle S. Conchon (with A. Mebsout and F. Zaidi from VALS team at LRI) has a long-term collaboration with S. Krstic and A. Goel (Intel Strategic Cad Labs in Hillsboro, OR, USA) that aims in the development of the SMT-based model checker Cubicle (http://cubicle.lri.fr/) based on Alt-Ergo [101][8]. It is particularly targeted to the verification of concurrent programs and protocols.

Apart from transportation, energy is naturally an application in particular with our long-term partner CEA, in the context of U3CAT and Soprano projects. We also indirectly target communications and data, in particular in contexts with a particular need for security or confidentiality: smart phones, Web applications, health records, electronic voting, etc. These are part of the applications of SPARK [60], including verification of security-related properties, including cryptographic algorithms. Also, our new AJACS project addresses issues related to security and privacy in web applications written in Javascript, also including correctness properties.

5. Highlights of the Year

5.1. Highlights of the Year

5.1.1. Awards

- J.-C. Filliâtre and G. Melquiond received the “Best team” award of the VerifyThis@ETAPS2015 verification competition (http://verifythis2015.cost-ic0701.org/results). The Why3 tool also received the “Distinguished user-assistance tool feature” award.
- The Concours Castor informatique (http://castor-informatique.fr/) had an even larger success than in the previous years. In November 2015, more than 345,000 teenagers from over 2280 schools participated and solved the interactive tasks of the contest. Arthur Charguéraud and Sylvie Boldo, from the Toccata team, significantly contributed to the preparation of the tasks and to the organization of the contest.

6. New Software and Platforms

6.1. Alt-Ergo

Automated theorem prover for software verification

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Alt-Ergo is an automatic solver of formulas based on SMT technology. It is especially designed to prove mathematical formulas generated by program verification tools, such as Frama-C for C programs, or SPARK for Ada code. Initially developed in Toccata research team, Alt-Ergo’s distribution and support are provided by OCamlPro since September 2013.

- Participants: Sylvain Conchon, Évelyne Contejean, Mohamed Iguernelala, Stéphane Lescuyer and Alain Mebsout
- Partner: OCamlPro
- Contact: Sylvain Conchon
- URL: http://alt-ergo.lri.fr

6.2. CFML

Interactive program verification using characteristic formulae

The CFML tool supports the verification of OCaml programs through interactive Coq proofs. CFML proofs establish the full functional correctness of the code with respect to a specification. They may also be used to formally establish bounds on the asymptotic complexity of the code. The tool is made of two parts: on the one hand, a characteristic formula generator implemented as an OCaml program that parses OCaml code and produces Coq formulae, and, on the other hand, a Coq library that provides notation and tactics for manipulating characteristic formulae interactively in Coq.

- Contact: Arthur Charguéraud
- URL: http://www.charguéraud.org/softs/cfml/

6.3. Coq

Coq provides both a dependently-typed functional programming language and a logical formalism, which, altogether, support the formalisation of mathematical theories and the specification and certification of properties of programs. Coq also provides a large and extensible set of automatic or semi-automatic proof methods. Coq’s programs are extractible to OCaml, Haskell, Scheme, ...

- Partners: CNRS - Université Paris-Sud - ENS Lyon - Université Paris-Diderot
- Contact: Hugo Herbelin
- URL: http://coq.inria.fr/

6.4. CoqInterval

Interval package for Coq

- URL: http://coq.inria.fr/
CoqInterval is a library for the proof assistant Coq. CoqInterval provides a method for proving automatically the inequality of two expression of real values.

The Interval package provides several tactics for helping a Coq user to prove theorems on enclosures of real-valued expressions. The proofs are performed by an interval kernel which relies on a computable formalization of floating-point arithmetic in Coq.

The Marelle team developed a formalization of rigorous polynomial approximation using Taylor models inside the Coq proof assistant, with a special focus on genericity and efficiency for the computations. In 2014, this library has been included in CoqInterval.

- Participants: Guillaume Melquiond, Érik Martin-Dorel, Nicolas Brisebarre, Miora Maria Joldes, Micaela Mayero, Jean-Michel Muller, Laurence Rideau and Laurent Théry
- Contact: Guillaume Melquiond
- URL: http://coq-interval.gforge.inria.fr/

### 6.5. Coquelicot

The Coquelicot library for real analysis in Coq

**KEYWORDS:** Coq - Real analysis

**FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION**

Coquelicot is library aimed for supporting real analysis in the Coq proof assistant. It is designed with three principles in mind. The first is the user-friendliness, achieved by implementing methods of automation, but also by avoiding dependent types in order to ease the stating and readability of theorems. This latter part was achieved by defining total function for basic operators, such as limits or integrals. The second principle is the comprehensiveness of the library. By experimenting on several applications, we ensured that the available theorems are enough to cover most cases. We also wanted to be able to extend our library towards more generic settings, such as complex analysis or Euclidean spaces. The third principle is for the Coquelicot library to be a conservative extension of the Coq standard library, so that it can be easily combined with existing developments based on the standard library.

- Participants: Sylvie Boldo, Catherine Lelay and Guillaume Melquiond
- Contact: Sylvie Boldo
- URL: http://coquelicot.saclay.inria.fr/

### 6.6. Cubicle

The Cubicle model checker modulo theories

**KEYWORDS:** Model Checking - Software Verification

**FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION**

Cubicle is an open source model checker for verifying safety properties of array-based systems, which corresponds to a syntactically restricted class of parametrized transition systems with states represented as arrays indexed by an arbitrary number of processes. Cache coherence protocols and mutual exclusion algorithms are typical examples of such systems.

- Participants: Sylvain Conchon and Alain Mebsout
- Contact: Sylvain Conchon
- URL: http://cubicle.lri.fr/

### 6.7. Flocq

The Flocq library for formalizing floating-point arithmetic in Coq

**KEYWORDS:** Floating-point - Arithmetic code - Coq

**FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION**
The Flocq library for the Coq proof assistant is a comprehensive formalization of floating-point arithmetic: core definitions, axiomatic and computational rounding operations, high-level properties. It provides a framework for developers to formally certify numerical applications.

Flocq is currently used by the CompCert certified compiler for its support of floating-point computations.

- Participants: Guillaume Melquiond and Sylvie Boldo
- Contact: Sylvie Boldo
- URL: http://flocq.gforge.inria.fr/

6.8. Gappa

The Gappa tool for automated proofs of arithmetic properties

- KEYWORDS: Floating-point - Arithmetic code - Software Verification - Constraint solving

Gappa is a tool intended to help verifying and formally proving properties on numerical programs dealing with floating-point or fixed-point arithmetic. It has been used to write robust floating-point filters for CGAL and it is used to certify elementary functions in CRlibm. While Gappa is intended to be used directly, it can also act as a backend prover for the Why3 software verification platform or as an automatic tactic for the Coq proof assistant.

- Contact: Guillaume Melquiond
- URL: http://gappa.gforge.inria.fr/

6.9. Why3

The Why3 environment for deductive verification

- KEYWORDS: Formal methods - Trusted software - Software Verification - Deductive program verification

Why3 is an environment for deductive program verification. It provides a rich language for specification and programming, called WhyML, and relies on external theorem provers, both automated and interactive, to discharge verification conditions. Why3 comes with a standard library of logical theories (integer and real arithmetic, Boolean operations, sets and maps, etc.) and basic programming data structures (arrays, queues, hash tables, etc.). A user can write WhyML programs directly and get correct-by-construction OCaml programs through an automated extraction mechanism. WhyML is also used as an intermediate language for the verification of C, Java, or Ada programs.

- Participants: Jean-Christophe Filliâtre, Claude Marché, Guillaume Melquiond, Andriy Paskevych, François Bobot, Martin Clochard and Levs Gondelmans
- Partners: CNRS - Université Paris-Sud
- Contact: Claude Marché
- URL: http://why3.lri.fr/
7. New Results

7.1. Deductive Verification

- M. Clochard, J.-C. Filliâtre, and A. Paskevich proposed a novel method to prove the relative safety of operations over bounded integers in a large class of programs. Their approach consists of introducing dedicated abstract types for the bounded integers and restricting the set of allowed operations over these types in such a way that it is impossible to reach the bound during a realistic execution of the program: for example, it would take several hundred years to overflow a 64-bit integer. This technique is aimed at integer variables that serve essentially as counters or size measures. It can be used alongside the traditional methods of proving the absence of overflows for other integer values in the same program. The proposed approach is implemented in Why3 and was presented at VSTTE 2015 [26].

- J.-C. Filliâtre and M. Pereira proposed a new way to specify the behavior of a cursor data structure, with the objective of being able to verify both the implementation of a cursor and its use by client code. The approach is modular, which means that a program using a cursor can be verified independently of the way the cursor is implemented. An experimental evaluation has been conducted with Why3, with several implementations and client codes being verified. This work will be presented at JFLA 2016 [26].

- C. Fumex and C. Marché developed a new library for bit-vectors, in Why3 and SPARK [30]. This library is rich enough for the formal specification of functional behavior of programs that operate at the level of bits. It is also designed to exploit efficiently the support for bit-vectors built-in in some SMT solvers. This work is done in the context of the ProofInUse joint laboratory. The SPARK front-end of Why3, for the verification of Ada programs, is extended to exploit this new bit-vector theory. Several cases studies are conducted: efficient search for rightmost bit of a bit-vector, efficient computation of the number of bits set to 1, efficient solving of the \( n \)-queens problem. At the level of SPARK, a program inspired from some industrial code (originally developed in C par J. Gerlach, Fraunhofer FOKUS Institute, Germany and partially proved with Frama-C and Coq) is specified in SPARK and proved with automatic solvers only. The support for bit-vectors is already distributed with SPARK, and SPARK users already reported that several verification conditions, that couldn’t be proved earlier, are now proved automatically.

- D. Hauzar and C. Marché worked on counterexample generation from failed proof attempts. They designed a new approach for generating potential counterexamples in the deductive verification setting, and implemented in Why3. When the logic goal generated for a given verification condition is not shown unsatisfiable by an SMT solvers, some solver can propose a model. By carefully reverting the transformation chain (from an input program through the VC generator and the various translation steps to solvers), this model is turned into a potential counterexample that the user can exploit to analyze why its original code is not proved. The approach is implemented in the chain from Ada programs through SPARK, Why3, and SMT solvers CVC4 and Z3. This implementation is robust enough to be distributed in the next release Pro 16 of SPARK. A research report on this subject will appear in January 2016.

- A. Charguéraud and F. Pottier (Inria Paris-Rocquencourt) obtained new results in the machine-checked verification of asymptotic complexity bounds, in addition to program correctness properties. Verifying the time usage of a program is very important, because otherwise a program might be proved to be functionally correct but may appear to run into an infinite loop for particular input data. More specifically, A. Charguéraud and F. Pottier started from the extension of CFML with time credits (encoding of time resources in Separation Logic), developed last year by A. Charguéraud, and they used it to formally produce a machine-checked proof of the correctness and time complexity of a Union-Find data structure, implemented as an OCaml module. They thereby demonstrate that the approach scales up to difficult complexity analyses, and applies to actual executable code (as opposed to pseudo-code). This work was presented at ITP 2015 [24]. Furthermore, A. Charguéraud
and F. Pottier co-advised the M2 internship of Armaël Guéneau, who extended the time credits approach so as to allow working conveniently with the big-$O$ notation. He extended the CFML library and verified the time complexity of a binary random access list data structure due to Okasaki. This work has not been published yet.

- A. Charguéraud described a method for reasoning about mutable data structures that own their elements. In Separation Logic, representation predicates describe the ownership of a mutable data structure, by establishing a relationship between the entry point of the structure, the piece of heap over which this structure spans, and the logical model associated with the structure. When a data structure is polymorphic, such as in the case of a container, its representation predicate needs to be parameterized not just by the type of the items stored in the structure, but also by the representation predicates associated with these items. Such higher-order representation predicates can be used in particular to control whether containers should own their items. A. Charguéraud wrote a paper describing, through a collection of practical examples, solutions to the challenges associated with reasoning about accesses into data structures that own their elements. This paper will appear at CPP 2016 [23].

7.2. Automated Reasoning

- C. Dross, A. Paskevich, J. Kanig and S. Conchon published a journal paper [16] about integration of first-order axiomatizations with triggers as decision procedures in an SMT solver. This work extends a part of C. Dross PhD thesis [79]. A formal semantics of the notion of trigger is presented, with a general setting to show how a first-order axiomatization with triggers can be proved correct, complete, and terminating. An extended DPLL(T) algorithm can then integrate such an axiomatization with triggers, as a decision procedure for the theory it defines.

7.3. Certification of Languages, Tools and Systems

- M. Clochard and L. Gondelman developed a formalization of a simple compiler in Why3. It compiles a simple imperative language into assembler instructions for a stack machine. This case study was inspired by a similar example developed using Coq and interactive theorem proving. The aim is to improve significantly the degree of automation in the proofs. This is achieved by the formalization of a Hoare logic and a Weakest Precondition Calculus on assembly programs, so that the correctness of compilation is seen as a formal specification of the assembly instructions generated. This work was presented at the JFLA conference in 2015 [25].
- S. Boldo, C. Lelay, and G. Melquiond worked on the Coquelicot library, designed to be a user-friendly Coq library about real analysis. An easier way of writing formulas and theorem statements is achieved by relying on total functions in place of dependent types for limits, derivatives, integrals, power series, and so on. To help with the proof process, the library comes with a comprehensive set of theorems and some automation. We have exercised the library on several use cases: in an exam at university entry level, for the definitions and properties of Bessel functions, and for the solution of the one-dimensional wave equation. These results are published in the journal Mathematics in Computer Science [14].
- C. Lelay developed a new formalization of convergence with a focus on usability and genericity for the Coquelicot library. This formalization covers various parts of analysis: sequences, real functions, complex functions, vector functions, and so on. This work was presented at the 7th Coq Workshop [27].
- C. Paulin wrote a gentle introduction to the Calculus of Inductive Construction, the formalism on which the Coq proof assistant is based [28], discussing both theoretical and pragmatic aspects of the design.

7.4. Floating-Point and Numerical Programs
• É. Martin-Dorel and G. Melquiond worked on integrating the CoqInterval and CoqApprox libraries into a single package. The CoqApprox library is dedicated to computing verified Taylor models of univariate functions so as to compute approximation errors. The CoqInterval library reuses this work to automatically prove bounds on real-valued expressions. A large formalization effort took place during this work, so as to get rid of all the holes remaining in the formal proofs of CoqInterval. It was also the chance to perform a comparison between numerous decision procedures dedicated to proving nonlinear inequalities involving elementary functions. This work has been published in the Journal of Automated Reasoning [18].

• S. Boldo and G. Melquiond, with J.-H. Jourdan and X. Leroy (Gallium team, Inria Paris - Rocquencourt) extended the CompCert compiler to get the first formally verified C compiler that provably preserves the semantics of floating-point programs. This work, published in the Journal of Automated Reasoning [13], also covers the formalization of numerous algorithms of conversion between integers and floating-point numbers.

• S. Boldo worked on the fact that \(\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}\) is always in the interval \([-1, 1]\) even when operations are done using floating-point arithmetic. This reduces to taking the square root of the square of a floating-point number as it is the worst case. Results in radix 2 (where \(\sqrt{a^2} = |a|\)) and other radices (where it might not hold) have been published at the 8th International Workshop on Numerical Software Verification [22].

• S. Boldo worked on programs computing the average of two floating-point numbers. As we want to take exceptional behaviors into account, we cannot use the naive formula \((x+y)/2\). Based on hints given by Sterbenz, she first wrote an accurate program and formally proved its properties. She also developed and formally proved a new algorithm that computes the correct rounding of the average of two floating-point numbers [21]. This was published at the 17th International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods.

• P. Roux formalized a theory of numerical analysis for bounding the round-off errors of a floating-point algorithm. This approach was applied to the formal verification of a program for checking that a matrix is semi-definite positive. The challenge here is that testing semi-definiteness involves algebraic number computations, yet it needs to be implemented using only approximate floating-point operations. This work has been published in the Journal of Automated Reasoning [19].

• C. Lelay and G. Melquiond worked on formalizing in Coq a numerical domain for the Verasco abstract interpreter built upon the CompCert verified compiler. This abstract domain is a relational domain based on affine forms (zonotopes). It is meant to help verifying floating-point programs and it is expected to perform faster (but less accurately) than a more generic domain based on polyhedrons.

**7.5. Miscellaneous**

• A. Charguéraud worked together with Umut Acar, Mike Rainey, and Filip Sieczkowski, as part of the ERC project DeepSea, on the development of efficient data structures and algorithms targeting modern, shared memory multicore architectures. A. Charguéraud was involved in two major results obtained this year.

The first result is the development of fast and robust parallel graph traversal algorithms based on depth-first-search. This algorithm leverages a new sequence data structure for representing the set of edges remaining to be visited. This sequence itself builds on prior work on bootstrapped chunked sequences [35]. In particular, the edge sequence structure uses a balanced split operation for partitioning the edges of a graph among the several processors involved in the computation. Compared with prior work, the new algorithm is designed and proved to be efficient not just for particular classes of graphs, but for all input graphs. This work has been published in the ACM/IEEE Conference on High Performance Computing (SC) [20].

Another result by A. Charguéraud and his co-authors is the development of a calculus for parallel computing on shared memory computers. Many languages for writing parallel programs have been
developed. These languages offer several different abstractions for parallelism, such as fork-join, async-finish, futures, etc. While they may seem similar, these abstractions lead to different semantics, language design and implementation decisions. In this work, we consider the question of whether it would be possible to unify different approaches to parallelism. To this end, we propose a calculus, called DAG-calculus that can encode existing approaches to parallelism based on fork-join, async-finish, and futures paradigms and possibly others. We have shown that the approach is realistic by presenting an implementation in C++ and by performing an empirical evaluation. This work has been submitted for publication.

- A. Charguéraud developed a patch to the OCaml compiler for improving type error messages, in particular to make the language more accessible to beginners. The problem of improving type error messages in ML has received quite a bit of attention over the past two decades, and many different strategies have been considered. The challenge is not only to produce error messages that are both sufficiently concise and systematically useful to the programmer, but also to handle a full-blown programming language and to cope with large-sized programs efficiently. A. Charguéraud’s novel approach consists of a slight modification to the traditional ML type inference algorithm implemented in OCaml that, by significantly reducing the left-to-right bias, produces error messages that are more helpful to the programmer. This work was published this year in the journal Electronic Proceedings in Theoretical Computer Science [15].

8. Bilateral Contracts and Grants with Industry

8.1. Bilateral Contracts with Industry

8.1.1. ProofInUse Joint Laboratory

Participants: Claude Marché [contact], Jean-Christophe Filliâtre, Andrei Paskevich.

ProofInUse is a joint project between the Toccata team and the SME AdaCore. It was selected and funded by the ANR programme “Laboratoires communs”, starting from April 2014, for 3 years http://www.spark-2014.org/proofinuse.

The SME AdaCore is a software publisher specializing in providing software development tools for critical systems. A previous successful collaboration between Toccata and AdaCore enabled Why3 technology to be put into the heart of the AdaCore-developed SPARK technology.

The goal is now to promote and transfer the use of deduction-based verification tools to industry users, who develop critical software using the programming language Ada. The proof tools are aimed at replacing or complementing the existing test activities, whilst reducing costs.

9. Partnerships and Cooperations

9.1. Regional Initiatives

9.1.1. ELFIC

Participants: Sylvie Boldo [contact], Claude Marché, Guillaume Melquiond.

ELFIC is a working group of the Digicosme Labex. S. Boldo is the principal investigator. It began in 2014 for one year and was extended for one year.

The ELFIC project focuses on proving the correctness of the FELiScE (Finite Elements for Life Sciences and Engineering) C++ library which implements the finite element method for approximating solutions to partial differential equations. Finite elements are at the core of numerous simulation programs used in industry. The formal verification of this library will greatly increase confidence in all the programs that rely on it. Verification methods developed in this project will be a breakthrough for the finite element method, but more generally for the reliability of critical software relying on intricate numerical algorithms.
9.2. National Initiatives

9.2.1. ANR CoLiS

Participants: Claude Marché [contact], Andrei Paskevich.

The CoLiS research project is funded by the programme “Société de l’information et de la communication” of the ANR, for a period of 48 months, starting on October 1st, 2015. [http://colis.irif.univ-paris-diderot.fr/](http://colis.irif.univ-paris-diderot.fr/)

The project aims at developing formal analysis and verification techniques and tools for scripts. These scripts are written in the POSIX or bash shell language. Our objective is to produce, at the end of the project, formal methods and tools allowing to analyze, test, and validate scripts. For this, the project will develop techniques and tools based on deductive verification and tree transducers stemming from the domain of XML documents.

Partners: Université Paris-Diderot, IRIF laboratory (formerly PPS & LIAFA), coordinator; Inria Lille, team LINKS

9.2.2. ANR Vocal

Participants: Jean-Christophe Filliâtre [contact], Andrei Paskevich.

The Vocal research project is funded by the programme “Société de l’information et de la communication” of the ANR, for a period of 48 months, starting on October 1st, 2015.

The goal of the Vocal project is to develop the first formally verified library of efficient general-purpose data structures and algorithms. It targets the OCaml programming language, which allows for fairly efficient code and offers a simple programming model that eases reasoning about programs. The library will be readily available to implementers of safety-critical OCaml programs, such as Coq, Astrée, or Frama-C. It will provide the essential building blocks needed to significantly decrease the cost of developing safe software. The project intends to combine the strengths of three verification tools, namely Coq, Why3, and CFML. It will use Coq to obtain a common mathematical foundation for program specifications, as well as to verify purely functional components. It will use Why3 to verify a broad range of imperative programs with a high degree of proof automation. Finally, it will use CFML for formal reasoning about effectful higher-order functions and data structures making use of pointers and sharing.

Partners: team Gallium (Inria Paris-Rocquencourt), team DCS (Verimag), TrustInSoft, and OCamlPro.

9.2.3. ANR Ajacs

Participant: Arthur Charguéraud [contact].

The AJACS research project is funded by the programme “Société de l’information et de la communication” of the ANR, for a period of 42 months, starting on October 1st, 2014.

The goal of the AJACS project is to provide strong security and privacy guarantees on the client side for web application scripts implemented in JavaScript, the most widely used language for the Web. The proposal is to prove correct analyses for JavaScript programs, in particular information flow analyses that guarantee no secret information is leaked to malicious parties. The definition of sub-languages of JavaScript, with certified compilation techniques targeting them, will allow deriving more precise analyses. Another aspect of the proposal is the design and certification of security and privacy enforcement mechanisms for web applications, including the APIs used to program real-world applications. On the Toccata side, the focus will be on the formalization of secure subsets of JavaScript, and on the mechanization of proofs of translations from high-level languages into JavaScript.

Partners: team Celtique (Inria Rennes - Bretagne Atlantique), team Prosecco (Inria Paris - Rocquencourt), team Indes (Inria Sophia Antipolis - Méditerranée), and Imperial College (London).
9.2.4. ANR FastRelax
Participants: Sylvie Boldo [contact], Guillaume Melquiond.

This is a research project funded by the programme “Ingénierie Numérique & Sécurité” of the ANR. It is funded for a period of 48 months and it has started on October 1st, 2014. http://fastrelax.gforge.inria.fr/

Our aim is to develop computer-aided proofs of numerical values, with certified and reasonably tight error bounds, without sacrificing efficiency. Applications to zero-finding, numerical quadrature or global optimization can all benefit from using our results as building blocks. We expect our work to initiate a “fast and reliable” trend in the symbolic-numeric community. This will be achieved by developing interactions between our fields, designing and implementing prototype libraries and applying our results to concrete problems originating in optimal control theory.

Partners: team ARIC (Inria Grenoble Rhône-Alpes), team MARELLE (Inria Sophia Antipolis - Méditerranée), team SPECFUN (Inria Saclay - Île-de-France), Université Paris 6, and LAAS (Toulouse).

9.2.5. ANR Soprano
Participants: Sylvain Conchon [contact], Évelyne Contejean, Guillaume Melquiond.

The Soprano research project is funded by the programme “Sciences et technologies logicielles” of the ANR, for a period of 42 months, starting on October 1st, 2014.

The SOPRANO project aims at preparing the next generation of verification-oriented solvers by gathering experts from academia and industry. We will design a new framework for the cooperation of solvers, focused on model generation and borrowing principles from SMT (current standard) and CP (well-known in optimization). Our main scientific and technical objectives are the following. The first objective is to design a new collaboration framework for solvers, centered around synthesis rather than satisfiability and allowing cooperation beyond that of Nelson-Oppen while still providing minimal interfaces with theoretical guarantees. The second objective is to design new decision procedures for industry-relevant and hard-to-solve theories. The third objective is to implement these results in a new open-source platform. The fourth objective is to ensure industrial-adequacy of the techniques and tools developed through periodical evaluations from the industrial partners.

Partners: team DIVERSE (Inria Rennes - Bretagne Atlantique), Adacore, CEA List, Université Paris-Sud, and OCamlPro.

9.2.6. ANR CAFEIN
Participant: Sylvain Conchon [contact].

The CAFEIN research project is funded by the programme “Ingénierie Numérique & Sécurité” of the ANR, for a period of 3 years, starting on February 1st, 2013. https://cavale.enseeiht.fr/CAFEIN/.

This project addresses the formal verification of functional properties at specification level, for safety critical reactive systems. In particular, we focus on command and control systems interacting with a physical environment, specified using the synchronous language Lustre.

A first goal of the project is to improve the level of automation of formal verification, by adapting and combining existing verification techniques such as SMT-based temporal induction, and abstract interpretation for invariant discovery. A second goal is to study how knowledge of the mathematical theory of hybrid command and control systems can help the analysis at the controller’s specification level. Third, the project addresses the issue of implementing real valued specifications in Lustre using floating-point arithmetic.

Partners: ONERA, CEA List, ENSTA, teams Maxplus (Inria Saclay - Île-de-France), team Parkas (Inria Paris - Rocquencourt), Perpignan University, Prover Technology, Rockwell Collins.

9.2.7. ANR B Ware
Participants: Sylvain Conchon [contact], Évelyne Contejean, Jean-Christophe Filliâtre, Andrei Paskevich, Claude Marché.
The BWare research project is funded by the programme “Ingénierie Numérique & Sécurité” of the ANR, a period of 4 years, starting on September 1st, 2012. [http://bware.lri.fr](http://bware.lri.fr).

BWare is an industrial research project that aims to provide a mechanized framework to support the automated verification of proof obligations coming from the development of industrial applications using the B method and requiring high guarantee of confidence. The methodology used in this project consists of building a generic platform of verification relying on different theorem provers, such as first-order provers and SMT solvers. The variety of these theorem provers aims at allowing a wide panel of proof obligations to be automatically verified by the platform. The major part of the verification tools used in BWare have already been involved in some experiments, which have consisted in verifying proof obligations or proof rules coming from industrial applications [104]. This therefore should be a driving factor to reduce the risks of the project, which can then focus on the design of several extensions of the verification tools to deal with a larger amount of proof obligations.

The partners are: Cedric laboratory at CNAM (CPR Team, project leader); teams Gallium and Deducteam (Inria Paris - Rocquencourt); Mitsubishi Electric R&D Centre Europe, ClearSy (the company which develops and maintains Atelier B), and the start-up OCamlPro.

9.2.8. ANR Verasco

Participants: Guillaume Melquiond [contact], Sylvie Boldo, Arthur Charguéraud, Claude Marché.

The Versaco research project is funded by the programme “Ingénierie Numérique & Sécurité” of the ANR, for a period of 4 years and a half, starting on January 1st, 2012. Project website: [http://verasco.imag.fr](http://verasco.imag.fr).

The main goal of the project is to investigate the formal verification of static analyzers and of compilers, two families of tools that play a crucial role in the development and validation of critical embedded software. More precisely, the project aims at developing a generic static analyzer based on abstract interpretation for the C language, along with a number of advanced abstract domains and domain combination operators, and prove the soundness of this analyzer using the Coq proof assistant. Likewise, the project keeps working on the CompCert C formally-verified compiler, the first realistic C compiler that has been mechanically proved to be free of miscompilation, and carry it to the point where it could be used in the critical software industry.

Partners: teams Gallium and Abstraction (Inria Paris - Rocquencourt), Airbus avionics and simulation (Toulouse), IRISA (Rennes), Verimag (Grenoble).

9.3. European Initiatives

9.3.1. FP7 & H2020 Projects

Project acronym: ERC Deepsea
Project title: Parallel dynamic computations
Duration: Jun. 2013 - Jun. 2018
Coordinator: Umut A. Acar
Other partners: Carnegie Mellon University
Abstract:
The objective of this project is to develop abstractions, algorithms and languages for parallelism and dynamic parallelism with applications to problems on large data sets. Umut A. Acar (affiliated to Carnegie Mellon University and Inria Paris - Rocquencourt) is the principal investigator of this ERC-funded project. The other main researchers involved are Mike Rainey (Inria, Gallium team), who is full-time on the project, and Arthur Charguéraud (Inria, Toccata team), who works 40% of his time to the project. Project website: [http://deepsea.inria.fr/](http://deepsea.inria.fr/).

9.3.2. Collaborations with Major European Organizations

Imperial College London (UK)
9.4. International Research Visitors

9.4.1. Visits of International Scientists

- Andrew Tolmach, from Portland State University, visited the team as a one-year Digiteo Chair, in collaboration with other groups in the Paris area (LRI/Univ. Paris-Sud, LIX/Polytechnique, Inria Saclay and Rocquencourt). The project is to initiate a new research effort to develop principles, techniques, and tools for large-scale proof engineering. It is focused on the Coq proof assistant and is designed to take advantage of the deep pool of expertise available in the Paris area concerning both the use and the development of Coq. Initial results include: a precise description of requirements for large proof management; sample prototype tools addressing one or more of these requirements; and a technical survey of relevant proof representation options [106].

10. Dissemination

10.1. Promoting Scientific Activities

10.1.1. Scientific events organisation

10.1.1.1. General chair, scientific chair

- A. Paskevich is the co-organizer of the 4th international workshop on Proof eXchange for Theorem Proving (PxTP 2015), affiliated with CADE-25 (August 2-3, 2015, Berlin, Germany).

10.1.1.2. Member of the organizing committees

- S. Boldo and G. Melquiond are members of the organizing committee for the 22nd IEEE Symposium on Computer Arithmetic (ARITH 2015), held in Lyon in June 2015.
- G. Melquiond is a member of the organizing committee for the 23rd IEEE Symposium on Computer Arithmetic (ARITH 23), held in Santa Clara, CA, USA in July 2016.
- S. Conchon is local chair for the 44th ACM SIGPLAN-SIGACT Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL 2017), held in Paris, France in January 2017.

10.1.2. Scientific events selection

10.1.2.1. Chair of conference program committees

- A. Paskevich is the co-chair of the 4th international workshop on Proof eXchange for Theorem Proving (PxTP 2015), affiliated with CADE-25 (August 2-3, 2015, Berlin, Germany).

10.1.2.2. Member of the conference program committees

- S. Boldo is a member of the program committee of the 26th Journées Francophones des Langages Applicatifs (JFLA 2015).
- S. Boldo is a member of the program committee of the 8th International Workshop on Numerical Software Verification (NSV-8).
• S. Boldo is a member of the program committee of the 22nd IEEE Symposium on Computer Arithmetic (ARITH 2015).
• S. Boldo is a member of the program committee of the 27th Journées Francophones des Langages Appliqués (JFLA 2016).
• S. Boldo is a member of the program committee of the 23rd IEEE Symposium on Computer Arithmetic (ARITH 2016).
• A. Charguéraud is a member of the program committee for the 25th European Symposium on Programming (ESOP), to be held in April 2016, http://www.etaps.org/index.php/2016/esop.
• A. Paskevich is a member of the program committee of the 20th International Symposium on Formal Methods (FM 2015).
• C. Paulin is a member of the program committee of the 4th ACM-SIGPLAN Conference on Certified Programs and Proofs (CPP 2015, colocated with POPL 2015).
• C. Paulin is a member of the program committee of the conference on Mathematics of Program Construction (MPC 2015).
• C. Paulin is a member of the program committee of the 21st International Conference on Types for Proofs and Programs (Types 2015).
• C. Paulin is a member of the program committee of the 20th International Conferences on Logic for Programming, Artificial Intelligence and Reasoning (LPAR-20).
• C. Paulin is a member of the program committee of the 31st Annual ACM/IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS 2016).
• C. Paulin is a member of the program committee of the 7th International Conference on Interactive Theorem Proving (ITP 2016).

10.1.2.3. Reviewer

The members of the Toccata team have reviewed papers for numerous international conferences.

10.1.3. Journal

10.1.3.1. Member of the editorial boards

• G. Melquiond is a member of the editorial board of Reliable Computing.
• S. Boldo is member of the editorial committee of the popular science web site “)i(“: http://interstices.info/.
• S. Boldo is member of the editorial board of Binaire http://binaire.blog.lemonde.fr, the blog of the French Computer Science Society.
• J.-C. Filliâtre is member of the editorial board of the Journal of Functional Programming.
• C. Paulin is member of the editorial board of the Journal of Formalized Reasoning.

10.1.3.2. Reviewer - Reviewing activities

The members of the Toccata team have reviewed numerous papers for numerous international journals.

10.1.4. Invited talks

• S. Boldo was speaker in a panel at the 2015 congress of the French Computer Science Society, on February 4th in Orléans. The panel was about stereotypes and academic orientation of girls.
• S. Boldo gave a talk at the French-Japanese Workshop on Numerical Computations in Paris, on March 25th.
• S. Boldo gave several invited talks in French laboratories: for the Deducteam team (Inria Paris - Rocquencourt) on March 27th, for the Pequan team (UPMC, Paris) on November 30th, at the Digicosme Research Days on March 23rd.
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- A. Charguéraud was invited to teach at the Spring School in Theoretical Computer Science, entitled “Mechanizing proofs of programs”, June 26th, http://www.epit2015.website/
- C. Paulin gave a talk “Langages and systems for interactive proofs” at Collège de France as part of the seminar ”Proving programs : why, when and how ?” organised by Gérard Berry http://www.college-de-france.fr/site/gerard-berry/seminar-2015-03-18-17h30.htm.
- C. Paulin was invited by FRAE (Fondation de Recherche pour l’Aéronautique et l’Espace, http://www.fnrne.org/) to contribute to a panel discussion on how to master complex systems.
- C. Paulin was invited to give a presentation at the Ecole Jeunes Chercheurs Informatique Mathématique (EJCIM 2015, http://www.univ-orleans.fr/lifo/evenements/EJCIM2015/) on the Coq proof assistant.

10.1.5. Leadership within the scientific community

- C. Paulin, scientific leader of Labex DigiCosme http://labex-digicosme.fr (Digital Worlds: distributed data, programs and architectures), a project launched by the French Ministry of research and higher education as part of the program “Investissements d’avenir”, it involves the 14 research units in computer science and communications from the “Paris-Saclay” cluster.
- É. Contejean, leader of the VALS team of LRI since February 2014.

10.1.6. Scientific expertise

- S. Boldo, member of the reviewing board for the ANR (first and second step in 2015, first step in 2016).
- S. Boldo, member of the 2015 committee for the Gilles Kahn PhD award of the French Computer Science Society.
- S. Conchon and A. Paskevich, members of the “commission consultative de spécialistes de l’université”, Section 27, University Paris-Sud since December 2014.
- É. Contejean, elected member of the “section 6 du Comité National de la Recherche Scientifique” since September 2012.
- C. Marché, member of the “jury de l’agrégation externe de mathématiques ” as expert in computer science, since 2012.
- C. Marché, president of the evaluation committee of the joint Digiteo-DigiCosme call for projects https://digicosme.lri.fr/AAPDigiteoDigiCosme2015. The committee selected 16 thesis projects for funding, among 52 submissions. The committee also selected to support 6 scientific events in the Île-de-France region.
- C. Marché, A. Paskevich, reviewer for the ANR (second step in 2015).

10.1.7. Research administration

- S. Boldo, member of the CCD, commission consultative des doctorants.
- S. Boldo, member of the CLFP, comité local de formation permanente.
- S. Boldo, scientific head for Saclay for the MECSI group for networking about computer science popularization inside Inria.
- A. Charguéraud is vice-president of France-ioi, a non-profit organization in charge of the selection and the training of the French team to the International Olympiads in Informatics (IOI). France-ioi also provides online exercises in programming and algorithmics—in average, over 70,000 such exercises are solved every month on the website.
A. Charguéraud is a board member of the non-profit organization Animath, which aims at developing interest in mathematics among young students.

A. Charguéraud and G. Melquiond are members of the committee for the monitoring of PhD students ("commission de suivi des doctorants").

J.-C. Filliâtre is correcteur au concours d’entrée à l’École Polytechnique et aux ENS (computer science examiner for the entrance exam at École Polytechnique and Écoles Normales Supérieures) since 2008.

C. Marché, director of the ProofInUse Joint Laboratory between Inria and AdaCore, http://www.spark-2014.org/proofinuse

C. Paulin, member of the “commission consultative de spécialistes de l’université”, Section 27, University Paris-Sud since April 2010. C. Paulin is the president of this committee since December 2014.

G. Melquiond, elected officer of the IEEE-1788 standardization committee on interval arithmetic since 2008.

C. Paulin, chaired the hiring committee for a professor position in computer science at Université Paris-Sud.

J.-C. Filliâtre, member of the board of GDR GPL, since January 2016.

10.2. Teaching - Supervision - Juries

10.2.1. Teaching


Master: Fondements de l’informatique et ingénierie du logiciel (FIIL) https://www.lri.fr/~conchon/parcours_fiil/: “Programmation C++11 avancée” (M2), G. Melquiond (18h), “Preuves Interactives et Applications” (M2), C. Paulin (9h), “Vérification déductive de programmes” (M2), A. Paskevich (11.5h), Université Paris-Sud, France.

Licence: “Mathématiques pour l’informatique 2” (L2), C. Paulin (50h), Université Paris-Sud, France.

Licence: “Logique pour l’informatique” (L3), C. Paulin (54h), Université Paris-Sud, France.

Master: “Logique pour l’option informatique à l’agrégation” (M2), C. Paulin (21h), ENS Cachan, France.

Licence: “Programmation fonctionnelle avancée” (L3), S. Conchon (30h), Université Paris-Sud, France.

Licence: “Introduction à la programmation fonctionnelle” (L2), S. Conchon (10h), Université Paris-Sud, France.

Master: “Compilation et langages” (M1), S. Conchon (45h), Université Paris-Sud, France.

Master: “Software Model Checking” (M2), S. Conchon (10h), Université Paris-Sud, France.

Licence: “Langages de programmation et compilation” (L3), J.-C. Filliâtre (26h), École Normale Supérieure, France.


DUT (Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie): M1101 “Introduction aux systèmes informatiques” (S1), A. Paskevich (36h), M3101 “Principes des systèmes d’exploitation” (S3), A. Paskevich (58.5h), IUT d’Orsay, Université Paris-Sud, France.
10.2.2. Internships

- S. Conchon supervised the M2 internship of Mattias Roux, who developed a new reachability algorithm for the Cubicle Model Checker.
- A. Charguéraud supervised, with F. Pottier (Inria Paris) the M2 internship of Armaël Guéneau, who developed a formalization in Coq of the big-O notation, and put it to practice to establish big-O asymptotic bounds in CFML, in particular for a sequence data structure with logarithmic-time random access operations.
- C. Paulin supervised with F. Hivert (LRI) the magistère of Mathematics internship of Olivier Stietel, who developed a proof in Coq of a result in combinatorics (a result of Frame, Robinson and Thrall counting the number of Young tableaux of a given shape) using a probabilistic method.

10.2.3. Supervision


PhD in progress: S. Dumbrava, “Towards data certification”, since Oct. 2012, supervised by V. Benzaken (LRI) and É. Contejean.


PhD in progress: M. Clochard, “A unique language for developing programs and prove them at the same time”, since Oct. 2013, supervised by C. Marché and A. Paskevich.

PhD in progress: D. Declerck, “Vérification par des techniques de test et model checking de programmes C11”, since Sep. 2014, supervised by F. Zaïdi (LRI) and S. Conchon.

PhD in progress: M. Roux, “Model Checking de systèmes paramétrés et temporisés”, since Sep. 2015, supervised by Sylvain Conchon.

PhD in progress: M. Pereira, “A Verified Graph Library. Tools and techniques for the verification of modular higher-order programs, with extraction”, since May 2015, supervised by J.-C. Filliâtre.


10.2.4. Juries

S. Boldo: reviewer, PhD committee of O. Kupriianova, “Towards a Modern Floating-Point Environment”, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, France, December 2015.


10.3. Popularization

- A. Charguéraud and S. Boldo contributed to the preparation of the exercises of the Concours Castor informatique http://castor-informatique.fr/. A. Charguéraud is also one of the three organizers of this contest. The purpose of the Concours Castor is to introduce pupils (from CM1 to Terminale) to computer sciences. More than 345,000 teenagers played with the interactive exercises in November 2015.

- C. Marché, together with J. Kanig from AdaCore company, wrote an article in the ERCIM news journal [17] to advertise on the work done in the ProofInUse joint laboratory for the popularization of formal methods in the development of safety-critical Ada programs.

- S. Boldo, with T. Vieville (Memosyne team, Inria Bordeaux - Sud-Ouest), F. Masseglia (Zenith team, Inria Sophia Antipolis - Méditerranée and P. Bernhard (INRA) wrote a text about the TIPE 2016 (personal work before the competitive entrance in engineering schools). The topic was “Structures: organization, complexity, dynamic”. This was published on the popularization website http://pixees.fr [31].

- S. Boldo co-organized popularization talks for the administrative staff of Inria Saclay - Île-de-France. She gave a talk on January 29th about a scientific article [21] and led a coding session (with Scratch) on February 12th with A. Imperiale (M3DISIM team).

- S. Boldo co-organized the coming of teenagers from the collège Flemming in Orsay to the laboratory on May 28th and gave talks to several groups all day long.

- S. Boldo co-organized the Inria Saclay - Île-de-France Fête de la science. She created two stands (about programming) and run one on October 9th.

- S. Boldo gave a talk to the winners of the Mathematics Olympiads on June 10th in Rocquencourt.

- S. Boldo gave a talk at the “Girls can code” week on August 27th, in Paris.

- S. Boldo gave a talk to high school teenagers in Angers on October 12th.

- C. Paulin together with I. Glas from labex DigiCosme is proposing an introduction to computer science (various activities on programming, data representation, algorithms during 6 sessions of 1 hour) as an extracurricular activity in schools for pupils in CM1-CM2.

- C. Paulin organised in 2015 the third edition of the Concours ISN of the Labex DigiCosme, supported by the Rectorat de l’Académie de Versailles. Selected projects developed by the high school pupils (Terminale) as part of their curricula in Computer Science are submitted to this contest. The best projects are selected and presented during a general event.

- C. Paulin, I. Glas, and A. Paskevich run a stand (introduction to information technologies and programming) during the “Fête de la science” Île-de-France on October 9 and 10.

11. Bibliography

Major publications by the team in recent years


Publications of the year

Doctoral Dissertations and Habilitation Theses


Articles in International Peer-Reviewed Journals


International Conferences with Proceedings


Proving (ITP)“, Nanjing, China, August 2015 [DOI : 10.1007/978-3-319-22102-1_9], https://hal.inria.fr/hal-01245872

National Conferences with Proceedings


Conferences without Proceedings


Scientific Books (or Scientific Book chapters)


Research Reports

[29] U. A. ACAR, A. CHARGUÉAUD, M. RAINNEY. Fast Parallel Graph-Search with Splittable and Catenable Frontiers, Inria, January 2015, https://hal.inria.fr/hal-01089125


Scientific Popularization

[31] T. VIEVILLE, S. BOLDO, F. MASSEGLIA, P. BERNHARD. « Structures : organisation, complexité, dynamique » des mot-clés au sens inattendu, April 2015, Article de vulgarisation sur pixees.fr, https://hal.inria.fr/hal-01238442

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