Compositional Compiler Correctness in Coq

Steve Zdancewic University of Pennsylvania

Collaborators

Paul He Gil Hur Gregory Malecha Benjamin Pierce Li-yao Xia Yannick Zackowski



Goal: model (in Coq) interactive systems

- web servers
- operating systems
- language semantics

and prove properties about them.

Question: how to do that when Coq is a pure, total language?

Interaction Trees

https://github.com/DeepSpec/InteractionTrees

tutorial/*.v

(This talk is based on the AsmOptimization git branch, which will be merged with master early next week ⁽²⁾)

```
CoInductive itree (E : Type → Type) (R : Type) :=
| Ret (r:R)
| Tau (t : itree E R)
| Vis {A : Type} (e:E A) (k : A → itree E R).
```

See also: Capretta's "Delay" Monad, Kiselyov & Ishii "Freer" monad, Hancock & Setzer – line of work, including Agda implementation McBride Plotkin & Power and much other work: Algebraic Effects



Good Qualities of Interaction Trees

- (ITree E) is a monad
 - bind is defined coinductively (it grafts on subtrees)
- Extractable from Coq
 - yields a way of (externally) running computations described by interaction trees
 - interpretation of events can be defined in the metalanguage (e.g. Ocaml)
- Behavioral Equivalences
 - strong bisimulation

Quite intricate coinductive proofs needed here... ... but, they're encapsulated in the library.

- weak bisimulation (insert a finite no. of Tau's anywhere)
- rich equational theory

ITree Interface

```
Context {E M : Type → Type} `{Functor M} `{Monad M} `{ALoop M}.
Operations
trigger : ∀ T, E T → itree E T.
interp : (∀ T : Type, E T → M T) → (∀ T : Type, itree E T → M T).
loop : ∀ I A B, (I + A → M (I + B)) → A → M B.
```

Equivalence $t_1 \cong t_2$ - strong bisimulation $t_1 \approx t_2$ - weak bisimulation Equations Tau $t \approx t$ interp h (ret r) \cong ret r interp h (x \leftarrow t;; k x) \cong x \leftarrow (interp h t);; interp h (k x) interp h (Vis e k) \approx (x \leftarrow (h e);; interp h (k x))

Loop Equivalences*





* Traced Monoidal Categories, a.k.a. Arrows with loops

State Interpreter Equivalences

```
interp_state (ret x) s \approx ret (s, x)
interp_state (x \leftarrow t;; k x) s \approx '(news, x) \leftarrow interp_state t s;; interp_state (k x) news
interp_state (Vis getE k) s \approx interp_state (k s) s
interp_state (Vis (putE s') k) s \approx interp_state (k tt) s'
```

interp_state ($x \leftarrow get$;; $y \leftarrow get$;; $k \neq x$) $s \approx interp_state$ ($x \leftarrow get$;; $k \propto x$) sinterp_state (put s1 ;; put s2 ;; k) $s \approx interp_state$ (put s2 ;; k) s

ITrees Library Features

- ITree monad
- parameterized equivalences
 - ≅ = eq_itree eq
 - \approx = eutt eq

eq_itree R eutt R

- KTrees "continuation trees"
 - Coq functions of type: $A \rightarrow itree E B$
 - Supports looping but not recursion
- Interpreters
 - state, environment, choice, loops, etc.
- Typeclasses
 - for "subevent" declarations e.g. StateE -< E

Verifying a (simple) Compiler

Strategy:

- use denotational semantics for source and target languages
- build bisimulation compositionally (by induction on syntax)
- all key proof steps: rewriting via equational reasoning

Benefits:

- not an operational semantics (e.g. no program counter, etc.)
- no (explicit) codinduction
- proof factors into two parts
 - control-flow, reasoning about CFG composition (compiler independent)
 - language-specific correctness of individual instructions
- modular & robust of proofs (?)

COQ CODE

Itrees Library Problems & Challenges

- Dealing with many effects: E1 +' E2 +' ... +' En
 - nested interpreters: stateT S1 (stateT S2 M) X
 - typeclass machinery is brittle: (E -< F)
 - writing generic lemmas, not so easy
 - ⇒ ρ -polymorphism, more explicit inclusion witnesses, ... ??
- Working modulo equivalences
 - (a.k.a. "setoid hell")
 - typeclasses, instances of Proper
 - ??
- More general equational theory for ALoop
 - mrec
- Coinductive definitions in Coq don't simplify
 - have to use tactics or "fuel" to

Verified Compiler Challenges

• Current Asm representation doesn't easily facilitate certain optimizations

need a bit more structure on labels

- Scaling up to more language features
 - Vellvm branch uses such denotational semantic
 - this representation is significantly simpler
 - still extractable as interpreter
 - ... not many proofs yet
- Higher-order functions?

Conclusions

ITrees provide a useful way to represent effectful/non-terminating computations in Coq.

- Easy to program with
- Supports extraction
- Rich equational theory

https://github.com/DeepSpec/InteractionTrees

tutorial/*.v

This talk is based on the AsmOptimization git branch.

Recursion & Loops

ITrees support general mutual recursion – no guardedness / termination requirements!

- Polymorphic Class ALoop (M : Type \rightarrow Type) : Type := aloop : $\forall \{R \ I: Type\}, (I \rightarrow M \ I + R) \rightarrow I \rightarrow M \ R.$
 - using aloop, one can define recursion, loop combinators
 - whole family of structures that support loops

```
Definition _aloop {E : Type → Type} {R I : Type}
    (tau : _)
    (aloop_ : I → itree E R)
    (step_i : itree E I + R) : itree E R :=
    match step_i with
    | inl cont ⇒ tau (ITree.bind cont aloop_)
    | inr r ⇒ Ret r
    end.
```

```
Definition aloop {E : Type → Type} {R I: Type}
    (step : I → itree E I + R) : I → itree E R :=
    cofix aloop_ i := _aloop (λ t ⇒ Tau t) aloop_ (step i).
```

Imp Denotational Semantics

```
Variant ImpState : Type → Type :=
| GetVar (x : var) : ImpState value
| SetVar (x : var) (v : value) : ImpState unit.
Context {eff : Type → Type}.
Context {HasImpState : ImpState -< eff}.
Fixpoint denoteExpr (e : expr) : itree eff value :=
match e with
| Var v ⇒ trigger (GetVar v)
| Lit n ⇒ ret n
| Plus a b ⇒ l ← denoteExpr a ;; r ← denoteExpr b ;; ret (l + r)
| Minus a b ⇒ l ← denoteExpr a ;; r ← denoteExpr b ;; ret (l - r)
| Mult a b ⇒ l ← denoteExpr a ;; r ← denoteExpr b ;; ret (l + r)
end.
```

```
Definition while {eff} (t : itree eff B) : itree eff unit :=
    loop
    (λ l : unit + unit ⇒
    match l with
    | inr _ ⇒ ret (inl tt)
    | inl _ ⇒ continue ← t ;;
        if continue : B then ret (inl tt) else ret (inr tt)
    end) tt.
```

```
Fixpoint denoteStmt (s : stmt) : itree eff unit :=
  match s with
   Assign x e \Rightarrow v \leftarrow denoteExpr e ;; trigger (SetVar x v)
    Seq a b ⇒ denoteStmt a ;; denoteStmt b
   Ifite ⇒
    v ← denoteExpr i ;;
    if is_true v then denoteStmt t else denoteStmt e
  | While t b \rightarrow
    while (v ← denoteExpr t ;;
              if is_true v
              then denoteStmt b ;; ret true
              else ret false)
  | Skip \Rightarrow ret tt
  end.
```