Compilers and Formal Languages

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Compilers & Boeings 777

First flight in 1994. They want to achieve triple redundancy in hardware faults.

They compile 1 Ada program to

- Intel 80486
- Motorola 68040 (old Macintosh's)
- AMD 29050 (RISC chips used often in laser printers)

using 3 independent compilers.

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Airbus uses C and static analysers. Recently started using CompCert.

seL4 / Isabelle

- verified a microkernel operating system (≈8000 lines of C code)
- US DoD has competitions to hack into drones; they found that the isolation guarantees of seL4 hold up
- CompCert and seL4 sell their code

POSIX Matchers

- Longest match rule (“maximal munch rule”): The longest initial substring matched by any regular expression is taken as the next token.

i	f	f	o	o	␣	b	l	a

- Rule priority: For a particular longest initial substring, the first regular expression that can match determines the token.

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Kuklewicz: most POSIX matchers are buggy
http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Regex_Posix

$$
\begin{array}{lcl}
der\ c\ (\mathbf{0}) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & \mathbf{0} \\
der\ c\ (\mathbf{1}) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & \mathbf{0} \\
der\ c\ (d) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & if\ c = d\ then\ \mathbf{1}\ else\ \mathbf{0} \\
der\ c\ (r_1 + r_2) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & (der\ c\ r_1) + (der\ c\ r_2) \\
der\ c\ (r_1 \cdot r_2) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & if\ nullable(r_1) \\
 & & then\ ((der\ c\ r_1) \cdot r_2) + (der\ c\ r_2) \\
 & & else\ (der\ c\ r_1) \cdot r_2 \\
der\ c\ (r^*) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & (der\ c\ r) \cdot (r^*) \\
der\ c\ (r^{\{n\}}) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & if\ n = 0\ then\ \mathbf{0} \\
 & & else\ if\ nullable(r)\ then\ (der\ c\ r) \cdot (r^{\{\uparrow n-1\}}) \\
 & & else\ (der\ c\ r) \cdot (r^{\{n-1\}}) \\
der\ c\ (r^{\{\uparrow n\}}) & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & if\ n = 0\ then\ \mathbf{0} \\
 & & else\ (der\ c\ r) \cdot (r^{\{\uparrow n-1\}})
\end{array}
$$

Proofs about Rexps

Remember their inductive definition:

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}
r & ::= & \mathbf{0} \\
  & \mid & \mathbf{1} \\
  & \mid & c \\
  & \mid & r_1 \cdot r_2 \\
  & \mid & r_1 + r_2 \\
  & \mid & r^* \\
  & \mid & r^{\{n\}} \\
  & \mid & r^{\{\uparrow n\}}
\end{array}
$$

If we want to prove something, say a property $P(r)$, for all regular expressions r then ...

Proofs about Rexp (2)

- P holds for $\mathbf{0}$, $\mathbf{1}$ and c
- P holds for $r_1 + r_2$ under the assumption that P already holds for r_1 and r_2.
- P holds for $r_1 \cdot r_2$ under the assumption that P already holds for r_1 and r_2.
- P holds for r^* under the assumption that P already holds for r.
- ...

Proofs about Strings

If we want to prove something, say a property $P(s)$, for all strings s then ...

- P holds for the empty string, and
- P holds for the string $c::s$ under the assumption that P already holds for s

Correctness of the Matcher

- We want to prove

$$\mathit{matches}\ r\ s \text{ if and only if } s \in L(r)$$

where $\mathit{matches}\ r\ s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathit{nullable}(\mathit{ders}\ s\ r)$

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- We can do this, if we know

$$L(\textit{der}\ c\ r) = \textit{Der}\ c\ (L(r))$$

Some Lemmas

- $Der\, c\, (A \cup B) = (Der\, c\, A) \cup (Der\, c\, B)$
- If $[] \in A$ then
  $$Der\, c\, (A @ B) = (Der\, c\, A) @ B \;\cup\; (Der\, c\, B)$$
- If $[] \notin A$ then
  $$Der\, c\, (A @ B) = (Der\, c\, A) @ B$$
- $Der\, c\, (A^*) = (Der\, c\, A) @ A^*$

  (interesting case)

Why?

Why does $Der\ c\ (A^*) = (Der\ c\ A) @ A^*$ hold?

$$\begin{aligned} Der\ c\ (A^*) &= Der\ c\ (A^* - \{[]\}) \\ &= Der\ c\ ((A - \{[]\}) @ A^*) \\ &= (Der\ c\ (A - \{[]\})) @ A^* \\ &= (Der\ c\ A) @ A^* \end{aligned}$$

using the facts $Der\ c\ A = Der\ c\ (A - \{[]\})$ and
$(A - \{[]\}) @ A^* = A^* - \{[]\}$

POSIX Spec

$$\frac{}{[] \in \mathbf{1} \rightarrow \mathit{Empty}} \qquad \frac{}{c \in c \rightarrow \mathit{Char}(c)}$$

$$\frac{s \in r_1 \rightarrow v}{s \in r_1 + r_2 \rightarrow \mathit{Left}(v)} \qquad \frac{s \in r_2 \rightarrow v \quad s \notin L(r_1)}{s \in r_1 + r_2 \rightarrow \mathit{Right}(v)}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} s_1 \in r_1 \rightarrow v_1 \\ s_2 \in r_2 \rightarrow v_2 \\ \neg(\exists s_3\, s_4.\ s_3 \neq [] \wedge s_3 @ s_4 = s_2 \wedge s_1 @ s_3 \in L(r_1) \wedge s_4 \in L(r_2)) \end{array}}{s_1 @ s_2 \in r_1 \cdot r_2 \rightarrow \mathit{Seq}(v_1, v_2)}$$

...

Sulzmann & Lu Paper

- I have no doubt the algorithm is correct — the problem is I do not believe their proof.

> "How could I miss this? Well, I was rather careless when stating this Lemma :)
>
> Great example how formal machine checked proofs (and proof assistants) can help to spot flawed reasoning steps."

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