

Formal verification of Scala programs with Stainless

Romain Ruetschi

LARA, EPFL

Typelevel Summit Lausanne 2019

About me

- Romain Ruetschi (Romac)
- MSc in Computer Science from EPFL
- ~2 years as an engineer at LARA

Outline

- Stainless: Verification framework for Scala
- What Stainless verifies
- Termination checker
- Case study: Verifying typeclasses
- More case studies
- Bonus
- Coming soon / further work

Stainless: Verification framework for Scala

Stainless is a verification framework for higher-order programs written in a subset of Scala, named *PureScala*:

- Traits, abstract classes, case classes, implicit classes, methods
- Higher-order functions, lambdas
- Any, Nothing, co-/contra-variant type parameters
- Single inheritance
- Anonymous and local classes, inner functions

- Type members, type aliases
- GADTs
- PartialFunctions
- Set, Bag, List, Map, Array, Byte, Short, Int, Long, BigInt
- Local state, while, traits/classes with vars, and more...

Currently supports Scala 2.12.x, 2.13 coming up!

Some Dotty-specific features:

- Intersection and union types
- Dependent function types
- Extension methods
- Opaque types

Currently only supports Dotty 0.12.0, will try to catch up.

What Stainless verifies

- **Assertions** which should hold at the place where they are stated, but are checked statically
- **Postconditions** using `ensuring` function: assertions for return values of functions
- **Preconditions** using `require` function: assertions on function parameters
- **Loop invariants**: inductive assertions that hold in each loop iteration after the while condition check passes
- **ADT/Class invariants**: assertions on constructors parameters (which remain true for all constructed values)

Stainless also automatically performs **automatic checks for the absence of runtime failures**:

- Exhaustiveness of pattern matching (taking guards into account)
- Division by zero, array bounds checks
- Map domain checks

Moreover, Stainless also checks *PureScala* programs from:

- Creating null values or uninitalized local variables or fields
- Cxplicitly throwing an exception
- Cverflows and underflows on sized integer types

Termination checker

A *verified* function in stainless is guaranteed to never crash, however, it can still lead to an infinite evaluation.

Curry-Howard correspondance tells us that non-terminating functions allows us to prove any proposition.

Stainless therefore provides a termination checker that complements the verification of safety properties.

Pipeline

TODO: Image

- Scala/Dotty compiler
- Extraction
- Lowering
- Inox
- SMT solver

Tutorial: Insertion sort

```
def isSorted(l: List[BigInt]) : Boolean = l match {  
  case Nil                => true  
  case _ :: Nil           => true  
  case x1 :: x2 :: rest =>  
    x1 < x2 && isSorted(x2 :: rest)  
}
```

```
def sInsert(x: BigInt, l: List[BigInt]) : List[BigInt] = {  
  l match {  
    case Nil => x :: Nil  
    case e :: rest if (x == e) => l  
    case e :: rest if (x < e)  => x :: e :: rest  
    case e :: rest if (x > e)  => e :: sInsert(x, rest)  
  }  
}
```

```
def sInsert(x: BigInt, l: List[BigInt]) : List[BigInt] = {  
  require(isSorted(l))  
  // same as before  
} ensuring { res =>  
  isSorted(res) &&  
  res.size == l.size + 1 &&  
  res.content == l.content ++ Set(x)  
}
```

```
def sort(l: List[BigInt]): List[BigInt] = l match {  
  case Nil      => Nil  
  case x :: xs => sInsert(x, sort(xs))  
} ensuring { res =>  
  isSorted(res) &&  
  res.size == l.size &&  
  res.content == l.content  
}
```

stainless summary

sInsert	postcondition	valid	nativez3	0.081
sort	postcondition	valid	nativez3	0.931
sort	precondition	valid	nativez3	0.429
total: 3 valid: 3 invalid: 0 unknown: 0 time: 1.441				

Comparison

- **Stainless:** 27 LOC
- **Coq:** 140 LOC

Case study: Verifying typeclasses

```
Seq(1, 2, 3, 4).par.fold(10)(_ - _)
```

```
// (((((10 - 1) - 2) - 3) - 4) => 0
```

```
// (10 - 1) - (2 - (3 - 4))    => 6
```

```
Seq(1, 2, 3, 4).par.fold(0)(_ + _)
```

```
// (((((10 + 1) + 2) + 3) + 4) => 10
```

```
// (10 + 1) + (2 + (3 + 4))    => 10
```

```
abstract class Semigroup[A] {  
  def combine(x: A, y: A): A  
  
  @law def law_assoc(x: A, y: A, z: A) =  
    combine(x, combine(y, z)) == combine(combine(x, y), z)  
}
```

```
abstract class Monoid[A]
  extends Semigroup[A] {

  def empty: A

  @law def law_leftIdentity(x: A) =
    combine(empty, x) == x

  @law def law_rightIdentity(x: A) =
    combine(x, empty) == x
}
```

```
case class Sum(get: BigInt)

implicit def sumMonoid = new Monoid[Sum] {
  def empty = 0
  def combine(x: Sum, y: Sum) = Sum(x.get + y.get)
}
```

stainless summary

law_leftIdentity	law	valid	nativez3	0.223
law_rightIdentity	law	valid	nativez3	0.407
law_assoc	law	valid	nativez3	0.944

total: 3 valid: 3 invalid: 0 unknown: 0 time: 1.574

```
implicit def optionMonoid[A](implicit val S: Semigroup[A]) =  
  new Monoid[Option[A]] {  
    def empty: Option[A] = None()  
  
    def combine(x: Option[A], y: Option[A]) =  
      x match {  
        case None()    => y  
        case Some(xv) => y match {  
          case None()    => x  
          case Some(yv) => Some(S.combine(xv, yv))  
        }  
      }  
  }  
}
```



```
implicit def optionMonoid[A](implicit val S: Semigroup[A]) =  
  new Monoid[Option[A]] {  
    // ...  
  
    override def law_assoc(@induct x: Option[A], y: Option[A],  
      super.law_assoc(x, y, z)  
  }
```

```
def foldMap[M, A](xs: List[A])(f: A => M)(implicit M: Monoid[A])  
  xs.map(f).fold(M.empty)(M.append)
```

@extern

```
def parFoldMap[M, A](xs: List[A])(f: A => M)(implicit M: Monoid[A])  
  xs.toScala.par.map(f).fold(M.empty)(M.append)  
} ensuring { res =>  
  res == foldMap(xs, f)  
}
```

More case studies

Conc-Rope

Verified data-structure which provides

- Worst-case $O(\log n)$ time lookup, update, split and concatenation operations
- Amortized $O(1)$ time append and prepend operations

Very useful for efficient data-parallel operations!

[ConcRope] TODO: Ref

Parallel Map-Reduce pipeline

Fully verified implementation of the previous running example, using a Conc-Rope under the hood instead of Scala's 'par' operator.

Built by Lucien Iseli, BSc student, as a semester project.

Actor systems

```
case class Primary(backup: ActorRef, counter: Counter) extends Actor {
  require(backup.name == "backup")

  def processMsg(msg: Msg)(implicit ctx: ActorContext): Behavior =
    msg match {
      case Inc =>
        backup ! Inc
        PrimBehav(backup, counter.increment)

      case _ => this
    }
}
```

```
case class Backup(counter: Counter) extends Behavior {  
  def processMsg(msg: Msg)(implicit ctx: ActorContext): Behavior =  
    case Inc => BackBehav(counter.increment)  
    case _ => this  
}
```

```
def invariant(s: ActorSystem): Boolean =  
  (s.behaviors(PrimaryRef), s.behaviors(BackupRef)) match {  
    case (Primary(bRef, p), Backup(b)) if bRef == BackupRef =>  
      val pending = s.inboxes(PrimaryRef -> BackupRef).length  
      p.value == b.value + pending  
    case _ => false  
  }
```



```
def preserveInv(s: ActorSystem, n: ActorRef, m: ActorRef) = {  
  require(invariant(s))  
  val next = s.step(n, m)  
  invariant(next)  
}.holds
```

Smart contracts

We also maintain a fork of Stainless, called *Smart* which supports:

- Writing smart contracts in Scala
- Specifying and proving properties of such programs, including precise reasoning about the `Uint256` data type
- Generating Solidity source code from Scala, which can then be compiled and deployed using the usual tools for the Ethereum software ecosystem

For example, we have modeled and verified a voting smart contract developed by SwissBorg.

[0] <https://github.com/epfl-lara/smart>

Bonus: Refinement types

```
type Nat = { n: BigInt => n >= BigInt(0) }
```

```
def sortedInsert(  
  xs: { List[Int] => xs.nonEmpty },  
  x:  { Int => x <= xs.head }  
): { res: List[Int] => isSorted(res) } = {  
  x :: xs // VALID  
}
```

Bonus: Dependent function types

```
trait Entry {  
  type Key  
  val key: Key  
}
```

```
def extractKey(e: Entry): e.Key = e.key
```

```
def extractor: (e: Entry) => e.Key = extractKey(_)
```

```
case class IntEntry() extends Entry {  
  type Key = Int  
  val key: Int = 42  
}
```

```
assert(extractor(entry) == 42) // VALID
```

Other features

- sbt plugin + metals integration
- Ghost context
- Partial evaluation

Coming soon(ish)

- VC generator via bidirectional typechecker for *System FR* (TODO: ref)
- Indexed recursive types
- Higher-kinded types
- Better support for GADTs
- WebAssembly backend
- Better metals/IDE integration

Further work

- Port synthesis and resource analysis frameworks over from Leon predecessor
- Reasoning about I/O and concurrency (via ZIO?)
- Support for exceptions
- Scala 2.13 / latest Dotty / TASTY support
- Standalone front-end for a custom input language
- Eta / Frege front-end
- GraalVM/Truffle back-end

Learn more

- Installation
- Tutorial
- Ghost context
- Imperative features
- Working with existing code
- Proving theorems
- Stainless library
- and more...

=> stainless.epfl.ch

Acknowledgments

Stainless is the latest iteration of our verification system for Scala, which was built and improved over time by many EPFL PhD students: Nicolas Voirol, Régis Blanc, Eva Darulova, Etienne Kneuss, Ravichandhran Kandhadai Madhavan, Mikaël Mayer, Emmanouil Koukoutos, Ruzica Piskac, Philippe Suter, as well as Marco Antognini, Ivan Kuraj, Lars Hupel, Samuel Grütter, and myself.

Many thanks as well to our friends at TripleQuote for their help with the compiler and sbt plugins.

References I

TODO

References I