



COMP 4161
NICTA Advanced Course

Advanced Topics in Software Verification

Toby Murray, June Andronick, Gerwin Klein

Slide 1

Binary Search (java.util.Arrays)

```
1: public static int binarySearch(int[] a, int key) {
2:     int low = 0;
3:     int high = a.length - 1;
4:
5:     while (low <= high) {
6:         int mid = (low + high) / 2;
7:         int midVal = a[mid];
8:
9:         if (midVal < key)
10:             low = mid + 1;
11:         else if (midVal > key)
12:             high = mid - 1;
13:         else
14:             return mid; // key found
15:     }
16:     return -(low + 1); // key not found.
17: }
```

6: `int mid = (low + high) / 2;`

<http://googleresearch.blogspot.com/2006/06/extra-extra-read-all-about-it-nearly.html>

Slide 2



Organisatorials



When Mon 14:00 – 15:30
Thu 15:00 – 16:30

Where Mon: Quadrangle G044 (E15-G044)
Thu: Mathews 309 (F23-309)

<http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs4161/>

Slide 3

About us



Members of the seL4 verification team

- Functional correctness and security of a C microkernel
[Security](#) ↔ [Isabelle/HOL model](#) ↔ [Haskell model](#) ↔ [C code](#)
- 10 000 LOC / 500 000 lines of proof script (!)
- a bit under 30 person years of effort

It's all being open sourced, tomorrow!

<http://sel4.systems>

We are always embarking on exciting new projects.

We offer

- summer student scholarship projects
- honours and PhD theses
- research assistant and verification engineer positions

Slide 4

What you will learn



- how to use a theorem prover
- background, how it works
- how to prove and specify
- how to reason about programs

Health Warning

Theorem Proving is addictive

Slide 5

Content — Using Theorem Provers



Rough timeline
[today]

- Intro & motivation, getting started
- Foundations & Principles
 - Lambda Calculus, natural deduction [1,2]
 - Higher Order Logic [3^a]
 - Term rewriting [4]
- Proof & Specification Techniques
 - Inductively defined sets, rule induction [5]
 - Datatypes, recursion, induction [6, 7]
 - Hoare logic, proofs about programs, C verification [8^b,9]
 - (mid-semester break)
 - Writing Automated Proof Methods [10]
 - `Isar`, `codegen`, `typeclasses`, `locales` [11^c,12]

^a a1 due; ^b a2 due; ^c a3 due

Slide 6

What you should do to have a chance at succeeding



- attend lectures
- try Isabelle early
- redo all the demos alone
- try the exercises/homework we give, when we do give some
- **DO NOT CHEAT**
 - Assignments and exams are take-home. This does NOT mean you can work in groups. Each submission is personal.
 - For more info, see Plagiarism Policy^a

^a www.cse.unsw.edu.au/about-us/organisational-structure/student-services/policies/

Slide 7

Credits



This course was originally written by



Gerwin Klein

Slide 8

Credits

some material (in using-theorem-provers part) shamelessly stolen from



Tobias Nipkow, Larry Paulson, Markus Wenzel



David Basin, Burkhardt Wolff

Don't blame them, errors are ours

Slide 9



What is a proof?

to prove

- from Latin probare (test, approve, prove)
- to learn or find out by experience (archaic)
- to establish the existence, truth, or validity of (by evidence or logic)
prove a theorem, the charges were never proved in court

pops up everywhere

- politics (weapons of mass destruction)
- courts (beyond reasonable doubt)
- religion (god exists)
- science (cold fusion works)

Slide 10



What is a mathematical proof?

In mathematics, a proof is a demonstration that, given certain axioms, some statement of interest is necessarily true. (Wikipedia)

Example: $\sqrt{2}$ is not rational.

Proof: assume there is $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $r^2 = 2$.

Hence there are mutually prime p and q with $r = \frac{p}{q}$.

Thus $2q^2 = p^2$, i.e. p^2 is divisible by 2.

2 is prime, hence it also divides p , i.e. $p = 2s$.

Substituting this into $2q^2 = p^2$ and dividing by 2 gives $q^2 = 2s^2$. Hence, q is also divisible by 2. Contradiction. Qed.

Slide 11



Nice, but..

- still not rigorous enough for some
 - what are the rules?
 - what are the axioms?
 - how big can the steps be?
 - what is obvious or trivial?
- informal language, easy to get wrong
- easy to miss something, easy to cheat

Theorem. A cat has nine tails.

Proof. No cat has eight tails. Since one cat has one more tail than no cat, it must have nine tails.

Slide 12



What is a formal proof?



A derivation in a formal calculus

Example: $A \wedge B \rightarrow B \wedge A$ derivable in the following system

Rules: $\frac{X \in S}{S \vdash X}$ (assumption) $\frac{S \cup \{X\} \vdash Y}{S \vdash X \rightarrow Y}$ (impl)

$\frac{S \vdash X \quad S \vdash Y}{S \vdash X \wedge Y}$ (conjI) $\frac{S \cup \{X, Y\} \vdash Z}{S \cup \{X \wedge Y\} \vdash Z}$ (conjE)

Proof:

1. $\{A, B\} \vdash B$ (by assumption)
2. $\{A, B\} \vdash A$ (by assumption)
3. $\{A, B\} \vdash B \wedge A$ (by conjI with 1 and 2)
4. $\{A \wedge B\} \vdash B \wedge A$ (by conjE with 3)
5. $\{\} \vdash A \wedge B \rightarrow B \wedge A$ (by impl with 4)

Slide 13

Why theorem proving?



- Analysing systems/programs thoroughly
- Finding design and specification errors early
- High assurance (mathematical, machine checked proof)
- it's not always easy
- it's fun

Slide 15

What is a theorem prover?



Implementation of a formal logic on a computer.

- fully automated (propositional logic)
- automated, but not necessarily terminating (first order logic)
- with automation, but mainly interactive (higher order logic)
- based on rules and axioms
- can deliver proofs

There are other (algorithmic) verification tools:

- model checking, static analysis, ...
- usually do not deliver proofs
- See COMP3153: Algorithmic Verification

Slide 14

Main theorem proving system for this course



Isabelle

- used here for applications, learning how to prove

Slide 16

What is Isabelle?



A generic interactive proof assistant

- **generic:**
not specialised to one particular logic
(two large developments: HOL and ZF, will mainly use HOL)
- **interactive:**
more than just yes/no, you can interactively guide the system
- **proof assistant:**
helps to explore, find, and maintain proofs

Slide 17

Why Isabelle?



- free
- widely used systems
- active development
- high expressiveness and automation
- reasonably easy to use
- (and because we know it best ;-))

Slide 18

If I prove it on the computer, it is correct, right?

Slide 19

If I prove it on the computer, it is correct, right?



No, because:

- ① hardware could be faulty
- ② operating system could be faulty
- ③ implementation runtime system could be faulty
- ④ compiler could be faulty
- ⑤ implementation could be faulty
- ⑥ logic could be inconsistent
- ⑦ theorem could mean something else

Slide 20

If I prove it on the computer, it is correct, right?



No, but:

probability for

- OS and H/W issues reduced by using different systems
- runtime/compiler bugs reduced by using different compilers
- faulty implementation reduced by having the right prover architecture
- inconsistent logic reduced by implementing and analysing it
- wrong theorem reduced by expressive/intuitive logics

No guarantees, but assurance immensely higher than manual proof

Slide 21

If I prove it on the computer, it is correct, right?



Soundness architectures

careful implementation	PVS
LCF approach, small proof kernel	HOL4 Isabelle
explicit proofs + proof checker	Coq Twelf Isabelle HOL4

Slide 22

Meta Logic



Meta language:

The language used to talk about another language.

Examples:

English in a Spanish class, English in an English class

Meta logic:

The logic used to formalize another logic

Example:

Mathematics used to formalize derivations in formal logic

Slide 23

Meta Logic – Example



Formulae: $F ::= V \mid F \rightarrow F \mid F \wedge F \mid False$

Syntax: $V ::= [A - Z]$

Derivable: $S \vdash X$ X a formula, S a set of formulae

logic / meta logic

$$\frac{X \in S}{S \vdash X} \quad \frac{S \cup \{X\} \vdash Y}{S \vdash X \rightarrow Y}$$

$$\frac{S \vdash X \quad S \vdash Y}{S \vdash X \wedge Y} \quad \frac{S \cup \{X, Y\} \vdash Z}{S \cup \{X \wedge Y\} \vdash Z}$$

Slide 24



\bigwedge \implies λ

Slide 25

\bigwedge



Syntax: $\bigwedge x. F$ (F another meta level formula)
 in ASCII: `!!x. F`

- universal quantifier on the meta level
- used to denote parameters
- example and more later

Slide 26

\implies



Syntax: $A \implies B$ (A, B other meta level formulae)
 in ASCII: `A ==> B`

Binds to the right:

$$A \implies B \implies C = A \implies (B \implies C)$$

Abbreviation:

$$[[A; B] \implies C = A \implies B \implies C$$

- read: A and B implies C
- used to write down rules, theorems, and proof states

Slide 27

Example: a theorem



mathematics: if $x < 0$ and $y < 0$, then $x + y < 0$

formal logic: $\vdash x < 0 \wedge y < 0 \longrightarrow x + y < 0$
 variation: $x < 0; y < 0 \vdash x + y < 0$

Isabelle: **lemma** " $x < 0 \wedge y < 0 \longrightarrow x + y < 0$ "
 variation: **lemma** " $[x < 0; y < 0] \implies x + y < 0$ "
 variation: **lemma**
 assumes " $x < 0$ " and " $y < 0$ " shows " $x + y < 0$ "

Slide 28

Example: a rule



logic: $\frac{X \quad Y}{X \wedge Y}$

variation: $\frac{S \vdash X \quad S \vdash Y}{S \vdash X \wedge Y}$

Isabelle: $[X; Y] \Rightarrow X \wedge Y$

Slide 29

Example: a rule with nested implication



logic: $\frac{X \quad Y \quad Z \quad Z}{X \vee Y \quad Z \quad Z}$

variation: $\frac{S \cup \{X\} \vdash Z \quad S \cup \{Y\} \vdash Z}{S \cup \{X \vee Y\} \vdash Z}$

Isabelle: $[X \vee Y; X \Rightarrow Z; Y \Rightarrow Z] \Rightarrow Z$

Slide 30

λ



Syntax: $\lambda x. F$ (F another meta level formula)
in ASCII: $\backslash x . F$

- lambda abstraction
- used for functions in object logics
- used to encode bound variables in object logics
- more about this in the next lecture

Slide 31

ENOUGH THEORY!
GETTING STARTED WITH ISABELLE



Slide 32

System Architecture

Prover IDE (jEdit) – user interface

HOL, ZF – object-logics

Isabelle – generic, interactive theorem prover

Standard ML – logic implemented as ADT

User can access all layers!

Slide 33



Documentation

Available from <http://isabelle.in.tum.de>

→ Learning Isabelle

- Tutorial on Isabelle/HOL (LNCS 2283)
- Tutorial on Isar
- Tutorial on Locales

→ Reference Manuals

- Isabelle/Isar Reference Manual
- Isabelle Reference Manual
- Isabelle System Manual

→ Reference Manuals for Object-Logics

Slide 35



System Requirements

→ **Linux, Windows, or MacOS X (10.7 +)**

→ **Standard ML**

(PolyML fastest, SML/NJ supports more platforms)

→ **Java** (for jEdit)

Premade packages for Linux, Mac, and Windows + info on:

<http://mirror.cse.unsw.edu.au/pub/isabelle/>

Slide 34



jEdit/PIDE

```
text (*  
Note that free variables (eg x), bound variables (eg M) and  
constants (eg Suc) are displayed differently. *)  
term "x"  
term "Suc x"  
term "Suc x" = Suc y"  
term "M" constant "Nat.set"  
| | set = set  
text (* To display more types inside terms: *)  
declare [[show_types]]  
term "Suc x" = Suc y"  
text (* To switch off again: *)  
declare [[show_types=false]]  
term "Suc x" = Suc y"  
text (* 0 and + are overloaded: *)  
term "0 + n = n"  
  
"Suc x"  
:: "Nat"
```

Slide 36





DEMO

Slide 41

Exercises



- Download and install Isabelle from
<http://mirror.cse.unsw.edu.au/pub/isabelle/>
- Step through the demo files from the lecture web page
- Write your own theory file, look at some theorems in the library, try 'find_theorems'

- How many theorems can help you if you need to prove something like "Suc(Suc x)"?
- What is the name of the theorem for associativity of addition of natural numbers in the library?

Slide 42