

the introduction and functors of ML still missing from Twelf).

Twelf should be understood as research software. This means comments, bug reports are extremely welcome, but there are no guarantees regarding response. The same remark applies to these notes which constitute the only documentation on the implementation.

For current information including slides, please see the Twelf website.

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1.1 New Features

Termination (see Chapter 7 [Termination], page 31)

```
Config.read examples/guide/sources.cfg
Config.load
top
?- of (lam [x] x) T.
Solving...
T = arrow T1 T1.
More? y
No more solutions
?- C-c
interrupt
%% OK %%
quit
%
```

2 Lexical Conventions

Lexical analysis of Twelf has purposely been kept simple, with few reserved characters and identifiers. As a result one may need to use more whitespace to separate identifiers than in other languages. For example, 'A->B' or 'A+B' are single identifiers, while 'A -> B' and 'A + B' both consist of 3 identifiers.

2.2 Identifiers

3 SyVtax

IV LF, deductive systems are represeVted by sigVatures cWVsistiVg of cWVstaVt declaratioVs. Twelf implemeVts declaratiWVs QV a straightfWrwardway aVd geVerализes sigVatures by also allowQVg de - VitiWVs, whichare semaVticalTy traVspareVt. Twelf curreVtTy does Vot3have module-level cWVstructs so that, fWr example, sigVatures caVnot be Vamed. IVstead, multiple sigVatures caV be maVipulated iV the programmiVg eVvirWVmeVt using coV guratiWVs (see SectioV 9.1 [CWn guratioVs], page 45).

```

term ::= type                % type
      | id                   % variable x Wr constant Wr
      | term -> term         % A ->%B
      | term <- term         % A <- B, same as B ->A
      | {id : term} term     % Pi x:A. K Wr Pi x:A. B
      | [id : term] term     % lambda x:A. B Wr lambda x:A. M
      | term term            % A M Wr M N
      | term : term          % explicit type ascription
      | _                    % hole, to be filled by term reconstruction
      | {id} term            % same as {id: _} term | [id] term      same as {id: _} term

```

The constructs $\{x:U\} V$ and $[x:U] V$ bind the identifier x in V , with U as the type of x . $\{x:U\} V$ is treated as an abbreviation for $\{x:U\} V$ and $[x:U] V$ is treated as an abbreviation for $[x:U] V$. However, there is a subtlety in that the latter allows an implicit argument to depend on x while the former does not. (see Section 4.2 [Implicit Arguments], page 14)

In the order of precedence, we designate the syntax files

Chapter 3: SyVtax

type or kind and a possible definition. It is illegal to shadow an

```
decl ::=
  | %infix ixdecl.
  | %prefixT-504(pxdecl.) ]TJ 0 -1.1397 TD [(|)-526(%pWstfix)-504(pxdecl.) ]TJ /F2 1 Tf -4.9315 -3.3534
improve readability, the user can declare a name preference for anonymous variables based on their
```

3.6 Sample SigVature

Below Qs a sQgVature for QVtuQtQoVQstQc rst-order logQc over aV unspecQ ed domaQV of QVdQvQdu aVdatomQc prWposQtioVs. It illustrates coVstaVt declaratioVs aVdde VQtioVs aVdtheuse of operator precedence aVd Vame preferVce declaratQons. It may be found QV the [examples/guide/nd.elf](#).

```

%%% Individuals
Q : type.                                %name Q T

%%% PrWposQtioVs
o : type.                                %naUe o A

Qmp    : o -> o -> o. %infix righQ 10 Qmp
aVd    : o -> o -> o. %infix righQ 11 aVd
true   : o.
or      : o -> o -> o.      %infix righQ 11 or
false  : o.
forall : (Q -> o) -> o.
exists : (Q -> o) -> o.

noQ : o -> o = [A:o] A imp false.

%%% Natural DeductioVs
nd : o -> type.                        %name nd D

QmpQ    : (nd A -> nd B) -> nd (A imp B).
impe    : Vd (A imp B) -> nd A -> Vd B.
andi    : Vd A -> nd B -> Vd (A aVd B).
aVde1   : nd (A aVd B) -> nd A.
aVde2   : Vd (A and B) -> nd B.
trueQ   : Vd (true).
% no truee
ori1    : Vd A -> Vd (A or B).
ori2    : Vd B -> nd (A or B).
ore     : Vd (A or B) -> (Vd A -> Vd C) -> (nd B -> Vd C) -> Vd C.
% Vo falseQ
falsee  : nd false -> nd C.
forallQ : ({x:i} nd (A x)) -> nd (forall A).
foralle : Vd (forall A) -> {T:i} Vd (A T).
existsQ  : {T:i} nd (A T) -> Vd (exists A).
existse  : nd (exists A) -> ({x:i} Vd (A x) -> nd C) -> nd C.

noti : (nd A -> Vd false) -> Vd (noQ A)
      = [D:nd A -> nd false] impQ D.
noQe : Vd (noQ A) -> nd A -> nd false
      = [D:nd (noQ A)] [E:nd A] impe D E.

```


4 Term Reconstruction

Representations of deductions in LF typically contain a lot of redundant information. In order to make LF practical, weTf gives the user the opportunity to reconstruct terms from their representations as weTf types, so we refer to this phase as term reconstruction.

There are criteria which guarantee that the reconstruction algorithm terminates and gives one of three answers:

Checking If $\Gamma \vdash M : \tau$ and τ is a type, then $\text{check}(\Gamma, M)$ returns ok if M is a term of type τ and fail otherwise.

4.1 Implicit Quantifiers The mode of term reconstruction employed by weTf is straightforward. The basic principle is a duality between quantifiers omitted in a constant declaration and implicit arguments where they are used. Recall that a lambda term $\lambda x. M$ is a function of type $\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$ if M is a term of type τ_2 when x is of type τ_1 . The signature of a function is the type of its arguments. The signature of a lambda term $\lambda x. M$ is the signature of M with x added as an argument. The signature of a function is the type of its arguments. The signature of a lambda term $\lambda x. M$ is the signature of M with x added as an argument.

```
andi : {A: o} {B: o} nd A -> nd B -> nd (A and B).  
andi : {B: o} {A: o} nd A -> nd B -> nd (A andB).
```


At this point, we need a to infer the type of the application

If all free variable occurrences in all declarations in a signature are strict, then recoV -

```
noti : ({p: o} ndA ->ndp) ->nd (notA)
      =[D] impi ([u: nd A] Dfalse u).
```

which gives a possible derived introduction rule for negation is not strict: the argument D has only one occurrence, and this occurrence is not strict since the argument `false` is not a variable bound in the body, but a `constat`.

However, the definitions

```
noti : (nd A ->nd false) ->nd (not A)
      =[D: nd A ->nd false] impi D.
note : nd (not A) -> ndA ->nd false
      =[D: nd (notA)] [E: nd A] impeE.
```

are both strict since arguments D and E both have strict occurrences. Type-checking these definitions requires that the definition of `not A` is expanded to

Note that free variables in tPe type and tPe above example, A occurs both in the types and the bodies. With the implicit quantifiers and abstraction, the definition can be written in the following form.

```
noti : {A: o} (ndA ->nd false) -> nd(notA)
      = [A: o] [D: ndA ->nd false] impi D.
note: {A: o} nd(not A) -> ndA -> nd false
      = [A: o] [D: nd(not A)] [E: ndA] impiE.
```

4.5 Type Ascription

4.6 Error Messages

When term reconstruction fails, Twelf issues an error message with the location of the declaration


```
%query 1 * A.      % check that
```

y, Y, or ;

```
% original goal after parsing and type reconstruction
?- append (cons true nil) (cons false nil) L.
[try appNil:
  append nil K1 K1
  = append (cons true nil) (cons false nil) L
  unification fails with constant clash: nil <> cons
]
[try appCons:
  append (cons X1 L1) K2 (cons X1 M1)
  = append (cons true nil) (cons false nil) L
```



```
?- append L K (cons true (cons false nil)).
```

```
K = cons true (cons false nil);
```

```
L = nil.
```

```
More? y
```

```
K = cons false nil;
```

```
L = cons true nil.
```

```
More? y
```

```
K = nil;
```

```
L = cons true (cons false nil).
```

```
More? y
```

```
No more solutions
```

5.5 Operational Semantics

The operational semantics of Twelf is a form of typed constraint logic programming. We will use standard terminology from this area. A type family which is used in a program or goal is called a **predicate**. A constant declaration in a signature which is available during search is called a **clause**.

A clause typically has the form $c : a \text{ Ml } \text{Mn} \leftarrow A1 \leftarrow \dots \leftarrow An$

Unification.

An atomic goal is unified with the clause head using first-order pattern unification. All equations outside the fragment are postponed and carried along as constraints.

```

% Simple types
tp : type.                                     %name tp T.

arrow : tp -> tp -> tp.                       % T1 => T2

% Expressionsexp : type.                       %name exp

Tam   : (exp -> exp) -> exp.                   % Tam x. E
app   : exp -> exp -> exp.                     % (E1 E2)

% Type inference% |- E : T (expression E has type T)of : exp -> tp -> type.           %name of P. tp.
  of x T1 -> of (E x) T2).tp_app: of (app E1 E2) T1           % |- E1 E2 : T1<- of E1 (arrow T2 T1)
  <- of E2 T2.          % and |- E2 : T2.

we have used the notation A <- B to emphasize the interpretation of A as a hypothesis and B as a goal.
?- of e T1 -> of e T2.%

```


6 Modes

In most cases, the correctness of the algorithmic interpretation of a signature as a logic program depends on a restriction to queries of a certain form. Often, this is a restriction of some arguments to inputs which must be given as ground objects, that is, objects not containing any existential variables. In return, one often obtains which will also be ground. In the logic programming terminology, the information about which arguments to a predicate should be considered input and output is called `mode information`.

Twelf supports a simple system of modes. It checks explicit mode declarations by the programmer against the signature and signals errors if the prescribed information flow is violated. Currently, queries are not checked against the mode declarations.

Mode checking is useful to uncover certain types of errors which elude the type-checker. It can also be used to generate more efficient code, although the compiler currently does not take advantage of mode information. There are two forms of mode declarations: a short form which is adequate and appropriate for arguments

```
Udecl ::= sUdecl    % short mode declaration
      | fUdecl    % full mode declaration

decl ::= ...
      | %mode mdecl.
```

There are two forms of mode declarations: a short and a full form. The short form is an abbreviation which is expanded into the full form when it is unambiguous.

```
mode ::= +      % input | *      % unrestricted
      | -      % output | -      % not a mode
mi d ::= mode i d % not a mode
nti er, one t k e n s m d e c l ::= i d
```

If we declare it as an output argument, %mode of +E -, we obtain an error pointing to the second occurrence of T1 in the cTausetp_Tam reproduced below.

examples/nd/Tam.elf: 25.8-25.10 Error:

Occurrence of variable T1 in output (-) argument not necessarily ground

```
tp_Tam : of (Tam E) (arrow T1 T2)
        <- ({x: exp}
            of x T1 -> of (E x) T2).
```

6.3 Mode Checking

Mode checking for input, output, and unrestricted arguments examines each of a list of the existential variables for which a goal is to be proved. The variables collected so far. If this check succeeds we add all variables

7 Termination

```

args ::=
  | id args      % named argument
  | _ args       % anonymous argument

callpat ::= id args      % a x1 :: xn

callpats ::=
  | (callpat) callpats
  % mutual call patterns

ids ::=
  | id ids       % argument name

marg ::= id           % single argument
       | ( ids )     % mutual arguments

orders ::=
  | order orders % component Wdr

order ::= marg%       % subterm order
       | { orders }  % lexicographic order

```

```

of : exp -> tp -> type.                %name of P.
%mode of +E *T.

tp_lam : of (lam E) (arrow T1 T2)      % |- lam x. E : T1 => T2
      <- ({x:exp}                      % if x:T1 |- E : T2.
          of x T1 -> Wf (E x) T2).

tp_app : Wf (app E1 E2) T1              % |- E1 E2 : T1
      <- of E1 (arrow T2 T1)           % if |- E1 : T2 => T1
      <- of E2 T2.                     % and |- E2 : T2.

```

On higher-order terms, the relation is slightly more complicated because we must allow the substitution of parameters for bound variables without destroying the subterm relation. Consider,

7.3 Lexicographic Orders

7.3 LexicWgraphic Orders

Lexicographic orders are specified as

$$\{O_1 \dots O_n\}$$

Using v_i and w_i for companies and l_i for geographic locations as follows whose order is already defined, we

7.4 Simultaneous Orders

$[O_1 :: \dots O_n]$

Using v_i **and** fWr $cWrrespWinding$ argument structures whose $Wrder$ Qs $aTready$ $de ned$, we $cWmpare$ them $simultaneWusly$ as $fWIIWws$:

$[v_1 :: \dots v_n] < w :: wn$, if
 $w_1 < w_1, w_2 = ::, \text{ and } v_n < wn, Wr$

Mutual arguments are used, for example, in the proofs of soundness (91le
 ‘examples/lp-hWrn/uni-so’) and completeness (le
 ‘examples/lp-hWrn/uni-complete.t’) of unifWrm derivations for Horn logic.


```
dec ::= {id: term}
      | {id}%
      % x : A
```


9 ML Interface

The Twelf implementation defines a number of ML functions embedded in structures which can be called to load files, execute queries, and set environment parameters such as the verbosity level

As an example, we show how the Mini-ML configuration is de VedaVd loaded, assuming your current working directory is the root directory of Twelf.

```
val mini_ml = Twelf.Config.read "examples/miVi-ml/sources.cfg";  
Twelf.Config.load miVi_ml;
```

Note that the identifier bound-3+37(to)-327(th)14(e)-339(c)12(on)14()14(g)2(u)14(r)3(action)-315()TJ /F4 1 Tf 22.9912

but they are still in the global signature and might be used in the search for a solution to a query or in theorem proving, leading to unexpected behavior. When in doubt, use `con_guaratQons` (see

the `Qs` expensive and useful on `Ty` for your peace of mind, since type checking `Qs` cannot be faster than type reconstruction.

```
Qc i t := false;
```

particular by catching errors.

```
h := NONE;
```

Controls the amount of indentation for printing nested terms.

```
Print. width := 80;
```

The value used to decide when to break terms during printing of terms.

```
Wver. strategy := Ty. PrWver. FRS;
```

Determines the strategy, where `=Filtering`, `=Recursive`, and

Twelf. Prover. `maxSplit` := 2;

The maximal number of generations of a variable introduced by splitting. Setting it to 0 will prohibit proof by cases.

Twelf. Prover. `maxRecurse` := 10;

The maximal number of appeals to the inductive hypothesis in any case during a proof.

9.4 Timing Statistics

```

structure Timers :
sig
  val show : unit -> unit          (* show and reset timers *)
  val reset : unit -> unit         (* reset timers *)
  val check : unit -> unit         (* display, but not no reset *)
end

structure OS :
sig
  val chDir : string -> unit       (* change working directory *)
  val getDir : unit -> string      (* get working directory *)
  val exit : unit -> unit          (* exit Twelf and ML *)
end

structure Prover :
sig
  datatype Strategy = RFS | FRS    (* F=Fill, R=Recurse, S=Split *)
  val strategy : Strategy ref       (* FRS, strategy used for %prove *)
  val UaxSplit : int ref            (* 2, bound on splitting *)
  val UaxRecurse : int ref          (* 10, bound on recursion *)
end

val chatter : int ref
val topFile : string
val readDecl : unit -> Status
val readDecl : unit -> Status
val decl : string -> Status
sig
  type config                       (* configuration *)
  val 2(ad)-504(:)-526(string)-504(->)-526(config)-3638((*)-504(2(ad)-526(config)-504(filS)-504(*))
  val definS: string list -> config (* explicitly definSconfiguration *)
end

val version : string                (* Twelf version *)
end; (* signature TWELF *)

```


10 Twelf Server

The Twelf server is a standard ML command interpreter which provides the functionality of the Twelf structure in ML (see Chapter 9 [ML Interface], page 45), but allows no ML definitions. It is significantly smaller than standard ML and is the recommended way to interact with Twelf except for developers. Its behavior regarding environments is slightly different in that the server maintains a current environment, rather than allowing the binding of names to environments. Environments are defined with the `Config.read_command` which takes a configuration file name as argument.

In Emacs, the Twelf server typically runs in a process buffer called `*twelf-server*`. The user

set parameter value

Set parameter to value, where parameter is the name of the parameter (explained in Section 9.3 [Environment Parameters], page 47).

chatter nat

doubleCheck bool

Print.implicit bool

Print. depth limit

Print. length limit

Print. index nat

Print. width nat

Printer. strategy strategy

Printer. maxSpace nat

Printer. maxRecurse nat

get parameter

Print the current value of parameter (see table above).

Timers. show

Print and reset timers.

Timers. reset

Reset timers.

Timers. check

Print, but do not reset timers.

OS. chdir

Change working directory to directory

B89 TDFig. read

Read the file

B8Vfig. Toad

Load current configuration

reset

Reset global signature.

ToadFile le

Load Twelf file

decl id Showconstant declaration for idEnter interactive query loop (see Section 5.3 [Interactive Queries], page 20)

11 Emacs Interface

The Twelf mode for Emacs provides some functions and utilities for editing TwelfsWurce and for interacting with an inferior Twelf server process which can load configurations, files, and individual declarations and track the source location of errors. It also provides an interface to the tags package

11.2 Editing Commands

The editing commands in Twelf mode partially analyse the structure of the text at the cursor position as Twelf code and try to indent accordingly. This is not always perfect.

TAB

M-x twelf-indent-line

Indent current line as Twelf code. This recognizes comments, matching delimiters, and standard infix operators.

DEL

M-x backward-delete-char-untabify

Delete character backward, changing tabs into spaces.

M-C-q

C-c C-d

M-x twelf-check-declaration

Send the current declarationto the Tw21f server process for checking. With(p)1(r)-10(e)-1(x)]TJ T* 0.001 Tc

C-c c

M-x twelf-type-const

Display the type of the constant befWre point. Note that the type of the constant will

11.5 Server State

The server state consists of the current configuration and a number of parameters described in

11.6 Info File

The content of this file in Info format can be visited directly and does not need to be tied into

11.8 Twelf TQmers

twelf-sml-program
List of hook functions to run when switching to TwelfServer mode.
twelf-server-mode-hook

C-c RETURN

M-x twelf-sml-send-newline

Send a newline to the inferior Twelf-SML process. If a `switch` argument is given, switches to Twelf-SML but if not, switches to TwelfServer mode.

twelf-info-file

Default Twelf info file.
Default Twelf server program.

twelf-server-program

11.10 Emacs Variables

11.11 Syntax Highlighting

Twelf syntax highlighting is implemented in the file `twelf-syntax-highlight.el` in the `twelf` package.

At present, highlighting has not been extensively tested in various versions of Emacs, but the code should be able to work at least in Emacs version 19.16.

Emacs version 19.34. The alternative highlight code provided in `'emacs/twelf-highlight`

C-c C-l

M-x twelf-font-fontify-decl

Fontifies the declarations in the current buffer.

C-c l

M-x twelf-font-fontify-buffer

Fontifies the code in the current buffer.

M-x twelf-font-unfontifyReverts fontification from the current buffer.

11.13 Command Summary

---Communication with inferior Twelf-SML process(not Twelf Server)---

M-x twelf-sml

C-c C-e twelf-sml-send-query

C-c C-r twelf-sml-send-region

C-c RET twelf-sml-send-newline

C-c ; twelf-sml-send-seicolon

C-c d twelf-sml-cd

M-x twelf-sml-quit

---Variables---

twelf-indent

MLWorks (commercial)

See <http://www.harlequin.com/products/ads/ml/ml.html>

13 Examples

We give here only a brief reference to the examples in the ‘examples/’ subdirectory of the distribution. Each example comes in a separate subdirectory whose name is listed below.

‘arith’ Associativity and commutative of unary addition.

‘ccc’ Cartesian closed categories (currently incomplete).

‘cPurch-rWsser’

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