

A Verified UAV Flight Plan Generator

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Paparazzi is an autopilot for micro-drones

- Developed at ENAC since 2003,
- Open-Source under GPL license.

Complete drone control system:

- Control software part,
- Design of some hardware components,
- Support for ground and aerial vehicles,
- Support for simultaneous control of several drones,
- User can define their own mission using **flight plans**.



The **flight plan** (FP)

- describes how the drone might behave when launched,
- is defined in a XML configuration file.

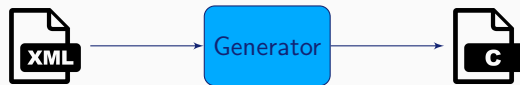
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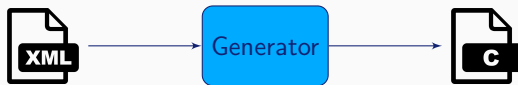
Example:

1. Wait until the GPS connection is set,
2. Take off,
3. Do a circle around a specific GPS position.
4. If battery is less than 20%: Go *home* and *land*.

Presentation of the Generator



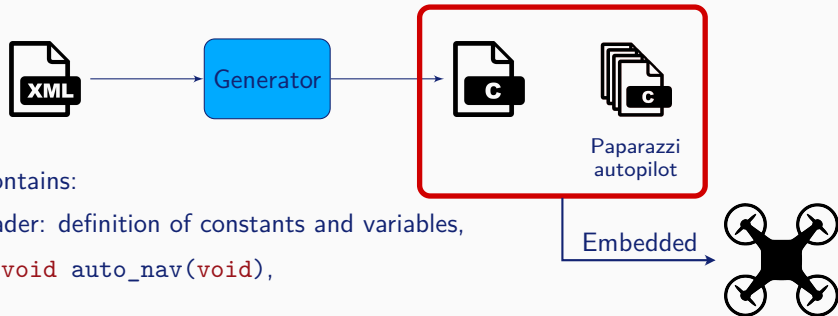
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The **generated C file** contains:

- The Flight Plan Header: definition of constants and variables,
- The main function: `void auto_nav(void)`,
- Auxiliary functions:
pre_call_block, post_call_block and forbidden_deroute.

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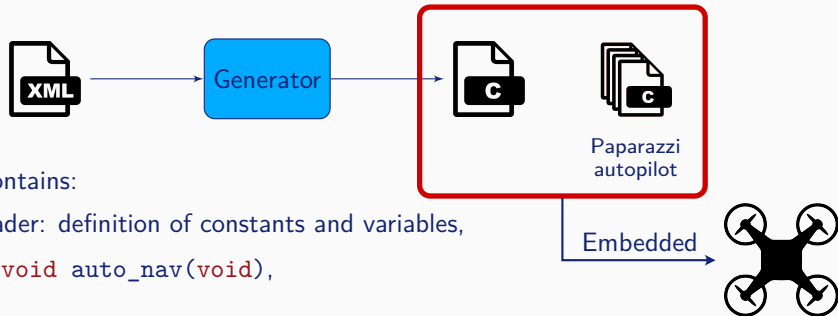


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Function `auto_nav`:

- Called at 20 Hz,
- Sets navigation parameters for actuators.

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- Does the `auto_nav` function always terminate?
- Generator is a complex software that generates embedded code.

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Solutions to similar problems

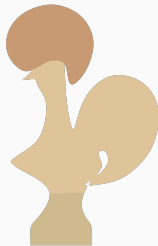
- CompCert: C compiler proved in Coq.
- Vélus: Lustre compiler proved in Coq.

Coq is a proof assistant

- Developed by Inria,
- Based on the Gallina language.

Software for writing and verifying formal proofs

- Proofs of mathematical theorems,
 - Proofs of properties on programs.
- ⇒ Coq code can be extracted into OCaml code with guarantees.

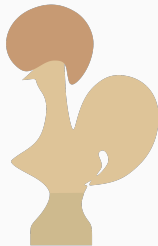


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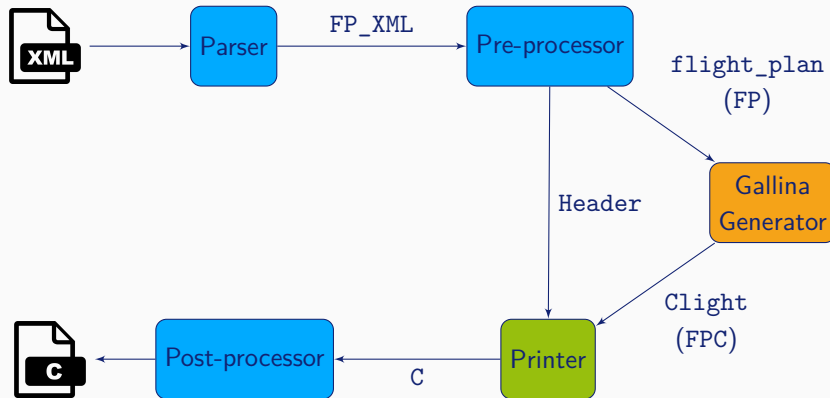
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Our solution: New flight plan generator developed and verified in Coq.

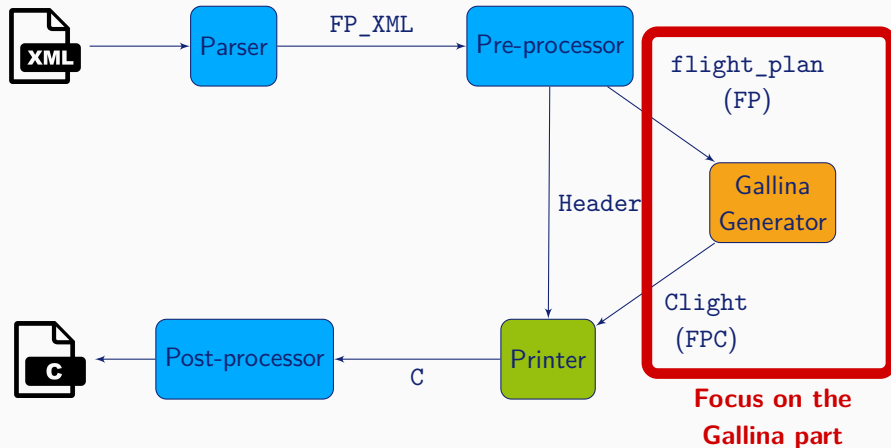
New Verified Flight Plan Generator (VFPG)



Pre-processing: Manages included files, converts block names into indexes...

Post-processing: Produces a compilable C code.

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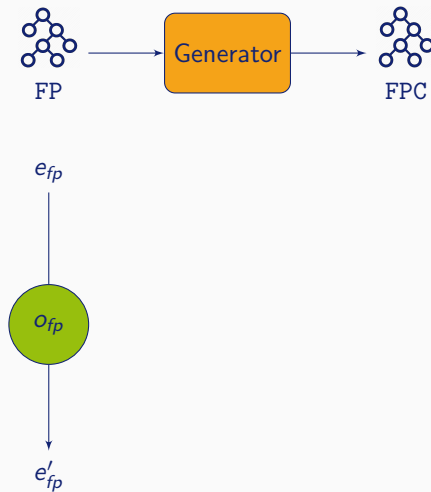
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Overview of the semantics preservation proof

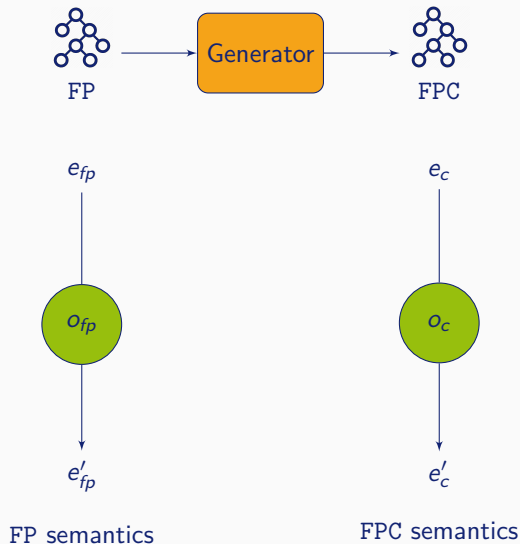


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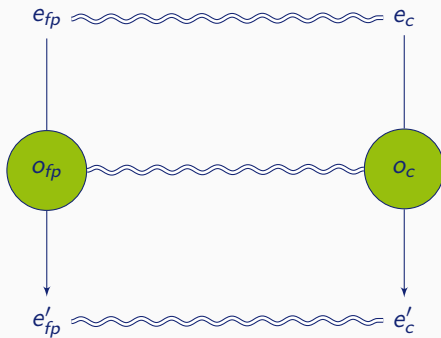


FP semantics

Overview of the semantics preservation proof



Overview of the semantics preservation proof



FP semantics

FPC semantics

Flight Plan Language

Flight Plan Structure in Gallina

```
Record flight_plan := {  
  blocks: list fp_block  
  excpts: list fp_exception;  
  fb_deroutes: list fp_fb_deroute; (* New feature *)  
}
```

```
Record fp_block := {  
  id: block_id;  
  excpts: list fp_exception;  
  stages: list fp_stage;  
}.
```

```
Inductive fp_stage :=  
  WHILE (cond: c_cond) (body: list fp_stage)  
  | SET (var: var_name) (value: c_value)  
  | CALL (fun: c_code)  
  | DEROUTE (idb: block_id)  
  | RETURN (reset: bool)  
  | NAV (nav_mode: fp_nav_mode) (init: bool).
```

```
Record fp_exception := {  
  cond: c_cond;  
  id: block_id;  
  exec: option c_code;  
}.
```

```
Record fp_fb_deroute := {  
  from: block_id;  
  to: block_id;  
  only_when: option c_cond;  
}.
```

Example: Potential Execution of a Flight Plan

Flight Plan:

```
{| excpts : [ ],
  fb_deroutes: [ ],
  blocks : [
    {| id: 0, excpts: [ ],
      stages: [
        CALL "InitSensors()";
        WHILE "!GPSFixValid()" [ ];
        SET "home" "GPSPosHere()"
      ];
    {| id: 1, excpts: [ ],
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        NAV (TakeOff params) true;
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    ];
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Generator

Generator Function

Definition `generate_flight_plan`:

`flight_plan` \rightarrow `res_generator`

Inputs:

- Flight plan to convert.

Outputs:

- **Variant** `res_generator` :=
 - | `CODE` (`res`: `Clight.program` * `list err_msg`)
 - | `ERROR` (`errs`: `list err_msg`).
- Warnings and errors currently produced during the generation.
 - detect when there is a possible deroute that is forbidden,
 - detect when the flight plan has an incorrect size.

Example of generated C Code

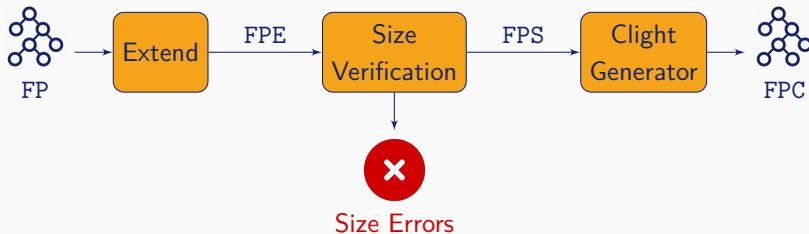
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{| excpts: [],  
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  blocks: [  
    {| id: 0,  
      excpts: [],  
      stages: [  
        CALL "func1()";  
        CALL "func2()"  
      ]  
    }|  
  ]  
}|
```

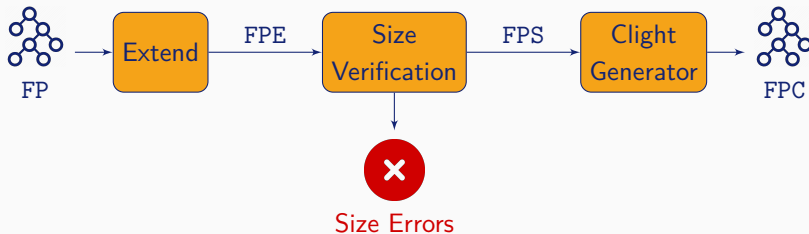
C code generated:

```
static inline void auto_nav(void) {  
    switch (get_nav_block()) {  
        case 0: // Block 0  
            switch (get_nav_stage()) {  
                case 0: // Stage 0  
                    func1();  
                case 1: // Stage 1  
                    func2();  
                default:  
                    case 3: // Default Stage  
                        NextBlock();  
                        break;  
            }  
            break;  
        case 1: // Default Block  
            GEN_DEFAULT_C_CODE()  
    }  
}
```

Steps of generate_flight_plan function



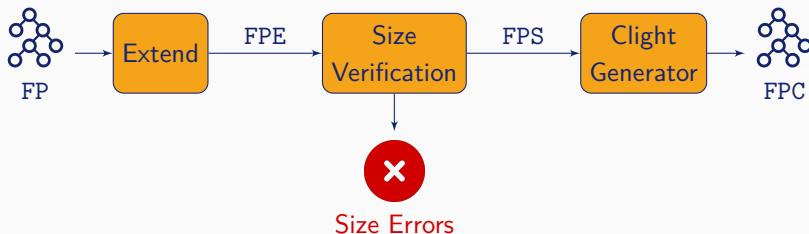
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Extended Flight Plan:

- Index stages,
- Split NAV into NAV_INIT and NAV,
- Flatten stages contained in a WHILE stage.

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Extended Flight Plan:

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Size verification:

- Check block indexing,
- Check that numbers of blocks and stages are less than 256,
- Check that `block_id` fields are 8 bits values.

Verification of the Generator

Generic Big Step Semantics for Flight Plans

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```
Record fp_semantics: Type := FP_Semantics_gen {  
  (** Environment for the semantics *)  
  env: Type;  
  (** Properties stating if an env is an initial environment *)  
  initial_env: env → Prop;  
  (** Properties stating the execution of the auto_nav function *)  
  step: env → env → Prop;  
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```

Instanciation of the semantics:

- `FP semantics`: `semantics_fp`,
- `FPE semantics`: `semantics_fpe`,
- `FPC semantics`: `semantics_fpc`,
- `FPS semantics`: `semantics_fps`.

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From the point of view of the flight plan execution, the **global drone environment** can be split into 2 distinct elements:

- the memory storing the execution **state** of the flight plan,
- the memory that can be modified by flight plan **external functions**.

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Remark

External functions can be:

- complex functions that corresponds to navigation stages,
- arbitrary C code contained in the flight plan.

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⇒ **We assume that these 2 memory regions are strictly disjoint.**

FP Semantics: Abstraction of the Drone Environment

The FP semantics will use `fp_env`, an abstraction of the drone environment.

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```
Record fp_env := {  
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`fp_state` represents an abstraction of the current state of the flight plan.

```
Record fp_state := {  
  idb: block_id; stages: list fp_stages; (* Current position *)  
  lidb: block_id; lstages: list fp_stages; (* Last position *)  
}
```

A **position** is a couple of a block ID and the remaining stages to execute.

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`fp_trace` represents the history of external functions execution.

```
Variant fp_event := COND (cond * bool) | C_CODE (c: c_code).  
Definition fp_trace := list fp_event.
```

Bisimulation relation

`fp_simulation` describes if FP2 can simulate every behaviour of FP1.

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```
Record fp_simulation (FP1 FP2: fp_semantics)
  (match_envs: env FP1 → env FP2 → Prop): Prop := {
  match_initial_envs:
    ∀ (e1: FP1.env), initial_env e1 →
      ∃ (e2: FP2.env), initial_env e2 ∧ match_envs e1 e2;
  match_step:
    ∀ (e1 e1': FP1.env), step e1 e1' →
    ∀ (e2: FP2.env), match_envs e1 e2 →
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}.
```

Definition of a bisimulation relation between 2 semantics.

```
Inductive bisimulation (FP1 FP2: fp_semantics) : Prop :=
  Bisimulation (match_envs: env L1 → env L2 → Prop)
    (forward_simulation: fp_simulation FP1 FP2 match_envs).
    (backward_simulation: fp_simulation FP2 FP1 match_envs).
```

Correctness theorem of the generator

Theorem (`bisim_fp_fpc`)

\forall fp prog warnings,
generator fp = CODE (prog, warnings)
 \rightarrow bisimulation (semantics_fp fp) (semantics_fpc prog).

This theorem states that the generator preserves the semantics.

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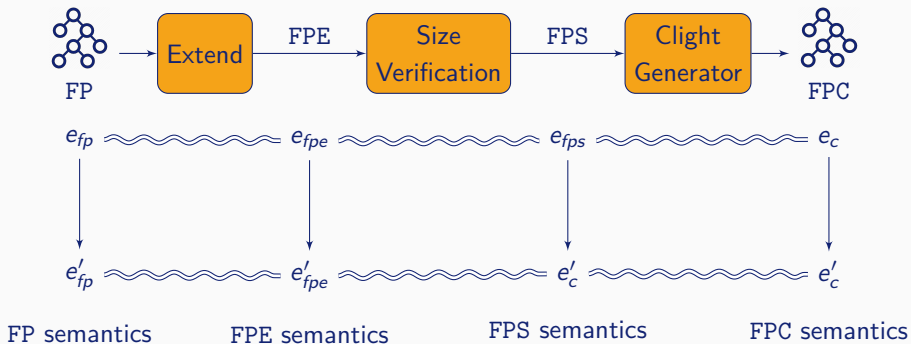
Forward simulation

FP behaviours is simulated by the Clight code.

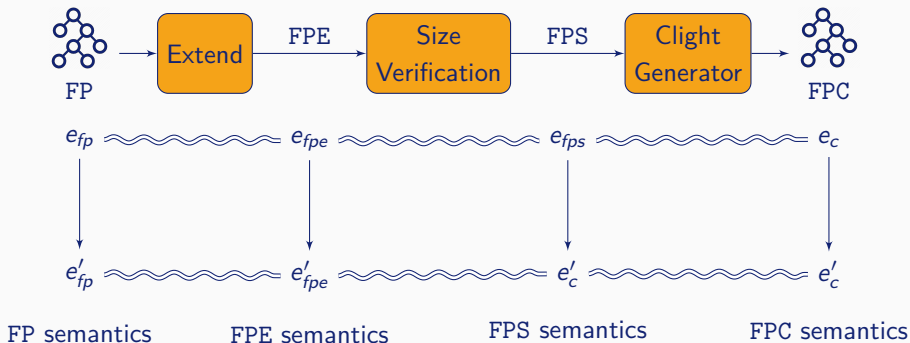
Backward simulation

Every possible execution of the Clight code is described by the FP semantics.

Verification of the `bisim_fp_fpc`



Verification of the bisim_fp_fpc



Lemma compose_bisimulations:

- \forall FP1 FP2 FP3, bisimulation FP1 FP2
 - \rightarrow bisimulation FP2 FP3
 - \rightarrow bisimulation FP1 FP3.

Proof based on axioms

Interpretation of the **arbitrary C code**.

\Rightarrow **Parameter** eval: $\text{fp_env} \rightarrow \text{cond} \rightarrow (\text{bool} * \text{fp_env})$.

\Rightarrow New axioms to convert arbitrary C code into traces.

Axiom stating that the function **create_ident** is injective.

Classical Coq standard library:

excluded middle, proof irrelevance and functional extensionality.

An axiom to prove that the Clight semantics is deterministic.

not mandatory, will be removed in future work.

Lessons Learned & Conclusion

Development methodology

- Constrained by the previous generator:
Input language, C code generated...
- Split the proof in 3 independent parts.
- Forced clarification of the semantics:
 - Unexpected behaviour (ex: *RETURN* after a *DEROUTE*),
 - Bug (ex: the FP contains more than 256 blocks/stages).

Technical remarks

- 1.3k loc of OCaml and 17k loc of Coq (12% of working code).
- Verification functions produce dependent type.
⇒ Avoid axioms, improves confidence in preprocessing.
- Using Clight has some downside.

Conclusion

Summary:

- Development of a new generator in Coq,
- Formalisation of the flight plan semantics,
- New features added,
- Verification of the preservation of the semantics.

Perspectives:

- Remove axiom to prove that Clight semantics is deterministic,
- Verify properties on the flight plan language,
- Integrate the new generator in Paparazzi toolchain,
- Reduce the number of pre-processing steps,
- Generalize the generator.

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