Software-Engineering Seminar, WS24 : Theorem Provers

WG Programming Languages

24.10.2024

Supervisors

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Goals

- Familiarize yourself with a Theorem Prover
- Gain a basic understanding of the theoretical framework it uses
- Learn how to formalize a proof / verify an algorithm in the system
- Gain experience in:
 - literature research
 - supervision meetings
 - writing an academic report
 - making and presenting slides

Tasks

- Teams of two participants
- Pick a Theorem Prover, then:
- Look into the theoretical framework / history of the theorem prover by doing literature research
- formalize a proof / verify an algorithm, preferably one you have encountered somewhere in your studies before
- write a report
 - Language: English (Bachelor: may be in German)
 - Use our Latex template
 - 10-15 pages (Bachelor: 7-15 pages), both team members contribute equally
- make slides and give a presentation
 - include demo of interacting with the tool
 - 25 minutes presentation (~12 minutes per team member)
 - about 10 minutes discussion and questions (be prepared to answer questions!)
 - each group will be assigned to ask questions / give feedback to another group!

Report Contents

- Theoretical framework
- Historical background
- Interaction with the tool
- How does the system allow for automation?
- Highlight unique features!
- Highlight interesting aspects of your formalization of a proof / program
- Highlight difficulties you had and how you overcame or worked around them

Theorem Provers

- Isabelle/HOL: 16.01.2025
 - A general purpose, semi-automated theorem prover based on Higher-Order Logic
- Liquid Haskell: 16.01.2025
 - An addition on top of Haskell that allows specification and verification of programs with the help of SMT solving
- Dependently typed functional programming languages / theorem provers based on dependent type theory:
 - Idris: 23.01.2025
 - Agda: 23.01.2025
 - Coq (Rocq): 30.01.2025
 - Lean: 30.01.2025
 - By the end of this seminar, and after attending the other groups' presentations, you will know how these differ!

Additional Rules

Bachelors students:

 Report may contain fewer details of your system's theoretical framework

Formalized proof / program may be simpler

System choice:

- Agda is not available to choose if you have heard / are hearing VFP
- Coq is not available if you heard "Verification with the Coq Proof Assistant"

Schedule

 First draft of report: seven weeks before presentation (28.11/05.12./12.12.2024)

Presentations

- Thursday, 16.01.2025, 08:30 09:45 in 32-439
- Thursday, 23.01.2025, 08:30 09:45 in 32-439
- Thursday, 30.01.2025, 08:30 09:45 in 32-439
- Final report: 07.02.2025

All deadlines: End of the day 23:59.

Submissions: As source code + pdfs by email to your supervisor

How to Pass the Seminar

- Original text
- Stick to deadlines
- Attend final presentations
- Well written report
 - Conveys the key features
 - Comprehensible English
- Good presentation
 - Comprehensible story
 - Sticks to time limit
 - Able to answer questions
 - Not too much text on the slides
- Meet with your supervisor
- Use a spellchecker!