

Mechanized Verification of Graph-manipulating Programs

Shengyi Wang[†], Qingxiang Cao[‡], Anshuman Mohan[†], Aquinas
Hobor[†]



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Our Focus

We would like to verify **graph-manipulating** programs written in **real C** with end-to-end **machine-checked** correctness proofs.

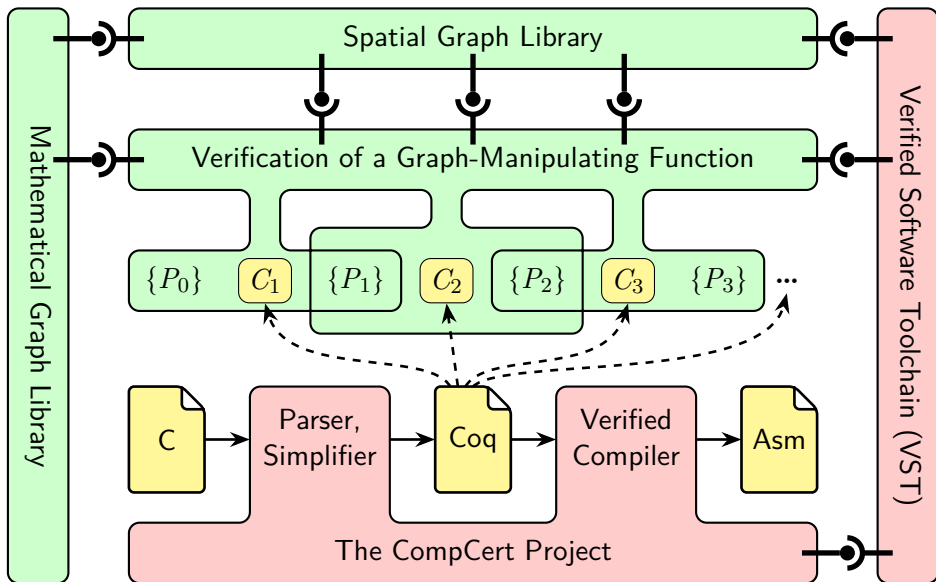
- Hard to reason about
- Occur in critical areas
- C is hard
- Machine-checked proofs are hard

Our Strategy

Use **CompCert** and **Verified Software Toolchain (VST)** to certify code against strong specifications expressed with **mathematical graphs**.

- CompCert + VST = 50+ person-years
- No changes to CompCert
- Add 1% to VST
- Vanilla separation logic (using \rightarrow^* and quantifiers).
- This framework is **powerful enough to verify real code**.

Our Workflow



Our Results

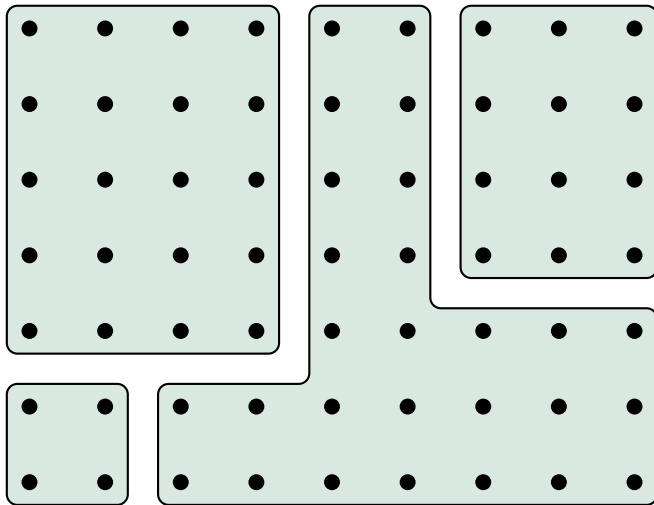
We have verified half a dozen graph algorithms, including:

- Graph visiting/coloring; ditto for DAG
- Graph reclamation (*i.e.* spanning tree followed by tree reclamation)
- Graph copy
- Union-find (both for heap- and array-represented nodes)
- Garbage collector for CertiCoq project
 - Generational OCaml-style GC for a purely functional language
 - ≈ 400 lines of (rather devilish) C
 - We find two places where C is too weak to define an OCaml-style GC

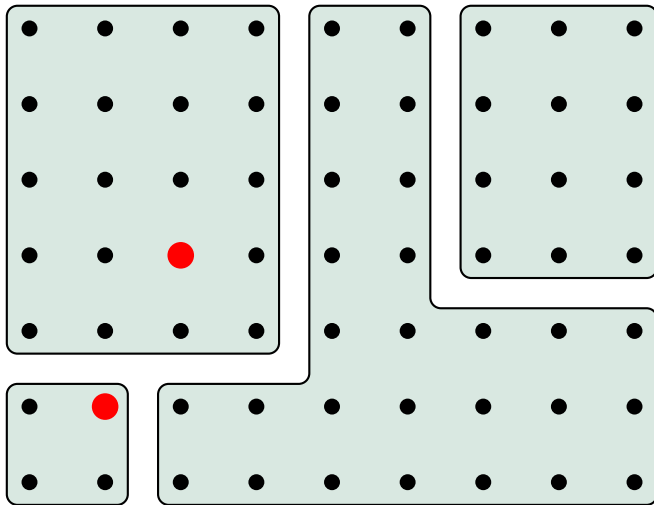
Statistics

Component	Files	LOC
Common Utilities	10	2,842
Math Graph Library	19	12,723
Memory Model & Logic	13	2,373
Spatial Graph Library	10	6,458
Integration into VST	12	1,917
Examples (excluding GC)	13	3,290
GC, subdivided into	18	14,170
• mathematical graph	1	5,764
• spatial graph	1	1,618
• function specifications	1	461
• function Hoare proofs	14	3,062
• isomorphism proof	1	3,265
Total Development	95	43,773

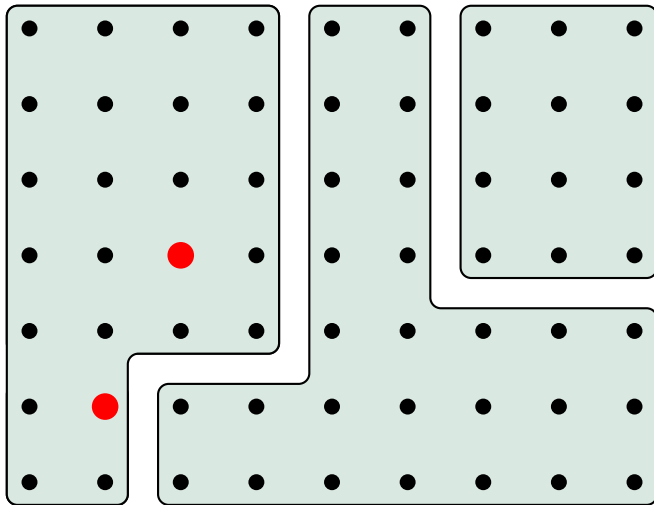
Union-Find Algorithm: Problem



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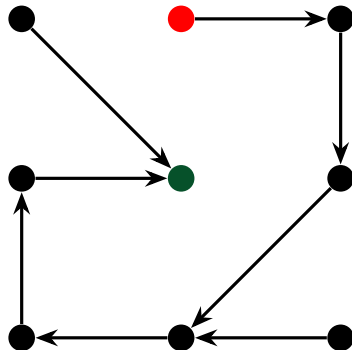


Union-Find Algorithm: Problem



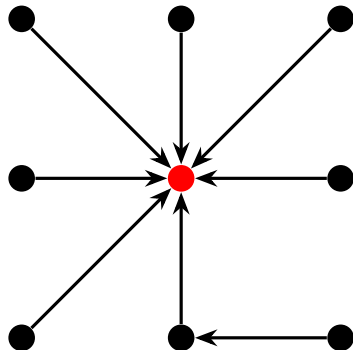
Union-Find Algorithm: Find

```
struct Node {  
    unsigned int rank;  
    struct Node *parent;  
};  
struct Node* find(struct Node* x) {  
    struct Node *p, *p0;  
    p = x -> parent;  
    if (p != x) {  
        p0 = find(p);  
        p = p0;  
        x -> parent = p;  
    }  
    return p;  
};
```



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};
```



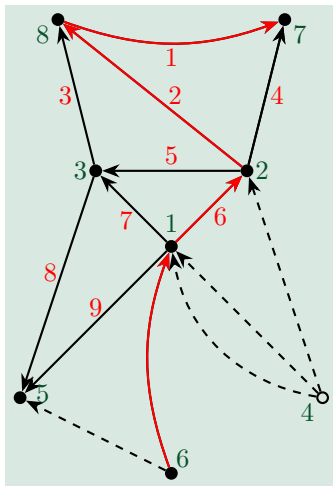
Union-Find Algorithm: The Specification of Find

PRE: $\text{graph_rep}(\gamma) \wedge \text{vvalid}(\gamma, x)$

POST: $\exists \gamma', \text{ret} . \text{graph_rep}(\gamma') \wedge \text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma') \wedge \text{root}(\gamma', x, \text{ret})$

- How to define γ , the mathematical graph?
- How to define $\text{graph_rep}(\gamma)$, the spatial representation of the graph in memory ?
- How to define other predicates, such as $\text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma')$, the graph equivalence and $\text{root}(\gamma', x, \text{ret})$, the root of x in γ' is ret ?

Graph Library: Definition of Graph and Path



$$\text{PreGraph} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ V, E, \text{vvalid}, \text{evalid}, \\ \text{src}, \text{dst} \}$$

$$\text{LabeledGraph} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \text{PreGraph}, L_V, L_E, L_G, \\ \text{vlabel}, \text{elabel}, \text{glabel} \}$$

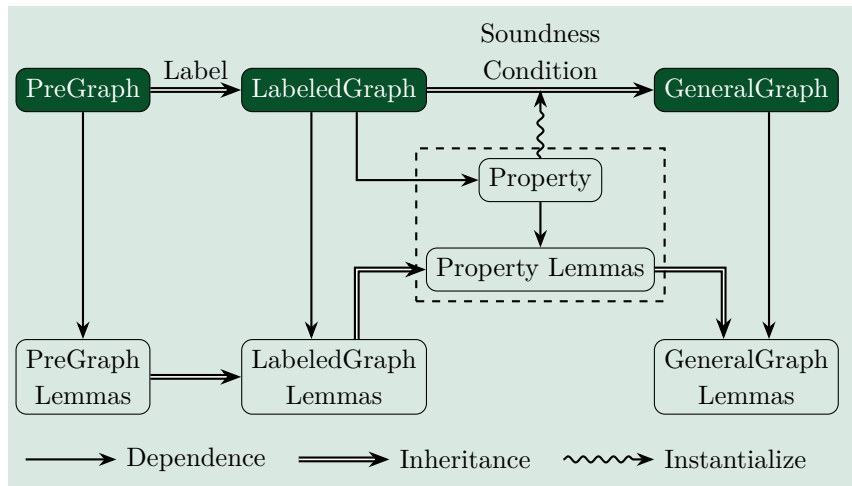
$$\text{GeneralGraph} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \text{LabeledGraph}, \text{sound_gg} \}$$

$$\text{Path} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (v_0, [e_0, e_1, \dots, e_k])$$

$$\gamma \models s \overset{p}{\rightsquigarrow} t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{valid_path}(\gamma, p) \wedge \\ \text{fst}(p) = s \wedge \text{end}(\gamma, p) = t$$

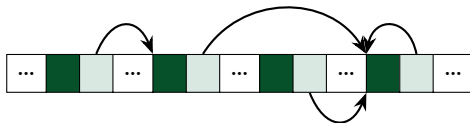
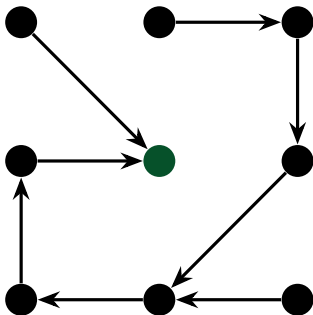
$$\gamma \models s \rightsquigarrow t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \exists p \text{ s.t. } \gamma \models s \overset{p}{\rightsquigarrow} t$$

Architecture



Spatial Representation of Graphs

```
struct Node {
    unsigned int rank;
    struct Node *parent;
};
```



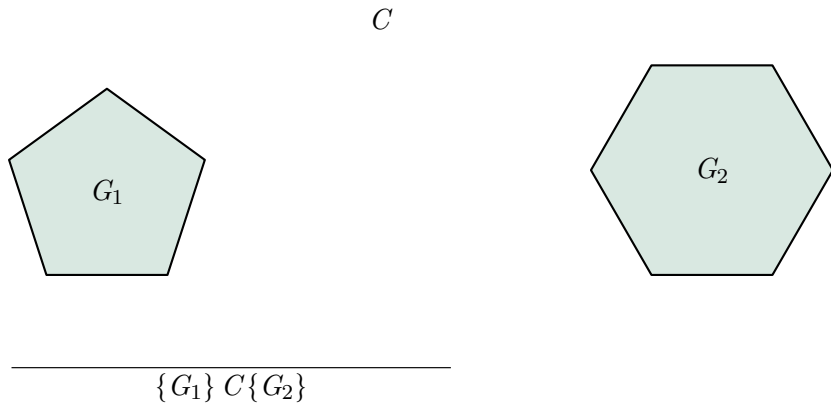
$$\text{graph_rep}(\gamma) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigstar_{v \text{ valid}(\gamma, v)} \text{v_rep}(\gamma, v)$$

$$\star_{\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}} P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} P(v_1) \star P(v_2) \star \dots \star P(v_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{v_rep}(\gamma, v) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} v \mapsto \text{vlabel}(\gamma, v) * \\ &\quad (v + 4) \mapsto \text{prt}(\gamma, v) \end{aligned}$$

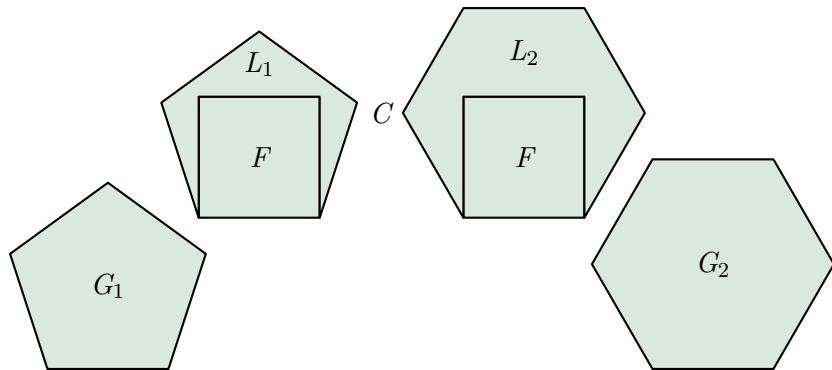
$$\text{prt}(\gamma, v) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{dst}(\gamma, \text{out}(v)) & \neq \text{null} \\ v & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Ramify Rule



(Hobor and Villard)

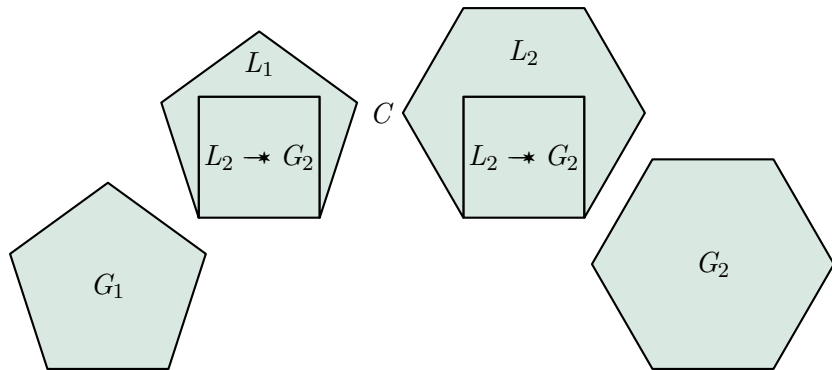
Ramify Rule



$$\frac{\{L_1\} C \{L_2\}}{\{G_1\} C \{G_2\}}$$

(Hobor and Villard)

Ramify Rule



$$\frac{\{L_1\} C \{L_2\} \quad G_1 \vdash L_1 * (L_2 \rightarrow^* G_2)}{\{G_1\} C \{G_2\}} \quad (\text{mod}(C) \cap \text{fv}(L_2 \rightarrow^* G_2) = \emptyset)$$

(Hobor and Villard)

Our Localize Rule

$$\frac{\{L_1\} C\{\exists x. L_2\} \quad G_1 \vdash L_1 \star R \quad R \vdash \forall x. (L_2 \multimap G_2)}{\{G_1\} C\{\exists x. G_2\}} \quad (\dagger)$$

$$(\dagger) \quad \text{mod}(C) \cap \text{fv}(R) = \emptyset$$

Comparing to Hobor and Villard's Ramify rule:

$$\frac{\{L_1\} C\{L_2\} \quad G_1 \vdash L_1 \star (L_2 \multimap G_2)}{\{G_1\} C\{G_2\}} \quad (\ddagger)$$

$$(\ddagger) \quad \text{mod}(C) \cap \text{fv}(L_2 \multimap G_2) = \emptyset$$

The Specification of Find

PRE: $\text{graph_rep}(\gamma) \wedge \text{vvalid}(\gamma, x)$

POST: $\exists \gamma', \text{ret}. \text{graph_rep}(\gamma') \wedge \text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma') \wedge$
 $\text{root}(\gamma', x, \text{ret})$

$$\text{graph_rep}(\gamma) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigstar_{\text{vvalid}(\gamma, v)} \text{v_rep}(\gamma, v)$$

$$\text{root}(\gamma, x, \text{ret}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \gamma \models x \rightsquigarrow \text{ret} \wedge \forall y. \gamma \models \text{ret} \rightsquigarrow y \Rightarrow y = \text{ret}$$

$$\text{uf_eq}(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\forall x. \text{vvalid}(\gamma_1, x) \Leftrightarrow \text{vvalid}(\gamma_2, x)) \wedge$$

$$\forall x, r_1, r_2. \text{root}(\gamma_1, x, r_1) \Rightarrow$$

$$\text{root}(\gamma_2, x, r_2) \Rightarrow r_1 = r_2$$

Proof Skeleton of Find

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \{\text{graph_rep}(\gamma) \wedge \text{vvalid}(\gamma, x)\} \\
 & \quad p = x \rightarrow \text{parent}; \\
 & \{\text{graph_rep}(\gamma) \wedge \text{vvalid}(\gamma, x) \wedge p = \text{prt}(\gamma, x)\} \\
 & \quad p0 = \text{find}(p); \\
 & \{\text{graph_rep}(\gamma_1) \wedge \text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma_1) \wedge \text{root}(\gamma_1, p, p0) \wedge p = \text{prt}(\gamma, x)\} \\
 & \quad \swarrow \{x \mapsto \text{vlabel}(\gamma_1, x), \text{prt}(\gamma_1, x)\} \\
 & \quad \quad x \rightarrow \text{parent} = p0 \\
 & \quad \swarrow \{x \mapsto \text{vlabel}(\gamma_1, x), p0\} \\
 & \{\text{graph_rep}(\gamma_2) \wedge \gamma_2 = \text{redirect_parent}(\gamma_1, x, p0) \wedge \dots\} \\
 & \quad \{\text{graph_rep}(\gamma_2) \wedge \text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma_2) \wedge \text{root}(\gamma_2, x, p0)\} \\
 & \quad \{\exists \gamma'. \text{graph_rep}(\gamma') \wedge \text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma') \wedge \text{root}(\gamma', x, p0)\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof Obligation of Find

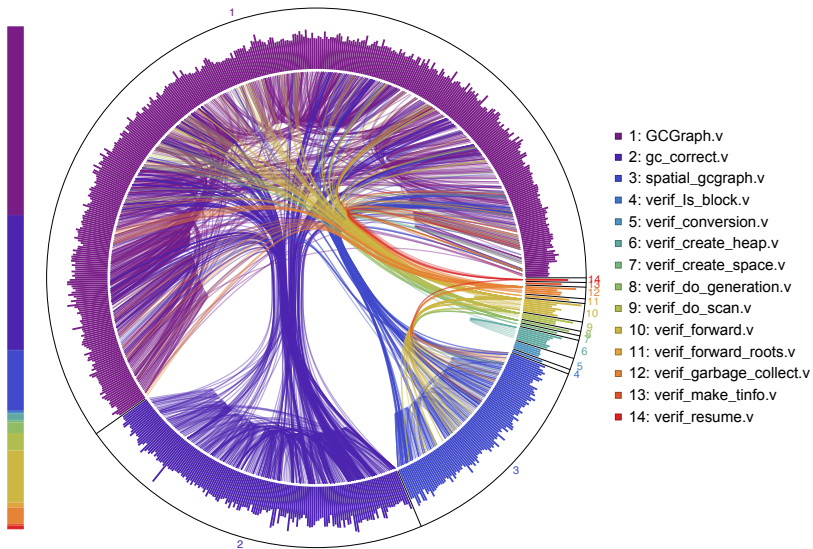
$$\begin{aligned} \text{graph_rep}(\gamma_1) \vdash & (x \mapsto \text{vlabel}(\gamma_1, x), \text{prt}(\gamma_1, x)) * \\ & \left((x \mapsto \text{vlabel}(\gamma_1, x), p_0) \rightarrow * \right. \\ & \left. \text{graph_rep}(\text{redirect_parent}(\gamma_1, x, p_0)) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma_1) \Rightarrow & \text{root}(\gamma_1, p, p_0) \Rightarrow \text{dst}(\gamma, \text{out}(x)) = p \\ \gamma_2 = & \text{redirect_parent}(\gamma_1, x, p_0) \Rightarrow \\ \text{uf_eq}(\gamma, \gamma_2) \wedge & \text{root}(\gamma_2, x, p_0) \end{aligned}$$

A Generational Garbage Collector

- 12 generations; mutator allocates only into the first
- Functional mutator, so no backward pointers
- Cheney's mark-and-copy collects generation to its successor
- Receiving generation may exceed fullness bound, triggering cascade of further pairwise collections
- Most tasks are handled by two key functions: **forward** (to copy individual objects) and **do_scan** (to repair the copied objects)

Separation between pure and spatial reasoning



Undefined behavior in C

- Double-bounded pointer comparisons:

```
int Is_from(value * from_start,  
            value * from_limit, value * v) {  
    return (from_start <= v && v < from_limit); }
```

Resolved using CompCert's "extcall_properties".

- A classic OCaml trick:

```
int test_int_or_ptr (value x) {  
    return (int)(((intnat)x)&1); }
```

Discussing char alignment issues with CompCert.