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Work Package 4: "Validation & Verification Strategy"

First Validation and Verification Report on Implementation/Code

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November 2013



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Work Package 4: "Validation & Verification Strategy"

OETCS/WP4/D4.2.2 November 2013

First Validation and Verification Report on Implementation/Code

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Description of work

Prepared for openETCS@ITEA2 Project

Abstract: This work package will comprise the activities concerned with verification and validation within openETCS. This includes verification & validation of development artifacts, that is, showing that models and code produced correctly express or implement what they are supposed to. And also, methods and tools to perform such tasks will be evaluated with the goal of assembling a suitable method and tool chain to support a full development.

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2 SQS

2.1 Introduction

include static analysis info and the tasks done by SQS

2.2 Resource Standard Metrics -RSM- Results

Resource Standard Metrics (RSM) is a source code metrics and quality analysis tool.

RSM provides standard metrics and a combination of features that allow to:

- Analyze source code for programming errors
- Analyze source code for code style enforcement
- Create an Inheritance tree from the code
- Collect Source Code Metrics by the function, class, file, and project
- Analyze Cyclomatic Complexity

RSM tool is mapped to the [MISRA C] Industry Standards which coverage is 40.16%

Besides, RSM has intrinsic quality notices and can be extended by the end user with User Defined Quality Notices using regular expressions to analyze code lines.

The following table shows the intrinsic Quality Notices for language c.

Table 2.1. Quality Notices

Quality Notice No. 1 Emit a quality notice v

Emit a quality notice when the physical line length is greater than the specified number of characters. Rationale: Reproducing source code on devices that are limited to 80 columns of text can cause the truncation of the line or wrap the line. Wrapped source lines are difficult to read, thus creating weaker peer reviews of the source code.

Quality Notice No. 3

Emit a quality notice when ellipsis '...' are identified within a functions parameter list thus enabling variable arguments.

Rationale: Ellipsis create a variable argument list. This type of design is found in C and C++. It essentially breaks the type strict nature of C++ and should be avoided.

Quality Notice No. 2

Emit a quality notice when the function name length is greater than the specified number of characters.

Rationale: Long function names may be a portability issue especially when code has to be cross compiled onto embedded platforms. This difficultly is typically seen with older hardware and operating systems.

Quality Notice No. 4

Emit a quality notice if there exists an assignment operator '=' within a logical 'if' condition.

Rationale: An assignment within an "if" condition is likely a typographical error giving rise to a logic defect. However, some programmers place compound statements into the "if" condition making the code difficult to read.

Table 2.1. Quality Notices

Quality Notice No. 5

Emit a quality notice if there exists an assignment operator '=' within a logical 'while' condition.

Rationale: An assignment within a "while" condition is likely a typographical error giving rise to a logic defect. However, some programmers place compound statements into the "while" condition making the code difficult to read.

Quality Notice No. 6

Emit a quality notice when a pre-decrement operator '-' is identified within the code.

Rationale: The pre-decrement of a variable occurs before the remainder of the processing in the statement. This can be difficult to comprehend or anticipate. There are documented cases where the mathematical results vary between the result of macros when different code preprocessors expand the macros into a normal form. Remember, there is no standard for the preprocessor, just the language.

Quality Notice No. 7

Emit a quality notice when a pre-increment operator '++' is identified within the code.

Rationale: The pre-increment of a variable occurs before the remainder of the processing in the statement. This can be difficult to comprehend or anticipate. There are documented cases where the mathematical results vary between the result of macros when different code preprocessors expand the macros into a normal form.

Quality Notice No. 8

Emit a quality notice when the 'realloc' function is identified within the code.

Rationale: Using realloc can lead to latent memory leaks within your C or C++ code. The call to realloc reassigns the pointer to the same memory address using a larger or smaller space. However if realloc fails, a NULL pointer is returned. No "free" was performed on the pointer so if you don't retain the pointer before the realloc call, a latent memory leak could occur.

Quality Notice No. 9

Emit a quality notice when the 'goto' function is identified within the code.

Rationale: The use of "goto" creates spaghetti code. A "goto" can jump anywhere to the destination label. This type of design breaks the "one in one out" ideal of a function creating code which can be impossible to debug or maintain.

Quality Notice No. 10

Emit a quality notice when the Non-ANSI function prototype is identified within the code.

Rationale: Older C code can be written in a style that does not use function prototypes of the function argument types. This code will not compile on ANSI C and C++ compilers because of this type of weakness. Identifying this condition can help assess whether code can be ported to a newer version of the language.

Quality Notice No. 11

Emit a quality notice when open and closed brackets '[]' are not balance within a file.

Rationale: This type of error is always caught by the compiler as a syntax error. However, a compiler can be told to ignore source code by using preprocessor directives like #if ... #endif. This is a way to "comment" out large blocks of code. However, the code still looks like operational code to the maintainer as it is not a comment. Many hours can be wasted working on dead code. This quality notice serves to warn you of this dead code that should be removed or converted to actual comment form.

Quality Notice No. 12

Emit a quality notice when open and closed parenthesis '()' are not balance within a file.

Rationale: This type of error is always caught by the compiler as a syntax error. However, a compiler can be told to ignore source code by using preprocessor directives like #if ... #endif. This is a way to "comment" out large blocks of code. However, the code still looks like operational code to the maintainer as it is not a comment. Many hours can be wasted working on dead code. This quality notice serves to warn you of this dead code that should be removed or converted to actual comment form..

Quality Notice No. 13

Emit a quality notice when a 'switch' statement does not have a 'default' condition.

Rationale: A "switch" statement must always have a default condition or this logic construct is non-deterministic. Generally the default condition should warn the user of an anomalous condition which was not anticipated by the programmer by the case clauses of the switch.

Quality Notice No. 14

Emit a quality notice when there are more 'case' conditions than 'break', 'return' or 'fall through' comments.

Rationale: Many tools, including RSM, watch the use of "case" and "break" to insure that there is not an inadvertent fall through to the next case statement. RSM requires the programmer to explicitly indicate in the source code via a "fall through" comment that the case was designed to fall through to the next statement.

Table 2.1. Quality Notices

Quality Notice No. 16

Emit a quality notice when function white space percentage is less than the specified minimum. Rational: Source code must be easily read. A low percentage of white space indicates that the source code is crammed together thus compromising the readability of the code. Typically white space less than 10 percent is considered crammed code.

Quality Notice No. 17

Emit a quality notice when function comment percentage is less than the specified minimum.

Rationale: A programmer must supply sufficient comments to enable the understandability of the source code. Typically a comment percentage less than 10 percent is considered insufficient. However, the content quality of the comment is just as important as the quantity of the comments. For this reason you could use the -E option to extract all the comments from a file. The reviewer should be able to read the comments and extract the story of the code.

Quality Notice No. 18

Emit a quality notice when the eLOC within a function exceeds the specified maximum.

Rationale: An extremely large function is very difficult to maintain and understand. When a function exceeds 200 eLOC (effective lines of code), it typically indicates that the function could be broken down into several functions. Small modules are desirable for modular composability.

Quality Notice No. 19

Emit a quality notice when file white space percentage is less than the specified minimum.

Rationale: Source code must be easily read. A low percentage of white space indicates that the source code is crammed together thus compromising the readability of the code. Typically white space less than 10 percent is considered crammed code.

Quality Notice No. 20

Emit a quality notice when file comment percentage is less than the specified minimum.

Rationale: A programmer must supply sufficient comments to enable the understandability of the source code. Typically a comment percentage less than 10 percent is considered insufficient. However, the content quality of the comment is just as important as the quantity of the comments. For this reason you could use the -E option to extract all the comments from a file. The reviewer should be able to read the comments and extract the story of the code

Quality Notice No. 22

Emit a quality notice when each if, else, for or while is not bound by scope.

Rationale: Logical blocks should be bound with scope. This clearly marks the boundaries of scope for the logical blocks. Many times, code may be added to non-scoped logic blocks thus pushing other lines of code from the active region of the logical construct giving rise to a logic defect.

Quality Notice No. 23

Emit a quality notice when the '?' or the implied if-then-else construct has been identified.

Rationale: The ? operator creates the code equivalent of an "if" then "else" construct. However the resultant source is far less readable.

Quality Notice No. 24

Emit a quality notice when an ANSI C++ keyword is identified within a *.c or a *.h file.

Rationale: In C source code it is possible to find variable names like "class". This word is a key word in C++ and would prevent this C code from being ported to the C++ language.

Quality Notice No. 25 (Deprecated RSM 6.70) When analyzing *.h files for C++ keywords, assume that *.h can be both C and C++.

Rationale: A *.h file can be either a C or C++ source file. If a *.h file is assumed to be from either language, then RSM will not emit C keyword notices in *.h file, only for *.c files.

Quality Notice No. 26

Emit a quality notice when a void * is identified within a source file.

Rationale: A "void *" is a type-less pointer. ANSI C and C++ strives to be type strict. In C++ a "void *" breaks the type strict nature of the language which can give rise to anomalous run-time defects.

Quality Notice No. 27

Emit a quality notice when the number of function return points is greater than the specified maximum.

Rationale: A well constructed function has one entry point and one exit point. Functions with multiple return points are difficult to debug and maintain.

Quality Notice No. 28

Emit a quality notice when the cyclomatic complexity of a function exceeds the specified maximum.

Rationale: Cyclomatic complexity is an indicator for the number of logical branches within a function. A high degree of V(g), greater than 10 or 20, indicates that the function could be broken down into a more modular design of smaller functions.

Table 2.1. Quality Notices

Quality Notice No. 29

Emit a quality notice when the number of function input parameters exceeds the specified maximum. Rationale: A high number of input parameters to a function indicates poor modular design. Data should be grouped into representative data types. Functions should be specific to one purpose.

Quality Notice No. 30

Emit a quality notice when a TAB character is identified within the source code. Indentation with TAB will create editor and device dependent formatting.

Rationale: Tab characters within source code create documents that are print and display device dependent. The document may look correct on the screen but it may become unreadable when printed.

Quality Notice No. 31

Emit a quality notice when class comment percentage is less than the specified minimum.

Rationale: A programmer must supply sufficient comments to enable the understandability of the source code. Typically a comment percentage less than 10 percent is considered insufficient.

Quality Notice No. 43

Emit a quality notice when the key word 'continue' has been identified within the source code.

Rationale: The use of 'continue' in logical structures causes a disruption in the linear flow of the logic. This style of programming can make maintenance and readability difficult.

Quality Notice No. 46

Emit a quality notice when function, struct, class or interface blank line percentages are less than the specified minimum

Rationale: The amount of blank lines in a file can indicate the degree of readability in the file. It indicates the author intended his work to be human consumable.

Quality Notice No. 47

Emit a quality notice when the file blank line percentage is less than the specified minimum

Rationale: The amount of blank lines in a file can indicate the degree of readability in the file. It indicates the author indented his work to be human consumable.

Quality Notice No. 48

Emit a quality notice when a function has no logical lines of code.

Rationale: This condition indicates a no-op or stubbed out function with no operational code. Many code generators create such no-op functions which contribute to code bloat and unnecessary resource utilization.

Quality Notice No. 49

Emit a quality notice when a function has no parameters in the parameter list.

Rationale: A function should always specify the actual parameter names to enhance maintenance and readability. A programmer should always put void to indicate the deliberate design in the code.

Quality Notice No. 50

Emit a quality notice when a variable is assigned to a literal value. Configurable for literal 0 in rsm.cfg. Rationale: A symbolic constant is the preferred method for variable assignment as this creates maintainable and understandable.

Quality Notice No. 51

Emit a quality notice when there is no comment before a function block.

Rationale: A function block should retain a preceding comment block describing the purpose, parameters, returns and algorithms.

Quality Notice No. 52

Emit a quality notice when there is no comment before a class block.

Rationale: A class block should retain a preceding comment block describing the purpose, and algorithms.

Quality Notice No. 53

Emit a quality notice when there is no comment before a struct block.

Rationale: A struct block should retain a preceding comment block describing the data and purpose.

Quality Notice No. 55

Emit a quality notice when scope exceeds the specified maximum in the rsm.cfg file.

Rationale: A deep scope block of complex logic or levels may indicate a maintenance concern.

Quality Notice No. 56

Emit a quality notice when sequential break statements are identified.

Rationale: Repetitive and sequential breaks can be used to fool RSM identification of case statement without breaks.

In addition to this, RSM allows to customize the desired output providing standard metrics and a combination of features.

RSM has been customized to obtain the below metrics and analysis and the corresponding reports that are available into the [VnVUserStories folder]

- Project Functional Metrics and Analysis
- Project Class/Struct Metrics and Analysis
- Class Inheritance Tree
- Project Quality Profile
- Quality Notice Density
- Files Keywords and Metrics
- Project Keywords and Metrics
- Files Function Metrics
- Class/Struct Metrics
- Complexity Metrics

To be included summary results

Table 2.2. Quality Profile

Type	Count	Percent	Quality Notice
1	38	9.57	Physical line length > 80 characters
2	4	1.01	Function name length > 32 characters
22	5	1.26	if, else, for or while not bound by scope
27	2	0.50	Number of function return points > 1
30	330	83.12	TAB character has been identified
50	7	1.76	Variable assignment to a literal number
51	8	2.02	No comment preceding a function block
53	1	0.25	No comment preceding a struct block
125	2	0.50	A data member in the header file is not of the form m_*

2.3 LocMetrics tool Results

LocMetrics counts total lines of code (LOC), blank lines of code (BLOC), comment lines of code (CLOC), lines with both code and comments (C&SLOC), logical source lines of code (SLOC-L), McCabe VG complexity (MVG), Header Comments (HCLOC), Header Words (HCWORD) and number of comment words (CWORDS). Physical executable source lines of code (SLOC-P) is calculated as the total lines of source code minus blank lines and comment lines. Counts are calculated on a per file basis and accumulated for the entire project. LocMetrics also generates a comment word histogram.

About the results obtained by LocMetrics tool are the following ones:

File	LOC	SLOC-P	SLOC- L	MVG	BLOC	C&SLOC	CLOC	CWORD	HCLOC	HCWORD
Bitwalker.h	42	15	12	0	8	1	19	102	0	0
Bitwalker.c	110	58	36	15	24	5	28	217	0	0
main.c	128	45	26	1	23	5	60	350	0	0
opnETCS.h	1250	884	883	0	181	637	185	3864	0	0
opnETCS _Decoder.h	85	62	61	0	3	0	20	103	0	0

Table 2.3. LocMetrics Tool Results

2.4 Understand tool Results

Understand is a cross-platform, multi-language, maintenance-oriented IDE (Interactive Development Environment). It is designed to help maintain and understand large amounts of legacy or newly created source code. With this tool SQS has checked MISRA-C:2004

Below the MISRA-C tested rules are listed:

• Language extensions

- 2.1 (req): Assembly language shall be encapsulated and isolated.
- 2.2 (req): Source code shall only use /* ... */ style comments.
- 2.3 (req): The character sequence /* shall not be used within a comment.
- 2.4 (adv-): Sections of code should not be 'commented out'.

Character sets

- 4.1 (req): Only those escape sequences that are defined in the ISO C standard shall be used.
- 4.2 (req): Trigraphs shall not be used. Identifiers

Identifiers

- 5.1 (req): Identifiers (internal and external) shall not rely on the significance of more than 31 characters.
- 5.2 (req): %s: Identifiers in an inner scope shall not use the same name as an identifier in an outer scope, and therefore hide that identifier.
- 5.3 (req-): A 'typedef' name shall be a unique identifier.
- 5.4 (req): A tag name shall be a unique identifier.
- 5.5 (adv-): No object or function identifier with static storage duration should be reused.
- 5.6 (adv-): No identifier in one name space should have the same spelling as an identifier in another name space, with the exception of structure and union member names.
- 5.7 (adv-): No identifier name should be reused.

Types

 6.3 (adv): 'typedefs' that indicate size and signedness should be used in place of the basic types.

- 6.4 (req): Bit fields shall only be defined to be of type 'unsigned int' or 'signed int'.
- 6.5 (req-): Bit fields of type signed int shall be at least 2 bits long.

Constants

 7.1 (req): Octal constants (other than zero) and octal escape sequences shall not be used.

Declarations and definitions

- 8.5 (req-): There shall be no definitions of objects or functions in a header file.
- 8.6 (adv): Functions shall be declared at file scope.
- 8.7 (req): Objects %s shall be defined at block scope if they are only accessed from within a single function %s.
- 8.8 (req): %s: An external object or function shall be declared in one and only one file.
- 8.9 (req): %s: An identifier with external linkage shall have exactly one external definition.
- 8.10 (req): %s: All declarations and definitions of objects or functions at file scope shall have internal linkage unless external linkage is required.
- 8.11 (req): The static storage class specifier shall be used in definitions and declarations of objects and functions that have internal linkage.

• Initialisation

- 9.3 (req): In an enumerator list, the '=' construct shall not be used to explicitly initialise members other than the first, unless all items are explicitly initialised.

Control statement expressions

13.3 (req): Floating-point expressions shall not be tested for equality or inequality.

Control flow

- 14.1 (req-): There shall be no unreachable code.
- 14.3 (req-): Before preprocessing, a null statement shall only occur on a line by itself;, it may be followed by a comment provided that the first character following the null statement is a white-space character.
- 14.4 (req): The 'goto' statement shall not be used.
- 14.5 (req): The 'continue' statement shall not be used.
- 14.7 (req): A function shall have a single point of exit at the end of the function.
- 14.10 (req): All 'if ... else if' constructs shall be terminated with an 'else' clause.

• Switch statements

- 15.3 (req): The final clause of a 'switch' statement shall be the 'default' clause.

Functions

- 16.1 (req): Functions shall not be defined with variable numbers of arguments.
- 16.2 (req): Functions shall not call themselves, either directly or indirectly.

 16.3 (req): Identifiers shall be given for all of the parameters in a function prototype declaration.

- 16.4 (req-): The identifiers used in the declaration and definition of a function shall be identical.
- 16.5 (req): Functions with no parameters shall be declared with parameter type void.

Pointers and arrays

- 17.5 (adv): The declaration of objects should contain no more than 2 levels of pointer indirection.

• Structures and unions

- 18.4 (req): Unions shall not be used.

• Preprocessing directives

- 19.1 (adv-): '#include' statements in a file should only be preceded by other preprocessor directives or comments.
- 19.2 (adv): Non-standard characters should not occur in header file names in include directives.
- 19.3 (req): The '#include' directive shall be followed by either a <filename> or filenamesequence.
- 19.4 (req-): C macros shall only expand to a braced initialised, a constant, a parenthesised expression, a type qualifier, a storage class specifier, or a do-while-zero construct.
- 19.5 (req): Macros shall not be '#define'd or '#undef'd within a block.
- 19.6 (req): '#undef' shall not be used.

• Standard libraries

- 20.4 (req): Dynamic heap memory allocation shall not be used.
- 20.5 (req): The error indicator 'errno' shall not be used.
- 20.6 (req): The macro 'offsetof', in library <stddef.h>, shall not be used.
- 20.7 (req): The 'setimp' macro and the 'longimp' function shall not be used.
- 20.8 (req): The signal handling facilities of <signal.h> shall not be used.
- 20.9 (req): The input/output library <stdio.h> shall not be used in production code.
- 20.10 (req): The library functions 'atof', 'atoi' and 'atol' from library <stdlib.h> shall not be used
- 20.11 (req): The library functions 'abort', 'exit', 'getenv' and 'system' from library <stdlib.h> shall not be used.
- 20.12 (req): The time handling functions of library <time.h> shall not be used.

• Run-time failures

- 21.1 (req-): Minimization of run-time failures shall be ensured by the use of at least one of:
 - * static analysis tools/techniques;
 - dynamic analysis tools/techniques;
 - * explicit coding of checks to handle run-time faults.

The results of the MISRA Rules are the following:

Begin Analysis: jueves, 21 de noviembre de 2013 13:28:18

Begin Global Check Phase

Global: 5.1 Identifiers shall not rely on the significance of more than 31 characters: Violations found

Global: 5.4 A tag name shall be unique.: Violations found

Global: 5.6 No identifier in one name space should have the same spelling as an identifier in another

name space.: Violations found

Global: 5.7 No identifier name should be reused: Violations found

Global: 8.10 prefer internal linkage over external whenever possible: Violations found

Global: 8.11 use static keyword for internal linkage: Violations found

Global: 8.9 identifier with external linkage shall have exactly one external definition.: Violations found

End Global Check Phase Begin File Check Phase

File: Bitwalker.h: Violations found File: opnETCS.h: Violations found File: main.c: Violations found File: Bitwalker.c: Violations found

End File Check Phase Begin Clang Check Phase End Clang Check Phase

End Analysis: jueves, 21 de noviembre de 2013 13:28:34

Analysis Summary:

Files: 5 Checks: 55

Violations Found: 1965 Violations Ignored: 0

Violations Remaining: 1965

Figure 2.1. MISRA-C Rules results

The files into the violations are found are listed in the below table.

Table 2.4. Ubication of MISRA Violations

MISRA Rule	Files
Global 5.1	Bitwalker.c/opnETCS.h/opnETCS_Decoder.h
Global 5.4	opnETCS.h
Global 5.6	Bitwalker.c/Bitwalker.h
Global 5.7	Bitwalker.c/Bitwalker.h/opnETCS.h
Global 8.9	opnETCS_Decoder.h
Global 8.10	main.c
Global 8.11	main.c

2.5 Clang Static Analyzer tool Results

The Clang Static Analyzer is a source code analysis tool that finds bugs in C, C++, and Objective-C programs.

The analyzer is 100% open source and is part of the Clang project. Like the rest of Clang, the analyzer is implemented as a C++ library that can be used by other tools and applications.

With this analysis SQS has checked the following:

Table 2.5. xxx

core.AdjustedReturnValue	Check to see if the return value of a function call is different than the caller expects (e.g., from calls through function pointers).
core.CallAndMessage	Check for logical errors for function calls and Objective-C message expressions (e.g., uninitialized arguments, null function pointers).
core.DivideZero	Check for division by zero.
core.NonNullParamChecker	Check for null pointers passed as arguments to a function whose arguments are known to be non-null.
core.NullDereference	Check for dereferences of null pointers.
core.StackAddressEscape	Check that addresses to stack memory do not escape the function.
core.UndefinedBinaryOperatorResult	Check for undefined results of binary operators.
core.VLASize	Check for declarations of VLA of undefined or zero size.
core.builtin.BuiltinFunctions	Evaluate compiler built-in functions (e.g., alloca()).
core.builtin.NoReturnFunctions	Evaluate "panic" functions that are known to not return to the caller.
core.uninitialized.ArraySubscript	Check for uninitialized values used as array subscripts.
core.uninitialized.Assign	Check for assigning uninitialized values.
core.uninitialized.Branch	Check for uninitialized values used as branch conditions.
core.uninitialized.CapturedBlockVariable	Check for blocks that capture uninitialized values.
core.uninitialized.UndefReturn	Check for uninitialized values being returned to the caller.
cplusplus.NewDelete	Check for double-free and use-after-free problems involving C++ delete.
deadcode.DeadStores	Check for values stored to variables that are never read afterwards.
osx.API	Check for proper uses of various Apple APIs.
osx.SecKeychainAPI	Check for proper uses of Secure Keychain APIs.
osx.cocoa.AtSync	Check for nil pointers used as mutexes for @synchronized.
osx.cocoa.ClassRelease	Check for sending 'retain', 'release', or 'autorelease' directly to a Class.
osx.cocoa.lncompatibleMethodTypes	Warn about Objective-C method signatures with type incompatibilities.
osx.cocoa.NSAutoreleasePool	Warn for suboptimal uses of NSAutoreleasePool in Objective-C GC mode.
osx.cocoa.NSError	Check usage of NSError** parameters.
osx.cocoa.NilArg	Check for prohibited nil arguments to ObjC method calls.
osx.cocoa.RetainCount	Check for leaks and improper reference count management.
osx.cocoa.SelfInit	Check that 'self' is properly initialized inside an initializer method.
osx.cocoa.UnusedIvars	Warn about private ivars that are never used.
osx.cocoa.VariadicMethodTypes	Check for passing non-Objective-C types to variadic methods that expect only Objective-C types.
osx.coreFoundation.CFError	Check usage of CFErrorRef* parameters.
osx.coreFoundation.CFNumber	Check for proper uses of CFNumberCreate.

Table 2.5. xxx

osx.coreFoundation.CFRetainRelease	Check for null arguments to CFRetain/CFRelease/CF-MakeCollectable.
osx.coreFoundation.containers.OutOfBounds	Checks for index out-of-bounds when using 'CFArray' API.
osx.coreFoundation.containers.PointerSizedVal	uèsarns if 'CFArray', 'CFDictionary', 'CFSet' are created with non-pointer-size values.
security.FloatLoopCounter	Warn on using a floating point value as a loop counter (CERT: FLP30-C, FLP30-CPP).
security.insecureAPI.UncheckedReturn	Warn on uses of functions whose return values must be always checked.
security.insecureAPI.getpw	Warn on uses of the 'getpw' function.
security.insecureAPI.gets	Warn on uses of the 'gets' function.
security.insecureAPI.mkstemp	Warn when 'mkstemp' is passed fewer than 6 X's in the format string.
security.insecureAPI.mktemp	Warn on uses of the 'mktemp' function.
security.insecureAPI.rand	Warn on uses of the 'rand', 'random', and related functions.
security.insecureAPI.strcpy	Warn on uses of the 'strcpy' and 'strcat' functions.
security.insecureAPI.vfork	Warn on uses of the 'vfork' function.
unix.API	Check calls to various UNIX/Posix functions.
unix.Malloc	Check for memory leaks, double free, and use-after-free problems involving malloc.
unix.MallocSizeof	Check for dubious malloc arguments involving sizeof.
unix.MismatchedDeallocator	Check for mismatched deallocators (e.g. passing a pointer allocating with new to free()).
unix.cstring.BadSizeArg	Check the size argument passed into C string functions for common erroneous patterns.
unix.cstring.NullArg	Check for null pointers being passed as arguments to C string functions.

After run this analysis no violations have been found.

Begin Analysis: viernes, 22 de noviembre de 2013 9:23:52

Begin Global Check Phase End Global Check Phase Begin File Check Phase End File Check Phase Begin Clang Check Phase End Clang Check Phase

End Analysis: viernes, 22 de noviembre de 2013 9:23:52

Analysis Summary:

Files: 5 Checks: 55

Violations Found: 0 Violations Ignored: 0

Violations Remaining: 0

Figure 2.2. Clang Analysis results

2.6 CPPcheck tool Results

Bitwalker folder has been analyzed statically by CPPcheck tool (Complying with the standard C11). C11 (formerly C1X) is an informal name for ISO/IEC 9899:2011, the current standard for the C programming language. It replaces the previous C standard, informally known as C99. This new version mainly standardizes features that have already been supported by common contemporary compilers, and includes a detailed memory model to better support multiple threads of execution. Due to delayed availability of conforming C99 implementations, C11 makes certain features optional, to make it easier to comply with the core language standard.

The results of the tool are the following:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
-<results version="2"><cppcheck version="1.62"/><errors>-<error verbose="Variable &#039;Testwort&#039; is reassigned a</p>
value before the old one has been used." msg="Variable 'Testwort ' is reassigned a value before the old one has been
used." severity="performance" id="redundantAssignment">
<location line="119" file="\192.168.1.4\DirectorioSQS\Temp\idelatorre\Bitwalker\main.c"/>
<location line="120" file="\192.168.1.4\DirectorioSQS\Temp\idelatorre\Bitwalker\main.c"/>
</error>-<error verbose="Variable &#039;Testwort&#039; is reassigned a value before the old one has been used." msg="Variable
avalue before the old one has been used." severity="performance" avalue before the old one has been used." severity="performance"
id="redundantAssignment">
<location line="120" file="\192.168.1.4\DirectorioSQS\Temp\idelatorre\Bitwalker\main.c"/>
<location line="121" file="\192.168.1.4\DirectorioSQS\Temp\idelatorre\Bitwalker\main.c"/>
</error>-<error verbose="Variable &#039;Testwort&#039; is reassigned a value before the old one has been used." msg="Variable
'Testwort' is reassigned a value before the old one has been used." severity="performance"
id="redundantAssignment">
<location line="121" file="\192.168.1.4\DirectorioSQS\Temp\idelatorre\Bitwalker\main.c"/>
<location line="122" file="\192.168.1.4\DirectorioSQS\Temp\idelatorre\Bitwalker\main.c"/>
</error>-<error verbose="Variable &#039;Testwort &#039; is assigned a value that is never used." msg="Variable
'Testwort' is assigned a value that is never used." severity="style" id="unreadVariable">
<location line="122" file="\192.168.1.4\DirectorioSQS\Temp\idelatorre\Bitwalker\main.c"/>
</error></errors></results>
```

Figure 2.3. cppcheck results

2.7 Results Comparison

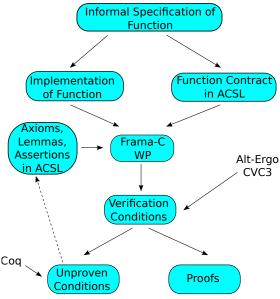


Figure 3.1. The method to formally verify the Bitwalker.

3 Formal Verification of Bitwalker

In this section we describe our work on the formal verification of the so-called Bitwalker. The Bitwalker shall read bit sequences from a bit stream and convert them to an integer. Furthermore, it shall convert an integer into a bit sequence and write it into a bit stream. Therefore, the Bitwalker has a read and a write function, namely Bitwalker Peek and Bitwalker Poke.

Our aim is to verify the functionality of Bitwalker_Peek and Bitwalker_Poke as well as their correct interaction. Furthermore, we want to verify some robustness cases for Bitwalker_Peek and Bitwalker_Poke and the absence of run time errors for both functions. We won't take into account any complexity requirements.

We introduce a method to achieve these goals in section 3.1. Moreover, it is our intention to elaborate the method and in particular the associated tools.

Subsequently, we use the method for <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> and <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code> in section 3.2 and 3.3, respectively. We provide an informal specification, an implementation and a formal specification for each function and present what could have been verified for the implementation.

We discuss the interaction of these functions in section 3.4 where we show how the interaction can be formally specified and present the verification results. Finally, we give an overview about the still open issues in section 3.5.

3.1 Verification Method

In this section we introduce our method of choice along with the used tools. We use a deductive verification approach to formally prove that a function fulfills its specification. The foundations for deductive verification are axiomatic semantics as formulated by Hoare [1]. Figure 3.1 shows the method with the involved verification tools.

Starting point is an informal specification of a function with which in mind a implementation is written and on which basis the formal specification is created. The formal specification

of a function is a so-called function contract which contains preconditions to express what a function expects from its caller and postconditions to state the guarantees after the execution. The specification language is called ACSL (ANSI/ISO-C Specification Language) [2] which is a formal language to express behavioral properties of C programs.

Moreover, it is the specification language associated with the verification platform Frama-C [3] which we use along with its plug-in WP [4]. Within Frama-C, WP enables the deductive verification of C programs that have been annotated with ACSL. WP generates verification conditions which are submitted to external automatic or interactive theorem provers. A function is then verified if each verification condition is discharged by at least one prover.

Figure 3.1 shows that we first apply the automatic theorem provers Alt-Ergo [5] and CVC3 [6] and then apply the interactive theorem prover Coq [7] for the still unproven conditions in order to automate as much as possible. Moreover, unproven conditions motivate to give some extra information in the form of axioms, lemmas and assertions in ACSL, since they can ease the search of a proof. One need to be careful with axioms because they can yield contradictions and thus make the proof system unsound. This is different for lemmas and assertions because WP will generate additional verification conditions for them.

In order to prove the absence of run time errors we use the rte option of WP that automatically introduce ACSL assertions. If all these assertions can be proven, then the absence of run time errors is guaranteed.

3.2 The Function Bitwalker_Peek

In this section we examine the function <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code>. Initially, we provide an informal specification followed by an implementation. We then derive a formal specification on the basis of the informal one. Finally, we present the results of the deductive verification with <code>Frama-C</code> and <code>WP</code>.

3.2.1 Informal Specification

We first introduce some auxiliary concepts and formulate general assumptions:

- A bit stream is an array containing elements of type uint8_t.
 A bit stream of length n contains 8n bits.
- A bit stream is *valid* if the array is valid.
- A bit stream can be indexed both by its array indices and its *bit indices*.

 Figure 3.2 shows the difference between array indices and bit indices in a bit stream. The two bit indices, 0 and 14, mark bit positions in the first and second array element, respectively.

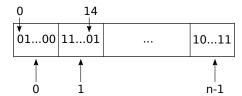


Figure 3.2. Array indices and bit indices in a bit stream

• A *bit sequence* is a consecutive sequence of bits within a bit stream as represented in Figure 3.3.

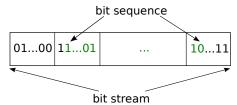


Figure 3.3. A bit sequence within a bit stream

A bit sequence is given by the position of its first bit (a bit index in the bit stream) and its *length*, that is, the number of bits it contains.

• A bit sequence of length *l* that starts at bit index *p* is *valid* with respect to a bit stream of length *n* if the following conditions are satisfied

$$0 \le p \le 8n$$
$$0 \le p + l \le 8n$$

• We assume that the C-types unsigned int and int have a width of 32 bits.

Now we specify Bitwalker_Peek with the introduced auxiliary concepts. The function Bitwalker_Peek reads a bit sequence from a bit stream and converts it to an integer.

Its function signature reads as follows:

The arguments have the following purpose:

- Startposition is the bit index in the bit stream where the bit sequence starts.
- Length is the length of the bit sequence.
- Bitstream is the array which provides the bit stream.
- BitstreamSizeInBytes is the length of the array containing the bit stream.

The following preconditions shall hold for the function arguments:

- Bitstream is a valid array of length BitstreamSizeInBytes
- Length \leq 64 and
- Startposition + Length ≤ UINT_MAX.

Note that additional constraints are implicitly expressed by the use of *unsigned* integer types.

We continue with a more precise description of the desired behavior of Bitwalker_Peek. As mentioned, the function Bitwalker_Peek reads a bit sequence from a bit stream and converts it to a 64-bit unsigned integer.

The left most bit of the bit sequence is interpreted as the most significant bit. Thus, for a bit sequence $(b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})$ the function returns the sum

$$b_0 \cdot 2^{n-1} + b_1 \cdot 2^{n-2} + \ldots + b_{n-1} \cdot 2^0 = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} b_i \cdot 2^{(n-1)-i}$$
 (1)

If the bit sequence is not valid, then the function returns 0. This increases the robustness of the function.

3.2.2 Implementation

Listing 3.1 shows the C implementation of Bitwalker_Peek for which we aim to verify that it fulfills the informal specification. The case where the bit sequence is not valid is handled by the if-statement. For a valid sequence the summation of the bits is done in the for-loop. The array BitwalkerBitMaskTable is a const helper array to select a single bit in the Bitstream.

Listing 3.1. Implementation of Bitwalker_Peek

The implementation uses a great amount of bit operations which is quite a challenge for the formal verification. We will discuss this further in section 3.5.

3.2.3 Formal Specification with ACSL

In order to verify that the given implementation of Bitwalker_Peek fulfills the informal specification, we have to formalize the specification. Listing 3.2 shows such a formalization in ACSL for Bitwalker Peek.

```
/ * @
    requires IsValidRange(Bitstream, BitstreamSizeInBytes);
    requires Startposition + Length <= UINT MAX;
    requires Length <= 64;
    assigns \nothing;
    behavior out_of_range:
        assumes !ValidBitIndex(Startposition, Length,
           BitstreamSizeInBytes);
        ensures \result == 0;
    behavior normal:
        assumes ValidBitIndex(Startposition, Length,
           BitstreamSizeInBytes);
        ensures \result == BitSum(Startposition, Length, Bitstream);
        ensures !TooBig(\result, Length);
    complete behaviors;
    disjoint behaviors;
uint64_t Bitwalker_Peek(unsigned int Startposition,
                        unsigned int Length,
                        uint8_t Bitstream[],
                        unsigned int BitstreamSizeInBytes);
```

Listing 3.2. Formal specification of Bitwalker_Peek in ACSL

We specify a function contract for <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> containing preconditions and postconditions introduced by the key words <code>requires</code> and <code>ensures</code>, respectively. In addition, the ACSL language provides the <code>assigns</code> clause to specify that a function is not allowed to change memory locations other than the ones explicitly listed. When no <code>assigns</code> clauses are specified, the function is allowed to modify every visible variable.

The three preconditions for the function arguments of the informal specification are formalized straight forward in the function contract also by three preconditions. For the first one we use the predicate <code>IsValidRange</code> which we specified in ACSL in order to state that the <code>Bitstream</code> is a valid array of length <code>BitstreamSizeInBytes</code>. Furthermore, we claim that <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> does not alter any memory locations apart from internal function variables via the <code>assigns</code> clause.

Moreover, we use so-called behaviors in ACSL for a distinction of the two cases from the informal specification. The cases are discriminated through the predicate ValidBitIndex which indicates whether a bit sequence is valid or not. The first behavior out_of_range represents the robustness case where the bit sequence is not valid and the second behavior specifies the expected behavior in the normal case.

In both cases we state what the result of <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> shall be as postconditions. In addition, we use a negated form of a predicate called <code>TooBig</code> in the last postcondition of the normal case. This postcondition was introduced to verify that the functions <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code>

and Bitwalker_Poke interact correctly. Therefore, we will discuss this postcondition in section 3.4.

Since the implementation of Bitwalker_Peek contains a loop, we need a loop specification containing a variant for the termination proof and some invariants to enable the automatic theorem provers to verify the postconditions. Although this loop specification is important for the verification, it is not in the sense to formalize the informal specification.

Since we verify the implementation in respect to the formal specification, it is crucial that it matches the informal one. Therefore, we reviewed the accordance of both specifications.

3.2.4 Formal Verification with Frama-C/WP

In this section we present the current state of the verification results for Bitwalker_Peek. Table 3.1 discriminates the results for three different types of verification conditions (VCs).

The first row contains the lemmas we used to ease the verification for the automatic theorem provers. While the second row contains the rte-assertions concerning the absence of run time errors. The third row shows all other verification conditions for Bitwalker_Peek which are mainly about for correct functional behavior. However, they also contain the postconditions for the robustness cases and the loop specification.

For each row we listed the total number of generated verification conditions, the number of proven verification conditions and the verification rate that is the percentage of proven verification conditions.

The verification rate for the rte-assertions are very low due to the difficulty for Frama-C to deal with bit operations. In order to increase this rate, we will verify the absence of run time errors separately and will provide additional lemmas and axioms to ease the verification. We point out some of the related challenges in section 3.5.

	# VC	Proven VCs	Verification rate in %
lemmas	1	0	0
rte-assertions	9	5	55
rest	18	17	94

Table 3.1. Verification Results of Bitwalker_Peek

3.3 The Function Bitwalker Poke

In this section we examine the function <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code> in the same manner as we did it for <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> in section 3.2.

3.3.1 Informal Specification

The function Bitwalker_Poke converts an integer to a bit sequence and writes it into a bit stream. Its function signature reads as follows:

The arguments have the following purpose:

- Startposition is the bit index in the bit stream where the bit sequence starts.
- Length is the length of the bit sequence.
- Bitstream is the array which provides the bit stream.
- BitstreamSizeInBytes is the length of the array containing the bit stream.
- Value is the integer which shall be converted into a bit sequence.

The following preconditions shall hold for the function arguments:

- Bitstream is a valid array of length BitstreamSizeInBytes
- Length < unsigned int.
- Startposition + Length ≤ UINT_MAX.

Note that additional constraints are implicitly expressed by the use of *unsigned* integer types.

Now we can specify Bitwalker_Poke as follows: The function Bitwalker_Poke converts a 64-bit unsigned integer to a bit sequence and writes it into a bit stream.

For $0 \le x$ exists a shortest sequence of 0 and 1 $(b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})$ such that

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} b_i \cdot 2^{(n-1)-i} = x.$$
 (2)

The function Bitwalker_Poke tries to store the sequence $(b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})$ in the bit sequence of Length bits that starts at bit index Startposition.

The return value of Bitwalker_Poke depends on the following three cases:

• If the bit sequence is valid, then there are two cases:

If Length $\geq n$, then the sequence $(0, \ldots, 0, b_0, b_1, \ldots, b_{n-1})$ is stored in the bit stream starting at Startposition. The return value of Bitwalker_Poke is 0.

- If Length < n, then the sequence $(b_0, b_1, \ldots, b_{n-1})$ cannot be stored and Bitwalker_Poke returns -2.
- If the bit sequence is not valid, then Bitwalker_Poke returns -1.

3.3.2 Implementation

Listing 3.3 shows the implementation of Bitwalker_Poke which discriminates three cases. The first two are the robustness cases of the informal specification and the last one is the normal case where the function actually writes into the bit stream. Similar to Bitwalker_Peek a lot of bit operations are used.

```
int Bitwalker_Poke (unsigned int Startposition, unsigned int Length,
                    uint8_t Bitstream[],
                    unsigned int BitstreamSizeInBytes,
                    uint64_t Value)
    if (((Startposition + Length - 1) >> 3) >= BitstreamSizeInBytes)
        return -1;
    uint64_t MaxValue = (((uint64_t)0x01) << Length) - 1;</pre>
    if (MaxValue < Value)</pre>
        return -2;
    int i;
    for (i = Startposition + Length - 1;
            i >= (int)Startposition; i--)
    {
        if ((Value & 0x01) == 0)
            Bitstream[i >> 3] &= ~BitwalkerBitMaskTable[i & 0x07];
        else
            Bitstream[i >> 3] |= BitwalkerBitMaskTable[i & 0x07];
        Value >>= 1;
    return 0;
```

Listing 3.3. Implementation of Bitwalker_Poke

3.3.3 Formal Specification with ACSL

Listing 3.4 shows the function contract of Bitwalker_Poke. The case independent preconditions of the informal specification are reflected by the first three requires-clauses at the beginning of the contract. Bitwalker_Poke modifies the Bitstream and reads the array BitwalkerBitMaskTable thus we need to express that the two arrays must have separated memory locations. Therefore, we use the predicate separated in the fourth requires-clause.

Furthermore, in the following **assigns**-clause we specify the memory locations which can be altered by the function.

We specify the three cases of <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code> by using behaviors. The first behavior <code>out_of_range</code> occurs if the given bit sequence is not valid with respect to the <code>Bitstream</code>. The second behavior <code>value_too_big</code> covers the case that the value <code>Value</code> is not representable with only <code>Length</code> bits.

Finally, the behavior normal assumes that Value is not too big and the bit sequence is valid. Here, Bitwalker_Poke writes the particular bit sequence into Bitstream while all other memory locations are unaltered. For all behaviors there is one postcondition to state what the return value shall be in this case.

```
/ * @
    requires 0 < Length < UINT_MAX;
    requires Startposition + Length <= UINT_MAX;
    requires IsValidRange (Bitstream, BitstreamSizeInBytes);
    requires \separated(Bitstream+(0..BitstreamSizeInBytes-1),
             BitwalkerBitMaskTable+(0..7));
    assigns Bitstream[StreamIndex(Startposition)..
            StreamIndex(Startposition + Length - 1)];
   behavior out_of_range:
        assumes !ValidBitIndex(Startposition, Length,
                BitstreamSizeInBytes);
        assigns \nothing;
        ensures \result == -1;
   behavior value_too_big:
        assumes TooBig(Value, Length);
        assumes ValidBitIndex(Startposition, Length,
                BitstreamSizeInBytes);
        assigns \nothing;
        ensures \result == -2;
   behavior normal:
        assumes ValidBitIndex(Startposition, Length,
                BitstreamSizeInBytes);
        assumes !TooBig(Value, Length);
        assigns Bitstream[StreamIndex(Startposition)..
                StreamIndex(Startposition + Length - 1)];
        ensures BitSum(Startposition, Length, Bitstream) == Value;
        ensures BitSum(0, Startposition, \old(Bitstream))
                == BitSum(0, Startposition, Bitstream);
        ensures BitSum(Startposition+Length, BitstreamSizeInBytes,
                \old(Bitstream)) == BitSum(Startposition+Length,
                BitstreamSizeInBytes, Bitstream);
        ensures \result == 0;
    complete behaviors;
    disjoint behaviors;
*/
int
         Bitwalker_Poke(unsigned int Startposition,
                        unsigned int Length,
                        uint8_t Bitstream[],
                        unsigned int BitstreamSizeInBytes,
                        uint64_t Value);
```

Listing 3.4. Formal Specification of Bitwalker_Poke

3.3.4 Formal Verification with Frama-C/WP

In this section we present the current state of verification results of for <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code>. The results are shown in Table 3.2. We listed the different verification conditions row by row like we did it for <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code>.

The function <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code> has significantly more unproven verification conditions than <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> this is because it is more complex and alters memory locations via bit operations. Therefore, we will verify the absence of run time errors separately as well.

	# VC	Proven VCs	Proven VCs in %
lemmas	1	0	0
rte-assertions	19	7	36
rest	49	38	77

Table 3.2. Verification Results of Bitwalker_Poke

3.4 Interaction of Bitwalker_Peek and Bitwalker_Poke

In this section we examine the interaction of Bitwalker_Peek and Bitwalker_Poke. The functions shall be inverse to each other in respect to the normal cases of both functions. In the following we provide a formal specification and present our verification results.

3.4.1 Formal Specification with ACSL and C

For the specification of the interaction we have two auxiliary C functions: The first one to call first <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code> on a bit stream and then <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> and the second one to do it the other way around.

Figure 3.5 shows the straight forward implementation of the first helper function along with its ACSL contract. The contract contains a lot of preconditions because we only specify an interaction for the case that both functions are in their normal cases. The reader can compare the preconditions with them from the contracts of Bitwalker_Peek and Bitwalker_Peek with respect to the normal behaviors. As a postcondition we formulate that Bitwalker_Peek reads exactly the value written by Bitwalker_Poke.

```
/ * @
    requires 0 < Length < UINT_MAX;</pre>
    requires Startposition + Length <= UINT_MAX;</pre>
    requires IsValidRange(Bitstream, BitstreamSizeInBytes);
    requires !TooBig(Value, Length);
    requires \separated(Bitstream+(0..BitstreamSizeInBytes-1), &
       BitwalkerBitMaskTable[0..7]);
    requires ValidBitIndex (Startposition, Length,
       BitstreamSizeInBytes);
    requires Length <= 64;
    ensures \result == Value;
*/
uint64_t peek_poke_inverse (unsigned int Startposition, unsigned int
    Length, uint8_t Bitstream[],
    unsigned int BitstreamSizeInBytes, uint64_t Value)
{
    Bitwalker_Poke(Startposition, Length, Bitstream,
       BitstreamSizeInBytes, Value);
    //@ assert BitSum(Startposition, Length, Bitstream) == Value;
    return Bitwalker_Peek (Startposition, Length, Bitstream,
       BitstreamSizeInBytes);
```

Listing 3.5. Specification of interaction when first calling Bitwalker_Poke.

Figure 3.6 shows the straight forward implementation of the second auxiliary function along with its ACSL contract. In contrast to the first function, we work with two bit streams. With <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> a certain bit sequence is read out from one bit stream and written via <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code> into the other one. Therefore, we formulate as a postconditions that the two bit streams are equal in these certain ranges.

```
/ * @
    requires 0 < Length < UINT_MAX;
    requires Startposition1 + Length <= UINT_MAX;</pre>
    requires Startposition2 + Length <= UINT_MAX;</pre>
    requires IsValidRange(Bitstream1, BitstreamSizeInBytes1);
    requires IsValidRange(Bitstream2, BitstreamSizeInBytes2);
    requires \separated(Bitstream2+(0..BitstreamSizeInBytes2-1), &
       BitwalkerBitMaskTable[0..7]);
    requires \separated(Bitstream1+(0..BitstreamSizeInBytes1-1),
       Bitstream2 + (0..BitstreamSizeInBytes2-1));
    requires Length <= 64;</pre>
    requires ValidBitIndex(Startposition1, Length,
       BitstreamSizeInBytes1);
    requires ValidBitIndex(Startposition2, Length,
       BitstreamSizeInBytes2);
    ensures BitSum{Old}(Startposition1, Length, Bitstream1) ==
       BitSum(Startposition2, Length, Bitstream2);
*/
void poke_peek_inverse (unsigned int Startposition1, unsigned int
   Startposition2,
    unsigned int Length, uint8_t Bitstream1[], uint8_t Bitstream2[],
    unsigned int BitstreamSizeInBytes1, unsigned int
       BitstreamSizeInBytes2)
{
    uint64_t x = Bitwalker_Peek(Startposition1, Length, Bitstream1,
       BitstreamSizeInBytes1);
    Bitwalker_Poke (Startposition2, Length, Bitstream2,
       BitstreamSizeInBytes2, x);
```

Listing 3.6. Specification of interaction when first calling Bitwalker_Peek.

3.4.2 Formal Verification with Frama-C/WP

All postconditions (and the assertion in figure 3.6) are verified. Therefore, we succeeded to prove that the functions Bitwalker_Peek and Bitwalker_Poke interact correctly in respect to their specifications.

Moreover, this verification result serves as a validation for the contracts of Bitwalker_Peek and Bitwalker_Poke because the verification of the interaction depends on these contracts. Since both functions are called, the caller has to assure that all preconditions hold and can then rely on the guarantees given by the postconditions.

As a remark, we extended the contract of <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> by one postcondition to ease the verification of the interaction. The postcondition simply states that the read value is always representable by <code>Length</code> bits which is obviously always the case, since the value is the sum of <code>Length</code> bits. The postcondition is needed to assure that the preconditions for the normal case of <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code> are fulfilled when first calling <code>Bitwalker_Peek</code> and then <code>Bitwalker_Poke</code>.

3.5 Open Issues

Previously, we have seen that WP cannot yet deal very well with bit operations due to the fact that WP's memory models do not provide much information about bit operations. Therefore, the provers have less options to manipulate the proof goal. This problem is known and CEA LIST is working on a solution for the next release.

As a work around one could introduce axioms which provide additional informations about bit operations. The problem by using axioms is that one can introduce wrong facts yielding contradictions which make the whole proof system unsound. Thus, it is an approach one should be really careful with.

Moreover, the chosen automatic theorem provers are generally not very good when it comes to mixing arithmetic and bit operations. However, there is an automatic theorem prover namely Z3 which is stronger with this. At the moment Frama-C does not provide an interface for Z3 but this will probably change with future releases. Thus, we can expect a better automatic verification rate here.

In addition, we can use the interactive theorem prover Coq to verify unproven verification conditions. Herewith, we can search a proof for a verification condition on our own by using Coq's various support mechanisms. Nevertheless, Coq has only the informations provided by the memory model and the user like the other provers.

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