# HO unification from object language to meta language

Enrico Tassi enrico.tassi@inria.fr Université Côte d'Azur, Inria France

# Davide Fissore davide.fissore@inria.fr Université Côte d'Azur, Inria France

#### **ABSTRACT**

Specifying and implementing a logic from scratch requires significant effort. Logical Frameworks and Higher Order Logic Programming Languages provide dedicated, high-level Meta Languages (ML) to facilitate this task in two key ways: 1) variable binding and substitution are simplified when ML binders represent object logic ones; 2) proof construction, and even proof search, is greatly simplified by leveraging the unification procedure provided by the ML. Notable examples of ML are Elf [13], Twelf [14],  $\lambda$ Prolog [10] and Isabelle [20] which have been utilized to implement various formal systems such as First Order Logic [5], Set Theory [12], Higher Order Logic [11], and even the Calculus of Constuctions [4].

The object logic we are interested in is Coq's [18] Dependent Type Theory (DTT), for which we aim to implement a unification procedure  $\simeq_o$  using the ML Elpi [3], a dialect of  $\lambda$ Prolog. Elpi's equational theory comprises  $\eta\beta$  equivalence and comes equipped with a higher order unification procedure  $\simeq_\lambda$  restricted to the pattern fragment [9]. We want  $\simeq_o$  to be as powerful as  $\simeq_\lambda$  but on the object logic DTT. Elpi also comes with an encoding for DTT that works well for meta-programming [17, 16, 7, 6]. Unfortunately this encoding, which we refer to as  $\mathcal{F}_o$ , "underuses"  $\simeq_\lambda$  by restricting it to first-order unification problems only. To address this issue, we propose a better-behaved encoding,  $\mathcal{H}_o$ , demonstrate how to map unification problems in  $\mathcal{F}_o$  to related problems in  $\mathcal{H}_o$ , and illustrate how to map back the unifiers found by  $\simeq_\lambda$ , effectively implementing  $\simeq_o$  on top of  $\simeq_\lambda$  for the encoding  $\mathcal{F}_o$ .

We apply this technique to the implementation of a type-class [19] solver for Coq [18]. Type-class solvers are proof search procedures based on unification that back-chain designated lemmas, providing essential automation to widely used Coq libraries such as Stdpp/Iris [8] and TLC [1]. These two libraries constitute our test bed.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Logic Programming, Meta-Programming, Higher-Order Unification, Proof Automation

# **ACM Reference Format:**

Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. Copyrights for components of this work owned by others than the author(s) must be honored. Abstracting with credit is permitted. To copy otherwise, or republish, to post on servers or to redistribute to lists, requires prior specific permission and/or a fee. Request permissions from permissions@acm.org.

Conference'17, July 2017, Washington, DC, USA

© 2024 Copyright held by the owner/author(s). Publication rights licensed to ACM. ACM ISBN 978-x-xxxx-xxxx-x/YY/MM

https://doi.org/ZZZZZZZZZZZZZ

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

Specifying and implementing a logic from scratch requires significant effort. Logical Frameworks and Higher Order Logic Programming Languages provide dedicated, high-level Meta Languages (ML) to facilitate this task in two key ways: 1) variable binding and substitution are simplified when ML binders represent object logic ones; 2) proof construction, and even proof search, is greatly simplified by leveraging the unification procedure provided by the ML. Notable examples of ML are Elf [13], Twelf [14],  $\lambda$ Prolog [10] and Isabelle [20] which have been utilized to implement various formal systems such as First Order Logic [5], Set Theory [12], Higher Order Logic [11], and even the Calculus of Constuctions [4].

The object logic we are interested in is Coq's [18] Dependent Type Theory (DTT), and we want to code a type-class [19] solver for Coq [18] using the Coq-Elpi [17] meta programming framework. Type-class solvers are unification based proof search procedures that combine a set of designated lemmas in order to providing essential automation to widely used Coq libraries.

As the running example we take the Decide type class, from the Stdpp [8] library. The class identifies predicates equipped with a decision procedure. The following three designated lemmas (called Instances in the type-class jargon) state that: 1) the type fin n, of natural numbers smaller than n is finite; 2) the predicate nfact n nf, linking a natural number n to its prime factors nf, is decidable; 3) the universal closure of a predicate has a decision procedure if the predicate has and if its domain is finite.

```
Instance fin_fin n : Finite (fin n). (* r1 *)
Instance nfact_dec n nf : Decision (nfact n nf). (* r2 *)
Instance forall_dec A P : Finite A \rightarrow (* r3 *)
\forall x:A, \ Decision \ (P \ x) \rightarrow Decision \ (\forall x:A, \ P \ x).
```

Under this context of instances a type-class solver is able to prove the following statement automatically by back-chaining.

```
Check \_: Decision (forall y: fin 7, nfact y 3). (g)
```

The encoding of DTT provided by Elpi, that we will discuss at length later in section ?? and ??, is an Higher Order Abstract Syntax (HOAS) datatype tm featuring (among others) the following constructors:

Following standard  $\lambda$ Prolog [10] the concrete syntax to abstract, at the meta level, an expression e over a variable x is «x\ e», and square brackets denote a list of terms separated by comma. As an example we show the encoding of the Coq term « $\forall$ y:t, nfact y 3»:

```
all (con"t") y\ app[con"nfact", y, con"3"]
```

We now illustrate the encoding of the three instances above as higher-order logic-programming rules: capital letters denote rule parameters; :- separates the rule's head from the premises; pi w\ p introduces a fresh nominal constant w for the premise p.

```
finite (app[con"fin", N]).
(r1)
```

decision (all A x\ app[P, x]) :- finite A, 
$$(r3)$$
 pi w\ decision (app[P, w]).

Unfortunately this translation of rule (r3) uses the predicate P as a first order term: for the meta language its type is tm. If we try to backchain the rule (r3) on the encoding of the goal (g) given below

```
decision (all (app[con"fin", con"7"]) y\
  app[con"nfact", y, con"3"]).
```

we obtain an unsolvable unification problem (p): the two lists of terms have different lengths!

```
app[con"nfact", y, con"3"] = app[P, y] (p)
```

In this paper we study a more sophisticated encoding of Coq terms allowing us to rephrase the problematic rule (r3) as follows:

```
decision (all A \times \ Pm \ x) :- link Pm \ P \ A, finite A, (r3a) pi x \ decision (app[P, x]).
```

Since Pm is an higher-order unification variable of type tm -> tm, with x in its scope, the unification problem (p') admits one solution:

After unifying the head of rule (r3a) with the goal, Elpi runs the premise «link Pm A P» that is in charge of bringing the assignment for Pm back to the domain tm of Coq terms:

```
P = lam A a\ app[con"nfact", a, con"3"]
```

This simple example is sufficient to show that the encoding we seek is not trivial and does not only concern the head of rules, but the entire sequence of unification problems that constitute the execution of a logic program. In fact the solution for P above generates a (Coq)  $\beta$ -redex in the second premise (the predicate under the Pi w\):

```
decision (app[lam A (a\ app[con"nfact", a, con"3"]), w])
```

In turn this redex prevents the rule (r2) to backchain properly since the following unification problem has no solution:

```
app[lam A (a\ app[con"nfact", a, con"3"]), x] =
app[con"nfact", N, NF]
```

The root cause of the problems we sketched in the running example is that the unification procedure  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  of the meta language is not aware of the equational theory of the object logic, even if both theories include  $\eta\beta$ -conversion and admit most general unifiers for unification problems in the pattern fragment  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  [9].

Contributions. In this paper we discuss alternative encodings of Coq in Elpi (Section 2), then we identify a minimal language  $\mathcal{F}_0$  in which the problems sketched here can be fully described. We then detail an encoding comp from  $\mathcal{F}_0$  to  $\mathcal{H}_0$  (the language of the

meta language) and a decoding decomp to relate the unifiers bla bla.. TODO citare Teyjus.

#### 2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The equational theory of Coq's Dependent Type Theory is very rich. In addition to the usual  $\eta\beta$ -equivalence for functions, terms (hence types) are compared up to proposition unfolding and fixpoint unrolling. Still, for efficiency and predictability reasons, most form of automatic proof search employ a unification procedure that captures a simpler one, just  $\eta\beta$ , and that solves higher-order problems restricted to the pattern fragment  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  [9]. We call this unification procedure  $\simeq_o$ .

The equational theory of the meta language Elpi that we want to use to implement a form of proof automation is strikingly similar, since it it comprises  $\eta\beta$  (for the meta language functions), and the unification procedure  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  solves higher-order problems in  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$ .

In spite of the similarity the link between  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  and  $\simeq_{o}$  is not trivial, since the abstraction and application term constructors the two unification procedures deal with are different. For example

One could ignore this similarity, and "just" describe the object language unification procedure in the meta language, that is crafting a unif predicate to be used as follows in rule (r3):

```
decision X :- unif X (all A x\ app[P, x]), finite A,
  pi x\ decision (app[P, x]).
```

This choice would underuse the logic programming engine provided by the metalanguage since by removing any datum from the head of rules indexing degenerates. Moreover the unification procedure built in the meta language is likely to be faster than one implemented in it, especially if the meta language is interpreted as Elpi is.

To state precisely the problem we solve we need a  $\mathcal{F}_o$  representation of DTT terms and a  $\mathcal{H}_o$  one. We call  $=_o$  the equality over ground terms in  $\mathcal{F}_o$ ,  $=_\lambda$  the equality over ground terms in  $\mathcal{H}_o$ ,  $\simeq_o$  the unification procedure we want to implement and  $\simeq_\lambda$  the one provided by the meta language. TODO extend  $=_o$  and  $=_\lambda$  with reflexivity on uvars.

We write  $t_1 \simeq_{\lambda} t_2 \mapsto \sigma$  when  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  unify with substitution  $\sigma$ ; we write  $\sigma t$  for the application of the substitution to t, and  $\sigma X = \{\sigma t | t \in X\}$  when X is a set; we write  $\sigma \subseteq \sigma'$  when  $\sigma$  is more general than  $\sigma'$ . We assume that the unification of our meta language is correct:

$$t_i \in \mathcal{L}_{\lambda} \Rightarrow t_1 \simeq_{\lambda} t_2 \mapsto \rho \Rightarrow \rho t_1 =_{\lambda} \rho t_2$$
 (1)

$$t_i \in \mathcal{L}_{\lambda} \Rightarrow \rho t_1 =_{\lambda} \rho t_2 \Rightarrow \exists \rho', t_1 \simeq_{\lambda} t_2 \mapsto \rho' \wedge \rho' \subseteq \rho$$
 (2)

We illustrate a compilation  $\langle s \rangle \mapsto (t, m, l)$  that maps a term s in  $\mathcal{F}_0$  to a term t in  $\mathcal{H}_0$ , a variable mapping m and list of links l. The variable map connects unification variables in  $\mathcal{H}_0$  with variables in  $\mathcal{F}_0$  and is used to "decompile" the assignment,  $\langle \sigma, m, l \rangle^{-1} \mapsto \rho$ . Links represent problematic sub-terms which are linked to the

unification These We  $\mathcal{N}$ . Easteps substitute for  $\mathcal{S}_{p_r}$  to  $\mathcal{S}_{p_r}$ 

unification variable that stands in their place in the compiled term. These links are checked for or progress XXX improve....

We represent a logic program run in  $\mathcal{F}_0$  as a list  $steps\ p$  of length  $\mathcal{N}$ . Each made of a unification problem between terms  $\mathcal{S}_{p_l}$  and  $\mathcal{S}_{p_r}$  taken from the set of all terms  $\mathcal{S}$ . The composition of these steps starting from the empty substitution  $\rho_0$  produces the final substitution  $\rho_{\mathcal{N}}$ . The initial here  $\rho_0$  is the empty substitution

$$fstep(\mathcal{S}, p, \rho) \mapsto \rho'' \stackrel{def}{=} \rho \mathcal{S}_{p_l} \simeq_o \rho \mathcal{S}_{p_r} \mapsto \rho' \wedge \rho'' = \rho \cup \rho'$$
$$frun(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{N}) \mapsto \rho_{\mathcal{N}} \stackrel{def}{=} \bigwedge_{p=1}^{\mathcal{N}} fstep(\mathcal{S}, p, \rho_{p-1}) \mapsto \rho_p$$

We simulate each run in  $\mathcal{F}_0$  with a run in  $\mathcal{H}_0$  as follows. Note that  $\sigma_0$  is the empty substitution.

$$\begin{split} \operatorname{hstep}(\mathcal{T}, p, \sigma, \mathbb{L}) &\mapsto \sigma'' \stackrel{def}{=} \\ &\sigma \mathcal{T}_{p_{l}} \simeq_{\lambda} \sigma \mathcal{T}_{p_{r}} \mapsto \sigma' \wedge \operatorname{check}(\mathbb{L}, \sigma \cup \sigma') \mapsto \sigma'' \\ \operatorname{hrun}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{N}) &\mapsto \rho_{\mathcal{N}} \stackrel{def}{=} \\ &\mathcal{T} \times \mathbb{M} \times \mathbb{L} = \{(t_{j}, m_{j}, l_{j}) | s_{j} \in \mathcal{S}, \langle s_{j} \rangle \mapsto (t_{j}, m_{j}, l_{j})\} \\ &\wedge_{p=1}^{\mathcal{N}} \operatorname{hstep}(\mathcal{T}, p, \sigma_{p-1}, \mathbb{L}) \mapsto \sigma_{p} \\ &\langle \sigma_{\mathcal{N}}, \mathbb{M}, \mathbb{L} \rangle^{-1} \mapsto \rho_{\mathcal{N}} \end{split}$$

Here hstep is made of two sub-steps: a call to  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  (on the compiled terms) and a call to check on the set of links. We claim the following:

Proposition 2.1 (Simulation).  $\forall S, \forall N$ 

$$\operatorname{frun}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{N}) \mapsto \rho_{\mathcal{N}} \Leftrightarrow \operatorname{hrun}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{N}) \mapsto \rho_{\mathcal{N}}$$

That is, the two executions give the same result. Moreover:

Proposition 2.2 (Simulation fidelity). In the context of hrun, we have that  $\forall p \in 1 \dots N$ 

$$fstep(S, p, \rho_{p-1}) \mapsto \rho_p \Leftrightarrow hstep(\mathcal{T}, p, \sigma_{p-1}, \mathbb{L}) \mapsto \sigma_p$$

In particular this property guarantees that a *failure* in the  $\mathcal{F}_0$  run is matched by a failure in  $\mathcal{H}_0$  at the same step. We consider this property very important from a practical point of view since it guarantees that the execution traces are strongly related and in turn this enables a user to debug a logic program in  $\mathcal{F}_0$  by looking at its execution trace in  $\mathcal{H}_0$ .

We can define  $s_1 \simeq_0 s_2$  by specializing the code of hrun to  $S = \{s_1, s_2\}$  as follows:

$$s_{1} \simeq_{o} s_{2} \mapsto \rho \stackrel{def}{=}$$

$$\langle s_{1} \rangle \mapsto (t_{1}, m_{1}, l_{1}) \land \langle s_{2} \rangle \mapsto (t_{2}, m_{2}, l_{2})$$

$$t_{1} \simeq_{\lambda} t_{2} \mapsto \sigma' \land \operatorname{check} (\{l_{1}, l_{2}\}, \sigma') \mapsto \sigma'' \land$$

$$\langle \sigma'', \{m_{1}, m_{2}\}, \{l_{1}, l_{2}\} \rangle^{-1} \mapsto \rho$$

Proposition 2.3 (Properties of  $\simeq_0$ ).

$$s_i \in \mathcal{L}_\lambda \Rightarrow s_1 \simeq_0 s_2 \mapsto \rho \Rightarrow \rho s_1 =_0 \rho s_2$$
 (3)

$$s_i \in \mathcal{L}_{\lambda} \Rightarrow \rho s_1 =_{\rho} \rho s_2 \Rightarrow \exists \rho', s_1 \simeq_{\rho} s_2 \mapsto \rho' \land \rho' \subseteq \rho$$
 (4)

$$\rho s_1 =_{\rho} \rho s_2 \Rightarrow \rho' \subseteq \rho \Rightarrow \rho' s_i \in \mathcal{L}_{\lambda} \Rightarrow \rho' s_1 \simeq_{\rho} \rho' s_2 \tag{5}$$

Properties 3 and 4 state, respectively, that in  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  the implementation of  $\simeq_o$  is correct, complete and returns the most general unifier.

Property 5 states that  $\simeq_o$ , hence our compilation scheme, is resilient to unification problems outside  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  solved by a third party.

We believe this property is of practical interest since we want the user to be able to add heuristics via hand written rules to the ones obtained by our compilation scheme. A Typical example is the following problem (q) that is outside  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$ :

app [F, con"a"] = app[con"f", con"a", con"a"] 
$$(q)$$

$$F = lam x \land app[con"f", x, x]$$
 (h)

Instead of rejecting it our scheme accepts it and guarantees that if (h) is given (after the compilation part of the scheme, as a run time hint) then ...

#### 2.1 The intuition in a nutshell

A term s is compiled in a term t where any "problematic" subterm p is replaced by a fresh unification variable h and an accessory link that represent a suspended unification problem  $h \simeq_{\lambda} p$ . As a result  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  is "well behaved" on t, meaning it does not contradict  $=_{o}$  (as it would do on "problematic" terms). We now define "problematic" and "well behaved" more formally.

*Definition 2.4* (
$$\Diamond \eta$$
).  $\Diamond \eta = \{t \mid \exists \rho, \rho t \text{ is an eta expansion}\}$ 

An example of term t in  $\Diamond \eta$  is  $\lambda x.\lambda y.F$  y x since the substitution  $\rho = \{F \mapsto \lambda a.\lambda b.fba\}$  makes  $\rho t = \lambda x.\lambda y.fxy$  that is the eta long form of f.

Definition 2.5 
$$(\lozenge \beta)$$
.  $\lozenge \beta = \{Xt_1 \dots t_n \mid Xt_1 \dots t_n \notin \mathcal{L}_{\lambda}\}.$ 

An example of t in  $\Diamond \beta$  is Fa for a constant a. Note however tha an oracle could provide an assignment  $\rho = \{F \mapsto \lambda x.x\}$  that makes the resulting term fall outside of  $\Diamond \beta$ .

Definition 2.6 (Subterm  $\mathcal{P}(t)$ ).

$$t \in \mathcal{P}(t)$$
  

$$t = ft_1 \dots t_n \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}(t_i) \subseteq \mathcal{P}(t) \land f \in \mathcal{P}(t)$$
  

$$t = \lambda x.t' \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}(t') \subseteq \mathcal{P}(t)$$

We write  $\mathcal{P}(X) = \bigcup_{t \in X} \mathcal{P}(t)$ .

Definition 2.7 (Well behaved set). Given a set of terms  $X \subseteq \mathcal{H}_0$ ,

$$W(X) \Leftrightarrow \forall t \in \mathcal{P}(X), t \notin (\Diamond \beta \cup \Diamond \eta)$$

Proposition 2.8 (*W*-preservation).  $\forall \mathcal{T}, \forall \mathbb{L}, \forall p, \forall \sigma, \forall \sigma'$ 

$$\mathcal{W}(\sigma\mathcal{T}) \land \text{hstep}(\mathcal{T}, p, \sigma, \mathbb{L}) \mapsto \sigma' \Rightarrow \mathcal{W}(\sigma'\mathcal{T})$$

A less formal way to state 2.8 is that hstep never "commits" an unneeded  $\lambda$ -abstraction in  $\sigma$  (a  $\lambda$  that could be erased by an  $\eta$ -contraction), nor puts in  $\sigma$  a flexible application outside  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  (an application node that could be erased by a  $\beta$ -reduction).

Note that proposition 2.8 does not hold for  $\simeq_o$  since decompilation can introduce (actually restore) terms in  $\diamond \eta$  or  $\diamond \beta$  that were move out of the way (put in  $\mathbb L$ ) by compilation.

# 3 ALTERNATIVE ENCODINGS AND RELATED WORK

Paper [2] introduces semi-shallow.

Our encoding of DTT may look "semi shallow" since we use the meta-language lambda abstraction but not its application (for the terms of type tm). A fully shallow encoding unfortunately does not fit our use case, although it would make the running example work:

 $<sup>^1</sup>$ If the same rule is used multiple time in a run we just consider as many copies as needed of the terms composing the rules, with fresh unification variables each time

```
finite (fin N). decision (nfact N NF). decision (all A \times P \times):- finite A, pi \times decision (P \times).
```

There are two reasons for dismissing this encoding. The first one is that in DTT it is not always possible to adopt it since the type system of the meta language is too weak to accommodate terms with a variable arity, like the following example:

```
Fixpoint arr T n := if n is S m then T -> arr T m else T. Definition sum n : arr nat n := .... Check sum 2 7 8 : nat. Check sum 3 7 8 9 : nat.
```

The second reason is the encoding for Coq is used for meta programming the system, hence it must accommodate the manipulation of terms that are now know in advance (not even defined in Coq) without using introspection primitives such as Prologs's functor and arg.

In the literature we could find a few related encoding of DTT. TODO In [4] is related and make the discrepancy between the types of ML and DTT visible. In this case one needs 4 application nodes. Moreover the objective is an encoding of terms, proofs, not proof search. Also note the conv predicate, akin to the unif we rule out.

TODO This other paper [15] should also be cited.

None of the encodings above provide a solution to our problem.

# 4 PRELIMINARIES: $\mathcal{F}_o$ AND $\mathcal{H}_o$

In order to reason about unification we provide a description of the  $\mathcal{F}_0$  and  $\mathcal{H}_0$  languages where unification variables are first class terms, i.e. they have a concrete syntax. We keep these languages minimal, for example, we omit the all quantifier of DTT we used in the example in Section 1 together with the type notation of terms carried by the lam constructor.

```
kind fm type. kind tm type. type fapp list fm -> fm. type app list tm -> tm. type flam (fm -> fm) -> fm. type lam (tm -> tm) -> tm. type fcon string -> fm. type con string -> tm. type fuva nat -> fm. type uva nat -> list tm -> tm.
```

Figure 1:  $\mathcal{F}_o$  and  $\mathcal{H}_o$  language

In the case of  $\mathcal{F}_0$  unification variables fuva have no explicit scope: the arguments of an higher order unification variable are via the fapp constructor. For example in the statement of the instance forall\_dec the term  $P \times is$  represented as fapp[fuva N, x], where N is a memory address and x is a bound variable.

In  $\mathcal{H}_o$  the representation of P x is instead uva N [x]. We say that the unification variable uva N L is in  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  iff distinct L holds.

```
type distinct list A -> o.
distinct [].
distinct [X|XS] :- name X, not(mem X XS), distinct XS.
```

The name builtin predicate tests if a term is a bound variable. <sup>2</sup> The compiler ?? needs to support terms outside  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  for practical reasons, so we don't assume all out terms are in  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$  but rather test. what??

In both languages unification variables are identified by a natural number, which can be seen as a memory address. The memory and its associated operations are described below:

```
typeabbrev memory A (list (option A)).
type set?    nat -> memory A -> A -> o.
type unset? nat -> memory A -> o.
type assign nat -> memory A -> A -> memory A -> o.
```

If a memory cell is none, then the corresponding unification variable is not set. assign sets an unset cell to the given value.

Since in  $\mathcal{H}_0$  unification variables have a scope, their solution needs to be abstracted over it in order to enable the instantiation of a single solution to different scopes. On the contrary solutions to  $\mathcal{F}_0$  variables are plain terms.

```
typeabbrev fsubst (memory ftm).
kind assmt type.
type abs (tm -> assmt) -> assmt.
type val tm -> assmt.
typeabbrev subst (memory assmt).
```

We call fsubst the memory of  $\mathcal{F}_0$ , while we call subst the one of  $\mathcal{H}_0$ . Both have the invariant that they are not cyclic, TODO explain. Other invariant: the terms in ho\_subst never contains eta and beta expansion

# 4.1 Equational theory and Unification

here we give the functions/signatures to express the properties 3-5 in the problem statement

Together with the description of the terms of the language, we need some auxiliary functions to perform operations like term equality, unification, dereferencing. There predicates are supposed to be implemented in the OL and the ML following respectively their specification. In the following few paragraphs we give a brief proposition of them.

Term dereferencing:  $\rho s$  and  $\sigma t$ . Since in our encoding we explicitly carry a substitution we need to define the operation that applies it to a term. Its proposition takes care to normalize (flatten) applications, for example it turns (app [app [con"f",con"a"],con"b"]) into (app [con"f",con"a",con"b"]).

dereference variables of the two languages. This is particularly useful to check if two terms in the OL (resp. in the ML) are equal. The constructors representing rigid terms, namely app, lam and con, make the dereferencing procedure to recurse over the their subterms. The code below display this behavior for the dereferencing performed by the OL:

```
type fder fsubst -> fm -> o.
fder S (fapp A) (fapp B) :- map (fder S) A B.
fder S (flam F) (flam G) :-
    pi x\ fder S x x => fder S (F x) (G x).
fder _ (fcon C) (fcon C).
fder S (fuva N) R :- set? N S T, fder S T R.
fder S (fuva N) (fuva N) :- unset? N S.

type fderef fsubst -> fm -> o. (ρs)
fderef S T R :- fder S T T', napp T' R.
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>one could always load name x for every x under a pi and get rid of the name builtin

```
type (=_{\lambda}) tm -> tm -> o.

app A =_{\lambda} fapp B :- map (=_{\lambda}) A B.

lam F =_{\lambda} flam G :- pi x\ x =_{\lambda} x => F x =_{\lambda} G x.

con C =_{\lambda} fcon C.

uva N A =_{\lambda} fuva N B :- map (=_{\lambda}) A B.
```

Figure 2: Equal predicate ML

```
type napp fm \rightarrow fm \rightarrow o.
```

TODO explain napp. We use the cut operator to keep the code compact. It is possible to rewrite the rule for application traversal so that it is mutually exclusive with the first one, but that requires a rather verbose analysis of the head of A.

The corresponding code for  $\mathcal{H}_0$  is similar, we only show the last two rules that differ in a substantial way:

```
type deref subst -> tm -> tm -> o.
                                                        (\sigma t)
deref S (app A) (app B) :- map (deref S) A B.
deref S (lam F) (lam G) :-
 pi x \cdot deref S x x \Rightarrow deref S (F x) (G x).
deref _ (con C) (con C).
deref S (uva N A) R :- set? N S F, move F A T, deref S T R.
deref S (uva N A) (uva N B) :- unset? N S, map (deref S) A B.
type move assignment -> list tm -> tm -> o.
                      [H|L] R :- move (Bo H) L R.
move (abs Bo)
move (val A)
                      A :- !.
move (val (uva N A)) L
                            (uva N X) :- std.append A L X.
```

TODO: no need to napp, see the beta section. Note that when the substitution S maps a unification variable N to an assignment F we

TODO: invariant: variables in subst are always fully applied, and length of scope is the arity of the HO variable.

Important!!! A different reasoning is to be addressed to the variables of the ML. Firstly, a meta variable cannot appear in the app node as the first element of the list, we will explain why in section 5

Term equality:  $=_o \ vs. =_\lambda$ . We can test if two terms are equal following the equational theory of the language being considered. In ?? we provide an implementation of the  $=_o$  predicate. The first four rules check if the two terms are equal regarding the structure of the current node, that is, two terms are equal if they have same head and if recursively each subterm is two by two equal. Moreover, since the theory of the OL accepts  $\eta$ - and  $\beta$ -equivalence, then we implement the corresponding rules.

The equality relation for the ML, accepts  $\eta\beta$ -equivalence between terms of the ML. Recall that abs x\ f x, is a valid  $\eta$  expansion of

the function f and that lam x\ app[f, x] is not that equivalent to f at meta level. However, since we are interested in using the unification procure of the ML, by eq. (1), we can use the  $\approx_{\lambda}$  relation to test, when needed if two terms are equal in the ML.

Term unification:  $\simeq_o vs. \simeq_\lambda$ . The last but not least important relation we should take care of before presenting our full algorithm aiming to unify terms of the OL in the ML and provide the substitution produced in the ML to the OL, is term unification. This procedure is a more powerful version of the equal predicate, since unification checks if two terms can be equal be assigning unification variables. In our representation, variable assignment (or refinement) is performed by modifying the corresponding substitution mapping. We will not give an implementation of  $\simeq_o$ , since we are giving an implementation of it using our algorithm, see ??.

```
type (\simeq_{\lambda}) tm -> tm -> subst -> o.
```

On the other hand, unification in the ML needs to be defined. In ??, we give an implementation of  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  but that is actually what our meta language provides as a builtin.

This predicate has four arguments, the two terms  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  to unify, the old substitution map  $\rho_1$ , and the new substitution map  $\rho_2$ , with the invariant  $\rho_1 \subseteq \rho_2$ . The first three rules unify terms with same rigid heads, and call the unification relation on the sub-terms. If  $t_1$  (resp.  $t_2$ ) is an assigned variables,  $t_1$  is dereferenced to  $t_1'$  (resp.  $t_2'$ ) and the unification is called between  $t_1'$  and  $t_2$  (resp.  $t_1$  and  $t_2'$ ). If both terms are unification variables, we test that their arguments are in the pattern fragment, we allocate a new variable w in  $\rho_1$  such that w is the pruning of the arguments of  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ , we assign both  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  to w and return the new mapping  $\rho_2$  containing all the new variable assignment. Finally, if only one of the two terms is an unification variable v, after having verified that v does not occur in the other term t, we bind v to t and return the new substitution mapping.

\_OLD \_

A key property needed in unification is being able to verify if two terms are equal wrt a given equational theory. This relation allow to compare terms under a certain substitution mapping, so that any time a variable v is assigned in a subterm, a dereferencing of v is performed. After variable dereferencing, the test for equality is continued on the new-created subterm.

The base equality function over terms can be defined as follows: The solution we are proposing aim to overcome these unification issues by 1) compiling the terms t and u of the OL into an internal version t' and u' in the ML; 2) unifying t' and u' at the meta level instantiating meta variables; 3) decompiling the meta variable into terms of the OL; 4) assigning the variables of the OL with the decompiled version of their corresponding meta variables. We claim that t and u unify if and only if t' and u' unify and that the substitution in the object language is the same as the one returned by the ML.

In the following section we explain how we deal with term (de)compilation and links between unification variables.

# 5 BASIC COMPILATION $\mathcal{F}_o$ TO $\mathcal{H}_o$

In this section we describe a basic compilation scheme that we refine later, in the following sections.

same or - ⊇ or ⊆

```
581
            The objective of the compilation is to recognize the higher-order
         variables available in \mathcal{H}_0 when expressed in a first order way in
  582
  583
         \mathcal{F}_0. The compiler also generates a list of links that are used to bring
         back the substitution from \mathcal{H}_0 to \mathcal{F}_0 and allocates in the memory a
  584
  585
         cell for each variable.
  586
            kind link type.
  587
            type link nat -> nat -> nat -> subst. % link Fo Ho Arity
  588
            typeabbrev links list link.
  589
            type comp fm -> tm -> links -> links -> subst -> o.
            comp (fcon X) (con X) L L S S.
            comp (flam F) (lam G) K L R S :- pi x y\
              (pi A S \setminus comp x y L L S S) \Rightarrow comp (F x) (G y) K L R S.
  593
            comp (fuva M) (uva N []) K [link M N z|K] R S :- new R N S.
  594
            comp (fapp[fuva M|A]) (uva N B) K L R S :- distinct A, !,
  595
              fold4 comp A B K K R R,
  596
              new R N S, len A Arity,
  597
              L = [link N M Arity | K].
  598
            comp (fapp A) (app B) K L R S :- fold4 comp A B K L R S.
  599
  600
         Note that link carries the arity (number of expected arguments) of
sa\overset{601}{v}
         the variable.
when
            type solve-links links -> links -> subst -> subst -> o.
this is
            solve-links L L S S.
neededed
            Then decomp
  606
  607
            type decompile links -> subst -> fsubst -> o.
  608
            decompile L S O :-
              609
  610
              (pi N X\ knil N X :- mem L (link X N \_) ; N = X) =>
  611
                decompl S L 01 0.
  612
            type knil nat -> nat -> o.
  613
  614
            type decompl links -> subst -> fsubst -> o.
  615
            decompl S [] [].
            decompl S [link \_ N \_|L] O P :- unset? N S X,
              decompl S L O P.
  618
            decompl S [link M N _ |L] O P :- set? N S X,
              decomp-assignment S X T, assign M O (some T) O1,
  620
              decompl S L 01 P.
  621
  622
            type decomp-assignment subst -> assignment -> fm -> o.
  623
            decomp-assignment S (abs F) (flam G) :-
  624
              pi \times y \setminus decomp-tm S \times y \Rightarrow decomp-assignment S (F x) (G y).
  625
            decomp-assignment S (val T) T1 :- decomp S T T1.
  626
  627
            type decomp subst -> tm -> fm.
  628
            decomp _ (con C) (fcon C).
  629
            decomp S (app A) (app B) :- map (decomp S) A B.
            decomp S (lam F) (flam G) :-
  631
              pi \times y \setminus decomp S \times y \Rightarrow decomp S (F \times) (G y).
  632
            decomp S (uva N A) R :- set? N S F,
  633
              move F A T, decomp S T R.
  634
            decomp S (uva N A) R :- unset? N S,
  635
              map (decomp S) A B, knil N M, napp (fapp[fuva M|B]) R.
TOPO
            Now unif
lin<mark>€7</mark>
TOBO
                                                                               6
nuove
```

subst TODO: code unif

```
type (\simeq_o) fm -> fm -> subst -> o.
                                                                       639
  (X \simeq_o Y) S S1 :-
                                                                       640
    fderef S X X0, fderef S Y Y0,
                                                          (norm)
                                                                       641
    comp X0 X1 [] S0 [] L0,
                                                        (compile)
    comp Y0 Y1 S0 S1 L0 L1,
    (X1 \simeq_{\lambda} Y1) [] HS0,
                                                          (unif y)
                                                                       644
    solve-links L1 L2 HS0 HS1,
                                                           (link)
                                                                       645
    decompile L2 HS1 S1.
                                                      (decompile)
                                                                       646
5.1 Prolog simulation
Allows us to express the properties, we take all terms involved
in a search (if a rule is used twice we simply take a copy of it),
                                                                       651
we compile all of them, and then we pick the unification prblems
                                                                       652
among these terms and step trough them.
                                                                       653
                                                                       654
  type pick list A -> (pair nat nat) -> (pair A A) -> o.
  pick L (pr X Y) (pr TX TY) :- nth X L TX, nth Y L TY.
                                                                       655
                                                                       657
  type prolog-fo list fm -> list (pair nat nat) -> subst -> o.
  prolog-fo Terms Problems S :-
                                                                       658
    map (pick Terms) Problems FoProblems,
                                                                       659
                                                                       660
    fold4 (\simeq_o) FoProblems [] S.
  type step-ho (pair tm tm) -> links -> links -> subst -> subst -> 620.
  step-ho (pr X Y) L0 L1 S0 S2 :-
                                                                       664
    (X1 \simeq_{\lambda} Y1) S0 S1,
    solve-links L0 L1 S1 S2.
                                                                       665
                                                                       666
  type prolog-ho list fm -> list (pair nat nat) -> subst -> o.
                                                                       667
  prolog-ho Terms Problems S :-
    fold4 comp Terms HoTerms [] L0 [] HS0,
    map (pick HoTerms) Problems HoProblems,
                                                                       671
    fold4 step-ho HoProblems L0 L HS0 HS,
    decompile L HS S.
                                                                       672
                                                                       673
the proprty is that if a step for Fo succeds then the Ho one does,
                                                                       674
and if Fo fails then the Ho fails ()
5.2 Example
OK
                                                                       678
                                                                       679
  Terms [ flam x\ fapp[fcon"g",fapp[fuva z, x]]
                                                                       680
         , flam x\ fapp[fcon"g", fcon"a"] ]
                                                                       681
  Problems = [ pr z (s z) ] % \lambda x.g(Fx) = \lambda x.ga
  lam x \sim app[con"g", uva z [x]] \simeq_o lam x \sim app[con"g", con"a"]
                                                                       683
  link z z (s z)
                                                                       684
  HS = [some (abs x con"a")]
                                                                       685
  S = [some (flam x \land fcon a)]
                                                                       686
  KO
                                                                       687
    Terms [ flam x\ fapp[fcon"g",fapp[fuva z, x]]
    , flam x\ fapp[fcon"g", fcon"a"] ]
  Problems = [ pr 0 1 % A = \lambda x.x
              , pr 2 3 ] % Aa = a
                                                                       691
  lam x\ app[con"g",uva z [x]] \simeq_o lam x\ app[con"g", con"a"]
                                                                       692
  link z z (s z)
                                                                       693
  HS = [some (abs x con"a")]
                                                                       694
```

695 696

 $S = [some (flam x \land fcon a)]$ 

```
lam x\ app[f, app[X, x]] = Y,
lam x\ x) = X.
```

**TODO:** Goal:  $s_1 \simeq_o s_2$  is compiled into  $t_1 \simeq_{\lambda} t_2$ 

TODO: What is done: uvars fo\_uv of OL are replaced into uvars ho\_uv of the ML

TODO: Each fo\_uv is linked to an ho\_uv of the OL

**TODO:** Example needing the compiler v0 (tra l'altro lo scope è ignorato):

lam x\ app[con"g", app[uv 0, x]]  $\simeq_o$  lam x\ app[con"g", c"a"] TODO: Links used to instantiate vars of elpi

**TODO:** After all links, the solution in links are compacted and given to coq

TODO: It is not so simple, see next sections (multi-vars, eta, beta)

The compilation step is meant to recover the higher-order variables of the OL, expressed in a first order way, by replacing them with higher-order variables in the ML. In particular, every time a variable of the OL is encountered in the original term, it is replaced with a meta variable, and if the OL variable is applied to a list of distinct names L, then this list becomes the scope of the variable. For all the other constructors of tm, the same term constructor is returned and its arguments are recursively compiled. The predicate in charge for term compilation is:

type comp tm -> tm -> links -> links -> subst -> o. where, we take the term of the OL, produce the term of the ML, take a list of link and produce a list of new links, take a substitution and return a new substitution.

In particular, due to programming constraints, we need to drag the old subst and return a new one extended, if needed, with the new declared meta-variables.

The following code

```
kind link type.
type link nat -> nat -> subst.
```

defines a link, which is a relation between to variables indexes, the first being the index of a OL variable and the second being the index of a ML variable. The third integer is the number of term in the scope of the two variables, or equivalently, in a typed language, their arity.

As an example, let's study the following unification problem (a slightly modified version from section 1):

```
lam x\ app[c"decision", app[c"nfact", x, c"3"]] \simeq_o lam x\ app [c"decision", app[uv \emptyset, x]]
```

we have the main unification problem where the nested app nodes have lists of different lengths making the unification to fail. The compilation of these terms produces a new unification problem with the following shape:

```
lam x\ app[c"decision", app[c"nfact", x, c"3"]] \simeq_{\lambda} lam x\ app [c"decision", uv 1 [x]]
```

The main difference is the replacement of the subterm  $app[uv \ 0, \ x]$  of the OL with the subterm  $uv \ 0 \ [x]$ . Variable indexes are chosen by the ML, that is, the index 0 for that unification variable of the OL term has not the sam meaning of the index 0 in the ML. There exists

two different substitution mapping, one for the OL and one for the ML and the indexes of variable point to the respective substitution. decomp che mappa abs verso lam TODO: An other example:

lam x\ app[f, app[X, x]] = Y, (lam x\ x) = X.

#### **6 USE OF MULTIVARS**

Se il termine initziale è della forma

```
app[con"xxx", (lam x\ lam y\ Y y x), (lam x\ f)]
=
app[con"xxx",X,X]
```

allora se non uso due X diverse non ho modo di recuperare il quoziente che mi manca.

a sto punto consideriamo liste di problemi e così da eliminare sta xxx senza perdità di generalità (e facciamo problemi più corti, e modellizziamo anche la sequenza)

### 6.1 Problems with $\eta$

```
TODO: The following goal necessita v1 (lo scope è usato):

X = lam x\ lam y\ Y y x, X = lam x\ f

TODO: The snd unif pb, we have to unif lam x\ lam y\ Y x y

with lam x\ f

TODO: It is not doable, with the same elpi var
```

Invarianti: A destra della eta abbiamo sempre un termine che comincia per  $\lambda x.bla$ 

```
La deduplicate eta:
```

- viene chiamata che della forma [variable] -> [eta1] e

(a destra non c'è mai un termine con testa rigida)

- i due termini a dx vengono unificati con la unif e uno
- $\hookrightarrow$  dei due link viene buttato

NOTA!! A dx abbiamo sempre un termine della forma lam  $\hookrightarrow$  x.VAR x!!!

Altrimenti il link sarebbe stato risolto!!

- dopo l'unificazione rimane un link [variabile] -> [etaX]
- nella progress-eta, se a sx abbiamo una constante o
- un'app, allora eta-espandiamo
- di uno per poter unificare con il termine di dx.

# **6.2** Problems with $\beta$

 $\beta$ -reduction problems  $(\Diamond \beta)$  appears any time we deal with a subterm  $t = Xt_1 \dots t_n$ , where X is flexible and the list  $[t_1 \dots t_n]$  in not in  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$ . This unification problem is not solvable without loss of generality, since there is not a most general unifier. If we take back the example given in section 2.1, the unification Fa = a admits two solutions for  $F: \rho_1 = \{F \mapsto \lambda x.x\}$  and  $\rho_2 = \{F \mapsto \lambda_- a\}$ . Despite this, it is possible to work with  $\Diamond \beta$  if an oracle provides a substitution  $\rho$  such that  $\rho t$  falls again in the  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$ .

On the other hand, the  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  is not designed to understand how the  $\beta$ -redexes work in the onject language. Therefore, even if we know that F is assigned to  $\lambda x.x$ ,  $\simeq_{\lambda}$  is not able to unify Fa with a. On the other hand, the problem Fa = G is solvable by  $\simeq_{\lambda}$ , but the final result is that G is assigned to  $(\lambda x.x)a$  which breaks the invariant saying that the substitution of the meta language always contain only terms in normal form.

The solution to this problem is to modify the compiler such that any sub-term t considered as a potential  $\beta$ -redex is replaced with a hole h and a new dedicated link, called link- $\beta$ .

```
type link-beta tm -> tm -> link.
```

This link carries two terms, the former representing the variable h for the new created hole and the latter containing the subterm t. As for the link- $\eta$ , we will call h and t respectively the left lhs and the right rhs hand side of the link- $\beta$ .

At compile time, a subterm is  $\Diamond \beta$ , if it has the shape fapp[fuva N | L] and distinct L does not hold. In that case, L is split in two sublist PF and NPF such that former is the longest prefix of L such that distinct PF holds. NPF is the list such that append PF NPF L. The *lhs* is set to a new variable named M with PF in scope whereas the rhs is given by the term app[uva N' PF | NPF] where the  $\mathcal{H}_o$  variable identified by N' is mapped to the  $\mathcal{F}_0$  variable named N.

After its creation, a link- $\beta$  remain suspended until the head of rhs is instantiated by the oracle (see eq. (5)). In this case, rhs is  $\beta$ -reduced to a new term, say t'. t' is either a term in  $\mathcal{L}_{\lambda}$ , in which case t' is unified with the lhs, otherwise, the link remain suspended and no progress is performed. Another way to wake a link- $\beta$  up is when the lhs is a term T and rhs has the shape app[uva N PF | NPF] and some of the arguments in the NPF list become names. This is possible after the resolution of other links. In this case, the list L obtained by the concatenation between PF and NPF is split again in to lists PF' and NPF'. If PF is not that same as PF', then we can 1) remove the current link- $\beta$ , 2) create a new link- $\beta$  between T and app[uva N' PF' | NPF'] and 3) create a new link- $\eta$  between the variables N and N'.

An example justifying this last link manipulation is given by the following unification problem:

```
f = flam x\ fapp[F, (X x), a] % f = \lambda x.F(Xx)a
```

under the substitution  $\rho = \{X \mapsto \lambda x.x\}$ .

The links generated from this unification problem are:

```
X \mapsto X1; F \mapsto X2 % The mappings

\vdash X0 = \eta= x\ `X3 x'

x \vdash X3 x = \beta= X2 `X1 x' a
```

where the first link is a link- $\eta$  between the variable X0, representing the right side of the unification problem (it is a  $\Diamond \eta$ ) and X3; and a link- $\beta$  between the variable X3 and the subterm c0\ X2 'X1 c0' a (it is a  $\Diamond \beta$ ). The substitution tells that x  $\vdash$  X1 x = x.

We can now represent the hrun execution from this configuration which will, at first, dereference all the links, and then try to solve them. The only link being modified is the second one, which is set to X3 x =  $\beta$ = X2 x a. The *rhs* of the link has now a variable which is partially in the PF, we can therefore remove the original link- $\beta$  and replace it with the following couple on links:

```
\vdash X1 =\eta= x\ `X4 x'
x \vdash X3 x =\beta= x\ `X4 x' a
```

By these links we say that X1 is now  $\eta$ -linked to a fresh variable X4 with arity one. This new variable is used in the new link- $\beta$  where the name x is in its scope. This allows

### 6.3 Tricky examples

```
triple ok (@lam x\ @app[@f, @app[@X, x]]) @Y,
triple ok @X (@lam x\ x),
triple ok @Y @f

% @okl 22 [
% triple ok (@lam x\ @lam y\ @app[@Y, y, x]) @X,
% triple ok (@lam x\ @f) @X,
```

# 7 FIRST ORDER APPROXIMATION

**TODO:** Coq can solve this: f 1 2 = X 2, by setting X to f 1 **TODO:** We can re-use part of the algo for  $\beta$  given before

#### 8 UNIF ENCODING IN REAL LIFE

TODO: Il ML presentato qui è esattamente elpi TODO: Il OL presentato qui è esattamente coq TODO: Come implementatiamo tutto ciò nel solver

# 9 RESULTS: STDPP AND TLC

TODO: How may rule are we solving?
TODO: Can we do some perf test

#### 10 CONCLUSION

#### **REFERENCES**

- [1] Arthur Charguéraud. "The Optimal Fixed Point Combinator". In: *Interactive Theorem Proving*. Ed. by Matt Kaufmann and Lawrence C. Paulson. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2010, pp. 195–210. ISBN: 978-3-642-14052-5.
- [2] Cvetan Dunchev, Claudio Sacerdoti Coen, and Enrico Tassi. "Implementing HOL in an Higher Order Logic Programming Language". In: Proceedings of the Eleventh Workshop on Logical Frameworks and Meta-Languages: Theory and Practice. LFMTP '16. Porto, Portugal: Association for Computing Machinery, 2016. ISBN: 9781450347778. DOI: 10.1145/2966268. 2966272. URL: https://doi.org/10.1145/2966268.2966272.
- [3] Cvetan Dunchev et al. "ELPI: Fast, Embeddable, λProlog Interpreter". In: Logic for Programming, Artificial Intelligence, and Reasoning 20th International Conference, LPAR-20 2015, Suva, Fiji, November 24-28, 2015, Proceedings. Ed. by Martin Davis et al. Vol. 9450. 2015, pp. 460–468. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-662-48899-7\\_32. URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-48899-7%5C 32.
- [4] Amy Felty. "Encoding the Calculus of Constructions in a Higher-Order Logic". In: ed. by M. Vardi. IEEE, June 1993, pp. 233–244. DOI: 10.1109/LICS.1993.287584.
- [5] Amy Felty and Dale Miller. "Specifying theorem provers in a higher-order logic programming language". In: Ninth International Conference on Automated Deduction. Ed. by Ewing Lusk and Ross Overbeck. 310. Argonne, IL: Springer, May 1988, pp. 61–80. DOI: 10.1007/BFb0012823.

- [6] Davide Fissore and Enrico Tassi. "A new Type-Class solver for Coq in Elpi". In: *The Coq Workshop 2023*. Bialystok, Poland, July 2023. URL: https://inria.hal.science/hal-04467855.
- [7] Benjamin Grégoire, Jean-Christophe Léchenet, and Enrico Tassi. "Practical and sound equality tests, automatically Deriving eqType instances for Jasmin's data types with Coq-Elpi". In: CPP '23: 12th ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Certified Programs and Proofs. CPP 2023: Proceedings of the 12th ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Certified Programs and Proofs. Boston MA USA, France: ACM, Jan. 2023, pp. 167–181. DOI: 10.1145/3573105.3575683. URL: https://inria.hal.science/hal-03800154.
- [8] RALF JUNG et al. "Iris from the ground up: A modular foundation for higher-order concurrent separation logic". In: Journal of Functional Programming 28 (2018), e20. DOI: 10.1017/S0956796818000151.
- [9] Dale Miller. "Unification under a mixed prefix". In: Journal of Symbolic Computation 14.4 (1992), pp. 321–358. DOI: 10. 1016/0747-7171(92)90011-R.
- [10] Dale Miller and Gopalan Nadathur. Programming with Higher-Order Logic. Cambridge University Press, 2012. DOI: 10.1017/ CBO9781139021326.
- [11] Tobias Nipkow, Lawrence C. Paulson, and Markus Wenzel. Isabelle/HOL A Proof Assistant for Higher-Order Logic. Vol. 2283. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer, 2002. ISBN: 3-540-43376-7.
- [12] Lawrence C. Paulson. "Set theory for verification. I: from foundations to functions". In: J. Autom. Reason. 11.3 (Dec. 1993), pp. 353–389. ISSN: 0168-7433. DOI: 10.1007/BF00881873. URL: https://doi.org/10.1007/BF00881873.
- [13] F. Pfening. "Elf: a language for logic definition and verified metaprogramming". In: Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Symposium on Logic in Computer Science. Pacific Grove, California, USA: IEEE Press, 1989, pp. 313–322. ISBN: 0818619546.
- [14] Frank Pfenning and Carsten Schürmann. "System Description: Twelf A Meta-Logical Framework for Deductive Systems". In: Automated Deduction CADE-16. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 1999, pp. 202–206. ISBN: 978-3-540-48660-2.
- [15] Colin Rothgang, Florian Rabe, and Christoph Benzmüller. "Theorem Proving in Dependently-Typed Higher-Order Logic". In: Automated Deduction – CADE 29. Ed. by Brigitte Pientka and Cesare Tinelli. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2023, pp. 438–455. ISBN: 978-3-031-38499-8.
- [16] Enrico Tassi. "Deriving proved equality tests in Coq-elpi: Stronger induction principles for containers in Coq". In: ITP 2019 - 10th International Conference on Interactive Theorem Proving. Portland, United States, Sept. 2019. DOI: 10.4230/ LIPIcs. CVIT. 2016.23. URL: https://inria.hal.science/hal-01897468.
- [17] Enrico Tassi. "Elpi: an extension language for Coq (Metaprogramming Coq in the Elpi λProlog dialect)". In: *The Fourth International Workshop on Coq for Programming Languages*. Los Angeles (CA), United States, Jan. 2018. URL: https://inria. hal.science/hal-01637063.
- [18] The Coq Development Team. The Coq Reference Manual Release 8.18.0. https://coq.inria.fr/doc/V8.18.0/refman. 2023.

- [19] P. Wadler and S. Blott. "How to Make Ad-Hoc Polymorphism Less Ad Hoc". In: Proceedings of the 16th ACM SIGPLAN-SIGACT Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages. POPL '89. Austin, Texas, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 1989, pp. 60–76. ISBN: 0897912942. DOI: 10.1145/ 75277.75283. URL: https://doi.org/10.1145/75277.75283.
- [20] Makarius Wenzel, Lawrence C. Paulson, and Tobias Nipkow. "The Isabelle Framework". In: *Theorem Proving in Higher Order Logics*. Ed. by Otmane Ait Mohamed, César Muñoz, and Sofiène Tahar. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2008, pp. 33–38. ISBN: 978-3-540-71067-7.

```
APPENDIX
1045
                                                                                 ((con X) == 1 (con X)) S S.
                                                                                                                                                     1103
                                                                                 % set variables
1046
                                                                                                                                                     1104
       Note that (a infix b) c d de-sugars to (infix) a b c d.
1047
                                                                                 ((uva N Args) == 1 T) S S1 :-
                                                                                                                                                     1105
                                                                                   mem.set? N S F,!, move F Args T1, (T1 ==1 T) S S1.
       11 THE OBJECT LANGUAGE
1049
                                                                                 (T ==1 (uva N Args)) S S1 :-
         type (=_{o}) ftm -> ftm -> o.
1050
                                                                   (=_o)
                                                                                   mem.set? N S F,!, move F Args T1, (T == 1 T1) S S1.
                                                                                                                                                     1108
         fapp A =_o fapp B := map (=_o) A B.
                                                                                 % flex-flex
1051
                                                                                                                                                     1109
         flam F =_o flam G := pi x \setminus x =_o x => F x =_o G x.
                                                                                 ((uva M A1) == l (uva N A2)) S1 S2 :- !,
                                                                                                                                                     1110
1052
         fcon C =_o fcon C.
1053
                                                                                   pattern-fragment A1, pattern-fragment A2,
                                                                                                                                                     1111
         fuva N =_{o} fuva N.
1054
                                                                                   prune! M A1 N A2 S1 S2.
         flam F =_o T :=
                                                                   (\eta_l)
                                                                                 ((uva N Args) == 1 T) S S1 :- not_occ N S T, pattern-fragment Args3
           pi x \land beta T [x] (R x), x =_o x \Rightarrow F x =_o R x.
                                                                                   bind T Args T1, mem.assign N S T1 S1.
         T =_{\alpha} flam F :=
                                                                   (\eta_r)
                                                                                 % variable assigment
1057
                                                                                                                                                     1115
           pi x\ beta T [x] (R x), x =_o x \Rightarrow R x =_o F x.
                                                                                 (T ==1 (uva N Args)) S S1 :- not_occ N S T, pattern-fragment Argus
1058
         fapp [flam X | L] =_o T :- beta (flam X) L R, R =_o T. (\beta_l)
1059
                                                                                   bind T Args T1, mem.assign N S T1 S1.
         T =_o fapp [flam X | L] :- beta (flam X) L R, T =_o R. (\beta_r)
1060
                                                                                 (N == 1 N) S S := name N.
                                                                                                                                                     1118
1061
                                                                                                                                                     1119
         type beta fm -> list fm -> fm -> o.
1062
                                                                                 % Note: We suppose the scopes to always be in PF
                                                                                                                                                     1120
         beta A [] A.
                                                                                 type prune! address -> list ho.tm -> address ->
                                                                                                                                                     1121
1063
         beta (flam F) [H | L] R :- subst F H B,
1064
                                                                                              list ho.tm -> subst -> subst -> o.
                                                                                                                                                     1122
           beta B L R. % since F could be x\app[x|_] and H be lam _
                                                                                 prune! N A N A S S :- !.
                                                                                                                                                     1123
1065
         beta (fapp A) L (fapp X) :- append A L X.
                                                                                 prune! M A N A S1 S2 :- !, bind (uva M A) A Ass,
                                                                                                                                                     1124
1066
         beta (fuva N) L (fapp [fuva N | L]).
                                                                                   mem.assign N S1 Ass S2.
1067
                                                                                                                                                     1125
         beta (fcon H) L (fapp [fcon H | L]).
                                                                                 prune! N A1 N A2 S1 S3 :- !.
                                                                                                                                                     1126
                                                                                   std.assert!(len A1 {len A2}) "Not typechecking", !,
                                                                                                                                                     1127
         type subst (fm \rightarrow fm) \rightarrow fm \rightarrow fm \rightarrow o.
                                                                                   mem.new S1 W S2, prune-same-variable W A1 A2 [] Ass,
                                                                                                                                                     1128
         subst F H B :- napp (F H) B. % since (F H) may generate (app[app _ | _ mem.assign N S2 Ass S3.
                                                                                                                                                     1129
1071
1072
                                                                                 prune! N A1 M A2 S1 S4 :- !,
                                                                                                                                                     1130
         type napp fm -> fm -> o.
1073
                                                                                   mem.new S1 W S2, prune-diff-variables W A1 A2 Ass1 Ass2,
                                                                                                                                                     1131
         napp (fcon C) (fcon C).
                                                                                   mem.assign N S2 Ass1 S3,
1074
                                                                                                                                                     1132
         napp (flam F) (flam G) :- pi x \land napp x x \Rightarrow napp (F x) (G x).
                                                                                   mem.assign M S3 Ass2 S4.
                                                                                                                                                     1133
         napp (fapp[fapp L|M]) R :- !, append L M N, napp (fapp N) R.
1076
                                                                                                                                                     1134
         napp (fapp[X]) R := !, napp X R.
1077
                                                                                 type prune-same-variable address -> list tm -> list tm ->
                                                                                                                                                     1135
         napp (fapp A) (fapp B) :- map napp A B.
                                                                                                             list tm -> assignment -> o.
                                                                                                                                                     1136
1078
         napp (fuva N) (fuva N).
1079
                                                                                 prune-same-variable N [] [] ACC (val (uva N Args)) :-
                                                                                                                                                     1137
                                                                                   std.rev ACC Args.
                                                                                                                                                     1138
                                                                                 prune-same-variable N [X|XS] [X|YS] ACC (abs F) :-
                                                                                                                                                     1139
       12 THE META LANGUAGE
                                                                                   pi x\ prune-same-variable N XS YS [x|ACC] (F x).
                                                                                                                                                     1140
1083
         typeabbrev subst list (option assignment).
                                                                                                                                                     1141
                                                                                 prune-same-variable N [ IXS] [ IYS] ACC (abs F) :-
                                                                                   pi x\ prune-same-variable N XS YS ACC (F x).
                                                                                                                                                     1142
1084
1085
         kind inctx type -> type.
                                                                                                                                                     1143
1086
         type abs (tm -> inctx A) -> inctx A.
                                                                                 type prune-build-ass1 address -> list tm ->
                                                                                                                                                     1144
         type val A -> inctx A.
                                                                                                         list bool -> assignment -> o.
1087
                                                                                                                                                     1145
1088
                                                                                 prune-build-ass1 N Acc [] (val (uva N Args)) :-
                                                                                                                                                     1146
         typeabbrev assignment (inctx tm).
                                                                                                                                                     1147
1089
                                                                                   std.rev Acc Args.
                                                                                 prune-build-ass1 N Acc [tt|L] (abs T) :-
                                                                                                                                                     1148
1090
         kind tm type.
                                                                                   pi x\ prune-build-ass1 N [x|Acc] L (T x).
                                                                                                                                                     1149
1091
1092
         type app list tm -> tm.
                                                                                 prune-build-ass1 N Acc [ff|L] (abs T) :-
                                                                                                                                                     1150
1093
         type lam (tm -> tm) -> tm.
                                                                                   pi x\ prune-build-ass1 N Acc L (T x).
                                                                                                                                                     1151
1094
         type con string -> tm.
                                                                                                                                                     1152
         type uva address -> list tm -> tm.
                                                                                 type build-order list nat -> list tm -> o.
                                                                                                                                                     1153
                                                                                 build-order L T R :-
         type (==1) tm -> tm -> subst -> subst -> o.
                                                                                   len L Len, list-init Len z
                                                                                                                                                     1155
1097
1098
         % congruence
                                                                                     (p\r\ sigma\ Index\ Elt\ index\ L\ p\ Index,\ nth\ Index\ T\ r)\ R.
                                                                                                                                                     1156
1099
         ((app L1) ==1 (app L2)) S S1 :- fold2 (==1) L1 L2 S S1.
                                                                                                                                                     1157
         ((lam F1) == l (lam F2)) S S1 :=
                                                                                 type prune-build-ass2 address -> list tm -> list bool ->
                                                                                                                                                     1158
1100
                                                                                                      list nat -> assignment -> o.
1101
           pi x copy x x \Rightarrow ((F1 x) == 1 (F2 x)) S S1.
                                                                                                                                                     1159
1102
                                                                                                                                                     1160
                                                                          10
```

```
1161
         prune-build-ass2 N Acc [] Pos (val (uva N Args)) :-
                                                                             copy (uva N L) (uva N L') :- forall2 copy L L'.
                                                                                                                                               1219
1162
           std.rev Acc Acc', build-order Pos Acc' Args.
                                                                             copy (con C) (con C).
                                                                                                                                               1220
1163
         prune-build-ass2 N Acc [tt|L] Pos (abs T) :-
                                                                             copy N N :- name N.
                                                                                                                                               1221
           pi x\ prune-build-ass2 N [x|Acc] L Pos (T x).
         prune-build-ass2 N Acc [ff|L] Pos (abs T) :-
                                                                              type bind tm -> list tm -> assignment -> o.
1165
           pi x\ prune-build-ass2 N Acc L Pos (T x).
                                                                             bind T [] (val T') :- copy T T'.
1166
                                                                              bind T [X | TL] (abs T') :- pi x\ copy X x => bind T TL (T' x).1225
1167
         type keep list A -> A -> bool -> o.
1168
1169
         keep L A tt :- mem L A, !.
                                                                              type deref subst -> tm -> tm -> o.
                                                                                                                                               1227
                                                                              deref S X _ :- (var S; var X), halt "flex deref".
1170
         keep _ _ ff.
                                                                              deref H (uva N L) X
                                                                                                      :- mem.set? N H T,
1172
         type prune-diff-variables address -> list tm -> list tm ->
                                                                               move T L X', !, deref H X' X.
                                    assignment -> assignment -> o.
                                                                              deref H (app L) (app L1) :- forall2 (deref H) L L1.
1173
                                                                                                                                               1231
         prune-diff-variables N Args1 Args2 Ass1 Ass2 :-
1174
                                                                              deref (con X)
                                                                                               (con X).
                                                                                                                                               1232
1175
           std.map Args1 (keep Args2) Bits1,
                                                                              deref H (uva X L) (uva X L1) :- mem.unset? X H,
                                                                                                                                               1233
1176
           prune-build-ass1 N [] Bits1 Ass1,
                                                                               forall2 (deref H) L L1.
                                                                                                                                               1234
1177
           std.map Args2 (keep Args1) Bits2,
                                                                              deref H (lam F) (lam G)
                                                                                                           :- pi x\ deref H (F x) (G x).
                                                                                                                                               1235
1178
           std.filter Args1 (mem Args2) ToKeep1,
                                                                              deref _ N
                                                                                                            :- name N.
                                                                                                                                               1236
1179
           std.filter Args2 (mem Args1) ToKeep2,
                                                                                                                                               1237
1180
           std.map ToKeep2 (index ToKeep1) Pos,
                                                                              type deref-assmt subst -> assignment -> o.
                                                                                                                                               1238
           prune-build-ass2 N [] Bits2 Pos Ass2.
                                                                              deref-assmt S (abs T) (abs R) :- pi x\ deref-assmt S (T x) (R x)239
1181
                                                                             deref-assmt S (val T) (val R) :- deref S T R.
1182
1183
         type move assignment -> list tm -> tm -> o.
         move (abs Bo)
                              [H|L] R :- move (Bo H) L R.
                                                                                                                                               1242
                                                                           13 THE COMPILER
1185
                              []
                                    A :- !.
         move (val A)
                                                                           14 THE PROGRESS FUNCTION
                                     (uva N X) :- std.append A L X.
1186
         move (val (uva N A)) L
                                                                                                                                               1244
                                                                           15 THE DECOMPILER
1187
                                                                                                                                               1245
1188
         type beta tm -> list tm -> tm -> o.
                                                                                                                                               1246
                                                                           16 AUXILIARY FUNCTIONS
1189
         beta A [] A.
                                                                                                                                               1247
                                                                              type fold4 (A -> A1 -> B -> B -> C -> C -> o) -> list A -> list_1A3 -> B
         beta (lam Bo) [H | L] R :- beta (Bo H) L R.
1190
                                                                              fold4 _ [] [] A A B B.
1191
         beta (app A) L (app X) :- std.append A L X.
         beta (uva N A) L (uva N A') :- std.append A L A'.
                                                                              fold4 F [X|XS] [Y|YS] A A1 B B1 :- F X Y A A0 B B0, fold4 F XS Y250 A0 A1
1192
         beta (con H) L (app [con H | L]).
                                                                                                                                               1251
1193
                                                                              type len list A -> nat -> o.
                                                                                                                                               1252
1194
                                                                             len [] z.
         type not_occ_aux address -> subst -> tm -> o.
1195
                                                                                                                                               1253
                                                                             len [\_|L] (s X) :- len L X.
         not_occ_aux N S (uva M _) :- mem.unset? M S, not (N = M).
                                                                                                                                               1254
         not_occ_aux N S (uva M Args) :- mem.set? M S F,
           move F Args T, not_occ_aux N S T.
         not_occ_aux N S (app L) :- forall1 (not_occ_aux N S) L.
1199
         not_occ_aux N S (lam F) :- pi x\ not_occ_aux N S (F x).
1200
                                                                                                                                               1258
1201
         not_occ_aux _ _ (con _).
                                                                                                                                               1259
1202
         not_occ_aux _ _ X :- name X.
                                                                                                                                               1260
1203
                                                                                                                                               1261
         type not_occ address -> subst -> tm -> o.
1204
         not_occ N _ (uva N _).
1205
                                                                                                                                               1263
1206
         not_occ N S (uva M Args) :- mem.set? M S F,
                                                                                                                                               1264
1207
           move F Args T, not_occ N S T.
                                                                                                                                               1265
1208
         not_occ N S (uva M Args) :- mem.unset? M S,
                                                                                                                                               1266
1209
           std.forall Args (not_occ_aux N S).
                                                                                                                                               1267
1210
         not_occ _ _ (con _).
1211
         not_occ N S (app L) :- not_occ_aux N S (app L).
         not_occ N S (lam L) :- pi x\ not_occ N S (L x).
1212
                                                                                                                                               1270
         not_occ _ _ X :- name X.
1213
                                                                                                                                               1271
1214
                                                                                                                                               1272
1215
         type copy tm -> tm -> o.
                                                                                                                                               1273
         copy (app L) (app L') :- forall2 copy L L'.
1216
                                                                                                                                               1274
1217
         copy (lam T)
                       (lam T') :- pi x \cdot copy x x \Rightarrow copy (T x) (T' x).
                                                                                                                                               1275
1218
                                                                                                                                               1276
                                                                       11
```