Isabelle/Scala System Programming

Makarius Wenzel TU München

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Motivation

General aims:

- Renovate and reform traditional "LCF-style" theorem proving for coming generations of users and tool developers
- Catch up with technological shifts, e.g. advanced user-interfaces, parallel computing
- Support novel models for interactive proof checking

Possible applications:

- Web client, based on server-side prover component
- Powerful proof editor, or "Prover IDE"
- Advanced document preparation, with rich semantic information

Scala — http://www.scala-lang.org

What is Scala anyway?

- The Next Big Thing in the JVM world (The Hype of 2010?)
- Nice integration of the best of
 - object-oriented programming (many steps beyond Java)
 - higher-order functional programming (many improvements over ML and Haskell, despite some compromises)
- Native support for "domain specific languages"

Isabelle/Scala:

- Scala/JVM wrapping for the Isabelle process
- Integral part of Isabelle/Pure sources, .ML and .scala side-by-side
- Usual Isabelle/ML conventions carry over to Isabelle/Scala (forExampleWeDoNotUseMixedCaseIdentifiers)

Isabelle/System layers

Bottom-up structure:

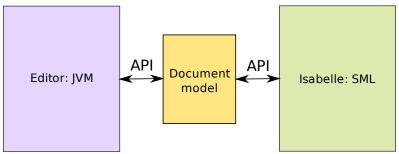
- 1. ML compiler and runtime system Standard ML with tight integration into Isar
- 2. Posix system glue based on bash and perl works uniformly on Linux, Mac OS, Windows (via Cygwin)
- 3. Scala/JVM wrapping platform independent .jar

Examples

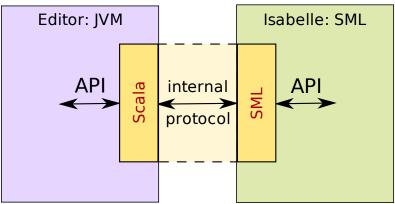
- Isabelle System
- Isabelle Process
- Basic Document Model

Emerging interface architecture

Conceptual view:



Implementation view:



Interface architecture

Characteristics:

- + Regular API, based on internal protocol.
- + Supports mixed environments: Scala/JVM vs. SML.
- + Conceptual advances in proof document model: parallel checking, asynchronous interaction.
- Significant effort for design and initial implementation.
- Provers need to be adapted to interface needs.
- ++ Focussed towards particular platform: Scala/JVM

Example: Isabelle/jEdit

- jEdit plugin written in Scala
- Basic support for forthcoming proof document model
- Discontinues typical "Proof General" interaction
- Contributors: Johannes Hölzl, Fabian Immler, Makarius Wenzel