WG4: Tool Integration

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COST Action 0701 Working Group Meeting, Gothenburg, Sweden, June 2008

Why Build Tools?

- tools are the fulcrum to getting FMs adopted in industry and more people involved in our field
- provide evidence that theory has utility
- and perhaps...
 generate intellectual property

Tool Integration

- What does integration mean? How do we "integrate" tools today? Tomorrow?
 - APIs, common languages, pipes and components
 - ad hoc Frankenstein Monsters
 - ?

Potential WG4 Goals

- document and foster best practices and "gold standards" in tool construction, community building, and tool integration
- integrate with mainstream, real-world software development practices
- overcome fragmentation, avoid duplicate development, ensure coverage
- catalog and experiment with case studies for other working groups

Where to Focus Tool Work?

Industrial Relevance

- industry programmers are our stakeholders
 - we must understand what they want/need
- a new formal method only is adopted if there is excellent tool support
 - going "mainstream" only happens if a tool has the right non-functional properties for adoption

Theory/Practice Duality

- theoreticians must inform tool developers of most promising new theory
- tool developers and users must inform theoreticians of their critical problems

Tools of the Trade

Tool Classes

- Verification Tools: Boogie, Jive, the JML tool suite, KeY, Krakatoa, LOOP, Mobius PVE
- Static Checkers: CheckStyle, ESC/Java, FindBugs, PMD
- Model Checkers: Blast, Bogor, Java Pathfinder
- System Specification Systems: RODIN (B),
 Overture (VDM), Z/Eves

(tools in italics have been used in our research at UCD)

Tool Classes II

- Logical Frameworks: Coq, Isabelle, PVS
- Provers: CVC3, Fx7, Simplify, Yices, Z3
- Specification Languages: JML, OCL
- Intermediate Representations: BoogiePL, ESC-GC, Simplify, SMT-LIB, TPTP, Why

Tool Builder Behavior

I almost wrote a behavioral specification of the typical tool developer....

Best Practices

- know what the best tools are today
 - must understand what "best" means
- let someone else inventory tools (FME)
- coordinate with other efforts
 - JML Reloaded, MSR, SMT-LIB, SRI
- communicate best practices in tool sales and marketing (i.e., adoption and evolution)

Anti-Practices

- no release? the tool does not exist
- lack of documentation, support
- scientific responsibility/good citizenship

COST Actions

Missing Tool Artifacts

- best practices in process and coordination
- clearly standardized interfaces
- assessment with common benchmarks
- textbooks that incorporate FM tool use
- pedagogical materials for tool training
- accurate characterization of tools

Concrete Action Items

- programming contest involvement (i.e., SCORE, ACM, TopCoder, Imagine Cup)
- tool competitions (i.e., SAT, SMT, etc.)
- look at one tool in depth per meeting
- tools in training schools
- STSM to facilitate tool integration and dissemination of best practices
- coordinate with ongoing work in GC6
 - Mondex, pacemaker, flash file store, Linux kernel, Microsoft Hypervisor, e-voting

UCD Tools Summaries

- name: ESC/Java2
- author/institution: dozens of authors and institutions coordinated by Kiniry
- description: statically checker for common errors/lightweight verifier
- input/output: JML-annotated Java → human readable warning messages
- implementation: written in JML-annotated Java, has thousands of system and unit tests, has a high-level informal architecture description
- *license*: Hewlett-Packard Open Source License
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on Linux, Mac OS X, Windows, and some misc UNIXen
- status: beta (some incomplete advanced features & hundreds of pages of documentation but quite a bit of docs are still missing)
- usage: 10Ks of downloads, used in dozens of universities, research groups, and companies for teaching and research in verification
- integration: several public APIs that are also shipped as Eclipse plugins
- example artifacts: dozens of case studies, thousands of tests, all open source
- future: going into maintenance-mode now, no new major developments by core team, future development and experiments will be based on JML4, but we expect ESC/Java2 to be used for a couple more years as all transition

- name: Mobius Logging Framework
- author/institution: Joe Kiniry/Caltech, Nijmegen, UCD
- description: a formally specified and verified API for logging program behavior
- input/output: used in Java programming via API → human readable warning messages
- implementation: written in JML-annotated Java, has hundreds of system and unit tests, has a high-level formal architecture description
- license: GPL
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on all platforms
- status: beta (new version is being verified now)
- usage: 100s of downloads, used in a handful of projects, influenced the design of the Java logging framework (java.util.logging) and Apache's log4j
- integration: public JML-annotated API provided as an Eclipse plugin
- example artifacts: some examples, a handful of system tests, all open source
- future: ongoing work into integrating ideas into Java and Apache logging frameworks, used inside of the Mobius PVE, hope to influence future versions of aforementioned frameworks

- name: JavaFE, the H.P. Java Front-end
- author/institution: dozens of authors and institutions coordinated by Kiniry
- description: scanner, parser, typechecker for JML-annotated Java
- input/output: JML-annotated Java → typed AST
- implementation: written in JML-annotated Java, has thousands of system and unit tests, has a high-level informal architecture description
- license: Hewlett-Packard Open Source License
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on Linux, Mac OS X, Windows, and some misc UNIXen
- status: beta (some missing documentation, only works on Java 1.4)
- usage: 10Ks of downloads, used in dozens of universities and research groups for teaching and research in verification
- integration: several internal APIs that are also shipped as Eclipse plugins
- example artifacts: dozens of case studies, thousands of tests, all open source
- future: going into maintenance-mode now, no new major developments by core team, future development and experiments will be based on JML4, but we expect JavaFE to be used for a couple more years as all transition

- name: BONc, the BON compiler framework
- author/institution: Fintan Fairmichael at UCD
- description: scanner, parser, typechecker for the BON specification language
- input/output: textual BON specifications → typed Java AST
- implementation: written in JML-annotated Java, has hundreds of system and unit tests, has a high-level formal architecture description
- license: BSD
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on all platforms
- status: beta
- usage: hundreds of downloads, used at UCD for teaching
- integration: public API (not yet available as an Eclipse plugin)
- example artifacts: handful case studies, hundreds of tests, all open source
- future: new development, will be used as the foundation for ongoing research in high-level specification with formal refinement, expect it to be used by a handful of universities in teaching this coming year, hope that it will become a popular platform for teaching and research into high-level specification

- name: FreeBoogie, an FLOSS version of MSR's Boogie
- author/institution: Radu Grigore at UCD
- description: scanner, parser, typechecker for an extended version of the BoogiePL intermediate representation language for program verification
- input/output: BoogiePL → typed Java AST
- implementation: written in Java, has hundreds of system and unit tests, has a high-level formal architecture description
- license: MIT
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on all platforms
- status: alpha
- usage: dozens downloads
- integration: public API (not yet available as an Eclipse plugin)
- example artifacts: handful case studies, hundreds of tests, all open source
- future: new development, will be used as the foundation for ongoing research in efficient formal static checking, expect it to be used by a handful of universities in teaching this coming year, hope that it will become a popular platform for teaching and research into intermediate representations and verification

- name: KOA, an FLOSS platform for e-voting research and experimentation
- author/institution: LogicaCMG; Hubbers, Kiniry, Oostdijk at Nijmegen; Cochran, Fairmichael, Kiniry, Morkan at UCD
- description: platform for e-voting research into, and performing, e-voting
- input/output: ballots via internet → accurate tally
- implementation: written in JML-annotated Java, has hundreds of system and unit tests, has a high-level informal architecture description
- license: GPLv2
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on all platforms, primarily tested on Linux and Mac OS X
- status: beta
- usage: hundreds downloads
- integration: public API (not yet available as an Eclipse plugin)
- example artifacts: handful case studies, hundreds of tests, all open source
- future: in maintenance-mode, no new development, used mainly in case studies in e-voting and verification, please do not use for elections that matter!

- *name*: Simplify
- author/institution:Nelson et al. at DEC SRC; Kiniry at Nijmegen/UCD
- description: automatic theorem prover for AUFLA
- input/output: FOL formulae in Simplify syntax → valid/invalid+counterexample/ timeout
- implementation: written in Modula-III, has hundreds of system and unit tests, has a high-level informal architecture description
- *license*: Hewlett-Packard Open Source License
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on all major and some minor platforms
- status: stable
- usage: I0Ks of downloads, widely used as a default FOL theorem prover
- integration: used via pipes and available as Eclipse plugin
- example artifacts: dozens of case studies, hundreds of tests, all open source
- future: in maintenance-mode, no new development, used mainly in many research groups' tools as primary FOL prover

- name: the Mobius Program Verification Environment
- author/institution: dozens of authors coordinated by Kiniry at UCD
- description: preconfigured Eclipse IDE for program verification
- input/output: JML-annotated Java → classfiles, warnings/errors, unit tests, proofs
- implementation: based upon Eclipse, written nearly wholly in Java, has dozens of subsystems with thousands of system and unit tests, has a high-level informal architecture description
- license: a mixture of several FLOSS licenses, including the EPL
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from UCD
- platforms: runs on all major and some minor platforms
- status: beta
- usage: 100s of downloads, used in teaching at UCD and within Mobius
- integration: integrated platform that contains dozens of Eclipse plugins
- example artifacts: dozens of case studies, hundreds of tests, all open source
- future: under active development, hope for it to be used for years as the foundation of, or at least a case study in, the idea of a comprehensive verification bus and platform

- name: the JML2 Tool Suite
- author/institution: dozens of authors coordinated by Leavens at UCF
- description: typechecker, compiler, runtime assertion checker, documentation generator, and unit test generator for the JML specification language
- input/output: JML-annotated Java → classfiles, unit tests, documentation
- implementation: written in Java with some JML annotations and Javadocs
- license: GPLv2
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from SourceForge
- platforms: runs on all platforms
- status: stable but under constant development and evolution
- usage: 1000s of downloads, used in teaching and research at dozens of universities and companies
- integration: command-line tool and wrapped in JML4 Eclipse plugin
- example artifacts: dozens of case studies, hundreds of tests, all open source
- future: under active development

- name: the JML4 Tool Suite
- author/institution: dozens of authors coordinated by Chalin at Concordia
- description: typechecker, compiler, runtime assertion checker, extended static checker, and full-functional verifier for the JML specification language
- input/output: JML-annotated Java → classfiles, docs, theorems
- implementation: written in Java with some JML annotations and Javadocs
- license: GPLv2 and Eclipse license
- availability: source and binary packages freely available from SourceForge
- platforms: runs on all platforms
- status: pre-alpha release and under active development and evolution
- usage: first release has not yet taken place; we expect it to replace JML2, perhaps by the end of 2008
- integration: command-line tool and (set of) Eclipse plugin(s)
- example artifacts: several research papers, hundreds of tests, all open source
- future: very under active development